

ILKLEY MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS OF LOCAL
HISTORICAL INTEREST

VOLUME III 1962-66

G3.

LOCAL CLOCK STILL KEEPS TIME AFTER 175 YEARS

Clock-maker at Nesfield in

18th Century 10 AUG 1962

A recent investigation into the career of a Nesfield, near Ilkley, clock-maker of the 18th century has revealed that many of the clocks are still giving efficient service. There is a grandfather clock standing in an Addingham mill amongst other places.

The research was made by an American, Mr. Silas Coulson, of New York who is a descendant on his mother's side of John Prior, the clock-maker. Mr. Coulson has recently been investigating the families history whilst on a visit for the purpose. Mr. Coulson has purchased a clock made by John Prior in 1805 and after it has been overhauled by experts is offering it as a gift to the town of Ilkley.

Mr. Coulson writes the following article:

Low Mill, Addingham, is the second eldest worsted mill in the British Isles. It commenced operations in 1787.

On the staircase of the mill is a grandfather clock, perhaps little appreciated by passing workers because today large, modern, electric clocks have been installed in each working area.

BEARS HIS NAME

The brass face of the clock with its Roman numerals, proudly bears the name of its maker, John Prior, of Nessfield.

Nessfield was in 1787 and is still today a small hamlet with a few houses just across the River Wharfe and a little down-stream from Addingham. In times past it was a sub-manor of Ilkley with its own manorhouse, Court Leet, Court Manor, stocks, etc.

John Prior's home and workshop was at the head of the dene running down from the edge of Langbar Moor to the river.

John Prior (1747-1820) was a son of William Prior Jr. and the grandson of another William Prior, who was the first of the five generations of Priors who were clock and watch makers.

Traced back to 1636

The family can be traced in this locality back to Abel Prior, who, in 1636, married Marie Nichol, son according to the records of Otley Parish Church.

John Prior, maker of the clock at Low Mill was a man of considerable reputation. He was awarded at various times between 1798 and 1819, bounties of guineas and silver medals from the Society for the improvement of the Arts, Manufactures and Industry in London. He devised a method for determining the "Longitude at Sea" and he made an astronomical clock which was a wonder of his age.

His house was sought with considerable difficulty by many distinguished persons; he was prevailed upon to move to London, but he would not leave the moors as it was his desire to be away from the distraction and turmoil of a large city.

Devoted to his work, John Prior did not marry until 1792 when he was 34. His bride was Mary Wright Dawson, the daughter of a cloth-dresser of Leeds.

TALENTED SON

Their first child was a son, born in 1782, whom they named George, and who became as well known as his father as a clock and watch-maker of repute.

George Prior also received four awards from the Society of Arts—two for improvements in clocks, one award for a safety device in mini-shafts and one for a method of sharpening needles. At various times he had establishments at Otley, Bradford, Leeds and London.

The wedding present which the Queen gave to King Baudouin of Belgium at the time of his

marriage to Dona Fabiola of Spain in December, 1960 was a ten-chime four-tune musical bracket clock reported to have been made in 1825. The face of this clock bears the name of George Prior, London.

Museum Pieces

The Victoria and Albert Museum in London has on exhibition in a setting of period furniture a bracket clock by George Prior. Many other Prior clocks and watches are on exhibition at other museums, including the British Museum, and museums in New York and San Francisco.

The Low Mill clock, except for slight variations as the temperature changes, is reported to keep good time.

The strands of catgut which originally supported the heavy flat lead weight that provides the tension to keep the escapement in motion have been replaced by strong steel wire. No other repairs have been made in the memory of Mr. Whitaker, the present custodian of the clock, who rewinds it every twenty three days.

Telescopic Optics

The brass face of the clock has a design of a system of telescopic optics across its centre. Above this design are several circles with marks which may indicate the solar system.

The writer, a fourth generation descendant from John Prior is glad to know that past and present managing directors of the firm have said: "Do not ever part with the clock." He is grateful for the privilege of seeing and photographing the clock in its present setting.

May this grand old clock snugly tucked in the corner of the staircase, with its case looking like an old shabby, decrepit overcoat, but its works shining of polished brass, receive the same care in the future that it has received in the past.

LIBRARY VOLUME NO 16

OLICANA MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SCRAPBOOK VOLUME 3

1962-66

CUTTINGS MAINLY FROM

ILKLEY GAZETTE

MUSEUM SOCIETY'S YEAR OF PROGRESS

IMPROVED FINANCES AND MEMBERSHIP

A year of financial progress with a slight increase in membership was reported at the annual meeting of the Olicana Museum Society held in the Town Hall.

In the absence of the President, Miss E. M. Fletcher, the chair was taken by Mr. Peter B. Barker.

The Honorary Secretary, Miss G. Cornwall-Jones, stated that another satisfactory year had been concluded. Although attendances on the summer excursions had not been up to expectations, those members who had taken part enjoyed the outings. Attendances at the winter meetings had been similar to the previous year. Membership of the Society had risen slightly during the past year, from 107 to 111 (including five Honorary life members). Miss Cornwall-Jones thanked the Excursion Secretary, Miss N. Saunders, for the hard work she had put into organising the outings and also thanked the Ilkley Gazette for reporting the activities of the Society.

FINANCES

The Honorary Treasurer, Mr. A. David Glover, in presenting his report for the year ended 30th September, 1962, stated that it had again been a year of financial progress and the Society again found itself with a healthy balance in hand. Gross Income had been £12 8s and gross expenditure £11 18s 3d resulting in an excess of income over expenditure of 9s 9d. The total assets of the Society now stood at £32 11s 3d, including accrued bank interest of £3 8s 6d. He reported that 106 subscriptions had been due during the year, of which 58 had been paid and 48 had not. The 111 members consisted of 67 ladies and 44 gentlemen.

The Chairman thanked the Secretary and Treasurer for their reports and recalled that the four excursions this year had been to Otley Chevin, Temple-Newsam House, Kildwick Hall and Church, and to the Iron Age relics at Grassington. The Otley Archaeological and Historical Society had been entertained by the Society at the Manor House on July 10th. Two members of our Committee had represented the Society on Mr. Muschamp's Committee which organised the recently-held "Ilkley Scrapbook" Exhibition at the Manor House. A donation had been sent towards the leaving present for the former Ilkley Librarian, Mr. N. H. Parker who was a member of this Society and at one time on the Committee.

OFFICERS

The Election of Officers and Committee for 1962/63 then took place as follows: President, Miss Elsie M. Fletcher (Curator of the Manor House Museum); Vice-Presidents, Mr. Peter B. Barker, Mr. A. David Glover; Hon. Secretary, Miss G. Cornwall-Jones, Moor Cottage, West View, Wells Road, Ilkley; Hon. Excursion Secretary, Miss Nellie Saunders; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. D. Glover; Committee, all the above, together with Mr. Robert T. Clough, Mrs. Jean Le Patourel, Professor Maurice W. Beresford.

It was proposed to raise the annual subscription from 2s 6d minimum to 5s minimum (not as advertised, 5s maximum). After discussion the matter was put to the vote and passed unanimously. The Treasurer reminded members that subscriptions were now due, 5s adults and 1s for those under 14.

The Treasurer proposed to use some of the Society's funds to purchase a small Epidiascope and requested the approval of members for this venture. After some discussion it was agreed by a majority vote that an epidiascope be obtained on approval only. The Treasurer assured the meeting that it would be returned if it was unsatisfactory.

LEAD MINING

Following the business meeting Mr. Robert T. Clough gave an interesting talk on "Lead Mining in the Northern Pennines" illustrated by coloured slides. Mr. Clough, who is an expert on this subject, and has recently published a book on old Lead Mines, dealt with the mines of Greenhow near Pateley Bridge, Appletreewick, Grassington and Alston in Cumberland. The Grassington Mines were still being worked today but the object was now flourspar which was being exported to India. Mr. Clough was thanked by Mr. D. Glover.

The chairman announced that the next meeting would be held in November when Mr. Eric J. Woodward, the School Museums Organisation of the West Riding Education Committee, would give two illustrated talks, the first entitled "Edwardian Summer, 1908-1910" and the second "Powered Flight." The remainder of the Winter Syllabus was announced as follows: 6 December—Another of Mr. John La Page's popular travel talks, this time on Ireland (with slides); 3 January: "My work in a Polish Museum" by Mrs. Wloch, former curator of the York Museum. 7 February: "Scottish Drivers into Yorkshire" by Mr. J. K. Bonser, Hon. Secretary of the Thoresby Society Leeds (with slides). 7 March: "Excavations of the Roman Fort at Ilkley" by Mr. B. R. Hartley of Leeds University (with slides). 4 April "Some People from Roman York" by Mr. H. G. Ramm of York (with slides).

Seven ladies and one gentleman were elected to membership of the Society during the meeting, and the resignations of three ladies and three gentlemen were accepted with regret. This left the total membership at 112 by the close of the meeting.

ACROSS THE YEARS

Critic of Manorial Ilkley

Ilkley Moor 75 years ago was not completely open to the public, and one resident, Dr. John Fletcher Little, held very pointed views with regard to the Lord of the Manor's ownership of the moor and gave reasons for the cry "The moor is in danger." He wrote the following letter to the "Gazette," published in the 27 February issue. "The cry is raised once more, 'the moor in danger.' Of course it is in danger. It will always be in danger until the manorial rights pass into the hands of the people. The possessors of the manorial rights may die, but the Lord of the Manor never dies, and will always be a danger to the public rights as long as he exists. The danger this time, however, comes from those who should be the first to defend the public rights. Mr. Wilson, the chairman of the Local Board, and Mr. Thomas Crabtree, of Mount Pleasant, have a scheme which, if carried out, will prevent the people wandering from the footpaths on the table land of the moor. The freedom of the moor is the foundation of Ilkley's prosperity, and the men who would exchange it for anything else would sell our birthright for a mess of pottage. Mr. Wilson was made chairman by the too kind friendship of Mr. Critchley, whose vote got him elected, and the first use he made of his new power was to give his casting vote to Mr. Thompson, the agent of the Lord of the Manor, and place him on the Board after the ratepayers had rejected him. Such devotion to the Lord of the Manor makes Mr. Wilson one of the members for Middleton, who have already far too much power on the Board."

ACROSS THE YEARS

Committee formed for starting an Ilkley Museum

75 Years Ago

A lecture with the intention of inaugurating a movement for establishing a museum at Ilkley was held in the Lecture Hall, Riddings Road, Ilkley, in October, 75 years ago. Mr. Fred W. Fison presided and Mr. William Cudworth, of Bradford, gave a talk on "Roman Ilkley." After the talk a proposition by Mr. Buck, seconded by Mr. Wilson, that the committee for carrying out the movement should be made up of the following gentlemen was carried. Dr. Carter, Dr. Johnstone and Messrs. T. Horsman, W. Haines, J. Lambert, J. Shuttleworth, Glossop, Isaac, Dean, Watson, Wedgwood and Marshall Hainsworth Jnr., secretary.

9 Nov. 1962

MUSEUM SOCIETY

Following the Exhibition at the Manor House Museum of relics of bygone days in the possession of Ilkley residents, it was most interesting to see on the screen the background of the days when many of the exhibits were in daily use. "Edwardian Summer 1908-10" was the title of the film shown to the Museum Society on Thursday, 1 November, by Mr. Eric J. Woodward, the School Museum organiser of the West Riding Education Committee. This was followed by "Powered Flight" the history of flying from its beginning, also in the Edwardian days, to the present time—a film which held the audience spellbound. Realising what a remarkable progress has been achieved during the past 50 years, it leaves one wondering where space exploration will take us during the next half century!

E.M.F.

14-12-62

Mr. B. R. Hartley, in relation to the excavations at the Roman Fort site, recommended that a short stretch of the west wall should be consolidated and left open and visible and that the remainder of the site might have an indication on the surface of the position of the foundations which could be compared against a scale model of the fort which might be sited behind the Manor House. Mr. Hartley also suggested the possibility of producing a brief illustrated popular account of the fort for sale to visitors. It was resolved that the recommendations of Mr. B. R. Hartley be approved in principle and that the Surveyor be authorised to submit a scheme together with the estimated cost thereof on the lines suggested by Mr. Hartley.

Mr. P. Dalton offered as a gift to the Council a Parliamentary Clock (formerly belonging to the Fairfax family of Yorkshire) for exhibition at the Manor House, Ilkley, with a short history of the clock. Mr. Dalton is to be thanked for his generous gift and that the clock be exhibited appropriately at the Manor House.

The Clerk submitted correspondence from Mr. Silas Coulson, of New York, indicating that he wished to present to the Council for exhibition at the Manor House Museum a grandfather clock made by one of his ancestors, John Prior of Nessfield, a well-known clock maker, born during the latter part of the 18th Century, and that Mr. Coulson had also made arrangements for the setting up of the clock at the Manor House by a firm of specialist clock repairers if the gift was accepted by the Council.

Mr. Coulson be thanked for his generous gift and for the information forwarded by him in relation to the history of the Prior family, and that the clock be exhibited at the Manor House.

ACROSS THE YEARS

28-12-62

Officials appointed for Ilkley's first museum

The establishment of a museum in Ilkley was taking shape in December, 75 years ago, and several meetings were held with the result that a special committee was formed. During the course of one meeting, it was stated arrangements had been made for procuring a large room in which to exhibit the collection of Roman and prehistoric remains and other curiosities. It was decided to send out circulars inviting subscriptions for the promotion of the object, over ten guineas being promised towards the fund by gentlemen in the room. Mr. Armistead and Mr. Mitton were appointed treasurers, and added to the already numerous committee were Dr. Tennant (Ben Rhydding Establishment), Messrs. G. Clarkson, A. S. Press, M. Robinson, William Stephenson, and W. Hartley. Permission was obtained from Mrs. Douglas and Mr. Stephenson for a systematic search at the back of the Parish Church, near the old castle site or Roman camp. Commented the "Gazette," "There is now every probability of the Ilkley Museum becoming ere long, an established fact."

9 Nov. 1962

ROMAN FORT EXCAVATIONS SOLVED PROBLEMS

"Much clearer picture of its general history"

The recent excavations of the Roman fort at Ilkley have solved most of the main problems of the site, notably the vexed question of its size, and have given a much clearer picture of its general history than was previously available. This was stated by Mr. Brian R. Hartley, of Leeds University, who was in charge of the excavations in a report to Ilkley Council.

While further excavations would undoubtedly have added points of detail, it is unlikely that the general conclusions outlined below would seriously have been altered. Mr. Hartley continues.

The restoration of the outline of the fort suggested after the excavations of 1919-21, rested on the identification of one of the buildings as the headquarters, always centrally placed in forts of this kind. In fact the recent work showed that the building in question was a granary, so the previous arguments fail. Fortunately, however, the matter is now settled by the location behind the Wheatsheaf site, of the central road of the fort (via praetoria), which led from the east gate to the centre of the headquarters building.

The distance from the centre of this road to the north and south ramparts would be identical and, as the position of the north rampart was already known, the south defences may now be located precisely. They fall on the south side of Church Street under the Rose and Crown Hotel, and adjacent buildings. From north to south the measurements over the ramparts was 385 feet, and it follows from what we know of the arrangements of Roman forts that the distance from west to east cannot have been less than this, and the east defences must have lain on the east side of New Brook Street.

In fact a square fort measuring 385 feet each way would be just adequate to house the type of garrison recorded for Ilkley—a unit with 360 infantry and 120 cavalry. Furthermore, the fort matches the neighbouring ones at Slack and Elslack closely in size and shape. (Slack had the same type of garrison, but the nature of that at Elslack is not known).

There is nothing to suggest that the size of the fort at Ilkley changed at any time during the Roman occupation.

HISTORY

From the evidence of the pottery, it is clear that the fort was founded within a year or two of A.D. 80, when Agricola was consolidating the Roman hold of the Pennines by establishing such forts to act as centres for the policing of the area. It was defended at first by a turf rampart laid on a stone foundation 18 feet wide with at least one ditch outside. The buildings inside were built of timber uprights with wattle-and-daub walls. Those identified include part of the commanding officer's house and some of the barracks.

Before A.D. 120 considerable rebuilding was necessary, perhaps because green timbers were used originally, but there is nothing to suggest a break in the occupation. What is now quite certain is that the whole fort was given up about A.D. 120-125, when Hadrian's Wall was being built and it was evidently felt that the hinterland no longer demanding such close control by the army. It is also clear that there was no enemy destruction at this time, as was formerly thought.

GARRISON

For the next 40 years or so there was no garrison at Ilkley, though no doubt, as some of the old finds of pottery suggest, there was still a civil settlement to the south of the old fort. However, within a few years of A.D. 160, following a

serious revolt of the Brigantes, many of the Pennine forts were once more given garrisons, and the recent evidence makes it certain that Ilkley was one. The new fort was furnished with a clay rampart and surrounding ditch and once more it contained only timber buildings, granaries, barracks and stores, having been identified. This fort was destroyed by fire in A.D. 196 or early in A.D. 197, probably on the initiative of the natives, though it is not certain whether the garrison was present or whether, like many of the British units, it had been temporarily withdrawn to campaign with the governor in Gaul. That no time was lost in retrieving the situation is clear since an old inscription records rebuilding at Ilkley in A.D. 197, when the fort was given an outer stone wall, notably well-preserved in the section recently exposed on the west side. At the same time the internal buildings were also rebuilt in stone, and we now have some interesting details of the barracks, stables and other structures.

REBUILDING

Ilkley appears to have been held throughout the rest of the Roman period; at least we could see no sign of the intermission in the occupation postulated from the earlier excavations and the pottery series looks continuous. Considerable rebuilding took place inside the fort both at the end of the third century and after A.D. 360. Two curious features of these late forts were the reversion to building in timber for workshops at the western end, and the use of stone buildings set at a marked angle to the roads and defences in the eastern part of the fort. The latter may conceivably point to the kind of slackening in strict military discipline that is often held to be characteristic of the late Roman army. By combining the results of the two excavations it is now possible to elucidate the full details of the late buildings in the central range of the fort, namely the granaries and the commandants' houses.

FINAL FATE

Of the fort's final fate we learned nothing. Presumably the garrison was withdrawn about A.D. 400-410, when the Roman army was gradually removed from Britain, but it is a little disappointing that nothing can be said of the civilian occupation that would almost certainly have followed, taking advantage in those troubled times of the stronghold afforded by the fort's defences. Indeed, the only objects from Ilkley that date between the end of the Roman period and the 12th century are the famous Anglian crosses and a late Saxon silver coin found in the recent excavations. That the site was used in the Middle Ages is clear from the quantities of pottery of that period found in the topsoil, but there were no structures either of timber or stone and the pottery may be largely rubbish thrown out from the contemporary Manor House.

SMALL FINDS

During the excavations considerable quantities of Roman pottery and many small objects, including some most interesting armour and other military equipment, came to light. This is now being studied and much of the metal requires treatment before it can be displayed or stored. The University will bear the cost of this and the material will all be returned to Ilkley for the Museum's collections. This work, and all the necessary preparation of results of the excavations publication as an archaeological report, will take some months complete, but is already in progress.

FUTURE

the excavations have felt that the moment has come to make a number of decisions that the Council may consider, since the problem is essentially theirs. (It did, perhaps, be pointed out that the opinions expressed are the writer's own personal ones as an archaeologist rather than a member of University staff).

The guiding factors have been on the one hand the very considerable public interest, demonstrated clearly by the large numbers of visitors to the excavations and their subsequent comments, and on the other hand the practical problems inherent in the nature of the remains themselves and the technical and financial aspects involved in any attempt at exposing and consolidating ancient remains.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. In view both of the inevitable technical nature of the final report on the work and the lay interest aroused among Ilkley residents and visitors to the town, it might be worth considering the possibility of producing a brief, illustrated popular account of the fort which could be sold at the Museum.

2. That no attempt should be made to expose and consolidate the internal buildings of the fort. The condition of the stone buildings, which alone lend themselves to such treatment, is such that the exposure of a substantial area would involve many months work and an expenditure of the order of several thousands of pounds. Furthermore the complications of the buildings are great and the uncovering of a small area would not be worthwhile since it would be unintelligible to ordinary visitors.

SUITABLE

3. Two other possibilities that would help to meet public interest without involving enormous expenditure come to mind. They could, indeed, suitably be combined. One is the marking on the surface of the outlines of some of the Roman structures by means of suitable paving, or stonework. The other is the possibility of constructing out of doors, perhaps in the vacant area behind the Manor House, a large scale model of one stage of the history of the fort.

4. It would, however, be a pity if none of the original Roman work was visible to visitors and, as the

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY AND ITS FUTURE

MORE PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES ARE SUGGESTED

If the Olicana Museum Society is to stay alive there must be a more practical line in its activities to attract younger people with the aim of setting the future on firmer ground. This was stated at the annual meeting on Thursday of last week.

Miss E. Fletcher, president of the Society and the Curator of the Ilkley Manor House Museum, said that since the Society was formed from the Ilkley Museum Club, a society for young people in Ilkley, in 1954, those younger members had grown up and moved away. This had left the Society without the enthusiasm which those young people had instilled into it.

Perhaps, said Miss Fletcher, this was the reason for the lack of support at the lectures, when attendances had not been up to standard, alongside the poor weather and the multiplicity of other meetings which always seemed to clash with those of the Society.

Up until recently Miss Fletcher said she had not worried about this position. Quite a number of clubs and societies had been faced with

the fact at some time during their existence that after a certain period they would almost certainly come to a stale period.

NEW SOCIETIES

In Ilkley many new societies had come into existence, one of these being the Friends of the Manor House, who were now doing excellent work in putting the Manor House on its feet.

"I really wondered if we had had our day," said Miss Fletcher. The society had accomplished a great deal of what it had set out to do, developing interest in the Museum and encouraging young people to take an active interest in local history. She felt that perhaps now was the time to either bring the Society to a close or to bring it back in a new form.

Miss Fletcher put to the members four suggestions for the Society's future. The first was to re-form the society as an antiquarian, historical or archaeological society. Secondly, it had been suggested at a time when it was at the height of its popularity that the Society should become a branch of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society, which had branches in many towns throughout the county. This had been discussed, said Miss Fletcher, but at that time it had been felt the joining of the Yorkshire Society would still mean having a treasurer and secretary, always a problem with the Olicana Museum Society. The Society was also safely under the auspices of the Ilkley Urban District Council and until the Friends of the Manor House came into being it was the only cultural society of the Council. Perhaps now was the time to reconsider the offer of joining the Yorkshire Archaeological Society.

The Society had inherited many junior members from the Ilkley Museum Club but they were now "dying out." The third suggestion was to start again with young members; children and young people, the only problem being a

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the Society been doing, mittee and

NEW BLOOD

Miss Fletcher said it was in the constitution that the President of the Society should be the Curator of the Museum. But she said she felt her time was short, although her interest in the Society had by no means waned, and that new blood would be welcome. Miss Fletcher thought the chair should be taken over by Mr. Peter Barker, one of the vice-presidents, who had agreed to do so, so that she would continue in name only.

It was said later in the meeting by Miss D. N. Pearce, that the Museum Society would not be the same without Miss Fletcher and

Underneath the house there is a stone bath, a drawing of which I was shown some years ago. It is circular with a ledge running round it—in fact, similar to the White Wells on the Moors. I invited the late William V. Wade when he was lecturer in Roman Studies at Leeds University, to visit it. He was most interested but could not pronounce on it or the site without excavation, remarking that during that last two centuries, when baths were a rarity, such were usually called "Roman" as is the case with White Wells.

Further exploration might prove rewarding, as much of the Roman Road from Ilkley to York has been lost between Stead and the Chevin.

ELSIE M. FLETCHER.

(Hon. Curator, Manor House Museum, Ilkley.)

best-preserved structure encountered was the west wall of the fort, it is suggested that a length of it between the Manor House and the north-west corner, overlooking Castle Road, should be uncovered and consolidated. This would necessarily have to be done by hand under archaeological supervision, but compared with any attempt to deal with the internal buildings, it would be relatively inexpensive and straight-forward. "If any of the suggestions made above are to be adopted, says Mr. Hartley, close consultation between the Council's officers and himself would be needed. He would certainly be willing to co-operate in this as far as his other commitments allow.

OUR ANCIENT MONUMENTS MUSEUM SOCIETY

Mr. Sidney Jackson, keeper of the Museum, Cartwright Hall, Bradford, lectures to the Olicana Museum Society on "Our Ancient Monuments."

Some of the ancient monuments, some scheduled as such, some not, were of infinite variety. They varied in size from Bronze Age cup-and-ring boulders to vast buildings like Wells Cathedral and lengthy structures like Hadrian's Wall, which stretches 73 miles from the Tyne to the Solway. Some were ruins, like Dryburgh Abbey, where Sir Walter Scott and Earl Haig were buried, and others were occupied like Edinburgh Castle.

Mr. Jackson showed slides, including Stonehenge, Avebury, Silbury Hill, Stoney Littleton chambered tomb, in Alredale, Farnhill Pinnacle and the adjacent Neolithic long barrow nearly 500 years old on Bradley Moor, Kildwick Church (the Lang Kirk of Craven, for which Mr Alec Wood, of Cross Hills, has just written a new guide book); North Wales, Iron Age hill fort on a mountain top, called Trer Ceiri; Anglesey, Bryn Celli Ddu (burial mound), Lligwy cromlech (with Professor Stuart Piggott on it, addressing Prehistoric Society Members), Beaumaris Castle; Garag Fawr axe factory near Penmaemawr, Langdale Pikes axe factory.

The members saw Hardknott and Ambleside Roman forts, Castlerigg stone circle at Keswick, Long Meg and her daughters (stone circle near Penrith), scenes on Hadrian's Wall-Banks Turret, Birdoswald Fort, Housesteads Fort, Temple of Mithras, Chesters Fort, Corstopitum (Durham University excavations in progress); Holyrood Palace in Edinburgh, Crossraguel Abbey and Culzean Castle in Ayrshire, Abernethy round tower, and Culross Palace in Fifeshire.

Further exploration of Menstor site may prove rewarding

Str.—Councillor Bell is certainly wise in bringing to the notice of the Town Planning and Building Committee the fact of the site in Menston having possible antiquarian interest.

But a Roman Fort? So near Ilkley? Oh, no! The farmer certainly knew of these large stone slabs which made his farming and gardening difficult, and was averse to investigation. Similar slabs are manifest in the gardens nearer Bradford Road and it would be interesting to know whether they are a continuation of this site, and if they have any Roman significance, as it is a fact that a Roman pavement was unearthed farther up the lane (Burley Old Lane) nearer Menston Church.

This was when I was a young girl and though I never went to look at it—to my father's disgust—I did see the photograph in the "Yorkshire Post Weekly Supplement," which used to be published and which I tried lately to find amongst the "Yorkshire Post" files.

The old house is named "Well House" from the well situated in the garden, which is of extremely pure quality. In childhood days I was told that formerly people could be seen taking kettles on a Sunday afternoon to fill at the Well, for an extra special Sunday "cuppa." In fact, the site was of interest in Menston, being a rendezvous for gatherings under a large red hawthorn for gossip and games, even cock fighting taking place there.

It was "said" that it was a matter of discussion whether that site, or the one at Ben Rhydding, should be developed for hydrotherapy, but I should not like to be held responsible for this "hearsay." However, it has become the site of the small reservoir adjacent.

that if she found the work she was doing, and continued to find to do, too strenuous, it would be better if another took the main responsibility whilst she carried on at a more leisurely pace.

