



Historic Building Record Level 2

Wood Farm,
Walwyn's Castle,
Pembrokeshire,
SA62 3DZ

May 2022 | Project Ref 07153C

Dyfed Historic Environment Record Event Record No: ERN 128825

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1. Introduction

Project Background

1.1 This report presents a Level 2 Historic Building Recording of a series of **former farm outbuildings at Wood Farm, Walwyn's Castle**, Pembrokeshire SA62 3DZ (hereafter referred to as 'the Buildings'). This report has been prepared by James Meek MCIfA, Director (Archaeology) of HCUK Group on behalf of Mr and Mrs Morgan. The site is centred at National Grid Reference NGR 187169 210320 and, administratively, it lies within the remit of Pembrokeshire County National Park Authority (PCNPA) as the local planning authority.

1.2 Planning permission has been granted by Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority for the '*Change of use and alterations to 2 traditional agricultural buildings to provide 2 self-catering holiday accommodation units, Wood Farm, Walwyns Castle, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3DZ*' (Planning Application No. NP/21/0228/FUL)

1.3 Following consultation with Dyfed Archaeological Trust – Planning Services section (DAT-PS), the archaeological advisors to the planning authority, the following condition was placed on the planning permission for this development:

Condition 6: No development shall take place until a qualified and competent archaeologist has submitted a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for approval in writing by the local planning authority. This WSI will describe the different stages of the work and demonstrate that it has been fully resourced and given adequate time. On behalf of the local planning authority, their archaeological advisors (DAT DM) will monitor all aspects of this work through to the final discharging of the condition. This work will not be deemed complete until all aspects of the WSI have been addressed and the final report submitted and approved.

Reason: to protect historic environment interests whilst enabling development

1.4 The planning advice letter from DAT-PS confirmed in writing that :

The Written Scheme should include information on how the applicant intends to ensure that archaeological interests are protected. In addition ... this should also include an appropriate programme of building recording. We envisage at least a level 2 in line with guidance provided by Historic England – Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice (Historic England 2016).

1.5 It was confirmed that the planning condition was to address both upstanding archaeological fabric (the historic farm buildings due for conversion) as well as any below ground impacts from the proposals, including installation of new service runs. The buried archaeological potential of the Site is due to its location adjacent to Sykes Rath (Scheduled Monument No PE190) an Iron Age promontory hillfort. This report concentrates solely on the historic building recording works. Archaeological investigations for buried archaeology will be undertaken at a later date by a third party.

1.6 The subject of the historic building recording comprises a small courtyard of former farm buildings and including a U shape arrangement of stone buildings to the west, north and east and a reused Nissen hut or Dutch Barn roof forming the southern side of the courtyard with access way between.

1.7 A Design Statement incorporating a Structural Condition Report; Design Philosophy and Heritage Impact Assessment was prepared by Acanthus Holden for the planning application which described the site in detail. The descriptions and building identifiers used in that report are reused in this report. A further Historic Impact Assessment in Wales was prepared for the site by HCUK in 2021 which was submitted to Cadw to confirm that the proposed conversions would not cause harm to the significance of the scheduled monument of Sykes Rath (PE 190). As part of the preparation of the Impact Assessment the design of the development was also amended to prevent any groundworks from being undertaken within the scheduled monument area.

1.8 The Site lies to the west of the road leading south from Walwyn's Castle, accessed via a short track leading down to the farm. It comprises the main farmhouse, an L shaped building on the northern side of the farm yard. There are metal and timber sheds to the southwest and then a car parking area between these and a small courtyard of farm buildings to the east. The courtyard comprises older stone buildings to the north, east and west with a grassed area between. A stone wall leads down to the south on the western side with a gateway into the courtyard and a second gateway opposite on the eastern side. A corrugated metal sheet building called 'the Half-round' is present on the southern side of this courtyard (probably a reused Nissen hut or an adapted roof of a former Dutch Barn).

1.9 The Acanthus Holden report identified and described the buildings as follows, which are shown on Figure 2:

Building A: The Farmhouse is a modest south facing dormer cottage with porch and a large cat slide roof to the rear and a further gabled wing to the west at right angles with the main building of a later date. The yard is in two sections with a small range of vernacular outbuildings which sits alongside an Iron Age fort known as Syke Rath to the east of the site, with a corrugated steel-clad shed to the south of that section. The plot slopes north to south and is nestled on the edge of the Scheduled Monument.

Building B: There are two stables within the block to the north of this area with a corrugated pitched roof over A frames, on random rubble stone walls with some brickwork infill and open arrow slit windows and a single square opening. The stables have timber doors in two sections and the building has a lime washed finish to the walls and dark blue paint to the joinery. This structure lies parallel to the main dwelling and is stepped forward of its building line.

Building C: Mono pitched link building in block work and rubble stone, lime-washed connecting the granary with the stables, with a single window and door painted to match others. A block work wall forms an enclosure by the door.

Building D: Parge pointing to lower section and rendered to upper rubble stone granary, over two floors accessed from the front elevation (west), all walls lime washed and timber joinery painted to match others.

Building E: Mono pitch shed, cladding to roof and walls with corrugated zinc sheeting, painted black to the south of the granary as a log store.

Building F: Curved corrugated sheet Half-round hut to the south of this area.

Building G: Small dairy sits within the west yard, but part of the collection of small vernacular structures within the east yard. Rubble stone construction, lime washed with timber joinery painted to match the others.

Building H: Modern storage sheds & garage to the west of the yard consisting of kennels and sheds with large doors, all with mono pitched roofs. The yard has not been used for agricultural purposes for many years and as such sits redundant with some of the buildings now only used for storage.

1.10 Buildings B, C, D, E, F and G were subject to historic building recording.

1.11 A WSI was prepared and approved prior to the works being undertaken. The Level 2 Historic Building Record refers to the guidelines laid out in 'Understanding Historic Buildings' (Historic England 2016)¹. This report has been guided in its composition by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures (CIfA 2020).

1.12 An Event Record Number for the project was obtained from the Dyfed Historic Environment Record for the historic building record: ERN 128825.

¹ Historic England, 2016, Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice



Figure 1: Site Location Plan, with red line showing the area of the historic building survey

