

**MEIKLE HADDO
FOVERAN
NEWBURGH
ABERDEENSHIRE**



Standing Building Survey
Carried out 6th June 2016
by
Murray Archaeological Services Ltd



Report No: MAS 2016-23
by
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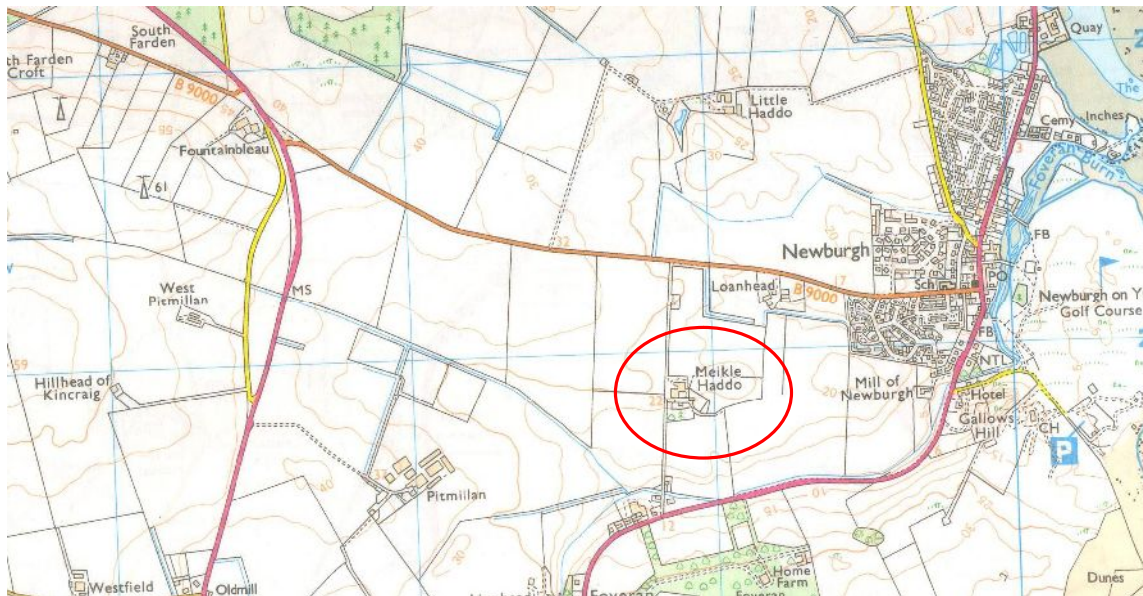
**MEIKLE HADDO
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- Standing Building Survey -

1. Background
 - 1.1 A standing building survey was required for part of the steading at Meikle Haddo Farm, Foveran, Newburgh, Aberdeenshire which is the subject of a planning application for its demolition and replacement by a new agricultural shed.
 - 1.2 The archaeological condition was applied in the context of planning legislation (PAN 2/2011, SPP, SHEP), which states that it is necessary for developers to arrange for archaeological work to take place prior to development, in appropriate circumstances. Planning Application Number: APP/2016/1032
 - 1.3 A Level 1 Standing Building Survey was required which includes measured plans and elevations, a written account of the building's plan, form, function, age and development sequence in addition to a photographic survey of the interior and exterior of the building.
 - 1.4 Murray Archaeological Services Ltd was commissioned to undertake the work by Squire Associates, on behalf of their client Mr R Marshall. The site element of the survey was completed on the 6th June 2016.
2. Desk-top survey
 - 2.1 A search was carried out in the Sites and Monuments Record, Archaeology Service, Aberdeenshire Council and in the Sites and Monuments Records of the

Royal Commission for Ancient and Historic Monuments in Scotland (RCAHMS, now HES) through Canmore and Pastmap.

- 2.2 The 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps were consulted.
- 2.3 An outline plan was supplied by Squire Associates and annotated by MAS Ltd. Only one elevation, which showed 19th century features, was drawn.



