

**Petersfield, Inch,  
Aberdeenshire, AB52 6LN  
Report on the Standing Building Survey**



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27 November 2012**



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## SUMMARY

A standing building photographic survey was carried out on 19 November 2012 and it is recommended that no further work is required during this development.



# 1 INTRODUCTION

A standing building photographic survey was carried out on 19 November 2012. The site is in Inch parish, the NGR for the site is NJ 60412 28917 and it lies at 200-210m OD. The work was commissioned by Douglas MacMillan and is in response to Aberdeenshire Council planning application APP/2009/4148 for Conversion of Domestic Store to Dwellinghouse; an archaeology condition was applied to allow a photographic survey to be carried out prior to redevelopment.



Illus 1 Location plan (Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2012).

## 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The adjacent farm of Oldtown is on Roy's mid 18th century map which shows a small settlement in the area (Illus 2)



Illus 2 Roy's map showing Oldtown (copyright National Library of Scotland)

The OS 1st edition map shows Petersfield as a C-shaped steading, open to the south-east. The layout remains largely unchanged on the OS 2nd edition map, with an addition of a building on the southern side of the courtyard (Illus 9).

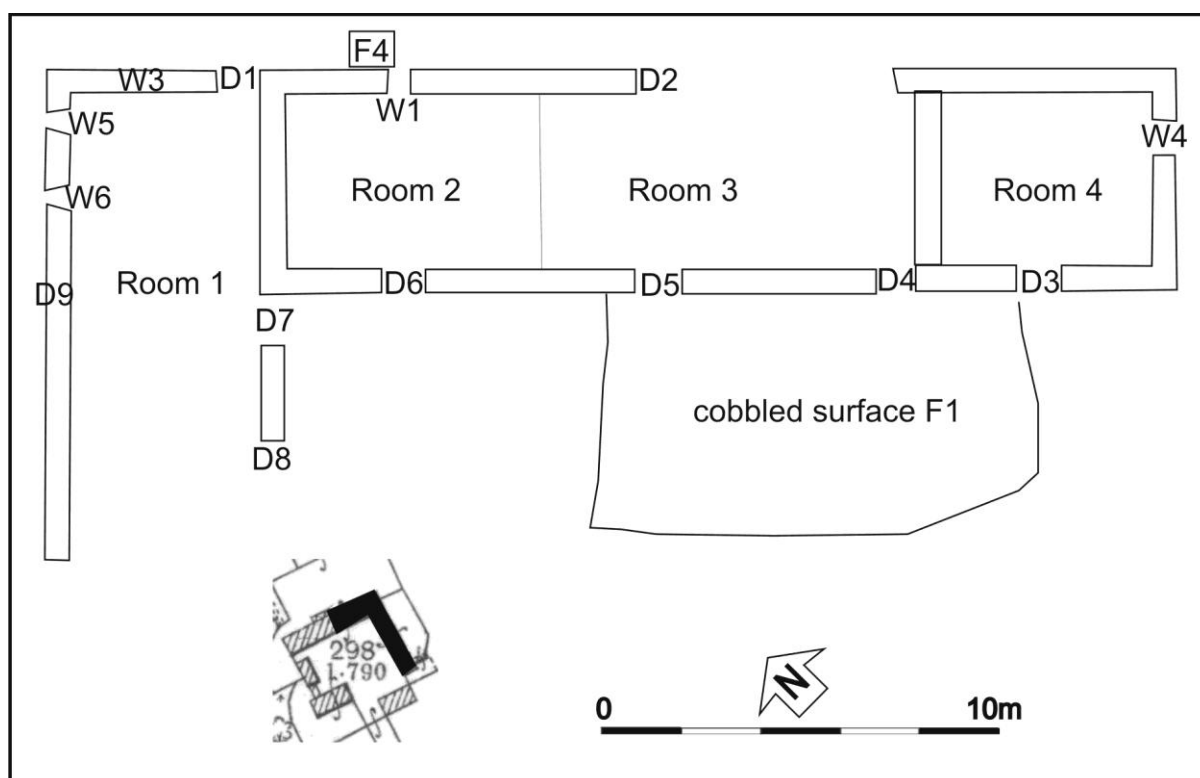
The farmstead (NMRS no NJ62NW 172) is detailed in a sales brochure of 4 October 1932 of parts of Balquhain Estate which provides particulars of Oldtown Farm (lot 35, p. 27) including details of the farmhouse and the steading. The house comprised a kitchen, a milk house and seven other rooms. The steading comprised a barn with loft, two stables for a total of nine horses, four byres for a total of forty-seven cattle, a turnip house and a turnip room, a boiler house, a man's room, a garage, a coal store and a fowl house. In 1932 the farm was let to Messrs Duthie and Reid; at that time the size of the farm was about 151 acres (61.1ha) and its rent was £168 per annum. There is no mention of Petersfield or of a mill in these documents.

