Humber Field Archaeology

Archaeological Consultants and Contractors

Architectural Recording
at
Poplar Farm
Stow Park Road
Marton near Gainsborough
Lincolnshire

for

Mr and Mrs D. A. Elwess

Watching Brief Report Number: 1355

June 2013

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D. P. Rawson, June 2013

Summary

A programme of architectural recording was undertaken by Humber Field Archaeology prior to the demolition of farm buildings at Poplar Farm, Stow Park Road, Marton near Gainsborough in Lincolnshire.

The farm house had been substantially demolished prior to recording and could not he closely inspected, though Ordnance Survey map evidence suggested a similar date to the other farm buildings. The farm buildings themselves, which appeared to have been primarily devoted to housing a dairy herd, surrounded a crew yard on four sides and were built of orange-red brick laid in English bond with the substantial use of Staffordshire blue brick for string courses, quoins and window surrounds. The effect of this design, particularly in the north range, was more one of railway than farm architecture. A date stone inscribed '1883' had been laid beneath a gablet in the west range and this would appear to have been the date of construction of many, if not all, of the buildings.

The principle later additions to the farmstead appear to have been the roofing over of much of the crew yard at some time between 1956 and 1980-1, and the addition of a corrugated asbestos roofed open-ended shed to the east, again at some time after 1956.

1. Introduction

This report presents the results of a programme of architectural recording undertaken by Humber Field Archaeology, on behalf of Mr and Mrs D. A. Elwess, prior to the demolition of farm buildings at Poplar Farm, Stow Park Road, Marton, near Gainsborough, Lincolnshire (Figure 1, Plate 1).

Humber Field Archaeology Site Code:	WB2013.017
'The Collection' Site Code	PFM13
National Grid Reference:	SK 8566 8152
Planning Reference:	129135
Museum Reference:	LCNCC: 2013.67

The development site is located on the eastern edge of Marton, approximately 300m south of Stow Park Road and is surrounded by agricultural land.

2. Historical Background

Marton parish is on the banks of the River Trent, 5 miles south of Gainsborough.

Littleborough Lane which passes just to the north of the farmstead and through Marton village is part of the Roman road from Lincoln to York (Figure 1) which forded the Trent at Littleborough. There were Roman settlements on both sides of the river crossing.

Marton is recorded in the Domesday Survey of 1086 as being sokeland to Gate Burton manor. It is recorded as waste.

St. Margaret's Church is largely of the 11th century, the tower being typical of late Anglo-Saxon towers in Lincolnshire (Pevsner and Harris 1989, 560). Pevsner and Harris remark on nothing further in the village save a mid-18th-century brick and stone house to the north of the church and the remains of a late 18th-century windmill some half mile west of the village (*ibid*).

The farmstead is shown on the 1887-90 1:10,560 Ordnance Survey map as a complex fully enclosing a crew yard. At this date it was known as Rectory Farm. Very minor changes of layout are apparent on the 1900-06, 1921-22, 1947 and 1956 1:10,560 Ordnance Survey maps, the name Rectory Farm being retained. The 1980-81 1:10,000 Ordnance Survey map represents the farm buildings as a single, undifferentiated block and by this time the name had changed to Poplar Farm.

3. Methodology

The work associated with this project was carried out by staff from Humber Field Archaeology, in accordance with the Archaeological Brief for Historic Building Recording produced by the Historic Environment Team of Lincolnshire County

Council, Date: 5th April 2013, Planning Permission Reference: 129135, in response to a condition placed upon the planning application. The condition stated:

> 'No development shall take place on the site until the applicant has secured the implementation of a Scheme of Archaeological Works in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. Reason: To ensure that the historic assets on the site are recorded prior to their demolition and to accord with Policy STRAT 1- Development Requiring Planning Permission.'

A single visit was made to the site on the 9th April 2013. Unfortunately, by the time HFA had been commissioned to undertake recording work, the farmhouse had been substantially demolished and the demolition contractors were poised to demolish other farm buildings. Given the time constraints attention was focussed on making a photographic record of the extant farm buildings and making sufficient notes whereby a schematic plan could be made of the layout of the buildings and their relationships to one another.

The primary digital photographic record was undertaken using a Pentax Optio WG-1 14 megapixel camera, with supplementary monochrome film photography being undertaken using a Pentax ME 35mm SLR camera. The black and white film used was for the purposes of archive stability, an Ilford silver iodide based one rather than a vegetable dye type. A selection of the digital photographs is presented as plates with this report. All plate locations are included on the accompanying plans, the plans having been created using AutoCAD LT 2014. A concordance table cross-referencing all the photographs taken is included in this report as Appendix 1.

4. Results

The Farmhouse

This was located a little to the south-west of the other farm buildings that are described and discussed below. Unfortunately, demolition of the farmhouse had commenced prior to HFA involvement in recording the site and close inspection of what remained of the house was not possible on health and safety grounds (Plate 1). The house would appear to have been contemporaneous with the nearby complex of farm buildings, i.e. dating to the late nineteenth century, and this is suggested by the Ordnance Survey map evidence (see above).

The farm buildings

General description

The surviving buildings essentially comprised four ranges enclosing a fold yard (Figures 2 and 3). At one time at least two buildings ran along the east side of the enclosed yard but little of these structures survived by the time of the survey. The north and west ranges were, with the exception of a single-storey shed to the north-east, two-storey buildings (Plate 2), whilst the south range was entirely single-storey (Plates 9 and 10). All buildings were constructed in a mixture of orange-red machine

made bricks and Staffordshire blue bricks, the latter being typically used for string courses, door and window surrounds and quoins. Roofs (where extant) were generally though not exclusively covered in Welsh slate. The use of Staffordshire blue bricks gave the north and west ranges in particular, an appearance not dissimilar to railway warehouses of the later nineteenth century (see **5. Discussion**). The individual bricks were typically of size 225mm x 110mm x 70mm.

External descriptions

North Range
The roof had been entirely removed from the two-storey portion of the north range (Plates 2-5)

Throughout the northern elevation of this range the courses of orange-red brick were laid in English bond, with this brickwork being broken up by two double string courses of Staffordshire blues and a single course of the latter (Plates 3-5). All the doors and windows had surrounds of Staffordshire blue brick, with reveals, soffits and sills being typically of bullnosed brick. Within the central portion of the elevation there was a staircase leading up to first-floor level (Plate 4) and the steps were of dressed sandstone.

The southern or crew-yard facing elevation did not noticeable deviate from the design described above (Plates 7, 16 and 17).

At the eastern end of the north range there was a single-storey shed that had most likely been built and used primarily as an engine house (Plates 6 and 7). Like the two-storey building, this had been built predominantly of orange-red brick laid in English bond. The lower of the double string courses noted above for the two-storey block continued around the northern and eastern side of the building. The gable end of the building had a large entrance with a semi-circular arch of Staffordshire blue brick. The entrance was shut by means of a part-extant sliding door and the gable was surmounted by coping stones of dressed sandstone, the roof being covered in slate.