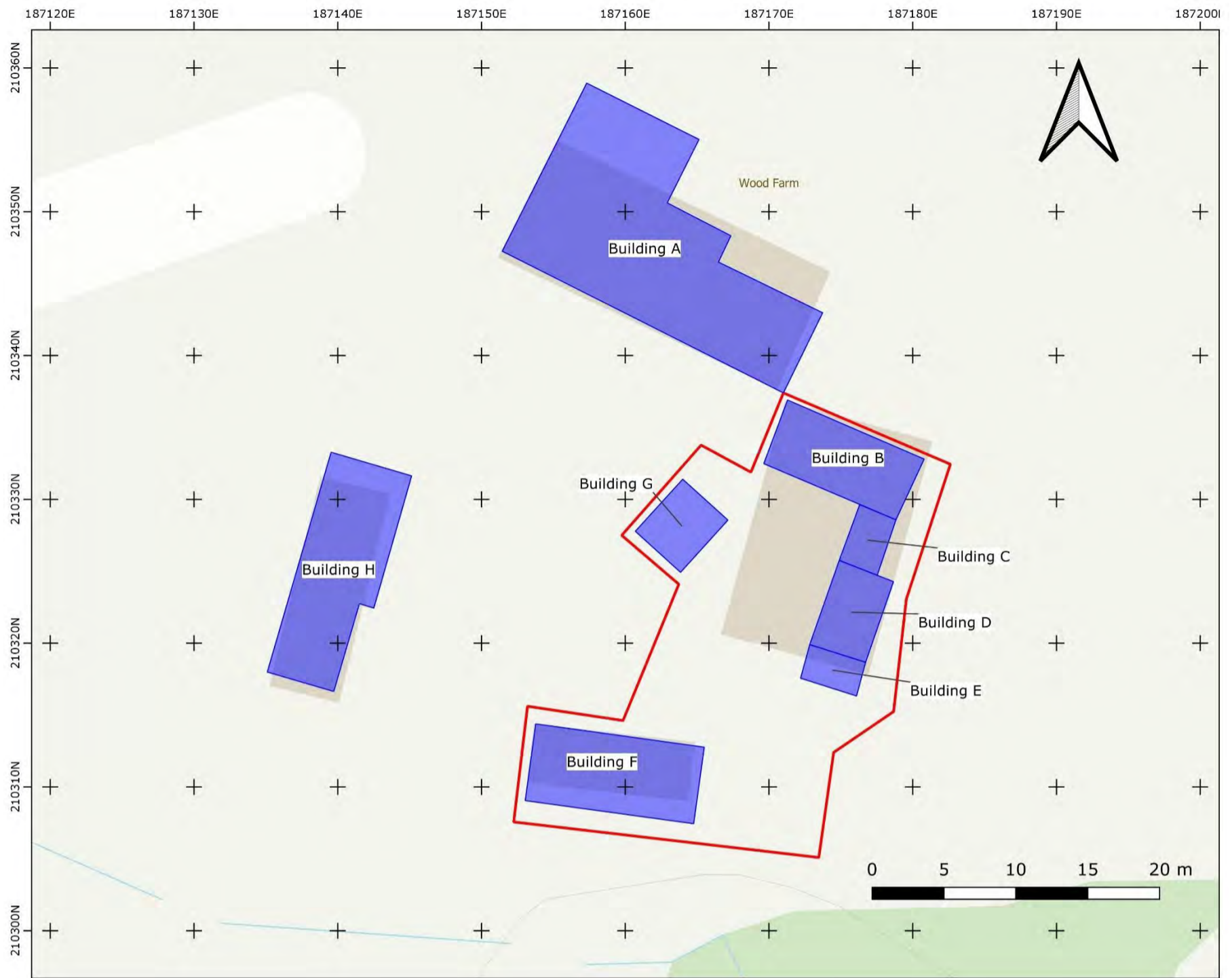


Figure 2: Wood Farm, showing the buildings with labels referring to the descriptions provided by Acanthus Holden Architects, with the area of the buildings included in the historic building survey within the red line

2. Project Aims and Methodology

Historic Building Investigation and Recording

- 2.1 The general aim of the Historic Building Investigation and Recording is to provide an appropriate record of the Buildings, prior to their proposed conversion to holiday accommodation, and create a permanent archive and record of the archaeological information collected during the historic building investigation.
- 2.2 The specific aim of the recording project is to produce a Level 2 descriptive record in line with the guidance set out in Understanding Historic Buildings (Historic England 2016). The record comprises both exterior and interior examination of the Buildings, including descriptions and photographs.
- 2.3 The objectives of the project are:
- to undertake a Level 2 descriptive survey of the Buildings, including identification of any significant features, fittings or fabric;
 - to provide a visual record of the Buildings prior to their proposed conversion;
 - to produce a Level 2 record to include annotated drawings, photographs, brief written account and historic background;
 - to disseminate the findings of the work in an illustrated report, integrating the findings of the recording work to produce an appropriately detailed record;
 - to provide a high quality, fully integrated archive suitable for long-term deposition in order to 'preserve by record' the Buildings in their current form prior to the proposed conversion.
- 2.4 The historic building recording has been undertaken in accordance with professional guidance including the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures (2020) and with the Historic England publication Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice (2016).
- 2.5 The survey was undertaken on 18/05/2022 by James Meek MCIfA. It was possible to access all areas of the Buildings, although the first floor

of Building D was only partly accessed from the exterior doorway due to concerns of the safety of the floor.

- 2.6 A Level 2 record is defined in Understanding Historic Buildings as follows:
- 'This is a descriptive record, made in similar circumstances to Level 1 but when more information is needed. It may be made of a building which is judged not to require a more detailed record, or it may serve to gather data for a wider project. Both the exterior and interior of the building will be seen, described and photographed. The examination of the building will produce an analysis of its development and use and the record will include the conclusions reached, but it will not discuss in detail the evidence on which this analysis is based. A plan and sometimes other drawings may be made but the drawn record will normally not be comprehensive and may be tailored to the scope of a wider project.'* (Understanding Historic Buildings – A guide to good recording practice. Historic England. 2016. P.26).
- 2.7 Plans used in this report are based on information supplied by the client and additional information recorded on site.
- 2.8 Based on Understanding Historic Buildings the following was included in the survey.
- Photographic Record: high-resolution digital photographs have been taken showing general views of the Building in its wider setting and landscape; the external appearance of the Building; and internal; views of all areas, including details.
 - The Drawn Record: annotated existing survey drawings.
 - The Written Record for a Level 2 survey requires the following information:
 - i. The precise location of the Building as an address: Wood Farm, Walwyn's Castle, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3DZ;
 - ii. National Grid reference: NGR 187169 210320.

- iii. The Buildings are not listed, nor do they lie in a Conservation Area , although they do lie within the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park;
- iv. The survey was undertaken on 18/05/2022 by James Meek MCIfA.
- v. The purely digital archive will be deposited with Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales;
- vi. AN Event Record Number has been obtained from the Dyfed HER for the project – ERN 128825;
- vii. The following sections provide descriptions of the Buildings’ form, function, date and sequence of development;
- viii. A brief historic background has been included within the report;
- ix. A copy of the report will be sent to the Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record.

3. Historical Background

- 3.1 Wood Farm is located adjacent to the scheduled monument of Sykes Rath, an Iron Age promontory fort.
- 3.2 The farm is shown on the 1841 Tithe map, although the detail is lacking and it is indicated as a single structure located within a roughly square enclosure (Figure 3). The irregular shape of the adjacent field boundary to the east is likely to circumnavigate the western side of Sykes Rath. No details of the farm are included in the Tithe Apportionment, although the fields around it, 255, 257, 258 and 259 are. Fields 255, 257 and 259 are unnamed fields used for pasture. Field 259 is recorded as Woodland (Wood Partly). All of the fields are under the ownership and occupancy of Somers James Bowlas.



Figure 3: Extract of the 1841 Tithe Map
Plan of the parish of Walwyn's Castle in the County of Pembroke

- 3.3 By the late 19th century Ordnance Survey maps show the layout of buildings similar to that which exists today, with Buildings A, B, C and G

all shown comprising the farmhouse and a small U-shaped courtyard to the south.

- 3.4 The layout is shown clearly on the 1908 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 4) and shows how it related to the adjacent Sykes Rath. It was located avoiding the main earthworks of the fort, but did appear to encroach into the alignment of its outer bank to the north.



Figure 4: Extract of the 1908 Ordnance Survey map showing the Buildings of Wood Farm in relation to Sykes Rath

- 3.5 At some point in the later part of the 20th century Building C was added between Buildings B and D. **Building F, the 'Half Round' was also added in the later the 20th century.** As farming practices changed, the Buildings became redundant as useful farm buildings as they were too small, being reutilised for storage. Luckily the buildings have been maintained and survive in relatively good states of preservation.

