

ST . OSWALD CHURCH

HORTON - IN - RIBBLESDALE .



02

PARISH CHURCH OF SAINT OSWALD

This handsome and spacious church which you see around you appears from its structure to have been built in the twelfth century. At that time a Scottish nobleman, Richard de Moreville who was the King of Scotland's Constable, owned Horton but it is not likely that he lived here. Probably a local landowner, or several local people, paid for the building of the church, and certainly the hands that built it were those of local men, using stone quarried locally. A professional master-mason would be in charge to design the church and set out the plan on the ground; to direct the builders, and to take part himself by carving the details. The south doorway through which you came in, and the font, are the work of a master-mason.

It is a very large church with two aisles as well as the nave, though it has been made longer since it was first erected. The size suggests that Horton already had a substantial population. The church is, of course, by far the largest as well as the oldest building in the parish, and when it was new it must have formed a strong contrast with the tiny, roughly-built homes of the local people.

The tower, the east end and most of the windows date from the fifteenth century, when the church belonged to the nuns of St Clement's convent in York. They appointed a vicar to take services and minister to the parish, and they were responsible for maintaining the building. The nuns had a number of tenants in Horton, and these may have been called on to help in leading stone for the improvements, but the building work itself was done by professional, paid masons. The windows of this period are beautifully carved and beyond the skill of local labour.

Some fragments of medieval glass remain in the west window; there was probably never much coloured glass at any time, and the loss of the rest is due to age rather than vandalism.

After the Reformation, the church was the responsibility of the patrons, a family called Wilson, one of whom donated the silver plate. They did not often come to Horton and took little interest in the church, simply appointing vicars as necessary.

The church has always been an important centre of local life. The farmsteads of this exceptionally large parish lie some distance away from the church, but in the Middle Ages everyone met here on Sundays, when news could be exchanged and corporate worship welded the community together.

We hope the church will continue to fulfill this function for present and future parishioners, and will provide a centre of welcome to visitors enjoying our beautiful countryside.

Parish of Horton in Ribblesdale - GLEBE TERRIERS

1716 Horton is a curacy, Richard Taylor is the minister. Houses, glebe, great and small tithes all belong to the impropiator who is a minor: Thomas Wilson, gent. Stipend £12 p.a.

1727 Impropiator Mrs Frances Wilson of Lancaster. Curate John Carr, stipend £15 p.a.

1743 John Carr, curate; stipend £15 p.a. and surplice dues.

1764 Joseph Hudson, curate. 'No dwelling house belonging to him nor has he any right to surplice fees but by special Contract with the Impropiator'.

1770 Robert Wetherall minister, Dr Willson ye Dean of Carlisle Patron. No parsonage or vicarage house. Property specified at Newfield Edge in the township of Middop parish Gisburn. stipend 'near £30'.

1777 William Paley, curate, Dr Wilson Dean of Carlisle Patron. No parsonage, no tithes. Property in Gisburn parish at Newfield Edge. total stipend near £30 p.a.

1781 William Paley, minister; son of the Deam of Carlisle Patron. stipend as above.

1786 George Holden, Minister, Rev. Mr Willson Morley of Carlisle Patron.

1809 Rev George Holden the present curate is the Patron. No tithes.

An estate called Newfield-Edge, rents and issues of above with churchyard dues, surplice fees and £200 of Queen Annes Bounty not yet laid out in a purchase make the whole of the curates stipend which amounts to £40 p.a.

1825 William Bury, Minister. A perpetual curacy. No parsonage house. Estate at Newfield Edge, 15 fields totalling 34 a 2 r 21 p and common for 2 horses, small farmhouse, barn, another barn etc. Part of Cocking Flatts at Ingleton, parish of Bentham 6 a 3 r. Parliamentary grant of £1,200. Churchyard belongs to curate. Clerk and Sexton paid by custom.

from Borthwick Institute, York.

