

Olicana Museum &
Historical Society
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1992 1993 1995

TUCKED away in a quiet corner of the ancient Parish Church in Ilkley is one of the town's greatest historical treasures.

Under an arched recess, in the small chapel off the north aisle, lies a finely carved effigy of a knight, which is over 650 years old. We must thank Eoian Lewis for his recent drawings of this monument which are, I believe, the first to accurately portray it.

A description of c.1929, by Mr William T'Anson, runs:

The knight, whose head rests upon pillows which are supported by angels, wears a round-topped skull-cap under a hood of mail; his hands, uplifted in prayer, are protected by mail gauntlets secured at the wrists by buckled leather straps; a guige (a strap for the shield), passing over the right shoulder, carried the shield, the surcoat, which reaches almost to the ankles, is girt at the waist by a narrow buckled strap, the pendent tag of which is looped up tucked away at the right side; below and beneath the skirt of the hauberk (the coat of mail) is seen the lower extremity of the padded and quilted gambeson (a coat for wearing underneath chain mail); the cuir-bouilli (boiled leather) knee-cops are ridged and decorated by miniature shields; the mail clad legs are crossed; short prick spurs are worn, and the feet rest upon a lion.

Doubt

The knight's shield carries the arms of Middleton but for many years there has been uncertainty as to which member of the Middleton family it represented. The Middleton family, who took their name from Middleton in Wharfedale, can be traced back to the twelfth century and continued their association with Ilkley until the twentieth.

DAVID CARPENTER, local historian and author of "Ilkley The Victorian Era" traces the history of Sir Peter de Middleton — c 1290-1335 — a prominent 14th century knight from Ilkley in the second of a series of features of Ilkley in days gone by.

Camden, writing in the late 16th century attributed the effigy to Adam de Middleton, who died in 1317. But the will of Sir William Middleton, dated March 11 1552, in which he requests to be buried under the stone where his ancestor Sir Peter Middleton lay in Ilkley Parish Church throws doubt on this attribution. Collyer and Turner, in "Ilkley: Ancient and Modern" decided that the effigy belonged to Adam's father Peter, but T'Anson, who looked at many monuments in the county, believed it was of a later date.

T'Anson's suggested date for the effigy of c.1335 indicates that it was made for Sir Peter de Middleton, nephew of Adam and grandson of Adam's father Peter.

However, some scholars thought that T'Anson was dating monuments too late, and discussion on this issue was cut short by the destruction of T'Anson's library by fire and his death before the publication of his work. At the moment, however, we must give his opinions the benefit of the doubt until further work is done.

Sir Peter was the son of William de Middleton and Agnes, daughter of Nigel le Boteler of North Deighton. He must have been born c.1290, but we know nothing of his early life. He was married c.1319 to Eustachia, daughter of Robert de Plumptre, knt., who settled on them lands in Nesfield and Plumpton. Peter and Eustachia had several children, and Peter's eldest son and heir Thomas was born c.1321.

Justice

Peter's uncle Adam de Middleton was lord of Middleton, and joint lord of Draughton and Askwith. He also became the lord of Stockeld, near Wetherby, after a series of transactions in the last decade of his life.

Adam was a justice of the king, and rector of Arncliffe, and other public positions he held included the offices of keeper of the town of Kingston-upon-Hull, custodian of the Abbey of Furness, warden of the Hospital of St Leonard in York, and keeper of the seal of the bishopric of Durham. Sir Adam died on or about February, 1317, leaving Sir Peter as his heir.

Sir Peter followed his uncle's lead into the legal profession, and we hear of him in 1327 being asked to investigate an assault at Ellerker near Hull. He was subsequently recorded as a justice for the county of Northampton, and in 1332 was appointed with others to be "keeper of York Castle."

In 1334 he was appointed Justice in Eyre of the forest of the county of Nottinghamshire, and later that same year of the county of Yorkshire. His last position was that of Sheriff of York, which he was granted in 1335.

The effigy of Sir Peter makes it plain he was seen as a man of arms. We know of several episodes in his life which would today be seen as "incompatible with his public duties."

Assaults

In May, 1316, commissioners were sent to investigate a complaint by John de Goldesburgh that Adam de Middleton, Peter de Middleton and many others had assaulted him at Stockeld, killed three of his horses to the value of £100, and carried away his goods and assaulted his men and servants.

Later that year a further commission investigated the death of John Folbaroun of Goldesburgh (possibly the "John de Goldesburgh") which was said to have been caused by Peter and others, several of whom had been involved in the earlier offence. Sir Peter was later acquitted.

A payment of 10 marks, in part payment of 100 marks, to



Low Hall, Middleton. It is likely that the manor house of Sir Peter stood on this spot.

1.4.1993
Alice, widow of John Folbaroun, from the executors of the will of Adam de Middleton, recorded in November, 1318, was perhaps related to this murder.

In 1317, a further complaint was made against Peter by John de Stockeld that with others he had burned his houses, hedges, and hays at Stockeld, and three horses to the value of £10, "broken his park there," and felled and carried away his trees.

Later, in 1329, John de Moub-ray made a complaint against him and others that they had driven away 40 horses and 300 sheep of his in Ingleton, and committed trespasses at his hunting grounds at Kirkby Malzeard, Burley in Lonsdale, Hovingham and Thirsk in Yorkshire.

In arms for the Government he was equally active. After Robert the Bruce led the Scots incursion into Yorkshire in 1319, when Ilkley and many other places were badly burnt, he was ordered in November of that year to raise arms against the Scots. It is unlikely that any further fighting took place that year, as shortly afterwards King Edward II agreed to peace terms with the invaders.

Service

In 1330 he was appointed with others by Henry de Percy, at his manor of Spofforth, to array all men-at-arms and men on foot, and to bring them to him suitably equipped to go on the King's service, giving him power to punish rebels and contrarians.

Three years later, in May, 1333, King Edward III ordered Peter de Middleton and William de Mohaut to raise twenty light horsemen and 200 foot soldiers, either bowmen or others, to fight the Scots and in June was ordered to take them to Richmond or Northallerton.

A grant by Edward I of Scotland (Edward Balliol) to Sir Peter of several manors in Scotland, was probably made as a result of the battle of St. Jon Hill (near Berwick) on 19, 1333, when David II, King of Scotland, was defeated by Edward III in support of Balliol.

Back home, carrying out his duties as Sheriff of York, Sir Peter was again in trouble in 1335:

...When Peter de Middleton, the Sheriff, went into the West Riding to hold his Tourns (the Sheriff's twice yearly tour of the course of the county), on Saturday the vigil of Palm Sunday, 1335, Robert de Stopham, with other malefactors, viz John le Vavasour of Weston, Mauger le Venour of Storthes and Simon son of Peter del Chirche of Oton, and others unknown, by procurement of John Vavasour, came against the King's peace, and lay in wait for Peter to slay him, at Ottelay and divers other places, so that the Sheriff could not hold his Tourns, and scarcely escaped death through their malice...

Feud

There seems to have been something of a blood feud between the Middletons and the Vavasours, for Peter son of Richard de Middleton (I believe this Peter was first cousin of Sir Peter) had been murdered near Dacre Grange in Nidderdale in 1333 at the instigation of Thomas, son of Mauger le Vavasour.

Peter's son Richard avenged his father in 1345 when he mortally wounded Thomas Vavasour by stabbing him 16 times about the heart as Thomas was walking in his orchard at Denton.

By 1335 Sir Peter was back in Scotland as is shown by an order to the Exchequer to pay Sir Peter and his household their expenses and wages to cover their recent trip from York to Edinburgh and back to attend the King.

We last hear of Sir Peter at the castle at Wark on the Tweed, on September 11 1335, when Michael de Presfen, one of the king's yeomen and keeper of the castle, gave him a receipt for £100 in silver which Sir Peter had been assigned by the bishop of Lincoln, treasurer of England, to deliver to Sir Michael's lord, Sir William Montague.

A receipt for monies paid by his executors shows us that by October 24 1335 he was dead. No details have yet come to light as to the manner of his death, but perhaps future researches will tell us more of the history of this prominent fourteenth century knight.



The Middleton effigy in Ilkley Church, drawn by Eoian Lewis.

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HIGH above Ilkley, to the west of Middleton village, stands the impressive building most local people call 'The Monastery'. Known more properly as Myddelton Lodge, it is about to enter a new phase of its long history - as an integrated part of the pastoral centre of the Diocese of Leeds.

The building is interesting not only because of its almost unbroken association with the catholic religion, but also as the home and hunting lodge of the Middleton family, who were the 'Lords of the Manor' of Ilkley, Middleton, and other estates in Yorkshire for many centuries.

The Lodge was built on the site of a medieval hamlet, now long forgotten, which was called Scalewray. Scalewray was last mentioned in its own right in 1490, when Anne

Meddilton, wife of Peter Middilton, knight, was granted the messuage of Scalewray, then in the tenure of Constant Curtays, and newly enclosed, as her dower.

The first mention of the Lodge, under its old name of 'Stubham Lodge' comes in 1550, when John Myddylton of Stubham Lodge was granted the inheritance of various manors by his grandfather Sir William Myddleton, of Stockeld, near Wetherby, and Dame Joan Sir William's wife. Sir William died circa 1552, and shortly afterwards his grandson John left Stubham for Stockeld, and William's widow Jane moved to the Lodge, where she lived until she died in circa 1583.

Hunting game

At about this time Stubham Park is first mentioned, and it seems that the Lodge was at the centre of an estate used for hunting game, surrounded by a fence or pale. Entries in the court rolls of the manor of Middleton show how Stubham Park and its boundary fence were being protected from the local tenants by the laying of 'pains', or penalties. This example dates from 1574-80: "... none of the inhabitants within this Lordship shall make or use any footways over the park pale at the Ing Gill nor any other place but where a way haft been accustomed upon pain of every time so offending 12d..."

An agreement of 1590 between another William Middleton and his mother Isabel, and her second husband Camiel Draxe, who were then living at Low Hall, sheds further light on the use of Stubham Park at that time. The indenture allowed William to set up his park pale around the Old Wood and the Lord's Close, which was part of his mother's dower. This was for 'the enlargement of his park at Stubham... and the better maintenance of his game'. The deed gave permission for the keepers of the park to fell brushing within the said grounds, to walk and view the same, and that the deer may quietly have pasturage therein.

William's son Sir Peter Middleton was clearly not satisfied with the Lodge as it was because in November, 1619 he made an agreement with a carpenter named Edward Barber, of Clint, near Ripley, 'to make a staircase at the west side of the house at Stubham Lodge, and a convenient stair to serve the great chamber and the garrets, and shall likewise repair and enlarge the roof... and divide the same into so many rooms of

Local historian David Carpenter continues his series of features on Ilkley by looking at four centuries of history at Myddelton Lodge. Mr Carpenter is the author of 'Ilkley: The Victorian Era' which has recently been re-published in paperback by MTD Rigg priced at £11.95.



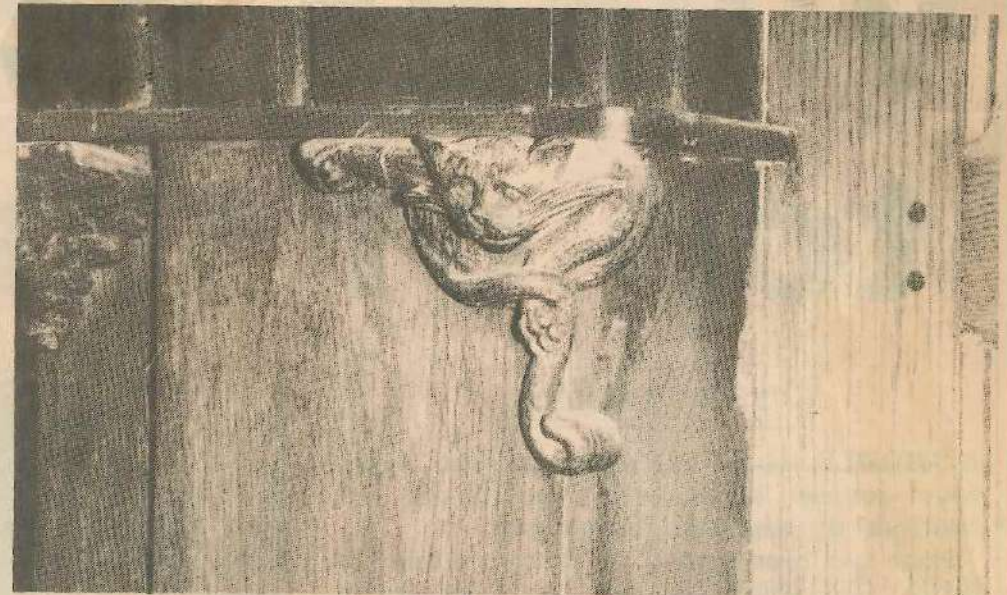
Peter Middleton's arms

such proportion... as is agreed upon.' Sir Peter was to pay £88 for the work, which was to be completed before Michaelmas 1620. Barber was to fell the timber, and quarry the stones, and Sir Peter agreed to provide three beds for him and his servants, but Barber was to provide his own sheets.

