

Historic Building Recording & Archaeological  
Investigations at the West Ruin near  
the Old Schoolhouse  
Cottown  
St Madoes  
Perth & Kinross  
CT05



**Alder Archaeology Ltd**  
**55 SOUTH METHVEN STREET**  
**PERTH PH1 5NX**  
Tel: 01738 622393  
Fax: 01738 631626  
[Director@AlderArchaeology.co.uk](mailto:Director@AlderArchaeology.co.uk)

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<b>Author</b>	Tamlin Barton, MA & David Bowler
<b>Illustrator</b>	Tamlin Barton, MA
<b>Editor</b>	David Bowler, BA, MPhil, FSA Scot, MifA

## **ABSTRACT**

*The National Trust for Scotland commissioned Alder Archaeology Ltd to undertake a historic building recording and an archaeological excavation at a ruin known as 'The West Ruin' next to the Old Schoolhouse at Cottown, Perth & Kinross. The ruin was considered important because of its close proximity to the Schoolhouse, a surviving 18th century example of a house built with solid clay and straw walls on rubble foundations, a local vernacular building technique. The West Ruin was known to contain surviving clay and straw elements attached to a larger clay-bonded rubble house, but these building methods, now the roof had gone, meant that the remains were rapidly eroding away. The survey was carried out to provide a comprehensive record of the remains prior to the ruin being stabilised and partially re-built by the NTS to avoid further dilapidation. The first part of the project, the survey, was carried out over three days between the 19th and 21st of July 2010 in often wet weather conditions. The ruin was analysed in fine detail and plans and elevations were drawn at 1:20. The second part, the excavation, was carried out during the following week between the 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of July 2010. The main aims of the excavation were to try to discover the former use of one of the rooms in the ruin and to discover the relationship of the West Ruin to the Schoolhouse.*

*The Survey revealed that the ruin comprised two buildings: an earlier clay and straw walled building underlying a later clay-bonded rubble house (of which the SE gable wall did not survive). Only a small portion of the early building survived due to the building of the later house, when it appears the former served as an outhouse. Walls of the early building were found to have been constructed from straw and clay sitting on clay-bonded fieldstone foundations, similar to the walls of the Schoolhouse. This similarity might be a sign that the early building is vaguely contemporary with the Schoolhouse. The later house was built mainly of clay-bonded stone and the various walls showed slightly different methods of construction, reflecting possible re-builds and that different workers must have built different parts of the house. The earliest part seems to have been the gable which was built of quarried crumbly red sandstone and field boulders; this seems to have been added to by the two walls fronting the house made from quarried sandstone only and built to level and roughly level beds. During the late 19<sup>th</sup> century various alterations seem to have taken place including the blocking up of the rear door, creation of a window, and then insertion of a brick partition wall dividing the house formally into two rooms each with its own closet. This change it is thought could be a sign that the house was shared between two occupiers for a time.*

*Excavation between the W ruin and the Schoolhouse (Trench A) revealed a soakaway or rubble drain built against the NE wall of the W ruin which may have been created to lessen the damp on the buildings' foundations in the late 19<sup>th</sup> or first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This feature seems to have been responsible for the outward lean of the NE wall. The centre of the trench was disturbed by a 'french drain' cut by the NTS and a large trench for a 20<sup>th</sup> century water supply to the Schoolhouse and W ruin. However, the water supply trench was found to have truncated an early clay floor surface containing a circular depression, possibly evidence of a partition wall. This floor surface is significant and is a sign that there was an earlier building on the site, possibly that belonging to a wall found to the SE of the Schoolhouse in a previous excavation. Excavation in the NW structure revealed the*

*structure's stone floor which had been bedded down on a yellow sand. Below this was an earlier probable floor surface of mottled clay with a post hole and a stake hole cut into it. While the stake hole could possibly be evidence of an internal partition wall from this phase of the building, the larger posthole it is thought could be evidence of a central post which supported a roof ridge. Two trenches had been cut along the NE wall, both possibly reflecting different phases of wall foundation trenches, the upper one being the trench for the current wall.*

*The site code for this project was CT05*

# **1 Background**

## **1.1 Introduction**

The National Trust for Scotland property at Cottown (NGR 2057 2102) is located in a small hamlet lying 10.5km east of Perth and 0.8km from the small village of St Madoes. The main feature on the site is a vernacular clay-built structure believed to date from at least the mid-18th century and locally known as the 'Old Schoolhouse'. Within the grounds of the Old Schoolhouse are two ruinous structures standing to wall head height known as North Cottage and West Cottage (referred to as North Ruin and West Ruin).

Alder Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by the Trust to undertake a historic building recording and an archaeological excavation at the eroded remains of the West Ruin.

## **1.2 Aims and Objectives**

The main aim of this investigation was to record the ruin in detail before further damage to the building occurred through erosion. As well as providing a 'snapshot in time' the survey also provided a comprehensive interpretation of the remains. Both these aspects were to be used to inform future consolidation work. The main aim of the excavation was to look for the broader picture, to find out the relationship between the W Ruin and the Schoolhouse.

## **1.3 The Report**

The present document has been prepared as the final report on this historic building recording and excavation. Copies will be sent to the National Trust for Scotland, The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland and Perth and Kinross Historic Environment Record.

The report is set out in two main sections: 'The Survey' and 'The Excavation'. These are then followed by a general conclusion. The survey section begins with descriptions of the NW structure, element by element. This is followed by descriptions of the various elements of the clay-bonded rubble house, followed by descriptions of fixtures and fittings, and then phasing. The last part of the survey section deals with the interpretation of both parts of the ruin. The excavation section is laid out with descriptions of the archaeology in each trench being followed by interpretations of the remains.

## **1.4 Acknowledgements**

We wish to thank Daniel Rhodes for his assistance and guidance throughout this project. The National Trust for Scotland funded this historic building recording and excavation.

## 2 Details of Work

### 2.1 The Site

The NTS property at Cottown is a well kept up (though uninhabited) rectangular plot of land at the S end of the village, on the E side of the metalled road running through Cottown from Hawkstone. The land around the Schoolhouse comprises well mown lawns and a number of fruit trees, many of which have become overgrown. The main focus of this investigation however, was the W end of the plot around the entrance. This is where the N Ruin and the W Ruin are located, both close to the main road, the mown entrance to the site lying between them. The ground here slopes down fairly steeply to the E (80cm over 10m), a sign that the road had been built up. The West Ruin occupies a site between the road and the Schoolhouse (just 2m away from it) aligned roughly along the road. Prior to the survey, the W ruin was completely covered in vegetation including brambles and small trees. These were removed by the NTS before survey and excavation work commenced, though occasional stumps and roots had to be left in situ.

### 2.2 Background

According to Melville (1939) in his book *The Fair Land of Gowrie*, the village of Cottown was a 'thriving hamlet' during the 19th century, but 'is now nothing more than a ruin'. However, the first indication of the existence of the village can be traced back to the Statistical Account for 1791, where it says that, during the 1760s, the proprietor of the Pitfour Estate divided a considerable portion of his Estate into distinct farms, requiring each tenant to reside on their own farm, whereas beforehand they had lived together in a small village. Also around this time, one of the old Session Records states that the Laird of Pitfour set apart two acres of land for the benefit of a schoolmaster. Tradition does not mark their exact location but the building known as the Old Schoolhouse may represent the remains of this land. The 1841 Census gives the population of Cottown as 78, with the residents undertaking a variety of occupations including nine employed at the local brickworks, four farm workers, eight labourers, two dressmakers, two grocers and a blacksmith. In the 1844 Statistical Account, Cottown is named along with Hawkstone, as one of the small villages in the Parish of St Madoes with a population of 67. The account also notes that the schoolmaster based in the village had 'legal accommodation and maximum salary'. By the 1860s, an entry in the OS Namebook describes Cottown as a small village of thatched houses, built of mud, chiefly inhabited by labourers and tacksmen of the Pitfour Estate.

Melville (1939) notes that during the 1930s Cottown still contained a number of 18th-century clay-built and thatch-roofed houses. Some showed evidence of 19th century repair where brick had been used to render the buildings weather proof. He also lists some of the businesses which were to be found in the village, including; smithy, chairmaker, joiner, cartwheelmaker, undertaker, tailor, a grocers shop, loomshop and schoolmistress.

The land owned by the NTS at Cottown contains three main structures dating to this pre-20<sup>th</sup> century period: the N Cottage (or N Ruin), the W Cottage (or W Ruin) and the Schoolhouse. Both the N Cottage and the W Cottage were formerly owned by the Errol Park Estate and were purchased in 1959 and 1957 respectively by the last occupiers of the site. The walls of both buildings incorporate clay, brick and stone construction and

the W Cottage has a concrete floor. Both cottages were originally thatched and this was still extant in 1973 when the site was first photographed by Bruce Walker. The N Cottage was, in an earlier phase, cruck framed, as evidenced by the recovery one of the crucks in 1973. The date of the original construction date of the cottages is unknown; however, possible 18th-century or earlier dates have been suggested. Both structures were occupied up to 1973, W Cottage as a dwelling and N Cottage as a store. W Cottage faces the roadway and has a central door flanked by two windows. A small, almost flat-roofed timber porch was recorded over the doorway by Myles and Walker (1999). They also noted a small thatch-roofed, mudwall and masonry shed attached to the north gable, the ridge of the roof following the same line as that of the house.

Various other relevant archaeological surveys and excavations have taken place at the cottages and the schoolhouse over the years. The following is a list of this work:

*1994 – Old Schoolhouse, Cottown: Electricity Cable trench and Well Excavation (R. Turner: NTS).*

This project concerned itself with the investigation of a 0.45m deep trench running from the southern boundary of the property to the eastern side of the Old Schoolhouse for a distance of 26m and the excavation (of the upper most layer of the natural subsoil) of an area identified as a well from the OS 2<sup>nd</sup> edition map of 1898. The investigation produced fragments of spongeprinted ceramic from c.1800 and part of a mid-18th-century wine bottle. Fragments of various everyday ceramic were also found, including china earthenware, and stoneware, in forms ranging from jars and plates to teapots. This material, and window and vessel glass, was believed to date from the 19th and 20th century, although a single sherd of Scottish medieval redware was dated to the 14<sup>th</sup> or 15th century. Further to this, several fragments of the remains of a 19<sup>th</sup>-century riveted boot and three fragments of 19<sup>th</sup>-century clay pipe were also discovered.

*1995 – An Archaeological Investigation at the Old Schoolhouse, Cottown (SUAT Ltd).*

A small-scale exploratory excavation was carried out in the north-west corner of the Old Schoolhouse's central room and a small section of the mud/clay fabric of an adjacent stud partition wall was examined. Excavation of the floor did not reveal the composition of the original floor as all traces had been eradicated by the construction of the concrete floor. It did however indicate that the foundations for both the internal and external walls had been formed by cutting trenches into the natural subsoil. A pipe stem recovered during the investigation placed the likely construction date for the outer walls of the Old Schoolhouse in the late 18th century and glass and ceramic uncovered from below the internal partition wall indicate a 19<sup>th</sup>-century construction date.

*1997 – Excavation of Trenches for a Field Drain and Soakaway, Cottown Schoolhouse (S.Wallace).*

During this investigation a narrow trench (c.0.45m wide) was excavated around the north, east and west sides of the Old Schoolhouse, with a soakaway pit cut into the lawn c.2.5m to the south. Within these the remains of two probable walls were discovered, one to the northern and one on the southern side of the Old Schoolhouse. Both appear to have been constructed some time in the 19th century but it is unclear how they relate stratigraphically to the other standing structures on the property.

Directly to the east of West Cottage (1.25m to the west of the Old Schoolhouse) excavation uncovered (at a depth of c.0.25m) a row of 8-9 bricks with an associated 'small rectangular construction of medium-sized pieces of sandstone and brick, 0.62m x 0.25m 0.20m'. Both these features lay directly below layers containing mid to late 19th-century ceramic (including stonewares, china and a tile fragment) and a possible 18th-century glass bottle base fragment.

*2004 – Archaeological Building Survey and Excavation, Cottown Schoolhouse (SUAT Ltd).*

During this investigation of North Cottage an archaeological record of the standing remains was produced and trial excavations were carried out within the central and western parts of the structure. The earliest of a complex sequence of wall construction and alteration methods identified, involved the use of mud or clay bonding (augmented by later boulder and brick repair), possibly indicating that the building dates from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. No artefactual evidence was found to suggest an earlier date than this, and most (ceramic and glass) related to 19th- and 20th-century activity. Originally constructed as a dwelling it is known to have functioned as holiday accommodation during the 1950s and later as a store.

### **2.3 Building Survey Method**

All elevations and important details of the W Ruin were photographed using an Olympus digital SLR camera. Vertical surfaces were drawn at 1:20 using hand tapes and the drawings corrected and added to using a Reflectorless Total Station. The drawings focused on salient features but did not include a stone-by stone record of the structure. Walls and important features were given context numbers and detailed descriptions were taken of their dimensions, location, fabric, form, matrix, geology, stratigraphy and any mouldings or markings. A plan was made of the ruin at 1:20 using tape and offsets and a Total Station. The location of the building was tied into the OS national grid using the Total Station.

### **2.4 Archaeological Method**

Three areas were investigated: Trench A, Trench B and Trench C. The location of Trench A (down the gap between the W Ruin and the Schoolhouse) was chosen because it was hoped it would reveal remains that illuminated the former relationship between the W Ruin and the Schoolhouse. Trench B, located in the NW structure, was excavated to try to reveal the former use and possible date of this part of the W Ruin. Trench C was excavated to clarify the stratigraphic relationship between the NW structure and the main house. No excavations were conducted next to the walls of the West Ruin (apart from Trench C) because of the dangers of collapse and problems with roots.

