



# YORKSHIRE VERNACULAR BUILDINGS STUDY GROUP

[www.yvbsg.org.uk](http://www.yvbsg.org.uk)

Newsheet No 37

August 2004

## YVBSG Events For Your Diary

### Conference Review Day

Sunday 26 September 2004

A review of the buildings recorded during the conference in Ryedale in May, to be held at the Talbot Hotel, Malton, from 1.30 to 4.15pm (lunch optional). Everybody welcome, even if you didn't attend the conference. Booking form enclosed.

### Coming up in 2005 ...

For various reasons, some of the activities we had hoped to arrange during 2004 had to be postponed. However, planning is underway for events in 2005, including:

#### Annual Day School

Saturday 19 March 2005

To be based on the theme of vernacular buildings in the landscape.

#### Annual Recording Conference

Friday 13 to Sunday 15 May 2005

To be held in West Yorkshire.

#### Observation Day in York

2005 - date to be arranged

What features should we look for when recording buildings, and can they be dated? We hope to arrange a day in York where we can see stone, brick and timber buildings and observe some of the details.

#### Richmond Recording Day

2005 - date to be arranged

A recording day to investigate five or so buildings in the historic centre of Richmond.

#### Team Leader Training

2005 - date to be arranged

We have identified that we are short of team leaders and hope to arrange some training to give members the confidence to lead a recording team. Support will be provided by experienced recorders who can produce drawings and act as mentors to the novice team leaders. To provide a more relaxed atmosphere, we would like to appeal to members who might want their own house to be recorded and would be willing to allow a new team leader to have a go; please contact David Crook if you can help.

#### Committee meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on Sunday 7 November 2004. If you'd like to raise any matter, or if you have any suggestions for future events, please contact David Crook.

### Yorkshire Buildings

We apologise for the late arrival of this year's *Yorkshire Buildings*, which is largely due to some members having been involved in the organisation of the Vernacular Architecture Group conference based in Scarborough in April. It will be with you soon!

### Next Newsheet

Many thanks indeed to everybody who contributed to this newsheet. Please send items for the September/October newsheet to the editor by 17 September.

### Margaret Greaves

We are sorry to report the recent death of member Mrs Margaret Greaves, of Hutton Rudby, Yarm.

### YVBSG on the road ...

Thanks go to Ruth Wilson (pictured below, left), who ran the YVBSG stand at the Kirklees Community History Service Roadshow at Red House Museum, Gomersal, on 16 May. Ruth reports that "It was a very pleasant and well-organised event. The various stands were spread around Red House and the outbuildings and we were in the entrance hall, which was a good place to be to catch everyone coming into the house."



### Ryedale buildings group now online

The Ryedale Vernacular Building Materials Research Group, with whom we jointly organised the annual recording conference in May, has a new website at [www.ryedale-buildings.org.uk](http://www.ryedale-buildings.org.uk).

The group was formed in 2002 as a multi-disciplinary research group to bring together interested groups, societies, institutions and individuals who have an interest in the vernacular buildings of Ryedale, North Yorkshire, and in particular the building stones and source quarries. The group normally holds three field meetings each year, and the reports of these will be made available on the website. Previous meetings have included visits to Leavening and Acklam villages, Sheriff Hutton Castle, Hildenley Quarry, Slingsby village and Settrington House and village. The site will be developed over the coming months - don't forget to keep an eye on it!

## Other events of possible interest ...

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

### Mill Bank

Sunday 8 August 2004

Calderdale Council Heritage Walk. A fascinating tour of this historic, attractive, and comparatively little known village. Meet Anne Kirker at 2.15pm by the bus shelter near Mill Bank School. £3. Contact: 01422 393273.

### Halton

Sunday 8 August 2004

Lancashire County Archaeology Service walk led by John Darlington, offering explanation on the long history and heritage of the village. Meet at St Wilfrid's, Halton, at 2pm. Places must be booked on 01772 533404.

### Industrial Ribblesdale

Wednesday 11 August 2004

Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority event. An easy 2km walk exploring the imposing lime kilns. 2pm-4pm. Meet at Craven Limeworks, Stainforth. Contact Hawes National Park Centre on 01969 667450.

