



YORKSHIRE VERNACULAR BUILDINGS STUDY GROUP

www.yvbsg.org.uk

Newsheet No 66

November 2011

YVBSG Events For Your Diary

Visit to Yorkshire Archaeological Society in Leeds

Saturday 28 January 2012

An afternoon visit to the headquarters of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society, Clarendon, 23 Clarendon Road, Leeds. We will explore archive items of relevance to studying buildings and will visit the library and its holdings. A guided tour of the house in small groups will be offered, with refreshments available. 2pm to 4.30pm. Numbers limited. Please contact David Cant if you would like to attend: email davidcant@hotmail.com or write to 3 Middle Hathershelf, Luddendenfoot, HX2 6JQ with an SAE for confirmation.

Prior to this, during the morning a small group of volunteers will work through the YVBSG reports which are held in the YAS, to check that the collection is complete. If you are interested in helping with this, please contact David as above.

How Yorkshire Became Polite, followed by AGM

Saturday 24 March 2012

The annual day school, to be held again at Leeds Metropolitan University's Headingley Campus, will explore 'How Yorkshire became polite'. The day will examine the changes that took place as classical features and different styles were adopted by those building in Yorkshire from the end of the sixteenth century, and the factors that influenced them. As usual, the day school will be followed by the Group's AGM. Booking form enclosed with this Newsheet and also available on the YVBSG website.



Annual Recording Conference in Cleveland

Friday 18 to Sunday 20 May 2012

To be held in collaboration with Great Broughton and Kirby-in-Cleveland Local History Group. Full details will be circulated with the February Newsheet.

Committee news

We're pleased to report that David Cant has volunteered to take over the role of Archivist, after Malcolm Birdsall expressed a wish to stand down following his move to Derbyshire. David expects to take up his duties in the new year and details will follow in the next Newsheet; in the meantime please continue to contact Malcolm if you have any queries relating to the archive.

David's new role means that in the longer term he will be unable to continue as a member of the editorial team which produces *Yorkshire Buildings*, so we're looking for someone to replace him when the 2011 edition has been completed. If anyone is interested in joining the team, please contact David or another member of the committee.

More generally, we invite anyone interested in playing a more active role in running the YVBSG to get in touch – we'd very much welcome your input and participation. Oh, and we're also still looking for a new Chair to take over from David Cook ...

Wishing a Very Happy New Year to all our members for 2012 – and happy building spotting!

Next committee meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on Sunday 5 February 2012. If you'd like to raise any matters or suggest any future events please contact the Secretary, David Crook.

Membership renewal

Membership fees for the calendar year 2012 become due on 1 January; the price remains at £10. We hope you will keep up your membership by returning the enclosed form to Jacky Quarmby at your earliest convenience!

Yorkshire Buildings

You will find your copy of *Yorkshire Buildings* 2010 enclosed with this Newsheet; we hope you enjoy it.

For *Yorkshire Buildings* 2011 (or any future editions) we would welcome articles, reports of visits/recording or book reviews. We'd prefer electronic copy but can scan drawings or other images. For the 2011 edition please send contributions by 31 January 2012 to editor@yvbsg.org.uk.

Correction

The Group has been informed that the summary of the talk by Steve Moorhouse, which appeared in *Yorkshire Buildings* 2009, is inaccurate. Although the editorial team did ask Steve for comments on the draft there was no response. He has been invited to submit a revised version of his talk for publication in *Yorkshire Buildings*.

Recent YVBSG Events

Conference Review Day at Long Preston and visit to The Folly in Settle



We thank all those involved in organising this enjoyable day held on 25 September 2011, especially Alison Armstrong and the Long Preston Heritage Group for hosting the morning session of presentations on the village buildings, and John Miller and Alison for leading the fascinating guided tours around The Folly (pictured left) in the afternoon.

The Folly is home to the Museum of North Craven Life which is now closed for the winter until Easter, although it will open on Saturday 10 December for a Yuletide Event of seasonal words and music, with mulled wine and mince pies. 10 am to 12 noon, free admission, refreshments £3. See www.ncbpt.org.uk/folly/ for further details – it's well worth a visit, and you can even rent part of the building as holiday accommodation!

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!

Deck the Halls

1 to 31 December 2011

Visit Barley Hall in York during the festive season and see the house beautifully decorated to celebrate a medieval Christmas, then enjoy a warming drink in the Barley Hall tavern. 10am to 4pm, normal admission prices apply. Website www.barleyhall.org.uk, telephone 01904 610 275.

