



# YORKSHIRE VERNACULAR BUILDINGS STUDY GROUP

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Newsheet No 96

June 2019

## YVBSG Events For Your Diary

### A visit to Horton-in-Ribblesdale

Saturday 22 June 2019

A full-day visit to this large parish in north Craven. Meet at the Yorkshire Dales National Car Park in Horton-in-Ribblesdale at 10am. Parking at the YDNPA car park costs £4.50 for over two hours. Alternatively, park at the Golden Lion public house all day for £2 (the lower car park). Read parking instructions when putting £2 in the padlocked box. There may also be places (free) on the road between the Crown public house and the railway station. Tea/coffee can be purchased at the Golden Lion from 9.30am.

The YVBSG has surveyed over thirty buildings here, and in 1995 Arnold Pacey led an eleven-mile walk. This visit involves car-sharing and short walks, looking at farmhouses and barns. Many members might never have seen a ridge of interlocking slates known as 'wrestlers', as seen at Hewbell Barn, the most southerly known example in England. Two houses have 'weatherwalls': extra gable walls to keep out the rain. Around eighteen are known in north Craven and Lancashire. Horton Flags were used to construct water troughs and water tanks, which have five slabs bolted together. Porches, internal walls, heck walls, gate stoops, clapper bridges, drip moulds, and boundary markers are built with these flags.

At the time of writing, houses to be seen include Lodge Hall (1687 - Grade 2\*); Top Farm, Selside (1726 and earlier); we will see the interior of The Shaws, Selside (1738 and earlier); North Cote Farm has weatherwall, trough and water tank; Rowe Farmhouse (1728 on battlemented lintel).

St Oswald's Church (Grade 1) has a twelfth century nave. Inside, the floor is paved with massive Horton Flags - one measures 9' by 5' 7". We will measure the others! Lunch at the Helwith Bridge Inn, where the floor is paved with even



Lodge Hall

bigger flags - one is 9' 3" by 6'. See the menu online at [www.helwithbridgeinn.co.uk](http://www.helwithbridgeinn.co.uk). The intriguingly-named Hotel Paradiso can be seen nearby! For further information about thirty-two listed Horton structures, see the websites [www.imagesofengland.org.uk](http://www.imagesofengland.org.uk) and [britishlistedbuildings.co.uk](http://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk).

If you'd like to come, please email Kevin Illingworth on [j.k.illingworth@btinternet.com](mailto:j.k.illingworth@btinternet.com) leaving your telephone number, or phone Kevin on 01422 844941, stating whether you wish to have lunch. Maximum of 25.

### Conference Team Leaders' Meeting

Saturday 29 June 2019

Conference team leaders are invited to attend this meeting at 1.30pm in the Lonsdale Room at the Friargate Meeting House, York ([www.yorkquakers.org.uk/friargatequakerm.html](http://www.yorkquakers.org.uk/friargatequakerm.html)). The purpose is to share findings from the recent Sheffield recording conference and help each other complete reports. Any enquiries to David Cook (contact details on back page).

### Conference Review Day

Saturday 14 September 2019

An event to review the findings of the Sheffield recording conference. Details to follow in the next Newsheet.

### A walk around Bedale

Saturday 28 September 2019

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



North Cote Farm

## Reports on recent events

### A Sheffield Taster

Ten members congregated on Saturday 30 March 2019 at the Bank View Café in Langsett, distinctive with its outside walls painted in pink polka dots since the Tour de France passed by in 2014. Suitably refreshed we strolled around Langsett, where we noted the barn conversions and the varying shapes of the ventilator slits. On overhearing our discussions outside Langsett Barn, the Peak District National Park Authority rangers kindly invited us to view the interior of this refurbished timber-framed stone-clad barn managed by the National Park as a community space available for rent. There is a datestone of 1621 but the barn could have earlier origins.

We walked on across the Langsett Reservoir dam and up the slope to the hamlet of Upper Midhope. Our first visit here was to Manor Farmhouse, one of those houses where you know just from looking at the outside – with its 1671 datestone, mullion windows with leaded



Manor Farmhouse, Upper Midhope



Graffiti at Manor Farmhouse

lights and unusually chunky square hoodmould stops – that there's going to be something good inside. Sure enough, a look through the front door revealed part of a cruck truss (dendro-dated to 1540) and a plank and muntin partition sitting upon a sill. The most extraordinary feature, however, is the set of ceiling joists in this room, many of which are covered in inscribed graffiti – names, dates and pieces of text apparently describing various events such as the payment of land tax by someone called Adam, and how 'Mr Mauson on horse back asked about bull'. Most of the dates are of the mid nineteenth century and the name 'Hawksworth' features several times (the family lived here at one time and the house is also known as Hawksworth House). Further graffiti appears on the leaded lights of the window in this room. We recorded this fascinating piece of history in more detail during the annual recording conference.