### Summer Evenings at Barley Hall, York

Thursday 12 or 19 August 2004

Explore the hall by candlelight with medieval music. 7pm. Advance booking recommended on 01904 610275.

### Watermills

Sunday 15 August 2004

Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority event. An easy 6km walk discovering the old watermills of Sedbergh. 2pm-4.30pm. Meet at Sedbergh National Park Centre. Contact Hawes National Park Centre on 01969 667450.

### Quaker Connections

Sunday 15 August 2004

Discover Dacre's rich social history with the local archaeology group. 2pm-5pm, 5 miles, £2. Booking: Nidderdale AONB office on 01423 712950.

### Longridge

Sunday 15 August 2004

Lancashire County Archaeology Service walk led by John Earnshaw. Includes 17th/18th century market place with handloom weavers' cottages. Meet at St Cecilia's High School at 2pm. Places must be booked on 01772 533404.

### Hidden Mysteries of Ellingstring

Wednesday 18 August 2004

Walk led by professional archaeologist, Kev Cale. 10am-1pm. 4 miles, £2. Booking: Nidderdale AONB office on 01423 712950.

### 500 Years of Textiles

Sunday 22 August 2004

Calderdale Council Heritage Walk. Explore the picturesque twin villages of Lumbutts and Mankinholes. Meet David Nortcliffe at 2.15pm by Lumbutts Chapel on the road linking the two villages. £3. Contact: 01422 393273.

### Longley Old Hall Open Days

Friday 27 to Monday 30 August and Monday 27 to Thursday 30 December 2004

Longley Old Hall, Huddersfield (see *Yorkshire Buildings* 29, 2001), will open for guided tours on the above days. The cost is £6 per person, light refreshments available. For more information and to make reservations, please telephone 01484 430852 or see website [www.longleyoldhall.co.uk](http://www.longleyoldhall.co.uk).

### Hartwith Heritage Walk

Tuesday 31 August 2004

Discover the complex history of Hartwith Parish. 10am-3pm, 7-8 miles, £2. Booking: Nidderdale AONB office on 01423 712950.

### From Castle to Country House: The Evolution of the Great House from Medieval Times to 1800

Saturday 2 October 2004

University of Bradford day school led by George Sheeran. Details from School of Lifelong Education and Development, telephone 01274 233216, website [www.brad.ac.uk/sled/](http://www.brad.ac.uk/sled/).



## Heritage Open Days 2004

Friday 10 to Monday 13 September 2004

This weekend celebrates England's architecture and culture by allowing visitors free access to interesting properties that are either not usually open, or would normally charge an entrance fee. For details look out for local publicity, or see the online events directory at website [www.heritageopendays.net](http://www.heritageopendays.net), or telephone 0870 240 5251. Highlights include an exhibition in Grassington by the Upper Wharfedale Field Society on 'Vernacular Buildings in Grassington'. You can also see the rows of 17th/18th century cottages in three of the Whitby Yards (Clarks Yard, Borough Place, Blackburns Yard) and talk to their residents, or visit Clay House in Greetland, a former yeoman-clothier's house reclad in stone in the 17th century. If you want to venture into another county, Lincolnshire has published an excellent leaflet on its open days which are based on the theme of *Farming in Lincolnshire* (contact Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire, telephone 01529 461499).

### Medieval Scarborough

Friday 15 October 2004

Talk by John Rushton to Helmsley Archaeological and Historical Society. 7.30pm at North York Moors National Park Authority, The Old Vicarage, Bondgate, Helmsley. Contact: Susan Hall, telephone 01439 771874, email [busybee@onetel.net.uk](mailto:busybee@onetel.net.uk).

### Beverley Local History Bookfair

Saturday 16 October 2004

Annual book fair, to be held this year in Beverley Minster from 10am-4pm. Admission free. Enquiries: Miss P Martin, telephone 01482 393755.

