



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE HERITAGE



VOLUME 1 ISSUE 2 25p

AUTUMN 1989

**MANSFIELD
WOODHOUSE
PRESERVED?**

**NEWARK
CASTLE
1990**



**NEWS FROM THE
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
BUILDING
PRESERVATION
TRUST**

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE HERITAGE

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE HERITAGE

Autumn 1989

Editor:

Dr John Samuels

Associate Editor:

Daphne Oxland

Contributors:

Maurice Barley

John Severn

Geoff Turner

Richard Marquiss

Neville Hoskins

David Durant

Alan Wahlers

Graham Beaumont

Mike Bishop

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NEXT ISSUE



- How a Skegby woman turned a derelict ruin into an attractive local landmark.

PICKFORDS PRESERVED

A PROMINENT Victorian warehouse is to be renovated as part of a £7m waterside development in the centre of Nottingham.

The adaptation of the building formerly Pickford's depository in Castle Boulevard — is part of the city's drive to generate new life to the area along the Nottingham Canal.

"The whole scheme has been designed to be sympathetic to the surrounding residential areas on the one side and to harmonise with the canalside environment on the other," said Richard Dykes, a partner with Nottingham architects Dykes Naylor who have designed the scheme.

"The Pickfords building would be completely cleaned and renovated to provide high quality office accommodation of great character while retaining many original features including cast-iron pillars and substantial wooden beams."

OCTOBER

1 THE FORESTRY COMMISSION IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

Brewhouse Yard Museum. (Until October 31).

NOVEMBER

4 HURTON JOYCE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

Brewhouse Yard Museum. (Until January 5).

22 THE MINTEY NATURE LECTURE.

The Future of Nottinghamshire Heathland.
7.30pm, Mansfield Arts Centre.

29 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE WOMEN'S HISTORY GROUP.

"Monday Washday". Demonstration
HISTORY GROUP.

"Monday Washday". Demonstration
HISTORY GROUP.

"Monday Washday". Demonstration
HISTORY GROUP.

"Monday Washday". Demonstration
by Gill Tanner.

7.30pm, Brewhouse Yard.

HERITAGE DIARY

By DAPHNE OXLAND



Philip Lyth, right is congratulated on the success of his book by David Durant, author of another Cromwell Press best-seller "Bess of Hardwick".

Farming success

SOUTHWELL author Philip Lyth, who was the first Principal of Brackenhurst College, has written a local best seller.

For his book "A History of Nottinghamshire Farming" is the fastest selling book to be published by the Newark based Cromwell Press.

The book, which is believed to be the first history of local farming to be written since 1797, highlights many aspects of Nottinghamshire's farming past.

Previously unpublished material includes a fascinating set of farm records from Shelton, near Newark.

● "A History of Nottinghamshire Farming" is available for £3.50 (post free) from the Cromwell Press, 6 Old North Road, Newark, Nottinghamshire NG23 6JE.
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NOTTINGHAMSHIRE HERITAGE

SOME time ago I overheard Maurice Barley refer to Mansfield Woodhouse as a gem. It is indeed.

If you are interested in local stone buildings then Mansfield Woodhouse is the place to visit. By good fortune it has managed to preserve not only its historic street plan but also a goodly number of 17th, 18th and 19th Century buildings.

In 1832, White's Nottinghamshire Directory commented "Mansfield Woodhouse is a very large and ancient village nearly 1½ miles north of Mansfield, inhabited partly by framework knitters but having several good houses which have long been the residence of respectable families."

The framework knitters have long gone although several of their workplaces can be identified by the long galleried windows on upper floors of cottages. A particularly good example can be seen in Station Street which is now the offices of a building society.

It was coal-mining at the end of the 19th century which changed the nature of this area as it did in much of West Nottinghamshire.

Within 10 years the population of Mansfield Woodhouse quadrupled. New housing developed around the town. But, unlike Sutton-in-Ashfield or Mansfield, the town itself has escaped massive redevelopment.

There is considerable local interest in the history and conservation of the area. The Old Mansfield Woodhouse Society has been particularly active in promoting this.