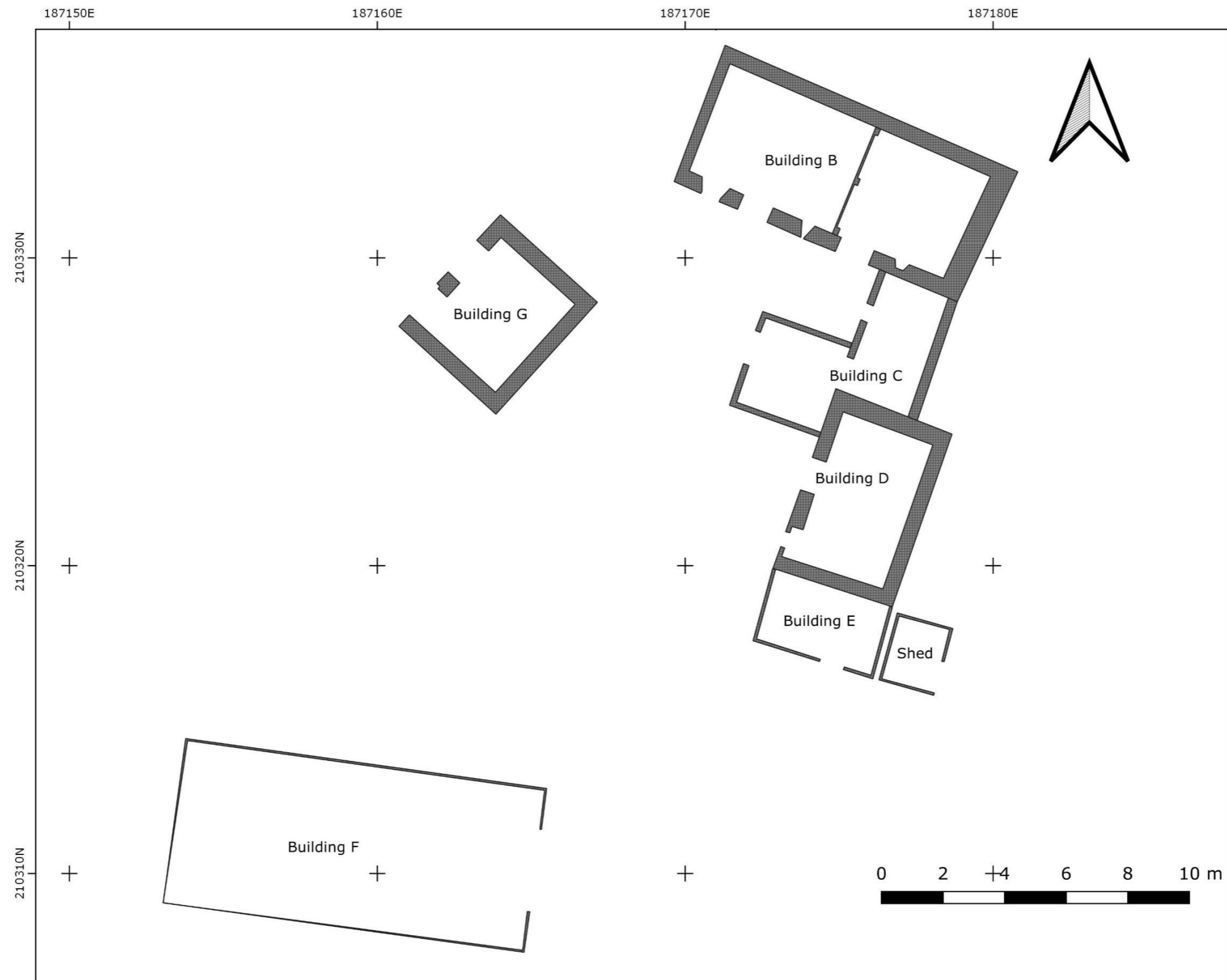


Figure 5: Floor plans of the buildings (based on Acanthus Holden plans)

4 Historic Building Investigation and Recording Results

Introduction

- 4.1 The Buildings subject to historic building recording were Buildings B, C, D, E, F and G. These are described individually first and then as a group.
- 4.2 Building A was not recorded, being the present home of the site owners and to which there are no proposed changes as part of the planning application. Building H comprises modern store buildings and a kennel (to be converted to a bin store). The building will otherwise remain unaltered. It has no historic fabric.
- 4.3 The survey was undertaken on the 18th May 2022 by James Meek MCIfA in dry but overcast conditions.

Building B

- 4.4 Building B was located at the northern end of the courtyard. Internally it measured in total 8.90m in length, with a central timber partition separating it into two parts: 4.98m in length to the west and 3.91m long to the east. It measured 3.64m in width at the western end reducing to around 3.55m to the east. The building was open to the roof, 3.88m in height to the apex to the west and 3.67m to the apex to the east.
- 4.5 The building was constructed of rubble stone, with some later brick additions. The roof was supported on simple modern timber frames with asbestos sheeting roofs. The wall heights to the eaves on the north and south side of the building were around 2.30m in height.
- 4.6 The western gable end had a fireplace measuring 0.94m in width and 1.04m in height and went back into the wall by 0.37m. It was not possible to determine if a flue was present due to material stacked against the wall. No chimney was visible. A small former narrow slit light was present near the top of the gable of around 0.40m height, some 2.70m from floor level. This had been blocked but the outline was still visible. An extant light was present in the eastern gable end, again around 2.70m from the floor and around 0.40m in height. It was obscured by ivy growth.
- 4.7 The southern faced of the building contained two doorways (wooden split stable doors were still extant but in poor state of repair) providing access to the two rooms formed by the partition. The western doorway measured

1.90m in height and 1.03m in width internally. The door frame created a 0.83m width door. Externally it was 2.10m in height, due to the change in floor level. The eastern doorway was 1.90m in height and 1.07m in width, narrowing to around 0.90m in width with the doorframe.

- 4.8 Three window openings were also present on the southern façade, originally comprising northern three splayed lights, although only the central window survived in its original state. This measured 0.68m in height and 0.45m in width internally and 0.60m in height and around 0.10m in width externally. The western window had been replaced with a modern square window of 0.70m in height and 0.65m in width. The eastern window had been blocked, although the internal splay was still visible measuring 0.63m in height and around 0.47m in width. All windows were set some 1.10 – 1.15m from the interior floor level.
- 4.9 In the southeastern corner of the two rooms formed by the timber partition were small stone built water troughs measuring some 0.50m in width along the two walls and 0.80m in height. Metal grill feeder baskets were held on the walls above.
- 4.10 The floor of the building was of concrete. A slight level change was visible in the eastern room to the east of the doorway entrance.
- 4.11 The building had been terraced into the ground level such that only the western and southern elevations were exposed. The exterior western gable end was mostly obscured by trees. The northern and eastern elevations were only partly visible above ground level.
- 4.12 The building had evidently been used for animal housing, presumably stabling for two horses as indicated by the two doorways, timber partition, water trough and metal feeders. Whether it had been used for other animals is not certain.



Photo 1: Southern façade of Building B



Photo 3: Eastern side of southern façade of Building B



Photo 2: Western side of southern façade of Building B



Photo 4: Top of eastern gable end of Building B above ground level



Photo 5: Northern elevation of Building B, showing it is terraced into the ground



Photo 7: Western interior gable end showing fireplace and ground level of Building B



Photo 6: View of western interior gable end and roof structure of Building B



Photo 8: Detail of fireplace in western gable end of Building B



Photo 9: Northern interior wall of Building B, western side



Photo 11: Wooden partition in centre of Building B, viewing east



Photo 10: Northern interior wall of Building B and wooden partition to right



Photo 12: View of southern wall interior of Building B showing doorway and western window



Photo 13: View of interior of southern wall of Building B showing doorway to right and central surviving splayed window with trough below and feeder above



Photo 15: Eastern gable end wall of Building B showing roof structure with window light near apex of roof and feeder to right



Photo 14: View of feeder in southeastern corner of western room within Building B



Photo 16: Lower part of eastern gable end wall of Building B showing feeder and water trough in southeastern corner



Photo 17: View of northern interior wall of eastern side of Building B



Photo 19: Wooden partition in centre of Building B, facing west, with change in floor level in foreground



Photo 18: Wooden partition in Building B, facing west showing roof structure



Photo 20: Detail of feeder and water trough in southeastern corner of Building B



Photo 21: View of doorway and blocked splayed window in eastern half of southern interior wall of Building B



Photo 23: Detail of window in western end of interior southern wall of Building B



Photo 22: Detail of blocked light in upper part of interior western gable end wall of Building B



Photo 24: Detail of central splayed window in interior southern wall of Building B

