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# BEDE HOUSE MONKTON JARROW

## HISTORIC BUILDINGS RECORD

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JUNE 2015



Prepared for: <i>Mr and Mrs Thurston</i>	By: <i>Peter Ryder &amp; The Archaeological Practice Ltd.</i>
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# BEDE HOUSE MONKTON JARROW

## Historic Buildings Recording



***Frontispiece:***

*The internal west part of the north elevation of the Western Annexe South Wall.*

Oasis Project No. thearcha2-217129  
Grid Ref.: NZ 3212 6375

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## SUMMARY

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*A programme of building recording has been carried out in advance of the proposed redevelopment for residential use of a redundant annexe to Bede House in Monkton, Jarrow, South Tyneside.*

*The photographic recording was undertaken in June 2015 using colour digital photography. In addition, measured plans of the buildings supplied by the developer are included in the report and efforts have been made to research the history of the building through locally available historic maps and records.*

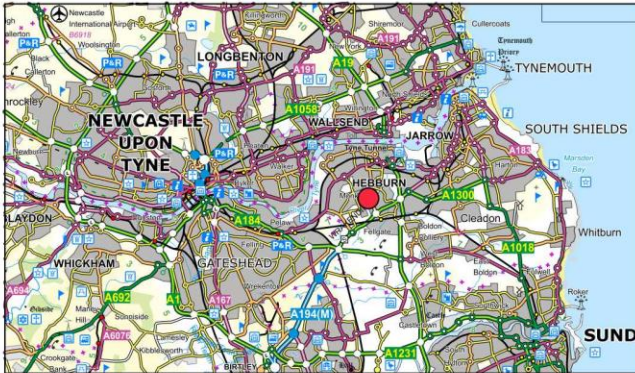
*It is concluded that, while it had been suggested that the present stable replaced an earlier structure of unknown date, with the eastern section of its south wall perhaps surviving from this older building, it now appears that this section of wall is of relatively recent date (though might have been rebuilt recently). The absence of cut quoins at the west end suggests a possible 17<sup>th</sup> or early 18<sup>th</sup> century date, but the tooled-and-margined lintel of the north door is of late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> century character. Other parts of the structure, including the upper floor and roof structure, have been renewed in the later 20<sup>th</sup> century.*

*Other works to be carried out as part of the limited alterations proposed for the building in 2015 are restricted to the removal of modern additions and will not impact upon the historic fabric of the structure.*

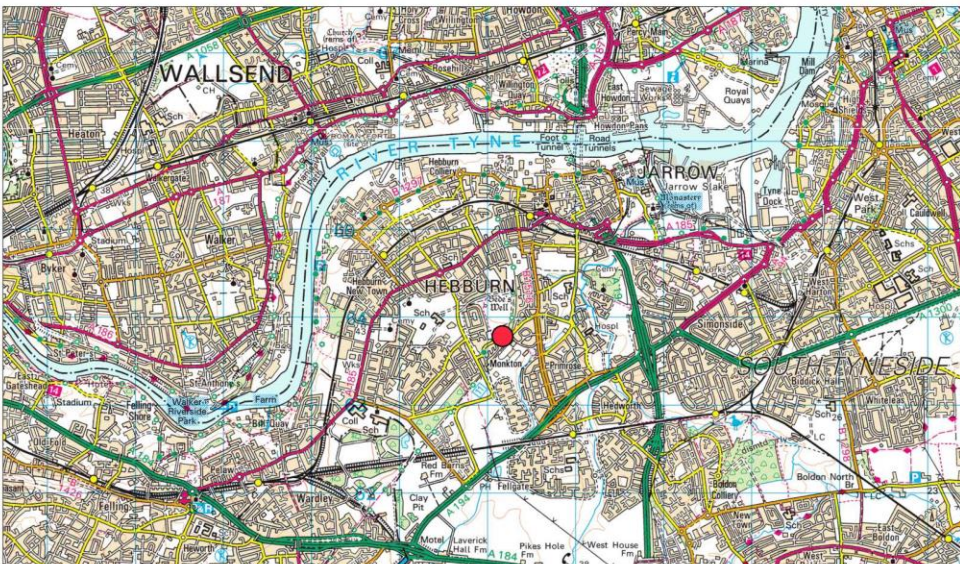
# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Project Background

An historic buildings record of a former stable annexe to Bede House was requested by the Tyne & Wear County Assistant Archaeologist as a condition of planning consent, which has been granted for the redevelopment of the building in advance of its conversion to residential use.



