



# YORKSHIRE VERNACULAR BUILDINGS STUDY GROUP

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Newsheet No 107

June 2022

Dear Member,

Welcome to our 107th Newsheet. In recent months Kevin Illingworth has been investigating the building records held by the Pendle Heritage Centre including the photographic collection of Ralph Cross (see David Cant's article on page 5). This reminded me of my early twenties when I had bought my first house after leaving college in 1969, near Pecket Well above Hebden Bridge called Akroyd. This was a wing of a semi-derelict stone farmhouse that I gradually restored. I wrote about these early years of living in the Calder Valley in *Yorkshire Buildings* 45 (2017) describing meeting Ralph Cross and Edward Watson. I learnt much about vernacular buildings from them as I drove them about on trips at weekends (see my article on High Hirst on page 6); I was lucky to have such expert and enthusiastic guides to my new area.

I want to share with you a memory of a life-changing chance meeting when planning a walk of the old farmhouses and cottages of Brierley, a small hamlet between Mytholmroyd and Luddenden Foot, for the local history group. I knocked on the door of one row of cottages up Hobb Lane near Little Scout Farm ([historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1229587](http://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1229587)) and met the owner who somewhat mischievously led me up the garden path, so to speak! The conversation went something like this: he asked 'Is my house old then? How do you know - what do you find interesting about it?' 'Well it's got mullioned windows with hollow-chamfered (cavetto) mullions with unusual arched heads.' 'So how old are they then?' 'Well they are usually only found on early buildings of around 1600 in this area; but I'm confused by it, as it's got flat-faced mullioned windows of maybe c1780 at the first floor, and I can't see where the original door is as it's got some blocked doors but none with a seventeenth century lintel.' 'Ah, well that's because it evolved from a two-cell gable-entry plan.' My thought

was that householders do not normally say things like that! He continued 'the original door can only be seen inside as there were later additions added on to the gable. Well yes, you can bring your party to have a look - when you come knock on the door and I'll come out and talk to your group'. 'Thank you sir, could I have your name so I can introduce you please?' He replied 'Stell, Christopher Stell'. Then I said 'you're not *the* Christopher Stell are you, who did a thesis on the buildings in this part of the world?' 'Well, yes, guilty as charged.' 'But aren't you also now a Royal Commissioner for Historic Monuments?' 'Yes.' I felt very embarrassed and said 'I don't think that was very fair asking me to explain the building to you. You're the expert and I'm just an amateur.' 'Sorry about that - why don't you come in and have a look?' Within the next ten minutes he offered me a malt whisky, threw a log on the fire, and we soon became firm friends. He asked if he could join my walk which I agreed to, after which he said I should join the VAG, proposing me as a member and encouraging me to come on their spring conferences, sitting next to me on the coach and taking me under his wing.

Some ten years later he rang me asking if I'd seen the job to resurvey Calderdale for listed buildings, but I said I didn't think they would interview me as I was a school's music teacher and he replied 'Oh they will! I will write you a testimonial that will ensure you get an interview'. He did, and I became Calderdale's Architectural Historian



1742 dated keystone at  
The Lilacs, Fishlake

completing the survey in two years, after which the Inspectorate engaged me for phase two of the national re-survey of buildings to do the rest of West Yorkshire. So it really was a moment in time that was to change my future career.

### Doncaster Taster Visit

We plan to meet in Campsall on Saturday 13 August to look at the outstandingly interesting church of St Mary Magdalene, after which we will cross the road to see the medieval rectory before going for a buffet lunch at The Owston on the A19. The details of the rest of the day have not been finalised but may include a visit to Fishlake, also with a wonderful Norman church and a village of interesting brick houses, and the estate village of Hooton Pagnell on its limestone ridge. Here we will see the exterior of the fourteenth century gatehouse of the medieval hall and walk through the village where the seventeenth century limestone houses are mostly gable-on to the street. Full details to follow in due course.

### Annual recording conference

In preparation for the conference on 23 to 25 September, a sub-committee has been meeting by Zoom most weeks to go through all of the photos and presentations I prepared on the South Yorkshire districts. Most recently we have been researching the Doncaster area prior to our next recce. I have been looking through the OS maps for names that might be interesting; for example I spotted a moated site at Tilts which we are following up. We then check the listed building descriptions, Google Maps and even Street View to get a glimpse of the building. We found a website at [arkvillhistory.blogspot.com](http://arkvillhistory.blogspot.com) from which we learnt a lot about the area thanks to the various links and the excellent research displayed on the site. Our recces continue!

