



# YORKSHIRE VERNACULAR BUILDINGS STUDY GROUP

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Newsheet No 89

August 2017

## YVBSG Events For Your Diary

### Northallerton Walkabout

Sunday 10 September 2017

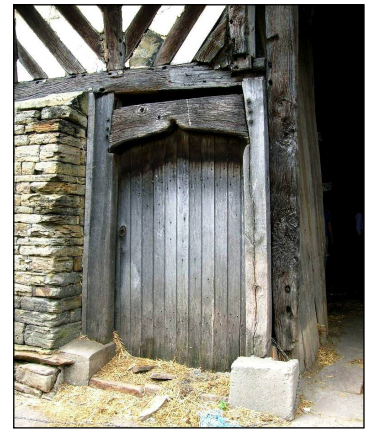
A walk around the market town of Northallerton with Barry Harrison and Tony Robinson. The buildings of the town have been little studied and there is much of interest to be seen, including some timber framing. We will see some contrasts between superior Georgian town houses, including the stone-faced Durham House with its coach house and the remains of the cottages which filled the town yards until mostly removed by 1950s slum clearance.

Start at 2pm from the south side of the Parish Church near the war memorial, for a look at North End, then the High Street with diversions down yards and alleys, to finish opposite the library by 4.30pm. Please let Tony Robinson ([bridgetandtony@hotmail.com](mailto:bridgetandtony@hotmail.com)) know if you'd like to come. The parish church is a 15-20 minute walk from the station.

### South Yorkshire Vernacular and Barnsley's Best Buildings

Saturday 21 October 2017

Introducing our second day school of 2017! Peter Ryder has agreed to deliver the opening keynote address to set the scene for our Barnsley recording, based on his work for ARCUS in Sheffield in around 1980 when he recorded many buildings and produced the excellent monograph on *Timber-framed Buildings in South Yorkshire*; see his website at [www.broomlee.org](http://www.broomlee.org). Peter gives great memorable talks that are as equally entertaining as they are instructive. This is a rare opportunity to hear him share with us his many years of experience of recording buildings in South Yorkshire. I will be talking about 'Barnsley's Other Best Buildings' which we were unable to record for various reasons. These are buildings of great quality and outstanding interest. After lunch each of the team leaders will give a talk about the buildings that they recorded, as outlined in the booking form enclosed with this Newsheet. Please come and support this initiative and help make it the success that our earlier day school was – I promise you a great and memorable day, and you'll go away knowing so much more about South Yorkshire!



Gunthwaite Hall Barn

*Peter Thornborrow*

## Early Fabric of Beverley – Project Update

Though a few months later than planned, we are nearing the end of this project. We are close to delivering on the key objectives set for us by Historic England in 2014.

Nearly all the YVBSG reports on buildings have been completed and they include the dating and conclusions from all the interim reports issued by Historic England's Scientific Dating Team. Regrettably, we were not able to obtain any more dates from analysis of all the samples, and we were unsuccessful in making a case for more radio-carbon dating. The main reason was the low number of sequences identified from our undated Beverley samples and, given the high cost of the technique, the high number of analyses that would be needed to establish the date of a building or phase. However, as reported in previous issues of the Newsheet, we have got some remarkable results.

All our project's scientific dating results (mainly by dendrochronology) will be published in the journal *Vernacular Architecture*. The Beverley YVBSG reports have already been issued to team members and will be available to all YVBSG members to consult via the Members Area of the

website ([www.yvbsg.org.uk/members](http://www.yvbsg.org.uk/members)) soon. However, if you have been involved in YVBSG recording at Beverley and have not got a copy of the report on your building, please let me know. I will also send copies to the regional HER (Sites and Monuments Record) in Hull.

We have also been busy writing an article on the main findings of the project to submit to *Vernacular Architecture* and the first draft is complete and out for comment. We plan to get this published in the 2018 edition. We hope also to submit an article to *Yorkshire Buildings* as well as a booklet (with Susan Neave) aimed at the general public.

In July I gave a talk on how well the project was supported by Historic England at their Annual Staff Conference in York. This was to give them feedback on how to improve similar projects in the future.

I thank all those who took part in recording buildings at the Beverley conferences and all the hard work on the project put in by the team and others.