All excavations were carried out by hand using mattocks, spades and trowels. Each significant layer or cut feature encountered was recorded in plan at 1:20 and photographed using a Nikon D60 digital SLR camera. Sections of important features were drawn at 1:10. Notes were written on the different deposits using context sheets in the usual manner. Locations of the trenches were measured onto a scaled plan of the ruin and also onto a digital plan created using a Total Station. Levels were taken in



relation to a drain cover at the entrance to the site on the nearby road; the level of this drain cover was then worked out from a previous topographic survey and all heights taken during the survey were then recalculated to reflect levels above Ordnance Datum. Pottery and small finds were collected in plastic bags labelled with context numbers. After excavation all the trenches were backfilled.

### **3 The Survey**

#### **3.1 Description of the remains**

The W ruin comprised two main components: The remains of a large rectangular house with a single surviving gable wall on the NW side, and a small squared structure to the NW of the gable wall on a slightly different alignment - turned more to the north.

##### *The NW structure*

##### Foundation (104 &107)

The foundation of this building comprised a low wall with a slight batter on the inside composed of rounded and sub-rounded field stones (between c. 27 x 12cm and c. 5 x 7cm in size) bonded together with clay. This wall extended around the SW, NW and NE sides of the building with a single break for a doorway in the NE wall. The SE wall of this structure was formed by the gable wall of main house (110). The different sides of the foundation wall appeared to be keyed into each other at the S and N corners, suggesting that it had been built in a single phase. However, as the foundation of the NE wall on the SE side of the doorway appeared to be composed of larger stones and its stratigraphic relationship with the other walls could not be ascertained, it was given a different number (107). Archaeological excavation (see archaeological section of report below) where the SW wall foundation meets the gable wall (S corner) revealed that a large foundation stone had been keyed into the gable wall, while other smaller stones abutted.

##### Clay wall (100)

Sitting on foundation (104 &107) was a clay wall composed of a reddish-brown clay mixed with straw. There were frequent tiny fragments of coal but virtually no stone inclusions in this wall. The wall survived to greatest height just where the NE and SW walls joined the gable wall (c. 0.95m and 0.85m high, excluding foundation 104/107), but it was at these places that most erosion was occurring. During the survey we observed these portions of the wall slump slightly towards the inside of the structure in the heavy rain. This erosion also revealed the apparent homogeneous nature of the clay walls. In the S corner, clay wall (100) could be seen extending into a cavity in the gable wall suggesting the gable wall had been built around wall (100). The clay wall survived less well towards the NW of the NE and SW walls (c. 0.4m and 0.65m high respectively), but here the clay wall was more stabilised by the turf growing on top (103). The NW wall survived to similar height and was stabilised in the

same manner. In the SW wall there was a gap in the clay wall replaced by brick (102), a probable blocked window.

#### Brick repairs (101/109, (105), (108) & render (106)

On the outside of the SW and NE walls, single skin brick walls had been built against (100) to prevent it eroding. This repair on the NE wall (105) could be seen to lie on top of stone foundations (104) showing that the work had involved cutting back the outside of clay wall (100) to make room for the bricks rather than building a completely new skin and widening the whole wall. Split bricks noted at the junction between (105) and (104) showed how stone foundations (104) had been levelled off prior to the construction of the new brick skin. The NW side of the doorway had been reconstructed as a brick pillar during this work. The SE side had also been repaired (132), but this seems to have involved cutting back a recess in the clay wall, filling it in with bricks and packing the remaining gap with broken tile. The bricks have curved corners which suggests they may have originally surrounded a chimney (a common use for curved bricks). Their incorporation into the NW structure as a repair shows that the people who carried out repairs on this building used what ever materials they had to hand. SE of the doorway the outer brick skin had been built up and over the top of clay wall (100). Following the discovery of the recess where the SW wall joins the gable, the equivalent position on the NE wall was investigated. This revealed a brick repair (108) that had been carried out with very hard lime mortar hiding any evidence of a possible recess and the stratigraphic relationship between the two walls. Brick skin repair (109) on the SW wall appeared to be much the same as (105) and here too the bricks had been built right over the top of (100). The top bricks had been keyed into the recess in the gable wall. There had also been some fairly extensive brick repair to the outside of the W corner (*see illus 4, NW Facing - NW Structure & illus 5, SE Facing - Whole of W Ruin*) though most of this had collapsed. The bricks used for these outer repairs varied, from sandy pink bricks to bricks of a deeper shade of red with a higher clay content. None of the bricks used for these repairs appeared to be frogged and some of them were distinctly non-uniform, suggesting that they had been clamp fired.

All of the external faces of the walls of this structure showed signs of having been covered in render (106). This comprised a hard grey 2-5mm thick skin of cement which had been plastered on (104) & (105/9) followed by a thick wet dash with grey rounded stones. This render had fallen away in many places, particularly the SW wall.

Evidence for the original roofline of this structure and its internal render is outlined below in the description of the NW facing elevation of the gable wall.

### *The House*

#### The NW Gable

This was the only surviving gable of the house and it seemed to be eroding at a rapid pace in the heavy rain encountered during the survey. Not enough material survived to show the entire original roofline, but a small part of the gable on the SW side survived to full height

enabling the original angle of the SW facing roof to be gauged (*see illus 4, SE Facing – Gable & NW Facing – Gable*). Here, a portion of clay packing which had sealed the gap between the roof and the gable still survived (133). The maximum height of the gable was (3.5m) measured from the floor of the NW structure. The main part of the wall (110) was of random sandstone rubble construction bonded with reddish-brown clay; occasionally this had been built to level beds. Most of the sandstone comprised small angular, often flat, blocks which were crumbly and soft. Occasionally sub-rounded and sub-angular igneous/metamorphic field boulders had been incorporated into the wall, including pure quartzite stones. Of particular note were 8 large whinstone boulders built high up into the gable wall (*see photo 19thJuly2010/02NorthGableNorth/7190012.jpg*). Cornerstones were made of large squared blocks of sandstone, many of which showed rough tooling marks (*see photo 22July2010/16NorthGableEdge/P7220170*). This sandstone had a similar pinkish hue to the small stones in the main body of the wall; however, the cornerstones appeared to be less weathered suggesting the stone was somewhat harder. Rough cement pointing had taken place on the external face of the gable, though much of this (particularly on the SW end) had fallen away exposing deep voids where the clay bonding had eroded out.

#### NW Facing Elevation – Details

High up on the NE side of the gable was the remains of a small square window (134), diagonally bisected by the erosion of the gable. On this side of the gable two sides of the wooden widow frame were visible. A single flat wooden plank (135) seemed to be blocking part of this aperture, suggesting that the window had been nailed shut from the inside, perhaps prior to bricking up (*see SE gable side, below (111)*). On the SW side of the window was a patch of ladder pinning (136) in the gable wall. As ladder pinning is not seen anywhere else in the gable, this is perhaps a sign that the window had been inserted into the gable, rather than it being an original feature.

The central part of this elevation showed how badly the water had been eroding the clay bonding of the gable though the chimney. Voids showing through to the chimney space could be seen in several places and a large crack had formed vertically. This crack had been repaired with very hard grey sandy cement, showing that water damage via the chimney had been a problem when the building was occupied. NE of the crack was a wide diagonal patch of cement and brick repair to the face of the gable (137). This may have been a repair to another crack associated with the chimney, but its angle suggests it is more likely to have been associated with where the roof of the NW structure had joined the gable. Interestingly, were this the case it would show that the roof of the NW structure was asymmetrical, being steeper on the NE side than the SW (for evidence of SW roof angle *see below*).

The part of this elevation lying between the two walls of the NW structure showed evidence of a lime render having been applied to the stonework (138). This render, a yellow-beige mortar mixed with a coarse igneous grit (up to 2mm dia) had survived best closest to the SW wall of the NW structure. Here the render could be seen entirely covering some of the stonework. Elsewhere, perhaps because of erosion, the render looked like nothing more than pointing in between the gable wall stones. The render was much less evident at the NE side (*see elevation*), almost certainly because of the rapid erosion taking place around the cracks below the chimney. The probable former roofline of the NW structure could be made out by following the upper limit of the yellow-beige render diagonally from about 50cm below

second highest surviving part of the gable down to the SW wall of the NW structure. This diagonal corresponded roughly with the original angle of the roof of the main house. From all this evidence we can probably infer that the portion of the gable wall enclosed by the NW structure was either totally rendered or pointed heavily with the yellow-beige gritty lime mortar. That more render survives on the SW side of the NW structure is a sign that the roof took longer to collapse on this side.

### SE Facing Elevation – Details

The face of the NE side of this elevation showed patchy evidence of lime pointing with a gritty mortar (139) much the same as that described above. This pointing continued to the SW but here was overlain with a soft white loose plaster (140), surviving just over 1m off the floor. This plaster was very fragile and had in some places separated from the wall; it fell away when touched. Covering this plaster was a modern cement skirting running around the foot of the wall (141). Below this was the thick concrete floor, tilting ever so slightly to the NE.

The inner wall of the chimney space (that facing the inside of the building) had collapsed inwards about 1.80m off the floor level exposing the inside of the chimney. Below this was a modern fireplace (114) and brick blocking (112) of the original fireplace (*see photo 19July2010/04NorthGableSouth/P7190060.jpg*). Brick blocking (112) was composed of a variety of bricks, some clamp fired and some machine made with holes. On the SW side the blocking extended 25-30cm beyond the modern fireplace and ended abruptly in a near vertical straight line. This line presumably marked the SW side of the original fireplace. Above the modern fireplace, the brick blocking filled a triangular void in the wall (tapering up to the collapsed chimney), which seems to have been part of the original chimney space. The SW side of the blocked triangular void is very well preserved with sandstone blocks in the wall having been cut diagonally to fit. The NE side is much poorly preserved due to later alterations when the brick blocking (112) was keyed into the wall. The cut stones suggest this space may have once been open to the room, though a smoke hood would have been needed to prevent smoke from entering the room.

On the NE end of this elevation, near the apex, is the other side of the small window (134) in the gable. Here the small window has been blocked from the inside with red un-frogged bricks (111).

Three dooks were visible in this elevation in a line above the fireplace sticking out of blocking (112). These seem to correspond with a two dooks on the same level sticking out of the stonework to the SW. Both of these have corresponding dooks vertically above. On a slightly different alignment to the others is a pair of dooks nearby situated lower down the wall (see elevation). While most of the dooks are clean, these ones show evidence of having been covered by plaster at some stage.

At the SW end of the elevation is a roughly circular gap in the plaster where a patch of small very flat sandstone blocks can be seen in the wall, apparently lime mortared together with very narrow gaps between the stones (142). Stylistically this stonework is very different from that of the rest of the gable on this side, so it may be blocking for a hole in the gable wall.

SW of this blocking the stonework seemed to be different from that of the main part of the gable wall, being composed of more regularly laid angular pieces of sandstone with virtually no igneous stones (143). Stylistically this stonework is much more like nearby wall (121) and so it is possible that this end of the gable was re-modelled, perhaps during the construction of the SW wall (121). Such a change in the stonework however was not noted on the NW side of the gable.

### The SW wall

Comparison with the roof line of the gable showed that most this wall survived to full height. The various brick repairs to the top of the wall (124 & 125) and the clay packing that would have filled the gap between the top of the wall (144) were further evidence that the SW wall survived largely intact. In the centre of the wall was a door with two windows either side, but only one side of the SE window survived and beyond this to the SE the wall had collapsed (*see illustration 5, SE Facing – Whole of W Ruin*).

The NW end of the wall comprised random angular hard purplish-red sandstone rubble, built roughly to level beds and bonded with clay (121). By contrast the wall SE of the doorway was much better built using red crumbly sandstone of more uniform thickness and size, built to level beds (120) and also bonded with clay. As a consequence of its better construction, wall (120) had far smaller spaces in between the stones than (121).

The reveals of the doorway were roughly similar in both walls, comprising large blocks of pink to pinkish-purple sandstone much the same as the cornerstones in the gable wall. A small exception was the upper stones on the NW side (121) which were a continuation of the small stones seen in the main body of that wall. Though the doorway was carefully analysed no traces of the timber porch that had been noted by Myles and Walker in 1999 could be found.

The surviving window was clearly a later insertion and had replaced an earlier narrow one. Evidence of this was the brickwork (122) on its NW side built against the ragged line of (121). This showed that the original window aperture had been widened to the NW and neaten off in brick. By contrast the SE side of the window opening was original, as seen by the sandstone window reveals. These were fairly small and less uniform compared to the reveals on the door and the reveals in the SE window. As already mentioned above, only the NW side of the SE window survived. This showed that its reveals had been made from large sandstone blocks similar in style to the door reveals and the cornerstones in the gable wall, though slightly smaller. The outside surfaces of both the windows had been cemented.

On the outside of the SW wall could be seen quite extensive evidence of cement pointing, liberally applied (145). The surface of the cement and some of the wall stones also showed traces of white paint or lime wash.

The inside face of the NW part of the wall (that belonging to the NW room) was partly covered in the same soft lime plaster noted on the inside of the gable wall (140). Below this was the cement skirting (141) and concrete floor (128). By contrast the inside face of the SW part of this wall (that belonging to the SE room) showed little evidence of plaster, though the stonework had been pointed a little with lime mortar. Three dooks were noted about half way

down this wall, one of them partly cut into the reveal of the SE window. The foot of the wall had been covered in the same cement skirting found in the other room though here there were traces of a light eggshell blue paint. The floor in this room was the same thick concrete present in the other half of the building.

About 20cm out from the SW wall on the outside of the building was a line of well buried purplish red highly fired bricks set on end (131). Opposite the doorway there was a corresponding gap in the bricks and in between a large threshold stone (147). The bricks may have been the lining for a path created after the floor in the house was raised. Judging from the previous uses of this space in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (*see illus 12*) it is also possible that they marked out a narrow plant bed next to the SW wall.

### The NE Wall

Most of this wall had collapsed to ground level, except for a small section in the middle (115, 116 & 117) and also where it joined the gable wall at the N corner (113).

Only the inside face of the small stub of the wall at the N corner (113) survived, the outer face having collapsed. The inner face was composed largely of flat pink angular blocks of crumbly red sandstone bonded together with clay. A few of the stones were roughly keyed into the gable wall but some simply abutted. It was possible to make out that some of the stones formed the NW inner edge of a window splay. Two of these stones, a block of sandstone and a large rectangular block of whinstone, represented window reveals.

