

Castletown Mill, Castletown, Caithness

Standing Building Recording



Buildings Archaeology Ltd

November 2022



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0.0 Acknowledgements and Copyright

This report was undertaken by Susan Brook BA, MSc, MA, IHBC, FSA (Scot) of Buildings Archaeology Ltd on behalf of Dunnet Bay Distillers Ltd. Historic maps are courtesy of the National Library of Scotland.

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Client	Dunnet Bay Distillers Ltd
Planning Ref	21/06012/FUL
OS Grid Ref	ND 20127 68117
Date	30 November 2022
Author	S Brook

1.0 Non-Technical Summary

Buildings Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Andrea Wise, of Organic Architects on behalf of Dunnet Bay Distillers Ltd, (the client), to carry out a programme of archaeological building recording at Castletown Mill, Castletown, Caithness, KW14 8TX (NGR ND 20127 68117) (the site). A programme of historic building recording to ALGAO Scotland “detailed” level, of the 19th-century mill was carried out in response to a planning condition attached to the decision notice of planning application 21/06012/FUL granted by Highland Council on the 16 June 2022. The planning application was submitted for proposed works for the renovation and adaptation of the derelict building to form a craft whisky distillery and visitor centre.

The site is located to the east of the village of Castletown on the north coast of Scotland and sits adjacent to, and is accessed directly from, the A836. The mill building is a Category B listed building and is recorded as “at Risk” on the Buildings at Risk Register for Scotland (BARR).

The mill building was constructed in 1818 or 1819 on behalf of James Traill of Ratter, an agricultural innovator and “improving” landlord, who had bought the estate of Castlehill in 1788. The early 19th century mill was substantially extended and upgraded in the later 19th century and early 20th century. During World War II the site was utilised by the RAF for accommodation and storage purposes, after which the site fell into disuse.

2.0 Introduction

Buildings Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Andrea Wise, of Organic Architects on behalf of Dunnet Bay Distillers Ltd, (the client), to carry out a programme of archaeological building recording to ALGAO Scotland “detailed” level at Castletown Mill, Castletown, Caithness, KW14 8TX (NGR ND 20127 68117) (the site).

The works were carried out to fulfil the following planning condition which was attached to the decision notice of planning application 21/06012/FUL granted by Highland Council on the 16 June 2022 for proposed works at Castletown Mill:

No development or work (including clearance) shall commence until a programme of work for the survey, evaluation, preservation and recording of any archaeological and historic features affected by the proposed development/work, including a timetable for investigation, has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Planning Authority. The approved programme shall be implemented in accordance with the agreed timetable for investigation.

The programme of works was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Buildings Archaeology Ltd which was submitted to and approved by Kirsty Cameron, Archaeologist at Highland Council on the 30 September 2022.

The historic building recording was carried out in accordance with ClfA *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (ClfA 2014, updated 2020), *Historic Building Recording Guidance*, ALGAO Scotland 2013, and Highland Council *Standards for Archaeological Work*, March 2012. The archaeological survey work was undertaken by Susan Brook and Dr Dav Smith (MCIfA) in October 2022 and this report has been produced by Susan Brook BA (Hons), MSc, MA, IHBC, FSA (Scot).

3.0 Site Description and Location

The site is located at the west end of Dunnet Bay and to the east of the village of Castletown in the parish of Olrig, Caithness on the north coast of Scotland. The site sits adjacent to, and is accessed directly from, the A836 (see Figure 1 and 2). Historically the Mill has also been known as Castlehill Mill and Castleton Mill.

Castletown Mill is a designated heritage asset Category B listed building originally designated on 28 November 1984 (see appendix 1) and appears on the Highland Historic Environment Record, reference MHG1876 (see appendix 2). A Conservation Statement was prepared in December 2021 by Adams Napier Partnership to provide an understanding of the mill and to assist with the development of the project. The extant Mill complex is described in the Statutory list description:

Dated 1818 or 1819. Large 3-storey T-plan rubble mill with tooled rubble dressings. Wide symmetrical north elevation with centre kiln block flanked by 3-bays either side and by projecting, gabled chutes. Near centre 3-storey, 6-bay wing projects at south, with further gabled chute. Mainly symmetrical fenestration; 1st floor entrance in south gable with access by forestair; east and west gables crowstepped; single ridge stack; Welsh and Caithness slate roofs.

Interior; all machinery and internal overshot wheel removed.

Statement of Special Interest

Dated west gable apex finial; figure worn.

The mill building is a large 3 storey T-shaped building built of local Mey Flagstone rubble and sits in a prominent location at the entrance to the eastern side of the village of Castletown. The building is situated in a low-lying agricultural landscape on the edge of a wooded area and adjacent to Stannergill Burn, which provided water to power the Mill.



Figure 1: Location Map, Castletown Mill highlighted in red circle (© OpenStreetMap contributors)



Figure 2: Location Map North of Scotland (Courtesy of National Library of Scotland Map Collection)

4.0 Aims and Methodology

The aim of this project was to fulfil a planning condition attached to planning permission 21/06012/FUL to carry out a programme of archaeological recording of the existing building to an ALGAO Scotland “detailed” level. The aim of the archaeological investigation was to provide a record of the exterior and interior of the Mill buildings prior to any demolition or alteration taking place and to produce a report on the findings. Details of the results of the programme of works are presented below.

The archaeological investigation was carried out through photographic, drawn and written survey.

Photographic Record

A full and detailed photographic record has been made using a DSLR camera with the location and direction of each photograph recorded on a floor plan (at 1:100) and cross referenced to all images (see Appendix 3). An appropriate scale was used where possible in the photographs.

Drawn Record

A drawn record to a “detailed” level standard has been produced to an appropriate scale (see Appendix 4) using metric survey. Final drawings were completed in CAD.

Written Record

Documentary research using primary and secondary sources has been used to produce an historical background of the site. Site notes were made relating to the building and its construction, materials, phasing, uses and important fixtures or fittings for use in the report.

All aspects of the buildings recording were carried out according to the guidelines in ALGAO Scotland *Historic Building Recording Guidance* 2013, ClfA *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (ClfA 2014, updated 2020) and *Highland Council Standards for Archaeological Work* 2012.

5.0 Archaeological and Historical Context

This section will outline the development of Castletown Mill from its construction in 1818/1819 to today. Use has been made of documents regarding the history of the Mill submitted with the original application including the *Conservation Statement* by Adams Napier Partnership December 2021, *Assessment of Historical Fabric*, Adams Napier Partnership, October 2021 and the *Historical Report on Castletown Mill for Dunnet Bay Distillers Ltd* by Joanne Howdle December 2019.

This section will outline the known site context prior to the construction of Castletown Mill. No known below-ground archaeological investigation or recording has been undertaken at the site.

There are 196 records for the Castletown area recorded on the Highland Historic Environment Record including features from prehistory through to the 20th century. There are only two entries within the site - MHG1876 Castletown Mill and MHG3784 for the proposed site of the slaughter-house at Castletown Mill. There are 90 entries on CANMORE for Castletown, three of which relate to the site: Canmore ID 8825 *Castletown Mill*, Canmore ID 185349 *Castletown Mill*, Proposed Site of Slaughter-house and Canmore ID 96746 *Castlehill Mill*.

The village of Castletown sits approximately six miles to the east of Thurso and at the western end of Dunnet Bay. Jean Blaeu's Atlas of Scotland from 1654 (see Figure 3) shows the area which became Castletown and depicts a mill located near "Stangergil", whilst Roy's Military survey map 1747-1755 shows an unenclosed farming landscape with the settlements of Kirkton of Olig, Garth and Stannergill in the Castletown area, but no clearly defined mill (see Figure 4). John Thompson's "Atlas of Scotland" includes a map of "Caithness Shire" from 1822 and shows a mill building located on the Stanergill burn to the west of "Thurdystoft" (see Figure 5).



Figure 3: Detail from Blaeu Atlas of Scotland 1654 (Courtesy of National Library of Scotland Map Collection)



Figure 4: Detail from Roy's Military Survey of Scotland 1747-1755 Courtesy of National Library of Scotland Map Collection



Figure 5: Detail from John Thompson's Atlas of Scotland 1822, which indicates a mill near Castletown Courtesy of National Library of Scotland Map Collection

The underlying solid geology comprises sandstone, mudstone and siltstone from the Devonian period known as the Mey flagstone formation (BGS 2022). The geology of the area led James Traill of Ratter, an agricultural innovator and “improving” landlord, who had bought the estate of Castlehill in 1788, to establish the nearby quarry and pavement works and associated harbour. The quarry produced high quality paving flagstones which were exported across the country and shipped from the new harbour to locations as far away as Argentina.

By the end of the 18th century the onset of agricultural improvements began to change the landscape of the Castlehill area. The Old Statistical account of 1794 notes that the agricultural improvements that had taken place on Mr Traill’s Castlehill estate were proving very worthwhile and that the enclosure of farmlands and change in agricultural methods was having a marked improvement on crop production (OSA, Vol XII, 1794).

The village of Castletown was founded by James Traill in the early 19th century to accommodate his employees. Laid out in a regular plan the new planned village was built of local stone from the new quarry and was noted in 1838 in Robert Chambers Gazetteer of Scotland as “a neat and thriving town in Caithness” where the “prosperity of the village has of late been promoted from its proximity to Mr. Traill’s extensive quarries of Castlehill” (p. 143). The flagstone industry continued to prosper until the early 20th century when new and cheaper imported materials became readily available, after which the quarries and associated industries fell into decline.

6.0 Architectural Description

Introduction

Castletown Mill is a large three-storey T-plan building built of coursed Caithness rubble with a slate roof. The earliest part of the building is believed to date from c.1818 (a date of either 1818 or 1819 was carved on a now missing finial on the western gable of the northern range) but it was subsequently altered and extended in a series of phases with a substantial north south range added in the late 19th century. The Mill was powered by a waterwheel which was fed via a lade diverted from a mill pond and sluices from the nearby Stannergill Burn. An underground tail race, into which the wheel water discharged ran back to the burn. This section is supported by record drawings and photographic record, located in the appendices. Due to the buildings derelict state access to certain parts of the building were restricted. Most of the features, including doors and windows, have either been removed or are badly damaged but all have been recorded, where possible, in the photographic survey (see Appendix 3).

C.1818 Range (see Figure: 6 and 7).

Exterior



Figure 6: View of Castletown Mill c.1818 range from the north

The c.1818 range is a three storey building constructed in grey coursed Caithness rubble with large local red sandstone alternate quoins and margins and Mey flagstone lintels; the two end gables of the main range are crowstepped (see Figure 7). Today roofless, pictorial evidence reveals this range

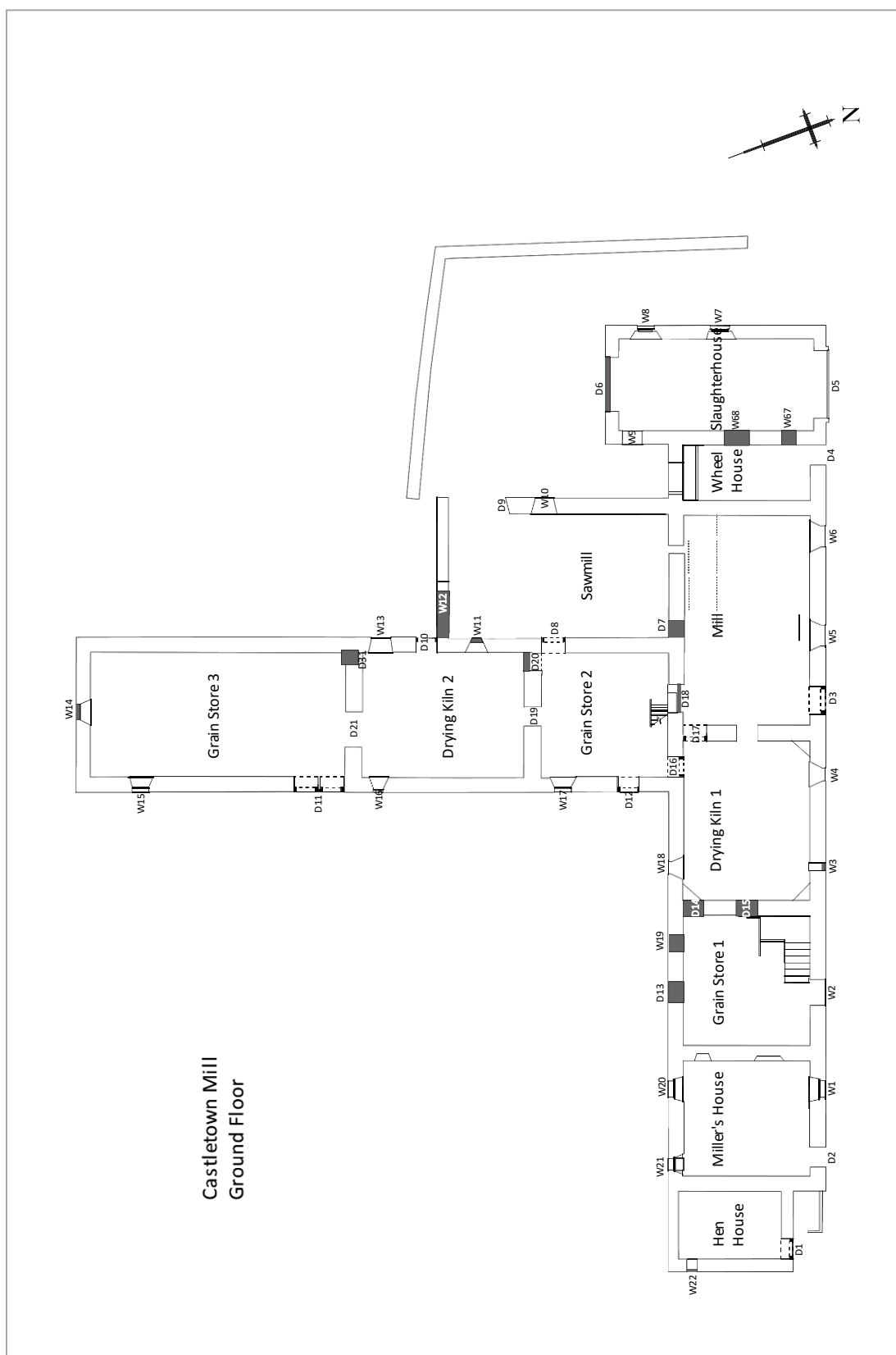


Figure 7: Ground Floor Room Plan of Castletown Mill (Including doors and windows)

was historically covered in Caithness flagstones and there were raised gables with smooth skew stones associated with internal cross walls which protruded through the roof. There were two vents in the kiln roof and a chimney stack to the Miller's House. The large symmetrical north facing facade comprises a slightly taller central double kiln block flanked by 3 bays to either side.

The central drying kiln building has small square openings at ground and second floor level on the front and rear elevations, possibly vents. Although blocked, some of these openings still have the remains of internal wooden shutters attached. Historic photographs (see Figures 43, 44 and 54) show that there were also two flanking projecting gabled chutes or sack hoists although these have since been removed but their location is marked by large rectangular openings in the front elevation. Two oval cast iron pattress plates are evident on the central kiln block.

The bays to the east of the central drying kiln comprised of the Miller's House and a grain store. The fenestration is mainly symmetrical and originally consisted of 6/6 sliding sash windows to the Miller's House and shuttered openings to the grain store. Today most of these windows are all largely empty and either blocked or covered. The Miller's House (which occupied the two easternmost bays) had an off centre entrance and early photographs show where a porch over the door once stood, indicated now by a concrete scar (see Figure 8). A basic lean to extension built of Caithness rubble and with a small window opening and a coal store constructed with large Caithness flagstones have been built against the eastern gable of the Miller's House. These additions are now roofless.



Figure 8: Front (northern) elevation of Miller's House showing a rectangular concrete scar where a porch once stood

The bays to the west of the central drying kiln comprised of the mill and most of the windows in the mill appear to have been either shuttered or 6/6 sliding sash windows, although most are now removed or blocked. First floor window W28 (see Figure 9) in this bay displays an unusual configuration where the window had four lights with crossed glazing bars (the two lower lights are now boarded over externally).



Figure 9: Unusual window with cross shaped glazing bars in westernmost bay of original c.1818 range.

Doors to both the residential and working buildings have mainly been removed but historic photographs (see Figures 43, 44 and 54) indicate that they would have been vertically boarded.

To the western end of the range is a single storey wheel-house and ancillary building built of grey coursed Caithness rubble but without red sandstone detailing. The ancillary building to the western extremity of the range has mainly blocked or removed windows although in the western elevation there are the remains of 3/6 top opening wooden casement windows. The ancillary building had large double openings with flagstone arches to the front and rear facade which have now been blocked.

Interior (only the ground floor remains in this range)

Miller's House

The internal walls of the Miller's House were plastered at ground and first floor level and still display some decorative finishes. Despite all the internal walls and features having been removed from this

part of the building the ground floor gives an indication of the original plan form of the Miller's House (see Figure 10).



Figure 10: Photograph showing evidence of internal partitions surviving in the floor surface of the Miller's House.

There is evidence of a staircase that rose to the first floor opposite the front door and three downstairs rooms. Within the front (southern room) there was a range (living kitchen) immediately behind this room a room with a fireplace (parlour) and next to this behind the stairs a room with a sink in the windowsill (possibly the scullery). At first floor level there is evidence of wall partitions in the transverse wall and two fireplaces (see Figure 11). There is a door opening (D29) in the western interior wall between the second floor of the residential accommodation and the grain store (see Figure 11). This floor and doorway were not accessible from the Miller's House but via the drying kiln building (Calder Hill, 2010).



Figure 11: Western interior wall of Miller's House with 2nd floor door opening to Grain Store 1.

Grain Store 1

The walls were all finished with a limewash finish and the ground floor was formed of Caithness flags. Within this room are a set of stone stairs against the northern wall leading to a low first floor, now lost, but for which the joist holes survive. A later right-angled screen constructed of large Caithness flagstones is built out from the wall at ground floor level (see Figure 12). Within the western and southern walls there is evidence of blocked openings (D14 & 15). There was access to both the Drying Kiln and the Miller's House from the second floor via interconnecting doors (D28 & 29).



Figure 12: Interior of Grain Store 1 with stairs

Drying Kiln

The walls are all finished with a limewash finish and the ground floor is formed with Caithness flags. There is access at ground floor from this room to the later southern range and through into the mill. Ground floor window openings survive on the northern and southern walls, now blocked or boarded with W3 retaining the partial remains of an internal fitted shutter (see Figure 13).



Figure 13: Remains of a shutter to ground floor window W3.

There are shadows visible in the limewashed walls and wall structure which may indicate where machinery was attached to the walls. Built into the four corners of the room are low angled stone pillars each topped by a substantial stone capping with a carved angled socket, presumably fixing points for a structure that was housed in this room (see Figure 14).



Figure 14: Detail of stone pillar with carved angled socket

At the top floor there is evidence of an interconnecting door between the neighbouring residential accommodation and the mill building. These doors are located on a level with the drying floor (now removed) which was “floored in 0.46m square cast iron tiles carried on iron cross members” (Calder Hill, 2010). The position of the drying floor is indicated by a gap/ building scar infilled with loose bricks. There is also evidence of vents at second floor level. The metal rods from the ties between the front and rear facades are visible at upper floor level. In the jamb of the connecting door between this range and the later southern range (D16) there is a name carved into the woodwork (see Figure 15).



Figure 15: Detail of graffiti “W McAllan” carved into door jamb of D16

Mill

The walls are all finished with a limewash finish and the floor is concrete. The mill would have been accessible from the front and rear facades as well as from Grain Store 1 and the later rear range. There are remnants of the mill workings within this room although most have been moved or removed (for detailed description and interpretation see Calder Hill, 2010 and Howdle, 2019) (see Figure 16).



Figure 16: General view of remaining mill workings

There are shadows on the eastern internal wall where silos were situated (see Figure 17 and Figure 18).



Figure 17: Wall detail showing shadows where silos were attached



Figure 18: Photograph from 1991 from Historic Environment Scotland's Canmore website showing the same location with silos attached (<https://canmore.org.uk/site/96746/castlehill-mill>).

Two decorative cast-iron posts remain which support first floor joists and a scar on the northern wall indicates the location of a staircase rising to the first floor which cut across the ground floor window. A timber frame remains where the mill workings were housed (see Figure 16) and large apertures in the western wall are presumably indicative of lost features or fixings for machinery. In the floor at the western end of this room a shallow pit has been partially infilled with debris and in the southern extremity is a pit within which a drive shaft and parts of a wheel remains (see Figure 19).