*David Cook. Project Leader. [beverleyproject@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:beverleyproject@yvbsg.org.uk)*

## Report on recent events

### The Best of Barnsley: Annual Recording Conference and Team Leaders' Day

I am pleased to report that we held a successful recording weekend in good weather on Friday 12 to Sunday 14 May 2017, the first ever held in South Yorkshire. A full report on the conference will appear in a future edition of our journal, *Yorkshire Buildings*.

A follow-up Team Leaders' session was held in York on Saturday 1 July 2017, primarily to offer leaders of recording groups the opportunity to compare the buildings recorded during the conference and to help them complete their reports. The leaders gave excellent presentations on the

various buildings. These included two cruck-framed barns; two farm buildings (an L-shaped long barn of c1695 and a late seventeenth century stable block), both with hipped ends of almost identical construction; two outstanding timber-framed houses of great interest and complex development; and a superb summer house of 1686. These led to much animated discussion amongst participants and brought us to the view that the autumn Conference Review Day should be opened up more widely. So we have decided to hold another full day school at Leeds Beckett University – see enclosed form!

*Peter Thornborrow*

### Walks in and around Bolton by Bowland

Bolton by Bowland has been in the Ribbles Valley Borough of Lancashire since 1974, but the West Riding of Yorkshire is the real or traditional county. The civil parish covers 6300 acres (almost ten square miles), with a population of around 500. There are forty-four listed buildings.

On what was to become a warm and sunny day on Saturday 17 June 2017, thirty members arrived from as far away as Staithes, York, Barnsley and Huddersfield, including four members from Lytham, Chorley, and Bolton. After parking our convoy of cars, our first stop was at the late seventeenth century Fooden Farmhouse which has a single-storey porch with a dove-cote, one of at least eleven from Calderdale northwards to the Dent, Sedbergh, and Hawes area. There are eleven holes with alighting ledges.

Nearby, the unoccupied late seventeenth century Fooden Hall (Listed 2\*). Interior access was thanks to Gordon Sanderson, brother of the late tenant. Lobby-entry plan, two-storey porch with mullion and transom windows at first floor, continuing round the sides as at Hammerton Hall, Slaidburn (YVBSG visits 2006 and 2007), and at The Folly, Settle. Distorted segmental-arched fireplace in right-hand room.



Fooden Farmhouse

Next, the walk to seventeenth century Bolton Peel Farm (Grade 2\*) where scaffolding had been erected around the three-cell house (see Newsheet No 87), but that didn't stop us enjoying the garden. The porch is jettied only at the front, as at Jacksons Farm, Worsthorpe, near Burnley, visited by us in 2012. The nearby barn with three cruck trusses has lost its original collar and tie-beams. The Huyton family farm 350 acres here, milk 100 dairy cows, and are agricultural contractors. Back to the village before lunch we had enough time to see some buildings that were rather private: Fernside, an early eighteenth century laithe-house; The Old Courthouse, with re-set decorated doorhead of 1704; and the early nineteenth century cottages on Gisburn Road where No 9 has re-used chamfered mullions at the rear (not seen when listed).



Fernside

After lunch, we had an invitation to see the interior of Broxup House, Holden (1687), but the builder would not allow this because of health and safety issues. I had been inside previously, so was able to send photographs to the group. Originally this was a three-cell lime-washed house with lobby entry plan (the service end is now a separate cottage). The house has a decorative doorhead with two continuous spirals, drip moulds with spiral stops, two Folly-type windows, an oval window, and a recently discovered fireplace with a decorative lintel of stepped design. There are four houses with Folly-type

windows in this parish, and another three in Bowland, dating from 1675 to 1718. Browsholme Hall previously had similar windows, as seen on a painting by JMW Turner in 1798.

At Wycongill (late seventeenth century) another two-storey porch with oversailing upper floor. Mrs Leeming invited us into the left-hand room, which has a large segmental-arched fireplace with an external stack. The ceiling joists are scribed, not unlike the reeded joists in Calderdale, as seen at Everill Shaw, Heptonstall (YVBSG visit in 2014). Wycongill was badly affected by Foot and Mouth disease in 2001 (as was Fooden Hall). They re-stocked and now have a 300-strong herd of dairy cows on 350 acres.

