



YORKSHIRE VERNACULAR BUILDINGS STUDY GROUP

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Newsheet No 104

September 2021

Dear Member,

Welcome to our 104th Newsheet. In the last one I reported that I have moved from Barnsley to a mill conversion in Hebden Bridge that backs onto the Rochdale Canal towpath. I'm pleased to report that most of the hundred or so boxes have now been emptied, and a determined effort has seen my bookshelves starting to fill up; but the slide cabinet has yet to be filled and there remain more boxes yet to open. I'm happy to say that with the help of a friend we have got a large number of pictures hung – particularly on the walls of the staircase in my three-storey house; over the last two weeks we got seventy-nine pictures hung and the house is beginning to look like mine now with familiar pictures hung in new combinations, but in unfamiliar places! You see one lot going up the tall stair-well and another lot coming down.

In recent weeks the Group's Secretary and the Archivist, Mary and David Cook, have also moved – to one of my favourite places in the north, Durham! Mary has in the past hosted a number of our Zoom talks with her usual aplomb and expertise, but being preoccupied with her move she asked David Cant if he would kindly stand in for her; he did an excellent job of introducing the speaker, James Wright, with his fascinating talk entitled 'Medieval Building Myths – The Folklore and Archaeology of Historic Buildings' and the several questions at the end. These Zoom talks have proved very popular (100 participants maximum, all sell-outs) not only to our members but to the wider architectural community who have booked via Eventbrite; our Membership Secretary has reported that we have gained seventeen new members this year as a result of these online talks. This was reported at our last committee meeting held live on Saturday 17 July, instead of online, at the former Fleece Inn in Northallerton, now an Italian restaurant – of course it just happened to be the oldest domestic building in the town and part timber-framed (thank you Tony Robinson for booking it). We held our meeting after lunch in the rear open courtyard; it was good to see each other once again and we had a productive wide-ranging meeting covering among other things the Third Thursday Talks, the Recording Weekend next year in the Doncaster area, Wensleydale recordings, walkabouts led by Kevin Illingworth and others, and the future 50th anniversary celebrations – looking for an appropriate venue for next year– ideas please?

Next Newsheet

The next Newsheet will be in November 2021 – please send any contributions to the editor at newsheet@yvbsg.org.uk by 31 October 2021. Short articles on buildings or features would be welcome, as well as details of events or publications which might be of interest to other members.



The former Fleece Inn in Northallerton. The building has not been recorded by the YVBSG but the listing description suggests that it dates from the fifteenth century, with later alterations. The front gables are timber-framed, each with a three-light wooden mullion window with old leaded cames. Inside, the ground floor room on the right contains a salt or spice box embedded in the fire wall.

Having travelled such a long way north I then spent that glorious sunny weekend staying with friends near Staithes, visiting on my return journey Whitby (for lunch), Pickering and Malton (for afternoon tea) – but perhaps not surprisingly getting 'pinged' the following weekend by my NHS Covid-19 App requiring me to spend the next four days self-isolating; I tested every day and was clear!

Then out of the blue I got a call on my mobile from the owner of a house visited by a small party of us nearly two years ago on our return from a recce to Tickhill, shortly before the first lockdown, to ask if we were still interested in recording it. The house, **Stainton Hall**, is pictured overleaf and is an interesting L-shaped late-seventeenth century house with a hipped junction and gable end that apparently wraps around a much older structure hidden behind it at the rear. The then-fashionable 'classical' treatment of its facades, with architrave surrounds to the windows and cross-mullions, was no doubt influenced by nearby **Hellaby Hall**, an impressive 'show-house' nearing completion in 1690 following Ralph Fretwell's rebuilding of his ancestral hall after his return from his sugar plantations in Barbados. As Hellaby Hall is now a hotel, we

called in on our return journey for a coffee and noted similar cross-mullioned windows on the parapet of the broad front-facing Dutch gable with its extraordinary swirling volutes. The side elevation shows more of the original cross-mullioned windows where the front ones have been replaced by Georgian sashes.

The owner of Stainton Hall is quite keen for us to record it and can offer his own historical research as well. I see this as a good omen for getting us back on track for our proposed recording weekend in 2022. I will report on my intended Doncaster 'Taster Visit' in our next newsletter. Keep safe and try and not get 'pinged'.