Figure 19: Remains of wheel and drive shaft

Wheel-house and ancillary building (known as the “Slaughterhouse”)

Very little remains in either of these structures. Within the wheel-house there is evidence of an infilled pit today. A large opening in the south façade may have accommodated the water trough from the mill lade (Adams Napier Partnership Oct 2021). There is evidence that the structure was once roofed with the remains of corrugated iron still visible. The western wall of the wheel-house has evidence of earlier blocked windows (W67 & W68) which are partially covered at the southern end of the building by large Caithness flagstones lining the wall (see Figure 20).



Figure 20: Detail of internal wall of wheel-house with earlier blocked windows and Caithness Flagstone lining

The internal walls of the slaughterhouse are covered in a cementitious mortar and painted, and the floor is concreted. The remains of the timber gabled roof structure remain, formed by twenty one common rafters and a central I-beam. There are large central doorways to the north and south elevations both now blocked (see Figure 21). The room contains debris, which hides the floor but a channel, possibly for drainage, can be seen running along the western side of the building.



Figure 21: General internal view of slaughter-house looking south

Later 19th century Southern range



Figure 22: Eastern elevation of 1888 range



Figure 23: Western elevation of 1888 range

The mill was extended southwards in the late 19th century with a large 3 storey 6 bay range added at right angles and almost centrally to the earlier range (See Figure 22 & 23). It contained a second kiln, grain stores and an office.

Exterior

This range is constructed of grey coursed Caithness rubble with no red sandstone margins or quoins; the window openings have flagstone lintels. There are the remains of a gabled chute to the eastern façade (see Figure 24). The roof is finished with Welsh slates and raised gables with smooth skews, associated with internal cross walls protruding through the roof. There are four rooflights to either side of the roof. The windows of this range are mainly blocked but appear to have been shuttered except for three 4/4 late 19th century sliding sash windows at the southern end of the first floor (W34, 35 & 36 see Figure 25) and a 20th century 2/6 metal top opening casement window (W16) to the ground floor (see Figure 26). There was an entrance at ground floor level and a double entrance under an arched flagstone lintel on the eastern facade and there was a first floor entrance via a forestair to the southern gable. There were two doors on the western elevation at ground floor level. There are two oval pattress plates visible on either side of the range. A prominent scar on the eastern elevation indicates where an extension has been removed (see Figure 27). The range still contains all three floor levels.



Figure 24: Remains of chute or sack hoist

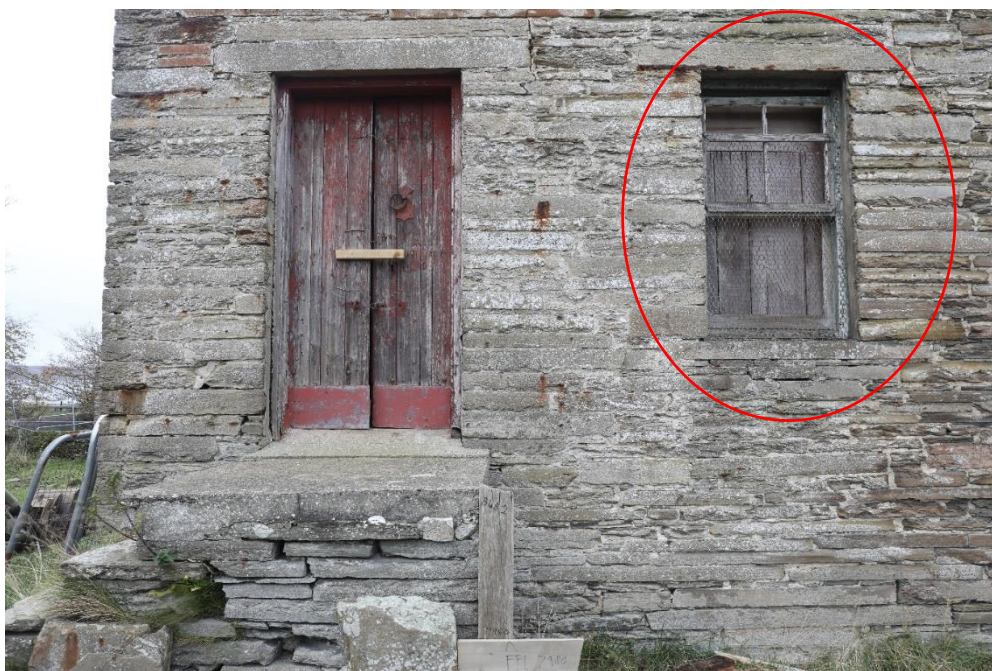


Figure 25: Remains of a 4/4 late 19th century sliding sash window in the southern gable



Figure 26: Remains of a 20th century metal window in the eastern elevation



Figure 27: Evidence of former extension to eastern elevation

Interior Ground Floor

Grain Store 2

This can be accessed from both the 1818 range via the drying kiln and from the external rear courtyard and western facade. The room is finished with slaistered pointing and has a Caithness Flagstone floor. There is a blocked doorway and window (D18) in the wall of the earlier 1818 building and a timber stair rises to the first floor (see Figure 28).

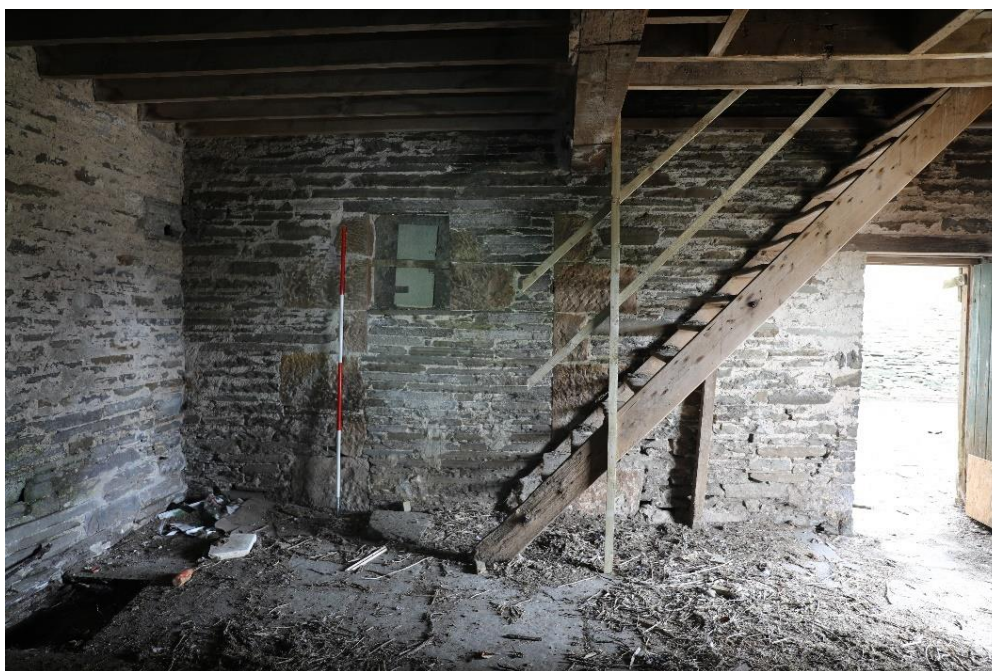


Figure 28: View of rear wall of c.1818 range from within Grain Store 2 showing blocked door with later inserted window also now blocked

Drying Kiln 2

This room is open to the roof and has a limewash finish to its walls and a concrete floor with evidence of fixing mounts and channels (see Figure 29). There is evidence of later alterations having been carried out to some of the door and window openings (D21 and W13) which have had concrete lintels inserted (see Figure 29).



Figure 29: Grain Store 2 showing channels and fixing points in floor (alterations to openings highlighted)

The kiln can be accessed from both Grain Store 2 and 3. There are blocked doors at ground floor level and discarded metal doors which appear to be associated with these former openings. At second floor level there are blocked doors from both grain rooms which would have led out onto the grain drying floor. All windows and vents have been blocked. There is evidence of smoke blackening on the sarking boards and metal drive shafts and I-beam floor joists are also visible at second floor level.

Grain Store 3

The room is partially subterranean, the end of the building being cut into the rising land to the south. The room contains debris, which hides the floor. Three plain cast-iron columns support the upper timber floor (see Figure 30). There is a double opening to the exterior courtyard and two blocked windows in the eastern and southern walls. A metal door allows access to the drying kiln.



Figure 30: Grain Store 3

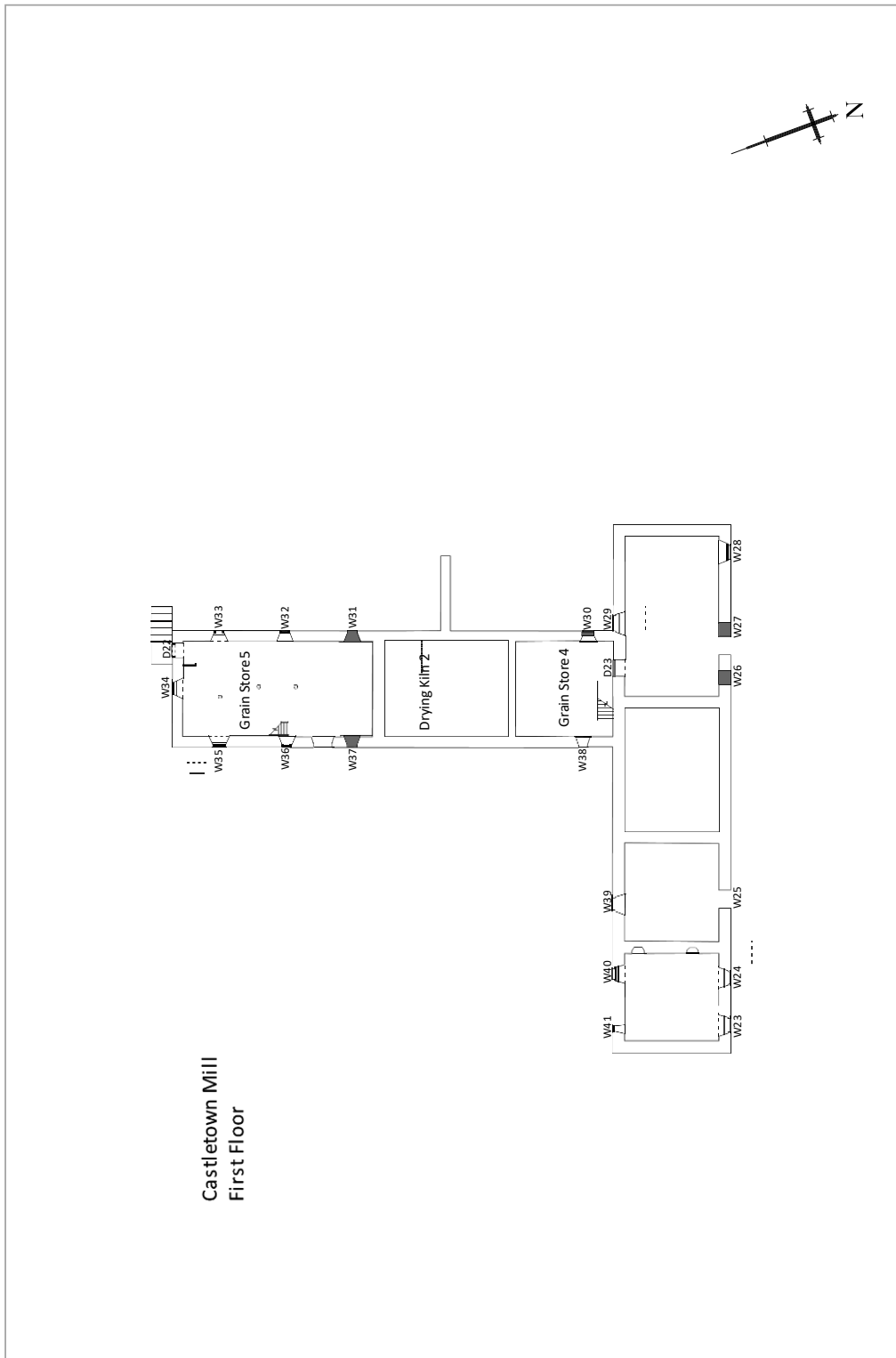


Figure 31: First Floor Room Plan of Castletown Mill (Including doors and windows)

First Floor

Grain store 4

There was limited access due to the uncertainty of floor safety at this level. There is a timber ladder rising to 2nd floor. There are two blocked windows in the eastern and western walls and a blocked door through to 1818 mill building. The walls are limewashed and the floor is timber.

Grain Store 5

Grain Store 5 is accessed at first floor level via an external forestair on the southern gable. Lime washed walls and timber floor to most of room. The far end of the room (wall backing on to the kiln) has been lined out with large Caithness flagstones and the ceiling and floor have been double boarded. This has been suggested as a “girnal” - a storage place for meal or oats (pers comm, W MacMac, 07.11.22) (see Figure 32). There are four plain cast-iron columns supporting the upper floor level. At the opposite (southern) end the walls have been boarded in tongue and groove and there is a projecting partial wall protecting the area from drafts from the door. There is a blocked fireplace on the southern wall (see Figure 33). This area has been suggested as an office (pers comm, W MacMac, 07.11.22). A timber stair rises to the second floor on the eastern side of this room.



Figure 32: Grain store 5 “girnal”



Figure 33: Office area Grain Store 5

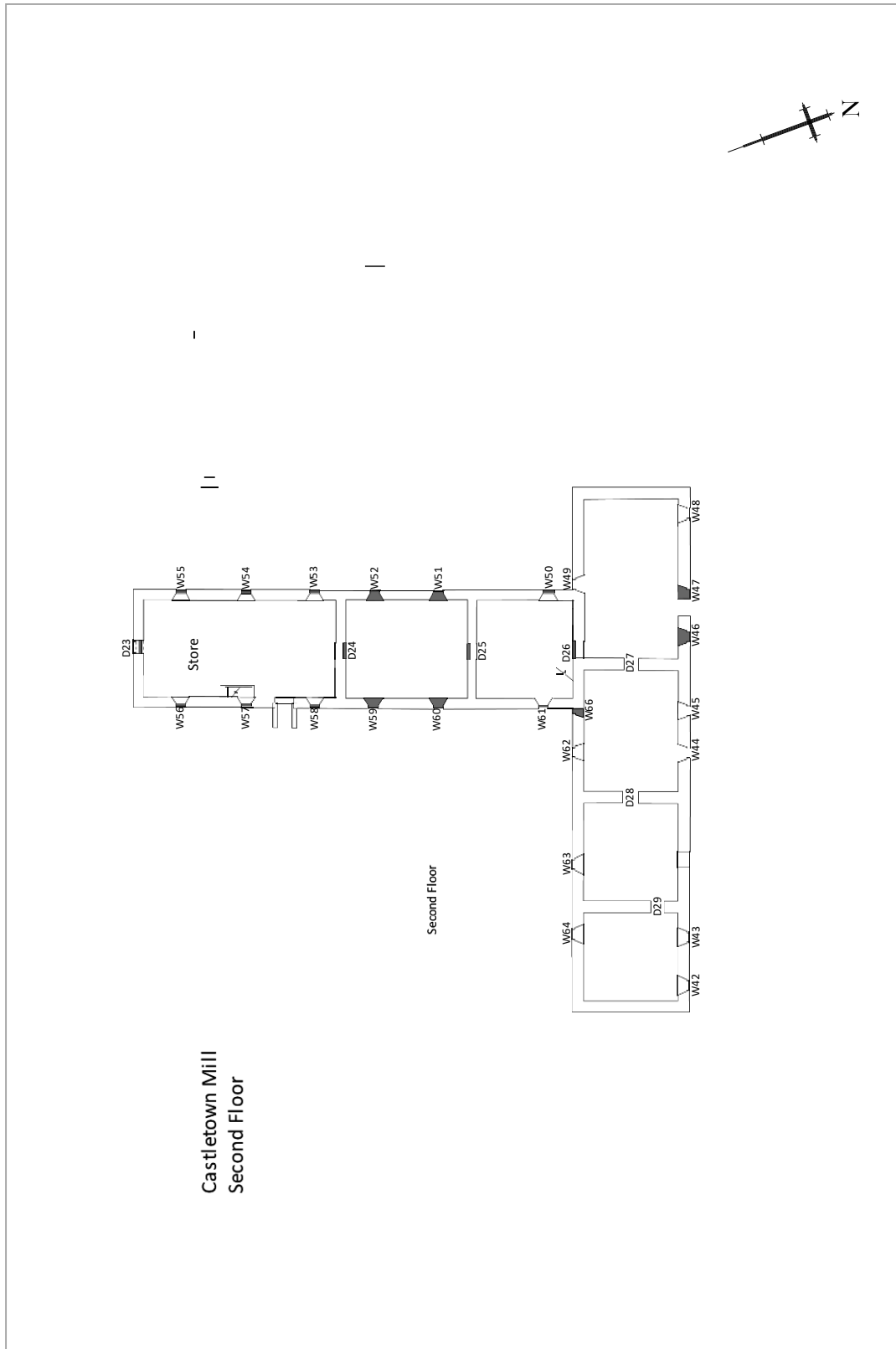


Figure 34: Second Floor Room Plan of Castletown Mill (Including doors and windows)

Second Floor

There is limited access to this floor, but it comprises of a kiln and two store rooms with exposed roof structure. There is an external door in the southern gable and five blocked windows in the three external walls.

Sawmill



Figure 34: Sawmill extension

Exterior

A rear single storey extension located in the southwest re-entrant between the original mill and the later rear extension, constructed of coursed Caithness rubble and now roofless (see Figure 34). There was a large opening on the southern gable end of the building with an arched flagstone header which has been blocked and had later windows inserted. Blocks of dressed red sandstone have been reused in the end of the gable wall. There is a window on the western elevation and a door opening. This building has become known as the sawmill after the RAF utilised this part of the complex during WWII to install a drive to power a sawmill (Calder Hill 2010).

Interior

There is an access through to the 1880's range and an opening in the southern wall of the 1818 range with the remains of a metal driveshaft and wheel in situ (see Figure 35). The floor of the structure is Caithness flags.

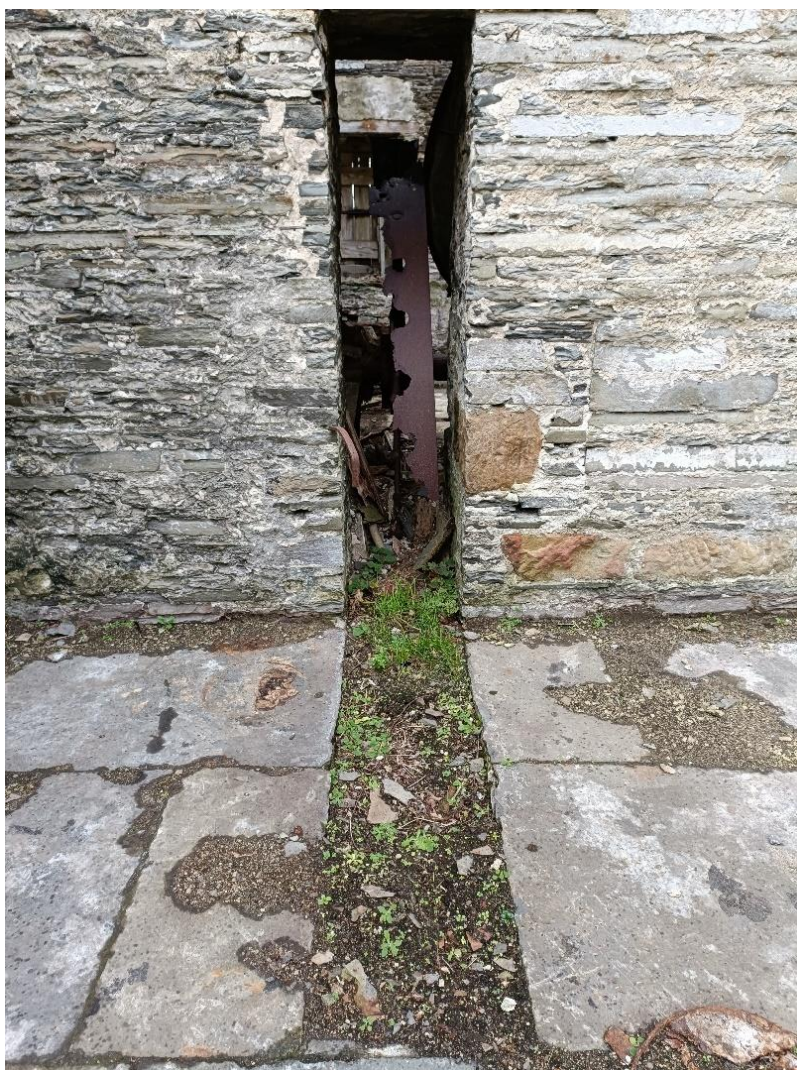


Figure 35: Driveshaft and wheel located in rear wall of mill building

Wider Landscape

The lade ran from a small mill pond south-west of the mill via an underground channel and then into a trough lined with flagstones. The lade then ran into a wooden trough, carried on dry stone piers, into the wheel-house (Calder Hill, 2010) (see Figure 36). The lade and the remains of the stone lined channel can still be seen at the south-western perimeter of the site (see Figure 37). The perimeter of the site is partially surrounded by a rubble wall (see Figures 38).



