

An Archaeological Watching Brief at West Fenwick Farm, Northumberland



ARS Ltd Report No-2015/100

OASIS No: archaeol5-218208

Compiled By:
Rupert Lotherington PCIfA
Archaeological Research Services Ltd
The Eco Centre
Windmill Way
Hebburn
Tyne and Wear
NE31 1SR

Checked By:
Dr. Andy McWilliams
Tel: 0191 4775111
admin@archaeologicalresearchservices.com
www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com



An Archaeological Watching Brief at West Fenwick Farm, Northumberland

ARS Ltd Report 2015/100

July 2015

Archaeological Research Services Ltd

Contents

| | | |
|-----|---|----|
| | List of Figures | |
| | Executive Summary..... | 3 |
| 1. | Introduction..... | 5 |
| 2. | Location and Geology..... | 5 |
| 3. | Historical and Archaeological Background..... | 5 |
| 4. | Methodology..... | 6 |
| 5. | Results..... | 7 |
| 6. | Specialist Reports..... | 14 |
| 6.1 | Animal Bone Report..... | 14 |
| 6.2 | Pottery Report..... | 15 |
| 7. | Discussion..... | 15 |
| 8. | Publicity, Confidentiality and Copyright..... | 17 |
| 9. | Statement of Indemnity..... | 17 |
| 10. | Acknowledgments..... | 17 |
| 11. | References..... | 17 |

List of Figures

| | | |
|----|---|----|
| 1 | Site location..... | 22 |
| 2 | Detailed Site Location..... | 23 |
| 3 | Plan of Building Components..... | 24 |
| 4 | Plan of Phase 1 Test Trenches..... | 25 |
| 5 | Plan of Phase 1, Trench 2..... | 26 |
| 6 | Plan of Phase 1, Trench 3..... | 27 |
| 7 | Plan of Phase 1 Trench 5..... | 28 |
| 8 | Plan of Archaeological Features in Bastle (Bldg 4)..... | 29 |
| 9 | Plan of Archaeological Features at Western Extent of Bastle (Bldg 4)..... | 30 |
| 10 | Plan of Archaeological Features at Eastern Extent of Bastle House (Bldg 4)..... | 31 |
| 11 | Plan of Archaeological Features in Bldg 6..... | 32 |
| 12 | North facing section through Phase 1, Trench 1..... | 33 |
| 13 | North facing section through Phase 1, Trench 2..... | 33 |
| 14 | North facing section through Phase 1, Trench 3..... | 33 |
| 15 | West-facing section of Phase 1, Trench 3..... | 33 |
| 16 | North facing section through Phase 1, Trench 4..... | 33 |
| 17 | W-facing Elevation of Bastle Bldg 4..... | 34 |
| 18 | E-facing Elevation of Bastle Bldg 4 displaying Hearth (616/617)..... | 34 |
| 19 | SE-facing section through Hearth (623)..... | 35 |
| 20 | S & E-facing section through Foundation Trench F.634..... | 35 |
| 21 | Plan of Eastern Trench within Building 5..... | 36 |
| 22 | Plan of Northern Trench in Building 5..... | 37 |
| 23 | Section through Northern Trench in Building 5..... | 38 |
| 24 | NW facing elevation of Bastle Foundations (665)..... | 38 |
| 25 | Sections of Eastern Exterior Trench in Building 5..... | 38 |
| 26 | SW facing section of Eastern Exterior Trench in Building 5..... | 38 |
| 27 | E-facing view of Trench 2 displaying wall (203) and deposit (202) (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 39 |
| 28 | E-facing view of culvert F.313 in Test Trench 3 (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 39 |
| 29 | E-facing view of F.313 displaying interior culvert structure (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 40 |
| 30 | W-facing view of N-S aligned wall foundation (310) in Trench 3 (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 40 |
| 31 | N-facing view of wall foundation (310) in relation to the construction scar in the south facing wall of Building 6 (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 41 |
| 32 | N-facing view of flagstone surface (206) (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 42 |
| 33 | NE-facing view of 14 th -16 th century wall (601) (Scale- 1 x 1m).... | 42 |
| 34 | W-facing view of wall (601) (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 43 |
| 35 | W-facing interior view of the southern wall (647) of the bastle (Building 4) (Scale- 2 x 1m)..... | 44 |
| 36 | SW-facing view of southern bastle wall (647) (Scale- 2 x 1m).... | 45 |
| 37 | Pre-excavation view of foundation trench F.634 for north wall of the bastle (647) (Scale-1 x 1m) | 46 |
| 38 | Oblique view of section through 19 th century levelling layer (609) and construction cut F.634 (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 46 |
| 39 | NE-facing view of sandstone footings/plinth (611) and 19 th | 47 |

| | | |
|----|--|----|
| | century culvert F.313 (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | |
| 40 | NE-facing view of sandstone footings/plinth (611) below wall (613) (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 47 |
| 41 | S-facing oblique view of wall (613) and the blocked 16 th -17 th century byre doorway (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 48 |
| 42 | E-facing elevation of the 16 th -17 th century byre doorway within the western gable end wall of the bastle (Scale- 2 x 1m)..... | 49 |
| 43 | Square fireplace (643) present at the eastern extent of the bastle (Building 4) (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 50 |
| 44 | W-facing view of fireplace (616/617) blocked by late 19 th -20 th century remodeling (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 51 |
| 45 | W-facing view of Fireplace (616/617), bordered by fragmentary surface (623) (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 52 |
| 46 | Cobbled surface (641) above 18 th century fireplace (643) within the bastle (Building 4) (Scale 1 x 1m)..... | 53 |
| 47 | SW facing section through the northern trench within Building 5 (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 54 |
| 48 | SW facing section through the northern trench within Building 5 (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 54 |
| 49 | NE-facing view of southern trench within building 5 (Scale- 2 x 1m)..... | 55 |
| 50 | SW-facing view of consolidation deposit (673) (Scale- 2 x 1m)... | 56 |
| 51 | E-facing view of 19 th century culvert F.313 in the interior of the bastle (Building 4) (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 57 |
| 52 | 20 th century truncation event F.634 visible in the foreground truncating surface (638) (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 58 |
| 53 | 14 th -15 th century pottery recovered from structure (601) (Scale- 1 x 1m)..... | 59 |
| 54 | W-facing view of foundation trenches north of Building 5..... | 60 |
| 55 | S-facing section through foundation trenches..... | 60 |
| 56 | Plan of Foundation Trenches North of Building 5..... | 61 |
| 57 | S-facing Representative Section of Foundation Trench north of Building 5..... | 61 |

Executive Summary

In January 2015 Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd.) was commissioned by Mr Bill Hewison of Bespoke Homes Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief within Units 4, 5, 6 & 7, at West Fenwick Farm, Northumberland. The work was carried out in fulfilment of a condition for an approved planning application for the conversion of redundant farm ranges to residential use (ref. no.13/03515). The condition required the monitoring of groundworks related to internal ground reduction within West Fenwick Farmhouse (HER 10386). The watching brief was carried out on an intermittent basis, dependent upon the nature of the deposits encountered and in discussion with Northumberland County Council.

West Fenwick Farm, retains a 16th -17th century standing bastle-house (HER 10386) at its core, and was extended into an ENE-WSW orientated farmhouse range during the 18th and 19th century. The farm complex has been subject to a building recording at English Heritage Level 2 which was undertaken by Alan Williams Archaeology in 2013. The building recording report included a historical study of the development of the farm and provided a description of all standing buildings. The building classification numbers used within this report are based upon the building numbers assigned during the historic building recording phase of works.

Additional previous works included an archaeological watching brief conducted by Archaeological Research Services Ltd in 2014, which monitored the excavation of service pipe trenches associated with the development of a pre-existing agricultural building situated immediately to the east of the bastle-house (HER 10386). No finds or features of archaeological significance were identified during the watching brief conducted in 2014.

The archaeological watching brief, conducted during the present scheme of works, was divided between three separate phases. The first phase was related to the excavation of five test trenches within the interior of Buildings 4, 6 and 7. The second phase of the watching brief monitored all ground reduction, within the interior of the bastle (Building 4), to a maximum impact depth of 0.50m. The second phase of the watching brief also included the excavation of two test trenches within the interior of Building 5. The third phase of the watching brief related to the monitoring of groundworks associated with the insertion of a foundation trench at the northern extent of the site. The first and second phases of the watching brief identified numerous periods of activity within the West Fenwick farmhouse range.

The earliest identifiable phase was characterised by the presence of a 14th-16th century wall (601) within Building 6. The 14th-16th century wall (601) was heavily truncated, likely during the construction of Building 6, but was tentatively interpreted as forming part of a domestic structure within the medieval village of Fenwick.

The 16th-17th century phase of activity was represented by the construction of the bastle (HER 10386) which displayed evidence for a ground clearance event followed by the deposition of boulder plinth footings (611) below the gable end walls (313/677). Additionally, a construction trench (F.634) providing foundation support for the north wall (631) was also identified during the course of the watching brief. The use of a foundation trench (F.634) and the significant depth of both north and south long-walls was considered an unusual bastle building technique and was attributed to unfavourable ground conditions during construction. Similarly, a trample deposit (645) was identified overlying the natural substrate (603), within the interior of the bastle (Building 4), and was interpreted as indicative of livestock storage within the ground floor of the structure in the 16th-17th century.

During the 18th century the ground floor of the bastle (Building 4) was then re-purposed for domestic usage, principally characterised by the identification of a flagged sandstone surface (638) and a sub-square fireplace

(643) which had been inserted into the eastern gable end wall. The presence of a dis-use deposit (620) above both the flagged sandstone surface (638) and the eastern fireplace (643) then suggested that the bastle may have undergone a period of abandonment during the mid-late 18th century.

The early 19th century phase of activity, was characterised by the domestic re-occupation of the bastle and the sealing of the 16th-17th century byre doorway (644) for the insertion of a fireplace (616/617) within the western wall of Building 4. Similarly, a cobbled surface (623) was deposited within the bastle interior which overlay the earlier 18th century fireplace (643) at the eastern extent of Building 4. The re-organisation of the bastle interior, during the early 19th century, may have been related to the construction of Buildings 5 and 7 which served to extend the domestic living space of the farmhouse.

The final phase of activity was represented by the insertion of a culvert (F.313) through cobbled surface (623) and the widespread deposition of a late 19th century levelling deposit (304/609/659) throughout the interior of Buildings 4, 5 and 6. The insertion of both the culvert (F.313) and the levelling deposit throughout the interior of the farmhouse range co-incided with the construction of a cattle byre (Building 7) at the western extent of Building 6 during the late 19th or early 20th century. It does not seem unreasonable to assume that the uniform deposition of levelling layers (304/609/659) within the interior of the farmhouse range may have signified the re-purposing of Buildings 4, 5 and 6 for agricultural usage during the late 19th or early 20th century.

It should also be noted that significant 20th century waste disposal was identified at the eastern extent of the bastle interior (646) and may indicate that Buildings 4, 5, 6 and 7 remained in use as agricultural structures throughout the 20th century.

1. Introduction

1.1 In January 2015 Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd.) was commissioned by Mr Bill Hewison of Bespoke Homes Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief within Units 4, 5, 6 & 7, at West Fenwick Farm, Northumberland. The watching brief was carried out in fulfilment of a condition for an approved planning application for the conversion of a redundant farm range to residential use (ref. no.13/03515). The condition required the monitoring of groundworks operations related to internal ground reduction within West Fenwick Farmhouse (HER 10386).

1.2 The watching brief was carried out on an intermittent basis, dependent upon the nature of the deposits encountered and in discussion with Northumberland County Council

2. Location and Geology

2.1 The site was located at the west end of the village of Fenwick, which lies 10km west of Ponteland. The site lies within West Fenwick Farm on the south side of the road, centred at NGR NZ 05496, 72837 (Figure 1).

2.2 The solid geology of the area consists of Sandstone of the Stainmore Formation, overlain by Devensian Till (BGS 2014).

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

3.1 The word Fenwick translates as 'dwelling on the fen' from Old English and the village of Fenwick began as a medieval township (Wrathmell 1975, 383-4; HER: 10371). The village is first mentioned in historical documentation in 1140 when the settlement formed part of the Barony of Bolbec that was granted to William de Lisle. The Lisles held the township until the 13th century when it was sub-infeudated to the Fenwick family (Williams 2013, 8). The Fenwicks remained in control of the area through the medieval and into the post-medieval period, before being sold to Sir William Blackett in 1689.

3.2 Earthworks around Fenwick, visible on aerial photographs, have been plotted as part of the National Mapping Programme. They show that the medieval settlement was of two-row form - with house plots on each side of a thoroughfare or green (the same line as the present east-west road through the settlement) - surrounded by agricultural earthworks including garths enclosed by banks and more extensive open-field systems with traces of ridge and furrow surviving in the surrounding fields (Williams 2013). Traces of the historical development of Fenwick are still visible around the village in the form of the Grade II Listed Fenwick Tower at the east end (NHLE: 1370708 HER 10358), the Grade II Listed farmhouse at North Fenwick (NHLE: 1042776; HER 10385), and the bastle-house at West Fenwick Farm (HER: 10386). Burials discovered through excavation also testify to the presence of a church or chapel in the village.

3.3 West Fenwick Farm, where the watching brief was focused, retains a standing bastle-house (HER 10386) at its core. The farm complex was subject to a building recording at English Heritage Level 2 which was undertaken by Alan Williams Archaeology (Williams, 2013). The building recording report included a historical study of the development of the farm and provided a description of all standing buildings. Additionally, the historic building report sub-divided the buildings within West Fenwick Farm into units 4, 5, 6, and 7 (Figure

2 & 3). Building 4 consisted of the 16th-17th century bastle-house (HER 10386) which was repurposed from domestic to agricultural usage during the 19th century (Ryder, 1995 & Williams, 2013). Building 5 is an 18th or 19th century, sandstone, lean-to structure located north of Building 4. Building 5 post-dated the bastle and was likely intended for domestic usage prior to being re-purposed as an agricultural storage area (Williams, 2013). Building 6 was an 18th or 19th century sandstone structure attached to the western wall of the bastle and was interpreted as an extension to the domestic farmhouse. The presence of a modern non-slip floor and a drainage channel attest to the conversion of Building 6 from domestic into agricultural usage during the 20th century. Similarly, Building 7 was interpreted as a late 19th century, western extension to the cattle byre within Building 6 (Williams, 2013).

3.4 Previous mitigation works consisted of an archaeological watching brief conducted by Archaeological Research Services Ltd in 2014 (Eadie & Scott, 2014). The watching brief monitored the excavation of service pipe trenches within the vicinity of a pre-existing agricultural building situated immediately to the east of the bastle-house (HER 10386). No finds or features of archaeological significance were identified during the course of the watching brief.

4. Methodology

4.1 The archaeological mitigation works were divided between three phases of watching brief. The first phase was related to the excavation of five test trenches within the interior of Buildings 4, 6 and 7 (Figure 3 & 4). The test trenches were excavated in consultation with the Assistant County Archaeologist for Northumberland in order to gain a record of the stratigraphic sequence for the upper 0.50m within the interior of Buildings 4, 6 and 7. The second phase of the watching brief monitored the ground reduction works within the interior of the bastle (Building 4) to a maximum impact depth of \approx 0.50m below exterior ground level. The second phase of the watching brief also included the excavation of two test trenches within the interior of Building 5 (Figure 8, 21 & 22). The third phase of the watching brief related to the monitoring of groundworks associated with the insertion of a foundation trench at the northern extent of the site. The building number classifications used during the course of the watching brief corresponded with the building numbers used during the historic building recording works conducted in 2013 (Williams, 2013).

4.2 All relevant excavation work was undertaken with either a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket or archaeological investigation by hand.

4.3 The deposits were recorded according to the normal principles of stratigraphic excavation. Each context was recorded on pro-forma records which included the following: character and contextual relationships; detailed description (dimensions and shape; soil components, colour, texture and consistency); interpretation and phasing as well as cross-references to the drawn and photographic registers.