*Peter Thornborrow*

## Future YVBSG events: dates for your diary

### Vernacular Buildings of the Todmorden countryside part two

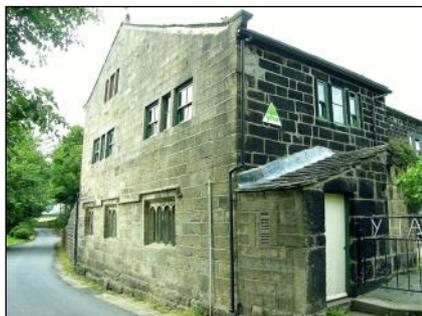
**- NOW FULLY BOOKED**

Saturday 25 June 2022

Our next event, the first YVBSG in-person gathering for 2022, will be a walk in the countryside near Todmorden on Saturday 25 June 2022, led by Kevin Illingworth. This will be the sixteenth visit or walk arranged by Kevin for the Group since Slaidburn in 2006. He led a walk in this area in September last year but there was yet more to be seen – hence part two. In the morning we will walk up Eastwood Lane to Eastwood Old Hall (c1730-40), Higher Eastwood (1630), Upper House Farm (porch 1716), and Hipperholme Farmhouse (1686). The lane becomes very steep for a short distance after the Hall. Peter Thornborrow took a group to some of these buildings in the late 1990s.



Eastwood Old Hall



Mankinholes YHA

In the afternoon we drive to the south side of the Calder Valley, to the small village of Mankinholes, where we can have lunch nearby at The Top Brink or Shepherds Rest public house. In Mankinholes is the late sixteenth century Mankinholes Hall – now the YHA youth hostel. Mostly re-built in the early nineteenth century, but the original gable by the roadside has round-arched mullion windows. Nearby is the late sixteenth century Old Farmhouse, and six water troughs in a line by the roadside.

We'll meet at 10.30am at Lob Mill Car Park (free) on the north side of the A646 (Halifax Road) between Hebden Bridge and Todmorden, near the railway viaduct. Two yellow height



Water troughs

barriers indicate the maximum height of 2.1 metres. No public toilets in the morning. It may be possible to park on the A646 near the bottom of Eastwood Lane, but Lob Mill Car Park is still the best place to initially meet. Some car sharing may be needed in the morning. You can leave the walks whenever you wish to. Stout footwear recommended.

Maximum of 20 members. If you'd like to come, please email Kevin Illingworth on [j.killingworth@btinternet.com](mailto:j.killingworth@btinternet.com) or telephone 01422 844941, leaving your telephone number slowly and clearly. Please state whether you would like to have lunch. Lighter bites start at £6.95 for Cumberland sausage, or £7.65 for lasagne.

**NB. This event was previously advertised to members by email and is now fully booked.**

### 50th Anniversary Celebration

July 2022

Arrangements are in progress for an event to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the YVBSG. Details will be circulated as soon as they are finalised.

### Doncaster Taster Visit

Saturday 13 August 2022

Originally planned to take place in March 2022, this event will now be held later in the year and is likely to include visits to Campsall, Fishlake and Hooton Pagnell. Details will be circulated when confirmed.

### Annual Recording Conference

Friday 23 to Sunday 25 September 2022

Our recording conference in the Doncaster area is planned to be based at the Junction 36 Holiday Inn, Warmsworth Hall, Doncaster. Details to follow.

### Third Thursday Talks

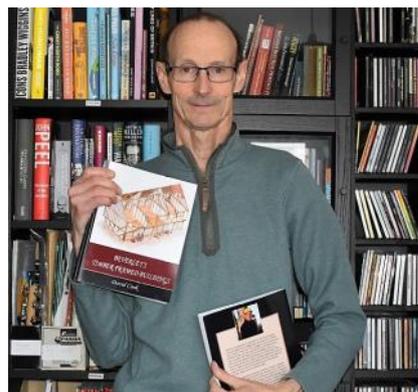
We hope to arrange further online talks during 2022 although none are confirmed at present. These normally take place by Zoom at 7.30pm on the third Thursday of the month and there will be the opportunity for questions after each talk. The talks are open to all (including non-members) and are free of charge. Members will be notified by email when booking is open for each talk, or you can keep an eye on the 'Events' page of our website. We thank all the members who have given talks so far; we are still looking for volunteers to give future talks and if you are interested in doing so, please contact Mary Cook on [secretary@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:secretary@yvbsg.org.uk).

The recording of the latest talk, *The South Yorkshire Buildings Survey: an introduction* by Peter Thornborrow, can be watched online together with other talks by following the links on the 'Events' page of the YVBSG website, or by going directly to our YouTube channel.

## Beverley's Timber-Framed Buildings – published!

We are delighted to announce the publication of *Beverley's Timber-Framed Buildings* by David Cook. In 2014 the Group started a project, partly funded by Historic England, to identify, survey and interpret early building fabric in Beverley, and the work has resulted in this book. With input from Dr Susan Neave and other YVBSG members, David (the project leader and YVBSG Archivist) draws on the findings of the project to reveal new details about Beverley's buildings and to set them into the town's historical and landscape context.

