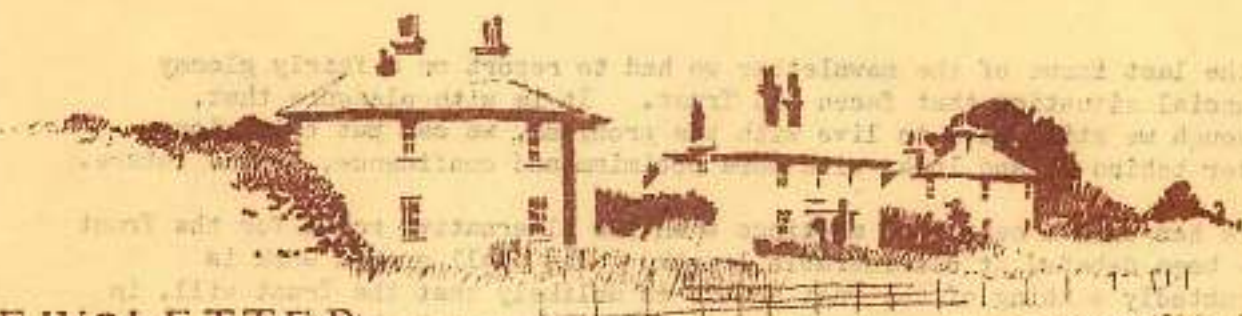


Nottinghamshire Building Preservation Trust



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 1980

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FARM BUILDINGS SURVEY

By the time this newsletter reaches you the STEP programme, under which the Farm Buildings Survey Team were employed, will have terminated and there is no hope, under the present conditions, of renewal.

In the next issue we will publish an article which looks at the achievements of the survey and the way the Trust hopes to continue the work in a voluntary capacity.

Our thanks and best wishes are due to Phil Ibbotson and Alex Grace who undertook the bulk of the work.

THE TRUST IN 1980 - a change of direction

by Bob Middleton

_____ * _____ * _____ * _____ * _____

In the last issue of the newsletter we had to report on a fairly gloomy financial situation that faces the Trust. It is with pleasure that, although we still have to live with the problems, we can put this gloomy matter behind us and look, with more optimism and confidence, to the future.

There has been a series of meetings when the alternative roles for the Trust have been debated at considerable length. The small grants work is undoubtedly a thing of the past and it is unlikely that the Trust will, in the foreseeable future, have the resources to resurrect this type of work.

It has been agreed that the future priorities of the Trust should be:-

1. to concentrate on the acquisition, restoration and resale of properties and the development of a revolving fund for this purpose;
2. to continue to present evidence at Public Inquiries whenever any significant Nottinghamshire building is under threat;
3. to continue to extend, both to local authorities and individuals, advice on all aspects relating to the preservation and maintenance of buildings.

In seeking to achieve these objectives within the more limited resources now available to the Trust it will be necessary to reduce the Trust's expenditure, two major items of which are the retention of professional technical advice and the central services provided by the Community Council for Nottinghamshire. In both cases it is hoped to increase the level of voluntary involvement that will make this possible and 1980/81 is to be regarded as a transitional period during which we will work towards these changes.

The Trust is, at the moment, investigating the feasibility of establishing a Panel of Architects based throughout the county and willing to submit reports on specific buildings to the Trust, so that the expertise available to the Trust in the past may still be forthcoming.

One immediate outcome of these proposals is that the Trust should no longer formally retain the services of Mr. John Severn as Technical Adviser to the Trust. Mr. Severn will continue to work for the Trust but more as co-ordinator of the Panel of Architects rather than as the principal source of technical advice. In reporting this we must pay the most generous tribute to Mr. Severn, whose loyalty and dedication to the Trust have been given unstintingly. Without his expert advice and unflagging enthusiasm the Trust could never be the dynamic force for conservation that it is, and it is perhaps appropriate at this time, in view of his change in role, to express our thanks and appreciation to him for his splendid efforts in the past.

Our thanks are due no less to our other Technical Adviser, Mr. Graham Beaumont, who is seconded to us by the County Council, and it is pleasing to be able to report that Mr. Beaumont's services will continue to be available to us on the same basis as previously.

continued on page 3

There are also proposals to increase voluntary involvement in such matters as publicity, the recruitment of new members and the co-ordination and development of the 'Buildings at Risk' register.

Looking to the future, one can see that the Trust will be very different to the Trust of the past. Certain things will, however, not change. These will be the Trust's commitment to safeguard our county's heritage, its willingness to assist and encourage those who wish to play their own role in enhancing it, and the enthusiasm and hard work of its members and friends.

PROGRESS REPORTS

RUINED CHURCH OF ST. MARY COLSTON BASSETT

The first meeting of the Steering Committee was held at Langer Hall on 28th January to establish a scheme to make safe and maintain the church and to set up a Trust to take over the ownership of the building which is one of Nottinghamshire's few scheduled Ancient Monuments, and one of only 25 Grade I 'listed' buildings in the county. Members of the Steering Committee in attendance were as follows:-

Mrs. I.M. Skirving, Chairman
Mr. M. Mitchell, Vice-Chairman
Mr. G. Beaumont, R.I.B.A. - N.B.F.T.
Mr. L. Bond, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A. - S.P.A.B.
Mr. C. Cawthorn - Rushcliffe B.C.
Mrs. Hamner - Chairman, Colston Bassett P.C.
Mr. C.C. Hodson - Rotheras, Solicitors
Dr. R. Middleton - C.C.N.
Mrs. McGuinness - Chairman,
Colston Bassett W.I.
Mr. B. Noake - Sec. Southwell Diocesan Cttee.
Rev. Perkins - Vicar of Colston Bassett
Rep. P.C.C.
The Venerable Roy Williamson -
Archdeacon of Nottingham.

The potential offers of help and interest were most encouraging.

It was agreed to appoint an architect to draw up a scheme of restoration, and the Diocese of Southwell, as its contribution, generously offered to underwrite the necessary fees.

The next meeting will be held at Colston Bassett House on 12th May. Following this there will be public meetings with opportunities for all to discuss the project and help with fund-raising or practical work.

FIRS FARM AND HOLLIES FARM EDWALTON

The future of these farm buildings has been the subject of considerable concern in recent months. Rushcliffe Borough Council was to sell both sites with the retention of Hollies Farm but not Firs Farm. The Building Preservation Trust was asked to prepare a design brief for the restoration and conversion of Hollies Farm which it agreed to do but undertook, at the same time, to prepare a similar design brief for Firs Farm, and suggested to Rushcliffe Borough Council that they should reconsider their original decision. It is with pleasure that we can report that the Borough Council have agreed to this request so that both properties are to be disposed of with the condition that they should be repaired and converted.

LINBY LANE PAPPLEWICK

As the next stage in its bid to purchase and restore the farm buildings at Linby Lane, Papplewick, the Building Preservation Trust has now formally submitted an application for repair and conversion.

The proposals were fully discussed with the Parish Council who are actively supporting the scheme.

IN SITU REPAIRS TO ERODED STONEMWORK

The Manor House, Mansfield Woodhouse, is a listed building Grade II dating from the early sixteenth century. The building was completely restyled in the eighteenth century, leaving no authentic sixteenth century details. The rebuilding used stone rubble and local stones. After its original use as a dwelling, the Manor House was acquired by the Mansfield Woodhouse Urban District Council in the 1930s and used by them until local government reorganisation in 1974 when it was taken over by the Mansfield District Council for use as offices for the Legal and Administration, Housing and Environmental Services Depts. of the District Council.

