

# **BUILDING RECORDING AT MOOR FARM, WALWYNS CASTLE PEMBROKESHIRE**

APRIL 2005



Paratowyd gan Archaeoleg Cambria  
Ar gyfer Mrs Rees, Moor Farm  
Prepared by Cambria Archaeology  
For Mrs Rees, Moor Farm



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### **BUILDING RECORDING AT MOOR FARM WALWYNS FARM, PEMBROKESHIRE**

Gan / By

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## **CONTENTS**

<b>1.0</b>	<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>INTERIOR PLANS</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	<b>5</b>

## **ILLUSTRATIONS**

- Figure 1:** Ground floor plan
- Figure 2:** First floor plan
- Figure 3:** External elevations
- 
- Photo 1:** West facing exterior elevation
- Photo 2:** East and north facing exterior elevations
- Photo 3:** North facing exterior elevation
- Photo 4:** Blocked fireplace on north wall of room C
- Photo 5:** Fireplace against north wall of room A
- Photo 6:** Fireplace in south wall of room B
- Photo 7:** Partition wall (north wall of room B)
- Photo 8:** Partition wall (south wall of room A) with staircase
- Photo 9:** Doorway in north wall of room C converted to window
- Photo 10:** Doorway in east wall of room A, converted to window
- Photo 11:** Doorway in west wall of room A
- Photo 12:** Window in west wall of room D
- Photo 13:** Window in west wall of room E
- Photo 14:** Room D looking south
- Photo 15:** Room D looking north
- Photo 16:** Roof joists etc. in room D

## **1.0 SUMMARY**

In advance of its demolition a drawn, photographic and written record was made of a building at Moor Farm, Walwyns Castle, Pembrokeshire. This report presents the record made.

## **BUILDING RECORDING AT MOOR FARM, WALWYNS CASTLE, PEMBROKESHIRE**

### **2.0 INTRODUCTION**

In advance of the demolition of an empty farm building a photographic, drawn and written record was undertaken by Cambria Archaeology. The building had originally been a farm building but was later converted to a dwelling. At this, or a later time, the building was also extended.

### **3.0 EXTERIOR ELEVATIONS**

The exterior of the building was entirely pebble-dashed, obscuring any detail in the fabric of the walls or openings.

West-facing elevation (photo 1, fig 3)

The extension on the northern end consisted on the ground floor of a door opening containing a wooden door with glazed panel, and a window opening with a metal casement. On the first floor above the door was a single window with UPVC double-glazing.

The southern part of the building had two window openings with metal casements and a doorway with a wooden door and glazed panel. On the first floor were three equally spaced window openings containing metal casements.

East-facing elevation (photo 2, fig 3)

The extension on the northern end consisted of a single roughly centrally placed window on the ground floor and a first floor window above. The southern end of the building consisted on the ground floor of three openings. The southernmost was a small UPVC doubleglazed window. The central opening was a former doorway converted to a window, with no window fitting. The third window was a longer, lower window than the others, containing a metal casement, but with no evidence of having been a doorway. On the first floor the southernmost of three windows was blocked off and pebble-dashed over and was not visible from the exterior. The remaining two windows contained UVPC doubleglazing.

The base of the wall was slightly battered and the joint between the extension and the original building was apparent at the base of the wall.

North facing elevation (photo 3, fig 3)

This elevation had two casement windows on the ground floor only. The easternmost was converted from an original doorway.

South facing elevation (fig 3)

This elevation was pebble-dashed and no features were apparent.

The drawings of the exterior elevations are approximately to scale, taken from measured sketches. The heights of the roof and chimney and the roof pitch are approximate. The spacings of the upper storey windows are also approximate.

