

**Archaeological Building Recording at
The Coach House, 33 The Grove,
Gosforth**



33 The Grove, south elevation

ARS Ltd Report 2007/25
April 2007

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Contents

List of Figures.....	3
Executive Summary.....	5
1. Introduction.....	6
1.1. Location and Scope of Work.....	6
2. Methodology.....	8
2.1. Site Investigation.....	8
2.2. Photographic Survey.....	8
2.3. Consultation of Archive Sources.....	8
2.4. Consultation of Internet Sources.....	8
2.5. Investigation of Historic Maps.....	9
3. Background.....	14
4. Results.....	15
4.1. Main Building Exterior.....	15
4.2. Main Building Interior.....	22
4.3. Coach House Exterior.....	49
4.4. Coach House Interior.....	52
4.5. Consultation of Archives.....	55
4.6. Consultation of Historic Mapping.....	56
5. Discussion.....	60
6. Acknowledgements.....	60
8. Sources.....	65

Appendix I: Photographic Register

Appendix II: Specification

List of Figures

1.	Site location.....	6
2.	Site Plan.....	7
3.	Ground Floor plan and location of photographs.....	10
4.	First Floor, Attic and Basement plan and location of photographs.....	11
5.	Elevations Main Building.....	12
6.	Elevations Coach House.....	13
7.	South elevation.....	16
8.	Ventilation grate, south elevation.....	16
9.	Ventilation grate, south elevation.....	17
10.	East elevation.....	17
11.	East elevation bay window.....	18
12.	East elevation, later extension.....	18
13.	East elevation, later extension window.....	19
14.	North elevation.....	20
15.	Damaged wall, north elevation.....	21
16.	North elevation, west corner.....	21
17.	Windows in east facing wall of extension in north elevation.....	22
18.	Front passageway.....	23
19.	Ceiling decoration in front passageway.....	23
20.	Archway leading from front passageway.....	24
21.	Archway leading from passageway to Room Two.....	24
22.	Ground floor staircase.....	25
23.	Doubled back wall in staircase, ground floor.....	25
24.	Room One.....	26
25.	Skirting board, Room One.....	27
26.	Doorframe, Room One.....	27
27.	Decorative cornice, patterned frieze and picture rail, Room One.....	28
28.	Fireplace, Room One.....	28
29.	Archway from Room One into Room Two.....	29
30.	Bay window in Room Two.....	29
31.	Decorative ceiling, Room Four.....	30
32.	Decorative cornice and patterned frieze, Room Four.....	31
33.	Blocked access in Room Four. Heating pipe.....	31
34.	Room Five.....	32
35.	Decorative cornice, border and picture rail, Room Five.....	33
36.	Wallpaper underneath a later dado rail, Room Five.....	33
37.	Decorative ceiling, Room Five.....	34
38.	Window, Room Five.....	34
39.	Fireplace, Room Five.....	35
40.	Room Six.....	36
41.	Landing between Ground and First Floor.....	37
42.	Decorative ceiling rose on First Floor landing.....	37
43.	First Floor landing.....	38
44.	Room Nine.....	38
45.	Room Ten.....	39
46.	Room Eleven.....	40
47.	Room Twelve.....	41
48.	Doorway leading to Room Thirteen.....	41

49.	Cupboard in Room Fourteen.....	42
50.	Attic, south wall.....	43
51.	Attic, north wall.....	43
52.	Skylight in western niche of attic.....	44
53.	Roof beams in the west side of attic.....	44
54.	Headmaster's Room.....	45
55.	Headmaster's Room.....	46
56.	Headmaster's Room.....	46
57.	Headmaster's Room.....	47
58.	Headmaster's Room.....	48
59.	Headmaster's Room.....	48
60.	The Coach House, east elevation.....	49
61.	The Coach House, east elevation.....	50
62.	The Coach House, north elevation.....	50
63.	The Coach House, west elevation.....	51
64.	The Coach House stairs.....	52
65.	Damaged wall on first floor landing, Coach House.....	53
66.	Timber framed roof in Coach House Room Four.....	54
67.	Decorative fittings on roof beams Coach House Room Five.....	54
68.	Old photograph of The Grove.....	55
69.	Old photograph of The Grove.....	56
70.	Blaeu's 1650 map of Northumberland.....	57
71.	Cary's 1787 map of Northumberland.....	57
72.	Plan of Bulman Village <i>c.</i> 1828.....	58
73.	Tithe map of 1841.....	58
74.	Tithe map of 1841.....	59
75.	First edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1857.....	61
76.	Second edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1912.....	62
77.	Third edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1919.....	63
78.	Fourth edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1941.....	64

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In March 2007 Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) were commissioned by Hopper Howe Saddler to undertake an archaeological building recording at The Coach House, 33 The Grove, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne. The main building was constructed in approximately 1845, with later additions erected at the turn of the twentieth century. The Coach House may have been constructed at the same time as the main building, but it was definitely constructed by 1857 as it appears on the first edition Ordnance Survey map. This building recording was undertaken prior to the conversion of the property into a residential dwelling. There were many original features within the main building including doorframes, cornices, skirting, architrave, friezes and sash windows. All original features are to be retained and where damaged they are to be replaced with replicas. The main building was constructed using sandstone blocks with a timber A-framed roof covered in slate. The later extensions to the north of the main building, including the Coach House, were also constructed using sandstone blocks which were plastered over and painted. There were few original features remaining or visible in these later extensions and Coach House.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Location and scope of work

1.1.1. In March 2007 Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) were commissioned by Hopper Howe Sadler on behalf of Mr and Mrs Perry of 31 The Grove, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne to undertake an archaeological building recording for the Coach House at 33 The Grove, Gosforth (Fig. 1). The site is centred at NZ244675 to the east of the High Street (Fig. 2).

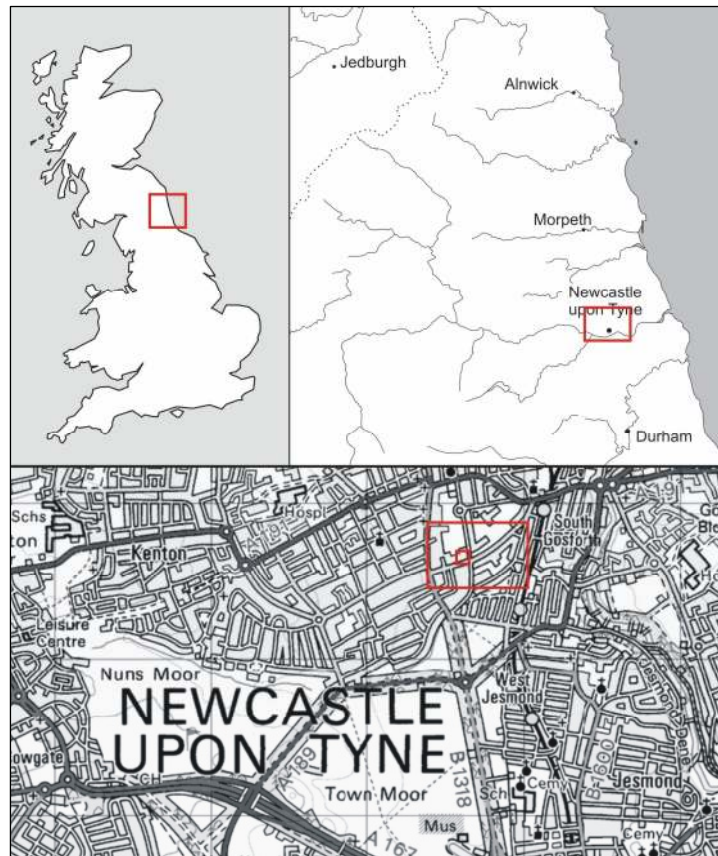


Fig. 1 Site location Ordnance Survey data copyright OS, reproduced by permission, Licence no. 100045420

1.1.2. Numbers 23-33 The Grove are Grade II Listed Buildings and lie within the Gosforth Conservation area. This work was undertaken prior to renovation and conversion of the original house into a residential dwelling from its prior use as a school. The exterior of the main building will remain unchanged and the original internal features including door frames, skirting, patterned friezes, architraves, cornices and sash windows will be restored. A number of modern dividing walls had already been removed prior to this investigation but all original features remained intact. The later extensions to the rear of the building, built around 1900, are to be demolished.

Fig 2

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1. Site investigation

2.1.1. The site was visited on the 26th March 2007. Prior to undertaking the photographic survey the building was investigated in order to identify any features of historic interest. A detailed written description of the building was made in order to ensure a full and detailed photographic record.