List of Ministers and Incumberents: Horton church

- c1200 ADAM PERSONA de HORTON
- 1232 ROBERT de FEGESHE
- c1250 RICHARD THE CLERK
- 1250 to 1607 No records found
- 1607 JOHN TENNANT
- 1673 JOHN ASHBROOKE
- 1712 JOHN CARR
- (Headmaster of Giggleswick Grammar School)
- 1745 JOSEPH HUDSON
- 1769 WILLIAM PALEY
- (Headmaster of Giggleswick Grammer School)
- 1782 T CLAPHAM (Minister)
- 1783 Thos HARRISON (Minister)
- 1788 William HUGHES
- 1798 GEORGE HOLDEN, LLD
- 1821 GEORGE HOLDEN, MA
- 1825 WILLIAM BURY
- 1866 AMOS WILLIAM PITCHER
- 1872 JOSEPH SENIOR, LLD
- 1883 FRANK WEBSTER WHALEY, MA
- 1924 FREDERICK ARTHUR RAWCLIFFE
- 1941 NEIL MACDONALD GORDON KERR
- 1944 JOHN HODGSON RENTON, MA
- 1951 HARRY ELLIOTT, LTh
- 1959 JOHN ROLAND PARKER
- 1966 JAMES PHILIP STRINGER
- 1973 JOHN CLAYPOLE BACON
- 1981 GEORGE K ST JOHN POTTER

Christnings at Horton in Ribblesdale 1678.

Elizabeth filia Edwardi de Wyson baptizata fuit die mensis Martij /
Thomas filius Johannis de Wyson baptizatus fuit die mensis Martij /
Agnes filia Roberti de Wyson baptizata fuit die mensis Aprilis /
Richardus filius Thome de Wyson baptizatus fuit die mensis Aprilis /
Elizabeth filia Johannis de Wyson baptizata fuit die mensis Aprilis /
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Marriages at Horton in Ribblesdale 1678.

Elizabeth filia Edwardi de Wyson nupsit Joanni de Wyson die mensis Martij /
Thomas filius Johannis de Wyson nupsit Agnes de Wyson die mensis Martij /
Richardus filius Thome de Wyson nupsit Elizabeth de Wyson die mensis Martij /

Burials at Horton in Ribblesdale 1678.

Elizabeth filia Edwardi de Wyson sepulta fuit die mensis Martij /
Thomas filius Johannis de Wyson sepultus fuit die mensis Martij /
Richardus filius Thome de Wyson sepultus fuit die mensis Martij /
Elizabeth filia Johannis de Wyson sepulta fuit die mensis Aprilis /
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Elizabeth filia Johannis de Wyson sepulta fuit die mensis Aprilis /

Walter Clark

Johannes Crocker
Tho. Housman



Christenings at Horton in Ribblesdale 1638

Elizabeth daughter of Leonard Hodgson was baptised twenty-sixth day
of the month of March
 Thomas son of John Ward was baptised 26 March
 Agnes daughter of Peter Battersby was baptised 1 April
 William son of Thomas Proctor of Ashes 8 April
 Elizabeth daughter of Laurence Wharfe 29 April
 William son of John Proctor 3 May
 Agnes daughter of Christopher Johnson 3 May
 Jane daughter of Thomas Langstroth 24 June
 Jane daughter of William Bentham of Horton 1 September
 Jane daughter of John Burton of Newhouses 14 January
 Althea or Anthea? daughter of Thomas Howson of Newhouses 10 March
 Stephen Armistead son of Peter Armistead 16 March

Marriages at Horton in Ribblesdale 1638

Brian Birkett and Isabella Bentham were married on the fifth of August
 Leonard Stell and Jane Tennant were married 28 November
 Anthony Tailor and Janet Wildman were married 13 February