### **4.0 INTERIOR PLANS**

Ground floor (fig 1)

The ground floor plan is approximately to scale, taken from a measured sketch plan. The ground floor was probably originally an open plan agricultural building, possibly divided up by wooden partitions, although no sign of any such fittings was observed. Later, the ground floor was divided by partition walls (consisting of wooden frameworks in-filled with mortared stone rubble) into two rooms (A and B), separated by a hallway. The hallway contained a flight of wooden stairs leading to the first floor. Originally these rose from the east side, but were later switched around. Only the southern partition (between room A and B) was still present. It

contained an original doorway at the eastern end (originally at the base of the stairs). When the stairs were reversed, a new, narrower opening, was created at the western end.

The original building is not thought to have included fireplaces. The existing fireplaces were inserted when the building was converted to a domestic dwelling. The fireplace in room B (constructed from red brick) is built into the fabric of the wall. The fireplace and chimney stack in room A (also constructed from red brick) is built against the interior face of the north wall of the original building. The fireplace in room A has had a later fireplace added.

Room A and the hallway had quarry tiled floors while room B may have had a planked floor. Room B had a concrete floor. The only other apparent alterations on the ground floor were to the various window and door openings. Both the door openings to the outside appear to be original features. The doorway on the west side was narrowed slightly to accommodate the northern hallway partition when the building was converted to a dwelling. The doorway on the eastern side was blocked off and converted to a window when the stairs were reversed. Both window openings in the east wall appear to be original features. The window openings in the west wall are either later additions or have been enlarged.

The interior doorway in the northern wall appears to have been created when the extension was built onto the north side of the original building, forming room C on the ground floor. The extension is angled slightly in a northwestward direction, respecting the course of the farm lane that runs along the east side of the house. There is a blocked fireplace in the north wall of the extension and a doorway, later converted to a window. Room C was later divided up by breezeblock partitions to create door lobbys, a WC and a kitchen area.

The phase in which the extension was constructed is uncertain. It is possible that it existed as a single storey shed or lean-to on the north side of the original agricultural building. It may have been modified to form part of the ground floor before the first floor extension was constructed. This could not be ascertained because of pebble-dashing on the exterior and plaster on the interior walls of the extension.

#### First floor

The first floor consisted of two rooms. Room D in the original part of the building, and room E in the extension. The original floor was constructed from wooden floorboards measuring 17cm by 2cm. The floor to the south of the stairwell was replaced with chipboard panels. This area may have been partitioned off at some time. The southernmost window on the east side was blocked in. The floor in the extension was constructed from narrower floorboards. There was some evidence that the ceiling was lined, probably with plasterboard, which was later removed. Window openings on the east side appear to be original features, while those in the west wall may be later insertions, or enlargements of existing window openings.

There were two openings in the north wall (one on each side of the chimney and fireplace) giving access to room E in the later extension. One of these openings could have existed as a first floor doorway for loft access in the gable end of the original agricultural building, but this could not be confirmed. As discussed above, the first floor extension may be a later modification than the ground floor extension.

