NORTH PENNINES ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Project Designs and Client Reports No. CP/118/04

REPORT ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING PROJECT AT CHAPEL HOUSE FARM CASTERTON KIRKBY LONSDALE CUMBRIA

FOR

HORNER LAKELAND DEVELOPMENTS LTD

NGR SD 6210 7805 Planning Application No. 5/02/0623

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NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

In June 2004 North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was appointed by M B Hodgson and Son on behalf of Horner Lakeland Developments Ltd to undertake an archaeological Building Recording Project and Watching Brief at Chapel House Farm, Casterton, Kirkby Lonsdale, Cumbria. The work was required in response to a brief prepared by Cumbria County Council Archaeology Service following a planning application for the conversion of 2 barns into 4 dwellings, new garaging and the installation of a sewage treatment plant (Planning Reference: 5/02/0623).

The work required included a rapid desk-based assessment in advance of any further work. This involved the consultation of the Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Record and the County Record Office, Kendal, and consisted of a search of all readily available maps, documents and aerial photographs relevant to the study area. Information was collected regarding the presence of any Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings or other designated sites or areas of historic interest. This was followed by a 'Level 2' building survey of the farm buildings, which involved the production of a photographic and descriptive record of the buildings in addition to a plan to show the location of each photographed feature. The building survey was followed by a field evaluation, which consisted of the presence or absence of archaeological remains. During the construction of the sewage treatment plant a watching brief will be maintained and a report to be submitted following the completion of the work.

Chapel House Farm (Plate 1) is situated in the Lune Valley, 0.5 kilometres to the east of the river and 1 kilometre south-west from the market town of Kirkby Lonsdale.

The buildings subject to the survey, whilst not of national importance, are clearly good examples, within a regional context, of late 18th century agricultural buildings. It is difficult to assess the function and relationship of the buildings that remain at Chapel House Farm, when some structures that may have been contemporary with Barn A and Barn B have since been demolished. However, those that remain are well-built and are good examples of buildings that housed agricultural processes prior to mechanisation. It is hoped that the character of these buildings can be retained in the conversion to dwellings.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are due to the following for their assistance during the undertaking of the project: Mr M Mashiter of M B Hodgson and Son, Mr Jason Horner of Horner Lakeland Developments Ltd and Mr Stephen Wilman, owner of Chapel House Farm. Thanks are also due to Ms Jo Mackintosh of Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Record and the staff of the County Record Office, Kendal.

The desk-based assessment was undertaken by Fiona Wooler BA and building survey by Fiona Wooler and Joanne Beaty BA.

The building survey report was written by Fiona Wooler and edited by Chris Jones and Juliet Reeves. The project was managed by Frank Giecco BA, Dip Arch, Principal Archaeologist.

1 INTRODUCTION AND LOCATION

- 1.1
 - In May 2004 North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by M B Hodgson and Son, acting on behalf of Horner Lakeland Developments Ltd, to undertake archaeological work on land at Chapel House Farm, Casterton, Cumbria. The work was requested in a brief prepared by Cumbria County Council Archaeology Service (CCCAS, Parsons, 2004) in response to a planning application for a the conversion of 2 barns into 4 dwellings, new garaging, and the installation of a sewage treatment plant (Planning Application Ref 5/02/0623). The work consisted of a rapid desk-based assessment, building survey and watching brief. This report details the results of the building survey, with a report on the results of the watching brief to be submitted following the completion of that phase of the work.
- 1.2 Chapel House Farm (Plate 1) is situated in the Lune Valley, 0.5 kilometres to the east of the river and 1 kilometre south-west from the market town of Kirkby Lonsdale (Figure 1). The village of Casterton is 1½ kilometres to the north. The farm is sited at the base of a west-facing slope, at a height of c.70 metres above sea level.
- Approximately 0.5 kilometres to the east of the farm is a disused railway and slightly further east is the course of a Roman road running north-south (Figure 1).
 1.5 kilometres to the north of Chapel House Farm, west of the church in Casterton, is the c.17th century Casterton Old Hall, as well as the early 19th century Casterton Hall¹.
- 1.4 The survey involved two ranges of farm buildings, both of which incorporate buildings visible on the Tithe Map of 1843 (Figures 2 and 3).
- 1.5 Chapel House Farm ceased to function as a working dairy and young stock enterprise in November 2002.
- 1.6 The two barns at Chapel House Farm, Casterton, are regarded as being of archaeological significance as they both appear on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1860, and are recorded on the County Sites and Monuments Record (Reference 40537).

