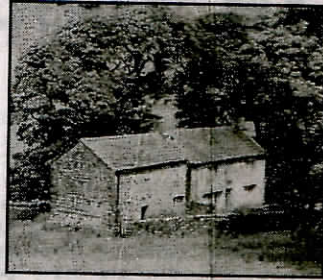


Work has started on restoring farmhouse



The Landmark Trust, a building preservation charity, has begun work to save Cowside, above, a late 17th century farmstead in Langstrothdale.

Specialist contractors have erected scaffolding around the building and are carrying out essential repairs in order to protect the historic structure from further damage during the winter.

Cowside has stood empty for generations. It is in a severe state of disrepair and the fabric of the building is deteriorating fast. Thanks to the generosity of many individuals, the funds have been raised to restore the building and give it a new future.

Planning permission and listed building consent will be applied for shortly, ready for the second phase of works, due to begin in the spring.

The restoration will require the traditional skills of local craftsmen to ensure that the materials and techniques used match those of our predecessors.

The project will take approximately a year and when completed Cowside will have a new future as holiday accommodation with its income contributing to its ongoing maintenance.

The building is evidence of a past way of life and is a rare and important example of its kind.

The farmhouse has a "housebody" (main living area) and parlour with chambers above. The housebody would have been the principal heated room in which most of the life of the house was carried out around its inglenook fireplace. There is also a dairy, wash house, storage rooms, two cowsheds and a pigsty. To find out more about the building and its history visit landmarktrust.org.uk.