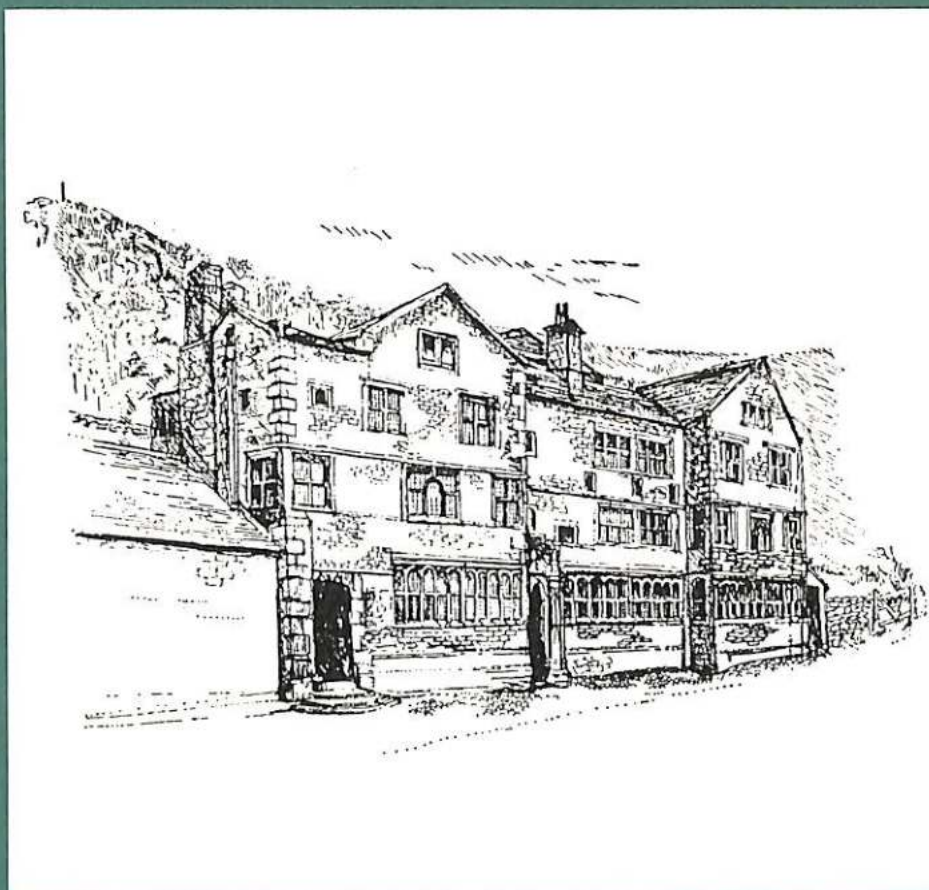


# NORTH CRAVEN HERITAGE TRUST JOURNAL



*1992*



## THE NORTH CRAVEN HERITAGE TRUST COMMITTEE 1991/1992

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## ABOUT THE TRUST

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. An annual Journal keeps members informed of the Trust's activities. Further information about the Trust and details of membership are available from the Membership Secretary:

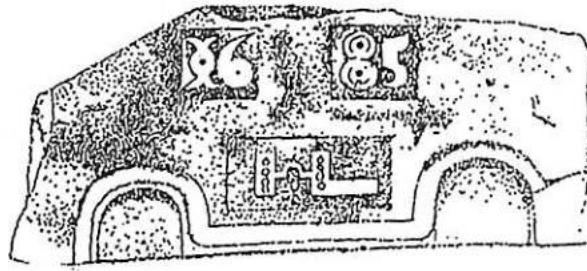
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### *Membership Subscriptions*

Ordinary.....	£6
Family.....	£9
Pensioners.....	£2

Membership expires last day of October each year.



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Mr E M J Miller

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*Cover photograph: The Folly.*

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE NORTH CRAVEN HERITAGE TRUST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 11 OCTOBER 1991

I must first of all apologise for not being here in person to deliver this report. It's only the second AGM since our inception that I've had to miss and it's come about through a confusion in my engagement book. I'm also rehearsing a new play at the National Theatre and a revival of *Wind in the Willows* at the same time, so I've got my hands full. However this means that this is the first AGM report to come to you by fax, courtesy of the National Theatre.

This year has been relatively quiet. Many of our more active members have been taken up with the management and day to day running of the Museum and the Building Preservation Trust's housing project at Croft Barn. Of course the Museum and the Building Preservation Trust are off shoots, and very vigorous ones at that, of the Heritage Trust. But now they are beginning to go their own way and acquire an identity of their own. This leaves the North Craven Heritage Trust for the moment with less of a definite role. There are still planning matters to oversee, of course and social and fund raising activities to organise but at the moment, those part, there's a bit of a lull; the children have grown up - the parents, while not ready to put their feet up, find themselves at a bit of a loss.

Mr Shevelan has been our Chairman for the last two years and his term has now expired. Our thanks go to him and in his place we welcome Mr Ray Doughty, who has had connections with the area since 1966 and came to live at Stackhouse on his retirement in 1984. I know he is keen to help the North Craven Heritage Trust find a new role and a separate identity, and we look forward to his term of office.

A new development this year has been the introduction of a Membership and Programme Card, which summarises the aims and activities of the Trust for the year, and has the names and addresses of the Committee. We have gained many new members as a result of last year's recruiting campaign and our thanks go to Mrs Walker who oversees the collection of subscriptions and, with the team of helpers, the distribution of the Newsletter.

Another departure is the Journal, an annual publication of some sixteen pages edited by Mr Miller and Mrs Hobson. It will provide an opportunity for more in depth articles with illustrations, and will be a fuller record of the Trust's activities.

The Committee has been involved with various planning matters, including the state of the Mill Dam at Holme Head here in Langcliffe. Local residents have become very concerned about the fact that it's now just a mud flat and the Committee raised the matter with the Craven District Council who have passed on the correspondence to the National Rivers Authority and we await results. We are incidentally more fortunate in Craven than in many parts of England, where so many streams have dried up and the sound of running water quite rare.

The Craven District Council and the North Yorkshire County Council and English Heritage are all concerned, not before time in my view, with the number of bogus windows and doors appearing in the area. These have been shown up by the photographic survey undertaken in connection with the Town Scheme. These features have always been a bugbear of mine, particularly the supposedly Georgian doors on offer at builders merchants. If I have to choose one single object to represent all the things that have gone wrong in England in the 1980's it would be that nasty little door.

These and other unsightly developments are touched on in the draft of the Yorkshire Dales Local Plan published by the National Parks authority, a discussion document which has been circulated to local authorities and amenity groups for comment and which the Committee will be discussing before sending in a report.

I am not going to go through every item dealt with by the Committee as often, like the Hellifield By-Pass scheme, they have been dealt with in the Newsletter. I would like particularly to mention the Settle Town Scheme, though, under which owners of buildings inside the Conservation Area receive grant-aid for external repairs. Annulled at one point, the grant-aid has now been renewed and a survey of the properties carried out which will form a valuable record of Settle as it looked in 1990...and as we hope it will go on looking!

The Folly in Settle still gives rise to rumours, the Craven Herald saying at one point that the Heritage Trust wanted to buy it. The Chairman has asked me to make it clear that if anything was done the purchasers would have to be the Building Preservation Trust not the Heritage Trust, on account of our charitable status. But there are so many problems involved in the financing of any such scheme that while the new owner, Mr Humphrey Burton, is anxious to help it's not at all plain what can be done.

There has been a full programme of walks this year and in July Mr Mitchell's annual field day took the form of a trip to Bowland and in rather better weather than Mr Mitchell usually enjoys.

There has been slow progress with the Endowment Appeal with a number of small donations and a splendid one of £1500 from Mr Eric Baines of Austwick. We were able to get a further £500 tax refund on this through the Governments Gift Aid scheme, which is a much simpler scheme than a Deed of Covenant, whereby tax is refunded on any gift of £600 or over. I know these days its beg, beg, beg wherever you turn but I would like to recommend the Endowment Appeal for any gifts that you feel able to make, or, as mentioned in the Newsletter if there's any possibility of adding a codicil to a will.

The curator of the Museum, Angela Edgar will be giving a separate report. I'd only say that the Museum flourishes, despite the annual loss of £1500. I'm not sure that it could ever be run at a profit but this deficit is due not to any shortcomings in the organisation but to the end

of the MSC scheme in September 1988.

The Building Preservation Trust is of course a separate organisation but members will of course want to know what has been happening, particularly in the Croft Barn scheme. The aim is to provide two flats for sale and two for letting to local people, and at the same time tidy up an untidy corner at the entrance to Settle. The scheme has received financial support from various national bodies.. English Heritage and the Civic Trust's Architectural Heritage Fund, and also from the North Yorkshire County Council and the Craven District Council. We are particularly grateful for the generous personal support of Dr Pam Douglas and for a most magnificent gift of £6000 from Mrs Clayton, which under the Gift-Aid scheme I mentioned, brought in a further £2000 in reclaimed tax.