2 **PREVIOUS WORK**

2.1 No previous archaeological work has been undertaken on the site.

¹ Pevsner, N., Page 238

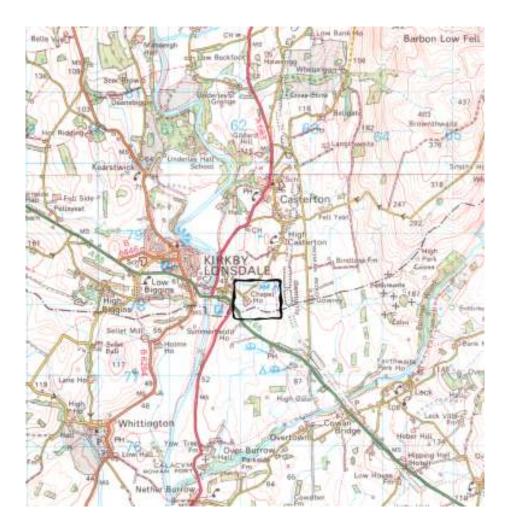


Figure 1: Site Location. Reproduced from Landranger® 1:50,000 scale by permission of Ordnance Survey ® on behalf of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright (1997). All rights reserved. Licence number WL6488

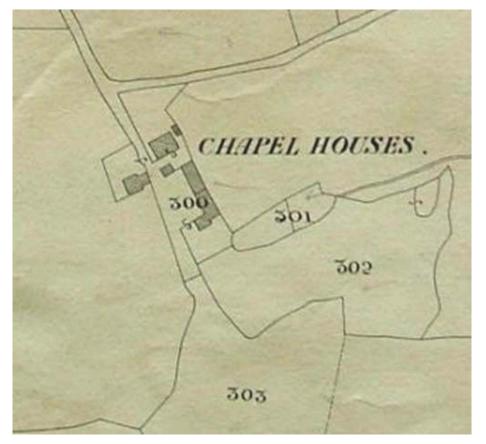


Figure 2: Tithe Map of 1843

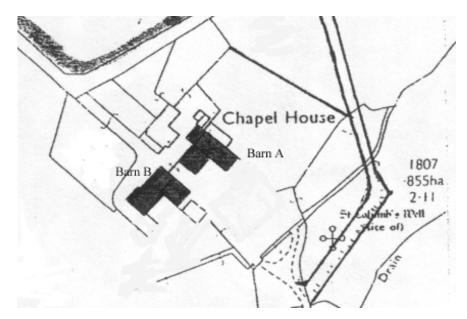


Figure 3: Buildings subject to the present survey (blacked in)

3 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 The work undertaken consisted of a desk-based assessment, visual site inspection and field evaluation.

3.2 Rapid Desk-Based Assessment

- 3.2.1 This involved the consultation of the County Sites and Monuments Record in Kendal in the first instance, and the County Record Office, Kendal. This included the assessment of all readily available primary and secondary documentary and cartographic material and all available aerial photographs, to achieve as fully an understanding as possible regarding the nature of the geographical, topographical, archaeological and historical context of the site.
- 3.2.2 The desk-based assessment was undertaken in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments* (IFA 1994).

3.3 Building Survey

- 3.3.1 The survey corresponded to 'Level 2' (RCHME 1996) and consisted of three components.
 - a written account, which includes information derived from documentary research;
 - a measured survey with accompanying drawings;
 - a photographic record.

3.4 Written Account

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

3.5 Photographic Record

- 3.5.1 The photographic archive consists of the following:
 - a series of 35mm black and white prints, which included general views of the exterior of the buildings, elevations and part elevations, along with specific external details (e.g. doorways);
 - a series of 35mm colour prints showing general views of the exterior of the buildings and their setting;
 - a series of 35mm transparencies showing general views of the buildings and their settings;
 - 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.

3.6 Project Archive

3.6.1 The full archive has been produced to a professional standard in accordance with the current English Heritage guidelines set out in the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 2nd Ed. 1991). The archive will be deposited within an appropriate repository and a copy of the report given to the County Sites and Monuments Record, where viewing will be available on request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier NPA 04 CHF-A.

4 BUILDING SURVEY



Plate 1: Chapel House Farm, Casterton

4.1 Barn 'A' and adjoining Buildings (Figure 4)

4.1.1 Barn A

- 4.1.1.1 Barn A is located within the north-eastern range of buildings at Chapel House Farm (Figure 3). The barn measures c16.70 metres in length and c7.10 metres in width. It is of mass wall construction, consisting of coursed, nicely dressed red sandstone, limestone and granite masonry. The courses are made up of larger blocks of stone at the base of the walls rising to smaller blocks further up the elevation (Plate 2). The gabled roof is constructed of asbestos corrugated sheeting with clear corrugated skylights on the South West facing side; it has plastic guttering and a metal ridge plate. There are owl holes in both end elevations.
- 4.1.1.2 The quoinstones visible on Plate 2 are only apparent on the upper half of the barn on the south-west and eastern elevations (Plates 2 and 3). The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1860 shows a building continuing along the same orientation as Barn A (Figure 5), which has since been demolished. Therefore the position of the quoinstones most likely indicates that the missing building was of one storey. Any scarring from the roof of the missing structure would be hidden behind the modern render on the eastern elevation of Barn A.

