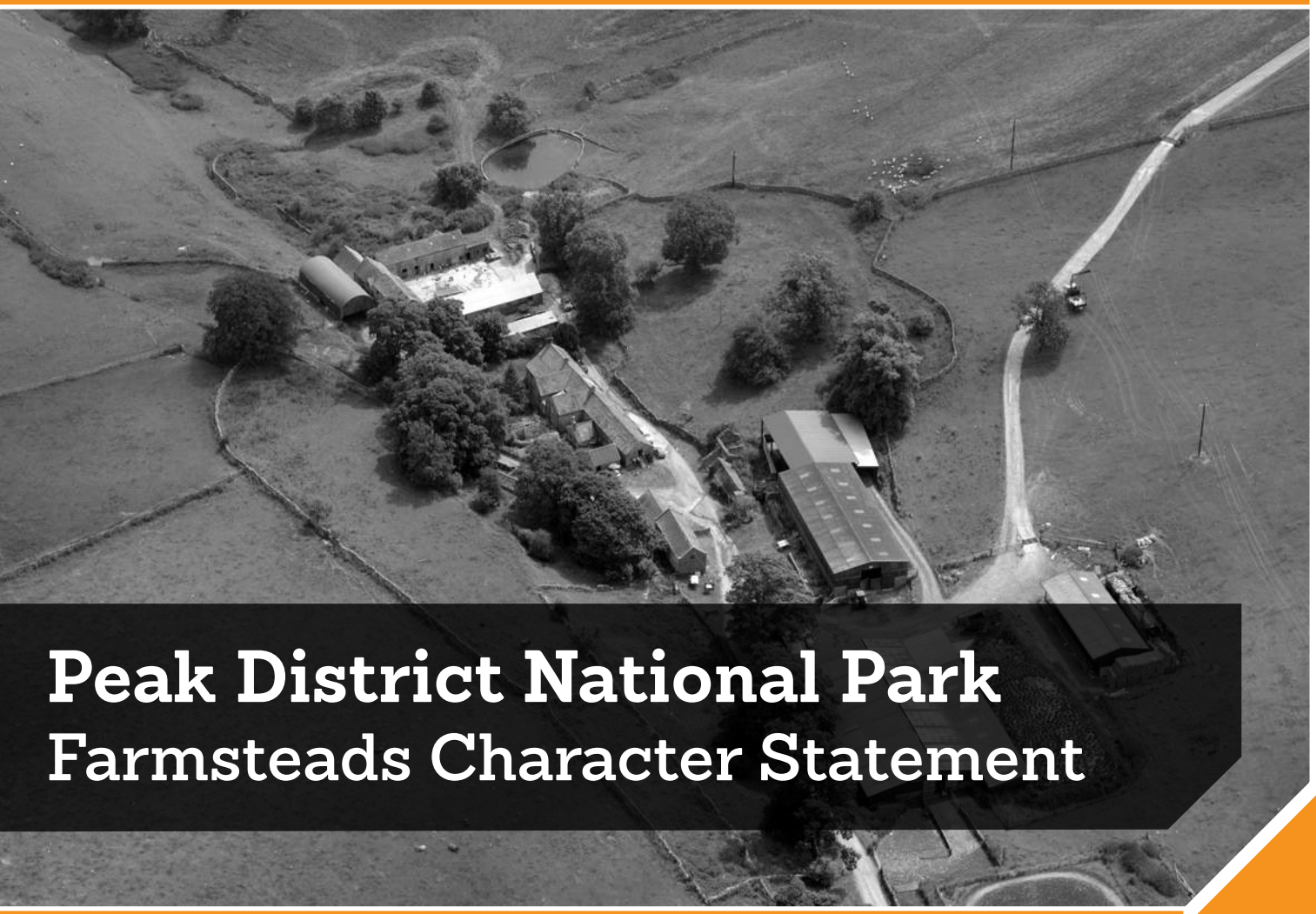


Peak District National Park
Farmsteads Character Statement

2017

Funded by Historic England

LOCUS CONSULTING

PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK

Summary

This document provides illustrated guidance on the character and significance of the Peak District's traditional farmsteads and buildings. It will be of use to all those with a stake in the conservation of the Peak District and its historic buildings, as well as those with an interest in its history and special character.

This document is part of the **Peak District Historic Farmsteads Guidance**. The guidance aims to inform and achieve the sustainable development of historic farmsteads, including their conservation and enhancement. It will also be of interest to those with an interest in the history and character of the Peak District's landscape, settlements and historic buildings.

The guidance also includes:

- **Peak District Farmstead Assessment Framework**
  This document provides a step-by-step approach to help owners and applicants consider the potential of traditional farmsteads and their buildings for change before any application for planning permission, and to inform any scheme as it develops.

- **Farmstead & Landscape Statements**
  Illustrated statements about the three main National Character Areas are introduced in the Character Statement, each defined according to their landscape character by Natural England. Each statement provides information about the historical development of farms in the landscape, landscape character and the types of farmstead found in each area.

- **Peak District Farmsteads & Landscapes Project Report**
  A summary of the overall results of mapping the historic character, survival and date of farmsteads across the Peak District National Park.

  All of these resources can be accessed at *www.PeakDistrict.gov.uk/HistoricFarmsteads*

Contents

This document sets out the historic character and significance of farmsteads under the following sections:

1 Introduction.....1

2 Historical Development.....9

3 Landscape & Settlement Content.....12

4 Farmstead Types.....17

5 Building Types.....39

6 Materials & Detail.....72

7 Where To Get Advice.....79

8 Further Reading.....81

Authorship and copyright: This document has been prepared by Jeremy Lake of Historic England and Bob Edwards of Forum Heritage Services, with contributions from Ken Smith of the Peak District National Park Authority, and Adam Partington and Jack Hanson of Locus Consulting.

Photographs taken by Bob Edwards and Jen Deadman, except aerial images by Historic England which note their reference numbers.

Cover Image: Aerial view of a dispersed multi-yard farmstead. © Historic England (Ref 28598-002)

Section 1

Introduction

The ***Peak District National Park Farmsteads Character Statement*** provides an overview of the types of traditional farmsteads and farm buildings found in the Peak District. It includes a brief history of the ways in which farming practices have changed and how buildings and landscapes have developed into their present forms. Used in conjunction with the ***Peak District National Park Farmstead Assessment Framework***, it provides a powerful tool for understanding historic farmsteads and how they can, through their sensitive reuse and redevelopment, continue to contribute to the landscape of the Peak District. It is intended as a useful reference for those with an interest in the area's farming landscapes and buildings.

1. This farmstead retains buildings of various dates including a Linear plan farmhouse, early 19th-century estate-style buildings and the large modern sheds needed in a modern farming enterprise. (Tissington, White Peak) ▶
Photo © Jen Deadman

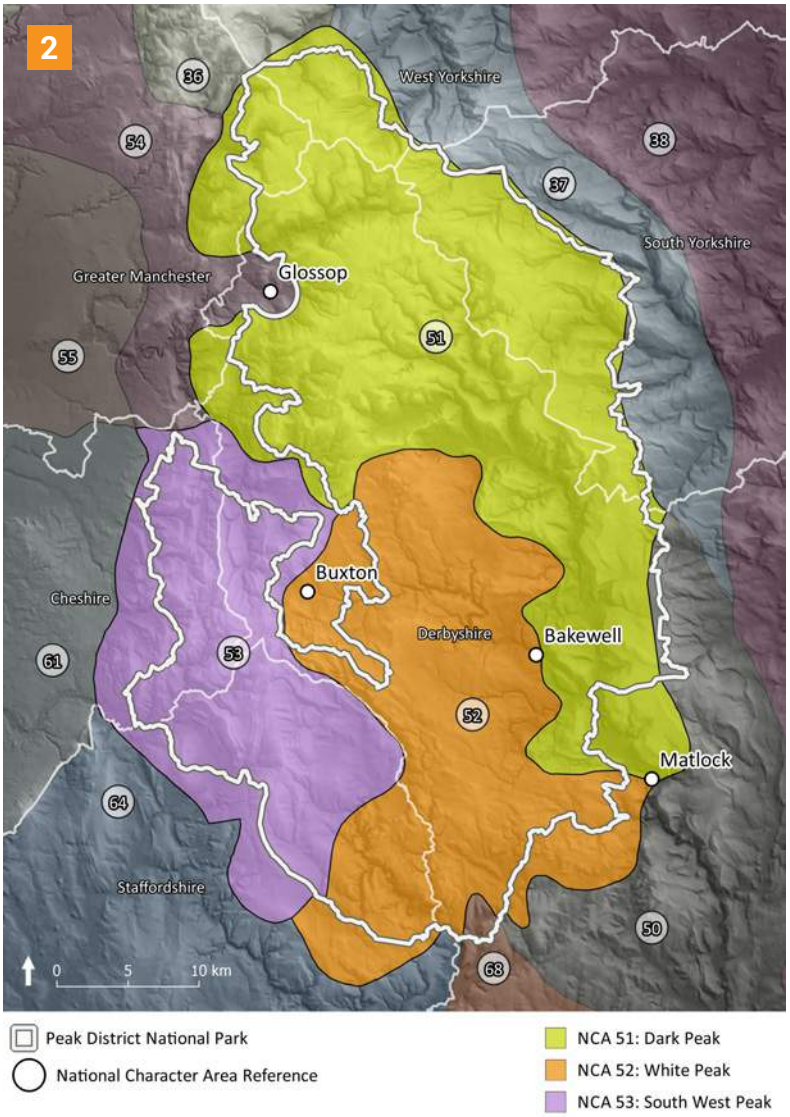
Farmsteads in the Peak District National Park

A farmstead is the place where the farmhouse and the working buildings of a farm are located, with some farms having field barns or outfarms sited away from the main steading. Most traditional buildings date from the 19th century and very few were built after 1900. They display an immense variation in their architectural form, detail and use of materials, reflecting local differences and key functions, such as the need to house and process harvested crops and shelter farm animals. Traditional farmsteads are similarly varied both in their layout and scale.

Introducing Local Variations

There are both subtle and distinct variations in the character of farmsteads in the Peak District National Park. These variations are the result of natural and human factors, including local land-forms (including geology, topography and soils), construction practices and the availability of materials and resources.

As part of a national programme, Natural England divided the country into a series of 159 **National Character Areas** (NCAs). Three NCAs - see map - take up almost the whole of the Peak District National Park. Each of these has an illustrated and descriptive guide to the special character of the landscape (see *htt tlications.naturalengland.org.uk/category/587130*). See the end of this introduction for a summary of the historic character and survival of traditional farmsteads in these areas.



◀**2.** The boundaries of the three main National Character Areas (NCAs) of the Peak District. The Dark Peak (NCA 51) is dominated by high gritstone moorland with high densities of dispersed settlement in the valleys. Most isolated farmsteads are on medieval to 17th-century sites and set within irregular fields. The South West Peak (NCA 53) also has a very high density of dispersed settlement, with most farmsteads being on medieval to 17th-century sites and relating to irregular fields enclosed from woodland or on a piecemeal basis over the same period. In contrast the majority of historic settlement on the limestone plateau of the White Peak (NCA 52) is nucleated into villages. Isolated farmsteads mostly date from after the enclosure with drystone walls of the Medieval open fields around these villages, or the 18th/19th-century enclosure of wastes and commons.

Similar patterns of mostly dispersed historic settlement and farmsteads extend into the upland fringes of the surrounding NCAs which are (from north) the Yorkshire Southern Pennine Fringe (37), the Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent (50), the Needwood and South Derbyshire Claylands (68), towards Biddulph Moor in the Potteries and Churnet Valley (64), the Manchester Pennine Fringe (54) and the South Pennines (36).

Summary of Peak District farmsteads character

Historic Development

Farmsteads and their buildings reflect the development of agricultural regions and areas over centuries. Generally, the Peak District was predominantly pastoral with small areas of arable land, with the larger areas of arable concentrated on the better-quality soils of the White Peak. On upland farms cattle provided dairy products for home consumption and young stock for fattening on lowland farms, whilst sheep grazed on the extensive moorlands provided wool, meat and milk. The mineral wealth of the Peak District was being exploited from the prehistoric period, the mining of lead ore being of particular importance in the 17th and 18th centuries. Lead mining was often combined with small-scale farming. Peak District farmers benefitted from the growth of industrial centres and important markets to the west and east.

3. Around the White Peak's limestone plateau, as here at Wardlow, village-based and linear farming settlements developed. The stone enclosure boundaries have either a planned appearance or (in background) have retained the curved outlines of medieval strips. ▶

Photo © Jen Deadman

Landscape and Settlement

Farmsteads are an integral part of rural settlement and the landscape. In the Peak District there are strong contrasts between the areas of predominantly nucleated settlement within the White Peak and the dispersed settlement of the South West Peak and Dark Peak. In the White Peak, traditional farmsteads are mostly located within the villages which are surrounded by fossilised medieval strips of former open fields with later, often planned, rectilinear fields beyond. Across most of the South West Peak and the Dark Peak, farmsteads are generally set within a landscape of irregular fields which were enclosed by the 17th century.

Farmstead and Building Types

An important characteristic of farmsteads in the Peak District is the generally small scale of the farmstead groups, which is typical of upland areas in England. Buildings reflect the importance of housing cattle and storing hay. Yards and other open areas enabled the movement of cattle and storage of manure, those around the edge of farmsteads often serving to sort sheep for washing and clipping. Farmsteads are, as is typical of upland areas, predominantly small-scale plan types. **Linear plans** with the farmhouse and working buildings attached in-line or forming an L-plan range (over 35%) are the most common, and often formed the building-block of farmsteads as they developed with more buildings and working areas. The next most common are small **Dispersed Cluster** groups (around 20%) and **Loose Courtyard** groups with detached buildings to one or two sides of the yard (24%). **Regular Courtyard** plans, where there are linked ranges of working buildings, mainly consist of L-plan farmsteads which are common in other upland areas. Larger courtyard plan types are rare in the Peak District, being concentrated on the northern and eastern fringes of the Peak where growing corn and fattening cattle was more important.

An illustrated guide to the different types of farmstead plan form can be found on Page 19. **Outfarms and field barns** are also a highly characteristic element of the Peak District landscape. Small buildings for housing cattle and hay are particularly common around the villages of the White Peak and adjacent parts of the South West Peak and Dark Peak.

4. Outfarms are common across the Peak District, such as this larger example built on the South West plateau where large holdings developed in the late 18th and 19th centuries. This combination building faces into a yard and comprises a granary above a stable to the left, and a hay loft over cattle housing to the right. ▶
Photo © Jen Deadman

There is a wide range of working building types across the Peak District. **Barns** are commonly the largest and earliest buildings, but such was the extent of rebuilding in the 19th century that few earlier examples have survived.

5. A field barn within a regular planned enclosure landscape on the plateau of the White Peak. ▶
Photo © Peak District National Park Authority

Housing for cattle has shaped the character of every farmstead, either as storeyed or single-storey ranges which include cow houses for dairy cattle, open-fronted shelter sheds, loose boxes and bull pens. **Dairies** and more commonly **pigsties** are found on dairy farms and estate farms and **milking parlours** dating from the late 19th century become larger and more industrialised from the early to mid-20th century onwards. **Stables** and **cart sheds** are less common on the pastoral farms to the north, and are largest in scale on large arable-based farms.

Materials and Details

Local stone is limestone in the White Peak and sandstones (known as 'gritstone') which could also be split to form roofing tiles, from the Dark Peak and South West Peak are the dominant building materials across the Peak District. Plain tiles, in particular 'Staffordshire Blues' and Welsh slate, were brought into the area in the 19th century but brick is rarely seen in pre-20th century farm buildings.

Surviving fittings and details such as stall partitions (boskins) within farm buildings are mostly of 19th and early 20th-century date but occasional examples of earlier doors, windows, lintels (some with dates/initials) and flooring can be found.

▲
6. This farmstead in the South West Peak shows the simple distinction that can be made between the traditional and modern industrial working areas of farmsteads (which are vital for the modern farming industry). The traditional buildings are highly distinctive of the local vernacular, built from stone and slate.
Photo © Historic England (Ref 28598/007)

Significance

Survival of Traditional Farmsteads

Traditional farmsteads and buildings make a special and significant contribution to local character and distinctiveness. This is particularly true of farms where the working inter-relationships between the main house, buildings, yards and other spaces mostly for livestock and their manure and the surrounding rural landscape are still clear. Most often, the greater the survival of farmsteads' historic form and detail, the greater will be their historic significance.

The historic character and survival of over **2500** farmsteads has been recorded across the Peak District. The information is now housed within the Peak District National Park Authority's Historic Buildings, Sites and Monuments Record (HBSMR). Ordnance Survey 2nd edition maps of c. 1900 were used as a benchmark for recording change against modern maps, as very few traditional buildings were built after this date.

The levels of survival are higher than across most of England mapped to date. **87%** of the Peak District's recorded farmsteads have heritage potential as traditional farmsteads because they have retained some or all of their historic form:

- **83%** have high heritage potential because they have retained more than 50% of their historic form. This is very high in a national context.
- **4%** have some heritage potential because they have retained some (less than 50%) of their historic form.

