



Northamptonshire Archaeology

Building recording at Manor Farm Barns
Stainton, South Yorkshire
April 2012



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STANTON MANOR FARM BARNs

OASIS REPORT FORM 127513

PROJECT DETAILS	
Project title	Building recording at Manor Farm Barns, Stainton, South Yorkshire, April 2012
Short description	Northamptonshire Archaeology carried out a buildings recording action at Manor Farm Barns, Stainton, South Yorkshire to record 19th-century farm buildings before a proposed conversion to residential use. The survey demonstrated that the buildings formed elements of a farm that increased in size throughout the 19th century, consisting of stables, open shelter sheds, cart sheds and barns.
Project type	Building assessment
Previous work	Unknown
Future work	unknown
Monument type and period	19th-century farm buildings
PROJECT LOCATION	
County	South Yorkshire
Site address	Manor Farm, Stainton, South Yorkshire
Easting/Northing	SK 554 936
Area	0.6ha
PROJECT CREATORS	
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology
Project brief originator	South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS)
Project Design originator	Northamptonshire Archaeology
Director/Supervisor	Tim Upson-Smith
Project Manager	Iain Soden
Sponsor or funding body	CgMs Consulting
PROJECT DATE	
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End date	27 April 2012
BIBLIOGRAPHY	
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

AT MANOR FARM BARN

STANTON, SOUTH YORKSHIRE

APRIL 2012

Abstract

Northamptonshire Archaeology carried out a buildings recording action at Manor Farm Barns, Stainton, South Yorkshire to record 19th-century farm buildings before a proposed conversion to residential use. The survey demonstrated that the buildings formed elements of a farm that increased in size throughout the 19th century, consisting of stables, open shelter sheds, cart sheds and barns.

1 INTRODUCTION

Northamptonshire Archaeology (NA) were commissioned by CgMs to undertake an archaeological building recording at Manor Farm, Stainton, South Yorkshire, (NGR SK 554 936 Figs 1, 2 and 3). The work was carried out in response to the proposed conversion of the buildings to domestic use.

2 OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

The objectives of the work were to:

- provide a drawn and photographic record of the buildings
- understand the functioning of the buildings within the life of the farm