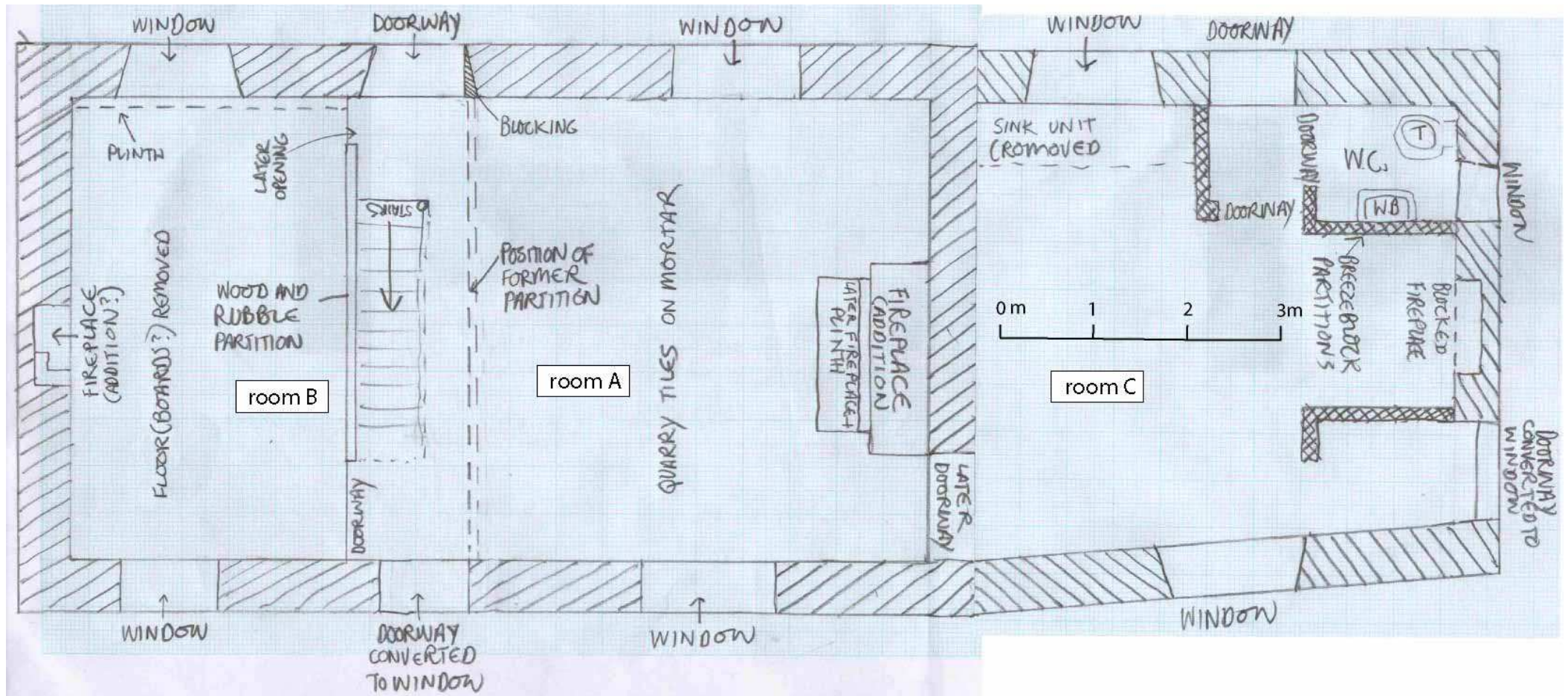
#### Roof

The roof of the original building was constructed from four wooden pegged A-frame machine-cut joists, 20cm by 8cm. The base of one roof joist was sawn through when the flight of stairs was inserted when the building was converted to a dwelling. The roof may have been re-slatted when the building was converted and the extension built.

