

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

Lambing Sheds and Attached Shepherd's Hut

Settrington Estate, North Yorkshire

SE 857 684



**Prepared for Peter Grice, agent for Kenholm Storey, Settrington House,
Settrington, North Yorkshire**

By

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The Earth Stone and Lime Company

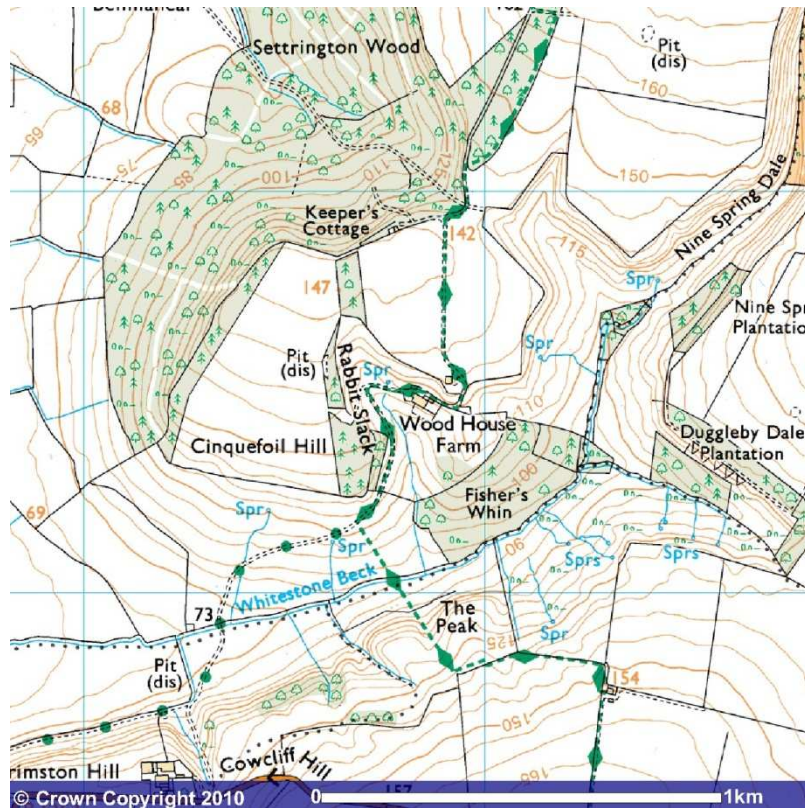
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Lambing Sheds and Attached Shepherd's Hut, close to Wood House Farm, Settrington Estate

Section 1 Summary



Grid reference at centre: SE 857 684 GB Grid

The lambing sheds and attached shepherd's hut are located approximately 100 metres to the east of Wood House Farm, of which they are historically a part. The site is reached via a long track from North Grimston, which begins just east of Grimston Hill House and runs along the floor of Nine Springs Dale before crossing Whitestone Beck and rising northwards to the farm.

The lambing sheds are within a slight depression, with higher ground to the N and W as well as to the S. The ground rises gently E-W within the site and the north range of the sheds follows this gradient. To the S the land crests some 20 metres from the site with a quarried chalk face after which the land falls away steeply towards Whitestone Beck, which Beck forms the East boundary of the parish and Manor of Settrington, as well as of Woodhouse, formerly Settrington Wood House Farm. To the immediate N the geology is oolitic limestone with stone face evident where land has slipped away; more generally it is of chalk. To the E the land falls away steeply to the dale floor and Whitestone Beck. To both E and S the hillsides are rippled and ridged with past landslips, as well as being dotted with a multitude of ant-hills. There is commercial woodland to the SE of the site, somewhat removed. This plantation is designated Fisher's Whin upon modern maps but was variously 'the new plantation' (in 1854) and then 'Wood House Plantation' (1890, and still in 1952). The NW boundaries of the farm are defined by 'Settrington Woods', variously South End and Brackenfall Woods, as well as The Whams. These parcels of woodland existed long before the

Enclosure of Settrington after 1797 and were mentioned specifically and separately in the indentures of the Middleton purchase 1826-27. South End Hage (Hagg) and 'Whame Hage' are both shown, as woodland, in the 1599-1600 Survey of the Manor of Settrington, carried out by John Mansfield for the Crown, owners at this time. Much of the farm was woodland in 1600, though the southern fields were one – 'New Feyld', described as desmense pasture; Mydle Wood, between this and the 'Great Wold' (sheep pasture), was no longer wood in 1600, but 'close pasture' (King & Harris 1962). The farm extends northwards and onto the Great Wold to the E of the woods and includes a thin strip of woodland – Screed Plantation - that runs NNE to SSW across the Wold. Also part of the farm is the steep and unimproved pasture of Nine Springs Hill and its associated dale floor, named Dam Close upon the Enclosure Map of 1799. Modern 'Cow Hill', formerly Great Cold Pasture (1799), which extends SE from the site is similarly unimproved.



looking south, Cow Hill



looking south across the site



looking north

The overall condition of the buildings is reasonable; the roof was repaired more recently, certainly during the last 40 years, and though some original repointing is deficient, repointing in inappropriate and damaging ordinary Portland cement mortar has been localised only. Although there has been past deflection of the brick wall to the E at low level, buttresses have been constructed in the past and these have generally stabilised this potential. The buildings do not seem to be used and redundancy would seem to be the greatest threat to their survival long-term. However, the current desire of the owner to make these buildings sound and to retain them intact within their historic landscape suggests that their future survival is currently secure. The shepherd's hut is currently being used by an owl and is no part of this project to curtail such use.

This survey and management plan was commissioned using HLS funding in order to inform future management of this historic environment feature as part of an agri-environment scheme involving Natural England and the Settrington Estate.

The objective of the proposed works is to address any significant threats to the structure whilst retaining the maximum of historic fabric and structural integrity; deploying like-for-like and breathable materials for any essential repair and thereby allowing the buildings to go forward in a stable, weather-proof and healthy condition.

Lambing Sheds and Attached Shepherd's Hut, close to Wood House Farm, Settrington Estate

Section 2 Summary of Historical Development

A) Context: brief summary of Wolds agriculture, literature review

In the early modern period, crop growing on the Yorkshire Wolds diminished in favour of pasture after the Black Death. The 14th and 15th Centuries saw significant migration from the Wolds. (Fox 61). Wharram Percy and Mowthorpe close to Settrington were abandoned and their lands turned over to sheep walk.

16th and 17th century inventories show processing of wool, flax and hemp in farming households, but for domestic use. The general absence of surface water militated against any industrial development. Wool was exported to East Anglian and West Yorkshire clothiers. Before the Dissolution, monasteries had been the main buyers along with merchants from without the Wolds. There are 26 deserted villages across the Wolds. During the later 17th century, depopulation was more directly coercive and lands were turned over to sheep walk and rabbit warrens as grain prices fell sharply (Williamson 55). There was a 'rabbit slack' to the west of Woodhouse Farm during the 19thC and this continues to be marked on recent maps.

Sheep and corn husbandry was the distinctive pattern of farming from the high middle ages into the 20thC. (Jennings 66).

Barley was the main crop, though wheat came and went as its price rose or fell.

The 'light land revolution' (Williamson) in the Yorkshire Wolds was driven by wealthy landowners such as the Sykes and the Middletons, both of whom owned the site of the lambing sheds at different times. By the 1870s, Sir Tatton Sykes owned 34,000 acres (Williamson 57).

Traditionally, sheep had been grazed by day and folded by night on the arable fields, "thus ensuring a constant flow of nutrients from one to the other which allowed the poor, leached soils to be kept in heart" (Williamson 53).

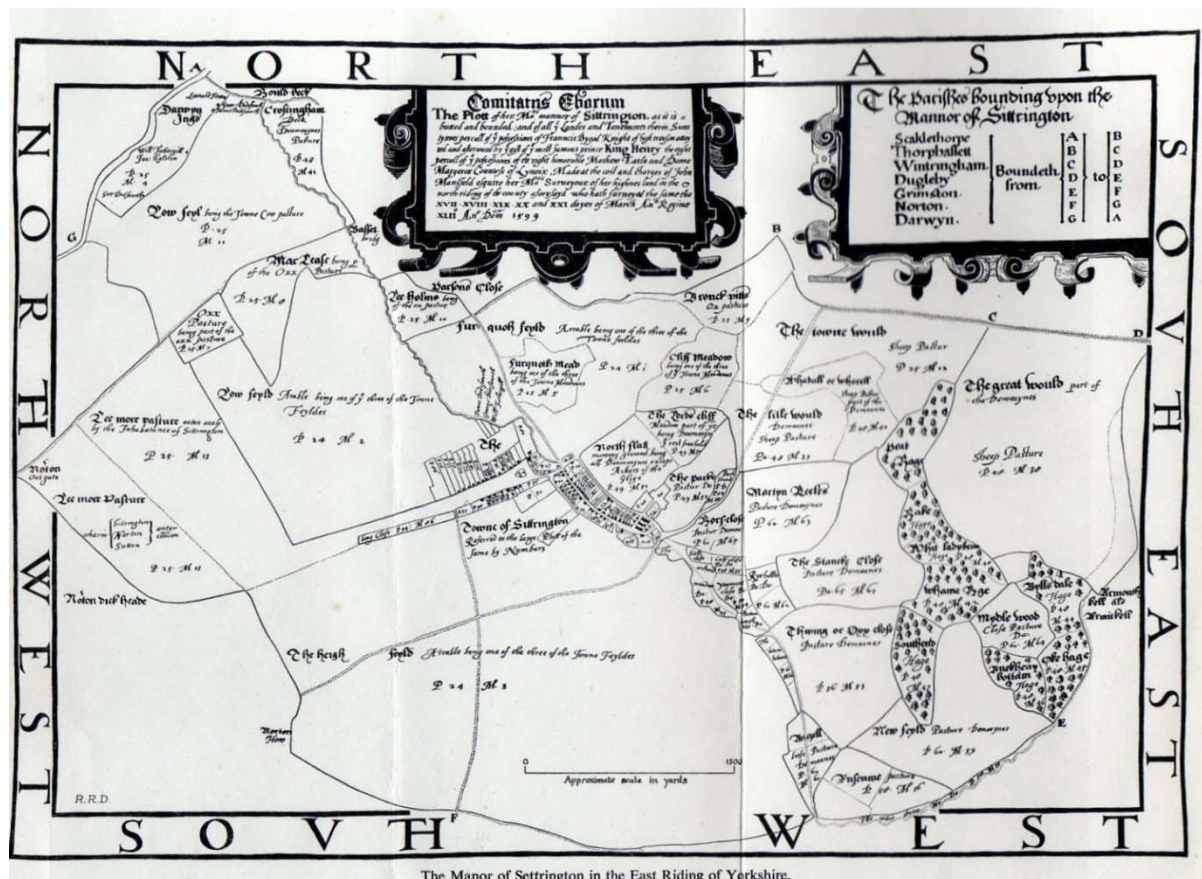
With the expansion of large estates came enclosure. 70% of the Wolds lands were enclosed by Acts of Parliament by the early 19thC (EH 36). A landscape which had been two-thirds pasture and one third arable before the later 18thC improvements, according to Strickland in 1812, saw the equation reversed by the 1830s and the introduction of a 'new arable system' that saw grain exported to the Low Countries, Scotland and London, the folding of sheep on turnips and the production of manure from yard-based cattle in steadings or outfarms. (EH 36)

Sir Christopher Sykes of Sledmere also planted trees. He planted some 20,000 trees upon turning his attentions to agricultural improvement after 1783. Timber had been previously scarce upon the Wolds landscape. In 1599-1600, most of the manor of Settrington was clear of woodland, with perhaps 10% of the manor planted with trees, these plantations on or adjacent to the site of Woodhouse Farm. The open fields of the Wold escarpment slopes and top were given over to sheep pasture, whilst the flatter land at the margin of the Vale of Pickering, around the village itself was variously cow pasture and arable land (Harris and King 1962).

In Settrington, “unenclosed common fields occupied in 1600 some 2,700 acres, or about 60 per cent of the area of the manor. There were three open arable fields known as High Field, Low Field and Furcoth Field (1,697 acres); a substantial acreage of common meadow (151 acres); and several large common pastures (916 acres). Most of this common-field land lay below the Wolds, the Wolds themselves being largely demense land and held in severalty” (King & Harris 1962 xii).

“Settrington’s open fields were enclosed in stages after 1600. Most of the meadows and pastures were enclosed by agreement between the lords of the manor, the rector and the freeholders in 1668, but the agreement does not appear to have extended to the arable fields or to the common land on the Wolds” (ibid xiv).

“Settrington woods occupied 235 acres on the clays of the Wold escarpment and consisted principally of oak and ash. They were divided into eight parts..., which were cut in rotation. The villagers’ rights in the woods were very limited. In return for a small sum of money...they were allowed to cut ‘small writhing wandes for tying up their cattell & making Harrow wythes’, but they appear to have enjoyed no rights of pasture there” (ibid xvi).



Map that formed part of John Mansfield’s 1599-1600 survey (Harris and King 1962)

In the ‘New and Complete History of the County of York of Thomas Allen’ 1828, written soon after the completion of the enclosure campaign, the area was described thus:

“In the east riding greater improvements have been made in agriculture, and it has been brought to a higher degree of perfection, and conducted on a more extensive scale, than in any other portion of the county. The farms, especially on the wolds and in the southern parts of Holderness, are generally large, from two to three hundred to above a thousand pounds rent per annum; and small farms are rarely to be found...On the wolds very great improvements have taken place. About a century ago wheat was almost unknown in this district; barley and oats were the only kinds of grain that were produced, and of the former was made all the bread used by the inhabitants. But at this time the valleys and declivities of the hills wave with plentiful crops of wheat, and neither servants nor labourers will eat barley bread” (Book II 142).

Allen continues:

“The mode of converting the old sheep lands on the wolds into tillage is mostly by paring and burning, after which a crop of turnips is generally produced. This is sometimes followed by oats, and sometimes by barley and seeds (clover, etc) for mowing or eating; and the ground having thus lain a year or two is ploughed up for wheat....The rabbit warrens, which in the more uncultivated state of the wolds, formed a prominent feature, are rapidly disappearing...as warrens give an air of desolation to an estate, and are troublesome to the neighbourhood immediately adjoining.” (Allen 142-143).

This is the landscape of which Wood House Farm partook.