2.2. Photographic Survey

2.2.1 A photographic survey was undertaken in order to create a permanent record of the Coach House as it exists today, prior to any restoration and conversion work. A photographic record was also undertaken of the main house, in order to record any original features prior to internal renovation. The photographic recording was carried out using Cannon EOS 3000v cameras, in black and white and colour print. A number of photographs were taken in low light conditions, in which case a direct flash was used. An appropriate scale (2 metre alternating red and white ranging rod), and a chalk board showing the location of the shot, were displayed in the photographs where appropriate. A number of digital photographs were supplied by Hopper Howe Sadler, some of which have been used to supplement this report (in this case a blue and white rod has been used). Detailed photographs were taken of individual features or areas of interest. Photographic registers are shown in Appendix II and the location and direction of photographs are shown in Figures 3 and 4. Changes in floor levels are also indicated on the plans. Elevation drawings are shown in Figure 5.

2.3. Consultation of archive sources

2.3.1 The specification supplied by the County Archaeological Officer stipulated that the completed report should:

“chart the historical development of the building or site and adequately explain and illustrate what is significant. Where possible significant parts and phases of development should be dated”

To accomplish this historic maps and photographs together with published and unpublished documentary material were consulted at the following local archives:

- Tyne and Wear Archive Services, Discovery Museum, Newcastle upon Tyne
- Northumberland Collections Service, Woodhorn Colliery, Queen Elizabeth II Country Park, Ashington, Northumberland
- Newcastle City Library Local Studies collection currently held at Exhibition Hall, Newcastle Civic Centre

2.4. Consultation of internet sources

2.4.1. A search of the “pictures in print” website (<http://www.dur.ac.uk/picturesinprint>) was made, with the keywords “Bulman Village”, “Gosforth” and “Coxlodge”. No results were found for the study area.

2.4.2. A search of the “Sense of Place North East” website (<http://www.sopne.org.uk>) was made, with the keywords “Bulman Village”, “Gosforth” and “Coxlodge”. No results were found for the study area.

2.5. Investigation of historic mapping

2.5.1. The specification supplied by the County Archaeological Officer stipulated that the final report should include historic map regression to show changes to the site over time. Historic maps were consulted at the archive services listed in section 2.3. Suitable maps were digitally photographed, then scaled and rotated using AutoCAD software. The following maps were included in the regression exercise:

- OS mapping revised 2003
- Ordnance Survey fourth edition map, 25” to 1 mile, 1941
- Ordnance Survey third edition map, 25” to 1 mile, 1919
- Ordnance Survey second edition map, 25” to 1 mile, 1912
- Ordnance Survey first edition map, 25” to 1 mile, 1857

Fig 3

fig. 4

Fig 5

Fig 6

3. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1. Prehistoric

A few stray finds have been discovered near the study area, including a prehistoric flint flake (HER 1343), but no evidence for prehistoric settlement has been found from within the study area.

3.2. Romano-British

In 1863 a Greek Colonial coin from the second century AD was found in a garden in Bulman Village (HER 1349). There was activity in the surrounding areas from this period but nothing relating directly to the study area.

3.3. Medieval

The name Gosforth is thought to originate from a ford named Gos, Gose or Ose which ran over a streamlet to the River Ouseburn (Northumberland County History Committee 1930, 342). Over time the name transformed to Gosford, Gosefod and eventually Gosforth. In 1166 South Gosforth was listed as a member of the barony of Whalton. It then split into two parts, two-thirds being held by the Lisle family and one third held by the Newsham family (*ibid.*). There were 4 taxpayers in 1296, 5 in 1312, and for a time in the 14th century some tenements were held by Richard Emeldon. By the middle of the fourteenth century Robert de Lisle continued to hold two-thirds of South Gosforth with the third part being held by William de Heselrig (*ibid.*).

Salter's Bridge (HER 313) lies close to the study area and consists of a narrow twin-arched bridge across the Ouse Burn. The earliest phase of its construction, represented by the north half of the east arch, is medieval, possibly fourteenth century. At least three later phases of construction, plus modern repairs, are also apparent (Historic Environment Record).

The study area lies within the former township of Coxlodge which was one of the manors belonging to the Lisles of South Gosforth. In 1568 Thomas Lisle appears as the freeholder of South Gosforth and Coxlodge (Welford 1887, 53).

In 1610 Robert Lisle sold South Gosforth and Coxlodge to William Jackson, reserving a life interest in it to his sons, William and Robert Lisle. In 1663 the ratepayers in South Gosforth were Mr Stephenson, Mr James Metham and Mr William Collop (Hodgson 1827, 251) and by the eighteenth century Coxlodge was owned by the Stephenson's and the Carr's. In 1721 Joseph and William Carr were freeholders (Northumberland County History Committee 1930, 344).

3.4. Post Medieval

By 1777 Gosforth was made up of seven townships; North Gosforth, South Gosforth, Coxlodge, Kenton, Fawdon, East Brunton and North Brunton (Welford 1887, 1).

The inhabitants of Coxlodge were mainly coal miners, working at the nearby Coxlodge colliery which was opened in 1805 by the Brandling family. The opening of nearby Gosforth Colliery in 1820 was celebrated by 300 dancers taking part in a ball 1100 feet below the surface (Mee 1952, 114).

The study area lies within the former Bulman Village which dates back to around 1825 and was named after the owner of Coxlodge Hall, Job Bulman, who sold off this portion of his estate for building purposes. Job Bulman was a medical man, originally from Gateshead, who had made his fortune in India. He built Coxlodge Hall in 1796 and was the principal land owner at the start of the nineteenth century. He lived in Coxlodge Hall, which stood on the north side of what is now The Drive, until his death in 1818. His son, Job James Bulman, inherited the hall but rented it to local businessmen, choosing to live in Coxlodge Cottage.

Over time the name Bulman Village became established and during the 1830's George Armstrong expanded the village by constructing a number of large villa type residences facing onto the High Street. By 1860 Bulman Village was characterised by stone terraces such as 33 The Grove, and large stone detached villas. In 1872 the name 'Bulman Village' was superseded by 'Gosforth', when the Government failed to acknowledge the name 'Bulman Village'. Coxlodge Hall changed hands several times before it burned down in 1877, but the hall was then restored two years later and a number of alterations were made to the estate. In the latter half of the nineteenth century the village expanded considerably, particularly on the west side of the High Street.

By the 1930s much of the Coxlodge estate had been sold off for suburban development and the hall became a private school which survived until 1939. All that remain now are the stables and a lodge.

33 The Grove was taken over by the Northumbrian Fire Service during World War II and turned into living quarters for the firemen, along with a number of other buildings in the area. It was then turned into a school around 1970 (pers. comm.. Mr Perry 26th March 2007).

4. RESULTS

The site was visited on 26th March 2007 in order to observe and record the building prior to renovation work.

4.1. Main building exterior

The entire building was constructed using sandstone blocks with a timber framed roof covered with slate. The exterior is to remain unchanged.

4.1.1. South Elevation

The south elevation (Fig. 7) was the gable end of the building. Three sandstone steps lead to a central doorway which was constructed using large sandstone columns on either side with a sandstone lintel. The doorway held a wooden frame with a large wooden door. A metal ventilation grate was set into the third sandstone step leading to the door and provided ventilation to the basement (Fig. 8). A later square bay extension of the ground and first floors had been added to the west side of the elevation and was constructed using sandstone blocks. Three large sash windows existed on the ground and first floor. Set into the sandstone construction, below the ground floor level, was a ventilation grate (Fig. 9). To the

east of the elevation a large bay window existed on the ground and first floors. These were constructed using large sandstone blocks and each bay contained three large sash windows. Set into the sandstone blocks just below floor level of the ground floor was another ventilation grate. Above the doorway on the first floor was another sash window. Above the first floor at the centre of the elevation was an arched sash window which looked into the attic area.



Fig. 7 South elevation, scale 2m



Fig. 8 Ventilation grate in doorway step, south elevation



Fig. 9 Ventilation grate under west window, south elevation

4.1.2. *East Elevation*

The east elevation (Fig. 10) comprised two sash windows, smaller than those in the south elevation, on the first floor (Fig. 11). They were constructed using sandstone blocks and held wooden frames. The glass remained in the south window but the north window was boarded up. A later bay window had been constructed onto the ground floor using sandstone blocks and comprising four large sash windows. The bay had suffered from subsidence. A later extension had been erected at the north end of the elevation (Fig. 12). This was constructed using sandstone blocks which were then plastered and painted. The roof was a slate covered timber frame. Two sash windows existed, one at the north end and one at the south end (Fig. 13). A third sash window existed on the wall of the extension which joined the main building at a 45 degree angle.