- 4.1.1.3 On the south-western elevation is a large doorway with 17 dressed stone voussoirs creating a shallow archway (Plate 2). The door jambs are also nicely dressed, and are made up of red sandstone and limestone. Set above the archway is a row of thin stones, extending the width of the doorway, these were possibly used to distribute the weight of the wall above over the doorway. This entrance presumably allowed for the access of carts into the barn to unload cereals or hay, as well as providing light into the building. There are a further three entrances into the barn, one to the right of the large entrance, which has subsequently been blocked up with concrete breeze blocks, two within Building 2 (one of which has also been blocked up with breeze blocks See Building 2 below) and a further doorway between the barn and Building 1 (See Figure 4).
- 4.1.1.4 Interestingly, there were no ventilation slits visible on any of the elevations of Barn A, a feature that is evident on Barn B (See below).

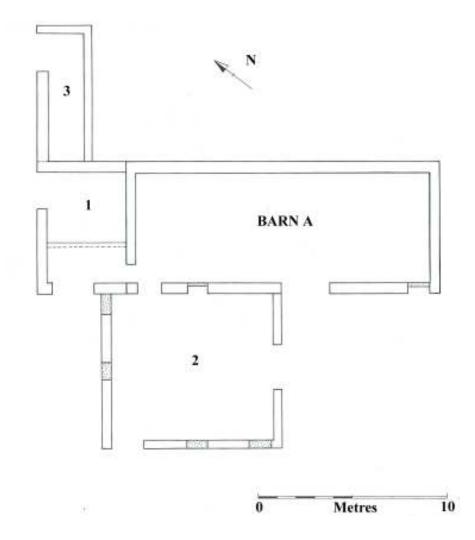


Figure 4: Ground Floor Plan of Barn A and adjoining buildings



Plate 2: South-west facing elevation of Barn A

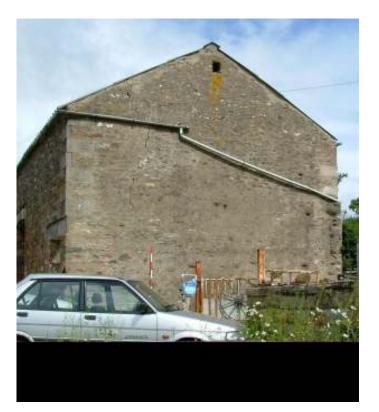


Plate 3: Eastern elevation Barn A



Figure 5: First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1860. Showing the building extending from Barn A

4.1.2 Interior of Barn A

- 4.1.2.1 The interior of Barn A is accessed from the concrete yard, through the large doorway in the south-western elevation. Just inside the doorway is the remains of a red sandstone flagged floor. The rest of the floor is mainly concrete.
- 4.1.2.2 The barn is of six bays with a roof structure of king-post construction made from machine-sawn timber. The king-posts are secured to the tie beams with iron bolts. King-post roofs became popular in British farms from the early 18th century after F Price illustrated them in *The English Carpenter* (1733), and from the early 1800's, imported softwood was used in their construction.² No carpenters marks were observed due to the height of the roof (Plate 4).
- 4.1.2.3 At the eastern end of Barn A, to the right of the entrance, and at a height of approximately two metres from ground level, are joist holes that indicate that there was at some time a first floor. A doorway in the north-eastern elevation at the same level also provides evidence for an upper floor (Plate 5). This doorway, with its large wooden lintel, is accessed externally at ground level, as the barn has been built into the slope. There are some projecting stones visible just above the scale, which may be the remains of a staircase.

² Lake, J., Page 53



Plate 4: Roof structure in Barn A The walls of all four elevations have been plastered to a height of c. 2.0 metres.



Plate 5: Barn A, first floor doorway

4.1.3 Building 1 (Figure 4 and Plate 6)



Plate 6: North West facing elevation of Building 1

- 4.1.3.1 Attached to the North West facing elevation of Barn A is a small two-storey gabled structure measuring *c*4.75 metres by *c*7.15 metres. It is of uncoursed rubble sandstone and granite masonry, with red sandstone long and short quoins. The roof is of Welsh slate. A straight construction break between Building 1 and Barn A indicates that Building 1 was constructed after the barn.
- 4.1.3.2 At ground level there are two large entrances, one in the North West elevation and another on the South West facing elevation (Figure 4). The former is arched with dressed red sandstone voussoirs; the other has a horizontal stone lintel. There is another doorway at first floor level on the North West facing elevation (Plate 6). Above this aperture is a metal girder projecting from the wall, this presumably allowed for the hoisting of sacks to the first floor. The two doorways at ground level would have allowed for the access of carts. The height of these entrances suggests that these were for unladen carts, and therefore this building could have been a cartshed, with a grain store above.

4.1.4 Interior of Building 1

4.1.4.1 The interior of Building 1 has been split into two by the insertion of a concrete breeze block partition wall. The side closest to Building 2 was empty at the time of survey. It has plastered walls with a concrete floor and no features of any note. The other side of Building 1 has more recently been used as a form of accommodation, with a toilet and shower being added. There were no features of note.

