

CFA Archaeology Ltd

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Advice on Archaeology & Planning

Environmental Impact Assessment

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Field Evaluation & Excavation

Historic Building Recording

Site & Landscape Survey

Geophysical Survey

**Stroupster Farm,
Nybster, Caithness**

Standing Building Survey

Report No. 3064

CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

The Old Engine House
Eskmills Business Park
Musselburgh
East Lothian
EH21 7PQ

Tel: 0131 273 4380
Fax: 0131 273 4381
email: info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
web: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Author	Michael Cressey BA MSc PhD MifA FSA Scot and Greame Carruthers MA
Illustrator	Kevin Hicks BA
Editor	Melanie Johnson MA PhD FSA Scot MifA
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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of a Level 3 standing building survey undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) at Stroupster Farm, near Nybster, Caithness (NGR: ND 3330 6624 Fig. 1) during July 2013. The work was commissioned by Natural Power Consultants Ltd as part of a proposed wind farm development.

1.2 Background

Stroupster Farm is a traditional stone-built single storey and one-and-a-half storey collection of buildings forming a reversed J-shaped plan. There are seven individual elements (Units 1-7) making up the farmstead. Built entirely of Caithness flagstone with slate roofs and flagstone ridge copings, the farm buildings are typical of the area. The farmhouse (Units 1-2) faces south-east with two small rooms (Units 2-3) at the rear. These adjoin two animal sheds (Units 5-6). Built at right-angles to the animal sheds is a lofted threshing barn (Unit 7). A modern steel-framed shed was erected on the south side of the farm, probably in the 1980s.

The farm has been derelict for at least 40 years and the buildings are currently used to house sheep and cattle. Natural Power plan to demolish and re-use parts of the farm as their control centre for the proposed windfarm.

1.3 Objectives

The aim of the historic building survey was to assess the significance of the farm and to record any features of architectural and historical interest.

The survey aims were:

1. To carry out a desk-based assessment to place Stroupster Farm in its historical context
2. To identify and record all surviving evidence for the original form and subsequent modifications to the farm buildings
3. To produce a Level 3 drawn and photographic record of the farm
4. To produce a Historic Building Survey report outlining the results of the work.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 General

CFA follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidelines for Historic Building Survey as appropriate. Highland Council's Standards for Archaeological Work (2012) section on building survey was followed as appropriate.

2.2 Desk-based Assessment

A desk-based assessment was conducted in order to collate relevant information on the historic significance of the farm. Sources that were consulted included:

- The 1st Edition Ordnance Survey 6" map and subsequent editions, together with other readily available cartographic information.
- On-line historic documents accessed through the ScottishPeople database
- Other available sources relating to the vernacular history of the steading.

2.3. Standing Building Recording

CFA followed the *Descriptive Specification for Recording Historic Buildings* (English Heritage 2006) for Level 3 building survey. This level of survey is descriptive and both the exterior and interior of the building was examined and photographed (Table 1).

CFA standard building survey sheets were completed for each elevation and room. These included measurements of the fenestration and descriptions of any blocking work, including any surviving internal fixtures and fittings.

Recording element	Building survey	Photographic Survey
External Elevations (REDM)	Level 3	Comprehensive
Photographed Internal Elevations	Level 3	Comprehensive
Ground Plan (1:100 scale)	Level 3	N/a
Cross-sections (REDM)	Level 3	Comprehensive

Table 1. Specific recording requirements at Stroupster Farm

Photographic Survey

CFA used a Digital Nikon D300 to take high-resolution digital photographs of building elevations, contextual details, structures and specific internal architectural features. Selected representative images have been incorporated into the final report accompanied by a full set of contact prints.

The internal photographs were taken on the N, E, S & W quadrants to ensure comprehensive photographic cover. The results have been tabulated and are provided in Appendix 1.

Metric Survey

Elevation recording was carried out using an industry-standard, reflectorless Total Station. The infra-red beam from this instrument enabled points to be recorded in 3D to an accuracy of 1mm. For the external elevations, control points on eaves, windows and doors were surveyed. The data was then downloaded using PenMap software and imported to AutoCAD 2010. The resulting images were then processed to produce wire-frame elevations to correct the digital photographic overlays.

A plan of the farm buildings at 1:100 scale was produced using a hand-held Leica distometer. The plan was used to locate the orientation of each photograph that was taken to support the photographic list produced as Appendix 1.

In line with the WSI three cross-sections through the farm have been produced in order to show the relationship between ground and roof level and the configuration of the roof type at a given location.

Survey Constraints

The floors of the buildings had a significant build-up of animal waste (at least up to c.1m depth) which hid the true height of the walls. However this has had no detrimental effect on understanding the evolution of the farm buildings. No access was gained to the loft in Unit 7, the lofted barn, owing to its unsafe floor. Photographs were taken of the loft interior from its staircase.

3. DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT RESULTS

3.1 Cartographic

Stroupster Farm appears on Thompson's map of 1832 as the placename *Strubster* (Fig 2a).

The 1873 Ordnance Survey First Edition map (Fig 2b) shows Stroupster as it stands today with seven individual compartments. The farm cottage is situated at the south-east end of the complex shown with two compartments and rear adjoining rooms. Each has an external building built into the angle of the cottage and adjoining building. On the north side of the building complex a horse gang is depicted. A pond is shown on the south-west side of the farm.

The 1905 Ordnance Survey 6" map (Fig 2c) shows Stroupster in simple block layout and it is the same layout as the 1873 map. The horse gang is still present. Subsequent Ordnance Survey maps show that the plan form of the farm has not changed over time (Fig 2d).

3.2 Bibliographic

The National Archive of Scotland's on-line database contains a document dated to 1801 which details a Minute of Agreement (unsigned) between William Sinclair of Freswick and Robert Sinclair, late of Scotsclader, tacksman of the lands of Freswick, Auchingill and *Stroubster* later called Stroupster. This minute relates to a land tenure agreement between William who was the landlord and Robert who was the tenant.

The Ordnance Survey Name Book (1871-1873) records three occupants; Hugh Davidson, Andrew Stenton and John Henderson. The owner of the farm is listed as Mrs Sinclair of Freswick.

In the Valuation Roll for 1878-9 the tenant is given as John Henry Davidson of Old Hall who as a factor paid £74 14s while the farm was sub-let to Benjamin and Alastair Alexander, who in turn sub-let to Alexander Campbell, a farm servant, paying £50 in rent, and Alexander Lockie, a shepherd paying £30 in rent. It is presumed that Alexander Lockie paid less rent for other services in kind such as labour or livestock.

Stroupster Farm is not mentioned in the Statistical Accounts of Scotland.

NMRS/SMR Records

Stroupster Farm does not appear in the RCHAMS on-line database. Aerial Photographic Survey carried out in 1946 shows Stroupster Farm surrounded by upland peat land with regular field systems to the south.

The Highland Council's on-line Historic Environmental Record (HER) was checked to determine if it held any details for Stroupster. Their records for Stroupster included MHG412-Monastic Settlement; MGH39329 Chapel, Kirk Stones and MHG 39330 Cultivation Remains/ Kirk Stones. There was no entry for Stroupster Farm.

4. BUILDING SURVEY RESULTS

4.1 General

The following narrative presents the results of the building survey starting with the external elevations followed by a description of the interior of each individual unit making up the farm complex. Table 2 lists the unit numbers, dimensions and last known function.

4.2 Farm Cottage Exterior Elevations

South-east-facing elevation (Fig 3a, Plate 1)

The farm cottage contains four individual units with Units 1 and 2 being the primary living space and Units 3 and 4 being former bedrooms.

The south-east-facing elevation of the farm cottage measures 15.4m long and is 2.8m high from the ground to eaves level. The walls are 0.6m thick and constructed of Caithness flagstone bonded with lime mortar. There are four bays that include two doorways at each end (accessing Units 1 and 2) with two windows in the middle that lit the same. The south-west half of the elevation has been rendered with grey cement. The roof is covered with slate and with a chimney stack at each end. A cast-iron window-frame is still in situ at the north-east end (Unit 2). Some heavy cement pointing has been carried out on the corner of the north-east gable.

