



NAA

RIBBA HALL OUTBUILDING
BUILDING RECORDING REPORT
MONITORING OF

RIBBA HALL FARM,
BISHOPDALE, LEYBURN,
NORTH YORKSHIRE

prepared for
Ashleigh Moorhouse

NAA 18/87
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Northern Archaeological Associates

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RIBBA HALL FARM, BISHOPDALE, LEYBURN

BUILDING RECORDING

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary		
1.0	Introduction	1
2.0	Methodology	2
3.0	Background information	3
4.0	Historical background	5
5.0	Building survey	9
6.0	Phasing and discussion	17
7.0	Statement of significance	20
8.0	Conclusions and further recommendations	21
9.0	Site inventory and significance	23
References		47

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: site location.

Figure 2: surveyed area.

Figure 3: 1921 sales brochure of Ribba Hall Farm.

Figure 4: 1771 Jeffrey's Map showing 'Ribbah' Hall.

Figure 5: First Edition six-inch Ordnance Survey map, 1856.

Figure 6: Second Edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey map, 1894.

Figure 7: Third Edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey map, 1912.

Figure 8: floor plan and section.

Figure 9: south-east elevation.

Figure 10: north-west elevation.

Figure 11: south-west elevation.

LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1: view of Ribba Hall Farm from the south.

Plate 2: view of east facing (main) façade of farmhouse.

Plate 3: view of west facing (rear) of farmhouse showing two-storey extension.

Plate 4: view of southern end of east facing elevation, showing byre (100).

Plate 5: view of the drain in front of the east-elevation looking south-west.

Plate 6: west facing elevation, blocked window (134) at south end with adjacent modern ventilation hole (132).

Plate 7: interior of the byre looking north-east.

Plate 8: cobbled floor (412) probably associated with a calf pen in the north-west corner of area 410.

Plate 9: blocked door in south wall of barn (415), visible above ranging rod.

Plate 10: general view of the room 410 with stone floor (411) in foreground.

Plate 11: blocked door (416) leading into room 410 in the upper storey of room 420.

Plate 12: general view of room looking north-west with animal stall (423) and drain (421) visible.

Plate 13: wall joint on the north-west elevation between the barn and the byre. The scar does not extend the full height of the wall but stops above the through-stones that extend into what is now the byre.

RIBBA HALL FARM, BISHOPDALE, LEYBURN

BUILDING RECORDING

Summary

Northern Archaeological Associates was commissioned by Ashleigh Moorhouse to undertake a phase of archaeological building recording at the Grade II listed Ribba Hall Farm, Bishopdale, Leyburn, North Yorkshire (SD9671583460). This work was conducted as part of a mitigation programme associated with the conversion of the property to provide holiday accommodation and fulfils Condition 11(b) of the related planning consent (R/53/24A).

Ribba Hall Farm is one of a cluster of historic farmsteads located along Bishopdale Lane (B6160), which is the main communication route through Bishopdale that links together Upper Wharfedale and Lower Wensleydale. The listed building lies at the centre of the farm complex and comprises a long, linear range that is oriented north-east to south-west. It includes a 17th-century farmhouse at the north end (the 'hall') and agricultural outbuilding (byre and barn range) to the south.

Settlement in the Bishopdale valley dates to the prehistoric period, but etymological analysis implies Ribba may be of an Anglo-Norse origin. Documentary sources indicate the presence of various townships in the valley that began in the medieval period, but the first mention of the hall dates to 1735 when it was under the ownership of the Beverley family. The Beverleys were local landowners who, after marrying into the Lodge family, came to own much of the land in the valley until the sale of the estate in 1921. It has since been under various ownership.

Evidence indicates that the current outbuilding is a later addition to the 17th-century hall, although perhaps by only a few years. It was constructed as a combination barn, a form of agricultural building characteristic of the Dales. As the name suggests, the building was used for a range of purposes, including animal housing, as well as hay and grain storage. Ribba also includes a small winnowing floor. At some stage, the southern end of the building was extensively rebuilt, and the present byre was constructed. There is some evidence to suggest that this may have been after a period of prolonged decline or as a result of a catastrophic event, such as a fire. In the 20th century, the byre was converted for use as a milking parlour.

Ribba Hall Farm is considered to be of high significance as a fine example of a high-status 'yeoman-farmer' dwelling. The outbuilding as it stands today is of high to moderate evidential and historic value in terms of contributing to an understanding of agricultural development in Bishopdale over a 200-year period. It also has a high aesthetic value as part of the setting of the 17th-century farmhouse and the wider historic landscape, particularly when seen from the

moorland above. The through-stones, rubble walls, ventilation slits, martin holes and original windows all make a considerable contribution to the historic character of the building.

The Level 2 survey comprised a photographic, written and drawn record of the interior and exterior of the building and is considered to adequately mitigate against any loss of heritage significance arising from the proposed conversion. However, further archaeological monitoring (a watching brief) will be required during any below ground works (e.g. removal of internal surface, excavation of foundations or installation of new services) and extensive fabric intervention (e.g. full or partial removal or rebuilding of walls).

**RIBBA HALL FARM, BISHOPDALE, LEYBURN
BUILDING RECORDING**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Northern Archaeological Associates Ltd was commissioned by Ashleigh Moorhouse to undertake a phase of archaeological building recording for Ribba Hall Farm, Bishopdale, Leyburn, North Yorkshire (SD 96715 83460) (Fig. 1). This work was completed in response to a planning application for conversion of the barn and byre to holiday accommodation (R/53/24A). This programme of building works fulfils Condition 11(b) of the related planning consent.



Plate 1: view of Ribba Hall Farm from the south.

1.2 Ribba Hall is a 17th-century yeoman farmhouse that is located on the south side of Bishopdale Lane (B6160). The farmhouse is located at the north end of the building, with an attached byre and barn range to the south.

1.3 A Level 2 'descriptive survey' was carried out in accordance with the relevant standards and guidance as published by Historic England (2016) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014). The following report uses both documentary and physical evidence to explore the origins and development of the building. However, further

archaeological monitoring (a watching brief) will be required during any future groundworks.

Scope of work

- 1.4 The building recording relates to the 'outbuilding' only. This is the southern part of the linear range comprising the barn and byre. This was subject to a Level 2 written, drawn and photographic Historic Building Survey (Historic England 2016). The proposed conversion will result in no impact on the residential part of the building, and it was not surveyed for this reason (Fig. 2).

Aims and objectives

- 1.5 The primary aim of the Historic Building Survey was to provide a 'descriptive record' (Level 2) of the barn and byre that would be suitable to mitigate against any subsequent loss of heritage significance resulting from the conversion.
- 1.6 In achieving this aim, the following objectives were identified and met:
- a written and photographic record of the outbuildings (barn and byre) that detail form, function, development, date and significance, as well as key structural features;
 - the preparation of an annotated site plan and elevations, based on the existing architect's drawings, that depict the form and location of any structural features;
 - the preparation of an illustrated report to be deposited with the YDNPA HER and the Historic England Archive; and
 - provision of a suitably labelled and catalogued digital photographic archive to be entered onto the YDNPA HER.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

Documentary evidence

- 2.1 A survey of all readily available documentary and cartographic material was made in order to inform an understanding of the development and history of the farm. Readily available online sources were consulted along with historic Ordnance Survey mapping. The Heritage Statement for Ribba Hall Farm by Brigantia Archaeological Practice (2015) was consulted and is referenced where relevant.
- 2.2 The following sources were used to inform this report:

- North Yorkshire County Archive (NYCA)
- Census data
- Historical newspapers
- Published historical studies
- Historic Ordnance Survey (OS) maps

Building recording

- 2.3 Fieldwork was undertaken on August 7th, 2018. Full access was granted to the byre and barn and the interior was cleared of any major obstructions. There was no access to the main farmhouse, which does include the north bay of the barn, but this will not be affected by the proposed conversion.
- 2.4 Each element was given a unique identification number (context number). All external features of the byre were numbered 100+ and of the barn 200+. Both of these buildings were then given an internal context number (300+ and 400+) respectively with each individual room in the barn given a number 10+. A full list of contexts is included in Section 9.0.
- 2.5 Existing architect's drawings were annotated on site. These were checked onsite for basic accuracy and were found to have key elements missing. Therefore, a new survey was conducted using 'Structure-from-Motion' photogrammetry and hand-measurements taken with a disto.
- 2.6 A full photographic record of the building (both internal and external) was made. This included general photographs of the farmstead within its surrounding landscape. All elevations were photographed as parallel to the buildings as possible in order to avoid distortion. General room shots were taken of the interior, and detailed photographs of any architectural features of note.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Location

- 3.1 Ribba Hall Farm is located in Bishopdale. It is approximately 7km south of Aysgarth, in the region of Lower Wensleydale, part of the Yorkshire Dales National Park (Fig. 1). The property is situated on the south side of Bishopdale Lane (B6160), the historic route through the dale, and is approximately halfway between Kidstones to the south and Newbiggin to the north.

3.2 It is one of a cluster of historic farmsteads. Approximately 375m to the south-west of the hall is Myers Garth; 750m to the north-east is New House Gill; and 180m west, across Bishopdale Lane, is West New Houses. Today the area forms part of the civil parish of Bishopdale and is historically part of the large ecclesiastical parish of Aysgarth.

