

**North Yearle Steadings, Earle,
Northumberland
Historic Building Recording**



*The buildings at North Yearle Steadings from the south east, Earle,
Northumberland.*

ARS Ltd Report 2020/14
OASIS ID: archaeol5-383376
January 2020

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RESEARCH SERVICES LTD**

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Northumberland
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Archaeological Research Services Ltd Report 2020/14

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Site central NGR: NT 98730 26257

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In September 2019 Archaeological Research Services Ltd was commissioned by Leone Services Ltd to undertake a historic building recording of a complex of traditional farm buildings located to the north east of the hamlet of Earle, Northumberland, to discharge condition 11 of the planning permission to convert the existing farm buildings into one dwelling, four holiday cottages and stables.

In terms of fabric evidence it can be assessed that the farm complex was developed over the course of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries which included upwards of five distinct construction phases. To conclude, the history of the buildings and their development can be summarised as follows.

- ◆ **Phase 1 – c.1800** *The first stone farm buildings, represented in the fabric of the barn and hemmel range, are built. Possibly a separate group of structures are also in situ at the southernmost corner utilising to the water course at this location.*
- ◆ **Phase 2 – c.1866** *The main stone built farm ranges are in place around three central foldyards.*
- ◆ **Phase 3 - c. 1897** *A pair of back-to-back shelter sheds are added between the north and centre foldyard. Modernisation of the east range building also takes place, probably to constitute a further cow-house with rear feeding passage.*
- ◆ **Phase 4 – c.1950** *Construction of corrugated metal shelter sheds, one contributing a covered foldyard, the other machinery/animal shed outside the centre yard, alongside the northern range. The Dutch barn to the north also supplements the expanded farm yard areas at this time.*
- ◆ **Phase 5 – c.1980** *Construction of grain tower and installation of electric conveyer. The barn is given a new corrugated metal roof possibly at this time. There was a change of livestock (or alteration of how these were housed) with the cow-house doorways being fitted with narrow stable doors.*

The historic building recording of North Yearle Steadings provides a descriptive, drawn and photographic record of the buildings occupying the site and provides a comprehensive preservation by record of the former farm buildings prior to conversion works taking place.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and Planning Background

1.1.1 In September 2019 Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) was commissioned by Leone Services Ltd (the Client) to undertake a historic building recording of a complex of traditional farm buildings in the hamlet of Earle, Wooler. This scheme of works relates to the proposed development at the site located to the northeast of Yearle Steading, which involves the conversion of the existing farm buildings into one dwelling, four holiday cottages and stables.

1.1.2 Planning permission has been granted for the proposed development (Application Ref. No. 19/01978/FUL). Condition 11 of the planning permission requires archaeology investigation and recording. Nick Best, the Northumberland Conservation Assistant County Archaeologist, has provided guidance that a historic building recording of the farmstead is required to Historic England Level 2 standard – as outlined in *Understanding Historic Buildings. A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (Historic England 2016) – of the farmstead.

1.1.3 This document comprises the historic building recording undertaken by ARS Ltd of the North Earle Steadings buildings in accordance with guidance provided by Northumberland Conservation's Assistant County Archaeologist.

1.2 Site Description

1.2.1 The site is situated in the small settlement of Earle, approximately c.1.89km south-east of the market town of Wooler, Northumberland, NE71 6RB. The site is centred at NGR NT 98730 26257 (Figure 1).

1.2.2 The site consists of an expanse of flat ground presently occupied by several centrally-placed buildings surrounded by levelled ground bordered with sandstone walls. The site is bounded to the south by the road to Middleton Hall and to the east by the road to Wooler.

1.3 Geology

2.3 The underlying geology of the site consists of Ballagan Formation – Sandstone, Siltstone And Dolomitic Limestone – formed in the Carboniferous Period. The site is overlain with Alluvium – Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel – formed during the Quaternary period (BGS 2020).

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Building Recording Aims and Objectives

2.1.2 The aim of historic building recording on the site is to produce an analytical record of any significant architectural features and evidence for the original and subsequent historical form and functions of the structures.

2.1.2 The objectives of the historic building recording are as follows.

- ◆ To produce a formal description of the extant built structures which provides a systematic account of their origins, phasing, development and use.



- ◆ To produce a full visual photographic record of the structures, including all fixtures, fittings, machinery, decorative detail and inscriptions using of photogrammetry and photographic scales, with all photographs descriptively captioned and cross referenced to a plan, plans and/or elevations clearly showing the viewing position, direction and photographic image reference.
- ◆ To produce an analytical account of the structures' origins, development and use.
- ◆ To deposit the report with the Northumberland Historic Environment Record to ensure it advances understanding of the development of the site and ensures that there is a public benefit of the proposed works.

2.1.3 A full account of specific objectives is provided within the, *Written Scheme of Investigation* (Appendix 4).

2.2 Regional Research Aims and Objectives

2.2.1 Archaeological works at the site have the potential to identify the presence of evidence pertinent to research objectives and overarching research themes identified in *Shared Visions: The North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment* (Petts and Gerrard, 2006). Of significance are the following themes of research, encompassing resource assessment and research agendas for the region.

- ◆ The Framework recognises that, regarding the Post-Medieval key research priorities, these include, for *PMiv. Chronology* “Despite excellent historical records and a large quantity of highly diagnostic material culture there are still gaps in our chronological understanding of the period, particularly in the dating of buildings” (Petts and Gerrard 2006, 186).
- ◆ An additional requirement is *PMviii. Industrial intensification 1790-1830* “Detailed survey of farm buildings and associated infrastructure, such as stock pens and enclosures, should be a priority.”
- ◆ Also prescient is *PMii. Industrialisation* “What is the effect of industrialisation on settlement patterns? This needs to be broken down chronologically; 16th/17th century industrialisation is very different to 18th/19th century industrialisation” (Petts and Gerrard 2006, 183)
- ◆ Also of note is *PMiv. Chronology* “Despite excellent historical records and a large quantity of highly diagnostic material culture there are still gaps in our chronological understanding of the period, particularly in the dating of buildings” (Petts and Gerrard 2006, 186).
- ◆ Recommendations for Settlement and urbanism include: “*SU21. The possibility for heritage-led urban regeneration projects should be explored, combining a drive for economic renewal with the opportunity for conservation-led research*” (Petts and Gerrard 2006, 207).
- ◆ The historic building recording for the proposed North Earle farm development will assist in addressing these key research priorities and recommendation.



3 METHOD STATEMENT

3.1 Building Recording Methodology

3.1.1 The historic building recording covers the exterior and interior of the North Earle farm buildings and associated structural remains will therefore be recorded to the equivalent of Historic England's (2016) *Understanding Historic Buildings – A guide to good recording practice* Level 2 standard and in line with Northumberland County Council's (2018) *Standard Brief for Recording Historic Farm Buildings*.

3.1.2 The historic building recording was carried out in December 2019 by Dr Ian Wyre of ARS Ltd prior to any development works taking place. The records produced are used in order to create an interpretative discussion of the form, function and phasing of the structures concerned. The historic building recording was conducted in line with the aforementioned method statement (Appendix 4) as well as the relevant guidance (i.e. ClfA 2014 and 2019; Historic England 2016).

3.1.3 The archaeologist on-site carefully examined all parts of the structures prior to commencement of the photographic recording, in order to identify all features relevant to original and later use. As part of this exercise, the archaeologist on site produced written observations (e.g. on phasing, detailing and operating functions), sufficient to permit the preparation of this report on the structures identified. Each feature was examined individually and the results of that examination noted in a systematic fashion. These site records allow a full architectural and archaeological description of the structures to be included in the subsequent report, as a walk around each structure, starting with setting, then progressing to all accessible sides and features of the structures in sequence. This historic building recording includes the following.

- ◆ A formal description and analytical record which provides a systematic account of the building's origins, development and use, including floor plans, elevations, roof structure, flooring, internal layout and spaces, detailing, form and fabric, and evidence for phasing and development.
- ◆ A full visual photographic record with photographic scales with all photographs descriptively captioned and cross referenced to a plan, plans and/or elevations clearly showing the viewing position, direction and photographic image reference.
- ◆ A measured and annotated survey drawings showing the location of features of historic interest.
- ◆ A historic context account for the building to inform assessment of its historic significance.
- ◆ An analytical account of the building's origins, development and use.

3.1.4 The photographic record comprising high resolution digital photography covers the following as a minimum.

- ◆ Photographs of the exterior and setting of the structures, along with as much of the internal spaces that are accessible from the quay. A 2 metre and 0.5 metre ranging



rod was included in a selection of general shots in order that the scale of all elements of the building can be sufficiently established.

- ◆ The external appearance of the structures was recorded, including through the use of photogrammetry. Typically a series of oblique views show all external elevations of the structures and give an overall impression of size and shape. Where an individual elevation embodies complex historical information or have been conceived as formal compositions, views at right angles to the plane of the elevation may also be appropriate.
- ◆ Photographs of any external detail, structural or decorative, which is relevant to the design, development or use of the structures over time and which does not show adequately on general views.
- ◆ Photographs of any fixtures, fittings or machinery or evidence of its former existence relevant to the building's use or development.
- ◆ Copies of any dates, decorative detail, masons' marks, historic graffiti or inscriptions present which contribute to an understanding of the structures and/or their fixtures.

3.1.5 A Nikon D3200 digital SLR (24.7 megapixels) camera was used. Where possible, photographs included a graduated scale and cameras were mounted on tripods for extra stability. Details of the photographs were recorded which includes location, subject and orientation.

3.1.6 The building recording drawn record includes the following.

- ◆ Site location plan at a suitable scale (preferably indicating the position of the site within the country, within the county and a clear plan of the precise location/outline of the buildings, along with their relation to other structures and to any related topographical and landscape features i.e. 1:50).
- ◆ A plan/plans indicating the position and orientation of photographs/images included in the report.
- ◆ Phased plan(s), if appropriate, showing the development of the structures.

3.1.7 A risk assessment was undertaken before commencement of the work and health and safety regulations were adhered to at all times.



4 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 This historic building recording makes reference to primary and secondary archive sources in which to inform the analysis of extant buildings on the site.

4.2 The farmstead itself is potentially located within the deserted medieval settlement of Earle, first noted as part of the barony of Alnwick in 1242 (Dixon 1984, 204). The Armstrong map of 1769 does not show the settlement but Dixon notes the depiction of the mansion of Selby Esquire on the map instead (1984) (Cockcroft 2019).

4.3 Based upon historic map regression, the buildings of west range, the barn and hemmel, and the north range comprising the granary/cowshed and structures of the south range predate the first edition Ordnance Survey map. Based on available evidence these could date to the late 18th century.

4.4 The date would be generally contemporary with the Grade II Listed boundary stone (NHLE 1370902) south-west of the farmstead which divides North and South Yearle.

4.5 The historic maps show that the separate building defining the east perimeter of the farmstead was also in place at this time; spatially the building appears supplementary to the established ranges. A central building was constructed adjoining this building prior to the late 19th century which bisected the central foldyards. Also at this time, the south range of individual buildings are consolidated into a large animal shed in the early 20th century.

4.6 The grain-store tower and animal shelter are shown to be constructed in the mid-20th century.



5 BUILDING RECORDING

5.1 Setting of the structures

5.1 The site is situated in the hamlet of Earle set amongst the Cheviot Hills either side of the Harthorpe Burn. The farmstead occupies a prominent position fronting the eastern edge of a public highway, the south road from Wooler, and immediately adjacent the centre of the hamlet (Plates 1 to 5). A stream runs along the south perimeter of the site likely remaining from earlier mill workings (Plates 4 and 5) parallel with the road to Middleton Hall. The farm buildings, with no associated farm house on site, surround a central yard area with an additional yard located externally to the north west (see Plate 2). The site is bounded to the east and north by fields.

5.2 The historic building recording of the farm structures is arranged accordingly. To retain consistency with previous survey works the buildings are referenced in line with the *Heritage, Design and Access Statement* (Miller Partnership Architects 2019).

5.3 The complex of traditional stone-built farm buildings, constituting North Yearle Steadings, are organised around an area of central courtyard which is designated as Building 1 (see Figure 2). The buildings are subsequently referenced numerically working from the north to the south of the site. Eight buildings are covered in this section of the survey.



Plate 1: The North Earle farm buildings from the Wooler road on entering the hamlet (facing south).



