



**IN THE
NORTH
EAST OF**

**SCOTLAND YOU
WILL FIND A
STRONG FARMING
CULTURE.**

**EVERYWHERE YOU
LOOK THERE IS
HARD WORKING
LAND, PRODUCING
FOOD FOR US –
PEOPLE HAVE BEEN
FARMING HERE
FOR ABOUT 6000
YEARS.**

Aberdeenshire Farming Museum and Hareshowe Farm are run by Aberdeenshire Council's Museums Service.

Aden Farming Museum is located in the former Aden Estate farm steading which is a restored historic building. The ground floor is fully accessible to all visitors. The upper floor has limited access for those with mobility restrictions.

Hareshowe Farm steading and Hareshowe farmhouse are both small traditional buildings and visitor numbers may need to be limited at particularly busy times. A member of staff is on hand to provide visitors with short, guided tours. Please be aware that due to historic nature of the buildings, some areas of Hareshowe may not be accessible to visitors with mobility restrictions.

The museums are open seasonally. For details of opening hours, events or general visitor information please contact

Aberdeenshire Museums

Station Road, Mintlaw AB42 5EE

Telephone: 01771 622807

Email: museums@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Visit: www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/museums

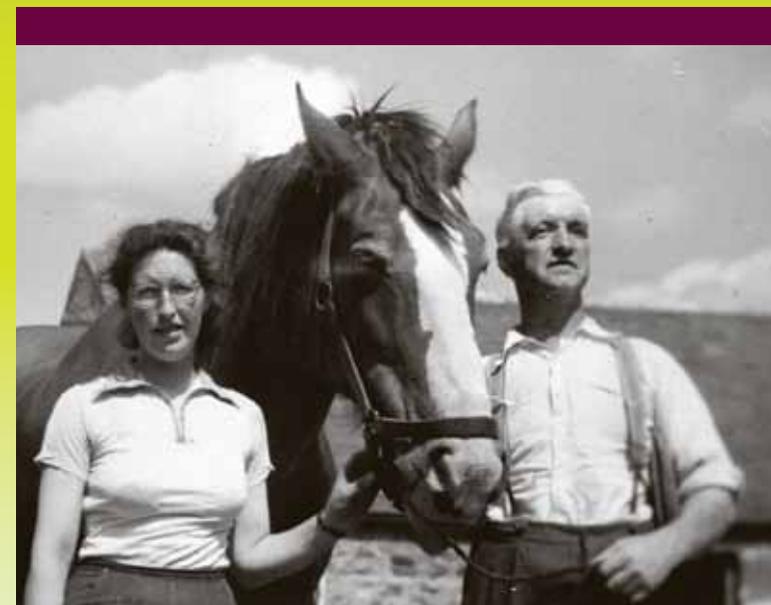
The Aberdeenshire Farming Collection is one of Scotland's Recognised Collections of National Significance.



RECOGNISED COLLECTION
OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

Aberdeenshire
COUNCIL 

cover image: John Barron, his daughter, Margaret and Prince the Clydesdale



**A SMALL
ABERDEENSHIRE FARM**

Hareshowe of Ironside

Aberdeenshire Council
MUSEUMS



Hareshowe is a typical Buchan small farm of the 1890s, an L-shaped steading set in 30 acres of land (equivalent to a housing estate of around 300 houses).

The measurement of 1 acre was the amount of land one man could plough with one horse in one day. Now we use a hectare, which is a metric measurement, equivalent to around 2 ½ acres.

If you look at Hareshowe now, in Aden Country Park, it looks as if it belongs there – this is not the case.

Hareshowe of Ironside originally stood near New Deer. In 1990 it was bought by the local council, dismantled and then brought to Aden piece by piece, where it was rebuilt. If you look carefully, you can still see the numbers on the stones that helped the builders put it back together.

Hareshowe's appearance has been restored to the 1950's. This was the beginning of great change for British farming. The government wanted high production, and changes in science and technology meant changes in the fields.

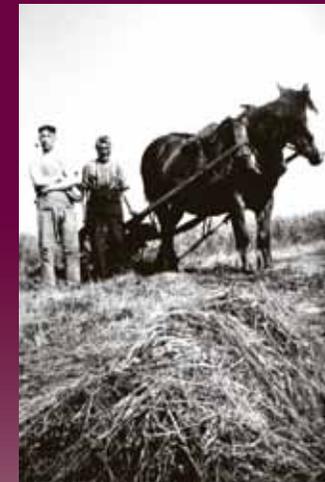


The introduction of tractors meant one person could achieve much more. The Ferguson, or Wee Grey Fergie, as it was affectionately known, was the must-have item on the farm. The widespread adoption of these machines meant that most of the working horses would have ended up at European meat markets. However Prince, the Hareshowe Clydesdale, was looked after by his owners until he died at the age of 22.

Imagine living without electricity? Everyday activities would be so much more complicated. Electricity arrived in Buchan in the mid-1950s, and made life easier for everyone, farmers included. An electric cooker replaced the open fire and an electric water pump meant no slogging down to the well with buckets.



The farm used a traditional crop rotation system in the small fields. Oats, grass for grazing, and a hay crop (dried grass, for winter feeding) were grown. The farm also produced neeps (turnips), for feeding to cattle during the winter.



The family would have eaten vegetables grown in the garden and produce from the fields. Oats were sent to be milled into oatmeal, then eaten as oatcakes, porridge or brose (oatmeal with hot water, salt, and sometimes butter). They had eggs and dairy products, and butter and cheese was made at home.