

**An Archaeological Building Recording of
Thorburn's Yard, South Street, Seahouses,
Northumberland.**



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In January 2011 Archaeological Research Services Ltd were commissioned by Hush Homes Ltd to undertake an archaeological photographic recording of the standing historic walls which form Thorburn's Yard, South Street, Seabouses, Northumberland, prior to their demolition/ modification.

The historic walls which encompass Thorburn's yard have seen a lot of modifications since their original construction including the insertion and clocking off of doorways and windows. The walls are now badly weathered, particularly to the southeast facing elevation, and in a poor state of repair.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 In January 2011 Archaeological Research Services Ltd were commissioned by Hush Homes Ltd to undertake an archaeological photographic recording of the standing historic walls which form Thorburn's Yard, South Street, Seahouses, Northumberland, prior to their demolition/ modification.

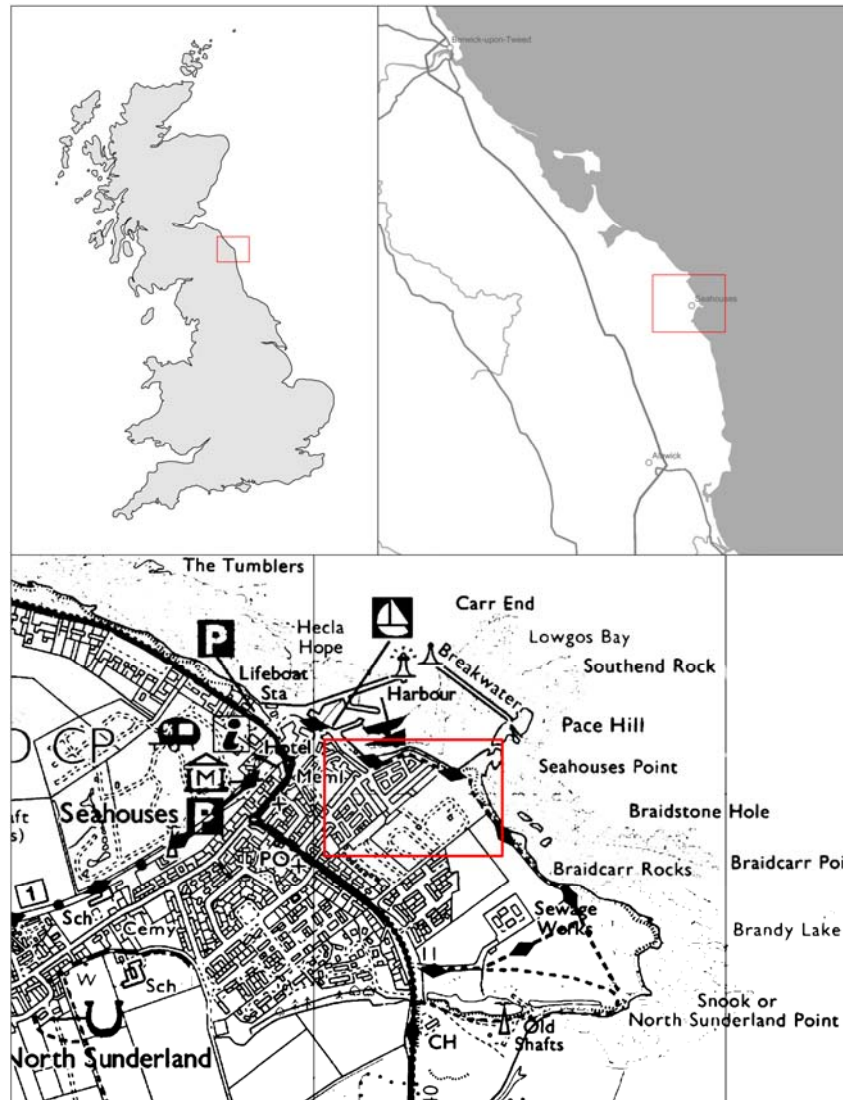


Fig. 1 Site location Ordnance Survey data copyright OS, reproduced by permission, Licence no. 100045420

1.2 Location

- 1.2.1 The site is located approximately 50 metres south of the North Sea. The site is centred at NU 2263 32058.

2. METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 The information within this report has been gathered from a number of sources, both primary and secondary, in accordance with the project specification and IFA standards and guidance 2008.
- 2.2 Photographs of the walls were taken both to the interior and exterior of Thorburns Yard. All photographs forming part of the record were taken in sharp focus, with an appropriate depth of field. They were adequately exposed in good natural light or, where necessary, sufficiently well-lit by artificial means. A record was then produced by an experienced archaeological photographer using an Olympus µ720SW digital camera with 7.1 megapixels.

3. PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDING

- 3.1. The survey took place at the Thorburn's Yard, South Street, Seahouses, on Thursday 6th January 2011 and was carried out by Daniel Amat. A plan showing the walls recorded has been provided in the appendices of this report to accompany the photographic recording. The walls appear to be the remnants of buildings which occupied the site as early as the 1860's, which would explain the various entrance and window openings.
- 3.2. Wall 1 (Figs 3 - 11) runs northeast – southwest along South Street. The northwest facing elevation is a construction of sandstone beach stones (probably locally sourced) in various sizes. The wall is in a state of disrepair and has various blocked off openings along its frontage. Several doorways and windows have been blocked off (Figs 4, 5, 8) using the same locally sourced sandstone as the rest of the wall. The doorways and windows each have a large sandstone lintel with the exception of a more modern doorway (Fig 7), which has been cut into the wall, and since blocked off in more modern times. Toward the northeast section are two small holes cut into the wall (Fig. 9), with a lintel above. This is another blocked off entrance, and local opinion is that the holes were created in order to facilitate the filling of a diesel tank, which used to be situated on the southwest facing elevation, during the sites use as Thorburn's Yard.
- 3.3. The southeast facing elevation (Figs 10, 11) of Wall 1 has been clad with a gray mortar and so the sandstone construction of this elevation cannot be seen.
- 3.4. Wall 2 (Figs 12 - 15) is of a lower construction than Wall 1. The northwest facing elevation has been clad in the same grey mortar as Wall 1. The southeast facing elevation is of the same construction as Wall 1, but is heavily weathered and in a poor state of repair.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1. The historic walls which encompass Thorburn's yard have seen a lot of modifications since their original construction including the insertion and clocking off of doorways and windows. The walls are now badly weathered, particularly to the southeast facing elevation, and in a poor state of repair.

5. PUBLICITY, CONFIDENTIALITY AND COPYRIGHT

- 5.1 Any publicity will be handled by the client.
- 5.2 Archaeological Research Services Ltd will retain the copyright of all documentary and photographic material under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act (1988).

6. STATEMENT OF INDEMNITY

- 6.1 All statements and opinions contained within this report arising from the works undertaken are offered in good faith and compiled according to professional standards. No responsibility can be accepted by the author/s of the report for any errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by any third party, or for loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in any such report(s), howsoever such facts and opinions may have been derived.

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 9.1 Archaeological Research Services Ltd would like to thank Mark Shinkfield of Atelier 38 Design, and Shaun Dixon of Hush Homes Ltd.