Staircase

The work carried out by Barber can still be traced today. Shortly after its completion, in July 1621, an inventory was taken of the contents of the house entitled 'Henry Currer's note of such household stuff as was delivered upon him at Stubham Lodge', either that Currer had taken the Lodge on a lease, or more likely that he was employed by Middleton to look after the place and keep it ready for his use when necessary for one of the rooms is described as 'my master's chamber'.

So for example, we learn that in the 'Great Chamber' (which was the large room on the first floor at the front of the house) there was 'One long table, one long carpet, and one long form'. In 'Clifford's Chamber' was 'one bedstead covered with green say curtains and valance with yellow



Ornamental carving of a cat-like creature on the ground floor

knots and cupboard cloth suitable, one high chair and two low stools suitable, one mattress, one featherbed, one bolster, two pillows, three blankets, one green rug, one green silk quilt, one livery cupboard, one window curtain and one rod.

From a very early date the Lodge was a centre of the catholic religion. During the days of persecution the recusant population of the country (those that refused to attend the services of the Established Church) was to be found in small groups, at the centre of each of which was a 'gentleman's household'.

Jane Middleton, mentioned above, was listed as a recusant circa 1580, and the family remained true to the 'ancient faith' despite the many tribulations it brought them, including heavy fines and imprisonment.

To this day in Middleton village there are catholic residents whose ancestors have been part of this tradition. From 1688 there was a Benedictine missionary at the Lodge.

Throughout the 17th and 18th centuries the Lodge seems to have served as a 'second home' or hunting lodge, with a catholic priest in residence, the Middleton's main home being at Stockeld Park near Wetherby.

A grand new house was built at Stockeld by yet another William Middleton in the period 1757 to 1763. His heir was William Constable, his great nephew, who adopted the arms and name of Middleton.

This William was married in 1782 to Clara Louisa Grace and they had ten children, only four of whom survived to adult life. But William's domestic life was to be shattered by



Myddelton Lodge, taken earlier this year

the discovery that his wife had an infatuation for his groom, John Rose and he procured a divorce. After this he was unable to remain at Stockeld and from then onwards Myddelton Lodge was the family's main residence.

Chapel

He remained at Myddleton until his death in 1847, and it was he who was responsible for the building of the chapel adjoining. At his death his son, Peter, came to live at the Lodge - and he was succeeded by his son William, who lived there with his brother Major John Middleton until 1885. William died unmarried and so at his death the estates and Lodge passed to his eldest brother Charles Marmaduke.

He lived at the Lodge for a time, but by 1893 had moved away. Charles died in 1904 and his son and heir Marmaduke Francis showed no more inclination to live there than his father had.

Much of the Middleton family's estate had been sold off to raise money during the 19th century. In 1899, the Wharfedale (Ilkley) Estate Company bought 450 acres for £55,000 and further sales during the first quarter of this century disposed of the entire estate.

The Lodge itself was sold, together with the house Tivoli, to Sidney Kellett in October 1912. After Kellett's death his widow sold the Lodge to the Passionist Fathers, who revived the catholic tradition.

The Passionists remained at the Lodge until 1985 when the Diocese of Leeds took over the estate, but only recently has the ownership of the Lodge been transferred.

Despite the many alterations down the years, Myddelton Lodge retains much of its original character.

Now there are great plans for its restoration. The task is a difficult one, not only because of the poor state of the building. The Lodge is full of features of great interest, ranging from those of the original building of Queen Elizabeth's time, to such later items as the 18th-century panelling and fireplace and the 19th-century stained-glass coat of arms. Even such things as the old-fashioned bath and w.c. have a place in the history of the Lodge.

The future looks brighter than it has for a considerable time. Let us hope that those using the Lodge in a 100 years time are able to continue its traditions and look favourably upon the great restoration of the late 20th century.



Detail of Victorian fireplace, with Middleton monogram

ONE of the first sixpenny Ilkley guide books reveals a glimpse of the way of life in Ilkley towards the end of the last century.

Ilkley had changed from a hamlet of quaint one storey houses, covered with thick thatch on which house leek grew and grass, to a town which was rapidly expanding in size and population.

Its population had increased from 459 in 1811 to an estimated 5,000 and had attracted the wool merchants of Bradford as an attractive place of residence.

No longer did the town beck, from which Brook Street, took its name flow openly through the middle of the street and there were plans to build a second road bridge across the River Wharfe to reach Middleton.

The Old White Wells were described as being inseparably bound up with the name and fame of Ilkley for many generations and continued their career of usefulness.

Close and open carriages were kept for hire at M Hainsworth's in Wells Terrace and there were apartments with a "splendid and uninterrupted prospect" close to the moor.

Many Hotels

Cab fares for a one horse conveyance for six persons from a stand in Brook Street ranged from 1s to such destinations as Bath Street, Alexandra Crescent, Brewery Road, Little, Lane, Tivoli Place to 2s 6d to Westwood Drive and 3s to Ben Rhydding and Netherwood House.

Ilkley by this time was well provided for with hotels and hydropathic establishments and among those listed were—

Hotels: Bay Horse, Leeds Road — R Ellwood; Crescent, Brook Street — Samuel Mercer; Lister's Arms, Skipton Road — Mrs Livingston; Midland, Station Road — Wm Ramsden; Middleton Hotel Company, Skipton Road; Rose and Crown, Church Street — W E Wall; Royal, Wells Road — H Dobson; Star, Brook Street — L Jackson, Station, Brook Street — Wm Dobson (this hotel was demolished to make way for the railway when it was extended across Brook Street to Skipton); Wharfedale, Brook Street — Wm

BRIAN LYNCH this week takes a look across the years to a time before the end of the 19th century when the way of life in Ilkley was very much different from that of today.

This feature is based on information gained from one of Ilkley's earliest guide books which was the forerunner of many to follow in an effort to promote the town as a tourist centre.

14.1.1993

Lister; Wheatsheaf, Church Street — Thomas Sargeant; Wheatley, Ben Rhydding — J Umpleby.

Hydropathic establishments: Ben Rhydding; Craiglands, Ilkley Wells House, Marlborough House, Rockwood House, Stoney Lea, The Spa and Troutbeck.

W S Bellerby and William Benson of Brook Street and Walter Cook of Church Street were the town's saddlers while James Dalby of Nelson Road served as a wheelwright.

Many photographs of Ilkley in bygone days were taken by Jesse Bontoft who at this time could be found in Brook Street (he later moved to Wells Road). Five coal merchants helped to provide the town's heating needs and ale was provided by two brewers — H Cutlack in Skipton Road and the Ilkley Brewery Company in aptly named Brewery Road.

Blacksmiths

There were three blacksmiths: Dean Bros of Nelson Road, James Ingle, of Railway Road and Robinson and Sons, of Cowpasture Road whilst there were five butchers and three chemists.

The Misses Milne of Belle Vue ran a College for Ladies which "afforded an education of a high order, based upon sound Christian principles, combined with the comforts of a well disciplined and happy home."

C W Shepherd, dispensing chemist of 3 Brook Street (established nearly half a century) offered the largest stock of perfumery and sponges in Wharfedale.

One of the town's newsagents and tobacconists was Thomas Kendal of 7 Church Street who also offered shaving, and hair cutting rooms whilst similar services were offered by his competitor John Lambert in Brook Street.

Ilkley's ironmongery needs were provided by G C Green in The Grove. He supplied fenders, fire irons, coal vases, iron bedsteads, cutlery and electro plated goods. Baths, perambulators and sewing machines were available on hire.

J Hudson was a practical boot and shoe maker in the centre of Brook Street and boasted the largest and cheapest selection of boots, shoes, and slippers in Wharfedale.

David Hanson, of Nelson Road served as the town's only chimney sweep and Wm Harrison, of Brewery Road was a corn miller.

The guide's directory provided a comprehensive list of those who lived in the town and there whereabouts.

A Wm Ackroyd could be found at 9 Weston Road, Jas Barran at 12 Railway Road, Thomas Crabtree at 8 Mount Pleasant and Edwin Horsfall at 16 Ash Grove.

The guide and directory was printed and published by Percy Lund and Co, of Ilkley.

Century of many changes

CENSUSES during the 19th century showed there was a dramatic rise in the number of houses and people living in Ilkley.

A census in 1811 showed a population of 459 people which, by the 1884 census, had risen to an estimated 5,000.

The early census revealed there were 78 houses but by 1884, this number had reached 930.

Censuses taken in the in-between years showed:

1851	—houses	155,	population	811.
1861	—197	—1043.		
1871	—397	—2511		
1881	—911	—4733.		

THE SIXPENNY ILKLEY GUIDE BOOK AND DIRECTORY



With Description of Bolton Priory & Woods

ILKLEY
PERCY LUND & CO., "THE COUNTRY PRESS"

Well served by traders

THE business life of the town and information about facilities and opening hours of banks, the post office, Local Board of Health Offices, the School Board and Ilkley Railway Station are revealed in the directory.

More than 250 traders and businesses are listed in the professional and trade section.

There were architects, auctioneers, berlin wool repositories, blacksmiths, brewers, coach builders, corn millers, drapers, gardeners and seedsmen, medical gentlemen, painters and paperhangers, photographers, saddlers, shoemakers, wheelwrights and tinplate workers.

The offices of the Local Board of Health were situated in The Grove where monthly meetings were held by 18 members.

The School Board also held their monthly meetings in the Board's offices and was composed of five members and the Poor Law officials who met fortnightly at Otley were: guardians Eli Ibberson, Joseph Lund, T Crabtree, overseers, George Newbould, Henry Ellis, and T J Pate as an assistant overseer.

The curator of Ilkley Cemetery in Leeds Road was Mr William Gill.

Places of workshop included: Parish Church — Vicar, the Rev Arthur C Downer.

St Margaret's Church — Vicar — the Rev W Danks.

Congregational Church, The Grove — Minister the Rev S D Hillman.

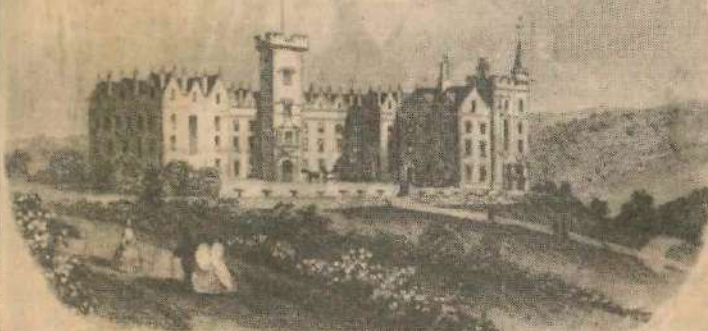
Wesleyan Church, Wells Road — Ministers the Rev Chas Dawe and the Rev E C Cowell.

Primitive Methodist Chapel, Leeds Road — Ministers supplied from the Otley circuit.

Catholic Chapel, Myddleton Lodge.

Catholic Church, Friends' Meeting house, Queens Road.

Christian Brethren, Skipton Road.



BEN Rhydding Hydropathic Establishment which was demolished in the early 1950s and the land sold for residential development.