South-west-facing gable (Fig 3c, Plate 2)

The south-west-facing gable is exactly the same as that on the north-east end of the cottage. The lower half of the window has collapsed exposing the hearting within the gable wall. This is a mixture of random rubble bonded with lime mortar.

North-east-facing gable (Fig 3d, Plate 3)

The north-east-facing gable is 5.7m wide and contains a single central window with the aforementioned cast-iron window frame still in situ. The gable is pitched and constructed of Caithness flagstone with a central chimney stack.

North-west-facing back walls (Fig 3e-f)

The walls are built of Caithness flagstone and are windowless (Fig 3e). The southernmost rear wall (behind Unit 1, Fig 3f) once had a small lean-to structure attached to it but nothing survives to mark its position except a roof line situated on the main exterior south-west wall of Unit 3 (Fig 3b). Fig 2b the historical map shows the building built into the angle of Units 1 and 3. It is suggested that these two additions were probably earth closets.

Exterior South-west-facing elevations (incorporating Units 7, 6, 5, 3 & 1, Fig 3c, Plate 7 & 9)

This elevation contains the south-west-facing gable of Unit 7 which is outshot from the main spine wall of Units 3-6 by 12.4m. The gable contains a central square-headed window and a blocked doorway on its east side. The blocked door measures 2.3m high and 1m wide and has been blocked with Caithness flagstone.

The main spine wall of the south-west-facing elevation contains two open doorways into Unit 6 the byre and two doors into Unit 5. At the east end of the elevation a window opening lights Unit 3. The wall is uniform in its construction and Unit 3 has been harled with grey cement. The roof is covered with slate. The openings into Unit 5 are surmounted by a pair of timbers. These are carried on a flagstone-built pier and embedded at both ends into the wall head. The interior timber is re-used and may have been salvaged ship's timber (see below).

Exterior North-east-facing elevation (Unit 2 gable, 4-6, Fig 3d, Plate 4)

The exterior North-east-facing elevation includes the north-east-facing gable of the cottage (Unit 1-2) and the main spine wall of Units 4-6. The wall measures 25.6m long and contains a rectangular splayed bedroom window opening for Unit 4 and two hatch vents for Units 5 and 6. The vent openings measure 0.5m x 0.5m and have plank-built doors. Concrete breezeblocks were used to construct a later doorway on the north-west elevation and these have been keyed into the existing Caithness flagstones on the corner of the main elevation

Exterior North-west-facing elevations (Unit 2 and 7, Fig 3e, Plate 6)

The exterior west-facing elevation contains the now collapsed entrance to Unit 6 and the main wall of the one-and-a-half storey barn (Unit 7). There are two blocked doorways on this elevation (c. 2m high and 1m wide), the southernmost doorway has been converted into a window that is now blind. Midway along the base of the wall between the two former doorways is a small blocked opening measuring 0.6m x 0.45m with a single slab lintel. This was probably a drive-shaft aperture associated with the circular horse gang shown on Fig 2b. Situated close to the south-west-facing gable is a square hatch vent which is open.

4.3 Farmhouse Interior Descriptions

The plan form of the Stroupster Farm is shown in Fig 3. The individual unit dimensions of each interior unit are shown in Table 2.

The farm cottage occupies a T-shaped plan with the two principal living areas (Unit 1 and 2) and two small bedrooms to the rear (Units 3 and 4).

Unit No	Function	Dimensions (m)
1	Cottage living room	6.5 x 4.6
2	Cottage living room	6.5 x 4.6
3	Bedroom	3.4 x 2.4
4	Bedroom	3.5 x 2.1
5	Byre/bothy	6 x 4.95
6	Byre	14.6 x 4.95
7	Threshing barn	11.5 x 4.9

Table 2. Unit function and dimensions

Unit 1 Living room (Fig 4, Plate 10-11)

Unit 1 was accessed by a door on its south-east wall and lit by a window on the same wall and one on the gable. Most of the plaster lining the walls has gone but remnants still survive. A small stone-built fireplace is situated to the right of the gable window. The fireplace consists of a small stone lintel and two side stones. At the north-east end of the room there is a central fireplace and small press on its left-hand side. The chimney breast which is well over 1m thick incorporates a large rectangular flagstone lintel and remnants of a timber mantelpiece and fire surround still survive. The back of the fire is curved. A four-panelled white-painted door has been propped up against the opening between Unit 1 and 2 to keep livestock apart. The door is larger than the existing opening and has been brought in from elsewhere. A doorway on the south-east elevation leads into Unit 3 the bedroom. Within Unit 1, the ceiling is combed and lined with planks nailed directly onto the A-frame tie-beams. Mid-way along the ceiling, on both sides there are a series of white gypsum board tiles that have been used to line the ceiling. The floor is hidden by animal waste.

Although there are no physical remains of a partition surviving (eg. stud-work) it is evident that the room (Unit 1) was once divided into two rooms. The ceiling planks on the side of the room have been painted with a dark stain and there is a faint trace of a scar surviving where plaster butted up against a timber baton nailed to the planking. This and the presence of the small fireplace strongly suggest that the south-west end of Unit 1 was probably a small bedroom with a door leading into the main living room that had the larger fireplace described above. Evidence for this arrangement is much stronger in Unit 2 (see below).

Unit 2 Living room (Fig 4, Plate 12-13)

Unit 2 shares the same layout as Unit 1 with a central fireplace on the thick partition wall that has again made use of a large flagstone above the curved-back fireplace. A cast-iron window frame is in situ within the window opening on the south-east elevation. A doorway leads into Unit 4 on the north-west wall.

The gable wall incorporates a central window with a wooden sash-and-case window. On its left-hand side (facing) is another small fireplace. Its flue can be traced where large flagstones have been embedded into the wall. The ceiling is combed and covered with lath and remnants of plaster. A wooden partition wall survives off one of the common rafters. Its position can also be traced as a scar within the flanking walls. This shows that Unit 2 was separated into two rooms. Flanking the doorway on the interior gable wall is another scar in the plaster marking the position of a second

partition that formed a small vestibule that afforded shelter when the door was open. In such an exposed position within the landscape the vestibule would have been important.

Unit 3 bedroom (Fig 4, Plate 14-15)

Unit 3 is a small bedroom serving Unit 1 and is lit on its south-west elevation and was heated by a small fireplace on the south-east elevation. The walls are lined with studwork that supported gypsum plaster board some of which still survives. The fireplace with a large flagstone chimneypiece has been built in the south-west-facing wall near the red-painted plank-built door. The aforementioned window has splayed reveals and the remains of a sash-and-case window surround. The ceiling is lined with white-painted tongue-and-grooved planks.

Unit 4 bedroom (Fig 4, Plate 16)

Unit 4 is a small bedroom serving Unit 2 and is lit on its north-east elevation and was heated by a small fireplace on the south-east elevation. The room has bare plaster covered walls with a splayed window on its north-east elevation. The fireplace is in the same location as Unit 3. No ceiling survives and the common A-frame rafters are exposed.

Unit 5 Byre/bothy (Fig 4, Plate 17-20)

Unit 5 is rectangular in plan with two doorways on its south-west elevation. At the centre of the north-west-facing elevation there is a fireplace and chimney built of Caithness flagstone and advanced of the wall (Plate 17). The doorways were at one time much larger, one having been reduced in size by blocking half of its opening. Above the doorway are two large relieving timbers. The innermost timber is thought to be a re-used ship's timber (Plate 18-19). It has a distinct curve typical of a deck timber with drill-holes on its underside. On the opposite wall there is a plank-covered hatch vent. On the back wall, facing the fireplace, the wall has a large flagstone projecting off it forming two animal stalls (Plate 20). The A-frame roof rafters are exposed and are machine sawn, scarfe-jointed and nailed.

Unit 6 Byre (Fig 4, Plate 21-22)

Unit 6 is rectangular in shape and it had a large bay opening at its south-west end but which has collapsed. The opening was rectangular and a recent (20th century) insert as its surrounds were constructed of breeze blocks. The A-frame constructed roof at this end of the building has collapsed. There are two doorways on the north-west-facing elevation and both are the same size (1.8m x 1.1m). On the opposite wall there are two timber clad hatch vents.