The East Yorkshire town of Beverley was the eleventh largest town in England in the Middle Ages. Dominated by its Minster and St Mary's Church, the other buildings of the town were made of timber frames. Over the centuries these timber-framed houses were torn down and replaced by newer buildings. However traces of the old timber-framed Beverley can still be found. Some are visible from the street. Others are hidden behind new facades or in attics. David has painstakingly identified the location of these remains to build a fascinating picture of how Beverley and other similar towns would have looked. The book explores how the buildings evolved, starting with a thematic approach including archaeology, plan forms, carpentry and structure. This is followed by a detailed appraisal of each building, starting with the oldest. Finally, analysis of Beverley probate inventories and wills of the late seventeenth and early eighteenth century gives an impression of these buildings and how they were used at the end of the timber-framing tradition in the town.



The book is published by Blackthorn Press (May 2022) and is available from Amazon at £19.95.

We congratulate David on this admirable achievement which is a fitting cause for celebration in the Group's 50th year.

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## Books donated from the late Jacky Quarmby's collection

The following publications are offered free to a good home: you'll need to collect from Durham or pay postage. Please contact David Cook on [archivist@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:archivist@yvbsg.org.uk), if you are interested in taking any of these volumes.

- *Vernacular Architecture* (the VAG journal). Vol 5 (1974) to Vol 45 (2014). Only Vol 30 (1999) is missing.
- Parts 1-4 of Arnold Pacey's *Yorkshire Dales Field Barns* guide (2009-2010).
- *Illustrated Handbook of Vernacular Architecture* by R W Brunskill. 3rd ed (1987).
- *Using Documents* – English Heritage (1996), *Using Hist Parks and Gardens* – English Heritage (1996), *Using Houses & Homes* – English Heritage (1996).
- *Yorkshire Buildings* (1988-2020, 1989 missing).
- *Parish Register of Beverley St Mary*. Two vols 1561-1689.
- *CVBG (Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group) Newsletter*. Numbers 5-13 with gaps.
- *Ryedale Historian* (misc. issues).
- *Teesside Archaeological Soc. Bull.* Vols 8-19 (2003-2014).
- *History of Beverley* by Pamela Hopkins. 2nd ed (2011).
- *Durham Archaeological Journal*. Vol 4 (1988), Vols 10-15 (1994-1999).
- *Homesteads of the Yorkshire Dales* by James Walton (1979).
- *Vernacular Buildings in a Changing World* ed Sarah Pearson et al (2001).
- *Discovering Traditional Farm Buildings* by J E C Peters (1981).
- *Discovering Cottage Architecture* by Christopher Powell (1996).
- *Discovering Timber Framed Buildings* by Richard Harris. 2nd ed (1979).

There is one further book available from Jacky's collection but we seek offers for this one: *Vernacular Houses in North Yorkshire and Cleveland* by Harrison and Hutton (1984). Excellent condition. Offers please to David Cook on [archivist@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:archivist@yvbsg.org.uk). The current going rate for this publication is about £70 including shipping (AbeBooks.uk).

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## Volunteers sought for photo mapping project



Hundreds of slides of vernacular buildings taken by Alison Armstrong have been donated to the Group, and these will be scanned to make them available to members for interest and

research. To make them accessible we will plot their locations on a new interactive map via [www.yvbsg.org.uk](http://www.yvbsg.org.uk).

To help us do this, we are looking for volunteers. Using the scanned images, the volunteers' role will be to identify the location of the building using Google Maps satellite imagery and Street View, then copy the latitude and longitude of the building. Once a batch of buildings has been completed in this way, we'll ask you to send them off to the Archivist to add to the master list.

Please contact David Cook on [archivist@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:archivist@yvbsg.org.uk) if you are interested in helping.



## From the archive: Scarborough

Next time you visit the seaside town of Scarborough, do tear yourself away, if you will, from the fish and chip shops and amusement arcades along the seafront for a wander around the older streets behind. The town's medieval past is reflected in a number of timber-framed buildings, and interesting later buildings are also in evidence. Reports on the buildings below, and more, all feature in our archive, or for a summary of a recording conference held in 2003 see *Yorkshire Buildings* 32 (2004). Further information about the town can be found on the Scarborough Archaeological and Historical Society's website at [www.sahs.org.uk](http://www.sahs.org.uk).



47 Quay Street (YVBSG 1645).

Formerly the Three Mariners public house. A late 15th or early 16th century timber-framed building with crown post roof. Brick façade of c1700 and interior panelling. Previously extended further west to join the Old Dog and Duck.



Old Dog and Duck, 45 Quay Street (YVBSG 1650). A fragment of what was once a larger building, perhaps forming a single building with 47 Quay Street. The moulded jettied bressummer is decorated with brattishing, similar to York examples.



2 and 3 Palace Hill (YVBSG 1652 and 1653). Part of a row of houses, probably dating back to the 17th century, with shops below.



9 Leading Post Street (YVBSG 1651). A formerly jettied building perhaps dating from the 16th century, eaves raised in 19th century with softwood studs. Ground floor shop window.

