

Fluthers Cottage

Earlston, The Scottish Borders

*Historic Building Recording and Archaeological Evaluation:
April 2014, August/September 2015*

for

Hunter Architecture

September 2015



Fluthers Cottage (061)

Addyman Archaeology
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Fluthers Cottage

Earlston, the Scottish Borders

Historic Building Recording and Archaeological Evaluation

Executive Summary

Addyman Archaeology was contracted by Hamish Hunter of Hunter Architects on behalf of Mr J Halliday, to carry out a programme of archaeological work at Fluthers Cottage, South Croft, Earlston, Scottish Borders, prior to its renovation and extension. The building had a rare surviving thatch and as such was Category B Listed. Due to the listing and the interest in the surviving thatch, works to the building required archaeological investigation and recording.

The works involved a detailed Historic Building Survey of the structure internally and externally in plan and elevation. This showed the structure to be of two major phases: the first phase a plain ‘barn,’ possibly of 18th to early 19th century construction and the second phase (mid to late-19th Century) a reordering of the structure to convert it into domestic accommodation. This reordering was characterised by the reuse of architectural features and fittings from multiple other buildings.

A section was excavated through the existing thatch showing the thatch to be relatively modern (19th century?) and of a single phase with a large secondary patch on the north pitch.

Further works involved the monitoring of foundation trenching for an extension. This exposed the early ground sloping down to the south as well as historic and modern levelling of the site. No artefacts earlier than the 19th century were found.

A record of the project (*OASIS ID: addyman1-225062*) has been deposited with the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) website hosted by the Archaeological Data Service and with *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (DES), the annual publication of fieldwork by Archaeology Scotland (*Appendix F*).

1. Introduction

i. Project Background

Addyman Archaeology was contracted by Hamish Hunter of Hunter Architects on behalf of Mr J Halliday, to carry out a programme of archaeological work at Fluthers Cottage, South Croft, Earlston, Scottish Borders, prior to its renovation and extension. A planning application for the conversion was granted on appeal on 13 July 2011, attached with the archaeological condition outlined below (ref. 10/01055/FUL). In consultation with the Archaeology Officer at Scottish Borders Council Dr Chris Bowles, the following requirements were specified:

That a programme of building recording be undertaken to comply with ALGAO standards for a Detailed Historic Building Survey in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning authority prior to any work taking place.

That the archaeological potential of the site be evaluated by the undertaking of a watching brief by a qualified archaeologist during ground breaking works.

The results of both elements will be combined in a single report which will be submitted to the Planning Authority for approval.

A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared as the first step in discharging the archaeological planning condition and was approved by Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Officer, Dr Christopher Bowles. A programme of Historic Building Recording was then carried out in accordance with the methods detailed in the WSI. In addition a watching brief was undertaken in order to evaluate the archaeological potential of the site, also in line with the methodology laid out in the WSI. This report presents the results of the historic building recording and archaeological monitoring and therefore fulfils the requirement detailed above.

ii. The Site – Location, and Designation

Earlston is a small market town located on the A68 between Lauder and Melrose (*figure 1*). Its main street extends east along the main road to Duns. Fluthers Cottage is located on South Croft, a small side street leading south from Earlston High Street (NGR NT 5763 3849). It is situated in the north eastern corner of an industrial yard owned by J Halliday Plasterers. The cottage is in a semi-derelict ruinous state and had previously been used for storage.

The cottage comprises a single storey stone structure built of random rubble with surviving lime harl still adhering in places. The roof is of corrugated iron which masks an earlier thatched roof. The interior has been partially stripped of linings but retains a non-load bearing partition.

Fluthers Cottage appears on the RCHAMS data base (NT53NE 100; CANMORE ID 230801). It was listed on 17/05/1991 as a Category B listed building (6218), principally on the basis of the unique survival of vernacular thatch. The following description is taken from the listing.

Circa mid 19th century small, 2-room, single-storey 3-bay cottage, retaining original thatched roof beneath subsequent corrugated iron roof and “boxed” barge-boarding at eaves, mixed rubble, part rendered at W gable, with squared sandstone dressings.

S ENTRANCE ELEVATION: symmetrical, with pair 12-paned -sash-and-case windows flanking door in timber lean-to porch. 8-pane sash-and-case window close to ground to right in W gable.

SUBSEQUENT ALTERATIONS: brick stack at E rebuilt? 20th century; earlier A-frame adzes couples subsequently reinforced by dressed timber couples. Timber and corrugated iron roofed lean-to at E gable. Thatch beneath corrugated iron fixed directly onto purlins; distinctive horizontally-layered turf skewputt possibly unique survival of local vernacular technique.

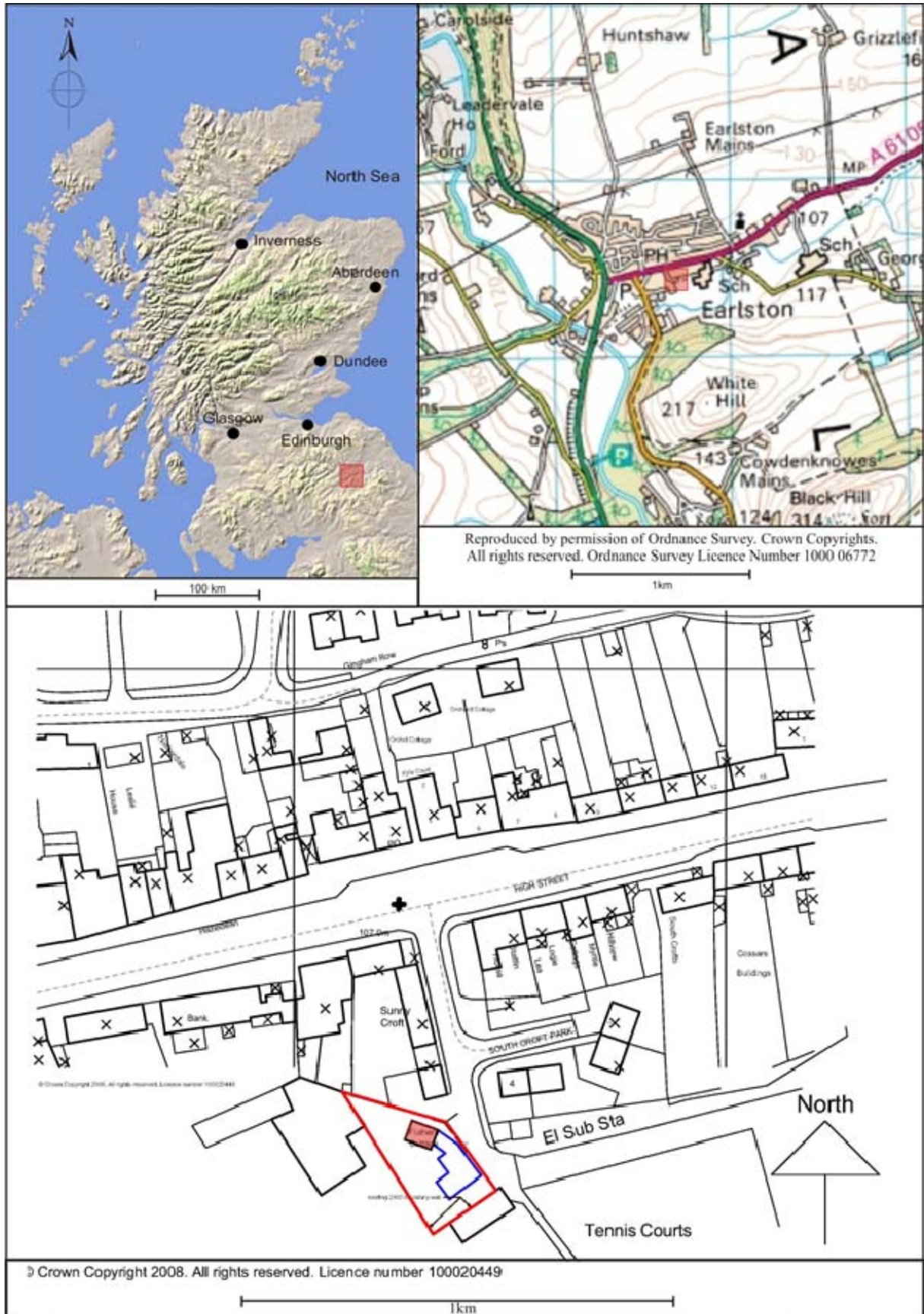


Figure 1 Site location

iii. Historical Background

The early historical evidence shows there was a church in Earlston before the middle of the 12th century, as it was known to have been granted by Walter de Linsay to the monks of Kelso at around this time. In 1171 it was transferred to the Monks of Coldingham in exchange for Gordon, located further to the east on the road to Duns.

The earliest available map which shows contains sufficient detail to see the layout of the town is Roy's Military Survey 1752-55 (figure 2). The linear plan of the town is clear, and has carried through to modern times. It is, however, not possible to specifically identify Fluthers Cottage on the map.



Figure 2 Roy's Military Survey of Scotland, Lowlands 1752-55

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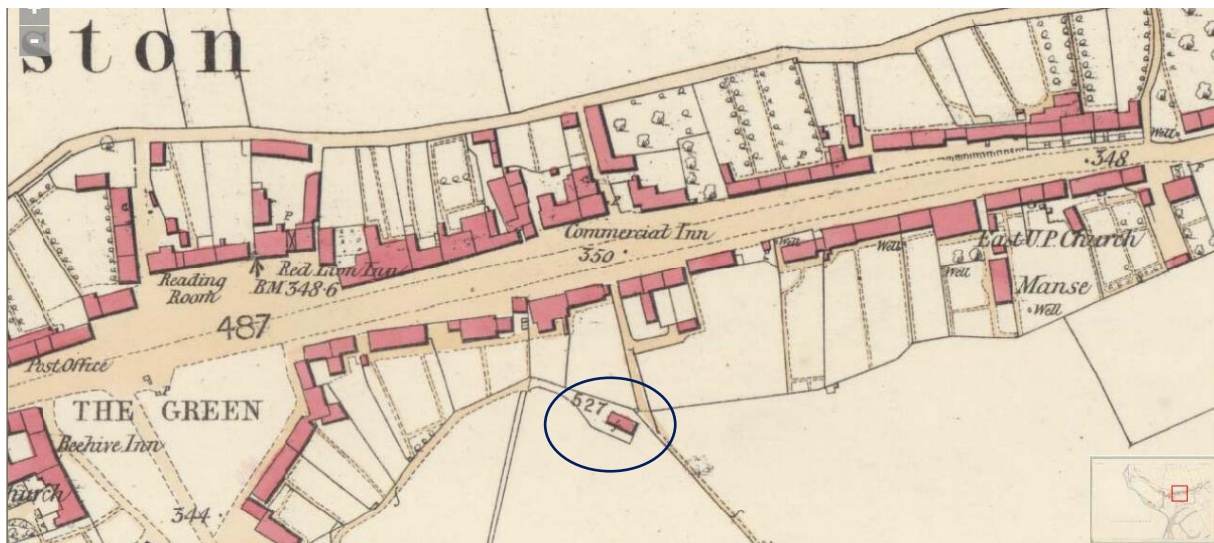


Figure 3 Ordnance Survey 25inch to the mile Berwickshire Sheet XXVI.14 (Earlston). Surveyed 1857 published 1862.

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The first edition Ordnance Survey of 1857 (*figure 3*) shows the layout and buildings of Earlston in detail, including Fluthers cottage. The plan of the cottage is a simple rectangle, with a boundary wall or fence abutting the south east gable. The access may be from the lane to the west which runs behind the High Street properties, rather than from South Croft from which the property is currently approached.



Figure 4 Ordnance Survey 25inch to the mile Roxburghshire.004.10 Surveyed 1897 published 1898.

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By 1897 when the Second Edition Ordnance Survey was carried out (*figure 4*) the access from the west has been blocked off, reducing the size of the ground around the cottage. An additional structure now abuts the south east gable, with the earlier wall or fence still visible. A path or track now runs south west towards the auction mart. This may suggest a link between the use of the cottage and the Auction Mart.