4.4 All necessary plans were recorded at a scale of 1:20 and all sections were recorded at 1:10.

4.5 A photographic record of all identified archaeological features was maintained during the course of the watching brief and all images were taken in digital and monochrome format with a graduated scale.

5. Results

Phase 1 Archaeological Watching Brief

5.1 Groundworks related to the removal of the 20th century surfaces within Buildings 4, 6 and 7 had taken place prior to the arrival of a monitoring archaeologist. Consequently, the archaeological work conducted during the phase 1 and phase 2 watching brief excluded the later 20th century deposit sequence.

5.2 Test Trench 1 measured 1.88m x 1.23m x 0.46m and was located at the NW extent of Building 7 (Figure 4). The uppermost visible deposit within Test Trench 1 was a poorly sorted, greyish-yellow, silty-sand (101) containing frequent fragments of sandstone. Deposit (101) displayed a maximum depth of 0.06m and was interpreted as a sub-base layer supporting the 20th century floor of the cattle byre (Figure 12). Layer (101) was truncated by an E-W aligned construction cut [104] which bisected Building 7 and was filled by concrete half pipe (105). Cut [104] and concrete half-pipe (105) measured 5.27m x 0.4m x 0.2m and were interpreted to be representative of 20th century drainage channels for the removal of livestock waste. Deposit (101) overlay a 0.34m thick, yellowish-brown, silty-clay deposit (102) containing frequent fragments of 19th century brick. Consequently, deposit (102) was interpreted as a levelling layer, likely associated with the initial 19th century construction of Building 7 (Figure 12). Similarly, deposit (102) sealed a greyish-brown, silty-clay deposit (103) which was identifiable at the base of Trench 1 and was interpreted to be the natural substrate.

5.3 Test Trench 2 measured 4.47m x 1.73m x 0.50m and was located in the doorway at the NE extent of Building 7 and the NW extent of Building 6 (Figure 4 & 5). The uppermost visible deposit (201) was a 0.07m thick, greyish-yellow, silty-sand which was interpreted to be a 20th century sub-base layer for the support of a concrete floor in Building 6 and 7 (Figure 13). Similarly, sub-base layer (201) should be interpreted as the same as layer (101) in Building 7 and deposit (301) in Building 6. Sub-base (201) overlay a 0.30m thick, brownish-grey, 19th century levelling deposit (202) interpreted to be the same as deposit (102) (Figure 5 & 27). Deposit (201) and (202) both overlay a N-S aligned sandstone wall (203) measuring 0.9m x 0.67m x 0.2m. Wall (203) was constructed from randomly coursed, shaped sandstone blocks and was interpreted as a continuation of the foundations associated with the western wall of Building 6 (Figure 27). The eastern face of wall (203) was abutted by fragmentary, sandstone flagging (206) which overlay a 0.08m thick, moderately sorted, greyish-brown, silt-clay levelling layer (204) (Figure 7 & 32). Deposit (204) and surface (206) were both tentatively interpreted to be related to the 18th or 19th century interior of Building 6 (Figure 5). Wall (203) and levelling layer (204) overlay natural substrate (205) which was identified at a depth of 0.50m below original ground level.

5.4 Trench 3 was situated at the NE extent of Building 6 and measured 2.09m x 1.53m x 0.40m. Trench 3 was excavated through a 0.04m thick, 20th century, sub-base deposit (301), which was interpreted to be the same as sub-base layer (201) in Trench 2. Deposit (301) was sealed by 0.15m thick, late 19th century, levelling layers (302) and (304) which were truncated by a 20th century construction cut [307] for the insertion of alkathene pipes (306) (Figure 6 & 28). Additionally, 19th century levelling deposit (304) overlay a NW-SE aligned, stone culvert F.313 measuring 1.0m x 0.42m x 0.20m and located at the eastern extent of Trench 3 (Figure 6, 14, 15, 28 & 29). Culvert F.313 consisted of a near-vertically sided cut [311] filled by two, irregularly coursed, sandstone walls (309) which had been

constructed on a broadly parallel alignment and sealed by a horizontal sandstone slab. The culvert walls (309) were constructed from unbonded, shaped, sandstone blocks and displayed average individual dimensions of 0.30m x 0.14m x 0.13m (Figure 28 & 29). It should also be noted that culvert F.313 was excavated through a yellowish-brown, silty-clay natural substrate (305) and extended beyond the eastern limit of Trench 3 and into the interior of the bastle (Building 4) (Figure 14). The stratigraphic location of culvert F.313 was suggestive of a late 19th century date. Boulder plinth footings (316) were also identified within the W-facing section of the trench and were interpreted to be related to the 16th-17th century construction of the bastle-house. A N-S aligned, sandstone wall foundation (310) was identified at the western extent of Trench 3 and measured 1.42m x 0.28m x 0.05m at its maximum visible extents (Figure 6, 30 & 31). Wall (310) overlay natural substrate (305), displayed no evidence for the use of bonding material and only survived to a single course. It was also noted that wall foundation (310) appeared to relate to a construction scar upon the southern face of the northern wall of Building 6 (Figure 31). Consequently, wall footings (310) were interpreted to be an 18th or 19th century foundation for a partition wall within Building 6, potentially related to the insertion of a corridor dividing Building 6 from the bastle-house (Building 4). The natural substrate (305) was identified at a depth of 0.60m below the interior ground level.

5.5 Trench 4 was located at the SE extent of the bastle (Building 4) and measured 1.4m x 1.33m x 0.45m at its maximum visible extents (Figure 4 & 16). The uppermost visible deposit within Trench 4 was a 0.48m thick, poorly sorted, blackish-brown, silty-clay (634) containing frequent 20th century brick inclusions and occasional fragments of plastic (Figure 16 & 52). Deposit (634) was interpreted as a 20th century waste deposit. Deposit (634) abutted the northern face of the southern bastle wall and was visible across the base of Trench 4.

5.6 Trench 5 measured 2.79m x 0.45m x 0.30m and was located at the western extent of Building 6, 1.6m south of Trench 2 (Figure 4 & 7). The uppermost visible deposit was a 0.20m thick, greyish-brown, silty-clay layer (502) interpreted to be the same as 19th century levelling layer (202/304). Deposit (502) sealed a fragmentary sandstone surface (501) which was visible across the full extent of Trench 5. The sandstone flagging (501) identified within Trench 5 displayed individual average dimensions of 0.35m x 0.21m x 0.04m. A 0.10m thick yellowish-brown levelling clay (503) was identified below surface (501). Consequently, surfaces (206) and (501) were both interpreted to be the 18th-19th century, internal, domestic floor surface of Building 6. No further excavation works were conducted within Trench 5.

5.7 In summary, the test trenches excavated during the phase 1 watching brief revealed a probable corridor between Building 6 and the bastle (Building 4), characterised by wall (310) in Trench 3. The presence of a possible corridor may support the interpretation that Building 6 was an 18th or 19th century, domestic extension to the bastle farmhouse (Building 4). The stratigraphic sequence in Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 5 then indicated that, during the 19th century, Building 7 was constructed and a doorway inserted into the NW corner of Building 6, as represented by wall (203). A levelling deposit (102/202/304) containing fragments of late 19th century brick was then inserted into both Building 6 & 7 and suggested a wide-ranging re-purposing of both structures during the later 19th century. The deposition of levelling deposit (102/202/304) coupled with the insertion of culvert F.313 may indicate that both Buildings 4 and 6 were re-purposed from domestic into agricultural usage during the later 19th century.

5.8 The 20th century phase was characterised by the deposition of sub-base deposit (101/201/301), the formation of drain F.105 and the insertion of pipe trench F.308. It seems likely that Buildings 6 and 7 were almost certainly used for agricultural purposes during the 20th century. Similarly, the presence of waste deposit (636) within Trench 4 indicated that the interior of the bastle-house (Building 4) was heavily disturbed by 20th century activity. However, the west facing section within Trench 3 indicated that undisturbed *in-situ* archaeological material likely remained within the interior of Building 4.

5.9 All remaining 18th-19th century deposits were removed from the interior of Buildings 6 & 7 following the recording of Trenches 1, 2, 3 & 5. The natural substrate (103/205/305) was identified at a depth of 0.50m below initial interior ground level within Building 6 and 0.40m below interior ground level in Building 7.

Phase 2 Archaeological Watching Brief- 14th-16th Century

5.10 The earliest phase of activity identified during the second phase of watching brief was characterised by a NE-SW aligned wall (601) located at the western extent of the 18th or 19th century farmhouse extension (Building 6) (Figure 11, 32 & 33). Wall (601) measured 1.8m x 0.80m x 0.20m and was constructed using large, sandstone blocks with average dimensions of 0.40m x 0.32m x 0.20m. The individual blocks were regularly coursed and bonded with a yellowish-grey, sandy mortar. It is also worth noting that a single fragment of 14th-16th century pottery was recovered from the bonding material. Wall (601) was truncated by the 18th-19th century, western wall of Building 6 and was overlain by levelling deposit (204/503). Similarly, wall (601) overlay natural substrate (603) and could therefore represent an earlier phase of 14th – 16th century activity, potentially pre-dating the construction of the bastle-house (Building 4).

Phase 2 Archaeological Watching Brief- 16th-17th Century

5.11 The 16th-17th century activity was principally characterised by the construction of the bastle-house (Building 4). The 16th-17th century north and south long-walls of Building 4 measured 12.7m x 1m and were constructed from regularly coursed, sandstone blocks. The north wall (631) had been heavily modified and any bonding material related to the original 16th-17th construction phase was obscured by later activity. However, the removal of a pair of 20th century metal sliding doors within the southern long-wall (647) of Building 6 revealed the internal structure of the 16th-17th century bastle-house walls. The north and south facing stones of the southern bastle long-wall (647) were constructed around a tightly compacted rubble core consisting of small to medium sized, roughly hewn sandstone fragments (Figure 8, 10, 20, 35 & 36) . Additionally, a greyish-yellow, sandy mortar was identified as the bonding material between the stonework on the northern face of wall (647).

5.12 Although no indication of the internal structure of the northern bastle long-wall was revealed during the course of the watching brief it is not unreasonable to assume that both long-walls were constructed in a similar manner. It should be noted that the north wall (631) was also constructed within a foundation cut [635] filled by a yellowish-orange, sandy-clay backfill deposit (634) containing fragments of sandstone and occasional flecks of sandy mortar (Figure 20, 37 & 38).

5.13 Contrastingly, the west wall (613) of the bastle (Building 4) was constructed upon a single course of large, sub-rounded, blocks of sandstone (611), which were visible at the

base of the 19th century doorway (612) and physically overlay natural substrate (305/603) (Figure 8, 10, 17, 39 & 40). Structure (611) was interpreted as either shallow footings or a sandstone plinth for the support of the west wall (613). Foundation structure (611) was set within a cut [315] which likely represented ground preparation and clearance within the footprint of the bastle and should not be interpreted as a foundation trench. The 16th-17th century component of the west wall (613) of the bastle-house was constructed from irregularly coursed, squared sandstone blocks and measured 2.78m x 1.10m in plan. The relatively small dimensions of the 16th-17th component of the west wall (613) was caused by the insertion of two doorways (612/675) into the NW and SW corners of the bastle during the 19th century. The original 16th-17th century byre doorway was visible within the west-face of the west bastle wall (612) and displayed an arch with a pointed head and a continuous chamfer (Figure 17, 41 & 42). The byre doorway measured 0.94m x 1.81m x 1.10m at its maximum extents but was not visible within the interior face of wall (613) due to later modifications. The east wall (677) of the bastle (Building 4) was constructed using near identical construction methods to the west wall (613) and measured 4.8m x 1.10m internally.

5.14 The earliest deposit identified within the bastle interior was characterised by a 0.08m thick, blackish-brown, silty-clay (645). Layer (645) was identifiable at a depth of 0.48m below interior ground level and was interpreted as a trample layer potentially related to the storage of livestock (Figure 8 & 9). The yellowish-brown, silty-clay natural substrate (603) was identified within the interior of the bastle (Building 4) at a depth of 0.50m below exterior ground level.

5.15 In summary, the 16th-17th century phase of activity was characterised by the construction of the bastle house walls (613/631/647/677) accessed by a doorway at the western end of Building 6 which opened into a probable livestock byre.

5.16 As previously mentioned, the use of a vertically sided foundation trench F.634 to support the northern wall (631) was dis-similar from the traditional bastle house construction techniques which utilised a sandstone plinth, such as (611), for structural support. The use of a sandstone plinth (611) below the gable end wall (613) and the excavation of a foundation trench F.634 might indicate that greater structural support was required for the north long-wall (631) of the bastle. It was also noted that the water table at the northern extent of Building 4 was relatively high and that a culvert was inserted into the interior of the bastle to assist with land drainage during the 19th century. It is not unreasonable to assume that the variance in building techniques, between the north and west walls of the bastle, might be a response to unstable ground conditions identified during the construction of Building 4.

Phase 2 Archaeological Watching Brief- 18th Century

5.17 The 18th century phase of activity within the bastle (Building 4) appeared to relate to the conversion of the ground floor byre into domestic living accommodation. A 0.10m thick, greyish-brown, silty-clay levelling layer (625) was deposited over trample (645) and used to support a flagged sandstone surface (638) at the eastern extent of the bastle interior and a similarly constructed surface (619) at the western extent of Building 4 (Figure 8-10). Surface (638) measured 1.42m x 1.2m x 0.14m at its maximum visible extents but was truncated by 20th century intrusions at its northern, western and southern extents (Figure 8 & 10). Surface (619) was also heavily disturbed by 19th century activity and measured 1.07m x 1.10m x 0.08m at its surviving extents. It seems likely that surface (619/638) was present

across the full extent of the bastle interior during the 18th century but may have been partially robbed away during a later phase of activity.

5.18 Sandstone surface (638) also abutted a sub-square fireplace (643) which was inserted into the eastern wall (677) of the bastle (Building 4) and corresponded with the location of a blocked chimney flue noted within the Building Survey conducted in 2013 (Williams, 2013). The fireplace (643) measured 1.5m x 1.8m x 0.21m and consisted of two, parallel courses of unbonded, squared, sandstone blocks constructed on a SE-NW alignment and laid perpendicular to the eastern wall of the bastle (Building 4) (Figure 8, 10 & 43). The interior facing stones of fireplace (643) all displayed a yellowish-pink discolouration which was likely caused by exposure to high temperatures. It is also worth noting that a sooty deposit (639) was identified on the superior surface of the flagstones (638) adjacent to fireplace (643) and was interpreted to be a trample deposit related to the use and potential 'raking out' of the hearth.

5.19 In summary, it seems likely that the 16th – 17th century byre doorway remained open during the early 18th century and provided access to a flagged sandstone interior with a fireplace situated at the eastern extent of the structure.

Phase 2 Archaeological Watching Brief- 18th Century - 19th Century

5.20 The later 18th – century phase may have been partially characterised by a period of dis-use represented by the deposition of a 0.06m thick, blackish-brown, sandy-silt deposit (620). Deposit (620) was identified overlaying both the 18th century surface (638) and bedding deposit (625). The presence of dis-use deposit (620) over both bedding clay (625) and surface (638) may suggest that the flagstone surface (638) was partially removed during the dis-use or abandonment period.

5.21 Ryder and Williams both indicate that the 16th to 17th century byre doorway was then blocked during the late 18th or early 19th century, suggesting that the bastle had been re-occupied by this date (Ryder, 1994 & William, 2013). The doorway was blocked with large, squared, sandstone masonry (644) measuring an average 0.54m x 0.18m x 0.18m (Figure 8, 17, 41 & 42). The sealing of the 17th century door likely co-incided with the insertion of a doorway into the northern bastle wall (631), and the creation of a fireplace (616/617) in the blocked doorway of the western wall (613) (Figure 8, 9, 18, 44 & 45). Fireplace (616/617) measured 1.7m x 0.60m x 0.20m at its maximum visible extents and consisted of two brick and sandstone pillars, irregularly coursed and abutting the western wall (613). Both pillars were constructed from unfrosted, handmade, displaying maximum dimensions of 9" x 4 1/2" x 3 1/4". The form of the bricks within fireplace (616/617) was indicative of an early 19th century date and supported Ryder and Williams' interpretation that the doorway was blocked during this phase.

