



# YORKSHIRE VERNACULAR BUILDINGS STUDY GROUP

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Newsheet No 83

March 2016

## YVBSG Events For Your Diary

### Annual Day School and AGM

Saturday 12 March 2016

Annual day school on the theme of Inns and Public Houses, to be held at the Headingley campus of Leeds Beckett University. The speakers will discuss the development of these buildings and how they have been used, drawing on documentary sources and the buildings themselves. Booking form was enclosed with the previous Newsheet and also available on the website.

### Recording Urban Buildings: Training Session in York

Saturday 16 April 2016

Join us and Historic England in York for a training session that will build on last year's introduction to recording urban buildings. This time we will be looking at developing observation skills; vernacular buildings in the townscape; and presentation of findings, interpretation and conclusions. The aim is to support us in our work on the Historic England funded *Early Fabric in Beverley* project. Although it is not necessary to have attended the previous training day, preference will be given to those attending this year's YVBSG annual recording conference in Beverley. The presenters will be Allan Adams and Rebecca Lane (from Historic England) and David Cook (YVBSG).

The venue is the Penn Room at The Quaker Centre, Lower Friargate, York YO1 9RL. Start 9am, finish 1pm.

Booking is essential. To book a place, please contact David Cook, email [beverleyproject@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:beverleyproject@yvbsg.org.uk), or telephone 07810 668975.

### Annual Recording Conference

Friday 13 to Sunday 15 May 2016

To be held again in Beverley, recording more buildings to build upon the work of our *Early Fabric in Towns* project. Booking form and full details enclosed with this Newsheet and available on the website.



### Walkabout in Brompton, near Northallerton

Sunday 26 June 2016

Full details in next Newsheet.

### Team Leaders Day

Saturday 9 July 2016

A meeting for the annual conference team leaders to share findings and to help them complete their reports.

### Conference Review Day

Sunday 25 September 2016

An opportunity for all to hear about the buildings recorded during the annual conference in May.

### Committee meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be held on Sunday 16 October 2016. If you'd like to raise any matters or suggest any events for next year please contact the Secretary, Mary Cook.

## Notice of AGM

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 12 March 2016 at 5pm in the James Graham Building, Headingley Campus, Leeds Beckett University, Leeds.

All members of the group are formally invited to attend. If you are unable to attend the AGM and wish to raise any matter, you may do so in writing to the Secretary, Mary Cook. Please send any nominations for officers or members of the committee to Mary (contact details on back page).

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

## Vacancies for officers

We're sorry to report that, due to ill-health, David Cant has stepped down from the three posts he has held until recently: Chair, Archivist and Enquiries Secretary. We are immensely grateful for all that David has achieved for the Group whilst in office; we pass on our thanks to him and wish him a speedy recovery.

These three vacancies will be offered at the AGM and present an excellent opportunity for you to become involved in the running of the Group. If you think you might be interested in taking on or helping with one of these roles, or would like more information on what they involve, please contact Mary Cook or another member of the committee.

In addition to the three posts above, we are considering splitting the Treasurer/Membership Secretary post, currently held by Sue Southwell, to spread the workload. If you'd like to help Sue with the membership part of the role, please let Mary know.

Barry Harrison has taken on the roles of Chair and Enquiries Secretary in the interim period until the AGM.

## 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!

### Festival Bowland

All-year programme

Events include a Claughton Hall Estate walk on 14 May; an event at Bell Sykes Farm, Slaidburn (has a 'Dairy' lintel) on 2 July; a visit to Greenhalgh Castle on 11 September. Might need early bookings to secure a place. Telephone 01200 448000, or see the full programme at [www.forestofbowland.com](http://www.forestofbowland.com).

### Local and Family History Fairs

Various dates

For information about history fairs taking place in West Yorkshire, see the listings at [www.yourfairladies.co.uk](http://www.yourfairladies.co.uk).

### Scribbles, Scorch Marks and Scribed Symbols

Wednesday 9 March 2016

This talk by Andy Bentam aims to show some of the interesting graffiti, marks and symbols found in buildings in and around the Peak District. 7.30pm at Bishops' House in Sheffield. Details at [www.bishopshouse.org.uk](http://www.bishopshouse.org.uk), telephone 0114 255 7701.

### The Archaeology of Gilling Park and Yearsley Moor

Thursday 10 March 2016

Talk by Geoff Snowdon to Brompton Heritage Group, 7.30pm at Brompton Methodist Church, Brompton near Northallerton. £3 on door. Details at [www.bromptonmatters.co.uk](http://www.bromptonmatters.co.uk).

### The Listed Property Show

Saturday 12 – Sunday 13 March 2016

Event at Harrogate International Centre for those who wish to buy, maintain, or renovate a listed building. Details at [www.lpoc.co.uk/property-show](http://www.lpoc.co.uk/property-show).