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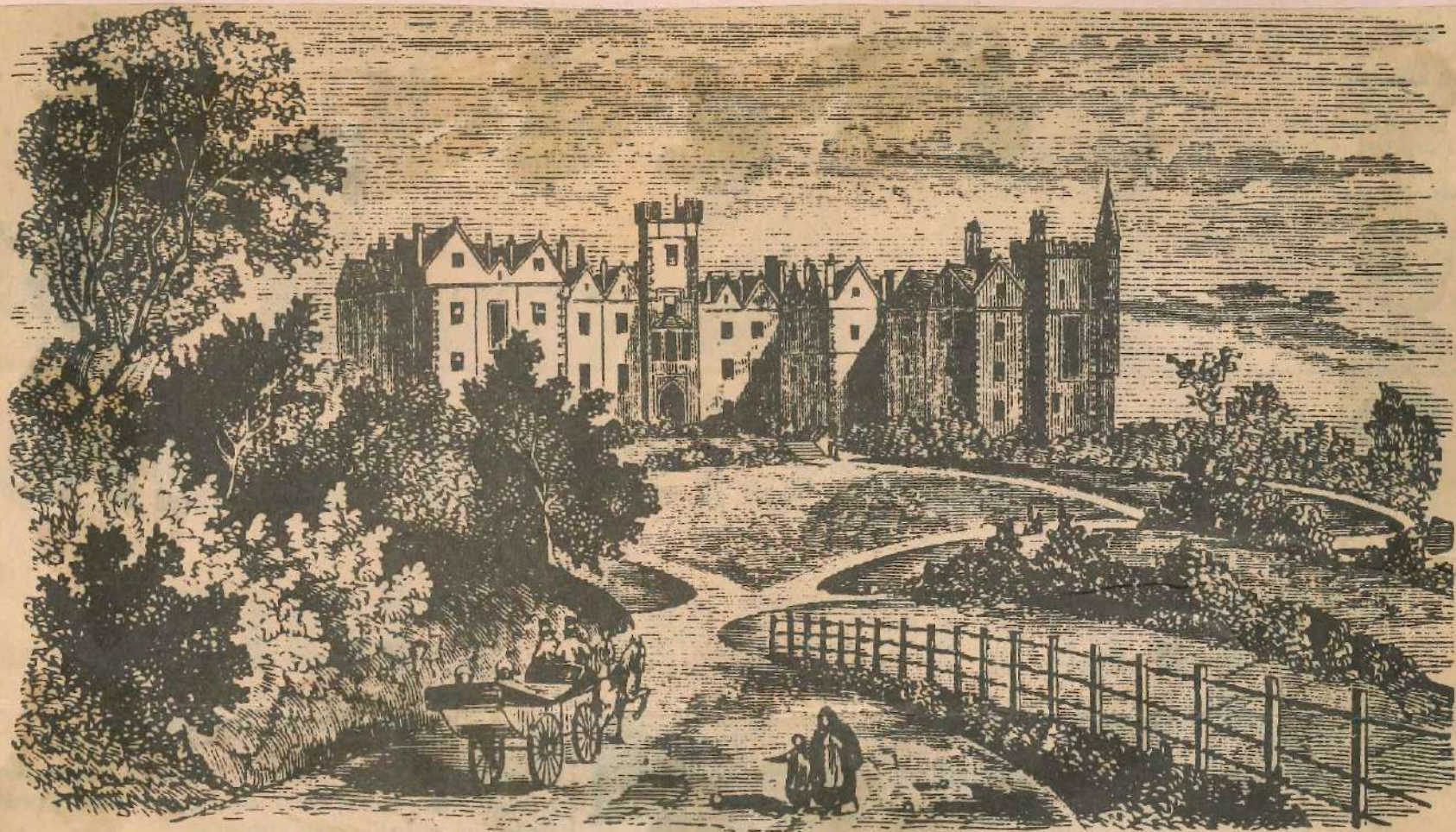
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Ben Rhydding, the hydropathic hotel which gave its name to the village.

THERE has been much discussion about the origin of the name **Ilkley**, particularly relating to its possible link with the Roman name of the town.

3. June 1993

Smith's Place Names of the West Riding of Yorkshire contains a number of references to scholarly debate on the subject.

Ilkley had been identified with the Roman settlement of Olicana, which is mentioned in Ptolemy's work of about 150AD on the locations of Roman settlements and roads. Most scholars accept this identification, which has been made on the basis of its position relative to other known places.

But no actual inscription confirming the name Olicana has ever been found.

The origin of the name Olicana is unclear. It may be associated with a personal name, Ollecnus, together with the ending 'ana', which is found in Roman river and place names.

Smith believed that the first syllable of the word Ilkley derived from Olicana, through early forms such as Hillicleg (occurring around 972) and Illicleia (1086). This would give the meaning 'forest glade or clearing near the British station of Olicana'.

Old name

Others thought the town's name came from the old English personal name Ylla, giving the meaning 'clearing of Ylla'.

Of simpler origin is Wheatley, the old name for BEN RHYDDING. First mentioned in the 13th century, Wheatley means 'clearing used for wheat'.

The name Ben Rhydding, which has come to replace it, was introduced by the builders of the Hydropathic Hotel of that name which was opened in 1844.

Because the station, which

WHAT'S in a name? That's a good question when it comes to streets and Ilkley is no exception. Here **DAVID CARPENTER**, local historian and author of *Ilkley*, the Victorian Era, reveals how certain roads in and around the town acquired their names.

was built on the newly-opened railway line to Ilkley, was partly financed by the Hydropathic Company, and its main function was to serve its visitors and staff, it seemed natural to call the station Ben Rhydding. Soon the name was being used for the village as well as the station and hydro.

Speight, quoting Dr Collyer, tells us that when Ben Rhydding was building in the 1840s, the founders were casting about for 'a good and ancient name' for it.

Ben Rhydding was suggested by Nancy Wharton, of the Wheatshaf Inn, as the old name of the upland on which Ben Rhydding is built. The name itself probably originates from the personal name Ben, followed by ridding or clearing.

Memorandum

Other ancient hamlets include **WOODHOUSE**, first noted around 1300 as 'house in the wood'.

The experts are less certain about **Todthorpe**, a lost hamlet



A visitor takes the waters at The Wells in the 1850s.

underneath the Cow and Calf Rocks, near the present house of that name on Cowpasture Lane. Thorpe means 'outlying farmstead', and Tod may come from the old English 'tade' meaning toad, or a nickname based on this word.

The name Middleton is straightforward. First mentioned in a memorandum concerning the estates of the Archbishop of York in 972, it means simply 'middle farmstead'.

What is more difficult to work out is what exactly it stood in the middle of! Perhaps it was seen as halfway between the hamlet of Stubham, close to the valley bottom, and Middleton Moor Houses, at the very edge of the moor.

Nesfield, first mentioned in the Domesday Book in 1086, is thought to mean 'lowest stretch of open country', or possibly

'the stretch of open country for cattle'.

Other ancient local names on the north side of the river include Austby, 'the east farmstead'; Langbar, 'the long hill'; Scalewray (a lost hamlet which stood on the site of the Myddelton Lodge) 'nook of land with a shieling' (a shieling being summer pasture for cattle away from the valley bottom), and Stubham, 'at the tree stumps'.

No reference

Most street names in and around Ilkley are much more modern in origin, but some hint at earlier times.

Unlike Smith's comprehensive work on West Riding names, we have no work or reference to turn to, and must use our knowledge of the locality to suggest possible sources of the many and varied names we now take for granted.

Different times have brought with them different fashions, but from the mid-19th century, the hand of the speculative landlord or builder anxious to present property in the best light can be seen.

The earliest examples in Ilkley are the terraces of Belle View and Mount Pleasant, dating from around 1840. More recent examples include Dale View, Beamsley View, Ash Close, Cherry Grove, Woodlands Grove and the none too subtle Haywain and Premiere Park.

Patriotic feeling has provided us with many names, ranging from the belligerent Trafalgar Road, Nelson Road, Nile Road, Victory Road, Gordon Street and Wellington Road, to many names inspired by the monarchy - such as Queen's Drive, Queen's Road, Victoria Avenue, King's Road and Alexandra Crescent.

ILKLEY owed much of its success as a health resort to the unrivalled purity of its water supply.

There were four reservoirs at Weary Hill, 1,000 feet above sea level, with a storage capacity of 40,000 gallons; Hill Top, 600 feet, capacity 160,000 gallons; Old Reservoir, 500 feet, capacity 75,000 gallons and the Wells Tank, about 400 feet, capacity 25,000 gallons.

The estimated daily supply from the springs already impounded was 300,000 gallons, or 30 gallons per head for a population of 10,000. The principal streams yielded in summer 141,926 gallons, and in winter 399,400 gallons, in 24 hours; the far famed Ilkley Wells Spring heading the list with a summer yield of 39,660 gallons, and a winter yield of 110,800 gallons, in 24 hours.

The Ilkley Waterworks, which were previously in the possession of a private

company, were purchased by the Local Board on behalf of the inhabitants in 1871.

A Chalybeate Spring was a recent addition to the healing powers of Ilkley about this time.

It was discovered in June, 1883, by Mr T C Gill, manor bailiff to the Lord of the Manor. He was passing along the top of Heber's Ghyll when his feet stuck in some boggy ground and on withdrawing them, he noticed that they were coated with a reddish deposit.

His curiosity was aroused, and on making an examination of the place, he found the outlet of a spring hidden among ferns and undergrowth.

He inserted a drain-pipe and mentioned this to Mr G Newbould, who took the trouble to have the water analysed, the result being that a most valuable medicinal spring was made known.

The spring was 800 feet above sea level and nearly opposite the ancestral home of the Middletons.



93.
The Old Bridge which dates back to the 17th century replaced one described as a cheap, inartistic, convenient, but insecure concern which was washed away in the great flood of 1673.



A view of The Grove from the top of Brook Street.



Brook Street, Ilkley, pictured when three inns stood at the junction with Leeds Road/Church Street. They were the Wheatsheaf, the old Star and the Wharfedale. The Station Hotel, which stood

half way down Brook Street (left of picture), was demolished to make way for the Ilkley to Skipton railway which was opened in 1888.

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Check your street's origins

I AM sure that some readers must know the origin of names which remain a mystery to me.

Who were Rupert and Clifford, who have roads named after them in Middleton? Were they connected to Lionel, Lionel Crescent being the original name for the bottom end of Curley Hill?

And what of the unusual Owlter Park Road?

Some names are less of a mystery:

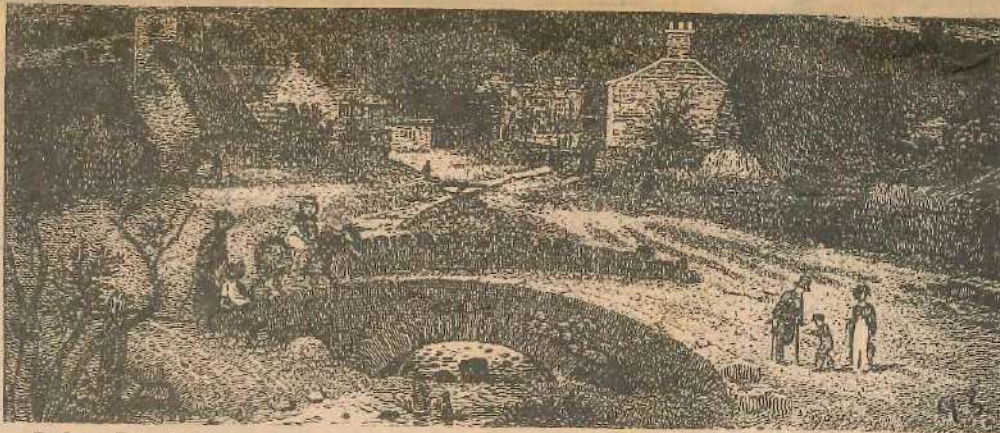
BACKSTONE WAY - Near the sadly urbanised remains of Backstone Beck. Is this a miniature version of what the Wharfe would look like if the National Rivers Authority ever get their way with the proposed flood defences? Backstone Beck was so named because it was once a source of bakesstones, which were flat stones on which cakes were baked in an oven.

BEANLANDS PARADE - This comes from the Beanlands family who held land nearby. They remained prominent Ilkley residents from the 17th into the present century.

BOLLING ROAD - The Bolling family came to Ilkley in the late 17th century and rented a farm later known as Bolling Farm, on property owned by Sedburgh School

BREWERY ROAD - From the Ilkley Brewery and Aerated Water Company set up in 1873. The original buildings remain nearby.

BRIDGE LANE - This road must once have seen a lot of traffic, for until the late 19th century it led to the only bridge across the Wharfe between Ilkley and Bolton.



Before Brook Street was laid out, Mill Ghyll ran straight through the middle of the village of Ilkley.

BROOK STREET - Constructed in the 1840s when Mill Ghyll was culverted.

CASTLE ROAD, CASTLE YARD - From the Roman fort nearby, or the Manor House, which was known as the astle in Victorian times.

CHANNY DRIVE - Like Sedburgh Park, an invention of late 19th century planners and estate agents, who were selling the school lands in Ilkley, which had once been part of the Chantry of St Nicholas.

CHAPEL LANE - The old Methodist Chapel, now part of Glovers Garage, was in use from 1834 to the late 1860s.

CONSTABLE ROAD - The Middleton's estates in Ilkley passed through the female line to William Constable, who took the name of Middleton on succeeding to the estates in 1763.

COPPYWOOD DRIVE - From Coppy (coppiced) Wood, not far away.

COWPASTURE ROAD - This road ran through the town's cowpastures, which were enclosed in 1858.

CUNLIFFE ROAD - The Cunliffes were a prominent Ilkley family from the late 17th century.

GOLDEN BUTTS ROAD - From a field name nearby, a butt often being a left over bit of land. But why Golden?

THE GROVE - Green Lane, which was the old name for the lane on this site, must have seemed inappropriate to the architects of the modern carriageway in the late 1860s. So the humble lane was given a new name to go with its grander status.

HARDINGS LANE - From the field name, Hard Ing - ie a difficult patch to cultivate.

HAWKSWORTH STREET - Billy Hawksworth had a farm between this street and Brook Street in the mid-19th century.

HEBERS GHYLL DRIVE,

HEBERS GROVE - A reminder of the Heber family, who were residents of Hollin Hall during the 17th and 18th centuries.

HYDRO CLOSE - On the site of Ben Rhydding Hydro-pathic Hotel, opened in 1844 and demolished in the 1950s.

