

DOBPARK LODGE, WESTON,  
NORTH YORKSHIRE

ARCHITECTURAL AND  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY (PHASE 1)



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Report no: 2011/406.R01  
Version: Final  
Date: April 2013  
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On behalf of

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**ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY (PHASE 1),  
DOBPAK LODGE, WESTON,  
NORTH YORKSHIRE**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

*In December 2011, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Rural Estate Management Ltd, through Overton Architects, to undertake an architectural and archaeological survey of Dobpark Lodge, Weston, North Yorkshire (NGR SE 19097 50230) prior to and during a programme of consolidation and repair to the structure. The survey work was to provide an initial pre-intervention survey of the structure, and would be augmented by additional recording once repair and consolidation was underway; this EDAS document therefore forms an initial report which will be expanded, enhanced and finalised on completion of the additional recording.*

*Even in its current ruinous state, Dobpark Lodge remains an important building of more than local significance. It occupies a position with a superb aspect within an earlier park, which is likely to have been laid out during the medieval period and which respected contemporary administrative boundaries and natural features in the landscape. From at least the early 16th century onwards, land use in the park was modified and the northern part given over wholly to agricultural use. The southern part of the park almost certainly underwent a remodelling in the early 17th century, at the same time as Dobpark Lodge itself was built, being surrounded by a substantial walled pale which partly survives. The park remodelling and construction of the lodge is highly likely to have formed part of an extensive programme of building works undertaken by Sir Mauger Vavasour (1580-1630) and his wife Joan Savile on their Weston Hall estate. In particular, similarities in decorative detailing between the lodge and the banqueting house at Weston Hall strongly suggest that, even if they are not exactly contemporary, the two buildings form part of the same scheme of works, and that one was designed with knowledge of the other. The earliest specific documentary reference to the lodge so far discovered dates to 1661, although construction is likely to have occurred around 50 years earlier.*

*The identity of the original designer of the lodge has not been discovered, although it is possible to speculate about the involvement of either Robert and John Smythson or Barnard Dinninghoff. Although there was a great variety in the form of such buildings during the later 16th and the 17th centuries, the structure at Dob Park has far more in common with what were termed 'lodges', rather than hunting stands or towers. These lodges were typically set away from the main residence but were not too distant, and were suitable for an extended visit by family or guests, being provided with kitchen and accommodation facilities. The most elaborate served as retreats or 'secret houses', where the lord could retire with a small entourage for short periods of time.*

*In its original form, the lodge had a somewhat unusual compact T-shaped plan, with the head of the 'T' on the south side, towards the principal (and symmetrical) elevation. A stair tower, accessible only from the interior, projects from the centre of the north side. What has been termed in this report as the ground floor (essentially acting as a basement) was sub-divided by a cross-wall into two rooms of slightly unequal size, forming a service basement with a kitchen to the east and a probable storage area to the west, with its own separate external access, but also linked to the stair turret. Based on the surviving structural evidence, and through comparison to other contemporary examples, it seems very likely that the principal entrance was located in the centre of the south external elevation's first floor, which was reached by external steps which have since been removed. The internal cross-wall continued to first floor level, at least on the north side of the interior. The position of the principal entrance would sit awkwardly with the cross-wall if it had run the full width of the lodge, and so it must have only projected so far. Created partly by the use of screens or non-structural partitions, the southern half of the first floor may have comprised a well-lit reception area, accessed through the principal entrance, and provided with a corner fireplace so family and guests could have warmed themselves on entry. If this was the case, there must have been two smaller rooms of slightly unequal size to the north. The provision of separate doorways off the stair for these rooms suggests that they were not linked through the internal cross-wall, and the differing positioning of their doors may indicate*

*differing status or use. Alternatively, there may also have been two rooms to the south, separated by an entrance passage and defined by panelled walls or other non-structural partitions.*

*The internal cross-wall continued to second floor level, again possibly only on the north side of the interior. As on the first floor, there may have been two smaller rooms to the north, with a single east-west aligned rectangular space resembling a gallery to the south, lit by large glazed windows in the east, west and south sides, the latter including an oriel. The internal stair clearly rose above the second floor and gave access to the roof. Structural and documentary evidence, indicates that it is most likely that a roof doorway was positioned on the east side of the stair head, providing access to a wall-walk behind a parapet. It is highly probable that the surviving small but well lit corner turret in the south-west corner was complemented by a similar feature in the south-east corner, balancing the south external elevation.*

*The lodge has a complex relationship with the surrounding park and wider landscape. There is an element of theatricality or stage scenery about the whole, and it is difficult to escape the conclusion that the lodge was acting as a backdrop for whatever took place in front of it, while the landscape and extensive vistas beyond were acting as a backdrop to the building itself. There was an emphasis on the area to the immediate south of the lodge, which preserves evidence for contemporary terraces, a possible embanked access or walkway, and perhaps even a small fore-building. It is also possible that a now ruined wall line ensured that only the well proportioned and impressive south front was visible to any approaching visitors. While it is possible that some deer were still being kept and hunted in the area around the lodge during the 17th century, other field sports such as hare coursing, fox hunting and shooting may also have been practised. Indeed, the alternative and older name of 'Dog Park' might well be significant in respect to hunting with dogs. It is also possible that horses may have played an important role in the 17th century landscape setting of the lodge.*

*It is assumed that the lodge continued to be used for the purposes for which it was built throughout the early to mid 17th century. However, the lodge and park passed out of Vavasour ownership between 1661 and 1789. The last non-Vavasour owner was Francis Maude of Leathley, and he may well have been responsible for the enclosure of the southern part of the park and the initial demise of the lodge. The building may therefore have lost its purpose and become disused around c.1750 (or indeed any time after 1661), and its depiction on an 1781 park plan suggests it was already ruinous by then. It had reached something close to its current ruined state by the time that it was painted as part of a Vavasour portrait in c.1800 and sketched by Turner in c.1815.*

*The park and lodge returned to the Vavasour estates in 1789, and it is clear from the 1797-1827 diaries of William Vavasour that, although the park was frequently used for periodic shooting excursions, there does not appear to have been any significant hunting or other park-type activities undertaken, and the lodge seems to have served no real purpose for the estate. It is possible that the lodge was used as a farmhouse in the early 19th century, although this is considered unlikely on current evidence. The majority of the surviving graffiti in the stair turret appears to date from the second half of the 19th century, indicating increased numbers of visitors to the ruin during this period, perhaps as a result of the publication of local history books. There is some evidence, in the form of repointing, for historic repair to the stair turret, although as yet it is uncertain whether this was done when the building was still standing or as part of an early phase of conservation.*

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## Reasons and Circumstances for the Project

- 1.1 In December 2011, Ed Dennison Archaeological Services Ltd (EDAS) were commissioned by Rural Estate Management Ltd, through Overton Architects, to undertake an architectural and archaeological survey of Dobpark Lodge, Weston, North Yorkshire (NGR SE 19097 50230) prior to and during a programme of consolidation and repair to the structure. The survey work was to provide an initial pre-intervention survey of the structure, and would be augmented by additional recording once repair and consolidation was underway; this EDAS document therefore forms an initial survey report which will be expanded, enhanced and finalised on completion of the additional recording.
- 1.2 The extent of the survey work was defined by a brief produced by English Heritage (Proctor 2011), and a subsequent EDAS methods statement (see Appendix 3). The architectural and archaeological survey work equates to a Level 4 comprehensive analytical record as defined by English Heritage (2006, 14), and includes drawn, photographic and written elements.
- 1.3 Throughout the following report, the names as given on the modern Ordnance Survey maps, namely 'Dobpark Lodge' and 'Dob Park', have been used.

## Site Location and Summary Description

- 1.4 Dobpark (or Dob Park) Lodge is located within Dob Park, on the south side of Dobpark Wood (at NGR SE 19097 50230), c.400m west of Middle Farm on the south-west slope of the river Washburn valley. It lies in the modern civil parish of Weston (North Yorkshire), at an elevation of 215m AOD, on the west side of Dob Park Road, close to a junction with Weston Moor Road, some 4.5km north of Otley, West Yorkshire (see figures 1 and 2).
- 1.5 The lodge is accessible by foot across pasture fields from the nearby Dob Park Road; there is currently no public access to the building, although it is clearly visible from a public footpath which runs to the south. The nearest vehicular access is from an unnamed lane branching off the north side of Weston Moor Road, which eventually leads to a foot crossing over the river Washburn at Dobpark Bridge. The ruins lie within a relatively small walled grass field (see figure 3), and were surrounded by a barbed wire fence at the time of the pre-intervention survey (see plates 1 and 2).
- 1.6 The wider park landscape of the lodge (effectively divided into two parts by the steep wooded scarp comprising Dobpark Wood) preserves evidence for historic use relating to both the lodge and agricultural management. The building itself is usually ascribed an early 17th century date and is believed to have been built by Sir Mauger Vavasour of nearby Weston Hall as part of a more extensive scheme of works to remodel the hall and its landscape setting. The lodge is said to have been shelled by Cromwellian soldiers during the Civil War, and is also thought to have been occupied as a farmhouse until the early 19th century; this suggests that any Civil War damage must have been relatively minor. The structure became increasingly derelict from the mid 19th century onwards, although the main (southern) front was complete within living memory. Some architectural fragments can be identified in the drystone walls of the surrounding fields, and some fabric may have been taken for use on neighbouring farms. A limited amount of

consolidation appears to have been carried out in the 1970s or 80s, including the capping of the ruined walls to create a sheepfold.

- 1.7 Dobpark Lodge and a small part of the surrounding field are a Scheduled Monument (National Heritage List for England entry number 1015630 - first scheduled 31st January 1997) (see Appendix 2). The Scheduled Monument description also notes that the lodge is a Grade II Listed Building, but the building was actually delisted on 20th April 1998 ([www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk](http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk)) (see Appendix 2). The site is included on English Heritage's National Monuments Record (site SE15SE15) and the North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (site MNY 21003). Finally, the Lodge is on English Heritage's 2011 'Buildings at Risk' register, where it is classed as being in 'Very Bad' condition with a 'D (C)' priority (meaning 'slow decay; solution agreed but not yet implemented') (English Heritage 2011, 51).

### **Aims of the Project**

- 1.8 The aims of the survey project were:
- to augment and expand the existing knowledge of the lodge, to place it in its historical, social, architectural and landscape contexts;
  - to produce a detailed pre-intervention record of the lodge, to provide a baseline of information and to inform future repair and consolidation strategies;
  - to augment and expand the pre-intervention record as necessary during repair and consolidation work;
  - to provide information for an appropriate level of interpretation at the site.

### **Survey Methodologies**

- 1.9 As implied above, two phases of archaeological and architectural recording are to be carried out Dobpark Lodge. Phase 1 represents this pre-intervention survey and initial report, while Phase 2 involves amendments and enhancements to the Phase 1 report using information gathered from scaffolding and archaeological oversight during the repair and consolidation programme. Both phases of work were defined by the EDAS methods statement (see Appendix 3).

#### *Phase 1 Architectural and Archaeological Research and Analysis*

Documentary research and collation

- 1.10 Dobpark Lodge has been the subject of a previous archaeological desk-top survey by York Archaeological Trust (Finlayson 2004). The English Heritage brief (Proctor 2011) suggested that this required some enhancement, particularly the discussion of the relationship between the lodge and other contemporary structures in similar landscape settings. Apart from the Scheduled Monument description and the former Listed Building description (see Appendix 2), there is little existing information on the lodge - it is not, for example, mentioned by Pevsner (1979), although it does feature briefly in the revised volume for the north part of the West Riding (Leach & Pevsner 2009, 750). Similarly, Dob Park does not appear in the general literature, nor does it appear in lists of former deer parks in the West Riding (e.g. J P B 1891; Shirley 1867, 215-221).



- 1.11 As well as all readily available primary and secondary sources, the following repositories of information were consulted by EDAS for the Phase 1 report:
- the North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record (NYCC HER) and English Heritage's National Monuments Record (EH NMR);
  - the West Yorkshire Archives Service, Sheepscar Record Office, Leeds (WYAS WYL);
  - the Yorkshire Archaeological Society in Leeds (YAS);
  - Doncaster Archives, Doncaster (DAD).
- 1.12 As part of the project, several visits were also made to buildings in the locality which offered either comparable examples to Dobpark Lodge or had a possible relationship with it. These buildings were Lane Head Farm, Weston, Weston Hall and Banqueting House, Weston and Myddleton Lodge, near Ilkley.
- 1.13 A full list of sources and records consulted is given in the Bibliography (Chapter 7 below).

#### Building recording

- 1.14 An accurate plan of the lodge, at ground level, was produced at a scale of 1:50 using a combination of total station (Trimble 5600) equipment and traditional and electronic hand-held measuring techniques in December 2011. This plan shows all significant detail such as inserted, blocked or unblocked openings, fireplaces and fittings. The plan was tied into the Ordnance Survey national grid and levels using the control established for the photogrammetric survey (see below). The English Heritage brief did not require any wider topographical survey of the lodge's landscape setting.
- 1.15 All external and internal elevations of the lodge (apart from the internal elevations of the stair tower where there was insufficient room) were recorded by photogrammetric techniques, by colour stereo-photography using a calibrated Phase One P65+ (60 megapixel) digital SRL camera, in December 2011. Photo-control was achieved using standard 40mm square plastic targets, or points of architectural detail (e.g. on window dressings), which were surveyed and levelled using total station equipment. The stereo photography was then used to produce computer-generated 1:50 scale elevation drawings. These drawings depict all significant architectural detail, stones around openings, masonry types, construction details (e.g. putlog holes, building lifts, etc), any modifications to the principal period of construction (e.g. blocked openings, inserted doorways and windows, etc), and areas of previous repair and/or consolidation. Revealed corework and areas of vegetation were only shown in outline. All the elevations were levelled into the Ordnance Survey datum using GPS equipment.
- 1.16 Representative mouldings and profiles of architectural details will be recorded at an appropriate scale, principally the window and cornice mouldings, as part of the Phase 2 enhancement work.

#### Photography

- 1.17 All the major elevations and other features (from vantage points as nearly parallel as possible to the elevation within the constraints of the site) were photographed, as well as close up photography of significant detail (e.g. carvings, moulding, graffiti etc). A more general external photographic record was also made which included oblique general views of the structure showing it within its setting.

- 1.18 The colour photographs were produced using a digital camera with 10 megapixel resolution. English Heritage photographic guidelines were followed (English Heritage 2006, 10-12) and each photograph was provided with a scale (subject to access). All photographs have been clearly numbered and labelled with the subject, orientation, date taken and photographer's name, and were cross-referenced to a photographic register, digital files etc (see Appendix 1). A total of 116 photographs were taken in January and May 2012, and January 2013.
- 1.19 It should be noted that this digital photography is in addition to the colour stereo-photography produced for the photogrammetric survey.

Written record

- 1.20 The data gathered from the field survey was used to produce a detailed description of the lodge, in combination with the drawn and photographic records.

Initial survey report and archive

- 1.21 An EDAS archive survey report has been produced, based on the results of the Phase 1 research and survey work. This report assembles and summarises the available evidence in an ordered form, synthesises the data, comments on the quality and reliability of the evidence, and how it might need to be supplemented by further work.
- 1.22 The survey archive resulting from the Phase 1 recording will be collated and stored by EDAS, for subsequent amalgamation with that archive produced from the Phase 2 work. Once all survey and reporting work is complete, a properly ordered and indexed project archive (paper, magnetic and plastic media) will be prepared and deposited with the West Yorkshire Archives Service (Sheepscar office).

*Phase 2 Enhancement Survey*

- 1.23 The methodology for the Phase 2 enhancement survey is outlined in the EDAS methods statement (see Appendix 3).



## 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### Introduction

- 2.1 As has been noted in Chapter 1, an archaeological assessment of Dobpark Lodge was previously undertaken by York Archaeological Trust in 2004 (Finlayson 2004). Rather than repeat this work, the following chapter draws on this, and augments it with additional material and research gathered by EDAS during the current survey. The previous assessment, quite rightly, made note of the rich and complex prehistoric landscape in which Dob Park is located. However, the following sections are concentrated on the later medieval and post-medieval periods, as it is these which are most relevant to the development of the lodge.

### The Medieval Period

- 2.2 From the Anglo-Saxon period until the 14th century, Otley was an important centre within the large Wharfedale estate of the Archbishop of York. This estate extended from Pool in the south-east to Addingham to the north-west, and north to the River Washburn (and possibly beyond); the township of Weston which includes Dob Park was therefore included in this area. The estate may have been derived from a royal grant to Bishop Wilfrid of Ripon in around c.AD 678. It is not known exactly how the archbishop's estate was held or exactly which parts were lost during the Anglo-Scandinavian period, but a survey of Archbishop Wulfstan's estates in c.1020 indicates that the townships to the north of Otley (e.g. Farnley and Clifton) remained under ecclesiastical control but those of Weston and Askwith did not (Wood 1999, 4 & 9-10; Le Patourel & Wood, 1973, 118-120).
- 2.3 The above division was also recorded by the 1086 Domesday Survey, which notes that Weston and Askwith were part of the estates of the Norman lord Berenger of Tosny (or Toden), who also had land in North Yorkshire, East Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and Oxfordshire. Weston is listed as containing five carucates of taxable land (equivalent to c.600 acres), which had previously been held by the Saxon Thorbrandr. The land was sufficient to support five ploughs, and there were four villagers with one plough, a church and a priest, two acres of meadow and an area of woodland pasture. Before 1066 the holding was valued at 30 shillings but it was now worth 10 shillings (Faull & Stinson 1986, 314c).
- 2.4 Dob Park lies immediately to the south of the royal Forest of Knaresborough, whose southern boundary, according to 18th century perambulations, was the river Washburn (Grainge 1882, 14 & 21). This was not a true forest in the modern meaning of the word, but an administrative area set aside for hunting and the supply of timber. The previous desk-top survey raises the possibility that the park may have originally formed part of the royal forest (Finlayson 2004, 8), but this seems unlikely as the river would have formed an effective southern boundary. It is now thought that the forest was established between 1086 and 1167, and it was at its greatest extent by 1368 when it included three principal towns and 16 hamlets (Jennings 1983, 47; Grainge 1882, 47); in 1613 the forest was said to encompass 28,151 acres (Hargrove 1832, 71), equivalent to 32km long by 13km wide.
- 2.5 In the early 13th century, Weston was held by the Lelay family, who took their name from Leathley to the north-east of Otley, on the east bank of the river Washburn. Between 1246 and 1249, Hugh de Lelay sold part of the manor to Sir Robert de Stopham, whose son, Sir William, seems to have acquired the remainder about 30 years later (Oswald 1958, 1112). In 1252, Robert de Stopham

was granted the right of free warren in all his demesne lands in Newton (in the parish of Nidd near Ripley) and Weston, provided that they were outside the boundaries of the royal forest, with a penalty of £10 payable to the King by trespassers (WYAS WYL 639/181). In 1284-85, the manor of Weston was held by William de Stopham from John de Vesci for one fourth of a knight's fee, and William (or his son of the same name) is also recorded in the 1317 *Nomina Villarum* as being lord of the manor (Skaife 1867, 44). His heir, another William, was compelled to dispose of all his property, and in 1334 the manor of Weston was sold to Sir John de Roos (Oswald 1958, 1113). Sir John de Roos died in 1338, and his *inquisition post mortem* notes that the manor was then in a poor state, with the capital messuage (manor house) being ruinous and 'worth nothing yearly above the upkeep of the houses'; within the demesne land there were 100 acres of arable of which only 30 acres were planted and the water mill was in bad repair and ruinous (Oswald 1958, 1113).

2.6 At the time of the younger Sir William de Stopham's death, John's nephew, Sir Thomas de Roos, was in possession of the manor, but in 1359 John le Vavasour brought a claim against him for the landholding, and this was settled in the latter's favour two years later. When the elder Sir William de Stopham had made his settlement, a contingent remainder was inserted whereby Weston was to go to his brother-in-law, John le Vavasour and his heirs on the failure of any male heirs. Some property in Weston had already been made over to John's wife, Maude, by her father, Sir Ralph de Stopham (Oswald 1958, 1113). As a result of this legal judgement, the Stopham landholding, comprising the manors of Weston and Newton and other lands at Burley-in-Wharfedale and Baildon, passed to a junior branch of one of the great West Yorkshire families (notes accompanying WYAS WYL 639). It has been suggested elsewhere that the Poll Tax returns of 1378 show that a Sir Mauger de Vavasour was living at Weston Hall in the latter part of the 14th century (Harrogate Borough Council 2011, 3), but this remains to be confirmed from original sources.

2.7 The manor of Weston remained with the Vavasour family for over 500 years. By the 14th century, the Vavasours were a well established family with extensive holdings in the south and west of Yorkshire. Their principal residence was at Hazelwood Castle near Tadcaster, where the family held the manor from the Norman Conquest until 1908. Sir William Vavasour, who succeeded in 1284-85, was granted a licence to crenellate his house at Hazelwood in 1290 and was created Lord Vavasour in 1299 (d.1312/13). He was a professional soldier employed in Gascony and repeatedly in the Scottish wars of the period. In addition to Hazelwood, the family had residences elsewhere, including at Denaby Old Hall in South Yorkshire, where a courtyard house with 15th century ranges survives (Emery 1996, 334-345). In the 15th century, the branch of the family associated with Weston mainly lived at Newton but John Vavasour VII, who died in 1549, described himself as 'of Weston' in his will and wanted to be buried in Weston church; his heir and grandson, William (d.1587), is also buried there (Oswald 1958, 1113).

## **The Post-medieval Period**

### *The 16th and 17th centuries*

2.8 The earliest documentary reference to Dob Park uncovered by the previous research (Finlayson 2004), undertaken in the Weston Estate archives at the West Yorkshire Record Office in Leeds, was in a lease dated 24th August 1521 (WYAS WYL 639/64). At that date, John Vavasour of Weston leased half of Dob Park and

the corn mill there to Rauff Pulleyn of Scotton for nine years at 40s and 4s per annum respectively, with a covenant suspending payment of rent until Rauff had been reimbursed for a loan of six pounds (Finlayson 2004, 10). It has been suggested by Finlayson (2004, 10), not unreasonably, that the leased area would most likely have been the northern half of the park, nearest to the mill on the river Washburn, and that a north-south division of rental/ownership shown on a late 18th century plan might reflect an earlier, and possibly the 16th century, division.

- 2.9 The lodge is traditionally suggested to have been built in the early 17th century by Sir Mauger Vavasour of Weston Hall, to serve as a hunting lodge (Proctor 2011), although Leach and Pevsner (2009, 750) state that the lodge is probably mid 17th century in date. Mauger Vavasour (1580-1630) was knighted in 1603, on the accession of James I, and his portrait together with that of his wife Joan, daughter of Sir John Savile of Stanley near Wakefield, and another of their two boys (William and John) hangs in the dining room at Weston Hall (Oswald 1958, 1114). As noted above, John le Vavasour was described as being 'of Weston' in 1549 and John's son William was buried in Weston church in 1587, and so the family were clearly resident at Weston at this time. Although it is likely, there is, as yet, no direct supporting documentary evidence to show that Sir Mauger actually built Dobpark Lodge. However, it is known that he was undertaking substantial works at Weston Hall during the same period, either remodelling an older house or building a new one. His house appears to have comprised a main range facing east, with the ends raised as corner pavilions and return wings behind each end. The surviving north-east pavilion is an impressive structure, of four storeys with an attic and surmounted by a small gable; its three-storey canted bay window is quite rightly described as 'spectacular' (Leach & Pevsner 2009, 749). Internally, the hall also retains contemporary panelling and plaster ceilings, as well as a chimneypiece dated to 1602 ([www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk](http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk); Oswald 1958, 1114; Leach & Pevsner 2009, 749-750). Sir Mauger Vavasour is also generally attributed as building the three-storey banqueting house in the grounds of the hall, equipped with a rooftop gazebo or belvedere (Hey 1981, 32-34); Leach and Pevsner (2009, 750) give it a date of c.1600, which would make it almost exactly contemporary with the works to the hall. The banqueting house is an important part of any architectural consideration of Dobpark Lodge, and is therefore discussed in more detail in Chapter 5. It is further suggested that Sir Mauger Vavasour built (or more likely rebuilt) Newton Hall in Nidd as a hunting lodge in c.1600 ([www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk](http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk)). It is quite possible that all this building work exhausted his funds, as in 1602 he was having to sell other properties, most notably his Baildon estates.
- 2.10 'Dogge Parke' is noted in a memorandum of agreement dating to January 1615 between Sir Thomas Fairfax of Denton and William Vavasour of Weston concerning "an encroachment on Askwith Common inclosed to Dogge Parke by Sir Mauger Vavasour, deceased, father of William and the cutting of turves and the pulling of ling (heather) by tenants of cottages recently erected and belonging to the said William" (WYAS WYL 639/70). This agreement indicates that the area enclosed from the common was on the west side of the park i.e. that side bordering Askwith township, and that the enclosure had taken place during Sir Mauger's lifetime, possibly during the same period as the building works at Weston Hall were being carried out. The earliest reference to Dob Park also appears at this time, when 'Doggparkeside' is mentioned in 1617 and 1651 (Smith 1961, 64).
- 2.11 'Dobb Park' is again recorded in the 1642 will of William Vavasour of Stead in Burley, when £30 was bequeathed to Mr John Vavasour of Dobb Park, and his death is subsequently recorded in the Fewston parish register of April 1658, when

he was described as being of 'Dog Park' (Grainge 1882, 6). This led Grainge to suggest that John Vavasour was actually resident at Dobpark Lodge, although this was not necessarily the case - further detailed research would be needed before this can be proved.

- 2.12 It was noted in Chapter 1 above that the lodge is said to have been shelled by Cromwellian soldiers during the Civil War (1642-51) (Speight 1900, 168). No supporting evidence for this has, as yet, been forthcoming. However, it is known that William Vavasour, the elder of Sir Mauger's two sons, was certified as a 'delinquent' for supplying the Royalist forces with two men and two horses, and for living in York whilst it was the King's garrison - he did not join the Parliamentarians until the Battle of Marston Moor in 1644. His estates were compounded by Parliament and he had to pay nearly £450 to get them back. William died in 1650 and his son and heir, Thomas, was also fined £539 for supporting the Royalist cause (Oswald 1958, 1115).
- 2.13 Amongst a collection of documents and deeds held as part of the Weston Estate archive (WYAS WYL 639/333) are a number of other useful and important mid-late 17th century references to Dobpark Lodge. A copy of a quadripartite indenture dated 1661 between Thomas Vavasour of Weston and Elizabeth his wife, Mauger Vavasour (his son and heir) and his wife Francis, Timothy Rimington of Newbald and Henry Thomson of Hollins Close, refers to "*that Capital Messe [message] called Dobb Park Lodge and all that Park or Great Pasture belonging the same called Dob Park, the Water Corn Mill Messes etc sit[uated] in the same Park and all the Commons etc accepted as part thereof*". A subsequent indenture of feoffment dated 5th June 1661, between Thomas and Mauger Vavasour, Henry Thompson and Joseph Watkinson on the one part and John Hopton of Wortley and John Lund of Armley of the second part, refers to "*All that Capital Messuage called Dob Park with the Water Corn Mill & Premises as above mentioned also Common of Pasture for 30 Beasts or 100 sheep and common of Turbarry throughout the Moors of Weston aforesaid*". These two documents record the fact that Dobpark Lodge, the park, the mill and rights of pasture were sold by the Vavasours to John Hopton and John Lund for £910 - presumably the Vavasours were having to raise money to either pay their Parliamentary fines or to survive after having paid them. These 1661 documents are also the first specific references so far discovered for Dobpark Lodge as a physical structure. Finally, there are two further references in June 1661, in a mortgage and bond for land outside Weston, which refer to the same Thomas Vavasour as being 'of Dob Park' (WYAS WYL 639/129 & 639/130).

#### *The 18th century*

- 2.14 Doncaster Archives hold some material relating to 'Dobb Park, Weston', dating from 1761 to 1841, forming part of the uncatalogued collection of the Doncaster solicitors Baxter and Somerville (DAD DX/BAX 61306). Some of the very early 19th century material held at the West Yorkshire Archives (Sheepscar) makes reference to abstracts or lists of documents which were being compiled and sent from Tadcaster. Many of the documents held at Doncaster are compiled by the solicitors Candler of Tadcaster, and so must be the abstracts referred to by the Vavasour family in the early 19th century. The earliest reference concerns 'Mr Vavsour's Title to His Estates at Weston, Askwith and Dob Park' and notes that:

"In 1761, Walter Vavasour father of the present Mr William Vavasour on his marriage with Ellen Emsell who was tenant in tail of the above manors and estates (excepting as to Dob Park which hath only been lately purchased) suffered a recovery thereof and settlement there to the following uses" (DAD DX/BAX 61306).

- 2.15 The earliest known cartographic depiction of Dob Park is that given by Jefferys in 1775 (see figure 4). The lodge is shown using the symbol that denotes many houses on his maps, and it is placed in the approximate centre of the park as it was then shown. At that date, the enclosed parkland, as defined by a fenced or walled pale or boundary, had a broadly sub-square plan form, with angular returns on the east and west sides, and a slightly curving southern boundary; comparison with modern maps suggests that the park had maximum dimensions of c.1.2km north-south by 1.1km east-west (see figure 6). Beginning at the north-east corner, the eastern boundary is shown running south-west almost in line with Dobpark Bridge, either on the line followed by the existing modern civil parish boundary between Newton and Farnley or perhaps further to the west. It is shown as returning to the east approximately half way along the east side, where there is an east-west aligned rectangular building named as "Park Lodge", somewhere close to the south of the existing Middle Farm, and it then continues south to a point close to where Dob Park House Farm now lies, where it returns to the west. From here, it is shown as running west, converging on the route of Weston Moor Road but not joining it. At a point close to the existing two small enclosures north of the road, the boundary returns to the north and then to the east, before running north again, following a slightly curvilinear line to the east, perhaps to the east of the existing Midge Hall Farm. At its northern end, the west side of the park appears to have used the Snowden Beck as a boundary, while the northern boundary is not defined but runs along the south bank of the river Washburn. The spoked wheel symbol denoting a mill (Dob Park Mill) is also shown on the south side of the river.
- 2.16 Although it has no direct bearing on the interior of the park, a map of the lordship of Askwith, dating to 1779 (WYAS WYL 639/403) is of interest in that, by comparing it to slightly later plans (see below), it demonstrates that part of the western boundary of the park was coincident with the boundary between the lordships of Askwith and Weston. This boundary followed the Snowden Beck and is shown to be crossed by a track, leading into Dob Park, marked as 'Bridle Road to Dog Park Mill'. This track joined with another that was to be the subject of a dispute in the early 19th century (see below).
- 2.17 A more detailed depiction of both the park and the immediate setting of the lodge is provided by a plan dating to 1781 (WYAS WYL 639/351). This plan was drawn by Messrs Lunds, and an 'Explanation' within a wreath at the top left-hand corner notes that "*The Figures in the Map Refer to a Book which shews [sic] the Name and Content of each Close in Acres Roods and Perches*" and then gives a list of the conventions used on the plan. Unfortunately, the location of this book is presently unknown, if indeed it has survived. However, a copy of the book, dating to 1801, does survive in Doncaster Archives (DAD DX BAX 61307), and the names and numbers of the field correspond very closely to those given on the plan and also a second undated plan (see below). The cartouche also notes that the whole of the park was the property of Francis Maude, although he only farmed the southern part (see below).
- 2.18 The 1781 plan allows the boundary of the park as it then existed to be defined more closely than in 1775 (see figure 5). Again, beginning at the north-east corner, the boundary runs south-east from Dob Park Bridge, alongside the road which crosses the bridge, which is marked as 'Bridle Road to Knaresbro'. It then diverges from the line of the road to run to the east, before rejoining the road and continuing south-eastward. The boundary diverges from the road line again to follow a more south-west alignment, past the existing Dob Park House Farm almost as far as Weston Moor Road. It then returns sharply to the north-west, becoming closer to the Moor Road and eventually running alongside it. At the west



end of this section, the boundary returns through right angles to the north and west around a part of Weston Common, towards a projection from the park's west side. Beyond the projection, the boundary follows the western side of an area of woodland, past the land to the west belonging to Walter Vavasour Esq. It then joined the Snowden Beck, passing the lands of Booth Sharpe and Mr Smithson before meeting the river Washburn. The boundary runs east along the river's south bank, but diverges from it to follow the 'Mill Beck' to Dob Park Mill, passing beyond the mill along the tail race to Dob Park Bridge.

2.19 On the 1781 plan, the interior of the park is broadly divided into two unequal parts by a belt of woodland. To the north of the woodland, the smaller area comprises 18 irregularly shaped enclosures or closes, forming a total of 123 acres, with one group of buildings to the west (the present 'Low Park') and another single building to the east (the present 'Middle Farm') (see figure 5 top). In contrast, the larger, southern part of the park is divided into 19 enclosures or closes with a very regular layout, many of which are grouped to the north and south of a north-west/south-east aligned track running from the existing Dob Park House Farm; this area covered 218 acres (see figure 5 bottom). The lodge sits on the north edge of one of these enclosures (no. 16), close to the southern boundary of the woodland. It is depicted in curious manner, like two rather jagged towers side by side, and it could be argued that this represents the form of the existing ruin (essentially two tall but narrow shafts of masonry), perhaps suggesting that the lodge was already ruinous by 1781 (see figure 7, top). The fact that the plan uses the terms 'improvable land' and 'improvable arable land' in several places may indicate that it had been drawn up at a time of ownership change, or when other changes were being planned as to how the park was area was farmed.

2.20 The detail of the 1781 park plan is supplemented by a second plan (WYL 639/404), undated but clearly based on the former. Titled "*A Sketch taken from the Map of Dob or Dog Park in the Lordship of Weston in the West Riding of Yorkshire the Property of Francis Maude Esq*", the plan importantly includes the field names which were included in the missing book which accompanied the original plan. A note on the plan shows the park to cover a total area of just over 360 acres, which was divided into three holdings (see figure 6). The largest holding, outlined in orange on the plan, belonged to Francis Maude himself, and covered 218 acres, including the eastern half of the woodland (named 'Eastwood'), all of the regular enclosures in the southern half of the park and the lodge itself; within this area was the present Dob Park House Farm which presumably represents the farmstead, although it is not known whether it was actually occupied by Maude. Interestingly, and in contrast to the original park plan which may quite feasibly show the lodge as a ruin, on this second sketch plan it appears as a standing building (see figure 7, bottom). It has been suggested (Finlayson 2004, 10) that the lodge is shown as crenellated, but the depiction, however schematic, could equally show corner turrets with a central raised turret or feature between them. The lodge has a field boundary running to the east and west, partly enclosing the field to the south, which is named as 'Lodge Close'. It is one of several closes on the north side of the north-west/south-east aligned track, from west to east named as 'Lodge Close', 'Lodge East Close', 'Barn West Close' and 'Barn Close Pasture', that leads to a group of buildings forming the existing Dob Park House Farm. To the south of the trackway, from west to east, were 'Middle Lodge Close', 'House West Close' and 'House Close', with 'South Lodge Close' to the south of these, amongst more unnamed closes. Further west, there were 'Lane Close', 'South Lane Close', 'Quarry Close', 'East Lane Close', 'West Lane Close' and 'Park Close Pasture'. The projecting part of the park on the west side was divided between 'North Park Close' and 'West Park Close'. It has been suggested that many of these closes had a

single building, a field barn, located in one corner (Finlayson 2004, 10). However, at least three of these 'barns' appear as gates on the original park plan, and it is more likely that the features shown on the second plan are all gates, particularly given the lack of surviving evidence for any built structures.