Mr. S. Jackson, of the Cartwright Museum, Bradford, said he would be strongly against altering the name of the Society. The present name had a certain amount of goodwill about it, and that in any case, a change could also cause confusion.

Mrs. J. Le Patourel expressed the view that a society would not attract younger, more energetic members, unless it had something more active to offer them. She mentioned other societies who had organised studies and as a result of them had had printed in book form the results of their research.

Mr. P. Hawkesworth, a younger member of the society, felt it was difficult today to persuade young people to sit and listen to lectures. They must be offered something alive and really active before they would join.

AT BATLEY

Mr. G. Teasdale, who along with Miss Fletcher formed the original group for young people, and had grown up with the Society, spoke of the workings of a similar type of society in Batley and of all the valuable work done by its members. He said that large numbers of members had been set to work doing research into local development, forming the basis of a local survey, which would easily result in a comprehensive book or exhibition. It was essential that the society should have an active place to fill, but he stressed that lectures were the basic instruction to the active parts of a society's procedure.

This way would mean a change of form, said Mr. Teasdale, but certainly not a change of name.

DECISION

It was finally resolved that the present session should continue as planned. During that time the committee should study the problem so that when a meeting at the end of the session was arranged it would be easier to put before the members certain plans, so that definite steps could be taken to organise the society's future.

The Hon. Secretary, Miss Cornwall Jones, said that at the present time the Society had 114 members. The attendances at the meeting during the winter had been smaller than previous sessions, but perhaps this had been due to some extent on the poor weather.

The Hon. Treasurer's report was read for Mr. David Glover by Miss Saunders, who said that the financial position of the Society was not as strong as it had been the year previously, but that it was some consolation to know that the position was, however, still sound. The total funds of the Society were £20 16s. 0d. During the past year the gross income had been £11 17s. 6d. and gross expenditure had been £24 8s. 9d., resulting in £12 9s. 3d. excess expenditure.

OFFICERS

The election of officers and committee was as follows: President, Miss E. M. Fletcher; Vice-presidents, Mr. David Glover and Mr. Peter Barker; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Colin Lancaster; Hon. Treasurer, Miss Saunders; Excursion Secretary, Mrs. Greenwood. They were to form the committee, plus Mrs. Le Patourel, Mr. P. Hawkesworth, Mr. Scott and Miss Cornwall Jones. The Librarian, Miss D. N. Pearce, was on the committee as an ex-officio member.

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY

Visit to Rievaulx Abbey

Members of the Olicana Museum Society visited Rievaulx Abbey and Helmsley on a day's excursion last Saturday. On the way they visited Shandy Hall, Coxwold.

A 17th century yeoman's house, the Hall was the home of Laurence Sterne, the Yorkshire novelist who wrote "Tristram Shandy." Although the house is now in a derelict state, members were able to see the panelled drawing room where he wrote his novels.

Rievaulx Abbey was built in the 12th Century as a Cistercian mission centre and is one of the more complete ruins of all the abbeys in this country. In its heyday it housed 140 monks and 500 lay brothers so the buildings are quite extensive.

Because of the terrain, the Abbey Church had to be built North to South instead of the usual West to East. The nave is the oldest in Britain or France being very plain and severe, in keeping with the early austere rules of the Cistercian Order. In the 13th Century the Presbytery and Quire were added in fine English Gothic style, reflecting a relaxing of the strict observance of the rules. The side chapels retain some of their pavement tiles, drains and a floor piscina, and the stone altars are in an unusually good state of preservation.

Remarkable State

The Abbey buildings, such as the Chapter House and Library are in a remarkable state of preservation. The Library walls still contain the niches in which books were kept. In the Chapter House are the stone benches on which the monks sat to discuss their business. At the entrance to the Chapter House is an elaborate, canopied shrine of the 13th Century on which a relic of the first abbot would rest. In the 16th Century the Infirmary was converted into two storeys and the upper floor seems to have become the abbot's house, judging by the stone carving of the Annunciation above the door.

Helmsley Castle stands within a rectangle of massive earthworks which encircle it with a double system of banks and ditches. The earthworks and lower part of the Keep date from the late 11th century, whilst the Barbican with its flanking drumtowers, and the Northern bridgehead are 13th Century.

Destroyed

The Keep is comparatively small and of an unusual semi-circular shape. The upper part was destroyed during a siege in the 17th Century at the time of the Civil War.

Of the buildings in the Inner Ward, only the foundations of the Great Hall remain. In the 16th Century the buildings adjoining the Hall were remodelled and fireplaces, plaster ceilings, panelling and windows with mullions and transoms were inserted.

The Castle went out of use after the building of Duncombe Park in 1713.

After looking round the Castle members had tea at a cafe in Helmsley. They thanked Mr. Swann, the Secretary, for acting as a most instructive, unofficial guide.

IMPRESSION OF JAPAN MUSEUM SOCIETY

An account of a cruise in a Yugoslav trading ship, visiting Japan, provided an interesting evening for the Olicana Museum Society last Thursday evening. Miss Mary Booth spoke about the main centres she visited on the trip: Tokyo, Hiroshima, Osaka, Nagoya, Mikimoto Islands and Kamakura.

Her illustrations showed several scenes of Tokyo. Miss Booth was unable to visit the Imperial Palace but she showed slides of the bridges, moat and gardens. Japan was governed, she said, by a Diet which had a House of Representatives and a House of Councillors which corresponded with the British House of Commons and the House of Lords respectively. The building of the Diet was of the western type and most impressive.

Tokyo had its traffic problem. However, this was partly alleviated in two ways: No one was allowed to park without a parking licence and there were modern elevated highways built on the American pattern. There were slides of the Ginza, the famous mile-long shopping street which was brilliantly lit by night. Tokyo was the centre for traditional classical drama and Miss Booth showed pictures of the building and scenes from the plays.

HIROSHIMA

In Hiroshima part of the ruins had been reserved for posterity. Out of the rubble had grown a town of ultra-modern buildings and sculptures. In contrast, Miss Booth had photographed a traditional Japanese castle in pagoda style, complete with ramparts, watch towers and moat. There were other similar castles at Osaka and Nagoya.

Other slides featured Japanese gardens with peach and cherry blossom and chrysanthemums in flower.

Throughout Japan there were Buddhist shrines. At these could be seen the Tea Ceremonies, although Miss Booth had taken part in one at a private house. The tea, served in tiny pots, was most unlike the British idea of a cup of tea.

The houses themselves contained very little furniture and screens replaced doors.

Miss Booth was present at a Buddhist wedding and her slides depicted how the bride was dressed before the ceremony. There were also some photographs of the wedding ceremony.

Miss Booth visited Mikimoto Islands to see the pearl fishing. Women dived for and gathered cultured pearls from floating rafts.

At the end of Miss Booth's talk, the Museum Society members realised that Japan was far more up-to-date than Britain in many ways, yet there had been a harmonious blending of the old way of life and the new.

LAST HOME 25.11.1960

Probably the converted Manor House will be the final home of the museum, and a very proper place for it. It is, of course, built on a part of the site of the old Roman fort, though the architect for the present conversion, Mr. J. E. M. Macgregor, has so far found nothing to confirm a much held opinion of the past that Roman worked stones formed a part of it. Mr. Macgregor in the short time available to him was able to show Ilkley Rotarians that the Manor House has its own claims to a right for preservation in that it is a fair example of the way of living adopted by people in this country throughout the feudal period. In his vast experience it presents one of the best examples of the small type of Manor House he has come across. Not only does its value rest on its importance as a dwelling house but also on the fact that for many years it was there that the local court was held. There are critics of this scheme of conversion today, but as the years go by no doubt those who have sponsored and supported it will find favour in the eyes of generations to come.

FRIDAY, 22nd OCTOBER, 1965

ILKLEY CONGRATULATED ON MANOR HOUSE "MOST CHARMING MUSEUM" SAYS SPEAKER LOCAL RAILWAY HISTORY

Ilkley Manor House was the most charming museum he had ever encountered and Ilkley was to be congratulated upon it. This was stated by Dr. Robert F. Youell, of Leeds University, addressing the annual meeting of the Olicana Museum Society last Thursday.

Miss E. M. Fletcher was unanimously re-elected President of the Society with Mr. Peter Barker and Mr. George Scott as Vice-presidents. A new treasurer, Miss N. Saunders, was appointed to replace Miss J. Cope, who had resigned. Mr. J. H. Swann, secretary, and Mrs. E. Greenwood, excursion secretary, were re-appointed.

In his report Mr. Swann commented on a successful year's activities. There had been five meetings during the winter session with talk on a variety of historical topics. These had been well attended and greatly enjoyed by both members and visitors. The five excursions in a most successful summer programme had been excellently arranged. All the outings had been well supported and the members expressed their thanks to Mrs. Greenwood, whose enthusiasm and hard work had ensured the success of that part of the society's activities.

GAZETTE TRIBUTE

Mr. Swann said he was sure the interest and co-operation of the "Ilkley Gazette" in printing full reports of the society's meetings had been a great help, and grateful thanks were extended to the Editor.

For the future, Mr. Swann said a winter programme of a high standard had been arranged with first class lectures on a variety of historical topics, calculated to appeal to members and he was looking forward to record attendances. Under the guidance and care of its present committee and officers he was sure the Society would continue to flourish.

RAILWAY START

Dr. Youell spoke on the history of the railway to Ilkley. In beginning what was to prove an interesting and detailed account of early railway history, delivered in a most vigorous and entertaining style, Dr. Youell recalled that he had arranged the Centenary Railway Exhibition at the Manor House Museum, at Miss Fletcher's invitation, early in the year.

Obviously an unashamed railway enthusiast, he warmly praised the successful fight which the people of Ilkley had waged against the closure of their railway.

Dr. Youell drew a vivid picture of the stirring, exciting days of the railway "boom" in the early 19th century, so startlingly different from today, when hundreds of

companies with apparently endless capital, were fiercely competing to cover Victorian Britain with railways, the new wonder of the age. He described some of the battles of opposing interests, including the Battle of Methley Junction, which were fought with all the vigour and ruthlessness of Victorian business enterprise. The results of history were still with us, he said, in the duplication and unnecessary lines perpetuated by the battles of competing interests, and sometimes the absence of needed and potentially valuable lines which through inter-company rivalry were never built.

FIRST MOVES

Railways to serve Ilkley were proposed long before the present lines were laid. The first proposal was made by the Wharfedale Railway Company (without the "e") which in 1846 obtained an Act of Parliament empowering it to construct a line through Wharfedale from a junction with the Midland Railway main line at Skipton to a junction with the N.E.R. line at Arthington. Plans being proposed at about that time by two other companies, would have resulted in Ilkley developing as a busy junction on a main cross-country line linking Preston and York. In the event none of those plans came to fruition.

RIVALS

A second Wharfedale Railway Company then tried where the first had failed and failed in its turn, mainly because, Dr. Youell said, of difficulties encountered by this small independent company endeavouring to join the Midland Railway at Skipton to the N.E.R. at Arthington, which companies were rivals and not always friendly. Indeed it appeared that an appeal for help by the Wharfedale Company to the N.E.R. had resulted in the two big fellows coming together and compromising to build the railway themselves, squeezing the poor Wharfedale Company out entirely.

The line was finally built and opened in 1865, nearly 20 years after the first proposals, not by either of the local Railway Companies formed specially for the purpose, but by the N.E.R. from Arthington to Otley, and by the Otley and Ilkley Joint Railway, a child of the two rivals, from Otley to Ilkley, and subsequently by the Midland Railway from Ilkley to Skipton.

Exhibition of books by

preacher-poet *undated*

FOLLOWING a lecture given by Miss Elsie Fletcher to the Harrogate group of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society, the Harrogate Art Gallery is showing some of the books of the preacher and poet, Dr. Robert Collyer, who died nearly fifty years ago.

The exhibition includes a bronze bust of the Keighley-born Unitarian minister, biographies written by American and Yorkshire authors, a history of Ilkley, written partly in his own hand, and collections of his essays, poems, and sermons. These items have been lent by Ilkley Museum.

Dr. Collyer wrote and thought much of Ilkley, Blubberhouses and Fewston, where he spent his boyhood. These places were never far from his mind. At the age of one month he was carried from his birthplace over the moors to Blubberhouses. Fourteen years of his life were spent at West House, Blubberhouses, and his early education was gained at local village schools. He always showed a great love of books, and used to spend the winter evenings in reading, even when he was working in the mill at Fewston 13 hours a day.

Working conditions were unbelievably hard in Dr. Collyer's youth, but they schooled him to overcome hardships in later life. He enjoyed a very happy life. During the summer he took great pleasure in the local countryside, and this is reflected in his poetry.

In 1837, at the age of 14 he moved to Ilkley to follow his father's trade of blacksmith. It was in this capacity that he set sail for America 13 years later, and also with the intention of being a preacher in his spare time. After the tragic death of his first wife in 1849, he turned to Methodism for consolation and became a minister.

He worked as a blacksmith in Philadelphia for nine years before,

at the age of 36, being ordained to the pastorate of Unity Church in Chicago. So great was the enthusiasm he aroused that a new church was built and opened in 1867.

One of the tragedies of Dr. Collyer's life was the Great Fire of Chicago, which destroyed his church and his home. As a result of his efforts to re-build his church he temporarily lost his sight.

In 1879, in response to requests, Dr. Collyer moved to New York and became pastor of the Church of the Messiah. Here he spent the rest of his life.

When he heard that the mill in which he first worked was to be dismantled, he asked for the bell, which had summoned him to work, to be sent to America. The bell now hangs in the Rand Hall of Cornell University, in New York State.

It now calls the students at 9 a.m., instead of mill workers at 5-30 a.m., and dismisses them at 4-30 p.m. instead of 8 p.m., which marked the end of young Collyer's working day.

Of the ceremony when he rang the bell on its installation in the University, Dr. Collyer said: "I went with the old clang still in my memory, began to ring, and lo, it was all sweet and musical."

EVOLUTION OF CASTLES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Cr. Kenneth Wilson addresses

Museum Society

Friday 12 November 1965

Cr. Kenneth Wilson addressed the Olicana Museum Society at their recent monthly meeting. His talk was entitled "The Evolution of Castles in England and Wales" and was illustrated with an extensive series of coloured slides.

Castles, said Mr. Wilson, began with the Norman Conquest and the earliest were those which are called Motte and Bailey Castles. These were constructed by the Norman Barons, under licence from the Conqueror, as strongholds from which they could subdue and control the manors and estates which had been granted to them. At first these castles were built of wood, to be replaced later by more permanent and stronger stone structures. The Motte was a conical shaped mound, usually artificial, surrounded by a moat. On top was erected the donjon or keep. An area of ground around the motte was cleared and surrounded by a wooden fence and ditch; this was the bailey, and it was in this part that various ancillary buildings of the castle—stables, workshops and living quarters—were located.

The earliest stone keeps, which superseded the wooden ones, were what were termed shell keeps, because they had an open courtyard inside a surrounding thick stone wall and rooms and staircases were built in the thickness of the walls. Shell keeps were of several shapes and designs, and among examples illustrated were Clifford's Tower at York, and Pickering Castle.

Guard Towers

Early guard towers in the curtain wall were square, as at Pickering and Richmond, but as they were easily undermined, round towers were constructed from about the beginning of the 13th century.

The next development was the solid keep. There were two kinds, the tower keep and the hall keep. The tower keep had a ground floor store space accessible only from inside, and the Great Wall on the first floor, reached by an exterior stairway. The custodian's private chambers formed the next floor above, and sometimes there was a further storey over that. Scarborough was a good example. The hall keep had great hall and chamber side by side on the first floor as at Middleham.

After this period, gatehouses, curtain walls and outworks were extensively developed and outer defence works became very elaborate and complicated, with barbicans, drawbridges, turrets, wall towers and machicolations.

KEEPLESS CASTLES

At last came the keepless castles, of which the four great Welsh castles at Conway, Caernarvon, Beaumaris and Harlech constructed by Edward I were outstandingly fine examples. These featured an outer low wall with towers and moat and a narrow barbed entrance. Within this outer defence was the second high wall with towers and two (sometimes one) very elaborate gatehouses which contained the living rooms above. The narrow ground between the two walls, known as the lists, was where jousting and tournaments originally took place.

The arrival of effective heavy cannon in the 16th century put an end to the usefulness of the Mediaeval Castle and they slowly began to be replaced by more comfortable and commodious fortified manor houses. The final death blow came with the Civil War, during which many castles were wholly or partly destroyed, and afterwards in the Cromwellian period many were deliberately

slighted as punishment for the support they and their owners had given to the Royalist cause.

Thanks to Coun. Wilson for a most interesting and instructive lecture were given by Miss Saunders.

ACROSS THE YEARS

12 Nov 1965

Cup and Ring Stones removal from Panorama Rocks

75 Years Ago

After hearing at the November meeting of Ilkley Local Board in 1890 that the Building and General Purposes Committee had recommended the "cup and ring" marked stones be removed to Mill Gill from Panorama Rocks, Mr. Eli Ibberson said they had received a further recommendation that the tarn would be a more suitable place than Mill Gill. He therefore asked for this item to be remitted back to the Committee.

Mr. Ibberson said the recommendation had come from persons who knew more about the matter than he did. If that were so he thought the stones should be removed there. He was supported by Mr. Critchley. Mr. T. Horsman said the stones at Mill Gill would be covered, so they would not be damaged. Mr. J. Brown supported Mr. Horsman.

Further reference to the stones was made at the December meeting of the Board. Mr. W. Hartley, who lived on the moor, said he would like the Board to settle the question of the "cup and ring" stones. He proposed they be removed from the Panorama Rocks, and be placed on the site of The Rhydings instead of Mill Ghyll.

Mr. H. Morton was in support of Mr. Hartley. He understood that the stones were split up in several pieces unknown to the Chairman of the General Purposes committee. He supposed that committee had to deal with it.

The Chairman, Mr. J. Dobson, said the committee had passed a resolution that the stones be removed to a certain spot and he left it to the committee. If they wanted that altering they must proceed in a different manner.

Mr. Morton said the stones had been split up and they ought not to have been.

After further discussion the chairman said the matter would be brought before the Board again, and Mr. Hartley withdrew his proposition respecting the cup and ring stones' removal. The stones eventually were removed to the Riddings opposite St. Margaret's Church.

Hangingsstone House, Highfield, Ilkley, which was owned by the late Mr. Thomas Carey, was sold to Mr. Edward Atkinson for £300 at a public auction at the Crescent Hotel 75 years ago. Bidding started at £200.

The head gardener at Ben Rhydding Hydropathic Establishment, Mr. Burton, was responsible for the decorations of evergreens at the annual meeting, tea and concert of Ben Rhydding Methodist Chapel 75 years ago. There was a large gathering of members of the

congregation and friends from the surrounding district. The trays for the tea were supplied by Mrs. Bellhouse, Mrs. Horton, Mrs. Kirkbride, Mrs. J. E. Dove, Mrs. Clough, Mrs. Firth, Mrs. Fletcher, Mrs. Barker and Mrs. Leigh. Among those present were Mr. C. H. Gough, Superintendent Minister of the Ilkley District, Rev. J. I. Britten, Mr. H. Sutcliffe, Eastmoor, Mr. J. C. Naylor, Mr. Kallett, Mr. Worfolk, Mr. John Hepton, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Leigh. Local artists taking part in the concert were Miss Turnbull and Mr. Ambler, both of Ben Rhydding. The annual report given by Mr. Bellhouse showed an income of £89 6s. 10d. and an expenditure of £84 12s. 9d., leaving a balance of £4 14s. 1d.

Ilkley had its first snow of the winter at the end of October, 1890.

About 120 members of the Congregational Sunday School Band of Hope gathered for their annual meeting 75 years ago under the chairmanship of Mrs. S. Graham. He was supported by Mr. Joseph Wood and Mr. W. H. Hampshire. The following programme was gone through: piano solo, Miss A. Dobson; recitation, Miss B. Green; reading, Master B. Dibb; address, Mr. J. Wood; song, Miss Green; reading, Mr. R. Pell; piano solo, Miss Mitton. Miss Scott acted as the accompanist.

News reached Ilkley in November, 1890, that Mrs. Robert Collyer, wife of the Rev. Robert Collyer, had died at her residence in Broadway, New York, on 21 October. Her maiden name was Anne Armytage. A native of Yorkshire, she had formerly been a Sunday School teacher in America. She was the Rev. Robert Collyer's second wife. His first wife was buried in Ilkley churchyard.

Mrs. Collyer had been an invalid for 15 years. Soon after his second marriage in 1849 the Rev. Robert Collyer and his wife went to live in America and they resided for nine years in Philadelphia and afterwards they moved to Chicago, where they lived for 21 years. When they left England both were members of the Methodist Church but subsequently they joined the Unitarian body.

Dr. Collyer after this became pastor of Unity Church, which was burnt down in the great fire of Chicago, but was re-built for him. He was later appointed to the Church of the Messiah, New York, where he and Mrs. Collyer went to live.

She left a widower and four children, all of whom were married. A special train conveyed the funeral party to Woodland cemetery, where Mrs. Collyer was interred.

50 Years Ago

HOMESTEAD MOATS

OF YORKSHIRE

10th December 1965
Olicana Museum Society

Well known archaeologist, Mrs. J. Le Patourel, spoke on "Homestead Moats of Yorkshire" at last Thursday's meeting of the Olicana Museum Society. At present Mrs. Le Patourel is surveying all the homesteads with moats in Yorkshire, of which there are over 260, and was therefore able to give an up-to-date account, illustrated with slides.

Mrs. Le Patourel began her talk by defining a moat as a "ditch which has been constructed around a castle, homestead, manorial park or village." Moats were all shapes and sizes. The simple moat enclosed an island site, but there were double and complex moats. Her investigations led her to ask the following questions. Who built the homestead moats? Where were they built? How were they built and why?

ROYAL MANORS

The answer to the first question was that several classes of society built the homestead moats in Yorkshire mainly in the late 13th century. At the top of the social scale were three Royal Manors, of which Burstwick, in Holderness, was one. The Greater Baronage built moated homesteads, such as the Percy family who built Bolton Castle in the North Riding. The Lesser Nobility constructed moats around less opulent dwellings. Appleton Roebuck, West Riding, was an example, of which unfortunately only the foundations remained. At the bottom end of the social scale were the humble moated dwellings erected by freemen. Goldsborough, near Harrogate, was a typical example, the site measuring only 60 feet by 60 feet. Some moated houses were built by ecclesiastics, such as Guiseley Rectory, a local example.

DISTRIBUTION

To indicate where the homesteads were to be found, Mrs. Le Patourel showed a map, illustrating their distribution in Yorkshire. The majority were above the 50 feet contour line, thus avoiding marshy ground, and below the 200 feet contour line, above which the land might be too exposed or infertile.

How were these moated homesteads built? They did not differ in type from houses of the period without moats. The house, usually constructed of timber, wattle and daub, was built around a central courtyard. The buildings were surrounded by a wooden palisade and a hedge of thorn bushes, later replaced by a stone perimeter wall. Then the site would be enclosed by the moat. Mrs. Le Patourel showed slides of examples, namely Markenfield, Ripon, Rest Park, Sherbourne-in-Elmet, Newstead near Lydd, and Chapel Haddlesey, Selby.

STATUS SYMBOL

In the 13th and 14th centuries, there was no fear of foreign invasion yet there seem to be four reasons why families built moated homesteads. First and foremost moats were built as a status symbol. This was often an indication that the family were rising in prosperity. Secondly, a moat might be dug for drainage purposes, particularly if the houses were built on low-lying ground. Thirdly, a moat might be dug for defence against armed robbers, many of whom were soldiers returning from the French wars. Lastly, wild animals were often a nuisance, and a moat would prevent their prowling around the buildings.

The documents relating to the National School (now All Saints Junior School) were particularly interesting, said Miss Moore. The school was opened in 1872. The Log Book shows there were 32 boys and 57 girls and infants. In 1873 School Pence was 3d. a week, but by 1887 this had been reduced to 3d. a month for school books. In 1891 the School Pence was abolished but the Log Book states "that only half the children have exercise books, and writing on slates makes them untidy writers. In 1866 cookery lessons began for 24 girls in what is now Mr. H. Rhodes' classroom. The documents made constant reference to absences because of ringworm. The school was allied to the church and church members took an interest on what was going on there.

Miss E. M. Fletcher, President of the Society, thanked Miss Moore for her most interesting talk. The evening ended with a discussion on what was going to happen to the tombstones in the Parish Churchyard when the Council converts it into gardens.

14 Jan 1966

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY

The growth of Ilkley

Miss Ruth Moore lectured on "Old Ilkley" to the Olicana Museum Society last Thursday. Her paternal forebears have been in the district for generations and her maternal forebears came in 1860. This added a particularly personal flavour to her talk.

Old Ilkley grew up within the square of Church Street, Bridge Lane, Castle Road and New Brook Street, she said.

When the Romans left Britain in the 5th century the square was still a centre of population. The invading Anglo-Saxons of the 6th, 7th and 8th centuries used the stone of the Roman fort for their buildings. When the marauders settled down they used "Tey" and "Ton" for their place names. A "tey" meant a clearing. Thus Ilkley would be a clearing in the thick oak forests which grew in the river Wharfe valley (N.B. Burley and Otley). "Ton" was a settlement in more open country, for example Middleton and Weston.

Ilkley was mentioned in the Domesday Book, said Miss Moore, being described as having a church, a priest and two ploughs, so it was very poor. Ilkley Parish was owned by the Percies. The Middletons came to live in the Lodge in the 12th century. Ilkley came into the hands of the Middleton family in 1500 when Ilkley was but an appanage of the Middleton estate. Old Ilkley people still talked about "going up the village."

The Baronial Courts of Ilkley, Middleton and Stubham were held at the Manor House (behind the church). Many cases were concerned with Stubham Wood, the wood stretching along the north side of the river above the flood plain. People were fined for taking greenwood, ash thorns and acorns (used for feeding swine) from the wood in Middleton. As late as 1893 Miss Moore's grandfather, who lived in Windsover Farm, Middleton, was sent a letter of caution by a Bradford solicitor, acting on behalf of the Middletons. They accused Mr. Moore of taking stack rods from the woods, thus disturbing the game and injuring the trees. Miss Moore has the letter in her possession.

REFORMATION

The life of Ilkley and Middleton was disturbed by the Reformation. Recusancy was punishable by law and the Middleton family, their tenants and labourers adhered to their Roman Catholic faith and refused to attend service in church. They were duly fined. With the passage of time the Recusancy Laws were not enforced but they were revived in the 18th century. Thus an ancestor of Miss Moore's was fined at York.

On Middleton Moor is a dip known as Catholic Gate, said Miss Moore, over which Catholics used to go to Mass at the Lodge where there was a secret chamber where priests could be hidden if necessary.

Before the industrial revolution in the 18th century farmers and their families took part in the home woollen industry. Thus, at that time there were fullers, woolcombers, weavers and websters recorded in the Parish register.

MAIN GROWTH

Yet in the early 19th century Ilkley was to undergo sizeable development. In 1851 the population of Ilkley was 811, but by 1876 this had increased to 5,500. There were two reasons for its growth. Firstly, Ilkley became a fashionable spa town and secondly, in 1865, the railway came to Ilkley. There were various wells and springs with mineral impregnations, White Wells, Spring Well, Canker Well, Dropping Well, Heber's Ghyll Well, one in the grounds of the former Bluebird Cafe and one on the brewery site, now Spooner, Dryer and Engineering Co. Ltd. The brewery sold the water in its natural state, under the trade name of Hygiea. In 1829 the Ilkley Bath Charitable Institution was opened on the Grove, now the Grove Convalescent Home. In 1856 Ben Rhydding Hydro was built.