Burials at Horton in Ribblesdale 1638

Elizabeth daughter of Cuthbert Kidd was buried twenty-seventh March
 John son of Anthony Smithson was buried 20 April
 Thomas Bentham of Netherlodge 24 April
 Agnes wife of Miles Smithson 13 May
 Margaret daughter of Giles Taylor 20 May
 John Taylor son of Giles Taylor 20 May
 Ann Taylor was buried 24 June
 Edmond Fieldhouse 13 June
 William Howson 16 June
 Francis Fieldhouse the younger 17 June
 The wife of Brian Proctor 23 June
 Elizabeth wife of Nicholas Hesleden 24 June
 Elizabeth wife of Cuthbert Kidd 12 July
 John Hesleden 17 July
 John Proctor of Ashes 19 July
 Elizabeth daughter of Leonard Hodgson 12 August
 Elizabeth wife of Leonard Hodgson 17 August
 The wife of John Stalman of Netherlodge 30 August
 Leonard Hodgson of Horton 4 September
 Bartholemew Bentham 6 October
 Allan Proctor 28 October
 John Bentham 30 October
 Richard Bentham of Horton 5 November
 Margaret daughter of Henry Nordell 8 December
 Thomas Battersby of South House 19 December
 Agnes wife of George Clarke 2 February
 Mabel wife of William Atkinson 21 March

Richard Walker, Clerk

John Proctor

Thomas Howson

Churchwardens

(Note: the year at this time began on Lady Day, 25 March)

Christnings at Horton in Riblsdale 1638

Elizabetha filia Leonardi Hodgson baptista fuit vicesimo sexto die mensis Martii

Tomas filius Johanis Warde bapt fuit vicesimo sexto die mensis Martii

Agneta filia Petri Battersby bapt fuit primo die mensis Aprilis

Guilelmus filius Thomae Procter de Ashes octavo die Aprilis

Elizabetha filia Laurencii Wharffe vicesimo nono die Aprilis

Guilielmus filius Johni Procter tertio die Maii

Agneta filia Xtopheri Johnson tertio die Maii

Jana filia Thomae Langshrote vicesimo quarto die Junii

Jana filia Guiliemi Bentham de Horton primo die Septembris

Jana filia Johni Burton de Newhouse decimo quarto die Januarii

Ahtea filia Thomae Howson de Newhouse decima die Martii

Stephanus Armetstead filius Petri Armestead decimo sexto die Martii

Marriages at Horton in Riblsdale 1638

Brianus Birkett et Issabella Bentham nupti fuerunt quinto die Augustii

Lenniard Stell et Jana Tennant nupta fuer' vicesimo octavo die Novembris

Antonius Tailor et Jenneta Wildman nupti fuer' decimo 3^o die ffebruarii

Burialles at Horton in Riblsdale, 1638

Elizabetha filia Cudberti Kidde sepulta fuit vicesimo septimo die Martii

Johanes filius Anthonii Smithson sepultus fuit vicesimo die Aprilis

Thomas Bentham de Netherlodge vicesimo quarto die Aprilis

Agneta uxor Miloni Smithson decimo tertio die mensis Maii

Margreta filia Egidii Taylor vicesimo die mensis Maii

Johnes Taylor filius Egidii Taylor vicesimo die Maii

Aana Taylor sep'ta fuit vicesimo quarto die Junii

Edmond ffeildhouse decimo tertio die mensis Junii

Guilielmus Howson decimo sexto die mensis Junii

ffranciscus ffeildhouse junior decimo septimo die mensis Junii

Uxor Briani Procter vicesimo tertio die mensis Junii

Elizabetha uxor Nichaoli Heslden vicesimo quarto die Junii

Elizabetha uxor Cudberti Kidde decimo secundo die Julii

Johanes Heslden decimo septimo die mensis Julii

Johnes Procter de Ashes decimo nono die mensis Julii

Elizabetha filia Leonardi Hodgson decimo secunda die Augustii

Elizabetha uxor Leonardi Hodgson decimo septimo die Augustii

Uxor Johni Stalman de Netherlodge tricesimo die Augustii

Leonardus Hodgson de Horton quarto die mensis Septembris

Bartholomus Bentham sexto die mensis Octobris

Allanus Procter vicesimo octavo die mensis Octobris

Johanes Bentham tricesimo die mensis Octobris

Richard Bentham de Horton quinto die mensis Novembris

Margreta filia Henrici Nordell octavo die mensis Decembris

Thomas Battersby de Southouse decimo nono die mensis Decembris

Agneta uxor Georgii Clarke secundo die mensis ffebruarii

Mabella uxor Guilielmi Atkinson vicesimo primo die Martii

Ri: Walker Clerk

John Prockter

Tho: Howson

Churchwardens

06

ST OSWALD, HORTON-IN-RIBBLESDALE

The church was probably built in about 1100 in the reign of Henry I. Extensions were added to the existing Nave and Aisles at the end of the 14th Century to form the Chancel, in such a way that Nave, Chancel and Aisles are all under one roof. At the same time the Tower, forty one feet high, was added.