### 3 THE STANDING BUILDING PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY

A standing building survey was carried out on 19 November 2012 and was carried out in the context of Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) Planning Advice Note (PAN 2/2011) and Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP), which state that archaeological remains should be regarded as part of the environment to be protected and managed.

Although some restoration work has already started on the building which has been damaged by years of inclement weather, the main structural elements surviving have been recorded. Four rooms survive (Illus 3) including Room 1 which is partly rebuilt in wood, Room 2 with a wooden door at the SE end and Rooms 3 and 4 which have been partially rebuilt. The buildings are all of black, grey and pink granite fieldstones which have been roughly dressed; there is cherry cocking throughout. All the doors are 1.1m wide and the lintels are all of pink granite except W4 which is of wood. These buildings appear to have been built in one phase and are probably mid 19th century in date.

Room 2 has operated as a mill with small apertures W1 and W2 allowing the drive shaft mechanism to enter the building. There is a stone platform adjacent to these apertures but no access is possible to the interior of this building to inspect the floor. Small windows (W5 and W6) were usually provided to allow a little ventilation into a room whilst keeping out the worst of the weather.



Illus 3 Plan showing main features recorded in this standing building survey with First Edition Ordnance survey inset showing surviving remains





Illus 4 Room 2 (left) Room 1 gable (right) with W1, W2 (below) D1 and W3 (above)