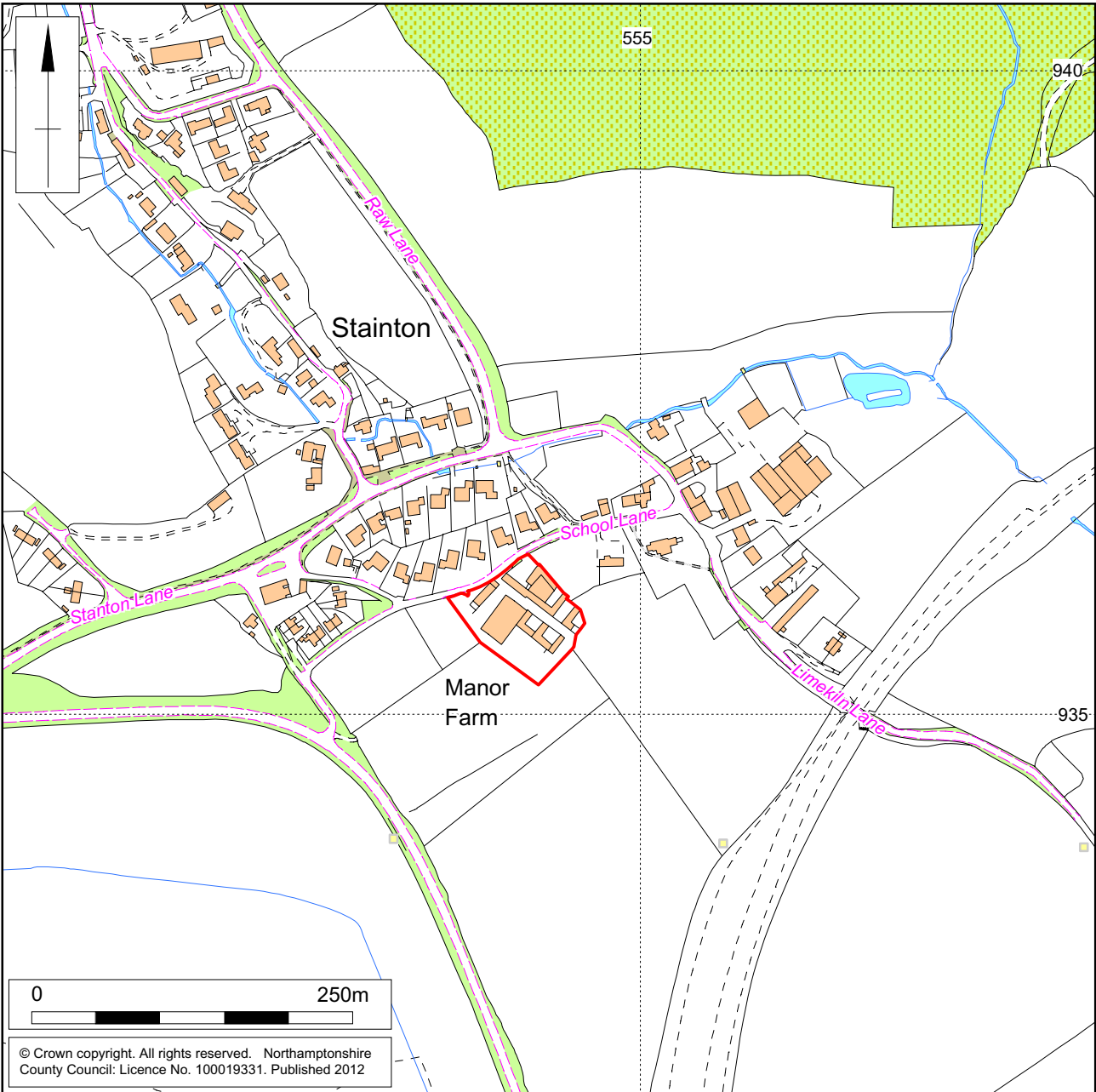
The site was visited between 25 and 27 April 2012. The work was carried in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI, NA 2012), which was prepared in response to the brief issued by South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS 2012).

A visit was made to the Doncaster Records Office to look at the historic maps and documentary evidence for the site.

The buildings were recorded in accordance with the standards, conventions and specifications defined in English Heritage, *Understanding Historic Buildings, A guide to good recording practice* (2006). The record conformed to that of Level One/Two.

All principal exterior elevations were photographed. All rooms were photographically recorded and included significant structural or decorative details that may be lost during alterations or moved to alternative locations within the building.

A plan of the building, provided by the developers, was checked for accuracy on site. Fixtures and fittings, which related to the buildings' early use, were recorded and former uses of the individual buildings were postulated where sufficient evidence remained to do so.



