

# Newsletter



## Brick, pantiles and meta chalk!



Welcome to our December Newsletter, the last one for 2024. Apart from some ad-hoc recordings, our recording work this year focused on the East Riding where we learnt about the hard type of chalk used locally as a building material, now known as 'meta chalk'. In the coming year we move across to the West Riding for both our day school and recording conference — inside you'll find an outline of the events we are planning for 2025, starting with a Third Thursday Talk on weavers' cottages and loomshops in January. Details will be circulated in the new year.

Former conservation officer Tony Robinson writes about another of his encounters with old buildings, this time involving some curious shaped stones in a farm building near Northallerton.

We have an article from Malcolm Birdsall on watershot masonry and Kevin Illingworth brings us news of some new tree ring dates in Barrowford, just over the county border in Lancashire. Kevin's lovely drawings are featured again in this issue, and our regular 'From the archive' feature takes a look at public houses, past and present.

Once again it's membership renewal time and existing members should have received an email inviting you to complete the renewal form, so don't forget to do this by the end of March if you'd like to stay on our mailing list.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and we hope to see you at some of our events during 2025.

*Photos: buildings in Boynton. Top and middle: The Old Stable House of chalk and brick — note the brick tumbling to the gable, and the remains of a circular opening under the current gable window. Bottom: stable building at the vicarage, of brick with crow-stepped gables, photographed before restoration.*



# Future YVBSG events: dates for your diary

## Tour of Calverley Old Hall

Thursday 13 February 2025

We have arranged a guided tour of the recently restored Calverley Old Hall in West Yorkshire on Thursday 13 February from 1pm to 3pm. There is no charge but donations are welcome. Numbers are restricted to 15; if you'd like to come, please book via email to David Cant, davidjcant@hotmail.com or by post to 3 Middle Hathershelf, Halifax HX2 6JQ, including a phone number for confirmation. You might have seen images of the spectacular wall paintings recently discovered at the Hall, or the splendid hammerbeam roof, but there are also more modest features of interest such as those pictured below.

Further information about the Hall can be found on the Landmark Trust website at [www.landmarktrust.org.uk/support/projects-and-appeals/appeal-launched-calverley-old-hall/calverley-old-hall-history/](http://www.landmarktrust.org.uk/support/projects-and-appeals/appeal-launched-calverley-old-hall/calverley-old-hall-history/). If you can't make the YVBSG visit, public open days at the Hall are planned for 17 and 18 May 2025 – see the Landmark Trust website for details.



Altered openings in a wall at Calverley Old Hall



Blocked pigeon holes and alighting ledges at Calverley Old Hall

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## Annual Day School in Halifax

Saturday 15 March 2025

Our next day school will be held at the Square Chapel Arts Centre, Winding Road, Halifax HX1 1QG. The theme will be *Vernacular Buildings of the South Pennines*, looking at how the landscape, social and economic aspects are reflected in the buildings of the area. Speakers will include: Peter Thornborrow and Kevin Illingworth, who are both very knowledgeable about buildings either side of the Pennines; Sue Wrathmell, who will talk about buildings in the Skipton area; and others being arranged. The booking form will be sent out early in the new year. For now, hold the date!

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## Annual General Meeting 2025

Date to be confirmed

In response to several requests, the AGM will be held on an alternative day, probably by Zoom, rather than immediately after the day school as in previous years. Details to follow.

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## Visit to Woodsome Hall, Fenay Bridge

Saturday 12 April 2025

We are arranging a visit to this fine Grade I listed hall near Huddersfield, now a golf club ([www.woodsomes.co.uk](http://www.woodsomes.co.uk)). Details to follow.

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## Annual Recording Conference in the Bradford area

Friday 9 May to Sunday 11 May 2025

We're planning to hold our next recording conference in the Bradford area, based at Aldersgate Methodist Chapel, Common Road, Low Moor, Bradford BD12 0TW and on Sunday at Calverley Old Hall, 10 Woodhall Road, Calverley, Pudsey LS28 5NL. The conference will follow the usual format of a meal, lecture and introduction to the locality on the Friday; surveying buildings in the Wibsey, Low Moor and Horton areas of Bradford, followed by a lecture at Aldersgate, and a meal at a local venue on Saturday; and concluding with drawing up at Calverley Old Hall Community Room in the morning on Sunday, followed by lunch and a visit in the afternoon. The booking form will be sent out early in the new year.

It is worth noting that in 2025 Bradford is *City of Culture*, and although the programme has not been finalised at the time of writing, accommodation may be in short supply. There are, however, two hotels and a number of other options in the Low Moor/Wibsey areas.

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## Committee meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be held on Saturday 18 January 2025. If you'd like to raise any matters, or have ideas for future events, please contact the Secretary, Mary Cook.