Lawkland Hall Estate

Sunday 11 December 2011

Walk with Giles Bowring for North Craven Heritage Trust. Meet at 1.45pm at Lawkland Hall, SD 776 659. Please telephone 01729823551 so that numbers are known. Visitors £2. Non-walkers welcome at the Hall at 3pm for mince pies.

Wrestlers, Crucks and Mullions

Monday 19 December 2011

A talk by Andrew Lowe for Ingleborough Archaeology Group at Ingleborough Community Centre, Ingleton, at 7.30pm, followed by mince pies and drinks. Visitors £2. Web www.ingleborougharchaeologygroup.org.uk.

Street House Farm, a multi-period archaeological site

Wednesday 21 December 2011

Talk by Steve Sherlock to East Riding Archaeological Society, 7.30pm in Room 51, Wilberforce Building, University of Hull. Enquiries: 07770 470443, www.eras.org.uk.

What's A Foot?

Monday 2 January 2012

A Calderdale Heritage Walk led by David Cant. Luddendenfoot is now a shadow of its former self. It was once a large village with mills, a station where Branwell Bronte worked, its own Co-op and more pubs. Meet David outside

the Civic Centre on Station Road, Luddendenfoot, at 2pm. £3, no need to book, 2-2¼ hours. Details on website www.CalderdaleHeritageWalks.org.uk.

More Halifax Hostelries

Sunday 22 January 2012

A Calderdale Heritage Walk led by Anne Kirker. Following the success of a 2010 'Hostelries' walk, here's a new collection of those fascinating heritage locations. The walk ends at the Ring O'Bells. Meet Anne outside the main Post Office on Commercial Street, Halifax, at 2pm. £3, no need to book, 2-2¼ hours. Details on website www.CalderdaleHeritageWalks.org.uk.

Story of Castle Carr

Wednesday 25 January 2012

Talk by Clive Lloyd and David Cant to Hebden Bridge Local History Society, 7.30pm at the Methodist Church, Market Street, Hebden Bridge. Website www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk.

The Lake Windermere area: its architecture and industrial heritage

Wednesday 8 February 2012

Talk by Andrew Lowe, former Building Conservation Officer, Lake District National Park Authority, to Lancaster Civic Society. 7.30pm at Lancaster Town Hall. Enquiries: Winnie Clark, 01524 (or 015242) 33411.

Yeoman Houses of the Lowland North-West

Tuesday 14 February 2012

A talk by Mark Adams, Senior Archaeological Project Officer, National Museums of Liverpool, for Weaverham History Society at Wallerscote Community School, Northwich Road, Weaverham, Cheshire, at 7.30pm. Visitors £2. Enquiries: 01606 852252.

Manors and Manorial Estates in North Yorkshire

Friday 17 February 2012

Talk by Barry Harrison to Helmsley Archaeological and Historical Society, 7.30pm at the North York Moors National Park Offices, Helmsley. www.helmsleyarchaeologicalandhistoricalsociety.org.uk.

Pevsner's Cheshire Revisited

Monday 20 February 2012

Talk by Matthew Hyde to Bollington Civic Society at Community Centre, Overhouse Lane, Bollington (near Macclesfield) at 8pm. See happy-valley.org.uk/civicsociety/civicsociety.htm.

Wharram: past, present and future

Friday 23 to Sunday 24 March 2012

Twenty-odd years after the end of forty years of excavation at Wharram Percy, an ambitious programme of research has been completed with the publication of volume XIII of the Wharram series, *A History of Wharram and its Neighbours*. Speakers at this celebratory conference to be held at King's Manor, York (organised by English Heritage, the University of York, and the Medieval Settlement Research Group) include Chris Dyer, Paul Everson, David Neave, ALOswald, Julian Richards, Ian Riddler, Steve Roskams, David Stocker, Stuart Wrathmell, and Elisabeth Zadora-Rio, with a keynote address by Simon Thurley, Chief Executive of English Heritage. On Sunday a guided tour of Wharram, with a visit to the English Heritage museum store at Helmsley to see finds from the excavations. Fee: £40 before 31 January 2012, or £50 after. Full details available at website www.york.ac.uk/archaeology/news-and-events/events/conferences/.

