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### **DATA SHEET**

TITLE / ADDRESS			Asset number
Home Farm, Watchwood Drive, Lytham, FY8 4NP			НА
National Grid Reference	County Lancashire	<u>District</u> Fylde	Ref HZ8 Lytham West

Grade: Local

## **Summary of Significance**

Home Farm of Lytham Hall is sited on historic Grade 2 registered parkland around Grade 1 registered Lytham Hall. Map evidence indicates that some of the Farm dwellings date back to the C16th. A full archaeological investigation is needed to ascertain what historic elements still exist in the buildings and in the ground.

Home Farm went into separate ownership about 20 years ago when GRE took the decision to sell the Hall and its grounds separately. Planning consents are being sought for a housing development involving demolition of all existing structures at Home Farm. Currently, Home Farm and its buildings have no protection.

We are seeking to protect the heritage of the Home Farm site. This includes the Farm House and some of its rear appendages, cobble walls within the stabling, the perimeter wall of the kitchen garden and its crested entrance gate piers. All these structures merit Non Designated Heritage Asset status.

### **Historic Asset Description**

Home Farm of Lytham Hall is sited in the historic Grade 2 registered parkland around Grade 1 registered Lytham Hall. Map evidence indicates that some of the Farm dwellings date back to the C16th.

The Farm operated commercially for many years and modern buildings sit alongside the remains of old cowsheds and the walls of the kitchen garden. The historic farm house itself remained in occupation until about three years ago. There are also two modern semi-detached houses, still occupied. Separate access has been through Watchwood Drive, off Ballam Road.

Some of the various sheds and stables are let out as stabling for horses, including those in use pre C20th.

The heritage buildings include Farm House and rear cottage, early stabling with cobble walls, the perimeter wall of the kitchen garden and its crested entrance gate piers.

#### **Farm House**

The farm house predates the revamped garden. It has a symmetrical front with enclosed entrance porch. There are two main rooms at the front of the house and two at the back on both floors. The plan is much more complicated that this however and there is evidence of several re-modellings within and at the rear. The RH stone chimney stack has been removed and the roof re-slated.

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A house on this site dates back to at least the C17th, probably earlier in the case of the rear cottage. The main house is not Victorian; it just has a Victorian façade and porch which could date to about 1857. The porch could be later in the C19th.

The existence of C18th windows in various elevations illustrates that there was a fine house here in the John Carr era.

There are anomalies such as the brick arched attic windows to be seen in the gable ends of the main house, and at the rear of it. These could have been bricked up to make way for the John Carr windows and makeover.



### **Vaulted Undercroft**

The vaulted undercroft may have fulfilled the function of a cellar but existed on the ground floor because of the high water table. The horizontal sliding sash window dates to early C19th, and cuts through the brick arched window. The thick internal walls are a puzzle. Part of an earlier house.

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## **Attached rear Cottage**

This area at the rear of the present main house appears much older. We refer to it as the cottage.

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## Stables

The old stables contain cobble walls within the farm buildings.

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## **Kitchen Garden**

In 1857 a new walled kitchen garden was built just north of the farm house. This was on the instructions of John Talbot Clifton soon after his marriage to Eleanor Cecily Lowther. Most of the walls remain, with gate piers and decorative crest designed by Talbot.

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Sources - Site visit 20 November 2017, photos BR Turner, OS 1891, 1885 map of Lytham Hall

Criteria: Age [ ] Architectural merit [ ] Historic interest [ ] Group value [ ] Setting [ ] Rarity [ ] Designed landscape [ ] Archaeological interest [ ] Landmark quality [ ]

Comment: eg materials, features of particular note

Any further comment eg recommend for national listing

Date of expert panel decision

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