East Range
The northern building in this range had been almost completely demolished by the time of the survey, with the only surviving remnant being the north gable end that adjoined the south face of the engine house described above (Plate 7). The remnants of a building of unknown function comprising English bond built external brick walls with Staffordshire blue quoins, survived to the south (Plate 9).

Immediately to the east of the crew yard buildings there was a breeze block and corrugated asbestos shed of modern origin (Plate 8).

South Range
Aside from the south facing remnant of the building running along the eastern edge of the yard (see above), this range comprised two open-fronted shelter sheds flanking the entrance ramp to the crew yard and a calf house (?) at the south end of the range (Plates 9-11).

Like the north range, all the buildings of the south range had been constructed of orange-red brick, with the external walls laid in English bond and with facings of Staffordshire blue brick. The piers supporting the roofs of both the shelter sheds were constructed wholly of Staffordshire blues with bullnosed bricks finishing off all the pier corners (Plate 10). What remained of the eastern shed had been roofed in pantiles, whilst the western shed and calf house had been roofed in slate.

West Range
The west range had been constructed very much on the pattern of the north, having been built in two storeys of orange-red brick laid in English bond and with two double and one single string course of Staffordshire blue brick (Plates 12-15).

The south elevation had a window high up in its gable that departed from the pattern of others throughout the buildings in having a concrete lintel, though retaining the usual sill of bullnose Staffordshire blue bricks (Plate 12).

The west elevation had a centrally place staircase with steps of dressed sandstone that was very similar to that in the north range (Plates 13 and 14). These steps lead up to a first-floor entrance that was surmounted by a gablet under which there was a simple date stone carrying the inscription '1883' (Plate 15).

Against the north part of the elevation there were the remnants of a long lean-to structure that had been subdivided into four compartments (Plate 14), This lean-to structure appeared contemporaneous with and of the same brick design as the rest of the west range.

The east or crew yard facing elevation was of a very similar pattern to those described previously for the north and west ranges.

The gable ends of the range were surmounted by dressed sandstone copings. Where extant, the west side of the roof had been slate covered whilst the east side had been covered in unusual large concrete tiles (Plates 9 and 10)

<u>Internal descriptions</u>

Internal inspections could only be made for the ground-floor rooms in each of the ranges as access to first-floor areas was either impossible or prohibited on the grounds of safety. All doors, save the occasional internal one (such as between rooms 10 and 11), were of the heck (split) type commonly used in farm buildings.

Crew yard
This had been covered at some time between 1956 and 1981 by a corrugated asbestos roof with a steep north-south fall. The 1980-81 Ordnance Survey map was the first to show the farm buildings without an open crew yard. The roof was supported by a series of RSJs running north to south, the southern ends of the RSJs being supported by additional breeze block built piers, or breeze block extensions to original Staffordshire blue brick piers (Plates 16 and 18).

On the south side of the crew yard and adjacent to the calf house there was a timber trough that appeared to date back to the late nineteenth or early twentieth century (Plates 18 and 19).

On the north side of the crew yard there was a stone pump trough that might also have dated back to the original build (Plates 17 and 20).

Room 1
This was by far and away the largest space within the two-storey north range. Due to a fire having caused very serious damage within it, access was quite restricted. A single RSJ ran east to west along the western part of the room. This supported joists that appeared, where not completely destroyed by fire, to have been laterally stiffened by herringbone struts or cross-nogging (see Plate 24 for an illustration of such an arrangement from another room). This would have been used to stop the long thin joists from deforming under heavy loading (Brunskill 1989, 181). In the eastern portion of the room what appeared to be an inverted 'L'-section steel joist was supported by a series of square section wooden posts, though severe damage here prohibited closer inspection.

With regard to function the most likely use of this room was as a cow house.

Room 2
This room was entirely devoid of fixtures and fittings but its proximity to what would certainly have been a cow house (room 3) immediately to the south, suggests that it would have housed a vacuum pump and associated equipment concerned with milking.

Room 3 – Cow house
The presence of rendered walls and substantial lengths of pipe-work (Plate 22), suggested that this room would have been used as a milking parlour or shed – perhaps having been converted from its original role. This room again had had herringbone strutting between its joists.

Room 4 – Loose box
The brick-built manger (Plate 23) had arched openings below to accommodate the built up of litter and waste (Brett 2004, 15). There was herringbone strutting between the joists (Plate 24).

Room 5 – Loose box
This loose box was filled with scrap material and so little could be seen of the interior. Herringbone strutting was again in evidence. The heck doors were affixed by wrought iron strap hinges decorated with spear finials and were doubtless of later 19th century date (Plate 25).

Passageway
The passageway between the loose boxes and the calf house was surfaced in sandstone setts (Plate 26). These appear to be contemporary with the farm buildings.

Rooms 6 and 7 – Calf house (?)
This building was divided in two, with each division being further subdivided by brick partitions into a series of stalls (Plate 27). Each brick partition was around 1.5m high. Close inspection of the stalls was not possible due to the accumulation of scrap and demolition debris, but the building may have functioned as a calf house, though it might also have been a piggery. The roof had intermediate support by means of a single north to south running queen-post and raking strut truss.

Room 8
Unfortunately this could not be accessed.

Open-sided shelter sheds
These were located on either side of the access ramp to the crew yard (Figure 3). Each had an outer and an inner facing portion. The westernmost shed had a low brick-built manager running along its southern side together with a continuous wrought iron hay rack above (Plate 28). The manager would not originally have been as low to the ground, but the ground level in this part of the crew yard in particular, appeared to have been substantially raised by accumulations of dung and other material.

The roof was supported by three north to south running wooden trusses with queen-posts and raking struts (Plate 29). These trusses appeared to be of 20th-century rather than 19th-century date. At their northern and southern ends the trusses rested on piers built of Staffordshire blue brick (Plates 10 and 18). A whole series of boards had been laid along the struts lying immediately above the wall separating the inner and outer parts of the shed (Plate 29). This presumably had been done to protect the fodder from driving rain coming into the shed from the south.

The easternmost shed had been very badly damaged by fire and the roof largely demolished, but enough remained to see that it would have been almost a mirror image of the one to the west (Plate 30).

Room 9
The floor above was supported by a single east to west running RSJ that supported joists with herringbone strutting. A single centrally placed cast iron column supported the RSJ. In the north-west corner of the room and adjacent to the large entrance in the north elevation (Plate 5), there was a sump that measured 2.50m x 2.30m that was of unknown depth. Presumably this bay was used for the maintenance of engines and other vehicles, though whether the sump was original to the build was not determined.

Room 10
As in room 9 the floor above was supported by a single east to west running RSJ that supported joists with herringbone strutting. A single centrally placed cast-iron column supported the RSJ. There was a further framework of RSJs that supported a feed processing or milling machine (Figure 3 and Plate 31). This would have processed grain from the granary above to produce animal feed. The extant machine had clearly been powered by an electric motor and was inscribed with the single word ‘ADELPHI’. Originally there would presumably have been a belt driven machine powered by the engine located in room 11 (see below).