Last year a Workers' Educational Association class publicised the results of their researches in a 52 page book 'Mansfield Woodhouse 1650-1857'. Copies of this can be obtained from Mrs Ann Edgcombe, Richley House, Priory Road, Mansfield Woodhouse, price £3.50 post free (cheques made payable to the 'WEA').

Mansfield Woodhouse may not be on every tourist's itinerary but for anybody interested in local traditional stone buildings it is well worth a visit.

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LOOK BACK AT MANSFIELD WOODHOUSE

By DR JOHN SAMUELS



Above: Winstanley's Farm House, built c. 1650.

Cover: Stump of the Market Cross, Mansfield Woodhouse c. 1900.

VICTORIAN SOCIETY

WHEN the Victorian Society was founded in 1958 the odds were stacked against it: Victorian style was quite out of fashion the values it represented were not those which encouraged progress.

Thirty fighting years later this is happily no longer the case: "Victorian" details easily find their way into homes and pubs, while good cleaning and restoration has made everyone realise what splendid buildings flank their streets."

● Read about the Victorian Society's campaign to save Victorian buildings in Nottingham in the next issue of Nottinghamshire Heritage.

Nottingham in the next issue of Nottinghamshire Heritage.

Nottingham in the next issue of Nottinghamshire Heritage.

■ A Peak District bookseller has become the leading supplier of specialist books to stately homes and visitors centres throughout Nottinghamshire. David and Geraldine McPhie's Country Bookstore at Hassop Station now supplies four Nottinghamshire tourist shops at Rufford Craft Centre, Sherwood Forest Visitors Centre, Clumber Park and the recently opened Tales of Robin Hood centre in Nottingham.

■ A collection of hosiery exhibited at the Great Exhibition in London in 1851 is currently on show at the Museum of Costume and Textiles in Nottingham to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the invention of the stocking frame by the Rev William Lee of Calverton.



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ALL SAINTS NOTTINGHAM

CHURCH



By NEVILLE HOSKINS

THE parish church of All Saints, Raleigh Street, is widely regarded as the finest church designed by Thomas Chambers Hine (1813-1899).

When lace manufacturer William Windley decided to found a church in the newly created parish of All Saints — an area developing rapidly after the Enclosure Act of 1845 — Hine's firm was chosen to design not only the church but associated schools, school-house and parsonage, an integrated group which still survives with remarkably little external change.

Built in 14th c. gothic style, the church is 150ft. long; the distinctive high-pitched roof was originally covered with Staffordshire tiles in decorative patterns. The western tower is surmounted by a broach spire, together they are 175ft. high; the chancel has a polygonal apse.

The exterior is generally of Derbyshire building stone. The interior facing is of Ancaster stone as are the dressings throughout; the columns of the nave arcade are Mansfield stone, the arches having alternate muted red and white courses.

ERNEST LESTER

MEMBERS will be saddened to hear of the death of Ernest Lester, a former chairman of the Nottinghamshire Building Preservation Trust.

A memorial service was held last month to honour Mr Lester who will be remembered for his enthusiastic support of the Trust's work.

The nave roof is of open timber-work, the principals springing from shafts of Mansfield stone. The chancel arch is carried on moulded piers with carved capitals and corbels.

The chancel is paved with Minton's encaustic tiles and the same firm's majolica ware was used for the original reredos whose brilliant colours are visible behind the triptych by local artist Hammersley Ball (1938). On the north side, behind the organ console, is the recently refurbished Lady Chapel.

Whilst the church itself is important it is perhaps the survival of the whole complex which is most remarkable. Only twelve years ago the entire group, church included, was considered for demolition.

On the left, viewed from Raleigh Street, is what was originally the headmaster's house, linked by a conical tower to the former school. Internally a spiral staircase led to a gallery from which the main schoolroom could be supervised. The house now accommodates parish and community offices.

In the school range, by the addition of an extra floor, eight workshops have been created in which small commercial concerns help to provide local employment.

The north-west range now forms a community centre and to the north, with gable-end facing Raleigh Street is a 'parlour' added in the 1920s. In the north-east corner of the site stands the original parsonage. This has recently been divided to form a still sizeable vicarage and a Community-House.

