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# **NORTH PENNINES ARCHAEOLOGY LTD**

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**Client Report No. CP/418/06**

**REPORT ON AN  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
BUILDING RECORDING  
PROJECT AT  
TOWNFOOT FARM  
CASTLE CARROCK  
BRAMPTON  
CUMBRIA**

**FOR  
Briggs Construction Ltd**

**NY 5420 5562  
Planning Application Ref:  
1/06/0973**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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In November 2006, North Pennines Archaeology Limited were commissioned by Stephen Briggs to undertake an archaeological building recording project of three ranges of redundant farm buildings at Townfoot Farm, Castle Carrock, Cumbria (NY5420 5562, Planning Application Ref: 1/06/0973).

The building survey revealed that the farm buildings at Townfoot Farm have developed over a period of nearly two hundred years. The earliest building on the site was a threshing barn with byre and hayloft which appears to be shown on the Enclosure Map of 1805. Through the nineteenth century various additions have occurred to create a U-shaped arrangement. And by the 1980s various ancillary buildings had been constructed against the older structures.

The buildings show that animals and cereals were an important part of the farm economy. The various byres show that cattle were being housed during the winter months, although it is not known for sure if dairy cows were kept. Building 4, with the threshing machine, shows that cereals were being grown. This was therefore a farmstead with a mixed economy. What the buildings do not show is if sheep formed part of that economy, as they were not housed.

It is not known when the farm ceased to function. There is a farmer listed at the farm in 1954, and a map of 1957 date does not appear to show Building 5; consequently the farm must still have been in operation at this date. Mr Briggs has mentioned that it has certainly been many years since the farm buildings were used for their intended purpose.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Briggs Construction Ltd for commissioning the project, and for Mr S Briggs assistance throughout the fieldwork.

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would also like to extend their thanks to Jeremy Parsons of Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES), and all the staff at the Cumbria County Record Office in Carlisle for their help during this project.

The building survey was undertaken by Fiona Wooler. The report was written by Fiona Wooler. The project was managed by Frank Giecco, Technical Director for NPA Ltd. The report was edited by Frank Giecco.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 In November 2006, North Pennines Archaeology Limited were commissioned by Briggs Construction Ltd to undertake an archaeological building recording project of redundant farm buildings at Townfoot Farm, Castle Carrock, Cumbria (NY 5420 5562) prior to their conversion into four dwellings (Planning Application Reference No. 1/06/0973).
- 1.1.2 Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service produced a brief for a building recording project, which was to be undertaken prior to the commencement of building work. A 'Level 2' Building Survey was carried out as described in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*<sup>1</sup>.
- 1.1.3 Some of the farm buildings are present on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map and therefore date to at least the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. The remainder of the buildings developed during the later 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The farm buildings are considered to be of archaeological interest and are recorded on the County Historic Environment Record (Reference 41731).
- 1.1.4 The buildings that are the subject of the present survey make up three ranges, which will be referred to as Range A, Range B and Range C throughout the report. Each building is also numbered 1 – 7 for ease of reference (Figure 7).
- 1.1.5 The survey was carried out on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2006 by Fiona Wooler.

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<sup>1</sup> Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice, 2006, English Heritage



**Figure 1** – Site Location. Reproduced from Landranger ® 1:50 000 scale by permissions of Ordnance Survey® on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty’s Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright (1997). All rights reserved. Licence number WL6488