Figure 5 Ordnance Survey 25inch to the mile Berwickshire sheet 026.14 Revised 1906 Published 1908.

Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright [1908] All rights reserved. Licence number 1000 06772.

By 1906 the plan of the building has not changed (*figure 5*), but the associated ground has been reduced further with the south west boundary apparently now being the back wall of the cottage. Alternatively it may be that the whole field to the south west is part of the same property. The track or path to the auction mart now stops short in the adjacent field and does not seem to continue northeast

across the field to the south of the cottage. It seems that only a wall or fence continued, northwards but this apparently also stops short in the area where the wall surrounding the cottage had been previously.

Fluthers Cottage was occupied until 1985. After this point it was used for storage until the current phase of work began.

2. Building Recording

i. Methodology

To simplify the written description of the building a site north was established, and the main frontage of the building is described as the south elevation, with all other orientations based on this. The building recording was undertaken in two phases. The first phase of work took place on the 29th and 30th of April 2014, the weather was dry and bright (*plate 1*). An initial record was made of the building as it stood. This comprised a full detailed digital photographic record of the exterior and interior of the building. The photographs were numbered and related to a written photographic register (*Appendix A & D*). All exterior and significant interior elevations were measured and hand drawn at a scale of 1:20 and a ground floor plan was also produced at 1:20 (*Appendix C & E*). A written context list was made and tied in to the drawn record (*Appendix B*). The building recording was carried out according to the standards laid out in ALGAO Historic Building Recording Guidance, for a ‘Detailed’ record.

As specified in the WSI a second site visit was necessary to record the thatch following the removal of the sheet metal roof. Due to the instability of the west gable it was not possible to safely remove any of the remaining harl. The recording of the thatch took place on the 22nd of September 2015. The day began dry and bright but rain set in towards the end of the day.

The methodology employed in the recording of the thatch was based on advice given within Historic Scotland’s Technical Advice Note 13, The Archaeology of Scottish Thatch (Holden 1998). A full and detailed photographic record was made of the thatch, showing its general condition and details where they were visible. A 0.5m section was excavated through the thatch from the ridge to the wall head (*plate 2*). The section was located near the centre of the north pitch, which was best preserved. The long section through the thatch was drawn at 1:20, and the section of the turfs forming the ridge was drawn at 1:10. A plan was also drawn of the timbers that overlay the thatch and supported the sheet metal roofing. Samples of the different thatching materials and fixings were retained. The context list was updated accordingly and the photographic numbering system was carried on from earlier work.



Plate 1 Working shot during initial phase (059).



Plate 2 Excavation of the Thatch (124).

ii. General Layout

The cottage was very small in plan and single storey in height with a single entrance on the south elevation. This accessed a small hall, which led to a small narrow room on the left, used as a bed room. The door of a small walk in cupboard was opposite the front door. The hall and cupboard appeared to have been a later addition, as the walls were lined with timber rather than the plastered walls seen elsewhere.

On the right a door led into the main room, this had a fireplace on the east wall and a door into the timber lean to structure. This structure formed the kitchen on the north side, which led into the bathroom on the south.

iii. The Exterior

a. South elevation

The front elevation, as with the rest of the cottage was predominately built from grey whin field stone rubble, with occasional roughly squared red sandstone (*plate 3*). The masonry was roughly coursed and bonded with coarse lime mortar. There were surviving areas of a coarse levelling layer of lime harl (002) with a finer course (003) applied on top. The wall stood to a single storey and had two large openings. The door was off set to the left with a timber lintel over. An open timber porch (007) had been built over the door (006) with a corrugated iron roof. The jambs were formed from the same rough rubble stones as the rest of the elevation mixed with some sandstone. The single window (005) was to the right of centre and appeared oversized in relation to the rest of the cottage. The jambs were of rough pink sandstone with a timber lintel. There was no check for the window frame, which together with the disproportionate size of the window (022) may suggest that the aperture was formed to fit an existing salvaged window frame.

Both the door and window are secondary features slapped through the early elevation.



Plate 3 General view of south elevation (061)

There was a lean-to timber structure (010) abutting the east gable of the cottage. On the front elevation it was constructed from horizontal overlapping weather board with a sloping corrugated iron roof. A window was covered by a sheet of ply.

b. West elevation

The west elevation was built of the same materials as the frontage (*plate 4*). Some of the quoins were squared sandstone, whilst others were rougher whin. A larger proportion of the west gable was covered in harl and due to the unstable condition of the masonry it was not possible to safely remove the harl. At the south side of the gable evidence survived of the original doorway (*014*). The jambs could be seen running down to the ground: the upper parts of the jambs on both sides were formed from pink sandstone, with the lower parts whin rubble (*plate 5*). The first edition OS map (*figure 3*) shows the cottage's main approach from the west, presumably leading to this door. The lower part of the doorway was subsequently blocked (*015*) with whin rubble, the same as the main fabric of the building.

The opening was further built up (*016*), to form a narrower window (*017*), using small rubble with the south jamb built from brick. Brick had also been used to build up the wall head at the north side (*020*), possibly at the time the corrugated iron was added to the roof. It is possible that this was carried out at the same time as the window alterations and the rebuilding of the chimney in brick as part of general improvements to the property.



Plate 4 General view of west elevation (011)



Plate 5 Detail of blocking around window (013)

A second window (*018*), now blocked (*019*), was partially visible in the centre of the gable at attic level (*plate 6*). The lower squared sandstone jambs and a thin timber sill were all that could be seen due to the covering of harl. Further evidence for this window could be seen on the interior, where the upper sandstone jambs and timber lintel were visible (*plate 7*). The height of the window in relation to the current roof structure suggested that the present ceiling must have been added after or at the same time as the window was blocked.



Plate 6 Blocked attic window exterior (014)



Plate 7 Blocked attic window interior (155)

c. North elevation

The north elevation, at the rear of the building was almost entirely featureless (*plate 8*). The masonry was identical to the rest of the building but there was no evidence of harl on this face. It would seem likely that this face was also harled but it has been removed, although it is possible that only the more visible frontage and gables were harled. The rear wall of the timber lean to structure was built from vertical railway sleepers, presumably salvaged from the former railway to the south of the cottage. The track, which was part of the Berwickshire line, was still in use by freight trains until 1965; therefore the sleepers must have been salvaged when replacements were made during maintenance of the line. The shadow of the fixings for the track can be clearly seen on the sleepers, showing that they had been used. The upper part of the wall was made from vertically laid thin planks, and a small window (017) with a timber frame had been cut through (*plate 9*).



Plate 8 General view of north elevation (016)



Plate 9 Lean to with window (017)

d. East elevation



Plate 10 East elevation of timber lean to (019)



Plate 11 Upper section of east gable (021)

The base of the east gable was obscured by the timber lean to; the exposed masonry was identical to that observed elsewhere in the building, and there were only very slight traces of harl visible (*plate 10*). The base of the chimney as seen on the exterior was built from squared sandstone. The upper part of the chimney had been rebuilt in brick, similar to that used in the blocking and wall head rebuilding in

the east elevation (*plate 11*). Internally the chimney could be seen to abut the whin masonry of the gable, showing it was a later addition (*plate 12*).



Plate 12 East elevation showing later chimney (043)

The north part of the lean to structure was constructed from railway sleepers as described previously, whilst the southern part was thin vertical planks with thinner batons nailed over the joints, presumably to reduce drafts in what would have been the bathroom.

iv. The Interior

a. Entrance Hall

The small entrance hall had a walk in cupboard immediately opposite the door. The cupboard had a planked and horizontally braced door and timber lining.

b. Main room

A six panelled timber door to the right led to the main room of the cottage: a large sitting room with a fireplace set in the centre of the east wall lit by a large window with internal splays in the south elevation (*plates 13 and 14*). The timber lining which formed the ceiling was largely missing exposing the inside of the thatched roof above. The floor and window sill were timber. Revealed in the plaster around the fireplace (*036*) was patching for an earlier surround (*037*) which had been removed and replaced by the current fireplace, which dates stylistically to the early 20th century. The interior retained some of the original lime plaster (*038*). A four panelled timber door (*044*) to the left of the fireplace accessed the timber lean to, to the east.



Plate 13 East elevation main room (034)



Plate 14 West elevation of main room (039)

c. Lean-to

The lean-to was constructed to house the kitchen and bathroom and had been sub divided into two rooms by a brick partition; both rooms had a concrete floor. The first room entered was the largest and was presumably the kitchen; a sink and an additional set of taps survived, but there was no evidence for the cooker (*plate 15*). It is likely that the original fireplace contained a range later replaced by the more decorative fireplace. The kitchen had a small timber framed window in the north wall. The bathroom was entered through a timber doorway in the south wall and still contained the fixtures and fittings; the small window in the south wall had been boarded up (*plate 16*).



Plate 15 Looking south in kitchen (032)



Plate 16 Looking south in bathroom (027)

d. Bedroom

The bedroom was a long narrow room at the west end of the cottage. The timber door had six panels in pairs of different size over a single large panel at the bottom (*plate 17*). There was a small timber framed sash and case window in the west wall. The south end of the east wall was of timber planking adjacent to the hall; tongue and groove had been applied to the remainder of the lower half of the east wall, whilst elsewhere the walls were plastered. The paint and patching (*049*) in the plaster on the west and north walls indicated the position of what was presumably a box bed (*plate 18*).



Plate 17 Bedroom looking south (050)



Plate 18 Bedroom looking north (052)

v. *The Thatch*

a. *General description*

The condition of the thatch was varied across the roof structure. In general the south pitch of the roof was in poor condition (*plate 19*). The thatch was more degraded and had been further damaged by birds' nests and extensive rat runs beneath the corrugated iron covering (*plate 20*). This side of the roof would have been subject to the prevailing wind and weather and be more at risk of damage.

The thatch itself was predominantly wheat straw, with some barley straw also present. The lengths of straw were largely complete from base to seed head. They had been folded in half and twisted to form a knot which was tied to the roof with the loose ends of the straw forming the visible part of the thatch. These varied in length from 0.7m at the longest to 0.5m; the longer lengths were more common. Along the north side of the roof where preservation was best, at the eaves the thatch had been tightly compacted and trimmed at an angle of 45°. Where the section through the thatch was excavated there was only one layer of thatch (see below), and evidence that the thatch had been entirely replaced in the western half of the north pitch (*plates 25 and 26*).



Plate 19 general view of thatch, south side (090).



Plate 20 Rat runs within the Thatch (100).

The skews and the ridge of the roof covering were of turf. The ridge was heavily eroded and slumped down the roof with little definition of individual turfs visible. There were two distinct layers of turf along the ridge: the lower turf (051) was light reddish brown clay and there was a very thin layer of straw between it and the upper turf (050), which was lighter yellowish brown sandy clay.

On the north pitch of the roof the western skew was entirely eroded away, whilst the eastern skew on the same side of the roof was the best preserved. A section through the thatch was excavated at the western skew to clarify the relationship between the skew and the thatch. Here turf skew appeared to have been built then the thatch butted against it (*plate 21*). This was different to the technique used on the south pitch of the roof. Although badly eroded, both skews survived on the south pitch and were excavated to understand the relationships. Here the turfs were interleaved with the straw of the thatch. At the west end, in places the straw completely covered the turf. It would seem that the thatch and turf were laid together, with a row of thatch topped at the skews with turf, then the next row of thatch laid again with a turf at the skews (*plate 22*).

Before the corrugated iron roofing was added, grooves were cut into the thatch into which the timber frame was placed; the sheets of iron were then fixed on to this.



Plate 21 Turf Skew with abutting thatch north side (175).