*Illus. 01 - 03:  
The Location of Bede  
House (red dot) in  
Monkton, Jarrow,  
South Tyneside*

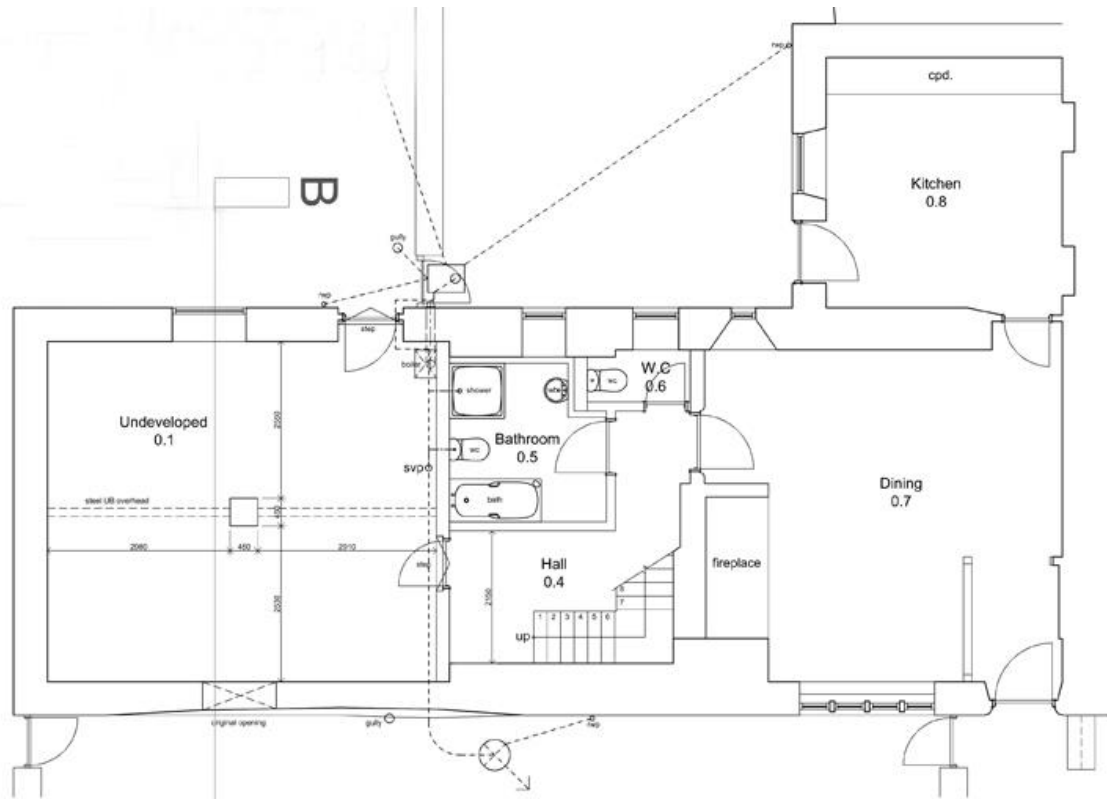


Bede House (formerly Bede Cottage), a structure externally of 17<sup>th</sup>-century character, stands on the north side of the village street of Monkton, near Jarrow (NGR: NZ 3212 6375). The house is abutted on the east by the larger Monkton Farmhouse, dated '1740' which until recently formed part of the same dwelling. In a detailed published account<sup>1</sup> what was then Bede Cottage was seen as of 16<sup>th</sup> century date, remodelled with the insertion of the majority of its present architectural features in the mid-to-late 17<sup>th</sup> century. The block adjoining the house on the west was described as a stable, and ascribed 'constructional characteristics of a much later period', although replacing an earlier addition; it was omitted from the published plans and drawings. It is this block, to which alterations are currently planned, which is the subject of this report.



*Illus. 04-07:  
Extracts from Historic Ordnance Survey Plans of Bede House in Monkton.  
(clockwise from top left – 1870s, 1890s, 1940s & 1970s).*

<sup>1</sup> D.C.Kear I (1984) *Archaeologia Aeliana* 5<sup>th</sup> ser, 12, 181-208.