Finally I'd like to draw your attention to the objects of the Trust as set out in the Membership Card in the hope, which I express every year, of involving more members in active work for the Trust. It can be in town planning, recording of buildings or the protection of the environment. There's always heaps of stuff to be done. We just don't have enough active hands to do it. In this

connection I'd like to welcome a new member, James Walker of Hellifield. Mr Walker has a degree in Conservation Studies from the University of York and has been involved in various surveys of barns and vernacular buildings in Yorkshire. He has made his skills available to us and we are hoping that he'll be able to hold workshops for members interested in the barn survey. Barns are one of the most threatened parts of the Dales scene, some of them of such character and grandeur no effort should be spared to save them from demolition, or, which is often the same thing, conversion. We also need articles for the journal, research done for exhibitions and an archivist to keep our multifarious papers in order. It need only be a few hours each week but if undertaken on a regular basis can make all the difference to the smooth running of the Trust. It can also be quite enjoyable!

In conclusion I would like to thank all of you who have contributed to the work of the Trust this year and to apologise again for not being here in person.

*Alan Bennett*

*President NCHT*

## CURATOR'S REPORT

The Museum continues to develop and to offer new services and improved collection care. As part of the continuing development programme there have been a number of changes over the past year.

Perhaps the most obvious changes have been those affecting the displays. New displays have been erected on the first floor which illustrate medicine and shoemaking. These displays incorporate much of the material which was previously on show in the attic as well as some new material which has not been displayed before.

Also incorporated into the new display is a recently acquired 'Cathedral Clock' made from one of Hargers fretwork kits in the late 19th Century.

Another new addition to the displays on the first floor is a section devoted to the Settle-Carlisle Railway. The Railway Shanties and the use of the line as a test route is illustrated and a number of recently acquired railway models are displayed.

There have also been additions to the Carnegie Exhibition. A new audio tape loop has been installed which plays extracts from the Museum's collection of oral history tapes. Some new objects have been added to the displays here too.

A short guide to the Museum has been produced which welcomes visitors and describes what they can see at the Museum. This also provides a souvenir of their visit and can be passed on to interested friends or relatives generating additional visits.

There have been improvements to the meeting room which has been provided with curtains, cushions and decorations, thanks to the generosity and hard work of volunteers.

Opening hours have been extended to include Tuesday mornings and a series of combined coffee mornings and book sales have been held on Tuesday mornings also, in order to raise funds and encourage local people to visit.

A number of groups have visited the Museum during the year including Ilkley Middle School, Little Chalfont School from Buckinghamshire, West Bridgford School from Nottingham, Crowthorn Special School from Bolton, Settle Church of England School, the adult education department of Rochdale Technical College, the University of the Third Age and the Friends of Leeds Museum.

A number of steps are underway to encourage additional visitors, however. New leaflets have been produced and distributed throughout North Craven and to Tourist Information Centres and major attractions in the surrounding areas.

Organisations within the area and in the surrounding areas have been contacted in order to encourage group visits.

Schools in the area have been contacted and an open evening for teachers arranged in order to discuss potential development of the education services offered by the Museum.

A number of educational projects are already underway with the production of work sheets and the organisation of loan and handling collections for use by schools and other interested organisations. It is hoped that closer links with schools in the area will result in an extension of such services and increased use of the Museum both by local schools and schools visiting the many field centres and youth hostels in the area.

Work continues behind the scenes also, with the



Museum records being transferred to computer in Order to produce various indexes not previously available and make information about the collection more easily available.

Storage facilities have been improved too, with new racking being provided for the storage of framed works and additional shelving for books and other two dimensional material.

A number of acquisitions have been made during the past year including the following:

- A number of photographs have been donated by Mr Miller,
- A large model railway depicting Settle station complete with rolling stock, has been donated by Mrs Wilkinson of Worthing in Sussex,
- A cathedral clock made from one of Hargers fretwork kits has been loaned by Miss Quincey of Northamptonshire,
- A model of a blacksmiths forge has been donated by Mrs Schulte,
- A number of books have been loaned by Mrs Carr and a ration book has been donated by Mr Foy,
- An anonymous donor has given a number of clothing accessories,
- A number of items associated with Trueloves shop in Austwick have been donated by Mr Blackmore Tucker

and Mr Baines,

- Mrs Lawson has donated an advertising calendar from the late 19th Century,
- Miss Buckle has donated copies of her books of poetry and Mr Moody has donated a copy of the leaflet *Wenning Memories*,
- Mr Foster, of Leeds University, has donated a catalogue of the Petyt Library in Skipton, and Miss Leaworthy has donated a copy of *Craven's Part in the Great War*.

Thanks are due to all those who have given material and to many more people without whom the Museum could not function.

Thank you to all the faithful volunteers who give up their time to staff the Museum week after week and especially to Mr Newby who has been organising the volunteer rota this year.

Thanks to Miss Pierce and Mrs Parkinson who have been running the weekly coffee mornings and have provided the new furnishings for the meeting room.

Thanks to the Management Sub-Committee of the North Craven Building Preservation trust who continue to give up their time in order to manage the Museum and especially to Mr Lupton, who represents the Heritage Trust on that Committee.

And thank you to you all for your support and interest.

*Angela Edgar*

## THE BUILDING PRESERVATION TRUST AND THE NORTH CRAVEN HERITAGE TRUST

Both new and long-standing members may have found themselves puzzled by the relationship between the North Craven Heritage Trust and its sister organisation, the Building Preservation Trust. It is hoped that the following article, approved by the North Craven Heritage Trust Committee and the Building Preservation Trust, will help to dispel some of the confusion which has grown up over the respective aims and roles of these two organisations, particularly as far as the Museum of North Craven Life is concerned.

The North Craven Heritage Trust (NCHT), formerly the Settle and District Civic Society, was founded as a charitable trust in 1968 to stimulate 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.

The Building Preservation Trust (BPT) was formed as an offshoot of the Settle and District Civic Society in 1976, in the wake of European Architecture Year. It has the rather more specific aim of encouraging public interest in the preservation and sympathetic restoration of our building heritage. It sets an example of good practice by buying old and derelict property, improving it and restoring its original character, and selling it in order to

finance its next purchase and restoration project. Its initial capital stemmed from a loan from the Civic Trust, a national body which funds many Building Preservation Trusts in a similar way, and from donations made by its founder members. In common with over 100 similar Building Preservation Trusts in Britain, the Settle-based Building Preservation Trust is a limited company with charitable status. Like many of its counterparts, too, it works in tandem with its local Civic Society, in this case the NCHT, its nine Trustees also all being NCHT members. Over the years the NCHT has supported the BPT, publicising and raising funds for its Museum - related projects. Nevertheless the two Trusts are separate organisations, although one originally grew out of the other.

The activities of the BPT and the NCHT have been most closely linked in the founding and development of the Museum of North Craven Life. As many members know, the present Museum was first established in 1976 in the Barn in Twisleton's Yard, where it was run by the Museum Committee of the then Settle and District Civic Society. It found a permanent home soon after in a 19th Century warehouse in Victoria Street, acquired by the newly-formed BPT and leased to the NCHT for a peppercorn rent. This building was restored and converted with sponsorship from the Job Creation Programme, other grants, and with the proceeds from the

Museum Appeal launched jointly by both Trusts in 1977. The Museum continued to be run and financed by the Museum Committee of the NCHT, whilst the BPT concerned itself with the building and its restoration. These premises proved too small for the Museum's expanding collection, and a larger and more central location was sought. In 1983 the BPT sold the Victoria Street site, and set the proceeds against the purchase price of 6/8 Chapel Street, the aim being to convert the building into a Heritage Centre housing the Museum, a shop, a Museum storeroom, a local history archive, a community meeting room and offices for both Trusts. All those concerned with the Museum at that time agreed to its transfer to the Chapel Street site, where, of course, it still is today. The informal co-operation between the two Trusts continued, the NCHT concerning itself with Museum and curatorial matters and the BPT taking responsibility for the building and its restoration.

The ambitious project of renovating and adapting the Chapel Street site could not have been achieved without the help, between 1985 and 1988, of the Manpower Services Commission (MSC) scheme. Applications for MSC funding had to be made through an Agent, and the nearest one to Settle proved to be the Pendle Heritage Centre Agency, where Mr Miller (Secretary and Treasurer of the BPT) was Director, and able to give the project his personal attention. As members will know, the MSC schemes were designed to provide work for unemployed persons for a year at a time, with the Agency employing them being reimbursed by the Government. MSC employees were recruited firstly for the restoration of the building, and were supervised from the PHC. Later other MSC employees were engaged to catalogue the collection, prepare and mount new exhibitions, and assist generally in the Museum's development, directed by Mr Miller but guided locally by members of the Museum Committee and other helpers. The MSC scheme also met the Museum's overheads (heating, lighting, telephone etc).