### **5.0 CONCLUSIONS**

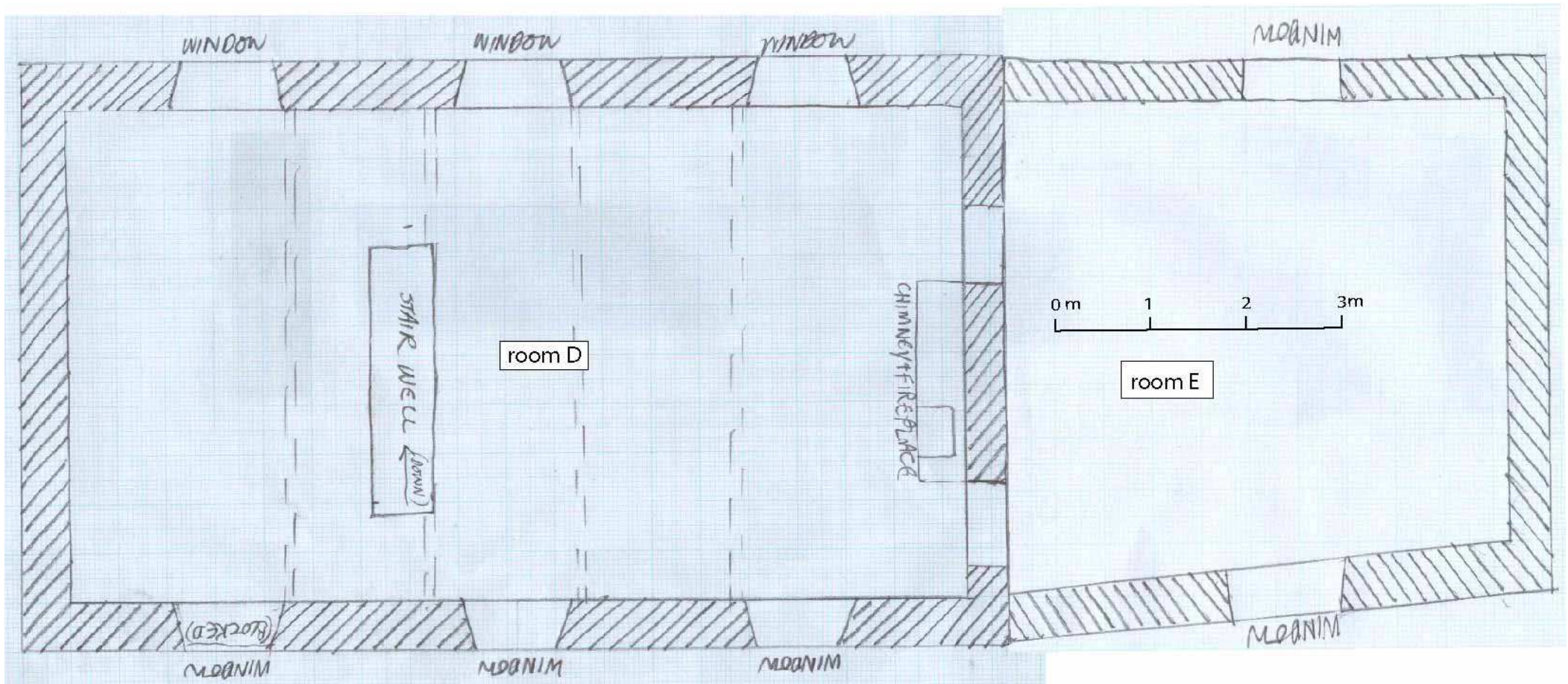
The building appears to be of 19th century origin and probably had an agricultural function, although no fixtures or fittings relating to this phase were identified. The building appears to have subsequently been converted to a dwelling, with the creation of internal rooms, and stairs to the first floor. Later still, the extension on the north end was created. This may have been an entirely new addition or a modification of an already existing single storey outbuilding. The windows on the west side of the building may have been inserted at this time.





