

Grid reference: SE21362114

Listing date: 07 September 1977

Listing No: DM 2/140

List Grade: II

Building Type: House

NORTHORPE HALL, NORTHORPE LANE, WF14 0QN

Descriptive notes:

Large house, now used as training school. C17 with C19 alterations and recent extensive restorations. Hammer dressed stone. Quoins. Stone slate roof with hollow chamfered gable copings (mainly new). Two storeys and attics. Three-gabled front with 2-storey gabled porch to left and centre gable. Throated drip mould (new) to ground and 1st floors of right 2 bays. Open porch with Tudor arched lintel. Internal doorway has ovolo moulded surround and arched head with original studded door. Left bay is C19 at front, though traces of C17 windows at rear, and has a large 2-light window to each floor. All other windows new including 6-light mullioned and transomed window to porch, 1st floor. 4-light windows to centre and right bays, both floors and 2-light blocked windows to attics. Added wing to rear of centre bay.

Inside is a plaque reading E.T. 1704 (Edward Thomas).

The house was the home of the Northorp family and later of the Armytages of Kirklees. Partly rebuilt by Josiah Sheard in 1701 (Pobjoy).

H. N. Pobjoy, A History of Mirfield, 1968.

Amended:

Conservation Area:

Kirklees Metropolitan Council, Planning Services

For further enquiries tel: Service Support Team on 01484 221621

The hall and barn are well maintained examples of C17 architecture.

The hall and barn are in modest grounds with mature trees and the barn adjoins a field. This rural context is limited, however, as all around the Trust's property are private houses. The property is not in a conservation area.

The building is no longer used as a school, but is the base of Northorpe Hall Child & Family Trust, a charity working with children and families to improve emotional and mental health. The Trust owns the hall, barn and connected properties, bringing them together under one owner in 1979.

The buildings are substantially unchanged since 1985, apart from a restoration of the barn in 2009 which removed modern internal walls in the barn to recreate the original open space and included the replacement of missing timbers with equivalents. This restoration also added the new kitchen.

The new kitchen was designed to complement the original building with a modern wood and glass building, rather than aim to replicate the stone buildings. As such the addition of solar panels to the new kitchen is in keeping with the development.

Heritage Statement

Assessment of Significance

The Trust's website has the following description of the barn. We are unsure of the original author:

"In the nineteenth century the area of Northorpe, and Mirfield in general, was still predominately farmland – as seen from the Ordinance Survey map of 1860. The Barn is a good example of a 17th Century double aisled barn, using king-post construction and with most of the original timbering still intact. In the centre of the barn is the flagged threshing floor. When threshing was still a manual activity the corn was spread over the floor and beaten with a flail to separate the chaff from the ears of wheat. Barns in the 17th century were designed so that they could be extended and aisles added. One of the additional aisles would have been used as a mistal, or milking parlour. The stones on which the upright timbers rest are known as stylbats. They were used to prevent the timber from becoming damp. The holes in the barn gables were for ventilation. Against one wall would have been a rat-ladder. This was used where grain crops were stored, and had holes spaced far enough apart to prevent rats climbing up to the grain."

Source: www.northorpehall.co.uk/venue-hire/history-heritage/

Below are the current listing descriptions for the barn and the hall provided by Kirklees Council.

Grid reference:	SE21352113	Listing date:	03 July 1985
Listing No:	DM 2/141	List Grade:	II

Building Type: School

BARN ADJ NORTHORPE HALL, NORTHORPE LANE, WF14 0QN

Descriptive notes:

Former barn, now school room. C17. Recently altered. Thinly coursed rubble. Quoins. Stone slate roof. Chamfered gable copings on cut kneelers. Outshuts to front and rear. Two square headed cart entrances to front with reused timbers supporting roof above them. One partly blocked cart entry to rear.

Interior: 5 bays. 4 trusses on jowelled posts. Posts have lifting holes and are on stone footings. 3 king-post trusses with struts. One truss with struts only. Posts braced to arcade plates and tie-beams. Aisle to each side. Housings in posts, probably for aisle-ties. Some reused timber. Original rafters.

Amended:

Conservation Area:

Kirklees Metropolitan Council, Planning Services
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