



Historic Farmsteads

Preliminary Character Statement: North East Region



ENGLISH HERITAGE



The Countryside Agency
**Landscape
Access
Recreation**

Acknowledgements

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This document is one of eight Preliminary Character Statements, which provide information on the characteristics of traditional farm buildings in each Region. They can be viewed and downloaded at www.helm.org.uk/ruraldevelopment and at www.ahds.ac.uk.

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Summary: North East Region

I LANDSCAPE AND AGRICULTURAL CONTEXT

NATIONAL FRAMEWORK

Patterns of land use were very varied, reflecting cultural factors as well as climatic conditions and the physical structure of the landscape. The distribution of farmsteads, their dates of foundation and their relationship to the farming landscape are intimately linked to **historical patterns of fields** and **settlement** in the landscape. Areas of nucleated settlement, concentrated in a central band running from Northumberland into Somerset and Dorset, are associated with villages whose communally farmed townfields were subject – at varying rates – to amalgamation and enclosure by tenants and landlords from the 14th century. This process was often associated with the creation of new holdings and farmsteads within the new enclosures. Areas of dispersed settlement, where farmsteads are either isolated or grouped in hamlets and surrounded by originally smaller townfields and more ancient patterns of enclosure, are most strongly characteristic of western and parts of eastern and south-eastern England. Between the two extremes are areas that contain both nucleated and dispersed settlement to varying degrees.

Agricultural development in England can be divided into the following major periods:

- *Up to 1750* Economic boom in the 12th and 13th centuries, which included the development of large farms on monastic and secular estates, was followed by contraction of settlement and the leasing out of estates after the famines and plagues of the 14th century. The period from the 15th century was characterised by a general increase in agricultural incomes and productivity and the emergence – particularly from 1660 – of increasingly market-based and specialised regional economies. Substantially complete farm buildings of this period are rare, and provide the first evidence for the development and strengthening of regional traditions and building types. Many surviving farmsteads in upland areas, with farm buildings attached to their farmhouse, survive from the later 17th and 18th centuries. It is otherwise very rare for farmsteads to have more than a house and barn dating from this period.
- *1750 – 1880* This is the most important period of farm building development, the production of farmyard manure by cattle playing a major role in increasing agricultural productivity. The increased output of this period was encouraged by rising grain

prices and the demands of an increasingly urban population, and was enabled by the expansion of the cultivated area (especially from the 1790s to 1815), the continued reorganisation and enlargement of holdings and the final phase of the enclosure of open fields – concentrated in the Midland counties. Substantial improvements in animal husbandry were made with the development of improved breeds and a greater awareness of the importance of the need for housing, particularly for cattle, which hastened fattening and meant that manure could be collected and stored better. The high-input/high-output systems of the 'High Farming' years of the 1840s to 1870s were based on the availability of imported artificial fertilisers, manures and feeds.

- *1880 – 1940* There was little fresh investment due to the long farming depression in this period, notable exceptions being some estates and continuing developments in dairying areas. Hygiene regulations in the inter-war period resulted in intense forms of housing for pigs and poultry, and the replacement of earlier forms of housing for dairy cattle by new forms of cow house with concrete floors and stalls, and metal roofs and fittings.
- *1940 to present* The 1937 Agriculture Act anticipated the need to increase self-sufficiency, and the Second World War witnessed a 60% rise in productivity. This was the result of the growth in livestock numbers, increasing scientific and government control and guidance, more specialised systems of management and the conversion to arable of permanent pasture. The Agriculture Act of 1947 heralded the intensification and increased specialisation of farming in the post-war period, accompanied by the development of government and industry research and guidance. The Government provided grants to cover the capital cost of new building under the Farm Improvement Scheme (introduced 1957). The introduction of wide-span multi-purpose sheds in concrete, steel and asbestos met increasing requirements for machinery and for the environmental control of livestock and on-farm production, particularly of milk.

REGIONAL PATTERNS

Across the Region the patterns of settlement are intimately linked to the distribution of historic farmsteads. In the south-east of the Region settlement largely consists of regular, planned villages where farmsteads were often laid out around a green. Most of these villages date from the 12th and 13th centuries. The

growth of urban populations and new settlements next to collieries was concentrated in a zone from the south of the South East Northumberland Coastal Plain to the Tees Lowlands.

In the uplands along the western edge of the Region settlement has always been sparse and has tended to consist of small hamlets and isolated farmsteads – historically with access to summer grazing lands. Small settlements associated with coal mining, quarrying or lead mining are often found on former common land where smallholders combined industrial employment with farming. The many abandoned cottages and farmsteads are the result of the collapse of these industries which left small-scale farming untenable.

Because of its wet climate the upland part of the Region was best suited to pastoral agriculture. By the 15th century a pattern had emerged in upland landscapes of both open communal fields and the enclosed fields belonging to individual farms.

In contrast a more mixed arable-based economy was typical of the broader and more fertile lower upland dales, lowland and coastal districts where there was more cultivatable land organised by the 15th century around two or more open fields laid out in strips. The enclosure of these fields and the reorganisation of holdings was especially marked in lowland areas, particularly in the south of the Region, where the process accelerated in the 17th century and was essentially complete by 1750. In Northumberland, the dominance of large estates enabled the development of commercial stock farming from the later 16th century, large-scale enclosure and the replacement of villages and hamlets by large isolated steadings, often with their own groups of cottages for hired labour, on a scale comparable to the reshaping of the Scottish lowland and later highland landscapes. This Region shares with Yorkshire and Humber some of the earliest and most architecturally distinguished examples of Georgian and Victorian planned farm complexes. The most intensively farmed arable land, and the largest farms, is found along the North Northumberland Coastal Plain and South East Northumberland Coastal Plain. The farmsteads of south-east Northumberland and Durham, particularly in the coal mining areas, are generally much smaller.

2 BUILDING MATERIALS

NATIONAL FRAMEWORK

The use of locally available materials, combined with local vernacular traditions, makes a fundamental contribution to local and regional diversity.

Long-rooted traditions such as earth walling, thatch and timber frame, survived much longer on farm buildings

than farmhouses. Buildings in stone and brick, roofed with tile or slate, increasingly replaced such buildings from the later 18th century.

Standardised forms of construction, including softwood roof trusses, developed across the country in the 19th century, often reflecting the availability of materials such as Welsh slate transported along the canals and, later, the railways. Corrugated iron was used from the late 19th century as a cheap means of replacing or covering roofs (particularly thatch) in poor condition.

REGIONAL PATTERNS

Stone was the predominant building material of the north and west of the Region, notably hard grits and shales, fine magnesian limestone and sandstones. These can vary in colour from red and pink in the north east of the Region to buff and even a soft, multicoloured sandstone in central Durham, and are major contributors to local distinctiveness. Cut and dressed stonework was used for the most high-status and formal farm complexes and, where rougher masonry was used, for the embellishment of quoining, door and window surrounds and the copings and kneelers to gable ends. Watershot masonry, where the outer face is tilted to throw water off the walls, is a technique that was used in upland areas between the late 18th and mid-19th centuries. Brick is mainly found in the south and east of the Region, in the Tees Lowlands and the South East Northumberland Coastal Plain character areas.

Slate roofing is common in upland areas; slate was imported from Cumbria and Scotland from the mid-18th century and Welsh slate became commonly used by the mid-19th century. The south-west of Northumberland is well known for the remarkable survival of a small group of heather or 'black thatch' buildings. Pantile roofs are a distinctive feature of the lowland parts of the Region.

3 FARMSTEADS

NATIONAL FRAMEWORK – FARMSTEAD TYPES

The scale and form of farmstead plan types are subject to much variation and are closely related to farm size and status, terrain and land use. It was far more common for the houses on farms in northern and western England to be attached to the farm buildings. By contrast, even small farms in the South East and East Anglia were characterised by detached houses and separate buildings, often loosely arranged around the sides of a yard.

- *Linear plans*, where houses and farm buildings are attached, were ideally suited to small farms (usually stock rearing and dairying), especially in northern pastoral areas with little corn and longer winters where there was an obvious advantage in having

cattle and their fodder (primarily hay) in one enclosed building. They now display a wide range in scale, from large steadings of independent Pennine yeoman-farmers to the smallholdings of miner-farmers.

- *Dispersed plans*, comprising clusters and unplanned groupings of separate buildings, were more widespread. They now range from those of hamlets, where the buildings of different owners were often intermixed, to large-scale individual steadings, some of which were of high status.
- *Loose courtyard plans* became most strongly associated with large and/or arable farms. The buildings are built around a yard with or without scatters of other farm buildings close by.
- *Regular courtyard plans*, where the various functions were carefully placed in relation to one another in order to minimise the waste of labour, and where the manure could be conserved, were built – at first on large estates – from the later 18th century.

REGIONAL PATTERNS – FARMSTEAD TYPES

Linear farmsteads, some of longhouse origin, were typical throughout most of the Region until the late 18th century when, in the north of the Region in particular, most were swept away by enclosure and estate reorganisation. Distinct types of linear farmsteads developed in the 18th and 19th centuries.

From the mid-18th century farms of over 150 acres across much of the lowland and in some of the transitional areas were typically provided with a farmstead ranged around a courtyard. This was especially marked in Northumberland, where many landowners continued to generate wealth from outside agriculture that they could then invest in their farms. The result was the creation of large-scale courtyard steadings with up to five cattle yards, very similar in form to those that appeared across the border in the Lothians. Sometimes whole settlements were replaced by these industrial-sized farmsteads and the workers' re-housed in terraces alongside the farmstead.

NATIONAL FRAMEWORK – BUILDING TYPES

The functions of crop processing and storage and the accommodation of animals and birds determine the variety of building types, which could house one or a combination of functions. The principal types are listed below.

Barns are generally the largest farm buildings to be found on farms. They were either designed solely for storing and processing the corn crop, these being most common in areas of arable production, or as combination barns to incorporate many functions. Threshing machines, usually powered by horses accommodated in a projecting wheel house, were introduced from the later 18th century. Split-level

mixing barns developed in many regions from the later 18th century as a result of the widespread introduction of machinery for processing corn and fodder. The introduction of the portable steam engine and threshing machine in the 1850s heralded the end of the traditional barn as a building for storage and processing.

Field barns were built in areas where farmsteads and fields were sited at a long distance from each other, and where holdings were intermixed. **Granaries** were either detached or built over stables and cart sheds. **Cart sheds** often faced away from the farmyard and were typically close to the stables and roadways, giving direct access to the fields. **Stables** were normally two-storey well-lit buildings with a hayloft above. **Cow houses** were typically built for dairy cattle. The folding of stock in strawed-down yards and feeding them with root crops became more general from the later 18th century, together with the subdivision of yards into smaller areas and the construction of **shelter sheds** and **looseboxes**. **Pigs** were undoubtedly kept on most farms and particularly on dairying establishments, where there was a ready supply of whey on which to feed them. **Dovecotes** were built to house pigeons, which provided variety to the diets of high-status households and a rich source of manure.

REGIONAL PATTERNS – BUILDING TYPES

The bastle house, providing security for both the family and stock, is a building type particular to the Border area of northern England and reflect the turbulence of the area in the 16th and early 17th centuries. Over 200 examples are known in Northumberland, with the distribution extending into Cumberland, the north Pennines and south of the Tyne Gap as far as Allendale, Weardale and the South Tyne Valley. Cattle were housed on the ground floor with domestic accommodation at first-floor level accessed by a ladder or later an external staircase. The upland tradition of providing domestic accommodation over cattle reappeared in the later 18th and early 19th centuries with the so-called byre houses of County Durham. Larger window openings and thinner walls differentiate them from bastles.

Pre-1750 barns are particularly rare in the Region; north of the Tees and Furness the only surviving medieval barns are believed to be in County Durham. These barns, usually built religious institutions, are most commonly of 15th-century date and have a central threshing floor with opposed doorways and ventilation is typically through small triangular vents.

Most barns in the Region date from the late 18th to mid-19th century and – as in lowland Scotland – evidence for early mechanisation in their planning, with distinctive wheel houses (also known as gin gangs) or fixed steam power, is an important characteristic.

Two-storey combination barns are common. By the 19th century the Northumberland barn consisted of two attached buildings: a two-storey threshing barn with the machinery at first-floor level, and a straw barn.

Combined granary/cart shed ranges with arcaded ground floors are a distinctive feature of lowland farmsteads, and are very similar in form to those built in lowland Yorkshire and Humberside.

The most regionally distinctive example of a specialist building erected for fatstock is the hemmel, typically an

open-fronted shed with an arched entrance providing access to a small yard. It is found throughout the Region, on both large and small farms. Sheds for fattening sheep were recommended by some agricultural commentators in the mid-19th century and there are some farmsteads where large yards with low shelters were provided, possibly for use during winter or lambing.

The Region contains several square 'lectern' dovecotes that have a mono-pitch roof, a feature typical of Scottish dovecotes which is otherwise rarely found in England.

1.0 Introduction

If the land is best suited for tillage, then the outhouses must be adapted to the purposes of keeping cattle for plowing; of holding and thrashing corn; and of preserving straw, &c. for winter food. In the counties where oxen plow, ox-houses must exceed the quantity of stabling: if where horses only are used, stables alone will be sufficient. If the land seems to promise fairest for pasturage, then cow houses, suckling-houses, sheepcots, dairies, and fattening houses must predominate; and if for grass, much barn-room seems unnecessary.

The Complete English Farmer, 1771, quoted in Wiliam 1986, p.67

Farm buildings are the leitmotif of the countryside. It seems appropriate to describe them with a musical term for they are thematic, and the resonance of their forms, colours and textures within the scenery is that of sound, overall and orchestrated. Here and there is the solo instrument, spectacular in its own right, but much more important is the orchestral effect.

Darley, Gillian (1981) *The National Trust Book of the Farm*, The National Trust, London, p.7

Historic farmsteads and their buildings make a fundamental contribution to the richly varied character of our countryside, and illustrate the long history of farming and settlement in the English landscape. England displays a huge diversity in geology, with a greater variety in small areas than anywhere else in Europe, which combined with varied farming practices has resulted in a great diversity of materials and types of farmstead.

It is clear, however, that we know far more about the nature and processes of change affecting land cover and field pattern than we do about agriculture's built environment and its contribution to countryside character and local distinctiveness. Furthermore, we know far less about the working than the domestic buildings of the farmstead. Recent research has made initial efforts to address this issue, and has made it clear how the domestic and working buildings of the farmstead are subject to very different processes of change (Gaskell & Owen, 2005).

English Heritage is now undertaking to develop this knowledge base in order to inform diverse future outcomes, such as the targeting of grant aid and the development of character-based policies for the sustainable reuse of farm buildings. This document is one of eight regional *preliminary character statements* that aim to promote better and more accessible understanding of the character of farm buildings. It is important, as a first step in this process, to present an information base for a broad diversity of users with an interest in researching,

understanding and managing historic farmsteads. It has therefore been written as a sourced synthesis of information, drawing together information that will enable the farmsteads of each Region to be better understood within the national context of farmstead and agricultural development, and their surrounding fields and settlements. As this is a preliminary statement, it and future work will benefit greatly from information and comments. These will be gratefully received at the following e-mail address:

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The objectives of this document are:

- To provide an information base and introduction to the subject.
- To place the development of the farmsteads and farm buildings of the North East Region within their national context.
- To demonstrate, with examples, how the *present* stock of farmsteads and their buildings reflects the diversity of farming, settlement and landscape character in the North East Region.
- To provide broad guidance on the value and survival by period and functional type.

An accompanying policy booklet has also been prepared, which makes the case for urgent action and considers

the importance of historic farm buildings, their value and their future. See *Living buildings in a living landscape: finding a future for traditional farm buildings*, at www.helm.org.uk/ruraldevelopment.

In each of the following sections, the national overview is presented immediately before the regional statement. For example, on the topic of barns, the national overview describes the development, variety and uses of barns nationally while the regional statement describes the variety that can be seen in the barns of the Region.

Section 2 provides an introduction to characterisation and briefly describes the landscape character of the Region, examining the pattern of rural settlement across the Region.

Section 3 describes the predominant building materials used for farm buildings nationally and in the Region.

Section 4 provides a brief introduction to the agricultural history of England with particular reference to the development of farmsteads and farm buildings divided into the major periods, supported by statements relating to the survival and significance of farm buildings from each period. This is followed by a summary of the

agricultural history of the Region.

Section 5 provides a national and regional background of types of farmsteads and farm buildings.

Sections 6, 7 and 8 provide a national and regional overview of key building types.

Section 9 provides a Glossary of terms both familiar and unfamiliar to the reader (e.g. dairy, linhay, enclosure).

Section 10 provides a list of national and regional sources for further reference.

It is also important at this stage to outline a distinction in terminology. 'Traditional' is a term often used to describe farm buildings pre-dating 1940, after which modern building materials (concrete, steel, asbestos sheet) and revolutions in farming technology and farmstead planning marked a sharp divide with previous practice. 'Historic' is more encompassing, as it includes farmsteads of all dates, irrespective of changes in form and material; it has been used in this document in order that the reader can view the history of farm buildings, and their change and adaptation over the centuries, within their broad historical context.

2.0 Understanding Context and Character

2.1 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AND CHARACTERISATION

Landscape character is defined as a distinct and recognisable pattern of elements that occur consistently in a particular type of landscape. Particular combinations of geology (Figure 1 A), landform, soils, vegetation, land use, field patterns and human settlement create character. Character makes each part of the landscape distinct, and gives each its particular sense of place. Landscape-scale techniques for understanding and guiding future change, now brigaded under the heading of characterisation, have developed since the 1990s. These have developed as multi-disciplinary and holistic tools for understanding the whole rural environment, its capacity to absorb change and its links to community values and needs.

During the 1990s the Countryside Commission worked with English Nature and English Heritage to identify Joint Character Areas (159 in total) for the whole of England, each of these resulting from a combination of factors such as land cover, geology, soils, topography, and settlement and enclosure patterns. These are now being used as the framework for the delivery of advice and the targeting of resources for many aspects of the rural environment, most recently to farmers under the Higher Level Stewardship Agri-Environment schemes, and local authorities have taken forward this methodology for Landscape Character Assessments on a finer scale. These are also being used as the spatial framework for reporting change in the countryside, in the Countryside Quality Counts project (see www.cqc.org.uk).

The North East Region extends over the Joint Character Areas listed in Figure 1B. Whenever the text cross-refers to the Joint Character Areas, they will be listed by their number (i.e. JCA 152). The key characteristics and a detailed description and map for each Character Area are available from the Countryside Agency's website (www.countryside.gov.uk/lar/landscape). The web addresses for each JCA are detailed in Section 11.

Human impact has been central to the development and present character of landscape. Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC), which is being developed by English Heritage with its county and local partners, is using GIS mapping techniques to deepen our understanding and perception of the long historical development of our landscapes. The practical applications of HLC now include development plans, a broad range of conservation and enhancement strategies, strategic land-use planning and similar initiatives, and research and

academic implications (Clark, Darlington & Fairclough, 2004; Rippon, 2005, 100–142).

Pilot work is now indicating that the density and time-depth of farmsteads, and the rates of survival of different types of steading and building, are closely related to patterns of historically conditioned landscape character and type (Lake & Edwards 2006). This work represents a shift in focus away from individual buildings to a more question-based and holistic approach, one that uses landscape to both reflect and inform the patterning of the built environment. Recording and understanding at a local scale can both test and refine these broad-based, contextualised statements and contribute towards a more integrated understanding of both buildings and landscapes.

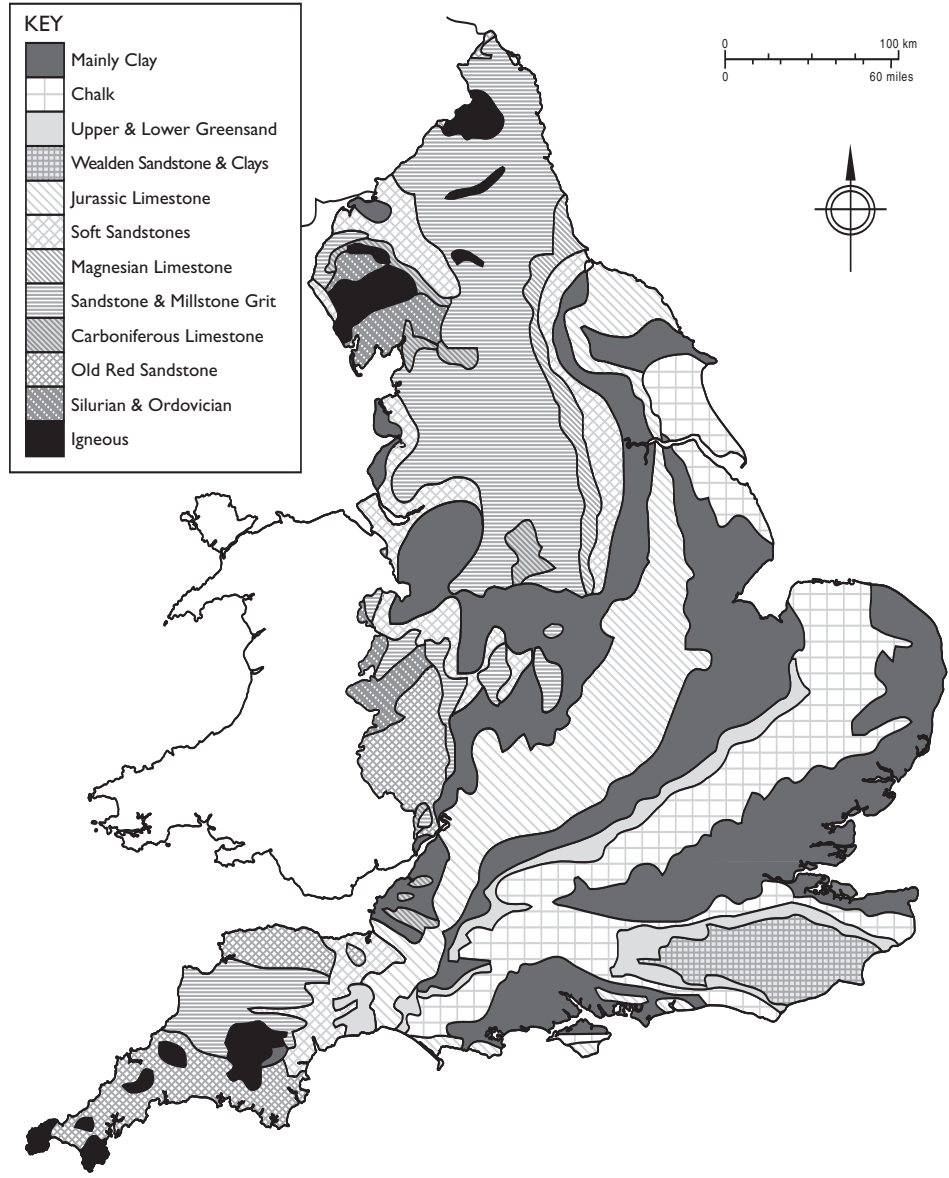
For characterisation see: www.english-heritage.org.uk/characterisation

2.2 THE CHARACTER OF THE NORTH EAST REGION: AN INTRODUCTION

The Government Region of the North East comprises the counties of Northumberland and Durham, the Metropolitan County of Tyne and Wear and the five Unitary Authority areas of Darlington, Stockton-on-Tees, Middlesbrough, Hartlepool and Redcar and Cleveland (now known as Tees Valley) in the south-eastern corner of the Region. It is bordered to the north by the volcanic massif of the Cheviot Hills rising abruptly from the coastal plain to over 750m in height, to the west by the Pennines reaching almost 900m above sea level and to the south and east by the Yorkshire Dales and Cleveland Hills. To the west of the narrow coastal plain much of the area bounded by the upland areas forms the tilted plateau of the Pennines which rises to the west. This broad plateau is dissected by a number of river valleys running eastwards towards the North Sea.

The geology of the Region is dominated by three main formations: carboniferous limestone to the north, coal measures across the central part of the Region and magnesian limestone in east Durham. The broad, low-lying plain of the Tees Lowlands at the south-eastern tip of the Region is framed by the high lands of the Cleveland Hills and the North York Moors, composed mainly of calcareous sandstone and limestone and rising to over 360m. A thick mantle of boulder clay deposited during the last ice age covers most of the Region. This gives rise to heavily textured clay soils with poor natural drainage. The floors of the main river valleys are frequently covered by lightly textured

IA Geology map of England
 England displays a huge diversity in geology, with a greater variety in small areas than anywhere else in Europe. The North East Region has a varied geology providing sandstone and limestone for both walling and roofing. The widespread availability of good stone means that it is the dominant building material and is a major contributor to local distinctiveness.
 Based upon 'Solid Geology' Source Defra/BGS, NERC: by permission of the British Geological Survey IPR152-65C. ©NERC/Crown copyright. OS Licence no. 100042054



alluvial soils. These are often associated with sand and gravel deposits and are extensive in the Tees and Tyne valleys and the far north of Northumberland (Tyne Gap and Hadrian's Wall). Small areas of lighter textured soils also occur within the boulder clay. The higher ground of the Pennines, Northumberland Fells and Cheviots have varying depths of peat topsoils which are subject to frequent or permanent waterlogging (ERDP 2000). The field boundaries of the Region are predominantly stone, with hedges concentrated in the wood-pasture landscape of the south-east corner and intermixed with walls in lowland and dale landscapes.

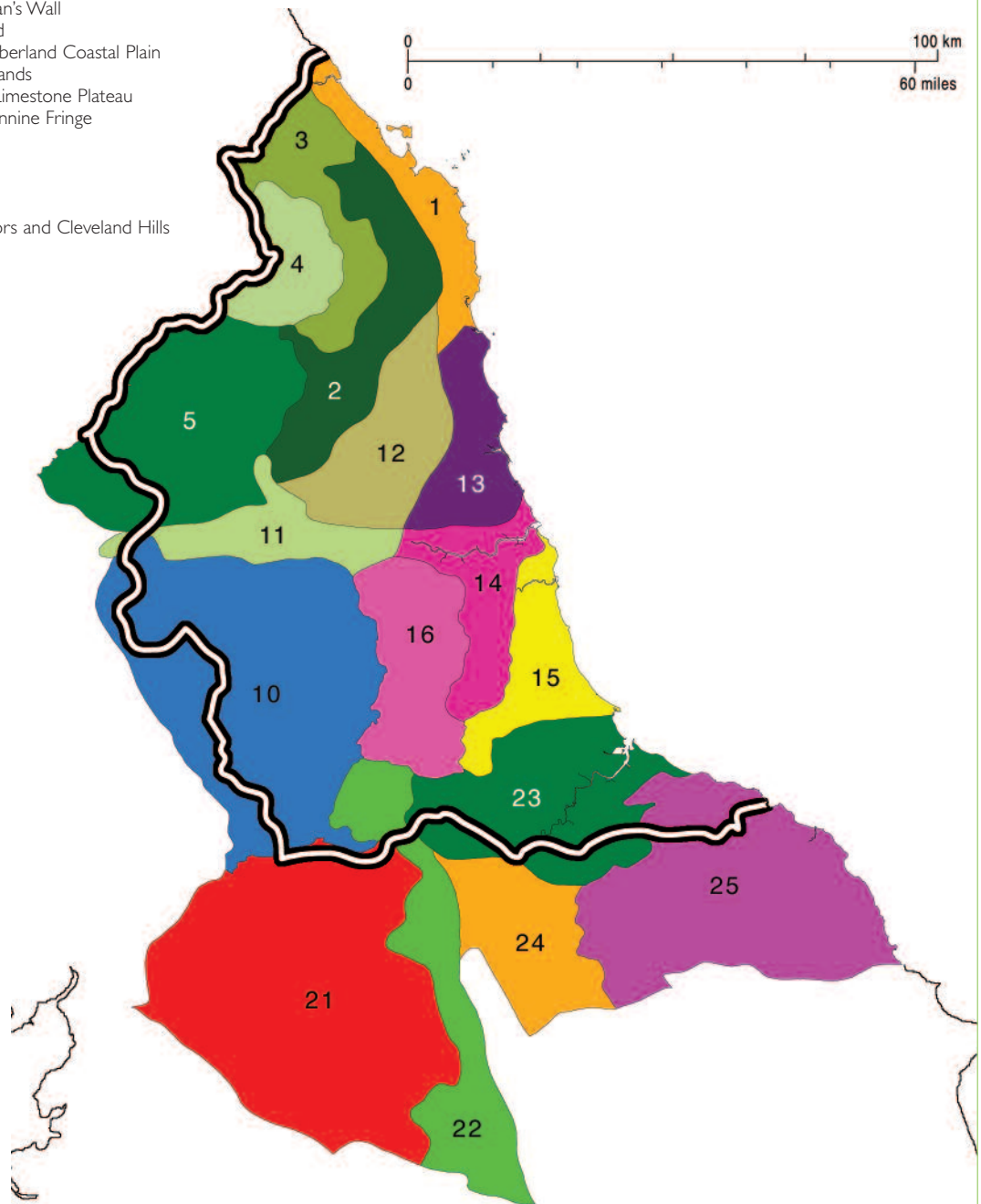
The landscape character of the North East Region displays dramatic changes, from the uplands of the north and west to the coastal plain in the east (Figure 1B). The lavas and granites of the Cheviot massif in the north, the carboniferous rocks of the Border Fells and the north Pennines form a virtually continuous range of hills constituting the highland zone (Cheviots, North Pennines, Border Moors and Forests). The rivers that

drain the 'border dales' of Northumberland (which include Upper Coquetdale, Redesdale and north Tynedale) and the 'lead dales' of South Northumberland and Durham (which include Allendale, Upper Wear and Upper Teesdale), dissect this landscape of moorland and semi-improved grassland. Between the upland areas and the coastal plains are transitional landscapes of scarp, rolling countryside and valleys (Northumberland Sandstone Hills, Cheviot Fringe, Mid Northumberland) where areas of pastoral, mixed and arable farming can be found depending on the soils, aspect and altitude, with a combination of hedged fields and stone walls. The mineral wealth of parts of the Region, such as the Durham Coalfield Pennine Fringe, has resulted in industrial landscapes of small mining communities and open-cast mines, whilst large-scale industrialisation and urban development dominates the coastal area of the Tyne and Wear Lowlands and the eastern parts of the Durham Magnesian Limestone Plateau and the Tees Lowland. At the southern edge of the Region the sharp scarp of the North Yorkshire Moors and Cleveland Hills forms a clearly defined boundary.

JCA JCA name
number

- 1 North Northumberland Coastal Plain
- 2 Northumberland Sandstone Hills
- 3 Cheviot Fringe
- 4 Cheviots
- 5 Border Moors and Forests
- 10 North Pennines
- 11 Tyne Gap and Hadrian's Wall
- 12 Mid Northumberland
- 13 South East Northumberland Coastal Plain
- 14 Tyne and Wear Lowlands
- 15 Durham Magnesian Limestone Plateau
- 16 Durham Coalfield Pennine Fringe
- 21 Yorkshire Dales
- 22 Pennine Dales Fringe
- 23 Tees Lowlands
- 24 Vale of Mowbray
- 25 North Yorkshire Moors and Cleveland Hills

IB This map shows the Character Areas relating to this Region. These are known as Countryside Character Areas or most commonly now as Joint Character Areas, this reflecting their development as multi-disciplinary means of mapping, defining and describing the character of distinct areas. Based upon Joint Character Areas. Source: Defra/English Nature/Countryside Agency. © Crown copyright OS Licence no. 100042054



The climate is cool, relative to the rest of Eastern England, particularly in the spring and summer, and generally more severe. Average wind speeds are relatively high, and some coastal and upland locations suffer from severe exposure. Away from the coast, frosts occur between September and May in most years. The high ground in the west of the Region acts as a 'rain shadow' and annual rainfall is only 650mm in the Tees Valley area and along the coast. Inland, rainfall gradually increases westwards with over 1200mm on the higher fells.

The Region has relatively small areas of high-quality, Grade 2 land, which is concentrated in the river valleys of the Tweed, Tyne, Wear and Tees. Much of the west of the Region is dominated by poor- or very poor-quality land. This land is generally above 300m and is used as permanent pasture for livestock grazing. The majority of the eastern side of the Region is Grade 3 agricultural land that is divided between permanent pasture and arable. Forestry is a significant land use in parts of the region; for example, approximately 20% of Tynedale district is afforested.

2.3 THE CHARACTER OF RURAL SETTLEMENT

2.3.1 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK

Farmland has historically been divided into arable for growing corn and other crops, and meadow for hay and grass. In the past, farmers also had access to fallow land, land laid open after the harvest and areas of rougher common ground for grazing livestock. Patterns of settlement in the countryside varied from large, nucleated villages to dispersed settlement areas with scattered, isolated hamlets and farmsteads, both being closely related to the patterns of fields and their associated boundaries in the surrounding landscape. There were many variations between the two extremes of communal open fields with their scattered holdings, which typically developed around larger nucleated settlements, and the anciently enclosed fields of isolated farmsteads and hamlets.

