

YORKSHIRE VERNACULAR BUILDINGS STUDY GROUP



Website: <http://www.yvbsg.org.uk/>

Newsheet No 29

July 2002

YVBSG events for your diary

30th Anniversary Picnic & Tour of Markenfield Hall

Saturday 20 July 2002

A perfect day – especially if the weather is good. And it's free of charge!

Markenfield Hall near Ripon is a completely moated and fortified manor house built in 1310 with later additions. Join us there for the official YVBSG 30th Anniversary picnic! This starts at 11am and includes a tour of the Hall, picnic (bring your own food and drink) and informal musical interludes (bring your own music, if you'd like to play or sing – rumours are that the Chairman will be bringing his Northumbrian pipes). Numbers are limited so please book early. Booking form enclosed. Although the event is free, donations will be welcome on the day.



Visit to Farnley Hall

Saturday 10 August 2002

Visit to Farnley Hall near Otley, a seventeenth century house altered and added to in the eighteenth century by John Carr, with good vernacular outbuildings. There will be a charge of £5 per person. Meet at 11am at the Hall (grid reference SE 216473). Numbers will be limited so please let David Crook know (either by phone between 7pm and 9pm, or by email or letter) by Saturday 20 July if you'd like to come.

Ripon Conference Review Day

Sunday 29 September 2002

Meet at 1.45pm for 2pm start at the Unicorn Hotel, Ripon. Finish approx 5pm. Presentations will be given on the buildings recorded in Ripon and Copt Hewick in May. Everyone welcome, even if you didn't attend the conference. There will be a small charge on the day to cover room and equipment hire.

A reminder to Ripon team leaders: please send your reports to Don McLellan by 1 September. If any team leaders are unable to present the findings at the conference review day on 29 September, or have any other issue with this, please contact David Cook as soon as possible.

Skidby Windmill & Walk around Beverley

Saturday 19 October 2002

There are two parts to this day – come to one or both.

In the morning is a visit to Skidby Windmill, located off the A164 between the Humber Bridge and Beverley. Built in 1821, Skidby is one of a few working mills left in the North of England. It forms a part of a fold yard complex with other buildings including stable block and piggeries, and was refurbished in 1999-2001. Meet at 10.30am at the windmill (there is car parking nearby). From 10.45am there will be a conducted tour of the windmill by Mr Clive Bowes, lasting about an hour. Flat shoes and warm clothing recommended. After the tour there will be time to visit the museum which houses a new exhibition, 'The story of the East Riding'. There is a small charge for the morning of £1.50 adults, 50p children, 80p concessions. Food will be available in the new cafe at the mill. We will leave the mill at about 1.20pm. If you'd like to attend, please contact Malcolm Birdsall (tel 01943 830460, email malcolm.birdsall@brhc.co.uk) up until the day before so that numbers can be monitored.



In the afternoon, Dr David Neave will lead a walk around the historic market town of Beverley. Meet at the north porch of Beverley Minster at 2pm; there are two timber-framed buildings nearby as well as the friary before heading into town. The walk will finish at around 4.30pm. No need to book for the afternoon walk.

Committee Meeting

Sunday 10 November 2002

If you'd like to bring any matter to the attention of the Committee, please contact the Secretary, David Crook.

30th Anniversary Banquet

We are hoping to organise a celebratory evening banquet later in the year. More details will be published in the next newsheet.

Some recent publications

Leyburn Long Ago – A Social History of a Town in Wensleydale by Knighton and Anne Butterworth. ISBN 0952192616. Published at £6.95 by AK and A Butterworth, Greystone, Preston-under-Scar, Nr Leyburn, North Yorks DL8 4AQ, email kandabutterworth@lineone.net. Chapters include a look at the buildings of the town and the people who used to live in them; fields and farming; roads and railway; domestic life through several centuries; worship, education and the workhouse. Local surnames are indexed.

'Manor Farm, Scotton' by Jen Deadman in the *Historic Farm Buildings Group Newsletter* No 34, Winter 2002. Interesting account of the structure and evolution of a significant medieval building near Knaresborough which came close to demolition due to its unlisted status.

Georgian Stairs published by the Georgian Group. Available at £6 including p&p from the Georgian Group, 6 Fitzroy Square, London W1T 5DX, tel 020 7387 1720, website <http://www.heritage.co.uk/georgian/>. Also available at the same price is *Georgian Chimneypieces*.

Tyke Towers: Yorkshire's Windmills by Alan Whitworth. £8 from bookshops or post free from Landy Publishing, 3 Staining Rise, Staining, Blackpool FY3 0UB, tel 01253 895678. Includes photos from the 1930s, together with a list of all known Yorkshire windmills and glossary of terms used by molinologists (windmill spotters).