Figure 36: Remains of the wheel-house wall where a wooden trough ran water from the lade into the mill wheel.



Figure 37: Remains of the stone lined lade



Figure 38: Boundary wall to rear of slaughter-house

7.0 Phased Building Analysis and Documentary Research

Cartographic and written evidence suggests that there were mill buildings within the Parish of Olrick well before 1818. Reference is made by the Reverend Mr George MacKenzie, in the 1794 Old Statistical Account, to James Traill already having “lately got erected a lint-mill, a barley-mill, and corn-mill of the best construction, and has also a threshing machine, all excepting the lint-mill, moved by one wheel, and driven by the same stream”. The 1802 Land Tax Rolls record that James Traill was in possession of, and being taxed on, “Miln Croft of Stangergill” (Scotland’s Places Land Tax Rolls for Caithness Volume 2: E106/8/2/11) which also provides tangible evidence for the existence of a mill in the Stannergill area prior to 1818.

It is believed that the earliest part of the extant building was built in 1818 or 1819 and comprised living accommodation, a central double kiln, grain stores and a mill. The mill was powered by a large covered 16-foot water wheel on the building’s eastern gable that was fed by a lade diverted via a mill pond and sluices from the nearby Stannergill Burn (Howdle, 2019). The earliest range of buildings were constructed with coursed Caithness rubble with large tooled red sandstone quoins and margins. The red sandstone detailing can clearly be seen on the front and rear elevations of the east west range and there is fragmentary evidence of re-used stones within walls of outbuildings to the rear of the front range. Records relating to the construction of this part of the mill have not been identified and it is not until 1851 that any pertinent record survive for the mill building.

The 1851 census records that William Manson (50), his wife Barbara and their three children are residents of Mill Bank, Olrig, Castletown. William’s occupation was recorded on the census as “Miller and Farmer of 2 acres”. The 1855 Valuation Rolls (VR009400001-/64, Caithness County) record that George Traill Esq (James’s son) was the proprietor of the “Mill and Kill (*kiln*) at Castletown” although it does not record a house or a tenant at the address.

A newspaper article in the *John O’ Groat Journal* on the 5 January 1860 records that a fire, which “broke out in the Meal Mill at Castlehill” after the miller had “gone to supper”, “made such progress that the fine mill and kiln were nearly destroyed, together with a quantity of grain and meal”. The census for 1861 indicates that William (60) Miller, Barbara and their children were still living at “Mill Bank” and therefore must have witnessed this potentially devastating fire.

No evidence of the fire is apparent in the fabric of the building today, however an advert from the *Dundee, Perth and Cupar Advertiser* of the 15 March 1861 provides detail which may elucidate some of the alterations that are seen in the building fabric of this early range of buildings.

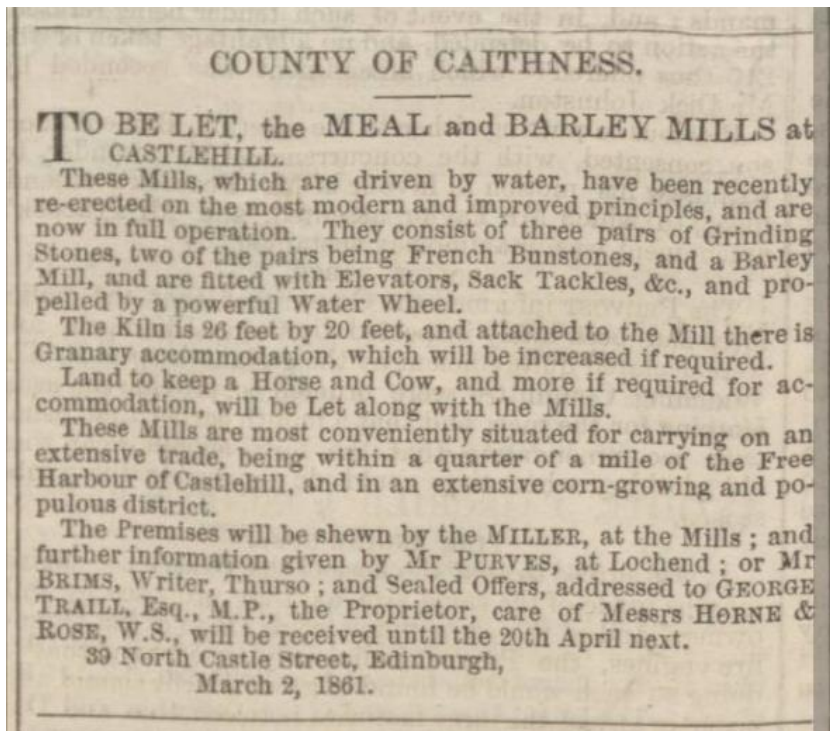


Figure 39: Advert from *Dundee, Perth and Cupar Advertiser* 15 March 1861

The advert indicates that the “meal mill and barley mills at Castlehill are to be let” and described the mills as having been “recently re-erected on the most modern and improved principles, and are now in full operation” (see Figure 39). Further details provide information on the mill buildings and their fixtures and fittings. It would seem likely that whilst the fire did not destroy the original stone structure it would have gutted much of the interior of the mill and kiln buildings. With the interior cleared new “modern” features could have been easily installed into the existing building envelope. The stone transverse walls between Grain Store 1 and the kiln and between the kiln and the mill, were probably built to compartmentalise the building as a fire safety feature. Within the wall between Grain Store 1 and the kiln are two blocked doors which could have been altered as part of the 1860 remodelling to further deter the spread of fire. One of the openings today is partially obscured by the structure formed with large Caithness flagstones in Grain Store 1 which was a later insertion (see Figure 40).



Figure 40: Western wall of Grain Store 1 showing blocked door openings with the right hand side one being partial obscured by the later Caithness Flagstone structure

The chutes attached to the northern elevation were later additions into the earlier structure, as clearly evidenced by the remains of red sandstone dressings from two earlier window openings and a door on chute 1 (there are windows on the rear elevation that reflect what would have been on the front elevation too) and the infilled windows and building break evident at the insertion point of chute 2 (see Figures 41 and 42).



Figure 41: Building break left by insertion of Chute 1 into Drying Kiln 1 with evidence of red sandstone margins from previous windows



Figure 42: Building break left by insertion of Chute 2 into Drying Kiln 1 with evidence of red sandstone margins from previous windows

The line created by utilising the windows and door opening would have necessitated far less intervention to remove stone than inserting an opening into a complete wall. The breaks created in the northern wall for the chutes would also have weakened the stability of the existing structure and perhaps necessitated the insertion of the wall ties which are still seen on the elevation today. The inclusion of details about the elevators and sack tackles in the 1861 advertisement (see Figure 39 above) may well indicate that these were all new features and part of the “most modern and improved principles” of the “re-erected” buildings. A number of new openings and blocked older windows may also date to these alterations taking place. A smaller ground floor opening (now blocked) in the kiln wall was added. The row of blocked windows (see Figure 42) were presumably due partly to a reconfiguration of the mill building and to add rigidity to compensate for the new chute opening. The doorway below the blocked windows was left as it would have been the only access into the mill building from this elevation. In an early photograph of this range (see Figure 43) the chutes appear to be constructed of vertically boarded timber with slate roofs and ridge tiles, whereas in John Hume’s photographic survey of the building in the 1970’s the chute walls and roof appear to be covered with corrugated iron (see Figure 44), a fact confirmed by M Calder in 2019 (Howdle, 2019). These features can be seen in the historic photograph of the mill below and therefore this photo must post date the 1860’s alterations (Figure 36). The historic photo also indicates that there is a structure with a gabled roof in the location of the “slaughter-house” and a pitched roof over the wheel-house. It seems highly likely that any alterations to the Mill buildings would have been undertaken by William Ross, a millwright residing in Castletown. William Ross is spoken of in a letter which appeared in the *John O’ Groat Journal* on the 16 June 1859 as “Of late years none in this country has made more fame and popularity in the construction of mills both in this county as well as in Ross, Sutherland and Orkney, than has Mr William Ross, millwright, Castletown....As a millwright his practice has been large and varied”.



Figure 43: Historic photograph of Mill building and Mill workers



Figure 44: Northern elevation from John Hume Survey (Hume, 1974)

The 1865 Valuation Rolls (Scotland's People VR009400011-/64) recorded that the "Mill, Kilns and Granaries of Castlehill" still fell under the proprietorship of George Traill of Ratter MP but do not provide any evidence of who the lessee was.

The 1872 first edition Ordnance Survey map provides the first cartographic evidence of the mill buildings and their plan form. The map shows the "Old Corn Mill" as an L shaped northern range of buildings with a smaller structure attached to the eastern gable (see Figure 45). A lade fed from a mill pond with water diverted from Stannergill Burn is also shown. The map also depicts a few small outbuildings within the surrounding area. The L-shaped return on the western end of the building is in the same location as the extant "slaughterhouse" building, proving that a building stood in this location by 1872 (see Figure 46). As the wheel-house, slaughterhouse and hen house do not have the distinctive red sandstone dressings these buildings must have been constructed at some point after the early range was built in c.1818 but before the 1872 map and photograph in figure 43 was taken and may even have formed part of the 1860's alterations.

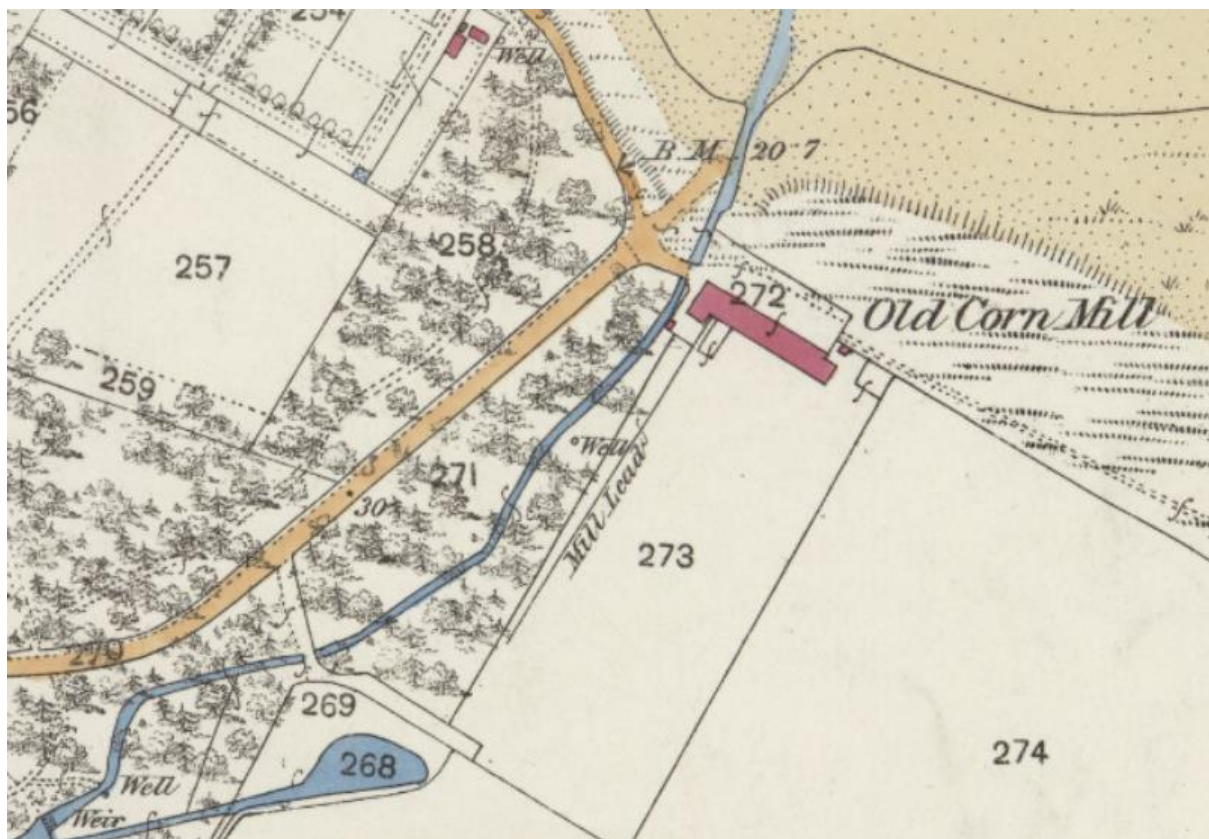


Figure 45: Extract from the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Caithness, VL10 (Orig) 25 inch to one mill surveyed 1872 (Courtesy of National Library of Scotland Map Collection)

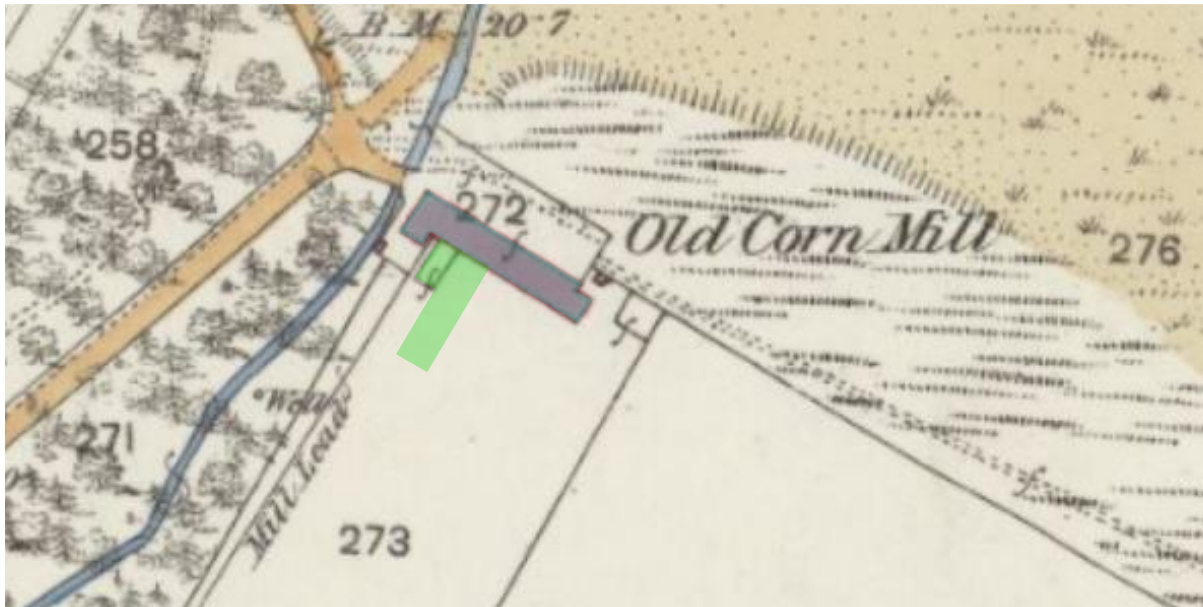


Figure 46: 1872 Ordnance Survey Map annotated to show the current plan of the building superimposed on to the map. The extant front range (grey) fits directly over the top of the early range shown on the map.

By the 1874 Valuation Rolls (Scotland's People VR009400015-/298 Caithness County), following George Traill's death in 1871, the entry for "Meal Mill of Castlehill" records that the building is under the ownership of the "Trustees of the Late George Traill Esq. of Ratter with James Christie Traill Esq. of London now recorded as the "Occupier" but again gives no hint as to a tenant or miller for the building.

Despite George Traill's passing the census returns indicate that William and Barbara Manson and their children remain at "Mill Bank" up to and including the 1881 census with William's occupation always being given as "Miller". William Manson passed away on the 25th July 1881 aged 80, and the family gravestone located in Dunnet Cemetery describes William as "Miller, Castletown".

In the late 1880's the mill was one of a number of buildings leased to William Purves. After William Purves took on the mill building a newspaper advertisement appeared in the *Caithness Courier* on the 29 June 1888 requiring estimates from contractors for "proposed additions to Castlehill Meal Mill" (see Figure 47).

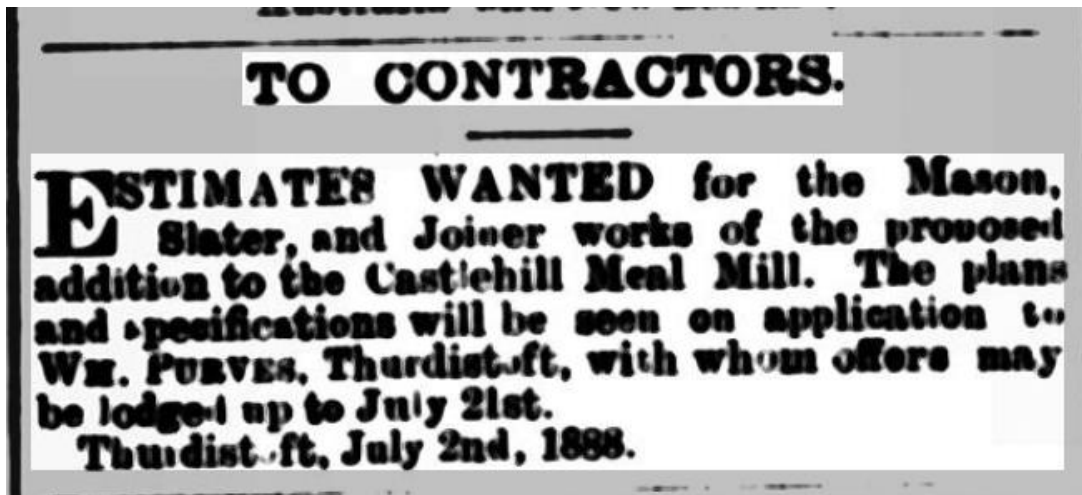


Figure 47: Advertisement from *Caithness Courier* 29 June 1888

In an article in the same paper from the 21 September 1888, under the heading “Improvements in Castletown”, the correspondent relates that “Mr William Purves has arranged to have Castlehill meal mill, which he has leased, made adequate to the wants of the place, and we have no doubt of his making a complete job”. The proposed addition to the mill range must have been the rear north south range which brought the addition of a further kiln, grain stores and a gabled chute/sack hoist. The extension whilst still constructed in Caithness rubble lacks the red sandstone quoins and margins of the earlier range and is roofed in Welsh slate and as such makes it easily distinguishable. Ridge tiles found in the debris on site which match those seen on the 1888 range are stamped Lillie Hill Dunfermline (see Figure 48).



Figure 48: Example of ridge tile from 1888 range

The Lillie Hill Fireclay Works began trading in 1867 and were based in Townhill, Dunfermline, Fife where they manufactured an extensive range of products for the building trade which were sold by agents, including T Corston in Oban (<https://www.scottishbrickhistory.co.uk/lilliehill-fire-clay-works-dunfermline-fife/>). The Millwright William Ross was still resident in Castletown at this time and was probably also involved with the additions to the mill building.

During the 1890's, following the addition of the new rear range, newspaper advertisements frequently appear for the manure and animal feed business at "Castlehill Meal Mills being run by "W.M Purves, Lessee ".

Despite the change in tenancy at the mill the 1891 census records that "Donald Manson (43) Miller" is still living at "The Mill". The 1895 Valuation Roll records (Scotland's People VR0094/00034-/115) confirm that the Proprietor of the Meal Mill was James C Traill and that the tenant was William Purves, and under the section "Inhabitant Occupier not rated" "Donald Manson, Miller" finally appears. By the 1901 census returns Donald Manson (miller) and his sister Jane were still resident at "Mill House".

The 1905 edition of the Ordnance Survey map (see Figure 49) shows the rear range that had been added to the earlier mill range. Also shown are small additional extensions to the hen house (on the eastern gable of the 1818 range) and the sack hoists on the northern façade of the original range.



Figure 49: Extract from 1905 Ordnance Survey Map Caithness, VL10 (Orig) 25 inch to one mill surveyed 1903 (Courtesy of National Library of Scotland Map Collection)

The 1905 map was also the first time that an infill extension in the re-entrant between the western gable of the 1880's extension and the 1818 range was shown. Building scars on the rear wall of the 1818 range (see Figure 50) indicate that there have been at least two phases of extension in this location, which must both have been built after the 1872 Ordnance Survey map but prior to the 1905.