Today, the main fabric is of random sandstone walling with faced stone dressings to windows and doorways. There are stone cornices, string courses, plinths, etc. and the parapet walls are crenellated.

The structure has been badly affected by mining subsidence in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and this, combined with weather erosion, has taken its toll of the sandstone so that in places 75mm or so of the surface has been eroded. Some random walling areas have been rough cast rendered in the early part of this century in an attempt to arrest the decay.

Restoration work has now been in progress in annual stages in 1976, 1977, 1978 and 1979 using in situ 'Stonex' reconstructed stone restoration system. Consultation did take place between the Council, the local civic society and the Nottingham based contractors to ensure that the work preserved as much of the original random stonework as possible with the restoration of some areas of original random stonework previously covered by rendering.

With acknowledgment to Building
Conservation.

MEMORIAL TO DEAD ELMS

When Henry Venables Ltd. were invited to provide skirtings, door frames, panelling and glazed screens in the new county hall being built for Hereford and Worcester County Council it was stipulated that they should use local dead elm.

Elm is rarely used for this purpose - normally it is made into posts or coffins because of its great resistance to water. Unfortunately the trees have no resistance to the dreaded Dutch Elm disease and the architect thought timber from felled trees in the Hereford area could be incorporated in the new county hall and make a fitting memorial to the English elm.

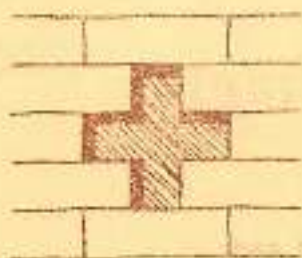
The elm wood fittings are finished with a melamine coating.

The County Hall building at Munnery Wood, won a commendation from the RIBA.

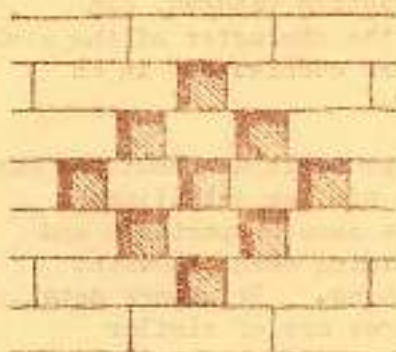
IMPORTANT NEW LEGISLATION IN THE PIPELINE

The Housing Bill, containing 129 clauses, is designed to stimulate the improvement and repair of older houses. The number of renovation grants last year was only about a quarter of the number in 1973, and the Government wishes to reverse this trend, first because there are still too many families living in unsatisfactory homes without even the amenities of bath and internal W.C's, and second, because very often improvement and repair represent better value for money than demolition and rebuild. The intention is that 'repair grants' should be available for major structural repairs to most pre-1919 dwellings and not just, as now, for the installation of baths and loos. Local authorities will also be allowed greater flexibility in administering the grant system. Local authorities will also be given extra finance for 'environmental works' in Housing Action Areas to match those in General Improvement Areas.

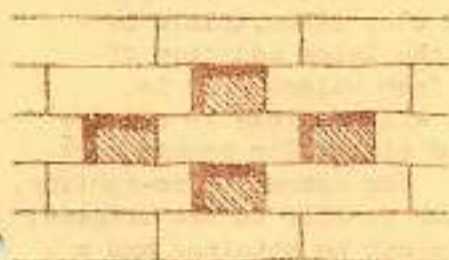
With acknowledgment to Civic Trust News.



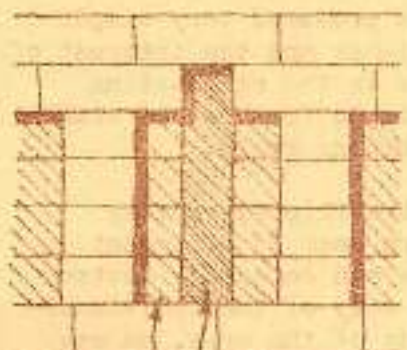
Grove Farm, Epperstone



9 hole diamond, Flintham.
4 hole & 16 hole also common



Lilac Farm, Loxton
dated 1760. 4 headers



9" recess through hole

Barn at Ranscliffe Farm,
Bradmore. Built c. 1736.
From inside.

BARN VENTILATION HOLES

Graham Beaumont

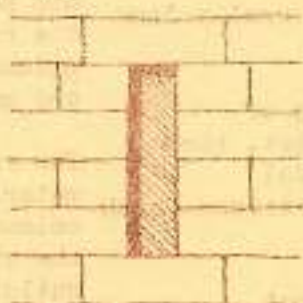
These holes were strictly practical, providing the ventilation necessary to prevent stored crops from going mouldy. However the opportunity was taken to make decorative patterns.

Save these decorative features!
Draw them! Measure them!
Tell the Trust about them!

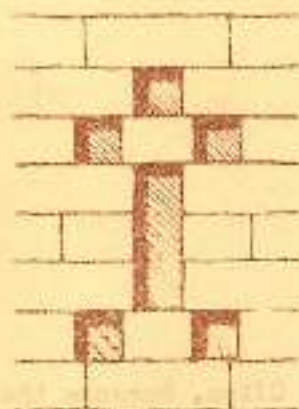
We would like to know:-
Which are the commonest patterns?
Which are the rarest?
What date are they?
Are certain patterns peculiar to particular regions?

A Latin cross is a common pattern: was this used superstitiously to guard the precious harvest from harm? Or was there some other significance?

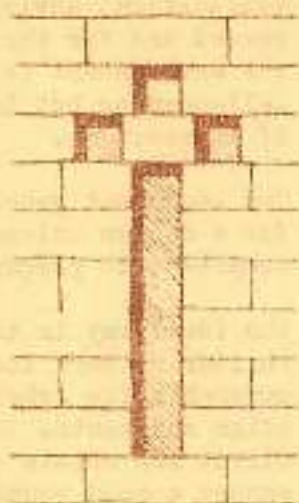
Members will be pleased to learn that Ranscliffe Borough Council have served a Building Preservation Notice on the splendid barn at Ranscliffe Farm, Bradmore. We are equally pleased that the 1790 barn at Thurgarton has been preserved and sympathetically made into a home.



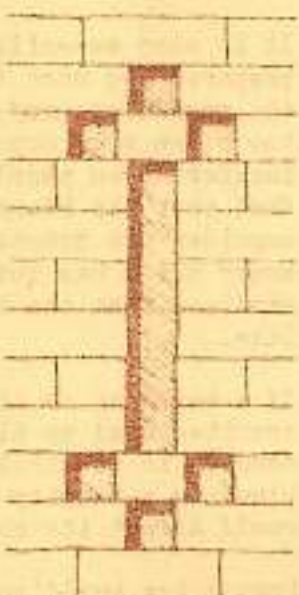
Schoolhouse Farm, Norwell



Manor Farm, Rampton



Southwell Road,
Caunton



Barn at Thurgarton,
dated 1790

Alterations to Existing Buildings

by John Severn

With particular reference to those of historic and architectural interest and those in Conservation and amenity areas.

Often, because the work is small in content, or the visual appearance seems to be altered little, it is thought unnecessary to obtain the advice of an architect.

More often than not it is the instances where it is thought unnecessary to obtain professional advice that this advice is most needed and for the want of careful thought the environment is yet again spoiled by the well-meaning but inept amateur in the name of improvement.

One would not generally consult a builder for a design unless he retains someone competent to prepare schemes on his behalf.