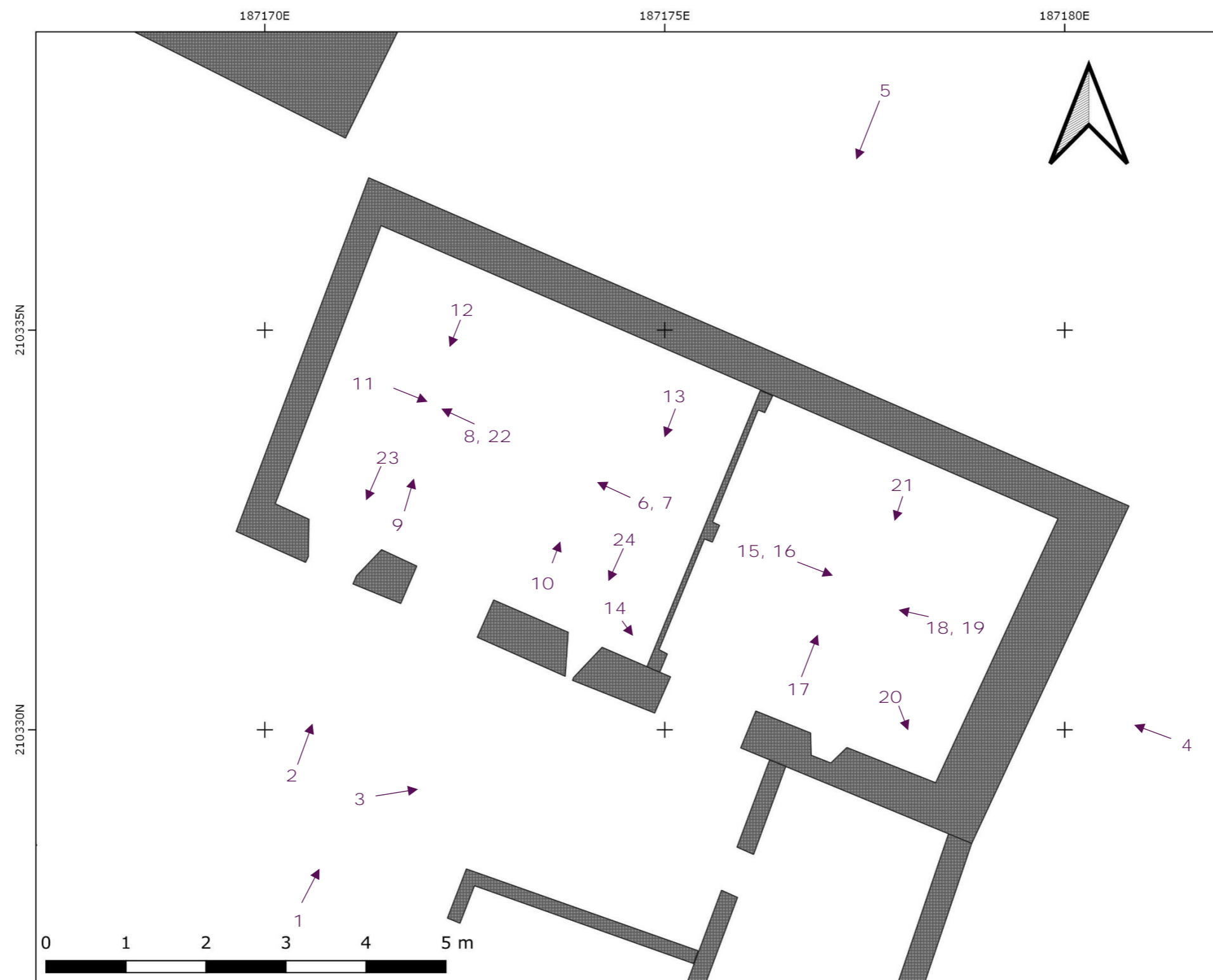


Figure 6: Building B floorplan and photograph locations and directions

Building C

- 4.13 This building was located in the gap between Buildings B and D. The western façade of the building was built of breeze block. The northern and southern walls were formed by the walls of Buildings B and D. The rear wall also appeared to be of stone, presumably a stone revetment wall holding up the bank material into which Building B had been terraced.
- 4.14 The building measured 3.86m in length and 2.21m in width. The roof was of simple construction with rafters resting on the eastern and western walls, with clear plastic corrugated sheeting and powder coated modern corrugated metal sheeting forming the roof. It was 2.20m in height to the east and 2.10m in height to the west forming a slight catslide roof to allow rainwater to run off.
- 4.15 The western façade had a single doorway on its southern side built directly against Building D. The doorway measured 1.02m in width and was the full height of the breeze block wall at 2.10m.
- 4.16 A single window was present to the north of the doorway, 0.57m in width and 0.63m in height, standing 1.32m above floor level. The floor of the building was concrete and the same level as a concrete surface that was located in the area west of the building and south of Building B.
- 4.17 To the west of the building was a small enclosure built of breeze block and concrete forming a small animal pen outside of the building. The enclosure covered part of the western frontage of both Building C and D. The walls of the pen were 1.20m in height enclosing an almost square internal area of 2.80m x 2.76m. A single doorway was present into the pen, of 1.10m width on the western elevation.
- 4.18 Both the building and the pen had concrete floors at the same level. There was a drop to the west between the pen and the grassed area beyond, with rounded concrete footings between.
- 4.19 Building C was a later addition to the farm buildings, infilling an area between Buildings B and C, utilising their existing walls and a revetment wall to the west to create a simple room. It was presumably used as a pigsty based on the presence of the square enclosure in front of the building.



Photo 25: View east of western façade of Building C, with Building B to left and Building D and animal pen to right



Photo 26: View of doorway into Building C in its western façade, with Building D to right and inside of animal pen in front of doorway



Photo 27: Floor of animal pen west of doorway into Building C



Photo 29: View northeast of eastern interior wall of Building C, which is probably a former revetment wall holding up the bank material to the east



Photo 28: View of interior northern wall of Building C, which is the outer wall of Building B



Photo 30: View southeast of eastern interior wall of Building C, which is probably a former revetment wall holding up the bank material to the east



Photo 31: View of southern interior wall of Building C, which is part of the external wall of Building D



Photo 33: View northwest of window in western interior wall of Building C



Photo 32: View southwest of doorway in western interior wall of Building C



Photo 34: View of roof structure of Building C looking south



Photo 35: View west from doorway of Building C into the animal pen enclosure and entrance into it