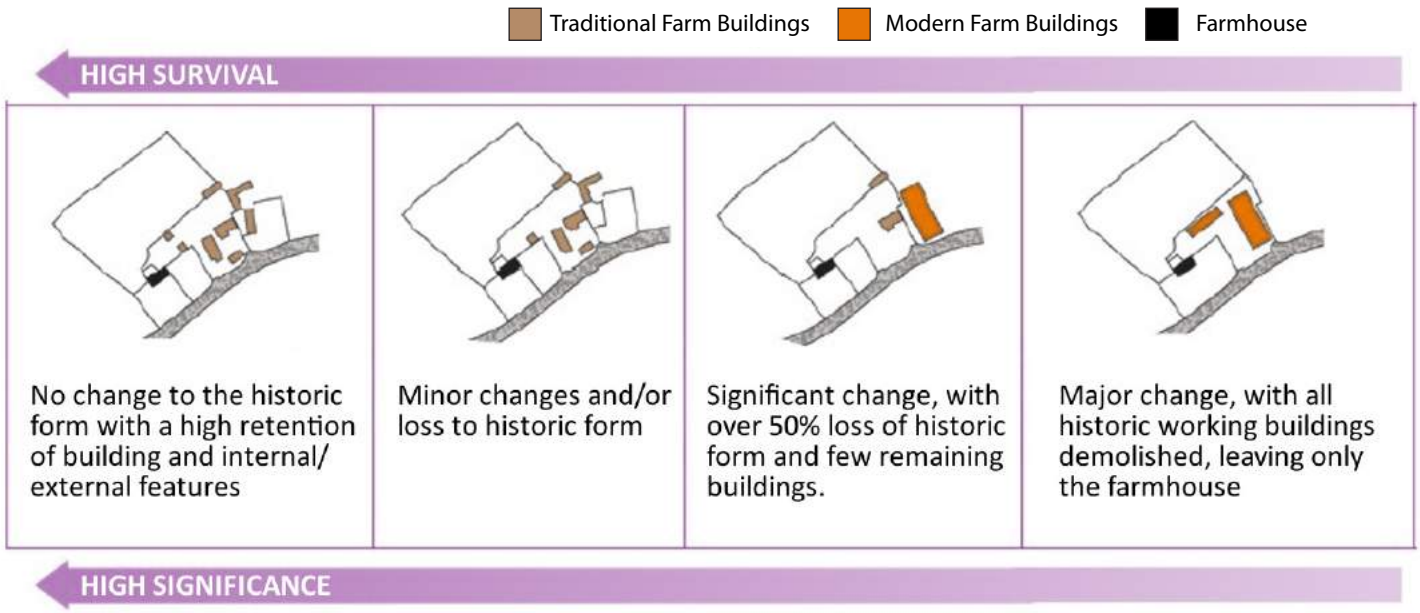
The levels of survival are lowest in the Dark Peak and highest in the White Peak.

Of the remaining farmsteads in the Peak District:

- **5%** only retain the farmhouse with all the working buildings being lost.
- **1%** have been entirely rebuilt, but remain in farming use.
- **7%** have been completely lost from the landscape. These may still retain significant below-ground deposits which may be revealed during development.

A total of **2614** field barn sites and outfarms have also been recorded. **42%** of field barns and **59%** of outfarms survive in some form. These figures are high, in a national context, particularly when compared to lowland areas of England, where these buildings have rarely survived.

3



7. Farmstead set below the moor edge on the High Peak, one of many linear farmsteads occupying a remote and isolated position. It lies amongst fields of piecemeal enclosure, taken in from the moor by the 18th century. ▶
Photo © Jen Deadman

Special Significance

Some buildings or farmsteads, including examples which are not designated Heritage Assets, can have additional significance in a national or local context. In the Peak District this includes:

- Sites within or adjacent to archaeological remains of local and national importance, as noted in Stage 1 of the Farmsteads Assessment Framework.
- Farms located within or next to well-preserved parkland, common land and sites associated with mineral and stone extraction.
- 18th-century or earlier buildings.
- Buildings marked by their strong architectural design.
- Rare surviving materials - thatch, earth walling, timber-framed construction and cruck frames.
- Historic detail - doors, windows, internal stalls and partitions and inscriptions (folk marks or graffiti).

Section 2

Historical Development

Agricultural productivity has long been sustained by new techniques in crop and animal husbandry, the restructuring and enlargement of farm holdings and changes in production to both sustain the farming communities and, from the 17th century in particular, increase specialisation to meet the demands of growing markets. These developments, and local variations in the prosperity of farming, are often expressed in successive waves of rebuilding houses, barns and other structures extending back into the medieval period.

The period between 1750-1880, and especially the capital-intensive 'High Farming' years of the 1840s-1870s, saw a particularly sharp increase in productivity, in which the rebuilding of farmsteads played a key role. This was followed by a long but regionally varied depression which lasted until the Second World War. During this period farm buildings became increasingly standardised to accommodate machinery and changing animal welfare standards.

Historic farmsteads and their buildings have become redundant as new non-agricultural modes of rural living have become increasingly popular, often combined with home-working. Family farms have further shrunk in number, as the intensity of production and the size of farms have increased.

Prehistoric Farming
The whole of the Peak District was extensively settled in prehistory; even the gritstone Moorlands of the Dark Peak reveal evidence of Mesolithic hunter-gatherer populations. The moors have for centuries been utilised by surrounding communities for summer grazing, with peat, heather and bracken cut for fuel, bedding, roofing and fodder.

Medieval Farming
In the medieval period extensive areas of the Peak District were controlled as hunting forest which may have restricted settlement and agricultural development. Ecclesiastical and secular estates worked large cattle and sheep farms (termed granges) which often later formed the foci of farming settlements and estate centres as they continued to develop in the 14th-16th centuries. Generally, the area was predominantly pastoral with small areas of arable land, often producing little other than oats which were suited to the short wet summers. On upland farms cattle provided dairy products for home consumption and young stock for fattening on lowland farms, and sheep provided wool, meat and milk. A key factor that sustained farming communities in the uplands was the huge

◀ **8.** This farmstead stands on the site of a medieval monastic grange at One Ash near Monyash (White Peak). The grange was set within its own fields enclosed in the medieval period beyond the area of the common fields of Monyash. Isolated medieval granges were an important factor in the development of agriculture in the Peak District.
Photo © Historic England

◀ **9.** Where estates were involved in the enclosure and improvement of moorland new farmsteads were sometimes built using architect-designed or planned courtyard forms that were more common in lowland England. This farmstead has a shallow U-plan with symmetrical gables to the side of the symmetrical front of the farmhouse, dated 1854, overlooking the valley of the River Ashop close to the edge of the moorland. (Dark Peak)
Photo © Bob Edwards

proportion of inter-commoned grazing on the moorlands. Walled tracks were created, leading up from the valley bottom to the moorland 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. However, some small isolated farmsteads and their fields, intakes from the moor, can date from the 15th century or earlier. By the 16th and early 17th centuries in the moorlands of the South West Peak for example, it was not uncommon for farms to carry large flocks of 300 to 600 sheep, together with a breeding herd of a dozen cows.

The growing of corn crops was more extensive in the White Peak than the South West and Dark Peak. It was concentrated into open fields around the villages. The exchange and enclosure of the narrow strips within these fields were probably occurring as early as the 14th century and continued into the 18th and 19th centuries. Many strips were enclosed and laid down to permanent pasture for cattle and sheep at an early date.

Some of the Church-owned estates were to form the basis of secular estates after the dissolution of the monasteries. Substantial landowners such as the Dukes of Devonshire and the Earls of Derby further developed their estates between the 16th and 18th centuries, giving rise to a rich inheritance of fine houses and, in the 18th-19th centuries, designed landscapes.

Early Modern Farming

In the 18th and 19th centuries the enclosure of substantial areas of moorland that had formerly served as communal grazing allowed increased production. The large estates were in the forefront of agricultural improvement in some areas, promoting enclosures of moorland and common grazing, rotations of crops and investing in the construction of new farmsteads and the remodelling of older ones.

There is evidence that the mineral wealth of the Peak District (including copper and lead) was being exploited in the Bronze Age. The presence of lead ores made this area particularly important to the Romans and the ores were widely exploited, although archaeological evidence of the actual workings is minimal due to later mining activity. The industry peaked in the17th and 18th centuries, before its collapse in the late 19th century. During this period lead mining was often combined with farming, with tradespeople and miners often owning or renting fields around settlements, building field barns to house dairy cattle and their hay over winter. Peak District farmers were able to benefit from the growth of the surrounding industrial areas, supplying meat and liquid milk to the urban centres which grew in importance from the mid-18th century. Also significant was small-scale coal mining concentrated south-west of Buxton, particularly in the 18th and 19th centuries, and in areas such as Flash and Goldsitch Moss in the South West Peak into the early 19th century. Copper mining peaked at Ecton in the later 18th century.

Section 3

Landscape And Settlement Context

Historic farmsteads and their buildings are an integral part of the rural landscape illustrating how it has changed, been settled and used over time. They relate to different scales and patterns of fields, to boundaries, trees and woodland and sometimes to industrial sites.

Farmstead Location

The Peak District has a high density of farmsteads and field barns in the landscape, with strong distinctions between areas of village-based settlement with few isolated farmsteads and areas with high densities of dispersed settlement comprising isolated farmsteads and hamlets.

▲
10. This cluster of farmsteads at Grindon (White Peak) comprises a loose-knit group that developed around an historic green with enclosed strip fields extending into the surrounding landscape .
Photo © Historic England 27965/031.

▲
11. This shows a cluster of farmsteads in the village of Butterton (South West Peak) in the foreground, with regular enclosure from moorland in the background and distinctive narrow enclosures from strip fields in between.
Photo © Historic England 27964/051.

▲
12. Working farms in villages are increasingly uncommon – it is more typical to find traditional farm buildings converted to residential use. (Great Longstone, White Peak)
Photo © Bob Edwards.

Villages

20% of over 2500 farmsteads recorded from Ordnance Survey maps of c. 1900 were sited within villages. These are concentrated in the White Peak and adjacent parts of the South West Peak and the southern part of the Dark Peak. Village-based farmsteads are closely associated with better-quality soils where arable farming in strips within common fields was practised. The enclosure of the open fields around villages was certainly underway by at least the 16th century, often closely following the outlines of medieval farming strips and giving rise to distinctive 'fossilised strips' such as around Chelmorton in the White Peak. Farmsteads continued to develop within villages over this period, often amalgamating earlier plots and changing the form of villages, along with the construction of houses for industrial workers and tradespeople.

Isolated farmsteads and farmstead clusters

Within the White Peak, the majority of the isolated farmsteads are the result of new farmsteads being built in association with the enclosure of areas of common grazing beyond the strip fields, although some represent earlier settlements including deserted villages and the sites of medieval monastic granges. 80% of recorded farmsteads formed part of small farmstead clusters or hamlets or, more commonly, were isolated from other settlement. Across much of the South West Peak and the Dark Peak isolated farmsteads of medieval to 17th-century date are strongly associated with small-to-medium sized irregular fields, enclosed from woodland or on a piecemeal basis from medieval arable land. Isolated farmsteads with buildings dating from the late 18th century, often with shelter belts, also relate to areas of moorland newly enclosed in the late 18th and 19th centuries.

▲
13. This chain of farmsteads at Morridge Side (South West Peak) developed into individual farmsteads from a group of farmsteads and hamlets surrounded by strip fields enclosed on a piecemeal basis. Note the regular fields and newly-established farmstead sites in the background. *Photo © Historic England 27966/014.*

▲
14. Small irregular fields of early enclosures, probably of 17th-century or earlier date and often defined by well-wooded boundaries with later, more regular enclosure on the higher ground in the distance. (Leekfrith, South West Peak) *Photo © Jen Deadman.*

This period of farming was concerned with boosting soil fertility, through the more systematic containment of livestock and their manure, and the construction of large numbers of field lime kilns. Dew ponds often feature within fields, reflecting the need to provide water for cattle. Earlier buildings can also be found in areas of farmland reworked by estates into designed landscapes with regular enclosures and planted woodland, such as around Chatsworth.

Farmsteads and Fields

Over half of the land area in England is enclosed farmland, most of which dates from before 1750. The pattern of fields results from the ancient, piecemeal or survey-planned enclosure and reorganisation of medieval strip fields and other forms of farmland, woodland and rough ground, including land held in common.

Successive waves of rebuilding reflect historic developments and local variations in the prosperity of farming. The period 1750-1880, and especially the capital-intensive 'High Farming' years of the 1840s-1870s, saw a particularly sharp increase in productivity, in which the rebuilding of farmsteads played a key role. The evidence from the mapping of farmsteads indicates that there was extensive rebuilding of farmsteads in the Peak District in the 19th century, the result being that relatively few buildings appear to be substantially complete survivals from the 18th century and earlier. Whilst the rebuilding and building anew of farm buildings typified the 19th century, earlier cores and footings may be revealed on detailed inspection.

Generally, there is not a high level of survival of early farmhouses and agricultural buildings, as represented by the numbers and the age of listed buildings. Only 7% of recorded farmsteads have a pre-1700 listed farmhouse and less than 2% have a pre-1700 listed farm building. There is a concentration of 17th-century and earlier farmsteads in the Derwent Valley and Edale in the Dark Peak where they are mainly associated with irregular fields typical of early, piecemeal enclosure. The majority of farmsteads of early date are clearly high-status sites indicated by the use of 'Hall', 'Manor' or 'Grange' names. There is also a concentration of 17th-century farmhouses and working buildings, many of them cruck-framed, in the north-eastern part of the Peak around Bradfield above Sheffield. Pre-1700 farmsteads represent a slightly lower proportion of recorded farmsteads in the South West Peak where they are also mainly associated with irregular and early enclosures. It is possible that the limited number of early buildings in the landscape reflects rebuilding of timber-framed buildings in stone, this process starting with the higher-status sites in the 17th century and only extending down the social scale in the 18th century.

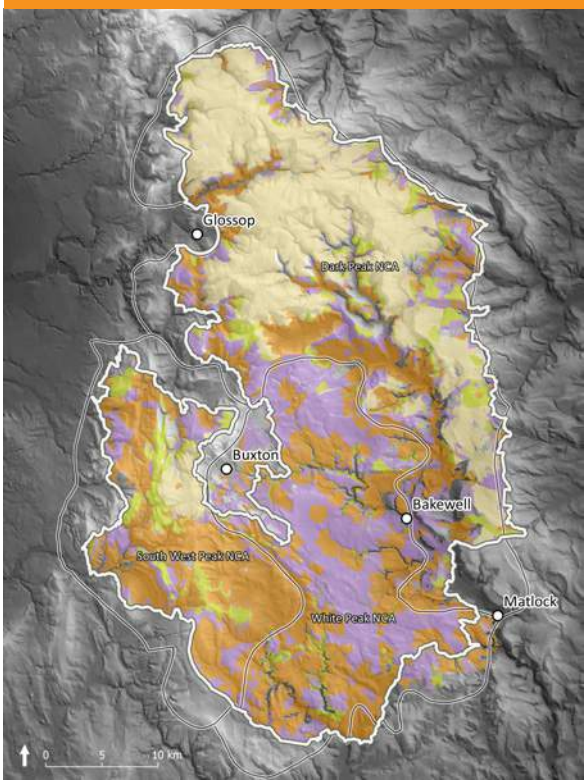
Farmsteads with 18th-century houses or working buildings are concentrated in the south-east of the White Peak and part of the southern tip of the Dark Peak with a concentration in the west of the Dark Peak south of Glossop. There is a notably lower proportion of 18th-century farmsteads in the South West Peak.

▲
15. An area of regular enclosures with straight drystone walled boundaries. (West part of Dark Peak) *Photo © Bob Edwards*

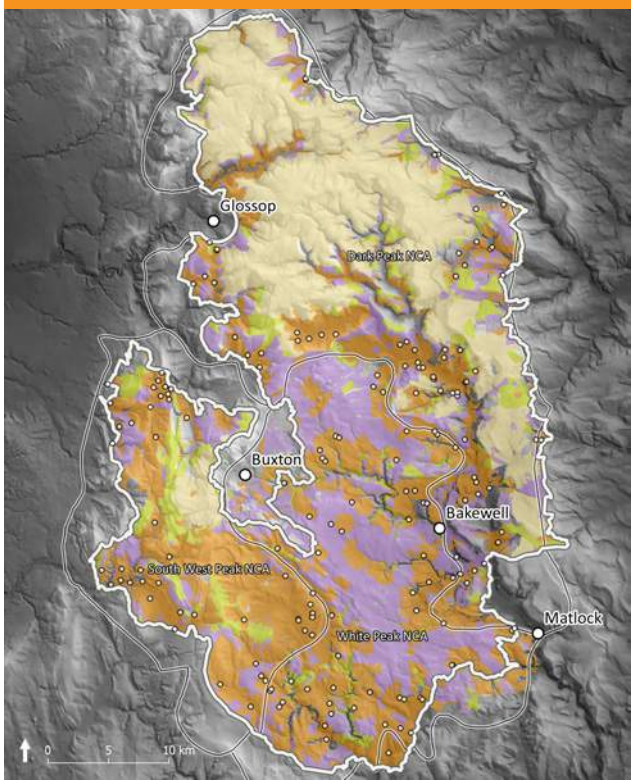
▲
16. A Linear farmstead of in-line house and working buildings on the southern edge of the White Peak. Like many buildings, this shows the line of an earlier pre-19th-century single-storey range. Many buildings have earlier cores, marked by breaks in masonry and the lines of steeper roof pitches on the gable ends of buildings which have been heightened. *Photo © Bob Edwards*