Fig. 10 East elevation, main building, scale 2m



Fig. 11 East elevation bay window, scale 2m



Fig. 12 East elevation, later extension, scale 2m



Fig. 13 East elevation, later extension window, scale 2m

4.1.3. *North Elevation*

The north elevation of the original building was almost entirely obscured by later extensions (Fig. 14). The sandstone blocks had been covered with plaster and painted. A large window existed at the west end of the main building on the first floor but was obscured by the later extensions. It was constructed with a wooden frame which held five large panes of glass with five smaller panes located above the larger ones. The window in the attic of the original building had been removed and replaced with a doorway, which lead out to a metal staircase. The stairs ran down to the roof of a later bay extension at the east end of the elevation. At this level another doorway existed in the original building. The bay extension was divided into three sections. The east and central section were made up of large windows held by wooden frames. The west section consisted of a wooden doorframe and door where the bottom-right pane of glass would have been held. A set of metal stairs ran from this door down to ground level. Below the bay a boarded up doorway and window existed. This doorway was situated at ground level. To the east of the bay lay the north elevation of the extension, which was added to the east elevation discussed above. This comprised a very small window with a sandstone block sill and wooden frame. Damage to the wall showed that they were constructed using sandstone blocks and modern bricks (Fig. 15). A later extension had been erected at the centre of the original building and comprised two small windows at the first floor level. The window to the east was narrower than the window on the west but both held wooden frames. A

larger window existed at ground floor level which consisted of a sandstone block sill and wooden frame but was boarded up (Fig. 16). Another window existed below and was also constructed with a large sandstone sill and wooden frame. This window was covered with metal bars. To the west end of the elevation a later extension ran to the north which joined the main building to the coach house. It was constructed using sandstone blocks which were plastered and painted, with a slate-covered timber-frame roof. It contained a modern doorway situated at ground floor level. The east facing wall of this extension contained two small sash windows at the centre on the first floor level constructed with sandstone sills (Fig. 17). A third small sash window existed on the ground floor level at the south end and also built with a sandstone sill.



Fig. 14 North elevation



Fig. 15 Damage to wall in north elevation, scale 2m



Fig. 16 North elevation, west corner, scale 2m



Fig. 17 Windows in east facing wall of extension in north elevation

4.1.4. *West Elevation*

As the building is an end terrace there is no west elevation.

4.2. **Main Building Interior**

4.2.1. *Passageway*

A corridor ran from the front of the house to the rear of the original building. The area at the far south end of the corridor which lay directly behind the front door, was divided by a doorway to the north (Fig. 18). This section contained a decorative ceiling (Fig. 19) and patterned frieze at the top of the wall. A picture rail lay below the frieze, and a dado rail was situated approximately 0.50m above the skirting board. The doorway to the north was made up of a large wooden frame with glass panes at the top and sides. The door was a large wooden frame with fifteen smaller glass panes inset. The area of the corridor to the north of this contained lath and plaster walls and ceiling with plain cornices. A plain border lay below the cornices with a picture rail below that. A doorway led from the east wall into Room One. An archway divided this section from the next passage area, which contained a staircase to the north (Fig. 20). In the south-west corner of this section a doorway led to Room Five. In the south-east corner a decorative archway led to Room Two (Fig. 21). The west wall was boarded up but would normally lead to the old Headmaster's office. The east side consisted of the main staircase which led to the first floor. The banister and connecting posts were original and are to be restored (Fig. 22). An original decorative trim on the outside of the staircase is also to remain. As the staircase doubled back on itself, from the landing up to the first floor, the wall also doubled back on itself (Fig. 23). The passage continued north into the later twentieth-century extensions. The floor level here was higher by 0.32m. The girls and boys toilets were accessed through doors on the east wall. A doorway on the west wall led to an outside staircase, which led down to Room Eight. Directly across from this door

to the west lay Room Seven, which was part of the original building. There were no features of architectural interest in this section of the corridor.



Fig. 18 Front passageway, scale 2m



Fig. 19 Ceiling decoration in front passageway



Fig. 20 Archway leading from front of passageway, scale 2m



Fig. 21 Archway leading from passageway to Room Two

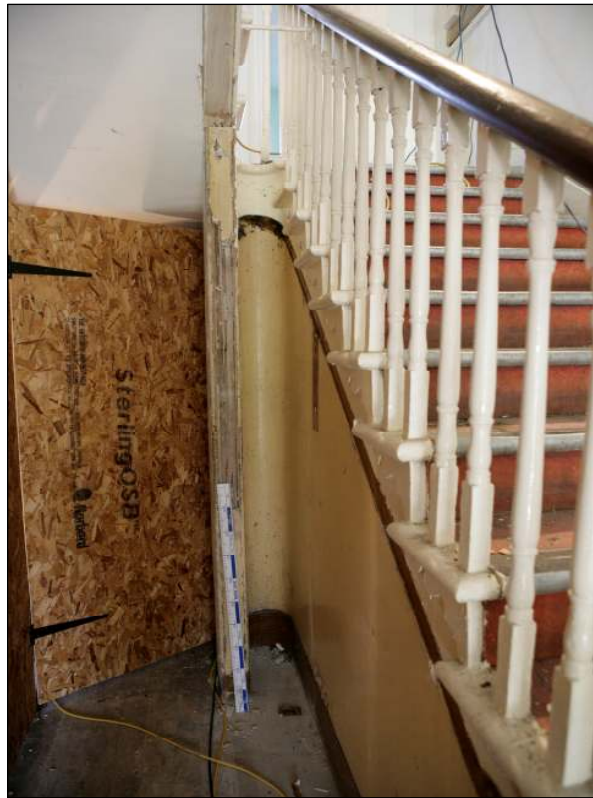


Fig. 22 Ground Floor staircase



Fig. 23 Doubled back wall in staircase, ground floor

4.2.2. *Room One*

Room One contained a number of original features. A large bay window existed to the south of the room and held three large sash windows which are to be restored (Fig. 24). An original pipe serving the heating system ran around the room and underneath the bay window. The walls were constructed using sandstone blocks which were covered with lath and horse hair plaster. The ceiling was also covered with lath and plaster. The floor was constructed with timber beams overlaid with wooden boards. The doors and doorframes were original fittings as were the skirting boards (Figures 25 and 26). Decorative cornices surrounded the entire room and are to be restored, and replica replacements are to be placed throughout the rest of the building (Fig. 27). Below the cornices lay a patterned frieze which sat above an original picture rail. A fireplace opening existed at the centre of the east wall which was constructed using brick with a large sandstone lintel. The fire and surrounds had been removed (Fig. 28).



Fig. 24 Room One



Fig. 25 Skirting board in Room One



Fig. 26 Doorframe in Room One



Fig. 27 Decorative cornice, patterned frieze and picture rail, Room One



Fig. 28 Fireplace in Room One, scale 2m

4.2.3. *Room Two*

An archway led from Room One to Room Two and was finished with a decorative wooden trim (Fig. 29). The walls and ceiling in Room Two were constructed using lath and plaster and the decorative cornice the same as that in Room One was present around the whole room. The patterned frieze and picture rail were also present in Room Two. A large bay window lay on the east wall and contained four large sash windows (Fig. 30).



Fig. 29 Archway from Room One into Room Two



Fig. 30 Bay window in Room Two, scale 2m

4.2.4. *Room Three*

Room Three contained no features of architectural interest and all fittings were modern.

4.2.5. *Sink Room and Gentleman's Toilets*

The Sink Room and the Gentleman's Toilets contained no features of architectural interest.

4.2.6. *Room Four*

The walls and ceiling were covered with lath and plaster and the ceiling was covered with a decorative design (Fig. 31). The cornices in Room Four were the original mouldings but were not decorative as in Rooms One and Two. A patterned frieze existed below the cornice and was of a different design to that in Rooms One and Two (Fig. 32). The skirting boards appeared to have been replaced with later fittings on the eastern and northern walls but the originals existed elsewhere in the room. In the far south-east corner of the room a heating pipe ran from the floor to ceiling. A boarded-up double doorway existed at the east end of the north wall, along with an old heating pipe which ran from floor to ceiling (Fig. 33).