This year All Saints celebrates its 125th Anniversary. 'The Church In The Fields', so-called in 1864, has developed, not languished, as today's 'Inner-City Church'.

HERITAGE COMMENT

LAST ORDERS AT THE OLD CORNER PIN



NOTTINGHAM has always been known for good beer and the brewing of good English ale has been an active occupation in this town since medieval times.

Sadly the older type of pub is disappearing from our streets to be revamped into the latest fun pub or to be extinguished altogether.

The Old Corner Pin is the latest to go, for in February this year it served its last pint to many who have sat in its cosy bar for as long as they could remember.

It was their "local" and they knew the landlord as well as, if not better than they knew their next door neighbour.

The pub has been sold by its owners the Home Brewery to an insurance company and along with other buildings adjacent it will be redeveloped into a major new project on this "premier corner site."

The Old Corner Pin could have remained as the jewel in the crown of new development, for its character and elevational treatment, the jewel in the crown of new development, for its character and elevational treatment, carefully repaired, not only would have presented an interesting historic feature in a new street scene but also its interior as an old pub would have attracted many people to that part of Nottingham.

You only have to walk up Parliament Street Home Brewery to an insurance company and along with other buildings adjacent it will be redeveloped into a major new project on this "premier corner site."

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You only have to walk up Parliament Street to see a similar situation where the Old Theatre Royal (1865) harmonises with the new Royal Concert Hall. The interior of the

Benjamin's
the party organisers

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Benjamin's
the party organisers
Dances, Weddings.

CHARACTER OF CASTLE GATE

CASTLE GATE, in spite of being chopped in half by Maid Marian Way, and of at least one unfortunate recent development, still retains something of its character as a fashionable Georgian street.

In such streets as High Pavement and Castle Gate, houses probably ceased by the early 19th century to be used as residences, and most of them were taken over for the textile industry. That was the case with Nos 32-36, but with extensions the houses continued for a time to be the homes of those who carried on their business in the workshops at the back.

We are indebted to the Sutherland Craig Partnership for an opportunity to examine the buildings and to attempt to work out their structural history. Nos 34 and 36 were originally one house, built early in the 18th century. When No 36 was divided into two, probably soon after 1800, a new entrance for

By MAURICE BARLEY

No 36 was made, in the middle of its frontage.

No 36 had an L plan with two rooms at the front; behind the left hand room was the staircase, of a design which provides the evidence of a date. The most unexpected feature of the house is that it has two levels of cellar. The upper cellar has a brick vaulted roof, and the room was a basement kitchen, with a range and an entrance from the street. Below it is a rock-cut cellar.

When the house was divided, the existing cellar under the front room of the new No 34 was converted into a basement kitchen, with a range.

No 32 was built in the late 18th century — perhaps in the last quarter to judge from the

Venetian windows of its frontage. This house also has two levels of cellars.

The Castle Gate houses are to be absorbed in the offices of Browne Jacobsen, solicitors, who had already adapted, in a sensitive manner, the next building to the west, the Victorian No 44.

● For more information about the Nottinghamshire Building Preservation Trust contact: The Honorary Secretary, 78 Bridgford Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, telephone 819622.

FOTHERGILL WATSON SURVIVES IN MANSFIELD

By ALAN WAHLERS

NOT one of his more famous designs, the Cattle Market Tavern is the only one that survives in Mansfield — the other, a fine congregational church was flattened by a local developer a few years ago.

The tavern would have gone the same way but for the efforts of the Trust. The local authority planned its demolition as part of the car parking for a new £6 million "Wet Leisure Complex".