Plate 2: North entrance leading to the rear farm yard area. The corrugated metal Dutch barn to the right is outside the bounds of the PDA. Scale 2m.



Plate 3: The farm buildings along the east perimeter of the site, from the north road entering the hamlet of Earle. Scale 2m.



Plate 4: View of the farm buildings (facing north west) at the centre of Earle. The listed farm boundary stone is seen in the foreground.



Plate 5: View of the farm buildings along the southern perimeter of the site (facing east). Note the stream running along the farm boundary. Scale 2m.

5.2 Granary/Cow House (Building 3) - Exterior

5.2.1 The granary, with cow-house below (designated Building 3), comprises a large two storey range with pitched slate roof, the longest axis of the building aligned approximately east to west making up the north perimeter of the farmyard complex. The fabric presents a multi-use building appearing to exhibit a singular construction phase. The building is composed of irregularly coursed ashlar and cobble stone work. The corners of the building and some edges of apertures are distinguished with large dressed quoin stones.

5.2.2 The south elevation forms the side of the north foldyard with six segmental arched apertures, likely comprising former cattle entrances, front the yard. Two of the entrances are blocked with rubble stone work. The remainder have timber plank shuttering with a narrow stable door.

5.2.3 The range extends to the east beyond the gated foldyard entrance. A set of external stone steps originally provided access to a first floor level entrance, this now blocked with a render facing. At the ground floor level, to the east of the steps, is a single personnel door with timber lintel, with brick in-fill above, over a wooden plank stable door. The jambs of the door are formed from a mix of stone quoins and cement based mortar. The surrounding stonework has signs it formerly contributed a wider entrance to the building interior. Crossing over the courtyard entrance is a covered grain conveyor, which has feeds from the first floor of the granary building, which constitutes a timber trough with a pitched metal cover.



Plate 6: Oblique view of east and south elevations of the Granary/Cow-house range (facing north west). Scale 2m.



Plate 7: South elevation of the granary/cow-house from within the north foldyard. Scale 2m.



Plate 8: South elevation of the granary/cow-house with three of the former cattle entrances (facing north).
Scale 2m.



Plate 9: South elevation of the granary/cow-house with two of the former cattle entrances (facing north). Scale 2m.



Plate 10: South elevation (facing north east) towards the east section of the granary/cow-house. Note the cement rendered blocked doorway to the first floor. Scale 2m.



Plate 11: South elevation (facing north west) towards the granary/cow-house external steps. Scale 2m.

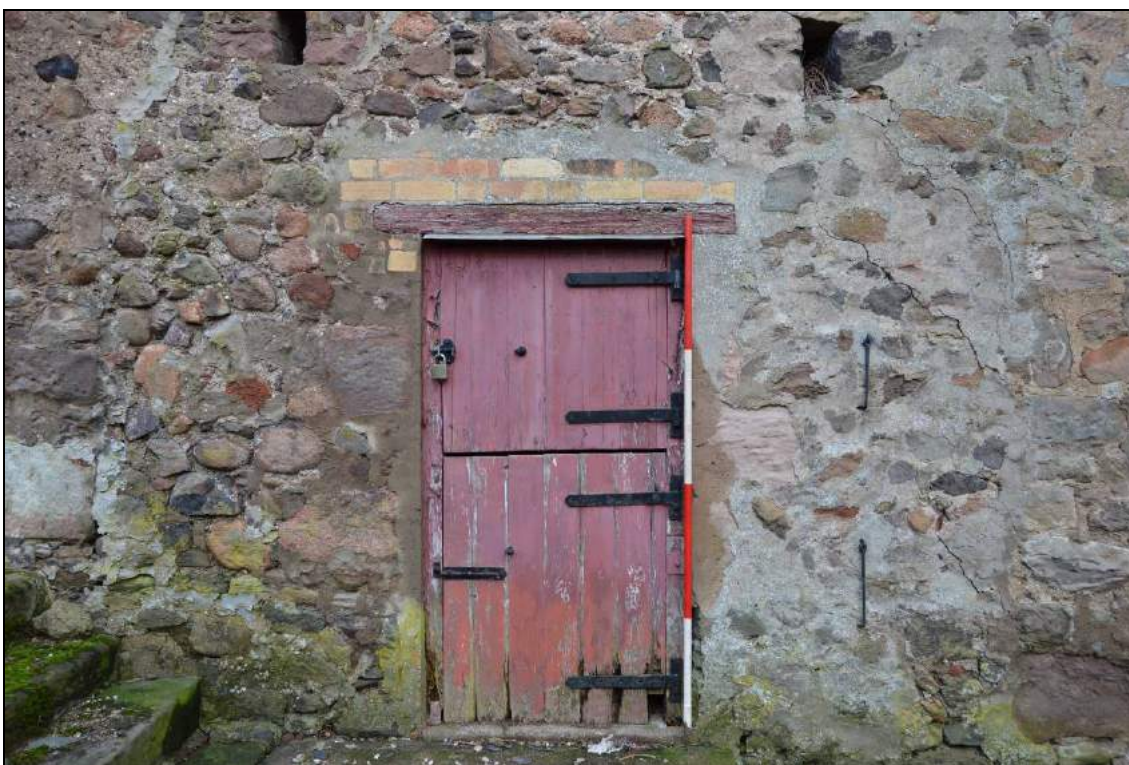


Plate 12: Detail of stable door in south elevation (facing north). Note the vent slots above. Scale 2m.



Plate 13: First floor window in east elevation (facing west).



Plate 14: Vent slot detail (facing north west).

5.2.4 The eastern elevation fronts the public highway and is punctuated by a single window set between the ground and first floor level. The window retains a glazed timber casement, two over three large panes. The surrounding fabric comprises dressed stone lintels and quoins.

5.2.5 The north elevation of the range presents a long two storey wall composed with the same irregular, cobble stone faces observed to the other elevations. Along the extent of much of the west elevation is a single storey open front a shelter shed extension, with pitched corrugated iron roof (see Building 8). Within the interior of this, the eastern quarter of the cow-house north elevation appears devoid of openings, likely denoting the separated space within this part of the building. Along the western extents of the wall, to the ground floor level, there are twelve small square openings (presently blocked), each having heavy a dressed stone lintel, dressed stone jambs and a shallow stone cill. The former openings have a square cut rebate for a timber shutter, the removal of which has left a series of damaged stonework at the area of the original hinge slots.

5.2.6 The first floor presents five small window apertures, all of a similar size and simple style. These mirror the four first floor openings observed to the south elevation. The openings have low stone lintels set under the eaves of the building and have a high cill inset with simple, timber plank doors.

5.2.7 The north wall of the granary range abuts the eastern return of the barn at a set of large quoin stones belonging to the latter (Plate 19).



Plate 15: Eastern extent of the north elevation to the granary range (facing south). Scale 2m.



Plate 16: Seven of the cow-house apertures to the north elevation of the granary range. Scale 2m.



Plate 17: Five of the cow-house apertures to the north elevation of the granary range (facing north west). Scale 2m.



Plate 18: Detail of cow-house apertures to the north elevation (facing south). Note the hinge and latch slots for shutters. Scale 2m.

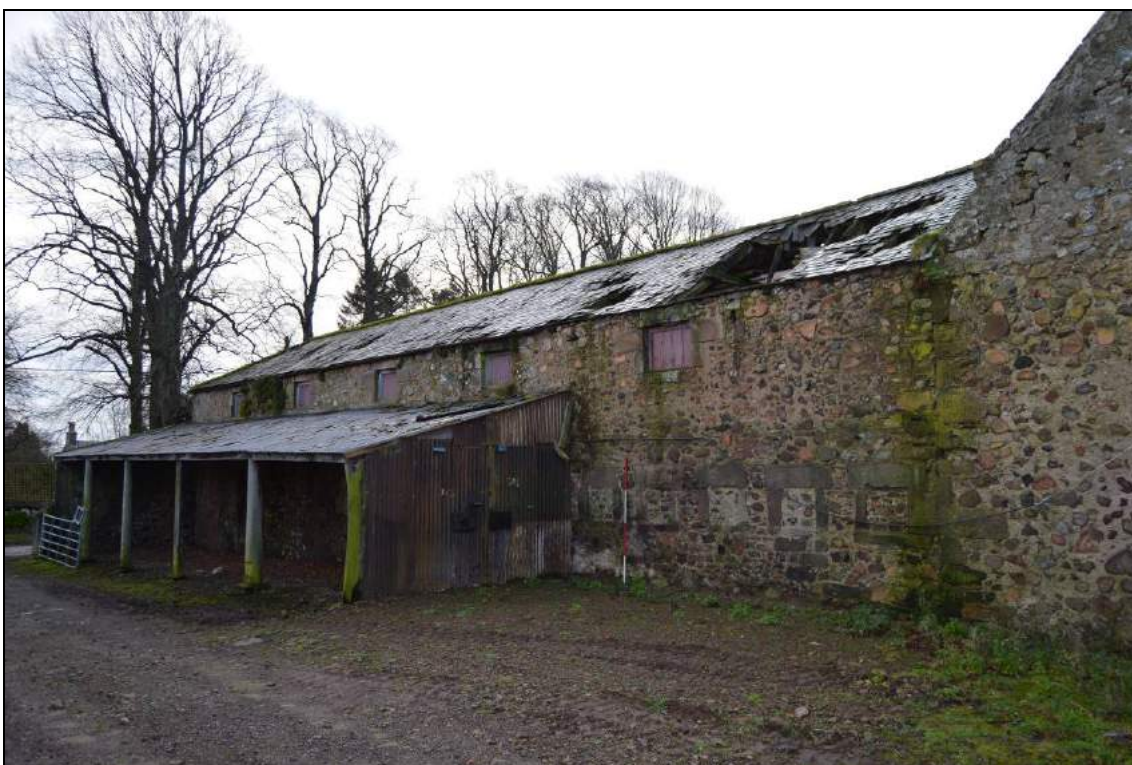


Plate 19: Oblique view of south elevation (facing south east). Scale 2m.

5.3 Granary/Cow House (Building 3) - Interior

5.3.1 Predominantly the ground floor interior of the building houses a series of animal loose boxes with a largely open, first floor/loft level above. At ground level, three of the arched cattle openings lead to a single large room where series of timber stalls bisect the internal space presently into three areas (Plates 20 to 25). A series of timber stanchions, some of which connect to first floor joists, carry slots which in turn timber slats can be dropped or removed if required.

5.3.2 The internal face of the north elevation shows the blocked apertures noted to the exterior surface. These are comprised of red brick internally and a roughly finished timber lintel extends across the top. To the east, is a separate animal stall divided by stone internal walls (Plate 26). The remainder of the ground floor rooms to the east (beyond the single stable door) could not be accessed at the time of survey.

5.3.3 The first floor area of the building presently forms a single open space, likely utilised for animal feed and/or grain packing and storage (Plate 27). The space is accessed via a doorway in the internal dividing wall to the west, access facilitated through the upper level of the barn (Building 2). Access was limited due to the poor state of the granary building's upper floor and roof. The roof is constructed of raised tie timber trusses fixed with metal pins, the lapped joints having carpenter's marks (Plate 28). The walls were plastered and white washed. The windows, or pitching hatches, have curving, plastered cills to their inside edges. Some modern, grain processing machinery remains along with a wooden conveyer conduit (as observed externally) set within the apex of the roof space.



Plate 20: Division of animal stalls inside cow house (facing east). Scale 2m.



Plate 21: Animal stalls to west (facing west), with the blocked door contributing to a larger space. Scale 2m.



Plate 22: South room (facing east). Scale 2m.



Plate 23: South room with blocked apertures (facing south east). Scale 2m.



Plate 24: South ground floor room of (facing west). Scale 2m.



Plate 25: Ground floor of cow house (facing east). (Scale 2m).



Plate 26: Separate loosebox to ground floor of cow house (facing east).



Plate 27: Granary first floor (facing east). Scale 2m.



Plate 28: Detail of wooden truss over the granary level (facing east).

5.4 Bank Barn/Granary Range (Building 2) – Exterior

5.4.1 Abutting the granary/cow range to the east, the barn is a larger two storey stone building with a late corrugated sheet pitched roof. The elevations continue to be constructed in cobble stone comprising a gabled wall, with a stone parapet, to the north and south ends (Plate 29). The building presents a regular two storey aspect to the east, forming the west perimeter of the north foldyard; however the rear, west facing elevation has a split-level arrangement. The building is constructed against the higher ground of the paddock to the west, with a ramped, barn entranceway at first floor level. The structure constitutes a combination or bank barn type building.