HEY-DAY OF MANSION BUILDING

Interior decoration in the 18th century

The 18th century was the hey-day of mansion buildings and the aristocracy and gentry had time and money to preoccupy themselves with whims of the period. This was stated to the Olicana Museum Society by Mr. Geoffrey Beard, Director of Cannon Hall, Barnsley when he spoke on "Interior Decoration in the 18th Century."

In many instances, said Mr. Beard, the patrons were very knowledgeable people and craftsmen often worked to the designs drawn up by their masters. Lord Burlington was a typical example, acknowledged as the foremost expert in England on Palladian architecture and design, and a patron of the arts. Wm. Weddell, of Newby Hall, had a special wing built to house his collection of antiquities.

After the buildings had been erected there were various contenders to decorate the interior, the plasterers, the sculptors, the painters, the woodcarvers, the joiners and the tapestry workers. "What of these contenders for space?" he asked. Some were very versatile. Wm. Kent was not only an interior decorator, but an architect, landscape designer and a designer of chairs. Robert Adam, having designed houses went on to design the entire insides down to the last footstool and carpet as he did at Osterley House and Kenwood.

ITALIAN CRAFTSMEN

Much of the work of this period had been done by itinerant craftsmen. They were usually Italians who travelled about Europe, such as Giuseppe Artari who worked for the Marquis of Hertford between visits to the Continent, and who finally died in Cologne. These Italian craftsmen often worked with local men; Artari worked with a London joiner, Charles Griffiths, on the Octagonal House, Twickenham.

As the century progressed fashions changed and craftsmen were kept busy maintaining the up-to-date style of the Lord's mansions. In the previous century plasterwork ceilings were very popular. Many of these ceilings were drawn out in geometrical shapes. Within these shapes, the plasterer was free to design patterns of fruit, leaves and foliage. Twigs, leather and even lead were used to enable the pattern to stand out in high relief. Belton House Chapel ceiling was decorated in 1676 in this manner by Edward Goodge.

PAINTED CEILINGS

By 1700 the fashion for plasterwork declined and Goodge died almost penniless. Painted ceilings and walls were becoming more popular. Louis Taguerre was asked to paint a rosette to set into the ceiling of the stairwell in Sudbury, Derbyshire. Thus, some of the outstanding plasterwork was removed. Most of the painters used mythological subjects. Antonio Vervio painted a ceiling at Buriel House, showing Mars and Venus caught in Vulcan's net.

It was at this time that Grinling Gibbons became famous for his carvings in high relief in pear or apple wood. These were found over fireplaces and furniture.

The coming of the railway in 1865 made Ilkley "Bradford's place of business residence." The Middletons began to sell their lands in 1867 on the south side of the river for housing development. Thus the houses on The Grove were built after this date.

Before the first world war, the trackless tram was to run between Burley and Guiseley. This was the link Ilkley had with the outside world. Horse wagnettes continued to run up the dale. The New Bridge was opened in 1901, which facilitated the modern development of Middleton.

CHURCH PAPERS

At present Miss Moore is busily engaged in cataloguing papers belonging to the Parish Church. Many are of great historical interest. One document relates to the Abolition of the Tithe Law in 1836. The Middletons as Lords of the Manor were responsible under the Law for the repairs of the

By 1745 a more restrained style, known as French Rococco, is noticed in interior decoration and furniture, said Mr. Beard. The fireplace in the Blue Damask Room in Temple Newsam was in French Rococco style.

INTEREST IN CHINA

In 1750 there was an interest in China. Luke Lightfoot, a local craftsman, carved a most fantastic unique Chinese style overmantel and tea alcove for the owner of Clayden, Buckinghamshire.

By 1760 the influence of Robert Adam was felt. He introduced Neo-classicism to England. Mereworth, Kent, designed by Colin Campbell, was a copy of the Villa Rotunda by Palladio. Joseph Rose Juir designed a marble wall at Kedleston, Derbyshire, with alabaster columns, pilasters and recesses with Wedgewood panels.

There was a sharp break in style in 1780, a harking back to Mediaevalism. The interior of Arbury, Warwickshire, was based on the designs of the ceilings in Westminster Abbey. This style was known as the "sugar icing style Gothic."

Mr. Beard's talk served to illustrate that the aristocracy and gentry were fickle and did follow to a great extent the fashions of the period. Often patrons proceeded with recklessness, and bills were left unpaid for years but this did not deter them in their efforts to keep up with the times.

Mr. Beard answered several questions. Mrs. Lloyd thanked him on behalf of the Society.

Cup and ring stones carve-up not vandalism

75 Years Ago

The Museum Committee's attention, in September, 1891, had been drawn to a letter from a Mr. Alden Sampson, who believed that the "cup and ring rocks" had been cut up through vandalism. Further enquiries were made by Mr. Latimer Darlington, the Chairman of the Museum Committee, who denied this.

Writing in the 10 October issue of the "Gazette" in 1891, he wrote "The Ilkley Museum Committee has had its attention drawn to the letter of Mr. Alden Sampson in your issue of the 26 September with regard to a piece of vandalism perpetrated at Ilkley to the 'Cup and Ring Rocks. I have made enquiries and find that what appears as a gross act of vandalism is no such thing. The Local Board have caused the larger rock to be carefully cut into four pieces preparatory to its removal to a safe place. It has been found necessary to cut the rock into four pieces, as had it been cut across there was great fear of it cracking upwards. The rock as a whole weighs from ten to twelve tons and when it has been carefully removed, and put together again the pieces will fit so closely that the marks will scarcely show, and the stones will appear exactly as they were before. The committee trust that when Mr. Sampson reads this letter he will see that the Museum Committee at Ilkley are looking after their ancient relics, and trust in a short time have them placed with others in a museum about to be formed here."

11.3.66

ASPECTS OF THE CIVIL WAR IN YORKSHIRE

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY

Mr. G. G. Forster, Senior Lecturer in modern history at Leeds University, spoke to members of Olicana Museum Society last Thursday evening on "The Civil War in Yorkshire."

Mr. Forster began by saying that the reasons people supported one side in preference to another, were, often complex. Their motives often had a religious, social, economic or political basis, therefore they could not generalise on one particular issue.

In the field of religion, High Church supporters were often Royalists whilst Puritans usually supported the Parliamentarians. However in 1643, the Puritan vicar of Leeds helped the Royalists to defend the city—this was not an isolated case.

Socially, the nobility and the gentry usually supported the King yet 60 out of the 30 county families in Yorkshire were Parliamentarians (of which the Fairfaxes of Denton Hall was one). Moreover, to complicate matters still further, the county families were often split in their allegiances. The Savilles, Wentworths and Constables appeared on both sides. This produced awkward situations. In 1744 Fairfax took his own son-in-law prisoner, and fines were often mitigated by the plea of one member for another.

WEST RIDING

The West Riding Districts tended to support the Parliamentarians for economic reasons. The Royalist government had placed restrictions on clothing manufacture and this had interfered with trade.

Two more factors altered the situation. The Royalists were supported by the Scots, who had marauded Yorkshire for centuries. This was more than many Yorkshire men could stand. There was much bitterness against the Earl of Stafford's policy and this made the King many enemies.

Yet, many people were neutral and those in the fighting areas often suffered intensely.

Now to the nature of the fighting. Both sides depended on local support for men, money and food. Both sides suffered from parochialism. Many would not fight further than the area surrounding their village. So grand strategy on a large scale by a competent fighting force was almost impossible. As the fighting was local and because of family connections it was not usually ferocious. Both armies were irregularly paid, which caused officers and men to desert.

UNPOPULAR

The armies were unpopular by the neutral population, particularly in the fighting areas. In the areas of shifting control, the population were often called upon twice for money and food—this is what happened in Skipton within the space of a few weeks.

The general situation therefore bred civil disorder; there was a great threat to property and scant respect for the law. At the end of the Civil War, the authorities immediately set to work to restore law and order. Town Councils repaired bridges and roads, J.P.'s dealt with cases of embezzlements. There was a stream of petitions for redress of wrongs committed during the War which extended into Charles II's reign.

However because the Parliament was unable to compensate their supporters by titles, sinecures and lands, this caused a degree of dissatisfaction which contributed to its eventual downfall in 1680.

Thanks were expressed by Mr Peter B. Barker, vice-president

Oct. 1966

BRIDGES THROUGH THE AGES

Cr. Wilson's talk to Museum Society

"Bridges through the ages" an illustrated lecture, was presented by Cr. K. Wilson last Thursday evening at the Olicana Museum Society.

He began by defining the four types of bridges, the beam, the arch, the cantilever and the suspension bridges. In pre-historic times, man used natural bridges, stones. Later man constructed beam bridges, which were blocks of stone or wood, the weight of a fallen tree trunk or stepping which was supported on either bank. The clapper bridge at Wycollar was an interesting example of this type.

The Romans were great bridge builders. They used stone piers, which supported wooden or stone platforms. There are some remains of the abutments of a Roman Bridge at Willesford, Chester, and near Hadrian's Wall. The Anglo Saxons did practically no bridge building.

After 800 years bridge building began in earnest with the arrival of the Normans. Medieval bridges were arched and could be Gothic, semi circular, segmented, parabolic or elliptical, the commonest type being segmented. Ilkley, Burnsall, and Linton are segmented bridges. Many Medieval bridges were pack horse bridges. Barden Bridge had refuges built on it like so many others.

FIRST CHANGE

There was little change in bridge building until the onset of the Industrial Revolution, when new bridges were required to carry the roads, canals and railways. New materials now began to be used. In the 18th century the first iron bridge was built by Abraham Darby in Coalbrookdale. Telford built the Bridgewater Canal Aqueduct in 1801, Stephenson built the railway viaduct at Ribbleshead, near Hellfield in 1830, whilst Brunel, Stephenson's great rival, built the cantilever Clifton Bridge at Bristol in 1860. These were but a few examples of the spate of bridge construction in the late 19th century.

In modern times, concrete began to be used, first as a cheap imitation of stone and later as a material in its own right. Goring Bridge over the Thames was built to resemble stone and now looked shabby. Motorways now had beautiful examples of flyover bridges in concrete, a material with its own qualities.

Until two months ago the longest bridge in Europe was the Forth Bridge, a suspension bridge, which now has been superseded by the one in Portugal.

Mrs. E. Greenwood thanked Mr. Wilson for his most informative lecture and congratulated him on his excellent photography.

10.6.65

CUP AND RING BOULDERS

MIDDLETON FIND

At the eastern end of Foldshaw Ridge, Middleton, a cup and ring marked rock has been discovered by Mr. Stuart W. Feather, while doing field work for the present series of cup and ring boulders in the Archaeology Group Bulletin of the Bradford City Art Gallery and Museums.

The October edition of the Bulletin says the rock is nearly covered by vegetation, and lying below the main ridge with its footpath, it is difficult to see when only a few feet away from it.

It is six feet long in a north-south direction, and three feet wide at its northern end. The carved upper surface has a rounded profile, with the least amount of curvature at the northern end which bears the carvings. The rock is a very coarse gritstone which has tended to cause the carvings to be less symmetrical than normal, but has preserved them very well.

The two channels which are the dominant motifs on the rock have a similarity with the two gateposts near Moor Houses. In all four instances channels associated with cups are the most striking features. The first channel is straight, 13ins. long, 2ins. wide and 7/16 in. deep, and runs from an oval depression 4 1/2 ins. by 2 1/2 ins. and 3/4 in. deep. The second, curving channel is 17ins. long, 1 1/2 ins. wide and 1/2 in. deep, and runs from the side of an irregular cup 4 1/2 in. by 4 in. & 3/4 in. deep with another irregular cup 2 in. by 1 1/2 ins. and 1/2 in. deep at the side of the channel.

There is also a clear cut rectangular depression with rounded end 4 1/2 ins. by 2 1/2 ins. and 3/4 in. deep. This has probably been formed by joining two adjacent cups.

Another cup 2 1/2 ins. by 2 1/2 ins. and 3/4 in. deep is at the west side of the northern channel, and one 1 1/2 ins. by 1 1/2 ins. and 5/16 in. deep is on the east side.

8/10/65



Work on the railway wall on the down platform from Skipton was still in progress when this picture was taken from the old cricket field on which Trafalgar Road, Victory Road and Nile Road were built.

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COINS THROUGH THE AGES OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY TALK

English coins through the ages was the subject of a talk given to members of the Olicana Museum Society by Mr. Graham Teasdill, curator of Batley Museum.

He began by tracing the development of the coins as an element in the standardisation of the barter system to the point in the 7th century B.C. when two ancient Greek States introduced proper monetary systems of their own. The Father of Alexander the Great—Philip of Macedon—produced a coin with the head of Apollo on one side and a chariot on the other which was reproduced throughout Europe during the 3rd and 4th century B.C. and a very debased copy thereof was the first coinage used in Britain.

The Romans used a coinage in imitation of the Greeks and then about the time of Christ the Emperor Augustus re-organised the Roman coinage and thereby laid the basis of a modern system. As soon as the Romans conquered Britain this system was introduced into the country.

DEVALUATIONS

Devaluations causing loss of confidence followed by re-issue of new coinage of a better quality were a feature of the numismatic world during the Roman occupation of this country, but when in 410 A.D. the Roman legions were finally withdrawn the monetary system disappeared with them and barter was not replaced by coinage until about the 7th century A.D. However, a coinage system was re-introduced by the late Saxon kings and kept up by the Norman kings. The coin in general circulation was still the penny and then Edward I made an issue of half-penny, farthings and groats, i.e. coins to the value of fourpence and by 1340 the English had a complete system. Henry VII required a more artistic coinage and therefor revised the coins. It was during the reign of Edward VI, in the middle of the 16th century, that the five shilling piece or crown was first issued. Charles II must be given the credit in bringing in a coinage which had milled edges (to prevent people clipping silver from the coins) and copper coins with Britannia upon them, but it was George III who issued the first proper penny.

Mr. Teasdill pointed out that silver coins issued after 1815 were still legal tender.

He ended by pointing out that in this modern age new coinage issues were made for one reason and another and that the modern penny with the head of the Queen on one side and Britannia on the other was a compact historical coin reminiscent not only of the coinage that the Romans issued while they were in this country, but also of comment on coinage throughout the ages.

Mr. Teasdill was thanked by the Vice-President, Mr. P. B. Barker.

26. 2. 65.
26/2/65

NOBODY THERE TO WAVE "GOODBYE"



The last passenger train to stop at Addingham before the station shut down under the Beeching Plan, was the 5.25 p.m. to Ilkley from Skipton, last Saturday. The four coaches were full of hikers. No-one got on, no-one got off. No-one was there to wave goodbye. Only Mr. Austin Burdock, porter for the past 18 years at the Addingham station, to hand the last cash takings and tickets to Guard Peter Slade, of Ilkley. Mr. Burdock watched the last train disappear into the falling snow, locked up, and departed. Thirty seconds was enough to complete the historic occasion. When the station opened 77 years ago there was bunting, flag waving and a day's holiday for everyone.

20 3 65

20/3/65

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ILKLEY GAZETTE

FIRST PASSENGER TRAIN AT ADDINGHAM



The above heading is how this picture is described, and it would appear to relate to a journey provided on seats placed in their trucks by the contractors, Mousley and Co., responsible for the Skipton-Ilkley railway. The official coaches were of the saloon type.

ROMAN FORT SCHEME 2/2/65

The estimated cost of exposing the west wall of the Roman Fort amounts to £500. Public subscription has raised £112 and the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works are prepared to make a contribution of £150.

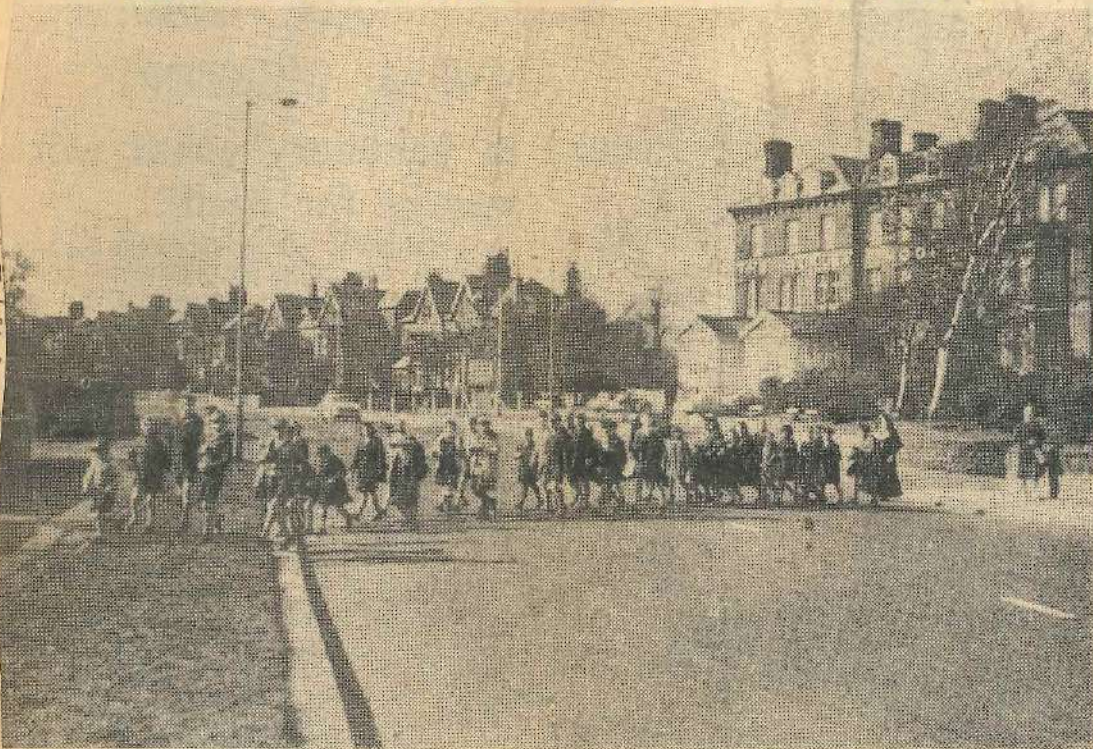
Further endeavours are to be made by Ilkley Urban Council to raise more money by asking organisations of an archaeological or historical nature if they would be prepared to make a grant towards the scheme. In the meantime the Council is to make provision for this work in their 1965-66 estimates.

ON THE AIR

Mr. William Rayner and his

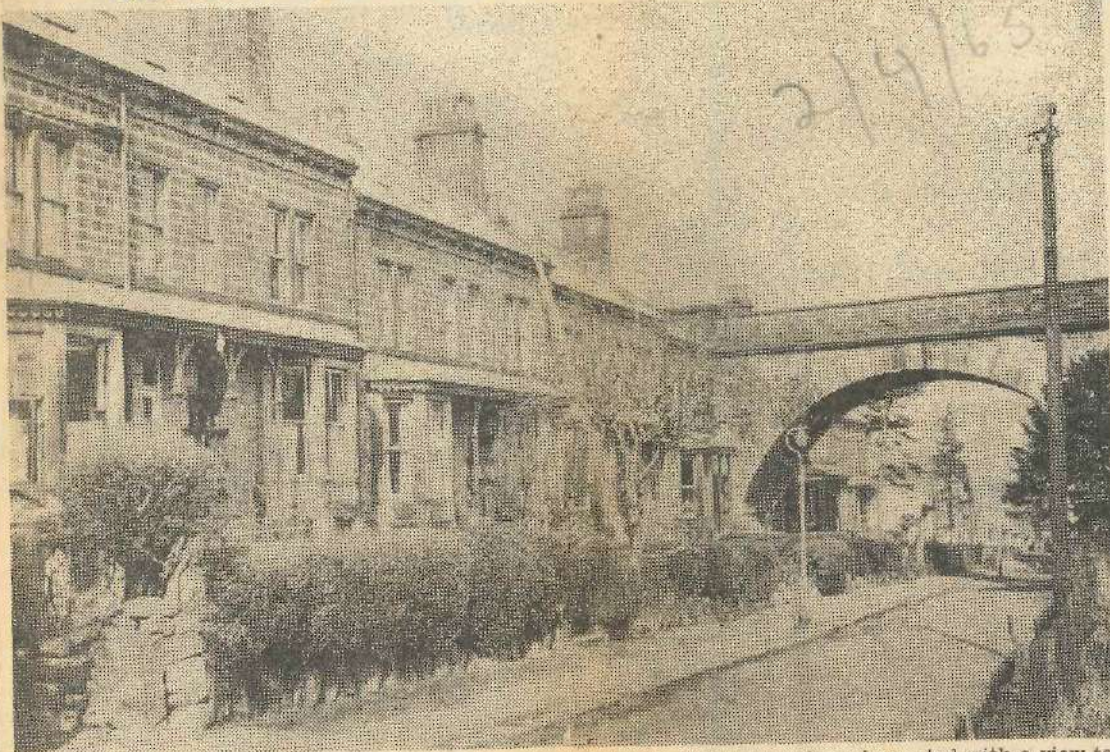
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CROSSING PATROL PROBLEM SOLVED



For some months Ilkley Education Committee and Ilkley Road Safety Committee have been concerned with the safety of the children crossing the main road near the Ilkley Roman Catholic School. After a great deal of difficulty it was stated at the Road Safety Committee meeting this week that a Crossing Patrol would shortly start duty. Picture shows children crossing the road supervised by one of the Sisters.

ILKLEY URBAN COUNCIL TO PURCHASE



Houses owned by British Railways in Yew Bank Terrace, Ilkley, have been inspected with a view to purchase by Ilkley Urban Council. The question of price is now under consideration.

PLANS TO IMPROVE MANOR HOUSE AREA

A garden party to raise funds for the landscaping of the area immediately surrounding the Ilkley Manor House to be held at Westwood Lodge, the Hostel of the Ilkley College of Education (until recently the College of Housecraft), is to be opened by County Cr. Mrs. N. Fortune, Vice-Chairman of the Governors of the College.

The secretary of the Friends of the Manor House, Miss R. Dymond, says the area is at present in a deplorable condition and very unsightly. It was certainly not in a state to attract the general public to visit the Manor House Museum and Art Gallery. Miss Dymond says Ilkley Urban Council has agreed to the tidying up of the land adjoining by the erection of garages, a condition being that these must be screened from the Manor House by the planting of trees, and they have, too, plans for the exposing of the Roman wall. The Society, however, felt it was time that the area in the immediate vicinity was properly laid out. The Society, said Miss Dymond, was anxious to assist the Council in their work for the Manor House and thought that this was one of the ways in which they could help.

SCHOLARSHIP

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY

Visit to Newby Hall

A party of members of the Olicana Museum Society visited Newby Hall near Ripon, the home of Major Edward Compton, last Saturday. They left Ilkley by minibus and cars at 1.30 p.m., and arrived at the Hall at 2.30 p.m.

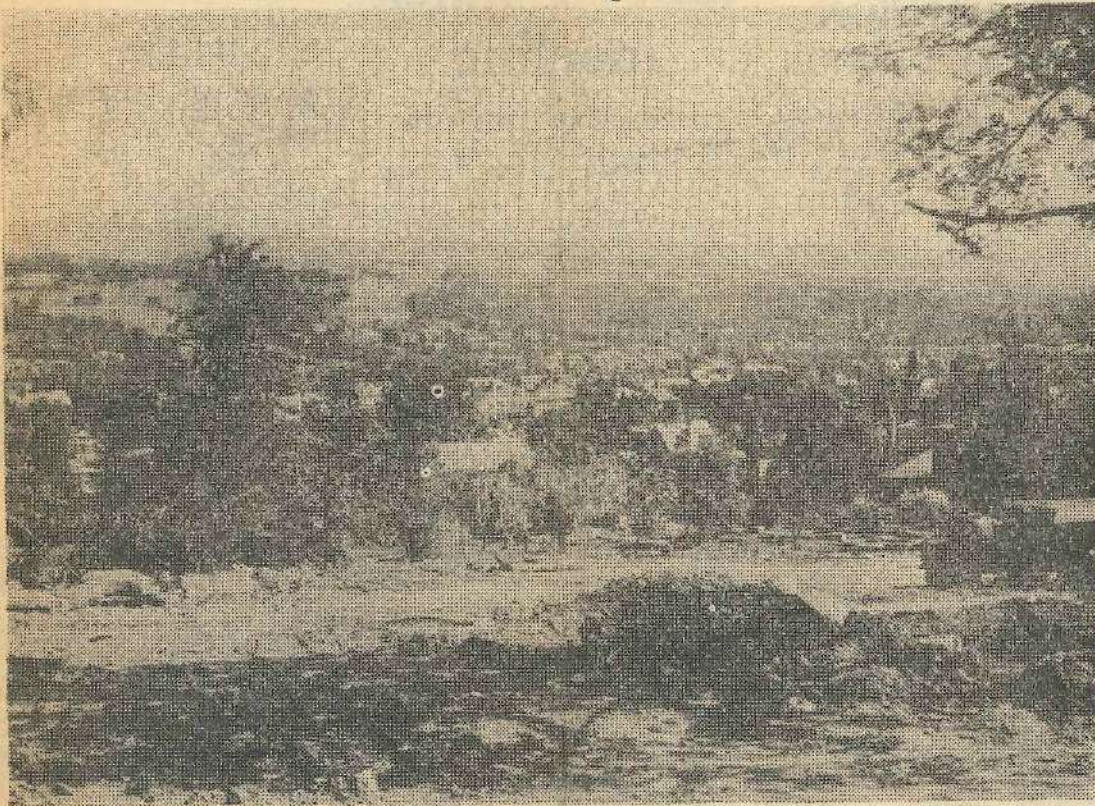
The house is one of the smallest country houses of Yorkshire and is delightfully situated in an extensive parkland rising gently from the north bank of the River Ure. The central block of the present building was built in 1705, in red brick and stone, in the style of Sir Christopher Wren. Between 1765 and 1783 the house was extended, altered and remodelled by Robert Adam to house the art treasures and classical sculpture collection of the then owner, William Weddell. The resulting creation, still in its original condition, with much furniture made to Adam's designs by Thomas Chippendale and other 18th century cabinet makers, is widely held to be the finest example of the great architect's work still extant. The crowning glory is the tapestry room which Adam built to accommodate the exquisite set of Gobel tapestries. Members agreed that this was a most worthwhile visit and the tour of the houses passed all too quickly.

After tea in the Orangery, members toured the extensive and beautiful gardens, which are among the finest in England and contain well over 600 species of rees, shrubs and flowers. Many of them are rare and little known.

