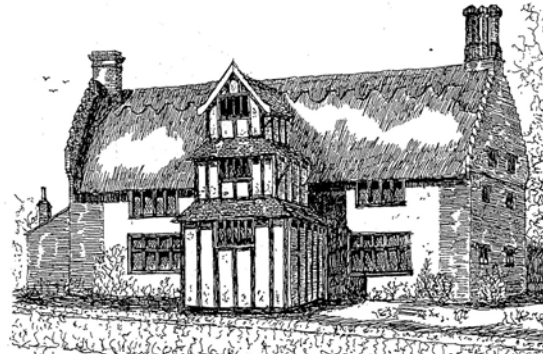


NHBG Newsletter



Spring 2009
Non-Members: £1.00

NUMBER SEVENTEEN
www.nhbg.fsnet.co.uk

Norfolk Historic Buildings Group



St Andrew's Church yard at Deopham. Looking backwards to a picnic lunch last September and a glorious day learning how to work flint with Richard Hyde – let us hope that Summer 2009 will provide us with several more days not to be forgotten (see page 6; pages 19/20 for Summer 2009).

Contents

CHAIR.....	2	EDITOR.....	14
About HEART.....	2	NHBG Committee	14
Surviving Military Structures on the Suffolk Coast	3	Research Projects	15
Overstrand Revisited or All's Well That Ends Well	4	A Digest of Buildings Visited Since October 2008	15
Flint Day in September 2009	6	Book List	15
The Buildings of The Wolterton Estate	7	Day Schools, Conferences, VAG Events.....	16/17
Small Houses in Late Medieval York and Norwich: The Standing Evidence.....	8	NHBG Bursary	17
The Rebirth of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital in the 1870s.....	10	VAG Memorial Essay	17
NHBG Dendro Dates in South Norfolk.....	12	The Scole Committee.....	18
		Annual General Meeting.....	19
		Summer Events 2009.....	19/20

CHAIR

Welcome to the Newsletter of the Norfolk Historic Buildings Group. The autumn and winter of 2008/9 are now behind us and we can look back on another superb and well-attended series of evening lectures on a wide range of topics, from David Sims' beautifully illustrated talk on the Second World War defences of Norfolk, to a comparative study of houses in Norwich and York by Jayne Rimmer. As always the committee work hard to locate high quality speakers with diverse research interests, but if there is a topic (or speaker) you would like to see featured in next Winter's lecture series, do let me know! We can also now look forwards to an exciting summer programme of events (see pp.19-20). Remember to get your applications in early to avoid disappointment.

As I write this, Volume 4 of the Group's journal, which focuses on the publication of the Tacolneston Project, is entering the final editorial phase. It promises to be the Group's most ambitious piece of research to date and will constitute an important addition to our understanding of Norfolk's surviving vernacular buildings. One of the key features of the Tacolneston Project is the use of dendrochronological dating to provide fixed dates for the buildings which survive. The NHBG has now been supported by two grants from the Awards for All Heritage Lottery Fund (the first for £5,000, the second for £8,000), and this has enabled a larger group of buildings to be dated by scientific means. All of the properties with dendro-dates are provided by Susan Brown (our Buildings Recording Co-ordinator) on p.12. Prior to the creation of the NHBG hardly any smaller 'vernacular' buildings had dendro-dates and Susan's list constitutes a hugely important contribution to research in this area.

Whilst there is no room for complacency, I feel confident that the Group is continuing to fulfil its objectives by undertaking cutting-edge research whilst also providing an important education and training service to its members and the wider public. Let us hope that the impressive momentum of the Group can be sustained during what seems to be a very serious global economic crisis.

*Adam Longcroft
Chair, Norfolk Historic Buildings Group
March 2009*

A.G.M.

Saturday 27 June 2009
Beccles Museum, Ballygate, Beccles
5.30 pm
Tea and Scones from 5.00 pm ish
Papers will follow



About HEART

We are a private, charitable trust set up to act as an umbrella organisation for all the fantastic and often unknown heritage on offer in Norwich.

We strategically plan, regenerate and promote Norwich's heritage resources and act as a best practice case study nationally and internationally for developing heritage as a vehicle for social and economic regeneration.

Some of our key initiatives:

The Halls regeneration project

The Halls - St Andrew's and Blackfriars - are the UK's most complete medieval friary complex, with a rich and diverse history spanning 700 years. We are leading on an ambitious multi-million pound regeneration programme which will transform The Halls into a regionally important cultural and conference venue and an accessible community facility for the city and beyond. Norwich City Council, which owns the

buildings, is working in partnership with HEART on the project.

Heritage Open Days

Heritage Open Days (HODs) is England's largest and most popular voluntary cultural event, celebrating all of its fantastic architecture and culture by offering free access to events and interesting properties that are usually closed to the public or normally charge for admission.

The HODs programme involves open buildings, guided tours, exhibitions, talks, family activities, window displays, music recitals and dance performances. Participating venues include museums and tourist attractions; private homes; churches and cathedrals; city centre shops, restaurants and pubs; and offices and workplaces.

In Norwich, HEART co-ordinates around 200 HODs events each year. This year's HODs are taking place 10 - 13 September, so pop them in your diary!

continued on page 18

Surviving Military Structures on the Suffolk Coast

David Sims

In just six short months, during the summer and autumn of 1940, England was turned into a fortress. This had a huge impact on the landscape and left us with a significant historical and archaeological legacy.

The most common surviving structure of the period is the humble pillbox. These were built in large numbers and in different forms and their value today is that in most cases they are all that is left of a complex defended position. Anti-tank obstacles can still be seen as lines of concrete cubes winding their way along the coastline and despite the passage of time some lengths of anti-tank ditch are still substantial structures.

The emergency coastal defence batteries were an important part of our early defences and as these were built close to the coast, erosion had taken its toll and very few remain. One of these surviving structures is of particular interest as the battery was built to look like a house with a pitched roof and a dormer window; the latter was in fact the observation post used for fire control. It was then converted to a real house shortly after the war and remains a private residence today. Its particular value to the military historian is that it retains the features of the original structure including

the gun houses, magazines and even the remains of the holdfasts, securing the guns, which are still evident in the floors of the kitchen and living room.

Other interesting features included a surviving underground 'Operational Base' prepared for the 'Secret Army' and an unusual coastal, concrete observation post, which had been built to control the fire of inland field batteries. Another rare survivor is the command centre for a six-inch field gun battery, which was constructed partly underground and consisted of three rooms, two of which were served by back-to-back fireplaces.

Four radar stations were situated in the research area of which two have significant remains. They are on private land with one still having its guardrooms, pillboxes built into the perimeter fence, bases for the masts and the receiver block protected by blast walls with its roof shielded from a direct hit by six feet of shingle.

Today interest in our World War II defences and the lives of local people at that time grows apace with government agencies, conservation organisations and local groups all being involved.

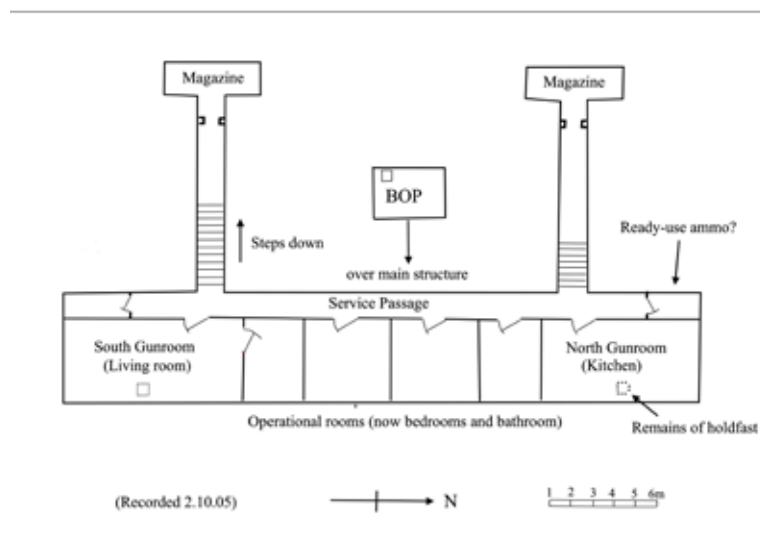


left:

Emergency coastal defence battery being converted into a house in 1949.

right:

Plan of battery today



Overstrand Revisited or All's Well That Ends Well. 1 August 2008.

