
SINDERHOPE SHIELD ALLENDALE NORTHUMBERLAND

An Historic Buildings Assessment and Record
of a Bastle and Bastle-Derivative House

JANUARY 2023



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| <i>Project code:</i> AP23/02 | <i>Stage:</i> Final | <i>Compiled by:</i> RJC/PFR | <i>Control:</i> MJ | <i>Completion date:</i> 20/01/23 |
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SINDERHOPE BASTLE & BASTLE-DERIVATIVE HOUSE
ALLENDALE
NORTHUMBERLAND

Historic Buildings Assessment and Record



Frontispiece: *The stone-buildings complex containing the bastle (right of view), bastle-derivative house (centre), 19th century house and barn conversion (left), viewed from the west.*

Oasis Project No. thearcha2-512957

Grid Ref. NY 84834 52046(centre)

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SUMMARY

A programme of building recording has been carried out in advance of a proposed programme of conservation and repair at Low Sinderhope Farm where a bastle and bastle-derived house survive at the west end of a range of stone-build farm-buildings which includes a late 18th- or early-19th century farmhouse and some recently-converted contemporary farm-buildings of similar date.

To accompany a written description of the building, photographic recording was undertaken in January 2023 by colour digital photography using a Panasonic DMC-FZ1000. In addition, the history of the building was researched through locally available historic maps and records.

Analysis based on visual inspection and historic records confirm that the grade II listed buildings attached to the west side of the later 18th- or early 19th-century Low Sinderhope Shield farmhouse comprise a late 16th- or early 17th-century bastle at the south-west end with a 17th-century bastle-derived house attached to its north-east side, the later farmhouse and associated recently-converted farm-buildings completing the current linear complex.

The defensible bastle was probably originally of two storeys but was later raised to the same height as the bastle-derivative house which was always of three storeys and not seriously defensible, a stone platform with its stair providing access to the first-floor doorway.

The similarity between the lintels of the first-floor windows in the house and bastle suggest that the bastle was remodelled when the house was added, when both formed part of the same residence. Later on, the building appears to have been re-divided, and the door in the wall between them sealed; the fact that the entrance platform once had two stairs, and a wall between them, implies that they were then in separate hands.

The Bastle and the Bastle-Derivative House are confirmed as buildings of considerable architectural and historical significance and have features that merit careful conservation and preservation, although some elements, such as decayed floors and staircase, may be beyond repair.

The prime features of interest are the original doorway of the bastle, now opening into the Bastle-Derivative House, the two round-arched doorways of the bastle-Derivative House, and the upper floor fireplaces in both buildings; the external platform which gave access to both is also an interesting feature which deserves repair and retention.

The section of the first floor of the Bastle-Derivative House which retains stone slabs is also a rare survival and should be retained, whilst the surviving broad boards of the upper floor are probably original, but in poor condition.

The roof structure of both structures is recent and not of particular interest.

It is recommended that the programme of repairs to the historic fabric of the listed building should be carried out in such a way that the most significant and earliest fabric in the building is retained and alterations kept to a minimum, implemented only where required to maintain the historic building.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

The complex of buildings at Sinderhope Shield in the hamlet of Sinderhope is situated on the east side of the valley of the East Allen, 4 km to the south of Allendale Town (see Location Map (right) and *Illus. 01 & 02*). The farm of Sinderhope Shield (Low Sinderhope on some older maps) stands at NY 84834 52046 (centre) a little over 330 m O.D., on the spur of land between the main valley and its tributary the Sinderhope Burn.

Sinderhope Shield farm includes a range of grade II listed buildings attached to the west side of Low Sinderhope Shield farmhouse (*Illus. 03*). The listed buildings include a late

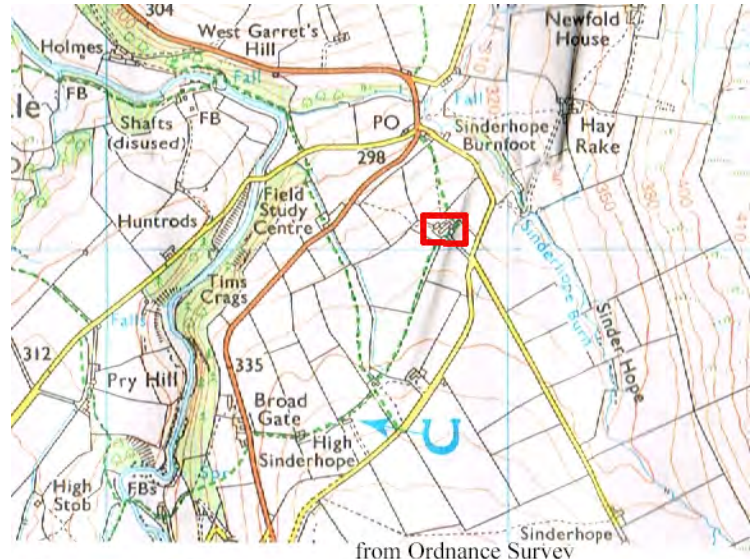
16th or early 17th century bastle at the south-west end with a 17th century bastle-derived house attached to its north-east side to create a larger dwelling in which domestic accommodation remained at first floor level. This structure was subsequently altered in the 18th century and a later 18th or early 19th century farmhouse and associated farm-buildings (the latter recently converted to a modern dwelling) subsequently added to its north-west side, completing the development of the linear complex.

The bastle and bastle-derivative house are jointly afforded designated protection as a listed building:

Historic England Listing for NY 85 SW ALLENDALE SINDERHOPE

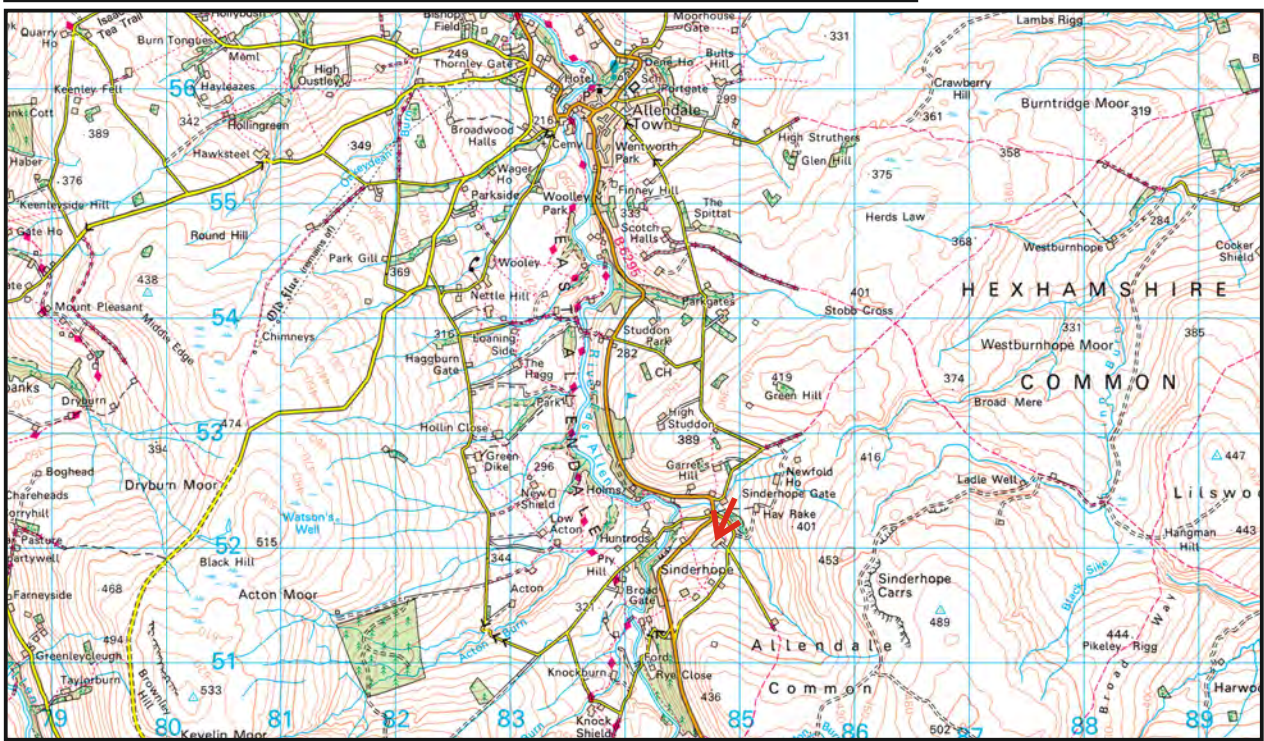
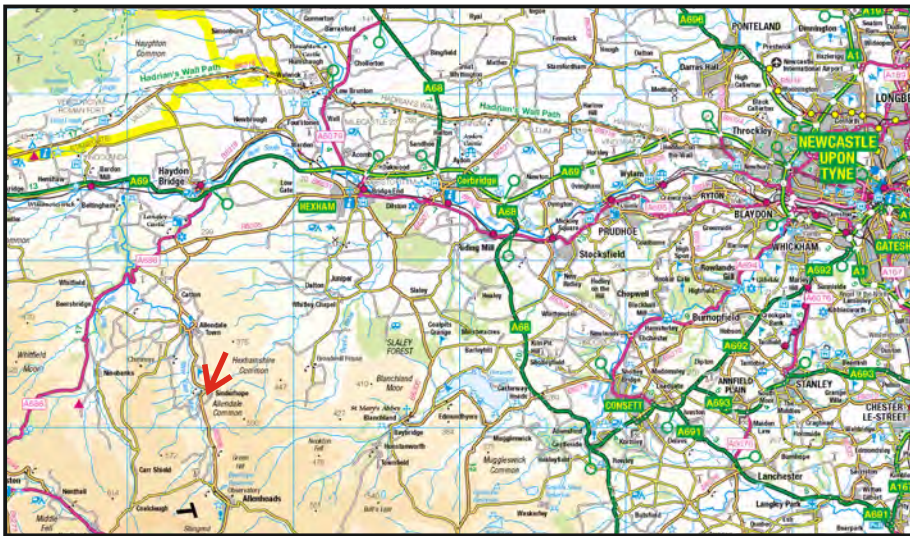
15/98 Range of buildings adjacent to west side of Low Sinderhope Shield Farmhouse; Listed Grade II; Listing NGR: NY8483652049

