JOURNAL 2001

North Craven Heritage Trust

ISSN 1357-3896

£3.00

Lectures and Concerts

2001

Saturday January 6, 2.30

New Year Recital by Leeds Parish Church Choir
Church of the Epiphany, Austwick.

Wednesday March 14, 7.30

Sylvia Thomas, West Yorkshire Archive Service,
"Understanding archives and how to read them"
Catholic Hall, Settle.

Sunday April 29, 7.30

Concert by Craven Camerata
Settle Parish Church.

Tuesday September 11, 7.30 pm

John Harrop, Liverpool University
"Useless Latin? A tool for historians and genealogists"
Langcliffe Institute.

Wednesday October 10, 7.30

Annual General Meeting, followed by a talk on the Hall, past, present and future
Victoria Hall, Settle.

Thursday November 15, 7.30 pm

Mrs E Bannister of Coniston Hall,
"Restoration at Coniston Hall"
Long Preston Village Hall.

Friday December 7, 7.30 for 8.00 pm

Christmas Party,
Austwick Village Hall.

2002

Saturday January 5, 2.30 pm

New Year Recital by Leeds Parish Church Choir,
St Alkelda's Church, Giggleswick.

Visitors welcome. All talks are free to members. There is a small charge for concerts, recitals and the Christmas party.

Sunday Walks

February 4	**E Shorrock & S Taylor**	**01729 822776**
Greenfoot car park		SD 821 633
March 4	**E Parker**	**01729 823792**
Airton Green		SD 903 592
April 1	**J & S Fox**	**01729 823682**
Gargrave, North Street car park (by Village Hall)		SD 932 543
May 6	**C & N Ellis**	**01729 822235**
Langcliffe - Malham road, Junction with Winskill track		SD 835 659
June 3	**D Johnson**	**01729 822915**
Stainforth car park		SD 821 673
July 1	**M Southworth**	**015242 51629**
Bank End Farm, Lawkland		SD 775 665
September 2	**H & A Foxcroft**	**01729 825649**
Car park behind Ribblesdale Motors		SD 815 634
October 7	**R & J Corbett**	**01729 824001**
Greenfoot car park		SD 821 633
November 4	**K & O Bolger**	**01729 823525**
Settle Swimming Pool car park		SD 816 642
December 2	**N & L Hitchen**	**01729 840367**
Long Preston Railway Station car park		SD 834 579

Sunday walks start at 1.45 pm. and are a leisurely 4 to 5 miles, taking 2½ to 3 hours

Members are asked to share cars wherever possible. In some out-of-town venues parking may be limited.

To help any member to attend or take part in any event, transport can be arranged.
Please enquire from Mr R Gudgeon 01729 822610.

The North Craven Heritage Trust is a registered charity, No. 504029.
Cover: The memorial stone in Long Preston Church to the Hammerton family, painted by Diana Kaneps.
See inside the journal for further information.
Designed and printed by **LP&D**, 2 Station Road, Settle, North Yorkshire 01729 822177

Editorial

Maureen Ellis and Harold Foxcroft

Although it was not preplanned, the articles submitted for this year's Journal have a theme of building history running through them. Emmeline Garnett tells us about how to go about researching the history of a house. Emmeline is the co-author of 'The Dated Buildings of Bentham'– a book whose publication was underwritten by the Trust and copies of which can still be obtained from our Chairman Roy Gudgeon. David S. Johnson reminds us, amongst other things, of the cost of historical research in general, in money as well as in time. Anne Read gives an account not only of the history, but also of the progress and vision of the future Museum of Settle, The Folly. Alan Hemsworth has written about the palace whose name his Nonsuch Singers adopted and Michael Southworth has researched his own house, drawing attention to the presence of lynchets.

Outside this general theme Richard Ellis has described the massive project of replacing Hawksheath Plantation, Keasden. As promised Nick Harling has updated us on the Wayside Features Recording Project and Brian Birkby has provided a lively account of Leeds Parish Church Choir Reciral. Attention is drawn to Jenny Scott's Heritage in the Making.

The accounts of Sunday walks are to be savoured in view of this year's foot and mouth epidemic. These accounts and those of the special outings are both to record points of interest and as a guide for future walkers to follow. They have been slightly shortened this year and in future we will try and reproduce a route map with each walk.

Regretfully this would have been the last year that Bill Mitchell leads his ever-popular yearly outing and on behalf of the Trust we want to thank him most sincerely for the access he has arranged to places and people in these interest packed events during the last 21 years.

Lastly but very importantly the drawings of Diana Kaneps grace the cover and the text pages of the Journal. A new step has been taken this year by having a series of her drawings, mostly connected with buildings associated with the Hammerton family, as strip illustrations at the foot of most pages.

The N.C.H.T. committee is a lively and interesting group with a publications sub-committee, convened by Sylvia Harrop. Articles for the Journal are always welcome and in addition the Trust owns important archive material and we are looking for a member who would like to take on the role of archivist.

John Chapman contributes enormously in his role as convenor of the footpaths sub-committee and Jill Sykes quietly but professionally informs the committee of building changes.

Enjoy the journal and do avail yourselves of some of the interesting activities organised by the trust.

North Craven Heritage Trust

Summer mid-week outings

2001

Wednesday 16 May, 10.30 am.

"A Gay Day in Yoredale". A historical ramble with Dorothy and Alan Hemsworth (01729) 823902). About seven miles, bring packed lunch. Start from Leyburn Shawl car park (opposite the Police Station). (SE 111 906).

Thursday 14 June, 2.00 pm.

A 2½-3 hour guided walk in the National Trust properties of High Fold and Malham Tarn Nature Reserve. Leader: Martin Davies or Alison Fawcett (National Trust). Start from car park in front of the Estate Office at Waterhouses. SD 887 674. This walk is not feasible in wet weather. If in doubt phone National Trust office (01729 830416).

Thursday 21 June, 2.00 pm.

A walk with English Nature – Limestone flowers and ferns on either Scar Close or Southerscales, Ingleborough. Leader John Osborn (English Nature). Park near Chapel le Dale church (SD 738 773).

Thursday 28 June, 2.00 pm.

Another walk with English Nature – Lords Wood and pasture. Leader John Osborne (English Nature). Start from Settle Swimming Pool car park (SD 816 642).

Wednesday 11 July.

Twenty first Annual Field Day with W R Mitchell, in Sedbergh and Upper Lunesdale. Assemble at Ashfield car park (SD 819 636), at 9.00 am or at Devil's Bridge, Kirkby Lonsdale (SD 616 782) at 9.30.

Enquiries to	John Chapman	01729 823664
Or	Arthur Lupton	01729 823987

W.R. Mitchell has agreed to lead the 21st Annual Field Day in 2002.

The Cover and The Hammertons

Maureen Ellis

The memorial stone shown on the cover is to be found in Long Preston Church at the right hand side of the high altar. It is horizontal and raised on sandstone. The spelling of the name Hammerton can be with or without the double m. Diana Kaneps, the artist explained that it shows five coats of arms and an encircling inscription which translates as 'Pray for the soul of Lawrence Hammerton Esquire and Isabella his wife, of Richard his son Knight, of Elizabeth his wife as of all benefactors of this chapel or chantry which was founded in perpetuity of the said obligation in the year of our Lord 1445.' Between the shields are the words Credo (I believe). The arches on the central shield denote Osbern de Arches, and the diagonal lines Elias de Knoll whose families joined in marriage, their descendants marrying into the Hammerton family. The hammers on this shield denote the latter. The Arches family were related to William the Conqueror by a common grandfather. Diana has superimposed her design on a background of sandstone.

The Hammertons were a well-known family who were huge landowners, first they built Hammerton Hall in Slaidburn and later Hellifield Peel. Wigglesworth Hall was their country house and park in which to entertain. Stephen Park in the Forest of Bowland was originally a hunting lodge.

The Hammerton's story is shown as a series of strips at the foot of most pages and are thanks to Diana Kaneps.

Researching the History of a House

Emmeline Garnett

Some people like to live in a house of which they are the very first occupants. Most of us, given the choice prefer the feeling that others have lived and died on these premises, have sat in front of this hearth, and dug in this garden. Of recent years there has been a huge growth in the family history business and the level of expertise is now very high. Researching houses is a less common area of interest and I know of no local societies dedicated to it, but that may well change. This article offers no more than a jumping-off place: as with family history there is only one way of learning and that is by doing. But if it inspires anyone to go further, particularly if they then pass on their acquired knowledge the cause of local history will have been given a boost.

The place to start is the **building** itself. This is not the place to try and give a practical guide to architectural development but, if you are interested and keep looking you cannot help learning by experience, and there are many excellent books. Some general points may be borne in mind. No one can avoid the handwriting of their own generation, witness all those Victorian architects who thought they were building churches in the original mediaeval style and succeeded in expressing their own century so unmistakably. Of course in a house there may be features that have been imported. That eighteenth century fireplace may have come from a builders' merchant. On the whole such importations are usually rather recent, and may be checked out with the previous owners or even the local building firm who did the alterations. But if our ancestors did not often buy up the cast-offs of a previous age quite as much as ourselves, they altered and modernised, added to and knocked about the buildings in which they lived. Remember also that no one does more alteration than they strictly need – in other words, that most houses provide a palimpsest, if we can tease out the different layers, of every generation that has tinkered with the structure and the decoration.

As well as **books** from which you can learn in general, you may find your house described in particular in something like Pevsner's *Buildings of England*, published county by county. Or if by chance it is a listed building, then you can have the benefit of a brief but accurate expert's description. The local planning department is the place to go. Here it is worth remarking that **building regulations** go back further than you may have thought, into the nineteenth century. That is if they have been preserved, and if they have been kept in some sort of order. These are two sizeable 'ifs', but it is worth finding out.

Maps are a great resource. I think it is true to say that Britain is the most completely and the best mapped country in the world. The Ordnance Survey 6-inch maps date back to the 1840s the 25-inch maps to the 1850s and the incredible five-feet-to-a-mile plans of some towns and cities usually to the second half of the nineteenth century. (The tithe map if it exists for your area is described later.) During the twentieth century there were two very complete **surveys** which are rather more complex to find and use, but may well repay the time and trouble. Before embarking on either either of them, it would be as well to invest in the excellent Public Record Office guide book whose title is quoted in full at the end of the article. 'The first is the **Valuation Office Survey 1910-1915**, often known as the 'New Domesday', because it covers all the land in the United Kingdom. The second,

O.S. map of 1927 showing the position of the Hammertons first hall at Slaidburn. There is a photograph of the hall in the Journal of 1998.

which is only truly relevant for some house researchers, is the **National Farm Survey 1941-1943**. This, as the dates suggest, was undertaken with a view to maximising food production an urgent requirement for this island in the face of war and shipping blockades.

The preceding paragraphs sum up very briefly the resources for researching a house without any reference to the people who lived there. Nearly everything else deals mainly with people, and here we shall borrow from the field of family history, and starting with the present day, work backwards. It must be remembered, however, that the history of the site and the people who lived there may not be the same as the physical entity of the house, which possibly has been entirely renewed at some time.

Never underestimate the value of the **deeds** to the house. They are not always easy to winkle out of the hands which hold them (banks and building societies in this respect are more difficult than solicitors), and people are sometimes dismissive because nowadays the older deeds have often been jettisoned as unnecessary. Those you hold may go back only fifty years or so. Sometimes they go back to the break-up of an estate and the building may he more fully documented elsewhere. Sometimes the earlier material has been kept by the person who divided and sold off a plot. Whatever there is, is worth looking at very closely. You may possibly find a map, and some of the dullest looking collections lead off with a brief summary of earlier documents no longer included – a so-called 'Abstract of Title". All names are worth noting; they may for instance, be connected to a previous owner in some way not at first apparent.

While we are in the twentieth century, remember the value of **asking the neighbours**. Somewhere, you may be sure, there is someone whose memory of this house goes back a long time and their family memory, what they heard from someone else, may go back over a century. All such tradition is worth something, although it has to he said that it often gets muddled on the way. As we get older we recognise how fallible is our own memory, and so-called 'oral history' must be treated with the greatest care and a healthy dose of scepticism. Who has not had the experience of disagreeing fundamentally with some other member of the family about an event at which both were present and which both are convinced that they remember with crystal clarity? In this respect it is worth remarking that we all very much want our past to be a little bit romantic, a little bit out of the ordinary. Everyone wants a duke in their family tree, or if not a duke, then at least a sheep-stealer. The same applies to the history of your house. Purely factual memories about, for instance, alterations or previous inhabitants within the teller's own lifetime are probably rock solid. Older traditions, especially if they sound exciting, should be held in suspense until proven.

Moving backwards to the nineteenth century, the sources seem to be the same as those for family history the **census returns** and the **street directories**, but there is a difference in their use. If the house is named, it will probably be very simple to trace. Otherwise, you will find yourself doing elaborate jigsaw puzzles to find out which family in the census actually lived in the house you are researching – counting from an inn or the corner of the street or some other identifiable place, checking on the neighbours from one two three along the road, working out which way round the census taker was walking with his notebook and his little portable inkbottle. Street numbers have often changed. If you can surmount these obstacles, then the census returns give you snapshots of everyone living in your house at ten-year intervals from 1891 back to 1841. Indeed by the time you read his article, the 1901 returns as well may be open to the public. From them you will learn about families, occupations, and (from 1851), where each person was born.

