

Historic Building Record  
Wester Keltie  
Dunning  
PERTH & KINROSS  
DG06



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**HISTORIC BUILDING RECORD**  
**WESTER KELTIE**  
**PERTH & KINROSS**

**DG06**

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*Illustration 1: Site location plan*

*Illustration 2: Plan and features*

*Illustration 3: East and West exterior elevations*

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**ABSTRACT**

*Alder Archaeology compiled a basic historic building record of a nineteenth century barn featured on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map and located at NGR NO 0079 1352. The barn, a single storey structure of rubble wall construction, had been re-purposed for turkey farming in the late twentieth century, but might originally have been associated with a nearby mill. The survey (site code DG06) was conducted on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019.*

## **1 Background**

### **1.1 Introduction**

Mr Calum Rollo commissioned Alder Archaeology to undertake an historic building survey of a disused barn at Wester Keltie, near Dunning, in advance of demolition and conversion to housing. The proposed development area adjoins a domestic dwelling and is centred on NGR NO 0079 1352. The work (site code DG06) was undertaken on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 in fine weather conditions. The requirement was to compile a narrative and photographic record of the barn in its current condition and setting.

The work was designed to satisfy the archaeological condition on development application reference 18/00968/FLL.

### **1.2 Aims and Objectives**

The main aim of this investigation was to record the form, function and fabric of the building, noting any details of construction phasing and features of particular interest.

### **1.3 Reporting**

The present document has been prepared as the final report on this survey. Copies will be sent to the client, The National Record of the Historic Environment at Historic Environment Scotland, and Perth & Kinross Historic Environment Record.

### **1.4 Planning and Curatorial Issues**

This HBR constitutes archaeological work designed to satisfy the outstanding archaeological condition on the planning consent for this development.

### **1.5 Acknowledgements**

We wish to thank Mr Calum Rollo and Ms Mary Murray of Sunshine Design and Planning Ltd, for their assistance and guidance throughout this project. Mr Rollo funded this survey.

## **2 Details of Work**

### **2.1 The Site (Illus 1)**

The old barn to be demolished formed one side of a U-shaped range of buildings, with a similar outbuilding opposite and a two-storey house forming the central element, to which the other outbuilding was attached. The barn to be surveyed was freestanding and aligned approximately N-S. The complex of buildings occupied part of the shoulder of a wooded ridge to the SW of Dunning, with a cottage adjoining to the NE and a modern barn to the E. The ground on which the complex stood sloped gently to the N, the gradient becoming steeper beyond the buildings, where it eventually ran down to Keltie Loch, some 250.00m distant. The so-called “Maggie Wall Witch Monument” lay c.400.00m N of the site, on the far side of the B8062 Dunning-Auchterarder road.

## **2.2 Archaeological Potential**

The Wester Keltie farm complex features on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition OS map of the area and may have been associated with Keltie Mill (MPK 8478), located c.140m NE of the site. It was thus possible that the barn had existed for some time prior to the OS mapping and may have been of early nineteenth century origin. Latterly, the barn had been used to house turkeys, being subdivided into a main and inner pen, with an end storage room.

## **2.3 Archaeological Method**

A basic Historic Building Record was compiled, conforming to ALGAO guidelines (2013). All exterior and (where accessible) interior elevations were photographed, along with the location and setting and any features of interest. Doors and windows were measured and details of the fabric and construction of the building noted. Annotated plans and elevations were created, based upon architect's drawings.

## **2.4 Results of Investigations**

The barn was a single storey building of rubble wall construction, aligned N-S, with two doors on the E side and one on the W. The E side opened into what had probably been a courtyard with the two barns to W and E and the two storey house to the N; this space was occupied by a lawn at the time of the survey. The arrangement of the buildings suggested a U-shaped steading and it seems possible that the house had replaced an earlier single-storey range; certainly, the N end of the turkey barn had been foreshortened, suggesting that it may originally have adjoined an E-W building. The N wall of the barn had been rebuilt using concrete breeze blocks bonded with Portland cement and harled. Massive boulders in the base of the W and E elevations at the N end provided support against the sloping of the terrace, which was noticeably less level at this end. The building in its present condition stood 12.60m long x 5.40m wide (external).

