



YORKSHIRE VERNACULAR BUILDINGS STUDY GROUP

www.yvbsg.org.uk

Newsheet No 59

February 2010

YVBSG Events For Your Diary

Vernacular Buildings of Market Towns and AGM

Saturday 13 March 2010

Places are still available for the annual day school at Leeds Metropolitan University Headingley Campus. A booking form was circulated with the last Newsheet and is also available on the YVBSG website. Please book as soon as possible if you would like to attend. The AGM will be held immediately after the talks as usual.

A walk around the Howcans potteries north of Halifax

Sunday 25 April 2010

A two-and-a-half to three hour walk with Stuart Crowther to look at the remains of the once productive potteries around Howcans, and some of the buildings associated with them. The walk is over field paths and some tracks, so suitable footwear should be worn. Start from the car park at the Sportsman Inn, Bradford Old Road, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX3 6UG (off the A647 Bradford to Halifax road, grid reference SE 093 272) at 10.30am. No need to book. A carvery is available at the pub to provide sustenance after the walk.

Background reading: *Yorkshire Potteries* by Oxley Grabham (1916, reprint 1971); article in *Halifax Antiquarian Transactions* 1938 on 'Decadent Local Industries'.



Annual Recording Conference

Friday 14 to Sunday 16 May 2010

To be based in Beverley, as part of the 'Timber-Framed Buildings in the Historic East Riding and City of Hull' project. Details and booking form are enclosed with this Newsheet.

Next committee meeting

The next full committee meeting will be held on Sunday 3 October 2010, although a 'virtual' meeting to consider future events will be held by email during the summer. If you'd like to raise any matters or suggest any events please contact David Crook.

Photographing Historic Buildings Training Day

Saturday 19 June 2010

This day will be an opportunity to improve your photographic techniques under the guidance of two English Heritage photographers. We'll meet at 10am at the Monk's Walk pub – a fascinating timber-framed and as yet unrecorded building in Highgate, not far from the Minster. The first part of the day will be advice and training in techniques for photographing historic buildings. Participants are invited to bring some of their own photos along, whether taken at the May recording weekend or at other times, so that there can be discussion about how results might be improved. Then two groups each led by an English Heritage photographer will walk round the centre of Beverley to practise what they have been shown. No special knowledge is needed, and any kind of camera is fine.

Booking is essential as numbers are limited; if you'd like to come, please contact Lorraine Moor (preferably by email – contact details on back page) by 21 May 2010. As this event is being arranged primarily in preparation for the East Riding project (see overleaf), people who would like to be involved with the recording work associated with the project are specifically encouraged to apply, and to state this when they apply. If the event is over-subscribed, we may have to give priority to those who will be most closely involved – places will be confirmed after the deadline.

Visit to Birthwaite Hall, Darton, near Barnsley

Saturday 26 June 2010

A visit to the west wing of a large seventeenth century H-plan house which has two storeys with attics and cellars. Also visiting a range of two- and three-storey seventeenth century farm buildings nearby, which are decorated. More buildings to come. Organised by Kevin Illingworth – full details in the next Newsheet.

Timber-Framed Buildings in the Thirsk Area

Sunday 4 July 2010

A day looking at buildings with Barry Harrison. Details to follow in the next Newsheet.

A more effective archive?

A small group has been set up to look at categorising the YVBSG's 1770 reports electronically, with the aim of making it easier to extract useful and meaningful information from the archive. We need help from members with indexing/computer database skills – if anyone would like to be involved, please contact the archivist, Malcolm Birdsall (contact details on back page).

Notice of AGM

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 13 March 2010 at 5pm in the James Graham Building, 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 Crook.

Please send any nominations for officers or members of the committee to David Crook by Saturday 6 March 2010.