All this time, you have been crossing your fingers that there is a **tithe map** covering the area. If there is, one of the copies should be in your local record office. These finely detailed maps are usually dated between 1840 and 1850, although the material for them may have been gathered a few years before. Over the years the payment of tithes of farm produce to the church had become immensely complicated, and an act of 1836 allowed them to be commuted into cash. To work out the payments due, it was necessary to map the parish minutely, and the resulting plan and schedule give you not only the name of the owner and where appropriate the tenant, but it also shows in meticulous detail the shape of every building on the site and a survey of any land belonging. This is often the key document in your research but, as usually happens, there is a fly in the ointment. Many tithes had already been commuted, probably round the end of the eighteenth century when the common land was enclosed Enclosure maps are rarely as useful as tithe maps, and sometimes, for the purpose of a house history, of no use at all.

From the tithe map, sometimes from the early census returns, you may with luck be able to identify your house on the **land tax returns**, if these exist, and if they exist they may bridge another fifty years. The land tax was payable over a far longer stretch of time than 1780-1832, but where the returns have been preserved they date between those two years. They were kept to prove that people who claimed a vote had sufficient property to qualify, and with the passing of the 1832 Reform Bill this was no longer necessary. The land tax for a parish or township often at first sight looks very unpromising. It usually consists of a list of names, apparently in no particular order, with the sum of money due from each. Sometimes both owner and occupier are named, occasionally names of properties. The principal value to the house-researcher is that although over the fifty years the names may change as land changes hands, the sum of money remains constant. If, from the tithe map, you can pick up John Smith as your tenant, and John Smith pays 1s 5¾d in 1832, then with luck you can track the owners and occupiers of John Smith's property back to 1780.

Now we are back in the eighteenth century, and if you are doing your research in the old West Riding of Yorkshire, you have one tremendous bonus. This is the **Registry of Deeds** at Wakefield. (It has to be admitted that if you live in the old West Riding, you have probably already noticed that you are in need of a bonus. Straightforward research is difficult, time-consuming and expensive as you trail from Northallerton to Leeds, from Preston to York, in pursuit of the various sources.) Yorkshire and London were the only two areas to implement early eighteenth century acts which set up these registries of land transfer documents. The documents are indexed, and

The Folly Photo: Anne Read

although the huge metal-hound volumes sometimes make you wish for a diploma in weightlifting, a day spent in Wakefield can be very profitable. It is important to note however, that you cannot trace a property by its name. You have to be in possession of the name of at least one of the signatories (usually the buyer or seller). But having found out that our John Smith bought from Michael Robinson in the year 1773, you can then look for Michael Robinson before that date to see whether he bought from somebody else, and if you read and note the entries with care, they often include other valuable titbits of information which may give a further lead.

Other sources to be canvassed are the **estate** and the **manor.** If you can find out to what larger unit your property belonged in its earlier days, there may be considerable documentation still extant, although perhaps inconveniently sited. A large county history, such as the *Victoria County History,* will give you good information as to what manor your house was in, and through what families the manor descended. The local record office may hold a deposit of papers from the family in question. If not, then an invaluable address is that of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, given at the end of this article. In the past important families may have held land all over the country, and the documents you need may he deposited many miles away.

But the main sources of information for these early days will be again the same as those used by family historians, namely **parish records and wills.** Through these time-honoured sources you may he able to track back your householders for another hundred years or more, perhaps to 1600. They will be in the record office or, if not, the record office will know where they are. Some counties have excellent series of printed parish registers, complete with indexes. But indexed or not, I know no other way of tracking a family than by the painstaking copying of every entry under that name in the register, from which you may create a family tree. It is of no use to look for just those entries which you think you need. The parish registers are never totally complete, and the technique of family research is very like putting together a somewhat defective jigsaw puzzle – unless you join up all the pieces which are present, you cannot begin to see the gaps. Reading wills is not always easy as you go backwards because of handwriting difficulties, but these can be overcome by practice, and by their mention of specific people and relationships and sometimes specific places, wills provide details not obtainable elsewhere. Seventeenth and early eighteenth century wills are often accompanied by an **inventory** which for the house-historian is a treasure. The assessors not only listed the dead person's property, but often they listed the rooms as well. Ironically, you may get a far more complete picture of your house and its owners at this remote period than from any later documentation.

A final source may be the **gravestones** in the local churchyard or chapel yard, although between the effects of intentional destruction, natural wear, and the fact that most people could not afford a stone until very recently, this is often a disappointing search.

A word of warning on the use of parish records: the IGI (International Genealogical Index) collected by the Mormon Church and generously made available to researchers, is a fine tool but a very bad master. It is not complete, but it does not tell you where it is not complete; it has been compiled by great numbers of people, so by definition a proportion of them are going to have made mistakes. It covers christenings and marriages, but not burials. It is in all record offices and many public libraries and has lightened the load for thousands of family searchers. Use it but check your findings.

Very briefly, this article has tried to point out the main sources of house research back to 1600 which in round figures is usually the cut-off point. There are of course documents which go much further back and may name the names you are looking for, but the parish register, for ninety-nine per cent of the population, is the first and only document which connects father to son, and without that connection you cannot assume a link. However 400 years, if you are lucky eough to have covered that span with the history of the house you live in or the site on which it is built, is a more than satisfactory achievement.

Sources. There are many books about understanding the physical features of a house and dating it. The best book I know about the method of research is deceptively small: Iredale and Barrett: *Discovering your Old House* (Shire Publications 1997)

Foot: *Maps for Family History* (Public Record Office Readers' Guide No 9. 1994).

The local library is the starting point for finding out what is available and where in an area, but beyond this an important national address is *The National Register of Archives,* Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, Quality House, Quality Court, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1HP.

Getting started with historical research

David S. Johnson

There has been a resurgence of interest in what came before us, almost a renaissance in fact, over the last few years. Whether this is a reflection of our wanting to re-visit the second millennium as we embark on the third, or is a spin off from increased television coverage on matters historical, is debatable. What is beyond doubt, however, is the recent growth in the number of historical societies, local community based historical research projects that often culminate in a book, and small-scale publishers concentrating on the history of their local area, however large or small it is perceived to be. Indeed, the Association of County Archivists has described the increase in usage of research facilities as 'astonishing'.

I have a feeling that, for every one active amateur researcher, there are two would-be researchers out there.

A profile of a researcher

I believe successful researchers – those who achieve their initial aims and add to our corporate body of knowledge – share a number of common characteristics. The basic prerequisite is having a topic you want to pursue. No one can tell you to go and research this or that unless it is something you have at least a fleeting interest in ... and it is amazing how readily a vague interest can blossom over time into an all-absorbing passion!

You will probably be a self-disciplined person with the willpower to spend hours in a dimly lit room when the sun is beating down outside but, there again, you could be like me and keep a keen eye on the weather forecasts: dry days for playing out and wet ones for the archive. If, on the other hand, your research is put off and put off, the chances are you will lose your thread and will come to see it as your personal henpecking master. You cannot allow yourself to become a slave to it, but it needs to be maintained. In addition, you will need the determination to see it through. What at first might seem to be a tight little project may transform itself into a hydra-headed undertaking and, if you are not prepared to complete it (and more later on what complete means), there is no point embarking on it in the first place.

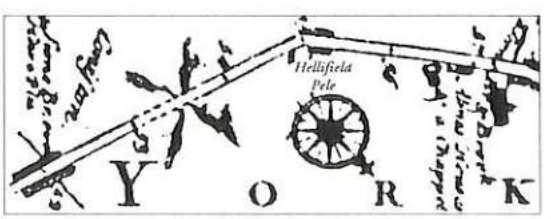
So, if you have the topic that interests you, the self-discipline and the will, you are ready to take off. However, many are perhaps put off by asking themselves the question 'where ever do I start?' Patience, though, as we are not quite ready for that yet. There are a few more considerations.

Points to bear in mind

Firstly, you must ensure you choose a topic that is manageable, not too large in scope nor too narrowly focussed. No one could conceivably research, for example, lead mining or tanning or the rise of Quakerism or developments in vernacular architecture or whatever across the whole of North Yorkshire or the historic West Riding. On the other hand, a study of land improvement or developments in walling techniques on a single farm, though providing useful information, would probably mean little in isolation. Having said this, many tightly focussed projects do stand alone as valuable additions to the knowledge bank, such as studies of individual houses, mills or bridges: studies of individual figures from village life; studies of changing ownership of a given piece of land.

Secondly, it is worth reminding oneself that a research project is akin to an ancient spreading oak tree. We start our probe at the base of the trunk, feet firmly placed on the ground. We know we have only one way to go –onwards and upwards – because we have only just started. As time goes on our research trunk divides into two major boles. Each seems equally inviting so we toss a pencil sharpener to decide which to explore first. Eventually our chosen bole will split into ever more branches. Many of these branches are relevant and need investigating but others are mere distractions. Now, some distractions can turn out to be as interesting and captivating as the main topic, and it is so easy to end up pursuing these loose ends. My article on Nether Lodge in the previous Journal, for example, was the result of such a distraction: I came upon the material by accident while searching for something else and could not resist following it up. Fine, you might say, but it does tend to prolong the whole process.

As a corollary to this it is important to give oneself a cut-off point to prevent the task carrying on to infinity. It is so very easy to convince oneself that there is something new just around the corner waiting to be discovered. There probably is but how many more such corners might there be? I was talking to a distinguished and many-lettered archivist and journal editor recently and he gave me a very sound piece of advice. My own personal line of research - the lime industry in the Dales - has engaged me now for nearly four years and it seems to have no end. "'Well", said the archivist, "draw a firm red line under it now and get it written up!" I really am trying to act on his advice. This brings me back to defining the word 'complete', in terms of historical research. The inescapable fact is that research can never be complete. There is always something else to discover, or someone else who has a new interpretation to offer. History does not have an end.



Ogilvies map of 1675 in the Journal Britannica, shows the main road from Lancaster to York passing by Hellifield Peel which was the second house the Hammertons built.

Fourthly, the serious researcher must accept that there is a cost implication, and costs can add up quite rapidly. Every trip to a reference library or archive incurs transport costs plus probably photocopying costs and even a trip to the nearby cafe. Every source obtained through the inter-library lending service costs money, especially if brought from out of county. Some material you want to see may be housed in one of the national repositories which requires, at least, an overnight stay away from home. You could take this to the extreme, if obsession looms, as happened to me last summer, when I ended up in Bavaria pursuing two particular leads and, as I write this, I fear I feel a trip to Berlin coming on.

Lastly, how deep a researcher goes depends on personal circumstances, priorities and competing demands. Be aware that historical research can ensnare you. It can become a disease that has no apparent cure: it is, nonetheless, an affliction I am more than happy to have.

Sources

So, where do you actually start the search? The superficial answer is that it depends on what you are intending to research. For the purposes of this article we will assume it is being carried out within the Trust's geographical area.

Libraries

The first place might be a reference library with a good local section. Because Craven has been administratively confused in the past, and because we sit at the conjunction of three counties, we have a number of such libraries at our disposal. Skipton library is highly accessible, having three early evening openings each week and a good collection of local material, mostly indexed. Settle library has a small collection whereas Lancaster reference library is a mine of information with an admirable indexing system. It, too, has evening openings on certain days. The Brayshaw Collection at Giggleswick School contains a lot of original material and genuine researchers can apply for access. I have also found useful material at Northallerton reference library, at the Leeds Library, at Manchester's excellent Central Library and in the John Rylands Library on Deansgate in Manchester, as well as in various university libraries though access to these can be a problem, especially during term time.

Battle Hill 1673 Austwick

Photo: Maureen Ellis

Regional Archives

Again, we are fortunate in having a number of excellent facilities within spitting distance. The West Yorkshire Archive Service operates a number of centres across that county. Sheepscar in Leeds stores many tithe awards and maps, Enclosure documents, ecclesiastical papers relevant to Craven, many industrial and family records and a host of miscellaneous records. Wakefield houses the old West Riding Registry of Deeds holding 12,000 accessible volumes of deeds from 1704 to 1970. It also contains an enormous quantity of old West Riding county documents with records from a range of other official bodies.

The Yorkshire Archaeological Society, part of WYAS, is housed at Claremont in Leeds and this, to me, is the stereotypical archive to which there can be no such thing as a quick visit. It has a large collection of books, old and new, and an absolute plethora of family documents including those of the Cliffords, the Lords Ribblesdale and the Middletons of Ilkley. The records of the West Yorkshire Vernacular Buildings Study Group are also kept here, as are many transcripts of parish records. A large collection of historic maps – not all classified – are stored here also.

The North Yorkshire County Record Office in Northallerton has a huge collection of documents, much on microfilm, including parish records, papers of prominent families (such as the Farrers of Clapham) and historic maps. Further relevant material can be found in the county archive at Kendal, at Preston and in the Borthwick Institute in York. It might also be worthwhile obtaining a reader's card from the County Archive Research Network which permits one easy access to over 30 county archives across England and Wales. The card can be obtained in person from any participating archive: our nearest is Kendal.