Nevertheless the BPT faced a shortfall on the purchase price of the building and on the cost of the materials used in its restoration. Applications were therefore made for further grants from a variety of organisations, which included English Heritage, the Countryside Commission, the Yorkshire and Humberside Museums Council, Craven District Council, North Yorkshire County Council, the Pilgrim Trust, the Carnegie UK Trust and the Normanby Trust. Gifts in kind, too, were received from local firms. In 1984 a further Museum Appeal was launched, once again under the joint banners of the NCHT and the BPT, and in 1986 a successful Auction to raise funds for the Chapel Street restoration project also took place. The MSC funding transformed the Museum project into a major venture, both in physical and financial terms. In 1985 the BP Trustees, upon whom most of the financial management of the Heritage Centre had by then devolved, felt bound to place its earlier, informal, administrative structure onto a more official footing. In 1985 and 1986 a series of meetings were held between the BPT, the NCHT and its Museum Committee to define

the roles to be played by each organisation in the running of the Centre and the Museum within it. Eventually in June 1986 it was agreed that the BPT, as landlord, should, through its Centre Management Committee, administer the Centre and its finances, apportioning running costs to each user, handling all its trading activities, appointing and supervising its staff, and preparing a budget for running the Centre jointly with the NCHT. The NCHT, on the other hand, was responsible for appointing a Museum Committee, whose Chairman would sit on the BPT Centre Management Committee and which would organise volunteers to staff the Museum, mount exhibitions within a budget allocated to it by the BPT, and publicise activities. The NCHT also agreed to make an annual donation towards the cost of running the Museum to the BPT, and to help raise additional funds for the Heritage Centre.

The abolition of the MSC schemes by the Government in 1988 highlighted the need for a Curator to maintain the Museum's newly-found impetus. The BPT explored alternative sources of funding, and decided to take advantage of an opportunity to share a full-time Curator, Mrs Angela Edgar, with the Pendle Heritage Centre. Mrs Edgar's three-year contract, which expires in 1992, is funded by four bodies, Craven District Council, Pendle Borough Council, the Yorkshire and Humberside Museums Council and the North West Area Museums Council, and her work has contributed greatly to the Museum's continuing development.

The appointment of a Curator by a panel which included a representative of the Museum Committee led, in 1990, to a further redefinition of the roles of various interested groups in the Centre. The Curator took over the day to day running of the Museum, supported by the Museum Committee. The latter lost its role of preparing, jointly with the BPT, a yearly budget for the Centre, but its Chairman continued to be a member of the BPT Centre Management Committee which, as well as managing the Centre, its staff and its finances now took charge of the Museum's collections policy. The NCHT retained its responsibility as fund-raiser for the Heritage Centre, notably through an Endowment Appeal launched jointly with the BPT at the time of the 21st Anniversary celebrations in 1990. At this point, the working relationship between the BPT Management Committee and the Museum Committee seems to have foundered. At the NCHT AGM in October 1990, the Chairman of the Museum Committee reported that the Committee, unhappy about what it felt had become a marginal role, had resigned.

For a while after this, the Heritage Centre, and the Museum within it, was run by a Centre Management Committee composed only of BP Trustees because the vehicle for NCHT representation (namely the Museum Committee) no longer existed. In April 1991, however, the NCHT reviewed the Trust's links with the BPT and the Museum. After long discussion it decided against one option of withdrawing completely from any further involvement with the Museum, including stopping the £1,000 contribution which it has made in the past towards

the running of the Centre. It did so because it felt that it would be a great pity if the long-standing involvement of the NCHT in the Museum were to be lost forever. Though it readily acknowledges that the Museum would not exist in its present form without the efforts of the BPT, NCHT members (some of whom are now also BP Trustees) had helped to found the Museum, and ran it themselves for many years. Over the years too, the NCHT has given the Museum, and lately the Centre, considerable amounts of money, including receipts from publications published in its name, and many members will remember the various fund-raising schemes and events in which it has co-operated with the BPT to try to secure the Museum's future. Though these sums do not match the government and charitable grants, and the personal donations, ably negotiated by the BPT, they are, nonetheless, quite substantial. It would have been sad if all this time, money and effort had been forgotten.

Instead the Committee favoured a more constructive approach to maintaining its association with the Museum of North Craven Life whilst recognising that much of the responsibility for its management, at the moment, no longer lies in its hands. It has appointed Mr Arthur Lupton to be the NCHT's independent representative on the BPT Centre Management Committee. Mr Lupton now represents the NCHT in discussions about the running and the future of the Museum and the Centre, and was warmly welcomed at his first meeting. The BPT has also assured the NCHT that any donation which it makes to the Museum and the Centre will go, as before, only to these projects and not to its other property restoration schemes, which are treated separately in its accounts. Both the NCHT and the BPT very much hope that this kind of improved communication will help resolve the confusion which has previously existed about this complicated issue.

Meanwhile volunteers still assist in manning the Centre, and meet at the beginning and end of each season to discuss Museum activities and developments. At the moment the NCHT continues to contribute towards the upkeep of the Museum; in 1991 it gave the BPT £1,000, as shown in the accounts approved at the NCHT AGM on 11 October 1991. This, of course, is only a small

percentage of the Centre's running costs, and, as Mr Miller reported at the AGM, it has, since 1989, been running at a considerable deficit. It should be noted here that the Museum is currently being provided with rent-free accommodation by the BPT. Funding for the post of Curator shared between the Pendle and North Craven Heritage Centres ceases in 1992, and Mrs Edgar has recently resigned to take up an appointment at the Oldham Local Studies Centre. Craven District Council and the Yorkshire and Humberside Museums Council have, however, agreed to fund the post of a part-time Curator at the North Craven Heritage Centre for a further year from April 1992 whilst the Yorkshire and Humberside Museums Council reviews Museum policy generally in the Craven area. Thus the Museum's future still remains insecure.

In the meantime the BPT's ownership of the North Craven Heritage Centre is not the only example of its policy of buying and renovating old and neglected buildings. It has been engaged in converting Undercliffe, a three storey Victorian house on the main southern approach to Settle, which it acquired in 1989 with a loan from the Architectural Heritage Fund. The project has improved the external appearance of the building, which has been converted into two flats; these have recently been let to local people. Part of the income from these lets will go towards the conversion, into one or possibly two flats, of the adjacent barn, which has been generously given to the BPT on condition that the converted accommodation is also occupied by local people. Because of the dual involvement of the NCHT and the BPT in the North Craven Heritage Centre, it is sometimes thought that the NCHT has a hand in these projects. This is not the case, and the project remains the responsibility of the BPT only.

I am very grateful to the many people I have consulted from both Trusts who have helped me to write this historical account of the relationship between the two organisations. It has been no easy task to do this fairly and accurately. Now both Trusts hope that we can all look forward positively, so that each organisation can pursue its respective aims, and so that we can work together to secure the Museum's future.

*Amanda Hobson*

## THE MORECAMBE-LEEDS RAILWAY SERVICE

In 1850 a railway line following the Lune-Wenning valley and constructed from Morecambe to Skipton by the 'Little' North Western Railway linked up with the Leeds-Bradford Railway's line to Skipton to provide the first through rail service between the cities of the West Riding and the emergent West Coast seaside resort. Since then traffic between the two has never been less than brisk, and the railway has been a vital factor in the creation and development of the rural communities in between. How vital it has been is often forgotten in this

car-minded age; Hellifield, for example, like Carnforth, is a creation of the railway; the development of most of the communities along the line would have been significantly retarded without the railway's presence.

As ownership of the line passed in turn to the Midland Railway, the London, Midland and Scottish Railway, and, finally, British Rail, certain aspects of the line's use and economy have changed. Stations that now sound tremendously useful (Wray, Claughton, Low Bentham, Settle Junction) were closed quite early on in the line's

history. During the 'Beeching' era the direct route along the Lune Valley from Wennington through Hornby and Caton to Lancaster was lost (in 1966). Many stations on that stretch and others such as Bell Busk for Malham and those on the Wennington-Carnforth section had already been lost in the 50's, as had the Ingleton-Kirkby Lonsdale-Sedbergh-Low Gill branch. The branches from Hellifield to Blackburn and from Skipton to Burnley through Earby and Colne were also lost in the early 60's, (although there is now some prospect of the restoration and full re-opening of the Hellifield-Blackburn line over the next few years).



*A Carnforth to Leeds train passes through Borwick Station in October 1955 (photo by W A Camwell).*

In spite of all these threatening prunings, however, the line continued, with a service of approximately 7 trains per day in each direction at roughly two-hour intervals, to maintain links between West Yorkshire and Morecambe and enabled the people of the rural communities of Craven and Lunesdale in between to avail themselves of work, education and leisure opportunities.

In 1989 at the beginning of the present economic recession, when the government was cutting back even more fiercely on public spending, there was a feeling that the line might be threatened with, if not closure, at least severe cuts, and the Railway Development Society urged local users of the line to form a group to work for the maintenance of services. The Lancaster and Skipton Rail User Group (LASRUG) was duly formed. Sure enough the cuts came; further reductions with each new BR timetable.

In May 1990 the service was reduced to 5 trains per day each way (i.e. one every 3 hours) and in July 1991 that

was further reduced to 4 trains per day each way (i.e. one every 4 hours). This amounts to a 43% cut in 14 months. Concern about the cuts has been expressed at local, district and county level and by the rail users' watchdogs, the Transport Consultative Committees for the North West and the North East of England. Recently that concern has led to the formation of a Joint Action Group consisting of representatives of the Lancashire and North Yorkshire County Councils, the TUCC, LASRUG and other interested bodies (The Countryside Commission, the Ramblers Association, the YHA, Friends of Settle-Carlisle etc). This group is beginning to further its case by doing surveys to establish the extent of use and the potential market, in order to challenge BR's oft-repeated but poorly substantiated claim that the line is a low earner. In addition it will aim to promote use of the line to ensure not only its survival but also the restoration of the much better service enjoyed until May 1990.