Illus 1 Detail of OS map.Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright (2015) All rights reserved. Licence number (100049810). Site indicated by red circle.

3. The Site

- 3.1 Meikle Haddo Farm lies to the S of the B9000 which runs between the A90 Aberdeen/Ellon road and the village of Newburgh.

Parish: Foveran NGR: NJ 9890 2484

GPS in front of Grain store: 398899, 824884

Aberdeenshire SMR: NJ92SE0072 RCAHMS: NJ92SE63

- 3.2 Background

The buildings form part of a range of farm buildings, the core dating to the 19th century with later alterations and additions.

The 19th-century farm was formerly part of the Udney and Dudwick Estate. A date stone of 1813 on the dwelling house suggests that the earliest parts of the steading shown on the 1st OS map of 1867 were also probably built c.1813.

The great-grandfather of the present owner moved to the farm in c.1916 from Middlethird, Methlick.

4. Documentary evidence

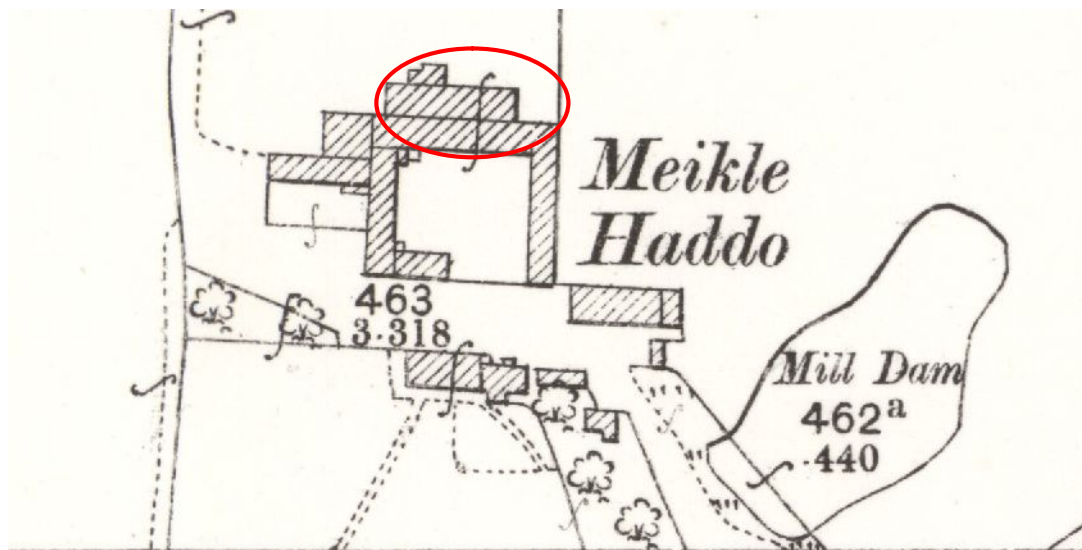
4.1 **Aberdeen Sheet XLVIII.9 of 1867 (published 1870)** shows a quadrangular steading around a court. A horse mill is shown on the W wall of the W range. An L-plan extension is shown at the W end of the N range. A number of other buildings including the house lie to the S and E. Only the N range (the byre) is part of the present survey (illus 2: outlined in red).



Illus 2 Detail of the 1st edition 25''/mile Ordnance Survey of 1867 (published 1870). Aberdeen Sheet XLVIII.9 www.nls.ac.uk

4.2 The 2nd edition 25''/mile Ordnance Survey of 1899 (published 1900).

Aberdeenshire Sheet 048.09 shows an additional building (the grain store) abutting the N wall of the N range (illus 3: outlined in red).