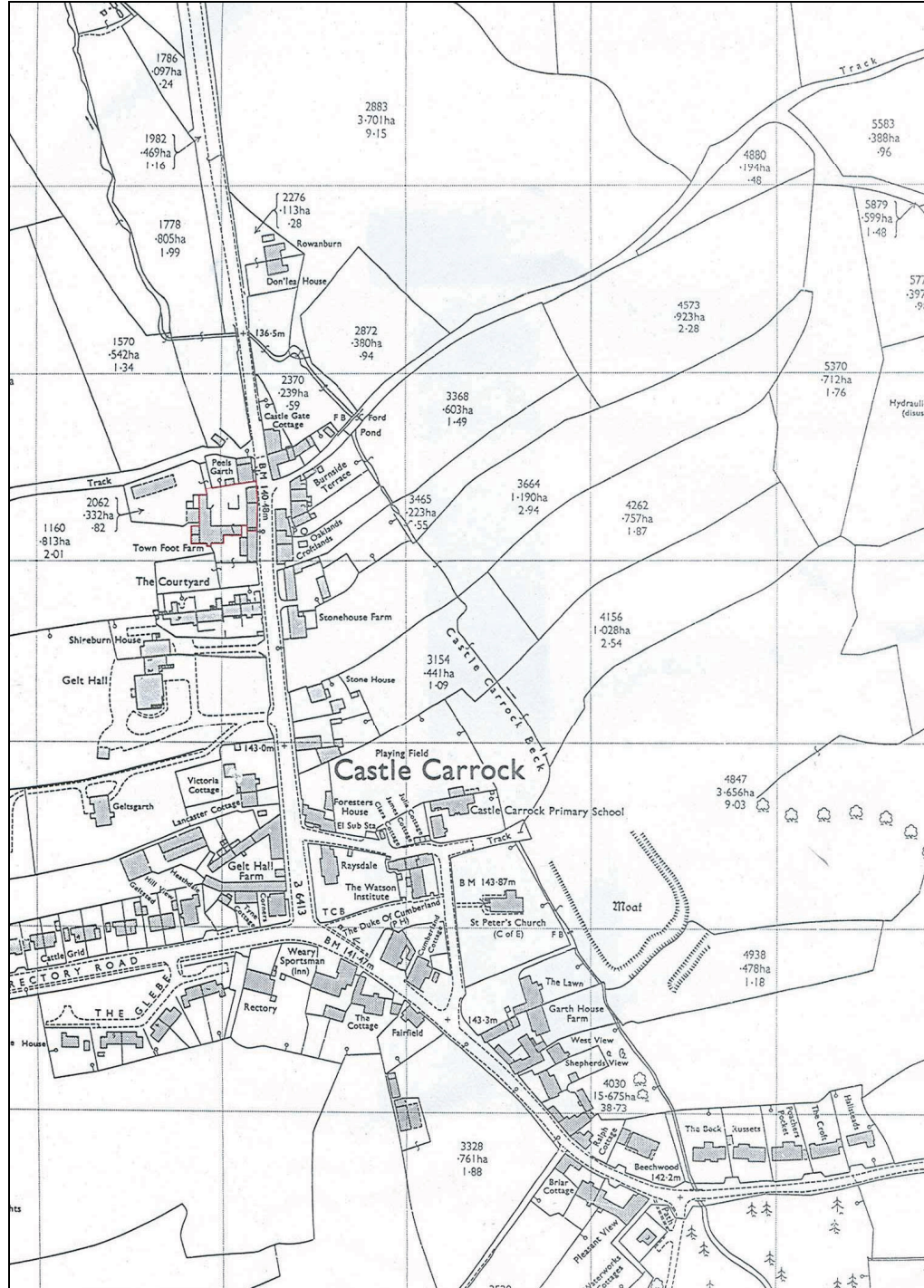


## 1.2 SITE LOCATION

- 1.2.1 The village of Castle Carrock is situated at the foot of Castle Carrock Fell, which forms part of the north-western Pennines (Figure 1). The village is located approximately six kilometres south of the market town of Brampton and approximately 14 kilometres east from the centre of the city of Carlisle.
- 1.2.2 Townfoot Farm is located at the northern end of the village at a height of *c.* 140 metres above sea level. The farmhouse and one of the ranges of farm buildings front onto the main road into the village from Brampton (Plate 1).
- 1.2.3 Apart from Townfoot Farm, other farmsteads in the village included Stonehouse Farm, located Opposite Townfoot; Gelt Hall Farm in the centre of the village and Garth House Farm at the southern end of the village (Figure 2).



**Plate 1** – Townfoot Farm, east facing elevation of farmhouse and part of barn



**Figure 2 – Site location, Castle Carrock (Source map Scale 1:2500 1981 OS)**

The buildings at Townfoot Farm are edged in red



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## 2. METHODOLOGY

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### 2.1 THE BUILDING SURVEY

2.1.1 The survey consists of three basic elements:

- A written account, which includes information derived from documentary research.
- A measured survey with accompanying architects drawings.
- A photographic record.

### 2.2 THE WRITTEN ACCOUNT

2.2.1 The written account is included in this document together with a selection of photographs, plans and appendix of documentary information.

### 2.3 THE PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

2.3.1 The photographic archive consists of the following:

- A series of 35mm colour prints showing general views of the exterior of the buildings and their setting.
- A series of digital views of the exterior of the buildings, the interior of the buildings and specific internal details (e.g. roof structure) supplied on CD-Rom.

### 2.4 PROJECT ARCHIVE

2.4.1 The full archive of the desk-based assessment and Level 2 building survey has been produced to a professional standard in accordance with the current English Heritage guidelines set out in the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (MAP 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 1991). The archive will be deposited within the County Record Office and a copy of the report given to the County Historic Environment Record, where viewing will be available on request.

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### **3. PREVIOUS WORK**

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- 3.1 No previous archaeological work has been undertaken on the site of Townfoot Farm.

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## 4. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

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- 4.1 One of the earliest maps observed during the rapid desk-based assessment of the site was Hodkinson and Donald's map of 1774 (surveyed 1770), which shows the basic layout of the village of Castle Carrock. It is difficult to know if the buildings shown in the village are actual or representative; properties are shown at the northern end of the village, but it is not possible to deduce if one of these is on the site of Townfoot Farm (Figure 3). This map is perhaps more useful to show named properties outside of the village, i.e. farms such as Tottergill, Garth Head and Jockey Shield.
- 4.2 A more detailed map of the village, and one which is very useful as it's provides names of owners, is the Enclosure Map of 1805 (Figure 4). This map clearly shows the layout of the village, as it is today, with the church in its enclosure shown to the east of the village. What appears to be a large pond is shown in the centre. At the northern end of the village, there appears to be a building shown on the site of one of the ranges at Townfoot Farm, which may also have included the farmhouse (Figure 4). Situated just below this is a further building which is labelled '102', although is not clear on Figure 4. This property is listed as belonging to John Hodgson. To the north of what may be one of ranges at Townfoot is an enclosure labelled '96', this is listed as belonging to John Peal; this appears to have subsequently been built upon and is still known today as 'Peels Garth'.
- 4.3 Parson and White's History, Directory and Gazetteer of Cumberland and Westmorland 1829 lists all the farmers in the Parish of Castle Carrock, however, as is the case with many villages, only the farmsteads located outside of the village itself are actually named, and consequently the names of farmers within the village are simply given but are not attributed to a particular farm (See Appendix). Amongst other members of what may be the same family, a John Hodgson is listed as being a farmer in Castle Carrock. Other Hodgson's are listed at Tottergill and Jockey Shield.
- 4.4 Unfortunately there is no Tithe Map of mid-nineteenth century date at Carlisle Record Office (CRO) for Castle Carrock Parish; this would have provided details of land owner, occupier, the acreage of the farm and the state of cultivation.
- 4.5 The First Edition Ordnance Survey map of c.1865 shows some of the farm buildings at Townfoot Farm along with the farmhouse (Figure 5). This map shows a building located within the road and may explain why the buildings opposite are set back from the roadside.
- 4.6 By the date of the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1900, a building has been added to the western side of the site, orientated north-south. The building shown in the road on the First Edition OS map appears to have been reduced in size, with a further structure constructed against its western elevation (Figure 6).
- 4.7 Trade directories from the early twentieth century provide evidence of the farmers who were at Townfoot Farm. Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1910 appears to be the earliest that actually names Townfoot Farm; at this date John Hodgson is listed as the farmer. The Hodgson family appear to have remained at Townfoot Farm certainly until 1934 (See Appendix). A small publication 'Tottergill Times' which was acquired during a building survey of Tottergill Farm in 2004,

mentions that Dick and Laura Watson moved from Tottergill to Townfoot Farm in 1937. Tottergill Farm had been home to generations of the Hodgson family, although it is not known if this was the same family that resided at Townfoot Farm in the early twentieth century. The Hodgson family had a long association with Castle Carrock having farmed at Tottergill since the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and there is an impressive gravestone in the church yard of Thomas and Elizabeth Hodgson of Garth Foot who died in 1694 and 1696 respectively<sup>2</sup>. By 1954, Harold Johnstone is listed as being the farmer at Townfoot Farm in the Cumberland Directory.