### Lakeland Architecture through the Centuries

Monday 14 March 2016

Talk by Andy Lowe to Kirkby Lonsdale Civic Society, 7.30pm in the Lunesdale Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale. Talk will be preceded by the society's AGM. [www.kirkbylonsdalecivicsociety.org](http://www.kirkbylonsdalecivicsociety.org).

### The Farmhouse

Saturday 19 March 2016

Study day organised by the Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group, at the Helena Thompson Museum in Workington. Cost £15 including lunch. Enquiries: June Hall, 07547 081631, [www.cvbg.co.uk](http://www.cvbg.co.uk).

### Sheffield in Tudor and Stuart Times

Wednesday 23 March 2016

A talk by David Templemen looking at how the ordinary man lived in Sheffield during those times. Includes a look at buildings. 7pm at Bishops' House, Sheffield. Enquiries: telephone 0114 255 7701, [www.bishopshouse.org.uk](http://www.bishopshouse.org.uk).

### Norton Conyers

From 25 March 2016

Norton Conyers, a late medieval house with later additions, opens to the public again this year after restoration. Enquiries: 01765 640333 or see website [www.hha.org.uk/Property/1321/Norton-Conyers](http://www.hha.org.uk/Property/1321/Norton-Conyers).

### Hidden Charms

Saturday 2 April 2016

A conference exploring the magical protection of buildings, to be held at the Town Close Auditorium, Norwich Castle, 9.30am to 5.30pm. £30 in advance or £35 on the door. Details at [www.apotropaios.co.uk/conference.html](http://www.apotropaios.co.uk/conference.html). Enquiries to Brian Hoggard, [brianhoggard@ymail.com](mailto:brianhoggard@ymail.com), telephone 07720 211002.



### Discovering Whitby

Sunday 3 April 2016

A 2.5 mile walk exploring Whitby's hidden buildings, steps, courts, snickets and yards. 11am to 1pm, organised by North York Moors National Park. Reservations essential on 01439 772738. [www.northyorkmoors.org.uk](http://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk).

### A Walk through Beverley

Wednesday 6 April 2016

A talk by Paul Schofield to Howden Civic Society, 7.30pm at the Masonic Hall, Selby Road, Howden. To be followed on Wednesday 1 June by an actual guided walk in Beverley. [www.howdencivicsociety.co.uk](http://www.howdencivicsociety.co.uk).

### Archaeology and the Historic Environment

Saturday 9 April 2016

Annual day school organised by Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, 10am to 4.30pm at Grassington Town Hall. Includes a talk

on 'Field barns, farmsteads and change in the Yorkshire Dales'. Fee £15, not including lunch. Book online at <http://retail.yorkshiredales.org.uk/products/archaeology-day-school-2016> or call 01969 652353.

### Cobwebs and Cream Teas

Monday 11 April 2016

A behind the scenes tour of Burton Constable Hall in East Yorkshire, with afternoon tea. £25. Book on 01964 562400, [www.burtonconstable.com](http://www.burtonconstable.com).

### Urban Vernacular

Wednesday 13 April 2016

Walkabout in Penrith with the Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group. 1pm to 5pm, £5. Enquiries: June Hall, telephone 07547 081631, [www.cvbg.co.uk](http://www.cvbg.co.uk).

### Carleton in Craven

Thursday 14 April 2016

A talk by Susan Wrathmell to Skipton and Craven Historical Society on the development of the village. 7.30pm at the Swadford Centre, Skipton, £2.

### Where there's a Will ...

Saturday 16 April 2016

This day school will explore what we can learn from probate documents across Yorkshire and from different periods of history. Room by room, we see the detail of how life was lived in seventeenth century Yorkshire. Speakers include Alison Armstrong, David Cant, Mike Crawford, Sheila Graham, Hazel Seidel and Mary Twentyman. Organised by Halifax Probate Group and Halifax Antiquarian Society, at Central Methodist Church, Brighouse. Cost £18 including lunch. Enquiries: Christine Ray, email [halifaxprobate@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:halifaxprobate@yahoo.co.uk), 01422 292454, [www.halifaxhistory.org.uk](http://www.halifaxhistory.org.uk).

### Lakeland's Old Crafts and Industries

Wednesday 20 April 2016

A talk by Andrew Lowe to Lancaster Civic Society, 7.30pm at Friends' Meeting House, Lancaster. Website [www.lancastercivicsociety.org](http://www.lancastercivicsociety.org).

### Old Inns of the Yorkshire Dales

Tuesday 26 April 2016

Talk to Ingleborough Archaeology Group by Dr David Johnson, 7.30pm at Friends Meeting House, Settle. Book via [www.ingleborougharchaeologygroup.org.uk/specialevents.htm](http://www.ingleborougharchaeologygroup.org.uk/specialevents.htm). £3, unsold tickets available on the door.