The ideal way is to select an architect and builder to work together to prepare a comprehensive scheme, with graphic information and costs. Together, they and the Client can obtain the essential details to ensure a good sound job with a pleasing appearance. Whether it looks beautiful or ugly, the cost is relative to the materials and workmanship used, so one might just as well have it looking beautiful and perhaps a carefully considered design will save money in the long term.

It is also essential to have proper drawings prepared and such that show faithfully what the resulting project will look like. Far too often poor drawings are provided by inexperienced people and, apart from the fact that the Planning Officer is unable to consider the scheme properly, the building owner often has quite a shock when he realises what the building will really look like.

If a building is listed as being of architectural or historic interest, then consent is required from the local planning authority for any alterations which could affect its character.

Many other buildings which are not statutorily listed however could be of local interest or may form part of a group of similar buildings in a conservation area.

Alterations, which may simply be the replacement of existing windows, can adversely affect the character of the whole street if these are carried out in an unsympathetic way.

Groups of buildings built at about the same time tend to have similar detailing. Windows are of the same proportions and size and maybe sliding sash, casement opening or pivot hung. Brickwork details and roofing features are of similar character and give a sense of unity and of "belonging" to that particular locality. The design of buildings varies from age to age and from place to place. It is this variation in age, style and facing materials that gives towns and villages their particular character and identity.

The older properties in this County are roofed mainly in clay tiles, (plain or pantiles), with the later addition of imported slates from Wales. It is preferable if at all possible to use reclaimed tiles and slates for repair work to these roofs. For extensive re-roofing, tiles of a similar profile to the original plain and pantile can be obtained and a compressed asbestos cement slate closely resembling the traditional Welsh slate is now available on the market. Eaves and verge details to roofs are also most important and traditionally, roofs in this County were finished without deep overhangs and without bargeboards at the gable ends. This produced very simple and neat roof finishes and the interest of the roofscape lies in the contrasting pitches and the simple features of stacks and gables of adjoining roofs.

The replacing of traditional roofing materials by modern ones of different colour and profile can so easily destroy the character not only of the individual building, but also of the area, as can the addition of bargeboards and overhanging eaves and verges.

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ALTERATIONS TO EXISTING BUILDINGS
continued from page 6

Windows form the openings within the load bearing walls and whilst they are important visually from inside the room, they are also important as the punctuation of void and solid in the external elevation.

Firstly there is the size and proportion of the opening to consider then there is the type and movement of the window itself and also the size and proportion of the glazed areas.

Each element is important and contributes to the scale and character of the building and its setting.

Historically, the size of the window openings was usually determined by the builder's ability to span the opening by a lintol or a shallow brick arch. The form of ventilation was determined by technical ability or cost, and the size of pane was determined by the size of flat glass which could economically be produced. The introduction of the vertical sliding sash window to Britain resulted in a vertical window shape popularly known as the Georgian window, later copied with less refinement during the Victorian period.

In replacing windows it is necessary to remember that the window is part of the whole building and efforts to enlarge the opening or insert new windows of a different type can destroy the character of the house itself. It is most essential to keep the size of the structural opening together with head and all features.

True Georgian windows were of classical proportions and each part was related to each other in proportion. The windows themselves were carefully designed and positioned to give a well balanced elevation and to provide a gracious setting within each room. The glazing bars were of slender section and the whole design gave pleasure to the owner and to the passer-by.

Modern pseudo-Georgian windows are often of the wrong proportions both in pane size and overall dimension and constructed in soft-wood of unsympathetic section. Apart from their nostalgic content they do little to enhance an existing building of a different style and character, and do positive harm to a genuine Georgian building. Three possible replacement techniques are as

follows:-

1. Replace by an exact replica window (grants for historic buildings may be available)
2. Replace by a window of similar appearance, using mullions to give the appropriate proportion of overall window size.
3. Replace by a modern window of possibly contrasting style and character, however one is advised to seek professional advice before proceeding.

Most of the older houses are built in locally fired bricks the colour of which was determined by the chemical content of the clay from which they were produced. When alterations or extensions are carried out, these should either be constructed in bricks reclaimed from demolished building or the nearest matching modern brick that can be obtained.

Rendering existing brickwork causes more problems than it solves and it may, in some cases, be beneficial to remove existing rendering where it is defective and re-point the brickwork behind. Pointing should be in Lime mortar, using suitably coloured sand.

Dampness in brick walls can be cured by inserting a damp proof course or by chemical impregnation treatment using silicones or similar products.

The removing of chimney stacks from a house destroys its character. Where stacks are in poor condition, they should be taken down and rebuilt. All houses which were originally designed to accommodate the burning of coal and wood had flues, stacks and almost always, chimney pots. Chimney pots should also be replaced and if not intended for re-use, the stacks and pots should be sealed and ventilated. Nothing looks worse than a roofscape shorn of its stacks and pots and very often left with stumps, sticking up just above the roof line.

Painting doors, windows, fascias and fences is necessary for preservation and also gives life and colour to the building and its surroundings. Some restraint however is necessary in the selection of too many bright and varied colours in one building.

ALTERATIONS TO EXISTING BUILDINGS
continued from page 7

Generally, a better effect is achieved by using magnolia, off white or similar inconspicuous colours on window frames and fascias and concentrating the hues on doors or particular features. In the case of semi-detached or terrace properties, it is helpful if some arrangement of similar colours could be agreed between neighbours.

Above all make sure that proper advice is sought in time and the following organisations will be pleased to help in connection with matters of design and construction:-

The District Council's

Planning Officer - Planning and Design
Building Control Officer -
Building Regulations
Environmental Health Officer -
Improvement Grants

The Nottinghamshire Building Preservation
Trust Limited

If you require the services of an Architect consult:-

Miss Jenny Thaxter,
R.I.B.A. East Midland Region,
2 Mapperley Road,
Nottingham.
Telephone: Nottm. 607243,

who will give details of local Architects who are willing to undertake the type of work you have in mind.

Remember, if you make a mistake in building it is there for everyone to see.

CONSERVATION IN THE EIGHTIES

Five years on from European Architectural Heritage Year, the Council for British Archaeology and Surrey Archaeological Society, in association with the International Council on Monuments and Sites, U.K., are organising a conference which will examine the key issues of conservation in the eighties.

Preservation and conservation are words which were once applied to individual sites, monuments and buildings, but since the late 1960's conservation has come to be invested with a broader meaning. The concept of the conservation area has emerged, and as a result the tasks of conservation are placing increasing demands upon planners, architects, archaeologists and politicians. The next 10 years will see the moulding of new policies, and the refinement of existing ones, in ways which will be fundamental to the development and practice of conservation.

In this conference an attempt will be made to identify and explore those issues which are seen to be central to the process of development. Attention will be given to gaps and joints in the present system - legal, practical and philosophical - with constructive proposals for how such weaknesses might be remedied. In effect, this conference has a programme which has been designed as an agenda for conservation in the eighties.

The conference will take place at Charterhouse School, Godalming, Surrey on 28th-30th March 1980. The residential fee will be £32.00, to include all meals; the non-residential fee will be £16.00, to include all meals except breakfast. Applications to Lyn Greenwood, Council for British Archaeology, 112 Kennington Road, London, SE11 6RE.

