

ILKLEY MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

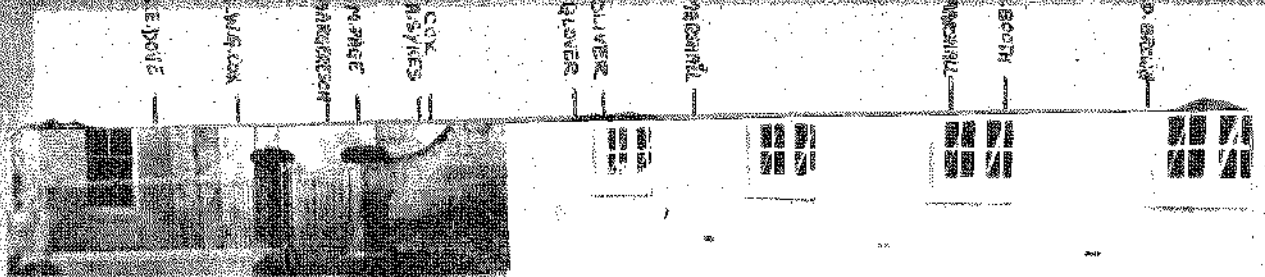
NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS OF LOCAL  
HISTORICAL INTEREST

VOLUME II 1958-62

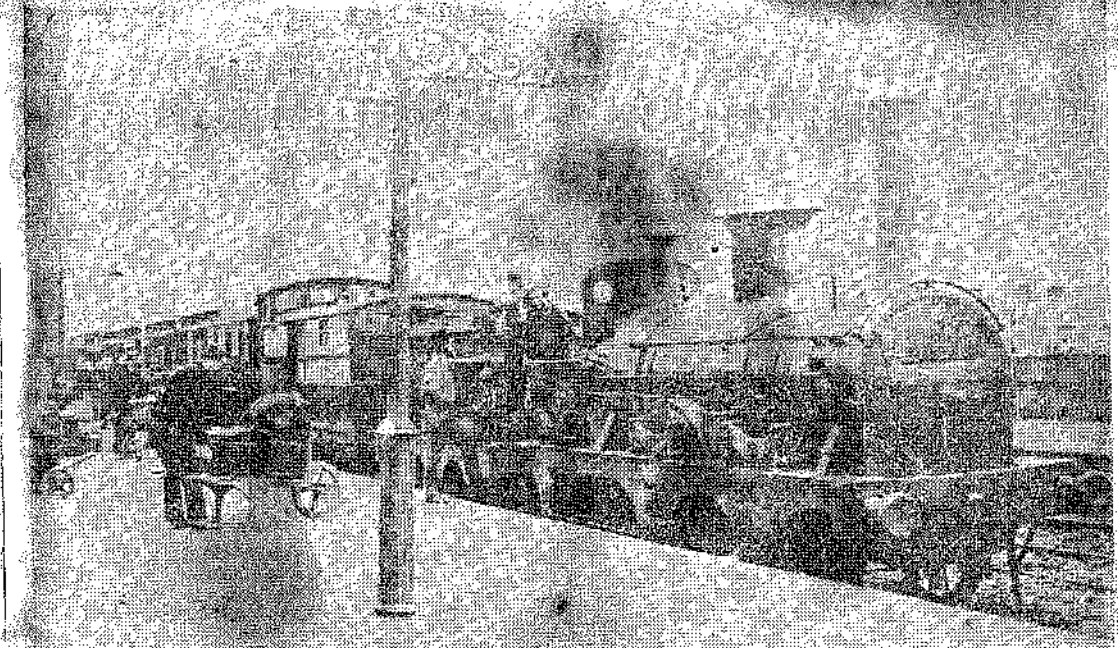
G2



EXHIBITION TO THE GREAT BOROUGHS 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 1951 (Hills, S. H. W. G. 1951)



### THE FIRST TRAIN FROM ILKLEY



The railway service from Ilkley began on 1 August, 1885, and this is a picture of the first train to leave Ilkley station. The service up valley began in May, 1888, when the line extended to Bolton Abbey, and the service to Skipton was started in the following September. 9-1-59

LIBRARY VOLUME NO. (15)

OLICANA MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 2 1958-62



**50 Years Ago**  
 While workmen were removing soil from the side of the back-course, off New Brook Street, in May, 50 years ago, they came across a quantity of Roman pottery, some of the pieces being nicely figured. The Roman camp of Olicana embraced this area. Soon afterwards there were several more "finds" of Roman pottery. A coin and a large square stone was unearthed which was about half a ton in weight. It was not learned for what purpose the stone might have been used. 29-5-59

**INCREASED MEMBERSHIP FOR MUSEUM SOCIETY MORE INTEREST AND BETTER FINANCIAL POSITION** 17-10-58

An increasing interest and membership was reported at the annual general meeting of the Olicana Museum Society on Thursday of last week in the Council Chamber of Ilkley Town Hall.

The president, Miss Elsie M. Fletcher, F.R.S.A., occupied the chair and 26 members and visitors were present.

The Hon. Treasurer-Secretary, Mr. A. David Glover, stated in his report that for the eighth year in succession the Society's membership had shown an increase in numbers. At the last annual meeting the Society had 81 members, and this figure had now risen to 91. Of this number, four were honorary life members, 83 were senior members and four were junior members. Two members had resigned during the past year, one had died and one had been removed from the roll of members by the committee for non-payment of subscriptions. Fourteen new members had been elected during the year.

Attendances at the 1957-58 Winter Meetings had varied from 14 to 40, the talk by Professor Le Patourel on "Castles" having attracted the largest number of members. Four excursions had been held and in spite of the poor summer only one of them had been attended by rain.

**EXCURSIONS**

One of the excursions had been held jointly with the Otley Archaeological and Historical Society, thus establishing a precedent which it was hoped to follow up. The Practical Group had held only one meeting due to the illness of Mr. Michael Walker, but it was the intention to plan a series of activities next summer.

The secretary announced that he would not seek re-election for the ensuing year. He recalled that when he first took office in October, 1955, the Society's membership was 44, and the total assets were only thirty shillings. He felt that the joint responsibility of being secretary and treasurer combined was now becoming too big for one person to cope with successfully, and so he was resigning as secretary.

Thanks were expressed to the "Ilkley Gazette" for their close co-operation during the past twelve months, and to the Ilkley U.D.C. for their continued assistance.

**FINANCES**

Turning to the financial side, Mr. Glover stated that at the last annual meeting the Society's funds totalled £10 17s. 2d., which had now increased to £16 9s. 10d. Gross income during the year had been £19 5s. 6d. and gross expenditure £3 0s. 8d., resulting in an excess of income over expenditure of £15 4s. 10d. Interest on the Deposit Account at Lloyd's Bank was 7s. 10d. Postage had accounted for £4 4s. 5d. of expenditure, and £9 19s. 6d. of the income was received as subscriptions.

Miss Fletcher thanked Mr. Glover for his reports, and expressed pleasure at the continued rise in membership and funds. She thanked the secretary for his work during the past three years.

The secretary stated that as one name in excess of the maximum number had been received for election to the committee, a ballot would be necessary, but Mr. Graham Teasdill rose. He explained that as a retiring member of the committee he had been proposed and seconded for re-election, but had been unable to attend the last committee meeting. Following a re-orientation of his activities at Huddersfield Museum he was finding it extremely difficult to attend meetings, and therefore requested that his resignation from the committee be accepted. The president stated that Mr. Teasdill's resignation was accepted with sincere regret.

**OFFICIALS**

The officers and committee were then elected en bloc, as follows: president, Miss E. M. Fletcher, (Hon. Curator of the Olicana Museum); vice-presidents, Mr. W. Brian Dale and Mr. Peter B. Barker; secretary, Mr. John M. Cox, 9, Princess Road, Ilkley; treasurer, Mr. A. David Glover; committee, all the above and Miss Nellie Saunders, Mr. J. Peter Threlfall, Mr. Michael J. Walker.

Mr. Glover said he felt sure Mr. Cox, who many members would know through visiting the Public Library, would receive the same support as Hon. Secretary which he himself had received during the past three years.

Following the business meeting, members were shown some excellent coloured slides by Councilor Mrs. J. L. Ellicott, of scenes from her recent visit to Australia and New Zealand. She was warmly thanked by Mr. Peter Barker.

Five new members, including Mrs. Ellicott, were elected at this meeting.

**50 Years Ago** 12-12-58

An ancient horseshoe was unearthed during excavations connected with the erection of additions to the Co-operative Stores in Leeds Road, Ilkley, 50 years ago. The shoe bore a close resemblance to those of Roman times, and was almost the exact counterpart of one found in Norwich. There was no clip at the front like the ordinary shoe, and the holes for the nails were countersunk. The metal was wrought iron and the shoe measured 4 1/2 inches across. It was found firmly embedded in clay, which owing to its non-porous nature, had prevented any large measure of corrosion. The shoe was in the possession of Mr. James Rayner, of Ilkley, who had a smithy behind the Co-operative Stores. \* \* \*

**MANOR HOUSE PLANS AWAIT APPROVAL** 3-4-59

The scheme of restoration of the Old Manor House in Castle Yard has now been amended and approved and is to be submitted to the Ministry of Works for approval with a view to tenders being invited for the work as soon as possible.

The architect acting for the Council in this scheme had been asked to consider suggestions for the improvement of the lighting for the exhibition of paintings, the provision of accommodation for a caretaker, and the demolition of the later addition at the west side of the property.

**MANOR HOUSE** 3-4-59

The scheme for the conversion of the Manor House should be out for tender before long and after that the Council possibly can look to another one for the improvement of the area around the Parish Church. Work on the new hotel in Leeds Road which will take over the licence of the Wheat Sheaf is making such progress that the end of the Wheat Sheaf must be regarded as in sight. The Wheat Sheaf is one of Ilkley's oldest hotels and there is a possibility that when it is demolished there may be finds of value in connection with the Roman Fort on the site of which it stands. There is a good deal of interest in archaeological discoveries at the present time and as this column has mentioned before, it seems that Ilkley is singularly slow in taking advantage of it for there must be much still to be found out about the Roman occupation of the district. All this is taking for granted that the Council will exercise the option of being the first to be offered the Wheat Sheaf. They will miss a great chance if they do not exercise their option.

**MUSEUM SOCIETY LECTURE** Nov. 58  
**"Spanish Holiday"**

"Spanish Holiday" was the subject of an address given by Mr. J. La Page, of Baildon, to members of the Olicana Museum Society at their November meeting held in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall.

Mr. La Page began his talk by outlining briefly the history of Spain from the earliest date. The first inhabitants were the Phoenicians in the 11th century B.C. Later the Romans occupied the country, leaving many interesting remains. The Christians were driven far north, but they were never actually pushed out of Spain.

Mr. La Page showed the Society a large number of superb colour slides. The tour began in Barcelona, where members were shown an extraordinary church built by a Spanish architect who does not believe in straight lines. The building thus presented the appearance of seaweed.

Tarragona was built on an acropolis and was very old. In Valencia slides of a most exquisite marble palace, and of the Roman Catholic Festivities in progress were shown. A huge open altar backed by a tapestry of flowers presented a splendid spectacle. The town of Alicante was important because all the heights in Spain were measured from the Town Hall steps there.

**Granada**

The town of Granada presented much interest, and Mr. La Page outlined the unfortunate history of Ferdinand and Isabella, the "Catholic Kings." The Alhambra and the Sierra Nevada in the background made an unforgettable picture.

He showed slides of a beautiful Moorish Palace, which, although lavishly decorated inside was almost drab on the exterior. The lecturer explained that this was in order to preserve their God's own work without superimposing their own to mar his beauty.

Mr. La Page said the Rock of Gibraltar was a fascinating place. There was supposed to be two years supply of fresh water in the storage tanks cut out of the rock. There was a ferry service from Algeciras, but the Spanish made no attempts to help people to reach Gibraltar, for political reasons. The apes had their own supply of food, and live among the huge beds of flowers on the Rock.

While the members watched a slide of Seville Cathedral, the lecturer related the history of Pedro the Cruel, and mentioned that access to the tower was by ramp instead of steps. Madrid became the capital of Spain during the reign of Philip II who built the Escorial Palace as a memorial to his father. The talk ended with pictures of Toledo, Segovia, the "Museum City" with its wonderful aqueduct, Monsarratt with its Black Virgin statue, and Saragossa.

Mr. H. W. Rhodes expressed thanks, paying special tribute to the quality of the slides shown. He thanked Mr. La Page for a most interesting lecture.

**ILKLEY MUSEUM SOCIETY** Dec. 58  
**SOME ROMAN FORTS**

Mr. Brian Hartley, lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Leeds, gave a talk on "Roman Forts in the Pennines," to the December meeting of the Ilkley Museum Society.

Mr. Hartley divided his lecture into three broad sections. He began by illustrating the types of fort used by Legions of various sizes, and continued by enlarging upon a number of forts in this area. He finished his talk by answering a number of questions which materialised during the evening.

Having given a brief description of German and Scottish forts, Mr. Hartley described the general which arose between the Brigantes of the Pennines, and Venutius. Venutius was pushed far north by Ceraealis, and made his last stand at Stanwick, the fort excavated by Sir Mortimer Wheeler.

Dealing with the details of various forts, Mr. Hartley began with Melandra. This was a regular fort in stone and timber, unoccupied after the second century A.D. At Castleshaw two forts were built on the same site, one very small one not being built until the later second century. At Slack, a large building containing baths and heated rooms was built, the whole fort being constructed in the first century.

**ILKLEY FORT**

Mr. Hartley dealt with Ilkley in detail. Although it was of regular planning, it was too small to have housed the cohort recorded for it, the lecturer claimed. It was a late second century fort, which had previously been built in turf and timber. The latter stone fort was built in the year 180 A.D.

At Elslack, near Skipton, was a fort which was little known. There had been two different sizes of fort, both rather small. Finally at Bainbridge members were told of a small regular fort, which was occupied for a very long period. The most interesting feature was a small annexe at the east end. There had been complicated rebuilding carried on in this fort.

Summing up, Mr. Hartley said most of the forts in the Pennines must be attributed to Agricola, not to Ceraealis. Between the years 120-180 A.D. many forts had been rebuilt, although that at Slack was of a later date. Ilkley had been ruled over by York, about which fort, little is known.

After the lecture there was a number of interesting questions concerning the authority of the fort at Ingletton, and the locality where Venutius made his last stand. Mr. Michael Walker expressed thanks to Mr. Hartley for a most informative evening. The lecture was illustrated throughout by slides of plans and excavations at the various forts dealt with.

**The Old Manor House**

Sir.—In your last week's Editorial "Reflection" on the improvements to be carried out in the area of the Parish Church, you pay a well deserved tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Percy Dalton, thanks to whose generosity Ilkley's old Manor House is to be saved from demolition.

For some time past this ancient building, part of which is said to date back to the 14th Century, had been listed by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings as one of the many treasures which should on no account be lost to the nation, and Mr. and Mrs. Dalton, who are members of the Society, wisely sought the assurance of their Architect that Ilkley's Manor House could and should be restored and preserved.

There is hardly a county in England where the S.P.A.B. is not actively engaged, in co-operation with Government Departments, in restoring historic Churches, Mansions, Windmills, Watermills and other irreplaceable buildings of past generations.

I feel it would be a fitting recognition of the public spirit of Mr. and Mrs. Dalton if many of their townsfellows joined them in membership of this worthy, but little-known Institution, which has recently celebrated its 30th birthday. The subscription is one guinea per annum and it may be paid to:

The Secretary,  
 S.P.A.B.,  
 55, Great Ormond Street,  
 London, W.C.1.  
 D. HAMILTON  
 Carr Croft, Ilkley 13-2-59



16 JAN. 1959  
**LEAD MINING CENTRES**  
**MUSEUM SOCIETY**

Mr. Robert Clough, of Uttley, visited the Olicana Museum Society's January meeting, and addressed the members on "Lead mining in Yorkshire."

Mr. Clough explained that the industry had begun as long ago as 200 B.C. The main centres in this area were at Grassington, Greenhow Hill and in Swaledale. The Romans had also mined lead in Nidderdale, from whence the ingots had been exported via the Humber. One of the many purposes for which lead was used was the covering of Abbey roofs. Mr. Clough mentioned that Fountains Abbey was a good example of this.

Members were shown a number of interesting slides, many of which had been prepared from the lecturer's own drawings and plans. A slide depicting Trollers Gill helped to explain the method of extraction known as "hushing." This involved damming the waters of any nearby stream, and allowing the collected water to pour down the lead vein, bringing with it a large amount of ore, which could then be separated from the unwanted material. Mr. Clough mentioned that the extraction of Fluor Spar was a subsidiary occupation.

**FAMILIES**

Talking about the human problem, the lecturer mentioned that many mining families consisted of up to 16 children, and that living quarters were very cramped. Gambling was the chief interest of the miner when not at work. Deaths were fairly frequent underground, some of them due to the fact that miners would descend the shaft on the bucket alone, often falling from it on the way down.

Mr. Clough said that the Germans had taken an interest in our mines and had brought with them much equipment, which was superior to our own. Among the various pieces of equipment shown was a large vessel known as a "sumpter pot" used for storing the molten lead and various moulds used for making the lead ingots.

One of the most interesting slides showed a hexagonal building used for storing gunpowder for use in the mines. The lecturer said that the building was of great interest architecturally, although this was unusual. Most of the mines had been built for the purpose, with no architectural thought whatsoever. The last slide showed a ruined mill falling to dust, which, Mr. Clough explained, set the correct picture for today. These mills were now becoming derelict, and the industry has almost died out in this area.

Mr. Clough has written a book on this subject, which is to be released in April, copies are limited, and sale to subscribers only. The lecturer was thanked for a most interesting talk by Mr. D. Glover. The next meeting of the Society will be in February, when Mr. Maurice Beresford, of Leeds University, will speak on "Air Photography and Archaeology."

**AIR PHOTOGRAPHY AND ARCHAEOLOGY**

**ILKLEY MAN'S TALK TO MUSEUM SOCIETY 13. FEB. 59**

Mr. Maurice Beresford, Reader in Economic History at the University of Leeds, gave a most interesting talk on the subject of 'Air Photography and Archaeology,' to the February meeting of the Olicana Museum Society.

Mr. Beresford began by explaining that, although many people thought otherwise, much air photography is done with an ordinary camera, sometimes with a few refinements. It was well, the speaker said, to treat archaeological sites from the air as well as from ground level, as it was easier to appreciate shape and character from the air. He mentioned that it was important to be at any given site at the right time of day and year to obtain the best results and glean the most information; as an example, Mr. Beresford showed a photograph of a circular discolouration of a crop, showing the remains of a ditch, which was best seen when the crop was ripening.

**SLIDES**

Mr. Beresford showed a large number of interesting, and, in many cases, excellent slides, depicting historical sites as seen from the air, and taken by other photographers. The members present were whirled across England and back again in a very few minutes, stopping, among other places, at the Peat Bog on Salisbury Plain, the Isle of Portland, and the East Riding of Yorkshire, where "strip" farming and its importance with regard to historical remains was described in detail.

Mr. Beresford is an authority on the "Lost Villages of England," and slides were shown of Stretton Magna, Wharrah Percy, and a set of earthworks south of Wakefield which were now used for motorcycle scrambles, and other sport-

ing events of this nature.

Two books by Mr. Beresford, entitled "Lost Villages of England," and "History on the Ground," are available in the Public Library.

One of the most interesting sites shown was a field which had been used for extracting salt from the marshland. Small mounds of saltless marsh had been built up around the workman's hut until the need to move to a new position had become inevitable. So the site had now become completely filled with small circular mounds of this origin.

**QUARRIES**

From the rugged area of the quarries from which stone Ely Cathedral was hewn, members were whirled off to Bury St. Edmunds, Battle in Sussex, Grenade in France, Yarmouth in the Isle of Wight, Aldborough and Boroughbridge, and finally to Old Sarum; each of these sites presented special interest, and Mr. Beresford did full justice to the excellent slides shown.

Several questions were asked after the lecture, and Mr. Beresford was thanked for a most interesting evening by the vice-president, Mr. P. Barker.

It was stated that most dates for the Summer Excursions had now been finalised, and members would be notified of these at an early date.

At the next meeting of the Society Miss M. Walker, of Ripon, will address members on "Fountains Hall and the Proctors."

**LIBRARY AND MUSEUM**

ESTIMATE, 1958-59, £9,303  
 PROBABLE, £9,336  
 ESTIMATE, 1959-60, £10,217

The estimates for the museum service are dominated by the provision of £500 towards the capital cost of the alteration of the Manor House on Castle Hill. "It was agreed last year that £500 should be provided each year to save interest on borrowed money. Tenders are being invited for the work which was estimated to cost £7,500. The Ministry of Works has promised to give a grant of £3,250 towards that expenditure and the Council could if necessary raise a loan for the balance but have decided on the wiser course of meeting that cost out of revenue." Mr. Percy Dalton has lent the Council £2,500 free of interest for a period of three years and it is hoped that at the end of that time the conversion will be complete and the buildings ready to use as a Museum.

23-10-59  
**THINGS IN THE 19th CENTURY**

**Ilkley Guild's Talk**

Mr. C. M. Mitchell, curator of Leeds City Museum, entertained the Ilkley afternoon Townswomen's Guild, when he spoke to them at their monthly meeting on Wednesday about "Everyday things in the 19th century."

Mr. Mitchell said there was a great demand for Victorian objects abroad and vast quantities were being exported. A comprehensive picture of this period was very difficult to convey. What most people thought was "typically Victorian" was not truly typical of the whole of the period. Indeed, the cluttered houses and vast quantities of furniture and bric-a-brac were unknown at the beginning of the century, and until the effects of the Industrial Revolution, in about 1870, were felt and mass production was really under way, most rooms had very few furnishings, said Mr. Mitchell.

**PLENTY OF FOOD**

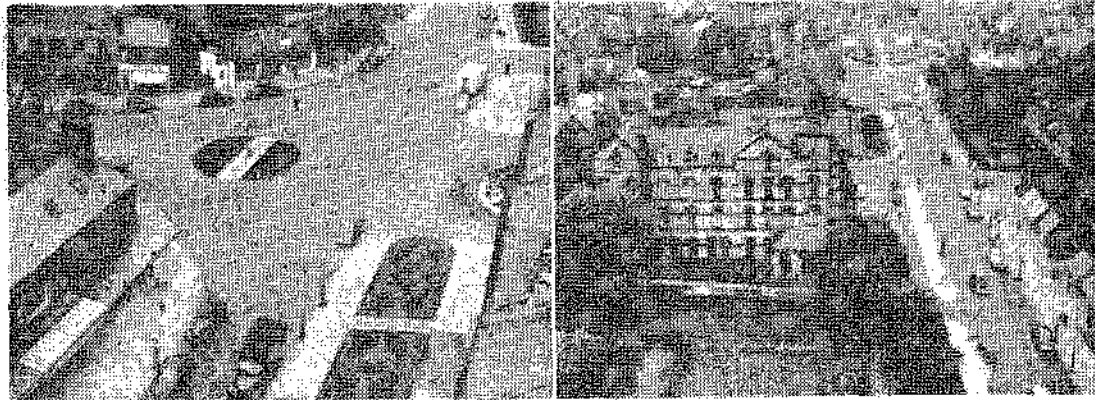
Speaking of the later Victorian House of the middle classes, Mr. Mitchell said the food was much more plentiful, especially meat, game and fish, an average meal being of no less than six courses, with the necessary linen, crockery, cutlery and glass.

The kitchen was, of necessity, huge, the range consuming vast quantities of coal, as water for washing, etc., also had to be heated. Wash-day must have been a nightmare as also was bath-night. Gas was not available in the home until about 1860, so lamps and candles were used, and matches were not in use until 1840, and then very poor, lighting them must have been quite a problem.

Mr. Mitchell said the average household employed at least three servants, not counting outside help such as gardeners and washerwomen. Medicine was still crude, and mortality rates high, especially among young children. A census in London in 1832 showed that one in three children died before they were five years old, most of the diseases being diphtheria, typhus, etc.

Mr. Mitchell afterwards answered questions, and Miss E. Wells expressed thanks.

**FROM THE TOP OF THE STEEPLE**



Publication of these views taken from the top of the spire of the Ilkley Congregational Church by Mr. G. Evans, a member of the church, has been delayed by the printing emergency. The pictures were taken when the spire was recently undergoing repairs and Mr. Myers climbed the steeplejacks ladder to take his pictures.

17. APRIL 1959  
**WINTER SERIES COMPLETED**  
**MUSEUM SOCIETY**

The Olicana Museum Society held the last of the winter series of lectures, in the Town Hall, on Thursday of last week when the speaker was Mrs. J. J. Barker, of Silsden, who, together with her husband, showed slides of their holidays on the Continent.

They showed first views of Strasburg, and its beautiful Cathedral, and then in the area of Baden, slides were shown of a vast amphitheatre, which was remarkably preserved after countless centuries of neglect. The Rhine Valley was portrayed in all its splendour; a particularly interesting view showed boats crossing by means of a pulley-rope, and, with the help of the tide, no engine was necessary.

Liechtenstein is a tiny, but beautiful country. The views of this were among the best of the whole evening, causing much admiration. Views of Lake Constance, St. Moritz, and Tiefencastel followed, and then came Lake Como. This, one of the loveliest in Europe, was beautifully portrayed in colour of a breathtaking quality.

Lugano, La Romana, the St. Gotthard Pass, and Brienz flashed past, and the tour of Europe ended with views of Lucerne. Among the highlights of the evening were excellent pictures taken in a special Guides' Hut, high up in the mountains.

Mr. W. G. Cox expressed thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Barker.



## WAS SIR STEPHEN SO RUTHLESS A MAN 13. MAR. 1959

There was a most disappointing attendance at the March meeting of the Olicana Museum Society, probably due to the flu which has been predominant this winter

Those members who were present however, heard one of the most interesting talks of this season's meetings. The guest, Miss Molly Walker, of Ripon, spoke about the Fountains Hall Estate, and its founder, Sir Stephen Procter.

Miss Walker began dramatically by saying that it was known that Sir Stephen was a wicked man, very rich, and completely ruthless. A feud between his family and that of another nobleman, Paley, led to bitter attacks and attempted assassinations of Sir Stephen Procter. His leadworks were attacked, the village of Kirkby Malzeard was almost ransacked, and Procter was generally making a nuisance of himself; and yet, he remained in favour at Court; he even entertained the young Prince Charles on his way from Scotland to London. Later he was knighted by James I, and made a member of Gray's Inn.

### Gunpowder Plot

Sir Stephen Procter was involved in the Gunpowder Plot, and he ransacked Ripley in a vain attempt to discover any of the villagers who were known to have committed treason.

In 1611 the Hall on the Fountains Abbey Estate, which he had bought was completed, at a cost of £3,000. The stone used for its building is thought to have been taken from the refectory walls of the Abbey. In 1920 the estate went to Procter's wife, and two years later it was again sold to Thomas Whittingham when Lady Procter died. Her will suggests that she too was not without means, for it makes mention of many wonderful clothes and valuable trinkets which she possessed. Lady Procter was buried in Bedale.

Procter was a staunch Protestant. One of the many things which angered him, as an example, was a play in which the Roman Catholic priest went to heaven on a chain, while the Protestant sank into the flames of hell. The play was the work of a man called Ingilby, who was immediately

accused by Procter of treason. However, both cases were dropped, neither side being proved guilty.

The great question, as far as history goes, is "Was Procter as wicked as records make out?" or was he just a normal chivalrous human being?

The Hall is open to the public at certain times, and is owned by the Viner family. It is very beautiful, with a breath-taking facade facing towards the great ruins of Fountains Abbey.

Miss Walker was thanked "for a most wonderful talk" by Mr. D. Glover, the treasurer of the society.

It is hoped that a meeting will be held during April. The summer excursions are now arranged, the main one being a full day visit to Castle Howard on Sunday, 7 June. Guests will be very welcome on all the excursions.

## Missing Menston Sun-dials: An Appeal for Information

By Elsie M. Fletcher 20-3-59

Work by the Ilkley Urban District Council will soon be commencing on Menston Low Hall which was given by Mr Clifford Butterfield, of Shipley and Beamsley, for conversion into Houses for the Aged.

The site, though not the present 19th century house, is of great antiquity, dating from Anglo-Saxon days where a "rode" was cleared in the woods for the building of a house. This has been rebuilt and enlarged through succeeding generations.

It would probably be this first house which built the tiny chapel when the first church at Otley was built. When Menston was in the possession of the Archbishop of York.

Though the stone table was taken to Farley Hall when the Fawkes took over the Lordship of Menston from the Rhodes, the Anglian font or holy-water stoop was left there.

### "Double" Sundial

When the late Mrs. Denby, whose father built the present Hall, came to live at Marlborough House on the Bradford Road, she brought his font with her; also a "double" sun-dial, with the initials R.R.I.R. and the date 1695 carved on it. These were the initials of the Richard Rhodes who

played his part in the Civil War and later rebuilt this house in 1665—a Jacobean dwelling, with oak-panelled hall, staircase and gallery. Old residents remembered its hammer-beamed kitchen ceiling before they were destroyed by fire.

It was the wish of Mrs. Denby (in writing) that I, as honorary curator of the Ilkley Museum and recorder of Menston's history, should, at her death, have the font set up in Menston churchyard, and the sun-dial, with another left in the Hall grounds, restored to this original setting when the Hall was opened as a Home for the Aged.

Receiving permission from the auctioneers, I entered the premises the day after her husband's death, to find the sun-dial had disappeared, though the font, more insignificant looking, was still there. Neither could that in the Hall grounds be found.

If anyone could give any information concerning these, it would be much appreciated, as they help to perpetuate a little of Menston's slight, though long and interesting, history.

Note.— If any newcomers to the district would like a copy of "Menston's Story" they can be obtained at Menston Library at Kirklands, price 2s. 6d.

## MUSEUM SOCIETY HOLDS FIRST OF SUMMER EXCURSIONS

MAY 59

The Ilkley Museum Society held the first of its series of Summer Excursions on Thursday of last week. A party of forty-two people, an amalgamated section of the Ilkley and Otley Societies, saw the home of Sir Joscelyn and Lady Ingilby at Ripley Castle.

The house has been the property of the Ingilby family since the 13th Century. One of its most striking features is the emphasis laid on its being a home rather than a museum. It is much more personal in atmosphere. The party was ushered from the spacious drive and hallway into the dining room. Sir Joscelyn mentioned a charter, now lost, which is said to have provided the freedom to hunt in the Knaresborough Forest for the family by the grace of the King. There were numerous fine portraits in this room, including three of the family by St. Helier Lander.

that the Society announces the cancellation of the June excursion to Castle Howard through lack of support. The next excursion therefore will be to Knaresborough in July.

### DRAWING ROOMS

In the round drawing room members were shown a number of chairs and settees, exquisitely embroidered by Sir W. H. Ingilby and his wife. A further drawing room presented a fine Italian ceiling, from which hung a most glorious Venetian chandelier. This sparked furiously, putting to flight the grey skies outside. Down one side of the room was a statue of Venus by Canova. More portraits completed this fine room the most impressive of all.

The Library contained many pieces of armour as well as a comprehensive set of portraits and books. A stone stairway in the corner of the room led to the roof, and the above rooms. The Tower room presented particular interest as the floor was the deck of the British Frigate 'Rose'. Sir William Ingilby bought the floor and laid it here, feeling it was too good to be lost.

Also of interest was a set of china bowls, used in the old game of 'carpet bowls'. Finally the party was shown the Knight's Chamber, which had a fine wagon roof, a most unusual treasure chest with a multiple lock worked by one key, a cockfighting chair, and a Cromwellian surcoat.

### THANKS

In the grandeur and tradition of the room our President, Miss Elsie M. Fletcher proposed a vote of thanks to Sir Joscelyn, thanking him for his kind attention and warm hospitality.

The large and well-kept gardens were visited many members showing particular interest in the fine greenhouses and the huge picturesque lake.

The trip ended at about ten o'clock after a speedy return journey. It is with deep regret

## NEW WINDOWS FOR GROVE CHURCH 2-10-1959

A set of stained glass windows with an interesting story behind them is being installed this week in the Grove Congregational Church. They belonged originally to the Vine Memorial Congregational Church at Ilford, in Essex, which is at present being pulled down to enable a more compact building in the modern style to be erected nearby.

The church at Ilford was opened for worship in March, 1901, when its minister was the Rev. Charles H. Vine, grandfather of Mrs. Colin G. Evans, wife of the present minister of the Grove Church. The windows were installed in the Vine Memorial Church after the first World War to the memory of Sir Peter Griggs, a leader in the civic and religious life of Ilford 40 years ago. In 1918 he became the first M.P. for the Ilford division, having served on the local Council and on the Essex County Council.

The windows have been obtained for installation in Ilkley through Mr. C. Myers, General Manager and Secretary of the Congregational Insurance Company and co-secretary of the Grove Church.

### A FONT

A large stone font has also been removed from Ilford and is now standing just below the chancel steps and hymn-board in the Grove Church.

Work began at the beginning of this week and it is hoped that the windows will be completely installed in time for the services on Sunday, which is regarded throughout the Congregational Churches in England and Wales as Dedication Sunday. The stained glass occupies the windows on the Grove side of the church near the pulpit.

## THE YORKSHIRE POST THURSDAY MAY 7 1959

### Hotel offer help to improvement plan



Ilkley Parish Church with the Wheatshay Hotel adjoining it. (A Yorkshire Post picture.)

An Ilkley Urban Council scheme for the improvement of the area around the ancient Parish Church, which includes the site of the Roman fort of Olicana, has made some progress. The Council has been assured that when a new hotel between Ilkley and Ben Rhydding is completed, the Council will have the first offer of the then redundant Wheatshay Hotel, with buildings and land alongside the church.

At the meeting of the Council last night, it was reported that Bentley's Yorkshire Brewery Co. Ltd., had confirmed an old understanding regard-

ing the Wheatshay, one of the oldest hotels in the town, when it became derelict. The Council agreed the District Valuer should be asked to submit a valuation of the Wheatshay property.

Recently the Council completed plans for the conversion of the old Manor House, on the other side of the church, as a museum and art gallery. The house has been given to them by Mr. Percy Dalton, a former Ilkley resident and now of Harrogate, who is also to lend interest-free a sum of £2,500 towards the £7,500 cost of conversion.



## MUSEUM SOCIETY'S VISIT TO TATEFIELD HALL A HOUSE OF ANTIQUITIES

4/16  
1959

The Olicana Museum Society held the third of their Summer Outings last Thursday evening when a total of 29 members visited the home of an elderly gentleman, Mr. Kent, whose home, Tatefield Hall, is near the village of Beckwithshaw.

Over a great many years, Mr. Kent has built up a most remarkable collection of antiquities, some of which have been handed down the family over many generations. Now, these are displayed all over the small house, in most attractive arrangements.

The most impressive room was filled to the roof with battle gear; pieces of armour, swords, a cannon and even some old bullets adorned the room. This was more attractive still with a fire burning in a huge grate, which was open to the sky.

### Beauty And Age

Upstairs members saw three more rooms crammed with objects of great beauty and age. Mr. Kent has collected many fine pieces of Old English and Victorian lace, which still are in strong condition, and would still hold their own in to-day's fashions. An exquisite shawl of almost shimmering colour was proudly draped over a chair, and there could even be found a pair of tiny leather gloves and a miniature sedan chair in rich colours.

In another room, Mrs. Gill, a great friend of Mr. Kent's, was exhibiting most beautiful examples of ladies' fashions of bygone days, and one willing

member posed as a model for a few moments.

Yet, after all this finery, there was still more to come. In the largest room in the house, an attic, Mr. Kent has an amazing collection of pottery, flints, foreign pieces including an Egyptian mummy, and china. One felt it would be possible to stay in this room for hours and not see all its treasures. On the walls, on the floor, the window-sills, the dark recesses of the room as night drew in, there were objects which only a handful of people must know about, and which together must be of huge value.

### Amongst His Treasures

Yet Mr. Kent lives in this peaceful spot as a bachelor, alone amongst his treasures, one who could be described as a contented man. In a world where speed, noise and dirt are predominant, what a pleasure it is to realise that these backwaters still exist, and thrive.

So concluded an excursion which the Society will long remember, for there must be few more interesting and quaint "museums" anywhere in this country.

The final excursion will be to Hazlewood Castle, on Thursday, 3 September.

## MUSEUM SOCIETY VISIT A CASTLE FOR SALE LAST OUTING OF THE SEASON

SEP. 59

The Olicana Museum Society held their last excursion of the season earlier this month, when a large party visited Hazlewood Castle, near Tadcaster, the home of Mr. Eric Fawcett.

This year's trips have promoted most interesting comparisons. In May the Society visited Ripley Castle, its most important job being a home. In July members saw the old buildings of Knaresborough, giving a more general view of life many years ago; in August they saw a most impressive folk museum, and finally they saw "life in the raw," so to speak. A castle of great age, almost devoid of finery; a fascinating replica of a past which is now forgotten and alien to our own standards.

### CHAPEL

The chapel is most awe-inspiring; and yet there is little to instil awe. The air is musty, the walls damp; yet the altar remains with a dignity which is almost chilling. On one wall a glass case houses the mummified body of a child, and a pale light glints through stained glass of great age.

The main hall is a glorious room. It was possible to imagine a ball in progress with gorgeous costumes of rich colours gliding about the highly polished floor. A large table graced the centre of the room, and down the wall was a beautiful hearth and fireplace. The coats-of-arms of the Vavasour family lined the clerestory, and an oval picture in the Wedgewood style completed the magnificence of a room which must have seen much merry-making, and which will surely see no more.

Besides this room, all others paled. Only two exquisite Adam ceilings gave any indication of great beauty which the rooms must have contained, and two great Adam fireplaces added

charm to the bare walls. Mr. Fawcett now lives a short distance away, and much of the furniture has gone too. The Castle is for sale, and much of its original beauty has been removed.

