



YORKSHIRE VERNACULAR BUILDINGS STUDY GROUP

www.yvbsg.org.uk

Newsheet No 43

December 2005

YVBSG Events For Your Diary

Brick and Tile in Yorkshire's Vernacular Buildings

Saturday 18 March 2006

The annual day school and AGM will be held at the Headingley Campus of Leeds Metropolitan University – a booking form is enclosed with this Newsheet.

If any member would like to give a short presentation (20 minutes) at the day school, please contact David Cook before the end of January 2006. It could be on an individual brick building of interest or another relevant topic. Talks related to brick or tile in West or North Yorkshire would be particularly welcome.

The YVBSG will hold its AGM immediately after the day school as usual.



Notice of AGM

The AGM will be held on Saturday 18 March 2006 at 4.30pm in Lecture Theatre 'A', Headingley Campus, Leeds Metropolitan University, Leeds. All members of the group are formally invited to attend. If you are unable to attend the AGM and wish to raise any matter, you may do so in writing to the Secretary, David Cook. Please send any nominations for officers or members of the committee to David Cook by Saturday 11 March.

Thank you ...

... to all those involved in the Upperthong Review Day in October.

... to Malcolm Birdsall for arranging the visit to Longley Old Hall in November and to David Cant for leading an enjoyable tour around this fascinating house. If you missed this treat, the house opens occasionally to the public – telephone 01484 430852 for details.

Richmond Review Day

Saturday 29 April 2006 (provisional)

A visit to Richmond to review the findings of the recording day held in June 2005. Details and confirmation of date in the new year.

Annual Recording Conference

Friday 12 to Sunday 14 May 2006

To be held in Swaledale. Details to follow in the new year.

Walkabout in Norland

Saturday 10 June 2006

A look at Norland, near Halifax, led by David Cant. Details in the new year.

Visit to Slaidburn

July 2006

A full-day visit to the Slaidburn area (historically in Yorkshire but now under the administration of the Ribblesdale Borough), organised by Kevin Illingworth. We will see buildings with attractive features such as jettied porches, carved drip mould stops, ogee-headed windows, and a variety of handsome doorheads peculiar to Bowland and adjacent areas. Further details and date to follow.

Season's Greetings!

Wishing a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all members.

In the pipeline ...

Other events are planned for 2006 and will be publicised in future Newsheets. If anyone is interested in organising a walkabout or a recording day in their locality at any time, please contact David Cook.

Next committee meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on Sunday 12 February 2006. If you'd like to raise any matter please contact David Cook.

Yorkshire Buildings

We apologise for the very late appearance of this year's *Yorkshire Buildings*. This is not entirely the fault of the editor – for the last two years, some key articles have arrived several months after the deadline, causing delays in production. We thus hope to bring you two editions in 2006!

Membership

Also slightly late this year is the enclosed *List of Members*. However, the advantage of producing this list late in the year is that it is at its most complete – and indeed the number of members has now reached an all-time record of 234!

We hope that everybody will be happy to renew their membership for 2006 by returning the enclosed form.

Next Newsheet

Many thanks indeed to everybody who contributed to this newsheet. Please send items for the April newsheet to the editor by 31 March 2006.

Learning about ...

Some institutions have raised the minimum number of students needed for a course to go ahead, so if you're interested, early booking might help to avoid cancellation of courses due to low enrolment numbers.

The English Country House

Tutor: Margaret Imrie. This course describes the evolution of the English Country House from the simple one-room hall to the vast Victorian pile.

10 Wednesdays from 11 January 2006, 10am-noon, at Tiger Inn, Lairgate, Beverley. Enquiries: Alice Scott, WEA, 8 Main Street, Cherry Burton, Beverley HU17 7RF, telephone 01964 551340.

Vernacular Architecture

Tutor: Alan Petford. The West Riding boasts some remarkable vernacular buildings. Come and find out more about who built them and how they were built.

10 Thursdays from 12 January 2006, 10.30-12.30 at Swarthmore Educational Centre, 3/7 Woodhouse Square, Leeds. Enquiries: Enid Wilson, WEA, 38 Cookridge Drive, Leeds LS16 7HW, telephone 0113 267 1274.