The mechanics of enclosure and its effect upon Settrington may be illustrated by the following excerpt from the 1797 Enclosure Act:

“And it be further Enacted, That the said commissioners shall and may, and they are hereby empowered and required to set out and appoint all such public and private roads and ways, and also such ditches, Mounds, Walls, Fences, Drains, and Sewers, Water-causes, Banks, Bridges, Gates and stiles, in, over, through or upon any of the lands and grounds hereby directed to be divided and inclosed, or through, and over or upon any of the said old inclosed grounds (first having the consent in writing of the owner or respective owners thereof for so doing over any such old inclosed grounds), and also to divert and alter the public road or way which now passes from the village of Settrington aforesaid, through the said rectors yard on the south of the barn belonging to him, where it adjoins the public road from Scagglethorpe to the north side of the same barn: and also divert the course of any springs, streams, or currents of water (except the stream of water to and from the water mill of the said manor), and to make any new cuts or water-courses in, through or over any of the lands and grounds within the said Manor of Settrington, for the conveyance of water to, through or from any of the allotments to be made by virtue of this act, or to, through or from any of the said old enclosures within the same Manor, for supplying each parcel of land with water for the use of cattle, as they in their discretion shall think requisite, so as all such public carriage roads shall be and remain forty feet in breadth, at the least, between the ditches; and that the said private roads or ways shall be of such breadth as the said commissioners shall order and direct: and all such public carriage roads shall be well and sufficiently fenced out on both sides, by such of the owners and proprietors of the said lands and grounds, and within such time as the said commissioners shall by any writing under their hands direct or appoint: And that it shall not be lawful for any person to erect any gate across any of the said public roads, in or over any of the lands and grounds hereby

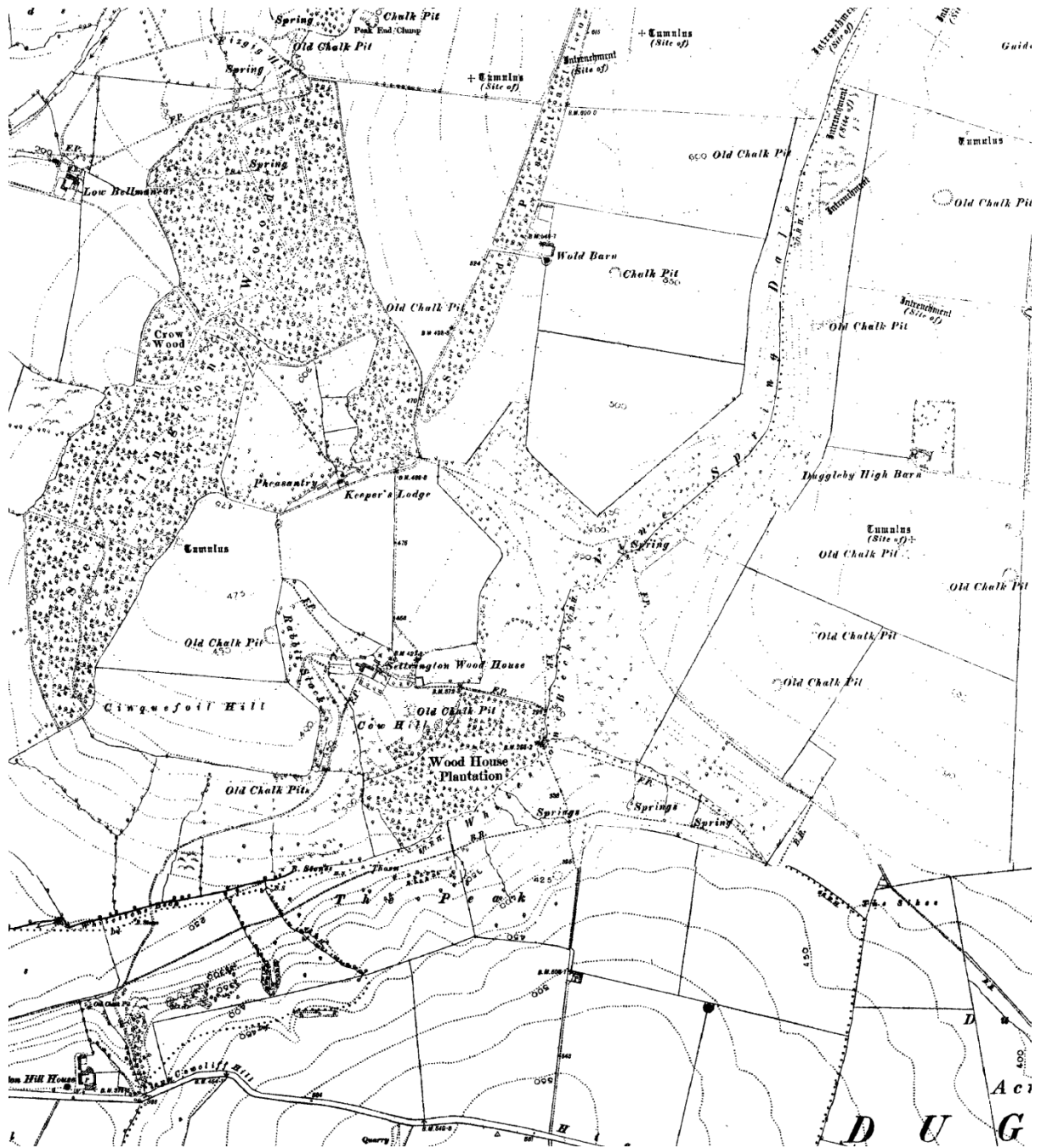
intended to be inclosed, or to plant any trees in or near the Hedges on the sides of any of the said roads, at a less distance from each other fifty yards: And after he said public roads shall have been set out as aforesaid, the said commissioners shall, and they are hereby empowered and required by writing under their hands, to appoint some proper person to be surveyor of the said roads; and in case of his death, or refusal to act, or becoming incapable of acting or they shall see cause, to displace such person so appointed surveyor, and from time to time appoint one other person to be surveyor of the said road in the place or stead of such person to be properly formed and completed, and put into good and sufficient repair, and shall be allowed such salary or reward for his trouble therein, as the said commissioners shall by writing under their hands direct and appoint; which salary or reward, and also the experience (over and above the statute duty) of forming the said public roads, and of putting the same into good and sufficient repair, shall be raised in like manner as the charges and experiences of obtaining this act, and the carrying the same into execution, are hereinafter authorized and directed to be raised: And that none of the inhabitants of Settrington aforesaid (other than the respective persons to whom allotments in the said lands and grounds hereby intended to be divided and enclosed shall be made) shall be charged or chargeable (over and above the statute duty) towards the forming or repairing the said public roads, until the same shall be made fit for the passage of travellers and carriages, and shall have been certified so to be by the said surveyor, by writing under his hand, to be delivered to the clerk of the peace, at some general quarter sessions to be holden for the said Riding, and until such certificate shall have been allowed and confirmed by the justices at such sessions; which said certificate shall be so delivered to the clerk of the peace, at the quarter sessions to be holden next after the said roads shall have been formed and put into good repair as aforesaid, and within the space of two years next after the execution of the said award or instrument, unless sufficient reason be given, to the satisfaction of the said justice, that a further time is necessary for that purpose; in which case the said justices may, and they are hereby empowered to allow such further time for delivering in the said certificate as they shall think proper, not exceeding one year; And in case the said surveyor shall neglect or refuse to deliver in such certificate within the time hereinbefore limited, he shall forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding fifteen pounds, nor less than ten pounds, to be recovered in like manner as any other penalty is by this act authorized to be recovered; and the same shall be applied toward defraying the expenses of carrying this act into execution, in such manner as the said commissioners shall direct: And that after such certificate shall have been delivered to the said clerk of the peace, by such surveyor, as aforesaid, and shall have been allowed and confirmed at such sessions, the said roads shall be, from time to time, supported and kept in repair; and that the said private roads or ways shall be made at the expense of such person or persons to whom the said lands and grounds shall be allotted, in such shares and proportions, and as the said commissioners shall order, direct and appoint; and that after such public and private roads or ways shall be set out and made, it shall not be lawful for any person or persons to use any other roads or ways, either public or private, in, over through or upon the lands hereby directed to be divided and inclosed, or old enclosures, respectively, either on foot, or with horses, cattle or carriages; and that all former roads and ways through the said intended inclosure shall be deemed part of the ground to be divided and inclosed by virtue of this act, and shall be divided and allotted accordingly as part thereof: And all Hedges, Ditches, Walls, Fences, Banks, Drains, Bridges, Gates, Stiles, Sewers, Water-courses, Reservoirs, Ponds, and other requisites, to be set out, erected, and appointed, as aforesaid, shall be made, and at all times thereafter repaired, cleansed, maintained, and kept in repair, by such Manner as the said

commissioners shall, in and by their award or instrument hereinafter mentioned, order direct, and appoint.

And be it further Enacted, That the said commissioners shall and may, and they are hereby empowered and required, in the first place, to set out, assign and allot, such part or parts of the said lands and grounds hereby directed to be divided and enclosed (not exceeding four acres in the whole) as they shall judge most fit and proper, for common watering places for cattle, and for common pits for getting up Marle and Stone for lime, for the Manurance of lands, and also clay, sand, gravel and stones and other materials for building, or for any other use or benefit of the several and respective proprietors to whom allotments shall be made by virtue of this act; and the grass and herbage thereof shall be allotted to such person or person as the said commissioners shall direct or appoint. “ (Hull History Centre DSY/20/1(h))

Between 1870 and 1901, 25% of the crop lands were of turnips and Swedes no longer to feed the old, hardy breeds of Wolds sheep, Old Lincoln and Holderness breeds, which had been slow-growing and shortwooled, but by ‘improved Lincolns’ and then Leicesters (Williamson 72). The new breed was long-wooled and faster to mature and fatten, but was “short-legged, carried a heavy fleece and was unsuited to travelling much further each day than from from enclosed arable field to another” (Bowie 118).

This move away from tougher breeds acclimatised to the Wolds climate and to its sheep walks perhaps explains the need for Lambing sheds such as those at Wood House Farm.



The landscape around Wood House Farm (Settrington Wood House, as it was then called), 1891-92.

Snow-storms on the Wolds.

Subject as these hills are to heavy snow-storms frequently as late as April, and destitute of shelter as some parts of them are, the lambing season is a very anxious time to the farmers, and requires the greatest care and attention on the part of the shepherd. Those ewes which are nearest to

lambing are brought every night into the stackyard, or some sheltered part of the homestead, and are served with cut turnips. The ewe and her produce run together upon the summer pastures of clover, until the middle or end of July, when the lambs are weaned. Great losses are apt to take place amongst the lambs at these times. Nothing is found to be a better weaning pasture for young lambs than the aftermath of either sainfoin or clover.

(Full text of "Yorkshire, past and present: a history and a description of the three ridings of the great county of York, from the earliest ages to the year 1870; with an account of its manufactures, commerce, and civil and mechanical engineering. By Thomas Baines ... including an account of the woolen trade of Yorkshire")

Mechanically, the improvement was based upon the chalking of the acidic land surface and the importation of 'bone manure'. The land around Woodhouse farm is littered with chalk pits for this purpose. On the Lincolnshire Wolds, it was estimated that it required 80 cubic feet of chalk per acre to sweeten the soil into good productivity (Williamson 65). Bowie argues that bone manure "may be said to have been the foundation of the startling growth of agricultural output on the northern Wolds" and describes great increases in the volume of bones imported into Hull – 300% between 1823 and 1824, doubling again in 1825. (Bowie 123). There was a bone mill into the 20thC in Malton, bones, including elephant bones, coming from across the Empire along the River Derwent (pers comm., Eric Blades), with several 'bone-crushers' listed in the Pigots Trade Directory for Malton of 1834. 12-16 bushels per acre of crushed bones was typically 'sown' along with the turnips, using a combined drill (Bowie 1990 123).

The realisation of the advantages of finely crushed bone manure also contributed to the further improvement of lands further from the farmstead – one four-horse waggon being able to carry sufficient fertilizer in one load to manure 7-8 acres of ground (Bowie 123).

The improvement resulted in "an extensive planned landscape of new roads with wide verges and large isolated farmsteads protected by shelter-belts" (EH 36).

It also saw the elimination of small independent farms and farmers and is characterised by Williamson as a great improvement almost for its own sake by the aristocratic classes (78) who also asserts that "the destruction of thousands upon thousands of acres of ancient, semi-natural habitats, acid heath, chalk heath, and downland was an ecological disaster on an awesome scale" (82).

One of the larger casualties was the Great Bustard, three of which survive, stuffed, at the Stricklands' Boynton Hall. Sir William and the local vicar dined off what was said to be the last Great Bustard around 1830 (pers comm., Richard Marriot). Improvement, however, not hunting, drove them to extinction locally.

This 'improved' landscape survives largely intact today but "since the Second World War there has been a progressive change from a more mixed farming system, with large flocks of sheep still playing an important role, to a system where arable farming dominates. There is also a move towards intensive livestock rearing and extensive outdoor pig farming is also becoming increasingly apparent.

" Intensification of arable farming has several potential consequences for the landscape. There is still loss of chalk grassland which further reduces an already small area and also causes further

fragmentation. Disappearance of sheep flocks means that the remaining chalk grassland cannot be grazed and so scrub grows over it, threatening its traditional appearance and wildlife value. The high level of chemical input, for example in intensive potato growing, can cause pollution of the chalk aquifer. Agricultural and other abstraction of water causes low flows in rivers and spring fed mires, and the disappearance of seasonal chalk 'winterbournes'. Some archaeological sites are affected by soil erosion and deep ploughing."

(<http://www.snh.org.uk/ww/sharinggoodpractice/CCI/cci/yorkshirehumber/027.htm>)

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Williamson T *The Transformation of Rural England 1700-1870* 2002 Exeter University Press

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(<http://www.snh.org.uk/ww/sharinggoodpractice/CCI/cci/yorkshirehumber/027.htm>)

English Heritage/Countryside Commission (2006) *Historic Farmsteads, Preliminary Character Statement, Yorkshire and the Humber Region parts 1-3*. www.helm.org.uk/ruraldevelopment : University of Gloucester.

Lambing Sheds and Attached Shepherd's Hut, close to Wood House Farm, Settrington Estate

Section 2 Summary of Historic Development and Statement of Significance

B) History of ownership

The Lambing sheds are part of Woodhouse farm and Woodhouse Farm – formerly Settrington Wood House – lies entirely within the historic boundary of the Manor of Settrington and Scagglethorpe. The boundaries of the farm as identified upon the 1912 Estate Map (Appendix 3) were substantially formed at the time of the 1797 Enclosure Act for Settrington (Appendix 1) in which just over 405 acres of the Great Wold and parts of the Town Wold were enclosed. The southern part of the acreage taken in from the Great Wold is within Settrington Woodhouse Farm; the northern section part of Low Bellmanour Farm. The eastern boundary of both farms, and of the Estate itself is formed by the parish boundary drawn along the course of Whitestone Beck.

19th Century and 21st Century histories of Settrington all contain an absence in the sequence of ownership: The Bigods, Earls of Norfolk were apparently dispossessed after the failure of the second rising of the Pilgrimage of Grace, their head losing his for his trouble. Settrington then passed into the ownership of the Crown before being owned by Lady Margaret Douglas, Countess of Lennox, half-sister of James V of Scotland, after whose death, it passed back into the ownership of the Crown before returning once more, as gift of Elizabeth I, to the Lennox family. Minor branches of the Bigods continued in Scagglethorpe and, perhaps at Sutton, Norton. It was during its brief return to the Crown that John Mansfield, Queen’s Surveyor for the North Riding – who seems very likely to have lived in York House, Malton, before purchasing what has since become the Talbot Hotel in 1599 – carried out a major and very detailed survey and valuation of the manor of Settrington, which survives (Harris & King YAS 1962). At this time, the manor and capital farm was tenanted by one George Blenkoe who, along with his bailiff George Dodsworth, was accused by Mansfield of having neglected the manor house and of having felled and sold 1344 Ash trees; 213 Okes and 24 aspens valued at £316. He recommended that “her majestie should make choise of some better tenant to these parcells of her demesnes And that the better provision be made both for the repaire of the said mannour house And for the better preservacion of the woodes hereafter” (ibid 30-31). Blenkoe had occupation of the woods around and part of Wood House Farm at this time, whilst the Widow of Lawrence Nesbot farmed the fields that by this time existed on the site of Woodhouse Farm, which were at this time part of a farm which extended further to the NW. There were no buildings associated with it in 1600. The fields had all been recently divided.