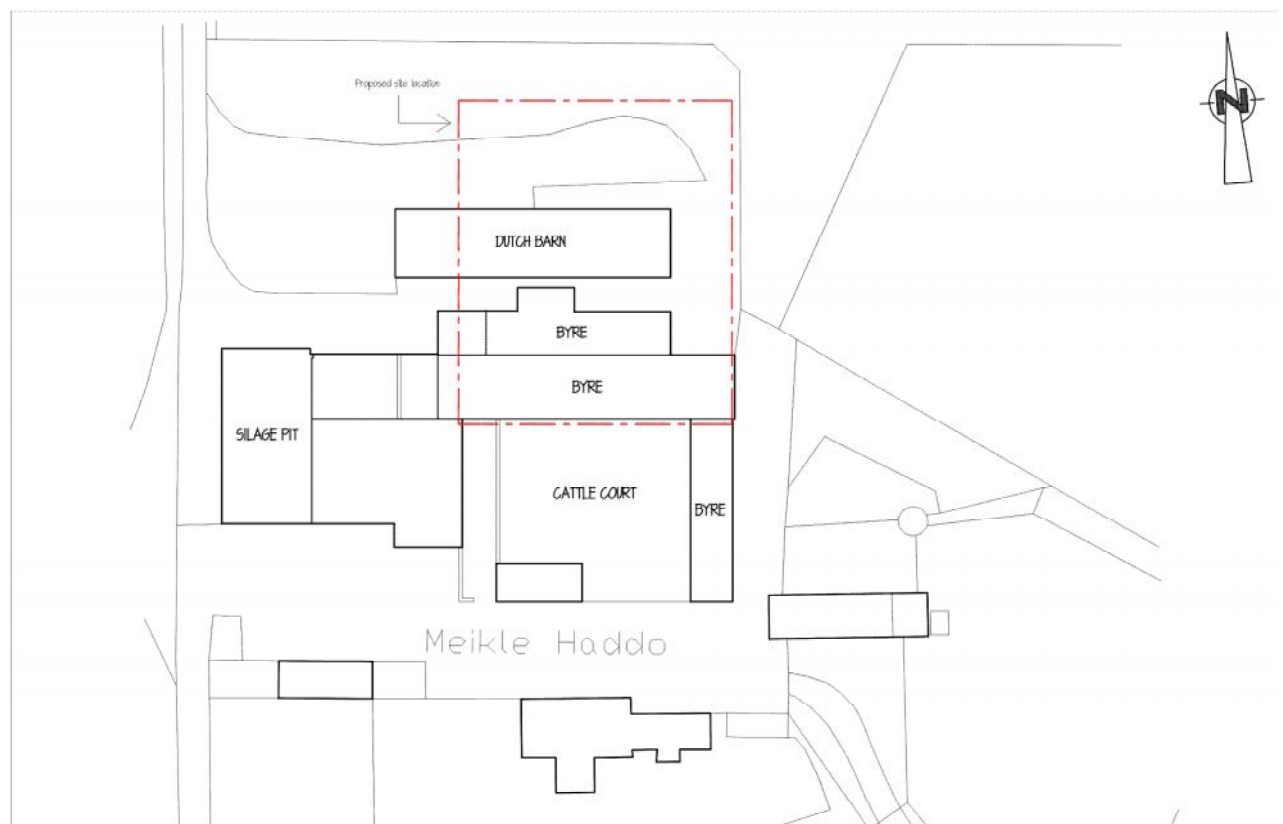


Illus 3 Detail of the 2nd edition 25''/mile Ordnance Survey of 1899 (published 1900). Aberdeenshire Sheet 048.09 www.nls.ac.uk

5 Methodology

- 5.1 The ground plan (Illus 9) and elevation (Illus 7) have been annotated to show details which may help in understanding the development and history of the building.
- 5.2 The areas recorded were photographed. The full set of photographs will be supplied for the archive and an annotated plan in the present report (Illus17) indicates the position of each.

6 The Buildings



Illus 4 Site plan showing buildings to be demolished (red outline). Plan courtesy of Squire Associates.

6.1 Dutch Barn

Orientation E/W

Dimensions 36.5 x 9.15m externally

Present/recent use Barn

Original use Barn

Walls Concrete blockwork at E end. Open sides with concrete pillars W end.