Re-arranging previously communal fields or common pasture land into self-contained private land units enabled the rationalisation of formerly scattered holdings, allowing better management of livestock and rotation of crops. This process of enclosure – evident from the 14th century and even earlier – resulted in the immediate or gradual establishment of new isolated farmsteads out in the fields. It could be undertaken on a piecemeal basis, or in one single phase, the latter form of enclosure being typically more regular in its appearance. Enclosure by parliamentary act, some of which formalised earlier agreements, often resulted in new designed landscapes. Parliamentary enclosure was concentrated in the period 1750 to 1880.

English Heritage has commissioned work on mapping these patterns of settlement in the English countryside, now published as *An Atlas of Rural Settlement in England* (Roberts & Wrathmell 2000) and *Region and Place, A Study of English Rural Settlement* (Roberts & Wrathmell 2002). In summary, it has been demonstrated that a Central Province mostly characterised by nucleated settlement and, by the 14th century, communal fields which occupied the great majority of the land area, is flanked by a South-Eastern Province and both a Northern and Western Province where settlement is mostly dispersed (Figure 2).

In areas of *nucleated settlement* in the medieval period and later, the majority of farmsteads were sited in villages and the surrounding land dominated by communally managed open fields, where the holdings of individual farmers were inter-mixed and farmed in rotation as meadow or arable land. Many open field systems were created during the period from the 9th to the 12th centuries, replacing earlier dispersed patterns

of settlement with nucleated villages with communally managed fields, many of which were clearly planned by estates.

Farmsteads in areas of *dispersed settlement* are commonly isolated or clustered in hamlets. They are commonly medieval in origin (pre-14th century generally) and often surrounded by ancient and irregular patterns of field boundaries, including the reclamation of woodland or waste. Typically smaller and more numerous than the open fields of Midlands villages, these fields were either farmed from the outset as compact farming units or contained the scattered holdings or strips of individual farmers that were farmed on a communal basis. Areas of pasture and rough grazing were typically far greater in extent than in areas of nucleated settlement, and have again been subject to varying rates of enclosure from the 14th century.

Between the extremes of nucleation and dispersion are the areas that to some degree included both villages and scattered farmsteads and hamlets. In these areas, nucleated villages again originated from developments between the 9th and 12th centuries, but were often intermixed with isolated farmsteads that date from both the medieval period or earlier and from the later enclosure of open fields and common meadow and pasture.

In some areas, the remains of earlier, including pre-Roman, farmsteads are visible as crop-marks or earthworks close to existing farmsteads or villages (see Roberts 1976 and Taylor 1983 for a useful introduction). While research is demonstrating that existing parish and field boundaries possibly originate from very early, even pre-Roman, field and estate boundaries, it is exceptionally rare for present farmstead sites – as in Cornwall's West Penwith – to display such continuity.

2.3.2 RURAL SETTLEMENT IN THE NORTH EAST

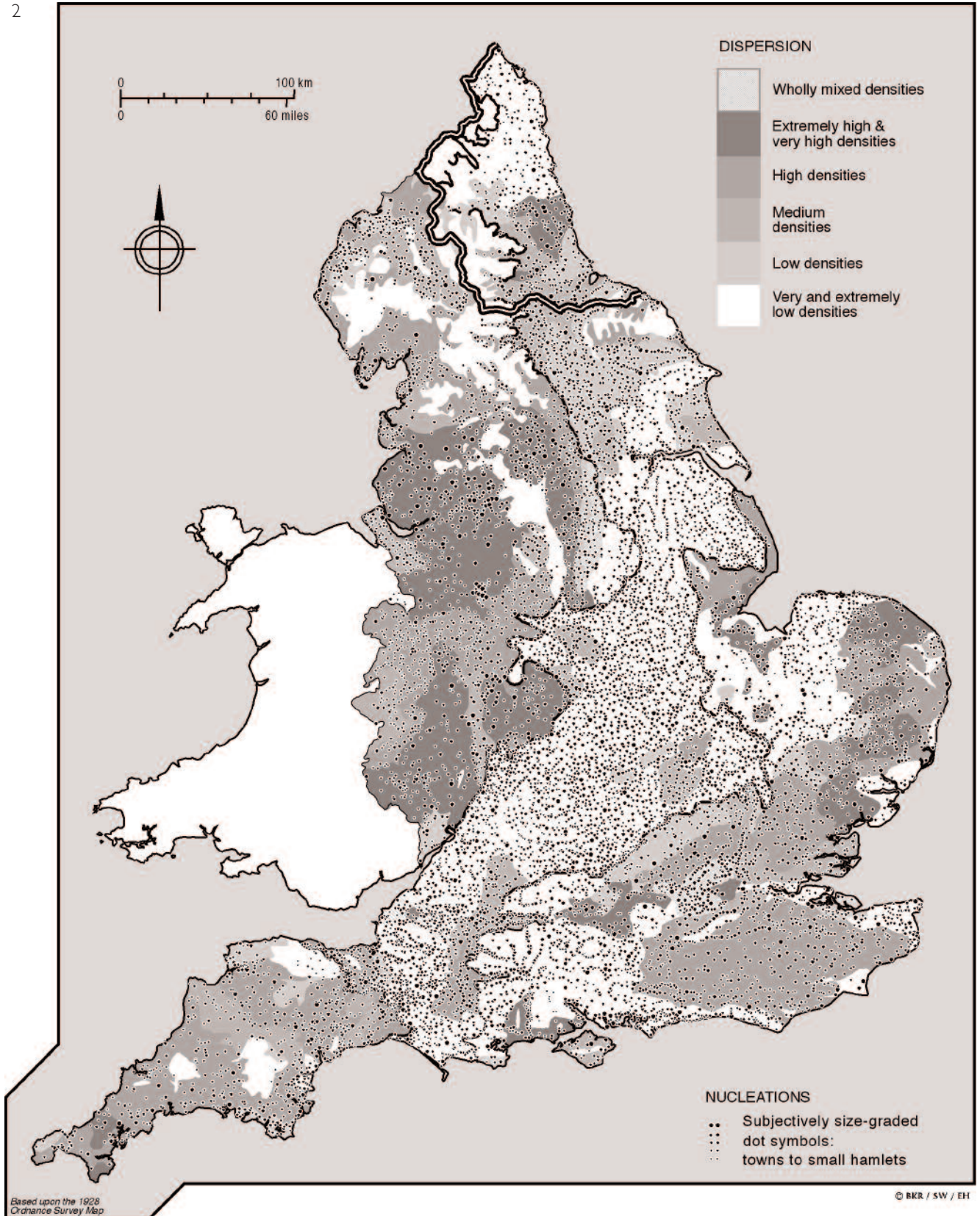
The North East Region falls mainly within Roberts and Wrathmell's Central Province where nucleated villages are a predominant element of the settlement pattern. Along the western edge of the Region, which comprises the highest areas of the uplands of the Pennines and the Cheviots, settlement has always been sparse and has tended to consist of small hamlets and isolated farmsteads – historically with access to summer grazing lands – although there is evidence that some of the small hamlets along the upland / lowland boundary were once substantial planned villages. The western part of the Region lies within the Northern and Western Province characterised by dispersed settlement, but north of the Tyne the boundary between the provinces is not clearly defined (Roberts & Wrathmell, 2000).

2 Rural settlement in England

Rural settlement can broadly be divided into two types: nucleated villages and dispersed farmsteads and hamlets. Figure 2 presents an analysis of the settlement pattern of England in the mid-19th century that identifies three 'provinces'. The Central Province, mostly characterised by nucleated settlement and once dominated by communal fields, stretches from Dorset, through Gloucestershire, the East Midlands, Yorkshire and along the north-east coast. This area is flanked by a South-Eastern Province covering the area from Dorset and Wiltshire to East Anglia, and a Northern and Western Province. In these Provinces settlement is mostly dispersed. The North East Region is divided between the Central Province and the Northern and Western Province. In the North Pennines, which occupy the western part of the Region, there is minimal settlement of any form due to the mountainous character of the landscape.

Source: *An Atlas of Rural Settlement in England (2000)* ©English Heritage/Roberts, B.K. and Wrathmell, S.

2



The North East of England has probably the most turbulent history of any part of the country. The 'Harrying of the North' by William the Conqueror in the late 11th century probably resulted in widespread abandonment of settlements across parts of the Region. With large areas controlled by magnates such as the prince Bishops of Durham, resettlement was often organised and resulted in the creation of regular, planned green villages. Such planned villages are characteristic of central and east Durham in particular.

Although villages are the predominant settlement form their distribution tends to be relatively thin compared with other parts of the Central Province such as Yorkshire and they are significantly smaller than Midland villages. Evidence of deserted villages suggests that the density of villages was once higher. There are particular concentrations of deserted settlements in Mid Northumberland, along the Coastal Plains and in the Tees Lowland, whilst there is little evidence for deserted settlements in the Tyne and Wear Lowlands and the northern part of the Durham Coalfield and Pennine Fringe.

In some areas (see 4.2) there has been significant post-medieval development in the settlement pattern. Enclosure by agreement resulted in the establishment of new farmsteads out of the villages, both in the lowlands

and – from the late 18th century and by Parliamentary Act – the uplands.

The exploitation of the coalfields, beginning in the 12th century and expanding rapidly by the 16th, had led to the development of associated industries and an increase in population. The growth of urban populations and new settlements next to collieries was concentrated in a zone from the south of the South East Northumberland Coastal Plain to the Tees Lowlands. Prosperity led to the establishment of several large country houses in the area of the Tyne, Wear and Tees lowlands, and estates and landscaped parklands remain occasional features in the landscape. Small villages associated with coal mining, quarrying or lead mining are often found on former common land in the uplands. During the 18th and 19th centuries the upper valleys of the Tees, Wear, Derwent, Allen and South Tyne were better known for their production of lead and were subject to a period of short-lived but intensive activity very different in its impact on the landscape than the coalfields. Small settlements grew up where miners were able to supplement paltry wages with earnings from smallholdings. The evidence can be seen in the many abandoned cottages scattered along the hillsides – the result of the collapse of the industry due to foreign imports at the end of the 19th century.

3.0 Building Materials

3.1 NATIONAL OVERVIEW

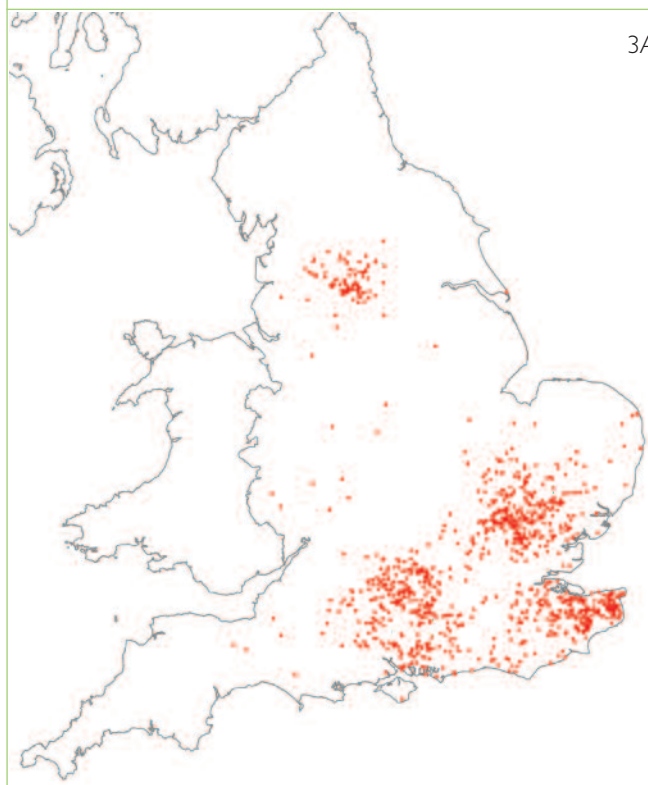
Farm buildings were frequently altered and re-roofed, and survivals can display evidence for successive phases of rebuilding, marked by straight joints in masonry or indications of mortise holes and joints in timberwork.

The present stock of farm buildings displays strong local and regional variation. This is the result of a range of factors, particularly England's huge diversity in geology, the status of the owner, availability of resources managed in the local landscape and the cost of manufactured materials (Rackham 1972; Moir 1997). Long-rooted traditions such as earth walling and thatch in Cornwall and timber frame in Norfolk, survived much longer on farm buildings than farmhouses, and were not overtaken by increasingly fashionable and robust forms of construction (such as stone in parts of Cornwall, brick in Norfolk) until the early to mid-19th century (Potts 1974; Lucas 1997). The coastal shipping trade had for many centuries allowed the transport of building materials, but the arrival firstly of canals and then railways allowed the easier transportation of building materials into inland

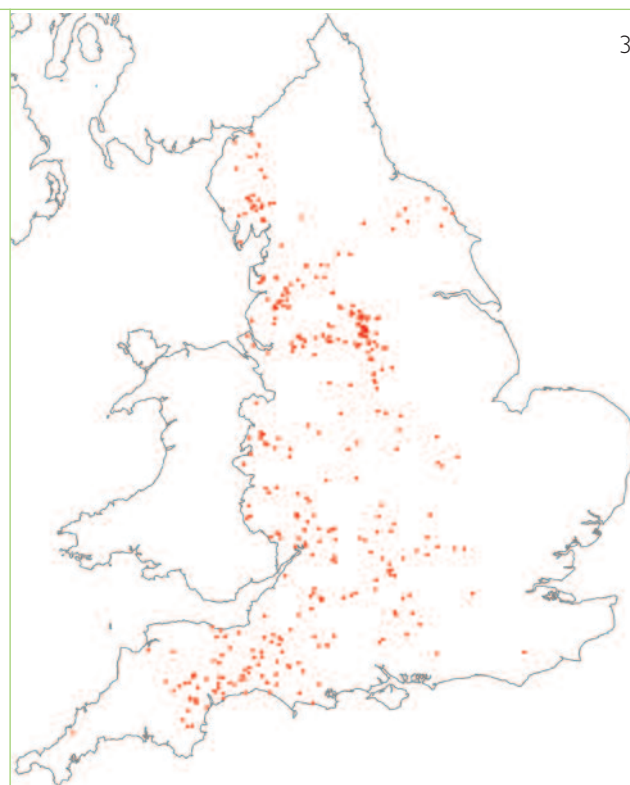
areas. Buildings in stone and brick, and roofed with tile or slate, increasingly replaced buildings in clay, timber and thatch from the later 18th century. Mass-walled buildings comprise the majority of listed agricultural buildings (67%), with timber framing accounting for just over one quarter of entries.

There are strong regional and local differences in roof construction and carpentry, as is still demonstrated by the distribution of aisled and cruck buildings (Figures 3 and 4). From the medieval period, the unit of reference in timber-framed and mass-walled buildings became the bay, the distance between principal roof trusses. These bays could also mark out different areas of storage within barns and other buildings (see 3.1.1.3). Iron bolts, straps and tension bars became increasingly common, often in combination with imported softwood, in the 19th century. Textbooks such as Waistell's *Designs for Agricultural Buildings* (1827) and Stephens's *Book of the Farm* (1844) helped to promote more standardised forms of construction. Metal roofs were used from the 1850s for covered yards and other buildings on

3 The distribution of listed aisled (left) and cruck-framed (right) barns in England. Aisled construction, used for domestic buildings from the 12th century at the highest level in society, was suited to the storage and constructional requirements of large barns. The weighting of the distribution is southern English, stretching into the south of the East of England Region, with outliers being generally of a high status and dating from before 1550; a notable concentration in northern England is in the Halifax–Huddersfield area, where the wealth derived from a combination of farming and the cloth industry in the 15th and 16th centuries led to the construction of a notable group of aisled houses and barns. Aisled construction continued to be employed in southern England into the 19th century. Crucks in domestic buildings have a date range from the mid-13th to the mid-17th centuries, examples in the north of England being generally later in date, whereas in agricultural buildings the earliest survivals are 15th century and the latest (in the southern Pennines) early 18th century. There is a wide variety of forms in cruck construction. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. English Heritage 100019088. 2005



3A



3B

4A Aised barn, Cressing Temple, Essex. One of the earliest barns in England and one of two 13th-century barns surviving from an estate of the Knights Hospitaller erected with timber felled between 1259 and 1280. (South Suffolk and North Essex Claylands)

B Barn at Cross Farm, Burgh-by-Sands, Cumbria, showing the full crucks to the interior of a late 17th-century clay-walled barn. This is one of a group of such barns on the Solway Plain, dating from between the 14th and 17th centuries. (Solway Basin)

A © English Heritage / Michael Williams;

B © Jen Deadman



expensive planned farmsteads, but did not come into general use – mainly for covered yards – until the end of the 19th century. Pre-fabricated buildings in iron were manufactured and exported from the 1840s, the most well known on the farmstead being the Dutch barn (see 6.4.1), popular from the 1880s. Factory-made prefabricated buildings, built to standard widths applicable to a wide variety of uses, have since the 1950s been the standard building type used on farms. The principal materials are summarised below.

3.1.1 WALLING

3.1.1.1 Temporary structures

As could be expected, the most fragile structures are documented from excavation or archives (for example the Wiltshire vicarage stable ‘enclosed with hurdle work’ in Hobbs [ed] 2000, xvi and p.438) but have not survived. A long-standing building tradition, where posts were set directly in the ground with no definable bay structure, is documented from excavation and has survived in use for single-storey structures (including 18th-century cart sheds and 20th-century tractor sheds) to the present day (Lake 1989, p.43).

3.1.1.2 Mass walling

Mass-walled buildings now dominate the traditional farm building stock, almost exclusively so in the three northern regions. Stone and brick display a wide variety of treatment, their use reflecting not only the availability of materials but also the status of the farm and its owner. Large parts of England – particularly in the South East, South West, East of England, the East Midlands and the North West – display different traditions of walling in earth, dating from the 14th century (Figure 5). Concrete was used from the 1860s on some farms, for example for silage clamps, but did not achieve general use until after the 1950s.

3.1.1.3 Timber frame

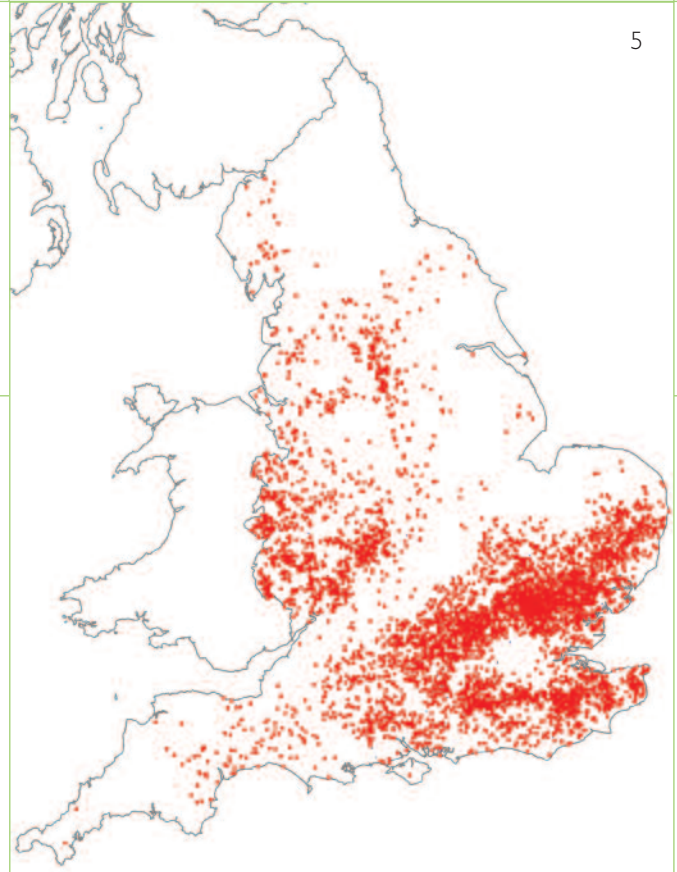
Timber-framed buildings are concentrated in the East of England, the South East and the West Midlands. The basic vocabulary of construction had been developed by the 13th century – notably the use of sophisticated jointing techniques, particularly at the junction of the main posts and roof trusses (the so-called bay divisions), and timber sills raised off the ground on dwarf walls. Climate and patterns of land use and ownership have affected the availability of timber and, together with cultural factors, have influenced the distribution, appearance of distinct traditions in timber framing and the framing of roof trusses for mass-walled buildings (Smith 1965; Stenning & Andrews 1988; and Figures 3 and 5). The infill between the timber frames would either be wattle and daub (a clay and straw mix), brick (often a later addition) or simply left as a wattle framework. Timber planks, either rebated or slotted like wattle, were also used but now only survive in very rare instances. External walling and render can also disguise evidence of earlier timber framing, including cruck and aisled construction.

3.1.1.4 Timber cladding

In parts of the country – particularly in the South East, East of England and the western part of the West Midlands – timber frames were often clad in horizontally fixed weatherboarding. Hand-sawn hardwood boarding is now rarely found, as machine-sawn softwood was increasingly used from the late 18th century. Weatherboarding is either applied to a whole building (most commonly in regions in the South East and the southern part of the East of England) or to the upper portions of sidewalls (a common use in the West Midlands). Vertical boarding is mainly found in the South East. This had cover strips to prevent the ingress of rain; surviving examples date from the late 19th century. Hit-and-miss timber boarding, sometimes known as Yorkshire boarding, has been widely in use as cladding since the

5 Listed timber-framed barns in England. Although listing concentrates on the generally best-preserved sample of surviving buildings, this map broadly shows the extent of present survival. Note the separation – marked by the limestone belt running from Dorset to Yorkshire – of the major concentrations in south-east and central southern England and western and northern England, where separate traditions of carpentry and framing developed. The map also reveals much about patterns of loss, and particularly rebuilding in stone and brick, over the centuries. There is a sharp boundary, for example, between the claylands of south Norfolk and Suffolk and the lighter soils of Breckland and north Norfolk, where brick had generally replaced timber frame by the 19th century. The absence of timber frame in the North East, where again it is documented, is notable. Such a map presents an obvious invitation to future analysis and research.
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1970s, since it provides good ventilation and meets modern animal welfare requirements.

3.1.1.5 Corrugated iron

See 3.1.2.3.

3.1.2 ROOFING

3.1.2.1 Thatch

Thatch was common in large parts of the country, and farmers used a wide range of locally available materials: heather, bracken, reeds, rushes, grass, turf, and straw from oats, barley, wheat and rye. Thatch, predominantly made of wheat straw or water reed, is now mainly confined to southern England and East Anglia (Figure 6). Heather and bracken was, until the 19th century, used in upland areas of moorland and heath, such as Dartmoor, the Pennines, the North York Moors and the Cheviots. Solid thatch, where the whole of the roof space was filled with materials such as heather or gorse with a straw or reed topcoat, was formerly widespread but is now very rare (Moir & Letts 1999, pp.103–4).

3.1.2.2 Plain clay tiles and stone slates

These materials were used at a high social level from the medieval period and are found in many parts of the country. Their use became increasingly widespread after the later 18th century, along with stone and brick walling, supplanting smaller farm buildings built of timber, earth and thatch in many parts of the country. The coastal trade and improved communications also enabled the widespread introduction of pantiles – instantly recognisable with their distinctive curved profile – into parts of the South West and across large areas of the eastern counties from north Essex to Northumberland, and of Welsh slate into many inland areas.

3.1.2.3 Corrugated iron and other prefabricated modern materials

Corrugated iron was used in England from the 1820s, initially for industrial buildings. Although several pioneering firms were producing portable corrugated-iron-clad buildings by the 1850s, it did not come into general use for new farm buildings (particularly on so-called Dutch Barns for protecting harvested hay and corn crops, see 6.4.1) until the farming depression of the

1880s made cheaper materials desirable. By the First World War, corrugated iron was in general use for the repair of roofs on farm buildings, particularly thatch. It was also used for the walling of model farmsteads built to a budget (Wade Martins 2002, p.175) and for smallholders' buildings in areas such as the New Forest. From the 1940s, asbestos cement cladding and a variety of insulating products found their way on to the farmstead. Hit-and-miss vertical boarding (also known as Yorkshire boarding) has been used as cladding since the 1970s.

3.2 BUILDING MATERIALS IN THE NORTH EAST

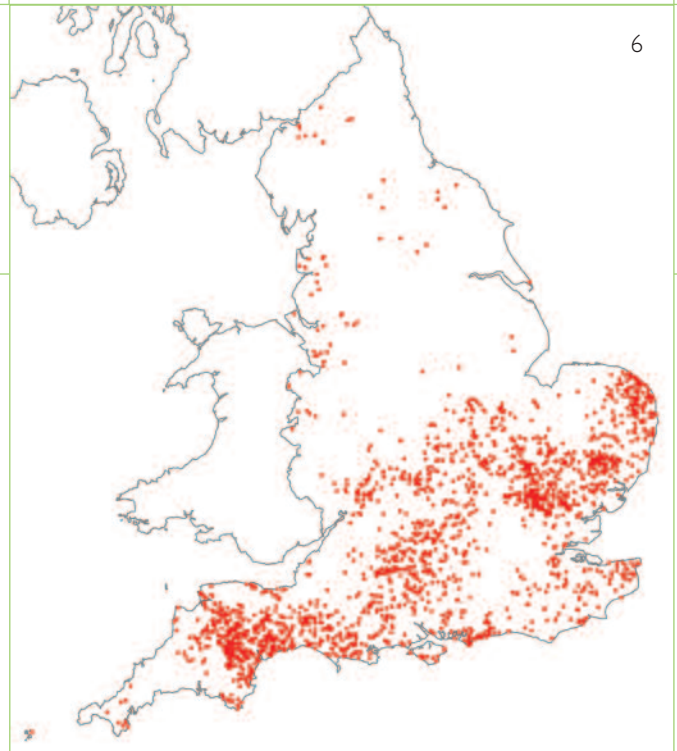
3.2.1 WALLING (Figures 7 & 8)

3.2.1.1 Stone

Stonework in the Region is generally of fine quality and dates from the late 18th century, when the small houses and outbuildings built of stone rubble bedded in clay were being swept away (Bailey & Culley 1797, p.28). Stone is the universal building material in the north and west of the Region, the hard grits and shales of the North Pennines being easily distinguished from the magnesian limestone and the immensely porous sandstone that predominate elsewhere – brick or carboniferous sandstone was often used as a dressing. Northumberland is, perhaps to a greater extent than any other English county, a county of sandstone buildings, the major exception being the Cheviot massif alongside the Scottish border where the oldest rocks protrude as a

6 Listed thatched agricultural buildings in England
 Particularly evident is the concentration of surviving thatch – the majority of which in agricultural buildings is listed – in southern England, despite its widespread replacement by materials such as corrugated iron from the late 19th century. Rebuilding, and reproofing in slate and tile, has removed the evidence for its formerly extensive use (in straw, heather and bracken) from much of northern England. Such a map presents an obvious invitation to future analysis and research.
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6



core of granite. This sandstone varies from red and pink in colour (in the north east of the Region) to buff, and weathers very well. It was usually laid as random rubble although dressings are sometimes tooled and margined. Between the carboniferous limestone and coal measures (Tyne Gap and Mid Northumberland) is a narrow band of millstone grit.

The soft multicoloured sandstone of central Durham is everywhere evident in Teesdale and Weardale. The difference in the treatment and use of this traditional material on the wealthier and larger farmsteads of the late 17th to early 19th centuries, often sited on the lower slopes and valley bottoms, is striking when compared with the 19th-century miners' smallholdings of the upper dales. When designed to impress, the treatment of the stonework and the style of fenestration were important considerations. Cut and dressed stonework was used for the most high-status and formal farm complexes and, where rougher masonry was used, for the embellishment of quoining, door and window surrounds and the copings and kneelers to gable ends; its use can be particularly dramatic on the combined cart shed / granary ranges characteristic of the arable area of the Region. Finely worked, coursed sandstone blocks are also common to front elevations, with random rubble walling to side and rear elevations and ancillary buildings.

Watershot masonry, where the outer face is tilted to throw water off the walls, is a technique that was used in upland areas between the later 18th and mid-19th centuries. It has been recorded in Teesdale, through Weardale and up to Tynedale.

3.2.1.2 Earth

The use of mud and stud (see Yorkshire and Humber and East Midlands) is documented in the late 18th century (Frodsham 2004, pp.117, 121–3). Although there is clear documentation and surviving examples of solid earth structures in the North West and southern Scotland, there is no clear evidence of its use in this Region.

3.2.1.3 Timber

Timber for building was in very limited supply, and its use closely regulated, by the 16th century. Timber framing is thus extremely uncommon in this Region. This was particularly the case in the uplands, where stone walls replaced boundaries topped with brushwood

(Winchester 2003, p.62). The use of timber framing is confined to urban centres. The few examples of medieval barns that have survived are not aisled, and aisled construction is generally absent from the Region. Cruck-framed buildings, both substantial and impermanent, were common in the Region in the medieval period (Wrathmell 1989a, pp.249–56). The most common form of surviving cruck, concentrated in the south of the Region and associated with both linear farmsteads (see 5.3.2) and farm buildings is the upper cruck; the removal of upper crucks can leave distinctive slots in the walling.

3.2.1.4 Brick

The use of brick dates from the 17th century. It is mainly found in the south and east of the Region, in the Tees Lowlands and the South East Northumberland Coastal Plain character areas. Some brick buildings date from the early to mid-18th century but brick is most commonly found used in 19th-century farmsteads. Brick can be more widely found for minor detailing, particularly for the chimneystacks to engine houses.

3.2.2 ROOFING (Figure 8)

3.2.2.1 Thatch

Thatch, heather and bracken were used for roofing, but by the 19th century – along with the Yorkshire and Humber Region and parts of the North West – its use was very rare by national standards.

Straw thatching was common in the eastern arable lowlands (Emery 1994, p.117), the Cheviot Fringe, along the Coastal Plains and the Tweed. Small pockets of thatch may still be seen, for example, at Etal on the Cheviot Fringe.

7 Examples of walling materials in the North East Region

A – E The North East is an area dominated by stone buildings. There is a wide variety of building stones, from soft limestones and porous sandstones that are frequently white-washed, to better quality sandstones and igneous rocks. The range of stones contributes greatly to local distinctiveness and landscape character. (A and B Tyne and Wear Lowlands; C and E Cheviot Fringe; D North Pennines)

F Timber-framing is rarely found in the North East although there is

documentary evidence for its use. This granary (see Figure 25A) was built by Durham Cathedral Priory. (Tyne and Wear Lowlands)

G Timber boarding is rarely found on farm buildings as there is such a wealth of good building stone available. (Cheviot Fringe)

H Brick is not widely found in the Region; its use is generally restricted to the south-eastern part of the Region. (Tees Lowlands)

All photographs © Jen Deadman





- 8 Examples of roofing materials in the North East Region
- A Before the 19th century the use of thatch was common but it is now a rare feature of roofs of the North East. Local thatching traditions included heather thatch and straw. (Tyne Gap and Hadrian's Wall)
 - B Some of the building stones of the Region are also capable of being split into slates, some of a considerable thickness, that were locally used for roofing. (North Pennines)
 - C Pantiles. The use of pantiles is a key characteristic of the Region, forming part of a wider distribution of pantiles that extends southwards along the eastern side of England as far as East Anglia. Plain tiles were not widely used on farm buildings. (Cheviot Fringe)
 - D Welsh slate. The use of Welsh slate increased as the railways made transportation easier and cheaper. Slate allowed a lower roof pitch to be used and was considerably lighter than stone slates – so less substantial and, therefore, cheaper roof trusses could be used. (Border Moors and Forests) *All photographs © Jen Deadman*



The south-west of Northumberland is well known for the remarkable survival of a small group of heather or 'black thatch' buildings. This technique was once general in upland areas of the Region above the area where straw or reed thatch was found, but had also been used in the lowlands (Moir & Letts 1999, p.13; Chapman 1977; Chapman 1982; Emery 1986). By the 17th and 18th centuries, its use – typically in northern England in combination with layers of turf – was mainly confined to the heath and moorland of the Pennine uplands (Emery 1994, p.117; Emery 1985, 1986). It was used until the more common use, at a vernacular level, of stone slate. Heather is a poor roofing material in that it lacks the tight, even form of straw or reed; water does not run along it so much as through it. Consequently, speed in discharging the water is important and this

gives rise to steeper pitches than for lowland thatch. Proof that thatch was once commonplace is seen in the steep roof line (typically 60 degrees) evident as a scar on the gable of many buildings where the roofline has been altered – typically in the later 18th or 19th centuries – to accommodate the shallower pitch required by flags or tiles.