National Archives

Of national significance are the branches of the British Library (BL), and the Public Record Office. The BL's main reading rooms – and magnificent they are – are housed next to St Pancras station and access to its vast collection of rare books and maps, journals and official publications, and 'run-of-the-mill' books, is by Reader's Pass, obtainable in person and valid for five years. The BL's Newspaper Library is located in northwest London but the Document Supply Centre's reading rooms at Boston Spa are probably more convenient for us, though it has more restricted opening times than St Pancras. The Patent Office, which used to be located near Lincoln's Inn, is also now at St Pancras. The Public Record Office, at Kew, contains documents from present and past government departments, papers relating to dissolved companies and a plethora of material including, for example, some on the building of the Settle-Carlisle railway. As with the BL, access is by a Reader's Ticket. The Royal Geographical Society in South Kensington houses what must be the nation's premier map collection.

The only real way to ascertain what is where is to approach each archive and

ask them. They are invariably obliging to mailed or e-mailed requests.

The Borthwick Institute of Historical Research in York is a mine of information for ecclesiastical research as well as for research into the history of houses, for obtaining guidelines on translating and understanding past styles of handwriting. Much of the collection is directly related to York itself but it does extend across the county, and it holds the largest collection of wills outside the PRO.

Leeds Central Library, next to the city hall, is worth a look. Particularly useful in the Local Studies section is their very large collection of Trade Directories covering the old West Riding, including Pigot's, Kelly's and Slater's Directories from 1830 to 1936. All businesses and traders are listed across all townships in the area each covers.

nra@hmc.gov.uk is the address of the National Register of Archives, which will search and look up any archives.

Newspapers

A wealth of historical material is to be found in back copies of newspapers, though you will probably only be allowed to view them on microfilm. While this can be an incredibly painstaking and slow process and manageable, I find, only in relatively small doses, it is worthwhile persevering. The Craven Herald and the former Craven Pioneer can be consulted by appointment at Skipton reference library, similarly the Lancaster Guardian can be seen at Lancaster Reference Library, and the Westmorland Gazette in Kendal. Lancaster, incidentally, has carefully catalogued all past issues of the Guardian onto a card index so it is very user-friendly which cannot be said of the Herald in Skipton. Some copies of the old Settle Chronicle are kept in Settle and some in Skipton, but I have yet to find a complete run.

Photographic Archives

Specialist photographic collections exist and are normally willing to assist with enquiries concerning specific sites or localities. I have used the collections of Aerofilms, which have an extensive set of aerial photographs of the Dales from various periods, and of the British Geological Survey. Both will supply copies in either print or slide form for genuine researchers ... at a price.

Internet

An increasing number of web sites are springing up and the only way to determine what is out there is to surf the net using key words, to then dabble and see which sites are worthy of closer inspection. Two sites are of particular value as starting points: www.old-maps.co.uk has all the published first edition Ordnance Survey 6 inch map sheets. The print quality is rather fuzzy and you have to scroll up and down and from side to side to see a whole sheet but it is a convenient starting point. You can print off freely. Equally useful is *www.genuki.org.uk* which has been described as 'mindblowing'. It covers the entire country and Ireland, parish by parish, and contains, inter alia, a transcript of Baines' Directory of 1822, details of individual localities within parishes mentioned in Baines, and genealogical listings. It is definitely worth a browse.

Miscellany

Having spent months – or maybe even years – trawling through all the above, you may well discover some of the most exciting material completely by accident: you do come to hear that so and so has this, or that an imminent sale of documents has something of interest. You will also find material in the most unexpected of places and in private collections, the existence of which will only come to your notice by chance or by word of mouth. The deeper you delve, the more will come to light.

Practicalities

Research is an enjoyable and stimulating experience, and successful research results from perseverance ... and sometimes from courage. There are archive personnel who seem to regard the reader as an interloper into their sanctum and, while I have nothing but regard and gratitude for the help I have received all over the country, I have to confess to being puzzled at times by the minutiae of how a few of them operate. Also, if you can consult rare documents in some archives with bare hands, why does Wakefield make you wear tiny white gloves: in some pencils are essential but in others pen is acceptable. At Sheepscar maps must be covered with plastic sheets, but not in others. Go to Northallerton and you are almost grovelling in the dark on the microfilm machines, but not elsewhere. To use some you must book in advance, but in others you can just turn up. However, in all, do not dare speak in more than hushed tones!

It has also been my – rare – experience to have literally come across the 'here be dragons' in some archives and I was once reduced to a slobbering wreck by one male dragon in one West Yorkshire archive on my first visit there. I had already committed the mortal sin of not having a pencil, and I had had to request his assistance twice but, for him, the final straw came when I sat down on a chair that collapsed beneath me. Some readers shot me a withering look, others suppressed a titter, but he bore down on me like a ferocious male Gorgon.

And do not do what I did last summer in the wonderful Technical Library of the German Museum in Munich. Not only had I forgotten a pen or pencil (I managed to 'borrow' one from the enquiry desk), but I had also managed to forget paper (so I used dozens of tiny request slips instead). When apprehended I simply played the eccentric Englishman abroad ... and remembered to bring everything the next day.

Research is fun!

Hammerton Hall

This photograph was taken by Diana Kaneps, Speight says 'the original owners up to the attainder of Stephen Hammerton in 1537 lived in great splendour in the hall. The mansion has since undergone some restoration... and now has the appearance more of a retired country seat, than of an old war-proof strong hold or barrack-house as it must have been.'

In praise of The Folly: Past, present and future

Anne Read

Newcomers and visitors to Settle, on catching sight of The Folly for the first time, are generally intrigued enough to ask, 'What is it? What is its name? Can we go inside?' The Folly undoubtedly makes an immediate impression, demanding to be noticed and enticing the passer-by to pause and become involved. It is the purpose of the present article to relate something of the history of this highly individual building and describe the North Craven Building Preservation Trust's (NCBPT) plans to secure its future.

Brief History

There are several available accounts of the early history of The Folly, but it will be nonetheless useful to provide a summary here, in order to set present and future developments in context.

The Folly was built in 1675 (1679?) by Richard Preston, a well-to-do tanner. Preston owned all the land in the south of Settle from Castlebergh to the banks of the Ribble and his new house, which he named 'Tanner Hall', was the centrepiece of his estate. The house stands by the original main road into the town and was undoubtedly built to impress. Richard Preston had accumulated a very sizeable estate, not just in Settle but in the surrounding area, and following his death in 1695/6, this was divided among his three daughters in 1702/3. His eldest daughter, Margaret who had married the Rev. Richard Ellershaw of Giggleswick, inherited The Folly, but quickly sold it to Margaret Dawson of Langcliffe, whose lands adjoined those of The Folly. Margaret Dawson's son, William, married in 1705 and he and his wife Jane lived in The Folly until Jane's early death in 1708. From 1708 the Dawson family leased out the house and no other family member was to live there for over two hundred and fifty years. During this period the building was subdivided and occupied by a variety of tenants. At different times it was a bakery, warehouse, furniture business, refreshment rooms, blacksmith's shop and doctor's surgery. Probably partly as a consequence of its apparent abandonment by the Dawson family and on account of its astonishing contrast with the buildings that grew up around it in the eighteenth century, the house became known as 'Preston's Folly', a name that was eventually simplified to 'The Folly'.

Architecturally, The Folly, Settle's only Grade 1 listed building, is also something of an enigma. It combines features representing the height of fashion in the 1670s – the quoins in the angles of the front of the house and the grand main staircase – with those of a hundred and fifty years earlier - the ground floor windows with semi-circular leaded lights. Richard Preston was clearly a man of strong and individual tastes, who knew exactly how he wanted his new house to look and carefully considered every detail of the design.

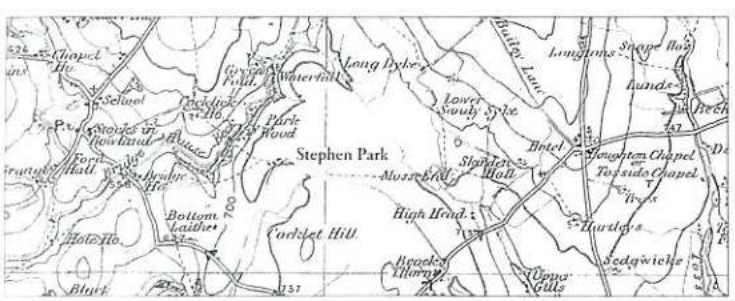
Recent History

In 1958 ownership of The Folly passed to Philip Dawson who was the last member of the family to own the building. He made extensive repairs to the house, returning it to residential use and making it his home until 1980. Eventually he conceded that The Folly was too big to maintain as a single dwelling and sought to secure its future by offering it to the National Trust. The National Trust took a lease on the ground floor in 1978 and ran an information centre and shop for two years while negotiations continued. Despite the success of the information centre, the National Trust declined the offer of The Folly's freehold, because Philip Dawson was unable to offer an endowment sufficient to satisfy their requirements.

In 1980 Philip Dawson put The Folly on the market. It was purchased by an antiques dealer, Mr P S Walden, who obtained planning permission to use the ground floor as his showrooms. In 1989 he sold it on to a property developer, Mr H Burton, who obtained planning and listed building consent to convert the whole building to retail use by running it as an up-market 'department' store, selling high quality goods and specialist foods. Fortunately for the fabric of The Folly this scheme was never implemented. Mr Burton went to live in New Zealand and in 1990 instructed that the building should be put back on the market. By this time the property market had collapsed and, despite repeated reductions in the asking price, The Folly remained unsold and empty. In late 1994 planning and listed building consents were obtained to subdivide the building and separate the north range from the hall and south ranges. Following the consents, Mr N Opie purchased the north range and ran the ground floor as a shop while living in the upper floors. The north range has recently again been sold and at the time of writing (February 2001) its future use is unknown. Meanwhile, the hall and south ranges had been unoccupied since 1990 and their condition was deteriorating rapidly to the point where The Folly was acknowledged to be a 'building at risk'.

NCBPT's Acquisition of The Folly

Since its establishment in 1976 NCBPT



O.S. map of 1927 showing Stephen Park, which was originally a hunting lodge. It was built by Stephen Hammerton who died in 1591, and was confiscated by Henry VIII because the Hammertons took part in the Pilgrimage of Grace.

Replacing the oak beam Photo: Anne Read

had taken a close interest in the fortunes of The Folly because of its special significance to the town, and discussions about a possible purchase by the Trust were begun as early as 1980. However, on each occasion that the building came onto the market, the asking price was substantially beyond the Trust's resources. It was only the decision of the owner in 1974 to subdivide the building and the subsequent sale of the north range, which reduced the value of the hall and south ranges to within possible reach. Because of the ongoing deterioration of the fabric and the strong affection in which the building is held locally, NCBPT determined to mount a campaign to save The Folly and safeguard its future. A loan was obtained from the Architectural Heritage Fund, and Niall Phillips Architects, a firm with considerable experience in the restoration of listed buildings and a good track record in obtaining Heritage Lottery Funding (HLF), were retained by NCBPT to assist in the production of a feasibility study and business plan for submission, together with an application for grant-aid, to the HLF. The application was successful and NCBPT was able to purchase the hall and south ranges in 1996 for £170,000, with the aim of restoring the building, opening it to the public and providing a new home for the Museum of North Craven Life.

Assembling the Funding Package

In order to proceed with the restoration and conversion work and provide for the relocation of the Museum, it was necessary for NCBPT to seek further substantial funding. Thus began the highly complex and often deeply frustrating process of assembling grants from a range of bodies, all having individual criteria, priorities and timetables, coupled with an apparent unwillingness to co-operate with one another or commit to a scheme until other key partners had done so. A further complication was that different bodies were willing to fund only certain elements of the scheme and nearly all operated percentage-based contributions, which inevitably results in additional funds having to be raised. This experience will be very familiar to anyone who has been involved in obtaining grants for partnership schemes! In addition, The Folly's Grade 1 listed status has imposed its own constraints on the funding timetable, because of the need for English Heritage, in its advisory role to both the local planning authority and the HLF, to agree any alterations to the fabric of The Folly and approve all materials used in restoration. That these and many other elements of the process were eventually drawn together to a stage where work could commence, is due in no small measure to the efforts and skills of NCBPT's honorary secretary. The major partners in the project to date have been HLF, Yorkshire Forward, the European Union, with additional funds from the local authority and Charitable Trusts.

Restoration and Conversion

Building work commenced in June 2000. In the main it has involved repairs to the fabric and structure, removal of unsightly modern partitions and fittings and provision of new services, including fire alarm and security systems and disabled access, kitchen and toilet facilities. During the course of the work it became apparent that floor timbers on the upper levels would require strengthening to meet the standards prescribed for a public building. This has been done and new oak floors have been laid in the first and second floor rooms. One of the most pleasing aspects of the scheme has been the opening up of the hall room on the top floor by the removal of a modern corridor and partitions. Some interesting discoveries have been made, including an original blue slate floor beneath the concrete screed of the south room on the ground floor. Restoring the earlier floor levels has enabled the removal of a dangerous step and improved wheelchair access. Various fragments of tools, paper, pottery, glass and bone have been found underneath floorboards and in wall spaces and have been retained for further study. There has unfortunately been no sign of the secret passage behind the ground floor panelling, referred to by the Revd. G. H. Brown in his 'On Foot Round Settle', but an as yet unexplained cavity between the first floor and front lobby was uncovered and duly photographed.