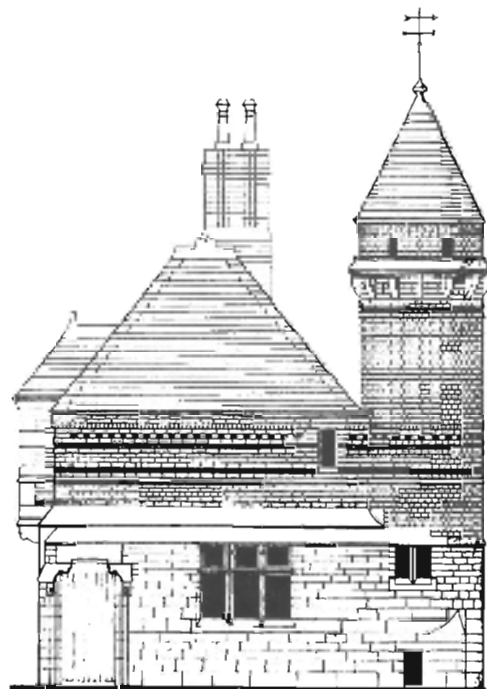
The Department of the Environment took an agonisingly long time to "spot list" the Tavern around Christmas time 1988, but nevertheless considered the building worthy of retention and it is now a Grade II listed building.

The Market Tavern is famous — mentioned briefly in Pevsner's "Buildings of

England" as striped red brick with a round tower.

An initial inspection showed the building to be in reasonably good condition, although sadly neglected. Refurbishment is possible, the main concern must be in establishing a suitable use. Suggested uses have included a tourist information office, heritage centre, restaurant and offices.

The Trust is presently engaged on a feasibility study and I would appreciate any ideas for a viable future use and the continued safekeeping of the Market Tavern. I can be contacted on Mansfield 882715 for a viable future use and the continued safekeeping of the Market Tavern. I can be contacted on Mansfield 882715 for a viable future use and the continued safekeeping of the Market Tavern. I can be contacted on Mansfield 882715.



● A drawing of the West Elevation of the Cattle Market Tavern by Newark architect Clive Booth.

Cattle Market Tavern by Newark architect Clive Booth.

● A drawing of the West Elevation of the Cattle Market Tavern by Newark architect Clive Booth.

Cattle Market Tavern by Newark architect Clive Booth.

Doves and Dovecotes

MEMBERS should keep an eye open for a new book entitled "Doves and Dovecotes" by Peter and Jean Hansell, published in 1988 by Millstream Books at £19.95 (ISBN—094895113). It is a fine piece of book production with 88 colour illustrations and scores of black and white photographs and line drawings.

Most of the text is an account of dovecotes in Britain; Nottinghamshire examples are included and Trust members have contributed them. There are omissions including the mud-walled ones in Nottinghamshire and those built of mud and stud which John Severn has recorded.

MAURICE BARLEY

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FULL STEAM AT PAPPLEWICK



IT'S full steam ahead for Papplewick Pumping Station's appeal to raise £250,000 to build a modern visitor's centre.

The centre, which is being financed through a "Buy a Brick" scheme, will cater for the increasing number of school and student groups which visit the Victorian waterworks — home of the last pair of working James Watt pumping engines in the world.

Papplewick's engines provided water for the city of Nottingham from 1884 until 1969. They are steamed every Bank Holiday from Easter to October and at other selected times including Saturday October 28 and Sunday October 29.

WOODLAND DELIGHT

IMPLICIT in the concept of heritage is the idea of continuity — the ancient church defying the elements and the centuries, the same local surname cropping up everywhere in a churchyard or a village festival celebrated on the same day each year since time immemorial.

However, it is continuity of a particular kind that often has to acknowledge and, indeed, embrace change. New wings, reflecting new styles and technologies, are built onto stately homes, timber rots, stonework erodes and both have to be replaced.

The same is very much the case in the Nottinghamshire countryside and is clearly exemplified in some of our ancient woodland. Although not excessively well wooded, despite our links with Robin Hood's green wood, Nottinghamshire still retains some superb ancient woodland that both beautifies the landscape and provides a rich and abundant habitat for all sorts of wildlife.

The Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, for example, owns some glorious woods at Treswell, Eaton, Gamston, and Kirton and manages a number of others. Part of the joy of some of these places is the sense of continuity that can be felt in them, in the sense that their history can be traced back, for hundreds, and perhaps even thousands of years.

Now, continuity here does not mean that these woods have not changed. Researches done by local historians and nature conservationists have discovered many changes.

