CRAVEN FOLD FARM, LANGHO, LANCASHIRE

Archaeological Building Investigation

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SUMMARY

Planning permission for the demolition of Craven Fold Farm, Langho, Blackburn, Lancashire (NGR SD 69380 36385), was granted by Ribble Valley Borough Council (RVBC). The demolition is part of a project to construct a new larger dwelling on the site (planning reference 3/2005/0434/P). RVBC was advised by Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS) that, due to the historic interest of the building, a condition of the planning permission should be an archaeological building investigation to take place prior to demolition. Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was commissioned to carry out the work, which was undertaken in November 2009.

Craven Fold Farm is located approximately 2km to the north-west of the village of Langho, which lies to the north-east of the town of Blackburn, Lancashire. The house is in an isolated position, and is reached via a farm track.

The current plan of the building, as seen from the front, is very similar in style to a laithe-house: a domestic building to which is attached a combination barn and cow-house of the same two-storey height. However, the building investigation served to illustrate that the farmhouse underwent three major phases of development. The original plan of Craven Fold (c 1725) was that of a two-storey two-unit dwelling, with two fireplaces and front entry, this being set slightly off centre to the right. As in common with the general development of vernacular dwellings, Craven Fold appears to have expanded from a two-unit pattern into a continuous outshut plan. By the middle of the eighteenth century, the double-pile plan (two rooms in depth) as developed by those higher in society in the seventeenth century, had spread down to all levels of society. The third phase in the development of Craven Fold – the infilling of the continuous outshut ‘L’ shape (with a kitchen extension), reflects this plan. Although not constructed in the manner of a true laithe-house ie rectangular in plan and built at one time, the addition of the barn to the house, does follow the laithe-house pattern. It is not possible to tie the construction of the barn in with the phasing of the farmhouse, with any great degree of confidence. However, evidence provided by structural elements allow it to be tentatively included in Phase 2.

Craven Fold Farm can be seen to have followed vernacular traditions from the early eighteenth century, through until the early nineteenth century. What was initially a two-unit small-holders cottage, developed gradually to become a small farmhouse of laithe-house type.

The building investigation serves as a full record of the farmhouse and attached barn and no further work is recommended.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North would like to thank Mr Pearson for commissioning the project, and for his kind assistance during the fieldwork. Thanks are also due to the staff of the Lancashire Record Office, Preston, for their assistance with this project.

Karl Taylor undertook the building investigation fieldwork, and also compiled the report. Mark Tidmarsh produced the drawings. Alison Plummer managed the project and also edited the report.
1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

1.1.1 Planning permission (planning reference 3/2005/0434/P) for the demolition of Craven Fold Farm, Langho, Blackburn, Lancashire, was granted by Ribble Valley Borough Council (RVBC). The demolition is part of a project to construct a new larger dwelling on the site. Following consultation with the Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS), a planning condition was imposed which specified that a programme of archaeological building investigation should be undertaken prior to demolition. LCAS issued a brief (Appendix 1) to this effect and Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was duly commissioned to carry out the work, which was undertaken in November 2009.

1.1.2 This report sets out the results of the building investigation in the form of a short document, outlining the results of the building investigation.

1.2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

1.2.1 Craven Fold Farm is located approximately 2km to the north-west of the village of Langho, which is itself approximately 5km north-east of the town of Blackburn, Lancashire (NGR centred SD 69380 36385; Fig 1). The farmhouse lies in an isolated position and is reached via a farm track, which leads off the line of the Roman road from Ribchester. Associated with the farmhouse are a number of modern agricultural buildings; however, these were not included within the brief (Appendix 1) for the building investigation. The surrounding landscape is predominantly pasture with some arable crops.

1.2.2 The farmhouse is situated on the floodplain of the River Ribble, the area being predominately flat, with some localised undulations. The solid geology of the area is varied, but the geology below the farmhouse comprises mostly sedimentary rocks of the Bowland High Group, which are mudstones siltstones and sandstones (BGS 1977, IGS 1979). These are Carboniferous period deposits. The overlying drift geology is essentially post-glacial deposits, predominantly till, with some areas of alluvium, including sands, silts and gravels (Countryside Commission 1998).
2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT BRIEF

2.1.1 A project brief was issued by LCAS (*Appendix I*) and was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute of Archaeologists (IfA) and English Heritage, and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 BUILDING INVESTIGATION

2.2.1 *Historic Research*: the main aim of the rapid research was to place the site into its historical context, and to provide an overview of the development of the farmhouse. The principal sources of information consulted were historical and modern maps, although published and unpublished secondary sources were also reviewed where available. The study has focused on the farmhouse, although some of the immediate surrounding area has been included.

2.2.2 *Lancashire County Record Office, Preston (CRO)*: the County Record Office in Preston was visited, primarily to consult documents specific to the premises within the study area. Historic maps, including any tithe maps and Ordnance Survey (OS) maps, were also examined. A search was made for any relevant historical documentation, drawing on the knowledge of the archivists.

2.2.3 *Descriptive Record*: written records using OA North *pro forma* record sheets were made of all principal building elements, both internal and external, as well as any features of historical or architectural significance. Particular attention was also paid to the relationship between parts of the building, especially those that would show its development and any alterations. These records are essentially descriptive, although interpretation is carried out on site as required.

2.2.4 *Site drawings*: architects plans were annotated in order to show the form and location of structural features and/or features of historical interest. Where necessary, these drawings were enhanced using hand-survey techniques. The hand-annotated field drawings were digitised using an industry standard CAD package to produce the final drawings.

2.2.5 *Photographic Archive*: photographs were taken in both black and white, and colour print 35mm formats. The photographic archive comprises both general shots of the building and shots of specific architectural details. A digital archive was also produced, for the purposes of illustrating the report.