Figure 50: Rear elevation of c.1818 range from within the Sawmill extension

The building scars indicate that there was a first narrow gabled single storey extension which extended to the edge of the c.1818 range but did not extend all the way across to the rear wall of the 1880's range. A shadow in the stonework is left where the eastern wall of this building once stood. This extension respected the original 1818 window openings and suggests that the original extension pre-dates the 1888 range (and may have been part of the 1860 works), and then was altered to meet the 1888 range as part of that range's construction. The building scars show that a monopitch extension replaced the gabled structure and this took in the whole of the area between the side wall of the 1880's range and the rear wall of the 1818 range. Coursed recesses for rafters for the monopitch roof are evident on the rear western elevation of the 1880's range. There is no evidence of disturbance in the surrounding stonework which indicates that the roof was contemporary with the building of the 1888 range. Photographs from John Hume's survey in 1974 (Canmore <https://canmore.org.uk/site/8825/castletown-mill>) shows the monopitch extension roofed in corrugated iron although it was presumably roofed in Welsh slate originally. The rear (southern) wall of this monopitch structure remains and an arched entrance (now blocked) in this wall (see Figure 51) has similar detailing to one on the eastern wall of the 1888 range. The padstone for this arched opening and the end of the southern wall of the sawmill extension are well keyed into the rear wall of the 1888 range and have similar skew stones to the 1888 range, which indicates that this was all part of William Purves additions.

The irregular use of red sandstone blocks in the end of the southern wall of the sawmill extension indicate reuse rather than being part of the original c.1818 construction phase. The disorderly edges to the wide opening in the western wall of this range also indicative that this was a later insertion rather than part of a planned structure, and is shown as a new opening on plans proposed for the building in 1932 (see below).



Figure 51: Rear (southern) wall of the Sawmill

In 1911 William Purves retired due to ill health and he transferred his business interests to his long-time clerk and manager, Benjamin Calder (*John O' Groat Journal* 3 March 1911). The 1911 census showed that Benjamin Calder and his family lived at Clett Cottage whilst Donald Manson, then 64 but still recorded as a "Meal Miller" and his sister Jane (71) still appeared to be living at the mill. The Manson family have at this point lived and worked at the mill since the 1850s despite changes in ownership, lessee and product manufacture at the mill.

Parts of the estate held by the Traills were put up for auction on the 26 November 1913 and included the lands at Castlehill and East Murkle. The Estate was set to be sold as a whole lot but after little interest was shown, the properties were split into individual lots. Castlehill Meal Mill was lot 9 and was described in the sale particulars as "*A large substantial Mill, with water wheel and rights, and modern machinery; and also Thrashing Mill attached, including Mill Croft of 2 ½ acres. Lease expires Whitsunday 1914. Rent, £30, 1s*" (Calder Hill, 2010). According to a report in the *Aberdeen Press and Journal* the following day, Benjamin Calder purchased the Mill for £550. The 1921 Valuation Roll (VR009400043-/218, Caithness County) gives Benjamin Calder as the owner and proprietor of the "Meal Mill and Manure Store, Castlehill". The 1921 census records that Benjamin, his wife Janet, and three of their children are resident at "The Mills, Castletown", and both Benjamin

and his son, George (27) are described as “millers”. Following Benjamin’s death his son moved into the Mill House after returning from the First World War and was the last miller to work at Castletown Mill (Calder Hill, 2010). The Valuation Rolls for the late 1920’s record the Trustees of Benjamin Calder and “Benjamin Calder & Sons” were still in possession of the “Meal Mill and Manure Store at Castletown”. However, business started to decline, and the building finally stopped trading as a mill in 1930 when the business was declared bankrupt (Calder Hill, 2010). William Mackenzie, a local farmer and butcher, purchased the mill buildings and appeared in the 1930 Valuation Roll (Scotland’s People VR 009400045-/628 Caithness County) as the proprietor of “Meal Mill and Manure Store, Castle Hill”. For the first time the millers house gets a separate entry in the Valuation Rolls and is recorded as being owned by William Mackenzie but tenanted by Geo. Calder, Miller.

When William MacKenzie took over ownership of the mill he prepared to make changes which would allow him to run his butchery business from the existing buildings. Two sets of plans were drawn up for possible alterations to form a slaughterhouse in the building at the north western end of the earlier range. Both sets of plans show the partial re-use of an existing building. The 1930 plans show the northern end of the building being kept and alterations to alter or form openings to the side and southern end of the building (red indicates proposed changes) (see Figure 52). The 1932 plans show the northern doorway being “blocked up” and the building raised with two windows being inserted above the blocked doorway (see Figure 53). The height of the extant building was not altered and two blocked windows in the northern wall and altered window openings on the western side indicate that the existing building was altered with an amalgamation of both sets of plans. The site plan for the 1932 design also shows that the “sawmill” building was already in existence and that a new opening was proposed in the western wall of this building, which is still in evidence today (see above).

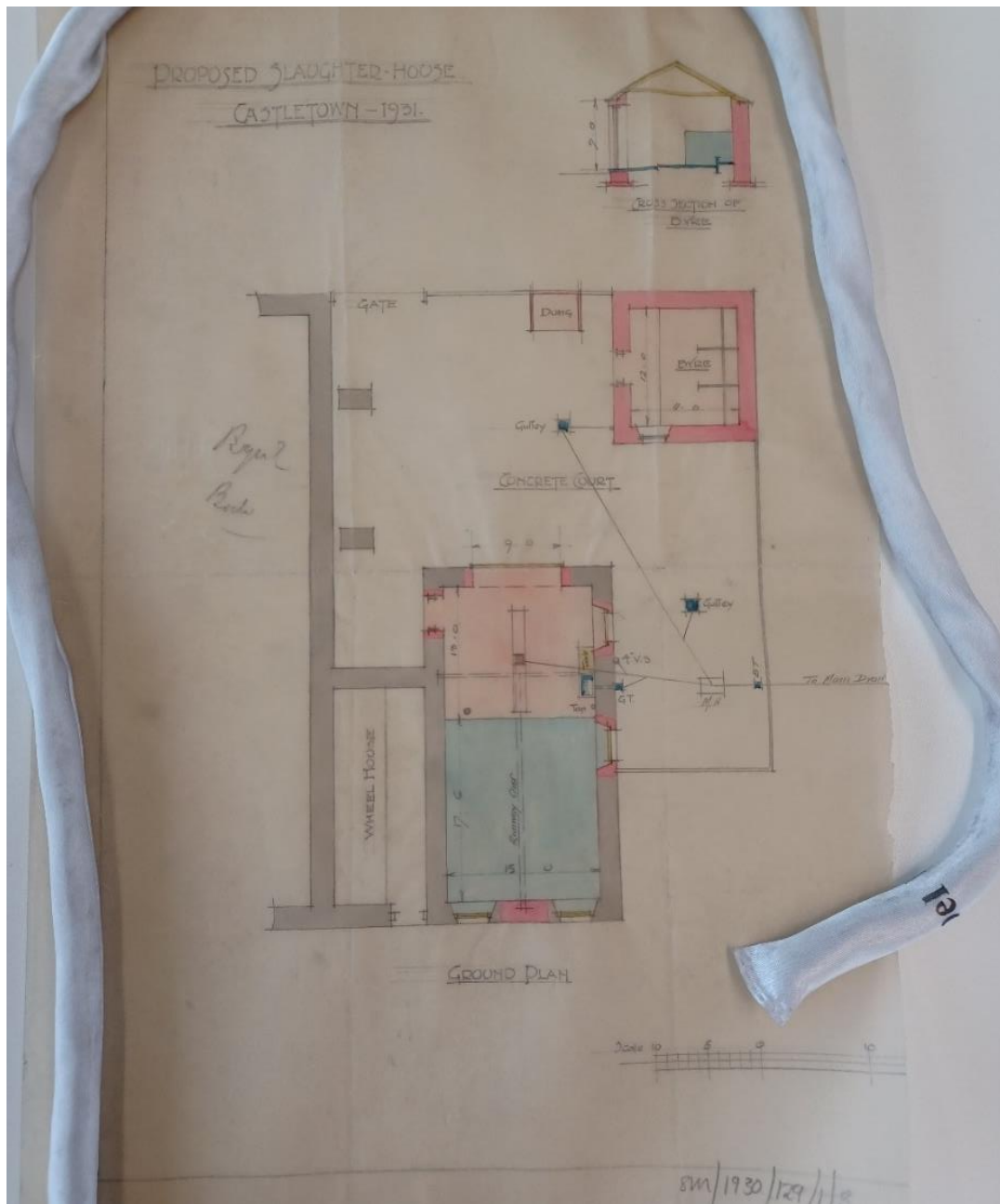


Figure 52: Plan from 1930 for “Proposed slaughterhouse Castletown” (North Highland Archive ref: C/SM/1930/129).

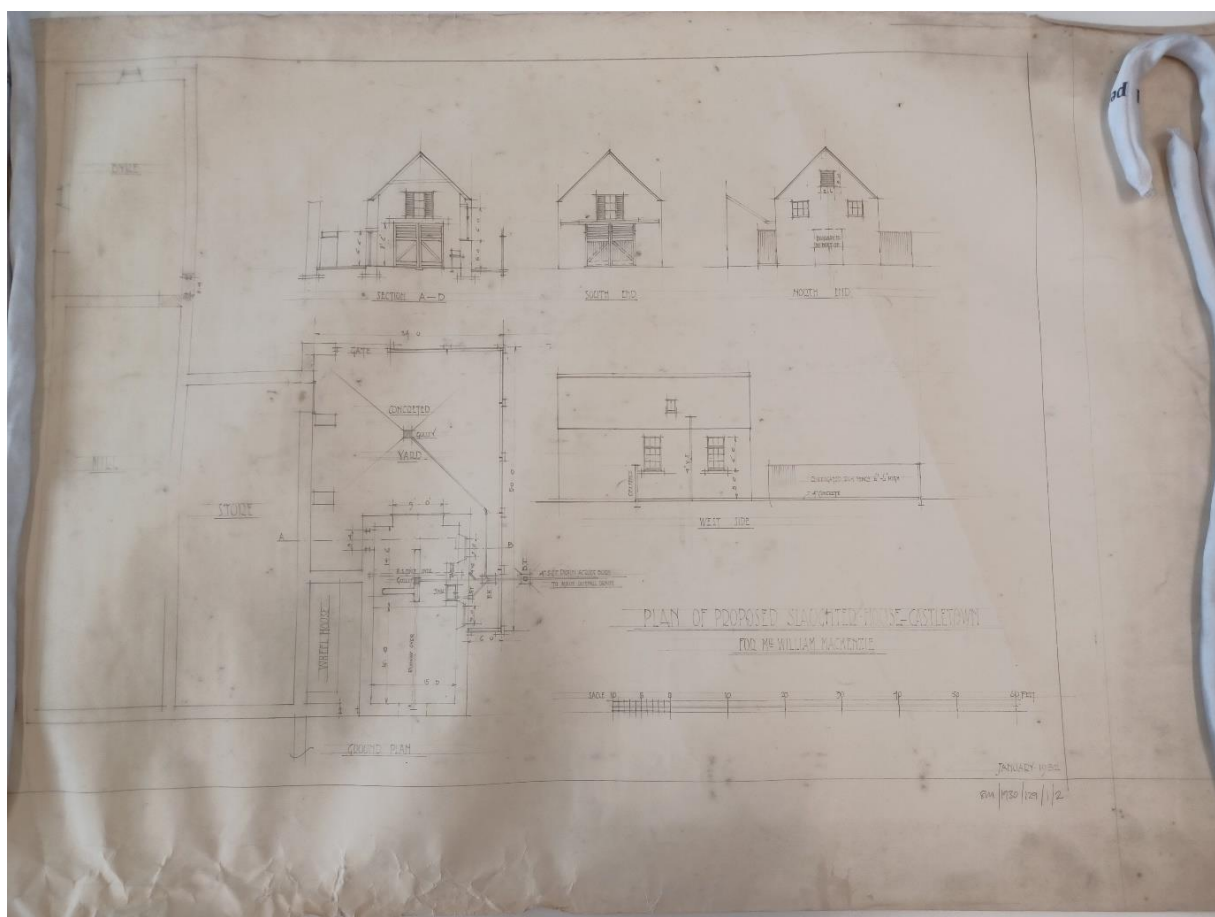


Figure 53: "Plan of proposed slaughterhouse Castletown for Mr William Mackenzie January 1932 ((North Highland Archive ref: C/SM/1930/129)

The 1935 and 1936 Valuations Roll (Scotland's People VR 009400047-/356 Caithness County) reflects the changes that took place under Mackenzie's occupation. The buildings were listed as all being owned by William Mackenzie (Flesher) but the Meal Mill is vacant whilst the slaughterhouse and agricultural store were being used by Mackenzie and the Mill House was tenanted by Geddes Calder (shepherd). With the onset of the Second World War the fortunes of the mill changed, the Valuation Rolls from 1940 (Scotland's People VR 009400049-/94 Caithness County) indicated that the Meal Mill and Slaughterhouse were no longer in use although Geddes Calder still rented the house. In the 1941 and 1942 Valuation Rolls (Scotland's People VR 00049-/384 and /674) William Mackenzie still retained ownership of the buildings but the Air Ministry were its tenants. The house is recorded as being owned by William Mackenzie but is tenanted by T Morrison (retired) living in the house in 1941, and John Morrison (shepherd) living there in 1942.

The use of the mill buildings by the RAF during WWII saw the addition of a range of laundry buildings at the eastern edge of the site (now demolished). The RAF are believed to have adapted the mill complex (Calder Hill, 2010) but this is difficult to discern within the surviving fabric today. It may be that many of the small alterations, such as the insertion or alteration of window openings, may well have taken place at this time, see for example W13, W16 and W21. The 1967 Ordnance Survey map indicates that a structure had been added to the eastern elevation of the 1888 range. This has since

been demolished, however a roof and wall scar can still be seen from this (see Figure 27 above). The 1940s laundry buildings to the eastern perimeter of the site are also shown on the 1967 OS map.

Following the end of WWII most of the buildings fell into disrepair. Much of the mill's machinery was removed including the water wheel and the filling in of the wheel pit in the late 1930's (Calder Hill 2010). The Mill House was lived in until the 1960's and a porch was added to the mill owner's house. The porch is clearly visible In John Hume's later photographic survey of the building and a scar on the building indicates the position of the porch seen in these 1974 photographs. Alice Calder Hill mentions that a small wooden lean to porch was added sometime earlier before the replacement breeze block porch seen in later photographs (see Figure 54). Photographs taken by John Hume in 1974 show the mill in a poor state of repair and notes made with these photographs indicate that the machinery had all been removed by this date.



Figure 54: Photograph from John Hume's Survey 1974 showing northern elevation with 20th century porch

In 1984 the mill was recognised for its significance and designated Category B. It was placed on the BARR and by 1991 it was recorded as redundant and derelict, a year later it was reported that some of the slates had been removed from the roof without consent.

In 2020 Dunnet Bay Distillers purchased the building to convert into a new distillery and associated visitor's centre.

The phasing of Castletown Mill can be split into three main phases with the original range being built in the early 19th century (c.1818) then alterations and additions made in the 1860's and then the final phase of alterations are the addition of the 1888 range (see Figure 55). Alterations made to the buildings in the 20th century are less easily defined Many of the minor alterations including the

alterations to the “slaughter-house” building and alterations to window openings and changes to roofing materials are difficult to discern dates for with certainty due to the lack of datable evidence.

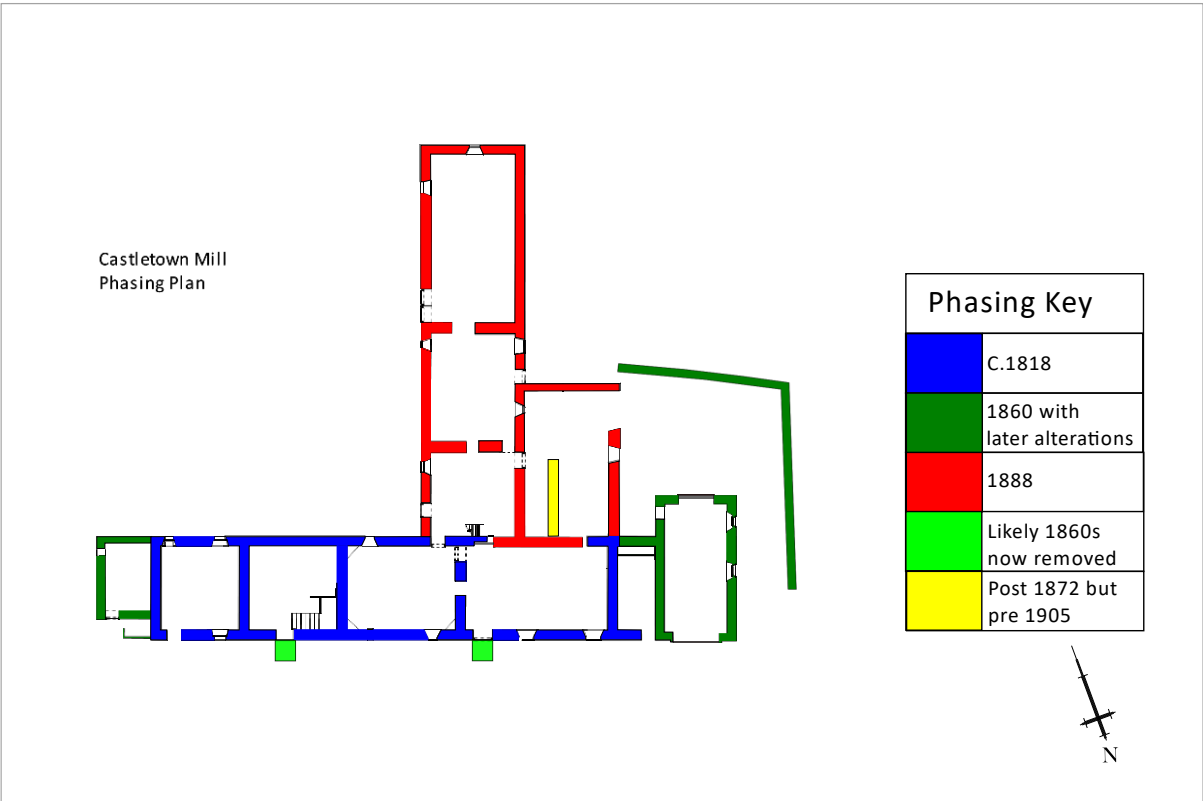


Figure 55: Phasing plan

8.0 Conclusions

The documentary evidence, map regression and building survey suggest that the earliest original range of buildings which ran east to west at the northern end of the site has gone through great change since its original construction.

Whilst the decision to build the existing mill at Castletown can confidently be attributed to James Traill the lack of early cartographic or documentary evidence means that the exact date of construction is not easily confirmed. Despite references to earlier mill buildings being built in the area it appears that the earliest buildings at Castletown Mill were a single phase construction from the early 19th century. The buildings were built in response to the demand created by James Traill's "improvements" in the surrounding agricultural landscape. Evidence from a date stone, newspaper articles of 1888 and even 1860's provide a broad outline of phasing but a more refined phasing is difficult to establish due to the use of local rubble stone and lack of documentary evidence. Changes in ownership or lessee appear to have been the main catalyst for change to the building.

The original c.1818 range was followed by alterations and additions after a fire in 1860. As milling practices and production changed, and with a new lessee the later southern range was added in 1888 to meet growing commercial demand and to allow the building to function to full capacity. Within decades a change in demand saw the buildings uses decline and by the 20th century the building was no longer of commercial value as a mill. With the onset of World War II for a short period of time the building was once more used but quickly fell into disuse again.

9.0 Bibliography

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10.0 Appendices

Appendix 1: Listed Building Description

CASTLETOWN MILL

LB14012

Status: Designated

Jump To:

[Documents](#)
[Summary](#)
[Description](#)
[Statement](#)
[References](#)
[About](#)
[Images](#)

Documents

There are no additional online documents for this record.

Summary

Category B	Local Authority Highland	NGR ND 20135 68103
Date Added 28/11/1984	Planning Authority Highland	Coordinates 320135, 968103
	Parish Olig	

Description

Dated 1818 or 1819. Large 3-storey T-plan rubble mill with tooled rubble dressings. Wide symmetrical north elevation with centre kiln block flanked by 3-bays either side and by projecting, gabled chutes. Near centre 3-storey, 6-bay wing projects at south, with further gabled chute. Mainly symmetrical fenestration; 1st floor entrance in south gable with access by forestair; east and west gables crowstepped; single ridge stack; Welsh and Caithness slate roofs. Interior; all machinery and internal overshot wheel removed.

Statement of Special Interest

Dated west gable apex finial; figure worn.