So what have been the results of all this change? In fact, today, these ancient woods burst with life and have clearly benefitted from change within the continuity that they have experienced down the ages.



● Illustration by Ken Messom from "In the Season of the Year" written by Richard Marquiss. Published at £3.50 by the Cromwell Press.

COUNTRY NOTES by Richard Marquiss OF THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

This continuity stems from the *respect* that has been offered to the wood as a living system and, perhaps even more so, from the *modesty* of the claims that have been put upon its ecology. Many of the problems and threats faced by contemporary wildlife and its habitat stems from our incredible power over nature and our apparent inability or unwillingness to know when to stop making demands upon it.

Today, the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust has lots of plans for its woodland nature reserves, plans which will bring changes and alterations. But these changes — of habitat management in particular — will only serve further to protect the woods and strengthen their position in the landscape and in our hearts.

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PUBLICATIONS OF LOCAL INTEREST

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● Illustration from "A Nottinghamshire Notebook", a delightful collection of drawings by Elaine Kazimierczuk.

NEWARK CASTLE TRUST 1990

A SERIES of excavations is planned in a bid to discover more about the history of Newark Castle.

The dig would be supervised by a charitable trust — Newark Castle 1990 — which is being set up by Newark archaeologist Dr John Samuels and Dr Philip Dixon of the University of Nottingham's Department of Archaeology.

"Pitifully little is known about this imposing monument which dominates the approach to medieval Newark," said Dr Samuels who led a trial excavation at the castle in 1984.

"The grounds of Newark Castle have been open to the public for 100 years. What better time to discover more about our historic castle. Next year could see the beginning of a new epoch in Newark's heritage."

Dr Samuels hopes the general public will become involved through displays, guided tours and public lectures.

"This historic heritage belongs to everybody," he said.

THORESBY SALE

By David N. Durant

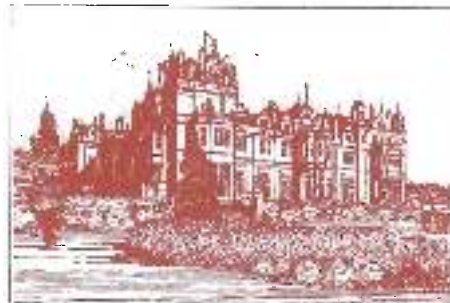
THE sale of the contents of Thoresby Hall — a listed building of 1864–76 by Anthony Salvin, and not one of his best — by Sotheby's on 31st May–2nd June, cannot be said to have passed off without contention, notwithstanding the brilliant weather.

Like many sales of this kind there were some surprises to hit the headlines; lot 18, a pair of 'Megaloceros' antlers, dug out of a bog and fixed over the entrance stairway, was expected to go for £600–£900. Amid excited bidding it went for £22,000 to a collector who already had a pair of this extinct Irish Elk's antlers.

Lot 102, 'a rare pair of Nottinghamshire Carved Sideboards, c. 1872' made by Tudsbury of Edwinstowe and which would require a great deal of space to accommodate, were expected to fetch £6,000–£8,000 — they went for £20,900!

The highest price of the sale was for a set of seven French fauteuils of c. 1778, estimated to fetch £50,000–£70,000; they were sold for £176,000!

While lot 643, an eighteenth-century view of the earlier Thoresby Hall, with the bigamous Duchess of Kingston in the



● *Thoresby Hall*

foreground and attributed to Nicholas Thomas Dall, was marked in the catalogue at £8,000–£9,000. With furious bidding it fetched the amazing sum of £37,400.

But this was only due to the presence at the sale of a large contingent of the American Pierrepont family (the late Earl Manvers' family name) who were bidding against each other.

Lot 165, a gaudy set of Genoese gilt seat furniture of the mid-eighteenth century, estimated to sell for £15,000–£25,000, failed to reach the reserve and have now been loaned to Newstead Abbey.

● *Sketch of Thoresby Hall by John Severn from "Country Houses of Nottinghamshire", by Mike Higginbottom, £3.50 post free from the Cromwell Press.*

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