Tony Wright



Overstrand Hall, Overstrand built by Edward Lutyens

The plan for the afternoon visit to Overstrand was to look again at the Lutyens buildings which were first visited in April 2003 (See report in Newsletter 6 of September 2003). Lutyens was a leading exponent of the Arts and Crafts movement and Norfolk is fortunate in having some significant examples of his work.

I arrived at the first venue, Overstrand Hall, in good time and reported to the office. They made it clear that no visit had been booked and that we would not be able to see the building. My assurances that we were expected were dismissed. By 2pm all were gathered apart from our guide. It was at this point that we were asked to leave as no visit was possible and we had not been CRB cleared in order to prevent any problems with the young people on the premises. At last our contact at the Hall appeared and apologised for not having entered the visit in the office diary! We still had no guide for the afternoon. I shall be eternally grateful to Michael Brown for his expertise and the suggestion that we should look at the buildings and try to work out what Lutyens was trying to achieve.

The hall was built for Lord Hillingdon, a banker, in 1899-1901 and exhibits the architect's mature style. Michael pointed out that Lutyens was an architect of genius whose work relied on a pastiche of past styles. The house is set around a central courtyard; it has a complex plan with the service wing set off to one side. The entrance front is much understated with a simple arched doorway beneath a long strip of windows, flanked on the right by a gable running into tall chimneystacks. The principal joists in the dining room had wooden pegs but entirely regular and in illogical positions. In the Tudor room it was difficult to decide whether the timber frame was a

structural or decorative feature. We noted the tiled skirting boards and bay windows derived from earlier periods.

Space and size were important externally and the use of brick and flint were inevitable and appropriate for a Norfolk building. Through the entrance passage, which is brick and timber in the vernacular style, we emerged in the Italianate courtyard. Here a three bay arcade on slender columns frames the main entrance, which is reached on either side by curved steps around the central fountain. Most of the walls are of mortar with pebbles inserted but the plainness is relieved by two bands of tiles whose edges create a pattern. The south front is more symmetrical than the West (entrance) front with canted bays on either side, a half timbered first floor, more appropriate for Cheshire than Norfolk, and a central open loggia beneath. The garden, East, front again has a pair of canted bays, with twin arches framing the open loggia, and mullioned windows above. The tile-hung walls belong more to Sussex than Norfolk. Lutyens mixed a variety of styles, including Tudor and Italianate, with a wide range of materials to give an interesting building but did he go too far in his inventiveness?

We moved on to the Methodist Chapel of 1898 probably commissioned as a result of his work at the Pleasaunce. It is the earliest of his nonconformist chapels. Here Lutyens utilises simple functionality in the rectangular structure of brick, tile and pebbledash under a hipped pantile roof, with a recessed clerestory supported by brick piers and lead covered

Continued on page 5

right
Methodist Chapel, Overstrand designed by Edward Lutyens

Continued from page 4

timbers to form buttresses. The clerestory has simple lunette windows four on each side and one at each end and a pebble-dashed exterior. The entrance to the chapel is through an attractive brick archway. Its rounded top and six orders are clearly derived from the Norman. The interior is quite plain and apparently altered since Lutyens' time. Where else can one find a nonconformist building with clerestory and flying buttresses?

The Pleasaunce was built for Cyril Flower, Lord Battersea, and his wife, a daughter of Sir Anthony de Rothschild. It had been two seaside villas of the 1880s and Lutyens work dates from 1897 – 99. Lady Battersea overruled his wish to demolish the villas and he was forced to disguise them. She and Lutyens had a stormy relationship as she constantly amended the design.

The resulting building is an eclectic mix of arts & crafts vernacular with details which show us the genius of the young Lutyens. Opposite the main entrance is a courtyard with white-painted clock tower with a row of small-paned windows and a pyramidal roof. There is also a former bakery, circular with a conical roof. Voysey's influence which meant so much to Lutyens at this period is clearly visible. The gateway leading to the house has Ionic columns and a massive coat of arms. This is flanked by twin circular windows set into the brickwork and topped by a hipped roof. The main building has an irregular plan and is of red brick, with tile hanging, and a mixture of hipped roofs and gables giving a complex roofline. The fenestration is very varied including mullions, cross-casements, Yorkshire sashes and oriels in a typically arts & crafts manner.

We were able to see all the ground floor rooms and admired the oak-panelled dining room, the Moorish tiles leading to the kitchens, the classically inspired plaster ceilings, the stained glass above the staircase, and two



beautiful De Morgan tiled fireplaces. There was also an intricate Islamic style doorway. The hard landscaping survives in the gardens which were not the work of Gertrude Jeckyll as was once believed. Here Lutyens built a long covered walkway. The row of heavy buttresses surrounds circular arches and supports a peg-tiled roof. The ends of the walk form into an open octagonal garden house echoing the loggia attached to the corner of the main house itself.

From the end of the walkway brick and stone is woven into circular designs and leads us down to the semi-circular steps of the sunken garden, where the geometrically designed paving survives.

The afternoon closed with a cream tea which was taken in the garden. It was a delightful and relaxing end to an interesting visit to Overstrand.

left
The Pleasaunce, Overstrand.



Flint Day in September 2009

Dominic Summers

The Summer Programme finished much as it had begun: under a clear blue sky in the shadow of a fine Norfolk church. The 27th September had dawned misty in the wide fields to the west of Norwich and visibility was still poor when a motley band began to gather at Deopham church in their finest work clothes. The mist was soon burned off by the sun as Richard Hyde, the group's leader, instructor and sage, and Ian Hinton delivered a trailer load of flint pebbles sourced from a local quarry and sacks of material for mixing lime mortar, together with a cement mixer. The prospect dawned on one or two members of the gathering that they would have to put in more physical effort than they had been used to for a number of years.

Richard's task was to lead the group in a practical demonstration and exercise in how to build a flint wall in the old style, using lime mortar and flints knapped by hand. Flint is the most ubiquitous hard building material in Norfolk and has been used for millennia as a major element in the building of walls throughout the county. For most of that time lime mortar has been the matrix into which the flints are set and a wall made of these well-chosen materials is a thing of beauty that modern flint and cement walls cannot match.

Richard started with a short explanation of the techniques, as well as the history, of flint walling and we proceeded to an examination of the late medieval work of the fabric of Deopham church – highlighting the different appearance of walls made from flint rubble, those faced with knapped flint and those where shuttering had been employed. Then came the time to get our hands dirty and our knees sore.



There followed a demonstration of the technique of flint knapping. Protected with a piece of old carpet tied around his leg and a pair of goggles, Richard sat down, put a suitable flint pebble on his thigh and, choosing a weak spot, gave the flint a satisfying thwack with a masonry hammer. The object of knapping is primarily to break a flint pebble in such a way as to expose a smooth interior face that can then be used for facing a wall in both a decorative and protective way. This technique was used in many historic Norfolk buildings and reached, perhaps, its apogee in the late fourteenth century in the north wall of the Bridewell museum that faces St Andrew's church in Norwich. There, the knapped, squared flints are of such regularity in colour, shape and, above all, size, that it is almost impossible to



trace any mortar between the joints. Each of us followed Richard with the hammer, with varying degrees of success, though by the end of the day one of our number, Anna Kettle, was producing material that would have impressed an old Brandon knapper.

Richard also showed us how to choose flints for building an unshuttered wall and how to lay them so that they locked into the wall "longitudinally". Using the crumbly lime mortar we then set to repairing the broken low wall that ran along the edge of the churchyard next to the church hall, where Carol Nutt, who organised the event, had thoughtfully provided tea and biscuits. Although our progress was slow, we managed to repair a number of breaches in the wall to what appeared to be a reasonable standard, leaving some of the wallers swelling with pride.