The History of Your House

Find out more about the history of your house and its earlier occupants, and documents and other available sources.

2 Saturdays, 11 and 25 March 2006, 10am to 4pm at Gaskell Memorial Hall, Emesgate Lane, Silverdale, Lancashire. Enquiries: WEA, NW Region, 405-409 Cotton Exchange, Old Hall Street, Liverpool L3 9JR (with SAE).

Mashamshire Heritage

Tutor: Kevin Cale. A series of ten guided walks through the valleys and settlements of Mashamshire, introducing the class to the natural and man-made aspects of the landscape.

10 Thursdays from 20 April 2006, 6.30-8.30pm from Masham Methodist Church Hall, 34 Park Street, Masham. Enquiries: Ruth Patchett, WEA, West Summerside, Healey, Masham, North Yorkshire HG4 4LU, telephone 01765 689466.

Exploring Parish Churches

Tutor: Chris Edwardes. This course examines construction, style and use of church buildings, as well as symbolic structures, with one field trip.

10 Mondays from 24 April 2006, 1-3pm at The Coliseum, Whitby, or 10 Thursdays from 27 April 2006, 10am to 12 noon, at St James's Art Centre, Scarborough. Enquiries: Centre for Lifelong Learning, University of Hull, telephone 01482 465666, website www.hull.ac.uk/cll.

Tracing the History of Houses

Tutor: Robert David. How do you begin investigating the history of a house? When was it built? Who lived there? What records are likely to have survived? These are some of the questions this course sets out to answer.

2 Saturdays from 6 May 2006, 10am-4pm at Askrigg Primary School. Enquiries: Dennis Brown, WEA, East End House, Thornton Rust, Leyburn DL8 3AN, telephone 01969 663280.

The Building Stones of Ryedale IV

Tutor: Richard Myerscough. This course includes the geology of Northern Ryedale and the North York Moors, and identification of building stones. Two of the indoor sessions may be held outside, weather permitting.

4 Tuesdays from 9 May 2006, 7-9pm, at North York Moors National Park, Bondgate, Helmsley, and 2 full day trips. Enquiries: Centre for Lifelong Learning, University of Hull, telephone 01482 465666, website www.hull.ac.uk/cll.

The Geology of Yorkshire Wold Churches I

Tutor: Richard Myerscough. In this new course, we shall study building stones in situ and handle specimens, and research the history of churches and their source quarries. Two of the indoor sessions may be held outside.

4 Wednesdays from 7 June 2006, 2-4pm, at University of Hull's Scarborough Campus, and 2 full day trips. Enquiries: Centre for Lifelong Learning, University of Hull, telephone 01482 465666, website www.hull.ac.uk/cll.

Shooting the Past: Heritage Photography

Working in small groups in Lincoln, a professional photographer will take you through the essentials of heritage photography. Workshops include Buildings of Lincoln and Working with Digital Images.

Tuesday 6 and Wednesday 7 June 2006. Cost: from £135 per person including accommodation. Further details from Lindum Heritage, 7 Ridgeway, Nettleham, Lincoln NL2 2TL, telephone 01522 851388, www.lindumheritage.co.uk.

Special auction!

Vernacular Houses in North Yorkshire and Cleveland

Barry Harrison has kindly donated to the Group a copy of *Vernacular Houses in North Yorkshire and Cleveland*, which he co-wrote with Barbara Hutton, published by John Donald (1984). This book, now out of print, is much sought after on the second-hand book market, and prices in excess of £150 have been quoted. The condition of this copy is described as 'mint'.

The committee has decided to hold an auction for the book, with the proceeds going to fund either a YVBSG publication or the purchase of equipment. The rules of this auction are as follows:

1. Please post your bid to Dave Crook. His address is on the back page of this Newsheet. Include your name and address and the bid amount.
2. Mark the envelope 'Auction'.
3. If you would like an acknowledgement, please send Dave the sealed bid envelope and an SAE contained in another envelope.
4. For bids to be eligible, they should be received by Dave before 10 February 2006, and sent as described above. Bids sent by email will not be eligible.
5. The bid envelopes will be opened and the name of the highest bidder (providing the amount of the bid exceeds the reserve price set by the committee) will be announced at the AGM on 18 March 2006.