17

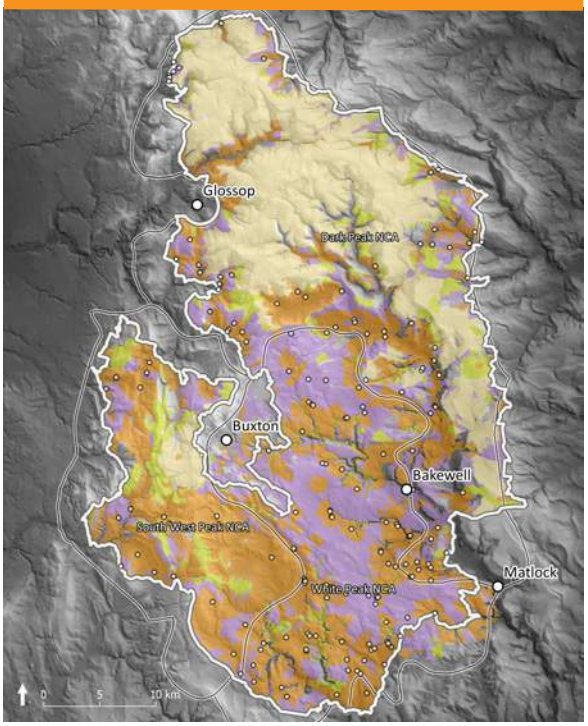
Historic patterns of land enclosure within the Peak District National Park



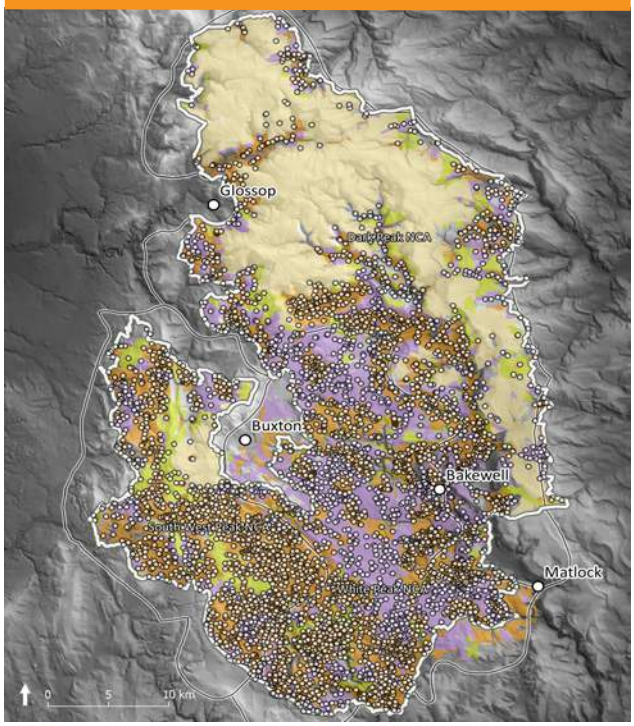
17th-century and earlier farmsteads



18th-century farmsteads



19th-century farmsteads



Historic farmstead
Peak District National Park
NCA Boundary
Regular Enclosure
Irregular Enclosure
Other Enclosure
Open Wastes and Common

▲

17. These maps show how farmsteads recorded as 18th century or earlier (mostly houses, with some working buildings) and the densities of all farmsteads shown on Ordnance Survey maps of c. 1900 relate to the age of the fields in which they are sited. The oldest fields (being irregular enclosures or piecemeal enclosure from medieval strips) are strongly associated with 17th-century and earlier recorded farmsteads, and the highest densities of farmsteads which may have early fabric not yet recorded. Land taken in as enclosed fields at a later period has far lower densities of recorded farmsteads, with higher densities and earlier buildings being found in the valley-side cow pastures and other forms of intermediate land than in the straight-sided fields enclosed from moorland or reworked from earlier farmland from the late 18th century.

Section 4

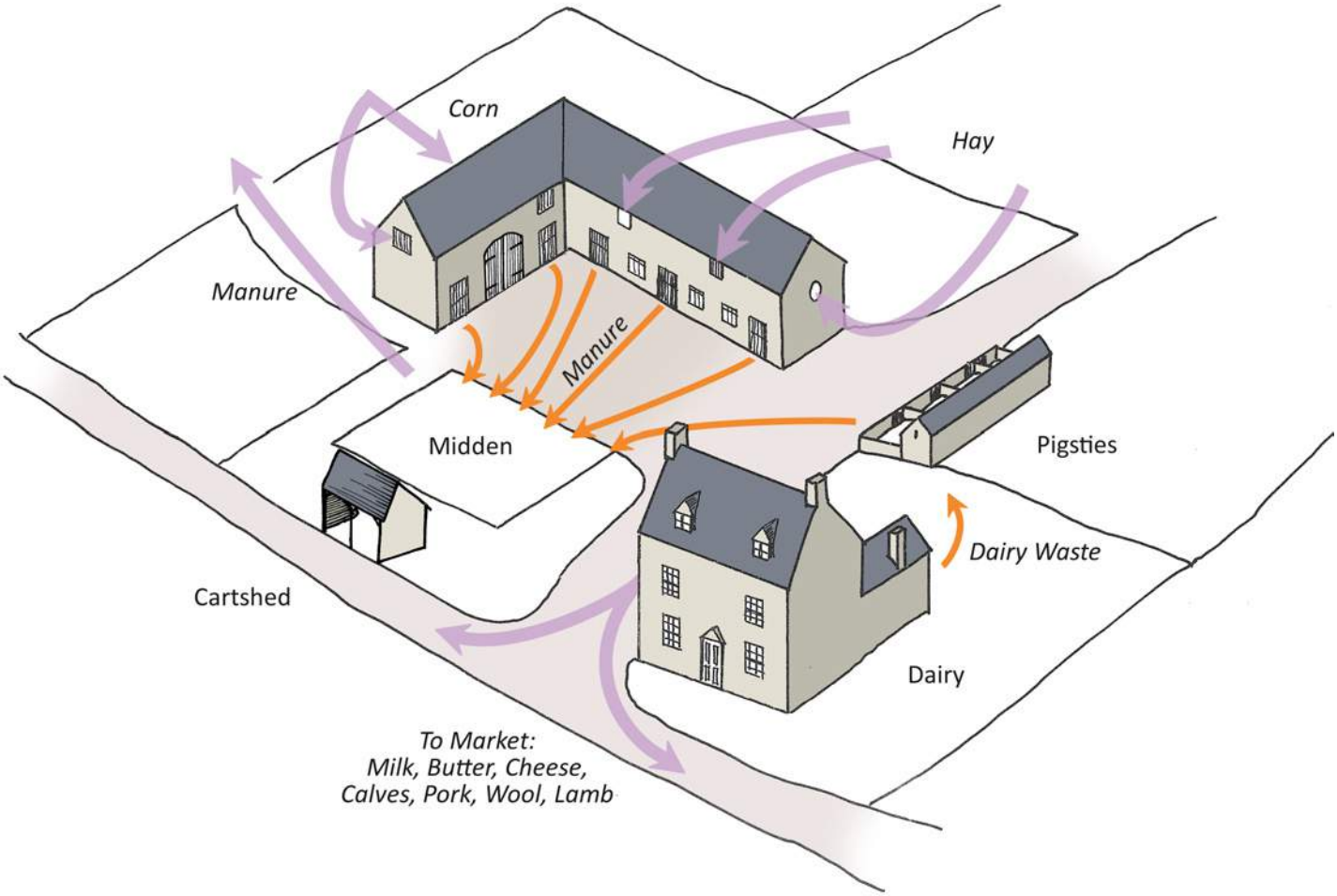
Farmstead Types

This section introduces how farmsteads functioned and the different types of farmsteads, and isolated field barns and outfarms, that may be encountered across the Peak District National Park. Maps show how local variations result from their relationship to the patterns of settlement, fields and unenclosed land around them.

The size and layout of farmsteads results from their status, farm size and the extent to which farms mixed or specialised in the growing of corn, the rearing and fattening of cattle and dairying. Their principal function was to house the farming family and any workers, store and process harvested crops and dairy products, produce and finish meat, provide shelter for livestock, carts and implements and produce manure for the surrounding farmland. These required:

- A farmhouse, either attached to the working buildings (commonly found in upland areas), positioned to one side of them or detached with its own driveways and gardens, a position often seen in larger and high-status farmsteads of the 18th and 19th centuries.
- Access to and from its farmland, communal land, other settlements and markets.
- Specialist or combination buildings or ranges.
- Open and enclosed yards and other spaces for stacking harvested corn and hay, sorting and containing livestock, milking cattle, gardens or orchards.
- In some cases cottages for farm workers or rooms for live-in farm labourers – usually in the attic or back wing of the house. Seasonal workers were often housed in the lofts of farm buildings.
- Gardens within or to one side of the farmstead, which were usually developed as private areas with a distinct and separate character.
- In many farms individual buildings or groups of them, known as field barns and outfarms, were built away from the farmstead where crops could be stored or processed and animals housed.

18



▲
18. This image shows in simple form how a Peak farmstead worked, in this case for a Regular Courtyard L-plan. The L-plan range mostly comprises cattle housing with lofts for hay, and a combination barn on the left which includes a granary above the stable which has a loading door in the gable end. Manure was loaded onto carts and taken to fertilise the surrounding fields, either directly from the animal housing or from a manure heap. Cart sheds were typically placed away from the 'dirty yards' with easy access to routes and tracks. Other minor buildings - pigsties, hen houses, calf houses and brewhouses - were typically placed close to the house, pigs being fed on the watery by-product (whey) from the dairy. *Drawing © Jeremy Lake, Bob Edwards*

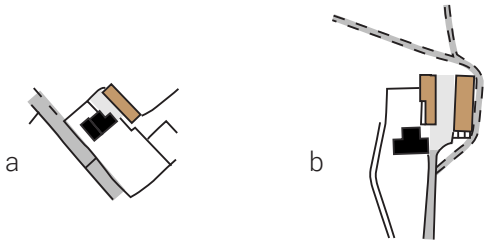
An important characteristic of farmsteads in the Peak District is the generally small scale of the farmstead groups and the amount of space for managing and housing cattle, which is typical of upland areas in England. These are represented by Linear Plans, small Loose Courtyard and Dispersed Cluster plans. The distinction between small Loose Courtyard plans and the smallest Dispersed plans (the Dispersed Clusters where buildings lie within the farmstead boundary) can be difficult to spot; both have been more susceptible to the complete loss of farmstead character than the other farmstead types.

- **Linear plan types** (40% of all farmsteads recorded) are the dominant and characteristic plan types across the Peak District. These comprise houses and working buildings in-line (31%) or forming an L-plan with the house attached (9%). They are often within Courtyard and Dispersed plans, which usually developed into their final form over the 19th century.

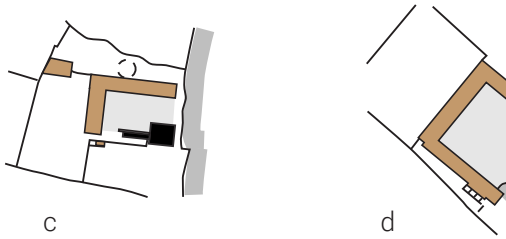
- **Courtyard plans** (37%), where the working buildings are arranged around one or more yards, are much less common here than in surrounding lowland areas. 25% of these farmsteads are small Loose Courtyard plans defined by detached buildings to one or two sides of the yard representing small farmsteads – larger examples are rare. Of the Regular Courtyard plans defined by interlinked ranges which have a more formal appearance, those with an L-plan range are most common. The other - mostly larger - planned groups are rare.

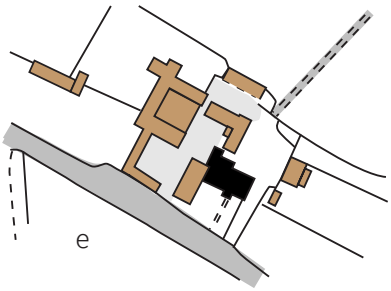
- **Dispersed plans** (21%) are a highly distinctive feature of upland areas in England. They do not have a focal yard area and the working buildings are dispersed within the boundary of the steading. Dispersed Cluster plans are the most common form of the Dispersed plan types.

Farmstead Plans

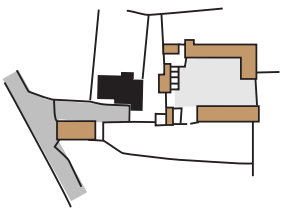


Loose courtyards

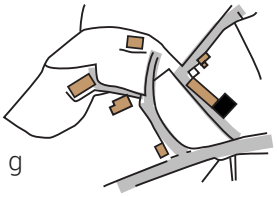




Regular courtyards



L-plan + buildings to 3rd or 4th side



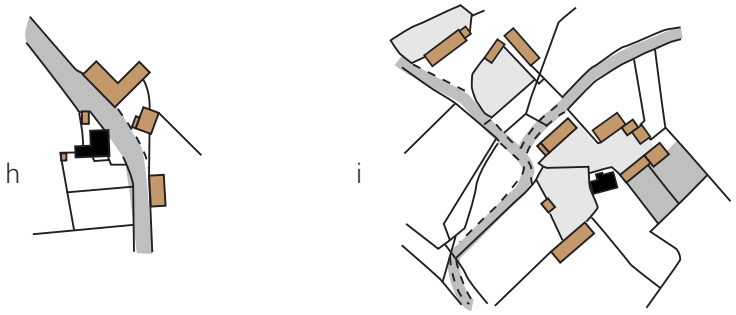
The most common type of loose courtyards have working buildings to one **(a)** or two sides of the yard, rarely three or four **(b)**.

Regular L-plans **(c)** are the most common form of regular courtyards, where the buildings are interlinked and generally more formal in their arrangement.

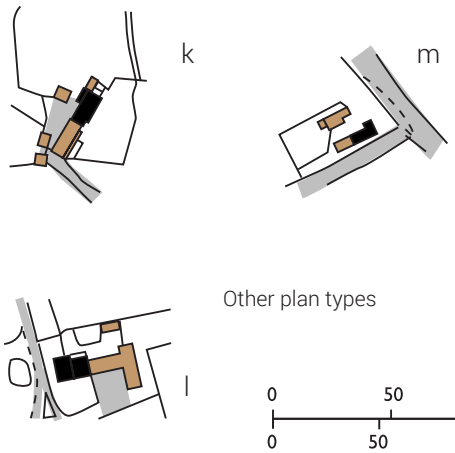
Larger-scale regular courtyards, such as ***U plans*** **(d)** and ***multi-yard plans*** **(e)**, and ***L-plans*** with buildings to the third or fourth sides of the yard **(f)**, are far less common in the Peak District than in surrounding lowland landscapes.

The most common type of dispersed plan is the ***dispersed cluster*** **(g)**, dispersed driftway **(h)** and multi-yard plans **(i)** being commonly found at the meeting point of routeways up to moorland grazing areas.

Linear plans with in-line houses **(k)** and extended into an overall L-plan **(l)** are the most common farmstead type in the Peak District. ***Parallel plans*** **(m)** and ***row plans*** with a single row of farm buildings are very uncommon.