3.2.2.2 Slate and stone

Slate was common in the uplands, in Weardale and Teesdale in particular. Stone slate verges are found on pantile roofs in lowland areas. Cumbrian and Scottish slate was used from the mid-18th century, and Welsh slate – usually imported through the coastal ports – was used from the 1790s (Pevsner 1992, p.9). The latter only became common after the mid-19th

century, when the railways increased its availability and reduced the cost.

3.2.2.3 Tiles

Pantile roofs are a distinctive feature of the lowland parts of the Region. Like plain tiles, they had the advantage of being lighter than stone slates and so required less

timberwork in the roof. They seem to have had a fairly long period of popularity. Initially imported from the Dutch Lowlands as a form of high-grade ballast, by the early 18th century they were being manufactured in the Region. Ridges were finished in clay and stone, and lower courses were commonly roofed in stone slates (Emery 1994, p. 117).

4.0 Agricultural History and Farm Buildings

The existing stock of traditional farm buildings results from centuries of change and development. As a general rule, farmhouses (see 5.1) pre-date farm buildings, even in areas of 18th- and 19th-century enclosure. Larger-scale and higher-status buildings, which were consistently used for the same purpose or capable of being adapted to later uses, generally have the greatest chance of survival. It follows that barns are the overwhelming type of building to have survived from before 1750, and that steadings adapted or built anew in the later 18th and 19th centuries have retained evidence for a greater diversity of functions. Rates of survival differ both regionally and locally, but placing a building within its broad national and historical context will enable decisions on their wider value to be made.

4.1 AN INTRODUCTION TO ENGLISH AGRICULTURAL HISTORY AND FARM BUILDINGS: THEIR DEVELOPMENT, SURVIVAL AND SIGNIFICANCE

4.1.1 UPTO 1550 (Figures 9 & 10)

The 12th and 13th centuries were characterised by rising population, the colonisation of new land (through the drainage of fens, clearance of woods and expansion of farming on to upland moors) and the direct commercial management by estates of their land, whether this was dispersed among other holdings or ring-fenced in its own boundaries. The Church was a particularly active landlord, and monastic orders such as the Cistercians ran their estates from both home (or demesne) farms and outlying granges, which could be very large in scale (commonly 3 to 1000 acres in size). Climatic changes in the second decade of the 14th century, with increased rainfall and lower temperatures, led to famine. These troubles, compounded by pestilence (the Black Death of 1349 and subsequent epidemics), resulted in a sharp fall in population and the contraction or desertion of settlements on marginal soils. Direct cultivation by landlords continued on some home farms, but in most areas farms on estates became leased out – in whole or in part – to tenants, a process often accompanied by the breakdown of traditional customary tenancies. Other developments which accelerated from the 14th century included the amalgamation of farms into larger holdings, the enclosure of former communally farmed strips, and a steady growth in productivity sustained by greater emphasis on pastoral farming, new techniques and rotations of crops.

4.1.1.1 Survival and Value

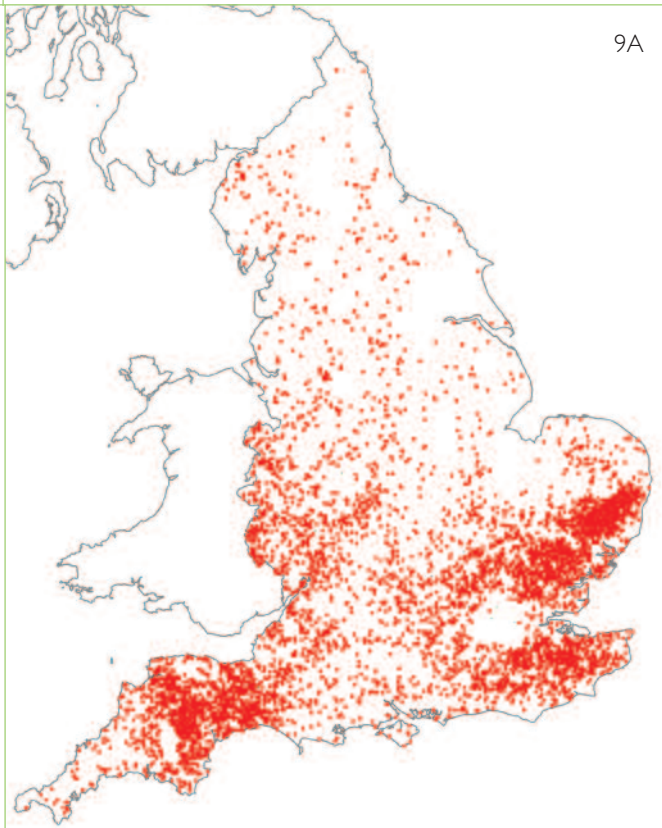
All survivals of this period are of great rarity and significance. The best-known survivals are the great barns of secular and especially ecclesiastical estates. These

comprised the foci of farmyards with ancillary buildings that have been almost completely swept away, for which documentary but very little archaeological evidence exists. The great cattle ranches (vaccaries) of the northern uplands have left no traces in terms of built fabric, although their impact on the landscape is still legible. Archaeological and documentary records – the latter particularly after 1350 – are similarly the main source of evidence for the farmsteads of peasant farmers, and for the emergence of a wealthier class of tenants and freehold farmers from the 13th century. In recent years evidence has brought to light farmhouses and occasionally barns of a wealthier class of farmers (both customary tenants and freeholders), providing the first evidence for wealth generated solely from local agriculture and of a class of farmers counted as among the wealthiest in Europe. These structures are concentrated in mid-Devon, the southern half of the West Midlands and in particular the South East and southern East Anglia.

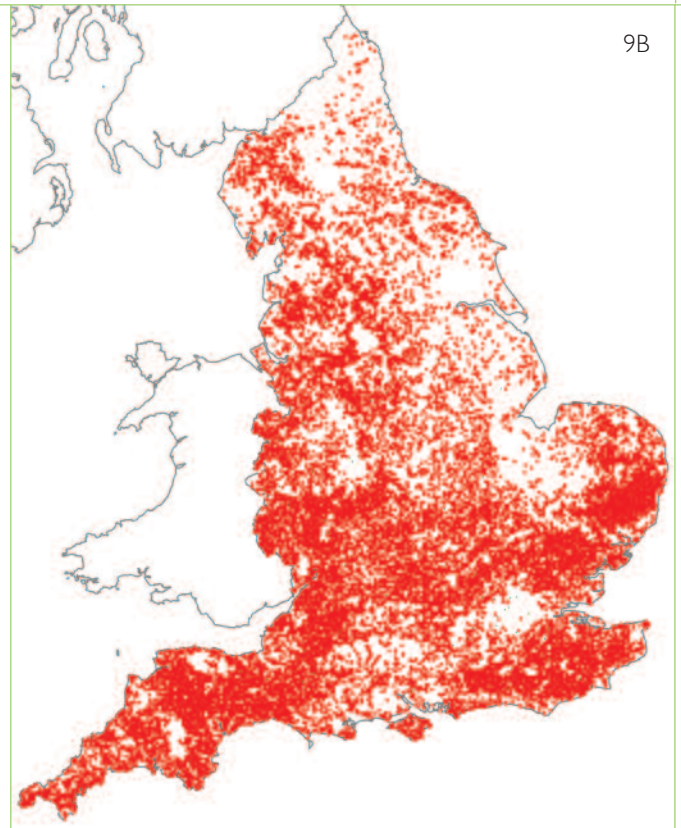
4.1.2 1550 TO 1750 (Figures 9 & 10)

Larger farmers and landowners initially benefited from the great land sales that followed the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the 1530s, while most farmers gained from rising prices and favourable leases. Agricultural productivity – particularly of grain – was spurred by a doubling of population from between 2.5 and 3 million to over 5 million by 1660, and an associated rise (by six times) in grain prices. After 1650, a fall in grain prices, a rise in cattle prices and demand from London and other growing urban markets, led to a rise in cattle rearing in the north of England, and of the dairy industry and specialised produce (such as hops and cider) in other areas. Improvements in transport, including the coastal and river trade, provided access to new markets. New rotations and crops, particularly clover, grasses and turnips, had become established by the end of this

9 Distribution of listed farmhouses in England, pre-1550 and 1550–1750. There is an obvious danger in making sweeping generalisations from such maps, but they do present valid questions for future analysis and research. Wealth derived from arable farming, including the proximity to the London market, dairying and fattening, wool and cloth production are obvious from the pre-1550 map. Here the distribution is thinnest for large parts of northern England, where rebuilding in stone – particularly from the late 17th century – had made its mark by 1750. Notable by their continuing thin distributions are the Lincolnshire and Yorkshire Wolds and Northumberland, where agricultural improvements and the re-planning of landscapes resulted in extensive rebuilding and re-siting of farmsteads after 1750. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. English Heritage 100019088. 2005



9A



9B

period on the light soils of East Anglia and adopted with varying success in other parts of the country. This period is strongly marked by the continuing process of enclosure and the related process of exchange and consolidation of farm holdings, the growth of farm size (especially in corn-producing areas), large estates and the widespread development of a landlord–tenant system. Landowners, notably the county gentry, emerged as ‘influential pioneers of new crops and new systems of farming’ (Thirsk 1984, p.xxiii). The consolidation of estates and holdings are reflected in the continuing – and in more anciently enclosed areas often the final – phase of enclosure. The national market became more integrated from the later 17th century, in tandem with the emergence of specialised regional economies. This, and the development and strengthening of local building traditions, are also reflected in the layout and design of both farmhouses and more substantial farm buildings.

4.1.2.1 Survival and Value

Substantially complete farm buildings of this period are rare. They will often provide the first surviving evidence for the development and strengthening of regional traditions and building types: for example, the timber-framed West Midlands barns that replaced earlier small cruck barns; the linear farmsteads of the North Pennines; the development of bank barns in Cumbria; the growth of the southern English downland farmsteads with their

associated large barns. The smaller farms of anciently enclosed pastoral areas are the most likely to retain fabric dating from this period, although it is very rare for farmsteads to have more than a barn and house.

4.1.3 1750 TO 1880

Agricultural productivity sustained a massive increase in population, which had risen from around 6 million in 1750 to over 16.7 million by 1851 and 26 million in 1881. This was the most important period of farm building development, commonly divided by agricultural historians into two periods: before and after 1840. Probably under 25% of the land area of England remained unenclosed by 1750, and the majority of this was enclosed by 1815. This was a process at first concentrated on the Midland clays (for the management of land as pasture for fattening) and then – from the start of the Napoleonic Wars in the 1790s – on the expansion of the cultivated area onto poorer and lighter soils such as the northern moorlands and the southern downlands, and poorly-drained land such as the Fens and the Lancashire mosses.

In the ‘High Farming’ years of the 1840s to 1870s, high-input/high-output systems – based on the availability of imported artificial fertilisers and manures (superphosphates, nitrates, guano and bones) and feeds such as oilcake brought on to the farm – replaced the

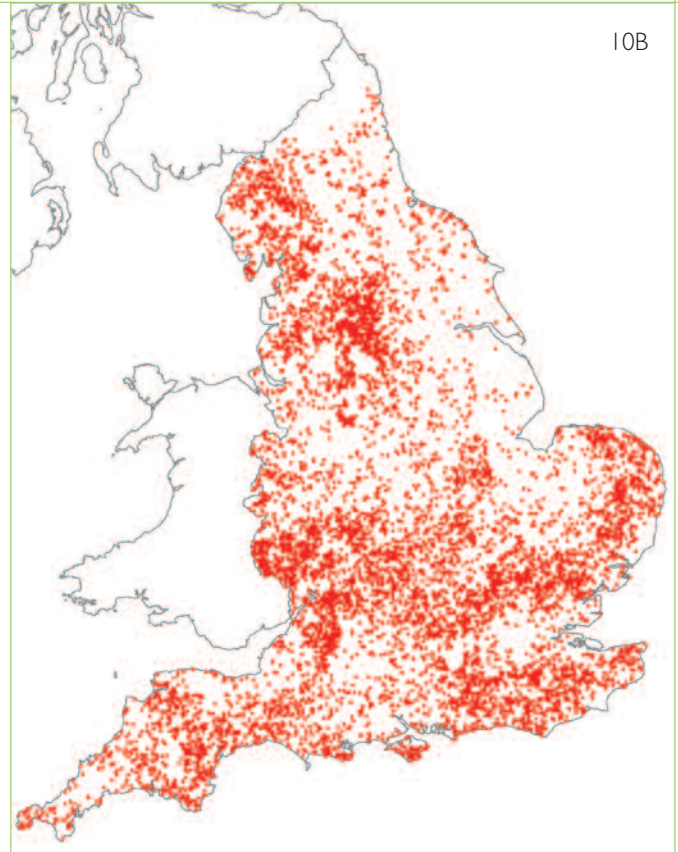
10 Distribution of listed barns in England, pre-1550 and 1550–1750

The great majority of substantially complete pre-1750 barns have been listed. These maps pose important questions for future research. In the pre-1550 map, the concentrations in a belt around London, the southern Pennines and from the Feldon of Warwickshire into mid Devon conceal a wide range of sizes and types of barn, stretching from large aisled barns to relatively modest barns which have not been replaced in later centuries due to farm size and other factors. Many of the outliers, such as in Cornwall and Durham, represent the building of substantial barns on ecclesiastical estates in the medieval period. In the 1550–1750 period, regional patterns of building and survival emerge more strongly, such as the concentration stretching from the Lancashire Plain to the southern Pennines, and the relative absence of pre-1750 barns in the planned landscapes of eastern and central England most profoundly affected by the agricultural improvements of the post-1750 period. The distribution for threshing barns of the 1750–1880 period reinforces rather than adjusts this distribution. Such maps present an obvious invitation to future analysis and research.

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10A



10B

'closed circuit' methods that relied on farm-produced feeds and manure. A major development – as observed by the agricultural journalist James Caird writing in the 1850s – was an increased distinction between the intensively cropped landscapes of the eastern half of the country, and the wetter and more pastoral-based economies of the western half.

There were several key drivers behind this development:

- Higher grain prices from 1750, peaking during the Napoleonic Wars (1794–1815), were joined from around 1840 by a steady increase in meat and dairy prices, both the result of population growth and the demands of an increasingly affluent urban population.
- The strengthening of a national market, facilitated by the ever-expanding transport infrastructure (of canals, improved river and road communications and the railways) and the growing importance of middlemen, both of which facilitated the marketing of food.
- Marked increases in land prices from the 1760s. This increased the incentive especially of estates to invest, outgoings on repairs and improvements occupying an increasing share of gross rentals from this period to as much as 25% by the 1850s (Mingay 1989, pp.602–3).

- Increasing interest and involvement by government: for example through the Board of Agriculture set up in 1793 (and which immediately set about the commissioning of its famous county studies in order to gather information on best practice); and from the late 1840s the establishment of loan companies for buildings and drainage, which added to the development of a national banking system.
- Textbook and journal literature such as *The Book of Farm Buildings* by Stephens & Scott Burn (1861), and the examples of best practice included in J Bailey Denton's *Farm Homesteads of England* (1863). Agricultural societies, from farmers' clubs to the Royal Agricultural Society of England (RASE) founded in 1837, played an important role through their shows and publications. The Royal Agricultural College was established at Cirencester in 1845, and – as seen in the founding of the Rothamstead experimental station in 1832 – the following two decades witnessed the development of agricultural chemistry and veterinary science.
- The accelerating trend towards larger farming units, both through purchase of smaller farms by more substantial tenants and freeholders, and through estate

policy. This was especially pronounced on the poorer soils, which often required the highest levels of capital investment.

- The role of estates, through the development of the land agent profession, investment in infrastructure (especially buildings and drainage) and the encouragement through leases of improved husbandry techniques by their tenants. Estate policies were also a major factor in the rationalisation of holdings and the emergence of larger farms.
- Enclosure. This was often a major factor in increasing output, through facilitating new rotations of crops and the improvement of grassland and stock management. Expenses associated with enclosure – of fencing, hedging and ditching (as much as 50% of the cost), and occasionally the construction of new steadings and buildings (which could be 17%) – increased the incentive of small owners and occupiers with little capital to sell to larger landowners (Wade Martins 1995, p.83). An additional incentive to enclosure was the doubling of rents that could result.
- Improvements in livestock, for example the emergence by 1850 of the Shorthorn as the leading cattle breed and the replacement of the horned wool-producing varieties of sheep by sheep bred for their meat and manuring value.
- The widespread adoption of improved grasses such as sainfoin and winter feed-crops such as turnips, accompanied by the production of better seeds and farm machinery and the efficient distribution of good manure by livestock increasingly wintered in yards or buildings.
- Drainage through traditional techniques, such as bush drains and U-shaped tiles and from the 1840s tile pipes, the use of these being concentrated on the heavy soils of the Midland clays.
- The improvement of soils through liming and marling.

Farmstead design was being affected by the widespread introduction of new types of building and layout, and from the 1840s by the widespread extension of mechanisation (for preparing feed and threshing), the increasing availability of mass-produced fittings and materials, and the adoption of industrial and scientific principles to the accommodation and feeding of ever-increasing numbers of livestock. The building of planned steadings for some estates and wealthy farmers, in the period up to 1840 concentrated in the eastern lowlands, was accompanied by the rebuilding or adaptation of many thousands of existing steadings with cattle yards and buildings, and the replacement of the traditional threshing barn by the multi-functional and much smaller mixing barn (see Figure 25, bottom). In some areas, regional differences were beginning to disappear: for example, the removal of floors and walls for livestock and lofts in the combination barns in the wood pasture areas of Suffolk and the eastern Weald attest to the fact

that they were becoming part of eastern England's arable region, as recognised by James Caird who conducted a survey of British agriculture for *The Times* in 1850–51 (Caird 1852).

4.1.3.1 Survival and Value

Substantially complete examples of farm buildings of the 1750 – 1840 period are far less common than those of the post-1840 period, when many farmsteads matured into their present form and huge numbers of buildings were erected. Some, particularly the planned farmsteads of the period, represent new developments in farmstead planning or the architectural aspirations of landowners. Others continue to be strongly representative of both the variety and development of local and regional agricultural systems and local vernacular traditions, such as granite in west Cornwall or cob in mid-Devon, and even new materials such as clay lump (as developed in large parts of Suffolk and southern Norfolk).

4.1.4 1880 TO 1940

For over 100 years, agriculture had been increasingly subject to national and international fluctuations in commodity prices, to its considerable benefit in the Napoleonic Wars and the High Farming years. However, after a run of poor weather in the late 1870s, the income from arable crops that farmers had enjoyed in the 1860s collapsed (for example, by 40% in wheat between 1880 and 1900) and farming entered a severe depression. Britain, its urban economy prospering through free trade, became by the 1930s the world's greatest importer of agricultural produce, including animal fodder, from both neighbouring parts of Europe and the New World. This was the beginning of large-scale importation of grain from the American prairies, meat in refrigerated ships from New Zealand and Argentina, and cheese and bacon from Europe. More than in any preceding period, British domestic policy (the supply of cheap food) and the world market now directly affected regional variations and the supply of capital to British farmers. The result was the concentration of grain production on the drier soils of the eastern and southern counties, and in the areas that experienced the greatest contraction from the High Farming peak of grain production a focus on meat and dairy produce in order to meet urban demand. The growing demand for liquid milk and the importation of dairy produce also led to a decline in the farmhouse manufacture of butter and cheese.

The Government endeavoured to boost production through price support. Against the backdrop of the U-boat menace during the First World War it sought to reduce the country's dependency on imported grain and attempted to extend and co-ordinate both advice and legislation (over hygiene, for example) through the establishment in 1919–20 of the Ministry of Agriculture

and Fisheries and county council committees and councils, in conjunction with organisations such as the National Farmers' Union (founded 1908). However, despite an increase in net output, the rising costs of labour, feeds and other inputs, combined with the decline in prices and rising levels of imports, ensured that little was invested in fixed capital. Arrears in rent characterised the period, even in years of relative recovery (such as after 1936 in arable areas). The holdings farmed by the new class of owner-occupiers – numbering 147,000 in 1927, as against 56,000 in 1909, the biggest change in land ownership since the Dissolution of the Monasteries (Whetham 1978, pp.160–61) – were burdened with debt.

As a consequence there was little fresh investment in farm buildings other than repair and modification, and any buildings constructed tended to be of the cheapest materials. Many, such as Dutch barns, were prefabricated, and concrete and corrugated iron or asbestos sheet were being increasingly used for the refitting of cow and dairy units and the repair of traditional roofs. National and local surveys, such as the 1910 Land Valuation Survey, attest to the growing levels of disrepair; especially of pre-improvement farm buildings using traditional materials such as thatch and timber. Reduced rents and growing building costs meant that only the wealthiest farmers and landowners continued to invest in model or experimental farms, and many of these concentrated on the production of meat and dairy produce; most built very little, perhaps investing in dairy buildings or cattle sheds in an attempt to attract tenants or meet increased demand in some areas for meat and dairy produce.

The continued promotion of scientifically based agriculture was matched by the application of new ideas on ventilation and farm hygiene to farm buildings, such as the regulations for dairying introduced in 1885. This was brought into effect mostly through the conversion of existing buildings (especially stabling into dairies) and to a small degree through new-build, notably on the smallholdings owned by county councils. Milking machines, where introduced, brought considerable changes to building layout, but the spread of mechanisation was very varied. By the mid-1930s, the mobile horsepower of the growing tractor fleet exceeded that of the stationary engine; the latter form of power having itself witnessed the transition to oil engines (from the 1890s) and electric power (not widespread until the 1950s). However, horses 'remained the dominant source of power' in the western half of England, and tractors were mostly confined to holdings of 300 acres or upwards, and the arable eastern areas (Whetham 1978, p.210). In the inter-war period, cereal, poultry and dairy farmers, and pig producers using imported North American feed, were in the vanguard of cost-cutting innovation that had a strong impact on post-war developments. There were some examples of

planned steadings that in their adaptation of modern industrial theory bucked the trend (Brigden 1992).

4.1.4.1 Survival and Value

Planned steadings and buildings in some areas reflected the increased importance of dairying, particularly of liquid milk – the steadings of the Tollemache and Westminster estates in south Cheshire being one such example. The inter-war period witnessed the development of more intense forms of housing for pigs and poultry, and the replacement, as a result of hygiene regulations, of earlier forms of housing for dairy cattle with concrete floors and stalls, and metal roofs and fittings. County councils entered the scene as a builder of new farmsteads, built in mass-produced materials but in traditional form, in response to the Government's encouragement of smallholdings of up to 50 acres (20 hectares). Alongside the construction of new farm buildings, traditional farm buildings were adapted to new needs, and the use of corrugated iron (mostly for repair) has guaranteed the survival and reuse of earlier buildings, particularly the increasingly redundant threshing barn.

4.1.5 1940 TO THE PRESENT

The 1937 Agriculture Act anticipated the need to increase self-sufficiency, and the Second World War witnessed a 60% rise in productivity; this was the result of the growth in livestock numbers, increasing scientific and government control and guidance, more specialised systems of management and the conversion to arable of permanent pasture. The invention of artificial fertilizer (patented by Haber and Bosch in 1910) enabled otherwise uneconomic land to be brought into production, and finally made redundant earlier forms of fertilizer. The National Farm Survey of 1941–3 (Barnwell 1993) attested to the long years of neglect of the depression, less than half of the building stock being classed as in fair condition. The Agriculture Act of 1947 heralded the intensification and increased specialisation of farming in the post-war period, accompanied by the development of government and industry research and guidance. From the mid-1950s, strongly influenced by American models, there emerged a growing body of trade and advisory literature. The first of these, produced in 1956, highlighted the dilemma of 'old buildings too good to pull down but not suitable for their new purposes' (Benoy 1956). The Government provided grants to cover the capital cost of new building under the Farm Improvement Scheme (introduced 1957). The introduction of wide-span multi-purpose sheds in concrete, steel and asbestos met increasing requirements for machinery and for the environmental control of livestock and on-farm production, particularly of milk. The national stock of farm buildings grew by a quarter between 1945 and 1960 alone. The Agricultural Research Council's *Farm Buildings Survey of England* (published 1967) estimated that the average farmstead

contained 6 pre-1914 buildings, 2.4 from 1918–45 and 2.5 built since 1945.

4.2 FARMING IN THE NORTH EAST

By the 15th century intra-regional distinctions between the pastoral economies of the uplands and the mixed arable-based economies of the lowlands were already strong. A pattern had emerged in upland areas of tenant farmers holding enclosed fields and meadows interspersed with those of their neighbours and open communal fields (Tuck 1991, pp.179; Brassley 1984, p.34). In contrast larger, nucleated townships and a more mixed arable-based economy were typical of the broader and more fertile lower upland dales, lowland and coastal districts. Here there was more cultivatable land organised around two or more open fields laid out in strips (Butlin 1964, p.119; Tuck 1991, p.175). Villages were typically smaller than in the Midlands, and the extent of rough pasture contributed to the fact that open fields (townfields) took up a much smaller proportion (up to 50% in the lowlands) of the land area (Roberts & Wrathmell 2000, pp.45–6).

Large estates have dominated the development of landscape and architecture in much of the Region, particularly in Northumberland. Great landowners, including the Crown, made use of the uplands as private hunting forest or chase, and exploited them as part of large estates with inter-linked farms which embraced lowland areas. The 12th and 13th centuries had witnessed the establishment of stock farms (vaccaries) in the valleys of the Pennines and sheep farms on upland fells, and of grange farms in lowland areas. New holdings and steadings appeared from the 15th century, due to the leasing and subdivision of these farms, the enclosure of common arable and pasture and the reorganisation of holdings into the hands of a smaller group of wealthier customary tenants (Tuck 1991, p.588). Enclosure was also accompanied by the engrossing of holdings and the abandonment or conversion of farmsteads to domestic use, accompanied by the dominance of a handful of farms (Chapman 1970, p.91).

In those parts of the Region where large estates were dominant, and increasing in impact from the late 16th century and after the Union of Scotland and England in 1603 (which helped bring to an end the intermittent instability that had characterised the border areas from the 1290s), commercial stock farming and the replacement of customary by leasehold tenure were linked to the reduction and restructuring of farms (Brassley 1984, pp.49–50). By the 18th century large country houses, often incorporating earlier medieval fortified structures, were built in the lowland and transitional landscapes and set in designed parklands. Many of their owners – both long-established and newly enriched – were transferring profits from the coal

industry and trade firstly to the development of their own parks and residences (from the late 17th century) and then to agricultural improvement (for example, the Dukes of Northumberland around Alnwick, the Blacketts around Wallington), in response to the major urban expansion and the growth of industry in the Region.

In these landscapes – and particularly in Northumberland – the large size of estates facilitated the redrawing of landscape on a scale comparable to the reshaping of the Scottish lowland and later highland landscapes. In the Cheviots, for example, single-tenancy farms, often over 1000 acres in extent, were replacing old multiple-tenancy 'fermtouns' (settlements usually characterised by longhouses, see 5.3.2) with new farmsteads and cottages. Settlements were either abandoned altogether, or reduced to individual steadings. The period between 1650 and 1750 witnessed a peak in the rate of desertions (Jarrett & Wrathmell 1977, pp.108–119). Throughout the Region, the period after 1750 witnessed the final phase of enclosure and the establishment of new farms, and the addition and reconstruction of old farmsteads in the villages and hamlets. Hodgson, writing in 1827 in his *History of Northumberland*, stated: 'Many villages in Northumberland have entirely gone down, but farm houses and cottages have risen up in their place in more convenient situations, a mode better adapted to the growth of good principles and usefulness than the village systems' (Hodgson 1827, p.337).

In the 17th and 18th centuries, upland farmers became engaged in a lively cross-border trade in cattle from Scotland that was comparable to but not as intense as in Cumbria. Although grain was imported into the Region, mainly from East Anglia, the amounts were relatively small and by the early 18th century it had been able to increase its food production to supply its rapidly growing population (Brassley 1984, pp.43–5). The main agricultural improvements were made after 1750. A general feature was the appearance of alternate systems of husbandry using turnips and other forage crops (Thirsk 1967, pp.27–8; Brassley 1984, pp.47–51, 53–6). It also witnessed the arrival of a new agricultural prosperity based on more efficient grain cultivation, more intensive cattle rearing and fattening, dairying for local and distant markets, and much more large-scale sheep farming in both lowland and upland areas. By around 1800, the arable land in lowland areas had increased considerably, grain being exported via Berwick, Alnmouth and other ports. The 'Corn Road' opened up the area around Hexham in the Tyne Valley to Alnmouth. The development of the railway network opened up new markets or allowed the transport of products such as fresh milk to urban markets. Smallholders and part-time farmers near urban areas also benefited. Overall, the incentive was the rapid emergence of industry and

commerce as the major employers in the Region, facilitated by a 'complex network of specialist suppliers' – coal mining employing more workers than farming in County Durham in 1851 (McCord 1995, pp.252–3).

After 1850 the extent of arable continued to decline in favour of permanent pasture especially on some of the heavier claylands. However, not all parts of the Region made significant improvements. The nature of the mixed and pastoral farming of the Region, coupled with the increasing demand for animal products from the industrial cities, meant that agriculture in the North East did not experience the late 19th-century depression in farming to the same extent as across much of the south of England. In some areas from the 1870s – and especially in the 1920s and 1930s – there was a marked reduction in the acreage of arable crops and an increase in grassland (Whetham 1979, pp.174–8).

AREA SUMMARIES

These summaries have been compiled as preliminary statements on the agricultural development of the distinctive parts of the Region. Inevitably, these do not relate as strongly to county boundaries as distinct landscape zones. These are outlined below, either by including the Joint Character Area (JCA) title – see 2.1 – after the area heading or, if they approximate or relate to groups of JCAs, in the first line of the text. The sources for them are diverse, and include Historic Landscape Characterisation where completed, work in progress on developing historic profiles for the Joint Character Areas (see www.cqc.org.uk) and sources listed in the bibliography. They are generalised statements, within which there may again be important differences in farming practice, settlement and estate patterns and landscape character.

Broadly, the Region divides into three agricultural areas:

- The uplands, an area which broadly corresponds with the Cheviots, Border Moors and Forests, and the North Pennines character areas. The uplands of the North East Region share many features with those of northern England (and specifically the Pennines and Cheviots).
- A transitional zone along the foothills of the upland area, generally represented by the Pennine Dales Fringe, the Durham Coalfield Pennine Fringe, Mid Northumberland and the Northumberland Sandstone Hills character areas.
- The lowlands, represented by the North Northumberland Coastal Plain, Cheviot Fringe, the South East Northumberland Coastal Plain, the Tyne and Wear Lowlands, Durham Magnesian Limestone Plateau and the Tees Lowlands character areas.

4.2.1 UPLANDS

The most important animals on upland farms were cattle, providing dairy products for home consumption and young stock for fattening on lowland farms. Many parts were too wet for sheep until at least the 18th century, when improved breeds and better drainage extended the range of hill sheep farming. Bigg, a variety of barley, rye, wheat and peas, were most commonly grown in the uplands, but the most widely sown crop, and the one best suited to the short, wet summers, was oats.

Ring-fenced single farms with no subdivided fields – often the products of colonisation by individual farmers early in the medieval period – were mostly found at the upper limits of settlement, such as in the Forest of Teesdale above Newbiggin. The more general pattern in upland areas was for arable land and meadows to lie either in closes or in small common fields. A stock-proof boundary (often termed a head-dyke) separated an 'infield' area from an 'outfield' area of rough grazing subject to communal control (to prevent over-grazing by individual tenants) and intermittent cultivation (Butlin 1964, pp.118–9). Livestock were not permitted into the 'infield' area during the closed season when corn and hay were growing. They were allowed into the inner area in the open season after the harvest of hay and crops, their manure serving to fertilise the land.

Throughout the uplands, the period after 1550 witnessed the enclosure of both infield land and valley-side pastures, enabling the growth and retention into the late summer of grass through the more systematic containment of livestock, and the dropping of their dung to enrich the land. The final process of further subdivision and enclosure, signalling the end of the traditional open-closed season, was linked to the transfer of communal cow pastures and grazing rights to individual tenants (Winchester 2003, pp.61–73). Throughout the uplands, farms thus created out of the moorland sides between the 15th and 19th centuries are set within their distinctive 'intakes' of enclosed land. Additional factors in both enclosure and the creation of new farms were the decline of hunting in the wider landscape and the population increase from the 15th century, the latter sometimes linked to the emergence of a dual economy based on industrialisation in the upland dales. There was a further increase in farms from the 17th century, connected in the North Pennines to the boom in the lead industry.