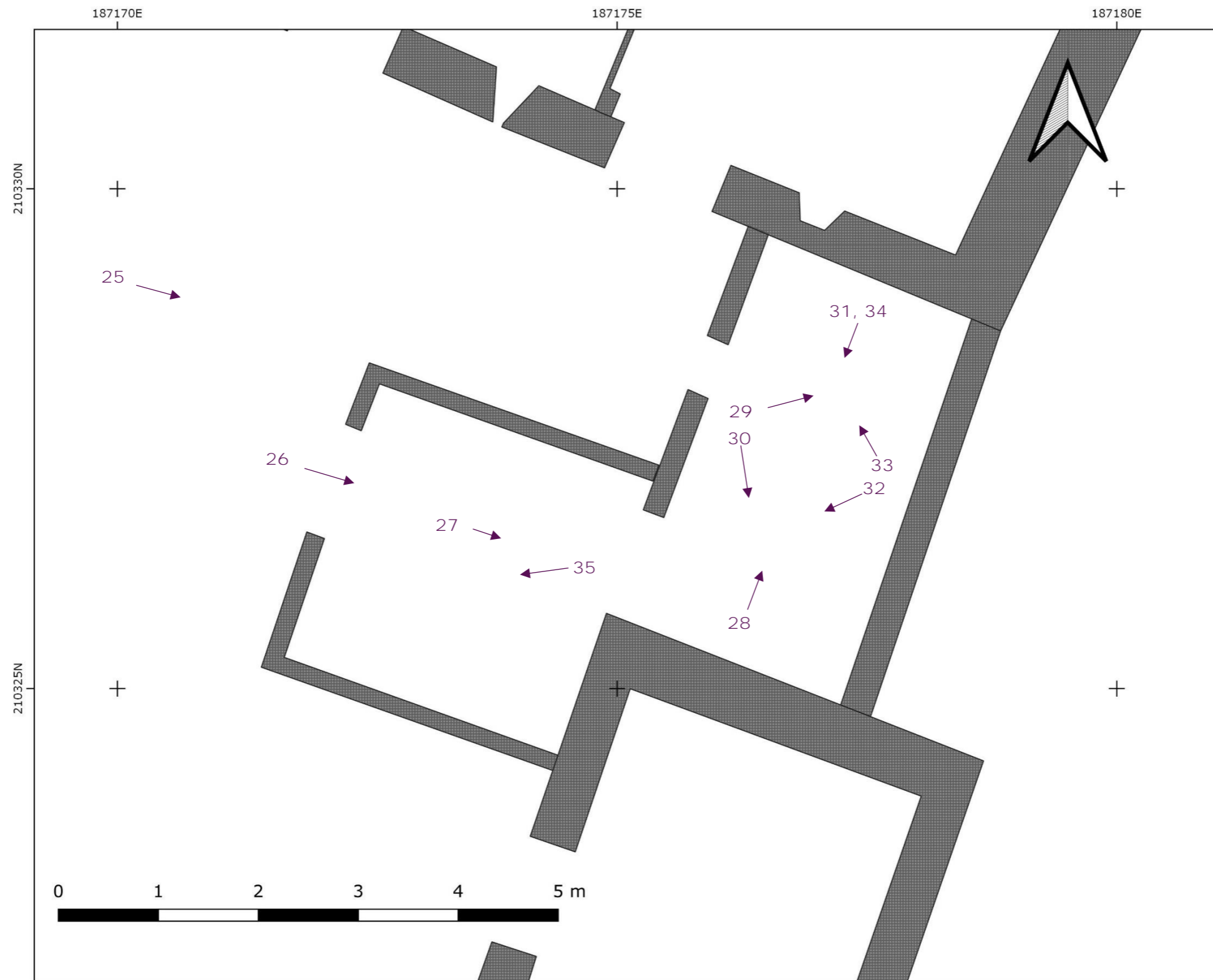


Figure 7: Building C floorplan and photograph locations and directions

Building D

- 4.20 Building D was the only structure of two floors. The first floor was only accessible via a doorway on the southern side of the western façade of the building at first floor level. A blocked doorway was present on the northern end of the eastern elevation. The western doorway measured around 0.90m in width and 1.16m in height, raised some 2.40m above ground level. The external height to the eaves was 3.50m.
- 4.21 The ground floor was accessed via a single door on the western façade with a window to the north. It had a concrete floor.
- 4.22 The ground floor of the building measured 4.96m in length and 2.96m in width. The ceiling of this floor was 1.89m in height to the underside of the floor joists and 2.10m to the underside of the floorboards above the joists. The first floor was only viewed from the western doorway due to health and safety concerns of walking on the floorboards (and the presence of holes within them). The floor plan will have measured the same as that at ground floor level, with the side walls raised up by around 1m from the floor level and the pitched roof on-top. It was clear, especially inside the first floor, that the building was originally a single storey structure and had been later raised in brick.
- 4.23 The ground floor had a blocked window to the north of the doorway. This had been blocked with stone rubble. Evidently it had been a splayed window, similar to those seen in Building B, with the internal measurement of brick blocking around 0.38m in width and 0.72m in height. The external blocked opening was approximately 0.18m in width and 0.55m in height. The window opening was 1.10m above floor level.
- 4.24 A further window to the south of the door contained a window framed window. The aperture was 0.47m in width and 0.60m in height, being 0.96m above the internal floor level. The window lay within a recess in the wall of the building, which was clearly a former doorway that had been blocked with brick. The recess within the room was 1.06m in width, 1.86m in height and recessed 0.36m back from the internal wall.
- 4.25 The original function of this building was not clear as no features were visible internally. The two door layout may indicate another animal shed. At a later date when the first floor was added it was likely used for storage of animal feed or grain.



Photo 36: View of western facade of Building D, with animal pen and Building C to left and Building E to right



Photo 37: View of exterior of southern gable end of Building D, with Building E in front



Photo 38: View of eastern elevation of Building D, with blocked entrance at first floor level on northern end



Photo 39: Part of northern gable end of Building D, with roof of Building C in middle ground and start of eastern gable end of Building B to right



Photo 40: Detail of southern end of western façade of Building D showing the doorway to the first floor, brick repairs on southwestern corner, brick blocked doorway with later window at ground floor



Photo 41: Detail of brick repairs on southeastern corner of Building D



Photo 43: View of interior of southern gable end of Building D at first floor level showing original stone built gable and modern brick rebuild above, with blocked door to right



Photo 42: Detail of northeastern corner of Building D where it is partly dug into the raised ground level



Photo 44: View south of roof structure of Building D comprising of simple A frame supported on later brick heightened walls



Photo 45: Northern end of western interior wall of Building D showing modern brick wall heightening



Photo 47: View of northern gable end wall at ground level in Building D



Photo 46: Top of original stone northern gable end wall, with brick heightening above



Photo 48: View of northwestern corner of ground floor of Building D, showing doorway to left and blocked window to right



Photo 49 (left): Detail of blocked window in northern part of the interior western wall of Building D; Photo 50 (right): View of western façade of Building D where the northern blocked window is visible



Photo 51: View of doorway and southern window in western interior wall at ground floor level within Building D, with brick blocked doorway to left



Photo 52: Southern gable end wall at ground level within Building D



Photo 53: View of southern side of eastern interior wall at ground floor level of Building D



Photo 54: View of northern side of eastern interior wall at ground floor level of Building D



Photo 55: View northwest showing later added ceiling of ground floor level, with rafters and boarding for the first floor of Building D