Peter Thornborrow, Chair



Left: Stainton Hall, Stainton. Centre and right: Hellaby Hall, Hellaby.

Interactive map of YVBSG reports – an update

Our interactive map showing the location of every building recorded by the YVBSG, or its predecessor the NYCBSG, has been updated on our website.

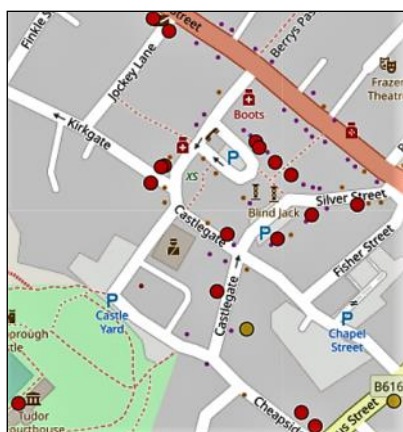
It now includes eighteen reports from around the county which were missing from our archives and the Birchcliffe Centre archive, but held in the Yorkshire Archaeological and Historical Society's collection at the Brotherton Library, University of Leeds. These have been kindly scanned for us by the Brotherton and are now added to our online archive with links from the interactive map. The update also includes a few reports that were mostly started before 2020 and completed recently.

Members are able to view or download reports from the map, which can be found on the Building Reports page of our website. However, if you don't want to or can't use the system, you can still contact the YVBSG Archivist for copies of reports, or lists of buildings recorded.

The interactive map provides members with the best link, though, to view and download these reports from the archive. You'll need your YVBSG member's password, provided when you joined or renewed your membership. By using the search box on the map page you can access a report if you know the name of the building or the report number. Alternatively, if you need to see which buildings in any locality or area have been recorded by the Group, then the map shows where they are and gives the building name, report number and a link to a pdf to view or download.

An eight-minute video showing how to do this is available on the YVBSG YouTube Channel.

*David Cook, YVBSG Archivist,
archivist@yvbsg.org.uk*



Committee meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be held on Saturday 16 October 2021. If you'd like to raise any matters, or have ideas for future events, please contact the Secretary, Mary Cook.

List of Members

The List of Members for 2021 is now available on the Members' Area of the website, containing details for all those members who have agreed to be included.

Collecting photos

Whilst gathering together my photos (of varying quality!) of buildings recorded by the Group, I wondered whether these would be of interest to other members. The committee subsequently agreed that we should try to build up the collection to include as many photos as possible, one photo per building.

The collection can be viewed by following the link within the Members' Area of the website. It's currently a 'Google Photos' album but this does lack some functionality (such as the ability to search or sort); at some future point we might be able to link the photos more usefully with the archive of reports, but in the meantime a link to the building's report has been provided from each photo. If nothing else, the album, which already contains over 300 images, gives an impression of the huge variety of buildings recorded over the past fifty years! Included is a photo of Brickyard Farm, Holme Green, Appleton Roebuck which was YVBSG report number 1, now restored but recorded when it was a derelict cottage used to house cows.

We invite members to submit further photos for the collection. If you have an exterior photo of a building recorded by the Group which doesn't already have a photo in the album, please send it to me at newsheet@yvbsg.org.uk, named by its report number (for example 1435.jpg). We'll add a small watermark and the photo will be credited to you. Photos should be taken from public land or with the permission of the owner; in the interests of privacy the link to the album will remain in the Members' Area for the time being.

Lorraine Moor

YVBSG Events For Your Diary

Vernacular Buildings of the Todmorden countryside – walks to the Cross Stone and Eastwood areas

Saturday 25 September 2021

This will be my fifteenth visit or walk arranged for the Group since Slaidburn in 2006, but this one is likely to be slightly more strenuous than most previous walks.

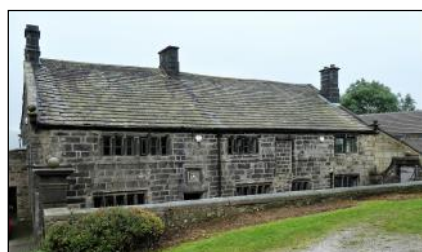
All roads and paths from the Calder Valley leading up the hillsides are very steep, until the green 'shelf' or plateau is reached at about 185 metres (600 feet) from Lob Mill car park. The well-trodden path from the car park uphill to Rodwell End is not long (about 15 minutes' climb), but is steep and stony, so you need to be reasonably fit.

