

**UPPER ALLALOTH
CLOCHAN
BUCKIE
MORAY**



Standing Building Survey

Carried out 9th October 2018

by

Murray Archaeological Services Ltd



Report No: MAS 2018-24

by

H K Murray and J C Murray

H K Murray BA, PhD, MIFA, FSA Scot

J C Murray BA, MIFA, FSA Scot, FMA

Hill of Belnagoak, Methlick, Ellon, Aberdeenshire AB41 7JN

Telephone: (01651) 806394 e-mail: cmurray@btinternet.com

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- Standing Building Survey -

1. Background
 - 1.1 A standing building survey was required for buildings at Upper Allaloth, Clochan, Buckie, Moray, prior to their demolition and the erection of a replacement dwelling house,
 - 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 Numbers: 18/00400/APP
 - 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 John Wink Design on behalf of their clients Mr and Mrs Moir. The site element of the survey was completed on the 9th October 2018.
2. Desk-top survey
 - 2.1 A search was carried out in the Sites and Monuments Record, Archaeology Service, Moray Council and in the Sites and Monuments Records of the Royal

Commission for Ancient and Historic Monuments in Scotland (RCAHMS) through Canmore and Pastmap.

2.2 The 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps were consulted.

2.3 Plans and elevations courtesy of John Wink Design have been annotated as necessary.

3. The Site

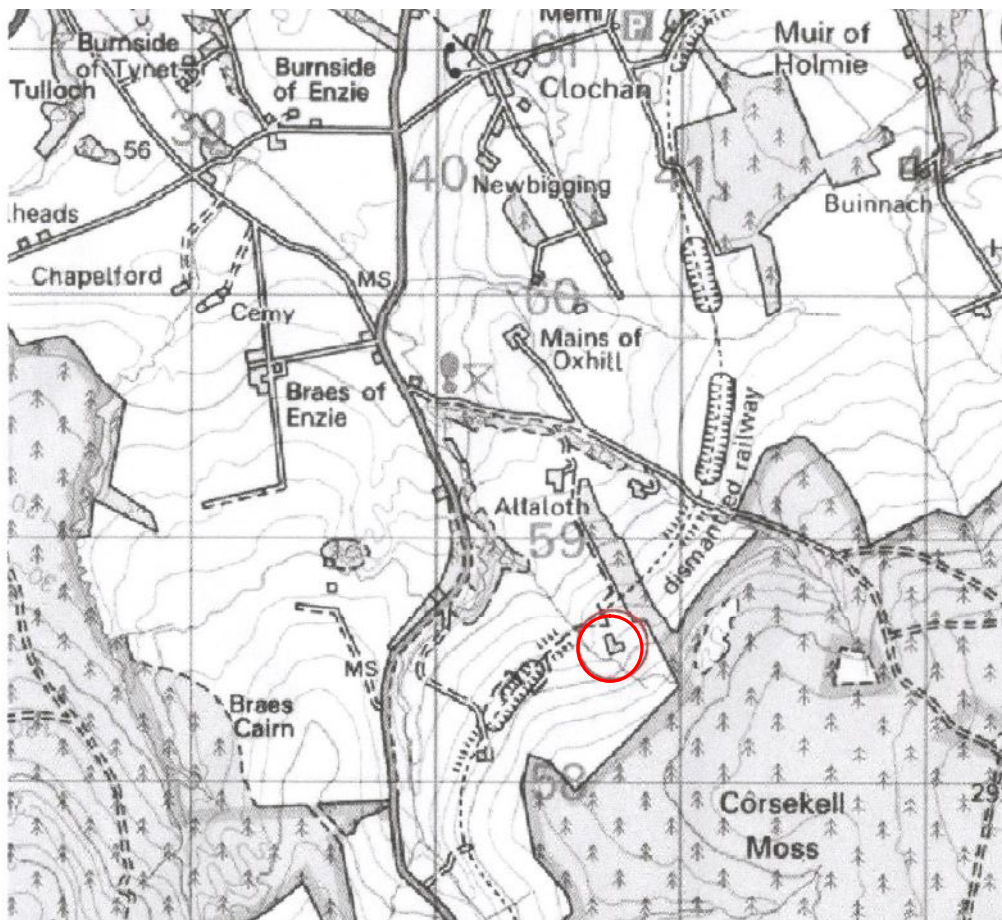
3.1 The site lies c. 7km SSW of Buckie and 3.5km S of Clochan on a private track E of the B9016.