The Archaeology of Mills & Milling by Martin Watts. £16.99, Tempus Publishing, tel 01453 883300. An account of grain mills and milling from prehistoric times to the post-medieval and modern period, using the evidence of excavation, fieldwork and historical research.

The English Model Farm: Building the Agricultural Ideal, 1700-1914 by Susanna Wade Martins. £18.99, Windgather Press 2002, ISBN 0953863050. Examines the architecture and landscape context of the farmsteads themselves, and considers the motives of the people who built them, drawing on the first comprehensive national survey of model farms recently completed by English Heritage.

Old Title Deeds: A Guide for Local and Family Historians by NW Alcock. £14.99, Phillimore 2001. Rewritten and enlarged second edition outlining the use and value of deeds, how to access information from various record offices and how to extract historical evidence from deeds.

The Art of the Plasterer by George Bankart. A 1908 classic, reprinted in 2002 by Donhead Publishing. £65 (one to order from your local library, perhaps!), ISBN 1873394519. Contains an account of wattle and dab as well as parge-work, using practical illustrated examples to describe the subject.

Discovering Your Old House by David Iredale and John Barrett. A new enlarged and updated edition of this useful publication. £6.99, ISBN 07478 0498 2, 176 pp. The story of an old house is told by the materials that make up its walls, floors and roof, and by manuscripts and printed books, in archives and public libraries. These crucial sources are described and explained with the help of quotations from old documents and reproductions of maps, plans and pictures. Available post free from Shire Publications Ltd, Cromwell House, Church Street, Princes Risborough, Bucks HP27 9AA, tel 01844 344301, email shire@shirebooks.co.uk, website <http://www.shirebooks.co.uk>.

Northumbrian Building Studies No 4, 2002, published by the Traditional Architecture Group. Includes reports on a kippered herring smoke house at Seahouses and a surviving seventeenth century longhouse at Cheswick. Available from Mrs V Bolter, 20 Osborne Avenue, Jesmond, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE2 1JQ, price £4 including p&p (or buy all four issues of *Northumbrian Building Studies* for £13), cheques payable to Traditional Architecture Group.



Learn more about ...

Country Houses of Lancashire

Monday 22 July to Friday 26 July 2002. Illustrated talks and visits studying houses ranging from the medieval Rufford Old Hall to the Victorian pastiche at Scarisbrick Hall – with Elizabethan Gawthorpe Hall and Georgian Lytham Hall between them. Who were these houses built for? Who were the architects and craftsmen who built and furnished them? Tutor: John Champness, Historic Buildings Advisor to Lancashire County Council. Course fee £139 (excluding accommodation). Details from Department of Continuing Education, Lancaster University, tel 01524 592645, email summer.programme@lancaster.ac.uk, website <http://www.lancs.ac.uk/depts/conted/sum-prog/sp-info.htm>.

Lancaster University is also running a course on Country Houses of the Lake District from Monday 29 July to Friday 2 August 2002, and from time to time organises courses on the vernacular architecture of the Lake District – enquiries to 01524 592624 or 592621.

Apotropaeic practices!

The Folklore Society has launched a survey on the magical protection of buildings by apotropaeic (evil-averting) practices. They would like to hear of material objects like animal remains, coins, bottles, cloth and leather. They are also interested in burn marks, sometimes called 'touch marks' or 'poker burns', as well as inscribed marks found near doors, windows, fireplaces and in roofs. Carpenters' marks based on Roman numerals should be ignored. Information on examples should be sent to Jennifer Chandler and John Dean at 2 Waterheath Road, Aldeby, Norfolk NOR34 0EL.

As reported in previous newsheets, research on folk magic finds is also being carried out by student Brian Hoggard, who is keen to hear of unusual objects found behind walls or under floors in Yorkshire buildings. He is happy to answer any queries that YVBSG members may have – see his website at <http://www.folkmagic.co.uk/index.html> or email him at b.hoggard@btinternet.com (no postal address at the moment as he is moving house).

Other events of possible interest

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

Watermills in the Dales

Sunday 7 July 2002

Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority walk, 2pm-5pm. Join David Colley at Sedbergh National Park Centre (4 miles, easy walk). This is just one of many National Park Authority walks and other events on offer during the summer: telephone the Bainbridge office on 01969 650 456 or the Grassington office on 01756 752 748, or see the YDNPA website at <http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/>.

Town, Suburb & Country

Wednesdays 3, 10, 17 July 2002

Hull College Summer School Local History Walks, 1pm-4pm, free, around Hull's Old Town, East Hull's Garden Village, and The Village on a Hill: Sutton. Details from Local History Unit, Park Street Centre, Hull College, Park Street, Hull HU2 8RR, tel 01482 383940, email historyunit@netscape.net.

