

Vernacular Architecture Group

An international organisation for all those interested in vernacular buildings



www.vag.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 279839

The Vernacular Architecture Group, founded in 1952, is dedicated to the study of traditional buildings in the British Isles and throughout the world. It has over 700 members, including more than 50 from overseas, and a number of affiliated groups. Some members are professional architects or architectural historians but many are interested amateurs. The interchange of ideas between these groups is a particular strength of the VAG.

Members are involved in all aspects of the recording and study of vernacular buildings including:

- Detailed local or regional surveys
- Studies of particular types of buildings including houses, farms, industrial and urban buildings
- Building materials
- Techniques of buildings, including carpentry and masonry
- Documentary evidence

The Group encourages communication between members in a number of ways:

- An four-day Spring Conference held in different regions of the UK each year, recently West Wales, the East Midlands, Oxfordshire and Jersey
- A two-day Winter Conference
- A joint weekend school with Oxford University Department of Continuing Education
- Occasional international conferences, which have recently taken place in the USA, Germany and Norway
- The annual journal *Vernacular Architecture*
- A twice-yearly newsletter
- Bibliographies of books and articles
- A library of offprints
- A members' area on the website

Links to vernacular building resources are available on the VAG website (www.vag.org.uk). These include the VAG Bibliography, the Dendrochronology Database of tree-ring dates published in *Vernacular Architecture*, the Database of Cruck Buildings and the Wealden Houses Database.

PUBLICATIONS

The Group produces a peer-reviewed journal of international standing – ***Vernacular Architecture***. Its articles range over the whole field of study, nationally and internationally, reporting the results of recent research or reconsidering accepted views. It carries numerous reviews and also includes annual lists of buildings for which tree-ring and radiocarbon dates have been obtained.

A ***Bibliography on Vernacular Architecture*** is maintained, currently with four printed volumes, and a fifth volume that can be downloaded. A consolidated and fully-searchable version of the bibliography is also available on-line.

A **VAG Newsletter** is circulated to members twice a year: it includes short articles of general interest, notices of events and lists of new publications.

In addition to the printed resources, the Group maintains four national **databases**, all of which are freely available to the public via the Archaeology Data Service (www.ads.ahds.ac.uk).

- **Bibliography** – details of books and articles on all aspects of vernacular architecture
- **Cruck Database** – buildings with cruck trusses, their locations and types
- **Dendrochronology Database** – buildings which have tree-ring and radiocarbon dates
- **Wealden Houses Database** – buildings using this distinctive medieval construction type

Memorial Essay Prize

The Vernacular Architecture Group has established a memorial essay prize of £250 to be awarded for an essay of a suitable standard on a subject related to vernacular architecture, to be published in the journal.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the VAG is open to anyone interested in vernacular architecture. The current UK annual subscription, payable on 1st March by cheque or Standing Order (form available from the Membership Secretary), is **£20** per year for **individuals**; members of the same household may elect to pay a **joint subscription of £30** (receiving one copy of *Vernacular Architecture*). **Student** subscriptions are **£15**. The **Overseas** subscription is **£25** (see web site for PayPal arrangements). There is also a **joining fee of £5**, which is waived for those in full-time education.

Each subscription includes an annual copy of *Vernacular Architecture*, twice-yearly Newsletters and free access to the journal on-line.

Members joining between 1st January and 1st March will not be asked to pay again until the following year.

HOW TO JOIN

Please send the completed form, plus a cheque or a standing order form, to the Membership Secretary. Standing Order forms and Gift Aid forms can be posted to you by the Membership Secretary, and Gift Aid forms are also downloadable from the website. If you require further information, please contact the Membership Secretary:

Tansy Collins
7 Out Westgate
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP33 3NZ

Email: membership-secretary@vag.org.uk

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Full name and title:

Address:

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..... Postcode:

Email address:

Qualifications (Academic/professional) if applicable:

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Please tell us a bit about yourself (special interests, skills and experience; areas of relevant research; publications)

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[Please continue on a separate sheet if wished

Existing members are often interested in the experience or research areas of new members. Therefore your name and interests may be circulated in the VAG Newsletter. If you would not like these details to be made available to existing members, please tick here

Students only

University or College:

Course:

Tutor verification

I confirm that this student is studying at the above institution [please tick]

Course ends:

Signature of tutor:

Name and address of tutor:

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Please send the completed membership form, along with a cheque or standing order form, to the Membership Secretary: Tansy Collins, 7 Out Westgate, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3NZ. Email: membership-secretary@vag.org.uk