Right: The Newcastle Packet (YVBSG 1644). Rebuilt in 1899 but fragments of elaborately carved timbers of a medieval jettied building survive in the alley on the left.



King Richard III House (YVBSG 1643). Most walling probably 17th century with earlier origins. Fine plaster ceiling on second floor with foliage and animal designs.



2 Quay Street (YVBSG 1721). A late medieval house previously taller, with the second floor probably removed in the 17th century. Brattishing on corner posts.



3-5 East Sandgate (YVBSG 1657). Double-pile town house of some distinction, two storeys and large attics for storage. External walls of stone. Late 17th century, remodelled c.1720 and later.



45 Princess Street (YVBSG 1645). With No 43, originally a central entry house with staircase turret, now divided into two dwellings. Datestone of 1712. One of the rare buildings which could contain genuine re-used ships' timbers!

## Images of the South Pennines: Yorkshire and Lancashire 1930s–1970s

Recently the Pennine Horizons Digital Archive (PHDA), based at the Birchcliffe Centre in Hebden Bridge, received a donation of many packets of negatives. They were images taken over the years by an ardent, even legendary, photographer from Burnley. He had been touring the area for many years, seeking out buildings large and small, some in an advanced stage of dereliction. His main interests were the traditional buildings, the landscape and to a lesser extent, the people too.

His name was Ralph Cross. He worked as a tax inspector in Burnley, and was a well-respected local historian. Following his death, his collection of books was donated to Towneley Hall in Burnley, but his photos went to various individuals. One of them was W John Smith of Middleton, a noted local historian and expert on vernacular buildings and the textile industry. He is possibly best known for his book, *Saddleworth Buildings*, but he was also involved in the Golcar Textile Museum near Huddersfield, and the Heritage Trust for the North-West (HTNW) based at Barrowford.

Meanwhile PHDA, under the guiding hand of Frank Woolrych, was collecting a large number of images, based at first on the work of Alice Longstaff, a Hebden Bridge photographer who took over and expanded the photography business of Westermans in 1935. With the advances in scanning, these images were digitised and are available for everyone to enjoy on the internet. The work of Ann Kilbey and her team of volunteers should receive due credit for the devotion they have brought to this ongoing task.

Prints of some of the photos that Ralph Cross took became well-known in the area. John Smith's collection ended up at Barrowford following his death. John and Madelaine Chadwick, who lived for some time in the Calder Valley, were responsible for compiling albums of these prints, and these were presented to the HTNW. Our member Kevin Illingworth arranged for these to be listed, and it had been agreed that digital copies could be obtained for PHDA. However, Covid intervened....

Last year, Dave Smalley, a historian in the Calder Valley, was looking for an image of a Celtic cross on a stone, re-used in a building near Todmorden. He discovered that one had been produced by Ralph Cross. By a happy coincidence, he also discovered that another group with connections to Barrowford had obtained boxes of negatives. When he investigated further he found the Cross negatives and those of another contemporary Lancashire photographer. With the co-operation of the latter's descendants the negatives were donated to PHDA in March 2022. They are now in the process of being scanned, labelled and made available on the PHDA website. In this we are extremely fortunate that Ralph Cross labelled all his negative packets *and* kept notebooks listing the photos he took.

Thanks to everyone's co-operation, there will be many more interesting images of vernacular buildings in the Pennines available soon at the click of a button at penninehorizons.org.

*David Cant*



A photograph of Upper Foot Farm, Midgley, from the collection. The privy on the right with the oval window has now been replaced by a gabled wing, but most of the rest of the building has survived.

# High Hirst – a lost house above Hebden Bridge



Perched high up on a rocky outcrop on the steep hillside, less than half a mile above Hebden Bridge, was a once fine and substantial seventeenth century stone farmhouse, shown on the 1968 edition OS 6 inch to 1 mile map, close to the 650 ft contour line. Once isolated, a new council housing estate called Dodd Naze was then being built to the south of it. Within a few years the building was demolished and erased from the ground, but not the memory.

Fortunately, a plan of the building had been produced in the late 1950s as part of an MA unpublished thesis by Christopher F Stell (awarded in 1960 by the University of Liverpool) called *Vernacular architecture in a Pennine community* that was to become a seminal work for all those interested in the subject. In 1965 Stell wrote an article based on it for *Folk Life* Vol 3 called 'Pennine Houses: An Introduction'; the author personally gave me an offprint copy of it in the early 1970s.

From this I include a copy of his analytical plan of the building that shows it as having a hall and cross-wing plan originally with a cross-passage facing east, but hardly typical in that the wing had three not two rooms, separately lit by mullioned windows in its long side wall that faced south.

Around the same time a retired tax inspector from Burnley, Ralph C Cross, had started a hobby taking black-and-white photographs of semi-derelict farmhouses and barns in the Pennine area, particularly in the urban district of Hebden Royd. After moving to the area in 1969 I eventually joined him and a mutual friend Edward Watson, a local historian, ferrying them about in my A35 van on Saturdays in their quest to record these moorland buildings before they disappeared. He had photographed High Hirst during its demolition in about 1970. These photographs now form an important record of a building otherwise lost to us and Ralph gave me prints of a few of these that I can share with you.