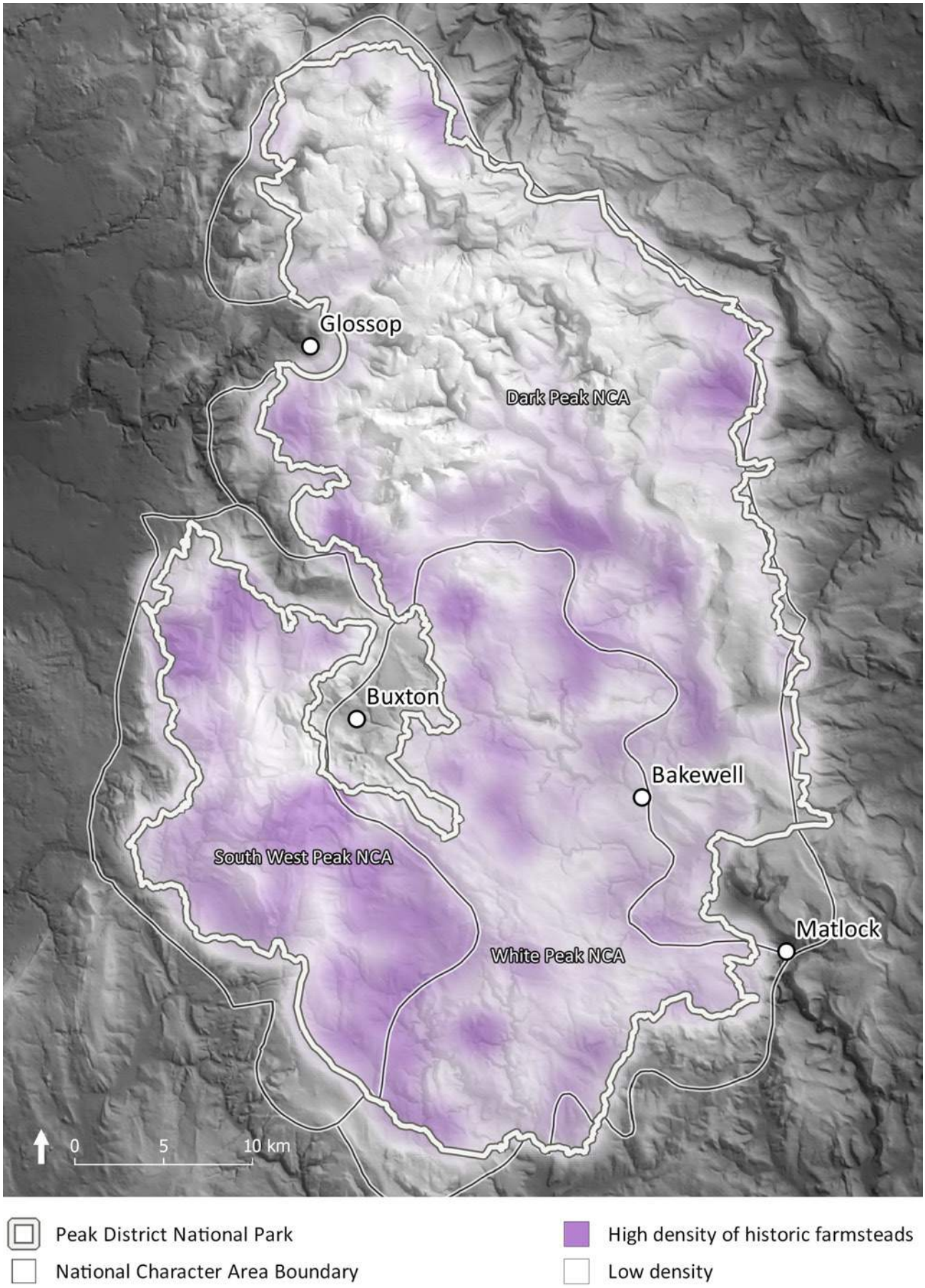


Dispersed plans



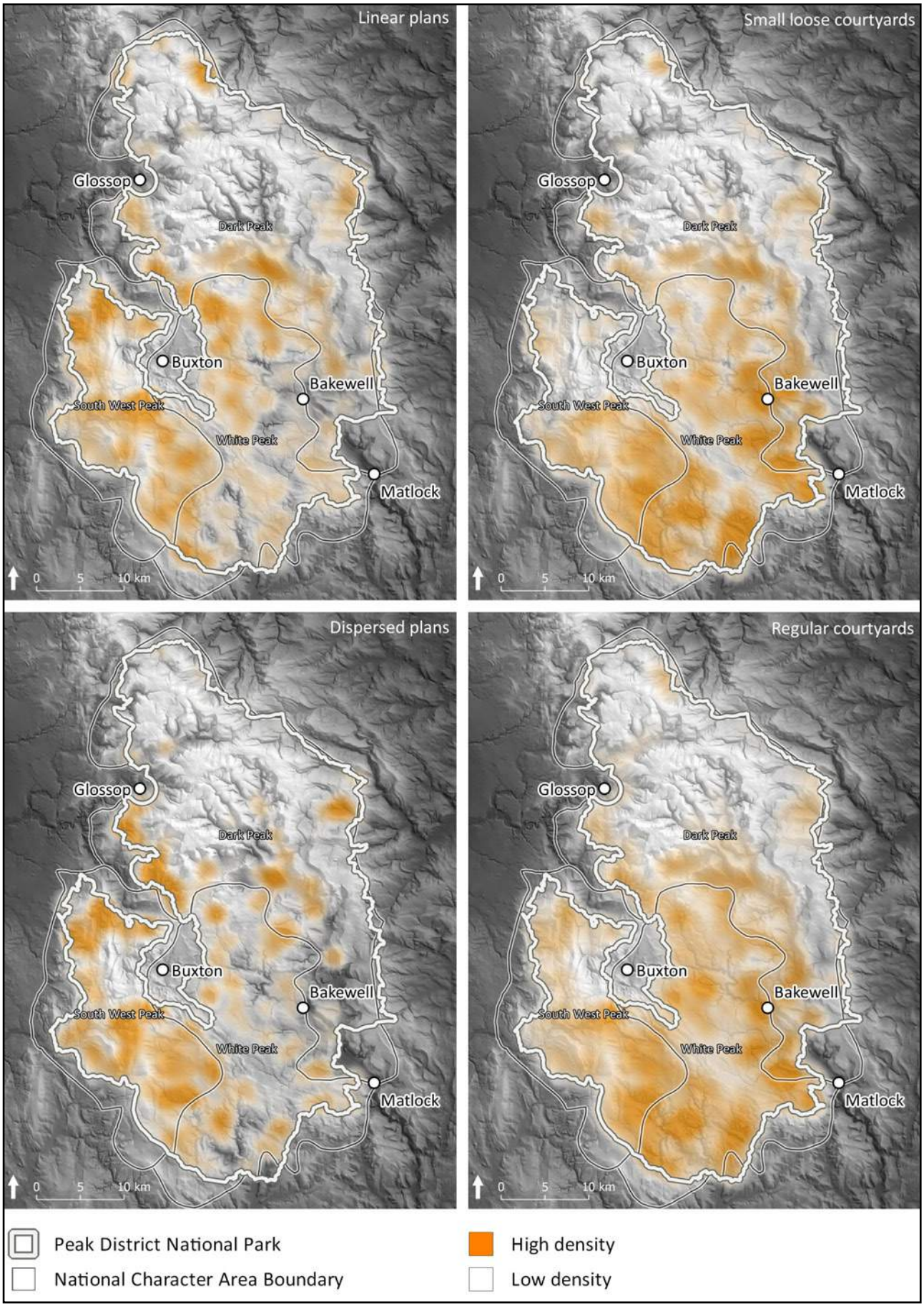
Other plan types

19



19. Distribution of all historic farmsteads across the Peak District National Park.

20



20. These maps show the distribution of the main farmsteads across the Peak District National Park. To find out more, and to examine more detailed distribution maps see the ***Peak District Farmsteads and Landscape Project Report*** (Edwards and Lake, 2015).

▲ **21.** A large Linear farmstead with several phases of development and functions along the range. (Wardlow, White Peak).
Photo © Jen Deadman

▲ **22.** A medium-sized Linear range with house and working buildings of different phases, to the west of the Dark Peak.
Photo © Bob Edwards

▲ **23.** An L-plan (house attached) group. As with many Linear and L-plan farmsteads, there are other smaller detached buildings within the group. *Photo © Bob Edwards*

Linear & L-Plans

These are farmsteads with the house and working buildings attached and in-line, sometimes extended into or built as an L-plan range. They represent a wide range of scales, from some of the smallest farmsteads and small-holdings of part-time farmers to relatively large farmsteads

Linear plans
Linear plans, where the farmhouse and attached working buildings are built in-line, are the dominant plan type in the Peak District representing 31% of recorded farmsteads. They are strongly associated with areas of former medieval strip fields around historic settlements. The smallest Linear plans (less than 20 metres long) are concentrated in the anciently-enclosed landscapes of the South West Peak NCA, which has the highest proportion of Linear plans in the study area, whilst the larger examples (more than 40 metres long) are mainly found in the former open-field areas and villages of the White Peak.

L-Plan (house attached)
These farmsteads consist of an attached house and working building forming an L-plan range, and often derive from Linear plans. They comprise 9% of recorded farmsteads in the study area and are most commonly found in the Dark Peak area.

This plan type is found across a wide variety of historic landscape types including ancient enclosures, the piecemeal enclosure of former medieval strip fields and regular enclosures of late 18th- and 19th-century date.

.

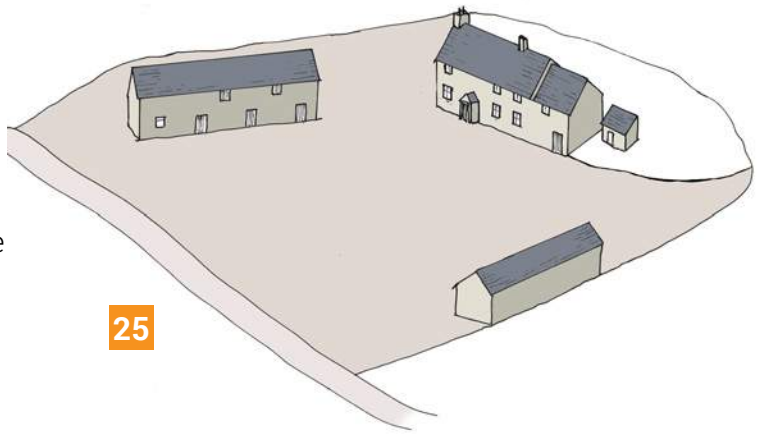
Dispersed Plans

▲
24. A small Dispersed Cluster group set close to the edge of the moorland of the Dark Peak. The house and working buildings are set around the edge of a small irregular enclosure.
Photo © Jen Deadman

25. A typical Dispersed Cluster farmstead. There is no focal yard, the distinctive feature being a boundary around the whole site. ▶
Drawing © Bob Edwards.

Dispersed Cluster

Dispersed Cluster plans represent 14.5% of recorded farmsteads across the Peak District and are the most common of the Dispersed plan types. They are most common in the South West Peak and Dark Peak (both 16%), and strongly associated with 17th century and earlier irregular enclosures, as in other parts of England, and with small-scale regular enclosures of later 18th- and 19th-century date.



▲
26. A Dispersed Driftway plan in the South West Peak, the driftway running through the farm and providing access to moorland grazing being clearly visible. Dispersed plans of this type, and those with two or more yards, are commonly found close to moorland grazing. *Photo © Jen Deadman*

27. A typical Dispersed Driftway farmstead, the buildings facing the routeway running through the farmstead. ▶
Drawing © Bob Edwards.

Dispersed Driftway

Dispersed Driftway plans (2% of recorded farmsteads) have buildings and yards strung out along a routeway. They are concentrated within the South West Peak, possibly representing the development of pre-18th century farmsteads in areas of dispersed settlement around routeways connecting moorland grazing to settlements.

Dispersed Multi-yard

Dispersed Multi-yard plan farmsteads (4% of recorded farmsteads) have two or more scattered yards, sometimes at the meeting point of routeways, and represent the development of larger farmsteads with separate zones for stacking crops and in particular organising livestock.

29

28

▲ **28.** A Dispersed Multi-yard group in a village which has buildings with individual yard areas. (Tissington, White Peak)

Photo © Jen Deadman

◀ **29.** A typical Dispersed Multi-yard farmstead, sited at the focal point of routeways with buildings facing in several directions into yards.

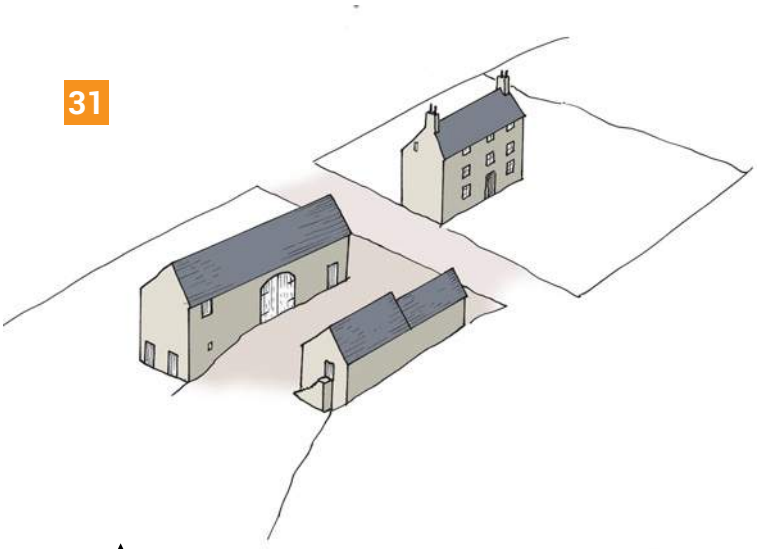
Drawing © Bob Edwards.

30

▲ **30.** An example of a large Dispersed Multi-yard farmstead in Cales Dales, which developed at the meeting point of three routeways and is surrounded by paddocks with irregular boundaries. The buildings were all rebuilt in the early-mid 19th century, and comprise a Loose Courtyard in the background with cattle housing and a combination barn to all four sides, a Linear farmstead with a detached bakehouse at its far end and additional ranges of cattle housing along the main routeway passing thrpoough the site. This is a medieval farmstead site which developed from the grange farm of the Cistercian house of Roche Abbey. This type of development is echoed in many valleys in uplands of northern England.

Photo © Historic England 28598/002

Courtyard Plans



▲ **31.** A typical Loose Courtyard farmstead, showing working buildings facing two sides of the yard. *Drawing © Bob Edwards.*

Most farmsteads in England are courtyard plans, falling into broad categories of Loose Courtyard plans where the buildings are detached and loosely arranged and Regular Courtyard plans where the buildings are interlinked and formally arranged around one or more yards. They are less common and much smaller in scale in the Peak District and upland areas.

Loose Courtyard plans

Loose Courtyard plans represent 25% of farmsteads in the Peak District. The smallest of these with buildings to one (12%) or two sides (10%) are the most common. They are most common - often alongside Dispersed Clusters - in landscapes of piecemeal or ancient enclosures.

The larger Loose Courtyard farmsteads with buildings to three and four sides of the yard are not common in the Peak District. They represent 2% and less than 1% respectively, and tend to be found in areas of larger farms and fields.

◀ **32.** A Loose Courtyard with a building range to one side of an early 19th-century house, its fine symmetrical facade facing the road. The two-storey building was constructed as a combination barn, the threshing bay being later blocked and the building turned to serve solely as animal housing and hay storage. (Wormhill, White Peak) *Photo © Jen Deadman]*

▲

33. A Loose Courtyard with early 19th-century buildings formally around two sides of the yard with a symmetrical front to the house in the centre - an unusual example of such a formal arrangement in the Peak.
Photo © Historic England 28597/029

▲

34. A medium-sized courtyard group with buildings to three sides of the yard, built to a larger scale than most of those found in the Peak District. The polite early 19th-century house faces the road passing the farmstead and away from the yard. (White Peak)
Photo © Bob Edwards

Regular Courtyard plans

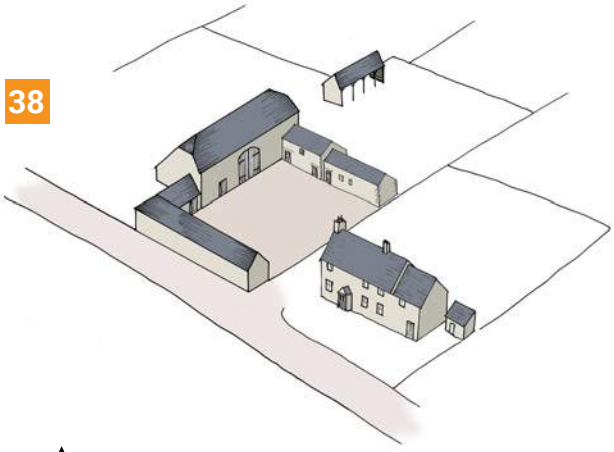
Regular Courtyard plans represent nearly 12% of recorded farmsteads in the Peak District. They consist of linked ranges, either the result of a single phase of building, set around one or more cattle yards or the result of incremental growth. They are mostly of 19th-century date and display greater consistency in the use of materials and constructional detail. Regular L-plans (6%) are the most numerous of the regular plan types. Regular L-plans typically represent small- to medium-scale farmsteads, and they are associated with most types of historic landscape including the enclosures of former medieval strip fields and of waste and commons.

▲

35. A typical Regular Courtyard L-plan farmstead. The dotted lines to the right indicate the position of large double doors to a threshing bay, blocked in the late 19th century. *Drawing © Bob Edwards.*

36. An early-mid 19th century Regular L-plan range (comprising a combination barn and storeyed cattle housing and stables) with the earlier farmhouse to the right of the picture. (Padwick, South West Peak). ▶
Photo © Historic England 27966/ 036.

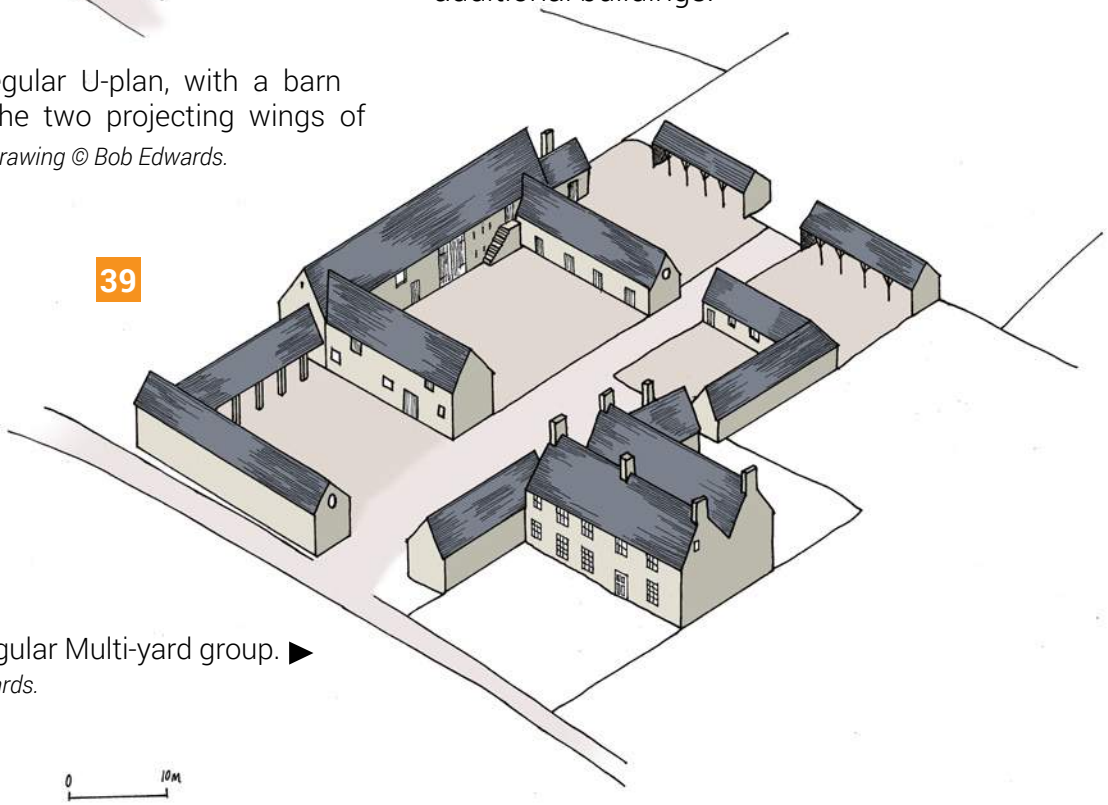
37. A Regular Multi-yard farmstead with two adjacent yard areas. (Green Cowden, White Peak) *Photo © Historic England 28598/034*



38. A typical Regular U-plan, with a barn sited between the two projecting wings of cattle housing. *Drawing © Bob Edwards.*

Larger Regular and other courtyard plans

The larger regular plan types tend to be found in areas where farms and their fields were larger, often on better soils but also where estates were investing in the improvement of farmland. Very few examples other than L-shaped plans are shown on the tithe maps of the 1830s-40s, showing that the great majority probably acquired their historic character during the High Farming years of the 1840s-1870s and even later. Regular Multi-yard groups (3%) and Regular U-plans (2%) are the most common of the larger Regular Courtyard groups that are found in the Peak District. The largest Regular Courtyard groups such as E-plans and full courtyards with linked buildings to four sides of the yard are rare (less than 2%), and mostly associated with areas of planned enclosure and the presence of large estates. Other larger courtyard plans comprise L-plan ranges with additional detached buildings to the third (2%) or fourth (1%) sides of the yard. Such plans can develop through the addition of, for example, a shelter shed being attached to an earlier barn within an existing Loose Courtyard arrangement or represent a planned group with a Regular L-range with one or more additional buildings.