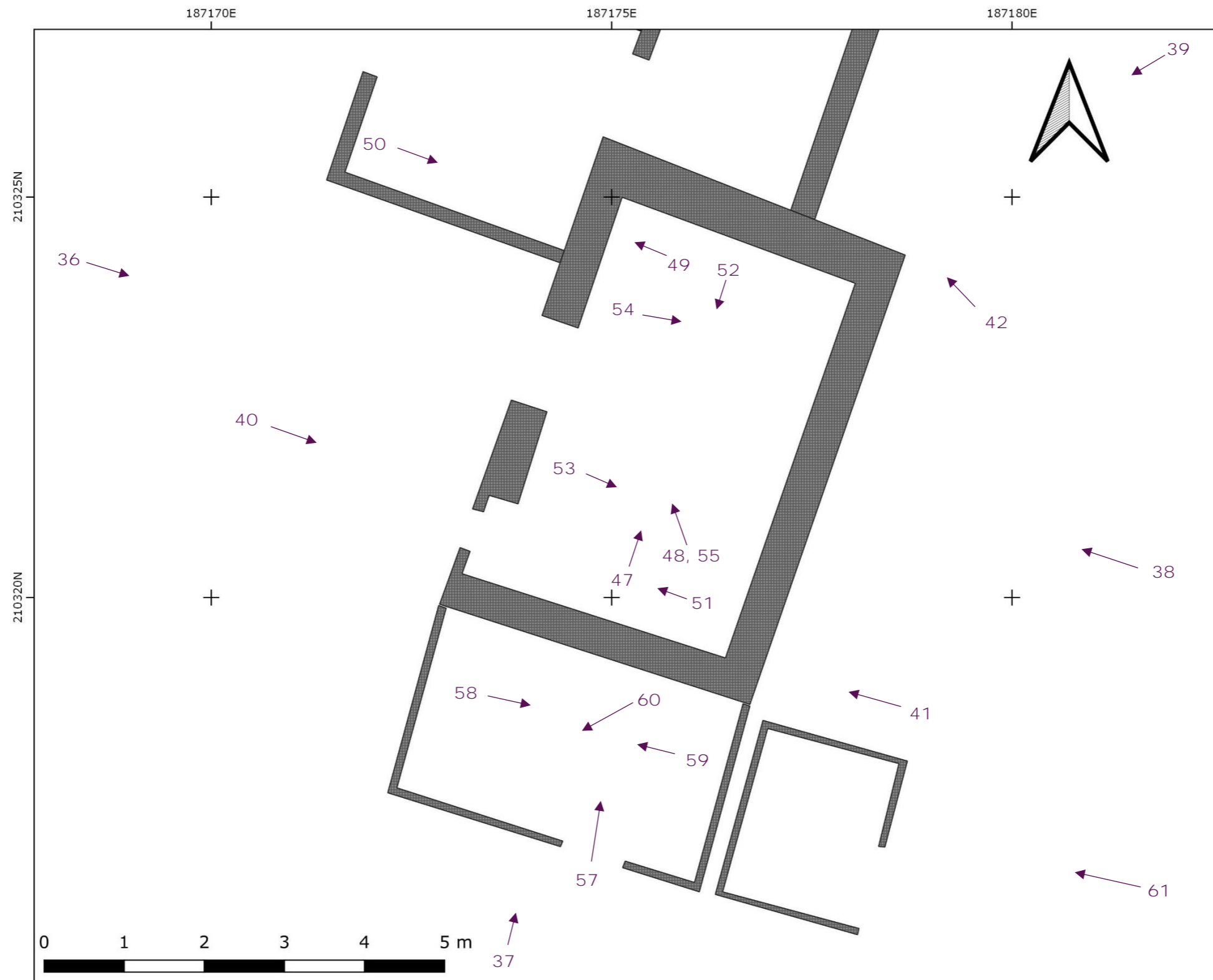


Figure 8: Buildings D and E floorplans and photograph locations and directions

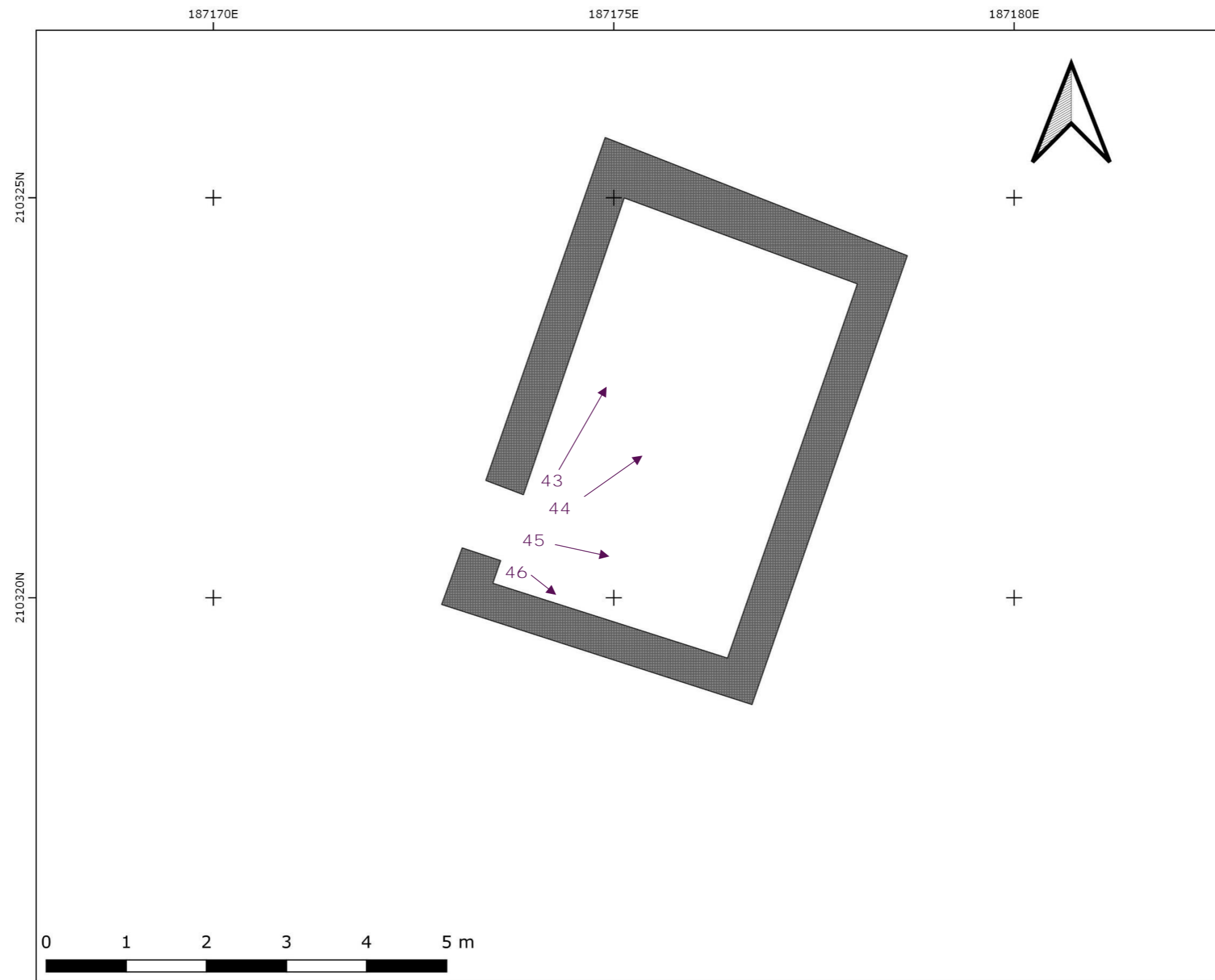


Figure 9: Building D first floor plan and photograph locations and directions

Building E

- 4.26 Building E was a lean to shed at the southern end of Building D (Photo 38), built of timber frame and zinc galvanised corrugated iron, painted black. The building measured 2.74m in length and 2.34m in width, with a doorway on the southern elevation measuring 1.76m in width. There is no indication that this ever had a door. The rear wall of Building E was formed by the southern wall of Building D.
- 4.27 It had a cat slide roof also built of timber supporting black galvanised corrugated iron sheeting. The roof height was 2m adjacent to Building D, falling to 1.68m at its southern side.
- 4.28 A free standing shed built of the same material lay to the east of Building E.
- 4.29 The building seems to have been a simple storage shed added to the end of Building D to create a lean-to store. The adjacent shed to the east is likely to have been a contemporary addition.



Photo 57: Northern wall of Building E, which is the outer southern gable end wall of Building D



Photo 58: Eastern interior wall of Building E



Photo 59: Western interior wall of Building E



Photo 60: Southern wall of Building G with open entrance to left



Photo 61: View of galvanised corrugated iron sheet shed to east of Building E, with Building D to right