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## Next Newsletter

The next Newsletter will be in February 2025 – please send any contributions to the editor at [newsheet@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:newsheet@yvbsg.org.uk) by 31 January 2025. Short articles on buildings or features, and notices of publications or events, are all welcome!

## Third Thursday Talks

We intend to continue our online talks during 2025 and the next talk is outlined below. These talks normally take place by Zoom at 7.30pm on the third Thursday of the month; they are free of charge and are open to all (including non-members). 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). Recordings of previous talks can be watched online by going to our YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/@yvbsg](http://www.youtube.com/@yvbsg).

### Weavers' cottages and loomshops in the Huddersfield area

Thursday 16 January 2025



A talk by Colum Giles. Weavers' cottages are found widely in the West Riding of Yorkshire but especially to the west and south of Huddersfield, where they occur in such numbers as to give a distinct character to the area's landscape. They have a strongly regional character, built of local stone and with the long multi-light mullioned windows which serve to identify them. This talk will describe the different forms taken by these cottages, discuss the range of dates at which they were built and examine their role within the woollen textile industry during the period in which, one by one, the different stages of manufacture were mechanised, leading to the demise of domestic production. Booking will open shortly.

### Chalked Out: Vernacular Buildings of Boynton – a postscript

If you attended David Cook's recent Third Thursday Talk on the buildings of Boynton, you'll be aware that we had to close the session prematurely as we had an unwanted interloper disrupting the Zoom call. This left us with some unanswered questions in Chat, which David responds to below. The talk was recorded and can be viewed on our YouTube channel.

- **Q.** Was brick used for chimneys as chalk wouldn't stand the heat from the fire?  
**A.** More research is needed to answer this. Most of the examples I illustrated had axial or central chimney stacks which are probably of brick. Certainly the stacks are brick above where they emerge from the roof, for example 19 Boynton, West Lawn, Boynton, and Hill Farm, Carnaby, have gable stacks and in both cases the outer gable wall is chalk. This is continued in brick above the roof. It's probable that the internal work around the flue is also brick, but the back wall may be chalk. There is at least one example in our region of a chalk-built house with an external stack, and this is Old Manor, Hunmanby. In our report 602 (1979), Barbara Hutton thought that this might be chalk, though difficult to tell because the house was heavily limewashed externally. Above the roof the top was finished on brick. I found no example where the top of the stack was in chalk. A quick check of the Historic England list found seven buildings, none in our region and mostly in Oxfordshire, with a chalk stack specified; for example, 2 Grove Street, Wantage, 'Interior: Ground floor has chamfered and stopped beams, open fireplaces with original chamfered bressumer to front of chalk chimney stack.'
- **Q.** Was there evidence for a lower roof line in the gable of Chantry Cottage in Flamborough?  
**A.** Yes, it looks like it was raised.
- **Q.** Do the raised gable ends suggest the building was thatched previously?  
**A.** Possibly. This is only occasionally used as an explanation for raised gable ends, so not offered as an explanation in report 1414, Orchard House, Kilham (1993) for example, or in many other reports. Report 1537, Lavender Cottage, Holmpton (1997) states 'The raised walling of the gable end indicates it was roofed with thatch originally.'
- **Q.** There was mention of 'third lad' as an occupation; presumably to do with the horse teams?  
**A.** Yes, along with waggoners and horsemen. According to *Horses on the Farm* by Herbert L Day, Hutton Press (1981), it appears that the first horseman is termed the 'waggoner', the second as 'thoddy' and the third as 'fowaty' and then the three lads in order of seniority. So, logically, the third lad must work with the third horseman (if indeed there are that many horse teams on the farm). 'On a 500 acre on the Yorkshire Wolds, eighteen working horses were required. There were three stables, and in each one, stalls for six horses. It was recognized that six horses should be the limit that a man and a lad had to look after.'



Chantry Cottage, Flamborough

## Confessions from the Chair. Don't look away!

I have something to share with members – about how I spend some of my time. It is relevant to studying traditional buildings, particularly in their wider social and economic context – the use of the internet and 'social media'.

Now thirty years old, the world wide web has revolutionised our lives, whether we use it for our activities or not. Many of the resources for historical research are available, sometimes for a fee, in our own home or at a local library. It takes a bit of getting used to but the time spent will pay back handsomely.

But my electronic involvement goes further. I spend time nearly every day using social media – Facebook, Twitter (now called 'X') and Instagram. Through them I've been able to see many images and met many like-minded people. I've had access to explanations, ideas and theories, and found out

about buildings and people. There has also been quite a lot of rubbish, but after a while you become expert at not getting involved too deeply or exposing yourself to abuse!

