

FALL HEAD FARM

Fall Head Lane, Silkstone, Barnsley



Historic Building Record

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Final v1

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SUMMARY OF PROJECT DETAILS

TJC Project Code: D64
OASIS ID: thejesso1-426744
Project Type(s): Historic Building Record

National Grid Reference: SE 29735 06172 (centred)
Postcode: S75 4LB (nearest)
County: South Yorkshire
District/Unitary Authority: Barnsley
Parish: Silkstone
Elevation: c. 120 above Ordnance Datum

Planning Reference(s): 2021/0190
Designation Status(s): Non-designated

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the results of a programme of historic building recording at Fall Head Farm, Fall Head Lane, Silkstone, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, centred on National Grid Reference SE 29735 06172.

Fall Head Farm represents a multi-phased farmstead of 18th Century origins. The earliest structures on the site comprise the farmhouse, a combined cow shed and hay loft (Building B) and a threshing barn (Building C). The farm was extended in a piecemeal fashion through the later 18th to mid-19th Century, with a more significant phase of development in the later 19th Century adding domestic accommodation and storage on the farm (Buildings A and E, and an extension to the farmhouse).

The arrangement of the farm, and the form and range of buildings at the site, are typical of a late post-medieval farmstead, with the full range of anticipated structures identified for a site operating principally as a cattle farm with ancillary crop processing, presumably for feed.

Documentary evidence has established the occupiers of the farm from the mid-19th Century onwards, with evidenced phases linking in well with changes of ownership which presumably provided the impetus for investment. Evidence of earlier owners and tenants of the mid-18th Century has also been identified, although more detailed research is required to unpick the relationship between the site and Lees Farm.

I INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

This report presents the results of a programme of historic building recording at Fall Head Farm, Fall Head Lane, Silkstone, Bamsley, South Yorkshire (**Figure I**), centred on National Grid Reference SE 29735 06172.

This programme of works has been prepared to address a condition of planning consent for the conversion of the farm to domestic use (condition 6 of application 2021/0190) and has been undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; TJC Heritage 2021) approved by Bamsley Metropolitan Borough Council (BMC) and the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service (SYAS).

The principal aim of the project was to record structures within the site, to make a permanent record in advance of their alteration or destruction, and to contribute to the understanding of the origin and development of the site.

DISSEMINATION

Copies of this report will be distributed to the South Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record. In addition, a digital copy will be uploaded to the OASIS (Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigationS) with the reference number: **thejesso1-426744**.

The physical project archive, including all record photography and drawings, and a copy of the report, will be deposited with Bamsley Archives

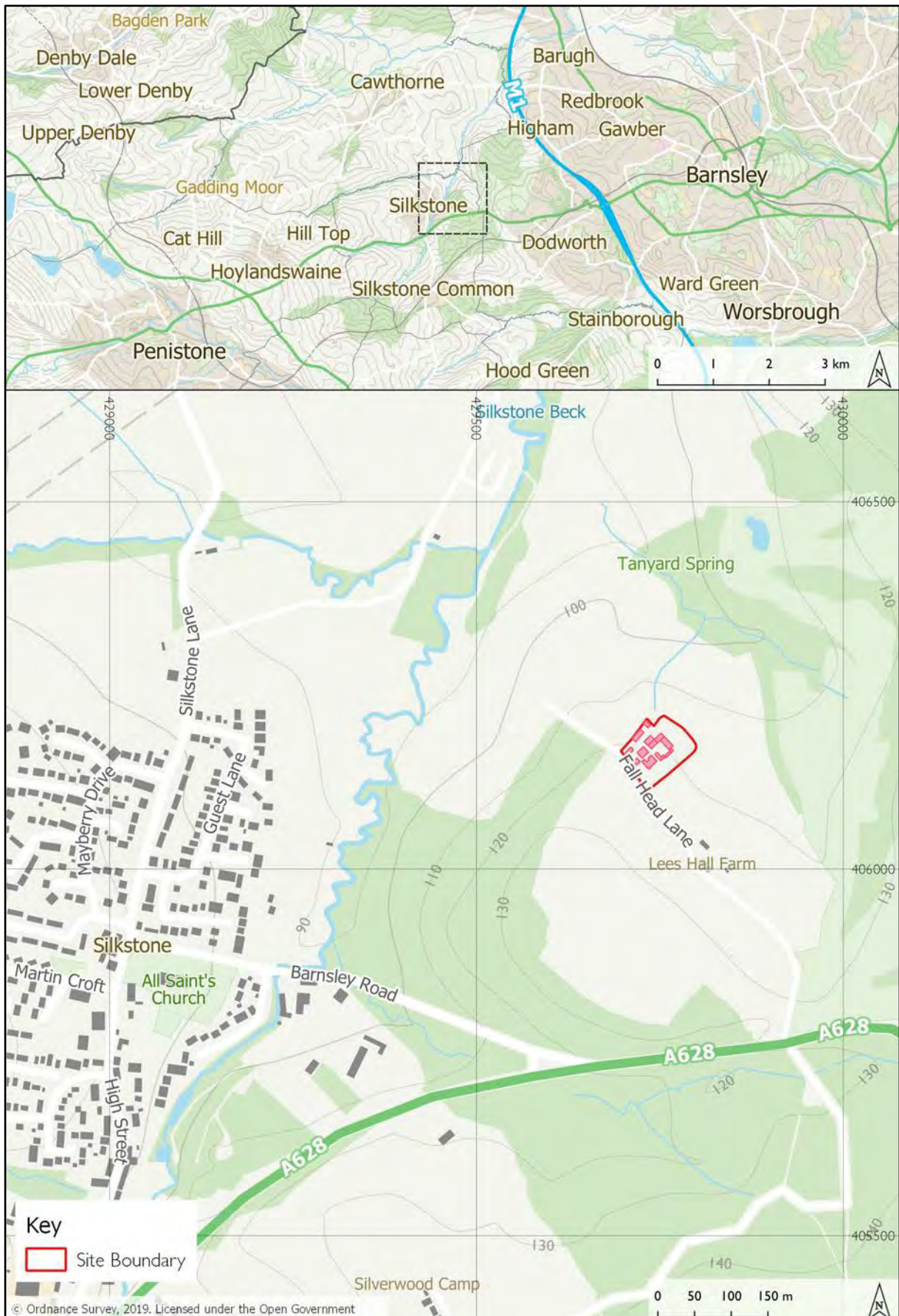


Figure 1: Site location plan

2 METHODOLOGY

STANDARDS

The project has been undertaken in accordance with best practice guidelines as set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2019b & 2020); and Historic England (2016).

DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH

A historical baseline for the property was produced using digitally available resources to establish evidence of the origins of the site, its history of use, and any historical associations with people or events.

This assessment was undertaken during the COVID-19 pandemic and certain sources of information were not available for consultation, including physical documents held by the local record office.

BUILDING RECORDING

An as-existing record was made of the buildings at the site prior to any further works being undertaken. This was designed to be commensurate with a **Level 3 Record** as set out by Historic England (2016a) comprising:

- Photographic record of **Buildings A-E**, including external photography of adjacent buildings and their settings;
- Measured floor plans of **Buildings A-E**; and
- Measured sections of **Buildings A, C and D**.

