

Date: November2007  
Client: Kenmore Homes Ltd  
Project Code: AHC07



## **Development Site, the Shore, Alloa Harbour, Clackmannanshire**

**Historic Building Recording**

**Planning Application No. 05/00250/OUT  
NGR:**

George Geddes BSc MA

## PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

<b>Client</b>	Kenmore Homes Ltd.
<b>National Grid Reference</b>	NS 886 919 (centre)
<b>Project Manager</b>	Simon Stronach
<b>Text</b>	George Geddes
<b>Fieldwork</b>	Colin Hewat
<b>Illustrations</b>	Caroline Normann
<b>Schedule</b>	
<b>Fieldwork</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2007
<b>Report</b>	November 2007

**SUMMARY**

*Prentice Kennedy Architects, on behalf of Kenmore Homes Ltd commissioned Headland Archaeology Ltd to undertake Historic Building Recording on a roofless polygonal ruin at the site of a proposed housing development at the Old Wet Dock, Alloa Harbour, Clackmannanshire. The aim of this was to record, analyse and interpret the historic fabric of the building before its removal as part of the development. A first phase of work involved a desk-based assessment and a survey of the development site (Atkinson 2007).*

*The group of buildings has a complex structural history, with elements which may stretch back to the later 18<sup>th</sup> century. The notable architectural elements of masonry and arches are mid 19<sup>th</sup> century and are high quality and typical of the period. The buildings probably functioned as stores and workshops, connected with the early wood yard and activity in the dockyard.*

**CONTENTS**

CONTENTS..... 3  
INTRODUCTION..... 4  
OBJECTIVE ..... 4  
METHODOLOGY ..... 4  
RESULTS ..... 4  
DISCUSSION ..... 7  
APPENDIX 1 – PHOTO REGISTER..... 9

- Figure 1 Site location
- Figure 2 Map progression
- Figure 3 Ground floor plan and photo locations

The photographic survey is produced in full and supplied as a CD.

## INTRODUCTION

Prentice Kennedy Architects on behalf of Kenmore Homes Ltd commissioned Headland Archaeology Ltd to undertake Level 2 Historic Building Recording at the site of a proposed housing development at the old wet dock, Alloa Harbour, Clackmannanshire (NGR NS 886 919 centred), Phase 2 of archaeological mitigation. The Council Archaeology Officer who advises Clackmannanshire Council recommended that planning consent (2005/00250) be subject to an additional archaeological condition (no. 4d). Headland Archaeology presented a Written Scheme of Investigation for the works in agreement with Prentice Kennedy Architects (on behalf of Kenmore Homes) and the Council's Archaeology Officer. It is intended that the structure of the wet dock will be preserved within the proposed development as a feature of historical interest.

The site of the old wet dock lies on the north bank of the Forth in the locality of the old harbour. The site is presently occupied by Sterling Stone; the area of the in-filled wet dock is currently flat, open land used as a storage area for stone. In addition, there are a number of small spoil heaps located along the southwest margin of the proposed development area; the periphery of the proposed development is scrubland bounded by a wire security fence; and the old wet dock entrance and associated quay structures were noted along the river waterfront along the western margin of the site. The site was subject to a detailed desk-based analysis and a walkover survey by a maritime archaeology specialist (Atkinson 2007).

The building that forms the focus of this report lies at the NW of the development site (Figure 1).

## OBJECTIVE

The objective of the historic building survey is to record, analyse and interpret the building before alteration. The building survey will equate to a Level 2 approach, according to English Heritage guidelines published in *Understanding Historic Buildings* in 2006.

## METHODOLOGY

The building survey utilised the general standards set out by the RCHME (1996) and English Heritage (2006) and the techniques and practice promoted by the AAIS (Andrews *et al.* 1995), Historic Scotland (Dallas 2003), English Heritage (2003) and the RCAHMS (2004). Specialised terminology is referenced to Curl's *Dictionary of Architecture* (1999) and Pride's *Dictionary of Scottish Building* (1996). Photographs were taken using digital and colour slide formats. Measured survey was undertaken using a Leica Total Station.

Elements of the methodology were affected by health and safety; the building is derelict and may contain hazardous substances. In a change to the original Written Scheme of Investigation, Colin Hewat undertook the fieldwork; Colin has worked on Historic Building projects in connection with the M74 and M80 roads projects, he was supervised by George Geddes. The interior of the building was not accessible, and only a few elements of it were photographed.