On completion, the ground floor main hall room will serve as principal entry and reception area for the building, with tea-room, kitchen and toilet facilities in the south range. Museum displays will be accommodated on the upper floors, together with a combined office and museum store. The staircase and landings will also provide an excellent display area for pictures and photographs. The aim, in planning the public exhibition areas, is to create spaces which are sufficiently flexible to accommodate a variety of uses and which will respect, rather than detract from, the architectural features of the building. For example, the museum intends to develop and promote an education programme to encourage visitors to use The Folly as a study centre and starting point for increasing their knowledge of the area.

Phased Occupation

When The Folly is handed over to NCBPT by the building contractors in March 2001 it will be as an empty shell. The task of fitting out, furnishing and moving the museum from its current premises in Chapel Street will then be

The Folly interior Photo: Anne Read

carried out in phases as resources permit. Although the HLF has provided an element of funding for museum exhibitions in its grant, it represents inevitably a percentage only of the total cost. NCBPT thus needs to secure match funding before any new displays can be constructed.

NCBPT places the highest priority on opening The Folly to the public as soon as possible, and it is intended to arrange a series of Open Days at regular intervals throughout 2001 to enable local people to see what progress has been made and to be involved in future plans. The aim is also to open to the general public throughout the summer season.

The museum displays for the remainder of 2001 will be steadily developing and will consist of the permanent exhibition on North Craven, adapted and refurbished, together with other material which can be arranged at relatively low cost. This will include an exhibition to celebrate the histories of the Victoria Hall and The Folly, Settle's two major HLF and Yorkshire Forward funded Millennium projects.

Planning for the Future

Having safeguarded the building, NCBPT's next priority is to concentrate on providing for the future maintenance and management of The Folly and the museum. It is estimated that an income of £70,000 per annum will be required to cover overall running cost. Revenue funding is urgently needed and NCBPT is working on a targeted fund-raising programme. The building itself offers opportunities for income generation in the form of a tea-room, shop, hire fees, functions etc. Discussions are under way with NCBPT's companion body, Heritage Trust for the North West, which already has a successful track record in managing other historic buildings enterprises, with a view to drawing up an agreement between the two trusts for the management of The Folly. It is however envisaged that local volunteers will continue to play a crucial role, particularly in the running of the museum.

Subject to satisfactory progress with fund raising, NCBPT is aiming for full opening of The Folly in 2002, with a programme of exhibitions and events and extended hours of access. Plans include the acquisition of some appropriate pieces of period furniture, especially for the main hall, the development of a major new exhibition on the buildings and building materials of Settle and North Craven and the organisation of special interest days, to bring together different sections of the community on, for example, family or local history projects.

Securing the future of The Folly will be possible if it is able to become a welcoming and accessible focus for community involvement and pride. This unique and hugely appealing house has survived the vicissitudes of over three hundred years. We owe it to those who follow us to pass it on in good heart and with a fresh purpose.

Anne Read

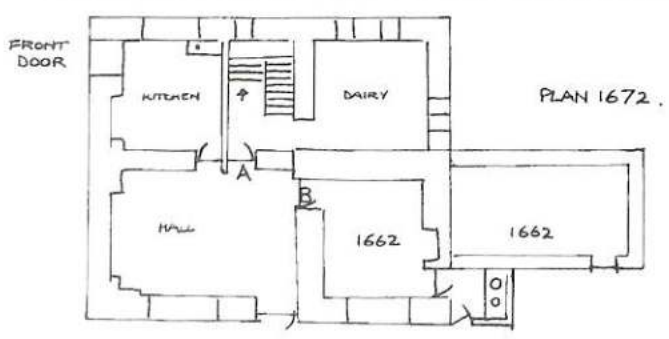
Sources

Brayshaw, T. and Robinson, R.M. A History of the Ancient Parish of Giggleswick 1932.

Harrington, C. Historic buildings: The Folly and others, in An Appreciation of Settle. Settle and District Civic Society, 1973.

North Craven Building Preservation Trust and Niall Phillips Architects Ltd. The Folly, Settle, North Yorkshire: feasibility study and business plan, 1995-96.

Roberts, T. I. Richard Preston and The Folly, Settle. Unpublished typescript, 1995.



Plan of Stephen Park, 1662 and 1672.

A brief history of Wood House Farm

Michael Southworth

Wood House probably around 1950

This brief history of Wood House Farm, Austwick (Map Ref SD 777 682) has been gleaned from the written records, from individuals still living and, a little bit, from my imagination!

Wood House Farm stands in a beautiful location at the foot of Oxenber Wood looking towards Keasden and Clapham moors to the south, the village of Austwick to the west and Crummockdale to the north. The land is all limestone and therefore well drained.

The written record goes back to the Census of 1841, but I believe that the land has been farmed for hundreds of years before that. The evidence for this lies in the presence of many lynchets (terraces) in several of the fields, which would have been ploughed by oxen for growing oats, barley and emmer – a primitive form of wheat.

Lynchets were a form of agriculture practised from Anglo-Saxon times to the Mediaeval period, which suggests there was farming being carried on somewhere between the 7th and 14th Centuries. The lynchets are in several of the farm fields, but the ones which can be seen most clearly from the top of Oxenber run from north to south, starting in High Wood Close and ending in Sowden Croft (see sketch). These lynchets run underneath the present stone walls and clearly pre-date them, whereas another group of lynchets, in Scaleber pasture, end abruptly at the present boundary wall, suggesting that they are of a different period.

In a field just to the south of the farm there is a site which has been identified as a mediaeval farmstead with 7 crofts which is associated with the lynchet system. This site was 'depopulated', probably for sheep farming, during the monastic period.

The farm house does not have any date on it, but I imagine that it is at least 18th century and possibly earlier. Over the years the farm has varied in size from about 50 acres to 83 acres.

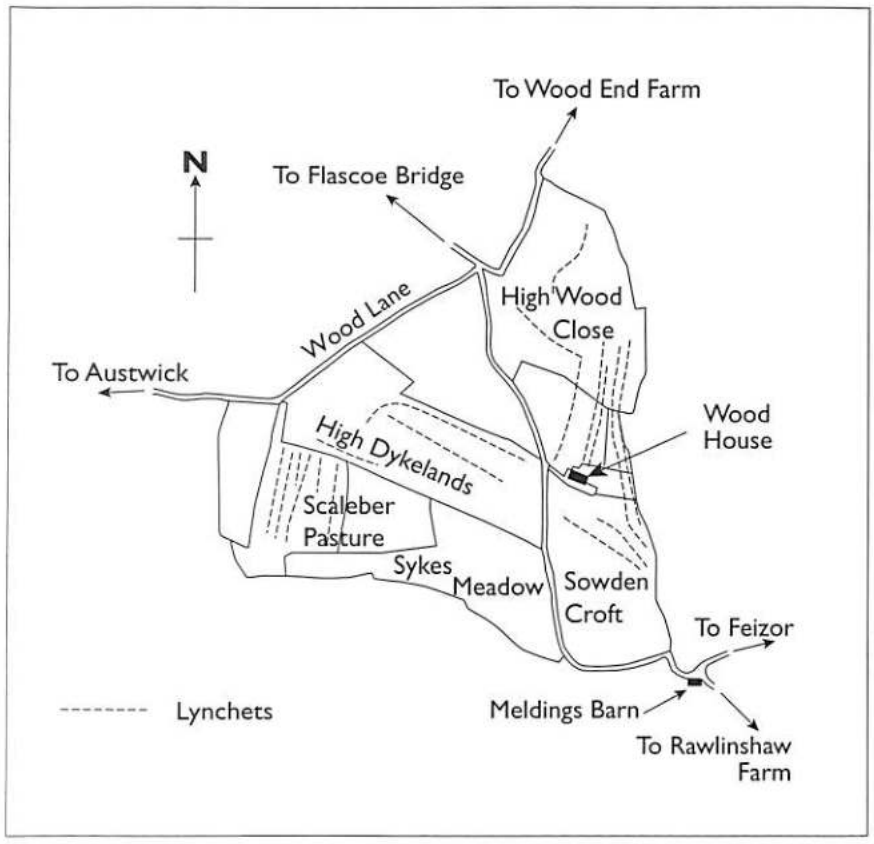
In 1841 (the earliest Census information available) the farm was run by a tenant farmer, Thomas Holden, with his wife, Jane, and four children, Elizabeth, Richard, Henry and Margaret. Thomas was in his mid 50s and the children ranged in age from 20 to 6, with Richard and Henry being twins aged 15. The owner of the farm was not recorded.

The farm house at this time would probably have been similar to that shown in the photograph, comprising a kitchen/living room, scullery, larder and parlour downstairs with probably 2 or 3 rooms upstairs. There was an earth closet up the garden. Mains water did not arrive until about 1950 and the principal source of water was a trough in the yard which was fed by a pipe running underground from the beck flowing down from Feizor.

Ten years later the 1851 Census records the occupiers as Thomas Holden, now aged 63, with his wife, Jane aged 69, and two children, Elizabeth 34 and Henry 24. There is no mention of either Richard or Margaret. Both Elizabeth and Henry are said to be unmarried but interestingly there is a grandson, Thomas Henry Wilson, living in the house. The farm at this time has 58 acres and the owner is Samuel Powell and Agnes his wife.

By 1861 Henry has married an Elizabeth, 10 years his junior, and she has produced their first child, Margaret, who is just 10 months old. Thomas is still the tenant but his wife has died and there are now just 4 people, including the baby, living on the farm which is much the same size as ten years previously.

The next ten years see some interesting changes. Thomas remains the tenant and the farm has grown to 83 acres. Henry, Thomas's son, has acquired a new wife, Mary, who is 17 years his junior. It is not clear what has happened to Elizabeth and there is no mention of her daughter Margaret either, so perhaps there has been a divorce or some other tragedy. In any event Mary goes on to produce 6 surviving children over the



next ten years, Jenny, Annie, Clara, Harry, Ernest and Ella.

In 1881 Henry has become the tenant, his father having died somewhere between 1877 (when he would have been nearly 90) and that year. At that time the farm has contracted back to 58 acres and there are two adults and 7 children living in the house, ranging from 13 years old to one month. It must have been very crowded!

Henry's eldest son, Harry, who is 5 years old in 1881 comes to take over the farm though we do not know exactly when this happens. However we do know that in 1945 the tenancy passes from Harry Holden to John Dowbiggin who goes on to farm the land up until his death in 1978. The owner of the farm during John Dowbiggin's time is Margaret Horsley who is a member of the Robinson family of Austwick.

The farm had been bought by Joseph Robinson from a Colonel Bairstow in 1919. Joseph died in 1936 and ownership passed to one of his sons, Joe. Margaret Horsley was Joe Robinson's daughter and she inherited the farm on the death of her mother in 1941. At that time the farm was valued at £1,900!

During John Dowbiggin's tenancy the farm was 52 acres with further land rented at Wharfe and near Settle. In addition there were 10 Sheep Gaits on Oxenber and 1 Dale on Austwick Moss. The farm was mixed with both dairy and beef cattle, sheep and chickens, whose eggs were sold locally.

The last major extension to the farm took place in 1952 when a 'state of the art' milking parlour was added, with space for 16 cows. Electricity did not arrive until 1957 and even then it was still necessary to have a generator on stand-by as the supply was unreliable!

In 1978, on John Dowbiggin's death, the farm ceased its long history as a single unit. The house and one field were sold into residential ownership and the remainder of the land was auctioned and bought by various neighbouring farmers. Like many Dales farms the economic pressures of the industry had dictated that it was too small to be a viable unit and the end of an era had arrived.

WOOD HOUSE FARM 1851 A.D.