Bastle house, late C16 or early C17 with C17 extension, altered C18. Massive rubble with roughly-shaped quoins, stone dressings; slate roof with stone stack to right. Bastle to left 3 storeys, 2 bays. External stone stair to C20 doorway. Blocked overlight and window opening to left have C18 wedge lintels. Small C19 2nd floor window. Extension to right 2 storeys, 3 bays. Round-headed chamfered through-passage doorway and small rectangular window, flanked by narrow loops, to right. To left of through passage external stone stair to doorway with overlight, both in chamfered surrounds; to right 2 C18 window openings with wedge lintels. Farmhouse to right c19, altered, not of interest. Left return has central ground-floor loop. Rear elevation; bastle to right has boulder plinth, inserted doorway and small 1st floor window. Extension to left has through-passage doorway similar to that opposite, with small loop to left and 2-light window, which has lost its mullion, above. Interior: end wall of bastle has original byre entrance with flattened Tudor-arched head and segmental rear arch. C17 extension has original transverse beams and corbels at east end to carry 1st floor hearth. 1st floor room not



Location Map

from Ordnance Survey
1:25000 sheet OL 43
OS map licence 100045703



Illus. 01-03: Location maps showing the position of Sinderhope Bastle south-west of Hexham in south Northumberland (top), on the east bank of the river East Allen (middle) and at Sinderhope Shield.⁶

seen as full of hay. An interesting example of a very substantial bastle with an early extension in which the domestic accommodation remained at 1st floor level.

Listed Buildings Consent has recently been granted for a programme of repairs to the historic fabric of the listed building, on the condition that the most significant and earliest fabric in the building is retained and alterations kept to a minimum, implemented only where required to maintain the historic building. A further condition of planning consent is that historic building recording should be carried out prior to development by an historic buildings specialist in line with the latest Historic England Guidance document - Understanding Historic Buildings, A Guide to Good Recording Practice (2016) and NCC Conservation Team (NCCCT) Site Specific Requirements.

Condition [Application No. 22/01314/LBC]

3 A programme of archaeological work is required in accordance with NCC Environment and Design Team (NCEDT) Site Specific Requirements document (dated 28/7/22) and Historic England's 2016 Guidance document 'Understanding Historic Buildings. A Guide to Good Recording Practice'. The archaeological scheme shall comprise three stages of work. Each stage shall be completed and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before it can be discharged.

a) No development or archaeological mitigation shall commence on site until a written scheme of investigation based on NCEDT Site Specific Requirements and Historic England 'Understanding Historic Buildings' documents has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

b) The archaeological recording scheme required by NCEDT Site Specific Requirements and Historic England Understanding Historic Buildings documents must be completed in accordance with the approved written scheme of investigation.

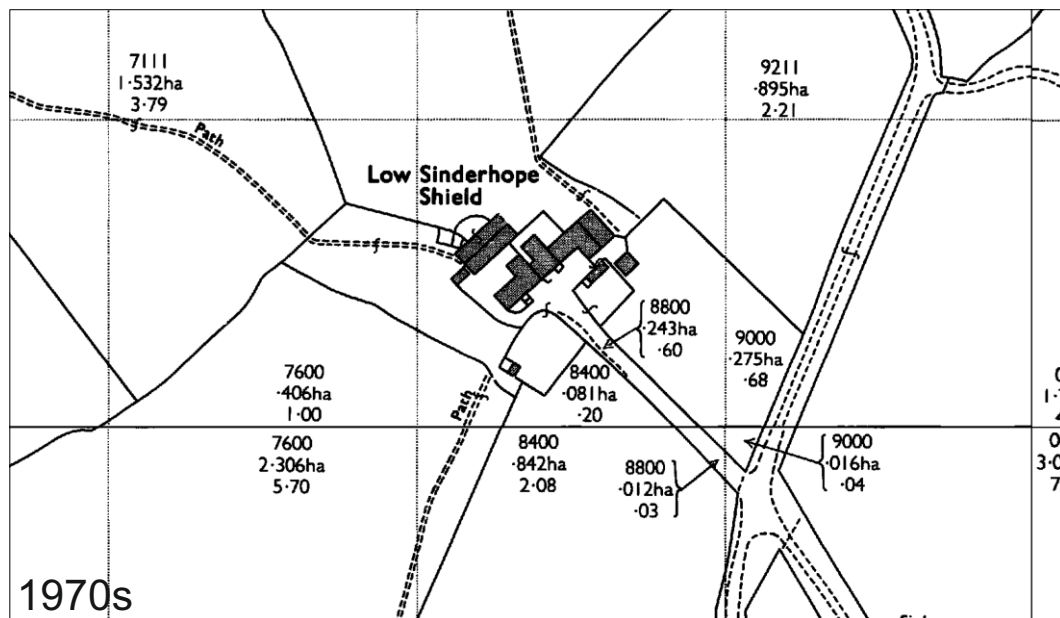
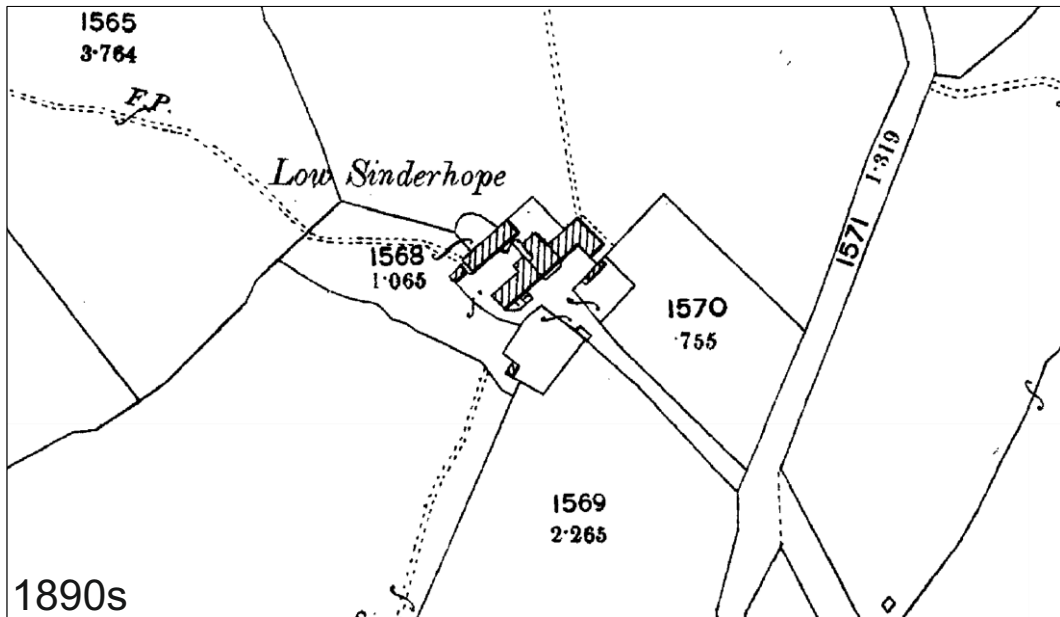
c) The programme of analysis, reporting, publication and archiving if required by NCEDT Standards and Site-Specific Requirements and Historic England 'Understanding Historic Buildings' documents must be completed in accordance with the approved written scheme of investigation. Reason: The site is of archaeological and historic interest, in accordance with Policies ENV1 and ENV7 of the Northumberland Local Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework.