5.4.2 Set within the southern extent of the east elevation is a wide, double height entrance with stone jambs and timber lintel. To the left of this is a blocked personnel doorway, with stone jambs and lintel, and to the right a vertically truncated sequence of quoin stones (Plates 31 and 32). The remainder of the elevation to the north west corner of the north foldyard comprises a wide personnel doorway, inset with a single ground floor window which retains a glazed casement. Above, too the first floor, are two small square apertures with timber plank doors.

5.4.3 The gabled south elevation, partly obscured by the adjoining single storey 'hemmel' structure (Building4), features a series of protruding tie stones (Plates 33 and 34). Set amongst these, within the gable, there is a former opening now blocked in a red brick. In plan, this wall is misaligned with the other walls of the building, indicative the wall relates to an earlier construction phase.

5.16 The use of protruding tie stones is also observed in the adjacent west elevation stonework. Equally, there is further blocked stone doorway and stone window frame in this location. The west wall of the building is punctuated by a large first floor entrance (Plate 40). The entrance is now accessed by a concrete ramp rising from the north west farmyard.

5.17 The gabled north elevation is devoid of notable features except for an offset personnel entrance at ground level. The surface of the north wall is differentiated from the south with no protruding tie stones visible. An application of a lime render is also notable to this aspect.





Plate 29: East elevation of the barn (facing west). Scale 2m.



Plate 30: Main entrance in east elevation of the barn (facing west). Scale 2m.



Plate 31: Stable door and first floor openings to east elevation of the barn (facing west). Scale 2m.



Plate 32: East elevation of the barn (facing west). Scale 2m.



Plate 33: South and west aspects of the barn (facing north east). Scale 2m.



Plate 34: South elevation of the barn with pronounced tie stones (facing north east).



Plate 35: West elevation of barn. Scale 2m.



Plate 36: Blocked apertures in west elevation. Scale 2m.



Plate 37: West elevation of barn (facing north east) with a grain silo extension to foreground. Scale 2m.



Plate 38: First floor barn entrance to the west elevation of the barn (facing east). Scale 2m.



Plate 39: View towards the west facing elements of the barn (facing west) with its concrete ramp to foreground. Scale 2m.



Plate 40: North elevation of barn (facing south). Scale 2m.



Plate 41: North elevation of barn (facing south west). Scale 2m.

5.5 Bank barn (Building 3) – Interior

5.4.1 The interior of the barn presents a series of inter-connected areas with the largest being towards the south, accessed by the large door in the east elevation, the interior space extending to the full height of the roof space. The remainder of the building contributes a two storey arrangement with a mezzanine level overlooking the open area of the barn (Plate 42). Beneath, at ground level, the remainder of the space is subdivided by timber partitions and a range of grain conveyers and a wooden plank grain hopper. An internal door in the west elevation leads to a separate concrete floored, hopper area (as observed to the exterior)(Plates 46 and 47). A flight of steep, open tread timber stairs leads to the upper floor set behind a timber plank banister.

5.15 The upper floor of the barn remains a largely open space (Plates 52 and 53). The west elevation is punctuated by the ramped, first floor barn door. Set towards the north wall are a range of timber grain stores/hoppers. These were linked to the grain tower (to the exterior); adjacent, through the east elevation of the barn, an internal door leads to the upper floor of the granary/cow-house north range (Plate 53).



Plate 42: General view of the interior of the barn (facing north). Scale 2m.



Plate 43: View of the open area to the interior of the barn (facing south east). Scale 2m.



Plate 44: View of the open area to the interior of the barn (facing south west). Scale 2m.



Plate 45: General interior view beneath the barn mezzanine level (facing south). Scale 2m.



Plate 46: View through to separate hopper building adjoining the barn to the west (facing west). Scale 2m.



Plate 47: Interior of hopper building adjoining the barn (facing north west). Scale 2m.



Plate 48: Interior of the barn's ground floor. (facing north). Note the timber grain hopper to the right. Scale 2m.



Plate 49: Grain chutes on the ground floor, fed from the first floor hopper above (facing north east). Scale 2m.

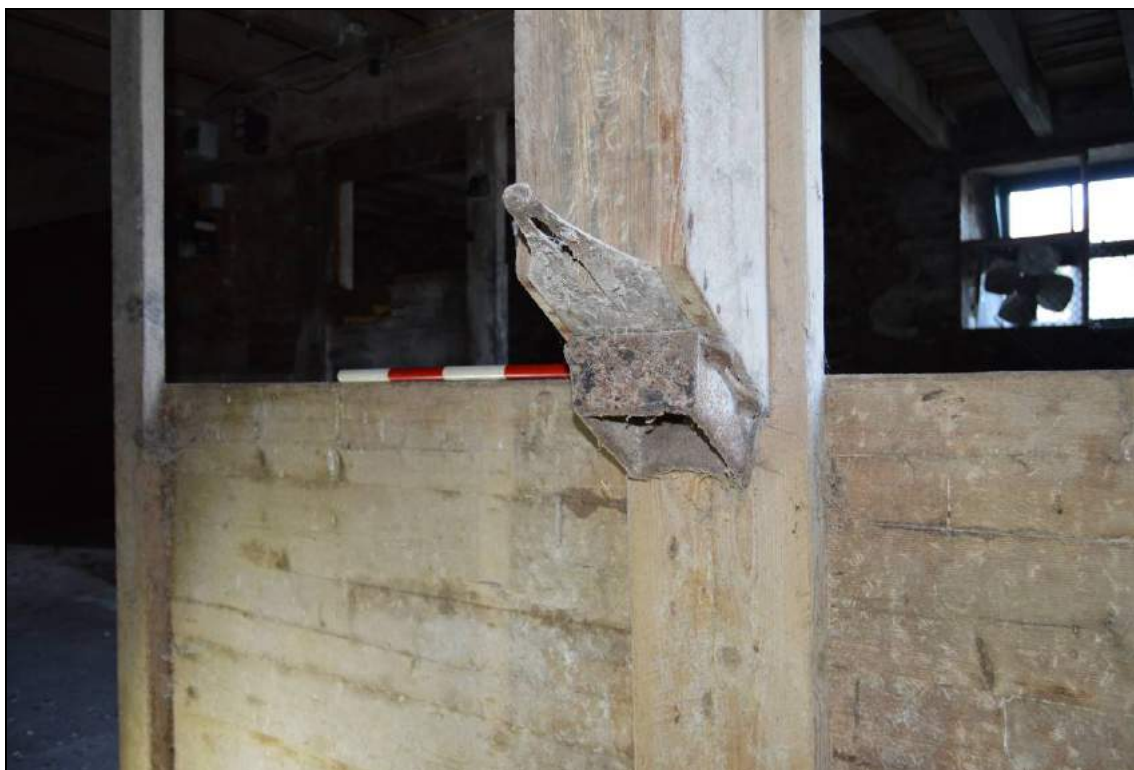


Plate 50: Detail of grain dispenser (facing south west). Scale 2m.



Plate 51: First floor of the barn. Scale 2m.



Plate 52: General view of the first floor of the barn (facing north). Scale 2m.



Plate 53: General view of the first floor of the barn (facing north west). Note the first floor barn door. Scale 2m.

5.6 Cow house/Hemmel (Building 4) – Exterior/Interior

5.6.1 Adjoining the south elevation of the barn is a single storey range appearing to represent an additional series of animal stalls similar to the north cow-house/granary range. A portion of the building may have contributed a shelter shed, or 'hemmel', adjoining the western field.

5.6.2 The south and north elevations of the building are formed by neighbouring buildings, the barn to the north and the south animal accommodation/shed to the south. Due to the condition of the building access to the interior was limited. The hemmel/cow-house structure is differentiated to the other buildings on the site by having a pan tile roof (Plate 54).

5.6.2 The east elevation has four segmental arched openings. Three of these, those to the south relate to a single interior space subdivided with timber partitions. Set within the doorways are timber plank, stable doors. The west wall to this section of the building presents a featureless stone appearance.

5.6.3 The fourth arched aperture, to the north, leads to a separate interior space. Linked to the adjoining barn the fabric of the walls indicates different phases of alteration. In the construction, supplementing the stonework, are instances of a narrow brick being used. In this case the west elevation is punctured with a wide doorway accessing the adjoining paddock to the west. The aperture (which retains no evidence it was gated) has rounded rubble stone jambs (Plate 63).



Plate 54: Hemmel building (facing north west). Scale 2m.



Plate 55: Hemmel building, northernmost arch (facing west). Scale 2m.



Plate 56: Hemmel building (facing east). Scale 2m.



Plate 57: West elevation of the hemmel structure (facing north east). Scale 2m.



Plate 58: West elevation of hemmel building with cattle entrance (facing east). Scale 2m.



Plate 59: Interior of hemmel building (north east). Scale 2m.



Plate 60: Interior of Hemmel building (north east). Scale 2m.



Plate 61: Interior of Hemmel building (facing north east) with red brick building material. Scale 0.5m.



Plate 62: Interior of Hemmel building (facing west) with cattle door to west paddock. Scale 2m.



Plate 63: Interior of linking structure, Building 3, with previously outside facing window (north east). Scale 2m.

5.8 South animal accommodation (Building 5) - Exterior

5.8.1 The southern farm complex is dominated by a large single storey animal shed (presently housing pigs). The building is a stone and timber structure with a gabled M-shaped roof, covered in corrugated sheet, with a central valley running on a north/south alignment.

5.8.2 The north elevation is composed partly from stone which is topped with timber planking to the gables above (Plate 64). Parts of the western gable are supplemented in a whitewashed brick, at the point the building abuts the hemmel building (Plate 65). The eastern gable is composed entirely of timber planking: both roof ridges have a curved corrugated metal cap for providing ventilation to the interiors (Plate 66). The two large stall areas inside are delineated by a central feeding passage running from north to south extent of the building. The north elevation has two full height animal entrances, with metal gates, flanking the feeding passage entrance.

5.8.3 Projecting outwards from the east elevation of the main building a smaller, square plan pavilion structure (Plate 67). The north elevation has a single personnel door with timber planked stable door. The east elevation of this structure is punctuated with a centrally placed doorway which has subsequently been blocked with stone. To the left, a brick-built flue rises from the eaves. The stonework is composed from larger blocks with quoins to the building corners and the door jambs (Plate 68). The grey slate roof presents a hip towards the east.

5.8.4 The south elevation mirrors the form of the east elevation with the two gables to the m shaped roof. This elevation however has a single, sliding, wooden plank door (Plates 70 to 73). At the threshold of the entrance is a concrete bridge which spans the former mill stream which runs along the south elevation (Plate 72).

5.8.5 The west elevation of the south animal accommodation is relatively featureless, comprised entirely of stone (Plate 74). The stone wall has been heightened with a concrete section which incorporates a series of small square vent openings.

5.8.6 The side walls of the present south range appear to have been constituted from a series of earlier buildings on this area of the site.





Plate 64: South elevation of the south animal shed, the largest building on the site (facing south west). Note, the building bounds the south of the southern fold yard. Scale 2m.



Plate 65: Detail of east gable to north elevation (facing south west). Note, the brick walling forms an internalised wall for the south elevation of the hemmel. Scale 2m.



Plate 66: North elevation of south animal shed, east gable (facing south). Scale 2m.



Plate 67: Projecting wing of south animal shed (facing south west). Scale 2m.



Plate 68: Projecting pavilion wing of south animal shed (facing north west). Scale 2m.



Plate 69: Section of east elevation of south animal shed (facing south west). Scale 2m.



Plate 70: South elevation of south animal shed (facing south east).



Plate 71: South elevation of south animal shed east gable (facing north). Scale 2m.



Plate 72: Concrete bridge (over former mill race) south elevation of south animal shed showing (facing north west). Scale 2m.



Plate 73: South elevation (facing north east). Scale 2m.



Plate 74: West elevation (facing south east). Scale 2m.