YVBSG Hull and East Riding Project update

We're delighted to report that at the beginning of February the Group submitted a bid for 'Your Heritage' funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund for a project entitled 'Timber-Framed Buildings in the Historic East Riding and City of Hull'. The aims of the project are:

- To systematically survey, record, research and date the surviving medieval and post-medieval timber-framed buildings of the former East Riding of Yorkshire
- To produce a reliable inventory of medieval and post-medieval timber structures in the former East Riding
- To offer training workshops for our volunteers and for community groups, covering techniques of surveying and recording historic buildings, and historical research methods
- To enhance public awareness of these buildings by publishing a summary of our findings on a website, and producing tourist trails and exhibitions
- To deposit our detailed findings in public archives and with the owners of properties, to increase understanding of the buildings and to aid conservation strategies.

We expect to hear whether our bid has been successful in mid-April. If this exciting project goes ahead, we'll be looking for a freelance project co-ordinator to arrange training and other activities, monitor progress and ensure that targets are met and recorded. The co-ordinator would be awarded an honorarium of £6,000 in total, spread over the three years of the project. If anyone thinks they might be interested in taking on this role, or would like further information about what's involved, please contact David Cook for a chat.

Our thanks go to the steering group (Gill Cookson, Susan and David Neave, David Cook, Geoff Brown, Lorraine Moor and Dave Evans of Humber Archaeology Partnership) for their hard work to date in getting the bid together.

Don't forget ...

Please don't forget to renew your membership for 2010! If you find a renewal slip enclosed with this Newsheet it means that we believe you haven't yet done so. We'll continue to send you the next one or two Newsheets, but only fully paid-up members will receive copies of *Yorkshire Buildings*.

Vacancy for Assistant Secretary (Enquiries)

We are looking for a volunteer to act as an Assistant Secretary who can collect the requests for recordings and other types of enquiry, and keep the enquiry record sheet up to date. There are about 3 to 10 enquiries per month. A key role is keeping an eye on the enquiries which are not immediately allocated to anybody, to prevent them being overlooked.

Training and support will be given. At the moment the enquiry record is held as a Word document but if the volunteer feels that there is another way of keeping track then they are welcome to use it.

If possible, could anyone interested please contact Dave Crook in advance of the AGM? The volunteer will join the committee subject to approval at the AGM.

Proposed increase in membership fee

Due to the ever-rising costs of printing, photocopying, stationery and postage, the committee will reluctantly put forward a proposal at the forthcoming AGM to increase the annual membership fee from £7 to £10 per person in 2011. The fee has remained constant for the last six years, the last increase being in 2005. We hope you think we are still good value for money!

Recent YVBSG events ...

Our thanks go to David Cant and Alison Armstrong for arranging and leading a most enjoyable and well-attended event at East Keswick on Sunday 7 February, and to members of the local history group for their superb hospitality and for sharing their extensive knowledge of the village with us. The day was nicely rounded off with a virtuoso performance on the Northumbrian pipes by David Cook!



Participants ponder the purpose of an unusual small building with very few windows during the walk around East Keswick.

Next Newsheet

Many thanks to everybody who contributed to this newsheet. The next edition will be in May – please send any items that might interest other members to the editor by 30 April 2010.

Yorkshire Buildings

By an oversight an article in *Yorkshire Buildings* 35 (2007) was credited on the contents page to Stephen Haigh, instead of Patrick Daniel, whose authorship is shown correctly with the article. The editorial team would like to apologise to both Patrick and Stephen for this.

In addition, an incorrect list of recorders for report 1701 (15 The Green, Richmond) is shown on page 99; the list should read A Armstrong, D Crook, B Foster, L Norris, A Pacey. Apologies to all concerned.

We hope that *Yorkshire Buildings* 36 (2008) will be ready in early summer 2010. It is intended to include an article on buildings in the Forest of Bowland as well as coverage of the Slaidburn Recording Conference; a report on a barn at Kettlewell; shorter items on other activities in 2008; book reviews and the usual list of buildings recorded. If we can keep up the pace *Yorkshire Buildings* 37 (2009) should be available by the end of 2010. The deadline for material is 30 September 2010 – if you wish to discuss a contribution contact the editorial team (David Cant, Beth Shurter, Tony Robinson and Tony Berry), email editor@yvbsg.org.uk. We look forward to hearing from you.