LISTER STREET - The Listers were another prominent Ilkley family.

LONGCROFT ROAD - The local field name Longcroft probably took its name from the ancient building still standing, which bears the datestone of 1671. With an adjacent barn, it would have formed a long and low farmstead.

MANLEY ROAD, MANLEY GROVE, MANLEY RISE - The Middletons married into the Manley family of Spofforth Hall, near Wetherby, in 1853 and 1900.

MARGERISON ROAD - The Margerison family were well-to-do townspeople who first

came to Ilkley in the early 18th century.

MARLBOROUGH GROVE - From Marlborough House, a hydropathic hotel opened in the 1870s and was demolished around 1970.

MAXWELL ROAD - The Maxwells were related to the Middletons through marriages in 1758 and 1840.

SEDBURGH PARK - Sedburgh School owned extensive estates in Ilkley which they had been granted in 1551 by King Edward VI. These estates had previously been part of the chantry of St Nicholas in Ilkley Church, which had been abolished during the reformation. The school still held substantial estates in late Victorian times.

SPRINGS LANE - From field names in the vicinity.

STOCKELD ROAD - Names after the Middleton's main residence in Stockeld Park, near Wetherby.

STOURTON ROAD - Peter Middleton, Lord of the Manor of Ilkley, married Juliana, daughter of the 17th Baron Stourton, in 1812.

STUBHAM RISE - Much of the area we now know as Middleton was once called Stubham. A map of 1906-7 shows that Stubham Rise was the name of the upper part of Curly Hill.

WELLS ROAD, WELLS PROMENADE, WELLS WALK - White Wells was commonly called 'The Wells' in Victorian times and these roads lead towards it.

WHEATLEY LANE, WHEATLEY ROAD etc - From the original name of Ben Rhydding.

CELEBRATIONS FOR CORONATION



27.493.

WEDNESDAY, June 2 marks the 40th anniversary of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. Celebrations throughout the land included bonfires, fancy dress parades, tea parties, dances and sports. Among the many activities held in Ilkley to commemorate this historic event all those years ago in 1953 was a fancy dress parade, pictured here passing Ilkley Railway Station.

1995

Atiquarian Society now established 100 Years Ago

AFTER three years of sheer hard work and continuous plodding on the part of a small band of interested workers, the Ilkley Museum and Antiquarian Society had been put on a sound footing by April, 1895. Its object was to better preserve the objects of local antiquarian and archaeological interest found in Ilkley. The society was to provide a resting place for objects relating to the early history of the area which had been fast disappearing to other districts from one end of the country to the other. During the previous two years £40 had been collected in pence from admission fees charged to about 500 visitors.

ILKLEY was divided into four wards with three members to be elected for each it was decided by the Boundaries Committee of the West Riding County Council.

ILKLEY'S annual fancy dress ball took place at the Craiglunds Hotel when 130 guests appeared in costumes which were varied, bright and fresh but which were somewhat lacking in originality.

THE Rev William Thompson, who was born in Addingham and became Rector of the village, died in April 1895. He was appointed Rector in 1840 in succession to his father and was still Rector when he died 55 years later.

BOLTON Abbey Amateur Dramatic Party chose Goldsmith's well known comedy 'She Stoops to Conquer' to present to a packed audience in the Boyle and Petyt Schoolroom.

Curate from the outback 75 Years Ago

IN late April 1920, the Rev Brian Robin returned as senior curate at St Margaret's Church, Ilkley, after spending six years working with the Bush Brotherhood in North Queensland, Australia. He said that coming back from that far outpost of the Empire, which was hardly touched by the war, he could not help feeling like a Rip-Van-Winkle who had slept through a great epoch of national redemption and had missed chances taken by those who lived in the heart of the Empire.

ILKLEY Cycling Club, practically non-existent since 1914, was revived under interesting circumstances. An attempt to revive the club was made the previous Summer, but the



THIS scene of wheat sheaves on the East Holmes at Ilkley in the late 1940s is a reminder of an almost forgotten way of harvesting in the Ilkley district. After mechanisation in farming and the combine harvester, it is many years since wheat sheaves were stacked in this way. The land now forms part of the riverside recreational facilities but shortly after the 1939-45 war, the East Holmes field was put into use for growing food.

response was small. This time, however, the President of the club, Mr J W Dixon, invited the old members to join him in a 'way-side meal' at Miss Taylor's Cafe in New Brook Street. The meal turned out to be an excellent repast and members voted overwhelmingly to continue the organisation.

THE extraordinary growth in popularity of the Wharfedale Music Festival was an outstanding feature of the musical life of the valley. In 1920, the 14th annual festival which opened in the King's Hall in Ilkley had the phenomenal figure of 2,400 competitors. If ever public spirited enthusiasm reaped its reward in success then surely the promoters of the festival had so reaped.

AN unexpected difficulty arose in connection with the intended visit to Ilkley of the Urban District Councils' Association. The whole visit was seriously endangered because of the difficulty of securing accommodation for the delegates. The larger hotels and hydros were expected to be exceptionally full of visitors and if accommodation was not found, the whole conference was to be held elsewhere. If such a step were taken, the loss to Ilkley's prestige - apart from the financial loss - would be serious.

War prisoner speaks out 50 Years Ago

IN late April 1945, Lieutenant Colonel G D Castelli of Pawpots, Middleton, Ilkley, returned home from a German prison camp with some strong commentary about his experiences. "I want to make it perfectly clear what absolute swine these Germans are. I know all about them. I was captured in the last war, and again in this and they are worse than ever they were," he said.

A LARGE audience of servicemen and civilians saw excellent entertainment in Ilkley's Kings Hall when the T T Divisional Concert Party and Stage Band made an appearance. The party had been in existence for five years and had put on shows in 15 different countries. They were in the retreat from El Alamein and played to divisions in Egypt, Sicily, Italy, France, Holland and Belgium.

ILKLEY Youth Club was fortunate in securing a guest artist for their Friday night social, a popular singing electric-guitarist, Johnny Rex, from Scotland. Mr Rex was responsible for the formation of the musical combination known as 'Johnny Rex and his Hawaiians' in Scotland. Mr Rex promised to pay another visit to Ilkley Youth Club in the near future, and members were looking forward to hearing once again his 'Hawaiian War Chant' which he succeeded in putting across with such vigour.

"YOU cannot take one part of a fowl for cooking and leave the other part to lay eggs." This sanscrit proverb was quoted by Sir Robert Clough of Keighley, the well known Bradford stockbroker, when he addressed the Ilkley Rotary Club on the subject of 'Finance and Friendship'.

A PLEA for preferential treatment of residents over visitors, in the purchase of bread, confectionery, food and fish was advanced at a meeting of the Ilkley Chamber of Trade.

Changes are slammed 25 Years Ago

DEMOCRATIC local government was being led 'like a lamb to the slaughter' said Coun R P Bushell, chairman of Ilkley Urban District Council, at a meeting in April 1970. His

comments came in the face of radical changes to the structure of local government proposed by Westminster. These involved the absorption of the Ilkley authority by what is now Bradford Council.

ILKLEY Rugby Union Football Club ended the season on a high note by beating Skipton 34-4. The first half of their game saw Ilkley cross their opponents line three times. Two of the tries were disallowed, but the third, created by Davey and scored by Lockwood, was good. In the second half the attack was intensified and Skipton suffered heavily at the hands of try scorers Wilcock, Willerton, Dixon, Walker and Lockwood.

A COMPARISON of the weather in April 1995 with comments made in the Gazette 25 years ago suggests Yorkshire is influenced by a 25-year cycle. A columnist wrote: "From the beginning of the year there has been little sorrow about each departing month and April goes with no regrets. Its final week has produced snow, hail and torrential rain."

AN American couple wrote an open letter to the people of Ilkley praising their warmth and hospitality. Ray and Madeline Green, of DelMar, California, lived in the town for six months in a leased home. During that time they experienced 'friendship, warmth and dignity' from residents who were of 'true blooded English character'.

DELAYS to the construction of a badly needed extension caused Ilkley Grammar School to adopt contingency plans to deal with overcrowding. At a meeting of the school's board of governors head teacher Richard Hughes said this would mean teaching selected 12-year-olds and all 13-year-olds at facilities in Bolling Road. Three temporary classrooms would be provided at this site and others would be placed beside the tennis courts in the school's Cowpasture Road grounds, he added.

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Call for protection to be extended

14/12/95
"THE NIDDERDALE Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) should be extended south to the River Wharfe in Ilkley, a councillor has told a public inquiry.

Ilkley Councillor Anne Hawkesworth says that an extension of the boundary would afford the area of Middleton Woods and Middleton Hill extra protection against planning blight.

But Bradford Council planners have argued that adequate steps have been taken to protect the quality and character of the landscape.

As it now stands, the Southern boundary of the designated AONB lies along the administrative boundary between Bradford district and the county of North Yorkshire.

But Coun Hawkesworth believes that it is not legitimate to apply political boundaries to areas of outstanding natural beauty.

She said that a suggested route for the now scrapped Ilkley bypass raised concerns about in-fill development in Middleton, which lies just South of the AONB.

"If the area had been designated as a AONB it would have ensured that any landscaping on a road like that would have to have been completed to a high specification," said Coun Hawkesworth.

"The designation of the area as an AONB would also have alleviated the threat of any in-

fill development when the road was a probability," she added.

But the Countryside Commission have said that the boundaries of the Nidderdale AONB were subject to extensive consultation only two years ago and it was unlikely that there will be any boundary review within the foreseeable future.

The area in question forms part of the south facing slopes of the Wharfe Valley between the residential areas of Curley Hill and the district boundary.

It contains the ancient woodland of Middleton Woods and several fields. Middleton Estate is located within the area as well as a number of individual farms and other properties.

Council planners have stated that under the Bradford Unitary Development Plan, the area's status as a Special Landscape Area would provide it with enough protection to conserve its natural beauty.

"Extending the AONB status to the area is inappropriate and cannot be justified. The Council is taking positive action to conserve and enhance its natural beauty and the Countryside Commission are content with the existing boundary," said planning officer Paul Gough.

The Department of the Environment inspector is expected to deliver her report on the objection to the UDP within the next 18 months.

Roof tiles stolen at moor spa

2.11.1995

ABOUT 200 Yorkshire stone tiles worth a total of £2,500 have been stolen from the roof of the famous White Wells spa building on Ilkley Moor.

The crime-plagued listed building has consequently been left looking like an air-raid target.

Insp Stephen Hobson of Keighley police said the theft occurred between Sunday tea-time and Tuesday lunchtime.

The suspects are believed to have driven a truck or van up to the site. Having ripped off the tiles and loaded up the vehicle they then simply drove away. The haul will probably be used to re-roof another property or could end up as patio paving.

"It's just never ending," said Richard Perham, a project officer for Bradford Council's countryside service which runs White Wells as a tourist centre. As a result the authority is now seriously considering the possibility of getting somebody to live in the building permanently.

White Wells has been burgled at least twice in the past six months by thieves who raided the till in its cafe and removed coins dropped into its plunge pool for good luck by walkers.

Gas works site store 'will benefit town'

ILKLEY'S second supermarket is to be built on the site of semi-derelict gas works in Leeds Road - despite a strong show of objections from residents and local groups.

The decision to approve the store was made last Thursday by Bradford Council's Keighley Area Planning sub-committee.

Work on the site for the £6 million store, owned by North-West based grocer E H Booth, is expected to start shortly. Occupying 30,000 sq ft, the store will also have parking facilities for 220 cars and around 100 jobs are expected to be created at the store.

Coun Jack Womersley, chairman of Bradford Council's Town and Country policies and plans committee told the Gazette that a number of issues had been taken into account while examining uses for the gas works site.

Coun Womersley said: "There were a range of issues that were considered. The land was going to be vacated by British Gas and we were looking for another use for it.

"One issue raised was that this is a 'risk' location, having gas tanks on it. We looked at what would make a better neighbourhood for the people who live around there.

by Alistair Walton

"The main issue that came up at the committee was pollution. Environmentally, it was felt that there may be more pollution produced but there could be less because people would be travelling locally," he said.

Ilkley Parish Coun Roy Fox, who was one of many objectors to the scheme on the grounds that pollution could be increased, said that Bradford Council had been legally obliged to grant it permission.

6.7.95

Health grounds

"If they had refused the development, it could have cost Bradford Council £1 million.

"There is no legislation set down anywhere where it could be refused on health legislation. We are way behind Europe, in that case," he said.

But a spokesman for E H Booth said that the store was set to boost the town: "The company remains a family business owned and run by the Booth family who still consider themselves to be grocers and do not

sell other goods.

"They are investing more than £6 million in Ilkley and this in itself is an indication of their faith in the town as a shopping centre.

"The new store will provide a boost to Ilkley, retaining many shoppers within the town who would otherwise do their main shopping in other centres," he said.

The spokesman said that the project was in keeping with Bradford Council's Unitary Development Plan (UDP), the planning blueprint for Ilkley and that the store would actually occupy a smaller space than was designated for the site.