5.9 South animal shed accommodation (Building 5) - Interior

5.9.1 The main interior of the building comprises a mostly single open space, extending to the rafters, divided with into two large stall areas, additionally sub-divided with metal and timber fences (Plates 75 to 78). The internal arrangement includes a central feeding passage defined with high concrete troughs. The passage runs north to south accessed by the corresponding doorways. A portion of the building to the south is delineated with a stone and timber partition. A stub of a stone wall with quoined edge is evident in this structure towards the south eastern corner.

5.9.2 The roof space is formed by a series of timber king post trusses, with an array of columns aligned along the building's north to south axis. The columns carry the principal longitudinal joists below the gutter valley between the two pitched roofs. Natural light to the building's interior is supplied by a series of skylights, comprised of transparent sheets utilised in the corrugated metal sheet roof covering.

5.9.3 The east elevation contributes an internal doorway through to the eastern pavilion structure. The interior of this building is empty apart from a brick and concrete structure associated with the flue observed externally (Plate 79). This was likely used heating water.



Plate 75: Interior of the southern animal accommodation range (facing south).



Plate 76: Interior of the southern animal accommodation range (facing south).



Plate 77: Interior of the southern animal accommodation range with connecting door to eastern structure (facing south east).



Plate 78: Central feeding passage (facing south).



Plate 79: Interior of the project wing of the south animal accommodation (facing north east). Scale 2m.

5.10 Eastern Range/Animal Accommodation (Building 6) - Exterior

5.10.1 A long single storey building, beneath a single hipped roof covered in grey slate, bounds the eastern perimeter of the farm central foldyard (Plate 80). The walls of the building are constructed in the typical cobble stone material with dressed quoins at the corners. The roof is permeated with a series of irregularly arranged single pane skylights.

5.10.2 The east elevation, fronting onto the public highway, presents largely featureless cobb stone wall.

5.10.3 The north elevation is punctuated with a single personnel entrance, with its left hand jamb formed from the north east corner quoins tones, with a timber lintel over a timber plank, stable door. The south elevation has a wide vehicular opening with double plank doors.

5.10.4 The west elevation adjoins and helps define the central foldyard and is at present devoid of openings. The stone fabric retains evidence for a range of previous apertures including small window/ventilation apertures and a stone lintel and quoined jamb blocked doorway (Plate 83).

5.10.5 The building appears to have seen a variety of uses, its latest as tractor and animal feed storage. The conveyor mechanism, which runs from the granary, shows previous storage and the packing of grain took place here. The concrete floor (see interior description) and small windows to the west wall suggests the building was utilised as animal accommodation east of the central fold yard.



Plate 80: North east aspect of the east farm range. Scale 2m.



Plate 81: North hip of roof to the east farm range.



Plate 82: East elevation of the east farm range (facing south east). Scale 2m.



Plate 83: West elevation (facing south east) showing blocked doorway. Scale 2m.



Plate 84: West elevation (facing south east) with small blocked openings indicated. Scale 2m.

5.11 Eastern Range/Animal Accommodation (Building 6) - Interior

5.11.1 Internally, the building presents a single, long, ground floor room. Access to the range is located to the north and south. The north elevation is has a series of small square recesses latterly blocked with modern brick (Plate 85). The interior face of the west elevation also shows signs of blocked openings, most notably a blocked doorway originally leading to the south central fold.

5.11.2 A concrete floor extends the extent of the interior. Interestingly a section of the floor is delineated with treads suggestive of a feeding passage arrangement used in animal sheds. The threshold of the north doorway is imprinted with the date '1897' (Plate 88). Some of the concrete flooring may have been replaced, equally the lower wall portions having been finished in a cement render. The upper exposed stonewalls are lime washed.

5.11.3 The underside of the roof is exposed revealing a series of timber trusses. Set long the apex of the roof space is a grain conveyer, feeding from the north granary range, which terminates at the south vehicular entrance. An electrically drive belt and pulley mechanism is evident at this location (Plate 89).



Plate 85: Interior of Building 5 (facing north). Note the brick blocked apertures in the far wall. Scale 2m.



Plate 86: Interior of Building 5 (facing north). Scale 2m.



Plate 87: Interior of Building 5 (facing south). Scale 2m.





Plate 88: Date cast in the concrete floor (facing north east). Scale 0.5m.



Plate 89: Grain conveyer mechanism in roof space of building (facing north west).

5.12 Covered Foldyard/Shelter Sheds – Exterior/Interior

5.12.1 A conjoined group of structures, which abut the west elevation of the east range (Building 6), bisects the central foldyard and contributed what was likely further animal accommodation. The structures share a hipped slate roof which extends perpendicularly from centre of the eastern building (Building 6). Beneath this roof, the north side presents an open sided shelter shed for the northern foldyard (Plate 90). The open north face of the structure is composed from four squared heavy timber stanchions set on concrete pads. The interior, south wall is constructed of stone, with the east elevation comprised of the adjoining eastern building. The west elevation is of contrast, being covered in corrugated metal sheets.

5.12.2 The interior of the shelter retains a wooden manger fixed to the southern wall. The south wall, towards the south east corner, has a stone lined drain with segmental arch above (Plate 94).

5.12.3 Previously, the foldyard was further covered, likely by a timber and corrugated metal sheet structure. A line of concrete pads show this structure also had an open front (see Plate 91). A concrete, brick and terracotta lined trough extends into the north foldyard and would have been enclosed inside this building. The concrete retains the impression of the corrugated sheet wall latterly along the western side.

5.12.4 The southern shelter structure is enclosed within modern brick walls (Plates 95 and 96). The interior is modern and largely featureless.



Plate 90: Shelter shed fronting the north central foldyard (facing south east). Scale 2m.



Plate 91: North shelter shed fronting the north central foldyard (facing south). Scale 2m.



Plate 92: Interior of north shelter shed with supporting columns to front (facing north west). Scale 2m.



Plate 93: Interior of north shelter shed with manger and trough (facing west). Scale 2m.



Plate 94: Interior of north shelter shed with drain (facing south east). Scale 2m.



Plate 95: South shelter shed. Scale 2m.



Plate 96: South shelter shed. Scale 2m.



5.13 Grain Store (Building 7)

5.13.1 Located to the north west, outside the central range of buildings, stands an elevated grain store which is of timber construction (Plate 97). This comprises a heavy beam and post frame with weather boarding to enclosed single upper store. The interior could not be accessed at the time of survey. The structure is supplemented by metal fittings including pins and angle iron braces. The grain tower has a pitched roof covered with corrugated metal sheets.

5.13.1 A chute projects from the north elevation (Plate 98) which has a conveyer mechanism. This comprises an electric motor and belt pulleys with a simple metal sheet for a rain cover. The tower was also linked, via a conveyer, to the adjacent barn.



Plate 97: Grain tower (facing south east). Scale 2m.



Plate 98: North elevation of grain tower with mechanised conveyor chute (facing east).



Plate 99: Underside of grain tower floor (facing north).

5.14 Shelter shed (Building 8)

5.14.1 An open fronted shelter structure is located along the north wall of the cow-house and granary building (Building 3). The structure is comprised of a timber frame covered with corrugated metal sheets, of rusted appearance, forming a single pitch roof below the first floor window cill level the adjacent stone building (Plate 100). The open front is supported via five substantial rounded timber columns set on pads. The east elevation for the shelter is a section of stone walling flanking the northern most farm entrance (Plate 101). The west elevation is composed from the timber framing and similarly covered in corrugated metal sheeting.

5.14.2 The building is outside the central foldyard area and relates most readily to the larger yard to the north west. Further to the west, flanking the north west corner of the barn, remains a corrugated metal and timber frame wall, with concrete foundation, appearing to originate from an additional single pitch roofed shelter at this location (Plate 103). A corrugated metal 'Dutch type barn is opposite, separated by a farm track, which is outside the survey area (Plate 104).



Plate 100: Timber and corrugated metal shelter along the north elevation of the cow-house/granary (facing south east). Scale 2m.



Plate 101: Shelter shed (facing south west). Note. Scale 2m.



Plate 102: East elevation, of stone construction, of the shelter shed (facing east). Note. Scale 2m.



Plate 103: Additional shelter shed wall (facing south east). Scale 2m.



Plate 104: Northern entrance to north west farm yard area (facing west). Note. Scale 2m.

6 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Discussion

6.1.1 Historically the North Yearle Steadings farm buildings are found to have been developed and used for two distinct purposes: the processing of grain and/or animal feed, and animal accommodation, predominantly cattle in this case. The resultant complex of cobble stone walled buildings contribute a large, regular courtyard plan farmstead. The buildings are further distinguished through the use of finer dressed quoins, lintel, cills and segmental stones arches. Each of the composite buildings appears to be a simple modified form of typical farmyard buildings originally built to fulfil a particular agricultural purpose. There are no domestic structures on the site; the farmer's and workers' housing are thought to have extended to the surrounding settlement, separate from the North Yearle Steadings farm buildings.

6.1.2 One of the key buildings of the complex was the barn. This, and its adjoined 'hemmel' range, would seem to have defined the north eastern perimeters of the farm. Indeed, in plan, the south gable wall of the barn is misaligned with its adjoining elevations, often indicative of a pre-existing building inhabiting a slightly different alignment. Aspects within these buildings likely represent the earliest fabric of the complex; however no clear date of construction is evident. Equally, a group of buildings at the southernmost corner of the farmstead, related to the water course bisecting the settlement (a mill race fed by a mill pond) is likely to have been present as the farm developed.

6.1.3 The north cow-house/granary range, built against the barn, may have initially contributed an L-shaped layout during the earliest phase of the complex. These types of layouts are relatively typical in farms dating from the 18th century onwards. It is likely that the remaining buildings, to complete the final U-shaped configuration, were constructed after this date.

6.1.4 By the mid-19th century the buildings formed an unbroken U-shaped plan form enclosing three foldyards. The south buildings remained differentiated on this plan form, with the 'pavilion' (projecting east wing), suggestive of the pre-existing layout beside the stream. Furthermore, a detached stone building was built along the east perimeter, most likely for further livestock accommodation, flanking the east of the central foldyards.

6.1.5 Towards the end of the 19th century the farmstead underwent further changes that are equally depicted on the historic mapping. This involved the addition of a back-to-back shelter shed structure between the north and centre foldyards. This escalation of changes may have been to adapt to rapidly changing farming needs and practices as well accommodating the expansion of the farm itself.

6.1.6 At the time of survey the earlier functions of some buildings remained unclear from historic alteration or due to the removal of some internal fixtures and fittings. In particular, were the structures now part of the large animal shed to the south. However, it would appear that the earlier buildings were predominantly for the housing of cattle. The north range cow-house is particularly characteristic of this use, with its series of blocked apertures, for individual stalls, in the north facing wall. The 'bank barn' is also attributable to its original purpose, when early threshing would be carried out by hand. This original use continued, although mechanised, with the barn still housing crop processing equipment



associated with arable farming, which clearly continued late into the 20th century (i.e. with the addition of the adjacent timber grain tower and modern electrical grain conveying machinery). The evolution of the North Yearle Steadings farm buildings similarly reflects the changing organisation of the agrarian landscape of Northumberland. Over time, the remaining buildings required alteration and modernisation to keep up with modern operations of the farm. The final form of the buildings is typical of vernacular farm complex which underwent changes in the rural economy whilst remaining in various levels of use.

6.2 Conclusion

6.2.1 In terms of fabric evidence it can be assessed that the farm complex was developed over the course of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries which included upwards of five distinct construction phases. To conclude, the history of the buildings and their development can be summarised as follows.

- ◆ **Phase 1 – c.1800** The first stone farm buildings, represented in the fabric of the barn and hemmel range, are built. Possibly a separate group of structures are also *in situ* at the southernmost corner utilising to the water course at this location.
- ◆ **Phase 2 – c.1866** The main stone built farm ranges are in place around three central foldyards.
- ◆ **Phase 3 - c. 1897** A pair of back-to-back shelter sheds are added between the north and centre foldyard. Modernisation of the east range building also takes place, probably to constitute a further cow-house with rear feeding passage.
- ◆ **Phase 4 – c.1950** Construction of corrugated metal shelter sheds, one contributing a covered foldyard, the other machinery/animal shed outside the centre yard, alongside the northern range. The Dutch barn to the north also supplements the expanded farm yard areas at this time.
- ◆ **Phase 5 – c.1980** Construction of grain tower and installation of electric conveyer. The barn is given a new corrugated metal roof possibly at this time. There was a change of livestock (or alteration of how these were housed) with the cow-house doorways being fitted with narrow stable doors.