The recording strategy is illustrated on **Figure 2**.

All photography was undertaken using a 35mm black and white film. Metric scales of appropriate size were used wherever possible. The details of each image were recorded on pro-forma recording forms and are reproduced in **Appendix 2**.

Plans utilised existing surveys which were checked on site and enhanced with archaeological observations producing scaled annotated drawings which are included in **Appendix 3**.

3 SITE DETAILS

3.1. DESIGNATION

3.1.1. Fall Head Farm is a non-designated heritage asset.

3.2. LOCATION

3.2.1. Fall Head Farm is located approximately 760m east of Silkstone, on the eastern side of Silkstone Beck and north of the A628 between Silkstone and Dodworth from which it is principally accessed.

3.3. ARRANGEMENT

3.3.1. The site (**Figure 2**) comprises a courtyard plan farmstead with detached two-storey farmhouse towards the south. The application for conversion encompasses the following buildings, where detailed recording is proposed:

- **Building A:** Two storey ancillary accommodation and implement shed
- **Building B:** Two storey stables and loft
- **Building C:** Single storey cattle shed
- **Building D:** Two storey combination barn with threshing barn and attached cowhouse
- **Building E:** Single storey range of loose boxes



Figure 2: Site Layout showing recording strategy

4 HISTORIC BASELINE

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Fall Head is named on the Thomas Jeffry's 1767 map of Yorkshire (**Appendix 1.1**), with two rectangular buildings shown possibly correlating to Lees Hall Farm and Fall Head Farm. A deed of exchange from 1752 records the transfer of a close called Nar Over Lees, a dwelling, and a threshing floor to Francis Burdett, a tanner of Lees or Fall Head, to Robert Fretwell, tanner of Potterton, in exchange for Hollings close, a watercourse in Long Close for the supply of Fretwell's tanyard, and a barn north of the threshing floor, all near Lees (Sheffield Archives: COAL/Y1/12/7). Notably, Hollings survived as a field name into the 1840s with the tithe survey of 1845 recording it immediately west of Fall Head Farm (plot 398). The same survey records a tannery within the woods immediately north of Fall Head Farm, comprising a tanyard, croft and orchard (included under plot 376). It is likely that Burdett's address was Lees Hall Farm, to the east of the site, for which deeds potentially survive covering the period 1699-1832 ("The Lees of Fall Head"; Sheffield Archives: COAL/Y1/12).

A conveyance of 1825 records the sale of "Fall Head Farm" by William Parker, as part of the Fieldhead Estate, to J & J Charlesworth, coal masters, for £14,703. Other parts of the estate included Field Head Farm, and a furnace on Thompson Delft (Sheffield Archives: COAL/Y1/11/30). It is unclear whether this included the site, which was recorded as to let in 1838, with details available from Thomas Potts at Cannon Hall, suggesting it had been acquired by the Spencer Stanhope family. The farm was described as comprising 69 acres of land, alongside Norcroft Farm (which was indicated as potentially let along with Fall Head), Barnaby Furnace Farm and Silkstone Mill and Farm (Leeds Mercury, 1 December 1838).

The 1841 Census does not name Fall Head Farm specifically but does include several properties under "Fall Head" including at least two farms occupied by Oswald Foster and John Ellis. The "Barnsla Foaks" annual of 1844 records the death of Ann Ellis on January 10th 1843, wife of John Ellis, farmer, noting that she had attended Barnsley market for "upwards of sixty years with cream cheeses" (Treddehoyle 1844).

The tenancy was subsequently taken up by George Hinchliffe, who is recorded as occupying the farm in the 1845 tithe survey, with the owner identified as John Spencer Stanhope. This was possibly the same George Hinchliffe who was recorded as a woodsman at Barnaby Furnace in 1824 (Leeds Intelligencer 19 February 1824, 2), and then in the 1841 poll book at Low Mill, Dodworth. The tithe map (**Appendix 1.2**) shows Fall Head Farm to comprise two detached buildings to the south

(presumably the farmhouse and **Building A**), an L-shaped range to the north (**Buildings B-D**), and a small building to the east (on the site of the pigstys).

The farm had not changed by the production of the 1851 Ordnance Survey.

By the time of the 1871 Census the farm had passed to Adshead family. Fall Head Farm was listed as to let in 1880, when it was described as *"containing 93 acres or thereabouts, 50 of which is in excellent old grass. The House is well adapted as a genteel residence for a tradesman in Barnsley, from which town the farm is situate about 3 miles, Dodworth station being only distant about 1 mile."* Further particulars were to be sought from the land agent at Cannon Hall (Sheffield Daily Telegraph, 21 February 1880). It is not clear from the 1881 Census who took on the farm, although Henry Barnes was listed as a farmer of 93 acres.

The 1893 Ordnance Survey (**Appendix I.3**) shows the farm had been extended since the 1850s, with the addition of **Building E** and the adjoining perpendicular range to its east containing pigsty's. An extension is also shown to the rear of **Building D**.

Fall Head House is listed in the 1891 Census, occupied by the Shoesmith family which correlates with a newspaper article listing James Shoesmith, farmer, of Fall Head Farm in 1882 (Sheffield Independent, 10 April 1882). The farm appears to have been used for cattle rearing, when an outbreak of pleuro-pneumonia was recorded at Fall Head Farm in 1892, requiring the slaughter of 54 head of cattle (Sheffield Independent, 29 June 1892). The Shoesmiths were still present at the farm during the 1901 and 1911 censuses.

Subsequent Ordnance Survey maps of 1907, 1931, 1955 and 1961 show no changes to the layout of the farm. With the publication of the 1971 edition (**Appendix I.4**) various additions had been made including several detached buildings to the west and north of the earlier buildings.

5 PHASED DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

Four principal phases of development and alterations have been identified at Fall Head Farm:

Phase 1: Mid-18 th Century	Construction of the farmhouse, Building B , Building C and Building D .
Phase 2: Early 19 th Century	Construction of Building C , potentially on the site of an earlier building. Extension of Building D .
Phase 3: Mid-19 th Century	Construction of the pigsties.
Phase 4: Late 19 th Century	Extension of the farmhouse. Construction of Buildings A , on the site of an earlier building. Re-roofing a of Building C . Construction of Building E and the outhouse east of Building D .
Phase 5: Mid to Late 20 th Century	Refurbishment of Buildings A, B, C, D & E

PHASE 1: MID-18TH CENTURY

The earliest phase of development is represented by three surviving buildings: the farmhouse, a cow barn and hay loft (**Building B**) and a threshing barn (eastern two-thirds of **Building D**). Elements of a potentially contemporary building also survive within **Building C**, principally its stone foundations. These structures are built from a red handmade brick laid to a stretcher bond with occasional headers. The brick may have been locally sourced with a field named "Brick Close" recorded to the west of the site (plot 397) in 1845 potentially reflecting the site of a brick kiln. Unusually for the area there is very little stone used within these buildings, limited to foundations, occasional lintels and in reinforcing the south-east corner of **Building C**. The roofs were presumably all of stone slate, with the roof structures of **Building B and D** showing similarities in terms of the size and proportions of their component timbers and unusual raking queen posts of their trusses.