Research into galleting

The British Isles has some of the most beautiful countryside to be found anywhere in the world. This is a direct reflection of the varied geology which also accounts for our varied and interesting architecture. One particular feature is galleting.

Galleting is the curious practice of inserting small pieces of stone into the joints of masonry. This has been a traditional form of construction for many centuries especially in the south east of England.

In Kent for example there is much Kentish ragstone galleting but also occasionally ironstone as illustrated here. Similar stone is to be found in Norfolk where it is known as carstone but the appearance differs from this because of local tradition. In Scotland the style is very different and is usually referred to as pinning.

There are many variations in galleting according to the availability of local materials and I am researching this at Anglia Ruskin University to investigate the geographical spread and its possible purposes. According to Alec Clifton-Taylor in *The Pattern of English Building* there is galleting to be found in Yorkshire. If I am to collect sufficient information from across the UK I need to seek the help of those familiar with the local traditional buildings. If you feel this is of interest to you please could I ask for some or any of the following:

- Details of a building with pieces of stone, brick, oyster shells or similar incorporated into the masonry joints.
- Photographs of general view and close up.
- Location for mapping purposes.
- Alternative name if not known as galleting.
- Age, date or century when built if known.
- Materials used in construction.
- The building's original purpose.

Any information, no matter how small, is much appreciated as every piece adds to the overall picture. Alternatively I have a simple questionnaire with twelve illustrations of masonry asking whether you consider that they show examples of galleting, yes or no. This can be forwarded to you by email.

I can be contacted by email at cjarnott@yahoo.co.uk, by telephone 01732 457432, or by writing to me at the address below.

C J Arnott, 23 Vine Court Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 3UY



Courses

A couple of courses on offer around the region during the spring term ...

The Medieval English House: Hearth and Home (c1150-1500)

Tutor: Louise R Wheatley. This course will provide an overview of the development of the English house from the twelfth to late fifteenth centuries by exploring aspects of architecture and aesthetics and covering a range of topics: building materials; methods of construction; the labour force; the building plot; patterns of access; use of rooms; and fittings and furnishings. We shall look at exteriors, interiors, outbuildings, commercial premises, yards and gardens in order to find out more about the hearths and homes of medieval families. It is hoped to arrange a walking tour of York. Eleven Tuesdays from 10 January 2012, 7-9pm, fee £107, accredited. Enquiries: Centre for Lifelong Learning, University of York, telephone 01904 328473, www.york.ac.uk/inst/ccc.

Eastern Yorkshire: An Introduction to Local and Regional History

Tutor: Robb Robinson. Examine the development of Hull, the coastal towns and the changes in rural and urban life. Ten Tuesdays from 17 January 2012, 1.30-3.30pm at Blaydes House, Hull. Fee £95, accredited. Enquiries: Centre for Lifelong Learning, University of Hull, telephone 01482 465666, www.hull.ac.uk/cll.

Building reports

A growing number of previously unpublished building reports produced by various contractors, together with other archaeological reports, are available via the Archaeology Data Service website at <http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/greylit/>. You can search by contractor, or place name, or various other criteria.

Next Newsheet

Many thanks to everybody who contributed to this newsheet. The next edition will be in February 2012 – please send any items that might interest other members (events, new publications, news on buildings etc) to the editor by 31 January 2012.

Visit us on Facebook!

Together with many other organisations, the YVBSG can now be found on the social networking site, Facebook. Facebook is used by some 400 million people worldwide, and offers the opportunity for widespread publicity and online interaction between groups and individuals ... so why not follow the link from the main YVBSG website, click on the Like button, and write on our Wall?

Friends of Bishops House

It's now free to join the Friends of Bishops' House, which is one of the three surviving timber-framed houses in Sheffield, built around 1500. You'll hear about events and will receive a newsletter. Visit Bishops' House on Sunday 18 December between 2pm and 4pm for free carol singing! See www.bishopshouse.org.uk for further details.

Rare eighteenth century wall paintings at restored farmhouse

In a previous Newsheet we reported that the Landmark Trust was commencing the two-year restoration of Cowside, a late seventeenth-century farmhouse in the Yorkshire Dales. The work is now complete and in October 2011 Cowside began its new life as a venue for self-catering holidays for five people.

Cowside in Langstrothdale, Upper Wharfedale, is a largely unaltered farmhouse surrounded by drystone walls and rolling hills. It is typical of the area in many respects but the discovery of rare wall-paintings during the restoration makes it exceptional.