### Fit to entertain a king

Tuesday 19 October 2004

Talk on the early Tudor house by Mrs D Priestley to the Halifax Antiquarian Society, 7.30pm at Halifax Central Library. Contact Mrs C D McDonald, 24 Heath View, Halifax HX1 2JU.

### The Geo-archaeology of Buildings

Friday 19 November 2004

Talk by geologist Richard Myerscough to Helmsley Archaeological and Historical Society. 7.30pm at North York Moors National Park Authority, The Old Vicarage, Bondgate, Helmsley. Contact: Susan Hall, telephone 01439 771874, email [busybee@onetel.net.uk](mailto:busybee@onetel.net.uk).

### Archaeology in West Yorkshire

Saturday 20 November 2004

West Yorkshire Joint Services day school. For details phone 0113 2898280.

### Roads and Travel in Medieval Yorkshire

Saturday 4 December 2004

University of Bradford day school led by Barry Harrison. Details from School of Lifelong Education and Development, telephone 01274 233216, website [www.brad.ac.uk/sled/](http://www.brad.ac.uk/sled/).

## Become a Friend of PLACE

The PLACE (People, Landscape and Cultural Environment) Education and Research Centre developed from an initiative within York St John College and became a company limited by guarantee in March 2004. The main PLACE office is based at York St John College in York; there are also bases at the Universities of Bradford and York. Members are known as Friends of PLACE, and receive regular newsletters and have priority at events such as conferences. Membership is open to all and costs £5 per year. To join or for further details, please contact the Chief Executive, Dr Margaret Atherden, PLACE Office, York St John College, Lord Mayor's Walk, York YO31 7EX, telephone 01904 716753, website [www.place.uk.com](http://www.place.uk.com). The YVBSG is a partner organisation of PLACE.

## Milestones in Kirklees

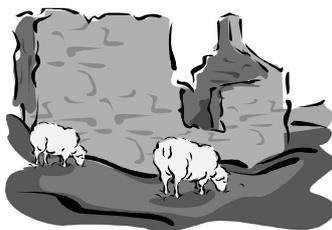
The Milestone Society was founded in 2001 to identify, record, research and interpret for the public benefit the milestones and other waymarkers of the British Isles. Further details on the Society can be obtained from the secretary, Terry Keegan, The Oxleys, Tenbury Road, Clows Top, Kidderminster, Worcestershire DY14 9HE, or see website [www.milestone-society.co.uk](http://www.milestone-society.co.uk). The Kirklees Group of the Society has produced a leaflet, *Highways and By-ways: A Short Walk on the Kirklees-Calderdale Border*, which, as well as describing the walk itself, also gives a brief history of highways and waymarkers in the area. The leaflet is available from The Milestone Society (Kirklees Group), c/o Farwood Lodge, Bradford Road, Huddersfield HD2 2QZ.

## Some recent publications

*Bedern Hall* by Richard Hall. May 2004. 40 pages, ISBN 1874454310, £3.95. York Archaeological Trust has produced in collaboration with Bedern Hall Company Ltd the first in a series of booklets on some of York's lesser known buildings and areas. It covers the history of the Bedern area, the Vicars Choral and their College, and the construction of this splendid medieval hall.

*Clay and Cob Buildings* by John McCann. New colour edition of Shire Album 105, £4.99. Describes the various processes of building with earth, examines regional patterns and illustrates standing buildings of clay and cob in many parts of Britain.

*Understanding Small Period Houses* by Amanda Laws. Crowood Press, November 2003, ISBN 1861266006, £25. This book uses examples of building types and styles drawn from across England to investigate the structure and detailing of small period houses.



*Archaeology and Historic Landscapes of the Yorkshire Dales*, edited by R F White and P R Wilson. Yorkshire Archaeological Society Occasional Paper No 2, 2004. £20 + £5 p&p, available from YAS, telephone 0113 2457910, website [www.yas.org.uk](http://www.yas.org.uk). A collection of 21 papers, including 'Kilnsey Old Hall' by P F Ryder, 'Field Barns in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale' by Robert White and Graham Darlington, and 'The Hogg Houses of Upper Swaledale' by Adam Menuge and Jennifer Deadman. Other articles cover lead mining, dry stone walls, woodlands and rabbit warrens. We hope to bring you a review of this book in a future Newsheet or Journal.