The east front had three front-facing gables and was constructed in square-cut ashlar gritstone with a stone slate roof. Note the diagonally-set chimneys on the wing that had

chamfered mullioned windows with a king-mullion and drip-moulds with spade-shaped label stops; sadly, the south elevation wasn't photographed. The former housebody had a large segmental-arched fireplace, the keystone dated 1629, with finely-jointed voussoirs forming the arch with a cyma-recta moulded inner edge with a run-out stop at its base. On the cross-wall with the wing was a contemporary plaster frieze set between two doorways bearing the date 1629 and the initials 'AN'. Stell explains in his article that in the nineteenth century the house 'was divided into no less than five cottages, two in the solar wing, two in the service end, and one comprising the hall and the remaining room in the solar wing; this is all so typical of the treatment meted out to many of the finest houses in the Hebden Bridge region, and indeed elsewhere, in which each room with the bedroom above has been made into a separate cottage with badly contrived pantries or sculleries sometimes in lean-to additions and with steep ladder

HIGH HIRST

Hebden Royd  
SD 997 274

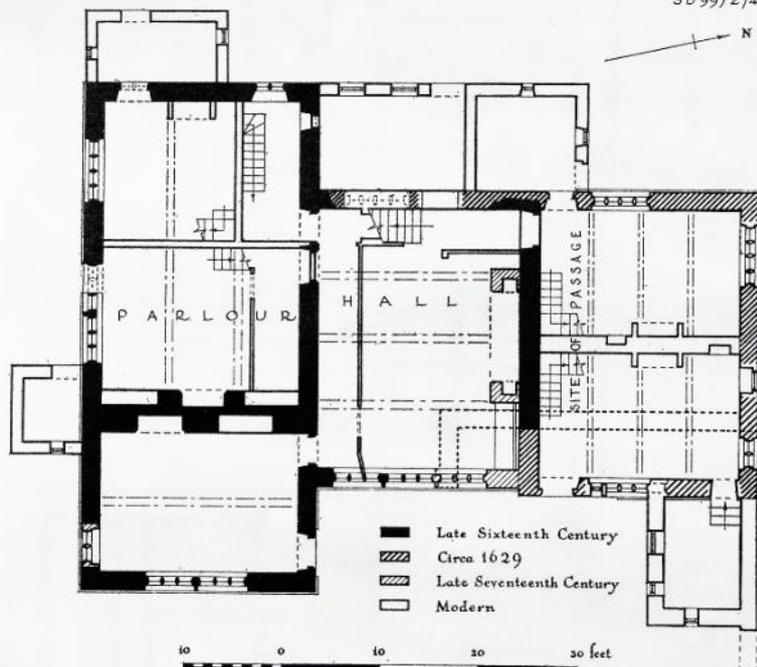


Figure 3



staircases to the upper floor'; his plan shows these 'numerous and inconvenient tenements which are now coming to be regarded as slums'. Edward Watson prised off the dated piece of plaster work and part of its frieze, preserving it in Chantry House in Heptonstall, then under restoration.

The record made by these pioneers of the study of vernacular houses over

fifty years ago demonstrates the value of making a photographic record, as well as carefully measuring the building to produce (as a minimum) a ground-floor plan, accompanied by a description, and for these to form part of the Group's valuable digital record in the twenty-first century, making the building accessible online to our membership due to the dedicated work of our Archivist in scanning nearly 2,000 reports. Photographs will now form an important part of YVBSG's future recording work.

*Peter Thornborrow*



## Some new online resources

### East Riding Archives

East Riding Archives have launched their brand new *Digital Archive*. You can access documents, photos, videos and audio recordings from the new research resource for free by visiting the website at [eastriding.access.preservica.com](http://eastriding.access.preservica.com).

### VAG Building Glossary

Further to the advance notice in the previous Newsheet, the VAG's new *Vernacular Building Glossary* is now live at [www.vernacularbuildingglossary.org.uk](http://www.vernacularbuildingglossary.org.uk). Particularly useful for identifying bits of timber-framed buildings!

### England's Places Collection

In 1941, the National Buildings Record started the Architectural Red Box Collection to document our built heritage, especially those buildings threatened or damaged by bombing during the Second World War. The core of the collection came from photographic records collected by the Courtauld Institute of Art in the 1930s. Over the following years new images were added, including photography taken for the National Buildings Record, and collections acquired from both commercial and amateur photographers. The collection was closed to new material in 1991. It can be found online at [historicengland.org.uk/images-books/photos/englands-places](http://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/photos/englands-places).

David Cant recently discovered that the Christopher Stell archive of photos from the 1950s and 60s, mainly of Calder Valley buildings, is available online as part of this collection. Typing 'Hebden Royd' into the search box and following the subsequent links will allow you to open the relevant 'boxes' and view the 'cards' which display the photographs.