Immediately to the SE of this window edge the wall had collapse down to foundation level and was obscured by vegetation. Two metres further on however, the wall re-appeared. This section of the wall was denoted as (115), and rose up gently to the SE to where it survived to 1m in height. Here a vertical edge marked a change in the stonework from (115) to (116). Stonework (115) was composed of sub-angular blocks of sandstone, some of it crumbly pink sandstone, some much lighter in hue and harder. Occasional whinstone cobbles were also noted at foundation level. The wall had been constructed to roughly level beds but very little pointing had taken place on the external face where deep voids could be seen where the clay bonding had eroded out.

Stonework (116) was different from (115) being constructed from larger, much harder and slightly lighter blocks of pink sandstone. A single stone from this group had been keyed into stonework (115) (*see illus 5, NE Facing – Whole of W Ruin*). The stones (angular to sub-angular) had been built to roughly level beds and appeared to have been bonded entirely with a whitish gritty lime mortar. Fragments of red pan tile had been incorporated into the mortar to keep the beds roughly level. The gaps between the stones had also been later re-pointed in a greyer gritty mortar. Stonework (116) extended vertically above the edge of (115) to 1.6m above the ground where there was evidence of some ladder pinning. The NW face of (116) was flat and the mortar had left an impression of where it had been pressed against upper reaches of (115) before it had collapsed. This is important as it shows that (115) ends at a 90 degree turn suggesting that the area to the SE of (115) now occupied by (116) may have once been a doorway, the position of which conforms to the extant door on the SW wall.

In a later phase, this doorway was deliberately blocked by (116). Observation of the inner face of (116) revealed that it had been constructed to incorporate a window. This had subsequently been blocked with bricks on the inside (118) (see photo 19July2010/08EastWall/P7190102.jpg). Interestingly the builders chose not to block the outer face of the window with bricks but instead used stonework (117) in the same manner as (116). The outer edge of the window splay and transition from (117) to (116) is marked by a change in the alignment of the beds (see photo 19July2010/08EastWall/P7190097.jpg). The inner edge of the window splay can be seen by brick blocking (118) which has survived in its entirety. SE of blocking (118) the NE wall had collapsed down to ground level and there is almost no trace of it on the ground save a clay stain. However the SE face of this collapsed wall reveals how the builders blocked the window. Firstly they constructed the outer stone skin (117), then slowly constructed a single skin brick wall (118) on the inside edge of the window, filling the gap between the two with randomly placed bricks and mortar as they went (see photo 19July2010/08EastWall/7190103.jpg). The whole part of the NE wall incorporating 115, 116, 117 and 118 was leaning outwards slightly to the NE.

#### Internal brick wall (119) and closets

This single skin brick wall ran NE-SW, effectively dividing the house into two main rooms. On the SW side of the house, adjacent to the main entrance on either side were two large doorways which would have created a small lobby space. A small brick wall (126) had been built out from (abutting) the SW wall (121) against the entrance to form one side of the doorway into the NW room from the lobby. On the opposite side there was no such brick wall for the doorway into the SE room, perhaps suggesting that there had been a wood and plaster wall on this side. In the centre of the house Wall (119) had been built to incorporate three closets, one for the NW room, one for the SE room and one in the lobby. The NE end of (119) had been keyed into (118) in the centre of the blocked window of the NE window. The construction of (119) used the same bricks as (118), this being a variety consisting of frogged and un-frogged (clamp type) bricks of two sizes, one 9.5 x 4.5 x 3.5 inches (24 x 11.4 x 8.8cm), the other 9 x 4.5 x 3 inches (23 x 11.4 x 7.6cm). Some of the frogged bricks were marked 'Pitfour' and 'Blairadam'. The colour of the bricks varied from light pink to deep brick red and some were sandy whilst others were more clayey and crumbly. The bricks had been mortared with a white lime mortar in stretcher bond with the occasional half brick included. In various places there were small holes in the wall where the mortar and softer bricks had worn away through wind and rain. Overall, the layers of brick and the top of this wall were sloping very slightly down to the NE. The planking in the SE closet (see interpretation below) showed that (119) survived to practically full height. Around the doorways, softwood blocks (two per side) the width and thickness of bricks had been incorporated into the wall. The surviving doorframes had been nailed to these blocks to secure them to the brick wall. The lintels above the closet doorways holding up the brickwork were composed of flat 2 x 4 inch planks with gaps filled with tile packing.

Traces of white plaster (148) could be seen on the wall in both the rooms, the lobby and inside the closets in the lobby and NW room (see photos 19July2010/07BrickWallNorth/P7190085.jpg, 19July2010/09BrickWallSouth/P7190106.jpg, 19July2010/10Lobby/P7190117.jpg). The closet in the SE room was panelled in pine boarding (149) that showed signs of having been once painted light brown. Most of the

boards still survived to full height which was seemingly higher than brick wall (119) – a sign that this closet may have provided loft access (*see photo 22July2010/18BrickWardrobe/P7220181.jpg*).

### 3.2 Fixtures and Fittings

#### Closets

The protected environments of the closets had preserved the smooth surface of the plaster and traces of paint. Both the lobby closet and that of the NW room seem to have been painted twice: firstly in a pinkish red brick or red ochre, then a light blue eggshell colour (*see photo 19July2010/10Lobby/P7190117.jpg*). The interior of the lobby closet comprised four upright strips of wood in the corners plastered in place. Four equally spaced horizontal pieces of wood had been nailed to one of the strips. These corresponded to nails sticking out of the other three strips, a sign that the closet once contained shelving. In support of this interpretation there was also a horizontal mark on the plaster and a great deal of collapsed wood on the floor, probably the shelves. The closet in the NW room had a similar interior to that of the lobby closet and also evidence of four shelves. In the SE closet, nailed onto the upper part of this panelling around its circumference was wooden plank fitted with coat hooks (*see photo 22July2010/18BrickWardrobe/P7220182.jpg*). Nailed to either side of the architrave uprights for the lobby doorway were two short planks each with notches towards the bottom. These are probably the remains of a shelf which would have been above the closet door – the notches being where the diagonal supports fitted (*see photo 22July2010/17Lobby/P7220174.jpg*).

#### Fireplace (114)

The modern fire surround was made of 3 large machine cut blocks of sandstone that had been coated in yellow-orange and black paint. The back of the fireplace had been lined in large thin firebricks (24cm x 11cm x 4cm) set on edge (*see photo 19July2010/04NorthGableSouth/P7190069.jpg*). These had been fitted around a large sandstone block, presumably part of the gable wall, which also lined the back of the fireplace. The face of this sandstone block had been scorched and was coated in fire cement, presumably to stop it eroding. No details of a grate could be seen because of the mound of eroded clay built up at the base of the chimney.

#### Window (123)

The surviving NW window is of double width and double hung sash and case design (*see photos 19July2010/05WestWallNorthInside/P7190072.jpg & 19July2010/06WestWallNorthOutside/P190081.jpg*). There are four lights but the glass no longer remains. Most of the window frame survives, painted white, though the lintel has fallen off. The window is fitted with brass hoops for opening and brass snibs for locking, the design of both dating to the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Traces of green paint can be seen in places underlying the white paint. At the foot of the window recess on the inside of the building half of the wooden (softwood) window cill still survived.



## Doors

The closet doors did not survive, however there were still two stiles from the doors of the NW closet and the lobby closet attached to the doorframes by hinges. These showed that the door for the NW closet opened out to the NE while the lobby closet door opened out to the SE. The mortise and hinge marks on the jambs for the SE closet door frame show that this door opened to the NE. Interestingly the hinge marks on the door jambs of the lobby closet showed that the door here had been reversed at some point. All the closet door frames were essentially of same design having simple jambs and lintels with the usual mitred wooden architraves. The mortise holes for the presumed latch bolts of the closet doors were not metal lined. Around the mortise hole for the latch bolt on the SE closet doorframe carpenters scoring marks could be seen (*see photo 22July2010/18BrickWardrobe/P7220183.jpg*). Brown-red paint still adhered to the doorframes of the lobby closet and the NW closet.

In the NW room was the fallen door (130) (and NE part of the doorframe) for the doorway from the lobby. This was a large and well made softwood door built with three rails and six planks with beaded edges showing in-between each plank (*see photo 19July2010/07BrickWallNorth /P7190089.jpg*). No traces of paint were seen but this door was not lifted to check the other side. The SW part of the doorframe survived in situ against brick wall (126) and had been painted in a reddish-brown paint (*see photo 19July2010/07BrickWallNorth/P7190090.jpg*). An iron-lined slot in the architrave and jamb would have been for the latch bolt of the door, showing that the door would have swung inwards towards the NE into the NW room.

The door into the SE room did not survive, though the two jambs of the doorframe were still visible. These were virtually identical to those of the doorway into the NW room. The NE jamb was still in situ against wall (119) and the hinge marks showed that the door in this room would have opened inwards towards the NE. The jamb and architrave for the SW side of the doorway had fallen into the lobby and was now resting against wall (126) (*see photo 19July2010/10Lobby/P7190118.jpg*). Its position suggested that both doorways into the rooms had been opposite one another and that the SE door would have been of the same size as the NW door. An iron-lined slot cut into the architrave and jamb marks where a latch bolt on the SE door would have fitted. A decorated copper alloy (probably brass) strip attached to one side of the iron slot with a ramp at one end would have eased the passage of the latch bolt into the slot. As mentioned above, there was no brick wall on the SW side of the jamb abutting the outside wall (unlike that next to the NW doorway (126)). Such a wall must have originally existed but has presumably collapsed and the debris been removed. Alternatively such a wall may have been made of wood and plaster only.

In the main doorway facing the road was a pair of double doors (129), each with three horizontal rails and five inner planks between the upright stiles (*see photo 19July2010/12WestWallSouthOutside/P7190129.jpg*). On the tops of the doors were upper rails. The NW door and door jamb had fallen in to the SE, but the SE door and jamb were still in situ. Attached to the top on the inside of the SE door was a large bolt which would have fitted into the doorway lintel (though this no longer survives) to secure this door. There would have also been a bolt at the bottom of this door securing it to a hole in the threshold, though this was obscured by vegetation. A loop half way up on the back of the door showed where the doors could be bolted together from the inside. The door knob on the NW door was of simple early 20<sup>th</sup> century design and was attached to a latch bolt which would have

fitted into the metal box screwed onto the back of the SE door. The inside faces of the doors were painted with the same reddish-brown paint seen elsewhere inside the building. The outside of the doors had been painted with light greyish sea green paint and then over-painted with white paint - much the same as the window.

All the hinges, screws and nails found on the surviving carpentry in the house appeared to be mass manufactured and date to the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### **3.3 Phasing**

Two strands of evidence point to the NW structure as being earlier than the other remains. Firstly this structure lies on a different orientation from the main part of the house. As the structures' two side walls (the SW and the NE) are completely parallel, it is difficult to argue that such a deviation is down to the structure being a badly built outhouse. Also, the walls of an outhouse built onto the gable would be expected to end in line with the sides of the house. Instead the SW wall of the NW structure joins the gable just short of the SW side of the house.

The second strand of evidence can be seen where clay wall (100) meets (110). Here (100) continues into a recess in the gable wall suggesting that the stonework of the gable (110) was built around the clay wall. Had things been built the other way round and the clay building been tacked onto the gable, it is very unlikely that the such a wide recess would have been made in a stone-built gable wall. Interestingly a similar recess probably also exists where the NE wall meets the gable, but here it is obscured by brick and mortar repair (108). However, (108) is just the sort of repair one would expect to carry out on such a recess where, either due to rodent action, the different rate of expansion of the walls or a leaky roof, the softer clay wall (100) no doubt frequently eroded out of the gable, leaving a gap that needed to be filled. On the SW wall this seems to have been less of a problem as the white mortar render here seems to be preventing (100) eroding out of the recess. Trench C provided additional evidence to support this phasing. Excavation on the inside of the S corner of the NW structure revealed one of the stones in foundation wall (104) was keyed into the gable wall. This can only really be explained if the gable wall was built around wall (104).

The consequence of this phasing is that NW structure must have been one end of an early structure, possibly a small house whose SE end was destroyed when the stone house was built.

The various brick repairs made to the walls of the NW structure may be the result of either many repairs or a single phase of intensive repair work. However, the similarity of the bricks and construction techniques suggests that repairs (105, 109, 101) and the blocking of the window (102) may have all occurred at the same time. The use of brick and mortar instead of stone and clay for repairs, suggests that the repairs took place when bricks were more common and lime mortar had superseded clay as a bonding material. This is most likely to have been in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, when mortar had become cheaper and second hand clamp bricks (probably originally dating to the early to mid 19<sup>th</sup> century) had become available. Brick repair (108) is probably the latest repair in this part of the ruin owing to the hard

modern mortar-like quality of the cement. As explained above, this may be a repair to the recess in the gable wall for (100). The need to repair such a hole may be a sign that the roof was leaking badly by this stage and had led to heavy erosion of (100) out of the recess. The render seems to be the last alteration to the existing remains of this structure and would have been applied in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The building of the main house almost certainly took place as a single event owing to the need for clay bonded walls to be protected by a roof as soon as possible. However the different types of construction used for the walls suggest that repairs and alterations took place over time. The earliest surviving part of the house is probably the thick gable wall. Comparison of this gable with the SE gable shown on an early photograph suggests that both walls incorporated similar large field boulders high up and occasional whinstone boulders. This may be a sign that these two end walls were both built at the same time, however, heavy pointing on the SE gable means that further comparison is difficult. The window in the gable may possibly be original but an area of stonework incorporating ladder pinning on the SW side of the window on the NW facing elevation may show that it was a later insertion.

The small wall stub of the NW end of the NE wall (113) seems to be of similar construction (and used similar stones) to the gable wall. This along with the finding that some of the stones were keyed into the wall shows that this part of the NE wall was probably original. Another possible original part of this wall is (115) which was clay bonded and constructed from similar crumbly red sandstone and had occasional whinstone blocks like the gable.