Room 11 – Engine shed
Aside from the external appearance of the building, one feature above all others indicated that this had been an engine shed and this was the transmission slot in the west wall of the building, immediately below the staircase leading to the first floor (Plate 32). A belt from the engine would have run through to room 10.

A single collar and rafter truss provided intermediate support for the roof.

5. Discussion

The following is solely the opinion of Humber Field Archaeology, and may not reflect that of the Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Team, archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority (LPA).

Overall the farm buildings were intriguing, less for their layout as for the manner of their construction. It was usual for brick farm buildings of the mid-19th century onwards to be built almost entirely of brick standards in an English garden wall bond of a ratio of either three or five courses of stretchers to each of headers. There would have been the occasional use of 'specials' – such as the use of bullnosed bricks where livestock might repeated rub against them. This was certainly very much the case at Rectory Farm, Usselby, a Lincolnshire farm previously surveyed by the author (Rawson 2011) and a number of other farms surveyed in the East Riding of Yorkshire.

As has been noted, the farm buildings were almost entirely constructed in English bond with the frequent use of Staffordshire blue brick in string courses and in vulnerable locations. English bond was a more expensive bond to use than garden wall (Brunskill 1990, 87), and Staffordshire blues were more expensive than standards. Both English bond and Stafforshire blues were much favoured by Victorian engineers (*ibid* 171), and were extensively used in railway structures. Indeed, the north range and engine house of Poplar Farm bear more than a passing resemblance to many of the railway warehouses and sheds of the second half of the 19th century. All this begs the question of the origin of the farm and whether there was a connection, physical or financial, to the railway. The latter was, unfortunately, outside the scope of this survey. As regards the former, the LNE railway ran not too far distant to the east, but none of the Ordnance Survey maps consulted (see **7. References**), showed any spur running off to the farm.

Due to the homogeneity of the construction of the buildings there seems little reason not to believe that the date of 1883 shown on the date stone contained in the west range was not the date, or approximate date, for the construction of the bulk of them. The layout of the buildings enclosing a crew yard was what would be expected for a farm of the period. The later 19th century saw increases in the number of cattle being kept as root crops became increasing available and processed for animal feed (Barnwell and Giles, 1997). The crew yard allowed manure to accumulate and when mixed with straw this provided fertiliser for the fields. In many parts of the country the crew yard was covered to protect the manure from the rain, but this was not thought to be necessary in Lincolnshire due to lower than average rainfall (Brett 2004, 7). As has already been seen the crew yard here was not covered until sometime after 1956.

The use of a steam engine to process the feed in the necessary quantity to support large numbers of livestock was *de rigueur* on larger farms by the later 19th century.

6. Acknowledgements

Thanks are accorded to Colin Avison of Beckside Building and Installations Ltd for help and co-operation during the course of this project.

The work was carried out in accordance with an Archaeological Brief for Historic Building Recording produced by the Historic Environment Team of Lincolnshire County Council. The report was edited by David Atkinson. Administrative support was provided by Georgina Richardson and June Rooney.

7. References

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Rawson, D. P. 2011. Archaeological Building Recording at Rectory Farm, Usselby, Lincolnshire. Humber Field Archaeology Watching Brief 1278

Maps consulted

1887-90 1:10,560 Ordnance Survey map

1900-06 1:10,560 Ordnance Survey map

1921-22 1:10,560 Ordnance Survey map

1947 1:10,560 Ordnance Survey map

1956 1:10,560 Ordnance Survey map

1980-81 1:10,560 Ordnance Survey map

8. Appendices

Appendix 1
Photographic Concordance Table

Photograph	Site Code	Film No	Frame	Digital	Ref Print?	Pub?	Direction of view	Description
1	WB2013.017			1	0	-1	W	Farmhouse
2	WB2013.017			2	0	0	SW	Farmhouse
3	WB2013.017			3	0	0	S	Farmhouse
4	WB2013.017			4	0	0	W	Farmhouse
5	WB2013.017			5	0	0	NW	Farmhouse
6	WB2013.017			6	0	0	NE	Farmhouse
7	WB2013.017	1	1	7	-1	-1	SE	General view of farm buildings
8	WB2013.017			8	0	0	S	West part of north elevation, north range
9	WB2013.017			9	0	0	S	East part of north elevation, north range
10	WB2013.017	1	2	10	-1	-1	S	Detail of south part of north elevation, north range
11	WB2013.017	1	4	11	-1	-1	S	Central staircase north elevation, north range
12	WB2013.017	1	6	12	-1	-1	S	Large doorway (room 9), north elevation, north range
13	WB2013.017			13	0	0	S	Engine house
14	WB2013.017			14	0	0	SW	North elevation, north range
15	WB2013.017	1	12	15	-1	0	W	Engine house
16	WB2013.017			16	0	-1	NW	Engine house
17	WB2013.017	1	16	17	-1	0	N	Engine house
18	WB2013.017			18	0	0	N	East end of south elevation, north range
19	WB2013.017	1	22	19	-1	-1	NW	Asbestos roofed shed
20	WB2013.017	1	26	20	-1	-1	WNW	South elevation, south range
21	WB2013.017	1	24	21	-1	0	N	Ruined building, east end of south range
22	WB2013.017			22	0	0	N	Ruined shelter shed & adjacent building, south range
23	WB2013.017	1	25	23	-1	-1	NW	West part of south elevation, south range
24	WB2013.017			24	0	0	N	Intact shelter shed, south elevation, south range
25	WB2013.017	1	28	25	-1	0	NW	Far west part of south elevation, south range
26	WB2013.017			26	0	0	N	West part of south elevation, south range
27	WB2013.017	1	29	27	-1	-1	E	West elevation, south range
28	WB2013.017			28	0	0	NE	South-east corner of farm building complex
29	WB2013.017	1	30	29	-1	-1	N	South elevation, west range
30	WB2013.017	1	31	30	-1	0	NE	West range
31	WB2013.017	1	32	31	-1	-1	E	South part, west elevation, west range
32	WB2013.017	1	33	32	-1	-1	NE	North part of west elevation, west range
33	WB2013.017	1	34	33	-1	-1	E	Date stone, west elevation, west range
34	WB2013.017	1	10	34	-1	-1	SE	Engine house
35	WB2013.017	1	18	35	-1	0	N	East part of south elevation, north range
36	WB2013.017			36	0	0	SE	North elevation, north range