During the planning stages of the project the faint black outline of a rose was discovered beneath flaking layers of limewash. Initial assessments confirmed that the rose was painted on primary plaster and that there were also paintings on another wall of the same room. Once the humidity levels in the building had been stabilised, specialist paint conservators were able to fully reveal and stabilise the wall paintings which are two large rectangular panels of biblical text with flamboyant borders.

The farmhouse has a housebody and parlour with chambers above. The

housebody would have been the principal heated room in which most of the life of the house was carried out around its inglenook fireplace. There is also a dairy, washhouse, storage rooms, two cowsheds and a pigsty, all of which have been repaired.

The Landmark Trust have used traditional craft skills and materials to restore the structure. It was re-roofed, all the external masonry was repointed and the house internally replastered throughout. Those flagstones that could be salvaged were relaid and underfloor heating was added beneath new stone floors elsewhere on the ground floor. The first floor floorboards were all so rotten that they had to be replaced. Later infilling was removed from each of the fireplaces and new doors were made to match an original that survived to the parlour.

Cowside is located within the Yorkshire Dales National Park adjacent to the Dales Way. Further information, including a 'history sheet' giving details of the text of the wall paintings, is available on the Landmark Trust website at www.landmarktrust.org.uk.



A few new books

Pressing the Cheese by Margaret Panikkar. Original research into the history of cheese making in Lancashire prior to 1840. 26 pages, 7 in colour. £3.50 including p&p from Margaret Panikkar, Bromiley, Ribchester Road, Clayton-le-Dale, Blackburn BB1 9EH.

Yorkshire Windmills Through Time by Alan Whitworth. £14.99, published by Amberley. Ten years on from the author's first book on *Yorkshire Windmills*, further research has led to a new work on the subject. This is not a scholarly book but is first and foremost a pictorial celebration and record.

Early European Decorated Tools by Jonathan Green-Plumb. Published by Stobart Davies, November 2011, £30. This publication is a survey of European hand tools, from various woodworking and other trades, dating from the sixteenth century to the nineteenth century. These often incorporated ancient symbols, dates and owners' initials, and include planes, braces, axes, compasses, saws and chisels.

Pevsner Architectural Guides – Cheshire. 800 pages, 120 in colour. September 2011.

... and a new book with optional accompanying tours!

Kilnsey – a Dales township by Sonia Wilkinson. The purchase and subsequent restoration of Kilnsey Old Hall inspired YVBSG member Sonia to research the history of the house, and the family who were responsible for its original construction in 1648. However, the long history of the Hall could not be fully told without including an explanation of the archaeologically important landscape in which it stands. From the late twelfth to the mid fourteenth century Kilnsey was the site of one of the most important granges belonging to Fountains Abbey. From then until the Dissolution, the area was restructured, but continued to be under monastic management. After a period of consolidation, land and buildings were purchased by former tenants and restructured yet again. This book is an account of the landscape, the buildings and the people who dominated Kilnsey

Township throughout these years. Available from Kilnsey Park Farm Shop, The Dales Book Centre in Grassington, or Over and Under in Kettlewell, price £12. Also from Kilnsey Old Hall, Kilnsey, Skipton BD23 5PS – please send a cheque for £12 payable to Kilnsey Old Hall, together with your name, address and telephone number.

An informative tour looking at the history of Kilnsey, conducted by Sonia, is also available. The tour starts with coffee at 10.15am and finishes at Kilnsey Park around 3.15pm. The trail is approximately two miles, mostly on tarmac or public footpaths. Please bring your own packed lunch. Groups will be a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 20, and booking is essential. Please ring 01756 753887 to confirm availability and make a provisional booking. A booking form will then be sent out to

you giving full details. A charge of £2 per person will be made to cover the trail sheet and lunch time refreshments. The dates are listed below, subject to weather; alternatively other dates for your own groups of 10 to 20 people may be arranged to suit your needs.

Dates: Wednesday 7 December 2011, Sunday 11 December 2011, Sunday 15 January 2012, Wednesday 8 February 2012.

Stop Press – recording opportunity!

If anyone is interested in taking part in recording and training days at Burns Farm (now Hornsea Museum) in the East Riding, please contact Tony Tolhurst. We expect to hold a recording/training day, probably at the end of February, with another follow-up event.

Chair: David Cook, 12 Annand Way, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 4ZD. Tel 01325 310114, email dcook0@talk21.com

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