Whilst the planform of **Building B** has been altered, the evenly spaced doors of its east elevation (which appear original in their location) are suggestive of the traditional arrangement for two rows of stalls at either end of the building, orientated on a transvers orientation, with their own access and facing onto a central passage for feeding. The floor above, with its pitching hole in the south elevation and evenly spaced vents on its long elevations would have served as a hay loft.

Building C has changed relatively little in terms of its planform, remaining as a single open space. The main barn door lies to the south, with rare surviving example of good quality harr-hung doors, albeit with some later alterations. The opposing door in the north elevation has been blocked, but was slightly lower in height, suggesting crop laden carts would have accessed from the south, with the northern door providing an exist and a through draft for winnowing. No evidence for the threshing floor survives, with the whole building resurfaced in concrete, nor is there any evidence for fixings for the board that would have been laid across the doorways to prevent corn from blowing out. Blocked vents are evident in all elevations, illustrating that the building was most likely free-standing when first built.

The farmhouse was not investigated as part of this study; however, it is worth noting that it is of considerable size, and suggestive of having been the house for a family of some means. Its main entrance appears to have been repositioned to the south in the 19th Century, with the original door perhaps located on the east elevation where it would have been opposite a large arched stair window in the west elevation. The bay window, and south-west wing are also likely to be 19th Century additions, as are the chimneys (including flues for seven fireplaces in the main range, and two in the later wing).

PHASE 2: EARLY 19TH CENTURY

Whilst no documentary evidence has been identified from this period, it is believed that **Building C** was potentially built, and **Building D** extended, during this time. These structures abut **Buildings B** and the eastern two-thirds of **Building D**, indicating they post-date them. They are also present by the time of the first detailed survey of 1845 (**Appendix 1.2**). The construction of these additions utilises red brick and coursed squared stone; narrow, smoothly dressed stones of varying proportions for quoins and lintels; and substantial timbers in the floor and roof structure. The character of this construction is suggestive of an early 19th Century date, potentially placing it around the time of the sale of the Fieldhead Estate in 1825 which may have provided impetus for the expansion of the farm.

The new buildings appear to have added additional cow stalls in **Building C**, and further cow stalls or potentially stabling in the western bay of **Building D** with a loft above accessed via an external staircase. The position of the latter above a stable and near to the threshing barn suggests it may have served as a store for grains, although no evidence for bins survives. Good quality timber stalls survive in both additions, although their original mangers have been lost.

PHASE 3: MID 19TH CENTURY

By the time of the 1845 tithe map (**Appendix I.2**) the farm is shown to occupy its current basic form, with **Building B-D** shown to the north-east and north-west, the house to the south, and smaller buildings on the sites of **Building A** and the pigsties. Additional ranges, potentially lean-tos are shown to the west and north of **Building C**. The present pigsty range was likely built within a few decades of the tithe map and structural joints indicating it represented a discrete stage of development within the latter half of the 19th Century, predating the buildings of Phase 4.

PHASE 4: LATE 19TH CENTURY

By the production of the 1893 OS map (**Appendix I.3**) the farm had been extended, with: a new wing to the west of the house; **Building A**; the midden and outhouse to the east of **Building D**; the pigsties; and **Building E**. These additions are characterised by the use of yellow brick in forming quoined jambs to openings, and rock faced sandstone for quoins, lintels and sills. The style of these buildings is suggestive of a late 19th Century date, potentially in the 1870s or 1880s.

Whilst situated on the site of an earlier structure, **Building A** appears to be of one phase, incorporating an ancillary domestic space with large fireplace and copper in one ground floor room (suggestive of a laundry) and heated chamber above which may have been for farm labourers. Also included was a tack room and implement shed with one enclosed cart shed.

The western bays of **Building E** formed an open fronted shed, facing into the yard. Its sheltered position, with open side facing north would mean the interior received minimal light. This orientation potentially suggests it was intended as a store and not as a shelter shed for livestock. The eastern bay appears to have served as a bird loft, with a single flight-hole in its north elevation.

The roof of **Building C** was potentially replaced at this time, with the form of timbers and tusk-tenon jointing to its purlins very similar to that of **Building A**.

PHASE 5: MID TO LATE 20TH CENTURY

Buildings A-E were all subject to refurbishment to varying degrees during the mid to late 20th Century. These alterations largely relate to the installation of loose boxes in **Buildings A, B, and E**; and the refurbishment of the existing stalls in **Buildings C and D**. Alterations are largely in brick and concrete, with new floors, drains, skimmed walls and added windows demonstrating an emphasis on improved hygiene characteristic of the Milk and Dairy Regulations brought in during the 1920s-1950s.