Plate 22 Turf and thatch skew, south side (173).

b. Fixings and other details

As described above, there were two distinct sizes/styles of straw bundles used in the thatch. There were also two distinct methods of fixing the thatch to the roof. From the underside it was possible to see that the bundles of straw were tied to the batons with a thick twine most probably made by twisting bramble stems after removing the outer layer. The upper layer of thatch was mostly held in place by straight sharpened pegs which looked to have been made from splitting left over timber from the construction of the roof. The pegs were in pairs and joined at the top by a length of the twine described above. These were then pushed into the thatch with the twine running along the surface. This form of fixing was used on the south pitch of the roof and the east end of the north pitch. The turfs forming the skews on the south pitch were also pinned together by the same form of pegs (*plate 23*).

A groove running down the thatch from ridge to eaves was visible towards the east end of the north pitch. To the east of this the thatch was in a much poorer condition and to the west was a different form of fixing the top layer of thatch. This was done using hazel canes or twigs twisted and bent into hairpin shapes known as scobs; these were pushed into the thatch to secure it in place (*plate 24*). One of the scobs retained a short length of hazel which lay along the surface of the thatch to hold it in place; long lengths of hazel were often held in place by scobs to retain the upper layer of thatch.



Plate 23 Timber pegs with twine (125).



Plate 24 Scob and hazel rod holding down thatch (113).

It seems likely that this difference in technique indicates that the thatch was replaced along the west end of the north elevation at some point and the thatcher carrying out the repairs used his own preferred technique, perhaps an older tradition.



Plate 25 section through thatch



Plate 26 section through thatch

3. Evaluation of the site through Archaeological Monitoring

i. Methodology

Foundation trenching for a new southern extension to Fluthers Cottage was excavated by a Wacker Neuson 6003 mini digger under archaeological supervision (*figure 6*). The trenching was started on the 8th August 2015 and supervised by J Morrison; however, lack of storage space for spoil on site meant that excavation was stopped until spoil could be better managed. The depth of the trenches required to reach solid natural was considerably deeper than originally envisioned and the quantity of spoil was accordingly large.

The excavation was completed on Saturday 15th August under the supervision of K Macfadyen.

The trenches were excavated down to solid natural deposits to form a secure base for the foundations. The natural deposits varied in depth from 0.50m to the north down to approximately 2.0m at the SE corner (*plate 25*).

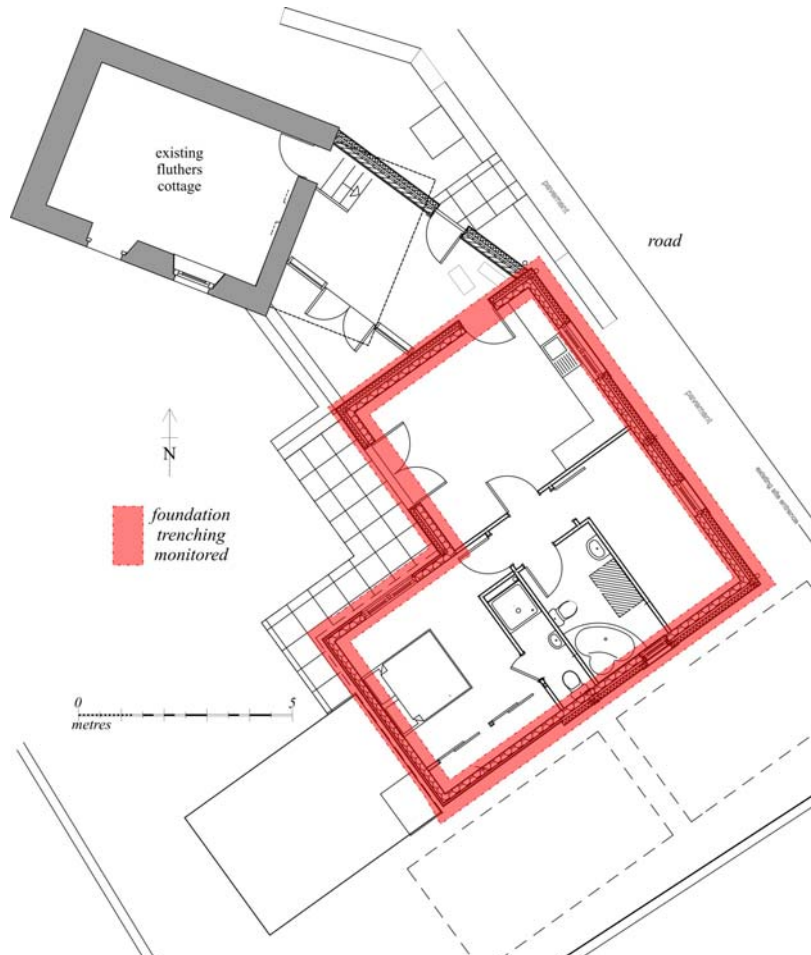


Figure 6 plan of trenching

The stratigraphy was simple and generally consistent across the site. The lowest deposit exposed was compacted gravelly/sand natural (061) sloping down to the SW from the north and following the former general slope of the surrounding area.

Overlying the natural was a deep deposit of fairly homogenous dark and occasionally stony topsoil (060), again sloping down to the south. This measured 0.30-0.80m deep, becoming deeper to the south and partially levelling out the site.

Although the soils were generally apparently homogenous, discussion with J Halliday about the prior use of the site indicated that the former owner had imported soil from another site nearby to level the ground. No real distinction could be made out between earlier topsoil and imported topsoil; cultivation may have mixed any differences if there were any. The few finds noted within topsoil were all of 19th century white wares (not retained).

The upper deposit was a deep spread of modern building debris (059) dumped and spread across the site in recent years. This sloped from 0.20m deep in the north to 0.90m deep in the south, further levelling the site.



Plate 27 general view of trenching

At the SE corner of the trenching the underlying soil deposits had been historically removed down to solid natural and replaced with large quantities of concrete blocks and rubble. This was most likely relating to strengthening the entrance for heavy vehicles.

ii. Results

Across the trenching, no archaeology or artefacts that can be shown to date earlier than the 19th century were discovered. Natural gravels and sands exposed across the whole site were overlain with topsoil indicating (with the map evidence) that the site was open fields up to the construction of the cottage.

4. Conclusions and Recommendations

The investigations of the cottage have identified the phasing of the structure and demonstrated that it was built on an open site with no previous structures evident during the trenching. The structure of Fluthers Cottage is largely of two phases: a plain utility structure/barn latterly converted in a very crude fashion into accommodation. This conversion was quite basically done and involved the reuse of timberwork, windows and doors from other structures.

i. Phase 1

The original layout of the building appeared to have been a simple rectangular outbuilding/barn, perhaps of early 19th century or later 18th century origin. This was positioned at the end of a lane behind the main street with a main access through the western gable. As no other obvious original ground floor openings were visible the original door must have been here. Above this and central to the gable is a short window lighting the structure.

The roof rafters appeared to have been constructed from pine cabers roughly squared by saw (not adzed as recorded in the listing) and then sawn in half leaving much bark on the waney edges. The purlins are sawn square and quite light in dimensions. A single phase of thatch is sewn/tied onto these directly (with a later repair to the thatch of the western side of the north pitch).

The original interior was likely to have been open to the thatch; no original wall lining was seen but is likely to have been bare rubble, maybe limewashed.

ii. Phase 2 (mid to late-19th century?)

A second phase of use saw the building converted into accommodation. In this phase a number of openings were slapped and features added, all associated with rough quoining formed from sandstone rubble.

The door on the western gable was blocked with random field stone rubble and converted to a window; a large sandstone sill was also added. It is possible at this time the upper jambs were replaced with sandstone to match the other openings and form the window. This would explain the looseness of the upper masonry around the converted door: the southern jamb was looser/collapsing indicating an alteration, repair or widening.

On the southern elevation a door and a window were slapped through and faint evidence for this can be made out on the western jamb of the door and the east jamb of the window. The masonry in-between these may have been rebuilt at the same time as the slapping. The quoining of these is very rough and largely constructed from sandstone rubble, with the quoining of the window roughly built around the (reused) window case rather than the window built into a formed opening. The door is likely to be the same. The window in the western gable was likely blocked with rubble at this time.

A secondary more substantial and sawn square set of rafters was inserted between the original roof structures to strengthen the roof and provide support for a new inserted ceiling structure. This ceiling was of tongue and grooved timber boarding, possibly of reused floor boards. A timber floor structure was also added.

A timber partition was constructed dividing the space into a small bedroom to the west with a box bed built against the north-west corner and a larger living space to the east. Within this eastern room a large fireplace and chimney was constructed against the eastern gable; this was largely constructed in sandstone in direct contrast to the whin field stone of the original building.

The interiors were plastered on the hard with a plain timber skirting. The doors to the rooms all show different details (moulding, number of panels, size etc), further indicating reused timberwork.

iii. Phase 3 (late 19th century)

Latterly perhaps in the late 19th century a further phase of upgrading/modernising was undertaken in brick.

The window of the bedroom was reduced in width with brick and rubble, perhaps to improve the temperature. The chimney stack was replaced in brick; the poor quality of the sandstone had likely failed.

A lean-to structure constructed from timber and reused railway sleepers was added between the first and second edition OS maps and a new door was slapped through the eastern gable to access it.

The encasing of the thatch in corrugated iron likely was contemporary with the lean to construction due to the same use of corrugated iron for roofing.

iv. Phase 4 (20th C)

In the early 20th century the fireplace was replaced with a new one with a tiled surround.

v. Recommendations

Although the structure was quite roughly built and altered in the 19th century, it has retained some interest due to it being the last thatched building in the Scottish Borders and Category B Listed. The present plans for the redevelopment of the building have enabled the recording of the structure and will maintain the core of the building for future use. A future publication outlining the investigations would be desirable and will be done in collaboration with Historic Scotland and the Scottish Group of the Society of the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB).

References

ALGAO: Scotland *Historic building recording guidance for curators, consultants and contractors*.

Holden, T 1998 *The Archaeology of Scottish Thatch TAN13*. Technical Advice Note 13, Technical Conservation, Research and Education Division of Historic Scotland, Edinburgh.

Appendix A Photographic register

<i>Frame</i>	<i>Direction facing</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Taken By</i>
001	NW	29.4.14	General view front elevation	Kmacf
002	NW	29.4.14	As above	Kmacf
003	NW	29.4.14	As above	Kmacf
004	NE	29.4.14	Detail front of timber lean-to	Kmacf
005	NE	29.4.14	1 of 3 details of front elevation	Kmacf
006	NE	29.4.14	2 of 3 as above	Kmacf
007	NE	29.4.14	3 of 3 as above	Kmacf
008	NE	29.4.14	Front porch	Kmacf
009	E	29.4.14	General view of cottage	Kmacf
010	E	29.4.14	As above	Kmacf
011	SE	29.4.14	North west gable general shot	Kmacf
012	SE	29.4.14	As above	Kmacf
013	SE	29.4.14	NW gable- detail of blocked door	Kmacf
014	SE	29.4.14	NW gable –detail of blocked window	Kmacf
015	SE	29.4.14	General shot rear elevation	Kmacf
016	SE	29.4.14	As above	Kmacf
017	NW	29.4.14	General shot rear elevation	Kmacf
018	NW	29.4.14	Close up of turf skew SE elevation	Kmacf
019	NW	29.4.14	Lower timber lean-to	Kmacf
020	NW	29.4.14	Detail of sleeper construction	Kmacf
021	NW	29.4.14	Masonry of south east gabel	Kmacf
022	NW	29.4.14	Detail of chimney from south east	Kmacf