Accordingly, the current investigation, recording and reporting exercise has been carried out in order to discharge the above NCC planning condition. All historic buildings within the development area were included in this work, and recorded in line with the requirements of a Level 2 survey.

1.2 Methodology

The photographic recording of the redundant buildings complex was undertaken to accompany a written description in January 2023, using digital photography. All elevations were photographed as far as possible face-on and from a consistent height and perspective. Where possible, all record photographs included a scaled ranging pole. Where it was not possible to capture an entire elevation in a single photograph because of the constricted nature of the site, a series of partial elevations were recorded along with an oblique overall view of the full elevation.

A search was made for maps, documents and historic photographs (see *Illus. 04-06*) which could shed light on the development and history of the buildings.

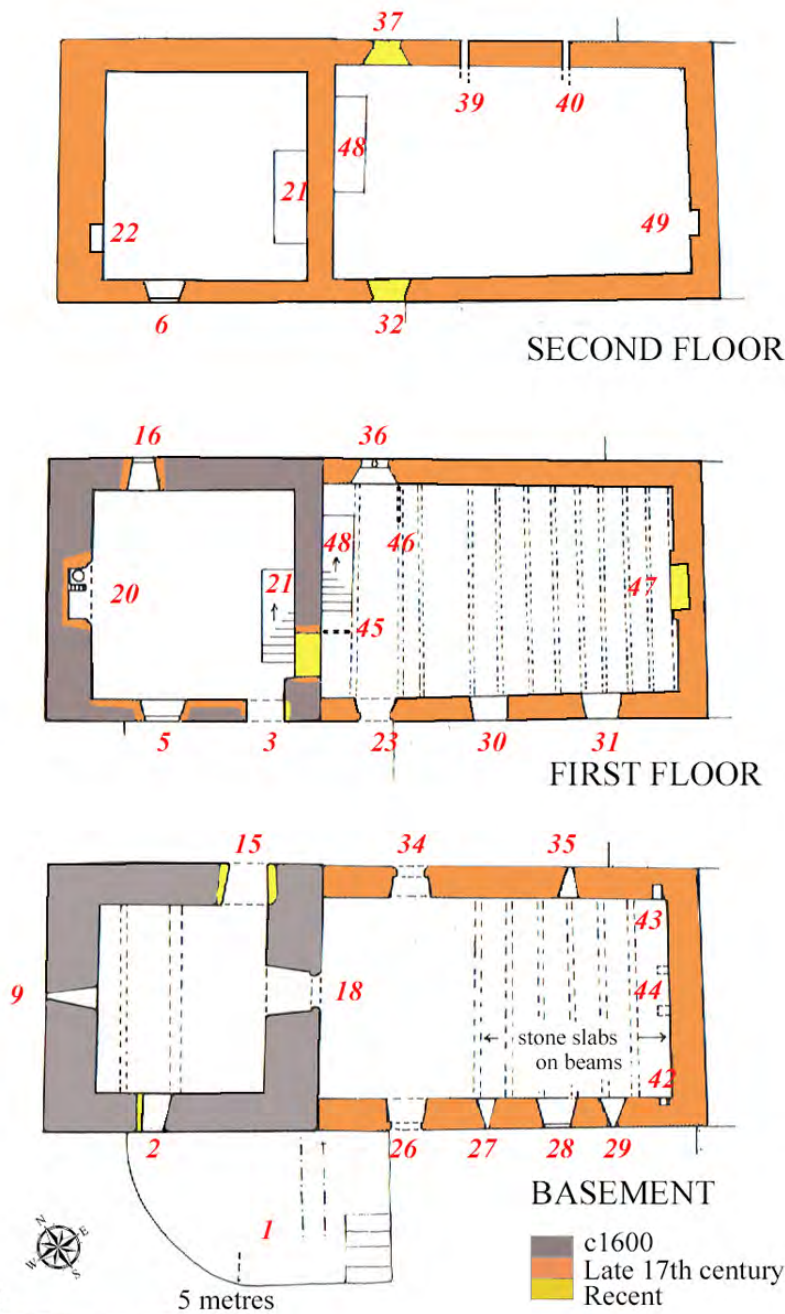


Illus. 04-06: Extracts from historic Ordnance Survey plans surveyed 1850s - 1970s.

2. BUILDING DESCRIPTION

2.1 INTRODUCTION

The principal buildings of the farm form a linear range facing south-east (hereafter referred to as south) and include work of a number of different periods. The farmhouse in the centre of the range is perhaps of late 18th century date (although much modernized) but the west part of the range consists of two older buildings, an almost square bastle and, linking it to the farmhouse, a later building here termed the bastle-derivative house (NGR NY 8484 5205); these two structures are now a Grade II listed building. Access to both structures at first floor level is from a stone platform of rough quadrant plan (now overgrown and ruinous). Both these structures are in use as farm outbuildings.



In the following description the bracketed numbers allow cross reference to the plans and elevations (*Illus. 07 & 08*).

For key to annotation see text

Illus. 07: Floor plans by Peter Ryder.