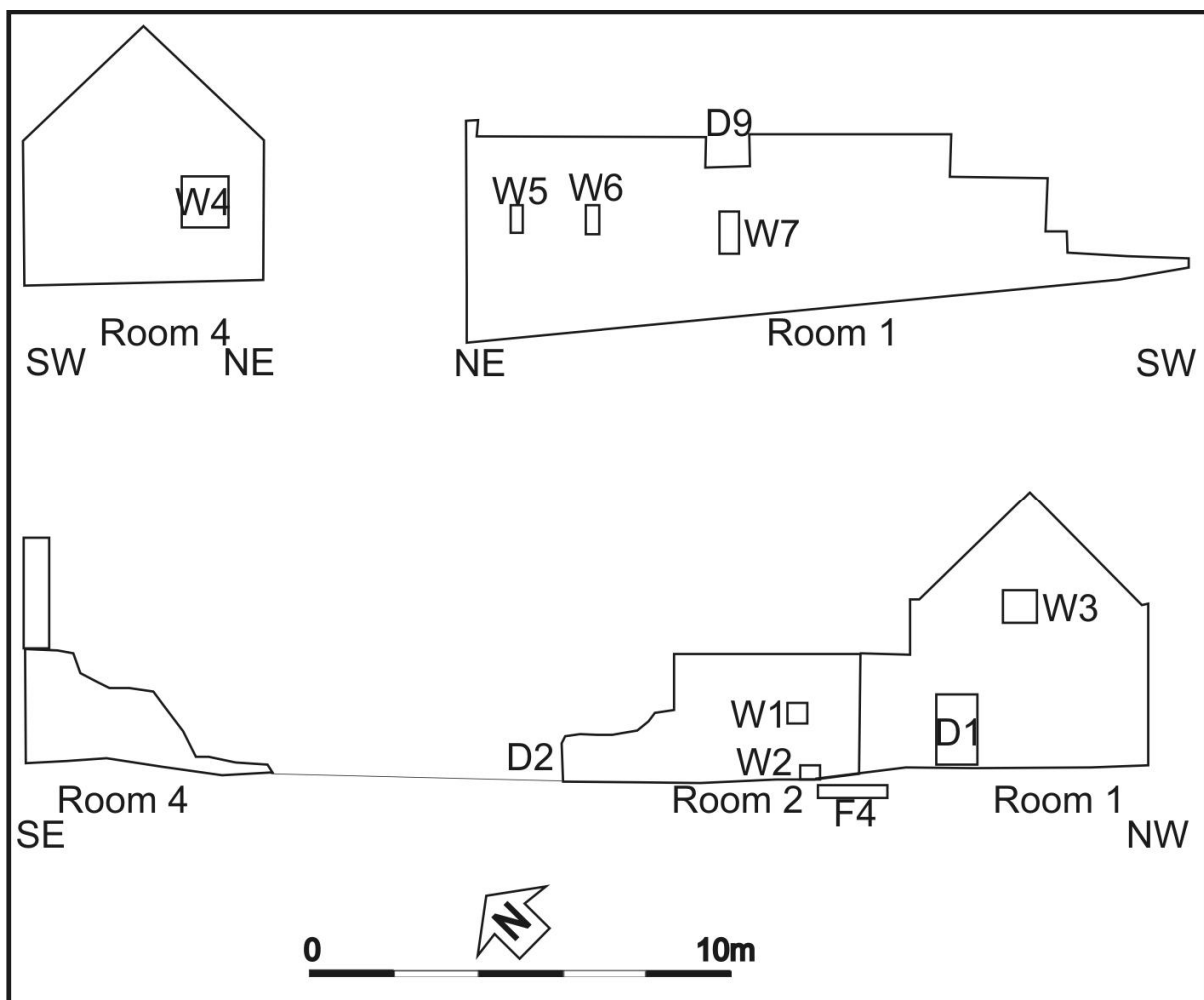


Illus 5 Room 1 NW facade showing W5, W6, D4 with blocked W7 below





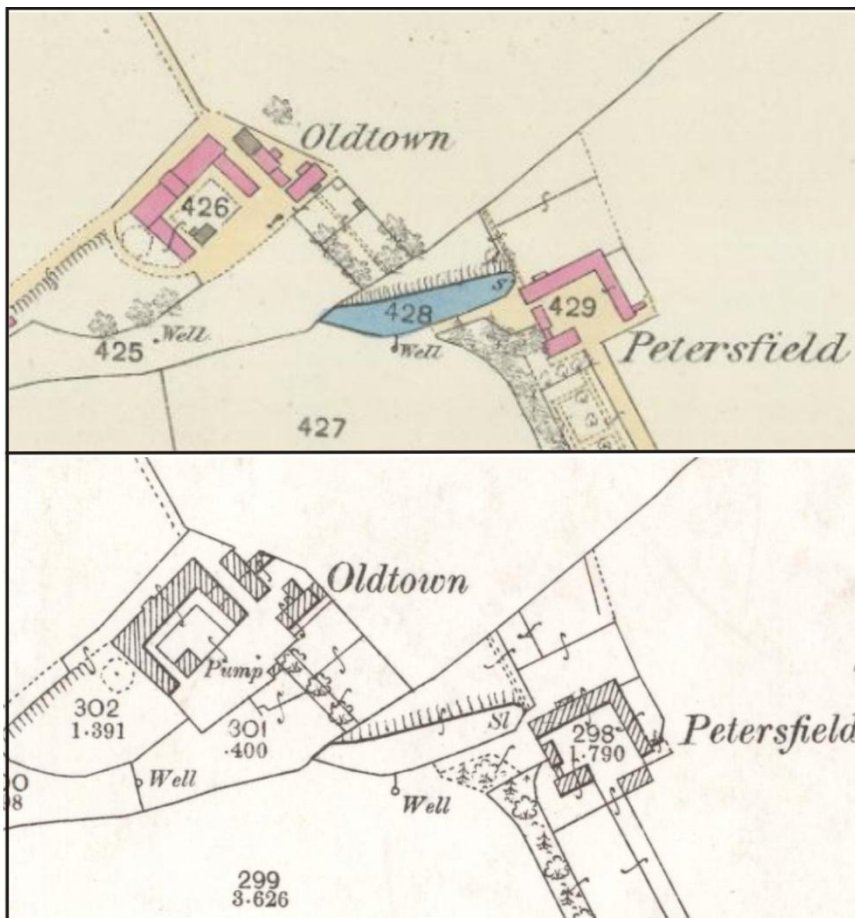
Illus 6 Room 1 (centre) Room 2 (right)