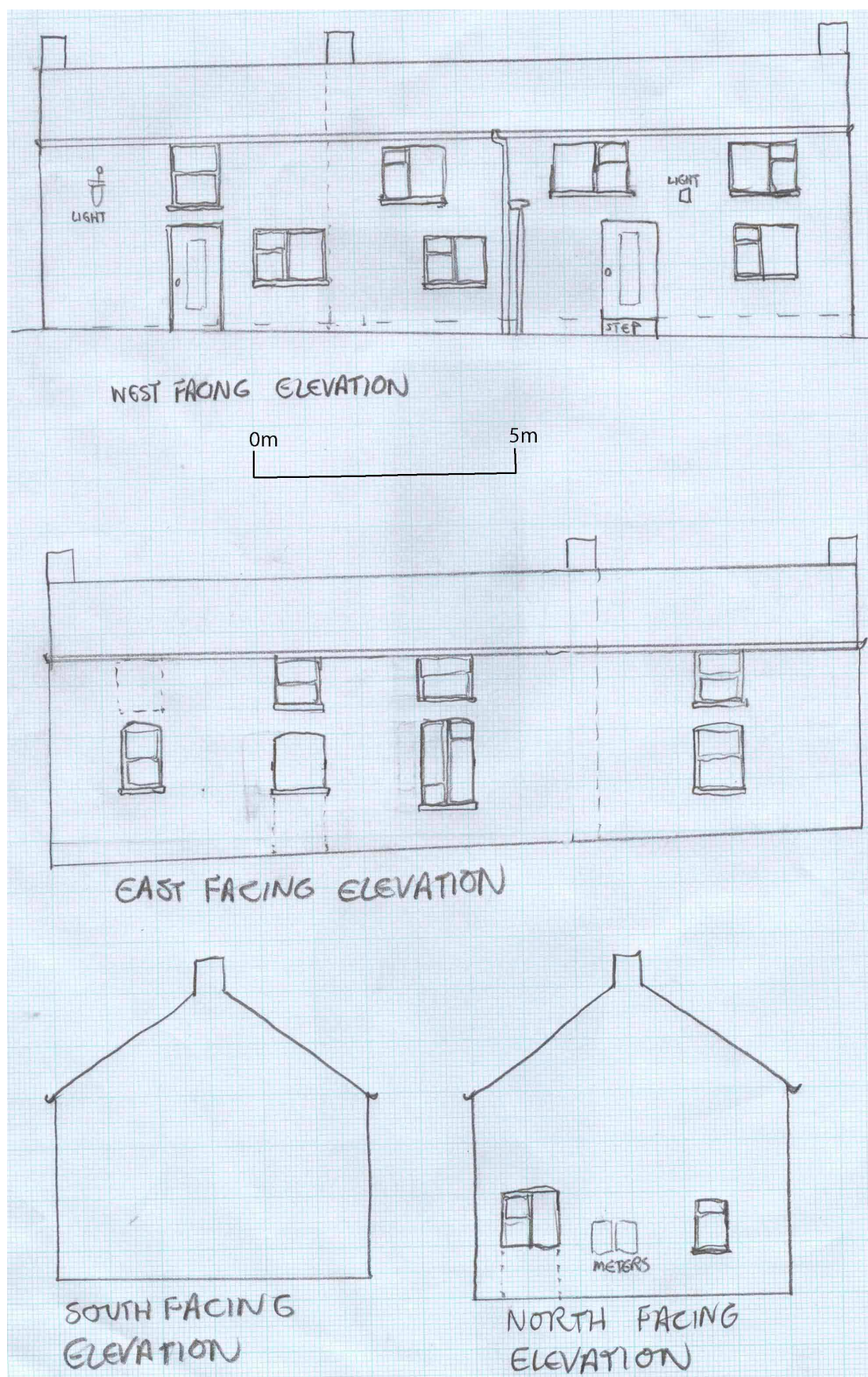
**Figure 1:** Ground floor plan





**Figure 2:** First floor plan





**Figure 3:** External elevations



**Photo 1:** West facing exterior elevation



**Photo 2:** East and north facing exterior elevations





**Photo3:** North facing exterior elevation



**Photo 4:** Blocked fireplace on north wall of room C



**Photo 5:** Fireplace against north wall of room A



**Photo 6:** Fireplace in south wall of room B





**Photo 7:** Partition wall (north wall of room B)



**Photo 8:** Partition wall (south wall of room A) with staircase



**Photo 9:** Doorway in north wall of room C converted to window



**Photo 10:** Doorway in east wall of room A, converted to window





**Photo 11:** Doorway in west wall of room A. Note blocking on right side of doorway



**Photo 12:** Window in west wall of room D



**Photo 13:** Window in west wall of room E



**Photo 14:** Room D looking south





**Photo 15:** Room D looking north showing fireplace and doors to room E



**Photo 16:** Roof joists etc. in room D

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sydd gennych ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn

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