



# YORKSHIRE VERNACULAR BUILDINGS STUDY GROUP

[www.yvbsg.org.uk](http://www.yvbsg.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/yvbsg](https://www.facebook.com/yvbsg)  
[twitter.com/YorksVernacular](https://twitter.com/YorksVernacular)

Newsheet No 108

August 2022

Dear Member,

Welcome to our 108th Newsheet. Due to the recent extreme weather warning for the South Yorkshire area, we postponed my Doncaster Taster visit for a week and it eventually took place on Saturday 20 August 2022. The event was fully booked and I hope everybody enjoyed it. In the hope of stimulating interest in our forthcoming Doncaster Recording weekend in September I also gave a Third Thursday Talk, Part 2 of the South Yorkshire Survey, showing all of the buildings that we recorded last time in the Sheffield area in 2019.

We hope that a good number of you will come and help us record the buildings we have found in the Doncaster area. These include seventeenth century stone houses, such as L-shaped Stainton Hall in Stainton, and Watchley Farm in Hooton Pagnell. In the latter, the central stone spine-wall between the housebody and parlour has an arched doorway left of an arched fireplace reminiscent of the timber bressummer beam at Fairhouse, Lower Bradley, that has an arched doorhead cut into it to the left of the inglenook fireplace; we have never observed this in stone before. We shall record two late seventeenth century brick houses in Fishlake, one with a fine timber staircase. Low Grange in Thurnscoe is a brick L-shaped house, part of a former monastic grange of Roche Abbey that has some panels of diaper blue brickwork. The wing has an inscribed date of 1664 on its plinth. Inside is what appears to be an original



Datestone at Donside Stores, Fishlake



The horse engine house at Norton Priory Farm

Tudor-arched stone fireplace, with a huge kitchen fireplace at one end, and one room with enormous chamfered spine-beams.

The owners of the rare medieval Campsall Rectory of c1400 have also agreed for us to add to the existing record of the building made by Peter Ryder over forty years ago. His plans made on film drawn in pencil give an opportunity to revisit the record and produce a new digitised plan. The gabled wing, thought to have been a chapel originally, has fine Gothic-arched roof trusses; these match the arched traceried window looking toward the church tower directly opposite. This 'bedroom' was not surveyed in detail, but the hall-range was, showing every rafter. We aim to do a similar detailed survey of the wing to this former first-floor hall to show the roof construction.

Those interested in farm buildings may be interested to help us record the complete eighteenth century farm complex of Norton Priory Farm. This has a range of buildings including a dovecote, hennery, piggery, stables, a coach house, open fronted cart-sheds, and other ancillary buildings, and two barns – one with a semi-octagonal horse-gin engine house. The owner has farmed this site for most of his life and is keen for it to be recorded while it

remains intact. While ploughing his fields over the years he has turned up carved stones with Romanesque decoration, now displayed in his walled garden. He also has a large number of staddle stones for raising the hay-ricks above the ground, more usually seen in the Cotswolds than in the North.

Please do come along, and book your hotel room soon to take advantage of the discounted rate. Calling all photographers – we need members to bring their digital cameras and to photograph the buildings we are to record to form part of the permanent record of the building. If you haven't already booked, if relevant please add the word 'Photographer' to your booking form to assist David Cook when he forms the recording teams, or 'HFB' if interested in farm buildings.

I am pleased to report that we now have a date for the Group's 50th anniversary celebration. I plan to hold this in the Old Restaurant in Wakefield Town Hall on Monday 21 November 2022. It will feature David Cant speaking in the late morning on the history of the Group, followed by lunch, then talks by Peter Brears and myself on the buildings of Wakefield. Further details will be circulated when finalised.

*Peter Thornborrow*

## Future YVBSG events: dates for your diary

### Annual Recording Conference

Friday 23 to Sunday 25 September 2022

Our conference this year is based at the Holiday Inn Doncaster A1(M) Jct 36, High Road, Warmsworth, Doncaster. We will record some of the Doncaster area's amazing and interesting vernacular buildings. This will build on and add to studies done nearly forty years ago and the Group's own recording work in Barnsley in 2017, Rotherham in 2018 and Sheffield in 2019. On Sunday afternoon, members of the Tickhill Local History Society will take us on a walkabout of this ancient town. The booking form has been circulated to members and is also available on the YVBSG website.

### 50th Anniversary Celebration

Monday 21 November 2022

We are planning an event to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the YVBSG, to be held in the Old Restaurant in Wakefield Town Hall. The celebration will feature a lunch and talks by David Cant, Peter Brears and Peter Thornborrow. Details to follow as soon as they are finalised.