The construction of the SW wall seems very different from the gable wall, though they are both clay bonded. The most striking differences are the lack of whinstone in the SW wall, the use of much more angular (probably quarried) pieces of sandstone and the construction of its stonework to near level beds. The differences between the two walls may possibly be a sign of different phases of construction; the gable being earlier as it relied on more locally sourced materials such as field boulders and the SW wall possibly being later when a more regular supply of sandstone had been sourced. There was some evidence for this order of events at the W corner of the house where it was noted that the slightly larger and flatter blocks of (121) seem to continue over into the gable (143). This may suggest that wall (121) is a later wall inserted into the gable requiring a partial rebuild (143) of this wall. Possibly (121) was a replacement for an earlier SW wall which may have had stonework much more like the gable. As noted in the description section above, the stonework SE of the doorway (120) is different from that to the NW (121) being much better built to level beds. This stonework was executed by a very competent builder and must have been constructed by a different person to (121), probably at a different time. However the lack of stratigraphic information makes it difficult to know whether (120) was built before or after (121). As with (121) it is possible that (120) was a replacement for a SW wall that had stonework much more like the gable.

The rest of the alterations to the house were probably much later, as they were all carried out using lime mortar bonding instead of clay. Firstly the central doorway in the NE wall was blocked with stonework (116) which incorporated a new window. Secondly, and probably soon after (judging by the similarity of the stonework) this was blocked with stonework (117) and brickwork (118) on the inside. The central brick wall (and closets) dividing the house in two seems to date to this phase as the brickwork (119) is keyed into (118). Wall (126) is essentially part of wall (119) forming the opposite side of the doorway into the NW room.

Comparison of the current floor level with the ground level at the NE side of the W Ruin suggests that the floor was also raised during this phase (see original form and subsequent uses, below). The height of (119), the closet doorways and the doorways into the NW and SE rooms all seem to have been built for this raised floor level. However, analysis of the base of wall (119) suggests that the current concrete floor (127/8) was poured over (119), rather than (119) having been built on top of the concrete. The only suitable explanation for this is that there must have been a raised floor (possibly wooden) which was constructed at the same time as (119) that was later replaced by the concrete. This means that the poured concrete floor (and concrete skirting round the foot of the internal faces of the walls) was the last major alteration to the house.

The later fireplace (114) seems to be at the correct height for the new raised wooden/concrete floors suggesting it was added after the new floors were laid. The level of the 20<sup>th</sup> century front doors suggests they were added after new floors were laid, probably at the same time as the double sash and case window.

### **3.4 Interpretation**

#### **The NW Structure**

The phasing shows that this structure is the earlier of the two buildings examined during the fieldwork. Though the structure looks square, the original form of this building was probably rectangular. We can assume this because the orientation of the gable suggests the later house was not built on a SE foundation wall for this structure. Instead it is clear that the SE portion of this building was destroyed by the construction of the later house. It is impossible to be sure of the original length of the building, but if the current doorway location is original and was central, the building would have been rather small, just 5m long. Such a small building (3.8 x 5m) may have been an outhouse rather than a dwelling house, though it is not impossible to imagine a family residing in a space this size. In this respect it is important to note that there was originally a window in the SW wall, suggesting that the building may have functioned as something more than a simple store. The narrow doorway (if original) suggests it was probably not used as a cattle byre but possibly the building was used for other agricultural purposes such as storing hay or grain.

The excavation did not provide any secure dating evidence for this structure but bearing in mind it is earlier than the house, we may be looking at one of the original buildings built when the schoolhouse was first constructed possibly in the 1760s. The main feature linking the schoolhouse to this structure is that the walls are both constructed similarly i.e. with clay-bonded field stone foundations below solid Puddled clay and straw walls. By contrast in the main part of the W Ruin and the N Ruin the walls were made solely of clay bonded quarried stone and field boulders. This link between the NW structure and the schoolhouse may suggest that they were built at a similar time, the small structure perhaps being built as an outhouse for the school. The Puddled clay used in the NW Ruin may well have come from the same place as that used in the schoolhouse, namely a large clay pit now filled with water, located to the north within the current property boundary.

One of the most interesting questions regarding the NW structure is why the builders of the later house decided to incorporate the rather simple structure rather than demolishing it and building a new outhouse. In answer, the most obvious reason seems to be that the NW structure was being used when the stone house was built. This raises an intriguing possibility that maybe the NW structure was being lived in when this work was taking place – why else would it be so important to retain it? In this light we could perhaps see the NW building as originally being a small dwelling house that was extended by the building of a new stone house to the SE.

There is little surviving evidence for the roof of this structure, however, the line of the SW side of it could just be made out in the NW facing gable section (*see illus 4, NW Facing - Gable*). Here a diagonal line can be drawn where there is surviving render on the gable wall which marks the inside of the NW structure. This line shows that the roof rose at roughly the same angle as that of the main house albeit a little steeper. This is backed up by the 19<sup>th</sup> century photo of the W Ruin (*see illus 12*) which shows a small portion of the NW structure. From this photo we can also see that the structure was thatched, probably with reed from the Tay. As very little of this structure remains it is difficult to know if the end wall was a gable or whether the roof was hipped. The 19<sup>th</sup> century photo shows both that both types of roof were used on the surrounding buildings in Cottown. It is possible that the roof of the structure was built with trusses sitting on wall plates however; a roof supported on simple cruck framing would have given more vertical space, important for a building this small. This interpretation is also considered likely because the RCAHMS recorded a cruck in the North Ruin in the 1970s, showing that cruck framed construction methods were being employed at Cottown. Evidence from the excavation suggests that the room might have been supported by a line of central posts (see excavation section below).

## The House

It is rather difficult to be sure about the date of the stone house but as it overlies the NW structure we know it is later. The possibility that the NW structure is of 18<sup>th</sup> century date means that the larger stone house may have been an early 19<sup>th</sup> century build. The mortar bonded sections of the NE wall are later and would have been built when lime mortar was much more easily available – its cheap price outweighing the benefits of using locally sourced clay for bonding. We can possibly date this part of the NE wall to the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The brick dividing wall is also mortar bonded and by phasing probably dates to the same period.

Most of the materials for the gable wall of this house seem to have been sourced locally. The small flattish crumbly red sandstone used for much of the gable can be found in rough outcrops and isolated blocks amongst the red silty natural. This was noted where the deep foundations for a new house had been excavated a little up the road from the Schoolhouse towards Hawkstone. We can probably assume that the builders of this house excavated this stone from small pits probably to the north of Cottown where the ground is higher and the stone less deeply buried. Along with this red stone many sub-rounded field boulders (many igneous/metamorphic) from the land surrounding Cottown had also been incorporated into the wall. The way in which large heavy field boulders were incorporated high up in the gable wall suggests the builders used whatever stone they could lay their hands on as the house was being built. There seems to have been no formal planning or sorting of the stones as they

arrived on site, suggesting the gable was constructed in a fairly haphazard manner probably by local unskilled labourers. The large red sandstone cornerstones were probably brought in from further afield as the stone is of higher quality being harder and having few flaws, meaning it could be cut into large blocks. Pinpointing the source of this stone is beyond the scope of this project, but perhaps there are nearby outcrops of high quality old red sandstone.

The SW wall is much better built than the gable and as discussed above, is possibly later. The building of wall (121) to roughly level beds and the use of larger pieces of sandstone than the gable shows that this wall was built by more skilled builders who had access to a more consistent source of stone. Wall (120) seems to have been built by a builder of even greater skill as the stones are much more carefully chosen and well placed. The difference in the stonework between the SW wall and the gable may be a sign that the existing SW wall may have replaced an earlier wall, but the high quality of stonework used in this part of the building is what one would expect for a front wall on view to the main road. It seems that the owners of the house thought it worthwhile employing a very skilled builder (almost certainly brought in from elsewhere) to repair / build the SE part of this I (120). Interestingly cornerstones and door reveals seem to be sourced from the same place as those of the gable. Though this may be a sign that the SW wall is original, if the builders had re-built this wall they would have certainly re-used these high quality blocks of stone.

Later alterations to the house were carried out in lime mortar by builders competent in stonework (see the good quality of 116 and 117), however the bricks used for the blocking of the NE window and dividing wall (119) show that they used whatever materials they had to hand. In brick wall (119) a variety of brick types have been used including clamp bricks and frogged bricks. Such a variety of bricks shows that the later alterations were essentially carried out at fairly low cost using re-used materials probably from nearby demolished buildings. This also seems to be the case for the brick repairs to the NW structure which may have been done at the same time. As well as incorporating re-used materials, wall (119) was constructed using techniques that would definitely be frowned on today. The first of these is the incorporation of wooden blocks into the brick wall to which door frames were secured. One would think this method of construction would invite dry rot, but in fact most of the blocks still appeared to be solid. The other was the use of 2 x 4 (inches) planks for the lintels above the closet doorways. This seems very inappropriate for holding up a brick wall, though they showed no signs of failing.

### Original form and subsequent uses

Comparison of the ground level next to the Schoolhouse with the level of the concrete floor in the house suggests that the floor of the house was raised considerably at some point, seemingly by as much as 45cm. This was probably carried out because the road running along the SW side of the cottage was built up which would have made the interior of the house prone to flooding. To see just how much the floor was raised one only has to look at the differences between the 19<sup>th</sup> century photo of the SW wall of the cottage and the one taken during our survey (*see illus 12 and photo 19July2010 /12WestWallSouthOutside/ P7190129.jpg* . During our survey when we stood outside the NW window the foot of the cill started at about knee height, but on the 19<sup>th</sup> century photo the cill starts at the woman's waist. The raising of the floor level so much means that the original floor deposits may still lie undisturbed below the concrete. As the original house had a much lower floor (probably

of beaten earth) it also seems likely that the original ceiling was lower than it was in subsequent phases. In fact the small window in gable wall seems only to make sense if there was enough height in the attic space to make it useable. Exactly how the attic floor was supported is a matter of debate, as we don't know if the roof of the house was constructed from simple trusses resting on the wall plates or, as found in the N Ruin some sort of cruck framed design. However, given the much wider span of this building than the N Ruin and its relatively shallow angle of roof pitch, the former seems more likely than the latter. In this early phase we can perhaps imagine the roof joists spanning the width of the wall plates but given the wide span maybe being supported on various internal walls. As can be seen in the 19<sup>th</sup> century photo the roof would have originally been thatched with Tay reed.

The layout of the house before it was divided by the brick wall (119) remains a mystery. All we can confidently say is that it had a fireplace at each end (as seen in the 19<sup>th</sup> century photo) and a back door roughly opposite the front door (now blocked by 116) probably with windows either side mirroring the front I. In this phase the interior may have been open plan but it seems more likely that it was partitioned in some way probably into a SE room and a NW room. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century photo it is interesting to see that the fireplace in the NW room has a well cemented chimneypot above the brick chimney while that of the SE room does not. This may be a sign that the fire in the NW room was used more frequently and thus the room was more often in use possibly for cooking. The form of the original fireplace is hard to ascertain from the survey mainly due to the raising of the floor level and the later insertion of a more modern fireplace. If one imagines taking away the brick blocking for the later fireplace we are left with a wide rectangular recess in the wall leading abruptly to a tapering chimney space open at the front. It is difficult to imagine any arrangement fitting here other than some kind of wooden smoke hood or hanging lum. However, we should be cautious about interpreting the older fireplace as the stonework in the gable may have been later remodelled.

Fixed to the stone walls in both the NW and SE rooms were dooks, evidence of wooden framing either to hold lath or plaster walls or wooden panelling in order to neaten the look of the interior. Those of the NW room belonged to two phases, an early phase shown by two dooks on at a different height (lower) to the others and covered in plaster, and a later phase as shown by two pairs of dooks to the SW of the fireplace and three dooks just above the top of the modern fire surround, built into the brick blocking. This shows that we may have at least three major phases of interior re-decoration in this room: firstly a frame was built supported by the first dooks, this was then removed and the gable wall covered directly in plaster, finally after the modern fireplace was built another frame was built using the new dooks.

Prior to the building of brick wall (119) the most interesting alteration to the building was the blocking up the doorway in the NE wall and its conversion into a window. This seems very strange as the window would have provided very little light as it looked out straight on to the gable wall of the Schoolhouse barely 3m away. However, this alteration does show that a central division in the house may not have been present in this phase. It also might suggest that a new door had been made to the SE or that no direct access was required to the back of the house at all at this time.

Probably due to its shortcomings this window was soon sacrificed for the creation of the new brick partition (119) incorporating three closets. This is the first real indication that the house was divided formally into a NW room and a SE room. There are two possible interpretations

for this division: firstly, the house may have been divided into two single room dwellings for occupation by different people (as happened at Newlands Cottages less than 2km away from Cottown for farm labourers (Bowler, 2004)). Secondly, the house may have been under single occupancy with the two rooms serving different functions. A third possibility is that the house was used in both ways during its lifetime. In support of the first interpretation, the large doors opposite each other on either side of the lobby seem much more fitting for a house divided into two units for different occupiers. In support of the single occupancy hypothesis, it is important to point out that the closets in the NW and SE rooms appear to have latterly served different purposes. That of the SE room was used for hanging coats, a sign that this may have been a bedroom, while the NE room closet once held shelves which would have been much more suitable in a kitchen. The lobby area created by the brick partition almost certainly served as an entrance hall and this space could have been shared by two different occupiers. The lobby closet contained shelving which probably served as storage for boots and tools which needed to be kept by the front door.

The panelling surviving in the SE closet gives away important clues as to the roof design in this phase. Much of the panelling here survives to full height (as seen by the sawn off ends of the planks) which is slightly higher than the surrounding brick wall. The most obvious explanation for this is that the closet panelling served as a shaft for loft access. This would mean the top of the panelling marks the original level of the upper faces of the joists (and therefore the floor level of the attic) in this phase. By measuring the distance from the top of the brick wall to the top of the panelling we should be able to gauge the original thickness of the roof joists in this phase. This comes out at 18cm, which corresponds roughly to known joist thicknesses of 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings. The width between the original roof trusses in this phase is also easy to calculate as it is probably simply the width of the loft access shaft, i.e. c. 52cm. It seems very likely that when the floor was raised for (119), the ceiling was also raised to compensate. This would have required alterations to the tie beams of the roof or maybe even replacement of the roof. Comparison of the assumed level for the joists with the height of the SW wall shows that the joists could not have rested on the wall plates in this phase, but instead must have been tie beams positioned further up the rafters, the shorter gap requiring no support from internal walls. This would not have left much room in the attic for a workable space which may explain why the window in the gable was blocked.