Parish: Rathven

NGR NJ 4073 5858

GPS In front of steading: 340734, 858582

Moray SMR: NJ45NW0008



Illus 1 Location of site (Courtesy of John Wink Design)

4. Documentary evidence

Note The farm name changed from Upper Alleloth to Upper Allaloth between c. 1892 and 1901 (see references below).

1867/69 Ordnance Survey Name Book Banffshire OS Name Book Vol 26.

OS1/4/26/220 . Refers to lease of 1860 and to rent receipts dated 1855, 1860 and 1865 as proof of spelling of name. Occupier named as George Weir.

Described as , ‘ *A small farm steading, the property of the Duke of Richmond. Of the various modes of spelling this name it will be seen by the lease of farm and rent receipts that the proprietor had adopted Alleloth for at least this ten or eleven years*’.

1866 The 25th/mile 1st OS map **Banffshire VIII.9 Rathven 1866 (published 1868)** shows a long N/S range of 3 conjoined buildings, with a mill lade clearly running along the W side to a wheel by the northermost building. A small outshot is shown at the N gable. Two smaller buildings lie to the E of this range across a yard. The house, shown as a rectangular block with a central porch on the N side, lies N of the steading.



Illus 2 Detail of the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 25th map, surveyed in 1866 (published 1868) Banffshire VIII.9 Rathven www.nls.ac.uk

1892 John Donald was the outgoing tenant. The advertisement for his Displenish Sale gives some indication of the livestock and equipment used on the croft at the time.

Eight Auction Office, 17th April 1892.

Displenish Sale.
There will be Sold, by Public Bond,
At **UPPER ALLELOTH, KEITH,**
On **TUESDAY, 17th MAY** current.

THE LIVE STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, &c.,
belonging to Mr John Donald, Way-going Tenant,
consisting of:—

- 2 Work HORSES, } From 4 to 9 years old.
- 1 Do. MARE, }
- 2 TWO-YEAR-OLDS.
- 5 YEARLINGS.
- 6 COWS, calved and to calve.

2 Box Carts, Long Cart, 2 Single Ploughs, 1 Drill Plough, 2 Set Iron and Wooden Harrows, Drill Harrow, Stone Roller, Iron Grubber, Link Harrows, "Blairgowrie" Reaper, Turnip Sower, Tramp Pick, Dogcart and Set Gig Harness, 2 Sets Cart and Plough Harness. All the usual Hand and Barn Implements. A few Articles of Household Furniture and the Dairy Utensils. A Rick Good Hay, &c.

Sale to begin at One o'clock Afternoon.
A. THOMSON, Auctioneer.
Keith, May 2, 1892.

Illus 3 Banffshire Journal and General Advertiser 10th May 1892
www.britishnewspapersarchive.co.uk

1901 The Gordon Richmond Estates advertised for contractors to undertake work at a number of properties, including mason and carpenter work for 'additions to offices at Upper Allaloth'.

The Lowest or any Offer may not be accepted.

GORDON-RICHMOND ESTATES.
FOCHABERS DISTRICT.

ESTIMATES are invited for the MASON and CARPENTER WORKS of the following Buildings, for the SLATER WORK of Nos. 1 and 2, and for the IRON WORK of No. 3:—

1. ADDITIONS, ALTERATIONS, and REPAIRS on DWELLING-HOUSE and OFFICES at WESTERTOWN.
2. CATTLE SHED and COURT at ESSLE.
3. CATTLE COURTS at GLASTIBEM.
4. ADDITIONS to OFFICES at **UPPER ALLALOTH.**
5. REPAIRS on OFFICES at NETHER AUCHINREATH (George Mitchell, Tenant).

Plans and Specifications may be seen at the ESTATE OFFICE, Fochabers, and Tenders will be received there up to 12 o'clock on WEDNESDAY, the 26th June. The Lowest or any Estimate may not be accepted.
Fochabers, 13th June, 1901.

TO BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.

Illus 4 Aberdeen Press and Journal 22 June 1901 www.britishnewspapersarchive.co.uk

1902 By the 2nd edition 25"/mile Ordnance Survey of 1902 (published 1905.

Banffshire VIII.9 (Rathven)) the main N/S range has been extended by an E/W block at the S gable. (This may be the addition referred to in the 1901 advertisement) The house appears to have an outshot (? unroofed) at the S