### **Westerdale: origins and development of a medieval settlement**

Friday 29 April 2016

Lunchtime talk by Carol Wilson, at NYCC Record Office, Malpas Road, Northallerton, 12.30-1.30pm, £2 on the door. Website [www.northyorks.gov.uk](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk).

### **Markenfield Hall Open Days**

April to June 2016

Markenfield Hall will be open from 2pm to 5pm from 30 April to 15 May and 11 to 26 June this year. Behind the scenes tours also available. Enquiries: telephone 01765 692303, or see [www.markenfield.com](http://www.markenfield.com).

### **Inundated hamlets and starved mines**

Thursday 5 May 2016

A day's stroll around Grimwith Reservoir with the Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group, looking at built and archaeological heritage sites. Led by Miles Johnson of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. £2. [www.uwhg.org.uk](http://www.uwhg.org.uk).

### **Cartmel Village**

Tuesday 10 May 2016

Walkabout in Cartmel Village with the Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group, led by Dan Elsworth. 1.30pm to 4pm. Enquiries: June Hall, telephone 07547 081631, [www.cvbgb.co.uk](http://www.cvbgb.co.uk).

### **Dent Village Walk**

Monday 16 May 2016

A walk with Ingleborough Archaeology Group and Sedbergh Historical Society. Meet 7pm at car park off Laning in Dent or at Ingleton Community Centre at 6.30pm. [www.ingleborougharchaeologygroup.org.uk](http://www.ingleborougharchaeologygroup.org.uk).

### **Traditional Farmhouses in the NE Lancashire, Craven and Bowland Areas**

Tuesday 17 May 2016

Talk by Kevin Illingworth to Earby & District Local History Society, 7.30pm at New Road Community Centre, Earby, £1.50. [www.earbyhistory.co.uk](http://www.earbyhistory.co.uk).

### **Social History around Reeth**

Tuesday 31 May 2016

A walk around Reeth with Fiona Wilkinson and Peter Denison-Edson, looking at architecture and occupational history. 1.15pm to 3.15pm, £7. Part of the Swaledale Festival, enquiries 01748 880018, [www.swalefest.org](http://www.swalefest.org).

### **Barns and Walls of Upper Swaledale**

Wednesday 1 June 2016

Six-mile walk taking in traditional hay meadows, stone barns and the ruin of Crackpot Hall. Led by National Park volunteers who will provide insight into Dales stonework. 10.30am to 3pm. Swaledale Festival event, details above.

### **Discovering Long Preston**

Thursday 2 June 2016

Alison Armstrong will lead an all-day walk around Long Preston examining village houses, barns, church, medieval field systems and sites of test pits, for the Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group, [www.uwhg.org.uk](http://www.uwhg.org.uk).

### **Recording Town Buildings**

Friday 30 September to Sunday 2 October 2016

Annual study weekend at Oxford University held in association with the Vernacular Architecture Group. Talks include *Documenting buildings in York since the Inventory of Historical Monuments: techniques, approaches, strategies* (Jayne Rimmer); *Building recording in Beverley and beyond: the historian's perspective* (Susan Neave); and many more. Fee from £132. Further details on the VAG website at [www.vag.org.uk/conferences.htm](http://www.vag.org.uk/conferences.htm).

## Follow us on Twitter!

The YVBSG now has a Twitter account! If you use Twitter, search for @YorksVernacular. If you're not a Twitter user, you can find our Twitter feed on the home page of our website at [www.yvbsg.org.uk](http://www.yvbsg.org.uk).



## National Archives tutorials

Need help in reading that old will or inventory? The National Archives website offers a range of online tutorials on Latin and palaeography to help you to read documents from the medieval period and beyond, through practical activities using real documents for practising on. The tutorials can be found at [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/reading-old-documents/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/reading-old-documents/).

Also available on The National Archives website is an online guide on how to look for records of houses, which can be found at [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/houses/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/houses/).

## Membership renewal

Membership fees for the calendar year 2016 became due on 1 January; the price remains at £10. Renewal slips are enclosed for those who have not yet renewed! The password to the Members' Area of the YVBSG website changes every January and you will find the new details in your membership letter when you renew (or send an email at any time to [webmaster@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@yvbsg.org.uk) for a reminder).

## David Johnston

We were very sorry to hear of the death of YVBSG member David Johnston in December. David was a familiar face at our recording conferences and other events and he will be much missed. One of his skilful drawings appears on the conference booking form.

## Training workshops

A new four-year project for Yorkshire, *Stories in Stone*, has recently been awarded a £2 million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and will enable people to enjoy and help manage the limestone landscape around Ingleborough. The scheme involves twenty-seven varied projects and will be led by the Ingleborough Dales Landscape Partnership and Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust.