Blenkoe had possession of all the woodland hereabouts – 42-49 on the map below, whilst the widow of Lawrence Nesbot was tenant of :

| | | |
|---|--------|-------------------------------|
| “A close of meadow and pasture now divided into four closes commonly called le <i>newe close</i> , formerly held by Rowland Fothergill & John Swinborne containing 136 ac 1 rood 24 perches | 7 0 0 | <i>part of Woodhouse Farm</i> |
| A close of meadow and pasture now divided into Two commonly called the <i>Angell Lease</i> containing 24 ac 2 r, formerly in the tenure of Thomas Hardwick | 2 13 4 | |
| A close of pasture commonly called <i>Buckton Garths</i> containing 5 ac 1 r 20p | 0 6 8 | |
| A close of pasture commonly called le <i>Rye Hill</i> Containing 60 ac, formerly in the tenure of Simon Dodsworth | 13 4 | |
| A close of pasture commonly called <i>Marten Kell</i> Now divided into two closes containing 71ac 2r 32p | 5 0 0 | |

A close of meadow lying between the woodlands of Sitrington, commonly called *Le close between woods* containing 35ac of land, at Michaelmas and the Annunciation of the B.V.M in equal parts

1 0 0 *part of Woodhouse farm*

Value of the Farm

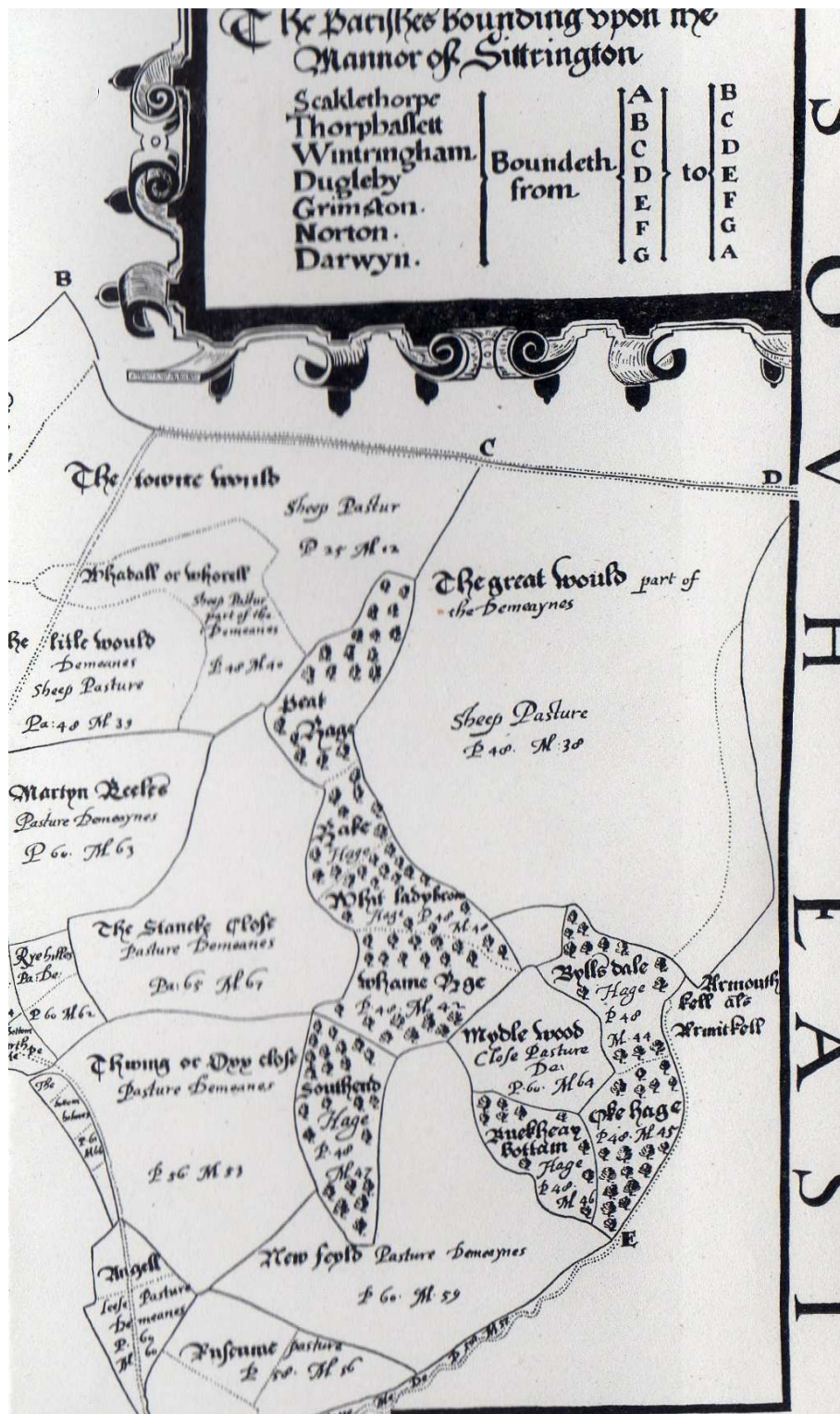
| | | | |
|-------------------------|----|----|---|
| 59 Le Newe Close | 37 | 10 | 0 |
| 60 Le Angell Lease | 6 | 14 | 9 |
| 61 Le Buckton Garths | 1 | 17 | 0 |
| 62 Le Rye Hill | 4 | 16 | 0 |
| 63 Le Marten Kell | 19 | 12 | 0 |
| 64 Close between woods | 8 | 15 | 0 |
| Such is the total value | 79 | 4 | 9 |

Tenant of the said tenements.

18 Jan 15 Eliz [1572-3] the Lady Linoix granted the said premises to Lawrence Nesbot for the term of 21 years

4 Sept. 1587 Lawrence Nesbot by his will left the premises to Elizabeth his wife and executrix who is now tenant" (King and Harris YAS 1962 34).

The adjacent farm, fields 55, 56, 57, Calfe Close, Le Puscombe and Le Whytestone respectively, was held by William and James Fothergill, grandsons of the Rowland Fothergill who had formerly occupied the above farm (ibid 33).



The Great Wold, parts of which were later to become part of Woodhouse Farm, was held by George Blenkoe, part of the capital messuage farm, the full extent of which should be listed here:

“Demense lands of the Manor of Sittrington

1 Farm of George Blenkoe

Capital farm of the messuage or manor house, a dovecot with buildings, a garden, orchard, tofts and crofts pertaining to the site, cont 3ac.

| <i>li</i> | <i>s</i> | <i>d</i> | |
|-----------|----------|----------|--|
| 8 | 13 | 4 | A water mill with appurtenances. A close of pasture in 2 parts called the orchard |
| 2 | 0 | 0 | cont 16ac 3r 20p of land. All that land called <i>the great wold</i> or the great |
| 11 | 6 | 8 | shepepasture cont 320ac All that other <i>Le Shepewalke</i> called the <i>little wold</i> |
| 2 | 0 | 0 | cont 70ac 2r A parcel of land lying near <i>Le Wolds</i> aforesaid |
| 1 | 6 | 8 | called <i>Whadale</i> or <i>Wherrell</i> cont 50ac 2r |

| | |
|---|---|
| Because the inhabitants have eatage here be- tween the 25 day of March & 29 th of Sept onely 6s 8d | A close of pasture called <i>Croftingham Becks</i> cont 36ac |
|---|---|

| | | | |
|---|----|---|--|
| 0 | 12 | 0 | Half of the demense meadow lying in <i>Darwent Ings</i> cont 6ac 22 hens paid by the tenants of <i>Duglebye</i> & all |
| 0 | 6 | 8 | <i>Le Bondayes</i> of the manor. All the underwood and grass of the woodlands called <i>the eight hags</i> or <i>springs</i> , namely, the <i>wham hagg</i> , <i>the Rake hagg</i> , <i>the Bilsdale</i> or <i>Bushell hagge</i> , <i>the Oke-</i> <i>hill hagge</i> , <i>the Buckabottom hagge</i> , <i>the Southend hagge</i> . <i>The Whyte Lady Brow hagge</i> , <i>the Peeke hagge</i> , in equal Parts at the two terms. |

All the above £40.

Value of the farm

35 Site of the manor
36 Water mill
37 the orchard -- pasture
38 *Le Great Wold* --pasture
39 *Le little wold* --pasture
40 *Le Whadale* --pasture
41 *Le Croftingham becks*—pasture

6ac of meadow in *Darwent Inges*, *Hennes* and *Boones*,
Underwood and grass in the woodlands viz
42 *Wham Hagg*
43 *Rake Hagg*
44 *Bilsdale* or *Bushell Hagge*
45 *Okehill Hagge*
46 *Buscabottom Hagg*
47 *Southend Hagg*

48 *Whyt Lady Browhag*

49 *Peekehagge*

Total annual value : £121 2 3

2. Farm of **George Blenkoe**

li s d

3 6 8 Farm of 20ac of meadow & the second grass crop
after the first mowing of another 5ac & 2r of
meadow lying in a close called *the Lordes cliffe*
41 ac of meadow & the second crop after the first
mowing of another 3ac lying in a close of meadow
6 13 4 called *the North flat*
A close of pasture called *the Parke* cont 35ac
& 2r of meadow at Martinmas & the B.V.M. in
3 6 8 equal portions

50 – meadow in *Le Lordes Cliffe*
Pasture – second crop there

51 - meadow in *Le Northflatt*
Pasture – second crop there

52 – pasture – *Le Parke*

Total annual value £43 3s 8d

Holder of the said tenements

20 Feb 20 Eliz [1577-8] Margaret countess of Lennox, for services rendered demised all the premises from the date of making the indenture to Thomas Fowler & his assigns for the term of his natural life, William Fowler his son and Francis Blades, severally paying rent at the aforesaid terms.

“Thomas Fowler is dead leaving his wife Elizabeth and William Fowler, his sunne. After whose death Elizabeth his wife entered upon the premises and did afterwards take to husband George Blenkoe. And the possession of the premises doth remayne with George Blenkoe”
George Blenkoe signs.

Following text covers the management (and mismanagement) of the land and the woods:

Explanation of the low valuations of various parts of the manor is offered – Whadale and Crostingham Becks pasture have lower value because the inhabitants of Sittrington have eatage there” between Michaelmas and the 25th March on Whadale and between 25th March and 29th September on Crostingham Becks.

“the scite of the mannour is onely valued to 3s rent because the repayre of the mannour is very chardgeable”.

“Touching the Woodes.

The woods being divided into 8 springes every yeare is one springe felled wich at 8 yeares growth is worth 20s the acre and one yeare with another every fall is 27 acres...”

“Touching Tymber Wood yet remaining on the premises”.

Oke Tymber trees standing in Wham, Okehill and Southend Haggs – 860

Ash trees in Northflatt – 120

Total: 980.

These prepare the ground for the demonstration that George Blenkoe has neglected the repair of the manor whilst at the same time felling and selling whole swathes of its timber.

“Till about 5 yeares past hath not sence the death of the countess beene cut downe any Ashe or Oke tymber other then such whereof some 30 trees went to a loode and of the biggest 12 trees to a loode

In the Bushell alias Bilsdale Hagg, the Okehill Hagge and the Buckabottom Hagge it doth appeare by the rootes of the trees there remaining ther hath been cut down 1100 and 60 trees all ashe tymber trees accounting five skore onely to the 100 & that ther is also cut downe in the said haggges 150 oke trees & 63 Oke tymber”

Mansfield concludes by urging that “her majestie should make coise of some better tenant to these parcellis of her demesnes And that better provision be made both for the repaire of the said mannour house And for the better preservation of the woodes hereafter” (30-31), before setting out the economic case that felling and selling all of the woodland and turning its ground over to pasture would offer a better annual return.

The third farm of George Blenkoe is a coney warren, in the tenure of Edmund Dodsworth.

“...in the Anncient tyme the conye warren was planted in the low commons & the then lord of the mannour Sir Frauncis Bygod, fynding that his conyes were there destroyed did remove them from thence to places about the mannour house wher they ar in that measure increased and spread throughout the lordship that they ar not onely a great Impoverishment to her majesties poore tenaunts ther butt do also great hurt in her majesties woods by destroying the yonge springs & they have altogether destroyed one springe called the Peeke Springe. And the tenaunts could be contented amongst them to pay the rent to her majestie to have the conyes destroyed.”

(Harris and King YAS 1962 26-32)

Earlier, ‘free tenants’ of Sittrington in 1600 are listed:

Matthew Dodsworth, George Dodsworth, Simon Bygod, William Fothergill, James Eagleston, Francis Cunstable, William Hungate, Roger Thorpe, Richard Pecket, Leonard Freer
John Swynburne, Awbrey and Richard Heselton, Widow of Thomas Hardwyck, John and Lawrence Waslin.

Jurors of the survey were:

Simon Bygod of Sittrington Esq, age 45

Francis Lucas of Wresle, gent, age 60

Edmund Dodsworth of Sittrington, gent, age 36

John Waslinge of the same, yeoman, age 54

Leonard Fryer of the same, yeoman, age 48

James Eggesfield of the same, age 48

Thomas Dunnington of the same, yeoman, age 57

John Fothergell of the same, yeoman, age 35

Leonard Johnson of the same, yeoman, age 60
John Cowelbye of the same, yeoman, age 40
Thomas Howlden of the same, age 37
Thomas Skelton of the same, yeoman, age 68
Thomas Hare of the same, age 40
Ralph Harker of the same, age 36
Richard Holtbye, alias Pecket, age 33
Leonard Worthie of the same, age 34
Rowland Howlden of the same, age 60
Thomas Waslin of the same, age 40
Guy Foster of the same, yeoman, age 50
John Swinborne of the same, (blank).

As a further and final aside, the survey lists craftsmen called upon to assess the condition of the manor house:

“Sworn at the inquiry concerning the waste at the great house or manor...

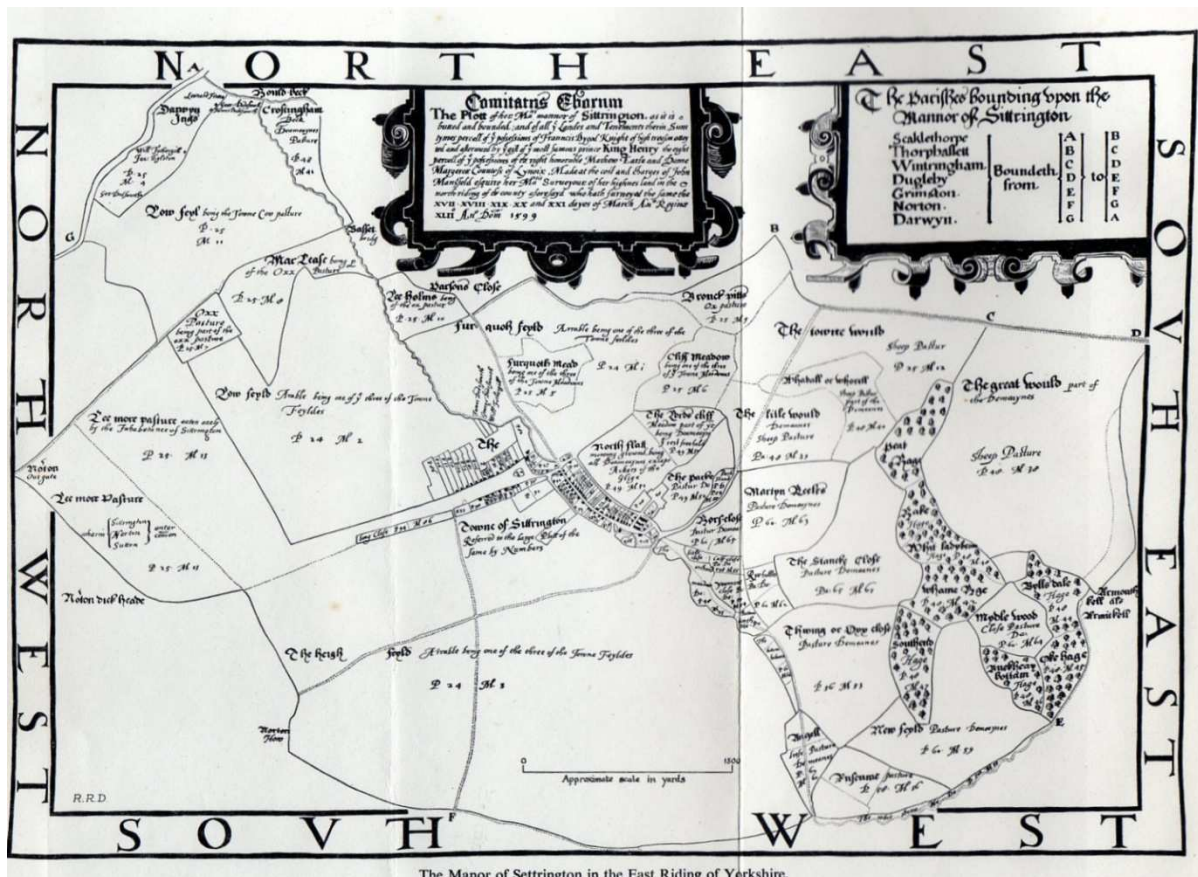
Thomas England of Newmalton, joyner, age 60
William Sleighton of the same, woodmonger, age 46
Robert Pape of Norton, carpenter, age 30
William Belby of Newmalton, mason, age 34
John Hood of the same, woodmonger, age 40
Thomas Anderson of the same, mason age 40
Guy Foster of Sittrington, carpenter, age 50
Stephen Smyth of the same, age 60” (p 9).