4.1.5 Building 2 (Figure 4 and Plate 7)



Plate 7: Building 2 from the south

- 4.1.5.1 Building 2 is situated on the South West facing elevations of Barn A and Building 1. It is a single-storey structure measuring *c*9.60 by *c*8.40 metres, and is constructed of uncoursed rubble sandstone and granite, with red sandstone alternating long and short quoins. The gabled roof is of asbestos sheeting with clear skylights.
- 4.1.5.2 There were, at one time, several entrances into this building, but many have subsequently been blocked up. On the north facing elevation there is one that has been blocked in with concrete breeze blocks, with another converted to a window. On the west facing elevation, two of the doorways have been blocked up, one of which has been converted to a window. All of these entrances have nicely dressed sandstone lintels and jambs made up of alternating long and short stones. On the south facing elevation is a large doorway that appears to be modern.
- 4.1.5.3 Clear construction breaks are visible where this building butts up against Barn A and Building 1, therefore Building 2 was constructed later.

4.1.6 Building 2 - Interior

4.1.6.1 The floor of this building has been concreted over and the walls have been plastered to a height of c1.30 metres above ground level, above this the remainder of the wall is lime washed (a wall coating that has been used for centuries as a coating and disinfectant) (Plate 8).



Plate 8 – Interior of Building 2 showing blocked doorways

- 4.1.6.2 The blocked doorways are clearly visible, and they appear to have been blocked in after the plaster has been applied to the walls, as the uncoursed and roughly coursed rubble masonry used, is uncovered. The wooden lintels of these doorways are also clearly visible (Plate 8). The roof consists of two trusses of queen post construction with clasped purlins, made from machine sawn timber (Plate 9).
- 4.1.6.3 There is every possibility that this building was once a gin-case (or horse-engine house or gin-gang). It has been constructed against Barn A, a feature which is common with most gin-cases as they housed the gearing that was driven by horses, which in turn powered a threshing machine located in the barn. It also has several openings that have now been blocked in or converted to windows, this was also a common feature of gin-cases as they allowed for ventilation as well as for easy access for the horses. Gin-cases were constructed in different forms, this building may have been a square-ended gin-case, but they could be polygonal, round or apsidal³. The size of this structure would have accommodated a circular path for horses of a maximum diameter of c7.5 metres, this fits in with Brunskills diameter range of between 5.5 to 9.1 metres (18 feet to 30 feet) with between 7.3 metres and 7.9 metres being the most common⁴. The only other evidence that this may have been a gin-case would have been a blocked-up hole in the wall between Building 2 and Barn A, where the axle would have gone through the wall. There is, however, a doorway which has been blocked in with concrete breeze blocks, in the location where this axle hole would have been expected. If is difficult to asses if this doorway was an original feature of the barn, in which case the axle may have just gone through that aperture, or if this was a later insertion (which seems more likely due to its position next to another doorway), and the evidence for an axle hole has been obliterated.

³ See Wooler, F., 2004, for a recent survey of an apsidal gin-case. Brunskill shows examples of these types of gincases, Page 50, 1982

⁴ Brunskill, R.W., Page 54



Plate 9: Queen-post roof structure in Building 2

4.1.7 Building 3 (Figure 4)

4.1.7.1 This building is a single storey 'lean-to' that is located on the north east elevation of Building 1. It is of uncoursed rubble masonry with an asbestos corrugated sheet roof. There are no features of note.

4.2 Barn 'B' and adjoining Building (Figure 6)

4.2.1 Barn B (Figure 6 and Plate 10)

4.2.1.1 Barn B is located to the south-west of Barn A and associated buildings (Figure 3). It is constructed of uncoursed rubble red sandstone, limestone and granite masonry. The corners of the building are roughly quoined, and the whole structure is not as nicely built as Barn A. The gabled roof is of Welsh slate, with five glass panels inserted to provide extra light. The barn measures c20 metres in length, but is unusual in having a wider western end to one side of the large doorways measuring c9.5 by c9.3 metres, and a longer thinner eastern end measuring c.10.3 by c.6.5 metres (Figure 6). This unusual form can be easily identified on the Tithe Map of 1843 (Figure 2).