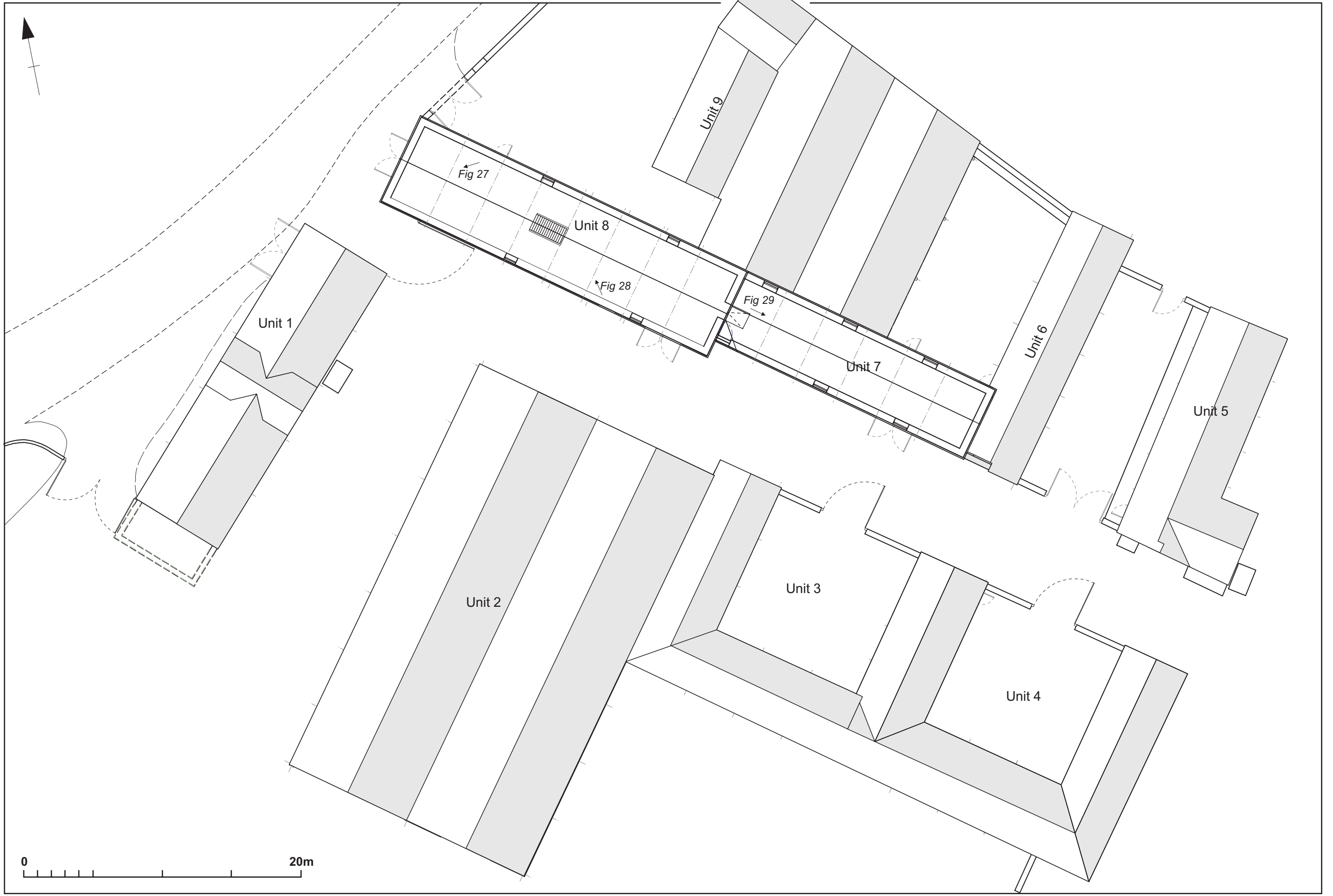
Scale 1:5000

Site location Fig 1



Scale 1:250 (A3)

Ground floor plan of the barns, showing photographic locations and phasing Fig 2



Scale 1:250 (A3)

First floor plan of the barns, showing photographic locations Fig 3

3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The farm is first shown on the 1815 Stainton and Edlington Inclosure Award Map (Fig 5). The map shows a long narrow building which broadly corresponds to the existing Units 7 and 8 (Fig 2); it does, however, show a return fronting onto School Lane, which is no longer extant. A small rectangular building is also shown fronting onto School Lane in the position of Unit 1, but it is not the same building and may have been replaced by Unit 1.

The next available map is the 1854 1st edition 6" Ordnance Survey (Fig 5). This map shows the same long building (Units 7 and 8). By this period though there has been some expansion to the farm, with the addition of Unit 4, although the loose boxes on its south-eastern side have yet to be added. The plan also shows Unit 6, but not the corresponding stable block of Unit 5. The north-eastern side of Unit 9 is also shown but not the north-western side. There is a curious semi-circular extension shown on the north-eastern side of Unit 7, for which there appeared to be no surviving evidence within the fabric of the existing building.

The last available early map was the 1929 3rd edition 25" Ordnance Survey map, re-surveyed in 1891 and revised in 1928 (Fig 5). On this map the farm is shown right on the edge of the sheet and therefore, not all of the plan of the farm was visible. However, by 1929, all of the elements which survive to the present day are extant, the yard of Unit 9 is shown as a covered space, the loose boxes of Unit 4 have been added as has Unit 3. A building is shown in the vicinity of Unit 2 which was replaced by the construction of the larger barn.