A vital feature of the upland farming economy was the huge proportion of inter-commoned and communally regulated grazing on the moorlands. Walled tracks were created, leading up from the valley bottom to the fell tops, giving access to the open moorland for summer grazing. Livestock were moved up and down the valley

sides at different times of year: flocks of sheep grazed on the hill tops in summer and were brought down to the sheltered valley bottoms in winter and for lambing in the spring; cattle were over-wintered in buildings on the valley bottom and slopes and moved onto the hills in the late spring. The movement of livestock (particularly cattle) to summer pastures on the high ground (a process known as transhumance) had been a key component in the economies of upland valleys probably since the prehistoric period (see 7.1.2). Vast areas of moorland were enclosed from the end of the 18th to the middle of the 19th century, the pressure to create more productive pasture and especially arable land resulting in a dramatic new landscape of large square fields and mile after mile of straight boundary walls.

4.2.1.1 The Cheviots (JCA 4)

Romano-British farmstead clusters are often associated with extensive rigg-and-furrow field systems, some terraced into the steeper slopes, which may be contemporary in date or medieval in origin.

Villages and hamlets often retain in-field patterns of great antiquity, used for the most intensive cropping. Distinctive farms with intakes from the surrounding moorland developed from the 15th to the 19th century. Medieval or earlier origins are likely for the scattered nucleated villages in the foothill valleys, associated with inter-commoning drove roads. Deserted medieval villages and hamlets together with visible remains of abandoned field systems indicate a period of greater population and farming diversity prior to the 14th century. By the later medieval period the Cheviots was largely given over to sheepwalks: according to Bishop Richard Pococke, by the turn of the 18th century the Cheviots, 'produced the best and soundest mutton, and the country is almost wholly laid out in sheepwalks' (Hodgson 1915, p.220).

The upland landscapes remained largely open as common pasture until the parliamentary enclosures of the late 18th and 19th centuries. These are characterised by large rectangular fields marked by stone walls ('dykes') or defined by hedgerows on lower slopes.

4.2.1.2 Border Moors and Forests (JCA 5)

Medieval or earlier origins are likely for the scattered valley hamlets and farmsteads. Seasonal grazing in the uplands from the prehistoric period has left patterns of small shieling settlements, some adopted for permanent settlement in later centuries. Cross-ridge dykes, sheep stells and other scattered enclosures reflect centuries of pastoral farming, especially following the expansion of the 17th to 18th century. Reduced border hostility in the 17th century and an improved climate led to more settled agricultural practices, and agricultural

improvement driven by landlords. Areas within the valleys were taken under plough to a far greater extent than ever before, and pastoral farming also expanded. The lower valleys of Redesdale and North Tynedale in particular demonstrate 18th- and 19th-century agricultural improvements: large regular fields of permanent and improved pasture divided by walls and fences, with earlier patterns of enclosure in the sheltered valleys.

4.2.1.3 North Pennines (JCA 10) (Figure 11)

The development of the area's distinctive patterns of tracks and droves is the product of the mixture of cattle rearing and cereal production that was still practiced in the medieval period. The lower reaches of the main dales have historically supported arable cultivation as well as pasture, and were generally enclosed by 1750. The middle and upper dales are almost entirely pastoral with small hay meadows – a pattern with medieval if not earlier origins. They were mostly subject to enclosure from the 17th century, maintaining long-standing divisions of in-bye and out-bye leading out to extensive grazing rights on the adjoining moorland.

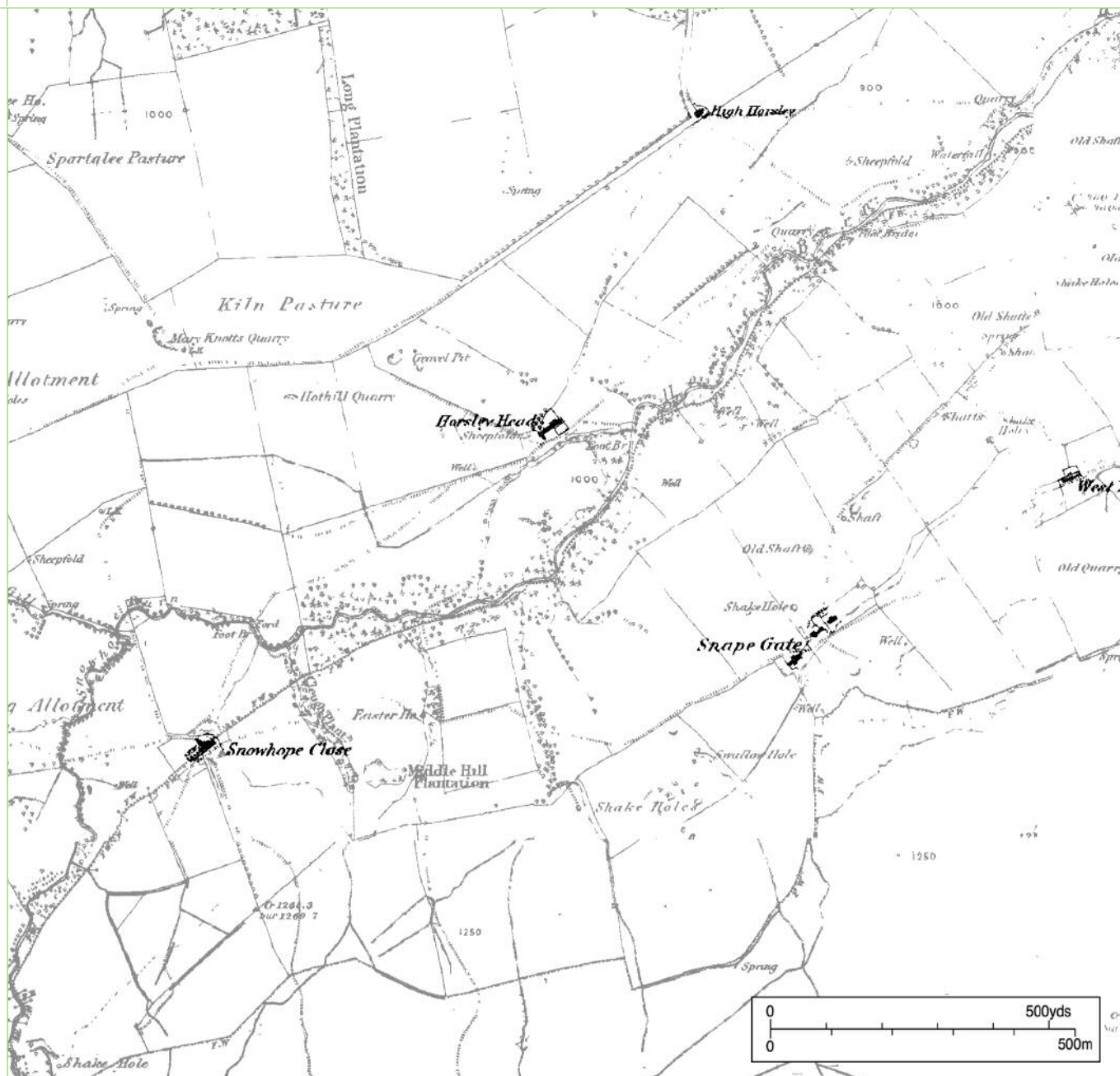
The heads of the dales (Upper Weardale, Teesdale, Allendale and South Tyne Valley) were populated with vaccaries in the 12th and 13th centuries, many of these and also medieval parks becoming subdivided as farms and hamlets from the 15th century. The leasing out and subdivision of directly managed estate farms and hunting lodges led to the appearance of new holdings and farmsteads throughout the upland dales from the 15th century, as Brian Roberts has demonstrated for Weardale (Roberts 1977, pp.177–9, 182–3, 187–8). Small-scale tenant farming – on favourable terms of customary tenure as in the uplands of Yorkshire and the North West, remained as a strong characteristic of the upper reaches of the North Pennines.

There was a further increase in farms from the 17th century, connected to the lead industry, and the establishment of large farming estates, coinciding with the formalisation and intensified exploitation of mineral rights in the 18th and 19th centuries. The farmsteads have around them distinctive, patterned small enclosures, some probably reflecting 17th- and 18th-century 'miner-farmer' smallholdings. By the 19th century purpose-built villages (i.e. Allenheads and Nenthead) emerged, importing the terraced housing patterns of the industrial townscapes, joined by a wide variety of 'squatter' settlements complete with small agricultural plots. The import of cheaper lead from abroad led to the abandonment of the lead mines and the desertion of many of the associated settlements and smallholdings in the late 19th century, leaving parts of the uplands sparsely populated.

11 Farmsteads in the landscape: Weardale, Durham (North Pennines)

Some farming families of Weardale managed to make a living through combining agriculture – mainly cattle and sheep farming – with working in the nearby lead mines. The extensive moorland provided the smallholdings with sufficient grazing and their enclosed fields on the valley sides provided hay for winter fodder. The farmsteads usually consisted of linear ranges comprising the farmhouse and a byre. The decline of the British lead industry in the late 19th century left most of these smallholdings unviable, and the landscape is scattered with the abandoned ruins of these farms. Based on OS 1st Edition 6" map 1843–1890.

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The moorland summits and plateau were used as common grazing pasture. Despite extensive enclosure in the late 18th to mid-19th century, 27% remains common land.

4.2.2 THE LOWLAND AND TRANSITIONAL ZONES

There is a central transitional area formed by the overlap between the mainly pastoral farming upland areas to the west and the lowlands to the east. The meeting of pastoral and arable farming is still evident in the character of the present-day landscape, in its mix of hill and vale farming systems. In the foothills of the upland areas, glacial deposits provided some areas of better soils

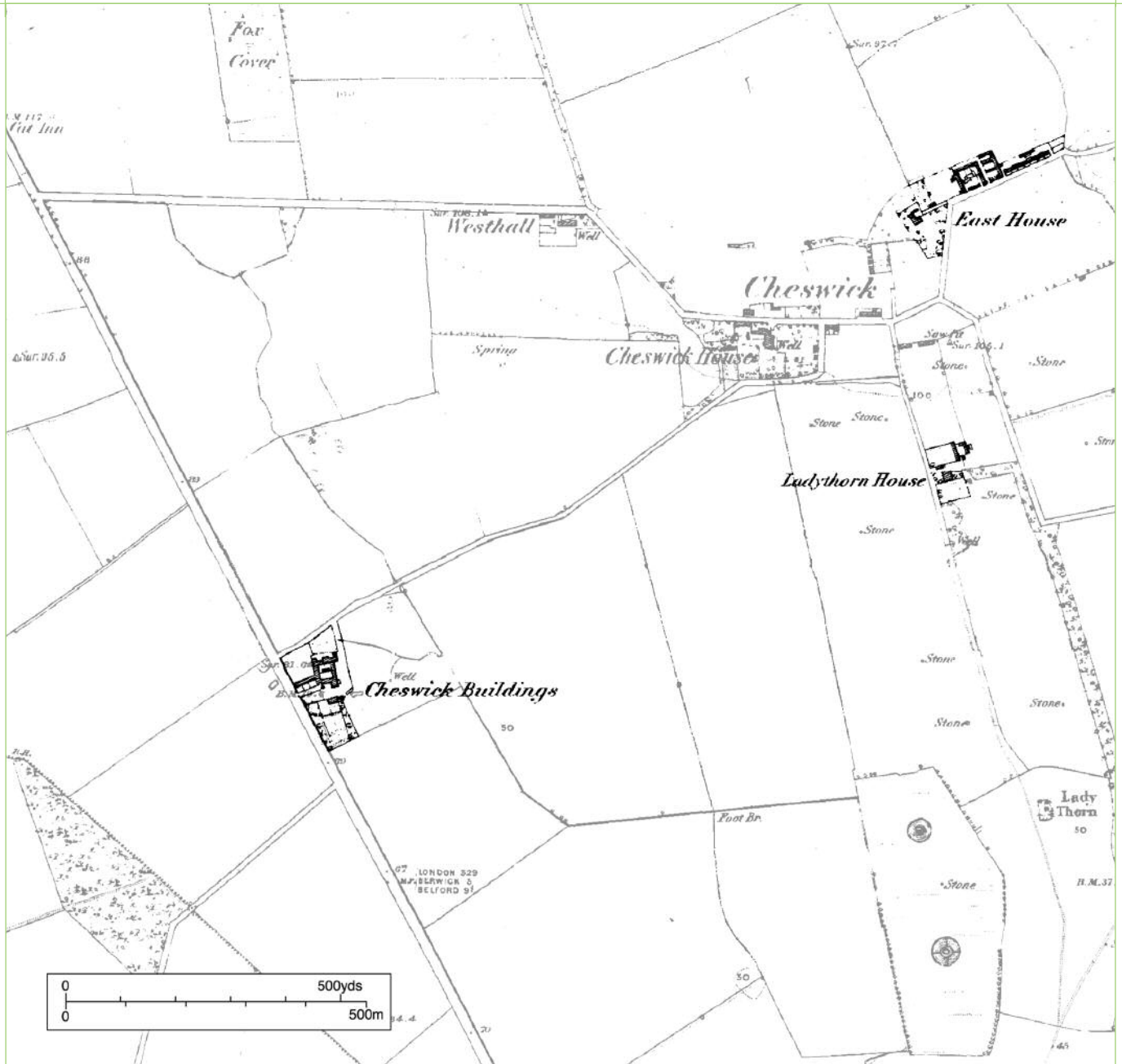
allowing more arable, giving the farmsteads of this area a higher value than those of the uplands (Brassley 1984, p.35). Cultivation of these lower slopes in the medieval period was based on three or four large common arable fields, sometimes with areas of meadow intermixed. By the 18th century barley had emerged as the principal grain crop, but cattle (for fattening and dairying) and sheep (for fattening as well as wool) comprised the mainstay of the agricultural economy (Brassley 1984, p.36).

The farms of the coastal lowlands were larger than those of the foothills, with the largest farms being found in the

12 Farmsteads in the landscape: Cheswick, Northumbria (North Northumbrian Coastal Plain)

In the 18th century much of this landscape was re-written. Large estates cleared away the small villages and reorganised the fields, creating large regular fields that were worked from large planned farmsteads that often incorporated the most modern ideas about animal husbandry, work flows and the use of mechanisation. The large regular courtyard farmsteads were geared to the large-scale production of meat. The populations of the small villages were re-housed in terraces of cottages (hinds cottages) such as those seen adjacent to East House Farm (see cover image), which was built in the 1840s for the Haggerston estate. The farm manager's house (grieve's house) was usually sited close to the farm enabling him to observe the working of the farm. This process of change transformed the area from one of the most agriculturally backward parts of the country to the forefront of best agricultural practice. To the east of Cheswick House, next to the saw pit as marked on the map, is a rare surviving longhouse that predates the re-planning of this landscape. Based on OS 1st Edition 6" map 1843–1890.

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Tweed valley and the northern part of the coastal plain of Northumberland. As with the transitional area, in the 17th and 18th centuries arable farming was mixed with cattle and sheep farming, although the arable produced as much as one third of the farmer's wealth (Brassley 1984, pp.36–7). Rotational cropping using turnips, and enriched by the dung of large sheep flocks and farmyard cattle, had by the early 19th century led to a marked increase in productivity – for example of wheat for export. By the late 18th century, a distinction had emerged between the large farms of the lowlands of

Northumberland and the smaller farms of south-east Northumberland and Durham, particularly in the coal-mining areas (including the Durham Coalfield Pennine Fringe) where farms rarely exceeded 50 acres (Bailey 1810, p.67). Cattle numbers per farm in Durham (commonly five or six) were one third of the average further north (Brassley 1984, p.39). Dairying, which extended to the export of butter and cheese from the Region's ports, emerged as an important industry, and the liquid milk trade developed in close proximity to Newcastle and the emerging industrial centres associated

with the coal industry and (in the Pennine valleys) lead mining. Livestock rearing and dairying developed from the 17th century at the head of the Tees valley (in the Pennine Dales Fringe) in tandem with the development of the textile industry

As a result of topography, soils and land use, there are strong local differences within these lowland and transitional zones.

4.2.2.1 North Northumberland Coastal Plain (JCA 1) and South East Northumberland Coastal Plain (JCA 13) (Figure 12)

The most intensively farmed arable land, and the largest farms, are found along the North Northumberland Coastal Plain and South East Northumberland Coastal Plain, an open landscape with large, regular fields that between the 17th and 19th centuries replaced a complex pattern of nucleated settlements linked to small medieval fields, open-field systems and extensive pastures. The coastal railway line opened new markets and supplies of materials (e.g. Welsh slate) in the 1840s, and stimulated the development of ports and seaside resorts. The coal industry in the South East Plain also stimulated markets.

4.2.2.2 The Northumberland Sandstone Hills (JCA 2)

These extend in a wide north–south arc across the county, separating the vales of the Cheviot Fringe from the Northumberland coastal plain. Earthwork remains of villages and hamlets, and of ridge-and-furrow cultivation, suggest that medieval settlement – subject to shrinkage and desertion from the 14th century – was quite extensive to the south and east of the main plateau. On the lower slopes widespread rotational farming was introduced by the 19th century within patterns of broad and regular enclosed fields centred on large farms or farming hamlets. Elsewhere within the hills the medieval and later settlement pattern is characterised by isolated farmsteads and small hamlets. The summits and upper slopes were used as hunting chase and common pasture in the medieval period, with some emparkment for deer. Rothbury Forest and other upland areas were enclosed as private land under Parliamentary Acts in the early 19th century, and apportioned for improved and semi-improved pasture.

4.2.2.3 Cheviot Fringe (JCA 3)

Enclosure of the lowland and vale landscapes was largely completed by the late 18th century, in contrast to the more arable-based economy around the larger-scale and mostly post-1750 enclosures on the productive alluvial terraces of the Till Valley and Milfield Plain.

4.2.2.4 Tyne Gap and Hadrian's Wall (JCA 11)

More settled border conditions from the 17th century promoted the development of county house estates,

some derived from fortified predecessors, and agricultural improvements. Grain export was enabled by the turnpike constructed from Hexham to the coast in the mid-18th century, and east–west communications further improved by General Wade's military road along the wall. Railways within the Tyne valleys opened up still further markets from the mid-19th century as well as the residential development based on employment in Newcastle. The wider valley floors to the east supported arable cultivation as well as pasture, usually managed from single manor farmsteads in each of the small and widely spaced villages. These are often the result of agricultural reorganisation by estates of village agriculture in the 17th and 18th centuries. The flanks of the valleys and the narrower western vales are farmed from regularly spaced isolated farms and farm hamlets, the result of new agricultural expansion from the late 17th century onwards.

4.2.2.5 Mid Northumberland (JCA 12)

A number of the area's nucleated settlements were reduced in size or abandoned through the 14th and 15th centuries in particular, leaving earthwork traces of their former extent and of ridge-and-furrow cultivation. The development of estates was a major factor in the reorganisation of landscapes from the 17th century, with former common arable around settlements in the lower lying areas to the south and east being subject to enclosure in the 17th and 18th centuries and higher rough pasture ground generally from the later 18th century.

4.2.2.6 Durham Coalfield Pennine Fringe (JCA 16) and Northern part of the Pennine Dales Fringe (JCA 22)

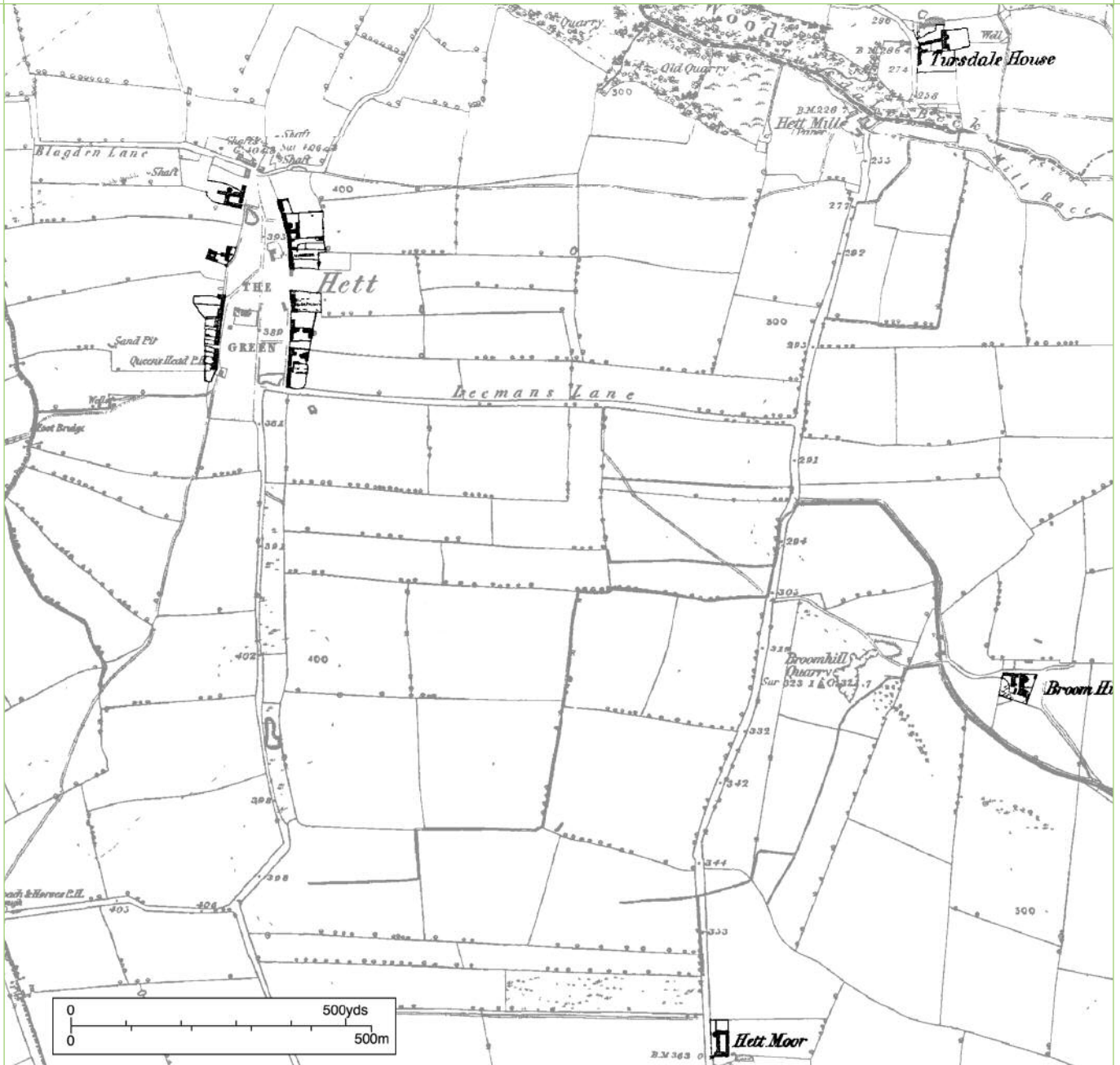
This landscape dips towards the Tyne and Wear Valleys and here the coal and related industries expanded rapidly from the later 18th century. The landscape was divided into large regular fields in the 17th and 18th centuries (the eastern and southern valleys having occasional survivals of earlier irregular enclosures in steep folds and adjacent to villages). Common fields were largely enclosed by private agreement in the 17th century; wastes and commons on the upland fringe were enclosed between the late 18th and mid-19th centuries.

4.2.2.7 Tyne and Wear Lowlands (JCA 14), Durham Magnesian Limestone Plateau (JCA 15) and northern edge of the North Yorkshire Moors and Cleveland Hills (JCA 25) (Figure 13)

Arable production has been a feature of the plain since at least the medieval period. Farming was reorganised to match the demands and markets provided by the coal industry, which expanded from medieval and earlier origins after the 16th century and particularly during the 19th century. The enclosure of common fields from the 15th century led to farmsteads being relocated to new

13 Farmsteads in the landscape: Hett, Durham (Tyne and Wear Lowlands)

Hett is a characteristic 'green village' typical of the Durham area with its rows of farmsteads and cottages set either side of a wide green. The farmsteads shown on this map include a larger steading with a courtyard arrangement, reflecting the amalgamation of earlier farms that is typical of this area. Most of the buildings shown were small farmsteads, with at least one of the surviving farmhouses having raised crucks. It is probable that for many of the smaller farmers of the village the local coal mines, recorded from the medieval period, and quarrying offered additional employment opportunities. Surrounding the villages are fields that, as shown by their slightly curving boundaries, represent the enclosure of former open field strips. The creation of these fields, by agreement, is likely to have occurred between the 16th and 18th centuries. In the north-east corner of the map extract is Tursdale House, a former manor house on the site of a shrunken medieval village. Based on OS 1st Edition 6" map 1843–1890. © and database right Crown Copyright and Landmark Information Group Ltd (All rights reserved 2005) Licence numbers 000394 and TP0024



sites or left in village centres, the Durham Magnesian Limestone Plateau having a large number of deserted medieval settlements. Enclosure of the arable fields was complete by the close of the 18th century and the remaining commons and open pastures enclosed from the 18th century. The large regular fields reflect the ease with which open fields of the medieval townships could be re-ordered in the 17th and 18th centuries as production was reorganised around larger centralised

farming units, many linked to coal-enriched country estates. The fertile loam-based soils of the Tees Lowlands have underpinned a predominantly arable-based economy, the large-scale enclosure of the open fields being largely complete by the 18th century. The Cleveland area – generally regarded as backward by contemporaries – specialised in horse breeding, with the Cleveland Bay gaining widespread recognition (Hallas 2000, pp.402–10).

5.0 Farmstead Types

5.1 NATIONAL OVERVIEW

Farmsteads perform several basic functions: providing shelter for farmers and their families; the housing and processing of crops; the storage of vehicles, implements and fodder; the management and accommodation of livestock. Building functions can be usefully distinguished between crop processing and storage (barns, hay barns, cider houses, oast houses and farm maltings, granaries) and the accommodation of animals (cow houses and shelter sheds, ox houses, stables, pigsties) and birds (dovecots and poultry houses). These functions can either be accommodated within individual specialist structures or combined with others into multi-functional ranges.

The great diversity of farmstead plans (Figure 14) provides a very direct reflection of the degree to which these farm-based functions are located in specialist or combination structures and ranges. The resulting diversity of form and scale is the direct outcome of the significant variation in farming practice and size that occurs both over time and from place to place. Individual farm buildings, for example, could be:

- Small-scale and highly dispersed, as in the wood–pasture landscapes of the Kentish Weald and the Suffolk clays;
- Set out in strong linear groupings, especially in northern pastoral areas with little corn and longer winters and where there was an obvious advantage in having cattle and their fodder (primarily hay) under one roof;
- Arranged around yards, examples being the large aisled barn groupings of the southern English downlands and the large planned layouts built in accordance with ideas being spread through national literature and contacts.

A critical factor in farmstead planning is also the relationship of the farm buildings to the working areas within and around the farmstead and the farmhouse. The major working areas were trackways to surrounding fields and local markets, ponds and cart washes, the areas for the movement of vehicles and animals, the accommodation of animals and the platforms where hay and corn would be stacked, the latter prior to threshing in the barn. The size of the areas for stacking corn (known as rickyards in most of the country) varied according to local custom and the extent of arable crops kept on the farm.

Local tradition and status were the principal reasons for whether the house was accessed through the yard and buildings were attached, or whether the house

looked toward or away from the yard. Internal access between dwelling house and farm buildings was a feature of farmyard architecture in much of Europe. However, in England from the 13th century it became much more common to have separate entrances, even where buildings and houses were joined. The role of women in the farmyard was commonly restricted to 'milking cows, feeding pigs and calves, making butter and cheese, tending poultry, and occasionally tending with the hay and corn harvests' (Whetham 1978, p.81). This led to the integration into the house of processes such as brewing and dairying, and a formal separation of the house and gardens from the farmyard, especially in the case of post-1750 remodellings and larger farms typically over 150 acres. In such instances, the house could face toward its own home close or garden.

The development of the farmhouse has been the subject of regional and national studies (Barley 1961, for example). Farmhouses can tell us much about the former prosperity and development of steadings, such as the major phases of rebuilding that affected parts of southern England in the 15th to early 17th centuries and the wealth introduced through cattle rearing in parts of northern England in the century or so after 1660. In summary, the most common farmhouse plan of the medieval period, traceable to the 12th century, has the main entrance in one side wall to an entrance passage (usually with a door opposite) that separated an open hall (to allow smoke from the fire to escape through the roof) from a lower end, which could house a kitchen, services and in some areas livestock. The hall served as the main living and eating room, status and space determining whether there would be an inner chamber (for sleeping or a private area) beyond. By the end of the 16th century, farmhouses in most areas of England (except in the extreme south-west and the north) had been built or adapted into storeyed houses with chimneystacks. There was a strong degree of regional variation, for example in the positioning of the chimneystacks and their relationship to the main entrance. From the later 17th century, services in some areas were being accommodated in lean-tos (outshots) or rear wings. From the mid-18th century houses that were more symmetrically designed (with central entrances, chimneystacks on the end walls and services placed to the rear of the front reception rooms) became standard across the country. As a general rule, farms over 70 acres needed to look beyond the family for additional labour, and so rooms for live-in farm labourers – usually in the attic or back wing of the house – became a feature of many farmhouses.

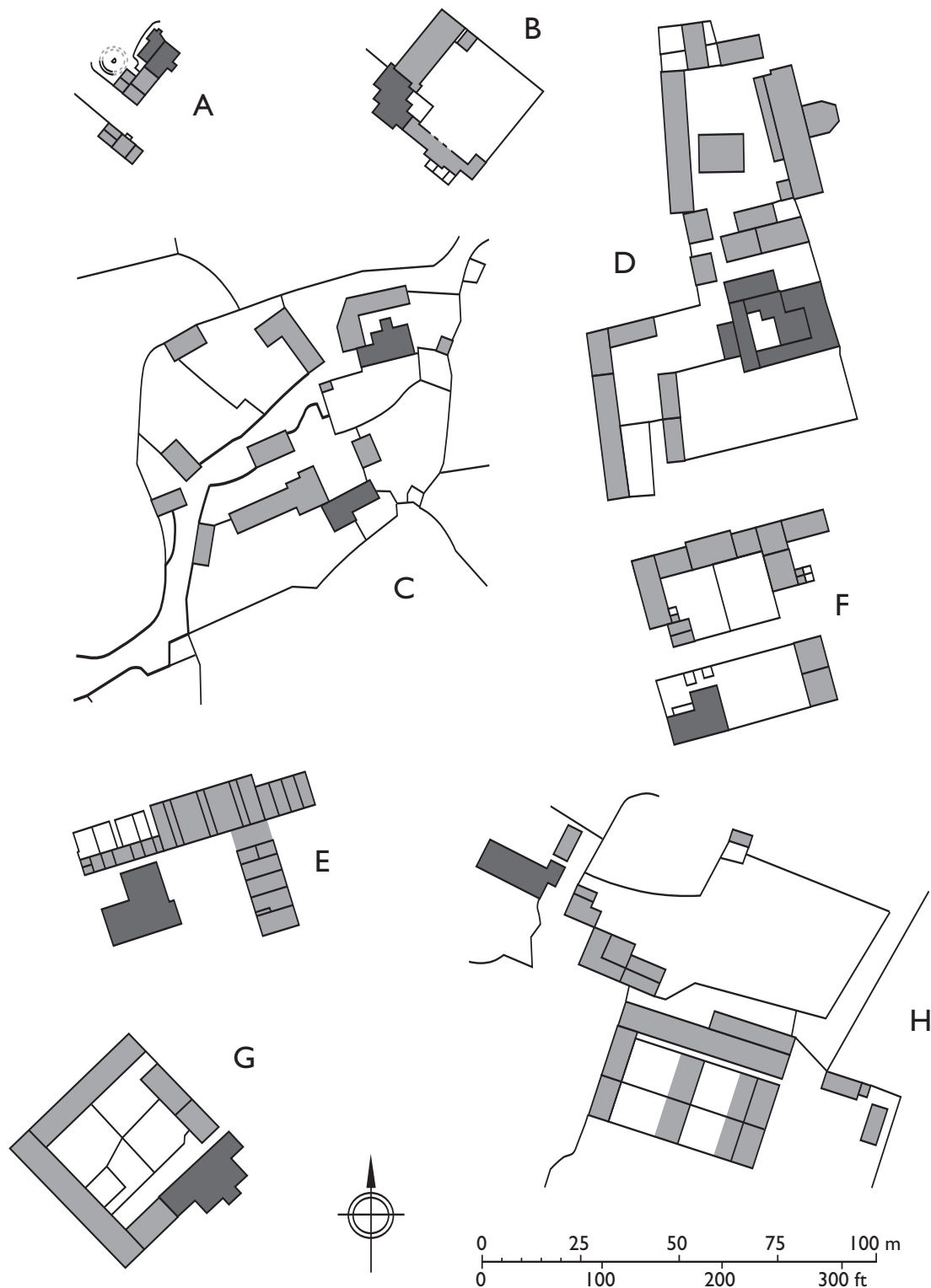
14 Farmstead plan types (Farmhouses are shaded darker)

- A Linear plan. House and farm building attached and in line. This is the plan form of the medieval longhouse but in upland areas of the country in particular it was used on small farmsteads up to the 19th century.
- B L-plan including the farmhouse. Such plans can be a development of a linear plan or can represent a small regular courtyard plan (see E-G, below).
- C Dispersed plan. Within this small hamlet the farm buildings of the two farmsteads are intermixed with no evidence of planning in their layout or relationship to the farmhouses. Dispersed plans are also found on single farmsteads where the farm buildings are haphazardly arranged around the farmhouse.
- D Loose courtyard. Detached buildings arranged around a yard. In this example the yard is enclosed by agricultural buildings on all four sides with the farmhouse set to one side. On smaller farms the farmhouse may form one side of the yard, which may have agricultural buildings to

only one or two of the remaining sides.