Illus 7 Elevations (from copyright Annie Kenyon Architects)



Illus 8 Cobbled surface F1; facing NW towards Door D7 (centre)



Illus 9 First (top) and Second Edition Ordnance Survey maps showing Petersfield (*copyright National Library of Scotland*)



## **4 CONCLUSIONS**

The building appears to have been a mill and the First and Second Edition Ordnance Survey map shows a mill pond, sluice and well immediately to the NW of these buildings. A literature search reveals nothing about this mill under the name Petersfield and little about neighbouring Oldtown.

## **5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Thanks to Bruce Mann at Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service and Douglas MacMillan.

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## APPENDIX 1 PHOTOGRAPHS



DSC\_0001



DSC\_0014



DSC\_0015



DSC\_0026



DSC\_0027



DSC\_0040



DSC\_0041



DSC\_0053



DSC\_0054



DSC\_0065



DSC\_0066



DSC\_0077



DSC\_0079



DSC\_0092



DSC\_0093



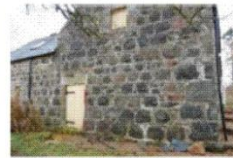
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DSC\_0103



DSC\_0115



DSC\_0126



DSC\_0127



DSC\_0136



DSC\_0144



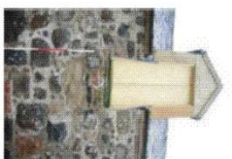
DSC\_0152



DSC\_0153



DSC\_0164



DSC\_0165



DSC\_0174



DSC\_0175



DSC\_0188



DSC\_0190



DSC\_0202



DSC\_0203



DSC\_0212



DSC\_0220



DSC\_0241





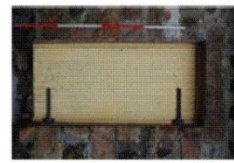
DSC\_0242



DSC\_0255



DSC\_0262



DSC\_0269



DSC\_0270



DSC\_0281



DSC\_0282



DSC\_0293



DSC\_0294



DSC\_0306



DSC\_0307



DSC\_0318



DSC\_0319



DSC\_0331



DSC\_0332



DSC\_0347



DSC\_0348



DSC\_0362



DSC\_0369



DSC\_0381



DSC\_0382



DSC\_0390



DSC\_0405



DSC\_0418



DSC\_0421



DSC\_0430



DSC\_0438



DSC\_0448



DSC\_0457



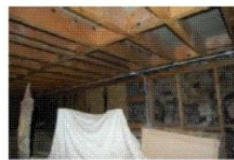
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DSC\_0469



DSC\_0471



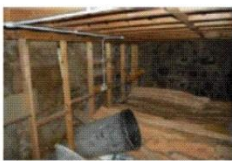
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DSC\_0477