For me, the benefits have far outweighed the disadvantages. I'd be interested to hear the views of other members who are already users. I'd encourage others to climb the sometimes steep learning curve to get the most out of it. Our Group has a Facebook 'page' and a Twitter (X) account on which we advertise our activities and share news and information. And so do many other groups – you'd be surprised.

Would anyone like to write a critical response for the next newsletter?

*David Cant, Chair, enquiries@yvbsg.org.uk*

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## Past YVBSG events

### Bridlington and Boynton Review

A successful and enjoyable review day was held on Saturday 5 October 2024. The morning comprised presentations on the buildings recorded in Bridlington Old Town and Boynton during the annual conference held in June. These buildings will be written up in *Yorkshire Buildings* in due course, and two recent talks on the buildings by David Cant and David Cook can be found on our YouTube channel.

After lunch, off we went for a tour of the exterior of Boynton Hall and its interesting set of outbuildings, led by Dr Adrian Green of the University of Durham, followed by a walk around the village.

We thank David Cant and Gunhild Wilcock for organising the day, Adrian Green for sharing his knowledge of the Hall and grounds, and Sally Marriott, owner of the Hall.

## Recording opportunities

The Group has a mailing list for circulating details of buildings to be recorded, so that members can express an interest in joining a recording team if they wish. If you'd like to be added to this email list to hear of recording opportunities, please send an email to David Cook on [archivist@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:archivist@yvbsg.org.uk). There's no obligation to take part, though we hope that you might be tempted to join a team!

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## Potential recordings

Any enquiries about the potential recording of a building should be directed to the Archivist, David Cook, on [archivist@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:archivist@yvbsg.org.uk). David will then arrange a preliminary visit if needed, and will put together a recording team if a survey is to go ahead.

## Attending other events

If you know of any forthcoming events organised by other groups which might be of interest, please send details. You might like to attend an event on behalf on the YVBSG, especially where you can promote the Group and our activities. We can support you by supplying leaflets and other material, including publications such as *Yorkshire Buildings* or *Doorways in the Dales*. If you are unable to attend yourself, do still let us know as someone else may be able to go.

*David Cant, Chair, enquiries@yvbsg.org.uk*

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## Membership renewal 2025

Membership fees for the coming calendar year will become due on 1 January 2025 and you should already have received an email asking you to fill in the form if you wish to renew. If your copy of the email has gone astray, you can also find a link to the form on the Members' Area of the website. You'll still need to send your payment (£12 per person) by cheque or BACS. If you have any queries, please contact the Membership Secretary, Pat Leggett, [membership-secretary@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:membership-secretary@yvbsg.org.uk).

Do note that the password to the Members' Area of the website and the online archive of reports will change in January and you'll receive the new login details when you renew your membership for 2025. The Members' Area

provides access to over 1900 building reports and more than 200 articles from back issues of *Yorkshire Buildings* up to 2020, as well as information sheets and other handouts.

We gently remind you that in line with our Privacy Statement which came into effect with the introduction of GDPR in 2018, membership may be terminated if you do not renew within three months from 1 January 2025 and you would then receive no further correspondence from us, so please do renew soon – we don't want to lose you! But don't worry – we would send you notification before taking you off our membership list.

# Encounters with old buildings

## Hillview Farm, Winton



The range of farm buildings at Hillview Farm

Hillview Farm is about two miles east of Brompton (Northallerton), high on a ridge overlooking the Vale of Mowbray. It is within the memorably named parish of Winton, Stank and Hallikeld, a parish of scattered farms and no villages.

This was a brief visit in December 1991 to look at some unlisted farm buildings proposed for residential conversion. The buildings comprised a long L-shaped range which had been added to and altered over the years, built of coursed cobbles to the lower parts and brick above, indicating a possible roof raising. The taller eastern end had rubble and cobbles laid in courses with double rows of interlacing bricks to every five to eight courses of stonework. The west gable end had brick tumbling, a blocked taking-in door and paired ventilation slots, an unusual detail.

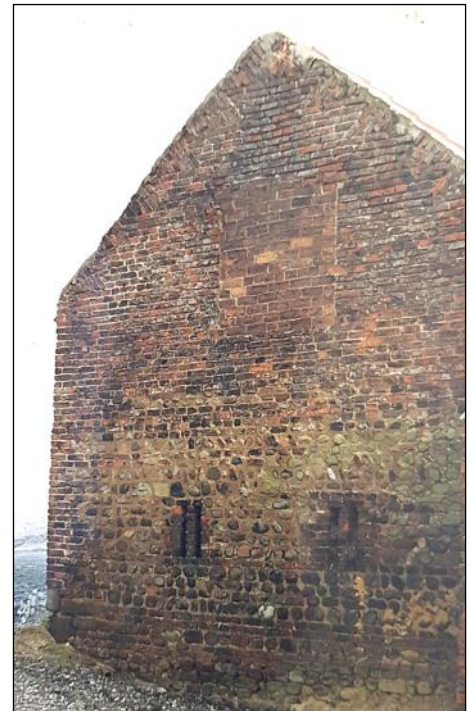
Embedded in the wall of the western end of the buildings were two groups of shaped stones, one group having a stone with a vertical slot cut into it, and one group formed from two stone blocks with semi-circular cut-outs.