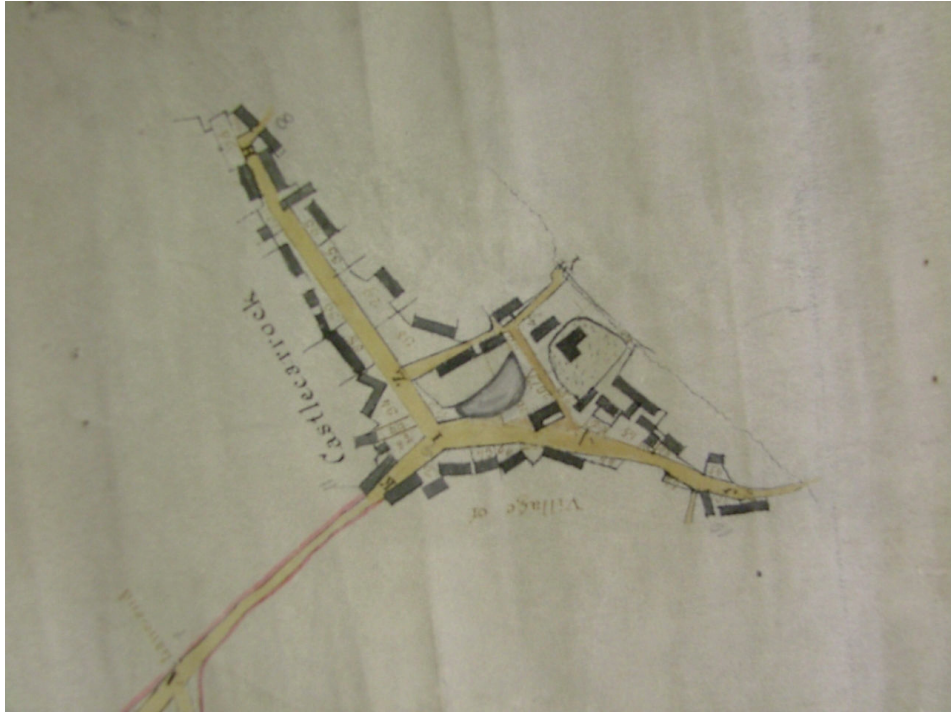
- 4.7 By 1981, further buildings had been constructed along the southern and western elevations, and a Dutch barn had been erected in the field to the west (Figure 2).



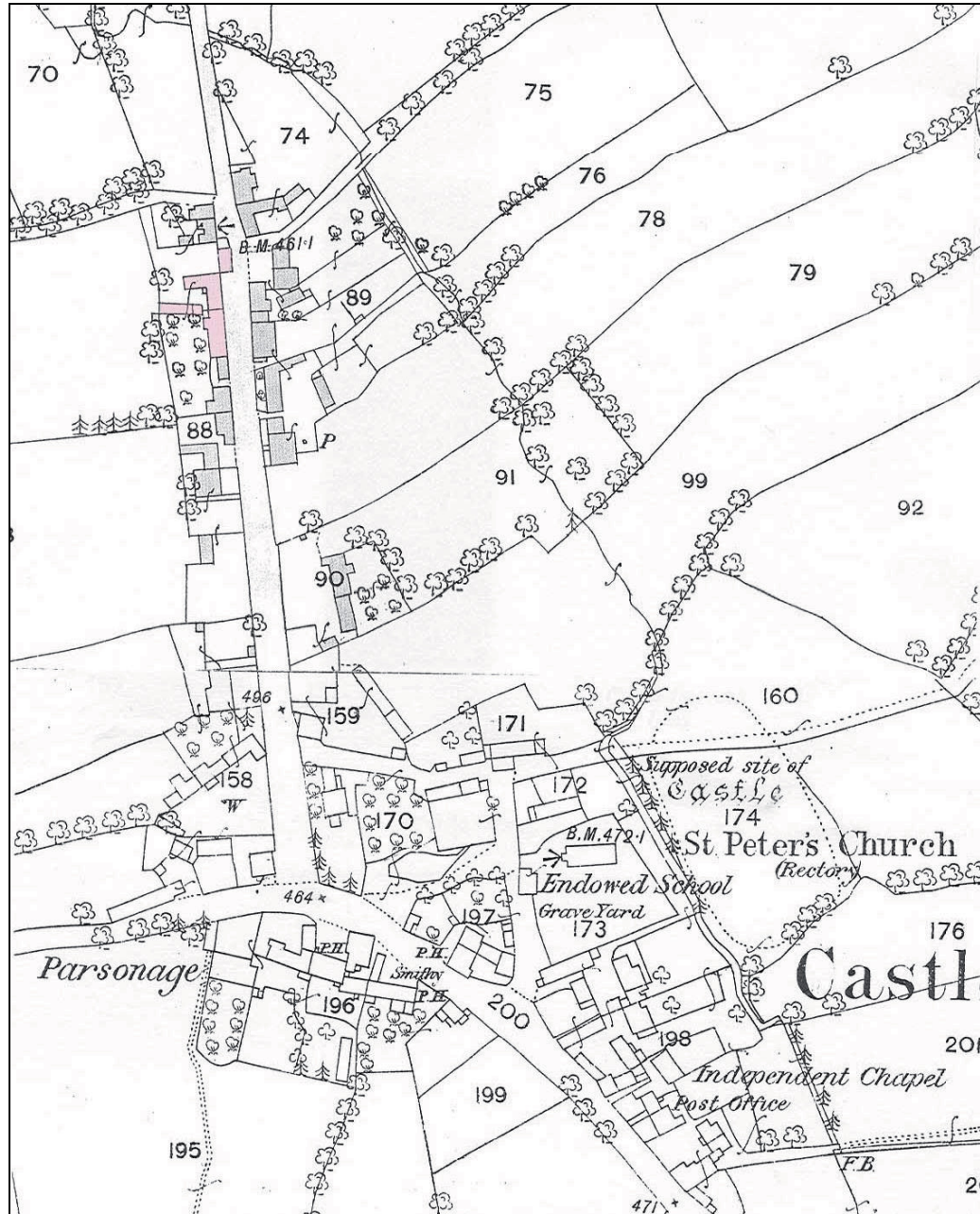
**Figure 3** – Hodkinson and Donald 1774

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<sup>2</sup> Cracknell, P.M, 2004



**Figure 4** – Enclosure Map of 1805 (CRO Ref. QRE/1/89)



**Figure 5** – First Edition Ordnance Survey map of c. 1865 (Scale 25" to 1 mile)  
(The buildings are Townfoot Farm are shown pink)