*Illus. 08: Plan of Bede House in Monkton.*

## 1.2 Recording Methodology

The photographic recording of the Bede House western annexe was undertaken in June 2015 using colour 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.

The positions of other works to be carried as part of the limited alterations proposed for the building in 2015, principally on the first floor of the house, were also inspected with a view to recording historic fabric, but since these works are restricted to the removal of modern additions and will not impact upon the historic fabric of the structure, no recording work was carried out in these areas.

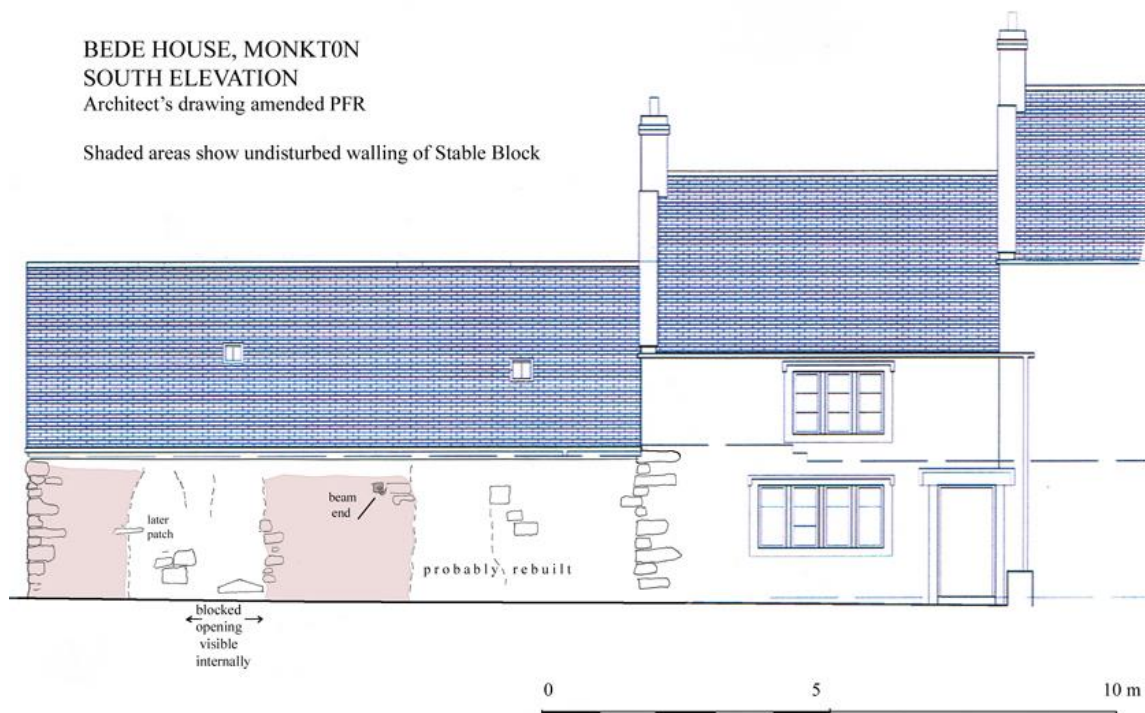
A search was made for maps, publications, documents and historic photographs which could shed light on the history of the building.