Lastly, Richard demonstrated the use of shuttering in building a flint wall. The lime mortar mix was more liquid than for building an unshuttered wall, as the flints and mortar are held in place by the lateral planks of wood – the "shutters". The flint rubble pebbles are placed inside the shuttering and the gaps are filled with lime mortar. This is then left to set for a couple of days, although we had to break the shuttering after a couple of hours. The result was a satisfyingly smooth finish, which could then be rendered and decorated if wished. As our mortar had not had sufficient time to set however, the wall began to sag and was eventually broken up so that the flint could be reused.



The day was both very enjoyable and particularly instructive in the practicalities of the use of Norfolk's most visible building material. Richard was an excellent teacher and the group finished the day with a good idea of the challenges faced by those who built our great churches as well as repaired churchyard walls. Although lime mortar takes a very long time to set to completion, and despite the fact we were working after the traditional building season would have finished so exposing our work to the ravages of frost, I was delighted to see on a recent visit that our wall still stands.

The Buildings of The Wolterton Estate Lynette Fawkes

Wolterton Hall lies approximately 6 miles north east of the town of Aylsham. It was built in the 1730s for Horatio Walpole, younger brother of Robert Walpole and foreign diplomat to The Hague in his brother's administration. Horatio acquired the estates of Wickmere, and Mannington, which make up the study area for this brief piece at different but similar dates in the 1730s.

The park buildings show a great similarity in their styles. Brick hood moulds over the windows, elaborate chimneys and Flemish bond brickwork characterise the exterior of these buildings. Woodyard and Estate Yard cottages are an excellent example of these features.



Woodyard and Estate Yard Cottages

One of the earliest sets of buildings within the Park is Dairy Cottages, the earliest being number four which is labelled on the earliest estate map of 1732 as being called 'the Parsonage'. This may have once been part of a much larger building which has become truncated over time to become the small cottage that we see today. Later additions dating to the early 1800s have been built onto the 'Parsonage' and one large building became a group of smaller ones. This seems to be a feature of the pattern of estate building here.

In contrast, the estate buildings seem to have very few similar features but they have all seen many alterations including Hall Farm, Mannington which started out as a



Hall Farm, Mannington



Beck Farm, Wickmere (Front). The main entrance is located at the rear.

timber framed 'L' shaped building and probably in the 1820s was modernised and a Georgian frontage was added along with a further two 'polite' rooms at the front of the building. It is likely that after this date, the timber framed section was used as the service area and the Georgian section as a polite entertaining area for the family.

Beck Farm is a fine example of a lobby entry house. The original layout still survives and can be seen clearly from the rear of the building but this is an example of yet another building which had a Georgian addition and 'facelift' in the early 1800s. The stairs which were once behind the fireplace have been moved to the Georgian hallway and the door which once faced the fireplace has been replaced with a window.

In contrast to all of the additions and alterations which have occurred to the estate buildings there is a group of cottages in Wickmere village which seems to refute the idea of the family repairing and adding new buildings onto older ones. The cottages in 'The Street' Wickmere seem to be of a single build and it is my belief that these were built after the village of Wolterton Green was enclosed within the park of the hall and new cottages were built in Wickmere to house the tenants who lived there. This would have occurred in the late 1740's and certainly fits in with the date of the brick bond which is Flemish bond which seems to have become a common bond at approximately this time.

From my studies of this estate it is clear that the branch of the Walpole family living at Wolterton Hall were not 'improving' landlords of the type of Thomas Coke of Holkham Hall. The Wolterton Park and Estate buildings have been altered and added to when the family have had enough money to do so and this does not seem to have been often. They have been altered to fit the latest fashions and these would have been appropriate for Horatio or his family to show to guests as examples of their own education and social status.

This has been a short extract from a much larger project which has looked at fifteen buildings in total and is the product of nearly a year of research.

My thanks must go to Lord and Lady Walpole of Wolterton Hall for their continued help and hospitality throughout the course of this project as well as all of the property owners who have allowed me privileged access into their homes.

Small Houses in Late Medieval York and Norwich: The Standing Evidence Jayne Rimmer

Examples of standing late-medieval small houses can be found in Norwich at 15 Bedford Street, 8-12 Charing Cross and 2-12 Gildencroft, and in York at 64-72 Goodramgate (also known as ‘Lady Row’), and 1-2 Church Cottages, North Street. 64-72 Goodramgate is probably the oldest of these examples, with documentary evidence showing that provision for its construction were made in 1316. 1-2 Church Cottages have been dated to the fifteenth century and 15 Bedford Street, 8-12 Charing Cross have been assigned a late fifteenth - early sixteenth century date. The dating of 2-12 Gildencroft is more problematical, although it is likely to be in the same date range as the other Norwich rows.

These houses were constructed in a number of different secular and religious contexts. 64-72 Goodramgate, and 1 and 2 All Saints’ Cottages are situated on the edge of churchyards and were built to fund chantry foundations. In contrast, 15 Bedford Street and 8-12 Charing Cross were situated in front of larger dwellings, and were probably constructed by the lay owners of these sites. The origin of 2-12 Gildencroft is much harder to establish, although they are situated in close proximity to St Augustine’s churchyard, and could have been the work of either a religious or secular developer.

The practice of building small houses in rows was advantageous to both the institutional landlord and a small-scale lay owner. The length and area of rows of small houses could be adapted to suit any shape or size of plot, and the

method of constructing houses in series with shared party walls under a single roof, was a particularly economic form of construction.

There are subtle differences in the style and appearance of small houses in York and Norwich, which are a result of the availability of different building materials in the two cities. In York, small houses tend to be fully timber-framed and had tiled roofs, while in Norwich the standing examples are constructed out of flint or flint-and-brick rubble at ground-floor level, and are timber-framed at first-floor level. The steep pitch of the roof at 2-12 Gildencroft, Norwich, also suggests that this row was originally thatched.

Further differences are noticeable within the two cities. Location, for example, influenced their layout and use. Small houses could be found on major street frontages in central areas, less prominent side streets and the outskirts. 15 Bedford Street, 8-12 Charing Cross and 64-72 Goodramgate are all located in central areas and their position on the street frontage would have facilitated commercial as well as domestic use. 15 Bedford Street is the only unit with conclusive evidence for an original shop front, although it is possible that shops and workshops were also accommodated at 8-12 Charing Cross and 64-72 Goodramgate. Furthermore, 15 Bedford Street and

Continued on page 9



64-72 Goodramgate, York



Right: 1 and 2 Church Cottages, York

Continued from page 8



left
2-12 Gildencroft, Norwich: sited away from the city centre

below
15 Bedford Street, Norwich: only unit with conclusive evidence for an original shop front,

8-12 Charing Cross have cellars and undercrofts, which as completely subterranean structures, would most probably have been used as storage spaces linked to commercial activities. 1 and 2 All Saints' Lane and 2-12 Gildencroft are situated away from the city-centre and are set back from the main street frontage, and in contrast to the other three examples, do not appear to have been used as retail outlets. Nevertheless, it is possible that interior spaces within these rows or the yards to the rear could have been utilised for light industrial activity.

The internal arrangements within these small houses also appear to have been highly flexible, and could have been changed and adapted over time, to suit different tenant's requirements. This was facilitated by the permeability of partitions between each bay. For example, the absence of studwork on the ground-floor trusses between nos. 64 and 66 Goodramgate, suggested that bays could be easily opened or closed depending on the requirements of the occupants. This design may have been deliberate in order to maintain a certain degree of flexibility in the use of the row after it had been constructed. Furthermore, passageways between the undercrofts beneath the units in 8-12 Charing Cross also showed that their internal layouts were not necessarily the same as the divisions within the houses above.

Further archaeological and documentary research on urban small houses across the country will in future clarify our understanding of their design, layout and use across the late medieval period, and I would gratefully welcome any further suggestions for comparison from members of the NHBG.