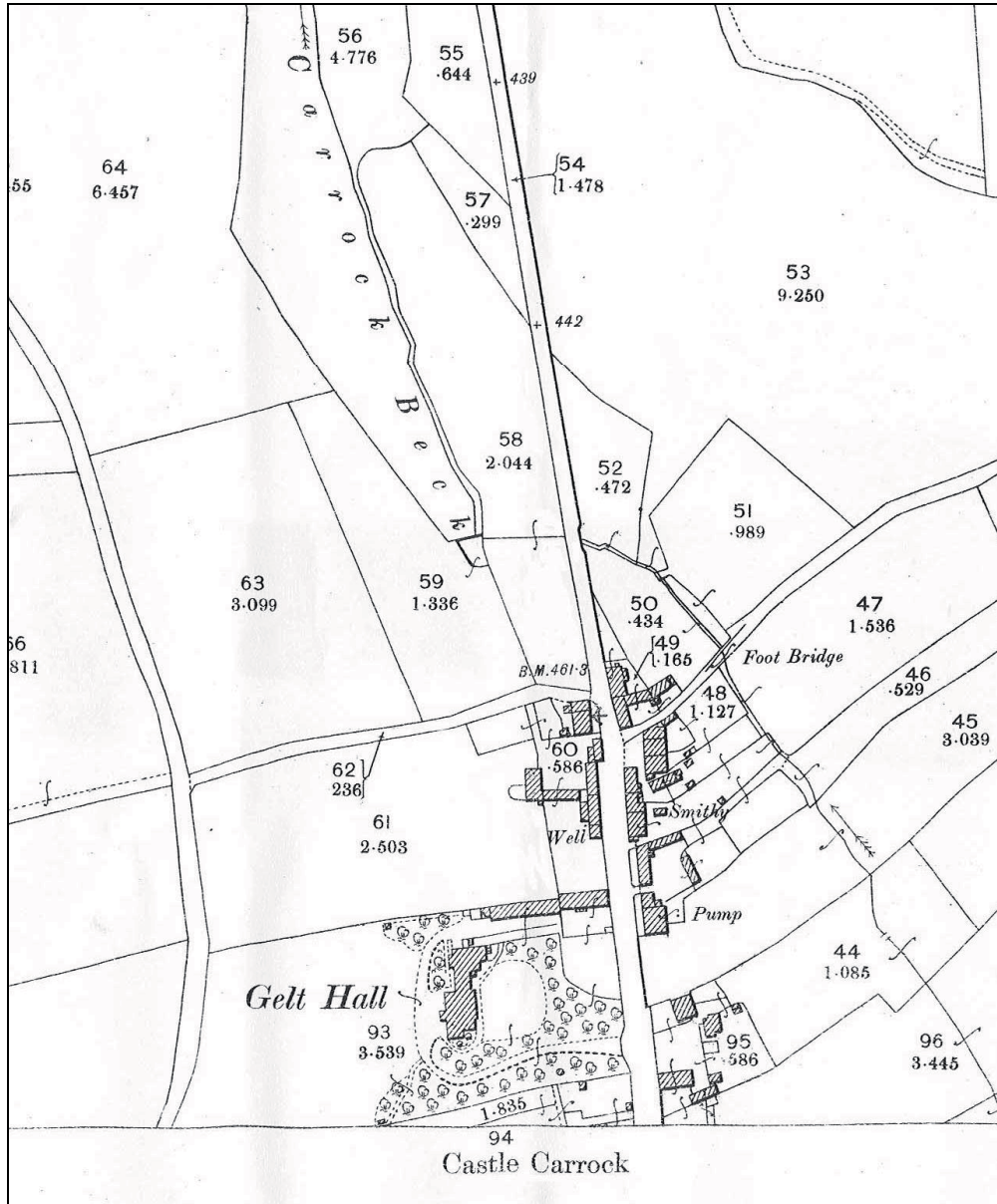


Figure 6 – Second Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1900 (Scale 25” to 1 mile)

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## 5. RESULTS

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### 5.1 RANGE A (BUILDINGS 1 AND 2)

- 5.1.1 Range A is orientated north-south, with the east elevation facing the road, and includes the farmhouse at the southern end (Figure 7 and Plate 2). This range consists of two separate buildings (**1** and **2**) as seen by a clear vertical construction break (Plate 3). The larger of these two buildings is a former barn (**1**) with large double doorways facing the road and adjoins the farmhouse with a cross passage separating the two at ground level (Figure 8). This two-storey building is constructed of roughly coursed and squared red and yellow sandstone, the roof is laid in Welsh slate. Ventilation slits were observed both at ground and first floor level, although most have been blocked up. A circular tie plate in the eastern elevation suggests that the building has suffered some structural defect, and Mr Briggs has mentioned that this elevation is to be rebuilt. There is an obvious difference in construction material down the northern end of the east elevation of Building **1**, as well as along the top of the wall below the eaves (Plate 3). This suggests that this building has at some point been extended and heightened.
- 5.1.2 Building **2** has been constructed against the northern gable end of Building **1**. This building is constructed of coursed and squared masonry which has a rusticated appearance, and is quite different from the masonry of Building **1** (Plate 4). The roof of this building is pitched and faces the west. The north elevation of Building **2** provides evidence for a former first floor doorway now blocked up, which may have been used as a pitching door for the transference of hay from the cart to a hayloft (Plate 5). The masonry of the north elevation is not as coursed and well dressed as that of the east elevation (compare Plates 4 and 5).
- 5.1.3 The western elevations of Buildings **1** and **2** face into the farmyard (Figure 9). Along this elevation of Building **1** are two standard doorways and a small window. It was possible to observe on this elevation the change in masonry along the top of this wall and at the northern end, which was noted on the eastern elevation (Plate 6). A further circular tie plate also remains *in-situ*.
- 5.1.4 The western elevation of Building **2** consists mainly of modern brickwork in which a door and window have been inserted. It was possible to observe, however the remains of quoins of the masonry structure at the northern end of this elevation. According to Mr Briggs, this building was originally open-fronted and had been so within the last 50 years (*pers. comm.* Mr S Briggs). This would suggest that this building was originally a hay barn, as this type of structure had open sides for maximum ventilation but was roofed to prevent the hay being spoilt by rain<sup>3</sup>. As there was no scarring of a gabled roofline observed on the northern gable end of Building **1**, it is possible that the original roof of Building **2** was pitched as it is today.

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<sup>3</sup> Brunskill, R.W, 1999, Page 101





**Plate 2** – Part of Range A and the farmhouse as seen from the north-west



**Plate 3** – Construction break between the two buildings that make up Range A (east facing elevation)



**Plate 4** – East elevation of Building 2, Range A



**Plate 5** – North and east elevations of Building 2





**Plate 6** – West elevation of Building 1



**Plate 7** – West elevation of Building 2

## 5.2 INTERIOR OF BUILDINGS 1 AND 2 (FIGURE 7)

- 5.2.1 The interior of Building 1 could be accessed via the large double doorway facing the road on the east elevation, or by the two smaller doorways on the west facing elevation (Plates 2 and 6). The interior is divided into two at ground level by a rubble masonry cross wall which is not bonded in (Figure 7). The main part of the building appears to originally have been a threshing barn, as the space is open to the roof with no obvious evidence for joist holes of a former first floor. This would have allowed for the swing of the hand flail on the cereals being threshed. At the southern end of this building it was possible to observe that an owl hole and at least two ventilation slits had been blocked-up (Plate 8), suggesting that the farmhouse to the south had been constructed after the barn, and this is confirmed by a construction break visible between the two buildings on the eastern elevation (See 5.10.1 below). A small lofted area is located to the right-hand side of the barn upon entering from the farmyard; this covers the passageway which is located between Building 1 and the house (Figure 7).
- 5.2.2 The barn (Building 1) is of five bays created by four hand-cut roof trusses of principal rafters and tie beams, which rest upon the top of the walls; although they are supported by metal brackets (Plate 9). The purlins, one row either side, are trenched into the rafters.
- 5.2.3 To the left-hand side of the barn is a first floor hayloft which has the byre below. The byre is accessed through a separate door on the west elevation of Building 1.
- 5.2.4 It was possible to observe the change in masonry on the upper part of the walls of Building 1, as the addition was not as thick as the older section of the barn (Plate 10).