3.3 The farm is largely hidden from the road by trees. At the core of the complex is the hall, a long linear range that is orientated north-east to south-west on the same alignment as Bishopdale Lane. This building comprises the 17th-century farmhouse at the north end and the attached byre and barn range to the south. There are several other agricultural outbuildings lying to the east; these are predominately late 19th-century in date with some modern additions.

Geology and building materials

3.4 The geology of the area is composed of Limestone of the Danny Bridge Formation, which formed in the shallow carbonate seas of the Carboniferous period. The surficial deposits are of glacial origin comprising diamicton from the last Ice Age. These are overlain in places by fluvial deposits from Bishopdale Beck. Above the beck, on the crests of the hills, lie various Carboniferous sandstone formations, which formed in a more proximal marine environment.

3.5 Historically the sandstone has provided an abundant supply of local building material that has been used in construction across the dale, including Ribba Hall Farm. The roof is formed of the same sandstone, split along the bedding plane to form thin slates.

Topography and land use

3.6 Ribba Hall Farm is located several metres above Bishopdale Beck, at about 196m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). Bishopdale is a broad glacial and fluvial valley. It is primarily used for agriculture, with pasture in the lowlands and moorland on the hills above. The broader landscape is characteristic of the Yorkshire Dales, with broad barren hills overlooking vegetated valleys.

Designations

3.7 Ribba Hall Farm is a Grade II listed building (designated in 1969) described as a late 17th-century farmhouse and outbuilding (NML No: 1131419). The property lies within the Yorkshire Dales National Park and is considered a good example of a historic stone farmhouse that is typical of the region.

Previous work

- 3.8 A preliminary building appraisal was undertaken to inform the preparation of the heritage statement (Brigantia 2015), but there has been no other research into the built-heritage of the property.

Limiting factors

- 3.9 Poor access to the second storey and the roof space meant that the survey of these areas was restricted to photographs taken from the lower level. As a result, there is limited coverage of these areas.

4.0 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Early settlement in the area

- 4.1 There is considerable archaeological evidence to suggest that the Bishopdale valley has been occupied since the prehistoric period, including a number of Late Bronze and Iron Age sites across the valley (e.g. YD HER: MYD4227, MYD4232, MYD4230 and MYD4228). There is little direct evidence of Roman military activity, although native settlement across the area almost certainly continued.
- 4.2 The first direct documentary reference to Bishopdale is in the Domesday Book (1086), which names three settlements—‘Crocsbi’ (Crooksby), ‘Tuoldesbi’ (Thorlby) and ‘Burton’ (West Burton)—indicating established pre-Conquest settlement in the Dale. All of these are located to the north of Ribba Hall, at the head of the valley (Powell-Smith 2018). Ribba is not directly referenced but place name evidence might suggest an Anglo-Norse origin, either as part of the 9th-century Danelaw, or a second wave of Norse-Irish migration later in the 10th century.
- 4.3 The name Ribba is likely to be Old Norse in origin, derived from the proto-Germanic ‘ribja’ meaning ‘rib’ and similar to the Danish city of ‘Ribe’, which was established as a Viking settlement on the banks of the River Ribe. Such names are common across Yorkshire and local examples include Thorlby (Thorald’s farm), Aysgarth (the open space by the oak tree) and Carperby (Cairpre’s farm) (Mills 2003). Bishopdale was part of the Wapentake of Hang West under the Danelaw, an administrative unit of the North Riding.
- 4.4 During the medieval period, settlement in the valley remained focused on the three villages mentioned in Domesday. Crooksby was the nearest to Ribba, located between the

modern farms of Blind Syke and How Syke, approximately 2km north-west of the site. There is evidence of medieval ridge and furrow close to the property on the north side of the road; however, the field pattern around Ribba Hall Farm is more typical of the post-medieval in-byre landscape. This followed the decline of arable production in the area during the 16th and 17th centuries and rise in sheep and cattle farming. In 1686, there are documentary references to 'Dockingarth', a field barn to the south-east of Ribba Hall, which is shown on 19th-century historic mapping, but has since been lost (Brigantia 2015).

Development of the farm

- 4.5 Ribba Hall, along with the rest of Bishopdale, was granted to the Earl of Lennox by James I in 1609 (Brigantia 2015, 5). Based on the architectural form and style of the building, and the surrounding landscape evidence, the hall was probably constructed sometime soon after this date, in the mid- to late 17th century.
- 4.6 The first direct documentary reference to the building is an Indenture of 1735, which identifies 'John Beverley of Ribba Hall in Bishopdale', who was the son of the late Christopher Beverley (Brigantia 2015, 5). At some point, the Beverleys married into the Lodge family, a local yeoman family that owned much land in the valley. They ceased to reside at Ribba Hall, but rather leased the property out, and by the early 19th century the farm was tenanted to the Metcalfes.
- 4.7 On the 19 October 1809, an inquest was convened at Ribba Hall into the death of John Metcalfe, killed by a 'sudden visitation from God' (NYRO QSB 1810 2/16/4). Three years later (1811), the will of James Metcalfe, 'Yeoman' residing at 'Ribba Hall in the Parish of Aisgarth' was registered at Chester (PRO IR 26/311/199; not seen). However, in 1823, 'John Beverley of Ribba Hall' is recorded as benefiting from the will of John Beverley of Gargrave, suggesting that the family may have returned to the Hall sometime before this. However, a few years later, John Beverley is listed as 'deceased' in the 1839 Bishopdale Tithe Apportionment Book, and the property is held by his heir, Christopher Beverley (IR 29/42/41; Ellis 2018a)
- 4.8 The Hall was leased to Joseph Hopper and comprised a 'dwelling house' (Plot 148) with garden, cow pasture and paddock. Joseph also appears in the later 1841 census, aged 65, recorded as living in the hall with his wife Jane and son, Joseph Junior, along with a 15-year old 'servant', Hannah Taylor. Ten years later, the occupancy had passed to the

son, who farmed Ribba with his wife, Sybil, and was assisted by a 70-year-old 'general servant' named Jane Hopper, who was probably his mother!

- 4.9 By 1861, the farm had increased in size and was occupied by William and Mary Dent, and their infant daughter, Elenor. The property associated with the farm continued to grow in the second half of the 19th century and William Dent is recorded as farming 123 acres in 1871, assisted by a 15-year old farm servant, the rather aptly named Michael Mudd.
- 4.10 Dent remained the tenant in 1881, by which time the farm had again increased to 140 acres. A brother and sister, William and Margaret Swinbank, from Kendal were also registered at the address; William as a farm labourer and Margaret as a general servant. Ten years later, the new occupants, John and Anne Close, farmed the land with their five children and a 57-year old shepherd, Joseph Sayer (Brigantia 2015). The couple are again recorded at the property in the 1901 census, by which time they have seven sons and a daughter living at the Hall.
- 4.11 The Lodge-Beverleys maintained ownership of Ribba Hall Farm throughout the 19th and into the 20th century and renewed the lease of the farm to John Close in 1919. In 1921, the Rookery Estate, the home of the Lodge family, was sold at auction and divided into lots; the seventh lot consisted of 'Ribba Hall Farm with 54 sheep gaits and shooting rights on Bishopdale Edge', which sold for £137 (Yorkshire Post and Leeds Intelligencer 1921). At the auction, the farmstead was described as including a stable, loose box with a cheese room over and a calf house for six (Fig. 2). There was also a cart house, pigstye, and standing for four cows.
- 4.12 It is uncertain who bought the property, but it was probably John Spensley of Castle Bank, Redmire, who is registered as owning the property in the 1941 Farm survey (see below). By 1939, Ribba Hall Farm is tenanted to Robert Heseltine, his wife, Mary, and daughter, Elizabeth, all of whom are listed in the pre-war Identity Register (J HAN/Aysgarth/539/1; Ellis 2018c).
- 4.13 In 1941–2, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries prepared a survey of farms across the country in support of the war effort (PRO MAF 32/1077/394; Ellis 2018d). Ribba Hall (No. 394/6) remained tenanted by the Heseltines and was recorded between the 4th June 1941 and 24th February 1942, being listed as comprising 132 acres. It was operating as a mixed dairy and sheep farm that housed 10 cows and heifers in milk, a

bull and 15 other cattle (27 in total). In addition, there were 290 sheep, 40 chickens and a horse.

- 4.14 The majority of the surrounding farmland was set to grass, with a small crop of corn and kale grown, the latter being for fodder. The farm was run by just Robert and his wife, with a single farmhand hired to help with haymaking. The buildings were described as in 'fair' condition, with no access to electricity, and overall the management of the farm was classified as 'B' grade, due to the 'lack of initiative' of the farmer.

Ribba Hall Farm.
(In the Township of Bishopdale).

HOMESTEAD. Sitting room, kitchen, dairy, scullery, four bedrooms, privy and garden.
BUILDINGS. Stable and loose box with cheese room over, calf house for six, cart house, calf box, pigstye, standing for four cows and barn.
OUTLYING BUILDINGS. Comprise standing for 17 cows and 11 stirks with barn accommodation and sheep fold.

SCHEDULE.

No. on Ordnance	Description	Cultivation	Area
10	ALLOTMENT	Pasture	48.723
75	TOMMY FIELD	Meadow	8.175
76	WEATHER CLOSE	Do.	3.573
77	BRIDGE STONES WHAT HOLME	Do.	} 6.536
		Do.	
82	DOCKEN GARTH	Do.	6.116
83	HOMESTEAD		.544
84	COW PASTURE	Pasture	7.747
85	GARTH	Do.	.860
92	GARTH	Do.	1.035
123	LOW SHELL GILL	Do.	5.652
124	HIGH SHELL GILL	Meadow	2.956
125,	NOBLE	Do.	4.378
125A,	NOBLE	Do.	.275
130	DEE ALLOTMENT	Pasture	36.068
Total Acreage ..			132.658

There are also let with this Farm:—
54 Sheep Gaits on Bishopdale Edge.