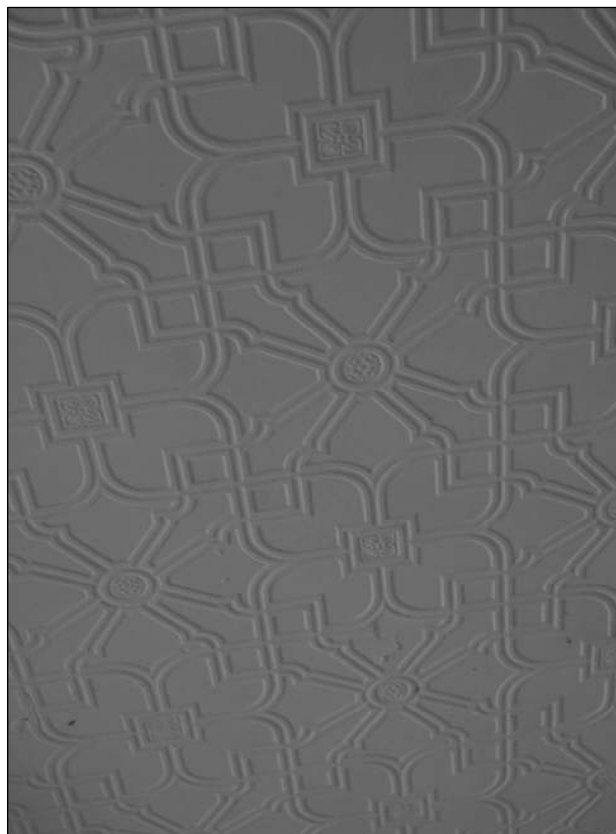


Fig. 31 Decorative ceiling in Room Four



Fig. 32 Decorative cornice and patterned frieze in Room Four



Fig. 33 Blocked access in Room Four. The heating pipe can be seen in the far corner, scale 2m

4.2.7. *Extension Room*

The Extension Room was a small area consisting mainly of a large bay window. There were no features of architectural interest.

4.2.8. *Room Five*

Room Five was a large room at the front of the house. The walls were constructed using sandstone blocks covered with lath and plaster. An arched niche was located in the centre of the north wall (Fig. 34). A patterned frieze ran around the whole room at the top of the wall with a picture rail directly underneath (Fig. 35). A dado rail ran around the room approximately 0.50m above the skirting board. It is doubtful that this dado rail was an original feature as behind a removed section within the arched niche a small strip of wallpaper lay beneath which had been covered by the later rail (Fig. 36). Above the border was a decorative cornice identical to that in Rooms One and Two. The ceiling in Room Five was made up of decorative moulding and is to remain (Fig. 37). The skirting boards and doorframes were original fittings. A pipe from the old heating system ran around the room but the radiators had been removed. A large window took up the south wall which was a later extension to the main building (Fig. 38). Three large sash windows were held in a wooden frame. A fireplace opening was located in the centre of the west wall but had been removed. It was of brick construction with a large sandstone lintel (Fig. 39).



Fig. 34 Room Five



Fig. 35 Decorative cornice, border and picture rail in Room Five



Fig. 36 Wallpaper underneath a later dado rail in Room Five

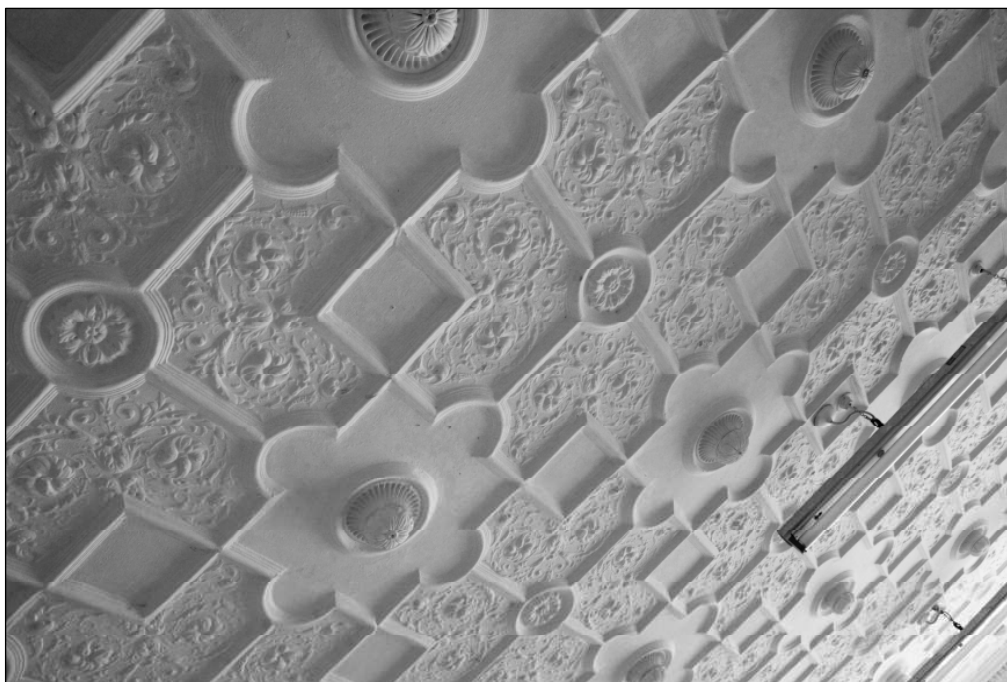


Fig. 37 Decorative ceiling in Room Five



Fig. 38 Window in Room Five



Fig. 39 Fireplace in Room Five

4.2.9. *Girls and Boys Toilets*

The girls and boys toilets contained no features of architectural interest and had been renovated with modern fittings.

4.2.10. *Room Six*

Room Six was a later twentieth century extension at the north of the main building. One window was located at the north end of the east wall and contained two sash windows. On the south wall the wooden beams were exposed along the line of the ceiling and down the south-west corner of the room. A skylight was located in the sloping ceiling above the south wall. On the north wall two steps led up to a doorway, which had been blocked up with breeze blocks (Fig. 40). Another door, was located to the east end of the north wall, was in use but locked. There were no further features of architectural interest.



Fig. 40 Room Six, scale 2m

4.2.11. *Room Seven*

Room Seven was an extension on the north-west corner of the original building and was accessed from the rear passageway of the main building. There were no features of architectural or historical interest.

4.2.12. *Room Eight*

Room Eight was accessed from the west side of the rear passageway in the main building. Stairs led down to this room which was approximately 1.75m in height. There were no features of architectural interest.

4.2.13. *First Floor Landing*

The stairs led from the ground floor to the centre landing, which held a blocked doorway. It consisted of a wooden frame with dark wood panelling at the top which had been varnished, rather than painted white (Fig. 41). The stairs doubled back and ran south to the first floor landing from which all rooms on the first floor could be accessed. The doorframes were original fittings, as were the skirting boards. A picture rail ran around the landing area approximately 0.40m below the cornice. The ceiling was plastered with a decorative ceiling rose at the centre (Fig. 42). The floor was constructed using wooden floor boards. The staircase which led up to the attic was a smaller version of that which led from the ground floor to the first. The feature of the skirting board and wall doubling back on itself was also present (Fig. 43).



Fig. 41 Landing between Ground and First Floor, scale 2m



Fig. 42 Decorative ceiling rose on First Floor landing



Fig. 43 First Floor landing

4.2.14. *Room Nine*

Room Nine contained a large window which was located in the north wall but did not appear to be the original fitting (Fig. 44). The skirting boards appeared original and a picture rail was located below the cornice. A small niche was located at the north end of the west wall and larger niche was located at the south end. The floor was constructed using wooden floor boards.



Fig. 44 Room Nine, scale 2m

4.2.15. *Room Ten*

Room Ten contained a large window in the south wall which was made up of three large sash windows (Fig. 45). The area of the window is a later extension onto the front of the house. The floor, ceiling, skirting boards, cornice and picture rail were the same as those discussed for Room Nine, but an old heating pipe was present in Room Ten underneath the window. As the pipe runs through the extended area it is likely that the heating system was not an original feature.



Fig. 45 Room Ten, scale 2m

4.2.16. *Room Eleven*

Room Eleven was a very small room at the centre of the front of the house (Fig. 46). It contained one large sash window on the south wall. The floor, ceiling, skirting boards, cornice and picture rail were the same as those discussed for Rooms Nine and Ten. A heating pipe was located in this room, but the radiator had been removed from its position in front of the window.



Fig. 46 Room Eleven, scale 2m

4.2.17. *Room Twelve*

Room Twelve contained a large bay window on the south wall (Fig. 47). This held three large sash windows. The floor, ceiling, skirting boards, cornice and picture rail were the same as those discussed for Rooms Nine, Ten and Eleven. An old heating pipe was also present in this room. A doorway located in the north-east corner of the room led into Room Thirteen. Damage to the walls around the doorframe revealed that they had been constructed using lath and plaster (Fig. 48). The doorway was not an original feature and had been cut into the original wall.