Unit 7 Lofted threshing barn (Fig 4, Plate 23-27)

Unit 7 is a one-and-a-half storey stone-built barn, now used as a byre but it was a threshing barn during the 19th century. Two thirds of the interior of the building is occupied by the loft (Plate 23) that is accessed by a wooden staircase (Plate 25) on the south-east-facing elevation. The interior south-west-facing gable shows evidence for

heightening by approximately 0.5m to accommodate a later roof (Plate 24). The south-east-facing elevation has two doors that have been blocked; the southernmost window has been converted into a window which is now boarded. Between these two features adjacent to the staircase is a wooden bearing box built into a recess in the wall. The opposite wall has two open doorways which are exactly in line with the two aforementioned blocked doors. This arrangement is typical of threshing barns where threshing by hand could be carried on indoors with the draught supplied for winnowing. On the north-facing gable there is a blocked doorway and no other features.

The loft is supported by large timber beams that are carried through the wall. The north end of the loft is boarded by planks. Above the loft stairs there is another bearing box set within an aperture in the wall (Plate 26). The loft space is vented by hatch vents set below the eaves (Plate 27 shows one near the gable).

The modern steel-framed agricultural shed was erected during the 1980s and is of no historical interest (Plate 28).

5. DISCUSSION

Stroupster Farm was probably constructed during the late 18th century or early 19th century on the same layout as it stands today. The farmstead was built during a period when wide sweeping agricultural reforms were underway in Caithness. The historical documents show that Stroupster was held by the Sinclair family who were major land owners in the region. The efforts by the Sinclair Estate to improve the living standards of their tenants is certainly evidenced at Stroupster Farm by its substantial lime-mortared walls, slated roofs, glazed windows and built-in fireplaces and chimneys. Comparison of the present day layout (Fig 3) and the 1873 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 2b) indicates that there have been no radical alterations or additions to the layout of the farm's core-block since it was first constructed. Heightening of the threshing barn roof and minor blocking work to some of the fenestration are the only significant alterations that have taken place.

The layout of the cottage (Units 1-4) and the adjoining byres (5-6) is symmetrical forming a T-shaped arrangement. Built at right angles to Unit 6 is the threshing barn (Unit 7) that had a horse-gang attached to it in the 19th century. This threshing barn was at the heart of the farmstead with horse-power providing traction to threshing apparatus housed within its loft space. The two bearing boxes set within the north-east-facing wall probably relate to the use of drive transmission associated with a small combustion engine that sat within the interior of the barn. Normally these types of engine would have sat on a small concrete plinth but no plinth survives today.

There is possible evidence that the threshing barn was powered earlier by a water wheel prior to the installation of the horse gang. The position of the pond to the south of the farm and a second pond to the north-west suggest a water supply was created to drive a small water wheel. The blocked square opening at ground level situated between the two blocked doors on the outside west-facing elevation (of the lofted barn (Unit 7) suggests that this was the shaft position for a small overshot water wheel. There is no trace today of the lade system that would have carried water to a water wheel. The internal joists supporting the current loft floor are substantially large (c. 0.4m x 0.4m) and typical of mill architecture where large timbers were introduced to support the weight of milling/crushing machinery. The barn was certainly heightened at some stage during the 19th century but it is not known when.

The interior living space of the cottage contained no modern fixtures and fittings, and electricity was probably supplied by a generator up to the mid 20th century.

The survey results combined with the cartographic record demonstrate that Stroupster Farm is of two phase construction. The threshing barn possibly started life as a water mill and was later converted with the addition of a horse gang. Heightening of the barn to accommodate the loft is a later phase in the development of this building but this did not affect its current plan form.

In Byre/Unit 5, one of the timbers (inner) above the doorways might be a re-used ships timber (deck-beam?). It has a distinct curve and tapers at each end. It also has two bolt-holes on its underside; this may have been associated with a below-deck iron support column. Beading carved on the inner edge (to round its corner and stop head injuries) lends additional weight to the theory that it is a re-used ship's timber and it

is probably not uncommon to find re-used ships timber in the area being so close to the harbour town of Wick.

Two small earth closets serving the farm cottage have been removed from the angle of its rear wall and the adjoin byre/bothy (Unit 5). Other later modifications include the introduction of breeze-blocks to the now collapsed bay door at the west end of Unit 6.

6. CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

The Level 3 standing building survey has been carried out at Stroupster Farm and its developmental history is now better understood. The farm displays only two major building phases and these are associated with the barn. The barn possibly started life as a small water mill. The wheel was replaced by a horse gang by the late 19th century. The heightening of the roof of the barn was probably contemporary with the installation of a horse-gang. Later in the early 20th century the horse-gang was removed and a combustion engine installed (by the 1930s) to drive-belt operated grain bruising machinery.

No further recording work is recommended prior to the farm's demolition and adaption as a windfarm control building. The decision on any further recording work in the light of the survey results lies with Highland Council.

The results will be disseminated through the on-line OASIS protocol and an entry in Discovery and Excavation in Scotland (Appendix 2)

7. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cartographic

Ordnance Survey First Edition 1873 Caithness Sheet VII.16 25" to the mile.

Ordnance Survey Second Edition 1907 Caithness Sheet V11 6" to the mile.

Ordnance Survey 1950 Sheet Ref ND36 1:10,000 scale.

Thompson. J. 1832 Atlas of Scotland.

Bibliographic

English Heritage (2006) 'Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice'.

Caithness Ordnance Survey Name Book, Vol.2 Ref. OS1/7/2/127 1871-1873.

Aerial Photograph

Stroupster, Canisbay, Caithness Scotland- Sortie 106G-UK-0075, Frame 3416.

National Archive of Scotland

Record GD 136/185 Papers of the Sinclair Family, Caithness 1523-1891.

APPENDIX 1: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

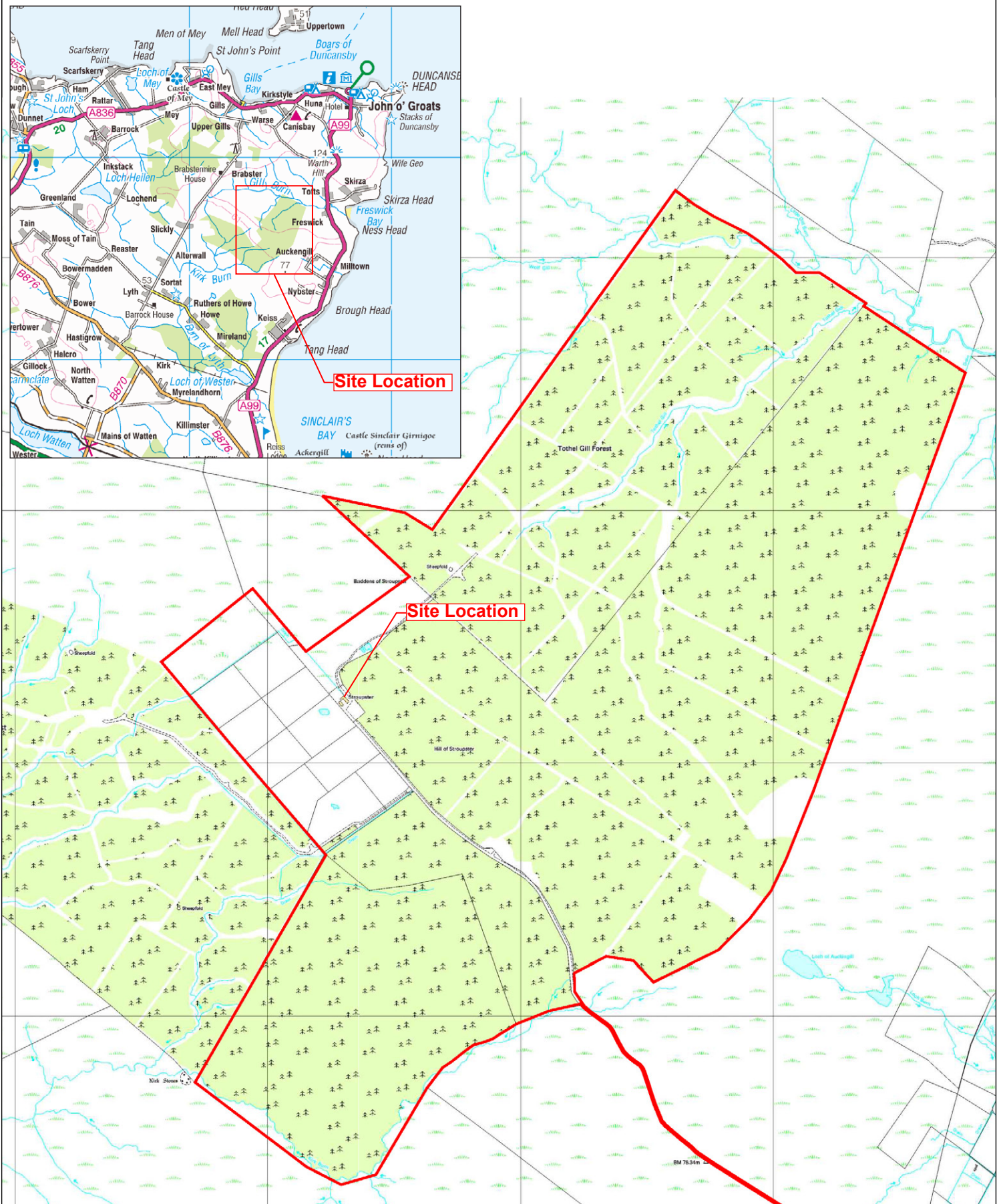
(Photographic locations are shown on Fig 4)