As a result of recent meetings with BR representatives, British Rail is prepared to offer some promotion on the line (one before and one after Christmas) to see how much use can be encouraged from stations between Wennington and Gargrave. If those who live on the line use it to show that they wish to retain a rail link for their communities, BR maintain that they will respond positively for their part with an improved service. User and Action groups can play their part but ultimately the communities must play theirs by using the line and encouraging one another to be more prepared to think rail instead of car, or, when predictions based on the recent trans-pennine transport survey become a reality and the A65 is as chock-a-block as the M25, there will be no alternative to turn to, no heritage to inherit.

The Chairman of the Lancaster and Skipton Railway Joint Action Group is:

*Councillor Ralph Atkinson,  
Lower Streakber,  
Robin Lane,  
High Bentham,  
Lancaster.*

The Chairman of the Lancaster and Skipton Rail User Group is:

*Mr J. S. Warbrick,  
Lakeber House,  
Robin Lane,  
High Bentham,  
Lancaster. LA2 7A*

## JOTTINGS

### THOMAS JEFFERYS' MAP OF YORKSHIRE

Thomas Jefferys' map of the County of York was first published in 1771 following his commissioning of three teams of surveyors in the late 1760s. These teams, led by J. Ainslie, J. Hodkinson and T. Donald, used the most refined instruments of the day to carry out a triangulation of the County - sometime incorporating prominent landmarks of neighbouring counties and so avoiding

some duplication of the great labour involved in the project of carrying out the Parliamentary Survey of all the counties of England.

Details of the triangulation of Yorkshire have not survived, but astronomers of the time were measuring angles of the order of seconds of arc, so we may assume that terrestrial survey was not notably less accurate than this. At ten miles distance, even a minute of arc subtends only about fifteen feet, a distance less than the thickness

of a line on the one inch to a mile scale chosen for this publication.

It is therefore surprising to find that the vertical measures on the map are wildly in error. Ingleborough Hill and Wharnside are both given as 1760 yards high, with Pennigant running them close at 1740 yards. On the sheet which includes Sedbergh, Askrigg and Settle these are the only elevations given, so we may assume that they were determined by hearsay rather than trigonometry.

It is also interesting to see that the road from Settle up on to Malham Moor is shown as leaving the town up Banks Lane and climbing north-eastwards to meet the road from Stainforth at Capersnak - now Capon Hall, and transcribed in the 1775 edition as Capenah. There no longer seems to be much evidence of such a route for more than about a mile out of Settle; it would be interesting if any members could throw some light on the matter.

These observations are taken from the first edition of Jeffery's map, and from a revised edition, first published in 1775, reproduced by Harry Margary, Lympne Castle, Kent, from a copy in the Brotherton Library, Leeds University.

*Arthur Lupton*

## PINFOLDS

Has your village a pinfold - or penfold? These small enclosures, usually rectangular in shape, surrounded by high stone walls and entered through a gate wide enough to admit a single beast, were for centuries, an essential part of the village.

The late Arthur Raistrick, in his "Old Yorkshire Dales" (1967) refers to the journal of Richard Wigglesworth, freeholders and constable in the manor of Conistone (Upper Wharfedale) in the late seventeenth century,

"It has plenty of records of stray animals taken into the pound or 'pinfold' at the centre of the village, where there is also a little building to serve as a cowshed and stable for stray cattle and horses. There are some closes and a road up to the common called Pinder Stile, where a large number of sheep could be accommodated; the use of this was the reward for the pinder's services. He records in great detail his captures, and accounts for the fines levied for their redemption. One example will suffice.

*One black weather with a stroake over ye backe and  
downe ye flanke  
also a stroake downe ye nearer side of ye ribbs and C  
and H on ye near  
horn shee came to mee about ye first day of December  
1684"*

The importance of the pinfold diminished over the centuries with the enclosure of the common lands, until many were neglected and fell to rubble, or were taken into private ownership when farmsteads and village property - sometimes poorly delineated on title deeds - changed hands. A pinfold that remains intact is an

interesting piece of history.

*Jenny Hoyle*

## SETTLE MARKET PLACE ENHANCEMENT SCHEME

Settle Town Council's Enhancement scheme has been praised by English Heritage. In a letter to the Council, English Heritage said the work of laying flags and cobblestones had been completed to an above average standard. The scheme was co-ordinated by Mrs Carr, Chairman of the Town Plan Committee and supervised by Mr Miller. North Yorkshire County Council carried out the work under the direction of Mr D Bowie. Funding came from English Heritage and Craven District Council. North Craven Heritage Trust made a small donation to Settle Town Council towards the cost of design fees.



*An example of the newly laid cobbles and flags.*

## VISIT OF LEEDS PARISH CHURCH CHOIR TO THORNTON-IN-LONSDALE CHURCH, SATURDAY 4th JANUARY 1992

When I heard that the choir had once again arranged to come in January and the church was to be Thornton-in-Lonsdale my thoughts went back to the disastrous fire which destroyed the roof and everything in the Church but left the tower and the clock still striking the hour when the fire brigade arrived.

Messrs. Austin and Paley the Lancaster architects who were famous throughout the north of England for their church architecture were asked to arrange and supervise the restoration. This was the last contract they undertook before closing down their business when Mr Paley retired.

A Lancaster firm of builders restored the stonework and Brassington Sons & Co. Ltd. carried out the roofing and woodwork. The funds available were limited and the roof timbers are Colombian pine and not oak and chairs had to take the place of pews. Mr Tarney, who was Paley's Clerk of Works, designed the lectern which was made of oak. The roof principals were made in our own mill at Settle then taken to Thornton and reassembled on the floor of the Church and each principal was raised by using a derrick, in this case a 40 foot larch tree and ropes and a pulley. Fortunately we were blessed with good



*Interior, Horton-in-Ribblesdale Church (photo A Horner & Sons Settle)*

craftsmen and it was quite a challenge for me to bring the contract to a satisfactory conclusion.

*J.M. Brassington*

### OUR SUMMER OUTING

Over 40 members shared the varied pleasures of a summer's day in Bowland when the annual outing, led by Bill Mitchell, took place on July 17. Cars were used. The convoy system was avoided by setting the cars off at varying times, but with deadlines to meet. The excursion began with a relaxed drive up hill and down dale, in a world holding 1,000 shades of green. In due course, the journey lay beside the sparkling river Hodder. At Whitewell we crossed over the hill to visit Browsholme Hall, home of the Parker family for over 400 years.

A welcome to the hall was extended by Christopher Parker and his wife. We examined the treasures of the large entrance hall - objects ranging from prehistoric implements to a piece from a zeppelin, and included furniture and uncomfortable-looking armour. On a walk in the grounds, we passed a lake adorned by Canada geese and a gateway bearing the stag's head emblem of the Parkers, who were originally the keepers of deer at Radholme, in the ancient Forest of Bowland.

All Hallows Church at Great Mitton was no anti-climax; here the members were enthralled by a small country church at which nothing seems to have been thrown away over the centuries. Of special interest were the alabaster figures in the Shireburn chapel - including a small child shedding an alabaster tear. We had our packed meal among the tombstones and ancient crosses of the churchyard, overlooking an unspoilt tract of wooded countryside.

Stonyhurst College, where the Elizabethan hall of the Shireburns [a surname spelt variously] became one of the most famous public schools of England, was in complete contrast, being vast and magnificent. The Rector told us about the history and architecture. Our tour included Museum, library and Elizabethan hall (the furnishings included a stout table on which, it is said, Cromwell slept - in his armour!). We were shown two Churches - one representing a high point in Victorian design and craftsmanship, situated with the main building, and the

more familiar 1835 Church based on the design of King's College, Cambridge.

Finally, with the warm, dry weather holding, we went on safari, travelling from Bolton-by-Bowland along a track to New Ing Farm, the grass in the centre of the track polishing the sumps of the cars. Arthur and Doreen Hodgson introduced us to their small herd of Bowland sika deer, which were in the glory of their summer coat of dappled chestnut, the stags growing new horn under plummy "velvet".

We print for the interest of Members some Notes provided by Bill Mitchell for the Field Trip.

**FOREST OF BOWLAND:** The earliest traceable spelling was Boeland, and in a document of the 13th century it was rendered Boweland. Between Tudor times and the present day the common name was Bolland. Old people hastily corrected you if you talked of Bowland. "It's Bolland, lad". This was a "land of cattle", an allusion to the medieval custom of ranching at vaccaries (from the Latin vacca, a cow). Bowland Forest refers to the Norman chase. The last indigenous deer, red and fallow, were slaughtered in 1805. Almost exactly a century later, sika, an Asiatic species, was introduced by Lord Ribblesdale and some sporting friends. Today, sika and roe are widespread.

