

Gorehambury Cart Shed

What is it?

Carts and wagons pulled by horses were vital to farm work before tractors. This shed protected them, though later it was used for sheltering cattle instead. Some of the posts have been rubbed smooth by a cow! After that, it was where people split logs for fuel. In the winter they had a small fire to keep warm and you can still see some of these smoke marks on the roof beams. Today it is used for its original purpose –storing the Museum’s collection of carts and large farm tools.

How old is it?

It was built some time during the 1800s.

Where did it come from?

A farm on the Gorehambury Estate near St Albans, Hertfordshire.

What is it built from?

Like lots of other farm buildings, it is made of timber on a brick base. It is clad in wood, with a slate roof topped with curved red clay tiles.

Why is it here at the Museum?

It was donated by Lord Verulam as it was going to be taken down.



Home Learning

Imagine

The horses that pulled these carts were vital to the farm. In fact throughout history horses have helped us. Watch the advert link below to see for yourself. Can you imagine that you are the horse? What do you think you can see, hear, feel, smell and taste in each scene. Could you write in the style of a diary to explain what you have imagined? <https://www.literacysshed.com/lloydshorse.html#>

Research

During the Victorian period there was an agricultural and industrial revolution. Can you find out more about the changes that occurred during the Victorian period and how they affected life on the farm? <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zvmv4wx/revision/5> . Once you have finished your research why not take part in a debate: Did the agricultural and industrial revolution have more positive or negative impacts on society? <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxvv4wx/articles/ztx8pbk>

Create

Investigate how inventors used levers, gears and pulleys to design farm machinery. Then create your own future farm machine and create a logo and an advert selling your design! <https://www.stem.org.uk/resources/elibrary/resource/464888/farm-machine-2040-english>

Experiment

The carts in our shed are designed using two wheels and were pulled by one or two draught horses. In fact people often remark on how big the wheels are!

Do you think the size of the wheels could affect the distance they travel? Can you design a fair experiment to find out?