Shot No.	Summary description of subject	Facing	Conditions
001-012	Cottage- consecutive shots of the SE-facing elevation	NW	Dull
013	Cottage SW gable and SE-facing elevation	N	Dull
014	Cottage, NE-facing gable	SW	Dull
015-020	Cottage, consecutive shots of the NE-facing gable	SW	Dull
021	Cottage, NE-facing gable, chimney and upper gable fabric	SW	Dull
022	Cottage, NW-facing (rear) wall	SE	Dull
023	Cottage, NW-facing (rear) wall and chimney	SE	Dull
024-027	Cottage, NW-facing (rear) wall, consecutive shots	SE	Dull
028	General panoramic view of Stroupster from the NE	SW	Dull
029-045	Consecutive shots of NE-facing elevation combined Units 4-6	NW	Dull
046	General view of the farm from the N	S	Dull
047-049	Unit 6, Collapsed roof at north end	SE	Dull
050-057	Unit 7, consecutive shots of the N-facing elevation	SE	Dull
058-062	Unit 7, SW-facing gable, consecutive shots	NE	Dull
063-070	Unit 7, SE-facing (courtyard) elevation	NW	Dull
071-082	Units 6, 5 and 3, SW-facing elevation (courtyard)	NE	Dull
083-088	Cottage (Unit 1) SW-facing gable	NE	Dull
089	General distance shot of Cottage Unit 1 gable	NE	Dull
090	Fabric at the core of the SW Unit 1 gable	E	Dull
091	Unit 1, interior NW-facing door and window	SW	Natural light
092	Unit 1, interior NE-facing gable window and ceiling detail	SW	Natural light
093	Unit 1, interior SE-facing wall and doorway to Unit 3	NW	Natural light
094	Unit 1, interior SW-facing fireplace and chimney breast	NE	Natural light
095	Unit 2, interior SW-facing door and window	SE	Natural light
096-097	Unit 2, interior NE-facing chimney and door to Unit 1	SW	Flash
098	Unit 2, interior SE-facing wall	NW	Flash
099	Unit 2, interior SW-facing gable wall	NE	Flash
100	Unit 3, interior NW-facing doorway	SE	Flash
101	Unit 3, interior NE-facing window	SW	Flash
102	Unit 3, interior SE wall with studwork	NW	Flash
103	Unit 3, Interior SW-facing wall with studwork	NE	Flash
104	Unit 4, interior NW-facing doorway	SE	Flash
105	Unit 4, interior SE-facing partition wall	NW	Flash
106	Unit 4, interior SE-facing wall	NW	Flash
107	Unit 4, interior SW-facing window opening	NE	Flash
108	Unit 5, interior NW-facing fireplace and roof joists	SE	Flash
109	Unit 5, interior NE-facing bay openings	SW	Flash
110	Unit 5, interior SE-facing wall and stalls	NW	Flash
111	Unit 5, interior, SW-facing wall and hatch vent	NE	Flash
112	Unit 6, interior NW-facing wall and roof trusses	SE	Flash
113-114	Unit 6, interior NE-facing doorway and wall fabric	SW	Flash
115	Unit 6, interior SW-facing wall and hatch vent	NE	Flash
116	Unit 6, interior SW-facing wall and hatch vent	N	Flash
117	Unit 6, interior collapsed roof and existing trusses	NW	Flash
118-119	Exposed gable and joist sockets of Unit 7 showing gable heightening	S	Dull
120	Unit 7, interior NW-facing door and wall fabric	SE	Flash
121	Unit 7, plank-built loft wall	W	Flash
122	Unit 7, interior NW-facing doorway and loft support beams	SE	Flash
123	Unit 7, interior NE-facing gable wall	SW	Flash
124	Unit 7, interior SE-facing blind window	NW	Flash
125	Unit 7, loft staircase	SW	Flash
126-127	Unit 7 Loft interior SE-facing wall, bearing box	NW	Flash

128	Unit 7, looking into the loft space	SW	Flash
129-130	Unit 7 SW-facing interior gable wall and roof trusses	NE	Flash
131	General view of the cottage and adjoining buildings	E	Flash
132	General view of the Cottage	NW	Bright
133	General view of modern steel-framed shed and Unit 7	E	Bright
134-135	General views of the cottage and lofted barn, distance shot	N	Bright
136	General shot of the modern steel-framed shed	N	Bright
137	Distance shot of the cottage	NW	Bright
138	General shot of the modern steel-framed shed	W	Bright
139	General shot of the supporting beam on the NE-facing interior wall of Unit 5	NE	Flash
140	General shot taken underneath the supporting beam showing bolt holes	Near vertical	Bright
141	General distance shot of the modern steel-framed agricultural shed.	N	Bright

APPENDIX 2: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Highland
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Stroupster Farm, near Nybster, Caithness, Standing Building Survey
PROJECT CODE:	STRU
PARISH:	Wick
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	M Cressey & G Carruthers
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Level 3 Standing building recording
NMRS NO(S):	N/A
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Farmstead
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	N/A
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	ND 3330 6624
START DATE (this season)	August 2013
END DATE (this season)	August 2013
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	<p>A desk based assessment and Level 3 standing building survey were carried out at Stroupster Farm as part of a proposed windfarm development. The farm has not been occupied for at least 40 years. The farm is to be partly demolished to make way for a control centre. The farmstead occupies a T-shaped plan with adjoin building at right-angles to the central block. The farm complex includes seven individual units, Units 1-4 form the living space and bedrooms within a single story cottage situated at the end of a two single storey byres (Units 5 and 6). A threshing barn has been built at right-angles to the Unit 6. The barn is part lofted and has evidence of roof heightening. Historical maps show a horse engine or gang was situated on the west side of the building. Earlier power may have been supplied by a water wheel.</p> <p>The survey results combined with the historical evidence strongly suggests that the farm existed during the late 18th century or early 19th century. The survey results confirm that the farm has not been radically altered since its first construction and is of a single phase with only minor additions.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Natural Power Consultants Ltd
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	CFA Archaeology Ltd, Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ.
EMAIL ADDRESS:	mccressey@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS, Reports lodged with SMR and NMRS.