As a ruin, the building is in a much more poor state of repair than the N Ruin. This is mainly down to subsidence of the ground to the NE. This can be seen most clearly in the NE wall where it leans outwards, no doubt why so little of this wall remains. In fact the only reason why the middle section of this wall survives is because the builders used lime mortar and tied it to the central brick wall (119) running across the building. The tilt to the NE can also be seen in wall (119) and the entire concrete floor; in effect the whole structure is sinking very slowly to the NE. One of the reasons for the subsidence may be the large rubble drain found in the excavation right next to the NE wall (see Trench A in excavation section below).



## **4 The Excavation**

### **4.1 Description of Archaeology**

#### **Trench A**

At the NE side of the NW end of the trench, below a very thin deposit of vegetation and topsoil (200) was a couple of rectangular concrete slabs (201) and (202) lying next to each other. Only a small corner of concrete slab (202) was uncovered in the trench but the full width of (201) was revealed (c 80cm). Using a narrow slot excavated with a mattock the full length of (201) was investigated to the NW. The slab was found to be roughly 3.9m long without any breaks. The SE end of (201) appeared to have been cut by the 'french drain' [209] and broken fragments of concrete above (203) may suggest it originally extended along to where it was parallel to the NW wall of the Schoolhouse.

To the SW of the NW end of the trench and also running under (201) and (202) was (203), an area of rubble and clayey silt that was found to be the filling for a NW-SE rubble drain or soakaway. A sondage excavated into this deposit revealed a shallow cut for the feature [212] sloping gently down towards the W Ruin followed by a vertical cut [216], for the main part of the drain. This drain/soakaway was not fully excavated because it was positioned right next to the NE wall of the W Ruin and we were worried about the stability of this wall. Also, the drain still appeared to be working (it contained water) so cutting into it might have disrupted local drainage around the W Ruin. Deposit (203) contained degraded blue paint, 19<sup>th</sup> century tin glazed earthenware, and concrete and brick rubble. It appeared to continue to the NE against the wall where it was given numbers (215) and (213) but here it was not fully investigated. The cuts for the soakaway/rubble drain [212 & 216] had been made into a pink silt (211) which seems to be the natural in this area. Also found pressed into the surface of the (203) in the sondage was (310) a thin layer of clayey silt with crushed coal which may have been a patch of trample made when backfilling the soakaway/rubble drain trench.

In the middle and SE parts of the trench a 17cm deep (max) layer of yellow sand (204) was found just below the vegetation spread out between the Schoolhouse and the W ruin. On either side of this was a layer of thin trample (205) containing topsoil and silty clay which was mixed in with sand from (204). Layer (204) merged into (214) which underlay both layers and was a thin rich humic layer – more trample (6cm thick). On the NE side next to the Schoolhouse below (200) was a narrow deposit of mortar (208) probably deposited when the schoolhouse was recently harled. On the SW side of the trench below (204) was the SE-NW cut for the 'french drain' dug around the circumference of the Schoolhouse. This drain [209] contained a plastic pipe and pea gravel (206) and curved round to the NE at the NW end of the trench where it abutted (201). This drain had been partially cut through the deposit of the soakaway/rubble drain (203).

The 'french drain' was left in situ and a sondage opened up on its NE side. This came down onto layers (217) and (218) below (214), both thin layers of trample containing brick rubble and stones and nails. Below this was gravel layer (220) and below a compact thick (18cm) layer of silty clay containing coal fragments (225) which rested on natural deposits of red-brown sand. Deposit (225) contained fragments of green glass, but no pottery was recovered.

A fragment of slag-like waste and a piece of vitreous waste were also recovered from (225), but these could have been created on a domestic fire, so should not be taken as a sign of industrial activity. Into this layer had been cut a small feature or depression [227] 2.5cm deep. In the centre of the sondage deposits (220) and (225) had been cut by a 65cm wide trench for a lead water pipe [226] filled with (219). A posthole [222] had been cut into (119) which still contained the wooden remains of a fencepost.

## Trench B

Under a deposit of topsoil (300) which merged into a layer of slumped clay (301) from walls the NW structure was a stone floor (302). This had been reasonably well constructed using large blocks of sandstone and whinstone with occasional cobbles. The floor sloped down very slightly to the NE which may not have been originally intended. The stones were partly covered by a crushed coal deposit (303) but this deposit also lay in between the stones. The floor appeared less well laid at the NE end of the trench where two bricks had been used in the floor and the deposit in between the stones appeared to be more silty and contain much less crushed coal (304). Excavation of (304) showed that it was thick, contained bricks and two pieces of iron (including a chisel) and had probably been deposited in the NE end of the structure to fill an area of subsidence caused by underlying pits and trenches. At the E end of the trench was a rectangular patch where there was no stone flooring (302). This had been filled with crushed coal deposit (303).

A slot was excavated into this rectangular area and also the area at the NE end of the trench forming an L-shaped sondage. Below (303), (304) and (302) was a deposit of yellow sand (305). Though this mostly lay above flat deposits, at the NE end this appeared to have been deposited in a trench [312] cut along and sloping under the inside of the NE wall of the NW structure. At the N end of this trench the cut was much steeper descending into a pit filled with stone. Below layer (305) was a mottled purple clay and orangey silt layer (306) also cut by [312]. This layer sealed a mottled layer (308) comprising grey clay and red silt which was the fill of a linear NW-SE cut [310] that had been made into the pink natural silt (307). Coal and a fragment of late medieval redware was recovered from (308).

Two discrete features were found in the sondage. The first was a large (c 20cm) diameter post hole [311] containing coal caught in the edge of the sondage on the SE side of the trench. This had been cut into the natural silt (307) before sand (305) had been laid down. Its exact shape could not be ascertained because of the way the sondage had been cut and the position of the overlying stones belonging to (302). The second was a small post or stake hole [314] probably cut prior to (305) having been laid down. This was well preserved and contained a rectangular post stain showing that the post/stake had been rectangular. The posthole ended in a point showing that the stake had been sharpened at the end. The post had been packed with purple clay, probably from layer (306), and sand (305) had worked down in between the post stain and the clay presumably from worm action.

## Trench C

This trench revealed a stone floor surface (401) found at the same stratigraphic level as (302) found in Trench C. These stones were surrounded by a silty deposit containing crushed coal (402). Below this, surviving against the S corner of the building was a cemented lime mortar surface with a black upper surface (404) which overlay a large degraded sandstone block (403). Around the wall, skirting the S corner of the building above (404) was a layer of lime render 13cm high (405). In places this had come away revealing the gable wall stones and the foundation stones for the SW wall of the NW structure (104). One large sandstone block in (104) – (406) could be seen to be keyed into the gable.

## 4.2 Interpretation of Archaeology

### Trench A

Concrete slabs (201) and (202) found just below the topsoil may represent a patio or other hard-standing area to the NE of the NW ruin and to the NW of the Schoolhouse. Their stratigraphic position and makeup suggests they are from a late phase, possibly having been laid down at the same time as the concrete floor in the house. The position of (201) (being 1m away from the W Ruin) suggests we are not looking at a path around the outside of the W Ruin. The height difference between the slabs suggests one has sunk slightly, so perhaps these slabs were laid down to cover an area of subsidence.

The existence of a soakaway or rubble drain [212/216] right next to the NE wall of the W ruin suggests that the builders who created it were not worried about undermining the wall foundations. However, this is what we believe has been the result of digging such a feature so close to the wall and is probably the reason why the surviving part of the NE wall leans outwards so much. It is also probably why so little of the NE wall survives in general. To understand why such a feature may have been created, we only need to look at the work carried out by the NTS on the Schoolhouse in the 1990s when a 'french drain' was excavated around the outside of the building to reduce the dampness in the wall foundations. Could not a similar procedure have been carried out earlier at the W Ruin? The incorporation of concrete rubble and blue paint in the drain/soakaway fill suggests that the feature is of relatively late date (perhaps when dampness in the walls of such a building was tolerated less) perhaps during or just before the new concrete floor was added, probably in the 1940s.

The other layers revealed in Trench A provided an interesting sequence. The earliest deposit (225) – the compact silty clay with coal fragments, was interpreted as a floor surface. Into this had been cut or depressed a small feature [227] which may represent a partition wall or another feature relating to the internal division or use of this floor. Layer (225) is probably older than the other deposits found in this trench because of the absence of 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery. The existence of a floor surface outside the Schoolhouse and W ruin is very significant bearing in mind that a stone wall – probably a building wall (Wall A) was found to the SE of the Schoolhouse in a previous excavation (Wallace, 1997). Though further excavation would be need to clarify, perhaps floor (225) relates to this wall. Were this the case the taken together the two features may be evidence of an earlier building occupying a

similar position to the current Schoolhouse. Gravel deposit (220) may be another floor surface of this building or, more likely, as it didn't extend into the SW side of the sondage, may have been a later path laid around the outside the Schoolhouse.

The large trench [226] cut for a lead pipe is of later date than the previous two deposits and almost certainly represents the creation of a new water supply for the Schoolhouse and the W Ruin. Probably this pipe dates to the 20<sup>th</sup> century and ushered in a new era when the well in the back garden of the Schoolhouse no longer had to be used for drinking water. The posthole cut into this deposit may well be a sign of a 20<sup>th</sup> century boundary fence put up in between the W Ruin and the Schoolhouse. This may be a sign either that the W Ruin had started to collapse and was cordoned off from the Schoolhouse, or that the occupiers of the W Ruin had little to do with the schoolhouse by this time.

The other deposits in this trench are all of later date representing trample from work conducted in between the W Ruin and the Schoolhouse. The layer of sand (204) seems to have been an attempt to level up this area fairly recently.

## Trench B

The deposits and features encountered in this trench shows that a rather complex sequence of archaeology exists under the NW Structure which warrants a larger excavation to gain further understanding. The earliest feature encountered was the SW side of a linear trench [310] that extends along, but a long way below the current NE wall. Without further investigation it is difficult to be certain as to the function of trench [310]. One possible interpretation is that it is a foundation cut for an earlier wall (the trench is too deep to be the foundation cut for the current wall 104). This seems possible, particularly as clay bonded rubble foundations of buildings may have needed to have been rebuilt over the years. Another interpretation is that it is a trench for natural silt/sand extraction for use elsewhere in the village. The presence medieval redware in this deposit is interesting but should not be taken as direct dating evidence. This is because (308) contained coal – more likely to have been used as a fuel in the post-medieval period. Also, re-deposited redware fragments were found in 1994 when excavating a cable trench and well on the E side of the Schoolhouse (Turner, 1994). Thus we can probably assume the sherd is also re-deposited. Fragments of re-deposited medieval pottery, such as that found in Trench C, are not an uncommon find on excavations of sites outside Medieval centres (in this case Perth). This thought to occur because waste from medieval towns was often spread on fields outside the burghs, as a fertilizer, and very often this waste would include fragments of pottery. The discovery of the pottery on this site thus does at least suggest that the fields around Cottown were being cultivated in the medieval period.

The compact roughly level layer of mottled clay and silt (306) sealing this deposit is probably an early floor deposit though no artefacts or pottery were found. This interpretation is made all the more interesting because of the posthole [311] and stakehole [314] cut into this layer. Given their location and size it is tempting to interpret the larger posthole as possibly for a structural post (one of a central line of them) holding up the roof while the stake hole was for an internal partition. Such a partition may have been like the one in the Schoolhouse (SUAT, 1996) which was found only to comprise upright stakes and clay without woven horizontal wattles.

The deposit of yellow sand (305) above (306) seems to be a levelling deposit laid down to bed in stone floor (302). What makes (305) so interesting is the linear trench [312] associated with it cut into (306). The feature seems to closely follow trench [310] below but it is slightly narrower. We can probably interpret this trench as the foundation cut of the NE wall of the NW structure (104), though the trench was not excavated right up to the edge of the wall to make sure. If [312] is indeed the foundation cut for the current wall then this means that both floor (306) and trench [310] below belong to an earlier structure that was rebuilt.

It is difficult to interpret the pit at the NW end of trench [312] but perhaps it once held a post for the internal frame of the current building, though one would expect this to be right against the wall. Deposit (304) seems to have been an attempt to fill up a depression along the NE wall created by the subsiding layers in the trenches and pits below. Random debris enclosing stone, bricks and iron tools seem to have been deposited in this layer which is the sign of a low cost repair. Floor (302) is definitely associated with the current standing walls of the structure and would have provided a good solid surface for a house or a store. The rectangular area of missing stones from this layer is strange, but perhaps this is an area robbed of stones dating to when a hard floor in this building was no longer needed. Perhaps stone was needed for the more important building next door.

Laterally this building seems to have been used as a coal store, judging by the large quantities of crushed coal found above and in between (302). This could either represent 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century use of the building.

## Trench C

This trench revealed that stone floor (302 = 404) extends right up to the S corner of the NW structure and that there is the same evidence of coal. However it also revealed a cement floor not encountered in Trench B which appears to have been laid above an even earlier stone floor. This finding raises the possibility that there may have been more alterations to this building than appeared in Trench B. The excavation was too small however to say anything more conclusive. The most important finding in this trench was the discovery that a large block in wall (104) had been keyed into the gable wall rather than simply abutting. This is important as it confirms that the NW structure probably pre-dates the house.