39. A typical Regular Multi-yard group. ▶
Drawing © Bob Edwards.

Field Barns and Outfarms

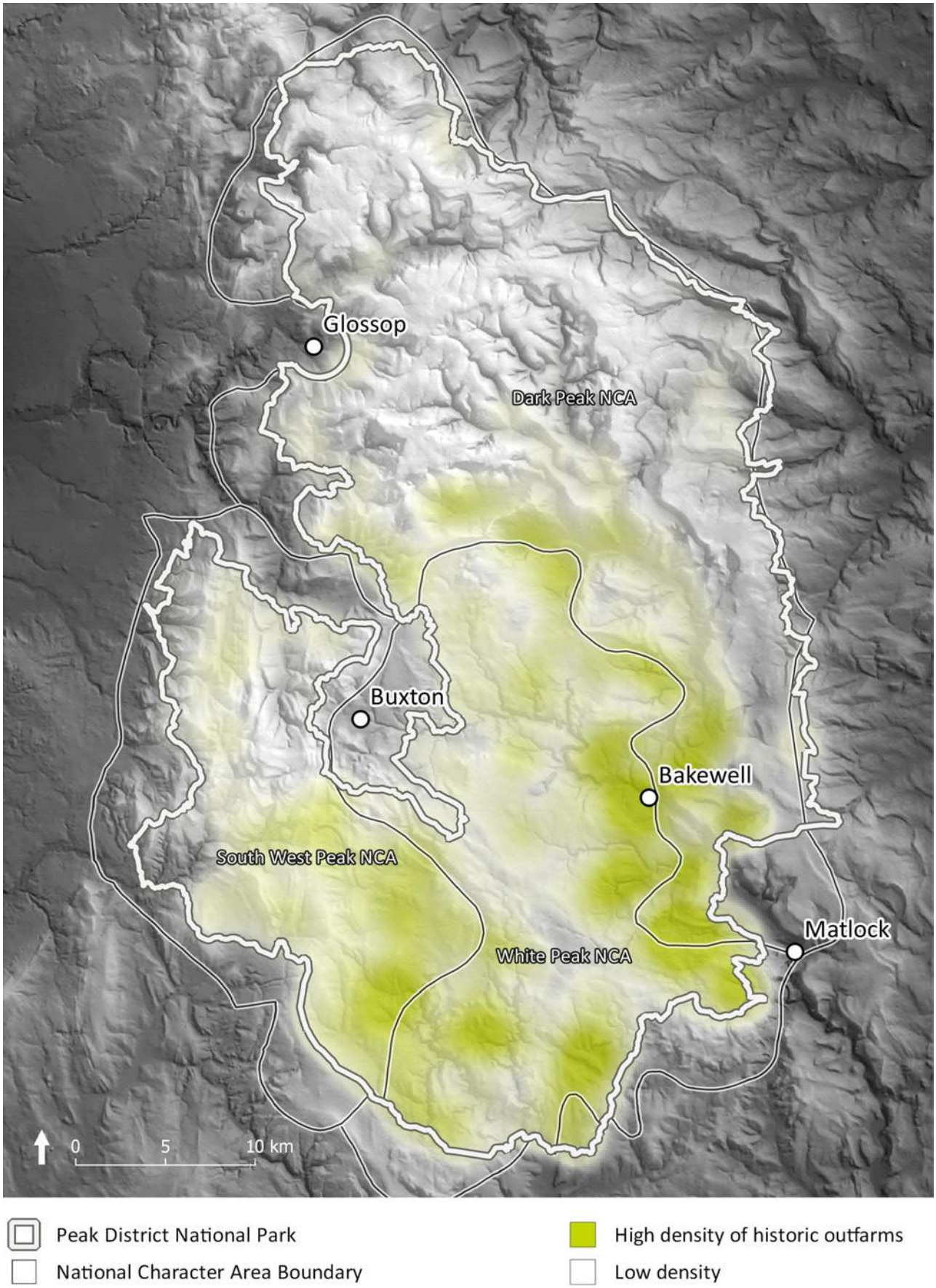
Individual buildings (field barns) and buildings sited around two or more sides of a yard (outfarms), sited within fields and sometimes sited close to roads or provided with vehicular access, are a characteristic feature of the uplands of northern England.

Distribution

1688 field barns have been recorded in the Peak District compared to 864 outfarms. Both forms share a broadly similar distribution, located in the areas where villages and former open fields are concentrated. Farmland remained intermixed in many open field areas, as also in areas of irregular ancient enclosure, so these buildings enabled land to be managed remotely and avoided the bringing of stock and produce to the main farm. Outfarms are more common in areas of planned enclosure from medieval strip fields, wastes and common.

▲
40. A Regular Multi-yard farmstead of early-mid 19th century farm buildings arranged around two yards in the White Peak.
Photo © Historic England 27964/024

41



▲
41. This map shows the distribution of field barns and outfarms in the Peak District, showing the National Character Areas.The main concentrations are within the eastern and southern parts of the White Peak and the areas of the Dark Peak and South West Peak adjacent to the White Peak.

Rarity and Significance

- Farm buildings detached from the farmstead have been subject to high rates of change nationally and this is also the case in the Peak District although rates of loss are lower than in lowland England. 38% of field barns survive in the two categories of least change with 57% lost from the landscape (although some of these may be represented by ruins that do not appear on modern mapping). The figures for outfarms are 53% and 41% respectively.
- Field barns and outfarms are a highly characteristic element of the Peak District landscape and strongly contribute to local distinctiveness.
- Few of these buildings are designated as listed buildings.

Field barns

Field barns are single buildings set within or on the edge of a field away from the main farmstead. They are a highly significant feature of the Peak District, and combine with the intricate patterns of dry-stone walling and hay meadows to form an integral and distinctive part of its landscape. Most field barns are late 18th/19th century in date, but these include some with clear evidence in their footings or steep roof pitches for earlier heather- or straw-thatched barns. There are clusters of barns in areas of intensive lead mining, such as around Winster and Bonsall, and around the market centres of Bakewell and Alstonefield, reflecting the dual economy of miner/farmer or miner/trader.

42. An early 19th-century field barn. The main body of the building is divided into two parts, one part aisled to the rear (Elton, Dark Peak). *Photo © Bob Edwards*

▼

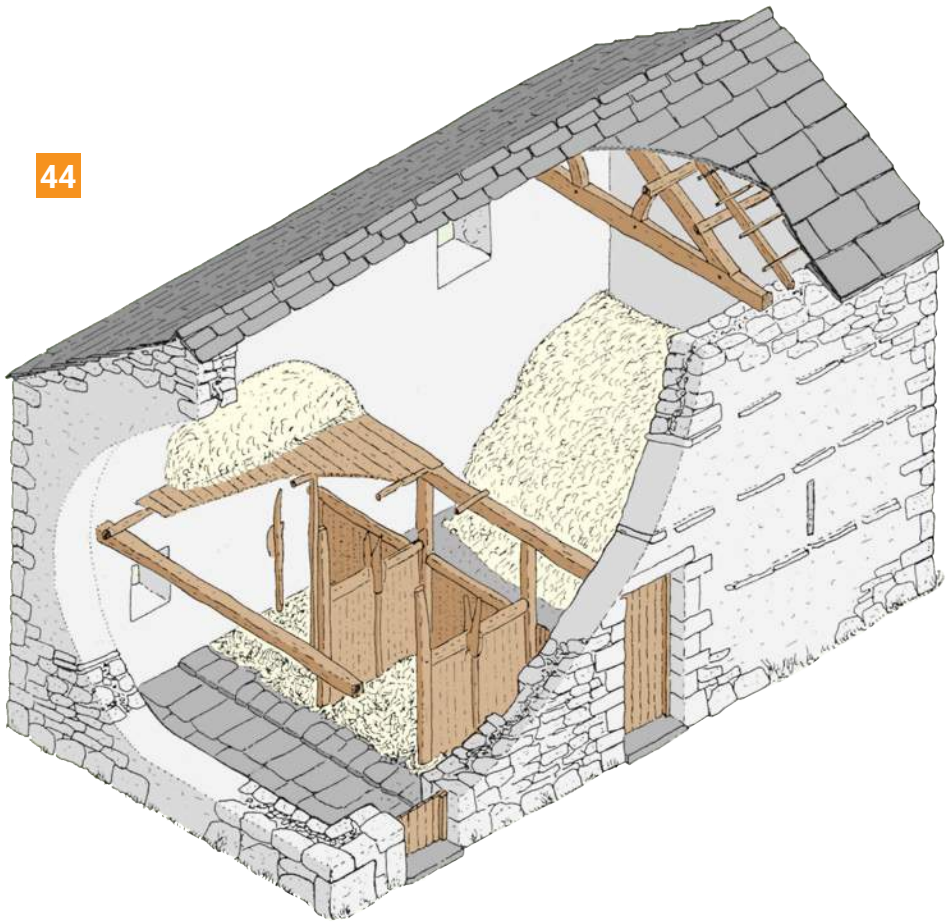
43. The interior of the left-hand part of the field barn showing the aisled character of this part of the building (Elton, Dark Peak). *Photo © Bob Edwards*

▼

Field barns could be:

- Shelters for sheep, typically with low doors and floor-to-ceiling heights.
- Small open-fronted shelters for cattle and sheep.
- Shelters for cattle and their fodder (hay). A small barn typically housed six head of cattle and larger barns, rarely more than twelve; the latter have large doors on the side wall to the hay storage and/or the threshing floor.
- Threshing barns with yards.
- Hay barns.
- Combination barns with a threshing bay and storage for the crop, and housing for cattle.

44



▲

44. This shows the typical internal arrangement of a field barn for six cattle, as used in the Peak District and (as here) in the Yorkshire Dales. Note the rear forking hole for pitching the hay into the loft and the right-hand 'hay mew', the left-hand entrance for the cattle and the central entrance which provided access for feeding the cattle. Timber or slate partitions separated the cattle from the hay mew, the cattle were tied to wooden posts and their manure forked out through a hole at the back of the left-hand manure passage. *Drawing © Robert White, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority*

◀ **45.** Two-storey limestone field barn with ground-floor livestock shelters and hay loft above, located in a rectilinear pattern of post-medieval fields (near Monyash, White Peak).
Photo © Peak District National Park

◀ **46.** An example of a small open-fronted field barn, offering basic shelter for livestock, near Pilsley in the Dark Peak.
Photo © Adam Partington

▲
47. An example of a large outfarm group with a cattle yard. Examination of the masonry of the central range shows that there are several phases of construction and remains of an earlier field barn may be incorporated into the group – there is often more than one phase of construction in these isolated buildings suggesting changing requirements over time (White Peak). *Photo © Bob Edwards*

48. Outfarms are common across the Peak District, such as this larger example built on the plateau of the South West Peak where large holdings developed in the late 18th and 19th centuries. This combination building faces into a yard and comprises a granary above a stable to the left, and a hay loft over cattle housing to the right. *Photo ©Jen Deadman*

Outfarms
Outfarms consist of one or more buildings set around a yard away from the main farmstead, typically having shelter sheds for cattle flanking a barn for storing corn and especially hay. A cottage for a farm worker could also be sited nearby. They are particularly associated with areas of large farms which could have fields a long way away from the farmstead. Some outfarms eventually became farmsteads in their own right.

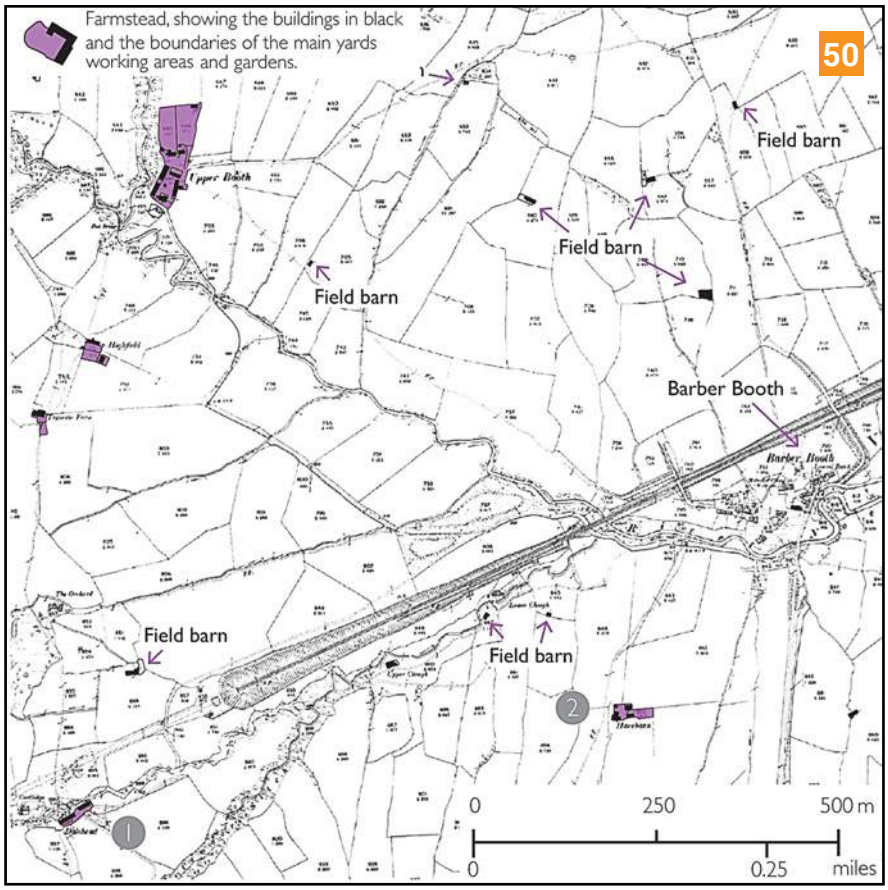
Local variations

Across England there are strong variations in the densities and types of farmsteads, which are strongly related to how land use developed over centuries. Medium- to large-scale courtyard plans are predominant in estate landscapes and in areas with productive soils suited to corn production . Linear plans and the smallest-scale and dispersed courtyard plans are concentrated in areas of small-scale cattle-rearing and dairying farms, particularly in upland, wooded or common edge landscapes with small-scale enclosed fields. Smallholders - marked if at all by the smallest Linear, Dispersed Cluster and Loose Courtyard types - were important in some areas and sometimes combined farming and industry. Smallholders often relied upon access to common land and woodland and typically had little or no enclosed land. In the Peak District there is limited evidence for 'smallholding landscapes' with very small fields and high densities of holdings such as those found in some other upland landscapes such as the North Pennines or Shropshire Hills. It is possible that most smallholdings were located within villages and used field barns for the housing of stock and fodder.

◀ **49.** A remote outfarm at Snake Pass, Dark Peak. Like many outfarms this is built as a Regular L-plan comprising a combination barn and attached cow house.
Photo ©Jen Deadman

National Character Area Summaries for the Peak District

Illustrated guidance on the character of farmsteads within each of the NCAs is available in bespoke Farmstead and Landscape Statements. More detailed analysis, including distribution maps showing the date, survival and character of all the mapped farmsteads, can be found in the **Peak District Farmsteads and Landscape Project Report** (Edwards and Lake, 2015).



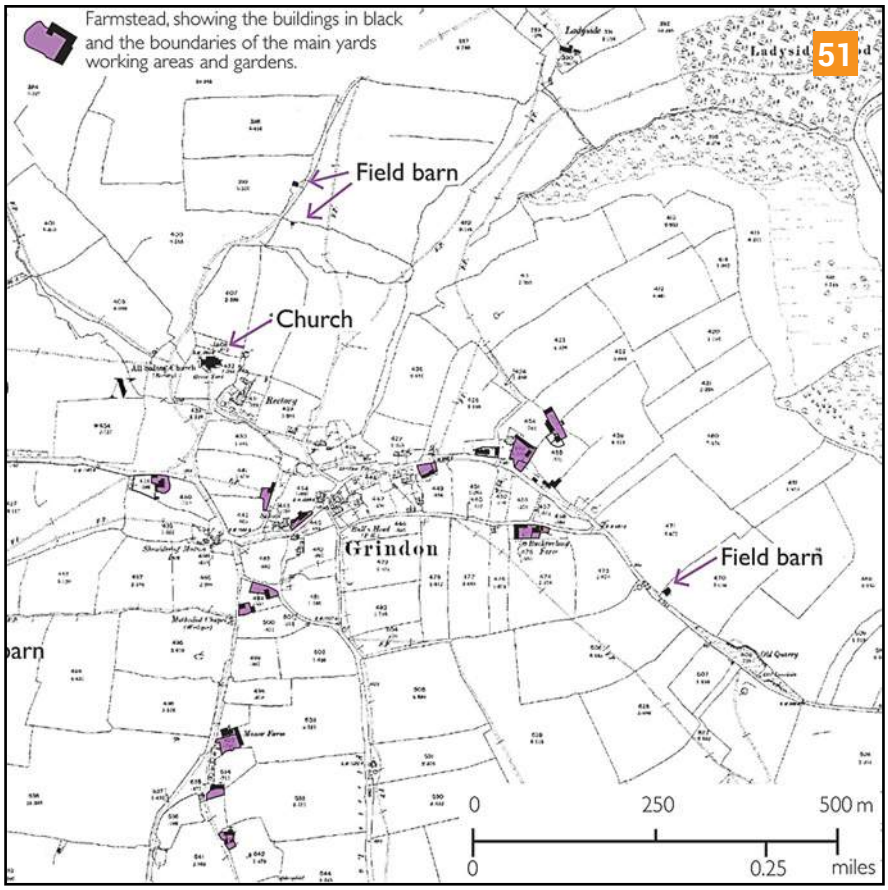
▲
50. This map shows part of the Vale of Edale centred on the village of Barber Booth in the Dark Peak. The name booth is indicative of settlements which originated as summer pastures for sheep and cattle. Small courtyard and Linear farmsteads, some of which (for example at Dalehead, 1 on map) have recorded 17th-century and earlier buildings, developed within irregular fields enclosed by the 17th century. There is also evidence for the earthworks of lost farmsteads, for example close to Manor House Farm (2). Field barns were built to house cattle for milking over the winter, this area exporting large quantities of milk by rail by 1900.