2.2 THE BASTLE

2.2.1 Exterior

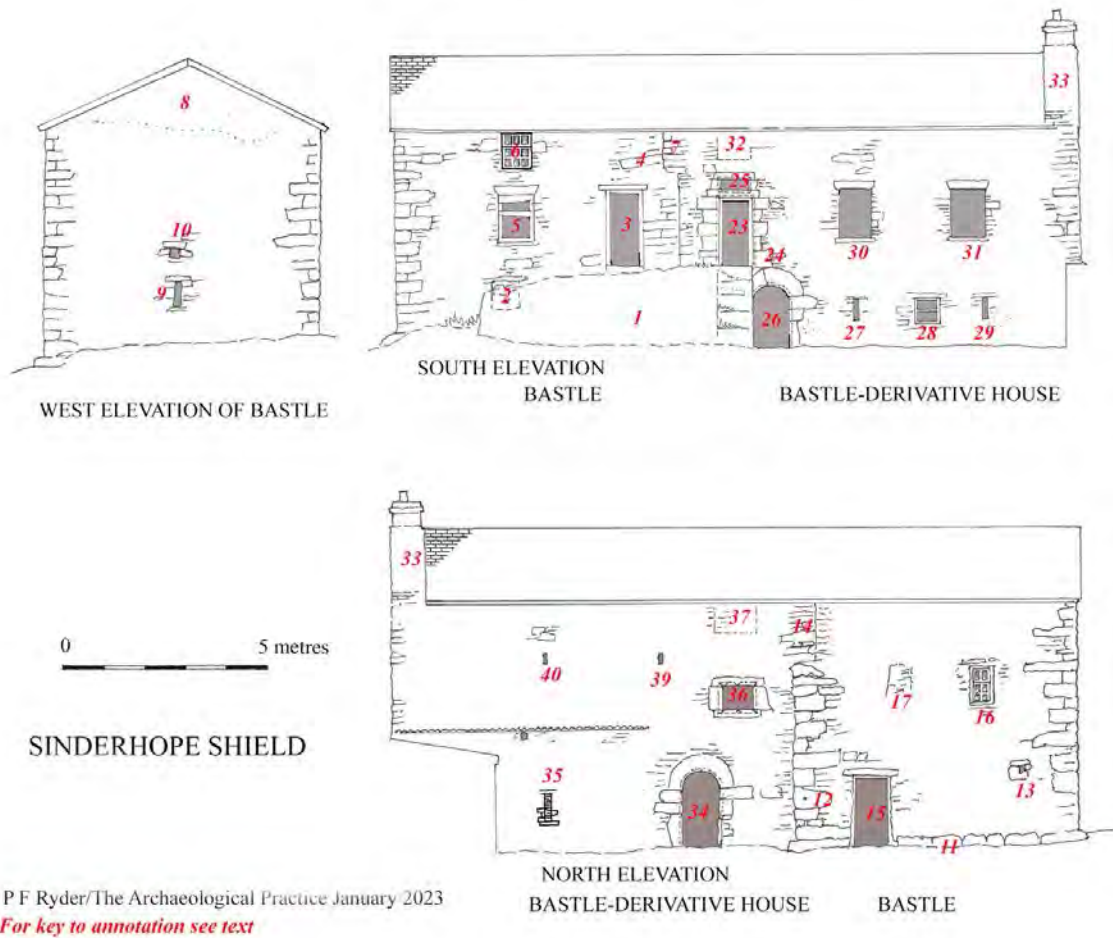
The original bastle, which forms the west end of the range, measures c.7.0 by 6.7 m externally, with end walls measuring 1.4 m and side walls a little over 1.0 m in thickness at ground floor level. It may have originally been a two-storeyed structure but has been altered in the 18th or 19th century when the present second floor was created (and the upper c 1.2 m of the side walls either raised or rebuilt, with the south wall being rebuilt above first-floor level). It is built of coursed roughly shaped stone, with massive alternating quoins, and some big blocks in the lower courses. The western part of the front elevation has a stone platform (1), curved to the south-west and c 2 m high, built up against it, which formerly had steps up to it, and gave access to the first-floor doors of both the bastle and the bastle-derivate house to the east; there was formerly a wall dividing the platform into two parts. A mature tree was growing on this platform a few years ago; it has now been removed but has left the underlying structure little more than a mould of debris. A ground floor window (2) is now virtually concealed by this debris; c 0.50 m wide, this is probably an enlargement of a ground-floor loop, although clearly earlier than the platform. At first floor level the bastle has a boarded door in an opening (3) that has some big blocks in its jambs but a stone lintel that looks of no great age with a stone lintel. Above its head and set slightly skew in a section of wall that may have been rebuilt is a wedge-shaped block of brown sandstone (4) like the lintels of the other first-floor openings in the wall. It appears that this may have been the original upper doorway to the bastle, remodelled as a window when the bastle-derivative house was added, then more recently returned to use as a doorway. To the left of the doorway is a sizeable window (5) that thirty years ago held a 12-pane sash window but has now lost its carpentry, without cut dressings except for a similar splayed lintel, and above it on the second floor is a smaller shortened sash window (3 panes above 6) with its head at eaves level (6). On the east the straight joint between the bastle and the later building steps westwards by c 0.40m, c 1.2 m below the eaves (7), apparently indicating that the bastle-derivative house was taller than the bastle when first built, and the bastle later heightened.

The west end of the bastle has massive quoins up to c 1.2 m below the present eaves; smaller rubble higher up (8) suggests later rebuilding, but there is no real sign of an original gable line. At basement level there is a central slit vent (9), with above and slightly to the north of it, c 2 m above the ground, a roughly square opening (10) that might just be a missing stone but has more the look of a quenching hole¹ although there is no evidence of any doorway here.

At the foot of the north wall of the bastle – where the ground falls to a slightly lower level – there is a course of boulders (11). Some of the quoins are massive; the fourth quoin from the base at the north-east corner has a sinking a little like a drilled ‘cup’ (12). Around c 1.5 m from the north-west corner and 2 m above the boulder plinth is a stone with an opening c 100 mm square, perhaps a drain, cut into it (13).

As on the south, the straight joint between the bastle and the adjacent bastle-derivative house steps west by c 0.40 m at the earlier eaves level (14). East-of-centre is a doorway (15) which is clearly a late insertion in the wall, and at first-floor level a small window (a shortened sash, with 2 panes above 4) with a timber lintel (16), but no cut dressings; to the left of it is a puzzling feature, possibly a small blocked opening (17), with an inclined left jamb.

¹ An opening sometimes found over bastle doors, through which water could be poured in the event of attackers kindling a fire against the woodwork of the door.



Illus. 08: Elevation drawings of the bastle and bastle-derivative house.

2.2.3 Interior

The basement of the bastle was originally only entered by a doorway (18) in the centre of the east wall, now within the basement of the adjacent bastle-derivative house. This doorway has a chamfered surround with a shallow monolithic triangular head and massive blocks in the jambs, rebated internally for a door. In an odd manner the springing of the arch is well above the base of the stone, perhaps suggesting that its form has been modified from a steeped triangle or pointed shape. The drawbar tunnel and its socket have been infilled; internally the opening has a series of decayed timber lintels.

The bastle basement is spanned by three north-south beams, one against the east wall, one central and one set c 0.50 m from the west wall. The window in the south wall (2) is placed immediately west of the central beam and has an internal opening about 0.60 m wide under timber lintels; the eastern jamb is splayed, suggesting that it might survive from an earlier loop. There are three stalls set against both east and west walls, on either side of a central concrete drain, and a raised area at the south-east corner.

The first floor of the bastle is now gained by the doorway (3) from the raised platform, which has a timber internal lintel; the walls are largely plastered and that on the south has clearly been rebuilt at some time, little more than half the thickness of the original, the stub of which remains on the east of the door which is adjacent to a blocked doorway (19) through the east wall into the bastle-derivative house, the timber lintel of which is exposed. There is a large

fireplace (20) in the centre of the west wall which has a square head and a chamfered surround and is of earlier 18th century character. The ceiling beams are set north-south and have narrow chamfers, carrying boards of no great width.

A steep stair (21) ascends against the east wall to the second floor which has plastered walls; an old fireplace (22) set towards the south end of the west wall again has a square head and a chamfered surround. The roof is modern, with a single king-post truss.

2.3 THE BASTLE-DERIVATIVE HOUSE

2.3.1 Exterior

This addition to the original bastle is c.10 m long by 6.5 m wide externally, and is built of thinner courses of flaggy stones, with fairly small quoins at the east end. Its walls are 0.75-0.8 m thick at basement level, and 0.6 m above. The entrance platform of the bastle overlaps the added house and provides access to the original first-floor door (23) at the west end of the south wall, which has a square head and a chamfered surround of big roughly-alternating blocks; one near the top of the east jamb has the letters 'AI' incised, and two lower down have sockets for former railings on the east side of the entrance platform (24); directly above the lintel is a slightly narrower overlight (25), again with a chamfered surround.

Adjacent to the east side of the platform is the basement doorway (26) which has a monolithic semi-circular arch (now cracked) and alternating blocks for its jambs; to the east are two slit vents (27) & (29), with a larger (28) window between them.