### Third Thursday Talks

Our online talks continue during 2022. These normally take place by Zoom at 7.30pm on the third Thursday of the month and there will be the opportunity for questions after each talk. The talks are open to all (including non-members) and are free of charge. Members will be notified by email when booking is open for each talk, or you can keep an eye on the 'Events' page of our website. We are still looking for volunteers to give future talks and if you are interested in doing so, please contact Mary Cook on [secretary@yvbbsg.org.uk](mailto:secretary@yvbbsg.org.uk).

#### The ogee: its historic use

By Malcolm Birdsall, on Thursday 15 September 2022. The talk will consider the ogee motif, looking at its different formats and its historic use in varied types of architecture up to the seventeenth century. Malcolm will discuss possible influences and the way in which the gentry incorporated stone ogee-headed windows with mullions and shaped-head moulds in the seventeenth century. These only exist in a small area of Lancashire and Yorkshire – twenty depictions of this vernacular unique architecture will be shown.



#### Recordings of previous talks

Recordings of previous talks can be watched online by following the links on the 'Events' page of the YVBSG website, or by going directly to our YouTube channel. The latest recording to be added to the collection is Peter Thornborrow's talk on Thursday 18 August 2022 on *The South Yorkshire Survey part two: the Sheffield district and Carbrook Hall*.

### Committee meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be held on Saturday 8 October 2022. If you'd like to raise any matters, or have ideas for future events, please contact the Secretary, Mary Cook.

### Seeking old photos of the Group ...

As you'll have read above, a celebration event to mark the Group's 50th anniversary will be held on Monday 21 November 2022. David Cant asks whether anyone has any appropriate historic photos (preferably pre-2000) specifically showing YVBSG members or activities, which he could use in his talk on the history of the Group? If so, please contact David on [davidjcant@hotmail.com](mailto:davidjcant@hotmail.com).

## Photo mapping project – a progress report



One of the scanned slides, showing North Birks, Oxenhope

Hundreds of slides of vernacular buildings taken by Alison Armstrong, which have been donated to the Group, have now been scanned.

Following the appeal for volunteers in the last Newsheet, we now have co-ordinates for 223 buildings with only 46 either untraceable or not yet found. We thank the four volunteers who responded and provided many of the co-ordinates.

Now this progress has been made we hope to launch the interactive map via [www.yvbbsg.org.uk](http://www.yvbbsg.org.uk) before the end of the year. Look out for an announcement or update in the next Newsheet.

*David Cook, YVBSG Archivist*



## Documents and buildings – and an invitation!

Although our Group's activities focus on visiting and recording traditional buildings, there is often additional information in a variety of documents linked to a property, its owners or occupiers. These include historical records of property transfers, which may include plans, wills and inventories where bequests sometimes mention rooms and their contents. Although not produced to provide information specifically about the development of a building, they are always worth checking. The development of resources such as online catalogues, for example the West Yorkshire Archives (see [www.catalogue.wyjs.org.uk](http://www.catalogue.wyjs.org.uk)), makes access easy and often provide brief details.

More 'recent' documents, such as planning applications, often contain historical information, particularly if any changes proposed are to a listed building. If you are lucky, applications to long-defunct authorities, such as the nineteenth century Local Boards, will have survived. Locally, many of ours are held by the local archives. Ones from the later twentieth century, produced in the days before digital documents, have been digitised (and the paper copies destroyed). These documents can help avoid understandable mistakes in interpretation, where careful restoration or re-use has successfully camouflaged recent changes.

Maps and photographs are a further category of documents well worth examination. For maps, the excellent resources of the National Library of Scotland ([maps.nls.uk/os/](http://maps.nls.uk/os/)) contain almost all the 'out of copyright' Ordnance Survey maps for England, Wales and Scotland. Local history societies often have a photographic collection on their website, although these vary enormously both in quality and accuracy. Other online media such as Facebook have dedicated groups, such as 'Old Photos of Halifax' – several of the contributors share their old postcard collections. These often contain images of old buildings. But beware, these can be an enjoyable way of spending many hours in front of your screen!

Current record keeping of all sorts has been transferred to electronic media. Transferring paper records to electronic ones has becoming an everyday practice too and opened up extensive research



possibilities. It is even possible, with computer software such as 'Transkribus' ([readcoop.eu/transkribus](http://readcoop.eu/transkribus)), to produce digital versions of old handwriting. The program can be 'trained' to recognise the shapes which form words and can deal successfully with abbreviations. In Germany, many church records have been digitised in this way, and a project called 'Marine Lives' is tackling records relating to seafaring.