<i>Frame</i>	<i>Direction facing</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Taken By</i>
023	N	29.4.14	Chimney detail	Kmacf
024	NW	29.4.14	Detail- can base covering hole	Kmacf
025	NW	29.4.14	General view of SE gable lean to	Kmacf
026	NW	29.4.14	As above	Kmacf
027	SE	29.4.14	Bathroom interior	Kmacf
028	SW	29.4.14	As above	Kmacf
029	NW	29.4.14	As above with boiler	Kmacf
030	NW	29.4.14	As above with water tank	Kmacf
031	E	29.4.14	Sink in scullery	Kmacf
032	S	29.4.14	General view into scullery	Kmacf
033	E	29.4.14	General view left side main room	Kmacf
034	E	29.4.14	Detail of fire	Kmacf
035	E	29.4.14	General view right side of main room	Kmacf
036	S	29.4.14	Window main room	Kmacf
037	S	29.4.14	Window main room with flash	Kmacf
038	N	29.4.14	Rear elevation main room	Kmacf
039	NW	29.4.14	Main room west elevation	Kmacf
040	S	29.4.14	Interior door detail	Kmacf
041	NW	29.4.14	Outside of door in main room	Kmacf
042	NW	29.4.14	As above	Kmacf
043	SE	29.4.14	Looking up at chimney	Kmacf
044	SE	29.4.14	Underside of thatch	Kmacf
045	NE	29.4.14	As above with rafters and roof structure	Kmacf

<i>Frame</i>	<i>Direction facing</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Taken By</i>
046	NW	29.4.14	As above	Kmacf
047	NE	29.4.14	Cupboard door in hall	Kmacf
048	SE	29.4.14	Back/interior of cupboard	Kmacf
049	S	29.4.14	Exterior of bedroom door	Kmacf
050	S	29.4.14	Elevation- south side of bedroom	Kmacf
051	N	29.4.14	North elevation of bedroom	Kmacf
052	N	29.4.14	As above	Kmacf
053	S	29.4.14	Timber tongue and groove partition	Kmacf
054	NW	29.4.14	Window in bedroom	Kmacf
055	NW	29.4.14	As above	Kmacf
056	E	29.4.14	Working shot	JMM
057	E	29.4.14	As above	JMM
058	N	29.4.14	General view full sun	JMM
059	N	29.4.14	As above	JMM
060	NE	29.4.14	General view full sun	JMM
061	NE	29.4.14	General view full sun	JMM
062	NE	29.4.14	General view full sun	JMM
063	SE	29.4.14	Tin on north pitch of roof, detail of ridge	JMM
064	SE	29.4.14	General shot of above	JMM
065	SE	29.4.14	Close up of turf ridge	JMM
066	SE	29.4.14	As above with chimney	JMM
067	SE	29.4.14	Chimney and ridge detail bad light	JMM
068	SE	29.4.14	As above better light	JMM

<i>Frame</i>	<i>Direction facing</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Taken By</i>
069		29.4.14	Photo of client painting of cottage	JMM
070	E	29.4.14	Detail of chimney on interior	JMM
071	E	29.4.14	Close up of top of chimney on interior	JMM
072-089		08.08.15	General record shots of excavation of foundations No archaeology present	Kmacf
090	NW	22.08.15	General shot of south side of thatched roof	JMM
091	NE	22.08.15	Close up of thatch east end	JMM
092	NE	22.08.15	Continuation of above moving west	Kmacf
093	NE	22.08.15	Continuation of above moving west	Kmacf
094	NE	22.08.15	Continuation of above moving west	Kmacf
095	NE	22.08.15	Continuation of above moving west	Kmacf
096	NW	22.08.15	View of base of thatch showing pegs	Kmacf
097	NE	22.08.15	Details of pegs	Kmacf
098	NE	22.08.15	As above	Kmacf
099	NE	22.08.15	Pegs up west gable	Kmacf
100	NE	22.08.15	Rat in its run in the thatch	Kmacf
101	SW	22.08.15	General shot of north pitch	Kmacf
102	SW	22.08.15	As above	Kmacf
103	SW	22.08.15	General shot of thatch from east moving along to west	Kmacf
104	SW	22.08.15	As above	Kmacf
105	SW	22.08.15	As above west end	Kmacf
106	SW	22.08.15	Detail of west gable	Kmacf
107	SE	22.08.15	Detail of eaves	Kmacf
108	SW	22.08.15	As above, different angle	Kmacf

<i>Frame</i>	<i>Direction facing</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Taken By</i>
109	SW	22.08.15	Detail of east gable	Kmacf
110	SE	22.08.15	Detail of cut edge of thatch	Kmacf
111	SW	22.08.15	As above different angle	Kmacf
112	SW	22.08.15	As above	Kmacf
113	S	22.08.15	Detail of scob in situ	Kmacf
114		22.08.15	As above ex-situ	Kmacf
115	SW	22.08.15	Post ex shot of turfs at ridge	Kmacf
116	SW	22.08.15	As above detail	Kmacf
117	SW	22.08.15	Close up of above	Kmacf
118	SW	22.08.15	Section partially excavated	Kmacf
119	W	22.08.15	Section partially excavated	Kmacf
120	W	22.08.15	Section partially excavated	JMM
121	W	22.08.15	Section partially excavated	Kmacf
122		22.08.15	Two long bundles of thatch removed from N pitch (retained)	Kmacf
123		22.08.15	Partial excavation of thatch section showing straight scob and raip	JMM
124	SW	22.08.15	Working shot of thatch excavation	JMM
125		22.08.15	Pegs and raip ex-situ (retained)	JMM
126		22.08.15	Close up of above	JMM
127		22.08.15	As above on white background	JMM
128		22.08.15	As above	JMM
129	SE	22.08.15	Post –ex shots of west facing section from the ridge down	JMM
130	SE	22.08.15	Post –ex shots of west facing section from the ridge down	JMM
131	SE	22.08.15	Post –ex shots of west facing section from the ridge down	JMM

<i>Frame</i>	<i>Direction facing</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Taken By</i>
132	SE	22.08.15	Post –ex shots of west facing section from the ridge down	JMM
133	SE	22.08.15	Post –ex shots of west facing section from the ridge down	JMM
134	SE	22.08.15	Post –ex shots of west facing section from the ridge down	JMM
135	SE	22.08.15	Post –ex shots of west facing section from the ridge down	JMM
136	SE	22.08.15	Post –ex shots of west facing section from the ridge down	JMM
137	SE	22.08.15	Post –ex shots of west facing section from the ridge down	JMM
138	SW	22.08.15	Post-ex shot at ridge east facing section	JMM
139	SW	22.08.15	Lower part of above	JMM
140	SW	22.08.15	Detail of rafter foot and wall plate	JMM
141	S	22.08.15	As above	JMM
142	SW	22.08.15	General post ex shot of section though thatch	JMM
143	SW	22.08.15	As above	JMM
144	W	22.08.15	As above, different angle	JMM
145	E	22.08.15	As above, different angle	JMM
146	SW	22.08.15	Close up of turf ridge section	JMM
147	SW	22.08.15	General shot of section	JMM
148	E	22.08.15	Detail of ridge	JMM
149	SW	22.08.15	Working shot through roof	JMM
150	N	22.08.15	View out through section cut in thatch	JMM
151	UP	22.08.15	Rafter and thatch from interior	JMM
152	NE	22.08.15	Detail of thatch from interior	JMM
153	NE	22.08.15	Detail of thatch from interior	JMM
154	NE	22.08.15	Rafter and thatch from interior	JMM

<i>Frame</i>	<i>Direction facing</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Taken By</i>
155	NW	22.08.15	Interior of west gable showing blocked window	JMM
156	SE	22.08.15	Interior of roof	JMM
157	W	22.08.15	Detail of thatch section from interior	JMM
158	W	22.08.15	Detail of thatch section from interior	JMM
159	W	22.08.15	Detail of thatch section from interior	JMM
160	W	22.08.15	Detail of thatch section from interior	JMM
161	W	22.08.15	Detail of thatch section from interior	JMM
162	NE	22.08.15	View down roof pitch through excavated slot	JMM
163	NW	22.08.15	Detail of seed heads of thatch, on interior	JMM
164	E	22.08.15	Working shot of section recording	JMM
165	SW	22.08.15	General view of excavated slot	JMM
166	SW	22.08.15	Rafter foot and wall plate	JMM
167	SE	22.08.15	Chimney and ridge	JMM
168	N	22.08.15	General view of cottage	JMM
169	NE	22.08.15	Turf and thatch interleaved at west gable on the south pitch	JMM
170	NE	22.08.15	Turf skew at east end of south pitch, possibly same as at west end, less clear	JMM
171	NE	22.08.15	Loose straw from beneath the thatch at west end of the south pitch, ex situ	JMM
172	NE	22.08.15	Loose straw visible beneath thatch as above but still in-situ	JMM
173	NE	22.08.15	Turf and thatch at west gable of south pitch	JMM
174	SW	22.08.15	Cleaned section of turf forming east skew on north pitch showing thatch abutting turf	JMM
175	SW	22.08.15	As above	JMM
176	SW	22.08.15	General view of north pitch	JMM
177	SW	22.08.15	General view of north pitch	JMM

<i>Frame</i>	<i>Direction facing</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Taken By</i>
178	SW	22.08.15	General view of north pitch	JMM
179	SW	22.08.15	General view of north pitch	JMM
180	E	22.08.15	View of cottage from Rodgers yard	JMM
181	E	22.08.15	Close up of cottage as above	JMM
182	E	22.08.15	Above shot zoomed in	JMM

Appendix B *Context register*

<i>Number</i>	<i>Recorded by</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
001	JMM	29.4.14	Main masonry-whin rubble
002	JMM	29.4.14	Course levelling lime harl
003	JMM	29.4.14	Fine finishing coat of lime harl
004	JMM	29.4.14	Modern hard grey cement
005	JMM	29.4.14	Large window on front elevation
006	JMM	29.4.14	Main doorway on front elevation
007	JMM	29.4.14	Timber porch around 006
008	JMM	29.4.14	Timber fascia board
009	JMM	29.4.14	Corrugated iron roof over thatch
010	JMM	29.4.14	Weather board front of lean-to
011	JMM	29.4.14	Timber boards on west elevation
012	JMM	29.4.14	Concrete step
013	JMM	29.4.14	Original window on west elevation
014	JMM	29.4.14	Original doorway

<i>Number</i>	<i>Recorded by</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
015	JMM	29.4.14	Blocking of doorway
016	JMM	29.4.14	Blocking beside window
017	JMM	29.4.14	Small window
018	JMM	29.4.14	Attic level window, now blocked
019	JMM	29.4.14	Blocking of 018
020	JMM	29.4.14	Brick building up of wall head
021	JMM	29.4.14	White lime wash
022	JMM	29.4.14	Remains of sash and case window frame
023	JMM	29.4.14	Remains of timber door frame
024	JMM	29.4.14	Remains of sandstone chimney
025	JMM	29.4.14	Brick rebuilding of chimney
026	JMM	29.4.14	Timber sash and case window
027	JMM	29.4.14	Possible slapping in north elevation
028	JMM	29.4.14	Possible re-built masonry
029	JMM	29.4.14	Crack in north gable
030	JMM	29.4.14	Timber planks forming lean-to structure
031	JMM	29.4.14	Railway sleepers
032	JMM	29.4.14	Corrugated iron roof on lean-to
033	JMM	29.4.14	Timber cladding on north elevation
034	JMM	29.4.14	Timber window in north elevation
035	JMM	29.4.14	Secondary patching of timber
036	JMM	29.4.14	Outline of earlier fireplace
037	JMM	29.4.14	Secondary fireplace and patching

<i>Number</i>	<i>Recorded by</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
038	JMM	29.4.14	Original lime plaster on interior
039	JMM	29.4.14	Timber floor structure
040	JMM	29.4.14	Early roof structure
041	JMM	29.4.14	Timber ceiling boards
042	JMM	29.4.14	Secondary roof structure
043	JMM	29.4.14	Timber tongue and groove internal partition
044	JMM	29.4.14	Four panel timber door
045	JMM	29.4.14	Brick partition in lean-to
046	JMM	29.4.14	Six panel timber door
047	JMM	29.4.14	Planked and braced timber door
048	JMM	29.4.14	Seven panel timber door
049	JMM	29.4.14	Outline of possible bed-press
050	JMM	29.4.14	Top layer of turf on ridge, light brown sandy clay
051	JMM	22.9.14	Bottom layer of turf on ridge, and forming skews, light redish brown sandy clay.
052	JMM	22.9.14	Straw thatch
053	JMM	22.9.14	Squared split pegs, south elevation and west end of north elevation
054	JMM	22.9.14	Bent scobs
055	JMM	22.9.14	Void
056	JMM	22.9.14	Raip (twine)
057	JMM	22.9.14	Timber frame over thatch
058	JMM	22.9.14	Additional thin layer of thatch visible between ridge turfs.
059	KM	15.8.15	Modern building debris
060	KM	15.8.15	Dark brown topsoil