<p>Key:</p> <div style="border: 2px solid red; width: 40px; height: 15px; display: inline-block; margin-right: 5px;"></div> Site Boundary	<p>Fig. No: 1</p> <p>Revision: A</p> <p>Client: Natural Power</p> <p>Title: General Location Plan</p> <p>Project: Stroupster Farm, Caithness, Level 3, Standing Building Survey</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="flex: 1;">  <p>CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD</p> </div> <div style="flex: 1; font-size: 0.8em;"> <p>CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD The Old Engine House Eskmills Park, Musselburgh East Lothian, EH21 7PQ</p> <p>T: 0131 273 4380 F: 0131 273 4381 e: info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk w: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> Drawn by: SW Checked: MC Report No: 3064 </div>
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Scale at A4: 1:20,000



Fig. 2a - John Thomson's Atlas of Scotland, Caithness Shire, 1832

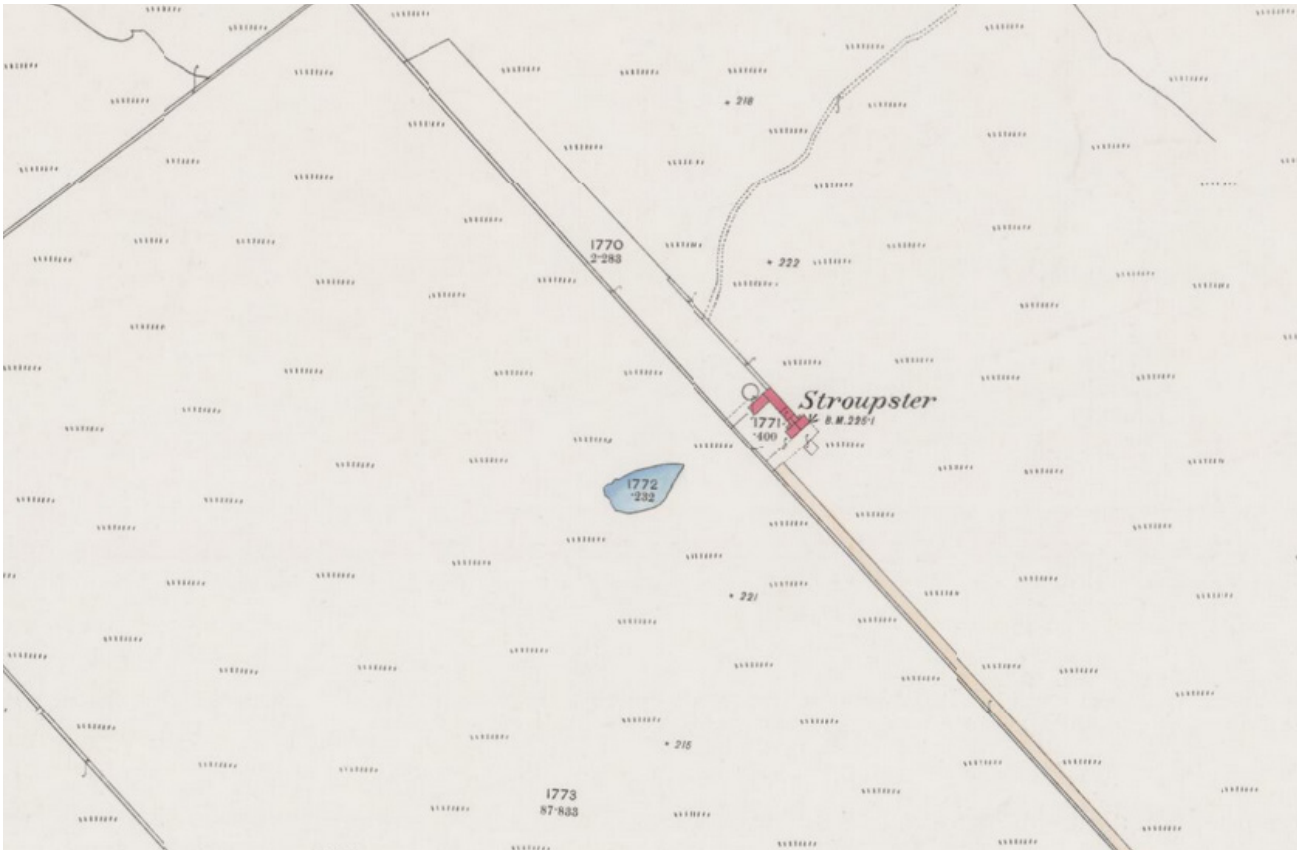


Fig. 2b - Ordnance Survey 1st Edition, 25-inch, Sheet VII.16, 1877



Fig. 2c - Ordnance Survey 6-inch, Sheet VII, 1905



Fig. 2d - Ordnance Survey 1:25,000, ND36, 1950



Key

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Eskmills Park, Musselburgh
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F: 0131 273 4381
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Fig. No:	2a-d	Revision	A
Title	Map Regression		
Project	Strouster Farm, Caithness, Level 3 Standing Building Survey		
Scale at A3	NTS		
Client	Natural Power		
Drawn by:	SW	Checked by:	MC
Report No:	3064		

Key:

- Blocked Opening
- Roof Collapse

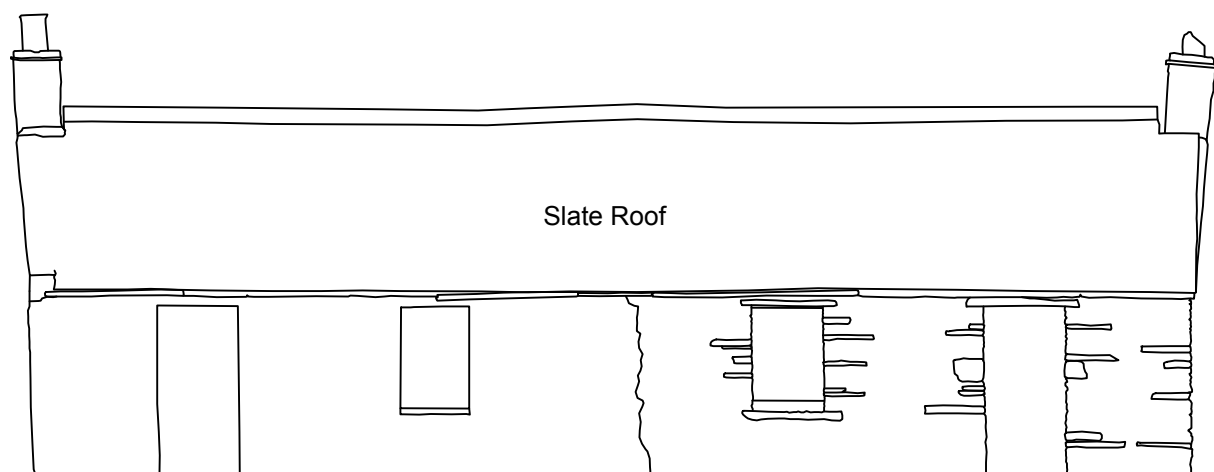


Fig. 3a - Units 1 and 2, South-east-facing elevation

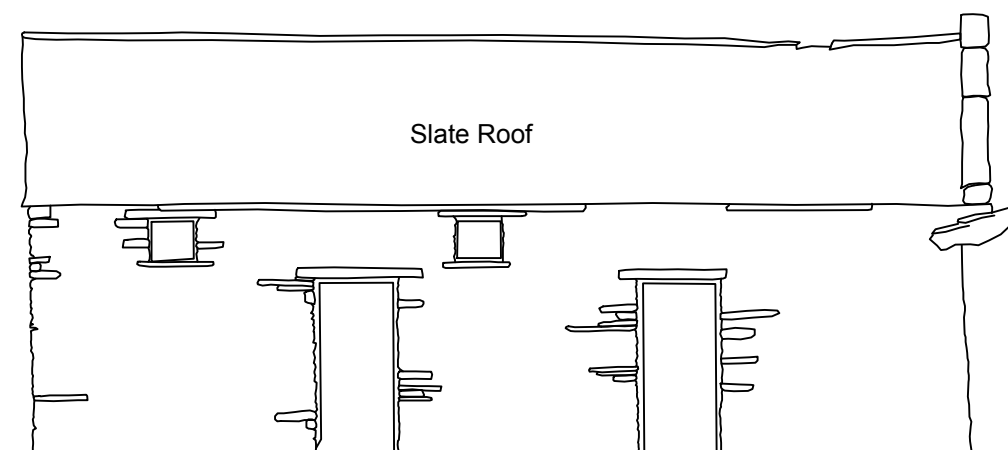


Fig. 3b - Unit 7, Threshing Barn

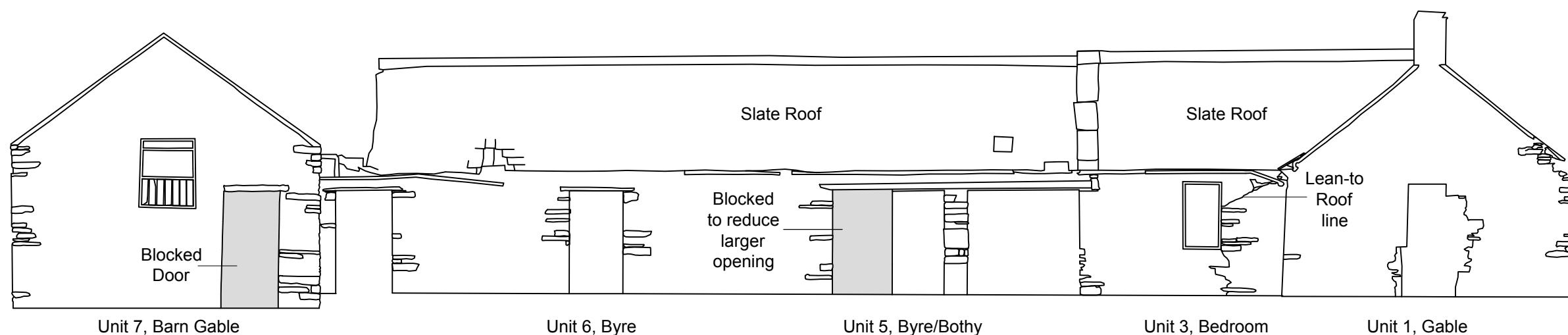
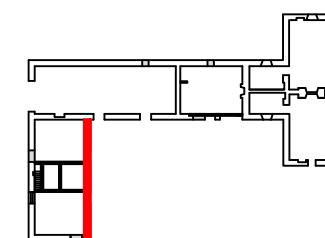
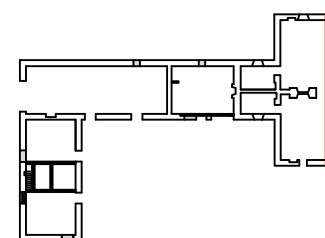


Fig. 3c - South-West-Facing

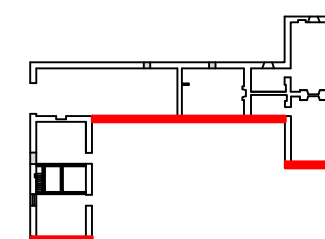
Unit 7, Barn Gable

Unit 6, Byre

Unit 5, Byre/Bothy

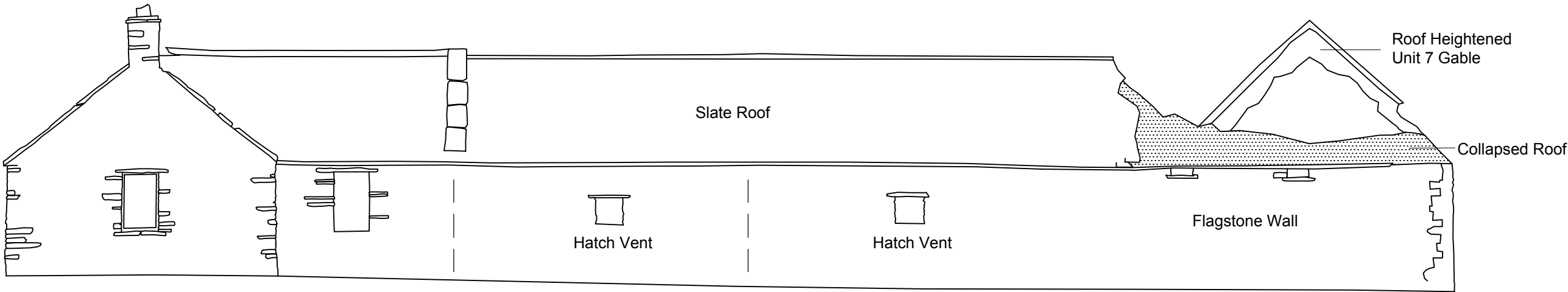
Unit 3, Bedroom

Unit 1, Gable

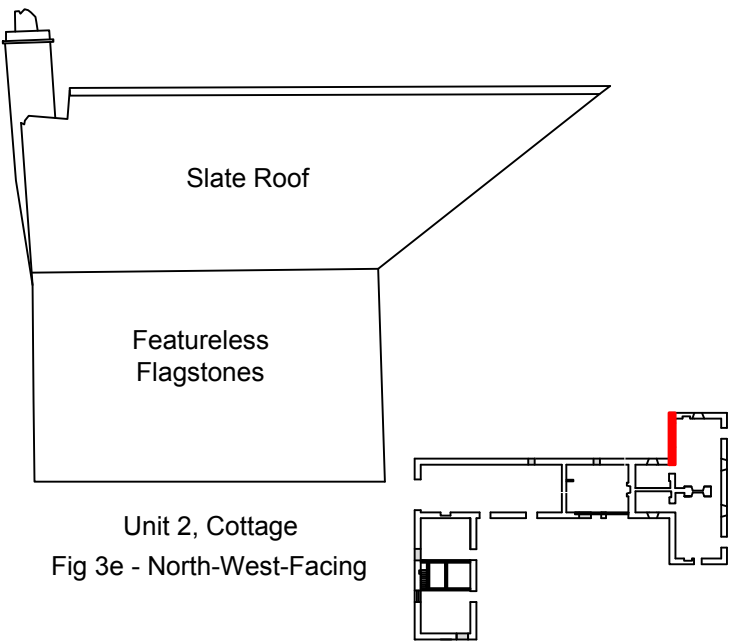


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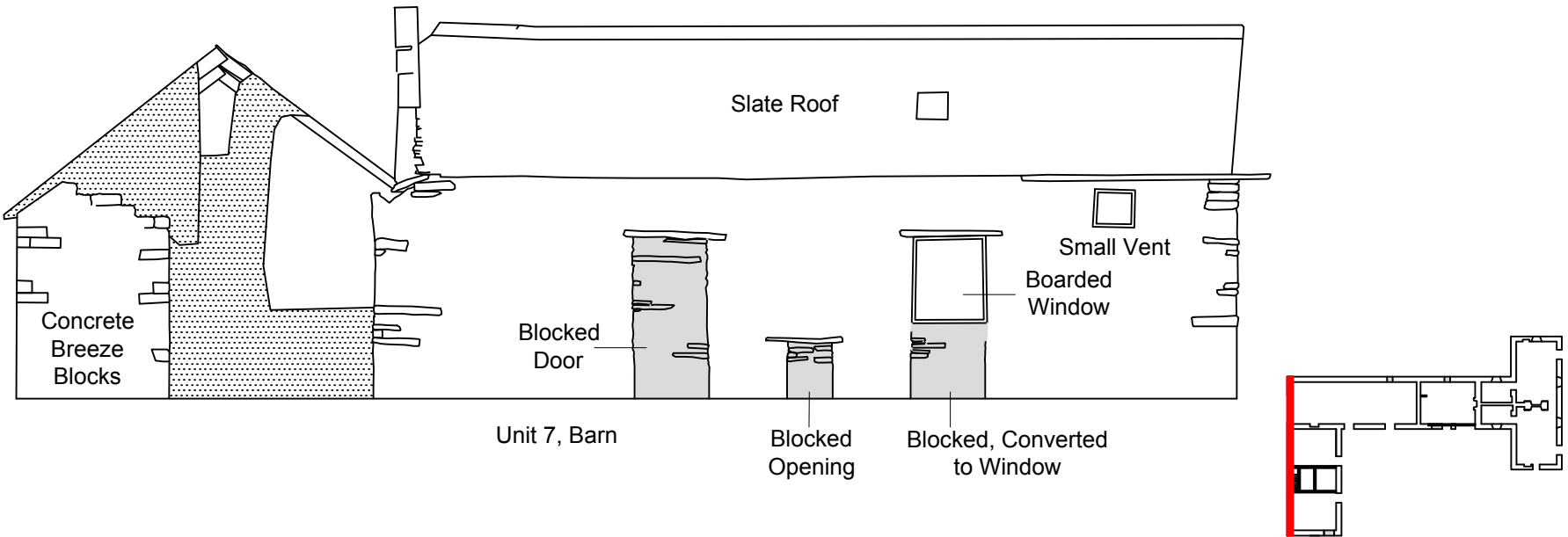
- Blocked Opening
- Roof Collapse