5.22 Additionally, brick pillars (616/617) were abutted by a 0.04m thick, sooty 'use' deposit (614) related to the use of the fireplace. Sooty 'use' deposit (614) overlay a reddish-orange, heat affected, silty-clay (622), which was interpreted as the 17th century levelling deposit (646) discoloured by exposure to high temperatures (Figure 19).

5.23 Fireplace (616/617) was abutted by a fragmentary surface (623) consisting of sandstone flagging and occasional fragments of 19th century, unfrosted, red-brick. Surface (623) measured 3.2m x 2.4m x 0.07m and had been constructed over the 18th century 'dis-use' deposit (620). It is also worth noting that the western fireplace was likely remodelled as

both pillars (616)/617) were removed and a sandstone hearth (624), measuring 1.14m x 0.38m x 0.14m, was inserted (Figure 8, 9, 18, 45 & 46).

5.24 A cobbled surface (641) similar to surface (623) was also identified at the eastern extent of the bastle (Building 4) and sealed eastern fireplace (643) (Figure 46). The insertion of surface (641) across fireplace (643) effectively marked a cessation in its use and broadly corresponded with the formation of the western fireplace (616/617). It is unclear why fireplace (643) was decommissioned in favour of a fireplace situated at the western extent of the bastle but may be a response to an extension of the domestic living space characterised by the construction of Building 5 and Building 6 at the northern and western extents of Building 4

5.25 Building 5 abutted the northern face of Building 4 and reference to the cartographic data suggested that it was constructed during the 18th -19th century (Williams 2013). Two test trenches were excavated within the interior of Building 5 and were located at the north-west and south-eastern extent of the structure (Figure 21 & 22). The northern trench measured 1.4m x 0.7m x 0.40m and the southern trench measured 1.60m x 0.80m x 0.40m. Both trenches were excavated to the maximum impact depth of 0.40m below interior ground level (Figure 21-26 & 47-50). The only early 19th century deposit identified within the test trenches were characterised by a 0.18m thick, greyish-brown, silty-clay levelling layer (670/671/674). Deposit (670/674) contained occasional fragments of unfrosted, handmade, 19th century brick and abutted both the eastern wall of Building 5 and the northern face of the bastle wall (631/664). Levelling deposit (671) also contained fragments of early 19th century brick and occasional fragments of animal bone. Levelling deposits (670), (671) and (674) likely supported the internal floor of Building 5, although no evidence for the original floor surface was identified in either trench. However, fragments of plaster and lath were identified on the internal face of the north wall and indicated that Building 5 likely served as an 18th-19th century extension to the domestic core of the farm (Williams, 2013).

5.26 The domestic character of the late 18th- early 19th century farmhouse extension (Building 6) was principally represented by corridor wall footings (203), and the creation of the flagged sandstone surface (501/206) identified during the first phase of the watching brief.

5.27 In summary, the 18th-19th century phase of activity was characterised by a probable period of abandonment and dis-use during the mid-late 18th century. During the early 19th century it seems likely that the bastle was re-occupied, the pre-existing 17th and 18th century features were modified and Buildings 5 and 6 were constructed in order to extend the domestic living space around the bastle farmhouse core. The 19th century domestic modifications were represented by the blocking of the 17th century byre doorway and the insertion of a fireplace into the newly sealed west wall of Building 4. A cobbled surface was also formed at a broadly contemporaneous date to the construction of the western fireplace and likely extended throughout the interior of Building 4.

Phase 2 Archaeological Watching Brief- Late 19th Century- Early 20th Century

5.28 The later 19th century phase of activity related to the construction of Building 7, the insertion of a doorway into the NW corner of the bastle (Building 4) and the formation of a NE-SW aligned, culvert F.313 (Figure 8 & 10). Culvert F.313 extended eastwards from Test Trench 3, across the northern half of the bastle interior. Culvert F.313 also measured 6.54m

x 0.50m x 0.20m at its maximum visible extents and truncated the 16th-17th century wall footings (611), the 18th-19th century interior domestic surface (623) and levelling deposit (625) (Figure 8-10, 17 & 51). The eastern extent of culvert F.313 was truncated by 20th century intrusion event F.634.

5.29 A 0.18m thick, brownish-grey, silty-clay levelling layer (304/609) was later inserted over the top of culvert F.319 and extended throughout the interior of Buildings 4 and 6. It should be noted that deposit (609) contained occasional fragments of late 19th century brick and also sealed fireplace (624) at the western extent of Building 4. The deposition of layer (609) over the western fire-place may indicate that the role of the farmhouse range had shifted from a domestic focus and into a more utilitarian agricultural function during the later 19th century. It should also be noted that levelling layer (304/609) served to support a flagged sandstone surface (206/501) which was identified in Building 6 and may have originally extended throughout the interior of Buildings 4 and 7.

5.30 Similarly, both the northern and southern trenches within Building 5 were subject to modification during the later 19th century which included the deposition of a 0.20m thick layer (659/672) (Figure 23-26 & 47-49). Deposit (659/672) consisted of a moderately sorted, orangey-brown clay and was interpreted to be re-deposited natural clay inserted into the interior of Building 5 as a levelling deposit for the support of a surface. It should also be noted that a layer of large, sub-rounded stones (673) and frogged, 19th century red-brick was deposited over layer (672) (Figure 23, 25, 26 & 47-50). Layer (673) measured 2.9m x 1.28m x 0.24m and was situated in a particularly waterlogged location within Building 5. Consequently, layer (673) was interpreted as a probable localised consolidation event intended to stabilise interior ground conditions (Figure 21 & 50).

5.31 In summary, it seems probable that the construction of culvert F.313 and the addition of a series of levelling deposits within the interior of Buildings 4, 5, 6 and 7 suggested a uniform change in function to the farmhouse core. It is not unreasonable to assume that, during the later 19th century or early 20th century, Buildings 4, 5 and 6 were re-purposed towards an agricultural function and ceased to operate as domestic structures. This interpretation was supported by the presence of a series of late 19th, or early 20th century, water troughs which were identified within the interior of Building 7 during the historic building recording works conducted in 2013 (William, 2013).

Phase 2 Archaeological Watching Brief- 20th Century

5.32 The 20th century phase of activity was partially represented by truncation event F.634 within the eastern half of the bastle interior (Figure 8, 10 & 52). F.634 measured 7.8m x 4.8m x 0.35m at its maximum visible extents and consisted of an uneven, concave sided cut [637] filled by a poorly sorted, blackish-brown, silty-clay (637). Cut [637] was excavated through levelling clay (625), culvert F.313, surface (638) and natural substrate (603). Assorted fragments of 20th century brick, metal and plastic were recovered from deposit (634) and may indicate that F.634 represented a 20th century robbing event related to the removal of pre-existing 19th century material.

5.33 Evidence for 20th century livestock storage was characterised by the presence of a 0.15m thick, greyish-brown, trample deposit (660/663) within Building 5. Deposit (660/663) also had a significant organic content which may have been indicative of animal waste. Sandstone flagging (661) was laid over trample deposit (660/663) and was visible throughout the interior of Building 5 prior to the excavation of both test trenches.

5.34 The archaeological evidence suggested that Buildings 4, 5, 6 & 7 remained in use as agricultural structures throughout the 20th century. Limited evidence for the partial removal of earlier 19th century material may have been characterised by late 20th century truncation event F.634.

Phase 3 Archaeological Watching Brief- 20th Century

5.35 A series of foundation trenches measuring 12m x 8m x 1m were excavated at the northern extent of the site, approximately 15m north of Building 5 (Figure 54-57). The uppermost identifiable deposit was a 0.04m thick, brownish-grey, trample deposit (680). Deposit (680) was interpreted as a modern deposited related to general construction activity occurring on site. Trample deposit (680) overlay a 0.30m thick deposit (678) containing frequent stone and brick inclusions. Deposit (678) was considered to be a 20th century levelling layer, deposited prior to the construction of a modern open-sided barn. Layer (678) overlay the natural clay substrate (679) which was identified at a depth of 0.34m below present ground level. No finds or features of archaeological significance were identified within the foundation trenches.

6. Specialist Reports

6.1 Animal bone Report *by Milena Grzybowska*

Material and methods

6.1.1 The material consisted of two hand-collected specimens retrieved from context (671). The analysis adheres to the guidelines detailed in 'Animal bones and Archaeology: Guidelines for Best Practice' prepared by English Heritage (Baker and Worley 2014). The state of preservation was scored using a four stage system (excellent, good, fair and poor). The bones were identified to species and where a bone fragment could not be attributed to a species, a broader taxonomic category was used. Taphonomic traces were investigated, including butchery, gnawing, root etching, burning. Pathological changes were noted, where present, and the measurements of skeletally mature specimens followed Von den Driesch (1976).

Results

6.1.2 Context (671) contained 1 fragment of burnt animal bone in a good state of preservation. The specimen was white in colour with patches of grey, which indicated incomplete oxidisation (below 600°C). It represented a fragment of long bone shaft of a large-medium mammal. No fissuring or warping was observed. The remaining specimen - a complete right calcaneum - represented cattle (*Bos taurus*). No pathological or taphonomic changes to the bone were observed. The bones measurements were as follows: GL:108.75, GB:26.34.

Discussion and Recommendations

6.1.3 Due to good preservation of the assemblage it was possible to identify cattle remains. The element most likely represented butchery refuse product. No further analysis is recommended for this assemblage.

6.2 Pottery Report *by Robin Holgate*

6.2.1 The sample consisted of a single sherd of pottery weighing 5.2g which was recovered from structure (601).

6.2.2 The fragment recovered was classified as a bodysherd of green, lead-glazed, pottery with an orange sandy fabric and traces of incised decoration, possibly from a jug, dating to the late 14th-early 16th centuries (Figure 53).

7. Discussion

7.1. The watching brief at West Fenwick Farm revealed evidence for near-continuous phases of occupation dating from the 14th or 15th century until the 21st century. The activity was principally focused upon the 16th-17th century bastle-house (HER 10386) which formed the core of West Fenwick Farm.

7.2 The earliest phase of activity related to the construction of wall (601) which contained a fragment of 14th-16th century pottery. It is not unreasonable to assume that wall (601) likely formed part of a structure located at the southern extent of the medieval village of Fenwick. The lack of associated occupation deposits prevented any greater understanding of structure function, however, it was noted that wall (601) was relatively well constructed and could be tentatively interpreted as forming part of a 14th-16th century domestic residence.

7.3 The 16th-17th century phase of activity was partially represented by the construction of the bastle (Building 4). Bastles were a form of fortified farmhouse constructed in the border counties of England and Scotland during the 15th – 17th century. The traditional characteristics of a bastle were the presence of c.1m thick, exterior walls constructed from stone. The interior space was divided between the first floor living quarters and a ground floor byre or stable for the protection of livestock (Brunskill, 1997).

7.4 The West Fenwick Bastle (HER 10386) was likely constructed during the 16th-17th century and may have been formed at a broadly contemporaneous date to the North Fenwick Farmhouse (HER 10385) situated on the northern side of the Stamfordham to Matfen road. (Ryder, 2004). The West Fenwick Bastle (HER 10386) displayed a number of traditional bastle construction techniques such as the relative thickness of the exterior walls and the use of a byre doorway within the gable end of the structure. The use of a gable end byre doorway was also identified within the bastles at Blackleugh, Brinkleugh, Hope Head, Hayrake and Nine Dargue in Northumberland. Similarly, traditional bastle construction techniques also involved limited ground clearance within the footprint of the structure followed by the deposition of a single course of large boulder stones to serve as footings or a foundation plinth for the extant walls. Boulder plinth footings (316/611) were identified below the western gable end wall (613) of the West Fenwick bastle and were also revealed below the exterior walls of bastles at Brig Castle, Brinkheugh, Low Cleughs (HER 7944) and Smalesmouth Farm, Northumberland. However, the excavation works conducted during the current phase of watching brief indicated that the north wall of Building 4 (631/664) was constructed within a vertically sided foundation trench [635] not on a boulder plinth. No foundation trench was identified in association with the southern wall (647), however, the base of the southern long wall exceeded a depth of 0.50m below interior ground level. The relative depth of the long walls coupled with the use of a construction trench was interpreted as a response to unfavourable 16th-17th century ground

conditions and a need for increased foundation support. This interpretation may be supported by reference to the Old English place name evidence which suggested that the name Fenwick should be translated as ‘dwellings by the marsh’ (Williams, 2013). Additionally, the place names Long Bog and Horse Bog located south of the West Fenwick Farmhouse also indicate that the local area was still marshland until relatively recently.

7.5 The presence of trample deposit (645), within the interior of Building 4, was indicative of probable livestock storage and also reflected the traditional function of the ground-floor space in 16th-17th century bastle-houses.

7.6 The next phase of activity identified during the course of the watching brief suggested the ground-floor of the bastle (Building 4) was re-purposed from agricultural to domestic usage. The domestic modifications included the insertion of a fireplace (643) into the eastern gable end wall of the bastle and the creation of a flagged sandstone floor (638), which likely extended across the interior of the structure. Ryder indicates that the earliest phase of modification to the farmhouse interior likely occurred during the 18th century and may suggest that the insertion of both the fireplace (643) and floor-surface (638) could be dated to this phase (Ryder, 1994). Furthermore, re-purposing of the ground floor space within a bastle house was relatively common during later phases of occupation as the defensive requirement of the structure ceased to be of importance. For example, at the Castle Hill bastle in Haltwhistle, a fireplace was inserted into the ground floor wall during the late 17th century (Campbell & Dixon, 1970). Similarly, both the Castle Hill fireplace and the West Fenwick fireplace (643) were both located at the opposite gable end wall from the former byre doorway.

7.7 The 18th century phase of domestic usage within the bastle (Building 4), was then followed by a period of possible abandonment which was represented by the partial ‘robbing out’ of the 18th century surface (638) and the later formation of dis-use deposit (620).

7.8 During the early to mid-19th century the bastle (Building 4) then appeared to be re-occupied and the interior of the structure received additional domestic modifications. The principal modification was represented by the blocking of the original 17th-century byre doorway (644) and the installation of brick built fireplace (616/617) into the newly sealed western gable end wall. Similarly, a cobbled surface (623/641) was inserted into the interior of the bastle at a broadly contemporaneous date to the insertion of the western fireplace. It is also worth noting, that during the early 19th century phase, cobbled surface (641) also sealed the probable 18th century fireplace (643). Both Ryder and Williams both indicated that, during the late 18th – early 19th century the domestic core of West Fenwick farmhouse was extended by the construction of both Building 5 and sandstone lean-to structure Building 6 (Ryder, 1994 & Williams, 2013). Fragmentary wall footings for a possible corridor wall (310) and the heavily truncated surfaces (206/501) may point to the early domestic function of Building 6. No evidence for the domestic function of the sandstone lean-to structure (Building 5), was identified within either of the watching brief test trenches. However, the presence of early 19th century brick within levelling deposits (670) and (674) supported the interpretation that Building 5 was present on the site from the early 19th century (Williams, 2013).

7.9 The pattern of 18th -19th century activity identified during the course of the watching brief highlighted a pattern of near-continuous domestic usage coupled with periodic structural extensions to the bastle-house core. This was a trend that was not restricted to

West Fenwick farm and was also identified at numerous sites throughout Northumberland, including Allensford Mill Farmhouse, Black Middens, Brockley Hall and North Fenwick Farmhouse (HER 10385).