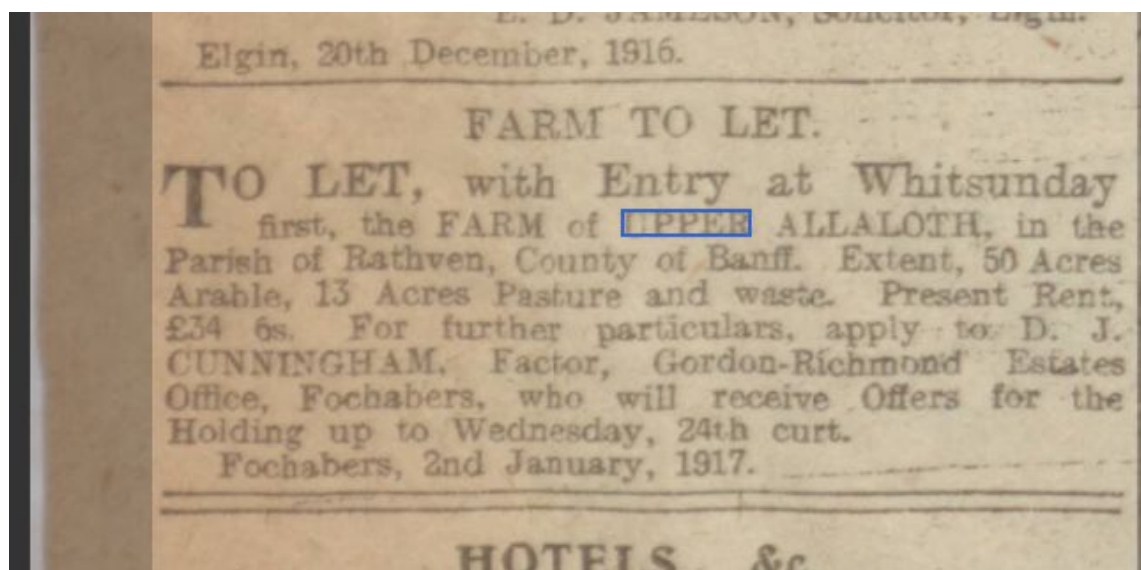
side. The buildings to the E have been reduced to one, possibly part of the former N building on this side.



Illus 5 Detail of the 2nd edition 25th/mile Ordnance Survey of 1899 (published 1900. Aberdeenshire Sheet 062.03) www.nls.ac.uk

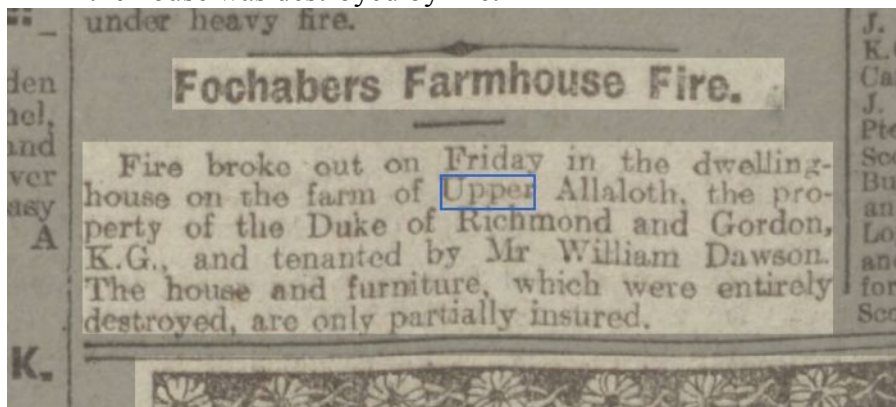
1917 The farm was advertised to let. At this point it included. 50 acres of arable and 13 acres of pasture. (Aberdeen Press and Journal 6 January 1917).

1917 James Forbes, the outgoing tenant advertised a Displenish Sale (Aberdeen Press and Journal 4 May 1917.



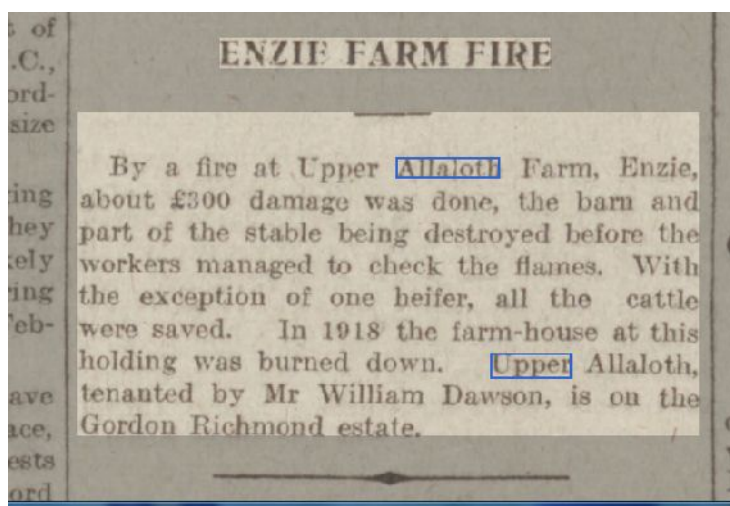
Illus 6 Aberdeen press and Journal 6 January 1917 www.britishnewspapersarchive.co.uk