The first floor has two larger windows (30) & (31), which have lost all their carpentry. They have no cut dressings to their jambs; their sills are flagstone slabs and their lintels slightly splayed slabs of pink-brown sandstone. There probably have been first-floor windows, but repair and rebuilding at this level has erased most evidence of them – there are indications of an infilled opening directly above the first-floor doorway (32). Possibly the windows at this level may have been set in gabled half-dormers.

To the east the end wall of the bastle-derivative house (33) stands considerably taller than the present roof of the later farmhouse, suggesting that both the eaves and ridge of the present roof have been lowered. It carries a small chimney stack that has probably been rebuilt.

On the north there is a second doorway (34) opposite that on the south, and very similar to it, except that its monolithic head, semi-circular both to intrados and extrados, remains unbroken, although the lowermost jamb stone on the west seems to have been removed and replaced by an upright timber. Further east is a blocked slit vent (35); the eastern part of the wall is covered by a modern single-storeyed addition to the Farmhouse. At first-floor level towards the west end of the wall is a mullioned window, formerly of two lights but which has now lost its mullion (36). Another window directly above (37) has no cut dressings, and there is a possible infilled opening (38) further east. The eastern part of the wall at second floor level has two openings (39) & (40) exposing the ends of the beams that carried the upper-cruck trusses, and lower down is a line of cut-off corrugated iron sheeting indicating the roof-line of a removed outbuilding (41).

2.3.2 Interior

Neither of the two opposed doorways of the bastle-derivative house has, despite their archaic appearance, any provision for draw bars. The two slit vents in the south wall (27) & (29) now form recesses internally, and there are small recesses, probably too small to have been slit vents, at the east end of each side wall (42) & (43). At the east end are two big rough corbels (44) supporting the first-floor hearth, with a straight joint (not immediately easy to explain)

below the outer edge of each. The floor above is of stone slabs carried on transverse beams which have rough small chamfers; further west the slabs are replaced by more recent boarding. Latterly the basement has been used as a stable, and there is a concrete floor with raised platforms, and divisions forming two stalls on each side and three at the east end. West of the cross passage between the two opposed doorways are two further stalls, one on either side of the doorway into the bastle house.

At first floor level there is a blocked door with a timber lintel (19) at the south end of the west wall, with evidence of a partition (presumably the north side of an entrance lobby) immediately beyond (45). The window at the west end of the north wall (36) has a broad internal splay, and there is evidence of another partition (46) below the first ceiling beam to the east of it. The windows in the south wall (30) & (31) have timber internal lintels which have narrow stopped chamfers. At the east end is an interesting original fireplace (47) with its lintel set forward on corbels, its surround moulded on both extrados and intrados, and its recess now infilled with brick. The ceiling has been carried on transverse beams, chamfered on their lower angles; some of the very broad old floorboards they carried survive in places. Two beams survive at the east end, then two have fallen, the remaining six still being in position.

Access to the second floor was by an old stair (48), now in a state of collapse, rising north against the west wall; it has heavy stringers and treads that each have single boards as risers and treads. At second floor level there is a blocked window on the north, directly above that at first-floor level, and east of that the stubs of two sawn-off upper cruck trusses (39) & (40). The front wall may have been partly rebuilt at this level and there is no clear sign of any blocked window. Towards the south end of the east wall is a small square-headed fireplace with a simple moulded surround (49) The present roof structure, with king-post trusses, is quite modern.

2.4 Structural History

The bastle is clearly the earliest building on the site, and the bastle-derivative house the second; as discussed below, they may date to c. 1600 and c. 1700 respectively. Then comes the farmhouse, possibly originally an upper-floor house but heavily altered; it could be of later 18th-century date.

The upper parts of the bastle have been so much altered that it is difficult to ascertain its original form; it was probably of two storeys, as can be seen from the manner in which the wall of the added bastle-derivative house overlaps its thick east wall, before at some uncertain later date the bastle was raised to the same height.

The bastle-derivative house was always of three storeys high, and was not seriously defensible. The stone platform with its stair provided access to the first-floor doorway. The similarity between the lintels of the first-floor windows in the house and bastle suggest that the bastle was remodelled when the house was added, and both formed part of the same residence. The top floor of the building may have been lit by half dormers - a type of fenestration favoured by a number of later 17th century houses in the area, often with upper cruck roofs such as this one had. Later on, they may have formed separate residences, and the door in the wall between them was sealed; the fact that the entrance platform once had two stairs, and a wall between them, implies that they were in separate hands.

The buildings may have been abandoned when the present farmhouse was built, in the late 18th or early 19th century. More recently the roof of the whole range was renewed, leaving just remnants of the old upper-cruck trusses, and areas of the upper walls were probably rebuilt at the same time.

2.5 Discussion

The historical interest at Sinderhope Shield centres on the two earliest elements of the group of buildings, the bastle and the adjacent bastle-derivative house; both retain important original features although both have been altered, especially their upper parts.

The bastle and bastle-derivative house have been described and discussed in some detail². Bastles are often lumped together with towers, but really the two classes of building are quite distinct; towers are usually built by landowners, and in Northumberland are mostly of 14th to early 16th century date, whilst bastles are post-medieval vernacular buildings, erected by tenant farmers; they burst upon the landscape, in considerable numbers, in the early 17th century although can be seen as modelled on earlier more 'polite' defensible strong houses such as Baal Hill House at Wolsingham in Weardale or Pockerley near Beamish. The handful of dated bastles in the county cluster tightly in the first decade of the 17th century, although there is some evidence that the bastle-building tradition persisted much longer in South Western Northumberland, in particular around Alston. The only dated example in the Allendales is Furnace House (Mohope) in West Allendale, which is of 1639.

In the medieval period Allendale was a parochial chapelry of Hexham, and part of estates which had been under the private jurisdiction of the Archbishop of York since the 11th century. Misgovernment and corruption by the archbishop's bailiffs created a situation of constant suspicion and unrest, and the tenants provided almost ungovernable. The 1970 Royal Commission report³ linked bastle building to copyhold tenancies, in which rents had not increased for generations and allowed tenants to build defensible houses, which the social conditions – petty lawlessness and cattle theft being endemic - necessitated. Whilst elsewhere such tenancies were dying out by the early 17th century, those in Allendale 'enjoyed an exceptional vitality'⁴, so a close dating of the Sinderhope bastle is not easy. Its exceptionally thick walls and almost square plan suggest that it might have been carried up further than the usual two stories as a 'poor man's tower' (there is rather more evidence that this may have been the case with one of the range of bastles at Monk in West Allendale); there are other near-square bastles in the area (Low Bishopside and Moorhouses in Allendale, High Lovelady Shield near Alston) but most are so ruinous that their original elevations cannot be reconstructed. These more tower-like buildings may come relatively early in bastle building, perhaps c 1600 or even a little before.

The Bastle-derivative House comes considerably later; there are quite a number of parallels, especially around Alston where upper-floor houses displaying some characteristics of bastles, such as stone slab floors carried on close-spaced transverse beams, were still being built into the later 18th century. The one at Sinderhope Shield is clearly not a defensible building – its doors are not equipped with drawbar tunnels – and it has a cross passage with a pair of opposed doors, a plan feature that occurs in this position in several houses where an original bastle has been extended (e.g. Clarghyll Hall and Whitlow, both near Alston). Cross passages were also a feature of earlier pre-bastle longhouses, surviving examples of which are rare although there is a good example at Wooley in Allendale.

² Ryder P F (1992) 'Bastles and Bastle-like Buildings in Allendale, Northumberland'. *Archaeological Journal* 149, 367-369.

³ Ramm, H.G., McDowell R.W. and Mercer, E. (1970) *Shielings and Bastles*. Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, London H.M.S.O.

⁴ *Northumberland County History* (1897), IV, 59.



Illus. 09: Phased plan of the Low Sinderhope farmstead complex.