Photograph	Site Code	Film No	Frame	Digital	Ref Print?	Pub?	Direction of view	Description
37	WB2013.017	1	14	37	-1	0	SW	Damaged/demolished east part, south range
38	WB2013.017	1	20	38	-1	-1	SW	Damaged/demolished east part, south range
39	WB2013.017			39	0	0	S	Damaged/demolished east part, south range
40	WB2013.017			40	0	0	W	Crew yard
41	WB2013.017	2	13	41	-1	-1	W	Crew yard
42	WB2013.017	2	15	42	-1	0	W	East elevation, west range
43	WB2013.017	2	3	43	-1	-1	NE	South elevation, north range
44	WB2013.017			44	0	-1	SE	North elevation, south range
45	WB2013.017	2	16	45	-1	-1	SE	Wooden feeding trough
46	WB2013.017			46	0	0	S	Wooden feeding trough
47	WB2013.017	2	2	47	-1	-1	N	Stone pump trough
48	WB2013.017	2	9	48	-1	-1	SSE	Interior, west end, room 1
49	WB2013.017	2	31	49	-1	0	SE	Interior, west end, room 1
50	WB2013.017			50	0	0	SW	Interior, room 2
51	WB2013.017			51	0	-1	SSW	Interior, room 3
52	WB2013.017	2	27	52	-1	0	SW	South part of east elevation, west range
53	WB2013.017	2	18	53	-1	-1	W	Interior, manger detail, room 4
54	WB2013.017	2	17	54	-1	-1	E	Interior, herringbone strutting, room 4
55	WB2013.017			55	0	0	SW	Heck doors, room 5
56	WB2013.017	2	26	56	-1	-1	SW	Iron strap detail, heck doors, room 5
57	WB2013.017	2	25	57	-1	-1	N/A	Sandstone setts, passageway adjacent to rooms 4 & 5
58	WB2013.017	2	7	58	-1	0	SE	Interior, room 7
59	WB2013.017	2	6	59	-1	-1	NE	Interior, room 6
60	WB2013.017	2	19	60	-1	0	SE	Interior, ruined east shelter shed
61	WB2013.017	2	23	61	-1	0	S	Interior, sump detail, room 9
62	WB2013.017	2	10	62	-1	0	SE	Interior, room 10
63	WB2013.017	2	22	63	-1	-1	E	Interior, milling machine detail, room 10
64	WB2013.017	2	21	64	-1	-1	W	Interior, room 11
65	WB2013.017			65	0	0	E	Interior, room 11
66	WB2013.017			66	0	0	W	Room detail, west range
67	WB2013.017	2	20	67	-1	0	SE	Damaged/demolished east part, south range
68	WB2013.017	2	14	68	-1	-1	SW	Interior, north part, west shelter shed
69	WB2013.017			69	0	-1	SW	Interior, roof truss, north part, west shelter shed

Appendix 2
Archive

Project Details:
Architectural recording at Poplar Farm, Stow Park Road, Marton near Gainsborough, Lincolnshire

Humber Field Archaeology Site Code: WB2013.017
'The Collection' Site Code: PFM13
National Grid Reference: SK 8566 8152
Planning Reference Number: 129135
Author David Rawson **Date of fieldwork** 09.04.13
Report Number. Humber Field Archaeology Report Number: 1355
June 2013

Quantity

There were no finds
1x A4 folder contains the paper archive

Summary of work

A programme of architectural recording was undertaken by Humber Field Archaeology prior to the demolition of farm buildings at Poplar Farm, Stow Park Road, Marton near Gainsborough in Lincolnshire.

The farm house had been substantially demolished prior to recording and could not he closely inspected, though Ordnance Survey map evidence suggested a similar date to the other farm buildings. The farm buildings themselves, which appeared to have been primarily devoted to housing a dairy herd, surrounded a crew yard on four sides and were built of orange-red brick laid in English bond with the substantial use of Staffordshire blue brick for string courses, quoins and window surrounds. The effect of this design, particularly in the north range, was more one of railway than farm architecture. A date stone inscribed '1883' had been laid beneath a gablet in the west range and this would appear to have been the date of construction of many, if not all, of the buildings.

The principle later additions to the farmstead appear to have been the roofing over of much of the crew yard at some time between 1956 and 1980-1, and the addition of a corrugated asbestos roofed open-ended shed to the east, again at some time after 1956.

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Architectural Recording at Poplar Farm, Stow Park Road, Marton near Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, Humber Field Archaeology Watching Brief Report Number 1355, June 2013

Appendix 3
Project Design

POPLAR FARM, MARTON, GAINSBOROUGH, WEST LINDSEY LINCOLNSHIRE:
Project design for archaeological building recording

Prepared by: HUMBER FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY
The Old School
Northumberland Avenue
KINGSTON UPON HULL
HU2 0LN

Prepared for: BECKSIDE BUILDERS LTD.
37 High Street
Lincoln
LN5 8AS

Site Code: PFM 2013
Museum Reference: *pending*
Planning Ref: 129135
National Grid Reference: SK 8466 8152

Contents

K. Steedman
23/04/2013

SUMMARY

The Project Design has been prepared by Humber Field Archaeology for Beckside Builders Ltd, in response to a brief for a scheme of archaeological building recording issued by Lincolnshire County Council Historic Environment Record Team (LHER) on 5th April 2013. The document sets out the methodology for the recording of structures prior to demolition.

INTRODUCTION

This project design has been prepared to outline the proposed methodology for undertaking the works with reference to the Archaeological Brief for an Archaeological Building Recording at Poplar Farm, Marton, Gainsborough, West Lindsey. Issued 05/04/13 and Chapter 9 Specification and Project Design (v2.1), Archaeology Handbook, Lincolnshire County Council (revised November 2010).

The Brief states that archaeological building recording is to be undertaken at Poplar Farm, Marton, Gainsborough in order to satisfy an archaeological condition on the planning permission for this site.

Site Location and description

The site (NGR SK 8466 8152; see Figure 1) lies to the south-east of the village of Marton, being largely surrounded by open countryside. The area consists of a mix of pasture and arable farmland, with some residential properties on the edge of the village nearby.

Geology and topography

The site lies at around the 20m contour, with the land sloping gradually down from west to east. The superficial deposits consist of Glaciofluvial Deposits of Sand And Gravel, overlying the bedrock of mudstone and limestone of the Scunthorpe Mudstone Formation (http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html).

Planning background

Planning permission has been granted for the demolition of the farm buildings and house at Poplar Farm, Marton. It was subject to the following condition:

> "No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a Scheme of Archaeological Works in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority.
>
> Reason: To ensure that the historic assets on the site are recorded prior to their demolition and to accord with Policy STRAT 1 – Development Requiring Planning Permission."

The condition is in line with National Planning Policy Framework Section 12 paragraph 128: ''Where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment, and, where necessary, a field evaluation.'

Archaeological and historical background

Marton parish is on the banks of the River Trent, 5 miles south of Gainsborough. Littleborough Lane, which passes just north of the farmstead and through Marton village, is the Roman road from Lincoln to York which forded the Trent at Littleborough. There were Roman settlements on both sides of the river crossing.

Marton is recorded in the Domesday Survey (1086AD) as being *sokeland* to Gate Burton manor; it is recorded as waste. A farmstead at this site is shown on an Ordnance Survey (OS) map dating from the 1880s, where it is named Rectory Farm. Study of successive OS maps from the late 19th century and into the 20th century shows that the complex of farm buildings at Rectory Farm continued to enlarge and develop during this period. By the time of the 1974 OS map, the farm was referred to by its present name of Poplar Farm.