Sometimes, however, there is no substitute for a visit to an archive collection. Apart from seeing and handling (carefully!) the old documents, you can collect the information which is not available elsewhere. If you have the time and energy you can make this information available to others too. A good example is a project I've been involved in to transcribe and publish the probate documents of the ancient parish of Halifax from 1688 to 1700. These include wills, inventories, bonds and grants of probate. About half these inventories include details of buildings, particularly room names and contents.

One of the longstanding members of the project group describes how 'Inventories are like an archaeological dig through ink and parchment, a trip through rooms no longer inhabited, furnished with longsettles, beds and footchests, arks and hourglasses, and all the paraphernalia of the kitchen. Even more fascinating are the tools of their trades, often textiles or agriculture, but also the smith's anvil, the apothecary's limbeck and the schoolmaster's books'.

The project is celebrating the conclusion of their work at an open event, *Where there's a will, there's a way ... to uncover the world of Calder Valley in the 1690s*, in Halifax Minster on Thursday 20 October at 7pm with guest speaker Peter Brears. Peter is a former curator of Shibden Hall and museums in York and Leeds and author of numerous books about the cookery, oak furniture and pottery of the period. He will be exploring what we learn from inventories about the practicalities of life in the Calder Valley at the end of the seventeenth century. Peter also wrote a pioneering work for the Yorkshire Archaeological Society Record Series on *Yorkshire Probate Inventories 1542–1689*.

Everyone welcome! You can just turn up on the night, but it would help us if you can register an interest by emailing [halifaxprobate@gmail.com](mailto:halifaxprobate@gmail.com).

David Cant, [davidjcant@hotmail.com](mailto:davidjcant@hotmail.com)

---

## Seeking volume 27 ...

*Yorkshire Buildings* editor Tony Robinson asks if anyone has any spare copies of *Yorkshire Buildings* 27 (1999) or the earlier issues before 25 (1997) which they no longer need? If so, please contact Tony on 01609 771673 or email [bridgetandtony@hotmail.com](mailto:bridgetandtony@hotmail.com).

If you are feeling really generous, you could post them to him at 5 Neile Close, Romanby, Northallerton DL7 8NN.

## Previous YVBSG events

### Vernacular Buildings of the Todmorden countryside part two

Held on Saturday 25 June 2022, this was the second walking tour of vernacular buildings of Todmorden organised by Kevin Illingworth. On the evidence of these two visits it would seem virtually every farmhouse in the uplands of this district is of interest to the student of Pennine vernacular architecture. On this occasion we visited carefully chosen sites on both sides of the Calder Valley between Todmorden and Hebden Bridge.

elevation. Multi-light mullion windows, so characteristic of the area, were present but the main door in the centre had an unusual shouldered architrave with an enormous triangular pediment above. Above the door at first floor level was an extraordinary two-light window with frieze, cornice and raised keystone, all giving an unusual classical touch to an otherwise typical Pennine farmhouse.



Higher Eastwood Cottages, with square recesses between windows

Our first location was Eastwood where Kevin had arranged parking on the private road to avoid a long steep uphill climb. Higher Eastwood is now a row of cottages but originally was a single occupancy house dated 1630. A curious pair of square recesses between two three-light mullioned windows of the parlour caused much discussion over a cup of tea kindly provided by the owners of one of the cottages. It was thought that these were probably inserted small window lights, subsequently blocked up. According to the regulations for window tax the insertion of these small openings would have allowed this whole sequence to be considered as one large window, and thus lower tax (see Newsheet 102, March 2021, for further examples of this practice).

Opposite the cottages was the rear of Eastwood Old Hall with its twelve-light mullion window. This was the home of the Eastwood family from the mid seventeenth century and the subject of our next visit. This was a surprising house when viewed from the front

There was plenty of other interest at Eastwood Old Hall. Around the side was a four-light dairy window, labelled as such above, and a low vaulted unlit cellar-like space alongside, with its back set into the ground. In the gable apex above the dairy were the blocked holes of a columbarium. A barn to the east had an elaborately carved datestone of 1767 with the initials TME (Thomas Manley Eastwood) and three fluted arrowheads looking like ice-cream cones.

Further up the lane was Upper House Farmhouse where we went next. This late seventeenth century house was built originally as a single storey house. The scars of the original roofline can



Eastwood Old Hall

still be seen in the heightened gable wall. A single storey porch was added here in 1716 according to the datestone. The porch included a beehive oven with an apex stack and provided a gable entry.