- E Regular courtyard L-plan. Two attached ranges form a regular L-shape. The farmhouse is detached from the agricultural buildings.
- F Regular courtyard U-plan. The yard, in this example divided into two parts, is framed by three connected ranges. Again, the farmhouse is detached.
- G Full regular courtyard. The yard is enclosed on all sides by buildings including, in this example, the farmhouse. Other examples are formed by agricultural buildings on all sides with the farmhouse built to one side.
- H Regular courtyard E-plan. This plan form (and variations of it with additional ranges) may be found on some of the larger planned farmsteads where livestock were a major part of the agricultural system. Cattle were housed in the arms of E, the 'back' of which provided space for fodder storage and processing.

Drawn by Stephen Dent © English Heritage



The predominant farmstead plan types, which are closely related to farm size, terrain and land use, are listed below. There are many variations on these plan themes, particularly in the manner in which fully evolved plan groups can, as a result of successive rebuilding, contain elements of more than one plan type.

5.1.1 LINEAR PLANS

This group comprises farmsteads with farm buildings attached to, and in line with, the house. It includes some of the earliest intact farmsteads in the country.

The earliest examples of linear plans are *longhouses*, which served as dwellings for farmers' families and housing for cattle. Each longhouse had a common entrance for the farmer's family (accommodated at the up-slope end of the building) and livestock, the cow house being marked usually by a central drain and a manure outlet at the lower gable end. Longhouses were often found grouped together and associated with strip farming of the surrounding fields. Documents and archaeological excavation indicate that they had a widespread distribution in the north and west of the British Isles in the medieval period, but that in much of lowland England they were either absent or being replaced by yard layouts with detached houses, barns and cow houses from the 14th century (see, for example, Gardiner 2000 and Figure 15). Such re-buildings are commonly believed to be associated with the decline of smaller peasant farmers and the emergence of a wealthier peasant class. Longhouses, and their variant types with separate entrances for livestock and farmers, continued in use in parts of the South West, the Welsh borders and the northern uplands and vales into the 18th and 19th centuries. Those built in or before the 17th century were originally entered from a passage, which also served as the entrance to the house. However, during the 18th century social pressures led to the provision of a separate dividing wall and byre door, and to the demolition of some byres and the conversion or rebuilding of others to domestic or new agricultural use (barns, for example). The piecemeal rebuilding and conversion of both lower end and house-part that this permitted tended to discourage total reconstruction, inevitably limiting the ability to respond effectively to changing requirements. These later changes are clearly visible in the buildings (Figure 8B), as is evidence about the size and layout of the original byres, and of the arrangement of the passage (against which the stack heating the main part of the house was positioned) that once formed the common entrance to these longhouses as a whole. The initial dominance of the longhouse in some areas is significant, since, as a house type capable of almost infinite adaptation, it exerted considerable influence on the subsequent evolution of farmsteads.

Linear layouts (including the *laithe house* of the Pennines) are now most strongly associated with the hill farms of northern England (North East, North West and Yorkshire and the Humber). A major reason for the persistence of the layout in northern England was that it was suited to smaller farms (of 50 acres or less) needing fewer buildings – other than for the storage of subsistence levels of corn for the household and livestock, and the housing of some milk cattle, poultry and pigs. The close proximity of farmer and livestock during the winter months was another factor, cattle being stalled indoors from October to May. It was also a layout ideally suited to building along the contours of a hillside and so this farmstead plan remained in use in upland areas of England into the 19th century.

Linear plans have often evolved as a result of gradual development, for example in the rebuilding of a lower end for the cattle as service area for the house, and the addition of new cow houses, stabling and barns in line. Linear layouts will often be associated with loose scatters or even yard arrangements of other farm buildings.

5.1.2 PARALLEL PLANS AND L-SHAPED PLANS

These invariably enclose two sides of a yard, and often represent developments from earlier linear plans, if they have not been constructed in a single phase. L-shapes often evolve from the addition of a barn or byre to an original linear farm, or can represent the partial re-organisation of a dispersed plan. They are typically found on farms in the 50- to 150-acre bracket, and can be formal or highly irregular in appearance, with or without scatters of other farm buildings.

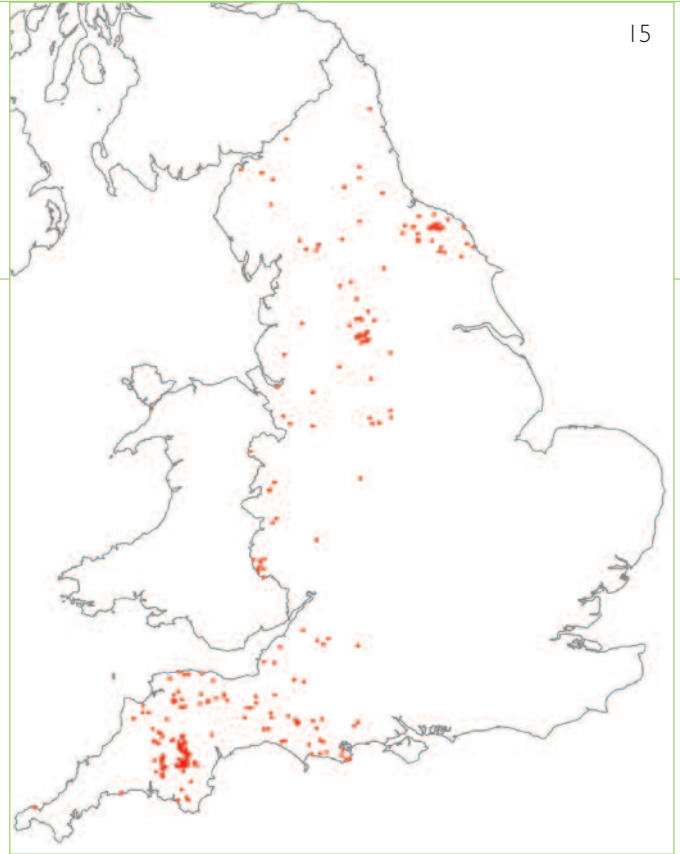
5.1.3 DISPERSED PLANS

The buildings of this group appear to be arranged haphazardly around the farmstead. Dispersed plans are typically found on smaller farms in stock-rearing or dairying areas, where a large straw yard for cattle was not required. They can range in size from the very small – for example a farmhouse and combination barn – to large groups of two or more blocks or individual structures, some or all of which may combine a variety of functions.

5.1.4 LOOSE COURTYARD PLANS

This group is characterised by single or double yards flanked by buildings on three or four sides, with or without scatters of other farm buildings close by. There are excavated and documented examples of this layout dating from the 13th century (in Hallam 1988, pp.860, 889) associated with: the base courts of large baronial and episcopal establishments; with moated manorial sites (where the farm buildings were arranged either within or outside the moat); and with the farms of an emerging wealthier class of peasant, the latter often replacing two or more previous steadings with

15 Distribution of listed longhouses in England. Surviving longhouses – a proportion of which have been recognised as such in listing descriptions – represent only a small proportion of a building type that was once prevalent across large parts of western and northern England. The concentration of a fine group of surviving longhouses on the eastern fringes of Dartmoor is particularly prominent. Recent research has shown that in some areas such as north Yorkshire many village-based farmhouses have longhouse origins that have previously not been recognised.
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longhouses (Le Patourel in Miller 1991, pp.843–65). This plan became most strongly associated with large arable farms: for example, many farmsteads on the downlands of southern England have one or more barns providing shelter to a south-facing yard (as recommended but not always followed), typically bordered by a stable, granary and later shelter sheds.

5.1.5 REGULAR COURTYARD PLANS

Formal courtyard layouts, where the barns, stables, feed stores and cattle shelters were ranged around a yard and carefully placed in relation to one another in order to minimise the waste of labour, and where the manure could be conserved, were recommended from the mid-18th century and many are documented from this period, although no surviving groups can be dated before the 1790s. The earlier examples are courtyard or U-plan with the barn forming the central block, and shelter sheds, stables and enclosed cow houses the two side wings. The fourth side could be no more than a wall with a gateway, or contain further sheds or smaller buildings such as pigsties, or be distinguished by a house (usually looking away from the yard). From the 1820s and 1830s, extra yards made E or even double-E plans.

The ultimate examples of courtyard farmsteads are the planned and model farms of the late 18th- and 19th-century estates (Figure 16), the ideas for which were widely disseminated in textbooks and journals (Wade Martins 2002). They are generally associated with holdings over 150 acres, and are far less likely than the other plan types to be associated with other loose scatters of buildings.

5.2 FACTORS INFLUENCING FARMSTEAD CHARACTER

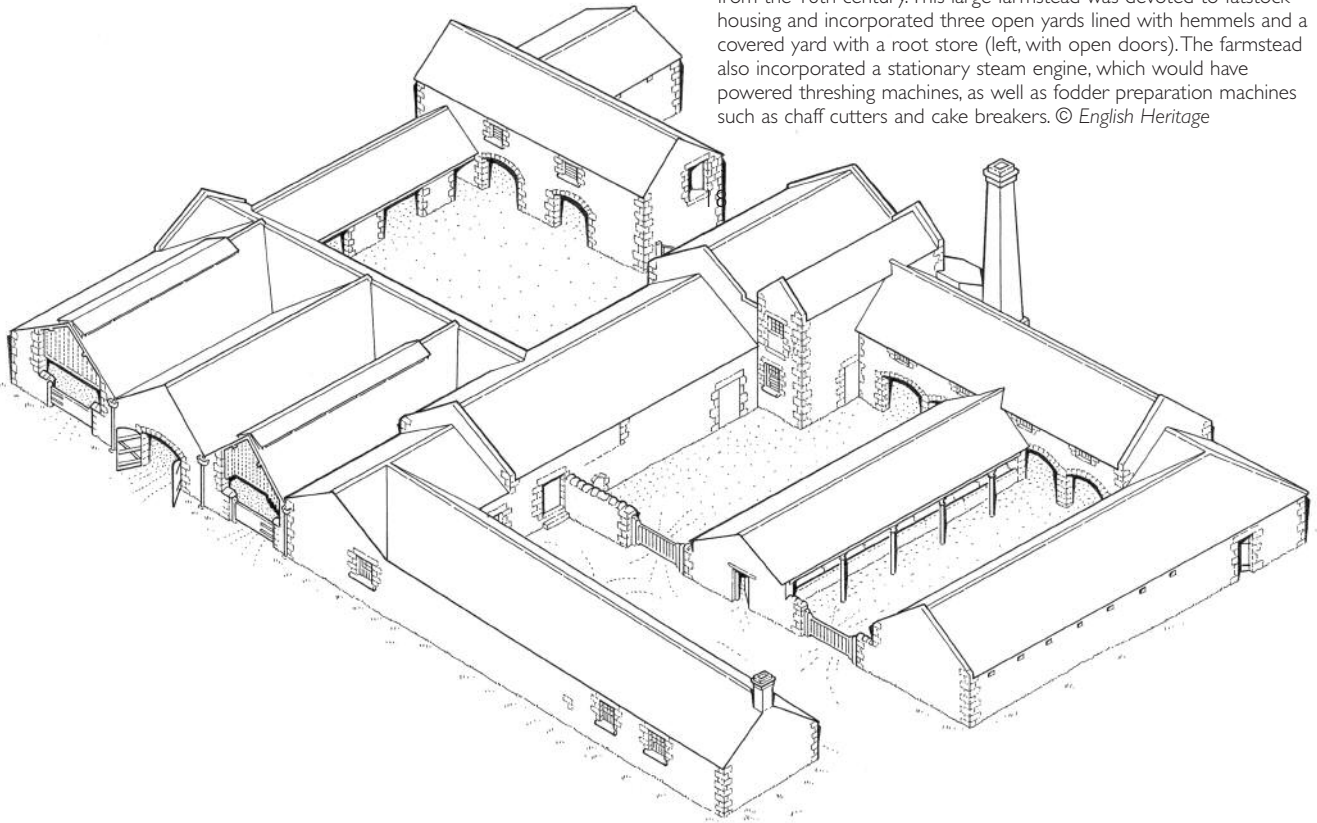
The occasional merging of plan types can make the variations on these principal themes seem almost infinite. The identification and analysis of the broad patterns of plan types can reveal much about the impact of the factors that influence farmstead character.

5.2.1 FARM SIZE

Generally, larger holdings were more likely to be provided with larger and/or more buildings. In the 18th and 19th centuries, the 'contemporary rule of thumb was that a man was needed for every 25 or 30 acres of arable and every 50 or 60 of pasture' (Mingay 1989,

p.953). Statistics on the numbers of farms by size can be misleading: although 71% of holdings were under 50 acres as late as 1880 (Howkins 1994, p.53), the proportion of land area taken up by small farms was much smaller and regionally very varied. By the 1850s, medium-size farms – typically mixed arable holdings – were between 100 and 299 acres, and occupied nearly half of England's acreage; as much as one third was taken up by large farms of over 300 acres, these being best placed to invest in 'High Farming' (Mingay 1989, p.950). Farms of 500 acres and above were found on the chalk downlands of southern England, and in the Lincolnshire and Yorkshire Wolds: 1000 acres was not uncommon in these areas (Prince in Mingay 1989, p.82). These farms had greater access to capital and were usually associated with corn production, which typically demanded more labour for carting, harvesting and threshing and increasingly for yard and stock management: strawing-down yards, lifting the heavy manure-laden straw into middens and carts and spreading it on the fields. Smaller farms, typically found in dairying and stock-rearing and fattening areas, required fewer large buildings and were less likely to have the capital to expend on rebuilding farmsteads to fit with developing agricultural practice. The very smallest (of under 50 acres) thrived in fruit-growing and market-gardening areas (often clustered around urban sites), and in locations such as west Cornwall and the Pennines where there was gainful by-employment in industry – for example the weaver-farmers of the West Riding linear-plan farms, noted by Caird (1852), who kept dairy cattle on holdings of around 20 acres, supplying nearby towns with milk (Mingay 1989, p.940).

16 A large regular courtyard plan (North Northumberland Coastal Plain Character Area), dating from the early to mid-19th century and placed within a landscape affected by large-scale reorganisation and enclosure from the 18th century. This large farmstead was devoted to fatstock housing and incorporated three open yards lined with hemmels and a covered yard with a root store (left, with open doors). The farmstead also incorporated a stationary steam engine, which would have powered threshing machines, as well as fodder preparation machines such as chaff cutters and cake breakers. © English Heritage



5.2.2 ESTATE POLICY

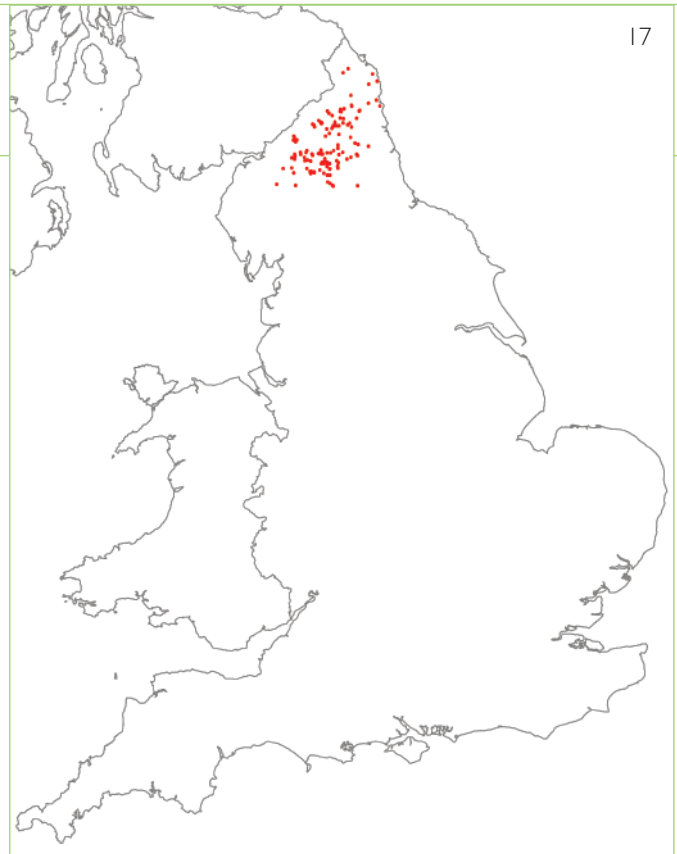
Estates, and thus landlords and their agents, have been massively important in English rural history, with tenants occupying some 85% of the farm area until the land transfers of the early 20th century mentioned in 4.1.4 above (Mingay 1989, pp.943–4). The character of an area thus can be strongly influenced by the estate of which it was part. Family insignia, estate-made bricks and the styling of cast-iron windows or ventilation grills can all give a unity to buildings over several parishes and this is as true of farm buildings as of cottages and village schools. Typically, and observable from 1350 onwards (Le Patourel in Miller 1991, p.846), improvements by landlords were aimed at attracting good tenants in either times of plenty (when capital expenditure could secure an increase in rent) or depression (when it could forestall a decrease). By the mid-17th century, home farms were being developed as examples of best practice for tenants. Between 1650 and 1750 landlords assumed increasing responsibility – in comprehensive lease agreements – for fixed capital works (particularly barns and houses) and after 1750 the influence of estates can be seen in the planning and design of buildings and entire complexes for home farms and tenant farms (Thirsk 1985, pp.72, 235; Thirsk 1967, pp.680–81; Wade Martins 2001). Estates often erected new buildings in order to attract tenants with the working capital to invest in their land and thus, through increased productivity, maintain rents at a high

level. The policies of larger estates often discriminated against smaller holdings and the maintenance of their buildings. County studies (for example, Wade Martins 1991) have demonstrated how varied estate policy in similar areas could be, despite the rise of the land agent as a professional class, increasing access to farming literature and the ironing out of many glaring inconsistencies in estate practice by around 1850. The small estate is less well understood (e.g., Collins et al 1989).

5.2.3 LOCAL VARIATION OF FARMING SYSTEMS

The type and form of built fabric display regional variations that are more firmly linked to the broad pattern of land use and its landscape context (whether wood pasture, enclosed or open landscapes). In East Anglia the older timber-framed, evolved farmstead groups with ample barn provision and multi-functional buildings are associated with the small, well-hedged fields typical of the wood-pasture regions, while the large planned farms of brick or brick and flint are found on the later enclosed areas of heath (Wade Martins 1991; Wade Martins & Williamson 1999). The differences within Wiltshire are also clearly demonstrated by the farm buildings: the chalkland typically has loose courtyard plan steadings with their large-scale barns serving specialist corn and sheep husbandry; the smaller farms associated with dairying and cheese production in the northern wood-pasture area are of a more dispersed

17 Distribution of listed bastle houses in England. Bastle houses are only found along the Borders area of northern England and reflect the turbulent history of the area.
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plan (Slocombe 1989). The yard management of stock also displayed a strong variation dependent on regional or estate practice. Thus the long-established practice of buying store cattle in spring and selling them on in the autumn survived longest in areas with rich grasslands, such as the Somerset Levels and the east Midlands, in contrast to Norfolk and the eastern lowlands where yards were filled over winter, even during the lean years for the beef industry in the 1930s (Whetham 1978, pp.290–91).

5.2.4 INTERNAL WORKINGS OF THE FARMYARD

The layout of the farmyard should firstly be seen in relationship to its immediate setting: of crop storage and processing buildings to the fields; of yards, platforms for corn, haystacks and cart sheds to trackways. Secondly, an important characteristic is the degree to which the layout of the farmstead was related to function. The planning of farmsteads to maximise efficiency engaged an increasing number of writers from the 1740s, who generally rated traditional layouts poorly against the perceived benefits of ordered and ideally planned layouts that minimised, for example, the time it took to process a stack of corn, transport the straw to the cattle yard and grain to the granary or mixing room. Many such writers, however, did not display sufficient understanding of the other factors – land use, terrain, weather, farm size, location in village or open countryside – that dictated layout. The most comprehensive analyses of local farming systems in relationship to farmstead layout are contained in Barnwell & Giles (1997).

5.2.5 DEVELOPMENT OF FARMING SYSTEMS

Archaeological evidence from deserted medieval settlements has shown how linear plans, including longhouses, were replaced by loose courtyard arrangements as owners prospered and their holdings grew larger (Lake 1989, pp.81–2; Gardiner 2000). Evidence from the tithe maps and first-edition 25-inch maps for sample Norfolk parishes showed that nearly half the farms were of an irregular layout in 1840 with very few regular E- or U-shaped courtyard plans. By 1880 dispersed layouts had reduced to an eighth, with E- and U-plans accounting for about a quarter of farms (Wade Martins 1991, p.199).

5.3 FARMSTEAD PLANS IN THE NORTH EAST

The plan forms of farmsteads in the Region display massive differences in terms of scale. Dispersed plans are common throughout the Region, the principal differences being between the defensible bastle houses and linear

farmsteads, mostly now concentrated in upland landscapes, and the courtyard steadings of the coastal lowlands and inland vales.

Throughout this Region, the most common type of farmhouse plan prior to the mid-18th century comprised the hearth-passage plan, in which the chimneystack backed onto an entrance passage, the stack serving to heat the main living room and sometimes an inner room beyond; the passage served to separate the main living quarters from the service or agricultural end of the house (see Figure 8B and longhouses, below – 5.3.2).

In all parts of the Region, symmetrically designed double-depth houses with central entries and services contained in the rear rooms were being built after the 1750s. They are commonly associated with the later rebuilding of earlier steadings or the construction of new enclosure and regular plan farmsteads.

5.3.1 BASTLE HOUSES AND BYRE HOUSES (Figures 17 & 18)

From the 1290s to the 17th century, the borderlands – particularly Coquetdale, Redesdale and North Tynedale – had been characterised by intermittent instability. The early 16th century was particularly unstable, and the result of attempts to defend livestock and farming families can be seen in the emergence of distinct bastle houses and their associated yards – a building type particular to the Border area of northern England. Over 200 examples are known in Northumberland, with the distribution extending into Cumberland, the north Pennines and south of the Tyne Gap as far as Allendale, Weardale and the South Tyne Valley (Ryder 2004, p.265).

18 Bastle houses and byre houses in the North East Region

Bastle houses were fortified farmhouses, usually of high status, in which the family lived at first-floor level. This was accessed by a ladder that could be withdrawn in times of trouble, with their cattle housed on the ground floor (see also Figure 28A). Thick stone walls, small window openings and added steps up to the first floor are characteristic features. Bastle houses reflect the turbulent history of the borders area of the north of England, especially between the mid-16th and early

17th centuries. (A Cheviot Fringe)

Although the Union of the Crowns in 1603 brought greater security to the area, the tradition of living above the cattle continued in the so-called 'byre houses,' which continued to be built into the 19th century (B North Pennines). Larger windows and contemporary steps to the first floor indicate that these buildings were not defensive. All © Jen Deadman



The cattle were housed on the ground floor, usually with the doorway in a gable end, and the domestic space in a room above was accessed by a ladder or later an external staircase. With stone walls up to 1.2m thick, the bastle house and its walled enclosure (the barmkin) offered farmers a defensive retreat where the family and stock could be secure from cattle rustlers in an area that remained lawless into the 17th century. Bastle houses generally date from the 16th and 17th centuries although some are earlier (Brunskill 1987, pp.110–11; Ramm et al; 1970; Dixon 1970 and 1979; Ryder 1992, 1996, 2004). In contrast to the tower houses with enclosed yards that were built between the late 14th and 16th centuries as refuges for high-status families and the tenants and inhabitants of an area, bastles were 'often constructed in series or clusters within hailing distance of each other'; they are also found in terraces (for example at Wall, Tynedale) and may also be associated with surviving ridge-and-furrow cultivation, occasionally with stock pens and enclosures providing access to upland grazing (Adams & Carne 1995, p.93; Lax 1999). Although originating in the endemic lawlessness of this part of the Region, it is probable that many were built as secure houses for new leasehold tenants, occupying land in return for low rents and the expectation of agricultural improvement (Frodsham 2004, p.105). More numerous in Redesdale and North Tynedale, where few stone bastles survive, were earth- and turf-covered timber houses, of which there may be only one survival (Frodsham 2004, pp.103–4). The addition of external staircases and the widening of windows became more common in the 18th century. Other defensible houses in the Region – upper-floor hall towers, solar towers and tower houses – are predominantly medieval in date and of a high social status.

From the later 17th century, bastle houses were being 'commonly abandoned in favour of smaller farmsteads which were attached to or close to the bastle house' (Lax 1999, p.172).

The upland tradition of providing domestic accommodation over cattle reappeared in the later 18th and early 19th centuries with the so-called byre houses of County Durham. Larger window openings and thinner walls differentiate them from bastles (Figure 18).

5.3.2 LINEAR PLANS, INCLUDING LONGHOUSES

The linear plan comprised the predominant farmstead type throughout most of the Region until the late 18th century. They vary enormously in scale (Figures 21C & 25B). In the north of the Region linear farmsteads can represent the linear extension of bastle houses (Ryder 2004, pp.269–70; Lax 1999, p.167).

Linear farmsteads north of the Tyne Valley are predominantly late 18th and 19th century in date. The simplest type of linear plan – a single-storey house, heather-thatched and with livestock housed at one end – survived in the north of the Region into the 18th century. Here, longhouses survived until they were swept away by the impact of enclosure and the reorganisation of estates. A well-known excavated example is at West Whelpington in the Wansbeck valley. Deserted as a consequence of enclosure in about 1720, it was built as a planned settlement of longhouses in the decades around 1400 (Jarrett & Wrathmell 1977). Single-storey farmhouses – cruck-framed, built of mud and stud and accommodating livestock – were documented in the late 18th century in the northern uplands of the Region. Unlike in the North York Moors, where even single-storey longhouses were substantial enough to have been

adapted and thus survive to the present day, these were generally completely swept away with enclosure and replaced by symmetrical stone farmhouses and associated farm buildings (Frodsham 2004, pp.117, 121–3). Surviving examples – such as the lone survivor of a green settlement of longhouses at Cheswick on the Northumberland Coastal Plain, adapted for use as a workshop – are of great rarity (Bolter & Gould 2002). Buildings of a similar form, similarly grouped together as *fermtoun* settlements, survived in large numbers in the Highlands of Scotland until the Clearances of the 19th century.

Substantially built examples of linear farmsteads, commonly comprising the hearth-passage plan, survive from the late 17th century in the North Pennines (Brunskill 1975) and the south of the Region. Many retain evidence of rebuilt lower ends, now serving as outbuildings or integrated into the domestic plan or rebuilt hearth-passage or courtyard steadings with double-pile houses (Fairless 1980; Chapman 1978, p.36; Roberts 1980, pp.92–3, 95; NEVAG 1997, p.006); if subject to systematic investigation, it may be clear that many of these comprise substantially built longhouses (see Figure 8B). Thus far, only one longhouse has been positively identified – at Bearpark, Durham (dated to the late 15th century).

The adaptation or rebuilding of the true longhouse, through the creation of separate entrances for people and livestock or the incorporation of the byre end as part of the house itself, did not lead to the abandonment of the practice of linking house and farm buildings in a linear sequence. Buildings were often added to one end or another to produce an elongated range or simply to join together individual buildings or groups formerly not connected. They were built on new farmsteads established after enclosure in the 17th and early 18th centuries and in rebuilt farmsteads in villages in eastern county Durham, for example at Shadforth where two ring-fenced steadings were sited in newly created enclosures after 1635 (Clack 1980, 1981, 1985). Linear steadings of the same period have been recorded on the Magnesian Limestone Plateau in east Durham (Clack 1985) and around Durham (Edwards 1985, pp.103–4; Scott 1985, pp.109–110, 113). Linear farmsteads with cross-passage plans continued to be built anew into the mid-18th century (Hughes 1967). There are recorded examples in Weardale, in the North Pennines, of small common-edge linear farmsteads of late 18th-/early 19th-century date with direct internal access from the house to the farm buildings, although both have separate external entrances (NEVAG 1997, pp.002, 003).

As farm size increased, so did the number of buildings required, particularly for housing cattle, which were normally in-wintered for up to six months in upland

areas of northern England (Grundy 1970, pp.3–5). A second range of buildings could be built along the valley side, parallel to the farmhouse, their design constrained by the dictates of the landscape. Very few linear plans are without a scatter of subsidiary buildings, and some developed – particularly again in the south of the Region – into plans of two or three blocks of attached buildings. In some cases, linear steadings could grow to a very large scale, serving farms of over 300 acres (Bolter, Gould et al 1994). In some areas of the northern uplands, in contrast, such steadings as rebuilt in the 19th century remained very small in scale despite the fact that they served very large sheep farms running into several hundred acres. In the Cheviots, for example, most farms only required stalling for two or three horses, some milk cattle and their fodder; and were typically being surrounded by walls for clipping and sorting sheep (Barnwell & Giles 1997, pp.71, 75).

In the small later 18th- and 19th-century farmsteads associated with the miner-smallholdings in the south of the Region cow houses were commonly built behind, below or beside the house. They are most densely concentrated in areas where farming was a secondary source of income, for example in the lead-mining areas of Allendale and upper Weardale in the North Pennines (Brassley 1984, p.57). Some of these closely resemble the *laithe* house, the word *laithe* or *lathe* being a northern English dialect word for a combined barn and cow house (RCHME 1986, p.178). The house and farm buildings are typically of one build, but there is no cross passage or inter-connection between the domestic and agricultural parts and both the roofline and the width of the various components may differ. The farm buildings housed corn, cattle and occasional other functions (such as stabling). They typically date from the late 18th to mid 19th century, serving farms of about 50 acres or less.

5.3.3 COURTYARD PLANS

From the mid-18th century farms of over 150 acres across much of the lowland and in some of the transitional areas would typically be served by a farmstead ranged around a courtyard. This was especially marked in Northumberland, where many landowners continued to generate wealth from outside agriculture that they could then invest in their farms. The result was the complete or partial desertion of settlements, and at the extreme their replacement by planned settlements, which included workers' housing. The large-scale courtyard steadings that developed over the 19th century were amongst the largest in England – even exceeding those of the Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Wolds and southern downlands – and very similar in form to those that appeared across the border in the Lothians (Figure 16).

There is documentary evidence for the improvement of

farmsteads from the early 18th century (Brassley 1984, pp.46–7) but the physical evidence for detached farm buildings – as distinct from linear farmsteads – is more elusive. The proximity of hill grazing and lower-lying lands suitable for root crops meant that a mixed farming system of cereals could develop, relying for its productivity on the manure from turnip-fed sheep (particularly on the light soils of the Cheviot Fringe) and yard-fed cattle on the lowland clays. The enormous size of many holdings – some as large as 1,200 acres and typically in excess of 300–400 acres (Wade Martins 2002, pp.80–82) – and high price of labour due to competition with industries such as mining, resulted in the majority of farms adopting regular planned layouts incorporating a high degree of mechanisation. Where arable land was cultivated, mechanised threshing (see 6.1.2.3) was general by the 1830s (Barnwell & Giles 1997, p.71).

The courtyard farms of Northumberland typically result from two phases of development, in the early 19th century and from the 1860s, and there is evidence that quite substantial and well-planned steadings were entirely swept away – by complexes with more accommodation for fatstock in particular – in this later phase of development (Barnwell & Giles 1997, pp.70–1). On these large farms the general principles of layout remained the same throughout the 19th century. By the mid-19th century farmsteads in Northumberland were described as commonly forming ‘three sides of a square open to the south’ (Grey 1841, pp.190–2). U-plans and E-shaped plans predominate, with some originating as L-shaped plans: threshing and straw storage in the centre, flanked by ranges for cattle and looking over a south-facing yard; attached or detached livestock ranges often built to one side of the yard, sometimes making an extra yard (Barnwell & Giles 1997, pp.71–3; Wade Martins 2002, pp.81–5). Cattle were kept in the open yards, with feed stores along the south wall and access both from the outside and into the yards. Shelter sheds with granaries above occupied the north side. A barn with an engine

house on the side extended north from the north side into the stack yards, with a long wagon lodge connected to it. The house was separated from the farmyard by a wall and roadway. To the north was the stack yard, from which the raw material for threshing was transported to the barn. By the 1820s the barn was likely to be provided with some form of motive power. The power source was typically sited to the north, where the barn had become the focal point as a ‘general food processing and distribution base for the farmstead’ (Linsley 1985, pp.124–5).