7.10 The construction of Building 7, the insertion of culvert F.313 and the deposition of probable levelling deposits (304/609) and (659/672) into the interior of Buildings 4, 5, 6, and 7 suggested that a uniform change in function occurred within the West Fenwick farmhouse during the late 19th century. The change in function might be attributed to a cessation in domestic activity and the re-purposing of the West Fenwick Farmhouse range into agricultural usage. This interpretation was partially supported by the presence of 20th century salt-glazed water troughs in Building 7 and the cattle waste drainage channels F.105 in Building 6. Similarly, the deposition of 20th century waste material (636) within the interior of the bastle (Building 4) further indicated that the West Fenwick farmhouse range likely remained in use as an agricultural structure throughout the 20th century.

8. Publicity, Confidentiality and Copyright

8.1. Any publicity will be handled by the client.

8.2. Archaeological Research Services Ltd will retain the copyright of all documentary and photographic material under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act (1988).

9. Statement of Indemnity

9.1 Statements and opinions contained within this report arising from the works undertaken are offered in good faith and compiled according to professional standards. No responsibility can be accepted by the author/s of the report for any errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by any third party, or for loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in any such report(s), howsoever such facts and opinions may have been derived.

10. Acknowledgements

10.1 Archaeological Research Services Ltd would like to thank all those involved with this work, in particular Karen Derham, Assistant County Archaeologist for Northumberland.

11. References

Baker, P, Worley, F. 2014. *Animal bones and Archaeology: Guidelines for best practice*, English Heritage.

British Geological Survey <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/> - Accessed 15.03.15

Brunskill, R, 1997. *Houses and Cottages of Britain: Origins and Development of Traditional Buildings*. Great Britain: Victor Gollancz in association with Peter Crawley

- Campbell, P & Dixon, P, 1970. 'Two Fortified Houses in Haltwhistle', *Archaeologia Aeliana* IV, Northumberland Press Ltd
- Driesch, A. von den. 1976. *A Guide to the Measurement of Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites, Cambridge, Massachusetts*: Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University, Bulletin 1.
- Eadie, G & Scott, C, 2014. *An Archaeological Watching Brief at West Fenwick Farm*, ARS Report No. 2014/105, Unpublished Report.
- Ryder, P. 1992, *Bastles and Bastle-like Buildings in Allendale, Northumberland*, The Archaeological Journal, 149, Vol. I
- Ryder, P.F., 1994-5, *Towers and Bastles in Northumberland*, Part 2 Berwick District
- Ryder, P. 2004, 'Towers and Bastles in Northumberland National Park' in Frodsham, P, *Archaeology in the Northumberland National Park*, CBA Research report 136
- Williams, A. 2013. *West Fenwick Farm, Fenwick, Northumberland; Historic Building Survey*. Alan Williams Archaeology Report. OASIS Ref: alanwill1-143901
- Williams, A. 2014. *Plot 6, West Fenwick Farm, Fenwick, Northumberland; Written Scheme of Instigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief during Developments*. Alan Williams Archaeology.
- Wrathmell, S. 1975. *Deserted and Shrunken Villages in South Northumberland from the Twelfth to the Twentieth Centuries*. Unpublished PhD Thesis, Cardiff University

APPENDIX I- CONTEXT REGISTER

| Context | Interpretation |
|---------|---|
| 101 | Loose silty sand with sandstone boulders |
| 102 | Random sandstone blocks, quoins And flagstones built up for floor surface |
| 103 | Yellow-brown natural sandy-clay in Trench 1 |
| 104 | Cut for drain |
| 105 | Concrete half-pipe in drainage channels. |
| 201 | Loose sandstone and brick chips (Same As 301) |
| 202 | 19 th century levelling deposit (same as 304/609) |
| 203 | N/S aligned wall |
| 204 | Same as 503 |
| 205 | Natural in Trench 2 |
| 206 | E/W aligned limestone flagged capping for possible drain |
| 207 | Mottled yellow/orange clay with sand patches |
| 208 | Possible cut feature |
| 209 | Dark reddish/brown silty clay fill of [208] |
| 210 | Loose sandy deposit with sandstone boulders |
| 301 | Loose limestone and brick chips (same as 201) |
| 302 | Dark brown mottled silty-sand with brick inclusions |
| 303 | VOID |
| 304 | Greyish-brown silty-clay levelling deposit (same as 202) |
| 305 | Natural in Trench 3 |
| 306 | Plastic water pipe |
| 307 | Cut for plastic water pipe |
| 308 | Grey sand silt fill of cut [307] |
| 309 | N/S aligned limestone flagged capping for possible drain |
| 310 | Possible corridor wall |
| 311 | Cut for drain 309) |
| 312 | Mid grey silt fill of drain (309) |
| 313 | Loose stone chips fill of drain cut [311] |
| 314 | Mortared sandstone chips filling foundation cut [315] |
| 315 | Foundation cut for Bastle House (same as 606) |
| 316 | Foundation underpinning on north side of the Bastle House |
| 501 | Flagstone surface |
| 502 | Same as (204/304/609) |
| 503 | 18 th Century levelling for surface (501) |
| 601 | E-W wall |
| 602 | Post medieval levelling |
| 603 | Dark greyish brown silty clay (same as 305) |
| 604 | Fill of land drain cut [605] |
| 605 | Cut of land drain |
| 606 | Foundation cut for Bastle House (same as 315) |
| 607 | Dark brown/black silty fill of [606] |
| 608 | Foundation cut for (601) |
| 609 | Levelling deposit within the interior of the Bastle House |
| 610 | (VOID) |
| 611 | Footing for the Bastle House in the north west doorway |
| 612 | West extension of Bastle wall |
| 613 | Post medieval doorway remodelling |
| 614 | Black sooty silt deposit inside (616/617) |
| 615 | VOID |
| 616 | Stone pillar foundation |
| 617 | Brick pillar foundation |
| 618 | VOID |
| 619 | VOID |

| | |
|-----|---|
| 620 | Dis-use deposit over surface (638) |
| 621 | VOID |
| 622 | Heat affected natural |
| 623 | Late medieval flagging truncated by (309) |
| 624 | Base of later hearth |
| 625 | Bedding clay for (623) and (619) |
| 626 | Northern wall within the middle room |
| 627 | Footing for (626) |
| 628 | North wall of west building |
| 629 | Footing for (628) |
| 630 | Natural (same as 603) |
| 631 | North Bastle House wall |
| 632 | VOID |
| 633 | South west remodelled doorway |
| 634 | Fill of [635] |
| 635 | Foundation cut for (631) |
| 634 | Post medieval backfill within [637] |
| 637 | 20 th Century Truncation cut |
| 638 | Flagging contemporary with hearth |
| 639 | Heat affected silts and trample |
| 640 | VOID |
| 641 | Cobbling sealing (643) |
| 642 | Heat affected silts |
| 643 | Hearth |
| 644 | Blocked up doorway |
| 645 | Black silty clay trample deposit |
| 646 | Bedding for (638) |
| 647 | VOID |
| 648 | VOID |
| 649 | VOID |
| 650 | Remodelled doorway in the north wall |
| 651 | Construction debris |
| 652 | Black clay use deposit |
| 653 | Levelling deposit |
| 654 | Cut of linear/ sub-circular feature |
| 655 | Fill of [654] |
| 656 | Floor levelling |
| 657 | Use deposit |
| 658 | Current floor level |
| 659 | Levelling deposit |
| 660 | Trample deposit |
| 661 | Limestone slab surface |
| 662 | Voided number |
| 663 | Trample deposit |
| 664 | Exterior facing stones |
| 665 | Levelling deposit |
| 666 | VOID |
| 667 | VOID |
| 668 | VOID |
| 669 | VOID |
| 670 | Silty clay deposit |
| 671 | Ash silt deposit |
| 672 | Redeposited natural |
| 673 | Consolidation deposit |
| 674 | Levelling deposit |
| 678 | Natural Substrate |
| 679 | 20 th century levelling deposit below modern open-sided barn |
| 680 | Modern Trample |

APPENDIX II- PHOTOGRAPH REGISTER

| Shot No. | Direction | Scale | Description |
|----------|-----------|-------|---|
| 1 | W | 1x1m | W-facing view of Building 7 |
| 2 | E | 1x1m | E-facing view of wall 203 |
| 3 | E | 1x1m | E-facing view of wall 203 |
| 4 | E | 1x1m | E-facing view of Trench 3 |
| 5 | E | 1x1m | E-facing view of Trench 3 |
| 6 | W | 1x1m | W-facing view of Trench 3 |
| 7 | W | 1x1m | W-facing view of Trench 3 with culvert F.313 in the foreground |
| 8 | E | 1x1m | E-facing view of culvert F.313 |
| 9 | W | 1x1m | W-facing view of wall footings (310) |
| 10 | E | 1x1m | E-facing view of culvert F.313 interior |
| 11 | N | 1x1m | N-facing view of construction scar related to footings (310) |
| 12 | N | 1x1m | N-facing view of construction scar related to footings (310) |
| 13 | N | 1x1m | N-facing view of surface (206) |
| 14 | E | 1x1m | E-facing view of culvert F.313 in Building 4 interior |
| 15 | E | 1x1m | E-facing view of culvert F.313 in Building 4 interior |
| 16 | SE | 1x1m | SE facing view of culvert F.313 in NW bastle doorway |
| 17 | NE | 1x1m | NE-facing view of culvert F.313 in bastle interior |
| 18 | W | 1x1m | W-facing view of fireplace (616/617) |
| 19 | W | 1x1m | W-facing view of fireplace (616/617) |
| 20 | SW | 1x1m | SW-facing view of fireplace (616/617) |
| 21 | E | 1x1m | E-facing view of section through boulder plinth (611) and culvert F.313 |
| 22 | E | 1x1m | E-facing view of boulder plinth (611) under western gable wall (Building 4) |
| 23 | SE | 1x1m | SE-facing view of byre doorway in western bastle wall |
| 24 | E | 1x1m | E-facing view of final impact depth in Building 6 |
| 25 | W | 1x1m | W-facing view of final impact depth in Building 7 |
| 26 | NW | 1x1m | E-facing section through (609) and showing northern bastle wall foundations |
| 27 | N | 1x1m | N-facing pre-ex view of foundation trench F.634 |
| 28 | W | 1x1m | W-facing pre-ex view of foundation trench F.634 |
| 29 | NE | 1x1m | NE-facing pre-ex view of modern truncation F.636 |
| 30 | NE | 2x1m | NE-facing view of cobbles (641) |
| 31 | N | 1x1m | NE-facing view of cobbles (641) |
| 32 | E | 1x1m | E-facing view of heat affected silts in fireplace (643) |
| 33 | E | 1x1m | E-facing view of fireplace (643) |
| 34 | E | 1x1m | E-facing view of boulder plinth (611) under byre doorway |
| 35 | E | 2x1m | E-facing view of blocked-up (644) byre doorway |
| 36 | W | 2x1m | W-facing view of wall (647) |
| 37 | SW | 2x1m | SW-facing view of wall (647) |
| 38 | E | 2x1m | E-facing view of final impact depth in bastle interior |
| 39 | N | 1x1m | N-facing view of northern trench in Building 7 |
| 40 | N | 1x1m | N-facing view of northern trench in Building 7 |
| 41 | W | 1x1m | W-facing view of eastern trench in Building 7 |
| 42 | W | 2x1m | W-facing view of eastern trench in Building 7 |
| 43 | NE | 2x1m | NE-facing view of eastern trench in Building 7 |
| 44 | E | 2x1m | NE-facing view of northern trench in Building 7 |
| 45 | NE | 1x1m | NE-facing view of northern trench in Building 7 |
| 46 | SE | 1x1m | S-facing view of consolidation deposit in Building 7 |
| 47 | W | 2x1m | W-facing view of consolidation deposit in Building 7 |
| 48 | N | 1x1m | N-facing view of surface within northern trench in Building 7 |
| 49 | E | 1x1m | W-facing section through northern trench in Building 7 |
| 50 | W | 1x1m | W-facing view of wall (601) |
| 51 | N | 1x1m | N-facing view of wall (601) |

APPENDIX III- FIGURES

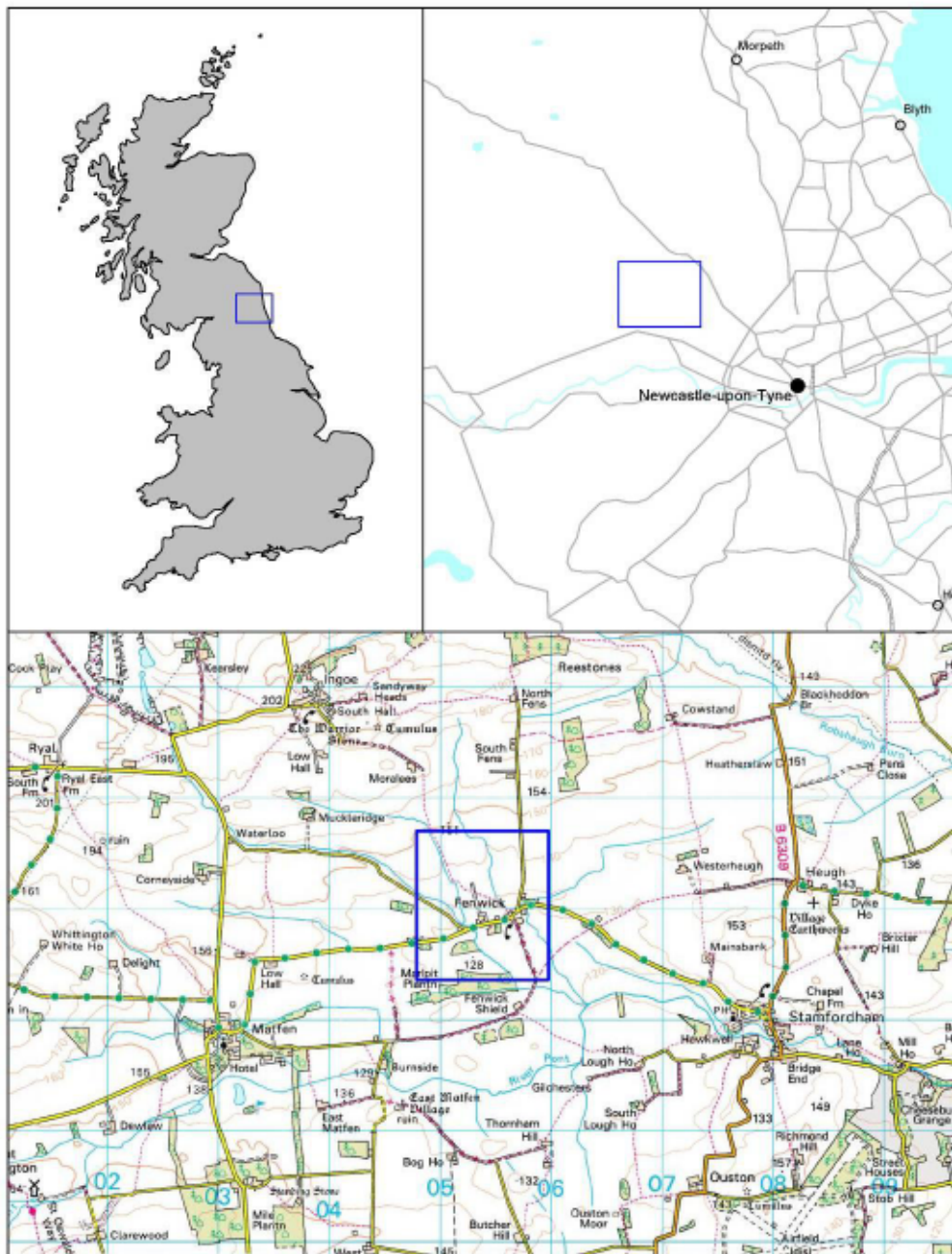


Figure 1: Site Location. (Ordnance Survey data Copyright OS, reproduced by permission, Licence No. 100045420).