Our final stop before lunch was Hipperholme Farmhouse dated 1686 on the lintel over the former doorway next to the firehood – leading to a gable entry via a heck perhaps? The owners very kindly allowed the group to explore the inside of their house, the only opportunity to view an interior on this trip and one eagerly taken by most. A very fine large fireplace with elliptical arched lintel dominates the housebody chamber and to its side an arch-headed light would have illuminated the former firehood. Upstairs a large tie-beam contained a wide soffit groove indicative of a former board and muntin timber partition.

Returning to our cars we then made our way to the opposite side of the valley and The Top Brink pub in Mankinholes for lunch. Suitably refreshed, we began the second leg of our day with a circular walk around Mankinholes, Higher Lee and Lumbutts. This area has some of the earliest stone buildings in the Calder Valley, some dating to the late sixteenth century.

The first house we encountered in the small hamlet of Mankinholes was the Old Farmhouse. This late sixteenth century building with attached cottage and outbuildings was full of interest. The eight-light housebody window has a plain hoodmould that continues over the four-light parlour window. Each of the chamfered mullions had a mason's mark in the form of a shield or an E. The rear of the building shows evidence of significant change to the structure over time with several blocked or reformed doors and a curious diagonal stone feature. On the corner of the garden wall was a carved stone of square section, a domed top and an arched opening on each face (see photo on page 5). We discussed its function but arrived at no real conclusion although a cap stone for a chimney was thought most likely.

Pilkington Farmhouse is across the lane from the Old Farmhouse and our next destination. Another late sixteenth century house, Pilkington's ground floor mullioned windows mostly had round headed lights making a striking and



elegant facade. The entrance has a projecting doorcase with two pyramidal stones resting on the top lending further distinction. Although possibly a single storey hall originally, the roof had been raised in the eighteenth century with a clear break in the wall coursing visible. Between the housebody and fire window is another pair of false windows, this time small square panes of frosted glass. As at Eastwood, seen earlier in the day, this was most likely a method of reducing window tax by combining lights to qualify as a single window.

Walking on towards the late sixteenth century Mankinholes Hall, now the Youth Hostel, we noted the arch-headed ground floor lights with sunken spandrels and hollow chamfered mullions of the earlier phase of this building. We noted several other interesting vernacular buildings in the village as we went. The early eighteenth century Mankinholes Farm was notable in possessing a shallow porch around the front door with rather crude but appealing triangular pediment. This attempt at a classical element in the design was in stark contrast to the more accomplished work, albeit still in a very vernacular style, seen earlier at Eastwood Old Hall.

Before we left the village we stopped to admire the still-working stone water trough by the side of the former pack-horse road. Four linked oblong troughs with a circular basin at each end were fed by a central gutter from where the water overflowed both ways.

From here we travelled along Mankinholes Bank towards Lumbutts



Old Farmhouse, Mankinholes, with carved stone on garden wall (inset)

taking the road over the old mill ponds. Heading uphill we came to Lee Farmhouse. Over the south-facing main door is a lintel with a carved date of 1584, which YVBSG Chair Peter Thornborrow told us was the earliest datestone he has seen in Calderdale – and he has seen a lot, as the listing surveyor in the 1980s!

After a brief pause to look at Higher Lee, a pair of nineteenth century handed cottages with original porches, we headed for Lower Horsewood Farm, our final building of the day.

Along the lane approaching the farm we first encountered the large two-storey barn with pointed, gothic arched windows and an enormous pitching

hole high up in the gable of the second floor. The main house has chamfered mullioned windows on both floors facing the lane but when we reached the gable-end of the house we encountered a most unusual stone-jettied entrance porch dated 1689. The porch was one-and-a-half storeys with kneelers and a very shallow jetty and a fine five-piece joggled lintel. The front door comprised five vertical boards covered with protruding studs forming a dense and intricate pattern and may well have been original to the porch.

Kevin had saved the best for last as he had arranged for the group to view the south facade of this house with access through a private meadow. Here, the ground floor mullioned windows had deep hoodmoulds all terminating in huge decorative stops in the Calderdale style. As the hillside in front of the house slopes steeply uphill and has no footpaths or trackways in the vicinity it raises the question of who such an impressive display was aimed at when so few people, then as now, could surely have seen it.

This walk around Todmorden was fully booked, the weather was glorious and everyone had a great time. Our thanks again go to Kevin and to Lorraine who helped with the preparations, for another memorable day.

Peter Burton

*A three-minute video showing some images from the walk, illustrating features and buildings mentioned in Peter's article, can be found on the YVBSG YouTube channel, and also for a while on the Events page of the YVBSG website.*



Lower Horsewood Farm, with studded board door (inset)

## Discovery of rare decorative wall plaster



Photo © Archaeological Services,  
West Yorkshire Archaeology Service

The West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service reports that fragments of decorative printed plaster have been discovered at Swinnow Hall, Wetherby (near the racecourse). Swinnow Hall was demolished around 1895 and the site excavated last winter.