6.2.2 The historic building recording provides a descriptive, drawn and photographic record of the buildings occupying the site at the time and provides a comprehensive preservation by record of the North Yearle Steadings farm buildings prior to conversion works taking place.



7 STATEMENTS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

7.1 Archive Deposition

7.1.1 A paper archive, which will consist of all primary written documents, plans, sections and photographs, will be prepared by ARS Ltd and submitted to the suitable repository, in this instance the Northumberland Record Office at Woodhorn, in a format agreed in discussion with Northumberland Conservation's Assistant County Archaeologist and the Curator.

7.1.2 High resolution digital photographs would, in discussion with Northumberland Conservation's Assistant County Archaeologist, be submitted to the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) digital archive repository with the associated photographic registers and metadata. The digital archive will be prepared in line with current best practice outlined in Archaeology Data Service/Digital Antiquity Guides to Good Practice (ADS/Digital Antiquity 2011).

7.1.3 Copyright on the deposited material will either be assigned to the archive, or the archive will be licensed to use the material, in perpetuity; this licence would allow the archive to reproduce material, including for use by third parties, with the copyright owner suitably acknowledged.

7.1.4 A digital copy of the report in PDF format will be submitted for approval to the MMO and deposited with the Northumberland Historic Environment Record. A copy of the report will be uploaded as part of the OASIS record (see below) for online access via the Archaeological Data Service.

7.1.5 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. All parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the HER. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included within the archive).

7.1.6 Written confirmation of the archive transfer arrangements, including a date (confirmed or projected) for the transfer, will be included as part of the final report.

7.1.7 Northumberland Conservation's Assistant County Archaeologist will be notified of the final deposition of the archive.

7.2 Publicity, Confidentiality and Copyright

7.2.1 Any publicity will be handled by the client.

7.2.2 Archaeological Research Services Ltd will retain the copyright of all documentary and photographic material under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act (1988).

7.3 Statement of Indemnity

7.3.1 All statements and opinions contained within this report arising from the works undertaken are offered in good faith and compiled according to professional standards. No responsibility can be accepted by the author/s of the report for any errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by any third party, or for loss or other consequence arising



from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in any such report(s), howsoever such facts and opinions may have been derived.

7.4 Acknowledgements

7.4.1 Archaeological Research Services Ltd would like to thank for Leone Services Ltd commissioning this work and enabling access to the building; and Nick Best, the Northumberland Assistant County Archaeologist, for his advice and assistance.

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Ordnance Survey Map c.1866. *1st edition, 6 inch scale, Northumberland*. Northumberland Archives.

Ordnance Survey Map c.1895. *OS County series, Northumberland 1:2500 scale*. Northumberland Archives.



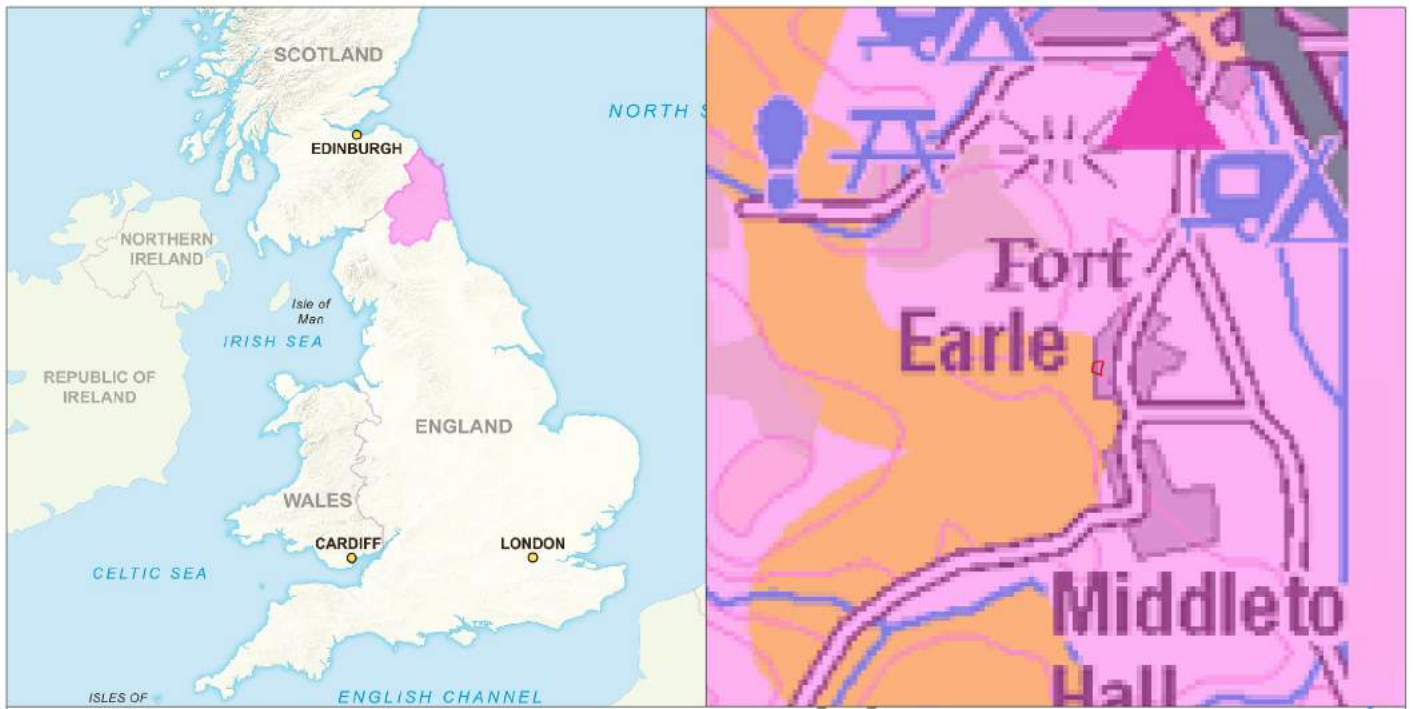
Ordnance Survey Map c.1897. *OS County series, Northumberland 1:2500 scale.*
Northumberland Archives.

Ordnance Survey Map c.1924. *OS County series, Northumberland 1:2500 scale.*
Northumberland Archives.

Ordnance Survey Map c.1924. *OS County series, Northumberland 1:2500 scale.*
Northumberland Archives.



APPENDIX 1: FIGURES



Site name: North Yearle Steading
 Date: December 2019
 Drawn by: DGC
 Scale: Varies

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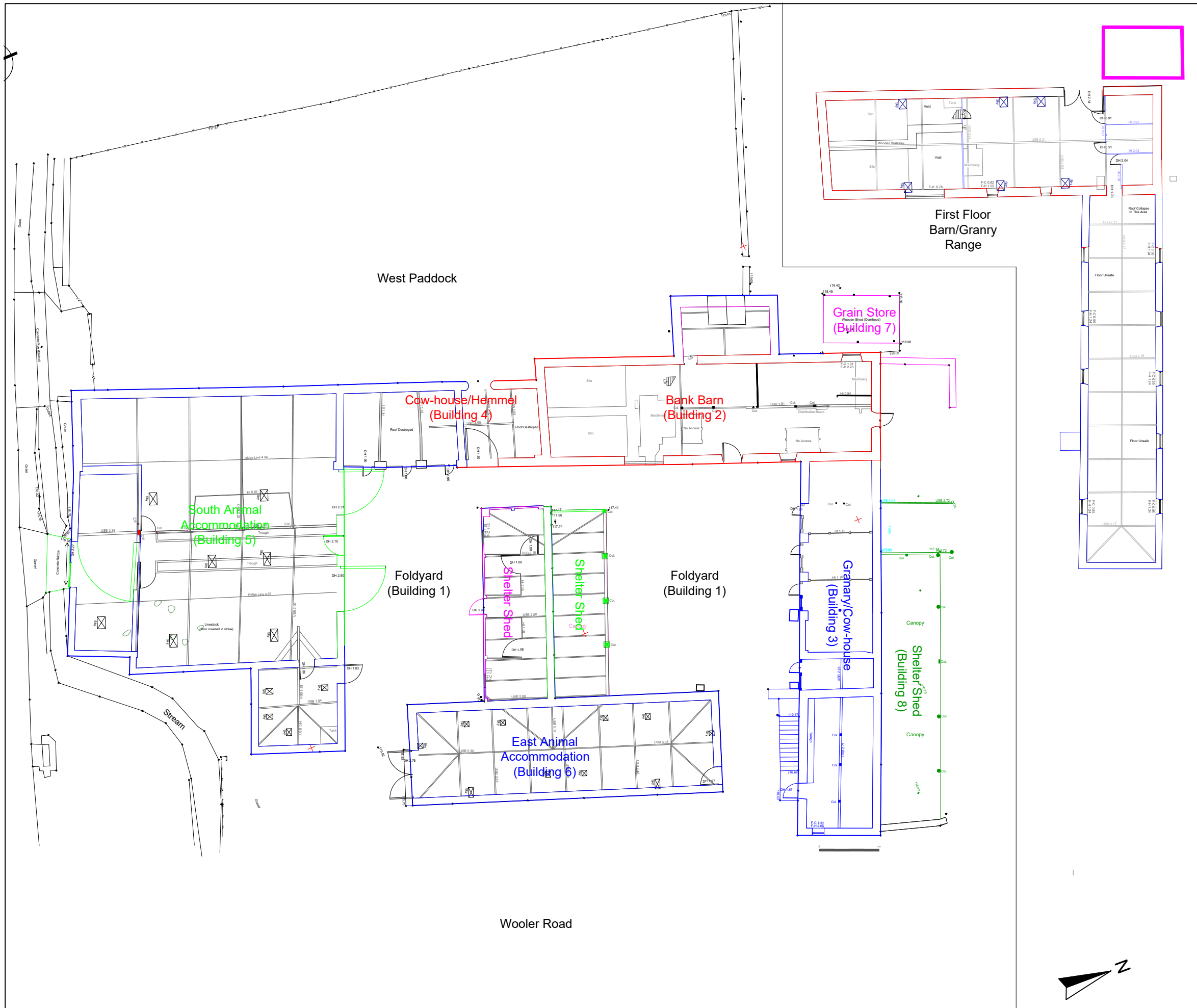
**Figure 1:
 Site location**



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 RESEARCH SERVICES LTD



Site Name: North Yearle Steadings farm buildings, Earle, Northumberland
 Date: 2019
 Drawn by: ICW
 Scale: N/A

Title: Building plan, Historic Building Recording 2019

Key:

- Phase 1
- Phase 2
- Phase 3
- Phase 4
- Phase 5

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Tel: 01629 814540
 www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com

Site Name: North Yearle Steadings,
Earle, Northumberland

Date: 2019

Drawn by: ICW/RL

Scale: N/A

Title: Photograph plan, Historic Building
Recording 2019

Key:

- Photograph number
- Photograph direction

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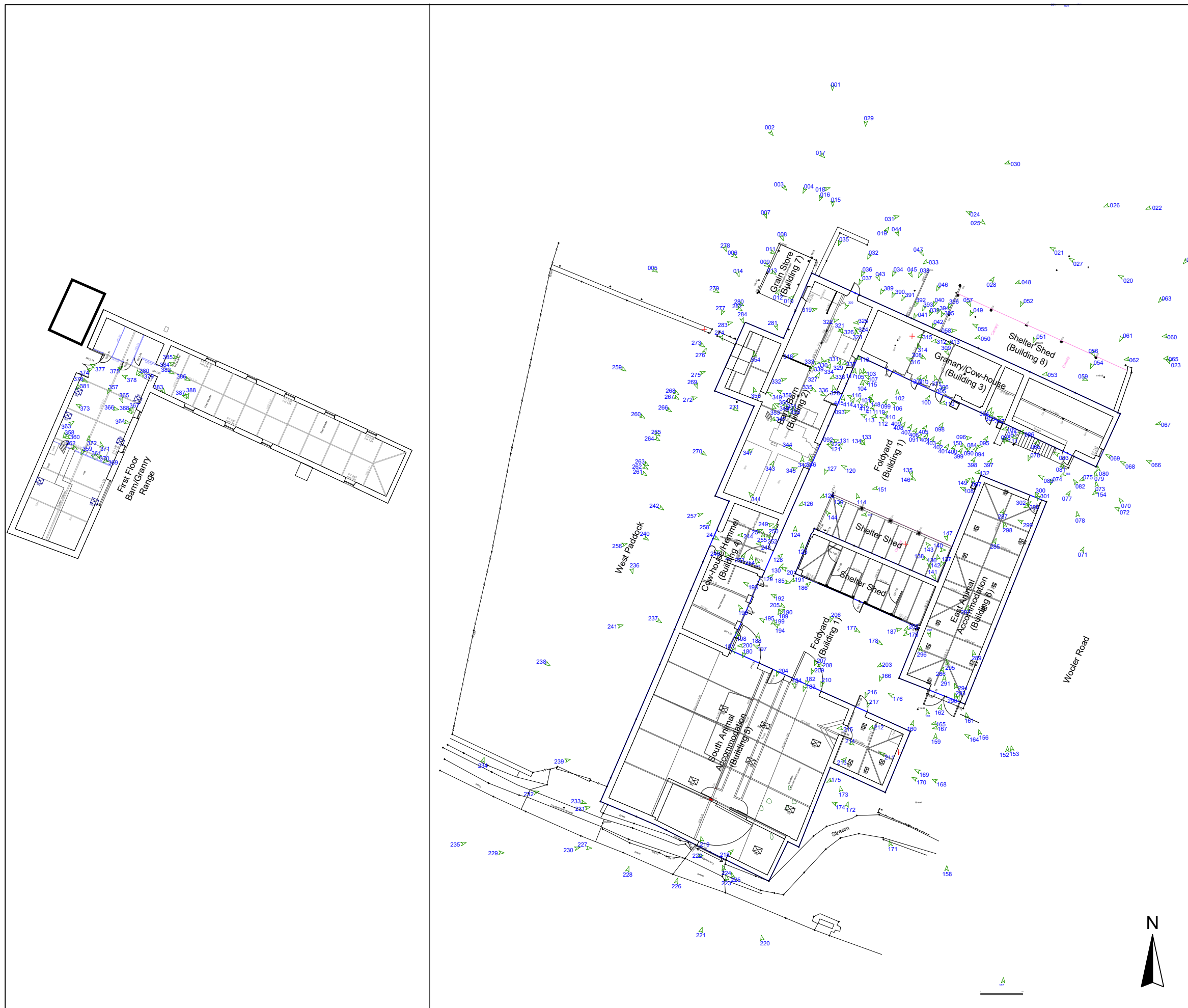
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APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Site: Date: Officer: Camera:	North Yearle Steadings Farm Buildings, Earle, Northumberland, Archaeological Building Recording 22/11/2019 ICW Nikon D3200				Image prefix: North_Earle_HBR
Plate No.	Description	Scale	Orientation	Located on drawing	File (RAW) No.
Plate 1	The North Earle farm buildings from the Wooler road on entering the hamlet (facing south).	2m	S	✓	
Plate 2	North entrance leading to the rear farm yard area. The corrugated metal Dutch barn to the right is outside the bounds of the PDA.	2m	W	✓	
Plate 3	The farm buildings along the east perimeter of the site, from the north road entering the hamlet of Earle.	2m	S	✓	
Plate 4	View of the farm buildings (facing north west) at the center of Earle. The listed farm boundary stone is seen in the foreground.	2m	NW	✓	
Plate 5	View of the farm buildings along the southern perimeter of the site (facing east). Note the stream running along the farm boundary.	2m	E	✓	
Plate 6	Oblique view of east and south elevations of the Granary/Cow-house range (facing north west).	2m	NW	✓	
Plate 7	South elevation of the granary/cow-house from within the north foldyard.	2m	N	✓	
Plate 8	South elevation of the granary/cow-house with three of the former cattle entrances (facing north).	2m	N	✓	
Plate 9	South elevation of the granary/cow-house with two of the former cattle entrances (facing north).	2m	N	✓	
Plate 10	South elevation (facing north east) towards the east section of the granary/cow-house. Note the cement rendered blocked doorway to the first floor.	2m	NE	✓	
Plate 11	South elevation (facing north west) towards the granary/cow-house external steps.	2m	NW	✓	

North Yearle Steadings, Earle, Northumberland - Historic Building Recording

Plate 12	Detail of stable door in south elevation (facing north). Note the vent slots above.	2m	N	✓	
Plate 13	First floor window in east elevation (facing west).	2m	W	✓	
Plate 14	Vent slot detail (facing north west).	2m	NW	✓	
Plate 15	Eastern extent of the north elevation to the granary range (facing south).	2m	S	✓	
Plate 16	Seven of the cow-house apertures to the north elevation of the granary range.	2m	S	✓	
Plate 17	Five of the cow-house apertures to the north elevation of the granary range (facing south).	2m	S	✓	
Plate 18	Detail of cow-house apertures to the north elevation (facing south). Note the hinge and latch slots for shutters.	2m	S	✓	
Plate 19	Oblique view of south elevation (facing south east).	2m	SE	✓	
Plate 20	Division of animal stalls inside cow house (facing east).	2m	E	✓	
Plate 21	Animal stalls to west (facing west), with the blocked door contributing to a larger space.	2m	W	✓	
Plate 22	South room (facing east).	2m	E	✓	
Plate 23	South room with blocked apertures (facing south east).	2m	SE	✓	
Plate 24	South ground floor room of (facing west).	2m	E	✓	
Plate 25	Ground floor of cow house (facing east).	2m		✓	
Plate 26	Separate loosebox to ground floor of cow house (facing north).	2m	N	✓	
Plate 27	Granary first floor (facing east). Scale 2m.	2m	E	✓	
Plate 28	Detail of wooden truss over the granary level (facing east).	2m	E	✓	
Plate 29	East elevation of the barn (facing west). Scale 2m.	2m	W	✓	
Plate 30	Main entrance in east elevation of the barn (facing west).	2m	W	✓	
Plate 31	Stable door and first floor openings to east elevation of the barn (facing west).	2m	W	✓	
Plate 32	East elevation of the barn (facing west).	2m	W	✓	
Plate 33	South and west aspects of the barn (facing north east).	2m	NE	✓	
Plate 34	South elevation of the barn with pronounced tie stones (facing north east).	2m	NE	✓	

North Yearle Steadings, Earle, Northumberland - Historic Building Recording

Plate 35	West elevation of barn.	2m	E	✓	
Plate 36	Blocked apertures in west elevation.	2m	E	✓	
Plate 37	West elevation of barn (facing north east) with a grain silo extension to foreground.	2m	NE	✓	
Plate 38	First floor barn entrance to the west elevation of the barn (facing east).	2m	E	✓	
Plate 39	View towards the west facing elements of the barn (facing west) with its concrete ramp to foreground.	2m	W	✓	
Plate 40	North elevation of barn (facing south).	2m	S	✓	
Plate 41	North elevation of barn (facing south west).	2m	SW	✓	
Plate 42	General view of the interior of the barn (facing north).	2m	N	✓	
Plate 43	View of the open area to the interior of the barn (facing south east).	2m	SE	✓	
Plate 44	View of the open area to the interior of the barn (facing south west).	2m	SW	✓	
Plate 45	General interior view beneath the barn mezzanine level (facing south).	2m	S	✓	
Plate 46	View through to separate hopper building adjoining the barn to the west (facing west).	2m	W	✓	
Plate 47	Interior of hopper building adjoining the barn (facing north west).	2m	NW	✓	
Plate 48	Interior of the barn's ground floor. (facing north). Note the timber grain hopper to the right.	2m	N	✓	
Plate 49	Grain chutes on the ground floor, fed from the first floor hopper above (facing north east).	2m	NE	✓	
Plate 50	Detail of grain dispenser (facing south west).	2m	SW	✓	
Plate 51	First floor of the barn.	2m	S	✓	
Plate 52	General view of the first floor of the barn (facing north).	2m	N	✓	
Plate 53	General view of the first floor of the barn (facing north west). Note the first floor barn door.	2m	NW	✓	
Plate 54	Hemmel building (facing north west).	2m	NW	✓	
Plate 55	Hemmel building, northernmost arch (facing west).	2m		✓	
Plate 56	Hemmel building (facing east).	2m	E	✓	
Plate 57	West elevation of the hemmel	2m	NE	✓	

North Yearle Steadings, Earle, Northumberland - Historic Building Recording

	structure (facing north east).				
Plate 58	West elevation of hemmel building with cattle entrance (facing east).	2m	E	✓	
Plate 59	Interior of hemmel building (north east).	2m	NE	✓	
Plate 60	Interior of Hemmel building (north east).	2m	NE	✓	
Plate 61	Interior of Hemmel building (facing north east) with red brick building material.	0.5m	NE	✓	
Plate 62	Interior of Hemmel building (facing west) with cattle door to west paddock.	2m	W	✓	
Plate 63	Interior of linking structure, Building 3, with previously outside facing window (north east).	2m	NE	✓	
Plate 64	South elevation of the south animal shed, the largest building on the site (facing south west). Note, the building bounds the south of the southern fold yard.	2m	SW	✓	
Plate 65	Detail of east gable to north elevation (facing south west). Note, the brick walling forms an internalised wall for the south elevation of the hemmel.	2m	SW	✓	
Plate 66	North elevation of south animal shed, east gable (facing south).	2m	S	✓	
Plate 67	Projecting wing of south animal shed (facing south west).	2m	SW	✓	
Plate 68	Projecting wing of south animal shed (facing north west).	2m	NW	✓	
Plate 69	Section of east elevation of south animal shed (facing south west).	2m	SW	✓	
Plate 70	South elevation of south animal shed (facing south east).	2m	SE	✓	
Plate 71	South elevation of south animal shed east gable (facing north).	2m	N	✓	
Plate 72	Concrete bridge (over former mill race) south elevation of south animal shed showing (facing north west).	2m	NW	✓	
Plate 73	South elevation (facing north east).	2m	NE	✓	
Plate 74	West elevation (facing south east).	2m	SE	✓	
Plate 75	Interior of the southern animal accommodation range (facing south).		S	✓	
Plate 76	Interior of the southern animal accommodation range (facing south).		S	✓	
Plate 77	Interior of the southern animal		SE	✓	

North Yearle Steadings, Earle, Northumberland - Historic Building Recording

	accommodation range with connecting door to eastern structure (facing south east).				
Plate 78	Central feeding passage (facing south).		S	✓	
Plate 79	Interior of the projecting wing of the south animal accommodation (facing north east).	2m	NE	✓	
Plate 80	North east aspect of the east farm range.	2m	SW	✓	
Plate 81	North hip of roof to the east farm range.	2m	S	✓	
Plate 82	East elevation of the east farm range (facing south east).	2m	SE	✓	
Plate 83	West elevation (facing south east) showing blocked doorway.	2m	SE	✓	
Plate 84	West elevation (facing south east) with small blocked openings indicated.	2m	SE	✓	
Plate 85	Building 5 (facing north).	2m	SE	✓	
Plate 86	Building 5 (facing north).	2m	SW	✓	
Plate 87	Interior of Building 5 (facing north east).	2m	NE	✓	
Plate 88	Date cast in the concrete floor (facing north east).	0.5m	NE	✓	
Plate 89	Grain conveyer mechanism in roof space of building (facing north west).	2m	NW	✓	
Plate 90	Shelter shed fronting the north central foldyard (facing south east).	2m	SE	✓	
Plate 91	North shelter shed fronting the north central foldyard (facing south).	2m	S	✓	
Plate 92	Interior of north shelter shed with supporting columns to front (facing north west).	2m	NW	✓	
Plate 93	Interior of north shelter shed with manger and trough (facing west).	2m	W	✓	
Plate 94	Interior of north shelter shed with drain (facing south east).	2m	SE	✓	
Plate 95	South shelter shed.	2m	E	✓	
Plate 96	South shelter shed.	2m	E	✓	
Plate 97	Grain tower (facing south east).	2m	E	✓	
Plate 98	North elevation of grain tower with mechanised conveyor chute (facing east).	2m	E	✓	
Plate 99	Underside of grain tower floor (facing north).	2m	N	✓	
Plate 100	Timber and corrugated metal shelter along the north elevation of the cow-house/granary (facing south east).	2m	SE	✓	
Plate 101	Shelter shed (facing south west).	2m	SW	✓	

	Note.				
Plate 102	East elevation, of stone construction, of the shelter shed (facing east). Note.	2m	E	✓	

APPENDIX 3: SPECIFICATION

North Yearle Steading, Wooler, Northumberland

Written Scheme of Investigation



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The Eco Centre, Windmill Way, Hebburn, Tyne and Wear NE31 1SR

www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com

Prepared on behalf of: Leone Services Ltd

Date of compilation: December 2019

Compiled by: Dr David Cockcroft

Planning References: 19/01978/FUL

Local Authority: Northumberland County Council

Site central NGR: NT 98730 26257

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This scheme of works relates to the proposed development at land north-east of Yearle Steading, Wooler which involves the conversion of existing farm buildings into one dwelling, four holiday cottages and stables.