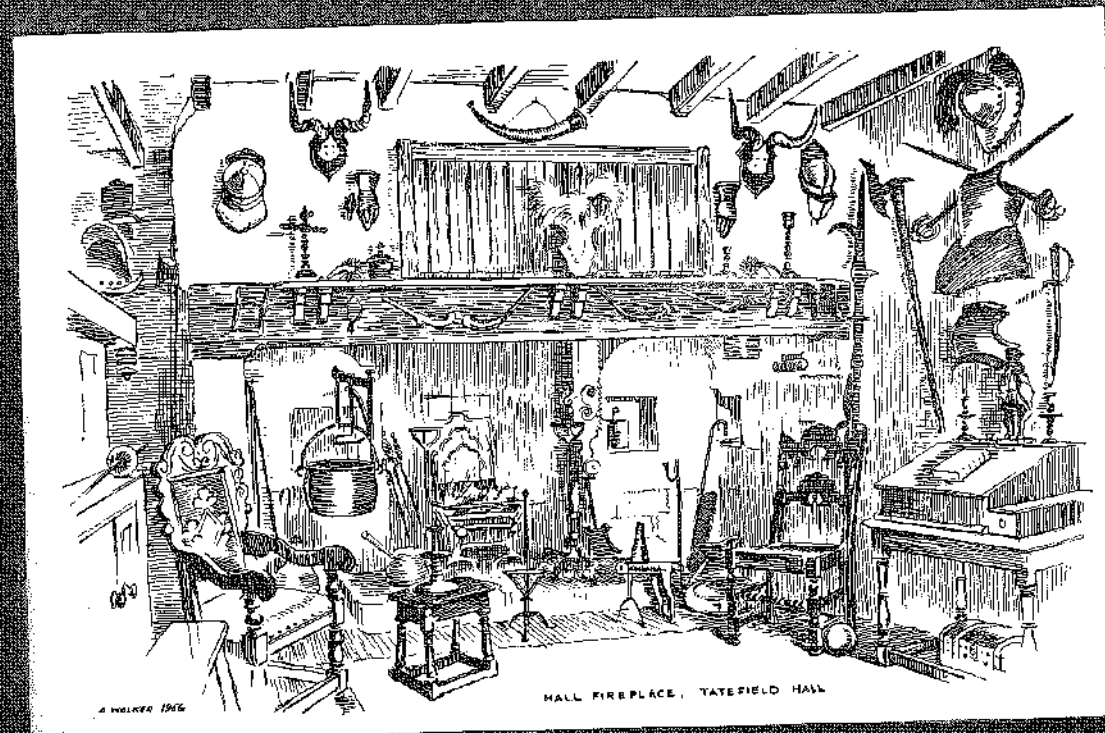
### HIDING PLACES

Perhaps the most interesting features of this great skeleton were those which pointed to the days when it was essential to have dungeons. Essential to have a hiding-nook, and to need secret stairways. The priest's hiding-place is now not accessible, but it is possible to see the spiral staircase and also both ends of the passage can be reached.

The great dungeons of this house are splendid; these are no cellars got up as showplaces. They cover a wide area, and are not glorified in the least. The small ventilators, and the chute for prisoners' food point out clearly the horror of a month, a year, perhaps eternity in these desolate and God-forsaken dens.

Hazlewood Castle is not beautiful. It stands, cold and hard in the peaceful rolling countryside of the lower Wharfe Valley. Yet it has a cool dignity and a grace, perhaps unwanted, yet always present. It presents life of bygone days with nothing hidden; the glory, the stoic attitude to religion, and indeed the horror. Only a crude and rather doubtful skull and bones in one of the dungeons brought humour to this stark and most basic example of a forgotten age.

The annual general meeting of the Society will be held next Thursday, in the Town Hall.



HALL FIREPLACE, TATEFIELD HALL

### 25 Years Ago

Work on the suspension bridge across the Wharfe immediately below the Crum Wheel was completed in October, 25 years ago. It formed part of the scheme by which sewages from Middleton would be carried across the Wharfe to be treated in the Ilkley works. After completion the bridge was tested to bear a load of 24 lbs. to the square foot. 9th Oct. 1959

### MANOR HOUSE 21-8-59

So much damage is being done to the Manor House in the way of broken windows that unless there is a speedy start to the work of conversion there will be nothing left to convert. The place was boarded, bolted and barred on Council instructions not so long ago, but this apparently has served to do no more than present a challenge to the people whose minds are

filled with little more than destruction. It is remarkable that within a week of property being left unoccupied generally glass in the window frames becomes a target for stones. It has happened in Hangingstone Road, in Wells Road and elsewhere, and nobody ever sees it happen except those carrying out the actual damage.

### Library and Museum

Present: Councillors Hill (chairman), Atkinson, Ellicott, Hampshire, Jarvis, Priestley, Sarjeant and Smith.

The Council's Architect enclosed specification and plans for the restoration and conversion of the Old Manor House, Ilkley, and stated that tenders would now be invited for these works. The Clerk reported on damage at the Old Manor House and submitted letters dated September 1, 1959, from Superintendent H. Green indicating that observations were being kept on this property with a view to preventing any further damage. 23 Oct. 1959



FRIDAY, AUGUST 14th, 1959

## Ilkley Gazette

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 1959.

## REFLECTIONS

## LOST GROUND

Observant readers may notice that the current serial number of the "Gazette" is considerably ahead of that which appeared on the title page last week and that the volume number also indicates some advance. One of the discoveries of the emergency period during which members of the staff took on responsibilities not usually theirs was that the number shown over a period of years was not in accord with the fact that the paper would be 100 years old in May, 1961. It called for some search of the files and one discovery was that from 2 November, 1951, to 9, November, 1951, a transposition of digits had escaped the scrutiny of the proof readers, and from 4,634 the number had fallen to 4,365, causing the loss of the equivalent of nearly seven years. This did not account entirely for the discrepancy and further search showed that in some of the early issues there had been no due attention to accuracy and in some cases the number had not been shown at all. There has been some calculation to reach the present number and it is hoped that this will enable

the paper on its 100th birthday to show truthfully how many times it has been published.

In Days Gone By  
23-10-59  
75 Years Ago

A letter from solicitors acting for Mr. William Middleton was read at the October meeting of the Ilkley Local Board, 75 years ago. It stated that Mr. Middleton had been instructed to say that "he is prepared to sell to the Ilkley Local Board for £12,000 the surface of Ilkley Moor and the rocks and stones wholly or partially exposed thereon, with the exclusive right of sporting thereon, and on the adjoining moor, known as Hellinghall Moor. The sale would be subject to such rights of common as exist on Ilkley Moor including such rights as belong to Mr. Middleton in respect of enclosed lands within the Manor, and to a reservation to him as Lord of the Manor, of all unsold springs and streams on the moor, and of all iron, coal, stone, general and other minerals thereunder, with convenient means of working the same and disposing of the produce, but it would be provided that no quarry, shaft or pit should be opened on the Ilkley face of the moor, but it must be understood that any claims by the commoners, for anything done by the Board must be met and satisfied by the Board and not by Mr. Middleton. The shooting over "Hellinghall Moor has been included for the reason that it is desirable that the sporting rights over the two moors should be held in the same hands. They are now held together on lease until December, 1885." The matter was referred to the Finance Committee, and no discussion took place after the reading of the letter.

OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY  
9th Oct.  
1959  
ANNUAL MEETING  
REPORTS A SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Opening the session for the coming year, at the annual meeting of the Olicana Museum Society, in the Town Hall, on Thursday of last week, the President, Miss E. M. Fletcher, stated that the Society had again enjoyed a successful year.

She expressed regret that the practical group had not been as active as had been hoped, and that it would now dissolve until further notice.

The secretary, Mr. John Cox, stated in his report that the membership had enjoyed a slight increase now totalling 96 members. The attendance at meetings, however, had slightly decreased, which was a disappointment, he added. The summer outings had been blessed by excellent weather, and all had been very successful.

The hon. treasurer, Mr. A. D. Glover, in his report, said the income over the year had totalled £9 15s. 6d., while expenditure had been £5 4s., making a profit of £4 11s. 6d. The total assets of the society were now £21 3s. 10d., which was healthy.

The officers and committee for the coming year were elected en bloc, as follows: President, Miss E. M. Fletcher; vice-presidents: Mr. P. E. Barker and Mr. W. B. Dale; hon. treasurer-secretary, Mr. A. D. Glover; committee, Mr. J. M. Cox, Miss N. Saunders, Mr. P. Threlfall and Mr. M. J. Walker.

Mr. Cox welcomed eight new members to the Society, while he reported that three members had resigned as they had left the district. He then expressed thanks to those members of the society who had offered to help him during his year of office. He regretted that pressing studies made it impossible to continue, but he hoped that he might return at a future date as the secretary.

After the business meeting the Society heard an address by Mr. Roland Wade, of Ilkley, on the topic of "The Preservation of the Countryside." Mr. Wade is an official of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England. Among his subjects was the gravel works at Ben Rhydding. Mr. Wade

mentioned a number of such cases all over Yorkshire, and after a most interesting talk he answered a number of questions. Mrs. S. Hawkesworth expressed thanks to Mr. Wade.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, 5 November, in the Town Hall at 7.30 p.m., when Mr. Doyle Davidson will speak on "Viking Ships."

In Days Gone By  
27-11-59  
75 Years Ago

Much publicity was given in the "Gazette" of 75 years ago to the discovery of the Roman tombstone (now standing in the Ilkley Public Library) which was found at the back of the Rose and Crown Hotel, and an interesting letter in connection with Ilkley and its Roman remains from Mr. James Barker of Leeds, appeared in the 29 November issue. He indicated that many things of local interest were finding their way into the hands of persons living elsewhere. As for instance in cutting the main drain through the embankment behind the Wheat Sheaf the workmen went through the "midden" of the old Roman city, and from a depth of from nine to twelve feet threw out whole loads of bones, without going one inch out of their way to discover the extent of this deposit. Mr. Barker continued "Well, while the rubbish lay on the bank I managed to pick up some 60 tusks of the wild boar, many pieces of pottery and all kinds, bone awls or prickers, spindle whorl, cement from baths, tiles, horn of stag, burnt wood, coal, glass, various articles of iron spearheads, knife, nails, hinge etc. What others have got I cannot say. Just on top of the said bank the city itself lies buried in its own ruins, possibly untouched since it fell into ruin, except that the surface stones have been collected, with which to build the church, the Manor House and the houses in 'old' Ilkley, but beneath the sod the principal walls may yet be well traced by an experienced eye. In some instances indeed, odd stones crop out of the surface, and seem to be saying (to antiquarian intelligences) 'bring a spade and dig beside me and I will lead the way to where busy feet trod 1600 years ago.' I dare myself guarantee with a spade in ten minutes to reveal a line of wall that would astonish those who build walls now; which if followed, would reveal streets well paved, channelled and sewered; gateways bearing marks of chariot wheels; baths; hypocausts, barracks and forum, with probably lamps, pottery, altars, fibulae in bronze, jet, silver, and gold, with coins of all kinds as is invariably the case in every part of the country where such excavations are carefully carried out."

## ILKLEY FIRE BRIGADE 50 YEARS AGO

2-1-59



Standing on the engine, left to right,—Jonas Lambert, Geo. Mennell, A. Powell, T. Polden, W. Newell, Sgt. C. Stephenson, W. Mennel. Front row—J. Birkin, W. Hodgson, T. Clark, W. Smith (ambulance), W. Pennock and Capt. Powell.



# THE OLD COACHING DAYS IN ILKLEY DISTRICT

## Story of "Operated" Services

By ALAN SHACKLETON 13-2-1959

This article has been written for the "Gazette" by Mr. Alan Shackleton, of Cowpasture Road, Ilkley, who has made a hobby of gathering information about the old coaching days and is an outstanding authority on the subject in the Ilkley area.

In the Old Coaching Days there was nothing like the number of routes and services, with their many connections, as there are today in modern transport by rail or bus. There were the Main Stage and Mail Coaches on the Trunk Roads, chiefly radiating from London to the larger provincial towns; there were also a limited number of what were then termed "Cross Roads Coaches," connecting the services on the trunk roads, either with each other or with other distant places not directly served by the Main Stage and Mail Coaches; Apart from these services, which left a lot to be desired in numbers and convenience, let alone in speed and comfort—passengers travelling on the less important side roads had to hire private vehicles or otherwise make their own way.

Before going on to particularise the Coach services "performed" (always "performed," not operated or worked as in modern jargon)—to and through Ilkley let us have a look at the position of Wharfedale in relation to the Coaching routes through Yorkshire—the greater proportion of traffic inflow into Yorkshire in the Old Coaching Days came along the Great North Road through Barnby Moor, Bawtry and Doncaster. At Ferrybridge traffic broke up into several routes, or "lines of road," to use an old coaching phrase—from here coach services were performed to Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Wakefield, Huddersfield and Manchester; From Ferrybridge—a very busy place in the Old Coaching Days—there ran coaches to Northallerton and Darlington; whilst coaches from the south continued to Scotch Corner, where the stages to Newcastle and Edinburgh diverged from those going to Carlisle and Glasgow. There were also cross-roads coaches running from York to Scarborough and Bridlington, also from York, or Wetherby, and from Leeds to Kendal and Liverpool, routed through Wharfedale. There were also services performed from Leeds, through Bradford, to Bingley, Keighley, Skipton and Lancaster.

### THE BEGINNING

Stage-coaching may be said to have started through parts of Yorkshire in the 1750's, although there were but few coaches running at that date. However, in the year 1786 a Mr. Palmer, of Bristol, interested the Government of the day in the carrying of the mails by stage-coach instead of on horse-back, as previously, resulting in agreements between the Post Office and specified stagecoach proprietors for the conveyance of the Mails, under certain terms and conditions.

The experiment was an immediate success—the Mailcoaches which carried the mails for many years being known as "Palmer's Mails." This year, 1786, saw the commencement of the real glory of the Old Coaching Days, which lasted in different parts of the country varying until 1845 to 1865; there were, it is true, stage coaches running until much later in remote parts; it is generally believed that the last genuine stage coach running regularly in England was that performing the journey from Stanhope-on-Tyne to Wearhead, which coach was not run off the road until 1895.

### IMPROVEMENTS

During all these years improvements were continually being made in the speed and comfort of the coaches: in the eighteenth century on poor roads speeds may have ranged from 6 miles an hour upwards, whilst in later years, on improved roads and by coaches with better springing, speeds improved up to 9 to 11 miles an hour. As a general rule the horses were changed on stage and Mail-coaches at selected inns averaging 12 to 15 miles apart—the Mail coaches changed horses rather more frequently on long journeys so as to make better average times in the conveyance of the Post Office Mails. In coach improvement it is significant that a form of gas-lighting was in use in some stage coaches in England as early as the year 1821, when the old oil-lamp lingered for so long as a general

attainment on the railways. In pre-railway days goods were carried in long lumbering broadwheeled wagons, drawn by six or more horses, these conveyed passengers also in the years before about 1700. A very early stagecoach running into Yorkshire was one from London to York in the year 1658.

### DELAY TO ILKLEY

Stage-coaching to and through Ilkley did not come until comparatively late—this delay was due to the extremely poor stage of the roads into and out of Leeds: one or two coaches were tried from Leeds to several local towns during the years 1700 to 1714—these do not appear to have been successful and were soon withdrawn. Few, if any, new stagecoaches were put on the road at Leeds from 1714 until the 1750's, by which time many Acts for the improvement of local roads had been passed and carried out.

### Opposition

These improvements did not take place without opposition—from Otley and Yeadon, in particular, much opposition to the then newly passed turnpike acts was put up; much damage was done to new roads and many tollbars were burned down or otherwise destroyed. In the year 1786 there were some 8 or 10 coaches running from Leeds to and from various local and more distant towns: in the year 1800 this number had risen to 40; in 1815 it had risen to about 80, by which time stage-coaches were performing the journey to Kendal through Ilkley and Skipton; in the year 1825 there were some 110 stage-coaches running to and from Leeds and in 1835 to 1840—the palmy days of the old coaching age—there were some 250 coaches in all performing journeys to and from Leeds. Indeed, Leeds was one of the most important of coaching centres in the North.

### ROUTING

Let us now look into the routing of the stage-coaches performing journeys to and through Ilkley—these started in the year 1807 with the:

"Kendal Union": 1807 to 1845 this was a through long-distance coach from Leeds to Kendal, routed through Wharfedale. The coach started running on 25 May, 1807, from Leeds, at 6.0 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays by way of Otley, Ilkley, Skipton, Settle, Ingleton and Kirkby Lonsdale to the King's Arms Inn, Kendal. Return from Kendal, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays was at 5.0 a.m. (note the specially convenient starting times, especially in winter; what one must have felt like at the prospect of a long coach journey at that time in the morning with snow falling, especially if one was travelling "outside," making the best of rugs and umbrellas as a protection against the weather, if you do not know!) The "Kendal Union" was performed by John Greaves, of Cowlin's Hotel, later the Royal Hotel, Briggate, Leeds; Mary Smith at the White Horse Inn, Otley; J. Rose, New Inn, Skipton; George Proctor, Eagle Inn, Settle. In 1821 the coach left Leeds at 10.0 a.m., Skipton, whereby the passengers dined, 2.30 p.m., arriving Kendal 9.30 p.m. Return from Kendal 7.30 a.m., Skipton (dined) 2.30 p.m., arriving Leeds 7.15 p.m. Finally run as a daily coach by Matthew Outhwaite from the Bull and Mouth Inn, Leeds and ceased to run in 1845!

"True Briton": 1816 to 1847 this was likewise a through coach from Leeds to Kendal, routed through Wharfedale, and was put on the road on 18 June, 1816, from the White Horse and the Bull and Mouth Inns, Leeds, at 6.0 a.m., Sundays, Tuesdays and Fridays, through Otley, Ilkley, Skipton—getting quite a known route now—and on through Settle and Kirkby Lonsdale to the Commercial Inn, Kendal. Return journey from Kendal at 8.0 a.m. on each following morning: Performed by Hollings, Leeds; Proctor, Black Horse Inn, Otley; Ward, Black Horse Inn, Skipton; Hartley, Joiner's Arms Inn, Settle; Hartley, Royal Oak Inn, Kirkby Lonsdale; at Kendal the horsing of the Coach

was performed by Webster. From the year 1824 onwards the Coach left from the Bull and Mouth Inn only at Leeds, of which Matthew Outhwaite was proprietor: one would presume that the call at the White Horse Inn on leaving Leeds was no longer made!

"Royal Wharfedale": 1822 to 1830: a through coach from York to Liverpool, again routed through Wharfedale—the coach started running on 5 May, 1822, from the Elephant and Castle Inn, Skeldergate, York, and ran by way of: Wetherby, Haswood, Otley, Ilkley, Skipton, Garsburn, Clitheroe, Whalley, Blackburn and Ormskirk to the Crown Inn, Red Cross Street, Liverpool: return from Liverpool at 6.0 a.m. Arrival at each destination at 9.0 p.m. the same evening. The coach was performed at the York end by George Flower & Co.

### ONLY THREE

As far as I can see there were only three through Coaches performing journeys beyond Ilkley, with the exception of an experimental coach which did not run long and is mentioned later: there were, however, between the years 1822 and 1866 quite a number of coaches performing the journey from Leeds to Ilkley ONLY—viz.

The "Defiance": 1822 to 1838 Ilkley and Leeds: put on the road 7 May, 1822; the coach left Ilkley at 7.0 a.m., Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and called at the White Horse Inn, Otley, and ran to the Bull and Mouth Inn, Leeds. Return from Leeds was at 10.0 p.m. Performed by Thomas Proctor and Matthew Outhwaite of Ilkley and Leeds respectively. Journey time probably about two hours. Ran to and from the Rose and Crown Inn, Ilkley.

The "Hark Forward": 1832?—Leeds and Ilkley from the Rose and Crown Inn, Leeds, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10.0 a.m. (Sundays 7.0 a.m.) through Horsforth, Rawden, Yeadon, Guiseley, Menstone (spelt with final "e")—in the records from which this article is written there is no mention of Ben Rhidding; this is not surprising, since there would be very little there at that date: the coach left Ilkley on return journey to Leeds at 8.0 p.m. There does not appear to be any record of just how long this coach was running, but it was in the year 1833 replaced by the:

"Commerc": 1833 to 1836: Leeds and Ilkley: started running on 31 May, 1833, from the Rose and Crown Inn, Leeds, at 10.0 a.m., on Mondays and Fridays (Sundays 7.0 a.m.—there seem to have been special "convenient" times on Sundays!); through the same places as the "Hark Forward" coach to the Rose and Crown Inn, Ilkley: Journey times of both the "Hark Forward" and the "Commerc" about two hours. Here it is always a temptation to add the oft-used coaching phrase, "If God be willing!" Return from Ilkley at 6.0 p.m.

### LONGEST

We find that the "Commerc" was performed by Edward Boyne and Co. My records do not say at which Inn Edward Boyne had his coaching business; nor have I any note even to say that it was in Leeds, but one would presume so.

"British Queen": 1835 to 1865: Leeds and Ilkley: this coach was the longest on the road on the Ilkley-Leeds journey and was put on the road on 7 June, 1835, at first for the summer season only, from the Rose and Crown Inn, Leeds, at 10.0 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays: (once again special "convenient" time of 7.0 a.m. Sundays!) over the by now improved road by way of Kirkstall, Rawdon, Yeadon, Guiseley, Menstone, Burley to Ilkley, where the coach arrived at the Rose and Crown Inn in two hours. Coach returned from the Rose and Crown Inn, Ilkley, at 6.0 p.m. Performed by Frances, Coates, Boyne & Co.

I have a note to the effect that these proprietors went into a partnership in the year 1835—Mr. John Frances and Mr. Thomas Coates—the business was run from the Rose and Crown Inn, Leeds: there is no mention of Edward Boyne, so it is possible that by now his name only appeared in the title of the firm—eventually the whole of the coaching business at the Rose and Crown, Leeds, fell into the hands of Thomas Coates, who retained it until the end of the coaching days.

The "Union": 1842 to? Leeds and Ilkley: this coach started to run on 7 May, 1842, from the Lister's Arms, Ilkley, on Tuesdays and Saturdays at 7.30 a.m. through Burley, calling at the Black Horse Inn, Otley, and running to the Wheat Sheaf and Albion Inn, Leeds: Arrival in Leeds at 10.0 a.m. and return at 4.30 p.m. Performed by Thomas Kettlewell and Co., Ilkley. It is of note that this coach was half an hour, or so, slower than those running by way of Guiseley!

The "Eclipse": 1836 to 1840: Leeds and Ilkley: Started to run on 28 May, 1836, from Joseph Calverley's Cock and Bottle Inn, Upperhead Row, Leeds, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9.0 a.m. (Sundays 7.0 a.m.). Return from Ilkley at 9.0 p.m. Performed by Reuben Craven, The Woolpack Inn, Yeadon. It is sometimes rather confusing in stage-coaching history that the proprietor of an inn at which a coach might call is not necessarily the person who horses the coach from that inn, nor need he do any of the work in connection with the performing of the journey; some inn proprietors got a lot of their business brought in by the coach in the way of drinks or staying the night if the coach called late at night or very early in the morning. Although the "Eclipse" was performed from Yeadon, it might not have run on the route through the place: I have no record which route this coach took between Ilkley and Leeds: one might presume that it was by some route through Guiseley and Yeadon, however.

### AN ILKLEY COACH

The "Wharfedale See": 1841 to 1843: Ilkley and Leeds: Left Ilkley Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturday mornings: I have no departure times but the coach is recorded as returning from the Bull and Mouth Inn, Leeds, at 5.0 p.m. A note recorded says the fares were: 4/- single inside the coach and 2/6 single "outside" Performed by J. Lawrence & Co., Ilkley. Here, again, my records do not say that these people were inn proprietors—one would presume so but one would be left guessing which would be the inn concerned—possibly somebody may know? There were thus at various times between the years 1807 and 1866 three coaches performing journeys to beyond Ilkley and seven coaches performing journeys between Leeds and Ilkley ONLY—it is remarkable that there never were any stage coaches running between Bradford and Ilkley—there is a note, however, in one of my stage-coaching books of passengers from Ilkley to Bradford journeying by way of Leeds!

### LOW FARES

There were, however, two other coaches performing journeys to Ilkley—both these could be classed as experimental: one did the trip from Leeds to Ilkley in the summer time, being put on the road as a tourist attraction in the late 1850's and can not have run many years for the railway from Leeds to Ilkley was running by 1865: the coach, unnamed and simply called a "Tourist Coach," was performed by Wm. Webster, Coach Proprietors, Heckmondwike. The route was through Otley and the coach ran from the Old George Hotel, Leeds, calling also at the Wheat Sheaf Inn, Upperhead Row. Depart daily from Leeds at 10.30 a.m. (Sundays at 8.30 a.m.) and calling at the Queen's Head Inn, Otley. The coach was performed to and from the Lister's Arms, Ilkley: Return from Ilkley at 1.0 p.m. and arriving at Leeds in time for evening trains to all parts—showing that it was now well into the railway era! By this coach specially low fares are said to have been charged and a note at the foot of one of the proprietor's coaching bills says: "Parties frequenting Ilkley's Hydropathic Establishments will find the journey by coach to greatly increase the pleasure of their visit, passing as it does, along a delightful line of road embracing the magnificent scenery of Wharfedale, Otley Chevin and many other interesting places."

### DOUBTS MARKED

The other coach, which I have taken to be of an experimental nature, was the "Royal Pilot" Put on the road on 22 April 1816 this was a through performance from York to Liverpool, routed again over the approved ground through Wharfedale—the coach ran from the Black Swan Inn, York, daily at 6.0 a.m., also calling at the York Tavern, and ran through Wetherby, Otley, Ilkley, Skipton, Clitheroe, Preston and Ormskirk, arriving Liverpool at 11.0 p.m. Return from Liverpool at 5.0 a.m., arriving York at 10.0 p.m. Note the journey time of seventeen hours: other coaches ran the distance in fifteen hours—these are the times in old records, though I am inclined to doubt their accuracy, although one has to remember that these were the days of the horse exclusively! There is no doubt at all that the coach was intended to do the journey "in record time" for it was "double-manned" throughout with two coachmen and two guards! The "Royal Pilot" was horsed from Wetherby by the Clemmishaws from the Angel Inn and seems to have been an over-costly coach to run, for it performed the York-Liverpool journey for a short period only—it was in the year 1822 restarted

under the name of "Royal Wharfedale" (details already given) still a Clemmishaw coach, Wetherby, but with only one coachman and guard in this guise the coach seems to have been a success for a number of years, was now horsed and performing the York end, however, from Elephant & Castle Inn, Skeldergate on the evening of 7 October. There was a rather busy and to quote "Hark Forward" coach it was coming out of the Rose and Crown Inn yard at Ilkley, the coach was carrying an unusually heavy load and excessive speed together with bumping caused overturn—a number of passengers were badly injured and one killed outright: the coach was entirely blamed for the accident.

From the foregoing details stage-coaching to and through Ilkley it is very evident that there were two routes from Leeds to Ilkley—one via Otley, corresponding to the old North East Railway route, and one via Guiseley, corresponding to the Midland Railway route, it is noteworthy that there has been public demand for a through route from the York district to Liverpool, or Lancashire, ever since 1816, when the "Pilot" coach was first put on the road, until the present time the summer months through to are still operated over a dissimilar route—Blackpool, York and beyond! These rather interesting aspects of the past through Ilkley.

It is also interesting to note the last stage coaches running in Yorkshire were those from Leeds to Ilkley and Harrogate. On account of the late arrival of railway at Ilkley and the hold traffic to both Ilkley and Harrogate the stage-coaches to the two places did not get finally off the road until long after the railways had got a firm hold of transport business throughout the country.

## STORY REVIVES MEMORIES LOCAL COACHMAN



In the article in our last issue of "Old Coaching in the Ilkley District," written by Mr. Alan Shackleton, mention was made of a coach service run from Ilkley to Leeds by Mr. Thomas Kettlewell. We have received this week a photograph of Mr. Kettlewell and his grand-daughter, Mrs. A. Musson, of Wheatley Avenue, Rhidding.

She says Mr. Kettlewell was partly responsible for running coaches between Ilkley and Leeds and the service started operating in May, 1842.

For some years Mr. Kettlewell was the owner of the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Ilkley, and for some time drove coaches named the "Union" for a company under his name.

During his time of ownership of the Wheatsheaf Hotel, said Mrs. Musson, her grandfather on special occasions provided four course dinners, which included turkey and plum pudding, at a cost of 2s. 6d. Mrs. Musson, who is one of only two daughters living connected to the family, said the room used to be the dining at the rear of the hotel had changed very little over the past hundred years.

She had been very interested to read the article last Friday and was quite surprised to see details of coaching by her grandfather whom she had been speaking of only that day.



# FURTHER COMMENTS ON A COACH ROAD MILESTONE

## Mystery of Initials Unsolved

By ALAN SHACKLETON

3-4-1959

Further research has been made by Mr. Alan Shackleton, Cowpasture Road, Ilkley, concerning the origin of the old stone marked "J. C." on the Draughton Moor at the cross-roads of the old Addingham-Skipton stagecoach road and the road from Draughton to Cringles which he mentioned a short time ago in an article written for the Gazette.

Mr. Shackleton writes:—

Mr. Harry Speight, the writer of several articles mentioned this old stone in his works and even in his day there does not seem to have been anyone living who knew anything about the stone, or whose initials "J.C." were. In my article in the "Gazette" I made suggestions as to whose the initials might have been.

I have since then come across an old railway Boundary Stone on a section of line operated jointly by the one-time Lancashire and Yorkshire and London and North Western Railway. From enquiries I have made it seems that such stones were set up where necessary to demarcate the ground, etc., owned by the various companies where more than one company was in operation. The need for such boundary demarcation seems to have been connected with legal and financial matters rather than those of a purely operational character.

### Boundary Stone

The L.Y. Railway boundary stone, of which I append drawing and the "mysterious stone" at Draughton, seem strikingly alike in their shape, size and lettering, etc. I also include a photograph



I have recently taken of the "J.C." stone. There is so much similarity in these two stones that I would, even at this now very late date, venture to suggest that the "J.C." stone is a very old stage-coaching boundary stone; also that one or more of the stage-coaches performed over the "Old Road" was financed on a split stage basis. This was not an uncommon coaching method.

### Coaching Inns

It meant that the ground between the previous and the following changes of horses (in this case Otley and Skipton, since Ilkley was apparently not a horse changing station for any of the coaches using this road) was owned jointly and certain stage-coaches over it performed jointly by proprietors of the coaching inns.

I have made enquiries into the names of the proprietors of the coaching inns concerned at Otley and at Skipton, and am told that Licensing Records have only been kept since the year 1873, whilst the last stage-coaches performed over the "Old Road," where the "J.C." stone is situated, ceased as far back as 1847: these enquiries have not

revealed the secret of the initials "J.C." on the old stone, but I feel satisfied that the stone has very definitely had connection with the stage-coaching business as a Boundary Stone.

### Time Check!

Presumably the "J.C." would be facing oncoming coaches and would be the proprietor at Skipton and not the one at Otley. I have the impression that the Guards of the coach(es) concerned must have noted in their logs the times of passing the stone to enable financial settlements at the end of each month to be arrived at, which was the custom of all stage-coach proprietors.

With regard to the very ancient milestone (possibly several hundreds of years old) standing where the old Addingham-Skipton road crosses the Draughton-Cringles road and also mentioned by Mr. Harry Speight in his works, it is interesting to record that there are at least two other exactly similar milestones in the Ilkley area, one in the grassy bed just beyond the small letterbox on the fence at the very top of Lodge Hill, near the junction of the roads from Beamsley and Middleton village. This stone gives the distance to Ripon as 15 miles: there are also other indecipherable markings.



The other one, giving the distance to Ripon as 12 miles, is at the ancient cross-roads (Ripon-Ilkley and Otley-Skipton) on the line of the old Roman road some two miles off the Beamsley highway (enter at the gate with notice "No road for motors.") Next to the gate to Windsover Farm. These two old stones are precisely the same type and size as the one on the Draughton-Cringles road and I should say the lettering and other inscribed handwork is also exactly similar and appears to be the work of the self-same hand! This shows that the old Addingham-Skipton road, latterly used by the stage-coaches, was by no means an isolated length of road but was part and parcel of a planned set of highways in olden times; few of them stage-coaching roads and not all of Roman origin: that they were, however, an interconnected planned set of roads there seems not the least doubt!

On scrutinising the photo of the "J.C." stone with a good magnifying glass, I believe I can discern on the lower half, something, amongst all the weathered effect, suggestive of a pair of horses, whilst in the left top corner there is something which looks like firearms or crossed swords!

# WALKING THE ADDINGHAM-SKIPTON STAGECOACH ROAD

By ALAN SHACKLETON

12-6-59

The old Addingham-Skipton Stagecoach road is frequented by some walkers and quite a few local people seem to use the section from the Cringles road crossing down into Addingham, which is more suitable as a "through the fields" type of walk than is the other section from the Cringles Road crossing into Skipton.

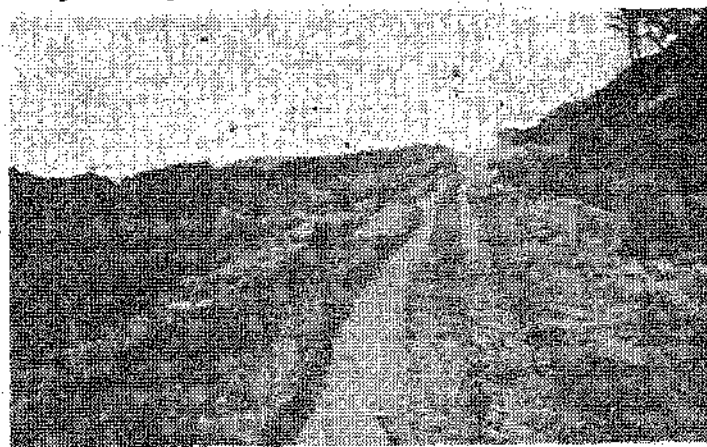
But how many people, who walk this old road today, realise that they are traversing a route, which, according to Harry Speight in his many works of local interest, is on the very line of the old Roman road going north-west from Ilkley? The road was widened and re-surfaced in the first few years of the nineteenth century for the running of stagecoaches, which

that way in those days and the seemed happy doing it!

In 1848

The new road via Draughton village and along the side of Chelker Reservoir was certainly in use in 1848 and, if its actual opening was a year or two earlier it is just possible (but only just!) that the very last stagecoach running between Addingham and Skipton may have run over the new road!

After reaching the top of the moor the coaching road passes a small plantation, where the track inclines to the left and continuing along the moor top comes after some distance to the large plantation, which is easily seen from the Cringles road—the coach road



Coach road tracks along the top of the moor, nearby Close House.

performed journeys over the road between 1807 and 1847. (Details of these stagecoach journeys were given in my article in the issue of the "Gazette" for 13 Feb. 1959).

### The Whole Length

I have recently walked the whole length of this old coaching road—a distance of about three miles from Skipton to the Cringles Road crossing and a further two miles from there down into Addingham; the point of crossing with the Draughton to Cringles road could be difficult to find by anyone attempting to locate the old coach road for the first time from the Cringles road, as I did! There is an ordinary wooden gate giving access to the part of the old road down into Addingham, which can readily be recognised—the track to Skipton is now actually over a stile in a section of wall built in to close up the old coaching way. This is quite easily seen as the angle of stonework, which has been built in, is different from that originally on each side of the old road to Skipton.

### From Skipton

I began my walk over this old road from the Skipton end. Coming out of Skipton by Brougham Street and up the road known as Short Bank, the tarred surface comes to an end where the houses finish and becomes at once just like a dry river bed. There is no doubt at all about it. This is the old coaching road! Anyone with a knowledge of direction alone in the district would recognise it instantly. The track forges steeply uphill and is bordered on both sides by partly ruined walls and intermittent groups of trees. The surface after about half a mile improves and becomes a rough stone road, well overgrown.

### Still Visible

It is rather remarkable that from here the coaching wheel tracks are still visible after all this time and remain so most of the way until the very rough hard stony surface begins going down into Addingham. There is, however, passing the top of Potter Gill a deepish bog, easily recognizable by the reedlike grass growing on the coaching road. I found it necessary to climb the wall on the south side and make a detour of several hundreds of yards—this is, however, only a short stretch of about a quarter of a mile on the moor top after a steep pull up out of Skipton.

The pull up out of Skipton rises to a considerable height—very similar to the pull up to the Cow and Calf from Ilkley. Anyone attempting to drive a stagecoach, which with passengers and luggage would weigh anything up to four and three-quarter tons, up this rise must have been truly "crackers." They must have needed an extra pair if not an extra four horses for this gruelling

runs through this plantation for several hundreds of yards and here it is particularly beautiful in nice weather: the coach tracks are still discernible and the route comes out on to the embankment, with bogland on both sides, and which runs as far as the crossing on the Cringles road.

This is the embankment which Harry Speight wrote so much about in one of his books, maintaining the height as four feet and that this is the spot where some excavation would surely uncover the original Roman surface. Be that left undisputed, for I think he is right, though I would not say the embankment was four feet high—possibly two feet would be nearer the mark!

### The Milestone

Over the stile on to the Cringles road crossing, where the ancient milestone is passed, with inscriptions chipped in by hand, through the gate across the road, past the old stone marked "J.C." and we reach the open moor. This continues for about half a mile, when there is another gate, from where for the most of the way to Addingham the old coach road continues as a grassy walled lane, until about three-quarters of a mile from Addingham the very rough stony surface begins. From time to time the latter is used by vehicles from the few farms along this part of the route.