Figure 3: Phased ground floor plans

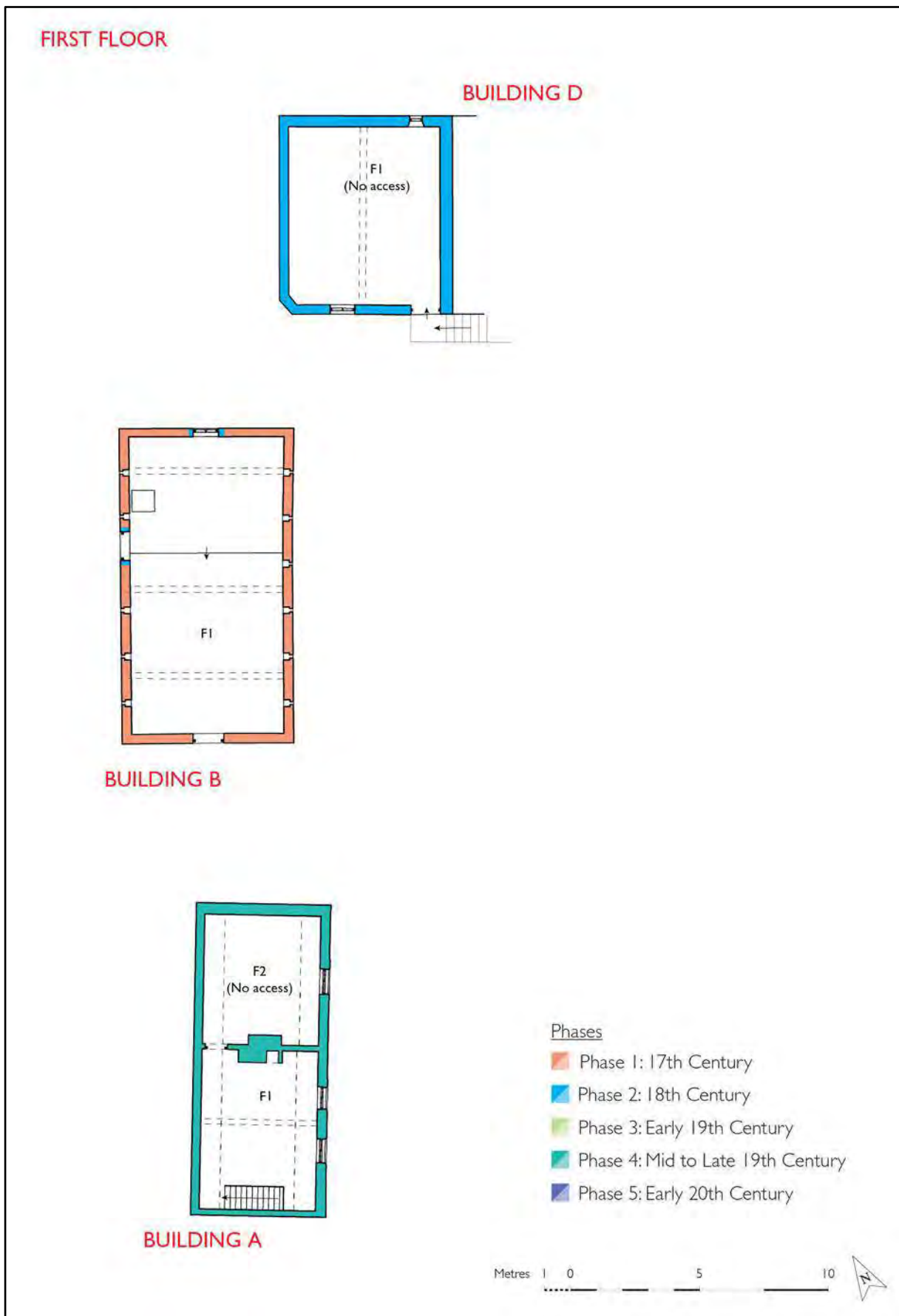


Figure 4: Phased first floor plans

6 DESCRIPTION OF BUILDINGS

ARRANGEMENT

Fall Head Farm comprises a regular courtyard plan farmstead situated on the northern side of Fall Head Lane, with agricultural land to the north and gardens to the south and east (**Appendices 1.1-2.7**). To the west of the farmyard is an ancillary area within former agricultural land which forms an access route to fields to the north from Fall Head Lane (**Appendix 2.2**). A large brick-built, buttressed wall divides the southern garden from this access (**Appendix 2.3**). A further access route runs east to west across the south of the yard, passing through gaps between the buildings to either side (**Appendices 2.4 & 2.7**).

Several buildings fall within the curtilage of the farmstead which were only subject to a basic photographic record, including as follows.

Farmhouse

The farmhouse, which is situated at the south-east corner, and comprises a large, detached two-storey building with an L-shape plan (**Appendices 2.8-2.9**).

Ancillary Agricultural Structures

A Nissen hut and hay barn structure that are situated to the west of **Buildings A and B** (**Appendices 2.1-2.12**);

A derelict structure which abuts the northern elevation of **Building D** (**Appendix 2.13**);

Pigsty Range

A pigsty range that forms the east side of the farmyard, comprising a lean-to structure built onto an earlier boundary wall, with three pigsties and corresponding yards to the west (**Appendices 2.14-15**); and

Earth Closet

A small brick-built structure to the east of **Building D** including an open silo, possibly for manure, and a lean-to range to the east containing a store to the north and a two-seater earth closet to the south (**Appendices 2.16-2.18**).

BUILDING A

Exterior

Building A (Appendices 2.19- 2.38) is a rectangular range orientated north to south with a continuous lean-to against its west elevation. The building is built from red brick (measuring 22×6.5×10.5 cm) with rock faced ashlar dressings to quoins, sills and lintels, and chamfered yellow fire brickwork forming surrounds of doors and windows.

The roof of the building is pitched with stone slates and a large, truncated chimney stack at the centre of the ridge. It is supported internally on an internal brick wall and single king-post truss with joggled post and raking struts (**Appendix 2.38**). The roof of the lean-to (**Appendix 2.36**) is carried on half trusses of regular machine sawn timber with joggled posts, raking struts and tusk-tenoned purlins. The timbers have Baltic timber marks and assembly marks to their south face, with the trusses numbered one to three from north to south.

The east elevation (**Appendices 2.320-21**) contains a doorway to its left-hand side with projecting fire brick surround, rock faced lintel and containing a plank and batten door within a beaded edged surround. The door has a thumb latch with fleur-de-lis moulded backplate, and bolted iron strap hinges. Right of the doorway are three windows with fire brick surrounds, rock faced lintels and sills, and each containing a timber framed Yorkshire sash window of eight lights (**Appendix 2.25**).

The north elevation (**Appendix 2.19**) contains a doorway to its left-hand side (**Appendix 2.26**) of identical construction to that in the east elevation. To the right of the elevation is an inserted window with stone sill and lintel containing a timber frame with hopper casement.

The west elevation (**Appendix 2.22**) is divided into four regular bays by polychromatic brickwork piers with rock faced capitals. The leftmost bay has a timber boarded door with beaded edge and iron strap hinges (**Appendix 2.23**). The hinges match with stone settings within the peers which are not present elsewhere on the elevation suggesting this bay was the only bay that originally had a door.

Interior

Room **G1 (Appendices 2.27-28)** measuring 4.46m × 6.13m) has a lime ash floor and brick walls with two coat lime plaster and a ceiling exposed to the boards of the floor. The revealed floor joists are orientated east to west and are formed of regular machine sawn softwood. The room is divided into two cells by a 0.95m high partition of frogged red brick with cement mortar. The north wall contains a central chimney breast which has been altered with blockwork and a new concrete lintel.

The east side of the original fireplace survives with chamfered firebrick jamb and chamfered finely dressed stone lintel with masons' mitre. To the right of the fireplace is a firebrick oven for a heated bowl, or "copper", with stone flagged surface and a small hearth beneath (**Appendix 2.29**). The bowl of the copper itself is missing although the circular hole remains as do two parts of a tongue and groove timber board lid. The flue from the copper rises into the fireplace to the north-west corner. The east wall of the room contains two windows and a door to the south as recorded on the exterior description. Against the south wall is a timber staircase of plain risers and bullnosed treads enclosed with a timber boarded partition of 27 m wide boards with beaded edge (**Appendix 2.37**). At the base of the stairs is a plank and batten door of 18cm, with beaded boards and an iron thumb latch with fleur-de-lis backplate. The west wall is blind with the exception of two high-level vents situated between the floor joists.

Room **G2** (**Appendix 2.30**; measuring 4.98m × 4.4 m) has a lime ash floor, plastered brick walls, and ceiling open to the floorboards of the room above. The exposed floor joists are of regular machine cut timber and orientated east to west. A doorway in the right-hand side of the north wall, and a window in the centre of the east wall are both recorded in the exterior description. The south wall has a central projecting chimney breast with wide fireplace with chamfered firebrick jambs and finely dressed stone lintel. The hearth of the fireplace has been damaged although brick supports for a probable hob grate remain. To the right of the fireplace is the remains of a timber cupboard with fretwork cornice (**Appendix 2.33**). To the left of the fireplace is a sideboard in very poor condition, which may be an original piece of fitted furniture or part of the late conversion of the room into a workshop. To the right of the window in the east wall are two timber saddle racks (**Appendix 2.31**). Along the west wall is a high-level timber rail with regularly spaced iron hooks for tack (**Appendix 2.32**). To the right hand of the west wall is a doorway with plain timber doorcase and a removed board and batten door to its side.