2.2.6 *Archive*: the results of all archaeological work carried out will form the basis for a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (*Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition, 1991). OA North practice is to deposit the original record archive of projects with the appropriate County Record Office (Preston). The Arts and Humanities Data Service (AHDS) online database *Online Access to index of*
Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) will be completed as part of the archiving phase of the project.
3. HISTORIC RESEARCH

3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 The following section outlines the map regression analysis commencing with the earliest available map, and describes the development of the farmhouse and barn.

3.2 MAP REGRESSION ANALYSIS

3.2.1 Introduction: despite an extensive search at the County Record Office in Preston no information relating to the Craven Fold Farm was found, other than a number of cartographic sources. No tithe map or enclosure records were available for the area.

3.2.2 Yates’ Map of Lancashire 1786: this is the earliest available map of the area. Although small in scale, it does illustrate several buildings in the area (Fig 2), including one in the general location of the current Craven Fold Farm. Dinkley Hall is present to the north-west of the study area.

3.2.3 Hennets Map of Lancashire 1820: this map is the earliest available map to mention Craven Fold (Fig 3). The site is shown as a collection of buildings adjacent to a lane leading from Moor End to the Dinkley Brook. Although slightly difficult to discern, the larger of the buildings appears to be L-shaped, with two smaller buildings in the immediate environs: one to the north, and the second to the south. No trace of these smaller structures was visible at the site.

3.2.4 Ordnance Survey, First Edition 6” to 1 mile, 1847: this map clearly illustrates Craven Fold (Fig 4). The farmhouse is located adjacent to an orchard. It is shown as having two projections to the rear, the larger of which appears in a central position, with the smaller to the west. A small building is located to the south-east of the farmhouse. A trackway can be seen heading in a south-westerly direction towards a neighbouring farm.

3.2.5 Ordnance Survey, First Edition, 25” to 1 mile, 1912: this map (Fig 5) provides further detail of the layout of Craven Fold. The footprint of house and barn can be seen clearly. There is a rear projection to the east end of the farm, and a large outshut or pen is attached to the rear of the barn. A small building, possibly a pigsty lies north of the barn. The orchard is still present, as is the footpath/track leading in a westerly direction to Cravens.

3.2.6 Ordnance Survey Third Edition, 1:10560, 1932: this map (Fig 6) provides slightly less detail than the previous edition, although the projection to the rear of the barn is still visible. The pigsty is present, as are two additional smaller buildings, located to the north and south. Although the enclosure is illustrated, the orchard is not shown as such. The footpath to Cravens can be seen.
4. BUILDING INVESTIGATION RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The subject of the building investigation comprised Craven Fold farmhouse with attached barn. The farm is located in a fairly isolated position approximately 200m for the nearest dwellings. The farmhouse itself is situated at the south-west corner of the farmyard (Plate 1; Fig 1). The plan of the building, as seen from the front (south), is very similar in style to a laithehouse: a domestic building to which is attached a combination barn and cow-house of the same two-storey height (Brunskill 1987, 109).

4.2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION AND LAYOUT

4.2.1 In its current form the building is rectangular in plan, with outshuts and projections to the rear, and with two modern porches to the front (Fig 7). There are no internal access arrangements between the two parts of the building.

4.2.2 Fabric: the main fabric of the whole structure is coursed sandstone with large alternating quoins. The stone courses of the front elevation of both the house and barn (Plates 1 and 2) are laid on angle to shed water. All the mortar is modern cement re-pointing, and is particularly obvious at the rear of the building, where there has been no attempt to respect the joints. The rear outshuts, except the modern cinder block extension to the rear of the barn, are of random rubble. The outshut on the west gable of the house is of cement-rendered brick with a Welsh slate roof. The modern front porches are timber and stone, again with Welsh slate roofs. Most of the window and door apertures have sandstone dressings.

4.2.3 The roof is gabled with a projection to the rear of the farmhouse. It has a slightly steeper pitch than the roof of the barn. The front pitches comprise Welsh slate, and the rear pitches are of sandstone tiles. The roofs to the rear outshuts are also of sandstone. There are chimneys on both gables of the farmhouse. These vary in style with that on the east gable being of a slightly plainer design than that to the west, which has a plinth; however, both have oversailing courses. A tall stone block chimney serves the kitchen extension. This is built against the gable end of the barn, stepping out at roof level, and also has oversailing. All of the rainwater goods are modern (plastic).

4.3 EXTERNAL DETAILS

4.3.1 Principal Elevation (South): the principal elevation comprises two parts; these being the front elevation of the farmhouse and the barn (Plates 2-4). The line of division between the two buildings is clearly defined by alternating quoin stones. The doorway into the house is offset to the left (west) and housed within a modern porch. The current access into the barn, again within a modern porch, is located at its extreme west end. The front door into the house has a substantial sandstone surround, exhibiting chamfering, and a modern
glass door is present. Other than the current arrangement, there are two former doorways into the barn, which have been reduced in size to form windows. A high relieving arch located to the west of centre of the barn (Plate 2), suggests the presence of a former wagon door.

4.3.2 There are six windows of differing styles to the principal elevation of the farmhouse: two at ground level, and four above. Those at first floor level are of a single pattern (tall and rectangular), and extend to eaves height. At ground floor, the window to the east of the doorway is a four-light stone-mullion window, with wooden casements (Plate 5). The remaining window (to the west) is a modern replacement of what was originally a three-light stone-mullion window (Plate 3). There is no obvious evidence to suggest the upper floor windows are later inserts.

4.3.3 Two of the four ground floor windows present in the barn are a result of blocked doorways (Section 4.3.1 above). The easternmost window appears original to the fabric of the barn, however it lacks the stone dressing of the other ground floor features; that to the west is within the stonework beneath the relieving arch, and its surround is very similar in design to the blocked doorways.