DSC\_0478



DSC\_0479



DSC\_0480



DSC\_0481



DSC\_0496



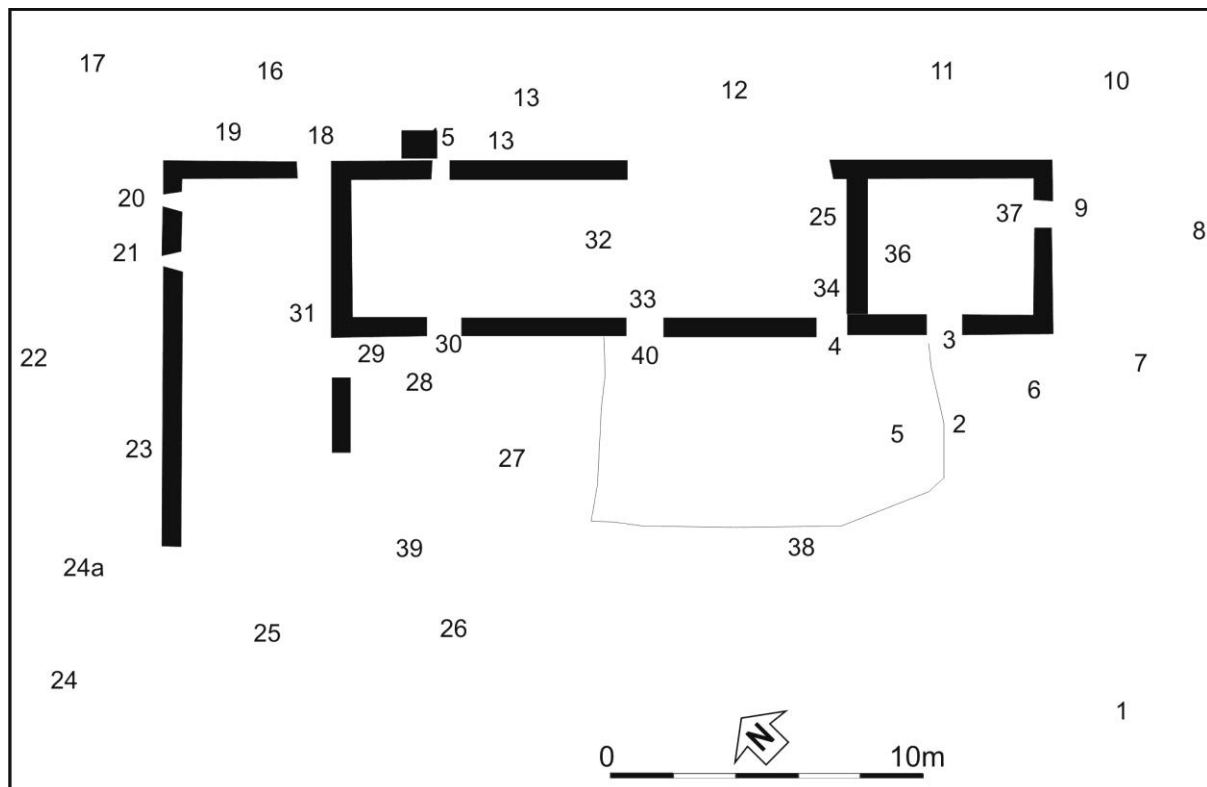
DSC\_0516

<b>Photos nos</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Facing</b>	<b>Camera point</b>
DSC_0001-0007	Room 1 (left) Room 4 (right)	N	1
DSC_0008-0014	South gable Room 4 with Window 4	NNW	8
DSC_0015-0020	Window 4	NNW	9
DSC_0021-0026	Window 4	N	9
DSC_0027-0034	South gable Room 4 with Window 4	W	10
DSC_0035-0040	South gable Room 4 with Window 4 (left) looking towards Room 2 (right)	NW	10
DSC_0041-0046	Room 4 east wall	SW	11
DSC_0047-0053	Room 4 (left) Room 3 (centre)	S	13
DSC_0054-0059	Room 2 east wall with Window 1 (centre)	SW	15
DSC_0060-0065	Window 1	SW	15
DSC_0066-0071	Window 1 with W2 (below)	SW	15
DSC_0072-0077	Door 1	SW	18
DSC_0078-0085	Gable above Door 1, Room 1 east wall Window 3	SW	19
DSC_0086-0092	Room 2 with W1 and W2 (left) Room 1 Door 1 (right)	SW	16
DSC_0093-0097	Gable with Door 1 (centre), W3 above, Room 1 east wall	SW	19
DSC_0098-0102	Room 2 with W1 and W2 (left) Room 1 Door 1 (right)	WNW	13
DSC_0103-0108	Room 1 east gable (left) and N wall (right)	S	17
DSC_0109-0114	Gable with Door 1 (centre), W3 above, Room 1 east wall	SW	17
DSC_0115-0126	Gable with Door 1 (centre), W3 above, Room 1 east wall	SW	17
DSC_0127-0133	Room 1 east gable (left) and N wall (right)	S	17
DSC_0134-0140	Room 1 N wall W5 (left) W6, D9 (above)	SSE	22
DSC_0141-0146	Room 1 N wall W5 (left) W6, D9 (above)	SSE	21
DSC_0147-0152	Room 1 N wall W5	SSE	20
DSC_0153-0158	Room 1 N wall W5 (left) W6 (right)	SSE	21
DSC_0159-0164	Room 1 N wall W6	SSE	21
DSC_0165-0174	Room 1 N wall D9	SSE	22
DSC_0175-0180	Room 1 N wall east end with wood infill	SSE	23
DSC_0181-0188	Room 1	SE	24
DSC_0189-0196	Room 1 N wall	SE	24a
DSC_0197-0202	Room 1 N wall	E	24
DSC_0203-0208	Semi-circular stone feature F3	SSW	22