TESANTS. MESSRS. Wm. and Robt. Heseltine.
TENANCY. Yearly. 25th March. RENT, £137.
OUTGOINGS (Paid by Landlord).
Title (commuted) to Trinity College, Cambridge, £4 16s. 2½d.
Fee Farm Rent, £1 15s. 5d.
Land Tax, 9/7½.

11

Figure 3: 1921 sales brochure of Ribba Hall Farm from Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes (Ellis 2018b).

- 4.15 After the war, Robert Heseltine placed several ads in pursuit of a farmhand, looking for a 'capable assistant' for a 'small attested farm' with knowledge of sheep and dairy

(Newcastle Journal 1945a; 1945b). The farm boasted 'modern buildings', a milking machine, with a cottage for the farmhand (Newcastle Journal 1945c).

Cartographic evidence

- 4.16 The earliest map to show Ribba Hall is Jeffrey's Map of North Yorkshire, dated 1771 (Fig. 4). The farm is marked as 'Ribbah Hall' and is one of a cluster of farms shown dotted along both sides of the road through the valley.
- 4.17 It appears as 'Ribba Hall' in the later six-inch First Edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map, published in 1857 (Fig. 5). This shows the layout of the hall range as very similar to how it appears today. A series of footpaths link the farm with Myers Garth to the south and New Bridge to the north. A barn is shown in the field east of the farm, which was named 'Dub Garth' barn. This also appears on the 1894 Second Edition 25-inch OS map (Fig. 6), where it is called 'Dockengarth', a name which appears in 17th- and 18th-century documents relating to the farm (Brigantia 2015). This building is no longer extant.
- 4.18 There are few other changes visible on the 1894 map, apart from the addition of a small enclosure and two ancillary buildings to the north-west of the farm, adjacent to the stepping stones across the beck. Two unroofed structures are also illustrated in the square paddock to the east of the farmhouse; these are probably animal pens, similar to the sheepfold shown in the field to the south-west of the farm. This corresponds with the evidence for mixed sheep and dairy production prevalent in the documentary material.
- 4.19 The only key change in the 1912 Third Edition 25-inch OS map is the addition of a footbridge to the north of the property (Fig. 7), which provided vehicular access into the farm. Interestingly, the farm appears as 'Ribba Hill'. This is probably just a misprint, as the original name appears in the 1921 sale documents (Fig. 3). The error persisted through to the Fourth Edition OS map, published in 1939 (not reproduced), but the name Ribba Farm appears on all later additions.

5.0 BUILDING SURVEY

Layout and form

- 5.1 Built on a slope on the edge of the Bishopdale Beck floodplain, the property is orientated north-east to south-west, with the front elevation facing south-east, away from the river. The main farm range is a two-storey structure, built of sandstone rubble

with gabled ends and traditional stone slate roof. It comprises the main farmhouse (the 'hall') at the north end and outbuilding (barn, byre and stable) to the south.



Plate 2: view of east facing (main) façade of farmhouse.

5.2 The farmhouse is the best-preserved of the elements and features four three-light mullioned windows on the east facing (main) façade and two end stacks (Plate 2). The south section is more utilitarian in design, with windows and doors of various sizes, some with rough stone surrounds and some without. At the north end of the building, a two-storey extension has been added on the west side, probably in the early 19th century (Fig. 2; Plate 3).



Plate 3: view of west facing (rear) of farmhouse showing two-storey extension.

- 5.3 Evidence suggests that the outbuilding has been extensively modified over the years, although possibly rebuilt on earlier footings. It comprises a byre (milking parlour; **100**) at the south end of the range and barn (**200**) (now storage and a garage) that directly adjoin the farmhouse. Each of these elements is described separately in the following section.

Byre/milking parlour (100)

- 5.4 At the south end of the farm range is a building that may have been built as a byre but has subsequently been used as a milking parlour (Fig. 8). It is a four bay, single-storey structure, internally comprising a single open space that is partially divided by cattle stalls.

South-east elevation (110)

- 5.5 The east elevation (Fig. 9) is the main façade of the building, facing out towards the yard. It is constructed of square sandstone rubble, with little visible pointing apart from that at the south end around window **113** and blocked door **112** (now a window) (Plate 4); this is recent. Access is via a wide sliding wooden door (**111**), and the interior is lit on this side by four windows (each a metre high), two of which (**112** and **115**) are casements.



Plate 4: view of southern end of east facing elevation, showing byre (100).

- 5.6 The windows on the south side have dressed stone surrounds and lintels; the bottom

window (112) is a nine-paned casement, and the upper window (113) is fixed with nine panes (Plate 4). The lower window (112) was formally a door, as the surrounds extend down to the ground. On the north side of the door are two more windows, which are set directly into the wall with no surrounds. The north window (115) has a modern concrete lintel indicating it is a more recent addition. The upper window (114) does not open and has a stone lintel just below the roof.

- 5.7 In front of the elevation is a long, 40cm wide, drain (117) that runs along the front of the whole property. It discharges into another drain (116) in the south corner of the elevation, which is built into the abutting field boundary wall. These drains are set into the cobbled surface in front of the building (Plate 5).



Plates 5 and 6: view of the drain in front of the east-elevation looking south-west and west facing elevation, blocked window (134) at south end with adjacent modern ventilation hole (132).

North-west elevation (130)

- 5.8 The lower wall of the north-west elevation (Fig. 9) is partly covered by a lean-to shelter (131), which is a modern wooden structure with a corrugated metal roof (Fig. 8). The wall has only one window in the southern corner, which is now blocked (134). Stretching along the wall are a series of ventilation slots, some old and some modern. The historic vents (133) are mostly blocked but are visible as rectangular features in the

wall located both above and below the shelter. Some of the blocked vents below the shelter have been set with a new opening (**132**). These comprise a square hole set with a round terracotta pipe.

- 5.9 Below the elevation, on the slope descending towards the beck, is a rubble platform (**135**), approximately 2.00m from the edge of the shelter, that runs parallel to the north-west elevation of the byre and barn. It is uncertain whether this platform forms the foundation of another wall or feature.

South-west elevation (120)

- 5.10 The south-west elevation consists of a plain rubble wall (Fig. 11) with no pointing, below which are three drains. The first drain (**116**) runs from the south-east elevation (**110**) down the grassy slope toward a large modern drain set away from the house. In the west corner is a small drain (**122**), which is set above a flat stone that protrudes from the base of the wall. A modern drain (**121**), originally used to vent cattle waste from inside the building, flows into the ground, presumably to join the other drain further along.
- 5.11 Abutting the south-west elevation is the wall of the shelter (**132**) and a field wall (**124**). Both are of cruder construction, with rounder, more mixed rubble and no pointing.

Barn (200)

- 5.12 The barn comprises the three-room building in at the centre of the range. Today this includes the garage (**410**) adjoining the byre, and the two storage rooms to the north, only one of which (**420**) formed part of the survey (Fig. 8). There is considerable evidence to suggest that the barn originally extended further south into the area occupied by the byre/milking parlour, although the exact extend of the building is not known. The barn is two-storeys high; the upper area was formerly used to store grain and hay. There is also evidence of a cheese room.
- 5.13 Like the rest of the building, it is constructed of square sandstone rubble with through-stones set at regular intervals. The roof is built of thin split stone slates, with some sections of the roof slightly sagging toward the north.

South-east elevation (210)

- 5.14 The south-east elevation (Fig. 9) features a modern double door (**211**) that provides access to the interior and a small wooden door (**212**) to the north, with a small window (**213**) set between. The double door (**211**) flanks the south edge of the barn below a

visible joint in the stonework that separates the barn and byre. The door itself is metal with large wooden jambs and lintel and spans the entire width of the interior space, which serves as a modern garage (410). The second door (212) is narrower and leads into a storage area. It has a slightly crooked stone surround and large stone lintel. On one of the large stones in the surround is graffiti carved 'SSG 1973', possibly marking a phase of renovation or modification. Between both doors is a small single paned window (213) that measures 500mm wide.

- 5.15 Two filled niches (214) are located north of the double door; these may be for a platform or joist of some sort. Above these are a set of square filled niches (215), which are regularly spaced across the wall and may relate to the same feature. However, these could be unrelated spaces associated with the adjacent through-stones.

North-west elevation (220)

- 5.16 The north-west elevation has two windows, each lighting a different room (Fig. 11). To the south is a small window (221) that measures only 250mm across. The window has no glass but rather an internal shutter and a lintel that appears to be a reused cill, suggesting the feature is a later insert. The lintel comprised a large sandstone block with a central groove and a leaded circular recess that would have formerly held a glazing bar. The window to the north is a four-paned casement window (222). Below each window is a drain (223) that has been blocked with cement.