He said: "The store and its location conform with current Government and Planning guidelines - the site was recognised as such in the draft UDP; Booth's Stores are considerably smaller than many of the national foodstore operators and hence the site is smaller than that designated in the UDP.

"Booth's are the kind of family run business that will be totally compatible with Ilkley - many people will know of their stores in Windermere, Carnforth and Clitheroe, all related to, or on the edge of, the town centres and providing a great asset and attraction in the towns," he said.

Aerial view shows how open land has disappeared

by Matthew Catling

Oct. 1995.

THIS aerial picture of 1965 reveals how open land has steadily disappeared over the years in Ilkley.

Fears that the town was becoming a concrete jungle would then have seemed ridiculous.

But developers have steadily reduced the amount of open space to the point where proposals in Bradford Council's latest Unitary Development Plan (UDP) have created a storm of protest.

A row over calculations used to justify the UDP has now created even more controversy.

Ilkley district councillor Anne Hawkesworth said: "I think they have used figures that are misleading to prove a point."

Unitary Development Plan guidelines suggest that there should be 0.6 to 0.8 hectares of recreational land for every 1,000 people in a given area.

Bradford Council initially said there were 2,545 people living in Ben Rhydding and worked out that the area needed 2.0 hectares of recreational land. It claims that there are in fact 3.3 hectares of such land available in the area.

But Coun Hawkesworth pointed out that there were 3,700 people on the 1989 electoral register and that this did not include those under 18.

The planning department of City Hall conceded that it had used a different definition of Ben Rhydding's boundaries and on inspection found it actually had 4,102 residents.

But it says the equation still stands because even with the revised figure it needs 3.2 hectares of recreational land.

Coun Hawkesworth also maintains that 50 per cent of land which the authority says is suitable for recreational purposes is scrubland.

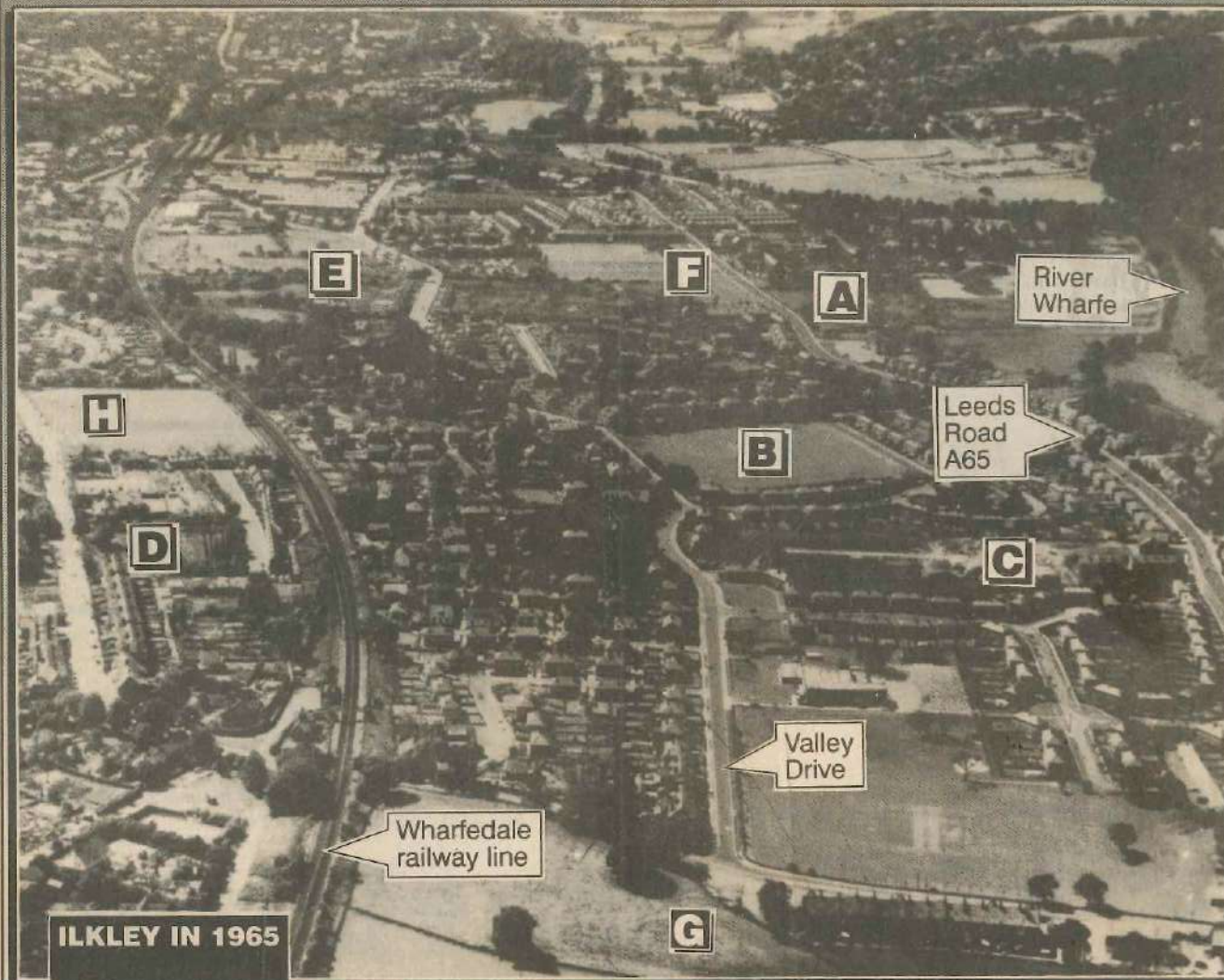
Ilkley parish councillor Barbara Cussons supported this claim with an attack on the inclusion in the equation of 1,500 square metres of land at Wheatley Raikes opposite Ben Rhydding Golf Club.

But a planning department spokesman said Wheatley Raikes had been recognised as recreational land since the 1950s.

"It is important to remember that the figures are guidelines and we must remember that houses in Ben Rhydding have large gardens and the moors are nearby," he said.

● Picture by C H Wood of Bradford.

HOW GREEN WAS OUR VALLEY?



Land built upon since 1965:

- A** Riverside Business Park
- B** International Wool Secretariat
- C** Moor Court
- D** Houses
- E** Fire Station and houses

Land targeted for sell-off/development in Bradford Council's Unitary Development Plan:

- F** Ashlands First School - fields earmarked for housing
- G** Employment Park, off Wheatley Lane
- H** Bolling Road First School - one quarter of four acre playing field earmarked for housing



CHANGES continue to occur in business and trade in Ilkley. Manor Barn Country Furniture, of Addingham, have opened a shop at the junction of Brook Street and Church Street.

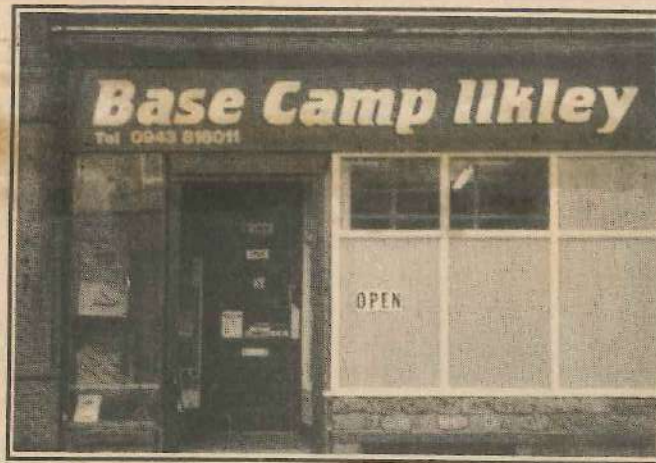
The move is intended to provide a shop window for the company's extensive stocks of original, antique and hand-made furniture currently on display in

their Addingham showrooms.

Sales director John Bradford said:

"People are attracted to Ilkley from far and wide and by opening a shop here we will be able to put our craftsmanship in front of a much wider audience.

"We will also be able to direct visitors to our shop along to our main showrooms where we now have something like over 500 pieces of furniture on display," he



said.

Meanwhile, in Leeds Road, the Base Camp mountaineering shop has fitted a new set of front windows to replace the one smashed last year.

The shop owner, David Hall, decided to apply for planning permission to split the front window into sections in an attempt to make it stronger and less expensive to repair if damaged.



Nearby at number five Leeds Road, a new Cantonese-style hot food takeaway called The Lemon Tree is expected to open shortly.

Elsewhere the White Mischief bridalwear shop in Ilkley's Church Street appears to be empty.

No comment was available from the business owners at the time of the Gazette going to press.

ARCHERY club members are hoping a former toilet in Hebers Ghyll Wood, Ilkley will become a convenient storage place for them.

Members of the ten-strong Aire and Wharfedale Archers club want to have

their own target store in the disused public toilet in the wood.

They have applied to lease the public toilet from Bradford Council which owns the building.

Club secretary Malcolm Carr, of

Bradford, said that the club has been using the wood for practice and to hold twice-yearly competitions with other members of the National Field Archery Society for the last three years.

He said that the toilets (pictured below)

were open when the club first started using the wood but had since been closed down by owners, Bradford Council.

The club specialises in field archery - using targets set up in rough ground and woodland rather than on open ground.

"We contacted the council with the intention of buying the toilets because we wanted to use it as a store and a private toilet - but the council decided they did not want to sell it," said Mr Carr.

Lease

He said that the club then applied to lease the building and has applied for planning permission to change the use of the building.

If the plan goes ahead, club members who come from places including Bradford, Menston and Otley, will clean the toilet up and repaint it.

They would then use it to store their home-made cardboard and foam targets. Mr Carr stressed that no expensive archery equipment would be stored in the building.

He said that the club was waiting to hear from Bradford Council's property services division to see if the plan could be passed successfully.



White Wells improvements will increase its potential

9.3.1995.

SIR, - Mr Hewitt (Gazette February 23) asks what benefit there will be to him as a Council Tax payer from the installation of electricity at White Wells on Ilkley Moor.

He will probably find that it will save the council from greater expense in the future.

Like all property owners, the council must look after its property. White Wells is currently damp and frequently the target of burglary and vandalism. Only a couple of months ago a substantial proportion of the roof was stripped by thieves.

At the moment it is impossible to keep the building properly warm and dry or to install an alarm system simply because there is no electricity.

Mr Hewitt believes that White Wells is not used for eight or nine months of the year. Clearly he has not been up there recently or he would have discovered that it is opened every Saturday and Sunday by volunteer rangers (such as myself) from the Countryside Commission.

He says that he will not be surprised if a telephone is installed. He is quite right, as

the additional costs of installing all mains services is very small once the decision has been taken to install electricity.

The main cost of installation is digging the trench in which to lay the cables and pipes, so whilst it is being done for one service it makes sense to install them all.

Mr Hewitt may well benefit from this. If while he is walking on the moor he has an accident, it will be a great relief to him that a telephone is available at White Wells from which to summon assistance, rather than have to go down into town.

More to the point, once there is a phone and all the other services at White Wells the building will have much more potential for use as a base by the Countryside Service.

If Mr Hewitt visits White Wells in the near future he will see other renovation work going on. Doubtless he will be pleased to know that the labour is being supplied at no charge by volunteer rangers of the Countryside Service.

OWEN WELLS
23 Eaton Road,
Ilkley



ONE of Ilkley's well known liveryies during the last century was Wells House Stables | Wells Road where cabs and carriages could be hired.

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Grove Hospital is on the market

HEALTH chiefs have put Ilkley's defunct Grove Convalescent Hospital on the market.

For two years the Victorian building has remained boarded up while arguments about its future raged and a succession of possible health-care uses were put forward by campaigners who wanted it reopened. None materialised.

Consequently, at last week's board meeting of the Airedale National Health Service (NHS) Trust, which owns the hospital, it was decided to sell the choice town-centre land which it occupies.

Craig Oates, the trust's business manager, said: "We've now taken the decision to declare it as surplus to requirements."

"Our plans are developed in partnership with our purchasers, Bradford Health Authority, and there is no place for The Grove in these plans. We can't keep an empty building that we have to maintain.

by Matthew Catling

"I suspect it would be wanted for either retail or residential use. Our preference would be residential use. It's certainly not in the best interests of Ilkley to have a closed hospital in the middle of the town."

Ilkley district councillor Martin Smith, a member of The Grove Hospital Action Committee which fought to keep the hospital open, said: "After all the battles that we've had regarding the retention of hospital beds in the Wharfe Valley, obviously we're upset. But I would sooner have the building occupied and used."

Although it dates back to 1829, The Grove Convalescent Hospital is not a listed building. It is, however, in a conservation area and this makes it almost impossible for developers to demolish the building.

The site is designated as suitable for housing in Bradford Council's Unitary Development Plan, a long-term planning blueprint for the Bradford District. It is therefore likely that any future buyer would convert the hospital into residential units.