- 2.21 The second largest holding on the plan, covering 123 acres and outlined in green, belonged to William Jefferys, and occupied the western half of the woodland (named 'West Wood') and the northern part of the park (see figure 6). A pair of buildings on the site of the existing Low Park is shown. The majority of the fields within this holding have two field names, believed to be the name then in use (i.e. in the later 18th century), followed by 'alias' and then a second earlier name. The first names, from east to west, are 'Grass Close', 'North New Close', 'South New Close', 'Mill Close', 'Little Spring', 'East Corn Close', 'West Corn Close', 'Haver Close', 'High Manor Close', 'Manor Close', 'Low West Wood', 'Upper Wood Close', 'Stub'd Piece' and finally 'Hackman's Island' adjacent to the river Washburn. The equivalent earlier names given, again from east to west, are 'Joshua Pasture' (Grass Close), 'Neck Cloth Nooking' (North New Close), 'Joshua Pasture Head' (South New Close), 'Low Rape Close' (Little Spring), 'East Part of Rape Close' (East Corn Close), 'High Rape Close' (West Corn Close), 'Branby Close' (Haver Close), 'Lower Part Brand Close' (High Manor Close), 'Upper (Paind and Baind?) Close' (Manor Close), 'Roger Close' (Low West Wood) and 'House Close' (Upper Wood Close).
- 2.22 The smallest holding on the plan, covering only 18 acres, belonged to John Todd, and occupied a narrow strip along the east edge of the park's central area (see figure 6, green). A single building is shown on the site of the present Middle Farm, with another long building, just outside the park boundary, positioned at a right angled bend in the lane here. From north to south, the fields forming the farm are named as 'Low Close', 'Ing Pasture', 'Cars Close', 'Calf Close' and 'Mill (Stone?) Wood'.
- 2.23 Additional documents in the bundle of papers and deeds held as part of the Weston Estate archive (WYAS WYL 639/333) relate to Dob Park. One, dating to 2nd-3rd November 1789, is an indenture of lease and release in which "*the Estate at Dobb Park is conveyed & assured unto the said Edward Vavasour & his heirs for ever*" from Gilbert Crompton of York, John Sharpe of Gildersome, Fanny Maria Maude of Leathley and Jeremiah Naylor of Wakefield; Francis Maude, who lived at Leathley, died in 1789 and Fanny Maria Maude was his widow - both she, Sharpe and Naylor were executors of his will. A second document, an indenture of demise dated 2nd February 1790 between Edward Vavasour and Robert Stockdale of Knaresborough, conveys the estate at Dobb Park to Stockdale for a term of 1000 years subject to redemption on payment of £2,000 by indenture at 4½%. A third document then notes that the property is conveyed in mortgage to John Calverley for £2,000. In essence, Maude's widow and the other executors are selling Dob Park back to Edward Vavasour, who is raising the money through a mortgage from Stockdale which was then taken on by Calverley. Robert Stockdale was already known to the Vavasours, as he had previously been named in the 1787 will of Walter Vavasour, Edward Vavasour's brother, and received all his 'ready money', chaise and harness, saddles and several horses, in lieu of a debt (WYAS 15D74/19/3/21); Robert was also named as one of the executors of the will, and was charged with running the Weston estate until such time as Edward Vavasour reached his majority.
- 2.24 The information detailed above relating to the lease and release of 1789 is confirmed, and indeed duplicated, in some of the documents held at Doncaster

Archives (DX BAX 61306). An 'Abstract of Title to a Capital Messuage and divers lands & tenements called Dob Park & in the parish of Weston 3 Nov 1789' notes the indentures of lease and release by which Edward Vavasour pays £2,900 for "*absolute purchase of fee simple & inheritance of the capital messuage called Dob Park otherwise Dog Park*" from the estate of the late Francis Maude. The property is referred to as 'All that capital messuage called Dob Park otherwise Dog Park farm lodge with the barns, stables, coach houses and other outbuildings, yards, gardens & orchards thereunto belonging'. It is clear that reference is being made to one of the farms within the park, as there is no evidence for barns, stables or other outbuildings ever having been present at the lodge itself.

- 2.25 Amongst the same documentation, a copy of the 1792 marriage settlement between Miss Augusta Ann and Edward Vavasour Esq refers to Dob Park in a similar manner:

"And also out of & upon all that capital messuage called Dob Park otherwise Dog Park Farm Lodge with the barns, stables, lands, closes & hereditis thereunto belong all with sd. Capital messuage & hereditis are in several tenures or occupations of the sd Edward Vavasour John Skirow John Burrell William Atkinson Thomas Kendal Thomas Mawson Wm Wilkinson John Todd the older John Todd the younger Joseph Todd & William Atkinson their respective undertenants or assigns of several yearly rents amounting in the whole to the sum of £1000 & upwards clear of all taxes & reprises."

- 2.26 Finally, a collection of William Vavasour's diaries dating from 1797 to 1827 survives (WYAS WYL 639/398). Only the first two volumes, covering 1798 to 1801, have been examined to date, and the entries relating to Dob Park are frequent, but only in relation to shooting, for example "*September 29th 1798 – Went a shooting to Dob Park and returned by Askwith. Killed a grouse, a hare and 2 brace of partridges*". This does show that the park was still being used, albeit intermittently and with only a few people, for hunting.

- 2.27 These diaries, and the references to shooting, are especially interesting in relation to an oil painting held at Weston Hall. This was very kindly pointed out by the housekeeper, Mrs Wendy Crossley, when a visit was made to look at the Banqueting House in the grounds. The painting is a full length portrait of a man posing in a hilly landscape, holding a gun, with a servant and a horse behind, and two gun dogs to his right (see figure 8 top). The man occupies the left hand side of the painting but on the right hand side there is a ruin, quite clearly a depiction of Dobpark Lodge (see figure 8 bottom). The style of the man's clothes and the setting both strongly suggest that the portrait is either of Edward or William Vavasour, and it must therefore date to either the very late 18th century or the very early 19th century; William Vavasour acceded to the family estates in 1798. Although some elements of the setting have clearly been dramatised and enhanced by the (unknown) painter (for example, the hill rising in the background is not present in reality, the lodge being set higher than the landscape on the opposite side of the Washburn valley), the depiction of the lodge corresponds closely with the standing building, allowing several comparisons to be made. These are discussed more fully in Chapter 4 below. For brevity of description, the painting is referred to in the following text as the 'c.1800 painting'.

#### *The 19th century*

- 2.28 The 1801 copy of the book that originally accompanied the 1781 park survey, referred to above, provides a list of tenants and yearly rentals for Dob Park (DAD DX BAX 61307). The list evidently refers to the tenants as they were in September 1801, rather than 1781, although the overall area of the park (360 acres, 1 rood



and 36 perches) is very similar. In 1801, seven holdings are given within the park, rather than the three of 1781, indicating some further sub-division of the interior in the intervening 20 years; some of the tenants listed below also appear in the 1792 marriage agreement referred to above. The tenants and yearly rentals (in the order given in the book) are as follows:

John Todd Senior - £19 7s  
John Todd Junior - £19 16s  
Joseph Todd - £26 7s  
William Hillingworth – £24 10s  
Joseph Procter - £27  
John Lewty - £18  
William Moss - £25  
Total = £160

- 2.29 As has already been noted above, in 1810 a survey was made of a disputed road in the township of Weston (WYAS WYL 639/352A), which crossed the north and west edges of the north part of the park (see figure 9 top). The road appears on the 1781 park plan as a 'Foot Road' and so had evidently been in existence for some time before the dispute arose. The road or footpath entered the park through a gate immediately to the south of Dob Park Bridge, and then ran along the park's northern edge adjacent to the river and mill race. Towards the north-west corner of the park, the road was not visible on the ground but it then curved around to run south, following a curvilinear route. At one point along this section, the plan notes that "*At this curvature, the road runs by an ancient wall whence to the brink of a steep and dangerous Scar. There is a breadth of scarcely 9 feet*". The reference to 'an ancient wall' may be significant in that here the road was running very close to the park boundary, and sections of a walled pale survive on the opposite eastern side of the park (see Chapter 3 below). Shortly beyond this point, the road was joined by another leading in from the west, marked on the previously mentioned 1779 map as 'Bridle Road to Dog Park Mill'. The disputed road continued along the west side of 'Dobb Park Wood' and then diverged from the park boundary to run westwards along a feature marked as a 'causeway'. On the plan, the north-west part of the park was occupied by Joseph Procter (living at Low Park), the north-east part was occupied by John Luty Jnr, and John Moss was at the present Midge Hall Farm just outside the park.
- 2.30 In c.1815, as part of a wider tour around Yorkshire, the artist J W M Turner (1775-1851) made a pencil and watercolour sketch entitled 'The Washburn under Folly Hall' (British Museum, Wilton 538, TW0402) (see figure 9 bottom). Folly Hall lies on the north side of the river Washburn and the watercolour that was worked up from the sketch shows the river in the foreground, looking south-east along the valley. The ruins of Dobpark Lodge are clearly visible on the horizon in the background and significantly it appears to comprise two upstanding shafts of masonry similar to its existing extent. The area behind (south) of the ruined lodge, and to the immediate north, appears as grass or pasture, while the steeply sloping scarp to the north remains wooded, as it was shown in c.1781.
- 2.31 It has been suggested that the lodge was occupied as a farmhouse until the early 19th century (Proctor 2011, 1). As yet, no evidence for this has been found, although it is possible that some information *might* come to light from further examination of William Vavasour's 1797-1827 diaries (WYAS WYL 639/398). However, given the depictions in both the c.1800 painting and by Turner (see figure 8 bottom and figure 9 bottom), and the structural evidence, 19th century occupation would seem unlikely. Certainly, it did not form the centre of a

landholding as shown on the 1781 maps. Unfortunately, the census data is not particularly useful. The 1841 census (TNA HO 107/1289/11) lists five farmers as being resident in 'Dob Park' but no specific farm or house names are given. However, there is some limited correlation with both the 1801 list of tenants and the 1810 plan (see above). For example, John Lewty paid £18 yearly rental in 1801, a John Luty is named in 1810 as holding land near the mill and Dob Park Bridge (possibly farmed from Middle Farm?), and a John Leuty is listed as an 80 year old 'farmer' in 1841; given his age, he could certainly be the same individual referred to in 1801. Similarly, Joseph Procter paid £25 yearly rental in 1801, a Joseph Procter is named in 1810 at Low Park, and is listed as a 65 year old 'farmer' in 1841. The three other farmers listed in 1841 (Joseph Todd, Thomas Todd and Anthony Thornton) presumably occupied Midge Hall Farm and Dob Park House Farm. Joseph Todd paid £26 yearly rental in 1801, and he, and perhaps also Thomas Todd, was a relation of the John Todd who held 18 acres in 1781 (and who also appears in 1801) - which leaves one other farmstead unaccounted for. There is also one further residence other than the corn mill listed in 1841, occupied by Ann Illingworth (a char woman?). It is possible therefore that Dobpark Lodge does represent a farm or a dwelling, although this cannot at present be verified. Five farmers (William Procter, Joseph Todd, John Smith, William Dale and Thomas Pearson) are also listed in the 1861 census (TNA RG 9/3215). The later census data also does not name individual properties, and so it is not possible trace the ownership backwards.

- 2.32 The mid 19th century tithe map for Weston, dating to 1847, only shows the southern part of the township, and only in outline with no fields or other detail depicted (WYAS BD16). The accompanying document explains that the glebe lands and woodland in the township are "*absolutely exempt from payments of all tithes both Great and Small*", and notes that William Vavasour is awarded an annual payment of £120 in lieu of the great tithes, and that an annual sum of £30 6s 6d is paid to the Vicar in lieu of small tithes. Nevertheless, the document does note some information relevant to Dob Park, stating for example "*that all that ancient tenement known as Dobb Park Mill and the Mill Crofts adjoining being about two acres of pasture land known by metes and bounds within the said township and of which Anthony Thornton aforesaid farmer is owner and Robert Thackey is occupier is by prescription or other lawful means exempt from the payment of the tithes of Corn, Grain and Hay*". It also records that the "*ancient lands of Dob Park containing by estimation three hundred and fifty seven acres three roods and twenty three perches of which the said William Vavasour is owner are covered from render of all manner of small tithes in kind by a prescriptive payment of the annual sum of ten shillings in lieu thereof to such vicar as aforesaid*".
- 2.33 The Ordnance Survey 1851 1st edition 6" to 1 mile map (sheet 170, surveyed in 1847-49) shows only the area to the south of the lodge, between the lodge and Weston Moor Road, marked as 'Dob Park' (see figure 10 top). Within this area, the pattern of closes shown to the north and south of the enclosed trackway leading to Dob Park House is similar to that on the 1781 plan, with some minor sub-division and the addition of several quarries. The lodge itself is named as 'Dob Park Lodge (remains of)' and appears as an unroofed L-shaped structure; a wall runs to the south-east corner of the lodge, while another runs to the south-west corner, but is set slightly further to the north (see figure 10 bottom). The area of 'North Lodge Close Pasture' shown in c.1781 to the immediate north of the lodge has been reduced in size by 1851. The steep wooded scarp to the north of the lodge is named 'Dob Park Wood' (as opposed to 'East Wood' in 1781). At the north end of the park area, 'Dob Park Mill (Corn)' is situated on the river Washburn,

with a 'Mill race' running to it from a 'weir' to the west. The river forms the boundary between the townships of Weston and Clifton with Norwood. The boundary between the townships of Weston and Farnley appears in part to follow the eastern boundary of the park as shown in 1781, while the western boundary of the park is apparently followed in part by the boundary between Weston and Askwith townships.

2.34 In 1882, Grainge (1882, 5-6) gave the following description of Dobpark Lodge:

"On the southern side of the valley, overtopping a large plantation of larches, stand the ruins of Dobb Park Lodge, a lofty building of Tudor architecture, four stories in height. It does not appear to have been destroyed by time or tempest, but to have been carefully pulled down in such a manner as to leave a portion standing, but uninhabitable. There appear to have been four rooms in each storey, to which a winding stair in a projecting turret in the rear has formed the only means of access. One half of the south front yet remains, presenting square windows of two lights, each divided by a transom; over the lower is a cornice, supported by brackets, which are ornamented with armorial shields, each charged with two quoits or circular discs. In the centre has been a projecting semi-circular window, of which part yet remains. When complete it has been a lofty and elegant building, and even yet, though ruinous and deserted, it forms a highly interesting feature in the sylvan landscape around. Of its history, we know nothing."

2.35 The 1893 Ordnance Survey 6" to 1 mile map (revised in 1889) shows only a few changes from the 1851 edition. The lodge is again depicted as an L-shaped structure, with a wall running to the south-east corner and another to the south-west, but set slightly further to the north. Since 1851, a track had appeared, leaving the north-west corner of the lodge ruin and running north into the wooded scarp; here, it followed a rather sinuous course, eventually joining the main track leading to Low Park.

2.36 Speight, writing in 1900, added a few details to the account given by Grainge (Speight 1900, 168-169):

"On the edge of Weston Moor, to the east of Whin Castle, is the Forest Lodge of Dog Park (recently corrupted to Dob Park), a 17th century home of a branch of the Vavasours of Weston. There is a tradition that it was shelled during the Civil War by the soldiers of Cromwell, and before the owners had time to get all their goods away. Some old pewter plates were long afterwards turned up in the land adjoining and are now at Weston Hall. The "dog courts" (so-called) of the Duchy of Lancaster continued to be held at the old lodge long after its partial destruction, and on one of the windows were two shields bearing three quoits, the arms of Lancaster. The lodge has evidently consisted of four stories, turreted".

### 3 THE LANDSCAPE SETTING OF THE LODGE

#### The Wider Setting of the Lodge

- 3.1 As previously noted, Dobpark Lodge is located within Dob Park, on the south-west slope of the Washburn valley, a tributary valley of the River Wharfe, some 2km to the west of Lindley Wood Reservoir and 4.5km to the north of Otley (see figures 1 and 2). In the vicinity of the lodge, the Washburn valley has a north-west/south-east alignment but it curves around more to the north after it is joined by the Snowden Beck.
- 3.2 The lodge is now set within an area of pasture, enclosed by drystone walls (see figures 2 and 3). The ground surface rises relatively gently to the south of the lodge, reaching a maximum elevation of 272m AOD close to Weston Moor Road. To the north, there is an area of woodland on a steeply sloping north-east facing scarp, which falls from 210m AOD near to the lodge to under 150m AOD at the lower end. The nearest farms are Dob Park House Farm to the south-east and Middle Farm to the east, with the private residence of Low Park to the north-west.
- 3.3 Dobpark Lodge is built onto a relatively flat area of land within Dob Park, placed between the steep wooded scarp to the north, and the more gently rising ground to the south; the effect of this is to make the lodge stand out in sharp relief against the middle and far distance landscape (see plate 2). The area to the immediate south-west of the lodge provides wide-ranging views to the north, east and south-east. The view to the south-west and west is obscured by the rising ground and, although the former roof area of the lodge was not accessible at the time of the survey, it seems unlikely that even from here there was a significant south-west view beyond the 255m contour some 350m away. To the north, Askwith Moor is prominent in the foreground, with further views of 10km and beyond up the Washburn valley towards Pateley Bridge. To the north-east, the north-east slope of the Washburn valley is revealed, with Lindley Moor and Menwith Hill prominent. To the south-east, there are views down the valley towards Otley. It is noticeable that the largest surviving windows in the lodge, in the south elevation, all face south-west, away from the long distance views available from the lodge site. The implications of this are discussed further in Chapter 5 below.

#### The Lodge and the Park

- 3.4 Although a detailed examination of the whole former park area lies beyond the required scope of this report, it is not possible to place the lodge within its proper landscape, social and architectural contexts without at least considering the form and layout of the park to some degree. Much of the park area can be viewed from public footpaths, as can its approximate boundaries, and so an outline description of both is given below. It is likely that further detail could be added to this by a walkover survey of the whole park area, and also an examination of the buildings at Low Park, Middle Farm and Dob House Park Farm.

##### *The park boundary*

- 3.5 In terms of the wider park, the lodge is placed in the approximate centre of the park as it is depicted in 1775 and 1781 (see figures 4 and 5). At the latter date, the enclosed parkland had a broadly sub-square plan form, the boundaries in the northern half being far more curvilinear than those to the southern half, which were generally very straight; comparison with modern maps suggests that the park had maximum dimensions of c.1.2km north-south by 1.1km east-west (see figure 6). It

should be noted that the 18th century plans show only the latest phase of the park, and its boundary is likely to have been subject to modifications and alterations over time. Parks are known to have expanded or contracted over time depending on the fortunes of their owners, although the potential for significant alteration at Dob Park is more limited due to the confines of the manorial estate which almost certainly coincided with the township boundary as depicted in 1851. Nevertheless, there are still possible differences even within the 18th century.

- 3.6 The following text gives a general description of the 18th century park boundary or pale (see figure 11); comparisons and contrasts with later depictions, alternative alignments and changes are also discussed below.
- 3.7 Commencing at Dobpark Bridge, and following a clockwise route, in 1781 the pale ran south-east, diverging from the line of the bridge and ford river crossings and following the east side of the lane leading to them (Dob Park Road). On the west side of the lane here, there is a 1m high scarp, possibly retaining remnants of a stone revetment. The lane continues south-east, following the mid 19th century boundary between the townships of Weston (to the west) and Farnley (east). There is a slight bank on the eastern, boundary, side of the lane, and this becomes more prominent where the lane diverges from the township boundary. The lane angles to the south-west and then returns sharply back to the east, being partly enclosed by thick holly hedges. On the 1781 plan, a single long building is shown at the east end of this east return, immediately outside the park and township boundary, with an adjacent gateway across the lane where it enters the park; this building is also depicted on Jefferys' 1775 map, named as "Park House" (see figure 4) although nothing is shown in 1851. The township and park boundary line, shown to the east of the lane in 1781, is marked by a spread bank, 4m wide and 0.50m high. After the point where the lane rejoins the township/park boundary, it begins to climb, passing Middle Farm. The farm appears as an isolated single building in 1781 but by the mid 19th century it had acquired a small associated yard and track linking it to the lane. There were some minor additions by the end of the 19th century but it is clear that the complex was substantially expanded during the 20th century. The earliest part, shown in 1781, now forms part of a longer range and was unoccupied at the time of the EDAS survey, but it appears to comprise a house of early to mid 18th century date.
- 3.8 Beyond Middle Farm, the Dob Park Lane begins to climb very steeply, ascending the severe north-facing wooded slope which essentially divided the interior of the park into two different parts (see below). The lane is cut into this slope, resulting in a steep scarp to the western side. At the top of the wooded slope, the park boundary diverges from the township boundary as shown in the mid 19th century and, significantly, beyond this point is one of the very few sections of the pale that survives in anything like its probable complete form. The surviving wall stands up to 1.8m in height, measuring over 1m wide at the base but tapering to 0.50m across the uppermost surviving part (see plate 3). There are larger stones at the base of the wall, but the majority is built of well coursed and squared stone, with no throughstone courses; the quality of the stonework is noticeably higher than that of the majority of the surviving walls within the park. The wall is set on a low spread bank, and has a ditch running parallel to the west (internal to the park) side for some distance south of where the wall commences. The ditch is up to 4m wide and the steeply scarped west side stands up to 1.80m in height. The wall can be traced almost as far as existing Dob Park House Farm, progressively deteriorating in condition as it does so.



- 3.9 In 1781, Dob Park House Farm appears as an L-shaped range set to the north of a trackway, with a pair of buildings flanking the track where it enters the park. On the c.1781 copy plan, this later arrangement does not appear quite so formal, the northern building of the pair looking like it may have fronted onto a yard along with the L-shaped range, whereas the southern building is more square and also subdivided. The farm is similarly depicted in the mid to late 19th century, when it is named as 'Dob Park House'. The two bay two storey house at Dob Park House Farm is a Grade II Listed building, of mid-late 18th century date ([www.imagesofengland.co.uk](http://www.imagesofengland.co.uk)).
- 3.10 On the 1781 plan, the park boundary continued south-west beyond Dob Park House, reaching a point close to Weston Moor Road. This section of wall is similar to that seen to the north of the farm, with larger stones to the base, and so it is likely to represent part of the 18th century pale. The park boundary then returned to the west, incorporating a slight kink at its very south-east corner; this kink is repeated on the later historic maps although Jefferys' depiction is more rounded here. It then followed a very straight line west-north-west, gradually converging on Weston Moor Road. Much of this section could not be inspected closely in the field, but there is apparently no clear indication of the former pale line either as an earthwork or a wall line across this area of enclosed rough and improved pasture. However, the line does appear to correspond with the point where the high ground here, which has very extensive views in all directions, begins to slope down towards the north, and so a natural feature may have been enhanced to act as the pale.
- 3.11 At the south-west corner of the park in both 1775 and 1781, a return to the north and west is shown, again followed by existing field walls. In the field to the immediate west, marked as 'Weston Common' in 1781, there is an earthwork following the approximate line of a footpath shown in the mid and late 19th century. This earthwork is very denuded at its southern end, but becomes more prominent as it runs north. It initially resembles a shallow terraced trackway, 2m-3m wide, but assumes a more stepped profile, stepping down from west to east. The west scarp may contain some fragments of stone revetment, while the 2m wide central element is slightly depressed and embanked to the east side, where it slopes down across the east scarp. Whereas the 1781 map clearly shows the park boundary going round the field walls, it is possible that the alignment as shown on Jefferys' plan is following the earthwork and footpath.
- 3.12 The west return of the park boundary referred to above incorporates part of the two fields which form a projection from the west side of the park. These are now enclosed by drystone walls, but in 1781 the north and west sides are indicated as being hedged. It is tempting to see this projection as the 'encroachment on Askwith Common inclosed to Dogge Parke by Sir Mauger Vavasour, deceased' noted in 1614/15 (WYAS WYL 639/70), although it lies to the east of the Askwith/Weston township boundary as indicated in the late 18th and 19th centuries. At the north end of the projection, the park boundary assumed a more sinuous form once more, running along the west edge of West Wood. Significantly, within this area (which is still woodland) and on approximately the same line, there is a section of surviving ditch, c.4m wide and 1.5m deep, with one and possibly sometimes a pair of parallel spread banks to the eastern side; as has already been described, on the 1810 disputed road plan, reference is also made to an 'ancient wall' in the same general area, perhaps indicating a surviving walled pale line. The ditch appears to merge with the Snowden Beck (marked as the 'Dob Park Beck' in the mid 19th century), at the point close to where the park boundary merges with the township boundary between Askwith and Weston as shown in the

later 18th century. The township boundary and the park boundary follow the beck as far as the river Washburn; the deep, steep-sided natural gully cut by the beck would have formed an effective pale line. Jefferys' depiction of the west side of the park does not include this projection and it is possible that he is showing an alignment to either the east or west. Depending on which line is taken, Midge Hall Farm lies in or out of the park (see figure 4). The later 1781 plans clearly show that the farm lies outside the park (see figure 5).

- 3.13 In 1781, the park boundary returned to the east to run along the south bank of the river Washburn, at first a major and very steep scarp, but becoming more gentle as the river runs east. The boundary then diverged from the river bank to follow the south side of the mill race for Dob Park Mill. There are no clear traces of an artificial pale line here, and the mill complex has been demolished, although both the mill race and associated earthworks have survived. The park boundary continued along the mill's tail race until it met the river once more, following the south bank until Dob Park Bridge was again reached. Once again, Jefferys' plan is less clear, and shows the park boundary running right up to the river.

#### *The interior of the park*

- 3.14 As has already been noted above, the park is essentially divided into two parts by the very steep north-facing wooded scarp which runs north-west/south-east across its central area. The scarp is steepest at the centre and on the eastern side, with only the western side gently sloping enough to allow the undertaking of hunting activities on horseback as practiced during the later medieval period (Walker 2005). Of course, it is quite likely that even a relatively small park such as Dob Park was not given over wholly to hunting, or at least not all of the time, and there may have been internal sub-divisions which secured discrete areas for grazing or woodland management, for example. The nature of usage of the park would also have changed over time, and again, it is possible that the presence of the wooded scarp had a significant effect on this usage.
- 3.15 At the time of the EDAS survey, the steep north-facing scarp was covered largely with coniferous plantation and deciduous woodland, and it has obviously been wooded for over 200 years, if not more. On the c.1781 plan, the woodland was divided into three areas, marked from west to east as 'West Wood', 'East Wood' and 'Mill (Stone?) Wood'; together, these covered a slightly smaller area than is currently wooded (WYAS WYL 639/404). By the mid 19th century, the whole area is shown as 'Dob Park Wood' and some of the late 18th century sub-divisions had been removed. The north-east part of 'West Wood' had been felled by 1851 and the cleared land was enclosed within a field, but additional woodland had been established on the south side, to the west of the lodge. In 1893, the woodland remained the same.
- 3.16 To the north of the wooded scarp, the park area is now occupied largely by pasture and improved pasture, and the ground slopes gently down from south-west to north-east towards the river. In contrast to the area of the park to the south of the scarp, the field boundaries are a mixture of hedges and drystone walls, and they contain a high proportion of trees, which are virtually absent from the south park; this contrast is also very clear on the 1851 Ordnance Survey 6" map (see figure 10). These trees are largely oaks, and although none that could be closely viewed are ancient or veteran trees, at least one example on a field boundary in the western part of the north park appears to have a significant girth. Furthermore, by 1893, many of the field boundaries in the north park area have watercourses running alongside them and in one case, water for the watercourse was being

gathered in the north park area and fed down the wooded scarp. Finally, on all the historic maps and at the time of the survey, the pattern of field boundaries within the north park area is markedly different, being characterised by a number of north-south aligned enclosures with slightly curvilinear boundaries.

- 3.17 There are three groups of structures within the north park area. To the east and north, Middle Farm and the mill have already been described. The third group is at Low Park, at the base of the wooded scarp. Nothing is depicted here on Jefferys' 1775 plan, but in 1781 the complex appears as two buildings set at right angles to one another, with a number of footpaths and tracks converging on it (see figure 5). A footpath runs south from the northern edge of the park, with another apparently leading through the woodland from close to the existing Middle Farm. Further paths approach from the south-east and south-west, the former passing close to the lodge. A similar arrangement is shown on the c.1781 sketch, although the footpath passing close to the lodge is omitted. The buildings of Low Park, named as such, are similarly depicted in 1851, by which date the main access appears to have been from Dob Park Lane to the south-east (see figure 10); by 1893, a small complex of yards had developed around the buildings. The main house and a stable and byre range are both Grade II Listed Buildings, of mid to late 18th century date ([www.imagesofengland.com](http://www.imagesofengland.com)).
- 3.18 The area of the park to the south of the wooded scarp is approximately twice the size of that to the north, and is quite different in character. It is now represented by a mixture of pasture, improved pasture and some areas bordering on moorland. In general terms, the ground rises relatively steeply but evenly to the 260m AOD contour some 450m south of the lodge and then it levels out, falling again gently towards Weston Moor Road. The internal sub-divisions are much more regular than those to the north, and they all comprise either drystone walls or modern post and wire fences. A substantial section of the western half has had the walls shown on historic maps completely removed and some of those which survive are in poor condition. On average, they are up to 1.2m in height, measuring 0.7m wide at the base and tapering to 0.4m across at the top. They are built of roughly squared stone rubble with no throughstone courses, and retain the remnants of slant coping in places. The eastern half of the south park area is crossed by an angled enclosed track on a north-west/south-east alignment. It is shown on the 1781 plan, and commences at Dob Park House Farm (see figure 5). The track has an average width of between 9m-10m between the enclosing walls, and has an intermittent ditch to one or both sides; the eastern third is raised on a slight terrace. At its north-west end, the track is shown returning to the north in 1781, still enclosed. This short enclosed north return still exists but is no longer accessible from the main track as a wall runs across the south end. The overall pattern of fields to the north of the track, with some sub-division, is broadly similar to that depicted in 1781; to the south of the enclosed track, the surviving pattern of field boundaries is very much as shown in the mid 19th century.
- 3.19 The previous desk-top survey (Finlayson 2004, 10-12) noted that the 1781 plans show a considerable number of field barns in the southern part of the park, one in almost every field. Careful inspection of these sites reveals little in the way of field remains. There are several earthworks that might be interpreted as slight platforms, and perhaps one short length of footing, but no convincing evidence that any structures were ever built. However, an accurate reading of the plans show that these 'barns' are actually field gates (see figure 5). One of the fields to the north of the enclosed track contains a former sandstone quarry and spoil heaps, and there is also a modern concrete and brick structure with an adjacent fenced-off mound, perhaps a former shaft. Of more interest is the possible ridge and furrow



visible in the field containing the ruins of the lodge, and in those fields to the east. The linear parallel earthwork banks are aligned north-east/south-west but are very spread, standing barely 0.3m high; the average top to top measurement is 4m. Interspersed within the potential ridge and furrow are shallow linear depressions on the same alignment, up to 0.4m deep, possibly former furrows which have been deepened to form drainage features.

- 3.20 Beyond the wall where the angled enclosed track from Dob Park House Farm stops, several of the 18th and 19th century boundaries have been removed to create a large field. There are some denuded earthworks, perhaps former terraces, to the south-east corner of the field, and some possible holloways running north-east/south-west through the central area close to a small former quarry, although this could not be inspected closely. The wall forming the southern boundary of this area appears taller and better built than the other drystone walls in the south park area, but it could not be examined in detail. Towards the west end of the south park area, there is another north-east/south-west linear depression of uncertain origin.

### **The Immediate Setting of the Lodge**

- 3.21 There are several earthworks in the immediate vicinity of the lodge which appear to form part of a designed setting associated with the building (see figure 12). To the west, there is a spread flat-topped bank, c.4m wide in total, and standing to a maximum of 0.4m in height, set on a parallel alignment to the south external elevation of the lodge itself (see plate 4). Its east end appears to have been disturbed close to the lodge, and so it is now difficult to ascertain exactly what its relationship to the building was, but it can be traced west for c.200m as far as the drystone wall forming the western boundary of the field in which the lodge now stands, although the western c.30m or so is poorly defined and appears to increase in width, perhaps suggesting later disturbance. On the west side of the drystone wall, there appears to be a slight kink or bulge of the base in line with the bank, but there is no obvious indication that the bank ever continued further to the west, or that it returned to the south.
- 3.22 Running parallel to the bank, but set 4.5m to the north of its centre, is a ruinous drystone wall. In places, the wall now stands only 0.8m high, but is 0.8m wide at the base and evidently once tapered inwards towards the top; the majority of the alignment is represented as a bank with footings only visible in plan (see plate 4). There are no throughstones, and the remaining sandstone rubble within is perhaps slightly better coursed and squared than that of the other drystone walls forming the field boundaries. The wall also continues west as far as the western boundary of the field. Like the bank to the south, the wall now stops short of the lodge itself, but again, this is probably due to later disturbance - it is shown as continuing to the lodge in 1781 and 1851 (see figures 7 and 10). A line of stones, only visible in plan but on the same alignment as the wall, runs east towards the lodge and might once have been continuous with the building, as appears to be the case on the east side (see below). The majority of the ruined wall line has a shallow ditch c.2m wide running parallel to its north side, to the north of which is a shallow terrace, c.10m-11m wide. This terrace may have had some longitudinal division, perhaps represented by a shallow south-facing scarp, placed across the width approximately halfway along its length.
- 3.23 A c.3.5m wide spread flat-topped bank is visible to the east of the lodge, of similar dimensions to that described to the west, but less well preserved and set slightly to the south (see figure 12). Like the bank to the west, it has no clear relationship

with the lodge itself, but it can be traced for c.40m to the east as far as the drystone wall forming the eastern boundary of the field in which the lodge now stands. It may then return to the south for c.10m as a very spread bank, running approximately parallel to the drystone wall. To the north of the bank, again as to the west, there is a partially ruinous drystone wall. This wall is much better preserved than that to the west, and it stands up to 1.1m high and is 0.7m wide at the base, tapering inwards towards the top. There are no throughstones, and the sandstone rubble within is again perhaps slightly better coursed and squared than that in the adjacent drystone wall boundaries. The wall is now separated from the building by a gap of 2.8m, but its footings can be traced west, first as a north-facing scarp, and then as stones visible in plan only, beneath the (partly rebuilt) south-east corner of the lodge - it is shown as continuing right up to the lodge in 1781 and 1851 (see figures 7 and 10). There is a 0.5m drop in ground level on the north side of the wall, beyond which is a slightly sloping terrace of similar width to that described to the west.