### Rough Country

The old coach road traverses some roughish country: apart from the stiff pull up from Skipton, Harry Speight wrote that the road across the top of the moor must have been some of the roughest stagecoaching in England. The embankment already mentioned was originally only wide enough for one vehicle: it must have been rather alarming at night to timid travellers with nothing better than lamps lighted by candles, even at a height of two feet and bordered on each side by virtually impassable bogland! Still, they did it and it is remarkable in the long history of stagecoaching how very few fatal accidents there were: coaches were frequently upset and the "outside" passengers pitched off into water, deep snow or a hedge— one could often get off with nothing worse!

The Addingham end of the old road from the Cringles road is a pleasant summer afternoon walk—the track in the other direction to Skipton is now spoiled by the existence of bogland, which is very sticky and unpleasant to those who may not know where to expect it!



The long stony pull from Skipton leaving all signs of habitation behind.



# ROAD THE ROMANS MADE THROUGH ILKLEY Manchester to Aldborough

By ALAN SHACKLETON 4-9-59

As a sequel to his articles on stage coach roads through the Ilkley district, Mr. Alan Shackleton has written this account of his study of the great Roman road from Manchester to Aldborough gained from visits to Blackstone Edge near Littleborough, Ilkley Moor and the Blubberhouses area. He makes some interesting suggestions. He has taken the photographs.

In Roman times Ilkley (Olicana) was a natural and important crossing place of two highways—the Roman Roads from Manchester to Ilkley and Aldborough to York and from Long Preston and Ribchester, by way of Skipton, to Tadcaster, also continuing and giving connection with York.

On the road from Manchester to Ilkley there are, just east of Littleborough, at Blackstone Edge, some very fine remains of genuine Roman pavement—accepted by most authorities to be the finest still existing specimens of original Roman Pavement in Europe—through the interest and work of a group of Roman road enthusiasts we are privileged to be able to see virtually undamaged original pieces of Roman pavement. There is a total of some two miles of Roman Road more or less visible at Blackstone Edge—the surface is rarely more than four or five inches under the growth of grass etc., whilst there are three or four specially cared-for lengths of road, some hundred odd feet each, which are periodically cleared of all growth and soil continually accumulating on the surface. It is captivating to stand and behold these pieces of the genuine article—there is in the near vicinity also a small genuine Roman bridge over a stream—this bridge was restored to its approximate original condition in 1932 by Mr. J. E. Price—and is one of very few of its type still in existence.

From Blackstone Edge the Roman road threads its way over the intervening ranges of hills on the line passing nearby Halifax, Benholme and Cullingworth, to Keighley and through Bradup to Whetstone Gate (Keighley Gate) and down the mountain track to Ilkley—on the road between Whetstone Gate and Ilkley there is a tiny culvert, apparently of Roman origin, being almost identical in constructional details to the Roman bridge at Blackstone Edge.

### UNCERTAINTY

From just above the Wells House College there is, I think, some uncertainty as to the exact line of the Roman Road through Ilkley itself—at this late date it would seem that excavation or digging work is the only means of establishing the Roman line through Ilkley beyond any doubt at all. It is known that a road did coincide with the site of the old 1900 Council Offices in the Grove, as also with that of the Rose and Crown Hotel. In both the Council Offices in the Grove and in the cellars of the Rose and Crown Hotel in the year 1900 Roman Pavement stones were found—i.e. when the Council Offices were demolished and during alterations at the Rose and Crown.

I believe it is more than likely that the Roman road cut across the west corner of the Parish Church Grounds in entering the Olicana Encampment situated at this location. It is chiefly from this point where the differences in opinion have cropped up as to the line taken up by the road on leaving the Encampment—there are discernible in the West Holmes, as also in the triangular field on the Middleton side just above the Old Bridge, typical "raised ways" of many Roman roads, which in both cases might be taken as pointer to the line of way—however, until conclusive proof is available, one must be satisfied in the knowledge that the Roman Road is thought to have crossed the moorland behind the Middleton Woods and to have taken up a line close to the old road through the gate marked "No Road for Motors" next to Windsover Farm, and on the moor.

From the ancient cross-roads about two miles from the present road up to Beamsley—the Roman road runs forward on to the Langbar Moor—there is an old milestone at the ancient cross-roads just mentioned giving directions to Skipton and Otley and to Ripon and Ilkley. This milestone is, of course, of a date much later than the Roman period but at a time when the four ways were still possibly usable roads; they are all now classed as foot or bridle-paths. The line of the Roman road passes nearby Marsh Ghyll Reservoir and to the south of Round Hill. Here again there is some uncertainty as to the exact line of way, which apparently only digging would solve.

### AT BLUBBERHOUSES

However, the Roman road is readily discernible as a "raised way" for half a mile or more on farmland on both sides of the motor-road at a point about half way between Gill Beck Bridge and Blubberhouses Church. A broken escarpment of Roman Pavement is clearly visible where the Roman Road crosses the present motor road; on the other side of the present road there has been a stone wall built on the raised way of the Roman Road—Roman Pavement stones appear to have been used in the building of this wall which stretches most of the way down to the water at Fewston Reservoir.

In Roman times there would be no reservoir in existence but there was here quite definitely a crossing of the Washburn streams. This would almost certainly be a ford and it appears very probable that this was diagonally across the stream for on the opposite side there are about four hundred yards of old road dead on the line of the Roman road. This short piece of old road may well have been in the Roman Way, for, immediately on the other side of its junction with the present A59 road, there re-appears in a field the well-known Roman raised embankment—again with a stone wall built on top of it and containing specimens of what appear to be Roman pavement stones.

This "raised way" veers round to the east and the line runs through several pieces of farmland, in one of which a piece of the raised embankment appears once again and where there are six or seven pavement stones visible in the grass: The Roman way now enters the enclosure of the Radio Station situated here, running parallel to the A59 road and about thirty feet inside the enclosure. There are here only slight broken traces of a "raised way." There is, however, little doubt as to the existence of the

Roman Road on this line owing to its direction straight to Hampshwaite, where there was a Roman Encampment. There are, nevertheless, many instances along the line of what appear to be scattered pavement stones of Roman origin.

### DIRECT LINE

After leaving the Radio Station enclosure the dead line of the Roman Road is taken up by some six hundred yards of old road, built of medium-sized round stones and with a grass-grown centre—the road gives access to farms. From here the Roman way took an almost direct line to the encampment at Hampshwaite and in so doing passed through Kettleasing, along Green Lane and up Long Lane and over Swincliffe Top to Hampshwaite. Between Kettleasing and Swincliffe the Road once again appears in places as a "raised way," now with a wall built on top of it.

The photographs accompanying these notes are of my own taking during several trips to the line of the Roman Road. The actual lengths of pavement visible at Blackstone Edge are built up of large hand-dressed stones, measuring about eighteen inches cubic, having partially rounded top surfaces, after the style of cobbles, to ease the passage of traffic: the road at Blackstone Edge is eighteen feet wide with a stone trough about sixteen inches wide down the centre—this is thought to be the skip-pan or slipper channel which may have constituted an early form of brake. Along the edges of the way are eighteen to twenty inch long stones set upright on their edges, their object being probably in keeping the road in position.

### ENGINEERING FEAT

At the time of the construction of the Roman Road over Blackstone Edge it is thought to have been built during the time of the Emperor Hadrian) the Romans pulled off what might be classed as an early feat of engineering, in that part of the road in this district passes over a sticky bog and the pavement stones are pressed very tightly together, being held in position by the edging stones—this resulted in a kind of "floating way." It is rather remarkable that this section can still be traced after some sixteen hundred years on the moor at Blackstone Edge, although it would be difficult to state the actual condition of the "floating way" without carrying out a thorough investigation.

I do not wish to pose as a "Roman Road Expert"—far from it—rather have I intended to describe sections of this ancient way as I have found them. I might emphasise that prior to

visits to Blackstone Edge I could not have cared less about Roman Roads, but after beholding the several sections of specially cared-for Roman Pavement, I at once became a "Roman Road Enthusiast" and felt a keen desire to learn more about the road in those places where it can still be traced. I can thoroughly recommend the fun of a visit to Blackstone Edge and feel sure that anyone following this suggestion will also come away decidedly a "Roman Road Enthusiast."

It has become quite well known that the Roman Road from Manchester to Ilkley, after passing through Hampshwaite, continues to Aldborough and by connecting road eventually to York, although I have not traced the line of way beyond Hampshwaite.

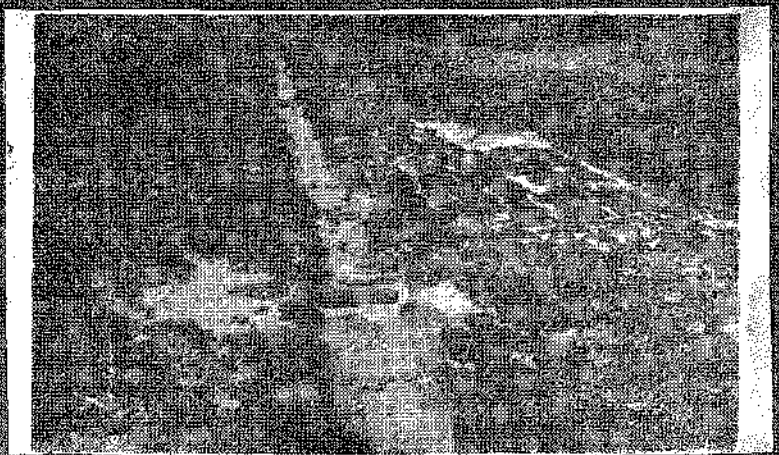
### THROUGH ILKLEY

Finally, I would like to place on record my opinion, that in view of the Roman way which appears to come down the moor from the Roman Baths and, after crossing over a low bridge very similar in construction to the one at Blackstone Edge, already mentioned, joins the road from Whetstone Gate at a point near the main motor entrance to the Wells House College the line of way would appear to have made its way down the eastern side of the college and, crossing the Grove, to have entered the Olicana Encampment opposite the Rose and Crown Hotel. In regard to the crossing of the Wharfe, I believe this to have been by ford at a point some thirty yards above the Old Bridge, continuing through the triangular field on the opposite side and so forward on a line roughly coinciding with the present Lodge Hill up on to Beamsley Moor. I am well aware there are other views expressed as to the line of the Roman way through Ilkley and am prepared to have my opinion proved wrong.

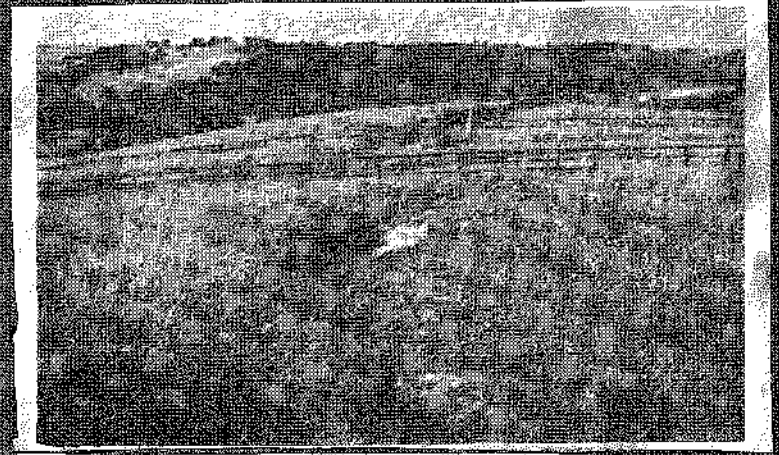
### EDITOR'S NOTE

It is generally accepted that the road after crossing the Langbar and Middleton Moors follows a line to the West of Windsover farm. The disagreement with Mr. Shackleton's theory begins when the road reaches Hardings Lane. The alternative view is that the road continued down through Stubham Wood, slightly to the west of the Old Hall, across the West Holmes, up Bridge Lane, Canliffe Road, through the Fiddings and followed a direct course to a point near Whetstone Gate and then across what is known as Black Knoll, near Morton. Supporters of this line as compared with that put forward by Mr. Shackleton consider that the road makers would take the nearest line to the fort and after leaving

the Langbar Moor would be unlikely to deviate to cross the river at a point west of the Old Bridge. Why should they do this? They have some evidence against this idea in that part of the road was exposed near the old Hall many years ago, and another section in what is now Parish Ghyll Road. The late Frank Hall, Clerk to the Ilkley Council, who lectured frequently on the Town's history, said the road followed a line parallel to New Brook Street and crossed the river at a point nearly 100 yards above the New Bridge. The famous historian, Whitaker, writing in 1773 refers to one side of the fort, which he reckoned was 100 yards by 160, being parallel with and about 20 yards away from the road from Broughton to Aldborough. The western boundary of the fort is identified by the fact that the western end of the Castle House site is just within it. Mr. Shackleton's suggestion that the road came down from the White Wells is a new one—R.M.G.



BLACKSTONE EDGE LOOKING DOWNHILL



ACROSS FARMLAND AT BLUBBERHOUSES



20-11-1959

History of Old Ilkley Building

At the corner of Skipton Road and Bolton Bridge Road stands a building which was the first Wesleyan Chapel to be erected in Ilkley but which few people today associate with its original purpose. Erected in 1834 it was used for worship until the new chapel in Wells Road was built 35 years later, and in 1892 became Ilkley's first museum.

Over 60 years earlier Addingham had built its Wesley Place chapel, and some 20 years before had been built the square shaped chapel at Langbar. The Wesley Place church has a record of continuous worship, but that at Langbar was replaced in 1899 by a less substantial but more comfortable and more cosy of access erection which in turn ended its days as a chapel in April, 1951.

Early in the present century a contributor to the "Ilkley Gazette" had found it difficult to understand "why a building of wood and zinc and matchboard should remain more substantial one which stands still braving the storms which sweep the moorland heights, and presenting an appearance which suggests that its four square strong walls will exist long after its supplanter has either been blown bodily away or has crumbled into dust."

The Methodists in Ilkley had been a growing community for several years before they built their first chapel, and the delay appears to have been caused by difficulty in finding a site.

Ranters' Chamber

Their meetings had taken place for half a century in a large room above the premises of W. Bell, grocer, sited where the Crescent Hotel now stands and the fervour shown at the gatherings had earned the room the name of "t'Ranters' Chamber." It is said that Mr. Bell once had to bring a meeting to an abrupt conclusion by dashing upstairs to announce that the floor was coming away, and frequently he had to protest about over enthusiasm.

The discovery of a suitable site, it has been suggested, was hastened by the fact that a certain William Bolling, whose family occupied Sedbergh House, which stood on the site of the present Town Hall, had been in dispute with the Vicar of Ilkley over some of the rent charges and seceded from the Parish Church to become a strong supporter of Wesleyanism. We are told that he went so far as personally to conduct the negotiations for the purchase of the ground for the chapel from the vendor to whom he was related by marriage.

This may or may not be so. What is certain is that on 28 October, 1833, Ellis Cunliffe Lister, of Manningham House, Bradford, Esquire, did "bargain and sell" to Richard Margerison, of Manningham, wool stapler, for one whole year for five shillings "and one peppercorn if demanded," the "piece or parcel of ground being part of the Parson Croft, situate in Ilkley, containing 186 1/2 square yards, bounded on the north by the Otley and Skipton Turnpike Road, on the south and east by the remainder of Parson Croft, and on the west by an occupation road called Hugh (Ewe ?) Croft Lane."

Trustees

Richard Margerison was in actual possession on 29 October and the conveyance of the land from the owner to the following 13 Trustees was promptly executed:-

Thomas Lister, the elder, and Thomas Lister, the younger, both tallow chandlers; Francis Cockshott, cotton manufacturer; James Cockshott, grocer; Thomas Haigh, draper; Francis Wall, worsted manufacturer; Anthony Bland, worsted manufacturer; and Thomas Place, book-keeper—all of Addingham. George Oates Greenwood, Woodhouse, gentleman; William Bolling, gentleman; William Whitley, musician; John Lister, milk-keeper; and Edward Usher, joiner—all of Ilkley. John Smith, of Burley, grocer; and John Kendall, of Middleton, farmer.

The greater proportion of Addingham men is apparently explained by the fact that Ilkley would be a much smaller place with a population in the Township of less than 600 and just over 100 houses. It was in fact only a small village. Years later when he opened the chapel in its new guise as a museum, Dr. Robert Collyer, who had worshipped there as a young man and done some of his early preaching there, referred to the village as he had known it in the following words.

Picturesque

"A nice little place, the brook gleaming down, open to the sun, with wild blossoms growing on its margin among the stones; the old thatched houses, with their bits of garden; the miller's house, with its wealth of roses shaking with the wind on the side next the meadow and mill; old Mr. Fozzard with his workshop by the stocks, which had lost their power to hold the wafes and strays; the old smithy with his house and garden; the Wheat-sheaf, run by the old bachelor..."

The plot of land on which the chapel was built had passed through various hands before it was sold in 1833. In the early 1600's there is mention of it being let by William Crommcock, yeoman, to Walter Pollard, blacksmith, of Yew Croft—the same Walter Pollard who had a part in the provision of the Grammar School but could not write his name, and who owned what is now known as the Canker Well and was to many generations "Pollard's Well." One hundred years later it was leased by Robert Midgley to Nicholas Cunliffe, who bought it a further two years afterwards.

Middleton Tenant

An interesting point about the trustees is that one of them came from such a strong centre of the Catholic faith as Middleton and not only that but he was a tenant of that staunch Catholic, William Middleton. Thirty years later he was still a trustee, and this caused a writer some years after this to refer to the broadminded generosity of the Middletons in not attempting to influence or interfere with anyone, not even one of their own tenants—whose religious views did not coincide with their own.

Mr. E. C. Lister received £50 for the 186 1/2 square yards of land, together with an undertaking that when the chapel was built there should be reserved in it one pew containing not less than 150

sittings" for the use of his family, tenants and servants. Sixty years later this was considered to be a very good price and the doubt expressed whether a piece of land at that time, taking into consideration the ten fold increase in Ilkley's population and importance and a corner site could have fetched such a price. The actual trust deed itself was signed by only eight—William Bolling, John Lister, Thomas Lister, James Cockshott, Thomas Haigh, Francis Wall and John Kendall. E.C.L. Lister

In 1834

The building was completed in 1834, but such was the growth of Ilkley and the growth of Methodism that in 32 years the accommodation was found to be insufficient, and moves were started to do something about it. In the meantime eight of the 15 trustees had passed away, and none knew where Thomas Place was. Four wished to be relieved of their duties and only William Bolling and John Kendall remained. The Charity Commissioners appointed ten new trustees and these, with the two remaining, made 12 with authority to act. The new ones were William Cadman, commercial traveller; Watson Lister, shoemaker; John Wilde, draper—all of Ilkley. Samuel Jackson, of Beamsley, shoemaker; James Lee, county road surveyor, and William Thornber, farmer, both of Slisden. William Simpson and John Simpson, drapers; Joseph Gill, clogger, and Thomas Spencer, druggist, all of Addingham.

The Methodist Conference at Liverpool in June, 1863, gave permission for the sale of the land and chapel because "the land and chapel are no longer needed for Wesleyan Trust purposes, a more commodious Wesleyan Methodist Chapel being in the course of erection on another site at Ilkley."

Later History

In May, 1870, the land and building was conveyed at £450 to Edward Holden, of Baildon, wool-comber, but there were only nine trustees for William Bolling, William Cadman and John Simpson, had "severally departed this life." The nine signatures were witnessed by the Rev. William Harley, Wesleyan Minister at Addingham.

On 1 December, 1873, the building was sold to William Smith, of Skipton, plumber and glazier, for £430, and when he went into liquidation it was sold for £387 in January, 1882, passing eventually by mortgage dated February, 1885, to the National Provincial Bank, until 1892, when it was conveyed to the Trustees of the Museum, who paid for it £360. In the meantime the building has been used as a mission room for St. Margaret's, a navy mission station, and a Salvation Army meeting place. After the Ilkley Public Library and Museum had been opened in 1907 the building ceased to be a museum and for the greater period since that has been a garage.

PRIMITIVES

It is perhaps interesting to note that the Primitive Methodist Chapel in Leeds Road was opened in March, 1878, and before that the Primitives had followed the Wesleyans in the use of the room on the site of the Crescent Hotel. They had been promised a site for a new chapel, but when they expected to obtain possession the promise was broken. This room was used by them until the site was wanted for the erection of the Crescent.

Round about 1853 John Dobson—the man so esteemed by Robert Collyer—together with his brother, Michael, paid the deposit on land where the railway station stands and intended that this should be conveyed to the Primitive Methodist Connexion, but though he made several journeys to Otley, Keighley and Leeds the land was never conveyed. When the railway came the site was required for the station, but the Primitives made a profit of £70 on the deal.

Used Old Chapel

Then they had the loan of the old chapel in Skipton Road for a while when the new Wesleyan chapel was opened, but they had not enough money to purchase it when it came into the open market.

The Working Men's Hall—the building now occupied as the joinery establishment of Messrs. Learoyd in Back Weston Road—was used for a time, and when the new building was opened there had been raised £4 15s. towards an estimated cost of £2,000. The opening services raised a further £39 8s 6d.

20-11-59

A FULL TURN

When Robert Collyer first came to Ilkley from Washburn, to be the 14-year-old apprentice to Jackie Birch, the Leeds Road blacksmith, he was standing under the archway which leads to the old Manor House (the Castle) with another boy who expressed surprise in his dialect tongue that Collyer did not know he was standing on the site "of a Roman city." The incident took place over 120 years ago and it was the beginning of an interest and documentary research which caused Collyer to become probably the greatest expert on its affairs that Ilkley has ever known. He shared the authorship of "Ilkley, Ancient and Modern" with J. Horsfall Turner, and he opened in 1892 the first museum in Skipton Road, and in 1907 the library and museum in Station Road. Now, at this present time, tenders are invited for the conversion of the Old Manor House to Ilkley's museum. Nobody had a greater influence on the first establishment of a museum in Ilkley than Robert Collyer and it is so fitting that the latest museum should be the building which is reached through the archway under which Robert Collyer first heard of Roman Ilkley and the antiquity of the place. The wheel indeed has turned full circle. It would be equally fitting that the fact in some way should be recognised when the Museum is officially opened. Would the Council and Mr. Percy Dalton, whose generosity has made the museum possible, take amiss a suggestion that the Collyer Museum would be an appropriate name?

HUMBLE START

The story of Collyer has been told many times, but reading again the speeches he made on the two occasions when a museum previously was opened in Ilkley the wonder is born anew about the diligence, the love of books and the faith of the man which brought him from such humble beginnings to one who won the respect and affection of so many of his fellow men. In his father's cottage he had read "Pilgrim's Progress," "Robinson Crusoe" and Goldsmith's "Histories of England and Rome," until he knew them almost by heart. And in those, he once wrote, he gained his "lifelong instinct for simple Saxon words and sentences which has been of some worth to me in the work I was finally called to do." His father borrowed Burns and Shakespeare and other books, and then Collyer met John Dobson, who was to be such an influence. By candle light and by the light of the forge fire, he read and read until the old smith said he would have no eyes left. The Blacksmith's apprentice was laying a foundation which brought him to the position in 1907 that he was the honoured guest at a gathering at Wells House which was so huge and yet could not include all the people who wished to be there to do him honour.

AN OLD MAP

By something of a coincidence this week whilst the article on the first Methodist Chapel was being written, the Librarian, Mr. N. R. Parker, received delivery of a set of maps which included the ordnance survey for this area in the year 1847. It shows how few buildings there were in Ilkley and how most of them were clustered about the parish church or were alongside the brook in Brook Street. Along Skipton Road there was a building approximately where Fletcher's shop is now in addition to the old grammar school and nearer to Addingham was the "dropping well" but no building, and then there was nothing until Helling Hall was reached, Chapel Lane was even then described as Chapel Lane, but the continuation of it which is now King's Road was described as "Ewe Croft Lane" a name that was to change

a time or two few years. to the south three small however, a few days w Collyer even as a as a i intere is the supp words but P

Tuesd



Picture illustrates the present use as a garage of the first Wesleyan Chapel in Ilkley built at the corner of Bolton Bridge Road and Skipton Road.



# SACRIFICIAL CEMETERIES REVEALED OLD SHIPS OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY LECTURES BEGIN

13-11-1959.

The winter series of lectures of the Olicana Museum Society came into full swing on Thursday of last week, when Mr. W. A. G. Doyle-Davidson addressed the Society on "Viking Ships."

In general outline the speaker gave the history of shipbuilding, and recalled that most remains of ships had been discovered in sacrificial burial-grounds. Britain's most important example was the Ship Burial at Sutton Hoo. Mr. Doyle-Davidson explained that as sailors favoured cremation with their ships, the introduction of cremation brought serious problems. The dead hero would now be buried with his ship on land, together with tools, precious stones and money to help him on his travels.

## FIRST REMAINS

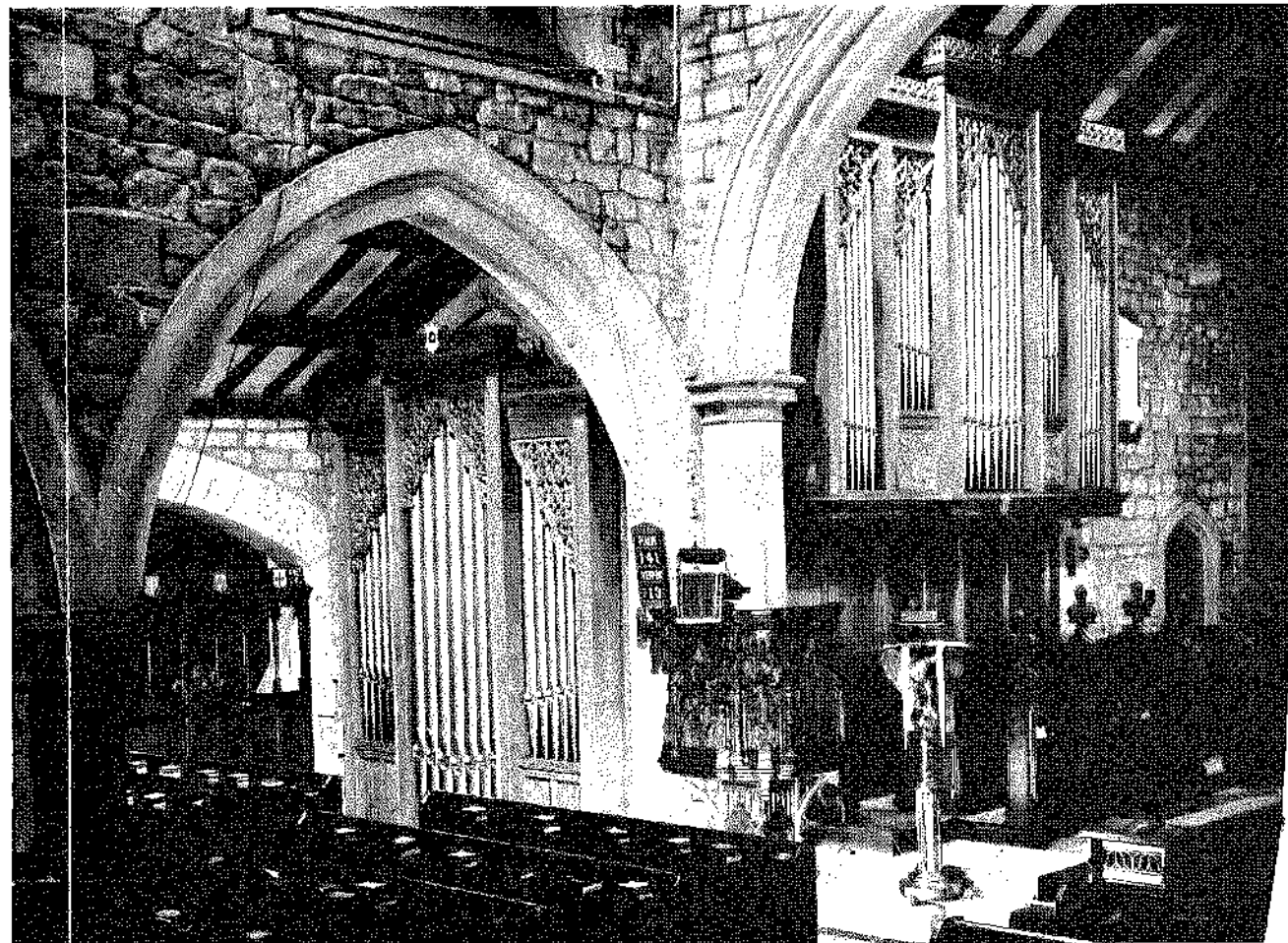
The first remains of such boats were found in Norway. The hull was made of pine, the framework of ribs being sewn in with strong rope. Propulsion was by paddle, and the boat was steered by a single piece of wood from the stern.

Their own remains at Sutton Hoo were dated at 600 A.D. The wood had entirely rotted, leaving a remarkable imprint in the sand. It was discovered that the keel was growing in favour, and by 800 A.D. the boats had become much wider and the prow steeper. The finest existing example of a Viking ship was that discovered at Gokstad in Norway said Mr. Doyle-Davidson. Built in the ninth century this impressive craft had been renovated, and now resided for all to see in a museum. The prow towers above the ground in a way which must have struck terror to the hearts of would-be invaders while a fierce figure-head kept watch from the front of the boat.

There was a glamour surrounding these beautiful boats which has been completely lost in modern times, and yet, said Mr. Doyle-Davidson the construction of those "old men o' war" was such that they would well compete with many more modern scientifically built boats. They possessed extreme elasticity of hull, which enabled them to fight the stiffest gales.

The lecture was illustrated with impressive slides of Viking remains, both in burial grounds and in museums. There were a large number of questions which Mr. Doyle-Davidson answered. This lecture will remain as one of the finest in the history of the Society. Mrs. E. M. Potts expressed thanks to the speaker.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, December 3rd, when the speaker will be Professor Le Patourel of Ilkley.



THE ORGAN, ILKLEY PARISH CHURCH.

(over)

## HISTORICAL NOTES

The first organ was built in 1830 by a local worthy—Whitley. The historian, Dr. Robert Collyer, informs us in "Ilkley, Ancient and Modern," that it was made "all out of his own head"! In 1862, Brindley, of Sheffield, built a new organ. Details of both these early organs are lacking.

After the extensive restoration of the church in 1880, the then Vicar, the Rev. A. C. Downer, instigated an appeal which culminated in a fine new three-manual instrument being built in 1882 by the famous T. C. Lewis, of Brixton. This organ was dedicated by the Dean of Ripon on September 12th, 1882, and Mr. J. H. Clough, organist to the Bradford Festival Choral Society, gave the recital which followed.

The very fine spotted metal and wood Lewis pipework, with minor exceptions, is incorporated in the present instrument, together with the 1882 soundboards suitably converted to electrical operation. The Lewis stops appear under their original designations. The 1882 organ was reviewed by the present organist in "The Organ," of July, 1934.

Before that date, a tentative reconstruction scheme was mooted between the late Mr. Isaac Hirst, F.R.C.O., at that time organist, and Mr. A. E. Pickett, but it was not until the late Colonel Dixon, M.A., of St. Bees, became associated with the scheme a few years later that substantial progress was made. A basic specification was drawn up, and laid dormant during the war period, being revived at its conclusion, and a move made to obtain the necessary money required. Colonel Dixon and Mr. Pickett sponsored the project, and when the final details were almost complete, Colonel Dixon died in October, 1950. Mr. Reginald Whitworth, M.B.E., of Sheffield, as a friend of both collaborators, immediately offered his help, and in February, 1951, the contract was let to The John Compton Organ Company, Ltd., North Acton, N.W.10. Mr. Whitworth unfortunately died from the after-effects of an accident in Italy early in 1953, and it is a matter for regret that neither he nor Colonel Dixon have lived to see completed the organ they helped to plan.

The specification is notably complete and comprehensive for a comparatively small parish church, being basically "straight"—a classical chorus of straight stops being available on every manual. The pedal organ, it will be noted, can be entirely independent of couplers, and includes two 32 ft. stops.

The detached console, cased in oak, is a particularly handsome piece of craftsmanship. The stop lay-out is to a plan of the organist's, intended to simplify the registration when the organ is handled by an unfamiliar player. All unison stops which might normally be used as solo stops are fitted with a cancelling device, whereby an extra pull on the stop-head immediately cancels all other stops in that department. This is one of the first consoles to be so fitted by the builders. This facility can be switched off if not required.

The magnificent carved English oak cases were given as a memorial. They are to designs prepared by Mr. J. Stuart Syme, F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A., of York, and executed by Mr. Robert Thompson, of Kibburn.

(over)



# PARISH CHURCH HISTORY SHOULD BE TOLD

## Suggestion to Museum Society by Prof. Le Patourel

1/12/57

A suggestion that a booklet giving the history of the Ilkley Parish Church should be available for visitors, formed the basis of a talk given to the Olicana Museum Society by Professor John Le Patourel, of Leeds University, a member of the Society, at its meeting on Thursday of last week.

Professor Le Patourel's talk was entitled "Ilkley Parish Church—a project" and those present included the Vicar of Ilkley, the Rev. E. C. Cook. In the absence of the president, Miss E. M. Fletcher, the chair was taken by the vice-president, Mr. Peter B. Barker. Prof. Le Patourel said that during his holiday travels he often visited churches, and liked to learn something of their history from the booklets which were usually to be purchased inside the buildings. Here at Ilkley unfortunately, no such book was available, and he felt it would be an excellent idea if one could be produced to sell at, say a shilling, the proceeds to be devoted to church funds. Prof. Le Patourel commented that he had not lived many years at Ilkley, and wished to have the matter discussed in order to obtain such local information as he was not able to give. He said there were two sides to the history of a church, the church as an institution, and the church as a building, and he often found that these were not always very clearly distinguished.

### Foundation Date

There was no precise date of the foundation of the Ilkley Parish Church, although the year 827 had been quoted in the past. Its position just inside the south wall of the old Roman fort could be important, and other examples of churches similarly sited are at Dover, Richester and Holyhead. During the Roman occupation the village had spread beyond the fort as far as the present railway station, and the speaker suggested that after the withdrawal of the troops, the villagers moved into the empty barracks of the fort as being more comfortable than their own primitive homes. It was for those people and their Anglo-Saxon successors that the church was founded. Certainly there must have been a flourishing church here by the year 800, for the well-known crosses now in the churchyard were set up then or soon after. Professor Le Patourel dated the most worn of the three as possibly about 800, and the others as between 850 and 880 A.D., although it was not possible to be at all exact. The Danes probably did not settle in Ilkley, certainly there is no trace of Danish influence on the ornament of the crosses. The use to which they were put was not certain, but they would be either Preaching Crosses, or headstones, probably the latter. In Domesday Book (1086), Ilkley is referred to as "Ilkleya" and "There is a church and a priest." Evidence after this is not very clear, and further research was needed into the church's history during the Middle Ages.

### Patronage

During the 13th Century the Advowson, or Patronage of the Living, was held by the De Kynes family, probably as tenants of the Percys. In 1378 Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland gave the Advowson to the Prior and Canons of Hexham; subsequently they were licensed to appropriate the church after the death of the then Rector, and from the revenues they had to pay 13s. 4d. to the Archbishop, 6s. 8d. to the Dean and Chapter and to make proper provision for a Vicar.

### Rectors

It is from this year, 1378, that the list of Vicars begins for Hexham Abbey stood in the position of Rector until the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the sixteenth century. The list of Rectors and early Vicars was not complete, and Prof. Le Patourel said that only a lengthy search of the Archbishop's Register might well yield any further names. In 1885 the Church Registers were said to be: Volume 1, 1597-1666, (a gap to 1673), and Volume 2, 1674-1697 was said to exist, being then in the possession of Mr. Joseph Beanlands, and he was appealed to for its return to the church.

Prof. Le Patourel then turned to the Chantry of St. Nicholas, about which little was known. It was

founded by a William Middleton, but he did not know which one, although prior to 1548, in order that the priest should pray for the soul of William Middleton for ever. It was situated "on the right as one enters the church," presumably the south side, and continued in use until the suppression of chantries in the 16th century.

### Earlier Building

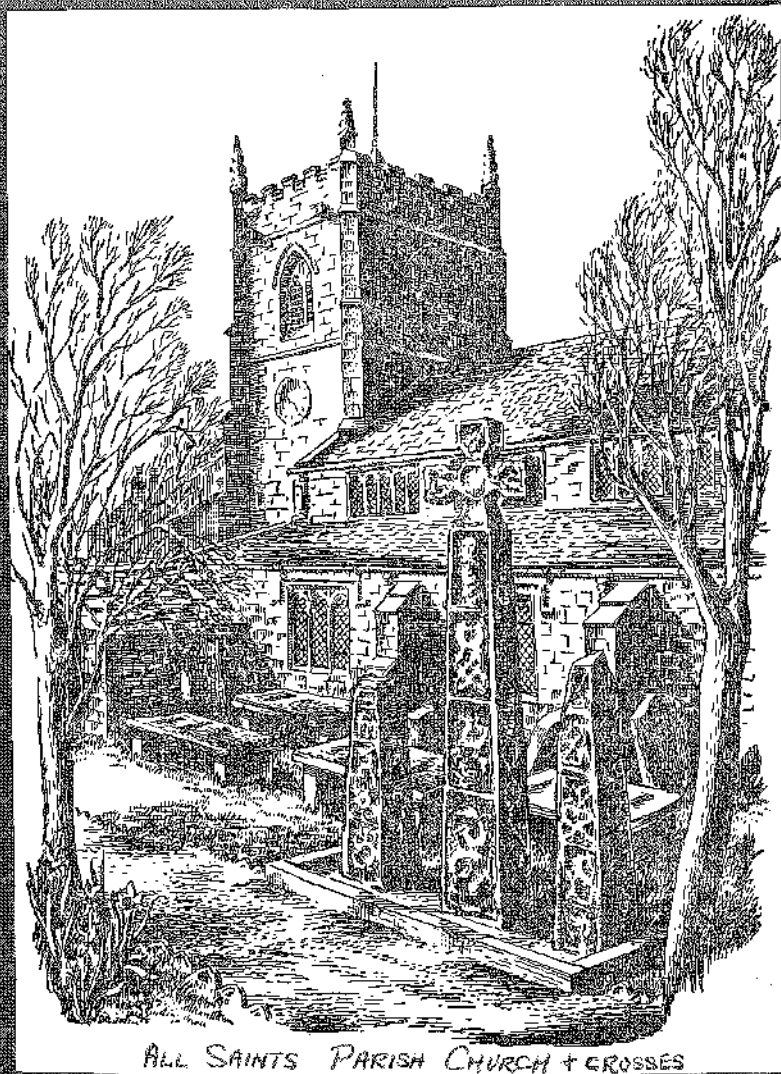
Practically all the documentary evidence we have was written during the last two hundred years, and as the church has been so much restored and rebuilt in the last century, little evidence now remains of earlier building. The oldest structural remains were the Roman altars (recently presented to this Society by the Church Council) which were probably used as window heads in the Anglo-Saxon church. The earliest standing part of the church is the south doorway which the speaker dated as early 13th century, and could well have been carved during King John's reign. It was certainly not in its original position as the south aisle was probably widened in the 19th century. The arcades were usually given as 14th century but this needs to be checked. The aisles, clerestory and cower as they now stand are clearly 15th century work, and may be later. Professor Le Patourel showed an Architect's drawing of a plan of the church done in 1921, which he had borrowed from the library of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society. He recommended that permission should be sought to reproduce this in any history of the church that might be published.