It should finally be noted that the survey includes descriptions of the houses and barns of the manor in terms of the number of ‘forks’, which is to say, crucks and also, therefore, bays. At this time, it would seem all of the hundred or so buildings in Settrington were of cruck construction and will have been thatched.

The house of Ralph Harker, for example: “ the house...doth stand on five payre of forkes & the barn...on another five payre of forkes” (p41); or the house of Thomas Blenkou which ‘standeth upon 4, the lath upon 4 and the [clearly detached] kitchen upon 2 payres of forkes’ (p43). At Miles Humble’s farm, house stood upon 4 payre of forkes, the two lathes upon 8 payres and the ox-house and stable upon 4 payres of forkes.

The house of Thomas Bell was bigger than all of these, standing upon 7 pairs of crucks; his lath [lath-house, barn) upon 5 pairs and his Outhouse upon the same number. At Leonard Freer’s farm, the house had 5 pairs of crucks; two lathes had 8, the kiln had 3 pairs and the outhouse 2. (p47)

Buildings of cruck construction are now very rare in North Yorkshire – the survey of Settrington suggests they were the norm in this period. All of the Settrington cruck houses have apparently disappeared, though cruck blades may survive unnoticed within some of the older stone houses of the village.



The Manor of Settrington in the East Riding of Yorkshire.

Readily available histories all leap from the Lennox' to the to the ownership of the Estate by the Masterman family, dwelling upon the late 18thC and earliest 19thC occupation by Henrietta and Mark Masterman Sykes. The Middletons purchased the Manor from the Mastermans after 1826 and then sold to Samuel Storey in 1938. The Storeys remain owners of the Settrington Estate. Research associated with the preparation of this management plan has thrown up the Thompsons of Escrick and Long Marston as Lords of the manor of Settrington prior to the Mastermans, though it is not clear quite when they acquired the Settrington Estate. Brothers Henry and Edward Thompson were wealthy wine merchants in York during the later 17thC. Henry purchased Escrick Estate in the 1680s, moving then to Long Marston, and ceding Escrick to Henry, the son of his first marriage and later leaving Long Marston and, it would seem, Settrington, to Edward, eldest son of his third marriage, upon his death in 1734. This Edward was a successful politician:

“**Edward Thompson** (26 February 1697 – 5 July 1742) was a prominent [Yorkshire](#) politician of the early 18th century and was educated at [Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Wakefield](#).

Thompson was the son of Edward Thompson of [Long Marston](#) (1670–1734) and Lucy Tindall, and the grandson of [Henry Thompson](#), a wine merchant of [York](#) who established the prominence of the Thompson family. His sister, Henrietta, married Colonel [Edward Wolfe](#) and became the mother of [James Wolfe](#).^[1]

In 1722, Thompson was elected [Member of Parliament](#) for [York](#), a seat he held for the remainder of his life. Employed as a Commissioner of the Land Revenue in Ireland, he issued a pamphlet justifying the introduction of a general [excise](#) there. This, and the pomp with which he carried out his office, aroused the scorn of [Jonathan Swift](#) in 1733 in a polemic against holders of civil office.^[2] From 1729 until 1733, he was [Grand Master](#) of the Grand [Lodge](#) of York.^[3]”

([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Thompson_\(1697%E2%80%931742\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Thompson_(1697%E2%80%931742)))

Lucy Tindall was the daughter of Bradwardine Tindall and Mary, heiress of the Brotherton Estate of Francis Baildon, so that by 1734, the younger Edward Thompson was owner of Settrington, Long Marston and the Brotherton Estates. In 1745, his brother Tindall Thompson – who had been left a ‘remnant’ of the Settrington Estate by Edward – won title to the Manor of Baildon and property in Bingley.

By this time, and after 1739, the Settrington Estate was in the hands of the Masterman family. The Mastermans are difficult to find in the archives prior to their appearance in Settrington, but Thomas Masterman seems to have leased the North Holme Estate in Kirkdale parish, North Yorkshire in 1638 before the same was purchased by Henry Masterman in 1738. (Wm Page (ed) Victoria County History Kirkdale Parish 1914). Henrietta Masterman remained Lady of the Manor of North Holme in 1787, being also Lady of the Manor of Settrington and Scagglethorpe at this time and soon to be married to Christopher Masterman Sykes of Sledmere.

The transfer of Edward Thompson’s lands in and around Settrington during the third and fourth decades of the 18thC seem almost impossibly complicated in the Middleton Estate papers.

In 1735, some of the Estate seems to be sold by Edward to a George Cheyne who then mortgages the same to Viscount Galway upon regular payment to himself and then to his widow. Tindall Thompson seems to sell the same part to Viscount Galway in 1747, some 5 years after Edward’s death.

An abstract in the archive details a transfer on 12th of May 1739 of the Estates of Settrington and Sutton (Nottingham University Archives (NUA) Mi Da 172/3) in which the “said manors and all lands and rights” were “settled, limited and assured to the use of Henry Masterman and Andrew Wilkinson Esquires, their executors, administrators and assigns for the term of 500 years in trust” sufficient to service Edward’s debts and to raise £10,000 for the “additional portion” of Mary Thompson, his widow. Edward did not die until 1742 and until then he was to receive £300 per annum. A remnant of the estate was assigned to each of Edward’s brothers: Tindall, Francis and Bradwardine, these Christian names, if nothing else confirming that these Settrington Thompsons were descendants of the York politician Edward who married Lucy Tindall.

Wilkinson seems to drop from the story hereafter.

By the time Henry, Lord Middleton comes to purchase the Settrington and Scagglethorpe Estate in 1826/27, the Mastermans own most of the land, with 1/3 parts of 500 year leases being in the hands of Thomas Langley (Lord of the Manor of neighbouring North Grimston), Henry Masterman and the Masterman Sykes, with Langleys part divided into thirds held previously by Henrietta Masterman and by Francis Langley and the Reverend William Crofts. In a variety of dealings, Middleton condenses all of these 500 year leases into his ownership. The executors of Henry’s estate were Francis Barlow Robinson and Peregrine Dealtry, both of Middlesex, who would seem to have been the family’s solicitors although with some familial connection also (earlier correspondence between Henrietta and Henry Barlow is held in the Surrey County Archive and Francis Barlow married Althea Masterman, daughter of Henry Masterman of Settrington in 1755. This Francis died in 1799, having been Secondary of the Crown Office and Deputy Clerk of the Crown Court of the King’s Bench.

Althea died in 1809 and was logically a younger sister of Henrietta. Francis Barlow Robinson was perhaps Henrietta's nephew, therefore, and likely a lawyer like his father, her brother-in-law (http://www.archive.org/stream/visitationofengl31howa/visitationofengl31howa_djvu.txt).

A memorandum of agreement between Henry's executors and Middleton (NUA Mi Da 164/3) sets out the purchase: "the manor of Settrington, together with the late mansion house, messuages, lands and ? late of him the said Henry Masterman, situate in Settrington and Scagglethorpe and all the hedge-row, green timber and plantations on the said estate, except the several woods herein after mentioned for £153,000."

Also "all and singular timber, timber-like trees and saplings in the woods commonly called Settrington Woods and standing on certain closes of land called South End, Brackenfalls and Whams and all fixtures and furniture in and about Settrington House, offices and premises" which would be independently valued. Completion of the deal was to be on 6th April 1827, so that all rents could be collected by the vendor and all outgoings taken care of by then.

The Deed of Transfer was issued on 22nd December 1827 in fact and registered at Beverley on 3rd March 1828.

It may be said, then, that much of the Settrington and Scagglethorpe Estate was in the effective ownership of the Mastermans after 1739.

'Settrington Woods', in the form of South End, Brackenfall and The Whams remain today as woodland and border Woodhouse Farm lands. All three stands of woodland are identified on the 1797 Enclosure Map, as they had been on Mansfield's map of 1599-1600.

The apparent lease of some, at least, of these lands and in Sutton by Tindall Thompson to Solomon Fell in 1744 (which may, indeed, have been some form of scam), offers a description, not only of these lands but of the rights of the Lord of the Manor:

The manors of Settrington and Sutton contained "20 messuages (which is to say, 20 dwelling houses with their outbuildings, curtilages and associated lands), 1500 acres of land, 700 acres of meadow, 1500 acres of pasture, 500 of furze and heath and 500 acres of moor"

There was "18 shillings and thruppence of rent common of pasture for all cattle, free warren, free fishery, courts leet and courts baron" as well as "Frankpledge goods and chattels of felons and fugitive persons outlawed and attainted felons of themselves waifs and estrays and deodands with the appurtenances of Settrington and Sutton and parishes of Settrington and Brotherton" (NUA Mi Da 172/3)

The first paragraph describes the uses (or not) of the Estate lands prior to improvement.

Clarification of the pattern of ownership and distribution of lands within the Manor of Settrington, and which may make some sense of the apparent confused picture painted above, is to be found in the Enclosure Act of 1797 (Hull History Centre; Appendix 2), from which it is worth quoting at length:

"Whereas there are within the Manor of Settrington...certain open fields, common pastures, commons or waste grounds, containing together 1100 acres or thereabouts:

And whereas Henrietta Masterman Sykes, the wife of Mark Masterman Sykes Esquire, is the Lady of the said Manor, and is also Owner and proprietor of upwards of 700 acres of land lying and being dispersed within the open fields, lands, and grounds, by this act to be divided and enclosed:

And whereas the most noble Francis Duke of Bridgewater is the patron of the Rectory of Settrington aforesaid, and the Reverend Gilbert Clerk is the present Rector of the said Rectory, and as such claims to be entitled to all tithes, both great and small, Easter offerings, and surplice fees...and also claims a right of cutting and taking Underwood in the woods of the Lady of the said Manor...for the repairs of the fences of his ancient inclosed Glebe land within the said Manor...and is also in the right of his Rectory entitled to certain Glebe lands, and in the right thereof, and of certain Messuages, Cottages, and Frontsteads in the Settrington aforesaid, and is entitled to and doth now enjoy common pasture for his sheep, in, over and upon the said open fields, common pastures, commons and waste grounds:

And whereas the said Henrietta Masterman Sykes, Ann Masterman Widow, and Richard Langley Esquire, are the owners and proprietors of the residue of of the said open fields, common pastures, commons and waste grounds, within the Manor of Settrington, and are severally intituled to the rights of the common, and other rights and interests therein: and she, the said Henrietta Masterman Sykes, Richard Langley, and Ann Masterman, and also John Foster, Christopher West, and Ann Harwick, have not any right or interest whatsoever in the lands and grounds by this Act to be divided and inclosed.

And whereas the lands of the said several owners and proprietors in the said open fields lie intermixed and dispersed, and the same, and the said Common Pastures, Commons and Waste Grounds, in their present situation are incapable of any considerable Improvement; and it would be very advantageous to the several persons interested therein, if the same were divided and enclosed, and specific Parts and shares thereof assigned and allotted to the several Proprietors and persons interested therein, according to their respective Estates and interests and in lieu of and in full satisfaction and compensation was made to the said Rector and his successors, in Lieu of his tithes, not only of the said open fields, common pastures, commons, and waste grounds, but also of all other the old inclosed Titheable lands and grounds, and homesteads, within the said Manor of Settrington aforesaid: But for as much as the same cannot be effected without the aid and authority of the Parliament..." (Hull History Centre DSY/20/1(h) Enclosure Act 1797)

This Enclosure Act was enacted in 1797, two years after the marriage of Mark Sykes and Henrietta Masterman. Mark was the son of Christopher Sykes who had bought Sledmere Estate in 1748, leaving a career in commerce to concentrate upon its improvement after 1783. He purchased much more land, planted some 20,000 trees, enclosed and chalked the land so that during the last quarter of the 18thC rental income from the estate increased 7-fold. He died in 1801, and Mark Sykes, by then Mark Masterman Sykes inherited, continuing the improvement of the land, whilst also building a huge and celebrated library which his brother Tatton sold for £10,000 after Mark's death without heir in 1823.

It is intriguing as to why Mark Sykes adopted his wife's surname, and though it might be assumed that the improvement of the Settrington Estate punctuated by the 1797 Enclosure was at his initiative, and whilst the remodelling of the village and of the mansion house is normally attributed to him, Briony McDonagh in her 2010 essay, *Elite Women and the Landscape, 1700-1830*, begins a

case for saying that Henrietta had begun this endeavour some time before the marriage, noting that date-stones on the new houses, as well as upon the house itself, predate the marriage, suggesting that Henrietta was their primary author, not Mark Sykes. (McDonagh 2010) It is interesting also that the Masterman lands were not absorbed into those of the Sykes, either during the marriage or upon the death of Henrietta in July 1813.

The memorial of the Middleton purchase lodged at Beverley in 1827 (NUA MiDa 164/15) includes a description of parts, at least, of Settrington Wood House:

“...and also that one other piece of ground lying in a place called the Great Wold being parcel of the said lands by the said act to be divided and enclosed containing 405 acres, 3 roods and 24 perches more or less, adjoining on the Township of Duggleby and ancient enclosed lands belonging to the said Henrietta Masterman Sykes on the east.”

A summary document of 1887 written by Land Agent William Wright of the Middleton’s Wollaton Estate, who had also, by his own account, been land agent of Settrington and Scagglethorpe Estate and part of North Grimston for the previous 71 years (NUA MiDa 164/32/1), shows that all of the lands of which Settrington Wood House are a part were integral to the original and historic Manor of Settrington and that these lands formed part of the sale by Henry Masterman’s executors, Francis Barlow and Peregrine Dealtry to Baron Middleton.

All the fields identified as part of Settrington Woodhouse Farm in the later 1912 Estate Map (see Appendix 3), which is say fields 348 to 393, were “manor hereditaments and premises...formerly and freehold estate of Henry Masterman, the elder grandfather of the late Henrietta Masterman Sykes.”

Fields adjoining Settrington Woodhouse to the west and extending from its boundary to those of Settrington House (fields 206 – 340) are described thus: “1200 sheepgates or pasture for 1200 sheep at the Great Wold of Settrington.”

A map of 1912 (Appendix 3) and a schedule of January 1914 (Appendix 4) showing “Lord Middleton’s 1876 Settled Estates, ie Settrington Estate” (MiDa 164/35) offer invaluable insight. The map illustrates not only precise boundaries of all farms of the Estate, but the names of the farmers and the acreage of the farms. The schedule lists the use and rental of each field within these farms.

The map makes clear that the lambing sheds are part and parcel of the homestead farm. There is no distinct rental for these, though there is for ‘wold buildings’. This latter entry must be for the buildings to the N of the farm lands, identified as Wold Barn on the 1912 OS map. Wold Barn was a building of similar size and plan form to the lambing sheds, around a yard of similar size also. It remained marked upon the 1952 OS map but reads now on satellite image as mounds only, the buildings having collapsed. Duggleby High Barn to the SE of ‘Wold Barn’, whilst off the Estate, reads as two such U-shaped complexes put together around a fold yard. These three buildings speak of a pattern of husbandry locally entirely consistent with the changes in sheep management after the enclosure of the Wolds landscape at the end of the 18thC.