1918 Not long after the new tenant, William Donald Dawson took over the farm the house was destroyed by fire.



Illus 7 Aberdeen Weekly Journal 12th July 1918 www.britishnewspapersarchive.co.uk

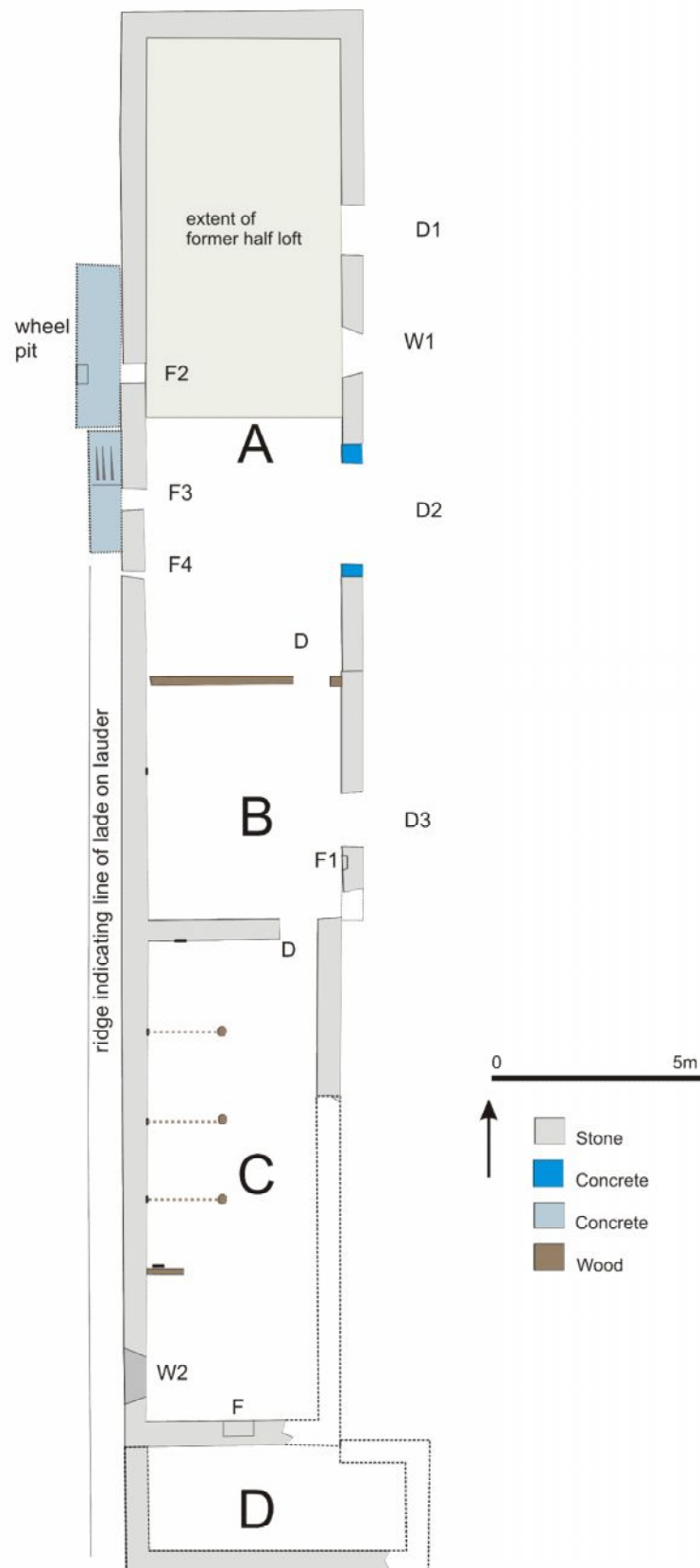
1923 Later in Dawson's tenancy another fire destroyed the barn and part of the stable. (*Aberdeen Press and Journal* 24th January 1923)



Illus 8 Aberdeen Press and Journal 24th January 1923 www.britishnewspapersarchive.co.uk

5 Methodology

- 5.1 The ground plans (illus 9, 21) and elevations (illus 28, 29) 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 (illus 27) indicates the position of each.