## RESULTS

### *Map evidence*

The building is represented in some detail from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and clearly has origins in the 18<sup>th</sup> century as a group associated with the harbour and river. Wood's survey of 1825 does show buildings

on this site, Mr Thomson's Wood Yard, elements of which probably survive in Wall C and possibly Wall E in particular.

The site at this period had a complex of ranges of buildings, some probably relate to the wood yard, i.e. stores and workshops, and others related to the railway and the dock to the SE and E respectively.

The group was surveyed in great detail, at 1/500, in 1861-2 as part of the Ordnance Survey Town Plan of Alloa and its Environs. This drawing shows three buildings within the current footprint; a range at the SW, a range at the SE and a detached building in the centre. The buildings and boundaries correspond very well with the remaining structure; any discrepancy is probably a feature of surveying accuracy rather than genuine alteration. This map confirms that elements of the building were certainly upstanding by 1861. The 1/500 survey of 1861-2 may suggest that the SW building has elements of walling standing in 1825, but the detached building and the SE range don't seem to have been built. The building to the immediate SW is marked as a public house on this map.

The 1/10560 county series Ordnance Survey was published in 1866 and shows the broader context of the building group. The public house is now unroofed, perhaps after a fire. The buildings within the footprint of the subject have not been altered.

By the next Ordnance Survey, fully 44 years later, the contemporary footprint is recognisable, completed by the addition of a number of later 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings. In particular the former yard has been filled N of the original SE range, whilst further buildings have been added at the NW of the 1860s group; the development of the site has implications for which fragments of walling are related to which building, i.e. which is external and which internal.

The site was surveyed again by the Ordnance Survey in 1922 and 1950 and both depict it as unchanged. An inn exists at the SW, in the position shown on the 1862 maps but expanded. Demolitions occur to the SE between 1922 and 1950 but the majority probably happened in the 1960s and later. The building is annotated as the Shore Brewery in 1950, with the Old Ship Inn at the SW. Since 1950, the site has been drastically altered; a new road and roundabout to the N, filling of the dock areas and removal of building has left the polygonal ruin freestanding.

### *The building*

The current building is composed of 13 walls (2 internal), labelled A-M. The walls were surveyed externally and photographed; the results are presented in Figure 3.

Wall A is cement rendered, with rubble behind (Photo 1). There are door and window openings (blocked) with concrete cills and evidence for a first storey. There are tie plates from an internal floor. The wall was built by 1900, but the fenestration is later 20<sup>th</sup> century, relating to a final phase of use.

Wall B is also cement rendered with the same pattern of windows as Wall A (Photo 2). It is probably the same phase as Wall A with similar later alterations.

Wall C (shown in Photos 3-5) is also cement rendered, obscuring detail, with later inserted openings. Fragments of squared sandstone blocks are visible behind the render and maps suggest the SW part of this wall is probably amongst the earliest on the site. It has however been rendered in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century and later fenestration has been inserted.

Wall D is partly obscured by vegetation and the NW area is cement rendered (Photos 6-9). It is built in squared rubble brought to courses with modern brick patching (in joist holes) and tie plates. There is at least one blocked opening, probably original, with a heavy droved lintel (Photo 7). The corner to Wall E has been rebuilt in brick. The wall is depicted on the 1860s maps and later buildings have been constructed against it, hence the joist holes.

Wall E is in more random rubble with some squared stones and a mixture of pink and yellow sandstone (Photo 10 and 11). The joist holes at a lower level (suggesting ground level changes) and a blocked door opening at first floor height. The maps suggest the wall may have been present by the 1860s, and this face may have been internal, hence the lack of dressed stones around the aperture.

Wall F is in 20<sup>th</sup> century 3/1 common bond brick, built into the masonry of Wall E and continuing to form G. It replaces a masonry wall shown from at least 1862.

Wall G is long and composite, modern brick (in 3 phases) changes to masonry at the E (Photos 13-17). The W part matches Wall F and includes a large doorway (Photo 13). Fragments of masonry suggest a possible 19<sup>th</sup> century corner here. The brick changes to a different build though of a similar phase, probably reflecting historic differences in the masonry walls. A low blocked opening was a window (Photo 14).

The walling changes raggedly to masonry half way along; this is half coursed and roughly squared, a mixture of yellow pink and grey limestone and sandstone, partly obscured by cement pointing; it is similar to Wall E. The upper window openings are later, inserted at first floor height. A cart arch at the E has a segmental arch formed with droved voussoirs and jambs with draft margins (Photo 17). The arch is original and external, though it has been altered slightly and the masonry to the W may be slightly earlier. The arch is keyed into the corner to the W. Maps suggest this was probably a mid-wall by 1862 but almost certainly built by 1825, though the site plan doesn't fit well on this less accurate survey.