High Wood Close	11 acres	3 roods	18 perches
Saint Helens	4 acres	1 rood	34 perches
Low Dykelands	3 acres	3 roods	
Sykes Meadow Bottom		2 roods	11 perches
Sykes Meadow	7 acres	2 roods	35 perches
Scaleber Pasture	7 acres	2 roods	14 perches
High Dykelands	11 acres	1 rood	38 perches
Back Meadow	3 acres	3 roods	
Calf Croft		2 roods	28 perches
Garden			14 perches
Homestead and Fold			28 perches
Sowden Croft	6 acres		36 perches

THE KING AND I (and the General)

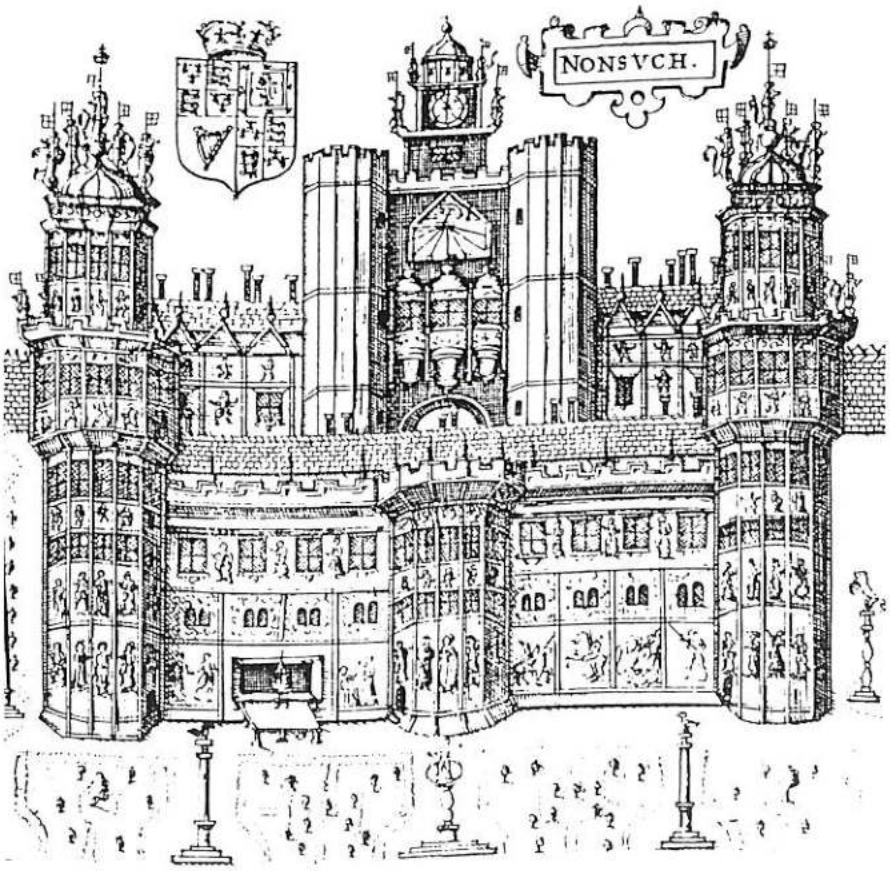
Alan Hemsworth

For the last four years the Nonsuch Singers have entertained Trust members at our Annual Christmas Party. I have been asked on several occasions how I came to choose the name Nonsuch. What follows is an attempt at an explanation.

When I formed my own small choral ensemble ten years ago it was with the express purpose of singing unaccompanied Renaissance music. I needed a name for the group – a name that would be both distinctive and apposite. Through my involvement in early music I had a vague knowledge of the Palace of Nonsuch but it was the later realisation that the madrigals we were singing with such relish would also have been performed at Nonsuch suggested the answer to my quest. Henry VIII and I, therefore, have something in common in that we both think the name Nonsuch is utterly desirable – although I will concede that his Majesty thought of it first.

NONSUCH – NONE SUCH – NON PAREIL – WITHOUT EQUAL

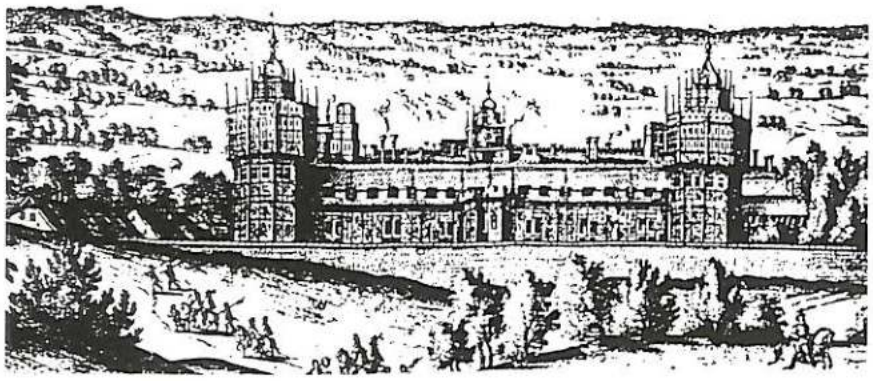
Why Henry needed another palace is open to question – he already had fourteen in the London area and his new creation was to be so near to both Richmond and Hampton Court. Maybe he wanted to impress Frances I, who had commissioned the building and layout of Fontainebleau; or was it to acknowledge the birth in 1537 of his long awaited son, Edward; or yet again could it be to celebrate the 30th year of his accession? Whatever the reason, the village of Cuddington near Ewell and Cheam in Surrey was demolished early in 1538. Then on the 13th April the nearby Merton Priory was dissolved and surrendered to the King and within ten days the first of hundred of tons of stone were taken from the Priory to the building site of Nonsuch Palace, where over 500 workmen were encamped to begin the construction. The edifice was eventually reputed to exceed even the splendours of Hampton Court Palace – it certainly cost half as much again.



Its main claim to fame was the extraordinary decoration of the Courtyard walls – stucco and carved slate worked in the French/Italian style. Nothing like this had been seen in England before. Covering over 900 feet the work depicted (to wit): 32 Roman Emperors, 32 assorted Gods and Goddesses, the Labours of Hercules in 16 episodes, the 7 Liberal arts, the 9 Virtues and finally, dominating all, a seated statue of the King treading on a maned lion, holding a sceptre and with his son, Edward, by his side. By the time of Henry's death in 1549 the outlying parts of the Palace were still two years off completion but the main construction and decoration, together with a 1700 acre deer park complete with 1000 head of deer, were in place.

There is no record of young Edward VI having any input to the Palace, whilst his half sister, Mary I, never set foot in it because it was "too much stamped with her father's personality". Indeed, Mary contemplated pulling it down but instead was persuaded to sell it – in 1556 – to Henry Fitzalan, the 12th Earl of Arundel. During the reign of Elizabeth I Nonsuch became the setting of a brilliant court – masques, balls, minstrels, players – all presided over by the Queen who actually repurchased it for the Crown in 1592. Sadly after Elizabeth's death in 1603 the decline set in. James I thought Nonsuch a "lavish piece of nonsense". Charles I gave it to his wife, Queen Henrietta Maria, as a dower house.

During the English Civil war, Nonsuch was taken over by Parliamentary forces although it was immediately returned to the Crown in 1660. The Chancellor of the Exchequer found it a convenient – and salubrious – escape from the 1665 Bubonic Plague in London. Charles II then gave it in trust to his mistress Barbara Villiers (created Baroness Nonsuch, Duchess of Cleveland) but after her fall from royal favour she pulled



down the Palace in 1682 and sold off the deer park in lots. Thus the procession of stone and fittings started in 1538 was reversed in 1683.

Two years ago I was a member of a small group of singers performing in Calton Hall. I knew of the association with John Lambert and had read that he was highly favoured by Oliver Cromwell – being regarded as the Protector's likely successor. I knew also that Lambert had lived in London for a while and it occurred to me that it would be a splendid coincidence if Lambert had had connections with Nonsuch Palace during the Parliamentary occupation.

It transpired that following the Civil War, and whilst retaining his ancestral home in Yorkshire, Lambert bought a royal residence – Wimbledon House in Surrey – for £7,000. Court Rolls of the Manor of Wimbledon for 1653 and 1655 mention "the Rt. Hon. John Lambert Esq. Lord of the said Manor and one of the most honourable Council of his Highness (!) Oliver Lord Protector".

In June 1653 Lambert was offered the opportunity to purchase Nonsuch Palace and Parks. Lambert's agent, a Captain Henry Baynes, asked the vendors to quote the price of the house, land and woodland separately but was told it could only be sold undivided. They wrote "Truly, we shall be very glad if Major General Lambert have it, hoping it will prove a good pennyworth. We formerly writ to you we would abate Maj. Gen. somewhat of £9,500". Ultimately Lambert bought the Palace and the Little Park whilst the remainder of the property was bought by a Colonel Pride.

In 1659 attempts were made to get Lambert into a military alliance with the Royalists. A proposal put to Charles (as King in exile) would have brought Lambert's daughter, Mary, into the royal family as a prospective bride of the Duke of York (the future James II) or even the King himself. What the King – and Lambert – thought of the proposal is not known, whilst the Duke of York had already secretly become engaged to Anne Hyde. Following the Restoration, Nonsuch Palace was promptly seized and returned to the Crown and Lambert's star waned – culminating in his imprisonment as a traitor on Guernsey and finally Plymouth Sound.

My Nonsuch quest was, and is, sated. Having brought together two of the most significant and stirring periods in English history through a musical adventure has been as unexpected as it has been satisfying.

Wayside Features Recording Project – 2001 Update

by Nick Harling

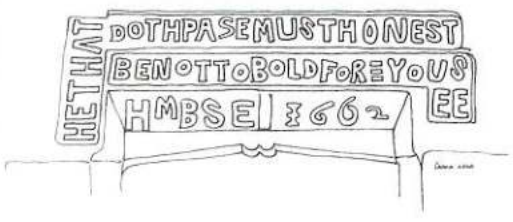
Since the project was featured in last year's journal, I have had an excellent response from members who are interested in recording the wayside features in their area.

Many interesting and little-known features have come to light, including a pair of original Keighley & Kendal turnpike milestones, a horse trough dated 1819, a couple of 18th century guide posts not recorded by the Ordnance Survey, and several interesting boundary markers.

The project's main achievement for the millennium has been the restoration of the series of cast iron mileposts along the A65 (the old Keighley & Kendal Trust road) between Skipton and the Lancashire border at Cowan Bridge. This is thanks to a partnership between the North Craven Heritage Trust (recording), the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (funding), the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (co-ordination) and North Yorks County Council Highways Department (contracting).

The fruits of our labours can clearly be seen all along the A65, where the posts have been rubbed down, primed and repainted. In some cases, damaged posts have been re-welded on site. We should be proud that we now have the best looking mileposts in Yorkshire!

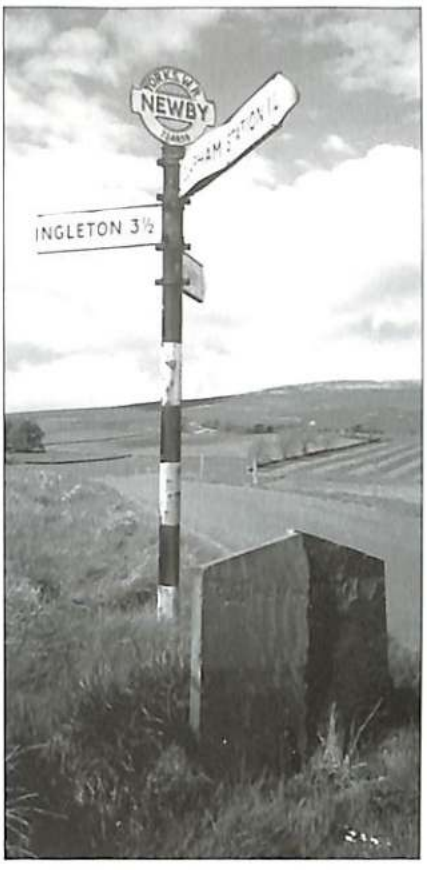
Milestones and boundary posts seem to have dominated the project this year. In October I was invited to give a paper at



Stephen Park : Lintel

The inscription reads Be not too bold he that doth pass must honest be not too bold for I you see; ie behave yourself you're being watched.

Acknowledgment is made to Ian Roberts who says that, regarding HMBSE 1662. 'The Biggs family were at Stephen Park for much of the seventeenth century Henry Biggs was there in 1667.'



the first national Milestone Conference, held at the Black Country Museum in Birmingham. I spoke about our project and received a great many congratulatory comments on behalf of the Trust. Our recording forms are now even being used for a similar project in Cornwall. A new Milestone Society was formed from the 80 or so people who attended the conference and I seem to have been co-opted onto the committee....

The main priority for 2001 will be collating and making sense of the information that the project has generated so far. Once all the details are computerised, the results will be made more widely available for Trust members to peruse. As ever, anyone with 'new finds', or who would like more information on the project and how to record features should contact me via Spread Eagle House, Kirkgate, Settle, BD24 9DZ.

Hawksheath Plantation alias Richard's Wood

Richard Ellis

There was a substantial woodland shown in green on the 1927 O.S. map at Keasden and on later maps it was known a Hawksheath Plantation. The accompanying photograph was taken in the late 1940s and the trees were felled about 1953.

Why Grow Trees not Cabbages

There are a number of reasons: scientific, environmental and aesthetic.

Firstly (and briefly) lets consider the science. All vegetation contains carbon and plants extract carbon from the atmosphere which contains a very low percentage of carbon dioxide (CO_2). The concentration of CO_2 is 0.036% with oxygen around 21% and nitrogen 88%. The CO_2 is extracted from the atmosphere by plants and combined with water in the process known as photosynthesis to form sugars from which the plant structure is formed. Recently the CO_2 level in the atmosphere has been rising due presumably to burning stores of carbon contained in fossil fuels such as coal and oil, and also large areas of equatorial afforestation have been burned. Now why is this bad? Well CO_2 is a heavy gas – much heavier than either oxygen or nitrogen – and so it hangs around the earth's surface. But more importantly it acts as a gigantic duvet and stops the natural radiation of infra red energy from the earth into space. So when the CO_2 rises the average temperature of earth's surface rises – the so-called "greenhouse effect". When the earth gets hotter the ice caps melt more quickly and the sea level rises; bad news for Bangladesh and the Netherlands!