Illus 9 Plan of steading drawn by MAS Ltd

6 The Steading (Illus 9)



Illus 10 E Elevation of steading

The steading, as it survives, comprises 4 structures built against one another to form a single block. These are described from N to S (A-D). Building A appears to be the earliest built, abutted by B, Then C built on a slightly narrower ground plan and finally D abutting C. The ground slopes down from S to N so there are internal steps between A/B and between B/C.

6.1 BUILDING A

Dimensions 15.5 x 5.8m externally

Present/recent use Derelict- sheep shelter

Original use Mill and barn

Walls Rubble stone

Roof A frames with sarking and corrugated tin.

Doors and windows

E wall D1 W:1.26m H: 1.90m Dressed granite rybats. Replacement wooden lintel

D2 W: 2.66m H: 2.10m. Modern knock through with concrete sides.

W1 W: 0.78m H: 1.37m. Splays internally. Dressed granite rybats and sill. Replacement wooden lintel below cracked original lintel.



Illus 11 Steading, Building A, E elevation. W1 and D1

W wall

F2 W:0.48m H: 0.44m. Slate lintel, stone sill. At ground level inside. This is mill wheel axle shaft hole.

F3 W: 0.40m H: 0.40m 1.14m above ground to sill. Slate lintel and sill. Blocked externally.

F4 W:0.18m H: 0.50m 1.23m above ground. Sides brick and concrete.

Interior

Holes for floor jambs indicate the former position of a half loft at the N end (Illus 25).

6.2 BUILDING B

Although on the same width as Building A, Building B has a separate, higher roof line and there is a clear join line in the E and W walls where it has been added on to A. However, the only wall between the two is a vertical plank partition.

Dimensions 6.0 x 5.8m externally

Present/recent use Derelict- sheep shelter

Original use Stable/byre

Walls Rubble stone

Roof A frames with sarking and corrugated tin. Metal ventilators on ridge indicate use for livestock.

Doors and windows

E wall

D3 W: 1.15m H: 1.75m Rubble rybats. Wooden lintel. Partially collapsed.

F1 W: 0.27m H: 0.46m Depth into wall 0.24m. Small alcove on inner face of wall.

Interior

No details survived in the interior but the roof ventilators indicate that this had been used for livestock.



Illus 12 Looking S in Building B through internal door (note 2 steps up) into Building C.

6.3 BUILDING C

Dimensions c.12.5 x 5.2m externally

Present/recent use Derelict- sheep shelter

Original use Stable and/or byre for tied cows, with small bothy at S end.

Walls Rubble stone

Roof A frames with sarking and corrugated tin. Metal ventilators on ridge indicate use for livestock.

Doors and windows

W wall

W2 W:1.02m H: 0.75m Stone blocked.

Interior

The interior had been divided into two by a wooden partition, part of which survives. To the S of the partition an area c3.5m long appears to have been a bothy as there is a fireplace in the gable and window W2 in the W wall.

To the N, three octagonal posts with vertical grooves on the W faces are the remains of trevices and correspond to scars on the inner face of the W wall.

There were 4 pens, either stables or more probably double tied cow pens (cow chain slide bars survive in two places).



Illus 13 Building C looking S. Fireplace visible on back gable. Trevis hind posts along centre line in foreground

6.4 BUILDING D

Dimensions 14.1 x c5.7m externally (based on rubble and surviving wall fragments)

Present/recent use Ruins- foundations.

Original use Unknown.

Walls Rubble stone- only the W and part of the S wall are standing

Roof Collapsed, appears to have been corrugated tin.



Illus 14 Building D looking W.

7 The House (Illus 21)

Dimensions 11.14 x 9.51m externally

Present/recent use Derelict

Original use Dwelling

Walls Rubble stone. The E lean-to is of rougher stonework .

Roof A frames with sarking and corrugated tin. The E end is a low lean-to, also with a tin roof.



Illus 15 House. N elevation



Illus 16 House. E elevation

Doors and windows

N wall

D1 W:1.15m H: 2.12m

W3 W:0.52m H:0.62m

W4 Broken out. Not measured

S wall

W2 W:0.97m H:1.43m

W wall

W1 W: 0.94m H:1.55m. Concrete sill



Illus 17 House W elevation

Interior

The interior was divided into a small passage inside door D1 and three main rooms. Two very low rooms, only one of which (Room 4) survives were in the E lean-to addition.

Room 1 had a fireplace in the S gable, flanked by wooden cupboards.



Illus 18 Room 1 looking S

Room 2 also had a fireplace, in the W wall, this may have been the original kitchen.