The final walk was up the private road to Alder House Farm (Listed 2\*). Three storeys with full-height jettied porch with decorated doorhead dated TW 1708 (Thomas Walker), but the house is earlier. The doorhead is a local type similar to Keys Cottage, Bolton by Bowland (see Newsheet No 87) and to the one dated 1706 seen in Stocks Reservoir car park in 2016. There are some eighty-five jettied stone porches in Lancashire and Yorkshire, rarely seen elsewhere. In Lancashire are six timber-framed jettied porches, likely to have influenced stonemasons to build jetties in stone. Another Folly-type window, this one having a stepped head (see Newsheet No 88). The porch drip moulds have decorative stops. Mr and Mrs Dinsdale now stock sheep on their 108 acres.

Our thanks go to the village residents and farmers for being so helpful and accommodating. And once again to Diana Kaneps, who provided drawings of decorative features of Broxup House. A very special 'thank you' to David Shore for his generous donations towards my travelling expenses over the years.

*Kevin Illingworth*

## Report on recent events (continued)

### Wardley Hall and Worsley Old Hall

A number of YVBSG members joined the Calder Valley Historic Buildings Group and the Chorley Historical and Archaeological Society (twenty-two people in total) for a visit to Worsley and Wardley, near Salford, on Thursday 27 July 2017 organised by Kevin Illingworth. We assembled in the morning under our umbrellas (being west of the Pennines, we had anticipated rain) and walked to Kempnough Hall ([worsleycivictrust.org](http://worsleycivictrust.org)). The H-shaped timber-framed hall was rescued from dereliction a few years ago by a neighbour who bought and restored it. Finds are said to include a carved Tudor rose and a witching post.

Worsley Old Hall, now a public house, was our next stop; we were able to sit in the late sixteenth/early seventeenth century timber-framed hall, admiring the ovolo-moulded beams and coved ceilings whilst enjoying lunch. And then it was on to Wardley Hall (pictured above), a large timber-framed house with an irregular courtyard plan, now owned by the Catholic Church. Inside, the seventeenth century staircase with its massive newelposts was wonderful, and there was much debate about the possible construction of the earlier open hall prior to the insertion of the floor. Despite its proximity to the M60, this is a tranquil site and we finished with a stroll around the moat to check out Kevin's quip that the 'motorway had taken some of the moat away'!



Lorraine Moor

### Yorkshire Archaeological Journal

Excellent news – the Yorkshire Archaeological and Historical Society has completed a major project to scan all eighty-two YAJ volumes up to 2010. They are now online and available free of charge to everyone at <https://archive.org/details/yorkshirearchaeologicalandhistoricalsociety>.

### Stories in Stone training course

The *Stories in Stone* community and heritage project is offering an introductory course on vernacular buildings led by Alison Armstrong on Wednesday 20 September 2017 in Chapel le Dale. Cost £12.50. No experience necessary. Enquiries: 015242 51002 or see [www.storiesinstone.org.uk](http://www.storiesinstone.org.uk).

### Stanley Jones, 1927-2017

The Group was sorry to hear of the death of Stanley Jones of Sheffield on 9 July 2017. Stanley's lifetime research on vernacular buildings, which included producing outstanding drawings and paintings, is of national importance and took him country wide, but particularly relevant to the YVBSG at the moment is his work on South Yorkshire buildings such as Gunthwaite Hall Barn, Whiston Hall Barn and Houndhill, Worsbrough. Some of this research is documented in the 'Report of the Summer Meeting of the Royal Archaeological Institute at Wentworth in 1980', *Archaeological Journal*, 137:1, 369-474, including Stanley's article on 'Stone houses in the vernacular tradition in South Yorkshire 1600-1700'.

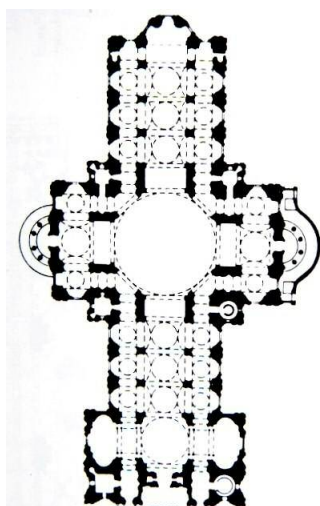
### A curious lintel in Bolton-by-Bowland



I wonder if it is possible that the stonemason who carved this lintel visited London and saw the building, or even had been a mason involved in its construction? On our trip we saw other houses with similar designed lintels featuring this recessed 'plan' shape, which could have been the same mason's hallmark.