Precise date of the plaster remains unknown. There is a small chance it is late Elizabethan; there was a very small amount of pottery of this date found as well. However it is more likely to be from the 1650-1750 period. These dates are based on an in-situ stone mullioned cellar window found during the excavation. The plaster was recovered from demolition rubble pushed into this cellar.

The WYAAS states that the plaster is a very rare survivor in archaeological terms of a post-medieval scheme of house decoration. A specialist to assist in dating the plaster is being sought.

### Online resources

**The Laithe House.** A 1986 thesis by Christine Westwood, entitled *The laithe house of upland West Yorkshire: its social and economic significance*, can be downloaded from Loughborough University's thesis repository at [hdl.handle.net/2134/7473](http://hdl.handle.net/2134/7473).

**First White Cloth Hall.** A video showing the restoration of the First White Cloth Hall, built in Leeds city centre in 1711 for the sale of undyed cloth, can be found on YouTube at [youtu.be/4Zf5CHNH6ZM](https://youtu.be/4Zf5CHNH6ZM) or at [leedscivictrust.org.uk/live/](http://leedscivictrust.org.uk/live/).

### Courses

**Family History Online – Country House Connections.** Going round other people's houses has been popular for hundreds of years. Add to this the longstanding history of the country house and its presence in the landscape. Join tutor (and YVBSG member) Jackie Depelle in this new course to start developing the thread of country house visiting into family, local and social history. Wednesdays at 10am, 5 sessions, 2 to 30 November 2022, £4. A WEA online course; details at [wea.org.uk](http://wea.org.uk), course reference C3680932.

**The Medieval Art and Architecture of York.** This course will introduce you to the medieval world of York, examining the creation of York Minster, St Mary's Abbey and some of the medieval wonders housed at the Yorkshire Museum. Saturday 26 November 2022, 10am to 4.30pm at the King's Manor. Tutor Roisin Astell. £49. A University of York course; details at [www.york.ac.uk](http://www.york.ac.uk).

## British Listed Buildings: more photos added

In the three months from 1 May to 31 July 2022, 9880 photographs were uploaded to the *British Listed Buildings* website at [britishlistedbuildings.co.uk](http://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk).

### Yorkshire

Photographer *Scott Engering* has uploaded over 160 photos of York buildings. He was also busy in Hoyland and Elsecar (Barnsley), and Rawmarsh (Rotherham) with around 70 photos added. *Simon's* camera was active in Pontefract, with 11 photos, and also in Masham, Kettlewell, Starborton, and Buckden where some 45 pictures were taken. In the last 90 days, one photograph of Hammerton Hall, Easington (near Slaidburn) has been added (recorded by the YVBSG in May, 2007). In mid-July, two more photos of Warmsworth Hall, near Doncaster, were added to the 3 images uploaded in 2011. Warmsworth Hall forms part of the hotel which will be the base for the YVBSG recording conference in September.

### Lancashire

For our Lancashire members, *David* was snapping in the village of Churchtown, in Southport, where he took 67 shots of mostly single-storey cottages – 20 cottages in the village are thatched. David also took another 22 photos in Bootle and Liverpool. *Barry Richardson* was active in Cartmel and Grange-over-Sands (historic Lancashire).



Hammerton Hall

### Cumbria

For our Cumbria members, *Pam and Dave* uploaded around 150 photos altogether. They were busy in Dalston and Rockcliffe, near Carlisle (25 photos); Workington (31 photos), and other villages in north-west Cumberland. Closer to Yorkshire, Kirkby Lonsdale now has another 10 photos in its list of 116 listed buildings, thanks to Pam and Dave.

*Kevin Illingworth*



## From the archive: Grassington

The YVBSG has recorded some twenty or more buildings in Grassington, Upper Wharfedale; the reports can be found online in our archive. Grassington acquired market town status in 1282 when it was granted a Royal Charter for a market and fair. From the early seventeenth century lead mining began to assume more importance, but Grassington's heyday arrived during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Further information can be found at [discovergrassington.co.uk/history](http://discovergrassington.co.uk/history). Various local groups including the Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group ([www.uwhg.org.uk](http://www.uwhg.org.uk)) and the Upper Wharfedale Field Society ([uwfs.org.uk](http://uwfs.org.uk)) actively research the history of the area; do have a look at their websites for more details.