2/7/65

2/7/65

DEVELOPMENT IN QUEEN'S DRIVE

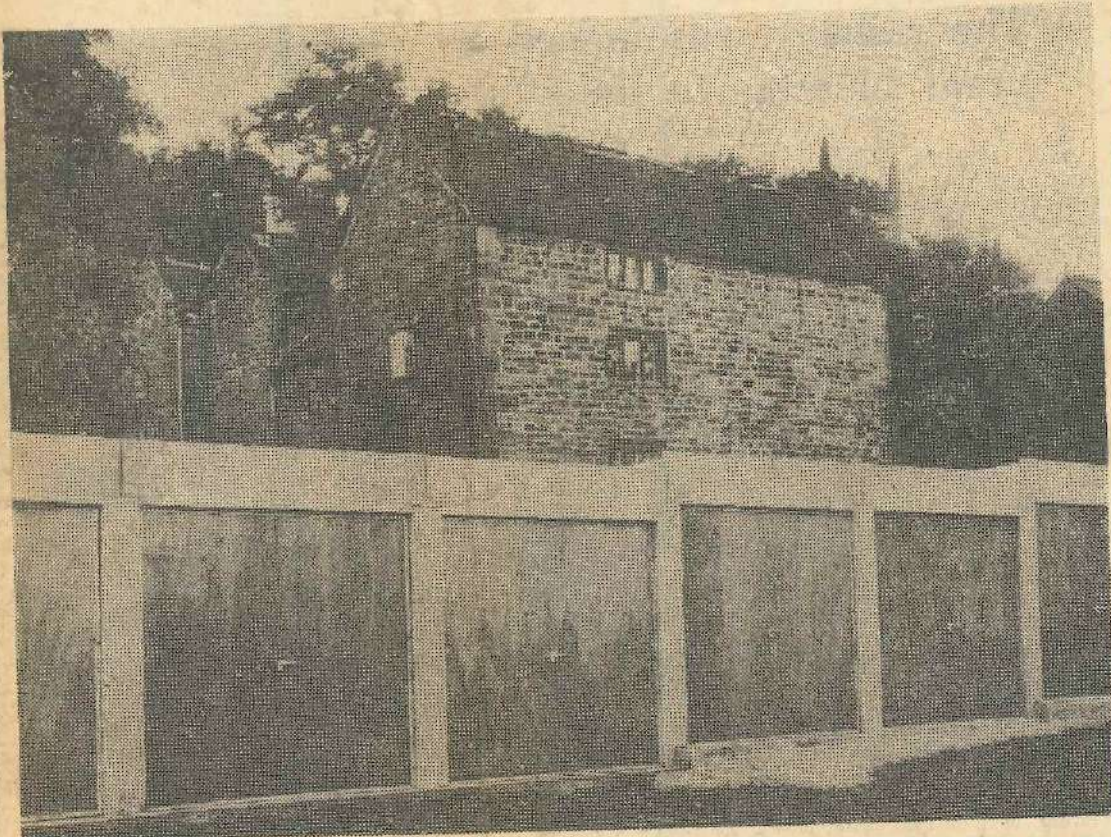


Off Queen's Drive in the grounds of the former residence of the late Sir Henry Price, trees are being felled in a clearance scheme to provide a new private estate. It is just another example of the way in which parts of Ilkley are changing.

6/8/65

6/8/65

ANCIENT AND MODERN CONTRAST



The new garages in Bridge Lane with Ilkley's Manor House behind.

A neolithic axe head estimated at about 4,000 years old has been the outstanding discovery this week by the party of excavators under Cr. Kenneth Wilson working on the remains of the Roman Fort behind the Manor House. It was found amongst the rubble and Cr. Wilson believes it to be a possibility that the axe may have been amongst stones carried from the river for building purposes. The drain found leading out of the north west corner earlier has been further explored this week and now a 35-foot length has been uncovered. It is three feet deep at its end and "rising rapidly," as Cr. Wilson put it, at the point still being excavated. A length of 52 feet of the base of the west wall has been uncovered and an attempt is being made to see whether the west wall of the Manor House, which is in direct line, was actually built on top of the wall. Unfortunately the "dig" is likely to end this week-end apart from "mopping up" operations by Cr. and Mrs. Wilson next week. Many of their volunteers have had to leave—they have been most generous with their time—and there is also the question of expense. This is such worth while work that it is a pity that Ilkley cannot produce, as some places have done, local people who have been ready to make a contribution to the costs of such excavation. If there are people who feel sufficiently sympathetic to help in this way no doubt a note to the Town Hall would soon reach Cr. Wilson.

20/8/65

NOT TOP Cup Marked Rocks on Middleton Moors

The Archaeology Group Bulletin of the Bradford City Art Gallery and Museums this month draws attention to three cup-marked rocks which may be found at the eastern end of Foldshaw Ridge, Middleton Moor, and adjacent to the wall which divides Langbar Moor from Middleton Moor Enclosure.

One of these is a small rock 15 feet on the west side of the wall and 17 yards uphill from the gateway of the Foldshaw Ridge footpath. The rock is at ground level with a slight slope of the surface with the slope of the ground, to the south. It measures 2ft. 6ins. by 2ft., and has five cups and a short channel. The cups vary from 2½ ins. to 1½ ins. in diameter, and are ¼ in. to ½ in. deep. The channel which partially surrounds the cups on the south side, at the edge of the steeper slope, in is every respect similar to that on the other rocks. With a group of cups, this time instead of seven enclosed on the edge of a change of level of the surface of the rock. The channel is 12ins. long, irregular in width and not cut out or regular in design to other. It is about ½ in. deep.

GATEPOST

Another rock is at the wall side 10 yards below the gateway. It is a large gritstone outcrop which has been quarried away on the south side leaving right-angled cut edges a water-filled hollow and a cut portion of rock, presumably a gatepost, 4ft. 9ins. long by 11ins. wide, still remaining. The wedge marks continue from the previously removed portions and cut the remaining rock which measures 9ft. by 6ft. The only symbols that remain on the rock are one cup, 3ins. in diameter and ¼ in. deep, with a 24ins. long, sinuous channels, ¼ in. wide and ¼ in. deep, that runs from the cup across the natural weathering channels to the cut edge of the rock. Whether there were other cups on the rock it is impossible to say, but the third rock may be part of this quarried rock.

This is a small fragment of rock 29ins. long, 11ins. wide and 4½ ins. thick. It has one straight edge obviously artificially cut, and is wedge-shaped in sections with the ¼ ins. thickness at the straight edge, and thinning to zero at its widest point. The level surface is weathered fine gritstone, and has one clear distinct cup 3ins. in diameter and ¼ in. deep, and the fractured outer edge cuts across two other cup marks, the clearest being 2ins. in diameter and ¼ in. deep.

27. 8. 65

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ILKLEY ROMAN FORT DISCOVERIES

27/8/65



Most important discovery of the last four weeks of excavations of the Roman Fort of Ilkley behind the Manor House came at the week-end with the exposure of the outer face of the west wall. The inner face has been exposed on the "dig" of three years ago, and a long length of it in the past four weeks, but this is the first time the outer face has been seen. It came about as Cr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wilson, who have been in charge of operations, felt that the west side of the Manor House might have the wall as its foundations.

Accordingly a trench was dug at right angles and the west wall in perfect condition revealed. In the picture the bottom five courses are the outer face of the wall, with the Manor House wall above. This discovery has enabled the width of the west wall to be measured at four feet with the two offsets giving an extra ten inches. There is a pebble foundation. The five courses represent a height of three feet nine inches. It is evident that a flower bed at some time was alongside the Manor House wall and the edging stones bordering it have been traced.

In mid-week when the bulldozer was being used to provide a more gradual slope to the excavated wall, a section of the outer face was also exposed between the end of the recently excavated wall and the Manor House. Cr. and Mrs. Wilson with the help of volunteers one of whom is making a special journey from London, are to excavate this at the week-end as an extra and final dig for the present.

via Red Daily ferr

PRE-MANOR HOUSE BUILDING ON SITE



Other excavations during the past week have not only exposed more of the west wall of the Fort but revealed the corner of a late 14th Century building pre-dating the present Manor House. Cr. Kenneth Wilson who has directed the present excavations says the major part of this is under the Manor House and below a modern sewer where it is not possible to investigate. Excavations proved this to be a substantial building with walls 3 feet 6 inches and 2 feet thick, with dressed stone from the Roman Fort. The walls have remained standing to about 4 feet in height and are joined to the west face of the Roman wall. In the corner of the building was a privy with an outlet through the wall into the moat. A pottery found at the bottom of the privy has been dated by Mrs. J. Le Patourel to the year 1399 as made at Skipton on Swale. The picture shows this section of the building with the west wall of the Roman Fort behind.

ROMAN WALL EXCAVATED



Three weeks digging behind the Manor House by a team of volunteers under Cr. Kenneth Wilson has uncovered a 52 feet length of the base of the west wall of the Roman Fort. In addition there have been found several pieces of pottery, a bronze finger ring, three coins one of the period of issue 154-155 A.D. during the reign of the Emperor Antoninus. There are on exhibition in a display case. The wall has been exposed from the Manor House to the North West corner where a drain in an excellent state of preservation has

been found and what is believed to be the site of the angle tower. Stonework which has fallen away may be a part of this. In the drain is a stone slab measuring 63 inches x 36 inches x 8 inches which Cr. Wilson hopes may prove to have an inscription on the lower side when it is raised. Much of the north wall seems to have disappeared and the stone may have been taken away by local builders who found in the ruins of the fort a ready made quarry. Several old buildings in the vicinity of the Manor House include stones

similar to those found in the fort. Cr. Wilson and his party are delighted with the progress they have made. They expect to carry on for at least another fortnight, but the number will be reduced. The wall after being repaired and re-pointed will be left exposed as an additional attraction to the Manor House, and the find will be added to the collection in the Manor House Museum. Almost on top of the wall there is a find related to a later period of an oven with which an old millstone has been used.

ROMAN FINDS IN ILKLEY HAVE GERMAN ORIGIN

Wharfedale connections with historic events

Miss Elsie Fletcher of Menston, Curator of Ilkley Museum, found in a recent visit to Germany much association with Roman occupation of Ilkley in the form of similar relics and with events in which Wharfedale people were concerned. She writes of them in this article.

If your hobby happens to be Museums—which is somewhat unlikely—you will understand with what joy I seized an opportunity to visit museums in Germany. For there, from the largest museum in the world at Munich to the tiny ones in out of the way places, I was able to see much of what connects the finds of Roman and prehistoric times in our own Ilkley Museum with the places from which they originated.

No longer need one think with pity of the Roman auxiliary stationed in such a cold bleak place as Olicana, for in all probability he did not come from Italy but was recruited from the conquered lands just over the North Sea, where I found the climate similar to our own.

The querns for grinding corn in our museum are made of local millstone grit, but one is different. This is made of the local stone from Neidermendig near the Rhine and was in all probability brought by the first Cohort to be settled here, for it was usual for the Infantry to carry such a one on their marches, usually on a mule's back, to be ready for grinding corn at the camps where they rested.

STOLEN

The glass too shows evidence of Rhenish manufacture and is helpful for dating. We have one piece in "pillared" glass which was not manufactured after 125 A.D. Amber certainly came from the Rhine lands, and it is disappointing that the amulet which was supposedly the finest in the country should be stolen from the old museum. It had been found almost on the same site in one of the vases with bracelets, rings and some pottery beads.

The fine Roman gateway with its two entrances and its buildings above at Ilter was a fine site. The Porte Nigre, so called now because its huge stones have blackened with age, is a fine edifice. So are the ruins of the Roman baths, reminiscent of the Bath of Caracalla in Rome. As so often happened when ready dressed stones were found on a Roman site, a church was built in later Christian days. This happened here, and, as it was the gateway to the fortress, its name of "Castle" grew up. This inclines me more than ever to the belief that the old names around the Manor House, as Castle, Castle Yard, Castle Hill, are of very ancient origin. Our Roman Fort was certainly of Castellum origin.

EXPLANATION

We are often asked, when we excavate the Fort and find the foundations, why we cover them up again! This is necessary for, to expose them efficiently, is quite an expensive matter. But this we hope to do when funds allow and there is a box in the Manor House for this purpose. This has been done effectively at Ribchester, the fort over the Pennines, connected to ours by the Roman road leading to the West. We hope to have a full scale model too.

But at Saasburg, on land at the confluence of the Neckar with the Rhine, a complete fort has been constructed on its foundation. There one can see the barrack blocks, granaries, forum—in fact, a complete reconstruction and worthy of a visit for it too somewhat equated ours and I regretted insufficient time and the language barrier for complete understanding.

2nd century, a mystery still unsolved, it was replaced by the VI Victrix, brought from the Rhine and stationed at York where it remained until the end of the Roman occupation.

MODERN TIMES

After visiting so many museums from the largest in the world at Munich to the tiny ones, and seeing the sites from which our forebears of prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon days came to settle in our district, it was good to turn to more modern (!) times and survey scenes of romance.

The fascinating castle at Heidelberg has an English Wing, so called because it was built by the Elector Friedrich in honour of his bride, Princess Elizabeth of England, the sister of Prince Henry whose name is perpetuated in Otley's Grammar School.

After a hot and exhausting day it was delightful to sit in the cool wine cellar, with refreshing drink from the largest tun in the world. Its effect was soothing and whilst resting, the mind ambled pleasantly along, thinking of the vicissitudes of this unfortunate princess. Their lives of poverty in Germany were very happy ones, and they raised a large family, from the eldest of which our own Royal Family has descended. On the accession to the throne of the Palatinate, the Royal couple and their family came here to live in Royal pomp and circumstance and Elizabeth won all hearts by her charm and beauty. I thought pre-fab was a modern invention but to show the people's love the magnificent Garden Gate was erected in her honour in one night in 1615 as a surprise. Its parts were carved and prepared beforehand.

Alas this happy state of affairs lasted only one year. Attacked by Russians they had to flee for their lives. All was disorder and confusion and after a few miles Elizabeth found that the youngest of her large family was missing and his nurse could not be found. However, having been left behind some person had thoughtfully thrown him into the last waggon. This was Prince Rupert of the Rhine whose connection with Ilkley is commemorated in the name of Rupert Road.

Then I thought of the young boy from Appletreewick, William Craven, whose story reads like that of Dick Whittington. Leaving his cottage home, he journeyed to London, became apprenticed to a rich silk merchant, married his daughter, was knighted and eventually became Lord Mayor of London. It was his son, another William Craven, who, in later life built Burnhall Bridge, the old Grammar School, and built and lived in the High Hall with its minstrel's gallery at the top of Appletreewick's village street.

JOINED THE PARTY

As a youth, his friends were John and William Fairfax from Denton, and when James I asked for volunteers to go to Germany to seek his daughter Elizabeth, these three joined the party. It was William Craven who found her living in poverty in a dreadful hovel, deserted by everybody. Re-united eventually with her family, they lived again in poverty in Holland but later, when the time was ripe, William brought her to England, and, the story says, "they married and lived happily ever after."

Prince Rupert too loved this country where he was very popular. When Civil War broke out in 1642 he came over to take sides with his uncle, Charles I. Here, as is well known, his daring and impetuosity in battle helped to win the first victories for the Royalist party. In 1644 we find him encamped in the large field at Bolton Abbey where his largesse compensated the farmers for their loss of crops.

ALTAR COMPARISON

In the museum at Baden Baden in the Black Forest there is a complete Roman altar carved exactly like the broken part in that in our Parish Church. It was there that the Emperor Caracalla recovered his health in the healing springs and caused this altar to be erected. Shortly after, he came with his father, Septimus Severus, his mother, Julia Domna, and his brother, Geta, to Britain, to York. You can see their likenesses on their coins found in Olicana (shortly to be re-arranged in the museum). Septimus Severus died in York (A.D. 211) and his sons helped him to build his own funeral pyre. After Caracalla murdered his brother, Geta, he became sole Emperor. Could it be there is any connection between the two places, both with healing springs? No, perhaps that is too speculative, but it is true that Caracalla did foster the building of altars flushed with his victorious campaigns, here in the north, and being tolerant of native religion, he had the one erected to Brigantia, who was certainly native to these parts.

When the IX Legion was completely annihilated early in the

DENTON HALL

This was followed at Denton, where in the Hall (a predecessor of the present building) he saw a painting of a young Fairfax, one of the band which had helped to rescue his mother. The Hall was saved, otherwise it would have fared badly with an enemy's home, particularly a Fairfax.

Which thought, brought me to the controversial question as to which Hall it was at Menston where the stone table was situated at which Cromwell, Lord Fairfax, the Parliamentary General whose home was Denton Hall, sat to formulate their plans for the battle of Marston Moor. Though I gave my documentary authorities for stating that it was at Menston Hall, the home of the Lord of the Manor at Menston (the present Hall, its successor, is now in the possession of Ilkley Council) failed to convince my challenger.

But would the home of a Fairfax be a safe place to hold such a meeting? Doubtless each army had its scouts spying on the enemy. Beside what a commotion the arrival of such impressive people would make in the village. Also the ground east of the Hall slopes directly on to the centre of the village. What interested and excited people could be gazing from the windows of the "Menston Arms" directly opposite! Though its known deeds go back scarcely a hundred years, there would surely have been an Inn there from time immemorial. Its name, "Menston Arms," refers to the arms of the Brearys whose records go back to that estate from almost Norman times. Mary Breary was the last heiress and when Charles Fairfax married her they settled here (in a still earlier house than the present one) and brought up their numerous family.

Then my thoughts brought me still more up to date in history. The "Occupation of the Rhine" today. The enormous new town we visited outside Wiesbaden which houses 10,000 families of the American Army.

Here I sat up with a start as a voice exclaimed, "I do believe you've been asleep! Its that wine! Are you ready, the coach is waiting?"

THEY GAVE THEIR NAME

The Hebers of Hollin Hall

The family of Heber, established at Hollin Hall in 1638, first came to Ilkley from Martin in Craven in 1619 when Reginald Heber, son of Thomas Heber, rented a messuage from Sir Peter Middleton. Reginald Heber was one of those 14 men who undertook on 2 January, 1635, to pay their proportion toward the erection of a school house at Ilkley. Four of his six children died in his lifetime and he was survived by Cap-

Reginald Heber, who became a the church when he died in 1697. Captain John Heber had a son Thomas who spent a wild and dissolute youth and with three others was charged with burglary and assault, but appears to have reformed and 14 years later in 1690 was a churchwarden, a position which had fallen to his son John five years before at the age of 21. This John Heber died in 1708. All except one of his children died when young, and the survivor, Sarah, at 33. Her husband was Richard Strother, of Hollin Hall and Otley. He died at Shipley and was buried at Ilkley in 1749. The line of Hebers ended there. Thomas Heber of Marton, had a son Thomas in addition to Reginald who came to Austby. It was this Thomas who founded the line which produced Bishop Heber who wrote such well known hymns as "From Greenland's Icy Mountains," "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty" and "The Son of God goes forth to war." Over the years there has been an attempt to link this hymn writer with Heber's Ghyll, but as has been shown there is no connection between Ilkley and this branch of the family. Several of the Ilkley Hebers are buried in the Parish



barrister, a churchwarden like his father before him, and left £100 to Grammar School and £100 to tain John Heber, who fought for Parliament in the Civil War, and Church.

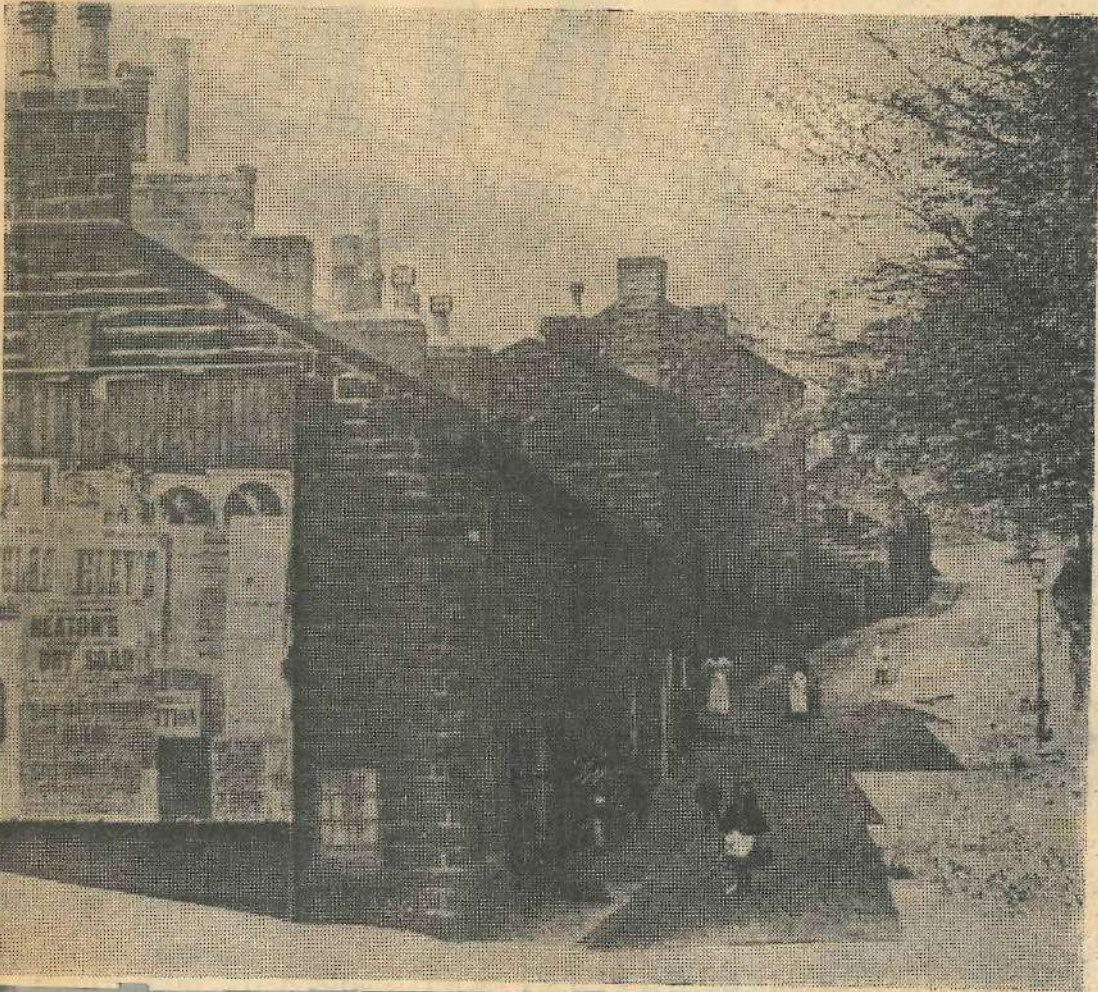
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CHAPEL LANE, ILKLEY, OF THE PAST



WHO CARVED SWASTIKA STONE ?

Was the swastika on Ilkley Moor carved by a stonemason filling in spare time whilst working on the erection of Semon Home?

This is a point raised in the current issue of the Bradford Archaeology Group Bulletin. It speaks of the late Mr. H. B. Booth, prominent ornithologist and member of the Bradford Naturalists' Society, who lived at Ben Rhydding, telling the story existed. At the Prehistoric Society's conference at Swansea in September, a former Wharfedale resident, Mr. John M. Wood, was asked about this, and he later wrote as follows to the Bulletin.

"I have been looking up some of my jottings from the 'Ilkley Gazette' with regard to the Ilkley rock carvings. In a lecture given on 17 March, 1913, by Mr. T. C. Gill, the warden of Ilkley Moor, and reported in the 'Ilkley Gazette,' it is stated:

"I have a vivid recollection of my predecessor, when I took charge of the moor in 1873, relating to me that a working man who was employed at the Semon Convalescent Home in 1872-73 named Ambrose Collins, spent most of his leisure time carving and ornamenting the rocks near the Home, evidently hoping that at some future time they would be discovered and become famous."

PANORAMA STONES

Mr. Wood goes on to refer to the Panorama Stones in the Rhyddings opposite St. Margaret's Church, and comments, "There is a notice now on the site of the Panorama Stones which states, 'These stones were purchased at the end of 1890 by Dr. James Fletcher Little, and were removed from a field near Panorama Woods to this site. Actually the stones were not removed at that date. It is stated in the 'Ilkley Gazette' of 10 October, 1891, that they were then cut into four pieces to facilitate their removal. (The stone originally weighed an estimated 10 to 12 tons). By 6 August, 1892, they had still not been removed but were coated with silica to preserve them, by which means they came to present a rather odd appearance."

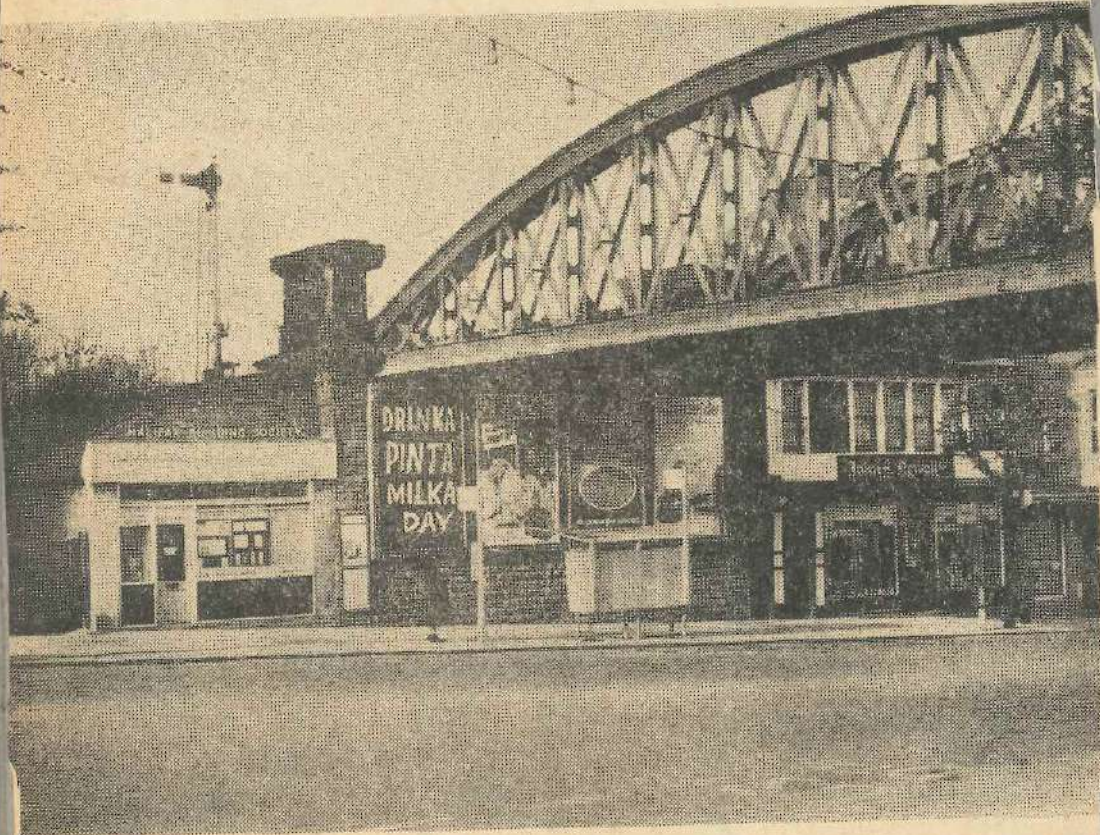
(NOTE: In the "Ilkley Gazette" of 6 May, 1893, there was reference to "the cup and ring stones which have been carted on to the Rhyddings." In the 30 June, 1894, issue, the Local Board's attention is drawn to "a much needed want by visitors to Ilkley" for a board or plate identifying the cup and ring marked stones carefully protected and kept sacred by railings in the vicinity of St. Margaret's Church. —Editor "Gazette").

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BROOK STREET FRONTAGE IN DEMAND



Ilkley Urban Council is discussing with a company of estate developers the acquisition of railway land to the west of Brook Street and with the frontage shown under and to either side of the bridge.

Craiglands about 100 years ago



14

SERVICE BY CANDLELIGHT WILL MARK END OF WEST END CHURCH

8/10/65

On Monday evening, parishioners and friends will gather in the little stone-built Church of Holy Trinity at West End for the last service there before the site is submerged under 115 ft. of water in Leeds Corporation's new Thruscross reservoir.