Wall H is masonry, partly obscured at the S by vegetation (Photos 18-21). The S part is in squared rubble which is probably keyed into Wall G, suggesting they are the same phase. Further N, the masonry continues as roughly squared blocks brought to courses, slightly neater and probably later than elements of Wall G and Wall E. The openings visible in Photo 19 are probably all original, with pink sandstone dressings, droved with draft margins. Brick blocked openings at the N of the elevation are later (Photo 21). The maps suggest that the S part of H is built by 1825, though the whole elevation was probably rebuilt before the 1900 survey and after 1866.

Wall I returns from H in the same style of walling with matching dressed quoins (Photos 23-25). The four door openings are all 20<sup>th</sup> century insertions. Maps suggest a later 19<sup>th</sup> century date, which is likely to be contemporary with H.

Wall J (Photos 26, 27, 28) is in similar squared and half coursed rubble, again with inserted openings resulting in patches of brickwork. There is a straight joint between J and K and the quoins here are different to the H/I pattern, so it may be a slightly later wall. Again, maps show this wall built between the 1866 and 1900 editions.

Wall K (Photo 29/30) is also in squared coursed rubble, and is probably of a broadly similar phase to J, H and G. The SE doorway re-uses some dressed jambs but is probably 19<sup>th</sup> century, the NW is later. Maps again show this as a 1866-1900 feature.

## DISCUSSION

The surviving elements of fabric in this polygonal ruined building represent 4 main phases of activity. There are a few areas of rougher random rubble masonry which probably pre-date the 1825 survey – these include Wall E and part of G, though other areas may survive in the cement rendered walls.

Slightly later work, dating before 1866 in Wall G, though the majority seems to date from 1866-1900 (probably early rather than later) and includes H, I, J, and K. Most of the walls have been partially altered in the 20<sup>th</sup> century with the insertion of later opening, cement re-pointing and brick patching. Of course, a final phase involved blocking all the openings and reducing the building in height.

The group has a complex structural history, with elements which may stretch back to the later 18<sup>th</sup> century. The notable architectural elements of masonry and arches are mid 19<sup>th</sup> century and are high quality and typical of the period. The buildings probably functioned as stores and workshops, connected with the early wood yard and activity in the dockyard.



**REFERENCES*****Published***

Atkinson, D 2007 *The Old Wet Dock, Alloa Harbour, Clackmannanshire: The results of a Desk Based Assessment and Archaeological Evaluation*. Unpublished client report, June 2007.

Graham A 1969 *Archaeological Notes on some harbours in Eastern Scotland* p.200-285 in *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland* 101 1968-69

New Statistical Account for Scotland 1834-5, Vol. 8: 1-7

Old Statistical Account for Scotland 1791-99, Vol 8: 592-98

Turner-Simpson A & Stevenson S, 1983 *Historic ALLOA: The archaeological implications of development* Scottish Burgh Survey

***Maps (National Library of Scotland)***

c1580 Pont sheet 32

1745-55 Roy sheet 16/1b Area around Tullibody, in Stirlingshire and Clackmannanshire

1825 Wood Town Plan of Alloa

1862 Ordnance Survey Alloa and its environs Sheet CXXXIX.8.7 1-500 (Surveyed 1861-62)

1866 Ordnance Survey 1:10560 scale Clackmannanshire sheet CXXXIX (surveyed 1863)

1900 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 scale Clackmannanshire sheet CXXXIX.8 (surveyed 1863; revised 1899) Stirlingshire sheet XVIII.7 (surveyed 1959-61-62; revised 1895)

1922 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 scale (revised 1913)

1951 Ordnance Survey 1:1250 scale sheet NS8891 NW (surveyed 1950)

***National Archives of Scotland***

BR/AHT Alloa Harbour Trust 1754-1898

RHP43704 1871 - Bound plans and sections of improvements at the existing dock and of new dock at Alloa Harbour

RHP43707 1888 - Bound plans and sections of the proposed works at Alloa Harbour

RHP47445 27<sup>th</sup> October 1860 – Sections of new wet dock at Alloa Harbour

RHP47466 27<sup>th</sup> October 1860 – Elevations and sections of coffer dam, culvert and other features of the new wet dock at Alloa Harbour