But why trees and not cabbages I can hear you ask? Well, its true that for a given area in a given time cabbages (or wheat or any other crop including grass) will lock up more carbon than trees. But within a year all the carbon is released from the cabbages in the form of CO_2 because they will have been eaten digested and metabolised by animals. No, the only way to lock carbon up for a long time is to incorporate it in trees which have a long life in themselves as well as in the structural timber derived from them.

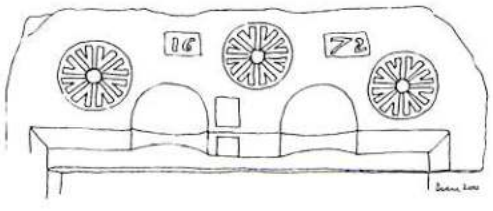
Next let's consider the environmental benefits of growing trees. There is more of a contrary argument here because land used for tree growing will lose some of the grassland flora and fauna especially if wet areas are drained. For example mosses, cotton grasses and reeds will be reduced and bird life such as curlew and plover which nest in grassland will be forced out. However there should be a net gain due to the increased population of small mammals and an increase in the variety of bird life following an increase in insect population.

Lastly, aesthetics. This is personal, but for me there is nothing more beautiful than a small broad-leafed wood which reflects so delicately the changes of weather and seasons. I would not claim the same for monotonous single species conifer woodland especially when planted in rows! – uninviting and drab.

There is one further argument for growing trees and that is commercial. Obviously trees have value but this is species specific. More of this later.

Where to grow

Two years ago a local farmer retired and offered me 15 acres (5.37 ha) of rough grazing adjacent to Hawksheath Farm House which we have owned for 33



Front door lintels were the ones with dates. Diana has marked the position of this front door lintel on her plan of 1672.

years. The land rises steeply from the farmyard, and to enter the grazing it is necessary to cross a beck which is identified as Thorny Gill on the OS map. On the west of the area there is an old stone wall and then open unpolluted moorland. To the north is the farmyard, and to the east are the beck and an old fence and beyond that a sheep pasture. The southern boundary is newly fenced but the fence follows a sporadic line of mature and wind shaped hawthorns which are growing on the southern edge of an obvious embankment and ditch.

The land is between 750 and 800 ft above sea level and is on the lee of Burnmoor and so is protected from west and southwest winds which are prevalent in the summer months. The area is remarkably varied. Some ground is boggy with thick mosses, some is grassy overlying peat, there are old drainage ditches filled with juncas grass and there is open running water. In the SW part there are a number of mature sessile oak and towards the moor there are 6 mature Norwegian spruce. Across the whole area are tree stumps of oak and pine which I believe were felled in the 1940s.

What to grow

The Forestry Commission offered some support and suggested a species list. Their selection was based on the exclusive use of trees with northern provenance (ie trees indigenous to the North of England, and trees grown in the north). They assessed the area would support 6000 trees initially but this number would be progressively reduced as the trees became mature. We agreed the wood should be largely oak and birch and that the species should be randomly distributed but tending towards clumps of similar species as would be found in natural woodland.

The Scots pine was selected because it was known to grow well in the vicinity and would provide a good nursery crop for the broad leafs. It is envisaged that in 10 years these will probably be culled. However they do have value as a structural timber and for posts as well as firewood.

The major crop is the sessile oak. Sessile was chosen because the mature oak on the site are sessile. I am not convinced that this was a correct decision because the English oak grows better in the north in some places. However this crop is for the distant future and hopefully it will be used almost exclusively for structural purposes. Mature oak carry a huge variety of fauna.

The common ash has value as a structural timber but is fairly slow growing. The ash that have been planted in the vicinity over the last 10 years have done well.

Birch was a natural choice as they grow well in the vicinity and have a dense foliage which provides wind protection for more delicate species. The value of the timber is limited but is an extremely vigorous firewood.

The common alder should grow well in the wetter areas. As a timber it has great value in producing charcoal, and is used in the clog-making industry.

The willows will need to be coppiced at 5 yearly intervals to produce a crop of fronds which are used in basket weaving.

Likewise the hazel will need to be coppiced if fencing material is required. Hazel interwoven fencing seems to becoming more popular. The other obvious use for hazel is as a producer of nuts. I have a secret wish to reintroduce red squirrels into Keasden in a few years when the hazels have started fruiting.

I can think of no very sensible use for rowan, holly or quickthorn except they are all very beautiful berry producers, and provide food for birds.

The following species and percentages were agreed:

Scots pine	(Pinus sylvestris)	9%
Sessile oak	(Quercus petraea)	30%
Downy birch	(Betula pubescens)	15%
Silver birch	(Betula pendula)	10%
Common ash	(Fraxinus excelsior)	7%
Rowan	(Sorbus acuparia)	6%
Common alder	(Alnus glutinosa)	3%
Goat willow	(Salix caprea)	3%
Bay willow	(Salix pentandra)	2%
Holly	(Ilex aquifolium)	2%
Hawthorn	(Crateagus monogyna)	2%
Hazel	(Corylus avellana)	11%

Planting

In Yorkshire trees can be planted from mid November to the end of March. Generally January and February are too cold with frozen ground and potentially severe night frosts. My first batch of 2000 was planted in March 2000 – a very bleak month at Hawksheath with strong winds and heavy snow, but little frost. The second batch of 2000 was planted in mid December 2000 just before the first frost and snow arrived at Christmas.

It is possible to keep trees in planting bags with a tight string around the neck for several weeks. It is better to avoid even a mild frost and it is necessary to keep the roots moist. If planting is likely to be delayed it is better to heel the roots in, though 2000 trees would require a lot of ground preparation.

The average experienced tree planter seems to be able to plant 100 to 120 trees a day depending on the terrain. The first batch was largely planted by Paul Fawcett (of Landcare), and took the whole month of March. The second batch took 4-5 people 5 days, and so they achieved roughly the same rate.

The sizes of the plants vary according to the species. The largest were the oak at 60-90 cm. As birch and willow is so vigorous smaller plants were selected, namely 40-60 cm., though for an experiment the goat willow in the first batch were all cuttings and it will be interesting to see how they fare compared with the rooted plants of the second batch. The hazel were the largest I could find because I suspected they would have the most difficulty in becoming established. The Scots pine were the smallest available as

Hawksheath plantation in the late 1940s

Photo: Collection of Price family

we considered they would be slow starters and more vulnerable to wind. The rowan, thorn, ash and alder were all 40 – 60 cm and the holly were all individually potted, and as a consequence were much more expensive.

Before a tree is planted, a reasonable site is chosen and the top vegetation is skreefed with a mattock. This results in a rectangular area of cleared earth into which a planting spade (a special tool) is pushed. The spade is worked to produce a wide slit into which the roots are eased using the point of the spade to tuck the deepest roots as far down as possible. The slit is then closed firmly with the heel and the tree is checked to make sure the root/stem junction is just under the surface.

All the trees had protection against animals. The easiest protection to erect is the plastic tube which is attached to an adjacent wooden stake. We used 75 cm tubes and 1.2 metre tubes. Similarly we use nets of the same lengths for roughly half of the plants, and the smaller of these were held in place with 2 canes and the longer with a wooden stake. The longer tubes and nets were used for the oak and ash to preserve apical dominance.

The disadvantage of tube protection is that the tree grows rapidly but the stem remains weak and often breaks when the crown of the tree emerges from the top of the tube. These trees are sometimes referred to as lollipops for obvious reasons. On the other hand the nets do not encourage growth, but the growing tree becomes wind strengthened and is therefore less likely to snap.

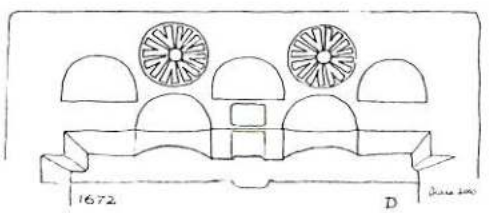
Why use protection? If the plantation were to be invaded by sheep (sadly a less likely happening now) a huge amount of damage would be done and most trees lost. Likewise if roe deer visit – and there is a sizeable herd of roe deer in Keasden bottom – a similar disaster would ensue. 75 cm protection is enough for sheep, rabbits and hares (very damaging in the winter and spring), but 1.2 metre protection is necessary for the deer. If red deer appear then...! The tubes keep the voles out usually, though the warm tube must provide a very comfortable place for a vole to make its nest!

The final act is to chemically kill the vegetation in a square metre area around the tree. This has to be repeated yearly for 3 years. This is the only part of the process that I find disturbing, But the Forestry Commission insists on it and it does apparently increase early growth which is so crucial.

And finally

Well, it's been a rapid learning curve for me. The first batch was awarded an A+ by the Forestry Commission, but I doubt if the second batch will be as successful. The view from the top of the wood – I can now call it a wood – is stunning looking directly over to Ingleborough in the north and Pen y Ghent in the northeast. The Lake District mountains are clearly visible in the west (I can just discern the outline of Gimmer Crag and remember F Route!) So far it's all been very rewarding and is something special to leave for the next generation or two, or three!

Hawksheath Farm, Keasden. April 2001

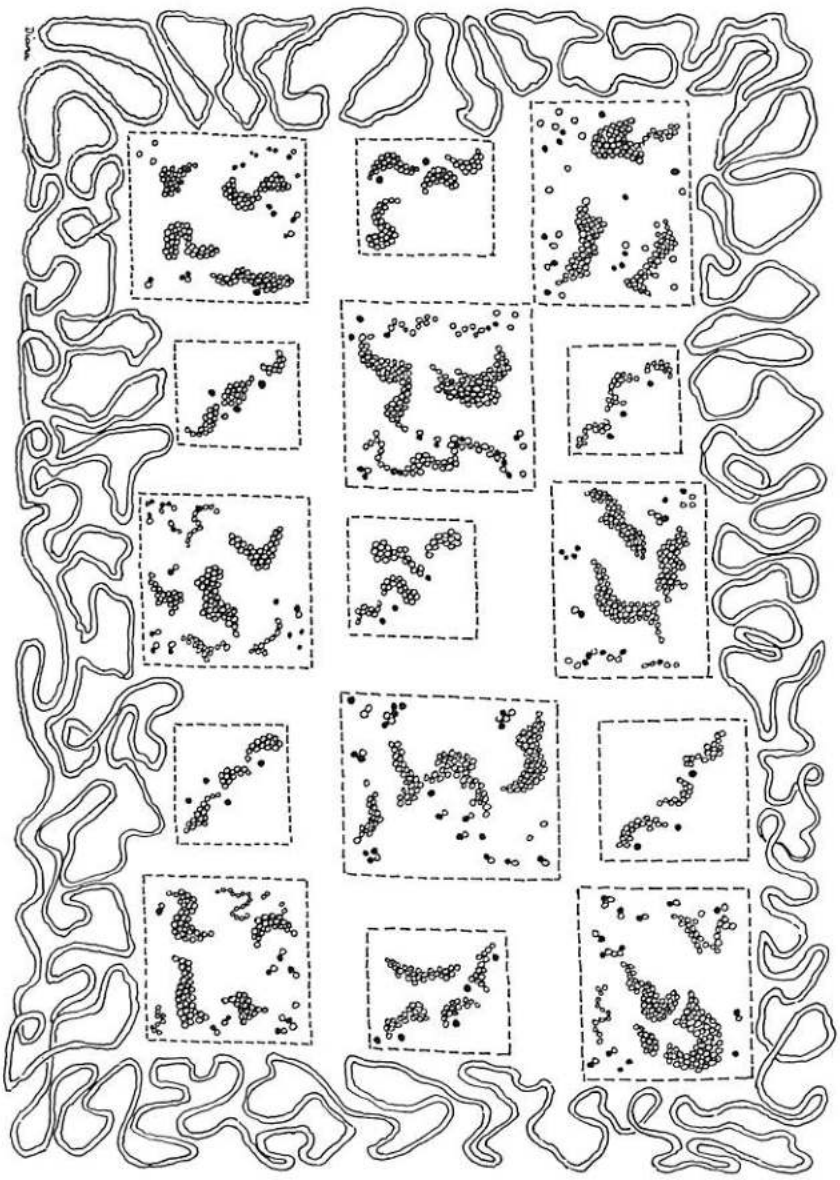


This back door 1672 is known to be the companion to its front door because they both show related designs.

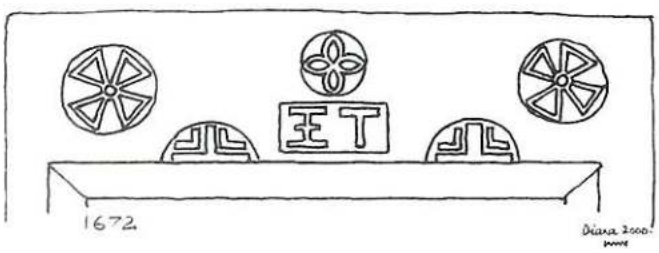
Jenny Scott: Creative Embroiderer

Maureen Ellis

There is a danger that concentration on heritage can exclude the heritage that our crafts-people and artists will leave to future generations. Feminine contributions to heritage are often cryptic such as the lavish altar cloths, linens and vestments made and embroidered by women, and the tapestries of great houses. That is not to deny that men had and have no part in the creative processes of these often destructible art forms. It is obvious that Jenny Scott is not only running a creative and traditional embroidery shop but as she says 'These age old skills must not be lost and forgotten as so many arts and crafts have been. They must be preserved and passed down through the generations and enjoyed by all.' She is working to promote traditional needlecraft skills bring them in to the new century for future generations to learn and enjoy. Jenny is holding regular workshops, teaching traditional skills and incorporating them with new exciting progressive techniques and materials, taking inspiration from the beauty and heritage of the surrounding Yorkshire Dales. Some of her own magnificent work can be seen at her embroidery shop, The Old Post Office, 39 Duke Street, Settle.