The service will be held by candlelight, which will not be anything of a change to regular worshippers as the church has never known the conveniences of gas or electricity and has relied on oil lamps for many years. The service, which will commence at 7 p.m., will be conducted by the Dean of Ripon, the Rev. F. L. Hughes and musical items will be given by the choir of St. Peter's Church, Harrogate. After the service, refreshments will be served in the old schoolroom.

The parish of Thruscross dates back to 1299, but it was not until the Commonwealth Survey in the 17th century that there was found to be a chapel at Thruscross with a minister. It was also discovered that the minister was not being paid for his work, and it was therefore decided to make Thruscross a parish. As it turned out, it was not made a parish until 200 years later. It is nearly 100 years ago since the present church was consecrated.

At one time in its history, the Washburn Valley had five flax

spinning mills, and there were enough people to provide good congregations at a Primitive Methodist Church, a Wesleyan Chapel, and the present Church of Holy Trinity. Records show that in 1811 Thruscross had a population of 610, compared with the figure of the 1961 census of 65.

Although this church is to disappear from its present site, the parish of Thruscross is not to be left without a church. Leeds Corporation is building a new church at Hobson's City at the South Side of the Valley. Unfortunately, this will separate the church from the graveyard, provision for which has been made on the Greenhowe Road near the Stonehouse Inn. This means that the remains of the 250 people who have been buried in the present churchyard will have to be moved to the new site.

However, the parishioners of Thruscross have the comfort of knowing that they will eventually be able to continue worshipping in a modern and perhaps even a gas or electricity-lit church.

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY END WINTER SERIES Given Talk on Cup and Ring Marked Rocks

The Olicana Museum Society held the last of its series of winter lectures for this season on Thursday of last week at the Town Hall, when the speaker was Mr. Michael J. Walker of Ben Rhydding.

The President of the Society, Miss Elsie M. Fletcher, was in the chair.

Mr. Walker spoke on "Cup-and-Ring Marked Rocks," of which he has for several years made a close study, and showed many of his drawings and photographs during the course of the talk.

Local Stones

Dealing with the local Cup-and-Ring Stones, he said these were found roughly between heights of 800 and 1,000 feet, the largest being situated at Hangingstone. One of the most interesting rocks was the one opposite St. Margaret's Church, although this was very difficult to photograph properly—Mr. Walker had to climb up a nearby tree to obtain a satisfactory photograph.

This rock was deteriorating rapidly because of its situation under overhanging trees, and he suggested that a canopy be placed over it for protection. Cup-and-Ring stones which had been recorded by some writers could no longer be found, and directions given in their books were extremely vague and quite useless in many cases. Also the drawings in some books were very inaccurate, as the speaker had discovered when making new drawings of better-known stones.

Carved B.C.

Mr. Walker said it was not known what these markings represented, but it had been established that they were carved between 2000 and 1500 B.C. approximately. At one time it was believed that the carvings had spread to Britain via Spain from the East, but the speaker said this theory was now being disproved, due in part to his own researches. He expressed his belief that the designs were of British, and not Eastern origin. The markings were to be found in Wharfedale, Airedale, Washburndale, near Scarborough, and in Northumberland, among other places.

Thanks to the speaker were expressed by Mr. T. Naylor, the President of the Otley Archaeological and Historical Society.

The secretary said the next function would be an excursion to Bramham Park, Boston Spa, during May.

EVOLUTION OF CASTLES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Cr. Kenneth Wilson addresses Museum Society

Cr. Kenneth Wilson addressed the Olicana Museum Society at their recent monthly meeting. His talk was entitled "The Evolution of Castles in England and Wales" and was illustrated with an extensive series of coloured slides.

Castles, said Mr. Wilson, began with the Norman Conquest and the earliest were those which are called Motte and Bailey Castles. These were constructed by the Norman Barons, under licence from the Conqueror, as strongholds from which they could subdue and control the manors and estates which had been granted to them. At first these castles were built of wood, to be replaced later by more permanent and stronger stone structures. The Motte was a conical shaped mound, usually artificial, surrounded by a moat. On top was erected the donjon or keep. An area of ground around the motte was cleared and surrounded by a wooden fence and ditch; this was the bailey, and it was in this part that various ancillary buildings of the castle—stables, workshops and living quarters—were located.

The earliest stone keeps, which superseded the wooden ones, were what were termed shell keeps, because they had an open courtyard inside a surrounding thick stone wall and rooms and staircases were built in the thickness of the walls. Shell keeps were of several shapes and designs, and among examples illustrated were Clifford's Tower at York, and Pickering Castle.

Guard Towers

Early guard towers in the curtain wall were square, as at Pickering and Richmond, but as they were easily undermined, round towers were constructed from about the beginning of the 13th century.

The next development was the solid keep. There were two kinds, the tower keep and the hall keep. The tower keep had a ground floor store space accessible only from inside, and the Great Wall on the first floor, reached by an exterior stairway. The custodian's private chambers formed the next floor above, and sometimes there was a further storey over that. Scarborough was a good example. The hall keep had great hall and chamber side by side on the first floor as at Middleham.

After this period, gatehouses, curtain walls and outworks were extensively developed and outer defence works became very elaborate and complicated, with barbicans, drawbridges, turrets, wall towers and machicolations.

KEEPLESS CASTLES

At last came the keepless castles, of which the four great Welsh castles at Conwy, Caernarvon, Beaumaris and Harlech constructed by Edward I were outstandingly fine examples. These featured an outer low wall with towers and moat and a narrow barbed entrance. Within this outer defence was the second high wall with towers and two (sometimes one) very elaborate gatehouses which contained the living rooms above. The narrow ground between the two walls, known as the lists, was where jousting and tournaments originally took place.

The arrival of effective heavy cannon in the 16th century put an end to the usefulness of the Mediaeval Castle and they slowly began to be replaced by more comfortable and commodious fortified manor houses. The final death blow came with the Civil War, during which many castles were wholly or partly destroyed, and afterwards in the Cromwellian period many were deliberately

slighted as punishment for the support they and their owners had given to the Royalist cause.

Thanks to Coun. Wilson for a most interesting and instructive lecture were given by Miss Saunders.

ILKLEY AT COMING OF ROMANS MUSEUM SOCIETY TALK

At a meeting of the Olicana Museum Society, held in the Committee Room of the Town Hall last Thursday, Mr. Eric T. Cowling, author of "Romald's Way," spoke on "Ilkley at the Coming of the Romans." Miss E. M. Fletcher presided, and there were 31 members and visitors present.

Mr. Cowling began by qualifying the title of his talk as he said there was no evidence to support the theory that Ilkley existed before the Romans came. He then went on to suggest reasons, in a concise and authoritative talk, for the probable situation of a settlement here in pre-Roman days. The importance of the Aire Gap was stressed—this is 300 feet lower than any pass from peak country to the border, and has been a natural passage for trade since the earliest times. Locally, Green Crag Slack was the metropolis of the area, and many Mesolithic remains have been found.

CRITICISM

Mr. Cowling said that the cup-and-ring stones in particular were worthy of preservation. He had been criticised, he said, by "some young archaeologists" who maintained that his drawings of these stones were not correct. He did not mind criticism, so long as his critics could do better work. Cup-and-ring stones had degenerated from the original stone circles such as the "Twelve Apostles" at Lanshaw Lad, which were used as meeting places for worship. Another important feature of Ilkley was the ford over the river, as it was one of two in the whole valley, the other being at Otley. This would be the site of Ilkley's first permanent settlement, as innkeepers would set up business to cater for travellers.

Gradually with the coming of the Anglians (Saxons) the valley bottom would become ploughed and cultivated for the first time. Some corn millstones and querns from the Museum were exhibited at the meeting, and the speaker suggested that these were evidence of Romano-British settlements, but more information was needed on this subject. The people of this period would have to be self-supporting, and doubtless the modern mixed farmer was doing roughly the same job as his ancestors 2,000 years ago. Sheep would be here then, as they were to-day, and would have to be protected against the wolves (hence Woolf Bank—Wolf Bank). Bees would be kept, and fish from the river would supplement the meat.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Cowling was expressed by Mr. G. Teasdale.

MANOR HOUSE

By a coincidence this issue of the Gazette not only contains the announcement of the further generous gesture by Mr. Percy Dalton in connection with the Old Manor House but also notice in connection with the proposed new hotel in Leeds Road. Readers who have been interested in this part of the town will be aware that there is an arrangement whereby the Council will support the transfer of the licence from the Wheatsheaf Hotel to the new Hotel (opposite the Lakeland Laundry) if they have first option on the Hotel and the surrounding area. It was part of a scheme which Mr. Dalton promoted during the war that the area around the old Parish Church and the Manor House should be taken over and demolished to provide unobstructed views of these ancient buildings. He had also the idea of improving the riverside. The Memorial Gardens have partly begun the riverside improvement he had envisaged and this week's news appears to carry with it a prospect of another part of the scheme being started. Mr. Dalton's offer to loan a sum of money free of interest for three years means that the cost of repairs will be less. He has, of course, already indicated that he is prepared to give the Manor House to the town.

RAILWAY CENTENARY CELEBRATION

**"A SENTIMENTAL OCCASION"
ON ILKLEY STATION
LINKS WITH LOCAL EVENTS**

Against a background of flags and bunting and amidst wine sipping guests and members of the public seated at tables or standing around on number four platform of Ilkley Station, three speakers from a raised dais last Saturday morning paid tribute to the part the railway had played in the development of Ilkley.

The occasion was the centenary of the start of the railway service at Ilkley, and by agreement no mention was made of the fact that Dr. Beeching had advised the withdrawal of all Ilkley's rail services, that sentence was still suspended, and that the rusting line which had served number four platform since 1888 was an indication that part of those services already had been withdrawn.

These things for the moment were put on one side, but there was a subtle undertone in all the tributes and in the suggestions the future held for Ilkley that to be without the railway would be unthinkable, a disaster for the district and a loss of valuable business for British Rail.

People were gathering on number four platform to tune in music relayed from a loud speaker van on platform three when the diesel carrying the Chairman of the Council, Cr. J. M. Shelton, his wife and their daughter arrived on platform one. To greet them were Mr. Hedley Wright, Chairman of the Ilkley Railway Supporters Association which had made the arrangements for the celebration, Mrs. Wright, Mr. R. A. Crowther (Vice-Chairman), Mr. J. Spooner (Ilkley Station Master) and Col. Sir Malcolm Stoddart-Scott, M.P. for Ripon, and Lady S. Scott.

to be celebrating 100 years since the coming of the railway to this town is even more rare."

"I was very pleased when I was invited to speak but when I was asked to propose the next 100 years, I had certain reservations, and I am sure many of you will understand why."

"The railway has played an important part in the development of Ilkley over the past 100 years. There have been several outstanding events in its history. But I am sure nothing in the past, will have bettered or even equalled today's celebrations. As we all look around this station, we must admire and pay tribute, to the efforts and hard work, of all those who have done so much, to make this such a gay, colourful and well organised occasion and especially to British Railways for their co-operation."

EXTENSIONS

Another report, said Mr. Wright, stated "the Midland and North Eastern extensions to Ilkley and Otley are at length entirely open to the public. On Tuesday the first day of the month trains for the public were first run to Ilkley. There was no organised ceremony but the inhabitants at the various places on the line extemporised some demonstrations. The chief rejoicings, of course, were at Ilkley where crowds of persons turned out to see the arrival and departure of trains. There were several bands of music in full go during the day including the Burley bands, the Silsden and Addingham band and Marriners Keighley band. The Silsden volunteers also made a parade at Ilkley in honour of the occasion and in the evening old and young were feasted at a 'tea fight' provided by subscription. We notice that Bradford has the privilege of five trains a day each way and the average time occupied for the distance of 14 miles being about one hour. This is at all events a great improvement upon the coaches some of which we notice are discontinued already. We hope the traffic from Bradford will be such as to necessitate more and quicker trains and ere long also the formation of a short curve line at Apperley to save the run towards Calverley which is sure to irritate Bradfordians not a little."

Mr. Wright said it had not been possible to bring to Ilkley rolling stock of the kind used 100 years ago but a reproduction of the uniform worn by the first Ilkley Stationmaster could be seen being worn by Mr. Harold Cockcroft who was mingling with the crowd.

DEVELOPMENT OF ILKLEY RAILWAYS SHARE

The Chairman to Ilkley Urban Council, Cr. J. M. Shelton said "It is indeed a great pleasure to come here today on this very unique occasion and to see the support given to this unusual celebration. I say unusual, because I am sure that to be having a party on a railway platform must be a rare thing in itself, and in the history of British Railways."

"For Ilkley, it is of much more importance than just a party, for

STREAMLINING

"We know, that nationally they are streamlining them and anyone who travels to London these days will be able to find little fault with the quick and punctual service that is now available for our benefit."

"We also know that they are experimenting with Liner Trains to improve the transporting of goods between the industrial towns and docks. Personally, I think that the railways still have an important part to play in the future development of small towns, and in particular the future development of Ilkley during the next 100 years."

"In the near future, there is the development of the International Wool Secretariat which will bring many foreign visitors. Then there is the thing that concerns us all. The traffic problem on the roads. We all know that this gets worse and worse. I know that for several years now the railways have not been the best supported service but I think, that as the traffic chaos grows, so will the popularity of the travelling by rail. I am sure that with the modern ideas of the British Railway planners, being put into operation, there is still a great future for this system of goods and passenger transport, not only between the industrial and main line station, but for the small stations of popular and attractive towns such as Ilkley," he said.

MORE DEVELOPMENT

"When we have so much beauty around us, I think we ought to be pleased to share it, and we are thankful that the railways can enable people to do that. There is the possibility of a Regional Recreation Centre in Ilkley and in the development of any such scheme there must be a place and a future for the railways. I am sure there will be many more developments as yet unthought of, and it is with these things in mind, that on behalf of the people of the Ilkley Urban District I wish British Railways every success and much progress in the next 100 years," said Cr. Shelton.

OLD WORK

A touch of old work was provided by Mr. Cockcroft, dressed in old style, whose identity was described as the first master, the original chief butler to the railway, and the Duke of Shire of the time. The might from time to time been a little obscure, the attention was undivided.

It was also an occasion for the Chairman's fellow. They were obviously surprised by the reception.

Greetings over, the party moved to platform where Mr. Wright, Cr. J. M. Shelton and Sir Malcolm in explained the occasion their tributes. It was, Wright, a sentimental

The Chairman of the occasion, Mr. H. Wright, said had difficulty in people that they were to have a Bacchanalia platform four. All they ing, he said, were a speeches and wine and toast the coming of to Ilkley 100 years ago.

The idea to celebrate sion was that of Mr. Crowther. The Association really thought there some kind of celeb Ilkley Railway Station a good friend and really fond of her.

Mr. Wright read e had taken from the Observer of 3 August, of these, referring to the of the Otley and Ilkley said "The public is in the Branch Railway from Apperley to Otley and Ilkley was opened for passenger traffic on Tuesday 1 August, 1865, and until further notice trains will run between these places and Leeds and Bradford as follows."

A SCENE UNEQUALLED IN A HUNDRED YEARS



Members of the public and invited guests on number four platform of Ilkley Railway Station helped last Saturday to create this scene described by the Chairman of Ilkley Council, Cr. J. M. Shelton, who is standing on the dais, as unequalled in a hundred years. Picture reproduced by courtesy of the Bradford Telegraph and Argus.

REFLECT

ON ILLKLEY

It has long been felt that there was a need for some authority to bring together all the information on Roman Ilkley which was available from several local sources and present it in one booklet. For some time Miss Elsie M. Fletcher, who is known not only for her knowledge of the subject but for her great enthusiasm, has been preparing such a work and it is now available through the assistance of the Ilkley Urban District Council. It may be obtained from local bookshops. Miss Fletcher, who was for so many years Hon Curator of the Ilkley Museum, and as president of the Olicana Museum Society encouraged the interest of young people especially in Roman Ilkley, points out that there was purpose and meaning in the fact that the Romans built their fort here where they did and where the town grew up. On this foundation she builds up the story with evidence supplied by the discoveries in Ilkley and of those elsewhere which can be related to Ilkley during the Roman occupation. The recent excavations have yielded priceless information about the Fort, and Miss Fletcher has incorporated this in her story bringing the history of Roman Ilkley to a point as complete as it can be at the present time.

THE ROADS

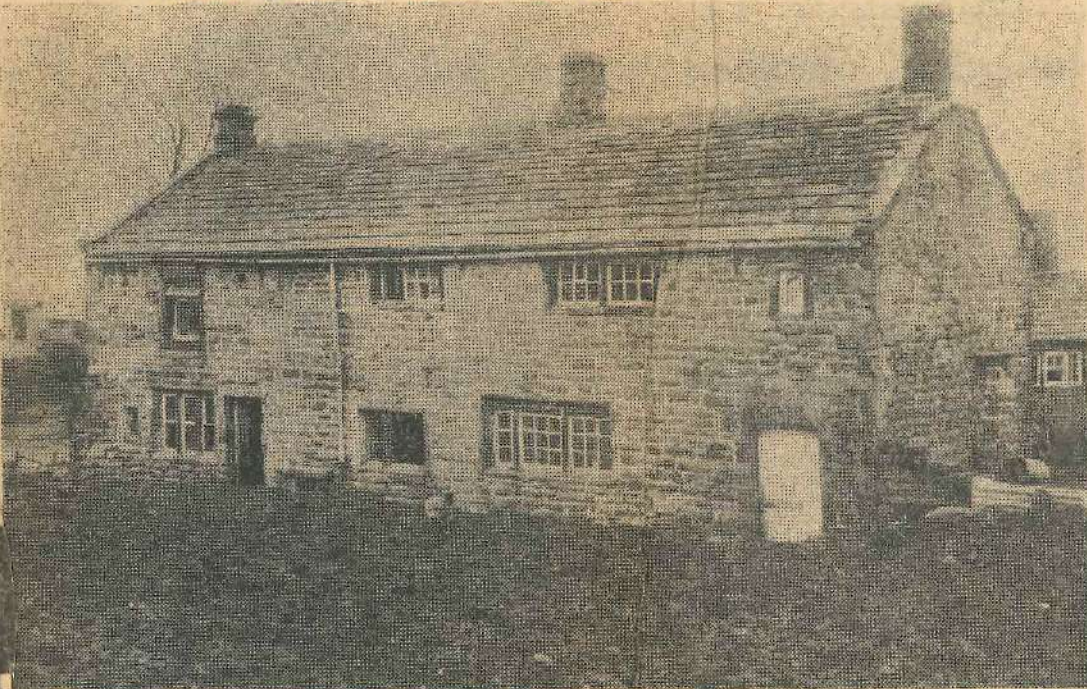
It would be possible to take a modern map and indicate on it almost exactly from point to point the line taken from Aireborough to Manchester by the Roman road. Between some of these points it is not easy to indicate the evidence. This is true of the centre of Ilkley where traces of the road from East to West, and North to South are no longer visible. The nearest point of certainty is probably where the road reaches Hardings Lane alongside the Hollins. From that point it is reasonable to believe that it would follow a straight line to the Fort, and it is thought there is further evidence of this slightly to the west of the Old Hall. Many years ago a Gazette report referred to the road being uncovered near the Brick Kilns without indicating for us today the precise location of a spot which to people of the old days would be easily recognisable by the reference. The road is likely to have crossed the West Holmes, and the old ford at the point near the present weir would seem to provide a clue. In August, however, there is to be a search for more definite information and an effort will be made to trace the road through the grounds of Gilstead. Success would bring valuable indication of the line across the West Holmes.

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ILKLEY GAZETTE

25/3/66

OLD FARM HOUSE HAS A NEW USE



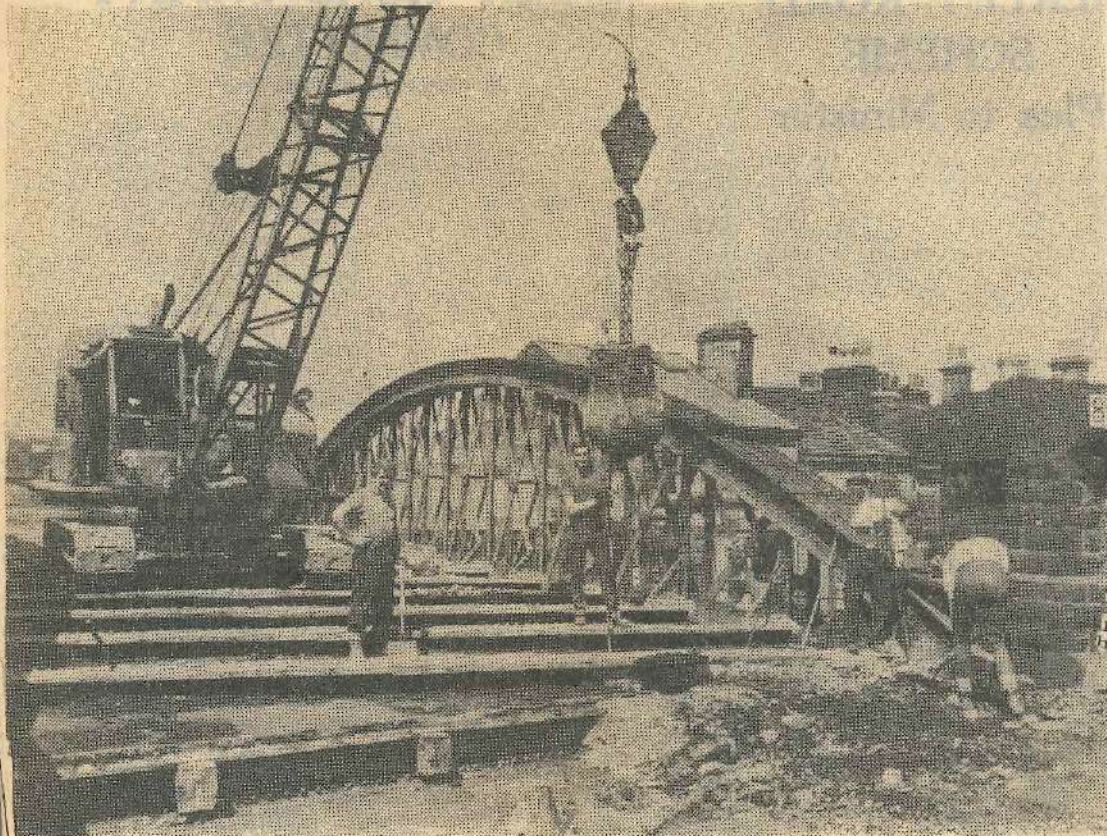
Many of the farmhouses on Addingham Moorside have been standing for years and some have been scheduled as of historic interest. This one bears the date 1670 on the lintel. It is now used as a poultry house.

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ILKLEY GAZETTE

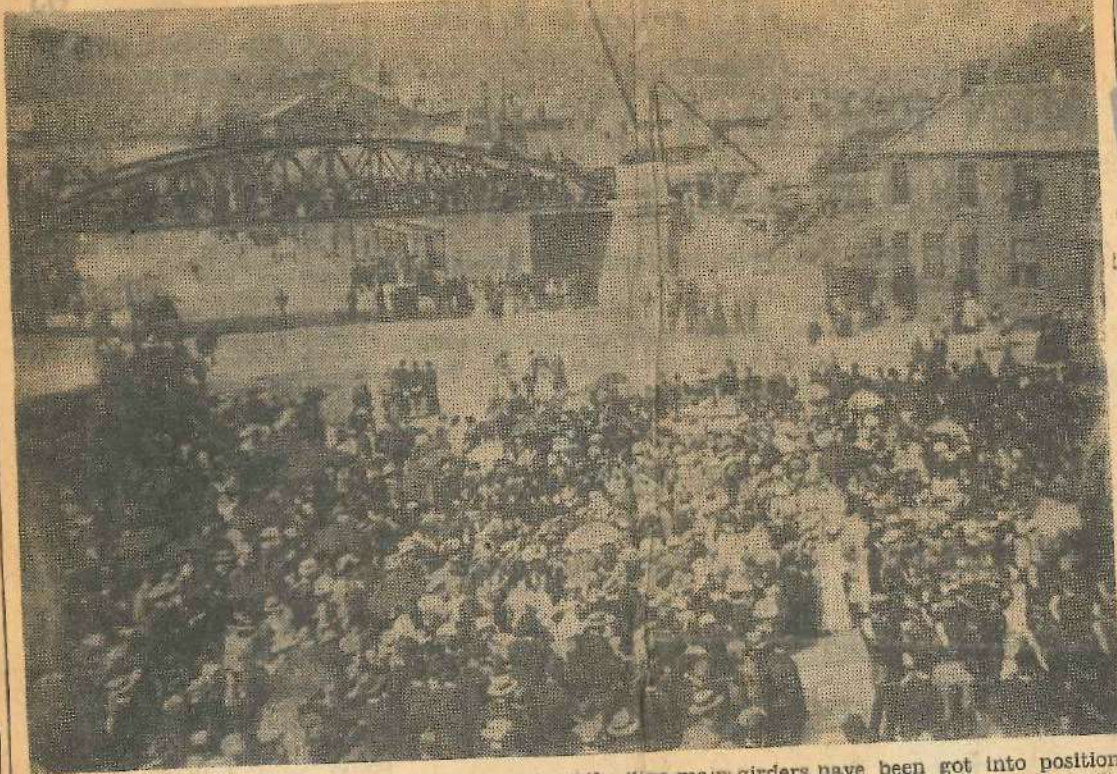
1/7/66

BROOK STREET BRIDGE IS COMING DOWN



A start on the demolition of the railway bridge over Brook Street was made this week, and work has concentrated on removing concrete between the girders. The proceedings have attracted a good deal of attention especially when the bridge reverberated as a huge metal ball suspended from a crane was dropped on the concrete. Preliminary work of removal will follow on other bridges between Ilkley and Embsay, and then the contractors will complete the final removal of the Brook Street bridge by taking down the main framework in about four weeks time. This work will be carried out at 5 a.m. on a Sunday to avoid interference with traffic. The structure will be removed by crane and taken to the sidings immediately in front of the Town Hall and there cut up. There are about 15 metal bridges involved between Ilkley and Embsay and it is anticipated that the entire work will be completed within the next seven weeks.

ERECTION OF THE BROOK STREET BRIDGE



In January, 1887, the Ilkley Gazette noted that the "two main girders have been got into position and the real work of construction is now being rapidly proceeded with." In June the bridge was almost completed and provided for some a grandstand view of the proceedings in Brook Street on the occasion of the celebration of Queen Victoria's Jubilee. The crane on the right of the picture indicates that work on the Skipton extension was still in progress.

FRIENDS OF THE MANOR HOUSE OFFICIALS

APPOINTMENTS AT FIRST ANNUAL MEETING

Instituted in April of this year with the object of encouraging and promoting the appreciation of fine art in Ilkley and for working towards the future development of the Manor House, Ilkley, as a Museum and Art Gallery, the Friends of the Manor House held their first general meeting on Wednesday evening in the Manor House.

A Steering Committee was formed in late May under the chairmanship of Mr. Eric J. Satchwell, who presided at Wednesday's meeting, with Mr. Arthur Kitching as secretary. The committee members were Miss W. A. Yeadon, Mr. J. Cockcroft and Mr. A. G. East. Their main task was to devise a draft constitution and to carry forward or deal with any matters arising that demanded attention between then and the first general meeting.

In that time a bring-and-buy sale had been organised by Mrs. M. Marshall which had raised a total of £80 towards the beginnings of The Friends' finances. A letter expressing the appreciation of The Friends was to be sent by the secretary to Mrs. Marshall for her effort. Mr. Kitching said that initial discussions had taken place as the main task of the Steering Committee had been to devise a draft constitution, based on the aims of The Friends as expounded by the sponsoring body, the Ilkley Urban District Council, and the views expressed at the inaugural meeting in April by members.