Dark Peak (NCA 51)

High densities of dispersed settlement, with farmsteads set in landscapes enclosed from the medieval period. There are some areas of regular enclosure including a number of designed 'estate landscapes', such as the Chatsworth Estate.

Linear farmsteads and small-scale courtyard farmsteads predominate, with larger courtyard-plan farmsteads (mostly U-shaped) developed on some estates in areas of planned enclosure.

Its eastern fringe merges into the Derbyshire Peak Fringe and Lower Derwent (NCA 50), where larger courtyard farmsteads have developed out of Linear and other smaller-scale plans.

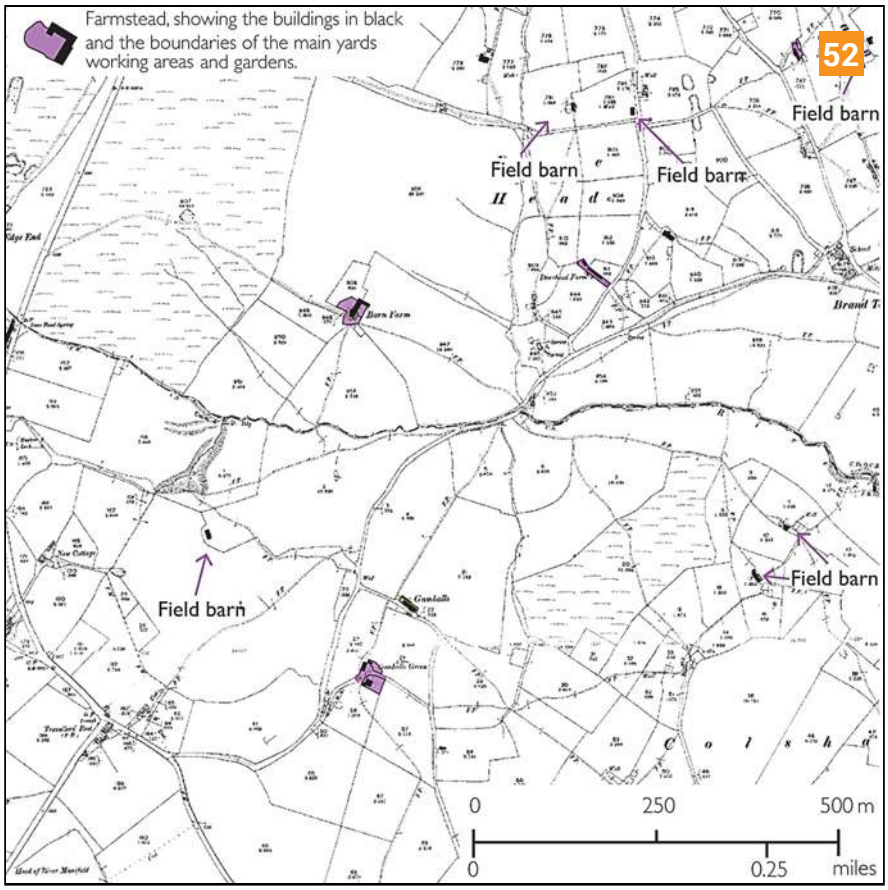


▲
51. This map shows Grindon on the western edge of the White Peak, where there was a longer history of enclosure than on the plateau. Within the settlement are small- to medium-scale farmsteads ranging from small Linear plans to Regular L-plans. Many buildings have single-storey cores which pre-date their rebuilding in the 19th century. The pattern of the enclosed strip fields is strong to the east and south.

White Peak (NCA 52)

Historic settlement of the limestone plateau is dominated by villages. Isolated farmsteads mostly date from after the enclosure with dry stone walls of the open fields around these villages, or the 18th/19th century enclosure of wastes and commons. Larger fields and farmsteads developed on some of the arable estate lands.

Medium-high density of small- to medium-scale farmsteads in the landscape, increasing to very high in the west adjoining the South West Peak. These mostly comprise Loose Courtyard plans and Linear and L-plans with farmhouse and farm buildings attached and in-line. Larger farms tend to be located in isolated areas on the limestone plateau and are often associated with gentry and medieval farm estates, as well as the enclosure of open farmland and commons in the post-medieval period.



▲
52. This map shows the area around Dovehead in the South West Peak, reflecting the dispersed settlement pattern with farmsteads and hamlets scattered amongst irregular fields, some enclosed on a planned and piecemeal basis from moorland and common. The farmsteads in this area are typically small in scale, ranging again from small Linear plans to Regular L-plans.

South West Peak (53)

This area has a very high density of dispersed settlement, most farmsteads being on medieval to 17th-century sites and relating to fields enclosed from woodland or on a piecemeal basis over the same period.

Villages are concentrated to the south west, where isolated farmsteads relate to more recent phases of enclosure.

Predominant pattern of Linear farmsteads. Small-scale courtyard plans, and Dispersed plans are another distinctive feature, which developed within the anciently-enclosed landscapes and on routeways to the moors.

Regular plan farmsteads are, with the exception of L-plan layouts which are common, and a small number of U-plans found in the southern part of the area, almost entirely absent from the character area. This suggests little involvement by estates in landscape-scale improvement.

Section 5

Building Types

This section provides an illustrated gazetteer of the different types of buildings that may be encountered on farm complexes in the Peak District National Park, along with a brief appraisal of typical features, and their significance or rarity. Internal fixtures and fittings may survive, and examples of these are also given in Section 5: Materials and Detail. Some of the minor building types are not illustrated in this guide or illustrated with examples from outside the Peak District as our understanding is still basic, but more national guidance and illustration can be found in the National Farm Building Types by Historic England (*https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/national-farm-building-types/*).

Barn

Nationally, the term 'barn' generally relates to a building which was principally used to store and process the harvested grain crop and, after threshing, store straw before it was distributed to yards and buildings for farm animals. In the Peak District, this function was commonly combined with others, such as housing livestock and their fodder and storing grain, carts and farm equipment. Single-function threshing barns are relatively rare. Where there is evidence that a building originally had a threshing bay, the large doorways to this bay have often been subsequently blocked and the building given over to animal housing. In upland regions such as the Peak District, where arable farming was often limited, the term is also used for buildings that were used for livestock housing and the storage of hay with no space for the threshing of grain crops.

Cruck-framed barns

Cruck-framed barns are widely documented across the upland and upland-fringe areas of northern England. Such barns often had one end partitioned off for a cow house. Although cruck and other single-storey barns were once common, they are now very rare. Most were swept away in the later 18th and early-mid 19th centuries. There is a surviving cluster of three- or four-bay cruck-framed barns of 15th-to-17th century date in the Bradfield area in the Dark Peak, part of a group extending into the Lancashire and Yorkshire Pennines, and along the Hope valley. Further examples, or evidence for the earlier use of crucks, are also found in other parts of the Peak District.

Typical Features

- Steeply-pitched gabled roof supported by pairs of curved cruck trusses, often in the shape of bent knees, that meet at the apex of the roof.
- Smaller barns can have two crucks set within each gable end, whereas larger examples can have multiple pairs of crucks, dividing barns into a series of bays.

Rarity and Significance

- Only a handful of cruck-framed barns are known to survive within the Peak District, with many structures replaced in later years.
- Cruck-framed barns is a rare and significant barn type, evidence of early construction techniques in the area

53. The gable of the barn to the centre of the photograph shows the remains of a cruck truss, probably of an earlier barn fossilised within the wall of the enlarged building. (Parwich, White Peak) ▶
Photo © Jeremy Lake

Combination barns

The combination barn is the standard barn type on Peak District farmsteads. In addition to storing threshed straw and occasionally grain, combination barns could also be used to store harvested hay, house cattle and/or horses and sometimes shelter carts and farm implements. Most have a large opening to at least one side marking the position of the threshing bay, but often have only a small door opposite to provide a through-draft for winnowing (separating the husks or chaff from the grain), as well as pitching holes and other entries to cow houses, stables etc. In many cases the opening to the threshing bay has been blocked up, indicating a change in function of the barn related to a reduction in the production of grain crops.

There is a small number of bank barns in the Peak District. A bank barn is a combination barn of usually two storeys, which is concentrated in the northern uplands, especially the Lake District, and parts of Somerset, Devon and Cornwall in the south-west peninsula. As the construction of the barn is against a bank, both floors can be entered from ground level, from the front and the rear.

54. Most combination barns date from the 19th century and show that where there were better-quality soils in the Peak District there was still a need for an area for threshing grain crops (White Peak). ▶
Photo © Jen Deadman

Typical Features

- Opposing doors to a 'threshing bay' where the harvested crop was threshed and winnowed. One door is usually large to enable a cart to enter, but in upland farms the opposing door is often small, sufficient to provide the through-draft only.
- Most combination barns are wholly or part-lofted, with entries for cattle in one or both ends with lofts or full-height 'mows' for hay.
- In the Peak District the threshing door opening typically has a cambered arch above. Many threshing doors were subsequently blocked reflecting reductions in arable production and the barn being converted to house stock.
- The threshing floor can be of beaten earth, stone flags or occasionally timber.
- Combination barns have other openings including doors for animals, pitching crops into storage bays and storing carts.
- Slit openings in walls to provide ventilation to animals and stored straw or hay.
- They are frequently the largest yard building.

Rarity and Significance

- Two-storey combination barns, generally 19th- or more rarely 18th-century, are common to all farmsteads.
- Barns of pre-19th-century date, often associated with larger or higher-status farms are uncommon in the Peak District.
- Evidence for the change of use of threshing barns is significant in terms of demonstrating the changing agricultural practices of the Peak District.
- There are a few bank barns, mostly of early-mid 19th-century date with ground-level access to upper-floor hay storage and barns for storing and threshing corn.
- Surviving evidence for the use of mechanisation in barns in the Peak District is very rare and most likely to be found in planned estate farmsteads.
- There are some very rare surviving examples – often only visible in earlier cores to buildings - of the earliest single-storey farm buildings, which were cruck-framed and date up to the 17th and even 18th centuries. Some barns have elements of crucks reused as lintels and other constructional work.

▲
55. Large threshing barns, either single-use buildings or forming part of a combination range as here, are generally only found on larger, often estate farms (Near Eyam, Dark Peak). *Photo © Bob Edwards*

▲
57. A combination building with cattle housing in the wider near end accessed by two doors in the gable end – as is found in Lancashire barns- with crop storage in the narrower far end of the building (South West Peak). *Photo © Jen Deadman*

▲
56. This early 19th-century threshing barn may have been built as a combination barn but it has been converted to serve as a cow house and hay store with the blocking up of the threshing bay – an alteration seen in several older barns reflecting the increasing importance of cattle over arable farming - and the later insertion of at least one of the first-floor openings (Wormhill, White Peak). *Photo © Jen Deadman*

▲
58. Early-mid 19th century bank barn with entries in the gable end to a cow house, partly housed in the lean-to projecting to the rear - again as found in Lancashire barns. Note the central mucking-out hole. The bank provides cart access to the first-floor barn, to the right of the threshing-floor doors being a hay mow (Dark Peak). *Photo © Jen Deadman*

Evidence for mechanisation

The take-up of mechanised methods of threshing the corn crop, by horse engines from the 1790s, water power, wind power and from the 1820s steam, was regionally very varied. It was relatively uncommon in the Peak District, and so features such as horse-engine houses (a round or polygonal building attached to the side of a barn and originally containing a horse engine used for powering threshing machinery) or drive shafts and wheels for belt drives are rare. Such features are most likely to be found in barns on larger farms built by estates.

Bakehouse & Bakestone

In areas of dispersed farmsteads, bread would be baked on the farm, some farms possibly utilising small detached buildings as a bakehouse. With oats being the predominant grain grown in the Peak District, oat cakes were commonly produced instead of bread. Bakestones (or 'backstones') were often built into the farmhouse kitchen where oatcakes were made.

Typical Features

- Externally, there is little to differentiate bakehouses from other small sheds and stores that are typically found near the farmhouse but internally remains of the bread oven may survive.
- Bakestones usually consist of a brick fire chamber with a stone or circular iron plate above which the oatcakes were cooked.

Rarity and Significance

- Few examples survive as they have usually been subsumed within the farmhouse or converted for other use.
- Surviving bread ovens are rare.
- Bakestones were once common in cottages in the Staffordshire Moorlands in particular.

59

59. A bakehouse is typically a single-storey and one-roomed structure with a chimney stack. This is an example from St. Austell, Cornwall. ▶
Photo © Bob Edwards

Bee Boles

Recesses built into walls for sheltering and making accessible bee hives.

Typical Features

- Often square shallow openings set into a stone wall. Large stone lintels across the width of the hole and a stone shelf.
- Large enough to hold a 'skep' – a straw hive used by beekeepers, later replaced with wooden versions in the later 19th century.
- Often built into south-facing walls of farm buildings in long linear rows.

Rarity and Significance

- Bee boles were relatively common features but are becoming increasingly rare.
- They demonstrate the scale and demand for honey production as a working element of a farmstead.

60

60. A set of five bee boles in a farmhouse garden in Cornwall, probably of 18th- or 19th-century date. ▶
Photo © Emma Trevarthen

Cart Shed

Cart sheds are generally open-fronted buildings which often face away from the farmyard and may be found close to the stables and roadways, giving direct access to the fields or a track. With relatively small areas of arable, most small farmsteads in the Peak District required few vehicles and implements and so cart sheds tend to be small compared to lowland arable farms. The smallest farms might need only one cart for transporting hay or dung but in many hill-side areas a horse-drawn sled would be used instead of a cart. Therefore, where detached cart sheds are found they tend to be small buildings with just one or two bays.

On larger farms, particularly those of estates, larger 19th-century cart sheds may use cast iron posts with some having a granary or storage loft above with evidence for hatches for dropping sacks of grain or other produce from the granary or loft into carts (see Granary).

Typical Features

- Single-storey buildings with at least one side open providing two or more bays for parking carts and implements.
- The smaller examples may have an open gable end providing a single bay.
- Cart sheds can be incorporated within combination ranges - the archway to the opening is usually lower than for threshing bays.
- On later estate farms a cart shed may have a granary above.

Rarity and Significance

- Most cart sheds are found as part of multi-functional buildings.
- Any pre-19th-century examples are extremely rare.

▲
61. A small cart shed with an open gable end reflecting the limited need for carts and other equipment that would need housing in a cart shed. (Parwich, White Peak)
Photo © Peak District National Park

▲
62. A later 19th-century cart shed with cast iron posts to the former open bays. (Netherton Hall, Bradbourne)
Photo © Peak District National Park

▲
63. An unusual cart shed with decorated stone columns. The cart shed faces the entrance into the farmstead. (White Peak)
Photo © Peak District National Park

▲
64. A two-bay cart shed attached to the rear wall of a larger cow house or barn. (Tissington, White Peak)
Photo © Peak District National Park

Cattle Housing

Most buildings for cattle date from the 19th century and comprise calf houses, cow houses, loose boxes for fattening, open-fronted sheds, and covered yards from the 1850s onwards.

Cow House

A cow house is a building, or part of a multi-functional building, for stalling cattle (often dairy cattle). Cow houses in the Peak District usually provided accommodation for between eight and twelve animals, except on the smaller farms in more remote upland areas, and can be single- or two-storey buildings. Some cow houses form part of combination ranges with uses other than as barns.

Cow houses in the Peak District are commonly of 19th-century, and rarely of 18th-century date. There is however a small number with inscribed pre-1750 dates. These are typically two-storey ranges with lofts over cow houses. The increase in the upkeep and overwintering of cattle in the 18th and 19th centuries gave rise to the development of farmsteads with more and larger buildings.

65. Simple mid-19th-century two-storey cow house in the Dark Peak with the central door providing access to a feeding passage into which the cattle faced. *Photo © Jen Deadman* ▼

66. A large two-storey cow house of a form that is widespread and characteristic of the Peak District (Leekfrith, South West Peak) *Photo © Jen Deadman* ▶

67. Late-17th-century cow house at Highlow Hall near Hathersage (Dark Peak). *Photo © Peak District National Park Authority* ▶

Typical Features

- Stone-walled and rectangular in plan with wide entrances to the ground floor to allow for the passage of livestock.
- Heavy stable-style wooden doors with slatted wooden vertical vents to window openings.
- Stone floors with low-level troughs for fodder.
- Shallow single-pitched or gabled roof with stone slates, often replaced with corrugated iron and asbestos.
- Sometimes subdivided internally into smaller bays with stone walling.
- Hay loft above ground floor in two-storey examples, with pitching door and small openings for vents.
- Calf houses can sometimes resemble pigsties without yards.