- 3.24 At its east end, the wall incorporates the remains of a small structure that almost certainly pre-dates it (see plate 5). The structure is sub-square in plan, measuring 4.5m east-west by 4.2m north-south. The walls are c.0.7m thick and survive to a maximum height of 1.2m on the north side, where they have a stepped footing at the base. The surviving parts of the structure's walls are of coursed and squared sandstone, in contrast to the random rubble of the drystone wall. A gate is shown just to the north of this position in 1781, but not in 1851. The function and date of this structure is unclear. Although it might represent a ruined agricultural building, there are few other examples in the area and indeed it would appear too small to serve any useful farming purpose. It could be associated with the lodge, perhaps acting as a small gatehouse, fore-building or porter's lodge, but there is no clear evidence that one would have been required - or perhaps some kind of small pavilion at one end of the earthwork bank. Alternatively, it may be associated with the later phases of the park (see Chapter 5), perhaps serving as a game store or shelter for staff assisting with a hunt.
- 3.25 In the field to the east, there is a terraced track, close to the top of the steep wooded scarp. This track does not appear on any of the maps consulted during the research undertaken for this report. It diverges from the top of the wooded scarp at a point c.380m south-east of the lodge, but is not continuous with the forestry track running along the southern edge of the wood. The track then ascends the ground surface here as a flattened strip, c.4m-5m wide, terraced into the natural slope. Once it has reached the top of the slope, it continues west along the top of a steep north-facing scarp over 2m in height. The track can be traced as far as a gap in a drystone field wall c.200m south-east of the lodge, at which point it is approximately aligned on the lodge itself. The track arguably continues for a further few metres beyond the wall, curving to the north-west, but then fades. It may be very faintly visible in the field immediately to the south-east of the lodge but this is not certain.
- 3.26 With the exception of those features described above, the field in which the lodge is located contains little else in the way of earthworks. There is perhaps evidence for a series of very denuded and spread north-east/south-west aligned banks to the north, which occupy the full width of the higher part of the field - these parallel banks are difficult to define but are generally set at c.9m centres and are c.4m wide, and they may represent degraded ridge and furrow. There are similarly aligned but slightly deeper parallel depressions in the fields to the east. There is a slightly raised possible track running parallel to the east boundary wall of the field, and a similar feature along most of the south side, perhaps with a sub-square area

of slight earthworks to the south-west corner. None of these features are particularly convincing, although the track along the east side of the field, together with the return at the east end of the spread bank, may represent a contemporary access to the lodge. Finally, there are three possible further terraces on the west side of the field, although they may well be completely natural features. The field walls themselves contain little obvious re-used material from the lodge, apart from perhaps a single piece of chamfered window frame. Adjacent to the east and south drystone boundary walls, there are several small oval stone pillars, up to 0.8m in height, and set with a cement mortar. They appear modern, but their purpose is unknown.

- 3.27 Some 10m to the south-west of the lodge, a stone gatepost lies prone on the ground surface. The gatepost is 0.95m long, and c.0.40m square at the base; the remains of a concrete/aggregate mix adhere to the underside of the base, indicating that it must have stood upright somewhere into the modern period. The rectangular-section shaft is of slightly smaller dimensions than the base, and rises to a chamfered inset, possibly created wholly by a fillet of mortar and concealing a joint between two pieces of stone. Above the joint, the uppermost part of the gatepost was again rectangular in plan, and surmounted by integral triangular coping. One face of the shaft bears the weathered incised lettering 'I M VAVASOUR' and the apparent date '1784' (see plate 6). Below this, to the base of the same face, there is a small square centrally placed recess, perhaps bearing traces of iron-staining, indicating that a fixture has been removed. In fact, the date is 1984 and the initials refer to Ian Malgar Vavasour - the post, one of four that are located around the lodge, represents the legal boundary of the land retained by the Vavasour family after sale in the 1980s (Paul Elgar, Rural Estate Management Ltd, *pers. comm.*).

## 4 ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

### Introduction

- 4.1 The lodge is described below, beginning with an account of its location and plan form, the structure and materials, then proceeding to a description of the external elevations and the interior circulation. The description refers to the ground plan, and the external and internal elevations (see figures 14 to 20).
- 4.2 In previous descriptions (Finlayson 2004; Proctor 2011), the lowest surviving level of the building has been described variously as either a basement or the possible remains of an undercroft. The likely function and form of this lowest level are discussed more fully in Chapter 5 below, but for the purposes of description, in the following text (and throughout the report as a whole) it is referred to as the ground floor, with the first and second floors above.
- 4.3 In the text and on the accompanying figures, certain features have been allocated unique numbers to allow for cross-referencing. Each external elevation, or wall return within that elevation, has been numbered in an anti-clockwise direction in a logical sequence around the building; the internal elevations are numbered in a clockwise direction (see figure 13). Following the same directional sequences, individual features have been allocated a unique letter/number identifier, e.g. D1 or W14; the letter refers to the type of feature (D = doorway; W = window; FP = fireplace. Given the relatively incomplete state of the building, and the current uncertainty as to exactly how the upper floors may have been divided and organised, this report has not followed previous EDAS practice (e.g. Richardson & Dennison 2012) of also assigning each discrete space a unique reference code; this may be done as part of the Phase 2 report, once a more detailed examination of the structure has been possible.
- 4.4 Finally, the building is aligned slightly north-west to south-east; however, for the purposes of this description, it will be considered to have an east-west alignment.

### Location and Plan Form

- 4.5 As has been noted above in Chapter 1 above, Dobpark Lodge is set on a relatively flat area of land in the approximate centre of Dob Park as it is depicted in the late 18th century, on the south-west side of the Washburn valley (see figure 2). To the immediate south-west, the ground surface rises gently away from the building, whereas to the north, it falls away steeply as a north-east facing wooded scarp. Although the area on which the lodge stands is relatively flat, there is still a fall of c.1m from south to north across the width of the building.
- 4.6 The choice of site for the lodge was probably governed by several factors. Firstly, there may have been a pre-existing structure here, although the current survey has uncovered no documentary, structural or earthwork evidence to suggest that this is the case. Secondly, the siting of the lodge, effectively on the edge of a steep north-east facing scarp gave the possibility of wide-ranging views to the west, north and east. However, as has already been noted, the surviving structure suggests that these possibilities were effectively ignored in terms of the fenestration to the principal (south) elevation, but it may have been important in terms of what was visible from roof level (see below) (see plate 2). In addition, and perhaps more importantly, the lodge's position meant that it was highly visible from the west, north and east, a fact highlighted by Turner's c.1815 sketch (see figure 9 bottom).

- 4.7 At ground level, the lodge has maximum overall dimensions of 16.35m in length (east-west) by 13.40m in width (north-south), but only the north elevation and the south-west corner survive in anything like complete form (see figure 14). Reduced to its most basic form, the lodge has a compact T-shaped plan. The 'head' of the T, and therefore the maximum overall length of the building, is on the south side, with the 'shaft' or main block lying to the north. A stair tower projects from the centre of the north external elevation, while the south-west corner (and perhaps also the south-east too) was surmounted by a sub-square turret. The only surviving entrance into the interior is a doorway (D1) on the north side of the south-west corner, while the newel stair in the stair tower appears to have served all floors internally.
- 4.8 The ground floor was sub-divided into two parts of slightly unequal size by a north-south aligned cross wall; the east part was c.1m narrower than the west part. The cross wall, at least on the north side of the interior, rose to second floor level. The overall layout of the building, and the disposition of elements such as window openings, suggests that symmetry was an important consideration in the original design, particularly in regard to the south external elevation.
- 4.9 At ground level, the external walls have an average width of 0.95m, although the north wall to the east of the stair tower is 1.50m thick to accommodate a number of fireplaces and their flues here. At 0.80m in width, the internal cross-wall is slightly narrower than the external walls. Most of the external elevations rise from a chamfered offset, and stepped footings are visible to the base of much of the east, west and north external elevations; they are particularly prominent to the base of the north elevation's stair tower.

## **Structure and Materials**

### *Structure*

- 4.10 The majority of the building is of three storeys, with ground, first and second floors (see plate 1). The stair tower rose above the second floor, and gave access, via rooftop walkways, to a single storey turret over the south-west corner; it is highly likely that there was once a similar turret to the south-east corner. The tallest surviving wall (at the south-west corner) stands to a height of almost 13m. The exact form of the roof is uncertain; it may have been flat, or there may have been parallel but low pitched roofs, the ridges running north-south over the main part of the building, with separate roofs over the south-west and south-east corner turrets. Whatever the exact roof form, it is likely that that over the main part of the building would not have been visible externally, being hidden behind a parapet wall, but the turret roofs might well have been more decorative in form, enhancing the profile of the lodge. It is assumed that the roofs were either leaded or covered with stone slates.
- 4.11 The surviving structural evidence suggests that the internal floor levels on the north side of the building may have been set slightly lower than those on the south side. However, the height of the internal spaces appears to have been fairly uniform throughout the building across floor levels, increasing in height from the lowest to the uppermost levels. The ground floor spaces are c.2.30m high, whereas the first floor spaces were 3.30m in height and the second floor 3.60m. The south-west corner turret had an internal height of at least 3.30m.

### *Materials*

- 4.12 The external and internal walls of the lodge are built from large (up to 0.30m deep) squared coursed blocks of medium to coarse grained gritstone, giving the masonry a regular appearance (see plate 2). Some blocks are hammer-dressed, while others bear faint diagonal tooling marks. The stones were originally set with a buff/cream lime mortar. The gritstone was also used for carved and decorative features throughout the lodge. The source of the stone is not known, but it could have been quarried in the locality, presumably somewhere on the Vavasour estate.
- 4.13 The ground floor was probably floored with stone slabs and the upper floors boarded. These boards were carried on closely spaced joists in the south-west corner of the building, and it is likely that this was repeated throughout the lodge, with east-west aligned ceiling beams supporting the joists over the main spaces either side of the cross-wall. The walls would have been plastered and whitewashed internally, although no evidence now survives for any form of decorative treatment.

### *Evidence for construction*

- 4.14 In contrast to other late medieval or early post-medieval buildings in the region, such as, for example, Sheriff Hutton Castle in North Yorkshire (Richardson & Dennison 2008) or Bolton Castle in Wensleydale (Lancaster University Archaeology Unit 1992a, 1992b & 1994), Dobpark Lodge preserves relatively little in the way of either very obvious building breaks or putlog holes. This is probably due in part to the better quality of the masonry used compared to that at Sheriff Hutton or Bolton castles, which makes building breaks more difficult to discern. Nevertheless, some limited evidence for construction does survive throughout the structure, and this is described below.
- 4.15 The coursing of the masonry does not exhibit any general trends, such as a gradually diminishing depth of coursing from the base towards the top of an elevation. However, on the south external elevation (Elevation 11), to the first and second floors, a much shallower course of stones has been used to provide a level base for the window sills (see plates 11 and 12). What appear to be surviving putlog holes are limited to the very north end of the east external elevation (Elevation 15), the east end of the north external elevation (Elevation 1), and the north and west external faces of the stair tower (Elevations 3 and 4) (see figures 15 and 17). Many of the putlog holes in the stair tower run through the full thickness of the wall, so that they are visible internally, and it is noticeable that there is a vertical gap of c.1.50m between each set or single example; this is close to the average lift of between 1.50m and 1.75m between lines of putlog holes used for external wooden scaffolding at the late 14th century Sheriff Hutton castle (Richardson & Dennison 2008, 12). However, the distribution of putlog holes suggests that they are associated with a much later phase of repair (see below).
- 4.16 No masons' marks were noted on the lodge, although this is probably due at least in part to the incomplete survival; at Harewood Castle in West Yorkshire, where over 440 masons' marks were recorded, the majority were found within enclosed areas such as garderobes, mural passages and window embrasures where they had been protected from weathering (Richardson & Dennison 2012, 45-47). It may be that some masons' marks might be visible during the Phase 2 enhancement work, where the fabric will be closely inspected from scaffolding.



### *Evidence for repair*

- 4.17 A small amount of evidence was noted for historic repairs to the lodge structure, but it has not yet been possible to date these. A hard light brown sandy mortar has been used to patch repoint the very north end of the east external elevation (Elevation 15), the east end of the north external elevation (Elevation 1), and the north and west external faces of the stair tower (Elevations 3 and 4) (see figures 15 and 17). The distribution of the mortar almost entirely mirrors that of the probable putlog holes described above and so it is possible that, rather than being related to the original construction, the putlogs could be associated with a later scheme of repair or renovation.

### *Graffiti*

- 4.18 Although not strictly relating to construction, the graffiti surviving throughout the lodge is also worthy of note, particularly in what it might reveal about the attitudes and interests of 19th century visitors. As might be expected, the surviving graffiti is concentrated around the interior of the stair tower, and implies that part of the internal structure survived into the later 19th century, allowing visitors to access the upper parts. The surviving graffiti will be described in detail as part of the Phase 2 enhancement works, when full access will be available to the walls of the stair tower.

## **External Elevations**

### *North external elevation (see figure 15)*

- 4.19 The north external elevation is actually composed of six co-joined wall faces (Elevations 1 to 6), including the west end of the west stub wall projecting from the stair tower. Each part is described in turn, from east to west. It is noticeable on the c.1800 painting that this part of the building appears to have then risen appreciably higher than it does now (see figure 8). However, given that the painting shows the interior of the north parts of the building, the implications of this are discussed more fully below in relation to the interior elevations.

### *Elevation 1*

- 4.20 The easternmost part of the building's north side (Elevation 1- see plate 7), set to the east of the stair tower, has a low level chamfered offset, set at c.216.50m AOD. The offset ends abruptly approximately half way across the elevation, to be replaced by a plain shallow step, while the west end is misaligned with the chamfered offset of the elevation (Elevation 2) to the west, being set slightly below it. Below the chamfered offset, towards the east end of the elevation's base, there is a low drain opening, 0.38m wide by 0.20m high. This opening is stone lined, and it runs straight back into the wall for 0.30m before angling gently to the south-west, finally emerging at the base of the internal north elevation (Elevation 16) to the east of the large fireplace here (see figure 14).
- 4.21 Above the chamfered offset, there is a gap of 1.00m before the quoins of the north-east corner commence. Also above the offset, there is an area of repointing, using a light brown sandy lime mortar, measuring a maximum of 3.80m high and at its maximum extent (3.10m) running right across the elevation. On the east side of the repointed area, there are two small vertically aligned recesses that appear to represent former putlog holes. To the west of the upper part of the area of repointing, there is a slightly larger opening or recess, probably a drain, and towards the top of the elevation, another possible putlog hole to the east side.

## Elevation 2

- 4.22 The east side of the stair tower (Elevation 2) has a low level chamfered offset, set at c.216.50m AOD; as has been noted above, it is misaligned with the similar feature to the east (Elevation 1), being set slightly above it, but it is at the same height as the chamfered offset around the other two sides of the stair tower. Below the offset, at the base of the elevation, there are several courses of stepped footings.
- 4.23 Immediately above the offset, a small single-light square-headed window (W1) lights the interior of the stair tower. This window has a double-chamfered lintel and jambs, and a sloping sill. There is a glazing slot, and just to the rear of this, sockets in the sill and lintel for a centrally placed diamond-set vertical bar; there is also evidence for a second similar bar, offset slightly to the south of centre. There is no evidence to suggest that the window was fitted with internal wooden shutters, and indeed, no evidence for such was recorded on any accessible windows within the building. There is a second window (W2) of a very similar form to the upper surviving part of the elevation. At the very top of the elevation, a gap in the masonry towards the north end may form the remnants of a drain or chute draining the former roof structure here.

## Elevation 3

- 4.24 The north side of the stair tower (Elevation 3 - see plate 8) has a low level chamfered offset, set at c.216.50m AOD, and continuous with the offset to the east (Elevation 2) and west (Elevation 4). Some 1.0m below the chamfered offset, two courses of stepped footings are visible, projecting a maximum of 0.30m beyond the wall face above. Commencing at 1.60m above the chamfered offset, there is an area of repointing, using a light brown sandy lime mortar, measuring a maximum of 2.00m high and at its maximum extent running between the corner quoins. Just below the level where the repointing starts, a small rectangular recess is visible towards the west end of the elevation. Above the repointing there is a second similarly sized recess in the same position, and above this, there are two pairs of recesses positioned towards either end of the elevation. These may all represent former putlog holes, and it is noticeable that there is a vertical gap of c.1.50m between each set or single feature. The elevation also contains a single window (W3) set approximately half way up its height; it is of the same form as those described under the east side (Elevation 2) of the stair tower.

## Elevation 4

- 4.25 The west side of the stair tower (Elevation 4) has a low level chamfered offset, set at c.216.50m AOD, which is continuous with the offset to the north (Elevation 2). Below the chamfered offset, the two courses of stepped footings are also visible. Commencing at 1.40m above the chamfered offset, there is an area of repointing, using a light brown sandy lime mortar, measuring a maximum of 3.20m high and at its maximum extent running almost the whole width of the elevation. Approximately half way up this area of repointing, to its immediate south, a small rectangular recess is visible. Above the repointing, there are three similarly sized recesses all at the same height. All of these features may represent former putlog holes; the upper row is positioned at the same height as a pair of similar features to the north side (Elevation 3) of the stair tower.
- 4.26 There are four windows to this elevation, all lighting the interior of the stair tower. The lowest window (W4), set immediately above the chamfered offset, has been



blocked with stone, but the two above this (W5) and (W6) remain open; all three are of the same form as those described under the east side (Elevation 2) of the stair tower. The uppermost window (W7) has lost its lintel but also appears to have once been of the same form, although it is slightly wider.

#### Elevations 5 and 6

- 4.27 The westernmost part of the building's north side (Elevation 5), set to the west of the stair tower, is little more than a stub, projecting a maximum of 1.0m from the stair tower. Beyond c.1.0m, the remainder of the elevation is formed by a low modern wall, which uses cement mortar and incorporates re-used masonry, including one section of window jamb. Within the original part of the elevation, the remnant of a chamfered offset is visible, set at c.216.50m AOD, at the same height as that to the west side (Elevation 4) of the stair tower. At 2.80m above the offset, a single stone may form the remnant of the east jamb of a small window similar to those seen in the stair tower, while at 5.90m above the same point, three projecting stones have a very clean break to their west ends, and so may once have formed the west jamb of another, similar, window. These same possible features are visible within the corework of the west surviving end (Elevation 6) of the building's north side.

#### *West external elevation* (see figures 15 and 16)

- 4.28 The west external elevation comprises four co-joined wall faces (Elevations 7 to 10), including the north end of the north stub wall projecting from the south-west corner of the building. Each part is described in turn, from north to south.

#### Elevations 7 and 8

- 4.29 The majority of the building's west external elevation is now formed by a low modern wall with upright coping (Elevation 8), incorporating a sheep creep with a wooden lintel in the centre; the wall was built in 1984 (Paul Elgar, Rural Estate Management Ltd, *pers. comm.*). However, stones projecting from the base of the modern wall may preserve the former line of the original exterior; the stones project 0.50m at the north end of the wall, but angle inwards to only 0.10m at the southern end (see figure 14). The c.1800 painting appears to show original masonry surviving to approximately half way up first floor level at the northern end of what is now the low modern wall (Elevation 8) (see figure 8). The north end of the north stub wall (Elevations 7 and 8) projecting from the south-west corner of the building has a low level chamfered offset at c.216.50m AOD. Above the offset, the wall stub preserves the south jamb of a large first floor window (W8). This window is set at the same height as those on the first floor of the south external elevation of the building (Elevation 11) and appears to have been of similar form i.e. mullioned and transomed, and of four lights of equal size, chamfered to the exterior, all with glazing slots. At 2.30m above the head of this window, there may be the fragmentary remains of a second, smaller window.

#### Elevation 9

- 4.30 The north side of the building's south-west corner (Elevation 9) has a low level chamfered offset, set at c.216.50m AOD, which is continuous with the offsets to the east (Elevation 8) and west (Elevation 10). This offset is broken by a blocked doorway (D1) (see plate 9), and it drops vertically, still as a chamfered feature, on either side of the doorway, although the drop to the west side is formed by a re-used piece of chamfered offset. The quoined east jamb of the doorway and half of

the square-head, both chamfered, still survive but the western half is missing; the chamfer to the jamb is stopped 1.02m below the soffit of the lintel. In its original form, the doorway was c.1.20m wide externally and 1.80m high; the interior was rebated and the sides splayed outwards towards the interior. Over the doorway, a small first floor window (W9) is of the same form as those described for the stair tower. At second floor level, there is a single small sub-square recess, perhaps a putlog hole or a drain. Above this, the end of the second floor cornice to the west side of the building's south-west corner (Elevation 10) is visible, and at the top of the elevation, the cornice of the third floor south-west corner turret. Both cornices appear to have the same classical ogee and ovolo profile.

#### Elevation 10

- 4.31 The west side of the building's south-west corner (Elevation 10) has a low level chamfered offset, set at c.216.50m AOD, which is continuous with the offset to the north (Elevation 9). This offset runs the full width of the elevation, but terminates at the south end; above it, the west end of the higher chamfered offset (set at c.218m AOD) running across the south external elevation of the building is visible. Immediately above the lower offset, there is a small ground floor window (W10), of the same form as those surviving to the stair tower (see plate 10). The first floor is blank, but there is a large square-headed four-light mullioned and transomed window (W11) to the second floor. The lower lights are slightly taller than the upper lights, but all retain glazing slots with recesses for diamond-set vertical bars behind; both mullions and transoms have the same chamfered profile with flat splays, while the jambs are double-chamfered externally. Above the window, the second floor cornice crosses the elevation. The third floor of the south-west corner turret also has a window (W12), of a similar form to that to the second floor, but the difference in height between the lower and upper lights is more significantly marked; the lower part of the mullion is missing. The cornice of the turret runs across the elevation above the window, and over this, a parapet line built from well-dressed upright stones is just visible.

*South external elevation* (see figures 16 and 17)

#### Elevations 11 and 12

- 4.32 The south external elevation is the most visually prominent surviving element of the building (see plates 1 and 11), and was clearly always intended as the principal elevation. It comprises a single wall face (Elevation 11) and the east end of this face where it has collapsed (Elevation 12), although the majority of the eastern half survives only as a low modern wall. In its original form, the elevation is highly likely to have been symmetrical about the centre.
- 4.33 The main elevation has a low level chamfered offset, set at c.218m AOD, which terminates at the west end; below it, is the west end of the lower chamfered offset (set at c.216.50m AOD) which runs across the west side (Elevation 10) of the south-west corner of the building. Immediately below the higher offset, a single ground floor window (W13) survives externally. It is of the same form as those to the stair tower but somewhat taller, and has been blocked with stone.
- 4.34 To the first floor, there is a pair of large square-headed four-light mullioned and transomed windows (W14 and W15); one (W14) retains only the transom (see plate 12), although it is shown with the mullion in the c.1800 painting, while the other (W15) has lost both mullion and transom. The lower lights were formerly slightly taller than the upper lights, and all retain glazing slots with recesses for

diamond-set vertical bars behind; both mullions and transoms have the same chamfered profile with flat splays. Each window has a drip mould or cornice over, with a similar but not identical profile to the second floor cornice crossing the elevation. At either end of the drip moulds, shallow decorative brackets or consoles break forward slightly (see plate 12). Each bracket/console is sub-rectangular and of two parts; the upper part contains two small circular mouldings and the lower part a single, larger circular moulding; below the latter are the eroded remains of a pendant. Grainge (1882, 6) suggests that these are armorial bearings, and Speight (1900, 168-169) states that they represent the arms of Lancaster, but they are in fact identical to the shallow consoles decorated with three balls which terminate the cornices of the first floor windows to the north, east and west elevations of the Weston Hall banqueting house. Given that the latter also retains armorial references to both the Vavasour and Savile families (see Chapter 5 below), the consoles on both buildings are far more likely to be purely decorative features.

- 4.35 The previous study (Finlayson 2004, 25) stated that the form of the south external elevation strongly suggested that there was a centrally placed doorway to the first floor, although the structural evidence advanced to support this appears to relate to window opening W20 (Elevation 24) (Finlayson 2004, 20 & 24). In addition, to the immediate east of window W15, it has been suggested (Giles Proctor, English Heritage, *pers. comm.*) that the remaining toothed stonework may relate to the robbed out quoined jambs of a doorway, scaled to the elevation and placed centrally to it. This is supported by the c.1800 painting, which shows the straight edge of an opening here, rising to perhaps three-quarters of the height of window W15 (see figure 8 bottom). Comparison to other contemporary structures of similar function, such as the Myddleton Lodge, near Ilkley, also strongly suggests that the principal entrance would have been placed here (see Chapter 5).
- 4.36 There are two very similar windows (W16 and W17), although without the drip moulds, to the second floor; one window (W16) retains both its mullion and transom, whereas the other (W17) has the transom only; the latter is shown with both mullion and transom on the c.1800 painting. The second floor cornice crosses the elevation above these windows. To their east, the partial remains of a third second floor window (W18) survive (see plate 13); its western side is also visible in the c.1800 painting. This window appears to have been of oriel form, taking the form of a canted corbelled and moulded projection. The previous study (Finlayson 2004, 24) suggested that the oriel was three-sided, with two side facets and a flat front, and this seems likely to be correct, although the accompanying assertion that it may have been three times the width of the other mullioned and transomed windows is less certain. Each side-facet appears to have supported a window of either two or four lights, while the flat front could have supported either a four or eight-light mullioned and transomed window, depending on its length; there is no visible surviving evidence for glazing slots. To the immediate west of the window, a small square recess may have been created by a fallen stone, rather than fulfilling a specific function (see plate 13). The third floor south-west corner turret has a single window (W19) to this elevation, of the same mullioned and transomed form as described for the west side (Elevation 10), but offset to the west from those below. To the east of this window, the quoined south-east corner of the turret survives, as does the cornice over. Above the cornice, a parapet line built from well-dressed upright stones is just visible. The c.1800 painting suggests that the parapet was surmounted by a second cornice (see figure 8 bottom).
- 4.37 The east end (Elevation 12) of the main elevation (Elevation 11) demonstrates that the lower half of the projecting oriel was not fitted with an internal window seat, or

at least not a permanent one in stone. The level of the base shows that the window could be walked into from the adjacent room, and it may have been intended as a standing space off that room. Above, c.0.70m higher than the level of the external second floor cornice, there may be the remains of a similar moulding projecting inwards, perhaps marking the height of a parapet for a former wall-walk. To the immediate east, a small area of collapse appears to mark the position of a small square feature of uncertain function shown on the c.1800 painting. A wall-walk would have been necessary to provide access to the third floor south-west corner turret. A small part of the former doorway (D2) in the surviving fragment of the east external elevation of the turret (Elevation 12), accessed from a wall-walk, remains visible. This doorway had a shallow Tudor arched head, chamfered to the west interior face, but with no external rebate for a door. The c.1800 painting indicates that at that time, the whole of the doorway and the east elevation of the turret still survived (see figure 8 bottom). The cornice above window W19 to the south elevation was also carried across the former east elevation at the same level. Above this, there was a parapet line and second cornice, again as to the south elevation.

- 4.38 As noted above, the eastern half of the main elevation (Elevation 11) is formed almost solely by a low modern wall surmounted with upright coping. While the wall appears to follow the same line as the original south elevation of the building, it is less clear to what extent the facing stones survive from the original south elevation. The presence of at least one window opening internally (W20 - see below), which cannot be seen externally as a blocked feature, suggests that much of the facing stone here is modern also. A short section of window jamb has been re-used as coping at the very east end of the wall.

*East external elevation (see figure 17)*

Elevations 13 to 15

- 4.39 The east external elevation comprises three co-joined wall faces (Elevations 13 to 15). Each part is described in turn, from south to north.
- 4.40 The majority of the east external elevation is formed almost solely by a low modern wall with upright coping. The wall appears to follow approximately the same line as the original east elevation of the building, and the southernmost part (Elevation 13) incorporates a slightly projecting section at the base that may actually be the original wall line (see figure 14); the west return at the north end (Elevation 14) appears entirely modern.
- 4.41 The only original part of the elevation to survive to any appreciable height is at the very north end (Elevation 15). Here, there is a partially surviving low level chamfered offset, placed at c.216.50m AOD. At 1.00m above the offset, there is small central patch of repointing using a light brown sandy lime mortar, the same type as described to the north external elevation (Elevations 1 and 3). Above this, there are two small rectangular recesses, set 1.50m apart vertically, and possibly representing former putlog holes. There is a third, similar recess at a higher level, but this may have been created by a fallen stone.

## Internal Elevations

*North internal elevation* (see figure 18)

Elevations 16 to 19

- 4.42 The north internal elevation comprises four co-joined wall faces (Elevations 16 to 19). Due to problems of access, the interior of the stair tower was not recorded by photogrammetry, but is described below based on observations made in the field. As has been noted above, the c.1800 painting suggests that this part of the building once rose appreciably higher than it does now (see figure 8 bottom). If this is an accurate portrayal, then it has significant implications for the internal arrangement of the lodge and the circulation pattern. Although the painter has squeezed the lodge somewhat in his painting, moving the two major remaining parts closer together than they actually are, comparison with a modern photograph taken from the same angle (see plate 23) shows that the visual height relationship between the windows in the south external elevation and the doorways in the internal north elevation on the painting is accurate. Comparison between other existing features and those shown on the painting also indicates that it is an accurate portrayal. There is therefore no reason to suggest that the painter invented the upper area of the north part of the building as it is shown in c.1800. However, quite how much further the building rose in c.1800 is difficult to assess exactly, and this is discussed further below in relation to surviving structural features.
- 4.43 At ground floor level, the very west end of the elevation (Elevation 16) is formed by a low modern wall with vertical coping. The original part of the building is effectively divided into two parts by the projecting stub of an internal cross-wall which once ran the full width of the ground floor of the building (Elevations 18 and 19) although not across the full width above this (see below); the previous study (Finlayson 2004, 29) suggested that a possible gap for a doorway can be seen in the stonework of the ground floor cross-wall. Within the narrower, western part, there is a ground floor doorway (D3) providing the only access to the stair tower from this level. At 0.70m wide, the doorway is rather narrow (see plate 14); the west jamb is quined and may preserve evidence for a slight cut back and recess for a bolt position, but there is otherwise very little evidence that a door was ever fitted. There is no proper east jamb, rather a curving wall which opens into the base of the stair tower. To the west of the doorway, a shallow square socket or recess is placed 1.00m above the existing floor level, while at 2.20m above the same point, a slight set back to the wall face and a single joist socket mark the former first floor level.
- 4.44 To the east of the doorway, the stub wall dividing the two original parts of the elevation contains an angled upright slab, possibly defining one side of a former ground floor opening through the wall (see plate 14). To the east of the central wall, there is a large fireplace (FP1), with a broad Tudor arched head (see plates 16 and 17). Both the lintel and jambs are chamfered, the latter being stopped at 0.20m above the internal floor level. The lintel has a joggled joint to the centre and bears the carved date '1839', together with some more recent painted graffiti. The stonework of the interior is reddened to the back and sooted. The flue rises vertically through the thickness of the wall and appears to be in good condition internally. To the east of the fireplace, the wall is plastered and whitewashed, and there is a drain at the base (see plate 15), venting to the external north side of the building; internally, to the south of the drain, turfed masonry may appear to form a



channel leading to the drain, but this is almost certainly an illusion, the ground surface comprising largely fallen material which has become grassed over.

- 4.45 At first floor level, there is a doorway (D4) to the west of the cross wall, positioned directly over that (D3) to the ground floor, and also leading off the stair tower. This doorway has a Tudor arched head (see plate 16). Both the lintel and jambs are chamfered, the latter being stopped at 0.70m above the former first floor level. The doorway is rebated to the north or stair face, indicating that the door closed against this side; the door was hung on two iron pintles mounted on the west jamb. To the immediate east of cross-wall, there is a second doorway (D5) (see plate 17), essentially very similar to the other first floor example but importantly with the door fitting reversed i.e. chamfered to the north or stair face but rebated to the south face. The second doorway (D5) is visible on the c.1800 painting, but the first (D4) is not, because the cross-wall then projected further south than it now does; it is shown ending in a very flat, straight face, suggesting that it never crossed the full width of the first floor (see figure 8 bottom). The door of the second doorway (D5) was hung on two iron pintles mounted on the west jamb and there is a bolt recess to the east jamb. To the south face of the lintel, there is a small circular hole at the east side; a similar feature, now blocked, appears to have been present to the west side. To the immediate east of the doorway, two angled stones meet to form a relieving arch over the large ground floor fireplace below (see plate 17). There was once another fireplace to the north-east angle of the first floor, but the surround has since been removed. The flue is reddened and rises up through the wall thickness, angling backwards slightly as it does so.
- 4.46 At second floor level, there are doorways to the immediate west (D6) and east (D7) of the cross wall, positioned directly above those on the first floor below (see plate 16). Both doorways have Tudor arched heads, with jambs and lintels chamfered to the north or stair face and rebated to the south face. There is a short well-defined sloping scar to the south face of the east (D7) doorway's lintel. As on the first floor, the east doorway (D7) can be seen on the c.1800 painting, but the west (D6) cannot, because the cross-wall then projected further south than it now does. It is shown ending in a very flat, straight face, suggesting that it never crossed the full width of the second floor. To the east of the latter's east jamb, the wall face is recessed by 0.40m and contains a fireplace (FP2) with a Tudor arched head, chamfered lintel and chamfered jambs, which are stopped at approximately one-third of their height (see plate 17). The fireplace can also be seen on the c.1800 painting.
- 4.47 Somewhat surprisingly, rather than rising above the doorways on the second floor, the projecting wall stub terminates at the same level as the underside of their lintels, and there is no evidence, such as scarring, that it ever rose further. A timber may have run across the top of the wall to form a base for the ceiling/roof structures to either side, but if so, it was not socketed into the face of the north internal elevation, as might have been expected. The structural evidence is in contrast to the c.1800 painting, which shows the cross-wall sloping backwards (i.e. to the north) above second floor level, giving it a rather curious buttress-like appearance. There are some indications of structures placed at a higher level than the second floor. To the west of and above the west doorway (D6), there appears to be sub-square socket and recess, and there is a more convincing example set at approximately the same height above the fireplace (FP2) to the east of the cross-wall. In the same area, but higher still, there may be three sockets or recesses for timbers, perhaps with a drain to their east. On the c.1800 painting, a shadowy feature is shown at a high level above the second floor fireplace (FP2), but it is impossible to tell if this is another fireplace, a window or

perhaps a wall cupboard. The height of wall shown above the second floor fireplace (FP2) in c.1800 suggests that the elevation once rose at least several metres higher than it now does, perhaps implying the existence of a third storey over the north-east part of the building; there is no clear indication on the painting that this third storey was accessed from the stair turret. These irregularities may be resolved during the Phase 2 enhancement works when access is available via scaffolding.