## 2. BUILDING DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 Description

#### 2.1.1 The Exterior

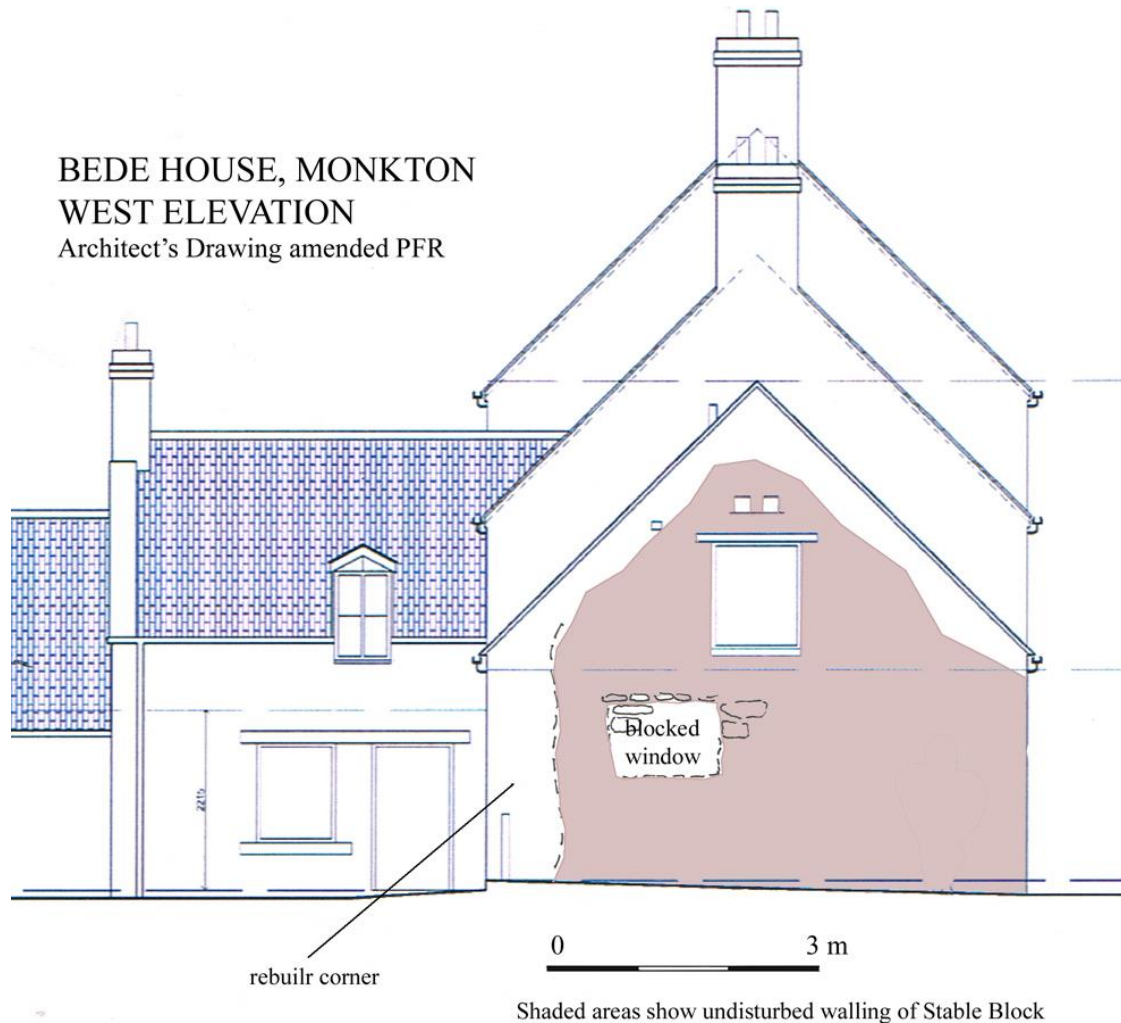
The stable block is built of roughly-coursed rubble, mostly laminated sandstones of a variety of colours, with a Welsh slate roof. The south elevation has no openings, but is quite complex structurally. At the west end of the wall are irregular angle quoins and then after c 1.8 m comes a ragged vertical break and an area infilled with larger and better-squared blocks of orange sandstone, with at its top the appearance of a rough two-centred arch, just beneath the eaves (although without any cut dressings). Then comes a rather wider patch again of secondary fabric, this time of roughly-coursed fawn sandstone. This represents the infill of the blocked doorway more clearly visible internally, and has some big blocks low down on its west side; it also includes, c 15 cm above ground, a shaped block that looks like a section through a coped grave slab. The area east of this seems to be undisturbed walling (except perhaps for its uppermost courses) and contains, 6.4 m from the west end and 1.95 m above the ground, the exposed end of a beam with a big metal hook in it; after this is another full height ragged break and the easternmost c 4 m section of walling is of less-weathered roughly-coursed stone, including some larger squared blocks. This may be quite recent; to the east this section abuts on the south-west quoins of the original Bede House.