My first wild thought was that these semi-circular openings were from a reused fire window; however, the National Library of Scotland website of OS 25-inch maps revealed that there had been a semi-circular horse engine house attached to this part of the building from at least 1893 until 1912; by the date of the next map edition, 1928, the horse engine house had been demolished.

The stones with the semi-circular openings were clearly the bearing stones for the drive shaft of the horse engine, while the rectangular slot had been the housing for a supporting beam for the horse engine. Clearly, these were not reused stones, but in-situ features.

Hillview Farm was later subdivided and these buildings converted to residential use. The east end of the building range became 'Hill House', a reversion to an earlier name, while the west end buildings became 'Fox Hill, Winton', residential holiday lets.

*Tony Robinson, editor@yvbsg.org.uk*



West gable end



Walling incorporating shaped stones

# Watershot walling

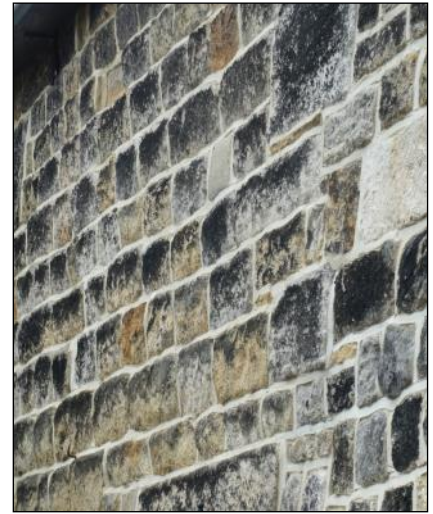
Watershot walling is known by various names in the Pennines: ‘ramped’ in Rochdale, ‘overshot’ in Darwin, ‘T masonry’ in Rossendale, ‘weathershot’ in North Yorkshire, and ‘Yorkshire tilt’ in Saddleworth.

First used in rural areas in the late seventeenth century, the practice became widespread throughout the Pennine region during the next 150 years. The earliest example so far identified was at Mereclough, Cliiviger, Burnley, Lancashire, in a small building dated 1670.



Watershot masonry observed during a YVBSG walk around Wilsden, West Yorkshire

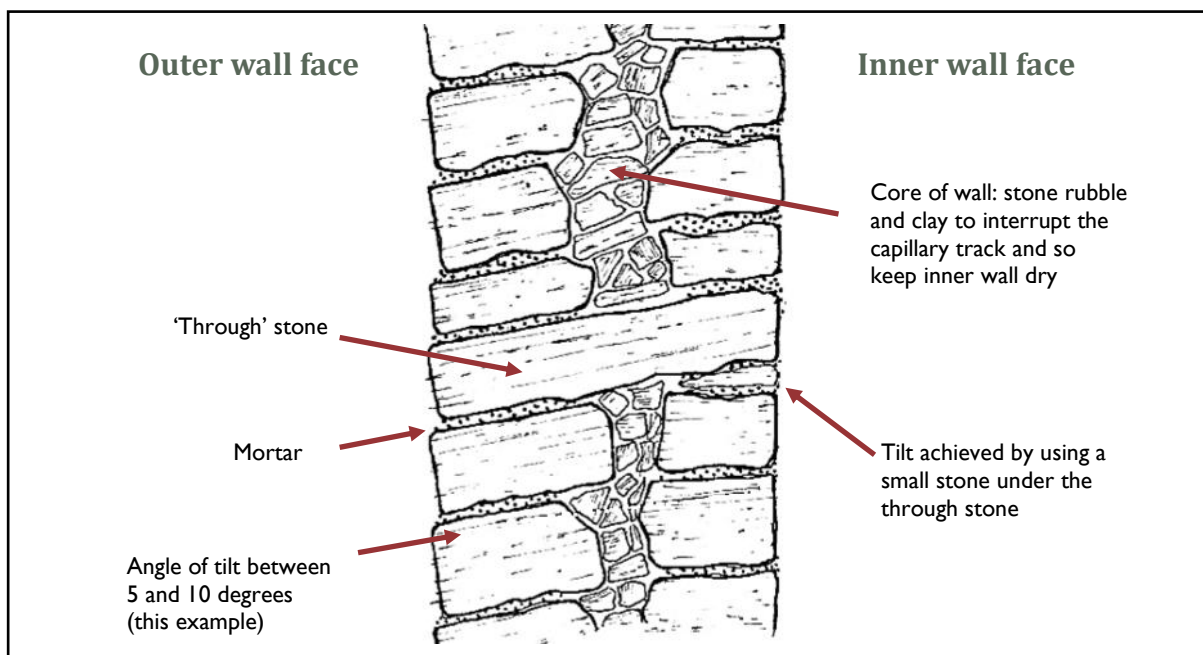
Whilst downsizing, I came across the depiction below of the coursing to this type of walling that I had familiarised myself with some sixty years ago. This was through a book series, *Building Construction* by W.B. McKay (published in 1938 and now freely available online via Internet Archive at <https://archive.org>), who was the first to analyse watershot walling and the local coursing. McKay identified it as a typical central Lake District technique of walling where the local slate stone – impervious to water – was bedded to slope down to the outer face, which would have helped to prevent water penetration of the wall.



