



YORKSHIRE VERNACULAR BUILDINGS STUDY GROUP

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Newsheet No 95

March 2019

YVBSG Events For Your Diary

Building our Knowledge – annual day school and AGM

Saturday 23 March 2019

This year's day school at York St John University offers an update on a variety of projects involving historic and vernacular buildings in Yorkshire, either in progress or recently completed. The booking form was enclosed with the previous Newsheet and is also available on the website. The Group's AGM will follow the day school.

A Sheffield Taster: visit to the Dark Peak

Saturday 30 March 2019

Come to Langsett car park near the reservoir from 10am; walk will depart promptly from aisle-side (WCs) of large barn at 11am. Location: betwixt Huddersfield and Sheffield on A616, just 10 miles from Junction 38 of M1, 30 minutes' drive via Kexborough, Cawthorne, Hoylandswaine, Penistone, Thurlstone and Millhouse. If early go for a coffee at the pink spotted café (bankviewcafe.co.uk). If late you may have to park on west approach to Langsett as the car park fills early.

I can promise you amazing vernacular house interior visits, seeing three of the houses we will record later in the year: two cruck houses with bressumer, firehoods, board-and-muntin panelling and decorative stone work at Upper Midhope (short pleasant walk). Drive to unspoilt Midhope Chapel (porch dated 1705), then over the moors to High Bradfield to park in pub car park at Old Horns Inn, Towngate S6 6LG, with lunch on arrival (serves excellent food all day) then walk down Towngate to the church. You will hardly believe you are in South Yorkshire! Then drive down the hill to Low Bradfield: go over bridge, turn right and park in village car park on right. Then at 3.30pm short walk to see outstanding three-storey Fairhouse (well named) superbly restored, with diamond-pane leaded-lights, lobby-entry against the firehood, panelled walls, stone spiral stair, with a timber one to the attic, flat-balusters, original doors and hinges. We are promised tea and cake. It will be worth the effort of a long drive; don't miss this one! Bring a torch to better see apotropaic marks and ancient graffiti on a beamed ceiling.

Ring Peter Thornborrow to book: 01226 384642 (leave message giving name and contact details), or email chairman@yvbsg. First twenty-five to book only.

Peter Thornborrow

Annual recording conference: Hallamshire and the Dark Peak

Friday 17 to Sunday 19 May 2019

The annual recording conference will be held this year in the Sheffield area, as part of the Group's wider programme focusing on the buildings of South Yorkshire over four years. Full details and booking form are enclosed with this Newsheet and also available on the website.

Notice of AGM

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 23 March 2019 at 4.30pm in the De Grey Lecture Theatre, York St John University, York.

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, Mary Cook. Please send any nominations for officers or members of the committee to Mary (contact details on back page). As mentioned in the previous Newsheet, we have a vacancy for a committee member and we encourage anyone interested in becoming more involved in the running of the group to come forward; please contact Mary if you'd like more information. The committee meets just twice a year and the role is not too onerous!

The minutes of last year's AGM are available on the Members' Area of the website.

A walkabout ... somewhere!

Saturday 22 June 2019

Kevin Illingworth will lead a summer walkabout at a location still to be decided (he has several possible options in mind!). Full details to follow in the May Newsheet.

Conference review day

Saturday 14 September 2019

An event to review the findings of the May conference in the Sheffield area. Details to follow.

A walk around Bedale

Saturday 28 September 2019

A walk around the town led by Tony Robinson. Details to follow.



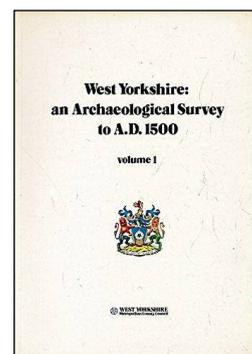
Manor Farmhouse, Upper Midhope

Drawing packages

A member has enquired whether anyone could recommend a drawing package that is inexpensive and easy to use, and suitable for survey drawings. This particular enquiry relates to Apple Mac software but any thoughts on Windows packages would also be welcome. Please send any suggestions to the Newsheet Editor at newsheet@yvbsg.org.uk and we'll publish them in a future Newsheet.