The Mill on the Maun

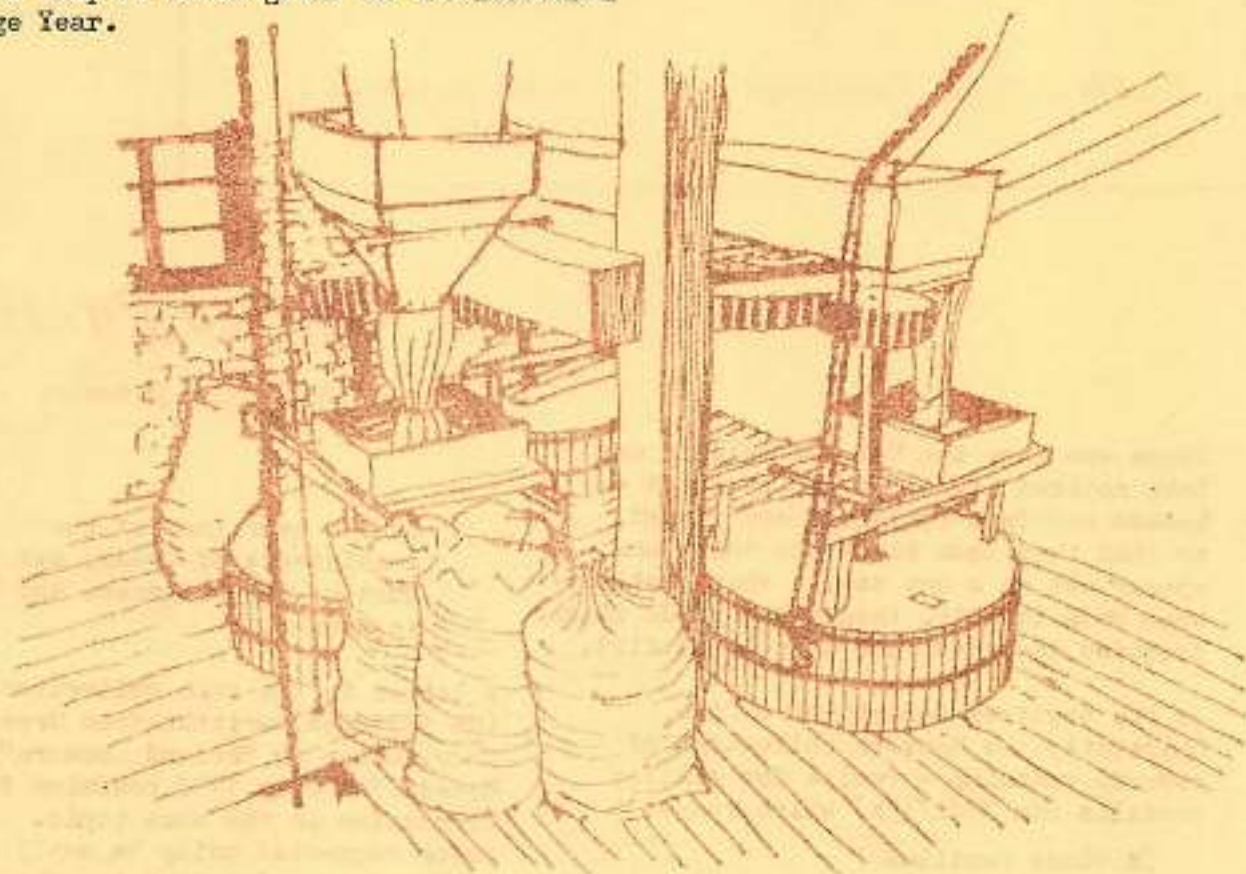
By Graham Beaumont

If you want to see an 18th century building that still works in exactly the same way as when it was first built, call in at the old water-mill on the river Maun at Ollerton, one of the few commercially working water-mills in the country. Grain is still ground there from time to time by Mr. Frank Mettam, the last of four generations of millers, who has lived at the water-mill all his working life.

There is evidence of a mill on this site for at least 700 years, rebuilt at various periods. The present structure is said to have been erected some time in the 18th century, and a new metal water-wheel was installed in 1882 made by Kirkland Engineers of Mansfield. This water-wheel was repaired with the help of Trust grant in Architectural Heritage Year.

In mills for grinding grain, the mill stones can be driven from above (overdrift, as it is called) or from below (underdrift). At Ollerton the two pairs of French burr stones and the one pair of Derbyshire peaks are overdrift, the more uncommon method. The great oak upright shaft is probably 200 years old.

Two sorts of wholemeal flour are on sale at the mill, both full of vitamins, roughage and flavour. "Canada Best" at 90p for 7 lbs makes the crustier bread, but the English "Golden Secret" at 85p has perhaps the better taste. Why not buy some of each - it's good for you!

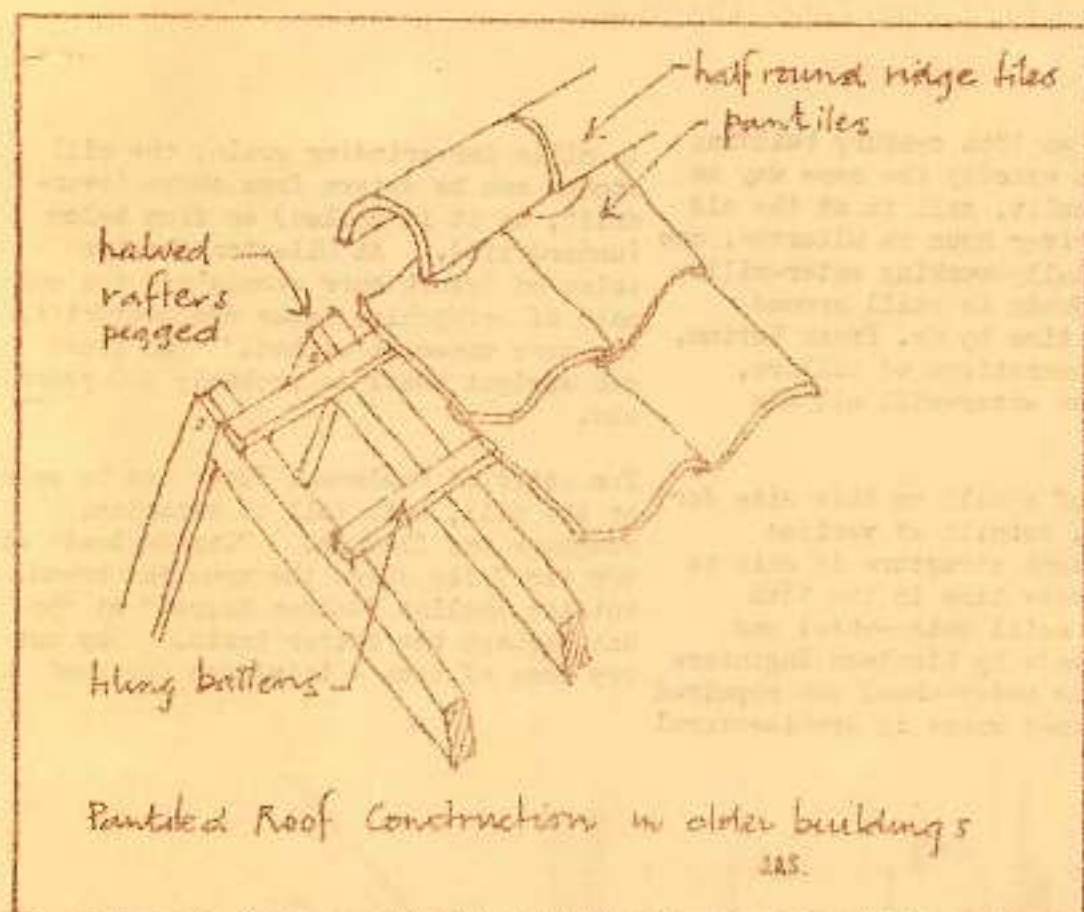


Ollerton Water-mill, interior.