### Reformation

At the time of the Reformation, the building probably consisted of: the West Tower as it now stood, the South Door with porch (possibly wooden), a Nave of three Bays, with North and South Aisles and Clerestory, a low Chancel, and the Chantry of St. Nicholas somewhere on the south side. During the 17th and 18th centuries, the building fell into considerable disrepair, and three restorations were carried out during the 19th century. The first was under the Rev. George Fenton in 1840, when the earth floor was flagged, the ancient oak benches were replaced by pine, the pulpit was altered, and it is thought the first organ was installed, possibly of local manufacture. The second restoration, by far the largest, was in 1860-61, under the Rev. John Snowden, when the work appeared to have included the rebuilding of the South Aisle and its extension by one bay to the east, the rebuilding and lengthening of the South Clerestory, the lengthening of the Nave by one bay east (i.e., on the site of the old Chancel) and the rebuilding of the Chancel about 18 feet to the east of its original site. Professor Le Patourel thought the old Chancel Arch might have been reconstructed to serve again in its new position, but it was not known for certain. The North Aisle remained as it was, but was lengthened to match the rest of the alterations. It was not certain if the roof was entirely renewed or if any old work was retained.

### No Photographs

No photographs were known showing the church either before or during the rebuilding, and the only collection which might have contained any, that of the late Mr. Bontoft, had been broken up. During this great rebuilding, services were held in the Old Grammar School in Skipton Road, from June, 1860 to April 1861, and on 6 May, 1861 the Bishop of Ripon reopened the church for worship. The work cost £1300. During the third alteration in 1880 the plaster was removed from the interior walls and the stonework pointed, new clerestory windows put in on the north side, improvements made to the lighting and heating, and new vestries built (which?). Professor Le Patourel said the



ALL SAINTS PARISH CHURCH + CROSSES

font was, due to its lack of ornament, impossible to date. He was uncertain if the font cover was Jacobean or a later imitation, but there was certainly an old pew of 1633. There was plenty of Victorian stained glass which was now returning to fashion, but Professor Le Patourel considered the east window to be "one of the major horrors of Ilkley" (General laughter, in which the Vicar joined). The organ was more important than usual in a church of this size, and its history should be included in that of the church. Describing the monuments, the speaker regarded the recumbent effigy of Adam de Middleton as rather important if it could be dated to the thirteenth century, for effigies of such a date were not common. The 17th and 18th century collection of brasses was of some size and somewhat unusual, and the better of these might be illustrated in the suggested church history with notes on the person commemorated (e.g. Captain John Heber). There was a note in "Ilkley Ancient and Modern" that the Rev. Snowden had placed two stone crosses and an old font in the garden of the (then) new Vicarage in Wells Road, after the rebuilding of 1860. In reply to a question about them, the Vicar stated that they were still there when he moved out of the house and as far as he knew had not been moved since. Concluding, Professor Le Patourel said that the Church has a little bit of everything in its fabric, and therefore is in microcosm a history of Ilkley itself.

There was a lively spate of questions after the talk, and the speaker was thanked for a most scholarly and authoritative address by Mrs. S. Hawkesworth.

### PARISH CHURCH 1912-57

Mr. John Jackson, who lived in the old thatched cottage in Bridge Lane up to its demolition in 1904, and about whom there will be more to say in a later issue, made a point in an interview over 50 years ago which may interest those who read Prof. Le Patourel's comments about the Parish Church to the Olicana Museum Society. Mr. Jackson, known as "donkey" Jackson because he had donkeys for hire from Bridge Lane, was born in September, 1823, and his father, who was the church sexton, died at the age of 93. Mr. Jackson said in his time there had been little structural change in the church, though the appearance of the interior had altered considerably. When he was a lad high box pews were in existence and the only heating apparatus was a stove in the centre of the church. The "better class folks" occupied the pews nearest the stove, said Mr. Jackson, and whilst the greater number of the pews were devoid of covering or cushions of any kind, those occupied by the "better class" were upholstered in plush and green cloth and had cushions and hassocks. When the weather was wet, straw was strewn in the aisles. There was no choir, the singing being led by the school children, who sat under the tower. During the incumbency of the Rev. Fenton, "old Joseph Smith" was clerk and he occupied a desk below the pulpit. There were three bells and two of them were cracked. They were rung by Mr. Jackson, senr., Thomas Stephenson and Phoebe Brown, who succeeded her husband as a ringer on his death. Phoebe lived in a cottage which stood in a hollow by the side of the stream in Lister Street, and known as Mouse Hole Cottage. Mr. Jackson was asked about the story that the Saxon Crosses shafts had been used for gateposts, and said he could only remember them in their present position or in the church porch.



# REFLECTIONS

## HISTORY TREASURY

The most complete history of Ilkley was published by Wm. Walker and Sons in 1885 written by Dr Robert Collyer and Mr. J. Horsfall Turner, and apart from a chapter or two in Speight's "Upper Wharfedale" which was published in 1906 no attempt at Ilkley's history has been attempted since. Collyer and Turner relied, a good deal naturally enough, on many old records made available to them, and amongst the most valuable of these were the Manor Court records of Stubbham and Middleton. Into these they dipped here and there and made by no means an exhaustive and complete account of what they found. The treasure still to be discovered in these old records was referred to by Dr. Collyer when he opened in 1892 the first Ilkley Museum which is now a garage on Skipton Road. Said Dr. Collyer, "In the great county of York I will venture the guess that there are no such records of a small parish and town like our old Ilkley as these that are laid up in the muniment room at Middleton Lodge of which Mr. Turner only dreamed as it were a few bowls by the courtesy of the good people might not a commission from the founders of this museum ask for the same favour and leave no scroll unread which can bring to us the life of old Ilkley which has passed away?" Apparently his suggestion was never taken up and no one has done what Mr. Turner was unable to do.

## LOST DOCUMENTS

Where are those documents to-day? There is a mystery for some modern historian to solve. It is evident they were in the possession of the Middleton family when Collyer and Turner wrote their book.

but what happened to them after that? It would appear that the Middletons left Middleton Lodge in 1896 and the last squire in residence was Mr. Charles Marmaduke, who had three sons—Marmaduke Francis, Reginald John and Lionel George. We have not so far been able to find anything about Marmaduke Francis and Lionel George, but Reginald became a Jesuit Priest and preached a sermon at Middleton Lodge in 1939. It is understood that he has since died in Scotland. The "Gazette" approached the Rector of Middleton Lodge and the Rector of St. Michael's College, Leeds (the nearest branch of the Jesuit Order). Each proved most co-operative. A search was made at Middleton Lodge, but no trace of the documents was found there. That perhaps was to be expected for the Lodge from 1896 was let to tenants, then passed to the ownership of Mr. Sidney Kellett and in 1923 to its present owners. The Rector made enquiries of a Priest who once made some research and wrote an account of the Lodge and the Middleton family, but he knew nothing of the documents. The Rector of St. Michael's communicated with the Jesuit Order central headquarters in London in case documents had passed from Fr. Reginald to them. They could not find any trace of the documents but made suggestions for further inquiry. These are being followed up and the Ilkley Council also has been invited through the Clerk to take a hand by asking officially at certain places where the documents might have been lodged in the meantime. Any information to this office about the documents or the Middleton family will be welcomed.

# Ilkley Gazette

# REFLECTIONS

## THE MIDDLETONS

Following last week's reference to the Middleton family readers have asked us for more details, and these requests make topical another comment of Mr. Jackson's, and this to the Middleton family. He shared the great affection and esteem which many people had for the first Middleton he could remember, William Middleton, the grand old squire as so many referred to him. This Middleton was the grandfather of Mr. Charles Middleton, who was lord of the manor at the time of the interview. Said Mr. Jackson, he killed two fat beasts every Christmas for the poor, and he gave them clothes and soup and money in addition. Every Saturday soup was given to the poor, one Saturday to those from Ilkley and the following Saturday to those from Nesfield and Middleton. He never sent anybody away empty handed, said Mr. Jackson, and milk and dripping could be had for the asking. "If there's a heaven I hope he's in it, for he was one of the best men who ever lived." When one of his tenants at Middleton gave notice because he had become too old to pay the rent, William Middleton told him to stay on and pay what he could. Another aged woman who had not paid rent for some years was told by Mr. Middleton that she could carry on under the same terms. Mr. Jackson added a word or two about Mr. Middleton's son in the course of a further reference to William. "He didn't go to London and get shut of a lot of brass like his son, who thowt he'd niver had a good dinner unless he'd paid a guinea for it, but spent what he had to spend at home 'f dewin good."

## LONG LINE

The Middletons could trace their family tree, it was said, back to the Conqueror himself, and there is actual evidence of the line back to the 11th century at least. For those interested, much information is available in Collyer and Horsfall Turner's "Ilkley: Ancient and Modern." The old squire, to whom Mr. Jackson referred, assumed the name Middleton on succeeding to the estates. He was born William Constable and was a grandson of Elizabeth Middleton, who was a daughter of Peter, the last of the direct line of male heirs. Peter was imprisoned at York in July, 1066, for refusing to take the oath of allegiance.

William (Constable) Middleton was succeeded by his son, Peter, who appears to be the one who aroused Mr. Jackson's displeasure. This Peter had four sons, the eldest being William Joseph, who succeeded him in 1866, and who was the first of the family to put portions of the estate into the market. He died in 1885, a bachelor as so many of the Middletons were, and was succeeded by his brother, Charles Marmaduke, who spent little time at Middleton Lodge, and after letting it, then allowing it to remain empty, eventually sold it. A brother of William Joseph and Charles Marmaduke, was Major John James Middleton, who built Annandale, in Wells Road, but called it Laurel Bank, and died there in 1891. The funeral of Major Middleton provided the townspeople with their last opportunity of paying their respects to the Middleton family on the grand scale. It was apparently a most impressive spectacle. Major Middleton was buried at Ilkley Cemetery and alongside him in October, 1904, was buried the last squire, Charles Marmaduke, who died at Ripon. When the Lodge passed into private hands the remains of the Middletons who had been buried there, were removed and were re-interred at Ilkley Cemetery in graves alongside members of the family already buried there.

## NO MYSTERY

There is after all no mystery about the documents comprising the Middleton deeds and the Manorial records, for they were handed over some years ago to the Yorkshire Archaeological Society at Park Place, Leeds, where they occupy, says the Society's archivist, Miss Foster, several shelves. The information also comes to us this week from Miss Elsie Fletcher, hon. curator of the Ilkley Museum and president of the Olicana Museum Society. Miss Foster points out that time and skill are required in dealing with old documents of this kind. Some are in Latin, some in Norman French and some knowledge of calligraphy is a necessity. It would take years and years, says Miss Foster, to copy and transcribe them all but she agrees they contain a most valuable record of Ilkley's history. A good deal could be done and it is with this in mind that Miss Fletcher in her letter, this week, puts forward an opportunity for enthusiasts to volunteer.

## CORRESPONDENCE 18-12-59

### The Records and Deeds Forming Ilkley's History

Sir.— How fortunate are the people of Ilkley in having as the Editor of its local newspaper one who takes such an interest in its local history.

We, of the Olicana Museum Society, who are doing what we can to foster an interest in our heritage, to discover its past and preserve it, and to record the present in our Scrap Books for succeeding generations, are most grateful to you for your help in publishing accounts of our meetings and outings. We are encouraged too by your own notes and comments in your "Reflections" and articles.

With reference to the search for the Middleton muniments, I can tell you where they are. The Yorkshire Archaeological Society have them preserved in their cellars and safes. Miss Amy Foster B.A., their Secretary hoped to give us a talk this session at our Society on the Middletons. However, as Collyer said, "Few families have such an accumulation of documents and deeds" and it is a huge task. This of course reflects and relates to the History of Ilkley for they were Lords of the Manor and adminis-

tered the town's affairs from the Manor House from at least the 14th century until the Ilkley Council took over.

If anyone is interested and has time for such work our Society would be most grateful for help in perusing these documents.

May I add that from a museum club for small boys this Olicana Museum Society has grown until we now have exactly one hundred members—fifty men and fifty women precisely! Not all can attend the lectures, but like to show interest and receive The Bulletin. An active group is also emerging for practical work, though not quite established yet. All are welcome to our meetings, which have the blessing of the Council, whether members or not.

You have been most assiduous Sir, in urging for more printed matter relating to Ilkley's history, and I should like to reply that ere long some leaflets thereto will be forthcoming.

ELSIE M. FLETCHER  
Honorary Curator,  
Olicana Museum,  
Ilkley.

## CANKER WELL

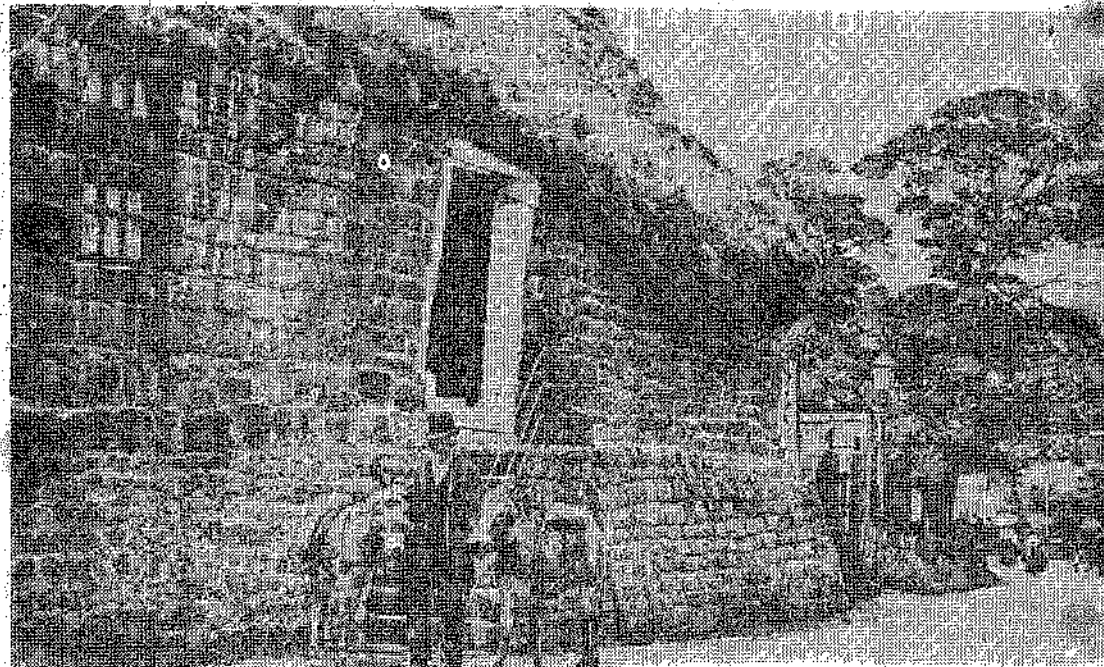
A scheme for the improvement of the Canker Well Park including the re-siting of the hydrophobic baths from the Ben Rhydding Hydro at an estimated cost of £70 has been deferred for consideration with the provisional estimates of expenditure of the Moor and Parks Committee for the financial year 1960-61.



# He Blew Out the Gas and Mounted the Stairs to Bed

1-1-1960

When the old donkey house in Bridge Lane was demolished at the beginning of the present century there disappeared one of the last remaining thatched cottages in the district. For years it had been the centre of a service provided by Mr. John Jackson whose long association with the hire of donkeys had caused him to be known to residents and visitors by the name of "Donkey Jackson."



A picture of the old donkey house in Bridge Lane with "Donkey" Jackson himself standing in front of the thatched building. *The steps & lower half of the wall are still standing.*

THE house demolished, Mr. Jackson moved into Castle Yard and there for the first time in his 80 years he slept under a slated roof and occupied a building in which gas was used. Candles and lamps had been the means of illumination for him all his life and what more natural than on retiring to bed for the first time in his new home he should blow out the gas as he had blown out a candle for so many years of his life and then mount the stairs to bed.

It was fortunate for him and, possibly his neighbours, that his wife had a keen sense of smell, and immediately became aware that something was wrong. She had the sense not to strike a light or Mr. Jackson and his wife might have lost their slate roof very quickly, their windows, and possibly their lives. The incident passed off with no attendant damage.

## IN AN INTERVIEW

This story was told to a reporter of the "Gazette" nearly 60 years ago when Mr. Jackson in a long interview gave interesting and valuable information about the Ikley he had known from the 1830's onwards. There were in those days no "lucifer" matches and to strike a light they still had to resort to flint and steel, "napping" their knuckles many times, said Mr. Jackson, "afere t'under gat nod." The few coals that came into the village had to be carted from Silsden. Fuel for the most part consisted of peat gathered on the moor. The peat had first to be "graved" or dug out and then stacked to dry.

Mr. Jackson said the best peat beds existed near Cowper Cross, the peat found there usually going by the name of Buckstone peat after the locality in which it was found.

When coal started to be more generally used an effort was made to dig out some near the "old Oak" in Middleton Woods but the labour of boring revealed nothing of any commercial value.

## BUILDING STONE

Speaking of the building operations in the district, Mr. Jackson said they were almost unknown in his boyhood days except for repairs to existing property. Stone was obtained from the face of the moor, rocks of any description being blasted for this purpose. The appearance of the moor consequently was very different

at the beginning of the present century from what it was when he was a boy and a young man and the position changed more rapidly when the building operations began in the district.

With stone to be had at no cost houses also could be erected at very small cost and those with a little money to invest in this way "laid the foundations of the fortunes they later acquired in the lodging house business."

"And there were very few," continued the article "except the spendthrift and shiftless who were not provided with the wherewithall for the purpose though some, of course, were not as far seeing as others and did not care to invest their savings in this way."

Saving was as easy, said Mr. Jackson if not more so than it was at the time of the interview. Smaller wages were certainly earned and clothes and other necessities were much dearer in comparison but there were very few distractions or amusements to "snapple" away their money.

## SOME SHOPS

The only shops in Mr. Jackson's childhood days were two or three small grocers shops one of which was kept by his brother who was blind. Shoesmiths druggist shop stood opposite the church and there was a drapery shop in Castle Yard run by Betty Ickringill.

The religious sects in the village consisted of catholics who worshipped at Middleton Lodge, the church people and a few "Methodists and Ranters." The church people were for the most part the yeomen and farmers of the district. The Wesleyans and the Primitives were poor in purse but independent and sturdy in character.

Mr. Jackson was born on 10 September, 1825 in a thatched cottage which stood on the site of Messrs. Tipping and Lee's premises at the present day. For the first 30 years of his life the brook was open in the main street and ducks and geese swam around and wandered about it. Ikley, he said, was famed for oaten cakes and this was just the sort of stuff to impart stamina to a young lad's frame.

## WOOLCOMBING

His father had come to Ikley as an infant and died at the age of 13 and so "Donkey" Jackson heard at first hand a good deal of the events of Ikley before his birth and with his own knowledge

covered over 100 years. His father, at one time the church sexton, was engaged in the woolcombing industry in his early days but later carried on the business of a hand loom weaver. Woolcombing in those days said Mr. Jackson was one of the staple trades of the town and all the residents in Castle Yard were thus employed.

"Donkey" Jackson as soon as he was able to work was put to this trade and for many years did nothing else. He had attended the old Grammar School on Skipton Road for this was the only seat of learning apart from two "dame" schools. Boys and girls were taught together and the festivals of the church were then most rigorously kept and the scholars marched to church both weekdays and Sundays. An interesting point made by Mr. Jackson was that the entrance to the churchyard at that time was by some steps where the wine and spirits store is now.

One of the teachers at the Grammar School was John Robinson and he kept a night school at the old Vicarage in Church Street and Mr. Jackson attended this for a time. Poor Mr. Robinson suffered from a critical deformity known as "knock knees" and apparently he was mercilessly tormented by the children of his time who christened him "knocking Johnny" and it was by this name that the village invariably referred to him.

Mr. Jackson could remember the two corn mills and when he was a lad the cotton mill existed where the Wells House stables were later built. The principal residents were the Bollings who lived at Sedbergh which was to provide the site for the municipal buildings.

## FOR 38 YEARS

Mr. Jackson lived in the old donkey house for 38 years and succeeded in this trade a man called William Rigg who was the previous occupier. When he gave up woolcombing he bought a mule and carriage and for 20 years ran this for hire. Coaches were run regularly from Leeds and Bradford but beyond the horses used for these only donkeys and mules were employed in Ikley.

When he and his wife were first married they lived in a cottage facing the Listers' Arms. He said that a large tree opposite the Listers' Arms which became a noted landmark was planted by his wife when they lived in the cottage.



### SWASTIKA STONE

On the suggestion of Mr. A. Sheldon, Victory Road, Ikley, the Clerk to Ikley Council, is to enquire if the Ministry of Works will place the swastika stone above Heber's Ghyll, and the cup and ring marked rocks opposite St. Margaret's Church under its protection. 5-2-60

### MANOR HOUSE TENDER INCREASED AMOUNT

The tender of O'Brien and Richmond, Ltd., Cambridge Street, Otley, at £7,919 18s 1d. has been accepted by Ikley Council for the restoration, alteration and improvement of the Old Manor House, Ikley.

On an estimate of £7,500 the Minister of Works in January 1958, had indicated that he was willing to make a grant of £3,250 or the total cost of the repairs as distinct from new work whichever was less.

The Council in submitting the tender to the Ministry of Works is to apply also for an increase in the amount of grant to a sum equal to the total cost of repairs to this building estimated at £3,877. 12-2-60

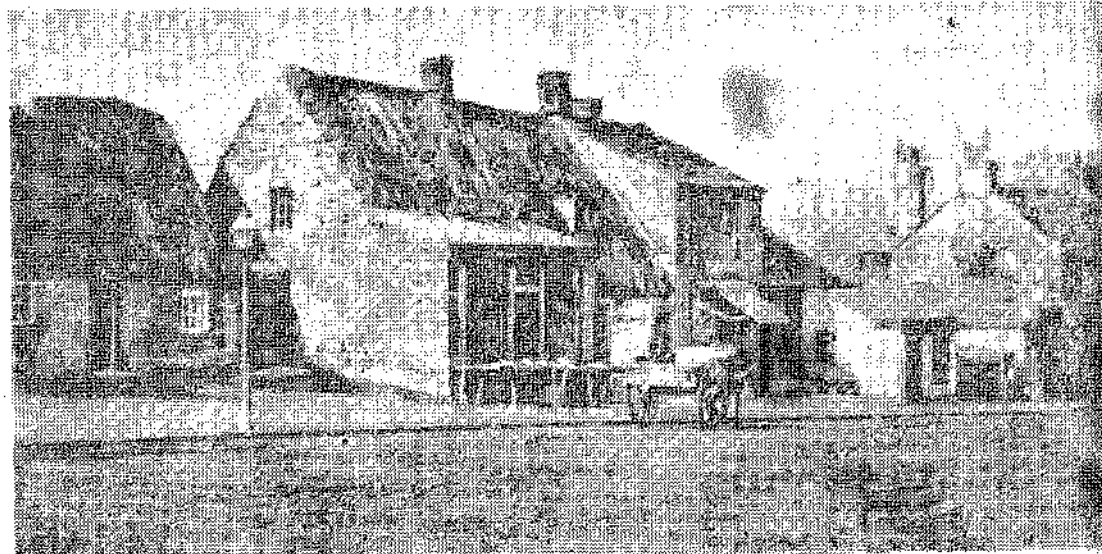
### IN DAYS GONE BY 75 Years Ago

Mr. William Joseph Middleton (70), of Middleton Lodge, Lord of the Manor of Ikley, died at his home on February 26. Mr. William Middleton succeeded to the Middleton and Stockheld estate in 1866 on the death of his father, Mr. Peter Middleton. Mr. William Middleton had been at the Lodge for nearly 20 years. The "Gazette" said "he took a deep interest in all matters affecting the advancement of Ikley and the district, as those who came into close contact with him can abundantly testify. In proof of this we need only refer to the fact that he deeply regretted and felt keenly the strained relationship which threatened to continue between a certain section of the ratepayers and freeholders and himself with regard to the moor question, and to bring about an arrangement which should be suitable to all parties he communicated with the Local Board in October last intimating that it was furthest from his desire to needlessly damage the scenery about Ikley, and offering to sell certain rights to the town. This was accompanied by another letter, in which failing the acceptance of the terms of the first, Mr. Middleton offered to make certain concessions "for the sake of leaving at peace and harmony with the people of Ikley". 26-2-60

## Further Reminiscences of Ikley Over 100 Years Ago by Donkey Jackson

8-1-60

Some of the old dwellings in Ikley were referred to by Mr. (Donkey) Jackson in the interview with him early in the century and reported in the "Gazette" at that time. This second article follows the one in last week's issue and contains further extracts from the original articles. The picture shows the left hand side of Brook Street looking down towards the church about 100 years ago.



In Wells Road near to where the Vicarage stood (close to the Royal Hotel) there was a gate across the road to prevent sheep from wandering off the moor into the village and Mr. Jackson's blind brother, Tom, for years stood at this gate and opened it for visitors and others passing up and down. They generally acknowledged the service by a gift of a copper or two.

The flour mill was occupied by Robert Lister who lived in a thatched house at the top of Brook Street and the first post office was situated at Green Lane Cottage which was more often known at that time for some reason as Thinking Lane. This cottage was last occupied by Mr. Thomas Richardson, shoemaker, and it occupied the site of Timothy Whites and Taylors.

On the site of Gothic House — now Messrs. Motts and originally built by John Shuttleworth, founder of the Ikley Gazette — stood a quaint old house occupied by a man named Henry Roundell and subsequently by Billy Hawksworth.

#### Garden Raids

Near to the Rose and Crown lived an influential resident John Margerison, who had one of the best kept gardens in the area. Frequently during the summer, visits to it were paid by the lads of the village and his fruit and gooseberries in particular in consequence disappeared. Mr. Jackson said that Margerison was anything but a spendthrift and as an instance of the way in which he looked after his money said he was often to be seen half dressed running after the Friday morning butter carts on their way to Otley market with the object of saving the shopkeeper's penny profit.

Job Senior, the famous hermit of Burley Woodhead, had a brother, John, who lived at Box Tree Cottage, between Bridge Lane and Alexander Crescent opposite the Listers' Arms was

the White House Farm occupied by John Vickers, and Low House in Bridge Lane was occupied by Joseph Beanlands a farmer in a large way of business.

#### Limestones

As a boy he was employed gathering limestone from the bed of the river for burning purposes for fourpence a day and had gathered many hundreds of basketfuls. There were lime kilns on the Holmes and one on Nesfield Road. The outstanding week in the year was undoubtedly least week in September. There were various attractions but the chief of these consisted of the foot races. The course, said Mr. Jackson was generally to the top of Brook Street and back, or to the Grammar School and back. On one feast Sunday he counted 190 gigs and traps behind the Wheatsheaf Hotel alone.

Mr. Jackson also had some reminiscences of elections in his younger days which probably appall Returning Officers today.

He is quoted as saying "there are no elections like them nowadays, votes them days were worth summit I can tell yer, treating voting one side spent £9 less than an hour to my knowledge."

The village in the middle of the 19th century had an instrument band of some renown and closely connected with it was the Beanlands family.

#### A Fine Man

Richard Beanlands in Mr. Jackson's estimation was by far the finest man of his day in the village. "He stood two yard heigh and wor as grand a fellow as yer iver set ces on. He wor chock ful o' music and composed lots of pieces 'band and was also reckoned a famous bass singer."

In his boyhood the stocks in Brook Street were intact but he never remembered them being put to use and he could not remember the stocks that stood

at the corner of Skipton Road and Bridge Lane of which his father used frequently to speak.

The erection of Wells House, he said, had a diminishing effect upon the water flowing into the wells at White Wells. He remembered the days of the stagecoach well and said at one time the fare to Leeds or Bradford was 4/- inside and 2/6 outside but afterwards as competition became keener the prices got as low as 1/- and 1/6d.

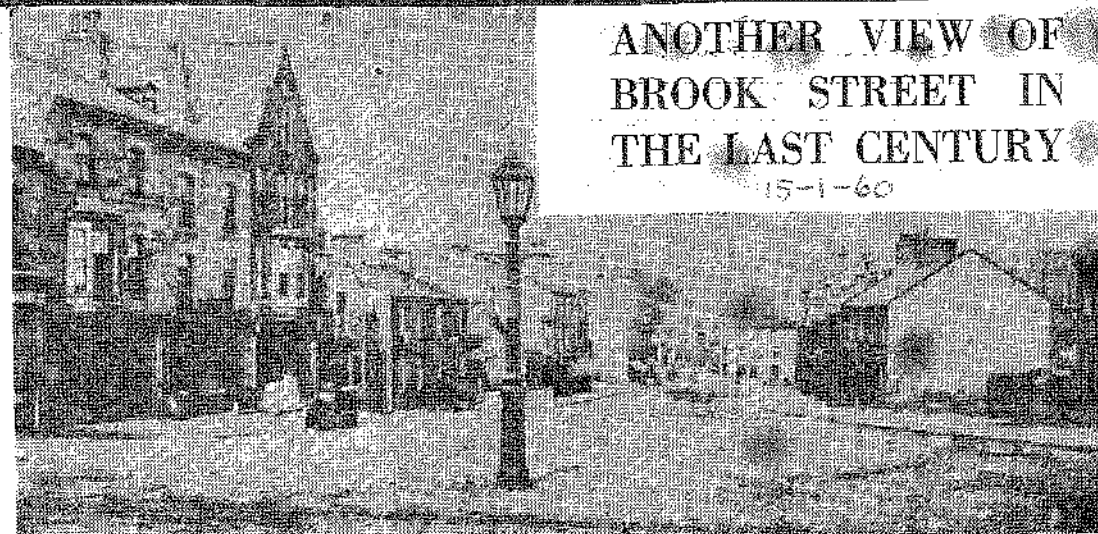
Two events which excited him as much as anything concerned a burglary at Low Ausby Farm and a murder near the old lime kiln on the Nesfield Road. The burglary was carried out by a gang from London said Mr. Jackson who made sure of no opposition from the inmates of the farm by entering their bedrooms and standing over them with loaded guns as they sought information about valuables. They made an exceedingly good haul but sometime afterwards in endeavouring to dispose of a portion of the goods several of the gang were arrested in London and eventually transported for life.

#### Murder

The murder was that of a farmer named Hustwick who lived at Beansley and two brothers named Hey who lived in the same locality were suspected of being responsible. John Hey who was seen with Hustwick in Bridge Lane was actually charged and tried at York but the evidence against him was not sufficient to secure a conviction. It was a moonlight night and two game watchers a quarter of a mile from the point where the body was discovered said to have heard the blows as the poor man was beaten to death.

### ANOTHER VIEW OF BROOK STREET IN THE LAST CENTURY

15-1-60



The reference in the article in our last issue to the inns at the bottom of Brook Street has led to some enquiries and this picture of Brook Street in 1871—ten years later than illustrated last week—shows the Old Star as the light coloured building right centre. The Old Wharfedale Inn was alongside it between the Star and what is now Fox's shop. These two inns were pulled down about 1905. Just on the left of the lamp post, the smaller building with the vehicle outside is the old "Station" Hotel which was pulled down in 1885. The Bradford Old Bank, to be succeeded by Barclays

### 50 Years Ago

A discussion among a number of men residing at one of the Ikley Hydros, took place 50 years ago respecting the weight of the Calf Rock. The weight was variously estimated at 15, 50, 100, 200, 500, 1,000 and 3,000 tons. The 3,000 tons estimated was regarded as extravagant, but calculating there was as much rock underneath as appears on the surface, it turned out to be a remarkably good calculation. By measurement it was found that allowing for dips and inequalities the weight of the rock above ground was about 1,500 tons.

19-2-60



# FAMILY TREASURES IN YORKSHIRE HOMES

15-1-1960

## Author Speaks to Museum Society

At the January meeting of the Olicana Museum Society, held in the Committee Room of Ilkley Town Hall on Thursday of last week, the speaker was Mr. G. Bernard Wood (author of 'Historic Homes of Yorkshire') who spoke on 'Family Treasures.' Miss E. M. Fletcher, President of the Society, was in the chair.

Family treasures, said Mr. Wood, are often of no intrinsic value but are of some historical interest. He said of his visits to over 100 old homes in Yorkshire that owners were always most co-operative and allowed him to see and photograph many objects the existence of which was not generally known. Treasures could be broadly divided into three types: Documents, Pictures and Miscellaneous Items.

Among interesting documents he had seen were a very graphic eyewitness account of the Great Fire of London in 1666—at Hawks-worth Hall; an interesting Begging Licence of the 16th Century—at Newburgh Priory near Coxwold; and a letter written by Bonnie Prince Charlie—Brough Hall, near Catterick.

The most varied and interesting field however was among the miscellaneous items. At Low Hall, Yeadon, he had seen a crucifix and an altar-cloth once belonging to Mary Queen of Scots, and then owned by Mrs. Marshall Barwick, who had since left the Hall. The Stuart period was a very fascinating one, and Mr. Wood had found many other treasures of this period.

### Escape Plan

For instance, at Everingham Hall, near Market Weighton (now an hotel) he had examined an account written after one of the early 17th century Jacobite rebellions by Lady Nidsdale, which told how she had plotted her husband's escape from the Tower of London following his imprisonment.

This very graphic story was closely written for twenty pages and was most clearly penned. Also at this hall was a collapsible miniature lantern with the original spiral candle which had been used by King Louis XVI of France during his imprisonment in 1793. Newburgh Priory was of great interest on account of its association with Oliver Cromwell. Cromwell's third daughter, Mary, married Lord Fauconberg, whose collateral descendants still live at the hall, but are called Wombwell.

At the Restoration in 1660, when it was announced that Cromwell's body would be dug up and publicly hanged at London, his daughter hired a workman to substitute

another body for that of Cromwell, and had her father's remains brought to Yorkshire where a tomb had been prepared in a room at Newburgh ready to receive the body. This room, known as the Cromwell Room, was open to visitors only once or twice a year, and it had a most eerie and spine-chilling atmosphere. In addition there were two ghosts at Newburgh Priory, the "White Lady" and an evil-faced man in Georgian dress.

### Cromwell's Head

Cromwell's head, said Mr. Wood, had been missing from the body for 300 years. It had been in the possession of a Canon Wilkins, but since his death about a year ago it had vanished, and in spite of private inquiries by Mr. Wood, it has not been heard of since.

Mr. Wood then told of his visit to Aske Hall, near Richmond, the home of the aged 2nd Marquess of Zetland. His interview with the Marquess had been most difficult on account of his lordship's deafness and faulty hearing-aid, but the room in which the interview was held was a treasure house of Indian relics collected by Lord Zetland during his long service there. There were also some interesting and beautifully worked Tibetan prayer-wheels which he had photographed.

At Temple Sowerby Manor, the home of Dorothy Una Ratcliffe, near Penrith, there was a large collection of fans, including church fans containing Biblical scenes (some very lurid) and Spanish fans which the ladies would hold in different ways to convey certain messages to their gentlemen friends.

### Different Wood

At Hemsike near Littlebeck, about six miles inland from Whitby, the Hall is built with 38 different kinds of wood which was collected by one John Allen, a merchant seaman who flourished in the eighteen eighties.

The different kinds of wood are placed to advantage in the interior of the house—a door here, a window-sill there, some of them giving off characteristic perfumes. There is also a fantastic fireplace made from an Indian Rajah's four-poster bed, and the genuine wooden name plate from the wrecked ship "Hesperus" made famous by the poem. In spite of this poem, there is a strong belief in Northumberland (also held by the present owner of Hemsike) that the "Hesperus" was in fact wrecked off the Farne Islands.

Mr. Wood was thanked for a most absorbing talk by the secretary, Mr. D. Glover, and it was announced that the next meeting would be on Thursday, 4 February, when the speaker would be Mr. G. F. Willmot, keeper of the Yorkshire Museum, York, who would speak on "Roman York."

## THE OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY

will meet next THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4th, at 7.30 p.m.,

in the Committee Room of Ilkley Town Hall, to hear a

TALK on: "ROMAN YORK" by Mr. G. F. Willmot

(Keeper of the Yorkshire Museum, York). Visitors welcome

## OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY HEARS NATURALIST

### "WILD LIFE ON THE MOORS"

The noted naturalist and broadcaster, Mr. Walter Flesher, of Burley, was the speaker at the March meeting of the Olicana Museum Society, held at the Town Hall, Ilkley, on Thursday of last week. The president, Miss E. M. Fletcher was in the chair.