Rarity and Significance

- Cow houses are the most common building type in the Peak District. This reflects their importance to the local economy, a characteristic shared with other landscapes of the uplands and vales of northern England (particularly west of the Pennines).
- Evidence for cattle housing is very rare before the 19th century but there are some early examples in the Peak District including a cruck-framed cow house of 17th-century date. The rarity of early examples of this building type heightens the importance of those Peak District barns of 17th- and 18th-century date that include cattle housing.
- Very few cow house interiors of the 19th century or earlier have survived unaltered because hygiene regulations for the production of milk have resulted in new floors, windows and stall arrangements being inserted. Pre-19th century fitments including doors and windows are extremely rare.

Shelter shed

Open-fronted sheds providing shelter for cattle held in a yard are rare in the Peak District. Sheds of this type are sometimes found not associated with a cattle yard, the cattle being stalled and tethered as in a cow house.

Typical Features

- Lower and wider doorways than to cow houses or stables.
- Windows and other features to assist ventilation dating from the mid-19th to early 20th century e.g. hit-and-miss ventilators, and air ducts and ridge ventilators.
- Ventilation openings and holes for ejecting manure.
- Interior stalling and feeding arrangements. Cows were usually tethered in pairs with low partitions of wood, stone, slate or, in the 19th century, more rarely, cast iron between them. Feeding arrangements can survive in the form of hayracks, water bowls and mangers for feed. These can be found in both cow houses and shelter sheds.

Rarity and Significance

- Shelter sheds are not as common as in surrounding lowland areas, and are typically associated with mid- to late-19th-century courtyard farmsteads built by estates.

▲
68. Open-fronted shelter sheds on an estate farm (White Peak).
Photo © Bob Edwards

▲
69. Mid-late 19th-century shelter shed with room for feed at the far end (Dark Peak).
Photo © Jen Deadman

▲
70. A shelter shed with cast iron columns, imported by rail into the Peak District from the mid-19th century and used on the Chatsworth estate as here.
Photo © Adam Partington

Dairies and Cheese Rooms

In the Peak District dairies are found as a room at the rear of the farmhouse. They were used for the cool storage of milk and its manufacture into butter and/or cheese.

The making of butter and cheese for urban markets had developed by the 18th century in the Peak District, but was being eclipsed by commercial cheese making and the profits to be made from selling liquid milk by the late 19th century. The roadside churn stand close to farmyards or farm entrances relates to the supply of liquid milk by lorry to creameries and other locations via railway stations.

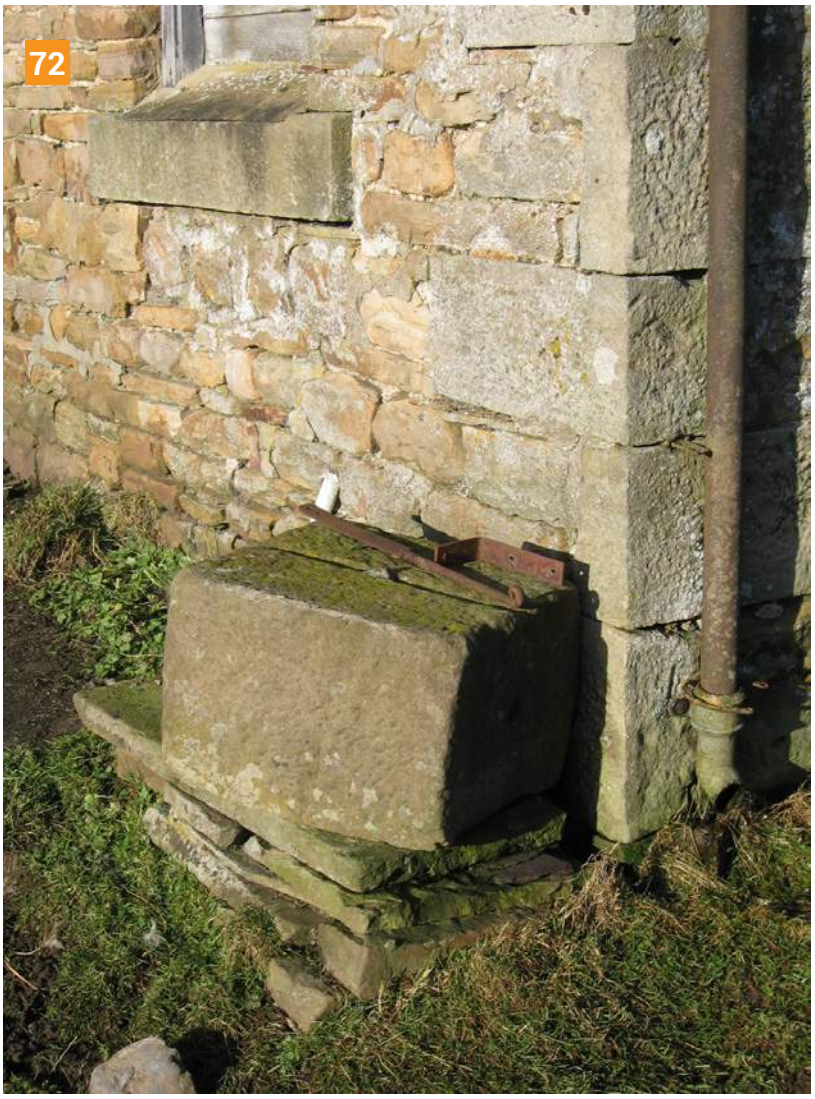
Typical Features

- Wide doors. Ventilated and/or shuttered windows and verandas to aid cooling.
- Internal slate shelves and brick/stone floors to keep milk and interior cool.
- Where cheese was made the dairy might also house a cheese press. Cheese presses can be found in farmyards and gardens indicating cheese production on the farm; they are rarely associated with a particular building.
- A separate cheese room with shelves and sometimes a hoist for storing and hauling heavy cheeses could also be provided in a loft above the dairy or in the attic of the farmhouse.

Rarity and Significance

- Complete surviving examples with original fixtures, such as slate or stone shelves for cooling the milk, are very rare. This is because 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.
- Ornate dairies may form part of estate home farms.

◀ **71.** A churn stand on the side of the road outside a farmstead. (White Peak)
Photo © Bob Edwards



◀ **72.** Cheese presses are distinctive features found on many farms.
Photo © Bob Edwards

Dovecotes

Dovecotes are usually square or circular towers with pyramidal or conical roofs for housing pigeons and for collecting their manure. Housing for doves can be incorporated into the roof spaces of other buildings such as stables and barns. The keeping of doves was widely associated with higher-status farmsteads, particularly in the medieval period.

Typical Features

- Dovecote doorways were low to discourage the birds from flying out.
- Nest boxes, in the earliest examples, were formed in the thickness of the wall but usually in stone, brick or wood.
- A potence, a central pivoted post with arms supporting a revolving ladder, provided access to the nest boxes for collection of the young birds (squabs) and eggs.
- Small holes, usually in groups but sometimes singly, can be seen in the gables of some farm buildings providing flight holes or nest boxes for pigeons.

Rarity and Significance

- Free-standing dovecotes are very rare in the Peak District and are mostly associated with high-status houses rather than farmstead complexes.
- Nest boxes incorporated into other buildings are found but externally the use may only be evidenced by a single flight hole.
- Any surviving internal fitments are of great rarity, notably potences and removable wooden nest boxes.

73. The small holes set below the eaves of this building provided access to a pigeon loft. ▶
Photo © Peak District National Park

Dung House

On many farmsteads in the Peak District dung would be taken from the cow house and piled in the yard. The high rainfall experienced in this area meant that the manure would be diluted. On some farms dung houses were constructed to shelter the manure whilst stored in the yard.

Typical Features

- Open to at least one side.
- Often have a mono-pitch roof.

Rarity and Significance

- Purpose-built dung houses are relatively uncommon in the Peak District.
- Surviving examples have significance as examples of the understanding of the benefit of protecting manure from rain.

74. An open-sided dung house with a mono-pitch roof (Wormhill, White Peak). ▶
Photo © Bob Edwards

Dutch Barn

See Hay Barn

Granary

A building, or first-floor room in a building, for the dry and secure storage of grain after it has been threshed and winnowed. The size of the granary provides an indication of the arable acreage of the farm.

Typical Features

- Ventilated openings - either louvres, shutters, sliding vents or grilles.
- If the granary was sited in the loft of a working building, it required substantial external steps and/or a hoist for pulling up or lowering the heavy sacks of grain.
- Close-boarded or plastered and lime-washed walls internally, and a strong load-bearing floor construction with tight-fitting lapped boards to prevent loss of grain.
- Grain bins, or the slots in vertical timbers for horizontal planking used to make them, may survive.

Rarity and Significance

- Some very rare surviving evidence for granaries in the floored ends of barns in corn-producing areas.
- Most examples are of 19th-century date, earlier examples being of great rarity.
- Granaries are uncommon except in the White Peak and in the Eastern Fringe where more corn was grown.
- There is evidence for granaries in the form of broad stone steps to first-floor loft doors in working buildings or sometimes houses.

◀ **75.** Granaries are typically located on the upper floor of buildings such as stables. The external steps may indicate that the upper floor of this building served as more than a hayloft and may have been a granary (Tissington, White Peak).
Photo © Jen Deadman

◀ **76.** A linear farmstead remodelled in the early 19th century, with steps to a granary over the combined stable and cow house (South West Peak).
Photo © Jen Deadman

Hay Barn

An open-sided building for the storage of hay. Across the Peak District hay was more usually stored in lofts above the animals in both the farmstead buildings and field barns.

Typical Features

- Traditional hay barns have stone piers supporting a gabled roof or have stone gables with open sides.
- Hay barns with adjustable roofs are a feature of the Hope Valley.
- Dutch barns, the first examples being built of timber, but later pre-fabricated iron structures clad in corrugated iron, were built from the 1870s. Metal frames are sometimes accompanied by manufacturers' name plates or the name is cast in the iron frame.

Rarity and Significance

- Traditionally-built hay barns forming part of coherent traditional farmstead groups are significant. The ample provision for hay in lofts explains the relative rarity, compared to other upland areas, of hay barns in the Peak District.
- Hay barns with adjustable roofs are rare and significant. Iron-framed Dutch barns are a little-researched type of farm building. Very early examples could be regarded as having some significance.

◀ **77.** A hay barn combined with cattle housing standing in a hay meadow on the edge of a village (South West Peak).
Photo © Bob Edwards

◀ **78.** A 19th century hay barn with stone piers to the open sides and solid walls to the gables.
Photo © Peak District National Park Authority

Kennels

Farm dogs were accommodated in recesses beneath steps that led up to lofts, and rarely in their own kennels. These are mostly found in upland areas. Kennels for hunting dogs are found in areas where hunting was practised on estates.

Typical Features

- Typically low, single-storey buildings with attached individual yards.
- Often enclosed by metal railings.

Rarity and Significance

- Complete examples are now rare.

Lime Kiln

A kiln for burning limestone to produce lime for building works or as a soil improver. Field kilns developed from earlier clamp kilns. Most date from the period 1750-1850 and were widespread throughout the White Peak.

Typical features

- Lime kilns are free-standing structures, normally square or rounded in plan and partly built into a slope, enclosing an egg-cup-shaped bowl, originally open at the top, with a central opening, draw arch formed with lintels or stone arches, providing access and shelter to the draw hole at the base of the bowl.
- Bowls are normally lined with sandstone, with later examples often lined with firebricks.
- Normally associated with limestone outcrops or quarries but also found in gritstone areas, particularly where coal (fuel) was readily available. Large kilns, or examples with two or more bowls, are more likely to have been for commercial than agricultural use.

Rarity and significance:

- Surviving structures of field lime kilns are now relatively rare.

◀ **79.** Look for low doorways, often under the steps to lofts or in the lean-tos commonly added to upland farm buildings - as here in the Lake District.
Photo © Bob Edwards

◀ **80.** A lime kiln.
Photo © Bob Edwards

Peat Houses

A room or more rarely a detached building for the keeping and drying of peat cut from moorland and used for fuel. Peat would be set aside and stacked for drying with different batches of cuttings kept separate.

Typical Features

- Single-storey squat stone building of a square/rectangular plan with shallow pitched roof.
- Small single entranceway with an upper opening on the opposing wall to enable airflow.
- Often set into a hill slope, but can be freestanding.

Rarity and Significance

- A very small number of peat houses, of 18th- and 19th-century date, have survived in the Yorkshire Dales and in the Lake District; none are currently known to have survived elsewhere.

Pig Housing

The main requirements for special accommodation were for farrowing, final fattening and accommodation of the boar. Sties were often placed near the kitchen or dairy, because pigs were normally fed on kitchen scraps or whey (a by-product of dairying).

Typical features

- Pigsties were typically built as single-storey structures with low openings.
- Some pigsties had small walled yard areas to contain the pigs.
- External feed chutes are sometimes provided.
- Some have an upper storey for poultry houses.
- On larger farms the pigsty range could include a boiling house where swill for feed could be heated. Boiling houses are identified by the presence of a chimney.

Rarity and Significance

- Any pre-19th century examples are very rare. Particularly significant if part of coherent farmstead groups.

81

82

◀ **81.** A peat house, note the blocked ventilation above the door to allow circulation of air. *Photo (c) Jeremy Lake*

◀ **82.** A pigsty with two pens with feeding hatches (South West Peak). *Photo © Bob Edwards*

Poultry

Free-standing stone-built poultry houses mainly date from the mid- to late-19th century. Hen houses can also be found combined with pigsties with the hens housed above the pigs. Purpose-built hen houses were superseded by portable timber-built hen houses in the early 20th century.

Typical Features

- External pop holes.
- Interior nesting boxes.

Rarity and Significance

- Surviving examples are rare, especially those that are part of coherent farmstead groups.

Root Store

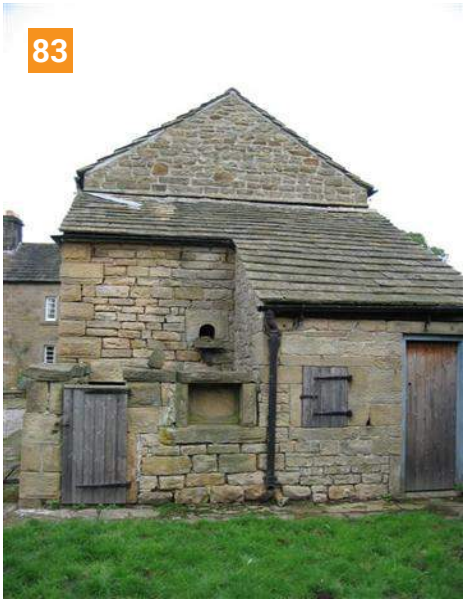
Room or cellar for storing root crops, which were widely introduced as part of improved crop rotations and for the feeding of cattle in farmsteads from the later 18th century.

Typical features

- A room incorporated within the farmstead, usually in cattle housing or a combination barn, or a separate building. In the Peak District, such buildings may be difficult to identify specifically as root stores.
- Earth-covered root stores are occasionally found in the Pennines and the moorland fringes of Devon and Cornwall, either on farmsteads or in isolated positions.

Rarity and Significance

- Significant as an integral part of improved farmyard planning.



◀ **83.** A pigsty with a hen house above – the small pop hole would have been served by a ramp to allow the hens to get up to the hen loft (Dark Peak). *Photo © Bob Edwards*

▲ **84.** Recesses for roosting hens built into a wall. *Photo © Jen Deadman*

◀ **85.** Root store from the Yorkshire Dales. *Photo © Jeremy Lake*

Sheep Housing

There is widespread archaeological and documentary evidence for medieval sheep houses, called berceries in upland areas, but otherwise evidence for sheep housing is very rare. In the Peak District isolated buildings or parts of field barns for yearling sheep are known as hogg houses.

Barns, when empty, were sometimes used for shearing and sorting the wool. Fleeces were often stored in first-floor lofts including in granaries when not in use for storing grain. Areas associated with sheep husbandry were often provided with sheepfolds, walled or fenced enclosures for containing sheep, and sheep washes for cleaning the wool prior to shearing. Sheep washing was often carried out in ponds or streams where the watercourse might be artificially deepened or walled or, more unusually, in specially constructed tanks. Enclosures funnelled towards the water's edge have been found. Some of them may date to the medieval period but most are 17th century or later. Prior to the introduction of dipping, introduced from the 1830s but only becoming general in the early 20th century, sheep were protected from lice and scab through salving, which involved the application of boiled tar and tallow. This could be done in other farm buildings, although a small number of salving sheds (resembling shelter sheds) have been recorded in the Lake District.

Typical Features

- Typically stone-built with a gabled roof.
- Range in size from a few to multiple bays.
- Low floor-to-ceiling heights at ground-floor level often with hayloft above.
- Often associated with outfarms.

Rarity and Significance

- Any buildings specifically provided for sheep are rare in a national context and are highly significant.

86

▲
86. A building for yearling sheep from Swaledale in the Yorkshire Dales.
Photo © Jeremy Lake

Slaughterhouse

Occasionally a farm had its own slaughterhouse but many of these buildings do not have any characteristic external features.

Typical Features

- A higher ceiling, often with hooks.
- A wheel to raise carcasses.
- Drainage channels within the floor surface.

Rarity and Significance

- Buildings or rooms used for slaughtering animals on the farm are rare in the Peak District. Most examples are likely to be found as part of planned estate farms.