References

Bibliography

No Bibliography entries for this designation

Appendix 2: Historic Environment Record

MHG1876 - Castletown Mill

Summary

No summary available.

Type and Period (1)

- GRAIN MILL (Post Medieval - 1560 AD to 1900 AD)

Protected Status

- Listed Building (B) 14012: Castletown Mill

Full Description

- ND26NW 22 20135 68103

(Location cited as ND 202 681). Corn Mill, Castletown, early to mid 19th century. A massive three-storey building with a central double kiln. The internal overshot wheel now, like the other machinery, removed, was about 6ft (1.83m) wide by 16ft (4.88m) diameter.
J R Hume 1977.

The only other double mill known is the Ayre Mill in Kirkwall, Orkney, where the mills are in the middle, with flanking kilns. There, as here, all the machinery has been removed.
Information from John Hume, Glasgow, 12 October 1999.

- **Sources/Archives (0)**

Location

Grid reference	Centred ND 2013 6810 (40m by 40m) (Buffered by site type)
Map sheet	ND26NW
Civil Parish	OLRIG
Geographical Area	CAITHNESS

Finds (0)

Related Monuments/Buildings (1)

- Parent of: Proposed Site of Slaughterhouse, Castletown Mill (Monument) (MHG37024)

MHG37024 - Proposed Site of Slaughterhouse, Castletown Mill

Summary

No summary available.

Type and Period (1)

- ABATTOIR (Undated)

Protected Status

- None recorded

Images (0)

Documents (0)

Full Description

Created automatically by NMRS Register Utility
User: Admin, Date: Wed 13 Oct 2004

Sources/Archives (0)

Appendix 3: Photographic Survey

Table of Photographs

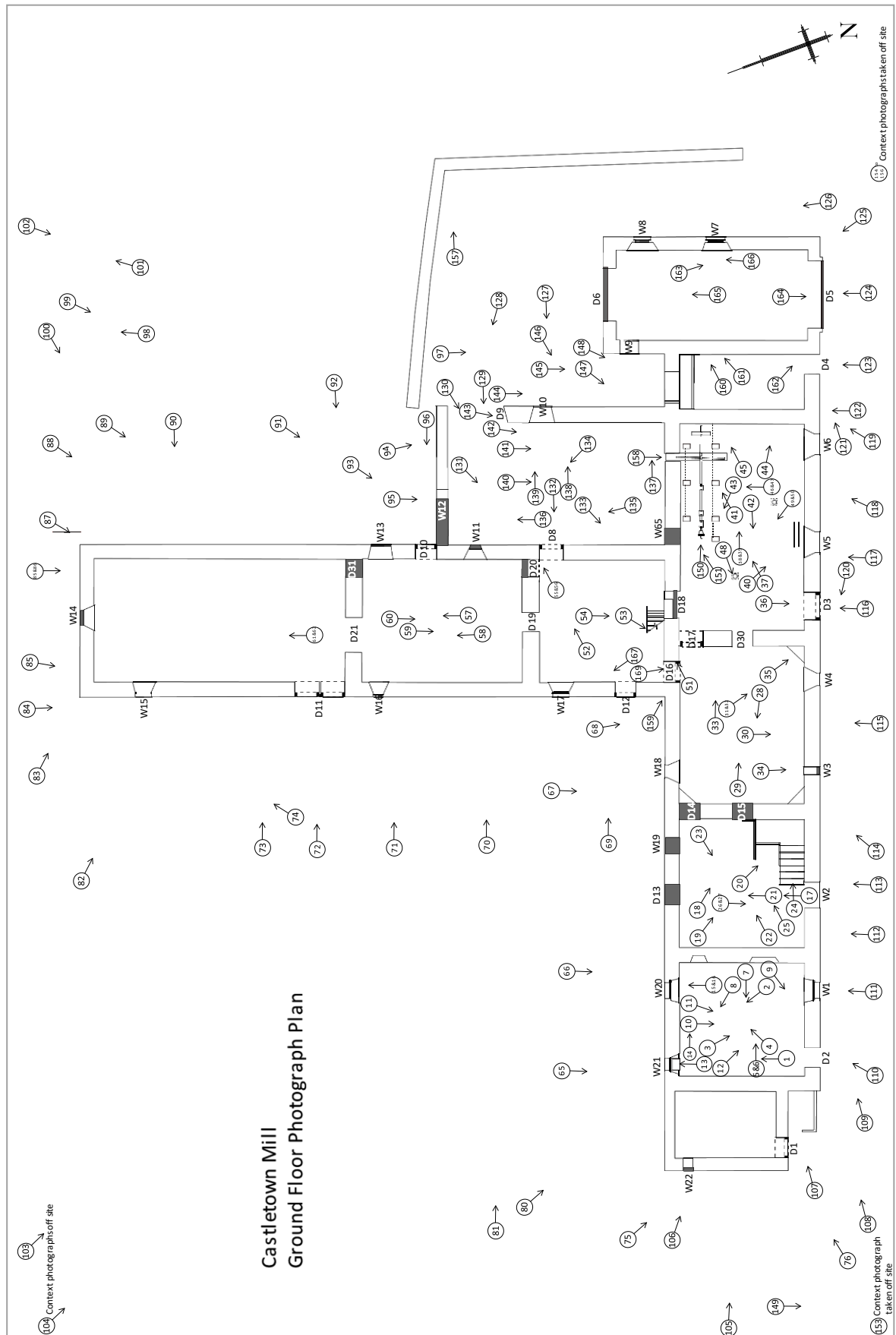
Photograph No	Description	Facing	Scale
01	Miller's House Interior	SW	1x2m
02	Miller's House Interior	S	1x2m
03	Miller's House Interior	N	1x2m
04	Miller's House Interior	W	1x2m
05	Miller's House Interior Fireplaces	NW	1x2m
06	Miller's House Interior range	NW	1x2m + 1x1m
07	Miller's House Interior	SE	1x2m
08	Miller's House Interior	S	1x2m
09	Miller's House Interior	E	
10	Miller's House Interior	NE	1x2m
11	Miller's House Interior	NE	
12	Miller's House Interior	N	1x2m
13	Miller's House Interior detail of sink	SW	1x1m
14	Miller's House Interior	NW	1x2m
15	Miller's House Interior detail of W20 & W40	SW	1x1m
16	Miller's House Interior detail of W20	SW	1x1m
17	Grain Store 1	SW	1x2m
18	Grain Store 1 detail of blocked D14 and D15 and steps	N	1x2m
19	Grain Store 1 detail of steps and screen	N	1x2m
20	Grain Store 1 detail of steps	N	1x2m
21	Grain Store 1 detail of blocked D13 & W19 and W39	SW	1x2m
22	Grain Store 1	W	1x2m
23	Grain Store 1	E	1x2m
24	Grain Store 1 detail of steps	NW	1x1m
25	Grain Store 1	W	
26	Grain Store 1	NE	1x1m
27	Grain Store 1	NE	1x2m
28	Drying Kiln	SE	1x2m
29	Drying Kiln detail of D17, D29 and 30	NW	1x2m
30	Drying Kiln	NE	
31	Drying Kiln detail of D30 and W4	N	1x2m
32	Drying Kiln detail of W4	N	1x2m
33	Drying Kiln	NW	
34	Drying Kiln detail of W3	NE	1x2m
35	Drying Kiln	N	1x2m

Photograph No	Description	Facing	Scale
36	Mill detail of D3	NE	1x2m
37	Mill remains of mill machinery	W	1x2m
38	Mill view northwest towards infilled pit	NW	-
39	Mill	NW	1x2m
40	Mill detail of timber frame, W5 and shadow of former staircase	N	1x2m
41	Mill remains of mill machinery	W	
42	Mill	SE	1x2m
43	Mill detail of doors D30 and D17 and cast iron column	SE	1x2m
44	Mill	NW	1x2m
45	Mill view of drive shaft and wheel	W	
46	Mill view of drive shaft and wheel	SW	1x2m + 1x1m
47	Mill view of machinery workings	SW	1x2m
48	Mill detail of decorative cast iron column	E	
49	Mill view of upper floors	S	
50	Mill	S	
51	Detail of graffiti on door jamb of D16	W	1x20cm
52	Grain Store 2	W	
53	Grain Store 2	E	
54	Grain Store 2 view of stairs and blocked door D18	NE	1x2m
55	Grain Store 2 detail of door D8	W	
56	Grain Store 2 detail of door D8	W	
57	Drying Kiln 2 detail showing floor fixings and channels, D21 and blocked D31	SW	
58	Drying Kiln 2 view of remains of drying floor	SW	
59	Drying Kiln 2	NE	
60	Drying Kiln 2	NE	
61	Grain Store 3 view showing plain cast iron columns	SW	
62	Grain Store 3 view showing plain cast iron columns	SW	
63	Grain Store 4 view from top of stairs into second floor roof void	SW	
64	Grain Store 4 view from top of stairs	SW	
65	Rear elevation (southern) c.1818 range	NE	
66	Rear elevation (southern) c.1818 range	NE	
67	Rear elevation (southern) c.1818 range	NE	
68	Rear elevation (southern) c.1818 range	N	
69	Eastern Elevation 1888 range	NW	
70	Eastern Elevation 1888 range	NW	
71	Eastern Elevation 1888 range	NW	
72	Eastern Elevation 1888 range	NW	
73	Eastern Elevation 1888 range	NW	

Photograph No	Description	Facing	Scale
74	Eastern Elevation 1888 range	W	
75	Hen House c.1818 range	N	1x2m
76	Hen House and coal store c.1818 range	W	1x2m
77	Grain Store 5 view towards “giral”	NE	
78	Grain Store 5 view of “office area”	S	
79	Grain Store 5 view of “giral” and plain cast iron column	NE	
80	Rear elevation (southern) c.1818 range and Hen House	N	
81	Eastern Elevation 1888 range (context)	NW	
82	Eastern Elevation 1888 range	N	
83	Eastern Elevation and southern gable 1888 range	N	
84	Southern Gable 1888 range and rear (eastern) Elevation c.1818 range	NE	
85	First Floor door and window Southern Gable 1888 range	NE	
86	Southern and western elevation 1888 range	NE	
87	Western Elevation 1888 range	E	
88	Western Elevation 1888 range	E	
89	Western Elevation 1888 range	E	
90	Western Elevation 1888 range	SE	
91	Western Elevation 1888 range , sawmill and c.1818 rear range	E	
92	Western Elevation 1888 range	SE	
93	Western Elevation 1888 range, sawmill and c.1818 rear range	E	
94	Western Elevation 1888 range, sawmill and c.1818 rear range	NE	
95	Western Elevation 1888 range, sawmill and c.1818 rear range	NE	
96	Western Elevation 1888 range, sawmill and c.1818 rear range	SE	
97	Slaughterhouse, wheel-house and rear of c.1818 range	N	
98	Mill Lade and Stannergill Burn	SW	
99	Western Elevation 1888 range, sawmill and c.1818 rear range	NE	
100	Western Elevation 1888 range, sawmill and c.1818 rear range	E	
101	Mill Lade and Stannergill Burn	SW	
102	Stone lined mill lade	NE	
103	Eastern Elevation 1888 range and rear elevation of c.1818 range (context)	N	
104	Eastern Elevation 1888 range and rear elevation of c.1818 range (context)	N	
105	Eastern elevations	NW	
106	Hen House	N	
107	Hen House and coal store	W	
108	Northern elevation c.1818 range	W	
109	Northern elevation c.1818 range	W	
110	Northern elevation c.1818 range	SW	
111	Northern elevation c.1818 range	SW	

Photograph No	Description	Facing	Scale
112	Northern elevation c.1818 range	SW	
113	Northern elevation c.1818 range	SW	
114	Northern elevation c.1818 range	W	
115	Northern elevation c.1818 range	SW	
116	Northern elevation c.1818 range	SW	
117	Northern elevation c.1818 range	SW	
118	Northern elevation c.1818 range	SW	
119	Northern elevation c.1818 range	SW	
120	Northern elevation c.1818 range	S	
121	Northern elevation c.1818 range	SW	
122	Northern elevation c.1818 range	SW	
123	Northern elevation c.1818 range	SW	
124	Northern elevation c.1818 range	SW	
125	Northern elevation c.1818 range	S	
126	Northern elevation c.1818 range	S	
127	Sawmill and western elevation 1888 range	SE	
128	Sawmill and western elevation 1888 range	S	
129	Sawmill and western elevation 1888 range	SE	
130	Sawmill and western elevation 1888 range	E	
131	Sawmill and western elevation 1888 range with door D8 and blocked windows W11 and W65	E	
132	Sawmill – door D8	SE	
133	Sawmill	SE	
134	Sawmill	S	
135	Sawmill	SW	
136	Sawmill	SW	
137	Sawmill	NW	
138	Sawmill	NW	
139	Sawmill	NW	
140	Sawmill details of former extensions, walls and roof	NE	
141	Sawmill details of former extensions, walls and roof	NE	
142	Sawmill details of former extensions, walls and roof	NE	
143	Sawmill details of later door insertion D9	NE	
144	Sawmill details of later door insertion D9	NE	
145	Slaughterhouse and wheel-house	N	
146	Corner of slaughterhouse and view of junction of 1888 and 1818 ranges	E	
147	Wheel-house	NE	
148	Wheel-house	NE	
149	Mill Stones detail		

Photograph No	Description	Facing	Scale
150	Drive shaft and wheel in Mill	W	
151	Drive shaft and wheel in Mill	SW	
152	Column and blocked windows W34 and W35 and fireplace in Grain Store 5	S	
153	Mill Range from the A836 (context)	W	
154	Mill Range from the A836 (context)	S	
155	Mill Range from the A836 (context)	S	
156	Mill Range from the A836 (context)	S	
157	Boundary Treatment	W	
158	Machinery wheel	NE	
159	Join between C.1818 range (left) and 1888 Range (right) with evidence of obscured pattrass plate	N	
160	Caithness Flagstone lining in wheel-house and blocked window W67	W	
161	Former joist holes for wheel-house roof in slaughterhouse wall	W	
162	Blocked window W68 in slaughterhouse wall from wheel-house	N	
163	Slaughterhouse interior	N	
164	Slaughterhouse interior view of D5	NE	
165	Slaughterhouse interior view of D6	SW	
166	Slaughterhouse interior detail of drainage channel	W	
167	Detail of Lilliehill ridge tile		
169	Detail of door handle D16		





Photograph 1



Photograph 2



Photograph 3



Photograph 4



Photograph 5



Photograph 6



Photograph 7



Photograph 8



Photograph 9



Photograph 10



Photograph 11



Photograph 12



Photograph 13



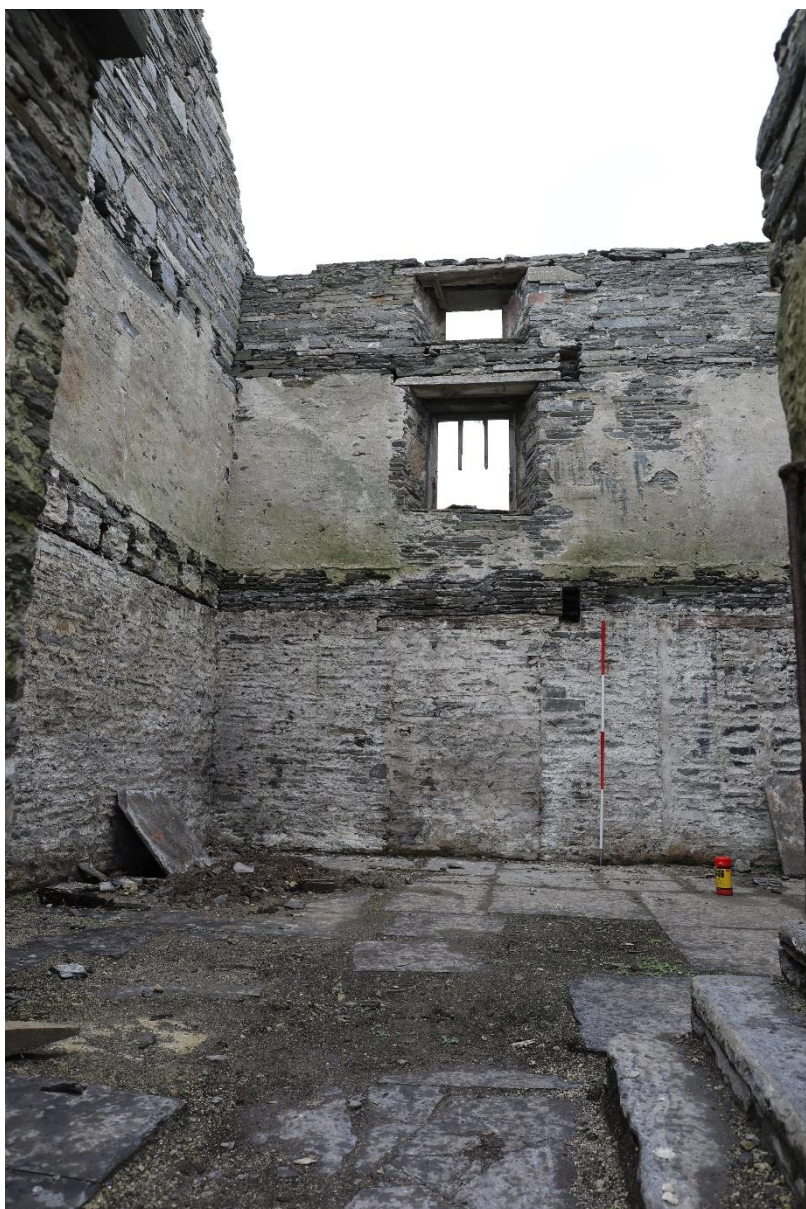
Photograph 14



Photograph 15



Photograph 16



Photograph 17



Photograph 18



Photograph 19



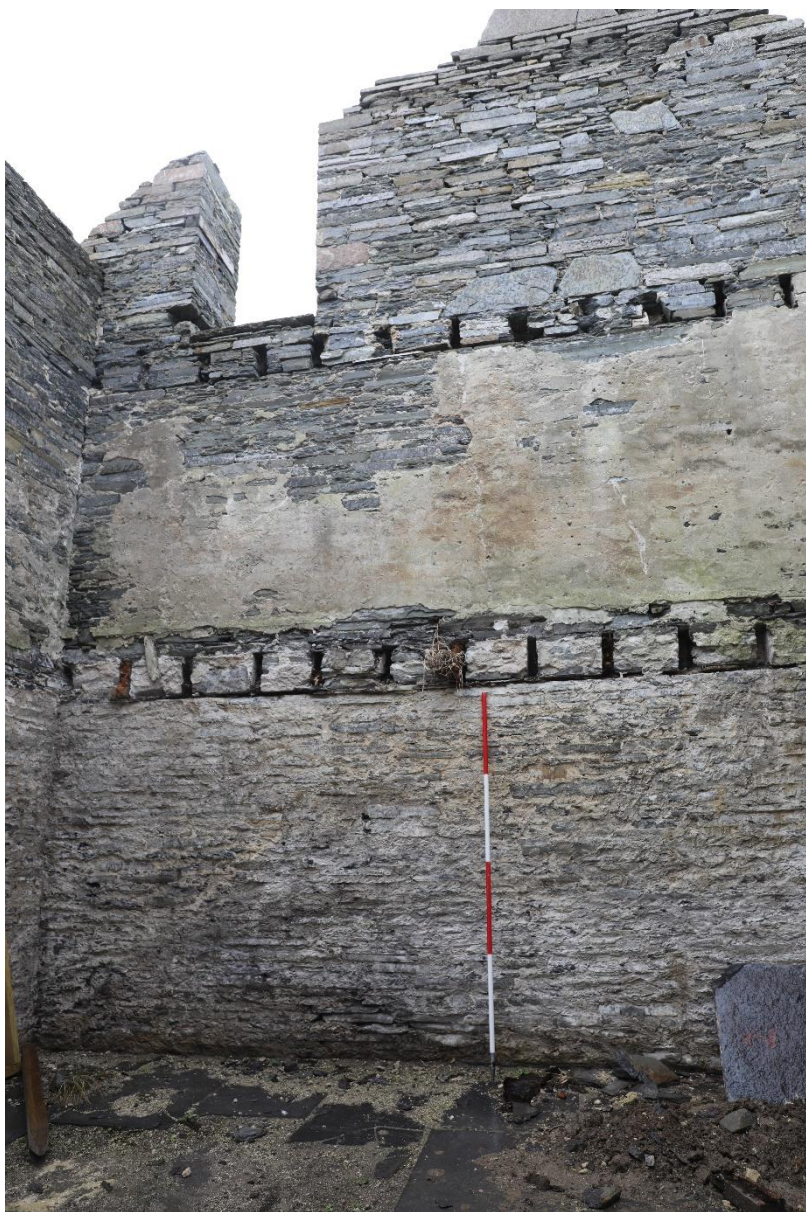
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Photograph 21