West Yorkshire: an Archaeological Survey

Member Kenneth Wilson is seeking a good home for four volumes of *West Yorkshire: an Archaeological Survey to A.D. 1500* by Faull and Moorhouse (1981). It has good sections on vernacular buildings, settlements, the tenurial and administrative background as well as the usual archaeological matters. The four-volume set is available for around £90 online, so we are inviting members to express interest by submitting a bid. Please send bids to David Cant at davidjcant@hotmail.com by Sunday 19 May 2019.



Yorkshire Historical Dictionary

Launched in January 2019, the Yorkshire Historical Dictionary is an online collection of over 4000 words from Yorkshire documents, tracking the development of regional language in the county. The project was conceived as a memorial to David Hey and has been managed by the Borthwick Institute for Archives, in partnership with George Redmonds (who died in 2018 before it was completed) and the Yorkshire Archaeological and Historical Society.

The Dictionary has plenty of content of interest to vernacular architecture enthusiasts – check out words such as firehouse, bodystead, cruck, bog-house, nawt-house, backstone or door-cheek. Have a browse at yorkshiredictionary.york.ac.uk.

Publications

Heart of the Dales by D Mark Thompson. YVBSG member Mark has produced a photographic journey in monochrome through the Yorkshire Dales of the 1970s and 1980s, with text transcribed from tape recordings of the time. Meet the last lead miner from Greenhow Hill and encounter a man so determined to find a lost cellar that didn't exist he destroyed his home. Published October 2018, Hardraw Force Publishing, £24.99.

The Medieval Clothier by John S Lee. The first recent survey of this hugely important and significant trade and its practitioners, examining the whole range of clothiers across different areas of England, and exploring their impact within the industry and in their wider communities. Further details at boydellandbrewer.com/the-medieval-clothier.html. £25.

North Yorkshire Historic Graffiti Survey

This new group has just been set up and is looking for volunteers to survey historic graffiti in religious and secular buildings in the region. No previous graffiti or archaeological experience is required. Further information is available on the group's first blog at <https://nyhgs.wordpress.com>.

Courses

Getting started with House History

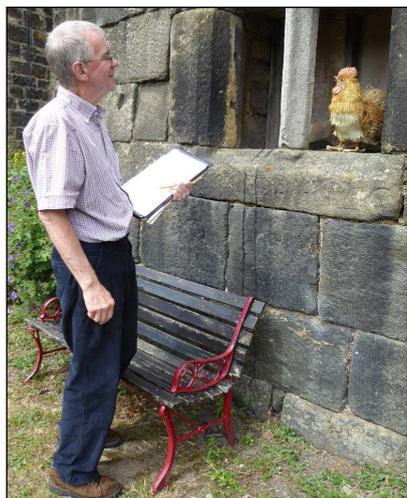
Saturday 23 March 2019, 9.30am to 12.30pm at York Explore Library Learning Centre. Join Explore's Archivist Laura Yeoman as she takes you through how to get started with researching the history of your home. Fee £25. To book, see 'Explore courses' at www.yortime.org.uk/Events.York.

Collaging

Friday 29 March 2019, 10am to 4pm at The Folly, Settle. An opportunity to create a collage that captures a local building or feature, with an emphasis on architectural features. The day will include photographing or sketching aspects of Settle in the vicinity of The Folly. Fee £46. For details and to book, see www.storiesinstone.org.uk, telephone 015242 51002.

Tree-ring tables

The Tables of Tree-Ring Dated Buildings in England which are available on the Vernacular Architecture Group's website at www.vag.org.uk/databases have recently been updated. You can find here a useful printable list of all tree-ring dated buildings in Yorkshire, as well as in other counties.



And the winner is ...

We're pleased to announce that the winner of the caption competition featured in the previous Newsheet is Simon Green, with his entry: 'It's beginning to look as if David's investigations could ruffle a few feathers!'. A copy of *Wakefield in 50 Buildings* by Peter Thornborrow has now winged its way to Simon.

Response to the caption competition was somewhat disappointing – in fact, Simon's was the only entry received, but the judges deemed it well worthy of the prize!

Recording email list

Many members are interested in recording buildings throughout the year, not just at the Annual Recording Conference in May. To that end, the group maintains a list of members who wish to be included in emails inviting them to record the ad hoc buildings as enquiries occur throughout the year. Around forty members are currently on this building recording list and there is no obligation to join a recording session. If you'd like to be included on the list, please send your name and email address to Mary Cook at secretary@yvbsg.org.uk.