Another characteristic feature of the Region – shared again with the lowlands of Scotland, especially the Lothians – was the existence of rows of small cottages for farm workers beside these large steadings. There was sometimes a terrace set slightly apart from the farmstead, or the cottages could form one side of the farm courtyard (see cover image). In the north Northumberland lowlands, where most of the larger planned farmsteads are concentrated, a settlement may consist of a single farmstead with a separate entrance to the farmhouse, the house of a farm manager (the *grieve*) placed next to the site entrance and the cottages of the labourers (*hinds*) employed on it (Barnwell & Giles 1997, pp.90–1).

The situation in Northumberland contrasted with Durham, which was a landscape of earlier enclosure and which in the late 19th century had only 17 owners of land above 3000 acres (in contrast to Northumberland’s 58). Despite some early and surviving examples of regular courtyard plans (notably Beamish Home Farm, Raby Castle, Sokeby and Beamish) they are much rarer (Wade Martins 2002, p.212). Very little is known of farmstead plans in this county, but as a general remark it seems that plan forms are much smaller in scale and range from loose courtyard arrangements – on larger farms of two yards – to L-plan and dispersed layouts.

6.0 Key Building Types: Crop Storage and Processing

The analysis of key building types presented here could be presented by function rather than building type, as many functions relate to parts of buildings or parts of entire ranges or farmstead types. As the relationship between farmstead form and function has been outlined in Section 5, Section 6 will comprise a conventional overview of the key functional types. It will be noted in some regions that so many of these functions are combined in one combination barn or farmstead type that they cannot be easily teased out as a separate theme. Nevertheless, the national framework sections do present an overview of on-farm functions, and where relevant their rarity and survival, that are applicable nationally.

6.1 BARNES

6.1.1 NATIONAL OVERVIEW

In the British Isles and other parts of northern Europe, the harvested corn was often stored and processed inside a barn. After threshing – typically a process that occurred gradually over the winter months – the straw usually remained in the barn awaiting its use as bedding for livestock, while the grain destined for market or next year's seed would be stored either in the farmhouse or in a purpose-built granary.

Barns are often the oldest and most impressive buildings on the farm and are characterised by:

- Internal space for the storage of the unthreshed crop and an area (the threshing floor) for beating by flail the grain from the crop and for winnowing the grain from the chaff in a cross draught. This was also an area for the storage of straw after threshing.
- Externally, typically large opposing doors on the side walls to the threshing floor; although the size of openings is subject to much regional variation. Barns on large arable farms commonly had large threshing doors, sometimes with porches, into which a laden wagon would draw up and unload the crop. In some parts of the country the crop would be forked into the barn through pitching holes, and the threshing doors would be much smaller. Small winnowing doors sufficed in many pastoral-farming areas.
- Blank external walls, in mass-walled buildings often strengthened by buttresses or pilasters. Mass-walled barns usually had ventilation slits or patterned ventilation openings, and the wattle or lath infill to timber-framed barns was often left exposed. In some

areas, the crop would be unloaded from a cart or wagon into the barn through pitching holes.

The distinctive form and plan of barns remained comparatively little altered between the 13th and 19th centuries. Surviving pre-1750 barns represent only a small proportion of the original population, their date, scale and landscape context being major factors in determining their survival. There is only one complete survivor of the 2–2,900 tithe barns that existed on Cistercian estates in the pre-1550 period (Brunskill 1982, p.35). Local studies have indicated that small and pre-18th-century barns are most likely to survive on farm holdings of less than 150 acres that have not experienced major growth in subsequent centuries (Wade Martins 1991, p.160). These are concentrated in landscapes of ancient enclosure, improving estates and the process of enclosure in the post-1750 being linked to often wholesale rebuilding.

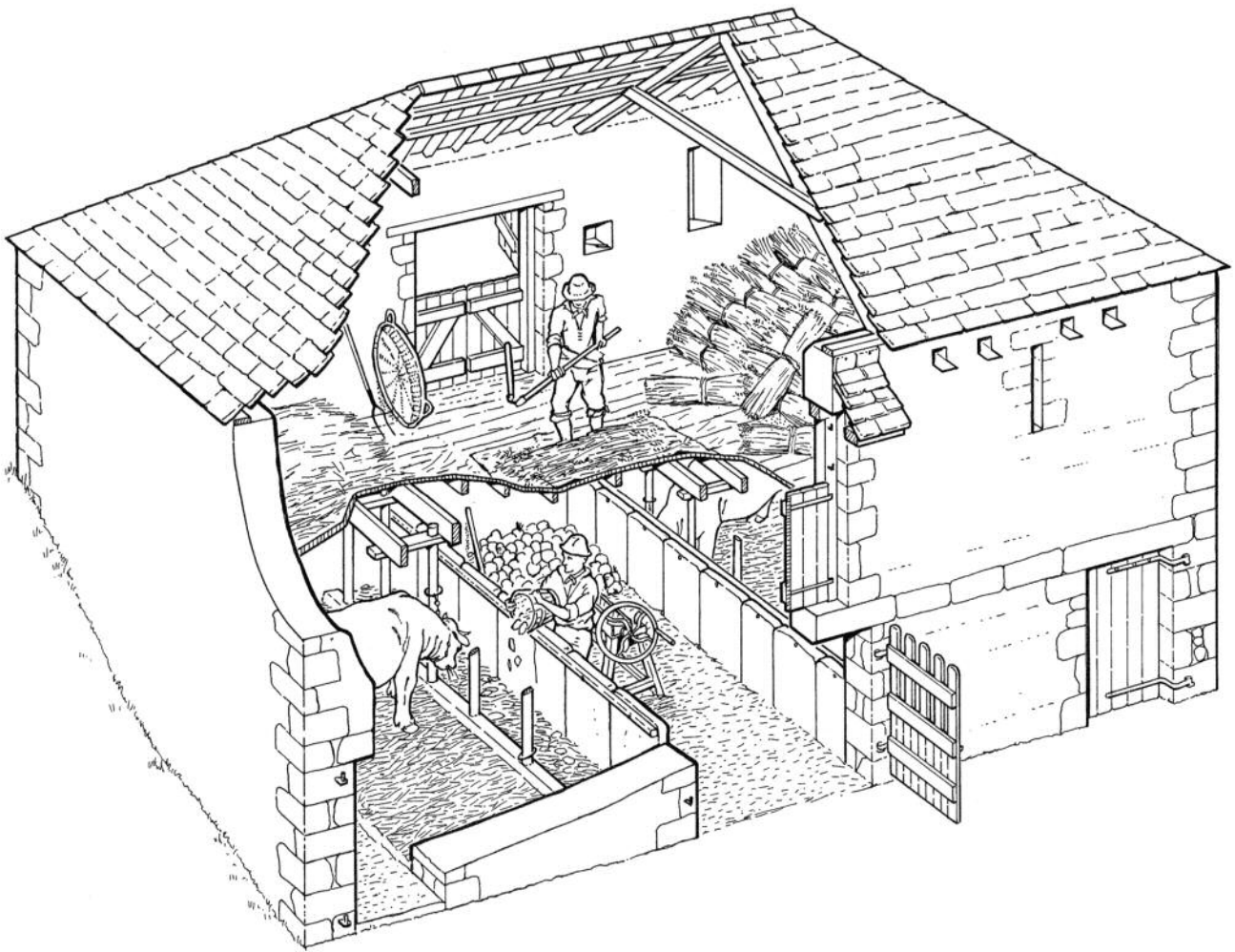
Major variations were in the five following areas.

6.1.1.1 Plan form

In the most common form of plan the threshing floor was in the centre, although it could be sited off-centre or at one end. A greater span was enabled by aisled barn construction, either in single or double aisles. This was common in East Anglia and the South East (Rigold 1971 and 1973), and for high-status buildings outside that area, including a group mostly dating from between 1570 and 1650 in the Pennines (Clarke 1972 and 1974).

Outshots or projecting lean-tos were commonly added to barns, for housing carts, livestock and other functions. The number of additional external openings indicates accommodation for other functions, ranging from minor doors enabling the barn to house functions such as clipping sheep when empty, to lofts and stabling,

19 A bank barn showing the first-floor barn over ground-floor shippons and a fodder preparation area. This example is a true bank barn in that it is built into a bank giving ground level access to the entrance of the first-floor barn. Some bank barns called 'variant bank barns' have the upper level access at the end. Although not widespread in the North East Region, bank barns are found in the western parts of the Region. © English Heritage



6.1.1.2 Size

Barn size can be strongly indicative of the former extent of arable and holding size, ranging from very small in dairying or stock-rearing areas, to very large on the much larger holdings of arable areas. The practice of mowing rather than cutting by sickle the corn crop, widespread by the 19th century, also had an impact on barn size, as large quantities of straw – ready for feeding cattle in the yard – would need to be accommodated.

In the medieval period it was common practice to house all the crop in the barn, but in later centuries the unthreshed crop could be raised off the ground by a platform or by staddle stones (see 6.2 and Figure 24), and stored in an open yard (rickyard) or a staddle barn. Examples of the latter, typically of late 18th- to early 19th-century date, survive on the downland farms of Hampshire, south Wiltshire and east Dorset. Ricking was not a common practice in southern England until the 19th century, but was noted by observers as being common in northern England and Staffordshire in the 17th century (Colvin & Newman 1981, p.97; Peters 1969, p.65).

6.1.1.3 Combination Barns

There is increasing evidence in many parts of the country for threshing barns to have originated from at least the 17th century as combination barns, which incorporated other functions in the main body of the barn such as the housing of livestock. These ranged from the end bays of the barn to the aisles of Pennine barns or the ground floors of split-level buildings. Multi-functional two-level barns, including bank barns and their variants, were increasingly adopted from the late 18th century (and noted by the writers of the county reports for the Board of Agriculture) – often along with the introduction of mechanisation – in many areas of England (Barnwell & Giles 1997, p.156).

6.1.1.4 Evidence for mechanisation

The introduction of machine threshing after its invention in 1786 led to the erection in existing barns of additions to house machinery, for chopping and crushing fodder as well as threshing grain. Early machines were powered by horse engines in special-purpose semi-circular buildings, which projected from the barn and were commonly known as 'gin gangs' in the north of England. Steam, water and wind power were also used (Figure 20).

20 Power in barns: national examples

- A A projecting horse engine house attached to a barn. Gin-gangs were a relatively common feature of Northumbrian barns from the late 18th and 19th centuries. (Cheviot Fringe)
 - B The interior of a horse engine house that contains a rare example of an in situ horse gin. (North West Norfolk)
 - C A water wheel, providing power to the feed-processing machinery in a home dairy farm, remodelled in the 1890s. (Breckland)
 - D A farmstead that incorporated a fixed steam engine to drive threshing and other crop- and fodder-processing equipment. (Cheviot Fringe)
 - E The use of portable steam engines often left no physical evidence within the barn structure but in some cases drive shafts and fly wheels survive in-situ. (Dorset Downs and Cranborne Chase)
- A & D © Jen Deadman; B & C © English Heritage / Michael Williams; E © Bob Edwards

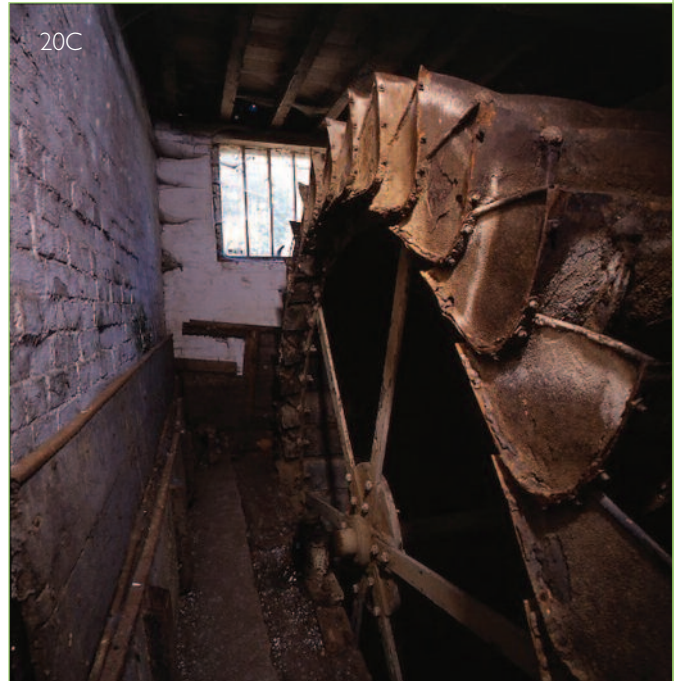
20A



20B



20C



20D



20E



The uptake of machinery varied across the country. In areas where labour was expensive mechanisation found favour; horse engine houses and evidence for water power being most common in the lowlands of Yorkshire and the Humber and the North East, in parts of the West Midlands and in the South West peninsula (especially Cornwall). In the southern counties, where

labour was cheap and abundant until the 1850s or later, few barns bear evidence for the introduction of machinery (Hutton 1976).

From the early 19th century the traditional barn began to be replaced by large multi-functional buildings with threshing and fodder-processing areas linked to granaries,

straw storage and cattle housing. These could project from the north of courtyard plans (as was common in Northumberland) or be integrated into other types of plan. In some areas, such as the eastern lowlands from Nottinghamshire northwards, the barn was from the 1850s reduced to a small feed-processing room (Figure 24, bottom).

The introduction of the portable steam engine and threshing machine meant that tackle could be taken to the stack. This was widespread by the 1850s, and heralded the end of the traditional barn as a processing building.

Features relating to the use of power are highly vulnerable and rare, particularly horse wheels.

6.1.1.5 Evidence for reuse and adaptation

Careful inspection of barn interiors may reveal evidence for reused timbers (a common practice), in addition to former floors, partitions, doors and windows. This may well indicate that a present open space was divided off at one end or even provided with an additional floor. The high point of barn building occurred during the 18th and early 19th centuries, as grain yields rose and new land came into cultivation. Additions were commonly made to existing barns or additional barns built. It is also likely that where a barn was originally multi-purpose, the animal housing was removed and a separate barn or cow house built.

Mechanical threshing had removed the need for a threshing floor and the uses to which the barn was put changed. As cattle gained in importance at the end of the 19th century barns were converted into mixing houses for fodder. The introduction of steam-powered machinery (whether fixed or mobile) usually involved the cutting of a hatch in the barn wall in order to allow belting to enter. Alterations might well involve the dividing of the building with partition walls and floors.

6.1.2 BARN IN THE NORTH EAST (Figures 21 & 22)

6.1.2.1 Threshing Barns

Pre-1750 survivals are particularly rare in the Region. North of the Tees and Furness the only surviving medieval barns are believed to be in County Durham. These barns, usually built by Durham Cathedral Priory and other religious institutions, are most commonly late medieval in date, with 15th century felling dates being obtained through dendrochronology for a number of them. They are typically built in rubble stonework, with substantially thick walls. The roof is usually pitched at approximately 45 degrees with truncated principal roof trusses employed in a number of surviving barn roofs. The barn doors are typically opposed and wide enough for carts to pass through. Door surrounds are usually of

large well-dressed stone blocks, plain or chamfered with a heavy timber lintel. Relieving arches are occasionally found over lower narrow doors where the lintel is supporting a sizeable area of stone walling above. Ventilation in the barn is either by rectangular or triangular vents, the latter being uncommon in County Durham barns of any period but more evident in earlier fabric. Further documentary and buildings research will probably yield more surviving examples (Roberts et al, 1999, pp.141–60).

Archaeological excavation has revealed evidence for outbuildings including barns – much smaller in scale given their peasant status – with opposed doorways (Wrathmell 1989a, p.261). Such barns are of extreme rarity in this Region.

Many threshing barns have pitching doors for transferring corn and occasional integral stalling either side of the threshing floor for livestock (see below). By the early 19th century, however, the unthreshed corn was rarely stacked indoors – at least in lowland areas (Linsley 1985, p.119).

6.1.2.2 Combination Barns

There are examples of single-storey cruck-framed barns of 17th- to early 18th-century date without opposed doorways, but with evidence in the form of multiple doors and windows for a mixture of stock and corn housing (Roberts 1980, p.94). The bank barn, which was suited to hilly terrain and is concentrated in the North West Region, is commonly found on the western edge of the Region, from the North Pennines to the borders (Brunskill 1987, p.116; Whittaker 2001, p.4). Threshing barns with flanking or under-housed cow houses/stabling are commonly found.

6.1.2.3 Mechanisation

A key aspect driving the form of threshing barns in the Region was mechanisation, which had become general by the 1830s (McDonald 1978; Hellen 1972). Most surviving barns, which date from the early to mid-19th century, display evidence for machine threshing, mostly in the form of water- or horsepower, the latter in a projecting wheel house. Wheel houses were mostly circular or polygonal. Map evidence suggests that by the mid-19th century 2,000 were in use in Northumberland and 1,200 in Durham (Linsley 1985, p.120). Fewer than 30 gin-gangs now remain in the City of Durham area out of 200 that existed around 1900 (Scott 1985, p.110). Steam power, marked by a stack and a lean-to for the boiler and engine, came into general use in the Coastal Lowlands. There were 200 examples in Northumberland in the early 20th century (Linsley 1985, p.121). There is one notable example of wind power, at Chollerton, near Hexham (Wade Martins 1991, p.50; Macdonald 1975, pp.24, 63–77; Hutton 1976, pp.25, 30–35).

21 Barns in the North East Region

- A The few late medieval barns that survive in the North East Region are mostly found in the Durham area and were mainly built by religious houses. The distinctive triangular ventilation holes, a characteristic feature of early barns, was used into the 17th century, as in this example of a barn on a Durham Cathedral Priory estate. (Tyne and Wear Lowlands)
- B This late 17th-century threshing barn is a rare survival of both an early barn and a heather-thatched building. The majority of such barns in the North East were swept away during the 18th- and 19th-century land reorganisations. (Tyne Gap and Hadrian's Wall)
- C A variant bank barn (built across the slope) forming part of a linear
- D By the late 18th century many of the large, reorganised farmsteads of the lowlands and parts of the transitional areas of the Region were provided with barns that were designed to incorporate machinery and consisted of two barns, one for threshing, usually at first-floor level, the other serving as a straw barn, often arranged at right angles (See also Figure 20). This example has the straw barn to the left with the two-storey threshing barn to the right. (Cheviot Fringe)

All © Jen Deadman

21A



21B



21C



21D



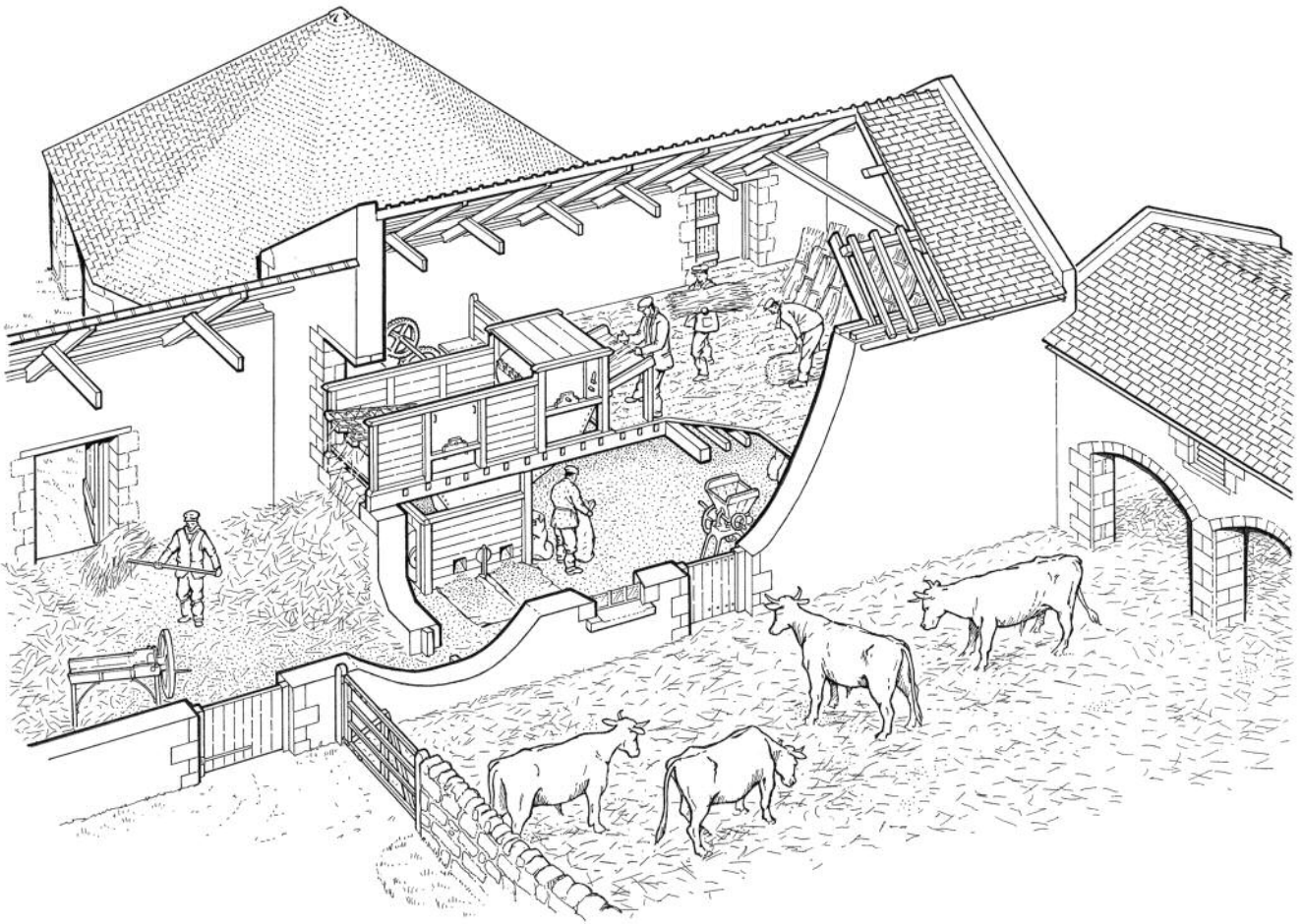
By the 19th century the Northumberland barn consisted of two attached buildings: a two-storey threshing barn housing threshing machinery, and a straw barn. Corn from the stack yard 'passed to the upper floor via a sheaf door', and after passing through the threshing machine chaff fell to the ground floor while straw was discharged into a straw barn by way of an opening in the intermediate wall (Linsley 1985, pp.119–120 and Figure 22). Within the threshing barn the machinery was located on the first floor where the crop was threshed. The grain dropped to the ground floor where it was bagged. The straw was carried along a straw walk to an opening providing access to the straw barn. Some of these barns utilised sloping ground to gain level access to the upper storey of the threshing barn, or an artificial ramp could be provided (Barnwell & Giles 1997, pp.77–8, 82).

6.2 GRANARIES

6.2.1 NATIONAL OVERVIEW (Figures 23 & 24)

Once threshed, grain needed to be stored away from damp and vermin. It would be sold off the farm or retained for animal feed. A small number of specialist granaries built by large landowners, in particular the monastic institutions, survive from the 14th century. Most granaries are of late 18th- and 19th-century date, the need for more storage for grain often coinciding with the necessity for more cart and implement space at a time when commercial farming and markets were expanding and more implements introduced on farms. The construction of detached granaries raised off the ground, along with the heightening of plinth walls to timber-framed barns, was also a reaction to the threat posed by the rapid spread of the brown rat from the early 18th century (McCann 1996).

22 The Northumberland barn consisted of two attached buildings: the threshing barn and the straw barn. The threshing machine was at first-floor level, the threshed grain dropping to the ground floor where it was bagged, and the straw passing through to the straw barn. Often the threshing barn was built into a bank or provided with a ramp to ease the loading of the crop into the threshing area. In this example the threshing machinery is powered by a horse-engine. (Cheviot Fringe) © English Heritage



Internally granary walls were usually close-boarded or plastered and limewashed, and the floor made of tight-fitting lapped boards to prevent loss of grain. Grain bins, or the slots in vertical timbers for horizontal planking used to make them, are another characteristic feature: close-boarded partitions allowed different crops to be kept separate (Figure 24). Window openings were typically small, and, with ventilation being the main objective, the openings were generally either louvers, sliding vents or grilles.

Grain was typically accommodated in:

- The lofts of farmhouses, a practice common before 1750.
- Small, square or rectangular structures raised above ground level on mushroom-shaped staddle stones or brick arches and accessed by moveable wooden steps. Internally, they may have been fitted with wooden partitions to create grain bins. They were clearly related to the helm, which, according to documents from the 15th to 17th centuries, comprised timber platforms on staddle stones and were concentrated in the Midland counties (Dyer 1984; Needham 1984; Airs 1987; Barley 1990, pp.165–7): none have survived or been excavated. Most are of late 18th- or 19th-

century date. Examples abound in Cambridgeshire, Berkshire, Sussex, Hampshire and Wiltshire, but extend into Dorset, Devon and Cornwall. Free-standing granaries are commonly timber-framed, clad in weatherboard or infilled with brick, but brick or stone examples have been found, particularly at the western edge of their distribution. The larger free-standing granaries were of two or even three floors (Figure 23).

- The upper floors of farm buildings, most commonly barns – observable from the 14th century (Le Patourel in Miller 1991, p.872) – and from the 17th century in the South East and East Anglia, much later further north and west, above cart sheds (see 6.3.1). Exteriors are usually marked by shuttered windows for ventilation. The side walls are sometimes weatherboarded, even in regions where weatherboarding is unusual, again to help ventilation. Examples date from the 17th century in arable areas. A separate external stair often gave access to the granary door (Figure 23). There was often a trap door into the cart shed below with a hoist beside it to allow for the loading of sacks. The granary floor had to withstand heavy weights so was stoutly built. In a

23A The interior of a granary over a cart shed showing the grain bins, which allowed different grains, and even the crop from different years, to be kept separate. (North West Norfolk)
 B Ventilation was important to keep the stored grain dry. Air circulation could be achieved through small windows with shutters, hit-and-miss ventilation grilles, windows with fixed louvers or, in this example, adjustable louvers. (Hampshire Downs)
 A © English Heritage / Michael Williams; B © Bob Edwards

few instances the granary was situated over cowsheds or stables, but generally this was frowned upon because the damp and smells from the animals below could taint the grain. Because of the value of the crop, granaries were often the only farm building to be locked, sometimes with a dog kennel or goose house under the steps to deter thieves.

A very small number of pre-18th-century detached granaries have survived, and timber-framed granaries – detached or located over cart sheds or stables – are clearly far less likely to have survived to the present day than examples in stone or brick. Interior fittings such as grain bins and features such as louvered windows are particularly vulnerable when a change of use is contemplated.

6.2.2 GRANARIES IN THE NORTH EAST (Figure 25)
 With the exception of a handful of examples – as at Elvethall, Durham of 1451–2 (Roberts et al 1999, pp.143–4) – detached granaries and granaries forming part of other structures are virtually unknown before 1750 in the Region. It was much more common for grain to be stored in the lofts of farmhouses, such as at Hilton Hall, Teesdale (lime ash floor and grain winched through trap doors in floors), High Shipley, Teesdale (lime ash floor) and St Helen’s Auckland (external stone stair direct to attic).

Granaries were typically sited over buildings such as open-fronted cattle shelters and especially cart sheds. These could be attached in line with the barn although only occasionally was there a direct link between the barn and the granary. The resulting combined granary/cart shed ranges are a distinctive feature of lowland farmsteads, and are very similar in form to those built in lowland Yorkshire and Humberside.

6.3 CART SHEDS AND IMPLEMENT SHEDS

6.3.1 NATIONAL OVERVIEW

The cart shed housed not only carts for transporting muck to fields, the harvest to the steading and grain to market, but also the implements needed (primarily for arable cultivation) on the farm. It could also accommodate the coach or pony trap. Left outside, wooden implements could shrink and crack in the sun, while rain and snow caused iron to rust, jamming



any moving parts. Cart sheds often faced away from the farmyard and were often close to the stables and roadways, giving direct access to the fields. They have been found as additions to barns, but are more commonly found as detached single- or double-storey buildings, in the case of the latter invariably with a first-floor granary (see 6.2.1). The size of cart-shed ranges serves as a rough indication of the former arable acreage of the farm. In some parts of the country, often in pastoral areas, the difficult terrain meant that wheeled vehicles were not widely used and so cart sheds tended to be few and smaller, perhaps of only one or two bays. One bay was sometimes enclosed with a wide door for the storage of small implements, or perhaps a pony trap. Cart sheds and implement sheds with lockable doors did not appear in any great numbers until the mid-19th century, when horse-drawn hoes, and later reapers and mowing machines, became more prevalent (Walton 1973; Mingay 1989, pp.532–44).

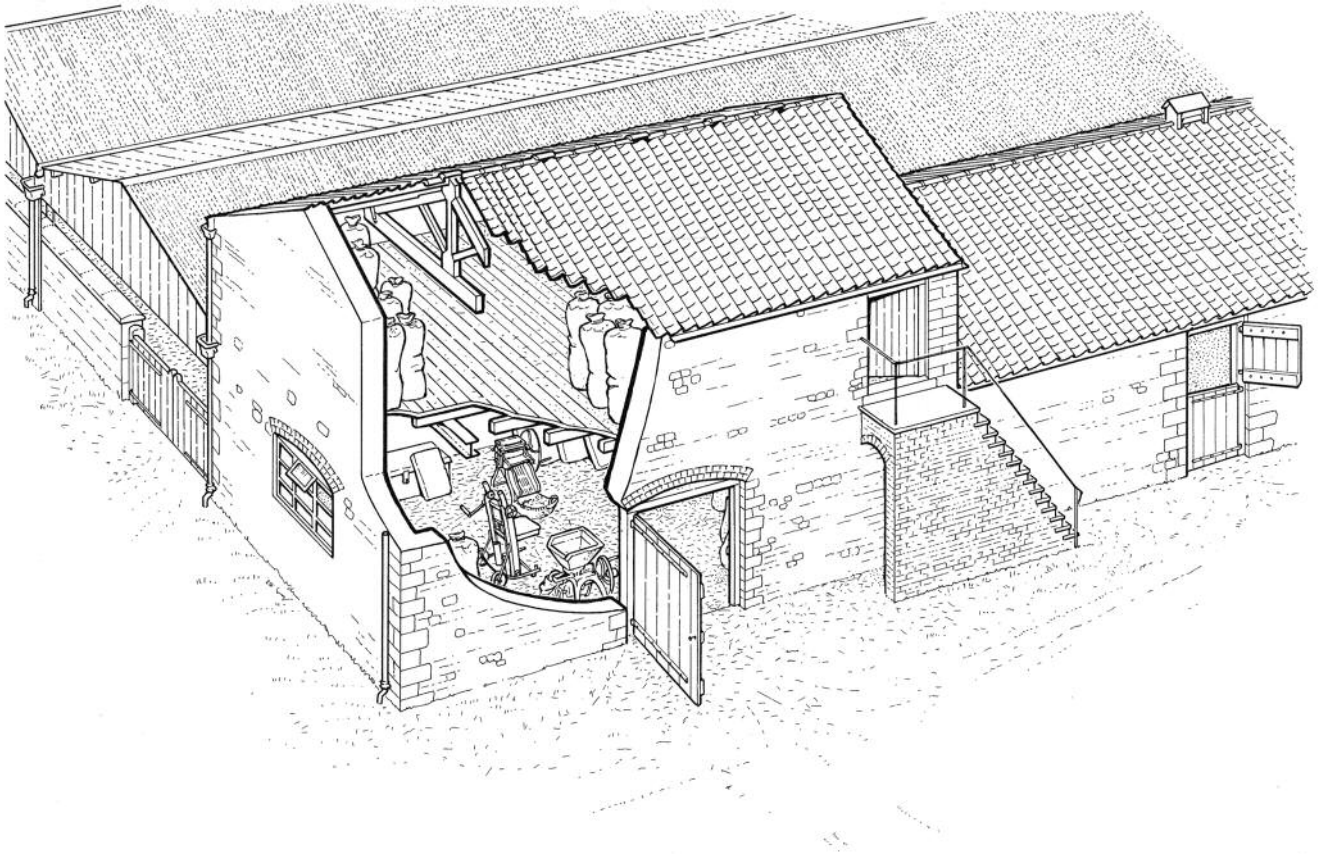
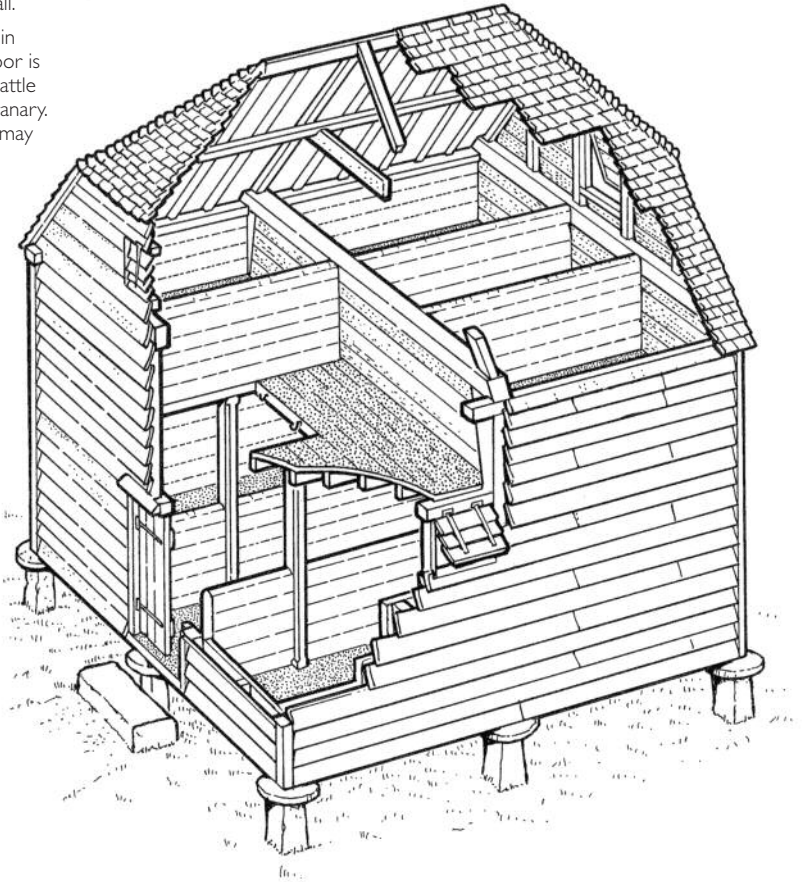
Examples of pre-19th-century date, concentrated on estate farms and in the arable lowlands, are extremely rare.