Jayne Rimmer
jrimmer@yorkat.co.uk

Right:
8 - 12 Charing Cross, Norwich: internal layouts not necessarily the same as the divisions within the houses above



The Rebirth of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital in the 1870s

Note on 10 February 2009 lecture to NHBG by Jeremy Taylor

In 1863 a plan of William Ivory's original, 1771 hospital showed how C19 alterations and additions around the original H-plan had raised its capacity to 145 beds (Fig.1). But by the 1870s there were major areas for concern, including an unacceptable rate of hospital infections and gross overcrowding of the building. In the wider community the hospital was also under pressure, with Norwich faring badly in its provision of bed spaces.



Fig.1 Plan at 1863 showing additions to basic 'H'-plan of 1771 building

The Governors, therefore, decided to increase the size of the hospital to 200 beds and to call in an outside design consultant to achieve a state-of-the-art solution. And that needed to reflect recent changes in the theory and practice of hospital design and the emergence of the "pavilion principle" (Fig. 2). This had been made explicit in the 650-bed Herbert military hospital, Woolwich (1861-5) designed by Captain Douglas Galton RE, so it was no surprise that the Governors approached him in 1875. Galton responded with a plan showing three, two-storey pavilion ward blocks added parallel to the St Stephen's axis at the left of Ivory's building.

The Norwich architect Edward Boardman was then appointed, and prepared a similar "pavilionisation" design as the basis for the financial appeal that was central to any expansion. It was this scheme that was displayed at the "Great Meeting" at St Andrew's Hall in November 1876, with the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales ensuring that 2000 filled the hall. At the end of the meeting the hospital's President, Lord Leicester, astonished the assembly with his offer of £13,000 to cover the running costs - provided an estimated £22,000 could be raised for the planned "Additions and Alterations". But this proviso reflected a groundswell of opinion that the new hospital should be a completely new build to obtain the best value for money subscribed. As a result a "special" meeting was arranged in February 1877 to resolve the issue. Support from Lord Leicester, the Prince of Wales and a key intervention in the form of a twelve-page open letter from the senior surgeon William Cadge then led to a decision to rebuild anew.

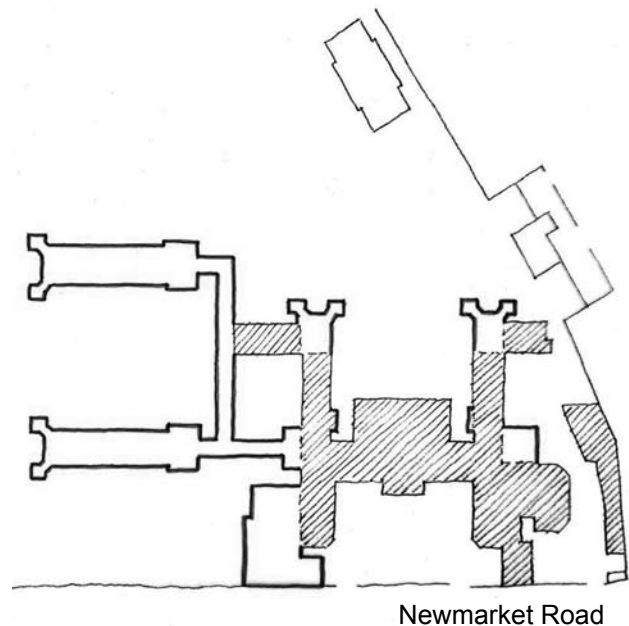


Fig. 2 Edward Boardman's 1876 plan for "pavilionisation".

But who was going to design this new hospital and cope with all those difficult questions of pavilion correctness? In July 1877 there was a successful compromise with joint architects appointed: Edward Boardman working with the older and experienced Thomas Henry Wyatt, past President RIBA and its Royal Gold medallist in 1873. A member of the notable Wyatt family of architects, his large practice had already included some work in the newly defined "Queen Anne" style, and this was to be a stylistic theme in the final design.

By the end of 1877 the architects had presented two variant plans for discussion. Gone are the long side views; instead H-plan arrangements are applied to the site with composite central blocks bisected by a cross corridor leading to the double pavilion ward blocks (Fig. 3). There were apparently "great differences of opinion" on these plans, so the committee then undertook a crucial step in the design sequence by combining the best of each. It was this agreed layout that was then built with an administration block at the centre, between the ward wings, and an outpatient department to the right in a converted wing of the original building. A drawing of c1878 shows the "Queen Anne" style with panelled brickwork, tall chimneys, quasi-Dutch gables and ogee-roofed and pinnacled sanitary towers (Fig. 4). And dominant towards the road were the ends of the pavilion wings that signalled the basis of the hospital's design.

The foundation stone was laid by the Prince of Wales in June 1879 and the formal opening took place in August 1883. But there had been two, nearly insurmountable, problems in the process. Firstly, when the contractors' bids of March 1879 were opened the lowest (from Messrs Lacey of Norwich)

continued on page 11

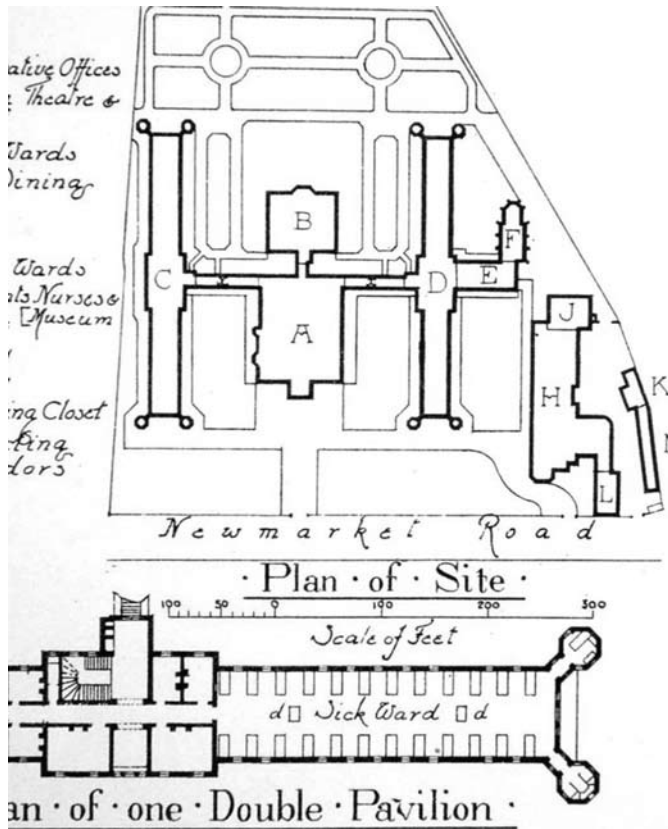


Fig. 3 Site and Ward plans of realised scheme as published 1883.



Fig. 4 View, c1878, from Boardman drawing of finalised scheme.

continued from page 10

was £44,450 - nearly 50% up on the expected figure. This was resolved by putting the available money into an agreed Phase I of LHS pavilion and centre block only (Fig. 5). And this led on to the second problem: how to keep the building process and impetus going in 1881 when the first phase was nearing completion?

At that stage the surgeon William Cadge was to prove the hero of the hour - it was his intervention that drove the scheme forward by offering (anonymously) £10,000. He later gave another £10,000 and in his will bequeathed £5,000. [And £25,000 was to be a total sum that equated to nearly half the construction cost of the new hospital in 1883.] There is a nice tribute to Cadge (1822-1903) for his work as a surgeon in the memorial and window in the North transept of the Cathedral. But the award of the freedom of the City of Norwich in 1890 plus the fine portrait by Sir Hubert Herkomer both made clear the scale of his contribution in achieving a rebuilt hospital.

As a piece of civic architecture, the final design provided Norwich with a consistently up-to-date 218-bed hospital that reflected both the new planning ideals of the 1860s - the pavilion approach - and also the equally new aesthetic ideals of the "Queen Anne" movement (Fig.6).