Buildings we will see from public footpaths are at Rodwell End hamlet (four buildings), then Bean Hole Head (1638 & 1700), Lower Ashes (1610 & 1759), Higher Ashes (1691), Cross Gap (1674), followed by Pextenement Farm, Lower East Lee (1610 & 1631), Upper East Lee, and Lower Birks (1664). If



Lower East Lee

we have time we will then walk over to Eastwood, to Eastwood Old Hall (c.1730-40), Higher Eastwood (1630), Upper House Farm (porch 1716), and Hipperholme Farmhouse (1686); otherwise these last four houses can be part of another walk in 2022. Some of us visited some of these houses and barns more than twenty years ago when our chairman Peter Thornborrow was running his popular 'talks and walks' courses on vernacular buildings.



Lower Ashes

We don't expect to see interiors of houses for obvious reasons over the last eighteen months, but there are interesting external features such as decorative hoodmould stops and many datestones. Possibly a barn with internal stone arches. Most buildings listed here have a photograph in the Listed Buildings area of the Historic England website at historicengland.org.uk/listing. We will be

walking through the farmyard at Pextenement Farm, where organic cheese is made from their sixty-strong organic dairy herd. Visit www.pextenement.co.uk or pextenementfarm.wordpress.com.

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, just over 1 mile from Todmorden town centre. There are two bright yellow height barriers indicating the maximum height of 2.1 metres. Driving to venues is not possible; it is a walking day on country paths through woods and across fields. You should wear sturdy footwear, and bring food and drink with you as Todmorden Golf Club can't serve lunch until they get a new steward. The nearest public toilets are in Hebden Bridge and Todmorden; there are no toilets on the walking route.

Maximum of 20 members. If you want to come, please email Kevin Illingworth on j.killingworth@btinternet.com or telephone 01422 844941, leaving your telephone number slowly and clearly. It might be possible to arrange a lift by car (three places only) to the plateau to join the walk avoiding the initial steep climb; please contact Peter Thornborrow on chairman@yvbsg.org.uk in advance if you are interested.

Kevin Illingworth

Stone-arched barns in Calderdale

Peter Thornborrow and Kevin Illingworth bring to our attention some thirty examples of barns with huge internal stone arches, almost church-like in appearance, to be found in Calderdale, particularly in the Todmorden/Hebden Bridge area. The arches vary in shape, with some being round, others pointed. They seem to date from the late seventeenth century onwards. At some point, when time and access allow, the YVBSG hopes to carry out a study of these barns to investigate them in more detail. This partly ruinous example can be seen at the hamlet of Old Chamber, from the lane leading up from Hebden Bridge railway station.



Third Thursday Talks

After taking a short break over the summer, we shall resume our series of monthly online talks which you can attend from the comfort of your home. 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 who have agreed to receive email from the YVBSG will be notified when booking is open for each talk; a link on the 'Events' page of our website will take you to the Eventbrite booking page. If you are interested in offering a talk, please contact Mary Cook on secretary@yvbsg.org.uk. Recordings of many of the previous talks can be watched online by following the links on the website.

Vernacular architectural features in parts of Upper Wharfedale and nearby (part 2)

by Malcolm Birdsall, on Thursday 21 October 2021 at 7.30pm. Following Malcolm's talk in March on Upper Wharfedale (part 1) which focused on the complex of buildings at Kilnsey, he now takes a look at rare examples of corn drying kilns still surviving, or which previously existed, in the area as well as extant examples elsewhere. They were once widespread in northern and western parts of Britain, wherever the climate was such that cereal crops were often harvested in damp conditions, and wherever oats were widely grown. The purpose was to reduce the moisture content of recently-harvested grain so that it could be stored without risk of becoming mildewed, or starting to sprout. Various sites will be depicted and analysed, including round 'keyhole' types, purely round, rectangular two-storeyed with fireproof floors (some stone, some slate, with constructional detail highlighted to show three types of drying floors and a variety of materials for covering these floors). We'll also consider dates, location relevance, ownerships, the Addingham Kiln Book 1713, estate surveys and communal use, together with a comparison of size and construction of ten examples.