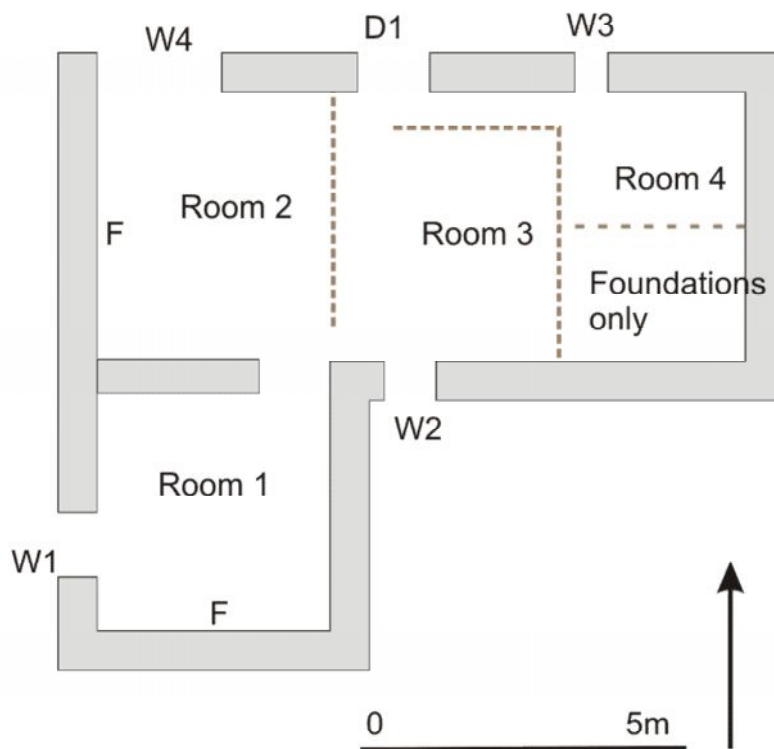


Illus 19 Room 2 looking W

Room 3 was lined and partitioned in pitch pine planking.



Illus 20 Room 3 looking S



Illus 21 Plan of house courtesy of John Wink design, annotated by MAS Ltd

8 Discussion

The house is unusual, probably as a result of rebuilding after it was destroyed by fire in 1918. On the 1st OS maps of 1866 and 1905 (Illus 2, 5) it appears to have a standard plan of a small rectangular building facing towards the sea, with an outshot porch in the centre of the front wall (more or less the ground plan of rooms 2-4). Room 1 appears to follow the plan of the S addition shown on the 1905 map. It would appear likely that the 1918 fire gutted it but that the walls or their foundations were re-used. It is hard to envisage the function of the very low outshot Room 4.

The mill

The steading is of mid 19th century date, with a fairly elaborate water mill for the size of croft (50 arable acres). The water ran from a mill pond shown on the OS maps uphill to the S and would appear to have powered a breastshot fed wheel (cf Watts, 2006, 22). The lade would have to have run along a (probably timber) launder or channel above ground to feed in at the level of the concrete setting that remains. Although the launder does not survive, a ridge c 1m wide alongside the outer face of the W wall indicates its position.



Illus 22 Position of waterwheel (red circle). Blue line shows direction of water.



Illus 23 Position of water wheel. Arrow indicates the wheel axle hole.