The South Doorway is Norman, with the typical "Chevron and Dog Tooth" moulding on the inner arch, and with marks on the side stones made by people sharpening their arrow heads. Inside the church, the Arcades are both Norman, on the North side, three bays with columns and unmoulded arches, and on the South side, four bays with slightly differently detailed columns, and arches with one slight chamfer, indicating the possible Transitional period. The bays further East on both sides are Perpendicular with the usual octagonal piers (supports) and double-chamfered arches.

The Font is Norman, tub-shaped, with Herringbone decoration.

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The **WINDOWS** are straight-headed, some with cusped lights, others are un-cusped. (Cusps are the projecting points between small arcs).

The **WEST WINDOW** contains fragments of pre-Reformation stained glass. Shown in the windows are Thomas a Beckett, wearing a mitre and holding a Pastoral Cross; the coat of arms of Jervaulx Abbey in Wensleydale (the Abbey owned land in Horton); and the figure of a Saint.

The **CHANCEL WINDOW**, with three lights, shows the Nativity, the Crucifixion, and the Ascension.

The two-light window at the East end of the South aisle shows the Raising of the Widow's Son at Nain. Other windows on the North and South sides are filled with tinted glass in a Chevron design.

The **BELLS**; there are three bells of which the Tenor is dated 1614. Papers concerning the bells tell us that "the Middle Bell at Horton was cast anew in 1776. In 1770 the Little Bell was cast anew. Paid for ye casting £10.1.2, carrying and re-carrying from York to Settle £2.0.0".

Several interesting memorial brasses can be seen in the North Aisle, including one in memory of John Armistead of Dubcoat, who endowed "The Free Grammar School at Horton". The School was, until 1854, the house in the corner of the churchyard.

Alterations to the Church were made in 1823. Box pews were built, and a Three-decker pulpit was erected. At the West end, a singer's gallery was replaced. In 1879, the box pews and three-decker pulpit were removed when further considerable alterations took place. At this time, the present oak pews, pulpit, lectern, screens and reredos were put in.

Richard THORNTON is commemorated on a brass, now in the church as

"A short time ago schoolmaster here for the district an honest man fleeing from the law anxious to prove his innocence"

Died 29 August 1744

06

CHURCH PLATE

One Silver Chalice - hallmarked and dated:

"York 1679 Maker Marmaduke Best"

One large Silver Chalice - dated 1722

One large Silver Paten - dated 1717

A silver wine Flagon - 1906

A silver wafer box - 1948

A modern silver paten to match the 1679 Chalice

A silver Communion Service - 1897

Two large Pewter Flagons without spouts, date around 1700, said to have been filled with warm ale and handed round at funerals.

07

TITHE CAUSES. from the Borthwick Institute of Historical Research.

Causes in Ecclesiastical Law at the Archbishop's court in York, in which parishioners of Horton were charged with not paying tithes to the Rector.

Ref. Date.

468 1605 (in Latin) Thomas Wilson, proprietor of the tithes of Horton, charges Francis Howson; the response is that Horton is part of the possessions of Jervaulx Abbey.

1339 1618 Brian Benson, farmer of the Rectory of H (i.e. lessee) charges Miles Taylor. From 21-12-1617 to 20-3-1617/8 Miles had 72 sheep depasturing in the parish of H, which he then removed and pastured out of the parish, i.e. in Ingleton, and at May Day 1618 he brought 53 of those sheep back where they pastured until Micheldmas following. At clipping time they yielded 3 score and 12 fleeces, and 15 lambs; 30 lambs were born in Ingleton and are tithable there.

2143 1636 Indenture of lease of the tithes of wool and lambs in H from William Lowther of Ingleton to John Conder of Ingleton for one year only ('this present year').