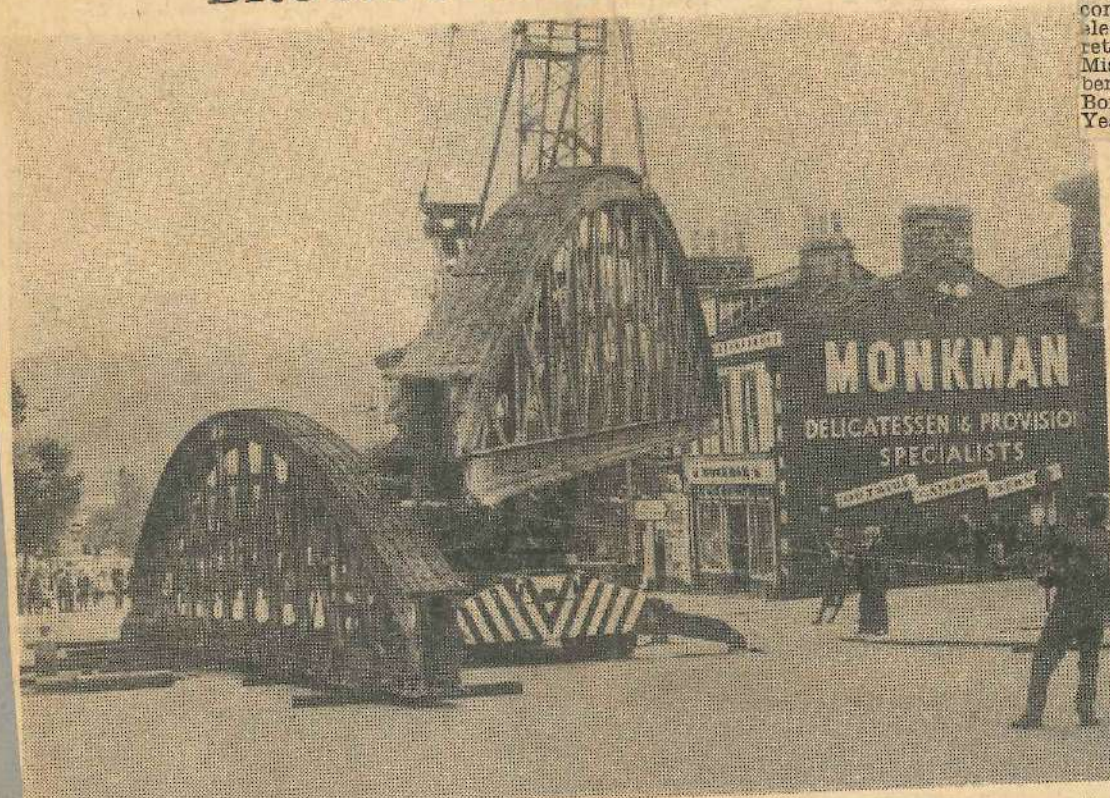
All members of The Friends had received a copy of the draft constitution and this was read and ratified at Wednesday's meeting. This included a paragraph stating that in future years the annual meeting of the society would take place on the first convenient date in the month of April. This would mean that the Committee elected at Wednesday's meeting will only be called upon to serve until April, not a full year's term of office. The names of the committee members and officers would be withdrawn or put forward for election again in seven months' time.

The election of the society's officers and committee followed the reports and reading of the constitution. Mr. A. G. East was elected the new chairman; secretary, Miss R. Dymond; treasurer, Miss B. Tuckley. Committee members were—Mr. G. Makins, Mrs. S. Bork, Mrs. J. Day, Miss W. A. Yeadon and Miss G. Moore.

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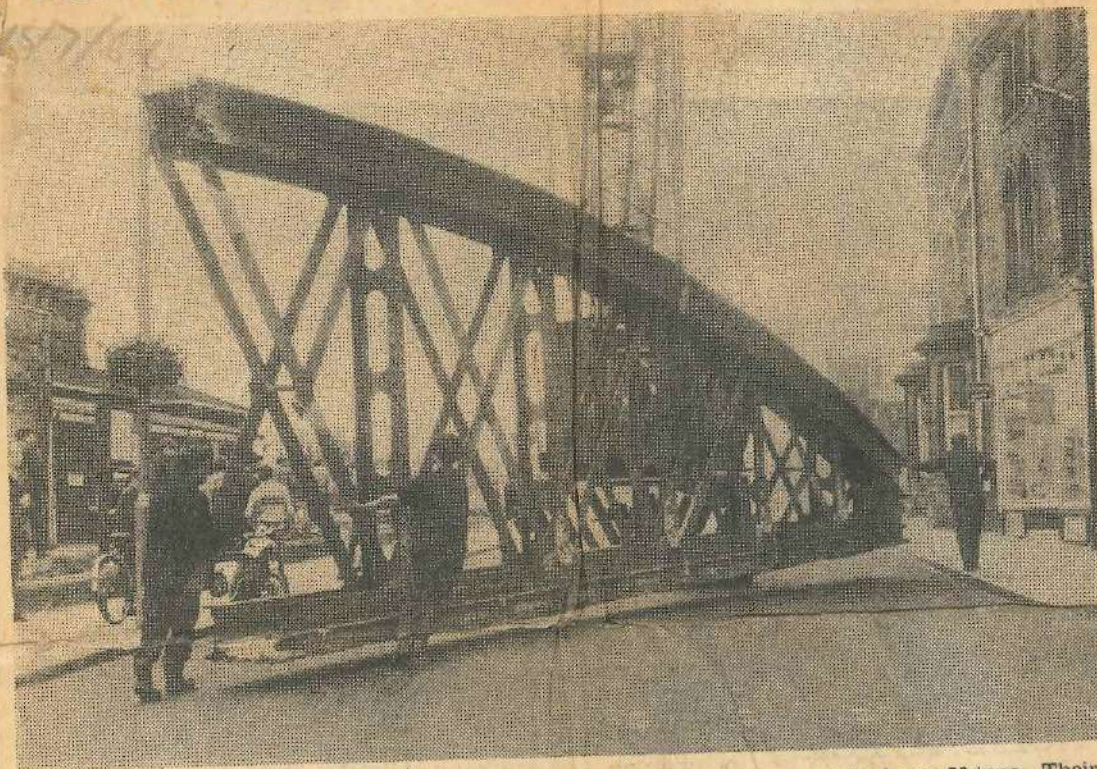
ILKLEY GAZETTE

FINAL WORK OF DISMANTLING ILKLEY BROOK STREET BRIDGE



The removal of the final two portions of the steel railway bridge built 79 years ago to carry the lines to Skipton over Brook Street was watched by many Ilkley residents on Sunday morning, most of whom were equipped with cameras. The work began at 3 a.m. with the lifting from its stone supports of the section on the lower Brook Street side. This was then lowered into the street. Whilst this section was being cut in two to make transportation to the station sidings less hazardous, the remaining portion was being prepared for lifting. As the final supports were being cut through this section it suddenly began to lean and immediate attention had to be given to lifting it and lowering it to the ground. Brook Street was closed to traffic whilst this work and cutting the two sections in two was being carried out.

REMOVAL TO STATION ROAD SIDING



It was reckoned by the contractors teams that each of the two sections weighed over 30 tons. Their estimate of the load required to be lifted and lowered was affected by the discovery of concrete in the girders adding several tons of weight to each section. As each of the quartered sections was conveyed suspended from the mobile crane up Brook Street and on Station Road to the siding, a police escort was provided and a slow progress had to be maintained to prevent the suspended metal from starting a pendulum type swing. The first portion was moved shortly after ten o'clock and the whole work completed without mishap at about 1 p.m. This week work has continued on the removal of the bridges in Easby Drive and Victoria Avenue and the two bridges over the main trunk road will be next in the programme. The contractors do not expect to reach Addingham to remove the bridge over Main Street until next month.

THE NEW BROOK STREET VIEW



The removal of the bridge has naturally brought views which no local residents have seen before because there have been changes since the bridge was erected. Looking southwards there is a less obstructed view of the moor but the block of flats stands out more conspicuously. Looking towards Middleton there is a great improvement as shown by this picture. Ilkley has gained a great deal by the loss of the bridge.

BRIDGES THROUGH THE AGES

Cr. Wilson's talk to Museum Society

"Bridges through the ages" an illustrated lecture, was presented by Cr. K. Wilson last Thursday evening at the Olicana Museum Society.

He began by defining the four types of bridges, the beam, the arch, the cantilever and the suspension bridges. In pre-historic times, man used natural bridges, stones. Later man constructed beam bridges, which were blocks of stone or wood, the weight of a fallen tree trunk or stepping which was supported on either bank. The clapper bridge at Wycollar was an interesting example of this type.

The Romans were great bridge builders. They used stone piers, which supported wooden or stone platforms. There are some remains of the abutments of a Roman Bridge at Willesford, Chester, and near Hadrian's Wall. The Anglo Saxons did practically no bridge building.

After 800 years bridge building began in earnest with the arrival of the Normans. Medieval bridges were arched and could be Gothic, semi circular, segmented, parabolic or elliptical, the commonest type being segmented. Ilkley, Burnsall, and Linton are segmented bridges. Many Medieval bridges were pack horse bridges. Barden Bridge had refuges built on it like so many others.

FIRST CHANGE

There was little change in bridge building until the onset of the Industrial Revolution, when new bridges were required to carry the roads, canals and railways. New materials now began to be used. In the 18th century the first iron bridge was built by Abraham Darby in Coalbrookdale. Telford built the Bridgewater Canal Aqueduct in 1801, Stephenson built the railway viaduct at Ribbleshead, near Hellfield in 1830, whilst Brunel, Stephenson's great rival, built the cantilever Clifton Bridge at Bristol in 1860. These were but a few examples of the spate of bridge construction in the late 19th century.

In modern times, concrete began to be used, first as a cheap imitation of stone and later as a material in its own right. Goring Bridge over the Thames was built to resemble stone and now looked shabby. Motorways now had beautiful examples of flyover bridges in concrete, a material with its own qualities.

Until two months ago the longest bridge in Europe was the Forth Bridge, a suspension bridge, which now has been superseded by the one in Portugal.

Mrs. E. Greenwood thanked Mr. Wilson for his most informative lecture and congratulated him on his excellent photography.

CLIFFE CASTLE VISITORS

Museum Society Members greatly impressed

The Olicana Museum Society visited Cliffe Castle, Keighley, on Wednesday week.

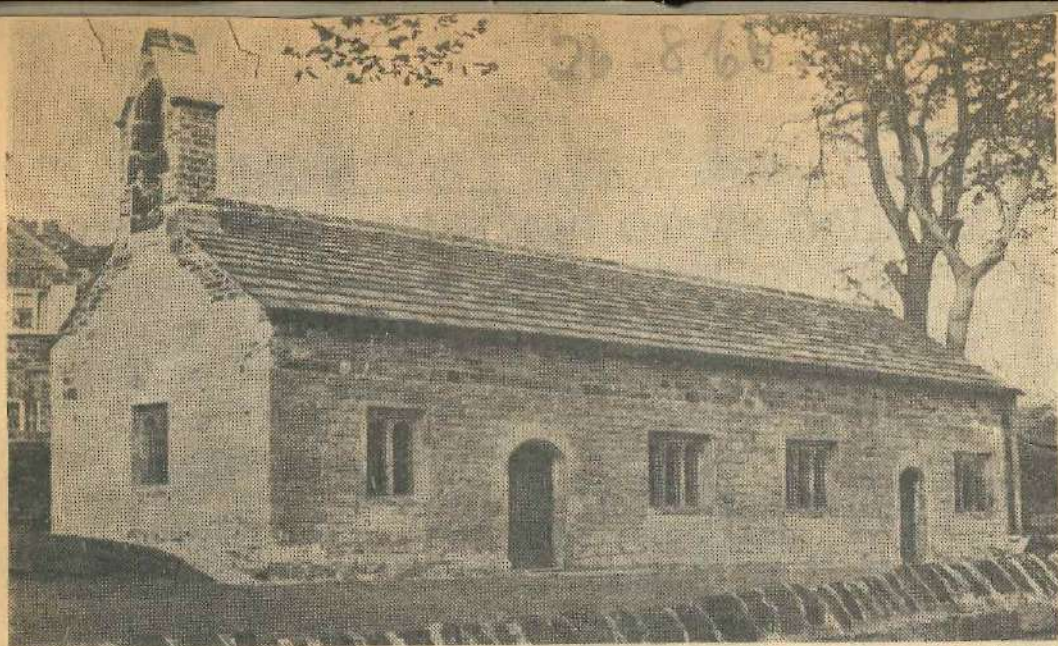
The present House was built between 1875 and 1880 by Henry Isaac Butterfield. In 1949 the estate was bought by Sir Bracewell Smith, Bart., and he gave it to the Keighley Corporation, who eventually converted it into a museum under the direction of Sir Albert Richardson, R.A.

Attractive display

Mr. Ogden, the Curator, showed the members round and they were very impressed by the attractive display of the exhibits. They included local geological specimens, Victorian objects particularly toys, Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age, and Early Iron Age finds.

There are items of the Roman Anglo Saxon and Mediaeval periods. There is a long section on Natural History, clog, iron, nailmaking and carpenter's shops.

Members were so interested in the exhibits that they stayed much longer than they expected and they expressed the wish to see the collection again. Miss Nellie Saunder's thanked Mr. Ogden for his friendly help in answering questions from members of the Museum Society and showing them round.



THE OLD PURITAN CHAPEL AT BRAMHOPE

Restoration recalls a sermon
lasting 4½ hours

Restoration work on the old Puritan Chapel, at Bramhope, in the grounds adjoining Bramhope Hall, is now almost complete. The chapel will be re-opened formally at a ceremony on September 14.

The chapel was built in 1649, and has been restored as nearly as possible to its original state by the Wharfedale Rural Council, with the co-operation of the Historic Buildings Council of England and the Ministry of Public Building and Works.

A graphic picture of the "old chapel" as it is called, is given by the Rev. Geo. Shaw Briggs, for many years Congregational minister at Otley, in his book "Puritanism in Wharfedale."

Mr. Briggs says the chapel is one of the few places of worship in Yorkshire erected during the Puritan ascendancy.

"It is a curious and interesting memorial to Puritan worship," he states. "There is the plain, box-like, two-decker pulpit, and there are the terribly uncomfortable pews."

"In that pulpit the preacher held forth for hours, perhaps reversing the hour glass beside him not with a painful sense that he must stop, but with the assurance that he was expected to go on."

"In those worn seats the people sat, not in mere patient endurance or somnolent indifference, but in wrapt attention."

Mr. Briggs recalls that in those days Squire Dyneley was Lord of the Manor at Bramhope, and he was an ardent Puritan. The trust deed, states Mr. Briggs, is an interesting relic, as it is neither Presbyterian nor Congregational. In course of time, however, the little chapel at Bramhope was handed over to the Established Church, and was used for its worship until the present church of St. Giles was built on the other side of the road.

The most popular preacher at the "old chapel" was Oliver Heywood. Relieved of his Lancashire living, he became a great evangelist, after the type of John Wesley, in the second half of the 17th century.

He was continually riding, in all weathers, through the Valley of the Calder, and in Airedale and Wharfedale, preaching in private houses or in such churches as were opened to him, conducting fasts, taking part in ordination services.

He spent many days with the Dyneley family at Bramhope, preached often in the chapel, and drew his congregation from both sides of the hill.

Mr. Briggs records a Monday service when Mr. Heywood went into the pulpit at 11 o'clock and "continued with abundant enlargement" till 3.30.

Comments Mr. Briggs: "This was by no means all that a Puritan preacher could do, and a Puritan congregation bear. These notes of time amaze or amuse us in these days, but sometimes at least they set us thinking."

Nevertheless, it is not expected that there will be a repetition of the four-and-a-half hour sermon at the re-opening ceremony on Wednesday, September 14th. If there is it will be a major sensation! E.C.B.

Menston "A" 62 (S. Clarke 7-12); Ilkley "A" 65-3 (B. Hampshire 23 n.o., A. Jackson 3-17). Ilkley "A" won by seven wickets

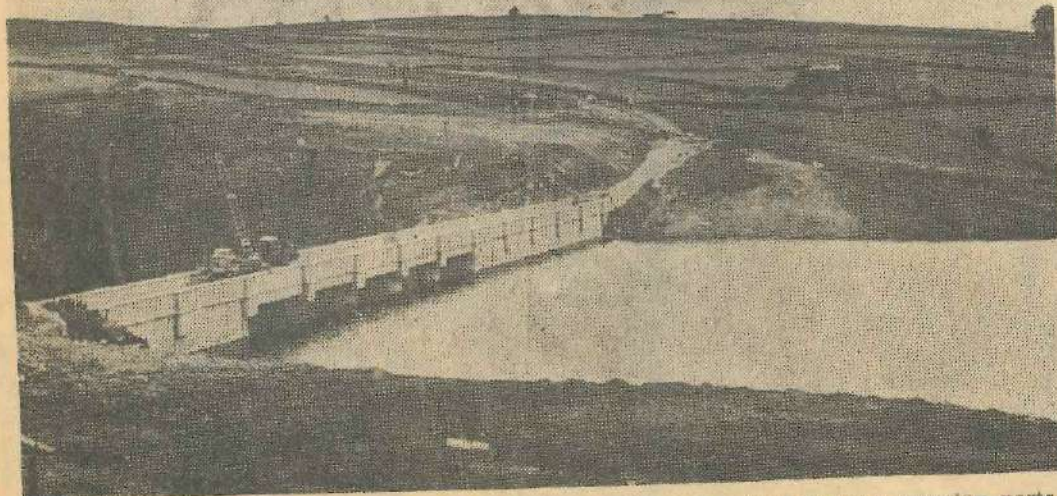
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ILKLEY GAZETTE

RESERVOIR TO BE OPENED NEXT WEEK



The huge concrete dam at Thruscross, holding back millions of gallons of water covering parts of the Washburn Valley—in some places up to a depth of 119 feet—is to be officially opened on September 7.

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY 24/7/66

Visit to Rievaulx Abbey

Members of the Olicana Museum Society visited Rievaulx Abbey and Helmsley on a day's excursion last Saturday. On the way they visited Shandy Hall, Coxwold.

A 17th century yeoman's house, the Hall was the home of Laurence Sterne, the Yorkshire novelist who wrote "Tristram Shandy." Although the house is now in a derelict state, members were able to see the panelled drawing room where he wrote his novels.

Rievaulx Abbey was built in the 12th Century as a Cistercian mission centre and is one of the more complete ruins of all the abbeys in this country. In its heyday it housed 140 monks and 500 lay brothers so the buildings are quite extensive.

Because of the terrain, the Abbey Church had to be built North to South instead of the usual West to East. The nave is the oldest in Britain or France being very plain and severe, in keeping with the early austere rules of the Cistercian Order. In the 13th Century the Presbytery and Quire were added in fine English Gothic style, reflecting a relaxing of the strict observance of the rules. The side chapels retain some of their pavement tiles, drains and a floor piscina, and the stone altars are in an unusually good state of preservation.

Remarkable State

The Abbey buildings, such as the Chapter House and Library are in a remarkable state of preservation. The Library walls still contain the niches in which books were kept. In the Chapter House are the stone benches on which the monks sat to discuss their business. At the entrance to the Chapter House is an elaborate, canopied shrine of the 13th Century on which a relic of the first abbot would rest. In the 16th Century the Infirmary was converted into two storeys and the upper floor seems to have become the abbot's house, judging by the stone carving of the Annunciation above the door.

Helmsley Caste stands within a rectangle of massive earthworks which encircle it with a double system of banks and ditches. The earthworks and lower part of the Keep date from the late 11th century, whilst the Barbican with its flanking drumtowers, and the Northern bridgehead are 13th Century.

Destroyed

The Keep is comparatively small and of an unusual semi-circular shape. The upper part was destroyed during a siege in the 17th Century at the time of the Civil War.

Of the buildings in the Inner Ward, only the foundations of the Great Hall remain. In the 16th Century the buildings adjoining the Hall were remodelled and fireplaces, plaster ceilings, panelling and windows with mullions and transoms were inserted.

The Castle went out of use after the building of Duncombe Park in 1713.

After looking round the Castle members had tea at a cafe in Helmsley. They thanked Mr. Swann, the Secretary, for acting as a most instructive, unofficial guide.

ACROSS THE YEARS

Grove demolition left only one thatched cottage

75 Years Ago

The demolition of the old thatched cottage on the Grove, known as the Green Lane cottage and the subject of a view which sold hundreds of picture postcards, was about to take place, noted the *Ilkley Gazette*, in September, 1891. It was being pulled down "to make room for four new shops to be built by Messrs Dean Bros. contractors. Its demolition will leave only one thatched building in Ilkley—the cottage in Bridge Lane."

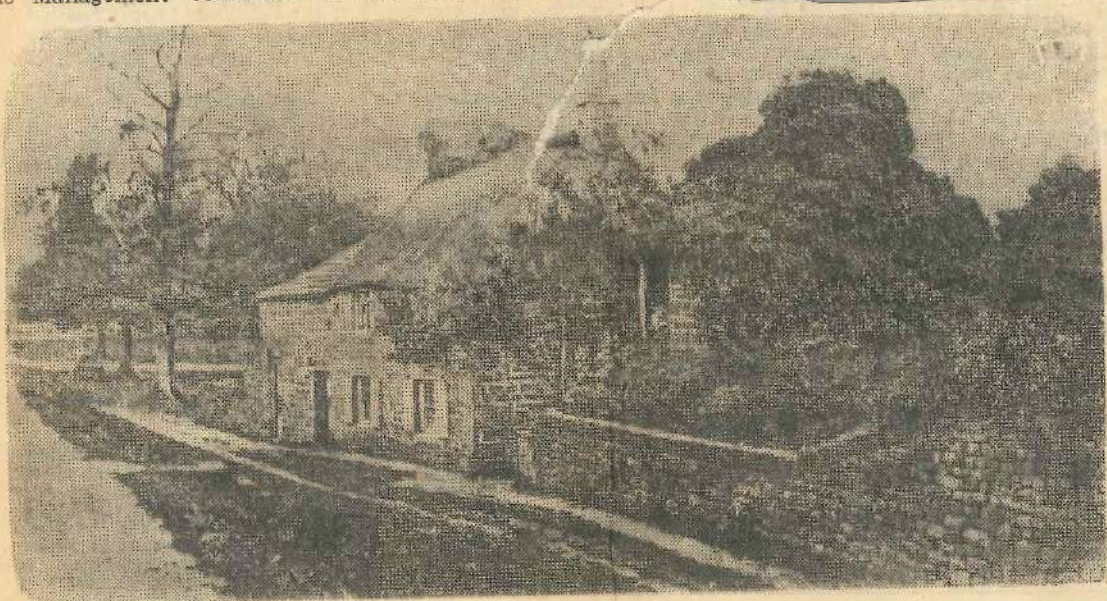
On a Sunday in September, 1891 a sacred concert for the benefit of the Ilkley hospital was given at the Tarn by the Silsden Brass Band in the presence of a large gathering. It had been arranged should wet weather prevail that the band should play in the Victoria Hall, which had been kindly offered by Messrs. Dean Bros. A total of £20 1s. was collected by the Management Committee of

the Hospital comprising Messrs. W. Underwood, M. Hawksworth, R. Brogden, Ernest Shuttleworth and Mr. T. Vickers. Thanks to the band were expressed by Mr. G. Clarkson, seconded by Mr. Shuttleworth.

After the concert the party dined at Mr. Johnson's Victoria Restaurant and departed in conveyances for Silsden in the evening.

The expenses were low, though affair was advertised far and near, numerous cycling clubs having received invitations. Commented the *Gazette* "Had the day been fine throughout no doubt thousands of people would have been present, after deducting the expenses a sum of £15 was handed over to the hospital." * * *

Selected for Ilkley Rovers Football Club against Manningham St. John's on the Easby Drive enclosure 75 years ago were: H. Crowther; Full-back T. Dean J.



Green Lane cottage on what is now the Grove which was to be demolished 75 years ago. It was pulled down to make way for shop property one of which has been occupied by a chemist in recent years.



The demolition of Green Lane cottage left Ilkley with one thatched dwelling house. This was on Bridge Lane and was for many years the home of "Donkey" Jackson, the man who provided donkeys to take people up the hillside to the moor.

Moor search for
40-46 Post
Coins date back

By our Leeds

Six silver coins, recently found on Ilkley Moor by Mr Lawrence Butler, of Harden, near Bingley, and believed to be of the Edward II period, may prove to be part of a larger hoard. This is the hope of Miss Elizabeth Pirie, keeper of archeology at Leeds City Museum, who has enlisted Army help in searching for it. A team using mine-detectors will start sweeping the area today.

Mr Butler, who is employed in a Bradford warehouse, stumbled across the coins by accident. Interested from boyhood in the history of his native Harden, a windswept village on the edge of the moors, he has made a hobby of archaeological photography. Most of his weekends are spent exploring the moors in search of rock carvings.

It was while photographing such carvings in late summer last year that he noticed a small, irregular silvery disc on the ground nearby, in size, and thickness somewhat like an old silver threepenny bit. Thinking it might be a fragment of flint, he at first attached little importance to his find.

"Only when I got home, and examined it properly did I suspect it was a coin," he told me. "Even then, I didn't know its age. Later, hoping to find more, I paid several visits to the site. Sometimes, I found nothing. On other occasions, after a good deal of searching, I found one, or perhaps two, scattered over a fairly wide area, lying on the surface."

Satisfied by now that the coins were old, and, as such, worth submitting to experts for examination and recording, he sought further advice. Miss Pirie's decision to enlist Army aid in combing the site was influenced by two factors.

The site is an unusual one, in that such finds usually come to light during digging, ploughing, or building operations; but this is moorland—and unlikely to be disturbed—so that there is little chance of any further hoard being brought to light in the usual way.

The area, too, is a vast one, and if mine-detectors can be used, to ascertain whether there is any metal below ground, digging will be speeded up and simplified.

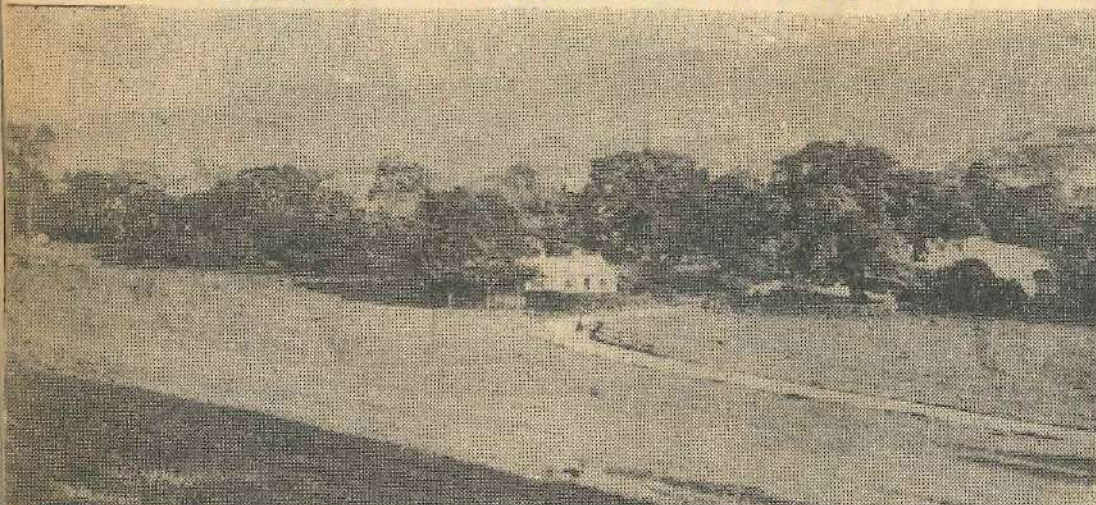
Miss Pirie described a suggestion that the coins might have a connection with Edward II's campaigns against marauding Scots as "interesting and quite feasible." Edward II is known to have established his campaign headquarters on at least one occasion at Skipton Castle, a few miles away across the moors in the Aire Valley.