The E side barn doors were blue-painted wood slat, not original but occupying original apertures cased in squared stone. The S doorway (2.50m from the S end) measured 0.78m wide x 1.68m high from the uneven ground surface (silt lay over the threshold). Crude bar slots had been carved into the S side casing. The N end door (7.50m from the S end) measured 0.87m wide x 1.79m high from a threshold of concrete paving slabs. Bar slots had been carved into the S side casing and a bolt hole in the stone jamb was at the level of the modern bolt. Inserted in the E slope of the grey slate roof were three metal-framed skylights. The roof also featured a leaden ridge of recent origin, while the A-frame pine rafters and slats exposed in the interior also appeared to be fairly modern, of machine sawn wood with few signs of decay, altogether suggesting that the roof itself had been refitted at some stage in the twentieth century. Iron guttering may have slightly predated this refit but was certainly still a late addition to the building.

The W elevation featured a window 1.53m from the S end, measuring 1.07m wide x 0.82m high to its wooden lintel, cased in modern brick and clearly an insertion. The single door, measuring 1.09m wide x 1.76m high featured a wooden lintel and squared stone casings, possibly an original aperture and located 4.40m from the N end. A broken ceramic drain pipe occupied a circular vent in the wall to the N of the door, 3.30m from the N end, representing the remains of a ventilation and/or heating system (or possibly gas chamber slaughter system) probably associated with the turkeys-

although no trace of this feature was apparent in the interior. Several drainpipe fragments lay on the ground surface nearby. The wall face on this elevation featured frequent nails suggesting a lath frame had been present, while the wall itself bowed outwards; it was therefore possible that an extension had stood against the elevation, perhaps housing the remainder of the system represented by the drainpipe fragments. Mounds of stone rubble nearby indicated recent demolition and clearance, although much of the nearby ground surface retained turf cover. Traces of an external lean-to were also visible against the S elevation, where a concrete floor abutted the wall founds. The W elevation was adjoined to the S by a drystone retaining wall, partially demolished.

The interior featured a wooden partition 3.78m from the S wall, creating a S end room 3.78m N-S x 4.00m E-W. The room was partly furnished with wooden benches and cupboards and had apparently been used for storage. The roof ridge stood 3.47m from the poured concrete floor. A second partition 2.08m N of the first formed a narrow central room containing a rubble-blocked vent in the E elevation, although this example was rectangular, 0.25m high x 0.30m long and formed from possibly Victorian brick, perhaps an early addition to the building. The central room, like the N end room, featured an uneven earthen floor, particularly sloping at the N end of the N room where the ground appeared to have been dug out during the insertion of the concrete end wall. The N end room measured 6.05m long x 4.00m wide. The majority of the internal wall fabric was of lime-bonded stone rubble, with the truncation of the building obvious at the N end of both E and W elevations. A wire netting fence shielded the interior from the N door and connection with the S room.

### **3 Interpretation**

The barn was a fairly typical representative of local vernacular architecture of the earlier nineteenth century, using local stone for its fabric and later adapted to twentieth century farming methods. It may have formed part of a unified U-shaped steading but had been modified as a free-standing structure in its own right, or had at least been truncated and rebuilt using modern materials.

## **4 Conclusions and Recommendations**

### **4.1 Recommendations for Further Work**

Alder Archaeology consider the Historic Building Record to have been compiled correctly in accordance with the Terms of Reference for this project and do not recommend further work in connection with the present development. However, the final decision ultimately rests with Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust.