Further along the lane, Wellbank Farm is an interesting complex of buildings which includes a cruck barn. A couple of ranges of dwellings form an L-shape along two sides of the farmyard. The lobby entry of No 2 led us into a housebody with wall panelling, a massive cruck truss, and an

impressive fireplace area with long bressumer which has been carved into a decorative shape at each end, and which incorporates a cut-out doorhead for the heck door. A hefty old door gives access from the lobby to the kitchen with its stone fireplace and terrifyingly steep stone spiral staircase tucked in alongside, forming a neat arrangement of integrated features. Looking up through the roof hatch, a glimpse of the cruck apex can be seen above a partition or remnant of a smokehood.

St James' Church at Midhopestones is well worth a visit if you're in the area. Probably of medieval origin, it was rebuilt in a vernacular style in 1705 as indicated by the datestone on the porch. Inside can be found a seventeenth century pulpit, a gallery, and box pews, including one still labelled 'Mr. Jno. Wilfon Seat'.



St James' Church, Midhopestones



Fair House, Low Bradfield

After lunch at the Old Horns Inn at High Bradfield, we descended the steep hill into Low Bradfield for our last visit of the day to Fair House, a two-cell seventeenth century house. As you approach the house along the drive, you pass a long low cruck building now used as a garage: was this an earlier house on the site? As at Wellbank, the housebody at Fair House is entered from the lobby through an arched doorway cut into the bressumer. The room contains a wealth of features which have been carefully restored by the owners over recent years, including internal panelling dated 1687 and a smokehood which makes its way upwards through all three storeys. Within the fireplace area on the ground floor is what seems to be a smoking or drying chamber; in the room above is an ingenious built-in box-like structure, the heavy lid of which opens into the top of the chamber below, providing access to whatever might be hanging from the hooks there. A very steep stone spiral

staircase leads from ground floor to first floor level, followed by a wooden staircase with flat balusters leading to the attic floor, where the roof timbers can be seen. And to make it all even better, the owners very kindly provided tea and cake!

We thank Peter Thornborrow for arranging this enjoyable Taster day introducing us to some of the surprising highlights of South Yorkshire, and the householders for their hospitality and for allowing us to invade their homes.

*Lorraine Moor*

**Postscript:** Further to the Taster visit, the buildings which were eventually surveyed at the recording conference in May were Langsett Barn in Langsett, Concord Park Barn in Sheffield, Manor Farm at Upper Midhope, Fair House at Low Bradfield, White House Farm in Stannington, and Hatfield House and Carbrook Hall in Sheffield. The reports will be summarised in *Yorkshire Buildings* as usual, and the buildings will also be described at the review day in September.



## 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!

### Open Farm Sunday

Sunday 9 June 2019

Hundreds of farms across the country will open their gates to the public, offering a chance to look for traditional farm buildings. For example at Cattleside Farm, Rathmell, barns have ornate datestones/doorheads dated 1721, 1890, and 1714. There are two slate-slab troughs, and re-used timbers in barn. Details at [farmsunday.org](http://farmsunday.org).

### Nunnington Hall Behind the Scenes

Tuesday 11 June 2019 and other dates

Behind the scenes tours of Nunnington Hall, exploring unseen rooms and collection items. £3, 2pm. See [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/nunnington-hall](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/nunnington-hall).

### Merchant Taylors Hall Open Day

Tuesday 11 June 2019 and other dates

A chance to visit this York guild hall which dates from 1415. 11am to 3pm, free entry, with informal tours available. For details of dates, see [www.merchant-taylors-york.org](http://www.merchant-taylors-york.org).

### Every Barn tells a Story

Saturday 15 June 2019

A 5-mile guided walk from Keld to Angram and back exploring the history and conservation behind the many barns in Upper Swaledale, which formed part of a self-sustaining farming system. 1.30-4.30pm, £4.50, Book via Keld Resource Centre, 07790 401476, [www.keld.org.uk](http://www.keld.org.uk).

### Thorns: an abandoned settlement

Saturday 22 June 2019

A walk led by David Johnson around this former farming community with a recorded history of settlement from 1189 to 1881. 10am to 12pm, £15. Part of Stories in Stone project. Booking form at [www.ydmt.org](http://www.ydmt.org) or phone Hannah Rose at Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust on 015242 51002.