2.5 Significance

Without doubt the Bastle and the Bastle-Derivative House, the two listed structures, are the two buildings in the group with the greatest architectural and historical significance and have features that merit careful conservation and preservation, although this may be difficult in the case of the decayed floors and staircases etc. The section of the first floor of the Bastle-Derivative House which retains stone slabs is a rare survival, and should be retained if possible whilst the surviving broad boards of the upper floor are probably original, but in poor condition. The prime features of interest are the original doorway of the bastle, now opening into the Bastle-Derivative House, the two round-arched doorways of the bastle-Derivative House, and the upper floor fireplaces in both buildings; the external platform which gave access to both is also an interesting feature which deserves repair and retention. The roof structure of both structures is recent and not of particular interest.

3. THE PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

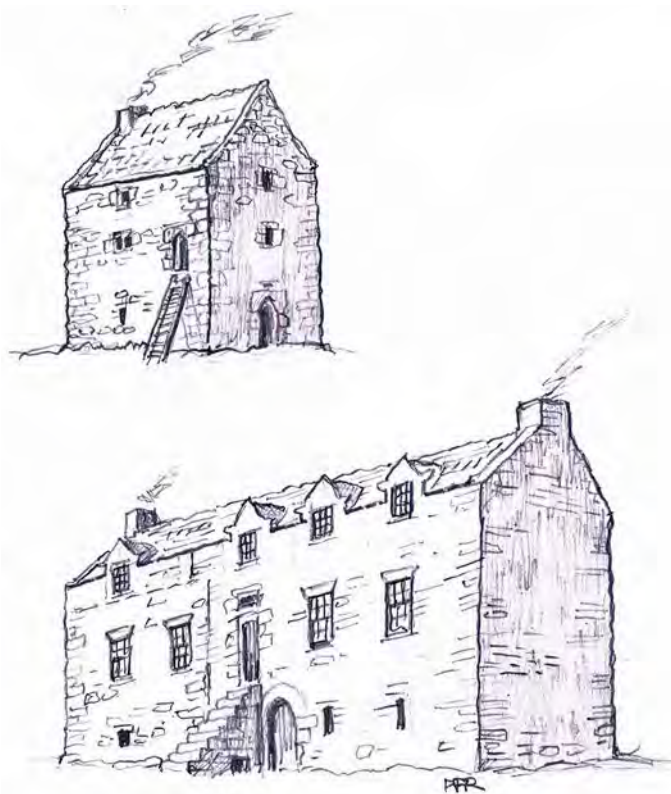
Record photographs supplied as Appendix 2 and digitally are keyed to descriptions provided in *Appendix 2, Table 1*.

| <i>Photo number</i> | <i>Internal/ External</i> | <i>Description</i> |
|---------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 01 | External | Front, SE elevation of the bastle (left of view), bastle derivative house (BDH - centre of view) and 19 th century house (right). |
| 02-15 | External | External elevations of bastle and bastle-derivative building (BDB) |
| 16-20 | Internal | Internal Ground Floor elevations of the bastle |
| 21-32 | External | Internal Ground Floor elevations of BDB |
| 33-37 & 41 | Internal | Internal First Floor elevations of the bastle |
| 38-40 | Internal | Internal Second Floor elevations of the bastle |
| 42-50 | Internal | Internal First Floor elevations of the BDB |
| 51-54 | Internal | Internal elevations of the second floor (loft) of the BDB |

4. CONCLUSIONS

The grade II listed buildings attached to the west side of the later 18th- or early 19th-century Low Sinderhope Shield farmhouse comprise a late 16th- or early 17th-century bastle at the south-west end with a 17th-century bastle-derived house attached to its north-east side, the later farmhouse and associated recently-converted farm-buildings completing the current linear complex.

The defensible bastle was probably originally of two storeys but was later raised to the same height as the bastle-derivative house which was always of three storeys and not seriously defensible, a stone platform with its stair providing access to the first-floor doorway.



Illus. 10: Reconstruction Sketches by Peter Ryder (January 2023) –

Sinderhope Shield as it might have appeared (above) c. 1620 just after construction of the original bastle house and (below) c. 1700 when it was extended and remodelled as a bastle-derivative house.

The similarity between the lintels of the first-floor windows in the house and bastle suggest that the bastle was remodelled when the house was added, when both formed part of the same residence. Later on, the building appears to have been re-divided, and the door in the wall between them sealed; the fact that the entrance platform once had two stairs, and a wall between them, implies that they were then in separate hands.

The Bastle and the Bastle-Derivative House are confirmed as buildings of considerable architectural and historical significance and have features that merit careful conservation and preservation, although some elements, such as decayed floors and staircase, may be beyond repair.

The prime features of interest are the original doorway of the bastle, now opening into the Bastle-Derivative House, the two round-arched doorways of the bastle-Derivative House, and

the upper floor fireplaces in both buildings; the external platform which gave access to both is also an interesting feature which deserves repair and retention.

The section of the first floor of the Bastle-Derivative House which retains stone slabs is also a rare survival and should be retained, whilst the surviving broad boards of the upper floor are probably original, but in poor condition.

The roof structure of both structures is recent and not of particular interest.

It is recommended that the programme of repairs to the historic fabric of the listed building should be carried out in such a way that the most significant and earliest fabric in the building is retained and alterations kept to a minimum, implemented only where required to maintain the historic building.

APPENDIX 1: Photographic Record*Table 1: Descriptions of photographs in sequence.*

| | |
|----|--|
| 01 | Front, SE elevation of the bastle (left of view), bastle derivative house (BDH - centre of view) and 19 th century house (right). |
| 02 | Front, SE elevation of the bastle derivative house (BDH) |
| 03 | SE-facing doorway to bastle derivative house (BDH) |
| 04 | NE-facing revetment for steps to first floor entrance to bastle derivative house (BDH). |
| 05 | Front, SE elevation of the bastle |
| 06 | First floor, SE-facing doorway to BDH |
| 07 | The farm-buildings complex containing the bastle (left of view), BDH, 19 th century house and 19 th century barn conversion (right) viewed from the south. |
| 08 | Slightly-oblique view of SW elevation of the bastle from WSW, showing central slit vent with another, roughly square opening above (like a quenching hole: no evidence of a doorway here) |
| 09 | Detail of central slit vent with roughly square opening above in the SW wall of the bastle. |
| 10 | The stone-buildings complex containing the bastle (right of view), BDH, 19 th century house and barn conversion (left) viewed from the west. |
| 11 | NW elevation of the bastle, with inserted off-centre doorway lacking traces of draw-bar slots and a first floor window with no cut dressings. |
| 12 | Chute opening at the SW end of the NW elevation of the bastle at door lintel level. |
| 13 | NW elevation of the BDH, with semi-circular-headed doorway (opposite that on the south), a blocked slit vent to the east and, at first-floor level a mullioned window to the west with another window directly above lacking cut dressings. In the east part of the wall at second floor level are two openings for upper-cruck trusses. |
| 14 | Central, semi-circular-headed doorway of the BDH, NW elevation. |
| 15 | Oblique view from NNE of the NW elevation of the BDH (left) and bastle. |
| 16 | Ground floor internal NW elevation of the bastle. |
| 17 | Ground floor internal SW end elevation of the bastle. |
| 18 | Ground floor internal SE elevation of the bastle. |
| 19 | Ground floor (GF) internal NE elevation of the bastle incl. doorway to BDH. |
| 20 | Detail of at GF doorway with chamfered surround and infilled drawbar tunnel and socket, viewed from SW, in the NE elevation of the bastle into the BDH. |
| 21 | SW view of the shallow triangular head of the original GF bastle doorway, with internal decayed timber lintels. |
| 22 | SW part of internal NW elevation of BDH at GF level |
| 23 | NE part of internal NW elevation of BDH at GF level |
| 24 | Infilled slit vent at extreme NE end of internal NW elevation of BDH at GF level |
| 25 | Internal NE elevation of the BDH at GF level. |
| 26 | Oblique view from the south of corbels supporting first floor hearth in the internal NE elevation of the BDH, seen at GF level. |
| 27 | Oblique view of the NE part of the internal SE elevation of the BDH and GF level. |
| 28 | Infilled vent at the extreme NE end of the internal SE elevation of the BDH and GF level. |
| 29 | Central part of the internal SE elevation of the BDH and GF level, including SE of two opposed doorways. |
| 30 | SW part of the internal SE elevation of the BDH and GF level, including SE of two opposed doorways (as in Photos. 01-04 & 29). |
| 31 | Oblique view from west of SE ground floor doorway to BDH |
| 32 | Internal SW elevation of the BDH at GF level. |
| 33 | Internal NW elevation of the bastle at 1 st floor level |
| 34 | Internal SW elevation of the bastle at 1 st floor level, with central fireplace. |