10. REFERENCES

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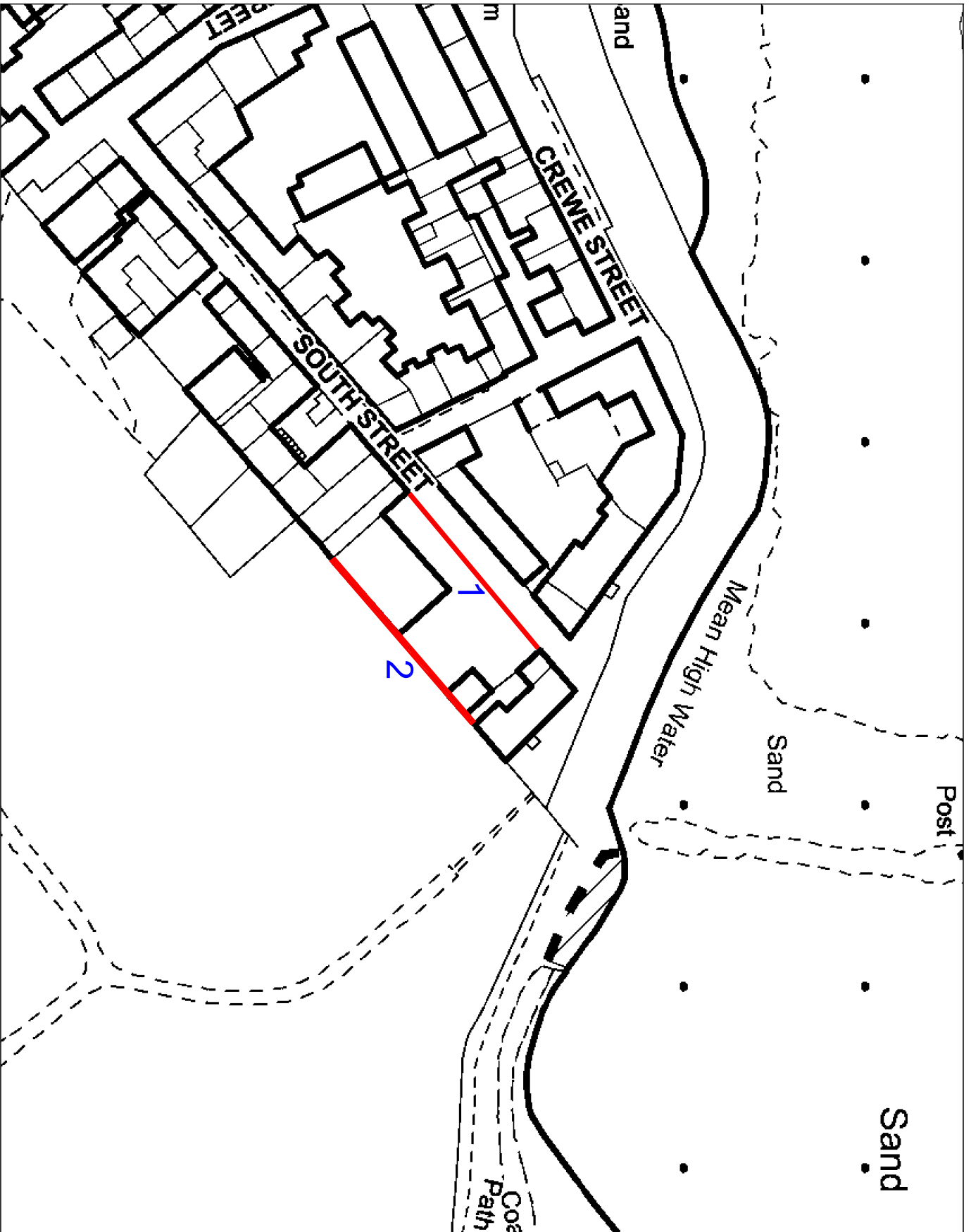


Figure 2.

Site location and walls

Key:



Wall

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Figure 3. Wall 1 northwest facing elevation



Figure 4. Wall 1 northwest facing elevation, blocked off door



Figure 5. Wall 1 northwest facing elevation, blocked off opening



Figure 6. Wall 1 northwest facing elevation



Figure 7. Wall 1 northwest facing elevation, more recent doorway



Figure 8. Wall 1 northwest facing elevation, blocked off opening.



Figure 9. Wall 1 northwest facing elevation, with blocked off opening and utility holes