Photograph 22



Photograph 23



Photograph 24



Photograph 25



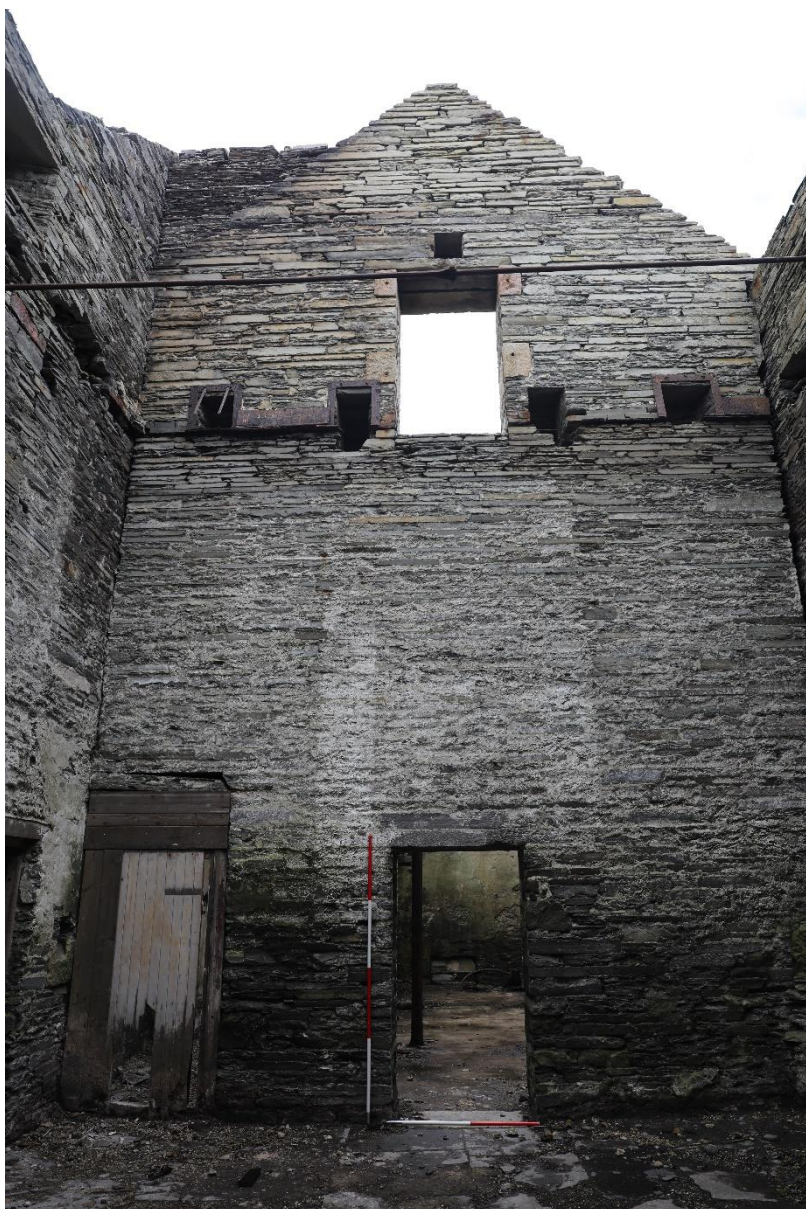
Photograph 26



Photograph 27



Photograph 28



Photograph 29



Photograph 30



Photograph 31



Photograph 32



Photograph 33



Photograph 34



Photograph 35



Photograph 36



Photograph 37



Photograph 38



Photograph 39



Photograph 40



Photograph 41



Photograph 42



Photograph 43



Photograph 44



Photograph 45



Photograph 46



Photograph 47



Photograph 48



Photograph 49



Photograph 50



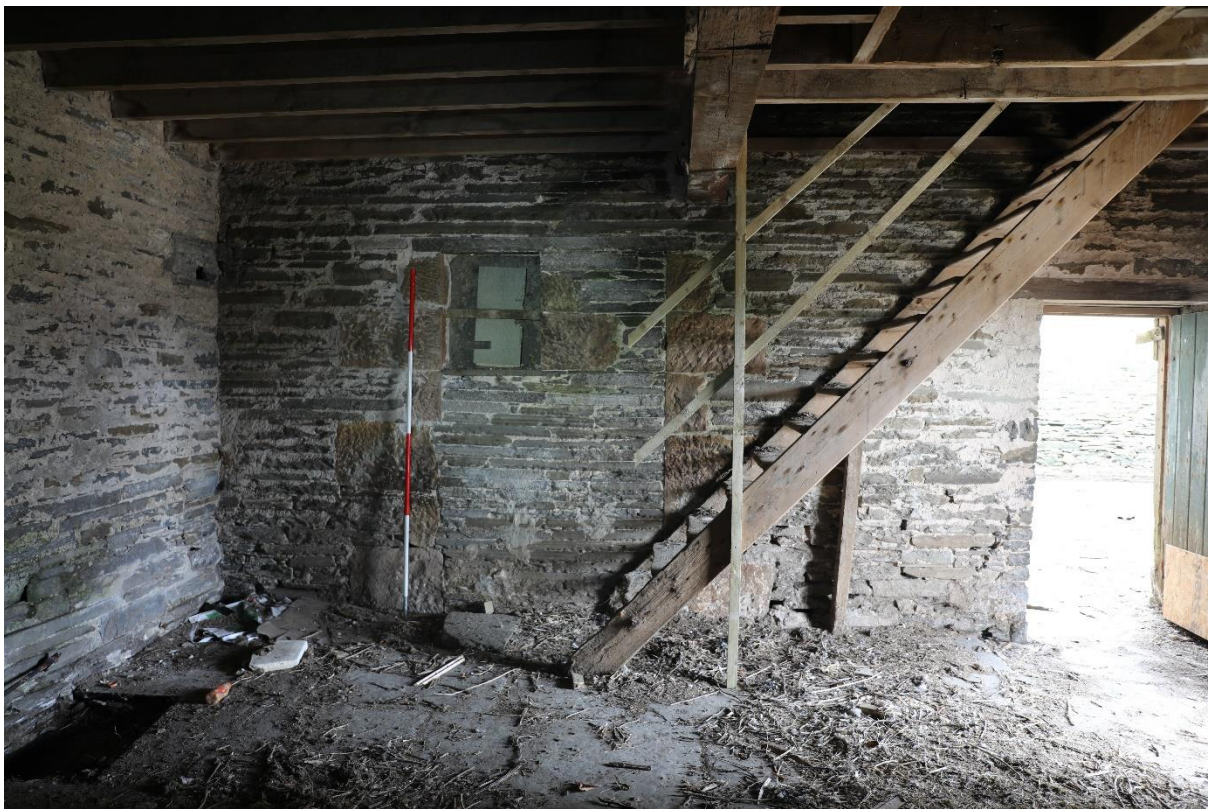
Photograph 51



Photograph 52



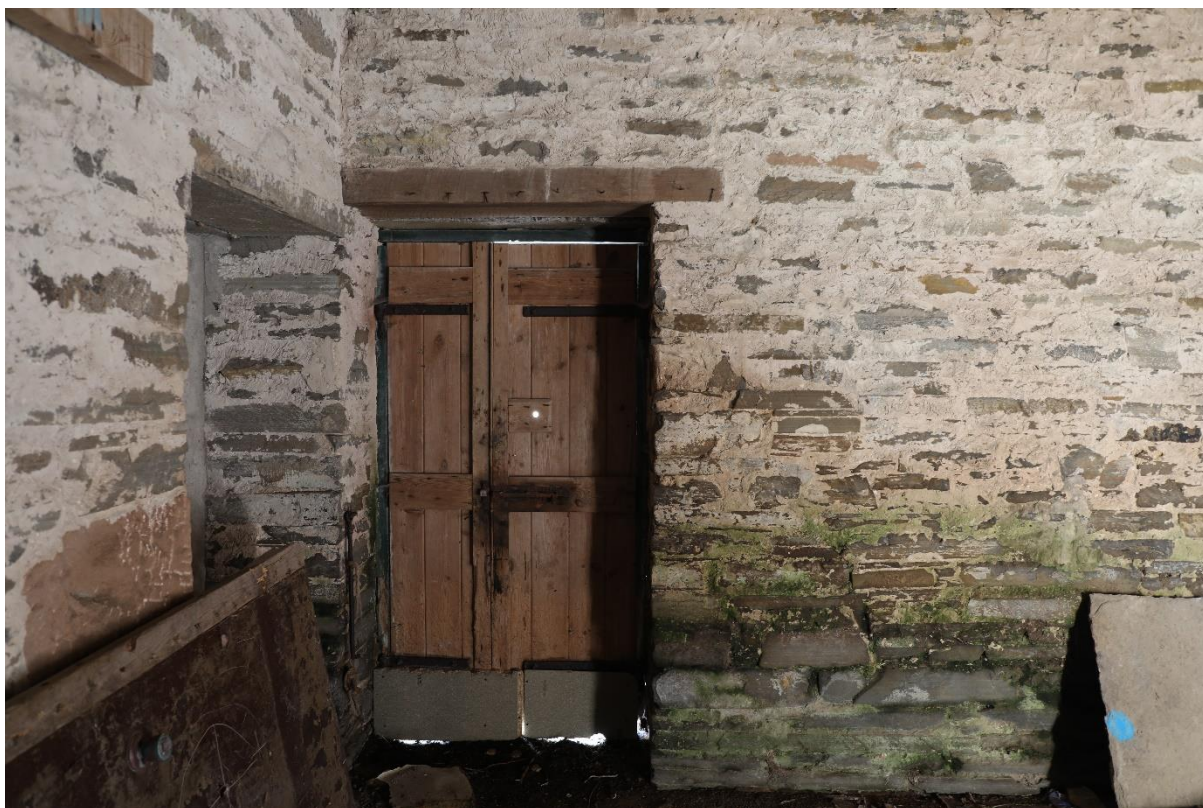
Photograph 53



Photograph 54



Photograph 55



Photograph 56



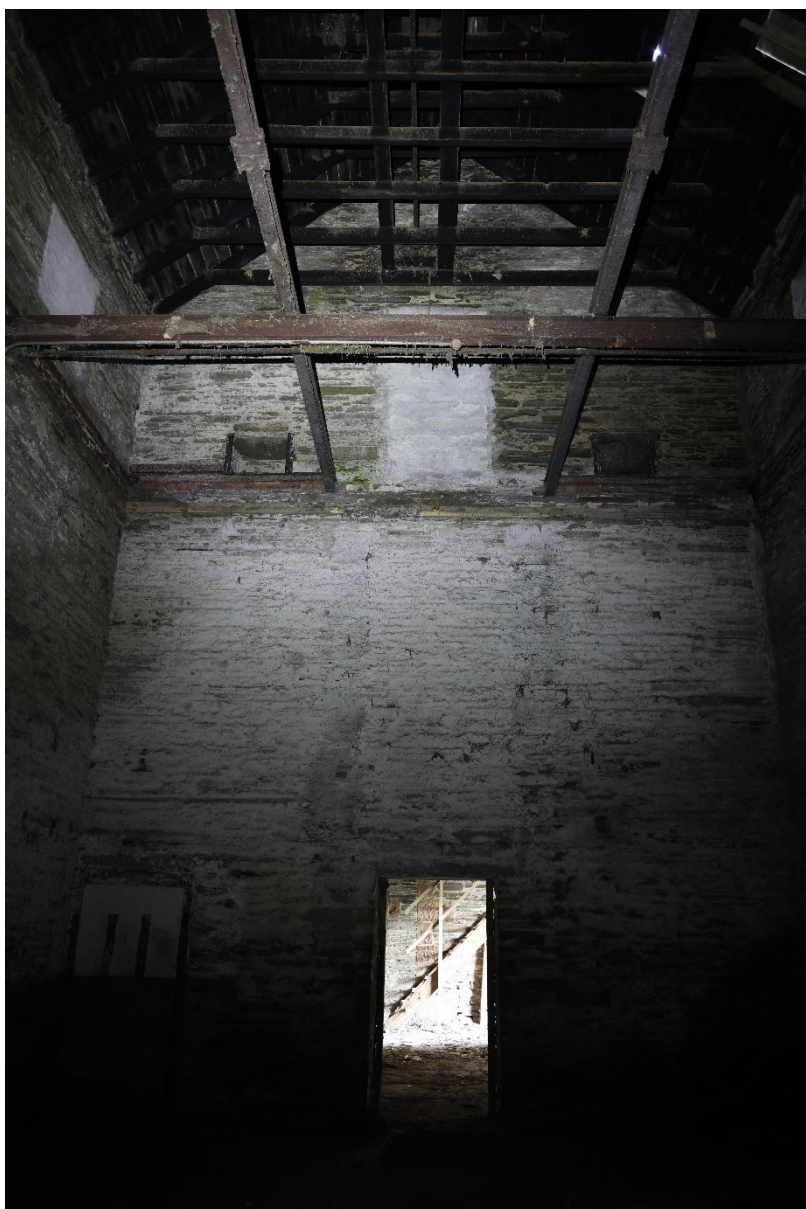
Photograph 57



Photograph 58



Photograph 59



Photograph 60



Photograph 61



Photograph 62



Photograph 63



Photograph 64



Photograph 65



Photograph 66



Photograph 67



Photograph 68



Photograph 69



Photograph 70



Photograph 71



Photograph 72



Photograph 73



Photograph 74



Photograph 75



Photograph 76



Photograph 77



Photograph 78



Photograph 79



Photograph 80



Photograph 81



Photograph 82



Photograph 83



Photograph 84



Photograph 85



Photograph 86



Photograph 87



Photograph 88



Photograph 89



Photograph 90



Photograph 91



Photograph 92



Photograph 93



Photograph 94



Photograph 95



Photograph 96



Photograph 97



Photograph 98



Photograph 99



Photograph 100



Photograph 101



Photograph 102



Photograph 103



Photograph 104



Photograph 105



Photograph 106



Photograph 107



Photograph 108



Photograph 109



Photograph 110



Photograph 111



Photograph 112



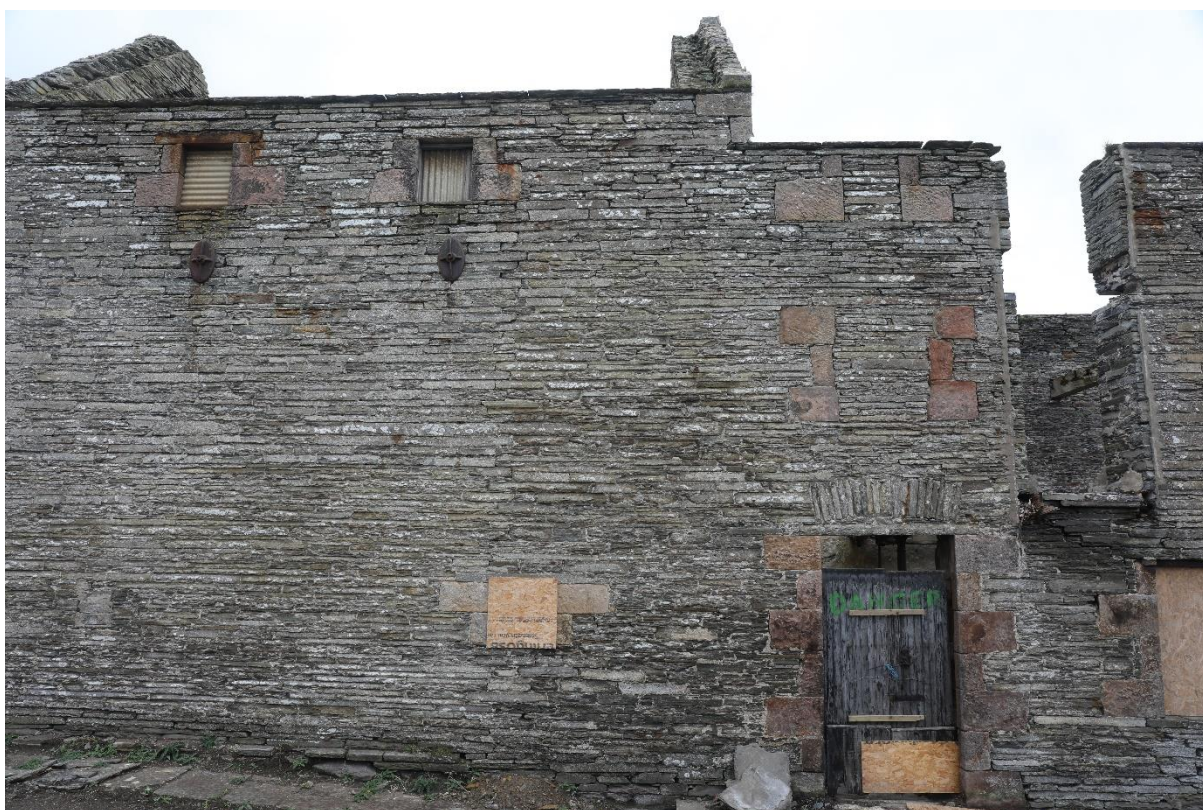
Photograph 113