2179 1637 John Conder claims tithes of wool and lamb from Thomas Bucke. Bucke's defence was that the sheep were tithable in Arncliffe. Roger Procter of Birkwith deposes that Bucke's sheep were at Arncliffe from clipping time 1635 to clipping time 1636.

2633 1663 Thomas Wilson, proprietor of Rectory of H, against Anthony Hesleden. Descent of the Rectory:
circa 1610/11, 8 Jac I, Sir Francis Morrice acquired the Rectory by royal letters patent. He sold same year to Francis Morley of Wennington, Lancs.
c. 1615, 12 Jac I, Morley sold to Edward Wilson of Nether Lebene
c. 1620, 17 Jac I, E. Wilson farmed the tithes to Frances Pudsey of Bycroft, widow, for 50 years.
c. 1629, Mrs Pudsey with her son sold the lease to Jonathan Jenning of Ripon and William Sawley of Cononley.
c. 1630, 6 Chas I, Jenning and Sawley sold the lease to Richard Lowther of Ingleton and William Lowther his father.
1636, the Lowthers sold to Thomas Wilson of Howsham Hall, Westmorland, gent. Thomas conveyed it to Henry Wilson of Underley, Westmorland.
1639. Henry Wilson died and by his will left the Rectory and Tithes to Thomas Wilson the son of his nephew Thomas Wilson of Underholme.
The present Thomas Wilson claims ownership by right of his descent from Edward Wilson of Lebene.

Note that the customary Easter offerings in H are:

£2 in respect of the householder himself

£2 for his wife

£2 for every child or servant over the age of 16.

Every parishioner keeping a house and family, having a garth, a plough, breeding foals from his mares, should pay 1d for his orchard or garth, 1d for his plough, 1d for each foal under the number of six.

T.W. claims that Anthony Hesleden has a wife, a child and one or two servants, a plough, an orchard, 4 mares who have had 4 foals.

He has harvested 20 stooks of barley, 50 stooks of oats and 12 cartloads of hay in Horton. He therefore owes on every stook of barley 6d, oats 4d, cart of hay 8d.

Witnesses Thomas Anderson, John Harling, Edmund Prockter of Selside and Thomas Foxcroft of Beecroft.

2651 1663 Thomas Wilson against Thomas Bateman.

2658 1663 John Hesleden of the Manor of Horton charged by Thomas Wilson, that he owes tithe on 38 stooks of barley, 6 loads of hay,

Tithe Causes- Sheet 2.

28 fleeces, 5 lambs in 1661, same with 10 lambs in 1662. He has a wife etc Witnesses Laurence Burton of Harbour, Thomas Hesleden of Brackenbottom.

Defence, that his property is part of the ancient manor of Jervaulx on which tithes are not payable.

Title of the Lordship of Horton:

1215 William de Morville son of John de Morville gave Horton manor to Abbot and convent of Jervaulx. Jervaulx was thus the owner for more than 60 years before the Dissolution.

(at the Dissolution to Crown)

circa 1544, 12 July 36 Hy 8, to Matthew Earl of Lenox and Dame Margaret his wife

c. 1560, 4 July 3 Eliz 1, the above grant confirmed.

c. 1567, 26 June 10 Eliz, conveyed to John Leonard Esq, Ralph Scroope Esq, Ralph Rookeby Gent, Sampson Leonard, William Forcett, Robert Clough and Henry Dixon.

c. 1567, 20 Oct 10 Eliz, the above owners leased to John and Sampson Leonard. John died in 1590.

c. 1597, 40 Eliz, 29 Nov, Sampson Leonard and his wife Margaret conveyed to Ralph Bosvile (see Deeds, Yorkshire Fines)

c. 1636, 12 Charles I, 29 June, Leonard Bosvile son of Ralph Bosvile conveyed to John Hesleden, Lawrence Burton and others.

Will of William Hesleden of Brackenbottom, 1658:

. . . to my brother John H my leasehold ground for 7 years and at the end of the 7 years my brothers Thomas and John H my freehold land equally between them.