**Plate 8** – Interior of Building 1, south elevation





**Plate 9** – Detail of roof structure, Building 1



**Plate 10** – Interior of Building 1 showing change in masonry (west wall)

- 5.2.5 The byre which occupies the northern part of Building 1 was accessed via the doorway on the west elevation. This room consists of three concrete double stalls against the eastern wall which would have provided accommodation for a maximum of six cows (Plate 11). The floor is of concrete with a central manure channel, and the walls have been plastered to a height of approximately one metre from ground level. Limewash, a traditional wall covering which acted as a disinfectant and absorbed moisture, is still visible on the remainder of the walls.



**Plate 11** – Interior of byre, Building 1

- 5.2.6 The interior of Building 2 was accessed via a sliding doorway on the west elevation (Plate 7). Internally, this building is all one room and had most recently been used as a byre. Three concrete stall divisions against the eastern wall create four double stalls, which would have provided accommodation for a maximum of eight cows. As with the byre in Building 1, the floor is of concrete with a central manure passage, and the walls have been plastered to a height of approximately 1.30 metres from ground level (Plate 12). The blocked-up first floor doorway in the north elevation was observed, however there did not appear to be any evidence for joist holes of a former first floor, and consequently this doorway may originally have been used to transfer hay to and from the upper parts of the roof space. Iron tethering bars and chains used for tying up the cattle remain *in-situ*, as do the ceramic feeding troughs and metal water troughs (Plate 13).





**Plate 12** – Interior of Building 2



**Plate 13** – Interior of Building 2 showing stall divisions, troughs and tethering bars

### 5.3 RANGE B (BUILDING 3)

- 5.3.1 Range B forms the southern part of the U-shaped arrangement of farm buildings, and is orientated east-west (Figure 7). This building is constructed of a mix of red and yellow rubble masonry, along with some possible limestone. The building is of two storeys, however the first floor is fairly low and the roof space would presumably have been utilised. Along the northern elevation (Figure 10) there are two standard sized doorways, three ventilation slits, a pitching door at first floor level and at the eastern end of this elevation there is a window which was formerly a doorway as shown by the alternating blocks of sandstone which make up the jambs, and a rectangular sandstone lintel. This end of the building also displays some evidence of an earlier building, as there is a vertical line and former quoins present to the right of the window, located just beside the ranging pole on Plate 14. The surrounds of the doors on the northern elevation consist of alternating long and short blocks of dressed red sandstone and sandstone lintels (Plate 15).
- 5.3.2 The northern side of the roof of Building 3 is laid in local slate, as compared to the Welsh slate of Buildings 1 and 2. Local slates are slightly thicker, greenish in colour and they decrease in size further up the roof towards the ridge line. Welsh slates are bluish in colour and tend to be regular sized. The southern side of the roof is of Welsh slate. There is a brick-built chimney at the eastern end, this may relate to a former workshop or smithy in this part of the building.
- 5.3.3 The southern elevation of Building 3 is largely obscured by Building 6 and some foliage (Figure 11 and Plate 16). There were, however, two ventilation slits observed along this elevation.

### 5.4 INTERIOR OF BUILDING 3 (FIGURE 7)

- 5.4.1 The interior of Building 3 (Range 2) could be accessed via either of the two doorways on the northern elevation, or via a doorway on the southern elevation which leads into Building 6. Internally, this building is two separate rooms. At the eastern end is a room accessed via a doorway in the east elevation, and is now used as a workshop. The large part of the building has more recently been used for housing pigs and for storage. Three block-work pig sites with metal doors occupy the eastern and part of the south elevation (Figure 7 and Plate 17). At the western end of the building is a timber partition which may have formed part of a stall for housing animals; on this partition there is some pencil graffiti, which was difficult to make out, but certainly the name John James Thirwell and possibly W F S Hodgson were visible along with the address of the farm, given as *'Town Foot Farm, Castle Carrock, Heads Nook, Carlisle'*. A crude drawing of a horse's head was also observed. Photographs of this graffiti are included on the CD-Rom along with other graffiti observed on the farmstead.
- 5.4.2 Beside one of the pig sties was a further timber partition which had a ladder that gave access to the first floor. This would appear to have been used as a hayloft, and these were often located at first floor level as the hay provided insulation for the animals below. In the western gable end of Building 3, close to the apex of the roof, a bird nesting box could be observed consisting of six holes created by horizontal pieces of sandstone and squared blocks of masonry separating each hole (Plate 18). Nesting



boxes such as these were included in farm buildings in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries to allow pigeons to roost, thus providing eggs<sup>4</sup>.



**Plate 14** – Eastern end of Range B (Building 3), north facing elevation



**Plate 15** – North elevation of Range B (Building 3)

<sup>4</sup> Brunskill, R.W, 2002, Page 99





**Plate 16** – Part of the southern elevation of Building 3, with a section of Building 6 visible to the left



**Plate 17** – Interior of Building 3, view looking east showing block work pig sties with iron gates



**Plate 18** – Nesting box, western gable end of Building 3

## **5.5 RANGE C – BUILDINGS 4 AND 5 (FIGURE 7)**

- 5.5.1 Range C makes up the western part of the U-shaped arrangement at Townfoot Farm, and is orientated north-south. Buildings 4 and 5 make up this range, with a further building, 7, located against the western elevation of Building 4; this will be referred to below.
- 5.5.2 Building 4 is a large two-storey structure, located at a right-angle to Building 3 (Figure 7). It is constructed of roughly coursed sandstone masonry and the hipped roof is laid in Welsh slate (Plates 19 and 20). The building has been constructed on a natural or man-made slope, consequently the ground level decreases from east to west; this means there is approximately one metre's difference between the ground level at the east elevation and the west elevation.
- 5.5.3 On the east facing elevation there is a large double doorway with a nicely dressed arched head and jambs making up the surround. On the north elevation there is doorway which provides access to a loose box and on the west elevation there is a small window and a doorway (Figures 12 and 13). A first floor pitching hole is obscured by Building 7 on the west elevation.
- 5.5.4 Sections of ceramic pipe laid in either a diamond or pyramidal shape have been included within the fabric of the building to provide ventilation (Plates 19 and 20).