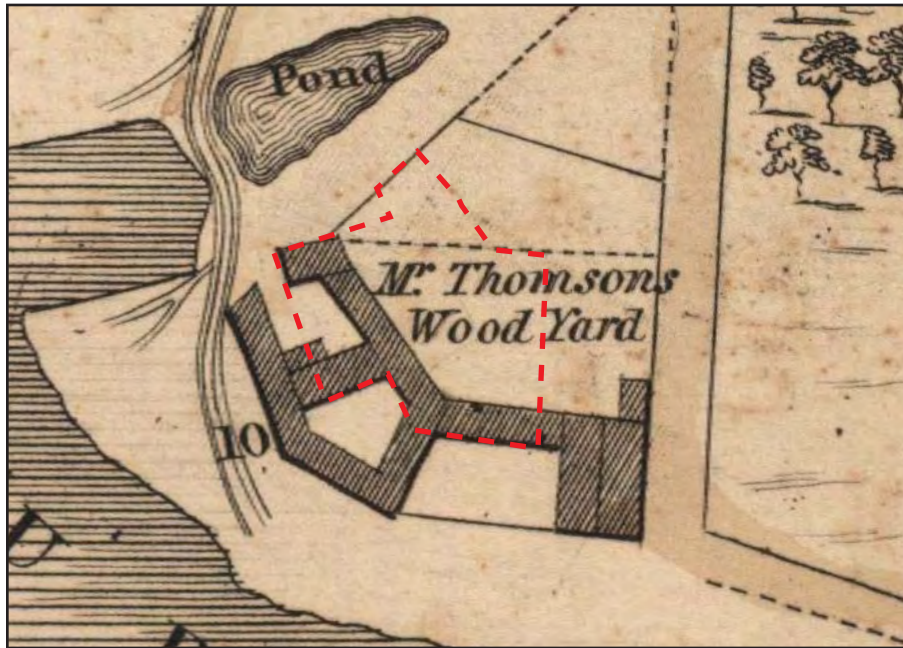
**APPENDIX 1 – PHOTO REGISTER**

Shot	Facing	Description
1	SE	Wall A, general shot
2	NE	Wall B, general shot
3	SSE	Wall C, general shot
4	SSE	Wall C, general shot
5	SSE	Wall C, general shot
6	NE	Walls A, B and C, general shot
7	NE	Wall D, general shot
8	NE	Wall D, general shot
9	NNE	Walls D and E, general shot
10	NNW	Wall E, general shot
11	NNW	Wall E, general shot
12	NE	Wall F, general shot
13	N	Walls E and G, general shot
14	N	Wall G, general shot
15	N	Wall G, general shot
16	N	Wall G, general shot
17	N	Wall G, general shot
18	NW	Walls G and H, general shot
19	W	Wall H, general shot
20	W	Wall H, general shot
21	W	Wall H, general shot
22	SW	Wall H, I and J, general shot
23	S	Wall I, general shot
24	S	Wall I, general shot
25	S	Walls I and J, general shot
26	WSW	Walls I and J, general shot
27	WSW	Wall J, general shot
28	WSW	Wall J, general shot
29	SW	Walls J and K, general shot
30	SW	Wall K, general shot