*Richmond at the Start of the 21st Century: An Architectural History* by Mark Whyman. Paperback, 320 pages, ISBN 0954578902, published November 2003 by Bargate Publications, 40 Bargate, Richmond, North Yorkshire DL10 4QY, telephone 01748 821534. This book is an attempt to take a snapshot of the town's buildings at a moment in time – the start of the 21st century. It seeks to describe in words and pictures every street within the town boundary, with at least one photograph of each street and some of the more interesting buildings. It covers not only the historic buildings in the town but even modest suburban developments that have taken place up to 2003.

*Echoes of Ripon's Past*, edited by Mike Younge. 220 pages, ISBN 0954707702, £10, published May 2004 by Ripon Local Studies Research Centre, telephone 01765 692200. Over a hundred illustrated articles about Ripon and its history.

## Websites worth watching

### The Archaeology of York

[www.yorkarchaeology.co.uk/ayw.htm](http://www.yorkarchaeology.co.uk/ayw.htm)

The York Archaeological Trust has published several online reports of excavations in York on its website, complete with text, photographs, plans and other drawings.

### Looking at Buildings

[www.lookingatbuildings.org.uk](http://www.lookingatbuildings.org.uk)

Site under development by the Pevsner Architectural Guides and the Buildings Books Trust, providing information on understanding buildings and on exploring buildings in various cities, including Leeds and Sheffield.

### Pastscape

<http://pastscape.english-heritage.org.uk>

A new online resource developed at English Heritage's National Monuments Record Centre. The information is taken from a national database containing nearly 400,000 records which contain descriptions of any interesting archaeological details, pictures (where available), and links to maps and aerial photographs on other websites.

### A2A Access to Archives

[www.a2a.org.uk](http://www.a2a.org.uk)

The A2A database contains catalogues describing archives in England dating from the 900s to the present day. As more catalogues are added, the database is becoming increasingly useful for finding out what documents are available relating to a particular place or person, and where they are held.

### Buildingconservation.com

[www.buildingconservation.com](http://www.buildingconservation.com)

This site includes over 120 online articles on various topics relating to buildings and their conservation. *The Ancient Art of the Locksmith* is one of the latest to be added.

### British History Online

[www.british-history.ac.uk](http://www.british-history.ac.uk)

A digital library of text and information about people, places and businesses from the medieval and early modern period. Now includes an online version of the Victoria County History publication *A History of the County of York East Riding: Volume VII Holderness Wapentake, Middle and North Divisions*.

## Learning about ...

### Adult education courses

Courses for the autumn term already publicised include:

#### Mid Wharfedale Historic Landscape

Tutor: Steve Moorhouse. This course will examine the history of the landscape of mid-Wharfedale using sources including documents, placenames, aerial photographs and field surveys.

WEA course. 20 Wednesdays from 22 September 2004, 2–4pm, at Christchurch, The Grove, Ilkley. Enquiries: WEA District Office, telephone 0113 2453304.

#### The World of the English Country House

Tutor: George Herring. This course will examine changing architectural styles, and will also consider the social, political and economic importance of landed society.

WEA course. 20 Thursdays from 23 September 2004, 7–9pm, at Ripon College, Clothierholme Road, Ripon. Enquiries: George Arthur Longbottom, telephone 01423 326846.

#### The History of Eberston and Its District

Tutor: John Rushton. Explore the lively history of Eberston, from farmers tearing down enclosure fences, to the unusual range of craftsmen, from old houses to lost rigg and furrow.

WEA course. 10 Thursdays from 30 September 2004, 7–9pm. Eberston Village Hall, Main Street, Eberston, Scarborough. Enquiries: WEA District Office, telephone 0113 2453304.

#### Some Important Buildings of Yorkshire and the North East

Tutor: Sheila Kirk. A brief history of architecture in this region, copiously illustrated by slides.