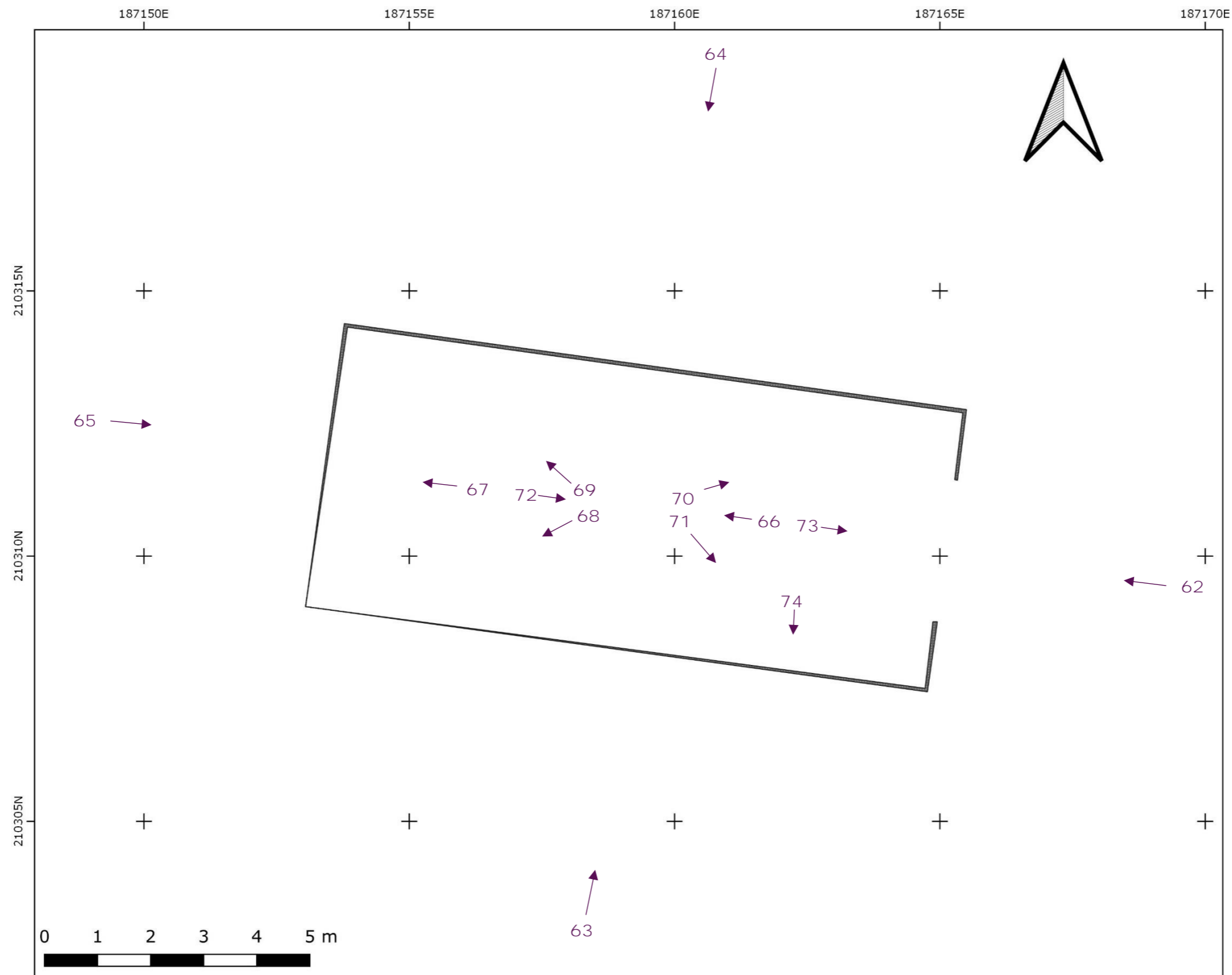


Figure 10: Building F floorplan and photograph locations and directions

Building F

- 4.30 Building F was a long building being approximately 111m in length and 5m in width. It was constructed of thin semi-circular frames held together by **4"x2" timbers**. The exterior was clad in **galvanised corrugated iron sheets**, painted black.
- 4.31 The eastern end of the building was mostly open, framed by panels to the north and south and above creating a large doorway. At the western end of the building was a small window opening 2.10m above ground level placed centrally in the semi-circular gable end. It measured 1.76m in width and 0.44m in height.
- 4.32 Internally there was a slight platform along the southern side of the building. No such platform was present to the north. A threshold beam, possibly of timber or concrete was located at the eastern entrance. No flooring was noted in the building.
- 4.33 At least two of the black galvanised corrugated iron sheets were stamped with **'Ruddington'** and what may be serial numbers, although some of the characters could not be read.

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- 4.34 The structure had warped slightly and leant to the north.
- 4.35 It is most likely that the building is a reused Nissen Hut purchased after World War II for reuse as an agricultural building, a common occurrence across the UK. The building measured approximately 16ft x 36ft (5m x 11m) which was standard size for a Nissen hut, typically being either 16, 24 or 36ft in width and their length being based on multiples of 6ft to tie in with the gaps between the metal semi-circular frames used in their construction. Whether the panels stamped with Ruddington and the reference numbers are contemporary, or later replacement panels is uncertain, although the stencilled font used appears militaristic.
- 4.36 It is possible that Building E and the adjacent shed were purchased or added at this time, also utilising former World War II structures. Wood Farm lies relatively close to the former World War II airfield that was located at RAF Talbenny to the west, and it is possible the structures were acquired from there once the airfield was decommissioned.



Photo 62: Eastern elevation of Building F, showing entrance and classic Nissen Hut shape



Photo 63: View north of southern side of Building G



Photo 64: View south of northern side of Building G



Photo 66: View west of interior of Building F towards window in western end showing roof structure



Photo 65: View east of western end of Building F, showing window



Photo 67: Detail of western end of Building F showing window



Photo 68: View southwest of southern and west sides of Building F



Photo 70: View northeast of northern side and east end of Building F



Photo 69: View northwest of northern and west sides of Building F



Photo 71: View southeast of southern side and east end of Building F



Photo 72: View east along Building F towards eastern end



Photo 73: View east along Building F of eastern end and entrance



Photo 74: Detail of galvanised corrugated iron panels of Building F with stencilled writing located on southern side at eastern end

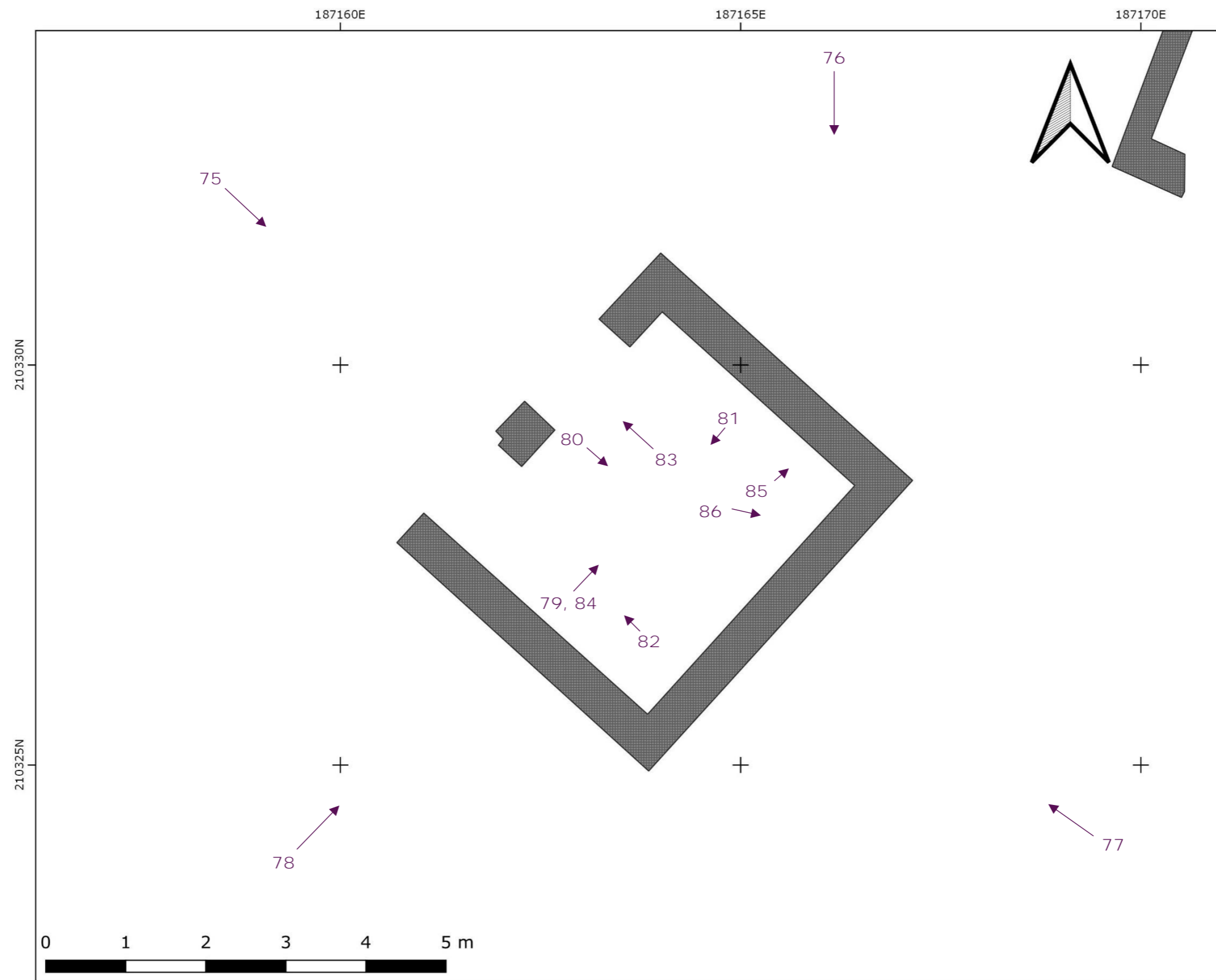


Figure 11: Building G floorplan and photograph locations and directions

Building G

- 4.37 Building G lay on the western side of the courtyard. It was a small single storey building measuring 3.88m in length and 3.47m in width. A timber slatted ceiling had been added to the interior of 2.3m height, dropping down at the eaves.
- 4.38 The western façade of the building had the door and single surviving window within it. The door measured 1.80m in height and 1.10m in width. The surviving window was large and fitted with a modern timber unit. It measured 0.90m in height and 1.28m in width, being located 1.22m above floor level. The external height to the eaves was 1.90m.
- 4.39 Two blocked windows were also present in the building, one on the western side of the northern wall, which had been blocked with breeze blocks. This measured 0.70m in height and 0.97m in width. It appeared that a large thin stone lintel was located above the window, but had been obscured with render. It was located around 1m above the concrete interior floor level. The northern blocked window could be seen on the northern elevation similar to how it appeared internally.
- 4.40 The second window was on the northern end of the eastern wall and measured 0.70m in height and 0.70m in width. It was also blocked with breeze block. This had a very large stone lintel above which could be seen through the render. The bottom of this window was 0.76m above floor level. The opening for the eastern window was partly visible, but seemed more extensive than the interior indicated.
- 4.41 The building is described as a dairy in the Acanthus Holden report, although no features to confirm this use could be determined inside the building. It is probable that it has always been known as the dairy due to its original use.