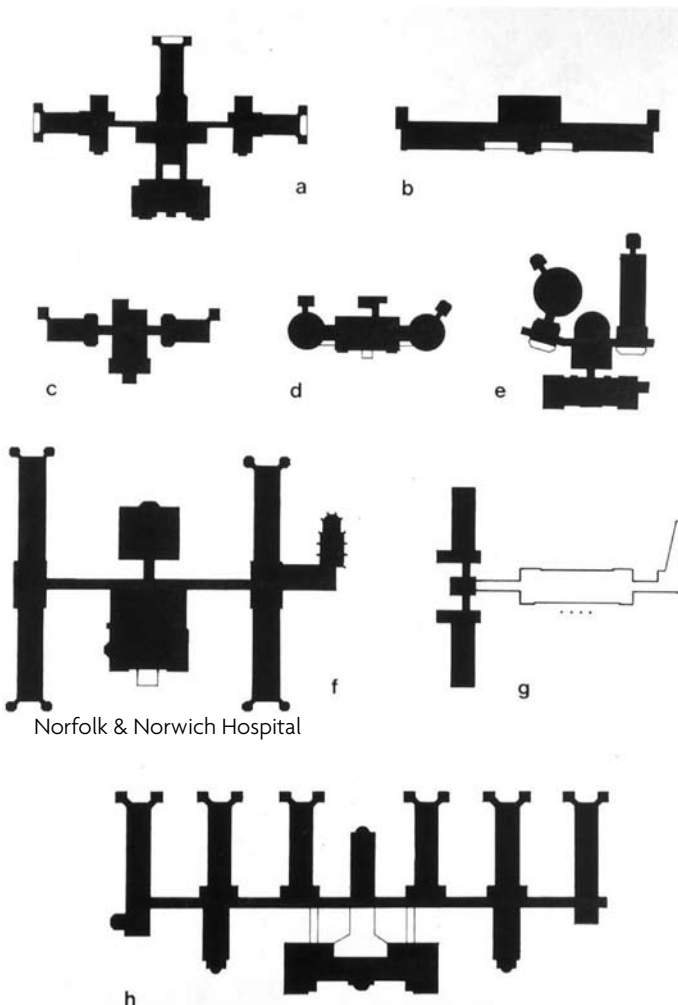


Fig. 5 (above) Photo (1999) of Phase 2 pavilion and adapted right hand wing of 1771 building.

Fig. 6 (left) Comparative pavilion hospital block plans to same scale. (f) is Norfolk & Norwich Hospital.



NHBG Dendro Dates in South Norfolk (incorporating the Tacolneston Project)



Susan J Brown

In our studies of New Buckenham and Tacolneston part of the funding from the Heritage Lottery Grants has gone towards the cost of dendrochronology. We now have an impressive list of dates from Ian Tyers (Dendrochronological Consultancy Ltd.) and the raw data is given below. (Included are two dates from Harleston which were commissioned by the Harleston Historical Society, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the NHBG acted as consultants for the building analysis. 17 Broad Street – a dated feature can be seen in Newsletter No 13 Spring 2007). The details of the New Buckenham Project can be seen in Journal No 2 and the results of the Tacolneston Project will be published in Spring 2009 in Journal No 4.

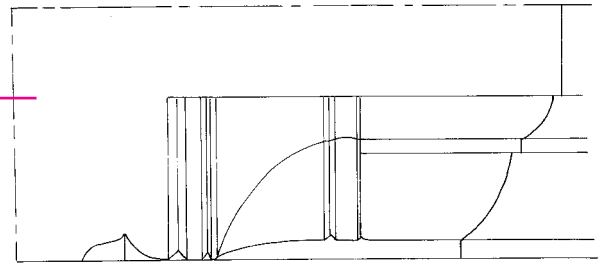
However, whilst the dates are impressive by themselves they will also be used to help analyse the buildings that were not suitable for dendro and we are constructing analysis sheets for each building listing original features of the timber-framing. One of our stylistic tools is the chamfer stop and we now have some elaborate dated examples from the early seventeenth century. These houses all have later two-storey parlour cross-wings incorporating experimental staircases, brick chimney stacks (constructed outside the frame) with hearths on both floors, glazed windows, close studding, face-halved scarf joints and tenoned purlin roofs.

Listed in date order:

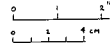
The Old Vicarage, New Buckenham	Winter	1451/1452
Oak Cottage/Yellow Cottage, New Buckenham	Spring	1473
Tacolneston Hall (Phase 1; hall and service)), Tacolneston	Spring	1543
Marsh View/School Cottage, Hapton		1540–1550 (1533 heart/sap boundary)
18 Bentley Road, Forncett St Peter		1550–1560 (1536 heart/sap boundary)
The Old Swan/Diken Cottage, New Buckenham	Winter	1573/74
Old Manor Farmhouse, Tacolneston	Winter	1594/95 & 1579–1615 (1569 heart/sap boundary)
Eagle Farmhouse, Bunwell (cross-wing)	Spring	1598
Manor Farm, Pulham Market (hall and service)	Winter	1615/16
Tacolneston Hall (Phase 2; cross-wing)	Winter	1617/18
Pinchpot, New Buckenham	Summer	1624
The Old House, Harleston	Winter	1626/27
St Mary's Farmhouse, Tacolneston (cross-wing)		1617 plus sap of about 10 years (1628 chimney date)
Riverside Farm, Forncell St Mary	Spring	1645
Tibenham Farm, Tibenham (barn)		1640–1663
Burrage House/The Old Post Office, New Buckenham (flying tie beams)		1694-1729
17 Broad Street, Harleston	Spring	1769

Eagle Farm house, Bunwell
Below and right)

Spring 1598



G. CHAMBER STOP & PROFILE OF GROUND FLOOR MAIN JOIST



PAGE 17 PARK KNIGHTS BUNWELL
INTERIOR
AS ILLUSTRATED BY SUSAN J. BROWN
FRANCIS AND TAYLOR ARCHITECTURAL
SURVEY JANUARY 2003

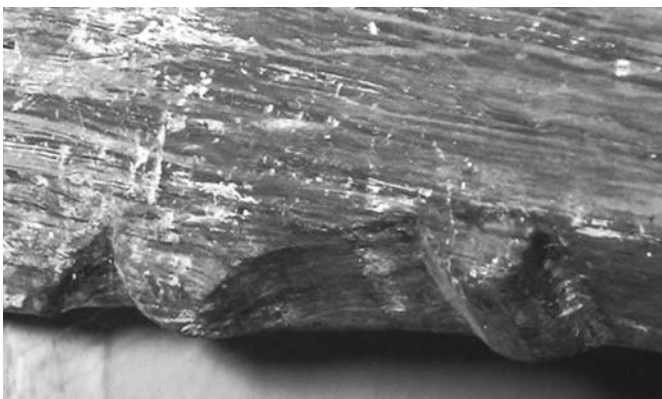


Old Manor Farmhouse, Tacolneston
(Left: Photo of principal joist and girt)

1579–1615

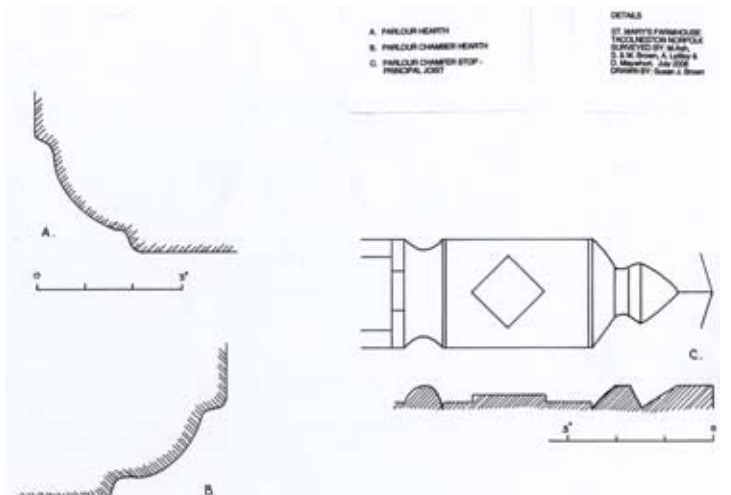
Tacolneston Hall, Tacolneston
Below and below right)

Winter 1617/18



CHAMFER STOP
PRINCIPAL JOIST WEST X-WING
TACOLNESTON HALL, TACOLNESTON
SURVEYED BY: MASH, M. BROWN,
S. BROWN, L. HODGE & K. MACKIE
DRAWN BY SUSAN J. BROWN
FULL SIZE
MAY 2008

St Mary's Farmhouse, Tacolneston 1628
(Below and right)



EDITOR

My downsizing has taken pace at last and I have never ached so much in all my life. I have been here for a week surrounded by boxes. Some twenty five years younger and one third the size of my old abode of forty years this little house is an 1860ish terrace with twenty-first century heating. What bliss it is to be warm. Now my house problems of the last year or so are sorted I can look forward to our NHBG summer with a lighter heart. With thanks for your good wishes.