<i>Number</i>	<i>Recorded by</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
061	KM	15.8.15	Gravelly sand natural

Appendix C Drawing register

<i>Frame</i>	<i>scale</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Drawn By</i>
01	1:20	Cottage west elevation exterior	JMM
02	1:20	Cottage, South elevation exterior	JMM
03	1:20	Cottage, North elevation exterior	JMM/Kmacf
04	1:20	Cottage lean to, east elevation exterior	Kmacf
05	1:20	Cottage, Plan	Kmacf
06	1:20	Cottage, east elevation interior	Kmacf
07	1:20	Cottage, west elevation interior	Kmacf
08	1:50	Sketch plan of foundation trenches monitored	Kmacf
09	1:20	N-S section through thatch across middle of north pitch	Kmacf
10	1:10	E-W section across turf of ridge	JMM
11	1:50	Location Plan of thatch trench on roof	Kmacf

Appendix D

Photographic contact sheets



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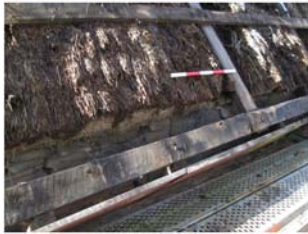
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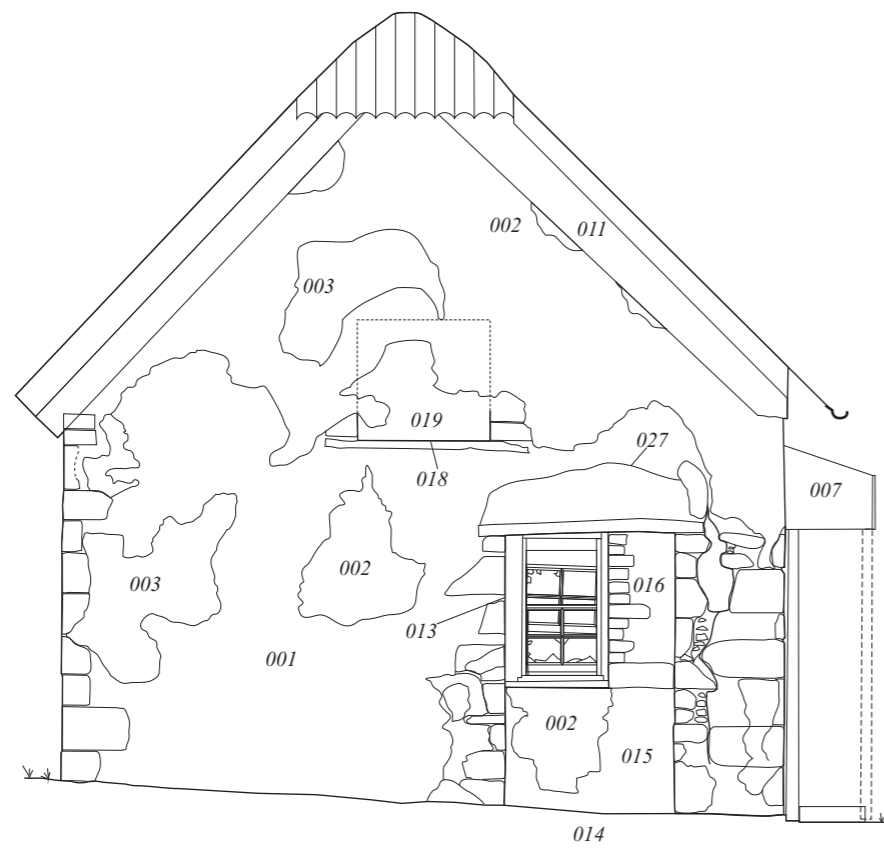


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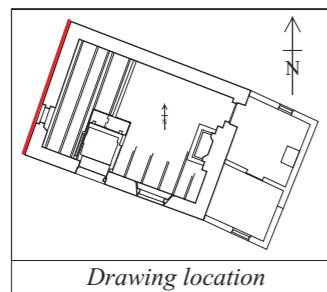


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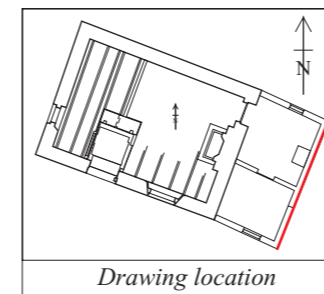
Appendix E: Record drawings



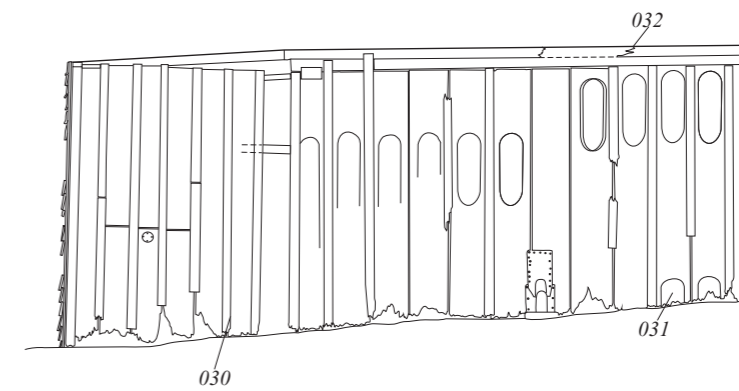
western gable exterior



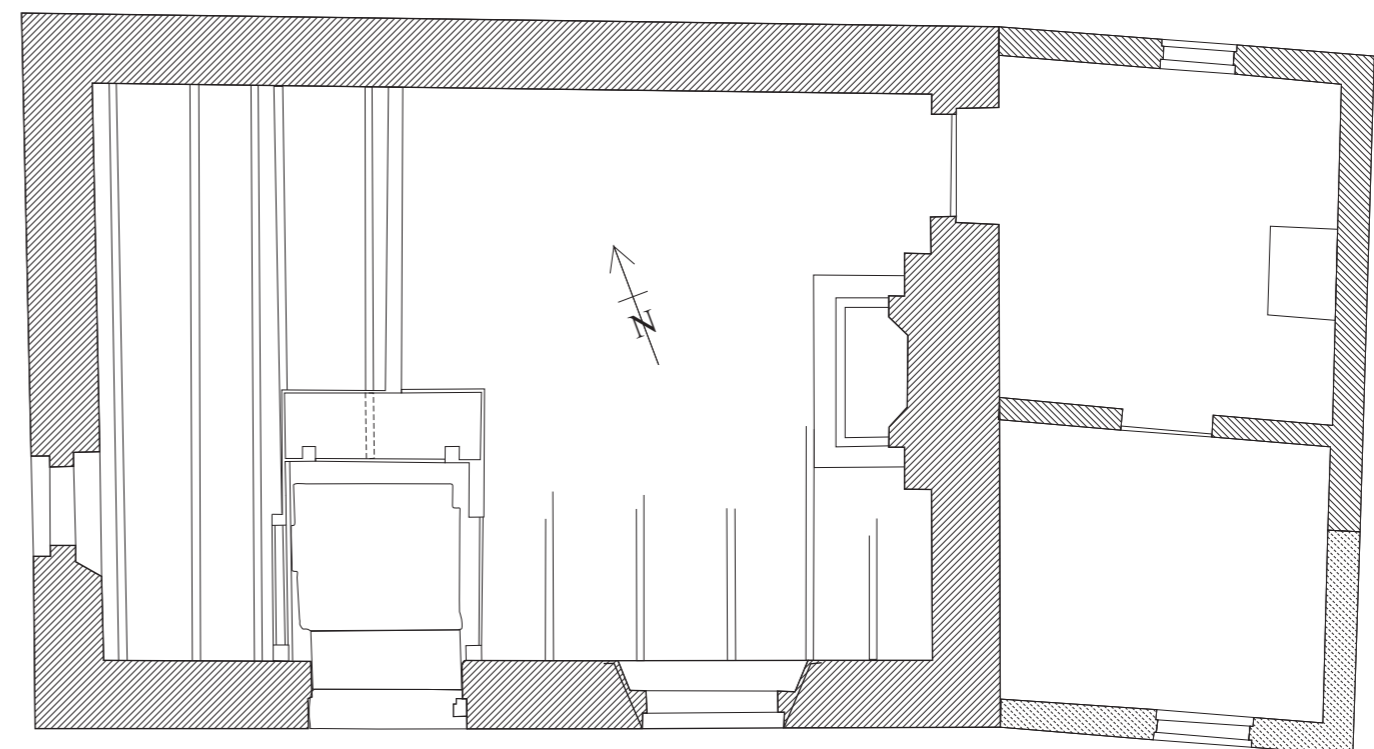
Drawing location



Drawing location

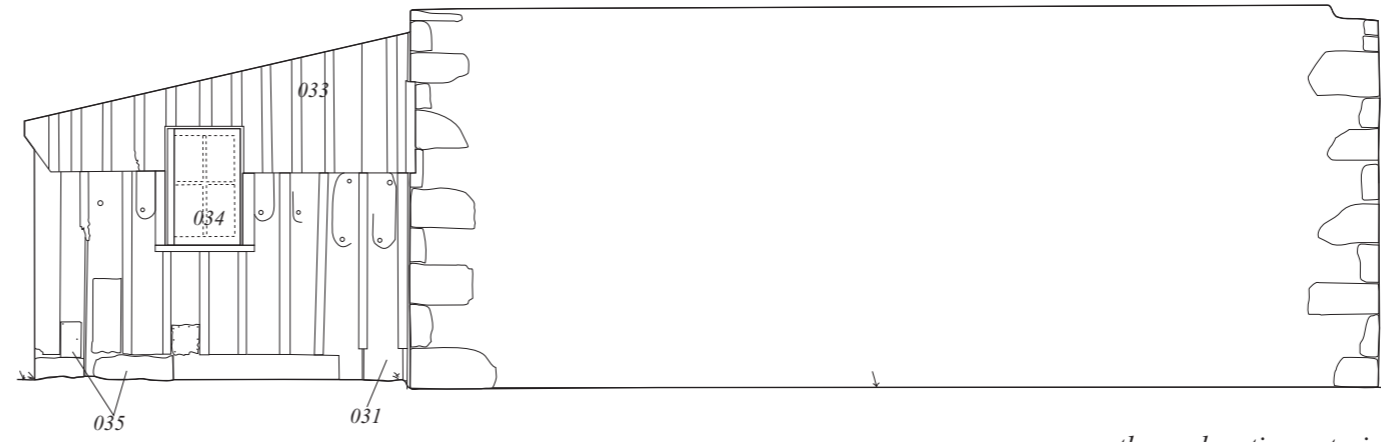
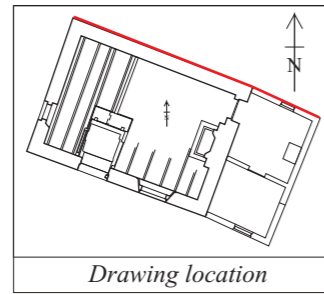