The schedule entries for Settrington Wood House, although for 1914, offer an interesting comparison of the land use as compared with the albeit more general description of 1744, before enclosure and improvement:

| Field # | Field Description | rental | £ | s | d |
|---------|--------------------------|--------|---|----|---|
| 363 | Arable Low Ruscorn | 25 | | 19 | |
| 364 | Arable Ten Acres | 11 | | 35 | |
| 365 | Arable Middle Ruscorn | 8 | | 26 | |
| 366 | Grass Clay Field | 11 | 1 | 30 | |
| 367 | Arable Sainfoin Hill | 24 | 2 | 11 | |
| 368 | Grass Round Close | 15 | 2 | | |
| 369 | Grass West Oaks | 11 | 1 | 28 | |
| 370 | Grass East Oaks | 12 | 3 | 12 | |
| 371 | Arable East Haverfield | 20 | | 34 | |
| 372 | Grass Paddock | 3 | | 17 | |
| 373 | Grass Cow Hill | 9 | 2 | 22 | |
| 374 | Homestead | 2 | 1 | 4 | |
| 375 | Grass Rabbit Slack | 13 | 1 | 28 | |
| 376 | Arable Wood Wold | 31 | | 3 | |
| 377 | Grass Wains | 15 | 1 | 3 | |
| 379 | Arable West Haverfield | 18 | | 12 | |
| 380 | Grass Dam Field | 36 | 1 | 6 | |
| 381 | Grass Duggleby Dale | 22 | 2 | | |
| 382 | Arable Nine Springs Wold | 32 | 2 | 5 | |
| 383 | Arable Narrow Wold | 15 | 1 | 10 | |
| 385 | Arable Low West Wold | 14 | | | |
| 386 | Arable High West Wold | 32 | 2 | 31 | |
| 388 | Wold Buildings | 1 | 2 | 9 | |
| 389 | Arable High Wold | 33 | | | |
| 389a | Arable Barn Field | 35 | | | |

Arable rentals approximately £298

Grass, a little over £147

This reflects the pattern across the Wolds after enclosure of 2/3 arable to 1/3 pasture, though this is calculated from the above according to rental value rather than acreage.

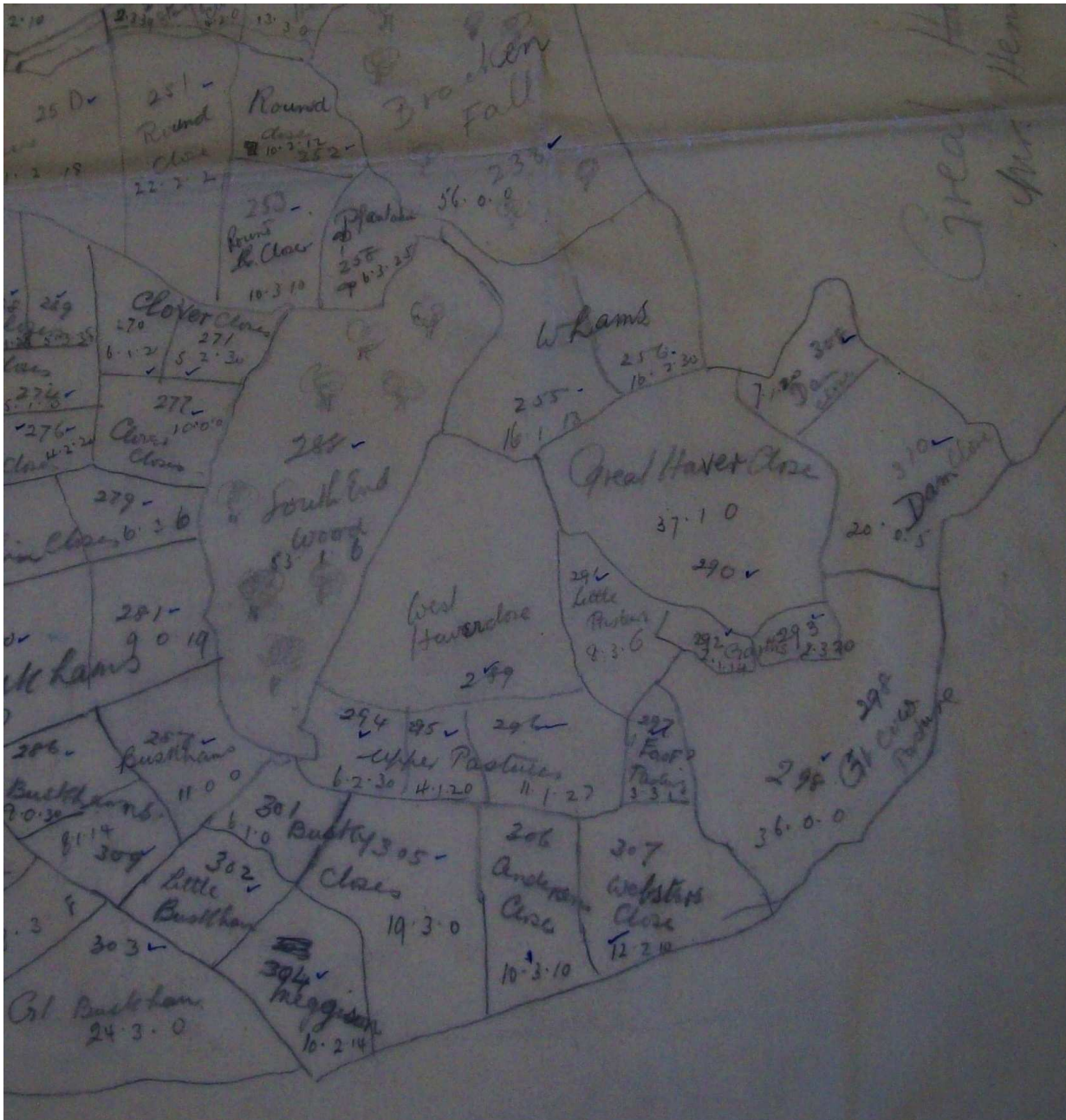
The acreage of Settrington Wood House was 465 ½ acres, making it the largest farm on the Estate. The farmer in 1914 was Isaac Brigham. His tenancy commenced 13th May 1898 and terminated 19th January 1915. (Mi Da 164/18 – “ Settrington Estate, Account of Right to production of cottage and farm tenancy agreements and Counterpart Leases and Undertaking for Safe Custody”)

The farmer at Wood House farm listed in the 1834 Electoral Roll is Robert Fisher, who was ‘renting house and lands above £50 per annum’

<http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/YKS/Misc/CBW/ERYrolls/Settrington.html>

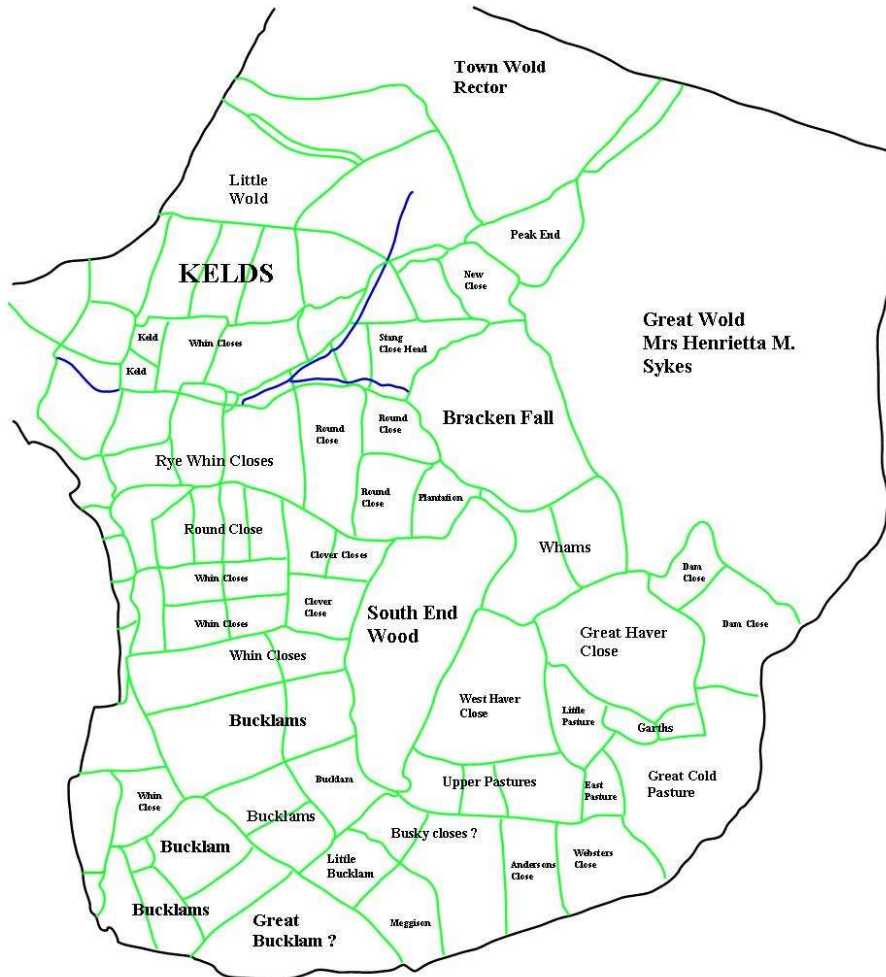
The farmer at Wood House farm in 1892 was Clifford Mark Pindar

<http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/YKS/ERY/Settrington/Settrington92Dry.html>



Extract from 1799 Enclosure Map showing fields as named in Schedule and as mentioned in documents above (Hull History Centre DDKG/229 Rough tracings of Settrington enclosure plan 1799)

Outline of tracings taken from Settrington Enclosure Plan
1799



**Outline of tracings taken from Settrington Enclosure Plan
1799 overlaid on contemporary satellite photo**

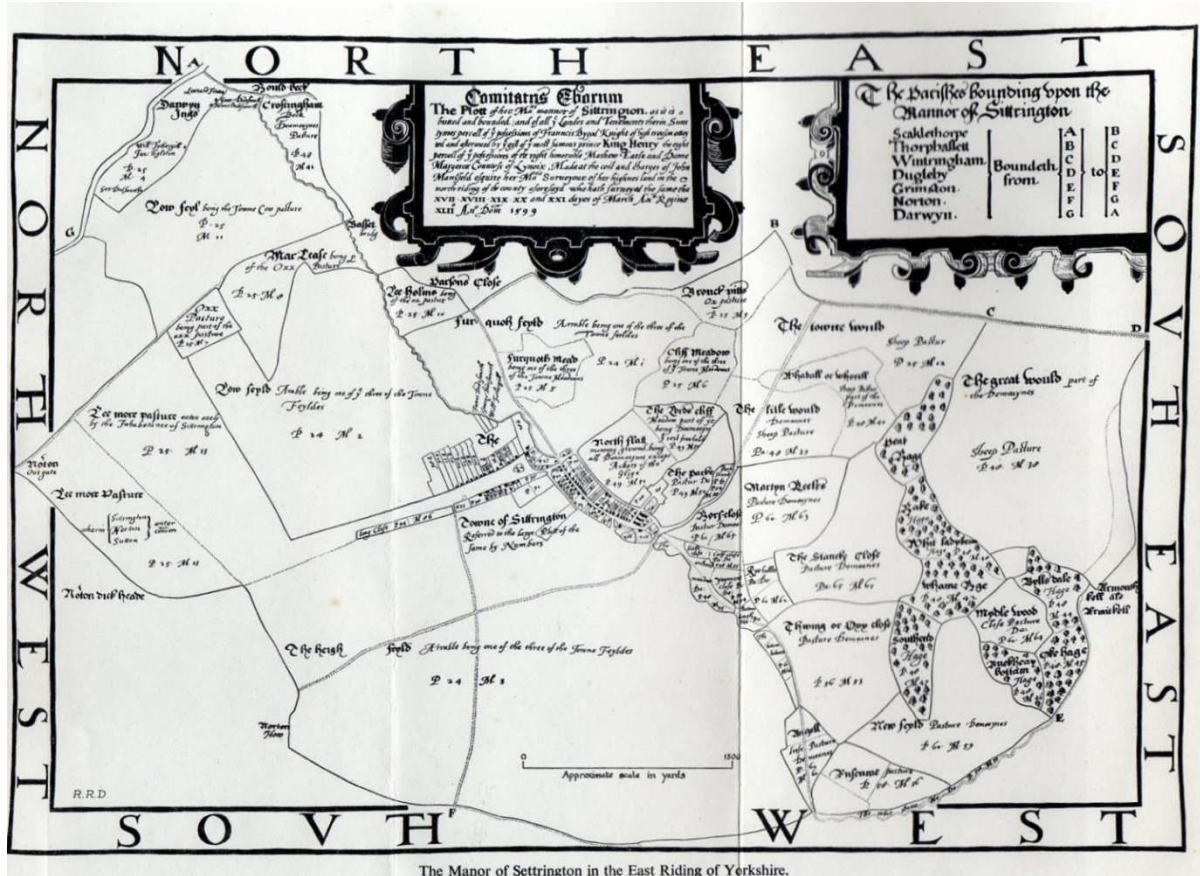


Photo courtesy of www.google.co.uk/maps

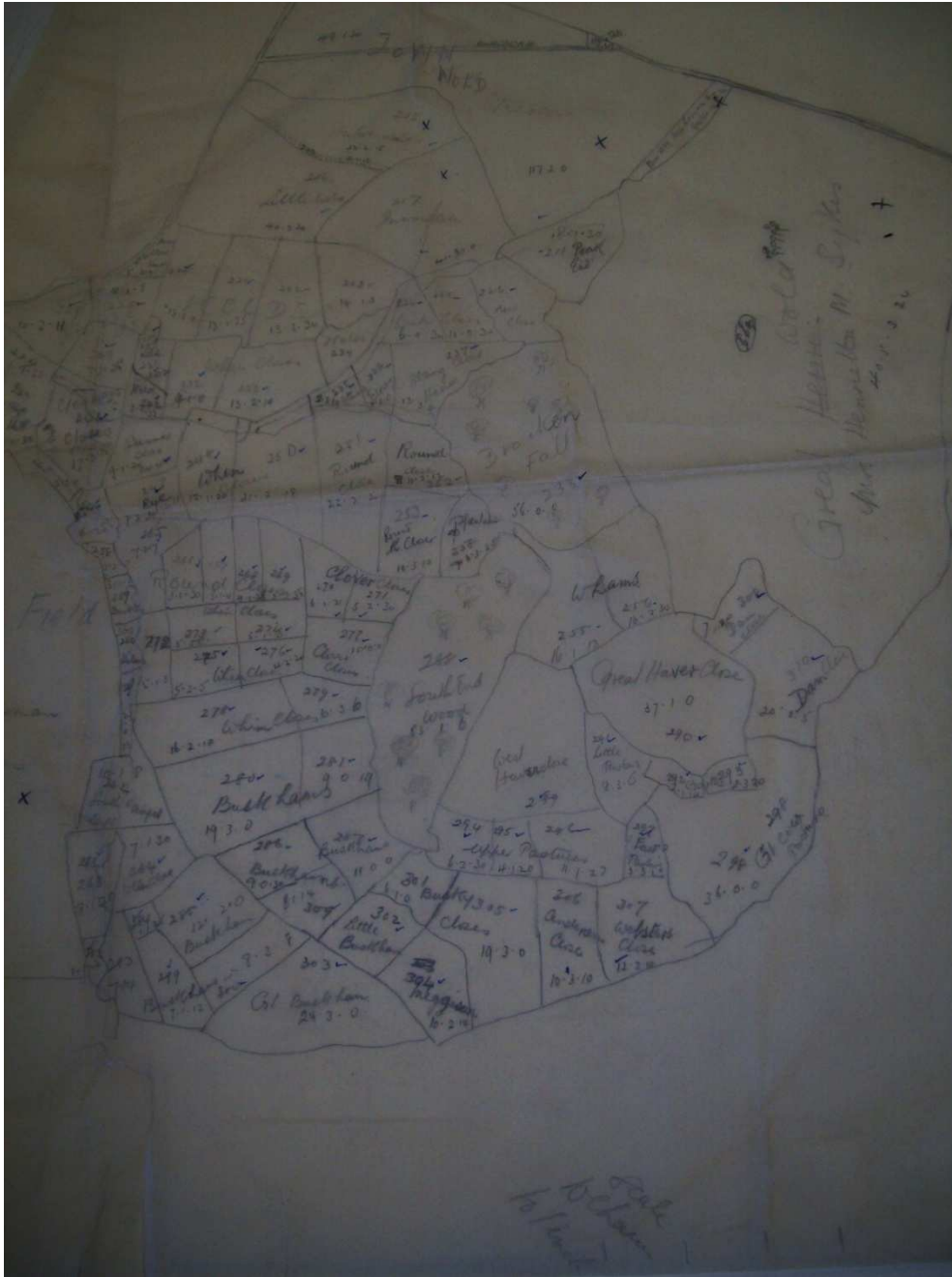
Lambing Sheds and Attached Shepherd's Hut, close to Wood House Farm, Settrington Estate