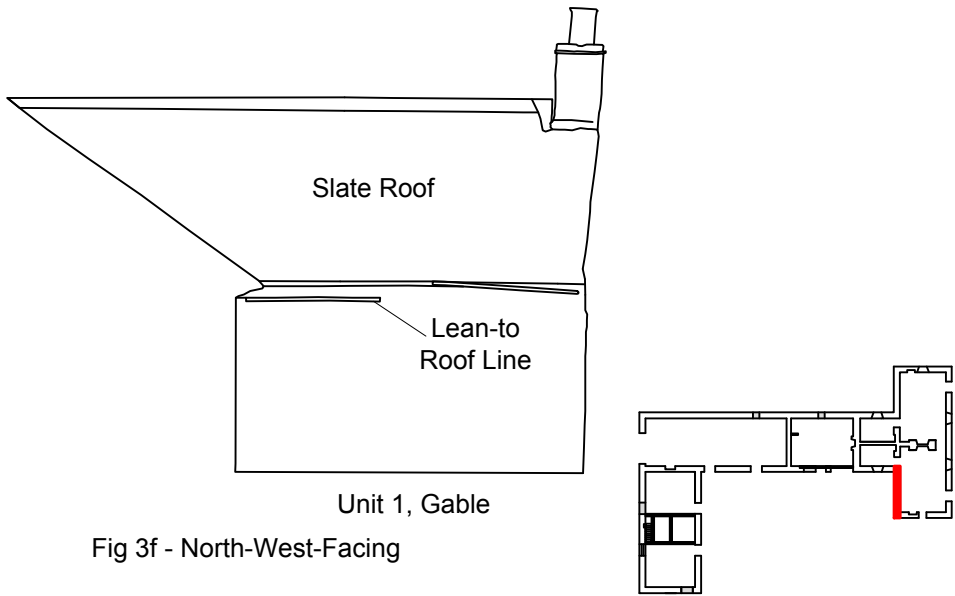
Unit 2, Cottage
Fig 3d - North-East-Facing



Unit 2, Cottage
Fig 3e - North-West-Facing



Unit 7, Barn



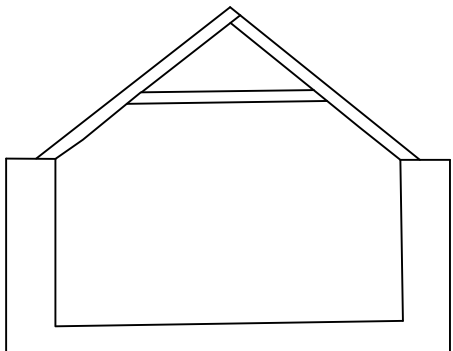
Unit 1, Gable
Fig 3f - North-West-Facing

0 5m



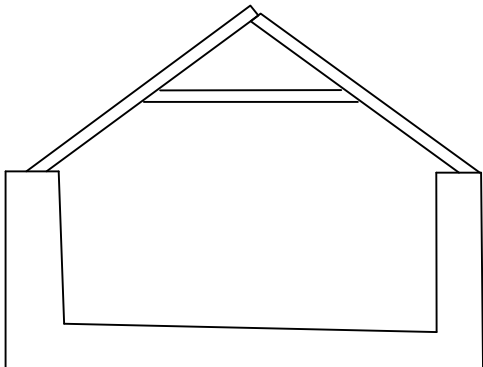
Key:

Section A-A



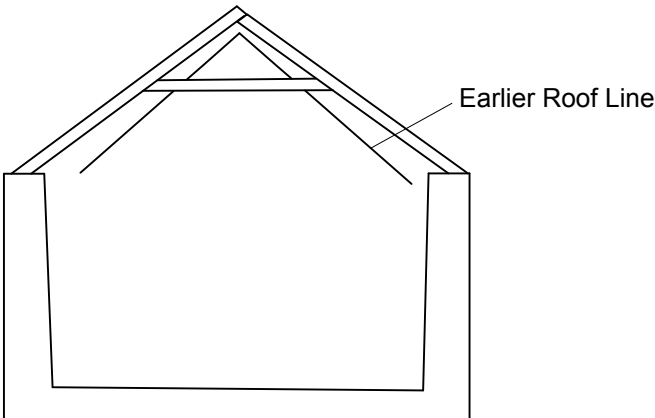
Unit 2, Cottage
A-Frame Collar Rafter with Combed Ceilings