Malcolm will then share some details from his travels in 2020, highlighting vernacular features in Grassington, Parcevall Hall at Skyreholme, and Mock Beggar Hall at Appletreewick. Please note that this talk will not be recorded.

Looking closely at windows: what can they tell us?

by Colum Giles, on Thursday 18 November 2021 at 7.30pm. To state the obvious, all vernacular houses have windows. But not all windows are the same, they vary in form and style from house to house and within individual houses. Why? What can we deduce from the patterns which we observe and record? This talk takes the vernacular houses of the Calder valley for an examination of the ways in which windows can provide insights into themes such as status, function and the roles of the builder and client.



Other events of possible interest ...

A House Through Time

From Tuesday 7 September 2021

The fourth series of this excellent television series tracing house histories is about to start, this time set in Headingley, Leeds. Tuesdays at 9pm on BBC2.

The lost buildings of Central Leeds – photographs from the collections of Leeds Museums and Galleries

Saturday 11 September 2021

A talk by Patrick Bourne for the CBA Family History Section, via Zoom at 2pm. To register please email John Korna on blackadder47@btinternet.com.

Calverley Hall Open Days

11 and 12 September 2021

On this weekend Calverley Old Hall welcomes re-enactors from Frei Compagnie for a family-friendly open day with a medieval camp. Free, just turn up, but if you wish to have a tour of the inside of the derelict buildings then you will need to pre-book a ticket at www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/calverley-old-hall-public-open-days-tickets-154228717245?aff=ebdsoporgprofile.

Love Your Old Building

Saturday 18 September 2021

A workshop event at The Folly, Settle, 10am to 4pm. Find out about historical building techniques with heritage builder Kevin Woods, including how they can be applied in your own home and what to look for when choosing a professional. Kevin will use a mixture of case studies and practical examples in The Folly's garden. For full details and to book, see the-folly.arttickets.org.uk/museum-of-north-craven-life/2021-09-18-love-your-old-building-with-heritage-builder-kevin-woods.

Heritage Open Days

Friday 10 to Sunday 19 September 2021

This annual event returns with an extensive and varied programme of open buildings, tours, walks and talks, some online and some actual. This year's theme is 'Edible England' so as well as many general buildings being open, there are also garden and horticultural events on offer such as a talk in Beverley by Peter Brears on 'Dining in Early Tudor Yorkshire', or a visit to the liquorice fields of Pontefract or the newly created 'double herber' garden at Adlingfleet Medieval Rectory, or you can explore 'foodie history' at The Folly in Settle.

Look out for local publicity or see the full list at www.heritageopendays.org.uk, where a printable list for Yorkshire and the Humber containing 520 open buildings and events is available.

Richmond Walking and Book Festival

18 to 26 September 2021

A programme of walks and other events, including walks exploring the wynds and lanes of Richmond, or Coverdale's 'dairy days'. For further information see www.booksandboots.org.

Exploring the History of Your House

Until Sunday 26 September 2021

An exhibition by the Huddersfield & District Family History Society at Colne Valley Museum, Golcar. Open Saturdays and Sundays, 11am to 5pm. Details at www.colnevalleymuseum.org.uk.

1972–2022: the YVBSG's 50th anniversary

The YVBSG will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2022 and we'd like to mark this milestone by one or more activities or events during the year. If you have any suggestions for possible events (and venues), please contact Peter Thornborrow on chairman@yvbsg.org.uk, or talk to any member of the committee. One way in which members are encouraged to participate is outlined here by Gunhild Wilcock.

Fifty years of studying vernacular buildings by the membership

This golden anniversary deserves to be commemorated and celebrated. Planning events where we can meet in person is still very difficult. At present the Group hopes to arrange a day in Beverley in September 2022 which will include the launch of the 'Beverley book' which arose from our 'Early Fabric in Historic Towns' project which began in 2014 and was funded by Historic England.