*Illus. 09: The South elevation of the west end of Bede House, Monkton.*

The west end of the stable is gabled and all of coursed roughly squared stone. Towards the north end is what appears to be a blocked window, 1.3 m wide, 0.70 m high and with its sill around 1.2 m above the ground; a line of thin flagstones at its head may replace an earlier lintel. Higher up is a modern window, set centrally, possibly in an older opening. It has a timber lintel, and above that in the gable are a pair of pigeon holes over a projecting flagstone shelf. The gable top, along with the northernmost metre or so of walling, look to have been rebuilt.





*Illus. 10: The West elevation of Bede House, Monkton.*

The north side of the stable is of coursed roughly-squared stone and contains several openings; from east to west these comprise a modern window low in the wall (with a timber lintel), a window set higher which has an old chamfered block re-used as its sill and a cut stone lintel, a doorway towards the centre has some disturbance to east jamb and a weathered tooled-and-margined lintel, and finally a low window with a timber lintel; the westernmost metre of wall looks a recent rebuild.

### 2.1.2 The Interior

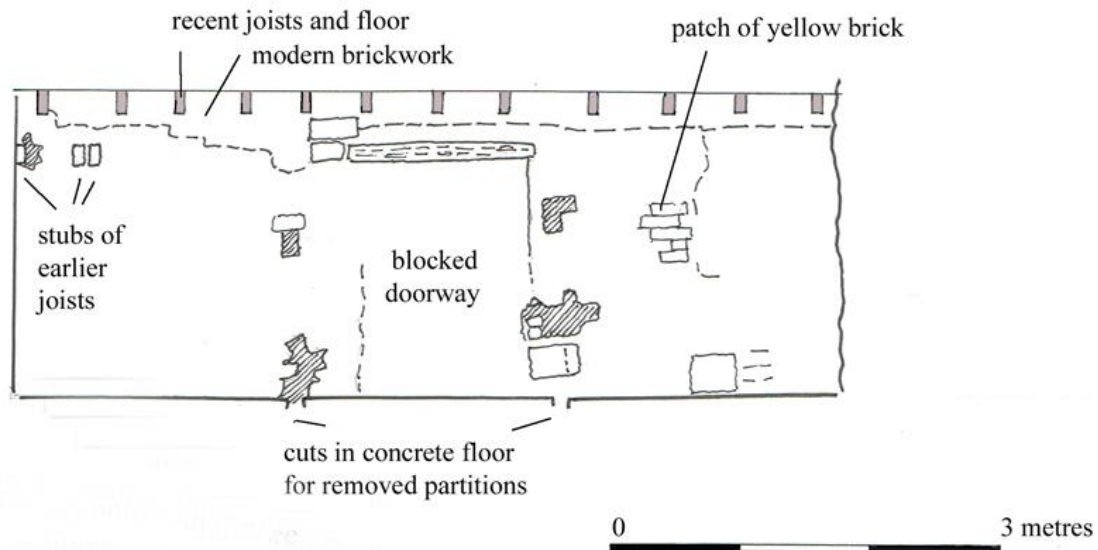
This report only deals with the western part of the interior of the stable, and the ground floor; the eastern part was remodelled in the 1980s, when a bedroom was inserted on the first floor extending the whole length of the block. There are no old features exposed in the eastern part or on the upper floor.

The western ground-floor area has a boarded ceiling carried on transverse sawn upright-section joists, supported by axial girders which are in turn supported by a central brick pier; all this is part of the 1980s work, along with the brick east wall. The room below has had a floor which was in part of stone slabs (mostly now removed) and partly of concrete. Two transverse partitions have been removed at the same time, one on either side of the blocked opening in the south wall; evidence for these remains on the south wall, and in cuts in the surviving sections of concrete floor.

The exposed internal face of the south wall has a number of interesting features, and was recorded both as a sketch elevation and a series of photographs. At the east end a

little below ceiling level are the stub ends of three joists which must relate to an upper floor, set at a lower level than the present one. Then come a vertical series of features marking the position of the easternmost of the removed partitions - a ragged hole just above the floor, a neat socket at mid-height and a larger recess above (with two big blocks on its west side) which presumably relates to a removed beam or even the blade of a raised cruck. The blocked opening, extending down to floor level under a timber lintel, follows, and then there is evidence of the second partition in the form of a broad socket at floor level and a rough one at mid-height. In the final western section of wall there is a patch of fawn engineering brick at mid-height. Along the whole length of the wall several courses of recent brick have been inserted to take the joists of the recent upper floor.