The stone floor; three pairs of overdrift stones, with the gear above the stones and the great spur wheel driving three 'stone nuts'. The hoppers of grain are fed from above by large hoppers, through sleeves of sacking.

Note With the recently renewed interest in energy conservation and health foods there are now more than 200 mills (water-mills and windmills) open to the general public in Great Britain, and you can obtain an up-to-date list

and times of opening from the wind and water-mill section, The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, 55 Great Ormond Street, London, W.C.1. Please enclose stamps for return postage.



Glazed Pantiles

By Prof. M.W. Barley

Those who know the Vale of Belvoir may have noticed how often the pantiles on houses and farm buildings are glazed, so that they look black and shiny and appear wet on a dry day. They must have been made locally, though the yards which produced them have not been identified.

In the Archives Department of the University the Manvers collection of records contains a recipe for glazing pantiles (Ma 3322/25b) which reads

To Glaze Pantiles

Take 2 pints of Red Lead (or Calx of Lead) & $\frac{1}{4}$ pint of Black Manganese, mix them together and sieve them - When the Tiles are dry and ready for turning (i.e., while they are in the drying shed and before firing), brush some

Starch over them of the consistency of Cream, and then dust on the Manganese and Lead in powder.

A letter in the same collection (Ma 3322/25a) written from Greenwich by Thos. Suter to "Friend Sanders" and dated 28th July 1798 contains further discussion on the same topic. In it Suter suggested using "a small quantity of Cow dung sufficient to make the Lead hang on the Tile." Obviously it would be pleasanter to use Starch as an adhesive than cow dung.



Maltings

in

Nottinghamshire

By ANDER PATRICK

The malting industry was once much more important in Nottinghamshire than it is now. There were large commercial maltings, mainly to be found in the towns: Newark, Nottingham, Retford and Worksop. Smaller maltings were generally found in the villages.

Maltings are distinctive buildings. The commercial ones being massive structures, long buildings with rows of louvred windows and at one end, or sometimes both, kilns with their cowls or 'hats', of which there are quite a variety. The rural maltings are on a much smaller scale, but they too are long and have small louvred windows. Only rarely, however, do the kilns retain their distinctive cowls. The design of the building was determined by the process carried on inside. There are 3 phases in the malting process. First, the barley, for malt is usually made from barley, is steeped or soaked in water. A relatively small space is required for this and this stage has not produced any distinctive external feature. The steeping of the grain causes germination to start, but to continue growth, the grain has to be spread out on the growing floor and this necessitated a large area, hence the length of the building. The final stage was the kilning of the partially grown grain. This stopped the growth of the grain at the required stage and removed the moisture. This part of the process produced the kilns and their distinctive cowls.

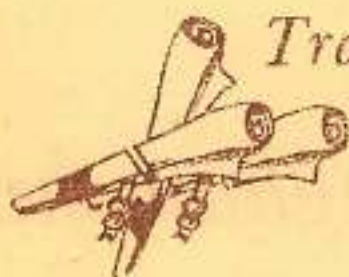
The Malting process has speeded up, and this together with the cost of maintaining buildings mainly constructed in the 19th century, and which now require considerable maintenance and repair, means that more and more of the big maltings have ceased operation. This demise of the commercial maltings was preceded by that of the rural ones. These developed to serve the village pubs at a time when they brewed their own beer. Such malthouses mainly served their immediate locality and so could not survive the progress of commercialization and amalgamation. For many maltings this has meant a change of use, but finding a new use for a malthouse is not always an easy task. The process of growing the barley required length, not height, therefore maltings often have low ceilings, in particular in the older maltings, where the ceiling height may be only 5' 6". This makes conversion difficult unless a floor is removed. This difficulty of conversion and the cost of maintaining an old building has often resulted in the demolition of these sturdy and distinctive buildings. The rural maltings sometimes fare better, being smaller and more easily adapted for agricultural uses.

Maltings are still a distinctive feature of Nottinghamshire's towns and countryside, but they are disappearing surprisingly fast. Some are 'listed', but most are not, including some of the more interesting and unusual examples. New uses need to be found for them. They can be used successfully as warehouses or converted to residential uses or even to house small industrial enterprises.

MALT KILN AT NEWARK

I would appreciate it, if anyone knows of any malthouses in danger of demolition, if they would contact me, please, so that an adequate record can be made of them. Also, any information on existing maltings would be welcome, as their history is often difficult to trace.

My address is:
7 Springfields,
Loughborough Road,
West Bridgford,
Nottingham.



Tracing the History of Your House

The fifth contribution to a regular series by
Adrian Henstock, the County Archivist, describing basic
documentary sources for tracing the history of smaller
houses in Nottinghamshire built before c.1900.

+ + + + + + + + + + +

H. Sale Particulars, 18th-20th Centuries

1. Leaflets, etc. 18th-20th Centuries

Printed particulars of properties offered for sale have been produced in broadsheet or pamphlet form since the 18th century, often accompanied by a plan of the land involved. They sometimes relate to land only, to individual buildings or to entire landed estates, but where buildings are involved the descriptions often include details of the number, use and measurements of each room and descriptions of fixtures and fittings; 20th century examples may also contain photographs of the property. Sale particulars produced at the break-up of large estates such as that of Rufford Abbey in 1938 or of Wollaton Hall in 1925, provide details of all the estate farms and cottages and the names of sitting tenants. Unfortunately sale particulars have rarely been systematically kept, and their survival is largely a matter of historical accident. Many individual ones are to be found in the Local Studies Library in the Nottingham County Library, or in other libraries. Others survive amongst family archives or solicitors' collections deposited in local record offices. A few firms of estate agents have deposited their collections in the Nottinghamshire Record Office, for example, Marriott Davidson of Nottingham and Bidwell and Sons of Cambridge (both 20th Century). Other firms retain their own collections, although rarely indexed.

2. Newspapers, 18th-20th Centuries

Sale particulars were usually also printed in local newspapers, although rarely in such detail, from the 18th century onwards. The problem is that, without some idea of the date of a sale, it is impossible to know where to begin searching. Clues may be provided by other records, for example if land tax records or title deeds indicate a change of ownership in a certain year. Details of most sales within Nottinghamshire up to the late 19th century would probably be advertised in the Nottingham newspapers, although those of Derby, Sheffield, Doncaster, Lincoln and Leicester might also carry adverts. for areas within their sphere of influence. Microfilms of the major Nottingham papers from the mid-18th century are available at the Local Studies Library, Angel Row, Nottingham, or the University Library. Other local newspapers are held by the current publishers or by local libraries, and some by the British Newspaper Library in London.

I. Fire Insurance Policies, 18th-20th Centuries

The Insurance of property against fire has always been undertaken by private companies whose policies were sold through the medium of local agents. In areas such as Nottinghamshire insurance probably did not become common until the end of the 18th and the beginning of the 19th centuries. The policies record details of the building materials, function and valuation of each building and have been

TRACING THE HISTORY OF YOUR HOUSE-5
continued from page 12

The largest collection of Nottinghamshire directories is held by the Local Studies Library, Angel Row, Nottingham, but there is a good collection in the Nottinghamshire Record Office and in other main district libraries.

2. Census Returns, 1841-1881

These are complete lists of everyone living in England and Wales on the census days in the years 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, and 1881. The information was recorded household-by-household, and gives details of people's names, ages, occupations, relationship, 'addresses', and birthplaces (although the 1841 returns are less detailed). The 'addresses' are again usually confined to the name of the street or farm, etc. but identification can be achieved by comparison with a near-contemporary tithe or other map (B.3.above), and by working out the order of the households, which often reflects the order the enumerator walked down a street.