Room **G3** (**Appendix 2.34**; measuring 5.10×2.96 m) has a brick floor and plastered brick walls. Above the room is a timber floor structure for a loft above. The south wall abuts the walls to either-side, but may be original. In the north wall is a central inserted hopper window.

Room **G4** was not accessible at time of survey.

Room **G5** (**Appendix 2.36**; measuring 5.10 m × 5.59m) has a concrete floor and bare brick walls with a ceiling extending into the rafters. The west elevation is open, forming two bays with a central pier, and the north wall is formed from narrow timber tongue and groove boards.

Room **F1** (**Appendix 2.38**; measuring 6.10m × 4.45 m) has a timber boarded floor, plastered walls, and lath and plaster ceiling that rises into the eaves. The lower tie beam of a kingpost truss is visible within the centre of the room, orientated east to west. The north wall contains a central fireplace with small hearth. To the left of the fireplace is a doorway with timber doorcase.

Room **F1** and **F2** beyond we are not accessible due to the condition of the floor.

BUILDING B

Exterior

Building B (**Appendices 2.39-45**) is a rectangular structure orientated north to south built from redbrick (measuring 22.0cm × 12.0cm × 6.5cm) laid largely to a stretcher bond with occasional headers, and a stone plinth of squared sandstone blocks. The roof is pitched and clad in corrugated sheet, supported internally on three trusses of hand sawn timbers with raking struts and trenched purlins (**Appendix 2.45**).

To the left-hand side of the east elevation (**Appendix 2.39**) is a doorway with quoined stone surround of dressed ashlar and containing a recessed timber doorcase with plank and batten stable door. To the centre of the elevation is a blocked doorway with segmental brick arch lintel. Towards the right-hand side of the elevation is a wide doorway with brick jambs and stone lintel and containing a recessed doorcase with plank and batten door with plain iron strap hinges and thumb latch. The brickwork of the upper jambs of this doorway appears to have been reworked, potentially indicating the replacement of the lintel. Between these doorways are two inserted windows with narrow stone lintels and concrete sills, containing timber window frames of two fixed lights. Across first-floor level are six regularly spaced breather slits.

The south elevation (**Appendix 2.40**) contains a central blocked window with segmental brick arched lintel and a first-floor taking-in door with plain stone sill and lintel and timber frame with internally opening shutter of plank and batten construction with spear headed wrought iron strap hinges.

The west elevation (**Appendix 2.41**) has an inserted doorway towards its left-hand side with stone lintel, concrete threshold, and timber doorcase with externally opening plank and batten door with plain iron hinges. At first floor level are regularly spaced breather slits, one of which has been replaced by an inserted taking-in door with timber lintel and sill and externally opening plank and batten shutter with iron strap hinges.

The north elevation (**Appendix 2.46**) is visible above the roofline of **Building C** and contains a central window with segmental brick arched lintel and timber casement.

Interior

Room **G1** (**Appendix 2.42**; measuring 5.75m × 6.61m) has a predominantly concrete floor with stones sets running along the east side of the room. The room is divided into three stalls by inserted brick walls, 1.12m in height. Within the south wall is a timber rail below which are two wide blocked openings the left-hand of which has been retained as a recess. The west wall contains scars for two partitions.

Room **G2** (**Appendix 2.43**; measuring 5.82m × 4.29m) has a lime ash floor and bare brick walls with the remains of lime wash and a ceiling exposed to the floorboards of the room above. Exposed in the ceiling are north to south orientated cogged beams which are irregularly formed but have a chamfered edge with run out stops. The north wall contains an inserted doorway to its left-hand side with chamfered a timber door case and plank and batten door of narrow boards and with plain steel strap hinges. To the right of the door are two 1.28m high blocked openings with timber lintels. The east wall contains a doorway to the left-hand side and an inserted window to the right, both of which are described externally. The south wall is inserted, built from machine pressed redbrick (measuring 23.0cm × 11.5cm × 8.0cm), and including two projecting stone piers. The west wall has an inserted door to its right-hand side, described externally, and an attached Jacobs ladder leading to the first floor. The room is partially divided by an inserted timber boarded partition extending from the left jamb of the inserted door in the west wall.

Room **F1** (**Appendix 2.44**; measuring 5.42m × 10.50m) has a timber boarded floor, incorporating a step in-line with the interest wall between Rooms **G1** and **G2** on the ground floor. The walls of the room are of bare brick, and the ceiling is open to the rafters.

BUILDING C

Exterior

Building C (**Appendix 2.39 & 46-50**) is a rectangular single-story structure orientated north to south built from red brick (measuring 22.5cm × 10.5cm × 5.5cm) laid to English garden wall bond with a stone plinth of squared sandstone blocks. The roof of the building is pitched forming a hip to the north side and has lost its covering. The roof is carried on two full trusses to the south and a diagonally set truss with joining half truss forming the hip. These are formed from regular machine sawn timber with joggled posts, raking struts and tusk-tenoned purlins. The trusses have assembly marks to their south face, with the southern trusses numbered with chisel cut Roman numerals

running in sequence from south to north. The east end of the diagonally set truss has rotted and been supported on a substantial, inserted, hammer beam.

The east elevation (**Appendix 2.39**) contains a doorway to the left-hand side with stone lintel and doorcase with plank and batten stable door with iron thumb latch and strap hinges. To the right of the elevation is a window with stone lintel and sill containing a timber chamfered hopper casement of four panes.

The west elevation (**Appendix 2.46**) contains three irregularly spaced windows with timber framed hopper casements of two lights and four panes: the left-hand one of which is inserted with a brick sill, and the right-hand one of which is inserted within a blocked doorway. Part of a quoined stone surround survives to the door. The central window has a projecting rough faced stone sill.

The north elevation (**Appendix 2.47**) contains two windows both with rough faced stone sills. The right-hand window has a timber framed four paned window, whilst that to the left has been blocked in red brick.

Interior

Room **GI** (**Appendices 2.48-49**; measuring 5.76m x 11.95) has an overgrown, concrete floor covered with rubble debris, bare brick walls with a c.1.2 m high concrete skim, and ceiling open to the rafters. A raised platform runs through the centre of the room, orientated north to south for five double stalls and one single stall divided by timber framed and boarded partitions with morticed and pegged joints (**Appendix 2.50**). Attached to the stalls are wrought iron tethering bars. Across the head of the stalls is a brick, tile, and concrete built trough and steel pipework connecting galvanised steel water drinkers. The southern stall has a plank and batten gate with iron strap hinges.

BUILDING D

Exterior

Building D (**Appendices 2.51-63**) is a rectangular two-story structure orientated east to west formed of two phases: the eastern three-quarters comprising a brick-built barn, and the western bay a brick and stone built stable/cowhouse with first floor store. The roof forms a continuous pitch across the two phases and is covered in stone slate. Internally, the eastern part is supported on two trusses each with rough hand sawn tie beams and principals and trenched purlins. The east truss retains its original raking queen-posts (**Appendix 2.63**), whilst the west truss has an inserted king-post (**Appendix 2.61**). The western bay of the roof is supported on a queen post truss of regular machine sawn timbers with tusk tenoned purlins (**Appendix 2.62**).