1.2 Planning permission has been granted for the proposed development (Application Ref. No. 19/01978/FUL). Condition 11 of the planning permission requires archaeology investigation and recording as follows.

11 A programme of archaeological work is required in accordance with NCC Conservation Team (NCCCT) Site Specific Requirements document (dated 24/8/19) and Historic England's 2016 Guidance document 'Understanding Historic Buildings. A Guide to Good Recording Practice'. The archaeological scheme shall comprise three stages of work. Each stage shall be completed and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before it can be discharged.

a) No development or archaeological mitigation shall commence on site until a written scheme of investigation based on NCCCT Site Specific Requirements and Historic England 'Understanding Historic Buildings' documents has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

b) The archaeological recording scheme required by NCCCT Site Specific Requirements and Historic England Understanding Historic Buildings documents must be completed in accordance with the approved written scheme of investigation.

c) The programme of analysis, reporting, publication and archiving if required by NCCCT Standards and Site Specific Requirements and Historic England 'Understanding Historic Buildings' documents must be completed in accordance with the approved written scheme of investigation.

1.3 Guidance has been provided by Nick Best, Northumberland Conservation's Assistant County Archaeologist, that a historic building recording of the farmstead is required prior to development taking place. This should be a Level 2 recording in accordance with *Understanding Historic Buildings* (Historic England 2016).

1.4 This document comprises a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) confirming the nature of the historic building recording to be undertaken by ARS Ltd at the North Yearle Steading, Wooler, Northumberland in accordance with the guidance provided by Northumberland Conservation's Assistant County Archaeologist.

1.5 The aim of the programme of works is, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)* paragraph 189 (MHCLG 2019, 56), to record and enhance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost during the proposed development in a manner proportionate to their importance, and to make this evidence (and any archived generated) publically accessible.



2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Site Location and Geology

2.1.1 The proposed development site is the farmstead at North Yearle Steading, Earle, Northumberland, NE71 6RB. The site is situated in the settlement of Earle, approximately 1.89km south-east of Wooler. The site consists of an expanse of flat ground presently occupied by several centrally-placed buildings surrounded by levelled ground bordered with sandstone walls. The site is bounded to the south by the road to Middleton Hall and to the east by the road to Wooler. The site is centred at NGR NT 98730 26257 (Figure 1).

2.1.2 The underlying geology of the site consists of Ballagan Formation – sandstone, siltstone and dolomitic limestone – formed in the Carboniferous Period. The site is overlain with Devensian Glaciofluvial deposits – sand and gravel - formed during the Quaternary period (BGS 2019).

2.2 Historical and Archaeological Background

2.2.1 Based upon historic map regression in Heritage, Design and Access Statement, the buildings of the granary, north wing, hemmel, and the stables pre-date the mid-19th century and could date to the late 18th century (Miller Partnership Ltd 2019). This would be broadly contemporary with the Grade II Listed boundary stone (NHLE 1370902) south-west of the farmstead which divides North and South Yearle. A central building was constructed prior to the late 19th century which bisected the central farmyard along with the initial piggery building, which was expanded in the early 20th century. The grain-store tower and animal shelter were also constructed in the mid-20th century.

2.2.2 The farmstead itself is potentially located within the deserted medieval settlement of Earle, first noted as part of the barony of Alnwick in 1242 (Dixon 1984, 204). The Armstrong map of 1769 does not show the settlement but Dixon notes the depiction of the mansion of Selby Esquire on the map instead (1984).

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Regional Research Aims and Objectives

3.1.1 The *North-East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment (NERRF)* (Petts and Gerrard 2006) recognises that, regarding the Post-Medieval key research priorities, these include for PMiv. Chronology “Despite excellent historical records and a large quantity of highly diagnostic material culture there are still gaps in our chronological understanding of the period, particularly in the dating of buildings” (Petts and Gerrard 2006, 186). In addition, this includes PMviii. Industrial intensification 1790-1830 “Detailed survey of farm buildings and associated infrastructure, such as stock pens and enclosures, should be a priority.” The historic building recording for the proposed farmstead development will assist in addressing these key research priorities and recommendation.



3.2 Historic Building Recording Aim and Objectives

3.2.1 The aim of the building recording is to provide a basic descriptive and visual photographic record of the farmstead and associated buildings which provides an account of their origins, development and use.

3.2.2 The objectives of the building recording are as follows.

- ◆ To produce a formal description of the buildings, including their floor plan, elevations, roof structure, flooring, internal layout and spaces, detailing, form and fabric, and evidence for phasing and development.
- ◆ To produce a full visual photographic record with photographic scales of the exterior and interior of the buildings with all photographs descriptively captioned and cross referenced to a plan(s) clearly showing the viewing position, direction and photographic image reference.
- ◆ To produce an account of the buildings' origins, development and use.

4 HISTORICAL BUILDING RECORDING

4.1 Coverage

4.1.1 The North Yearle Steading is the subject of the proposed development. The exterior and interior of the North Yearle Steading farm buildings and associated structural remains will therefore be recorded to the equivalent of Historic England's (2016) *Understanding Historic Buildings – A guide to good recording practice* Level 2 standard and in line with Northumberland County Council's (2018) *Standard Brief for Recording Historic Farm Buildings*.

4.2 Methodology

4.2.1 All aspects of the building recording will be conducted according to the guidelines in *Understanding Historic Buildings – A guide to good recording practice* by Historic England (2016), the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct* (2014), their *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Building Recording* (2019), as well as Northumberland County Council's *Standard Brief for Recording Historic Farm Buildings* (2018).

4.2.2 Information in the Heritage, Design, and Access Statement (Miller Partnership Ltd 2019) will be drawn on to place the buildings in their historical context and to provide an overall interpretation and phasing of the buildings based on documents and historic mapping. In addition, historic photographs and other related information concerning the history, development and use of the site should be consulted.

4.2.3 The archaeologist on-site will carefully examine all parts of the buildings prior to the commencement of the photographic and drawn recording, in order to identify all features relevant to original and later use. As part of this exercise, the



archaeologist on site will produce written observations (e.g. on phasing; on detailing, on building function), sufficient to permit the preparation of a report on the structures identified. Each external wall or internal space should be examined individually and the results of that examination noted in a systematic fashion. These site records will be adequate to allow a full architectural and archaeological description of the building to be included in the subsequent report, as a walk around and through each building, starting with setting, then progressing to all sides of the structure in sequence, and finally to the interior from the ground floor up.

4.2.4 The photographic record will cover the following as a minimum.

- ◆ Photographs of the interior (including all internal rooms), exterior and setting of the buildings. A two metre ranging rod will be included in a selection of general shots in order that the scale of all elements of the building can be sufficiently established.
- ◆ The buildings' external appearance is to be recorded. Typically a series of oblique views will show all external elevations of the structure and give an overall impression of size and shape. Where an individual elevation embodies complex historical information or have been conceived as formal compositions, views at right angles to the plane of the elevation may also be appropriate.
- ◆ Photographs of any internal or external detail, structural or decorative, which is relevant to the buildings' design, development or use over time and which does not show adequately on general views.
- ◆ Photographs of any internal or external fixtures, fittings or machinery or evidence of its former existence relevant to the buildings' use or development.
- ◆ Copies of any dates, decorative detail, masons' marks, historic graffiti or inscriptions present in the buildings and illustrating its development/use.

4.2.5 High resolution digital photographs will be taken using a Nikon L810 (16 megapixels). Where possible, photographs will include a graduated scale and cameras will be mounted on tripods for extra stability. Details of the photographs will be recorded on pro-forma index sheets, which include location, subject and orientation.

4.2.6 The building recording drawn record will include the following.

- ◆ Site location plan at a suitable scale (preferably indicating the position of the site within the country, within the county and a clear plan of the precise location/outline of the building e.g. 1:50).
- ◆ A plan indicating the position and orientation of photographs/images included in the report.



4.3 Report

4.3.1 Within two months of the completion of the building recording, ARS Ltd will produce a report which will include the following as a minimum.

- ◆ Non-technical executive summary.
- ◆ Introductory statement.
- ◆ Aims and purpose of the project.
- ◆ Methodology.
- ◆ Precise location of buildings, by name or street number, civil parish, town and National Grid reference.
- ◆ The date when the record was made, the names of the recorders and the archive content/character and location.
- ◆ A note of any relevant statutory designations.
- ◆ A discussion of the buildings' form, function, date, and sequence of development and significance, together with a discussion of the names of architects, builders, patrons and owners if known. This will include a note of any evidence for demolished structures or removed plant associated with the building.
- ◆ An architectural and archaeological description of the buildings will be produced.
- ◆ An analytical account of past and present uses of the buildings and areas of the buildings.
- ◆ Discussion and conclusions.
- ◆ References.
- ◆ Statement of intent regarding publication.
- ◆ Supporting data – tabulated or in appendices.
- ◆ A register of photographs taken.
- ◆ Confirmation of archive transfer arrangements.
- ◆ A copy of the WSI and OASIS form.

4.3.2 The report illustrations will contain the following as a minimum.

- ◆ A location map at not less than 1:2500.
- ◆ A site plan at not less than 1:500.
- ◆ Photographs used to illustrate all key points and a complete set of site drawings, at an appropriate scale, executed to publication standard.
- ◆ The photographic record plan(s) will also be included.
- ◆ Relevant, available historic photographs from the agricultural use of the farmstead



- ◆ In addition to those photographs used as illustrations, a complete set of all photographs, excluding duplications, will be included with the digital copy of the report and referenced as necessary.

4.3.3 The report should be produced in a format that would enable figures, illustrations and summary text to be included in publically-accessible interpretive displays.

4.3.4 A digital copy of the report in PDF/A format will be deposited with the Northumberland Historic Environment Record (HER). A copy of the report will be uploaded as part of the OASIS record (see section 4.5.5 below) for online access via the Archaeological Data Service.

4.4 Archive Deposition

4.4.1 A paper archive, which will consist of all primary written documents, plans, sections and photographs, will be prepared by ARS Ltd and submitted to the suitable repository, in this instance the Northumberland Record Office at Woodhorn, in a format agreed in discussion with Northumberland Conservation's Assistant County Archaeologist and the Curator.

4.4.2 High resolution digital photographs would, in discussion with Northumberland Conservation's Assistant County Archaeologist, be submitted to the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) digital archive repository with the associated photographic registers and metadata. The digital archive will be prepared in line with current best practice outlined in *Archaeology Data Service/Digital Antiquity Guides to Good Practice* (ADS/Digital Antiquity 2011).

4.4.3 Copyright on the deposited material will either be assigned to the archive, or the archive will be licensed to use the material, in perpetuity; this licence would allow the archive to reproduce material, including for use by third parties, with the copyright owner suitably acknowledged.

4.4.4 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. All parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the HER. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included within the archive).

4.4.5 Written confirmation of the archive transfer arrangements, including a date (confirmed or projected) for the transfer, will be included as part of the final report.

4.4.6 Northumberland Conservation's Assistant County Archaeologist will be notified of the final deposition of the archive.

5 MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

5.1 The Northumberland Conservation Assistant County Archaeologist will be responsible for monitoring the historic building recording. Ideally, at least 7 days' notice of the commencement of fieldwork will be given by ARS Ltd to



Northumberland Conservation's Assistant County Archaeologist in order that arrangements for monitoring the work may be made.

Nick Best
Assistant County Archaeologist
Northumberland Conservation
County Hall
Morpeth
Northumberland
NE61 2EF
Tel: 01670 622655

5.2 The client will afford reasonable access to Northumberland Conservation's Assistant County Archaeologist, or their representative, for the purpose of monitoring the archaeological works. ARS Ltd will liaise with Northumberland Conservation's Assistant County Archaeologist at regular intervals throughout the course of the work.