After the secretary had read the minutes of the February meeting at which Miss Fletcher had spoken on "Men and Women of Wharfedale," Mr. Flesher remarked on a reference to the famous Burley poet, Sir William Watson. He said that some years ago there was a road in Burley named after the poet (at which many members expressed surprise), but during the development of a housing scheme this road was re-named after a prominent local councillor of the day. It was ironical that this same councillor was defeated at the polls some time later and had never represented Burley since. Such, Mr. Flesher commented, was fame. However, the meeting was reminded that a tablet was placed on the wall of the Queen's Hall at Burley.

stare, and hoped that Mr. Flesher's talk would encourage them to notice more of the wild life around them.

The secretary announced that the next meeting would be on Thursey, 31 March, when Mr. Michael Walker would speak on "The Irish Origin of the Cup and Ring Marked Rocks of Galicia."

### 40 SPECIES

Mr. Flesher then spoke on "Wild Life on the Moors," and said it never ceased to amaze him that many people thought the moors were inhabited only by a few grouse and one or two other birds, whereas he had at various times counted over 40 different species, his favourite being the Curlew. Among the migrant birds, the first to come and the last to go was the Wheatear, and Mr. Flesher told how on one occasion after he had seen a Wheatear very late in the year, he met a friend who was more at home watching a football match than wild life. "Jim," he said, "I've just seen a Wheatear." "A what," asked his friend. "A Wheatear—it's a migrant bird." "Er—dost'a mean the can eat it?" asked Jim. Mr. Flesher felt very strongly that there was too much man-made entertainment today.

Of the mammals on the moors, the population of Stoats and Weasels remained constant in spite of the gamekeeper's efforts, and no less than eleven foxes were caught during January and February in the Burley Woodhead area—five of them in three days. Rabbits were not increasing due to the recurrence of myxomatosis, but Hares were spreading rapidly.

### PLANTS

Among the plants, two were insectivorous, the Sundew and the Butterwort, and there were many varieties of grasses and rushes, and of course the Cranberry and Bilberry, and the once-famous heather which had now almost entirely vanished due to over-grazing and non-drainage of the moor.

In the insect world, there were many moths and butterflies, and spiders by the million, also ladybirds, dragonflies, bees and beetles. In the ponds there were frogs, toads, water-beetles, newts and small fish. Grass snakes were increasing, a few adders could be found, and some lizards.

Mr. Flesher also had some amusing tales to tell of his experiences with the B.B.C., and the "Wandering with Nomad" programmes on Children's Hour with "Auntie Muriel and Auntie Doris."

He presented a box of small hints to the Society. Thanks were expressed by Mrs. Anne Barker, who said that many people today were in too much hurry with no time to stand and

## MANOR HOUSE REPAIRS MINISTRY'S VIEW

Further to Ilkley Council's application for an increase in the amount of grant to a sum equal to the total cost of repairs to the Manor House in Castle Yard, the Ministry of Works has intimated that on the figure quoted, £3,817, there would appear to be no new facts on which the Historic Buildings Council could be asked to consider an increased grant.

Should, however, the cost of repairs exceed £4,000 then a further submission could be made to the Historic Buildings Council for an increased grant.

The Ministry has agreed the tender of O'Brien and Richmond Ltd., Carabridge Street, Otley, for the restoration, alteration and improvement of the Manor House at an amount of £7,919 16s. 4d.



# Swastika was at first a symbol of good

WHEN so much awareness and condemnation of the swastika is rife, it might be of interest to consider the origin of this sign.

That Britain possesses an original carving, and that it is in this locality, may be a surprise to many.

On Ilkley Moor, on Woodhouse Crag, to the south of the Panorama Rocks and the south-west of Heber's Ghyll top, there is a large boulder of millstone grit — the local stone — which measures 19 ft. long by 7 ft. broad. On the side facing Ilkley there are two rock basins 1 ft. 3 in. across and on the other is carved a swastika or fylfot.

This is one of the "cup and ring" stones of the Bronze Age people, who dwelt on this moorland ridge between 1,600 and 1,500 years before Christ. These rocks with their curious carvings are as fine a collection as any in the British Isles.

## Worship of the sun

What the signs represent is still a matter of conjecture. Many theories have been expounded, but study of them by archaeologists and comparison with those of other countries has led to the conclusion that they were used as symbols in the worship of the sun.

There is a railing around this stone for its preservation, and the tablet hanging on it tells us there is another at Tossene in Sweden, and one at Mycenae, in Greece. That at Tossene is situated north of Gothenburg, and there is a drawing of it in "Skandinaviens Hallristningar," which shows that it is almost identical with ours.

But no knowledge of a similar

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

By

**ELSIE M. FLETCHER,**  
Honorary Curator,  
Olicana Museum,  
Ilkley

stone carving in Mycenae comparable to that at Ilkley can I find. Dr. Schliemann, who was responsible for the excavation of Troy and Mycenae, reports on many metal objects at Mycenae bearing the Swastika sign.

## Carved on graves

Mr. E. T. Cowling, an expert on these matters, who has written "Rombalds Way," tells me they were carved on the entrances to the shaft graves there.

About 1896 Dr. Romilly Allen, an antiquary who wrote a history of Rombalds Moor, states of the swastika that "it bears a great resemblance to the swastika carved on the Buddha. It is also used by the Chinese for the numeral 10,000, called in Chinese 'wan,' and on account of its highly ornamental character formed the element from which many of their decorative patterns were derived."

The well-known Greek designs were also formed from this motif, and also the spiral and whorls from the distinctive Mycenaean four-armed swastika and the three-armed fylfot, for they easily lend themselves to elaboration.

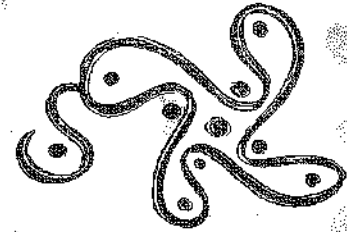
## Hammer of Thor

The Swedes attributed it to the hammer of Thor—a sign of thunder and lightning. The letter was often the cause of fire, which in its turn has the sun for origin.

We may, therefore, conclude that the sign was formerly a symbol of good, goodwill, or well-wishing, originating in the East and arriving in Mycenae and district during the Bronze Age, somewhere between 1800 and

1600 years before Christ, though it might have taken anything up to another thousand years to reach this country.

Possibly it was brought by one of the three streams of people

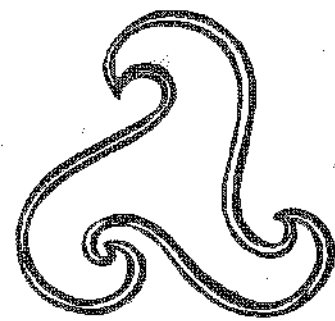


The four-armed swastika or fylfot.

who carried this culture to the West.

## Museum replicas

One came by way of Scandinavia, and it might be they who, travelling over these hills on the way to Ireland, left us this relic of their art. Another carving



The three-armed swastika or fylfot.

with three arms is found in the Isle of Man, and now we learn that they have also been found in North America.

As the swastika stone at Ilkley is inaccessible to many people the Olicana Museum Society and the Bradford Archaeological Group made two replicas of it. One may now be seen at the Cartwright Memorial Hall, Bradford, and the other in the Olicana Museum, which is above the library and Town Hall at Ilkley.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY END WINTER SERIES

### Given Talk on Cup and Ring Marked Rocks 8-4-60

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 200 and 1,000 feet, the largest being situated at Hangingstone. One of the most interesting rocks was this 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 1600 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.

## Library and Museum

Present: Councillors Hill (Chairman), Atkinson, Hampshire, Jarvis, Moss, Priestley, Sarjeant and Smith.

The Clerk reported that on the 25 March, last a case of exhibits in the Ilkley Museum was forcibly opened, and some coins and medals removed, and stated that the police were making enquiries into this matter, and a further report would be submitted in due course.

## COINS TAKEN FROM MUSEUM CASES 8-4-1960

Some of the coins missing when it was found that cases in the Ilkley Museum had been broken into have now been returned but the secretary of the Olicana Museum Society, Mr. A. David Glover reports that other coins, and a bayonet dating from the Crimean War, are still missing.

"The greater part of the coins and medals have now been returned, but coins to the value of approximately £1 17s. are still missing, including a set of Royal Maundy Money (silver 4d., 3d., 2d. and 1d.) dated 1869, and several coins of Jersey, Guernsey, and the Irish Republic," says Mr. Glover.

## MAUNDY MONEY

"The Maundy Money was presented a few years ago by Mr. A. E. Bagnall, of Shipley, a noted numismatist who recently had a medal struck to mark his 80th birthday. Among the medals recovered is one presented by Councillor W. Hill valued at £2."

"It is fortunate that the more valuable coins, which were displayed in a large case adjoining the one broken into, were removed for safe keeping about two months ago, after several unsuccessful attempts had been made to force open the lid. The padlock has been broken off twice, and the theft on this occasion appears to me to have followed the same pattern as the previous attempts," he said.

"The Council have now provided new padlocks, but as these are smaller and not as strong as the old ones, I do not feel inclined to replace the coins."

"Also missing is a bayonet dating from the Crimean War."

"Telegraph & Argus" Mon. 11-4-60

## Coins go in Ilkley museum raid

A SET of Royal Maundy money dated 1869, several coins of Jersey, Guernsey and the Irish Republic and a bayonet dating from the Crimea War are missing from Ilkley Public Museum after a raid on show cases.

Other coins have been returned, says Mr. A. David Glover, hon. secretary of the Olicana Museum Society.

He comments: "It is fortunate that the more valuable coins, which were displayed in a large case alongside the one broken into, were removed for safe keeping about two months ago after several unsuccessful attempts had been made to force open the lid."

"The padlock has been broken off twice."

The recent theft appeared to have followed the pattern of previous attempts.

"Yorkshire Evening Post" 11-4-1960

## Museum Maundy Money of 1869 missing at Ilkley

A SET of Maundy money dated 1869, several coins of Jersey, Guernsey and the Irish Republic, and a bayonet dating from Crimean War are missing from Ilkley Public Museum after showcases had been broken into.

Other coins have been returned says Mr. A. Davies Glover, hon. secretary of the Olicana Museum Society.

Mr. Glover comments: "It is fortunate that the more valuable coins which were displayed in a large case alongside the one broken into were removed for safe keeping about two months ago after several unsuccessful attempts had been made to force open the lid."



## BOY STOLE COINS AND MEDALS FROM MUSEUM SHOWCASE

A 12-YEAR-OLD schoolboy was placed on probation for two years at Otley Juvenile Court on Tuesday, when he was found guilty of stealing coins and medals—including a set of Royal Maundy money—from the Olicana Museum, at Ilkley Town Hall. An order was made for 15s. 9d. costs.

The boy had denied taking some of the items listed on the summons, and a not guilty plea was entered. In addition to the Maundy Money, which was in a leather bag, it was alleged he took nine Guernsey coins, eight fine coins, a South African medal, a Natal medal, a Merchant Marine service medal, a General Service medal, a "Lusitania" commemorative medallion, and a 1939-45 star, together valued at £9 4s. 8d.

### Glass-topped Case

Inspector Cartwright said the coins and medals were taken from a glass-topped showcase in the museum, on the first floor of the Town Hall, above the public library.

Mrs. Doris Whitaker, Maria Street, Burley, a cleaner at the library, said the case was all right on Friday, March 25, and was broken into on the following day.

Miss Audrey Sykes, Clifton Road, Ben Rhydding, assistant librarian, said between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. on March 25, she went to the museum. A showcase was open and the lock broken. There was a bayonet in the case and there were labels for coins that were not there.

On March 31, she said, three boys went to the library and asked to "see the manager." They told her they had found some old coins, which they gave to her.

Anthony David Glover, Cowpasture Road, Ilkley, said as a hobby he was secretary of the Olicana Museum Society. He said in the case that had been broken into were several coins, and some pottery and glass. He said coins value £1 19s. 2d. had been returned.

Replying to the boy's father, he said attempts had been made to force the case open previously. On one occasion a padlock had been smashed off.

### "Case was Open"

P.C. Fletcher said he received a complaint on April 1, and went to the museum to inquire about it. After making inquiries, he and Sgt. Sleight interviewed this boy on April 5. The boy then said "The case was open. I took some medals and coins and hid them in a grate near the Bluebird Cafe." He also said that another boy had taken them back.

When he was told that all the coins had not been recovered, he said two others were hidden under a bush near the institute in Leeds Road. These were recovered. The boy denied having any more.

Witness said that inquiries were made among schoolboys in Ilkley and several were interviewed to try to recover the remainder of the coins, without result. The boy told the police he had been on his own when the coins were taken.

Evidence was given by three schoolboys, who said that the defendant had shown them where the coins were hidden. One boy said he got some of the coins by swapping them for a "chalk Santa Claus." The boys said that they took the coins back to the museum. One of them denied he had done this with the hope of getting a reward.

### "Tempted"

The defendant told the court that one of the other boys was with him when they found the museum showcase was open. They were tempted to take the coins, and hid them in the wall near the cafe.

The boy's father said he understood the two boys had agreed not to "split" on each other, which was why his boy had told the police he had been on his own.

The father suggested that there

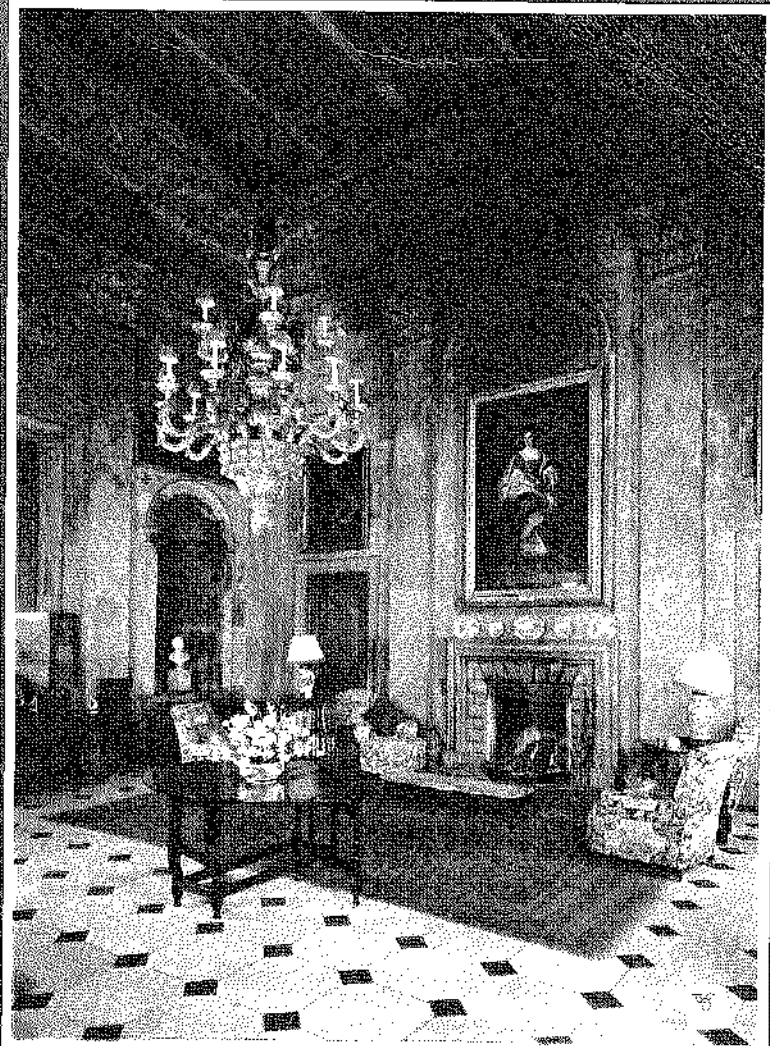
might be some explanation in that his boy had been very upset about the death of a dog to which he had been very attached.

## MANOR HOUSE

Carefully the work of restoring the Manor House to its original appearance is now being carried out. Paint and plaster which has been applied to the ancient stonework over the years is being removed to reveal workmanship of hundreds of years ago. One of the first tasks has been to push back and repair a huge oak beam which had cracked and slipped from its proper position. The removal of partitions has given some idea of the size of the interior as it would have been, when the Manor Court was held there, and there are one or two mysteries to unfold as yet following a discovery that one chimney breast does not seem to be all that it should be, and one doorway would appear to have led to nowhere at all. The architect engaged on the work confirms the view expressed some years ago that parts of the building date from the 13th and 14th century, one of the doorways providing evidence of this. The building is an excellent example, he says, of the type of manor house which existed in many communities and with the church would have an important part in its life.

## UNCOVERED

Carefully the work of exposing the inner fabric of the Manor House in Castle Yard continues. The latest discovery follows the removal of a dividing wall to the right of the entrance. This wall had covered most of the original beams. The underside of the beam reveals where a timber partition had been pegged to it. This is to be restored. As the work progresses the picture of the original building is becoming clearer. On the east side a window which had been filled in is being restored again and whilst rubble was being removed one of the original mullions was found amongst it. This will be returned to its original position. The old, huge fireplace is also emerging from the covering which in later years had been added to it, and soon the removal of a central dividing wall will restore the main room to the size it was designed to be. Progress is naturally slow because plaster covering the walls has to be picked away carefully in case there is something of significance hidden underneath. So far nothing in the form of a date, initials or carving has been revealed, but the architect who pays regular visits from London, re-affirmed yesterday on his visit that a part of the building goes back to at least the early 13th century. So the work of restoring the interior goes on, and when the workmen have, left for the night the window-breaking is resumed. Strange how every window in this building has been attacked regularly in recent months, and yet nobody ever appears to see the vandals on the job.



## MUSEUM SOCIETY VISITS BRAMHAM PARK

### FIRST OF SUMMER EXCURSIONS

The Olicana Museum Society held the first of its Summer Excursions last Saturday, when a party of thirty members and friends visited Bramham Park, near Boston Spa, the home of Col. and the Hon. Mrs. Lane Fox.

The house was built by Robert Benson, first Lord Bingley, about 1700, and contains many beautiful and valuable treasures, but many of its original features were destroyed by a disastrous fire in 1828 while the owners were absent. The house was completely gutted except for the dining room and a few rooms at the south end, in spite of the efforts of the local worthies assisted (rather late) by a fire brigade from Leeds with their horse-drawn engines, summoned by a galloping messenger! After this fire, the house stood a shell for nearly eighty years, except that a temporary roof was built over the central hall to preserve the excellent stone mouldings—carvings which are very reminiscent of Castle Howard.

### RESTORED

In Edwardian times the house was restored to use, and the sombre magnificence of the full-length panelling in the dining-room is typical of the period. Among the many portraits on show are works by Kneller, Reynolds, Beechey, Hoppner and Mercier. An excellent portrait of Queen Anne, who stayed at Bramham, hangs in the Hall, and was presented to the then owner by the Queen herself. Members of the party were able to ask Mrs. Lane Fox (busy with some interesting needlework by her bedroom door) about many items which interested them.

Externally, the house is a very pleasing early Georgian design, but perhaps the more elegant unit is the stable block designed by James Paine, which runs at right angles to the house. Many visitors can easily miss noticing this closely, due to its own rather neglected appearance and due to the house itself claiming one's attention, but the design certainly merits closer inspection. Paine also designed the Chapel in the grounds, which is still used for worship.

### GREAT GLORY

The great glory of Bramham Park, however, is the truly magnificent landscape garden, which was laid out when the house was built and has been maintained almost unaltered to this day. No major landscape garden of Queen Anne's time has been so completely pre-

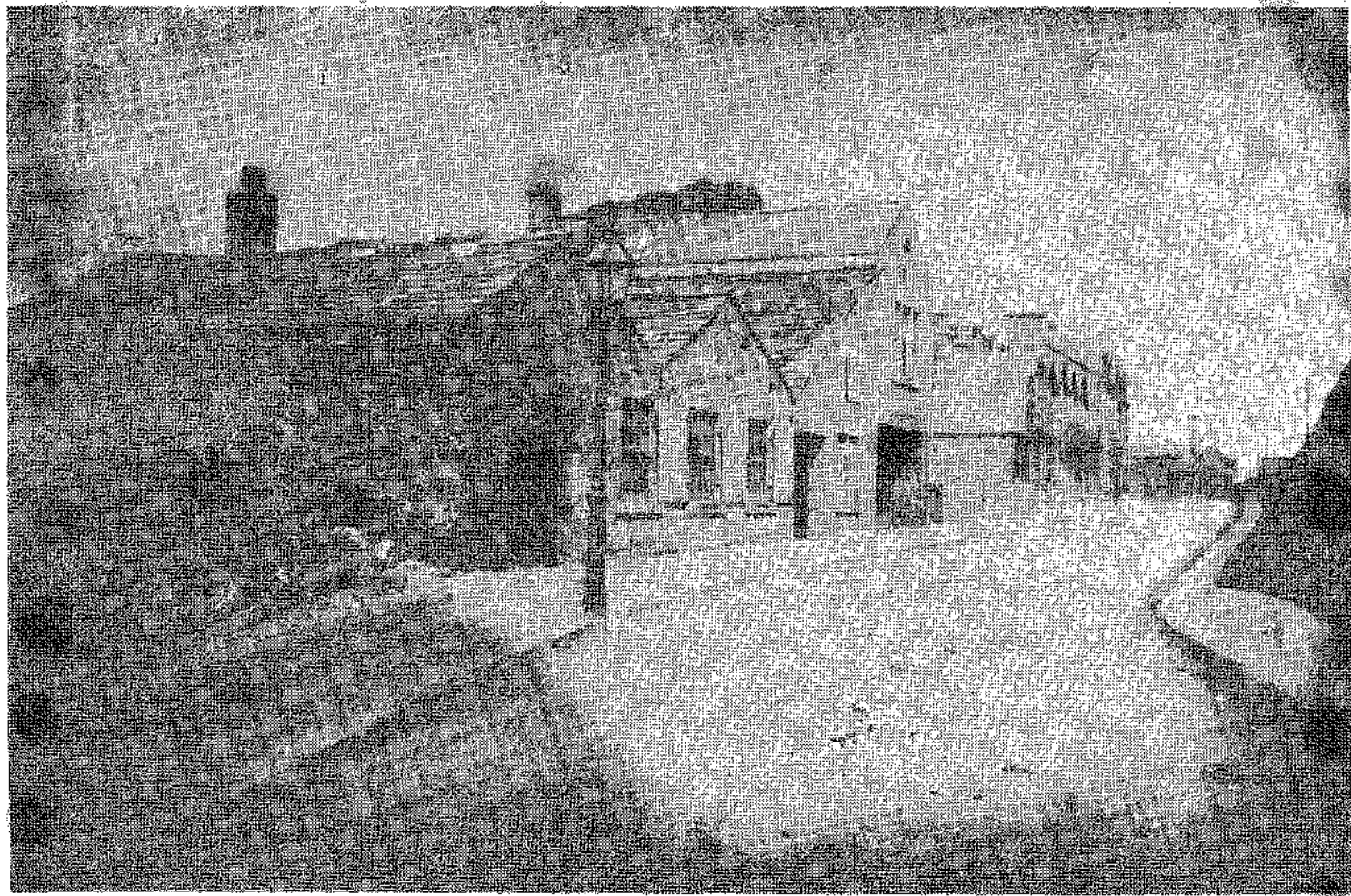
served, and there is found in astonishing perfection a layout of some seventy acres with its parterre, broad walk, tall clipped hedges, its avenues, vistas and intersecting rides, its canal, ponds and cascades, all as they were originally set out 250 years ago, or but very slightly modified. Some visitors, it is said, express disappointment on visiting Bramham when they look in vain for the modern conception of a garden, for here we have grounds laid out in the Grand Manner. To walk along the avenues under towering beech trees of immense height is an unforgettable experience, and the distant obelisk or temple adds enchantment to an already wonderful vista.

At the present time, the garden ornaments are undergoing restoration by the Historic Buildings Council. The Open Temple and the Gothic Temple have already received attention, and the Obelisk Pond and Cascade are being improved by new stonework to replace the worn original.

After having tea at the house, members returned home after a most enjoyable visit perfected by brilliant sunshine.

Bramham Park is open to the public on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 2 to 6 p.m.





In our "Across the Years" feature recently reference was made to the changes in Railway Road to make way for the Skipton-Ikley railway. The picture shows the scene in Railway Road before the alterations came, including a row of houses pulled down and re-erected in Leeds Road. The picture was evidently taken from a point where the Number 4 platform now stands.

75 Years Ago

In relation to the route of the new Skipton-Ikley railway a "Gazette" of the time said the greatest interest was centred on the character of the works to be carried out at Ikley. It was intimated by the promoters that the line would proceed into the town in a line parallel with Addingham Road. The "Gazette" went on to state "In its natural course, therefore, the railway must cross Easby Drive, Westville Road, Yew Bank, Bolton Bridge Road, Cunliffe Road and Brook Street to a position on the north side of the platform which now forms the site of Railway Road. In order to accomplish this purpose, bridges will be thrown over Easby Drive and Westville Road. A viaduct will then begin and be continued to a bridge which will carry the railway over Brook Street. The viaduct in question will be 340 feet in length and of varying height, whilst the bridge over Brook Street cannot exceed 16ft. in height. Railway Road must also be diverted somewhat and the adjoining property in Brook Street will be interfered with. The gradients on the line on the whole are good, the steepest being that at the Skipton end, but even this will not exceed one in 100. No station alterations of any importance will be necessitated at either Skipton or Ikley."

CUP AND RING SWASTIKA STONES

A preliminary report from a Ministry of Works architect concerning the swastika stone, the cup and ring stones opposite St. Margaret's Church, and the Saxon Crosses in the Ikley Parish Church yard has been received by Ikley Council.

This gives advice on removing lichen, and suggests that the railings around the swastika stone be re-arranged to provide more effective protection against unauthorised entry. Hob-nail boots, says the report, were clearly noticeable on one of the stones at the time of the inspection.

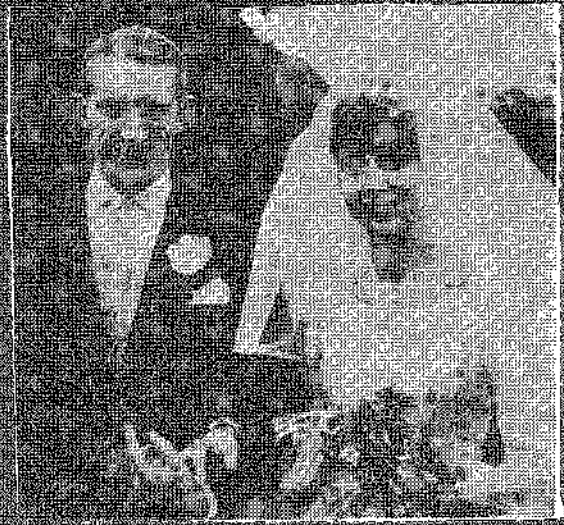
Re-pointing and pinning of the cup and ring stones is recommended but in respect of these and the swastika stone the report suggests nothing would be done except erecting a general canopy. To do so as a protection for the swastika stone would be attended by the following disadvantages: 1. an eyesore to the surrounding countryside, and skyline. 2. Poor light for visitors viewing the stones and 3. would be subject to vandalism.

MANOR HOUSE CONVERSION MAY TAKE A YEAR

The conversion of Manor House in Castle Yard could take at least 12 months, said Coun. W. Hill, replying to a question from Coun. Mrs. H. Hawkins at the monthly meeting of Ikley Council on Wednesday night.

It was difficult to give an estimate which would be at all accurate, said Mr. Hill, but he thought they could anticipate something in the nature of 12 months. It was difficult work and a lot of time involved would depend on the various items that were discovered as the work progressed. It might be that something would be found which would require consultation with the architect.

The minutes contained an item which stated that the Surveyor reported that it would be possible to remove some of the existing internal partition walls which were comparatively recent additions. The Surveyor and Architect considered that it would be preferable to remove these partition walls and to restore the one large room which had originally been provided.



OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY VISIT CASTLE HOWARD

Followed by Call at Wharram Percy 15-7-60

The Olicana Museum Society recently held the second of this season's excursions when a party of twenty nine members and friends visited Castle Howard and Wharram Percy.

Castle Howard, built to the designs of Sir John Vanbrugh and Nicholas Hawksmoor between 1700 and 1726, is an excellent example of the brief but dramatic English Baroque period, and although scarcely credible it is known for certain that Castle Howard was the first building of any kind which Vanbrugh designed. Vast and palatial, its outer grandeur is equally matched by its inner magnificence, and the impressive spaciousness of the Hall is unique.

A fire in 1940 destroyed the dome above the Hall, as well as many rooms along the south front, and although restoration work is under way it will be some time before the Castle is fully restored to its former glory.

At one end of the west wing is the chapel, containing excellently carved woodwork by local craftsmen and stained glass windows from designs by Burne-Jones. Teas were obtained at the Castle, then the party proceeded to the deserted village of Wharram Percy, seven miles south-east of Malton, close to the abandoned Malton-Driffield railway line.

DESERTED VILLAGE

This village, due to agricultural changes, was deserted in about 1600, and all except the church is now below ground level. Every summer a team of archaeologists led by Mr. Maurice Beresford of Ikley (Professor of Economic

History, Leeds University) covers selected portions of the site and Mr. Beresford kindly at the party round, indicating positions of houses and roads. The village church was used in the Annual Service as recently as 1950 but since then has been allowed to fall into decay and last year half the tower collapsed. July 29 marks the Tenth Anniversary of the Society's formation and all the founder-members are still in the Society.



19-5-60  
**ILKLEY MUSEUM SOCIETY**

**VISIT CLARKE HALL**

The Olicana Museum Society held the third of this season's excursions on Thursday of last week when a party of 31 members and friends visited Clarke Hall, Stanley, near Wakefield, the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Haldane. Mr. Haldane who is a kinsman of the late Lord Haldane and is over eighty years of age, took members on a most fascinating tour of his ancient house.

Clarke Hall was built in the mid fifteenth century on the site of an earlier house, and has since been but little altered. Mr. Haldane, himself a keen antiquarian, undertook the restoration of the interior earlier this century after it had suffered various "improvements" in Victorian times, and one can now see the original stone Tudor fireplaces and mullioned windows as they were when the house was built.

**PRIEST HOLE**

During the restoration work, a "Priest Hole" or secret room was discovered behind one of the fireplaces. These rooms were used as hiding places during times of religious trouble, and food was passed in by means of a secret hatch.

The furniture is in keeping with the great antiquity of the house, and Mr. Haldane has also an excellent collection of suits of armour and weapons of bygone days which was recently viewed by the Deputy Curator of the Tower of London collection, who declared it to be one of the best private collections in the country. The party also admired a Rockingham Tea Service of William IV's reign, perfect and complete in every detail, which Mr. Haldane said was until recently used at an annual family party.

**GARDEN**

The beautifully laid-out garden with its rose beds and rustic summerhouses was much admired, but not so the approaching spread of suburban Wakefield two fields away. Mr. Haldane was warmly thanked by the Society's President, Miss Elsie M. Fletcher, and this concluded a most successful visit. The excursion to Farnley Hall on 8 September has had to be cancelled, and members will be notified of an alternative outing.

The  
**OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY**

ILKLEY - YORKSHIRE

*SYLLABUS for the SEASON*  
 1960-61

**MUSEUM SOCIETY**

Mr. G. F. Willmot, the Curator of the Yorkshire Museum, York, gave a lecture on Thursday of last week, entitled "Roman York" illustrated with slides, to a large group of members of the Olicana Museum Society.

This evening meeting was held in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, the chair being taken by the President of the Society, Miss Elsie M. Fletcher.

Mr. Willmot, after first giving details of the Roman occupation in England, continued with fascinating facts relative to the Roman army and the building of the several fortresses now occasionally seen when old building and cellars were demolished in the city. The society felt honoured that one of the foremost York antiquaries had lectured to the society. A vote of thanks to the speaker was given by Cr. Mrs. J. Ellicott.

**OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY**  
**MAKES PROGRESS**

**INCREASED MEMBERSHIP AND IMPROVED FINANCES**  
**TENTH BIRTHDAY REACHED**

Another satisfactory year with a healthy increase in funds was reported at the annual meeting of the Olicana Museum Society in the Town Hall on Thursday of last week. Mr. A. David Glover did not seek re-election as Secretary, but continued as Treasurer and Vice-President. Mr. Robert T. Clough was appointed Secretary. It was announced that Honorary Life Membership had been conferred on Mr. W. Brian Dale.

The president, Miss Elsie Fletcher, was in the chair.

Mr. Glover stated that the membership figure had risen for the tenth successive year and the Society now had 191 members compared with 96 at the last annual meeting. During the past year 18 new members had been elected, nine had resigned and four had been removed from membership by the Committee for persistent non-payment of subscriptions.

The attendance at the last winter session of meetings had varied from 18 to 30, the talk by Professor Le Fatourel on Ilkley Parish Church having attracted the highest number. Summer outings had been to Bramham Park, Castle Howard and Clarke Hall.

Mr. Glover announcing the honour conferred on Mr. Brian Dale said he was a founder-member of the Society and a vice-president from 1956 to 1960.

**TENTH BIRTHDAY**

The Society this year had reached its tenth birthday, and the Secretary stated that during those ten years there had been 55 ordinary meetings, 32 excursions and 51 committee meetings. He thanked the "Ilkley Gazette" for the generous amount of space given to reports of the Society's functions, and to museum matters in general, and he also thanked Miss Fletcher for her valued co-operation and support during the past year. Mr. Glover said that he would not seek re-election as secretary due to other commitments.

Presenting the financial report, Mr. Glover said it had been another satisfactory year showing a healthy increase in funds. The subscriptions to 30 September amounted to £12 19s. 6d., and £4 18s. 9d. had been spent in postage, the duplicated circulars accounting for most of this. As it now costs 13s. 6d. every time circulars were despatched to members, the regular issue of these would cease and instead syllabus cards would be issued. The treasurer stated that the Society's funds had continued to grow every year but one since subscriptions were introduced in January 1953, and he gave figures illustrating the increases to £28 14s. 4d. this year. He thanked the Ilkley Council for their continued patronage of the Society.

Miss Fletcher thanked Mr. Glover for his reports.

**OFFICIALS**

Officers and Committee for the coming year were elected as follows.—President, Miss Elsie Fletcher;

vice-presidents, Mr. Peter B. Barker and Mr. A. David Glover; secretary, Mr. Robert T. Clough; excursion secretary, Miss Nellie Saunders; treasurer, Mr. A. David Glover, these forming the Committee together with Miss G. Cornwall-Jones, Mr. John M. Cox and Mr. W. Brian Dale.

The president welcomed Mr. Clough as secretary, and Mr. Clough suitably responded.

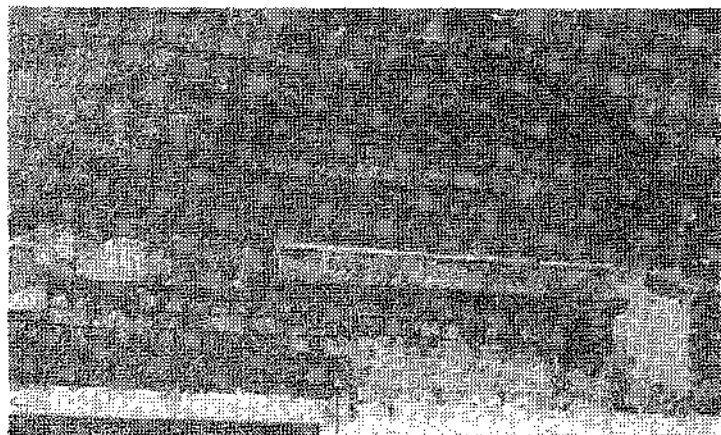
Following the business meeting, members were entertained with some excellent slides presented by Mr. H. W. Rhodes to illustrate a talk on the subject, "A photographer in search of beauty." In over half a century of photographic experience, Mr. Rhodes has travelled far, both over and under ground, and his beautiful hand coloured slides were much enjoyed. Views shown included Stokesay Castle, Bath; Hurstmonceaux Castle, Rye; Bradford-on-Avon with its unusual Chantry Chapel; Cambridge, and Stratford-on-Avon. Mr. Rhodes related many amusing incidents connected with his visits to places shown on the screen, and he was warmly thanked by Mr. John Cox.

Mr. A. C. M. Duncan operated the projector (loaned by Mr. J. C. Scott) and he was thanked by Miss Fletcher.

**SYLLABUS**

It was announced that the 1960-61 syllabus would be as follows.—3 November, "Roman York" by Mr. G. F. Willmot, Curator of the Yorkshire Museum, York; 1 December, "Folk Life" by Mr. C. M. Mitchell, of Leeds (slides); 5 January, "Pewter" by Mr. P. W. Holt, of Menston (slides); 2 February, "To Greece in search of a swastika" by Miss E. M. Fletcher; 2 March "Sicily" by Mr. John La Page of Baldon (slides); 13 April "Domestic Bygones" by Mr. J. Ogdon, Curator of Keighley Museum.

**PART OF FORMER CHAPEL**



Alterations to Glovers motor showrooms at the junction of Bolton Bridge Road and Skipton Road have revealed for the first time in 70 years the tympanum of the doorway of the original building, the first Wesleyan chapel in Ilkley. After the Wells Road church was built the building became the Ilkley Museum.

**MANOR HOUSE**  
**GROUND FLOOR**

One room or two on the ground floor of the Manor House? There is a difference of opinion on this question between the Ministry of Works architect and the architect retained by the Council and the Council's Surveyor.

Originally the ground floor, it is accepted by both sides, comprised two rooms and the Ministry of Works architect has expressed a preference for the dividing wall to be retained as being more in accordance with the original state of the building.

The Council's architect, Mr. John E. M. Macgregor, and the Council's Surveyor, Mr. D. J. D. Woodhall, consider it would be more useful in view of the proposed use of the building to have one large room.