| | |
|----|---|
| 35 | Internal SE elevation of the bastle at 1 st floor level, including window and part of doorway. |
| 36 | Oblique view from south of the internal NE elevation of the bastle at 1 st floor level, showing stair-well. |
| 37 | The stair-well against the NW wall of the bastle (party wall with BDH) to second floor/loft. |
| 38 | Oblique view taken at floor level SSW from the north corner of the 2 nd floor/loft space of the bastle towards the south corner, showing a window in the SE elevation and fireplace in the SW end wall. |
| 39 | Oblique view taken at ceiling level SSW from the north corner of the 2 nd floor/loft space of the bastle (as above, see caption to Photo. 38). |
| 40 | View down the stair-well against the NW wall of the bastle. |
| 41 | Oblique view of blocking in the bastle-BDH party wall at foot of stairs |
| 42 | Internal view of the west part of the NW elevation of the BDH at 1 st floor level. |
| 43 | Internal view of the central and east parts of the NW elevation of the BDH at 1 st floor level. |
| 44 | Detail of wall colouring towards the centre of the NW elevation of the BDH at 1 st floor level. |
| 45 | Internal view of the NE elevation of the BDH at 1 st floor level, including central fireplace. |
| 46 | Internal view of the east part of the SE elevation of the BDH at 1 st floor level. |
| 47 | Internal view of the west part of the SE elevation of the BDH at 1 st floor level. |
| 48 | Internal view of the SW elevation of the BDH at 1 st floor level. |
| 49 | Internal view of the blocked door (formerly providing access between the bastle and BDH when both formed part of the same dwelling after construction of the BDH in the 17 th century) at the SE part of the SW elevation of the BDH at 1 st floor level. |
| 50 | Oblique internal view of the NW elevation of the BDH at 2 nd floor level, showing blocked window and shorn roof truss. |
| 51 | View from SW to the NE end of the BDH at 2 nd floor level. |
| 52 | Oblique view of the NE and central parts of the SE elevation of the BDH at 2 nd floor level. |
| 53 | The SW end of the SE elevation of the BDH at 2 nd floor level. |
| 54 | Small fireplace and wooden lintel in the internal NE elevation of the BDH at 2 nd floor 'loft' level. |



Photo 01.



Photo 02.



Photo 03.



Photo 04.



Photo 05.



Photo 06.



Photo 07.



Photo 08.



Photo 09.



Photo 10.



Photo 11.



Photo 12.



Photo 13.



Photo 14.



Photo 15.



Photo 16.



Photo 17.



Photo 18.



Photo 19.



Photo 20.



Photo 21.



Photo 22.



Photo 23.



Photo 24.



Photo 25.



Photo 26.



Photo 27.



Photo 28.



Photo 29.



Photo 30.



Photo 31.



Photo 32.



Photo 33.



Photo 34.



Photo 35.



Photo 36.



Photo 37.



Photo 38.



Photo 39.

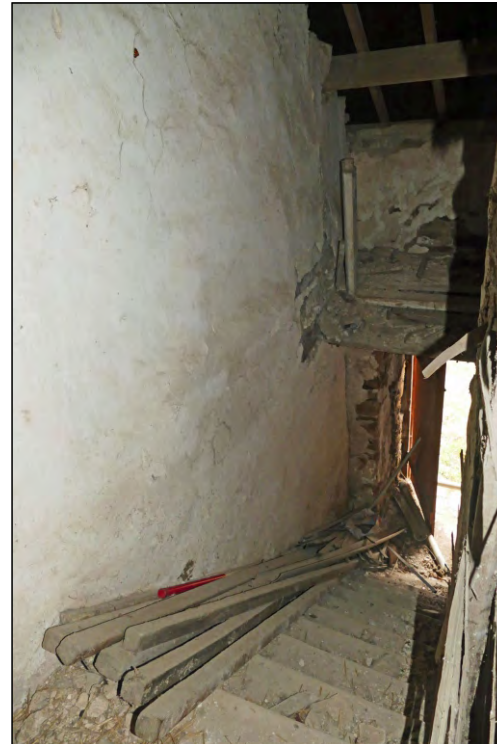


Photo 40.



Photo 41.



Photo 42.



Photo 43.



Photo 44.



Photo 45.



Photo 46.



Photo 47.



Photo 48.



Photo 49.



Photo 50.



Photo 51.



Photo 52.



Photo 53.



Photo 54.

APPENDIX 2: Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Historic Building Recording and Archaeological Works at Sinderhope bastle and bastle-derivative house, Sinderhope Shield, Northumberland, Prepared by The Archaeological Practice Ltd., December 2022.

[NCC Application No. 22/01314/LBC]

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 This document is provided as a written scheme of investigation, or project design, for a programme of archaeological historic buildings recording at Sinderhope Shield, Northumberland.

1.1.2 The hamlet of Sinderhope is situated on the east side of the valley of the East Allen, 4 km to the south of Allendale Town. The farm of Sinderhope Shield (Low Sinderhope on some older maps) stands at a little over 330 m O.D., on the spur of land between the main valley and its tributary the Sinderhope Burn.

1.1.3 The historic buildings works focus principally on the west part of the current range of farm-buildings, comprising two older buildings, an almost square bastle and, linking it to the farmhouse at the centre of the range, a later, bastle-derivative house (NGR NY 8484 5205); these two structures are now a Grade II listed building.

1.1.4 East of the farmhouse is a modern house, 'The Annex', replacing an earlier farm building on the same footprint, with to the east of it, and projecting to the south, is an eastern Barn. Another barn lies detached a short distance to the north of the central part of the main range.

1.1.5 The historic buildings recording works to be carried out on the two older buildings at the west end of the main range is required in compliance with the requirements of Northumberland Conservation and conditions of Listed Building Consent.

1.1.6 Karen Derham, Assistant County Archaeologist, after reviewing the planning application recommended to the NCC planning case officer on 28/7/22 that a historic building recording condition be attached to the application in line with paragraph 205 of the NPPF.

1.1.7 Subsequent Listed Building consent granted on 15/09/22 specified the following:

A programme of archaeological work is required in accordance with NCC Environment and Design Team (NCEDT) Site Specific Requirements document (dated 28/7/22) and Historic England's 2016 Guidance document 'Understanding Historic Buildings. A Guide to Good Recording Practice'. The archaeological scheme shall comprise three stages of work. Each stage shall be completed and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before it can be discharged.

a) No development or archaeological mitigation shall commence on site until a written scheme of investigation based on NCEDT Site Specific Requirements and Historic England 'Understanding Historic Buildings' documents has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

b) The archaeological recording scheme required by NCEDT Site Specific Requirements and Historic England Understanding Historic Buildings documents must be completed in accordance with the approved written scheme of investigation.

c) The programme of analysis, reporting, publication and archiving if required by NCEDT Standards and Site-Specific Requirements and Historic England 'Understanding Historic Buildings' documents must be completed in accordance with the approved written scheme of investigation.

1.2 Accordingly, the work required comprises the following:

1.2.1 A. WSI

Production of this Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the defined stages of fieldwork, post-fieldwork analysis and reporting.

1.2.2 B. Historic Building Recording

Level 2 survey of the Listed Building (the Bastle and Bastle-Derivative House shown on the site plan, below) using existing drawings and additional photography by a suitably experienced professional archaeologist will allow additional interpretation of the date and phasing of the fabric to be carried out by professional historic buildings archaeologist.