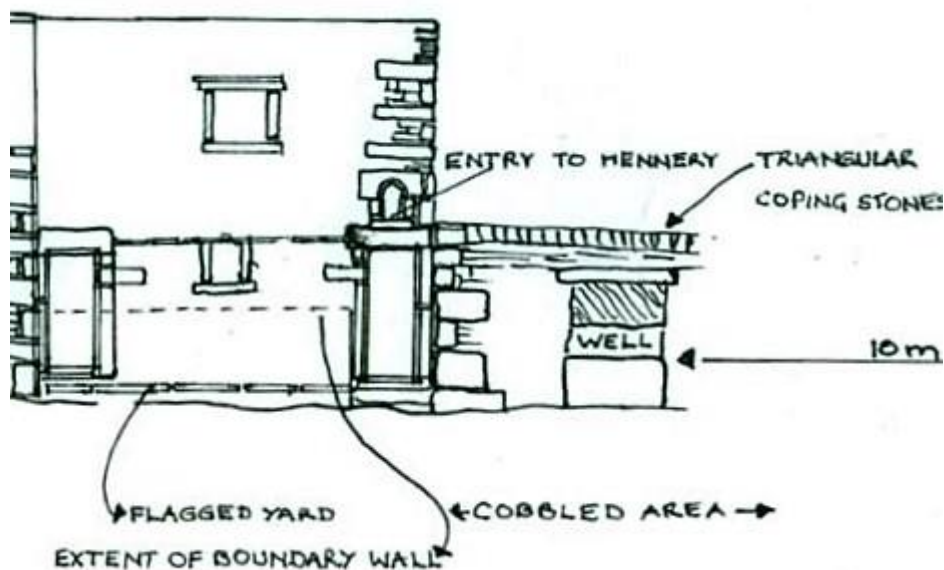
The YVBSG has thrived through the breadth and depth of its membership. Next year is an opportunity to record the wide variety of our members' interests, skills and knowledge. We would therefore very much like you to write a short piece about yourself and, if possible, accompany it with a drawing or photo that captures an event, a building, or an area of interest. Your writing could be anecdotal, biographical, about

a particular building, building type, place or event. The more varied the contributions the better. Below is an example of what your piece could look like, but it is not a template.

The nature and volume of contributions we receive will determine what we will do with them. So far it is planned to make them available on the Members' Area of our website. We may also publish them as a hard copy. In case we decide to publish outside the members' page we will seek your consent and honour any request for anonymity.

Please send your contributions as soon as possible, but by 31 December 2021 at the latest, to gunhildwilcock@icloud.com or Gunhild Wilcock, 3 Middle Hathershelf, Luddendenfoot HX2 6JQ.

Many thanks, Gunhild (YVBSG committee member)



I joined the group in 1986 after moving to rural West Yorkshire. I was always interested in houses, having grown up in North Germany surrounded by timber framed houses. In the 1970s I looked at urban, working class dwellings in south Yorkshire. My favourite buildings though are "hennery-piggeries", and I have recorded a few. Near to my home is one that is still in use, though as a "lambery-hennery".

Gunhild Wilcock

From the archive: Scriven

The village of Scriven lies close to, and to the north of, the town of Knaresborough. It has a long history, being mentioned in the Domesday Book, with some surviving early buildings. Scattered around the triangular-shaped green are a number of houses of interest which were studied in the 1970s by Barbara Hutton, Barry Harrison and other members of the Group, resulting in a 13-page booklet entitled *The Houses of Scriven Green* (1979). A scanned copy of this is available to download from the Members' Area of the website (apologies for the print quality, which is not perfect!) and the full reports can be found in our online archive. A selection of the Scriven houses are pictured here.

Lorraine Moor



NYCVBSG 0061: The Old Smithy, Scriven, and NYCVBSG 0409: Corner Cottage, Scriven. Part of a small complex of buildings which also includes a pair of cottages to the rear. Corner Cottage was originally timber-framed, and possibly built as the cross-wing of a larger house.



NYCVBSG 0063: Home Farm, Scriven. A timber-framed house with aisle, perhaps dating from about 1500. The report states that the present stone fireplace stands inside the frame of a timber smoke-hood, which itself was built within an earlier timber smoke-bay. At the beginning of the 17th century Home Farm underwent modernisation. The lower half of the front wall was rebuilt in stone with recessed chamfered mullioned windows, and on the back of this stone wall extending all round the north parlour a handsome pattern was painted on the plaster which includes an incomplete date of 160?. This parlour appears to have been unheated, with no fireplace.



NYCVBSG 0064: Oak View, Scriven. A timber-framed house with smoke bay and 'splendid' roof, encased in brick and stone. Dendro-dated to 1516 and later. The soot on the roof timbers makes it clear that the house was built open to the roof with no upper storey, with an open fire.