The Council has authorised the Surveyor to inform the Ministry of Works that it would prefer one large room rather than two smaller rooms "having regard to the future use of the Manor House."



# GREAT HISTORIC VALUE OF MANOR HOUSE

EXPERT SPEAKS TO ILKLEY  
ROTARY CLUB 18-11-61

The old Manor House at Ilkley which is being converted to Ilkley's museum is one of few surviving examples of a period of the country's history when the feudal system held sway, and as such is of great historic value, said Mr. John E. M. Macgregor, of London, who is acting as consultant architect on behalf of Ilkley Council for the conversion, addressing Ilkley Rotary Club at its weekly luncheon in the Blue Bird Cafe on Tuesday.

Mr. Macgregor said the word "manor" to him always raised the thought of the Lord of the Manor and of the whole feudal system under which the country thrived until the 16th and 17th century. It was a system of realms within realms, starting with the King, and moving down through the Lords and the yeomen and the remainder of the population. They found each realm in its own particular way had buildings of great similarity in style and use. Whether it was a palace or a smaller building the same basic plan, with the central hall, the private quarters at one side and the servants' quarters at the other, could be traced. The hall was the central part to which everyone could go. Originally the hall was heated by a fire and the smoke went out through a hole in the roof. The building was usually of two storeys and sometimes of three, but at Ilkley they found an attic storey which was rather unusual. It was found that a fire open to the roof was filthy, dirty and unpleasant, and this led to chimneys being introduced.

## ILKLEY EXAMPLE

Eventually the hall was floored across and chimneys were introduced either at one end or the other. That obtained until the end of the feudal system when the central hall ceased to function and there was a complete reversal in planning. The Ilkley Manor House was a most interesting example of a period in which the form of living was so different from what it was today. In their own lifetime they had seen the disappearance of large houses with 20 or 40 servants needed to run them giving way to houses which could be run by two people.

Most of the houses of this manor house type were in the form of the letter "H" though there were differences in different parts of the country. In Dorset, for instance, they were found to be of a "T" shape.

Mr. Macgregor explained that through changes discernible in a particular building it was possible to show a sequence of history if they understood what the changes were about. The Manor House at Ilkley clearly had been materially changed in the 17th century.

Their first task at Ilkley had been to get the building structurally sound without as far as possible altering the outside. As they entered by the screens passage they found two stone arches dating from the 13th century and there were two doors there dating from the 13th century or early 14th century. The fireplace and the doorway opposite the fireplace was a little bit later.

## AN EXTENSION

They had removed the partitions and ramshackle work of more recent origin and also an 18th or 19th century extension beyond the east wing which had been made to join up with the churchyard. This had affected the "H" shape of the windows. Amongst the discoveries had been the original mullions and head to a window which had

been restored. They had to avoid as much as possible any attempt to re-build because every stone laid there at the original time had been worked for its particular job, and in rebuilding they might have destroyed something which they had not noticed.

Where they had done anything new they had tried to make it obvious in that while it had married into the structure they had not tried to mislead historically. They could see what was a later insertion. Mr. Macgregor said it was one of the earliest manor houses he had found which had upstairs sanitation. It must date back to the 16th century. While this was sometimes found in castles it was seldom found in houses of that kind.

## FOCAL POINT

Mr. Macgregor was thanked by the Ilkley Council Surveyor, Mr. D. J. D. Woodhall, who pointed out that Mr. Macgregor was one of the country's leading experts on the restoration of mediæval buildings and he was pleased Mr. Macgregor had taken such an important part in what would be a focal point when the area was redeveloped. He referred to the assistance given by the Government and the generosity of Mr. Percy Dalton.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25th, 1960.

# REFLECTIONS

## LOST TREASURE

Long before the Ilkley Museum and Antiquarian Society obtained possession of the old Methodist chapel at the bottom of Bolton Bridge Road, opened in August, 1892, by Dr. Robert Collyer as Ilkley's first museum, there were fore-sighted men in the Ilkley district lamenting the loss of treasures unearthed in the area because there was no organised method of collecting them. Many Roman relics were lost because those discovering them knew little of their value, many went into private possession because their value was appreciated. Either way these treasures largely disappeared, though some eventually were given up to public ownership. Successive sextons of Ilkley Parish Church more than 50 years ago were known to have made valuable discoveries as graves were dug, and when the foundations of shops and houses in the Castle yard, Church Street were laid, much was without doubt unearthed and lost. It is known that when New Brook Street was made, the eastern section of the Roman fort was largely destroyed and little effort made to determine exactly what had been unearthed or to place in safe keeping the coins and pottery that came to light.

## CHURCHYARD

In November, 1886, one of the mourners at the funeral of Mr. William West, a student of Roman history, was Mr. John Holmes, himself an advocate of the need for Ilkley to collect its treasures and guard them carefully. He wrote to the Free Press about his experience in the churchyard, and said he stood there on a group of Roman worked stones which had been thrown out of the grave. He drew the attention of the sexton to them afterwards and the sexton told him that he had dug the grave

thrown out the stones and knew they were Roman. The sexton told him "Lower down it was a thick solid wall, and we had to 'pick' the stones out of the still hard mortar or concrete. In his duty as sexton he had often come across old pottery shards of known Roman character and make. By his description these were fragments of urns, amphorae and food vessels, and he had at times dug up Roman coins by the dozen. Only last week digging in a garden at the other side of the road opposite and above the station, he came upon heaps — or rather call loads of fragments of pots — so numerous that he thought there must have been kilns there, and that these were the wasters and breakings thrown aside. Even at the grave that day he had found a Roman coin and sundry bits and fragments of pottery."

## A START

Coincidentally in the same issue of the paper was a letter from Dr. J. F. Little, another worker for an Ilkley museum, announcing that the Chairman of the Local Board, Mr. William Holmes, had offered to provide safe keeping for all objects of interest left with the Clerk at the Board's offices in the Grove. He stated that Dr. Godfrey Carter had promised to act as curator and Mr. William Buck of Parish Ghyll Road, was to be treasurer. Shopkeepers were asked to exhibit cases of antiquities in their windows and to intimate the size of case they could find room for. An appeal was made for any Roman or ancient Briton remains, and Dr. Little commented "If every Ilkley resident will lend a hand, there will soon be formed a collection that will astonish and delight everyone who sees it." The museum was taken over by the Council in 1896, and when the present library was erected the contents were transferred.

# DIFFERING VIEWS ABOUT MANOR HOUSE

MINISTRY OF WORKS AND  
ILKLEY COUNCIL 9-12-61

Ilkley Council are to have second thoughts about acceding to a request of the Ministry of Works that there should be two rooms on the ground floor of the old Manor House, as originally, instead of one as the Council prefer. On Wednesday night the Council referred the matter back to re-consideration and with a view to the Finance Committee looking into the matter.

A few weeks ago the Ministry was informed that the Council would prefer to remove the dividing wall and have one large room on the ground floor instead of two smaller rooms.

The Ministry has now replied stating that they had considered the Council's views and the suggestions of the Council's architect that the dividing wall be replaced by a sliding partition or alternatively an opening made in the dividing wall had been considered. It was felt however, that the retention of the dividing wall was essential in order that the plan form might remain intelligible and so preserve an important feature of the house. The Minister would, however, be prepared to accept two openings in the wall to make it easier for visitors to circulate.

The Library and Museum Committee had resolved that having regard to the future use of the building, although the Council would still prefer to have one large room, the Minister's decision be accepted and the Surveyor

authorised to arrange for the wall to be retained with two openings three feet wide, spaced about 10 feet wide.

## REFERRED BACK

At Wednesday night's meeting of the Council, J. R. Armistead said he felt with the committee that one room would be preferred to two in this case. He could see the Minister of Works' view that they were contributing to the cost and quite clearly wished to restore the period of a Manor House. However, the acceptance of the contribution placed a limitation upon the use of the building in long run then he considered would have been better to refer the question to the Finance Committee. He pointed out that the annual cost of cleaning, heating, staffing and repairs was going to be a lot. That would fall on the rates and he did not think that would get any grant for that. He was worried lest they would not be able to justify the cost to the ratepayers and there was the question of whether people would go to it was vital that they used the room not only as a museum and people to go there. To achieve a large room seemed inevitable, but he preferred a small room referred to an enquiry about a building being available for about 100 people to hear lectures and did not think with two small rooms it would be possible to do that.

He moved that with a view to the matter being put to the Finance Committee for their observations the item be referred back, and it was seconded by Coun. W. Hawkins.

Coun. W. Hill, chairman of the committee, agreed with everything Coun. Armistead had said and said one of the difficulties facing the committee was that the Minister appeared to be adamant about the two rooms. The committee felt that better could be made of the building if they allowed local societies to use it for meetings and so on. If there were two rooms each would hold more than 50 to 60 people, probably less than that in one. The amendment was carried.

## LAST HOME

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.



# MANOR HOUSE COSTS WILL "HORRIFY COUNCIL"

## DEBATE ON SIGNIFICANCE OF MINISTRY GRANT A WALL AND FUTURE USE

When the upkeep costs of the new museum in the Manor were known, as in fact they were beginning to be known, they would be such a strain on the Council as would horrify it, said Cr. H. Illingworth, speaking during a debate on the Manor House at the monthly meeting of the Ilkley Urban District Council on Wednesday night.

The decision of the Ministry of Works to retain the dividing room between the two main rooms on the ground floor of the Manor House is to be accepted, although the Library and Museum Committee would prefer to combine these two rooms into one big room, stated the minutes of that committee.

It was suggested at the December meeting of the Council that income towards the upkeep of the Manor House possibly could more easily be attracted if there was one large room capable of holding meetings rather than two small ones which would not be as convenient for such a purpose. Re-consideration of the position was therefore requested by the Council, and asked to be referred to the Finance Committee.

The Library and Museum Committee received further reports from the Surveyor, and from the Treasurer in respect of the grant of £3,250 promised by the Historic Buildings Council towards this work.

### MINISTRY VIEW

They considered also the future use of the Manor House for meetings in the light of the observations of the Ministry of Works that "the grant has been made for the purpose of preserving the historic fabric and while the wall may not be original its retention is essential in order that the plan form should remain intelligible and so preserve an important feature of the house."

"The committee feels," said the minute, "that there is a probability that the grant may be withdrawn by the Historic Buildings Council if the original plans for the restoration of the Manor House are not carried out, and taking into consideration also the advice of the Ministry of Works that the retention of the dividing wall is essential, has decided to adhere to the original decision to accept the retention of the dividing wall."

Inquiries have been received by the committee about the possibility of holding lectures at the Manor House for a gathering of about 100 people, and also about arrangements for the use of the building as an art gallery. Decisions about the future use of the Manor House as a museum are to be postponed until after the next meeting when the committee will receive suggestions and advice from Mr. C. M. Mitchell, Director of the City Museum, Leeds.

### USAGE QUESTION

Coun. John Hardy asked on Wednesday night about the future use of the Manor House, and the chairman of the committee, Coun. Hill, said that until they had consulted various authorities and had extra opinions it would be difficult to put down any definite use of the building. It was hoped to house art exhibitions and in fact the building was being wired with points for lighting, or mobile standards which could be used to display some exhibits without disturbing others or without spoiling the general appearance of the Manor House. He thought shortly there would be the completion of the restoration and when that took place they would be in a better position to visualise what could be done with the building. Although unfortunately the building would be rather small for large gatherings, they still hoped to be able to use it for some cultural activity, such as showing pictures, special exhibits or special collections which might be loaned to them for some time.

### "WORRIED"

COUN. J. B. ARMISTEAD said he continued to be worried about the fact that they appeared to be deciding on the shape of the building before they decided on its use. That seemed to him to be the wrong way round.

He had appreciated the financial difficulties and at the last meeting had suggested that it might be

referred to the Finance Committee. He thought it a pity that the use of the building should be restricted simply to obtain that grant. He pointed out that the upkeep costs would have to be borne by the rates and might well lead to an increase in the Committee's allocation. In asking for more money every Committee had to justify its request, and that could be hard to do. Mr. Armistead asked whether the position could not be held up until they had decided the use of the building.

Mr. Hill pointed out that the shape of the building was fixed hundreds of years ago and it was not a decision for that particular committee. They had been assured that was the original plan of the building and in order to secure the grant, which was the considerable sum of £3,250, they would have to adhere to the original plan of the form of the building. The committee had given the matter further very full consideration and he felt sure Coun. Armistead would understand that. In any case there would be the upkeep costs.

### ALREADY THERE

He pointed out that the wall was already there and by taking it down to accommodate up to 100 people he did not think they would attract much income and they would be losing the grant. They had to restore the building to its original plan as a Manor House and take the grant, or knock the wall down, which was already there to enable a little larger room to be made to accommodate those meetings. The committee after full consideration, again decided to adhere to the original resolution to take the Ministry's advice and allow the wall to remain. It was gone into quite thoroughly from a financial angle and he thought it would cost the Council more to knock the wall down and lose the grant.

Coun. G. W. Clough said his views were much in accord with those of Coun. Armistead. As chairman of the Finance Committee he would like to know a little more about the building. He had been round the other day and could not make head or tail of what was going on.

Possibly had they had the foresight it would have been better for the Library Committee to have said what they were wanting it for and what they would be using it for. He felt possibly, too, that some other Committee should have been brought into the matter. He referred to the cost, the need to give satisfaction to the donors, and said it was the sort of thing that was a bit wider in its appeal than was covered by one committee. He felt there should be an extended committee in order they could keep some check on the financial side of it.

### GRANT ESSENTIAL

Coun. H. Illingworth said he could not see they had any option in the matter and he agreed entirely with Mr. Hill. The Ministry plainly said they wanted that wall and if they did not do what the Ministry said, presumably they would not get the grant. They all knew that without the prospect of the grant of £3,250 they would not have been in favour of it and would not have gone on with it. That grant was an essential part of it and the people who were paying it had a certain say in the matter of its construction. He could not see Mr. Clough's idea of extending the committee was going to help it very much.

### STRAIN ON COUNCIL

He was opposed to the scheme from the start and in his view the museum would be such a strain on the Council as would horrify it when the costs began to be known. He thought the ratepayers had to be studied most. Once having started he did not think they could do anything else but agree with Mr. Hill when he said there could be no question of that £3,250 slipping away, or else they

# OLD THINGS SHOULD NOT JUST BE THROWN AWAY

## LEEDS CURATOR'S REQUEST AT MUSEUM SOCIETY MEETING

People should not just throw things away because they were very old; items so discarded might be a valuable asset to a museum collection, Mr. C. M. Mitchell, Curator of Leeds City Museums, told a small but highly appreciative audience at the December meeting of the Olicana Museum Society.

Mr. Mitchell, who illustrated his lecture with coloured slides, was speaking on "Folk life."

Folk life, said Mr. Mitchell, meant the life of ordinary men and women, not kings, generals and Prime Ministers, it meant their work, tools of their trades, cultural life, amusements, dress, religion and transport. All these subjects, many of them opening up vast fields of exploration to the historian, came under the general heading of "Folk life." It was in short the life of himself and members today, as well as the lives of their ancestors, said Mr. Mitchell.

marbles, of which latter Mr. Mitchell knew nineteen different games. Dress not only included crinolines and old army uniforms, but such humble things as clogs and combs. Transport was a vast subject, and even the origins of farm-carts could be traced according to their different types and methods of construction.

### EXHIBITS

Many detailed illustrations were shown of the Leeds exhibits, and of particular interest were the views of the "period street" at Kirkstall Museum, with its 18th and 19th century shops and cobbled road, with the drain running down the middle. Mr. Mitchell remarked that although one could see the "street" at Kirkstall as it should be seen, in fact during the days when such streets were everywhere, it was often not very pleasant walking about as people used the middle of the street as a refuse dump, and it would often be six inches deep in silt.

Mr. Mitchell ended his talk by making the point that people should not just throw things away because they were very old—they might be a valuable asset to a museum collection. Miss Fletcher, the curator of the Olicana Museum, Ilkley, endorsed these remarks and reminded her hearers that when their museum moved to the Manor House many new items would be found room for among the exhibits.

Mr. Mitchell was thanked for a most fascinating talk by Mr. Peter Barker. It was announced that the next meeting would be in January, when Mr. F. W. Holb, of Menston, would speak on "Pewter" with slides.

### VARIETIES

Dealing first with the working life of our forebears, Mr. Mitchell said that even the tools of carpenters and blacksmiths were a study in themselves as so many different types and varieties had been used through the years. Several recently-vanished trades had been carefully recorded by museum experts before the last craftsman had died, notably the last card tack maker, an old man of over 90 who had allowed photographs and tape recordings to be made in his workshop. After his death the entire shop had been transported to Kirkstall Museum and re-built there.

Also at Kirkstall were the tools and moulds of a clay pipe maker, of which there were now only three still alive and in business. This was another trade which would soon die out. Mr. Mitchell surprised his audience when he remarked on the present rarity of wrought iron smiths. He knew of Mr. Ware, in Ilkley, and said there were no more than five in the whole of Yorkshire. Amusements included such games as backgammon and

# LEEDS EXPERT'S VIEW ON OLD MANOR HOUSE

## CONVERSION TO BE COMPLETED IN MID APRIL

The conversion of the Manor House in Castle Yard is expected to be completed by the middle of April, the Surveyor has reported to the Library and Museum Committee of the Ilkley Council. The Committee has been addressed by the Director of the City Museum, Leeds, in relation to the future use of the present museum and the Manor House.

His comments have been recorded in the minutes as follows: "Mr. Mitchell suggested that, as with other local museums, the policy of the Council should be to collect, preserve and display items which illustrated the history of the town and its immediate locality, including objects of archaeological importance, as well as documentary evidence and 'by-gones'."

Mr. Mitchell stated that the museum contained some Roman material which was of outstanding importance, and recommended that three of the rooms at the Old Manor House should be used for showing the local Roman material, documents and objects to about 1,500, and material illustrating the life and work of the district (described as "by-gones"). The remaining room should be set aside for temporary exhibitions, such as the Victoria and Albert Museum.

### LEEDS LOANS

Mr. Mitchell told the committee that the Leeds Museums Committee had agreed to lend suitable exhibition cases for the display of the exhibits and would be prepared also to lend as much material as possible until the Council had

accumulated sufficient themselves. All the objects must be properly catalogued, and in his opinion the museum specimens needed preserving. Mr. Mitchell offered to provide facilities for this work by his staff.

Mr. Mitchell then gave the committee the benefit of his advice as to the staffing of the Museum, and stated that he would be happy to assist with his staff in setting out the Old Manor House for exhibitions and would, also, lend material from Leeds for exhibition when the Old Manor House was opened officially.

Mr. Mitchell answered various questions from members of the committee in relation to the administration of the museum, and stated that nearer the date when the work of restoration was completed he would be pleased to assist the committee practically, and with advice, in the presentation of the exhibits.

Mr. Mitchell added that the Leeds Corporation intended shortly to invite representatives of authorities having museums to attend a meeting to discuss the formation of a regional scheme, when it was possible that the Government would be prepared to consider making grants to the organisation which was constituted.

### THANKS

It was then resolved that (a) the thanks of the committee be accorded to Mr. Mitchell for his interesting and instructive address, and that in consultation with Mr. Mitchell, the clerk be authorised to make arrangements for the work of preservation of the items of Roman material in the museum, and (b) further consideration be given by the committee in due course to the suggestions made by Mr. Mitchell.

would be in a very poor situation. Supporting Mr. Hill and Mr. Illingworth, Coun. L. J. Sarjeant said the question of having the building to let and that larger room for outside bodies was absolutely secondary to the main principle.

The chairman (Coun. E. Binns) pointed out that to that stage there had been comment but no amendment. As this was not forthcoming, he put the minutes to the meeting as proposed, and they were carried to include the decision to accept the Ministry's request.



## FAKED ANTIQUES FOUND IN MUSEUMS 13-1-61

### OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY GIVEN TALK ON PEWTER

An informative and fascinating talk on "Pewter" by Mr. Frank W. Holt, of Menston, was given to members of the Olicana Museum Society at their January meeting in the Museum Library on Thursday of last week.

Mr. Holt is one of the foremost pewter collectors in the country, being a member of the Society of Pewter Collectors whose membership is strictly limited to thirty people, and his talk was illustrated with several items from his collection, as well as with many lantern slides.

Mr. Holt began by explaining how pewter was made, being an alloy of about four parts of tin to one of lead. In more recent times this proportion had not always been strictly observed, and the lead content was often higher than one-fifth. Small quantities of copper were also sometimes included.

#### MOULDED

Pewter vessels were made by pouring the molten metal into a mould, but occasionally plates would be made by hammering, a more costly process. The earliest pewter found in this country was Romano-British of about 300 A.D., but items before 1600 were very rare. In about 1610, following the revision of the Canon Law, pewter flagons began to be made in quantity for use as altar vessels in churches. But as silver was a more precious metal, and better preferred for drinking purposes than pewter, Mr. Holt said he doubted whether the pewter cups were used for very long. He showed one belonging to Otley Parish Church, dated 1753, which had been loaned for the occasion. The one at Ilkley Parish Church was of about 1790.

Mr. Holt told of the Pewterers' Guilds, to which all master pewterers had to belong in older times. To begin his career, a man had to be apprenticed for seven years, after which he could start business on his own account. He was supposed to stamp each article with his own mark (known as "striking his touch") but judging from the many old vessels without marks, this rule was evidently not always complied with. Many thousands of "Touch Marks" were known, and could be found on leaving cups, marriage plates, perringers, flagons, spoons, and capacity measures.

#### PEWTER MEASURES

To this day, said Mr. Holt, the only legal spirit measures were of pewter, and were made by Gaskell and Chambers, of Birmingham. But the once thriving pewter industry was now dead, the last working pewterer being a Mr. W. J. Englefield who died in 1916. He was the last man to "strike his touch." During the 1920's, however, many wealthy collectors were willing to pay high prices for rarities, and so a lucrative market in fakes sprang up. On more than one occasion when a supposed valuable collection of antique pewter had been presented to a museum after the owner's death, experts had found that a large proportion of it dated only from earlier this century.

Mr. Holt exploded the widely held belief that pewter beer mugs with glass bottoms had been made so that the drinker could look through the glass and see if the "press gang" was about to attack him. In actual fact, he said, these mugs were only about as old as he was, and none of them were antiques at all.

After members had inspected the many fine items on display, and a lively spate of questions had been ably answered, Mr. Holt was thanked by Mr. David Glover. The secretary conveyed the apology for absence of the President, Miss Fletcher, due to illness. The Chair was taken by Mr. Peter Barker. It was announced that the next meeting would be held on 2 February.

### ADDINGHAM MAN'S TALK ON GREECE

#### Olicana Museum Society 10-2-61

An interesting talk on the antiquities of Greece illustrated with coloured slides was given by Mr. J. E. K. Willson, of Addingham, to members of the Olicana Museum Society at their February meeting on Thursday of last week.

Mr. Willson, who spent a holiday in Greece last year, traced the history of the ancient Greece and her culture, and then showed slides of many interesting remains.

The most picturesque views were perhaps those of Delphi, famous as the home of Delphic Oracle. Dramatically situated high on the slope of a steep ravine several of its old buildings had been well preserved or restored, said Mr. Willson. Unfortunately due to earth tremors the exact site of the Oracle was now lost, but there was much of interest to be seen.

#### EXTREMELY CHEAP

Apart from the cost of getting there, Mr. Willson recommended a holiday in Greece for guaranteed sunshine and extremely cheap accommodation. He urged members to make their own way, rather than join an organised tour, so that the old buildings could be seen at leisure.

Thanks were expressed by Mr. R. T. Clough and it was announced that the next meeting would be held on 2 March, when Mr. John La Page, of Baildon, would give another of his popular talks with slides, this time on "Sicily."

At the meeting the president of the Society, Miss E. M. Fletcher, was to have spoken on her visit to Greece, but due to illness she could not be present. The good wishes of members were expressed for her speedy recovery.

In the president's absence Mr. Peter B. Barker was in the chair.

## OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY MARCH MEETING 10-3-61

Using his own coloured slides, Mr. John La Page, of Baildon, spoke on "Sicily" to the March meeting of the Olicana Museum Society, on Thursday of last week. Miss Elsie M. Fletcher, the President, was in the chair.

Sicily, said Mr. La Page, was about half as big again as Yorkshire and had a population of about five million people. One approached the island via the Straits of Messina, and good views of Messina itself could be had from the boat.

The town was entirely destroyed by a long earthquake which began in December 1908 and continued for two years, and the present buildings were consequently of little interest to the historian. Near Messina, however, was a Greek theatre of great antiquity, and Mr. La Page said that more Greek remains were to be found in Sicily than in Greece itself. Views were then shown of Mount Etna, which disappointingly refused to erupt during the speaker's visit.

#### ETNA

From earliest times people had been sent to the slopes of Etna to be cured of tuberculosis, and its solidified lava was used as stone for building purposes. The speaker then described one of the island's showplaces, the villa of the Princes of Palagonia. This place was remarkable for the 600 statues, many of them grotesque, which adorned the tops of the walls. Many of them are of men and women

in 18th century costume, and it was said that the Prince who had them put there travelled all over the world collecting them.

Elsewhere on the island Mr. La Page visited a ruined Greek temple which was being restored. It appeared that only the parts which were well preserved were being used again, and the broken relics were being sold to tourists as he bought quite a good head of a statuette. Many of the Greek temples were used as Christian churches as the island became converted, and so were preserved, in some cases even to the present day. Views were shown of the beautiful architecture in Syracuse, and a few slides of Italy ended the talk.

#### EXCURSIONS

Mr. R. T. Clough expressed thanks to Mr. La Page for his most absorbing talk. Details were given of the summer excursions, and the secretary stated he would be sending a circular to all members about them.

It was announced that the next meeting would be on Thursday, 13 April (a week later than usual, because of Easter), when Mr. John Ogden the Curator of Keighley Museum would speak on "Domestic Bygones."

### MANOR HOUSE 10-3-61

The conversion of the Manor House in Castle Yard is not likely to be completed within the expected period and it now appears certain in addition that the estimated cost £7,920 will be exceeded. This is not to the liking of those who have not been convinced from the start that this conversion justified the expenditure, and supporters of the scheme are now keeping their fingers crossed and hoping that the final cost will not be such as to provide ammunition for its opponents. It should not be overlooked that the Manor House conversion is part of a larger scheme which can do nothing else but bring improvement to the centre of Ilkley and draw attention to the town's historic past. At the moment the plans for this are held up until progress is made in the negotiations for the sale of the Wheat Sheaf to Ilkley Council. No headway in this respect appears to have been made for several months.

### LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

Present—Councillors Hill (Chairman), Atkinson, Binns, Hampshire, Moss, Priestley, Sarjeant, Smith.

The clerk reported that the two silver cups which had been awarded for the Black and White Hats Cricket match had been handed over to the Council by the Chamber of Trade, and it was resolved that the clerk be authorised to accept custody of these cups for inclusion in due course in the museum.

## RENOVATION AND DESTRUCTION 17-3-61



Whilst the work of renovating and converting the Manor House in Castle Yard has been going on, the windows have been systematically broken until hardly a whole pane of glass remains. The job is expected to be completed (with new glass in the windows) next month.



## EASTER WEDDING



Mr. Anthony David Glover and Miss Patricia Hewitt, of Ikley, married at St. John's Parish Church, Don Rhydding, Saturday.

## ILKLEY MUSEUM SOCIETY

### DOMESTIC BYEGONES

Mr. John Ogden, Curator of Keighley Museum, spoke on "Domestic Byegones" at the April meeting of the Ilkley Museum Society, which was held at the Town Hall on Thursday of last week. The talk was illustrated by slides.

Mr. Ogden outlined the growth of the Keighley collection which, he said, could be fairly described as one of the best collections of byegones in this part of the world. Some items had been bequeathed, some purchased, some borrowed, and at least one had been given by a lady who had seen an identical item of the T.V. programme, "Animal, Vegetable and Mineral" and had not realised what an interesting heirloom she possessed.

### OLD OBJECTS

Among the many interesting objects shown were a Curlew, which was a curved metal fire-guard, placed in front of the fire at night to block off the draught and keep the fire in all night. Some interesting fire blowers were shown, operated through a system of belts and wheels to drive a fan. Many rush light holders had survived to the present day, and were lit by flint and steel, in current use until about 1830 when matches were invented by a chemist named Walker, of Stockton.

Early table knives were large and heavy, and the forks had only two prongs (like modern carving-forks) which Mr. Ogden considered to be aesthetically more beautiful than present day four-pronged forks.

In reply to a question, Mr. Ogden said that his museum was collecting more modern objects as well as those of past centuries, and a collection of early radio sets was now being built up, although it was not possible to put all these items on display.

### APPEAL

The president, Miss E. M. Fletcher, reminded members that when the museum exhibits were transferred to the Manor House there would be more room to display them, and she urged that any items which anyone might wish to give or lend to the Museum should be kept on one side. Mr. Ogden was thanked for his interesting talk.

Miss Fletcher referred to the recent marriage of the society's treasurer and former secretary, Mr. A. D. Glover, to Miss P. Hewitt, and reported on the collection which had been made among members to present the couple with a teapot, water jug and sugar basin in stainless steel. Mr. Glover rose to thank members for their generosity which was greatly appreciated, he said, and the presents were passed round for inspection.

The secretary, Mr. R. T. Clough, gave details of the summer excursions, and requested members to return the tear-off slips to indicate which outings they were intending to go on.

## MANOR HOUSE OPENING

### ADMISSION CHARGE

Arrangements for the opening of the old Manor House as Ikley's museum are to be considered at the meeting of the Public Library and Museum Committee of Ikley Council next Thursday night.

At the April meeting of Ikley Council it was decided that a charge be made for admission and the surveyor has been asked to report as to the practicability and cost of providing a suitable prepayment turnstile.

The museum is to be open, provisionally, from 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 2 to 5 p.m. during the period May to September, and from 2 to 5 p.m. only from October to April.

A plaque recording the gift of the building by Mr. Percy Dalton is to be affixed in a suitable position in the Manor House.

The Health Committee has been requested to undertake cleaning and maintenance of the conveniences at the museum.

It was also decided to invite applications by advertisement for the appointment of a caretaker at a wage of £2 per week, and the provision of free accommodation lighting and heating.

### MUSEUM GRANT

The Clerk reported at the committee meeting that he had applied to the Museums Association for a grant towards the cost of museum re-organisation.

The thanks of the Council are to be conveyed to Sir George Martin who has given two antique chairs and an antique carved mirror for use at the Manor House.

The Librarian reported on the work of the Yorkshire Federation of Museums and Art Galleries in arranging exchanges and exhibitions and it was decided that the Council should become a member of the Federation at an annual membership fee of 10s. 6d.

17-4-61

## MANOR HOUSE OPENING

### PRELIMINARY PLANS

Mr. Percy Dalton, who gave the Manor House to Ikley together with a generous loan to Ikley Council towards the cost of conversion, is being invited to open the completed building on Saturday at the early part of July.

A plaque denoting the circumstances of the gift is to be affixed to the inside wall of the building.

The surveyor has been authorised to purchase a coin-operated turnstile at a cost of £247 16s. and to provide a suitable access gate adjoining the turnstile. Arrangements have been made for the purchase of a period fireback at a cost of £5.

### REPAIRS

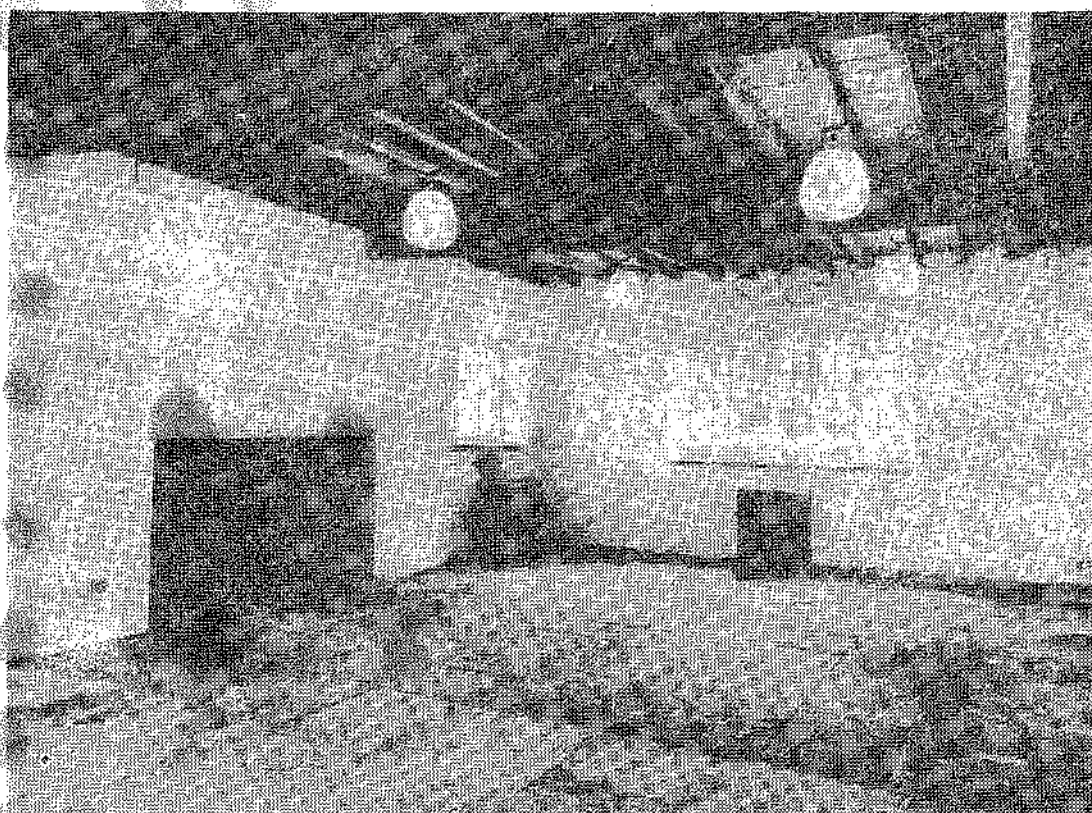
The Ministry of Works has authorised payment of £3,000 in respect of the Minister's grant towards the cost of the repairs included in the restoration, leaving a balance of £250 when the repairs are satisfactorily completed.

It has been stated by the Ministry that before an application for an increase in their grant could be submitted to the Historic Buildings Council, the final estimated cost of completing the works, including the repairs, would be required, together with information as to the amount which the Ikley Council would be able to contribute towards the additional cost of the repairs.

At the Council meeting on Wednesday night it was stated that the offer or loan of Tudor or Jacobean furniture would be welcomed.

5-5-1961

## A ROOM AT THE MANOR HOUSE



One of the ground floor rooms at the Manor House where the renovation and restoration scheme is now completed. In readiness for the official opening by Mr. Percy Dalton, who gave the building to the town, the rooms are to be furnished with period items.



# OFFICIAL OPENING OF MANOR HOUSE

## Old Scheme brought about by a generous action 7-7-1961

Mr. Percy Dalton, who gave the old Manor House in Castle Yard to the Ilkley Urban District Council, and a loan of £2,500 towards its renovation, will officially open the building as a museum and art centre tomorrow (Saturday) morning. It is expected that the total cost of the conversion, carried out by O'Brien and Richmond, Ltd., of Otley, will be in the region of £10,000.

Described by the consultant architect, Mr. John E. M. Macgregor, of London, as one of the few surviving examples of a period in the country's history when the feudal system held sway, the building is regarded by the experts as being of great historic value.

The stone arches date from the 13th century and two doorways from the 13th or early 14th century. Though the building was materially altered in the 16th or 17th century it remains next to the old parish church a few yards away as the most historic building in the town.

Information about its early days is sparse though it is realised that it must have played an important part in the life of the community. Justice was dispensed there, but in the feudal days it would be the principal dwelling in the centre of the community.

Mr. Macgregor explained to Ilkley Rotary Club last November that the house would contain a central hall with the family's private quarters at one side and the servants quarters at the other. In the centre there would be the great hall and it was possible to trace these three sections at the present time.

### Hole in Roof

Originally the hall would be heated by a fire with the smoke finding an outlet through a hole in the roof but chimneys were introduced and probably at the same time the hall was floored across. The task in the recent renovation had been to get the building structurally sound without as far as possible altering the outside. They had to avoid as much as possible any attempt to rebuild because every stone originally had been worked for its particular job.

Amongst the work skillfully carried out during the renovations has been the lifting by a jack of the substantial roof truss which had slipped during the ages and the restoration to its original position. A similar operation was carried out in respect of a first floor beam.

New oak doors, oak staircase and oak floors upstairs are examples of the craftsman's art in renovation and on the east side may be seen where the original mullions and head to a window

were restored after being re-discovered.

The Ilkley Manor House provides one of the earliest examples of indoor sanitation and this certainly dates back to the 16th century.

### Glass Work

The glass for the windows has been provided by Pickett and Co. of Leeds (Mr. Arthur Pickett is organist at Ilkley Parish Church) and the plumbing work carried out by Lawsons of Brook Street.

Describing the work to the "Ilkley Gazette," Mr. Arthur Pickett says the windows comprise 22 purpose-made casements fitted with antique handles and bronze stay-bars supplied by Pickett and Co., and fixed into the original ancient window openings.

In addition a number of standard pattern casements have been fitted into the new window openings (as distinct from the ancient and original windows) not supplied by Picketts, who however supplied and fixed the leaded glazing into them.

These windows have wooden frames, also supplied by the main contractor. It was agreed that the new windows should be dissimilar to the original ones as part of the policy of the architect that new work should be clearly apparent.