The original returns are in the Public Record Office, London (the 1881 returns will not be available until 1981) but there are microfilms of the 1841-1871 returns for most of the county at both the Local Studies Library and the University Library. The 1851 returns are also available at the Nottinghamshire Record Office, and many main district libraries also have certain returns for their areas. Some parishes on the fringe of the county fell within administrative areas based in neighbouring counties, and so the relevant returns may be on films held by libraries in Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire or Yorkshire. A useful checklist of the location of microfilms is J.S.W. Gibson's Census Returns ... a Directory of Local Holdings, (2nd-Ed. 1980).

3. Electoral Registers, Burgess Rolls and Poll Books, 18th-20th Centuries

Although nowadays all adults appear on electoral registers, in the past the franchise was limited to certain categories of people at different periods, being based primarily on property ownership, and the registers are consequently more selective. The electoral registers for the county (excluding the three boroughs of Nottingham, Newark and Retford), run from 1832 to the present day (with some gaps), and become increasingly comprehensive as the franchise was widened in 1867 and 1884 (and after the inclusion of women), 1918 and 1928. They are available at the Nottinghamshire Record Office. From 1780 to 1832 the Land Tax Assessments (D.2 above) were used as a basis for determining electoral eligibility, but some printed poll books were published, for example, in 1706 (republished in Thoroton Record Series, 10, 1958), 1722, 1754, etc.

The voting qualifications in the boroughs differed from those of the county. For Nottingham electoral registers only survive from c.1937, but earlier burgess rolls cover the period from 1836 to 1915 (with gaps). Again poll books exist for 1710 (as above), 1713, 1754, 1774, 1796, 1802, etc. Burgess rolls, city electoral registers, and most poll books are available at the Local Studies Library, Nottingham.

For Newark and Retford there are manuscript and printed poll lists at the Nottinghamshire Record Office, University of Nottingham Manuscripts Dept., and Newark and Retford Libraries.

Earlier lists are usually alphabetical, but streets of residence begin to appear during the 19th century. Some Victorian lists specify the location of the property on which the voting qualification depended as well as the residence of the owner, which was sometimes different.

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used, for example, by Dr. Stanley Chapman, to provide information on early textile factories and their capital outlay. There are a number of problems in tracing a policy connected with a particular building, however, and one needs to know the name of the company and the date of the policy to begin with. Indications of the name of the company may be found amongst the documents of title (sometimes including the actual policies), or else the building itself may bear a fire mark - a small metal plaque with the company's badge, name and the number of the policy. Unfortunately many of these have been removed from buildings in recent years as collectors' items, but some are still in situ; also an old photograph may sometimes show a former fire mark. Other possible clues may be found in 19th century commercial directories, which name the local agents for the various companies, usually tradesmen in the larger and smaller towns. A further problem is that not all companies have kept their old records, but the two firms whose records are most accessible - the Sun Fire Office and the Royal Exchange Assurance - are deposited in the Guildhall Library, London. The records of the Sun company, one of the largest and oldest, exist from 1710. They are unindexed except for the period 1777-86 which is currently the subject of a computer indexing project; print-outs of details of the Nottinghamshire policies are expected to be available in the Nottinghamshire Record Office by the end of 1980. The Record Office also houses duplicate registers of the Newark branch of the Sun Fire Office from c.1830-1892.

J. Listings of Inhabitants, 18th-20th Centuries

In some respects these are similar to rating and tax records (see section D.), but are essentially lists of names not primarily related to property. Whilst they will not provide any direct evidence about the history of a house, they will give the names and often occupations of the people who lived in it at a particular date. Also, in the earlier periods, often the only way of tracing a property is through the names of its occupants.

1. Commercial Directories, 1783-1940

These are published lists of tradesmen and principal inhabitants of towns and villages, compiled by firms such as Pigot, White, Wright or Kelly, and printed at specific dates. Nottingham is better served than other places within the county, with early directories of 1783-4 (Bailey), 1793 (Universal British), 1799 (Willoughby), 1805, 1809, 1811 (Holden), 1814 (Hodson), 1815, 1818 (Sutton), 1819, 1822 (Pigot), 1825 (Glover), 1828 (Pigot), 1832, 1844, 1853 (White), etc. Directories of Newark exist for 1784, 1793, 1805, 1809, 1811, 1819, 1822, 1828, 1832, 1844, 1853 (firms as above) etc. For other market towns such as Mansfield, Southwell, Bingham, etc. the dates are 1784, 1819, 1822, 1828, 1832, 1844, 1853 (as above), etc., but for most villages there is rarely anything before 1832 (unless they appear under the entries for adjacent towns). After 1853 directories become more common, with one at least every five years or so for every place in the county.

The lists of personal names which appear under each place are arranged either alphabetically or else classified by trade and occupation. Identification of the place of residence of the people listed can be difficult, however, as the early directories do not include addresses, but after the mid-19th century the name of the street or farm etc. will usually appear. Later Nottingham directories also include a street-by-street list as well as a trades list, and towards the end of the 19th century street numbers begin to appear. These, however, should be used with caution as they may differ from modern numbers.

It must always be remembered that directories are not a complete census of everyone living in a town or village. They were published primarily for commercial and reference purposes, and only include tradesmen and principal private inhabitants.

4. Nottingham Watch and Ward Lists, 1812, 1816

These relate to Nottingham only, but comprise an unofficial 'census' of adult males who were liable for service as special constables during the period of the Luddite riots. The lists only exist for the two years, but they record names, ages and occupations on a street-by-street basis. They are probably not totally complete, however. The lists are in the Nottinghamshire Record Office (and are indexed for names).

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In the next issue : Special cases, e.g. chapels, schools, pubs, vicarages, etc.

D.H. Lawrence Centre & Craft Workshops

David Herbert Lawrence - novelist, playwright and poet - was born at 8a Victoria Street, Eastwood, on 11th September, 1885. After careful restoration the birthplace was opened in June 1976 as a living museum which authentically depicts the miner's home as it was in 1885.

The museum attracts visitors from all over the world - some 6000 in 1978 - and as an extension of this successful venture, Broxtowe Borough Council have converted 4 adjacent terraced houses into CRAFT WORKSHOPS which will be formally opened in May as part of the D. H. Lawrence Festival which will commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Author's death.

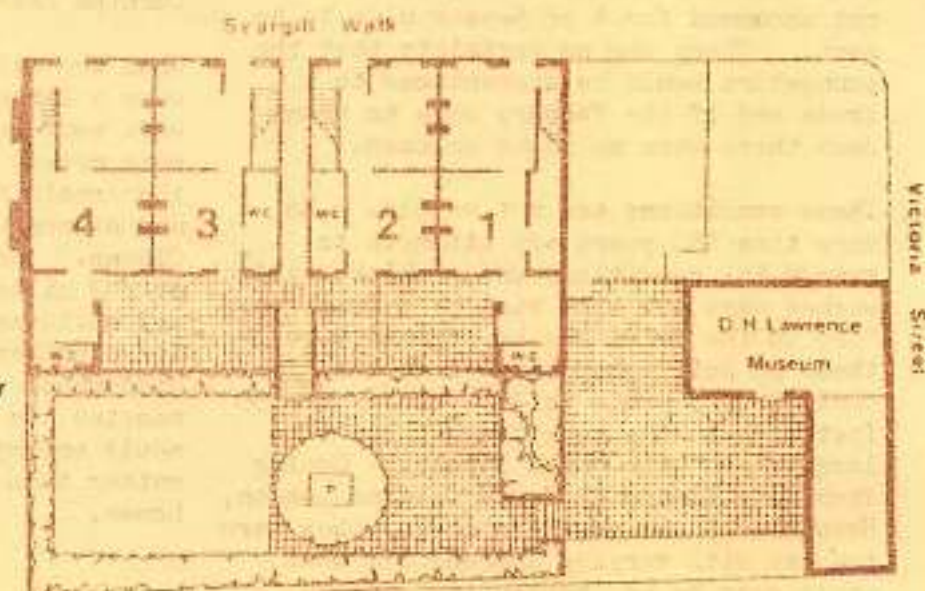
Each workshop consists of two ground floor rooms of about 130 square feet each, with storage and ancillary space above. The two end terrace workshops additionally have a small single storey outbuilding containing W.C. and washing facilities.