## Appendix 1 Photographic Register

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
0001-5	Location shots, barn in building complex	NW, NE
0006-8	Exterior, S elevation	N
0009-10	Exterior, W elevation	E
0011	Exterior, W elevation, S end	E
0012	Exterior, W elevation, N end	E
0013	Exterior, N elevation	S
0014-15	Exterior, E elevation	W
0016	Exterior, E elevation, N end	W
0017-18	Exterior, E elevation, S end	W
0019	Interior, S room, general view, oblique	SW
0020	Interior, S room, W elevation	W
0021-23	Interior, S room, E elevation	E
0024	Interior, S room, S elevation	S
0025-26	Interior, S room, S elevation, base	S
0027	Interior, S room, N elevation	N
0028	Interior, S room, N elevation, oblique	NW
0029-31	Interior, N room, general views from netting, oblique	NW, WNW
0032	Interior, N room, W elevation, oblique	NW
0033	Interior, N room, W elevation, N end	W
0034	Interior, N room, W elevation, S end, oblique	SW
0035	Interior, N room, E elevation, N end, oblique	NE
0036	Interior, N room, E elevation, N end	E
0037-39	Interior, N room, N elevation	N
0040	Interior, N room, detail, rafters	N
0041	Interior, central room, general view, oblique	SW

0042	Interior, central room, W elevation	W
0043	Interior, central room, E elevation	E
0044	Interior, central room, detail, blocked vent	E
0045	Location shot, barn with house	NW



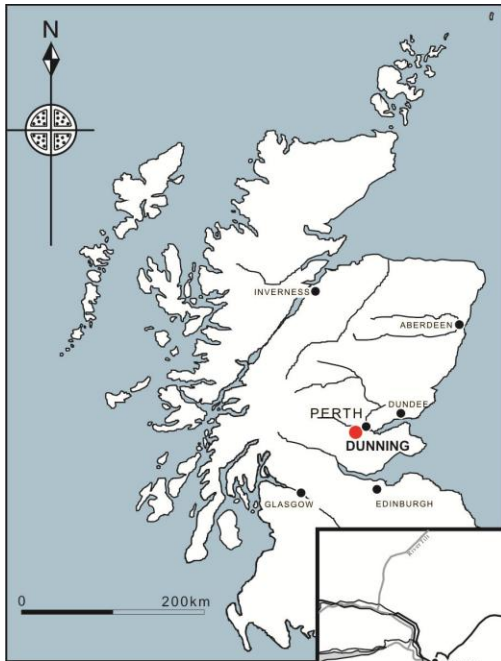
## Appendix 2 Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Perth & Kinross
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Wester Keltie
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	DG06
<b>PARISH:</b>	Dunning
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	C Fyles
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	Alder Archaeology Ltd
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	HBR
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	None
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	Barn
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)</b>	NO 0079 1352
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2019
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2019
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	A basic historic building record was compiled of a nineteenth century barn featured on the 1 <sup>st</sup> edition OS map. The barn, a single storey structure of rubble wall construction, had been re-purposed for turkey farming in the late twentieth century, but might originally have been associated with a nearby mill.
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	-
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Mr Calum Rollo
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Alder Archaeology Ltd, 55 South Methven Street, Perth PH1 5NX
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	<a href="mailto:director@alderarchaeology.co.uk">director@alderarchaeology.co.uk</a>
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b> (intended/deposited)	HES (intended)

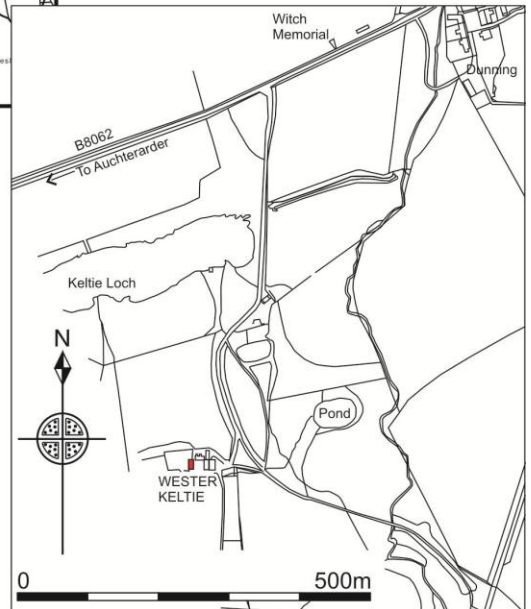
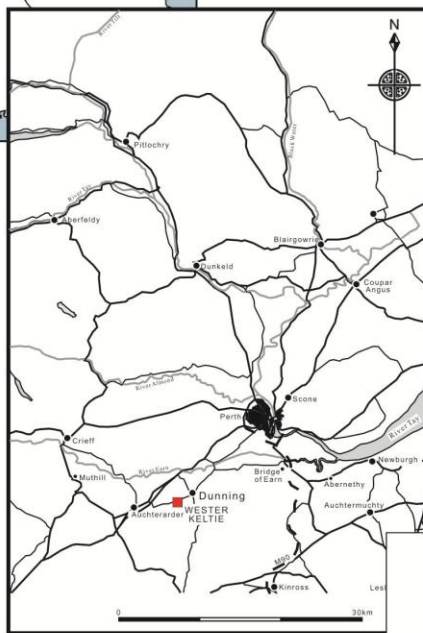
Illus 1