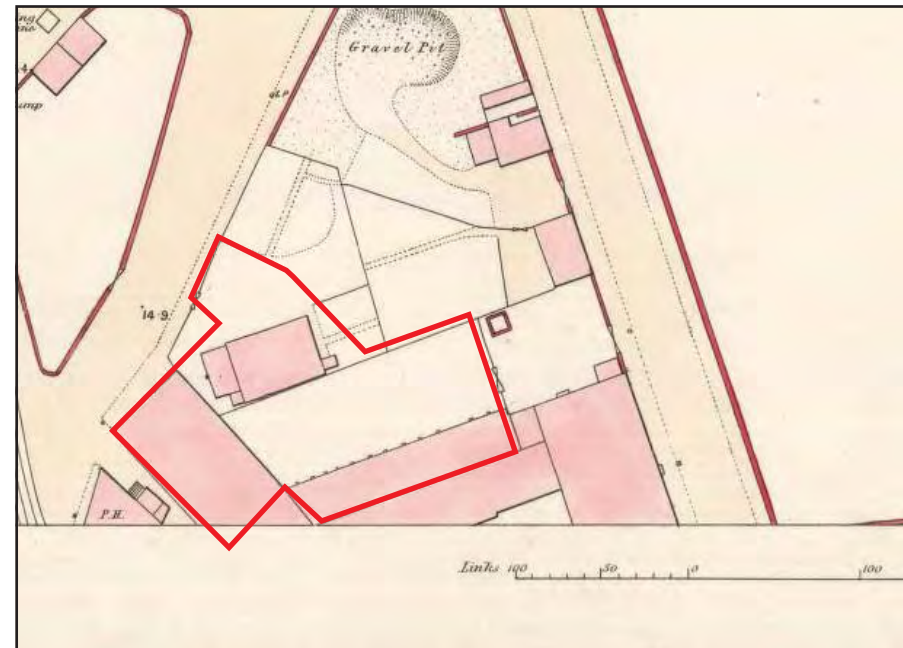
31	SW	Detail of blocked window, Wall K
32	SW	Detail of wall end, Wall J
33	WSW	Detail of blocked window, Wall J
34	WSW	Detail of blocked entrance and alterations, Wall J
35	WSW	Detail of blocked window and alterations, Wall J
36	S	Detail of blocked opening and alterations, Wall I
37	S	Detail of corner of Wall I
38	W	Detail of blocked window and corner of Wall H
39	W	Detail of blocked arched entrance, Wall H
40	W	Detail of sill cutting top of arched entrance, Wall H
41	W	Detail of blocked window, Wall H
42	N	Detail of blocked arched entrance, Wall G
43	N	Detail of alterations in Wall G
44	N	Detail of alterations in Wall G
45	NNW	Detail of alterations in Wall E
46	N	Detail of stone above brickwork in Wall G
47	N	Detail of corner of Walls D and E
48	NE	Detail of blocked window, Wall D
49	SSE	Detail of stone wall under harl, Wall C
50	S	Detail of Wall L from first floor
51	WSW	Detail of Walls A and B from first floor
52	SSE	Detail of Wall J from first floor
53	SW	Wall K, general shot
54	SW	Wall J, general shot
55	NW	Walls J and K, general shot
56	SE	Wall I, general shot
57	W	Wall H, general shot
58	SW	Wall H, general shot
59	NW	Wall G, general shot
60	NE	Walls F and G, general shot
61	NNW	Walls E and F, general shot
62	E	Wall D, general shot
63	ENE	Walls A, B, C and D, general shot
64	SE	Walls A, B and C, general shot

65	SSW	Walls A and C, general shot
66	SSW	Wall C, general shot
67	E	Walls C and D, corner
68	NE	Wall D, detail of stonework
69	NE	Wall D, detail of stonework
70	N	Detail of arched entrance, Wall G
71	N	Detail of arched entrance, Wall G
72	W	Detail of arched entrance, Wall H
73	NW	Walls H, J and K, general shot