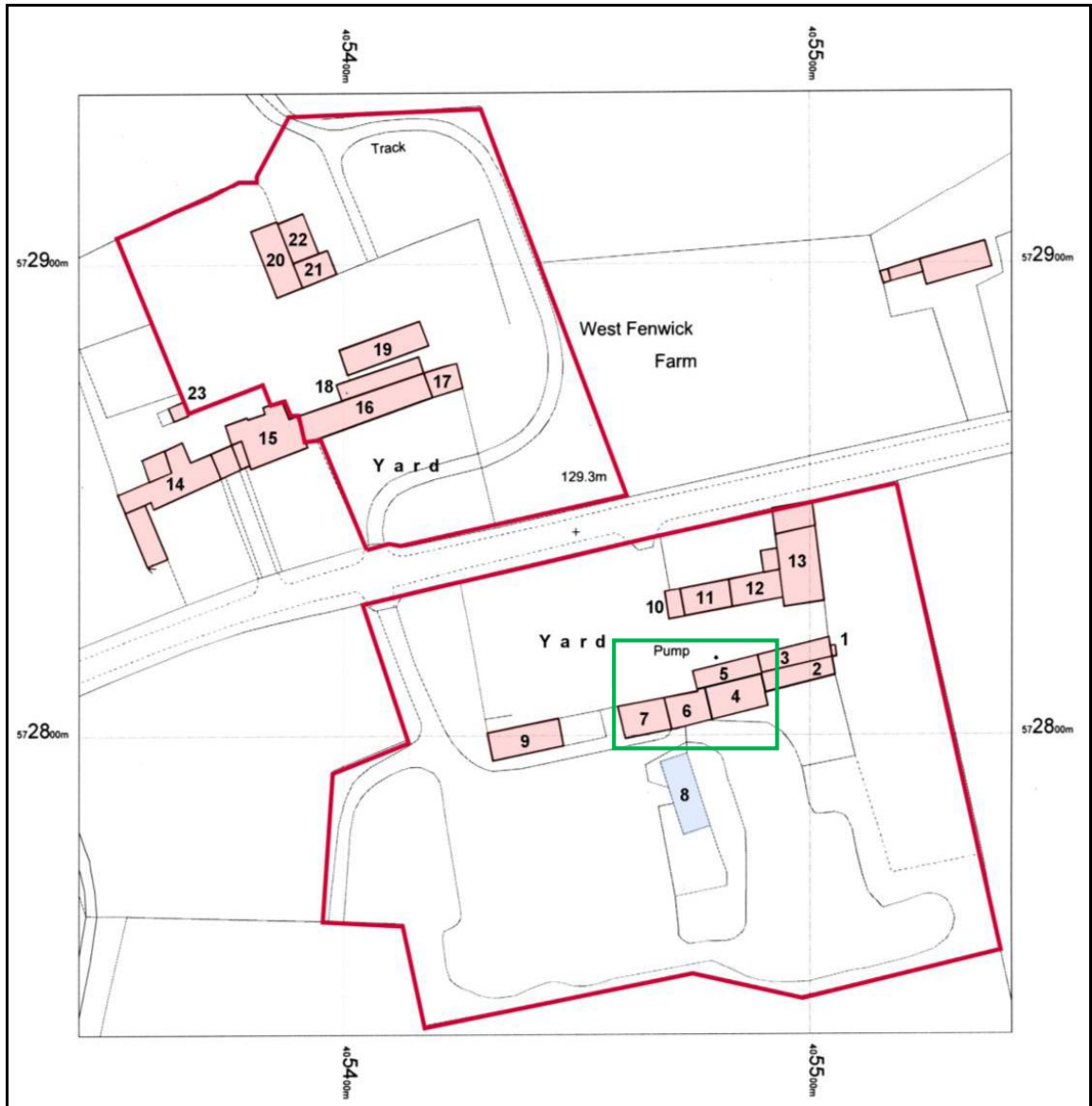
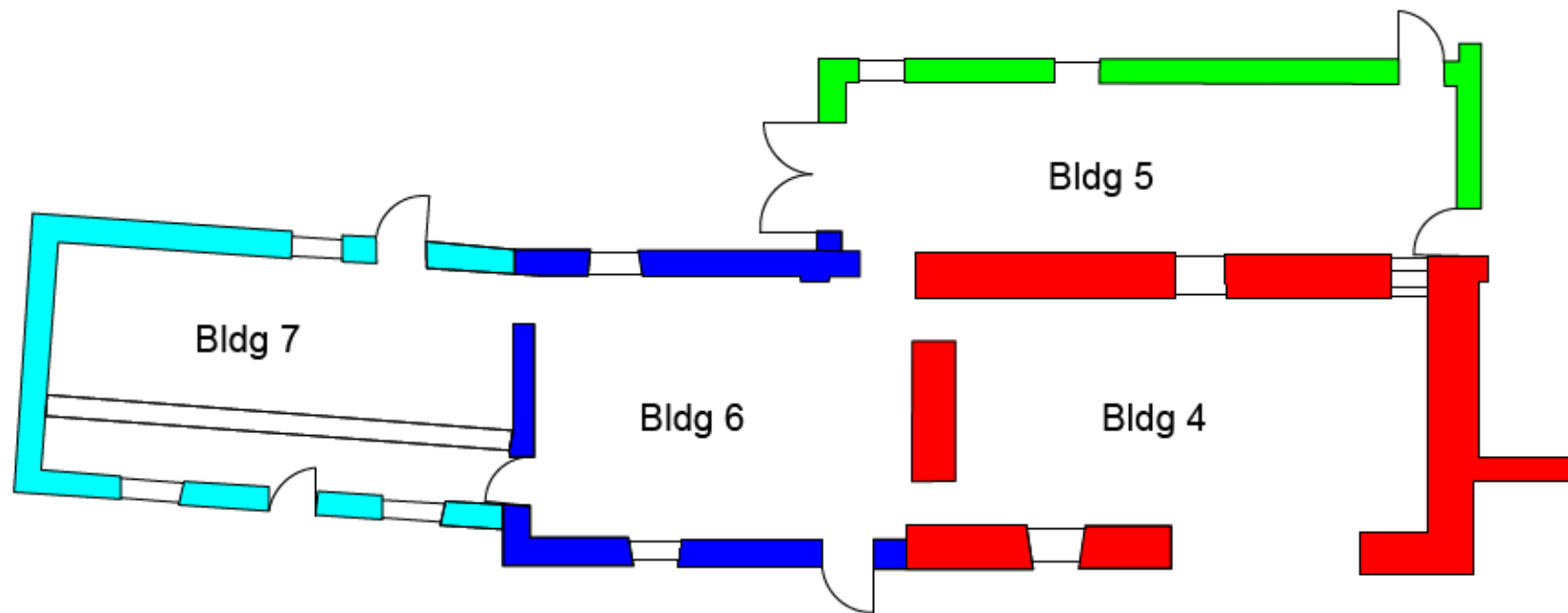






Figure 2. Detailed Site Location (Note specific development location within green box).

Figure 3: Plan of Building Components
Scale: 1:150 @ A4
Drawn: RL



Key:

-  - Bldg 4: Bastle (C16th-C17th)
-  - Bldg 5: Lean-to (C18th-C19th)
-  - Bldg 6: Farmhouse Extension (C18th-C19th)
-  - Bldg 7: Cattle Byre (C19th)

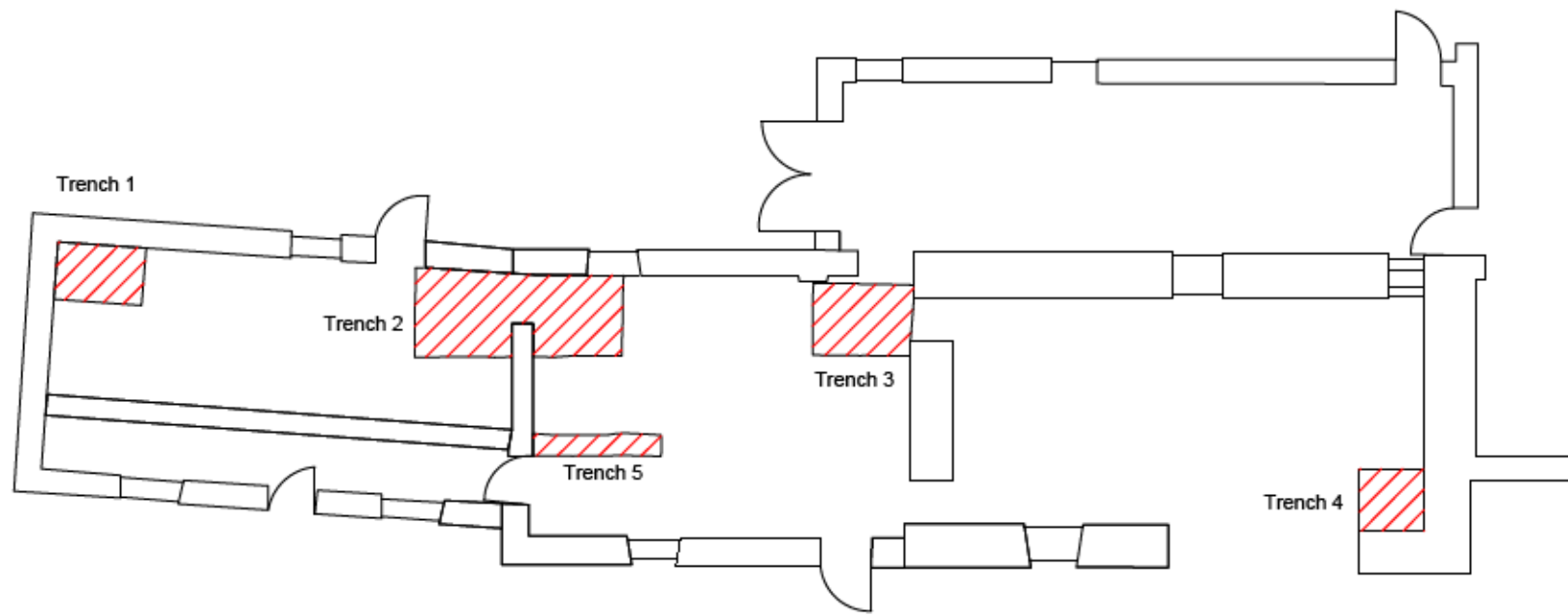


Copyright/ Licencing
This Drawing
© A.R.S. Ltd

Ordnance Survey data if applicable
© Crown Copyright, all rights reserved
reproduction with permission.
Licence No. 100045420

Figure 4: Phase 1- Test Trenches
Scale: 1:150 @ A4
Drawn: RL

Key:



Copyright/ Licencing
This Drawing
© A.R.S. Ltd

Ordnance Survey data if applicable
© Crown Copyright, all rights reserved
reproduction with permission.
Licence No. 100045420

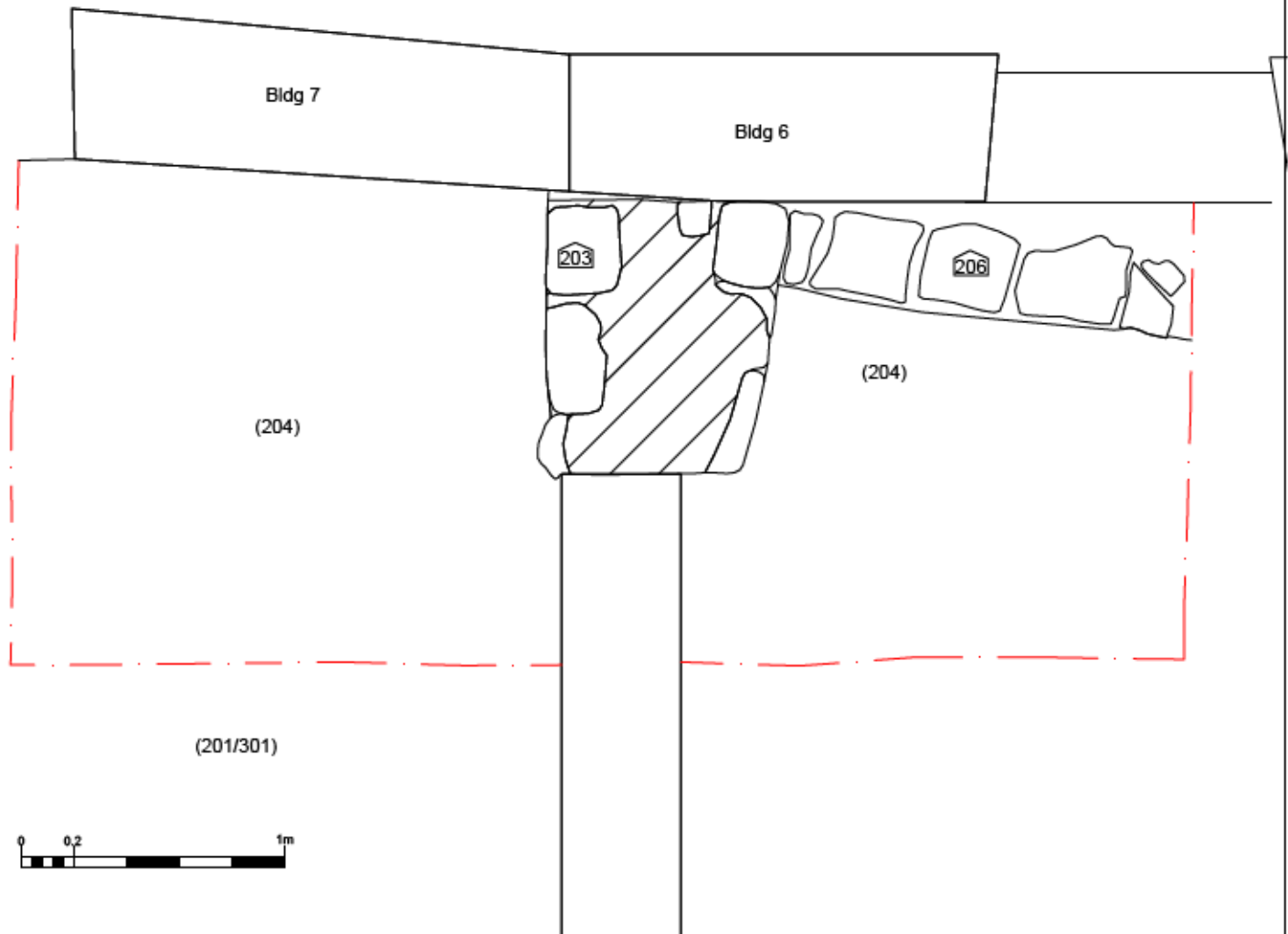
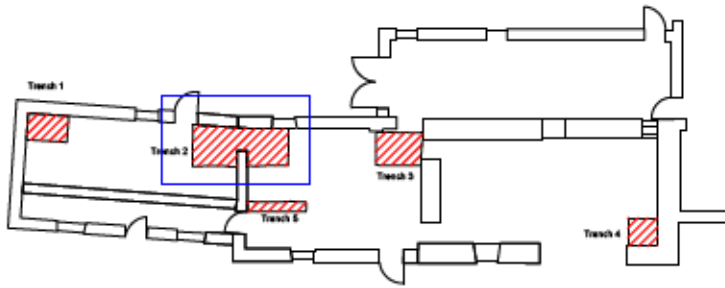


Figure 5: Plan of Phase 1, Trench 2
Scale: 1:30 @ A4
Drawn: RL

Key:  -Trench Location



Copyright/ Licencing
This Drawing
© A.R.S. Ltd

Ordnance Survey data if applicable
© Crown Copyright, all rights reserved
reproduction with permission.
Licence No. 100045420