Roof Corrugated asbestos



Illus 5 Dutch barn looking SW

6.2 *Grain store*

Orientation E/W

Dimensions Main block 24.5 x 5.8m externally with outshot on N wall 7.5 x 3m.

Present/recent use Grain store and dryer

Original use Grain store



Illus 6 Grain store from E end, abutting N range/byre. Note lean-to outshot against N wall

Walls Rubble stone with granite rybats. N outshot stone walled. At W end modern extension c.6m long with concrete wall to N and utilising existing stone wall to S

Roof Originally slate over sarking on A-frame couples. Slates now removed. W extension corrugated asbestos. Lean-to tin roof to N outshot.

Doors and windows

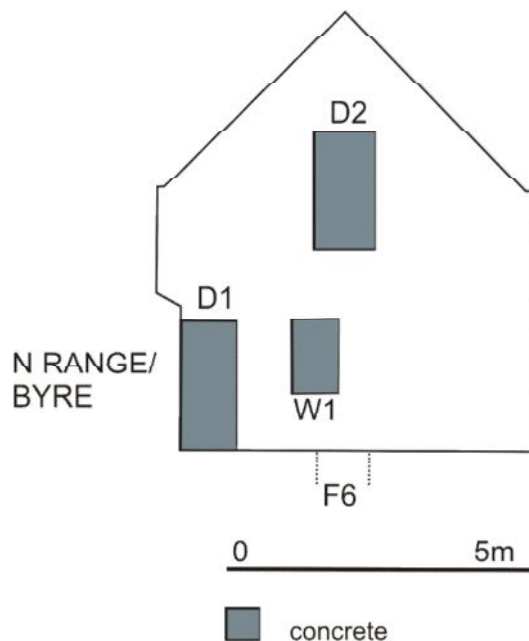
E wall

D1 W: 1.10m H:2.12m . Granite lintel and rybats on N side, abuts Byre on S side. Concrete blocking.

D2 W: 1.10mm H:c.2m. Granite lintel and rybats Concrete blocking. Loft door.

W1 W: 0.90m H: 1.2m. Granite lintel and rybats Concrete blocking.