Alayne Fenner
24 Mount Pleasant
Norwich NR2 2DG
01603 452204

NHBG Committee

Adam Longcroft *Chairman/Journal Editor*
Centre for Continuing Education, UEA, Norwich, NR4 7TJ
01603 592 261 [w]e.mail: a.longcroft@uea.ac.uk

Alayne Fenner *Deputy Chairman/Newsletter Editor*
24 Mount Pleasant, Norwich NR2 2DG
01603 452204 e.mail: alayne.fenner@btinternet.com

Lynne Hodge *Committee Secretary*
Tannery House Worthing, Dereham NR20 5RH
01362 668847 e.mail: lynne@walknorfolk.co.uk

Sue Shand *Treasurer*
Tibenham Farm, Long Row, Tibenham, Norwich NR16 1PD
01379 677677 e.mail: sushand@hotmail.co.uk

Ian Hinton *Membership Secretary*
The Old Rectory, Barnby, Beccles, NR34 7QN
01502 475 287 e.mail: ian.hinton@tesco.net

Michael and Sue Brown *Buildings*
Woodlands, Bylaugh Park, Dereham NR20 4RL
01362 688 362

Mary Ash *Winter Programme/Publications*
107 St Leonards Road, Norwich, NR1 4JF
01603 616285 e.mail: mary.ash@ntlworld.com

Dominic Summers *Summer Events*
17 Alan Road, Norwich, NR1 2BX
01603 663554 e.mail: d.summers1@btinternet.com

Rosemary Forrest *Newsletter*
3 Highlands, Costessey, NR8 5EA
01603 742 315 e.mail: forrest.rosemary@gmail.com

Richard Coulton
Little Ketlam, Low Road, Pentney, King's Lynn PE32 1JF
01553 691 661[h]

Karen Mackie *Tacolneston Project*
44 Norwich Road, Tacolneston NR16 1BY
01508 488467 e.mail: karen_mackie@btinternet.com

Jackie Simpson
The Chestnuts, Church Road, Neatishead, NR12 8BT
01692 630639 e.mail: jackie_simpson@btinternet.com

Diane Barr *Documentary Research*
24 The Shrublands, Horsford, NR10 3EL
01603 898928 e.mail: di.barr@btinternet.com

Alice Lefley *Publicity*
224 Earlham Road, Norwich, NR2 3RH
01603 453385 e.mail: alicemily@yahoo.co.uk

Newsletter Request

Please do not forget that we are always looking for articles, items of interest, queries, photographs, or anything which has taken your interest to include in newsletters.

Alayne Fenner: 01603 452204
Rosemary Forrest: 01603 742315

Insurance Cover— all members should be aware of the following:

When involved in an NHBG activity, members are covered by the NHBG Insurance. This covers liability to third parties for damage to third party property, ie the legal liability of the NHBG for any amounts it becomes liable to pay as damages for Bodily Injury or Damage caused accidentally, including legal costs. The excess is £250. The insurance DOES NOT cover 'member to member' liability. That is, if one member accidentally injures another. Most members will have cover on their household insurance.

If a member feels the cover is insufficient for their needs, then it is their personal responsibility to obtain adequate cover.

It is worth pointing out that members have a "duty of care" in looking after themselves and others.



This is your committee hard at work...

Research Projects

A Digest of Buildings Visited Since October 2008

This is a digest of all the Norfolk houses (excluding New Buckenham) which the NHBG has been invited to look at and prepare brief reports. These are ALL private houses and NO contact may be made with the owners in any way except through the Committee. This list is to inform members of the work undertaken on behalf of the Group, and will not be printed on the Internet.

84 Constitution Hill, Norwich

An early nineteenth century brick and knapped flint lobby entrance house with Gothick windows. Extended and divided in the late nineteenth century.

72 Church Street, Old Catton

The Victorian part (Edward Boardman) of the Manor House (see earlier report).

Lime Tree Cottage, Forncett St Peter

A sixteenth century tripartite house remodelled in the early seventeenth century with a later bay to the south and new floors inserted throughout to give more headroom to the first floor.

Manor Farm, Fundenhall

A early seventeenth century tripartite house with a lobby entrance and porch. A mid-seventeenth century extension to the east using the same chamfer stops as in the main building. The fireplace of the extension has decorated plaster of a scribed and painted elongated diamond design.

Old Post Office, Norwich Road, Tacolneston

Attached to the Old School House this building was a tripartite house with a later lobby entrance Fully floored probably with glazed windows inserted between the studs. Mid- to late-seventeenth century

Four Seasons, Cheney's Lane, Forncett St Mary

A three-bay house with a brick chimney stack at one end. It was possibly re-floored when the brick stack was built, possibly replacing a central timber-framed chimney. Late sixteenth century.

1 The Cross, Syleham, Suffolk

A fully floored lobby entrance house of two cells with central stack and winder staircase. Early seventeenth century.

Victorian Schools Project

This summer should see the beginning of field work with members of the Group visiting school sites as identified from early OS maps across the county to record, initially from the outside only, what survives.

The project got off to a good start on a cold and frosty January evening with a meeting at the Forrest's house. The pro-forma for the survey was discussed and further suggestions have been made by e-mail. It is now going to Norfolk Landscape Archaeology and the Landscape and Environment Section at County Hall for suggestions and to see whether it will provide material useful for their records. A final version of the pro-forma will then be agreed and be available to download on line to surveyors.

A fine collection of records made by the late Pam Warren in the 1980s have come to light including the sales particulars for schools sold at that time which will prove very useful.

A meeting is scheduled for late April to decide a plan of campaign and anyone who would like to join the survey team and be added to the e-mail list for information should contact :

Susanna Wade-Martins

e.mail: scwmartins@hotmail.com
tel: 01362 668 435



This is the school at Pulham St Mary. It is currently undergoing restoration and revitalisation but may lose vital information about its structure and function in the process.

Book List

S. Wade-Martins and M. Glenridding, (2008) Buildings of the Land: Scotland's Farms 1750-2000 (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland) £30.00 (hb).

Day Schools in the Region

Essex Historic Buildings Group

Cressing Temple, near Witham, Essex

The Medieval House: Living, design and development

Saturday 18 July 2009

The layout of the late medieval houseBrenda Watkin
Living in the medieval houseChris Dyer
The development of the medieval plan Jane Grenville
The aisled hallJohn Walker
The later medieval houseDavid Martin
Medieval town houses.....Sarah Pearson

Cost: £20.00 Lunch £8.00

Contact:

Ian Greenfield, Yew Tree Cottage, Stanbrook, Thaxted, Essex CM6
2NL

tel: 01371 830416

This is a hectic but fun learning opportunity.
If anyone would like to go we could probably arrange shared
transport. Rosemary Forrest 01603 742315

Suffolk Historic Buildings Group

Lavenham Village Hall, Lavenham, Suffolk

The Medieval House: Living with smoke

Saturday 4 July 2009

How did medieval people live with smoke in the house, how did they become more efficient at extracting it and how did they use it for curing and preserving food. Explore Suffolk's unique 16th and 17th century 'short stack' houses, which are fully floored but have smoke-blackened roofs.

Speakers: Philip Aitkens, Leigh Alston, David Martin and John Walker.