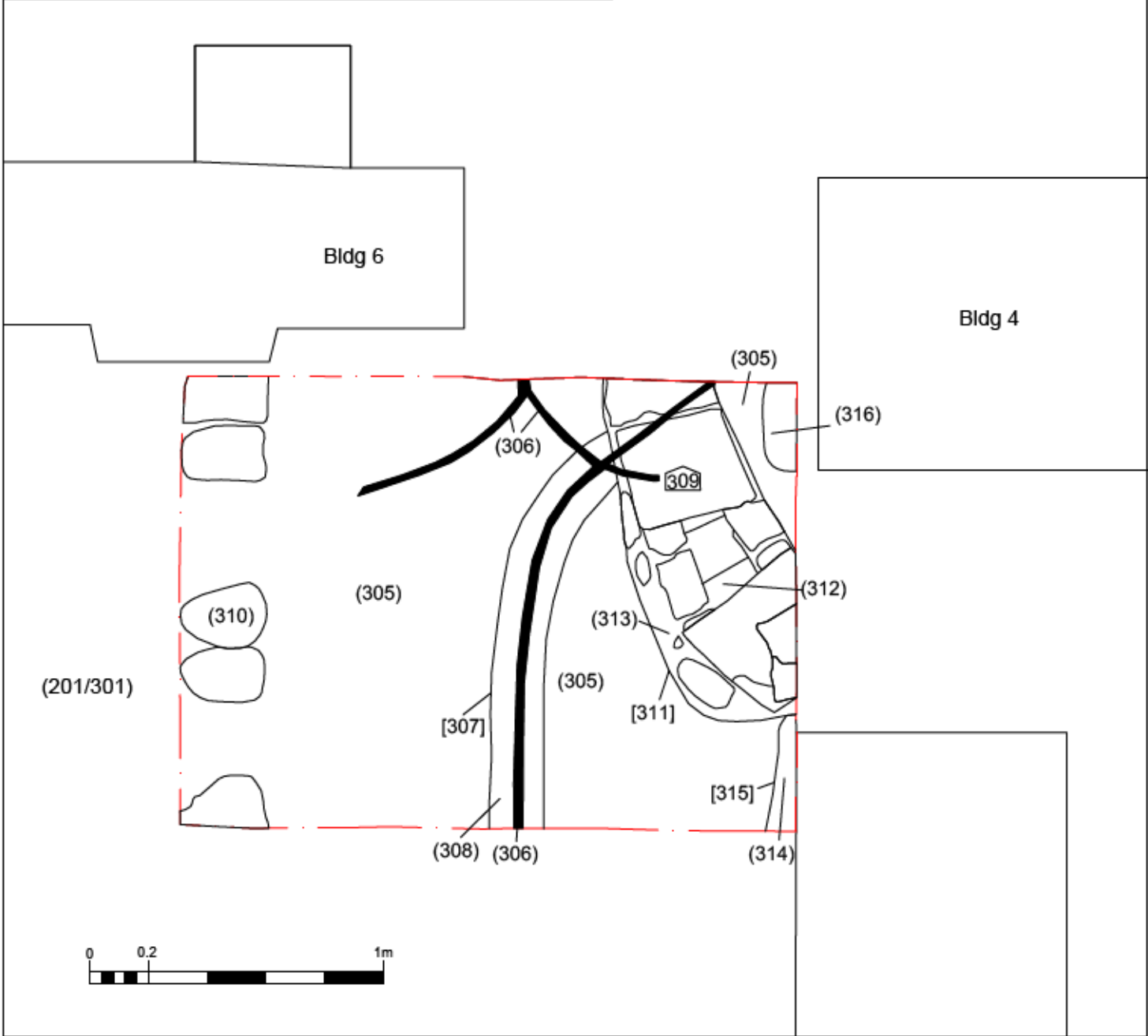
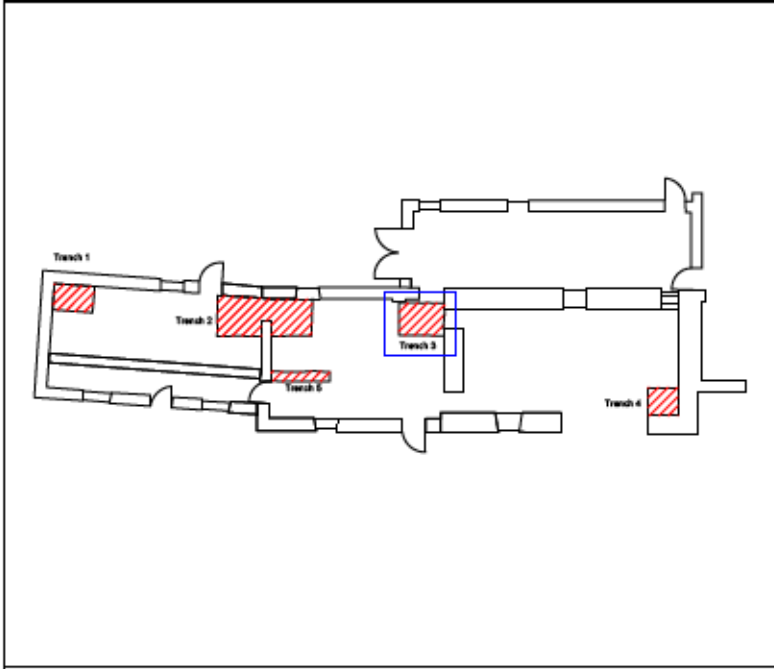


Figure 6: Plan of Phase 1, Trench 3
 Scale: 1:50 @ A4
 Drawn: RL

Key: -Trench Location



Copyright/ Licencing
 This Drawing
 © A.R.S. Ltd

Ordnance Survey data if applicable
 © Crown Copyright, all rights reserved
 reproduction with permission.
 Licence No. 100045420

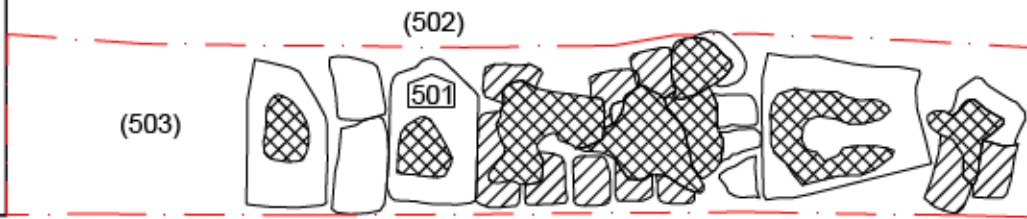
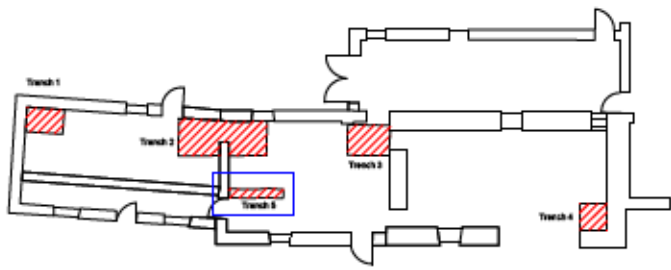


Figure 7: Plan of Phase 1, Trench 5
 Scale: 1:50 @ A4
 Drawn: RL

Key:  -Trench Location



Copyright/ Licencing
 This Drawing
 © A.R.S. Ltd

Ordnance Survey data if applicable
 © Crown Copyright, all rights reserved
 reproduction with permission.
 Licence No. 100045420

Figure 8: Plan of Archaeological Features in Bastle House (Bldg 4)
 Scale: 1:50 @ A3
 Drawn: RL



Key:

- Late 16th - 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 18th - 19th Century
- 19th Century
- 16th-17th Century Blocked Byre Doorway

NB: Date ranges are estimated

Copyright/ Licencing
 This Drawing
 © A.R.S. Ltd

Ordnance Survey data if applicable
 © Crown Copyright, all rights reserved
 reproduction with permission.
 Licence No. 100045420



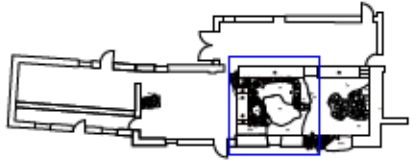


Figure 9: Plan of Archaeological Features at Western Extent of Bastle (Bldg 4)
 Scale: 1:40 @ A4
 Drawn: RL



Key:

- Late 16th - 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 18th - 19th Century
- 19th Century
- 16th-17th Century Blocked Byre Doorway

NB: Date ranges are estimated





Copyright/ Licencing
 This Drawing
 © A.R.S. Ltd

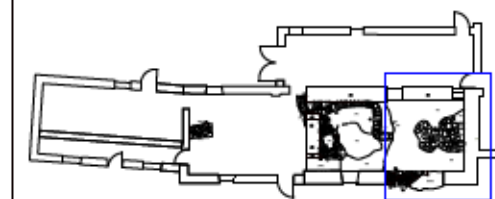
Ordnance Survey data if applicable
 © Crown Copyright, all rights reserved
 reproduction with permission.
 Licence No. 100045420

Figure 10: Plan of Archaeological Features at Eastern Extent of Bastle House (Bldg 4)
Scale: 1:50 @ A4
Drawn: RL

Key:

-  - Late 16th - 17th Century
-  - 18th - 19th Century
-  - 19th Century

NB: Date ranges are estimated



Copyright/ Licencing
This Drawing
© A.R.S. Ltd

Ordnance Survey data if applicable
© Crown Copyright, all rights reserved
reproduction with permission.
Licence No. 100045420



Figure 11: Plan of Archaeological Features in Bldg 6
Scale: 1:40 @ A4
Drawn: RL

Key:



Copyright/ Licencing
This Drawing
© A.R.S. Ltd

Ordnance Survey data if applicable
© Crown Copyright, all rights reserved
reproduction with permission.
Licence No. 100045420

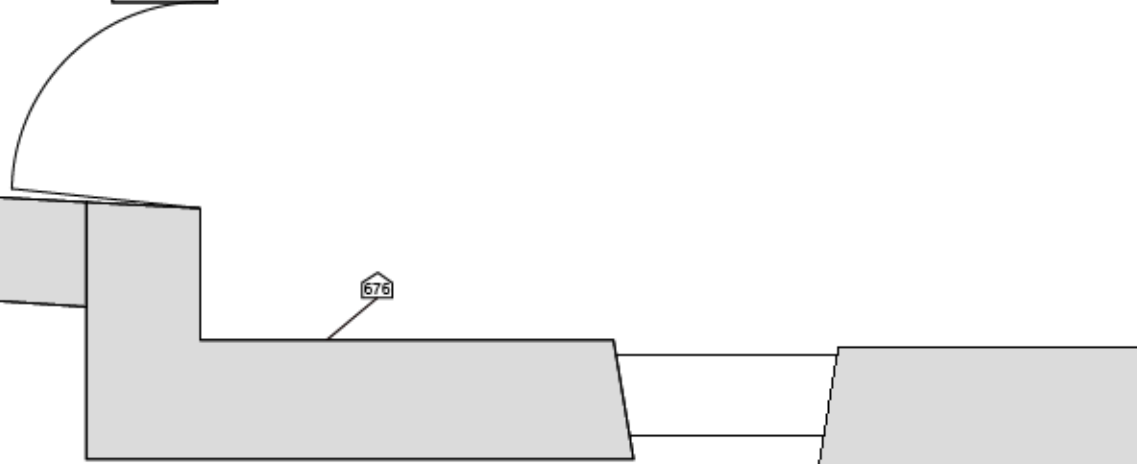
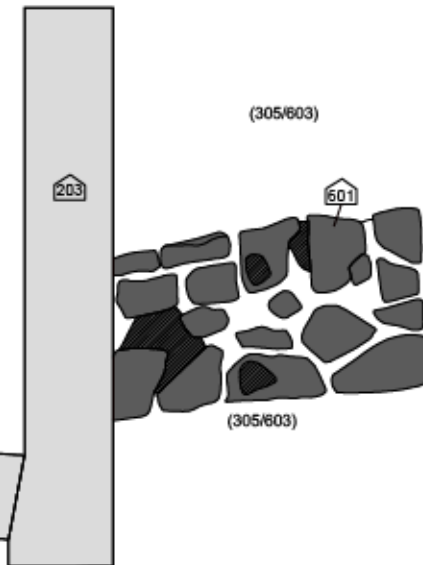
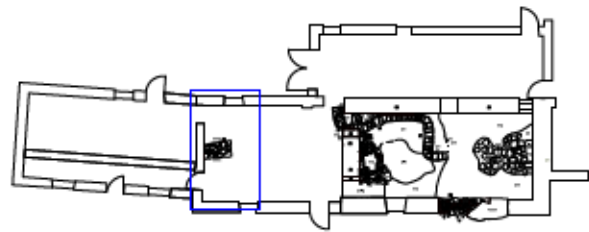


Figure 12- North facing section through Phase 1, Trench 1

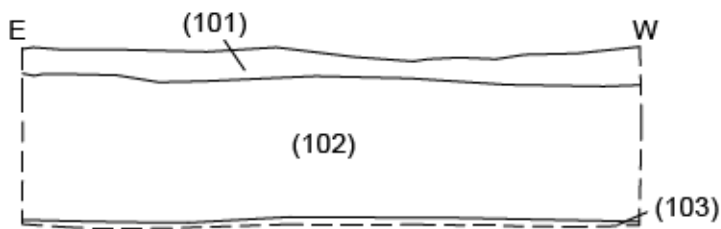


Figure 13- North facing section through Phase 1, Trench 2

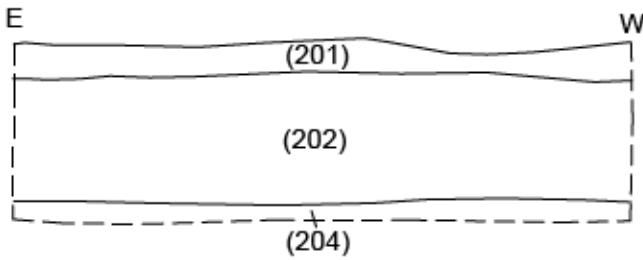


Figure 14- North facing section through Phase 1, Trench 3

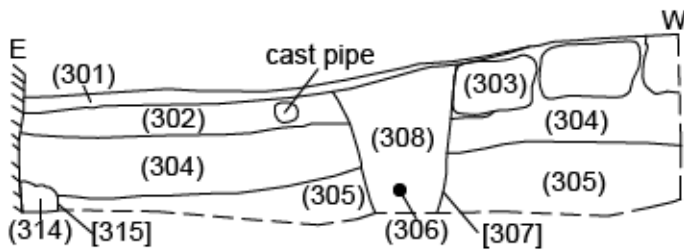


Figure 15- West-facing section of Phase 1, Trench 3

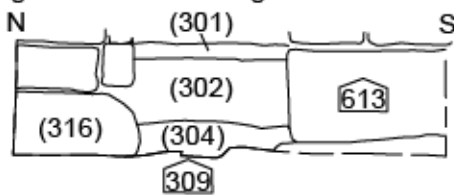


Figure 16- North facing section through Phase 1, Trench 4

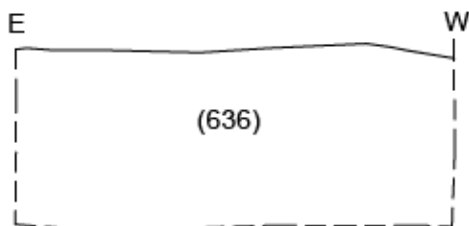


Figure 12-15: Sections through Phase 1
Trenches 2-4
Scale: 1:20 @ A4
Drawn: RL

Key:

Copyright/ Licencing
This Drawing
© A.R.S. Ltd

Ordnance Survey data if applicable
© Crown Copyright, all rights reserved
reproduction with permission.
Licence No. 100045420