Dairy Days

A 3D Photogrammetry Workshop held at Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Bainbridge, Wensleydale, on 15 January 2019

If you ever wanted to create an image of a vernacular building that grabs the attention and has the potential to make the building understandable, then perhaps 3D photogrammetry is the solution.

Often we want to show more about the building in the description and interpretation than 2D elevations and sections can offer. 3D drawings can do this but are time-consuming and take extra skills to get right. Or we might want to produce an image without camera lens distortion. Photogrammetry has been around for a long time now, but is little used in our presentations and publications. Why is that? This workshop succeeded for me in proving that it is worth consideration in cases where we need to enhance the basic recording and results that we normally present.

The workshop was ably presented by Doug Mitcham and Hannah Kingsbury, both of the YDNPA. It was part of the HLF-funded 'Dairy Days' project, which aims to research and share the story of the dairy industry that helped shaped Wensleydale's landscape. We heard about what photogrammetry is, and how to prepare for a survey. Then we went out to take photos of a local barn according to the recommended methodology and saw how the computer processed the 125 photos taken by one of the attendees to produce a 3D image. Photoscan software (now called Metashape) was used. The Historic England guide *Photogrammetric Applications for Cultural Heritage*, available from their website, is recommended.

The practical exercise was eye-opening as it revealed some of the tricks of the trade and pitfalls when taking photos for this use. For example, the software has problems if photos are taken with the sun in and out, so a cloudy day gets best results. Another requirement is to get photos of the roof for a complete 3D image, so a camera pole may be needed. There was a discussion about how successful the results would be for a brick building. Perhaps the answer is that it's worth a try, because the time invested in taking the photos is not great. Most of the time is taken up by your computer as the software grinds through the image data, during which you can be doing something else useful.

The top image was produced by the (free) *Regard9D* program from thirteen photos I took. Note that the lens distortion evident in the bottom image has been corrected. Parts of the top image that haven't been rendered (for example the roof) are the areas that weren't adequately shown in the photos.



David Cook

An important reminder about membership renewal

Membership fees for 2019 became due on 1 January and renewal notices were sent out in December 2018. If a reminder is enclosed with this Newsheet, this means that you have not yet renewed your membership for 2019. In line with our Privacy Statement which came into effect with the introduction of GDPR last year (and which can be viewed on the website), *membership may be terminated if you fail to respond to subscription renewal notices within three months from 1 January each year.* Therefore, if you do not renew your membership by 1 April, you will no longer be a member of the Group and will receive no further correspondence from us, so please do renew as soon as possible – we don't want to lose you!

The password to the Members' Area of the website changed in January and you'll receive the new details when you renew your membership for 2019. The Members' Area provides access to some 250 building reports and around 130 articles from back issues of *Yorkshire Buildings* up to 2015.

A new publicity leaflet

The group has a new, glossy, full colour publicity leaflet, which also acts as the membership application form. If you'd like any copies to display or to hand out at talks, please contact the Archivist, David Cook. To see a copy, visit the Membership page of the website.

Committee meeting

The next meeting of the YVBSG committee will be held on Saturday 12 October 2019. If you'd like to raise any matters, or have ideas for (or would even like to organise!) future events please contact the Secretary, Mary Cook.

Next Newsheet

The next edition will be in May 2019 – please send any contributions to the editor by 30 April 2019. Short articles on buildings or features would be welcome, as well as details of publications or events that might be of interest to other members.

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!

Dales Archaeology Day

Saturday 30 March 2019

The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority annual day school at Giggleswick School. £15. To book, see www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/living-and-working/historic-buildings/archaeology/archaeology-day-school.

Exploring the archaeology of Yorkshire Landscapes

Saturday 6 April 2019

A conference at the University of Hull inspired by Tony Pacitto (1931-2003), focusing on the East Riding and parts of North Yorkshire. www.yas.org.uk/News/Conferences.

Lancashire and Yorkshire Farmhouses of the 16th to 18th Century – Porches

Tuesday 9 April 2019

An illustrated talk by Kevin Illingworth to Ryburn Valley History Society, 7.30pm at Ripponden Conservative Club, 212 Halifax Road, Ripponden HX6 4BG. £3. www.ryburnvalleyhistory.org.

Spout House and Bilsdale

Wednesday 10 April 2019

A North York Moors National Park walk, 3.4 miles, which includes a visit to the sixteenth century Spout House, a cruck cottage that served as an inn. Book at www.northyorkmoors.org.uk or telephone 01439 772738.