Good luck!



Dendro-dating in Yorkshire

At the November committee meeting a small working party was set up to explore the possibilities of augmenting the number of dendro-dated buildings in the county. We look forward to reporting the findings of this group in due course.

Other events of possible interest ...

Some of these events are publicised a long time in advance, so it's worth checking that they are still running before you go!

Yesterday's Yorkshire: A Celebration of the Industrial West Riding

Until 8 January 2006

Exhibition at Dewsbury Museum of photographs and illustrations by Terry Sutton of local features which have disappeared. Telephone 01924 325100 for details.

Bramley Hill: a seventeenth century yeoman's house and its inhabitants

Thursday 12 January 2006

As part of the Thoresby Society's New Year Members' Meeting, Peter and Greta Meredith will talk about their interesting old house. 7.15pm at Claremont, Leeds. Details from the Hon. Secretary, The Thoresby Society, Claremont, 23 Clarendon Road, Leeds LS2 9NZ.

Farming in the Northern Uplands – landscapes, ideals and future reality

Saturday 14 January 2006

Dayschool including a session on 'From Hunting Forest to Hill Farms: the northern uplands 1200-1650' by Dr Angus Winchester. Full details from Christine Wilkinson, Centre for North West Regional Studies, Fylde College, University of Lancaster, Bailrigg, Lancaster LA 1 4YF, telephone 01524 593770, website www.lancs.ac.uk/users/cnwrs/. Fee £16.

Jacobean Kitchen

Thursday 26 January 2006

Talk by Brian Halliwell on how the kitchen was used in the seventeenth century. Meeting of Hebden Bridge Literary and Scientific Society (Local History Section), 7.30 pm at the Hope Baptist Church, Hebden Bridge. Further details from the Secretary, Ann Kilbey, 1 Spa Terrace, Cragg Vale, HX7 5RX.

In the Name of God: wills and inventories in local and family history

Saturday 4 February 2006

Day school led by Dr Alan Crosby. In this day school we look at the probate system and the nature of the records themselves, and then, using local examples from north-west England, think about some of the ways in which this varied resource can be used in our research and study. Details from Centre for North West Regional Studies (details as above). Fee £16.

The Rows of Chester

Friday 8 February 2006

Talk by Christopher Constable of the West Yorkshire Archive Service about these unique buildings. Meeting of the Bradford Historical and Antiquarian Society in Room 1, 2nd floor, Bradford Central Library at 7.15pm. Visitors welcome, charge £1.50. Further details from the Membership Secretary, BHAS, 366 Idle Road, Bradford BD2 2AW, www.bradfordhistorical.org.uk.

Lancashire Towns

Saturday 11 February 2006

Details of this one-day conference will be available soon from Susan Bailey, Administrator, Institute of Local and Family History, University of Central Lancashire, Preston, Lancashire PR1 2HE, telephone 01772 893053, website www.uclan.ac.uk/facs/class/humanities/family/famintro.htm.

Exploring Rossendale's Architectural Heritage

Saturday 18 February 2006

Talk by Kathy Fishwick to Bacup Natural History Society, 7pm at Bacup Museum, 24 Yorkshire Street, Bacup, Lancashire, telephone 01706 873042.

The Pevsner Architectural Guide to Leeds: the changing city

Tuesday 7 March 2006

Talk by Susan Wrathmell to the Thoresby Society at 7.15pm at Friends' Meeting House, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds. Details from the Hon Secretary, Thoresby Society, Claremont, 23 Clarendon Road, Leeds LS2 9NZ.

A Brief History of Baildon

Wednesday 8 March 2006

Talk by Stewart Main to the Bradford Historical and Antiquarian Society, contact details above.