OBJECTIVES

The intention is to record any features of architectural interest revealed prior to demolition. Exposed features and structures will be identified and recorded in line with a level 3 survey as defined in 'Understanding Historic Buildings': a guide to good recording practice (English Heritage 2006) and with regard to Institute of Field Archaeologists, Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures (September 1996, revised October 2008).

METHOD STATEMENT

4.1 Building record

The recording will be undertaken by a professional historic buildings analyst with experience in buildings of this type. A full photographic record will be made of the surviving buildings with detailed descriptions of both the internal and external elevations, roof structures. Individual detail photographs will be taken of any original fixtures and fittings that still survive, including timbers showing signs of re-use. A minimum 35mm format will be used (in monochrome and colour), supplemented by digital photographs taken using a high resolution digital camera. Photographs will include scales, and notes will be taken of direction of view for plotting on an overall plan.

A photographic archive will be produced and will comprise a cross-referenced database linking the prints, negatives, transparencies and digital photographs. The negatives and transparencies will be stored in appropriate archivally-stable wallets. Any prints will be labelled accordingly. Contact sheets and reference prints of the digital photographs will also be included and a disc containing the images will accompany the archive.

Where appropriate, features will be recorded in plan and/or section/elevation. In such instances, plans will be completed at a scale of 1:50 or 1:20, depending on the level of detail, whilst section drawings and elevations will be at a scale of 1:20 or 1:10. Timber drawings will be at a scale of 1:10, although larger scale details of joints may be required at 1:5 or 1:2, supplemented by photographs. Plans or other drawings provided by the client or his contractor may be used where these are sufficiently accurate and of sufficient quality.

Items encountered or materials which are necessarily removed as a result of the works will be recorded to professional standards using recognised procedures and numbering systems compatible with the accessioning system employed by the Lincolnshire Museum Service. Recording, marking and storage materials will be of archive quality. Where possible, building materials will be recorded on site, with only diagnostic examples being taken off site for further examination.

Specialist dating
Dendrochronological sampling may be required, as some of the materials used in the building may have been re-used. Where samples are taken, they will be examined at the HFA offices to assess whether they are suitable for dating; normal requirement is for 55 annual rings, although a slightly smaller number may return a date under exceptional circumstances, for example where several overlapping sample sequences are identifiable.

Dimensions of exposed bricks will be recorded where possible for potential dating and signs of re-use of older masonry incorporated into the new fabric; if necessary, a building materials specialist will inspect masonry *in situ*.

4.2 Off-site works

Upon completion of the on-site recording, the written, drawn and photographic records will be compiled into a site archive to provide the basis for production of a final report within six weeks of completion of all site work, on behalf of the client and the Principal Archaeologist at Lincolnshire County Council

Any finds recovered will be cleaned and examined; recording, marking and storage materials will be of archive quality. If necessary, small finds — such as metalwork — will be despatched to the York

Archaeological Trust Conservation Laboratory to assess any conservation measures required to ensure the stabilisation of the material for long term storage. Artefacts requiring radiocarbon, dendrochronology or species identification will also be selected for specialist analysis.

Archive preparation and deposition (including finds retention/disposal)
The archive will be prepared in accordance with our usual procedures which are in line with those recommended by English Heritage. The site archive, including finds, subject to the permission of the relevant landowners, will be labelled, conserved and stored according to the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage* and the Museums and Galleries Commission *Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections*.

It is intended that the site archive will be deposited with a suitable repository which meets the criteria for the storage of archaeological material, in this case the Collection, Lincoln. A site code and accession number has been assigned as has a deposition window in April 2012. Finds remain the property of the landowner until such time as they may grant title to a museum. The digital archive will be stored at HFA.

Report production
As stated above, the results of the fieldwork will be presented in a report, produced within twelve weeks of completion, for submission to the client and LHER. The report will conform to the standards defined in section 14.6 of the Lincolnshire Archaeology Handbook and will include:

- A non-technical summery;
- Introduction and background;
- Site code/project number and museum reference;
- Eight-figure National Grid references;
- A description of the fabric, construction; fixtures and fittings;
- A location plan at a minimum scale of 1:10,000;
- A plan of the layout of the building indicating the position from which photographs were taken and floor plans and elevations as appropriate, including levels relative to OD;
- A phase site plan showing all alterations;
- Photographs;
- Conclusions regarding the interpretation of any remains encountered;
- A photographic register;
- A copy of the Project Design;
- A copy of the Archive Index;
  A copy of the Oasis cover sheet.

A copy of the report in .PDF format will be lodged with LHER and the Oasis recording project.

If significant remains are found, publication in national, period, or specialist journals will be considered.

4.3 Copyright, confidentiality and publicity

Unless the client wishes to state otherwise, the copyright of any written, graphic or photographic records and reports rests with the originating body; that is the archaeological organisation undertaking the fieldwork and analysis.

The results of the work will remain confidential, initially being distributed only to the clients, their agents, and LHER, and will remain so until such time as it is deemed to have entered the public domain. All aspects of publicity will be agreed at the outset of the project between the client and HFA.

4.5 Health and Safety, Insurance

Health and Safety will take priority over archaeological matters. Under the terms of the *Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992*, HFA prepare a Risk Assessment for any excavations undertaken. Overall policy is in line with recommendations set out in the SCAUM Manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (5th Edition, 2007), and HFA has also produced a safety manual for excavations (approved by

English Heritage) which is distributed to members of staff during Health and Safety induction at commencement of projects.

Humber Field Archaeology (part of the Humber Archaeology Partnership), as a section of Hull City Council, is covered by the Council's Public Liability Insurance Policy; the indemnity for this policy currently stand at £50 million. For further details contact: Zurich Municipal, Zurich House, 2 Gladiator Way, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 6GB. HFA also has £1m Professional Indemnity Insurance with Royal & Sun Alliance, in conjunction with Marsh Ltd. Copies of the certificates can be supplied on request.

4.6 Monitoring

The work will be monitored by the Planning Archaeologist to ensure that it is carried out to the required standard. This project design has been submitted to them for their approval, and the opportunity will be afforded for them to visit the site and to inspect and comment upon the excavation and recording procedures.

5 TIMETABLE AND STAFFING

5.1 Timetable for the work

The client wishes HFA to undertake the work at the earliest possible opportunity during April 2013. Notice shall be given to the Lincolnshire Historic Environment Team ten working days in advance of work commencing on site.

The report on the recording will be produced in the six-week period following the on-site recording.

5.2 Staffing

The on-site recording will undertaken by our buildings specialist under the overall control of the Senior Project Officer. The project team includes the following, with expertise also drawn as necessary from the external specialists listed.

DAVID ATKINSON A.I.F.A – Senior Project Officer
Since 1979 has worked for Humber Field Archaeology and its predecessor Humberside Archaeology Unit. Initially as a site assistant and post-excavation researcher, then later as a supervisor on a variety of urban Medieval and rural Iron Age/ Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon sites throughout the Humber region.