Land in front of the building leading on to The Grove has been categorised as Urban Green Space and is therefore protected from future development. Likewise, tree preservation orders affecting the hospital grounds would make it difficult to construct additional buildings.

Only a narrow 0.68 hectare strip of land at the back of the building - the former site of a nursery - has real potential for further development.

Legislation

Mr Oates expects the hospital to be advertised within 'the next few months' and added that money made from the sale would be ploughed back into the Airedale NHS Trust which is also trying to sell Scalebor Park Hospital at Burley-in-Wharfedale.

The former psychiatric hospital closed on March 31 and, in accordance with planning legislation for green belt land, is currently on the market for institutional use.

Over the past two years proposed uses for the Grove Convalescent Hospital have included: community hospital serving the Wharfe Valley after purchase by a 'mystery' neighbouring NHS trust; mental health care centre for the Wharfe Valley set up by Bradford Community Health NHS Trust; and base for a Wharfe Valley Community Mental Health Team following the closure of Scalebor Park psychiatric hospital.



The interior of the former Ilkley railway station, part of the site which has been sold for £410,000.

by Matthew Catling

director, Tom Orange.

A 'guide price' of between £400,000 and £450,000 was set for the land by auctioneers Roy Pugh and Company of Preston.

But there were initially no takers when bidding was opened at £400,000 in a packed room at the Forte Crest Hotel in Brighouse.

"Serious bidding started at about £200,000 and it went on from there. It went up steadily

and gradually people dropped out.

Towards the end there were ourselves and two other serious bidders at that level," added Mr Orange.

The Station Plaza site was one of 40 from all over the North of England previously owned by British Rail and put under the hammer because they were 'surplus to requirements'.

The freehold of the land is subject to a 125 year lease dating from June 1989. Ilkley and Peterborough Properties Ltd previously paid 12.5 per cent of the total rent gathered from businesses housed in its buildings to British Rail.

This amounted to an annual sum of £27,450 raised from 10 businesses who pay a total of

£219,600 per year in rent.

They include the travel agent Going Places in Brook Street; Mackays clothes shop in Station Road; the Post Office; the Pizza Margherita restaurant; and the Kwik Save supermarket.

The site also includes the car park opposite the station platforms - with room for 100 vehicles - and Woolworths, Thurston's the Baker, what was Muggins dry-cleaners, and the Dorothy Perkins clothes shop, all in Brook Street.

But because Ilkley and Peterborough Properties had paid a premium on these buildings they were held for a 'peppercorn' ground rent and British Rail therefore had no claim to 12.5 per cent of their tenancy rent.

THE 2.03 acres occupied by the Station Plaza has been sold for £410,000 in one of Ilkley's biggest town centre land auctions this century.

It is now owned by Ilkley and Peterborough Properties Ltd, the same company which owns the buildings occupying the site.

"It's now completely in our control. We're extremely happy about this," said its



The roof is removed from Semon Home in Ilkley. Picture by Philip Bambridge

Semon Home comes down

DEMOLITION work has begun on the Semon Home, a former convalescent home at the edge of Ilkley Moor which is making way for 18 new houses.

Since the plans were put forward, controversy has surrounded the fate of the home in Westwood Drive which was built in 1875 and was closed down in 1992 by Bradford Council after it was claimed that the premises could not be brought up to new government standards.

Representatives from the Westwood and Panorama Drive residents Association, a spokesman for the Yorkshire Dales Society, Ilkley District Councillors and Ilkley MP Gary Waller have all voiced concern over the fate of the home and the new development to come.

The Department of the Environment imposed

a temporary freeze on the plans by Bradford-based developer Victor Homes, but planning permission was finally approved.

● **OUTLINE** planning permission has been granted to nearly double the capacity of a nursing home in Westwood Drive.

Pro Care Ltd, owner of the Overdale Nursing Home have been granted permission to build a two-storey extension to the Victorian building to house 25 extra beds - but will have to make a further application to finalise specific details, such as the building's architecture and appearance.

New health regulations mean that the Debyshire-based company has been forced to alter accommodation as residents will no longer be allowed to share rooms.

BRADFORD Council is hoping to use national lottery grants to fund the refurbishment of Ilkley's Kings Hall and adjoining Winter Gardens, the Gazette can reveal.

The news coincides with the announcement by a charity that the building has become too 'shabby' to stage its next fund-raising Christmas ball.

For years Ilkley councillors and residents have complained about the condition of what is one of the town's largest and most important public buildings.

Their criticism has focused on five points:

- Dilapidated toilets.
 - Peeling wallpaper.
 - The need for interior repainting.
 - Leaks in the roof.
 - The need for a restructured and improved reception area.
- Bradford Council has always answered that money for such

work simply is not available and a spokesman for its recreation division confirmed this yesterday.

But he said a survey of the building in Station Road was being carried out by council architects and continued:

"On the strength of the survey they will detail what a refurbishment should include and the amount it will cost. We are then looking to attract funding from external sources. One location will be the national lottery."

He added that as a grade two listed building used to stage a variety of cultural events the Kings Hall/Winter Gardens could qualify for money from the lottery's arts or heritage grant-making bodies.

Should money be awarded the spokesman said groups which regularly use the building would be consulted on how to spend it. However, he stressed that his department's first priority would be to look at toilets and access facilities for the disabled.

In the meantime, the decision by the Ilkley Rotaract Club to transfer its 1995 Christmas Ball to the Craiglands Hotel is the latest expression of dissatisfaction with the situation. The charity has held the event at the the Kings Hall for the past nine years.

Fewer people

Vice-president Fiona Buckley said: "The Kings Hall is just so shabby. People coming to our dos have complained, particularly about the ladies toilets. There's paint peeling off the walls, it's just a mess."

She said that as a result Rotaract balls were attracting fewer people and added that the run-down condition of the building also encouraged rowdiness and misbehaviour among some revellers.

"We don't really want to go because we like the Kings Hall, but if people aren't prepared to come we don't have any choice. It is such a shame."

"However, we've provisionally picked the Kings Hall for next year's ball on the assumption something will have been done about it by then."

Ilkley parish councillor Roland Hill said the hall was maintained reasonably well compared to similar facilities in other towns but agreed that a refurbishment would be welcomed.

He added that one of its main problems was the stiff competition it now faced from the revamped Craiglands Hotel. to redressing the balance.

"It would be a disaster if it deteriorated further."



The last remnants of Semon Home are demolished

DEMOLITION of Semon Home in Westwood Drive on the edge of Ilkley Moor has revealed panoramic views of Langbar and Middleton, visible for the first time since the building was completed in the 1870s.

The home is being demolished to make way for 18 new houses to be built by Bradford-based developer Victor Homes. It was previously owned and run by Bradford Council as a convalescent home until it was closed in 1992.

The issue of whether the home could be saved aroused strong feelings, with objections lodged from the Westwood and Panorama Drive Residents' Association.

A temporary freeze on the plans was imposed by the Department of the Environment but removed as final approval was granted.

Ilkley Parish Council members suggested Semon Close and Panorama View as a possible name for the site, while the developer is said to have suggested 'Fairways'.

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PLANNERS have designated 60 acres of land once occupied by Middleton Hospital a 'green belt employment site', the Gazette can reveal.

This move creates an obstacle to those who may wish to develop the area for residential use.

But it enables the site to be used for a number of other purposes. These include acting as a location for manufacturing, military buildings, a university and 'similar institutions'.

Objections

However, the designation made by Harrogate Borough Council in its Local Plan Pre-Deposit Consultation Draft has not been finalised and Ilkley and Middleton residents still have time to object.

A council planning officer explained that developments within a green belt employment site were subject to a number of planning regulations.

The most important of these allow for 'limited infilling' and prevent new buildings from occupying 'a larger area of the

site than the original buildings'.

Another officer said: "The next stage is to analyse comments and then produce a deposit version of our plan. That gets looked at for further consultation - it goes to the public and other bodies. We then expect that it will go to a public inquiry."

Ever since the closure of the hospital in 1990 campaigners claimed its owner, the Northern and Yorkshire Regional Health Authority, was keen to make a killing by selling the site to housing developers.

This they argued, would destroy the skyline of the Wharfe Valley and threaten the rural identity of Ilkley.

Nick Hall, a spokesman for the health authority said a planning consultant and agent acting for the authority were preparing a response to the council's draft local plan.

He added: "The council and regional health authority each have a preferred option for the site. It is technically still on

Special report by Matthew Catling

the market, however, the sale is affected by the proposed Ilkley bypass."

Coun Audrey Brand, chairman of Ilkley Parish Council, greeted the news with suspicion. She echoed the objections of environmental campaigners and pointed to the number of empty office buildings which already exist in Ilkley.

"Another employment site in the Ilkley area is not needed," she claimed, adding that residential use would be equally unwelcome.

"I would feel much happier if the site was utilised for institutional use," she said.

1995 Eyesore

However, she acknowledged the dilemma planners faced with finding a use for the site which is itself becoming an eyesore.

When the former Middleton Hospital was placed on the market soon after the hospital's closure the authority was bound by legislation to seek an institutional buyer.

No offers were made and consequently by February 1991 the authority was free to seek private bidders, a move which made residential use more likely.

The fears of campaigners were compounded by the fact that a month earlier the Department of the Environment transferred the site from West to North Yorkshire, thus giving Ilkley and Middleton residents less influence over its future development.

Proposals for an Ilkley bypass then complicated the land sale.

Buyers refused to come forward until the Department of Transport confirmed whether the road would cut through the site.

Shortly after this was confirmed the bypass scheme was put on the back burner thus creating another variable.



ADDINGHAM Civic Society president, Kate Mason (right), presents certificates to pupils Louise Box and Peter Haigh of Addingham First School.

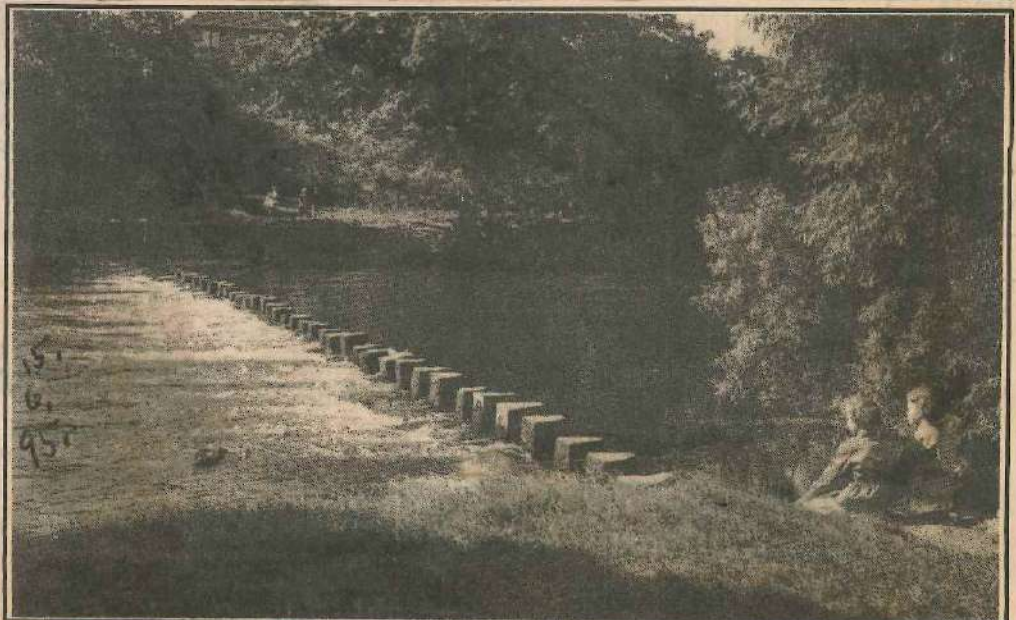
Children from the top class showed themselves to be top of the league in scooping first, second and third prizes in the competition run by Addingham Civic Society.

The competition, which involved 12 young people's groups, asked the children to design a village trail.

The winning entries from the top class were compiled for the village trail pamphlet, which will be available from shops and libraries.

Chairman of the Civic Society, John Hickton, said: "Because the entries from the top class were so good, we decided to create a composite of the entries, so when it came to giving prizes, we decided to give a certificate to each of the 14 entries."

In addition to certificates, the Civic Society also presented the class with £150 prize money.



PICTURESQUE scenes of Ilkley such as this one at the stepping stones across the River Wharfe at Ben Rhydding featured prominently in promoting the town in Ilkley's official guide books of 40 and 50 years ago. Here an old ford crossed the river before being replaced by the stones.

1.6.1995.

THE first electric trains to go into public service on the Wharfedale line began operating between Ilkley and Leeds on Saturday.

They were the first to be introduced in an £80m scheme to electrify the railways in Wharfedale and Airedale and between Leeds and Bradford.

Electric trains on the Ilkley-Bradford services are not expected to be affected before October.

