

Burdonside A0485

Site Type	farmstead
Site Name	Burdonside
Other Name(s)	
Ownership	Burdonside, Tarset, Hexham, NE48 1RW
Related Sites	

LOCATION

National Grid Reference	NY 8013 9029	Km Square	NY 8090
TAG 2006 Atlas : Map	H2	Air Photo. No	Run B--OS/74133 --252

Modern Parish	Tarset
Historic Parish & Township	Bellingham -- Tarretburn

LISTINGS

Scheduled Ancient Monument	X	Listed	X
National Monument Record	X	English Heritage Pastscape	X
Historic Environment Record	X	HVA	X
Grundy	X	Tarset Books	MM-104 LX-102

EVIDENCE

Extant

DESCRIPTION

The buildings at Burdonside Farm are set south-east to north-west (hereafter east-west) close to the bank of a small stream, a tributary of the Tarset Burn. They consist of a single-storeyed east-west range alongside the road, with a lower section, now a garage at its east end; set at right angles to the rear is a two story 'cottage'. A short wing extending south from the west end of the main range is a recent addition, re-using old materials.

The cottage is a structure of some interest. It has originally been of a single bay and a single storey (with attic); its north gable end (facing the stream) is its most telling elevation. It is constructed of coursed rubble with large and irregular quoins that show a rough diagonal tooling; the upper third of each quoin (of tooled and margined blocks) is clearly a later heightening, probably contemporary with a change in the roofing material from heather thatch to the present Welsh slate. The original gable line, with heavy trapezoidal coping stones is clear; the coping descending within the line of the side walls allowing a step to carry the deep thatch; the original eaves were c 3m above the ground. The cottage probably faced east; towards the east end of the north wall are a vertical pair of windows, both blocked with surrounds of heavy blocks, clearly contemporary with the original structure, the upper only c.0.30m square. Towards the west end of the wall has been a second ground-floor window, now also blocked, but this looks to be a later insertion. The gable is topped by a small stack.

The east side of the cottage is now partly covered by a 20th century flat-roofed and pebble-dashed addition; above this is a later-19th century window with an alternating

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block surround of tooled and margined blocks. The west side has large and relatively recent windows to both floors.

The main part of the single storeyed east-west range was formerly byres, but in the later 20th century was converted into domestic accommodation. Its fabric is similar to that of the cottage but few old features survive.

On the south, towards the road are three large windows, re-using old dressings; there was formerly a doorway between the western and central ones; its dressings re-used in the east wall of the added south-west wing; close to the west end of the wall, close to the wing is an old slit vent.

The lower eastern part of the range, now a garage, has a broad opening with a timber-lintel, a recent creation re-using the jambs of an earlier doorway; an old doorway of the same type, now blocked, survives in the north wall opposite, and in the centre of the east gable wall is a slit vent. The two collar beam trusses are probably no older than the later 19th century.

Despite 20th century alterations, the survival of a single-bay cottage that is probably of later 18th century date is something of a rarity. Burdonside is reported to have been a summer residence, in effect a shieling, a type of structure far more often represented by archaeological remains than standing structures – for shepherds on the High Green estate - and is thought to pre-date enclosure.

Peter Ryder, Farm Survey 2006.

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IMAGES



NOTES

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REFERENCES

1.	Tarset Archive Group Farm Survey (2006) – Burdonside, Unpublished, produced by The Archaeological Practice, Newcastle upon Tyne.	
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