Fig. 47 Room Twelve, scale 2m



Fig. 48 Doorway leading to Room Thirteen, scale 2m

4.2.18. *Room Thirteen*

Room Thirteen was a space under the stairs which led to the attic. A small sash window was located in the east wall and the room could also be accessed from the first floor landing by a small doorway (Fig. 43).

4.2.19. *Room Fourteen*

Room Fourteen contained one large original window frame on the north wall but the window had been replaced with a fire exit door. Steps appear to have led up to the door as it was situated above the floor level, but these had been removed prior to this investigation. The floor, ceiling, skirting boards, cornice and picture rail were the same as those discussed for the other rooms on this floor and the old heating pipes were also present. A cupboard existed in the north-east corner of the room (Fig. 49).



Fig. 49 Cupboard in Room Fourteen

4.2.20. *Attic*

The attic area was accessed from the first floor staircase which ran up to the east side. The attic ran for the full length of the original house. The wooden roof beams were exposed showing the natural wood. The floor was constructed with wooden floor boards and the walls were covered with lath and plaster. Located in the south wall was a large sash window with an arched top (Fig. 50). In the north wall was a doorway which had been used as a fire escape. This was located above the floor level and could be reached by three small steps (Fig. 51). At the west

side of the attic, located in one of the niches, was a small skylight. This had a metal frame and two small panes of glass (Fig. 52). The area of attic extended to the west and here the ends of the timber roof beams were visible (Fig. 53). A number of holes located in the ceiling revealed the timber roof construction which was overlain with slate tiles.



Fig. 50 Attic, south wall



Fig. 51 Attic, north wall



Fig. 52 Skylight in western niche of attic



Fig. 53 Roof beams in the west side of attic

4.2.21. *Basement*

The basement is to remain unchanged and comprised four divided sections. The dividing walls were constructed using sandstone blocks and the ceiling had been covered with lath and plaster.

4.2.22. *Blocked areas*

There were a number of areas blocked off in order to protect them during renovation work. Access could not be gained but these areas are to remain untouched and all original features will remain. The most interesting area is the Head Teacher's Room which is made up of old ship panelling. A previous owner had this fitted by shipping joiners (pers. comm. Mr Perry 26th March 2007). Photographs taken by Three Six Nine Photographic on behalf of Hopper Howe Sadler are shown below in Figures 54 to 59.



Fig. 54 Headmasters Room



Fig. 55 Headmasters Room



Fig. 56 Headmasters Room



Fig. 57 Headmasters Room



Fig. 58 Headmasters Room



Fig. 59 Headmasters Room

4.3. The Coach House Exterior

4.3.1. *East Elevation*

The south end of the east elevation adjoined the extension at the west end of the main building's north elevation (Figures 60 and 61). The first floor of the elevation comprised four modern windows with painted sandstone sills. The window to the north was larger, comprising three sections of glass held by a modern, wooden frame. The middle section was split in two with a small section at the top which opened. Two modern windows lay at the centre of the elevation, measuring only a third of the width of that at the north end. They were also split with a small opening section at the top. A fourth window lay towards the south of the elevation and comprised a pane of glass to the south and a split pane to the north which also had a small opening section at the top. At the very far south end of the elevation lay a window which had been blocked up, plastered over and painted. At the top of this lay an air vent. The ground floor consisted of a large modern window to the north end of the elevation. This measured the same depth as those on the first floor but consisted of five panes of glass held in a wooden frame. Two doorways existed side by side towards the north end. Both held a wooden frame and modern doors. At the south end of the elevation lay a third doorway also holding a wooden frame and modern door. To the south of the doorway lay a window comprising a pane of glass to the south and a split pane to the north, which also had a small opening section at the top. Markings to the wall indicate that a further modern extension had been added to this section of the elevation, but the dimensions are unknown as it had been demolished prior to this investigation. An modern extension had also been erected, running east from the east elevation, but had also been demolished prior to this investigation.



Fig. 60 The Coach House, east elevation, scale 2m



Fig. 61 The Coach House, east elevation, scale 2m

4.3.2. *North Elevation*

The north elevation showed the exposed sandstone construction at the base of the building (Fig. 62). It comprised a modern double doorway with a large lintel. Markings to this elevation along with floor joist holes indicated that another building had once been adjoined.



Fig. 62 The Coach House, north elevation

4.3.3. *West Elevation*

It appeared that the north end of the west elevation was a later edition. The south and central sections were constructed using sandstone blocks and the larger blocks that would have been used to finish the north-west corner of the building were visible. The section of the building to the north end was faced with modern bricks (Fig. 63). Only one feature existed in the west elevation. This was a small window located on the first floor at the northern end of the original building which had been constructed with a sandstone sill and wooden frame. There were no other features of architectural interest in the west elevation.



Fig. 63 The Coach House, west elevation, scale 2m

4.4. The coach house interior

4.4.1. *Ground Floor*

Rooms One, Two and Three were in use as storage rooms for building material related to the developments taking place on the site. There were no features of architectural interest evident in any of the rooms. The stairway leading up to the first floor was constructed using concrete and no features of architectural interest were present (Fig. 64).



Fig. 64 Coach House stairs, scale 2m

4.4.2. *First Floor*

Damage to the walls in the landing area of the first floor showed that the internal walls had been constructed using small sandstone blocks which had then been plastered over and painted (Fig. 65). Room Four was empty and all fittings were modern. The only feature of architectural interest was the exposed roof construction (Fig. 66) which showed the timber frame and joists. The ceiling in Room Five had also been removed, exposing the roof construction which was the same as that in Room Four. It appeared that the original lower lying beams had been exposed as they were painted and had decorative fittings attached (Fig. 67). An original roller blackboard was located on the south wall of Room Five and damage to the wall to which it was attached showed that they were constructed using lath and plaster which had then been painted. Leading off Room Five to the south were the toilets which contained only modern features and nothing of architectural interest.



Fig. 65 Damage to wall on first floor landing of Coach House
(red section of scale bar measures 0.50m)



Fig. 66 Timber framed roof in Room Four of the Coach House



Fig. 67 Room Five showing decorative fittings attached to original roof beams, scale 2m

4.5. Consultation of archival sources

4.5.1. *Tyne and Wear Archive Search (TWAS)*

A number of maps and plans were studied at the Tyne and Wear Archives. All Ordnance Survey Maps from the first edition to the fourth edition were consulted along with a number of earlier maps and Tithe Plans. There were no building control plans listed for the study area and only one surveyor's plan existed but held no information about the buildings concerned (TWAS:UD.GO/79/1). A number of the County Histories were also available from the TWAS.

4.5.2. *Woodhorn Colliery*

Two maps were available at Woodhorn which showed the study area. A Tithe map dating from 1841 (DT/120S) and a plan of Gosforth dating from 1887 (ZSA/51/19) which are discussed in more detail below in section 4.6. The 1887 map was unavailable to copy but is available to view at Woodhorn Colliery.

4.5.3. *Newcastle Local Studies*

There were a number of books providing the history of Gosforth in the Newcastle Local Studies Centre but no information relating directly to the study area. Two old photographs of The Grove were available and are shown below in figures 68 and 69. The buildings of the study area cannot be seen.



Fig. 68 Old photograph of the Grove, undated



Fig. 69 Old photograph of the Grove, undated

4.6. Investigation of historic mapping

- 4.6.1. The specification for the work stipulated that relevant historic mapping should be consulted and incorporated into a map regression exercise in order to better understand the historical development of the site and its immediate surrounds.
- 4.6.2. The earliest maps of the area are produced at a scale too large to show any detail of the study area. Blaeu's map of 1650 shows the areas of 'North Gosford' and 'South Gosford' (Fig. 70) but there is no detail of individual buildings. By the time of Cary's map of 1787 the name Gosforth is used and there are three large building and a church visible to the east of the High Street (Fig. 71).



Fig. 70 Blaeu's 1650 map of Northumberland. North and South 'Gosford' are outlined in red

- 4.6.3. A plan of Bulman Village produced around 1828 shows a more detailed layout of the buildings and the large houses facing onto the High Street can be seen (Fig. 72). A Tithe map of 1841 shows Bulman Village with the row of terraced housing to the east of the High Street (Fig. 73). The map appears to end in the middle of the village where South Gosforth Township begins but the Tithe map for South Gosforth shows no more buildings present in the area (Fig. 74).
- 4.6.4. A Plan of Gosforth dating from 1887 shows that the main building is present but does not show any of the out buildings associated with it.