The eastern three-quarters of the south elevation (**Appendix 2.51**) is built from red brick (measuring 22.0cm × 10.5cm × 5.0cm) laid to a stretcher bond with irregular headers, and contains a central tall barn doorway with segmental brick relieving arch above a chamfered timber lintel. Within the doorway is a pair of tall plank and batten doors with harr hung hinges (**Appendix 2.59**). The rails of the door have been replaced and the originals were evidently chamfered based on surviving chamfers where they attach to the original stiles. Within the lower right-hand of the right door is an inserted wicket door. To either side of the elevation are four breather slits which have been blocked at ground floor level. At first floor towards the left-hand side of the door is a blocked window with segmental brick arch and stone sill. The western third of the building is constructed from red brick (measuring 23.0cm × 10.5cm × 5.5cm) laid to an irregular English garden wall bond. To the left-hand of the elevation is a wide doorway with timber doorcase and plank and batten stable door and a window to its right of two lights with upper casements. At first floor is a window towards the left-hand side with stone sill and lintel containing a timber frame with hopper casement. To its right is a doorway with stone sill and threshold containing a timber doorcase with plank and batten door. This door is accessed via an attached external staircase constructed of red brick with stone treads.

The east elevation (**Appendix 2.46**) is visible where it rises above **Building C**, exposing a plain brick-built gable.

The eastern three-quarters of the north elevation (**Appendix 2.52**) is built from red brick, laid primarily to a stretcher bond with occasional headers, and containing a blocked barn door towards its centre with brick relieving arch and timber lintel and four breather slits to either side. The western bay (**Appendix 2.47**) abuts this structure and is built from coursed sandstone with ashlar corbels to its west side where it rises above **Building C**. Within this bay are an inserted door and window at ground floor and a narrow window at first floor with fixed two-light frame. The remains of an abutting brick-built structure survive against this bay.

The west elevation (**Appendix 2.53**) is built from red brick laid primarily to a stretcher bond with occasional headers. There is a segmental arched window at first floor level with a plain timber frame, the lower third of which has been blocked. Above, within the top of the gable, is a blocked inserted opening. Four regularly spaced blocked breather slits are present.

Interior

Room **G1** (**Appendix 2.54**; measuring 5.37m × 6.22m) has a concrete floor, bare brick walls with a c.1.2 m high concrete skim, and ceiling open to the beams of the floor above. The exposed floor

structure comprises two substantial east to west aligned beams upon which rest regular joists of square section timber. A raised platform runs through the centre of the room, orientated north to south for three double stalls divided by timber framed and boarded partitions with morticed and pegged joints. Attached to the stalls are wrought iron tethering bars. Across the head of the stalls is a brick, tile, and concrete built trough and steel pipework connecting galvanised steel water drinkers. A feeding passage is formed along the inside of the east wall, formerly accessed via a blocked, inserted doorway into room **G2**.

Room **G2** (**Appendices 2.55-58**; measuring 10.51m x 6.14m) has a concrete floor, bare brick walls, and is a double height space open to the rafters. The room forms three bays, divided by projecting piers which support the ends of the roof trusses above. Either side of the central bay are cart doors, with the door to the north blocked in modern brickwork. The bays to either side of the doors have four breather slits arranged two above two, some of which have been blocked. The same pattern of breather slits is repeated in the end walls, where they have all been blocked. The end walls also feature pitching holes, that to the west being blocked and towards the apex of the gable, and that to the east being lower and partially blocked. There is evidence for an opening having been inserted through one of the upper breather slits of the west wall, since blocked, below which is a blocked inserted doorway.

Room **F1** (**Appendix 2.60**; measuring 5.37m x 6.22m) was not accessible due to the condition of its floor, with observations made from the doorway. The floor of the room is of timber boards, whilst the walls are of bare masonry walls with a low, c.0.5m, concrete skim around the circumference of the room. The ceiling of the room is open to the rafters. No evidence for fixtures or fittings were observed. The gable of **Building C** is visible within the west wall as slightly darker brick, with coursing with the surrounding masonry slightly off suggesting it pre-dates the construction of the upper west gable of **Building D**.

BUILDING E

Building E (**Appendices 2.64-67**) is a rectangular single-story structure orientated east to west with a pitched roof covered in corrugated asbestos sheets. The building is built from redbrick (measuring 22.5cm x 10.5cm x 7.0 m) laid to English garden wall bond. Dressings to openings and corners are in a yellow brick. The roof is supported on machine cut timber king-post trusses with bolted joints and tusk tenoned purlins.

The north elevation (**Appendix 2.64**) is divided into four regular bays by projecting chamfered brick piers with rock faced stone capitals. The panels between these piers are inserted comprising

machine pressed brick (measuring 23.5cm × 11.0cm × 7.5cm). The west bay contains a flight hole to the upper left with projecting alighting ledge, and a boarded window to its right. The centre-west bay contains a central two over two hopper casement with chamfered frame. The east two bays contain paired stable doors of plank and batten construction with two over two timber hopper casements.

The south elevation is similarly divided into four bays by projecting chamfered brick piers, although without the stone capitals, separated by brick panels (**Appendix 2.7**). The east and west elevations form gables, each containing a high-level central breather slit with a surround of yellow brick (**Appendix 2.65**).

Interior

Room **G1** (**Appendix 2.66**; measuring 2.76m × 3.60m) has a concrete floor and the brick wall with the remanence of lime wash and the ceiling that is open to the rafters. There are scars on the south wall for a removed manger with a steel halter rail attached to the west wall.

Room **G2** (**Appendix 2.67**; measuring 5.24m × 3.60m) has a concrete floor, bare brick walls with the remnants of a limewash finish, and a suspended ceiling of a geotextile supported on chicken wire. The room is divided by a timber partition attached to the base of a tie beam. Along the south wall is a hay manger formed from three steel bars.

Room **G3** (measuring 2.76m × 3.60m) was not accessible for survey. Observations from a doorway in its north elevation revealed a bare brick walled room with a projecting brick pier from the centre of the east elevation that may have comprised a flu although no evidence for a chimney stack now remains within the roof.

7 CONCLUSION

DISCUSSION

The following research questions were proposed to guide this programme of work (TJC 2021). They were formed in consideration of the previous historic research undertaken for the property, the published research priorities in the South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework (Knight, *et al.* 2012).

What can be determined from the surviving fabric in relation to the phases of construction, including date of construction, planform, circulation and use?

Fall Head Farm represents a multi-phased farmstead of 18th Century origins. The earliest structures on the site comprise the farmhouse, a combined cow shed and hay loft (**Building B**) and a threshing barn (**Building C**). The farm was extended in a piecemeal fashion through the later 18th to mid-19th Century, with a more significant phase of development in the later 19th Century adding domestic accommodation and storage on the farm (**Buildings A and E**, and an extension to the farmhouse).