The farmhouse (Fig 4) which fronted School Lane was demolished and replaced with a new house in the 1970s.



Manor Farm, farm house 1907

(<http://www.staintonvillage.net/thehistoryofstainton.htm>) Fig 4

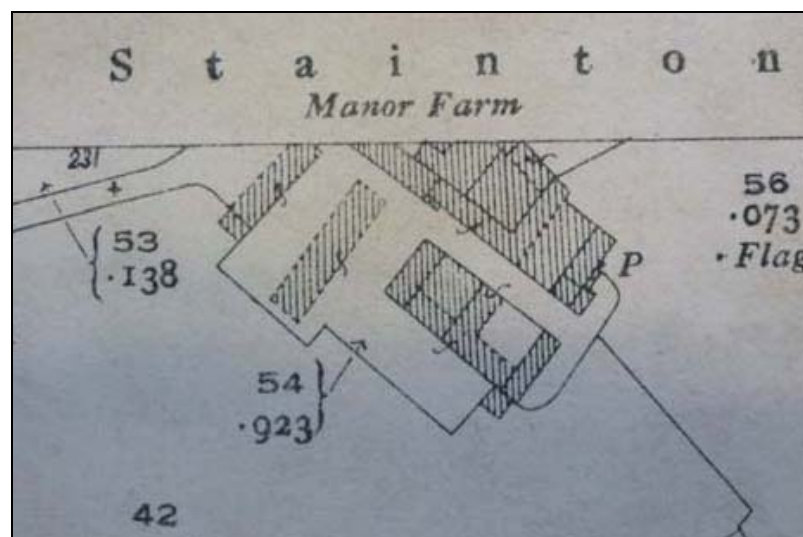
Although the style and layout of the buildings would at first look suggest that they were contemporary with each other, it is clear from the map evidence that the farm has grown and developed over the 19th century with further growth taking place in the latter part of the 20th century, prior to its subsequent decline.



1815 Stainton & Edlington Inclosure Award map Fig 5a



1854 1st Edition 6" Ordnance Survey map Fig 5b



1929 3rd Edition 25" Ordnance Survey map Fig 5c

4 BUILDING RECORDING

The buildings were visited between 25 and 27 April 2012 to carry out a photographic and drawn survey of the buildings to be affected by the proposed works.

The buildings which fall within the scope of the survey consist of 19th-century and later farmyard complex (Figs 2 and 3). The yard is split into discreet elements, with two enclosed yards for cattle, one for horses, and a further one which may have been originally for cattle, but which latterly (since the 1920s, see Fig 4) has had a roof inserted over the yard. In addition there is a cart shed fronting onto school lane and a long barn which had a cart shed stable loose box and crop processing areas.

The buildings which make up the elements of the farmyard appear to be broadly contemporary, with the exterior walls being coursed limestone rubble with quoins, the interior walls a mixture of stone and brick with some brickwork around openings. The roofs are all kingpost truss with terracotta tiles over, although part of Unit 9 had been covered in corrugated iron. The exception is Unit 2 which is a modern steel-framed barn with breeze block walls. The windows, where they survive, are wood-framed casements with a varying number of top lights and the bottom part having wooden vertical sliding ventilators.

4.1 Unit 1, cart shed

Unit 1 is a cart shed on the north-western side of the farm complex which is open to School Lane (Fig 2), the remaining elevations are constructed in coursed limestone rubble, with faced limestone quoins. The building consists of five bays, four of which have open fronts, the fifth (north-eastern bay), has been boxed in with plank doors fitted onto the School Lane frontage (Fig 6). Apart from the north-eastern bay there are no internal divisions within the building. On the School Lane side of the building the roof is supported by square wooden posts. Only the central bay opens to the farmyard on the south-eastern side of the building (Front cover).



Unit 1, north-western elevation, looking south

Fig 6

The cross roof is supported on a kingpost truss and is covered with terracotta pan-tiles. The gable of the cross roof over the central opening on the School Lane frontage has decorative barge boards cut in a style reminiscent of Victorian railway platform architecture (Fig 6).



