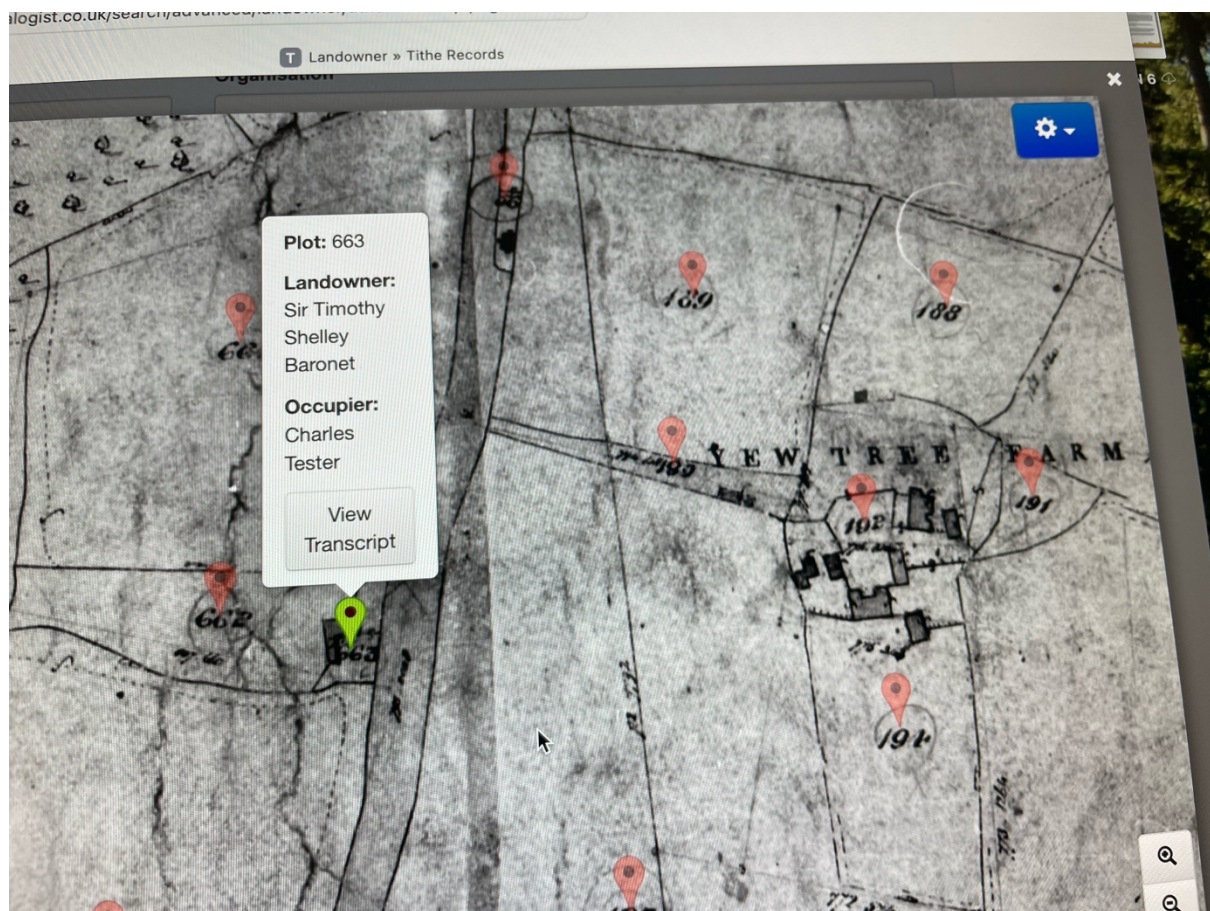


Heritage Statement
Equestrian Yard
London Road
Balcombe
RH17 6QA

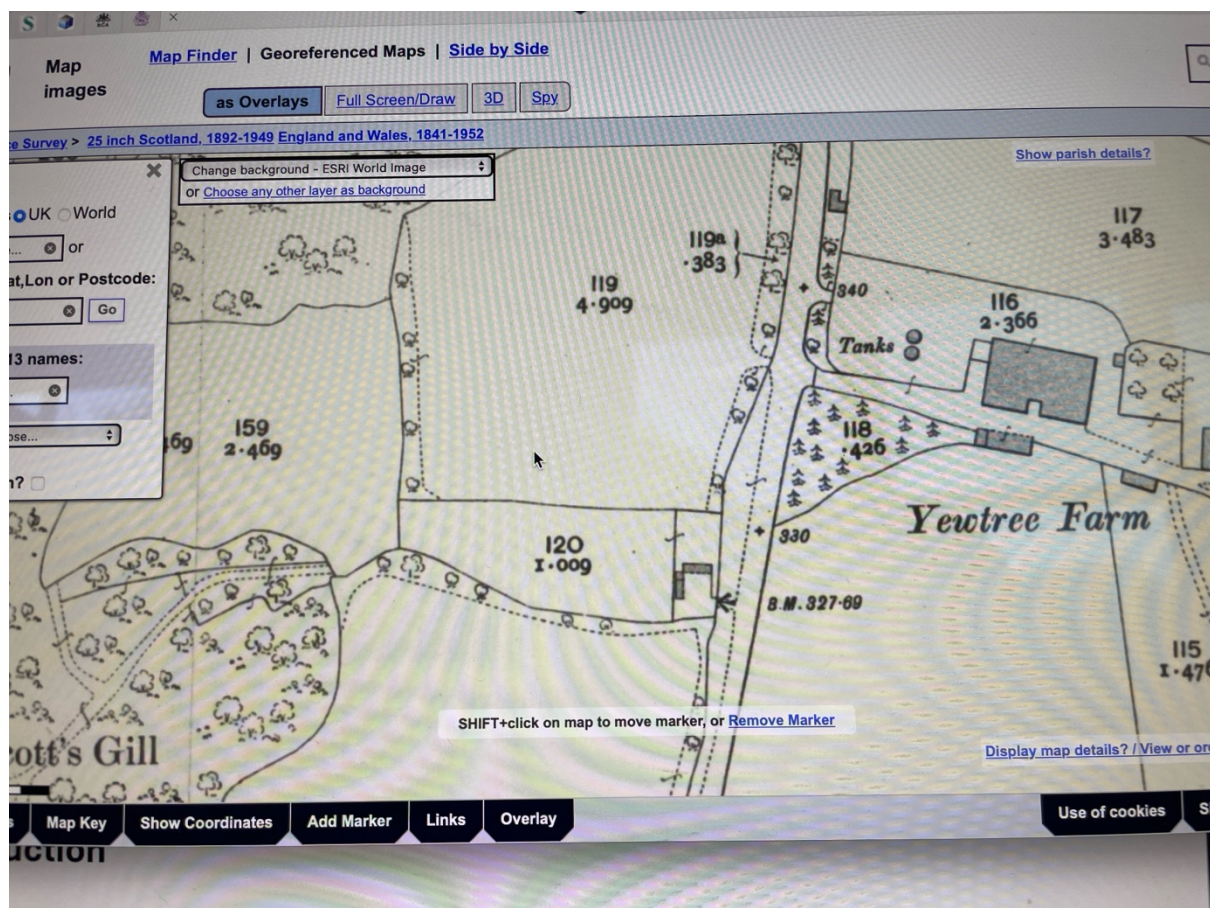
Introduction

This brief Heritage Statement considers the provenance of a small group of buildings on London Road, about 500 metres south of Kings Farmhouse.