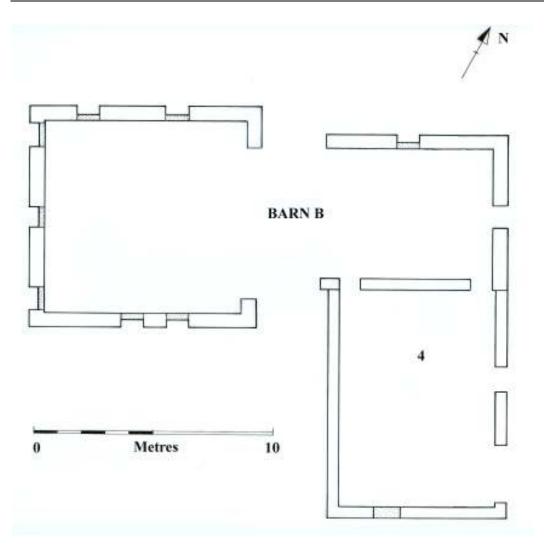


Figure 6: Ground Floor Plan of Barn B and adjoining building



Plate 10: Barn B viewed from the north – clearly shows opposing doorways

- 4.2.1.2 There have been, at one time, several entrances into this barn. On the north west facing and the south east facing elevations are large opposing doorways that extend in height to eaves level (Plate 10). These doorways would have allowed for fully laden carts to access the barn, as well as for providing a through-draught for the threshing and winnowing of cereals, when hand-flail threshing was used to remove the grain from the stalk (prior to mechanisation). Hand-flail threshing required adequate space, light, height and controlled ventilation, as it was not a pleasant process⁵.
- 4.2.1.3 There are three doorways (now blocked with a single-course of concrete breeze blocks) on the south west facing elevation. These entrances are now partly below a pile of demolition rubble, therefore their full height cannot be seen (Plate 11).



Plate 11: South West facing gable end of Barn B – showing 3 doorways

4.1.2.4 These entrances have dressed sandstone lintels and slightly chamfered door jambs. On a stone that makes up part of the door jamb for the left-hand side doorway, are the initials:

WL

And on a stone incorporated into the door jamb of the right-hand doorway is a curious inscription that appears to read: -

J. C A 🔺 D U S

[and] W C. L A G

[the symbol highlighted red, resembles a benchmark symbol and actually has a horizontal line across the top. This inscription did not show up on photographs, and a rubbing of it revealed little]

⁵ *Ibid*, Page 36

- 4.1.2.5 The central doorway has been heightened, with another lintel added to create a window.
- 4.1.2.6 On the north west facing elevation (Figure 6), there are a further three apertures apart from the large entrance already described. To the left of the large threshing door is an entrance that still retains its door, but has been blocked up with concrete breeze blocks. This doorway has a dressed red sandstone lintel with alternating sandstone blocks making up the jambs. The two other apertures are to the right of the threshing doorway, and can just be seen on Plate 10 above. These may originally have been doorways, but the external ground level appears to have been raised.



Plate 12: South East facing elevation of Barn B, showing large doorway, two small apertures at ground level and pitching door at first floor level

- 4.1.2.7 On the south east facing elevation, there are two small blocked-up apertures to the left of the large threshing door already described above (Plate 12). These do not appear to have been once doorways or windows, but may possibly have been hatches for pigs, although any evidence for the small yards usually associated with pig sties may have been destroyed by later building work.
- 4.1.2.8 On the north east facing gable end, is a further doorway (unblocked), with dressed sandstone lintels and door jambs, with a window to either side. There are two rows of ventilation slits, which are particularly visible on the south east facing elevation (Plate 12). They are not as apparent on the other elevations due to the application of modern render. There are owl holes at the top of each gable end.

4.2.3 Interior of Barn B

- 4.2.3.1 The interior of Barn B is open to the roof, the trusses, purlins and ridge beams of which are all constructed of cast iron, with cast iron girders as lintels over the threshing doors. The floor has been concreted over, so there is no evidence for earlier floor surfaces. From ground level, the walls are plastered to a height of *c*2.10 metres, consequently most of the blocked apertures are not visible on the inside. There is evidence that there was, at one time, a first floor. In the western end of the barn is a pitching hole at first floor height, although no joist holes were observed at this end, the plaster appears to have covered them. The first floor may have been used to store hay, and the hole would have allowed for the easy transference of hay to the outside. In the eastern end of the barn there is another pitching hole at first floor height and joist holes are visible, however, the floor must have been put in place at a later date, as the floor would cut across the windows and doorway on the north east gable end (Plate 13).
- 4.2.3.2 At the eastern end of Barn B, on the south east facing elevation, is a further unblocked doorway that currently gives access into Building 4, but would originally have opened out into the farmyard.



Plate 13: North East gable end of Barn B, the joist holes for first floor are just above the plaster line.

4.2.4 Building 4 (Figure 6 and Plate 14)

4.2.4.1 This two-storey structure butts up against Barn B at a 90° angle to the eastern end. It measures *c*9.6 metres by *c*7.5 metres, and is constructed of uncoursed rubble masonry with sandstone quoins. It is similar to Barn B in construction, but cartographic evidence suggests that Building 4 was constructed after 1899, as it does not appear on the Ordnance Survey map of that date (See copy of this map on the CD-Rom).

- 4.2.4.2 On the north east facing elevation there are two windows and two entrances at ground level, one is a standard doorway with masonry jambs and lintel, the other is larger with a cast iron lintel (Plate 14), and presumably allowed access for machinery or animals. There are two doorways at first floor level.
- 4.2.4.3 On the south facing elevation, there is a blocked doorway and two blocked windows, these appear to have been blocked in when a lean-to was added to this gable end, as the holes for the roof purlins are visible (Plate 15). There are two windows at first floor level on this elevation.