In 1996 became a Project Officer responsible for the day to day management of excavations, numerous evaluations and watching briefs and the production of the reports including CAD in addition to undertaking post excavation analysis on major excavations from Flixborough and Hull.

From 2004 to present has worked as Senior Project Officer responsible for the management of the watching brief programme, which consists of between 80 - 90 projects per year. Also edits CAD drawings for reports and manages the GPS data. In addition has continued with work on large scale projects including managing data and CAD/GIS mapping for the Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Project (Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, from Whitby to Sutton Bridge) and the Assessment of Aggregate-Producing Landscapes in the East Riding of Yorkshire for English Heritage.

DAVID RAWSON MA 1998 York University
Has worked as a professional archaeologist since 1987 Worked on the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit/RCHME team undertaking the Greater Manchester Textile Mills Survey, then on the Salford Listed Buildings at Risk survey. After working at Manchester Museum and with the Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust, took an MA course in the Archaeology of Buildings. Involved in producing conservation plans for English Heritage sites such as Richmond Castle, Chesters Fort, Hadrian's Wall and Clifford's Tower, York. Since working with HFA has undertaken building surveys of many 17th - 20th century buildings, such as Danthorpe Hall, Raywell House, Hull Brewery and the 1930s Endike School. Amongst the numerous farm buildings recorded are Lincolnshire examples at Roxby, Thealby and the surviving 'mud and stud' portions of Littlewick Farm, Goxhill.

LISA M. WASTLING Senior Finds Officer - *BSc (Hons)* FSA Archaeological Science (Bradford University) 1989
Has over 20 years of expertise in artefact analysis, writing over 50 publication reports and 200 assessments.
Has been working in the field of archaeological finds and pottery since 1989. Between 1989 and 1996 worked for a core of 4 different archaeological units and English Heritage, first working for Humberside Archaeology Unit in 1990.Took up the permanent post of Finds Researcher with Humber Archaeological Partnership in 1996, subsequently Finds Officer and currently Senior Finds Officer with Humber Field Archaeology.

Has worked extensively on finds from the East Riding of Yorkshire and the Humber Region of the Prehistoric, Roman, Anglian, Mid-Saxon, Saxo-Norman, Medieval and Post-medieval periods. Has published widely, contributing extensively to articles and monographs at regional, national and international level.

MIKE FRANKLAND – Senior Illustrator
Site excavation, surveying, recording on urban and rural sites of all periods 1979-1985.
Archaeological illustration since 1985, of all types of artefacts, site plans and sections, reconstructions and visuals.
Illustration: An extremely experienced illustrator, he has been the senior illustrator for over 15 years and has co-ordinated the artwork for over a dozen monographs and journals and numerous articles.

Qualifications in:

Advanced City & Guilds Industrial Printing and Graphics
Advanced City & Guilds AutoCAD 2D
Advanced City & Guilds AutoCAD 3D
Advanced City & Guilds AutoCAD 3D rendering
Advanced City & Guilds Adobe Photoshop
Advanced City & Guilds Adobe Illustrator

EXTERNAL SPECIALISTS

Pottery Specialist	P. Didsbury, MPhil, Cert.Ed. FSA – has very extensive experience of pottery research on material from the region, and, in particular, has published numerous reports on Saxon, medieval and post-medieval regional assemblages.
Ceramic Building Materials	J. Tibbles, BA (Hons), Cert. Arch. (Hull), Dip.HE, AIFA – has extensive experience in CBM assessments and publication reports for all periods. Has also developed the regional typology for CBM over recent years
Lithics	RHLithics – worked as a lithic specialist since 1994, working on the lithics for the Humber Wetlands Project, as well as many other lithic assemblages from the Humber basin.
Worked Stone	S. Harrison, Ryedale Archaeological Services.
Environmental Specialists	Palaeoecology Research Services (micro plant remains, animal bones, shell);
Conservation Services	York Archaeological Trust Conservation Laboratory (conservation, specialist reports).
Archaeometallurgy	J. Cowgill, Environmental Archaeology Consultancy.
Archaeomagnetics, Geophysics	Dr M. Noel, GeoQuest Associates.
Human Remains	V. Wastling BA, BSc, MSc Has overseen the exhumation of individuals from Bronze Age, Iron Age, Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon contexts, and written the subsequent assessments and reports. Has also reported on a number of Roman cremation burials from the region.
Dendrochronology	I. Tyers, Dendrochronological Consultancy Ltd.
Radiocarbon/AMS	Beta Analytic, Florida, USA.

REFERENCES

Allen, J.L., St John Holt, A., 2006
Health and Safety in Field Archaeology, Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers

Brown, D.H., 2007
Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in the creation, compilation, transfer and curation, published by IFA on behalf of the Archaeological Archives Forum

English Heritage 2006a
Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice

Institute of Field Archaeologists, 2008
Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures (September 1996, revised October 2008)

Museums and Galleries Commission, 1992
Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections.

Walker, K., 1990
Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage, United Kingdom Institute for Conservation

Appendix 4
Oasis Cover Sheet

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

List of Projects | Manage Projects | Search Projects | New project | Change your details | HER coverage | Change country | Log out

Printable version

OASIS ID: humberfi2-153289

Project details

Project name	Poplar Farm, Marton
Short description of the project	A programme of architectural recording was undertaken by Humber Field Archaeology prior to the demolition of farm buildings at Poplar Farm, Stow Park Road, Marton near Gainsborough in Lincolnshire. The farm house had been substantially demolished prior to recording and could not he closely inspected, though Ordnance Survey map evidence suggested a similar date to the other farm buildings. The farm buildings themselves, which appeared to have been primarily devoted to housing a dairy herd, surrounded a crew yard on four sides and were built of orange-red brick laid in English bond with the substantial use of Staffordshire blue brick for string courses, quoins and window surrounds. The effect of this design, particularly in the north range, was more one of railway than farm architecture. A date stone inscribed '1883' had been laid beneath a gablet in the west range and this would appear to have been the date of construction of many, if not all, of the buildings. The principle later additions to the farmstead appear to have been the roofing over of much of the crew yard at some time between 1956 and 1980-1, and the addition of a corrugated asbestos roofed open-ended shed to the east, again at some time after 1956.
Project dates	Start: 09-04-2013 End: 10-04-2013
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	LCNCC: 2013.67 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	PFM13 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	WB2013.017 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Building Recording
Site status	None
Site status (other)	historic farm buildings
Current Land use	Vacant Land 3 - Despoiled land (contaminated derelict and ?brownfield? sites)
Monument type	AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Measured Survey","Photographic Survey","Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	LINCOLNSHIRE WEST LINDSEY MARTON Poplar Farm
Postcode	DN21 5AF