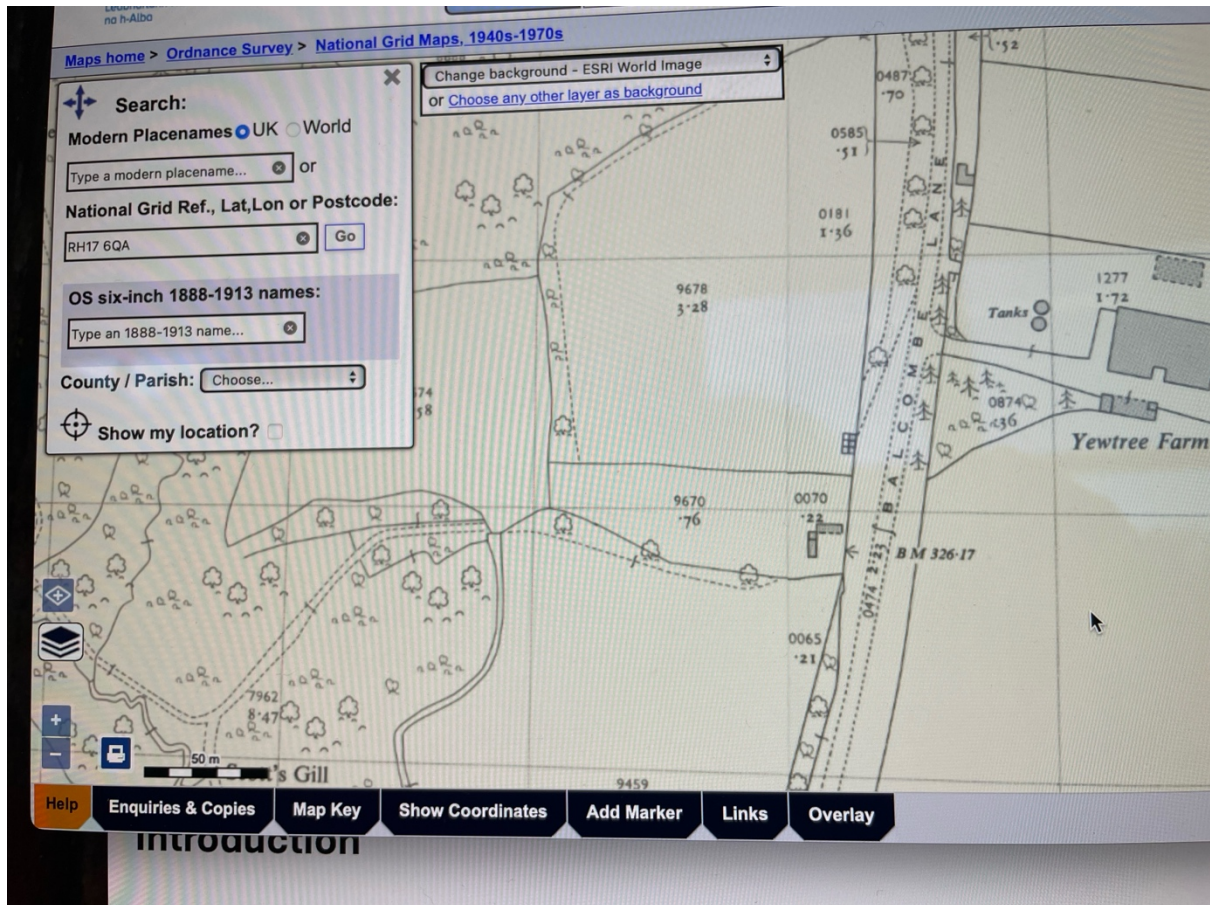
The oldest buildings on the site are two rectangular buildings at a right angle. The 'L' shape shows on the historic County Series map going back to about 1880, and on the 1940-1970 County Series Maps. Physically the buildings appear to relate to Yewtree Farm opposite and not Kings Farm which had its own outbuildings much closer to the house. Investigation of the 1839 Tithe Maps show the site with a much larger building on the footprint of the northernmost barn was owned by Sir Timothy Shelley and occupied by Charles Tester who rented a substantial acreage from Sir Timothy to the west of London Road. It seems the large barn was replaced between about 1840 and 1880.



The Tithe Map



The 1841-1952 25 inch map



1940 -1970 25 inch Map

Photograph of the Southern Building





External View from the north-west



The Northern Building

The Structures

The cladding of the southernmost building has vertical cladding on two elevations with a timber frame set on a plinth, while the northernmost building has horizontal weatherboard, the map suggests it was open fronted and is of less interest. The front elevation of the southern building has an original solid wall that would have been suitable to restrain calves and it may be the buildings were used to wean the young animals which then were allowed to graze the small paddocks adjoining. The photographs show the buildings have been repaired many times. The southernmost building has a steep enough pitch for tiles, while the northernmost building has a shallower pitch and may have had a slate roof. The existing roofs are corrugated sheeting.

The constant 'make do and mend' has lost much of the buildings' character but well managed repair work would bring new life to the group retaining some of the original features of this small livestock yard.

Significance

The significance of the buildings is limited but show the footprints of the older farmyard buildings which is of some historic interest. In terms of cultural, aesthetic or archaeological significance the group has very little to offer.