Fig. 71 Cary's 1787 map of Northumberland

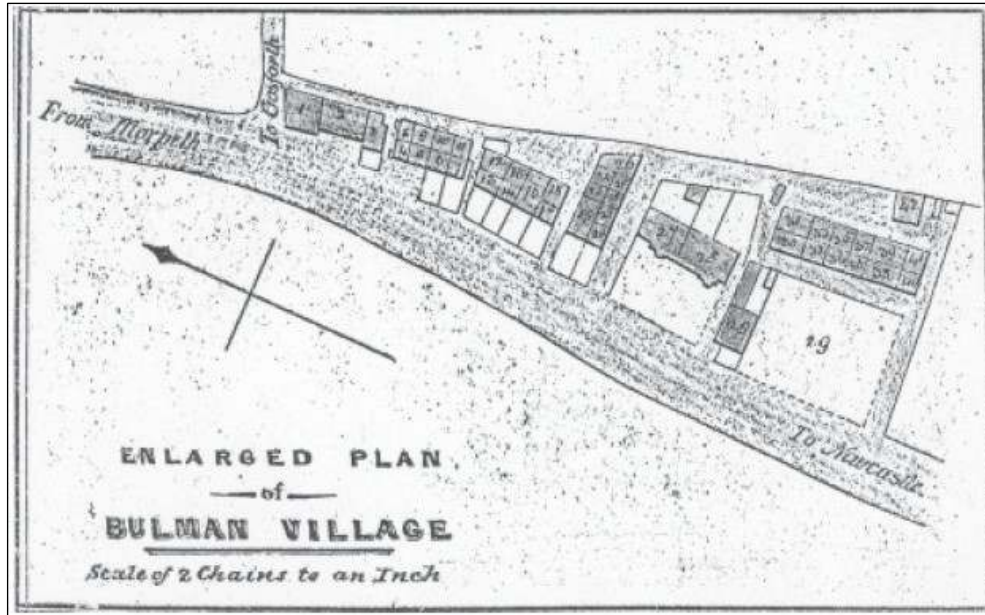


Fig. 72 Plan of Bulman Village c.1828

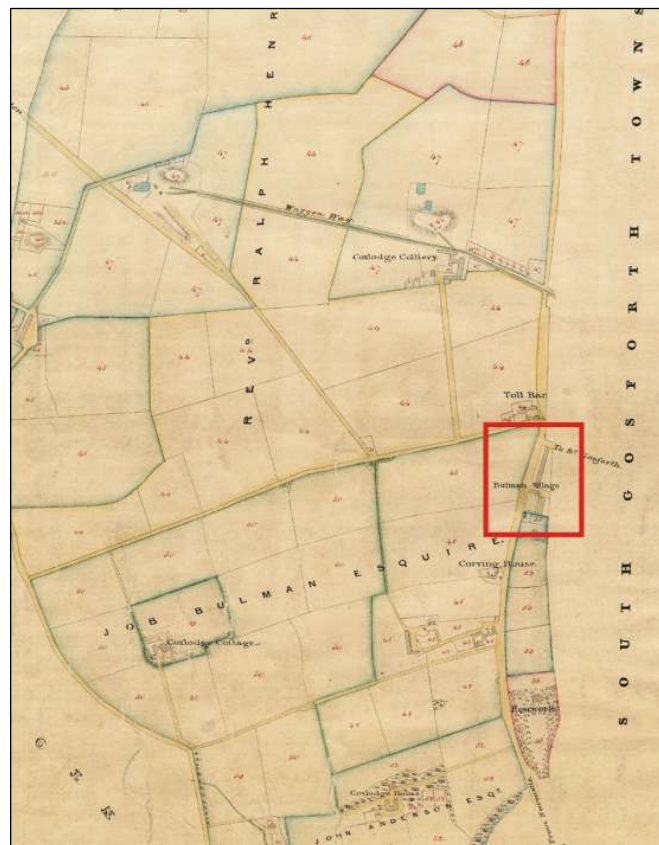


Fig. 73 Tithe map of 1841 showing Bulman Village outlined in red

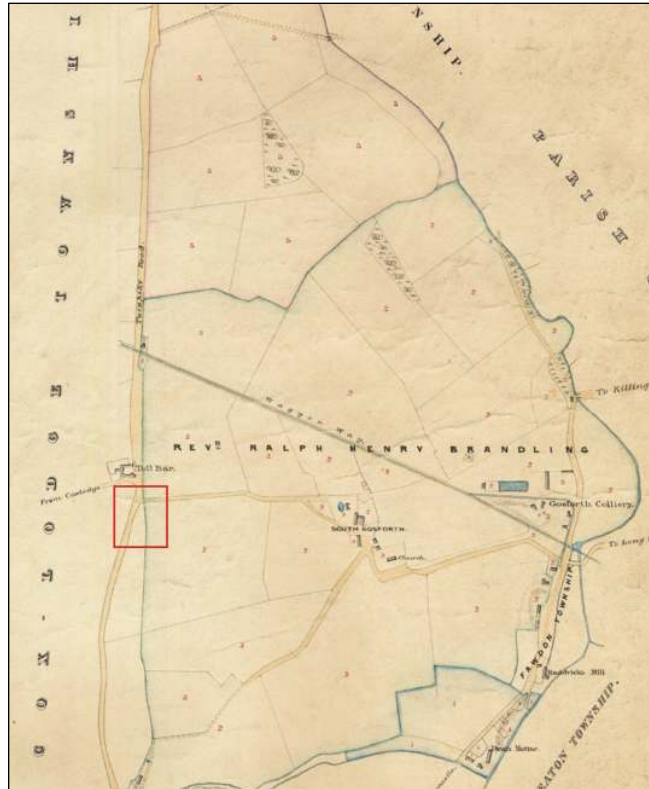


Fig. 74 Tithe map of 1841

- 4.6.4. The first edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1857 (Fig. 75) displays that the main building and coach house had been constructed by this time. The later extensions to the north of the main building have not yet been completed and only one small extension can be seen. The later bays at the south and to the east are not shown but a building does exist off the north-east corner of the main building.
- 4.6.5. The second edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1912 (Fig. 76) reveals that there have been few alterations to the buildings since the first edition OS Map. A small extension has been added in the north-east corner of the main building and the out buildings to the north-east have been extended.
- 4.6.6. The third edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1919 (Fig. 77) illustrates that a bay had been added to the east elevation of the main building but little else has changed.
- 4.6.7. The fourth edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1941 (Fig. 78) shows that the extensions to the north of the main building have been completed, although the bay extensions are not shown. It is likely that this is due to a lack of detail on the map rather than the buildings not being present.
- 4.6.8. The modern Ordnance Survey Map shows the buildings as they exist today.

5. DISCUSSION

- 5.1. The main building was built *c.* 1845 and still contains many original features. All features including cornices, doorframes and doors, sash windows, friezes architraves, skirting and the Headmasters Room are to be retained and, where needed, replacement replicas fitted. As none of the original features are under threat from the renovation work no further recording is necessary at this stage. Should the features be removed in the future then further recording may be needed. The Coach House may have been built around the same time and had certainly been constructed by the time of the first edition Ordnance Survey of 1857. The Coach House and later extensions however, contained few visible or remaining original features.

6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 6.1. Archaeological Research Services Ltd would like to thank Hopper Howe Saddler for their help and assistance and also Mr and Mrs Perry for allowing access to the study area.

Fig 76

fig. 77

fig 78

fig 79

7. SOURCES

Hodgson, J. 1828. *A History of Northumberland*. Newcastle

Mee, 1952. *Northumberland: England's Farthest North*. London: Hodder and Stoughton

Northumberland County History Committee, 1930. *A History of Northumberland*. Newcastle

Welford, R. 1887. *A History of the Parish of Gosforth*. Newcastle

APPENDIX I: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER**Film One: Black and White Print**

Shot Number	Description
1	Room 1 window, scale 2m
2	Rm 1 window detail, scale 2m
3	Rm 1 window cornices, scale 2m
4	Rm 1 ceiling detail, scale 2m
5	Rm 1 arch into Rm 1 – Rm 2, scale 2m
6	Rm 1 ceiling/decoration, scale 2m
7	Rm 1 fire place, scale 2m
8	Rm 2 window, scale 2m
9	Rm 3 annex/long-shot, scale 2m
10	Sink room, scale 2m
11	Gents toilet, scale 2m
12	Extension room, scale 2m
13	Corridor into extension room next to sink room, scale 2m
14	Rm 4 general, scale 2m
15	Rm 4 ceiling, scale 2m
16	Rm 4 pipe in room, scale 2m
17	Rm 4 ceiling/wall decoration, scale 2m
18	FP – front passage, scale 2m
19	FP – ceiling detail, scale 2m
20	CP – central passage, scale 2m
21	FP/CP skirting board, scale 2m
22	Arch from FP/CP, scale 2m
23	Stair banister (bottom) , scale 2m
24	Banister slats/detail, scale 2m
25	Stair case curve top, scale 2m
26	Stair case curve bottom, scale 2m
27	Rm 5 ceiling, scale 2m
28	Rm 5 archway/decoration, scale 2m
29	Rm 5 decoration above fire, scale 2m
30	Rm 5 window, scale 2m
31	Rm 5 fire place, scale 2m
32	Rm 5 door frame, scale 2m
33	Rm 5 arch wall decoration, scale 2m
34	Rm 5 wall rails, scale 2m
35	Rm 5 skirting board, scale 2m
36	Archway from CP-Rm 2, scale 2m