The arrangement of the farm is typical for the period, comprising a courtyard plan with a detached house and buildings originally arranged to the north and west of a central fold yard. Access into the buildings for livestock and crops was from the yard, with a central east to west aligned drift-way between the yard and the farmhouse apparently providing the main approach. This arrangement would have sheltered the farm from the prevailing winds from the east and presented the principal doors of the buildings towards the sun where they could best warm the buildings. As the farm developed, the yard was increasingly enclosed. Pigsties were added to the eastern side of the yard, where they would have originally been in proximity to the house and easily brought waste from the kitchen and dairy within the farmhouse. The addition of a store and bird loft (**Building E**) interrupted that access, although grouping of birds and pigs reflects that they were the traditional domain of the farmer's wife, and would have aided the collection of manure and guano for fertiliser.

What evidence is there for different functional spaces within the buildings, how did use change through time and what can that tell us of the evolution of the buildings?

Documentary evidence has established the occupiers of the farm from the mid-19th Century onwards, with evidenced phases linking in well with changes of ownership which presumably provided the impetus for investment. Evidence of earlier owners and tenants of the mid-18th Century has also been identified, although more detailed research is required to unpick the relationship between the site and Lees Farm.

The form and range of buildings at the site are typical of a late post-medieval farmstead, with the full range of anticipated structures identified for a site operating principally as a cattle farm with ancillary crop processing, presumably for feed. The farm appears to have been of higher status, with a large farmhouse, and brick built agricultural buildings in a period and location where stone would have been more commonly available. The evidenced changes in function of the building during the mid to late 20th Century in providing additional loose boxes and improved hygiene for cow houses are characteristic of the Milk and Dairy Regulations brought in during the 1920s-1950s.

Whilst documentary evidence demonstrates a link between the tenants and owners of Fall Head Farm and the tannery business in the woods to the north, there is no indication that any industrial activity took place at the farm although it is feasible that some of the cattle raised provided hides.

9 ARCHIVE

ARCHIVE CONTENTS

The project archive contains:

- A copy of this report including floor plans and photograph location plans and registers;
- A copy of the Written Scheme of Investigation;
- Six drawings;
- Four sheets of black and white 35mm film negatives;
- 76 black and white photographs

LOCATION

The project archive will be deposited with Barnsley Archives.

11 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCES

SECONDARY SOURCES

- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). 2019. *Code of Conduct*. CIfA: Reading
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). 2020. *Standards and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment*.
- Historic England. 2016a. *Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice*.
- TJC Heritage 2021. *Fall Head Farm, Fall Head Lane, Silkstone, South Yorkshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for Historic Building Recording*. Report ref TJC2021.132.
- Treddelehoyle, T. 1844. *Bairmsla Foaks' Annual an Pogmoor Olmenack for 1844, Bein Leap Year*. Leeds: Alice Mann.

PRIMARY SOURCES

Newspapers

- Leeds Intelligencer 19 February 1824
- Leeds Mercury, 1 December 1838

Census Returns

- 1841 Census (Ecclesfield, Wakefield and Wortley: piece 1325, p.32)
- 1851 Census (Wortley: piece 2334, p.144)
- 1861 Census (Wortley: piece 3453, p.133)
- 1871 Census (Wortley: piece 4652, p.145)
- 1881 Census (Wortley: piece 4611, p.207)
- 1891 Census (Wortley: piece 3783, p.199)
- 1901 Census (Wortley: piece 4325, p.135)
- 1911 Census (Wortley: piece 27640, p.335)

Maps

- 1771 Thomas Jeffrey's map
- 1845 Tithe map and apportionment for Silkstone (The National Archives, ref 43-355)
- 1854 1:10560 Ordnance Survey map
- 1893 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map
- 1906 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map
- 1931 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map
- 1955 1:10560 Ordnance Survey map

1961 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map

1978 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map

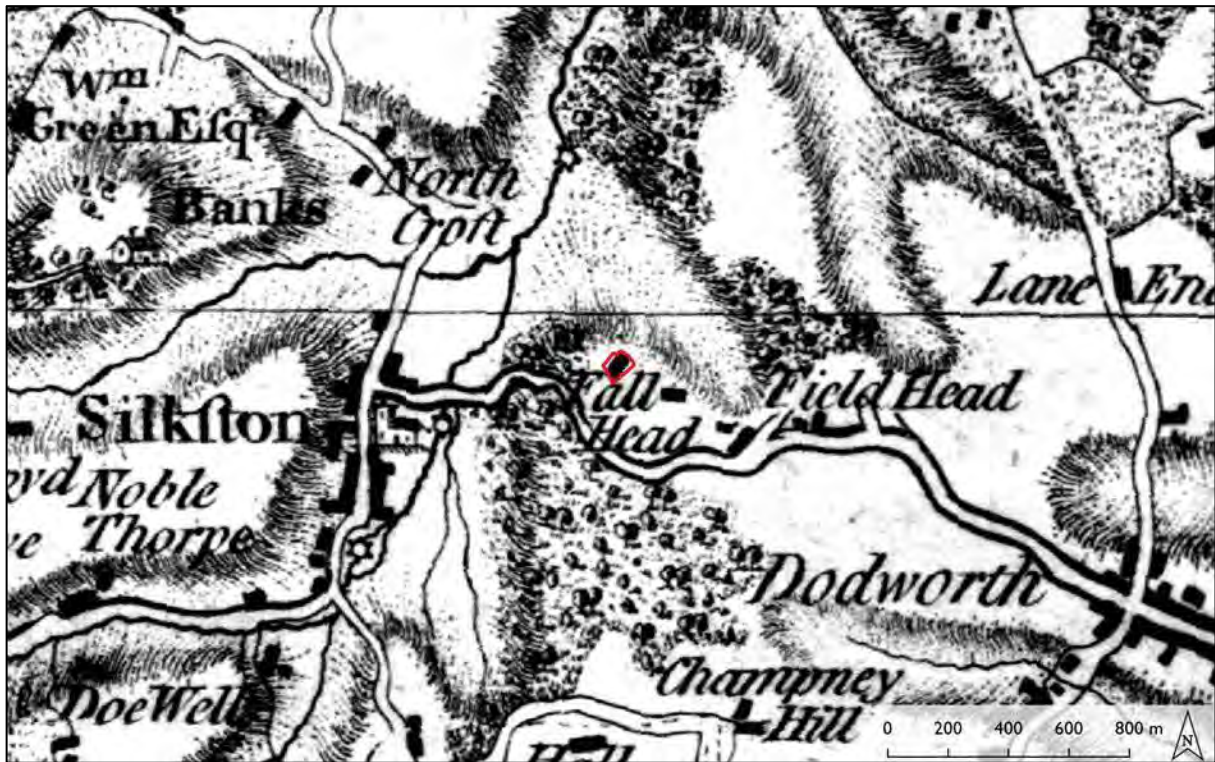
Sheffield Archives (viewed catalogue entries only)

COAL/Y1/12/7 – 1752 – Deed of Exchange: Robert Fretwell of Potterton in the parish of Barwick in Elmet, tanner, gives to Francis Burdett of Lees or Fall Head in the township of Silkstone, tanner, a close called Narr Over Lees, and a dwelling, and a threshing floor, all near the Lees, in exchange for a close called the Hollings and a watercourse running through the Long Close, for the supply of Fretwell's tanyard, with two pieces of the Long Close, and a barn north of the threshing floor, all near the Lees.