Figure 10 Wall 1 southeast facing elevation



Figure 11. Wall 1 southeast facing elevation



Figure 12. Wall 2 northeast facing elevation

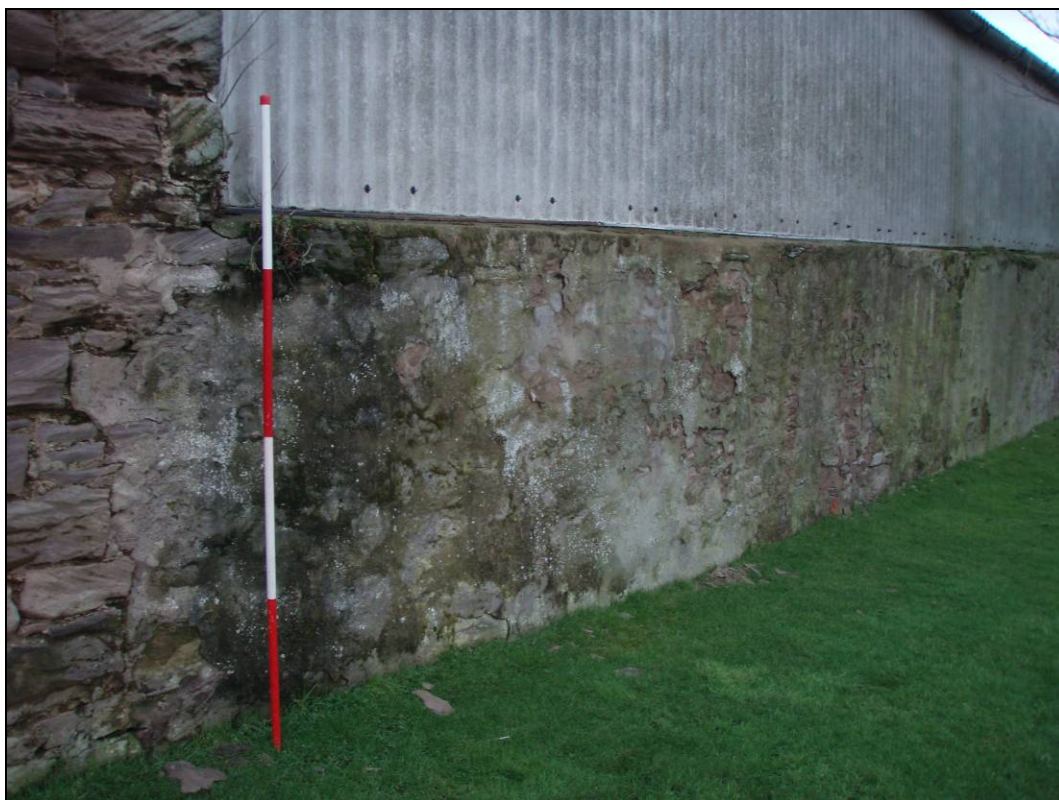


Figure 13. Wall 2 southeast facing elevation



Figure 14. Wall 2 southeast facing elevation



Figure 15. Wall 2 southeast facing elevation, showing heavy erosion.

APPENDIX II: PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

Film 1 Colour

1	Wall 1 northwest facing elevation
2	Wall 1 northwest facing elevation, blocked off opening
3	Wall 1 northwest facing elevation
4	Wall 1 northwest facing elevation, blocked off opening
5	Wall 1 northwest facing elevation, more recent doorway
6	Wall 1 northwest facing elevation, with blocked off opening and utility holes
7	Wall 1 northwest facing elevation, blocked off opening with lintel
8	Wall 1 northwest facing elevation
9	Wall 2 northwest facing elevation
10	Wall 1 southeast facing elevation
11	Wall 1 southeast facing elevation
12	Wall 1 southeast facing elevation
13	Wall 1 southeast facing elevation
14	Wall 1 southeast facing elevation
15	Wall 2 southeast facing elevation
16	Wall 2 southeast facing elevation
17	Wall 2 southeast facing elevation
18	Wall 2 southeast facing elevation
19	Wall 2 southeast facing elevation with heavy erosion
20	Wall 2 southeast facing elevation
21	Wall 2 northwest facing elevation, internal wall

Film 2 Black and White

1	Wall 1 northwest facing elevation
2	Wall 1 northwest facing elevation, blocked off opening
3	Wall 1 northwest facing elevation
4	Wall 1 northwest facing elevation, blocked off opening
5	Wall 1 northwest facing elevation, more recent doorway
6	Wall 1 northwest facing elevation, with blocked off opening and utility holes
7	Wall 1 northwest facing elevation, blocked off opening with lintel
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18	Wall 2 southeast facing elevation
19	Wall 2 southeast facing elevation with heavy erosion
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21	Wall 2 northwest facing elevation, internal wall