- 4.48 All five of the doorways described above either give access to or lead off from the stair tower. This tower itself is irregular in plan at the base, but assumes a 1.90m square form above first floor level. The stone steps rose from the east internal side of the base and then are angled around the sides of the tower in an anti-clockwise direction, below the various windows in each internal elevation; the treads were on average 0.30m wide and 0.15m high, with a vertical measurement of 2.30m between stair courses as it ascended the tower (see plate 18). It is assumed that the stair wound around a central newel but all trace of this has been removed; the staircase was pulled down in the 1980s by Ian Malgar Vavasour to prevent accidents (Paul Elgar, Rural Estate Management Ltd, *pers. comm.*). Most of the possible putlog holes described to the external elevations of the stair tower (Elevations 2, 3, and 4) pass right through the wall thickness to the interior. In addition, the west first floor doorway (D4) has an associated recess in the west wall of the stair tower for the door to open into, while the doorways (D6 and D7) to the second floor have a pair of timbers, one whole section, to the rear of their lintels to the stair face. These carry the south wall of the stair above, which is approximately twice the width of that part below containing the doorways. The stair clearly rose above the second floor of the building, and presumably communicated with wall-walks at roof level which in turn gave access to areas such as the south-west corner turret. The tower is certainly shown rising much higher on the c.1800 painting (see figure 8 bottom), possibly even higher than the corner turret to the south external elevation, which would have affected the profile of the lodge when viewed from the south. On the painting, a linear feature shown at the top of the north internal elevation (Elevation 16) is strongly suggestive of a wall-walk, surmounted by a parapet wall apparently pierced by a small square opening. The east side of the stair tower is in deep shadow, but it is quite feasible that a doorway led off this side of the top of the tower onto a wall-walk. The painting suggests that this wall-walk was set at a higher level than that across the top of the south side of the lodge. This is quite possible, as wall-walks, linked by steps and stairs, could often rise and fall dramatically across the upper part of a building (Richardson 2010), but would again have had implications for the lodge's profile. All internal sides of the stair tower preserve small areas of plaster, and these are often densely covered in graffiti; the dates '1821' and '1844' are clearly visible to the east wall, together with numerous initials and other inscriptions (see plate 20).

*East internal elevation* (see figure 19)

Elevations 20 to 23

- 4.49 The east internal elevation comprises four co-joined wall faces (Elevations 20 to 23). Apart from the very north end (Elevation 20), the majority of the elevation comprises a low modern wall, which incorporates parts of the original structure. At the north end of the elevation, there is a socket at second floor level, set at the same level as an adjacent socket or recess at the east end of the north internal elevation (Elevation 16). To the south, larger, low level projecting stones form part of the original wall; these return to the east (Elevation 22), and the junction of the two wall faces is quoined, suggesting that it is also an original feature. The upper

part of the return is stepped, but this appears to be wholly as a result of modern rebuilding, rather than preserving an earlier feature; a re-used window jamb is incorporated into the wall here as coping. The elevation then returns to the south (Elevation 23) at the southern end; here, the upper part incorporates what appears to be the remains of a splayed jamb. Although probably partly rebuilt, it is placed opposite a window (W10) in the same position at the south-west corner of the building, and so is likely to mark the position of an original feature. There is also some plaster/whitewash adhering to the wall at a low level.

*South internal elevation (see figure 20)*

#### Elevation 24

- 4.50 The south internal elevation (Elevation 24) comprises a single wall face. Like the external south elevation (Elevation 11), much of the eastern half comprises a low wall, although in contrast to the exterior, only the upper part is modern, the majority being original. Stones project up to 0.20m from the base of the elevation for much of its length (see figure 14), and it is effectively divided into two halves by the projecting core of the cross wall.
- 4.51 To the east of the cross wall, the remains of a splayed ground floor window (W20) survive in the wall face. The window is 1.10m wide to the rear, somewhat wider than the ground floor window (W13) to the west, but the similarity of its placing suggests that it was once of similar form externally. To the west of the cross wall, there is a small square socket, 0.10m deep and 1.20m above ground level, placed between it and the adjacent window (W13). The latter is blocked with stone, and the pointing of the blocking has the date '1984' marked in it (see plate 19). To the west of the window, there are two further sockets, both placed at c.1.00m above ground level. Between and above the sockets, there appears to be a shallow sub-square area of scarring, and there may be further slight horizontal scarring to the wall face below the sockets, suggesting that fixtures and fittings once positioned here have been removed.
- 4.52 At 2.20m above ground level, a row of eleven regularly-spaced joist holes mark the position of the first floor, and show that it was supported on north-south aligned joists here. To the first floor, one of the windows (W14) has a timber rear lintel. There is a square socket at sill level placed between it and the window (W15) to the east, and another, more centrally positioned, at lintel level. The top of this socket is level with a slight setback in the wall face, marking the position of the second floor (see plate 22). To the second floor, the west window (W16) also has a timber rear lintel. Above the second floor windows, another slight setback to the wall face marks the position of the floor of the south-west corner turret.

*West internal elevation (see figures 19 and 20)*

#### Elevations 25 to 27

- 4.53 The west internal elevation comprises three co-joined wall faces (Elevations 25 to 27), essentially the former south-west corner of the building. At the south end, the west side (Elevation 25 - see plate 21) has a small window (W10) to the ground floor, and above, to the first floor, a fireplace (FP3) which has a Tudor arched head, chamfered lintel and chamfered jambs, which are stopped at approximately one-half of their height. The fireplace flue slopes backwards slightly as it rises but from ground level it is difficult to see how it avoids the windows on the floors above. At 5.50m above ground level, a slight set back to the wall face marks the position

of the second floor. There is some surviving plaster adhering to the wall face to the north of the second floor window (W11) and above the window, at 9.40m above ground level, a further slight setback marks the position of the floor of the south-west corner turret. There is also surviving wall plaster to either side of the turret's west window (W12). Just below the setback marking the position of the turret's floor, there is a row of three sockets at the same height.

- 4.54 At ground floor level, to the north side (Elevation 26) of the south-west corner of the building, is the blocked doorway (D1) described externally. To the east of the doorway, where the wall face of the elevation returns to the north, the return is quoined, as are the returns to the first and second floors. As there is no evidence for abutting structures such as wooden screens or partitions, it is assumed that the south-west corner of the building was once continuous with the larger space to the immediate east. At 2.20m above ground level, a row of six joist holes marks the position of the first floor, and demonstrates that it was supported on north-south aligned joists. There may be a small rectangular socket just below the first floor window (W9), while at 5.50m above ground level, a row of six joist holes associated with a slight setback marks the position of the second floor; this, like the first floor, was supported on north-south aligned joists. At 9.50m above ground level, there is a row of three sockets, and slightly above these, a further socket and slight setback, marking the floor level of the south-west corner turret.
- 4.55 Where the elevation returns to the north (Elevation 27), only a short section survives to any height, and this contains the remains of the window (W8) described externally (Elevation 8) (see plate 22). The remainder of the elevation is formed by a low modern wall, incorporating a sheep creep with a timber lintel.

### **Circulation**

- 4.56 The incomplete surviving form of the lodge presents some difficulties in reconstructing movement through the building. In addition to this, the former presence of non-structural partitions such as wooden screens may have influenced how internal spaces were accessed. Nevertheless, the broad pattern of circulation can still be discerned. It should be noted that the following account may be revised as a result of the Phase 2 enhancement work, when access to fabric is possible via scaffolding.
- 4.57 Based on the surviving structural evidence, and through comparison with other contemporary examples, it seems very likely that the principal entrance was located on the centre of the first floor, and was reached by external steps which have since been removed. The only surviving doorway (D1) is positioned on the north side of the south-west corner, and is relatively small, making it an unlikely candidate for this function. However, it did lead into the larger west room or space of the ground floor, and through here provided access to the stair in the stair turret. Its most likely function is as a staff/service entrance, bringing in provisions etc for the two ground floor rooms.
- 4.58 The ground floor appears to have been divided into two rooms of slightly unequal size, separated by a north-south aligned cross-wall, and both poorly lit (see figure 14); Proctor (2011) suggests that there were four rooms at this level, although the evidence on which this suggestion is based is unclear. As on the first and second floors above, the surviving evidence suggests that the south-west corner of the west room was once continuous with the main body of the room. In the absence of any evidence for a second external doorway, it is assumed that the slightly smaller east ground floor room was reached via a doorway in the internal cross-wall, as

suggested by the previous survey (Finlayson 2004). The east room had a large fireplace in the north wall (FP1), with an adjacent drain. The juxtaposition of the fireplace with the drain is similar to that surviving in the kitchen at Harewood Castle in West Yorkshire (Richardson & Dennison 2012, 56) and this, together with the size of the fireplace relative to the others surviving within the lodge, suggests that the east ground floor room was used for food preparation.

4.59 The northern doorway (D3) in the west ground floor room gave access to the stair turret, which in turn provided the only internal access to all the upper floors of the lodge. The internal cross-wall continued to first floor level, at least on the north side of the interior. The suggested position of the principal entrance in the south wall (see below) would sit awkwardly with the cross-wall if it had run the full width of the lodge, and so, as indicated by the c.1800 painting, it must have only projected so far. There are good reasons to think that the south side of the second floor was formed by a single east-west aligned chamber, created partly by the use of screens or non-structural partitions (see below). It is possible that there was a similar arrangement on the first floor, with the principal entrance leading into a well-lit reception area along the southern side of the lodge, with a fireplace at the south-west corner (FP3). This fireplace may have been positioned here partly because there was nowhere else to place it, but also because heating this small corner space was more effective; perhaps guests or family could warm themselves here on entry to the lodge. If this was the case, then there must have been two smaller rooms of slightly unequal size to the north. The doorway (D4) off the stair into the west room had a door fitted to the stair face, while that leading to the east room (D5) had a door fitted to the room side. The provision of separate doorways off the stair suggests that the rooms were not linked through the internal cross-wall, and the differing position of the doors may indicate differing status or use; for example, if the doors were lockable, then the east room could perhaps have been secured from inside the room, allowing no access from the stair and greater degree of privacy, whereas the west room could perhaps have been secured from the stair only. The west room may not have been heated, but the east room preserves evidence for heating in the form of the north-east angle fireplace flue. Again, Proctor (2011) suggests that there may have been four rooms to the first floor, although again the evidence on which this suggestion is based is unclear. Such an arrangement is feasible, but there is no scarring to the internal south elevation (Elevation 24), west of where the principal entrance would have been positioned, to indicate a sub-division. However, if panelled walls or other non-structural partitions were used, then there could have been two rooms to the south side of the first floor also, separate by an entrance passage. In this scenario, these rooms would have been L-shaped in plan, with the fireplace (FP3) at the south-west corner perhaps replicated by one at the south-east corner in the same position.

4.60 The internal cross-wall continued to second floor level, at least on the north side of the interior. As on the first floor, there are again two separate doorways (D6 and D7) leading off the stair, but in contrast to the first floor, both were fitted with doors on the room side. The north side of the east room was heated by a fireplace in the north wall (FP2). The c.1800 painting suggests that there may have been another storey over the east room, but this is not certain nor is it clear how this room would have been accessed. As on the first floor, the presence of the second floor oriel in the south elevation argues against the cross-wall running the full width of the building. Again, it may be that it ran only part way across the second floor, and by the use of screens or other non-structural partitions, the south side of the second floor was formed into a single east-west aligned rectangular space resembling a gallery; Proctor (2011) suggests that the whole south front at this level was given over to a single chamber, following the arrangement at Ledston Lodge (West



Yorkshire) and Swarkeston Pavilion (Derbyshire). This floor would have been extremely well lit by the windows in the east and west walls and the south side, and the oriel would have been located in the approximate centre of its south wall.

- 4.61 If the proposed three-room arrangement to the first and second floors is correct, then it is assumed that east-west beams must have been socketed into the southern end of the cross-wall to support the screens or non-structural partitions, with joists running north-south towards the south wall. There is little evidence for joist sockets in the internal south elevation (Elevation 24), away from the south-west corner of the building, although there are slightly setbacks at first and second floor levels which could have supported joist ends.
- 4.62 The internal stair clearly rose above the second floor and gave access to the roof. The remaining structural evidence, and that of the c.1800 painting, indicates that it is most likely that a roof doorway was positioned on the east side of the stair head. A wall-walk or walk over the roof leads presumably followed the east and then the south side of the parapet walls to reach the doorway (D2) in the west wall of the south-west corner turret.

## 5 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 The Phase 1 survey work undertaken at Dobpark Lodge has raised a number of issues meriting further discussion, and these are outlined below. It should be noted that additional research, recording and investigation to be undertaken as part of the Phase 2 enhancement work may well provide further information, and even answer some of these issues. Nevertheless, they are included here, to provide a guide for that additional research and recording.

### **The Park in the Later Medieval and Early Post-medieval Periods**

- 5.2 The detailed research required to understand the origin and ownership of Dob Park during the medieval period unfortunately lies beyond the scope of this report. The manor and vill of Weston lay outside the royal Forest of Knaresborough, and in 1252, Henry III granted Robert de Stopham the right of free warren in all his demesne lands in Newton (near Ripley) and Weston provided there was no trespass into the royal forest; both Newton and Weston lay on the opposing edges of the forest. The right of free warren allowed a local magnate the sole rights to hunt small game over their own manors or estates and, more importantly, the right to prosecute any commoner found hunting on their land. Small game was defined as hare, rabbit, woodcock, partridge and pheasant which were hunted for the table, while fox, wildcat, badger, marten, otter and squirrel were hunted as pests as they damaged crops (Cantor 1982, 82). By the middle of the 14th century, grants of free warren had become so common that the majority of the manorial lords seem to have enjoyed them, and in some cases, the grant was a prelude to the creation of a park (Dennison 2005, 22).
- 5.3 Such a process may well have led to the creation of a park in the otherwise uneconomic or unprofitable northern part of Weston township in the later 13th or 14th centuries. The exact limits of the park remain to be defined, but Jefferys' 1775 plan shows a paled area on the south side of the river Washburn covering an area of c.360 acres (c.145ha) (see figure 4). The remains of the walled park pale can be seen in places, and the differences in the alignment of the boundary and the shapes of the later fields within it on either side of the central wooded scarp (now Dobpark Wood) must be significant (see figure 5). Broadly speaking, to the north of the wooded scarp the park boundary is more sinuous, broadly co-incident with township/lordship boundaries as indicated on 18th and 19th century maps, and partly follows prominent natural features such as becks and rivers, while the mostly north-south field boundaries in this area are more irregular and contain a large number of trees. Conversely, to the south of the wooded area, the park boundary is straighter and the fields are markedly more regular and rectangular in shape. These differences suggest that two phases of activity are evident, the northern area reflecting the earlier medieval park (either wholly or more likely in part) and the southern area representing either a later park or more likely a re-modelling of part of the medieval park.
- 5.4 Depending on its size, a medieval park would have contained a variety of structures, not necessarily all associated with hunting; during the middle ages terms such as 'lodge' could have a variety of different meanings (Moorhouse 2003, 346-347; Moorhouse 2007, 107-111). By comparison with other medieval parks, one might expect the principal building to have been located somewhere in the vicinity of the later lodge building, although the current survey has uncovered no clear evidence for such; there is, for example, no convincing evidence that the lodge incorporates part of an earlier building. However, the relatively high number of footpaths and tracks converging on Low Park in the late 18th century might be

taken to indicate an early centre here. Jefferys also marks a “Park House”, perhaps in the vicinity of Middle Farm, or more likely just further to the north, although seemingly just outside the park boundary.

- 5.5 Whenever Dob Park was first created, it clearly pre-dates the existing lodge building. It is not known whether any settlements or farmsteads were removed for the creation of the park, but it is likely that this northern and rather isolated end of the township was relatively sparsely occupied (if at all), apart from the mill; no deserted villages or farmsteads are implied by the place-name evidence (Smith 1961, 64-65). The equivalent area to the north of the central wooded scarp in Clifton township just to the east was ‘Northwood’, an area of manorial woodland, perhaps supervised from a medieval farmstead centred on the later Bishopwood House (Wood 1999, 38). However, possible faint traces of ridge and furrow in the area to the south of the wooded belt might imply that parts of this area were formerly medieval agricultural land which were taken into the park.
- 5.6 The earliest reference for the park uncovered by this report dates to August 1521, when John Vavasour of Weston leased the northern half and the corn mill there to Rauff Pulleyn of Scotton. This reference is significant in that it shows that the northern half of the park was no longer being used for its original purpose by this date, and it was effectively surplus to requirements. This north-south division of rental/ownership might also be reflected in the later 1781 plan which shows the park having been divided into three separate farm holdings (see figure 6). It was noted above that the layout of the enclosures, the form of the boundaries between them, and the tree cover in the northern part of the park is quite different to that in the southern part. It is therefore possible that these enclosures were established in the early 16th century and that from that time, although it was not formally disparked (as evidenced by Jefferys’ boundary), the northern park area was no longer suitable or required for the accommodation and hunting of deer, or any other park-type activities, that may have taken place here in the later medieval or early post-medieval periods.
- 5.7 It is not known whether Rauff Pulleyn established a farmstead to manage this new land, but if so, it is possible that it lies on the site of what is now Low Park. The apparent earlier field names recorded on the c.1781 sketch plan suggest that there were perhaps initially four closes in this area, named from east to west as Joshua Pasture, Rape Close, Brand or Branby Close, and Manor or House Close. They were almost certainly initially divided by hedged boundaries, some of which had watercourses created to run parallel to them, and were probably used as pasture.

### **The Date, Form and Uses of Dobpark Lodge**

#### *Date and comparative examples*

- 5.8 The current survey has found no evidence to contradict previous suggestions (e.g. Proctor 2011) that the lodge dates to the early 17th century, and that it is the work of Mauger Vavasour (knighted in 1603) and his wife Joan Savile. If it was of the mid 17th century as suggested by Leach and Pevsner (2009, 750), then it is unlikely to be the work of Sir Mauger (who died in 1630), and so must be attributed to one of his immediate successors, such as William Vavasour - the first documented date for the lodge (so far uncovered) is 1661.
- 5.9 It is useful to make some comparisons between the lodge and the other structures (principally the banqueting house) believed to have formed part of the larger scheme of improvement works undertaken to the Weston Hall estate by Sir

Mauger Vavasour. The banqueting house is suggested by Leach and Pevsner (2009, 749) to date to c.1600. It has a sub-square plan form, of three storeys with a belvedere and a projecting stair turret to the north side (see plates 24 and 25). The building is built of ashlar, with the exception of the north elevation, and the north and west elevations of the stair turret, which are of thinly coursed and squared stone. All the elevations rise from a chamfered plinth, stepped to the south elevation. The south elevation has a ground floor doorway with a Tudor-arched head, set within a shallow canted projection, which is carried upwards through the first and second floors (see plate 26). To the latter, there are canted ten-light mullioned and transomed windows; both mullions and transoms are ovolo-moulded, as are those of all the upper windows of Dobpark Lodge and also those in the surviving north-east pavilion of Weston Hall. There is a square sundial between the windows, and above the second floor window, a pair of roundels containing an owl and a cockerel, representing the Savile and Vavasour families respectively. Above these, at the base of the parapet, there is an ogee and ovolo-moulded string course, the parapet also having open merlons, strapwork and small corner chimneys rising above it. The east elevation has a pair of two-light windows to the ground floor, with eight-light mullioned and transomed windows to the first and second floors, flush to the elevation. The west elevation has a pair of niches with fluted round-heads just above the chamfered plinth, with eight-light windows to the first and second floors, as for the east elevation. Between the windows, there are two square panels which appear to contain the very eroded crests of the Vavasour and Savile families and, above the second floor window, a second pair of roundels with the cockerel and the owl. The parapet is decorated with a further four small shields, again assumed to relate to the Vavasour and Savile families. The north elevation is very plain and occupied largely by the stair turret.

- 5.10 The lowest floor (which is entered from ground level but acts somewhat like a basement) has doorways to the north and south elevations, but no internal access to the stair turret, supporting the idea that it had a service/storage function. It is formed largely by a single room with a low ceiling (2.40m high) crossed by a single east-west aligned beam. This room is poorly lit, and has what appears to be two wall cupboards to the west wall, beneath a single stone lintel. An internal doorway in the north wall leads into a small space beneath the stair turret. There is a tradition that the banqueting house was linked to the Hall by a tunnel. Although this would make some sense in terms of bringing food into the building undercover from the Hall, there is no clear evidence that this was the case. The tradition may stem from a small space off the west side of the ground floor room beneath the stair turret which, although it could be construed as a tunnel entrance, actually appears to relate to an earlier terrace on the west side of the building, used to reach the stair turret. The stair turret doorway is also Tudor-arched, and gives access to the tightly winding staircase from the west, at what is essentially first floor level. The internal walls of the stair turret are plastered and have been painted to resemble ashlar, as have those of the first floor chamber. This is formed by a very well-lit single space, with a Tudor-arched fireplace across the north-west corner. The second floor chamber is similar, but the fireplace is to the north-east corner; it is crossed by two queen-post roof trusses, which support the shallowly pitched roof hidden behind the external parapet. The first floor chamber has a floor to ceiling height of 3.15m, while for the second floor chamber the same measurement is 3.30m. The stair turret rises to roof level, and a doorway leads out onto the roof leads. A tight and rather precipitous set of external stairs (now fitted with a modern handrail) wind around the south-east corner to lead up to the belvedere. This is a beautiful, well-lit space, with ten-light mullioned and transomed windows to the north, west and south walls, and a smaller window to the east wall. However, it is not a large space, measuring just over 2.20m square, and with a floor to ceiling

height of 2.90m. There are expansive views to the south, east and west, although the view to the north is more limited due to rising ground here.

- 5.11 It can therefore be seen that both Dobpark Lodge and the Weston Hall banqueting house share some common characteristics of form and layout. Both have a ground floor which resembles a basement, and which was given over to service functions. Both have floors which increase in height through the building, and both have large windows and a capacity to provide expansive views from the structure. However, all of these are arguably general characteristics of these types of buildings built during this period. More interesting are the similarities in decorative detailing. The second floor string courses to the banqueting house and the first floor string courses to the lodge have the same ogee and ovolo-moulded profile. More significantly, the first floor windows to the south external elevation of the lodge and the first floor windows to the south, east and west elevations of the banqueting house have the same shallow consoles/brackets with three balls or circles (see plate 27). This strongly suggests that, even if they are not exactly contemporary, the two buildings form part of the same scheme of works, and that one was designed with knowledge of the other. Although the ruined lodge lacks the heraldic devices present at the banqueting house, which would definitively link it to the Vavasour and Savile families, there may well have been some on those parts of the building which no longer survive to full height.
- 5.12 The previous study made comparisons between Dobpark Lodge and other buildings in the region dating from the late medieval period through to the 17th century (Finlayson 2004, 17-20). The current study would argue that some of these comparisons were not particularly useful as the chosen examples were primarily residential structures such as tower houses with attached ranges. As will be discussed below, although Dobpark Lodge would have accommodated family and guests for short periods when first built, it was clearly subservient to the main residence at Weston Hall. It is therefore considered more relevant to make comparisons to other lodges and similar structures of the later 16th and the 17th centuries situated within parks or associated with larger residences.
- 5.13 The lodge was an important architectural form during this period and one of the most interesting types of 16th and 17th century buildings. Girouard (1983, 107) comments that they were a natural vehicle for architectural experiment; by their nature, they were well suited to a compact plan, and their use as belvederes to watch hunts and the movements of deer made an elevated site, height and the provision of towers and flat roof-top walks desirable. The influence of lodges strengthened the general trend for height, compactness and a site isolated in a park for larger houses; in some cases, a house originally built as a hunting lodge became so attractive to the family that built it that it became their main residence, sometimes being enlarged to suit this purpose (Girouard 1983, 107; Gomme & Maguire 2008, 59-62). Conversely, some later lodges were indeed more like houses in scale and layout but placed in a parkland setting, such as Sir Arthur Ingram's 'New Lodge' in Sheriff Hutton Park, North Yorkshire, built between 1619-24 (Richardson 2005, 211-233) or Worksop Manor Lodge in Nottinghamshire (c.1595) which stood to over five storeys in height (Gomme & Maguire 2008, 56-57).
- 5.14 There was a great variety in the form of such lodge buildings during this period. In the earlier part of the period under consideration, the c.1574 Turret House at Sheffield Manor in South Yorkshire, sometimes known as Queen Mary's Tower, formerly thought to be a gatehouse, is now interpreted as a 'standing' or 'prospect house' for Sheffield Park (Jones 2007). It is of three storeys, each storey



containing two rooms, the best room on the uppermost floor retaining a decorated plaster ceiling. There was a single internal staircase, leading to a brick roof turret and then out onto the roof leads, with wide views around (Hey 1981, 32-33; Girouard 1983, 119; Emery 1996, 280). Also of the same period are the late 16th century standings and towers, often (but not always) constructed to overview hunting in parks, particularly when this hunting was undertaken as deer coursing. Examples include the c.1570s-80s Hunting Tower at Chatsworth in Derbyshire, which is set on the crest of a hill above the house and was used to watch hunting from and possibly also as a base for shooting deer. It takes the form of a square tower, four storeys high, with circular turrets at each corner; these rise above parapet level to provide access to the roof and three very small circular rooms, two of which retain highly decorative plasterwork (Girouard 1983, 119). Such buildings continued to be built into the 17th century. At Swarkeston in Derbyshire, a turreted standing, perhaps dating to 1630-32, was built at one end of a walled enclosure that may have been used for bear baiting or perhaps even tilting (Girouard 1983, 277; Henderson 2005, 167-177), and there is a similar mid 17th century example at Ledston Lodge, associated with Ledston Hall in West Yorkshire ([www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk](http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk)).

- 5.15 The aforementioned standing at Swarkeston offered ample space for spectators to view activities below, but contained no other facilities. This is in contrast to a near contemporary standing (known as Lodge Park) at Sherborne in Gloucestershire, built in the 1630s, which had a cellar accommodating kitchen and services (Fretwell 1995) or that built at Huby, North Yorkshire, in the 1640s, which was similarly equipped and lavishly decorated internally (Gilbert 1973). These buildings, referred to as 'lodges' by Henderson (2005) as opposed to the earlier standings, were set away from the main residence but were not too distant, and were suitable for brief periods of occupation. Some served as retreats or 'secret houses', where the lord could retire with a small entourage for short periods of time (Girouard 1983, 107; Gomme & Maguire 2008, 55). Like the standings, they were built in the 16th and 17th centuries, an early example being Newark Park at Ozleworth in Gloucestershire (c.1550), of three storeys, with two rooms to each floor and a large canted bay window to the first floor (Gomme & Maguire 2008, 57). The most elaborate examples, such as Lyveden New Bield in Northamptonshire (started in c.1594 but never completed), have been likened to the architectural equivalent of the portrait miniature or the sonnet, a miniature version of a larger form intended for private and intimate enjoyment, sometimes with complex forms and meanings (Henderson 2005, 167-177; Gomme & Maguire 2008, 114-115).

#### *The form of the lodge*

- 5.16 It can be seen that Dobpark Lodge has far more in common with these later lodges than it does with the earlier standings. In its original form, Dobpark Lodge had a somewhat unusual compact T-shaped plan, with the 'head' of the T on the south side. A stair tower, accessible only from the interior, projected from the centre of the north external elevation. The ground floor was sub-divided into two rooms of slightly unequal size, essentially forming a service basement, with a kitchen in the east room and probable storage area, perhaps for wine, food and other domestic materials, to the west. The kitchen was accessible through the west room, which had its own doorway positioned on the north side of the south-west corner of the building. Although this doorway is an unlikely candidate for the principal entrance to the lodge, the west room does provide access to the stair turret, and so is well placed to perform a service function.

- 5.17 The principal entrance is almost certainly to have been located centrally in a symmetrical south elevation, with steps (subsequently removed) rising to meet it. Although a doorway might at first appear to have been rather squeezed here below the oriel window (W18) above, this is in fact the situation at Myddleton Lodge. Here, although the existing doorway is a mid 19th century remodelling (Leach & Pevsner 2009, 349), the original cannot have been significantly larger; the principal entrance was deriving its importance not from its prominence, but from its placement and relationship to other elements of the elevation. Again as at Myddleton, a doorway in this position at Dobpark Lodge would have required external steps to reach it. In this regard, it is interesting to note that the c.1800 painting (see figure 8 bottom) appears to show a prominent mound in the position where the steps ought to have been, possibly indicating that they were then still present but buried by soil, and have subsequently been removed.
- 5.18 The only internal access to the upper floors of the lodge was via the stair in the stair turret. The internal cross-wall most likely did not cross the full width of the building at this level, with the result that there may have been a larger space, aligned east- west, across the southern side of the building, into which the principal entrance opened, and two smaller rooms of unequal size to the north; the three rooms were presumably also interconnected in some way. Alternatively, there may also have been two rooms to the south, separated by an entrance passage and defined by panelled walls or other non-structural partitions. In terms of the two smaller rooms to the north side, the doorway off the stair into the west room (D4) had a door fitted to the stair side, while that (D5) leading to the east room had a door fitted to the room side. The provision of separate doorways off the stair suggests that the rooms were not linked through the internal cross-wall, and the differing position of the doors may indicate differing status or use; for example, if the doors were lockable, then the east room could perhaps have been secured from inside the room, ensuring no access from the stair and a greater privacy, whereas the west room could perhaps have been secured from the stair only. Given the single stair turret in the lodge, one might see in the differing door positions something in common with some very early 17th century houses, such as Gainford Hall in County Durham (1600-1603), where projecting stair towers and a lateral spine were used to articulate a clear social and functional division (Gomme & Maguire 2008, 46-47).
- 5.19 The largest first floor room was well lit, principally by windows in the south wall (W14 and W15), although there is also fragmentary evidence for a large mullioned and transomed window to the west side (W8). The eastern of the two smaller rooms preserves evidence for heating in the form of the north-east angle fireplace flue. The fireplace at the south-west corner (FP3) of the larger room may have been positioned here partly because heating this small angle space was more effective; perhaps guests or family could have warmed themselves here on entry to the lodge, the space functioning something like a closet. The larger room was not only far more generously lit than the ground floor, but it was also over a metre taller internally. Some first floor walls retain evidence for plaster, and it is expected that the rooms would have received decorative treatment in the form of both ornamental plasterwork and panelling; there may also have been sub-divisions in the form of wooden screens. There is no surviving evidence for garderobes, although these were sometimes provided at lodges in the form of 'stool-houses' (Henderson 2005, 172-173). If they were not present at Dobpark, then portable commodes could have been provided. Other furnishing would presumably have been brought up from the Hall as and when they were needed. The function of the smaller first floor rooms is presently uncertain, but they could have been used, for example, as a bedchamber; although only a short distance from the principal

residence at Weston Hall, one might expect some provision for overnight stays. It may also be that they were used for different purposes at different times of the day.

- 5.20 On the second floor, as on the first floor, there are again two separate doorways (D6 and D7) leading off the stair, but in contrast to the first floor, both were fitted with doors closing on the room side. The north side of the eastern of the smaller rooms was heated by a fireplace (FP2) in the north wall. The c.1800 painting suggests that there may have been another storey over the east room, but this is not certain nor is it clear how this room would have been accessed. As on the first floor, the cross-wall apparently only ran part way across the second floor, and by the use of screens or other non-structural partitions, the south side of the second floor was formed into a single east-west aligned space resembling a gallery. This would have been extremely well lit by the windows in the east and west walls (W11) and especially the south side (W16 and W17), and the oriel (W18) would have been located in the approximate centre of its south wall. The second floor rooms were slightly taller again internally than those on the first floor, and would be expected to have been decorated and furnished to a high standard internally. Based on surviving structural evidence, it appears that almost all of the windows in the lodge were glazed. The glazing was set into glazing slots, and probably also wired to diamond-set uprights, as has been recorded at other Yorkshire houses of this period (Harrison & Hutton 1984, 195; Dennison, Richardson & Haigh 2001, 17).
- 5.21 The internal stair clearly rose above the second floor and gave access to the roof. The remaining structural evidence, and the c.1800 painting, indicate that it is most likely that a roof doorway was positioned on the east side of the stair head. A wall-walk or walk over the roof leads would most likely have been placed behind a parapet, more likely to have been partly balustraded than crenellated, and it is almost certain that the surviving small, but well lit, corner turret in the south-west corner was complemented by a similar feature in the south-east corner, balancing the south external elevation. It is considered highly likely that the south external elevation was symmetrically arranged to all floor levels, and the symmetry may also have been a consideration in the overall layout of the building. The principal elevations at Ledston Lodge (West Yorkshire) are symmetrically arranged ([www.listedbuildings.co.uk](http://www.listedbuildings.co.uk)), although the building as a whole is less generously fenestrated than Dobpark.
- 5.22 The treatment of the corner turret roofs would have had a considerable effect on the overall appearance of the building. They may have been fitted with ogee caps like those at Ledston or could have been flat. If the latter, coupled with a balustraded parapet, the profile of the roof and the profusion of windows would have given Dobpark an appearance more like a much smaller and plainer version of a late 16th century house; Henderson (2005, 169) draws comparisons between the setting and internal decoration of Hardwick Hall in Derbyshire and Tudor hunting stands.

#### *Designers and builders*

- 5.23 Before considering the relationship of the lodge to its contemporary landscape setting, it is interesting to speculate as to who the designer of Dobpark Lodge may have been. Girouard (1983, 6-7) stresses that, when considering design during this period, it should not be forgotten that the average building still emerged from the interaction of a number of different people, namely craftsmen, the employer, the employer's friends and professionals with an intellectual rather than a craft

background. Nevertheless, there were those who approached what we might understand by the modern usage of the word 'architect'.

- 5.24 One of these was Robert Smythson (1534/5-1614). Smythson was employed as the chief mason at Longleat House in Wiltshire, in 1568, and in the 1580s went on to design or supervise the construction of a series of extraordinary houses in the North Midlands, including Wollaton Hall and Worksop, both in Nottinghamshire. There are also other houses, ranging as far north as the southern part of West Yorkshire, where Smythson's direct hand or influence may be discerned (Girouard 1983, 40-197; Girouard 2004). Proctor (2011) notes that Dobpark Lodge has a compact plan in the manner of Robert Smythson, and furthermore suggests that there are some similarities to the Smythsonian Fountains Hall, North Yorkshire, thought to have been reasonably complete by 1604 (Hey 1981, 38). It is true that Dobpark Lodge shares some characteristics with the larger houses designed by or attributed to Smythson. The form of the ground floor could be interpreted as a simplified form of the 'high basement' used in larger contemporary houses (Girouard 1983, 59) - the lodge has both height and compactness, with rooms increasing in height as the house rises, and rooftop towers, and a dramatic landscape setting (Girouard 1983, 84 & 187). Furthermore, Smythson avoided external chimney stacks (Girouard 1983, 191) and there is no surviving evidence for these at the lodge. The apparent violent contrast between the lodge's highly fenestrated south elevation and the small windows of the north elevation could be proposed to resemble the similar contrast once present at the now demolished Pontefract New Hall in West Yorkshire (built c.1591) and perhaps also attributable to Smythson (Girouard 1983, 171-173), while the presence of a gallery along the south side of the uppermost floor resembles the arrangement at the also lost c.1585 Heath Old Hall in West Yorkshire, another Smythson influenced house (Girouard 1983, 120-121).
- 5.25 Nevertheless, Dobpark Lodge lacks some of the other characteristics of Smythson's work, most notably the bold recession and projection of bays that would perhaps have been expected to the south elevation and which exist at Fountains Hall (Girouard 1983, 188 & 195). In addition, the compact form and height of the lodge had become generally fashionable in the later 16th and early 17th centuries for even the largest houses (Girouard 1978, 114-115), while the placing of a gallery on the uppermost floor was also common. On current evidence, it is therefore more correct to suggest that the design of Dobpark Lodge may have been influenced by, or is after, Smythson, rather than directly attributable to him.
- 5.26 If not Robert Smythson, then what of his son, John? John Smythson (d.1634) travelled with his father in 1587 and is first recorded as a freemason in 1588. He was living at Wollaton Hall in Nottinghamshire in 1600 and made a journey to the south of England in 1618-19, which had an important influence on his designs (Girouard 2004). At first, John may have made drawings and supervised buildings under the influence of his father. He was almost certainly responsible for the Little Castle at Bolsover, begun in 1612 for Sir Charles Cavendish, and like his father, there are a number of houses and other buildings in the North Midlands and southern part of West Yorkshire that might be attributable to him, including the aforementioned lodges/hunting stands at Ledston and Swarkeston (Girouard 1983, 168-169, 234 & 277-278). Again, one might point to some similarities between the plan and elevation of Dobpark Lodge and parts of John Smythson's Slingsby Castle in North Yorkshire, commenced in c.1630 for Sir Charles Cavendish. However, Dobpark lacks the pedimented ranges present at Slingsby, which were often used by John (Girouard 1983, 257), and any involvement of John would

probably have to push back the construction of the lodge further into the early 17th century.