Watershot masonry at Stable Cottages, Middle Longfield, near Todmorden

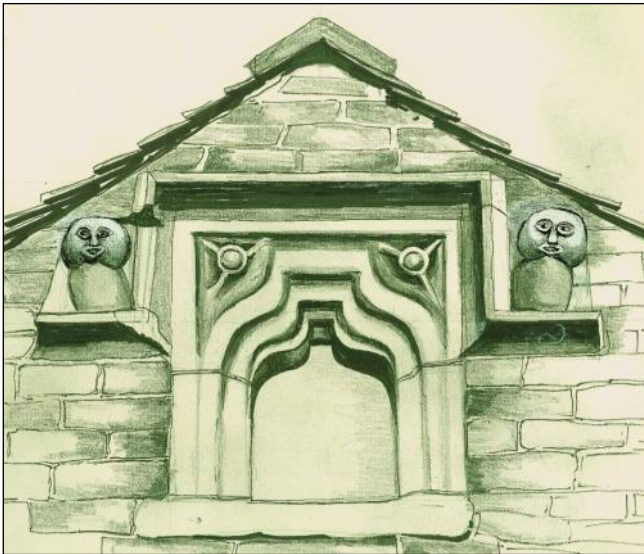
If rain was blown into the wall joints it would run out. In the Pennines it is only the outer skin of the wall that is laid in this fashion – and the sandstone absorbs water. The joints between the walling stones are made very fine to prevent or limit water penetration into the soft mortar, but sandstone absorbs water by capillary action and to allow the water content to remain in the wall would lead to problems of damp and the deterioration of the walling stone. The downward tilt of the outer face would encourage the water to percolate to the outer ledge from which it would be removed by evaporation. The success of the technique is undeniable, for in some recent instances of renovation where stone walls were rebuilt in flush wall masonry, damp has appeared when before there had been no such problem.

Malcolm Birdsall

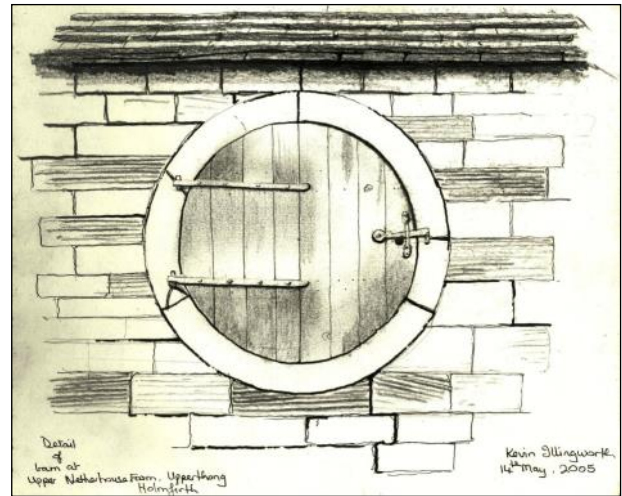


# Wonderful windows ...

We feature here another selection of sketches by Kevin Illingworth, this time focusing on windows. The Galgate drawing dates from 1958 when Kevin was but a young lad!



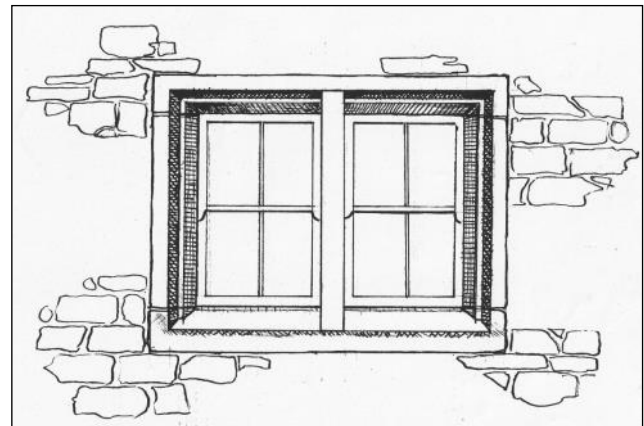
Wallstreams Farmhouse, Worsthorpe – drawn July 2012.



