

VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE GROUP

WINTER CONFERENCE 2018 / 2019



Woodcut from Turberville's *Book of Hunting (The Noble Arte of Venerie or Hunting)*, 1576.

Vernacular landscapes

Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th January 2019

To be held at
College Court
Conference Centre,
Leicester
LE2 3TQ



SATURDAY 5th – SUNDAY 6th JANUARY 2019

Vernacular Landscapes

Vernacular buildings have for the most part been studied in isolation from their wider historic setting, a trend which reflects how our study of the past has been fragmented into sub-sets of buildings, sites, landscapes and documents. This conference will aim to explore the relationship between the house and its curtilage, settlement, community and wider landscape or ‘country’. It will focus therefore on questions of setting, the wider organisation of public and private space in communities and the identities that can emerge from such distinctive patterns. ‘Landscape’ will be interpreted broadly to include urban and rural contexts.

Many fertile lines of enquiry are capable of emerging from this focus. How were houses and other buildings orientated in relation to plots, roads, communal spaces and key buildings such as the parish church? Do these relationships enable us to predict the use of certain buildings simply, or mainly, from their position? How do such patterns vary from region to region? To what extent did the positioning of entrances and windows facilitate or frustrate particular movements or sightlines? How far, and in what ways, was the design of buildings manipulated to achieve a calculated impact on those approaching or passing? What was the boundary between public and private space and how was it expressed? What inferences can we draw from the distribution of houses of different function, form and scale within communities? How far can we rely upon the depiction of such relationships in historic maps? What other sources illuminate these relationships? Is there evidence for the manner in which people viewed, appreciated, read or invested with meaning familiar landscapes?

The IHBC recognises that this programme may provide part of the compulsory CPD requirements of a Full Member.



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BUILDING · CONSERVATION

The Conference Venue

This year's Winter Conference will be held in Leicester for the thirteenth consecutive year, at the College Court Conference Centre which proved to be generally satisfactory in January 2017 and 2018. All accommodation is in single rooms with en-suite facilities and a double bed; couples will therefore need to decide whether they would prefer one room or two (and indicate on the Booking Form accordingly), although it would be helpful if they could use just one room to enable maximum use of the accommodation.

Accommodation is also available for visitors with disabilities. All facilities, including the conference suite & dining room are within the same building.

A room adjacent to the Conference Hall will be set aside for the display and sale of members' literature, in the usual way. A bar will be open after dinner on Saturday evening.

Vegetarian, or other dietary needs, can be met by the catering staff.

VAG WINTER CONFERENCE 2018/19
COLLEGE COURT CONFERENCE CENTRE
PROGRAMME

Saturday 5 January

14.00 Welcome & Introduction

Session 1: The view from the top

Keynote lecture

14.10 Room at the Top: Interpreting Elite Buildings and Landscapes of the Middle Ages

Robert Liddiard (University of East Anglia)

15.00 Recovering the lost settings of 16th- and 17th- century houses

Paula Henderson (independent scholar)

15.50-16.20 Coffee

Session 2: Regions, places, plots

16.20 Region and Place: Mapping Medieval England

Paul Stamper (University of Leicester)

17.00 Building in a landscape: vernacular architecture and landscape presence

Adam Menuge (University of Cambridge)

17.40-18.30 Break

18.30-19.50 Dinner

20.00-20.30 AGM

Evening lecture

20.40 Windows to the outside world

Edward Martin (independent scholar)

21.30 Bar opens

Sunday 6 January

07.45-08.45 Breakfast

Session 3: Regional and temporal contrasts

09.15 Inhabiting the Landscape: House site constraints in medieval England
Duncan James (independent scholar)

10.00 Landscape and Settlement in the Eastern High Weald: The Setting for
Medieval and Early Modern Vernacular Building in selected
Kent Parishes
Brendan Chester-Kadwell (independent scholar)

10.45-11.15 Coffee

11.15 'Sooty Faces': Buildings and Landscape in the Durham Coalfield in the
17th and 18th Centuries
Adrian Green (Durham University)

12.00 Domestic vernacular space and tenant hierarchy: the buildings
of Warburton
Mike Nevell (University of Salford)

12.45-14.00 Lunch

Session 4: Farming landscapes

14.00 Ancillary buildings and external features: putting buildings into
their landscape
Heather Horner (Oxfordshire Buildings Record)

14.40 The peripatetic landscape of the Yorkshire Dales field barn
Adam Menuge (University of Cambridge)

15.20 Farmsteads and their landscapes: towards a national framework
Jeremy Lake (heritage consultant)

16.00 Summing up

16.15 Tea and disperse

Leicester: How to get there

The City of Leicester is more or less central to England and Wales and is well served by motorways, rail services and airports (Birmingham, East Midlands and Manchester).