To herald a new era for commuter travel a special charter train last Thursday carried the first passengers along the electrified line between Leeds, Ilkley and Bradford. The occasion marked the culmination of almost five years of often complicated engineering work.

Improve capacity

Brand new 'state of the art' signalling has been installed on the busy Wharfedale and Airedale commuter routes between Leeds, Bradford, Ilkley and Skipton, sweeping away an outdated system controlled by 13 Victorian signal boxes. The routes are now controlled from a new panel in the Leeds Power Signal Box.

The new system will vastly improve capacity on the routes and an increase in line speeds from 75 mph to 90 mph will now be possible on some sections of the Airedale line, thereby improving journey times for passengers.

Last Thursday, Coun Mick Lyons, chairman of the West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority, was joined by Coun Tony Cairns, Leader of Bradford Council and representatives of the Passenger Transport Authority, Railtrack, Regional Railways, rail trades unions and the Press to make the historic journey.

Borne patiently

Coun Lyons said he was delighted to see the scheme approaching completion. "The authority, with tremendous support from the people of

Bradford and Leeds is pleased to see this prestigious and important scheme, costing more than £80m coming to fruition.

"It has taken time and effort to see this through, but I am sure that the end results will more than amply justify all the work and the inevitable disruption that has been borne patiently both by passengers and the people living along the tracks."

He said that while new trains would have been the authority's ideal option and remained an ambition, the refurbished Class 308 trains would provide a safe and comfortable service and, moreover, would offer greater capacity than the existing diesel trains had done.

"Commuters on this service have long complained about the overcrowding they have suffered and we are now at last able to do something positive to alleviate their problems," said Coun Lyons.

"We have spent £150,000 per train to completely overhaul the working side of the units and I am sure that passengers will be pleased with the result."

Looked forward

Aidan Nelson, Director Railtrack North-East, commented: "The challenge now is to enable the train operators to exploit the benefits that this new facility will bring in improved reliability so that new customers can be attracted."

Coun Cairns said: "We have looked forward to the arrival of electrification in Bradford for a long time.

"We hope this will not only improve services for commuters but also provide a much needed boost to the local economy.

"British Rail now has a chance to match this major investment. I hope they will be encouraged to run more InterCity services through Bradford using the latest electric trains," said Coun Cairns.

Facts behind train units

THE Class 308 electric multiple units to be used on the Wharfedale and Airedale lines were built by British Railways at York in 1961 as four car units for Great Eastern routes out of Liverpool Street.

They later worked London-Tilbury and Southend routes from Fenchurch Street, being based at Ilford.

They are to operate in the West Yorkshire area as three car units to improve the power/weight ratio, gangwayed throughout.

The guards compartment will be available for cycles and wheelchairs.

The units are now owned by Angel Train Contacts and leased by Regional Railways North-East.

Twenty-one units (63 vehicles) will work the Airedale and Wharfedale services from September with 57 vehicles allocated to Metro and six to Regional Railways.

Each unit has 240 seats, with the first class section converted, and comprises battery driving trailer standard, motor brake standard, driving trailer standard vehicles.

Each vehicle is about 64 feet long and weighs between 30 and 55 tonnes. All are steel bodied Mark 1 bodies with slam doors.

They are powered by 25kv ac overhead, have four traction



motors and have a maximum speed of 75 mph.

All the units have been refurbished at a cost of about £3m. They were fitted with public address and driver/conductor communication in the 1980s. All have toilet facilities.

They have been overhauled for Metro by RRML Doncaster during 1994/95. The electrical equipment was also overhauled.

All units have been painted in MetroTrain livery, have new destination blinds and are fitted with an automatic dropping device and primary door locks.

They were fitted with Class 302 seats before their arrival at Metro.

THE SHOPPING LIST

THE Leeds-Bradford Electrification project has been completed by Railtrack North-East which took over management responsibility for the scheme in April, 1994. Infrastructure works were approved by the Department of Transport in June, 1990 and final authorisation to start the major construction phase was granted in November, 1991. The project has involved contractors both from inside and outside the railway industry. The shopping list for the project included:

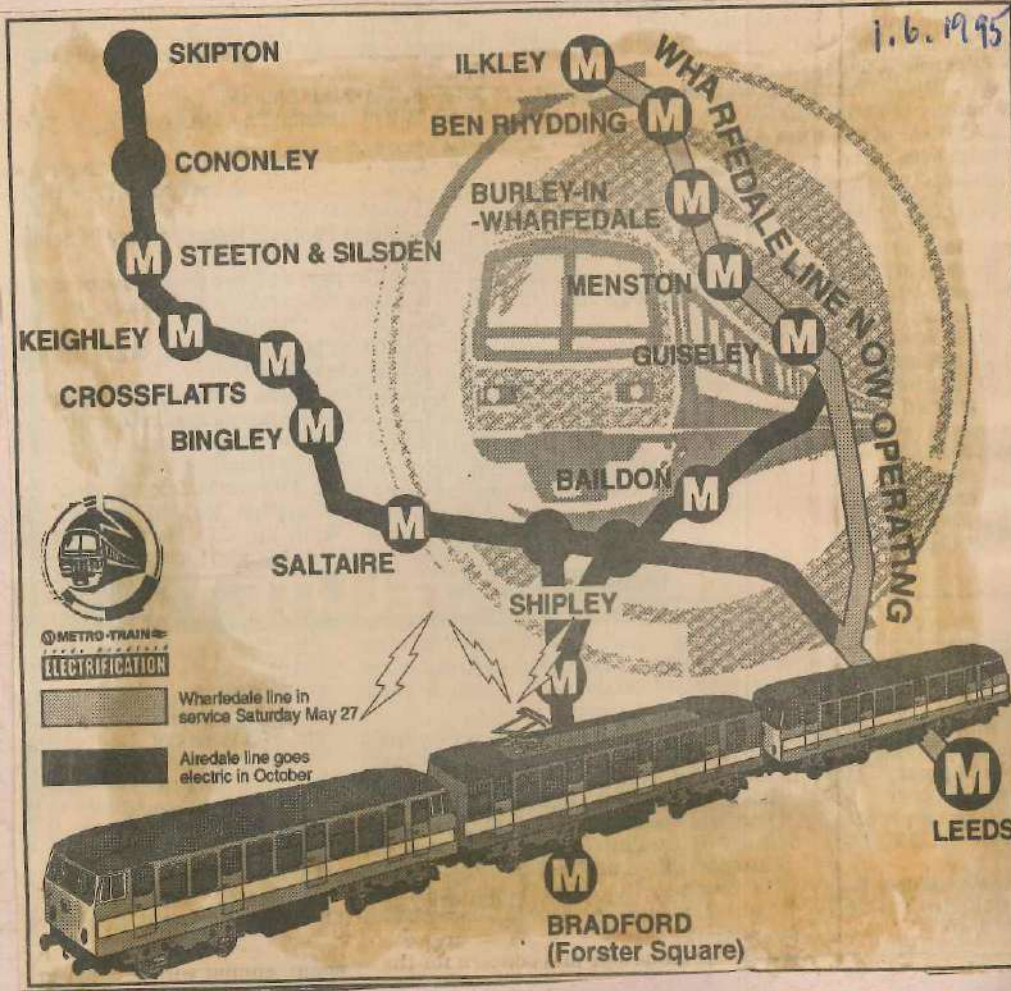
- 2,820 electrification masts and foundations.
- 350 miles of overhead wire - copper wire and aluminium/steel catenary wire.
- Two major feeder stations transforming 132kv to operating 25kv supply.
- Eight trackside switching locations.

CIVIL ENGINEERING

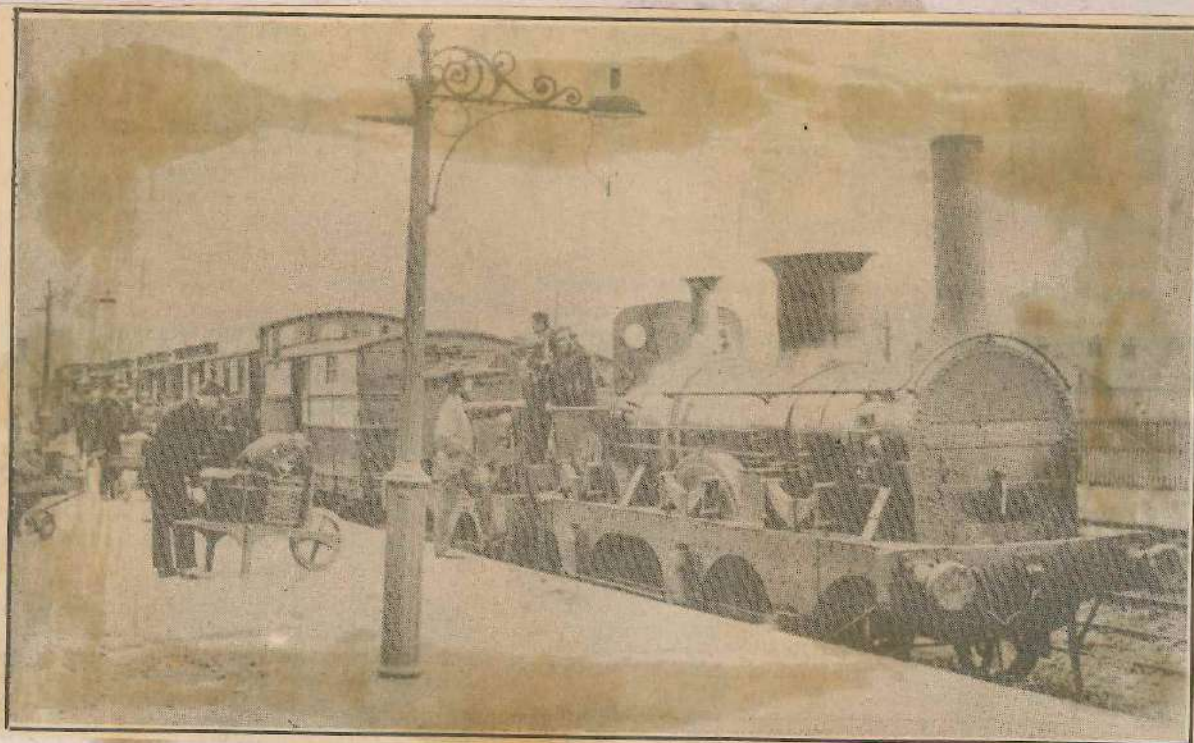
- 17 track lowerings under bridges and tunnels.
- 21 bridge lifts for extra clearance.
- 57 parapet protection on bridges and tunnels.
- Five major remodelling of tracks of track layouts (stations and junctions).
- Six track slewings for speed improvements.
- 13 signal boxes demolished or removed.
- Three new platforms brought into use or reinstated.
- Seven platform reconstructions.
- One carriage washing machine.
- New facilities for internal carriage cleaning.
- Bridge and tunnel protective work.
- Scrub clearance.

SCREEN/PROTECTION WORKS

- The telecommunications and public address system required 36km cable containing 20 optical fibres to carry voice and data signals.
- Three radio base stations for communication between track crew and signal boxes.
- Additional level crossing telephones to meet latest requirements.
- Long line public address system operated from Leeds signal box providing information to passengers at 16 stations.



THIS rare bridge, Ilkley train was premises in Tipping an oldest in the left for the interchang from a stop



LEFT - Flashback to August 1, 1865: This is claimed to be the first train from Ilkley. The parcels wheelbarrow on the extreme left bears the initials 'O & I J' (Otley and Ilkley Joint Railway).