eastern gable of lean to, exterior

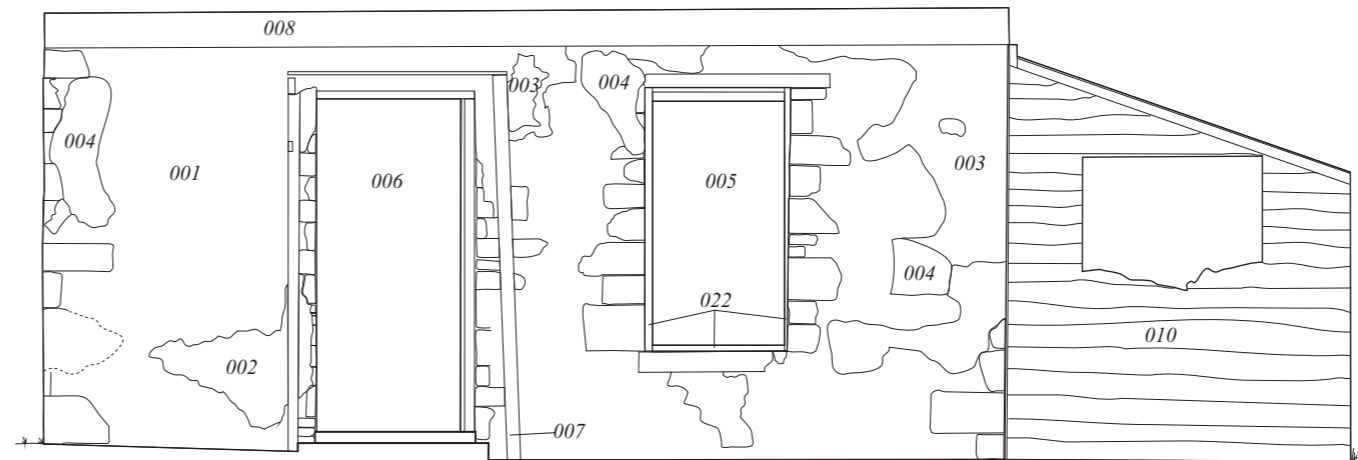
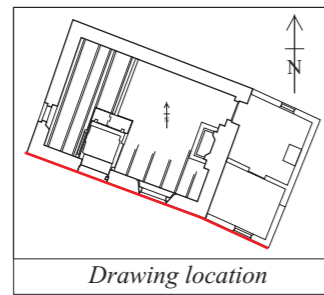