Byre interior (300)

- 5.17 The building was subsequently used as a milking parlour and comprises one large room, with stalls lining the north-west wall and access and light to the south-east (Plate 7). Running down the centre of the room is a large drain (301) that culminates at a 300mm diameter plastic drain that exits the building via a modern drain (121). To the west of the drain are five byre stalls (302), which are equally spaced and made of concrete, each with intact byre installations (303). Along the walls above the stalls are hoses, also part of the fixtures for the byre, that connect to a tank located on a raised platform in the north corner.
- 5.18 The roof of the byre is held by three simple A-frame trusses (304). The height of the room, the ridge visible along both gable ends and the blocked doorway into the barn (400), would all indicate that the building originally featured an upper storey. However, there are no visible joist holes along the two long walls, although it should be noted that the surface of these are currently heavily rendered.



Plate 7: interior of the byre looking north-east.

Barn interior (400)

Garage (410)

- 5.19 This room, which is adjacent to the byre, is currently used as a garage. It is narrow room and spans the width of the set of double doors (211; Fig. 8). There is evidence of a former upper storey, although only a few beams survive. The floor of the garage has three different surfaces. To the east, the floor is cobbled (418), similar to the courtyard outside. In the centre of the room there is a section of stone floor (411), and in the south corner a discrete area of river cobbles and thin slabs of stone set end-on to form an enclosure (412) (Plate 8). This type of flooring is predominantly used for animal pens. North of the cobbled floor, below the window, is a small drain (414) that has been blocked on the outside.
- 5.20 Set into the north-east wall of the barn is a blocked door (416) that formerly provided access to the upper level of the storage room (420). Below this are the remains of the upper floor. A second blocked door (415) is located on the south-west wall near the garage door (Plate 9). A small window (221) and niche (413), both of similar size, are located on the north-west wall. Other small niches dot the walls and have been used for storage and as lamp niches. Some of the smaller niches may have served as martin holes (417).



Plate 8: cobbled floor (412) probably associated with a calf pen in the north-west corner of area 410.



Plate 9 and 10: (left) blocked door in south wall of barn (415), visible above ranging rod; and (right) general view of the room 410 with stone floor (411) in foreground.

Storage area (420)

5.21 The storage room is separated from the garage by a rubble-built wall and is accessed

via a small door on the south-east elevation (212). It had an in-situ upper floor, but at the time of the survey there was no access to this area (Plate 11). The room had been modernised with the addition of a plastered wall and concrete floor, featuring a central drain (421) that formerly vented out through the blocked drain on the north-west elevation (223). There was a single stall (423) visible in the north corner of the room, outlined by the drain. On the north-west and south-east walls were large bolts (424) of unknown use. Behind the door was a blocked door (422), which formerly gave access to the stable area (now part of the main house and not surveyed).



Plates 11 and 12: (left) blocked door (416) leading into room 410 in the upper storey of room 420, and (right) general view of room looking north-west with animal stall (423) and drain (421) visible.

6.0 PHASING AND DISCUSSION

- 6.1 The documentary and architectural evidence suggests that Ribba Hall farmhouse, at the northern end of the range, was built in the late 17th century. The outbuilding was added sometime later, although this may have been only by a few years. An indication of the sequence of developments can be interpreted from the surviving wall scars, particularly on the south-east facing elevation of the outbuilding. In some cases, however, it is unclear whether these represent new construction or phases of full or partial rebuild.
- 6.2 In layout, the dimensions of the surviving building have changed relatively little from that shown on the early historic maps; however, the southern end of the building was either replaced or extensively rebuilt at some stage. This is evident in the strong vertical joint clearly visible on both sides of the range. On the south-east elevation, this runs the full height of the structure, but on the north-west side it is clear that the foundation and through-stones of the earlier barn have been incorporated into the later structure (Fig.

10; Plate 13). Such a phase of extensive rebuild appears to have happened either following a period of prolonged decline or as the result of a catastrophic event, such as a fire.



Plate 13: wall joint on the north-west elevation between the barn and the byre. The scar does not extend the full height of the wall but stops above the through-stones that extend into what is now the byre.

- 6.3 Measurements taken during the survey indicate that the north-west wall varies considerably in its width compared to the other walls in the building. In particular, the north-west end of room **410** is markedly thinner (Fig. 7) than elsewhere and the sequential relationship with the north byre is far from clear. The width of the wall suggests that **410** was formerly open on this side and formed a through passage of some form. This was probably a winnowing floor, suitable for processing the small amounts of cereals produced for domestic consumption. Both sides of the passage would have been set with double doors that opened to provide a through-draft to assist in winnowing and threshing the grain (Natural England 2008, 19). A flat stone surface (**411**) still partially survives in this area, and there are also a series of large stones on the north side of the existing double door (**212**) that were possibly associated with an earlier double door.

- 6.4 Based on a visual inspection alone, without recourse to further archaeological and fabric intervention, other elements of the outbuilding are more difficult to interpret, but it appears to be a traditional combination barn. This is a found across the Dales, typically forming part of a linear farm complex like Ribba Hall (*ibid.*). These served a range of purposes, including hay and grain storage, crop processing, dairying, and animal housing (usually cattle and horses). The evidence suggests that the Ribba barn originally featured at least five rooms, comprising a stable with a hayloft above, loose box with a cheese room above, calf box, cart shed, and a barn for storage.
- 6.5 The 1921 sale brochure mentions a 'loosebox with cheese room over', which is assumed to be the current storage room (**420**). The drain and stalls (**421** and **423**) below and the remnants of a shelf (**427**) on the upper storey provide some evidence to support this interpretation. Access from the loosebox and stable would have been through the blocked door (**422**), but there was no access between the hayloft and cheese room.
- 6.6 As discussed above, **410** would have initially served as a winnowing floor but was subsequently converted for use as a calf house; evidence of this is the cobbled floor (**412**). Cobbled surfaces such as this are usually found in areas frequently used by cattle or horses, as the stones provide additional traction for hooves.
- 6.7 The upper floor in **410** may have originally served as a grain store with direct access through to the cheese room to the north via door **416** (now blocked). In the south wall, a second blocked door (**415**) would have provided access to the lost upper floor room at the southern end of the range, above **300**.
- 6.8 The farm complex is shown in its present layout on the 1857 First Edition OS map, indicating that the existing byre or cowhouse (**100**) may have been built sometime prior to this, although this is not certain. The byre is constructed of local stone, similar to that used in the barn, and was probably built from material salvaged from the earlier structure, but the nature of the build is distinctly different.
- 6.9 Like the barn range, the byre has also undergone numerous changes, most notably the insertion of new windows and doors. The window (**113**) and door (**112**) at the southern end have large dressed surrounds and are likely to be original. The other two windows and the modern sliding door are later insertions, perhaps added when the small window at the rear of the byre (**134**) was blocked.

- 6.10 The evidence of the blocked vents on the west elevation indicate that this may have been constructed as a multi-purpose space that was also used for storing hay or grain. When the importance of cattle production increased in the mid- to late 19th century, the building may have been converted to a single purpose and used solely as a byre.

20th century

- 6.11 The cement flooring and stalls of the byre, and the cement floor of room **420** are all notable 20th century alterations to the building. The sliding byre door and metal garage doors are also modern additions.

7.0 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

- 7.1 Ribba Hall Farm is of high significance as a fine example of a relatively high-status 'yeoman-farmer' dwelling. The outbuilding as it stands today is later than the main farmhouse, with key structural elements dating from the 18th to the early 19th century. It may also contain fabric from an earlier structure built in the same location, although this is by no means certain and would require further archaeological investigation.
- 7.2 The outbuilding, as separate from the hall, is of considerable evidential and historic value as a typical Dales combination barn, although much altered. The development of the barn over time contributes to a greater understanding of agricultural production in Bishopdale over a 200-year period.
- 7.3 Ribba was originally an outlying farmstead, established on the more fertile soils of the river valley but surrounded on all sides by marginal upland. As such, it operated a mixed agrarian economy, with sheep on the upland and cattle on the lowland pasture, as well as growing fodder crops and grain for domestic use. This is reflected in the multi-functional evidence of the barn. Later, with the construction of the byre, there was an increase in the amount cattle accommodation provided. This reflected changes in agricultural practice in the 19th century as dairy and beef production increased in economic significance. Change continued through into the 20th century, with the outfitting of the milking parlour and construction of the other agricultural building forming part of the farm complex. This was followed by a period of decline in the latter half of the century.
- 7.4 The outbuilding is also of high aesthetic value both as part of the setting of the 17th-century farmhouse and as an integral element in the wider historic landscape, particularly when seen from the moorland above. The through-stones, rubble walls,

ventilation slits, martin holes, winnowing floor and original windows all make a significant contribution to the historic character of the asset.

Table 1: summary of values contributing to the overall significance of Ribba Hall farm.

Values	Assessment	Ranking	Overall
Evidential	The layout of the farmstead provides evidence as to the structure of historic farms in the Bishopdale.	High	High
	A moderately well-preserved example of a Dales combination barn.	High-Moderate	
	There are visible changes in the fabric, which demonstrate changes in use over time.	High	
Historic	Changes in agricultural production practices reflected in the modification and expansion of the outbuilding.	High-Moderate	High-Moderate
	The documentary evidence associated with the tenants give an indication of the expansion of the farm, its changes in focus, economic viability and size of accommodation.	High - Moderate	
	The farm is associated with important local landowners—the Lodge and Lodge-Beverleys.	Moderate	
Aesthetic	A key part of the views into the Bishopdale valley from the moorland above.	High	High
	Contributes to the setting of the 17th-century farmhouse.	High	
	Building style fits with the aesthetic character of the Yorkshire Dales National Park.	High	

8.0 CONCLUSIONS AND FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS



8.1 It is considered that this historic building report, together with the accompanying photographic archive, is suitable to partially mitigate against any impact on the heritage significance of the Ribba Hall outbuilding that arise from the proposed conversion, although further archaeological monitoring will be required (see below).