Section B-B

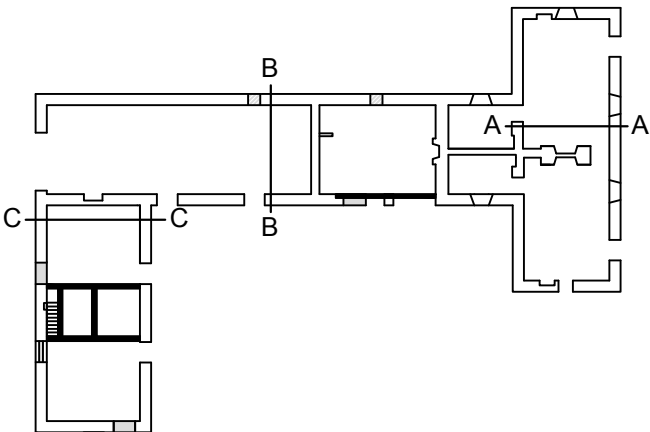


Unit 6, Byre

Section C-C



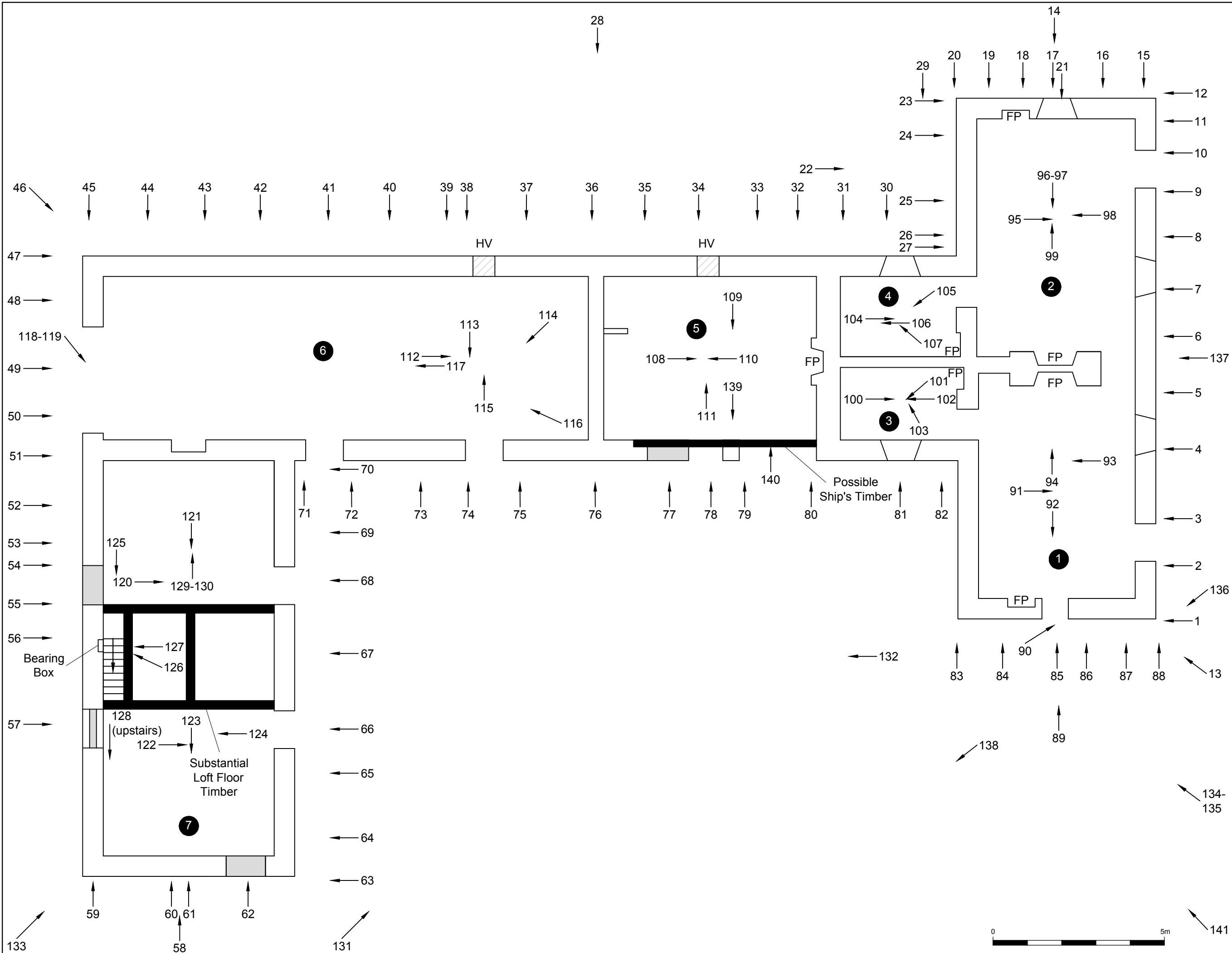
Unit 7, Barn






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The Old Engine House
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Fig. No:	3g	Revision:	A
Title: Cross-sections of Farmstead			
Project: Stroupster Farm, Caithness, Level 3 Standing Building Survey			
Client: Natural Power			
Scale at A3: 1:100			
Drawn by:	Checked:	Report No:	
SW	MC	3064	





Key:

- 1 Cottage Living Room
- 2 Cottage Living Room
- 3 Bedroom
- 4 Bedroom
- 5 Byre/Bothy
- 6 Byre
- 7 Threshing Barn
- FP Fireplace
- HV Hatch Vent
- Timber
- Blocked Opening

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Fig. No:	4	Revision:	A
Title: Ground Plan of Farmstead			
Project: Stroupster Farm, Caithness, Level 3 Standing Building Survey			
Client: Natural Power			
Scale at A3: 1:100			
Drawn by:	Checked:	Report No:	
SW	MC	3064	



Plate 1 - General view of the south-east-facing elevation of the farm cottage



Plate 2 - General view of the gable and collapsed central window



Plate 3 - General view of the north-east-facing gable wall



Plate 4 - General view of the north-east-facing elevation



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Plate No:	1-4	Revision	A
Title			
Photographic Plates			
Project			
Stroupster Farm, Caithness, Level 3 Standing Building Survey			
Scale at A3			
Client			
Natural Power			
Drawn by:	Checked by:	Report No:	
SW	MC	3064	



Plate 5 - Collapsed gable wall of the byre (Unit 60), north-west-facing elevation



Plate 6 - General view of the north-west-facing elevation, threshing barn (Unit 7)



Plate 7 - South-west-facing gable of the threshing barn with blocked doorway



Plate 8 - General view of the south-east-facing elevation of the threshing barn



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Plate No:	5-8	Revision	A
Title			
Photographic Plates			
Project			
Stroupster Farm, Caithness, Level 3 Standing Building Survey			
Scale at A3			
Client			
Natural Power			
Drawn by:	Checked by:	Report No:	
SW	MC	3064	



Plate 9 - General view of the south-east-facing elevation of the byres (Units 5-6)



Plate 10 - Interior view of the cottage living room (Unit 1) showing the fireplace



Plate 11 - Interior south-east-facing wall of Unit 1 with door to Unit 3



Plate 12 - Interior of the living room fireplace in Unit 2



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Plate No:	9-12	Revision	A
Title			
Photographic Plates			
Project			
Stroupster Farm, Caithness, Level 3 Standing Building Survey			
Scale at A3			
Client			
Natural Power			
Drawn by:	Checked by:	Report No:	
SW	MC	3064	



Plate 13 - Interior south-east-facing wall of Unit 2 with partition remains on the ceiling



Plate 14 - Interior of bedroom (Unit 3) bedroom, with fireplace and door to the living room



Plate 15 - Interior of Unit 3 showing wall cladding



Plate 16 - Interior of bedroom Unit 4 showing fireplace and door to Unit 2



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Plate No:	13-16	Revision	A
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Title

Photographic Plates

Project

Stroupster Farm, Caithness,
Level 3 Standing Building
Survey

Scale at A3

Client

Natural Power

Drawn by:	Checked by:	Report No:
SW	MC	3064



Plate 17 - Interior fireplace in the byre/bothy Unit 5



Plate 18 - Interior view of the door openings in Unit 5 with a possible re-used ship's timber



Plate 19 - Detailed shot of the underside of the possible ship's timber with drill holes



Plate 20 - Interior south-east-facing wall with a stall made from a large fireplace



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Plate No:	17-20	Revision	A
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Photographic Plates			
Project			
Stroupster Farm, Caithness, Level 3 Standing Building Survey			
Scale at A3			
Client			
Natural Power			
Drawn by:	SW	Checked by:	MC
Report No:		3064	



Plate 21 - Interior party wall between Unit 5 and 6, the large byre



Plate 22 - Interior north-west end of Unit 6 showing collapsed roof



Plate 23 - Interior of the threshing barn with timber-built loft



Plate 24 - Interior south-west facing gable of the threshing barn showing wall heightening



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Plate No:	21-24	Revision	A
Title	Photographic Plates		
Project	Stroupster Farm, Caithness, Level 3 Standing Building Survey		
Scale at A3			
Client	Natural Power		
Drawn by:	SW	Checked by:	MC
Report No:	3064		



Plate 25 - Loft staircase, with a bearing box on the adjacent wall heightening



Plate 26 - A bearing box at loft level



Plate 27 - General view looking into the loft



Plate 28 - General view of the modern steel-framed agricultural shed on the south side of the steading



Key



Plate No:	25-28	Revision	A
Title	Photographic Plates		
Project	Stroupster Farm, Caithness, Level 3 Standing Building Survey		
Scale at A3			
Client	Natural Power		
Drawn by:	SW	Checked by:	MC
Report No:	3064		



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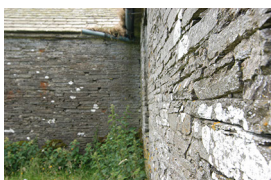
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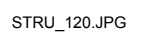
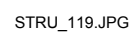
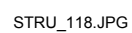
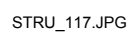
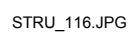
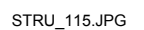
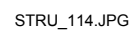
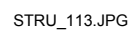
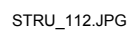
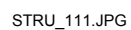
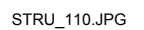
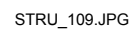
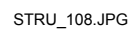
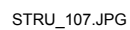
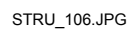
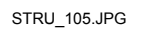
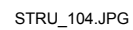
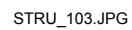
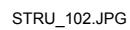
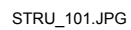
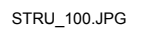
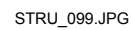
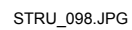
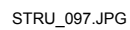
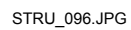
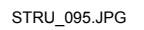
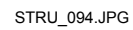
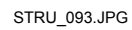
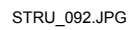
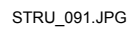
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STRU_121.JPG



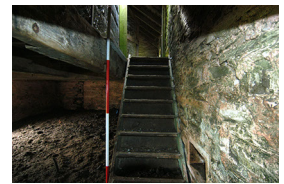
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STRU_123.JPG



STRU_124.JPG



STRU_125.JPG



STRU_126.JPG



STRU_127.JPG



STRU_128.JPG



STRU_129.JPG



STRU_130.JPG



STRU_131.JPG



STRU_132.JPG



STRU_133.JPG



STRU_134.JPG



STRU_135.JPG



STRU_136.JPG



STRU_137.JPG



STRU_138.JPG



STRU_139.JPG



STRU_140.JPG



STRU_141.JPG