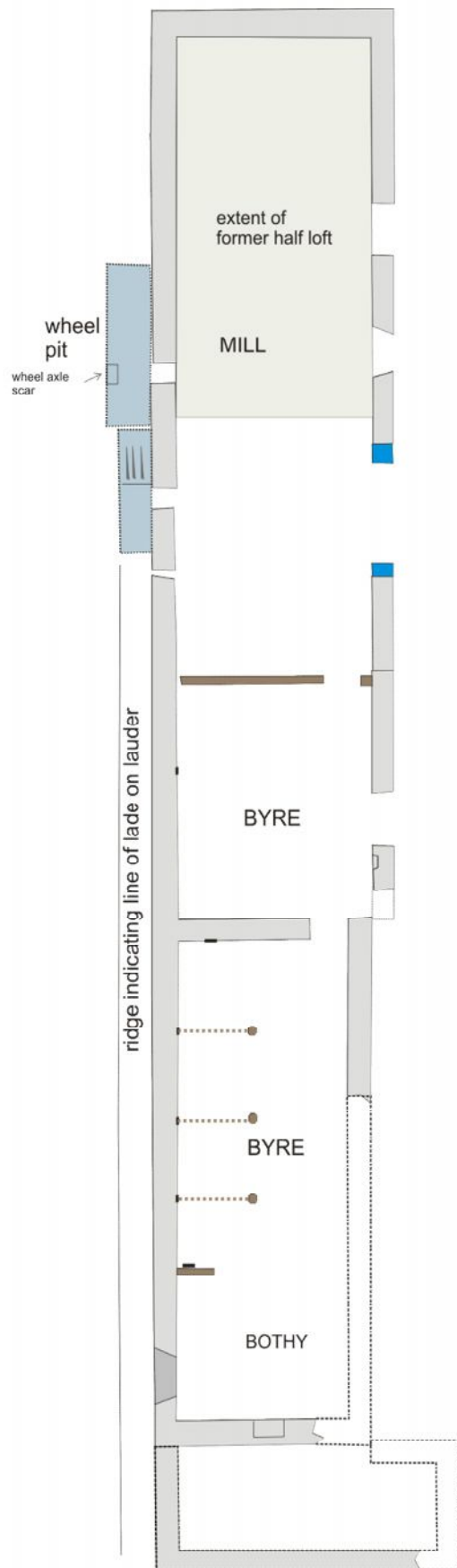


Illus 24 Looking S along line of water chute with ridge showing launder position (dotted)

The mill building (A) had a half loft, evidenced by the holes to hold the floor joists at c. 2m above the present floor level.



Illus 25 Building A (mill) looking N. Red arrows indicate the position of the loft. A= axle hole to wheel.



Illus 26 Interpretation of steading

References

Watts, M 2006 *Watermills*. Shire: Princes Risborough.

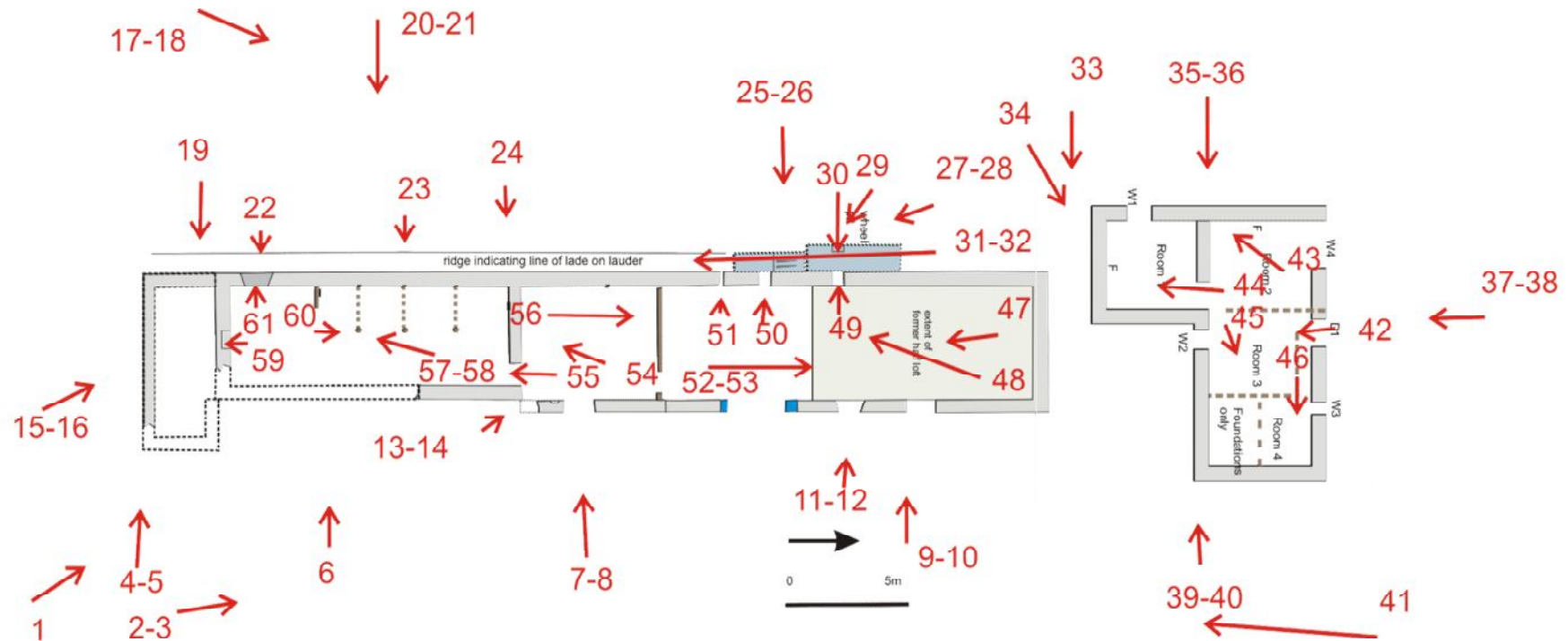
9 Archive

A full set of photographs with the photo location plan (Illus 27) will be supplied to the Moray SMR in Aberdeen and to the NMRS.