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!

Discover Wakefield Cathedral and its stained glass windows

- Demonstrations of glass repair and conservation by the York Glaziers Trust. Entry free. Friday 12 March and Saturday 2 October 2010, 12 noon-4pm.
- Tour with cathedral architect John Bailey (former chairman of SPAB) looking at the stained glass. Wednesday 21 April 2010 at 11am-12.30pm.
- Tour with John Bailey looking at the building's history. Saturday 26 June at 2-3.30pm and Wednesday 13 October 2010 at 11am-12.30pm. Website www.wakefieldcathedral.org.uk.

Enjoying Buildings

Tuesday 9 March 2010

Talk by Rodney Cousins to Hucknall Heritage Society at Central Methodist Church Hall, Baker Street, Hucknall, Nottinghamshire at 7.30pm, £2. Enquiries: Ann Davenport, telephone 0115 963 4563. Hucknall is only 19 miles from Yorkshire's southern tip!

Rhubarb Shed Tours

Until 10 March 2010

There's still chance this year to visit that unique type of Yorkshire building, the rhubarb shed. Tours of E Oldroyd and Sons at Carlton, Wakefield, can be booked by telephoning 0113 282 2245, cost £7.50 including refreshments.

The Geology Behind York's Buildings

Wednesday 17 March 2010

Join the Yorkshire Museum's Geology Curator for a different and surprising look at what the buildings of York are built from. 2pm to 4pm, York. Enquiries: York Museums Trust on 01904 650333.

A New Pevsner for Cheshire

Wednesday 17 March 2010

Talk by Matthew Hyde to Chester Civic Trust at 7.30pm at Grosvenor Lecture Theatre, 27 Grosvenor Street, Chester. Suggested donation £3. Enquiries to the secretary, telephone 01244 318415.

Nostell Priory – Conservation and Repair of the Stables

Saturday 27 March 2010

Examine the work and influence of both James Paine and Robert Adam on the historic evolution in attitudes towards horses and horsemanship in mid-Victorian stabling and in particular the development of the private riding house. Cost £6. Further information and booking form from Ray Wilson, SPAB Yorkshire Regional Group, Padside Hall, Thornthwaite-with-Padside, Harrogate HG3 4AN, email rwilson@padside-hall.co.uk.

Conservation Work in Rochdale

Thursday 8 April 2010

Talk by David Morris to Littleborough Historical and Archaeological Society at Littleborough Coach House, Lodge Street, at 7.45pm. Enquiries: Judith Pauls, telephone 01706 650636.

Sledmere House and Estate

Monday 12 April 2010

Talk by Dr David Neave to Scarborough Archaeological and Historical Society at 7.30pm in the Concert Room, Central Library, Vernon Road, Scarborough. Fee £2. Enquiries: Kate Flounders, Secretary SAHS, telephone 01723 374973, web www.scarborough-heritage.org.

A Brennand Family with Slaidburn Origins

Thursday 15 April 2010

Talk by Sheila Shaw to Lancaster and Morecambe Branch of the Lancashire Family History and Heraldry Society at Church Hall, Church of the God Shepherd, Torrisholme at 7.30pm. Enquiries: Peter Joslin on 01524 420841.

Archaeology and the Historic Environment in the Yorkshire Dales

Saturday 17 April 2010

Annual day-school in Grassington organised by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority in association with the Yorkshire Archaeological Society, looking at recent archaeological and historical research. For more information and a booking form, please email herinfo@yorkshiredales.org.uk.

The Vernacular Architecture of the Upper Calder Valley – an overview (part 1: up to 1600)

Tuesday 20 April 2010

Talk by Peter Thornborrow to Halifax Antiquarian Society at Central Library, Halifax at 7.30pm, visitors £2. www.halifaxhistory.org.uk.