plan of building



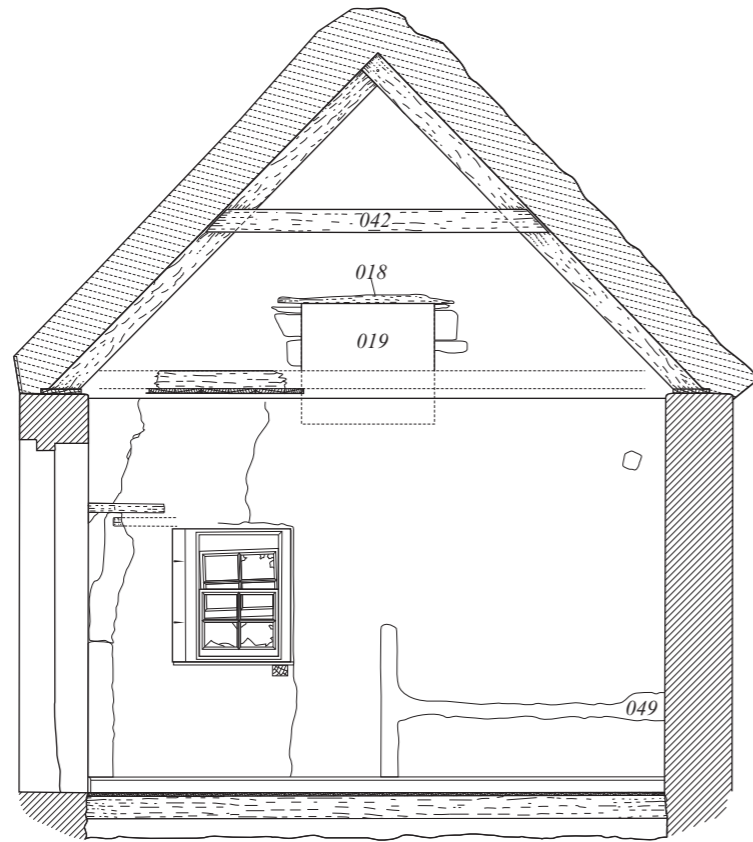


northern elevation exterior

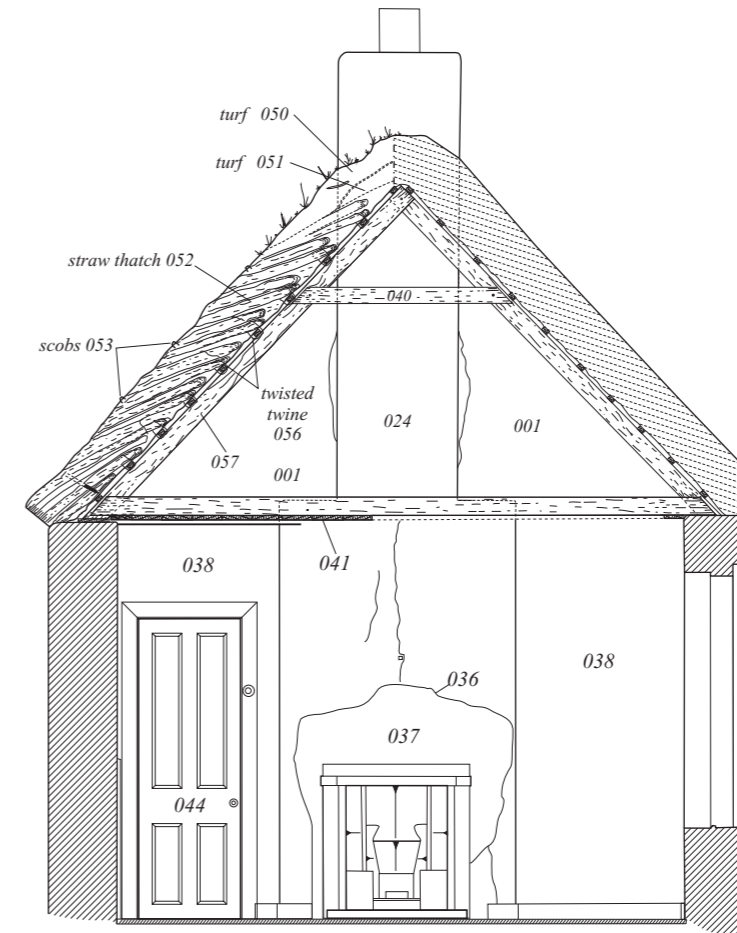


southern elevation exterior

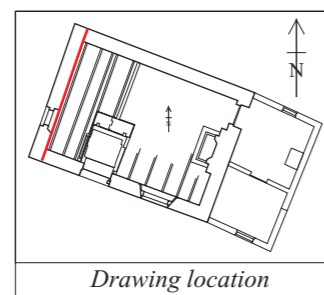




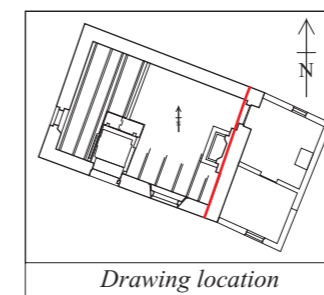
west gable interior



eastern gable interior

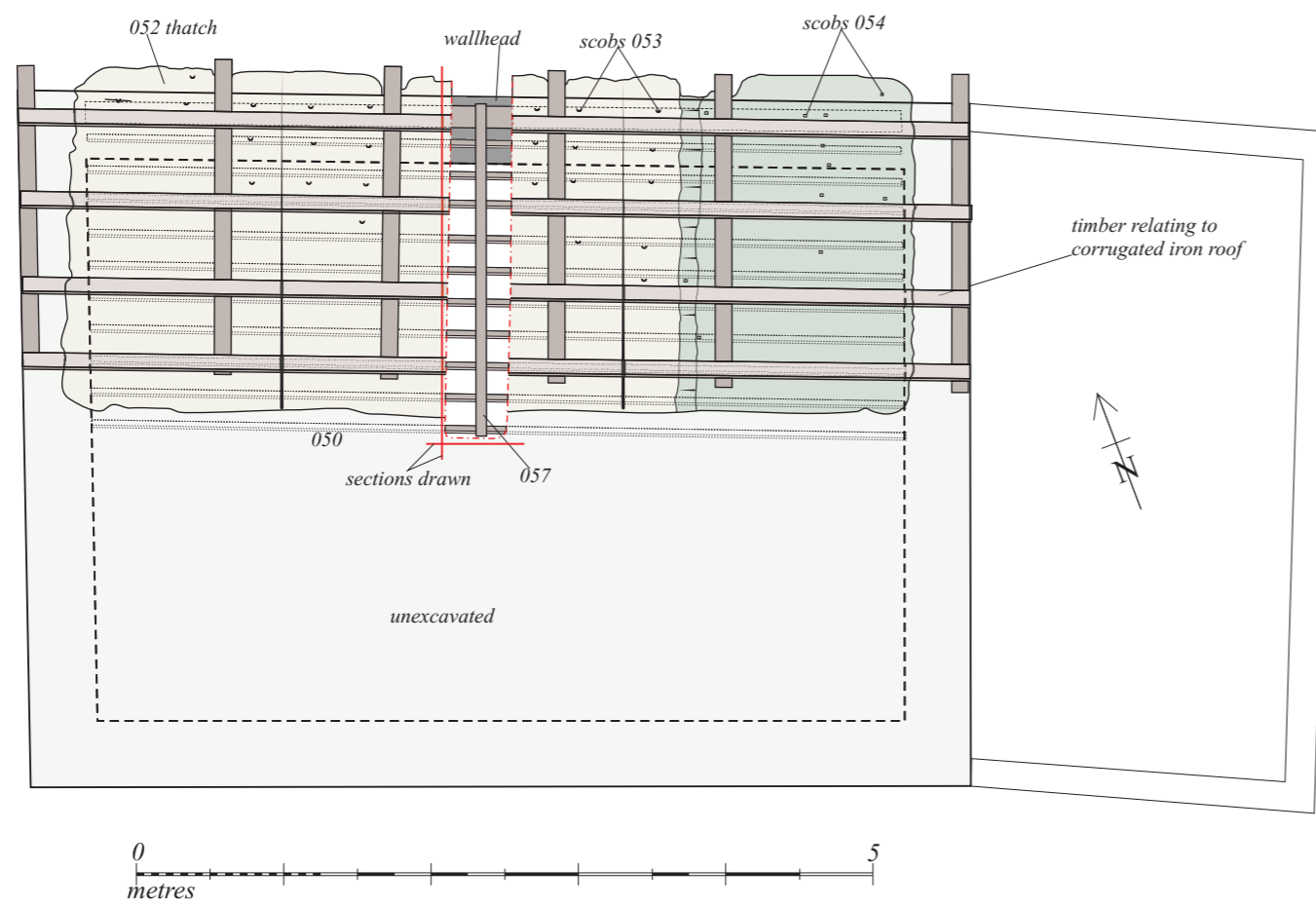


Drawing location

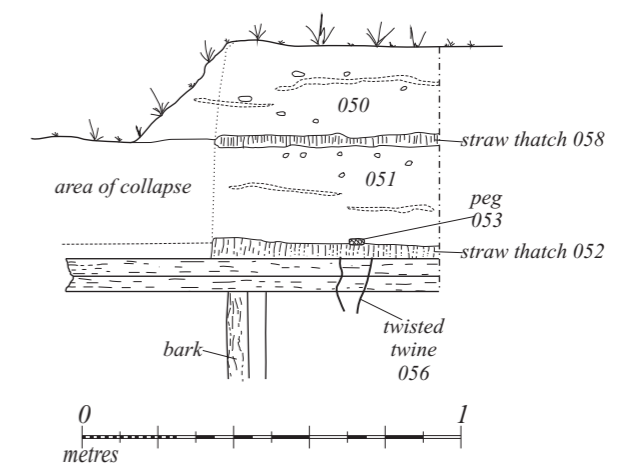


Drawing location





plan of roof thatch trenching

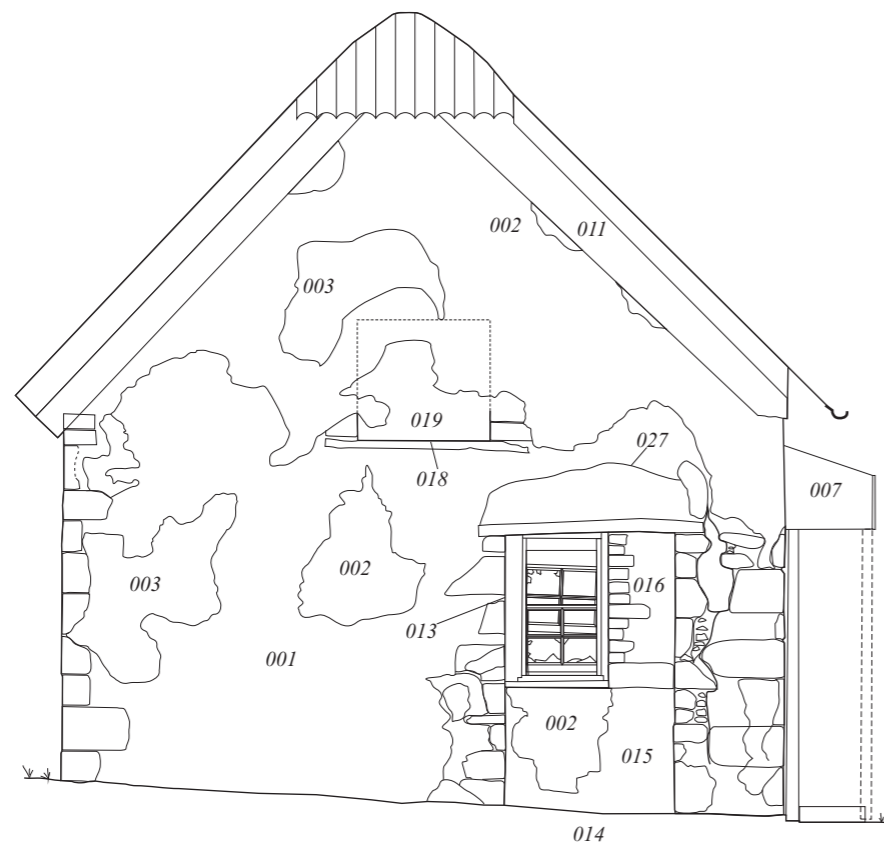


E-W section through roof thatch trenching

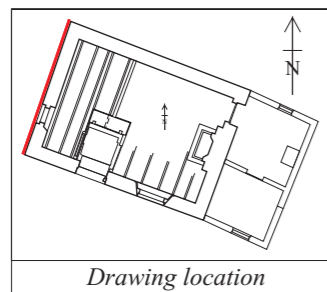
Appendix F DES entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Scottish Borders
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Fluthers Cottage
PROJECT CODE:	AA 2117
PARISH:	Earlston
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Kenneth Macfadyen
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Addyman Archaeology
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Historic Building Recording and Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	Canmore ID 230801
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Rubble built cottage
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	none
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NT 57632 38489
START DATE (this season)	29/04/2014
END DATE (this season)	22/09/2015
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>Addyman Archaeology was contracted to carry out a programme of archaeological work at Fluthers Cottage, South Croft, Earlston, Scottish Borders, prior to its renovation and extension. The building had a rare surviving thatch and as such was Category B Listed. Due to the listing and the interest in the surviving thatch, works to the building required archaeological investigation and recording.</p> <p>The works involved a detailed Historic Building Survey of the structure internally and externally in plan and elevation. This showed the structure to be of two major phases: the first phase a plain 'barn,' possibly of 18th to early 19th century construction and the second phase (mid to late-19th Century) a reordering of the structure to convert it into domestic accommodation. This reordering was characterised by the reuse of architectural features and fittings from multiple other buildings.</p> <p>A section was excavated through the existing thatch showing the thatch to be relatively modern (19th century?) and of a single phase with a large secondary patch on the north pitch.</p> <p>Further works involved the monitoring of foundation trenching for an extension. This exposed the early ground sloping down to the south as well as historic and modern levelling of the site. No artefacts earlier than the 19th century were found.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	General view of Fluthers Cottage
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Mr J Halliday
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	St. Ninian's Manse, Quayside Street, Edinburgh, EH6 6EJ
EMAIL ADDRESS:	kennymacfadyen@addyman-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	RCAHMS (intended)