Plate 14: North East facing elevation of Building 4, with the gable end of Barn B

4.2.5 Interior of Building 4

- 4.2.5.1 The ground and first floor of this building are both single rooms, with no evidence for partitions.
- 4.2.5.2 The ground floor has been concreted over and the walls are lime-washed. There are two doorways in the northern gable end of this building, both of which give access into Barn B. A metal ladder in the north east corner of the room, gives access to the first floor, which may originally have served as a hayloft or grain store the two doorways at first floor level are presumably pitching doorways, as there is no evidence for external staircases. The roof is made up of two king-post roof trusses, constructed from machine-sawn timber which support a Welsh slate roof. A wooden chute runs from this floor and through a window aperture at ground floor level, to what is now the outside of Building 4, and may have been used for grain or animal feed into a building that no longer stands.
- 4.2.5.3 Set within the concrete that covers the ground outside the south west facing elevation of Building 4 and the south east facing elevation of Barn B are two rows of timber stumps (five in each row) running parallel with Building 4, these are all that remains of a 'telegraph pole' barn (an open sided structure) that once stood on this site. The scarring of the gable end is still visible (Plate 16).



Plate 15: South facing gable end of Building 4, with the western end of Barn B



Plate 16: South West facing elevation of Building 4, shows wooden chute and scarring of a demolished building

5 **CONCLUSIONS**

- 5.1 Although the farm buildings at Chapel House Farm are clearly not of national importance, in a regional context they are good examples, particularly Barn A, of 18th century agricultural structures. This was a period when farming became more scientific and efficient, in response to growing population levels and increased trade brought about by the Industrial Revolution. There appears to have been buildings on this site since at least the 1770's, as Chapel Houses is marked on the Hodkinson and Donald map of that date (See CD-Rom), and both Barn A and Barn B could very easily be of that date or earlier as the opposing threshing doorways of Barn B relate to a process that was carried out for centuries until the mechanisation of threshing in the late 18th century. The function of Barn A is slightly less obvious because of the lack of ventilation slits, however Brunskill notes that ventilation in storage bays was only necessary to a limited extent, and that corn required much less than hay⁶.
- 5.2 The difference in the construction of the two barns (A and B) is quite striking. Barn A is a very well built structure of well-dressed masonry that graduates in size, with the larger stones at the bottom of the walls. The mix of stone is also interesting and it is a possibility that some of the masonry has been reused. A chapel once stood very close to the site of the farm buildings (recorded on the County Sites and Monuments Record, reference 4024). The chapel was dedicated to St Coums and is said by Machell to have been mentioned in a letter dating to 1692, but by 1777 Nicholson and Burn wrote that '*In Casterton there are two houses called Chapel Houses, and a place near unto them called Chapel Head Close, where a chapel formerly stood, but the ground is now ploughed up'⁷. There were no pieces of architectural stonework observed within the fabric of Barn A. However, built into the rough door jamb of one of the threshing doorways of Barn B is a rectangular piece of carved stonework, and placed above the lintel of a doorway in Building 4, is a similar piece placed vertically.*
- 5.3 Building 2 may originally have been a gin-case, but if it was, it may have been a late example as it does not appear on the Tithe Map of 1843, or the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1860. Although the threshing machine was invented in the late 18th century, and the gin-case (using horse-power to drive the threshing machine) was constructed from that period to around the mid 19th century, there are some instances where gin-cases were still being used into the 1930's on northern farms that did not convert to steam or tractor power⁸. It is difficult to assess the function and relationship of the buildings that remain at Chapel House Farm, when some structures that may have been contemporary with Barn A and Barn B have since been demolished. However, those that remain are well-built and are good examples of buildings that housed agricultural processes prior to mechanisation. It is hoped that the character of these buildings can be retained in the conversion to dwellings.

⁶ *Ibid*, Page 41

⁷ Nicholson, J and Burn, R., 1777, Page 249

⁸ Harvey, N., Page 152

6 **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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APPENDIX

CRO(K) = Cumbria Record Office (Kendal) CL = Carlisle Library CRO(C)= Carlisle Record Office

The History and Antiquities of the Counties of Westmorland and Cumberland Volume I – J Nicholson and R Burn 1777 Page 249

'Casterton (which lies on the east side of the river) did probably receive its name from some castle erected here; of which nevertheless there are now no vestiges remaining'.

'In Casterton there are two houses called Chapel Houses, and a place near unto them called Chapel Head Close, where a chapel formerly stood, but the ground is now ploughed up. And there is a well nigh unto it, called St Coume's [St Columbe's] well; to which saint the chapel probably was dedicated'.

'Amongst the particulars made out in the reign of King Charles the First, for the sale of the Richmond Fee and other crown lands in Westmorland, there is mentioned a coal mine in Casterton, of which Roger Bateman proposed to be purchaser'.