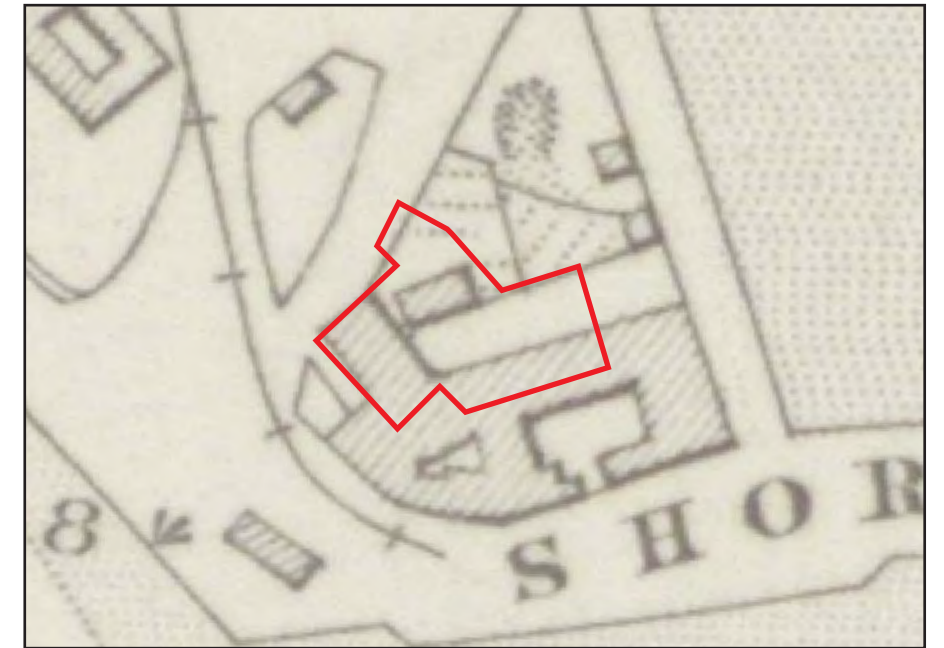




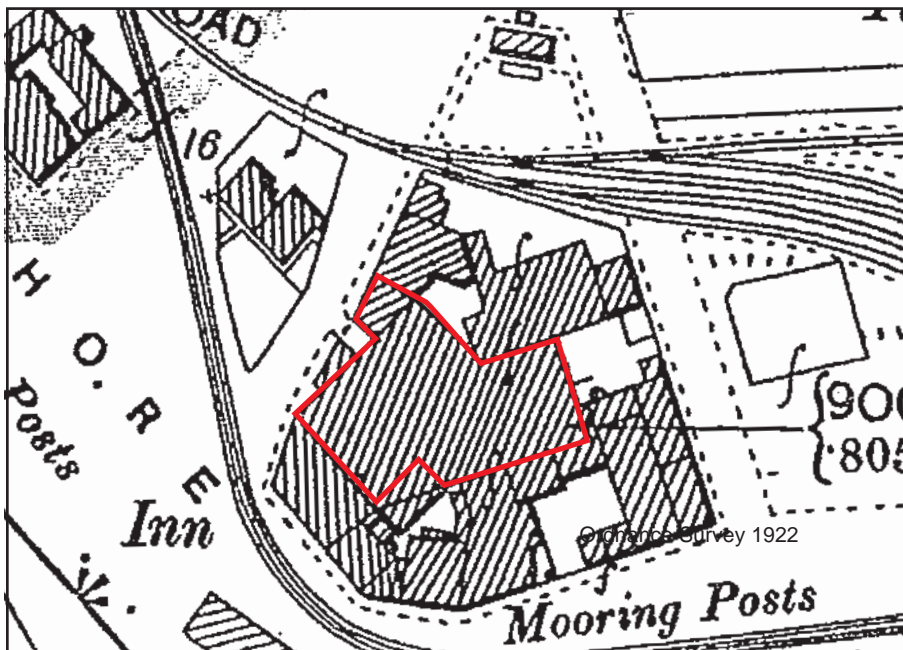
Wood 1825 (indicative site plan)



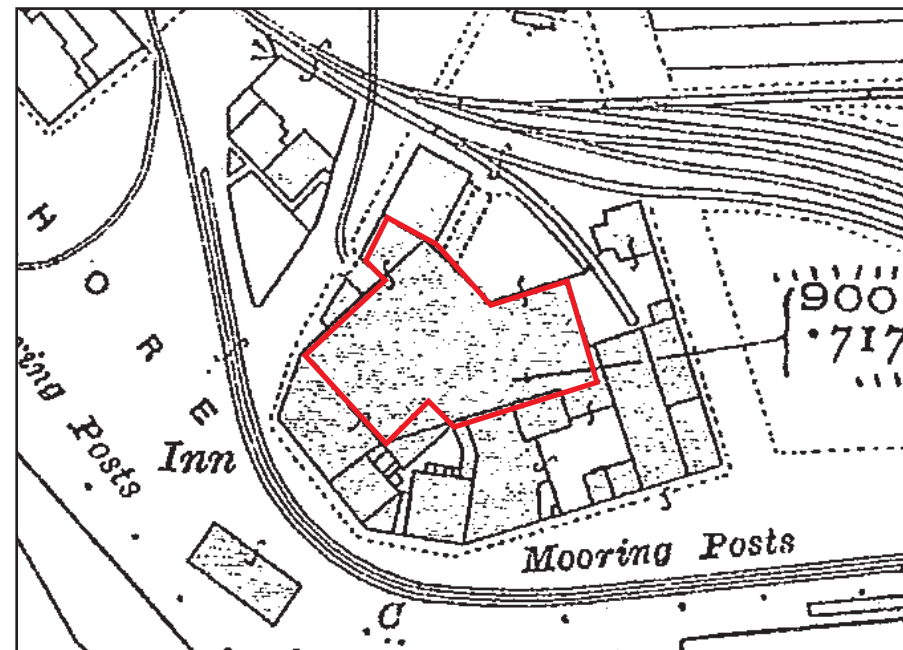
Ordnance Survey 1866 (1/500)