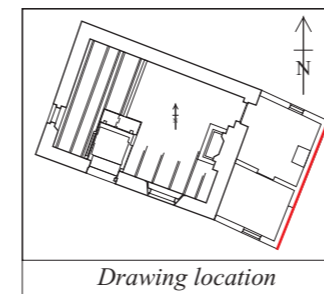
Appendix E: Record drawings



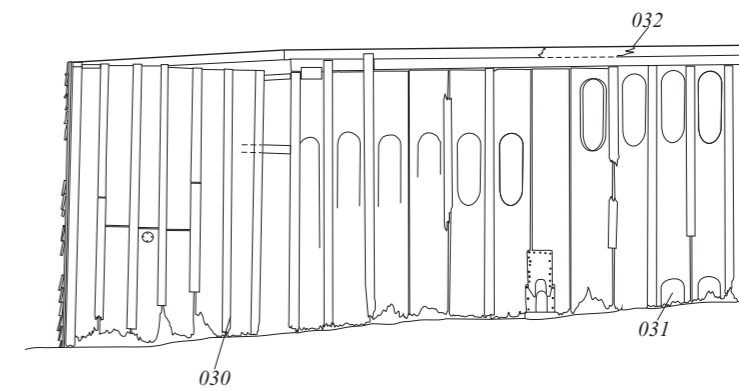
western gable exterior



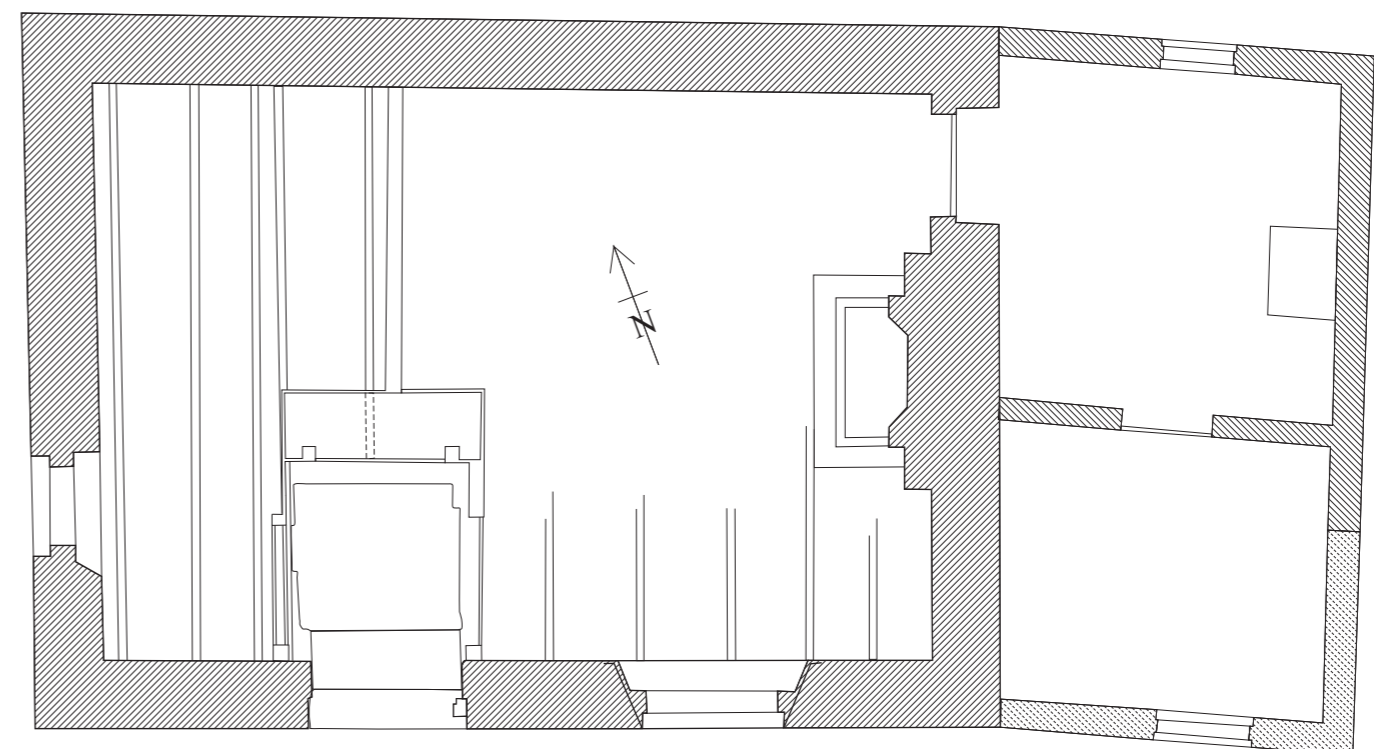
Drawing location



Drawing location

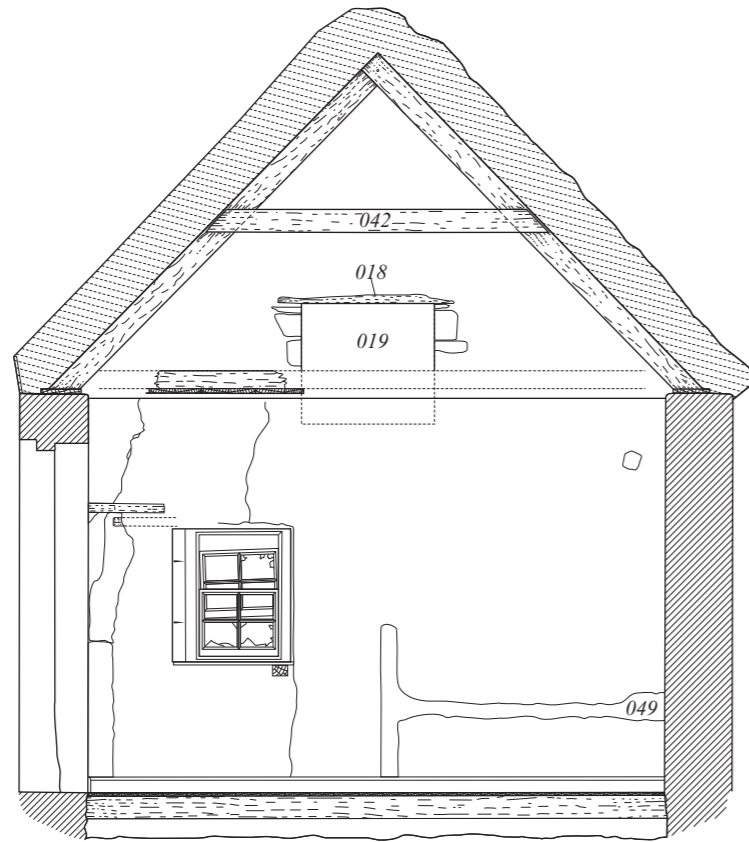


eastern gable of lean to, exterior

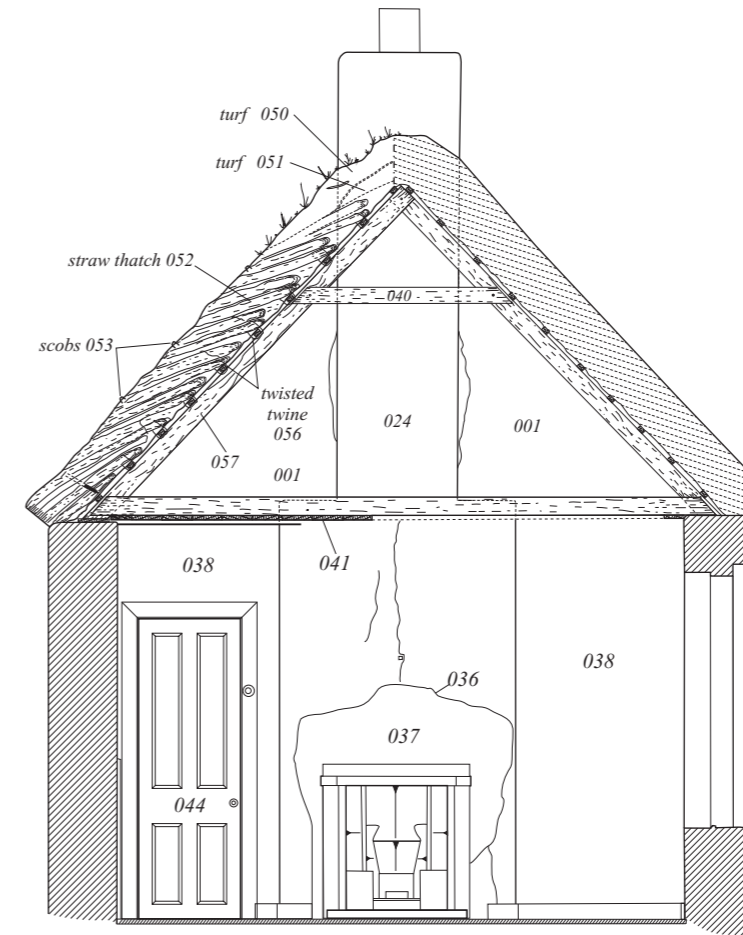


plan of building

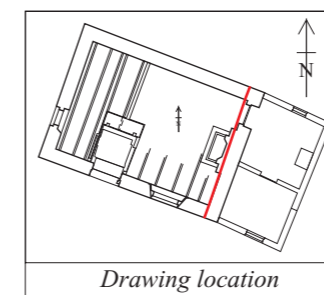
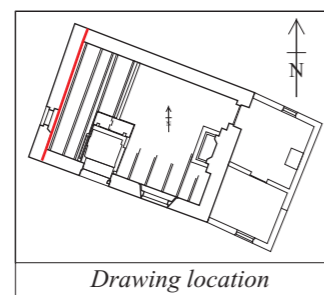


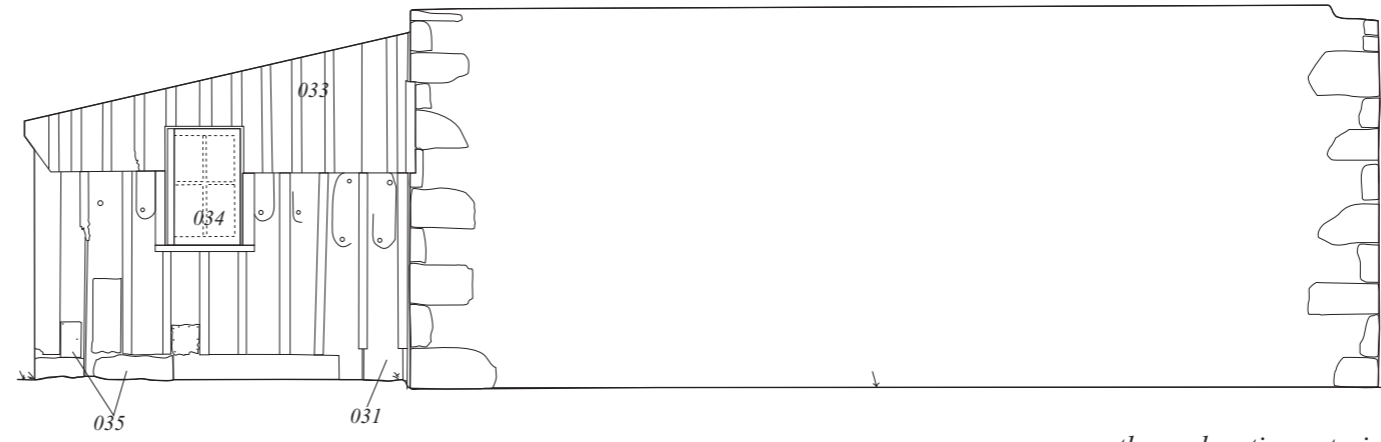
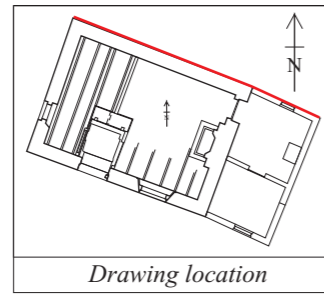


west gable interior

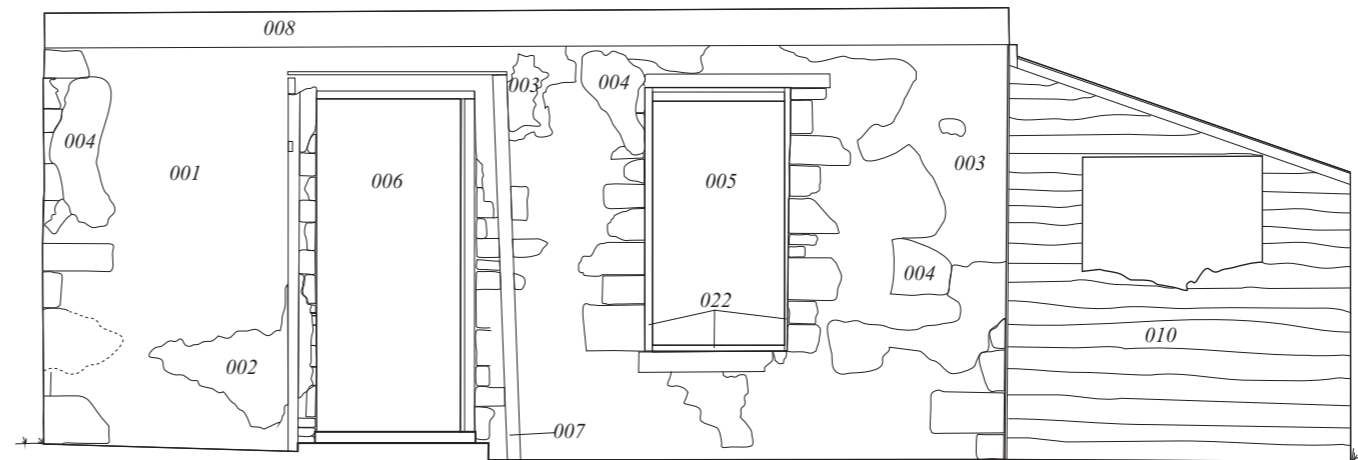
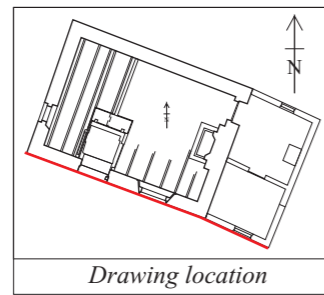


eastern gable interior



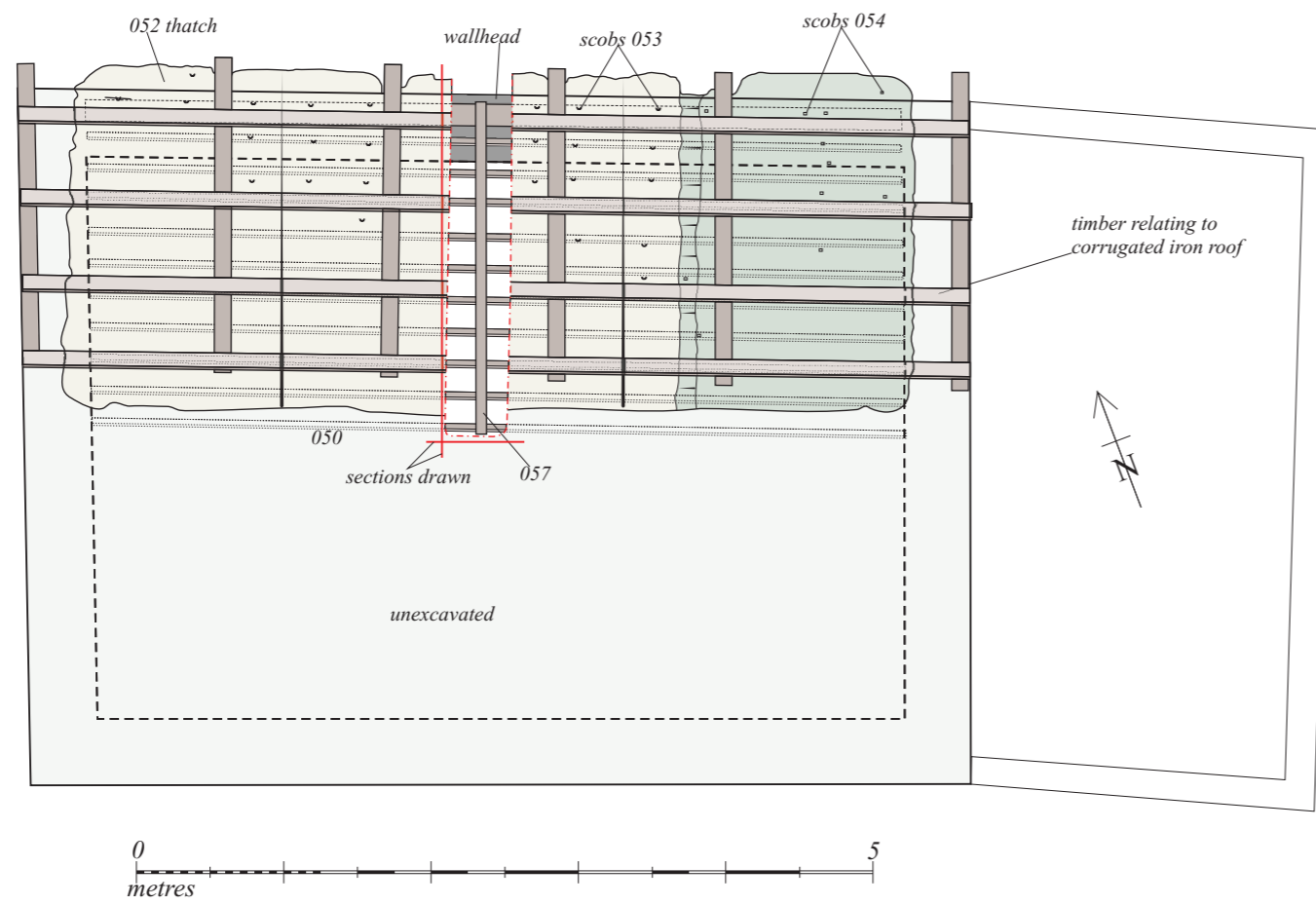


northern elevation exterior

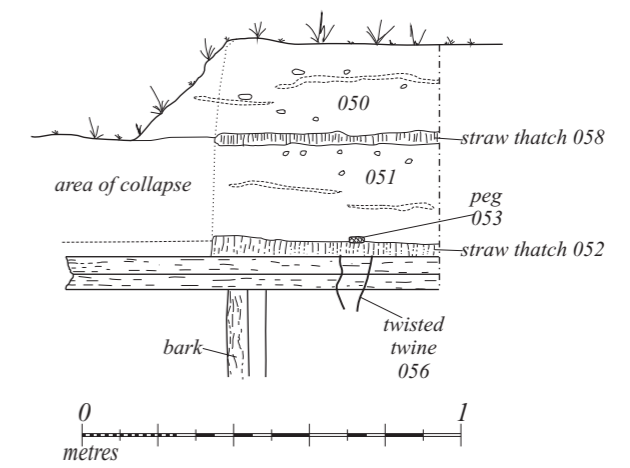


southern elevation exterior





plan of roof thatch trenching



E-W section through roof thatch trenching