Photo 75: Western façade of Building G



Photo 76: Northern gable end of Building G, with blocked window behind scale bar



Photo 77: Eastern elevation of Building G from within main farm courtyard with blocked window to left of right hand scale bar



Photo 79: Interior of northern gable end wall of Building G



Photo 78: Southern gable end of Building G



Photo 80: View of eastern interior wall of Building G with blocked window to left



Photo 81: Interior of southern gable end wall of Building G



Photo 83: View of interior of window in western wall of Building G



Photo 82: View of interior of doorway in western wall of Building G

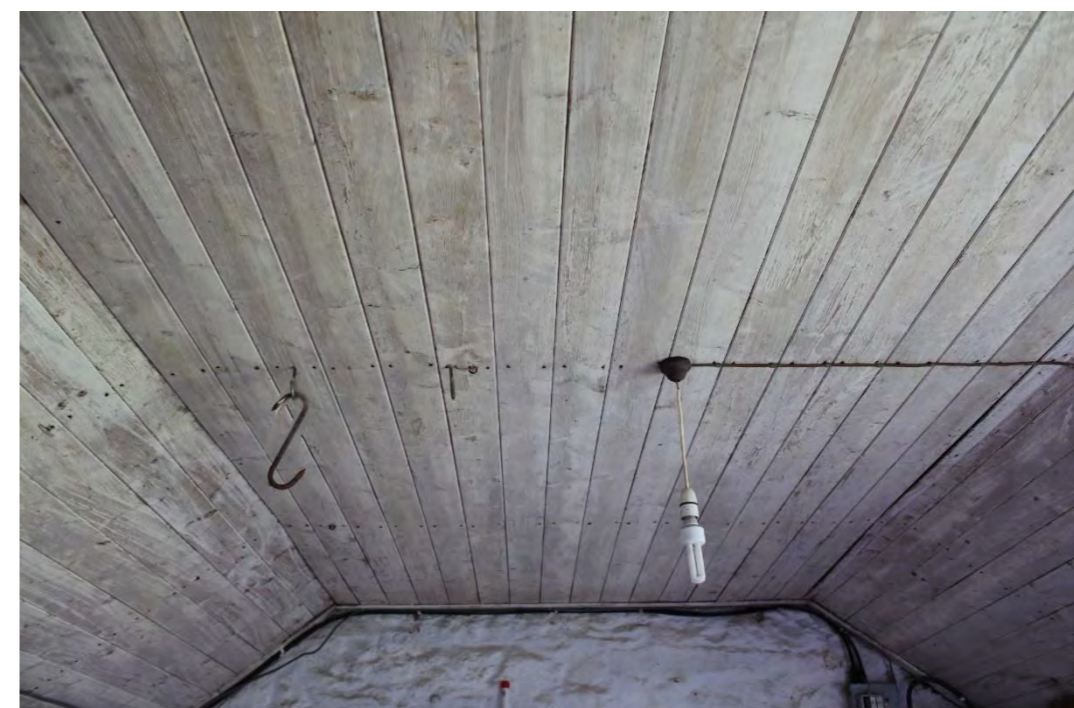


Photo 84: Detail of ceiling in Building G looking south

4.42 The following photographs show the Buildings in their general setting and have been taken from the Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales report.



Photo 85: Detail of blocked window in northern gable end wall of Building G



Photo 86: Interior view showing detail of blocked window in eastern wall of Building G



Photo 87: View east along driveway to Wood Farm



Photo 88: View east across Wood Farm showing the farmhouse (Building A) and courtyard beyond, with Building F and G visible to right



Photo 89: View south-southeast from farmhouse towards courtyard Buildings G and F



Photo 91: View north inside courtyard with Building G to left, Building B centre and Building D to right



Photo 90: View northeast through farmyard towards farmhouse (Building A, left) and courtyard Buildings B – G (right)



Photo 92: View northeast inside courtyard with Building B to left and Building C linking it to Building D, with Building E lean-to extension to right



Photo 93: View west from inside courtyard to western gate with Half-round to left (Building F) and Building H beyond



Photo 94: View west from eastern side of courtyard showing farmhouse, Building A to right and Building D behind tree

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 This Level 2 Historic Building Record of the former farm outbuildings at **Wood Farm, Walwyn's Castle** provides an appropriate record of the Buildings prior to their conversion to holiday accommodation.
- 5.2 Based on cartographic evidence, the farm was in existence prior to 1841, although the form of it at that time is not known. By the late 19th century the existing form of the farm with attached courtyard is shown, comprising Buildings A, B, D and E. The structures appear to be of mid-late 19th century date, and the standard vernacular style for farm buildings in this area. These would be considered of local significance, but are recognised as a diminishing resource as farm practices change and redundant buildings are demolished and lost.
- 5.3 Based on evidence recorded on site, Building B had been constructed on a terrace dug into the hill slope, such that most of its northern elevation and eastern gable end wall were built below ground. This may indicate the continuation of the outer bank of the scheduled monument of the Iron Age Sykes Rath curving around its northwestern side. The fact that the remainder of the farmyard area is level suggests that the possible bank ended before or at Building D. There was clearly a stone revetment wall built up against this bank between Buildings B and D, later utilised as the rear wall to Building C.
- 5.4 Building B was used as a stable block, comprising two stables each with their own door and window. The existing timber partition appears to be a modern replacement and so the original layout of the building is not known. The windows in the structure were all narrow openings on the exterior wall splaying out to larger openings on the internal wall. Only the central one of these currently survives. The western one has been enlarged and a new window inserted. The eastern splayed window was presumably blocked when Building C was added. Two further narrow lights were present near the tops of the eastern and western gable ends. The western light has been blocked, but the eastern light remained open, although clogged with ivy.
- 5.5 Building D may have also been used as an animal shed, with two doors and a narrow window light to the north, which was been blocked at a later date. The central doorway survives, but the southern doorway was later blocked with brick and a new window inserted. The building was originally a single storey stone built structure on the eastern side of the courtyard, possibly partly terraced into the bank on its northern side. At some point in the 20th century a first floor level was added to create a grain store or similar. This was built in brick, raising the side walls and gable end walls, with first floor entrances on the northern part of the east wall and southern part of the west wall. It is possible that the southern doorway was blocked at this time and that repairs were undertaken to the southeastern and southwestern corners of the structure, both of which have partial rebuilds in brick.
- 5.6 Building D was located on the western side of the courtyard and was accessed from the west. This is known as the Dairy and it is possible that it was its original use. It is obviously too small for a milking parlour but may have been used for milk storage and processing of butter or cheese. A timber slatted ceiling had been added to the building in recent years and a large modern window added to the western façade. Two earlier windows to the north and east had been blocked with breeze block.
- 5.7 Buildings B, D and E were all constructed of stone and would have originally had slate tiled roofs. Numerous slate tiles were noted in the area around Building D. In the 20th century the roofs were replaced and replaced with corrugated asbestos sheeting. The roof trusses may have also been replaced at this time also. All of the buildings are now whitewashed inside and out and the thickness of the whitewash may indicate this has been done for many years.
- 5.8 Building C was constructed in the area between Buildings B and D some time in the 20th century. The eastern wall is formed by the stone revetment wall and the northern and southern ends by the existing walls of Building B and Building D respectively. The western wall is constructed of breeze block with simple doorway and a single window. The roof was a mono-pitched roof, now covered with modern roofing materials.
- 5.9 Building E is a galvanised corrugated iron clad shed lean to shed built on an insubstantial timber frame. A further shed lay to the east of this built of the same material.

- 5.10 Building F is a relocated Nissen Hut from World War II, possibly originating from RAF Talbenny Airfield to the west and reused for animal housing. It is of the correct width and length for such a structure. The building has been maintained quite well and is in a good state of repair. Some stencilled information was visible on a number of the internal panels but it is not known if this related to the original panelling or later repairs. No information regarding this could be found online.
- 5.11 It is likely that Buildings E, F and the shed are contemporary additions to the farm, possibly all acquired as redundant World War II military equipment.

- 5.12 Building A is the present farmhouse which has been extended over the years and remains the main residence for the owners of the site. The building was not recorded. Building H to the west was a modern series of farm buildings and a dog kennel. These are much later additions to the farm and again were not part of the historic building recording works.
- 5.13 The Buildings of the farmyard are all to be retained and converted, including the Nissen Hut. The proposals will change the use of the buildings, but will also ensure their longer term survival.

6. Bibliography

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