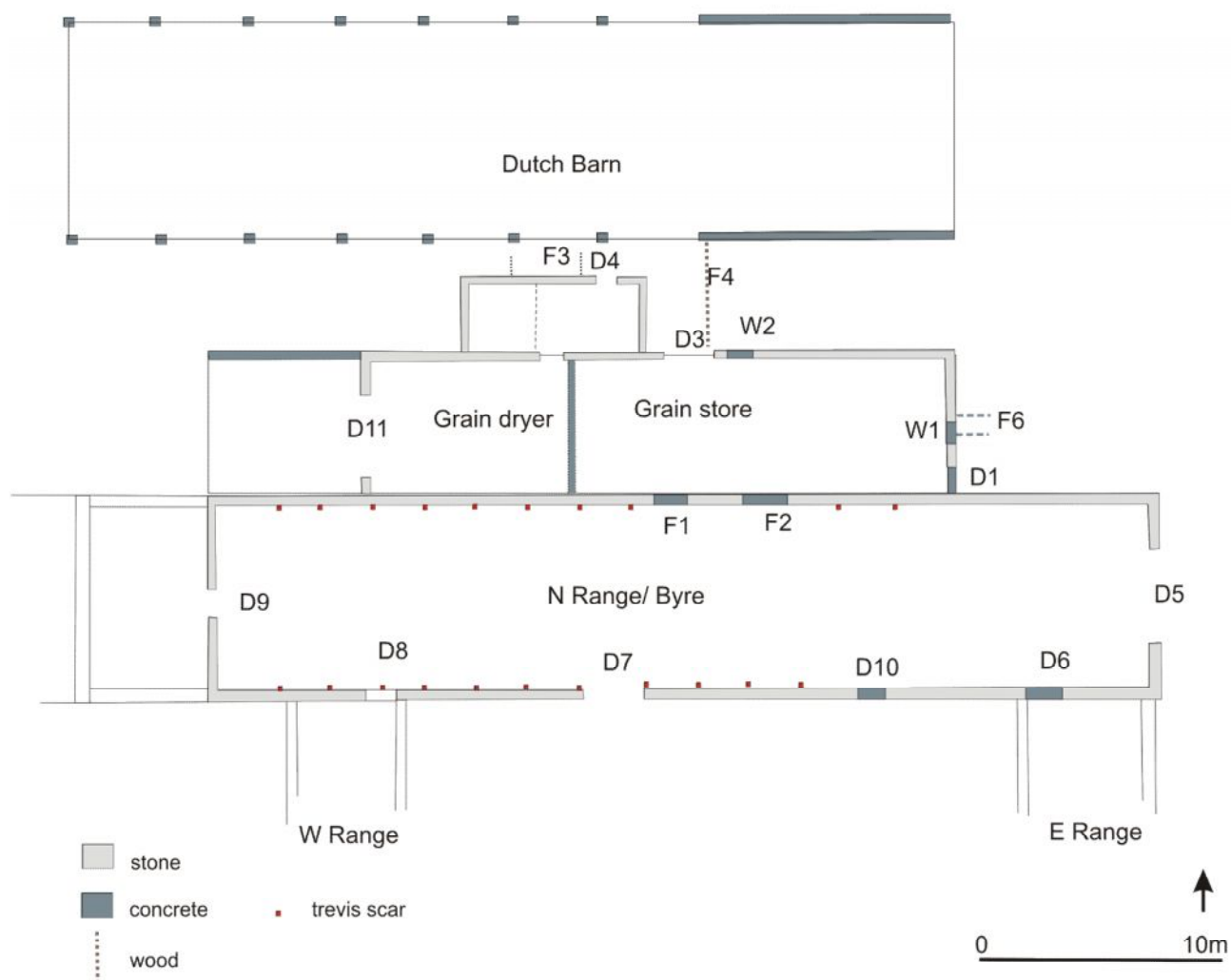
F6 Concrete-lined from outside E gable to give access to lower level of grain store.



Illus 7 Elevation of E gable of grain store



Illus 8 E gable of grain store



Illus 9 Plan of the surveyed buildings

N wall

W2 W: 0.92m H:1.27m Granite lintel and rybats Concrete blocking.

D3 W: 2.30m H:2.18m Granite lintel and rybats Partial concrete blocking with a smaller wooden door inserted. Originally this would have been a cart door.

F4 Wooden partition wall between 'new door' in D3 and the Dutch Barn

W wall

D11 W: c.3.5m. Modern break-through opening with metal lintel in W gable.

S wall

Abuts N range/Byre and uses its N wall as S wall of grain store.

Outshot against N wall

D4 W: 0.92m H: 1.85m

F3 Stubs of wall between outshot and Dutch Barn

Interior

The W end of the building was filled by grain dryer. The E end had a loft above grain store. There was no safe access to these areas.



Illus 10 W gable of grain store from inside modern extension at W end

6.3 N Range of steading/Byre

Orientation E/W

Dimensions 39m x 8.4m externally

Present/recent use Byre/sheep pens

Original use Byre for tied cattle



Illus 11 E gable of byre with modern opening and concrete upper wall. Abuts E range.

Walls Rubble stone with granite rybats. As floor levels had been dropped and height raised at W end, there was concrete reinforcing at base of wall and concrete blocks at wall head and E gable.



Illus 12 Door D9 showing lowered floor at W end

Roof Corrugated asbestos over king post couples



Illus 13 Interior of byre looking E

Doors and windows

E wall

D5 W:3.8m. Modern break-through with metal lintel. Metal sliding doors.

N wall

F1 W: c.0.80m (estimate). Not measured to avoid disturbing lambing ewe.

Concrete blocked

F2 W: 1.53m H: 1.4m visible but probably more- base obscured. Concrete blocked. Probably door.

W wall

D9 W: 1.18m H:2.10m Base 750-900mm above existing floor due to lowering of levels

S wall

D6 To E range. W: c.1.3m. H: c. 2m. Not measured to avoid disturbing lambing ewe.