24 Granaries

Top: A free-standing timber-framed granary on staddle stones. This example has two floors and is fitted with grain bins on both levels. Staddle-stone granaries are concentrated in a band from Wiltshire to Essex and in South East England with occasional examples being found as far west as Cornwall.

Bottom: Granary occupying the first floor of a mixing barn in Lincolnshire. In this 19th-century building the ground floor is devoted to the preparation and storage of fodder for cattle whilst the first floor, reached by external steps, was a granary. In similar buildings in this area only part of the building may have a loft for grain storage.

© English Heritage



25 Granaries and cart sheds in the North East Region

- A Detached, free-standing granaries are rare in the North East. This example was built by Durham Cathedral Priory. (Tyne and Wear Lowlands)
- B Granaries in the North East Region often form part of a linear range, located on the first floor and approached by a flight of external steps

(B North Pennines) or are located above cart sheds. Cart sheds typically form part of combination ranges (C Cheviot Fringe) and are sometimes located over hemmels.

A & C © Jen Deadman; B 404168 Taken as part of the Images of England project © Mr Thomas S. Bolton

25A



25B



25C



6.3.2 CART SHEDS IN THE NORTH EAST

Few pre- or mid-19th century cart sheds survive, and many are later additions to pre-existing farmsteads. The increases in the number, size and sophistication of carts and field implements after about 1840 were associated with greater mechanisation and intensification of farming in the Region. Some of these mid-19th century cart-shed ranges in lowland arable areas can extend up to 13 bays (Barnwell & Giles 1997, p.84). Combined granary/cart-shed ranges are a distinctive feature of larger lowland steadings, and on smaller steadings or upland areas cart sheds can appear as individual or single-bay structures.

6.4 HAY BARNES AND OTHER CROP-RELATED BUILDINGS

6.4.1 NATIONAL OVERVIEW

Hay would be kept in lofts over the cow house and stable, stored in stacks or in purpose-built barns. The latter differed from corn barns in that they were open-sided to allow a good flow of air through the hay. They comprised little more than a roof supported on brick, stone or iron piers with solid gable walls. They mostly date from the second half of the 19th century, and are more typical of the wetter pastoral west than the

arable east. A very small number of timber hay barns with adjustable roofs – as commonly survive in the Netherlands – survive intact, mostly in Yorkshire. The agricultural depression from the 1870s meant that dairy farming was one of the few branches of farming to remain profitable, leading to an increase in the production of hay. This period saw the introduction of some of the first mass-produced iron farm buildings, such as Dutch barns for hay storage, and also of airtight clamps for the preservation of silage. Silage towers were built in small numbers in the inter-war period, but were not generally adopted until the 1960s (Shaw 1990).

As the use of fodder crops, such as turnips, and over-wintering of cattle became countrywide, there developed a need to store the fodder in earth clamps or small rooms. In some of the better-planned farmsteads the root and fodder stores would be incorporated into the cattle housing, usually located close to where the cattle were stalled with access between the two. On smaller farmsteads the root store was either a separate building or formed part of a combination building, perhaps being associated with a granary or workshop. At present, it is not possible to identify any particular features of these buildings, other than the building

26A



26 Hay barns in the North East Region

Hay barns are found on some pastoral farms but they are not as common in the North East compared to the North West Region. Most date from the 19th century and may be found located in the fields (A North Pennines) or at the main farmstead (B North Pennines; C Cheviot Fringe).
 All © Jen Deadman

26B



26C



materials, that are regionally characteristic.

Some areas of the country developed a specialisation in the production of particular crops such as hops or fruit. In some cases these crops required the construction of particular buildings that are regionally characteristic: for example, the oast house/hop kiln of the South East and West Midlands and the cider house of Herefordshire and the South West.

Small kilns for drying corn and particularly malt for brewing have been recovered through excavation (Le Patourel in Miller 1991, p.875) and a small number of much larger and more solidly constructed examples survive from the 17th century, especially in the North West and South West. Surviving examples of corn-drying kilns, concentrated in upland farming areas, are very rare. The processing of corn to flour was undertaken in mills normally powered by water or wind. Mill buildings are

often found isolated from farmsteads but occasionally they can form part of the farmstead.

6.4.2 HAY BARNs AND OTHER CROP-RELATED BUILDINGS IN THE NORTH EAST (Figure 26)

A feature of many larger pastoral farms – but not as common as in the North West – was the hay barn. This was usually a separate structure with open sides that allowed adequate ventilation of the hay whilst keeping it dry. There are some very fine examples of large estate hay barns (for example at Croxdale Hall and Home Farm, Ushaw College, both near Durham).

In northern and upland areas of the country it was not always possible to fully ripen the grain sufficiently by natural means, and so corn-drying kilns were used (Ramm et al 1970, p.17; Hillelson 1984, p. 58). See North West and Yorkshire and the Humber for further details.

7.0 Key Building Types: Animals and Animal Products

7.1 CATTLE HOUSING

7.1.1 NATIONAL OVERVIEW (Figure 27)

There are great regional differences in the management of cattle and the buildings that house them. This extends to how they are described in different parts of the country: for example, 'shippon' in much of the South West; 'byre' in northern England; 'hovel' in central England. Stalls, drains and muck passages have also been given their own local vocabulary.

Evidence for cattle housing is very rare before the 18th century, and in many areas uncommon before the 19th century. The agricultural improvements of the 18th century emphasised the importance of farmyard manure in maintaining the fertility of the soil. It was also recognised that cattle fattened better and were more productive in milk if housed in strawed-down yards and buildings, and fed with carefully measured quantities of nutritious turnips and imported feed. There is hardly a farmstead without 19th-century adaptations for increased livestock accommodation.

The introduction of hygiene regulations early in the 20th century for the production of milk resulted in new floors, windows and stall arrangements being inserted. Animal welfare standards are also important; cows on farms seeking Soil Association assurance require more than double (at 6 square metres) the space of tethered beasts in traditional cow houses. Some, particularly under split-level barns, are too low for modern usage and so have been preserved by abandonment or occasional use by sheep.

Characteristic features of cattle housing include:

- Externally, lower and wider doorways than stabling, with wall ventilation slits (adjustable sliding ventilators from the early 19th century) and holes in gable ends or side walls for the throwing out of muck (especially in areas with limited straw for bedding, where cattle were wintered indoors).
- Internally, ceilings were typically low and there was very little light. Hay was stored above in lofts, and in some examples (such as the Pennines) on either side in 'sink mows', increasing the warmth and airlessness. It was not until the later 19th century that the importance of a well-ventilated cow house became fully appreciated. The size of the haylofts increased as more cows were kept and the production of hay rose; their ceilings were higher and air ducts went from the cow house up on to the roof above the hay barn.

- Interior stalling and feeding arrangements. Cows were usually tethered in pairs with low partitions of wood, stone, slate and, later, cast iron between them. As the breeding of stock improved and cows became larger, the space for the animals in the older buildings became limited and an indication of the date of a cow house can be the length of the stalls or the width of the building. Feeding arrangements can survive in the form of hayracks, water bowls and mangers for feed.
- Variations in internal planning, cattle being stalled along or across the main axis of the building and facing a wall or partition. They were fed either from behind or from a feeding passage, these often being connected to fodder rooms from the late 18th century.

In the following descriptions of buildings for cattle the wide variety in the means of providing accommodation for cattle, both over time and regionally, can be seen .

7.1.1.1 Longhouses

In this type of building the family and animals used a common entrance and the cattle (typically prized dairy cattle) were stalled at one end, usually the end down-slope. Examples (often high status in terms of their size, detail and construction) survive in parts of the north and west of England and are usually the only evidence for cattle housing before the 17th century. They were more widespread in the medieval period (see 5.1.1).

7.1.1.2 Ox houses

Oxen were the favoured animals for draught work on the farm in the medieval period, although in some parts of the country horses were already replacing them.. They survived in some areas into the 19th and even 20th centuries. Ox houses can be very difficult to identify, the most distinguishing feature being wide doorways and wider-than-average stalling (see 7.3.2).

7.1.1.3 Combination barns

See 6.1.2. These were used for cattle accommodation from the 17th century, and in northern aisled barns from at least that period.

7.1.1.4 Open-fronted sheds

The earliest of these were the two-storey linhays of the South West, with cattle accommodated below a hayloft. Shelter sheds, facing on to yards and either with haylofts above or simply single-storey, were increasingly built from the mid-18th century. Cattle yards with open-fronted sheds were typical of mixed farming areas where cattle

27 Cattle housing: national examples

- A & B Wooden cow stalls and slate cow stalls, the latter as found throughout the northern uplands. (A Durham Coalfield Pennine Fringe; B Yorkshire Dales)
- C Cow houses needed to be well ventilated, by either slits in the wall or windows. Horizontal sliding hit-and-miss ventilators, as here, achieved wide popularity in the mid- to late 19th century. (Vale of York)

- D A range of looseboxes, easily distinguishable by its rows of doors providing access to individual cubicles for fattening. (North Northumberland Coastal Plain)
- E The interior of a covered yard, on a home farm of 1875. (Shropshire, Cheshire and Staffordshire Plain)
- A–C © Jen Deadman; D & E © English Heritage / Michael Williams



27A



27B



27C



27E



27D

were housed on the steading as fatstock and for their manure. Common internal fittings were mangers and hayracks, and sometimes stalls.

7.1.1.5 Lean-tos (outshots)

These were attached to other buildings (particularly barns) and farmyard walls, either as part of the initial

phase of build or (particularly if the barn is pre-1750 in date) a later addition. These could be either open-fronted or closed with doorways to individual cow houses or looseboxes.

7.1.1.6 Free-standing cow houses

These comprised either single-storey ranges, or two-

storey ranges with haylofts. Pre-19th-century examples of the former include the neathouses of the claylands of Suffolk and examples of both types are found in the West Midlands. In cattle-rearing areas calf houses have also been found; typically they are smaller in scale and often sited close to the house.

7.1.1.7 Looseboxes (Figure 27D)

Mostly dating from the 1850s, these served as accommodation for sick or calving beasts, bulls or most commonly fatstock. They comprised individual boxes or more usually a row of boxes with a central or rear feeding passage. The latter were usually distinguished externally by continuous rows of doors. There was often a feeding passage along behind them, with a feed store at one end. If used for fatstock, the floor of the boxes was sunken and the manure would build up in them during the winter. They reflected a realisation that warm and dry conditions would promote weight gain (through minimising heat loss) and retain the quality of the manure. Double rows would have a central feeding passage and were to be found on many farms by 1860.

7.1.1.8 Covered yards

By the 1850s it had been proved by agricultural chemists that the nutritional value of manure would be better preserved if it were under cover, and as costly feeds produced richer manures, the incentive to protect them was great. The problem was that it could be difficult to provide enough ventilation, but this could be overcome by complex systems of louvers and shutters. Some continued to be built as the depression in grain prices focused attention on livestock production. The best-known examples of covered yards are on the most expensively designed model farms of the mid- to late 19th century, almost all of them being estate-owned. The introduction of roofs to existing yards became general in fatstock areas from the late 19th century and especially after 1940. Dairy cattle are now typically housed in portal-framed sheds erected in the post-war period.

7.1.2 CATTLE HOUSING IN THE NORTH EAST (Figure 28)

Cattle have long been a mainstay of the Region's agricultural economy, and this Region holds some of the country's earliest surviving buildings featuring cattle housing. These include the remains of fortified bastle houses where the cattle could be accommodated at ground-floor level and the family housed above (see 5.3.1).

The summer grazing grounds, by the early 16th century called shielings, were characterised by groups of stone, timber or turf huts, of rectangular or circular form (Coggins 1992, p.81). They typically developed into permanently occupied farms or even hamlets, as transhumance was abandoned in favour of permanent

farmsteads. This practice survived longest – into the 17th century – in the North Pennines and Cheviots, where the instability of the Borders area had also inhibited the expansion of settlement (Winchester 1987, pp.3, 7; Adams & Carne 1995, p.92). Shielings are readily distinguishable from the archaeological remains of farmsteads (although later use has obscured the origins of the latter) which are marked by enclosures for holding livestock and stack stands for winter fodder (Hillelson 1984; Ramm, McDowell & Mercer 1970, p.7). No other buildings would have been necessary and the great majority are now ruinous.

As we have seen, cow houses were rarely built as separate structures but were nearly always part of a larger building, either at one or both ends of a single-storey barn, within a partially lofted barn, below a lofted extension or in the ground floor of a bank barn (see 6.1.2). Cattle housing typically formed part of linear farmsteads in the uplands, including those rebuilt in the 19th century. Field work in the south of the Region – notably on the Bearpark Estate, Durham, where farmstead buildings date from its leasing off by the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral after 1655 – indicates that many more examples of multi-functional partitioned buildings, with triangular vents and upper cruck trusses, remain to be discovered (Edwards 1985). Recent investigation and dating by dendrochronology on the Bearpark estate has revealed a 17th-century cruck-roofed cow house and a unique (for the North East) example of a late medieval longhouse with a very long low end (information from Martin Roberts).

There is very little additional evidence for cattle housing until the late 18th century. In addition to the traditional cow house, enclosed and accessed by one or more doors, from this period cattle were kept in open yards with long, low, open-fronted shelters that often adjoined the barn, the source of their fodder and straw for litter. Sometimes these shelters had a hayloft or a granary over. The most regionally distinctive example of a specialist building erected to house fatstock is the hemmel, typically an open-fronted shed with an arched entrance providing access to a small yard. It is found throughout the Region, on both large and small farms.

Fatstock became increasingly important during the second half of the 19th century, and the buildings found on many Northumbrian farmsteads in particular reflect this development as well as the need to more closely manage and accommodate smaller groups of cattle. Existing open-fronted shelters could be altered to provide a greater degree of shelter, and new ranges were often built outside the core of existing buildings, the latter being a characteristic feature of farmstead development in this Region. These new wide-span ranges could often incorporate root houses for fodder storage,

28 Cattle housing in the North East Region

- A The undercroft of a bastle house, which provided secure housing for cattle. Bastle houses, as with longhouses, represent one of the earliest forms of surviving cattle accommodation. (Cheviot Fringe)
- B & C Hemmels are a regional characteristic form of cattle housing found on farms of all sizes. They can range from one or two sheds, typically with large arched openings, to whole ranges on one or more sides of a yard. Most date from the first half of the 19th century. (B Border Moors and Forests; C Northumberland Sandstone Hills)
- D Cattle were often housed in two-storey cow houses that formed part of a combination range that could include stabling, hay storage or a threshing barn (North Pennines).
- E Many farmsteads include a small number of looseboxes, individual sheds where a sick or pregnant cow could be isolated from other stock. On some large farms greater numbers of looseboxes are found suggesting an intensive system of rearing (as being advocated by some mid-19th-century agricultural commentators) was employed. (North Northumberland Coastal Plain)
- F On large, lowland farms open-fronted sheds around a yard or arranged to create an E-plan (or larger) were typical. The final stage of development of cattle housing was the covering over of the yard areas. In some cases from the later 19th century covered yards formed part of the original plan but on many farms, such as this example from the Cheviot Fringe, the covering was a late 19th- or early 20th-century addition to the earlier shelter shed ranges.
- A, B & F © Jen Deadman; C & E © English Heritage / Michael Williams; D © Jeremy Lake

28C



28D



28E



28F



28A



28B



29 A typical stable interior for working horses, showing the stalls that prevented the horses biting and kicking each other; the hay rack and cobbled floor. (Dorset Downs and Cranborne Chase) © Bob Edwards

connected to feeding passages running the length of each building. On most farmsteads cattle were kept in yards for most of the time but a small number of looseboxes were usually provided within the farmstead where calving or sick beasts could be accommodated; fattening boxes were also used (Barnwell & Giles 1997, pp.86–90).

The final development of many yard systems was the roofing-over of the yard to create a covered yard. Although some farmsteads were provided with covered yards in the late 19th century, most found in Northumberland are 20th-century developments (Barnwell & Giles 1997, p.88).

Within the large planned farmsteads of the Northumberland lowlands small byres for milk cows for domestic use were usually provided within the farmstead. These byres could be sited near the house or the cattle yard (Barnwell & Giles 1997, p.92).

7.2 DAIRIES

7.2.1 NATIONAL OVERVIEW

The dairy, where milk was stored and turned into butter or cheese, was usually located within the farmhouse (at its service end or in a rear room) or located in a lean-to at the rear of the house. Some dairies were separate buildings but, as the women of the household usually managed the dairy, they were normally situated close to the house. Within the dairy, which was commonly cool and damp, milk was poured into large shallow pans and the cream left to rise to the top before it was skimmed off and churned (usually with a plunger) in order to make butter. New types of churn appeared in the mid-19th century, the most important invention being the centrifugal separator in 1890. On some estates, the individual dairy building could be quite ornate in design; they were often circular, with a tall conical roof and plenty of ventilation, cool tiled floors and a low marble, slate or tiled shelf running almost all the way around inside.

Cheeses were made from the preservation and treatment of the curd, the solid mass that separates from the thin whey: harder cheeses were made from skimmed milk, softer cheese such as Cheshire from whole milk. After pressing, it needed space for storage. In areas where cheese making was important the dairies often had a room above called a cheese loft, where cheese was stored while maturing, or there would be a separate cheese house, the equivalent of the arable farmer's granary. In the 19th century more ornate dairy buildings



were built on some of the larger farms, often located within the garden of the farmhouse rather than in the working farmyard.

Dairying for urban markets was already a specialised enterprise by the 1750s, and winter feeding and the ousting of less-productive breeds by the Dairy Shorthorn (after 1820) boosted yields. By the 1850s, butter production for the market was concentrated around towns, and the first small dairy factories started production around 1870. Cheese making in East Anglia gave way to cereal farming and fattening after 1800 (Holderness in Mingay 1989, pp.160, 158). Commercial cheese making and foreign imports (from the colonies) made inroads from the 1860s, and by around 1914 farmhouse butter was being sold only in Devon and Cornwall, and cheese made only in Cheshire, Leicestershire and the vales of Dorset and Somerset (Whetham 1978, pp.11, 15). Changes in hygiene regulations and the centralisation of production through the 20th century had a major impact on dairies, with the majority becoming redundant to their original use. Changes in use may have resulted in the removal of fixtures such as slate or stone shelves for cooling the milk.

The sale of liquid milk had become massively important in many areas by the early 20th century (Whetham 1978, pp.9–10). The stand for milk churns, often built at the farm gate to save the milk cart or lorry from having to come to the farmstead, and the abandonment of all but a handful of farmhouse dairies and cheese rooms for new milk-production plants were the other visible consequences of these developments.

The industrialisation of much of the dairy industry meant that the majority of farm dairies were redundant by the mid-20th century. Where the dairy was part of the farmhouse it is usual to find that it has been brought into domestic use, typically resulting in the removal of any fittings associated with butter or cheese making. Any survivals of dairy equipment in situ are rare. Detached

30 Stables in the North East Region

Stables are found on many Lowland and Transitional Area farmsteads but they do not have any regionally-specific characteristic other than the use of local building materials. Large Lowland and Transitional farms could incorporate a smithy, identifiable by its chimney (D, for example).

(A Pennine Dales Fringe; B Tyne and Wear Lowlands; C North Pennines; D Cheviot Fringe). Some of the large farmsteads of the lowlands were provided with large single-storey stable ranges and yards for the horses. A, B & D © Jen Deadman; C © Jeremy Lake



dairy buildings may also have been brought into an alternative use, again usually resulting in the removal of associated fittings. Surviving historic dairies are both rare and highly vulnerable. Cheese rooms are now especially rare and hard to identify.

7.2.2 DAIRIES IN THE NORTH EAST

Dairies in this Region are almost exclusively found in the service area of the farmhouse. There are no known examples of detached dairy buildings.

7.3 STABLES

7.3.1 NATIONAL OVERVIEW

After the barn, the stable is often the oldest building on the farmstead. The high value of horses to the running of the farm meant stables were well built and often placed near the house, with easy access to the fields, and given a certain level of architectural and decorative treatment. A few stables dating to before 1700 have been identified in local surveys, while many more date from the 18th century. One of the reasons for this rise in number was the decline in the use of oxen.

The size of stabling was, like granaries and cart sheds, loosely linked to the arable acreage of the farm. The number of horses needed to work a farm changed little until the arrival of the tractor, with one horse for every 20 acres being the frequently quoted figure. Smaller farms still needed a team of horses, so even a 50-acre farm might well have four horses. Most farms still kept a few working horses until the 1950s, and they were finally replaced by tractors during the 1960s. Farmsteads, and the farmyards attached to manor and gentry houses, often had stables for riding and coach horses, the upper floors commonly being used as accommodation for stable hands. These were usually well appointed and in some cases were used as displays of wealth and status, incorporating architectural detailing not found on most other farm buildings.

Stable interiors are characterised by:

- Horses commonly stalled in pairs with wooden stall divisions between them to stop them kicking each other (Figure 29). Cast-iron stable fittings often replaced wooden ones. More elaborate stalls and mangers were usually confined to the riding-horse

rather than carthorse stable, but on many small farms the riding horse would have been kept alongside the working animals. In early (pre-1750) examples, the stalls are across the end walls while in later examples the stalls are along the side walls, allowing more scope for lengthening the building and thus housing more horses.

- A manger and hayrack, the latter often accessed from a drop from the hayloft above. Other types of fodder, such as crushed oats and bean straw, became more general after the mid-19th century.
- Floors, cobbled and from the mid-19th century of engineering brick, sloping to a drainage channel.
- A ladder to the loft.
- The harness was usually kept in a separate room and chaff boxes were built in to the structure for storing feed. Small cubby-holes for keeping grooming brushes, medicines or lanterns were often built into the walls.

Stable exteriors are characterised by being:

- Usually two-storey, with pitching openings and ventilation to the first-floor loft and an external staircase. The upper floor sometimes provided accommodation for farm labourers or stable lads. Despite textbook advice on the tainting of the hay, the practice of housing horses below haylofts persisted, partly because of the perceived need to protect horses from chills and draughts. Single-storey stables, commonly with cast-iron ridge vents, were built from the later 19th century.
- Well lit, with windows ideally opening to the east to catch the early morning light. The door was wider and higher than that in the cow house.

As stables were usually well-lit buildings they tend to be less vulnerable to changes that affect their character externally. Carthorse stables are far less likely to retain floor surfaces, internal stalls and fitments (such as saddle hooks) than riding-horse stables. Many stables, particularly those located within ranges that included cow houses, were converted into dairies when modern electrically powered milking and cooling machinery was introduced from the 1950s.

7.3.2 STABLES IN THE NORTH EAST (Figure 30)

In upland areas stables are small in scale and form part of combination ranges. Detached examples of two-storey stables are not common and, where found, are located in lower dales and lowland landscapes. The largest stable buildings – some of the largest in the country in fact – are found in the lowland and transitional arable areas of Northumberland. By the 19th century they usually took the form of single-storey, well-ventilated ranges, with the horses stalled along the length of the building. On some farms horse yards were attached with open-fronted shelters

suggesting that (as in Lincolnshire and Norfolk) the horses were kept outside, at least during the summer, with the stables used for grooming and feeding (Barnwell & Giles 1997, pp.85–6).

7.4 PIG HOUSING

7.4.1 NATIONAL OVERVIEW (Figure 31)

One or two pigs were kept on most farms, although the pigs often ran with other livestock in the fields, or roamed about the yard, rather than having their own dedicated housing. Pigs were most commonly kept in dairying areas or market-gardening areas, such as the Fens, where whey or potatoes were available for feed. The only requirements for special accommodation were for farrowing, final fattening and accommodation of the boar. On most farms only a few pigs were kept for domestic use and here they were normally fed on kitchen scraps or whey (a by-product of dairying) and so sties were often placed near the kitchen or dairy. Sometimes they were also integrated into the planning of the farmyard, commonly on larger farms where commercial fattening was practised. Any pre-19th-century examples are of great rarity.

Characteristic features of pigsties are:

- Single-storey structures, with a gable entry to a first-floor hen house where lofts occur.
- Low entrances.
- Individual yards in some regions.
- Their construction in rows of three or more small and unlit boxes, often with a chute through the front wall into the feeding trough down which the swill could be thrown.
- A small chimneystack, marking the position of a boiler house for boiling swill for pig feed. These are most commonly found where pigs were kept on a commercial scale.

Imported feed sustained the growth of the pig industry in the inter-war period, more specialist producers taking the Danish or Scandinavian system as a model for the industrial housing of pigs. The American battery system of housing poultry was used for pigs from the late 1920s.

7.4.2 PIG HOUSING IN THE NORTH EAST

Generally across the Region pigs were only kept for domestic consumption and so, although many farmsteads had pigsties, most were on a modest scale. Where larger examples were to be found on some of the large Northumbrian farmsteads, it is possible that the sties were associated with the nearby cottages of the farm labourers rather than representing commercial pig-keeping (Barnwell & Giles 1997, p.93).

31 Pigsties: national examples

Pigsties have few regionally distinct features other than their building materials (A North Yorkshire Moors and Cleveland Hills). Most have a small yard attached to the shelter (B Arden; C Tyne Gap and Hadrian's Wall) and they may have hatches and chutes for feeding, whilst some

form part of a larger range of buildings. Some pigsties are combined with poultry housing (C South East Northumberland Coastal Plain). Generally these buildings are extremely vulnerable to neglect as they offer little opportunity for other uses. A © Jen Deadman; B © Peter Gaskell; C © Jeremy Lake; D © English Heritage / Michael Williams



7.5 SHEEP HOUSING

7.5.1 NATIONAL OVERVIEW

The great importance of sheep farming to many areas of the country is not reflected in surviving farm buildings. In medieval times it was common practice to provide sheep houses, or berceries, even in the south of England. Apart from possible medieval timber-framed sheepcotes in Hampshire (Lewis et al 1988, p.113–15) there is only earthwork evidence for these buildings, but documentary sources show that in Gloucestershire at least they ranged from between eight and eighteen bays (Dyer 1995, p.149). Barns, when empty, were sometimes used for shearing and sorting the wool.

In Cumbria and elsewhere in northern England a building similar in appearance to a field barn was provided for the hogs or yearling sheep to give them protection over their first winter. Low floor-to-ceiling heights and upper-floor haylofts are characteristic features of these buildings. The low ceiling to the ground floor below a hayloft is the characteristic feature of hogg houses. Sheep housing in other areas is associated with outfarms, such as on the southern downlands.

Before the adoption of enclosures of rough grazing in upland areas sheep were kept on both the low-lying commons and high moors to which nearly all farmers had access. The only times of year when all the sheep would be gathered together was for shearing and salving and dipping. Salving involved the boiling of Stockholm tar and tallow to make a mixture that was smeared all over the coat to protect against lice and scab as well as keep the fleece waterproof through the harsh winter. The practice of salving was carried out until the introduction of compulsory dipping as protection from scab in the early 20th century and very few of the sheds used for salving survive. As well as salving, sheep were also washed or dipped. Sheep washing was often carried out in ponds or streams where the watercourse might be artificially deepened or walled or, more unusually, sheep were dipped in specially constructed tanks. Enclosures funnelled towards the water's edge have been found. In areas where watermeadows were a feature of the landscape sheep dips are sometimes found built in to the system of leats and sluices.

7.5.2 SHEEP HOUSING IN THE NORTH EAST

Compared to some other parts of the country where sheep farming was predominant, such as the downlands

of southern England, this Region contains a large number of buildings for sheep. Upland farms typically made use of existing buildings for shearing sheep, and the patterns of surrounding walls indicate that they were built for the sorting and handling of sheep (Barnwell & Giles 1997, p.73–6). In common with other northern upland landscapes, communal sheepfolds and folds next to streams for washing can be found in upland grazing areas, and small openings (sheep creeps) built in field boundaries. Some sheep washes were also built, in the form of troughs.

The remains of medieval sheep houses can also be visible as earthworks. Sheep were traditionally kept close to the farm over winter in upland areas, and on pastures in more sheltered spots. Along the Pennines field barns are characteristic. Some of these buildings, as in the North West and Yorkshire, were intended for the sheltering of sheep, evidenced by the low floor height at ground floor below the hayloft.

In the lowland parts of the Region sheep were rarely provided with buildings, but where they survive they comprise rare and significant examples. On the few occasions when sheep were brought to the farmstead, tasks such as shearing could be performed in buildings such as cart sheds. Sheds for fattening were recommended by some commentators in the mid-19th century, and there are some farmsteads where large yards with low shelters were provided, possibly for use during winter or lambing. The presence of such buildings for sheep exemplifies the willingness of many Northumbrian farmers to embrace advanced methods of farming (Barnwell & Giles 1997, pp.75–7).

7.6 DOVES AND POULTRY

7.6.1 NATIONAL OVERVIEW (Figures 32 & 33)

The construction of a dovecote indicated the status of the owner; as in the medieval period the keeping of doves or pigeons was usually restricted as a manorial right. The birds provided fresh meat and eggs as a supplement to the already varied diets of wealthier people, while the manure was also valued (see McCann 1991). As a consequence, dovecotes were often the object of considerable display and decoration, and commonly associated with gentrified or manorial farms.

Dovecotes are usually square or circular towers with pyramidal or conical roofs, but a number of varying forms have been found, including tun-bellied dovecotes (where the walls bulge outward slightly before tapering upward) and beehive dovecotes with corbelled stone roofs. There are also lectern dovecotes, which are square or rectangular with a mono-pitch roof, and a small number of octagonal dovecotes that are usually of 18th- or 19th-century date. Externally, perching or sunning

ledges formed either in stone, brick or timber have been found. Later dovecotes often incorporated other functions such as granaries or stables. As the keeping of pigeons became more widespread, nesting boxes were incorporated into other farmyard buildings, for example the gable ends of barns.

Internally the walls were lined with nest boxes. In the earliest examples the nest boxes were sometimes formed in the thickness of the wall but usually they were in stone, brick or wood. Dovecote doorways were low to discourage the birds from flying out and often a potence, a central pivoted post with arms supporting a revolving ladder, provided access to the nest boxes for collection of the squabs and eggs. Surviving internal fittings are of great rarity, notably potencies and nest boxes (especially the removable wooden types).

Studies have shown that the distribution of dovecotes may in part be affected by the robustness of the building material. For example, a study of Gloucestershire dovecotes suggests that the brick or timber-framed dovecotes typical of the Vale of Gloucester have fared less well than the stone-built examples of the Cotswolds. At the time of the Gloucestershire survey the author noted that the surviving dovecotes of the Vale were in noticeably poorer condition (Ariss 1992, p.14).