4.3.4 Gable end of Barn (east): here again, two doorways, with similar dressing to those within the principal elevation, have been blocked and re-used as windows (Plate 7). Between these is a large doorway with sliding doors, which is of modern appearance. Above this is loft access, together with four vertical ventilation slits and an owl-hole.

4.3.5 Gable end of Farmhouse (west): this is plain rendered, the ground floor being obscured by a twentieth century extension (Plate 6). The extension is of brick construction with a slate roof, and has two casement windows, and is also rendered. A doorway in the north wall allows access. What little that is exposed of the west gable end of the barn is again, also rendered.

4.3.6 Rear elevation (north): the back of the building has been added to in various phases and, consequently, a number of outshuts are present (Plates 8-10). Both the house and the barn have integral projections at their west ends (Plate 9). The gap between the projecting end of the farmhouse and the barn has been infilled with a kitchen outshut. Small, modern, outshuts are present against the kitchen wall and the rear of the house. Above the kitchen the small area of the exposed wall is rendered. A blocked doorway is present, slightly off centre, in the rear projection of the house. Adjacent, and to the west of this, is a wide, low window, beneath a substantial sandstone lintel. Off-set above this is a first floor window, reaching to eaves height. A stair window is located at the east end, and has elements of stained glass. A modern dairy has been constructed against the back of the barn, with just a small section of barn wall visible at eaves height, which is also rendered.

4.4 INTERNAL DETAILS – THE FARMHOUSE

4.4.1 Ground floor plan: the arrangement of rooms on the ground floor comprises four rooms (Rooms 2-5) all accessed via a slightly off-set hallway (Room 1).
The living room (Room 2) and the former parlour (Room 3) lie east and west of the hallway respectively. The kitchen extension (Room 5) and the former dairy or buttery (Room 4) are to the rear of the building. A small store and WC lie to the rear of the kitchen (Rooms 6 and 7). Two additional rooms (Rooms 8 and 9) were created by the addition of the modern west gable outshut.

4.4.2 **The Hallway (Room 1):** the porch against the front door is of twentieth century appearance. A large sandstone lintel presides above the original front doorway and is inscribed TC 1725 (Plate 11). The lettering has eroded due to the effects of weathering.

4.4.3 The entrance passage is aligned slightly left of centre, and runs through to the rear of the building (Plate 12). It is all of fairly plain appearance, and all the walls are plain plastered and painted. The floor is laid down partly to carpet and partly to ceramic tiles (of late twentieth century appearance). The majority of the internal partition walls appear to be of brick construction. However, the wall alongside the kitchen is stone-built and was originally an external wall.

4.4.4 The living room and parlour doors (Rooms 2 and 3) are probably of nineteenth century origin and comprise three horizontal panels (Plate 13). The remainder are ledged and braced. The flight of stairs up to the first floor is located at the back of the passage. It appears to be of nineteenth century origin and was probably inserted to replace an earlier arrangement. Opposite the base of the stairs is a built-in cupboard.

4.4.5 **Living Room (Room 2):** the living room retains a number of features that appear to be original to the farmhouse, with the most obvious of these being the four-light mullion window situated within the south wall. It is quite plain with no decorative elements and has splayed reveals. A further two-light mullion window is located in the north wall, within what appears to be a nineteenth century cupboard (Plate 15). The window has been blocked, but the mullions survive. The north wall was the original rear wall of the farmhouse.

4.4.6 Other features of note include the hearth, which is offset to the rear of the room, and the two stop-chamfered joists, the most northerly of which extends into the chimney-breast. The fireplace itself is of a clean modern appearance (Plate 14) and houses a cast-iron stove. A spice cupboard is set in the recess between the hearth and the north wall. The ceiling is of lath and plaster construction.

4.4.7 The remainder of the room is of plain appearance with modern finishes throughout (Plate 14). The floor is laid down to carpet over concrete. There is a picture rail on all the walls. The other heating arrangements are of twentieth century origin.

4.4.8 **Parlour (Room 3):** unfortunately, access to this room was limited due to the unsafe nature of the timber floor, much of which was rotten. However, there was sufficient access to determine that room is of smaller dimensions to the living room, with fixtures of similar appearance. A chimney-breast and fireplace are situated on the west wall, and this is smaller than that described for Room 2, above. A modern cast-iron stone has been fitted, but the actual
fireplace has a stone surround, which appears to be an early feature. The ceiling joist is exposed and extends into the chimney-breast. To the north of this, at ceiling height, what appears to be a section of sawn-off timber protrudes from the wall. This is suggestive of a corbel for a first floor wall. No internal detail remains of the mullion window as seen in the front of the Farmhouse (Section 4.3.2). The back wall of the room is an inserted brick partition, and it is likely that originally the parlour extended into Room 4, and almost certainly incorporated the mullion window seen in that room (Section 4.4.9, below).

4.4.9 **Utility (Room 4):** this room is currently being used as a utility/store room, and contains fitted kitchen units as well as free-standing cupboards. The whole room is painted white. The floor is concrete and the ceiling is of lath and plaster construction. The north and west walls are external walls, and the south and east are brick partitions. The doorway into the adjacent modern extension was originally a mullion window (Plate 17). A squat, six-light window and blocked doorway are present in the back wall. This window has a lintel of similar appearance to the blocked door and is probably contemporary with it.

4.4.10 **Kitchen (Room 5):** the kitchen is situated at the rear of the house in an outshut. The original north-west corner of the house is visible as a vertical scar in the adjacent barn store (Room 18). All the walls are solid, plain and wall-papered with woodchip. The south wall was originally the back wall of the farmhouse, and a boarded doorway providing access into the living room (Room 2) appears to be the original back door of the farmhouse. The back door to the kitchen itself is quite wide, with a substantial door with strap hinges hung on pintles. The doorway into the living room is narrow and lower, and the door into the hallway is also quite low.