As part of this initiative, YVBSG member Alison Armstrong will be providing some vernacular building skills workshops for the public. There will be two two-day workshops a year over the next four years. The first ones will be held in April and July this year, in Langcliffe and Clapham, and will include an introduction to recording vernacular buildings and involve practical skills and a walkabout. The training is aimed at those who want to know how to record vernacular buildings in this particular part of Yorkshire, but might also be of interest to YVBSG members.

Details are still being finalised, but watch out for publicity or contact Don Gamble, scheme manager, 015242 51002, [don.gamble@ydmtd.org.uk](mailto:don.gamble@ydmtd.org.uk), website [www.ydmtd.org/programme-details-stories-in-stone-16115](http://www.ydmtd.org/programme-details-stories-in-stone-16115).

## Next Newsheet

Many thanks to all who contributed to this newsheet. The next edition will be in May 2016 - please send any items to the editor by 30 April 2016.

## Early Fabric of Beverley – project update

Since last time further progress has been made in our three areas of activity.

The reports on St Mary's Court, 34 Saturday Market and 19-21 Ladygate are nearing completion. Thank you to team members who took part in the surveys and drawing. In January, surveying was done at the Beverley Guildhall (king-post roofs) and St Mary's Priest's Room and Annex (roofs). The main objective of these two surveys is to provide drawings for the dendrochronology reports.

Unfortunately, the interim dendro report on the Guildhall roofs could not establish any dated sequences. However it did establish with a reasonable amount of certainty that the roofs were constructed at the same time (though re-using much timber). Samples from the crown-post roof structure of 21 Ladygate were successfully dated to AD1330. This matches well with the radiocarbon wiggle-matched date obtained from the roof and first floor frame of 19 Ladygate. It is our best dendro result for the whole project as it establishes a single date for the construction of two different parts of the building.

The documentary research has gone well and the transcription of wills and inventories is complete, along with the extraction of relevant material from the collections in the East Riding Archives and University Archives (Hull History Centre).

Talks on the project have been delivered by Susan Neave, Barry Harrison and David Cook.

Looking forward, further recording work will be done at the annual conference in May (details with this Newsheet). Later in the year we hope to arrange another recording day to cover individual features in some buildings where it is not possible or practical to survey the whole building.



King-post roof trusses above the Guildhall Magistrates' Room

The dendro sampling is essentially complete and Nottingham Tree-Ring Dating Laboratory will be working with Historic England's Scientific Dating Team to produce the final reports on the buildings sampled.

The documentary research will be focusing on how the material we have should be written up and what answers to questions it might provide. We will also benefit from the provision of documentary research notes from Susan Neave on buildings to be recorded at the May annual conference.

Finally, a training day in York is being arranged for April on observational skills, landscape settings and report writing, all tailored to supporting our work on the Beverley project.

For further details or questions, please contact me.

*David Cook, Project Leader, [beverleyproject@yvbbsg.org.uk](mailto:beverleyproject@yvbbsg.org.uk)*

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## Online and printed publications

Arnold Pacey has produced an A4 booklet linking buildings in Craven with Hearth Tax returns, and is offering copies to YVBSG members for the price of three first-class stamps per copy. If you'd like a copy, please send three stamps to Arnold Pacey, 8 North Street, Addingham, Ilkley, West Yorkshire LS29 0QY.

*Domestic 1: Vernacular Houses.* For a useful outline of vernacular houses and their development, see the 15-page guidance note from Historic England available online at <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/dlsg-vernacular-houses/>. The publication also contains HE's notes on considering vernacular houses for listing designation.

*An illustrated guide to Bishops' House.* The first guidebook on Bishops' House, Sheffield, has recently been published. Building upon established research, the book reflects recent discoveries that have brought us closer to a view of how the house looked five hundred years ago, and how it changed with extensions and demolitions over the years. An up-to-date account is given of the many families who lived there. Available to buy for £5 at Bishops' House, telephone 0114 255 7701, website [www.bishopshouse.org.uk](http://www.bishopshouse.org.uk).

*Pevsner Introductions.* A new series of handbooks to complement the familiar Guides, providing accessible accounts of buildings by type and theme. The first two volumes are *Churches* by Simon Bradley and *Houses* by Charles O'Brien, both due to be published in March 2016, £12.99 each. The texts explain key components, stylistic changes, functional requirements, regional variations and vocabulary, and teach readers to identify period styles and uncover the origins of a building.

*YAS President's Blog.* The Yorkshire Archaeological Society President, Gill Cookson, writes a blog at [www.yas.org.uk/content/yasblog/](http://www.yas.org.uk/content/yasblog/) which includes updates on the society's change of name to Yorkshire Archaeological and Historical Society and the move of the YAS collections (including the public copy of the YVBSG archive) from Claremont to the University of Leeds.

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