Historic Churches of the Yorkshire Dales

Wednesday 21 April 2010

Talks and tours of local churches including Bewerley Chapel at Pateley Bridge, Linton Church, Bolton Priory and Addingham Church, led by local historian Maurice Taylor. 9.15am-4.15pm, cost £22.50. Departure from and return to Mercer Art Gallery, Harrogate. To book, contact Harrogate Museums and Arts, telephone 01423 556188, web www.harrogate.gov.uk/harrogate-1406. Payment is requested at least a month in advance in order to guarantee a place.

English Heritage Archaeology Store

Wednesday 21 April 2010

View the carved stones in the archaeology collection at Helmsley with a free guided tour by English Heritage curators. Tours at 11am, 1pm and 3pm. Booking essential – call 01439 770173.

Fold Farm and Kettlewell

Tuesday 4 May 2010

Visit and walk with Barbara Lambert and Alison Armstrong, arranged by the Upper Wharfedale Historical Group. Details still to be confirmed – see website www.uwhg.org.uk.

Historical Tour of Knaresborough

Tuesday 4 May 2010

Guided tour with local history expert Brian Forshaw. Discover the castle, historical buildings, medieval streets and passages as well as famous characters. 2pm, cost £4. To book, contact Harrogate Museums and Arts, contact details above.

The History of Waddow Hall

Monday 10 May 2010

Talk by Margaret Firth to Clitheroe Civic Society at Waddow Hall, Waddington Road, near Clitheroe, at 7.30pm. Waddow Hall dates from about 1800, with a few seventeenth century remains. £2. Enquiries: John Goodman, telephone 01200 443571.

Lake District Coach Tour

Wednesday 16 June 2010

Coach excursion from Lancaster University to the Lake District, looking at vernacular buildings with Andrew Lowe. For full details, keep an eye on the Centre for North-West Regional Studies website at www.lancs.ac.uk/users/cnwr or telephone 01524 593770.

Medieval Domestic Cultures

Friday 24 to Sunday 26 September 2010

Weekend school at Oxford University Department of Continuing Education, held in association with the VAG and the Society for Medieval Archaeology, bringing together leading experts in the fields of vernacular architecture, artefacts and documentary evidence to explore domestic life in medieval Britain. Fee from £105. Enquiries: Short Courses Administrator, OUDCE, Oxford, telephone 01865 270380, website www.conted.ox.ac.uk. All residential places are already taken but non-residential places are still available – there's a youth hostel in Oxford, or try www.budgetstayuk.com for alternative student accommodation.

Hull History Centre now open

Hull History Centre, the new home for Hull City Archives, Hull Local Studies Library and Hull University Archives, opened at the end of January in a pioneering partnership between the City and the University.

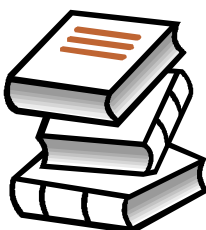
In the Centre you can use and view collections of both local and national significance that date back over 700 years, including the 1299 Royal Charter which marks the birth of Hull as a strategic port, local and family history resources including maps and census records, and photographs of old Hull. Staff can help you to identify potential resources to help with your enquiry and to understand documents or handwriting. A programme of events, behind the scenes tours and exhibitions runs the year round. Volunteers can get involved in activities ranging from helping to preserve the collections to supporting education work.

Learn more by contacting Hull History Centre, Worship Street, Hull HU2 8BG, telephone 01482 317500, website www.hullhistorycentre.org.uk. Open Monday to Saturday.

Some recent books

The National Gardens Scheme's *Yellow Book 2010* is now available at £8.99. Visiting gardens is a good method of getting closer to houses and buildings!

Saltare: The making of a model town by Neil Jackson, Jo Lintonbon and Bryony Staples. ISBN 9781904965213. Spire Books Ltd, telephone 0118 947 1525. Due March 2010, retail price £24.95. Now a World Heritage Site, Saltaire was designed to provide mill-workers' housing and is a superb example of enlightened urban planning. The authors follow its development through seven building phases, explaining the principles of the urban layout and the various house designs.