## Where there's a will ...

The Halifax Probate Group and Hebden Bridge Local History Society have reached the end of a long project to transcribe and publish all the wills, inventories and other probate documents for the whole of the ancient parish of Halifax from 1688 to 1700. The twenty-three townships stretch from Stansfield and Heptonstall in the west to Brighouse and Rastrick in the east.

The nine volumes of probate records available for purchase are as follows:

- Northowram; Fixby, Hipperholme cum Brighouse, Rastrick and Shelf (*Life and death in the Calder Valley*); Halifax (*People all full of business*); Skircoat, Southowram and Ovenden.  
– available from [Halifaxprobate@gmail.com](mailto:Halifaxprobate@gmail.com).
- Barkisland, Elland cum Greetland, Norland, Rishworth and Stainland.  
– to be published over the summer.
- Sowerby and Soyland; Erringden, Langfield and Stansfield; Heptonstall and Wadsworth; Midgely and Warley.  
– available from [www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk](http://www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk).

A celebration and book launch will be held on Thursday 20 October 2022 at Halifax Minster, 6.30pm for 7pm. Guest speaker will be Peter Brears who will explore life in the Calder Valley in the 1690s. As previous curator of Shibden Hall, York Castle and Leeds City Museums, Peter has acquired a deep knowledge of practical objects used in the everyday lives of former generations; he also published a book in 1972 on Yorkshire probate inventories.

The event is free of charge; you can just turn up on the night but it would help the organisers if you could email [Halifaxprobate@gmail.com](mailto:Halifaxprobate@gmail.com) beforehand to register your interest. There will also be information about the event on [www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk](http://www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk).

## British Listed Buildings

Kevin Illingworth points out that 9,800 photographs have been uploaded to the site at [britishlistedbuildings.co.uk](http://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk) in the 90 days from 3 February until 2 May 2022. That's an average of almost eleven photos every day.

## Other events of possible interest ...

### Shibden 600 exhibition

All year during 2022

A special exhibition at Bankfield Museum, Calderdale, to mark the 600th birthday of one of the most important buildings in the region, Shibden Hall. Details at [museums.calderdale.gov.uk/whats-on/exhibitions/shibden-600](http://museums.calderdale.gov.uk/whats-on/exhibitions/shibden-600).

### Open Farm Sunday

Sunday 12 June 2022

An annual event providing the opportunity to visit farmsteads, many of historical interest. Kevin Illingworth tells us that Cattleside Farm, Rathmell, Settle, North Yorkshire, is well worth a visit. The front of the house (c1830) can be seen from a distance. The L-shaped rear (late seventeenth or early eighteenth century) has some cross-windows and can be easily seen from the farmyard. Farm buildings include the barn which has a decorative doorhead dated 1721. A good stable block in the Arts and Crafts style is dated 1890 on the ogee-type doorhead. There are two water troughs built with five slabs bolted together (as seen in Horton-in-Ribblesdale, North Craven, and Bowland areas, and more recently in some Doncaster villages). A short distance away from the farm, by the roadside, is a large, interesting six-bay barn dated 1714 and Grade 2\* listed (not accessible in 2016). Although in North Yorkshire, Cattleside Farm can be found in the North-West region on the Open Farm Sunday website at [farmsunday.org](http://farmsunday.org).



1721 doorhead at Cattleside Farm, Rathmell

### Tickhill Castle open day

Sunday 12 June 2022

A rare chance to visit this site which is only open on one day each year. The eleventh century gatehouse and curtain wall encloses an extensive motte and a seventeenth century house (interior not open). Entry £4, gates open 2pm, last entry 4.30pm. Further details at [www.visitdoncaster.com/whats-on/family-friendly/tickhill-castle-annual-open-day](http://www.visitdoncaster.com/whats-on/family-friendly/tickhill-castle-annual-open-day).

### Chalk as a Building Stone

Thursday 23 June 2022

A meeting in Flamborough of the Ryedale Vernacular Building Materials Research Group, Friends of the Chalk Tower and other interested parties. To include a visit to Flamborough Castle and the Chalk Tower (the old lighthouse) to study their building stones as well as observing local houses and walls. Please park responsibly in Flamborough village and then walk to the church for 10am (don't park outside the church please). Lunch is your own or foraging in Flamborough. In the afternoon meet at 2pm at the Chalk Tower having parked in the Lighthouse car park (please do not park outside the Tower). Meeting co-ordinator: [richardmyerscough657@btinternet.com](mailto:richardmyerscough657@btinternet.com).

### Keld in Swaledale 1850–1950: Prosperity and Decline

Saturday 25 June 2022

A talk by local historian Dr Duncan Bythell, followed by a walk around this high Pennine village, focusing on the history and purpose of buildings and their role in people's lives in what was once a remote but bustling hamlet. 2pm to 4pm. Further details and booking at [www.yorkshiredales.org.uk](http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk).