**BROWSHOLME HALL** (pronounce it "Broozam"): The Parkers took their name from their old occupation as keepers of a deer park (Radholme). They also farmed at Browsholme. Thomas Parker, having bought the vaccary from the Crown in 1604, had the family house re-fronted with red sandstone dressed and positioned to a design from Thomas Holt, of York. The architectural scheme for the main doorway incorporates the three orders of Greek architecture. The landscaping of the grounds, undertaken in advance of a visit from the Price Regent, cost Thomas Parker over £100,000.

**ALL HALLOWS, GREAT MITTON:** An outstanding country church. Of special interest to us, in view of the impending visit to Stonyhurst, is the Sherburne chapel, the foundations of which were those of an early chantry. Its architect in 1594 was Sir Richard Sherburne (the surname is rendered Shireburn at Stonyhurst and Hurst Green). The last of the Sherburnes to be laid here was Sir Nicholas, who died in 1717. Since then, the tombs of alabaster and marble have been objects of respectful curiosity.

**STONYHURST COLLEGE:** One of the most famous Catholic public schools. Two 660 feet long ponds (excavated in 1696) lead the eyes to the buildings. The architectural core is the Elizabethan mansion of the Sherburnes, the last of whom, Sir Nicholas, rebuilt the front and placed two eagle-crowned cupolas on the towers. When Cromwell was an uninvited guest during the Civil Wars, he wrote to the Speaker of the House of Commons to relate that he "quartered the whole army in a field by Stonyhurst Hall". The school was moved here from the Continent, as we shall doubtless hear. The design for the school chapel, built in 1835, was based on that for King's College, Cambridge.

*Bill Mitchell*

## THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THOMAS HARGRAVES (1741-1813)

It is very difficult to know what local furniture styles were like in the 18th century and before. Very little furniture in houses other than those of the aristocracy has survived unmoved and documented since the eighteenth century. It was only in the case of clocks that the practice arose of a maker signing his work with his name and place of business. The eighteenth century clock makers only made the movement themselves and usually left their customers to commission the making of the wooden case which held the clock. Naturally, many customers arranged for local cabinet makers to produce a case for their clocks. After seeing a number of the cases in which local clock movements have been housed, it is possible to state with a degree of certainty that a certain case is the work of a local cabinet maker, or alternatively that a clock movement has been "married" with a "foreign" case.

The Settle cabinet makers (the Hallpike and Harger families) evolved their own style of case, just as the clock makers evolved their own locally distinctive style of dial.

One of the best documented of the 20 or so clock makers based in Settle was Thomas Hargraves who lived 1741 - 1813. Thomas Hargraves was one of a family of Settle clock makers. The documentary evidence which survives, shows him to have been of particular interest both socially and to the student of horology.

As can be seen from the accompanying family tree, Thomas was the son of William Hargraves I, who was also a clock maker in Settle. William I produced some of the most sophisticated and interesting Settle-made clocks which have survived. As well as one handed and 30 hour clocks, typical of the early 18th century, William I is known to have produced two handed 30 hour clocks, 8 day clocks, and a clock which every fourth hour, immediately before striking the hour, plays 2 verses of a hymn tune on 6 bells.

William I was almost certainly a descendant of the Hargraves family which lived at Deepdale Head in Wigglesworth. Our difficulty in being certain is due to the fact that William I and his wife were Quakers, and documentary references to them are scarce.

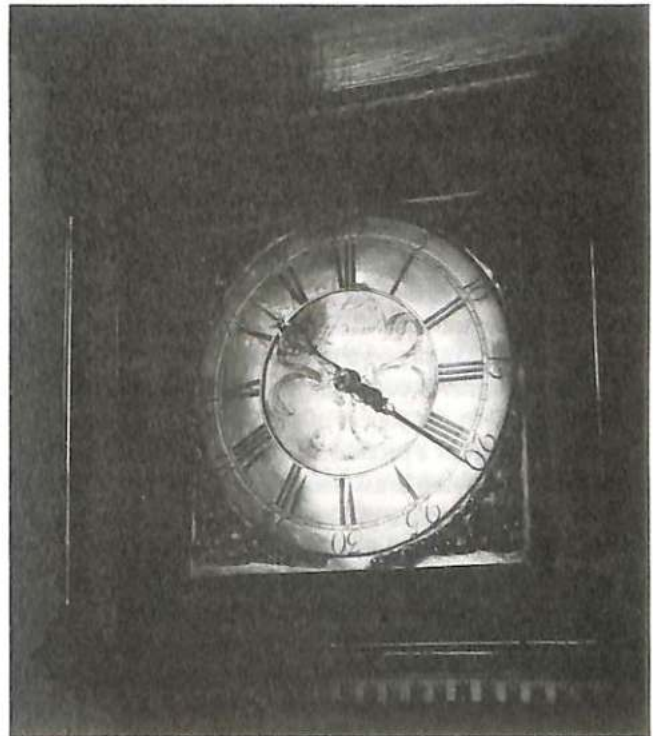
However, we know that he married a girl called Elizabeth and that by the 1740's he was living and working as a clock maker in Settle. In 1742, he mortgaged the house where he lived in Settle Market Place to a Bradford based butcher named Henry Barrowclough. His house had 3 rooms on the ground floor with 2 attic rooms over, with 2 work rooms and a smithy with a room over them adjoining. In addition, there was a pig sty, half a stable and a pair of balkes over that (i.e. a hay loft), the whole of which was mortgaged to secure £60 plus interest. The witnesses to the document strengthen the likelihood that William Hargraves I was a close relative of the Deepdale Head Hargraves family.

Understandably, his son Thomas Hargraves was brought up as a Quaker. However, this was not to continue. In

1765, at the Settle Quakers monthly meeting, 13 Quakers signed a Paper of Denial which read as follows:-

*"Whereas Thomas Hargraves, a young man who was brought from his childhood in the attendance of the religious meetings of the people called Quakers and since he came to years capable of religious consideration having frequented the same was thereby looked upon as one of our society; but for want of due regard to the light which enlighteneth every man that cometh into the world teaching to shun the appearance of evil he hath suffered himself to be led aside to commit that which is shame to himself and a reproach to the society he was reputed a member of and has married a wife of different persuasion by a priest which is also contrary to the known rules established amongst us; wherefor for the clearing of truth we can do no less than testify against such practices and hereby publicly disown him to be a person in religious unity with us until by a circumspect life and conversation he show forth true repentance which that he may do so is our sincere desire".*

The action which prompted such a document was the fact that on 24th November 1764, Thomas Hargraves had married Sarah Sergeantson, the daughter of a local wood comber, John Sergeantson of Settle, at Giggleswick Church. In those days, to marry outside the narrow band of the Quaker fraternity was punished by expulsion from "friendship".



*Clock face by Thomas Hargraves of Settle (photo by Mary Farnell).*

For a time, Thomas Hargraves's religious principles must have caused some struggle with his conscience. It took him the best part of 7 years to decide that he could no longer be reconciled with the local Quakers. Then on the 3rd April 1772, at the age of 31, he was baptised at Giggleswick Church. His oldest son William, had been baptised on 15th March in the same year.

One does not like to be cynical, but it was in the same year that the Giggleswick churchwardens' accounts show that Thomas Hargraves was to have a commercial interest in the established church:-

*"Agreed by the four and twenty [a body of notable parishioners] that Thomas Hargraves is to have five shilling per year for keeping the clock in proper repair. Also that John Higson is to have 10 shillings per year for keeping the dogs out of the church and keeping the doors shut".*

Despite Hargraves's technical expertise, the local churchwardens clearly valued the practical experience of John Higson more! In the meantime, it is clear that Thomas Hargraves's in-laws were supporting him. For £5 of lawful English money his farther-in-law John Sergeantson sold him a dwelling house, barn, cow house, turf house, orchard and rights of turbary in the Gallaber turf pits with all other incidental rights on 29th November 1766. Given the recent marriage, this looks like Sergeantson giving his new son-in-law a helping hand financially.

The records of the late 18th century in Settle are scant. There are a number of references to Thomas Hargraves buying and selling land in or about Settle. In the 1780's and 1790's, Thomas Hargraves was being assessed to land tax on land in Settle and at Stockdale, where interestingly enough, another Hargraves family retained a landed interest for almost a century after that time.

Many Thomas Hargraves I clocks survive from the late 18th century, which is an interesting time in the history of clock making. About the year 1775, brass dial clocks were rapidly superseded by white dial clocks. The dials were manufactured in Birmingham to the order of local clock maker. Later, clock makers ceased to manufacture the movements and instead relied upon mass produced movements which were also bought in from the Midlands. Thomas moved with the times and produced clocks with the modern white dials, but seems to have continued to make his own movements.

Thomas Hargraves continued to be a prominent local businessman. In the papers of the Birkbeck family of Anley (themselves a prominent Quaker family) there are references to buying brass hinges from Hargraves, which can only be a reference to Thomas Hargraves indulging in other brassworking activities.

In addition, the Birkbeck archive gives us an interesting insight into a petty feud in which Thomas Hargraves was involved in 1785. The problem concerned young Joe Eglin who was an apprentice to William Birkbeck, a draper and the post master of Settle at the time. Joe Eglin wrote to his father to say that last Sunday he had been going about his master's business (i.e. delivering letters) when he came across a local tradesman with whom there

had long been a festering quarrel. The tradesman, none other than Thomas Hargraves, threatened to knock the apprentice's teeth down his throat and announced that "I'll have thee my lad" to which Joe Eglin nervously laughed. Eglin admitted to his father that he "once stooped with an intention to take up a stone to throw at him, but did not do it though when I rose up I spit at him to show (though not upon him) I considered him as not worth my while being in a passion at".