Hartlepool: An Archaeology of the Medieval Town by Robin Daniels. January 2010. Available from Tees Archaeology, Sir William Gray House, Clarence Road, Hartlepool TS24 8BT, telephone 01429 523455, price £17.50 plus £6 p&p. Cheques payable to Hartlepool Borough Council.

Courses on vernacular architecture and building history

A few courses forthcoming in the new year, both within the region and further afield ...

Browsholme Hall

Since 1507 the Parker family have lived at Browsholme Hall, one of the oldest houses in Lancashire (but formerly in the West Riding, near Clitheroe) still inhabited by descendants of the original owners. Learn about Browsholme Hall and then visit the Hall after lunch to meet the current owner, Robert Parker, who will lead the visit round his home and answer any questions you may have about living in a 500-year old house. Tuesday 20 April 2010, 10am to 4pm, fee £57. Enquiries: Alston Hall College, Alston Lane, Longridge, Preston PR3 3BP, telephone 01772 784661, www.alstonhall.com.

Country Houses of Yorkshire and the East Midlands

Yorkshire's country houses include Harewood, Temple Newsam, Burton Agnes, Castle Howard, Sledmere, Beningbrough and smaller houses like Fountains Hall, Norton Conyers and Markenfield. Thursday 22 April 2010, 11am to 4pm, £37.75.

Derbyshire's richness includes Haddon, Hardwick, Chatsworth, Sudbury, Kedleston, Bolsover and Calke. Nottinghamshire includes Holme Pierrepont, Newstead Abbey, Thoresby Hall and Woolaton Hall. Thursday 3 June 2010, 11am to 4pm, £37.75. Enquiries: Alston Hall as above.

Late Medieval and Early Post-Medieval Yeoman Houses on Merseyside

Lecture by Dr Mark Adams at Liverpool University, 126 Mount Pleasant, Liverpool, on Thursday 27 May 2010, 7-9pm. £10. We will examine the development of yeoman housing from the sixteenth century to the eighteenth century using recent evidence from the examination of standing buildings and excavations across Merseyside. Please book by 18 May by contacting Continuing Education and Professional Development, University of Liverpool, telephone 0151 794 6900, web www.liv.ac.uk/conted.

Websites worth watching

Jacky Quarmby suggests that the Construction History Society website (www.constructionhistory.co.uk) might be of interest to members. They have a number of past newsletters on their website of which No 64 (2002) has an article on seventeenth century bricklayers' contracts for Wren's city churches. Also a lot about how steel changed the architecture of London. Others have articles on buildings both modern and ancient.

WYAAS guidance notes

The West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service has produced a series of Guidance Leaflets intended to help local societies become more active and carry out their own projects. These are available on the WYAAS website at www.archaeology.wyjs.org.uk/wyjs-archaeology-guidance-notes.asp and include *Using old maps; A guide to interpreting historic place-names in West Yorkshire; Looking at old photographs;* and *A guide to making a photographic record of old buildings.*

Yorkshire Friends of HHA

An annual subscription of £38 allows you to become a Friend of the Historic Houses Association and join a variety of tours, or, if you know a 'friend', you can go along as a guest. Enquiries: Friends Membership Department, HHA, Heritage House, PO Box 21, Baldock, Hertfordshire SG7 5SH, telephone 01462 896688, web www.hha.org.uk. Visits include:

- Wednesday 21 April 2010 – Esholt Hall Estate (owned by Yorkshire Water), £49. The Hall is 1706-10, but there's a basement window with arched or trefoil lights and groin-vaulted roof to cellars. The nearby Old Hall was moated.
- Sunday 18 April and Sunday 19 September 2010 – Hellifield Peel and Broughton Hall, £59. Hellifield Peel is of c.1440 (and also offers B&B – see www.peelcastle.co.uk).

STOP PRESS

See the March edition of *The Dalesman* for an article about the YVBSG, complete with photos of members!

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