Line drawing by Diana Kaneps taken from an original embroidery worked on shot slubbed silk, encrusted with beads, French knots and hand-made cord by Jenny Scott.



This lintel and the following one were only discovered in 2000, as they had been covered over with plaster. They were internal doors in the hall.

Leeds Parish Church Choir Recital

Saturday January 6th 2001 at Church of the Epiphany, Austwick

Brian Birkby

The Trust can consider itself fortunate to enjoy this once a year opportunity to listen to Simon Lindley and his choristers in a Dale's location. This year they gave their recital on the Feast of the Epiphany at Austwick and a more than capacity audience was in no sense disappointed in what they heard.

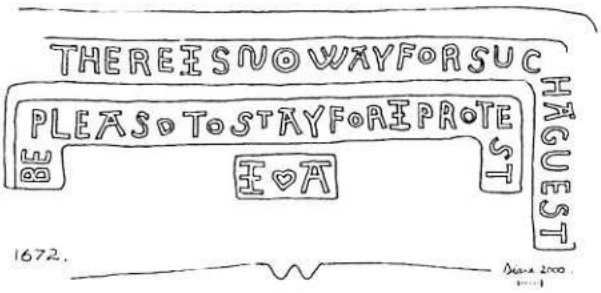
The programme was imaginatively varied and was punctuated by full audience participation in what were, with one or two exceptions, some familiar and appropriate hymns, sung with relish and conviction. If Lindley's observations on the quality of the 'Brightest and Best' tune may have raised some eyebrows, his judgement on its obvious singability was amply vindicated by a Church full of people, there partially at least, to enjoy their own singing.

In introducing groups of items simultaneously, Lindley offered, as he usually does, informing comments on some of the pieces, thereby helping with the process of contextualisation, so necessary when the audience is wide and at least some of the material presented, unfamiliar. How many, for example, had heard Christopher Rathbone's 'This endris Night' before and, just as interesting, that it was conceived among the seven hills which surround Morley? Moreover, how many would agree with Lindley that Quilter's setting of 'Non nobis Domine' deserves to stand alongside 'Jerusalem' and 'Land of Hope and Glory' as a central pillar in a long heritage of national song? Whatever else he does, however flamboyant some of his gestures, this Choirmaster sets us thinking as well as listening.

Nevertheless listening was in reality what this large audience was there to do. We heard Bach's 'O little one sweet' sung in delicately miniature sound and Lindley's own 'Come sing and dance' delivered with verve, vitality and vigour. Thalben Ball's arrangement of the traditional Polish carol 'Lullay, Lord Jesus,' was rich and almost stately in its harmonies, whilst in Peter Cornelius''The Three Kings' the voice of the soloist blended so beautifully with the ever swelling chorale. Poulenc's 'Videntes stellam' was tackled ambitiously and one would hope to see it as a secure part of the repertoire in the future.

Many of the more familiar pieces like Holst's 'Lullay my liking' and Stephen Cleobury's arrangement of 'The Cherry Tree Carol' were performed with wonted competence and not even the lack of musical subtlety evident in Carter's 'Every star' and Hurford's 'Sunny Bank' could eclipse a choir so intent on singing them well.

Any recital which gives good food for thought and whets musical appetites for more has in large measure succeeded in what it sets out to do. Is it not a pity that the next one is twelve months away? Thank you Lindley and colleagues.



The inscription reads 'There is no way for such a guest be pleased to stay for I protest;' ie there is no thorough and I object to you going on until you have partaken of our hospitality. This was above the doorway leading to the stairway.

The Annual Summer Outing

July 12, 2000

W R Mitchell

Plaque at Cowan Bridge Photo: Maureen Ellis

Thirty-two members began a jaunt in the Lune Valley by visiting two churches, one ancient, one modern. At Leck, Dr Florence Wellburn traced the history of four churches on the site, the present one dating from 1915, replacing one that, two years earlier, had been gutted by a fire. This began when a lamp was inadvertently left burning after organ practice. We saw a fine Harrison & Harrison organ and the 'blower house' near the 'kissing gate' in the graveyard, air being pumped underground between the graves to the organ.

There was a link between modern Leck church and ancient Tunstall when Dr Wellburn guided us to see the inscribed headstones of the graves of three young girls from the Clergy Daughters' School established at Cowan Bridge in 1824. They had been victims of low fever (typhus) which decimated the school periodically as well as claiming many lives in the district.

The founder of the Clergy Daughters' School was the Rev William Carus Wilson. This was the school attended by the Bronte girls from Haworth. Because the Leck Church of the early 1820s was too small to take both parishioners and schoolgirls, the latter had to walk the two miles to Tunstall Church, where they attended Mattins, had packed meals in a room over the porch, stayed for Evensong and then walked back to school.

At Tunstall, our guide was the vicar, the Rev Frank Parr, who explained that in Bronte time the loft was entered via a balcony. Now the more athletic of us clambered up a ladder fixed to the wall to enter a small room where daylight entered by a small window. The Bronte girls did not attend the Cowan Bridge school for long but Charlotte's vivid impressions were conveyed in her novel Jane Eyre, in which Cowan Bridge became Lowood, the founder of the school was the tyrannical Mr Brocklehurst and Tunstall church was named Brocklebridge.

I mentioned that an ancestor of mine, Dr William Cartman, a former curate at Bingley and headmaster of Ermysted's at Skipton, had been a close friend of Patrick Bronte and his daughter Charlotte. He gave an oration at Charlotte's memorial service and, with the Vicar of Bradford, officiated at the funeral of Patrick.

In marked contrast to haunts known to the Brontes was our visit to Claughton Manor brickworks, established in 1898, which now operates with ultra-modern plant, using shale quarried locally and transported to the works by an update of the aerial ropeway that was installed in the 1920s. We were introduced to the project by the Works Manager, Frank Rycroft, who then led us between 'cliffs' containing millions of bricks awaiting despatch to enter a building covering about 6,500 square metres where comparatively few men with the aid of computers control the brick-making. The most memorable aspect was to lift flaps and peer through tubes into the glowing heart of the brick-making kiln.

Our mid-day break was at Hornby, where some had a packed lunch sitting by the river where water creamed over a weir and there was a backdrop of Hornby Castle in its well-wooded setting. Thence to Gressingham, first to enter the church, where some of the decorative features were fleece embroidery made by Elizabeth Cottam of Far Barn and then to visit Elizabeth at her studio and, in the garden, cheered by the bright light and heat of what suddenly developed into a perfect summer afternoon, we had a demonstration of her craft. Elizabeth, who has been making fleece embroideries for over twenty years, uses wool dyed with natural dyes, such as those derived from the bark of apple or ash trees.

Finally, we motored up Lunesdale, with a striking view of Ingleborough, and then strode through the grounds of Casterton School, founded by the aforementioned William Carus Wilson. We visited Holy Trinity Church, which Carus Wilson built in 1833 and which from the beginning has been shared by the school and the community. Large paintings by reputable artists had been fixed to the walls. The windows of the chancel, installed in the 1890s, were the work of Henry Holiday of Hampstead, a stained-glass artist of considerable repute.

At the back of the church, we saw the tombstone of Carus Wilson where, once a year, on Founder's Day, wreaths are laid on behalf of the school. Though rather dour in manner, Carus Wilson truly cared for others and ill deserved the grim reputation he acquired through the fictional writings of Charlotte Bronte, who was for a time one of the 'clergy daughters' at school in Cowan Bridge.

Guided Walks and Outings

Dunsop Bridge

12 April 2000
Leader – Clive Bell
Meeting Place – Dunsop Bridge

We left Dunsop Bridge, proclaimed by the Ordnance Survey as the point nearest the centre of the British Isles and walked along the Hodder to Burholme which was established in the 14th century. The present farmhouse incorporates two early 17th century buildings and has a barn bearing the date '1619.'
The crossing of the moor to Giddy Bridge has lost a lot of the sense of adventure since stone pillars were erected along the route a few years ago. They have weathered in rather well and now look quite ancient.
Beyond Giddy stands Foulscales, a fine example of vernacular architecture. Originally an early 16th century fortified house, it appears to have been altered in the 17th century to provide further living accommodation on the ground floor. Intriguing to young and old alike is the medieval latrine supported on corbels on the west end of the house.
The return route along the permissive path, within sight of the Hodder, took us close to Knowlmere Manor, an imposing house built in the Victorian era, now owned by the Peel family related, I believe, to Sir Robert Peel of 'bobby' fame.
C.B.

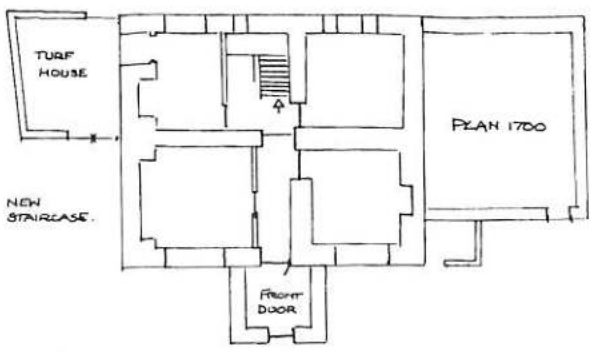
Bank Newton and the Leeds & Liverpool Canal

Sunday 6th February 2000
Leaders – John & Sandra Fox
Meeting Place – Crossroads by Newton Hall.

Thirty-one members turned out for the first meet of the New Millennium; a blustery day with the threat of rain in the air.
We set off on the road towards Gargrave, before joining the towpath at Bank Newton Locks; our first historical point. It was here in the basin in years gone by that boats were repaired; a joiners shop being on site, now a private house. Also, as every employee of the Leeds & Liverpool Canal Company was entitled to a coffin from the Company when they died, it was on this site that they were made. During World War II a strong room/building was constructed on the site, which stored all the records of the Company that were originally housed in Liverpool.

The canal near Bank Newton Photo Maureen Ellis

Moving off we took the track across the fields to join up with the Pennine Way at the bottom of Scaleber Hill. We were soon having to divert due to flooded ground and then make our way through deep mud before joining the lane that runs between East Marton and Bank Newton. As we proceeded down the lane we stopped at our next historical point; the ruined tramway bridge over the track that led from a Quarry to the Canal Bank loading bay. Stone would have been quarried and shipped by barge, either for bridge building or buildings adjoining the canal.
Joining the towpath at Green Bank Bridge I gave a short discourse on how the Canal Company used contour lines around hills and valleys to save on costs. Along this reach the Canal has many tight turns. At the third historical point, a large post in the ground; I explained that this post was the support for a roller, which eased the towrope around the corner for the horse drawn barges. Further evidence of these posts was seen in the ground as we walked along the path, along with quarter, half and mile posts in cast iron.
Our final stopping point was a bridge where the towpath changed from one side of the canal to the other. The towpath goes under the bridge, then swings across it so that the horse does not have to be disconnected from the towrope.
Finally, it was down the lane to rejoin the cars, wash muddy boots in the stream and avoid the short shower that arrived as we completed the walk.
J.F.



Plan of Stephen Park 1700
Changes had taken place by 1700 especially by the embellishment of a new front doorway and stairway.

Walk from Langcliffe Car Park

Sunday 5th March 2000

Leader Philip Hudson

We set off up Pike Lane and the field archaeology was pointed out on both sides. There were medieval lynchets, an ancient sheep house, trackways, and field systems on the right-hand side going up, while the site of the more modern allotments was pointed out on the left. At this lower stage of the walk Phil could just about be heard in the high wind. Passing out of the lane into the open field, ancient walls and boundaries were pointed out and the line of the original routeway up to Winskill. A large depleted lime kiln site was shown in this field, believed to have been in use before the Langcliffe Lime Works were started in earnest. The wind was getting stronger now, so unfortunately most people could not hear what was being said about the archaeology. At the top of the hill we saw the ancient pack-horse route coming down and disappearing under a modern wall, presumably following the scarp top through to Stainforth and beyond. Walking through Lower Winskill land gave an opportunity to see 16th century field walls, and how modern wallers are keeping up the tradition of walling. The original date-stone of the house had been incorporated into the more modern rebuilding of the original house. The footpath was followed up towards Winskill Stones. Unfortunately the style was broken which necessitated the party negotiating a very boggy gate-hole. Another disused limekiln was pointed out, which had been used as a rubbish tip. Alongside were ancient building foundations and trackways. The wind was very strong up on the top of Winskill Stones Nature Reserve. The leader led a depleted group of stalwarts along the limestone top, pointing out the ends of the co-axial field banks, tumuli and building foundations. Another lime kiln was pointed out at the roadside, which appears to have never been completed. The party then made their way back to Langcliffe Car Park.