This incident caused Eglin to write home to his father to request that his father would lay a complaint against Hargraves before the Magistrates because he was in terror of Hargraves, whom he described as a fellow "as would stick at nothing to gain his end".

In fairness to Hargraves, Eglin's own father was not 100% on his son's side. Eglin senior had received a letter from Thomas Hargraves's older brother (William II) as well as one from his son, which had alerted him to where the rights and wrongs of the dispute might lie. His son may have been wronged, but he also had to bear a share of the blame:

*"Although the man has acted very unbecomingly and altogether improperly yet I can not by no means excuse my son of disreputable conduct. Therefore I must desire (if they think there is no danger to be apprehended from him in future) to stop all further proceedings and what expense already occurred then will please pay on my account. If the misunderstanding between them has rose from the Gun and TH has thought himself a sufferer in not being sufficiently paid for the damage he did to it, I could wish him to be satisfied".*

Thomas Hargraves made his will on Christmas Eve 1813. He described himself as being a watchmaker. It bears witness to both the wealth which he had generated through his activities and the technical expertise which he had built up.

After leaving £325 in cash to his children, sister and niece, he left his son William Hargraves II his gold watch with a seconds pointer and to his daughter Catherine Matthews his gold hunter's watch. He left his "time piece" to his son Thomas II. This was almost certainly a superior quality long case clock which kept very accurate time for the purpose of regulating the other clocks which he made. He left his clock maker's tools to his two sons Robert (who worked in Skipton) and Thomas II (who subsequently worked in Settle) and then made his son Thomas II the sole executor of his will.

Thomas Hargraves I was buried on 1st January 1814 at Giggleswick Church. His son Thomas II lived on until 1835 and was also buried at Giggleswick, in a grave with his son William III, also a clock maker.

Thomas Hargraves was a prolific clock maker; many of his clocks survive to the present day. They are good time pieces and many of them are in extremely attractive and locally made cases. They are typical of the product made locally, but, with our knowledge of the man who made them, have an extra fascination for the collector interested in purely local furniture and artefacts.

*Ian Roberts*



## FIELD BARNs IN CRAVEN : RECORDING AND CONSERVATION

"All old farm buildings have a story to tell. Farm buildings should therefore be the subject of serious conservation policy. Conversion to another purpose should be the last resort, and converted buildings should clearly retain features that show their original character. We regard it as irresponsible to allow conversion involving the removal of features such as wall openings and external staircases or the insertion of internal divisions, dormer windows and chimneys which result in the obliteration of indicators to the building's former function."

(Historic Farm Buildings Group, 1989)

The conservation of old buildings and other historical features of the cultural environment is a vital part of conserving the whole landscape of the Yorkshire Dales. The historical value of farm buildings underpins the emotional attachment so many people have to the local countryside. At one level the pressure to conserve vernacular farm buildings lies in a feeling of nostalgia; a wish to retain the past in a changing world. However, such buildings also exhibit architectural and design values worthy of conservation. The local materials from which they are constructed reflect their surroundings. Moreover, being built by local people, for local people, they have become a document of the area's history.

Among the vernacular farm building types of the Yorkshire Dales the field barn is predominant. It far outnumbers any other type of agricultural building in the region. A survey completed for the Board of Agriculture at the close of the eighteenth century noted that:

"The Western Dales are remarkable for their hay barns which are situated in the centre of every third or fourth field; those barns have always a cow-house at one end and frequently at both, where their cattle are wintered."

(Tuke, J 1800)

The process of historical research and the damaging effects of modern farming practices have fuelled a need to record the existing old farm buildings. This is especially important in respect of isolated field barns, so often regarded as a burden by farmers. Much of this recording has been carried out by voluntary or partially voluntary groups. The North Yorkshire and Cleveland Vernacular Buildings Study Group surveys provide an invaluable record of the county's buildings.

Adequate historical recording is a necessary pre-requisite to any comprehensive conservation strategy. In this respect, the Vernacular Buildings Survey of the National Trust is an exemplary scheme. This aims to provide the National Trust with a complete catalogue of all the vernacular and non-polite buildings in its ownership. By vernacular we mean buildings in local materials and styles which are in the traditions local to a particular place, incorporating details of their history, construction, materials, special features and layout. Surveys have been carried out on the Malham and Upper Wharfedale estates.

There are one hundred and fifty nine buildings on the Upper Wharfedale estate. Ninety two of these are traditional field barns. Any such survey will show the

diversity of buildings in the property. For instance, the remains of three vernacular houses survive in the hamlet of Yockenthwaite, one of which retains its beehive type bread oven. All three now serve agricultural or storage functions. On Redmire Farm, near Buckden, there are several buildings related to the use of that part of the dale as a deer park during the nineteenth century. There are remains relating to the lead mining industry on Moorend Farm and there are seven field lime kilns on the estate.

The field barn is the most characteristic building. Its plan is not constant; there may be additional outshots, or cow stalls, depending upon the specific uses through time and in different parts of the dale. However, a field barn may be defined as having the multiple function of a winter cowhouse and a hay store. The internal layout has two main components, namely the haystore, 'the mew', and the cowstalls, 'the shippon'. There is a hayloft, 'the baulks', constructed over the stalls. Customarily there are two doors, the one opening to the hay store, and the other opening to the stalls. The loft is accessible from the hay store; external access is provided by pitching-eyes, 'forking holes'. The stalls are cleaned through the door or through a 'mucking out hole' in the gable end. Slit vents give the necessary ventilation to the hay store.

These simple buildings display a wealth of details of the local building traditions. The walling is of rubble, limestone, sandstone or gritstone, depending on availability. On the limestone near the river Wharfe, walls of limestone, coursed or brought to course, abound. In other parts of the dale poorer quality limestone is used in polygonal rubble walls. On the plateau pastures and meadows, just below the open fells, the barns are built of Yoredale sandstone. This splits easily into roughly rectangular blocks, and this is perfect for high quality coursed rubble walling. A highly developed method of finishing is 'watershot' masonry. This technique is common in the buildings of the western Pennines from the mid-eighteenth to mid-nineteenth centuries.

Although limestone may be used for detailing it is more usual to find lintels, sills and quoins of sandstone or gritstone. When gritstone is used the jambs may be rebated internally for the door or shutters. A refinement seen on many gritstone openings is to have a chamfer to the surround. The face of the stone may display tooling or chisel drafted margins of a quality equivalent to ashlar masonry. Several lintels have inscribed on them the date of construction, thereby providing architectural interest as well as useful dating evidence. However, when utilizing such information caution should be taken as much worked stone has been re-used in the farm buildings.

There are two main types of traditional door: first the standard single pierced plank battered door, and secondly the two piece stable type door. The articulated door, with two sets of hinges allowing opening in confined spaces is rare, although some few examples survive in Langstrothdale. Most of the wide cart entrances had harr hung doors, where vertical pegs extend to fit into sockets in the lintel and theshold. Only one example of this

remains on the National Trust's estate.

The stall divisions, 'boskins', also reward study. The older divisions are made from a single piece of slate or flagstone. A late eighteenth century example survives, in situ, in High Thorn Haw Barn near Beckermunds. The slate is framed in wood; the corners of the posts are chamfered and the near posts are kneed. Later nineteenth century divisions have wood in place of the slate. Such historical interiors are under considerable threat of damage or removal. Several interiors have been renewed with traditional wooden stalls during the twentieth century. Others have been replaced with concrete divisions and standing platforms, and have been destroyed completely.

There is evidence in Langstrothdale that some field barns had heather thatched roofs. These date from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Later in the eighteenth and especially in the early nineteenth century many buildings were re-roofed in stone. In such cases the eaves were raised leaving the line of the old thatch roof clearly visible. The flagstone roofs with gritstone ridge tiles are the most durable of the traditional roofing

materials in the dale. Another vernacular type of ridge is the 'wrestler' ridge; formed by stone flags notched at either side to interlock at the top.