With acknowledgment to
Broxtowe B.C.

The Borough Council are looking for a number of craftsmen such as potters, weavers, carpenters, sculptors, artists, furniture restorers, clockmakers, instrument repairers, etc. who wish to promote their skills and make use of the workshop facilities. In return it is expected that visitors to the centre will be allowed to watch the craftsmen at work.

Space will be available to display and sell goods produced at the workshops.

Rental will be approximately £15 p.w., exclusive of rates, and anyone interested should apply to The Director of Planning and Design, Broxtowe Borough Council, Broadgate House, Beeston, Nottingham. Telephone enquiries should be made to Mr. P. Leggetter, Estate Surveyor, on Nottm. 254871 Ext. 425.



Plan showing the four workshops, landscaped garden/display area and the D. H. Lawrence Museum.

Talking of Aliens in this day and age, thoughts turn to some visitor from a distant planet; little green men or 'things' beyond description which are far removed from what we would regard as human. An entirely different meaning was given to the word by John Throsby, who wrote

'It is happy to see that these little aliens to kindred affection should, by the bounty of the good and opulent, be made such useful members of society and ornaments of philanthropy'.

These were not references to strangers from far away; they were the English orphans who, through no fault of their own, had become liability and later a source of income to the communities in which they were born. Don't be misled by the pious comments of Throsby; these children represented money - employers who took these boys and girls paid anywhere from £1 to £5 apiece to the Parish and was expected to provide new clothes for them. Each boy was to be given a hat, a jacket, a pair of leather trousers or breeches, stockings and new shoes. The girls were to have two dresses, two shifts, caps, stockings and shoes. Care had to be taken that the youngsters were free from 'itch'. In some cases the children were paid a wage and were obliged to pay half of it for their board and lodging, but more commonly they worked for their board and keep. The usual age group that were sent to factories was from 6 to 14, but it was not uncommon for 4 or 5-year olds to be sent. There was no certainty that the youngsters would be apprenticed to a trade and if the factory were to break down there were no wages or keep.

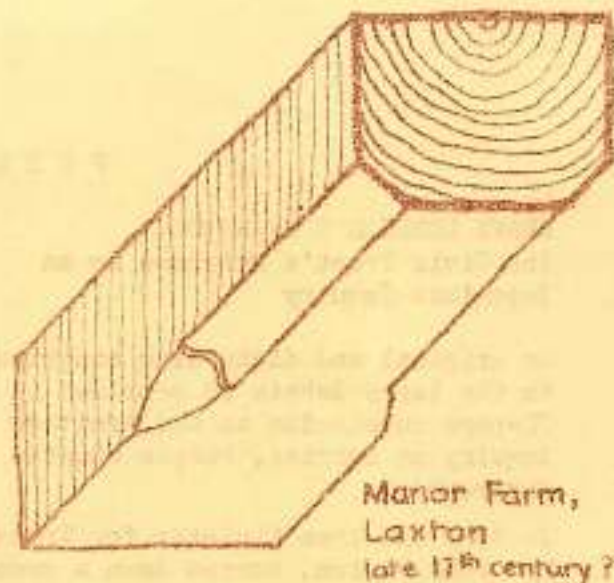
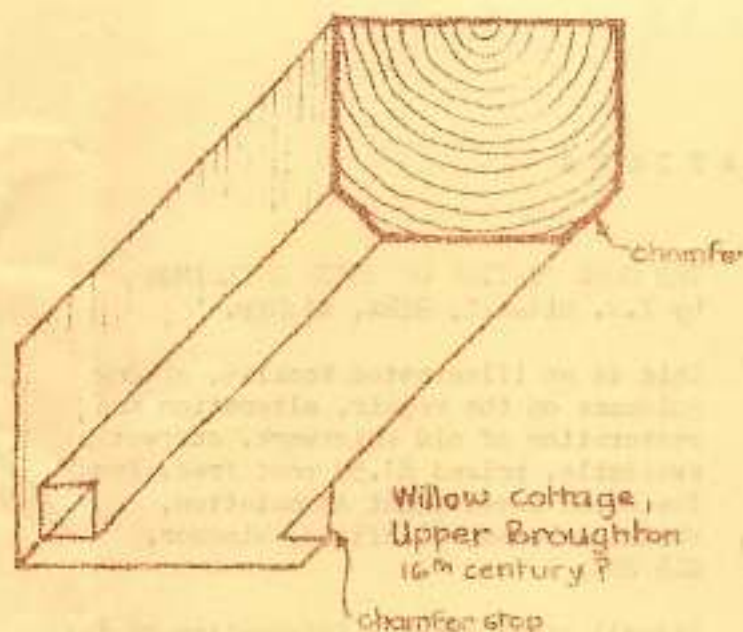
These conditions are not so old. No more than 150 years ago attempts to remedy the conditions under which children worked were met with violent opposition. More to the point was how common were these in Nottinghamshire? At the time that Throsby wrote in 1794 there were 35 factories in the county and these were largely run with child labour. Coming from many places as far afield as London, Hereford or the northern towns, they were treated with varying degrees of, what would seem to us, barbarity. At Papplewick, Arnold and Cuckney where mills were built there are numerous graves

by Phil Ibbotson + + +

of the dead apprentices. Robert Blincoe wrote about the terrible conditions at Lowdham Mill. Of these 4 mills Cuckney was thought to be one of the best.

In the space of 20 years from 1776 there were 782 children at Cuckney. They were set to work at the two mills run by the Toplis family. Of these only 85 came from this area. The youngest arrival was 5 years old. Some 35 children were sent by the Foundling Hospital in London and it is from the Secretary's inspection of the factories that it is possible to get an idea of the conditions. The children were well provided for without too much severity and worked 12 hours out of 24; the rest of the time was taken up with meals and recreation etc. The boys and girls lived separately in a hostel building and were looked after: good food, new clothes, attendance at Church and schooling were to be part of the children's lot. Though it was necessary for the employers to attend to their health, the Apprentice Register shows that about 1800 there was some type of epidemic and that about 30 children died. Conditions at this time were not good and during the same time 60 children ran away. Some of them walked back to London and were in a very poor state when they arrived. Several boys joined the Army. When the factory broke down there was no work for the children and food was also short. 3 of the boys were prosecuted for stealing turnips from one of the Cuckney farmers.