Peter Thornborrow

While looking at this attractive carved door lintel on the main street of Bolton-by-Bowland I was struck by the resemblances the recessed carving has to Sir Christopher Wren's plan for St Paul's Cathedral (see right)! It had only opened in 1711 having taken just thirty-five years to build, remarkably begun and finished by the same architect and under the same Bishop of London (Dr Henry Compton). This unusually designed door lintel is dated 1716, only five years after the completion and opening of St Paul's which would then have been the wonder of the age – then as now a great tourist attraction.



### Publications

*Yorkshire West Riding: Sheffield and the South* by Ruth Harman and Nikolaus Pevsner. New Pevsner volume due to be published 19 September 2017, £35.

*Hidden Charms* edited by John Billingsley, Jeremy Harte and Brian Hoggard. A collection of papers from a conference on the magical protection of buildings held in Norwich in April 2016: dried cats, concealed shoes, witch bottles and more. Yorkshire-focused articles are 'The head that works for you: apotropaic vs show' by John Billingsley (looking at carved heads in West Yorkshire) and 'Ritual recycling and the concealed shoe' by Ceri Houlbrook (exploring concealed shoes in Otley and Ilkley). The publication (84 pages) is available to download free of charge from the Academia website at [https://www.academia.edu/32506183/Hidden\\_Charms\\_Proceedings](https://www.academia.edu/32506183/Hidden_Charms_Proceedings). A second conference, *Hidden Charms 2*, will take place in Salisbury on Saturday 21 April 2018. Tickets (£40) are available now – see [www.apotropaios.co.uk](http://www.apotropaios.co.uk) for details.

## Other events of possible interest ...

Some of these events are publicised a long time in advance, so you may wish to check details before you go!

### Heritage Open Days

7 to 10 September 2016

Annual four-day extravaganza of open buildings, guided walks, talks and other events, usually free of charge. Some 5000 events are taking place across the country and an impressive number of buildings (vernacular or otherwise) are opening their doors in the Yorkshire region. See local publicity or browse the full online programme of events at [www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk).

### An Exploration of Medieval Leeds

Thursday 7 September 2017

A 1½ to 2 mile walk led by Bob Holt of Leeds Civic Trust for Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group. 11am to 12.30pm, £5. Further details at [www.uwhg.org.uk](http://www.uwhg.org.uk).

### Traditional Farmhouses and Buildings in North-East Lancashire

Thursday 14 September 2017

A talk by Kevin Illingworth to Burnley Historical Society at 7.15pm in the parish rooms of St John the Baptist Church, Ivy Street, off Briercliffe Road, Burnley BB10 1TD. Visitors £2. Enquiries: 01254 201162 and 01282 438073 or see website [www.burnleyhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.burnleyhistoricalsociety.com).

### Notable Houses of Calderdale and Kirklees

Saturday 16 September 2017

A talk by Peter Thornborrow to the National Trust Holme and Calder Group at 2.15pm at Blackley Baptist Church, Blackley Road, Elland. From Elland go up Victoria Road passing Brooksbank School on left, and take the next road left uphill that leads to Ainley Top and the M62; the large chapel is on the right at the top of the hill. This talk will be wide-ranging and illustrate many fine houses such as Kirklees Hall, Woodsome Hall, New House Hall, Woodlane Hall, Barkisland Hall, Elland Hall, The Howroyde, and Banney Royd – all listed Grade 1. Small charge for non-members. Enquiries 01422 833464.

### Lost Buildings of Leeds

Monday 25 September 2017

Talk by Dr Patrick Bourne to East Leeds History and Archaeology Society. 8pm at Cross Gates Methodist Church Hall, £2. Details at [www.elhas.org.uk](http://www.elhas.org.uk).

### Inside a Lake District Farmhouse

Monday 16 October 2017

A talk by Andrew Lowe to Ingleborough Archaeology Group (following AGM). 7.30pm at Ingleton Community Centre. For further details see website [www.ingleborougharchaeologygroup.org.uk](http://www.ingleborougharchaeologygroup.org.uk).