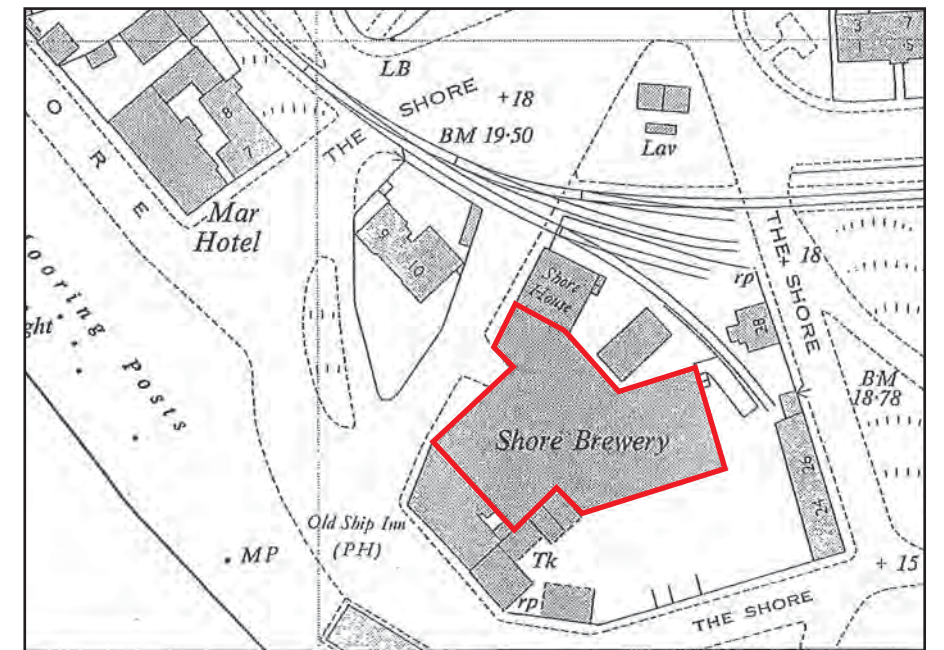
Ordnance Survey 1866 (1/10560)



Ordnance Survey 1900 (1/2500)



Ordnance Survey 1922 (1/2500)



Ordnance Survey 1950 (1/1250)

Figure 2: AHC07, Alloa Harbour - Historic Maps (not at original scale)

Refers to the number of the photograph within the photographic register and indicates the direction in which it was taken.