Photograph 114



Photograph 115



Photograph 116



Photograph 117



Photograph 118



Photograph 119



Photograph 120



Photograph 121



Photograph 122



Photograph 123



Photograph 124



Photograph 125



Photograph 126



Photograph 127



Photograph 128



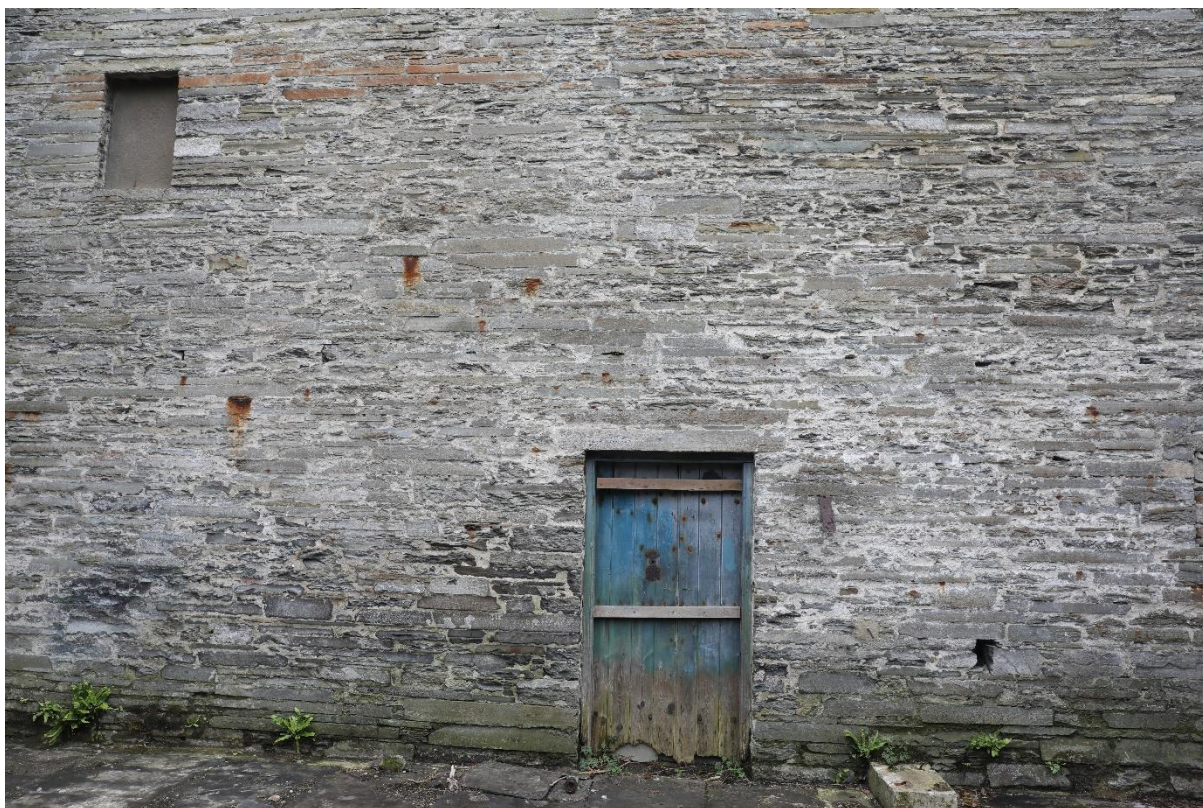
Photograph 129



Photograph 130



Photograph 131



Photograph 132



Photograph 133



Photograph 134



Photograph 135



Photograph 136



Photograph 137



Photograph 138



Photograph 139



Photograph 140



Photograph 141



Photograph 142



Photograph 143



Photograph 144



Photograph 145



Photograph 146



Photograph 147



Photograph 148



Photograph 149



Photograph 150



Photograph 151



Photograph 152



Photograph 153



Photograph 154



Photograph 155



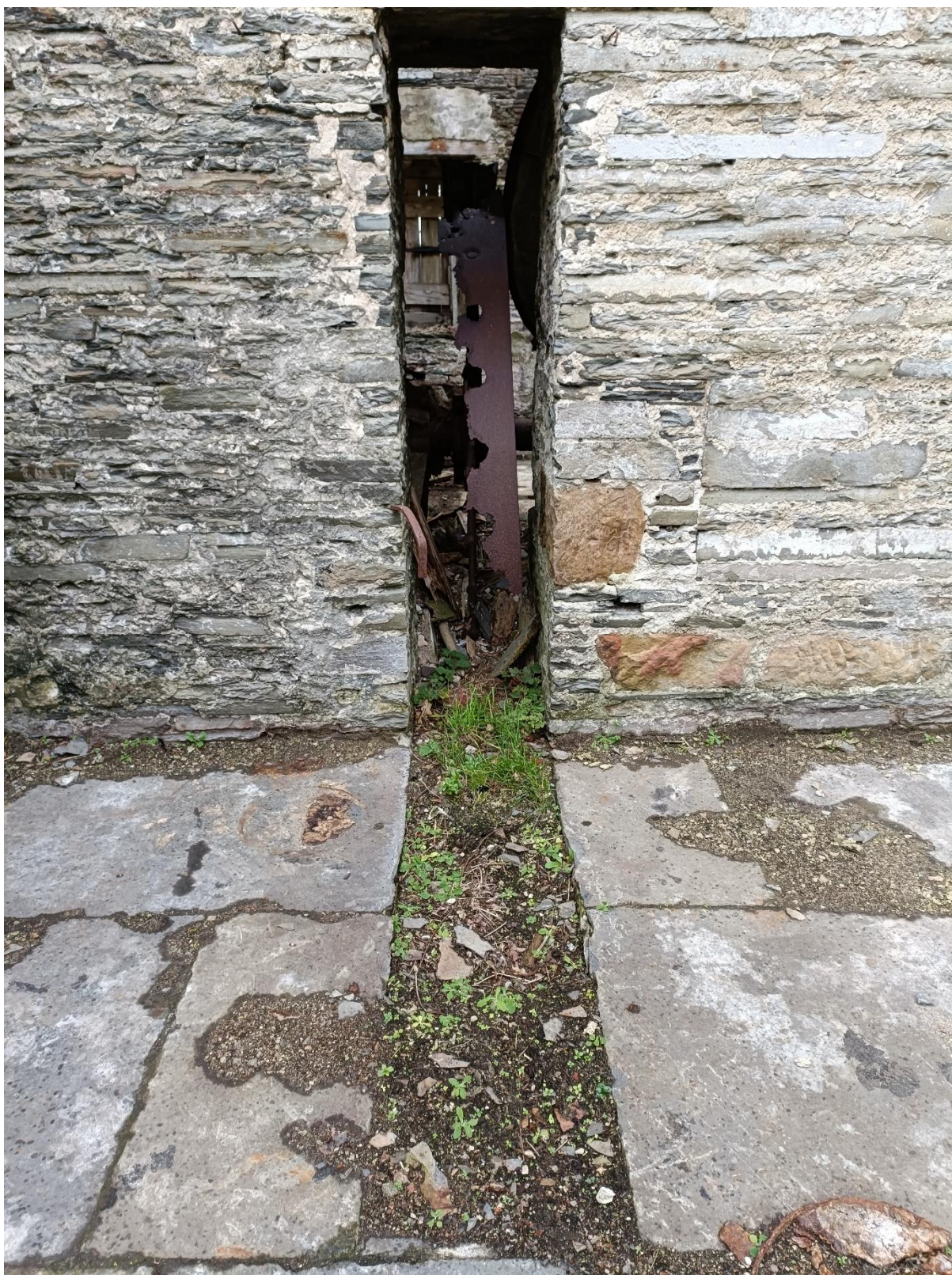
Photograph 156



Photograph 157



Photograph 158



Photograph 159



Photograph 160



Photograph 161



Photograph 162



Photograph 163



Photograph 164



Photograph 165



Photograph 166



Photograph 167

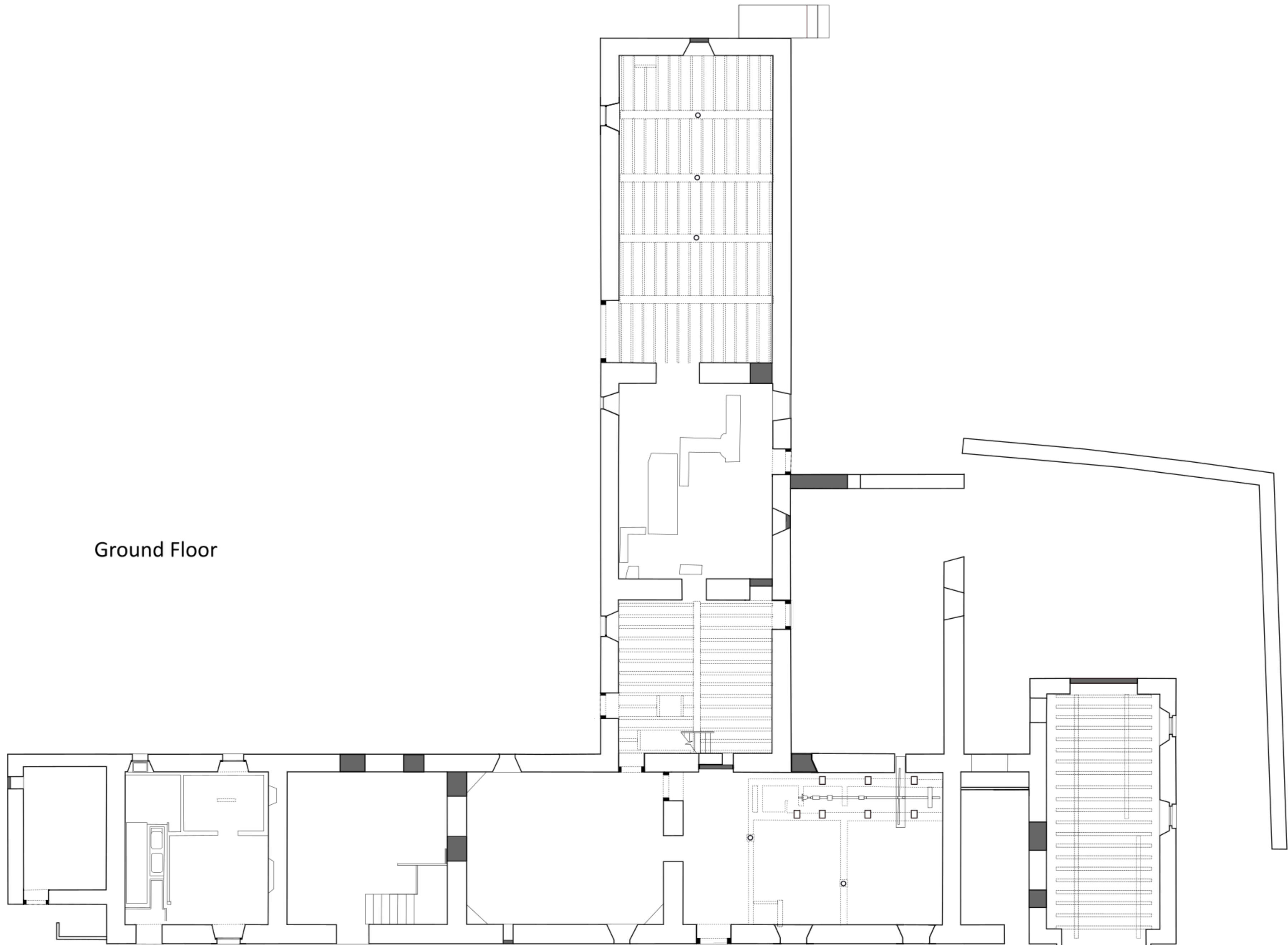


Photograph 168

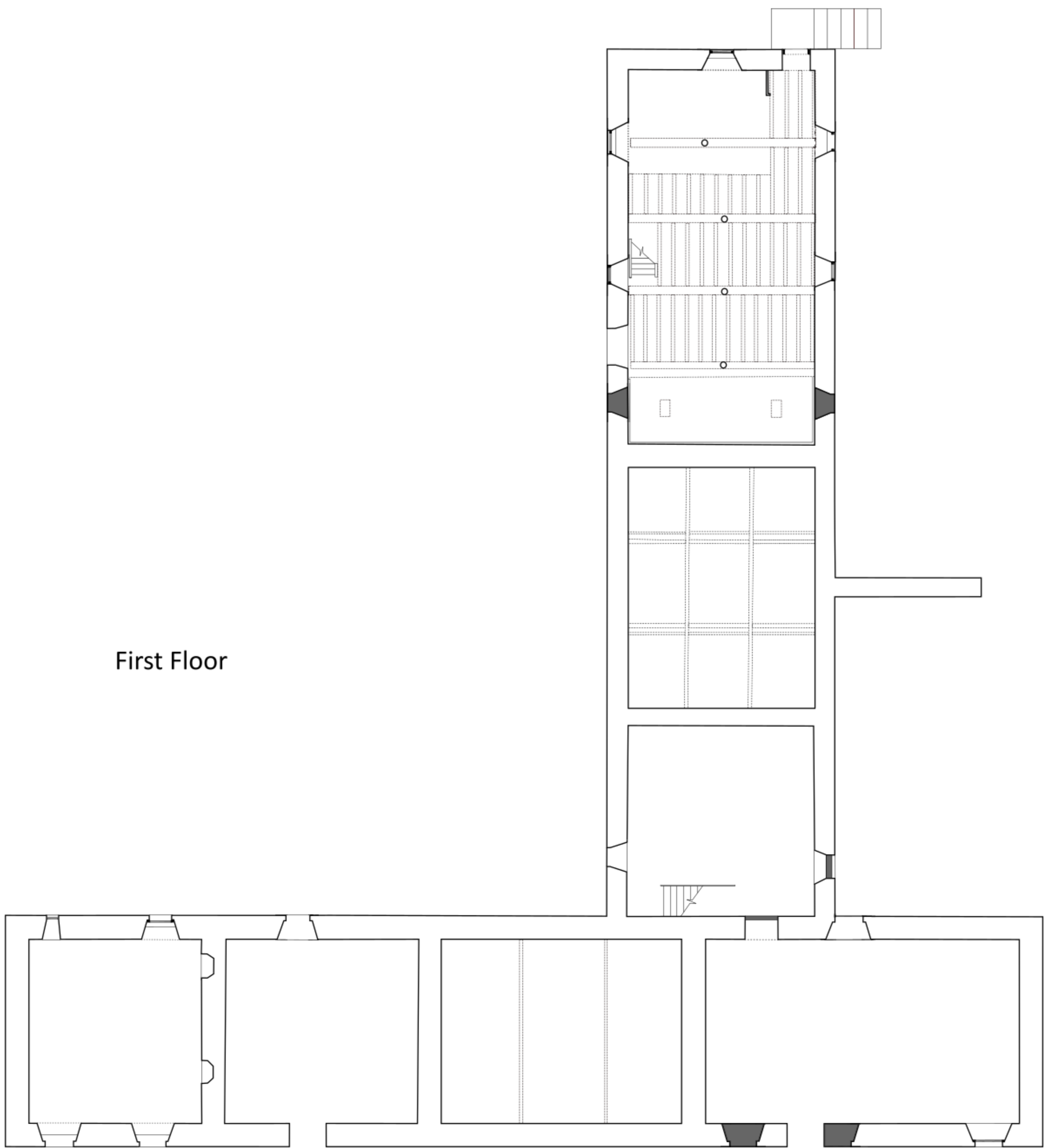


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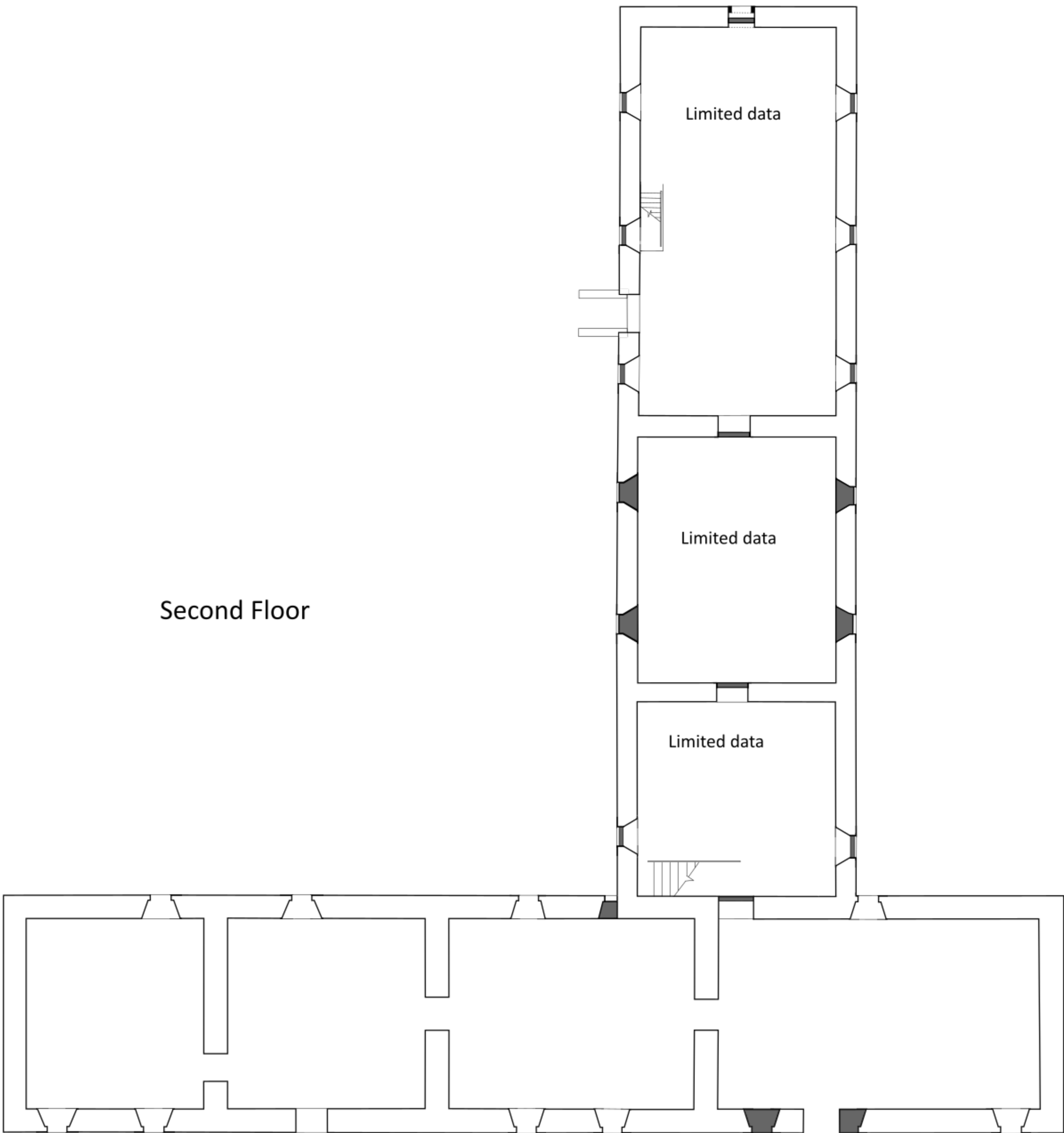
Appendix 4: Survey



Ground Floor

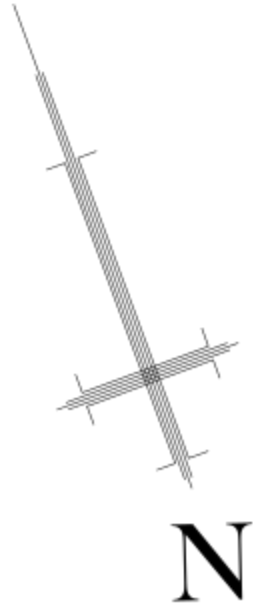


First Floor



Second Floor

KEY	
	Indicating blocked feature
	Datum
	Above Datum
	Below Datum



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Grid Reference: ND 20127 68117

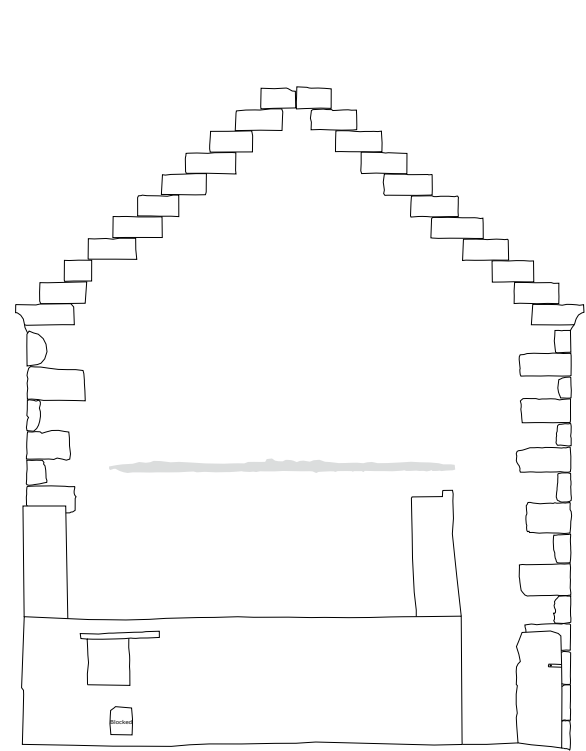
Site:
Castletown Mill,
Castletown, Caithness
KW14 8TX

Drawing Title:
Floor Plans
BAL1444 1/3

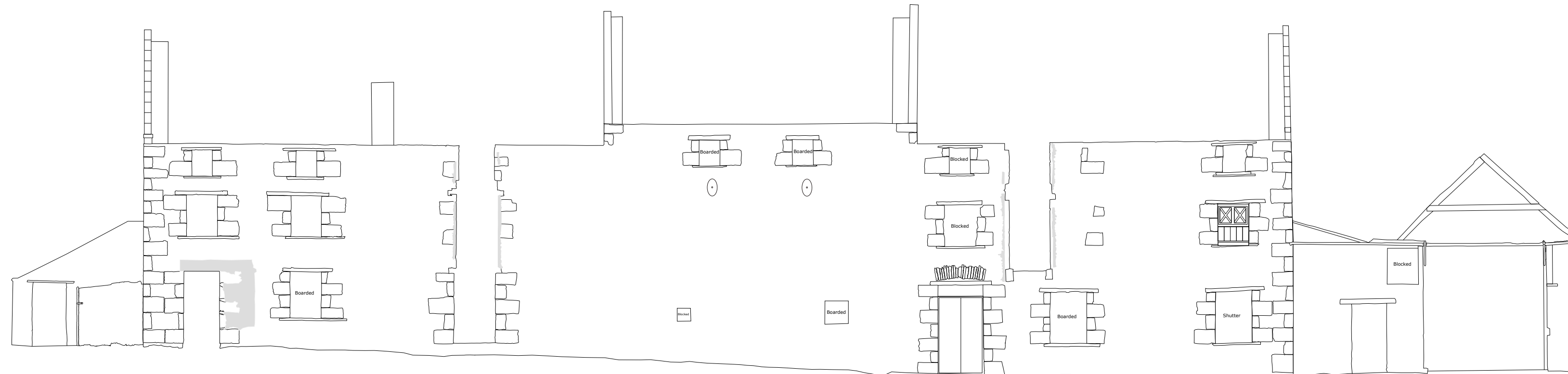
Scale:
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Date:
30 November 2022