Cost: £30.00 including lunch

Contact: Jane Gosling, SHBG, 1 Lady Street, Lavenham CO10
9RA

tel: 01787 247646

If anyone would like to go we could probably arrange shared
transport. Rosemary Forrest 01603 742315

Susan and Michael Brown did go and look at one of the houses connected with Abraham Lincoln so we thought you might be interested in the Festival:

Programme for the Lincoln Festival

**This is being organised by the
Friends of All Saints' Church,
Swanton Morley, to celebrate the bicentenary of
the birth
of Abraham Lincoln on 12 February 2009, and the
connections of his family with the village.**

Saturday, 9 May 2009 at 3.00 pm

An afternoon tour of the Lincoln lands in Swanton Morley

This will consist of a short talk in the church by David Stone about Richard Lincoln's lands in Swanton Morley. The talk will also cover the problems that arose in 1943 when the site of Richard Lincoln's mansion was purchased and presented to the National Trust. It will be followed by a tour of the relevant sites, ending up at the Angel Inn.

David Stone: 01362 637592 or
davidews@googlemail.com

Another one for the diary...
and it is a great day out in King's Lynn!

East Anglia Building Conservation Fair

SPAB

(Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings)

Saturday 19th September 2009

10.00 am — 5.00 pm

St Nicholas' Chapel

St Ann's Street, King's Lynn

Talks; Guided Walks; Demos of traditional building
techniques; Information and Exhibitions

Admission Free

For more details contact John Selby at
john.selby@west-norfolk.gov.uk

Future dates to note include:

*Sun May 10th – Norwich, Bishop Salmon's porch and St Peter
Mancroft*

*Sat June 6th – Cambridgeshire, Private brick museum in
Haddenham and Cambs Brick & Tile works in Burwell.*

Vernacular Architecture Group (VAG)

Conferences

Oxford Weekend School

Friday 25 to Sunday 27 September 2009

Markets and Market Places

Late Middle-Ages to early Twentieth Century

Markets as economic development: Britain and Ireland 1000—1900	Richard Hoyle
The Weald of Sussex—town and village markets in a low population/wood pasture region	David Martin
Market infill: an East Anglian perspective.....	Adam Longcroft
Late medieval market buildings of East Anglia.....	Leigh Alston
The shire market towns of western England.....	Nigel Baker
The place of the market in the development of Welsh towns.....	Judith Alfrey
Burgage plot layout in Scotland.....	Robin Tait
The evolution and then abandonment of the wind-protected urban room.....	Charles MacKean
Development of market halls and market places in Leeds.....	Kevin Grady
19th century market buildings	Jillian Holder
London's Victorian markets	Alec Forshaw

Cost: £92 to £270

NHBG Bursary

The Committee are keen to encourage NHBG members to attend national conferences and to this end have set up a bursary towards the cost of accommodation and lectures but not travel expenses. Anyone interested in attending this conference should contact, in the first instance, Rosemary Forrest (01603 742315; e.mail: forrest.rosemary@gmail.com).

Advance Warning

VAG Winter Conference at Leicester

19 -20 December 2009

The Polite Threshold



Norwich 12 Archive Course

Norwich Heritage Economic and Regeneration Trust (HEART) has once again teamed up with Norfolk Record Office to offer an archive course on 12 of the city's most iconic heritage buildings: Norwich Castle, Norwich Cathedral, The Great Hospital, The Halls - St Andrew's and Blackfriars', The Guildhall, Dragon Hall, The Assembly House, St James Mill, St John's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Surrey House, City Hall and The Forum. There will be seven weekly Tuesday evening sessions (two hours each) in the Archive Centre in Norwich from **21st April 2009**. Original archive material will be accessed and guided tours of the buildings are included. Course fee is £65.00. Contact Jo Archer, joarcher@heritagecity.org, 01603 599576.

Memorial Essay

In memory of the giants who founded or belonged to the Vernacular Architecture Group in its early days, and prompted by the death of Pauline Fenley, former editor of Vernacular Architecture and a keen promoter of good writing, the Group has established a memorial essay prize. Through this it is hoped to encourage articles from those who have not previously published in national or international journals.

A prize of £250 will be awarded annually for the best essay on a subject related to vernacular architecture. The emphasis may be historical, structural, stylistic or archaeological, and the winning essay will be considered for publication in Vernacular Architecture.

The essays will be judged by a panel appointed by the committee of the Vernacular Architecture Group, and the judges will be looking for evidence of originality of thought, quality of research, and clarity of expression. The decision of the judges is final, and the Group reserves the right not to award the prize if there are no suitable entries.

There is no age limit for entrants, but entry is restricted to those who have not previously had their work published in national, rather than in local or county, journals.

The essay should be preceded by a short summary of no more than 150 words. The total length, including summary and references, but excluding any figure captions or tabular material, must not exceed 8000 words. A word count should be included. Shorter essays will be welcome, but longer ones will be rejected.

Essays must be written in English in a form intended for publication. Three copies are required in hard copy, typed and double-spaced on one side of plain paper.

Essays may be accompanied by a reasonable number of illustrations. So long as these are clear, photocopies of photographs may be used. Drawings should be reduced to A4 size. All illustrations should be clearly numbered and captioned (including acknowledgment of sources where necessary), and reference to them included as appropriate in the text.

Although not essential, it would be helpful if essays could be written in the format required for Vernacular Architecture. 'Notes for Contributors' may be obtained by writing to the Editor at the address below.

The essay must not have been published previously, and if it is under consideration for publication elsewhere this must be stated and details given.

If an award is made and an essay is considered suitable for publication some amendments may be required before it is finally accepted.

The closing date for entries is 30 September each year, and the award will be announced the following January.

Please send any initial queries, and completed entries with your name and address (including email address if you have one) to: Dr Martin Cherry

66 Moorcroft Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8LU

Email: martincherry@btinternet.com

Tel: 0121449 8569

The Scole Committee

Latterly I represented the Norfolk Historic Buildings Group on the Scole Committee. This played a seminal role in establishing professional archaeology in Norfolk and Suffolk, taking its name from Scole on the county boundary, where it first met. Essex joined later, and county-wide amateur groups were brought in, creating a fruitful forum of representatives from both the professional and amateur sectors in the three eastern counties for considering issues arising in archaeology and related fields and for discussing the work of its member organisations. The Committee also published a pioneering regional journal in East Anglian Archaeology.

County archaeologists subsequently acquired their own professional body, making the Scole Committee less important to the professional sector in the three counties, while their formal relationship with the Committee also became an issue. With eventual transfer of responsibility for East Anglian Archaeology the Committee's function, and even its continued existence, were brought into question. Some saw it continuing to fulfil an important role as a regional forum which no other organisation could undertake, neither the local CBA nor, even within Norfolk, the Norfolk Federation being suitably equipped. Others believed any financial support from rate-payers via the counties no longer justifiable. Where some suggested that information for which the Committee acted as clearing house was available on the internet, others emphasized the value of personal contact. Additionally the Chairman was, between meetings, inevitably both the focus for all issues demanding the response of the Committee and also its representative, making this position onerous and difficult to fill.

In this climate a proposal to wind up the Committee was

debated at its Annual General Meeting before Christmas. Although this was lost and the position of Chairman filled, considerable uncertainty remained about the long-term future. Subsequently doubts about continuing participation by the county archaeological services threatened future interaction between the professionals and amateurs within the Committee and also its existing funding, while its function as a representative body for the three eastern counties was destroyed by withdrawal of all constituent organisations from Suffolk. It therefore became clear that the Scole Committee had no future, and at its meeting on 10th February it was formally dissolved. Its nearly forty years of distinguished service in the three eastern counties were celebrated by a lunch attended by three founder-members and other notable contributors to its work.

However, some feel that the dissolution creates a considerable gap, with the eastern counties left without a united voice on important issues. Suffolk may prefer to exercise its influence independently, but Norfolk has no forum for mobilizing the views of the archaeological community. This is already apparent in relation to the new planning guidelines which will be critical to the future of archaeology in this country. With regional government on the political agenda the world of archaeology and related fields may badly miss a representative regional body, amateur groups may feel the lack of any forum for informed and co-ordinated engagement with issues of the day, and professionals may regret the loss of their mutual interaction with the amateur sector. Time will tell whether the gap will be filled, either in Norfolk or in the region as a whole.