History, Directory and Gazetteer of Cumberland and Westmorland – 1829 Parson and White

'Casterton township lies between Lancashire, Barbon and the Lune river, and contains a number of dispersed dwellings, a lofty fell and the hamlets of High and Low Casterton, distant 1¹/₂ miles NNE of Kirby Lonsdale. A chapel formerly stood at Chapel Head Close, and near it is St Coume's (St Columbe's) well. The Earl of Lonsdale is lord of the manor. Casterton Hall has just been described [the stately mansion of Wm Wilson Carus Wilson Esq. one mile NNE of Casterton upon an eminence surrounded by fine plantations], but there are no vestiges or record to show that there was ever a castle here. The tenants are half free and half customary. In the reign of Charles I there was a coal mine here'.

Jas Richardson, Chapelhouse, Farmer [not listed as a yeoman]

History, Topography and Directory of Westmorland with Lonsdale – Mannix & Co. 1851

Kirkby Lonsdale Parish

'This parish is bounded by Yorkshire, Lancashire and the parishes of Burton and Kendal, and comprises the greater part of Lonsdale Ward, being about ten miles in length and from four to six in breadth. It is a picturesque and highly interesting district, intersected by the Lune, which here assumes the character of a fine river, and flows through a fruitful and well-cultivated valley. It is divided into the following nine townships – Barbon, Casterton, Firbank, Hutton Roof, Killington, Kirkby Lonsdale, Lupton, Mansergh and Middleton, of which seven are chapelries; and its population in 1801 was 3061; in 1811, 3235; in 1821, 3669; in 1831, 3949; and in 1841, 4178. The estimated annual value of the property within its boundaries is about £30,000'.

Thos. Wilson - Farmer, Chapel House [not listed as an owner]

The History and Topography of the Counties of Cumberland and Westmorland – 1860 W.Whellan

Casterton chapelry

'This chapelry is bounded by Lancashire, Barbon and the river Lune, and contains the hamlets of High and Low Casterton, with a number of dispersed dwellings'.

'The area of the township is 4230 acres and its rateable value is £3,227 18s 2d. It contained in 1801, 266 inhabitants; in 1811, 278; in 1821, 277; in 1831, 302; in 1841, 623 and in 1851, 276; whose chief employment is agriculture. A chapel is supposed to have formerly stood at a place called Chapel Head Close, near St Columb's, to which saint it is probable the chapel was dedicated'.

'Casterton and Hutton Roof, though separated by the river, were originally one manor, but they have long been separate and distinct. The earliest recorded possessor of Casterton is *Ingelram de Gynes* and *Christian* his wife, who occurs as owners in 1318. In 1351 we find a third part of the manor of Casterton held by *Gilbert de Burneshead* of *William de Coucy*, grandson of *Ingelram de Gynes*, by cornage, wardship and relief. In 1375, after the death of *Joan de Coupland*, it was found by inquisition that she died seised of the manor of Casterton. It has since shared the fate of the Richmond Fee of the barony of Kendal, and is now held by the Earl of Lonsdale, beside whom, the Rev.W C Wilson; Joseph Gibson Esq.; George E Wilson Esq.; the executors of the late Thomas Robinson Esq.; the executors of the late Francis Pearson Esq.; and others are the landowners'.

'Casterton Hall, the seat and property of the Rev. Carus Wilson, is a fine mansion, situated on a gentle eminence about a mile east-by-north of Kirkby Lonsdale. Casterton Old Hall, in which the Earl of Lonsdale holds his courts, has been partly rebuilt'.

Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1873

Isaac Hully, Farmer, Chapel House

Slater's Directory of Cumberland, Durham, Northumberland, Westmorland and the Cleveland District 1884

Most farm names are not given (Chapel House is not mentioned), but the following farmers are listed at Casterton: -

John Aiton	Matthew Croft	Robe	rt Dodgson
William Fearnside	Richard Garnett	Thomas Ha	aigh
Titus Harrison	Thomas Key		Joseph Mattinson
William Pooley John Richardson William Shaw			naw
Robert Towers	Joseph Wil	son	Richard Wilson

Kelly's Directory of Durham, Northumberland, Westmorland and Cumberland 1894

'At Chapel House, in this township, there was formerly a chapel dedicated to St Coom or Columba'.

'The Earl of Lonsdale, the trustees of the late Earl of Bective, Alfred Harris Esq., and the trustees of the late Joseph Gibson Esq., are the principal landowners. The soil is light; subsoil, gravel. The chief crops are oats, barley, turnips and potatoes. The area is 4298 acres; rateable value £3926; the population in 1891 was 442'.

Joseph Moore, Farmer, Chapel House

Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1897

Joseph Moore, Farmer, Chapel House

Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1906

John Wilman, Farmer, Chapel House

Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1910

John Wilman, Farmer, Chapel House

Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1914

John Wilman, Farmer, Chapel House

Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1921

John Wilman, Farmer, Chapel House and Norwood

Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1928

Jn Wilman & Son, Farmers, Chapel House [listed as farm over 150 acres]

Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1929

John Wilman, Farmer, Chapel House and Norwood

Kelly's Directory of Cumberland and Westmorland 1934

Jn Wilman and Son, Farmers, Chapel House [over 150 acres]

'At Chapel House, in this township [Casterton], there was formerly a chapel dedicated to St Coom or Columba. Casterton was a Roman settlement, as its name betokens'.