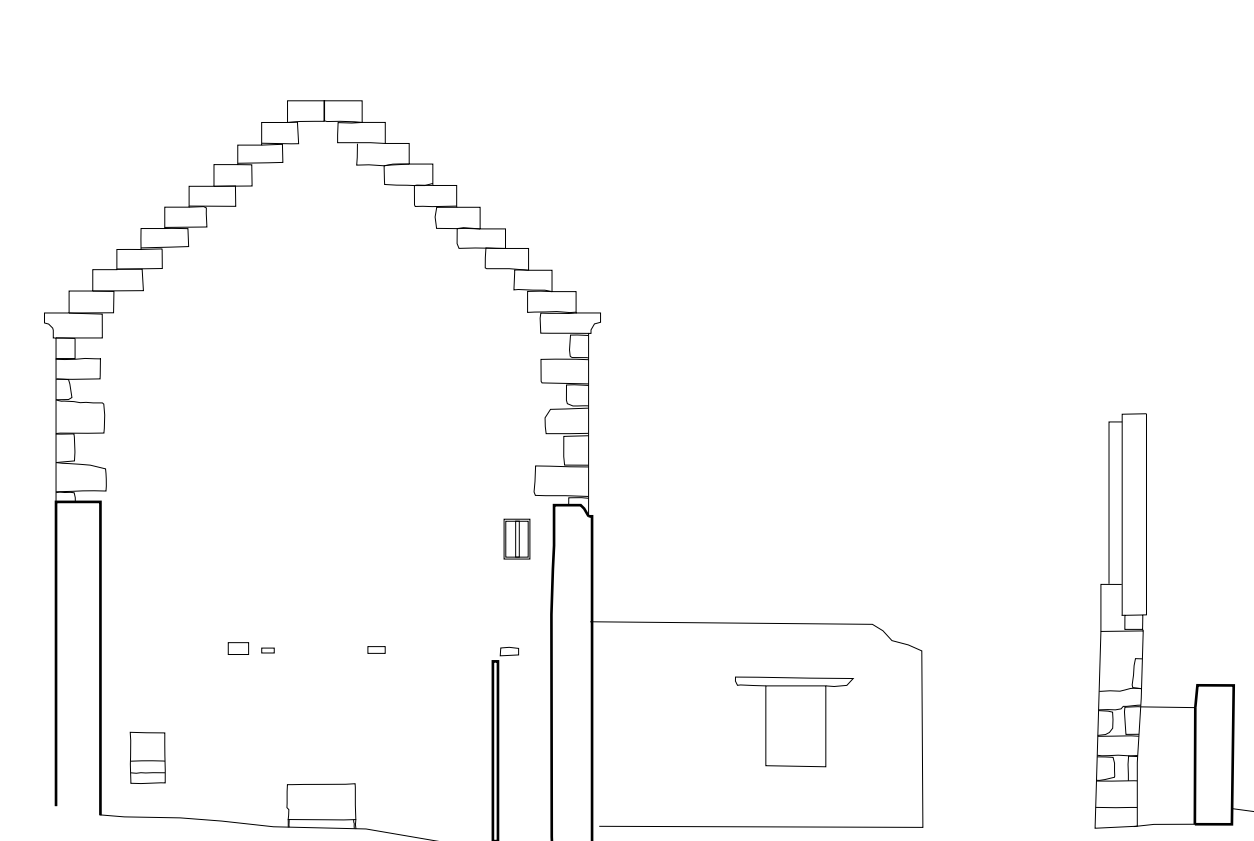
Drawn By: Susan Brook



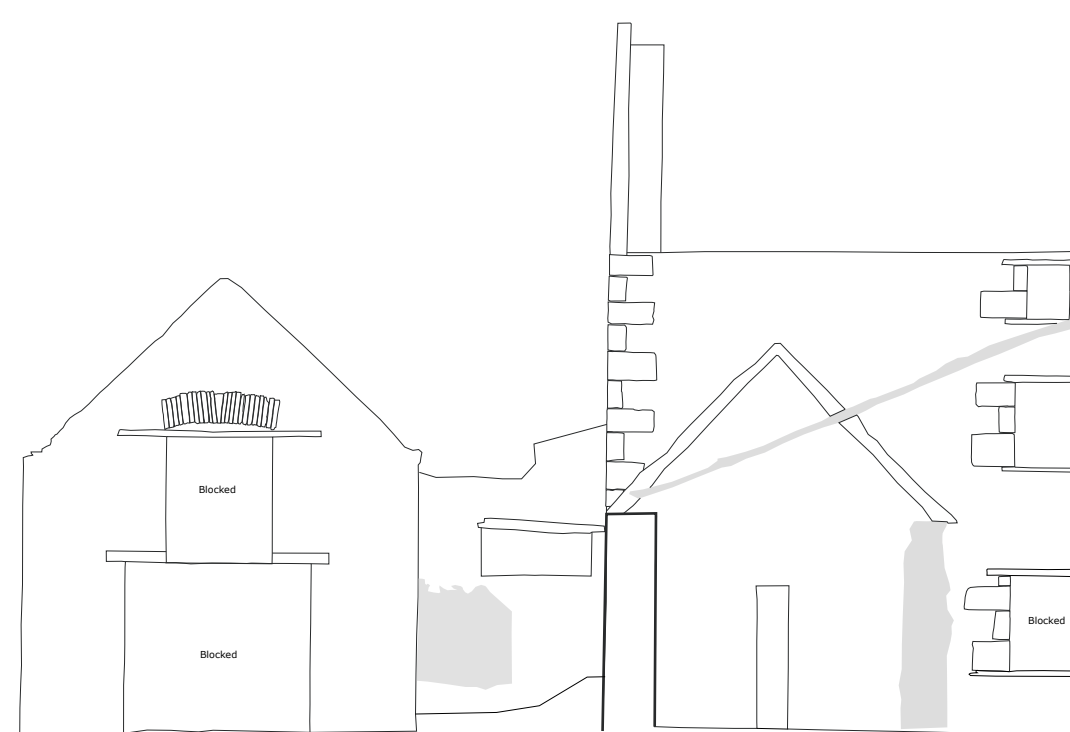
Eastern Elevation



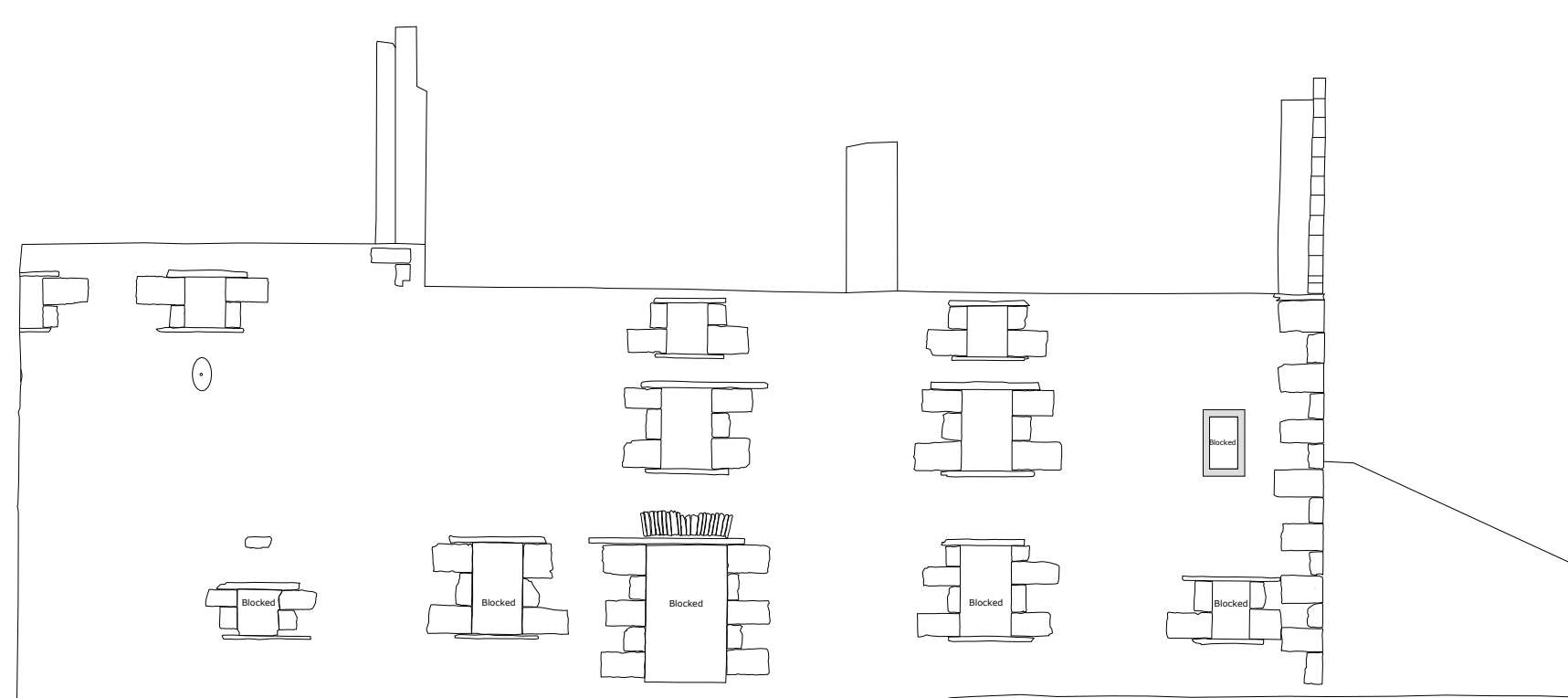
Northern Elevation (Front)



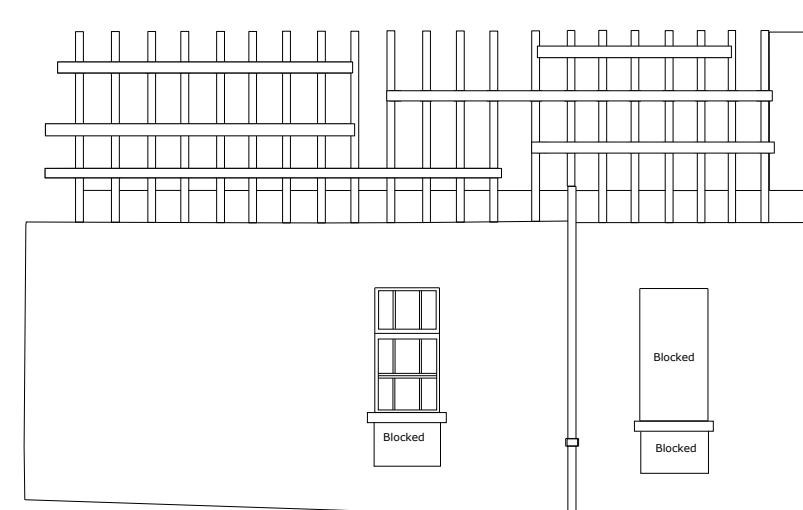
Western Gable



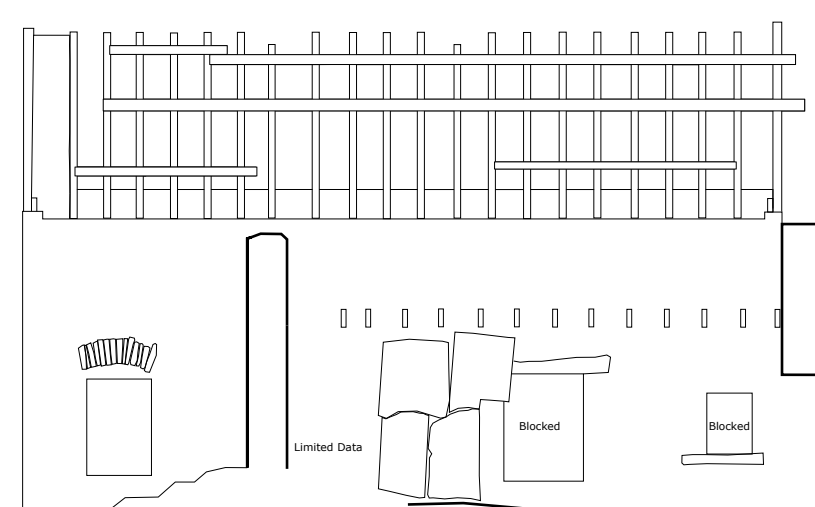
Southern Elevation (Rear) and Slaughterhouse



Southern Elevation (Rear)



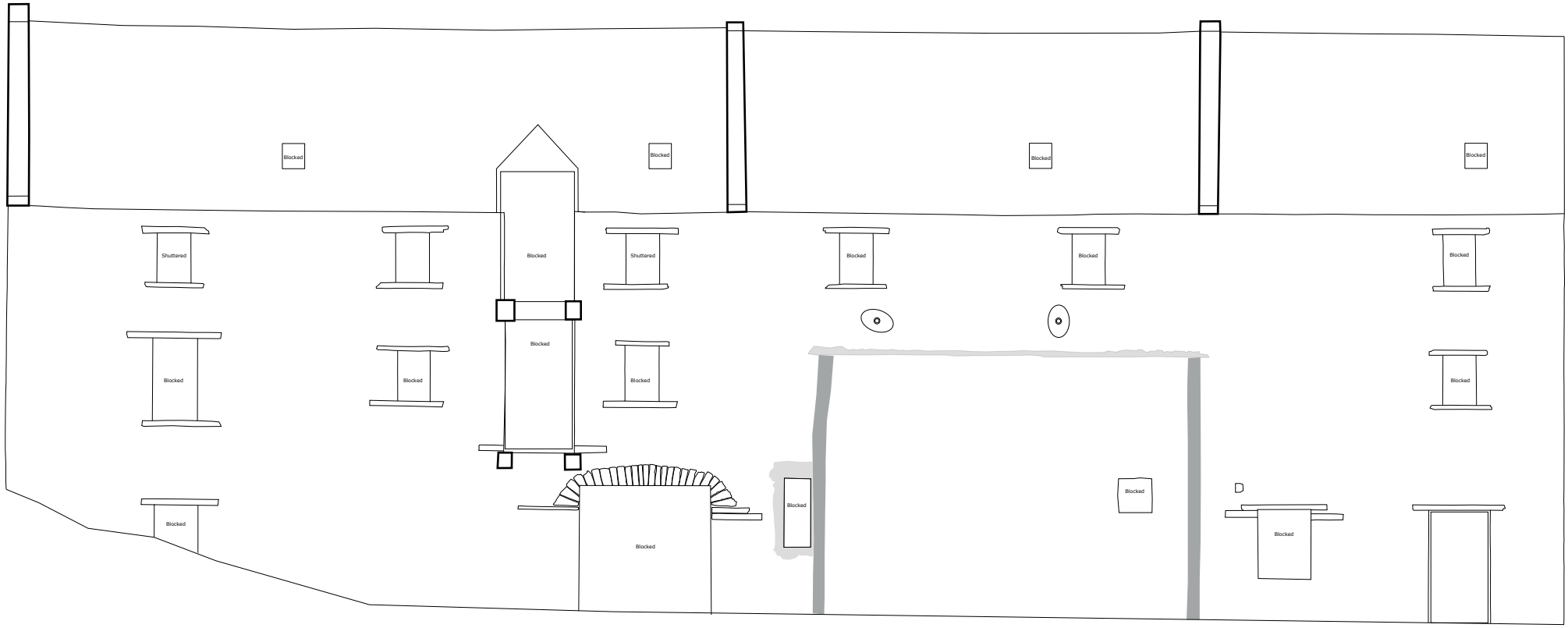
Western Elevation Slaughterhouse



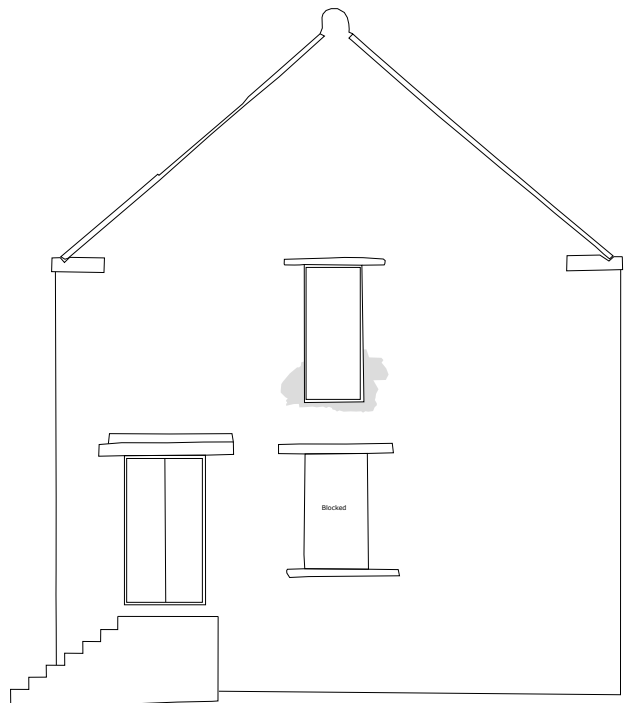
Eastern Elevation Slaughterhouse with Wheel-house

KEY	
	Concrete indicating lost or altered feature

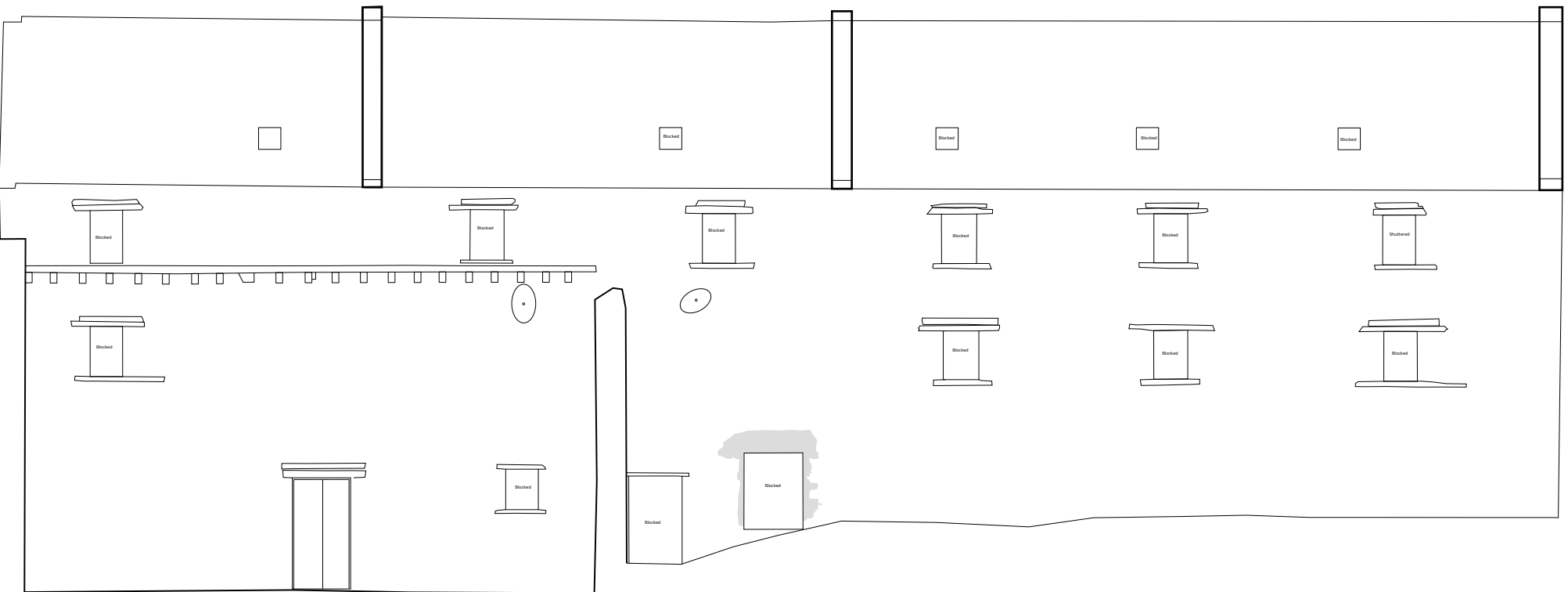
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Site: Castletown Mill, Castletown, Caithness KW14 8TX
Drawing Title: Elevations c.1818 Range BAL1444 2/3
Scale: 1:100 at A1
Date: 30 November 2022
Drawn By: Susan Brook



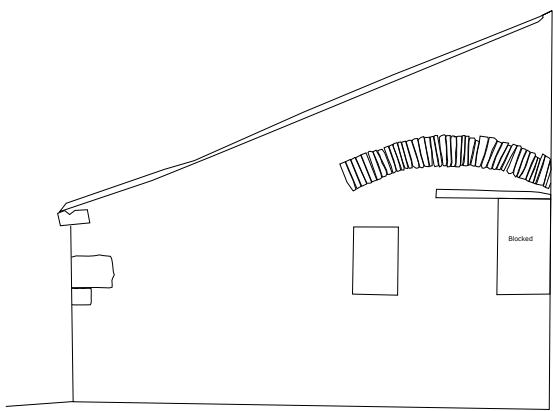
Eastern Elevation



Southern Gable



Western Elevation



Southern Elevation Sawmill

KEY	
	Concrete indicating lost or altered feature
	Shadow indicating walls of removed structure

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Drawing Title: Elevations 1888 Range BAL1444 3/3
Scale: 1:100 at A0
Date: 30 November 2022
Drawn By: Susan Brook