Rita Hudson

Airton-Scosthrop-Hanlith-Airton

Sunday 2nd April 2000

Leader Enid Parker

Sunday April 2nd 2000 was not the most sparkling walking day – but there was a good turnout at Airton Green.

After walking a short distance along the Hellifield Road we turned right at a wall stile and crossed a couple of crofts before joining Scosthrop Lane – the Settle to Airton road.

After about a quarter of a mile the Kirk Gait traverses the road. This path from Otterburn to Kirkby Malham was followed for many centuries by worshippers on their way to and from Kirkby Malham church. We too turned right here at the finger sign, noting a well-preserved limekiln by the pathside.

The Kirk Gait ascends Warber Hill before dropping down through the trees to the footbridge crossing Kirkby Beck by the church. The road by the church was formerly Pig Street: the village school was here and a small bobbin mill. Several cottages and the original pub, the 'Sun Inn', were demolished to extend the graveyard.

The walk continued down the lane towards the Aire, Hanlith Bridge and a view of Hanlith Hall, the former home of the Sergeantson family. There is a carving of a sergeant with a halberd on the façade.

Crossing the bridge we turned right along the Pennine Way back to Airton and were pleased on the way to see the newly planted trees near the old mill leat.

An easy 4½ mile walk with one easy climb.

E.P.

A National Trust guided walk in the Darnbrook Estate

7th May 2000

Leader – Martin Davies (National Trust) and John Chapman

Meeting Place – off-road parking on the Malham-Arncliffe road near Darnbrook House

Darnbrook Farm on Malham Moor, together with some 2,800 acres of surrounding hill country, was acquired by the National Trust in 1995. Adjoining the Trust's Malham Tarn Estate, it constitutes a dramatic upland limestone landscape which forms an important habitat for upland birds and plants and also possesses a variety of sites of archeological interest. The walk started westwards from Darnbrook House as far as the limestone

Darnbrook Farm Photo Maureen Ellis

Stephen Park

Some of the transitions of this historic building can be seen especially in the variety of window styles.

pavement adjoining the Pennine Way, then turning southwards to descend to Cowside Beck. There is no public footpath along the floor of the valley but we were able to use this route along by the side of the beck to return to our starting point. The walk provided members with the opportunity to learn much about the important conservation measures being undertaken by the Trust to preserve and enhance this unique landscape.
J.A.C.

To Wenningber in Wellies

4th June 2000

Leader Shirley McCauley

The walk covers the little known area of Wenningber between Hellifield and Otterburn. On the Wednesday before the walk, Hilary Baker and I did a preamble. Between then and Saturday it poured and poured.

Sunday dawned fair. We started up Haw lane and crested the hill to look down onto a lake! The two streams from Newton and Hellifield Moors had joined Newton Gill to obliterate the footpath.

However, we avoided the water by various divertions and took the right-hand path towards the Otterburn Road. We had to circumnavigate another lake near Snailshaw Farm. People commented on the gentle green drumlin nature of the surroundings, quite different to their expectations.

We left the fields to walk a short distance on the Otterburn Road, before turning left into fields and headed for Goal Farm. The farm is home to the manufacturing of Sutcliffe's Agricultural Buildings but is nevertheless quite attractive and very well disguised as a work place.

We passed Wenningber Farm, reached Langber Lane without any further paddling and turned left towards Wenningber and Crook Beck plantations. As we climbed the hill we noticed an increasing number of oak and birch in the Crook Beck Plantation which is private and sported a stark Keep Out sign. In contrast on our left was the lovely Wenningber Plantation with its old trees which belongs to the Woodland Trust. It had a notice inviting all to come in and enjoy the woods.

We reached the top of the hill, after stopping for a discussion on the origins and importance of Langber Lane. (Any further information would be very welcome) only to be confronted by yet another lake. Below us where the Crook Beck normally flows underneath the road was a huge expanse of water. We somehow negotiated this and turned left to join the top end of Haw Lane passing a delightful little wooded area with a stream tumbling through. We headed back down Haw Lane.
S McC

Walk around the Ingleborough Waterfalls

2nd July 2000

Leader J.M. Hughes

We assembled in the Waterfalls car park, for a walk around the nearly 5-mile circuit, with a 500 million year geological slant. We started on the present-day surface lying directly over Coal Measures of about 320 million years ago, although there was nothing spectacular to see amidst the greenery and the metalled surface of the car park apart from the sadly-damaged stone viaduct which used to carry the mineral railway siding.

Shortly into the walk, we came to outcrops of limestone which the mineral railway had been built to exploit, both in the raw state and processed into quicklime in the Hoffman lime kiln situated a short distance away on the far bank between the two tributaries of the Greta.

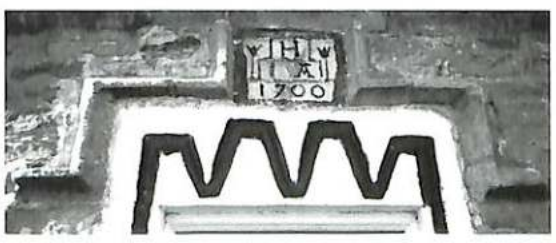
Carrying on beside the River Doe (not the Twiss, which despite the Ordnance Survey is actually the eastern branch) we passed the coin-encrusted arched trunk of a fallen tree, crossed the river and came in sight of the towering faces of the old Pecca Quarry. The path crossed back to the West bank and went past the entrance to the quarry.

Then we came to Thornton Force, and the remarkable sight of the stream cascading over a shelf of horizontally-bedded rocks, to land on the edges of rocks standing vertically. A not-too-difficult scramble took some members underneath the waterfall, to see at close quarters the actual junction (known as an unconformity) between the two rock formations.

Shortly afterwards the path crossed again to the eastern bank, and we reached the old trackway between Kingsdale and Twistleton, where the ice-cream caravan provided welcome refreshment. On through Beezley's Farm to the River Twiss which descends through a series of gorges in the vertically-bedded Ingletonian rock. We descended to the stream, and then it was up and down and up and down, over to the eastern bank, and past a series of disused quarries with the area of the present-day working quarry fenced off high above. In the Spring this area is a mass of bluebells.

The track emerged from the wood quite high above the river, and on the far side massive beds of limestone appeared dipping steeply downhill. We were looking at the quarry faces left behind after masses of rock had been quarried away. The remains of the Hoffman kiln could just be picked out amongst the vegetation below the cliffs.

Numerous geological students were also to be seen, scrambling here and there and along the bed of the river, where no doubt they obtained a more intimate impression of the geology of this part of the walk that we could hope for from the comfort of the footpath above. The path led on into Ingleton. J H



According to Ian Roberts the initials JAH denote John and Alice (nee Bond) Hargreaves who were married in 1685. John bequested the freehold of Stephen Park to his son James Hargreaves, in his will of 1721.

St Leonard's Church

Sunday 3rd September 2000
Leader Roy Gudgeon

We started the four-mile ramble at St Leonard's Church. From here we headed towards Southerscales, and Phil Hudson gave members information about the ancient possibly bronze age sites, before we reached Braithwaite Wife Hole. From there we travelled across reasonably dry ground to the Douk Cave system before crossing the main road again to visit Weathercote Cave.

This cave is not accessible to the public, but was one of the 'show' caves in the Victorian era, and tourists travelled for miles to descend to see the delights of this particular pot-hole. For this occasion permission had been obtained for members to descend to the base of the 80-foot waterfall, and it was extremely impressive even though we had not had rain for some time.

The walk concluded at St Leonard's Church, where Bill Mitchell rounded off an excellent afternoon, by giving details about the Church and artefacts in the Churchyard.

R.K.G.

St Leonard's Church Photo Maureen Ellis

Woods and Quarries

1 October 2000
Leader – Harold and Audrey Foxcroft

Meeting Place – Car park of Settle Swimming Pool

This walk was an exploration of the southern end of Giggleswick Scars. We examined the SSSI of Lord's Wood and pasture where Elizabeth Shorrock provided information about it and its history. After reaching the ridge above Giggleswick Quarry we were joined by Graham Lilley of Giggleswick School, who told us about the past efforts and future plans for the conservation work in the Scar Wood SSSI and in Kelcow Wood, both owned by the School. Using a section of the 1851 OS map we were able to note the changes in the quarrying operation, in both area and purpose. After visiting Schoolboy Tower we made our way to Stackhouse via a not very obvious dew-pond and returned by the banks of the Ribble to the start. Much of the pleasure of this walk arose from the views available in all directions.

In addition to the input from Elizabeth Shorrock and Graham Lilley in this walk, we would like to acknowledge the assistance of Phil Hudson in providing old pictures and some map information.

H F

This is for the same James Hargreaves and his wife Patience. Patience was buried on the second of February 1744/5 at Slaidburn (courtesy of Ian Roberts).

Settle Pound Circular

Sunday, 3 December 2000
Leaders: Helen and Arthur Lupton.

The reason for choosing this walk was to investigate the water supply to Dog Kennel Mill, a cotton mill at one time on the site of the Upper Settle covered reservoir.

The masonry wall, cylindrical in plan and marking the circumference of the horizontal mill wheel was viewed, but as we did not have permission to walk on the Yorkshire Water land it could not be approached closely. According to Alan King the wheel ran horizontally with a vertical shaft, impelled by horizontal jets of water and thus acting as an impulse turbine. The wheel appears to have had a diameter of some thirty feet judging by the curvature of the wall.

The party took the footpath roughly parallel to the Long Preston Road up to Lodge Lane: this gives a fine view over Settle and the course of the drain carrying the tail water down to Runley mill. After following Lambert Lane to its lowest point they then approached Springfield Farm from the public footpath leading back towards the waterworks, to view the source of water for the mill. Here we were diverted from our main object, to examine the farm itself and its buildings.

The farmhouse has a datestone of 1863 and does not appear on the 6" map of 1847. The initials on the stone are J & R S, referring to J Slinger and his brother. It was JS who conveyed the land for the upper reservoir to Settle Waterworks in 1890. Also of interest were the barns, one of them marked on the old map as a ruin, which retain the stalls and boskins from the pre-electric hand milking days. It was particularly pleasing to see them maintained in such good condition.

When Mr Slinger sold the land below the farm for construction of the reservoir (where there had previously been a quarry) he stipulated that his farm should be supplied with water, for ever. It was interesting to see that Yorkshire Water, fulfilling an agreement with another company 100 years earlier, had recently installed new header tanks for the sole use of Springfield Farm.

Descending the hill we noted the cattle trough on the north of the Malham road, fed by water collected by a surface ditch from the wet hillside below Springfield, and carried under the road in a cast iron pipe. It was this ditch which I had previously thought provided the mill water, being misled by the apparent slope of the land, seen from below, into thinking that it drained in the opposite direction. The extensive works carried out through many centuries to make water available in this porous landscape are an impressive memorial to the industry of our forebears.

Finally we returned to the pound across the face of the hill below the ditch so as to be able to view the collecting ditch channelling Springfield water down the ancient stone lined drain to Dog Kennel Mill, and so eventually to Runley Mill and the Ribble after supplying many drinking places in the fields along the way.

We are most grateful to Mr Godfrey Haygarth and to Mr Edgar Moore for their encouragement, and permission to walk over their land.

A.R.R.L.

NORTH CRAVEN HERITAGE TRUST

Contents

North Craven Heritage Trust

c/o Settle Town Hall, Cheapside, Settle BD24 9EJ

The North Craven Heritage Trust was set up in 1968 to encourage interest in, and to help safeguard, the distinctive beauty, history and character of the North Craven area. It encourages high standards of architecture and town planning, promotes the preservation and sympathetic development of the area's special historic features and helps to protect its natural environment. It arranges lectures, walks and local events and publishes booklets about the North Craven area.

Details of membership are available from the Membership Secretary:
Mrs H Baker, Ivy End, Chapel Walk,
Long Preston BD23 4PE 01729 840609

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Ordinary	£6
Joint	£9
Pensioner / Student	£3
Corporate	£10

Committee 2001/2002

PRESIDENT	Mr B Braithwaite Exley JP DL
Pant Head	015242 51273
Austwick LA2 8BH	
VICE PRESIDENT	Mrs P Houlton
Whitebeam Croft	01729 822824
Settle BD24 9AN	
CHAIRMAN	Mr R G Gudgeon
Lawkland Green House	01729 822610
Austwick LA2 8AT	
HON TREASURER	Mr M Southworth
Wood House	015242 51629
Austwick LA2 8BZ	
HON SECRETARY	Mr H Foxcroft
4 Bankwell Close	01729 825649
Giggleswick BD24 0BX	
MEMBERS	
Mrs H Baker	01729 840609
Dr J Chapman	01729 823664
Dr M Ellis	01132 737459
Mr P Harling	01729 822581
Dr S Harrop	015242 51257
Mr D Johnson	01729 822915
Mrs J Lavelle	01729 823929
Mr A Lupton	01729 823987
Mrs J Sykes	015242 51398
SUB COMMITTEE CONVENERS	
Buildings	Mrs J Sykes
Footpaths	Dr J Chapman
Publications	Dr S Harrop
JOURNAL EDITORS	Dr M Ellis
	Mr H Foxcroft