2 METHOD OF BUILDING RECORDING

2.1 Scope of work

The building recording work requested comprises the following:

1. *Production an annotated plan and elevation drawings of the bastle and bastle derivative buildings (the Listed Building), with any phasing depicted in differential shading.*
2. *Production of a descriptive record.*
3. *Production of a photographic record keyed to a catalogue and location plan.*
4. *Production of a final report in hard and digital forms, archiving of the digital record with ADS (York) and with OASIS.*

2.2 General

2.2.1 All work will be carried out to the standards of an English Heritage Level 2 historic buildings record, following the guidelines issued by EH in 2006, in compliance with the codes of practice of the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists (CIfA) and will follow the CIfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations.

2.2.2 All fieldwork will be carried out in full compliance with the specifications of the Assistant County Archaeologist for Northumberland by staff of the Archaeological Practice and Peter Ryder, Historic Buildings Specialist and associate of the Archaeological Practice.

2.2.3 All archaeological staff will be suitably qualified and experienced for their project roles. Before commencement of work they will have been made aware of what work is required under the specification and they will understand the aims and methodologies of the project.

2.2.4 Each elevation of any upstanding built features identified as important, either during advance examination or during monitoring of works in progress, will be considered for recording by drawing and/or photography. Specifically, this will include any previously unrecognized features or features made apparent during stripping or other internal or external works will also be recorded appropriately.

2.2.5 An appropriate control network for the survey of any archaeological remains revealed will be established.

2.2.6 The survey control network will be related to the OS grid.

2.2.7 The survey control network and the position of recorded structures, features and finds will be located on a map of an appropriate scale (1:2500 or 1:500)

2.2.8 At least one absolute height value related to OD will be recorded for each archaeological context.

2.2.9 All processing, storage and conservation of finds will be carried out in compliance with the relevant IFA and UKIC (United Kingdom Institute of Conservation) guidelines.

2.2.10 Portable remains will be removed by hand; all artefacts encountered will be recovered.

2.2.11 Written descriptions - each built feature or archaeological context will be recorded on a pro-forma sheet. Minimum recorded details will consist of the following: a unique identifier; The National Grid reference of the building and details of listing or scheduling; the date when the record was made and the name of the recorder; an objective description which includes measurements of extent and details of colour and composition; an interpretative estimate of function, clearly identified as such; at least one absolute height value; the identifiers of related contexts and a description of the relationship with such contexts (for preference, executed as a mini Harris matrix); references to other recording media in which representations of the context are held (plans, sections, photographs).

2.2.12 All staff must be suitably qualified and experienced for recording historic buildings and a curriculum vitae will be supplied if requested to the Northumberland Conservation for approval prior to work commencing. Furthermore, all staff will familiarise themselves with the archaeological background of the site and with the work required, and must understand the projects aims and methodologies.

2.2.13 N.B. To ensure that extra recording work is not required when the report has been submitted:

- Recording work cannot commence until vegetation, later stored material, movable furniture and rubbish has been removed to enable effective recording to take place.
- Recording work needs to be carried out prior to scaffolding being erected on site around the historic building

2.3 Drawn Record

2.3.1 The report will show the form and location of any structural features of historic significance, using scale plans of floor plans if appropriate. Drawn sections will illustrate the vertical relationships within the buildings.

2.3.2 Drawings will be produced by measured survey and/or by utilising existing data derived by electronic scanning.

2.3.3 Areas of modern disturbance will be noted on plans and/or elevations as this will help to identify areas where impact on historic fabric can be reduced in future applications within the buildings

2.3.4 Accurate scale plans and section drawings will be drawn at 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 scales, as appropriate.

2.3.5 The recorded structures will be accurately tied into the National Grid and located on a 1:2500 or 1:1250 map of the area.

2.4 Photography

2.4.1 Any features of archaeological note will be recorded digitally. A system will be used for identifying the archaeological features photographed. The record will include, in addition to the context of the building in its wider setting (with, where appropriate, its relationship to other buildings, sites or viewpoints):

- The building/structure'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/structure's external appearance – windows, doors, decorative detail, blocked openings, chimneys, etc.
- Overall appearance of the enclosed space.
- Internal close-up detail, structural and decorative – windows, doors, fireplaces, staircases, doorcases, 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.

2.4.2 All photographs will be in sharp focus, well-lit and will include a clearly visible 1 m or 2 m scale.

2.4.3 The positions of the record photographs will be placed in the context of the buildings complex as a whole by providing a plan of their locations and record photographs of the features in relation to other buildings and features.

2.4.4 Digital photographs will be taken using a Single Lens Reflex camera or equivalent (such as Lumix FZ1000), with high quality sensor, of 12 megapixels or more. Elevated views of the buildings complex will be taken using a UAV where appropriate. This method has been used extensively by AP Ltd over the past two years in order to record features photographically and in plan, as well as to view upper walls of structures from a horizontal perspective.

2.4.5 The format of photos will be archivally suitable as set out in HE guidance on photography (Digital Image Capture and File Storage Guidelines for Best Practice). The RAW (camera-specific) setting will be used, allowing post-processing at the time of conversion to TIFF (Tagged Interchangeable File Format), thereby retaining maximum photographic quality. The RAW images must be converted to TIFF before they are deposited with ADS and the HER because camera-specific manufacturer may be needed to open RAW files.

2.4.6 Post photography processing for RAW images is as follows:

Download images; Edit out unwanted shots & rotate Batch re-number; Batch re-number and caption; Batch convert to TIFF; Edit in Photoshop or similar.

2.4.7 The digital photographs, including relevant digital files other than those of the photographic archive, should be submitted to the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) for long-term archive storage.

3 ANALYSIS AND REPORTING OF RECOVERED DATA

3.1 Following the completion of the Field Investigation and before any of the post-excavation work is commenced, an archive (the Site Archive) containing all the data gathered during fieldwork will be prepared. This material will be quantified, ordered, indexed and rendered internally consistent. It will be prepared according to the *project management guidance provided in MoRPHE (EH 2006) and the accompanying Project Planning Note 3: Archaeological Excavation*

3.2 Following completion of the Field Investigation, a full report will be prepared collating and synthesizing the structural, artefactual and environmental data relating to each agreed constituent part of the evaluation works.

4. PRODUCTION OF FINAL REPORT

4.1 Digital copies of the report will be provided within two months of the completion of fieldwork to the Client and Northumberland County Archaeologist/HER.

4.2 The report will include as a minimum the following:

- A summary statement of methodologies used for historic buildings recording, excavation and monitoring.
- A location plan of the site showing buildings and sites investigated, along with any significant discoveries made.
- Annotated elevation drawings, phased plans and photographs linked to a key plan and written description of historic buildings recorded.
- A key plan showing the location and direction of photographs forming part of the historic building record.
- Plans, sections, photographs and written descriptions of any archaeological discoveries of note.
- A summary statement of results.
- Conclusions & Recommendations

4.3 Following completion of the analysis and publication phase of the work, arrangements will be made to deposit the Site Archive (including Finds) and the Research Archive with the designated repository within 6 months of the end of the fieldwork.

4.4 The digital photographic record will be archived with ADS (YORK).

4.5 Should the results of the work merit full publication, a paper on the findings of excavation will be offered to an appropriate regional or national journal, such as *Archaeologia Aeliana*, while summary reports of the project will be prepared for inclusion in the appropriate Notices, Annual Reviews, Northumberland Archaeology (the Northumberland County Council Annual Reports Series), etc.

4.6 An entry for inclusion in the Northumberland County Heritage Environment Record will be prepared and submitted.

5. OASIS

The Archaeological Contractor will complete the online form for the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations Project (OASIS), following consultation with the Northumberland County Archaeologist. The Contractor agrees to the procedure whereby the information on the

form will be placed in the public domain on the OASIS website, following submission to or incorporation of the final report (see 3.4) into the HER.

6. TIMESCALE & PERSONNEL

Timescale

- 6.1 Notice of at least five working days is required prior to commencement of fieldwork.
- 6.2 Following the completion of on-site work, further time will be required to produce an appropriately illustrated report on the work, as detailed above.

Personnel

- 6.3 The building recording and monitoring work will be carried out by archaeologists suitably experienced in recording historic buildings in this region, who are able to recognise significant, dateable features.