Wakefield's Historic Development and Special Architecture

Wednesday 10 April 2019

A talk by Peter Thornborrow to Wakefield Historical Society, 7.30pm at Old Restaurant, Town Hall. £2. www.wakefieldhistoricalsociety.org.uk.

Walk around Stainforth: the Anatomy of a Yorkshire Village

Saturday 13 April 2019

A walk organised by Gayle Wray for the Friends of Pendle Heritage. Includes vernacular buildings. Meet 10.15am at Pendle Heritage Centre car park for car-sharing, or at 11am at Stainforth YDNPA car park BD24 9QD (near Settle). Bring a packed lunch (but there is a pub and a tea-room). This event is free. www.foph.co.uk.

Lost Sheffield

Monday 15 April 2019

A talk by Peter Machan to Aston-cum-Aughton History Group, offering a virtual walk through the centre of Victorian Sheffield. 7pm at William Layne Reading Room, Aughton Lane, Aston, £3. www.astonhistorygroup.co.uk.

Excavating Engels: recent archaeological evidence for 19th century industrial housing in Manchester and Salford

Wednesday 17 April 2019

Talk by Dr Mike Nevell to East Riding Archaeological Society, 7.30pm at Wilberforce Building, Hull University. Fee £2. See www.eras.org.uk.

Dent Town Trail

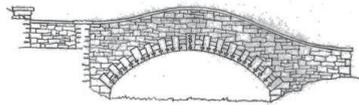
Friday 19 April 2019

A 1½-mile YDNPA walk looking at some historic buildings and stories of Dent village. 2pm to 4.30pm, £5. See yorkshiredales.org.uk.

Barns, Walls, and Bridges

Tuesday 23 April 2019

A 4-mile YDNPA walk in Upper Wensleydale. 1.30pm to 4pm, £5, See yorkshiredales.org.uk.



Medieval Leeds

Tuesday 30 April 2019

A guided supper walk with Leeds Civic Trust, 6pm to 8.30pm, £15. leedscivictrust.org.uk.

Vernacular Buildings of Lancashire: Preston and the Fylde, Lune Valley, and Forest of Bowland

Wednesday 1 May 2019

An illustrated talk by Kevin Illingworth to Garstang Antiques Group, 10am for 10.30am at Best Western Hotel (Garstang Golf Club), Bowgreave Drive, Bowgreave, near Garstang, PR3 1YE (Preston). Telephone (hotel) 01995 600100. Visitors £3.

Markenfield Hall

May and June 2019

This year's open days at the moated Markenfield Hall, near Ripon, are 5-19 May and 16-30 June 2019. See markenfieldhall.com.

The Roles and Duties of a Conservation Officer

Thursday 9 May 2019

Talk by Stephen Walker, Senior Conservation Officer for East Riding of Yorkshire Council, to Beverley Civic Society, 7.30pm at St Mary's Church Hall, Beverley. More details at www.beverleycivicsociety.co.uk.

National Mills Weekend

Saturday 11 to Sunday 12 May 2019

More than 300 windmills and watermills in the UK open to the public. www.nationalmillsweekend.co.uk.

The Story of the Rescued Cruck Barn at Pendle Heritage Centre

Wednesday 22 May 2019

A talk by Dr David Taylor to the Friends of Pendle Heritage, 10.30am at Pendle Heritage Centre, Park Hill, Barrowford, Nelson, Lancashire. BB9 6JQ. Non-members £2. www.foph.co.uk.

Every Barn tells a Story

Saturday 1 June 2019

A 5-mile YDNPA walk from Keld, exploring the history of the barns in Upper Swaledale. Repeated on 15 June 2019. 1.30pm to 4.30pm, £4.50. See yorkshiredales.org.uk.

Painting – Line and Wash

Sunday 9 June 2019

A workshop with John Harrison at Broadrake Farm, Chapel-le-Dale, Ingleton. John's website at www.broadrake.co.uk shows barns and farmhouses that he has drawn and painted. Early booking is recommended: www.broadrake.co.uk.

South Pennine Houses – History and People

Saturday 12 October 2019

Advance notice of a study day in Hebden Bridge to be arranged by the South Pennine History Group. Details to follow in a future Newsheet.

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