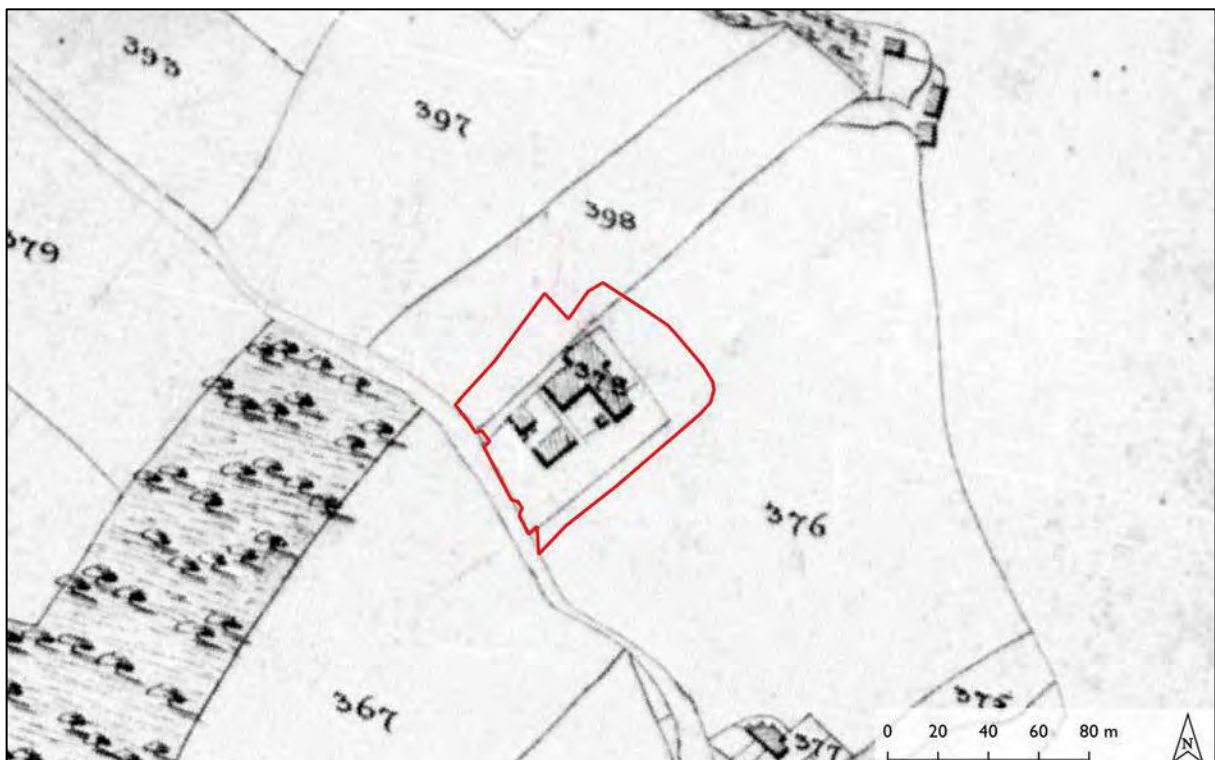
COAL/Y1/11/30 – 1825 – Conveyance: The mortgagees and devisees of William Parker to the Charlesworths. Field Head Farm, Fall Head Farm, a furnace on Thompson Deft, and other lands and tithes, for £14,704.15.3.

APPENDIX I:

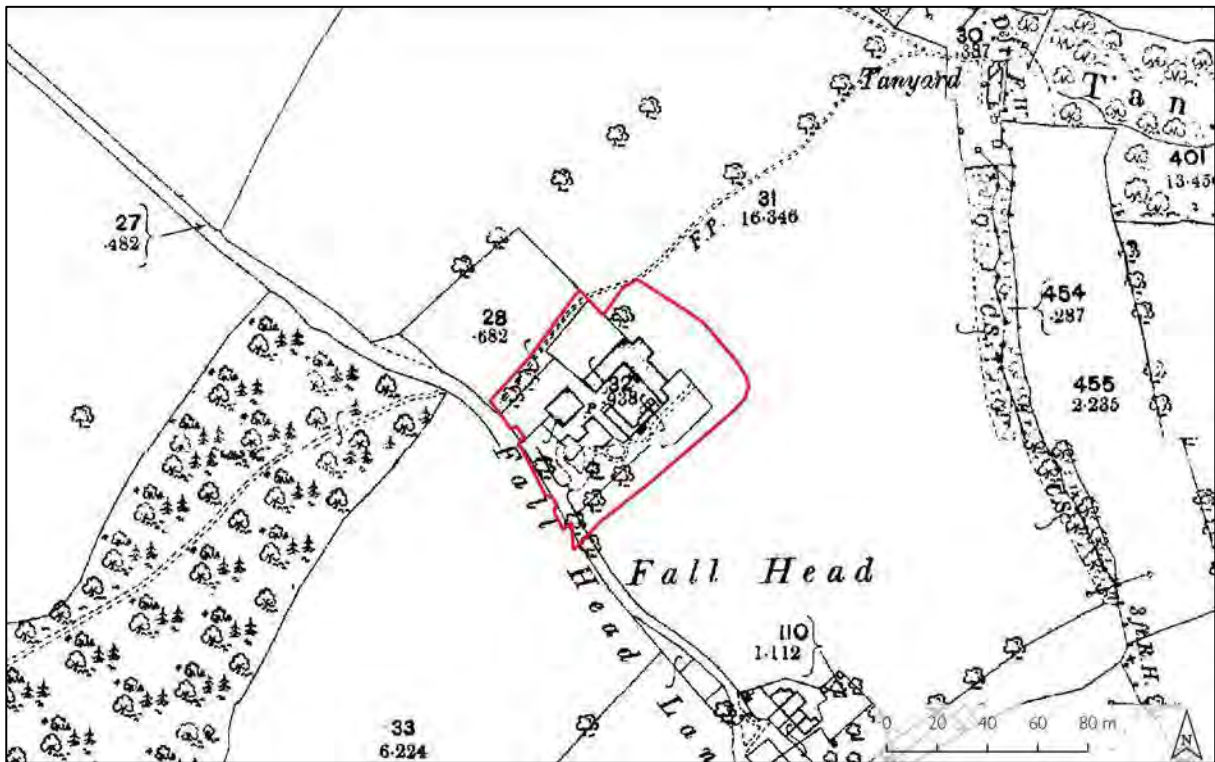
HISTORIC MAPPING AND ILLUSTRATIONS



Appendix I.1: 1771 Jeffreys map of the West Riding



Appendix I.2: 1845 Silkstone tithe map
(© The Genealogist)



Appendix I.3: 1893 Ordnance Survey



Appendix I.4: 1971 Ordnance Survey map