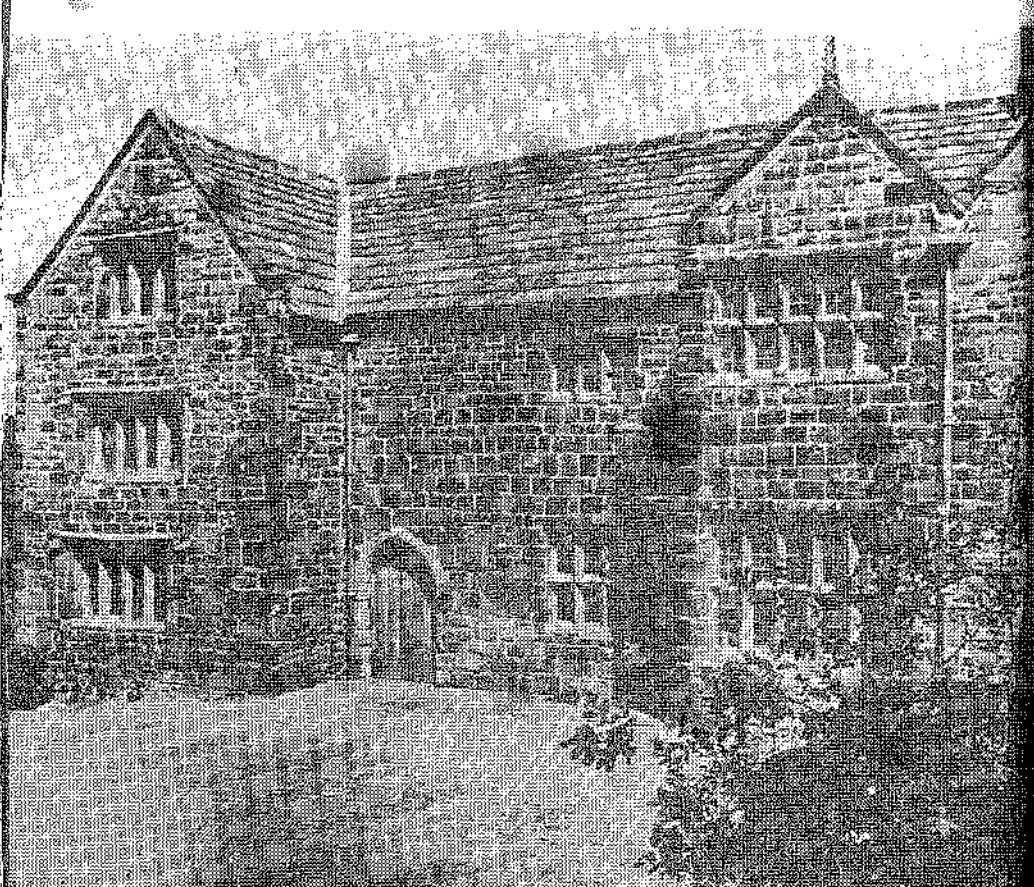
All the windows are fitted with leaded glazing in rectangles of clear sheet with odd squares of White Reamy Antiquus hand made glass. The few obscure windows (lavatories, kitchen, etc.) are made in heavy seeded hand made antique glass.

"The lead used throughout is cast, and drawn in our own works and is termed 'hand-drawn milled lead' as distinct from the plain extruded domestic type leads," commented Mr. Pickett.

"Great care was used to fill-in the wasted stone mullions, and many were in a very bad state, with matching mortar, and the glazing is strengthened by horizontal 3/8 inch round saddle bars. There are 100 window openings in the whole house altogether," said Mr. Pickett.

"From our angle, as well as the other contractors, the job has been a most interesting one, demanding much detailed discussion and similar in many ways to another one that at Marketfield Hall,

# "A PLACE OF GREAT HISTORIC VALUE"



The exterior view of the front of the Manor House as it is today with the renovations complete. Experts are agreed that it is a fine, and one of the last surviving, examples of a period in the country's history when the feudal system held sway.

Hipon, the most perfect example of a moated fortified farmhouse now existing and on which we are at present working."

### As Museum

For over 50 years there have been ideas that the Manor House would make an ideal museum for the town but invariably it was felt the cost of purchase in view of the restoration work required would be more than the town could afford. The generous gift of the building by Mr. Dalton together with his help towards the renovation and the grant made through the Ministry of Works has finally made the project possible.

It is intended that the building shall form part of a scheme which provides for the opening out of the Churchyard and the demolition of the Wheat Sheaf Hotel, a project visualised by Mr. Dalton during the war and which was the subject of a national competition sponsored by him.

In the 1920's, Mr. H. E. McCall, of Ilkley, editor of the "Yorkshire Archaeological Journal" spoke on the subject of the Manor House as a museum in the course of a talk to the Yorkshire Division of

the Association of Assistant Librarians meeting at Ilkley. He advised that Ilkley Museum should specialise on exhibits which were definitely local in their interests.

### A Centre

"Ilkley was a centre of human life under the Britons, the Romans, the Angles, the Danes and the Normans; and I am sure that a good collection could in time be formed which will well illustrate the exceptionally long life-history of our town," said Mr. McCall, pointing out that a proposal to convert the Manor House to a museum had been turned down at that time by the Council on account of the cost. "It may be hoped that the matter is only deferred and that in more prosperous times effect may yet be given to some such scheme," he said.

"There is evidence that Ilkley was inhabited or at least visited by man at a very early period—since before the dawn of history, indeed. The cup and ring stones and other markings in the rocks are supposed to have been cut at a time when man made his implements and weapons of bronze, before the discovery of iron, which may have been 1,000 years B.C. or more. It is prehistoric, and that is all one can say about it. Time was not at that period to be measured in terms of years, or even of centuries, but in ages—the stone age, the bronze age and the early iron age.

### Romans

"We are on surer ground when we come to the period of the Roman occupation of Britain. This endured for 360 years between the first and fourth centuries. There is ample proof that Ilkley was an important station at this time. Roman altars and sculptured tombstones have been found at various sites." Mr. McCall pointed out that coins alone would not be evidence of Roman occupation because coins were carried all over the civilised world as the ordinary coin of commerce. "But their presence at a place like this which certainly was a Roman station is some guide to us in determining dates. If you dug up a coin of Vespasian for instance it might have been lost or deposited either during the reign of that Emperor or at any subsequent time; but by no possibility could it have been placed there before Vespasian became Emperor."

Mr. McCall said it was evident at the time of the compilation of the Domesday Book that Ilkley in those days consisted of a long strip of land on both sides of the river reaching almost from Bar Bhydding to Addingham, and rather more than a mile wide. The wood pasture would be close down to the river and the arable land at the back. The buildings would mainly be along the Leeds Road and Skipton Road of today, and in later years for some time

## REFLECTIONS

### LONG AWAITED 30-6-61

The opening next week of the Manor House in Castle Yard as a museum and art centre marks the completion of a scheme which as a single project has appealed to many people over the past half century and more. Always expense has been a hurdle that succeeding Ilkley Councils could not surmount. The present success is largely due to the generous initiative of Mr. Percy Dalton, who bought the property early in the last war, and presented it to the Council a few years ago for the purpose it is now to fulfil. It was Mr. Dalton's hope and no doubt still is that the renovation of the Manor House would be the first step in a scheme of improvement for the whole of this area. He brought attention to this by sponsoring a competition on a national wide scale and which was won by a man who today is one of the country's leading experts in this field. The demolition of property around the Manor House and the Parish Church, the clearing up of the riverside, and the development of the Holmes were all envisaged in this major scheme. The Memorial Gardens have to some extent helped to clear up the mess that existed in this part of the riverside, though no one would pretend that the Memorial Gardens as yet adequately meet what many

originally hoped for after the winning scheme had been examined. The Gardens have had and continue to have their critics. However, it has been an improvement, and the initiative shown by Mr. William Dell at the Boating Stage no doubt inspired the Council (some would have it shamed the Council) into approving schemes of further improvement, and these have brought some transformation to the south bank of the river between the two bridges.

### FULL VIEW

The original scheme proposed by Mr. Dalton envisaged the Manor House and the Church being open to view from Church Street and from New Brook Street and this purpose still has to be achieved. The negotiations for the sale of the Wheat Sheaf have been protracted, and whilst the property has been empty for 18 months there appears to have been a position of stalemate for some time. The Gazette understands that there is some hope now that agreement about purchase price is nearer and that an announcement reasonably can be expected this year. How pleasant it would be for those who have found this delay so exasperating if the announcement could be made at next week's opening ceremony that at last a settlement had been reached. Another part of the scheme

which appears to be taking a longer time than anticipated is the improvement to the Parish Churchyard. The suggestions of the Council's Surveyor were quite recently considered by the Church authorities and, it is understood, were largely acceptable. There has been some further consideration as part of these proposals about the chestnut trees at the entrance to the church and it must be hoped that the church authorities will accept the view that these add nothing to the appearance of the building but throw a shadow over the porch, a shadow, by the way, that is the despair of photographers awaiting bride and groom after wedding ceremonies. There seems to be, therefore, some hope that before long the Manor House will be more easily seen from Church Street and New Brook Street, the bottom of Brook Street and the beginning of Leeds Road. It will create a view that will do much to add to the attraction of this part of the town.



URBAN DISTRICT



OF ILKLEY

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ILKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

(Councillor J. R. ARMISTEAD, M.A., J.P.)

requests the pleasure of the company of

Mr. and Mrs. David Glover

at the opening on

SATURDAY, THE 8th JULY, 1961

at 11 a.m. by

PERCY DALTON, Esq.,

of THE MANOR HOUSE, ILKLEY as a MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

R.S.V.P. to

The Clerk of the Council  
Town Hall, Ilkley

ILKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MANOR HOUSE MUSEUM

OFFICIAL OPENING

Order of Proceedings

11 a.m. Members of the Council and guests will assemble outside the Manor House.

The Chairman of the Council (Councillor J. R. Armistead, M.A., J.P.) will invite Mr. Percy Dalton to open the Manor House.

Mr. Dalton will address the assembly and will then unlock the door and declare the Manor House open.

The Chairman of the Public Library and Museum Committee (Councillor W. Hill) will propose a vote of thanks to Mr. Dalton and this will be seconded by The Director of Leeds City Museum, (C.M. Mitchell Esq., F.M.A., F.S.A.).

Guests are then invited to enter and inspect the Manor House, and light refreshments will be available in the marquee at the rear of the building.

ILKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MANOR HOUSE MUSEUM,

and ART GALLERY

CASTLE YARD, ILKLEY

(BEHIND THE PARISH CHURCH)

This fine old Elizabethan Manor House has now been restored, and will be open to the public as a museum and art gallery from MONDAY, JULY 10th, 1961. (Admission free Monday and Tuesday).

Exhibits include period furnishings, folk material, fine pottery, early implements, local prints, and a special exhibitions room portraying the Roman occupation of the fort of Ollicana.

On view in the Art Room, until July 23rd will be an exhibition of:—

CONTEMPORARY SWEDISH PRINTS.

The hours of opening will be:—

Until September 30th, 9.30—12.30 and 2.0—5.0

daily except Mondays.





Members of the official party at the opening of the Manor House last Saturday. Right to left, Mrs. J. L. Ellicott, ex-Chairman of the Library and Museum Committee, Mrs. Percy Dalton, Mr Percy Dalton (donor and opener), Cr. J. R. Armistead, Chairman of the Council, Cr. Wm. Hill, Chairman of the Library and Museum Committee, Miss Elsie Fletcher, Hon. Curator of Museum, Mrs. C. M. Mitchell and Mr. C. M. Mitchell, Director of the City Museum, Leeds.

**£2,500 GIFT BY HARROGATE MAN**

**Towards old Manor House conversion**

Formally opening the old Manor House at Ilkley, which he has given to the Ilkley district, Mr. Percy Dalton, of Harrogate, and formerly of Ilkley, today made a gift of £2,500 interest-free loan towards the £10,000 cost of the conversion of the building to a museum and art centre.

The Manor House, one of the oldest and most historic buildings in the town, stands near the ancient parish church on the site of the Roman fort of Olicana. It was for centuries a centre of the community and a court of justice for a great many years.

**DELIGHTED**

Mr. Dalton said it had long been his dream that this centre should be opened out. Once the scheme for the purchase of the Wheatsheaf Hotel was carried out there would be a view of the Manor House, the church and Saxon crosses from the centre of the town.

He was delighted that already a large portion of the scheme, for which he sponsored a national competition 20 years ago, had become a reality.

The chairman of the Council, Coun. J. R. Armistead, presided over the ceremony. Thanks to Mr Dalton were expressed by Coun. W. Hill, chairman of the Museum Committee, and Mr. C. M. Mitchell, director of Leeds City Museum.

**ANOTHER GENEROUS GIFT BY MR. P. DALTON**  
ANNOUNCEMENT AT OPENING OF MANOR HOUSE  
**LOAN NOT TO BE REDEEMED**

Mr. Percy Dalton's interest free loan of £2,500 was added as a gift to that of the Manor House itself when he opened the building as a museum and art centre last Saturday and thereby removed, as the Chairman of the Library and Museum Committee emphasised, some of the financial anxiety which rested on the shoulders of the Council.

Mr. Dalton has thus not only over the past 20 years pressed the Council to do something about this ancient building and its immediate area but has made it financially possible for it to be brought about.

Formally opening the building on Saturday morning he said he did so with deep gratification for it had long been a dream of his that the centre of Ilkley which included that beautiful route of old Olicana should be opened out and shown to the world at large.

He commented, "the re-opening of the Roman fort and the removal of the old Wheatsheaf Hotel will enable all to see our beautiful church with its noble relics of the past, and famous Saxon crosses, and I would like to express my deep appreciation to Mr. John Macgregor, the consultant architect, and to Mr. D. J. D. Woodhall, the Ilkley Surveyor, for so faithfully carrying out this difficult restoration, and for the help given him by all concerned in bringing this happy haunt of my childhood back to its beauty of former years."

**"DELIGHTED"**

Mr. Dalton went on, "You will recall that some twenty odd years ago I put forward a scheme for the beautifying of this part of Ilkley, and I am, of course, delighted that a large portion of this dream has become a reality. I sincerely hope that the town will feel able to continue on similar lines, and to help them in this I have resolved not to redeem an interest free mortgage of £2,500 which falls due next August but have decided to hand this to the treasurer of the Ilkley Urban District Council for cancellation.

"In declaring this ancient monument open, I cherish the hope that the centre will become a seat of interest and culture which is its natural heritage."

**CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman of the Council, Cr. J. R. Armistead, expressing a welcome to Mr and Mrs. Dalton, referred to the problems of neighbouring towns, not shared by Ilkley, of buildings which were losing their usefulness. He referred to their wish to give the Parish Church and the Manor House

setting suitable to their dignity and importance, appropriate to present day and future needs. That day marked the end of the first stage of those plans.

Mr. Armistead in a reference to the work which had been put in during the previous few days to clear up to the area immediately in front of the Manor House, described it as one of the most rapid transformations he ever remembered seeing. Great credit was due to the Surveyor, Parks Superintendent and staff for the way in which the work had been carried out.

**FOCAL POINT**

Speaking of the historical value of the Manor House, Mr. Armistead thought it had not been associated with any great historic or dramatic scene, no one for instance had been beheaded in the court yard, but it was undoubtedly for many generations the administrative and judicial centre, a focal point in the life of the area. He hoped that it would become the focal point for many of the cultural, artistic and educational activities which so much enriched their lives today. He hoped it would live as much on its future as it did on its past and that the people of Ilkley would take it to their hearts as a place to be resorted to on many occasions and not just once in a lifetime. He was sure the Committee would be very glad to receive any suggestions for activities to be carried on in that building.

**GREATEST DEBT**

Mr. Armistead referred to the many people who had been concerned with the plans for the restoration and conversion of the Manor House, but said there could be no doubt that their greatest debt that day was to Mr. Percy Dalton who gave them the Manor House, its site and had also afforded them most substantial additional assistance. In their plans for that centre the Council were only acting upon and following the ideas which Mr. Dalton had put forward some years ago. His enthusiasm and practical advice had been both a spur and a source

of great encouragement to them throughout.

He knew he was speaking for the whole Council in extending a warm welcome to them that day and telling them what a pleasure it was to see them in Ilkley again. It was indeed most appropriate that Mr. Dalton should open the Manor House in its new guise.

**OPENING**

The guests had assembled in a marquee at the rear of the building and from this Mr. Dalton accompanied by Mrs. Dalton moved to the Manor House to unlock the door and enter, followed by the Chairman of the Council and the guests.

In the Manor House, Cr. W. Hill, Chairman of the Museum Committee, added his thanks to Mr. Dalton and those who had carried out the scheme and pointed out that Mr. Dalton had stepped in to purchase the Manor House at a time when some interest was being shown in its purchase for use as a cinema. They were now additionally grateful to Mr. Dalton for his further gift of £2,500 that day, a gift which meant the disappearance of some of the financial worries.

Mr. Hill was supported by Mr. C. M. Mitchell, Director of the Leeds City Museum, who has given his help to the Council in the setting out of the Museum and who referred to the co-operation between museums of different places.

**BOWLING ALLEY**

Replying, Mr. Dalton referred to the efforts to purchase the Manor House for use as a cinema and said that following upon the closure of many cinemas at the present time, it could have been that they were meeting that day to mark the opening of the old building as a bowling alley.

In the building a plaque denotes the gift and opening by Mr. Dalton.

**Library and Museum**

Present: Councillors Hill (chairman), Atkinson, Clay, Hampshire, Rogers, Sarjeant and E. Smith.

It was agreed: (a) that the thanks of the Council be conveyed to Mr. C. M. Mitchell and Miss E. Fife of the Leeds City Museum for the assistance and advice so willingly given to the Council in connection with the preparation of the Manor House for the opening. The committee expressed their appreciation of the assistance given by the various departments of the Council in preparing the Manor House for the opening. The Moor and Parks Committee was requested to consider providing decorative plants at the Manor House.

The clerk reported that the chairman of the committee (Councillor Hill) had intimated that he would like to present a garden seat for the use of the general public at the Manor House, and it was resolved that the thanks of the Council be expressed to Councillor W. Hill for this generous offer and that the surveyor be requested to arrange for the placing of this seat at the Manor House.

The librarian reported that he understood that the Victoria and Albert Museum had an amount of period furniture in store which it was prepared to lend to museums and houses of historic interest, and that the museum would be prepared to send a representative to Ilkley to discuss this matter and to make recommendations therein. It was resolved that the clerk be authorised to apply to the Victoria and Albert Museum for the loan for the Manor House of suitable furnishings.

The committee considered a request from a local school that organised parties of school children be admitted to the Manor House free of charge. The clerk was requested to communicate with the West Riding County Council Education Committee in relation to the admission of organised parties of school children to the Manor House, and to report further herein in due course.

The Publicity Committee was requested to consider the suggestion that composite direction signs be provided in Ilkley, the surveyor was authorised to provide a notice board indicating the hours of opening of the Manor House in the archway at the Church Street entrance to Castle Yard, and to provide "No Smoking" signs at the Manor House. The clerk was requested to report further in relation to the existing museum byelaws in view of the transfer of the museum to the Manor House.

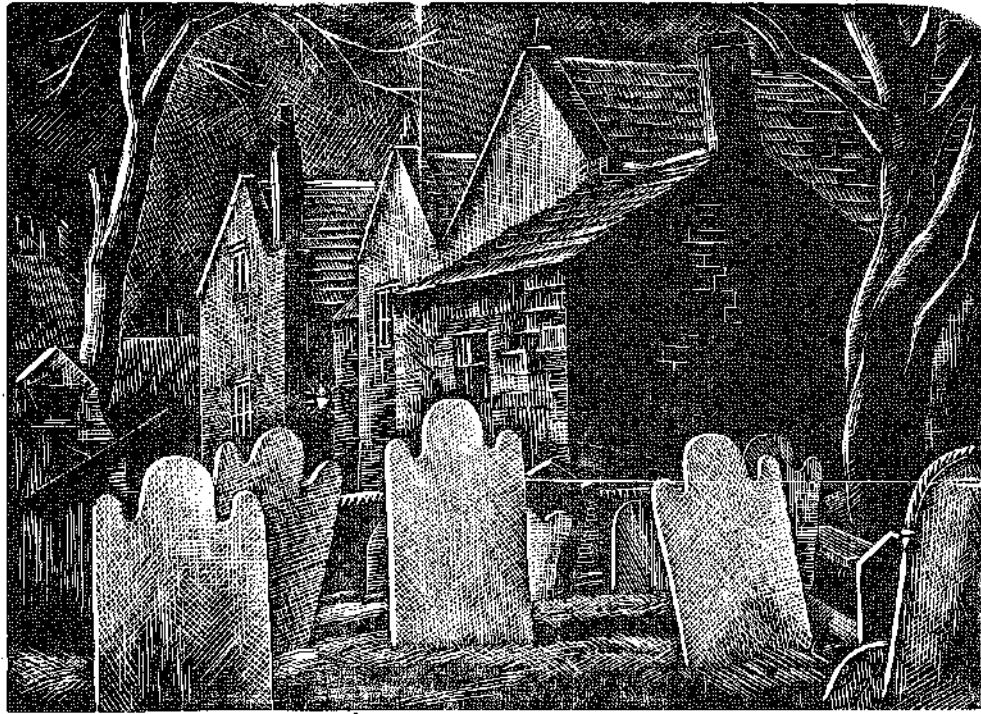
The committee further considered the charges to be made for the admission of parties of adults to the Manor House and it was resolved that each application for the admission of parties of adults to the Manor House be treated on its merits.



Ilkley Urban District Council

## Manor House Museum

Castle Yard, Ilkley



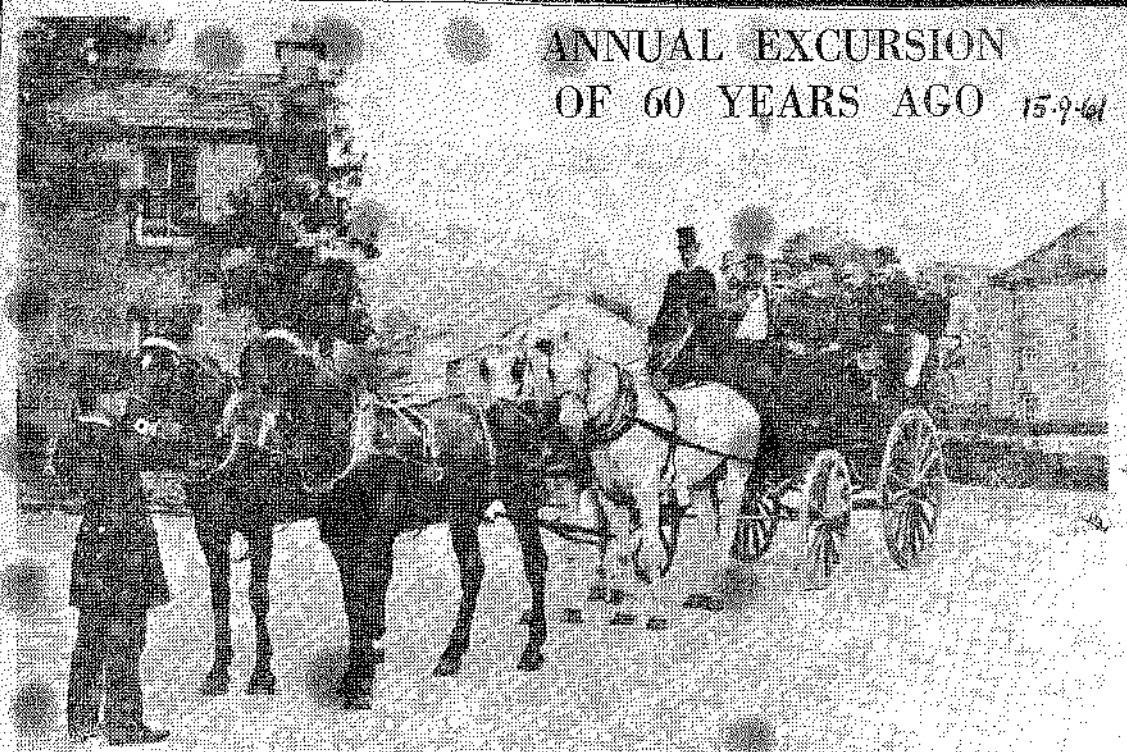
### Official Opening

by

Percy Dalton, Esq.

8th July, 1961.

### ANNUAL EXCURSION OF 60 YEARS AGO 15-9-61



Round about sixty years ago it was the practice of a local group of men to pay an annual visit to Kettlewell to play cricket. The groom is Herbert Garside, the coachman "Neddy" Roe, next to him is Henry Sutcliffe of Eastmoor, then Mr. Briggs of Westwood Lodge, Wm. Holmes of Addingham House, while others in the picture are—Fox of Mount Stead (bowler and beard), A. W. Bain and T. Horsman. Picture has been loaned by Mr. Harry Roe.

## Ilkley golf veteran dies at 82

MR. WILLIAM DELL, who entered the British Open Golf Championship at the age of 74 and in 1953 threw out a challenge to meet any other veteran, has died at Ilkley Hospital, aged 82.

A Lincolnshire man, Mr. Dell was taken to Ilkley at the age of two. He became professional to Skipton Golf Club in 1894 when he was 14, and later moved to Hornsea. In 1906 he established a golf club at Hull and in 1912 opened a garage there. He is claimed to be the first man to introduce a char-a-banc to Hull.

After service in the 1914-18 war he was appointed transport manager at Slough for the disposal of ex-Army vehicles, and two years later became inspecting engineer for the London General Omnibus Co. He opened a



Mr. W. DELL

garage in Great Portland Street, London, in 1923, and then made his name as a promoter of physical culture.

Mr. Dell gave demonstrations in large stores and started a "Skipping for Fitness" campaign. A film venture proved a disastrous financial experience and he turned to farming in Lincolnshire until 1945, when he returned to Ilkley.

He took over the boating strip on the River Wharfe, carried out many improvements himself, and pressed Ilkley Council to add to what he himself had done.

Mr. Dell was a man of tremendous energy and constantly petitioned the Council with ideas which he claimed would attract visitors to Ilkley. He was a member of Ilkley Museum Society.

### MUSEUM SOCIETY

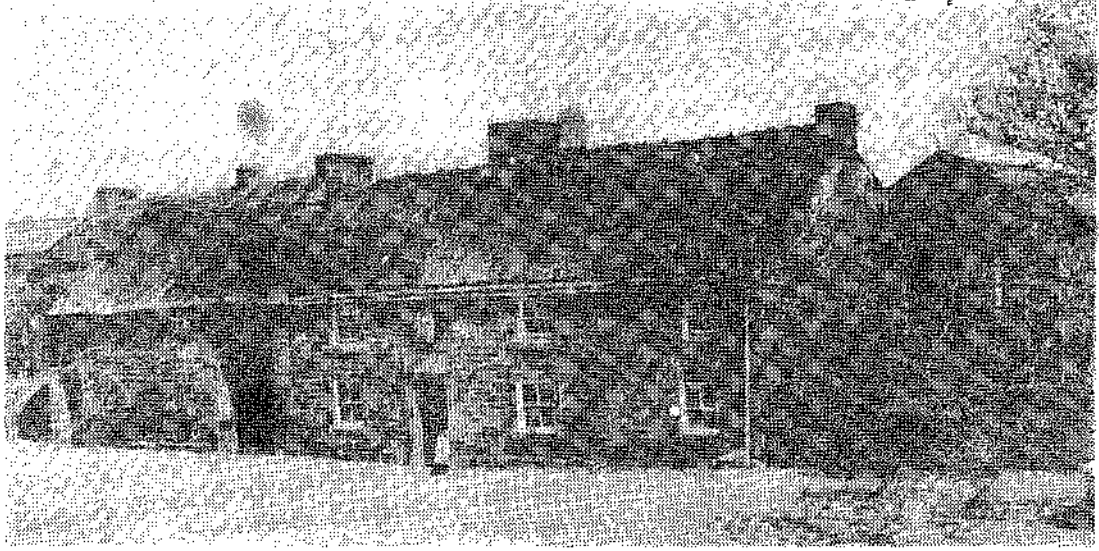
The Olicana Museum Society recently visited East Riddlesden Hall, Keighley, and were conducted firstly, through the fine old XV century barn with its interesting collection of old coaches and farm carts.

Mr. Rhodes, the Curator, then showed the party over the Hall, which has recently had several thousand pounds spent on renovations through the National Trust. The party then visited Stoneleigh, Uley, the home of the hon. secretary of the Society, where they were entertained to tea and saw several interesting works of art and rare books. 6-10-61



# THE OLD MALT SHOVEL AT BURLEY

22-9-61



The date above the archway at the present Malt Shovel Hotel at Burley is 1880 so the illustration is of the hotel as it was at least over 80 years ago.

## CORRESPONDENCE

29-9-61  
Malt Shovel, Burley

Sir,—I was interested to see the photograph of the Old Malt Shovel in your edition of the 22nd September last, and I was prompted to look at the title deeds. It is of course very ancient and those deeds which we have in this office take its history back to 1778. I think your photograph must have been taken shortly before it was demolished in 1878 by James Whitehead, the then owner, whose initials are carved over the archway of the present building.

I have been told that the reason why a small village like Burley has at least two quite large licensed premises is that at around the time the Malt Shovel was re-built there was intense rivalry between the owners of the Malt Shovel and the Queens Head and that the owner of the latter having recently re-built his premises, the owner of the Malt Shovel felt bound to follow and in a folly of grandeur erected the present property. It may be that the past records of your journal may throw some light on this story particularly as it would appear that both the Queens Head and the Malt Shovel are of about the same age.

J.P. HAMMOND UNITED BREWERIES LIMITED, AVIS, Estates Director.

## 13-10-61 Library and Museum

Present: Councillors Hill (chairman), Armistead, Atkinson, Clay, Hampshire, Priestley, Rogers and P. Smith.

The Keeper of Circulation, Victoria and Albert Museum, indicated that the Museum would be pleased to lend the Council a 17th century cabinet and chest and that a representative of his department might be able to visit the Manor House during the next few months. The clerk reported that he had asked for the cabinet and chest to be reserved and that he had invited the Keeper of Circulation or his representative to visit the Manor House. The action of the clerk was confirmed.

The clerk was requested to report further in due course in relation to the application for a grant for new show cases at the Manor House Museum.

The clerk reported on correspondence and an interview with the Area Organiser, The National Union of Public Employees, in relation to the present wage of £2 a week, plus free accommodation, lighting and heating, paid to the Caretaker of the Manor House and stated that the Area Organiser had intimated that in his opinion the wage to be paid to the caretaker of the Manor House should be 75% of the Group IV rate less the value of these emoluments. The treasurer also reported in this matter and it was resolved that no action be taken at the present time but that the clerk be requested to report further herein in due course.

The Librarian reported on a suggestion that a small brochure describing the history of Hikey and the Manor House be printed for sale to persons visiting the museum. The Librarian was requested to report further herein in due course.

The owner of the slide projector lent to the Museum Society has asked for its return. The Museum Society in consequence has asked the Committee to consider the purchase of a slide projector for use by the Society. It was resolved that the Museum Society be informed that this Committee regret that they are unable at present to agree to the purchase of a slide projector for use of the Society.

The Divisional Education Officer stated that he had been informed by the County Education Authority that visits to the museum by children from schools would be regarded as educational visits for which the authority had no provision for assistance, except where individual pupils qualified under the Authorities Scheme of Aid. The Librarian reported on enquiries he had made in relation to the admission of organised parties of school children at other museums and it was resolved that, subject to due notice of any intended visit, organised parties of school children be admitted to the Manor House free of charge.

# THE OLD RED LION, BURLEY

29-9-61



Last week we published a picture of the Old Malt Shovel at Burley (a letter in this week's issue makes reference to it) and this is a view of the Old Red Lion before it was re-built in 1893.

# ANOTHER OLD BURLEY INN

13-10-61



In the last two weeks we have shown pictures of the Malt Shovel and Red Lion Hotels at Burley and this week's illustration is of the Queen's Head before it was re-built.



**OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY**  
THE  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

will be held on  
**THURSDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 12th, at 7.30 p.m.**  
in the **TOWN HALL, ILKLEY**

To be followed by an illustrated lecture "Antique Silver"  
by Mr. Robert ROWE, F.S.S., A.M.A.,  
Director of Temple Newsam House, Leeds.  
**PLEASE DO NOT MISS THIS IMPORTANT MEETING**

**MUSEUM SOCIETY HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING**  
**MANOR HOUSE VENTURE HAS BEEN JUSTIFIED**

Presiding at the annual meeting of the Olicana Museum Society in the Town Hall on Thursday of last week, Miss Elsie Fletcher, Society President, and Curator of the Manor House Museum, said that over 3,000 visitors had viewed inside the Manor House since its opening on 8 July.

This fact had given the Council much satisfaction and had helped to dispense the misgivings of some Councillors as to the wisdom of the use to which the building was being put. She thanked the Museum Society for so willingly playing its part since 1950 in holding the Museum together. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. R. T. Clough, stated in his report that the average attendance at the winter meetings had fallen in comparison with the previous year. Two excursions had been held during the summer to Nostell Priory and to East Riddlesden Hall, and he expressed thanks to the Excursion Secretary, Miss Nellie Saunders, for having organised this so ably. Two other outings had been cancelled because of lack of support from members. Mr. Clough also thanked the President for generously supplying refreshments at the social evening on 10 July, at the Manor House. In addition to this private viewing, the official opening of the Manor House was attended by at least nine people who were also members of this Society, two of them representing it directly. Mr. Clough announced that due to pressure of business he would not seek re-election as Secretary.

**FINANCES**

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. David Glover, presenting his report for the year ending 30 September, stated that it had again been a year of financial progress although not as great as the previous year, and the Society again found itself with a healthy balance in hand. Gross income had been £9 19s. 6d. and gross expenditure £8 12s. 11d. resulting in an excess of income over expenditure of £1 6s. 1d. Total assets of the Society now stood at £30 18s. 7d. which was a record.

Mr. Glover reminded members that the annual subscription had not been altered since it was introduced at 2s. 6d. in 1953, and pointed out that this was very much lower than any other cultural society in Ilkley, and probably lower than any other society at all. He recorded the Society's gratitude to its Patron, the Ilkley Urban District Council, without whose help this would not have been possible for so long.

He stated that in response to many requests from members it had been decided at a recent Committee Meeting to resume sending out news letters to paid up members on a quarterly basis, and bearing in mind the recent increase in postal charges it had been proposed to raise the Annual Subscription to five shillings. The Treasurer stated it had been finally decided to leave it at the present minimum of 2s. 6d. for another year, and to ask those members whose means made it possible to give something more than the minimum to enable the budget to be balanced for another year. He reported that 102 sub-

scriptions had been due during the year, of which 61 had been paid, and 41 had not. Of these 41, fifteen owed for two years, and six for three years. Mr. Glover reminded the meeting that subscriptions for the year 1961-62 were now due.

**SUBSCRIPTION**

Following the Treasurer's report a lively discussion took place over the suggested increase in the Subscription, with suggestions of 5s. and 10s. being put forward. Mr. Glover pointed out that as some members had already paid for the coming year at the old rate, it would hardly be fair to increase it for the members who had not. The matter was left to the committee to review the position before the 1962 Annual Meeting and to advise all members if it was decided to make any change.

Officers and Committee for 1961-62 were then elected as follows.—President, Miss E. M. Fletcher; Vice-Presidents, Mr. Peter E. Barker and Mr. A. David Glover; Secretary, Miss G. Cornwall-Jones, Moor Cottage, Wells Road, Ilkley; Excursion Secretary, Miss Nellie Saunders; Treasurer, Mr. A. D. Glover; Committee, all the above together with Mr. M. Cox, Mr. Robert T. Clough, and Mr. W. Brian Dale.

**"SILVER"**

Following the business meeting, Mr. Robert Rowe, of Temple Newsam House, gave a most absorbing talk on "Silver," illustrated by slides. He traced the development of the silversmith's art from the time of Henry VIII to the present time, dwelling particularly on the 17th and 18th centuries. Slides of many beautiful and unusual pieces were shown, the continental ones tending to over-ornamentation, whilst the English silver was typically simple in design, showing the metal itself to best advantage. From 1694 to 1719 all silver articles were made from a higher quality silver called Britannia Silver, but in 1719 the normal quality was re-introduced.

It was not generally known however that the Britannia standard was not made illegal and that silver articles could still be made today from this better material. This was giving rise to forgeries of Queen Anne pieces, and attempts were being made to repeal the old Act of Parliament which introduced the Britannia Quality. Bad taste in silver began in about 1830 and continued right through the Victorian Age, but said Mr. Rowe, good taste returned shortly before the first world war, and now was a good time to commission the manufacture of silver vessels or plates. Thanks were expressed by Mrs. Anne Barker. It was announced that the next meeting would be on 2 November when Mrs. Kellott would speak on "Our Road through Wharfedale to the Lakes."

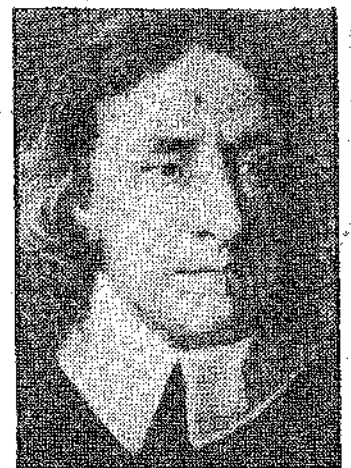
**Cromwell's remains**

I HEARD on the BBC that the headless skeleton found on the reputed site of the terrible Tyburn Tree during excavations was probably that of Oliver Cromwell.

Oliver Cromwell's remains were taken from Tyburn by his daughter Mary (some authorities say they were taken from Westminster), who married the grandson of the second Lord Falconburgh, the then owner of Newburgh Priory, and Cromwell's remains—without the head—were secretly buried in the vault above the front door.

The vault has never been opened, and it would be very illuminating if the vault were ever opened and revealed its secret. The head of Oliver Cromwell is in the possession of a clergyman.