To my sister Anne 10/-; to Mary Armitstead a Heffer.

John Hesleden sole executor. (from sworn copy of will).

Questions to be asked by the court: does anyone know the bounds of the manor of H? Are there any manorial records? How does it happen that Mr Wilson claims title to any part of same manor? Were not William and Alice Howson of Beecroft owners of Beecroft within the said manor? Has Mr Wilson possession of the said manor from the said Howsons or either of them or from their predecessors?

Lawrence Burton deposes that for the last 60 years John Hesleden's property has been of the manor of H.

2659 1664 Thomas Wilson claims against Thomas Bateman with similar defence.

2749 1667 Thomas Wilson against Thomas (or Francis?) Proctor. Defence recites title as in 2633 above. 2750, 51 and 52 part of same.

2762 1667 T.W. against John Clerke

2767 1667 T.W. against Francis Howson

2782 1669 T.W. against John Clarke

2824 1667 T.W. against Francis Howson, judgment.

'being part and parcel of the late dissolved monasterys priories or abbayes of ffountaines and Jorvax als Jorvaux als Jorvall'
claim is for tithe of barley, hay, sheep; Easter offerings in respect of a wife, 2 servants, a garth, a foal every other year from 1660 to 1665, beanes and pease,

at the rate of 4d per stook of bigg or barley

2d per fattock of beanes and pease

24d per cartload hay

2s 6d per lamb

12d per fleece of wooll

(as far as I can make out, he is discharged)

3031 1674 T.W. against Laurence Burton.
Burton owns a watercornemill in the manor of H in R and lands, closes
etc belonging thereto. These are part of the late dissolved monastery
of Jorvall.
discharged of claims in respect of the years 1656 to 1671.

3280 1676 T.W. against John Armitstead

3425 1676 T.W. against John Burton

4225 1690 T.W. against John Tunstall, claim for tithe of multure
for the watercornemill of which he is the owner of one third.
Corn was ground in the year 1689 for which tithe was not paid. John
had paid 46s annually in tithe up to 1689, but for 1689 he paid only
25s although the price of corn was unchanged.

5755 (after 1689) T.W. against John Armitstead, owner of the other
two-thirds of the watercornemill; he paid 46s annually but in 1689
paid only 25s although price of corn unchanged.

ALSO from Besse's Sufferings (Quakers)

page 140: Matthew Wildman of Celside in the parish of Horton in Craven
was prosecuted in the Ecclesiastical Court at the suit of Thomas Watson,
impropriator of Tithes, and by a writ de Excommunicato capiendo was
committed to prison on the 12th day of the 3rd month, 1675.

page 169: 1688, 19 October, John Moore of Ingmanlodge in the parish of
Horton was sent to the same gaol (York Castle) at the suit of Thomas
Watson, impropriator.

No trace of these cases at the Borthwick Institute.

Re Horton Church

Found in Sane Book

Copied as wrote.

Nov 17. 1881

The Parish Church. of Horton-in-Ribblesdale. after ~~being~~ having been closed from Easter March 28 for repairs and restoration was duly re-opened this day Wednesday at 2 p.m. for Divine Services, when the sermon was delivered by the Venerable Archdeacon Boyd. The offertory amounts to £25-0-0. Divine Service was held at the Grammar School from Sunday April 4th — Nov 14th.

Census Returns April 3 1881.