*Lorraine Moor*



Town Head Farm (YVBSG 1597). A typical early 17th century three-cell lobby-entry yeoman house of some importance, with kneelers unusual to this area and a rustic frieze in stucco of shell and lunette motifs which are probably 18th century. 18th century shippon and hayloft to left.



8 Town Head (YVBSG 1584). An early 17th century farmhouse with 1628 datestone and initials WS. Moulded plaster frieze of flowers and acorns in parlour and housebody.



3, 5 and 7 Garrs Lane (YVBSG 1509, 1510 and 1511). Terraced houses, perhaps originally a 17th century cottage and barn then later converted for accommodation for lead miners.

Right: Rathmell Barn (YVBSG 1563). A 17th century former barn with shippon, cart entrance and haystore, with attached store with living accommodation above.



Church House (YVBSG 1157). Built in 1694. The tudor-arched doorway is inscribed with crosses in circles and inverted hearts.



The Folk Museum (YVBSG 1522). Former cottages, dating to 17th and 19th centuries.



Scaw Ghyll (YVBSG 1562). Originally a mill for spinning cotton worsted, with adjacent cottages and later house. Used as a butter factory in 19th century.



12 and 14 Chamber End Fold (YVBSG 1600). Formerly a two-cell two-storey end lobby entry farmhouse with rear outshut. Housebody has an 18th century stone-arched fireplace with central joggled keystone voussoir and incised joggles on flanking stones.



Sedber Barn (YVBSG 1230). A field barn with ornamental datestone inscribed HW 1682. Walls raised, and possibly had a thatched roof originally.



## The demolition of 216 High Street, Northallerton

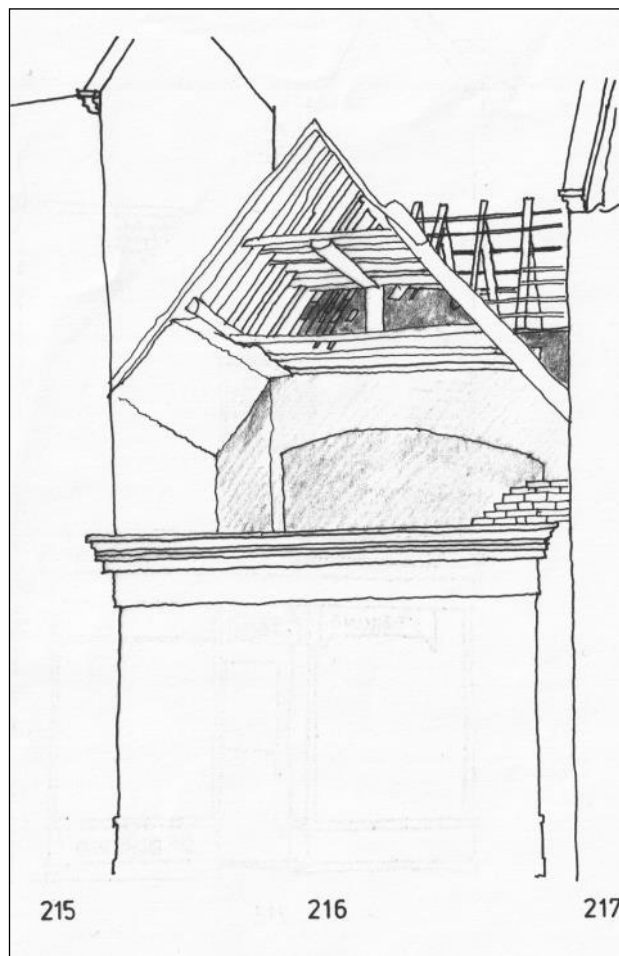
Browsing through the *England's Places* collection of photographs mentioned in the last Newsheet (June 2022), I came across three photographs of Hodgson's Tobacconist, 216 High Street, Northallerton under demolition in 1959.

Apart from The Fleece pub, this was probably the last surviving building in High Street built gable-end onto the road, and what is particularly interesting was the clear view shown of the roof structure as the front brickwork was taken down by hand.

The roof had common rafters with collars to each rafter pair, no ridge piece and a collar purlin with side purlins at ceiling height. The building was noticeably lower than the buildings to either side.



Sketches of 216 High Street by Tony Robinson based on the photographs in *England's Places*



One of the photographs appears to show a supporting post, but no braces, but interpreting features from photographs alone can be deceptive!

Since planning permission for demolition was not needed in 1959, these photos are likely to be the only record we are ever going to get of this building.

The site of 216 is now occupied by the entrance to Garthway Arcade, with Grover's shop at 217 and above the arcade entrance, this being a redevelopment from the 1970s or 1980s.