Richard Coulton



Norwich 12 www.norwich12.co.uk

We are developing 12 of Norwich's most iconic heritage buildings into a universally important collection of integrated heritage assets which together tell the story of the city's development over the last millennium. Norwich 12 includes: Norwich Castle, Norwich Cathedral, The Great Hospital, The Halls – St Andrew's and Blackfriars', The Guildhall, Dragon Hall, The Assembly House, St James Mill, St John's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Surrey House, City Hall and The Forum. You can explore these 12 landmarks through guided walks and tours; visitor attractions; exhibitions; music and performances; our guidebook, film and website; cafes and restaurants; and gift shops.

Norwich Dragon Festival

We co-ordinated Norwich's first ever Dragon Festival, a unique celebration of dragons in the history and culture of our

About HEART (continued from page 2)

city. The Festival included around 40 events: story-telling, puppet shows, film, art and craft activities, exhibitions, talks, sculpture and much more, with most of the events being free and many located in the city's most beautiful and historic buildings.

Promoting local distinctiveness

A key area of work involves recapturing and promoting local distinctiveness – drawing on the development and specific character of parts of the city to protect and enhance the qualities that make them special. The scheme has already been successfully rolled out in the Norwich Lanes with new signage, paving, interpretation, public space development and cycling improvements have made this project a significant success. We are currently rolling out a similar local distinctiveness scheme to the Elm Hill and Timberhill areas.

www.heritagecity.org

Summer Events 2009

Once again, this year we are able to provide the members with an eclectic mix for the Summer Programme. This is, of course, the way it should be, as the Group reflects the wide and varied architectural heritage that we are lucky enough to enjoy in Norfolk (and just outside its borders!) We are ranging from Wisbech in the west to Beccles in the south-east, and from the high middle-ages at Castle Acre and Curat House in Norwich, through the late middle-ages – the Glaven Churches, and the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries at Tacolneston and Tydd St Giles, grand Georgian architecture in Wisbech, to some slightly eccentric Victoriana in Norwich. Something for everyone to enjoy!

The Norfolk Historic Buildings Group wishes to make it clear that Risk Assessments have been carried out for all visits, and where special equipment or care are required, applicants will be informed. Those attending events are responsible both for themselves and towards other members of the group.

Dominic Summers
01603 663554
d.summers1@btinternet.com

Norwich Greenhouse Project and Curat's House

Title: The Greenhouse Project and Curat's House
Date: Saturday June 20
Time: 11am – 4.30ish
Place: The Greenhouse, Bethel St., Norwich
Limit: 15
Cost: £8
Lunch: In the Greenhouse Café (not included)
Contact: Carol Nutt
01379 640007

This will be something of a departure from the normal NHBG summer visit. At the Greenhouse Project in the centre of Norwich there is an opportunity to see and hear about first hand the challenges faced in converting a listed building to fully "green" status. We will also visit the wonderful Victorian roller skating rink next door on Bethel Street and then visit Curat House, not normally accessible to the public, which has a marvellous agglomeration of medieval and Tudor architecture, including what may be a twelfth century undercroft.

Glaven Churches

Title: Glaven Churches
Date: Saturday 9 May
Time: 10.30am – 4pm
Place: Cley Church
Limit: 25
Cost: £10
Lunch: Pub or picnic
Special requirements:
Comfortable shoes
Contact: Dominic Summers
01603 663554
d.summers1@btinternet.com

There are three magnificent churches at Cley, Wiveton and Blakeney, where the River Glaven meets the sea. Rich from trade and shipbuilding, the parishioners of these important ports lavished money on rebuilding their churches in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. We are lucky to have a tour guided by some real experts on these buildings: Gerald Randall, who has lectured on Cley church for the NHBG, John Peake and Rev. Neil Batcock.

Castle Acre

Title: Castle Acre
Date: Wed 3 June
Time: 10.30 am – 4.00 pm
Place: Village Green
Limit: 20
Cost: £12
Lunch: Pub or picnic
Special requirements:
Plenty of walking cross-country, so bring some stout shoes. Keep an eye on the weather!
Contact: Peter Cranness
pscranness@hotmail.co.uk
01603 300395

Rob Liddiard and Sandy Heslop of the University of East Anglia, two of the leading authorities on English castles and their landscape contexts, will take us through the fascinating story of Castle Acre and its phases of development. We will also visit the magnificent Priory, one of the finest remaining Norman conventual buildings in England and tour the village and parish church.



Curat's Rebus: www.oldcity.org.uk

More on page 20

Summer Events 2009 (Continued from page 19)

Annual General Meeting with a Tour of Beccles Town and Museum Building and Summer Party

Saturday 27 June 2009

Title: Tour of Beccles Town and Museum Building; Party
Date: Sat 27 June
Time: 2.30 pm; Party: 6.00 pm
Place: To be notified in AGM papers
Limit: No limit
Cost: Tour, Museum: No Charge
Party: £5.00

Special requirements:
Walking & party shoes
We need you for the AGM for which papers will follow

Contact: Ian Hinton
01502475287

ian.hinton@tesco.net

A tour of the architecture of Beccles town and Museum, with closer look at the museum building, one of only a few Grade I secular buildings in East Anglia. It is an early sixteenth century timber-framed building clad later in brick and flint with its original ten queen post truss roof. The Beccles Townlands Trust (the owners of the building) have been kind enough to allow us to hold our summer party in the garden (overlooking the River Waveney and Norfolk) and also to hold our AGM in their offices in the building. **We do not need to know who is coming on the tours or to the AGM but we do need to know numbers for the party.**

Please complete application for party

Annual General Meeting

5.00 pm	Tea & Scones
5.30 pm	AGM
6.00 pm	Summer Party

Full information on meeting places and parking will be included with the AGM papers.

Wisbech and Tydd St Giles

Title: Wisbech and Tydd St Giles
Date: Saturday 11 July
Time: 10.00am – 5.00 pm
Place: Tydd St Giles Church
Limit: 20
Cost: £15 (to include morning coffee and biscuits)

Lunch: Pub in Wisbech (not included)
Special requirements: Plenty of walking, so comfortable shoes

Contact: Dominic Summers
01603 663554
d.summers1@btinternet.com

We start with a visit to a beautiful Tudor brick house in Tydd St Giles, just outside Wisbech. This is followed by a walking tour of Wisbech led by members of the Wisbech Society, visiting the most important buildings in this fascinating Georgian town.



Peckover House, Wisbech

Tacolneston

Title: Two Tacolneston timber-framed houses
Date: Wednesday 15 July
Time: 10.30am – 3.30pm
Place: St Mary's Farmhouse, Tacolneston
Limit: 20
Cost: £10 (to include pub lunch, but not drink.)

Lunch: Pub
Special requirements: Outdoors and Indoor shoes
Contact: Sue Brown
01362 688362

This is a chance to visit two of the most important timber framed buildings in Tacolneston, where the current NHBG research project is being carried out: St Mary's Farmhouse and Tacolneston Hall. The Hall is a sixteenth century building that has been substantially extended, and St Mary's Farmhouse is a largely seventeenth century timber-framed building. The tour will be led by Michael and Sue Brown, who have researched and surveyed these beautiful houses.



Tacolneston Hall c.1781

Barningham Hall

Title: Barningham Hall and Church
Date: Wednesday 22 July
Time: 10.30am – 12.30pm
Place: Barningham Hall, nr Matlaske
Limit: 25
Cost: £7.50
Lunch: Pub (not included)
Contact: Tony Wright
01603 452041
tw101@talktalk.net

This five-bay house was built for Sir Edward Paston in 1612 and altered by H. and J.A. Repton in 1805-7. It is red brick with a porch which has polygonal angle buttresses. Some of the seventeenth century internal features remain unaltered. St Mary's Church lies within Barningham Park. It is possible that aspects of the park were designed by Humphry Repton. If members which to stay together for lunch a pub will be found...