National Archaeology Days

Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 July 2002

Full list of events available at <http://www.britarch.ac.uk/nads/> or from Jan Cox, Marketing & Events Officer, Council for British Archaeology, Bowes Morrell House, 111 Walmgate, York YO1 9WA, tel 01904 671417. Local events include:

- **Wharram Percy Deserted Medieval Village**, North Yorkshire (21 July). Tours of site at 11am and 2pm, and talks about recent survey work by a member of the survey team. Meet outside house at site. Contact: Julie Ward, English Heritage, tel 01904 601962, email: julie.ward@english-heritage.org.uk.
- **Manor House Art Gallery and Museum**, Castle Yard, Ilkley (20 July) 11am-4.00pm. Introduction to archaeological methods for anyone aged 8 upwards, with short walk to look at the archaeological evidence in the local landscape and buildings. Admission £3, no need to book. Contact Mary Bentham, Assistant Keeper, tel 01943 600066.
- **Rothwell Village** (20 July). Guided walks of Rothwell Village looking at historic sites and buildings, 10am and 2pm. Please book in advance. Contact: Dave Weldrake, Education & Information Officer, West Yorkshire Archaeology Service, Registry of Deeds, Newstead Road, Wakefield, tel 01924 306809, email wysmr@wysj.org.uk.

The People's Houses: Lincolnshire from c1750

Saturday 27 July 2002

Lincolnshire Local History Day, 9.45am to 5pm at The University of Lincoln. Talks include *Housing at the Turn of the 20th century*; *Rural Workers' Homes*; *Almshouses in Lincolnshire*; *Terraced Housing 1850 to 1910*; *Garden Cites and Garden Suburbs*; *Housing and Social Structure in Lincoln 1840-2002*; *Putting the Census on the Map: Carholme Road and Monks Road*. Cost £8. Send a cheque to: The Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology, Jew's Court, Steep Hill, Lincoln, LN2 1LS, made payable to SLHA. For further information telephone 01522 521337.

Hidden Treasures of the Hull Local Studies Library

Tuesday 13 August 2002

Meeting of Family & Local History Lunchtime Club with David Alexander Smith, at Hull Screen, Central Library, Hull, 12.30-1.30pm.

Historic Farm Buildings Group Annual Conference

Friday 6 to Sunday 8 September 2002

To be held in Inverness, with site visits in Sutherland and the Moray Firth. Details from Miss Ali Darragh, RCAHMS, John Sinclair House, 16 Bernard Terrace, Edinburgh EH8 9NX, tel 0131 662 1456, email alison@rcahms.gov.uk, or see website <http://www.glos.ac.uk/el/ccru/hfbg/>. Non-HFBC members £175 (resident), £75 (non-resident).



Heritage Open Days

Friday 13 to Monday 16 September 2002

The annual event co-ordinated by the Civic Trust, tel 020 7930 0914. Opens the doors to nearly 2000 fascinating properties and activities throughout the country, many of which are not normally open or accessible. Details available in August on website <http://www.heritageopendays.org/> or see local press.

The Village in its Setting

Saturday 14 & Sunday 15 September 2002

Weekend workshop with Dr Richard Muir at Middleham Key Centre. Fee payable on door. Details from Middleham Key Centre, tel 01969 624002.

A Study of Flamborough and its Environs

Saturday 28 September 2002

East Yorkshire Local History Society Day School at the Public Library, King Street, Bridlington at 10.15, with field visit to Flamborough in the afternoon. Contact: Secretary, EYLHS, 13 Oaktree Drive, Molescroft, Beverley HU17 7BB.

North Yorkshire History Conference

Saturday 5 October 2002

10am to 4pm at Golden Lion Hotel, High Street, Northallerton. Organised by University of Teesside Centre for Local Historical Research in collaboration with Northallerton and District Local History Society. Details from John Sheehan 01609 771878.

Local History Seminar, Barnoldswick

Saturday 12 October 2002

Local history seminar in Barnoldswick, 10am-4.30pm, organised by Earby Local History Society and Barnoldswick History Society. Lectures include migration of Dales families to the mill towns, and traditional architecture of the area; speakers Eric Higham and Susan Wrathmell. Cost £12.50 including lunch. Details from Mrs Helen Horner, 22 Salterforth Road, Earby, Barnoldswick, Lancs BB18 6ND (please send SAE), or email bobabel@talk21.com.

Local History Bookfair

Saturday 26 October 2002

Annual bookfair at the Memorial Hall, Beverley, organised by East Riding of Yorkshire Council Library & Information Service, tel 01482 392755.

Archaeological & Historical Bookfair

Saturday 9 November 2002

Annual bookfair at the Archaeological Resource Centre, St Saviourgate, York, from 10am to 4pm. Free admission.