Section 2 Summary of Historical Development

B) Maps

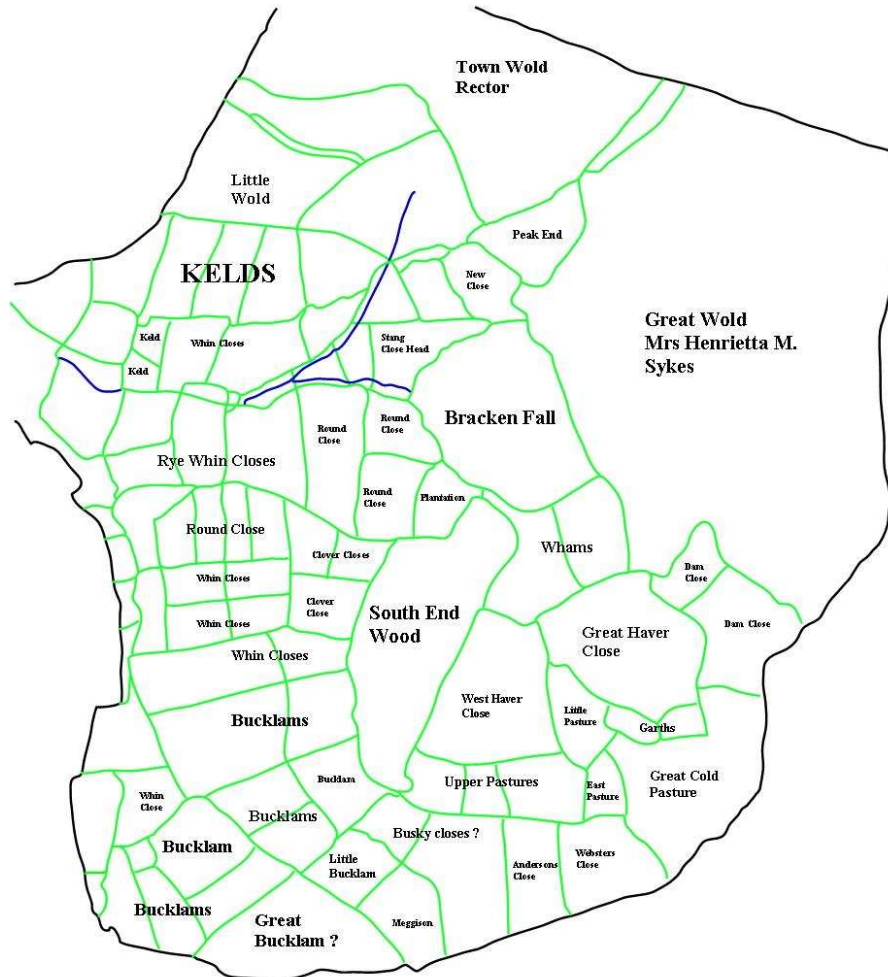


John Mansfield Map 1600, contained within Survey of the Mannour of Sittrington

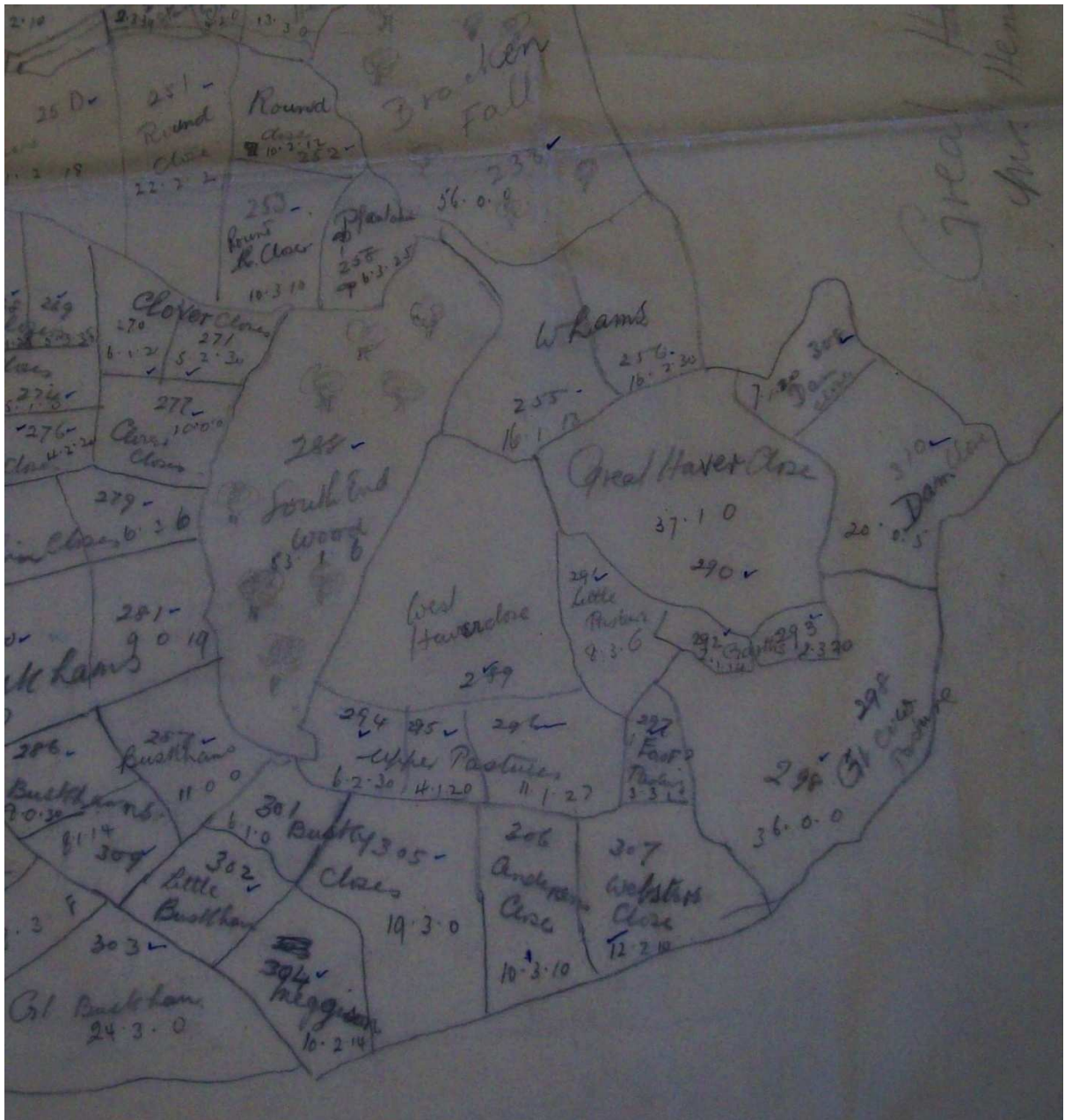


1799 Enclosure Map, Settrington (Hull History Centre DDKG/229)

Outline of tracings taken from Settrington Enclosure Plan
1799



Same, 2010 by MW



Same, showing area – and field names – of Settrington Wood House Farm

**Outline of tracings taken from Settrington Enclosure Plan
1799 overlaid on contemporary satellite photo**



Photo courtesy of www.google.co.uk/maps

MW 2010



Unimproved lands of Dam Close, marked with ant-hills. Squares are fenced stands of trees, recently planted. (Google Earth)



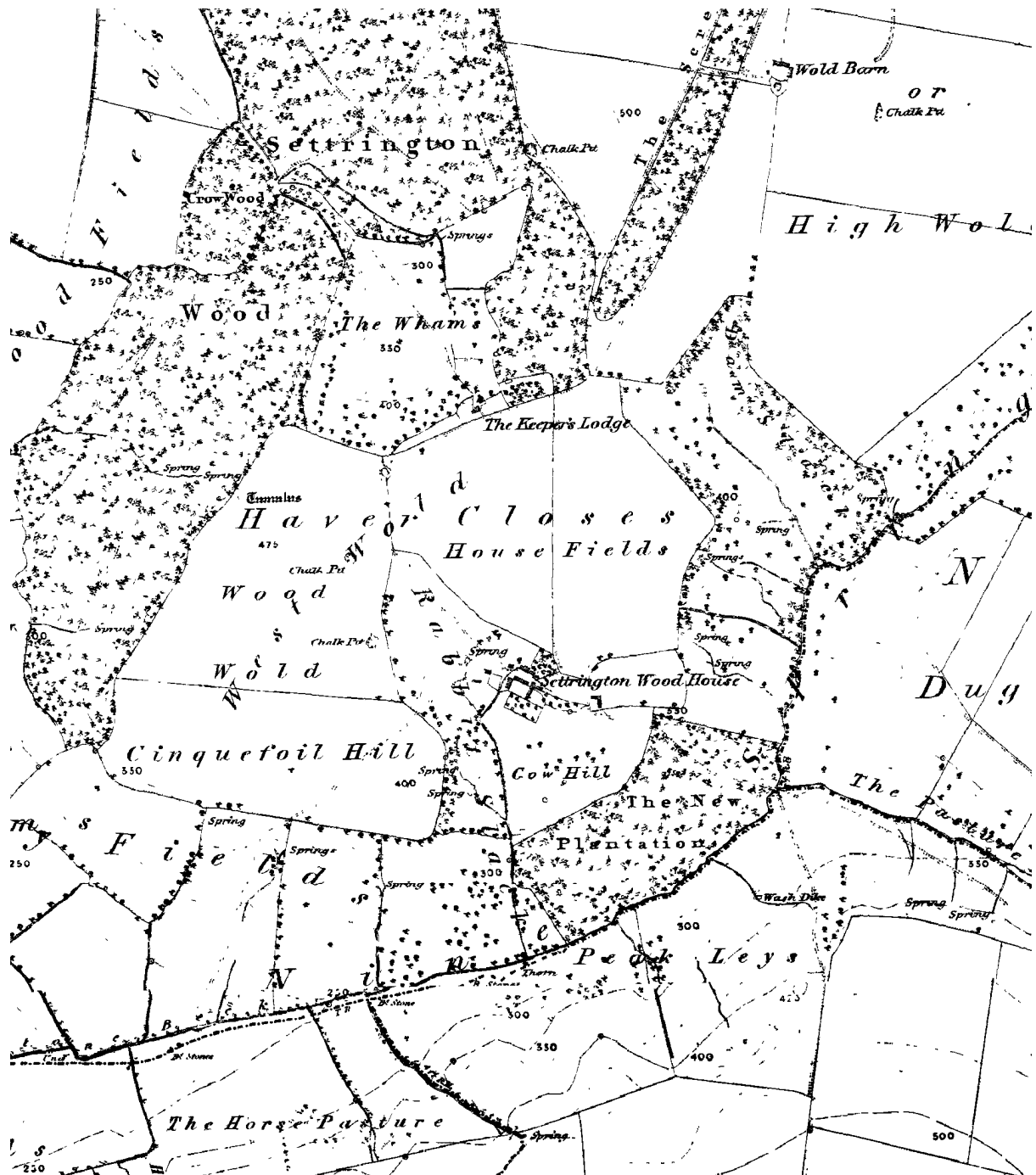
The same at ground level



The Great Wold, later 'High Wold', November 2010



All maps below: <http://digimap.edina.ac.uk/main/services.jsp?collection=historic> [accessed 7.11.10]