8.2 However, there remain several unanswered questions regarding the phasing of the building, particularly with regard the central bay (410). An interpretation of phasing has been offered in this report, but further significant evidence may be uncovered during any sub-surface intervention (e.g. removal of floor surfaces, insertion of new services) or intrusions into the standing fabric (e.g. removal or part-removal of walling). In order to mitigate against any loss of evidential value, archaeological monitoring (a watching brief) is required during conversion or building works under Condition 10 of the planning consent. This requirement is detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (NAA 2018).



- 8.3 Though post-medieval agricultural buildings have long been studied, particularly with regards to land enclosures, changes in agricultural practices in the post-medieval period, and in particular the relationship between archaeological and documentary evidence, is one of the key themes identified in the emerging Yorkshire Archaeological Research Framework: Research Agenda (Roskams and Whyman 2007, 36). Both the building recording and proposed monitoring have the potential to contributed to this understanding.



9.0 SITE INVENTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE



Table 2: site inventory



ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
100	Byre/Milking Parlour	Consists of the southern-most section of the outbuilding and has most recently used as a byre and later a milking parlour. The building is constructed of square rubble with dispersed through stones jutting out. The interior has been modernised and is divided by concrete stalls.	Late 18th–early 19th century	High: evidential and historic significance in terms of the development of the complex (was constructed later than the main barn) and function of the building.		
110	South-east elevation of byre	The south-east elevation is the front of the byre with a large double door and four windows. In front of the elevation is a long drain that culminates at the southernmost corner of the building. The elevation is of square rubble with low dry-stone walls extending to the south, through which passes the drain.	Late 18th–early 19th century	High: evidential in terms of the various wall scars and joints, also of considerable aesthetic value as part of the wider complex.	111 – door 112 – door 113 – upper south window 114 – upper central window 115 – lower north window	



ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
111	Door	The main door into the byre is a sliding door with a wooden lintel extending to the north to accommodate the door when open. Mounted on the lintel is a large metal bar that holds the door and allows it to slide. Set in the frame are two large quoins.	Late 19th–early 20th century	Low: of some evidential value in terms of the development of the building. A later addition to facilitate movement of animals.		
112	Blocked door (window)	Set in a stone surrounds with a cut-stone lintel above. This was the original door into the building before the insertion of 111. Subsequently partly blocked and a casement window inserted. This has nine panes, three in the upper frame, with six below.	Late 18th–early 19th century with later blocking	High: evidential value as an original feature and also shows subsequent development	111 – later door 113 – upper south window 114 – upper central window 115 – lower north window	




ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
113	Upper south window	The upper window also has a cut-stone surrounds and a lintel. The window is a nine-pane fixed window. The location is original to the building, although the iron frame may be later. Contemporary with 112.	Late 18th–early 19th century	High: evidential value as an original feature.	112 – lower south window 114 – upper central window 115 – lower north window	
114	Upper central window	Later insert. A nine-pane fixed window inserted with no surround. Lintel sits right under the eaves.	Late 19th or early 20th century	Moderate: evidential value as shows later phase of change.	112 – lower south window 113 – upper south window 115 – lower north window	



ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
115	Lower north window	A small casement window with six panes. It has a concrete lintel and is a later insert.	Late 19th or early 20th century	Moderate: as above change.	112 – lower south window 113 – upper south window 114 – upper central window	
116	Side drain	A small hole under the field boundary wall providing access to the drainage in front of the south-west elevation. The hole measures 20x20cm.	Unknown	Low: some evidential value relating to the use of barn.	117 – long drain	



ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
117	Long drain and cobbled surface	Cobbled surface in front of the barn incorporating a long drain stretching along the whole length of the barn and byre elevations, measuring approx. 20cm wide. Drains into the field south of the byre.	Unknown	High/Mod – both the drain and surface have an evidential value in terms of the agricultural purpose and function of the building. The surface also has aesthetic appeal.	116 – side drain	
120	South-west elevation	Gables end wall composed of square rubble with through-stones. End wall of lean-to shelter also visible.	Late 18th–early 19th century	High – evidential value as part of the modifications to the linear range. Also, of some aesthetic value.	121 – drain 122 – drain	



ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
121	Modern drain	A large square drain in the centre of the elevation. It is a large square of concrete with a terracotta interior, and bricks around the sides.	20th century	Low: some evidential value as to function of byre.	122 – old drains	
122	Old drains	Two old drains are located in this elevation. The first connects with the side drain of the south-east elevation (116). The other lies to the west of the modern drain and stands 25cm high.	Late 18th–early 19th century	Moderate: some evidential value relating to the use of byre.	121 – modern drains	



ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
123	Shelter wall	The wall of the abutting shelter is of courser rubble than that of the byre and is not tied into the byre wall.	20th century	Moderate: some evidential value relating to the development and function of the building.		
124	Field boundary walls	The field boundary walls are of even courser rubble and abut the byre wall but do not tie into it.	Post-1850	Low: evidential value related to the use of the farmstead and the surrounding area.		



ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
130	North-west elevation	<p>The north-west elevation of the byre is dominated by the large shelter that spans its entire length.</p> <p>The elevation includes several small vents, some of which have been blocked, and a single blocked window.</p>	Late 18th–early 19th century	High: considerable evidential value in terms of features relating to the use and development of the building. Also, has aesthetic value as part of the complex.	131 – lean-to shelter 132 – modern vents 133 – ventilation slits 134 – blocked window	
131	Lean-to shelter	The shelter is a lean-to construction of wood with a corrugated metal roof and two stone support walls.	20th century	Low: a later addition to the building and has some association with the function of the building. However, could be seen as having negative significance as detracts from aesthetic value of the elevation.		
132	Modern vents	Four modern vents were identified in the wall of the byre. These consist of a square hole with a terracotta pipe inserted. The four vents are not evenly spaced. Three lie closer to the south wall with a single vent near the northern edge of byre. Some of these modern vents fill the older ventilation slots (133).	20th century	Low: evidential value related to the later use of the byre.	133 – ventilation slots	



ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
133	Blocked ventilation slits	Four blocked ventilation slits were identified running the length of the byre. These were also unevenly spaced. Two incorporated later vents (132).	Late 18th–early 19th century	High: evidential value related to the use of the building and an original feature.	132 – modern vents	
134	Blocked window	A single, square blocked window on the far south side of the elevation. It measures approx. 40x40cm.	Late 18th–early 19th century	High: evidential value as an original feature also provides information related to the phasing of the byre.		



ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
135	Rubble platform	Further to the west of the elevation, along the whole length of the byre and barn, is a line of rubble that mirrors the current shape of the building and shelter. This could be buried demolition debris relating to the rebuilding of the barn/byre.	Unknown	Moderate: evidential value possibly relating to the demolition of the southern part of the barn.		
200	Barn	The barn, like the rest of the building, is constructed of square rubble. Unlike the byre, it is lime pointed. There is a clear butt joint visible between the barn and byre. Building features several through-stones set in horizontal bands up the height of the building. Their location is aligned, unlike on the byre. Today the barn includes a garage space and two storage rooms.	Late 17th–early 18th century	High: of considerable evidential value as part of the complex, as well as relating to the agricultural function of the building and its later development. Considerable aesthetic value.		
210	South-east elevation	The south east elevation is the front of the barn. A large double door opens onto the garage on the southernmost edge of the existing building. A clear butt joint delineating the barn and byre and stretches vertically from the southern edge of the door. A smaller door opens onto the storage area at the northern edge of the elevation, with a small square window located between.	Late 17th–early 18th century	High: evidential and aesthetic value.	211 – door 212 – door 213 – window 214 – niches 215 – joist holes?	




ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
211	Double door	A large metal double door with a large wooden lintel stretches most of the width of the garage. Large stones set on north side of the door may be associated with the original barn door in this location.	20th century	Negative: is a modern, unsympathetic alteration and detracts from the aesthetic value of the property.		
212	Single door	A small wooden stable door opens onto the storage room. This door has large cut-stone surrounds and a stone lintel. On one of the quoins on the south side of the door is graffiti that reads 'SSG 1978.'	Late 17th–early 18th century	High: evidential value as an original feature and part of the overall aesthetic of the building.	211 – double door	



ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
213	Window	<p>Small window lighting the storage room. A single fixed pane window in a wooden frame measuring approx. 50x60cm. A later insert but of unknown date.</p> <p>It is the only window providing light into the interior from this side of the building.</p>	Unknown	Moderate: some evidential in terms of location and function.		
214	Filled niches	<p>A set of two small filled niches located between window 213 and the large double door (211). Could be joist holes for a structure or ventilation/martin holes. Appear to be original to building.</p>	Late 17th–early 18th century, with later infill.	High: evidential value as part of the original building.		



ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
215	Filled joist holes?	Across the south-east elevation, above the through-stones between both doors are a series of filled niches. They may be former putlog holes associated with and adjoining structure or could just be a variation in the build.	Unknown	Low: of some evidential value.		
220	North-west elevation	The north-west elevation of the barn. Features include two windows and a series of blocked wall drains or ventilation holes.	Late 17th - early 18th century	High: considerable evidential and aesthetic value as part of the original barn building. Also includes evidence of development over time.	221 – window 222 – window 223 – drain	




ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
221	Small window	A small window of roughly 30x30 cm with a large stone lintel. The lintel is a reused cill with a carved linear recess for glass and a central glazing bar socket. Therefore, this window is obviously a later intervention.	Late 18th – early 19th century	High: evidential value related to extensive modification of this side of the bar. Clearly relates to a phase of partial rebuild		
222	Large window	A casement window with a stone lintel and cill. The window has a wooden frame and four panes. A later insert.	Unknown	Moderate: evidential value with regards the later development of the barn but not original to it.		