*Tony Robinson*

## Crucks live!

Crucks live today in Wolverhampton! The cafe at David Austin Roses, Albrighton (pictured right), was built just a very few years ago by Border Oak and takes the form of a cruck barn, forming a beautiful space in which to recover from buying more roses than one has space for in the garden.

The trusses are very similar to that shown on the cover of Nat Alcock's 1981 CBA Research Report No 42, *Cruck Construction: an introduction and catalogue* (cruck barn at Drayton, Oxon, drawn by J C Buckler).

*Colum Giles*



## Industrial Elsecar reconstructed

A rather excellent five-minute digital reconstruction of nineteenth century industrial Elsecar has been created by Barnsley Museums, the Elsecar Heritage Centre, Historic England and the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The video takes you on a fly-through visit to the model industrial village in South Yorkshire as it would have appeared in 1880. It can be viewed at [www.elsecar-heritage.com](http://www.elsecar-heritage.com), or on Barnsley Museums' YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/user/BarnsleyMuseums/](https://www.youtube.com/user/BarnsleyMuseums/).



## Other events of possible interest ...

### **C17 Yeoman Farmhouses and Oak Furniture of the Upper Calder Valley**

Thursday 1 September 2022

A talk by Peter Thornborrow for Heptonstall Historical and Heritage Society. 7pm at Heptonstall Bowling and Social Club. Details at [hhh-s.com](http://hhh-s.com).

### **If Walls Could Talk**

Wednesday 7 September 2022

Online workshop with West Yorkshire Archive Service on researching the history of your house. 4pm to 5pm, £5. To book, go to [bit.ly/3SAfBpA](http://bit.ly/3SAfBpA).

### **C17 Yeoman Farmhouses and Oak Furniture of the Upper Calder Valley**

Friday 9 September 2022

A talk by Peter Thornborrow to Mytholmroyd History Society. 7pm at St Michael's Church, Mytholmroyd. See [www.mytholmroydhistory.org.uk](http://www.mytholmroydhistory.org.uk).

### **Heritage Open Days**

9 to 18 September 2022

Annual extravaganza of open buildings and events, currently with 650 taking part in Yorkshire and The Humber area. The full event directory can be found at [www.heritageopendays.org](http://www.heritageopendays.org), or look out for local information in your area.

### **East Yorkshire Walking Festival**

10 to 23 September 2022

A wide range of events including walks looking at history, buildings, towns and villages, and geology and building stones. The full programme is available at [www.walkingeastyorkshirefestival.co.uk](http://www.walkingeastyorkshirefestival.co.uk).

### **Stott Hall Farm – the farm on the motorway**

Tuesday 13 September 2022

A talk by Jill Falkingham to Ryburn Valley History Society. 7.30pm at Ripponden Conservative Club. Further details at [www.ryburnvalleyhistory.org](http://www.ryburnvalleyhistory.org).

### **Chalk quarrying in Hessle**

Thursday 15 September 2022

A talk by Michael Free for Hessle History Society at Hessle Town Hall. Further information at [sites.google.com/site/hesslelocalhistorysociety](https://sites.google.com/site/hesslelocalhistorysociety).

### **Vernacular Buildings of Wensleydale**

Friday 16 September 2022

A talk by David Cook, as part of the Friends of the Dales Countryside Museum annual lecture programme. 7.30pm at the Museum, Hawes. [www.dalescountrysideuseum.org.uk](http://www.dalescountrysideuseum.org.uk).

### **Historic Building Survey Training**

Saturday 17 September 2022

An introductory training session on historic building survey for East Riding Archaeological Society, led by Dr James Wright of Triskele Heritage. A morning in the classroom and an afternoon surveying a building, provisionally the Church of St Nicholas in Beverley. Details will be at [www.eras.org.uk](http://www.eras.org.uk).

### **VAG Training Conference**

Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 October 2022

The Vernacular Architecture Group is offering a weekend training conference in North East Wales, aimed at those who are new to the VAG and/or new to looking at vernacular buildings. Based on visits to buildings rather than on papers, the weekend will introduce people to examining buildings. Booking priority given to VAG members – see [www.vag.org.uk](http://www.vag.org.uk) for details.

### **A Beginner's Guide to Medieval Castles**

Thursday 13 October 2022

The first in the 2022-23 winter series of evening online talks by James Wright on understanding medieval buildings. [triskeleheritage.triskelepublishing.com](http://triskeleheritage.triskelepublishing.com).

### **York Unlocked**

Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 October 2022

A new annual weekend event to raise public awareness and appreciation of architecture and the built environment of York. Over 60 buildings, old and new, will be open to the public. Further information at [york-unlocked.org.uk](http://york-unlocked.org.uk).