NYCVBSG 0410: Park Corner Farm, Scriven (right). Partly rebuilt in the 19th century but formerly timber-framed and aisled. Smoke-blackened rafters in the older part of the roof.



NYCVBSG 0095: Pear Tree Cottage, Scriven. Built in the 17th century with timber smokehood at each end, now removed. Kitchen in wing at rear, perhaps added to house shortly after construction. The added top floor may have been a workshop for linen weaving.



NYCVBSG 0065: Roundell's, Scriven. Consists of two separate parts: an 18th century house to the right and part of a much older house on the left. Some carved stones with part of an illegible inscription in gothic letters are built into the front wall, and a shield of arms has been set upside down in the brick wall to the right.



NYCVBSG 0405: Spinney Croft, Scriven. Rebuilt in gritstone about 1800 incorporating part of an earlier house with lower eaves and Magnesian limestone in the walling.

Visiting gardens and artists' studios open to the public

Over the years I have been to many villages in Lancashire and Yorkshire where several gardens are open to the public on a weekend. The website www.opengardens.co.uk lists hundreds of open gardens. If the garden is attached to an old house, it can be worthwhile to those who are interested in vernacular buildings. Sometimes artists' studios are open to the public, such as Hebden Bridge Open Studios, where up to 90 studios were open in July this year. Many of these will be open again on 1, 2, and 3 October 2021.

Chantry House, Heptonstall, dated 1772, was on the Open Studio list with oil paintings and photographs. This house was refurbished in 1965 with items from ruinous houses. These included decorative plasterwork of a mermaid, dated 1664,



Castle Farm, Todmorden



The fireplace at Castle Farm

from Old Chamber, and a plaster frieze of 1629 from High Hurst. Also a 1635 fireplace from Stocks Springs, and some board and muntin panelling from Great Lear Ings.

The early eighteenth century Castle Farm, Todmorden, was on the open studio trail, displaying watercolour paintings and sketches. This has a large segmental arched fireplace with a second arch above, similar to others in West Yorkshire. But this one has a horizontal soffit (underside of the arch). Have any members seen one like this? If you have, please email j.killingworth@btinternet.com with a photograph if you have one. This artist's studio may be open again in October. See hebdenbridgeopenstudios.org.

Kevin Illingworth

York's HER available online

York's Historic Environment Record (HER) is now accessible online for the first time. The HER includes information on the city walls, archaeological monuments and thousands of archaeological interventions across the whole city. The work has been led and is maintained by the council's archaeologist in collaboration with the council's city walls team. The website will also feature a blog, which will highlight different aspects of the above and below ground archaeological resource of York. To view the HER, visit www.york.gov.uk/HER.

A new Pennine partnership

A three-year 'Knowledge Transfer Partnership' between the University of Huddersfield and Pennine Heritage, based at the Birchcliffe Centre in Hebden Bridge, will enable the transition from a small scale, part-time and volunteer-led organisation to a professionally-led and fully-staffed 'Heritage Enterprise'. The Enterprise will actively engage with commercial, public sector and voluntary partners to promote, celebrate and record the heritage of the South Pennines.

The Knowledge Transfer Partnership programme is part of the Government's Industrial Strategy and aims to help businesses to improve their competitiveness and productivity through the better use of knowledge, technology and skills.

The YVBSG has a close association with the Birchcliffe Centre, as it houses a copy of the YVBSG archive of building reports.

Publications

Brickmaking: History and Heritage by Dr David Johnson. Across much of the country buildings have been made of brick, rather than stone, from the Roman period onwards. High-status buildings of the Tudor and Stuart eras were often built of clay brick, but it was only in the nineteenth century that the use of brick in rapid industrial and urban development saw a massive increase in brick production. Mechanisation of the various processes, along with the development of new kiln technologies, enabled this increase in output. The thousands of sites that existed at one time or another have mostly been swept away and brickmaking now is concentrated in relatively few sites. This book explores the history of the brickmaking industry and looks at past and present production sites. Amberley Publishing, July 2021, £15.99 or less.