Wester Keltie, Dunning

Site Location



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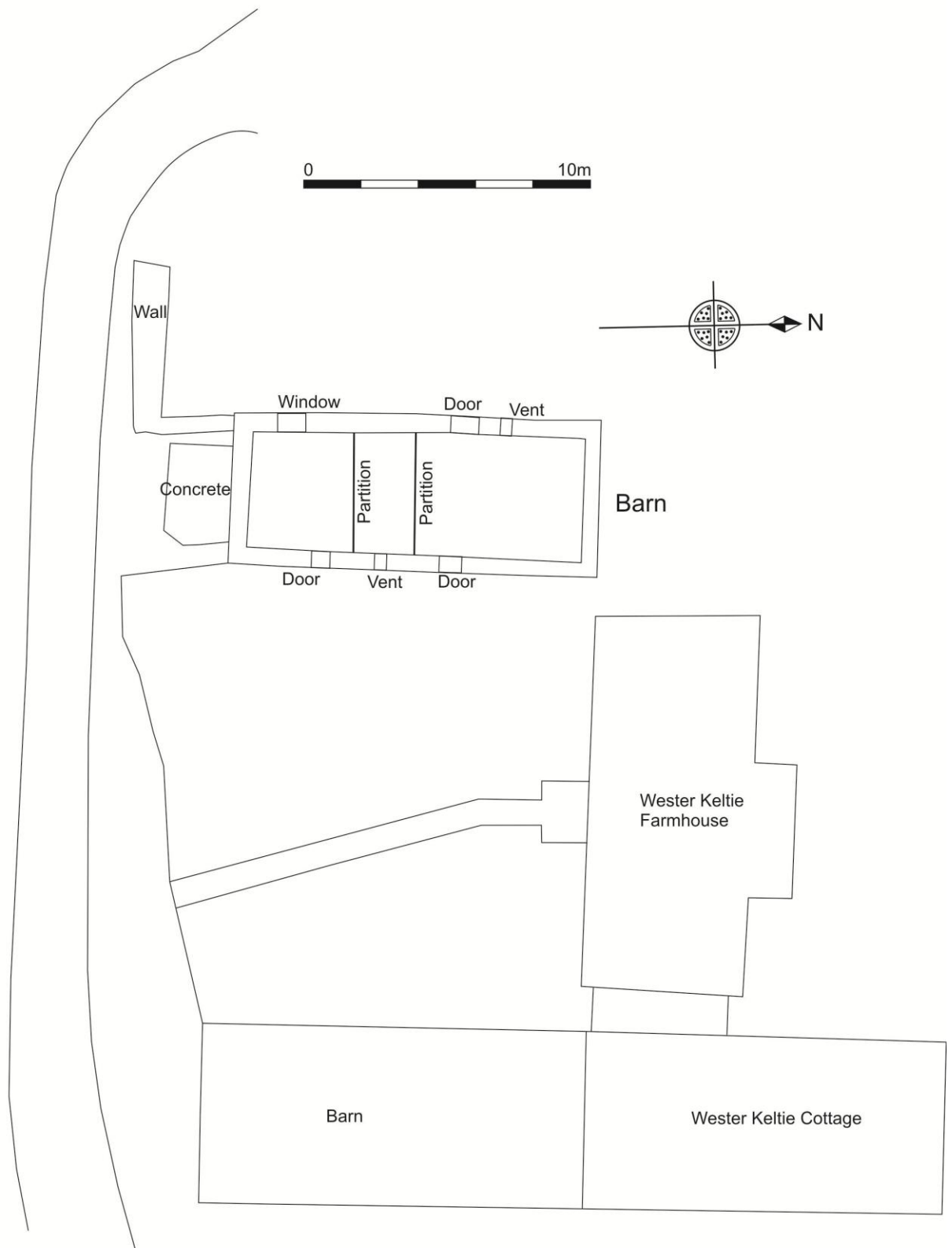