Film Two: Colour Print

Shot Number	Description
1	Room 1 window, scale 2m
2	Rm 1 window detail, scale 2m
3	Rm 1 window cornices, scale 2m
4	Rm 1 ceiling detail, scale 2m
5	Rm 1 arch into Rm 1 – Rm 2, scale 2m
6	Rm 1 ceiling/decoration, scale 2m
7	Rm 1 fire place, scale 2m
8	Rm 2 window, scale 2m
9	Rm 3 annex/long-shot, scale 2m
10	Sink room, scale 2m
11	Gents toilet, scale 2m
12	Extension room, scale 2m
13	Corridor into extension room next to sink room, scale 2m
14	Rm 4 general, scale 2m
15	Rm 4 ceiling, scale 2m
16	Rm 4 pipe in room, scale 2m
17	Rm 4 ceiling/wall decoration, scale 2m
18	FP – front passage, scale 2m
19	FP – ceiling detail, scale 2m
20	CP – central passage, scale 2m
21	FP/CP skirting board, scale 2m
22	Arch from FP/CP, scale 2m
23	Stair banister (bottom) , scale 2m
24	Banister slats/detail, scale 2m
25	Stair case curve top, scale 2m
26	Stair case curve bottom, scale 2m
27	Rm 5 ceiling, scale 2m
28	Rm 5 archway/decoration, scale 2m
29	Rm 5 decoration above fire, scale 2m
30	Rm 5 window, scale 2m
31	Rm 5 fire place, scale 2m
32	Rm 5 door frame, scale 2m
33	Rm 5 arch wall decoration, scale 2m
34	Rm 5 wall rails, scale 2m
35	Rm 5 skirting board, scale 2m
36	Archway from CP-Rm 2, scale 2m

Film Three: Black and White Print

Shot Number	Description
1	Archway from CP – Rm 2, scale 2m
2	Basement, scale 2m
3	Basement, scale 2m
4	Basement, scale 2m
5	Basement stairs, scale 2m
6	Rear passage corridor, scale 2m
7	Girls toilets, scale 2m
8	Boys toilets, scale 2m
9	Rm 6, scale 2m
10	Rm 6 wall ceiling join, scale 2m
11	Rm 6 window, scale 2m
12	Rm 7 modern exit, scale 2m
13	Rm 8 general, scale 2m
14	Lead window head office, scale 2m
15	Landing archway, scale 2m
16	Rm 9 general, scale 2m
17	Landing general, scale 2m
18	Landing ceiling, scale 2m
19	Rm 10 general, scale 2m
20	Rm 11 general, scale 2m
21	Rm 12 general, scale 2m
22	Door to Rm 13, scale 2m
23	Under stairs window, scale 2m
24	Stairs/landing to attic, scale 2m
25	Rm 14 no flash, scale 2m
26	Rm 14 flash, scale 2m
27	Attic long view, scale 2m
28	Attic long view, scale 2m
29	Attic window, scale 2m
30	Roof joists, scale 2m
31	Roof joists, scale 2m
32	Roof tiles (interior), scale 2m
33	Detailed Rm 1 arch, scale 2m
34	Door arch detail in Rm 2, scale 2m
35	Wall pattern material, scale 2m
36	Rm 5 ceiling detail, scale 2m

Film Four: Colour Print

Shot Number	Description
1	Archway from CP – Rm 2, scale 2m
2	Basement, scale 2m
3	Basement, scale 2m
4	Basement, scale 2m
5	Basement stairs, scale 2m
6	Rear passage corridor, scale 2m
7	Girls toilets, scale 2m
8	Boys toilets, scale 2m
9	Rm 6, scale 2m
10	Rm 6 wall ceiling join, scale 2m
11	Rm 6 window, scale 2m
12	Rm 7 modern exit, scale 2m
13	Rm 8 general, scale 2m
14	Lead window head office, scale 2m
15	Landing archway, scale 2m
16	Rm 9 general, scale 2m
17	Landing general, scale 2m
18	Landing ceiling, scale 2m
19	Rm 10 general, scale 2m
20	Rm 11 general, scale 2m
21	Rm 12 general, scale 2m
22	Door to Rm 13, scale 2m
23	Under stairs window, scale 2m
24	Stairs/landing to attic, scale 2m
25	Rm 14 no flash, scale 2m
26	Rm 14 flash, scale 2m
27	Attic long view, scale 2m
28	Attic long view, scale 2m
29	Attic window, scale 2m
30	Roof joists, scale 2m
31	Roof joists, scale 2m
32	Roof tiles (interior), scale 2m
33	Detailed Rm 1 arch, scale 2m
34	Door arch detail in Rm 2, scale 2m
35	Wall pattern material, scale 2m
36	Rm 5 ceiling detail, scale 2m

Film Five: Black and White Print

Shot Number	Description
1	Coach house 1, scale 2m
2	Ch 2, scale 2m
3	Ch 3, scale 2m
4	Ch 4 general, scale 2m
5	Ch 4 ceiling, scale 2m
6	Ch 5 general, scale 2m
7	Ch 5 ceiling, scale 2m
8	Ch 5 ceiling, scale 2m
9	Ch toilet, scale 2m
10	Ch stairs/wall, scale 2m
11	Ch stairs (up), scale 2m
12	East elevation (n. end), scale 2m
13	East elevation (s. end), scale 2m
14	North elevation, scale 2m
15	Main house n. elevation, scale 2m
16	Main house n. elevation (wall), scale 2m
17	Main house n. elevation window, scale 2m
18	n. elevation (east facing window), scale 2m
19	East elevation, scale 2m
20	East elevation window, scale 2m
21	East elevation 2 nd window, scale 2m
22	East elevation 2 nd window #2, scale 2m
23	South elevation, scale 2m
24	South elevation window grate (bay), scale 2m
25	South elevation door grate, scale 2m
26	South elevation window grate (sq), scale 2m
27	South elevation – bay window, scale 2m
28	South elevation – door, scale 2m
29	West elevation, scale 2m
30	West elevation, scale 2m
31	Chimney shot, scale 2m

Film Six: Colour Print

Shot Number	Description
1	Coach house 1
2	Ch 2
3	Ch 3
4	Ch 4 general
5	Ch 4 ceiling
6	Ch 5 general
7	Ch 5 ceiling
8	Ch 5 ceiling
9	Ch toilet
10	Ch stairs/wall
11	Ch stairs (up)
12	East elevation (n. end)
13	East elevation (s. end)
14	North elevation
15	Main house n. elevation
16	Main house n. elevation (wall)
17	Main house n. elevation window
18	n. elevation (east facing window)
19	East elevation
20	East elevation window
21	East elevation 2 nd window
22	East elevation 2 nd window #2
23	South elevation
24	South elevation window grate (bay)
25	South elevation door grate
26	South elevation window grate (sq)
27	South elevation – bay window
28	South elevation – door
29	West elevation
30	West elevation
31	Chimney shot

APPENDIX II: SPECIFICATION

Introduction

Planning permission and listed building consent has been granted for the conversion of the coach house at the above property into a dwelling.

Numbers 23-33 The Grove are listed grade 2 and lie within Gosforth Conservation Area: Terrace of houses. Circa 1845. Sandstone ashlar, Welsh slate roof. 2 storeys and attic; each house 3 bays except end houses which have five bays under a pediment. 8-panel doors, those of end houses with entablature, the rest in architraves. Plain reveals to margined sashes except for No. 23, lost margins. Canted bay windows in end bays; square bay at left of No. 33. Elliptical-headed window with raised stone surround in each pediment. Dormers, many C20, and tall, corniced ashlar chimneys.

In accordance with standard practice, it is recommended that a programme of recording is undertaken prior to conversion to provide a permanent record of the coach-house as-is and to identify important historic features which should be retained. A small amount of background research will be required, which will involve visiting the Tyne and Wear Archives, Record Office and local libraries. The finished report will include recommendations for any further recording required.