WEA course. 10 Tuesdays from 5 October 2004, 2–4pm at Thirsk Youth Annexe, Thirsk School, Topcliffe Road, Thirsk YO7 1RZ. Enquiries: Tony Kaye, telephone 01845 522762.

#### Start Researching Your Family, House and Settlement

Tutor: Christopher Purser. A course on how to explore primary sources, visiting local research establishments and using modern data storage resources.

WEA course. 10 Wednesdays from 6 October 2004, 7–9pm at Regen Centre, Regan Centre Landing Lane, Riccall, York. Enquiries: Howard Adamson, telephone 01757 248174.

#### The History of Your House

Tutor: Robert David. How do you begin investigating the history of your house? When was it built? Who lived there? What records may have survived? These are some of the questions this course sets out to answer.

WEA course. 2 Saturdays from 9 October 2004, 10am–3pm, at New Road Community Centre, New Road, Earby, Barnoldswick. Enquiries: Liz Puttrell, telephone 01977 679630.

### Other courses

#### Repair of Old Houses

Saturday 11 to Sunday 12 September 2004

A practical weekend course for home owners at the Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes, North Yorkshire, which aims to provide homeowners with the knowledge necessary to make informed decisions about the repair of their own property. Cost £110, excluding accommodation. Details from the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, telephone 020 7377 1644, website [www.spab.org.uk](http://www.spab.org.uk).

### Courses further afield

#### Fresh Air and Fine Houses in Suffolk and Essex

Friday 3 to Sunday 5 September 2004

Field Studies Council course based at Flatford Mill. Tutor: Peter Lawrence. Residential £136, non-residential £104. The towns and villages on the Essex/Suffolk border are an ideal area to study the changes in house building through the ages. This 'out and about' course will cover the skills of the medieval carpenter, later building methods and the beauty of England's rural street scenes. Topics include: Timber frames, from tree to completion; Industrial architecture; From timber to brick; Bricks and bricklaying; Windows and doors. For a brochure, contact the Field Studies Council on 01743 852100 or see website [www.field-studies-council.org](http://www.field-studies-council.org).

#### Lindum Heritage

Based in Lincoln, Lindum Heritage offer a wide variety of weekend courses with an historical or archaeological focus. Courses are taught in small groups by professional tutors who are experts in their field. For a brochure contact Lindum Heritage, 7 Ridgeway, Nettleham, Lincolnshire LN2 2TL, website [www.lindumheritage.co.uk](http://www.lindumheritage.co.uk), telephone 01522 851388. Forthcoming courses include:

Friday 3 to Sunday 5 September 2004 – *The Wonderful Windmills of Lincolnshire*. Coach-based tour of several mills and the landscape of Lincolnshire. £155 (accommodation extra).

Friday 17 to Sunday 19 September 2004 – *An Introduction to British Archaeology*. A weekend break to give you a taste of differing aspects of archaeology. £145 (accommodation extra).

Friday 22 to Sunday 24 October 2004 – *A Practical Look at Cathedral and Church Architecture*. A course for beginners who have always wanted to know more about church architecture. £145 (accommodation extra).

### Traditional skills prove popular

As part of National Park Week, the North York Moors National Park recently held its first traditional building skills workshop on the use of lime in historic buildings. The day was a great success, with 29 people attending the course. Delegates ranged from local contractors who wanted to expand their skills and broaden their markets to 'Do-It-Yourself' owners of historic buildings. The workshop aimed to promote the use of lime mortar (rather than cement) on historic buildings. The event was held in conjunction with the National Trust who hosted the workshop at their Grade II listed watermill in Bransdale.

### Building-spotting by bus!

Two new bus services, the Kirklees Day Trippers, have been introduced which link buildings of interest in Kirklees:

- 956 Huddersfield to Cannon Hall via National Mining Museum, Sculpture Park and Cawthorne.
- 957 Holmfirth to Oakwell Hall, via Dewsbury, Red House Museum, and Batley.

They operate on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 24 July to 4 September (Metroline information line: 0113 245 7676). The motto: be environmentally-friendly and leave your car at home if you can!

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