Figure 17- W-facing Elevation of Bastle Bldg 4

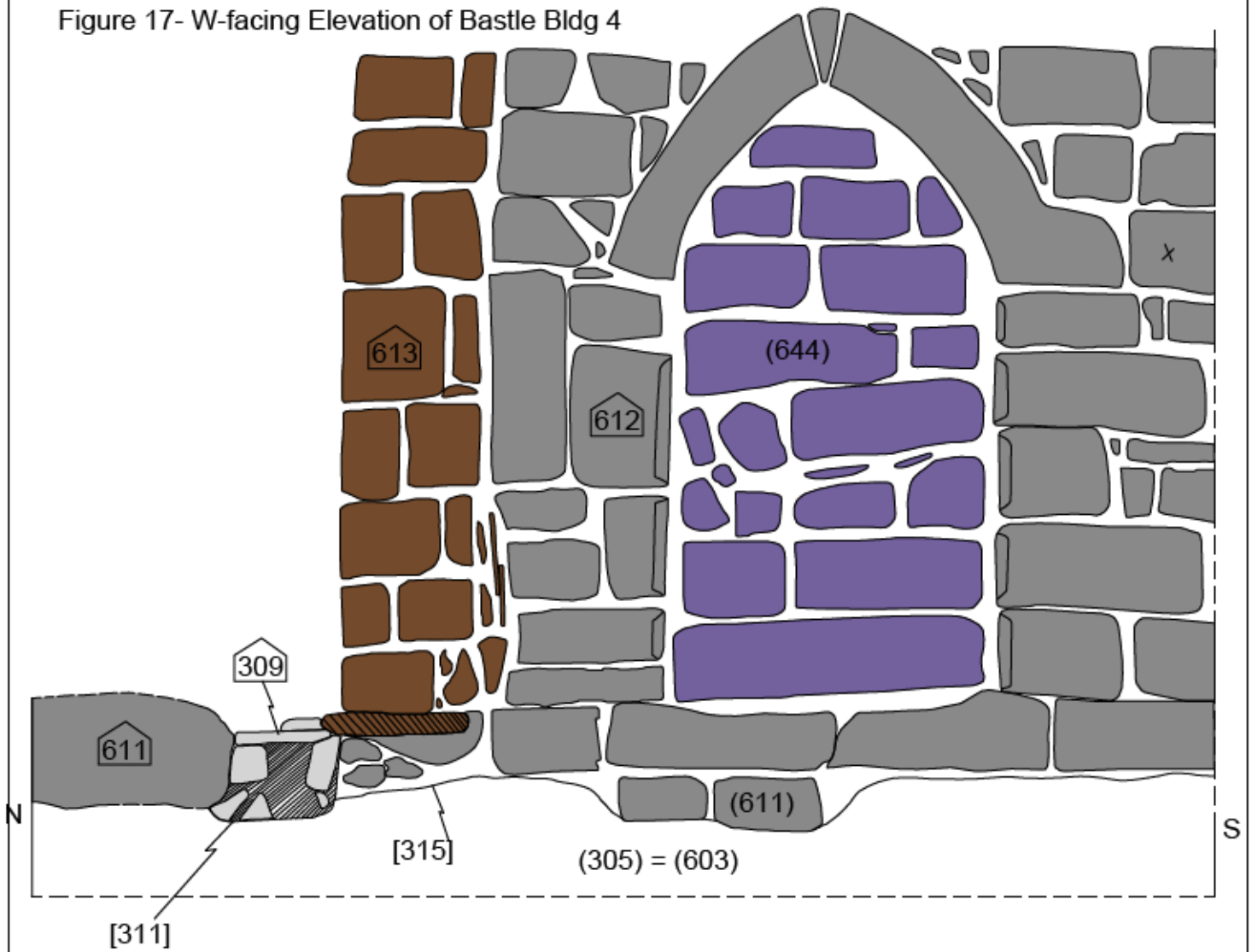


Figure 18- E-facing Elevation of Bastle Bldg 4 displaying Hearth (616/617)

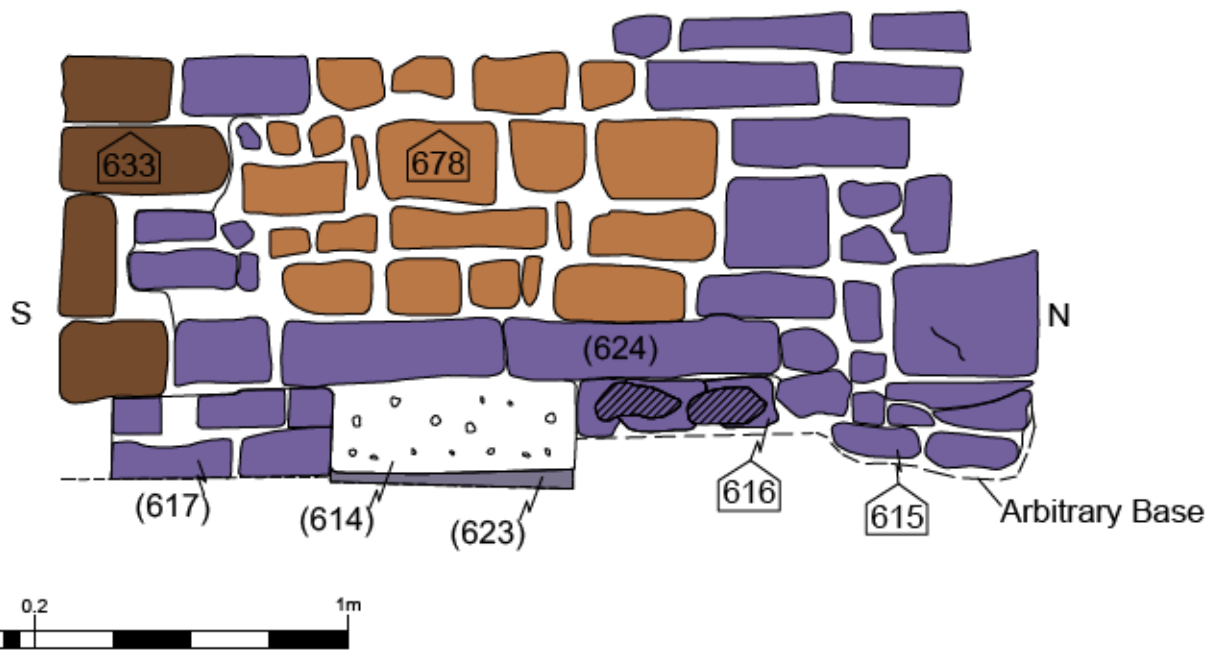


Figure 17 & 18- Elevations of Bastle Bldg 4
 Scale: 1:20 @ A4
 Drawn: RL

| Key: | |
|---|------------------------|
| | - 20th Century |
| | - 18th/19th Century |
| | - 19th Century |
| | - 16th-17th Century |
| | - Culvert 19th Century |
| NB- All dates are speculative | |

Copyright/ Licencing
 This Drawing
 © A.R.S. Ltd
 Ordnance Survey data if applicable
 © Crown Copyright, all rights reserved
 reproduction with permission.
 Licence No. 100045420

Figure 19- SE-facing section through Hearth (623)

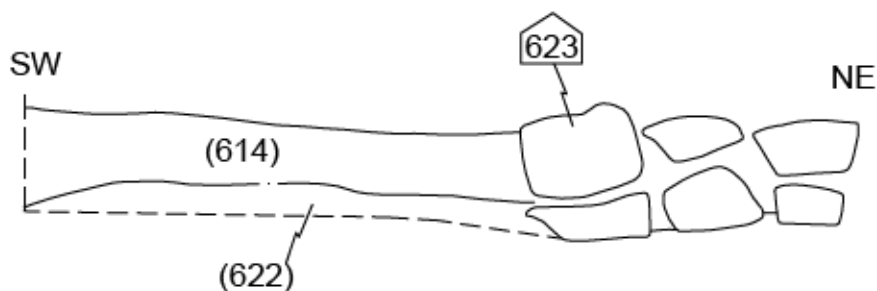


Figure 20- S & E-facing section through Foundation Trench F.634

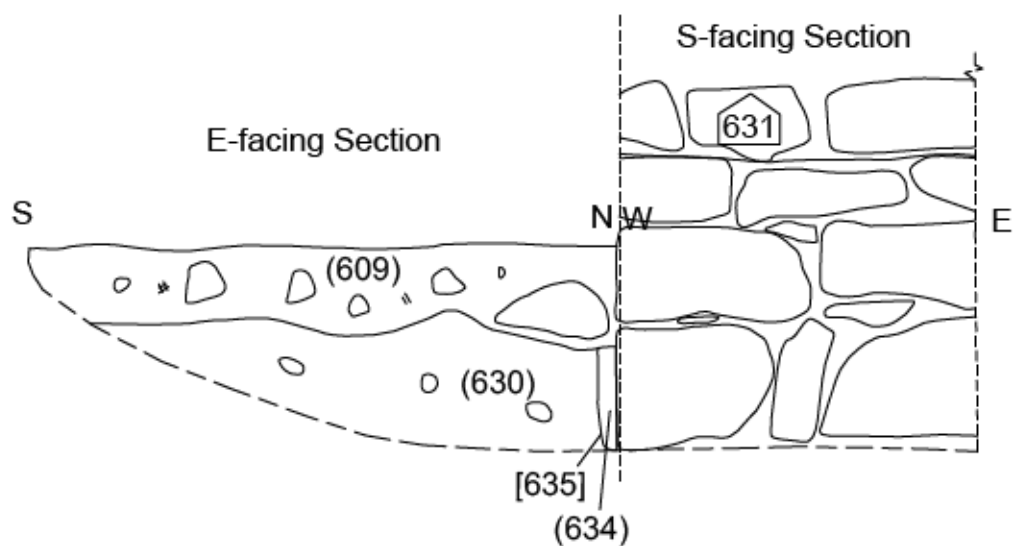


Figure 19 & 20: Sections through Hearth
(623) and Bastle Foundation Trench
F.634
Scale: 1:20 @ A4
Drawn: RL

Key:

Copyright/ Licencing
This Drawing
© A.R.S. Ltd

Ordnance Survey data if applicable
© Crown Copyright, all rights reserved
reproduction with permission.
Licence No. 100045420

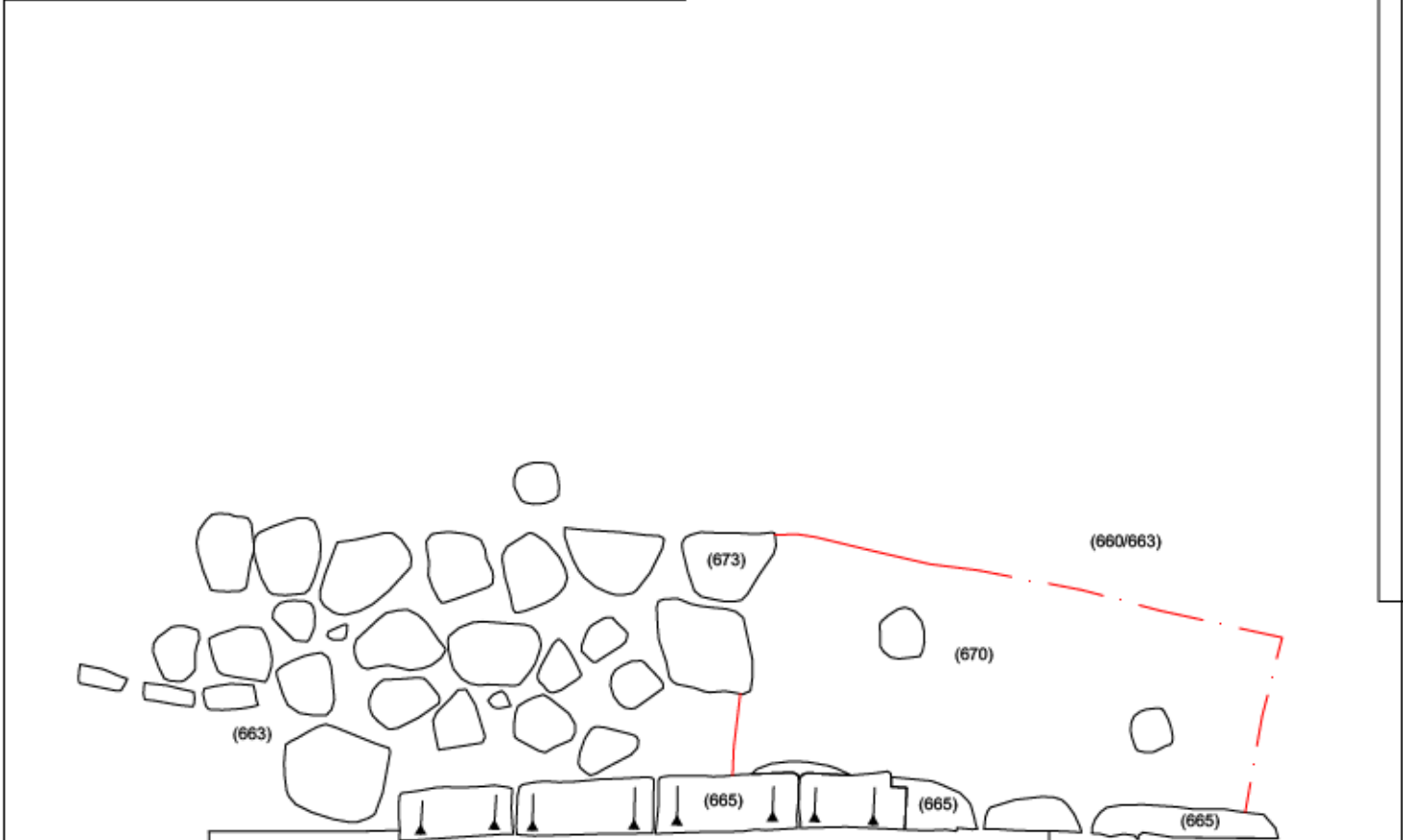
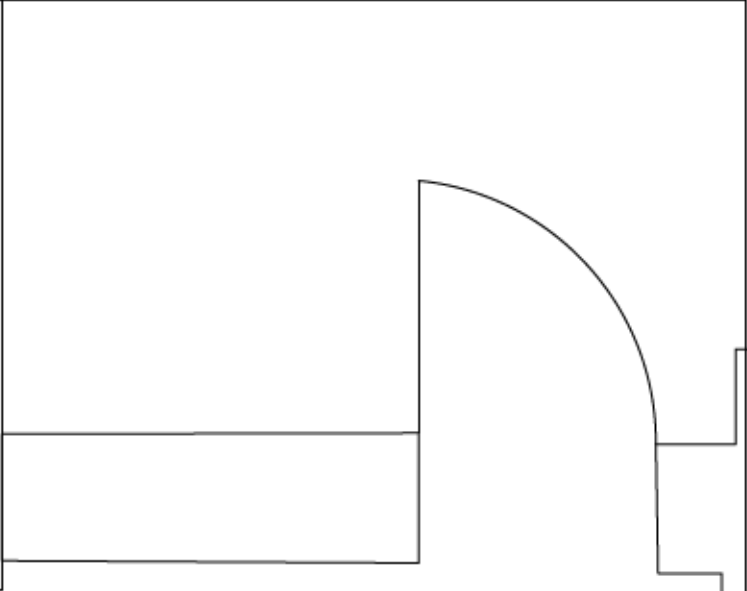
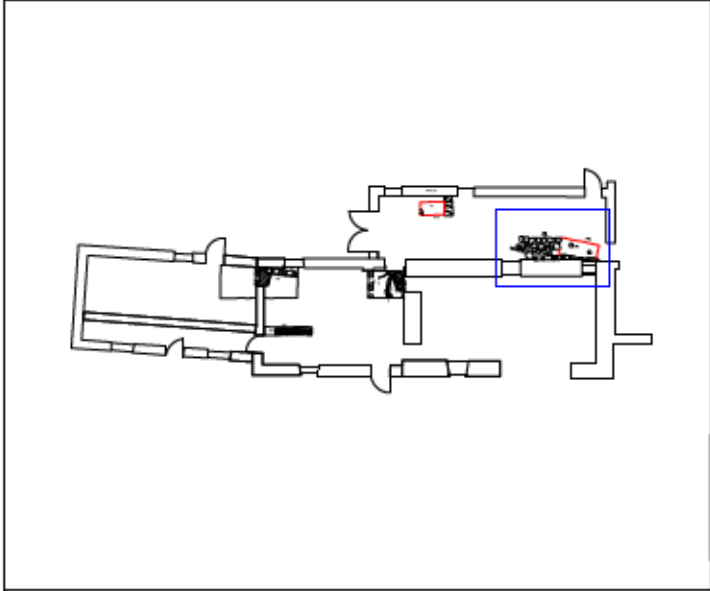