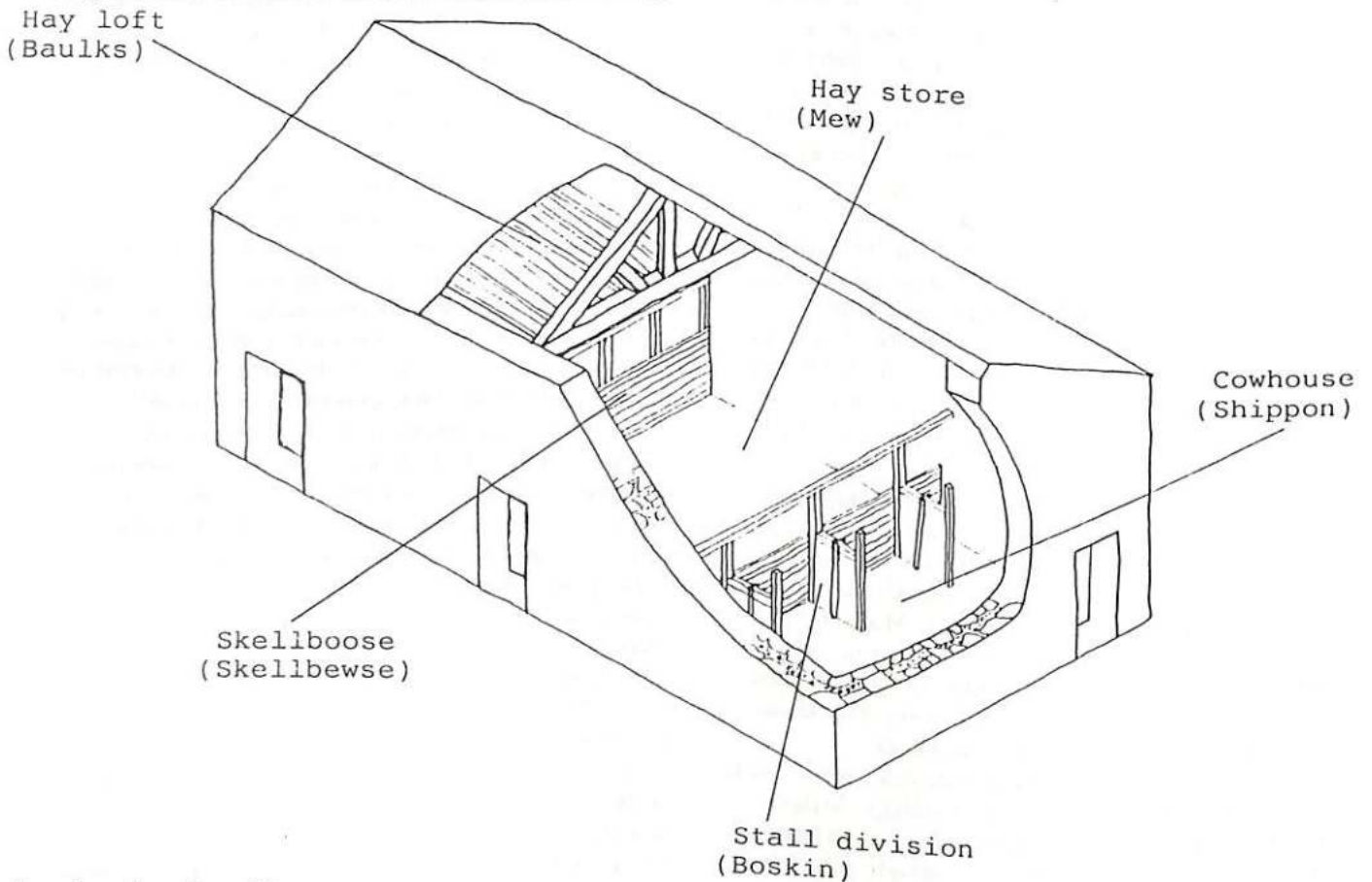
The physical record is enhanced by research in the local record office. Tithe maps and Enclosure Awards are particularly useful when assessing the significance of old buildings to the historical geography of individual farms or parishes.

To record old farm buildings is only the first step in promoting the conservation of this agricultural heritage. It is necessary to preserve the surviving buildings. However to maintain their existing stone and timber is not enough; a regular cycle of maintenance and repair needs to be promoted, using local building techniques and materials.

*James Walker*

Historic Farm Buildings Group 1989 'HFBG Newsletter No. 9'

Tuke, J 1800 'General View of Agriculture of the North Riding of Yorkshire'



Isometric Diagram of a Field Barn. Saunders Barn, Scarr House, Hubberholme (illustration by James Walker).

## A BENEVOLENT DICTATORSHIP

The Museum relies on volunteers to help to man it when it is open. We publish the dates and times of opening in the Settle Tourist Information Centre and elsewhere, and we think it is most important that the museum should be open at these times - on several occasions would-be visitors have come to Settle specially to visit the Museum only to find it shut because there was no one to look after it.

This matter was discussed at a recent meeting of the North Craven Heritage Trust Committee. The problem is that if we rely on volunteers filling in the duty rota when they happen to be in Settle there is a real danger that a number of members who would really be very willing to give some of their time to the Museum may be missed. It was therefore suggested that a more workable scheme might be to ask the Rota Organiser to make out a monthly rota from the present list of volunteers and distribute it to them before the start of the next month.

If a date which had been proposed turned out to be difficult or impossible, any volunteer would be able to arrange a swap with someone else on the list. This could be done without involving the organiser in the difficult and time-consuming job of Time Brokerage.

This is the system which is used in other organisations in the district, where it is found to work very smoothly and without the volunteers feeling dragooned or treated as schedule fodder. It does involve potential helpers letting the organiser know in advance of any occasions when they are likely not to be available, so that the number of

subsequent re-arrangements can be as few as possible.

The new scheme cannot now be got under way at the start of the season but Mr Newby hopes to have it running by the beginning of July. Meanwhile we shall still work in the old way.

The advertised opening hours in 1992 are:

1 June to 30 September: 2 - 4.30pm daily (Tues 10 -4.30)

1 October onwards: Saturday, Sunday & Bank Holidays  
2 - 4.30pm

If you think that you would like to help or to continue to help in the Museum under this arrangement, please let Mr Ron Newby know. His address is: 1 Coach House, Bishopdale Court, Settle, BD24 9EB (Tel: 0729 822136)

The present list is incomplete so that to prepare the rota and give a complete list to everyone, Ron Newby will need to know as soon as possible:

1. Your name, address and telephone number if you wish to help
2. Roughly how often you can help (eg. once in 2,4,6 .... weeks)
3. Dates you prefer and dates you are likely NOT to manage
4. The names of people you would like to work with.

*Arthur Lupton*

## REGINALD FARRER OF CLAPHAM

Members may have been fortunate enough to visit the exhibition on the life and work of Reginald Farrer held at the Peter Scott Gallery, Lancaster University, in the summer of 1991. Reginald Farrer was indeed a complex, talented and many-sided man, and the exhibition paid a fascinating and timely tribute to him. A commemorative volume of multi-disciplinary essays on various aspects of Farrer's life entitled 'Reginald Farrer : Dalesman, Planthunter, Gardener', written to accompany the exhibition is, however, still available. The following article is a distillation and, partly, a review of this wide-ranging and well-produced book.

When, in 1920, Farrer died alone, probably of diphtheria, in the mountains of Upper Burma at the early age of 40, he had established a colourful reputation as a rock-garden enthusiast, field botanist, writer, traveller, artist, plant collector and horticultural entrepreneur. He grew up on the Farrer family estate in Clapham, and his solitary childhood, during which he spent many hours roaming the Ingleborough fells - he was educated at home because of numerous operations on a cleft palate - developed in him a passionate and lifelong enthusiasm for high places and the mountain plants which grow in them. During this time he identified several rare alpine species,

and redesigned the rock garden at his family home, Ingleborough Hall.

After leaving Oxford, where he helped to make the rock garden at St John's, Farrer embarked, in 1902, on the first of his expeditions to Eastern Asia, visiting China, Korea and, particularly, Japan. There, influenced by Japanese gardening tastes and traditions, he developed his characteristically strong views on rock garden design, where naturalism superceded formal artificiality, and where alpine plants were to grow in surroundings which, though ordered by man, copied as far as possible their original habitats.

Farrer's travels resulted in 'The Garden of Asia', published in 1904. This launched a career as a prolific author of novels and of books on rock garden plants and their collection, though it is probably fair to say that his contribution to literature lies rather more in the area of botanical and travel writing than in the world of fiction. Farrer's 'The English Rock Garden', an encyclopedic work written in 1913 but published after the Great War in 1919, is written, like all his books, in a vivid, exuberant and highly personal style.

Farrer travelled widely in the mountains of Italy, France and Switzerland, walking and climbing with gardener

friends. He also visited Ceylon in 1907, becoming a Buddhist at about this time. Yet, together with a fascination for finding new species of alpiners, he was also attracted by the horticultural possibilities of the introduction of new hardy rock plants to the British gardening public. With this in mind, he founded the Craven Nursery in Clapham, which specialised in Asian alpiners, an enterprise which unfortunately foundered in the economic decline of the 1920's.

In 1914 Farrer and a companion, the Kew-trained W. Purdom, set out on an ambitious expedition to the Kansu province of North-West China, which had already proved to be a fruitful area for botanical explorers. He found there numerous hardy specimens which today enrich British gardens. Many bear his name, though the list would have been longer if Farrer had not sometimes neglected to collect, as well as plants and seeds, the herbarium specimens necessary for classification and naming. *Viburnum farreri*, *Buddleja alternifolia*, *Gentiana farreri*, *Geranium farreri*, *Allium farreri*, *Clematis macropetala*, *Daphne tangutica* and *Meconopsis quintuplinervia* are just a few examples. These two years of exploring and plant collecting are described in Farrer's 'On the Eaves of the World' (2 vols), published in 1917, and in the posthumous 'The Rainbow Bridge'.