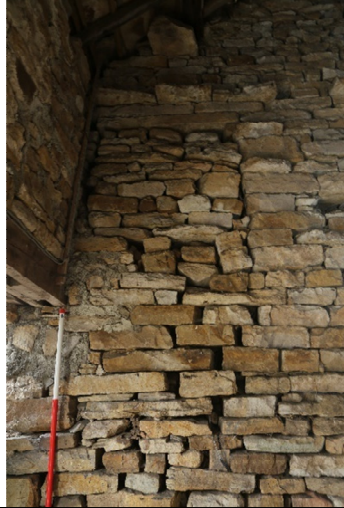

ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
223	Blocked drains	Below both barn windows are blocked drains identified as scars where mortar has been used to block the void.	20th century	Negative: modern feature and mortar fill mars the aesthetic and evidential value of the elevation.		
300	Byre/milking parlour interior	The interior of the byre has been modernised for use as a milking parlour, probably in the mid-20th century and most of the visible features relate to this. Down the centre of the building flows a long drain.	Late 18th–early 19th century with later mods	Mod/High: some original features of high evidential value e.g. ventilation slits, but modern material of little to no heritage value.	301 – drain 302 – byre stalls 303 – byre installations 304 – trusses	




ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
301	Central drain	The drain runs the whole length of the byre and is approx. 1.00m wide and about 20cm in depth. The drain flows from the north end of the room down a hole in the south wall, presumably to the modern drain (131) outside.	20th century	Low: of minor evidential value.	423 – drain	
302	Cattle stalls	Concrete stalls are a modern addition to the building. Evenly spaced, five stalls line the west wall of the room. Feeding and watering installations remain.	20th century	As above	303 – byre installations	
303	Byre installations	Above the stalls, hoses with spigots line the walls descending from a tank in the north-west corner.	20th century	As above	302 – byre stalls	



ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
304	Roof trusses	The roof is held by four A-frame roof trusses, supporting a split-stone slate roof.	Late 19th–early 20th century. Building has been re-roofed.	Moderate – has considerable aesthetic and evidential value but is not original to the barn building. Possibly constructed when the byre was built but uncertain.	401 – trusses	
400	Barn interior	The barn is subdivided into three rooms, currently used as a garage and two storage rooms. Building features two storeys, although the upper storey only partially survives.	Late 17th–early 18th century, with later mods.	High: evidential value as part of the original linear range.	410 – garage 420 – storage room	No photo
401	Roof trusses	There is only one roof truss in the barn, above the storage room. The truss is similar to that of the byre. Whole building has been re-roofed in a single phase. Queen post truss, however, appears to be original to the building.	See 304	As 304	304 – trusses	



ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
410	Garage passage	<p>The garage is a narrows space with the remains of an upper storey. Features discrete areas of stone and cobbled floors. Currently the room features a single window and a blocked window and door.</p> <p>Interpreted as a through-passage with the remains of a winnowing floor.</p>	Late 17th–early 18th century	High: considerable evidential value with regards the original function and form of the barn. Also, includes important evidence relating to the later development of the structure.	411 – stone 412 – cobbled floor – calf pen? 413 – niched 414 – drain 415 – blocked door 416 – blocked door 417 – sparrow holes 418 – cobbled surface	
411	Stone floor	The stone floor covers the central third of the garage floor. Believed to be the remains of a winnowing floor	Late 17th–early 18th century	High: evidential value related to the use of the space and agricultural function of the barn.	412 – cobbled floor – calf pen?	


ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
412	Cobbled floor associated with calf pen	Cobbled surface set with end on stones in the north-west corner of 410. Unclear if this original to the barn or if part of the winnowing floor has been removed	Poss. 19th century	High: evidential value showing the use of the building for housing animals.	411 – stone floor	
413	Niches	Several niches line the walls of the barn, primarily on the northern wall. Some, if not all of these were used as lamp niches.	Late 17th–early 19th century.	High - evidential value related to the function of the building. Original features.		
414	Drain	A small drain is located on the north side of the west wall, beneath the window. It forms one of the blocked drains on the west elevation. Date uncertain but probably modern.	Poss. Late 19th–early 20th century.	Low- minor evidential value in terms of the changing use of the building but could be original.	421 – drain	

ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
415	Blocked door	High on the south wall is the evidence of a blocked door leading through to the south side of the building. Date uncertain because of rebuilding of south section of the barn. Further evidence might be revealed during unblocking.	Uncertain	High: evidential value as a clue to the former layout of the barn and phasing of the building. Needs further investigation.	416 – blocked door	
416	Blocked door	On the north wall is the evidence of a blocked door with a stone threshold and stone lintel. The pointing on the door is newer than that of its surroundings.	Unknown	High: original feature with high evidential value.	415 – blocked door	

ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
417	Martin holes	Some of the smaller niches higher on the wall may be martin holes.	Late 17th–early 18th century	Moderate: of some evidential value related to the agricultural use of the barn.	426 – martin holes	
420	Storage room	The storage room has a stall division visible in the north-west corner of the room with an adjacent drain. On both sides of the room are windows above which is a floor, accessed but there is currently no access.	Late 17th–early 18th century, with later mods.	High: evidential value as an original space within the barn.	421 – drain 422 – blocked door 423 – stall 424 – bolts 426 – sparrow holes 427 – shelving	
421	Drain	The drain encloses the stall and runs the whole length of the room from east to west, before exiting by the other drain beneath the small casement window (222).	20th century	Low: some evidential value but feature looks to be a late addition.	301 – drain	

ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
422	Blocked door	A blocked door is located in the north-east corner of the room providing access to the northern part of the building.	Late 17th–early 18th century	High: evidential value as part of the original barn and indicating movement around the building.	416 – blocked door 415 – blocked door	
423	Stall	The stall is of wood and only rises about a metre off the ground. It is surrounded by the drain.	Later modification. Modern	Low: moderate evidential value.	417 – Martin holes	

ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
424	Bolts	Two bolts lie on both the east and west wall, respectively, placed about a metre off the ground. Their function is unknown.	Unknown	Negligible: marginal evidential value.		
426	Martin holes	Numerous martin or sparrow holes line the north wall of the storage room.	Late 17th–early 18th century?	Moderate: some evidential value related to the agricultural use of the space.		

ID No	Name	Description	Date	Significance	Related Features	Photo
427	Shelving	On the south-west side of the upper floor are the remains of what may have been a shelf for holding hay.	Unknown	Low: moderate evidential value related to the agricultural use of the space.		