### The Writing on the Wall: the concealed communities of the East Yorkshire horselads

Friday 20 October 2017

Talk by Dr Kate Giles and Dr Melanie Giles to Helmsley Archaeological and Historical Society, looking at graffiti found within late nineteenth and early twentieth century farm buildings on the Yorkshire Wolds. 7.30pm at North York Moors National Park Offices, Helmsley. See [www.helmsleyarchaeologicalandhistoricalsociety.org.uk](http://www.helmsleyarchaeologicalandhistoricalsociety.org.uk).

### Vernacular Buildings of Lancashire: Rochdale and the South-East – 16th to 19th century, stone and brick

Thursday 26 October 2017

A talk by Kevin Illingworth to Middleton Archaeological Society, 7.30pm at The Olde Boar's Head, Long Street, Middleton (early seventeenth century timber-framed pub). Visitors £3. See <http://middletonas.com/>.

### Hull Local History Book Fair

Saturday 28 October 2017

Organised by East Yorkshire Local History Society, at Holy Trinity Church, Hull, from 10am. Annual event, slightly expanded this year to celebrate Hull City of Culture. <http://eylhs.org.uk>.

### Boskin, Skelbuse and Foddergang: traditional farm buildings in the Yorkshire Dales

Wednesday 1 November 2017

A talk by Jim Brightman to Sedbergh and District History Society, 7.30pm in Dent Memorial Hall. Details at [www.sedberghhistory.org](http://www.sedberghhistory.org).

### Yorkshire and Lancashire seventeenth century oak furniture and houses of the Pennines

Tuesday 14 November 2017

A talk by Peter Thornborrow to The Antiques Circle (Mirfield) at 7.30–9pm at Healds Hall Hotel, Leeds Road, Liversedge, West Yorkshire, WF15 6JA. In this talk Peter compares both the different plan forms, styles, designs and decoration of both the vernacular buildings and the contemporary seventeenth century furniture to be found on either side of the Pennine watershed between Halifax and Burnley. Small charge for non-members. Enquiries 01924 497783.

### Vernacular Buildings of Cheshire

Thursday 16 November 2017

A talk by Derek Richbell to Sale Civic Society, 8pm at St Joseph's Church Hall, Hope Road, Sale M33 3BF. See [www.salecivicsociety.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.salecivicsociety.blogspot.co.uk).

### Vernacular Buildings in the North West

Saturday 24 February 2018

A day school organised by the Lancashire Local History Federation in the eighteenth century barn at Pendle Heritage Centre, Barrowford, Nelson, Lancashire. John Miller will speak about the Pendle Heritage Centre buildings (Park Hill Farmhouse, the eighteenth century barn, and the re-located sixteenth century cruck barn. Michael Nevell's topic is 'Industrial Workers' Housing'. Kevin Illingworth's title is 'From the Mersey to the Duddon: recent discoveries since 2014'. There will be a fourth speaker. Full details available by September: [www.lancashirehistory.org](http://www.lancashirehistory.org).

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### Next committee meeting

The next meeting of the YVBSG committee will be held on Sunday 8 October 2017. If you'd like to raise any matters or suggest future events please contact the Secretary, Mary Cook.

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### Next Newsheet

The next edition will be in November 2017 – please send any contributions (for example details of publications or events of interest) to the editor by 31 October 2017.

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**Chair:** Peter Thornborrow, The West Wing, Birthwaite Hall, Huddersfield Road, Darton, Barnsley S75 5JS, [chairman@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:chairman@yvbsg.org.uk)

**Secretary:** Mary Cook, 12 Annand Way, Newton Aycliffe DL5 4ZD, 01325 310114, [secretary@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:secretary@yvbsg.org.uk)

**Enquiries Secretary:** Barry Harrison, 17 Whitby Avenue, Guisborough TS14 7AP, [enquiries@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@yvbsg.org.uk)

**Treasurer/Membership Secretary:** Sue Southwell, 2 Water End, Brompton, Northallerton DL6 2RL, 01609 776863, [treasurer@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@yvbsg.org.uk)

**Archivist:** David Cook, 12 Annand Way, Newton Aycliffe DL5 4ZD, 01325 310114, [archivist@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:archivist@yvbsg.org.uk)

**Yorkshire Buildings Editorial Team:** Tony Berry, Tony Robinson, Beth Shurter, [editor@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:editor@yvbsg.org.uk)

**Newsheet and Web:** Lorraine Moor, 102 Queen Victoria Street, South Bank, York YO23 1HN, [newsheet@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:newsheet@yvbsg.org.uk)