- 5.27 Perhaps the greatest current difficulty in attributing the lodge's design to either Robert or John Smythson is the lack of a demonstrable link between the Vavasours and the Smythson's aristocratic clients. To secure a living out of designing or even supervising the erection of buildings was not easy, and both Robert and John combined it with entering the service of a great family. Robert spent the second half of his life in the employment of the Willoughby family of Wollaton Hall, turning his hand to tasks including the collection of coal rents and making lists of bedding. John Smythson was employed by the Cavendishes as a bailiff of their manors and surveyor of their lands and, although he did a certain amount of outside work after 1612, the Cavendishes remained his principal patrons from 1615 until his death in 1634 (Girouard 1983, 10-11 & 245). If a family link between the Vavasours and the Cavendishes or a related branch during this period could be demonstrated, then it would make the involvement of Robert or John Smythson more likely - further research would be needed to confirm this. Alternatively, a detailed examination of any relevant surviving Vavasour estate records for the period might produce the name of someone in their employ who could be related or linked to contemporary building projects elsewhere.
- 5.28 Moving away from Robert and John Smythson, there is a third name that can be suggested as a possible designer for Dobpark Lodge. Hey, in relation to the banqueting house at Weston Hall, notes that Barnard Dinninghof was responsible for the glazing and may have had a hand in the actual design (Hey 1981, 34). Dinninghof was an accomplished German glass-painter and glazier who was probably a foreign refugee who came to England in the late 16th century. He seems to have been based in York, although more recently evidence has come to light that he may have been living at Moat House, near Boston Spa, if only temporarily (Richardson *in prep.*). His earliest known work is the painted glass at Gilling Castle in North Yorkshire, which is dated 1585, and he also very probably undertook glazing work at Fountains Hall, Bishopthorpe Palace and the New Lodge at Sheriff Hutton (all North Yorkshire). In addition to glass-painting and glazing, Dinninghof produced architectural designs, including plans in 1618 for converting the gatehouse of the middle court of Sheriff Hutton castle into a house. This conversion never took place, but it is possible that the plans were adapted for the New Lodge in the park, which may itself have influenced the design of one of Sir Arthur Ingram's other houses at Temple Newsam in West Yorkshire (Richardson 2005, 212-216 & 221-222). Whether Dinninghof was involved in the design of either the Weston Hall banqueting house or Dobpark Lodge is impossible to say, based on current evidence, but it remains a fascinating possibility with significant implications for future research. One should also not forget that Sir Mauger Vavasour himself may have had an influence, as the late 16th and 17th century gentry often involved themselves closely in the design of their houses (Airs 1995, 31-56).

### **The Relationship of the Lodge to the Park**

- 5.29 As has already been discussed above, the north part of the medieval park may have been sub-divided into a number of pastoral enclosures as early as the 1520s, and this sub-division has continued to influence its appearance up to the present day. It is quite possible that by the time Dobpark Lodge was built in the early 17th century, it was only the southern part of the park which was given over to leisure or gentlemanly pursuits, equating approximately to the 218 acres shown as being farmed by Francis Maude on the c.1781 sketch plan (see figure 6). Furthermore,



the internal boundaries of this area are much more regular than those to the north, which implies a later phase of enclosure. It is therefore suggested that the southern part of the park was remodelled at the same time as the lodge was built and that, as part of this remodelling, it was surrounded by a substantial walled pale, a small section of which still survives either side of Dob Park House Farm. Sir Mauger Vavasour's encroachment on Askwith Common in 1615 could also be viewed as part of this remodelling process. However, the north part of the park was still retained, as Jefferys' shows that both parts were paled in 1775 (see figure 4), although it was no longer used for park-type activities.

- 5.30 The form of the lodge itself emphasises the importance of the southern part of the park in the early 17th century. The surviving evidence indicates that the most generous fenestration was concentrated on the south side, with a projecting oriel at the uppermost floor level. Although this would have served to maximise light and warmth coming into the first and second floor rooms, these windows face in the opposite direction to the most extensive views. By contrast, the surviving windows on the north side of the building are all very small. Of course, the windows in the south elevation would not have been the only points from which activities in the park and the wider area could be viewed, indeed perhaps not even the principal ones. Access to the roof of the lodge was provided because of the views that could be gained from wall-walks behind a parapet or balustrade, and probably also from the south-east and south-west corner turrets. It may be significant that the lights of the surviving windows in the south-west turret are of different proportions to those on the first and second floors; did the taller lower lights of these windows afford a viewer a better panorama, perhaps from window seats? Were they functioning as small belvederes or the, sometimes very small, banqueting turrets of the later 16th century, visited at a specific point during or after a meal (Girouard 1983, 46-49)?
- 5.31 One also has to consider the inward as well as the outward view. The surviving architectural evidence indicates that the principal south external elevation was designed to be seen from that direction; the use of the projections at the south-east and south-west corners makes the lodge appear larger than the actual size of the main body of the building behind. There is an element of theatricality or stage scenery about the whole structure, and it is difficult to escape the conclusion that the lodge was acting as a backdrop for whatever took place in front of it. The landscape and extensive vistas beyond the wooded scarp to the north were acting as little more than a backdrop to the building itself; the siting of the lodge close to the edge of the scarp makes it appear to almost 'hang' above the distant views. This is in direct contrast to Myddleton Lodge at Ilkley for example, where the principal (south) elevation faces towards a steep scarp, rather than away from it.
- 5.32 However, perhaps equally, or more important, was the view *to* the lodge from the north. As Turner later showed, the lodge occupies a highly prominent position on the top of the scarp (see figure 9 bottom), and it would have provided an important statement emphasising the status of the Vavasour family; this is emphasised in the c.1800 painting (see figure 8 top). A comparison might be drawn with the mid 16th century lodge at Cellarheads, near Risby in East Yorkshire (Dennison & Richardson, forthcoming). Here too, the moated lodge building and associated gardens were situated on the edge of a steep scarp, but at this site there is a demonstrable relationship between them and the features in the park below, including a possible deer course - any such relationship is lacking at Dob Park. Finally, it must be significant that the rising ground to the south means that Weston Hall and Dobpark Lodge are not intervisible, probably not even from the roof of the

lodge, emphasising the contemporary desire for the 'separation' of the lodge from the main residence even if the two are geographically close.

- 5.33 What were the activities for which the lodge formed such an admirable stage setting, and where were they taking place? It has been argued above that when the lodge was built in the early 17th century, only the southern part of the park would have been used for activities associated with the lodge, and that there was an emphasis on views south from the lodge and north towards it. As a result, the most obvious area for events to take place is the field or area immediately to the south of the lodge. In this respect, the relationship of the lodge to the walls and earthworks on either side is interesting (see figure 12). Certainly on the east side, and perhaps also to the west, the ruined walls appear to have run right up to the building. They have slightly raised embankments or causeways to their south, which run the whole width of the field in which the lodge is located. The point at which the eastern embankment turns to the south is marked by the remains of a small building incorporated into the wall, which might represent a small gatehouse or fore-building. To the north of the ruined walls, there is a shallow terrace either side of the lodge, again extending across the full width of the field.
- 5.34 It is possible that the ruined walls, earthworks and ruined building might be associated with agricultural improvements undertaken during the 18th century (although the building does not appear on any of the maps consulted for this study), but this is presently considered unlikely - it is more feasible that they are all contemporary with the lodge. The use of terracing in gardens and around residences is known in England from the late medieval period onwards, but it became increasingly fashionable during the later 16th and 17th centuries (Jacques 2001). The placing of the lodge towards one end of the terraces is unusual, as there was more commonly a symmetrical relationship between the building and its terraces, although there would presumably have been views along the terrace and bank to the west from the lodge.
- 5.35 However, it may be that this matter is being considered the wrong way round. The 'asymmetry' of the terrace could have been dictated by the placement of the lodge, in a similar way to which the late 16th century prodigy house of Howley Hall in West Yorkshire was positioned at the eastern end of a spur so as to have provided magnificent views but also to be highly visible itself (Ainsworth 1989, 204). It is possible that the slightly raised embankment to the east of the lodge forms the remains of an original formal access route, particularly as the return to the south at its east end lines up with another slightly raised causeway now running along the eastern boundary of the field. If this is an original access, it might represent a carriage ride and the walls to either side of the lodge would mean that only the most impressive southern elevation was visible to approaching visitors. Conversely, the terraced earthwork running east of this return might represent an original access route. The western embankment could represent a continuation of the carriage drive to give views to either side, or be a slightly raised walkway. The linear terraces on the north side of the walls might represent gardens, and there might possibly have been a larger area to the south of the lodge that was defined or enclosed in some way, although there is little evidence for this in the surviving walls or any surface earthworks.
- 5.36 Although it is possible that some deer were still being kept and hunted in Dob Park in the early 17th century, the method of hunting had changed from the riding to hounds as practiced during the medieval and early post-medieval periods. The hunting of deer from stands, or coursing along narrow enclosed areas using dogs, had also become popular, as had other field sports such as hare coursing and

shooting (Griffin 2007, 88-109). From the mid 17th century onwards, the gentry also began to engage in fox hunting (Cliffe 1999, 48-55 & 156-158). Indeed, the alternative and older name of 'Dog or Dogg Park' for Dob Park might well be significant in respect to hunting, perhaps with dogs (Smith 1961, 64).

- 5.37 In addition, during the later 16th and 17th centuries, there was a resurgence of interest amongst the nobility and gentry in keeping horses for pleasure, for training in dressage, horse-racing and pulling coaches. Although horse studs had been maintained by secular and ecclesiastical landowners throughout the middle ages, the demands of war during the 16th century led to shortages of suitable horses. In the 1530s and early 1540s therefore, landowners were exhorted to keep mares and stallions of a certain size in their parks to increase the quality of available horses, and much of this Henrician legislation was revived by Elizabeth I in the 1570s and 1580s, accompanied by published guides which detailed the requirements of a good park for a breeding stud (Thirsk 1978). It may therefore be that the early 17th landscape of Dob Park was filled as much by horses as it was by deer.

### **Later History and Disuse**

- 5.38 The mid to late 17th century references to members of the Vavasour family being 'of' Dog or Dob Park might be taken to mean that they were resident at the lodge, but this is not necessarily the case; the documentary research undertaken to date suggests that they always lived at Weston Hall, with the lodge serving as a separate non-residential structure.
- 5.39 It is assumed that the lodge continued to be used for the purposes for which it was built throughout the early and mid 17th century. However, of crucial importance is the fact, discovered during the research undertaken for this project, that the Vavasours did not own Dob Park (and therefore the lodge) for the 128 years between 1661 and 1789. For the first part of this period it was owned by John Hopton and John Lund, and latterly by Francis Maude of Leathley. The park as depicted by Jefferys in 1775, and more specifically the 1781 plans, therefore reflect the Maude ownership. The form of enclosure in the southern part of the park, as shown on the 1781 plan (see figure 5), indicates an enclosed track leading from what is now known as Dob Park House Farm to provide access to regular closes on either side and perhaps also a more open area of pasture/grazing at its north-west end. The overall layout, and the form of the surviving field walls, are suggestive of mid to late 18th century enclosures, and it is difficult to believe that the lodge could have fulfilled its original functions in tandem with such a layout. The lodge may therefore have become disused as early as c.1750, and one could interpret its depiction on the 1781 park plan (see figure 7 top) as indicating that it was already ruinous. Indeed, it might even have become disused before this, perhaps once it passed out of the Vavasours' ownership after 1661. One could even go further to say that it was perhaps Francis Maude (1726-1789), who may not have had any need for the lodge as he was living at nearby Leathley, who was responsible for the conversion of the southern part of the park into a more profitable agricultural regime, and that it was he who oversaw the demise of the lodge (and its partial demolition for building materials?).
- 5.40 The lodge had been reduced to something close to its current extent by the time that it was depicted on the c.1800 painting, and it is similarly depicted by Turner in c.1815 (see figures 8 and 9 bottom). The previous study (Finlayson 2004, 16) suggested that the 'ruined effect' of the lodge's appearance may have been deliberately sought as a landscape feature, or that it might equally have resulted

from collapse and weathering following partial demolition. The survival of isolated parts to almost full height is reminiscent of the survival of the corner towers of the inner court of Sheriff Hutton Castle in North Yorkshire, where a programme of deliberate demolition and stripping out of fixtures in the early 17th century produced a weakened structure which successively collapsed over the following 200 years (Richardson & Dennison 2009, 179-200). The absence of fallen material around the lodge has also been noted previously, and it was believed that some of this was re-used to construct the nearby farm at Lane Head (Finlayson 2004, 16), including the window jambs of the farmhouse (Paul Elgar, Rural Estate Management Ltd, *pers. comm.*). Lane Head Farm lies c.1.5km to the south of Dobpark Lodge, but a visit was unable to find any stonework which could definitively have been said to have been taken from the lodge. It is possible that some of the walling stone for the farm buildings could have come from the lodge, but there were no visible re-used architectural pieces or fragments. The farmhouse, which from a brief external examination appears to be of mid 18th century date, does have moulded jambs to the windows of the main elevation, but these are of a completely different form and scale to those which survive at the lodge.

- 5.41 The park and lodge were returned to the Vavasour estate in 1789, and it is clear from the diaries of William Vavasour that the park was used for shooting on numerous occasions, albeit fairly low-key events. But there do not appear to have been any significant hunting or other park-type activities undertaken, and the lodge seems to have served no real purpose for the estate. It is possible that it was used as a farmhouse in the early 19th century, although documentary and pictorial evidence argues against this. The majority of the surviving graffiti in the stair turret appears to date from the second half of the 19th century, indicating increased numbers of visitors to the ruin during this period, perhaps as a result of the publication of local history books by authors such as Bogg (1904) and Speight (1900). There is some evidence, in the form of repointing, for historic repair to the stair turret, although as yet it is uncertain whether this was done when the building was still standing or as part of an early phase of conservation.

## 6 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

### Introduction

- 6.1 An outline objective statement of significance of Dobpark Lodge has been prepared based on the existing research and knowledge, as detailed in the various chapters above. This statement, which is based on guidance published by English Heritage (e.g. Clark 2001, 22-26, 33-42 & 96; English Heritage 2008), helps to crystallise why the building is important, and will assist in judging the impact of any future changes and identify where archaeological mitigation may be necessary.
- 6.2 The significance of Dobpark Lodge has been assessed using the criteria established by English Heritage (2008, 27-32), namely evidential value, historical value, aesthetic value and communal value.

### Evidential Value

- 6.3 Dobpark Lodge is designated as a Scheduled Monument under the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (National Heritage List for England entry number 1015630 - first scheduled 31st January 1997) (see Appendix 2); it is therefore of National Importance. The lodge was also previously a Grade II Listed Building, but was delisted on 20th April 1998.
- 6.4 Even in its current ruinous state, the lodge remains an important building of more than regional significance. It is highly likely that it forms part of a wider and extensive scheme of building works undertaken on the Weston Hall estate by Sir Mauger Vavasour (1580-1630) and his wife Joan Savile, in or around the early 17th century. It has similarities of decorative detail with other buildings dating from these works, most notably the banqueting house in the grounds of Weston Hall, and may therefore form part of a group of buildings that were conceived as a single landscape of residence and recreation.
- 6.5 The structural evidence contained within the lodge has the potential to contribute significantly to several different, wide-ranging and important areas of future research. Lodge buildings are acknowledged to be an important architectural form during the later 16th and early 17th centuries, and it is possible that a known and reputed architect such as Robert or John Smythson may have been either involved in the design of Dobpark Lodge or more likely could have influenced its appearance. The lodge was relatively short-lived, and is depicted as being ruinous by 1781 - it may have lost its original purpose and become disused around c.1750, or indeed any time after 1661 when it passed out of Vavasour ownership. The architectural significance is therefore enhanced by the fact that almost all of the surviving fabric is original and, apart from collapse, is little altered by subsequent use or repairs.
- 6.6 Although ruinous, enough of the lodge remains standing for its original early 17th century appearance and layout to be proposed and partly understood. The surviving parts indicate a high status building with a distinctive appearance and internal layout, with a complex relationship to the wider landscape, particularly the area to the south of the lodge.
- 6.7 The lodge has an unusual compact T-shaped plan, with a stair tower, accessible only from the interior, projecting from the centre of the north side. The ground floor, essentially acting as a basement, was sub-divided into two rooms by a north-south cross-wall, forming a service and kitchen area to the east and a probable



storage area to the west. The principal entrance was almost certainly located in the centre of the south elevation at first floor level, reached by external steps which have since been removed. The internal cross-wall would only have partially divided this floor, and the southern half is likely to have comprised either a single well-lit gallery area or two rooms separated by an entrance passage and defined by panelled walls or other non-structural partitions. To the north, there must have been two smaller rooms which were separately accessed from the stair tower; the differing positioning of their doors may indicate differing status or use. The internal cross-wall also partially divided the second floor level, again possibly only on the north side. Here, there may have been two smaller rooms, again separately accessed from the stair, with a single east-west rectangular space resembling a gallery to the south, lit by large glazed windows in the east, west and south sides, the latter including an oriel. The internal stair clearly rose above the second floor and gave access to the roof and a wall-walk behind a parapet. It is highly probable that the surviving small but well lit corner turret in the south-west corner was originally complemented by a similar feature in the south-east corner, balancing the south external elevation.

- 6.8 Whilst the architecture of the lodge in some respects draws on the preceding examples of houses of the late 16th century, its relationship to the surrounding landscape is different. It is crucially important to understand that the evidential value of the lodge extends significantly beyond an appreciation of the building in isolation, but also includes the whole of the park landscape. The lodge occupies a position with a superb aspect, within or on the edge of an earlier park which is likely to have been laid out during the medieval period. From the early 16th century onwards, if not earlier, land use within the park was being modified, and the northern part was given over wholly to agricultural use. The southern part almost certainly underwent a remodelling in the early 17th century, at the same time as Dobpark Lodge itself was built.
- 6.9 The landscape evidence contained within the surrounding park also has the potential to contribute significantly to several different, wide-ranging and important areas of future research. Although the usage of parks, as reflected in their surviving layout and through documentary evidence, is well researched for the later medieval periods, it is less well understood or comprehensively treated for the 17th century. The southern part of the park, with associated gardens, may well have formed part of a designed landscape, being laid out specifically for the lodge in the early 17th century. However, as with the lodge itself, this landscape was only short-lived as it was markedly changed through enclosure around the mid 18th century by a different owner. This relatively limited lifespan of less than 150 years makes any contemporary landscape survival (such as earthworks of gardens) more significant, as it will not have the time-depth of activity evidenced in most historic parks and gardens.

### **Historical Value**

- 6.10 English Heritage define Historical Value as the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present. It tends to be illustrative or associative.
- 6.11 The size and scale of Dobpark Lodge, and the evidence of architectural design and embellishment such as the large mullion and transomed windows, are indicative of the status of the Vavasour family, specifically Sir Mauger Vavasour and his wife Joan Savile who are considered to have been responsible for its construction. Other buildings within the Weston estate, such as Weston Hall and

the adjacent banqueting lodge, are testament to the status and wealth of the Vavasour family, and further enhance the historical and associative value of Dobpark Lodge.

- 6.12 Although it is highly likely to date to the early 17th century, the earliest known documentary reference to the lodge as a structure is from 1661, when it was taken out of Vavasour ownership. There is then a gap of almost 100 years when documentation is scarce, probably due to the fact that the park and lodge had been removed from an established estate. The first known plans of the park appear in the later 18th century, and so there is a concentration of surviving legal documentation covering the 20 years or so after 1789, when the park and lodge were returned to Vavasour ownership. These legal documents are supplemented by the valuable survival of William Vavasour's diaries for the same period, which provide information on how the park was used for hunting at that time. The discovery of the c.1800 painting at Weston Hall is of great significance, as it is the earliest known accurate depiction of the lodge ruins, and allows the surviving structure to be compared with its painted depiction.
- 6.13 It is likely that further research would allow the medieval history of Dob Park, its relationship to the Royal Forest of Knaresborough and to local medieval landholdings, to be better understood. Such research would add an additional dimension of understanding to the changes that were made to the site during the early 17th century.

### **Aesthetic Value**

- 6.14 Aesthetic value derives from the ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place.
- 6.15 The appearance and setting of the lodge were of great importance to the original designer, as can be seen by its specific location within the park, and the juxtaposition of the lodge's south elevation with distant landscape elements. The use of projections at the south-east and south-west angles makes the lodge appear larger than the actual size of the main body of the building behind. There is an element of theatricality or stage scenery about the whole structure, with the lodge acting as a backdrop for whatever took place in front of it. The landscape and extensive vistas beyond the wooded scarp to the north were acting as little more than a backdrop to the building itself, and the siting of the lodge close to the edge of the scarp makes it appear to almost 'hang' above the distant views.
- 6.16 The matter of viewing from buildings of this period and earlier is not straightforward. Within a relatively limited geographical area, there are a series of buildings, commencing with Harewood Castle in the late 14th century, moving to Barden Tower in the late 15th century and early 16th centuries and finishing with the Weston Hall banqueting house and Dobpark Lodge in the early 17th century, where one can begin to demonstrate changing attitudes to viewing and how these influenced the form of the buildings and their surroundings.
- 6.17 The earthworks surrounding the lodge are likely to be associated with it, and to form part of a compact contemporary 17th century designed landscape. Although their form has yet to be fully understood and appreciated, they reflect contemporary fashions for terracing and also appear to include the remains of at least one building which is contemporary with the lodge.

- 6.18 From the turn of the 19th century, the lodge formed an attractive landscape feature to both anonymous and noted artists, the latter including J W M Turner (1775-1851) who, as part of a wider tour around Yorkshire, made a pencil and watercolour sketch ('The Washburn under Folly Hall') with the ruined lodge in the background in c.1815. Even today, the lodge remains a highly visible and dramatic element of the wider landscape, and many elements of its 17th century design and setting can be appreciated from the public footpath to the south.

### **Communal Value**

- 6.19 Communal value derives from the meanings of a place for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience and memory. Communal values are closely bound up with historical (particularly associative) and aesthetic values, but tend to have additional and specific aspects. Communal and symbolic values reflect the meaning of a place for those who draw part of their identity from it, or have emotional links to it. Social value is associated with places that people perceive as a source of identity, distinctiveness, social interaction and coherence.
- 6.20 The lodge and park are located in a highly attractive landscape setting, the Washburn valley. The lodge is highly visible from a public footpath to the north, while most of the boundaries of the park as shown in the late 18th century can be followed from public footpaths or a public highway. There are also public footpaths across parts of the interior of the park, including that to the south. There has been no research carried out in relation to how Dobpark Lodge is valued by the local community, but local historical perceptions, whether factual or hearsay, have associated the building with residential use in a designed landscape and agricultural setting. The site also has a strong web-based presence, with numerous photographs and descriptions placed in the public domain.
- 6.21 The areas of 19th century graffiti preserved within the stair turret also provide information on the dates as to when the lodge ruin began to be visited, those who were visiting, and perhaps also local attitudes to a ruined 17th century building during the 19th century.

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## 8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 8.1 The Phase 1 archaeological and architectural survey of Dobpark Lodge was commissioned by Rural Estate Management Ltd, through Overton Architects, and was funded by English Heritage. EDAS would like to thank Paul Elgar (Rural Estate Management Ltd), Bill Glaister and Mike Overton (Overton Architects) and Giles Proctor (English Heritage) for their assistance and co-operation whilst carrying out the project. Thanks are also due to Paul Elgar and Mrs Wendy Crossley (housekeeper) for arranging access to Lane Head Farm and Weston Hall, and to Andrew Cope for allowing access to Middleton Lodge.
- 8.2 The architectural survey was undertaken by Shaun Richardson assisted by Richard Lamb. The topographical survey was undertaken by Shaun Richardson and Benchmark Surveys of Leeds, and the photogrammetric survey was carried out by Photarc Surveys Ltd of Harrogate. Shaun Richardson and Ed Dennison carried out the documentary research and took the site photographs. Comments on the draft report were kindly provided by the bodies named above. The final report was produced by Ed Dennison, with whom the responsibility for any errors remains.

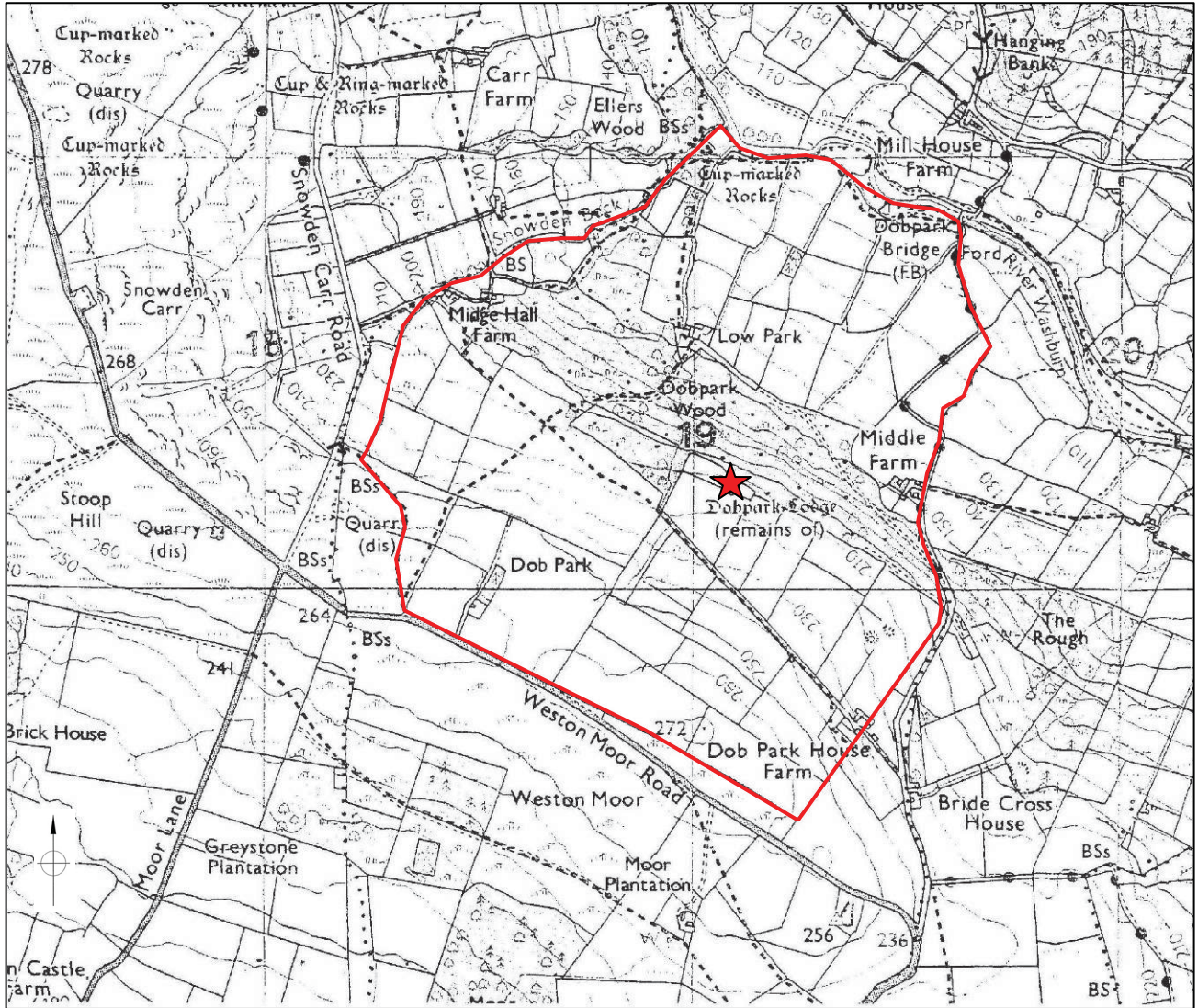




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PROJECT		DOB PARK LODGE	
TITLE		GENERAL LOCATION	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	APR 2013
	EDAS	FIGURE	1





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PROJECT		DOB PARK LODGE	
TITLE			
LOCATION OF DOB PARK AND LODGE			
SCALE		DATE	
NTS		APR 2013	
EDAS		FIGURE	
		2	



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PROJECT		DOBPAK LODGE	
TITLE			
LOCATION OF DOBPAK LODGE			
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EDAS		FIGURE	3





Section of Jefferys' 1775 map of Yorkshire (sheet 12).

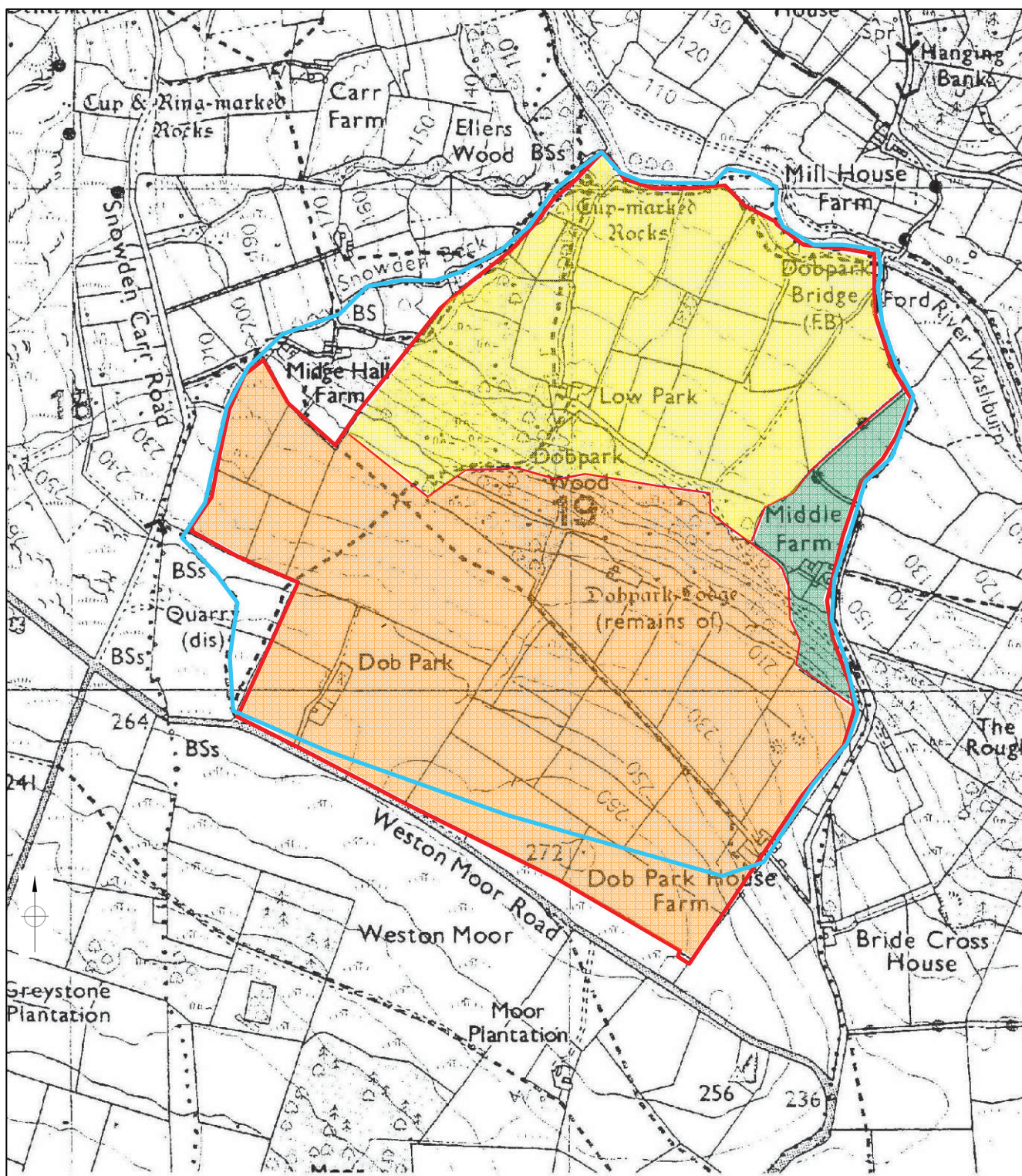
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TITLE		JEFFERYS' 1775 MAP	
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EDAS		FIGURE	4



Source: 1781 Map of Dobb or Dog Park in the Lordship of Weston, property of Francis Maude, surveyed by Messrs Lunds (WYAS WYL 639/351). Note: different halves shown at different scales for clarity.