Herbert House, York

### **Line and Wash Watercolours**

Wednesday 19 October 2022

One-day painting course with John Harrison, an artist who enjoys painting vernacular buildings. To be held at Broadrake, a 17th century former farm at the foot of Whernside. £65. [www.broadrake.co.uk](http://www.broadrake.co.uk).

### **Exploring Yorkshire's vernacular architecture: from York to the Pennines**

Thursday 20 October 2022

A talk by Kevin Illingworth with Lorraine Moor to York Probus Club, 10.15am at York Youth Hostel. Details at [kensutcliffe.wixsite.com/website](http://kensutcliffe.wixsite.com/website).

### **Guided tour of Wharram Percy**

Saturday 5 November 2022

A tour of the deserted medieval village led by Al Oswald for East Riding Archaeological Society. Further details at [www.eras.org.uk](http://www.eras.org.uk).

### **Historic Buildings on Skipton's High Street**

Monday 14 November 2022

A proposed talk by Sue Wrathmell for Upper Wharfedale Field Society. 7.30pm at Grassington Town Hall. See [uwfs.org.uk](http://uwfs.org.uk).

### **Revising Pevsner's North Riding**

Friday 18 November 2022

A talk by Jane Grenville for Helmsley Archaeological and History Society. 7.30pm at North York Moors National Park offices, Helmsley. See [www.helmsleyarchaeologicalandhistoricalsociety.org.uk](http://www.helmsleyarchaeologicalandhistoricalsociety.org.uk).

### **Making Your Mark**

Saturday 19 November 2022

The second national symposium on historical graffiti, to be held at University of York as a hybrid event – in person or online. A call for papers has been issued, with deadline 30 August 2022. Details at [historicgraffiti.co.uk](http://historicgraffiti.co.uk).

### **Trans-National Connections – Vernacular Architecture in Britain & Beyond**

Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 January 2023

The Vernacular Architecture Group's winter conference to be held at University of Leicester, exploring the ways in which buildings in different parts of Britain may share features with building traditions elsewhere in the world. A call for papers can be found at [vag.org.uk](http://vag.org.uk), deadline 31 August 2022.

### **Hidden Charms 4**

Saturday 15 April 2023

Advance notice of the next *Hidden Charms* conference to be held at the National Centre for Early Music in York, organised by Brian Hoggard. Details at [www.apotropaios.co.uk](http://www.apotropaios.co.uk).

## Some East Riding brick oddities

### Gables galore ...

Don't we just love an interesting gable? These three brick examples can be found on Main Street in the village of North Frodingham in East Yorkshire. On the left, there is no subtle datestone for the barn behind 6 Main Street; instead it proudly displays its 1787 date cut into the brickwork. Top right, the development of the two halves of the building appears to have left an earlier gable stranded in the middle. Bottom right, the raising of a gable wall has resulted in an attractive pattern of one layer of brick tumbling on top of another.



There's no doubting the date of this barn ...



The remains of an earlier gable left between buildings



Tumbling on top of tumbling!

### ... and a bit of whimsy

Modest farmhouse, fancy chimney! In Beeford (the village next to North Frodingham), Alton Farm is a single-storey three-cell eighteenth century house, pictured right. The spiral stack is a pleasing whimsical addition to an otherwise plain building. Nineteenth century extension to rear.

*Lorraine Moor*

### Next Newsheet

The next Newsheet will be in November 2022 – please send any contributions to the editor at [newsheet@yvbbsg.org.uk](mailto:newsheet@yvbbsg.org.uk) by 31 October 2022. Short articles on buildings or features would be welcome, as well as details of publications or events of interest to other members.



**Chair:** Peter Thornborrow, 3 Mayroyd Mill, Mayroyd Lane, Hebden Bridge HX7 8NY, [chairman@yvbbsg.org.uk](mailto:chairman@yvbbsg.org.uk)

**Secretary:** Mary Cook, 34 Porter Close, Durham DH1 5ZL, [secretary@yvbbsg.org.uk](mailto:secretary@yvbbsg.org.uk) or [enquiries@yvbbsg.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@yvbbsg.org.uk)

**Membership Secretary:** Pat Leggett, 11 Lonsdale Meadows, Boston Spa, W Yorks, LS23 6DQ, [membership-secretary@yvbbsg.org.uk](mailto:membership-secretary@yvbbsg.org.uk)

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

**Archivist:** David Cook, 34 Porter Close, Durham DH1 5ZL, [archivist@yvbbsg.org.uk](mailto:archivist@yvbbsg.org.uk)

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

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