The internal face of the west wall has what looks like a small opening low down near its south end, with above and to the north of it an area of bricks of different dates, including one stamped 'STEIN GLASGOW'. The blocked window further north, evident externally, is difficult to trace inside. The internal face of the north wall does now appear to show any evidence of features pre-dating the present openings.



*Illus. 11: The internal face of the south wall of the western extension to Bede House.*

## 2.2 Discussion

Kear in his 1984 article suggests that the House may be of 16<sup>th</sup> century date, with its walls being heightened, and the majority of its architectural features introduced, as part of a major remodelling that took place in the mid-to-late 17<sup>th</sup> century, the upper cruck roof trusses surviving from the original build. He suggests that the present stable replaced an earlier structure of unknown date, and tentatively suggests that the eastern section of its south wall, being of different character to the remainder, might survive from this older building.

This section of wall now appears of relatively recent date, but might have been rebuilt since Kear wrote. The other walling of the stable is all of fairly rough 'vernacular' character. The absence of cut quoins at the west end could point to a 17<sup>th</sup> or early 18<sup>th</sup> century date, but the tooled-and-margined lintel of the north door – which could be secondary – is of late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> century character. The upper floor and roof structure of the structure have all been renewed in the later 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The 1<sup>st</sup> edition and 2<sup>nd</sup> editions of the Ordnance Survey 25":1 mile map of 1873 and 1897 respectively show the outline of the building much as at present; the 1916 map

shows a small structure added to the west end of the south wall; this is absent on the 1941 edition but a similar construction, this time just detached from the main building, is shown in 1958. Both the 1841 and 1958 maps show the main stable divided into two approximately on the line of the present 1980s brick transverse wall.

Peter F Ryder - June 2015

### 3. THE PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

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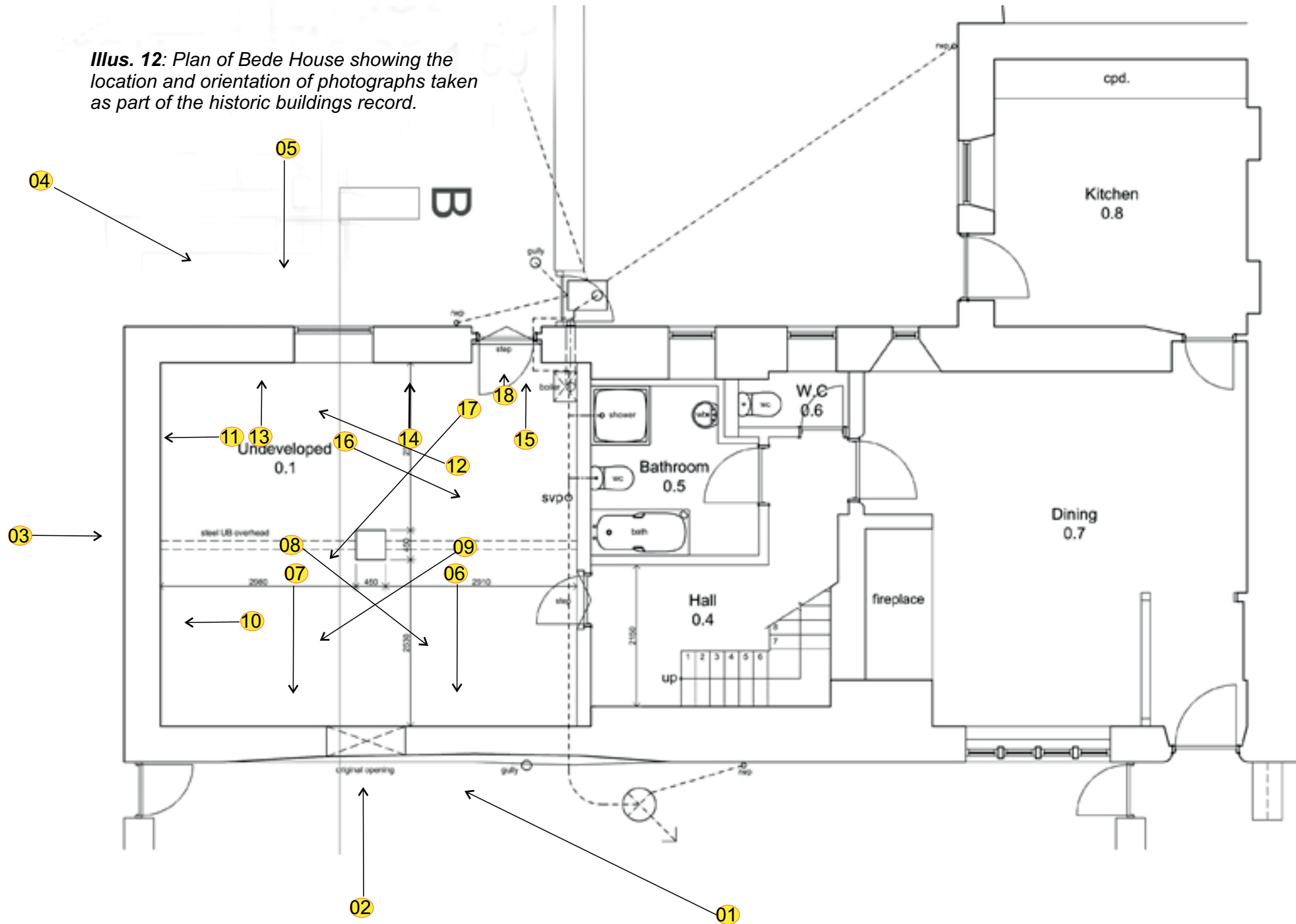
The photographic recording of the Bede House annexe building was undertaken in June 2015 using colour digital photography, with all external and internal elevations photographed as far as possible face-on and from a consistent height and perspective, where possible including a scaled ranging pole.