24 →

bw blocked window  
bd blocked door  
— wall of unknown thickness

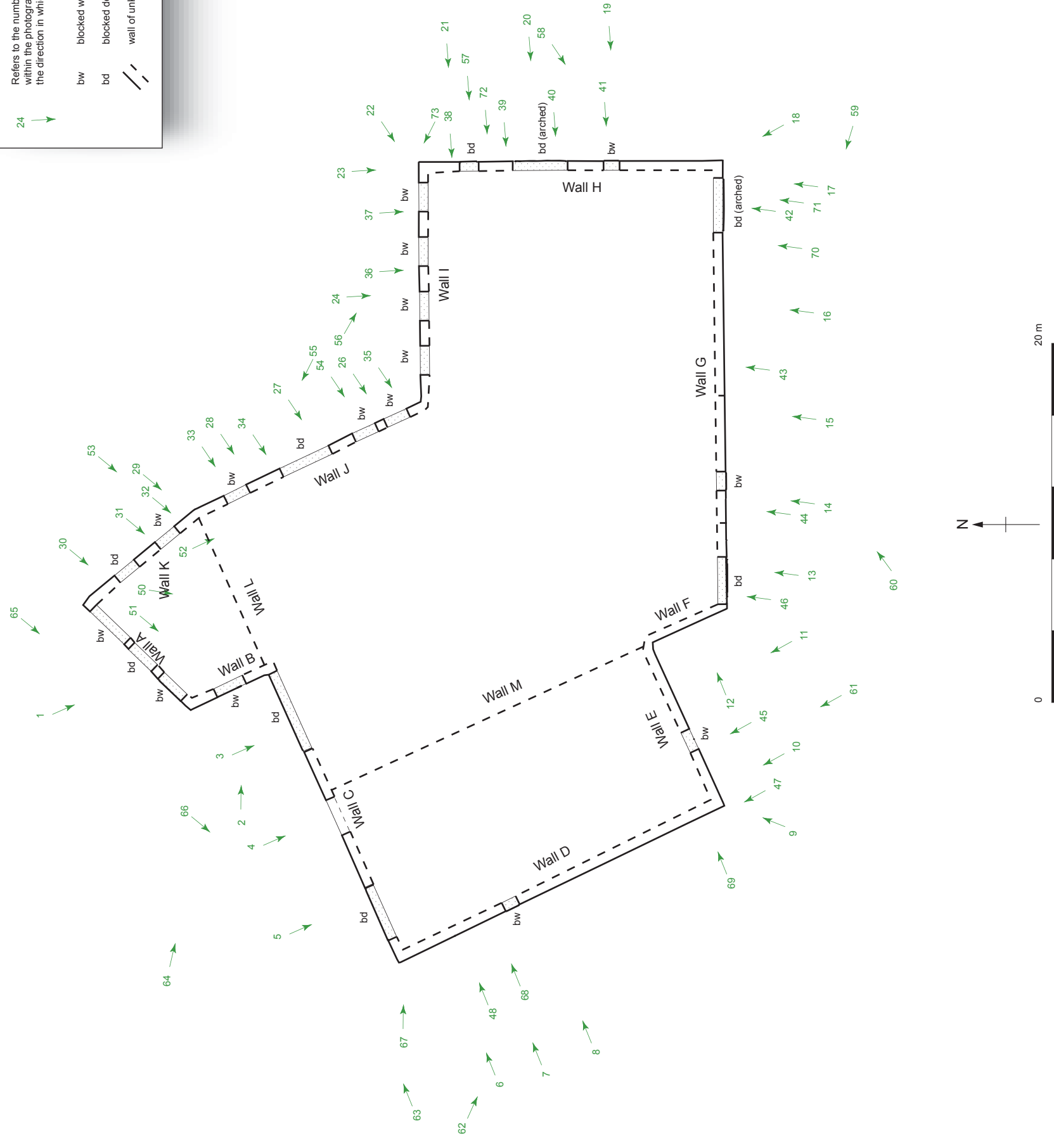


Figure 3 : AHC07, Alloa Harbour  
- Ground floorplan and photo locations



AHC07-Phase2-01.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-02.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-03.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-04.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-05.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-06.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-07.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-08.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-09.JPG

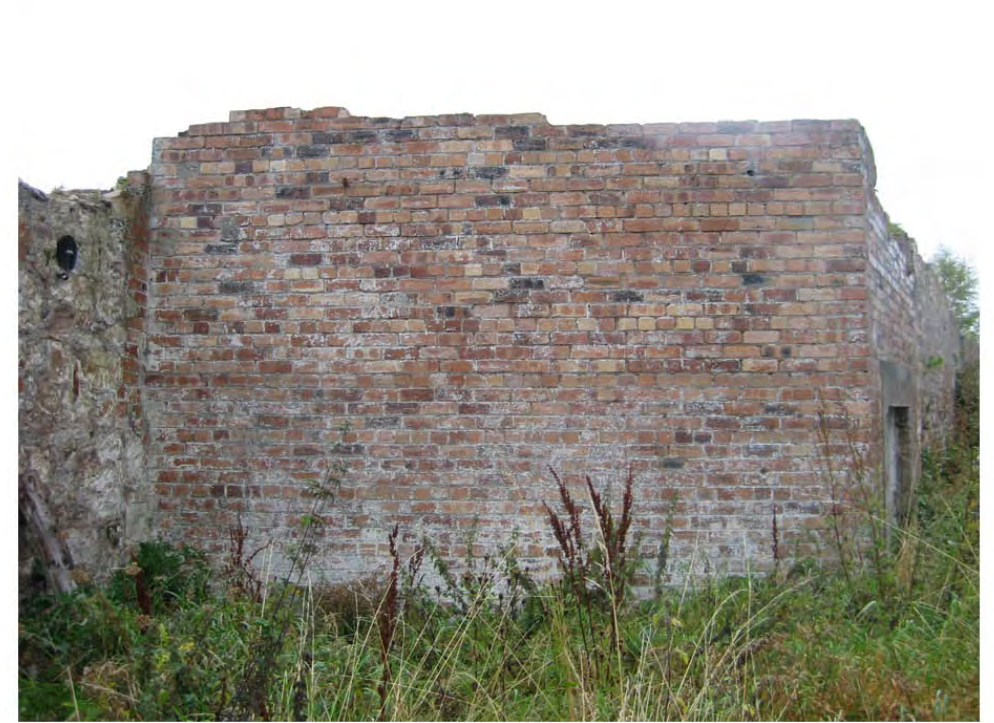




AHC07-Phase2-10.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-11.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-12.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-13.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-14.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-15.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-16.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-17.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-18.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-19.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-20.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-21.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-22.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-23.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-24.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-25.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-26.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-27.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-28.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-29.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-30.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-31.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-32.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-33.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-34.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-35.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-36.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-37.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-38.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-39.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-40.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-41.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-42.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-43.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-44.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-45.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-46.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-47.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-48.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-49.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-50.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-51.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-52.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-53.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-54.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-55.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-56.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-57.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-58.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-59.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-60.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-61.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-62.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-63.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-64.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-65.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-66.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-67.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-68.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-69.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-70.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-71.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-72.JPG



AHC07-Phase2-73.JPG