4.4.11 The ceiling appears to be of lath and plaster construction. The floor is laid down to modern tiles, and all of the fixtures and fittings are modern. There is an oil-fired range in the south-eastern corner, the flue of which passes through the wall into a chimney (visible externally; Plate 7).

4.4.12 **Outshuts (Rooms 6 and 7):** access to the outshut was unavailable at the time of the survey. The larger room currently functions as a store, and the smaller as an outside toilet.

4.4.13 **West Gable Extension: (Rooms 8 and 9):** a twentieth century, single-storey brick-built extension, has been added to the west gable end of the farmhouse. Internally, this is divided into two rooms, Room 8 to the rear and Room 9 to the front. Access into the farmhouse is through a door from the back room into the utility (Room 4). There is also a door in the rear of the extension, a window to the front, and two in the west elevation.

4.4.14 **Stairway (Room 10):** the stairway up to the first floor has a half-landing, which is lit by a window with sash-ovolo glazing bars and splayed reveal. It has four central patterned glass lights being surrounded by a margin of eight red-coloured lights with four square, blue, corner lights, with clear floral motifs. This probably dates to the nineteenth century.
4.4.15 The stairs are of a half-turn landing open-well construction, with a simple baluster and hand-rail of nineteenth century appearance. The landing floor is laid down to carpet over timber boards, and the ceiling, which slopes to the north, is of lath and plaster. There is loft access through to the roof. Two exposed timbers, a tie-beam and the wall plate (Room 14), extend across the landing into the adjacent bathroom.

4.4.16 **First floor plan:** the first floor comprises three bedrooms to the front (Rooms 11, 12 and 13) and a bathroom at the back (Room 14). This appears to be a late arrangement of rooms, being sub-divided by both brick and stud walls. The principal bedroom (Room 13) lies in the south-west corner of the house and the bathroom is located behind this. The two smaller bedrooms are above the living room. Evidence for the arrangement of the roof construction is provided by exposed tie-beams (one in each of the bedrooms).

4.4.17 **Bedroom (Room 11):** this room is of quite plain appearance. The west wall is of lath and plaster construction. At the top of this wall is a boxed beam which is the tie-beam of the roof truss above. The boxing of the tie-beam in this, and the remaining bedrooms is indicative of the ceilings having been raised. The single window in the south wall has a splayed reveal with modern frame. The door is of four-panel design probably of nineteenth century origin, indeed all of the doors on the upper floor are of this design. There is a chimney-breast on the east wall being a continuation of that from the living room below. There is no evidence of a fireplace.

4.4.18 **Bedroom (Room 12):** this room is of similar appearance to Room 11 and was in use as an office at the time of the building investigation. The internal partition wall between this bedroom and that to the west is brick-built. A boxed tie-beam is also present here, as seen in the previous bedroom. A blocked window is present in the small lobby from the bedroom onto the landing.

4.4.19 **Bedroom (Room 13):** this larger bedroom is of the same appearance as the other two rooms described above, and includes a third tie-beam. There is a chimney-breast situated on the west wall, which is a continuation of that from the parlour below (Room 8). Again, there is no evidence of a fireplace.

4.4.20 **Bathroom (Room 14):** the bathroom finishes are of late twentieth century appearance. The ceiling slopes down toward the north end of the room. Three exposed timbers are visible against the slope of the bathroom ceiling, all of which are aligned east/west. The first of these is a length of exposed wall beam, which passes through the internal wall of the bathroom (east), across the landing and into the rear wall of the house. The second and third timbers are roof purlins, the lower or northernmost of which can also be traced across the landing (Plate 21).

4.4.21 The tie-beam within the bedroom adjacent (Room 13) extends into the bathroom and is seen to be supported on the wall beam, an arrangement which is repeated by the second tie-beam exposed in the landing. The upper of the exposed purlins (within the bathroom) rests against the north end of the tie-beam. Further evidence for the ceiling having been raised is evident along the
rear wall of the house, this being built up to a higher level that the wall beam itself (Plate 20).

4.4.22 **The Roof Space:** three simple A-frame trusses with short braces support the roof (Plate 22). The trusses are oak with chamfered edges. The rafters, battens and ridge purlin are all modern, and the roofing flags on the north pitch are nailed onto the modern rafters. The purlins are overlapping, and along the front pitch are tenoned. Those along the rear roof pitch have been lifted to sit on the principal rafters, with their original positions evident as in-filled sockets. The tie-beams are not visible within the roof space, being lower than ceiling height. It is tentatively suggested that the ceiling was raised to its current height, being originally lower.

4.4.23 The exposed wall plate within the bathroom and landing, along with the apparent raising of the back pitch of the roof, strongly suggest that the continuous outshut is a later addition to the house.

4.5 **INTERNAL DETAILS – THE BARN**

4.5.1 **Arrangement of the Barn:** this comprises two floors; the majority of the ground floor houses the shippon, and a dairy and store are housed within the projecting outshut. The upper floor space is simply a hayloft.

4.5.2 **Shippon (Room 15):** what was originally the shippon with hayloft over, has undergone conversion to a milking parlour. This necessitated the remodelling of the windows and doors (Section 4.3.3), adding a brick partition to the southern half of the west end, and strengthening the floor above with RSJ beams. Furthermore, concrete stalls were added along the north and south wall, and a large doorway inserted into the east gable. The walls are plastered up to a height of approximately 1.40m, above this they are whitewashed. The floor is concrete with a central drainage channel. No evidence of the original shippon arrangements are visible.