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TITLE			
		1781 PLAN OF DOB PARK	
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EDAS		FIGURE	5





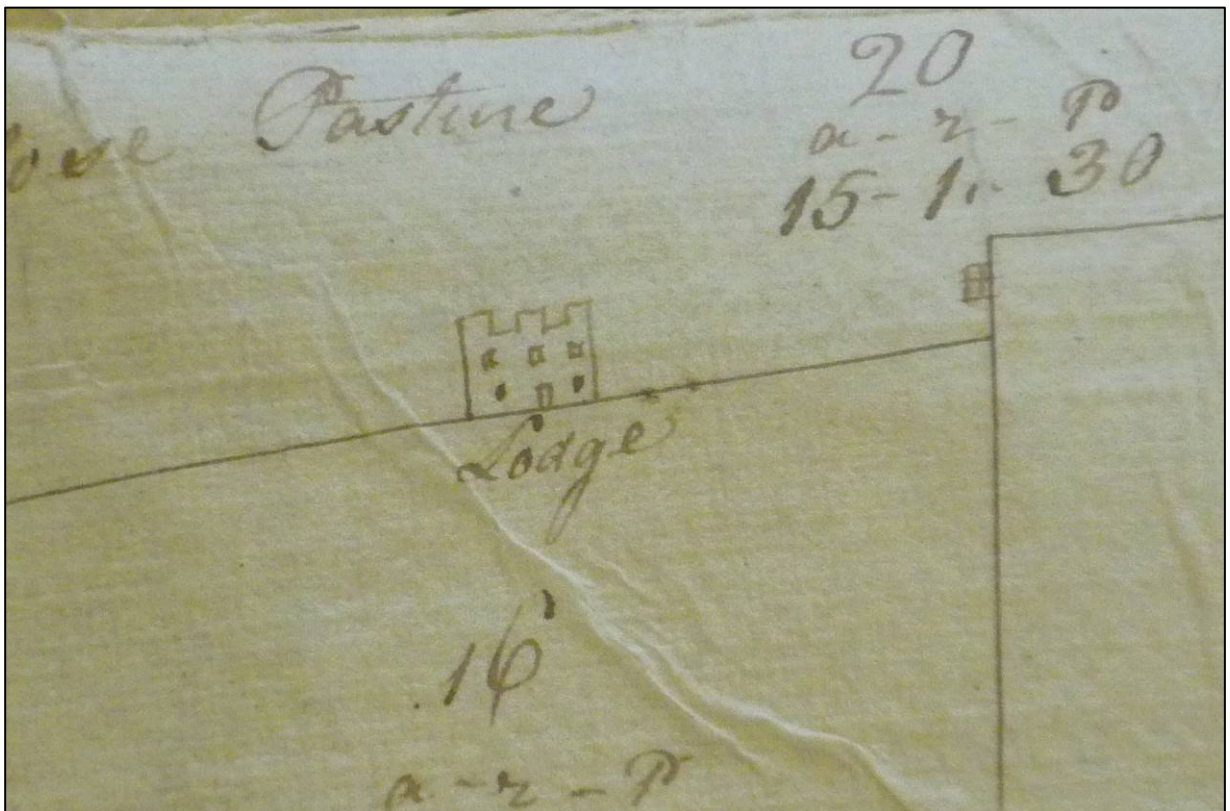
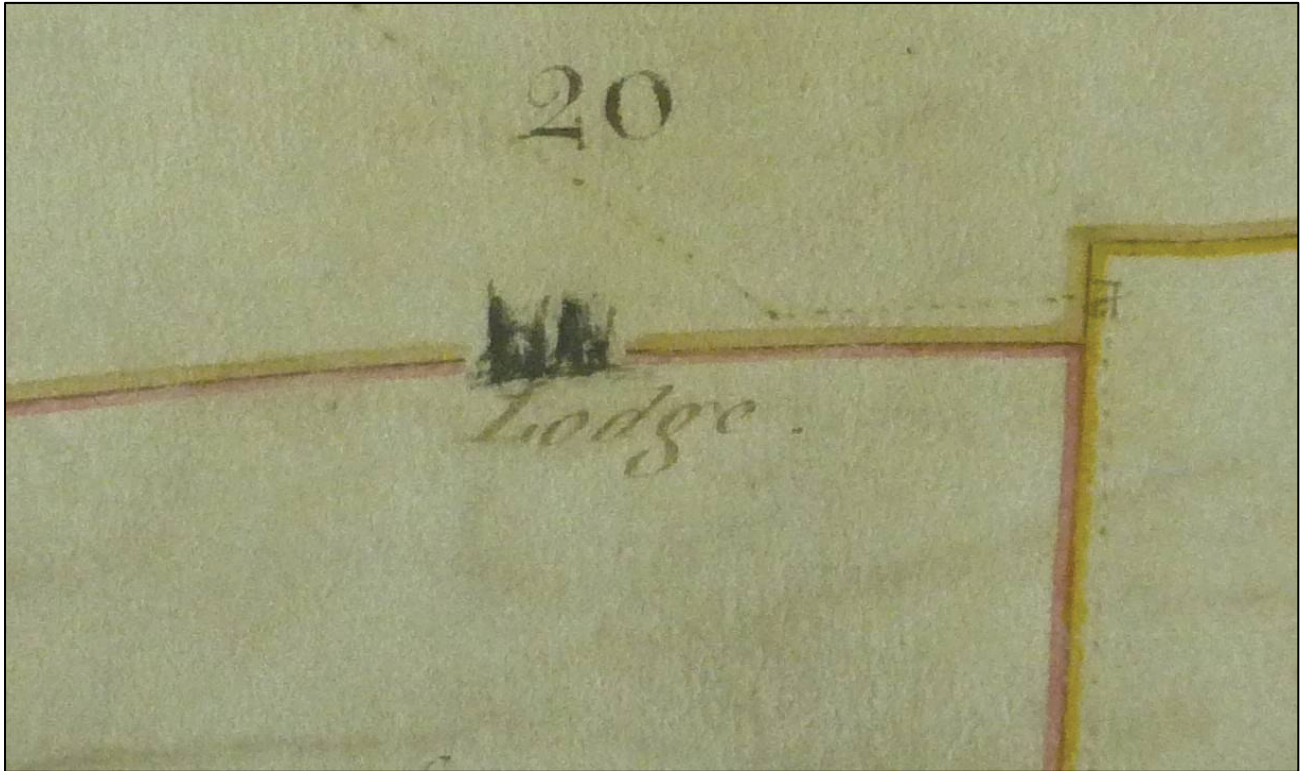
Blue - suggested park boundary as depicted by Jefferys (1755).

Red - boundary of park in 1781 with internal landholdings: Maude (orange - 218a); Jefferys (yellow - 123a); Todd (green - 18a).

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TITLE		18TH CENTURY DOB PARK	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	APR 2013
EDAS		FIGURE	6

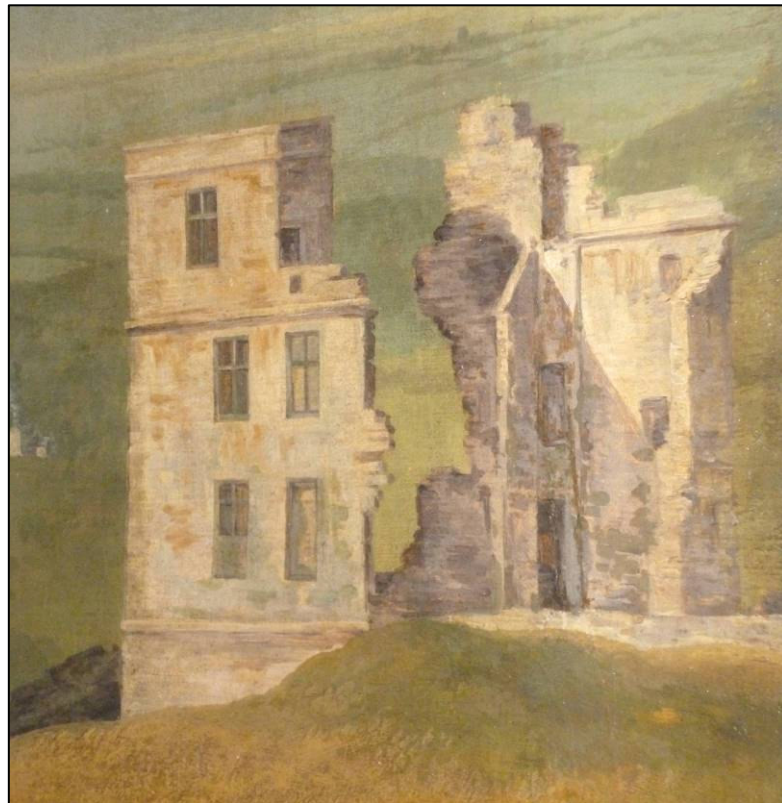




Sources:  
 Top: 1781 Map of Dobb or Dog Park ... (WYAS WYL 639/351).  
 Bottom: c.1781 Sketch taken from the Map of Dob or Dog Park ... (WYAS WYL 639/404).



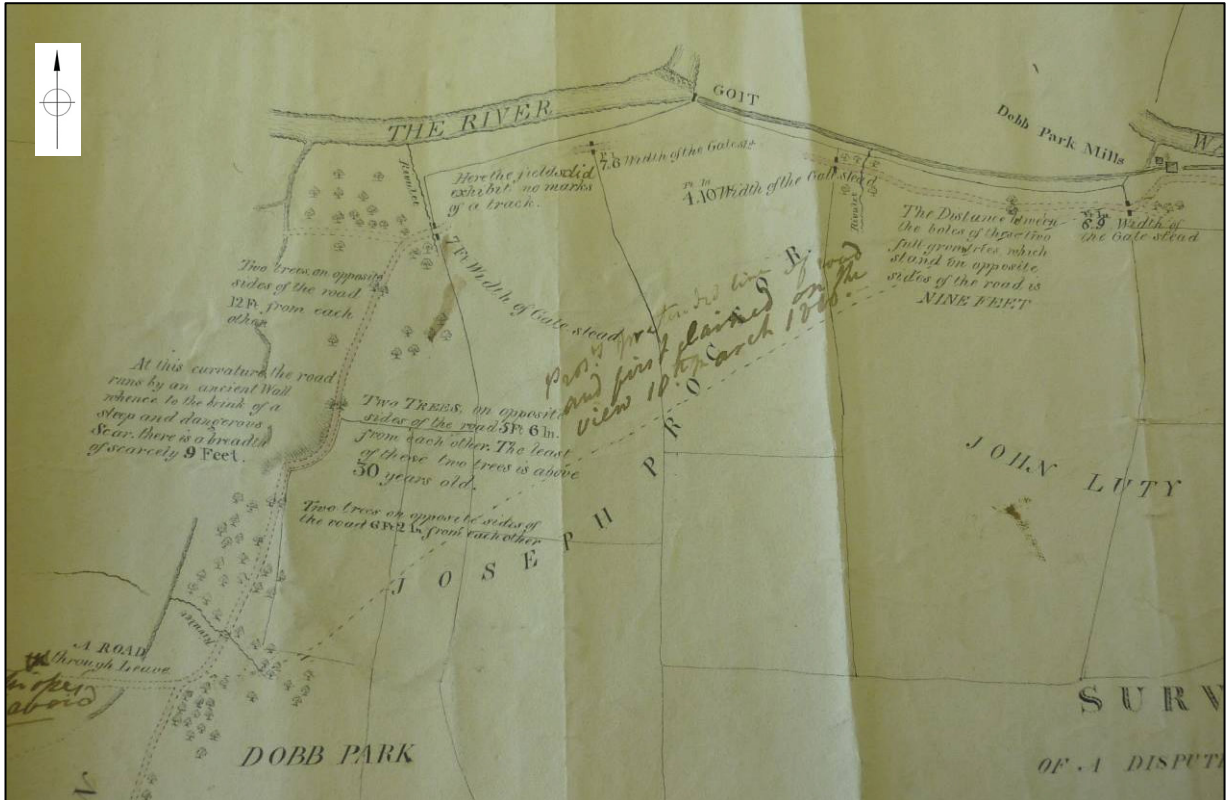
PROJECT		DOBPARK LODGE	
TITLE			
1781 DEPICTIONS OF LODGE			
SCALE	NTS	DATE	APR 2013
EDAS		FIGURE	7



Source:  
 Portrait of either Edward or William  
 Vavasour at Dob Park Lodge (original  
 painting held at Weston Hall, Weston).

PROJECT		DOBPARK LODGE	
TITLE		c.1800 DEPICTIONS OF LODGE	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	ARP 2013
EDAS		FIGURE	8





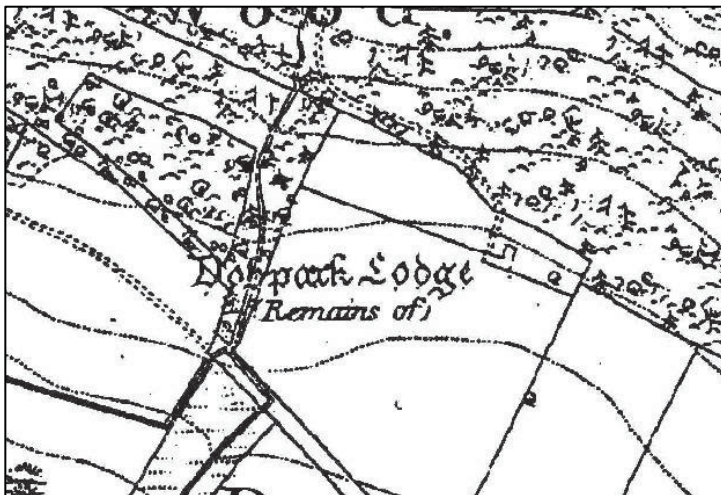
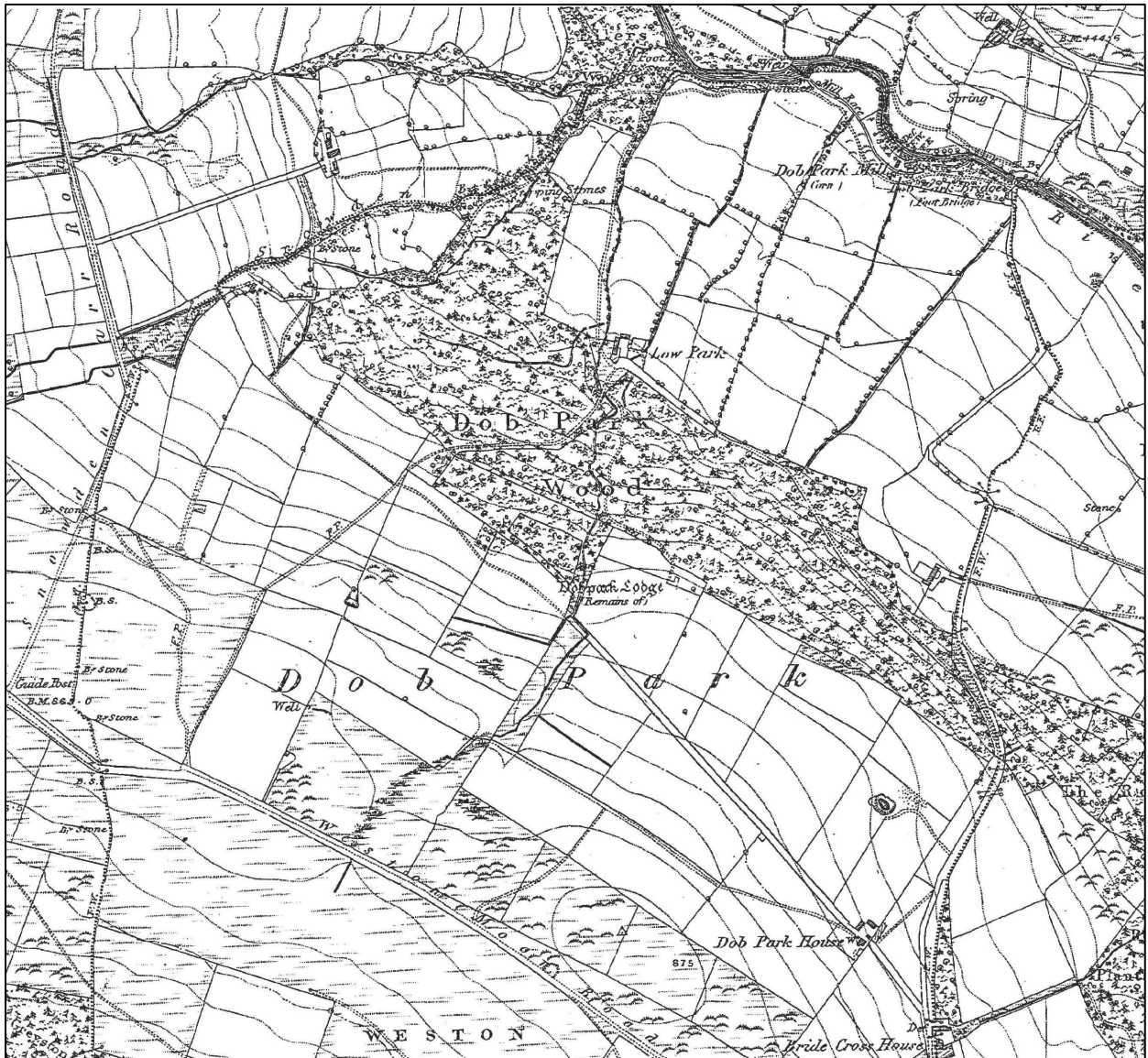
Sources:

Top: 1810 Survey of a Disputed Road ... (WYAS WYL 639/352A).

Bottom: 1815 Turner's sketch 'The Washburn under Folly Hall' (British Museum, Wilton 538, TW0402).

PROJECT		DOBPARK LODGE	
TITLE			
1810 PLAN AND TURNER'S SKETCH			
SCALE	NTS	DATE	APR 2013
EDAS		FIGURE	9

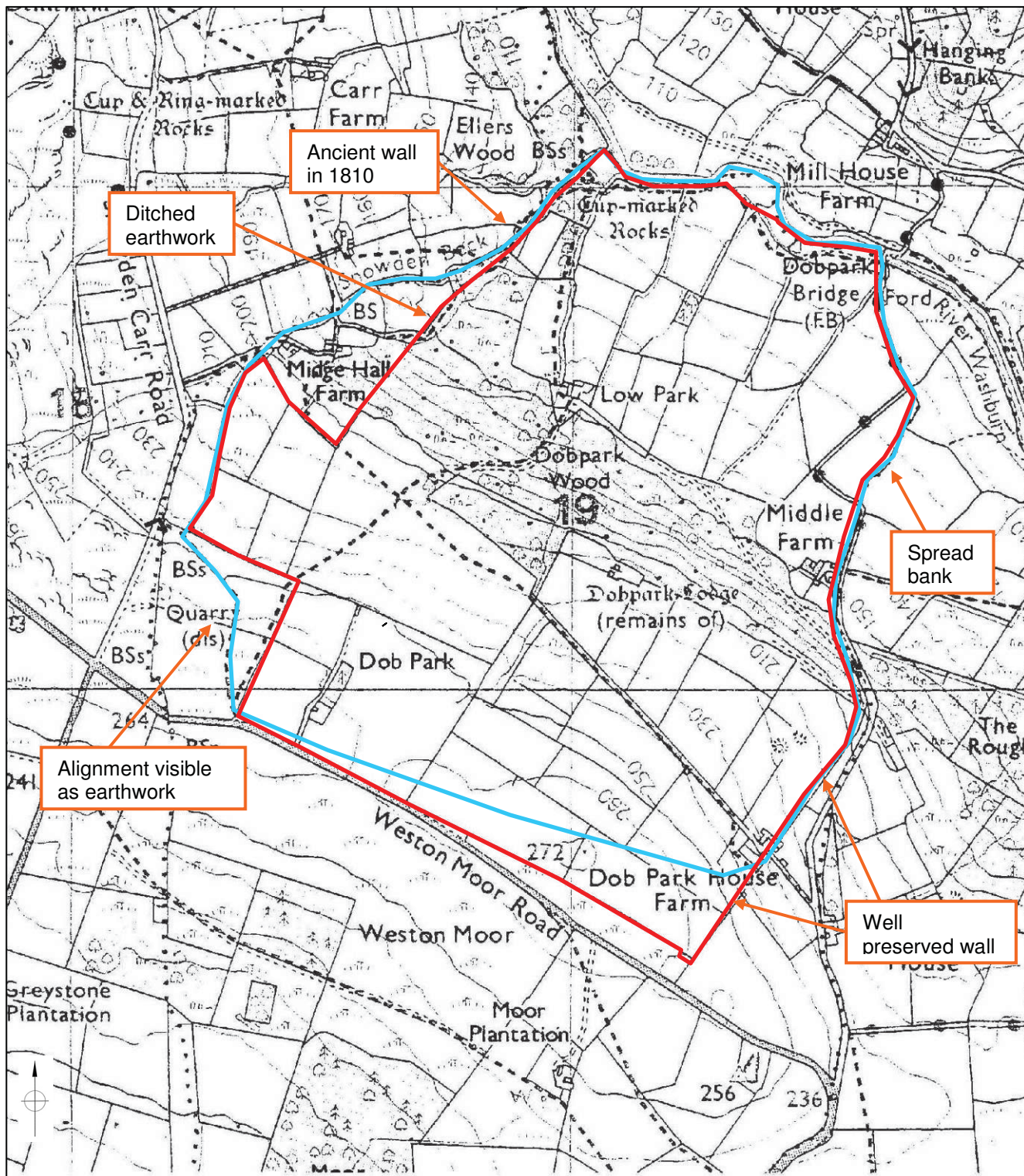




Source:  
 Ordnance Survey 1851  
 6" map sheet 170  
 (surveyed 1847-49).

PROJECT		DOBPARK LODGE	
TITLE			
ORDNANCE SURVEY 1851 MAP			
SCALE	NTS	DATE	APR 2013
EDAS		FIGURE	10





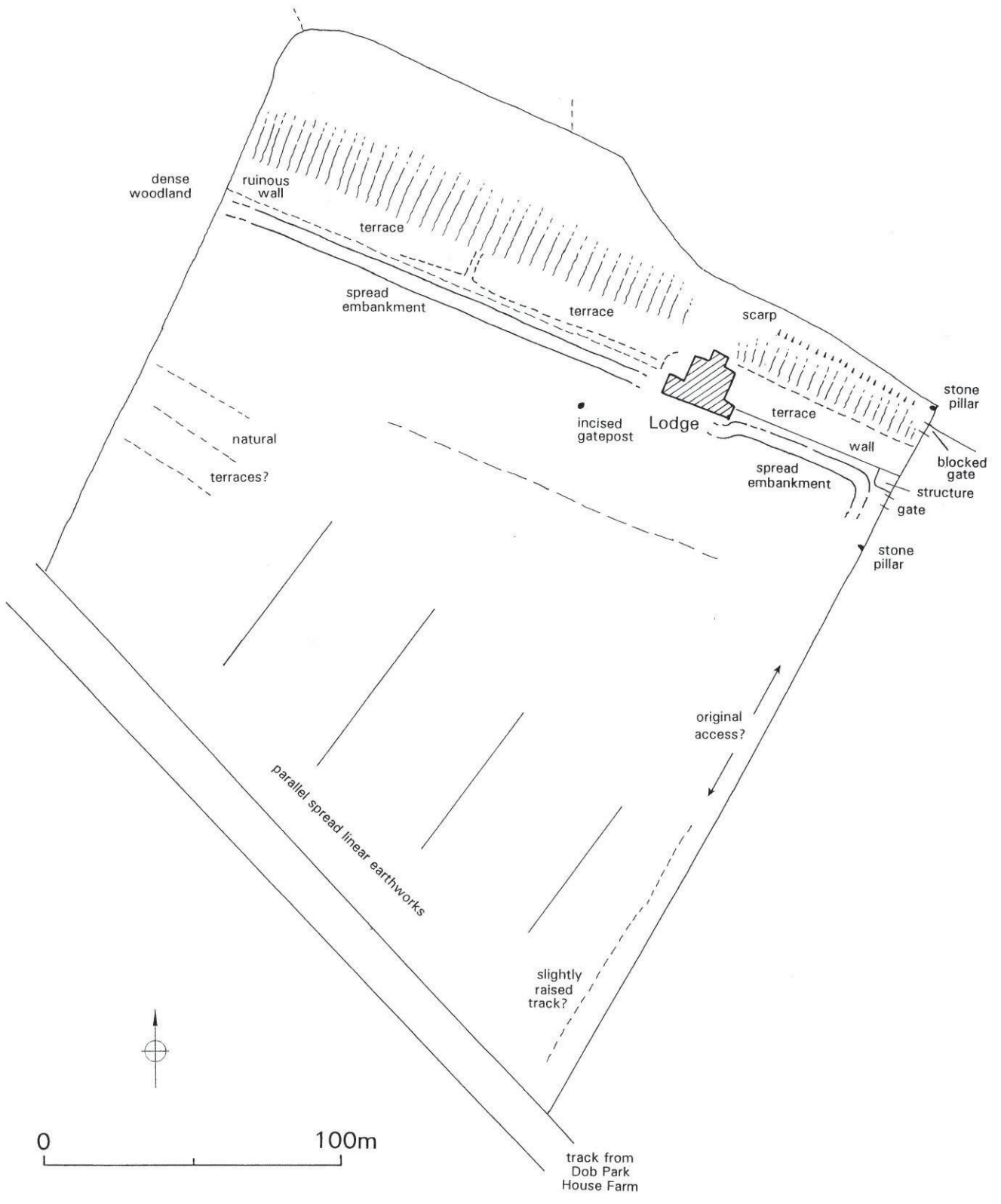
Blue - suggested park boundary as depicted by Jefferys (1755).

Red - boundary of park in 1781.

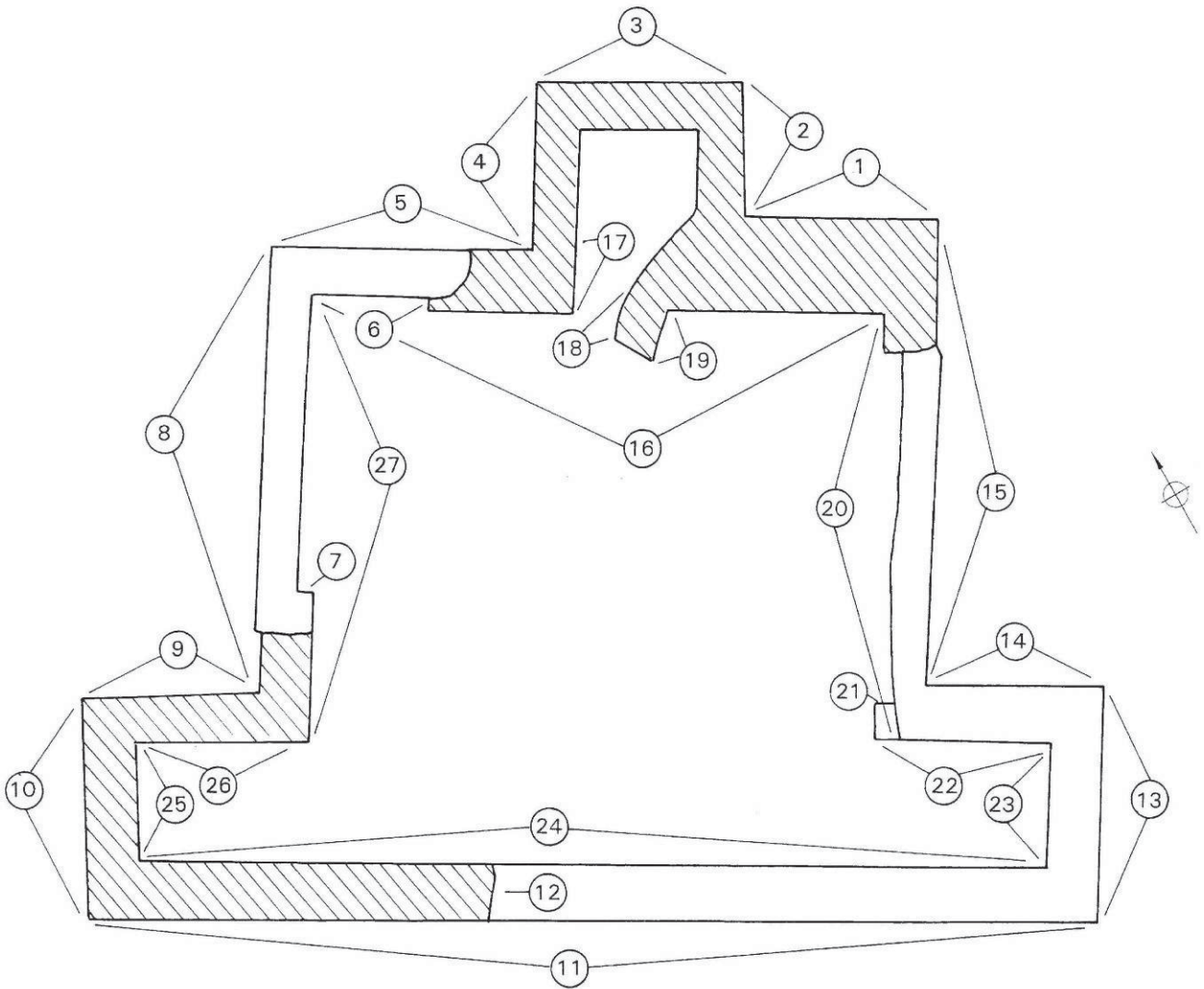
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PROJECT		DOBPAK LODGE	
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18TH CENTURY PARK BOUNDARIES			
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EDAS		FIGURE	11

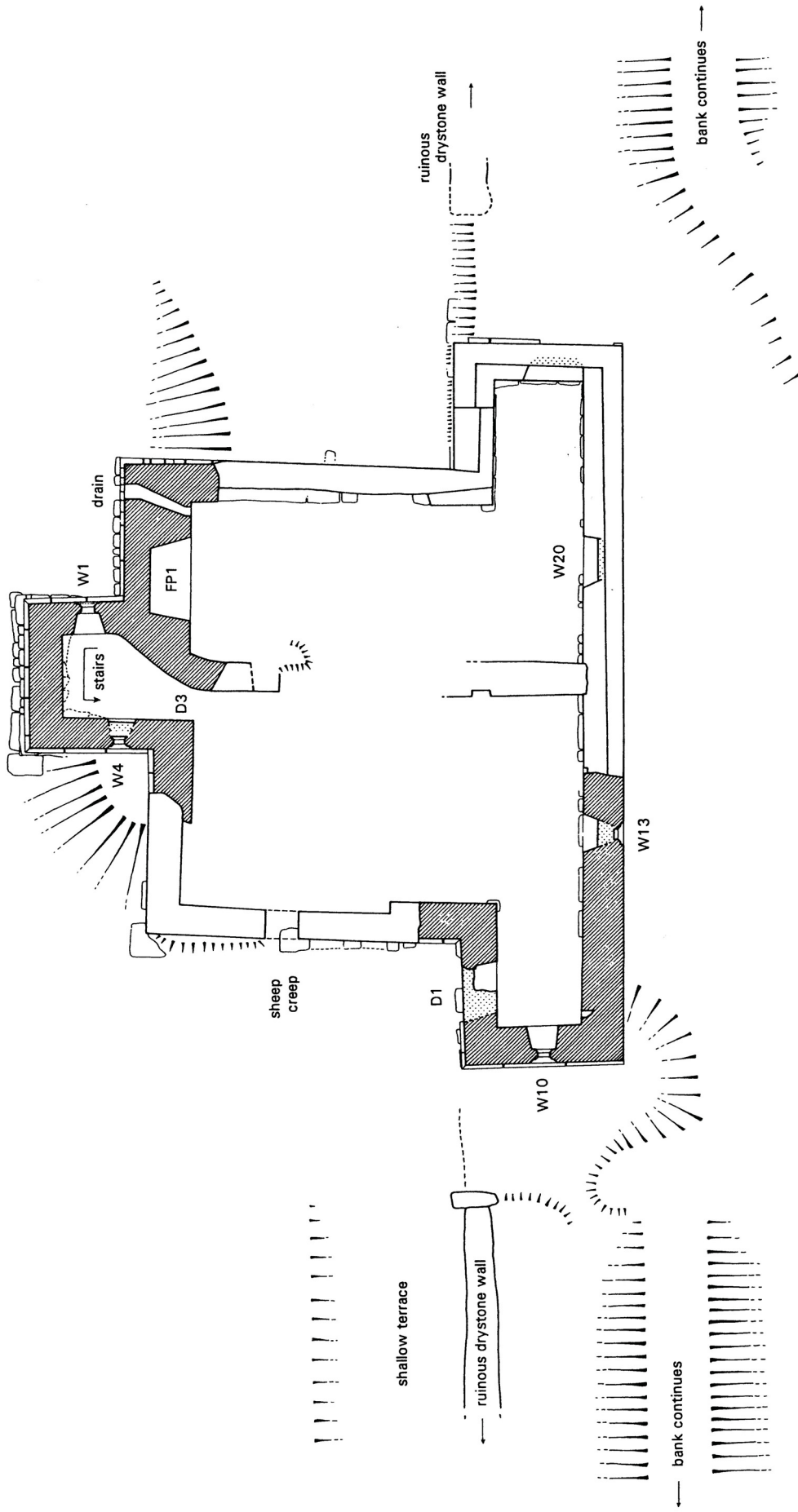




PROJECT		DOBPARK LODGE	
TITLE		IMMEDIATE SETTING (SKETCH)	
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EDAS		FIGURE	12



PROJECT		DOBPARK LODGE	
TITLE		KEY TO ELEVATIONS	
SCALE	NTS	DATE	APR 2013
EDAS		FIGURE	13

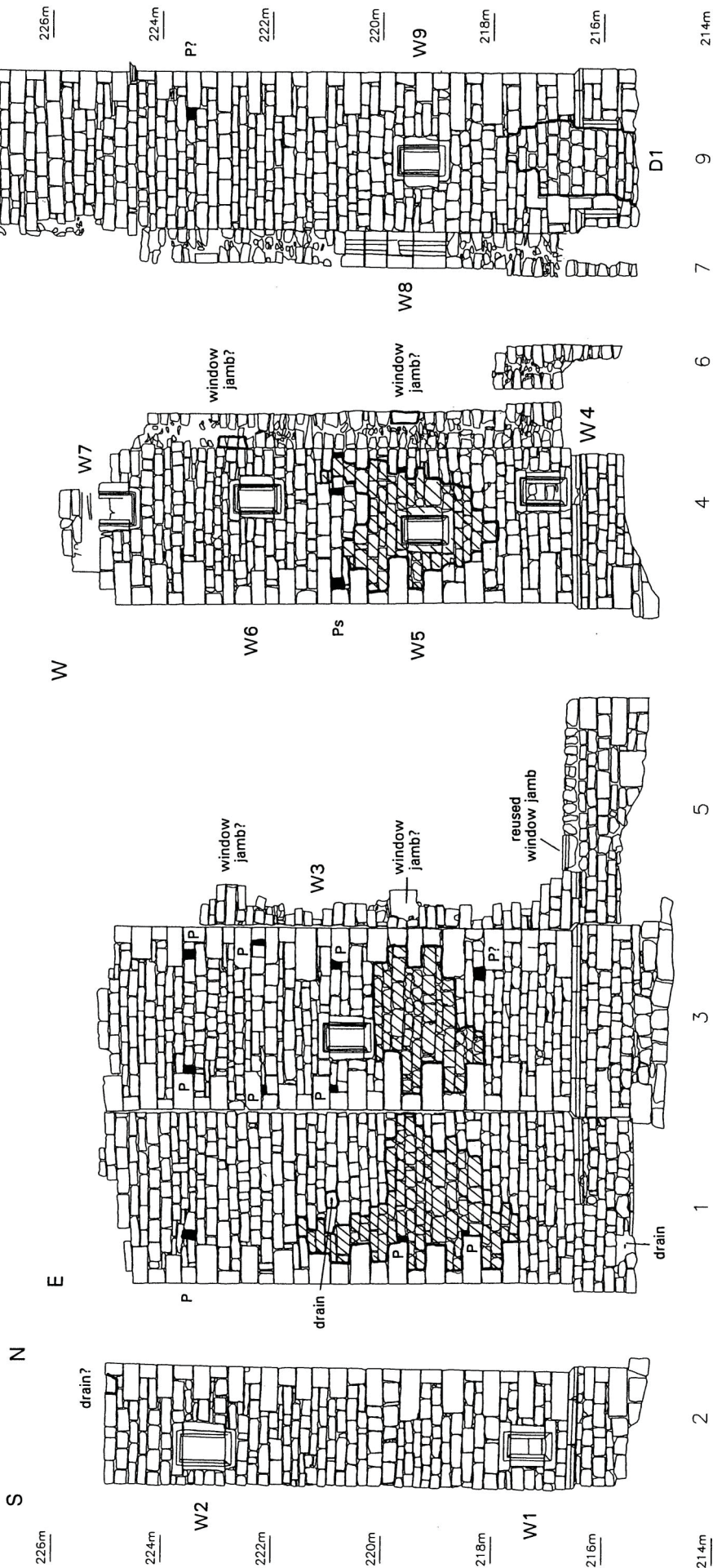


PROJECT	DOB PARK LODGE		
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	EDAS	FIGURE	14