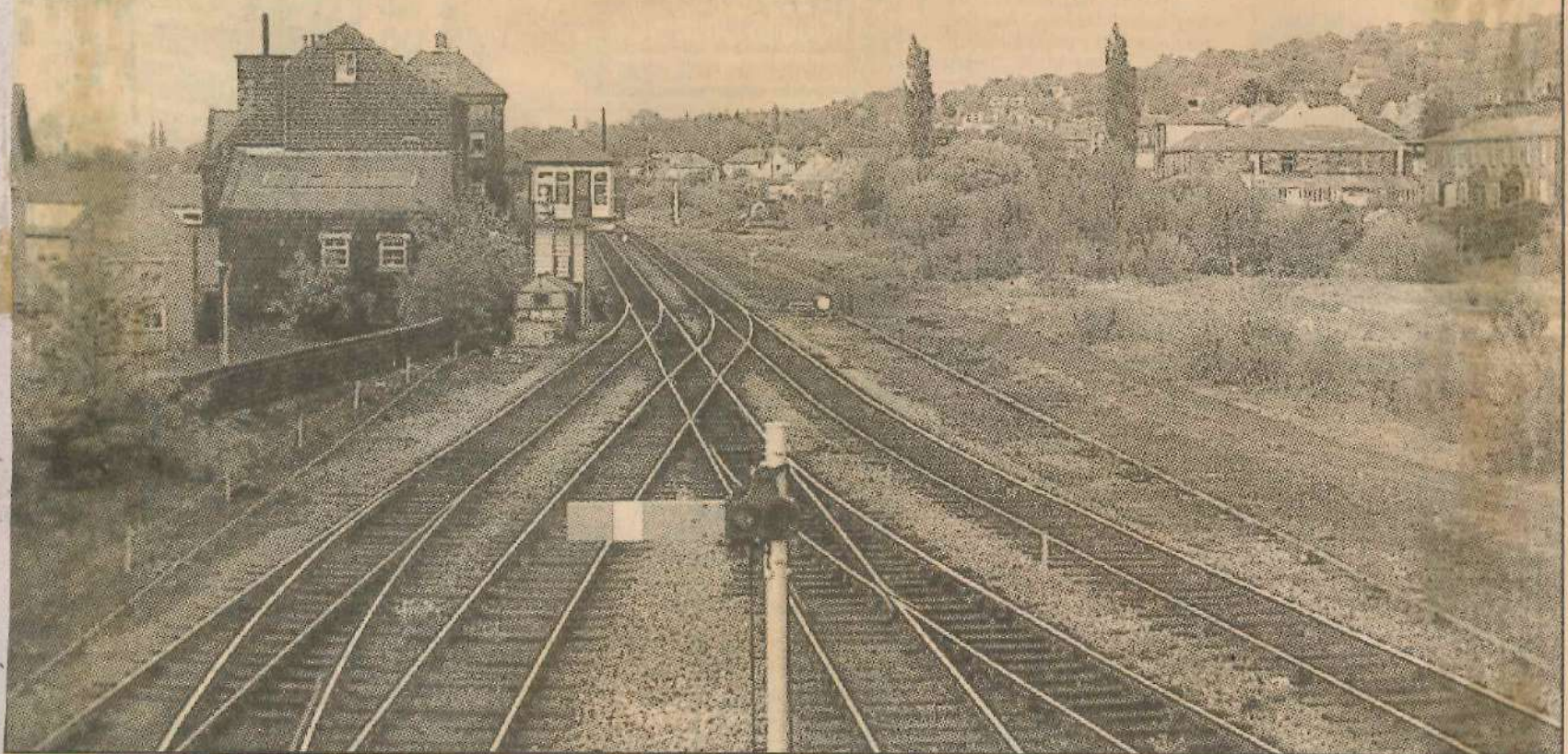


RIGHT - Coun Mick Lyons (left), leader of the West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority and Coun Tony Cairns, Leader of Bradford Metropolitan Council were two of the first passengers to travel on the charter train



THIS rare photograph of a train, hauled by a steam locomotive, passing over Brook Street bridge, Ilkley, has been provided this week by Michael Parry, of Ben Rhydding. It is believed the train was an excursion returning to Lancashire in the summer of 1955. It was a time when shop premises in Brook Street were occupied by Lionel Bubb, newsagents, Beanlands, grocers, Tipping and Lee, estate agents and Hampshire's, greengrocers. The Wheatsheaf Hotel, one of the oldest in the town, can be seen at the top of New Brook Street. They were the days when buses left for their destinations from various points of the town before the building of a transport interchange. A West Yorkshire Road Car Company bus is pictured before departing for Haworth from a stop underneath the railway bridge.

7/12/95



ILKLEY'S railway had been reduced to a mere fraction of its original layout by 1980. The extensive goods yard had become overgrown wasteland (right) and was sold off for development as a site for a new Hillard's supermarket and car park (in later years taken over by Tescos) and coach sidings and a cat-

tle dock opposite the town hall was redeveloped to form part of a new transport interchange. All that remained of the through line west of Ilkley (left) had been terminated at the station but still served Platforms 3 and 4. Today this part of the station forms a car park for a shop-

ping precinct within the station itself. The semaphore signal has been replaced with electric colour light signalling and even the signal box has disappeared under the recent scheme which brought electrification to the Wharfedale line. Picture by F W Smith, of Ben Rhydding.

WHAT should be Ilkley's town centre is an 'uninteresting sea of Tarmac' claims a disgruntled resident.

This description springs to mind whenever quantity surveyor Michael Braithwaite walks through Ilkley central car park, which is owned by Bradford Council.

To remedy the situation he wants a central open area to be created with space for a bandstand, exhibition site, or even the town's tourist office which could be moved from Station Road.

Islands

He says this should be supplemented by three or four additional islands, each of four parking spaces, containing greenery and seating.

And he wants a radical lowering, and perhaps even the abolition, of parking fees to complete the transformation by encouraging town centre trade.

Coun Latif Darr, chairman of Bradford Council's transportation, highways and engineering sub-committee, said the authority would be happy to examine the plan if it was officially presented. But he added that his initial feelings were that it was unworkable.

by Matthew Catling

"It has long been my opinion that Ilkley does not have a town centre as such," explained Mr Braithwaite, of Clifford Avenue, Middleton.

"Now that shops in The Grove and Brook Street are being developed with entrances on to the main car park that area should become the 'town centre'. Every time I have suggested this the cry is always that we cannot afford to lose parking spaces - why not if it is to improve the town for those who live here?"

In any case, Mr Braithwaite believes the lost spaces could be made up by marking the rest of Ilkley's streets with bays so that 'unreasonable' motorists no longer take up more than one space.

He added: "I'm sure a lot of people who would shop in central Ilkley now go to Tesco in Springs Lane because they can get free parking. It would be a benefit to traders in the town if the parking was free, or if you could park for half an hour for 10p, like in Otley."

The proposals were 'music' to the ears of Mike Lynes, chairman of the Ilkley and District Chamber of Trade.



Michael Braithwaite in front of the 'uninteresting sea of Tarmac'

24.8.95

He said the funds necessary to implement them should be available from the £80,000 a year which Bradford Council makes from the car park, some of which he claims the authority has promised to spend on Ilkley.

He estimates that only about five parking spaces would actually be lost if the two islands in the central car park beside South Hawksworth were removed and a number of the bottle bins beside the public toilets relocated to the town tip in Golden Butts Road.

Moreover, revenue lost by cutting parking costs would be offset by increased business rates from prospering town centre traders.

"Really, if we are to survive

into the next century in Ilkley we have to build to compete with out-of-town shopping centres where the parking is free," he said.

But Coun Darr explained that profits made by the car park are pooled with other resources from the district. The sum total is then reallocated where needed. Profits from Ilkley's car park cannot therefore be earmarked for the scheme.

Question

He also fears too many spaces would be taken up if the proposals were properly implemented and questioned whether traders would be willing to pay increased business

rates to offset lower parking fees.

If they were, he said the equation would have to be perfectly balanced before cash-strapped Bradford Council considered the idea.

He added that from a safety standpoint, an increase in the number of pedestrians using the car park could create a major stumbling block.

Coun Darr also pointed out that for financial reasons Bradford Council had opted not to introduce rock-bottom parking rates for half-hour stays anywhere within its jurisdiction.

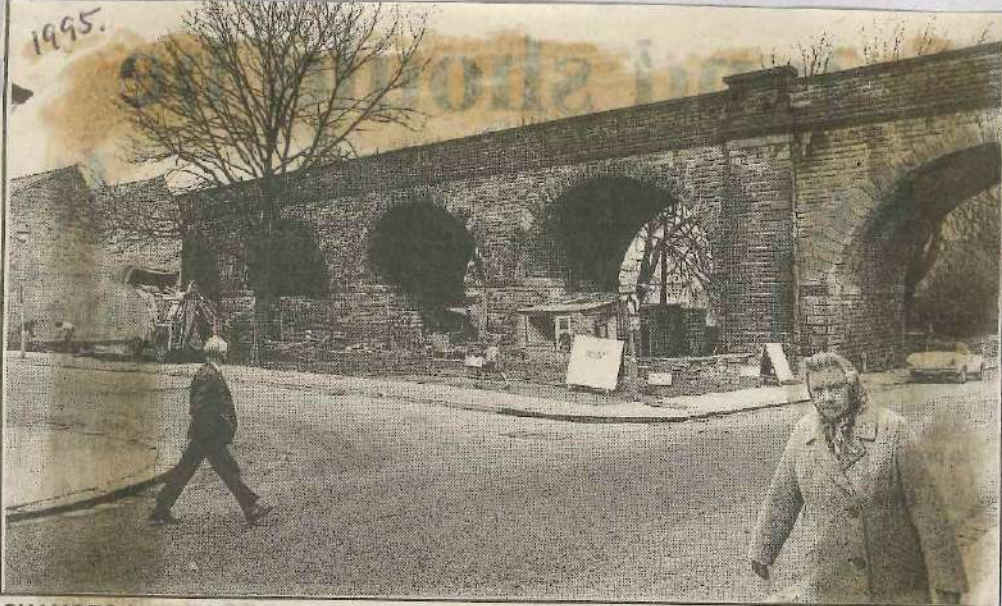
It was therefore inappropriate to compare Ilkley with Otley, a town controlled by Leeds City Council.

1995

CHANGES the western store and junction of made on th

31/8/95

LAND in formed in 1



CHANGES in Cunliffe Road, Ilkley, where the start of a viaduct carried a railway across the western part of Ilkley, were under way in 1973. Shop property used as a footwear store and repairers by the late Mr George Eaton on the corner plot of land at the junction of Cunliffe Road and Regent Road had been demolished prior to a start being made on the demolition of the railway structures. Today the site is occupied by the Clarke-Foley Centre.



A few changes have taken place in Bolton Bridge Road, Ilkley since this picture was taken in 1973. Perhaps the most significant was near the junction with Skipton Road where a skew arch formed part of a viaduct to carry the railway west of Ilkley. The name skew arch is gained from the fact that it spans obliquely and is therefore longer than the gap. Work on the removal of the viaduct took nine months to complete and cost £82,200. It began in 1973 with the removal of the stone bridge over Westville Road and part of the embankment between there and Yew Bank Terrace where the viaduct structure began. From there it contained 26 arches before ending in Cunliffe Road. Picture by F W Smith of Ben Rhydding.



LAND in Springs Lane which served for many years as Ilkley's railway goods yard was transformed in 1983 when it was redeveloped for a new Hillards superstore which, in 1987, was taken over by Tesco.



A row of shops to become what is now known as the Grove Promenade was formed from this warehouse which once served shops in The Grove. The area on which these cars are parked had previously been occupied by a high embankment which carried the railway west of Ilkley.

Past is put into focus

21.9.1995

A GLIMPSE of Ilkley's past comes into focus on Saturday when an exhibition of photographs opens at Ilkley Manor House.

The exhibition has been inspired by the Hilda Holmes collection of slides now held by the Friends of the Manor House.

Miss Holmes, of Addingham, originally took the slides to illustrate her lectures on the changing face of Ilkley, but they now also serve as a record of the many photographs of old Ilkley that have survived.

Through these old photographs it is possible to illustrate how much the Ilkley of today is the product of a never ending process of change and adaptation.

They show how the familiar once looked so different, and how traces of those aspects of Ilkley's history, which many have now forgotten, still survive.

The topics covered by the photographs vary from the built environment to those special and unexpected events that punctuated so many people's lives - the disastrous flood of 1900 as well as celebrations and carnivals.

When viewing the images it is hoped that the visitor will not see them as showing some-

thing remote and unrelated to the present.

They help to show how the present surroundings have developed and provide an insight into the reason why the present is the way it is.

Equally, it is wrong to think that the people in the pictures are any different. Their lives were ruled by the same emotions, and visitors are not likely to be that far wrong if they tried and imagined what they were thinking and doing at the time.

The exhibition has been financed by the Friends of the Manor House and many of their members have generously given up their time to help prepare it.

In addition to those photographs recorded by the Hilda Holmes slides, the exhibition includes some other pictures drawn from collections held by the museum and local collectors and personal albums.

Coun Barry Thorne, chairman of the Community and Leisure sub-committee of Bradford Council, said: "I am delighted that this partnership between the Friends of the Manor House and the museum has created such a stimulating exhibition."

The exhibition continues until January 3, 1996.



RELICS from Ilkley's past were placed in display cases in the town's museum housed on the upper floors of Ilkley Library before being moved to the Manor House in the 1960s. Exhibits ranged from the days of man in the Stone Age to modern times. There were flint implements of Mesolithic days' coins, pottery and other interesting finds from the Roman occupation; medieval glass and stone carvings; and instruments used in the early days of the woollen industry as well as personal belongings of well known inhabitants of the neighbourhood.



RIGHT: Mrs E Greenwood and Mrs N. Blake bury a time capsule in the base of Ilkley Parish Church tower in January, 1983.

A take-over plan for the museum 100 Years Ago

PROPOSALS by the Ilkley Museum and Antiquarian Society that Ilkley Urban District Council should take over the museum and its contents were under discussion. No less than 10,622 people had visited the museum during the three years of its existence.



THERE have been few changes in The Grove, Ilkley, during the last 50 years but one of the most significant since this picture was taken has been the removal of the wall (left) which bordered the now closed Grove Hospital to provide more walking space and flower beds.