'Lady Henry Cavendish Bentinck and Maj. Joseph Gibson DSO, JP, are the principal landowners. The soil is light; subsoil, limestone. The chief crops are oats barley, turnips and potatoes. The area is 4304 acres of land and 22 of water; the population in 1931 was 278'.

<u>Maps</u>

Apportionment of the rent-charge in lieu of tithes in the Township of Casterton in the Parish of Kirkby Lonsdale 1843 (KRO)

Plot 300 represents Chapel House, described as Homestead outbuildings and garden.

Plot 301 – Orchard

Plot 302 and 303 – Clay pits

Landowner – Richard Stewart Picard & Gregg Robert Lampleugh, Devisees of the late Thomas Hall

Occupier – Joseph Harrison

Hodkinson and Donald Map 1777 (Surveyed 1770)

Chapel Houses is marked on this map (See photograph on CD-Rom)

Other Sources

Family and Estate – Lowther DLons L5/4 Volume 5 Westmorland Estate – CRO

Kirkby Lonsdale and Casterton Estate

No references to Chapel House Farm

Principal Inhabitants of Cumberland and Westmorland 1829 – Compiled by R Grigg, Beewood Coldell, 1988

Jas Richardson, Farmer, Chapel House, Casterton

The Place Names of Westmorland – English Place-name Society Volume XLII for 1964-5 Edited by A H Smith, Cambridge University Press 1967

Casterton

'Farmstead near the fortification. *Caester* usually denotes a Roman settlement, but no such remains have been found here. RCHM 66-7, however, records a stone circle and mound about I mile ESE of the village, which lies ¹/₄ mile west of a Roman road'.

'St Columb's chapel and well – Chapel of St Columba, the chapel, well and chantry were dedicated to St Columba, the Irish monk who founded the monastery of Iona, and who is known in Irish sources as *Columcille*'.

Towns and Villages of the Lake District and Cumbria – Alan Bryant, 1993, Kendal (CL)

'Casterton – a parish east of Lune, close to the A683. Two hamlets actually – High Casterton and Low Casterton'.

'The name Casterton means the farmstead near the fortification and has been a community long before its entry in the Domesday Book. For example, at Overburrow two miles south of Kirkby Lonsdale, a Roman fort can be clearly seen on the narrow, deep valley. At one time it housed an infantry battalion of 500 men within its three acres. It was first explored in 1883 when gateways and remains of a Roman bridge were discovered'.

Westmorland Church Notes – E Bellasis 1889 Kendal

Notes on the heraldry, epitaphs and other inscriptions in the 32 ancient parish churches and churchyards of that county

Kirkby Lonsdale Church: -

Picard – 'In m. Elizabeth wife of Richard Stuart Picard of Kirkby Lonsdale born 19th March 1800, died 4th June 1875, also of the above named Richard Stuart Picard born 17th January 1807, died 26th November 1887'.

The Buildings of England – Cumberland and Westmorland – Nikolaus Pevsner 1967 (Second Edition 2002 Yale University Press)

Kirkby Lonsdale

Casterton Hall – 'Early C19, of three bays, ashlar-faced, with a semi-circular porch of Tuscan columns. Round the corner a façade with a big bow and l. and r. blank niches. Entrance hall with a shallow segmental vault. Staircase hall with oval skylight'.

Casterton Old Hall – 'W of the church. C17, with mullioned and transomed windows. One overmantel has re-set wooden panels of c.1530-40'.

Stone Circle – '200 yards SE of Langthwaite Gill Plantation. The circle stands on a flattened mound, and now consists of twenty small stones with a diameter of 60ft. No stone projects more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft above the turf, and they may in fact be kerbstones of a vanished cairn rather than a free-standing circle'.

Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society – New Series Volume LXXI 1971

A Kirkby Lonsdale Armorial

'The foundation before 1279 of St Columba's Chantry, Casterton, now Chapelhouse Farm, is ascribed to Adam de Wennington, son of Elias (or Ellis) de Wennington who held moiety of the manor of Wennington in 1202. The advowson of the Chantry remained in the Wennington family until Joan de Wennington, as heir to her brother, William (died before 1345), carried it to her husband, William de Morley'.

'The advowson of the chantry of St Columa at Casterton passed from the Wenningtons to the Morley family, of Wennington, Lancs., Joan, daughter of Gilbert de Wennington (died before 1329), and heir to her brother, William de Wennington (died before 1345), having carried it to her husband William, son of John de Morley. It remained in the family for 200 years, Francis Morley presenting Roger Otway to the chantry in 1531'.

www.pinfold.com/casterton/history

Lists the Bowe family as being at Chapel House at the time of the 1881 Census