PROJECT	DOB PARK LODGE	
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SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE APR 2013
EDAS	FIGURE	15

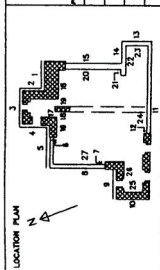
- W2 Window identifiers etc
- P Putlog holes
- //// Area of later repointing

230m
228m



FOR:	Ed Denton Archaeological Services Ltd 18 Springdale Way Beverley HU17 8NU
Tel/Fax:	01482 870723
E-mail:	edenton@aol.com
SCALE:	1:50
DATE:	February-April 2013

SURVEY BY:	PHOTONIC SURVEYS
DATE:	February-April 2013
DRAWN BY:	PHOTONIC SURVEYS
DATE:	February-April 2013
SCALE:	1:50
FIGURE:	1 of 6



External Elevations - North & West

DOB PARK LODGE  
OTLEY  
NORTH YORKSHIRE



PROJECT	DOB PARK LODGE		
TITLE	EXTERNAL ELEVATIONS 8 & 10-11		
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	APR 2013
	EDAS	FIGURE	16

230m

228m

226m

224m

222m

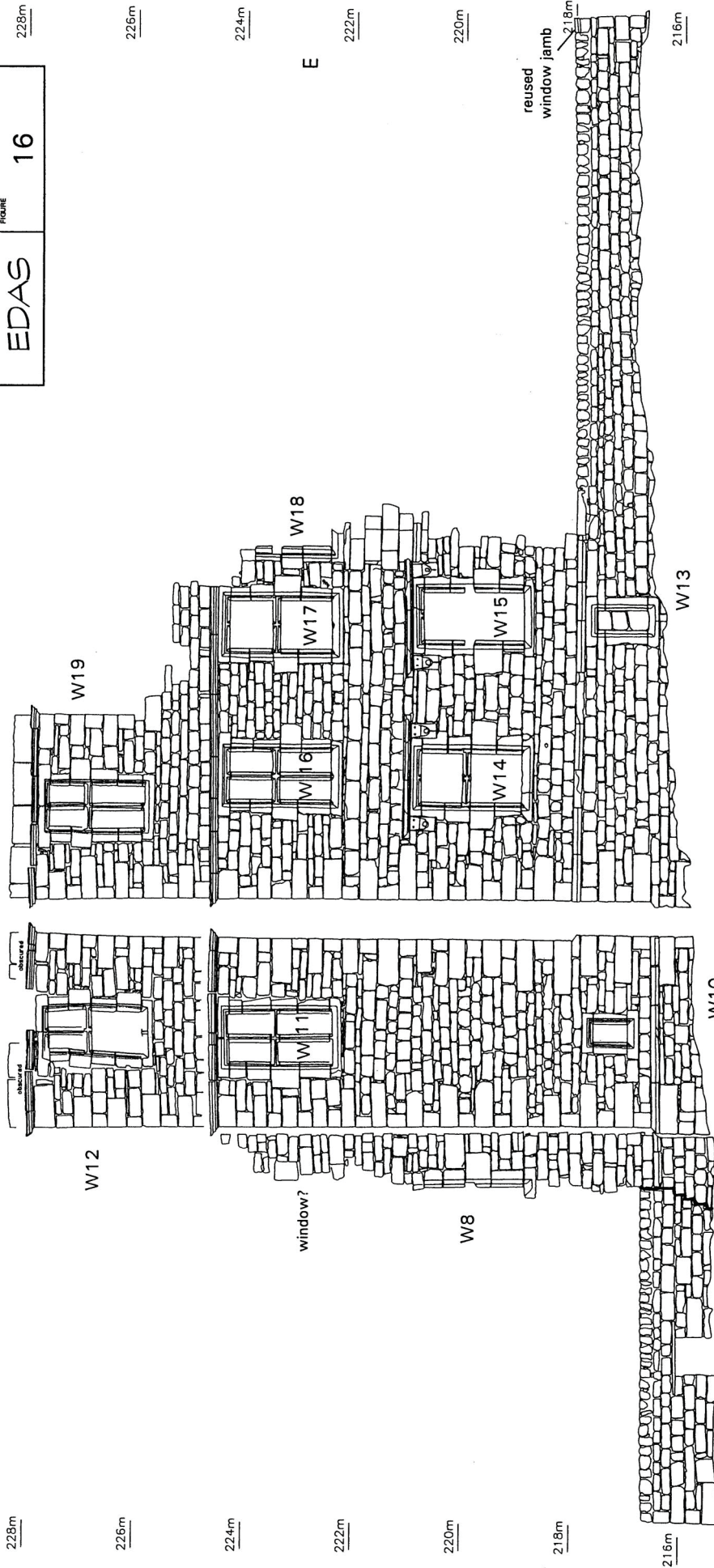
220m

218m

216m

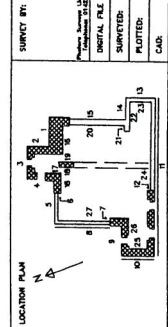
214m

N S N S W



W2 Window identifiers etc

MAIN TITLE	Dob Park Lodge Otley North Yorkshire		
SUBGROUP TITLE	External Elevations - South-West Tower		
SURVEY BY:	Ed Denison Archaeological Services Ltd 18 Springdale Way Beverley HU17 8NU Tel/Fax: 01482 870723 E-mail: eddenison@red.com		
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External Elevations - South-West Tower

Dob Park Lodge  
Otley  
North Yorkshire

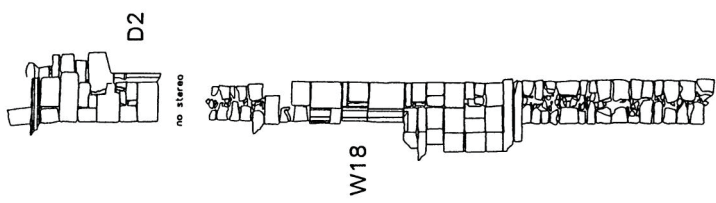
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PROJECT	DOBPARK LODGE	
TITLE	EXTERNAL ELEVATIONS 12 - 15	
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE APR 2013
	EDAS	FIGURE 17

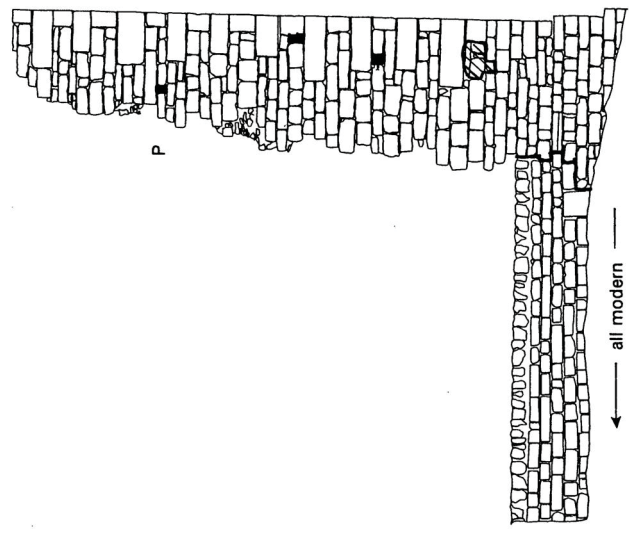
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P	Putlog holes
////	Area of later repointing

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228m  
226m  
224m  
222m  
220m  
218m  
216m

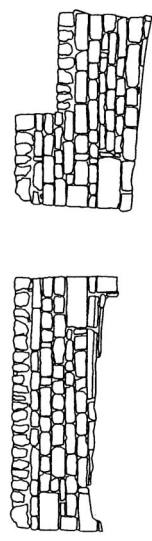


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N



S  
E  
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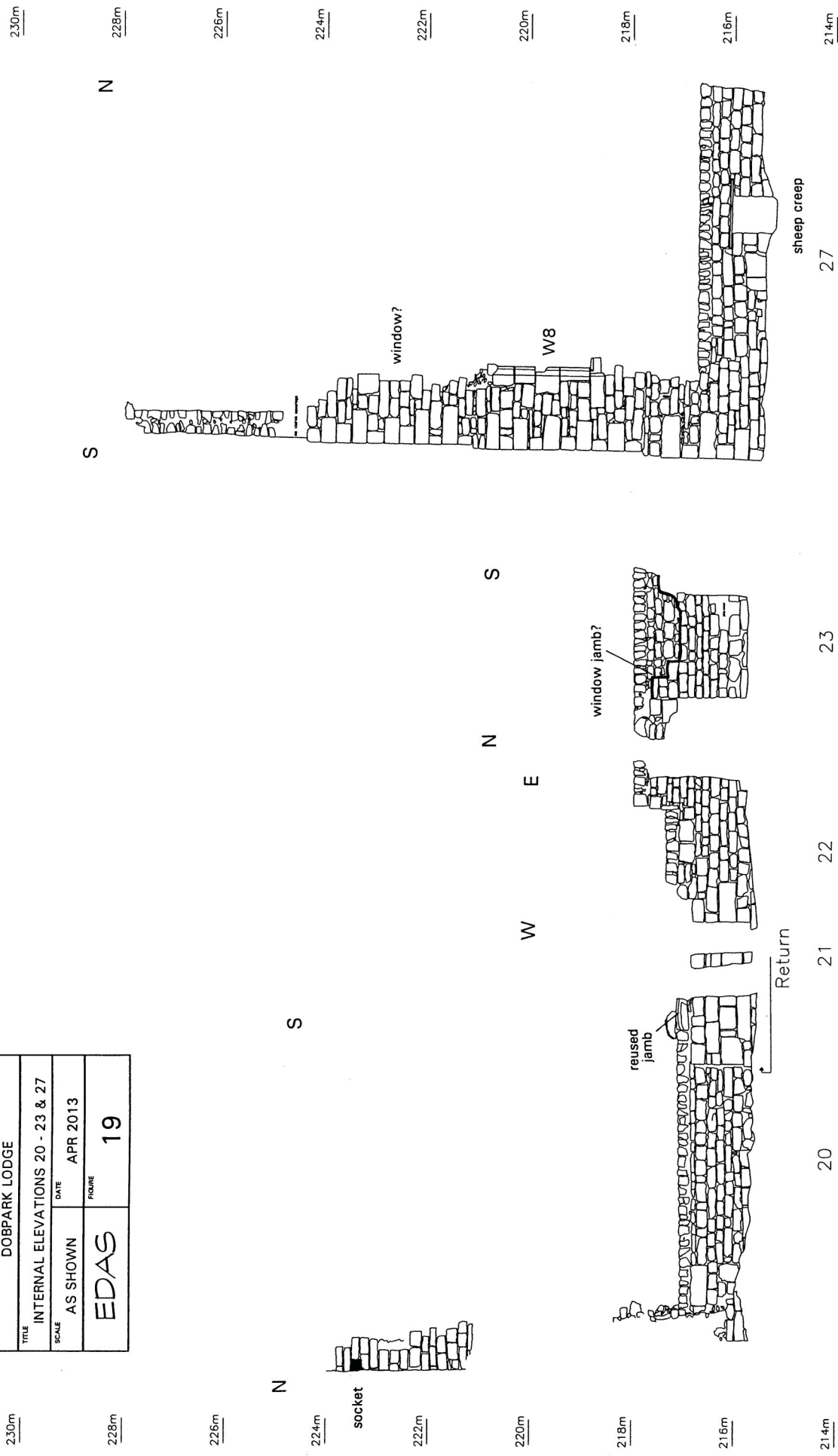
230m  
228m  
226m  
224m  
222m  
220m  
218m  
216m  
214m

12  
13  
14  
15

MAIN TITLE <b>Dob Park Lodge</b> <b>Otley</b> <b>North Yorkshire</b>	SUBSIDIARY TITLE <b>External Elevations - East</b>	SURVEY BY: 	FOR: Ed Denison Archaeological Services Ltd 15 Langdale Way Beverley HU17 8NU Tel/Fax: 01482 875723 E-mail: eddenison@eddenison.com
		LOCATION PLAN 	DATE: 15/1/13 DRAWN BY: DOBPARK03 CHECKED BY: DOBPARK03 DATE: December 2011 PLOTTED: February-March 2012 CUB: RCB SCALE 1:50 DRAWING NO: 3 of 6



PROJECT	DOB PARK LODGE		
TITLE	INTERNAL ELEVATIONS 20 - 23 & 27		
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	APR 2013
	EDAS	FIGURE	19

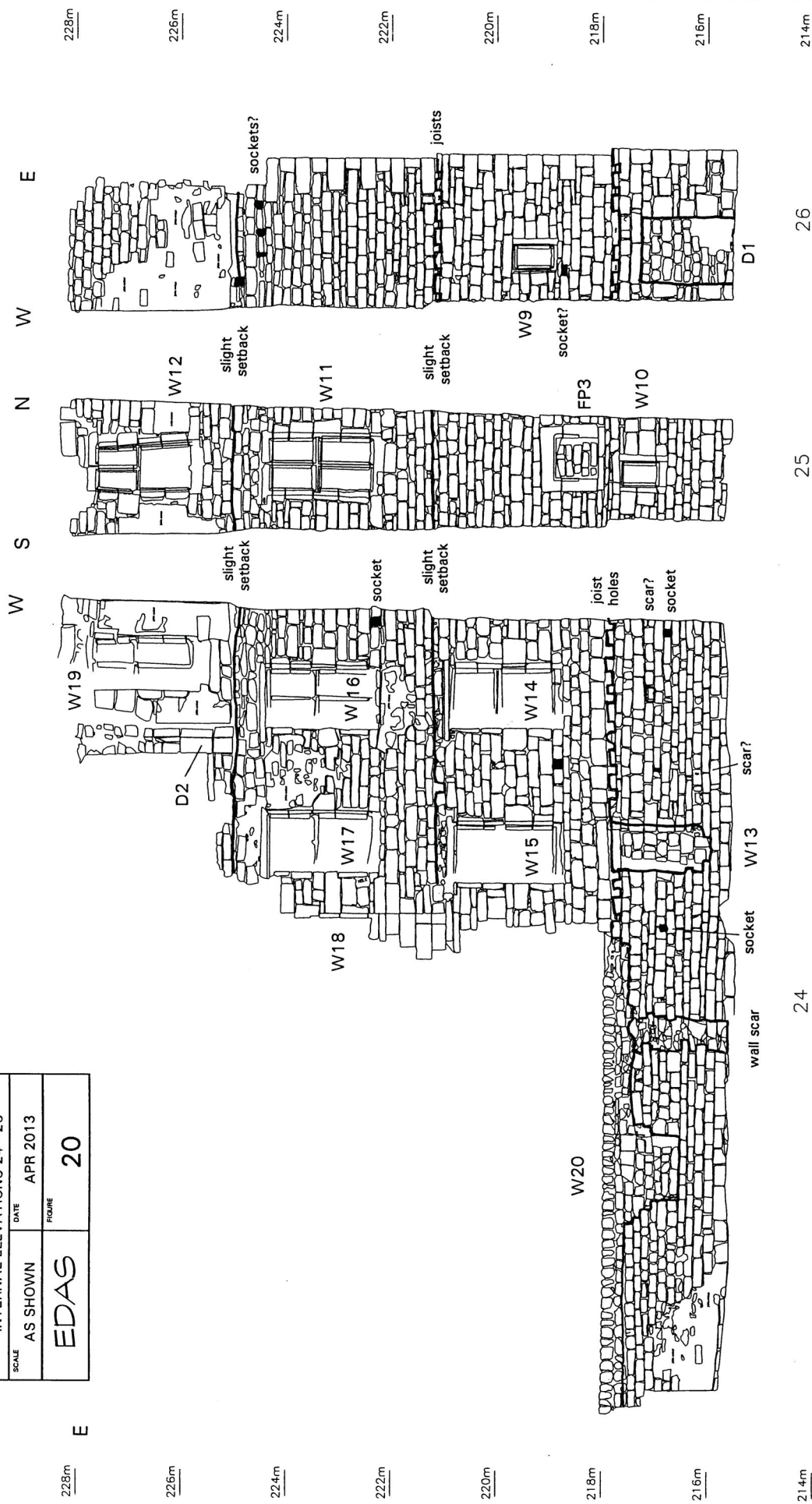


W2 Window identifiers etc

<b>MAIN TITLE</b> Dob Park Lodge Otley North Yorkshire	<b>SUBMARY TITLE</b> Internal Elevations - East & West	<b>LOCATION PLAN</b> 	<b>SHEET NO:</b> 197/19	<b>DATE:</b> February-March 2012	<b>SCALE:</b> 1:50	<b>DATE:</b> 5 of 6
		<b>CLIENT:</b> Ed Dentison Archaeological Services Ltd Springdale Way Beckett HX17 8NU	<b>PROJECT NO:</b> 01482 20733	<b>PROJECT NAME:</b> DOB PARK LODGE	<b>START DATE:</b> February-March 2012	<b>END DATE:</b> February-March 2012



PROJECT	DOBPARK LODGE	
TITLE	INTERNAL ELEVATIONS 24 - 26	
SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE APR 2013
FIGURE	20	



**W2** Window identifiers etc

MAIN TITLE <b>Dob Park Lodge</b> <b>Otley</b> <b>North Yorkshire</b>	SURVEY BY:  PHOTOMARK SURVEYS 18 Springdale Way Beverley HU17 8NU Tel/Fax: 01483 870723 E-mail: info@photomark.com	LOCATION PLAN 	FOR: Ed Denton Archaeological Services Ltd 18 Springdale Way Beverley HU17 8NU Tel/Fax: 01483 870723 E-mail: info@edentons.com





Plate 1: Dobpark Lodge, looking NE (photo 3/203).



Plate 2: Dobpark Lodge, looking NE (photo 1/348).





Plate 3: Typical section of walled park boundary, north of Dob Park House Farm, looking W (photo 3/199).



Plate 4: View along flat-topped bank to west of lodge, looking NW (photo 2/503).





Plate 5: Structure in wall to east of lodge, looking SE (photo 2/498).



Plate 6: Fallen incised pillar to the south-west of the lodge, looking SW (photo 2/501).



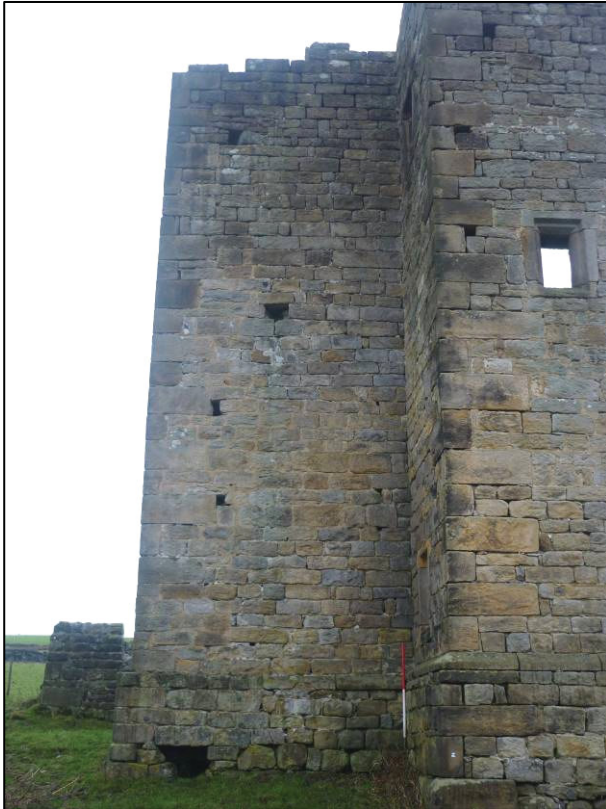


Plate 7: Elevation 1, looking SW (photo 2/520).

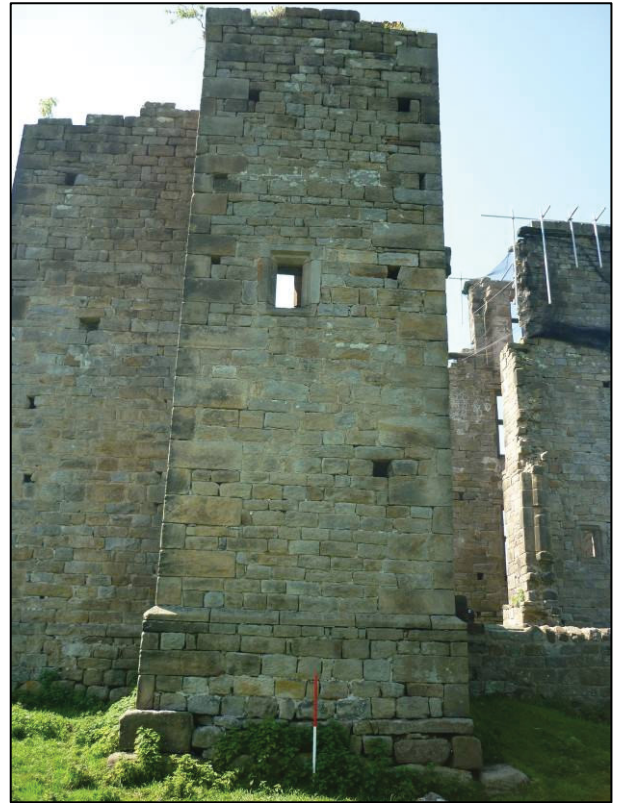


Plate 8: Elevation 3, looking SW (photo 3/215).



Plate 9: Blocked doorway D1 at base of elevation 9, looking SW (photo 2/531).





Plate 10: Window W10 in elevation 10, showing glazing slot etc (photo 2/534).



Plate 11: West end of elevation 11, looking NE (photo 3/204).



Plate 12: Window W14 in elevation 11 (photo 3/205).

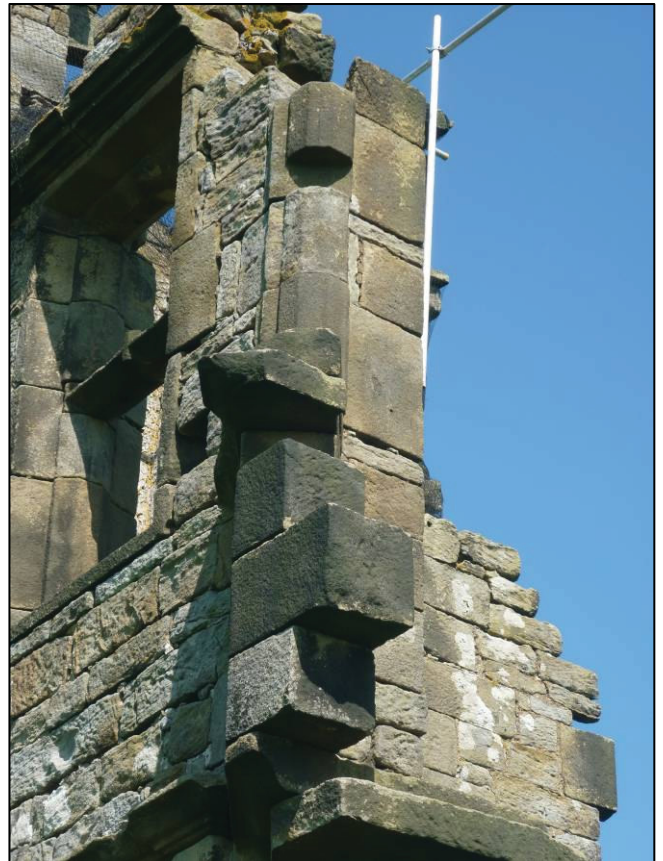


Plate 13: Remains of window W18 in elevation 12, looking W (photo 3/208).



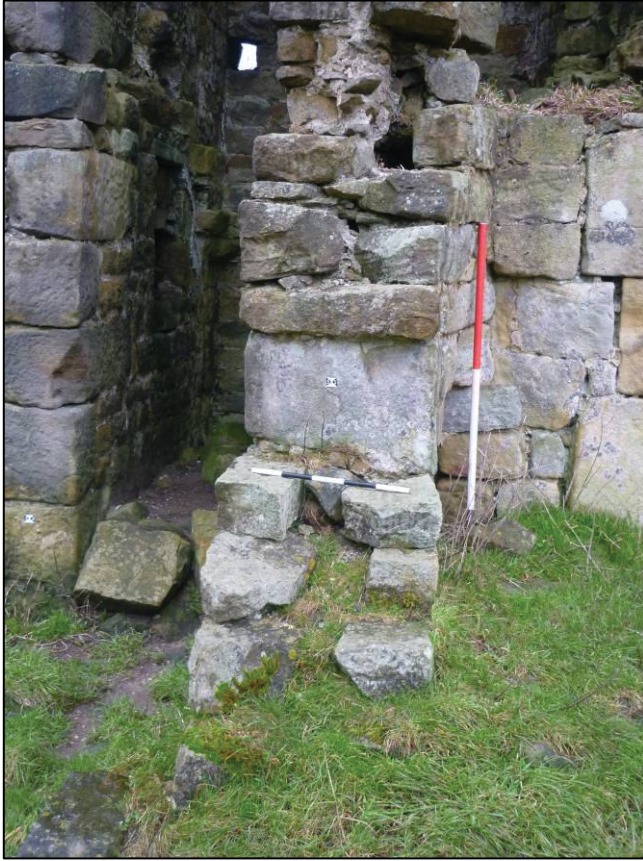


Plate 14: Stub of internal cross wall and doorway D3 (elevation 16), looking NE (photo 2/563).



Plate 15: Plaster and drain to east of fireplace FP1 in elevation 16, looking N (photo 2/556).

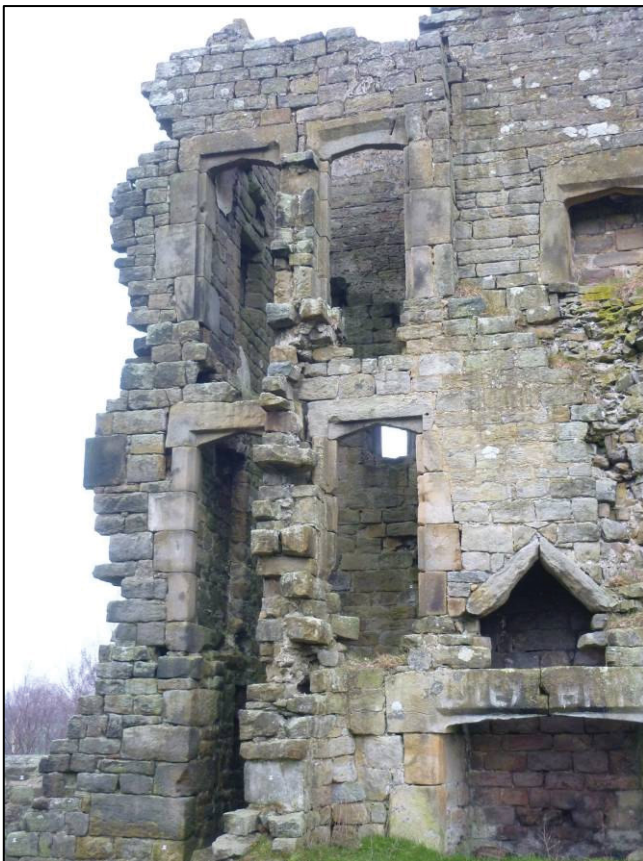


Plate 16: West end of elevation 16, looking N (photo 2/559).

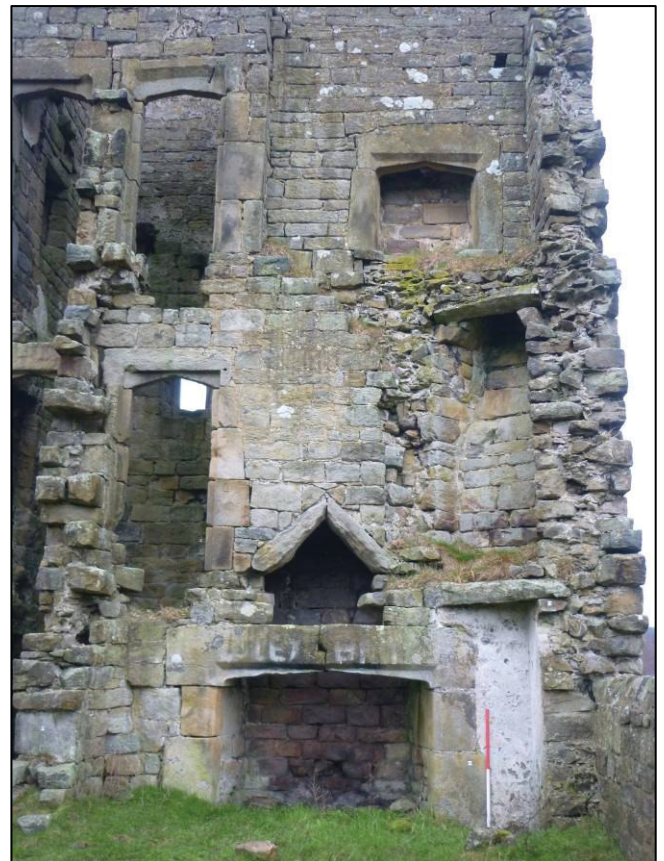


Plate 17: East end of elevation 16, looking N (photo 2/557).





Plate 18: Internal north elevation of stair turret, looking N (photo 2/561).

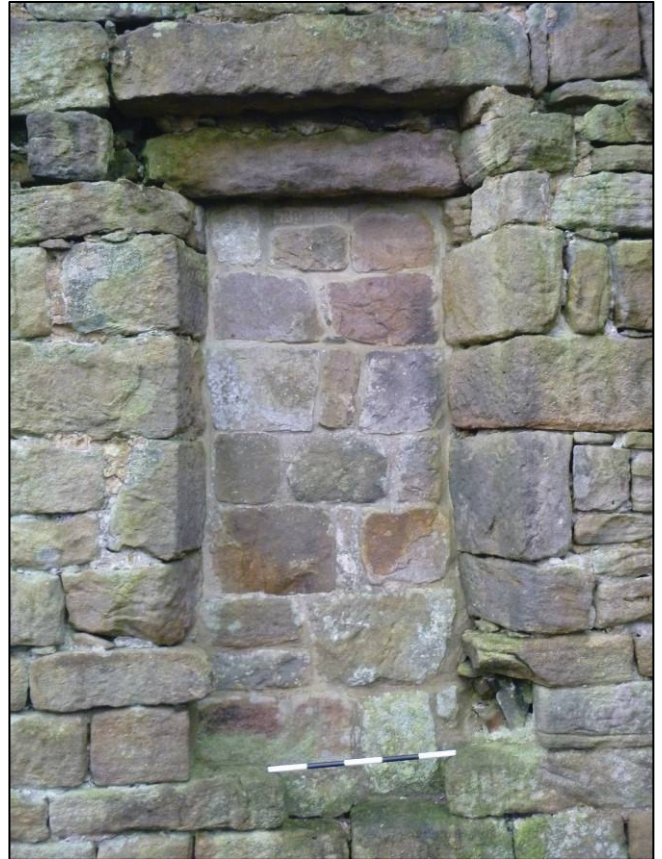


Plate 19: Window W13 in elevation 24, looking SW (photo 2/550).

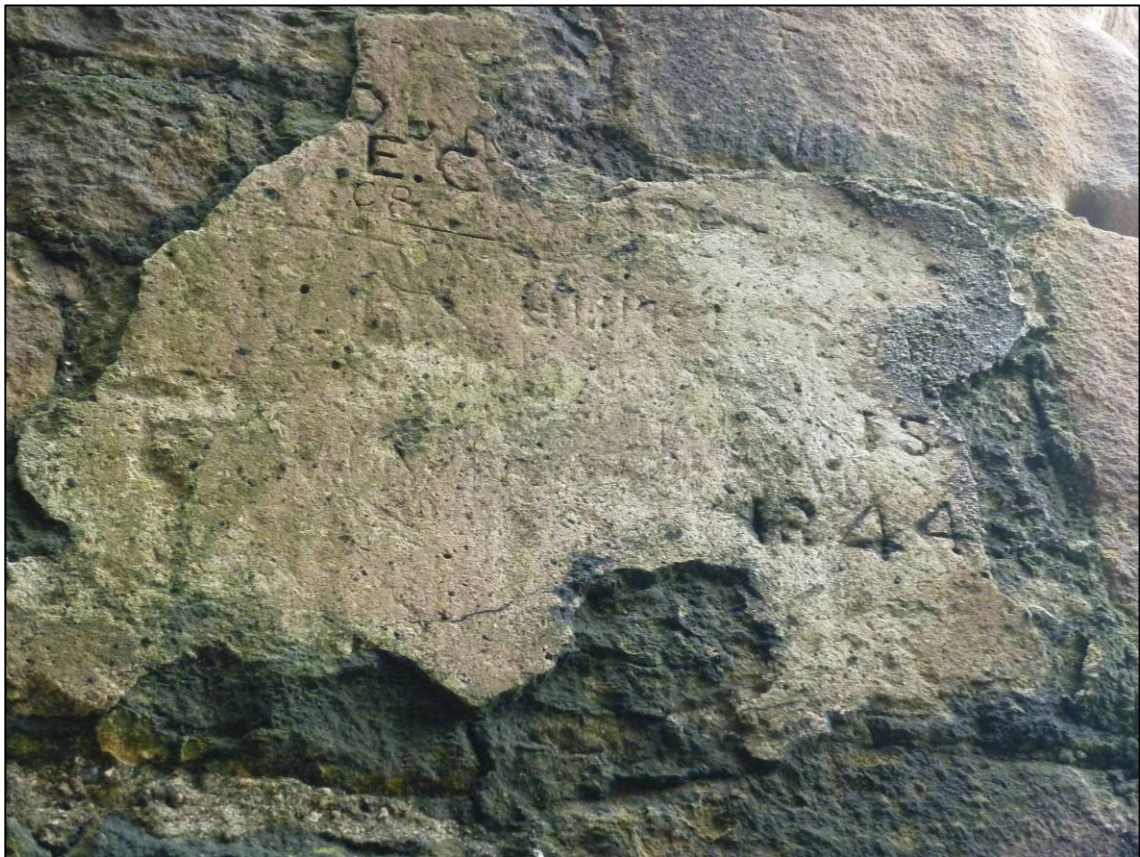


Plate 20: Graffiti in plaster on east internal elevation of stair turret (photo 2/565).





Plate 21: Elevation 25, looking NW (photo 2/539).



Plate 22: Elevations 24, 25 and 27, looking W (photo 2/537).



Plate 23: General view to Dobpark Lodge, looking N (photo 1/324).





Plate 24: Weston Hall Banqueting House, looking NE.