### Malton's Medieval Story

Saturday 25 June 2022

An illustrated talk at St Mary's Priory Church in Old Malton followed by a guided look at key features inside the church and former priory grounds. 11am, £10 including refreshments. Led by Dr Christine Churches, Dr Kate Giles and Margaret Mackinder. Book at [www.maltonmuseum.co.uk/event/maltons-medieval-story-25th-june](http://www.maltonmuseum.co.uk/event/maltons-medieval-story-25th-june).

### Researching Swaledale and Arkengarthdale

Wednesday 29 June 2022

A talk by Kimberley Starkie of the North Yorkshire County Record Office, on researching Swaledale and Arkengarthdale using the resources at the NYCRO. 7.30pm at Reeth Memorial Hall. Details at [swaledalemuseum.org](http://swaledalemuseum.org).

### Appleton le Moors Village Walk

Sunday 3 July 2022

Join resident Jim Hall and discover a twelfth century planned village. 2pm, free but donations welcome. Book at [www.northyorkmoors.org.uk](http://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk).

### Merchant Taylors' Hall Open Days

Tuesday 5 July and Monday 1 August 2022

Free entry to this medieval hall in York from 11am until 3pm. [www.merchant-taylors-york.org](http://www.merchant-taylors-york.org).

### A walk around Bingley

Wednesday 13 July 2022

A walk led by John Haigh for Bradford Historical and Antiquarian Society at 10.30am. More information at [www.bradfordhistorical.org.uk](http://www.bradfordhistorical.org.uk).

### Festival of Archaeology

16 to 31 July 2022

Annual event incorporating hundreds of in-person and virtual events delivered by various groups and organisations. This year's theme is 'journeys'. Full listing at [www.archaeologyuk.org/festival.html](http://www.archaeologyuk.org/festival.html).

### Lime kilns in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale: the where, the when and the what for?

Wednesday 3 August 2022

An illustrated talk by Dr David Johnson. 7.30pm at Reeth Memorial Hall. Further details at [swaledalemuseum.org](http://swaledalemuseum.org).

### A walk around Baildon

Wednesday 10 August 2022

A walk led by Tish and Mike Lawson for Bradford Historical and Antiquarian Society at 10.30am. Further details at [www.bradfordhistorical.org.uk](http://www.bradfordhistorical.org.uk).

### A walk around Austwick

Wednesday 24 August 2022

A walk led by David Johnson for North Craven Heritage Trust, showing how Austwick has developed. Visitors £2. [www.northcravenheritage.org.uk](http://www.northcravenheritage.org.uk).

### Historic Building Survey Training

Saturday 17 September 2022

An introductory training session on historic building survey for East Riding Archaeological Society, led by Dr James Wright of Triskele Heritage. A morning in the classroom and an afternoon surveying a building, provisionally the Church of St Nicholas in Beverley. Details will be at [www.eras.org.uk](http://www.eras.org.uk).

### Hidden Charms 4

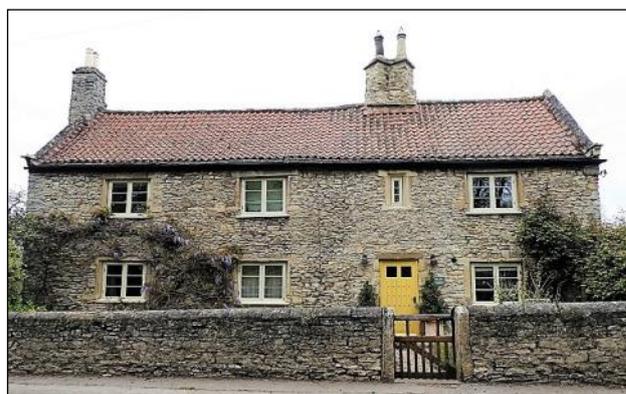
Saturday 15 April 2023

Advance notice of the next *Hidden Charms* conference to be held at the National Centre for Early Music in York, organised by Brian Hoggard. Details will be available in due course at [www.apotropaios.co.uk](http://www.apotropaios.co.uk).

## The classic three-cell lobby entry house

Located in different Yorkshire villages, these buildings are of similar plan form – classic examples of seventeenth or eighteenth three-cell lobby entry houses with front door opening onto an axial chimney stack, sometimes with outshut at rear and sometimes with timber-framing origins. Clockwise from top left: 5 Main Street, Wheldrake (YVBSG Report 0080); Bangram Hill, Riccall (YVBSG Report 0503); Went Farm, Womersley (YVBSG Report 0463); The Old Vicarage, Barlby (YVBSG Report 0480).

The photos are taken from the YVBSG photo album of buildings recorded by the Group; the album continues to grow and can be viewed from the Members' Area of the website, as can the reports.