DSC_0209-0214	Semi-circular stone feature F3	NE	22a
DSC_0215-0229	stone with drill marks		
DSC_0230-0235	Demolished west end Room 1	NNW	39
DSC_0236-0241	south wall Room 1 With D8 (left) and D7 (right)	NNW	28
DSC_0242-0248	Room 1 south wall (left) and Room 2 west wall (right)	N	27
DSC_0249-0256	Door 7	NNW	29
DSC_0257-0262	Room 2 Door 6	NE	28
DSC_0263-0269	Room 2 Door 6	NE	28
DSC_0270-0275	Room 2 Door 6 granite lintel	NE	28
DSC_0276-0281	Room 2 with cobbles F2 (right foreground)	N	27
DSC_0282-0287	Room 2 (left) Room 3 (right) with cobbles F2 (right foreground)	ENE	38
DSC_0288-0293	Room 3 Door 5	ENE	40
DSC_0294-0300	Room 3 Door 4	ENE	4
DSC_0301-0306	Room 3	ENE	38
DSC_0307-0312	Room 3 Door 4	ENE	4
DSC_0313-0318	Room 3 Door 4 (left) Door 5 (right)	WSW	12
DSC_0319-0324	Room 3 Door 4 (left) Door 5 (right)	WSW	12
DSC_0325-0331	Room 4	SW	12
DSC_0332-0341	Room 2	NNW	32
DSC_0342-0347	Room 2 (right) Door 5 (left)	NW	32
DSC_0348-0357	Door 5 NW jamb	NW	33
DSC_0358-0366	Door 5 SE jamb	SW	33
DSC_0367-0374	Door 3	NE	3
DSC_0375-0381	Room 4 Door 3	ENE	2
DSC_0382-0388	Room 4 Door 3 (left)	ENE	2
DSC_0389-0401	Room 4 SE gable with W4	SE	36
DSC_0402-0420	Room 4 SE gable with W4	ESE	4
DSC_0421-0427	Room 4 W4	ESE	37
DSC_0428-0433	Cobbled surface F1	NE	38
DSC_0434-0446	Cobbled surface F1	NW	2
DSC_0447-0453	Cobbled surface F1 showing runnel	NW	2
DSC_0454-0455	Door 7	NW	29
DSC_0456-0462	Door 7 granite threshold	NW	29
DSC_0463-0468	Room 1 cobbled floor	NW	31

DSC_0469	Room 1	NE	31
DSC_0470	Room 1	NNE	31
DSC_0471	Room 1	N	31
DSC_0472	Room 1	NNW	31
DSC_0473	Room 1	SW	31
DSC_0474	Room 1	SW	31
DSC_0475	Room 1	N	31
DSC_0476	Room 1 first floor Door 9 interior	N	31
DSC_0477	Room 1 first floor Door 9 interior	N	31
DSC_0478	Room 1	ENE	31
DSC_0479	Room 1	NE	31
DSC_0480	Room 1	E	31
DSC_0481-0486	Petersfield	N	1
DSC_0487-0516	Petersfield from road	NNW	



Illus 10 Camera points used in this standing building survey