Stables

A stable is a building, or part of a building, for housing horses and their harnessing and tackle. Except for the larger farmsteads in the lower valleys and in the northeast of the Peak District there was limited need for large teams of horses, the majority of farms having only one or two horses for ploughing, carting and riding – uses that continued up to and beyond World War II in the Peak District.

Typical Features:

- Usually two-storey buildings.
- Well-lit, with ground-floor windows, pitching openings and ventilation to the first-floor loft and external staircase.
- They can be distinguished from cow houses as they have tall and relatively narrow doors.
- Single-storey stables, commonly with cast-iron ridge vents, were built from the later 19th century.
- Wooden or cast iron (for high-status or late examples) stalls with access to manger and hayrack
- Floors, of earth, stone flags/cobbles and from the mid-19th century of engineering brick, sloping to a drainage channel.
- Pegs for harness and tack, sometimes in a separate harness room with fireplace.
- Sometimes chaff boxes for storing feed, and cubby-holes for lanterns, grooming brushes, medicines etc.

Rarity and Significance

- Free-standing stables are rare, as they were commonly built as part of multi-functional ranges.
- Large stables are rare across most of the Peak District and are usually found on large 19th-century estate farms.
- Stables with complete internal fittings are increasingly rare.

See Farmstead Plan drawings and other photographs under Granary and Cattle Housing, and Materials and Details section, for more on stables.

▲

87. Stables set either side of a central open bay which probably housed a trap or carriage (South West Peak).
Photo © Bob Edwards

Stack Stand

Raised platform on which hay, corn, peas etc. were raised out of the reach of vermin and thatched to protect from rain. Stacks were termed ricks in some parts of England.

Typical Features

- A square or round feature approximately 3-4 metres across. Sometimes surrounded by a small ditch to isolate and elevate the platform.
- The floor may have been made from stone or a wooden frame used as a base.

Rarity and Significance

- Surviving examples are extremely rare. Staddle stones (used to elevate buildings) found on some farms in the Peak District were probably used to support ricks rather than staddle granaries.

88. Stack stands. These are located on a farmstead next to moorland, and were used for stacking hay. ▶
Photo © Jeremy Lake

Section 6

Materials And Detail

89. Lintel to a cow house door with initials and the date 1701, at Wincle. *Photo © Bob Edwards*

90 - 91. Two examples of doorways with heavy gritstone lintels, quoins and thresholds, Edale. *Photo © Bob Edwards*

▼

This section introduces the historical development of building materials, followed by notes on the significance of surviving architectural fittings and internal detail.

Historic farmsteads reflect not only England's huge diversity in geology but differences in building traditions and wealth, estate policy, access to transport links and the management of local timber, stone and other resources. This has contributed to great contrasts and variety in traditional walling and roofing materials and forms of construction, which often survived much longer on working farm buildings than farmhouses. From the later 18th-century buildings in stone and brick, roofed with tile or slate, increasingly replaced earlier forms built from clay, timber and thatch. Building materials such as softwood timber, brick, slate and iron could also be imported onto the farm via coastal and river ports, canals and rail. There also appeared in the 19th century a range of standard architectural detail, such as part-glazed and ventilated windows and the use of cast and wrought iron for columns. Prefabricated construction in industrial materials made its way onto farms from the 1850s, but did not become dominant and widespread until after the 1950s.

Materials

Walling

Local stone is the dominant building material for farm buildings. Limestone is characteristic of the White Peak and coarse sandstones, locally known as gritstone, are mostly associated with the Dark Peak and South West Peak, although it was used more widely, particularly for lintels and quoins.

Brick was rarely used for traditional farm buildings in the Peak District. Occasional examples are seen in the south of the area adjacent to the claylands of the Midlands or where estates beyond the Peak District purchased land in the area and 'imported' lowland building materials.

Roofing

Roofs on traditional buildings are typically gabled with a wood superstructure. Stone slates are widely used from an early date, either in limestone or gritstone. There is evidence for a thatch tradition, particularly in the Derwent valley, but the roofing material is now very rare. Occasionally, very steep roof pitches on some older buildings suggest the use of heather thatch.

Plain clay tiles including Staffordshire blues were widely used. Welsh slate is less common and is usually found on 19th-century buildings.

The change to the use of stone slates, which require a lower pitch than thatch, probably led to the complete reconstruction of many earlier roofs, evident occasionally in relict roof lines.

▲ **92.** Historic paving to a yard in front of a cow house in Chinley in the Dark Peak. Historic yard surfaces are important to the setting and character of farmyards but are vulnerable to loss or damage through the use of heavy machinery. *© Peak District National Park Authority*

▲ **93.** Small ancillary buildings within the farmstead often have pent roofs (Edale, Dark Peak). *© Peak District National Park Authority*

◀ **94.** Extremely unusual use of large slabs of stone to form roof trusses in a small outbuilding. *© Peak District National Park Authority*

Architectural Detail and Internal Fittings

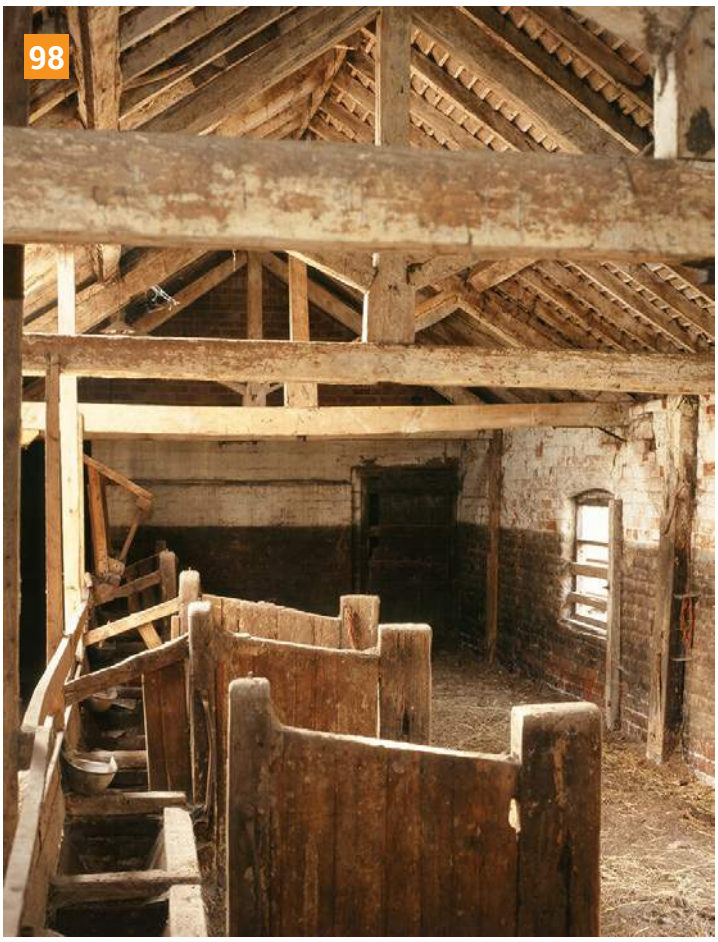
Surviving fittings and details within farm buildings are mostly of 19th- and early 20th-century date. 18th-century and earlier examples are exceptionally rare. Listed below are the key features to look out for.

- Stalls and other interior features (e.g. mangers, hay racks) in stables and cattle housing.
- Plank doors with iron strap hinges and handles, and heavy frames.
- Windows that enable ventilation of stables and cattle housing. Horizontal sliding hit-and-miss ventilators achieved wide popularity in the mid- to late-19th century.
- Historic surfaces such as brick, stone-flag and cobble floors, with drainage channels to stables and cattle housing.
- Belt drives and line shafts which connected fixed and mobile steam engines to machinery for threshing corn and preparing animal feed.
- Date stones found on both farmhouses and farm buildings.

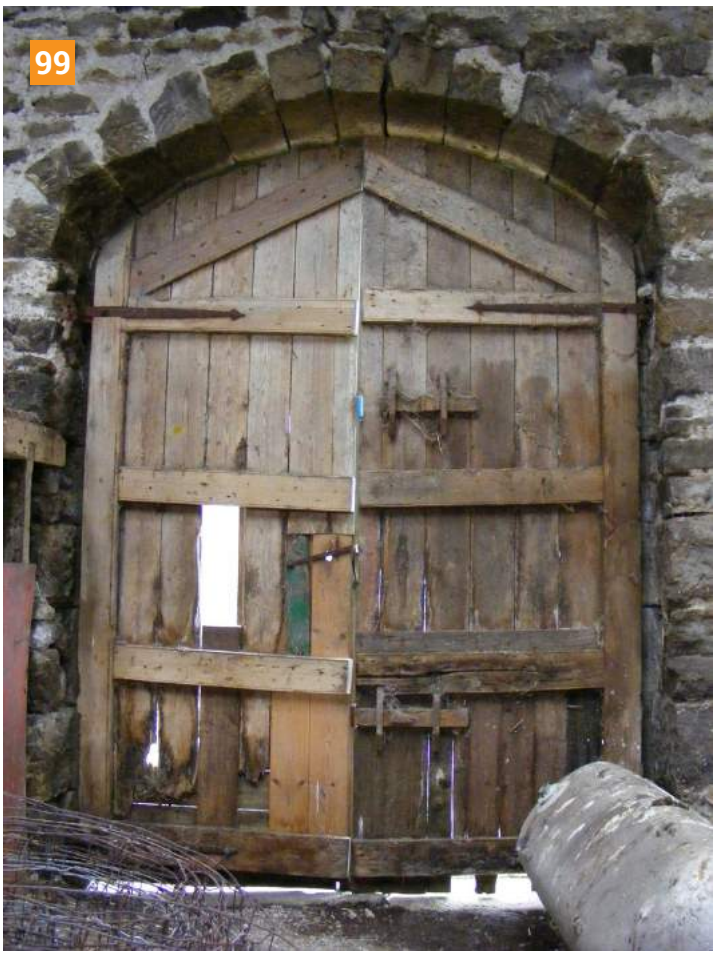
◀ **95.** Traditional cattle stalls, the posts to their frames supporting the hay loft above and metal rings for tying cattle fixed to the shorter posts between them. The feeding mangers between them have been removed.
Photo © Jen Deadman

◀ **96.** Stalls for horses are typically taller with hay racks in front of them.
Photo © Bob Edwards

▲
97. Slates are set into the frames of these cattle stalls, elbowed posts supporting the loft floor which here retains very rare interwoven branches of hawthorn.
Photo © Jen Deadman



▲
98. A more typical arrangement of cattle stalls and a manger with access to a feeding passage as found in single-storey cattle housing.
Photo © Jen Deadman



▲
99. Early 19th century or earlier double doors to a barn with wooden latches and wrought iron hinges.
Photo © Bob Edwards

▲
100. Typical plank doors with strap hinges. *Photo © Bob Edwards*

◀ **101.** It is common to find slabs used for the walkways and cobbles for the standing areas.
Photo © Jen Deadman

▲
102. Line shafting and belt drives to the interior of a barn.
Photo © Bob Edwards

▲
103. A hit and miss ventilator.
Photo © Bob Edwards

▲
104. An unusually ornate date stone.
Photo © Bob Edwards

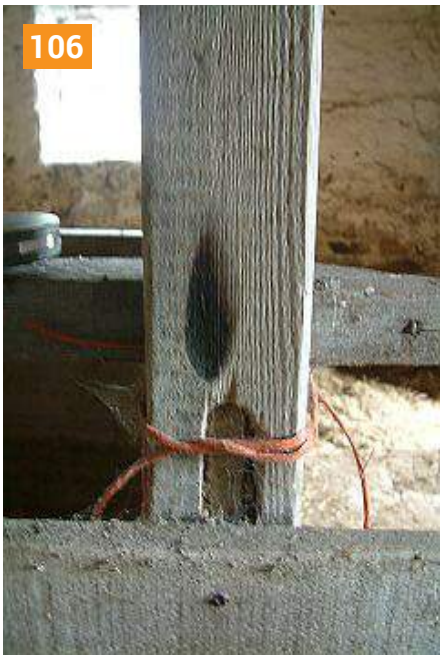
Social and Ritual

Unusual features of historic interest, often difficult to spot, include:

- Incised ritual (apotropaic) marks for protecting produce or livestock, which are usually in the form of 'daisy wheels' or 'Marian marks'.
- Burned ritual marks made to 'fight fire with fire' and thus to prevent fires happening in buildings that are themselves flammable, or which store flammable materials. Some marks date from the 17th century, but most date from the revival of the tradition in the 19th century. The marks usually take the form of a deep candle scorch, or a scorched daisy wheel pattern.
- Graffiti recording names of workers, sales etc.
- Constructional marks are those associated with the transport and prefabrication of structural carpentry and timber frame.

105. A daisy wheel.
Photo © Jen Deadman

108. Graffiti dated 1808.
Photo © Jen Deadman



106. A burn mark.
Photo © Jen Deadman

107. A carpentry mark for the assembly of pre-fabricated timber. *Photo © Jen Deadman*

Section 7

Where to Get Advice

For the Peak District National Park and Historic England see Contact Addresses below.

Peak District National Park Authority
Aldern House
Baslow Road
Bakewell
Derbyshire
DE45 1AE
Tel: 01629 816 200
Email: ***customer.service@peakdistrict.gov.uk***

Historic England East Midlands Office
2nd floor
Windsor House
Cliftonville
Northampton
NN1 5BE
Tel: 01604 735460.
Email: ***eastmidlands@HistoricEngland.org.uk***

Historic England North West Office
3rd floor Canada House
3 Chepstow Street
Manchester
M1 5FW.
Tel: 0161 2421416
Email: ***northwest@HistoricEngland.org.uk***

Historic England West Midlands Office
The Axis
10 Holliday Street
Birmingham
B1 1TG
Tel: 0121 6256870
Email:***west.midlands@HistoricEngland.org.uk***

Historic England Yorkshire
37 Tanner Row
York
YO1 6WP
Tel: 01904 601948
Email: ***yorkshire@HistoricEngland.org.uk***

Cheshire Historic Environment Record
Archaeology Planning Advisory Service
Cheshire Shared Services
The Forum
Chester
Cheshire
Tel: 01244 973667
Email:
hbsmradmin@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Derbyshire Historic Environment Record
Economy, Transport and Environment
Shand House
Dale Road South
Matlock
Derbyshire
Tel: 01629 533362
Email: ***Nichola.Manning@derbyshire.gov.uk***

Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record
Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service
School of Environment & Life Sciences
Room LG20
Peel Building
University of Salford
The Crescent
Salford
M5 4WX
Tel: 0161 295 5522
Email: ***gmaas@salford.ac.uk***

Staffordshire Historic Environment Record
Staffordshire Place
Tipping Street
Stafford
Tel: 01785 277281
Email: ***her@staffordshire.gov.uk***

South Yorkshire Sites and Monuments Record
South Yorkshire Archaeology Service
Regeneration & Development Services
Howden House
1 Union Street
Sheffield
Tel: 0300 111 8000
Email: ***syorks.archservice@sheffield.gov.uk***

West Yorkshire Historic Environment Record
Registry of Deeds
Newstead Road
Wakefield
West Yorkshire
Tel: 01924 306801
Email: ***wyher@wyjs.org.uk***

Section 8 Further Reading

Barnatt. J. (1996) *The Lead Mining Related Landscape of the Peak District: Part 2 -Settlement, Population and Miners/Farmers.* Peak District National Park Authority.

Barnatt, J. (2003) *A Landscape Through Time. The historic character of the Peak District National Park. Aims Methods and User Manual.* Peak District National Park Authority.

Barnatt, J. and Smith, K. (2004) *The Peak District.* Windgather Press, Macclesfield.

Edwards, B. and Lake, J. (2012) *Historic Farmsteads and Landscape Character in Staffordshire. Forum Heritage Services.* Unpublished report for Staffordshire County Council and English Heritage.

Hine, S. (2013) *Field Barns of the Peak District*. Churnet Valley Books. Leek.

Hutton, K. (1976) '*The distribution of wheel houses in the British Isles*'. Agricultural History Review 24, pp.30–35.

Lake, J. and Edwards, B. (2006) Historic Farmsteads: Preliminary Character Statement, North West Region. English Heritage and Countryside Agency. For this and other regional statements see ***https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/caring-for-heritage/rural-heritage/farm-buildings/***

Lake, J. and Edwards, B. (2006). Historic Farmsteads: Preliminary Character Statement, East Midlands Region. English Heritage and Countryside Agency. See above for web link.

Lake, J. and Edwards B. (2006), 'Farmsteads and Landscape: Towards an Integrated View', Landscapes, 7.1 pp.1-36.

Lake J. and Edwards B. (2007) 'Buildings and Place: Farmsteads and the Mapping of Change', Vernacular Architecture, 37, pp.33-49.

Roberts, B.K. and Wrathmell, S. (2000) An Atlas of Rural Settlement in England, English Heritage, London.

Roberts, B.K. and Wrathmell, S. (2002) *Region and Place. A study of English rural settlement,* English Heritage, London.

Rowley, J. (1853) 'The farming of Derbyshire', *Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England 14.*

Thirsk, J. [Ed.] (1984) *The Agrarian History of England and Wales,* Volume V.i (1640–1750, Regional Farming Systems). Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Thirsk, J. (1987) *England's Agricultural Regions and Agricultural History*, 1500–1750. Macmillan, London.

Wade-Martins, S. (2002) *The English Model Farm*, Windgather Press. Macclesfield.

Wade-Martins, S. (2004) *Farmers, Landlords and Landscapes*. Rural Britain, 1720-1870. Windgather Press, Macclesfield.

Winchester, A. (2000) *The Harvest of the Hills. Rural Life in Northern England and the Scottish Borders, 1400-1700.* Edinburgh University Press, Edinburgh.