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F.A.O Graeme Thorpe

Dear Mr Macholc

PROPOSED: Conversion of barn to dwelling; replacement of agricultural building with a garage, and creation of curtilage. Wittons Farm, Bolton-by-Bowland (3/2013/0159P)

The barn proposed for conversion is depicted on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey 1:10560 (Yorkshire Sheet 165), surveyed 1847, although there is a datestone '1826' above the cart entry, which is likely to denote its date of construction. Consequently the building should therefore be considered to be of some historical interest, dating to the first half of the 19th century, having undergone a number of alterations in response to changes in agricultural practices and economics. The period 1750-1880 has been recognised as the most important period of farm building development in England.

The building should therefore be considered to be of some historical interest, dating probably to the end of the 18th or beginning of the 19th century, but having undergone a number of alterations in response to changes in agricultural practices and economics. The period 1750-1880 has been recognised as the most important period of farm building development in England.

The proposed conversion will have a significant impact on the historic character and appearance of the building, and may result in the loss of some historic fabric. The CBAs 'An Archaeological Research Framework for North West England: Volume 2, Research Agenda and Strategy' has indicated that "there is an urgent need for all local authorities to ensure that farm buildings undergoing adaptation are at least considered for recording" (p. 140) so that "a regional database of farm buildings can be derived and variations across the region examined." (ibid.).

Consequently should the Local Planning Authority be minded to grant planning permission to this or any other scheme, the Lancashire Archaeology Service would