**Plate 19** – East and north elevations of Building 4



**Plate 20** – West elevation of Building 4, masonry wall to the right of photograph retains a ramp (on which Building 7 has been constructed) which may have allowed for the transference of hay into the building from a cart



5.5.5 Building 5 is located at the northern end of Building 4 (Figure 7). This is a single storey structure constructed of roughly coursed sandstone blocks which have a rusticated appearance (Plate 21). The gabled roof is laid in Welsh slate. There is a standard sized doorway in the east elevation (Plate 21) and another in the west elevation (Plate 22).



**Plate 21** – East elevation of Building 5



**Plate 22** – West elevation of Building 5

## 5.6 INTERIOR OF RANGE C – BUILDINGS 4 AND 5 (FIGURE 7)

- 5.6.1 The interior of Building 4 could be accessed via a doorway in the western elevation of Building 3. It was not possible to access the building via the large doorway in the east elevation due to the building being used for storage. The doorway in the west elevation was also inaccessible.
- 5.6.2 Building 4 is open to the roof throughout its length. The roof structure consists of four king post roof trusses of machine sawn timber (Plate 23), these create five bays.
- 5.6.3 At the northern end of this building there is a platform (Plate 24), which has more recently been used for storage, but there remains *in-situ* gearing and wheels with attached belts which appear to relate to machinery for driving the thresher, which also remains *in-situ* within the building (Plate 25). On the side of the threshing machine is the wording 'RICKERBY LTD CARLISLE' (Plate 25). As the firm Rickerby's came into existence in 1880<sup>5</sup>, and combine harvesters were introduced in 1930s, although it took many years for them to replace other forms of power for threshing, then it is possible to suggest that the threshing machine dates from the first half of the twentieth century. An electric motor also remains *in-situ* set into the wall above the threshing machine (Plate 26). The introduction of electricity onto a farmstead to drive machinery occurred around after the Second World War and continued into the 1950s and 60s<sup>6</sup>. Also remaining in Building 4 is a baler for moving hay bales into the hayloft or for stacking in the barn (Plate 27).
- 5.6.4 On the western wall at first floor level there is a window (Plate 27). No evidence for a former first floor was observed at the time of survey, although the building was devoid of any natural light, and it was only possible to note features with the use of a torch. If there had not been a first floor, then this window presumably was used for transferring hay from carts into the building for storage. At this point, on the exterior of the building, there was a man-made ramp below the window which may have been used to bring a cart up to the side of Building 4, although Building 7 now obscures the window (Plate 20).
- 5.6.5 The quoins of the western gable end of Building 3 could be observed within Building 4 (Plate 28). This evidence, along with the presence of the nesting boxes in this elevation, suggests that Building 3 was in existence before Building 4.
- 5.6.6 At the northern end of Building 4, located beneath the platform noted in 5.6.3 is a loose box which could only be accessed through a doorway in the north elevation (Figure 10 and visible to the left on Plate 21). Internally, this room had a cobbled floor and limewashed walls, suggesting that this was used for housing animals. According to Brunskill a loose box is found on practically every farm<sup>7</sup>; they were used for housing single cows when sick or calving.
- 5.6.7 The interior of Building 5 is split into two by a timber partition. It would appear that this was also used as a loose box, or stable as the walls have been limewashed and there are hay racks remaining *in-situ* (Plate 29).

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<sup>5</sup> [www.rickerby.net/about.htm](http://www.rickerby.net/about.htm)

<sup>6</sup> Weller, J, 1982, Page 171

<sup>7</sup> Brunskill, R.W, 1999, Page 75





**Plate 23** – Roof structure, Building 4



**Plate 24** – Interior of Building 4





**Plate 25** – Threshing machine, interior of Building 4



**Plate 26** – Electric motor located above thresher in Building 4





**Plate 27** – Baler and pitching window, interior of Building 4



**Plate 28** – Quoins of western gable end of Building 3 with the east wall of Building 4 to the left



**Plate 29** – Timber partition in Building 5 with hay rack and door

## **5.7 BUILDING 6 (FIGURE 7)**

- 5.7.1 Building 6 is a brick-built single-storey structure with a pitched roof constructed against part of the southern elevation of Building 3, the south wall of Building 4, and continues to extend westwards for approximately four metres. Half of the roof is laid in Welsh slate whilst the remainder is of profile sheeting, both sides with skylights inserted to provide light for the byre below. Several square iron plates were observed in the southern elevation, occurring in pairs; these would appear to relate to the concrete stalls inside the building, and were therefore presumably used to secure the stalls to the walls. There is a small brick-built privy against the southern elevation of Building 6 (Figure 11). The door to the toilet is located on the east facing side, and on the west side of the toilet is a blocked-up aperture at ground level which may have been used to empty the privy prior to the installation of a flushing toilet (Plate 31). There is a door in the eastern end of Building 6 which leads into the byre from the garden.





**Plate 30** – South elevation of Building 6



**Plate 31** – Brick-built privy, south elevation of Building 6

## 5.8 INTERIOR OF BUILDING 6 (FIGURE 7)

- 5.8.1 Access into the interior of Building 6 could be from the doorway in the west elevation, the doorway in the east elevation, or from Building 3. This building has most recently been used as either a byre or milking parlour. There are eight concrete double stalls which would have provided accommodation for a maximum of 16 cows. The floor is of concrete and has a central manure channel. The walls are plastered to a height of c.1.50 metres from the ground level of the manure channels, the remainder of the brick walls have been limewashed. The roof structure is of machine-sawn timber. Ceramic troughs and metal water troughs, tethering bars and chains remain *in-situ*.



Plate 32 – Interior of Building 6 looking west



## 5.9 BUILDING 7 (FIGURE 7)

- 5.9.1 Building 7 has been constructed in modern concrete blocks against the western elevation of Building 4 (Plate 33). It has a single doorway in the west elevation and the pitched roof is of corrugated sheeting. It is possible that this building was simply used as a shelter for stock kept in the field.



**Plate 33** – Western elevations of Buildings 4, 7 and 6

## 5.10 THE FARMHOUSE (FIGURE 7)

5.10.1 The farmhouse is an integral part of any farmstead and although it is not included in the present survey it is worth noting, in particular its relationship to Building 1. The farmhouse is constructed of coursed squared sandstone masonry with four mullioned windows on the east elevation (Plate 34). The main entrance into the house is through the passageway to the rear of the property. Beside the passageway a vertical construction break was observed (Plate 35), which indicates that the farmhouse was added to the southern end of Building 1; therefore Building 1 is earlier in date. It appears that after the farmhouse was constructed, Building 1 was then heightened as the change in masonry at the top of the wall of Building 1 butts up against the quoins of the farmhouse (Plate 35). There is also evidence that the farmhouse was itself heightened at some point, as there is a change in masonry below the eaves and on the northern gable end (Plate 34). As the same construction material has been used for this phase of building as has been used for the property attached to the farmhouse at the southern end (Plate 34), this may have occurred when the second house was built; this also therefore suggests that the mullioned windows of the farmhouse were also inserted at this date. It is not known if these two properties were originally, or still are, separate, or if the second property built of red sandstone with the doorway and smaller windows (Plate 34), was actually an extension for the farmhouse. An extension to the rear of the house is a modern addition (*pers.comm.* Mr Briggs).