## **5 Conclusion**

This building recording and excavation has added much to our understanding of the West Ruin and the Schoolhouse site at Cottown in general. Despite being the least complete structure on the site, this ruin was found to contain crucial stratigraphic evidence showing the direct progression over the last 250 years from solid clay and straw built walls on fieldstone foundations to walls built of clay-bonded fieldstones and rubble, to ones built of quarried well-shaped sandstone, and finally to the use of mortar-bonded brick and concrete construction. This progression of vernacular construction had been partially demonstrated in the N Ruin, but nowhere on the site has there been found such complete sequence. The demonstration that the NW structure is an earlier building than the sandstone house is perhaps the most significant find from the survey. As its walls are of solid clay construction this may demonstrate a close link (perhaps even a similar date) to the Schoolhouse which is similarly constructed. Also highlighted during the survey was the need of the occupiers of clay buildings to continually maintain and repair their dwellings to keep out the damp.

The opportunity to excavate around the Schoolhouse and W Ruin gave an added nuance to our understanding of the site. The discovery of a possible earlier building between the schoolhouse and the W Ruin shows that the current arrangement of the buildings was probably slightly different in the past. Also very significant was the discovery of a second floor below the NW structure which may be a sign of an earlier building. Overall these findings show that there is a much greater complexity in the sites development than previously thought.

Future work to secure the W Ruin by the NTS will be able to draw on the findings of this report to help with any reconstructive work deemed necessary.

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## Appendix 1 Context Register

No:	Description
100	The clay and straw part of the wall of the NW structure.
101	Same as (109)
102	Red brick blocking of a window in the NW structure. Seem to be hand moulded, possibly clamp bricks. Bricks 9 x 4.5 x 3.5 inches in size. Mortared.
103	Turf, vegetation and clay (100) that has turned more yellow through chemical weathering.
104	A clay bonded stone foundation wall for (100). Composed of rounded and sub-rounded field stones (between c. 27 x 12 and c. 5 x 7cm in size) built randomly. Mainly sandstone but occasional whinstone blocks included.
105	Brick repairs to the NE wall of the NW structure (NW of doorway). Built above (104). Stretcher bond. Bricks 9.5 x 4.5 x 3.5 inches in size. Mortared.
106	Render on the outside of the NW structure comprising a hard grey 2-5mm thick skin of cement which had been plastered onto (104) & (105/9/1) followed by a thick wet dash with grey rounded stones.
107	Stone (clay bonded) foundations for Wall (100) on the SE side of the doorway of the NW structure. May be different from (104) as stones seem to be larger judging by the large cornerstone at the bottom of the doorway on this side. Could not be fully investigated due to collapse from (100).
108	A brick repair in (110) and (100) using hand made bricks cut in half and cemented with a very hard, (possibly fairly modern) grey mortar.
109	Brick repairs to the NE wall of the NW structure (SE of doorway). Bricks similar to (105). Bricks 9.5 x 4.5 x 3.5 inches in size. Mortared.
110	The surviving gable wall, the NW end of the house.
111	The blocking of the small attic window in gable wall (110). Red unfrosted bricks (look yellow because of algae).
112	Brick blocking around the fireplace.
113	The stub wall for the NW end of the NE wall of the house. Contains part of a window spay.
114	The existing fireplace (fire surround, firebricks and fire-cemented back) in the NW gable wall of the house.
115	Possibly an original part of the NE wall located about half way along the house. Clay bonded.



116	A mortar-bonded part of the NE wall of the house next to (115). Probably originally built as blocking for a central doorway.
117	Stone blocking on the outside of the central window in the NE wall. Mortar bonded.
118	Brick blocking on the inside of the central window in the NE wall of the house. Keyed into brick partition wall (119).
119	A brick partition wall down the centre of the house incorporating three cupboards. The brick wall incorporated frogged and unfrogged bricks, some of them clap type. Some of the bricks were marked 'Pitfour' and 'Blairadam'.
120	The SE end of the SW wall of the house.
121	The NW end of the SW wall of the house.
122	Brick repair to (121) NW of the window.
123	A 20 <sup>th</sup> -century sash and case window at the NW end of the SW wall of the house.
124	Brick repair/infill just below the roofline above (121).
125	Brick repair/infill just below the roofline above (120).
126	Small brick wall built out from (121) to form part of the lobby. Construction is the same as (119).
127	Laid concrete floor in the SE room of the house. Same as (128).
128	Laid concrete floor in the NW room of the house. Same as (127).
129	The double doors in the entrance to the house.
130	The collapsed door which led into the NW room of the house.
131	A line of bricks on the outside of the SW wall.
132	Brick repair to the SE side of the doorway into the NW structure. Here wall (100) has been cut back above foundations (107) and two bricks with curved corners inserted into the space (mortared together); the remaining gap above the bricks was packed with red tile to create a tight fit. The bricks are possibly re-used chimney bricks which often have curved corners.
133	Clay packing on the SW side of the NW gable of the house.
134	The small window including the window frame in the NW gable. Blocked by bricks (111) and wood (135).
135	A wooden plank nailed to the window frame of window (134) from the inside. Blocking.
136	An area of ladder pinning on the SW side of the window in the gable (134), seen in NW facing elevation.

137	A diagonal repair to the NW facing elevation of the gable seemingly filling a groove. This repair probably filled the raggle line for the roof of the NW structure though it could also be a repair to a crack which opened up behind the chimney. Repair comprises grey cement and red/orange bricks.
138	Patches of yellow-beige mortar mixed with coarse igneous grit applied over the NW face of the NW gable. This mortar extends only over the portion of the gable that would have been inside the NW structure. On the SW side the mortar looks as though it was applied as a render over the stonework, however, to the SE it looks more like heavy pointing. Differential erosion of the NW gable face may have caused this apparent difference.
139	Patchy yellow-beige lime pointing with coarse igneous grit on the SE facing elevation of the gable.
140	A soft, white, loose plaster covering part of the SE facing elevation of the NW gable and the NE facing elevation of the SW wall.
141	Cement skirting running around the foot of the walls of the NW room of the house.
142	A circular patch of very thin sandstone blocks lime mortared together in wall (110). May be blocking for a hole in this wall.
143	An area of stonework at the SW side of the gable wall (inside) adjacent to wall (121). Composed of pink medium angular sandstone blocks constructed in a more levelled way than the stones in (110) – the construction is much more similar to wall (121). Blocks clay mortared. May be evidence that part of the gable wall was reconstructed when wall (121) was built.
144	Turf and clay packing on top of wall (121) and wall (120).
145	Grey cement pointing on the outside of walls (120) and (121).
146	Cement skirting running around the foot of the walls of the SE room of the house
147	A large threshold stone in between bricks (131) outside the main doorway into the W ruin. Largely buried under debris, not investigated fully.
148	Patches of white plaster on wall (119) in the NW and SE rooms and in the closets of the lobby and the NW room.
149	Vertical pine panelling in the closet of the SW room of the house.
200	Topsoil (dark brown), roots and turf around the NE side of the west ruin. Occasional white 19 <sup>th</sup> century pottery, not kept.
201	A grey concrete platform / laid path aligned along the NE side of the W ruin. Grey matrix with moderate (50%) coarse gravel component (2-10mm dia). Lies below (200). Thickness could not be measured as slab not taken up. Squared off end to SE possibly because it was cut by trench for the drainage pipe [209]. Investigation with a mattock showed that the concrete path / slab extended 2.9m NW of our trench edge without any breaks, ie well beyond the gable wall. This structure probably represents a concrete path the NE side of the west ruin. Given the size of the slab it was probably cast in situ rather than having been brought in as a single block. Possibly this was laid at the same time as the concrete in the ruin.

202	A grey concrete platform / block next to (201) with moderate gravel component (up to 20mm dia). Lies below (200); thickness not measured as slab not removed.. Only the corner of this block was revealed in the trench. The corner was shown to be at a right angle. As the block was laid parallel to (201) it was probably laid down at the same time, though the 3cm difference in height between the two (202 being 3cm higher) shows that there may have been localised sinking of the ground under some of (201). This block was probably laid during the same time as (201) as part of a neat path around the NE side of the W ruin.
203	An area of random stones of varying sizes (sub-rounded and rounded <i>c. 24 x 7cm</i> to 13 x 5cm and smaller) and geology plus a broken piece of concrete mixed with firm reddish-brown-grey clayey silt (40%). Lies below (200) and (201); thickness not fully established as drain not cleared out. The holes noted between some of the stones led to a rubble drain or soakaway below running NW-SE along the NE wall of the west ruin. Excavation of a sondage into this layer revealed that it also contained brick and mortar fragments and 19 <sup>th</sup> -century pottery. The deposit contained blue paint similar to that in (207) so these deposits are probably the same or (207) is the spread of (203) to the NE. (203) seems to be a fill of the rubble drain [212] or soakaway which was not fully exposed, thus the full thickness of the deposit was not ascertained. The drain/soakaway still appeared to be functioning and it was decided not to disturb it in case damage was caused to the foundations of the west ruin. Deposit 203 had been cut by drainage trench [209] to the SE.
204	Yellow-beige medium sand below vegetation (200) spread across the gap between the west ruin and the old schoolhouse. This area of sand seems to have been spread in between the two buildings to level the site, probably after the drainage trench was excavated or the builders had finished restoration on the old schoolhouse.
205	Dark grey-brown topsoil (clayey humic silt) under sand (204). Includes trample accumulated when working on excavating the drainage trench. 4-5cm thick.
206	Pea gravel (1cm dia) mixed with a loose dark brown humic sand (5%). Abuts (201). Below (204) and (200). Extends southwards in middle of the trench where it is 40cm wide and covers and surrounds a white plastic perforated pipe. Fill of the drainage trench or 'french drain' put in by NTS. Fill of cut [209].
207	A patch of clay and bricks below (201) and (202). A firm dark brown humic clay with occasional red bricks frags and blue paint (may also be thin plastic made highly brittle). This may be a spread of material from the rubble drain. Probably same as (203). Not excavated.
208	A deposit of harling at the foot of the old school house wall which must have been left when the old school house was being re-faced. 50% grey-cream lime mortar with 1-2mm dia angular grit / gravel. Just below (200).
209	Cut for drainage trench filled with (206). French drain cut.
210	A blackish-brown clayey silt – degraded coal and 80% coal fragments (2.5cm thick) below deposit (203). Lies above [212] and (211), the presumed natural. This deposit seems to be part of the infill for the rubble drain.
211	A deposit of reddish-pink silt, the presumed natural cut by [212].
212	A roughly linear NW-SE orientated cut for the rubble drain/soakaway running along the NE wall of the west ruin - not fully exposed. Filled with (203) and (210).

	The cut of this drain could just be made in an excavated sondage dipping gently down to the SW at first then becoming vertical at the main part of the drain (see [216]).
213	Area on the SW edge of the area between French drain [209] and on S side of rubble drain fill (203). May be part of (203). Not fully investigated.
214	Dark-brown clayey silty loam <i>c. 6cm</i> thick above (218). Plenty of root action. Cut by [209]. No large inclusions. Trample.
215	Dark-brown loose silty loam with abundant small-medium stones. A small area against the NE wall ruin. Layer characterised by an abundance of stone fragments. May be fill of foundation trench for wall or variation on (203). Not fully investigated.
216	A steep near vertical cut descending towards the SW. Interpreted as the main cut for rubble drain/soakaway (203). This appears to be a steep secondary cut which was dug into shallower trench cut [212].
217	A loose dark-brown clayey loam with moderate amounts of medium to small brick frags and stone. Layer also contained abundant fine gravel. Layer showed up as thin strips parallel with the SW wall of the schoolhouse, adjacent to (214) on SW side and (208) on NE side. Stratigraphically under (214).
218	Dark-brown clayey silty loam of moderate compaction with abundant small crushed fragments of mortar, moderate medium lumps of clay, moderate medium stones and occasional small brick fragments. Under (214), 7-8cm thick. Mortar and clay seem to be building debris (1 nail and blue paint flecks also found). One brick and a number of stone frags concentrated more to the NW end of the deposit. Slopes down to the SW. Appears to be a trample layer.
219	Mottled red-orange deposit, fairly firm. Upper layers come away easily to reveal a clean uneven surface. Occasional medium stones.
220	Deposit of pebbles on the east side of (219)
221	Fill of post hole cut [222]. A dark-brown silty loam with some medium sized stone packing. Part of wooden post still remaining c 6cm in diameter.
222	Cut for post hole fill (221).
223	Deposit showing in post hole cut [222].
224	A very thin (1-2cm) layer of trample over gravel (220) and (219). Moderately compact grey clay and silt.
225	A hard grey-brown clayey silt with abundant small coal fragments. Layer 18cm thick. Floor deposit, cut by a modern service cut [226].
226	A NW-SE orientated deep cut (47cm) for a modern service (water pipe found).
227	A circular cut on the edge of cut [226]. Impressed on cut into (225). 20cm in diameter, max depth 2.5cm. Looks like depression. Filled with clay like (225).