Running A Tudor and Stuart Household

Wednesday 5 April 2006

Talk by Mrs Tucker to YAS Family History Section, 7pm at Claremont, Leeds. Enquiries: Margaret Tones, c/o Family History Section, YAS, Claremont, 23 Clarendon Road, Leeds LS28 9NZ, www.yorkshireroots.org.uk.

Charity and Community

Saturday 13 May 2006

Annual conference of the Family and Community Historical Research Society in Aspley Guise, Milton Keynes. Includes a talk on Almshouses in the West Riding by Helen Caffrey. £15. Contact the FACHRS Treasurer, 2 Carlyle House, Vicarage Road, Cromer, Norfolk NR27 9DQ, www.fachrs.com.

Medieval Monasteries of the North Riding

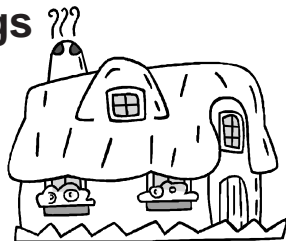
Saturday 27 May 2006

Study visit led by Barry Harrison, visiting Thirsk, Mount Grace Priory and Guisborough. Details from School of Lifelong Education and Development, University of Bradford, telephone 01274 233216, www.brad.ac.uk/sled.

Heather thatched buildings ???

I'm trying to locate surviving heather thatched buildings in Northern England – both 'functioning' heather thatch and, more importantly, heather thatch under corrugated iron or hidden within base coats. I intend to physically survey as many roofs as I can, and

provide a technical and historical write-up of what I find. I gather that Ryedale District has over thirty buildings with heather thatch, and I know of three more in Northumberland (including an original intact heather roof near Hexham). Any help you could provide would be most appreciated. I would make sure your organisation received a copy of all of the data gathered.



*John Letts, Historic Thatch Consultants, 26 Addison Crescent, Oxford OX4 4BD
email john.letts@virgin.net*

Reports on CD

Report writers who wish to submit completed reports electronically may now do so on CD to the Archivist, Don McLellan. Reports should be Word documents, with colour photographs in jpg format and black-and-white drawings as tif files (all at a preferred resolution of 300dpi).

These reports may also be distributed electronically to those who would like to receive them in this format.

Unfortunately, we do not have the resources available to convert all our existing reports to electronic format!

Some recent publications

Langton House and the Carlen Brewery: A History 1751-2004 by Jennifer Deadman. Published by Great Ayton Community Archaeology Project 2004. Available at £5.50 (including p&p) from Cath Small, The Chapel Flat, 4a High Street, Great Ayton, Middlesbrough TS9 6NJ. Langton House was recognised as one of the older buildings in Great Ayton. Some sketchy details of its history and that of the surrounding buildings were known, but nothing of their design and construction nor the evolution of the site which for a greater part of its life had been home to a thriving nineteenth century brewery. The Great Ayton Community Archaeology Group, led by Jen Deadman, investigated and recorded some of the buildings on the site, with analysis and interpretation by Jen Deadman and Cath Small. The gable of the building features an interesting finial stone, which seems to have been a medieval or sub-medieval carved stone, recut in the late eighteenth century with a carving of a serpent on one face.

Period House Fixtures and Fittings 1300-1900 by Linda Hall. November 2005, 224pp, ISBN 1853067423, £12.99. Published by Countryside Books, telephone 01635 43816, website www.countrysidebooks.co.uk. This definitive reference book charts the development of the fixtures and fittings we can see today – from medieval and Tudor times to Georgian and Victorian. Each component has its own chapter – doors, windows, stairs, screens and panelling, ceilings and fireplaces. Photographs and line drawings make recognition easier and there is even space to cover regional variations.

Pastoral Peculiars: Curiosities in the Countryside by Peter Ashley. Paperback, 126 pages, October 2005, English Heritage Publications, ISBN 1850749604, £14.99. They could be off-beat water towers, singular obelisks or jackdawed hilltop follies. *Pastoral Peculiars* puts us into metaphorical wellington boots, taking us out into the fields and scurrying along the hedgerows to dig out the curious and to tell us the stories that placed them there.