Study area	500.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	SK 8566 8152 53 0 53 19 24 N 000 42 49 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Humber Field Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Humber Field Archaeology
Project director/manager	Humber Field Archaeology
Project supervisor	D. Rawson
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Humber Field Archaeology
Digital Archive ID	PFM13
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	The Collection Lincolnshire County Council
Paper Archive ID	LCNCC:2013.67
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Correspondence","Drawing","Miscellaneous Material","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Photograph","Plan","Report","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Architectural Recording at Poplar Farm, Stow park road, Marton near Gainsborough, Lincolnshire
Author(s)/Editor (s)	Rawson, D.
Other bibliographic details	Humber Field Archaeology Watching Brief Report 1355
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	Humber Field Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Hull
Description	A4 steel spine

Entered by	David Atkinson (dave.atkinson@hull.gov.uk)
Entered on	20 June 2013

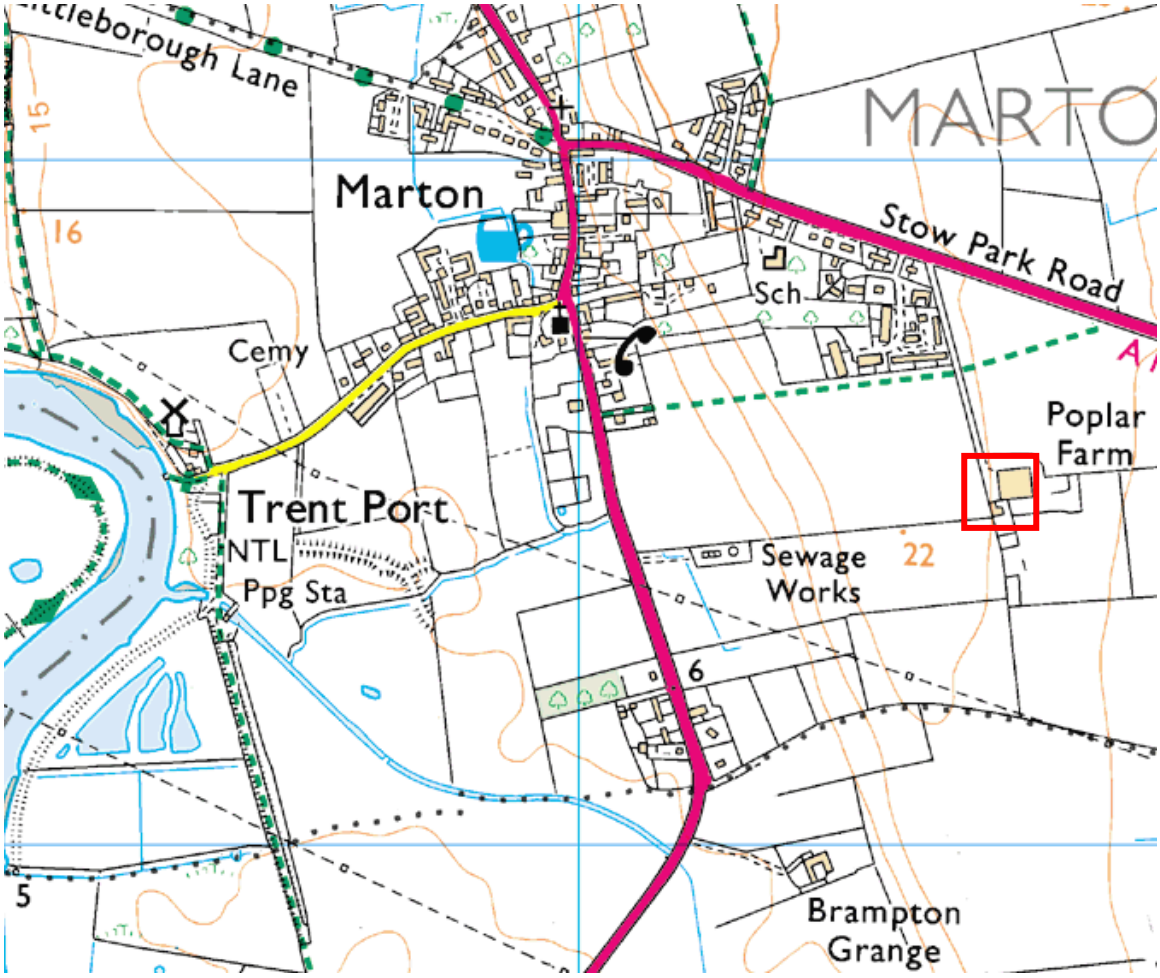


Figure 1 Site location plan

Plate locations in green

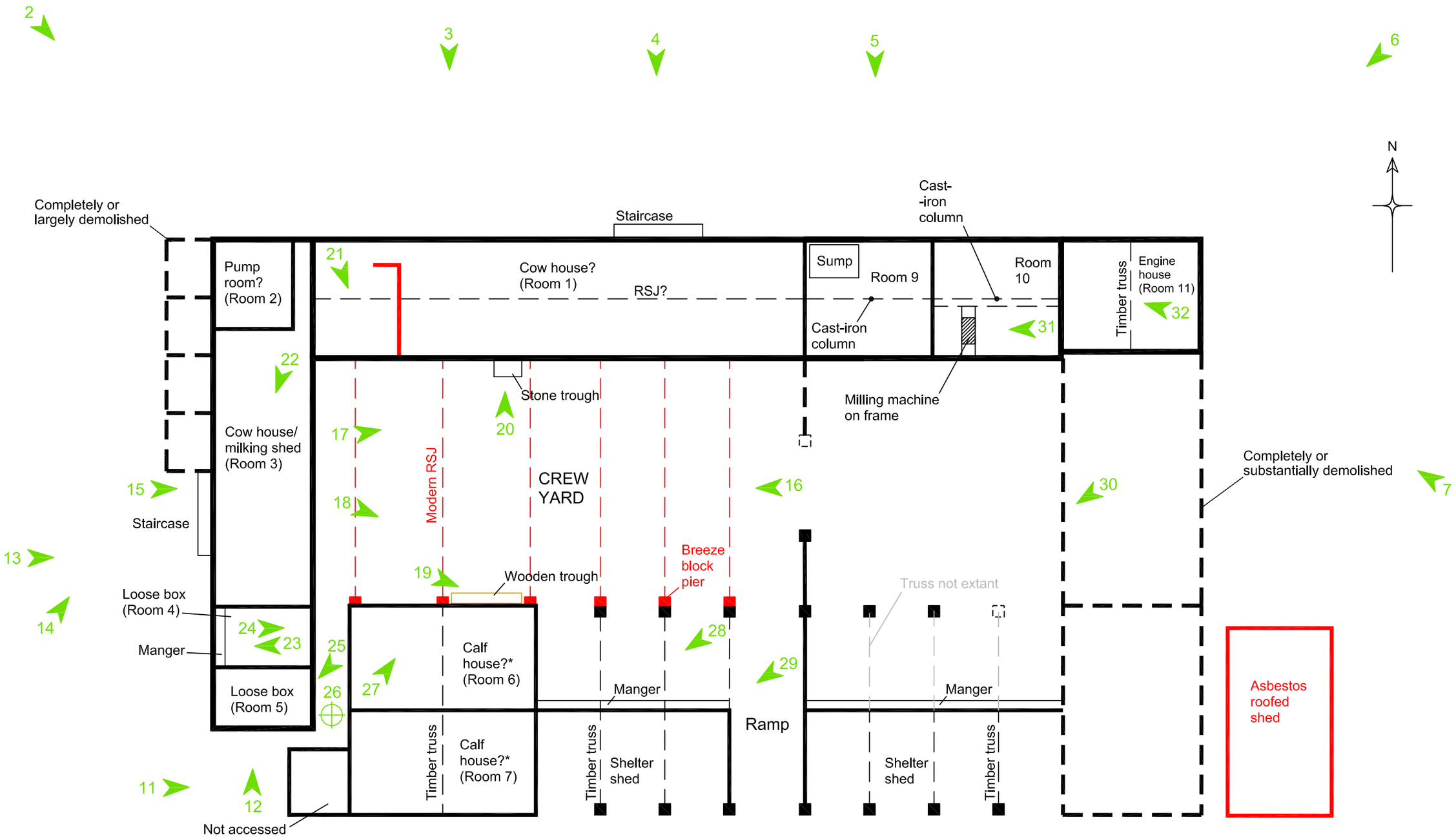
N

1:500

5 0 10

Metres

Figure 2 Plan showing the relationship of the farm house to the farm buildings



Twentieth-century additions in red

Plate locations in green

*partitions or stalls not shown

NOT TO SCALE

Figure 3 Schematic ground-floor plan of the farm buildings

Plate 1 The farmhouse viewed from the east

Plate 2 General view of the farm buildings from the north-west

Plate 3 The western part of the north range viewed from the north-west (2m scale)

Plate 4 The central part of the north range (2m scale)

Plate 5 The eastern part of the north range (2m scale)

Plate 6 The engine house at the east end of the north range

Plate 7 The engine house and north range viewed from the east (2m scale)

Plate 8 The corrugated asbestos shelter to the east of the other farm buildings (2m scale)

Plate 9 The south range viewed from the south-east