To my mind, Oliver Cromwell's remains, head and skeleton of body, ought to be taken back to Westminster and laid in their final resting place among the great and mighty ones of England; such only is the fitting place for the erstwhile Lord Protector of England. Newburgh Priory is now, I



**OLIVER CROMWELL**

think, in the possession of the Wombwells, to whom it passed from the Falconburgs.—(Mrs.) L. COPLEY, 23 Main Street, Addingham, Ilkley.

J.F.A. 18.10.61

**Stones and wood on Ilkley Moor may mark 2,000-year-old dwelling**

By a Yorkshire Post reporter

Paving stones set in a circle, a rough wooden stump, and circular wall foundations unearthed on Ilkley Moor yesterday are believed, after a preliminary survey, to be remains of a dwelling erected about 2,000 years ago.

Miss Elsie M. Fletcher, honorary curator of Ilkley Museum, who inspected the stones yesterday, said last night that they were on an Iron Age site which was used well into Roman times.

The discovery (made by members of Yorkshire Mountaineering Club) was very important, she added, as the stones were the only known remains of a building in the district still in their original setting and dating from about 50 B.C.

The Mountaineering Club members started digging after one of them, Miss Kathleen Earle, had noticed what appeared to be a partly hidden quern (a stone used for grinding corn).

Digging revealed half a quern which had originally been about four

feet in diameter and 15 inches thick, and later the paving stones set in a circle about 15 feet in diameter, a central wooden stump, and wall foundations around the paving stones.

Miss Fletcher said experts would be asked to view the finds (at Green Crag Slack, about 1,000 feet above sea level, and about 500 yards east of the Cow and Calf Rocks), but in her opinion the finding of the quern was only incidental to the main discoveries. Even so the quern was bigger than others found in the district.

**Bigger than others**

The wooden stump (which appears to be of oak) sunk in the centre of the hearth stones would be the "roof tree," a central support for a thatched roof. Two thick rusted nails were taken from the stump, and layers of charcoal were found in the clay packed around it.

Miss Fletcher said she hoped it would be possible to keep the stones and the stump in the original setting.



A member of the Yorkshire Mountaineering Club, Miss Kathleen Earle, of Yeadon, who made the first discovery of the site, works to clear the wooden centre post.

F. Atkinson identifies this as a stone cracker  
see Gazette 2-12-1955



## ROYAL HOTEL DEMOLITION BEGINS

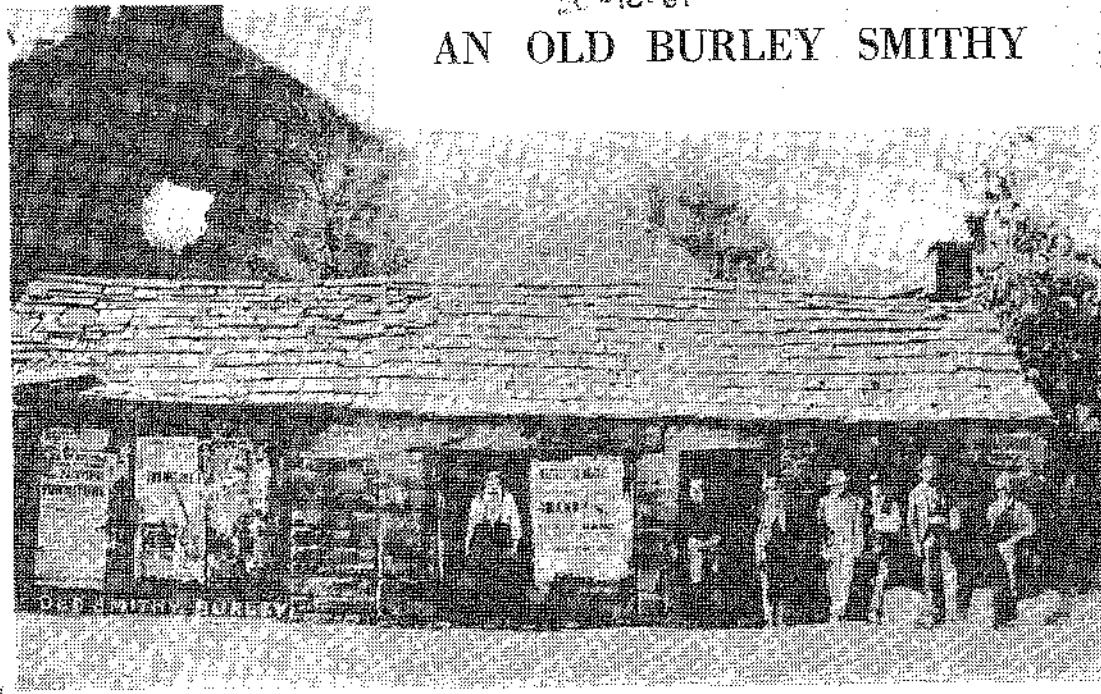
20-10-1961



Work started this week on the demolition of the Royal Hotel in Wells Road and is expected to be completed in about six weeks. The older portion of the hotel not seen in the above picture was opened in 1871 and the extension which is the part featured above was added in 1892. The hotel was at one time a popular choice for annual dinners of local organisations, had a billiard room on the Wells Promenade side later converted to dining room and ballroom. block of luxury flats is to take its place.

## AN OLD BURLEY SMITHY

20-10-61



This picture of the smithy which stood opposite the Malt Shovel Hotel in Burley is believed to be 100 years old. Standing in the doorway is the smith, Mr. James Rayner, who was the great grandfather of Mr. Sam Rayner, who was a smith at Ilkley until recently. It is thought the smithy, which stood out a few feet on to the main road was pulled down at the beginning of the century.

## Manor House Museum Opening Hours

Sir.—The Ilkley Council are to be commended on their efforts in restoring the Manor House.

However, I was very disturbed to notice that the hours of opening are now restricted from 2 p.m.—5 p.m. This seems to me, to destroy a great deal of the point of the restoration.

I presume it is for economic reasons, which surely means a lack of thought and planning before undertaking the project.

I would have thought the Council would have entered into it on the basis that it would be completely subsidised by them (or any other relevant body), regarding any money received from entrances as a welcome extra. Or they would have entered into it on a more commercial basis with more emphasis on making money and all that that implies.

They seem to have done neither of these things—and we are left with a museum and art gallery open only for three hours per day. A most unsatisfactory arrangement (particularly for out of town visitors) and one which does not do Ilkley justice.

I hope the Council will reconsider their policy on this matter, and we will have a valuable addition to the amenities of Ilkley, i.e., a museum and art gallery available to the public at any time of the day.

SHEILA EMMERSON

Lilac Cottage,  
Nesfield.

20-10-61

## Library and Museum

Present: Councillors Hill  
(chairman), Almistead, Atkinson,  
Clay, Hampshire, Priestley, Rogers  
Sarjeant and E. Smith.



## EXCAVATIONS AND MANOR HOUSE

Professor Brian Hartley, Lecturer in Romano-British Studies at Leeds University, has indicated that he would be pleased to assist in the supervision of proposed excavations at the site of the fort of Olicana at Ilkley. He has expressed the hope that the Ministry of Works would accept during the next financial year, some of the financial responsibility for the proposed excavations.

The proposed removal of the Roman altars from the Ilkley Parish Church to the Manor House Museum has been suspended for the present. The Surveyor has reported to the Museum Committee about the accommodation available and as a result it has been decided to take no action about the transfer at the present time. A further report is asked for on the completion of the excavation of the Manor House.

The offer by Mr. R. O. Sutchiffe of Park Hurst, Middleton, of an indefinite loan of a Roman amphora for exhibition at the Manor House has been accepted, and Mr. Sutchiffe thanked for his offer.

## COATS OF ARMS EXPLAINED

The Olicana Museum Society held its February meeting at the Town Hall, Ilkley, on Thursday, when Mr. F. Morrell, of Otley, gave a talk on Heraldry. Miss P. M. Fletcher, the president, was in the chair.

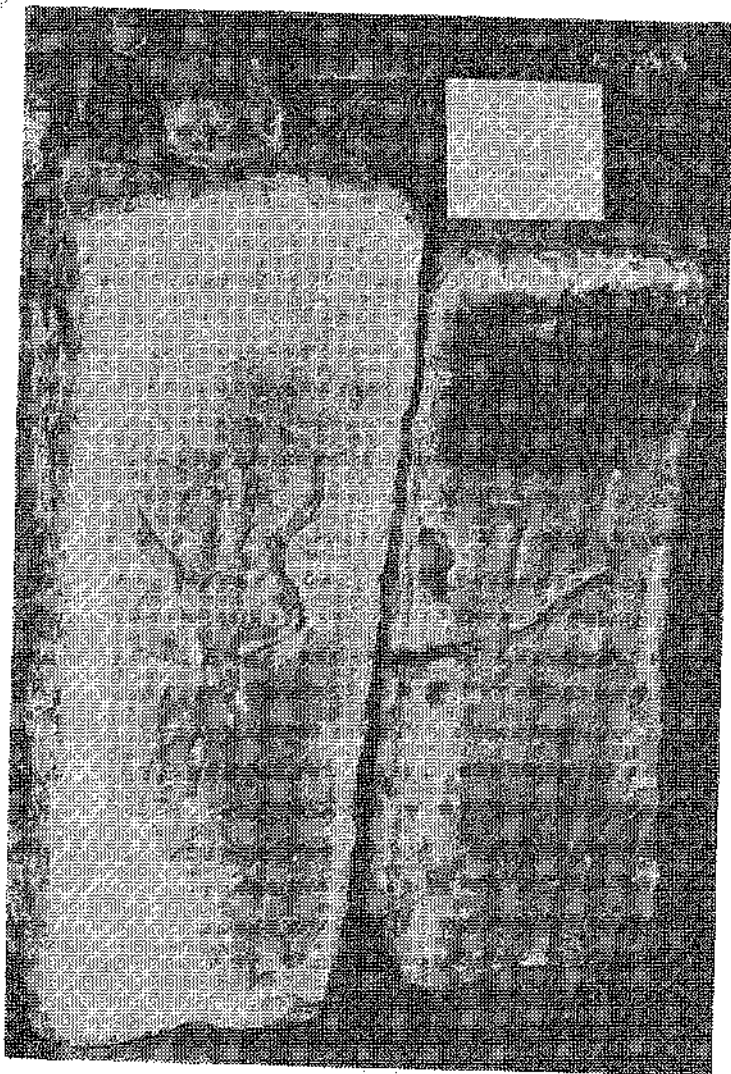
Coats of arms, Mr. Morrell said, originated in the needs for military commanders to be distinguished from each other in the field of battle. They were granted by the Crown, but in the 15th century the Crown formed the heralds into a College, to which application for coats of arms must still be made.

Mr. Morrell described the colours used in coats of arms, and he explained the meaning of terms such as bend and fesse. He went on to describe coats of arms of families local to Ilkley—the Middletons, the Currers, the Lawsons—and of cities and, in more modern times, those granted to local authorities—County Councils, County Boroughs and Urban District Councils—as Ilkley.

The talk was illustrated throughout by numerous beautiful paintings by Mr. Morrell of coats of arms.

The talk was followed by questions, and a vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Peter Barker.

## ROMAN ALTARS OFFER



The Parochial Council has offered to the Olicana Museum Society two Roman altars at present standing at the West end of Ilkley Parish Church. The Library and Museum Society has asked the Surveyor to report in regard to the transfer to the Manor House.

Picture shows the altars in their present position in the church. The framed notice states: "Two Roman altars which were formerly built into the north wall of the tower of this church. The altars were removed in the year 1919 A.D. in order to ascertain whether they were inscribed. It was then discovered that both altars had been trimmed and their sides hollowed out for use as window heads. Any inscription had been cut away. One altar shows a figure which is thought to represent Verbena, the goddess of the River Wharfe, and the other shows a sacrificial jug and paten."

## MUSEUM SOCIETY LECTURE

### "Archaeology Without Tears"

Mrs. Rosa Hartley, of Harrogate, was the speaker at a meeting of the Olicana Museum Society held at the Town Hall, on Thursday evening of last week.

Mrs. Hartley was already known by the Society as she acted as a guide on an excursion to Knaresborough, and she has done much work at the Harrogate Museum. Her subject was "Archaeology without tears."

She described archaeology as the study of ancient peoples, based on the discovery of remains such as pottery, coins, roads, buildings and burial mounds. She went on to talk of Stonehenge, first mentioned by Henry of Huntingdon in 1130, who spoke of the stones as having been transported by Merlin. The stones dated back to 2000 B.C., and there was no evidence at all for the theory that they were Druidic in origin, though that theory died hard. The large stones came from Marlborough, and the smaller ones, the "blue" stones, came from the Prescelly Mountains in Pembrokeshire, being carried by raft from Pembrokeshire across the Bristol Channel. She suggested the book by Professor Atkinson on Stonehenge for further study.

## EXCAVATIONS

Mrs. Hartley described the excavations at Newton Kyme, in which she took part, and she talked also of the Spettisham treasure, gold ornaments, coins and bracelets, the discoveries of which were made possible by deeper cultivation of the soil in that part of Norfolk.

Talking of museums, Mrs. Hartley said that their contents, such as arrowheads, bronze spear heads, are usually found on the surface, and could be found anywhere.

She gave a warning about the dangers of irresponsible excavations, against which there was no legislation. She told the meeting that her knowledge of archaeology had been gained from actual excavations, and her account of them was most vivid.

## EXCAVATIONS

At the beginning of next week the first excavations of the site of the Roman Fort of Olicana since Professor A. M. Woodward's effort some 40 years ago will begin under Professor Brian Hartley, lecturer in Romano-British studies at Leeds University. He will concentrate on the east side in the first place for two very good reasons of equal merit. They are that Mr. Woodward did little if anything on this portion and therefore something new may be awaiting discovery and that this is the area which the Council intends to develop first following the demolition of the Wheat Sheaf Hotel. Professor Hartley is himself intrigued by the problem which has baffled others—of how a garrison of the known size of the one that was stationed at Olicana found sufficient accommodation within the confines of so (apparently) small fort. The earlier excavation uncovered a part of the headquarters building and work on other forts has shown the headquarters were invariably in the centre of such forts which followed a set pattern around it. Knowledge of the extent of the headquarters brings knowledge of the extent of the fort. Professor Hartley believes that whilst probably the east wall was lost in the making of New Brook Street a good deal of the buildings on that side will be untouched. He is fairly certain that the main gate was on the east side and expects to be able to show this in relation to the main road through the fort. Professor Hartley is convinced that Ilkley holds the key to several problems. One of the difficulties may be one of finance. A local fund to meet some of the cost could well prove to be an investment in Ilkley's history.

## AN ILKLEY SRAPBOOK PLANNED

A preliminary meeting of representatives from the Afternoon and Evening Townswomen's Guilds, the Museum Society, the Inner Wheel and other interested people met on Monday evening, to make plans for an exhibition of "Old Ilkley" to be held at the Manor House in August.

The exhibition will bear the title "Ilkley Scrapbook, from Victoria to 1914," and will illustrate by means of costumes, pottery, etc., and photographs, the life of the village when access to a wider world was mainly by "safety" by cycle or horse-and-trap along dusty bumpy time-slow roads.

Future historians will consider the year 1914 as marking the beginning of the disintegration of English village life, under the growing impact of the "motor-car" age.

The Committee consists of Cr. Mrs. F. S. Hampshire, Miss N. Saunders, Miss G. Cornwall-Jones, Mrs. M. G. Richardson, Mrs. M. Saywell, Mrs. R. Ward, Mrs. Hill, Miss Fletcher and Messrs. D. Glover, A. Kitchen, A. Muschamp and Lancaster. Mr. N. H. Parker the Chief Librarian, will act as hon. secretary.

## ILKLEY GAZETTE

### CORRESPONDENCE

#### Roman Altars Plea

Sir.—You referred in your issue dated 9 February, to the proposal that the Roman Altars in the Parish Church should be moved to the Museum. I hope that there is still time for this proposal to be reconsidered. These two stones began their career as Roman Altars, certainly, but they have been re-used as part of the fabric of the church at least twice—once as window or door-heads in the Anglo-Saxon predecessor of the present building, and later as part of the existing fifteenth-century tower.

They are thus the only surviving fragments, so far as we know, of the stone church that was standing in Ilkley before the Norman Conquest, and they have been part of the fabric of the church for more than a thousand years. Since their existence is a large part of the evidence that takes the history of Ilkley Parish Church back to the early days of Christianity in the North of England, it seems a great pity to move them now.

JOHN LE PATOUREL.

Westcote,  
Hebers Ghyll Drive  
Ilkley.



# PRELIMINARY EXCAVATION OF ROMAN FORT

## Much is yet to be learned from Hidden Information

Mr. Brian Hartley, lecturer in Romano-British studies at Leeds University, who was in charge of the recent excavations on the site of the Roman Fort of Olicana at Ilkley has presented the following report to Ilkley Urban District Council.

There was a Roman fort at Ilkley for over three hundred years—one of the series established in the Dales to act as police posts ensuring the good behaviour of those Brigantian tribesmen who lived in the Pennine valleys. Without doubt, the fort attracted a large civilian settlement, too, though we know little of it, because it now lies buried under the buildings of modern Ilkley.

It is the civil settlement, however, that provides the link with our own times, because it would survive the withdrawal of the fort's garrison at the end of the Roman occupation, and there is little doubt that its continued existence prompted the later Anglian settlement implied by the outstanding crosses now in the Churchyard.

There is some justification, then, for regarding the Roman fort and its attendant village as the true beginning of the town. Previous excavations, carried out by Mr. A. M. Woodward in the 1920's, gave some indication of the interest of the site, but left many questions unanswered. As some of them are vital for an understanding of the fort, the opportunity afforded by the development plans for the fort area had to be seized, and with the aid of a grant from the Ancient Monuments Branch of the Ministry of Works a small excavation was arranged for April in order to clear up some of the preliminary points.

### THREE MAIN TASKS

Three main tasks were achieved, namely the cutting of a section through the north defences, and examination of the cellars of the Wheatsheaf Hotel, and sampling of the buildings inside the fort near New Brook Street.

A single trench cut at right-angles to the line of the defences over the north rampart gave a remarkably and unexpectedly complete picture of their history. The original fort, founded by Julius Agricola about A.D. 80, had a turf rampart laid for its full width on a stone foundation. This would have stood about 12 feet high and had a sloping front and back, with a rampart walk and breast-work on top. Behind it were traces of cooking activity, as often in forts whose internal buildings were of timber.

### ABANDONED

The recent work confirms the suspicion that the fort was abandoned about A.D. 120-125, when Hadrian's Wall was built, and adds the information that the rampart was then almost completely levelled—standard Roman military practice to prevent an enemy from taking advantage of the defences. When the fort was re-occupied, about A.D. 160, as one of the measures taken after a dangerous revolt of the Brigantes in our area, a new clay rampart was laid over the remains of the earlier one, but extending 4 feet further south. (The greater width suggests a higher structure.)

Subsequently, and perhaps in A.D. 197, as an inscription recorded by Camden taken with new dating evidence provided by pottery from the masons' trench for the wall, suggest, the fort was given a stone front on the north side of the rampart to bring it more into line with current military practice.

### CUT BACK

In the course of the third century the rampart was cut back to allow the insertion of an oven, and given a rear revetment of cobbles set in clay. By this time, however, the rampart was largely superfluous, because the stone wall at its front provided all the defence that was needed, and by the end of the third century it had probably been reduced to its present level.

The open space between the rampart and the internal buildings had a truly remarkable series of roads, which would run around the whole fort just behind the defences. The first three were found to belong to the original fort (A.D. 80-125), the next to the second century reoccupation, and the last two to the third century. During this time the road level rose by as much as 4 feet.

### EXCEPTIONAL FEATURE

At the end of the third century a stone building was constructed over the roads in what should still have been an open space. This is an exceptional feature in such a fort as Ilkley and it could be taken to imply that there was a shortage of space in the fort, perhaps because it was then given a larger garrison. (The new evidence for the date of this building suggests that another one, in the central range, which also encroaches on the road, may belong to the same period—a modification of Mr. Woodward's dating that is in accord with other recent discoveries.) The purpose of the building is still unknown, though its flagged floor would not be out of place in barracks. More work is needed here to trace its plan and elucidate its nature.

### WHEATSHEAF

Despite the shallowness of the Wheatsheaf cellars, it appears that the Roman levels were all cut away when they were made. A little more work is needed here to clinch the point beyond doubt.

### IMPORTANT RESULTS

Advantage was taken of the scarp alongside New Brook Street to get to the early Roman levels expeditiously. Here, most important results were obtained. It was found

that this part of the fort had timber buildings in use down to the late second century. The post-holes of two characteristically planned barracks were found. These would have been built in the reoccupation of the fort about A.D. 160 and they were destroyed by fire in the invasion and revolts of A.D. 196-7, as a layer yielding burnt daub, roofing slabs and abundant late second century pottery testifies.

### DESTRUCTION PROOF

Destruction of the fort at this time has long been conjectured, but it is particularly pleasing to have firm proof of the matter. Furthermore, the realisation that the second century fort still had some timber buildings raises the possibility that it had nothing but timber buildings. This would explain the crux of the earlier excavations, namely the apparent lack of building periods in the central range. If the stone buildings there all belong to the third and fourth centuries, the difficulty is removed.

### COINS

So far, it has not been possible to clear the lowest levels to investigate the buildings of the first fort. However, they are associated with an occupation deposit with abundant pottery and building material which has yielded coins of Vespasian and Domitian, the last in very fine condition.

The late Roman stone buildings in the part of the fort could not be examined at all extensively in the time available. Nevertheless, enough work was done on them to show that they are reasonably well preserved. One is associated with a cobbled floor and drain, suggestive of stabling.

### OTHER FINDS

The finds from the excavation have naturally not been studied in detail yet, but a few of the more notable objects may be mentioned. Most interesting for its hints of local industry is the finely polished bezel, from a finger-ring, in the local micaceous sandstone. Bootnails, a jet bracelet (such as would be worn by auxiliary soldiers), cavalry trappings, window glass and glass vessels will all enhance the Museum collections. Perhaps the most intriguing find was a series of stones with simple cornice mouldings that had been re-used in one of the roads. These must have come from a building (not necessarily in the fort) of some architectural pretensions.

# ILKLEY ROMAN FORT EXCAVATIONS

## DISCOVERIES PRODUCE NEW INFORMATION

### "WORK IS WELL WORTH WHILE"

Confirmation of the establishment of the Roman Fort of Olicana at Ilkley in A.D. 97 and evidence of its development through to the fourth century has been unearthed during the course of the excavations during the past fortnight.

Mr. Brian Hartley, of Leeds University, who is in charge of the team of workers, told the "Ilkley Gazette" yesterday (Thursday) that the work during the past fortnight had been well worth while and he was very pleased with what had been found.

Mr. Hartley said in his view the most interesting result had been the recovery of traces of late second century timber buildings. These were found during trenching immediately behind the poster boardings. Mr. Hartley said there was evidence they were destroyed during a native revolt at the end of the second century.

Further examination would be well worth while, said Mr. Hartley, but this would be better achieved by exposing an area rather than by trenching.

### RE-BUILT

Dealing with the fort itself Mr. Hartley said the discoveries suggested that the buildings of the fort were not of stone before the beginning of the second century. When the Romans abandoned the fort in AD 120 they levelled the rampart to about two feet from the bottom, and when they came back again in AD 160 they rebuilt the rampart with clay instead of with turf as previously.

It was possible to see all these changes and developments in the trench which had been dug in the north-eastern corner. There was evidence exposed of a strengthening of the outer side of the rampart with large stones, and a cutting back of the rampart on the inner side in the third century to provide extra room for the ovens.

An interesting feature of the discoveries was evidence of five roads of differing periods all built one on top of the other. Pieces of pottery provided confirmation of the occupation during the various period and yesterday afternoon at the bottom of the trench the workers were coming across evidence of late first century occupation.

### CAVALRY "BIT"

One of the outstanding "finds" was a well preserved wooden "bit" used by one of the cavalry troopers known to be stationed at Olicana during the Roman occupation. Also of great interest is a stone evidently from a ring which Mr. Hartley suspects may be local millstone polished for the purpose. He is to have an examination conducted by experts in such matters.

Speaking about the future, Mr. Hartley said he was most anxious to investigate the area behind the Manor House where the west rampart was known to be and also the east side and he hoped it would be possible for something to be done about this in August. He was prepared to give his time to it, but it would mean a period of at least six weeks and paid labour would be required at that time in addition to voluntary labour on which he would have to rely to augment the team of diggers.

"There is work indeed to be done to complete as far as we can the history of the fort and I am most anxious to do it," said Mr. Hartley.

### FURTHER NEED

Although so brief, the recent work has shown very clearly how much can still be learned of the fort at Ilkley. With its results to start from, it should now be possible to plan further excavation to give a complete history and series of ground-plans for the eastern part of the fort. Re-examination of part of the central range is now highly desirable in view of the suggestions made above. Various bits that the fort was larger at one time require checking by a section through the west rampart, which should also tell us whether the area behind the Manor House is of sufficient general interest to envisage the possibility of exposing and consolidating the Roman structures there.

### MANOR HOUSE

He spoke also of the manner in which the main features of the fort could be indicated, and a portion left exposed, and agreed that with careful planning the site could be a means of attracting people to Ilkley.

During the week many experts have been to see how Mr. Hartley was progressing and he has also been visited by people who take an active interest in work of this kind. All of them, Mr. Hartley told the "Gazette" representative had been greatly impressed by the Manor House, which he described as "a very fine building." Ilkley was fortunate in its possession, he said, and with a similar spirit of enterprise over the site of the Roman Fort there could be an area of historic interest unique in the West Riding.

# ROMAN FORT

## "DIG" 2 June 1962

### FUND LAUNCHED

An appeal for £500 to enable the excavations of the site of the Roman fort of Olicana to be completed is being launched by the Chairman of Ilkley Council, Cr. Eric Smith.

At Wednesday's meeting of the Council, Mr. Smith said that since their last meeting they had received a letter from Mr. B. R. Hartley, of Leeds University, who had been in charge of the preliminary excavation before Easter stating that the Ministry of Works had intimated that they were prepared to put up another £250 for work along the New Brook Street front. There was also a further £100 from the Trustees of the Haverfield Fund.

Mr. Smith said he was certain the excavations should be complete to confirm or add to their knowledge of Roman Ilkley but the amount from the Ministry and the Haverfield Fund would not be sufficient.

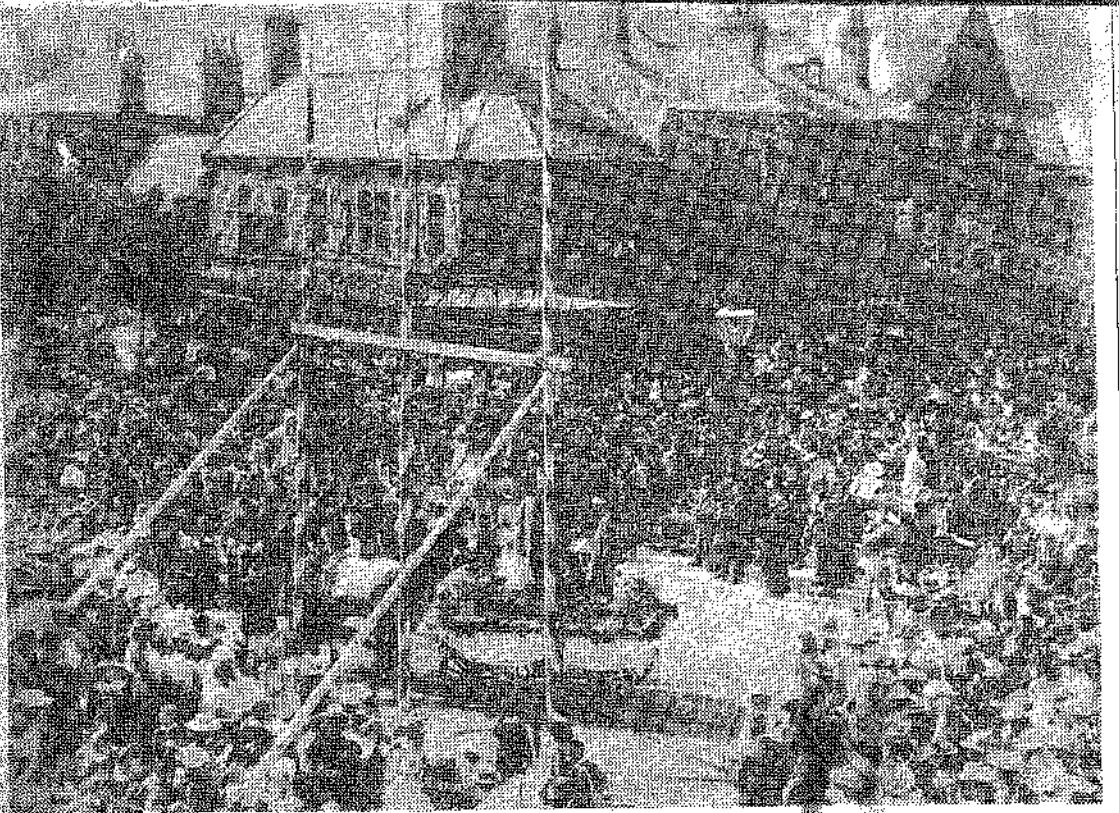
They had already received a useful sum from a former Ilkley lady now living in Harrogate and he was sure other Ilkley residents would be prepared to contribute. Accordingly he was setting a target of £500 for Ilkley to augment the amount promised from other sources and would be pleased to receive contributions so the work could be started in the summer.

### "INFORMATION IS THERE"

It will be clear that the information is there to be unearthed. A further excavation of longer duration during the summer (say six weeks) should allow the main tasks outstanding to be finished. All this is primarily a question of finance, since the University is willing and anxious to continue the work. While the Ministry of Works will probably be prepared to contribute more money towards the cost of rescue work along the New Brook Street edge, another £750 or so would be needed to complete all the work desirable before the opportunity is lost. A local appeal in Ilkley might not be out of place.

In conclusion, the most happy nature of the co-operation between your Council, the Ministry of Works and the University, should be stressed. It not only made the work possible, but also profitable and pleasant, as far as the weather allowed. While this is not the place for full acknowledgments to all who contributed to the success of the work, it would be churlish not to record gratitude to Mr. D. J. D. Woodhall and his staff, notably Mr. Arthur Kitching, for their splendid help.





Seventy-five years ago this week Ilkley celebrated Queen Victoria's Jubilee and among the many celebrations held throughout the District was this one at the top of Brook Street. See elsewhere in this issue for an account of the celebrations in "In Days Gone By."

22 JUN 1962  
ILKLEY GAZETTE

**OLICANA MUSEUM SOCIETY**

13th April 1962

The last meeting of the winter season of Olicana Museum Society was held at the Town Hall on Thursday last week, when Mr. John Hardy, Jnr., taking as his subject "A European Miscellany," gave an informal talk on some of his visits to Europe, illustrated with slides. He said that he had particularly avoided photographing scenes already familiar through postcards and official photographs, and he showed slides giving unusual aspects of four memorable cities—Rome, Venice, Dubrovnik and Paris.

Rome was shown, on its Seven Hills, the Colosseum, St. Peter's Basilica and the Vatican, with a particularly beautiful slide of lighted candles in St. Peter's, some of the less known fountains, and a lovely glimpse of garden in the Forum.

Then Venice appeared, in its unique beauty of light and water and colour. He contrasted some of the very simple churches just outside Venice with the Byzantine richness of St. Mark's Basilica. He showed something of the everyday life of Venice, the fruit and vegetable market under the Rialto Bridge, the gondoliers in their vivid dress, and the vapour of the water-buses of Venice.

**DUBROVNIK**

Mr. Hardy then showed pictures of the mediaeval Yugoslavian city of Dubrovnik, with views from the city walls, and many vivid impressions of warmth, sunshine and colour.

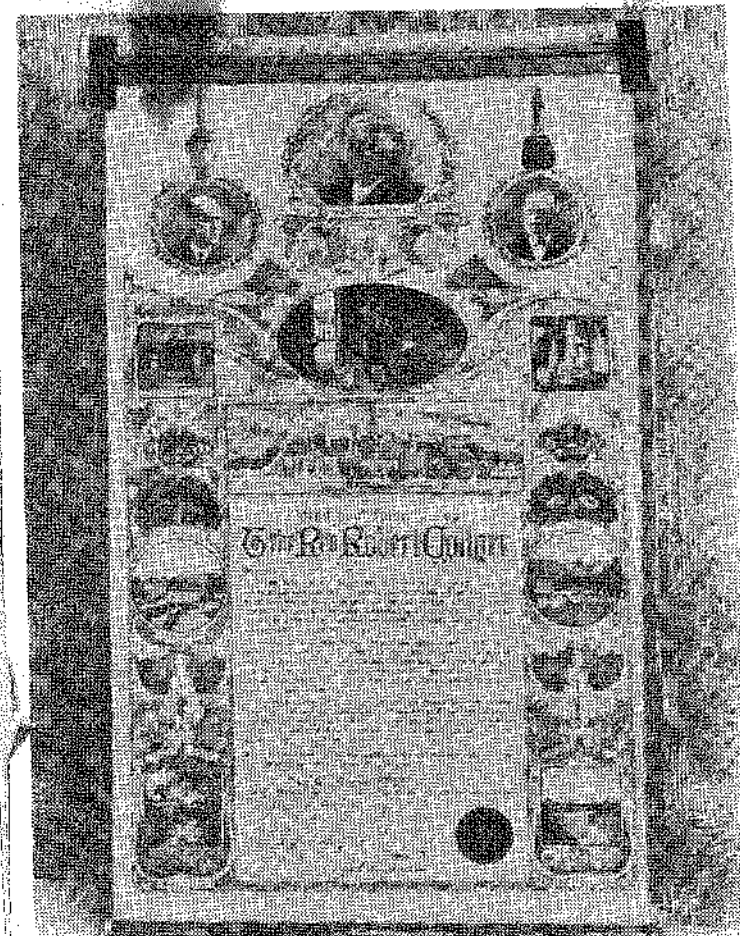
Finally, Paris was shown in its comparatively ordered beauty, Notre Dame, some of the streets, in particular the Champs-Elysees and Malmaison, whose charm he compared favourably with that of Versailles.

The colours shown in the photographs were a revelation of what was now possible in colour photography.

Mr. Hardy was warmly thanked for a delightful and memorable evening.

A programme of monthly excursions throughout the summer has been arranged, and a copy of this should by now have reached each member. Friends of members will be welcome. The excursions include visits to Temple Newsam, Ridding Park and Kildwick Hall and Church, and to see various lands at Grassington and Otley Chevin.

**BACK FROM THE UNITED STATES**



When Dr. Robert Collyer opened the Ilkley Public Library in October, 1907, he was presented with an illuminated address by the Council on behalf of the townspeople. After his death this came into the possession of his granddaughter, Miss Lucy Pitnam Eastman. A New York lawyer has found it among the effects of Miss Eastman and his offer to return it to the Council has been accepted. The Library Committee is to place it on exhibition in the library.

It contains the following message:

By hammer and hand  
All things do stand.

To the Rev. Robert Collyer.

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the inhabitants of Ilkley, we beg to offer you our hearty congratulations on your having successfully undertaken the journey from America in your 80th year. We express thanks for the kindly interest you have shown towards our town, and in creating funds for the library.

century has passed since you left Ilkley to seek your fortune in a far-off land, we know by your many acts of kindness that your love for the scenes of your youth and early manhood has never waned, and that by opening our New Public Library to-day, pleasant associations are revived which connect the present with the past through many bye-gone years.

We therefore feel proud to subscribe our names hereto in honour of a man whose long career has been devoted to the promotion of all that is good and noble in life, and trust you may long be spared to continue to use that influence by voice and pen which has already done so much for the benefit of mankind.

The Common Seal of the Ilkley Urban District Council was hereto affixed this 2nd day of October, 1907, by J. C. Barker (Chairman), Isaac Dean (vice-chairman), John W. Benson, John Wilson Dixon, Joseph Dinsdale, J. S. Swaden, J. T. Jackson, J. A. Matherlock, Jas. C. Naylor, J. R. Waugh.

**MUSEUM MANY VISITORS**

During the first year of its operation the Manor House Museum attracted 7,132 visitors and in addition 722 school children in official parties, no charge being made for these.

At Wednesday night's Council meeting, the Chairman of the Committee, Cr. L. J. Sargeant said the Committee had been encouraged by these figures. Doubts had been expressed when the project was first mooted about the possibility of running the Manor House successfully but from every point of view the interest seemed to be intensifying.

The Council has decided to apply to the West Riding Education Committee for a grant in respect of school parties visiting the museum.

Cr. Outersides said it was extremely difficult for people to go through the stiles, and almost impossible for a woman.

It was agreed the Surveyor should investigate and report at the next meeting.

**Ilkley Gazette**  
Established May,  
8, Wells Road  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 24th

**REFLECTI**

**COLLYER KEY**

In July note was made of the return to the Ilkley Urban Council of the illuminated address presented to Dr. Robert Collyer when he opened the Ilkley Public Library in 1907. It was among the effects of the late Miss Lucy Pitnam Eastman and sent back to Ilkley by Mr. Harry Krieger, a Counsellor at law, of New York. Its return provoked the question of the whereabouts of a gold key given by the Council to Dr. Collyer at the same time. Mr. Krieger was asked about this and a reply to Mr. B. E. Townend, Clerk to the Council, shows that he has gone to some trouble to co-operate. Mr. Krieger says he found the key in the "custody of Mr. Norman Eastman, grandson of the late Reverend Collyer. The key apparently was wrought of bronze and gilt which has long since tarnished but Mr. Eastman holds it in great esteem and he has the key in its original case, mounted in a prominent place in his living room." The possibility is held out that at some time in the future the key may be returned to Ilkley to occupy a place among those other possessions of a man who exerted such an influence over the place he was pleased to call his home town from a distance of thousands of miles.