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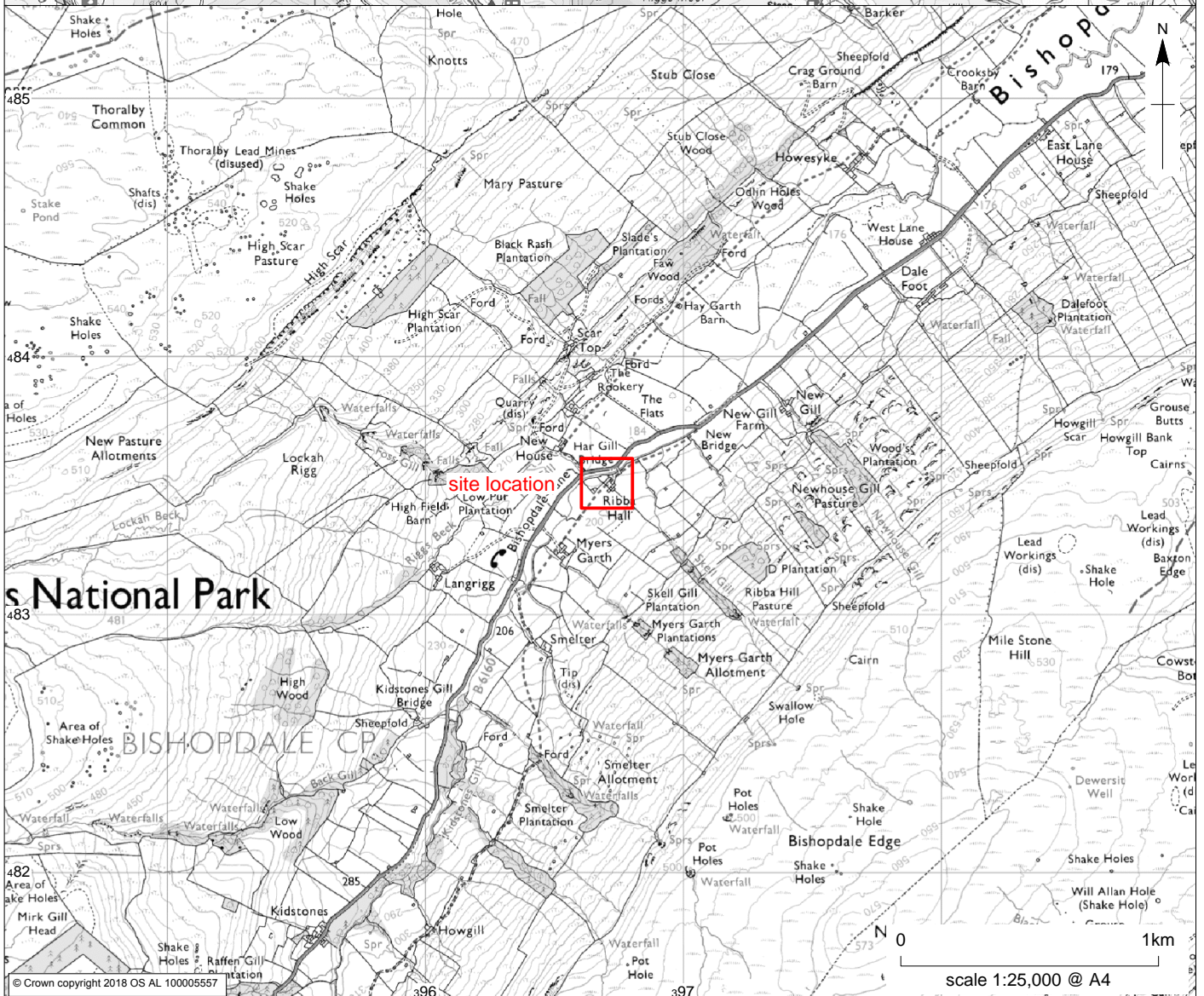
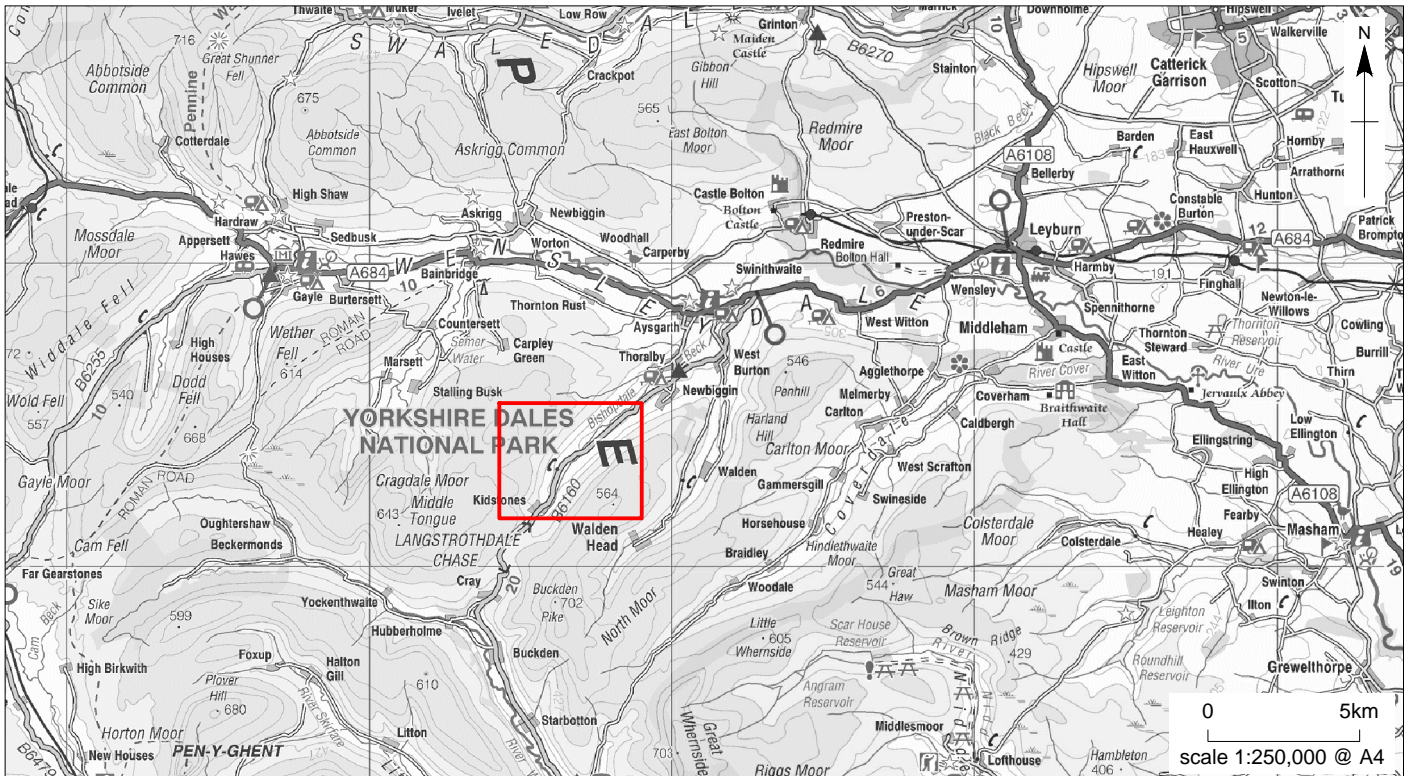
National Archives: E179/211/6

Maps and plans

1856 six-inch Ordnance Survey map

1894 25-inch Ordnance Survey map

1912 25-inch Ordnance Survey map







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Ribba Hall, Leyburn: 1771 Jeffrey's Map showing 'Ribbah' Hall

Figure 4



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Ribba Hall, Leyburn: First edition six-inch Ordnance Survey map, 1856

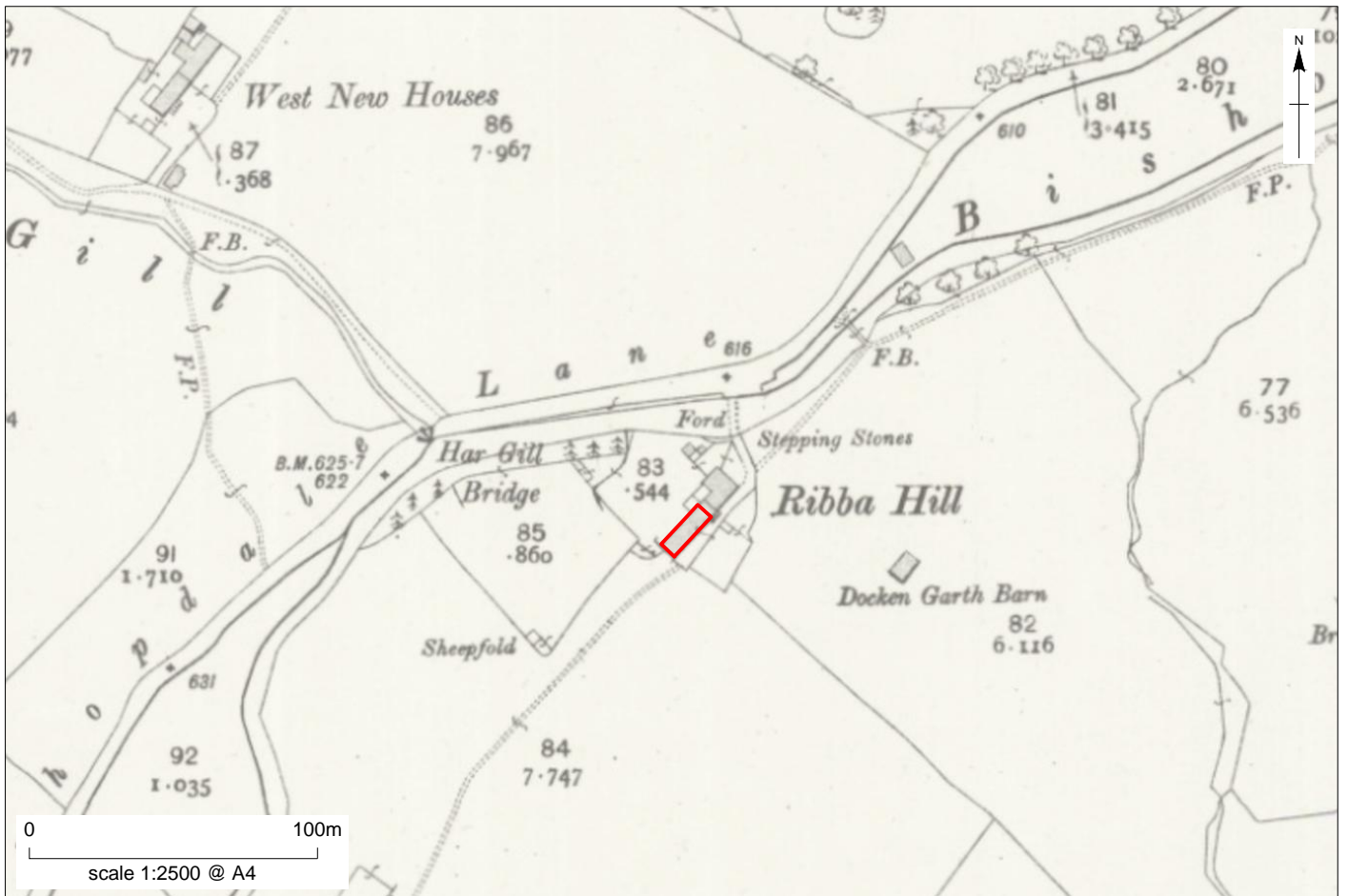
Figure 5



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Ribba Hall, Leyburn: Second Edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey map, 1894