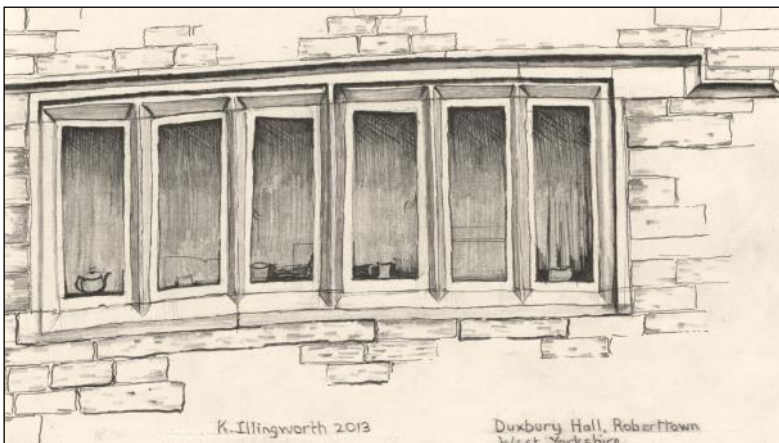
Pitching hole, barn at Upper Netherhouse Farm, Overthorpe – drawn May 2005.



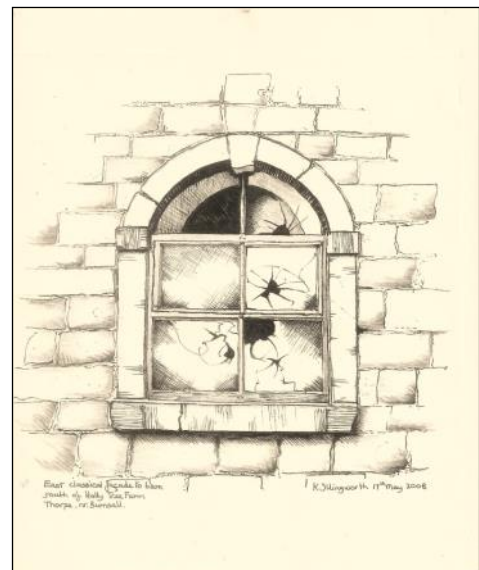
From cellar window at 29 Salford Road, Galgate, near Lancaster – drawn 1958.



Town Head Farmhouse, Hebden, Craven – drawn May 1998.



Duxbury Hall, Roberttown – drawn June 2013.



Laithe and stables, Holly Tree Farm, Thorpe, near Burnall – drawn May 2008.

## New tree ring dating reports for Barrowford – a summary

### Park Hill House and Cruck Barn at the Pendle Heritage Centre, Barrowford

On 2 September 2023, several YVBSG members attended a Friends of Pendle Heritage study day held mostly in the cruck barn, relocated from Cliviger and re-erected at the Pendle Heritage Centre in 1984. The title was *A study of early timber framed buildings and traditional building practice*. Soon afterwards, on 21 October 2023, seventeen of our members met in the Heritage Centre café before our YVBSG Barrowford walks and visit to Roughlee Old Hall. We did not plan to go to Crow Trees House and barn, and other buildings at Higherford, on that day.

Until recently Park Hill was thought to date from the late sixteenth century, with earlier mid-fifteenth century timber remains; the Cruck Barn was said to be sixteenth or even fifteenth century by some.

Tree ring dating has now been carried out by Alison Arnold and Robert Howard of the Nottingham Tree Ring Dating Laboratory. This research was funded by a generous gift-aided



Park Hill at Pendle Heritage Centre



Crow Trees Barn with Crow Trees House behind

donation specifically for tree ring dating, by the late John Webster, owner of Crow Trees House, Higherford, via the Heritage Trust for the North West.

Park Hill has been dated to the mid-1550s, the Cruck Barn (moved from Cliviger) has been dated to c1600, later than thought. On our Barrowford group visit, we had access to the Holt Square Cottages, Higherford, dating from the 1580s or c1600, but now thought to have also been built in the mid-1550s.

Crow Trees House, Higherford, seen by myself and Lorraine Moor on a recce, was originally believed to be of c1600, but we now know that the trusses were felled in 1553. It is logical to assume that Crow Trees Barn was built soon after 1553. Higherford Packhorse Bridge, not visited by our group, was said to have been built between 1583 and 1591, but the various groups involved in this Barrowford project are now suggesting a possible late 1540s date for this bridge.