Interior of Unit 1 showing the kingpost truss

Fig 7

The timber work of the kingpost truss is machine-sawn pine with iron straps joining the truss to the tie beam, there is also an iron bolt joining the kingpost to the tie beam (Fig 7). There are two small square openings high in the south-western gable wall. The floor, where visible, is laid with red brick and stone flags.

This building was originally built as a cart shed; at the time of the survey the building contained old farm machinery of varying dates, including an early 20th century horse drawn implement made by J C & T Yates of Doncaster (possibly a turnip cultivator?) (Fig 8).



Possible turnip cultivator, in Unit 1

Fig 8

4.2 Unit 2, modern barn

Unit 2 is a modern steel frame and breeze block barn, built in two phases, which is to be demolished as part of the proposed works and as such does not inform the early development of the farm (Figs 2 and 9).



Unit 2, modern barn

Fig 9

4.3 Units 3 and 4, cattle shelter sheds

These two ranges consist of adjoining L-shaped open-fronted cattle shelter sheds, opening onto enclosed yard areas (Figs 2 and 10). Unit 4 has three loose boxes opening on to its north-western side and a cart shed opening to the south-east (Fig 2).

The open cattle sheds have built-in stone and brick feeding troughs with a timber edge and wooden feeding racks over for hay or straw, the racks are normally provided prior to 1840 but after this they are generally omitted (Peters 1991, 66) (Fig 11). The floors of the open sheds and the yard surface had been grubbed up, but appeared to have been a mix of stone and laid brick. The kingpost trusses of the roof are supported on cast iron posts with a moulded capital (Fig 12). This style of post is also used on the horse open shelter shed, Unit 6.



Unit 4 showing enclosed yard

Fig 10



Interior of Unit 3

Fig 11



Cast iron capital, Units 3, 4 and 6

Fig 12

The loose boxes on the south-eastern side of Unit 4 would have been used to separate cattle for calving or to isolate sick animals from the rest of the herd. There are no feeding troughs in the loose boxes although one retains a wall-mounted iron corner manger. The two end loose boxes have windows opening onto the yard, these consist eight light top halves with sliding vertical slat shutters below (Fig 13). The central loose box had a window facing the south-east, which is now blocked (Fig 14). The doors to the loose boxes have been removed. There is a small room in the north-west corner of Unit 4 to which access could not be gained.



Loose box window, Unit 4

Fig 13

The cart shed at the south-western end of the loose boxes opens out to the south-east and has a timber lintel over the opening (Fig 14).



Unit 4, cart shed

Fig 14

4.4 Unit 5 the stables and Unit 6 horse open shelter shed

These two units, although separate buildings, form two sides of an enclosed yard area for horses, with Unit 5 to the south-east being the stables (Figs 2 and 15) and on the opposite side of the yard Unit 6 being the open shelter shed for the horses (Fig 16). Open shelter sheds for horses are more commonly found in Suffolk and parts of the Midlands and date generally to the mid 19th century (Peters 1991, 61). In this case Unit 6 is shown on the 1854 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map, but Unit 5 is first shown on the 1929 map, which would indicate that the farm was built up in a piecemeal fashion, perhaps as and when resources allowed. The overall farm as it appears today would, however, indicate that its layout was planned but just not completed in one phase of building.



Unit 5, stables

Fig 15



Unit 6, horse open shelter sheds

Fig 16

The original internal fittings of the stable have been removed and the divisions between the stalls replaced with breeze block walls. The roof, as elsewhere, was a kingpost truss with terracotta tiles. There was a fireplace in the south-east corner of the stable block (now removed) suggesting that this may have been a separate room perhaps for the groom. Access was not gained to the room on the south-eastern side of the stables.

The windows, as elsewhere, had ten top lights with vertical sliding wooden ventilation slats below (Fig 17). The door openings to the stalls had chamfered stone openings to reduce the chance of injury to the horses (Fig 18). The doors, where they survived, were split ledged and braced stable doors. The floor was laid red brick with a later concrete surface in parts.