During the 17th and early 18th centuries the restrictions on keeping doves were lifted and small-scale accommodation for doves can be found built into other farm buildings. However, as cereal prices rose and improved methods of farming were adopted the popularity of pigeons declined. Investigation of a farmstead should include a search for small groups of nest boxes, which may be tucked away at the top of a gable or over a gateway.

Poultry keeping was usually the preserve of the farmer's wife and so the hen house was usually close to the farmhouse. This location was also chosen because poultry were often fed on kitchen scraps and looked after from the farmhouse. 'Accommodation for poultry is a modest, though necessary adjunct to all farm homesteads. The busy farmer himself pays little attention as a rule to the feathered tribe, but a thrifty wife knows too well the profit attached to them,' (Clarke 1899, p.172). Geese could be housed in free-standing pens or alcoves in farmyard walls. Hens usually ran freely about a farmyard, but were encouraged to nest safely away from predators and so that the eggs could be collected. Hen houses usually included a small pop hole for the hens as well as a full-sized door for human access for feeding and egg-collection. The walls were lined with nest boxes. As is still the case, hen houses were usually relatively short-lived buildings and there are few survivals that can be described as historic. Where historic examples do survive they usually form part of another building, such

32 Distribution of listed dovecotes in England

This distribution includes both free-standing dovecotes and dovecotes that are incorporated into other buildings. Although dovecotes are found in all Regions, their concentration within Roberts and Wrathmell's Central Province from Gloucestershire to Northumberland and extending into north Oxfordshire is notable. Within this area manorial control was strongest and the higher numbers of dovecotes may reflect this.

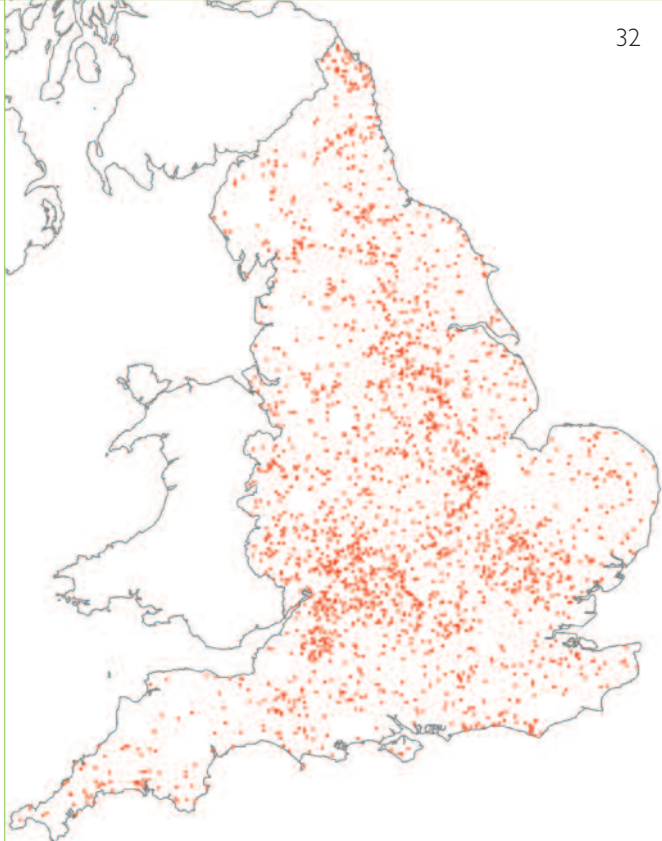
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33 Buildings for birds in England

A A 'beehive' dovecote with a roof constructed of large slabs of stone. This form of dovecote is only found in North East England and in the South West peninsula. (Tees Lowlands)

B Medieval circular dovecote. Note the low doorway. (Dorset Downs and Cranborne Chase)

A 110861 Taken as part of the Images of England project © Mr Alan Bradley; B © Bob Edwards (continued over)



32



33A

as a pig house: it was thought the chickens would keep the pigs warm and the pigs would frighten foxes away. The combination of a hen house located above a pig house was described as a poultingery in some areas (for example in North Shropshire and Northumberland). These could be associated with a boiler house with a chimney for feed preparation.

7.6.2 DOVES AND POULTRY IN THE NORTH EAST

In Northumbria dovecots, locally called 'duckets', are concentrated in a semi-circular band around the Cheviots. The earliest (medieval to 17th century) examples are free-standing buildings, some of which are of a 'beehive' shape with a circular plan and corbelled stone roof that is common in Scotland. There is also a group of this type in lower Teesdale. The early square dove-cotes may have a mono-pitch roof, which is also a feature of Scottish dove-cotes and is otherwise rarely found in England. Many of these isolated examples on the coastal plain may be on the sites of abandoned manorial centres. The majority, however, are integrated into other buildings such as stables, barns or hen houses and date from the late 18th and 19th centuries (Kempe 1992, pp.73–6). A similar range of dove-cotes, except for the mono-pitch roof variety, can be seen in Durham.



33B

33C



33 Accommodation for birds in England (continued)

- C A square stone-built dovecote with stepped gables probably dating from the 16th century. (Vale of Pickering)
 - D Seventeenth-century timber-framed dovecote. Internally the nest boxes of this building are made from stone rubble, but wooden nest boxes and, in the East of England Region, clay bats forming the nest boxes are also found. (Herefordshire Lowlands)
 - E Octagonal brick dovecote dating from the 18th century. (Tees Lowlands)
 - F Nest boxes incorporated into the gable end of a bastle house in Northumbria. The construction of nest boxes into the walls of other buildings, especially barns, was commonplace during the 18th and 19th centuries (Cheviot Fringe)
 - G Hen house built over a pigsty. Probably late 19th century. (Vale of York)
 - H Goose pen built against a farmyard boundary wall. (Herefordshire Plateau)
- C © English Heritage; D 149817 Taken as part of the Images of England project © Mr Chris Tresise; E 350468 Taken as part of the Images of England project © Mr Alan Bradley; F & G © Jen Deadman; H © Bob Edwards

33D



33F



32E



33G



33H



In Northumberland a small number of farms have large-scale 19th-century buildings for poultry implying commercial egg production, possibly supplying the market at Berwick, which had been an important export

centre for eggs from the Region. On a smaller, domestic scale, fowl houses can be found above pigsties and occasionally associated with pigeon lofts (Barnwell & Giles 1997, pp.92–3).

8.0 Key Building Types: Other Farmstead Buildings

8.1 OUTFARMS AND FIELD BARNES

8.1.1 NATIONAL OVERVIEW

Field barns and outfarms, sometimes with a cottage beside them, can be prominent landscape features. Outfarms were usually created on larger farms or in areas where the farmsteads remained in the villages after enclosure, resulting in some fields being distant from the main farmstead. These complexes usually took the form of a yard that was often fully or partly enclosed by buildings. The outfarm saved on labour in that the harvested crop from the surrounding fields did not have to be carried back to the farmstead, and its straw turned into manure which, in turn, did not have to be carted back out to the distant fields.

Field barns were built in areas where farmsteads and fields were sited at a long distance from each other or where fields were interspersed with the land of other farms. Isolated field barns, cow houses and sheep houses are documented from the medieval period in upland areas (Le Patourel in Miller 1991, p.865). In some cases, such as the Craven Dales of Yorkshire or in the South Hams of Devon, they could be multi-functional buildings for cattle, corn and hay. The small and numerous field barns of the North Yorkshire Dales were built for a specialist dairy industry. In arable areas they were often simply threshing barns, which after 1770 were a typical part of outfarm groups.

Field barns and outfarms have always been vulnerable to dereliction once redundant. The widespread introduction of artificial fertilisers, bale silage production and the centralisation of farming activities

are key factors in the abandonment and dereliction of field barns and outfarms.

8.1.2 OUTFARMS AND FIELD BARNES IN THE NORTH EAST (Figure 34)

In those lowland and transitional areas characterised by larger farms, outfarms mostly dating from the mid-19th century are found, ranging from yards bounded by one or two ranges of shelter sheds to larger complexes incorporating barns.

As well as the main byre and barn on the farmstead, upland farms also included isolated free-standing field barns. The buildings provided storage for hay in a loft, reducing the need to cart it back to the main farmstead, and the cattle could be housed below, allowing for manure to be moved easily onto the surrounding fields in the spring. Another factor in the building of field barns was the more severe winter weather, which meant that cattle had to be housed for at least twice as long as in the South West. Field barns are not a highly distinctive feature of the North East, however, as in the North West or Yorkshire.

8.2 MINOR AND MISCELLANEOUS BUILDINGS

8.2.1 NATIONAL OVERVIEW

A range of other, smaller, buildings have also been found in a farmstead. Every farmyard would have had a water supply, either a pond, a nearby stream or a well, which could be enclosed in a well house. Fast-flowing water would also be used (see 6.0) to process grain into flour

34 Outfarms and field barns in the North East Region
Outfarms, with buildings providing a threshing barn and stock housing, often with a fold yard (A) and field barns consisting of a cow house



34A

and hay loft (B) are found across much of the lowland and transitional areas of the Region. (A & B Tees Lowlands)
© Jen Deadman



34B

34C



34C A large symmetrical building group in the park at Alnwick. The classical group of buildings are arranged in a U-plan around a yard open to the south. (Northumberland Sandstone Hills)
© English Heritage / Michael Williams

and wool into textiles, although evidence for mills or loom shops is very rare on surviving farms. Fuel for heating, in the form of timber or turf, would also be kept close to the house; specialist houses for peat, such as in Eskdale (Cumbria) are very rare. Some farmyards had recesses in the walls called bee boles to house a straw skep beehive. Occasionally a farm had its own slaughterhouse but many of these buildings do not have any characteristic external features, although internal features often included a higher ceiling and possibly a wheel to raise carcasses. Detached structures or rooms with chimneystacks served a diversity of functions: boil houses for animal (usually pig) feed; smithies (most frequently found on large farms, and located close to cart sheds); or washhouses. Farm dogs were often accommodated beneath the flights of steps

that led up to lofts. Kennels for hunting dogs are found in hunting areas and are typically low, single-storey buildings similar to pigsties, with attached individual yards enclosed by metal railings.

8.2.2 MINOR AND MISCELLANEOUS BUILDINGS IN THE NORTH EAST

In the Northumberland lowlands, where villages may be centred on a single large 19th-century planned farmstead that included the cottages of the farm labourers, the farmstead often incorporated other buildings to serve the needs of the community. For example, smithies were often placed near the stables or cart shed where repairs to the increasing number of new iron implements could be made (Barnwell & Giles 1997, pp.91–2).

9.0 Glossary

- Aisled barn** A barn in which increased width was obtained through the use of aisles – narrow extensions along one or more sides or ends of the barn. A series of posts stand in the place where the walls of an unaisled building would run. The roof is carried on beyond the line of the aisle posts so the height of the walls is reduced and the visual mass of the roof increased.
- Allotment** An area of land allotted to a farmer, often at the time of enclosure. The word changes meaning in the later 19th century to mean 'land allotted to villagers for growing their own fruit and vegetables'.
- Arable** Land cultivated for the growth of crops.
- Bank barn** A combination barn of usually two storeys. Through constructing the barn against a bank, both floors can be entered from ground level. Typically bank barns have a threshing barn, sometimes with a granary and hayloft, and over housing for cattle. The ground floor may be open-fronted or enclosed. Bank barns are characteristic of the Lakeland area of the North West Region and parts of Devon, Somerset and Cornwall in the South West Region. They could be placed across the slope or along the slope, the latter having the lower floor often accessed from doors close to or in one gable end.
- Barn** A building for the storage and processing of grain crops, and for housing straw. See also Combination barn.
- Bastle house** A fortified house, usually of high status, in which the family lived at first floor level and accessed by a ladder that could be withdrawn in times of trouble, with their cattle housed on the ground floor. Thick stone walls, small window openings and added steps up to first floor are characteristic features. Bastle houses reflect the turbulent history of the borders area of the north of England, especially between the mid-16th and early 17th centuries.
- Berceries (sheep houses)** Medieval name for sheep houses – shelters provided for sheep usually in areas of grazing away from the farmstead.
- Byre** (see **shippon** and **hovel**) Dialect term for cow house, commonly used in Yorkshire and the North East.
- Cart shed** A building for housing carts and farm implements. Cart sheds are usually open-fronted buildings sited close to a road or track into the farmstead. One bay of a cart shed may be portioned off and provided with doors to create a secure storage area for smaller implements. In many areas cart sheds are combined with first-floor granaries.
- Catch meadow system** Similar to watermeadows. A system of drains cut along a hillside and made to overflow on to the pasture below in winter, encouraging the early growth of grass. Also known as field gutter systems.
- Chaff box/chaff house** Storage for the chaff, or outer husks of crops, a typical by-product of threshing. Chaff was used as fodder for horses.
- Cider house** A building for the milling and pressing of cider; found in the South West and the West Midlands. It usually forms part of a combination range, and is marked by a wide doorway.
- Cob** A term used for earth-walled buildings in the south and west of England. Cob buildings are heavily concentrated in Devon and Dorset and are also found in Wiltshire.
- Combed wheat reed** A method of thatching in which all the straw is laid in the same direction with butts down. The stems of the straw are not bruised or crushed as with longstraw. The finished roof resembles reed thatch rather than longstraw.
- Combination barn** A barn that also housed cattle or horses, and sometimes other functions such as cart sheds and granaries. Combination barns can be two-storey or single-storey buildings. They include bank barns.
- Convertible husbandry** A system whereby some fields were brought into arable cultivation for a short period – usually until the soil was exhausted – and then returned to pasture for a number of years. This system was commonly found in upland areas of the country.
- Coping** Usually flat stones but sometimes bricks laid on the top of a wall to prevent water getting into the core of the wall: for example, on the top of a gable wall of a building where the roofing material abuts the gable wall rather than covers it.
- Covered yard** A cattle yard that is fully covered by a roof – the aims of which were to protect the nutrients in the manure collecting in the yard from being washed away by the rain and to provide an environment where cattle would fatten more quickly.
- Cow house** An enclosed building for cattle in which the animals are normally tethered in stalls.
- Cruck, Raised cruck, Jointed cruck** A pair of curved timbers, usually halved from the same tree trunk, that form an A-frame extending from the ground to the apex of the roof. A raised cruck has the feet of the crucks raised off the ground, usually embedded in a masonry wall. Jointed crucks are individual cruck blades formed by two timbers joined together.
- Dairy** A building, or more often a room within the farmhouse, where milk was processed to make cheese and butter.
- Daub** A mixture of clay and straw applied to wattle infill of timber-framing to make a wall.
- Demesne farm** A manorial farm managed directly as opposed to land within the manor farmed by tenants.

- Dipping** The washing of sheep by immersing in water.
- Dispersed settlement** Settlement consisting of scattered, isolated farmsteads and small hamlets. Dispersed settlement is the predominant settlement form over much of western parts of England, and an area extending from East Anglia to the South East.
- Dovecote** A building, or part of a building, providing nest boxes for pigeons or doves.
- Downland** The higher land of the chalk areas of the country. These areas typically had a poor, thin soil and were the preserve of sheep which grazed on the extensive, unenclosed areas. This form of management suppressed the growth of scrub and allowed a rich flora to establish.
- Dutch barn** Now used to describe an iron-framed, open-fronted building for the shelter of hay or corn. They typically date from the late 19th to the mid-20th centuries.
- Enclosure Enclosed land.** Enclosure of land may have occurred at an early date – possibly medieval and in a few rare cases in the prehistoric period. In other areas open fields or common land was enclosed either by agreement or, in the 18th and 19th centuries, by act of parliament.
- Fallow land** Land left uncultivated, allowing it to rest. In a 3-field open field system one field was left fallow by rotation each year.
- Farmstead** The homestead of a farm where the farmhouse and some or all of the farm buildings are located.
- Fatstock** Farm animals reared for meat.
- Field Barn** A building set within the fields away from the main farmstead, typically in areas where farmsteads and fields were sited at a long distance from each other. Field barns are often combination buildings providing storage for hay or straw and shelter for animals.
- Flail** An implement comprising two linked wooden sticks used to beat grain from the ear (see Thrashing).
- Granary** A building for storing grain before it has been milled. Granaries are usually at first-floor level to prevent rodents and damp damaging the grain. They could be free-standing structures or be an enclosed upper floor above a cart shed or stable.
- Grange** A farmstead belonging to and run by a monastic house.
- Grazier** A person who farms grazing animals, typically for meat or wool.
- Half-hipped roof** A roof in which the gable wall rises above the height of the eaves but does not extend to the apex. The upper part of the gable has a short sloping roof with rafters lying axially (in the same line of the orientation of the building). In a fully hipped roof, axial rafters are of the same length as the rafters of the main roof slopes.
- Hay barn** A structure to shelter but ensure the adequate ventilation of hay. They are typically open-sided structures with roofs supported on high brick, stone, timber or iron piers.
- Hay loft** Storage for hay above cart shed or stables.
- Hayrack** A rack made of wood and from the later 19th century often made in iron, in which hay could be placed to be eaten by cattle, horses or sheep.
- Hemmels** Small open-fronted cattle shelters with their own yards, mostly found in the North East.
- Hipped roof** A roof with slopes at the gable ends of equal or similar length to the side slopes. The gable walls do not rise up to the apex but are of similar height to the side walls. The top ends of the rafters that do not extend to the ridge are carried on a hip rafter.
- Hit-and-miss timber boarding** (also called **Yorkshire boarding**) Usually vertical boarding forming a wall to animal housing which has gaps between the boards to provide ventilation for the animals.
- Holding** A farm.
- Hovel** A dialect term for cow house, formerly common in parts of the Midlands and central southern England.
- Hurdle work** Hurdles, usually made from hazel or another pliable wood woven to form fence panels, were arranged to form temporary enclosure for animals, especially sheep.
- Husbandry** Farming, the management of the production of crops and animals.
- Infield-outfield system** A type of agriculture practised in pastoral (usually upland) areas, where the fields closest to the farmstead or settlement were the most intensively cropped and animals were only permitted to graze after the hay or corn crop was cut. Beyond was rough grazing for sheep and cattle, which was occasionally ploughed for corn.
- Kneeler** A stone, often shaped, which supports the stone coping to the gable end.
- Laithe house** A linear range of one construction comprising a farmhouse with attached barn and usually a stable. There is no internal link between the house and the agricultural element of the range. Laithe houses are usually associated with small part-time farmers who were often involved in the textile industries of the Pennines.
- Lean-to** A building, usually a later addition, which is constructed against the side of a larger building. Lean-tos typically have a mono-pitch roof.
- Lias** A form of limestone, typically split into thin pieces.
- Linear farmstead** A farmstead where the farmhouse and agricultural buildings are ranged in a line, usually attached to each other.
- Linhay** Two-storeyed building with open-fronted cattle shelter with an open-fronted hay loft or tallet above characteristic of Devon and south Somerset. The tallet may be constructed as a conventional floor or simply created from poles. Historically the term linhay was used to refer to a wider range of buildings including field barns.

- Loosebox** An individual cubicle for housing fatstock, found in the form of lean-tos attached to barns or other buildings, or as continuous ranges with an optional central or rear feeding passage.
- Longhouse** A building that housed humans and cattle under one roof and in which there was direct access from the accommodation into the byre. The byre was always built down-slope from the accommodation. Originally animals and humans used the same entrance but as living standards changed the animals were often provided with separate access.
- Longstraw** Term used to describe a thatching method where the ears and butts of the straw are mixed. The stems of the straw are bruised and crushed and the result is a generally looser coat than combed wheat reed or water reed. The appearance of the roof is quite different from combed wheat reed and water reed, with a much thicker covering of straw.
- Manger** An open trough in a stable or cowshed from which horses or cattle could eat.
- Mass-walled building** Buildings where the walls are constructed of solid materials such as stone, earth or brick as opposed to timber-framed walling.
- Meadow** A field maintained for providing grass for grazing and for making hay.
- Midstrey** Term used in southern England and East Anglia for the projecting porch to a threshing barn.
- Nucleated settlement** Settlement pattern consisting mainly of villages with relatively few isolated farmsteads or hamlets.
- Oast house** A building in which hops are dried.
- Oolite** An easily worked form of limestone from the Jurassic period.
- Open-field system** A system in which farmland was held in common with the strips of individual farmers intermixed across several fields. Open-field systems rarely had hedges between strips or fields. Over time the strips were usually consolidated and eventually enclosed. Enclosure of open fields results in characteristic field patterns where the boundaries form an elongated reversed 'S'.
- Outfarm** A barn with animal accommodation either within the barn or separately, located away from the main farmstead, which avoided transporting straw and manure to and from distant fields.
- Outshot** See Lean-to.
- Pantiles** Clay roofing tiles with a wavy profile. Originated in Holland and became popular along the north-east coast. Also made in Somerset.
- Pastoral farming** Farming system based predominantly on the rearing or fattening of stock. Pastoral areas are usually predominantly grassland but in some areas arable cultivation was also important, providing fodder crops for the animals as well as corn crops for domestic use.
- Pasture/pasturage** Grazing land
- Piecemeal enclosure** The enclosure of areas of land field by field, possibly through assarting, as opposed to the wholesale enclosure of large tracts of land and the creation of large field systems.
- Pigsty** A small building for housing pigs. Typically built as individual boxes, individually or in rows and with external feeding chutes. They were often built with their own individual yards.
- Pilaster** An ornamental rectangular column projecting from a wall.
- Portal-framed shed** Mass-produced iron-framed shed usually clad in metal sheeting.
- Poultiggery** A building combining a pigsty at ground level with a poultry house in a loft above.
- Processing room** A room in a farmstead where fodder for animals would be prepared, usually with the aid of machinery such as chaff cutters, cake breakers and root crushers.
- Quoin** The stones or brickwork set at the corner of a building. Where poor-quality building stone was used it was difficult to form corners to a building so the quoins would be made out of bricks or a better quality stone that could be worked square.
- Rickyard** A yard, usually sited close to the barn, in which the harvested corn crops could be stored in ricks to await threshing. The ricks would be built on raised platforms to protect the grain from rodents and thatched to protect from rain.
- Ridge and furrow** Long, parallel ridges of soil separated by linear depressions, caused by repeated ploughing using a heavy plough.
- Ring-fenced** A term to describe a farm in which all the fields are held in a compact block as opposed to being intermixed with the fields of other farmers.
- Root and fodder stores** Room often located close to or incorporated within the cattle housing.
- Salving** The rubbing of a tar-based mix into sheep, in order to guard against ticks, etc.
- Shelter sheds** Open-fronted structures for cattle facing on to cattle yards.
- Shielings** Summer grazing grounds characterised by groups of stone, timber or turf huts.
- Shippon** A dialect term for cow house, commonly used in the North West and the South West peninsula.
- Silage clamp** An airtight container for the storage of freshly cut grass.
- Stable** A building for housing horses or working oxen.
- Staddle barn** Threshing barn, usually timber framed and raised on staddle stones. Staddle barns date from the later 18th and early 19th centuries and may be an attempt to counter the greater predation of the brown rat.
- Staddle stone** Staddle stones usually comprise two stones: an upright column that is capped by a circular stone of larger diameter, typically with a rounded top, together forming a mushroom shape. Staddle stones

- prevented rodents climbing up into granaries, ricks and staddle barns.
- Stall** A standing for a cow or horse within a byre or stable. Stalls are usually divided by wooden or stone partitions to prevent animals biting and kicking each other.
- Thrashing (or Threshing)** The removal of grain from the ears of corn crops. Threshing by hand involved hitting the ears with a flail.
- Threshing barn** See barn.
- Tillage** The tending of land to prepare it for a crop.
- Tithe** A payment of a tenth of crops and produce paid to the Rector of the church for his maintenance. Payment in kind was generally changed to a cash payment in the mid-19th century although this occurred earlier in some parishes.
- Topography** The features of the landscape; its hills, rivers, roads, woods and settlement.
- Vaccary** A stock farm for cattle. Most vaccaries are of 12th- or 13th-century origin, and were built for ecclesiastical or lay lords. They are concentrated in the Pennines.
- Watermeadow** A valley-floor meadow that was subject to controlled flooding using a system of drains and sluices to encourage early grass growth, providing spring food for sheep. The flooding brought nutrients on to the land, improving hay crops. Watermeadows were first developed in the West Midlands but became a characteristic feature of the chalk river valleys of Wessex.
- Wattle** An interwoven panel usually made from hazel used to infill timber framing. Wattle could be covered in daub or left uncovered if more ventilation was required.
- Wheel house** A structure which housed a horse-engine for powering threshing machinery, and typically found projecting from barns. Also known as a gin gang in northern England.
- Winnowing** The separation of grain from the chaff, usually achieved by throwing the grain into the air and using the wind to blow the lighter chaff away from the grain.
- Yorkshire boarding** See Hit-and-miss boarding.

10.0 Sources

10.1 GENERAL SOURCES

The great barns of the medieval period were the first farm buildings to attract the attention of artists and antiquarians, from the 18th century. In the early 20th century this interest broadened out to studies of other iconic building types, such as Arthur Cooke's *A Book of Dovecotes* (1920), and their inclusion in the famous regional landscape studies published by Batsford (*The Face of Britain*). A milestone in the serious academic study of the subject was the publication of a regional study by J.E.C. Peters (1969), which was followed a year later by Nigel Harvey's inspirational general history of the subject (1970, 2nd edition 1984). Peters has usefully summarised his work in a booklet (1981, 2nd edition 2003) and studies examining farm buildings in their broader national and regional contexts have been taken forward by Brunskill (1982, revised 1987), Darley (1981), Lake (1989) and Wade Martins (1991). Individual studies

have been published in the journal of *The Historic Farm Buildings Group*, founded in 1985. A major project by the Royal Commission for Historical Monuments in England, which targeted sample areas for recording, was published in 1997 (Barnwell & Giles 1997). There are a small number of county-wide studies, for example in Kent (Wade in Giles & Wade Martins 1994, pp.26–27) and Surrey (Gray 1998).

Despite an increasing level of interest in historic farm buildings, some of the smaller, less impressive building types have not been subject to the level of study and research that buildings such as barns have received. Therefore there is a limited understanding of the regional variations that may be encountered. As a consequence, the National Overview texts provided in this document for farmstead and building types are sometimes longer than their regional summaries.

There are a number of sources that provide a good overview of agricultural history and the development of farm buildings including:

The Board of Agriculture *General View of the County of...*, published from 1795 to 1814 describe the state of agriculture in individual counties at the time. They often include a map of agricultural regions and a section of farm buildings. They are inevitably biased towards the large, publicity-conscious and 'improving' farmers and estates.

County *Directories* from the second half of the 19th century often include essays on different aspects of the county, such as agriculture.

The British Association for the Advancement of Science published regional studies to coincide with the venues of their annual meetings in the 1950s and '60s. Many contain useful chapters on geology and agriculture.

The various volumes of *The Agrarian History of England and Wales* (Collins, Hallam, Thirsk, Miller, Mingay, Whetham) include essays by leading scholars.

James Caird (1852) *English Agriculture in 1851–2* is a collection of county essays written for *The Times*.

Haggard R. (1902) *Rural England* describes English agriculture county by county.

Hall, A.D. (1913) *A Pilgrimage of British Farming* describes farming in various counties in 1913.

The *Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society* has prize and regional essays on farming and farm buildings, especially useful for the mid- and late 19th century.

The *Victoria County Histories* are of variable use. The more recent volumes contain chapters on agricultural history and buildings.

The *Vernacular Architecture Group* has produced, besides its journal, a comprehensive national and regional bibliography (see Hall, Michelmores and Pattison for reference).

Barnwell, P.S. & Giles, C. (1997) *English Farmsteads 1750–1914* contains a short general introduction, a general concluding chapter and regional studies from west Berkshire, south Lincolnshire, north Northumberland, east Cornwall and central Cheshire.

Brunskill, R.W. (1982) *Traditional Farm Buildings of Britain* gives a very useful farming and building overview.

Darley, G. (1981) *The National Trust Book of the Farm* contains a general introduction followed by regional studies.

The revised Pevsner's *Buildings of England*, published county by county, often have useful introductions on landscape regions and building types.

Many county archaeological and historical journals include relevant articles. National journals of particular interest include those of the following societies:

British Agricultural History Society
Historic Farm Buildings Group
Local Historian

Society for Medieval Archaeology
Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology
Rural History
Society of Architectural Historians
Society for Landscape Studies
Vernacular Architecture Group

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11.0 Joint Character Area Descriptions: URLs for PDF Documents

- 1 **North Northumberland Coastal Plain** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA01_tcm2-21114.pdf
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- 101 **Herefordshire Plateau** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA101+102%20-%20Herefordshire%20Plateau%20+%20Teme%20Valley_tcm2-21195.pdf
- 102 **Teme Valley** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA101+102%20-%20Herefordshire%20Plateau%20+%20Teme%20Valley_tcm2-21195.pdf
- 103 **Malvern Hills** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA103%20-%20Malvern%20Hills_tcm2-21196.pdf
- 104 **South Herefordshire & Over Severn** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA104%20-%20South%20Herefordshire%20and%20Over%20Severn_tcm2-21197.pdf
- 105 **Forest of Dean and Lower Wye** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA105%20-%20Forest%20of%20Dean%20and%20Lower%20Wye_tcm2-21198.pdf
- 106 **Severn and Avon Vales** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA106%20-%20Severn%20and%20Avon%20Vales_tcm2-21199.pdf
- 107 **Cotswolds** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA107%20-%20Cotswolds_tcm2-21200.pdf
- 108 **Upper Thames Clay Vales** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA108%20-%20Upper%20Thames%20Clay%20Vales_tcm2-21201.pdf
- 109 **Midvale Ridge** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA109%20-%20Midvale%20Ridge_tcm2-21202.pdf
- 110 **The Chilterns** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA110%20-%20Chilterns_tcm2-21203.pdf
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- 113 **North Kent Plain** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA113_tcm2-21533.pdf
- 114 **Thames Basin Lowlands** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA114_tcm2-21554.pdf
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- 116 **Berkshire and Marlborough Downs** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA116%20-%20Berkshire%20and%20Marlborough%20Downs_tcm2-21206.pdf
- 117 **Avon Vales** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA117%20-%20Avon%20Vales_tcm2-21207.pdf
- 118 **Bristol, Avon Valleys and Ridges** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA118%20-%20Bristol,%20Avon%20Valleys%20and%20Ridges_tcm2-21208.pdf
- 119 **North Downs** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA119_tcm2-21553.pdf
- 120 **Wealden Greensand** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA120_tcm2-21552.pdf
- 121 **Low Weald** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA121_tcm2-21571.pdf
- 122 **High Weald** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA122_tcm2-21572.pdf
- 123 **Romney Marshes** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA123_tcm2-21573.pdf
- 124 **Pevensey Levels** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA124_tcm2-21631.pdf
- 125 **South Downs** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA125_tcm2-21629.pdf
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- 128 **South Hampshire Lowlands** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA128_tcm2-21661.pdf
- 129 **Thames Basin Heaths** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA129_tcm2-21662.pdf
- 130 **Hampshire Downs** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA130%20-%20Hampshire%20Downs_tcm2-21209.pdf
- 131 **New Forest** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA131%20-%20New%20Forest_tcm2-21210.pdf
- 132 **Salisbury Plain and West Wiltshire Downs** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA132%20-%20Salisbury%20Plain%20and%20West%20Wiltshire%20Downs_tcm2-21211.pdf
- 133 **Blackmoor Vale and Vale of Wardour** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA133%20-%20Blackmoor%20Vale%20and%20Vale%20of%20Wardour_tcm2-21212.pdf
- 134 **Dorset Downs and Cranborne Chase** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA134%20-%20Dorset%20Downs%20and%20Cranborne%20Chase_tcm2-21213.pdf
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- 136 **South Purbeck** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA136%20-%20South%20Purbeck_tcm2-21215.pdf
- 137 **Isle of Portland** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA137+138%20-%20Isle%20of%20Portland%20%20+%20Weymouth%20Lowlands_tcm2-21216.pdf

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- I39 **Marshwood and Powerstock Vales** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA139%20-%20Marshwood%20and%20Powerstock%20Vales_tcm2-21217.pdf
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- I41 **Mendip Hills** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA141%20-%20Mendip%20Hills_tcm2-21219.pdf
- I42 **Somerset Levels and Moors** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA142+143%20-%20Somerset%20Levels%20and%20Moors%20+%20Mid%20Somerset%20Hills_tcm2-21220.pdf
- I43 **Mid Somerset Hills** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA142+143%20-%20Somerset%20Levels%20and%20Moors%20+%20Mid%20Somerset%20Hills_tcm2-21220.pdf
- I44 **Quantock Hills** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA144%20-%20Quantock%20Hills_tcm2-21221.pdf
- I45 **Exmoor** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA145%20-%20Exmoor_tcm2-21222.pdf
- I46 **Vale of Taunton and Quantock Fringe** www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/JCA146%20-%20Vale%20of%20Taunton%20and%20Quantock%20Fringes_tcm2-21223.pdf
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