From the archive: chalk buildings

Chalk buildings in Yorkshire are found on the Wolds and on the east coast, where the stone is of a harder nature than usually occurs elsewhere. They include houses and farm buildings, as well as one or two more unusual structures such as the Chalk Tower (also known as the Old Lighthouse) and the castle (fortified manor house) in Flamborough. Chalk buildings sometimes have brick dressings or might be faced in brick. Pictured below are some of the buildings recorded by the Group which contain chalk; the reports are all available online in our archive.

Lorraine Moor



Mill Farm House, Hunmanby (YVBSG 976). A late C18 house of Georgian-style plan. Servants' room at rear accessible only by ladder from kitchen. Rounded corners allow carts to reach farm buildings behind the house.



Grove Farm, Flamborough (YVBSG 1615). Chalk/brick farm buildings – barn, loose boxes/cart shed, calf house, piggery and stable – built between 1766 and 1854. Largely now demolished or converted to housing.



West House Farm, Muston (YVBSG 603). Datestone of 1752. One of at least six dated houses in Muston, with the same plan as three of these. Large inglenook fireplace in housebody, with hooded-type chimney built in brick, old-fashioned for its date.



17-19 Northgate, Hunmanby (YVBSG 969). Datestone of 1694 above the door. Former three-cell throughpassage plan with tall upper cruck truss above housebody. Thatch replaced by pantile c1750.



Glebe Farm, Octon (YVBSG 1727). Cruck-framed farmhouse, a rare survival in the East Riding, dendrodated to 1671-2. Earlier walls of less permanent material later replaced by chalk and brick. Described in full in David Cook's article in Yorkshire Buildings 35, 2007.



Low Hall (or Old Manor House), Hunmanby (YVBSG 602). T-shaped house said to date from before 1629, with the wing later in the C17. Arched doorway to main entrance and huge exterior stack.



Miss Fawcett's Cottage, Wintringham (YVBSG 1001). A simple two-cell cottage of chalk and brick, probably built late C18. Yorkshire sliding sash windows on first floor.



Castle House Farm, Hunmanby (YVBSG 973). Probably began as a longhouse with domestic end rebuilt c1700 – this survives in chalk in the centre of the block. Chalk farm buildings at rear, one of which is pictured below.



Beulah Cottage, Hunmanby (YVBSG 974). Formerly a type of longhouse with hearth-passage giving access to a cow house. Of an unusual plan in that the hearth-passage is not located behind the stack as would normally be expected. Probably C18.