A location map for Leicester appears on the back page of this leaflet.

Members will be sent on request (see Booking Form) a leaflet giving travel directions to College Court from the M1/M69, the A6 and from the A47. This leaflet also provides a more detailed map, showing the location of College Court in the Knighton district of Leicester: postcode LE2 3TQ.

Leicester is well served by rail, with direct lines from London – St. Pancras (1hr.10min), Birmingham (55min), Sheffield (1hr.), and Lincoln (1hr.50min); from Leeds (2hrs.) change at Derby/Sheffield. For more information call National Rail Enquiries on 08457 484950 or visit the website www.nationalrail.co.uk

From Leicester train station, **Bus Routes 44 and 44A** (every 15 minutes on Saturdays) take you to the Conference Centre, ask for the bus stop at the end of Queens Road, opposite the front of College Court.

A taxi from the station (1.4 miles) will cost about £6.

On arrival, report to Reception.

If arriving by car, park in the Car Park (or the Overflow Car Park if so directed), proceed to Reception from where **room keys will be issued between 13.00 and 13.50 hours** (subject to your room having been cleaned, etc.) and then take your luggage to your room. If you do not have sufficient time to check in before the start of the conference, leave your luggage in your car until later.

VAG Name Badges will be issued in the conference room, on the first floor.

Please note that no refreshments can be purchased at College Court (or nearby) & note that room keys will not be available before 13.00 hours.

The conference Programme will commence promptly at 14.00 hours.

Conference Fees and Registration

Fees for the Conference will be **£160 Resident** and **£97 Non-Resident** to include all meals shown in the programme, and, for Residents, breakfast on the Sunday morning. Cheques post-dated to 3rd December 2018 are acceptable.

If you wish to attend, please complete the enclosed Booking Form and return it, with the appropriate fee payable to ‘**The Vernacular Architecture Group**’ to the Assistant Winter Conference Secretary (VAG), 47 Percy Road, Pocklington, East Yorkshire YO42 2JF, **to arrive not later than Monday, 3rd December, 2018.**

A supplement of £10 will be charged for applications received after the closing date and should be added to the appropriate conference fee. Applications posted after the closing date cannot be guaranteed a place.

Student members of the VAG are eligible to apply for a bursary award for this conference. Please apply direct to the Hon. Sec., or pay fees and then apply.

Subject to accommodation being available, Groups affiliated to the VAG may each send two of their members, not being full members of the VAG at the normal conference fee. Members attending may likewise introduce one non-member guest (for one year only for that guest), for which a supplement of £5 is payable to the appropriate standard fee. Members cancelling after the close of registration will be liable for all costs that the VAG is unable to recover, with a minimum cancellation fee of £10. Should you need to cancel please notify the Winter Conference Secretary as early as possible on 01981 240445. In the case of a last minute emergency, please inform the Conference Office on 0116 244 9669

Members should note that no refunds will be made, should adverse weather condition prevent their attendance.

A Central Location

By road

Just over 4 miles from Junction 21 of the M1 and the M69, giving excellent access from the UK's motorway network.

By rail

Leicester lies on the Midland Mainline service and has regular connections to London, St Pancras, Sheffield, Leeds, Birmingham and Lincoln. The city campus is just 15 minutes walk from the railway station and both are 3 miles from the halls of residence.

Airports

Leicester is well situated for access to airports:

	Miles
East Midlands	19
Birmingham	36
Manchester	101
Heathrow	105
Gatwick	123

Business Travel Office

For all your travel needs to and from the University, contact our in-house Business Travel Office on: 0116 223 1134 or 0116 223 1161.