The photographic record is keyed to a plan (*Illus. 12*, below) showing the positions of photographs taken externally and internally, as follows:

*Photo Record nos. 01-05*      *Exterior views.*

*Photo Record nos. 06-18*      *Interior views at Ground Floor level.*

**Illus. 12:** Plan of Bede House showing the location and orientation of photographs taken as part of the historic buildings record.





01 - DSC\_6375



02 - DSC\_6377



03 - DSC\_6378



04 - DSC\_6379



05 -



06 - DSC\_6382



07- DSC\_6383



08- DSC\_6387



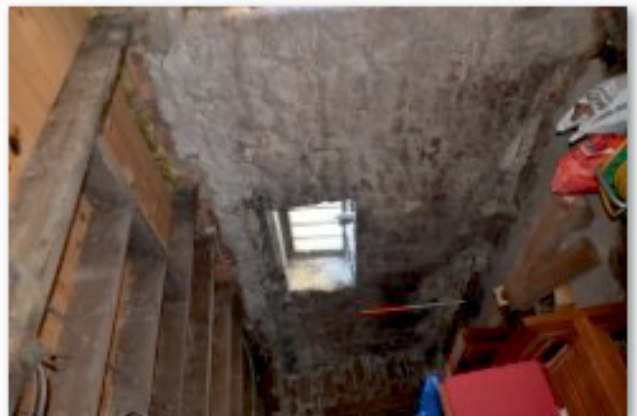
09-



10- DSC\_6390



11- DSC\_6392 P1060211



12- DSC\_6399



13-DSC\_6407 P1060220



14-DSC\_6408 P1060222



15-DSC\_6409 P1060224



16-P1060226



17-DSC\_6417



18-DSC\_6419



## 4. CONCLUSIONS

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### 4.1 Summary of architectural survival

It had previously been suggested that the present stable, or western annexe, replaced an earlier structure of unknown date, with the eastern section of its south wall perhaps surviving from this older building. However, it now appears that this section of wall is of relatively recent date (but might have been rebuilt recently). The absence of cut quoins at the west end suggests a possible 17<sup>th</sup> or early 18<sup>th</sup> century date, but the tooled-and-margined lintel of the north door is of late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> century character. The upper floor and roof structure of the structure have all been renewed in the later 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Other works to be carried out as part of the limited alterations proposed for the building in 2015 are restricted to the removal of modern additions and will not impact upon the historic fabric of the structure.

**APPENDIX 1:** Specification for Archaeological Building Recording of Bede House Cottage, Monkton Lane, Monkton, South Tyneside