"Some people may think we are making a lot of fuss about six small coins," added Miss Pirie, "but until we examine the site, and perhaps dig, we don't know what we may find. We may find something quite different, even something much more important. That is why we always like to follow up such finds, however trivial. Moreover, anything we find, however small, which helps fill in our picture of the past has value."

Last night a trial run was made by the mine detector team to test whether coins of the size for which the sweep is being made today would give a positive response when buried in a box of earth. The result was positive.

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COTTAGE BESIDE THE BRIDGE



The clue is the old bridge on the right of the picture. The cottage stood on the Middleton side. It was damaged in one of the big floods at the end of the last century.

EXPEDITION TO ANDES THE INCA EMPIRE

Mr. A. B. Whitting of Harrogate spoke about an expedition to the Andes at the meeting of the Olicana Museum Society last Thursday evening. He was one of a party of four who, with two Peruvians, spent six months in the region of the Cordillera Vil Canota, Central Andes. In addition to climbing, they undertook to collect data for the Meteorological Office and do some field work for the British Museum.

The visit was of great historical interest too, for he visited the ruined cities of the Incas. "As a civilisation they were of particular interest as they developed on entirely different lines from our own civilisation in Western Europe," he said. When invaded by the Spaniards in the 16th century, they were found to be ruled by an autocratic democracy.

WELFARE STATE

It was a welfare state 'par excellence' which allowed for very little individual freedom. The strength of the Inca Empire depended upon its aristocracy, army and roads. They possessed no wheels, no horses, no written word, no schools, no glass and no hard metals, though gold was in every day use. Their art, pottery and weaving, however, were superb.

After the Spaniards had destroyed the ruling autocracy the Incas became a helpless nation. Today the Incas of the hill villages led a poverty-stricken life, living by farming, albeit primitive, and selling their woven alpaca and llama cloth, and pottery.

The members were impressed by the Incas' use of bright colours in all their artistic pursuits.

Mrs. Lloyd thanked Mr. Whitting on behalf of the members.

PREHISTORIC ROCK CARVINGS

Olicana Museum Society

A subject of particular interest to Ilkley residents, prehistoric rock carvings, was introduced at the monthly meeting of the Olicana Museum Society last week, by Mr. S. W. Feather, Assistant Director of Cartwright Memorial Hall, Bradford. The address was illustrated with an excellent series of slides.

Mr. Feather described how the carvings were first noted and recorded in Northumberland in 1853 and how subsequently many antiquaries, historians and archaeologists reported on and extended the records of occurrences in several areas of the British Isles and parts of Europe. Many theories had been postulated as to their significance and use, he said, some of which were easily disproved, but to this day it was not known why the carvings were made.

CONNECTIONS

The connection between the rock carvings of the Ilkley district and similar finds in south west Scotland and Northumberland were traced by Mr. Feather. He showed slides of carvings on the rocks used in the construction of megalithic chamber tombs in Northern Ireland which could be dated to the later Bronze Age. Because of their similarity in pattern, design and execution they seemed to show the rock carvings in Wharfedale and elsewhere in Britain were probably of late Bronze Age, i.e. about 2000 BC.

In spite of the often expressed dating of the Swastika carving to later periods in the Iron Age, Mr. Feather inclined to the belief that it was in fact contemporary with the cup and ring carvings, as the two types did occur together in Spain and in Scandinavia, and indeed, so he believed, on the local Badger Stone.

MODERN VIEW

At one time it was believed the simpler single cup carvings were earliest, and more elaborate cups with more and more ring, ladders and connecting channels, came later as the art developed. It was a more modern view, with which Mr. Feather was inclined to agree, that the reverse was the case. The more elaborate carvings were the earliest and as time passed the art became decadent and declined, resulting in much simpler and unfinished work.

Mr. Feather answered a number of questions from members. The thanks of the society for a most instructive and interesting evening were expressed to Mr. Feather by Mr. M. Pollard.

NOT HERE FOR LONG



The removal of the railway bridge spanning Main Street, Addingham, could take place within the next few weeks, it was stated at the meeting of the Parish Council on Monday night. It was thought this bridge would be removed before those in the Ilkley district. Its removal might also mean that a block of property on the other side of the bridge might have to be demolished, said one Councillor.

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH IN BURLEY

A story that goes back to the thirteenth century

BY DAVID NEALY

Twelve years ago Mr. David Nealy began research into the history of the Church in Burley-in-Wharfedale. He found that there have been at least three churches in the village, going back to the 13th century.

Some of his notes have appeared from time to time in the Burley Parish magazine. In these articles he amplifies those notes with further findings in old documents and histories.

The date of the foundation of the first Chapel at Burley is not known. It was built by the lord of the manor on the site of the present Church probably during the thirteenth century being dedicated in the name of St. Michael. We know this was the dedication from the will of Henry Thornwell of Otley, proved on September 1st 1540 and signed by Richard Oldred, Vicar of Otley, and William Mayson priest, in which it is directed that the sum of six shillings and eight pence be given to the Chapel of St. Michael at Burley.

In most of the villages in the huge and ancient parish of Otley, Chapels of ease were established soon after the Norman conquest but few records have been preserved and such positive evidence as we possess comes from casual references in documents such as wills, family court cases and the like.

"Fort"

The name of the village of Burley suggests a fort and it is reasonable to assume that some sort of a fortified position existed here in Roman and early Saxon times. The Roman road from Adel to Ilkley passed through Stead on the southern boundary of the present parish and it may well be that Christianity came to the area long before churches were built, for many Roman soldiers were Christians. After the Norman conquest Burley became part of the Archbishop of York's manor of Otley and was held by a succession of families in return for certain specific services to the Archbishop; among these families were the Maunsels of Burley, the Babingtons, the Calverleys, and later the Middletons from whom it passed in the early seventeenth century to the Pulleyn family.

In a document dated May 3rd, 1396 there is an interesting reference to a grant made by Sir Walter de Calverley to Robert de Newall and Thomas Whythevedd chaplains of his manor of Burley. This suggests the existence of a manorial Chapel.

The Black Death

About a hundred years ago during the carrying out of some drainage of the present church yard Mr. Vine (grandfather of the present verger Mr. Albert Vine) came across a number of skeletons rather close together and placed in a north south direction on the south side of the church.

Although there is no record of any interments at Burley before 1843 for all funerals took place at Otley, it has been suggested that the remains were of those who perished during the Black Death in 1348 when a large part of the population was wiped out. Mass burials took place in any piece of ground near a church or chapel. These interments point to the existence of the chapel before the time of the plague.

Twenty Pence

The Chapel of St. Michael was a small rectangular building with the main door on the south side and a bell turret on the west gable.

tants of the township of Burley being above a mile distant from their parish church (Otley) and their passage thither often obstructed by floods, intending to re-edify the said chapel did about month of March 1630 for the reasons aforesaid freely and absolutely give and grant (without deed in writing) unto the late Sir Thomas Fairfax, Lord Fairfax the first deceased, Sir Ferdinando Fairfax (the second Lord Fairfax deceased) and Charles Fairfax heirs of Thomas Lord Fairfax all the said chapel and the said Chapel yard forever; to the use of a minister here to officiate... Dated May 31, 1636.

(to be continued)

D.N.

SOME CHAPLAINS OF 300 YEARS AGO

BY DAVID NEALY

The chapel rebuilt largely through the efforts of the Fairfax family of Denton, a family known throughout the land during the troubled period of the Civil War in the unhappy reign of Charles the first, was ready for public worship in 1630.

Externally it resembled the Bramhope puritan chapel recently restored and built originally about twenty five years later than the Burley Chapel.

It was essentially a preaching place; it is fortunate that a plan prepared about 1840 still exists and so it is not difficult to imagine what the interior was like. The walls were whitewashed, there was no altar and no font. The pulpit stood near the north wall about one third of the length of the building from east end. An aisle ran down the middle of the chapel and also a small aisle from each of the two doors in the south wall. There were eighteen pews on the north side of the main aisle and ten on the opposite side together with six more at right angles to the rest and more directly facing the pulpit. One of these, that in the south east corner was the Charles Fairfax pew—the others belonged to the Steads, Maudes, Vavasours, Hartleys and Pulleyns; the lower door led to these pews. All except three were allocated to other families.

Rents for pews varied according to their position, for example eight seats in the south west corner cost six shillings per annum while those near the pulpit were let at one pound six shillings and eightpence per annum. The pews, together with the endowment, provided the ministers stipend and the running expenses of the chapel. A deed of September 14th, 1645, of which there is an attested copy dated 1712 in the possession of Otley Parish Church, gives the names of those who endowed the chapel with the sum of £16 13s. 0d. per annum as chapel rents or head rents (Those which have not been extinguished by payment of a lump sum are still paid to the incumbent) In addition, William Vavasour bequeathed in his will of 1642 £4 per annum and members of his family and others gave small sums.

"Able Preacher"

Another deed of the same date of which there is also a 1712 attested copy in Otley Church deals with the appointment of a "godly honest and able preacher." He was to be appointed by the trustees in association with "four conscientious inhabitants" If this body failed to agree within three months of a vacancy occurring the right of nomination fell to the Vicar of Otley and the Rector of Guiseley. The trustees named were Lord Fairfax (the second Lord), Sir Thomas Fairfax (the great general and third Lord) Jeremy Levett (the Rev.), James Oates, William Maude, Stephen Hartley, Michael Stead, William Jenkinson (afterwards alderman of Boston, Lincs.) Edmund Maude, Francis Pulleyn and William Stead.

Jeremy Levett was the grandson of the famous puritan Rector of Guiseley, Robert Moore. Charles Fairfax lived at Menston

Hall. His grandson Thomas Pulleyn was a later owner of Burley Hall and Lord of Burley manor.

The preachers or chaplains whose dates of appointment are given later had not the status of vicars nor were they assistant curates of the Vicar of Otley. Some held other appointments, for example one was Vicar of Ilkley, another headmaster of Otley Grammar School, but they were expected to preach at Burley chapel at least once every Sunday. The chapel seated about 160-180 people.

Chapel Wardens

Responsibility for the building and its contents was vested in the chapel wardens, one of the first of whom was Paul Forcett (Fawcett). As a result of the Archbishop's visitation in 1637 he was summoned to His Grace's court to explain why books for the minister were not provided and later appeared at the court to state "That they had provided all the books used in any church or chapel" and he was dismissed and absolved.

The first chaplain of the restored chapel was George Stott licensed in 1631. All we know of him is that he later became curate of Thornton in Craven. By 1637 John Cooper (or Cowper) was chaplain. He graduated B.A. in 1625 at Jesus College, Cambridge and was ordained at York, September, 1626, after which he became curate of Beamsley Hospital. Before going to Burley he was assistant curate at Guiseley (and possibly school master) from 1632. He married Alice, daughter of William Jenkinson at Otley on January 24th, 1639. She died in October, 1640 soon after the birth of their daughter Sarah who lived only four months.

Deep Waters

The Otley Church registers record that he baptised William Ellis in January, 1640 at Burley chapel "because the waters were so deep they could not come to Otley"—the first baptism in the new chapel. Mr Cooper was one of the puritan preachers who some times occupied the pulpit at Otley and there is a summary of his sermon there on February 20th, 1642 in the manuscript book of Charles Fairfax who was in the habit of visiting various churches and making notes of the sermons preached, in his own curious shorthand. This book is now in the possession of the Public Library at Ilkley, having presented by the late Dr. Collyer, a native of Ilkley, the American preacher and benefactor of the library.

John Cooper who died in Leamington in 1644, was also the schoolmaster at Burley.

The next Chaplain was Nathaniel Towne, first mentioned in the Otley registers in August 1645, when his son John was baptised.

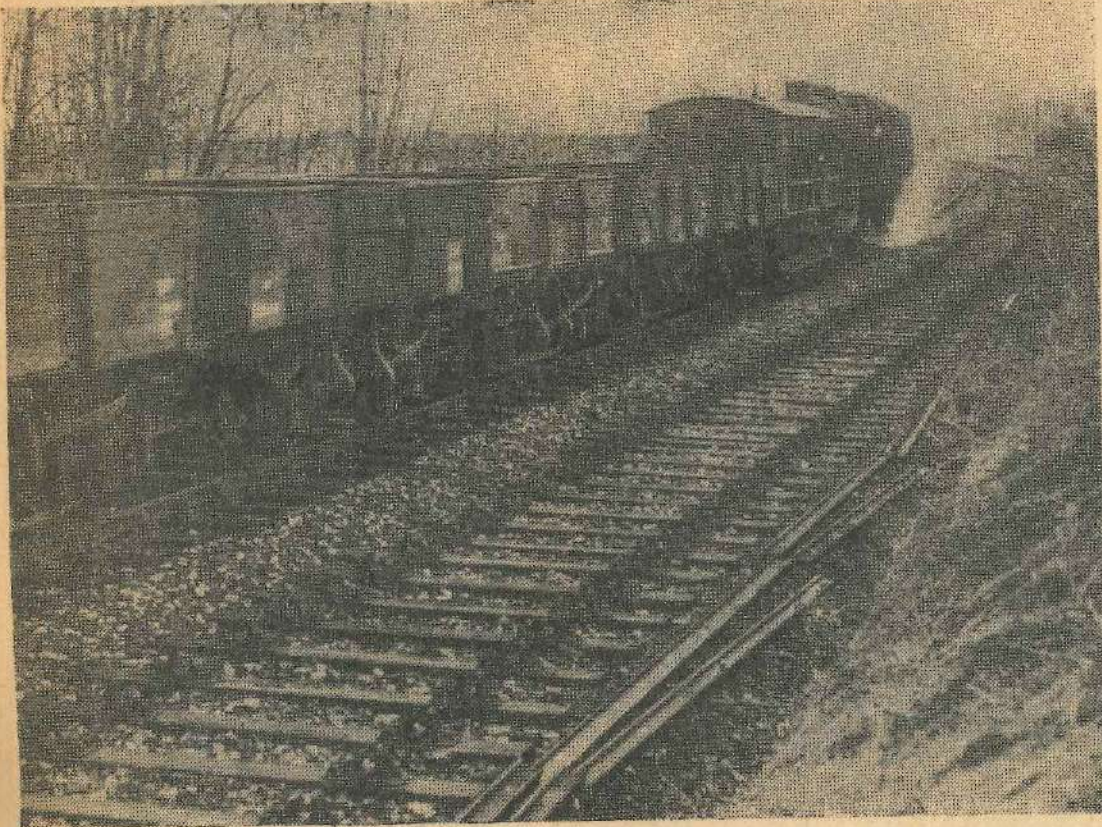
Bible Bequest

The Otley register notes that in 1648 Roger Holmes was minister of Burley for his son John was also baptised there in September, 1648. Mr. Atkinson, the present Headmaster of Ripon Grammar school, has kindly furnished some information about him. He was born in 1612 and was the grandson of

22nd April 1966

ILKLEY GAZETTE

LAST STAGES OF ILKLEY-SKIPTON RAILWAY



This week considerable headway has been made with the removal of the rails, chairs and sleepers forming the down line from Ilkley to Embsay. The picture shows the locomotive pushing the long line of wagons towards Addingham this week for the first collection of sleepers and chairs. The rails are seen detached from the down track. It was at this point on the Netherwood Estate that the first sods were cut in 1885 for the start of the Ilkley-Skipton railway.

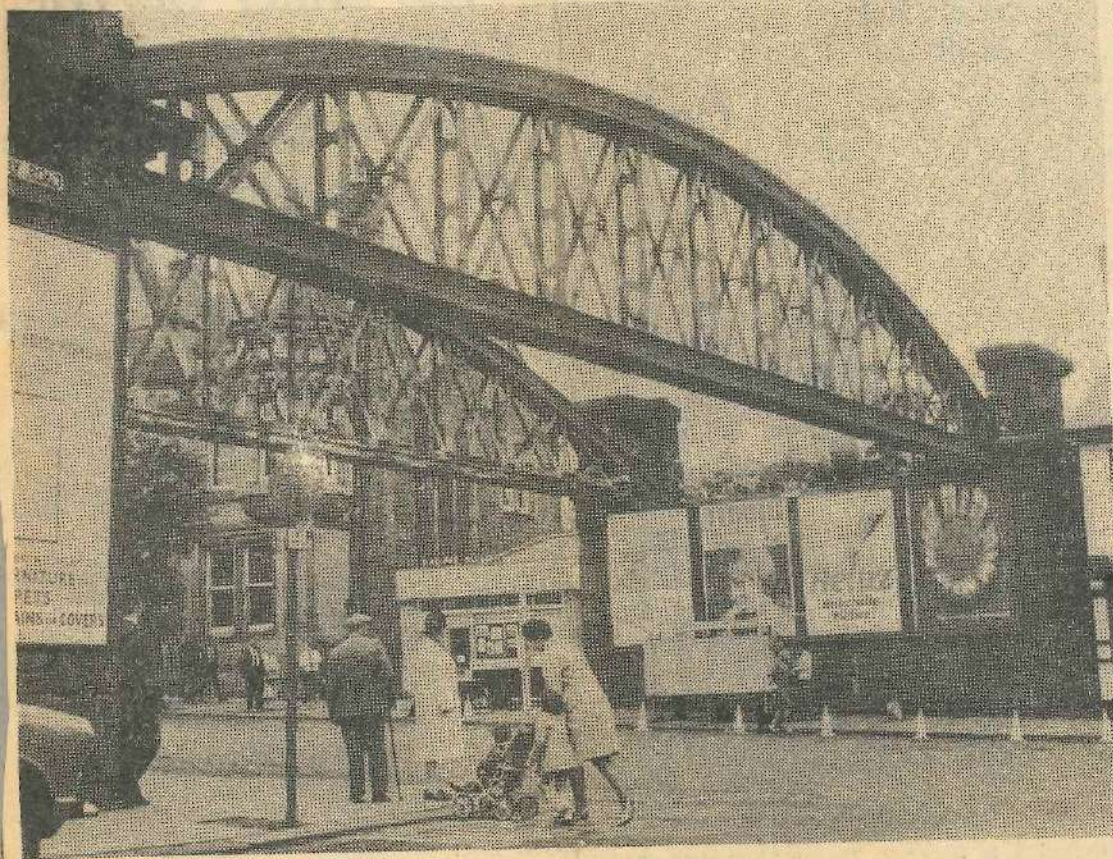
On Wednesday about a mile of track from Addingham towards Ilkley was removed and about 1,680 sleepers taken to the Leeds area. Taking up a mile of track a day it is expected that the stretch between Embsay and Ilkley on the down line will be completed next week. After this, one track between Arthington and Milner Wood will be removed, then the up line Embsay to Ilkley and also the Milner Wood to Menston junction stretch. The remaining line between Arthington and Milner Wood follows, and finally the track between Milner Wood and Burley junction will be taken up.

It is expected that both tracks between Ilkley and Embsay will have been completely removed by the end of May. The bridges over the roads are to be removed but there is no date for the completion of this work.

8th July 1966

ILKLEY GAZETTE

BROOK STREET BRIDGE REMOVAL



The iron railway bridge which has spanned Brook Street since 1887 will finally disappear on Sunday. This week dismantling has progressed to the stage pictured above. The remainder is to be taken down at approximately 5 a. m. on Sunday by means of a 63 tons crane which will be taken in two sections unless there are unforeseen difficulties directly to the sidings in front of the Town Hall where they will be cut up. In the next weeks work will be centred on the metal bridges between Ilkley and Embsay.

LINK WITH OLD ILKLEY

One of the last remaining old-established businesses in Ilkley, Ellis Beanlands and Co. Ltd., provision merchants, The Grove, is to close down shortly. The property has been sold to a development company.

It was in 1869 that Mr. Joseph Beanlands opened at the end of Railway Road a grocer's shop, premises which were demolished some 18 years later when the railway was extended to Skipton. Mr. Ellis Beanlands was the youngest son of Mr. Joseph Beanlands and he was associated with the Brook Street firm until he founded the firm of Messrs. Ellis Beanlands and Co. on The Grove with a branch at Ben Rhydding. In this venture he was assisted by his brothers, Thomas and William

FISHERMAN

Mr. Ellis Beanlands had a reputation as a fisherman and was one of the founder members of the Ilkley Angling Club which later succeeded by the Middleton Angling Club.

After the death of Mr. Beanlands in 1928 the shop was managed until his retirement some three years ago by Mr. John McLellan.

The daughter of Mr. Ellis Beanlands, Mrs. Phyllis Davies, is the present Chairman of the Company and she told the Ilkley Gazette that the business was shutting down to close a trust. Her son, Mr. Anthony Davies, who has been in charge of the Ben Rhydding branch is to continue in business there.

8th July 1966

14.10.66

ROMAN FORT REMAINS PRESERVATION OF WEST WALL

A considerable amount of work in respect of the preservation of the west wall of the Roman Fort at Ilkley has now been completed by Ilkley Urban Council. An offer of a grant of up to £20 by the Olicana Museum Society in respect of these works has been accepted with thanks by the Council.

An inspection of the west wall was made in August by an Archeological Inspector and Architect of the Ministry of Public Building and Works. Later that month the Ministry advised that the drain running parallel with the north wall should be back-filled and that consolidation should begin on the length of the west wall near the Museum Building. The remainder of the wall to be protected against possible damage.

The original estimate of £1,000 for the consolidation of the remains had been reviewed following the inspection and reduced by one third with the grant to the Council similarly reduced.

WHITE WELLS PROPOSAL

29 April
1966

STARTED A ROW

It spread overseas to Chicago

A sudden intimation that Ilkley Local Board members had ideas for altering the White Wells set off a local row which spread so much that finally Dr. Robert Collyer was lending a hand from Chicago. It was at the February meeting in 1876 that a brief reference was made to two sets of plans for the improvement of the Old Wells, and the appointment of a sub-Committee to consider them.

When this was read in the "Ilkley Gazette and the Ilkley Free Press" protests followed.

First one who signed himself "Rombald" (one who likes to see age respected and the ancient preserved) wrote: "I am totally eclipsed as to what the intentions of our local council are with reference to this scheme (the Old Wells). But if they are determined to raze the old building to the ground, and in its place erect some modern "observatory tower"—and it sounds like this when two sets of plans are mentioned—I for one shall utter my protest against anything of the sort being done. The copious stream which a few years ago flowed out in sparkling volume, giving health and pleasure to all who used or saw it, has been to a great extent taken away by the Board, when other tributaries could have been taken instead, and now the old building itself, one of the most interesting relics of more ancient Ilkley, is assailed and threatened.

DECENT REPAIR

Mr. H. J. Cooke, came back with a letter in which he said: "Does Rombald suppose that the Board is so revolutionary that it means to overturn everything ancient and despoil everything venerated? not so; the general idea on the Board I believe is this: carefully to consider how, at the least possible cost to the public purse, the Old Wells can be put into a decent state of repair, without altering any of its main features."

Though "Rombald" from his

next letter, seemed fairly well satisfied with this, it did not satisfy Ilkley. The next step was a memorial to the Chairman of the Local Board. The signatories were people whose word carried weight. They included John Snowden (Vicar), John Darlington, Wm. Douglas, F. W. Fison, Charles Hastings, Samuel D. Hillman, J. F. Leeson, Thomas P. Muir, David Stansfield, Henry H. Walker and E. H. Wade. They wrote:-

"We notice with much regret that, at a meeting of the Board on the 4th ult., a proposal for altering the Old White Wells was submitted to the Board and that a committee had been appointed to report on the subject."

"Taking into account the historical interest (so far as Ilkley is concerned) of the building and its picturesque appearance, we are of the opinion that any alteration other than is required for keeping it from decay would be most strongly objected to by a very large number of the inhabitants of Ilkley, and would also be a source of great regret to the numerous visitors to the district. We therefore hope that the Board will not sanction such alteration until they have taken the opinion of the inhabitants of Ilkley on the subject."

"In case the Board wants to make public baths we may suggest that there are lower and consequently far more convenient situations for that purpose."

DR. COLLYER

Finally, this drew a long letter from Dr. Robert Collyer, all the way from Chicago. Perhaps that letter was the best thing that came out of the whole scheme. He said:

"I trust the remonstrance signed by your honoured vicar and other gentlemen against the intended alteration in 'the Old White Wells' may chime in with the sober second thought of your townsmen generally, so as to prevent such alteration. It would be about the same as altering the West Rock of the Cow and Calf, or ploughing up the heather beyond them for a crop of oats, to do this; for just as they stand in their pure rustic simplicity, and in no other fashion I can think of, they are dear to the heart of a great host of people not in England alone but all over the world."

PURE YORKSHIRE

"I was on the edges of the great pine wilderness across Lake Michigan some time ago, and happening to say a word or two of pure Yorkshire in a company of gentlemen, they said: Why there is man on a farm back here who talks like that. We will go and see him. His name is Petty. I was all the more ready because they told me he owned a wonderful peach farm, and peaches were then just ripe. 'Ye'll by fra abaart Denton.' I said when we got to the farm. He threw up his hands, turned on me with old Yorkshire yell, while his eyes flashed with joy, and said, 'De ye noa Denton and t' Pettys? Why them's my foak sure enif; but I see fra' Sutton me sell, just aboon Skipton.' And I am fra' Eethley.' I answered, 'The yan know awd t'Wells? and did ya

know awd Job Seanor, t'Hermit? Now ye just come on, dew now, and see t' awd woman.' So I went in to see t' awd woman' in a wonderful place among the grapes and peaches, and we talked of old days and plucked fruit enough to make two men sick, but I was no worse for it and promised to go again at t' feast' and eat tarts and so I came away.

IN WISCONSIN

I was up in Wisconsin, some time after, lecturing in a little town when a man came to me and said, 'You are from Yorkshire?' 'Yes.' 'Do you know Ilkley Wells?' 'Well I do.' 'And did you know Mrs. Shepherd who kept lodgers? I will tell you where it was in a minute.' 'No need,' I answered. 'I can tell you a low, quaint house just below the entry to Castle Yard. Shepherd was at the Lodge a long while in good old Squire Middleton's day, the grandfather of the present squire,' and then we talked on to late bedtime about the Old White Wells, and the moors and the crags.

IN GEORGIA

"Last fall again I had a very touching letter from a man away down in Georgia, who wanted to get hold of a picture of Bolton Abbey. He had been to Ilkley to the Wells when quite a child, had been cured there of some sore disease, just remembered a day at Bolton Abbey with admiration, but remembered the Old Wells with love. And so it is all over this country; in Australia also no doubt; and wherever Englishmen wander and they wander everywhere."

"I remember the Wells from the first day I saw them (in 1830 I think) from the moor above Denton. They are blended with all the lights and shadows of my earlier life. I am rapidly losing track of your town but I cling to the picture of the Wells as to an old friend I am sure to see whenever I make my rare pilgrimage to the dale. They have won a certain right to stand just as they are, by reason of their great antiquity—a great argument always with men of your deep-set love for what is old."