## Fire damaged buildings

In November 2021 the cruck-framed Star Inn at Harome, near Helmsley, suffered a devastating fire. However, the inn reports that rebuilding is now commencing and that as much original structure as possible will be retained. Local craftsmen will use local materials for the repairs; the new roof timbers will come from a 150-year old oak tree from Duncombe Park, Helmsley, which fell during Storm Arwen at around the same time as the fire started.

Another building reported in January 2022 to have been damaged by fire is this small timber-framed building in Stainforth near Doncaster, pictured right ([historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1314797](https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1314797)), which we had spotted during a previous South Yorkshire recce and which was being used as a vehicle workshop. It's not known what its future will be now.



## SPAB Yorkshire

The SPAB Yorkshire Regional Group has been resurrected after a period of dormancy and social meetings have now taken place in York and Sheffield. See [spab.org.uk/members/regional-groups/Yorkshire](https://spab.org.uk/members/regional-groups/Yorkshire) or email Lucy Newport on [spabyorkshire@gmail.com](mailto:spabyorkshire@gmail.com).

## Committee meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be held on Saturday 8 October 2022. If you'd like to raise any matters, or have ideas for future events, please contact the Secretary, Mary Cook.

## Next Newsheet

The next Newsheet will be in August 2022 – please send any contributions to the editor at [newsheet@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:newsheet@yvbsg.org.uk) by 31 July 2022. Short articles on buildings or features would be welcome, as well as details of publications or events which might be of interest to other members.

## A Latin inscription at Stakes Farm, Bowland Forest Low



YVBSG member Yvonne Davis of Colden, Heptonstall, has had a new stone carved with the same Latin inscription as we saw on the plaque at Stakes Farm, Bowland Forest Low, in June 2018 (pictured left). Yvonne, whose former farmhouse is early seventeenth century, did not come on our walks in the Dunsop Bridge area, but photographs of the plaque in Newsheet No 92 (May 2018) and *Yorkshire Buildings* 47 (2019) appealed to her.

The inscription NVNC MEA MOX HVIVS SED POSTEA NESICIO CVIVS NEMO SIBI NATVS translates roughly to 'Now this is mine: Soon this is others: Afterwards whose I know not: Nobody is born for himself.'

Five similar inscriptions are known in Yorkshire, three in Lancashire, and one in Kendal.

Kevin Illingworth

## Centre for Folklore, Myth and Magic

This new Centre which recently opened in Todmorden will focus on a vital aspect of social history and its role in our forebear communities, and will offer a variety of folklore related activities from research to storytelling, conferences to traditional craft workshops.

The Centre's introductory exhibition is *Some Local Folklore* by John Billingsley, which runs until 21 June 2022. Further information on the website at [www.folkloremythmagic.com](http://www.folkloremythmagic.com).

On Saturday 27 August 2022 Brian Hoggard, author of *Magical House Protection: the Archaeology of Counter-Witchcraft*, will be giving a talk on *Within Walls: the Archaeology of Counter-Witchcraft* at 4pm. Tickets available from the Centre's website, £7.50.

## Spotting buildings from gardens ...

### National Gardens Scheme (NGS)

Amongst the thousands of private gardens open to the public are many Yorkshire ones. Two examples of open gardens surrounding interesting vernacular houses are Land Farm at Colden, near Hebden Bridge, and Low Hall, Dacre Banks, near Pateley Bridge. Visit website [ngs.org.uk](http://ngs.org.uk) for more information.

Low Hall, surveyed by the Group in 1978, has an open garden day on Sunday 10 July 2022. The house, dated 1635, is very picturesque with triple-gables, that seem to have been flattened a little. Other features to be seen are mullion and transom windows, decorative doorhead (1635) with hoodmould stops, and two small ogee-headed windows. The gables have two-light mullion windows with round-headed lights, topped with many finials. The garden has a doorway with ogee lintel. In June 2009, our YVBSG group of twenty-three members visited Low Hall and garden. The owner kindly arranged a ground floor visit for us, even though she was on holiday. Well worth a visit!

Land Farm, pictured right, has its garden open on Thursday 16 June 2022 (house not open). The garden was always open at weekends from May until the end of August, but there are no plans to open the garden again. The house, although dated 1755, is interesting, having earlier sixteenth century round-headed lights at the rear, and an imported sixteenth century mullion and transom window inserted into the attached barn. Also two imported ogee doorheads. Inside, an interesting parpoint wall that our Group has seen (9 June 2007). See the new paths and steps, a combination of Indian flagstones, bricks, and pea gravel.

### Open Gardens – the UK National Directory

The site has eighty-seven villages or parishes in Yorkshire that open their gardens to the public, not necessarily every year. This year thirty-six Yorkshire villages are opening their gardens, usually at weekends. Some of these gardens can be fronting an interesting house. Over many years the YVBSG has been active in several villages that are having open gardens, such as Addingham (recording), Cawthorne (a visit), Denton and Askwith, Gargrave, and Midgley, to name but a few. See [www.opengardens.co.uk](http://www.opengardens.co.uk) for details.

Kevin Illingworth



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