The Yorkshire Historical Dictionary: a glossary of Yorkshire Words, 1120-c1900. Compiled by George Redmonds, edited by Alexandra Medcalf, YAHS Record Series. A fascinating record of Yorkshire's past containing more than 4000 terms, marking a lifetime's work by the late Dr George Redmonds. The dictionary includes new vocabulary for place-names, for agricultural terms, and for specialist craft and industries. As well as new words such as *stonery* (a place where stones could be quarried), there are earlier references to established words such as *necessary-house* (privy, here from 1414 compared to 1609). The volume costs £75 from Boydell and Brewer (boydellandbrewer.com) but material from the dictionary is also available via a website at the University of York's Borthwick Institute, which is free and fully searchable – see yorkshiredictionary.york.ac.uk.

British Listed Buildings

In early August the *British Listed Buildings* website displayed many new photographs that had been uploaded to the website in the last 90 days, or the months of May, June, and July. There were 192 'pages' or batches with 40 photos on each page, a total of 7680 images, also with the uploader's name.

The photographers were busy in Yorkshire, especially in Beverley, with around 200 new photos. About 75% of Beverley's 450 entries now have photos with the listing text. Other areas where a photographer called 'Simon' was busy with his camera were Skipton, Kettlewell, Arncliffe, Buckden, Barnsley, Wakefield and Rotherham. Other photographers have covered Knaresborough, Easingwold, Sheffield, Mexborough, Penistone, and Bradfield (Sheffield).

To find the new photographs of buildings uploaded over the last 90 days, go to britishlistedbuildings.co.uk and see 'Latest Photos', then click onto 'See more...'

Kevin Illingworth



One of the buildings with a recent photo on *British Listed Buildings* is Old Hall Farmhouse at Laughton en le Morthen, viewed by YVBSG members during a visit to the Rotherham area in May 2018. Dated 1633 but of two seventeenth century builds. The attached outbuilding contains some timber framing and is probably late sixteenth century.

The travels of a chimneypiece

Some YVBSG members enjoyed a visit to Bishops' House in 2019 during our annual recording conference held in Sheffield. More recently, it was reported that in around 1885, a rare and beautiful carved oak chimneypiece, installed at Bishops' House in 1655 by Captain William Blythe to coincide with the marriage of his daughter, was removed from the parlour at Bishops' House, along with the room's panelling. After a call for help by Dr David Bostwick in 2018, the piece was eventually discovered in the south of England by Andrew Bower, former English Heritage buildings inspector, and has now been purchased and re-installed in its original location. Read the fascinating full story at bishopshouse.org.uk/back-where-it-belongs/.



A selection of online courses

Research your House

This course will introduce you to the skills you need to research the history of your house, looking at what you already know and exploring oral history techniques to begin your journey. From here you will be shown how to prepare your research, where to look for sources of information, identify which historical records you can access to assist you, source physical evidence in the form of maps and similar sources and, finally, explore secondary sources that can be found in your local archive library. A WEA online course. 7 September 2021 to 28 September 2021, 4 sessions, Tuesdays 10am, Tutor Selina Rice, fee £25.60, www.wea.org.uk.

Hearth & Home: Aspects of Housing History

Hearth & Home looks at a variety of aspects around UK housing from the vernacular styles prevalent before the nineteenth century, through twentieth century local authority estates, to high rise and gentrification in the twenty-first. It also looks at the less savoury side of slum housing and urban segregation. Although housing styles and distribution varies across the country there are national as well as local variations to consider, as well as the social movements that gave us Garden Cities and New Towns. A WEA online course, 20 September 2021 to 22 November 2021, 10 sessions, Mondays 10am, Tutor: Geoffrey Mead, fee £64, www.wea.org.uk.

Wills for Family, House & Local History

Generally considered the third most useful source for Family History research a really 'good' will can be full of family names, personal information and associated details. Some probate records provide clues and signposts to additional records and sources to research. Examples briefly included will be Alumni, Civil Registration, Census, Clergy Lists, Death Duty Indexes, Inventories, Manorial Records, Trade Directories and Parish Registers. We will sample both modern and ecclesiastical will indexes and probate jurisdictions before looking at where and how to order copies. The course will include basic palaeography techniques and glossaries, focusing mainly on England and Wales although brief guidance for Ireland and Scotland will be included. A WEA online course. 3 November 2021 to 1 December 2021, 5 sessions, Wednesdays 10am, Tutor Jacqueline Depelle, fee £24, www.wea.org.uk.

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