Prospective archaeological surveyors must be able to recognise architecturally important features and place these within the chronological sequence of the development of the building. Experience of recording buildings is essential, and a proven track-record in this field must be demonstrated in the tendering process.

The finished report must comply with English Heritage, 2006, "Understanding Historic Buildings – A guide to good recording practice" (revised and expanded version of Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England's 1996 document "Recording Historic Buildings – A Descriptive Specification (Third Edition)"), and must:

- Chart the historical development of the building or site and adequately explain and illustrate what is significant. Where possible significant parts and phases of development should be dated
- Aim at accuracy. The level of record and its limitations should be stated
- A record should make a clear distinction between observation and interpretation, thereby allowing data to be reinterpreted at a later date
- Be produced on a medium which can be copied easily and which ensures archival stability

The appointed archaeological contractor must be mindful at all times of the health-and-safety implications of working in historic buildings.

The survey is in line with an English Heritage Level 3 recording.

The Survey

Surveys are made by direct measurement using tapes and rods and can be supported by Electronic Distance Measuring equipment (EDM or REDM theodolites) on larger and more complex sites.

Detailed measured survey may be augmented by other techniques designed to record detail such as photogrammetry and rectified photography.

The scale of the drawings derived from a survey must be appropriate to the building, typically 1:100 or 1:50 for plans, 1:50 or 1:20 for sections.

The finished drawing should be legible when reduced for publication, the degree of reduction being dependent on the level of detail required.

It is recommended that drawings aiming to convey historical understanding or to support historical interpretation adopt the drawing conventions set up in section 8 of English Heritage's 2006 guidance document.

All drawings must include metric drawn scales, with a north point on all plans.

The following tasks comprise the building survey.

- 1 *Site location plan*
- 2 *Produce accurate elevations and plans of each floor of the coach house with any phasing depicted in differential shading*

Outline elevations (not detailed measured survey) should be produced, based on the client's architect's drawings, or by a combination of sketching and some measured survey, sufficient to demonstrate phasing, proportion and location of historic features, such as existing windows and doors and blocked openings.

Structural phasing, changes in building material, evidence of any fixtures and fittings, features of historic significance (eg. Former fireplace openings, changes in internal levels) must be noted on elevations and plans. Historic fabric and features should be identified and numbered and presented in a table within the finished report (see para 7 below). The feature numbers should then be added to the plans.

Two possible formats are acceptable: CAD files from a package supporting AUTOCAD DWG files or exporting as DXF files; Drawing film, inked-in to publication standard and labelled with transfer lettering for reproduction on A4 size.

- 3 *Draw cross-sections through the principal structural unit*

At least one cross-section at 1:50, based on architect's plans to illustrate the vertical relationships within a building (e.g. ceiling heights, differing floor heights, roof trusses). Drawings to the same specification, and in the same style, as the floor plan (Para 2 above).

- 4 *Produce a photographic record*

Photographs should be used not only to show a building's appearance, but also to record the evidence on which the analysis of its historic development is based.

All photographs forming part of a record should be in sharp focus, with an appropriate depth of field. They should be adequately exposed in good natural light or, where necessary, sufficiently well-lit by artificial means.

An experienced archaeological photographer should produce a record of the structure as is in b/w (which is preferable for permanent archival purposes) **and** colour print, (digital images are **not** acceptable in view of the currently unproven archival performance of digital data) with scale and a record number of the structural component clearly visible.

- General views of the building in its wider setting or landscape

- The building's external appearance – typically a series of oblique views will show all external elevations of the building to give an overall impression of its size and shape. Where an individual elevation embodies complex historical information, views at right angles to the plane of the elevation may also be appropriate
- Detailed close-up coverage of the building's external appearance – windows, doors, decorative detail, blocked openings, chimneys, etc etc
- Overall appearance of each room and circulation areas
- Close-up internal detail, structural and decorative – windows, doors, fireplaces, staircases, cornices, architraves, skirting boards, doorcases etc etc
- Any dates or other inscriptions, any signage, maker's plates or graffiti, which contribute to an understanding of the building or its fixtures or machinery. A contemporaneous transcription should be made wherever characters are difficult to interpret
- Any building contents which a significant bearing on the building's history

5 *Context list phasing tables, cross-referenced to the plans and photographs.*

A minimal recording methodology should number each feature on the photographic record, group the features by phase, and locate their position on the floor plans and elevation drawings.

6 *Survey report*

A report will be produced, detailing the recording methodology and outlining the structural sequence, as observed from the survey.

- Precise location of the building, by name, street, town
- National grid reference
- Details of listing and Conservation Area
- Date the record was made and name of the recorder
- Summary statement describing the building's type or purpose, materials and possible date(s) so far as is apparent
- An account of the building's plan, form, function, age and development sequence
- Room by room description and description of exterior
- Names of architects, builders, patrons and owners should be given if known
- An account of the building's overall form and of its successive phases of development, and of the evidence supporting this analysis
- An account of the building's past and present use, and of the uses of its parts, with the evidence for these interpretations
- An account of any fixtures, fittings, plant or machinery associated with the building and its purpose
- Any evidence for the former evidence of demolished structures or plant associated with the building
- Copies of other records of the building, or a note of their existence and location
- Relevant information from other readily available sources – from books, documents, plans, from other people who may be familiar with the building
- A note of the building's past and present relationship to its setting – e.g. its relationship to local settlement patterns, to a field system, man-made landscape, its part in a larger architectural or functional group of buildings, its visual importance as a landmark etc.

- A note of the significance of the building locally, regionally or nationally, in terms of its origin, purpose, form, construction, design, materials or status
- An assessment of the potential for further investigative or documentary work, and of the potential survival of below-ground evidence for the history of the building and its site
- Historic map regression
- Copies of archive plans of building
- Copies of historic photographs of the building
- Full bibliographic references and list of sources consulted
- Glossary of architectural terms likely to be unfamiliar to readers.

Documentary and cartographic records, plans and photographs relating to the building will be consulted at:

Northumberland Archives at Woodhorn QEII Country Park, Ashington, NE63 9YF

Tyne and Wear Archives at Blandford House, Blandford Square, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4JA (tel. 0191 2326789 ext 407)

Newcastle City Library local studies section, Civic Centre, Barras Bridge, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8PD (0845 0020336)

The report must have the following features:-

1. List of drawings, cross-referenced to a location plan or plans
2. Details of visits to the building undertaken by the contractor
3. Photographic prints and negatives in transparent plastic wallets suitable for storing in A4 ringbinders (all four copies require a full set of prints, but only one set of negatives is required and these should be included in the copy for the Archives)
4. A card cover with title, date, author, contractor organisation and commissioning client
5. Some form of secure binding, preferably of the spiral or ring type.
6. Recommendations for any further archaeological work required.

Four copies of the report need to be submitted:

- one for the commissioning client
- one for the planning authority
- one for deposition in the Tyne and Wear County HER. A digital copy of the report is also required on CD by the HER
- one for Tyne and Wear Archives – this is the copy with the negatives in it. Please send this to the HER as TWAS will collect reports from the HER on an annual basis

The archaeological contractor will inform the County Archaeologist of the start date of the work to allow the CA to make a monitoring site visit.

OASIS

The Tyne and Wear County Archaeologist supports the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. This project aims to provide an online index/access to the large and growing body of archaeological grey literature, created as a result of developer-funded fieldwork.

The archaeological contractor is therefore required to register with OASIS and to complete the online OASIS form for their building recording at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>. Please ensure that tenders for this work takes into account the time needed to complete the form.

Once the OASIS record has been completed and signed off by the HER and NMR the information will be incorporated into the English Heritage Excavation Index, hosted online by the Archaeology Data Service.

The ultimate aim of OASIS is for an online virtual library of grey literature to be built up, linked to the index. The unit therefore has the option of uploading their grey literature report as part of their OASIS record, as a Microsoft Word document, rich text format, pdf or html format. The grey literature report will only be mounted by the ADS if both the unit and the HER give their agreement. The grey literature report will be made available through a library catalogue facility.

Please ensure that you and your client understand this procedure. If you choose to upload your grey literature report please ensure that your client agrees to this in writing to the HER at the address below.

For general enquiries about the OASIS project aims and the use of the form please contact: Mark Barratt at the National Monuments Record (tel. 01793 414600 or oasis@english-heritage.org.uk). For enquiries of a technical nature please contact: Catherine Hardman at the Archaeology Data Service (tel. 01904 433954 or oasis@ads.ahds.ac.uk). Or contact the Tyne and Wear Archaeology Officer at the address below.

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