	Flat base. Possibly marks an internal partition?
300	Topsoil - A moderate to firm grey-brown to mid-brown humic silty clay with occasional frags of coal, mortar and sandstone (c. 10 x 5 x 2cm). Layer below heap of stones which had been piled in the centre of the NW structure. At edges this layer merges with (301).
301	A moderately compacted mid-light brown clay which has weathered down from clay walls of the NW structure. Noted on all 3 clay-walled sides of the structure.
302	A stone floor below (300), (301) and (303). Stones mainly sub-angular. Roughly 50% of the stones are composed of red sandstone badly eroding and laminating. The other stones are some form of micaceous whinstone and a few are small cobbles. The size of the blocks vary considerably ranging from c. 13 x 10cm to 46 x 26cm. At the NE edge of the floor a whole brick and a half a brick had been inserted into the floor, possibly as a repair. Interpreted a floor for the NW structure.
303	A black and dark grey deposit of crushed coal and cinders with what looks like patches of ash. Layer 1cm thick above stone floor (302) and pressed in between its stones. This layer is much thicker (8cm) on the SE side of trench B where it fills a hole in floor (202).
304	A grey-brown silty clayey loam in between and below stones (302) in the NE edge of trench B. Layer contains patches/lenses of crushed coal and tile fragments. An iron chisel and an iron plate were found in this layer. Layer lies above (305). Interpreted as a fill to plug the subsiding trenches below [310] and [312].
305	A deposit of orangey-yellow fine sand with v occasional clay lumps and frags of red sandstone (c. 2 x 3cm). Layer lay below stones (302) in SW, SE sides of trench B. Levelling layer for stone floor (302). Slopes down to NE.
306	Fairly compact mottled pinkish-grey layer below (205). Comprises roughly mixed red silt, purple-grey clay and grey-brown silt. 10cm thick, contains coal. Deposit above [310] and [311]. Interpreted as levelling layer, but could have been an early floor surface.
307	A pink coarse silt below (306). Archaeologically sterile - presumed natural.
308	Fill of [310], looks very similar to (306). A moderately compact mottled layer comprising mixed grey clay and pink silt. Contained coal fragments and badly degraded charcoal. A fragment of late medieval to 16 <sup>th</sup> -century pottery found in this layer. This is probably a residual fragment.
309	Fill of [311]. This deposit appears to be distinct from (306) though difficult to be absolutely sure. Grey-black fragmented coal and silt mixed with 60% pink and grey silt.
310	Cut for a roughly linear feature orientated NW-SE close to the NE wall of the NW structure. The cut was made into (307), the supposed natural. It descends at about 20 degrees. Only the SW side of this feature was revealed in trench B, the NE side may have been on the other side of the NE wall of the NW structure. A foundation cut for NE wall does not seem a likely interpretation for this feature as the cut seems to go far too deep for the existing remains. However maybe this is the foundation cut for an earlier wall. A preferred interpretation is that it formed part of a series pits cut before the NE structure was built possibly to extract the natural silt for building elsewhere.

311	Cut for (309). A rounded cut seen in edge of trench B, not fully exposed in trench and not bottomed. Cut sides more than 50 degrees. Cut into (306) and (307). Sealed by sandy layer (305). Possible post hole in centre of building.
312	Cut of trench along the NE wall of the NW structure. Steep linear cut more than 75 degrees sloping down to NE. Follows same line as cut [310]. Cut into (306). Filled with sand (305) and occasional bricks.
313	Post pipe. Part of fills for [314]. A dark grey-brown humic silt.
314	Cut for a roughly squared stake hole/post hole. Excavation showed cut tapering to a point. Above (307) and cut through (306), probably from (305). Feature may be a post for a frame erected when constructing the NW structure. May also have been for an internal partition wall in this building if (306) was in use as a floor rather than being a levelling deposit.
400	A mid grey-brown clay with degraded straw. Deposit created by clay wall (100) eroding out and slumping into the interior of the NW structure. Contains crisp packets and litter. Covers floor (401).
401	Floor surface in NW structure. Same as (302). A large pink and hard sandstone slab and three smaller cobbles revealed in trench C.
402	A black coal rich clayey silt. Seen in between stones (401), but may extend below.
403	Crumbly pink sandstone flooring below (401) and (404). Only a single slab revealed in trench C. An old floor surface.
404	A very hard yellow-beige cemented / lime mortared floor surface above (403). Only remains in corner of the room, has black upper surface. Has been cut by [407]. A floor surface later than (403) but earlier than (401).
405	A crumbly beige-cream mortar render surviving 13m high off (404) covering the S corner of the SW wall of the NW structure. Over (404).
406	Part of the foundations for the SW wall of the NW structure (104). A large sandstone block sub-angular to angular (possibly shaped) seen to be keyed into the gable wall of the main house. This could be seen where there was a hole in render (405).
407	An apparent cut where floor mortar floor (404) has been dug away exposing sandstone layer (403) lying below.

## Appendix 2 Photographic Register

Folder: 19thJuly2010/01General

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
7190001/2	Shot of W Ruin in its setting	E
7190003	Shot of the SW wall of the house from the road	NE

7190004	Recording the SE end of the SW wall of the house	NE
7190005	Shot of the NW structure and NW facing side of the gable of the house	SE
7190006	Shot of the W Ruin in its setting with brambles in the foreground	S
7190007	Shot of the house in its setting. Schoolhouse in the left hand side of the photo.	SW
7190008	Shot of the SE end of the house showing where the NE and the SE walls have collapsed.	W
7190009	Shot of the SE end of the house showing where the NE wall has collapsed.	W

Folder: 19thJuly2010/02NorthGableNorth

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
71900010-12	Shot of the NW facing sections of the gable wall and the NW wall of the NW structure	SE
71900013	Shot of the NE side of the NW facing section of the gable	SE
71900014	Shot of the central part of the NW facing section of the gable	SE
71900015	The SW end of the NW facing elevation of the gable wall	SE
71900016	The NE end of the NW facing elevation of the gable wall.	SE
71900017	Shot of where the NE wall of the NW structure joins the gable wall	SE
71900018	The SW end of the NW facing elevation of the gable wall	SE
71900019	Shot of the top of the NW facing elevation of the gable wall	SE
71900020	As above	SE
71900021	The SE side of the top of the NW facing elevation of the gable	SE

Folder: 19thJuly2010/03NorthAnnexe

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
71900022	The NE facing elevation of the NE wall of the NW structure	SW
71900023	The NE facing elevations of the NE and SW walls of the NW structure	SE
71900024	The NE facing elevations of the SW wall of the NW structure	SE
71900025	Where the SW wall of the NE structure joins the gable	SW
71900026	Where the SW wall of the NE structure joins the gable	S

71900027-29	The SW facing elevation of the SW wall of the NW structure	NE
71900030	The SW end of the NW facing elevation of the NW wall of the NW structure	SE
71900031	A long shot across the top of the SW wall of the NW structure	SE
71900032	Internal elevation of the SW wall of the NW structure	SW
71900033-35	The NW facing elevation of the NW wall of the NW structure	SE
71900036	The NE end of the NW facing section of the NW wall of the NW structure	SE
71900037	Shot of the NW structure in its setting	S
71900038-39	Internal elevation of the NW wall of the NW structure	NW
71900040	The N corner (internal) of the NW structure	N
71900041-42	External elevation of the NE wall of the NW structure	NE
71900043	Where the NE wall of the NW structure joins the gable wall	S
71900044-45	Where the NE wall of the NW structure joins the gable wall	SE
71900046-48	The SW facing elevation of the NE wall of the NW structure	NE
71900049	The entrance into the NW structure from the inside	E
71900050-51	The SE side of the doorway into the NW structure from the inside	E
71900052	The SE side of the doorway into the NW structure from the inside	ENE

Folder: 19thJuly2010/04NorthGableSouth

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
71900053	Oblique shot of the SE facing elevation of the gable wall	W
71900054	Shot of the SE facing elevation of the gable	W
71900055-56	NE end of the SE facing elevation of the gable	NW
71900057-58	SW end of the SE facing elevation of the gable	NW



71900059	Concrete plinth at the foot of the gable wall	NW
71900060-64	Shot of the fireplace	NW
71900065	Blocked window in the SE facing elevation of the gable	NW
71900066	Stub wall (113), where it joins the gable	NW
71900067	Stub wall (113), where it joins the gable	N
71900068	Top of the chimney blocking	W
71900069	The fireplace	NW

Folder: 19thJuly2010/05WestWallNorthInside

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
71900070	The NE wall of the house in its setting	SW
71900071	The NW end of the SW wall from the inside	SW
71900072	The window in the NW end of the of the SW wall from the inside	SW
71900073	The NW end of the window in the NW end of the SW wall from the inside	SW
71900074	Blocking (122) from the inside.	W
71900075	The SE end of the window in the NW end of the SW wall from the inside	S
71900076	The internal side of the window cill of the window in the NW end of the SW wall.	SW
71900077	The sash and case mechanism	W
71900078	The locking mechanism for the sash and case window	W

Folder: 19thJuly2010/06WestWallNorthOutside

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
71900079-80	The NE end of the SW wall from the outside	NE
71900081-82	The NE end of the SW wall from the outside	N

Folder: 19thJuly2010/07BrickWallNorth

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
71900083	The NE end of the NW facing elevation of brick wall (119)	S
71900084	The SW end of the NW facing elevation of brick wall (119)	E
71900085	The closet in the NW room	SE
71900086	The doorway into the NW room	SE
71900087	Wall (126) where it joins (121)	ESE
71900088	The W corner of wall (119) where the side of the doorway into the NW room used to be	E
71900089	Fallen door (130). Door into the NW room.	SE
71900090	Wall (126) where it joins (121)	ESE
71900091	The N end of the NW facing elevation of brick wall (119)	SE
71900092	The SW facing side of the walls (116) and (115)	E
71900093	Wall (119) from the NW room	SW
71900094	As above	SW

Folder: 19thJuly2010/08EastWall

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
71900095	The NE wall in its setting with the schoolhouse to the left	S
71900096	The central remaining part of the NE wall showing (115), (116) and (117).	SW
71900097	Shot showing (115), (116) and (117).	SW
71900098	Shot looking at where (116) has been built against (115) which has subsequently fallen away.	S
71900099	Looking at wall (115) [lowest] and (116) [highest].	SE
71900100-101	Shot looking at the SW side of (116) and blocking (118).	E
71900102	Shot showing the NW side of the blocked window (118)	SE
71900103-104	Shot showing the SE wnd of blocking (118)	NW
71900105	Shot showing the SE wnd of blocking (118)	W

Folder: 19thJuly2010/09BrickWallSouth

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
71900106	The NE end of the SE facing side of wall (119)	NW
71900107	Shot showing where the closet for the SE room sticks out	W
71900108	Shot showing blocking for the window in the NE wall (118)	N
71900109-10	Shot looking at the closet in the NW room – notice the panneling for loft access.	NW
71900111-12	Shot of the closets for the lobby and the SE room	N

Folder: 19thJuly2010/10Lobby

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
71900113-114	Shot of the front entrance to the house showing the collapsed front double doors and the lobby closet behind	NE
71900115	Shot of the NW side of the main doorway from the outside	N
71900116	Photo of the closet in the lobby	N
71900117	Photo of the closet in the lobby	E
71900118	Shot of the collapsed frame for the doorway to the SE room	W
71900119	Close up of the slot for the latchbolt in the doorframe for access to the SE room	W
71900120	Close up of the locking bolt for the front door.	-

Folder: 19thJuly2010/11WestWallSouthInside

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
71900121-22	Distant shot of wall (120) from the inside	SW
71900123-25	Close up of wall (120) from the inside	SW
71900126	Close up of wall (120) from the inside showing the stonework built to level beds	SW
71900127	Oblique shot of (120) from the inside	W
71900128	Shot of the window in (120) [from the inside]	SW

Folder: 19thJuly2010/12WestWallSouthOutside

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
71900129-30	Wall (120) from the outside	NE
71900131	Shot of the brick edging on the outside of the SW wall	-

Folder: 19thJuly2010/13SouthWallsTrace

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
71900132	Shot of concrete floor (127) that would have been set against the SE gable wall (now non existant)	NE
71900133	Shot of the space that would have been filled by the SE gable	SW
71900134	The impression left in (127) by the NE end of the fire surround in the SE gable wall	SE
71900135	The impression left in (127) by the SW end of the fire surround in the SE gable wall	SE
71900136	The impression left in (127) by the fire surround in the SE gable wall	SE
71900137	Shot of the collapsed SE end of the NE wall	NW

Folder: 22ndJuly2010/14NorthAnnex

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
7220138-9	The NE side of the doorway for the NW structure	N
7220140-41	The doorway of the NE structure (41 = close up)	SW
7220142	Close up of the NW side of the doorway for the NW structure	SW
7220143-44	Close up of the external elevation of the NE wall of the NW structure	NW
7220145	The SE side of the doorway for the NW structure	E
7220146	Close up of the above	E
7220147	As above	E
7220148-49	The re-used bricks (possibly chimney bricks) in the SE side of the doorway of the NW structure	E
7220150	Tile packing above the re-used bricks (possibly chimney bricks) in the SE side	E

	of the doorway in the NW structure	
7220151-52	Blocking (108) in the gable wall and the NE wall of the NW structure	E
7220153	The NW end of the SE wall of the NW structure (brick repair 105)	SE
720154-55	The NW end of the SE wall of the NW structure (brick repair 105)	E
7220156	General shot of the NW structure	E
7220157	The W corner of the NW structure	E
7220158-59	The W corner of the NW structure	NE
7220160	The W corner of the NW structure	SE
7220161	Fallen bricks at the W corner of the NW structure	NE
7220162-63	The external elevation of the SW wall of the NW structure	E
7220164	Close up of where blocking (109) has been built into the NE recess in the gable wall	E

Folder: 22ndJuly2010/15Toad

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
7220165-66	A tiny toad found in the moss surrounding the ruin	-

Folder: 22ndJuly2010/16NorthGableEdge

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
7220167-68	The NE end of the gable	SW
7220169-70	Close-up of the tool marks on one of the corner stones on the NE end of the gable	SW

Folder: 22ndJuly2010/17Lobby

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
7220171	Shot of the closet for the lobby	NE
7220172	Shot showing where the plaster covered the wall near the closet in the lobby	E

7220173	Close up of the above	E
7220174	Shot of the lobby closet	N
7220175	Shot of the door frame for the lobby closet	N
7220176	Shot of the collapsed shelving in the lobby closet	SE
7220177	Shot of the mortis for the latchbolt of the lobby closet door	N
7220178	Shot of collapsed shelving in the lobby closet	SE
7220179	Shot of the door frame for the lobby closet	N

Folder: 22ndJuly2010/17BrickWardrobe

<i>Image No</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>View</i>
7220180	View of closet in the SE room	NW
7220181	Close up of door frame of closet in the NE room	NW
7220182	Shot of panneling in the SE closet (loft access)	-
7220183-84	Shot showing carpinters scoring marks round the mortis in the doorframe for the SE closet	SW

Folder: 22ndJuly2010/19GarretWindow

Image No	Description	View
7220185-87	Shot of blocked window in gable (from inside)	NW

Folder: 22ndJuly2010/20NorthGableNorth

Image No	Description	View
7220188-89	Shot of the NE facing elevation of the gable	SE
7220190	Shot of central part of NW facing elevation of gable	SE