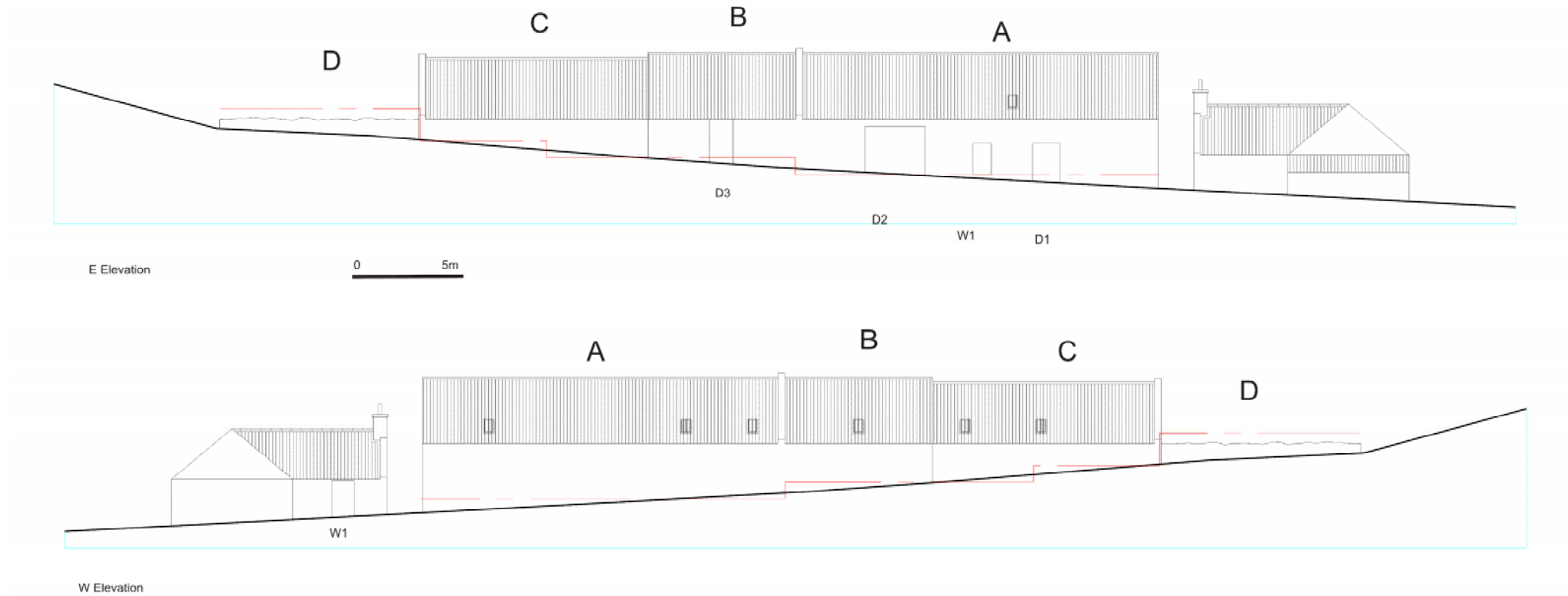
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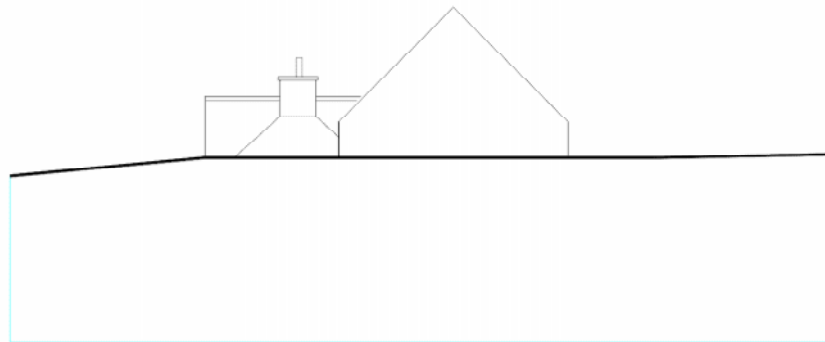
Illus 27 Location of photographs. Plan courtesy of John Wink design, annotated by MAS Ltd



Illus 28 E and W elevations courtesy of John Wink design annotated by MAS Ltd



N Elevation



S Elevation



Illus 29 N and S elevations courtesy of John Wink design annotated by MAS Ltd