When Was it Built?

Saturday 23 November 2002

Leeds University day school on English medieval churches and how to work out the building history from what can be seen in the fabric. Tutor Janet Walker. Fee £17.50. Details from University of Leeds, tel 0113 233 3220.

Sherlock Homes?

The Group was accorded some national publicity in March when The Telegraph printed an article entitled 'Super Snoops' which declared how 'the secrets of our old houses are being uncovered by a new breed of detective'.

The article described the discovery of witch marks by the Norfolk Historic Buildings Society, and then went on to talk about the work of other local buildings groups. Specifically mentioned was the ongoing recording by the YVBSG of Longley Old Hall near Huddersfield (<http://www.longleyoldhall.co.uk/>), a stone house which looks to be of the seventeenth century and later from the outside but contains a much older timber-framed house inside, perhaps dating back to 1340.

On spotting this national exposure, David Cant, the leader of the recording team at Longley, remarked 'I'll have to finish the report now....'.



Measuring techniques ...

Newer members might not have heard about a useful and inexpensive booklet called *Recording Standing Buildings* by Barbara Hutton. Published in 1986, it outlines the basic method used by many YVBSG members when measuring and drawing a building, and includes some Yorkshire examples. Available for £2.50 (including p&p) from RESCUE, The British Archaeological Trust, 15a Bull Plain, Hertford, Herts SG14 1DX, tel 01992 553377, website <http://www.rescue-archaeology.freeserve.co.uk/pubs.html>. Cheques should be made payable to RESCUE.

Poles apart

The Group has recently purchased three five-metre poles for taking vertical measurements of buildings. These will be distributed around the county in order to make them as useful as possible, and will be taken along to group recording events. Two poles are currently lodged with David Cook and one with Peggy Secor; if you'd like to borrow one, please contact David or Peggy.

Thank you!

Those who attended the day school on mills and workshops in York in March, and the annual recording conference in Ripon in May, will want to congratulate David Cook on all the hard work he put into organising these enjoyable and very successful events. In addition, thanks are extended to the day school speakers, and to Mike Younge from the Ripon Local Studies Research Centre for jointly organising the Ripon conference.

Thanks to Alison Armstrong for arranging the Low Winskill Farm Field day – though the weather was wet, it didn't dampen people's interest and enthusiasm. Thanks also to Arnold Pacey for his contributions, and to Stephen Moorhouse. Last but not least, a big thank you to the owner, Tom Lord.

Apt remarks?

Joyce Williams came across the following interesting observations:

Architecture offers quite extraordinary opportunities to serve the community, to enhance the landscape, refresh the environment and to advance mankind.

The successful architect needs training to overcome these pitfalls, however, and start earning some serious money.

Stephen Fry

The physician can bury his mistakes; but the architect can only advise his client to plant vines.

Frank Lloyd Wright

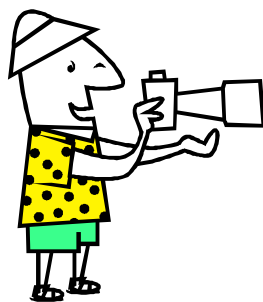
On the box

Currently being repeated on BBC2 (Tuesdays 8.30–9.00pm from 25 June) is Aubrey Manning's series on *Talking Landscapes*. Worth watching if you missed it the first time round.

Photo opportunity?

Volunteer photographers are still needed to participate in the *Images of England* project (<http://www.imagesofengland.org.uk/>), which has started to make available on the internet pictures of all England's listed buildings. Volunteers receive travel expenses and film and processing costs. For further information, email ioevolunteers@english-heritage.org.uk or phone 01793 414643.

If you haven't already seen the *Images of England* website, it's well worth investigating. Although photos aren't yet available for all buildings you can still search the database and obtain a description for any listed building.



This year's journal

Members will find enclosed with this Newsheet the 2002 edition of the annual journal, *Yorkshire Buildings* – I hope you enjoy reading it. It's heartening to see several new contributors this year and I hope their articles inspire others to try their hand at putting pen to paper (contributions now welcome for the 2003 edition!), or perhaps to respond to the authors' requests for information. Additional copies are available at £4 plus 75p p&p from Lorraine Moor.

Day school 2003

The proposed theme of next year's YVBSG day school on Saturday 15 March 2003 is *The House and Family History*. Have you researched the history of the owners and occupants of your or someone else's house? Or do you know of someone who has? David Cook is looking for talks on research bringing forward evidence for change in ownership or circumstance that has led to rebuilding or modification, or even change of purpose or use. Overviews or case studies welcome. Please contact David if you can help.

Next newsheet

Thank you to everybody who contributed to this newsheet. Please send any items for the next newsheet to the editor by the end of August 2002.