Folder: 22ndJuly2010/21WestWallInside

Image No	Description	View
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7220191	View of (121) from a distance (inside face)	SW
7220192	View of blocking (122) from the inside	SW
7220193-95 & 7220220	Shot of window in (121) from the inside	SW

Folder: 22ndJuly2010/22LobbySpurWall

Image No	Description	View
7220196-97	Shot of doorway into the NW room	S
7220198	Shot of doorway into the NW room	SE
7220199-200	Shot of wall (126)	SE

Folder: 22ndJuly2010/23LobbyDoorways

Image No	Description	View
7220201-02	Shots of doorway into SE room	NW

Folder: 22ndJuly2010/24EastWalls

Image No	Description	View
7220203-06	Shot of gap between the W ruin and the schoolhouse. Notice the NE wall leaning outwards	SE
7220207-10	General shots of the W ruin from its E corner	W

Folder: 22ndJuly2010/25Schoolhouse

Image No	Description	View
7220211-14	View of Schoolhouse from the SE	NW
7220215	View of Schoolhouse from the E	W

7220216	Description & interpretation pannel at the schoolhouse	-
7220217	Shot of Schoolhouse from the E corner	W

Folder: 22ndJuly2010/26BrickWallSouth

Image No	Description	View
7220218	Brick wall (119) & the NW closet	SE
7220219	Shot looking at the collapsed shelves in the NW closet	S

Folder: 22ndJuly2010/27NorthGableEdge

Image No	Description	View
7220221-22	The NE end of the gable wall	SE

Folder: 26thJuly2010

Image No	Description	View
0001	Starting to excavate trench A between the W Ruin and the schoolhouse	S
0002	Starting to excavate trench A between the W Ruin and the schoolhouse	SE
0003	Deposit (203) – soakaway /rubble drain fill	SW
0004	Deposit (203) and slabs (201) and (202)	SW
0005-6	Slabs (201) and (202)	SW
0007-8	Sand layer (204)	SE
0009-10	Sand layer (204)	NW
0011-12	Shot in house showing where concrete (128) has been poured over brick wall (119) in the NW lobby.	SE
0013-15	Cut of soakaway/rubble drain [212]	NW
0014-17	Deposit (213) and the french drain [209] {ignoor 241 number - mistake}	NW
0018-19	Shot of trench B in NW structure showing stone floor (302)	NW
0020-21	Shot of wall (100) showing straw mixed in with clay	NE



Folder: 27thJuly2010

Image No	Description	View
0001-2	Shot of deposit (218)	SE
0003-4	Shot of yellow sandy deposit (305) in the SE side of the sondage excavated in trench B	SW
0005	Shot of yellow sandy deposit (305) in the SE side of the sondage excavated in trench B	S
0006-7	Shot of deposit (306) below (205) in the SE side of the sondage excavated in trench B	SW
0008	Shot of deposit (306) below (205) in the SE side of the sondage excavated in trench B	S
0009-10	Shot of deposits (219) and (220) – possible pathway in sondage in trench A	SE
0010	Post hole (221) of fence line in trench A sondage	SE
0011-12	Post hole (221) of fence line in trench A sondage	NW
0013-15	Presumed natural deposit (307) in SE side of sondage excavated in trench B	SW
0016	Feature [311] cut into (307)	S
0017	Feature [312]	SE
0018-20	Feature [312]	NW
0021-22	Excavated post hole [222] in trench A sondage	NW
0023	Layer (305) in the NW side of the sondage excavated in trench B	NW

Folder: 28thJuly2010

Image No	Description	View
0001-2	Shot showing cut [312]	NW
0003-4	Shot of fill (308) and its cut [310]	NW
0005-8	A toad that became trapped in the sondage excavated in trench B	SW
0009	Possible path deposit (220)	SE
0010-12	Stake hole (313) [314] in the sondage in trench B	SW

0013	Floor deposit (225) and cut of modern pipe trench to SW side [226]	SE
0014-15	Cuts [310] and [312]	NE
0016-17	Cuts [310] and [312]	NW
0018	Floor deposit (225) and fill (219) of pipe trench [226]	SE
0019	Floor deposit (225) and fill (219) of pipe trench [226]	NW
0020-21	The NW facing section of the small sondage excavated into floor deposit (225) and revealing pipe trench fill (119)	SE
0022-23	Floor deposit (225)	NE
0024	Shot showing location of trench A	SE
0025-26	Shot showing location of trench A	E
0027	Shot showing location of trench A	S
0028	Shot showing location of trench B	S
0029	Shot showing location of trench B	W
0030	Shot showing location of trench B	SW
0031	Shot showing location of trench C	SW
0032-33	General shot of trench C showing mortar floor (404)	SW
0034	Shot of trench C showing stone (406) keyed into the gable wall	S
0035	Shot of trench A after backfilling	SE
0036	Shot of trenchB after backfilling	W

## Appendix 3 Drawing Register

### HBR Drawings

<i>Sheet No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Scale</i>
1	Plan of W Ruin	1:20
2	Plan of W Ruin	1:20
3	Plan of W Ruin	1:20
4	Plan of W Ruin	1:20
5	Plan of W Ruin	1:20
6	Correction to plan of W Ruin	1:40
7	The NW facing elevation of the house	1:20
8	The SE facing elevation of the house	1:20
9	The internal elevations of the SW and NW walls of the NW structure	1:20
10	The internal elevation of the NE wall of the NW structure	1:20
11	The external elevation of the NW wall of the NW structure	1:20
12	The external elevation of the NE wall of the NW structure, the external elevation of the NE wall of the house and the internal elevation of the SW wall of the house	1:40
13	The external elevation of the SW wall of the NW structure and the external wall of the SW wall of the house	1:40
14	The NW facing elevation of brick wall (119)	1:20
15	The SE facing elevation of brick wall (119)	1:20

### Excavation Drawings/permatrace notes

<i>Sheet No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Scale</i>
1	Notes on levels	-
2	Plan of trench A showing (201, 203 and 204) Drawing 01	1:20
3	Trench A Plan of (214, 215, 213) Drawing 02, plan of (217 218) Drawing 03, plan of (219, 220 and 221) Drawing 04, plan of (219 & 220) Drawing 21, plan of [222] Drawing 06, section of [222] Drawing 05	1:20, 1:10

4	Trench A Plan of [226] & 219 Drawing 18	1:20
5	Trench A section of [226] & 219 and clay floor (225) Drawing 19	1:10
6	Plan of trench B showing stone floor (302) Drawing 7, Plan of trench C Drawing 20	1:20
7	Overlay 1 for trench B Drawing 8	1:20
8	Overlay 2 for trench B Drawing 9	1:20
9	Overlay 3 for trench B Drawing 10, Section of [314] Drawing 14, plan of [314] Drawing 15	1:20
10	Trench B Section of [310] & [312] Drawing 11, section of [311] Drawing 12, section of [310] & [312] Drawing 16, section of [310] Drawing 17	1:10
11	Overlay 4 for trench B Drawing 13	1:20

## Appendix 4 Finds Register

Context	Small find no	Material type	Details
200		Pottery	2 body sherds tin-glazed earthenware (TGE); violet floral pattern on white plate
203		Pottery	1 body sherd TGE; white glaze
206		Pottery	1 body sherd TGE; white glaze
217		Pottery	1 base sherd TGE; glazed white 2 body sherds TGE; glazed white 1 body sherd TGE; transfer printed green on white
217		CBM	1 fragment mortar
217		CBM	12 fragments brick (two with mortared

			surfaces)
217		Stone	1 large fragment burnt stone
217		Stone	6 fragments coarse red sandstone 1 fragment grey sandstone
217		Coal	6 fragments
218		Iron (Fe)	3 nails; flat, circular heads
218		Pottery	1 body sherd tin-glazed earthenware (TGE); glazed brown/cream  2 body sherds TGE; glazed blue  1 rim sherd TGE; glazed lustrous blue; mortar adhering
218		CBM	1 complete hand-made brick (lacks frog)  2 fragments brick  2 fragments tile
218		CBM	7 lumps mortar
218		Stone	2 fragments slate (phyllite)  1 fragment coarse red sandstone
218		Coal	8 fragments coal
218		Wood	1 ?natural wood knot, cut across
218		Animal bone	1 abraded shaft fragment
219		Pottery	1 body sherd stoneware  1 body sherd TGE/redware
219		Burnt material	Slag-like heated residue
221		Wood	Post fragment
225		Burnt material	Slag-like heated residue  1 piece ?vitreous waste

225		Glass	2 green body sherds
300		Pottery	5 body sherds TGE; brown spongeware decoration on cream glaze  1 body sherd TGE; glazed brown and cream  1 TGE cup handle; glazed white
300		Aluminium (Al)	1 foil milk-bottle top; corroded
300		Animal bone	1 calcined fragment
304	SF 1	Fe	1 metal bar; rectangular cross-section
304	SF 2	Fe	1 flat metal plate
308		Pottery	1 body sherd redware; dimpled green glaze. Late medieval/Post-medieval

## Appendix 5 Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Perth & Kinross
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Historic Building Recording and Archaeological Excavations at the West Ruin, Cottown Old Schoolhouse, Cottown
PROJECT CODE:	CT05
PARISH:	St Madoes
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR(S):	Barton, T
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Alder Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Historic Building Recording, Archaeological Excavation
NMRS NO(S):	NO22SW 70
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Cottages
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	-
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	Site centred on NGR NO 2057 2102
START DATE	19-07-10
END DATE	28-07-10
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	1997, p66 2004, p109
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	The National Trust for Scotland commissioned Alder Archaeology Ltd to undertake a historic building recording and an archaeological excavation at the West Ruin next to the Old Schoolhouse, Cottown. The West Ruin was known to contain surviving 18 <sup>th</sup> century clay and straw walls attached to a larger clay-bonded rubble house, but these building techniques, now the roof had gone, meant that the remains were rapidly eroding away. The Survey revealed that the ruin comprised two buildings, an earlier clay and straw walled building underlying a later clay-bonded rubble house. Walls of the early building were found to have been constructed from straw and clay sitting on clay-bonded fieldstone foundations, similar to the walls of the Schoolhouse. The later house was built mainly of clay-bonded stone and the various walls showed slightly different methods of construction, reflecting possible re-builds and that different workers built different parts of house. During the late 19 <sup>th</sup> century various alterations seem to have taken place including the blocking up of the rear door, creation of a window, and then insertion of a brick partition wall dividing the house formally into two rooms each with its own closet. This change it is thought could be a sign that the house was shared between two occupiers for a time. Excavation between the W Ruin and the Schoolhouse (Trench A) revealed a soakaway or rubble drain built against the NE wall of the W Ruin which may have been excavated to lessen the damp on the buildings'

	foundations in the late 19 <sup>th</sup> or first half of the 20 <sup>th</sup> century. A large 20 <sup>th</sup> -century water supply trench was found have truncated an early clay floor surface containing a circular depression, possibly evidence of a partition wall. This floor surface is significant and is a sign that there was an earlier building on the site, possibly that belonging to a wall found to the SE of the Schoolhouse in a previous excavation. Excavation in the NW structure revealed the structure's stone floor which had been bedded down on a yellow sand. Below this was an earlier probable floor surface of mottled clay with a post hole and a stake hole cut into it. While the stake hole could possibly be evidence of in internal partition wall from this phase of the building, the larger posthole it is thought could have be evidence of a central post supporting the roof ridge. Two trenches had been cut along the NE wall, both possibly reflecting different phases of wall foundation trenches, the upper one being the trench for the current wall. The site code for this project was CT05
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	National Trust for Scotland
CAPTIONS FOR ILLUSTRS	A surviving portion of the straw & clay walled NW Structure
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Alder Archaeology Ltd, 55 South Methven Street, Perth PH1 5NX
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended)	NMRS
EMAIL ADDRESS:	<a href="mailto:Director@AlderArchaeology.co.uk">Director@AlderArchaeology.co.uk</a>



## Appendix 6 Standard Terms of Reference for all Fieldwork

### 6.1 Recording Methodology

Alder Archaeology employs a Single Context Recording System that allows full cross-referencing of stratigraphy, finds and environmental samples, as well as site-wide phasing. All features will be planned at scale 1:20, and sections drawn at scale 1:10. Sections and profiles will be drawn and all features will be photographed with metric scale included. Environmental samples will be taken from archaeologically significant contexts, if the analysis of these samples would aid significantly in the interpretation of any features identified.

### 6.2 Human Remains

If human remains are encountered they will be left in situ and the local police will be informed. If removal is required this will take place in compliance with Historic Scotland's Policy Paper *The Treatment of Human Remains in Archaeology*.

### 6.3 Products and Reporting

A Data Structure Report will normally be prepared within a period agreed within the Written Scheme of Investigation/ Project Design, after the completion of the fieldwork. This forms the basic level of reporting. Further reporting may be required on the basis of discoveries made during excavations.

A copy of the report and the project archive will be deposited in the NMRS. Further copies will be sent to the client, LAAO and others, as appropriate.

### 6.4 Artefacts

Finds of objects will be subject to the Scots Laws of Treasure Trove and *Bona Vacantia*. We will report such finds, if recovered, with supporting documentation to the Secretariat of the Treasure Trove Panel for disposal to the appropriate museum.

### 6.5 Discovery and Excavation in Scotland

A brief summary of the results will be submitted to *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland*.

### 6.6 General Conditions and Health and Safety

We adhere to the Code of Conduct of the Institute for Archaeologists.

Alder Archaeology Ltd has public liability insurance of £2,000,000. Details of this can be provided on request.

We operate a strict health and safety policy and conforms to the Health and Safety at Work Act. We undertakes Risk Assessments on all fieldwork carried out.

Alder Archaeology representatives will at all times wear protective footwear, high visibility clothing and other appropriate clothing. Hard hats will be worn if there is active plant on site or at all times if the site is deemed a hard hat area.

If lightly contaminated deposits are uncovered disposable boiler suits and gloves will be worn. A source of clean water will be made available for staff to clean hands with. If the health risk posed by site contamination is felt to be too high all further archaeological work will stop in that area.