4.5.3 **Hayloft (Room 16):** within the hayloft the roof is supported on three king-post trusses (Plate 24). The trusses, which appear to be of oak construction, rest on corbels. All the truss joints are tenoned. In addition to the roof plate, there are three sets of purlins to each roof pitch, and these are scarf-jointed. The rafters of the southern pitch are all modern, and whilst those on the north appear to be earlier, they have undergone some modification or repair. The original or stone-built element of the west wall retains evidence (in the form of a scar) to suggest a lower angle to the north pitch of the roof. Unfortunately, the floor of the hayloft was in an unsafe state, and so this was not investigated further.

4.5.4 **The Dairy and Store (Rooms 17 and 18):** the west end of the barn has a continuous projecting outshut to the rear. Within this the internal space is subdivided into two units: the rear being the dairy and the front a store. To the south of the re-entrant wall of the projection, the internal access into the shippon has been blocked with brickwork. An internal partition wall of cinder blocks sub-divides the space into two rooms.
4.5.5 **The Dairy (Room 17):** this is accessed via a single doorway in the north elevation, which has a ledged and braced door under a timber lintel, the opening appears to be original. There is access into the hayloft via a wide door in the east wall, although access has been restricted by the insertion of the internal partition wall. The roof is a modern insert supported on rafters socketed into the block wall, and finished with timber boards.

4.5.6 **Store (Room 18):** this room was occupied by livestock at the time of the inspection and access was not available. As described in *Section 4.3.1* a modern porch allows access from the south elevation.
5. DISCUSSION

5.1 CRAVEN FOLD FARM

5.1.1 Craven Fold Farmhouse comprises a domestic dwelling to which is attached a barn. A number of outshuts to the rear and at the west gable end, suggest remodelling and continuous use over a substantial period of time. Detailed inspection of the interior of the building provides evidence for its original form – a basic two-unit plan, and subsequent phases of development to a laithe-house type pattern of building.

5.1.2 Although the original date of construction for the building is uncertain, it is of at least early eighteenth century origins, as suggested by the inscribed datestone of 1725. The building investigation served to identify three major phases of development.

5.2 PHASE 1

5.2.1 Two-unit Plan: the original plan of Craven Fold was that of a two-storey two-unit dwelling, with two fireplaces and front entry, this being set slightly off centre to the right (Fig 2). The internal space would have comprised a living room and parlour. The living room was the larger space to the left of the front entry, and the parlour, the smaller room to the right. An internal partition would have separated the two rooms, but no evidence of this was seen. Similarly, a staircase would have provided access to the floor above, and although this is likely to have been located to the rear of the building (even externally) no evidence for this was apparent.

5.2.2 The original plan of the building, which was probably occupied by smallholders, can be traced in the architectural detail preserved in the walls and the roof space. Stone-mullioned windows, which are most obvious in the principal elevation, are also present in the west gable and in the back wall of the living room. The latter window confirms the alignment of the original back wall, and the former offers some further indication of the depth of the plan. The arrangement of tie-beam and wall-beam exposed in the bathroom, provide a further insight into the depth and pattern of the original plan.

5.2.3 The use of stone-mullioned windows in small houses spanned a period from c 1650 to 1740 (Brunskill 1978, 199). The tall walls allowing first floor accommodation, and full size, rectangular windows are indicative of a later date range (c 1700 to 1850), earlier two-unit plans having lower walls and just a loft space above. The tie-beam trusses with angled struts, as seen in the roof space, date to the eighteenth/nineteenth centuries (Brunskill 2002, 152). These dates ranges, taken together with the evidence of the datestone, suggest that Craven Fold originated in the early eighteenth century. Brunskill (2002) suggests that the two-unit plan extended from the mid-seventeenth to the early nineteenth century, Craven Fold sits somewhere towards the middle of this date range.
5.3 **PHASE 2**

5.3.1 **Continuous Outshut Plan:** as in common with the general development of vernacular dwellings, Craven Fold appears to have expanded from a two-unit pattern into a continuous outshut plan. As living standards rose, and as the desire for privacy fostered the wish for a larger number of separate rooms, so the simple two-unit living space was no longer adequate (Brunskill 2002, 75). There followed a move towards gaining ground floor accommodation for a dairy or scullery by means of a projection from the rear wall, covered by an extension of the main roof. Such an outshut could be added to an existing house or incorporated into a new build (op cit, 77). At Craven Fold the evidence strongly suggests that the continuous outshut was added to the existing build.

5.3.2 Once again, the major evidence for the phasing and development of the house can be found on the first floor (bathroom and bedrooms) and within the roof space. Firstly, unlike the exposed joists on the ground floor, the beams (tie-beams) seen within the bedrooms and the bathroom are boxed, and present to almost their full depth. This suggests that the ceilings were raised at some stage, to improve light and headroom within the upper floor. The exposed beam in the bathroom, seen to continue into the original back wall of the house, is in fact, the original wall-beam. Not only does this illustrate the original alignment of the rear of the house, as discussed above, but it strongly suggests that the back wall was demolished to accommodate the continuous outshut.

5.3.3 Finally, investigation of the roof space provided evidence to show that the rear roof pitch had been altered – heightened, albeit a small amount, and this presumably to accommodate the catslide pitch of the roof. The purlins were lifted from their original trenched position, to sit upon the rafters. The illuminated dog-leg staircase of two flights is typical of that commonly found in the rear projection, being roofed by the continuation of the main roof. According to Brunskill (2002) houses built or extended to this plan date between 1730 and 1820.