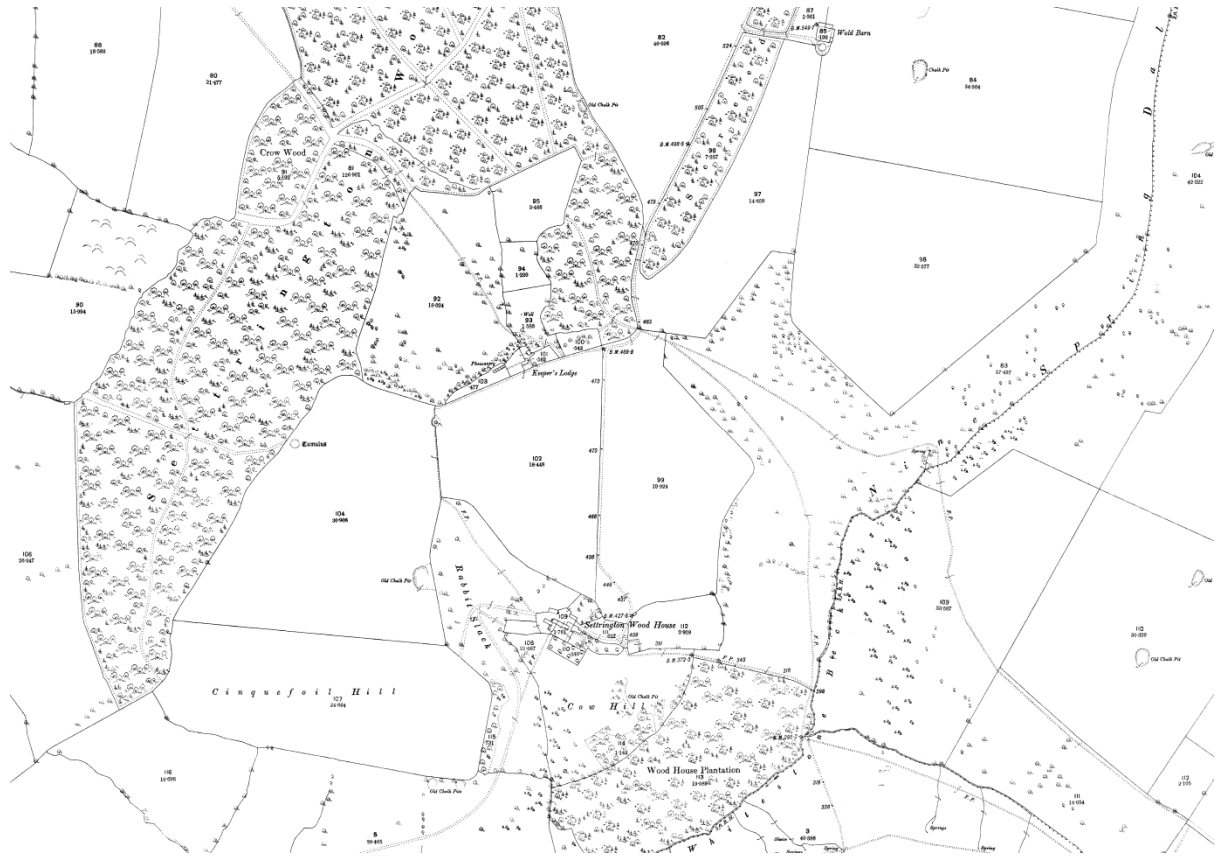
OS 1:10560 1854



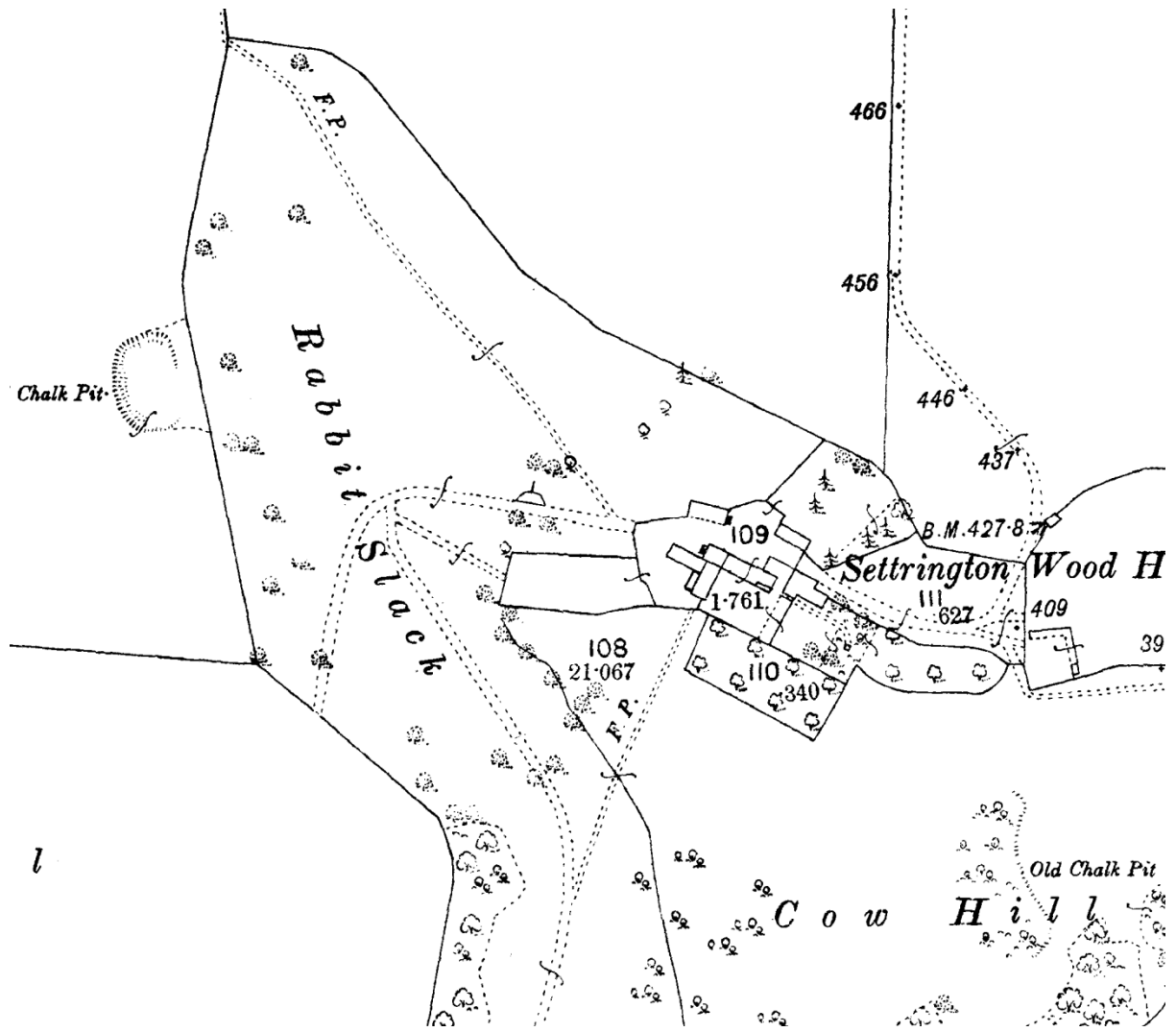
1854



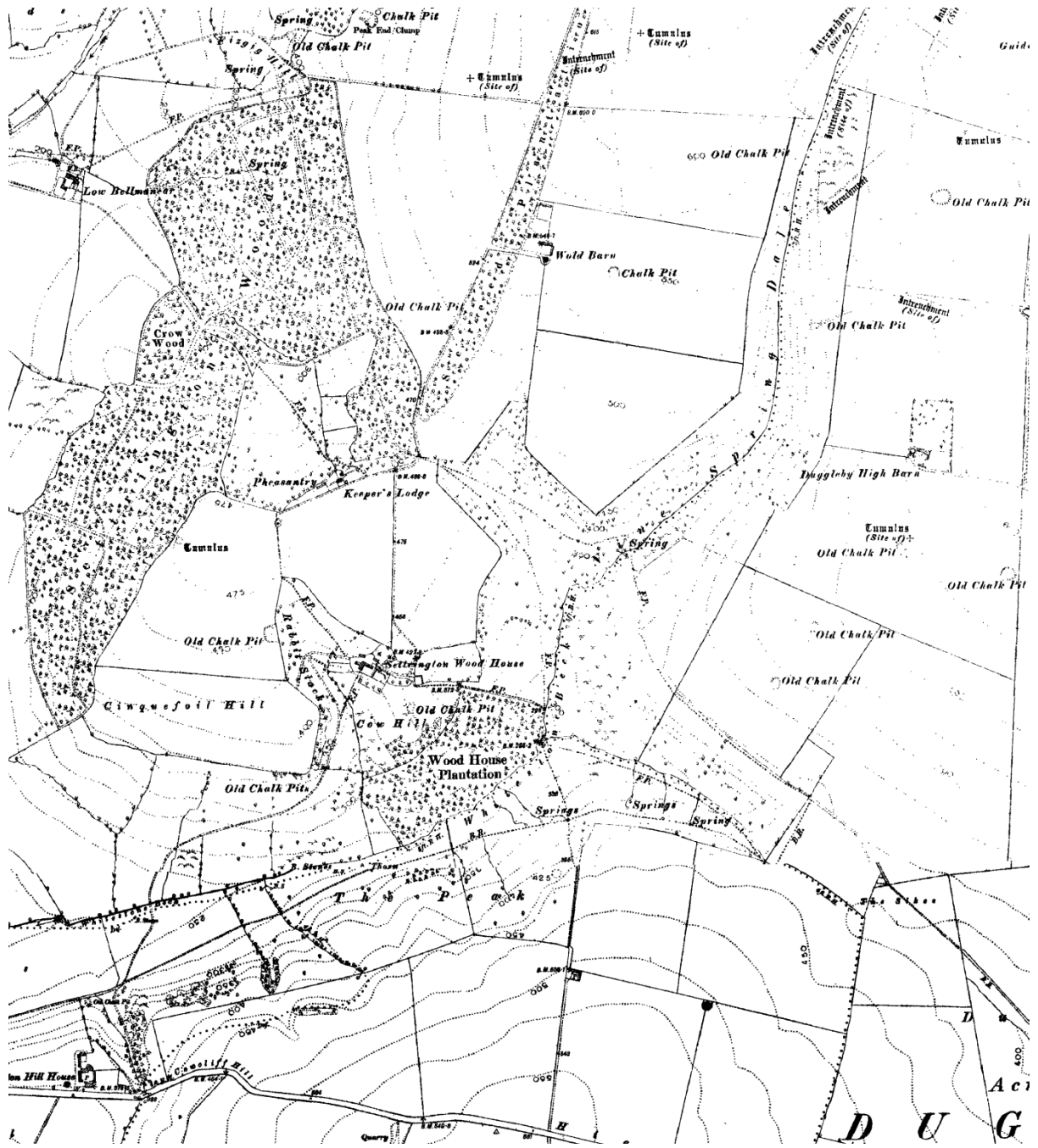
1854



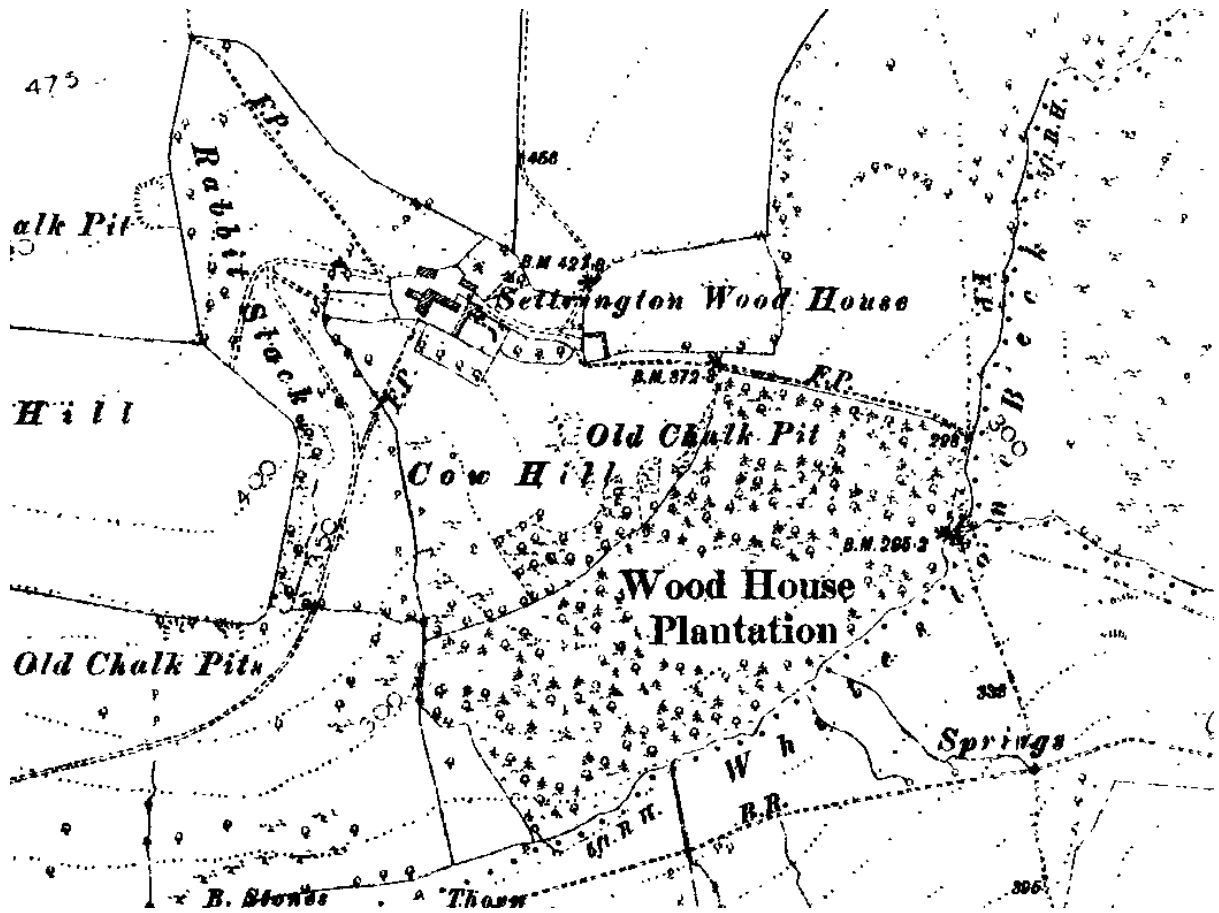
OS 1:2500 1890



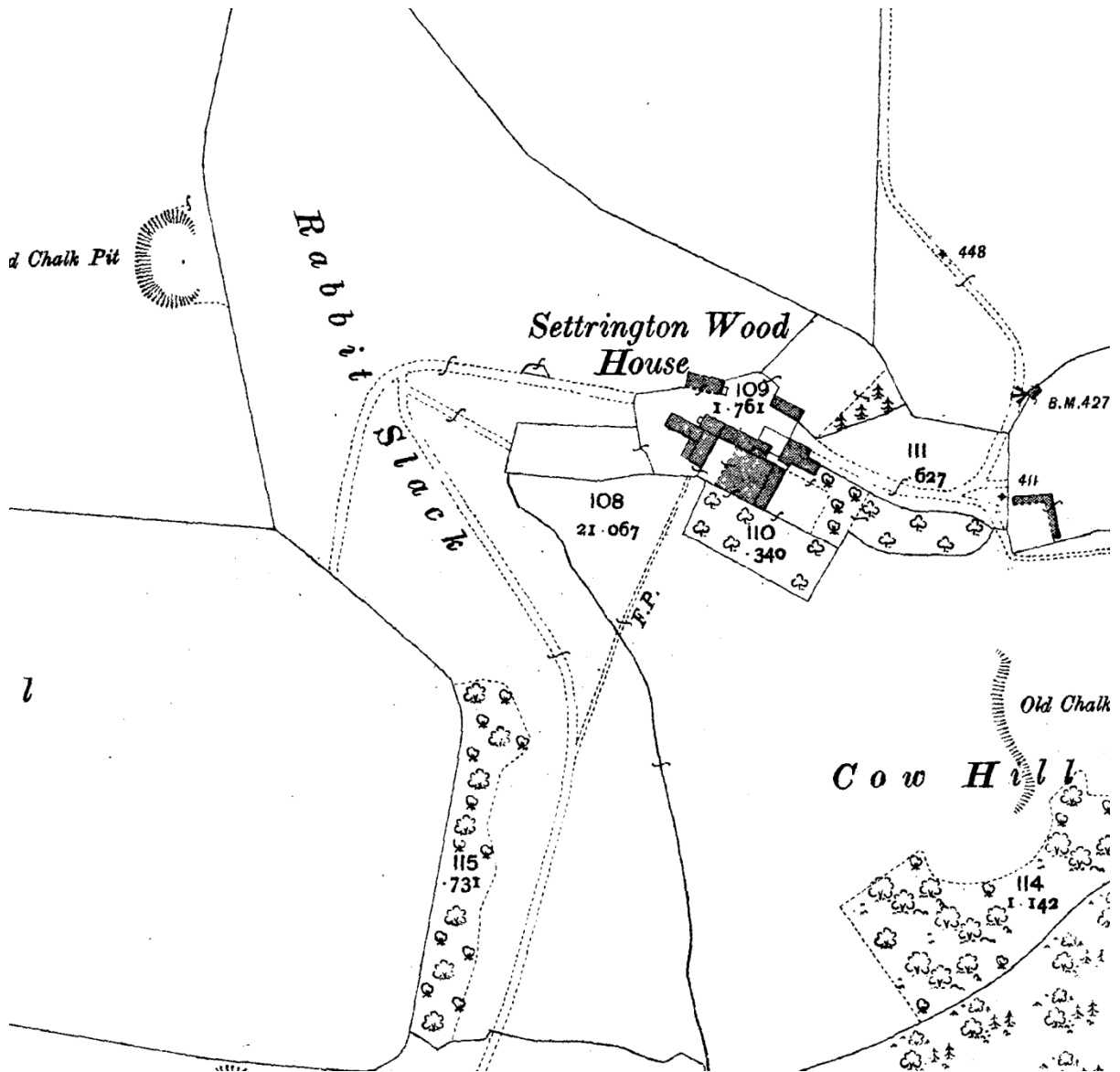
1890



OS 1:10560 1891-2



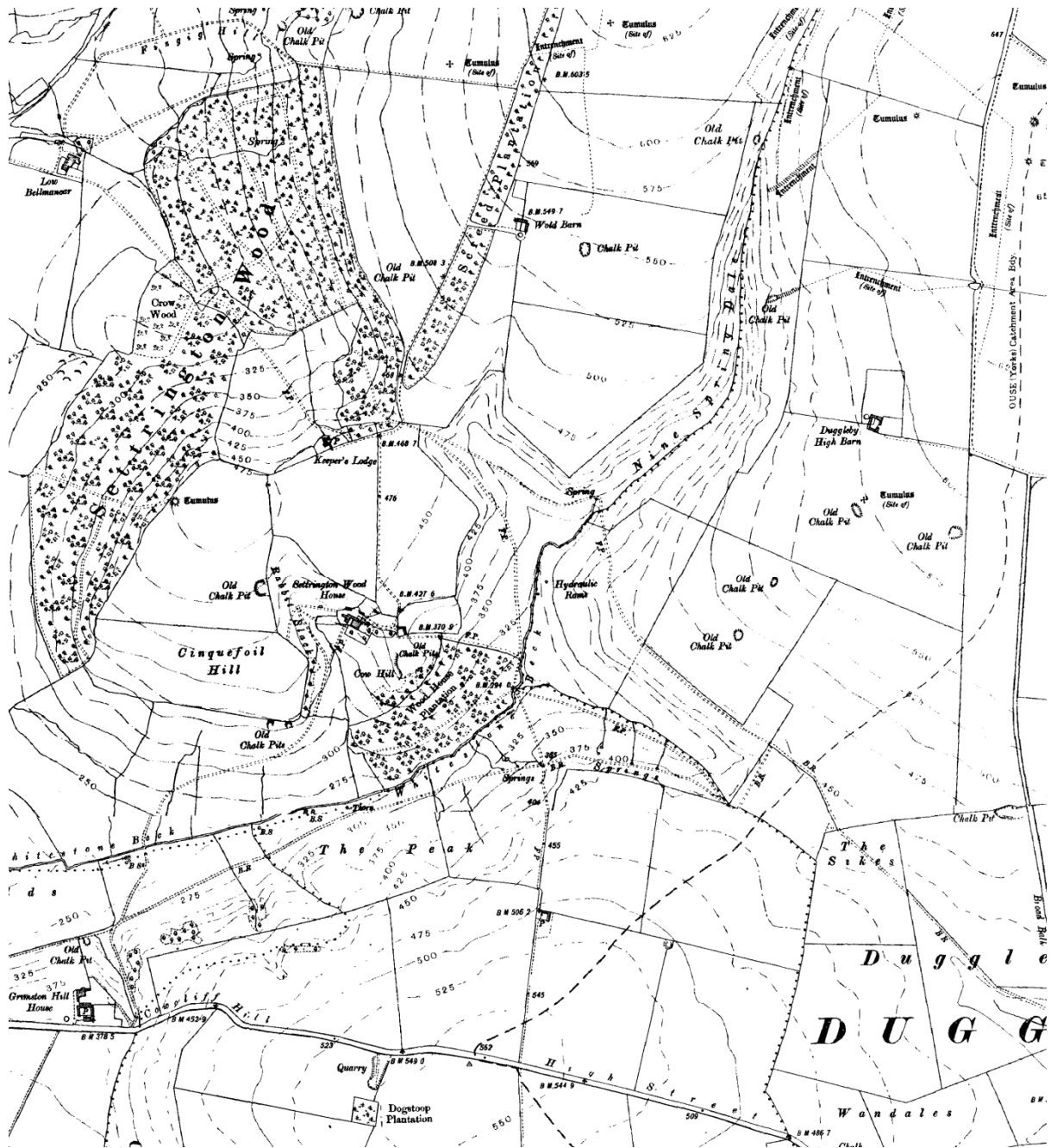
1891-92



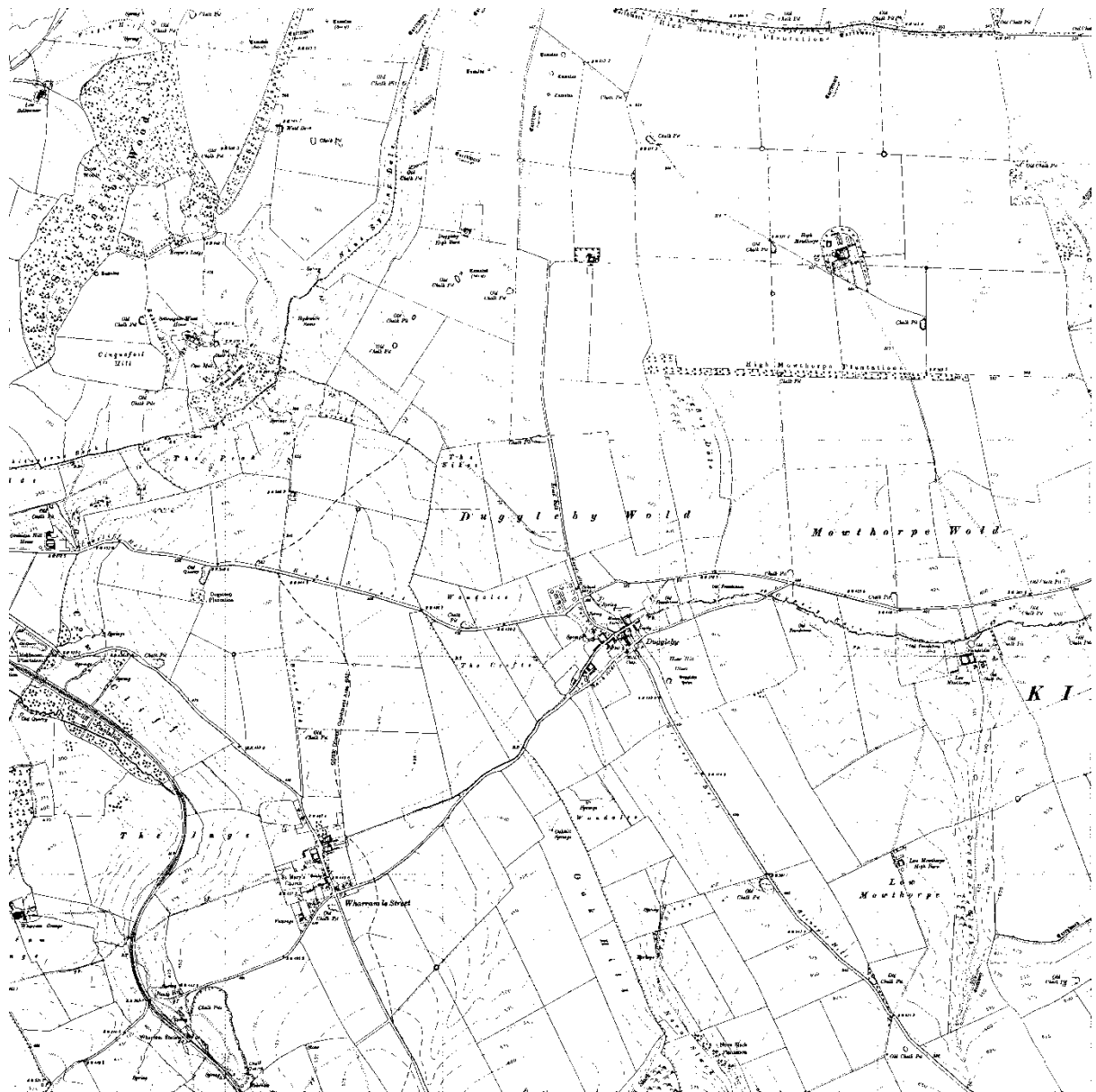
OS 1:2500 1910-11



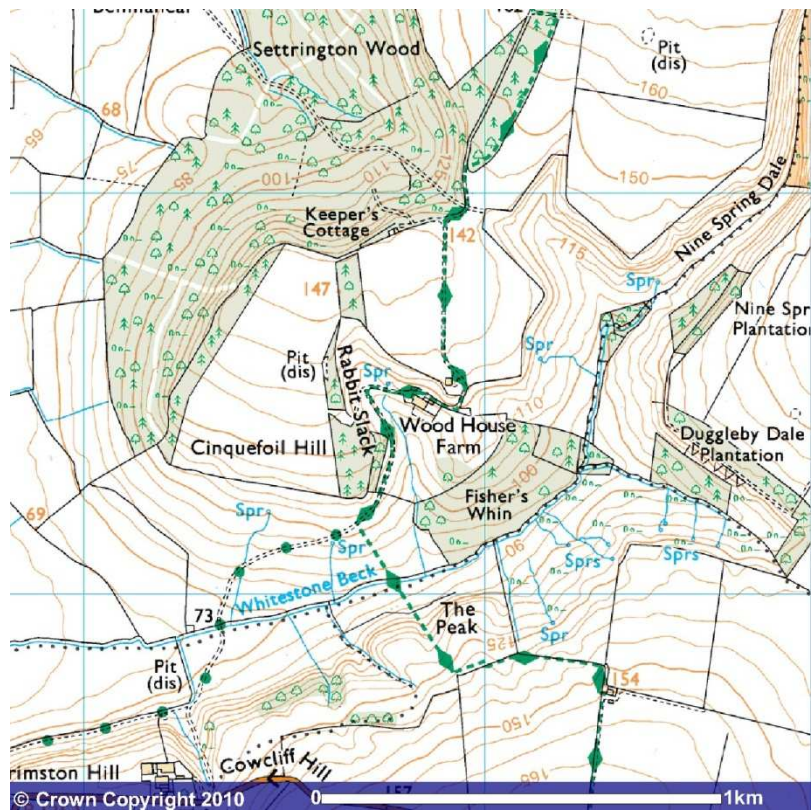
1910-11



OS 1:10560 1912



OS 1:10560 1952



Grid Reference at centre: SE 857 684 GB Grid

Lambing Sheds and attached Shepherd's Hut, close to Wood House Farm, Settrington Estate.

Section 2 Summary of Historical Development and Statement of Significance

D) Description and Statement of Significance



The lambing sheds stand some way to the East of Woodhouse Farm, which lies somewhat remote between North Grimston and Settrington. Upon later 19thC and early 20thC maps, the farm is identified as Settrington Wood House.

The lambing sheds sit on elevated ground but protected from West, North and South by slightly higher ground. The valley opens away to the east but the sheds are open to the west and south only, forming a slightly greater than 90 degree L-shape, with yard between.

The lambing sheds sit in a landscape redolent of post-agricultural improvement Wolds history, with a Rabbit Slack to the west and numerous chalk pits associated with the chalking of former pasture land for arable production.

The materials of construction are local oolitic limestone, chalk, brick and pantile with oak and probably scots pine roof structures. All materials would have been sourced locally. If not on the Estate itself, there were brick works throughout the historic period in nearby Norton, as well as at Rillington Moor, well within the range for economic transportation. No brickmakers are listed for Settrington parish in trade directories during the 19thC. Oolitic limestone was quarried close to Settrington village, but outcrops just N of the lambing sheds and may well have been sourced close by. There is a large quarry in North Grimston, but this supplied a 'cementstone' of different character to that used in the lambing shed walls and elsewhere at Wood House farm.

The East-West running range has a gable and north wall of mainly oolitic limestone, with some chalk lump mixed into the interior walling. The bedding mortar is of mud; pointing mortar of lime, which has also been used in repairs. The piers to the south are of brick, as is the east wall of the North-South running range and all walls of the shepherd's hut that forms the south end and gable of this range. The bricks are all of the same period, measuring $8 \frac{5}{8} \times 4 \frac{1}{8} \times 2 \frac{3}{4}$ to $2 \frac{7}{8}$ inches. Those of the piers and other quoins that border the open sheds are specials, with half-rounds to one corner.

It would seem likely that the stone walls form part of an earlier building on the site, perhaps of four walls, the south wall of which was removed to allow for the introduction of the piers and the creation of open sheds; the east wall in order to run E the brick wall through to its end. The junction of the stone and brick walls is more clumsy than might be expected were they built at the same time. This alteration would seem to have been contemporary with the construction of the brick range. It is strongly suggested by the reformation of its quoin in like brick to that of the piers.



Summary of Evolution

See section three for photographs of buildings discussed.

All buildings of Settrington Wood House Farm – of the homestead, the lambing sheds and apparently similar sheds to the north of the farm lands, called Wold Barn, existed at the time of the 1854 Ordnance Survey Map, which is to say in 1852, when the area was surveyed.

No earlier maps of the site have been so far discovered, except the 1797 enclosure map. This map, however, does not show many of the farm buildings, and not as many, certainly, as may be taken to have existed at the time.

It would seem likely that the lambing sheds were formed out of an existing stone structure which may have been of four walls. This stone structure will have been part of the pre-enclosure farmstead of Settrington Wood House. The farm itself was part of the historic lands of the Manor of Settrington although it is possible that the stone building now part of the lambing sheds stood upon the unenclosed Great Wold, hence its slightly removed position. The farmstead before enclosure will have consisted of the current E wing of the farmhouse that faces S, and the stone buildings of the current farmyard. An original exterior stone quoin at the W junction of this stone building and a later, mid-19thC extension of it demonstrate the precedence of the stone building on the site. Even the stone building, mainly of oolitic limestone was subsequently raised a half-storey with chalk, perhaps when the brick stables were added to these existing pre-enclosure stables of stone.

Post enclosure of the Town and Great Wolds in 1797, and consistent with the increase in arable acreage consistent with the soil improvements consequent upon the enclosure (and evidenced by

the numerous chalk pits upon the farm lands), the brick cartshed in the farm yard will have been constructed. Even as enclosure began, cart-sheds would have been necessary this far from the village, to transport chalk and bone manure for the sweetening of the acid soils. The volumes of chalk lump required were significant (see context, agricultural history). The brickwork of cart-shed and brick sections of the lambing sheds are the same and contemporary. There were apparently similar lambing sheds on the lands of Settrington Wood House Farm to the north of those that are the subject of this report; these have been lost, but illustrate the utility upon the pasture lands of fold-yards not only for the lambing of less hardy or robust breeds of sheep introduced after the enclosures, but also the shifting animal husbandry, which saw less use of expansive sheepwalks and a greater tendency to fold the flocks, feeding them on turnips grown for this purpose.