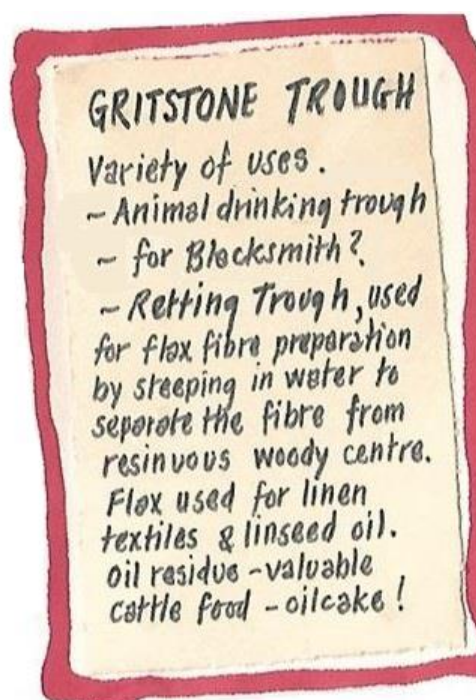
Kevin Illingworth

## The versatility of a stone trough

We often come across stone troughs whilst exploring vernacular buildings. Malcolm Birdsall points out in his colourful reminder on the right that such troughs are very versatile and can be used for several different purposes.



Gritstone trough outside a barn in Addingham



## From the archive: Public houses – past and present

The Group has recorded a number of buildings which are, or have been at some point in their lives, used as public houses or inns. Here are just some of them; the reports can be found in the YVBSG online archive. Photos by Kevin Illingworth and myself.

As part of his ongoing ‘mythbusting’ campaign, buildings archaeologist Dr James Wright has published a blog about the dating of pubs (including a Yorkshire example, the Bingley Arms at Bardsey-cum-Rigton, which claims, apparently falsely, to be the oldest surviving pub in the UK) – see [triskeleheritage.triskelepublishing.com/category/mediaeval-mythbusting-blog/](http://triskeleheritage.triskelepublishing.com/category/mediaeval-mythbusting-blog/).

Lorraine Moor



Milbank Arms, Well (YVBSG 0787). Used as an inn since 1882. Walling of cobble, with attached farm buildings also of cobble. Roof probably of cut-down full crucks re-used as raised cruck trusses with feet buried in stone walls, with one truss reconstructed a second time as an upper cruck truss with feet tenoned into a tie beam.



The Old Golden Lion, Topcliffe (YVBSG 0500). Perhaps mid C17. Mostly brick, with internal stud partitions. Flat staircase balusters may be connected with relocation of staircase and excavation of cellar when function changed from farmhouse to inn c1700.



The Plough Inn, Wombledon (YVBSG 0329). Walling of limestone, with crucks which are crossed at the apex. Thatched until 1969. Thought to date from C17.



The Buck Inn, Guisborough (YVBSG 1786). An inn by the 1740s, and probably much earlier. Fine ashlar sandstone stonework of c1800, with top storey of brick. Interior mostly reconstructed about 1960 but remains of mud-and-stud partitions and a magnificent central roof-truss, probably c1600. Former maltings at rear.



Ferry Inn, Cawood (YVBSG 0810). Probably C17. On the river side, a pitching door leads into a teasel loft; teasels were grown in the area for the West Riding woollen mills.



White Lion Hotel, Hebden Bridge (YVBSG 1458). First recorded as a pub in the 1730s but originally a yeoman farmhouse called King's Farm with remains of associated barns still existing across the road. Decorated door lintel of 1657 but internal features suggest a late C16 date for the building.



Left: Black Bull Cottage, Husthwaite (YVBSG 0092). The timber-framed part probably dates from the mid C16 and is an early example of a two-room central lobby-entry house. Contained a timber and plaster firehood. An ornamented door arch has been cut into the fireplace bressummer. Seems to have been an inn by the mid C18.



Old Lord Nelson, Beck Hole (YVBSG 0737). Originally a three-unit single-storey cross-passage house with thatched roof, built in 1678. Alehouse from at least late C18 to 1940. Cellar and bar parlour still there when recorded.



Bridge Inn, Ripponden (YVBSG 1297). Single-storey stone building containing one cruck truss, with two-storey wing at one end. Probably C16 to early C17, a more modest building than some timber-framed Calderdale houses.

## Other events of possible interest ...

We recommend that you check for any updated information if you plan to attend an event, in case of late changes to schedules.

### Mince pie event

Sunday 8 December 2024

A North Craven Heritage Trust event at Friends Meeting House, Settle, 2pm.  
[www.northcravenheritage.org](http://www.northcravenheritage.org).