Farrer's plant illustrations reveal another facet of his talented personality. These, and his landscape watercolours of Kansu and Tibet, proved a revelation when they were exhibited by the Fine Art Society in 1918. The plant illustrations, often painted in the most uncomfortable of circumstances, record, not an exact botanical resemblance, but Farrer's emotional reaction to the plant and its habitat. His diary conveys the practical difficulties which he faced, and provides a glimpse of his ebullient use of language: "June 2nd, 1919 ... I sat down to paint it (the most marvellous and impressive *Rhododendron* I've ever seen - a gigantic, excellent, with corrugated leaves and great white trumpets stained with yellow inside - a thing alone, by itself WELL worth all the journey up here and everything. And oddly enough I did not enjoy doing so at first ... a first false start - a second, better, splashed and spoilt, then a mizzle, so that umbrella had to be screamed for and held up with one hand while I worked with the other. Then flies and torment and finally a wild dust storm with rain and thunder came raging over so that everything had feverishly to be hauled indoors and the *Rhododendron* fell over and all the lights and lines etc were of course quite out of gear. However, I'd done as much as I could for the day by 5.30 but even then was so excited that I continued strolling in glorious meditation till dark and dinner. But one moral is - only paint when fresh or before the day's toils; as it is I must trench on tomorrow which ought to be wholly a rush of letters and articles for the next day's data that I mean to send off. June 3rd, 1919. The rhododendron gave me such a bad night ... I set to however and satisfactorily finished it though it took till after 12."

Farrer's illustrations, together with the field notes, botanical specimens and seeds which he collected,

provided valuable information to the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh, where the Regius Keeper, Sir Isaac Bayley Balfour, took a special interest in Sino-Himalayan plants. Farrer's interest in sending back attractive new plants with horticultural potential, however, was sometimes at odds with Balfour's desire for a comprehensive inventory of all the plants of the region.

Farrer's collecting trips are particularly interesting when viewed in the context of the global plant exchanges which occurred during British Imperial rule. During this time crops and other plants were transplanted from their native habitats to others throughout the Empire for a variety of economic, medical and scientific reasons. At a domestic level, too, whilst Farrer and other plant collectors introduced new species to British gardens, sentimental colonists took with them plants, and animals, which reminded them of home.



*Watercolour Rhododendron McKenzianum by Reginald Farrer (photo by Mary Farnell).*

Farrer's final, ill-fated, voyage was to the mountains of Upper Burma, taking as his companion E.H.M Cox, who recorded the trip in 'Farrer's Last Journey, Upper Burma 1919-20', published in 1926. This expedition proved less horticulturally successful than Farrer's earlier trip to Kansu, largely because the climate of the Burma mountains had less in common with British conditions than that of Kansu. Nevertheless, before his solitary death in the remote Minshan mountains, he had found and recorded many new species, including *Picea farreri*,

Berberis coxii, Cotoneaster franchetti var. sternianus, and several rhododendrons - Rhododendron arizelum, R. basilicum, R. sperabile, R. mallotum, R. trichocladum, R. caloxanthum, R. glischrum and R. heliolepis. Farrer's legacy of plants cultivated from seed collected by him is described in Cox's 'The Plant Introductions of Reginald Farrer', published in 1930.

Farrer's rich contribution to the worlds of botany and rock gardening can be seen today in gardens throughout Britain. Moreover, several hardy plants and shrubs which he introduced from China and Burma can still be found in and around Clapham. Many varieties of rhododendron, as well as Lonicera syringantha and Rodgersia aesculifolia, grow near the lake. The Himalayan woodland glade which Farrer created nearby still exists, whilst in Clapham village itself Viburnum farreri and Potentilla fruticosa flourish.

Meanwhile the indigenous plants which Farrer found on the slopes and in the meadows around Ingleborough can still be seen by those who, like him, "find joy in high places". Purple and yellow saxifrages, roseroot, dog's mercury, primrose, meadowsweet, melancholy thistle, marsh hawksbeard, thyme, rock rose, bird's foot trefoil, butterwort, lesser clubmoss, grass of Parnassus,

cranesbill, great burnet, sorrel, lady's mantles, rough hawkbit ... the list is long and varied.

Many, sadly, are threatened by man-made interventions. As an early ecologist, Farrer saw individual plants in the wider context of the climate and geology which shaped their habitat, and in association with the other species which shared their setting. Perhaps we should follow his example, enjoying and understanding our natural inheritance, and ensuring its survival for future generations.

The writer is extremely grateful to Dr and Mrs John Farrer for reading this article, and for their permission to quote from the diary of Reginald Farrer, which is part of the private family archive. She is also grateful for their permission to use the accompanying photograph, taken by Mary Farnell, of one of Reginald Farrer's illustrations. She would like to thank John Illingworth, too, most warmly, for his advice and co-operation.

'Reginald Farrer; Dalesman, Planthunter and Gardener', edited by John Illingworth and Jane Routh, was published in 1991 by the Centre for North-West Regional Studies, University of Lancaster, and costs £4.95.

*Amanda Hobson*

## AN APPEAL FOR HISTORIC CHURCHES & CHAPELS OF NORTH CRAVEN

The North Craven Heritage Trust, in response to a number of requests for financial help to the repair of historic churches and chapels in North Craven, has set up a special fund for this purpose.

The objectives of the Trust's fund are to collect funds and distribute grants and interest free loans to churches and chapels of any Christian denomination in North Craven, to help pay the cost of essential fabric repairs which are beyond the means of their congregations. Aid is normally restricted to churches and chapels erected before the First World War.

The idea behind the setting up of the fund is that many people in North Craven, who perhaps are not regular attenders at church, nevertheless love the ancient buildings and wish to see them maintained.

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*Norman Doorway at Kirkby Lonsdale Church (drawing by Val Leigh).*

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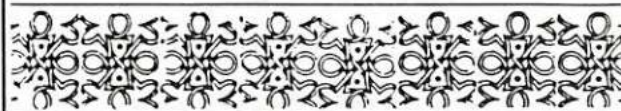
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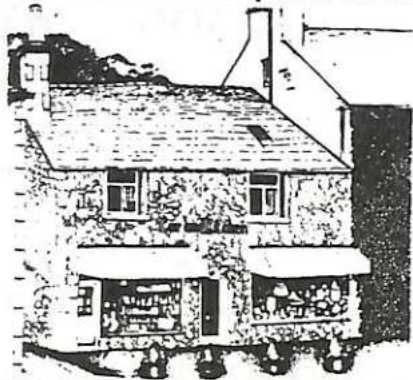
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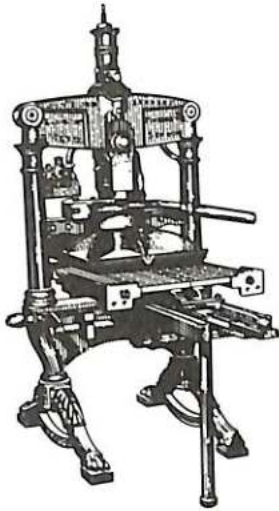


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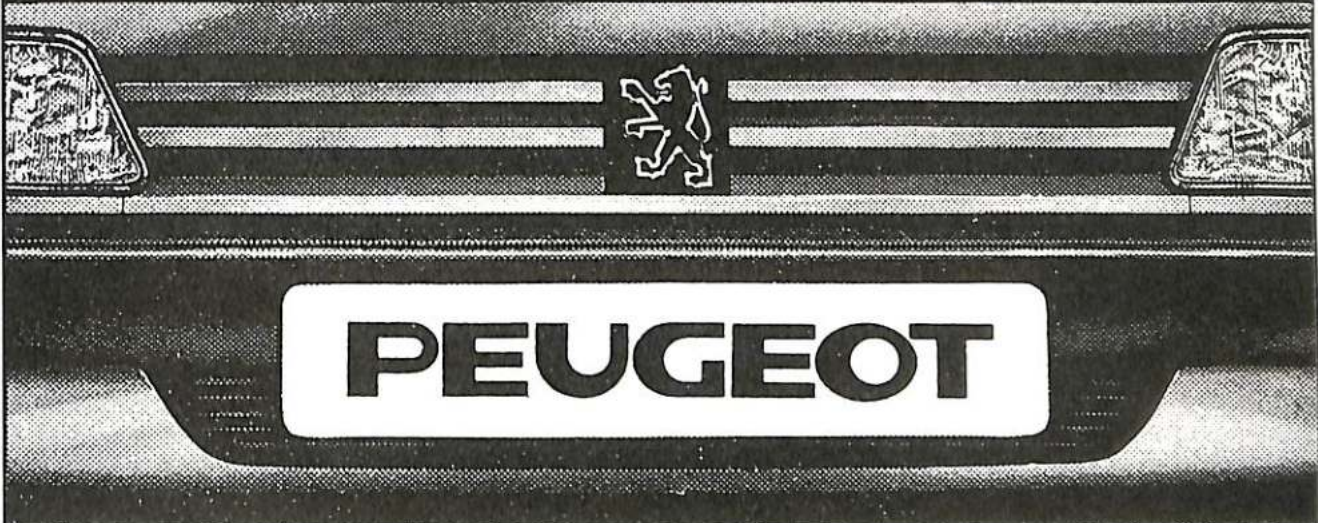
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