Enclosure of the Great Wold made a farmstead previously on the margins of the Estate, probably almost entirely of pasture land, into the largest farm of the estate (465 ½ acres), heavily arable though with sheep still grazing the escarpment slopes of Nine Springs Hill that dropped steeply to Whitestone Beck and could not be easily or viably ploughed. The survival of numerous square pre-historic foundations or enclosures upon the rough ground of these slopes and within the farm boundary, which are clearly visible upon satellite imagery today, would suggest that no attempt was ever made to plough these fields, before or after enclosure.

With the increasing value of the tenancy consequent upon the land improvements and the changes in animal husbandry that allowed the production of much more meat and wool per head of sheep, and the expansion of arable production consequent upon soil improvements, more buildings will have been added into the farmstead and the farmhouse itself extended by the mid-19thC.

This evolution is suggested by the variety of brick sizes in the buildings of the site. Those of the lambing shed and of the coach house are typically 8 7/8" x 4 1/8" x 2 ¾ / 2 7/8". Those of the earlier house on the site (as well as of Wold Barn, within the farm boundary but some way N on the Great Wold): 9 ¼" x 4 1/8" x 2 ¼", consistent with an earlier 18thC provenance, though it must be said that bricks of this dimension are to be found within buildings in Malton dated to the first decade of the 19thC. The bricks of the later farmhouse addition are 9 ¼" x 4 ½" x 3". Those of the stable building added to the W of the stone building are 8 5/8" x 4 ¼" x 3 / 3 1/8". All of the buildings above are marked upon the 1854 OS map.

In the absence of Estate maps illustrating this phasing, we may rely only upon the evidence of the buildings themselves and the materials of their construction. Concerning that of the lambing sheds specifically, it is not only the use of mud mortared stone for parts of the N range, but also the irregularity of the bays, as defined by the piers, of this range compared to those of the E, as well as the use of Jurassic sandstone ridges upon the N range, and clay ridges upon the E that would suggest its precedence. The sandstone ridges are likely to have been reused elements of the earlier building.

The Yorkshire Wolds are prone to late winter and early spring extremes of weather, with sometimes heavy snows during the lambing season. This lends significance to surviving lambing sheds associated with this specific risk, the risk of which to livestock increased after enclosure with the increasing husbandry of less hardy sheep more productive in meat and fleece but less well adapted to either sheep-walking or severe spring weather.

The Wolds were a classic 'corn-sheep' economy, the 'corn' being mainly barley though wheat was grown when prices were sufficiently high to make the typically lower yields worthwhile. The proportions of which activities inverted after the improvements of the late 18thC and early 19thC, being two-thirds pasture before the improvements and two-thirds arable by 1870. The lambing sheds are a function of this shift and of the changes in practice and flock management that came with it, with less hardy breeds of sheep being folded in stock yards and fed upon turnips.

Wood House Farm itself is of several phases but the majority of the house and of its associated buildings date from after the improvements. A very high quality cart-shed with grain-store above would seem to be of contemporary construction with the extended and altered lambing sheds. The bricks are of the same dimension and character. The main wing of the house itself may be a little later, with an earlier range running into it E-W. This faces S and has bricks of 2 ¼ " height. Other utility buildings on the site are of either oolitic limestone or brick.

After 1826, the Settrington Estate was owned by the Middletons of Birdsall, being sold by executors of Henry Masterman and other smaller land-holders within the manor. Prior to this, it had been largely in the ownership of Henrietta Masterman who married Mark Sykes in 1795. Sykes was the son of the great agricultural improver, Christopher Sykes and continued his ambitions, along with his wife, who oversaw the enclosure of the Town and Great Wolds of Settrington in 1797.

The National Monuments Record lists the lambing sheds thus: "Sheep house at Wood House Farm built circa 1780, altered in the early 19th century and in use as a farm building by 1986."(www.pastscape.org.uk) .The source for the 1780 construction of the earliest phase is not made clear.

David Neave (Pevsner 2010), mentions the lambing sheds, describing them as early to mid-C19 and as "a rare example of early experimental farmbuildings of this type" (Pevsner/Neave 677 2010 *Yorkshire: York and the East Riding* Yale University Press).

Wold Barn was a building of similar size on plan to the lambing sheds. It was also part of Settrington Wood House Farm, to the north of the land upon the Great Wold enclosed in 1797. Though they survived in 1952, these buildings are now lost, increasing the significance of the surviving lambing sheds as illustration of a grand chapter of the history of the Yorkshire Wolds.