5.4 **PHASE 3**

5.4.1 **Infilled Plan:** by the middle of the eighteenth century the double-pile plan (two rooms in depth) as developed by those higher in society in the seventeenth century, had spread down to all levels of society (Brunskill 1978, 112). The third phase in the development of Craven Fold – the infilling of the continuous outshut ‘L’shape with a kitchen extension, reflects this plan. The footprint of the extension can be clearly seen from the back of the building. It is very likely that the back door to the former buttery or dairy was blocked at this time. The provision of the kitchen removed the working area of the house from the living room, and away from the parlour.

5.4.2 **Outshuts and Extensions:** the small outshut to the rear of the kitchen is not closely datable, and the extension to the west end of the house is modern in appearance, as is the front porch.
5.4.3 **The Barn:** the plan of the barn, and the lack of other substantial farm buildings associated with the farmhouse, would suggest that it was a combination barn. The wagon door, with storage bay to the west, allowed crops/fodder to be unloaded and stored out of the weather, and without the need to use the eastern end of the barn, which was the cow-house (shippon). The purpose of the shippon was to provide winter shelter for cattle, being beef, dairy or haulage.

5.4.4 Although of one major build, the barn does appear to have had its rear roof pitch raised at some point, as indicated by the roof scar seen in the west wall. The timbers of the front pitch are modern. Modernisation, and a possible change in function, resulted in the wagon door being blocked, and a number of other doorways being reduced to windows. The original arrangement of doorways suggests the cattle were tethered in stalls nose-on to a central feeding passage, with drainage channels and access along the long walls. The modifications moved the cattle stalls to an alignment along the walls, the new sliding doorway being large enough for a tractor to enter the shed and clean out the central area. This is suggestive of an early twentieth century milking parlour rather than cattle housing. It is likely that the cattle were housed in the large modern extension to the rear.

5.4.5 It is not possible to tie the construction of the barn in with the phasing of the farmhouse, with any great degree of confidence. However, there are two structural elements that allow it to be tentatively included in Phase 2. The barn can be seen to butt against the quoin stones at the original back end of the east wall of the house, therefore the barn is later than Phase 1. The kitchen extension has been constructed against the outer wall of the barn projection, so the barn is earlier than Phase 3.

5.4.6 **The Laithe-house:** although not constructed in the manner of a true laithe-house ie rectangular in plan and built at one time, the addition of the barn to the house, does follow the laithe-house pattern; being that of domestic dwelling with barn attached. There are always separate doorways into the house and laithe (barn), and the main feature of the laithe is always the high arched entry for a hay-sled (Mercer 1979, 45). Brunskill (1987) states that the form may be achieved by adding later farm buildings to an existing farmhouse.

5.4.7 Eighteenth and nineteenth century laithe-houses were typically occupied by smallholders, and although slightly on the southern extent of their common distribution area - the Pennine Slopes and westward into Bowland (Brunskill 1978, 110) an example was recorded in Dinckley by Mercer (1979).

5.5 **Conclusion**

5.5.1 Craven Fold Farm can be seen to have followed vernacular traditions from the early eighteenth century, through until the early nineteenth century. What was initially a two-unit small-holders cottage gradually developed to become a small farmhouse of laithe-house type pattern.
6. BIBLIOGRAPHY

6.1 PRIMARY SOURCES


Institute of Geological Sciences, (IGS) Ten Mile Map, Solid Geology: South Sheet, 1979

Yates’ Map of Lancashire 1786

Hennets map of Lancashire 1820

Ordnance Survey, First Edition 6” to 1 mile, 1847

Ordnance Survey, First Edition, 25” to 1 mile, 1912


6.2 SECONDARY SOURCES


Brunskill RW, 1987 Traditional Farm Buildings of Britain, London

Brunskill RW, 2002 Traditional Farm Buildings of Cumbria, London

Countryside Commission, 1998 Countryside Character, Volume 2: North West, Cheltenham


7. ILLUSTRATIONS

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Plate 26: The dairy at the west end of the barn. An access hatch into the hayloft is visible.
APPENDIX 1: PROJECT BRIEF
SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING OF AN HISTORICAL AGRICULTURAL BUILDING COMPLEX

Prepared on behalf of C Ashworth

Site Name: Craven Fold Farm, Dinckley

Grid Reference: SD 69380 36385

Summary

Planning permission has been granted for the demolition of an existing farmhouse and attached barn at Craven Fold Farm, Dinckley, and its replacement with a new, somewhat larger dwelling. The farmstead site may well pre-date 1662 and the present building is shown on the OS 1:10,560 mapping of 1847 (surveyed 1844).

Because of the loss of this historic farmstead Lancashire County Archaeology Service (LCAS) recommended that the farmstead be recorded before its demolition.


1. Purpose of recording

1.1 It is proposed to demolish a historic farmstead. This structure may well retain important information concerning its construction and use and is an element in the understanding of settlement evolution in the region. As the physical remains are to be lost, a permanent documentary record is required.

2. Description of proposal

2.1 This building complex, comprising a farmhouse and attached barn, is to be demolished and a new, somewhat larger, dwelling house built on the site. The planning consent granted for this development (3/2005/0434/P) includes a condition requiring a record of the structure to be made before work commences. This consent replaces an earlier proposal (3/2004/0934/P) wherein the barn was converted to form an extension to the existing house. A detached garage block is also to be constructed on the site.

3. Archaeological/Historical interest

3.1 The manor of Dinckley is first mentioned in 1246, and Dinckley Hall (which may have been the manor house site) is located some 600m to the north west of Craven Fold (Farrer, W and Brownbill, J (eds) 1911, Victoria History of the Counties of England: Lancashire, Vol.6 p.336f). The farmstead is located in an area assessed as being pre-1600 enclosure in the Lancashire Historic Landscape Characterisation Programme (LCC 2002), and to have originated as assarted land cleared from a former Forest. Richard Craven of Craven Fold is named as a freeholder in 1662, and Robert Craven is noted as
having compounded for his estate in 1653, perhaps having been involved in the battle of Worcester two years before (op. cit. p.337).