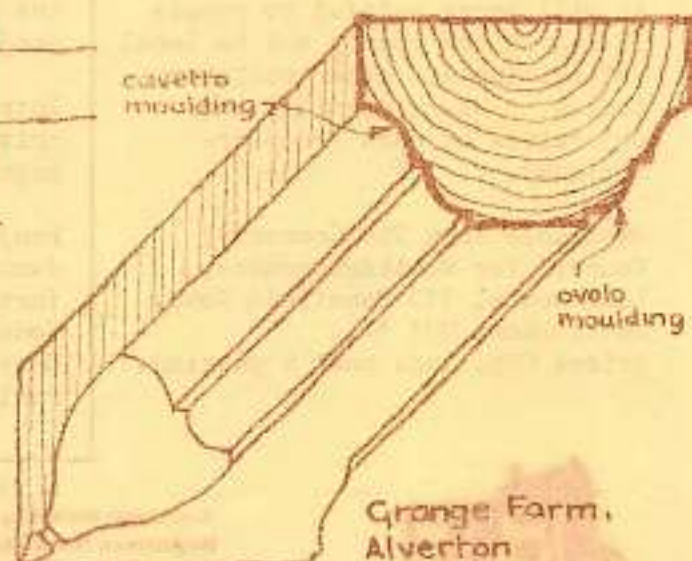
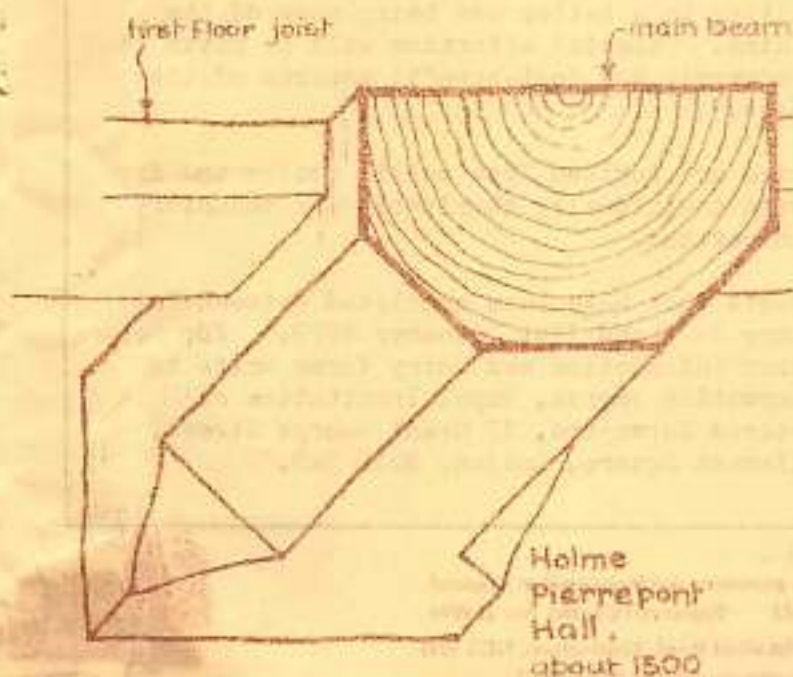
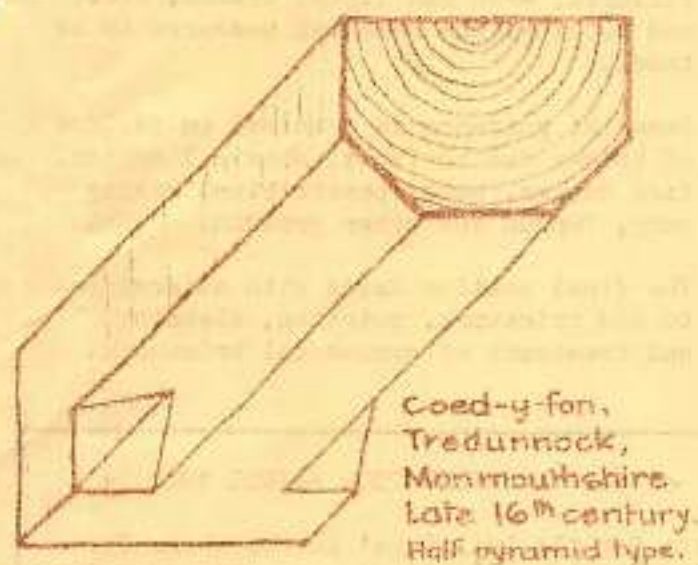
When the mills were closed in 1805 there were a large number of the children who were sent to other mills. All told 255 were moved. Some of them were sent to the Arnold Mill belonging to Mr. Davidson and others went to Bouden's Mill at Clowne. Henry and Charles Hollins took over 2 mills in Cuckney Parish in 1808 and children were still being employed in large numbers as late as 1845. The only difference was that the employers had adopted the practice to advertise for adult employees with large families rather than the orphans from the work-house.



CHAMFER STOPS - Graham Beaumont.

Plaster ceilings were uncommon before the 17th century, & even after that date ceiling beams downstairs were left exposed in most ordinary buildings. There is usually one, large central beam supporting the smaller first floor joists. The corners of the beam are often chamfered. The chamfers are stopped where the beam is built into the wall & at this point carved decoration is often introduced. Carved chamfer stops can assist in dating a beam by comparison with dated examples. Some examples of chamfer stops in Nottinghamshire are shown here with a dated Welsh example for comparison with Willow Cottage.

The Trust would be interested to record any chamfer stops that you may know of.



PUBLICATIONS

HEAVY LORRIES 9 YEARS ON

The Civic Trust's Evidence to an Important Inquiry

An original and disturbing contribution to the lorry debate is provided in this 70-page submission to the Armitage Inquiry on Lorries, People and the Environment.

In 1970 the then Minister for Transport, Mr. John Peyton, turned down a proposal to increase lorry weights and said the time had come to 'curb a growing and undoubted nuisance'. The Trust submission shows that the nuisance has not been curbed but instead is growing worse. The submission looks ahead to the beginning of the next century and paints a picture of the environmental effects of lorries on Britain if the official forecasts of lorry growth are realised. The Inquiry is invited to imagine a typical small town or urban shopping street with half as many lorries again as today and with all the smaller and medium lorries replaced by today's largest.

Available from the Civic Trust priced £1.25 + 45p (postage and packing).

THE CONSERVATION OF BRICK BUILDINGS by T.G. Bidwell, RIBA, AA.Dip.

This is an illustrated booklet, giving guidance on the repair, alteration and restoration of old brickwork, currently available, priced £1.50 post free, from The Brick Development Association, Woodside House, Winkfield, Windsor, SL4 2DX.

Bidwell gives concise information on the types of structural failures and their causes likely to be encountered, including foundation failure, differential settlement cracks, chimney cracks, bond failures, arch and lintel cracks, etc., and outlines the remedial measures to be taken.

Remedial guidance is provided on failure of bricks due to frost, chemical action, fire damage, water penetration, rising damp, fungus and other growths.

The final section deals with alterations to old brickwork, pointing, cleaning, and treatment of ornamental brickwork.

A GUIDE TO ENVIRONMENTAL, LOCAL HISTORY AND RESIDENTS GROUPS IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

This guide has been completely revised and is correct up to February 1980. It is hoped that it will prove helpful to people living in the county and to local authorities and other statutory bodies. Where possible the objectives of each group are included.

Available from The Community Council for Nottinghamshire, Link House, 110 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3HL.
Priced 60p, inc. post & packing.

+ + CONSERVATION AWARDS 1980 +

'New Life for Old Buildings' is the theme for the RICS/The Times Conservation Awards for 1980. Projects must have involved the rehabilitation, refurbishment or conversion of a building of architectural merit or historic interest, resulting in a better use being made of the building. Special attention will be given to the economic and cost-benefit aspects of the project.

Entries are invited from public bodies and from private individuals, charitable and voluntary organisations.

Projects must have been completed between 1st January 1975 and 31st December 1979. For further information and entry forms write to Conservation Awards, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, 12 Great George Street, Parliament Square, London, SW1P 3AD.