D7 W: 2.4m, widened on E side with concrete blocks. W side rubble rybats. Original H: c.2m. Increased by lowering of floor. Modern metal lintel.

D8 To W range. W: 1.3m H: 1.94m. Base of doorway 900mm above present floor level

D10 W:1.2m H:2m. Granite lintel and rybats. Concrete blocked.

Interior Floor lowered by up to 900mm at W end, reducing to E..

Scars of trevies of double cattle stalls visible on inside of N and S walls above level of original floor. Stalls c.2.2m wide. Approx 12 double stalls by N wall and 9 clear on S wall. E end possibly open as no clear trevis scars.



Illus 14 Trevis scars (eg by ranging rod) of cow stalls above level of original floor. Note lowered floor level.

7 Discussion

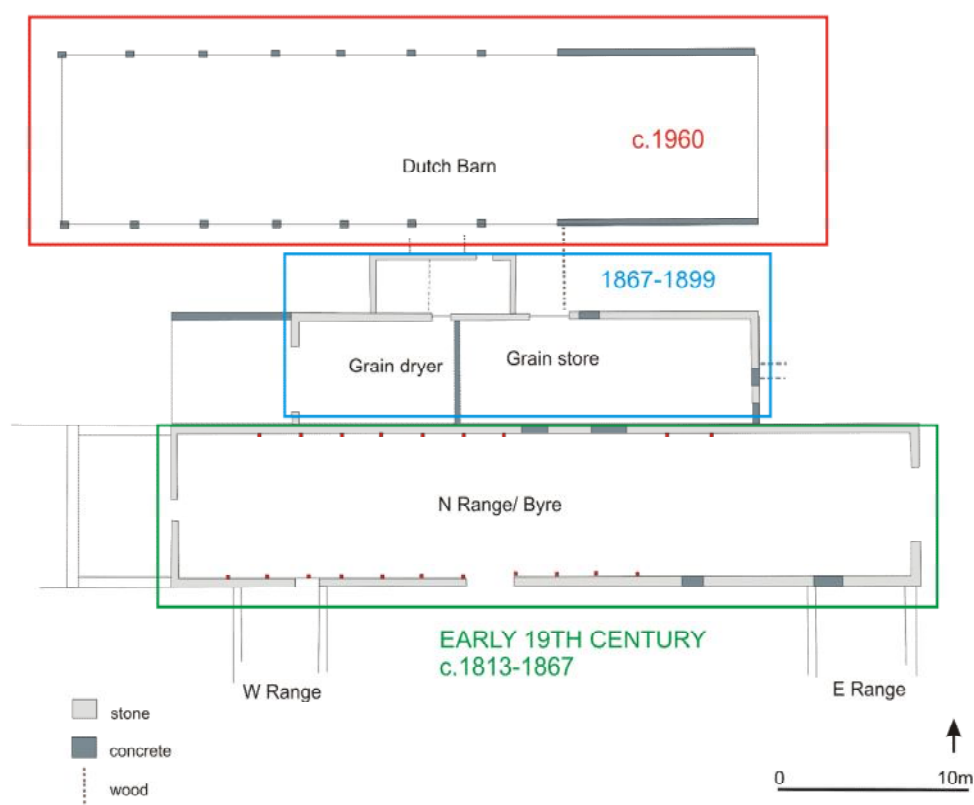
20th-century changes to the functions of the buildings and structural changes such as the lowering of floor levels have obscured much of the original detail.

Nevertheless this is an interesting example of part of an early 19th-century steading with the later 19th-century addition of the grain store (Illus 16).

The scale of the buildings (Illus 15) and the number of tied cattle indicated by the trevis scars indicate a fairly prosperous farm and underline its original estate ownership.