6 TIMETABLE, STAFFING AND RESOURCES

6.1 The timetable for the on-site historic building recording work, production of the interim report on the historic building descriptions, production of the final report and deposition of the archive is as follows.

Task	Commencement date	Completion date
Historical building recording on-site	17 th December 2019	17 th December 2019
Historical building recording final report	6 th January 2020	31 st March 2020
Historical building recording archive	1 st April 2020	30 th June 2020

6.2 The Project Manager for the archaeological works will be Rupert Lotherington ACIfA, Project Manager at ARS Ltd. The historic building recording will be carried out by Dr Ian Wyre of ARS Ltd.

7 GENERAL ITEMS

7.1 Health and Safety

7.1.1 All work will be carried out in accordance with The Health and Safety at Work Act 1973. Specific health and safety policies existing for all our workplaces and all staff employed will be made aware of the policy and any relevant issues. The particular risks involved with this project will be assessed, recorded and relevant mitigation measures put in place as part of a full risk assessment, which will be compiled in advance of fieldwork and will be read and signed by all on-site



operatives. ARS Ltd retains Citation as its health and safety consultants and the appointed Health and Safety Officer for the company is Tony Brennan.

7.2 Insurance Cover

7.2.1 ARS Ltd has full insurance cover for employee liability (£10 million) public liability (£5 million), professional indemnity (£5 million) and all-risks cover.

7.3 Community Engagement and Outreach

7.3.1 Any opportunities for engaging the local community in the historic building recording should be sought, for example a guided site tour and/or dissemination of information via the client and/or ARS Ltd's website, social media and local media.

7.4 Publication and dissemination

7.4.1 If significant archaeological remains are recorded, a summary of the project with, if appropriate, selected drawings, illustrations and photographs will be submitted within 2 years of the completion of the project to an appropriate archaeological journal for publication (e.g. Archaeology in Northumberland) and, potentially, other appropriate publications.

7.5 Changes to the Written Scheme of Investigation

7.5.1 Changes to the approved methodology or programme of works will only be made with prior written approval of Northumberland Conservation's Assistant County Archaeologist.

7.6 Publicity and Copyright

7.6.1 Any publicity will be handled by the client. ARS Ltd will retain the copyright of all documentary and photographic material under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act (1988).

8 REFERENCES

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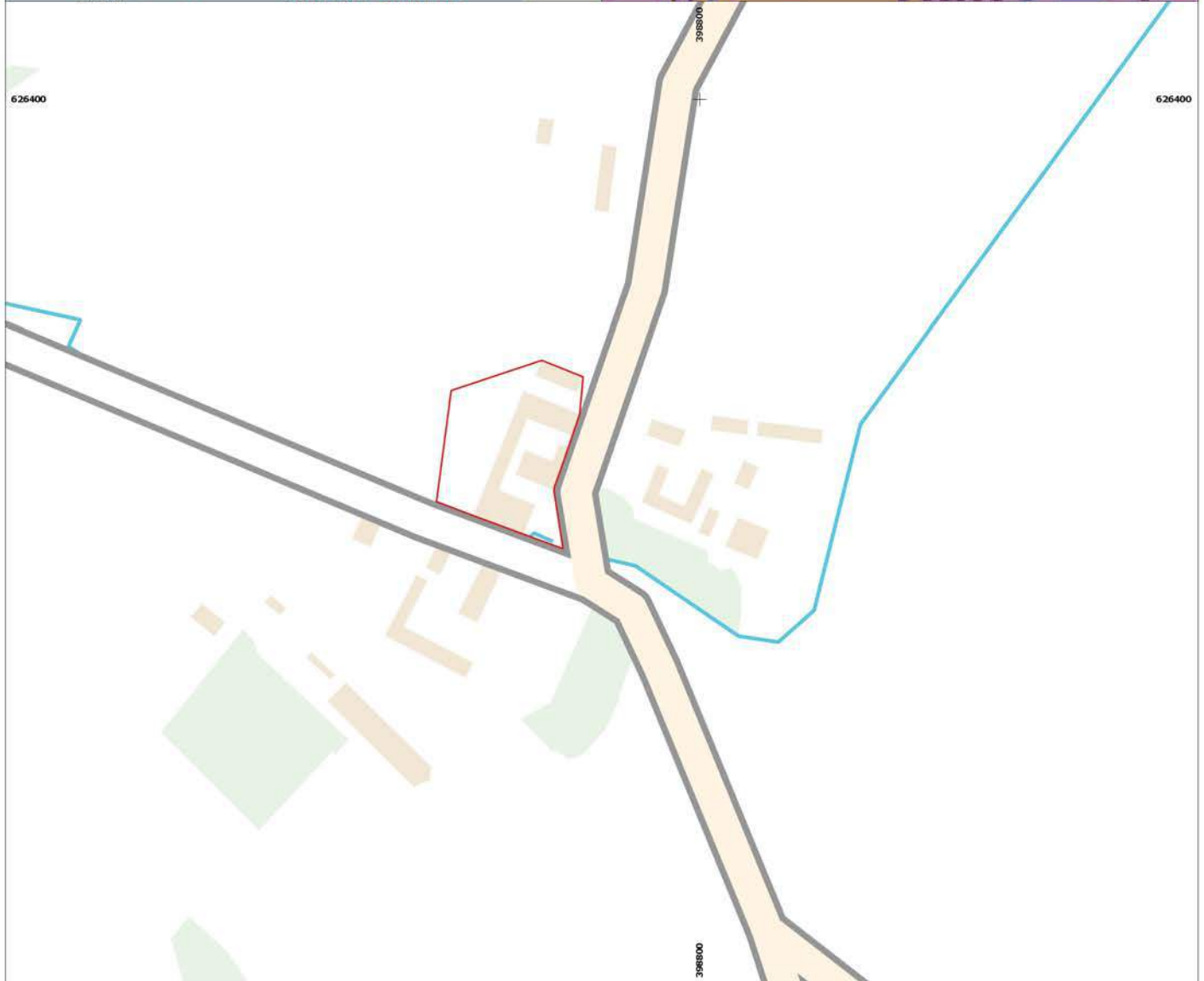
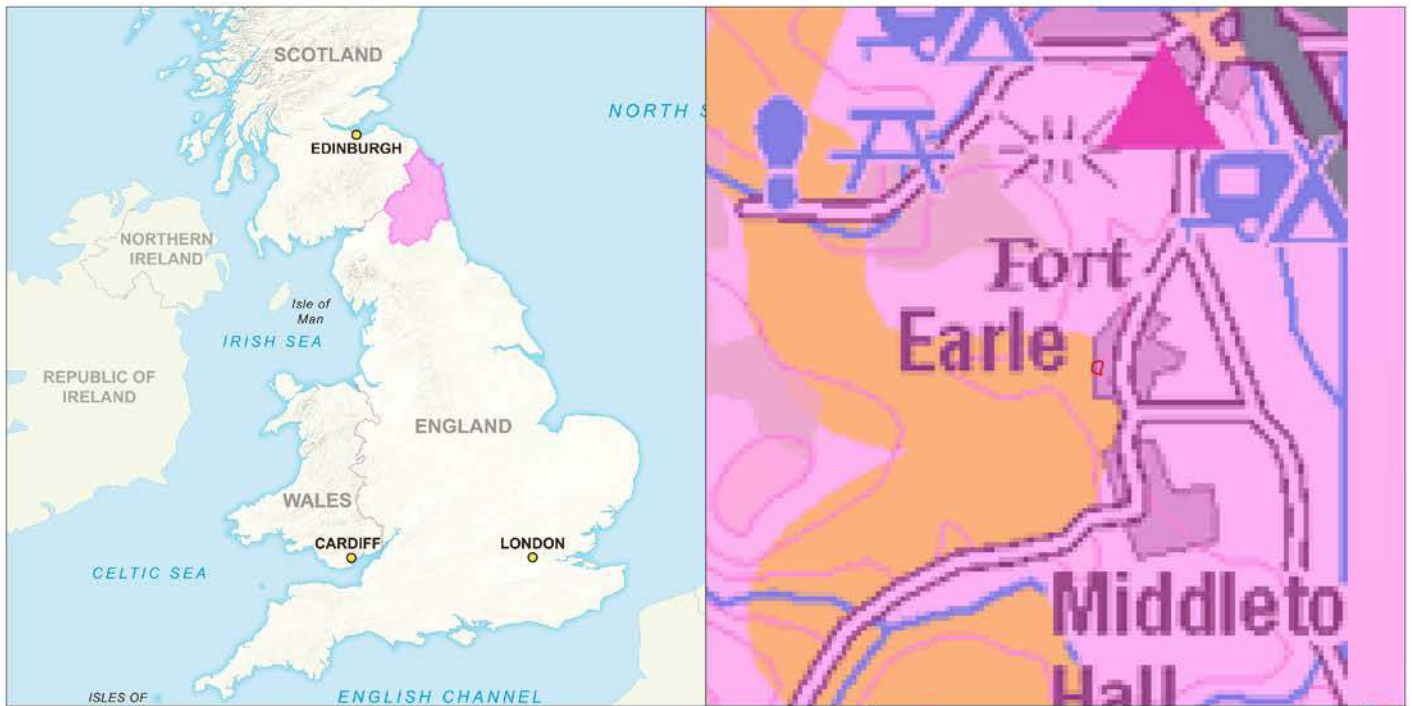
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FIGURE





Site name: North Yearle Steading
 Date: December 2019
 Drawn by: DGC
 Scale: Varies

This drawing: © ARS Ltd
 Contains Ordnance Survey data.
 © Crown copyright and database right 2015

**Figure 1:
 Site location**



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 Windmill Way
 Hebburn
 Tyne and Wear
 NE31 1SR



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 ARCHAEOLOGICAL
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APPENDIX 4: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: archaeol5-383376

Project details

Project name	North Yearle Steadings, Earle, Northumberland Historic Building Recording
Short description of the project	In September 2019 Archaeological Research Services Ltd was commissioned to undertake a historic building recording of a complex of traditional farm buildings located to the north east of the hamlet of Earle, Northumberland. In terms of fabric evidence it can be assessed that the farm complex was developed over the course of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries which included upwards of six distinct construction phases. To conclude, the history of the buildings and their development can be summarised as follows. Phase 1 c.1800 The first stone farm buildings (on site today) are in place, the barn and hemmel range being most likely the first. Possibly a separate group of structures are also in situ at the southernmost corner utilising to the water course at this location. Phase 2 c.1866 The main stone-built farm ranges are in place around three central foldyards. Phase 3 c. 1897 A pair of back-to-back shelter sheds are added between the north and centre foldyard. Modernisation of the east range building also takes place, probably to constitute a further cow-house with rear feeding passage. Phase 5 c.1950 Construction of corrugated metal shelter sheds, one contributing a covered foldyard, the other machinery/animal shed outside the centre yard, alongside the northern range. The Dutch barn to the north also supplements the expanded farm yard areas at this time. Phase 6 c.1980 Construction of grain tower and installation of electric conveyer. The barn is given a new corrugated metal roof possibly at this time. There was a change of livestock (or alteration of how these were housed) with the cow-house doorways being fitted with narrow stable doors. The historic building recording of North Yearle Steadings provides a descriptive, drawn and photographic record of the buildings occupying the site and provides a comprehensive preservation by record of the former farm buildings prior to conversion works taking place.
Project dates	Start: 18-12-2019 End: 31-01-2020
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Type of project	Building Recording
Monument type	FARM BUILDINGS Post Medieval
Monument type	FARM BUILDINGS Modern
Significant Finds	N/A None
Significant Finds	N/A None
Methods & techniques	"Annotated Sketch","Measured Survey","Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORTHUMBERLAND BERWICK UPON TWEED EARLE North Yearle Steadings, Earle, Northumberland
Study area	0 Square metres

Site coordinates NT 98730 26257 55.530036252901 -2.020121551127 55 31 48 N 002 01 12
W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeological Research Services Ltd

Project brief originator Archaeological Research Services Ltd

Project design originator Archaeological Research Services Ltd

Project director/manager Dr. Robin Holgate

Project supervisor Rupert Lotherington

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient Northumberland HER

Digital Contents "none"

Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Text"

Paper Archive Exists? No

Entered by Dr Ian Wyre (ian@archaeologicalresearchservices.com)

Entered on 31 January 2020