**Plate 34** – East elevation of the farmhouse





**Plate 35** – Construction break between farmhouse and Building 1



**Plate 36** – West elevation of farmhouse showing different construction phases between the house and Building 1 (to the left), also shows a former window

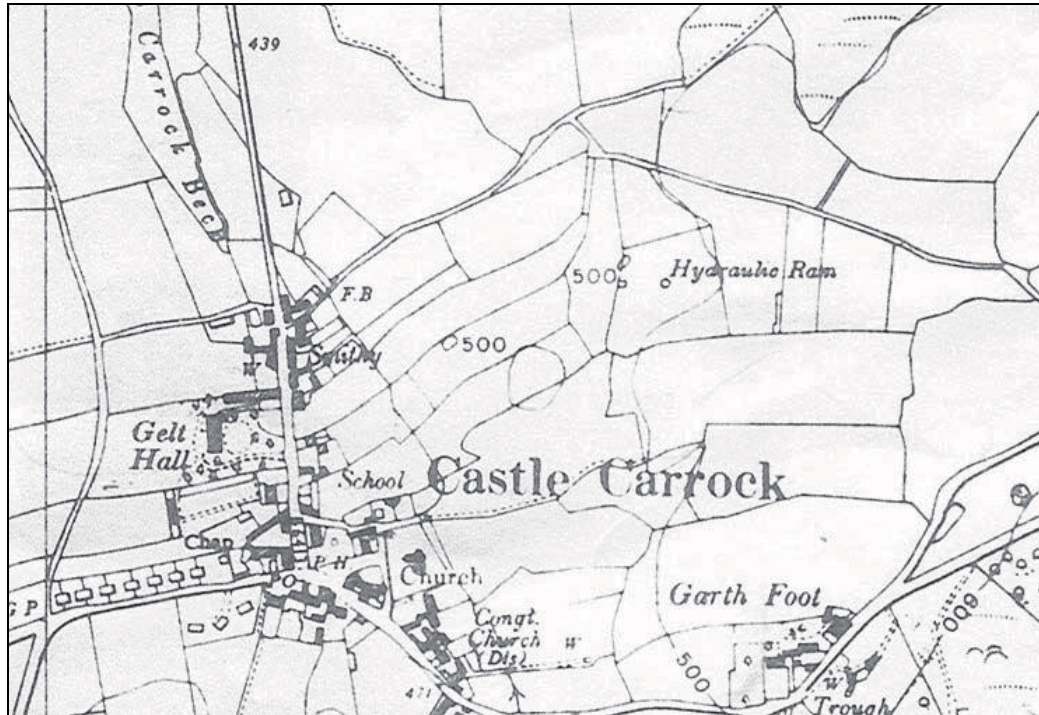
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## 6. CONCLUSION

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- 6.1 The farm buildings at Townfoot Farm represent at least nearly two hundred years of development, and provide evidence for the need for increased accommodation for stock and the housing of the mechanisation of threshing.
- 6.2 The earliest building at Townfoot Farm appears to be Building 1, as it may be shown on the Enclosure Map of 1805 (Figure 4). This building would have provided space for the hand threshing of cereals in the southern half of the barn, where the space is open to the roof, and a small byre with hayloft above provided housing for a small number of cows during the winter months; the hayloft above provided insulation. This building would have provided all that was needed for a farmstead operating at subsistence level, i.e. produce enough food to feed the immediate family, with little to spare to sell. The Enclosure Map also shows a property just south of Building 1, which is listed as being in the ownership of John Hodgson, this may have been an earlier farmhouse, in which case it would have been separate from the farm buildings.
- 6.3 By the date of the publication of the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of c.1865, Building 1 is L-shaped in plan, there is a building which is located within the road, the farmhouse has been added to the southern end of Building 1 and Building 3 is in existence (Figure 5). As part of the L-shape of Building 1 and the building located in the road are no longer extant, it is difficult to know what these buildings were used for. The construction of Building 3 by this date does suggest that there was an increased amount of stock being kept on the farm, as the building has all the characteristics of being a byre with hayloft above, but has more latterly been used for housing pigs. This map does show that the eastern part of this range was a separate room as a line is shown between the two, although there is no cartographic evidence which can shed light on an earlier building, of which there is evidence as shown on Plate 14.
- 6.4 By the date of the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1900, a building had been added to the northern end of Building 1, some buildings have been demolished to the south of the farmhouse, and Building 4 has been constructed. Building 4 appears to have been constructed as a purpose-built threshing barn to house a mechanised threshing machine, just as Building 1 was constructed to house the process of hand-flail threshing. The open space to the roof and the large doorways with opposing standard doorway is reminiscent of a traditional threshing barn. Whether the threshing machine which remains *in-situ* is original is difficult to know, however it is likely that when this building was first constructed the thresher may have either been powered by an external horse engine or by portable steam engine.
- 6.5 By 1957, Buildings 5 and 6 still do not appear to have been constructed (Figure 14), although both appear on a map of 1981 (Figure 2), along with the Dutch barn and several other ancillary buildings; a large one against the west elevation of Building 4 is no longer extant and there was no evidence for it on the fabric of the remaining buildings. Building 7 is in existence by this date and the building originally in the road has now been demolished.