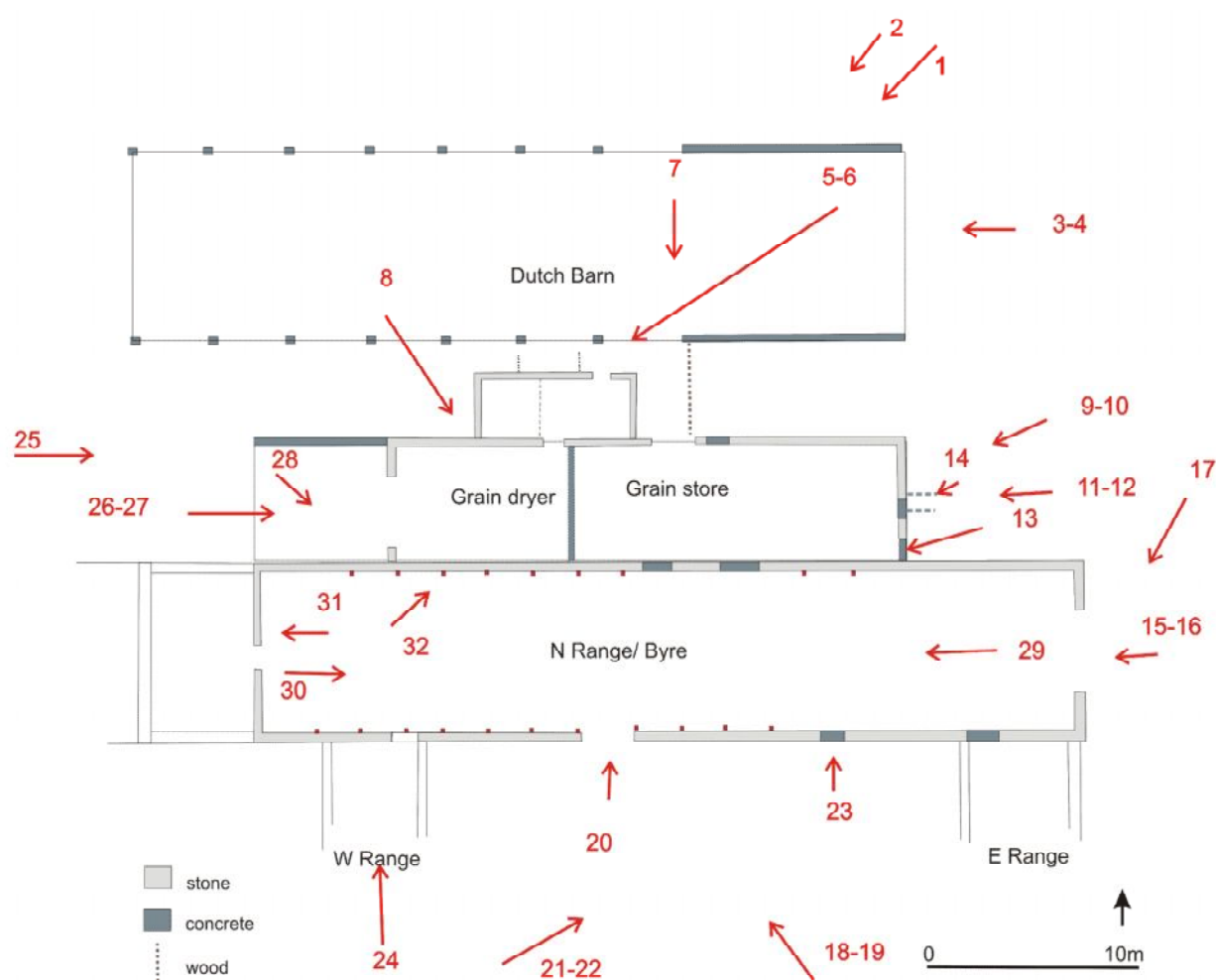


Illus 15 S wall of N Range/Byre from within the early 19th-century court



Illus 16 Main phases of development

8 Archive: A full set of photographs with the photo location plan (Illus 17) will be supplied to the Aberdeenshire SMR and to the HES archive.



Illus 17 Photo reference plan