Plate 25: Weston Hall Banqueting House, looking SE.



Plate 26: Weston Hall Banqueting House, south elevation, looking N.



Plate 27: Weston Hall Banqueting House, first floor window detail on west elevation, looking E.

## **APPENDIX 1**

## APPENDIX 1: PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Film 1: Colour digital photographs taken 17th January 2012

Film 2: Colour digital photographs taken 20th January 2012

Film 3: Colour digital photographs taken 25th May 2012

Film 5: Colour digital photographs taken 24th January 2013

<i>Film</i>	<i>Frame</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Scale</i>
1	342	Lodge, looking NW	-
1	343	SW corner of lodge, looking NW	-
1	344	Lodge, looking NW	-
1	345	Lodge, looking N	-
1	347	Lodge, looking N	-
1	348	Lodge, looking N	-
1	350	Lodge, looking N	-
1	352	Lodge, looking N	-
2	494	Possible early approach to lodge from the SE, looking NW	-
2	495	Possible early approach to lodge from the SE, looking SE	1m
2	496	Possible early approach to lodge from the SE, looking NW	1m
2	497	Structure in wall to SE of lodge, looking NW	1m
2	498	Structure in wall to SE of lodge, looking SE	1m
2	499	Pillar adjacent to field wall, E boundary of lodge field, looking NE	1m
2	500	Terrace and wall to E of lodge, looking NW	1m
2	501	Fallen pier to SW of lodge, looking SW	1m
2	502	Terrace and wall to W of lodge, looking NW	1m
2	503	Terrace and wall to W of lodge, looking NW	1m
2	504	Terrace and wall to W of lodge, looking SE	1m
2	505	Wall to W of lodge, looking NW	1m
2	506	Elevation 11, W13 to W19, looking N	1m
2	507	Elevation 11, W13 to W19, looking N	1m
2	508	Elevation 11, W14, looking N	1m
2	509	Elevation 11, W13 to W15, looking NE	1m
2	510	Elevation 11, W14, looking N	1m
2	512	Elevation 11, W19, looking N	1m
2	513	Elevation 11, W13, looking N	1m
2	514	Elevation 13, looking W	1m
2	516	Elevation 14, looking S	1m
2	517	Elevation 15, looking W	1m
2	518	Elevation 15, looking W	1m
2	519	Elevation 15, looking W	1m
2	520	Elevation 1, looking SW	1m
2	522	Elevation 2, W1 and W2, looking W	1m
2	524	Elevation 3, W3, looking W	1m
2	525	Elevation 1, drain at base, looking S	0.50m
2	526	Elevations 4 and 6, W4 to W7, looking E	1m
2	527	Elevation 5, looking S	1m
2	528	Elevation 8, looking E	1m
2	529	Elevation 12, W18, looking SW	-
2	530	Elevations 7 and 9, D1 & W8 and W9, looking S	1m
2	531	Elevation 9, D1, looking S	1m
2	532	Elevation 10, W10 to W12, looking E	1m
2	533	Elevation 10, W10 & W11, looking E	1m
2	534	Elevation 10, W10 showing glazing slot etc, looking E	-
2	535	Elevation 27, looking NW	1m
2	537	Elevations 27, 25 and 24, looking W	1m
2	538	Elevation 25, W10 & W11, looking W	1m
2	539	Elevation 25, W10 & W11, looking NW	1m
2	540	Elevation 25, W10 to W12, looking W	1m
2	541	Elevation 26, D1 & W9, looking NW	1m
2	543	Elevation 10, W10 showing glazing slot etc, looking W	0.50m
2	544	Elevation 10, W10 showing glazing slot etc, looking W	0.50m



2	545	Elevation 25, 1F fireplace, looking W	-
2	546	Elevation 24, W13 to W15, looking SW	1m
2	547	Elevation 24, W14 to W19 and D2, looking SW	-
2	549	Elevation 24, W19 and D2, looking S	-
2	550	Elevation 24, W13, looking SW	0.50m
2	551	Elevation 24, cross-wall, looking SE	1m
2	552	Elevation 24, W20, looking SE	1m
2	553	Elevation 23, looking E	1m
2	554	Elevation 22, looking NE	1m
2	555	Elevations 20 and 21, looking E	1m
2	556	Elevation 16, plaster and drain to E of GF fireplace, looking N	1m
2	557	Elevation 16, E half, fireplaces with D5 and D7, looking N	1m
2	558	Elevation 16, E half, fireplaces with D5 and D7, looking N	1m
2	559	Elevation 16, W half, D3 to D7, looking N	1m
2	560	Elevation 16, GF fireplace, looking N	1m
2	561	Internal N elevation of stair turret, looking N	-
2	562	Elevation 19, looking W	1m
2	563	Elevation 16, possible GF opening to cross-wall, looking NE	1m
2	564	Elevation 18, looking NE	1m
2	565	Internal E elevation of stair turret, graffiti, looking E	-
2	566	Internal E elevation of stair turret, graffiti, looking E	-
2	567	Internal W elevation of stair turret, looking W	-
2	570	Internal N elevation of stair turret, looking N	1m
2	571	Internal N elevation of stair turret, former steps, looking N	1m
2	575	Internal E elevation of stair turret and D3, looking SE	1m
2	576	D3 from stair turret, looking S	1m
3	198	Walled pale line, E side of S park area, looking NW	-
3	199	Typical section of walled pale line, E side of S park area, looking W	1m
3	200	Typical section of walled pale line, E side of S park area, looking W	1m
3	201	Typical section of walled pale line, E side of S park area, looking SW	1m
3	202	Typical section of walled pale line, possible internal ditch line, E side of S park area, looking SW	1m
3	203	Elevation 11, W13 to 19, looking N	1m
3	204	Elevation 11, W13 to 19, looking N	1m
3	205	Elevation 11, W14, looking N	-
3	206	Elevation 11, looking N	1m
3	207	Elevation 12, W18, looking W	-
3	208	Elevation 12, W18, looking W	-
3	209	Elevation 13, looking W	1m
3	210	Elevation 14, looking S	1m
3	211	Elevation 15, looking W	1m
3	212	Elevation 15, looking W	1m
3	213	Elevation 1, looking S	1m
3	214	Elevation 2, W1 and W2, looking W	1m
3	215	Elevation 3, W3, looking S	1m
3	216	Elevation 3, base, looking S	1m
3	218	Elevation 4, W4 and W5, looking E	1m
3	219	Elevation 5, looking S	1m
3	221	Elevation 8, looking E	1m
3	222	Elevation 8, looking E	1m
3	223	Elevation 9, D1 and W9, looking S	1m
3	225	Elevation 10, W10, looking E	1m
5	682	Internal cage, looking W	-
5	683	Internal cage, looking W	-
5	684	Detail of possible tothing for doorway quoins, S elevation, looking N	-
5	685	Stair turret, internal cage, looking N	-
5	686	Internal cage, looking NW	-
5	687	Internal cage, looking NW	-
5	689	Possible re-used window piece, W wall of lodge field, looking S	-
5	691	Lodge, looking NW	-
5	694	Lodge, looking NW	-
5	696	Lodge, looking NW	-

5	697	Lodge, looking NW	-
5	698	Lodge, looking NW	-





1-342.JPG



1-343.JPG



1-344.JPG



1-345.JPG



1-347.JPG



1-348.JPG



1-350.JPG



1-352.JPG



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2-499.JPG



2-500.JPG



2-501.JPG



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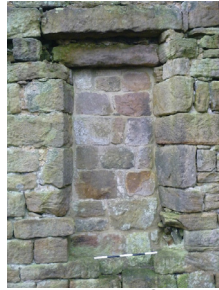
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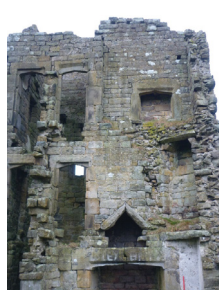
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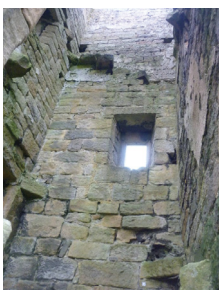
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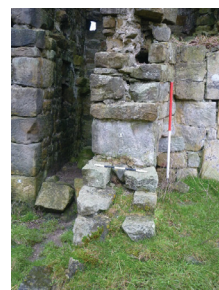
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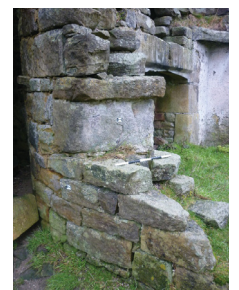
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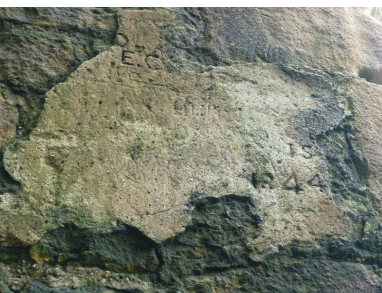


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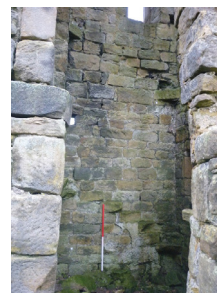
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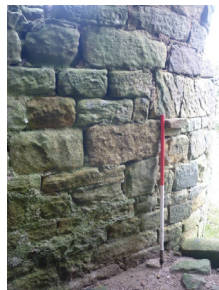
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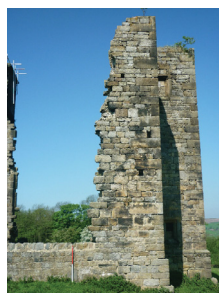
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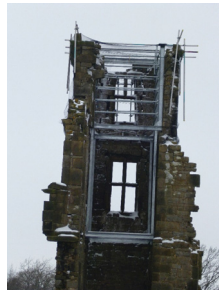
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## APPENDIX 2

## APPENDIX 2: SCHEDULED MONUMENT AND FORMER LISTED BUILDING DESCRIPTIONS

### 1) Scheduled Monument Description

Name: A 17th century park lodge known as Dobpark Lodge in Dob Park, near Otley  
List Entry Number: 1015630  
County: North Yorkshire  
District: Harrogate  
Parish: Weston  
Date first scheduled: 31 Jan 1997

#### *Reasons for Designation*

Deer parks were areas of land, usually enclosed, set aside and equipped for the management and hunting of deer and other animals. They were generally located in open countryside on marginal land or adjacent to a manor house, castle or palace. They varied in size between 3ha and 1600ha and usually comprised a combination of woodland and grassland which provided a mixture of cover and grazing for deer. Parks could contain a number of features, including hunting lodges (often moated), a park-keeper's house, rabbit warrens, fishponds and enclosures for game, and were usually surrounded by a park pale, a massive fenced or hedged bank often with an internal ditch. Although a small number of parks may have been established in the Anglo-Saxon period, it was the Norman aristocracy's taste for hunting that led to the majority being constructed. The peak period for the laying-out of parks, between AD 1200 and 1350, coincided with a time of considerable prosperity amongst the nobility. From the 15th century onwards few parks were constructed and by the end of the 17th century the deer park in its original form had largely disappeared. The original number of deer parks nationally is unknown but probably exceeded 3000. Many of these survive today, although often altered to a greater or lesser degree.

They were established in virtually every county in England, but are most numerous in the West Midlands and Home Counties. Deer parks were a long-lived and widespread monument type. Today they serve to illustrate an important aspect of the activities of medieval nobility and still exert a powerful influence on the pattern of the modern landscape. Where a deer park survives well and is well-documented or associated with other significant remains, its principal features are normally identified as nationally important.

After c.1480, a new type of park began to develop out of the deer park tradition. This combined the deer management and hunting aspects of the medieval deer park with a greater emphasis on moulding the landscape to conform to the aesthetic ideal. Such parks usually adorned the country residences of the powerful and wealthy and were popular until the Civil War. This type of park is usually referred to as a country house park, and formed an intermediate stage in development between the medieval deer park and the later landscape park.

Too little of Dob Park remains to determine whether it was originally created as a country house type park, or whether Dobpark Lodge represents an embellishment of a pre-existing medieval deer park. The isolated situation may indicate the latter. In either case, Dobpark Lodge is an unusual survival of a building associated with the country park tradition. It was built in the early 17th century by the Vavasour family, has undergone little subsequent alteration, and parts still survive to their full height. Architecturally, the building displays features typical of the country houses of the wealthy elite of the time. It is a development of the medieval hall, embellished with corner turrets and an impressive symmetrical facade with many large cross-mullioned windows and a central oriel window. This ruined hunting lodge is the only surviving evidence for the medieval Dob Park. The ruins retain significant architectural detail and allow the original form and layout of the lodge to be substantially determined.

#### *Details*

The monument includes the remains of a park lodge in Dob Park, south of Dobpark Wood, c.375m west of Middle Farm, Weston, near Otley. The lodge measures c.16m along the south west front facade, and c.13m from front to rear.



It consists of the remains of a central 10m square tower, with a corner turret 4m square at each end of its south west facade. The north western of these turrets still survives to its full height of four storeys. On the rear, north east side of the main tower is a 3m square stair tower. This survives to a height of three stories, as does the adjacent portion of the main tower. The main tower also survives to its full extent of three storeys adjacent to the north west turret. Elsewhere, the walls of the main tower and the turret at the south east end of the front facade survive to a height of less than one storey, c.1m-1.5m, and have been capped with coping stones which are cemented in place. Much of the latter may have been rebuilt on the original foundations, for use as a sheepfold.

The lodge probably dates from the early 17th century and was built for Sir Mauger Vavasour whose ancestry can be traced back to Norman times. It is thought to have been a forest lodge occupied by a branch of the Vavasour family of Weston Hall. During the Civil War, it is said to have been shelled by Cromwell's soldiers. It is Listed Grade II.

Source:

[http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results\\_Single.aspx?uid=1015630&resourceID=5](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results_Single.aspx?uid=1015630&resourceID=5)

## 2) Former Listed Building Description

The following building was de-listed on 20th April 1998.

WESTON DOB PARK LANE (west side, off)  
6/90 Dob Park Lodge

Ruins of hunting lodge. Probably early C17 for Sir Mauger Vavasour. Coursed squared gritstone, ashlar details. Plinth and quoins. Remains of south-west front and rear stair and chimney tower survive, the original plan T- or L-shaped. The main facade was of 3 storeys over a basement and probably 5 bays long, the 2 left bays remaining, bay 1 is of 3 storeys and bay 2 is of 2. Recessed chamfered mullion windows throughout. 2 cross-windows with cornice, and label-stops with 3 knobs in relief, to ground floor, similar windows above but under a continuous dripmould. The third storey of bay 1 has a similar window and dripmould; the masonry returns to the right suggesting that central 3 bays were recessed, leaving a balcony or parapet between (cf Fountains Hall, Lindrick with Studley Royal and Fountains qv). Projecting masonry between ground and first floors right suggests the position of an oriel or bay window. The basement is pierced by a rectangular window, a similar open window to the left return, also cross windows as front to the second and third storeys. The rear stair tower has 3 tiers of rectangular stair windows in the north-west wall; the inner face has a large basement fireplace with shallow triangular head in chamfered surround, a relieving arch above; a chimney flue from a probably corner fireplace (cf Weston Banqueting House) to the raised ground floor, and a small fireplace to the second floor, the surround similar to the basement fireplace. To the left are 2 pairs of shallow triangular headed doorways divided by the remains of a stone partition wall. The building is thought to have been a forest lodge and was occupied by a branch of the Vavasour family of Weston Hall (qv). During the Civil War it is said to have been shelled by Cromwell's soldiers. H Speight, Upper Wharfedale, 1900, p 168.

Source:

<http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/en-331483-dob-park-lodge-norwood>

## **APPENDIX 3**

## **APPENDIX 3: EDAS METHODS STATEMENT**

### **ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DOB PARK LODGE, OTLEY, NORTH YORKSHIRE**

#### **Introduction**

An architectural and archaeological survey is required of Dob Park Lodge, near Otley (NGR SE 19097 50230) prior to and during a programme of consolidation work. The survey work, which will be augmented by a wildlife (bat) survey, will provide the base information to allow a detailed specification for consolidation and repair to be drawn up. The extent of the survey work is defined by a brief produced by English Heritage (dated February 2011), and this detailed costed methods statement defines the archaeological, architectural and wildlife work that EDAS would undertake if appointed to the project.

The architectural and archaeological survey work equates to a Level 4 comprehensive analytical record as defined by English Heritage (2006, 14), and will include drawn, photographic and written elements. The site was visited by EDAS on 11th August 2011, to determine the most appropriate and cost-effective methods for survey.

Dob Park Lodge is a Grade II Listed Building (List entry 1174697, first listed 14th July 1987) and it, and part of the surrounding field, is a Scheduled Monument (SM 1015630 - first scheduled 21st January 1997); the Scheduled Monument legislation takes precedence over the Listed Building designation.

#### **Background Information**

##### *Site Location*

Dob Park (or Dobpark) Lodge is located on the north side of Dobpark Wood (at NGR SE 19097 50230), c.200m west of Middle Farm on the south side of the River Washburn. The site lies in Weston parish, on the west side of Dob Park Road, close to a junction with Weston Moor Lane; the site is c.4km north-north-west of Otley in North Yorkshire.

The site is accessible by foot across pasture fields from the nearby Dob Park Road. The building lies within a relatively small walled enclosure, with a barbed wire fence around the ruins. There appears to be no easy direct vehicular access onto the site.

##### *Archaeological Interest*

The site's archaeological and architectural importance is summarised in the English Heritage brief, which draws on an earlier archaeological desk top study produced by York Archaeological Trust (Finlayson 2004).

Dob Park Lodge was probably built in the early 17th century for Sir Mauger Vavasour of Weston Hall as a hunting lodge. It displays features typical of the country houses of the wealthy elite of the time, with a central hall embellished with corner turrets and an impressive symmetrical facade with many mullioned and transomed windows and a central oriel window. It has similarities with Fountains Hall, built by Robert Smythson (1535-1614).

The ancestry of the Vavasour family can be traced back to the Norman Conquest. The lodge is thought to have been shelled by Cromwellian soldiers during the Civil War, although it might also have been occupied as a farmhouse until the early 19th century. The lodge appears in a painting by J M W Turner, although only in the distance and no detail can be identified. The lodge became increasingly derelict from the early 19th century, and stone was probably taken from the site, either for use elsewhere or to create a romantic ruin (or both). The south front was more complete in living memory than now, and it is said that photographic evidence might survive for the oriel window which formed the centre of the south front. Some architectural fragments can be identified in the surrounding drystone walls and there is a considerable quantity of fallen dressed stone around and inside the building, including jambs and transoms.

The lodge is constructed of squared gritstone with finely tooled dressings of the same material. It is a compact building, forming a c.10m square with two 4m square towers projecting from the east and west ends of the south elevation and another 3m square stair tower projecting from the centre of the north elevation. The south-west and stair towers survive to their original height but the east half of the south



elevation, the south-east tower and part of the north-west corner of the building have been reduced in height to c.1m, the walls capped with coping stones which are cemented in place - these walls formed part of a later sheepfold. The principal (south) elevation is symmetrical, of five bays and two storeys with a basement, with the corner towers rising to a third stage. An internal wall divides the structure into two halves.

The ruins suggest that the building comprised four basement service rooms with four rooms above in the raised ground floor. The first floor was almost certainly the principal storey, the whole of the south front given over to a single chamber; the large mullioned and transomed windows on three sides, including a south-west tower, give an excellent view of the surrounding hunting estate. A stair tower in the centre of the north wall linked all levels, and the stair will presumably have continued to the roof which formed a viewing platform. The upper parts of the corner towers would also have been accessible from the roof. Most of the window and door openings had oak lintels on the inside face, and the inside of the building contains much detail in the form of fireplaces, Tudor-arched doorways and the remains of stairs. There is also a significant amount of plaster surviving, some containing 19th century graffiti.

Some consolidation of the ruined structure appears to have taken place in the 20th century, probably in the 1970s or 80s (the date 1984 can be read in a cement render), including the capping of some of the ruined walls in order to convert the ruins into a sheepfold. There are currently three semi-mature elderberry trees growing against the inside of the south elevation. The south-west tower is in a very poor condition due to water ingress and a lack of mutual restraint, elements of the south facade show evidence for leaning and cracking, and the doorways in the stair tower have lost their support. Overall, the masonry is extensively open-jointed.

The surrounding pasture field contains low earthworks with terraces suggestive of gardens and a formal approach, and the remains of a small structure in the angle of field walls to the east might represent a forebuilding or gatehouse. Just to the west of the lodge is a fallen gatepost, inscribed "I M Vavasour 17[illegible].

## **Aims of the Project**

The aims of the project are:

- to augment and expand the existing knowledge of the Lodge, to place it in its historical, social, architectural and landscape context;
- to provide a detailed pre-intervention record of the Lodge, to provide a baseline of information and to inform future repair and consolidation strategies;
- to augment and expand the pre-intervention record as necessary during repair and consolidation work;
- to provide an appropriate level of interpretation at the site.

## **Survey Methodologies**

The English Heritage brief makes it clear that two phases of archaeological and architectural work are required, Phase 1 comprising the pre-intervention survey and report, and Phase 2 comprising additions to that survey using data gathered from scaffolding and archaeological oversight during the repair and consolidation programme. It is assumed that the project architect/client will be able to provide all necessary Ordnance Survey map bases; if not, an appropriate contingency has been identified (item 5 of additional expenses/contingencies in fee proposal).

## **Phase 1 Architectural and Archaeological Research and Analysis**

### *Documentary Research and Collation*

As noted above, the site has been the subject of an archaeological desk-top survey by York Archaeological Trust (Finlayson 2004). The English Heritage brief suggests this contains some deficiencies, particularly when relating the Lodge to other contemporary structures. It should be noted that EDAS have not been able to obtain a copy of the YAT report, and so are unable to comment on its scope or content. It is assumed that the YAT report will be made available to EDAS if they are commissioned to the project.

EDAS will check and enhance the YAT desk-top survey, gathering additional information and data as necessary. This might include, for example:

- information from the North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record and/or English Heritage's National Monuments Record - this data is likely to include records/reports of any previous historic research and archaeological activity, aerial photographs, past management and land ownership records, and historic maps and plans;
- Information from the West Yorkshire Archives Service - the Weston Hall Estate archive, dating from c.1200 to 1951, is held at the Sheepscar Record Office in Leeds (WYL639), and includes maps of Dob Park dating to 1781 and 1810 (amongst others). Other maps and plans, such as tithe and enclosure, will be consulted as necessary;
- Examination of other contemporary Vavasour structures (e.g. Weston Hall and its banqueting house) and other contemporary structures having a similar form or function (e.g. the lodge at Ledston Hall or Swarkestone Pavillion), by visit (subject to access) and/or data gathering.

Any charges made by any of the above organisations for data supply will be re-charged to the project at cost (see item 1 of additional expenses/contingencies).

A certain amount of additional research into the archaeological context of the site, the published histories of the site, the bibliographies of the major families involved, and the development of the surrounding designed park landscape will be undertaken. This will ensure that the Lodge is placed in their social, historical and landscape context.

### *Building Recording*

#### Ground plan

An accurate plan of the ruined structure, at ground level, will be produced at a scale of 1:50 using a combination of total station (Trimble 5600) equipment and traditional and electronic hand-held measuring techniques. This plan will show all significant detail such as inserted, blocked or unblocked openings, fireplaces, fittings etc. The plan will also identify the position of any fallen dressed masonry (e.g. transoms, door jambs etc) within and around the structure. The ground plan will be tied into the Ordnance Survey national grid and levels using the control established for the photogrammetric survey. Difficulties over access means that it will not be possible to produce higher level floor plans, although this could be done as part of the Phase 2 enhancement survey if necessary (see below).

At present, the English Heritage brief does not require a topographical survey of the surroundings of the Lodge. However, this could be achieved as part of this element of the project if required, subject to additional funds (see item 2 of additional expenses/contingencies).

#### Elevations

All the external and internal elevations of the castle will be recorded by photogrammetry, by colour stereo-photography using a calibrated Phase One P65+ (60 megapixel) digital SRL camera. All of the exterior and interior elevations will be photographed, apart from the internal elevations of the stair tower and the north internal face of the south-west tower, where there is insufficient room for photography. Photo-control will be achieved using standard 40mm square plastic targets, or points of architectural detail (e.g. on window dressings), which will be surveyed and levelled using total station equipment.

The stereo photography will then be used to produce computer-generated 1:50 scale elevation drawings. These drawings will depict all significant architectural detail, stones around openings, masonry types, construction details (e.g. putlog holes, building lifts, etc), any modifications to the principal period of construction (e.g. blocked openings, inserted doorways and windows, etc), and areas of previous repair and/or consolidation. Revealed corework and areas of vegetation will only be shown in outline. All elevations will be levelled into Ordnance Survey heights using GPS.

#### Architectural details

Some representative mouldings and profiles will also be recorded at an appropriate scale, subject to access. These are likely to include any masons' marks, representative profiles of window/door mouldings, and constructional forms used in window heads or passage ceilings.

## Photographs

All major elevations and other features (from vantage points as nearly parallel as possible to the elevation within the constraints of the site) will be photographed, as well as close up photography of significant detail (e.g. carvings, moulding, graffiti etc). A general external photographic record will also be made which includes oblique general views of the structure showing it in its setting.

The photographs will be produced in colour using a digital camera with 10 megapixel resolution. English Heritage photographic guidelines will be followed (English Heritage 2006, 10-12) and each photograph will normally be provided with a scale (subject to access). All photographs will be clearly numbered and labelled with the subject, orientation, date taken and photographer's name, and will be cross-referenced to a photographic register, digital files etc.

## Written Record

The data gathered from the site survey will be used to produce a detailed description of the Lodge, in combination with the drawn and photographic records. This description will not include the preparation of individual room sheets, unless specifically requested.

### *Interim Architectural and Archaeological Survey Report*

An EDAS interim archive survey report will be produced, based on the results of the Phase 1 research and survey work. This report will be a standard A4 typed and bound document, which will assemble and summarise the available evidence for the site in an ordered form, synthesise the data, comment on the quality and reliability of the evidence, and how it might need to be supplemented by further work, for example additional desk-based research, structural survey, dendrochronological analysis etc.

It is expected that the interim report will include (as appropriate):

- a contents list;
- acknowledgements;
- a non-technical executive summary;
- site code/EDAS project number;
- dates of fieldwork visits;
- national grid reference and address;
- overall site plan;
- statutory designations;
- a brief account of the project plan, research objectives, survey methodology, procedures and equipment used;
- details of the historical and archaeological background to the site;
- an account of the overall form and development of the lodge, and of the evidence supporting any interpretation;
- preliminary conclusions, including an assessment of the importance of the findings in relation to the other similar sites, either locally, regionally or nationally;
- preliminary recommendations on the need for any further work, for example additional desk-based research, structural survey, dendrochronological analysis, urgent conservation work etc;
- preliminary recommendations for public interpretation;
- a bibliography and list of sources consulted;
- selected colour digital images (to include the main elevations), at no less than 6" by 4";
- selected figures e.g. historic maps and plans, reduced to A4 or A3 size;
- stone-by-stone photogrammetric drawings of elevations, reduced to A3 size;
- other final survey drawings, reduced to A3 size.

The survey report will also contain various appendices including an unedited bat survey report, photographic registers and catalogues, and a copy of this Methods Statement, together with the details of any departures from that design.

One draft copy of the final report will be made available for discussion with the English Heritage, project architect, landowner etc prior to completion. Two copies of the final approved survey report will then be provided in hard copy format (comb bound reports) to English Heritage, no later than ten weeks after the end of the on-site work unless otherwise agreed. A CD Rom containing an electronic copy of the report (as



pdf files), digital copies of the photographs (both edited and unedited versions, as jpegs and tiff files) and photogrammetric elevation drawings (as dwg files) will also be provided. Other hard copies of the report could be provided at cost.

## **Phase 2 Enhancement Survey**

### *Building Recording*

#### Elevations

The computer-generated photogrammetric 1:50 scale elevation drawings will be checked on site from the scaffolding, ladders and/or platform hoist etc, and then enhanced by hand as necessary and where appropriate, for example where areas of detail were obscured by vegetation and protruding surfaces.

Additional hand measurement will also be carried out on those parts of the fabric not covered by the photogrammetric survey, for example the internal elevations of the stair tower and the north internal elevation of the south-west tower. Other details such as significant areas of weathering or erosion, ferrous cramp damage, movement fractures, and other eroded or damaged parts will be added to the elevation drawings as appropriate.

#### Plans

Although the upper parts of the Lodge are largely ruined, it might be appropriate to produce upper floor plans, for example, at first, second or roof levels. A decision on this will be made once access has been secured, and if required, costs will be taken from the contingency sums (see item 2 of additional expenses/contingencies).

#### Architectural details

Some additional recording will also be required of now accessible architectural detail, such as door and window reveals, stairway passages, fireplaces, kneelers, cornices, masons' marks etc.

#### Photographs

The Phase 1 photographic record will be enhanced from the scaffolding, ladders and/or platform hoist etc. It is expected that photographs will be taken of now visible structural elements and other significant detail (e.g. carvings, moulding, graffiti etc). The photographic guidelines outlined for the Phase 1 work will be followed.

#### Written Record

The data gathered from the enhanced survey work will be added to the Phase 1 detailed description of the Lodge, in combination with the drawn and photographic records. A system for identifying openings (i.e. D = doorway; S = latrine chute, spout or drain; W = window; F = fireplace etc) will be used to aid architectural description.

### *Final Architectural and Archaeological Survey Report*

The existing EDAS interim archive survey report will be updated and enhanced, based on the results of the Phase 2 survey work. This report will be a standard A4 typed and bound document, which will assemble and summarise the available evidence for the site in an ordered form, synthesise the data, and comment on the quality and reliability of the evidence.

To support the final report, a new set of 1:50 scale elevation drawings will be produced, either by scanning/digitising the new survey data into the existing photogrammetric survey to produce new drawings, or by hand-drawing new elevations; the latter is preferred by EDAS (for ease of labeling etc), but the choice can be made by the project architect. For ease of description and understanding, the internal and external elevations will be grouped together in a logical order; on each figure, they 'open out' as if the various parts of each elevation had been flattened out in a single plane. The elevation drawings will be 'stone-by-stone', to show all significant structural features (e.g. construction detail, modifications and differences in fabric and the stones) and all architectural details (e.g. windows, doors, fireplaces, jambs, cills, string courses and

lintels, roof and chimney outlines, any significant visible cracks in fabric, outline of brickwork areas and areas of plaster).

The final survey report will follow the same format and replace the interim report (see list above), thus reducing duplication and cost, although floor plans and photographs etc produced as a result of the Phase 2 enhancement work will be included.

### **Survey Archive**

The English Heritage brief does not include the production of a survey archive. However, it is normally expected that a project archive will be produced and deposited in a secure environment, subject to the agreement of the landowner - this might, for example, be the Sheepscar Record Office, where other Weston Hall archives are held.

A properly ordered and indexed project archive (paper, magnetic and plastic media) will be prepared at the end of the project. It is expected that the archive will contain the following:

- copies of relevant documentary material, bibliographic, cartographic and pictorial sources, arranged in date sequence;
- survey control information, including a diagram showing traverses and control networks, coordinates of control points and survey stations, and digital survey data;
- field and final ink drawings (any drawn records will be presented as wet ink plots on standard "A" size matt surface stable polyester film sheets);
- photogrammetric plots;
- written accounts and pro forma gazetteers;
- structured catalogues and indices;
- copies of digital photographs on CD, both processed and unedited images, as jpegs and tiff files;
- project management records;
- electronic copies of all reports, as pdf files.

Costs associated with the preparation and deposition of the project archive will be taken from the contingency sums (see item 3 of additional expenses/contingencies).

### **Interpretation**

The English Heritage brief also requires the production of an information board at the site, which will outline the history and importance of the Lodge. This information will be gathered from the archaeological and architectural survey and research, and English Heritage will be consulted on the content and design. It is assumed that the sign will be A2 in size, and details regarding the positioning of the board will be discussed and agreed with English Heritage and the landowner prior to erection. Should it be determined that the allocated budget is insufficient for the task (e.g. for the production of suitable artwork etc), additional funds will be taken from the contingency sums (see item 2 of additional expenses/contingencies).

### **OASIS Compliance**

EDAS subscribe to English Heritage's OASIS (Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations) project, and all EDAS projects are fully OASIS compliant. Prior to the start of the fieldwork, an OASIS online record will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. All parts of the OASIS online form will be subsequently completed for submission to English Heritage and the NYCC HER. This will include an uploaded pdf version of the entire report.

### **Health and Safety, and Insurance**

EDAS will comply with the Health and Safety at Work Act of 1974 while undertaking the project. A full copy of our Health and Safety Policy is available on request.

The site is privately owned and EDAS will indemnify the landowners in respect of their legal liability for physical injury to persons or damage to property arising on site in connection with the survey, to the extent of EDAS's Public Liability Insurance Cover (£5,000,000). A risk assessment will also be produced prior to any site work.

## **Staffing and Experience**

The project will be undertaken by EDAS, who are registered as an Archaeological Organisation with the Institute for Archaeologists. The project will be managed by Ed Dennison, Director of EDAS. Additional details regarding EDAS can be found on their website: [www.edarchserv.co.uk](http://www.edarchserv.co.uk).

The documentary research and collation, and archaeological survey, will be undertaken by Shaun Richardson and Ed Dennison of EDAS, assisted by Richard Lamb as necessary. CV's can be provided if required. Both have some 20 years experience in non-intrusive building survey, and they have undertaken over 50 building recording projects in the last 12 years. Of particular relevance to this project is the fact that EDAS have recently completed three major architectural and archaeological surveys of significant structures, Sheriff Hutton Castle in North Yorkshire (condition survey 1998, NE tower 2008, SW tower 2009-10), Harewood Castle in West Yorkshire (condition survey 2008, final report 2011), and Ayton castle in North Yorkshire (condition survey 1996, Phase 1 repairs 2008). A full list of EDAS reports and projects can be found on their website.

The photogrammetric survey will be undertaken by Photarc Surveys, a well established and respected photographic survey company based in Harrogate. Photarc have worked with EDAS on several previous occasions, include our surveys of Harewood Castle (West Yorkshire) and Beilby Church (East Yorkshire). Further details of their expertise can be found on their website [www.photarc.com](http://www.photarc.com).

## **Programming**

The English Heritage brief did not attach a timescale to the project. However, from the current state of the lodge, it is assumed that there is some urgency and it is assumed that the project will take place over the winter of 2011. Once appointed to the project, EDAS will draw up a programme of work, in consultation with the project architect, English Heritage and the landowner.

## **Modifications**

The programme of work outlined may be modified in accordance with the professional judgement of the staff undertaking the work, insofar as the overall provisions and objectives of this methods statement will not be changed. Any variations in the project will be discussed and agreed in advance with the project architect, English Heritage and the landowner.

## **References**

English Heritage 2006 *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*

Finlayson, R 2004 *An Archaeological Desk-top Study, Dobpark Lodge, Weston, North Yorkshire* (unpublished York Archaeological Trust report 2004/14)

Ed Dennison, EDAS  
19 August 2011