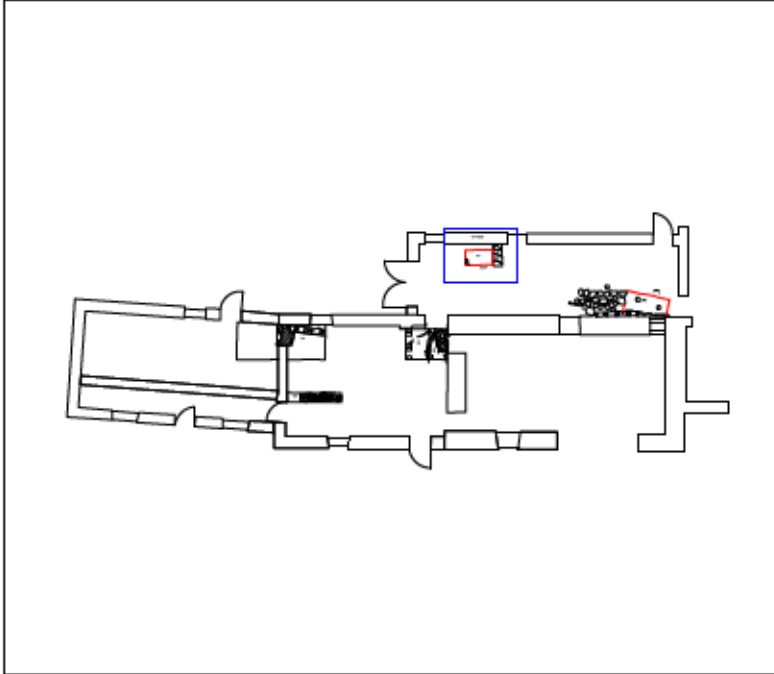
Figure 21: Plan of Eastern Trench within Building 5
 Scale: 1:30 @ A4
 Drawn: RL

Key:



Copyright/ Licencing
 This Drawing
 © A.R.S. Ltd

Ordnance Survey data if applicable
 © Crown Copyright, all rights reserved
 reproduction with permission.
 Licence No. 100045420



North Wall of Bldg 5

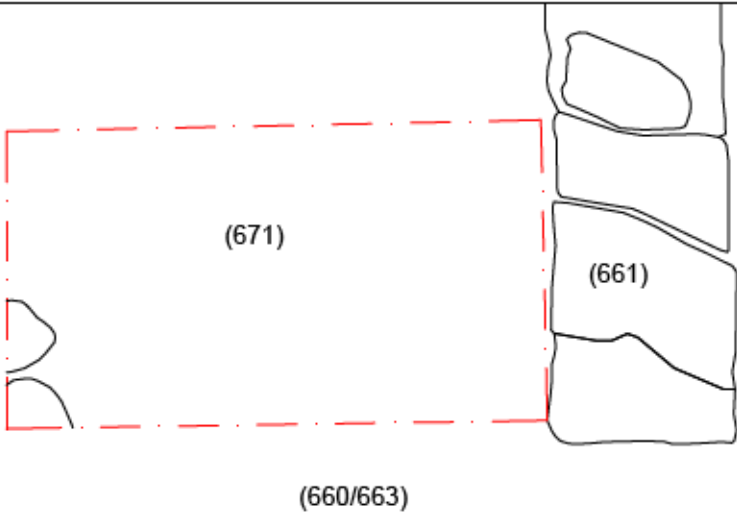


Figure 22: Plan of Northern Trench in Building 5
 Scale: 1:20 @ A4
 Drawn: RL

Key:

Copyright/ Licencing
 This Drawing
 © A.R.S. Ltd

Ordnance Survey data if applicable
 © Crown Copyright, all rights reserved
 reproduction with permission.
 Licence No. 100045420



Figure 23- Section through Northern Trench in Building 5

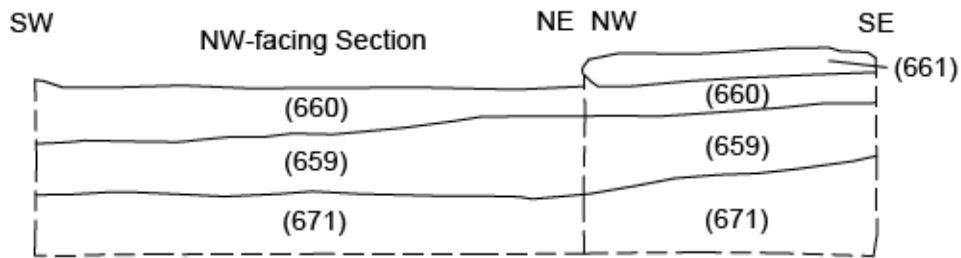


Figure 24- NW facing elevation of Bastle Foundations (665)



Figure 25- Sections of Eastern Exterior Trench in Building 5

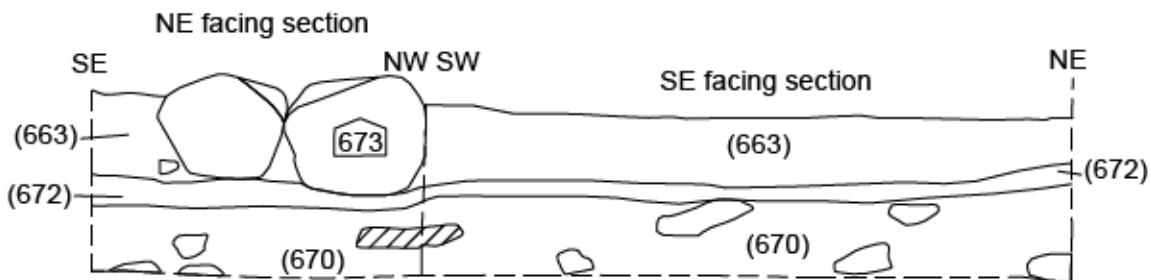


Figure 26- SW facing section of Eastern Exterior Trench in Building 5

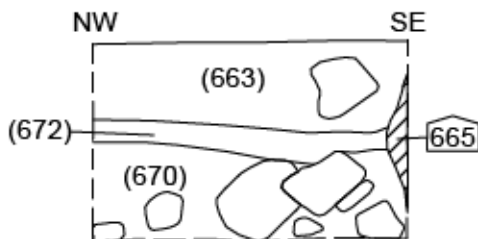




Figure 27- E-facing view of Trench 2 displaying wall (203) and deposit (202) (Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 28- E-facing view of culvert F.313 in Test Trench 3 (Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 29- E-facing view of F.313 displaying interior culvert structure (Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 30- W-facing view of N-S aligned wall foundation (310) in Trench 3 (Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 31- N-facing view of wall foundation (310) in relation to the construction scar in the south facing wall of Building 6 (Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 32- N-facing view of flagstone surface (206) (Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 33- NE-facing view of 14th-16th century wall (601) (Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 34- W-facing view of wall (601) (Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 35- W-facing interior view of the southern wall (647) of the bastle (Building 4) (Scale- 2 x 1m)



Figure 36- SW-facing view of southern bastle wall (647) (Scale- 2 x 1m)



Figure 37- Pre-excitation view of foundation trench F.634 for north wall of the bastle (647) (Scale-1 x 1m)



Figure 38- Oblique view of section through 19th century levelling layer (609) and construction cut F.634 (Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 39- NE-facing view of sandstone footings/plinth (611) and 19th century culvert F.313 (Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 40- NE-facing view of sandstone footings/plinth (611) below wall (613) (Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 41- S-facing oblique view of wall (613) and the blocked 16th-17th century byre doorway (Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 42- E-facing elevation of the 16th-17th century byre doorway within the western gable end wall of the bastle (Scale- 2 x 1m)



Figure 43- Square fireplace (643) present at the eastern extent of the bastle (Building 4) (Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 44- W-facing view of fireplace (616/617) blocked by late 19th-20th century remodeling (Scale- 1 x 1m).



Figure 45- W-facing view of Fireplace (616/617), bordered by fragmentary surface (623) (Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 46- Cobbled surface (641) above brown dis-use layer (620) and 18th century fireplace (643) within the bastle (Building 4) (Scale 1 x 1m)



Figure 47- E-facing oblique view of northern trench within Building 5 (Scale- 2 x 1m)



Figure 48- SW facing section through the northern trench within Building 5 (Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 49- NE-facing view of southern trench within building 5 (Scale- 2 x 1m)



Figure 50- SW-facing view of consolidation deposit (673) (Scale- 2 x 1m)



Figure 51- E-facing view of 19th century culvert F.313 in the interior of the bastle (Building 4) (Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 52- 20th century truncation event F.634 visible in the foreground truncating surface (638)
(Scale- 1 x 1m)



Figure 53- 14th-15th century pottery recovered from structure (601) (Scale- 1 x 1m)

ADDENDUM- FIGURES RELATING TO FOUNDATION TRENCHES



Figure 54- W-facing view of foundation trenches north of Building 5 (Scale 2 x 2m).



Figure 55- S-facing representative section through foundation trenches (Scale- 1 x 1m)

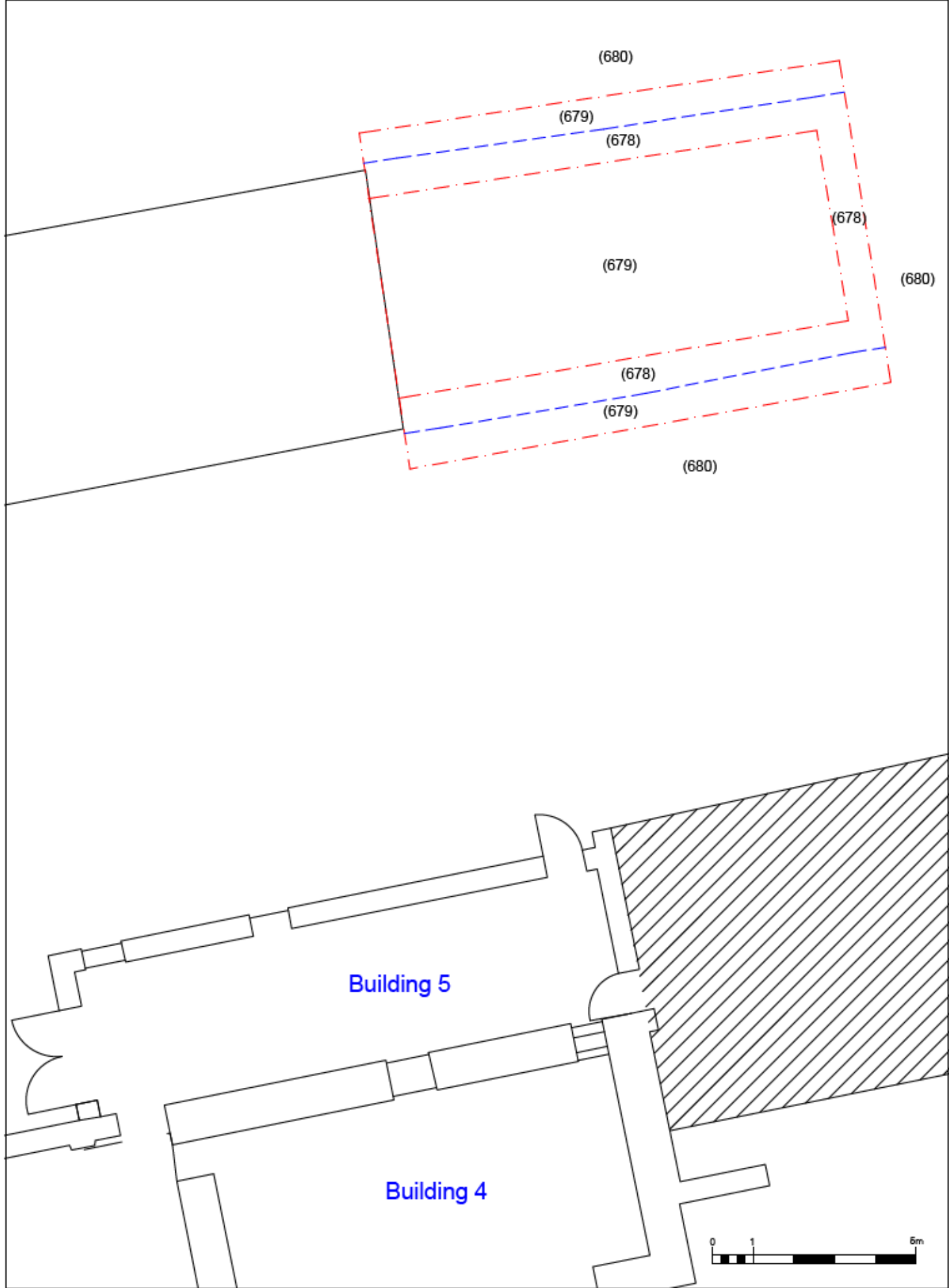


Figure 56: Plan of Foundation Trenches
 Scale: 1:100@A4
 Drawn:RL

Key:



Copyright/ Licencing
 This Drawing
 © A.R.S. Ltd

Ordnance Survey data if applicable
 © Crown Copyright, all rights reserved
 reproduction with permission.
 Licence No. 100045420

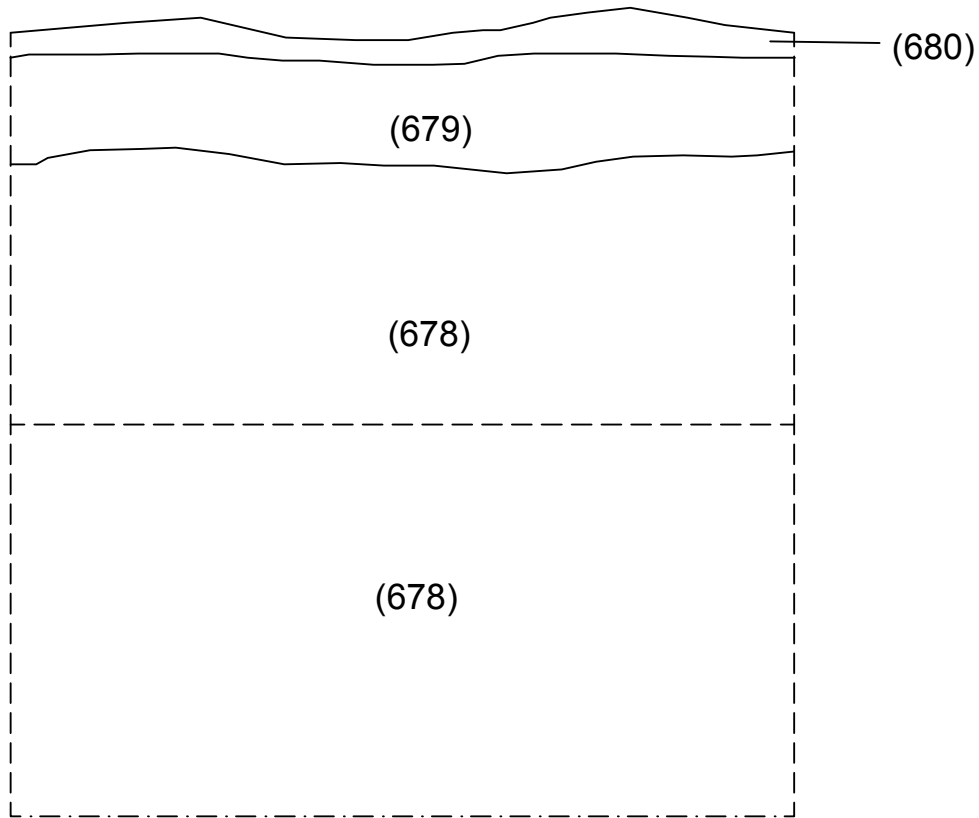


Figure 57: S-facing Representative
Section through Foundation Trench North
of Building 5
Scale:1:10@A4
Drawn:RL

Key:

Copyright/ Licencing
This Drawing
© A.R.S. Ltd

Ordnance Survey data if applicable
© Crown Copyright, all rights reserved
reproduction with permission.
Licence No. 100045420