3.2 Craven Fold Farm is shown and named on the OS first edition 1:10,560 mapping (sheet Lancashire 54, published 1847, surveyed 1844), where it comprises a large building orientated east north east to west south west and two smaller structures, set within an orchard area and accessed by a lane leading from Aspinalls, on Kenyon Lane to the south. The lane continues north east past the farm to another farmstead, Fogg’s, and Dinckley Brook. The main building has two short projections on the northern face, one centrally and the other at the western end, forming an 'F' plan. This building is still extant but has been altered and extended, and the two small structures are not known to survive. The site may be shown (although unnamed and thus the identification is unconfirmed) on the 1786 map of the county produced by William Yates, and the 1818 map by Binns.

3.3 Farm buildings are of great historical importance. They record, by their siting, the pattern of rural settlement and the making of the historic landscape. They record the historic farming systems and methods of the area and they show the vernacular or traditional building materials and methods of their locality. Conversion and dereliction are steadily eroding the numbers of functional historical farm buildings in the county. The proposed demolition will remove this farmstead from the landscape along with all the historical information built into its walls.

4. Documentary analysis

4.1 Prior to the commencement of work on site, the archaeological contractor should undertake a rapid map-regression exercise. As a minimum, all historic Ordnance Survey maps should be examined. If available, other historic cartographic sources should also be examined. This work is intended to inform the archaeological recording by providing background information with regard to the function of the farmstead and its phasing.

4.2 A rapid assessment of any papers, documents, plans, photographs deeds, etc. held by the owners, the Lancashire Record Office or the Lancashire Local Studies Library should also be undertaken.

5. Personnel

5.1 The work shall be carried out by appropriately qualified and experienced staff. Details of staff and their relevant experience should be discussed and agreed with the monitor prior to the work being carried out.

6. Photographic Recording

6.1 A general and detailed photographic record is to be made of the farmstead.

6.2 General photographs of the interior, exterior and setting of the farmstead buildings are required.

6.3 Any external detail, structural or decorative, which is relevant to the design, development and use of the farmstead and which does not show adequately on general photographs should be the subject of detailed photography.
6.4 The building’s relationship to its setting should be photographed.

6.5 Internal detail, structural and decorative which is relevant to the farmstead’s design, development and use and which does not show adequately on general photographs should be photographed individually. Elements for which multiple examples exist (e.g. each type of roof truss, column or window frame) may be recorded by means of a single representative illustration. **N.B.** Detail photographs must be taken at medium-to-close range and be framed in such a way as to ensure that the element being photographed clearly constitutes the principal feature of the photograph.

6.6 For the purposes of the report, high quality digital images (i.e. taken with a camera with a base resolution of at least 5 Mega Pixels) are acceptable. Digital photography is however unacceptable for the main record due to unproven archiving qualities.

6.7 Archive photographs should be taken with a Medium or Large Format camera. All record photographs to be black and white, using conventional silver-based film only, such as Ilford FP4 or HP5, or Delta 400 Pro (a recent replacement for HP5 in certain film sizes such as 220). Dye-based (chromogenic) films such as Ilford XP2 and Kodak T40CN are unacceptable due to poor archiving qualities.

6.8 This basic photographic record should be supplemented by colour slide photography where colour is an aspect that needs to be recorded. All detailed photographs must contain a graduated photographic scale (measuring tapes and surveying staffs are not considered to be acceptable scales in this context). A 2-metre ranging-rod, discretely positioned, should be included in a selection of general shots, sufficient to independently establish the scale of all elements of the building and its structure. Colour photographs should include an appropriate standard colour bar.

6.9 A photographic register detailing (as a minimum) location and direction of each shot must be completed. Position and direction of each photograph is also to be noted on a copy of the building or site plan.

7. **Drawn Record**

7.1 A scale plan (1:50 or 1:100) of the ground floor of the building complex is to be made. Storage areas such as lofts at first floor level should be noted on the plan. Scale elevations of the principal faces of the building complexes should be produced where these are necessary to the understanding of the building’s design, development or function and the information is not more clearly represented by photography. Existing plans and elevations (e.g. those submitted with a planning application) may be used as the basis for the drawn record, but it is the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to ensure that any existing drawings used are accurate and if not to make any necessary adjustments or corrections. The drawn record is to show all features of interest that have been recorded photographically, as well as to show any other features of historical significance that are necessary to put those features in context.

7.2 Detail drawings (to scale or fully dimensioned) recording the form and location of other significant structural details (e.g. roofs) should be provided to an appropriate scale.

7.3 Sections to illustrate the vertical relationships within a building (e.g. ceiling heights; differing floor heights; roof trusses) should be prepared as necessary, with at least one typical section being provided.
7.4 Construction techniques and sequences should be appropriately illustrated and described, if visible. Typical features of interest may include tool marks left over from the preparation of structural timbers, carpenters’ marks, etc.

7.5 The archaeologist on site should also identify and note:

- any significant changes in construction material – this is intended to include significant changes in stone/brick type and size
- any blocked, altered or introduced openings
- evidence for phasing, and for historical additions or alterations to the building.

7.6 Drawing conventions should conform to English Heritage guidelines as laid out in Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice 2006 English Heritage.

8 Written Account

8.1 The written account will underpin all the other elements of the record, and should be sufficiently comprehensive as to allow a full understanding of the building in so far as possible. It should include relevant information from the map regression and documentary research noted above.

8.2 The account should include an account of the farmstead’s overall form, (structure, materials and layout) and its successive phases of development, along with an account written of the past and present uses of the building complex and its parts and its place in the landscape. The evidence supporting this analysis should be set out.