Plate 10 The western portion of the south range

Plate 11 The west elevation of the south range (2m scale)

Plate 12 The south elevation of the west range (2m scale)

Plate 13 The southern portion of the west range (2m scale)

Plate 14 The northern portion of the west range (2m scale)

Plate 15 Date stone (1883) over the central portion of the west range


Plate 16 The crew yard viewed from the east (2m scale)

Plate 17 The south elevation of the north range

Plate 18 View within the crew yard, looking south-east

Plate 19 Wooden feeding trough or manger (1m scale)

Plate 20 Stone pump trough (1m scale)

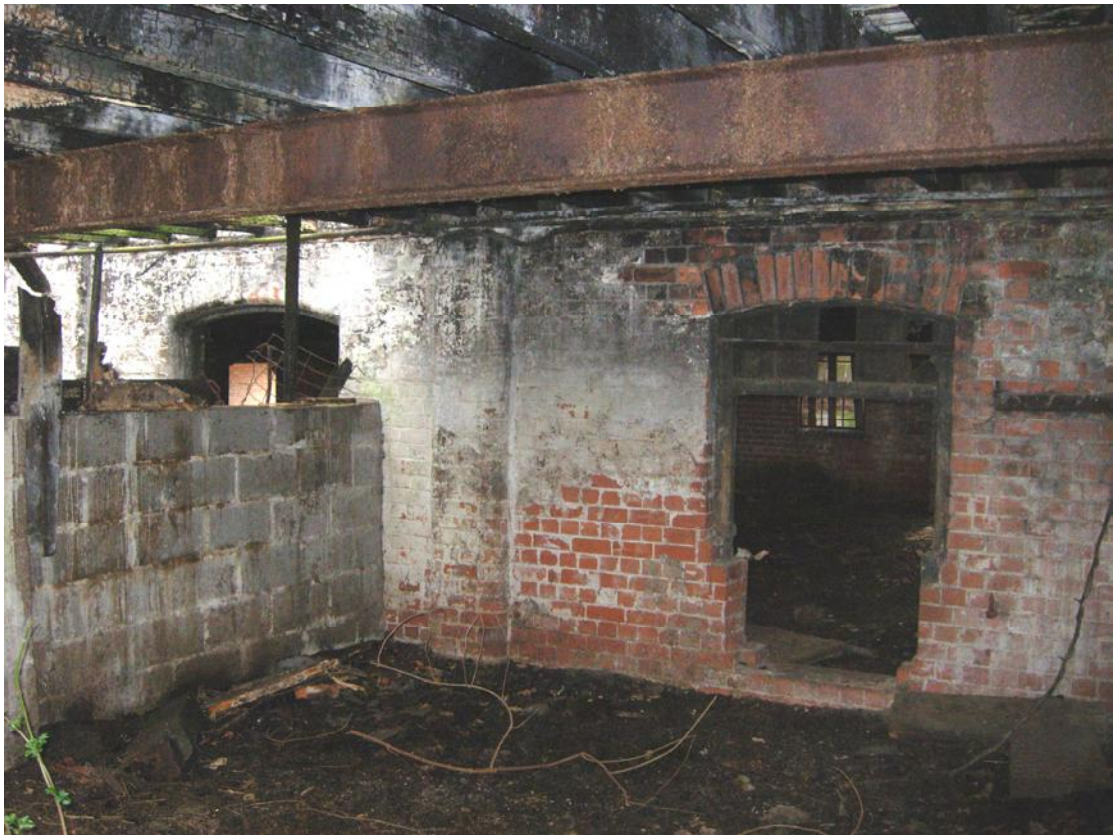


Plate 21 The interior of the western part (room 1) of the north range

Plate 22 Cow house/milking shed (room 3) viewed from the north (2m scale)

Plate 23 Loose box (room 4) with brick manger (2m scale)

Plate 24 Herringbone strutting (cross-nogging) in the ceiling of room 4

Plate 25 Detail of the iron straps on the heck doors of one of the loose boxes (room 5)

Plate 26 Detail of the stone setts in the passageway between the calf house (?) and the loose boxes (1m scale)

Plate 27 The north part of the calf house (?) (room 6)

Plate 28 Low manger and hay rack along the south-central side of the crew yard (2m scale)

Plate 29 Queen-post and raking strut truss along the west side of the crew yard ramp

Plate 30 The largely destroyed south-east part of the farm complex viewed from the north-east

Plate 31 Feed processing machinery in room 10

Plate 32 The engine house (room 11) viewed from the east (2m scale). Note the vertical transmission slot beneath the staircase

Humber Field Archaeology

Archaeological Consultants and Contractors

The Old School, Northumberland Avenue,
KINGSTON UPON HULL, HU2 0LN
Telephone (01482) 310600 Fax (01482) 310601
Email hfa@hullcc.gov.uk
WEB. www.humberfieldarchaeology.co.uk

Project Management • Desk-based Assessment • Field Survey • Fieldwork • Finds Research • Post-excavation Analysis • Inter-tidal Work

Humber Field Archaeology is an independently-funded part of the Humber Archaeology Partnership, a partnership serving The East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Kingston upon Hull City Council