### Roof tour of Cannon Hall, Cawthorne

Thursday 12 December 2024

A visit with the SPAB Yorkshire Group to explore the repair works to the roof. 1pm to 3pm, led by architects Donald Inshall Associates. [www.spab.org.uk/whats-on/events/spab-yorkshire-group-roof-tour-cannon-hall](http://www.spab.org.uk/whats-on/events/spab-yorkshire-group-roof-tour-cannon-hall).

### The Secrets of Ancient Windows

Monday 30 December 2024

An online talk by James Wright, 7-9pm, by donation. [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-secrets-of-ancient-windows-tickets-1095212071789](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-secrets-of-ancient-windows-tickets-1095212071789).

### Pioneers in vernacular architecture

Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 January 2025

Vernacular Architecture Group winter conference examining the legacy of early scholars. At College Court, University of Leicester. [www.vag.org.uk](http://www.vag.org.uk). Bursaries are available.

### Skipton Castle and Lady Ann Clifford

Wednesday 8 January 2025

A talk by Gillian Waters to Barwick-in-Elmet History Society. 2pm in the John Rylie Centre, Barwick-in-Elmet.  
[www.barwickinelmethistoricalsociety.com](http://www.barwickinelmethistoricalsociety.com).

### Millstone Production in the Pennines and North West England

Thursday 9 January 2025

A talk by David Johnson to Bingley & District Local History Society. 7.30pm at Church House, Old Main Street, Bingley, £3. [www.bingleyhistory.co.uk](http://www.bingleyhistory.co.uk).

### Then and Now: photos of vernacular buildings by Ralph Cross (1893-1978) and Kevin Illingworth

Wednesday 22 January 2025

A talk by Kevin Illingworth to Hebden Bridge Local History Society. 7.30pm at Hebden Bridge Methodist Church, £4. [www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk](http://www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk).

### Volunteer weekend at Colne Valley Museum, Golcar

Sat 25 and Sun 26 January 2025

Four nineteenth century weavers' cottages form a living history museum

spotlighting the domestic wool textile industry in the valleys of West Yorkshire. This is an opportunity to learn about a range of volunteer roles. For details see [www.colnevalleymuseum.org.uk](http://www.colnevalleymuseum.org.uk).

### Whatever happened to the townships? The part they played in our local history

Wednesday 12 February 2025

A talk by David Cant to Hebden Bridge Local History Society. 7.30pm in Hebden Bridge Methodist Church, £4. [www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk](http://www.hebdenbridgehistory.org.uk).

### Bradford in Transition in the 19th Century

Tuesday 25 February 2025

An online talk by Ian Roberts, run by British Association for Local History in partnership with the Historic Towns Trust. 7pm, £5. [www.balh.org.uk](http://www.balh.org.uk).

### Ripon

Tuesday 25 March 2025

An online talk by Mick Stanley, run by British Association for Local History in partnership with the Historic Towns Trust. 7pm, £5. [www.balh.org.uk](http://www.balh.org.uk).

## Courses for the new year

'Learning for pleasure' courses on offer from the University of York in 2025 include: *History of King's Manor* (Saturday 1 February), *Historic Pubs of York* (Saturday 29 March), and *The Lost Country Houses of the East Riding* (10 weeks from Tuesday 22 April, online). Also available are accredited courses on *The Archaeology of York's Historic Buildings* (11 weeks from Thursday 24 April) and *The Medieval English House: Hearth and Home c1150-c1500* (11 weeks from Tuesday 22 April, online). Full details at [www.york.ac.uk/lifelonglearning/](http://www.york.ac.uk/lifelonglearning/).

## East Riding Archives

After a major refurbishment, the East Riding Archives re-opens on 10 December 2024 in the Champney Treasure House, Beverley, together with the library, art gallery and other facilities. Full information can be found at [www.eastridingarchives.co.uk](http://www.eastridingarchives.co.uk).

## A new guide to accessing the YAHS collections

The Yorkshire Archaeological & Historical Society's Archives and Library are deposited on long-term loan at the University of Leeds Brotherton library. For several years a process has been ongoing to catalogue the YAHS library books and journals. Now that cataloguing is completed, the Society has produced a short guide to help its members to access the collections more easily. This is available on the YAHS website at [www.yas.org.uk/Collections/The-YAHS-collections](http://www.yas.org.uk/Collections/The-YAHS-collections).

As associate members, YVBSG members can get a Brotherton Library Card to use the library on a reference-only basis. Details of how to do this are available via the website mentioned above.

The collection includes the YVBSG archive of reports, but of course YVBSG members have access to the full digital archive maintained by the Group and available through the interactive map at [www.yvbsg.org.uk/reports.html](http://www.yvbsg.org.uk/reports.html).

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