### Captain Cook's Cottage

Friday 28 June 2019

Lunchtime lecture by John Robinson, 12.30pm at North Yorkshire County Record Office, Northallerton. £2. Details at [www.northyorks.gov.uk/record-office-projects-and-events](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/record-office-projects-and-events).

### Some Upper Wharfedale Field Barns

Thursday 4 July 2019

A leisurely day walk by Pat Carroll for Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group. See [www.uwhg.org.uk](http://www.uwhg.org.uk).

### Annual Coach Tour

Friday 5 July 2019

Annual event organised by Greater Manchester Building Preservation Trust. Includes a guided tour of Lion Salt Works at Northwich, Cheshire, and a visit to Norton Priory Museum and Gardens, Runcorn. Tickets £40. Contact Claire Borg, telephone 01282 877686 or email [claire.borg@htnw.co.uk](mailto:claire.borg@htnw.co.uk).

### Wath Mill Open Day

Saturday 6 July and 3 August 2019

An opportunity to see the mill machinery inside Wath Mill, near Pateley Bridge. Open 10.30am to 1.30pm, entry free. Wath Chapel, an intriguing building with five sides of differing lengths, will also be open to visitors and serving refreshments. See [nidderdaleaonb.org.uk](http://nidderdaleaonb.org.uk).

### National Meadow Day

Saturday 6 July 2019

National Meadow Day at Bell Sykes Farm, Slaidburn. House dated 1787. Large water tank built with Horton Flags and 'Dairy' inscription on a window sill. Refreshments in 18th century barn. [www.forestofbowland.com](http://www.forestofbowland.com).

### Five Mills Walk

Sunday 7 July 2019

After a brief slide show, join Jim Hall on a 7-mile walk which takes in five mills, one probably the only new working mill in Yorkshire. Also view the Norman crypt at Lastingham church. 10am to 3pm, free, but booking essential at North York Moors National Park, 01439 772738, [www.northyorkmoors.org.uk](http://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk).

### Vernacular buildings walk in Langcliffe

Tuesday 9 July 2019

Guided walk led by Alison Armstrong showcasing the buildings of the village. 10am to 12pm, £10. Part of Stories in Stone project. Booking form at [www.ydmt.org](http://www.ydmt.org) or phone Hannah Rose at Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust on 015242 51002.

### Festival of Archaeology 2019

Saturday 13 to Sunday 28 July 2019.

The Festival is coordinated by the Council for British Archaeology and showcases the very best of archaeology for everyone. This year the theme is archaeology, science and technology. Online programme available at [festival.archaeologyuk.org](http://festival.archaeologyuk.org).

### Vernacular buildings guided walk in Austwick

Tuesday 16 July 2019

Guided walk led by Alison Armstrong showcasing the buildings of the village. 10am to 12pm, £10. Part of Stories in Stone project. Booking form at [www.ydmt.org](http://www.ydmt.org) or phone Hannah Rose at Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust on 015242 51002.



### Vernacular buildings guided walk in Clapham

Saturday 20 July 2019

Guided walk led by Alison Armstrong showcasing the buildings of the village. 10am to 12pm, £10. Part of Stories in Stone project. Booking form at [www.ydmt.org](http://www.ydmt.org) or phone Hannah Rose at Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust on 015242 51002.

### Around Heptonstall

Sunday 22 July 2019

A stroll around Eaves, Slack and Heptonstall to discover folklore, poets, plague villages and other aspects of local history. Meet John Billingsley at 2.15pm in Heptonstall Bowling Club car park. £3, no need to book. Details at [www.calderdaleheritagewalks.org.uk](http://www.calderdaleheritagewalks.org.uk).

### Buildings and landscape walk

Saturday 27 July 2019

Tatham History Society walk, looking at features of interest in landscape and buildings. £3. [www.tathamhistory.org.uk](http://www.tathamhistory.org.uk).

### The Early History of Shelf

Sunday 4 August 2019

Ben Stables, author of *The Early History of Shelf: A West Yorkshire Village before 1700*, will lead a walk around some of the places in the book for Halifax Antiquarian Society, 2pm to 4pm. Details at [www.halifaxhistory.org.uk](http://www.halifaxhistory.org.uk).

### Barns, Walls and Bridges

Tuesday 6 August 2019

A 4-mile walk in Upper Wensleydale. 1.30 to 4pm, £5. Booking advisable via Hawes National Park Centre, 01969 666210, [www.yorkshiredales.org.uk](http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk).