8.3 Any evidence for the former existence of demolished structures or features should be set out, and an assessment made of the potential of the site for further research, evaluation or recording. This should include the potential for dendrochronological dating of timbers, for further documentary research or formal excavation (Research and Archaeology in North West England 2007, ed. Brennand, pp.120-122).

9. Health and Safety

9.1 Appropriate precautions will need to be taken whilst undertaking fieldwork and the contractor must operate with due regard to health and safety regulations.

10. Monitoring

10.1 The Lancashire County Archaeology Service may undertake monitoring for its own quality control purposes. A minimum of one week’s notice of the commencement of fieldwork must be given by the archaeological contractor to the monitor, in order that arrangements can be made.

11. Post-Recording Work and Report Preparation

11.1 Record photographs should be printed at a minimum of 5ins x 7ins. Bracketed shots of identical viewpoints need not be reproduced, but all viewpoints must be represented within the report.

Issued by Lancashire County Archaeology Service 30 June 2009
11.2 A fully indexed archive is to be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, photographic negatives and a complete set of labelled photographic prints. Labelling should be in indelible ink on the back of the print and should include: film and frame number; date recorded and photographer’s name; name and address of feature/building; national grid reference. Printed adhesive labels are also acceptable. Photographic prints should be mounted in appropriate archival stable sleeves.

11.3 A written report should be produced detailing who undertook the recording, when the work was done, where the structure/building is located, what recording was undertaken and why the work was required. The report should include the results of the documentary research and the written account, illustrated by suitable photographs and plans. All illustrations should be clearly referenced at appropriate points in the text.

11.4 The report illustrations should include as a minimum: a location map at not less than 1:2500; a site plan at not less than 1:500 with the building(s) being recorded clearly marked; photographs used to illustrate key points and a complete set of site drawings, at an appropriate scale, executed to publication standard. Extracts from all historic maps studied during the map analysis stage (section 4.) are also to be included within the report with the building/buildings of interest clearly visible, where they aid interpretation of the development of the building(s). All copyright and Licence agreement numbers should be included where necessary. The photographic record plan and register must also be included.

11.5 A copy of this specification should be bound into the back of the report.

12. Deposition of archive

12.1 The archive resulting from building recording will be deposited with the Lancashire Records Office, in a format to be agreed with the County Records Officer, and within a timetable to be agreed with the Specialist Advisor (Archaeology) or Planning Officer (Archaeology).

12.2 The site archive shall be conserved and stored according to the *UKIC Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage* (1990) and the Museum and Galleries Commission *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological collections* (1992) ‘Standards for the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives’.

12.3 Copies of the report described in 11.3-11.4 above will be supplied to the Lancashire Sites and Monuments Record on the understanding that it will become a public document after an appropriate period (a maximum of 6 months after the completion of the fieldwork unless another date is agreed in writing with the Specialist Advisor (Archaeology). This should be provided as an Adobe Acrobat ‘PDF’ format file on CD-ROM. Digital photographs should be provided in JPG or TIF formats and any digital survey drawings as georeferenced Autocad DWG or DXF files.

12.4 Archaeological contractors must complete the online OASIS form at [http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/](http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/). Contractors are advised to contact Lancashire HER prior to completing the form. Once a report has become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the HER, Lancashire HER may place the information on a website. Please ensure that you and your client agree to this procedure in writing as part of the process of submitting the report to the case officer (Ken Davies) at Lancashire HER.
13. Access

13.1 Access to the site will be arranged by *****

14 Technical queries

14.1 Prior to the commencement of any work, the archaeological contractor should confirm in writing adherence to this specification, or state (with reasons) any proposals to vary the specification. Should the contractor wish to vary the specification, then written confirmation of the agreement of the LCAS to any variations is required prior to work commencing. The archaeologist carrying out the watching brief should be appropriately qualified and experienced.

14.2 Any technical queries arising from the specification detailed above, should be addressed to the LCAS without delay at Lancashire County Council, Environment Directorate, Guild House, Cross Street, Preston, PR1 8RD, Tel. 01772 531550. Fax 01772 533423. E-mail: peter.iles@env.lancscc.gov.uk

15. Valid period of specification

15.1 This specification is valid for a period of one year from date of issue. After that time it may need to be revised to take into account new discoveries, changes in policy or the introduction of new working practices or techniques.

Peter Iles
Specialist Advisor (Archaeology)
Lancashire County Archaeology Service
APPENDIX 2: PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX
**OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY NORTH**

**PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX**

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**PROJECT CODE**: L10206  
**SITE CODE**: OA NORTH 13

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**DIR** = The direction in which the camera is pointed, expressed as a compass point eg NW
## Oxford Archaeology North

### Photographic Index

**Project Name:** Craven Fold Farm  
**Project Code:** L10206  
**Site Code:**

**Film No:** 2  
**Film Type:** 120 Black and White  
**ISO:** 125

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<td>Modified Three-Light Mullion on the Front Elevation of the House</td>
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**Dir =** The direction in which the camera is pointed, expressed as a compass point e.g. NW
**OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY NORTH**  
**PHOTOGRAPHIC INDEX**  

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**DIR** = The direction in which the camera is pointed, expressed as a compass point eg NW
# Oxford Archaeology North

## Photographic Index

**Project Name:** Craven Fold Farm  
**Project Code:** L10206  
**Site Code:**

**Film No:** 3  
**Film Type:** 120 Black and White  
**ISO:** 125

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<td>View of Room 7</td>
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**Dir =** The direction in which the camera is pointed, expressed as a compass point eg NW
### Oxford Archaeology North

**Photographic Index**

**Project Name**: Craven Fold Farm  
**Project Code**: L10206  
**Site Code**: 

<table>
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**DIR** = The direction in which the camera is pointed, expressed as a compass point eg NW.