Within the Pale by the Sheriff Hutton Women's Institute Community Pale Project, edited by Ed Dennison. Available from Ed Dennison, 18 Springdale Way, Beverley, East Riding of Yorkshire HU17 8NU, £15 + £5 p&p (cheques payable to Sheriff Hutton WI Pale Project). Sheriff Hutton park lies north-east of York, to the south of the village and its two castles. This book traces the fascinating story of the medieval deer park, from its creation right through to the present day, and includes chapters on the castles, the architectural history of Sheriff Hutton Hall, and the farms in the park.

The Forgotten Landscapes of the Yorkshire Wolds by Chris Fenton-Thomas. Paperback, 176 pages, July 2005, Tempus Publishing Ltd, ISBN 0752433466, £14.99. This long-term study of landscape change on the Wolds uses archaeological and historical sources to look at land division, territorial organisation and settlement patterns from the late prehistoric period to the middle ages.

West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Services Newsletter. Available online at www.arch.wyjs.org.uk (under 'Publications'). The Autumn 2005 edition includes a short article on two timber-framed medieval buildings called 'The Brewhouse' and 'The Refectory', dendro-dated to 1481 and 1509/10, which lie within the precincts of the 18th century Home Farm at Nostell Priory.

Directory of Craftsmen and Conservation Specialists published 2005 by the York Consortium for Conservation and Craftsmanship. An updated directory containing details of specialists based in the Greater York area, including experts in architectural joinery, handmade bricks, stone masonry and carving, and many others. Copies of the Directory may be obtained, free of charge, by writing to The Secretary, York Consortium for Conservation and Craftsmanship, The Merchant Adventurers' Hall, Fossgate, York YO1 9XD, website www.conservationyork.org.uk.

Recording farm buildings around East Leeds

At the West Yorkshire Archaeology Dayschool held in Leeds in November, two local societies based in East Leeds reported on their activities:

Leeds Archaeology Fieldwork Society

LAFS was set up in spring 2005 with the aim of undertaking archaeological fieldwork in and around East and North Leeds and wherever possible working with local communities and schools. The society has recently been awarded an Awards For All grant of £3000 to enable them to undertake a survey of historic farms and barns in East Leeds. The aim of the one-year project is to survey and record eight farms, to produce a photographic and drawn record, to undertake a short desktop assessment and to interview farmers and record oral histories. The reports will be deposited with owners, in local libraries and the SMR. Farms of various status in Colton, Newsam Green, Gamblethorpe, Lazencroft and Shippen have been selected for the project, and the buildings to be surveyed include stables, byres, threshing barns, dovecotes and coach sheds. It is hoped to establish a chronology of construction and functions that have altered over time and to determine whether some buildings have medieval or Tudor elements. For further information, contact Kathy Allday on 0113 260 9630 or email km.allday@ntlworld.com.



East Leeds History and Archaeology Society

The Archaeology section of the East Leeds History and Archaeology Society has been carrying out field work in and around Austhorpe Hall for over two years. This year they ran a training excavation to investigate and record a horse engine house to the north of the hall, formerly attached to a stone barn, of which only one gable wall survives. Membership of the society costs £8 - contact the Director of Membership, ELHAS, 18 Rockingham Road, Leeds LS15 8UL or see the society's website at www.elhas.org.uk.

Chair: David Cook, 23 North End, Sedgefield, County Durham TS21 2AZ. Tel: 01740 620098, Email: dcook0@talk21.com

Secretary: David Crook, 18 Sycamore Terrace, Bootham, York YO30 7DN. Tel: 01904 652387, Email: yvbsgenquiries@btinternet.com

Membership Secretary: Jacky Quarumby, 16 Mount Pleasant, Guisborough TS14 6RA. Tel: 01287 636834, Email: jacky.quarumby@virgin.net

Journal/Newsheet Editor: Lorraine Moor, 102 Queen Victoria Street, South Bank, York YO23 1HN. Tel: 01904 632124, Email: ism1@york.ac.uk