## Other events of possible interest ... (continued)

### Hawes Rural Heritage

Sunday 18 August 2019

A 5.5-mile walk through fields and along old bridleways looking at evidence of old industries and traditional rural activities in local hamlets, villages, barns and lime kilns. 11am to 4pm, £5. Booking advisable via Hawes National Park Centre, 01969 666210, [www.yorkshiredales.org.uk](http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk).

### South Pennine Houses – their History and their People

Saturday 12 October 2019

Day school at The Birchcliffe Centre, Hebden Bridge, 9.15am to 4.45pm. Talks include *West Yorkshire Registry of Deeds* (West Yorkshire Archive Service); *Censuses and house history* (Anne Mealia); *Land valuation survey 1910-1915* (Mary Twentyman and Barbara Reardon); *Probate records* (Hazel Seidel); and case studies on *Old Town Hall* (David Cant) and *Higher Kinders* (Mike Buckley). To book, send your contact details and cheque for £20 payable to Hebden Bridge Local History Society to Rachel Smith, Bramble Dene, Moss Lane, Hebden Bridge HX7 7DS, or email [membership@hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk](mailto:membership@hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk) for enquiries.

## Publications

*Decorative Plasterwork of the Yorkshire Region, 1570-1670*. During the recent recording conference it was mentioned that David Bostwick's 1993 thesis is available online. For anyone interested in following this up, it can be found on the White Rose eTheses Online website at [etheses.whiterose.ac.uk](http://etheses.whiterose.ac.uk) (type 'David Bostwick' into the Search box).

*West Yorkshire: an Archaeological Survey to A.D. 1500* In the previous Newsheet we invited bids for the four volumes by Faull and Moorhouse (1981), which has good sections on vernacular buildings and other topics. As no bids have yet been received, we are extending the deadline to 30 June 2019 – please send bids to David Cant at [davidjcant@hotmail.com](mailto:davidjcant@hotmail.com).

## Yorkshire Buildings

Members will find the latest edition of our annual journal, *Yorkshire Buildings*, enclosed with this Newsheet. It's a bumper edition this time – we hope you enjoy it!

## Next Newsheet

The next Newsheet will be in August 2019 – please send any contributions to the editor by 31 July 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.

## Barbecue at Everill Shaw, Heptonstall

YVBSG members are invited to the annual barbecue on Saturday 15 June 2019 at the early seventeenth century Everill Shaw Farmhouse, Edge Lane, Heptonstall (about three miles north west of Hebden Bridge). See *British Listed Buildings* website at [britishlistedbuildings.co.uk](http://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk) for location. Barbecue is in early nineteenth century attached barn and garden.

House has a three-cell cross-passage plan with four-light fire-window. Interior features to be seen include unusual parpoint wall and reeded joists (see *Yorkshire Buildings* No 43 (2015) for more details. The event, courtesy of owner Yvonne Davis (a YVBSG member), is in aid of Heptonstall Parish Church. Free entry – donations welcome. If you would like to come, please email Kevin Illingworth on [j.k.illingworth@btinternet.com](mailto:j.k.illingworth@btinternet.com) or telephone Kevin on 01422 844941, leaving your telephone number.



Everill Shaw

## Courses and training

### 3D Photogrammetry

An introduction by Douglas Mitcham to using 3D photogrammetry in recording the historic environment. Includes an outdoor practical where participants will undertake the image capture of a built heritage structure, as well as training on the use of bespoke software. Wednesday 24 July 2019, 9.30am to 3pm, at Broadrake Bunkbarn near Chapel-le-Dale, £30. Part of Stories in Stone project. Booking form at [www.ydmt.org](http://www.ydmt.org) or phone Hannah Rose at Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust on 015242 51002. See March Newsheet for David Cook's review of a similar course.

## Committee news

At the AGM on 23 March 2019 we welcomed two new members to the committee, Nick Nelson and Gunhild Wilcock. Alison Armstrong stood down from the committee after serving for many years, and we pass on our grateful thanks for all her valued help and advice during this time. The full committee now comprises:

- Honorary President: Barry Harrison
- Chair: Peter Thornborrow
- Secretary and Enquiries Secretary: Mary Cook
- Treasurer: Sue Southwell
- Membership Secretary: Pat Leggett
- Archivist: David Cook
- Newsletter Editor and Webmaster: Lorraine Moor
- Committee members: Kevin Illingworth, Nick Nelson, Tony Robinson, Gunhild Wilcock

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

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