Figure 6

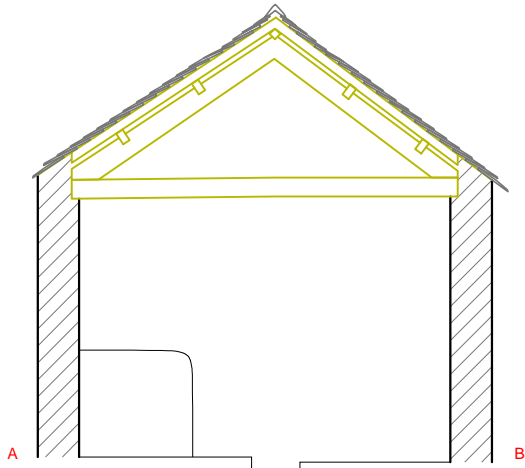


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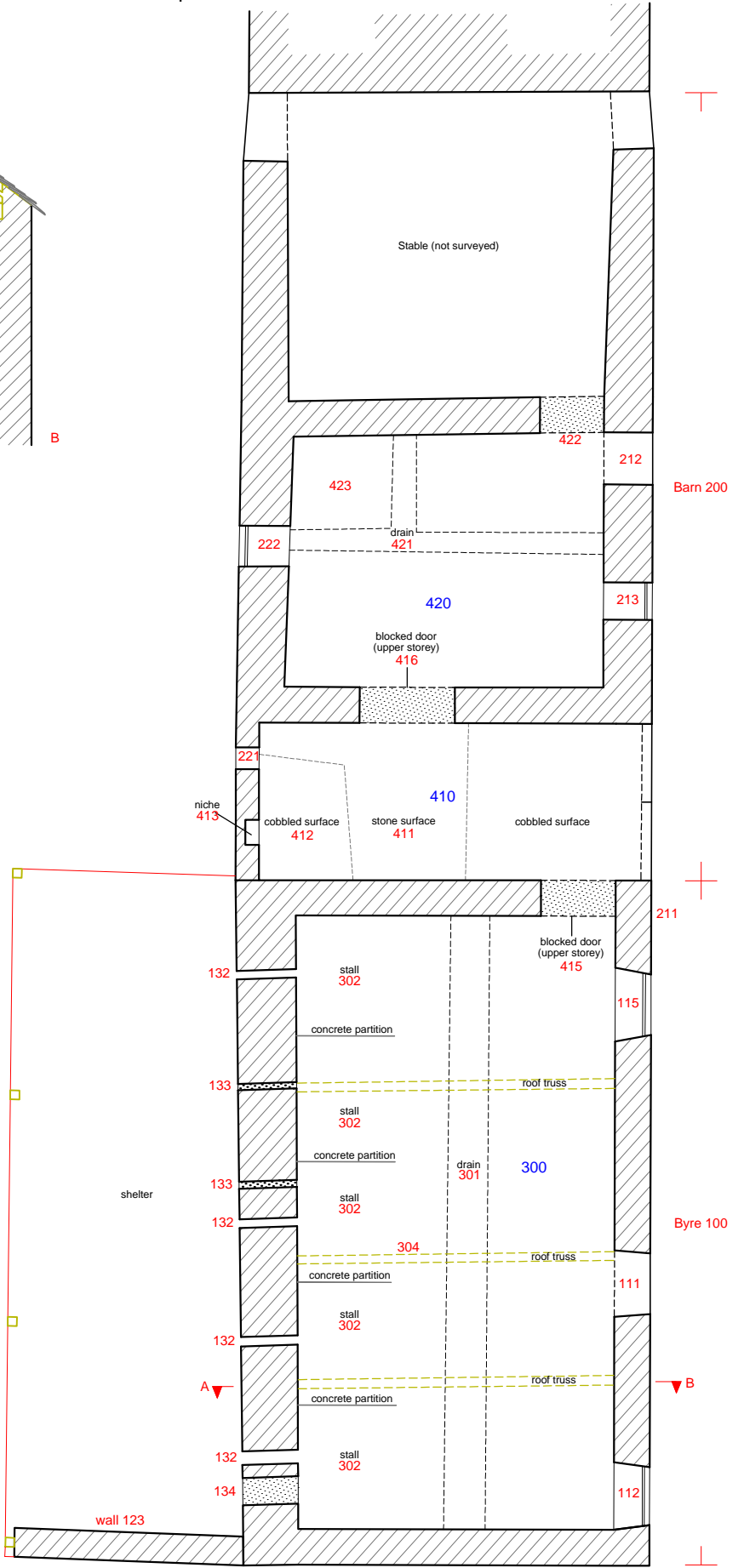
Ribba Hill, Leyburn: Third Edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey map, 1912

Figure 7

Ribba Hall
Section



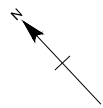
Floor plan

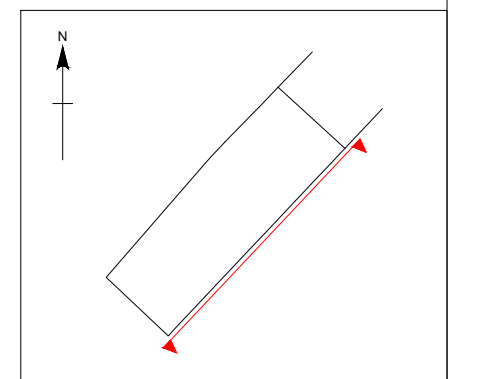
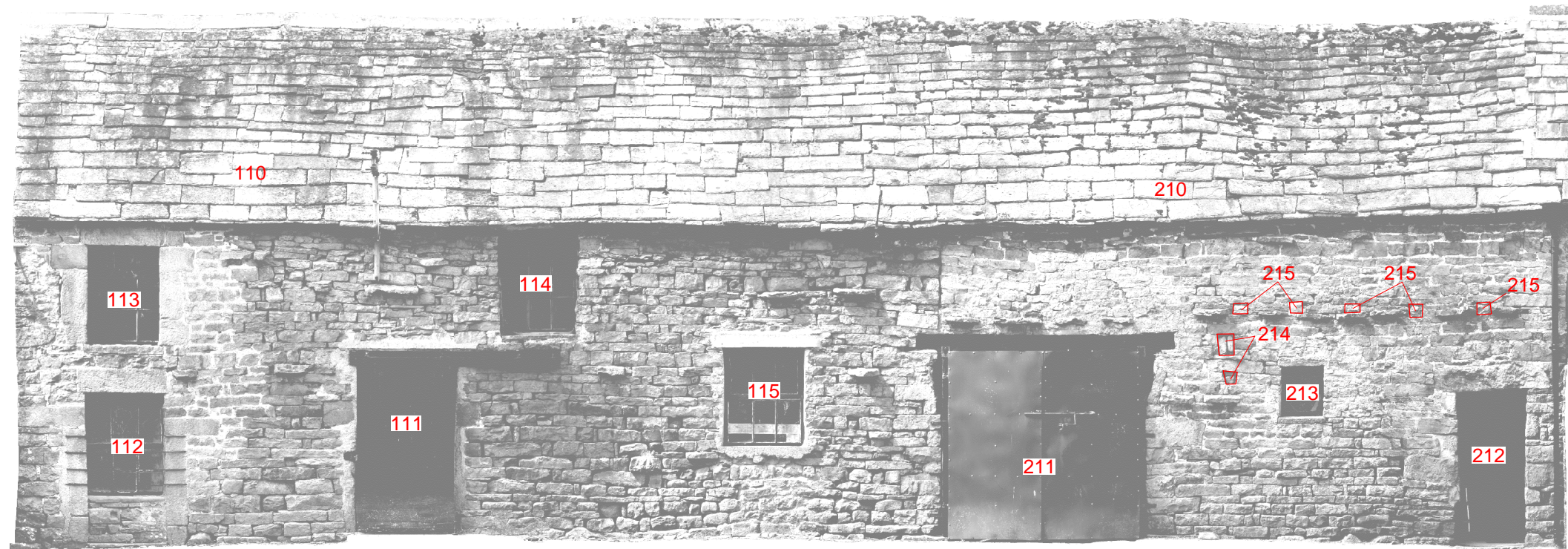


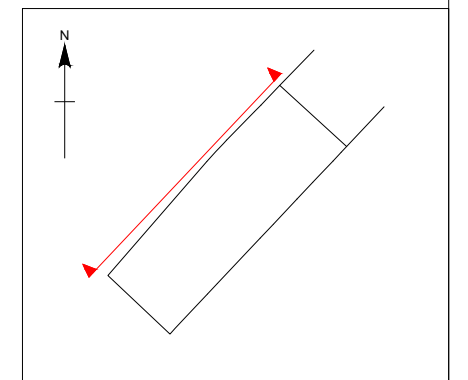
KEY

- external door
- internal blocked door
- window
- blocked window
- drain
- wall
- wood
- slate

0 5m
scale 1:100 @ A4





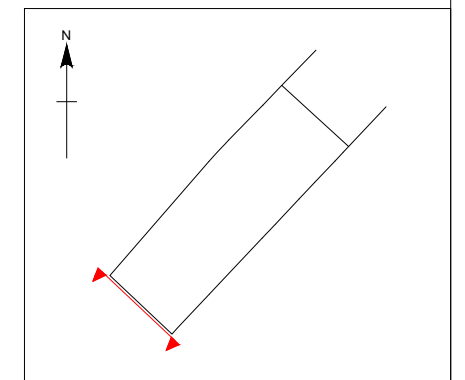




0 2m
scale 1:50 @ A3

NW 194m

SE 194m



Ribba Hall, Leyburn: south-west elevation

Figure 11