Stable window

Fig 17



Stable door opening showing chamfered edge

Fig 18

4.5 Units 7 and 8, barn with cart shed and stable

These units are the earliest buildings of the complex and form a long narrow two storey barn (Figs 2, 3, 19 and 20), which maybe that shown on the 1815 Inclosure Award Map (Fig 4). At its north-western end is a cart shed opening onto School Lane (Fig 21), behind which is a stable with wall-mounted mangers for three horses, no internal divisions have survived in this room (Fig 22). However, in the corner of the room there is a boxed in area, possibly a grain bin as there is a later pipe feeding into it and in Units 7 and 8 there are several pieces of machinery associated with grinding grain.



Unit 8, barn and stable

Fig 19



Unit 7, barn and loose box

Fig 20



Unit 8, cart shed

Fig 21



Unit 8, stable

Fig 22

Although both units have a double door entrance on the south-western sides there is no evidence of openings on the other side to suggest that they were threshing barns. The double doors in Unit 8 open into a room which is currently being used as workshop and has the stairs up to the first floor (Fig 23).



Unit 8, ground floor

Fig 23

The ground floor of Unit 7 comprises two rooms, the smaller possibly serving as a horse loose box (Fig 24). The larger of the two rooms has a double door entrance on its south-western side. The windows as elsewhere have sliding vertical wooden ventilation slats in the lower half.



Unit 7, probable loose box

Fig 24

The larger of the two Unit 7 rooms may have also latterly been used for crop processing as there was a hopper from the first floor into a grain grinding machine in this room (Figs 25 and 26).



Unit 7, grain grinder with hopper from floor above, Fig 25



Unit 7, ground floor looking north-west

Fig 26

Units 7 and 8 are the only two buildings which have a first floor (Fig 3). There is no direct access between the two at ground floor level, however, there is a doorway between at first floor level, with a ramp down into Unit 7 from 8. The north-western bay of Unit 8 had been partitioned off from the rest of the loft space and is being used for the storage of baskets (Fig 27). These baskets were used for collection of the potato crop, as the farm, when it was active practised a mixed economy.



Potato baskets, Unit 8, first floor

Fig 27

Also present are a butter churn and a knife grinding wheel. There is also a hoist pulley wheel in the roof for hoisting loads up from the ground floor (Fig 28).



Pulley wheel hoist

Fig 28

The shaft connected to the pulley wheel is reminiscent of a drive shaft which may have been connected to a portable engine, as there was no evidence of a fixed engine in the building.

The loft space of Unit 7 was a single open room which has latterly been used for storage of odds and ends (Fig 29).



Unit 7, loft space

Fig 29

The roof structure, as elsewhere in the farm buildings is a kingpost truss, with terracotta tiles over.

4.6 Unit 9

This was the most altered part of the farm yard complex (Figs 2 and 30). It originally comprised an L-shaped range with, on the western side, an open cattle shed and on the north side two probable loose boxes, the feeding trough along the north wall, to the east of the loose boxes, indicates that there was an open shelter shed here also, although this has now been demolished (Fig 31). In the north-east corner of Unit 9 is a room which opens to the north-east, which is currently used as a hen house (Fig 2).

The original roofs had been removed from these buildings and a new roof inserted which covers most of the yard area as well as the buildings (Fig 30). The 1929 map evidence and a surviving scar on Unit 7 suggests that the entire yard was roofed over at this time, and that one bay has latterly been removed.



Unit 9, Showing covered yard

Fig 30



Unit 9, showing the brick feeding trough in the now demolished open shelter shed Fig 31

5 DISCUSSION

The survey recorded the elements of the farmyard which are proposed for conversion. The survey has demonstrated that the farm, although giving the appearance of being one build, was built in stages over the 19th century. It may be the case that, although the farm was built in stages, it was built to an overall plan which was added to as funds allowed.

The middle and latter part of the 19th century saw an increase in farming prosperity as demand was high as the population increased. It is likely that this may have been a factor in the increase in the size of the farm towards the latter part of the 19th century.

The range of buildings in the yard would suggest that the farm originally operated a mixed economy with cattle, horses for traction and transport and crop processing for feed and food.

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