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Illus 2

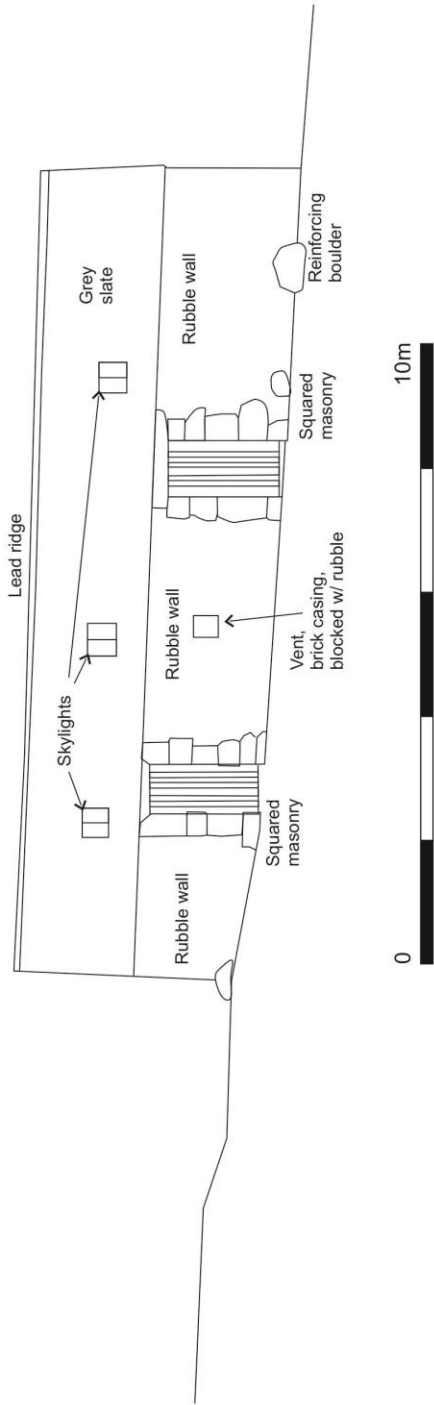
Wester Keltie Barn, plan and features



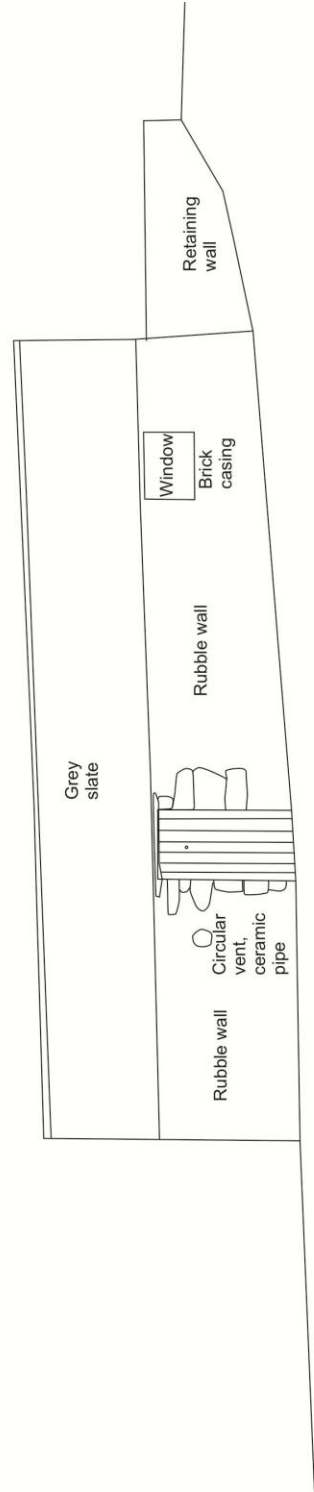
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East elevation



West elevation



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