IN 1712

"There is a book about these matters, written, I think in 1822 in which the author reports how he sought for the origin of the Wells among the oldest inhabitants and found a certain Master Ramsden, who was getting on to 90, who said 'they were just seaa when he were a lad.' They have been altered since then, but not so as to destroy in any measure their simple fitness. Dr. Richardson, writing to Hearne, who had a new edition of "Leland" in hand, which was published in 1712, mentions the Baths and the great good they were doing then; so that we shall not be far wrong in saying that the Old Wells in some shape date at any rate, from the beginning of last century."

SAD HAVOC

"So I plead that they may stand. You have made sad havoc of that wild hill side; don't 'improve' it to death. There was a curious remnant of a British Fastness in that hollow behind the Wells, forty years ago, that would have delighted the heart of antiquaries through the three kingdoms; it was all delved out when I was there last for building stone. There is just a line by the author of the 'Elegy written in a Country Churchyard,' about the grand rough sweep of crags between the Wells and the Cow and Calf, as he saw it over a hundred years ago. If he could come back now he would not write that line."

That letter is dated "Chicago, April 3, 1876,"—nine years before the publication of "Ilkley Ancient and Modern."

FOOTNOTE

To it the Editor of the "Ilkley Free Press" appended this footnote: "No doubt it will give Mr Collyer as much pleasure to hear as it does us to inform him, that the old building is to remain as it is, and that everything which may be done in order to its preservation, due regard will, we venture to say, be paid in the remonstrances which the proposal to erect a new structure as elicited."

Later Ilkley made a picture of the White Wells part of its municipal crest. The Local Board did not despoil the building. Generations later when the building to the west known as the "charity bath" was falling into decay the Urban District Council turned it into public lavatories.

But what was the line Dr. Collyer says Gray could not have written had he seen the Moor in 1876?

ACROSS THE YEARS

14. 10. 66

Cup and ring stones carve-up not vandalism

75 Years Ago

The Museum Committee's attention, in September, 1891, had been drawn to a letter from a Mr. Alden Sampson, "who believed that the "cup and ring rocks" had been cut up through vandalism. Further enquiries were made by Mr. Latimer Darlington, the Chairman of the Museum Committee, who denied this.

Writing in the 10 October issue of the "Gazette" in 1891, he wrote "The Ilkley Museum Committee has had its attention drawn to the letter of Mr. Alden Sampson in your issue of the 26 September with regard to a piece of vandalism perpetrated at Ilkley to the "Cup and Ring Rocks. I have made enquiries and find that what appears as a gross act of vandalism is no such thing. The Local Board have caused the larger rock to be carefully cut into four pieces, preparatory to its removal to a safe place. It has been found necessary to cut the rock into four pieces, as had it been cut across there was great fear of it cracking upwards. The rock as a whole block weighs from ten to twelve tons, and when it has been carefully removed, and put together again, the pieces will fit so closely that the marks will scarcely show, and the stones will appear exactly like they were before. The committee trust that when Mr. Sampson reads this letter he will see that the Museum Committee at Ilkley are looking after their ancient relics, and trust in a short time to have them placed with others in a museum about to be formed here."

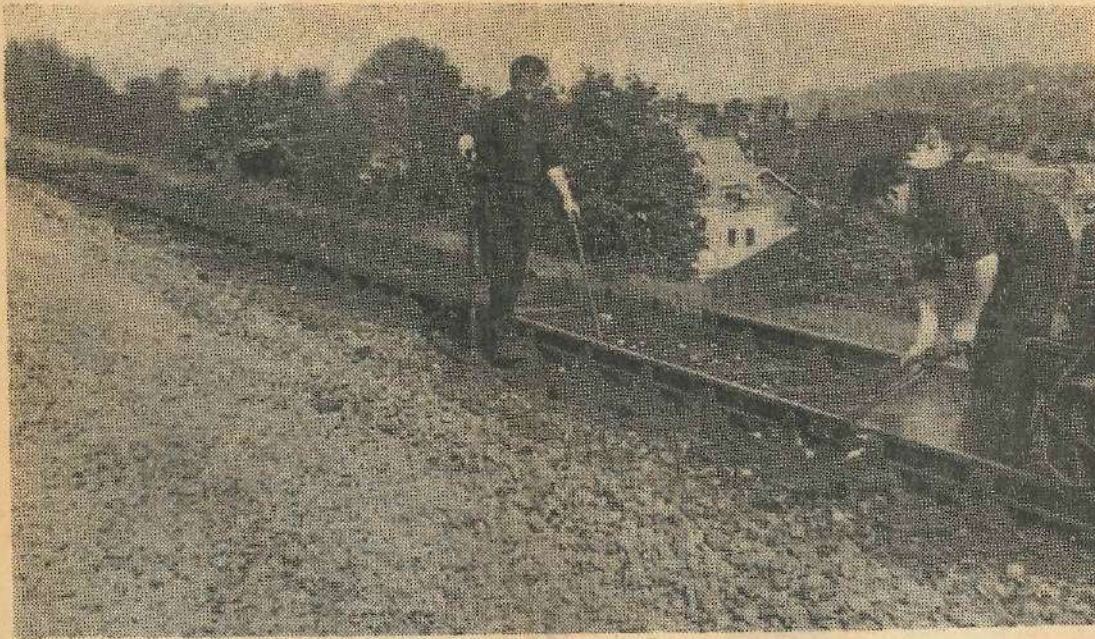
* * *

ALSO GOING

Another feature of the town which will disappear without a deal of regret this weekend is the iron bridge which has carried the railway over Brook Street for nearly 80 years. The final lift is scheduled for five o'clock on Sunday morning and there are many residents who have indicated their intention to be present as recorders of the scene. Others are more interested in being witnesses of what appears to be something of an engineering feat in lifting the two remaining portions complete and carrying them up Brook Street to be cut up in the railway siding. The team engaged on the task sees nothing unusual in it. They have been carrying out similar jobs in other parts of the country. The Brook Street bridge removed they carry on up to Embsay removing the metal bridges, starting presumably with the one over Easby Drive.

8th July 1966

END OF THE ILKLEY-SKIPTON RAILWAY



Last Saturday marked the end of the removal of the Ilkley-Skipton railway line. Workmen are seen cutting the lines on the embankment overlooking the Brook Street car park before moving on to take up the rails over Brook Street Bridge. It is understood that work on the removal of the bridge will be carried out one week-end in the very near future.

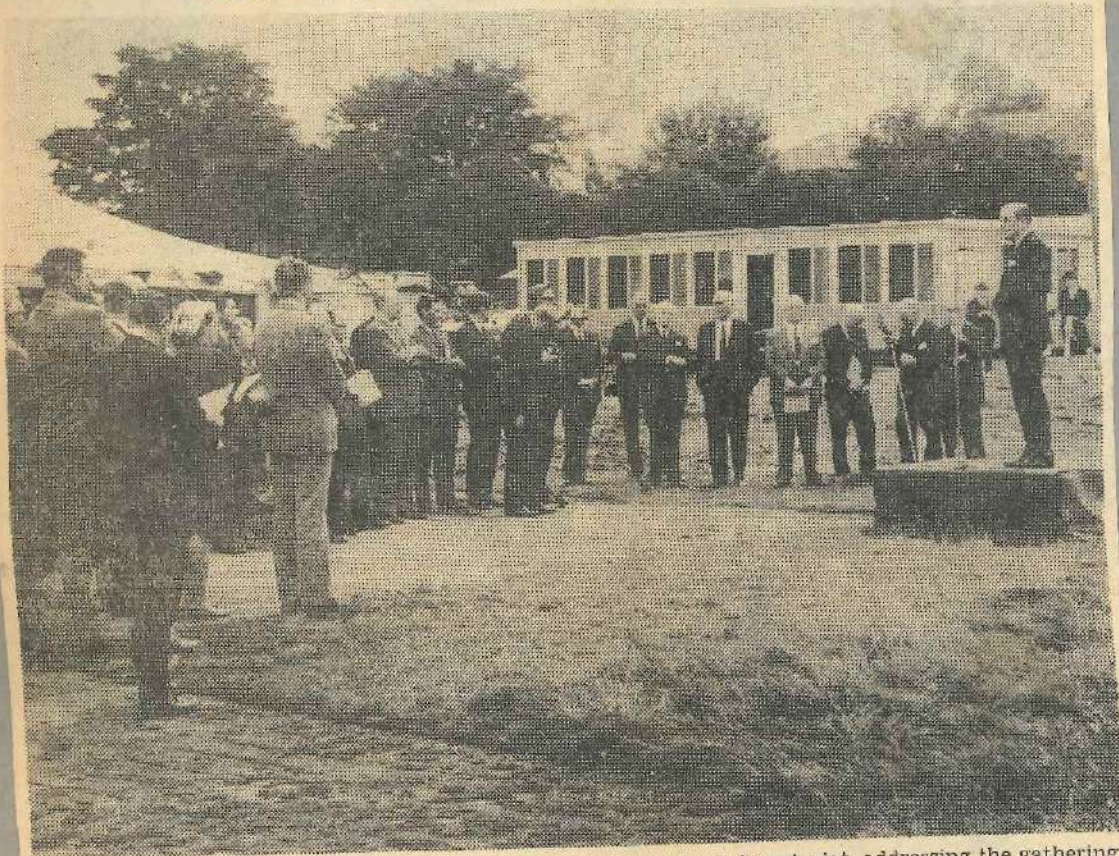
Support for provision of an Ilkley Museum

75 Years Ago

Requests for a Museum in Ilkley brought the following letter from a visitor to the "Gazette in 1891. "On reading the speeches to the establishment of a museum in Ilkley, may I venture to express the strong hope that the references made to the antiquities of the District may lead to the formation of a local Committee For The Preservation of Local Monuments. "The advantages of a committee expressly authorised to have these antiquities in their care would be (1) to extend the knowledge of the inhabitants in the matters which should give them pride in their locality (2) to secure a centre to which could be reported any impending danger to these antiquities, with the assurance that immediate steps could be taken to avert it (3) a recognized body who could negotiate with the owners of land respecting such monuments, so as to secure the option of removal to a place of safety in preference to the meddling with them by any other persons (4) arrangements for the protection of such monuments by rails so as to permit the wandering both to gaze but not to chisel (5) the recording of the position and appearance of objects of antiquities, by maps, plans, drawings, rubbings, casts, photographs, both ordinary and stereoscopic."

* * *

NEW WOOL CENTRE CEREMONY



Mr. W. J. Vines, managing director of the International Wool Secretariat, addressing the gathering on the site of the new wool centre in Valley Drive before calling upon Professor J. B. Speakman to operate an excavator and cut a strip of turf, on Tuesday.

27

NEW LANDMARK FOR THE WASHBURN VALLEY THRUSCROSS RESERVOIR OFFICIALLY OPENED

Opened officially by the Lord Mayor of Leeds, Alderman S. Walsh, on Wednesday afternoon the new reservoir for Leeds Corporation established at Thruscross provides another landmark for the Washburn Valley area.

In the sharp September sunshine on Wednesday the white towering walls of the dam, bounded by the green grass of meadows, could be seen for several miles by those approaching it for the ceremony.

Question comprised not only Leeds Corporation officials but representatives of authorities in the immediate area. In a marquee set by the side of the reservoir they were received by the Chairman of the Waterworks Committee, Alderman Sir William Hemmingsway.

HISTORIC DAY

That day, said 86-year-old Sir William, would go down in history. Sir William, went on to recall the steps taken after the Second World War to build the reservoir. It was not until 1961 that the contract was signed and Sir William turned over the first sod. It was true that the Corporation obtained powers in 1861 to build a reservoir at Thruscross but for one reason or another it was not built until now. "So today I am more than delighted to have lived to see this great work of great importance carried out," he said.

Sir William then introduced Ald. Walsh who was accompanied by Mrs. Walsh, the Lady Mayoress. Ald. Walsh said "coming here today one realises how people get so used to receiving so easily and unrestrictedly so many things in life which are vital to our existence. They never pause to consider the enormous amount of planning and technical skill necessary to bring these matters about," he said.

THE DROUGHT

It was certainly brought home to them in Leeds in 1959 when they experienced a great drought with water stocks falling to 28.6 days and supplies were cut off in each half of the city on alternate nights. This reservoir at Thruscross was now increased security against that sort of thing, said Ald. Walsh.

It was the largest reservoir of the Corporation's undertaking and when filled contained 1,725 million gallons of water and increased security by over 50 days supplies. Ald. Walsh said he had only one objection to the erection of the reservoir and that was by someone who asked "Why waste money on a new one when you can't fill those you have got." During the whole course of construction with its hazardous operations in the building of the dam there had not been one serious accident.

UNVEILED PLAQUE

Ald. Walsh then unveiled a commemorative plaque and with his guests left the marquee to walk down to the centre of the bridge over the dam where he opened the draw-off valve allowing the water to flow through the dam to the reservoirs lower down the valley.

The party then moved to the east end of the dam where Ald. Walsh unveiled an information plaque. This gave information of the reservoir and dam and stated "the construction of this reservoir completed the development of water reservoirs in the Washburn Valley. Thruscross, Fewston and Swinsty Reservoirs together provide a reliable yield of 20 million gallons per day.

PRESENTATIONS

The General Manager and Engineer of the Leeds Corporation Waterworks Undertakings, Mr. R. Roberts, afterwards presented the Lord Mayor with a silver

Miss R. M. Batley, supervisory typist in the Waterworks Department, made a presentation to the Lady Mayoress. A vote of thanks was proposed by Ald. H. S. Vick, deputy chairman of the Waterworks Committee, and seconded by Cr. A. M. Vickers in place of Cr. Col. W. L. Hey, shadow chairman of the Committee who was prevented from attending by business commitments.

Among those invited to the ceremony were: Mr. J. A. N. McGeoch (Engineer), Cr. F. Thornton (Chairman), Romalds Water Board; Mr. J. L. Thomas (Clerk), Cr. J. B. Layfield (Chairman) Wharfedale R.D.C., Cr. R. T. Swales, Mr. T. Broughton, Craven Water Board, Cr. D. Chalmers, Chairman, Ripon and Pateley Bridge R.D.C., Cr. Mrs. P. S. Collins, vice-chairman Horsforth U.D.C.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS IN WHARFEDALE RURAL AREA

Ministry list issued 9/12/66

A second list of buildings in the Wharfedale Rural area which are considered to be of special architectural or historical interest, has been compiled by the Minister of Housing and Local Government.

Under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act, no-one may demolish a building which has been listed, nor may any alterations or extensions to the building be carried out unless at least two months' notice has been given to the local planning authority.

The Act provides for penalties for any contravention of this requirement, but work which is urgently necessary in the interests of safety or health or for the preservation of the building or of neighbouring property, may be undertaken without prior notice provided that notice is given as soon as possible after the necessity for the work arises.

Buildings in the list are:

Arthington. — Church of St. Peter; Home View garage.

Askwith. — Shaw Hall, High Snowden; Low Hall farmhouse with barns; Manor House; Sundial farmhouse and attached farm building; lodges to Denton Park

Bramhope. — Puritan Chapel Otley Road; gazebo in the ground of Westwood Hall Drive.

Carlton. — Carlton Hall.

Castley. — Castley Hall.

Denton. — Church of St. Helen; stables at Denton Hall.

Farnley. — Farnley Hall dairy and east lodges.

Fewston. — Church of St. Lawrence.

Great Timble. — Low House, Snowden View, and attached converted barn.

Leathley. — Church of St. Oswald; stocks and mounting block; almshouses, The Green (4 dwellings); Leathley Hall; Leathley Mill.

Lindley. — Lindley Hall; Lindley

Nesfield-with-Langbar. — High Austby farmhouse.

Newall-with-Clifton. — Sundial farmhouse and barn; Well farmhouse and attached barn; Old Hall farmhouse; Grange farmhouse, Grange Cottage (Fairfax cottage); Ash Tree cottage; Cherry Tree farmhouse.

Norwood. — Scow Hall; Scow cottage and outbuildings; Dob Park Bridge.

Pool. — Pool Hall Pool farmhouse.

Stainburn. — Church of St. Mary.

Weston. — Church of All Saints; banqueting house at Weston Hall; table building S.W. of Weston Hall; Weston Grange.

MUSICAL FAMILY

Mr. Philip Baxter, of Holme Grove, Burley, who has been playing the organ since he was 13 years old, is to go to Lambeth Palace to receive the Archbishop of Canterbury's Certificate of Church Music.

Mr. Baxter, aged 23, is a member of a family noted for its love of music, particularly organ music. He is himself organist and choir-master at St. Margaret's Church, Ilkley. His father, Mr. Richard Baxter, is organist at St. James' Church, Baldon; and his uncle, Mr. Ernest Baxter, who taught him to play, was organist at Guiseley Parish Church. His brother, the Rev. David Baxter, vicar of Drighlington, can also play the organ.

As from 23 December the collection offices in the Treasurer's Department at Ilkley, Burley and Menston will be closed on Saturday mornings.

On Ilkley Moor 'baht brass Hunting treasure with the Army

By a Correspondent

Ilkley, Wednesday.

A haze through which the sun was struggling covered Ilkley Moor this morning when a convoy of cars, including an army jeep and trailer, climbed the steep road to Keighley Gate for "Operation Coin."

Miss Elizabeth Pirie, Keeper of Archaeology at Leeds City Museum, who had enlisted Army help in searching for Edward II silver pennies, was prepared for "all eventualities." Wearing wellingtons and jeans, and armed with a small trowel, she watched as, under the supervision of Major T. Featherstonehaugh, of Leeds Rifles (TA), Regimental Sergeant-Major Herbert Smith and Company Sergeant-Major Patrick Savidge, two regular soldiers of the Prince of Wales Regiment, quartered out approximately 1,950 square yards of the moor with broad white tapes and put on mine detecting gear.

The site had been bared of heather, bracken, and bilberry during a six-week fire in 1959 and had exposed unsuspected cup-and-ring marked stones, one of which Mr Lawrence Butler, of Harden, was photographing when he found the first of six silver pennies—a discovery that gave rise to today's search in the hope that it might trace a hidden hoard of coins.

The first "sleep"

The detachment of pressmen looking on became even more excited than Miss Pirie when the mine detectors gave off the characteristic "bleep" that denoted the presence of metal. But it was a tent peg—probably Elizabeth II, certainly not Edward II—that first came to light. Then there was found a piece of lead piping—probably Victorian—a spent cartridge (date unknown), and a small square of

rusty metal with a hole in the centre of it, which someone suggested might be a washer of a Roman chariot wheel. For several hours the two sergeants worked systematically up and down the hillside between the white tapes without any further success.

Would any coins come to light—the best of all, the board the optimists hoped would be there? In any case, how had the six coins already found got there? If there were no finds of moment, at least there were plenty of theories; and information—vouched by the moor ranger, Mr Anthony Griffiths, who kept a wary eye on operations—that the site coincided with that of a suspected Roman road—served only to stimulate imagination. The present Keighley Gate "loop" was apparently a "modern diversion" built at the end of last century when a near-by watertank was constructed.

Ilkley, Mr Griffiths pointed out, had experienced a number of cloudbursts since then, the most serious—in 1900—leaving a trail of havoc on the moor, cutting deep ravines, and sweeping debris far into the town below. Erosion of the surface exposed by the 1959 fire, by the heavy rains of last summer and this winter, must offset the accumulated vegetation of years, and paving stones on the erstwhile Roman road had doubtless been ripped up for use in constructing the tank and road loop. "In fact, the site must have been pretty well 'combed' already in one way and another and when the Army has finished, the chances of anything more coming to light seem remote," summed up Mr Griffiths.

"Accident" theory

The possible existence of this road suggested "accidents" as the most feasible explanation for the existence of the coins found by Mr Butler. A horse might have stumbled and its rider's purse contents scattered. Or possibly a fourteenth-century traveller had been waylaid and robbed. Miss Pirie was assured by the Army that even a small coin buried at a depth of 12 inches would be detected in the sweep.

And even if no hoard were found, the day was eminently successful in at least one respect: everyone had had a grand day out on Ilkley Moor 'baht

26 Aug 1966

Manor House as Museum was a suggestion many years ago

75 Years Ago

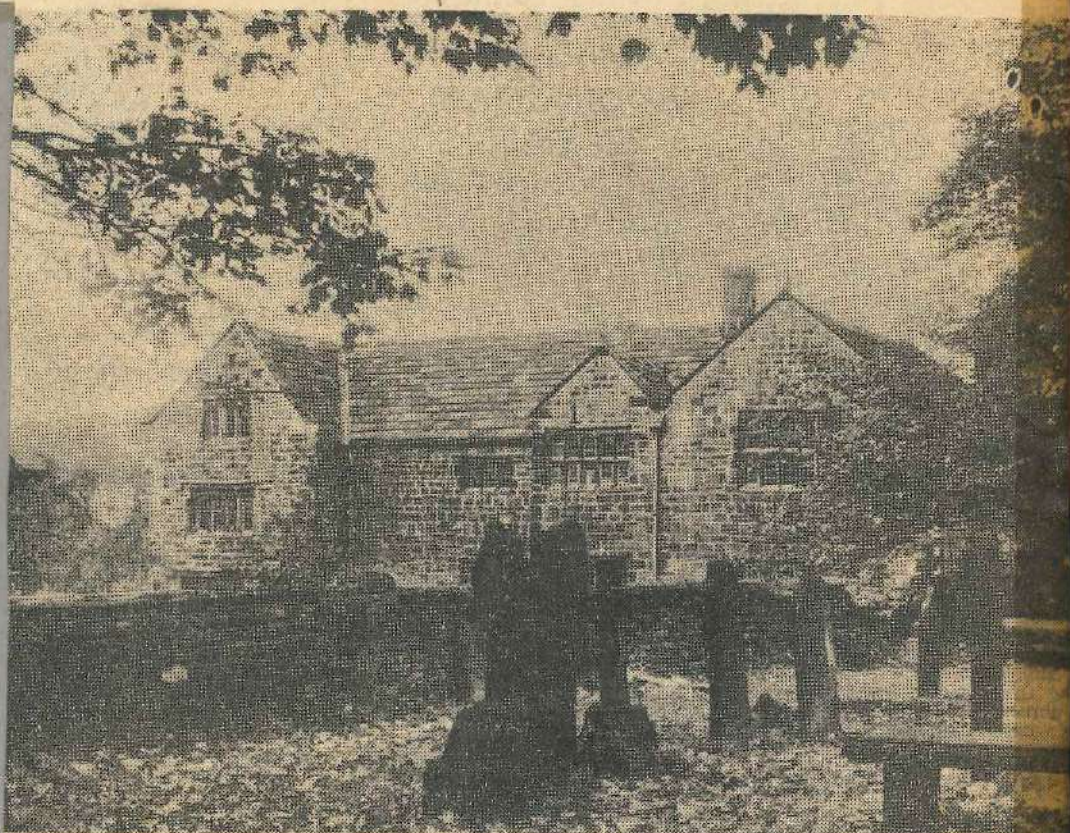
Members of the Museum Committee who had been formed with object of finding a suitable building in which Ilkley's collection of valuable antiques could be displayed met at the home of Dr. Carter, Carrcroft, Ilkley, in August 1891. It was reported to the meeting that the owner of the Old Castle, Mr. Morris, was willing to let the whole place to the committee at a certain rental and Dr. Bampton had been the only member deputed to meet Mr. Morris.

The Committee learned from Mr. Morris that if they did not wish to proceed any further with the offer it was his intention to build on the land unoccupied.

It was resolved that Mr. A. Riley, who was chairman of this meeting and Messrs W. Watson and J. Foster make up a sub-committee to negotiate with Mr. Morris to let the castle on a lease of some four or five years with the option of purchase, and that the rental be not more than £50. Others present at the meeting were Messrs. F. J. Cross and T. L. Pate.

In the week the meeting was held a Roman millstone, about 18 inches in diameter was unearthed in Back Grove Road. Commented the "Gazette" It is in a capital state of preservation and was dug up by some workmen while excavating.

NEW VIEW OF MANOR HOUSE MUSEUM



The felling of two or three trees in the churchyard has opened out the view of the ancient archway and from a point near the tower presented an open view over the church wall of the Manor House Museum.

8-12-46

IN ILKLEY IN 1867



These old houses stood in Leeds Road, Ilkley, in 1867, but there is no information as to the site they occupied. Perhaps one of the older residents can supply the answer.

A £10,000 LOOK

25-10-61

AT THE PAST

ILKLEY'S old Manor House, a relic of the days of the feudal system when the Lords of the Manor administered their rough-and-ready justice in the stone-paved great hall, has started a new chapter in its long and sometimes turbulent history. *VERY DOUBTFUL*

The house, a gracious, grey stone building approached through a whitewashed archway, has been restored at a cost of about £10,000 and is now a museum.

It makes an ideal setting with its scores of tiny glass windows, its rough walls, its massive beams and its great fireplaces. The house is old—parts of it far older than some of the museum's exhibits. A stone arch dates from the 13th century and two doorways from the 13th or 14th centuries.

Tudor period

The house stands on what was the site of the Ilkley Roman fort and is regarded as a good example of a strong domestic house of the Tudor period, when it was possibly fortified.

It was here that succeeding generations of Middletons held Court Baron and Court Leet. The Abbots of Fountains and Salley were free tenants. George, Earl of Cumberland, was here.

So was Humphrey, Duke of Buckingham.

The house has garnered atmosphere over the years. It is a friendly place, the sort of house that has seen success and failure, sorrow and rejoicing. It came to its lowest ebb in recent years when it was condemned as being unfit for human habitation while converted into tenements.

Fine gesture

It was saved when Mr. Percy Dalton, with a gesture as fine as the architecture of the building itself, gave the house to Ilkley.

Now the years of patient restoration work have been completed and the house is a museum. The honorary curator is Miss Elsie Fletcher, president of the Olicana Museum Society.

She says: "We plan to furnish the main hall in keeping with its age and character and have already made an excellent start on this."

"Another downstairs room will be used for a display of by-gones, which are always of general interest, while upstairs we have a room which can be used for travelling exhibitions and another at present devoted to relics of Roman Ilkley."

Surprises them

"The house makes an ideal setting for the museum and we expect many visitors will find their way here during the holiday season."

The restoration of the Manor House has taken many Ilkley people by surprise. Many knew it only as an overpopulated tenement. It comes as a surprise to them to see the great airy rooms and the fireplace in the great hall as big as many a kitchenette.

Said Miss Fletcher: "I hear them say 'I would not mind living here myself,' and I suppose it is not surprising, really."



Inside the Manor House Museum.

ACROSS THE YEARS *from Gazettee July 29th 1966*
Support for provision of an Ilkley Museum

1891-20
75 Years Ago

Requests for a Museum in Ilkley brought the following letter from a visitor to the "Gazette in 1891. "On reading the speeches to the establishment of a museum in Ilkley, may I venture to express the strong hope that the references made to the antiquities of the District may lead to the formation of a local Committee For The Preservation of Local Monuments. "The advantages of a committee expressly authorised to have these antiquities in their care would be (1) to extend the knowledge of the inhabitants in the matters which should give them pride in their locality (2) to secure a centre to which could be reported any impending danger to these antiquities, with the assurance that immediate steps could be taken to avert it (3) a recognized body who could negotiate with the owners of land respecting such monuments, so as to secure the option of removal to a place of safety in preference to the meddling with them by any other persons (4) arrangements for the protection of such monuments by rails so as to permit the wandering both to gaze but not to chisel (5) the recording of the position and appearance of objects of antiquities, by maps, plans, drawings, rubbings, casts, photographs, both ordinary and stereoscopic."