**Figure 14** – 1957 Ordnance Survey Map of 1957

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## 7. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Cracknell, P.M, 2004, *Report on an Historic Building Survey at Tottergill Farm, Castle Carrock, Cumbria*, Unpublished Client Report, Ref: HBSAI 06/04
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- Weller, J, 1982, *History of the Farmstead*, Faber and Faber, London

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## 8. APPENDIX 1

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**CRO = Carlisle Record Office**

**CL = Carlisle Library**

Maps

Hodskinson and Donald Map 1774 (Surveyed 1770) – CL

Enclosure Map of 1805 – CRO Ref QRE/1/89

First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of c.1865 (25” to 1 mile) – CRO

Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1900 (25” to 1 mile) – CRO

Ordnance Survey Map of 1957 (6” to 1 mile) – CL

Ordnance Survey Map of 1981 (Scale 1:2500) - CL

Histories and Directories

**The History and Antiquities of the Counties of Cumberland and Westmorland – Nicolson and Burn, Volume II 1777**

Parish of Castle Carrock – Page 511

*‘Castle Carrock (Castle Crag, or rock) is a small parish within the barony of Gilsland, at the foot of the great mountain Cross Fell, and consists only of one constablewick. Hubert de Vallibus, lord of Gilsland, gave this manor, and also Hayton, to one Eustace de Vallibus. Which Eustace gave a carucate of land as Castle Carrock, and another at Hayton, to the priory of Lanercost’.*

*‘There are about 12 tenants in this manor, who pay a yearly customary rent of 2l 12s 6d to Armathwaite Castle, and arbitrary fines’.*

*‘In this parish are about 42 families, six whereof are Presbyterian’.*

**The History and Antiquities of the Counties of Cumberland and Westmorland – Hutchinson 1797-1797**

Parish of Castle Carrock – Page 178

*‘12 customary tenants. The parish of Castle Carrock contains about 42 families, of whom 4 are Presbyterians and the number of inhabitants 232’.*

*‘Soil and appearance – The arable land is light, and so full of blue stones that when harrowed it appears to be nothing but a bed of stones; yet, by their attraction of moisture, the best crops are produced. The high fell or common is rugged and barren; but the lower moor being dry and covered with a fine herbage, affords good pasturage. The sheep are computed at 2000, of black cattle 300 head, and about 140 horses. Much of the cultivated land lies in town fields, doled out in ridges; a great impediment to agriculture’.*

*‘Produce – Besides the grass grounds, chiefly barley, rye and oats; some wheat near the base of the mountain, where the soil inclines to clay. Here are some patches of wood and hedges’.*

*‘Inhabitants – From their intercourse with colliers, lime-burners and carters, have shaken off that simplicity of manners which marks the husbandman, and they have contracted a familiar roughness and austerity, together with a low subtlety, which too often borders on fraud and deceit; esteemed an accomplishment’.*

*‘Cattle and Sheep – Sheep are bred on the commons, to a considerable number yearly, and some are fed there to a good state of fatness. The cattle are of the Cumberland breed. Horses are small, of the Scotch kind’.*

**History, Directory and Gazetteer of Cumberland and Westmorland – Parson and White 1829****Castle Carrock Parish**

*'Lies on both sides of the river Gelt, and is bounded on the east by Northumberland, on the south by Leath Ward, on the west by Cumrew and Carlatten, and on the north by Brampton and Hayton parishes. It comprises a long and lofty fell, which forms the northern point of that range of mountains, extending from Cross Fell near Alston. The arable land is light, but abounds with small blue stones. The high fell, or common, is rugged and barren, but the lower moor being dry, and covered with a fine herbage, affords good pasturage. All the commons and wastes have been enclosed, pursuant to an act obtained in the 41<sup>st</sup> of George III, Both lime and freestone are found here, and near the church is a mineral spring of the same quality as the Gilsland Sulphuretted Spa. The manor, which comprises the whole parish, is mostly held by customary tenure, under the Earl of Carlisle, as a parcel of Gilsland Barony. It is divided into two constablewicks, called Town and Outside Quarters, and containing 346 inhabitants'. 'Castle Carrock, the only village in the parish, stands on the west side of Geltsdale, 4 miles south of Brampton. Its name is supposed to be a corruption of Castle Crag. There are near the village the apparent remains of two ancient fortification: one in a wet field, 40 yards east of the church, is about 100 yards long, and 48 broad, and is surrounded by a ditch; and the other, which is three times as large as this, lies about a furlong towards the south, and rises seven or eight yards above the surrounding meadow, but has been long in tillage; a small rivulet runs close by the west side of each of these intrenchments, and may have been the source from which their moats were filled with water'.*

Farmers listed in Castle Carrock Parish (those marked \* are yeomen): -

Christopher Atkinson	Joseph Atkinson*	Thomas Bell
Edward Blenkinsop	Thomas Blenkinsop*	John Dixon*
Thomas Carrick, Garth Mare	John Dixon*	Joshua Dixon*
J Dixon, Roughat Hill	James Dobson, Geltsdale	John Dryden
John Edwards	John Field*	John Forster*
Thomas Graham	Isaac Hetherington	Isaac Hind, Greenwell*
Thomas Hodgson, Jockey Shield	Thos Hodgson, Tottergill	
John Hodgson*	Peter Hodgson*	Peter Hudson
Mary Hudson, Greenwell	William Hudson*	Jane Johnson, Long Dyke
Henry Modlin, Nixon Head	John Peel*	Henry Ridley, Garth Head
John Rutherford	William Scott	Richard Tweedie
Jas Watson, Jockey Shield*	John Watson, Garth Foot*	Thomas Watson*
Thomas Wharton, Garth Head*		
Wm Wilkinson, Oak Tree Hall		

**Mannix and Whellan Cumberland Directory 1847**

Farmers listed in Castle Carrock Parish (those marked \* are yeomen): -

Jno Armstrong, Garth Mars*	William Beckton*	Isaac Blenkinsop
Agnes Dickson*	Jph Dixon, Rough-at-hill	James Dobson, Gelt Dale
Thomas Elliott	Thos Harrison, Tottergill	Isaac Hines, Greenwell
Peter Hudson*	Wm Hudson, Garth Head*	Mary Lancaster*
Wm Mitchinson, Long Dyke	Hen. Morley, Nixon Head*	Thomas Parke
Mary Robson, Hinnim Shield	Jane Watson*	Jas Watson, Jockey Shield*
Thos Wharton, Garth Head*	Thomas Wilkinson, Oak Tree Hall	

**History and Topography of Cumberland and Westmorland – W Whellan 1860**

*'Castle Carrock Fell commands fine views of the most fertile portion of Cumberland, the Scottish hills, the Irish Sea, Skiddaw, Saddleback and the Northumberland mountains. Its area is 3,640 acres and its rateable value £1273 9s 6d. The population in 1801 was 252; in 1811, 307; in 1821, 346; in 1831, 383; in 1841, 351 and in 1851, 346; who are principally engaged in agriculture and attend the Brampton and Carlisle markets'.*

**Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1910**

Lists all the farmers in Castle Carrock parish, as with the two previous directories, Town Foot Farm is not mentioned, although farms within the village are often not named.

**Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1921**

*'The inhabitants are the chief landowners. The arable land is light; the subsoil gravel and limestone. The high fell is very rugged and sterile. The chief crops are oats, turnips and potatoes. Population in 1911 – 287'.*

John Hodgson, farmer, Townfoot

**Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1929**

Joseph Hodgson, farmer, Townfoot

**Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1934**

Joseph Hodgson, farmer, Townfoot

**Cumberland Directory 1954**

Harold R Johnstone, Town Foot Farm

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## 9. APPENDIX 2

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### ADDITIONAL FIGURES