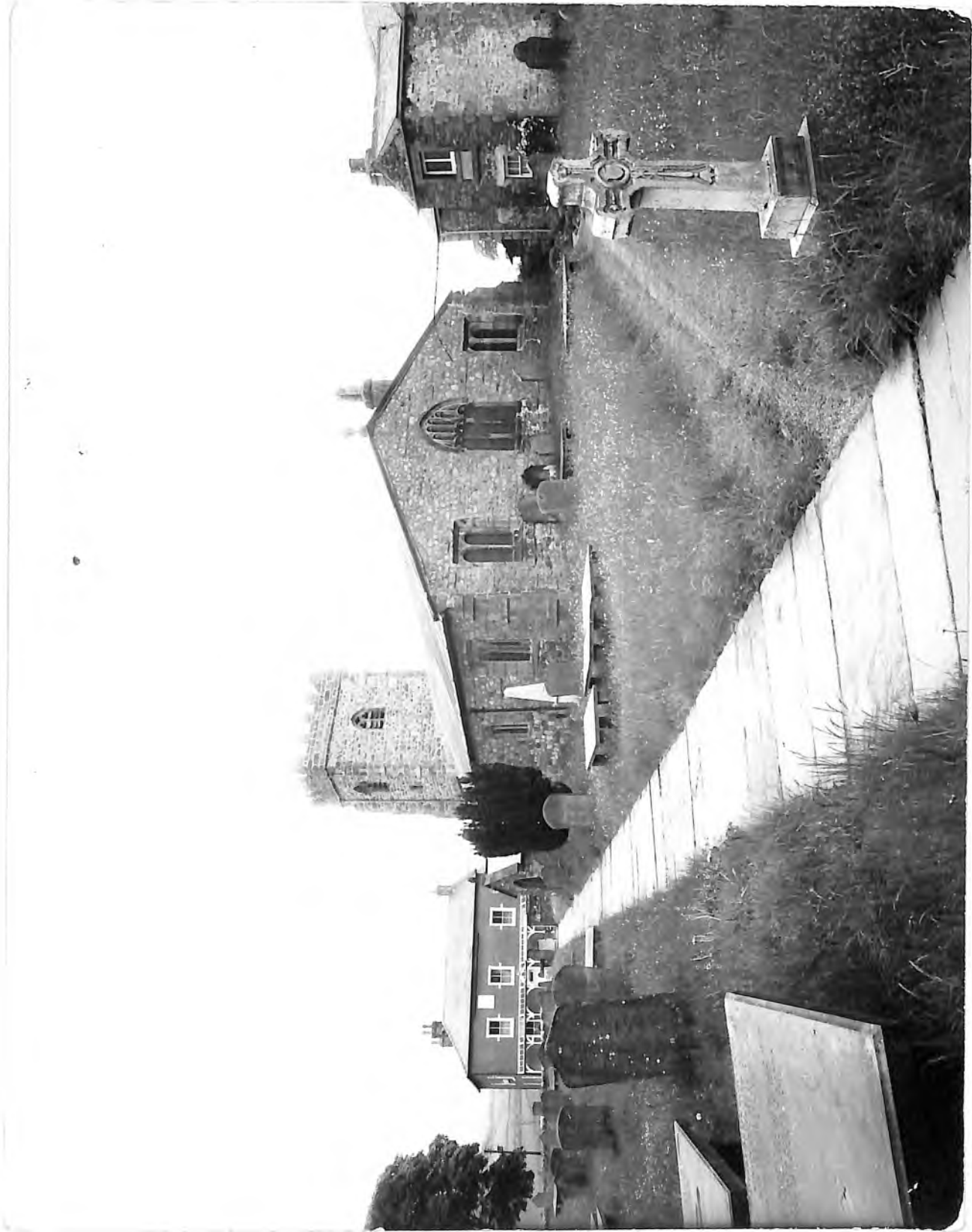
Houses 120 Inhabited 8 empty

Males 294 Females 232.

Total 526. decrease of 390 since 1871 Census.

List of Church Requisites. 1818

1 new brush	3-11d.
Journey to Skipton	1-0-0
Mr Holden 1 bottle of wine	5-0
Breaking Mr James Proctor (Doctor)?	1-0
Paid for Church White Washing	6-3-10½.
Candles for singers	13-9.
Paid for John Bolland 4/2 and John for cleaning windows st	9-2.
Court Fees	1-1-4
Ringers Wage	3-0-0
Church Linen Washing	6-0
Clerk	6-10-0
Sexton	1-0-0
Paid Glazier	1-18-5
Ringers Ale and Candles.	3-1½.
15 loads of Lime for leading	13-0.



The Church from the east end, also showing the house which was the free Grammar School in the 18th and early 19th centuries.



Photograph of the inside of St Oswald Church, showing the box-pews, taken before the 1870 alterations.



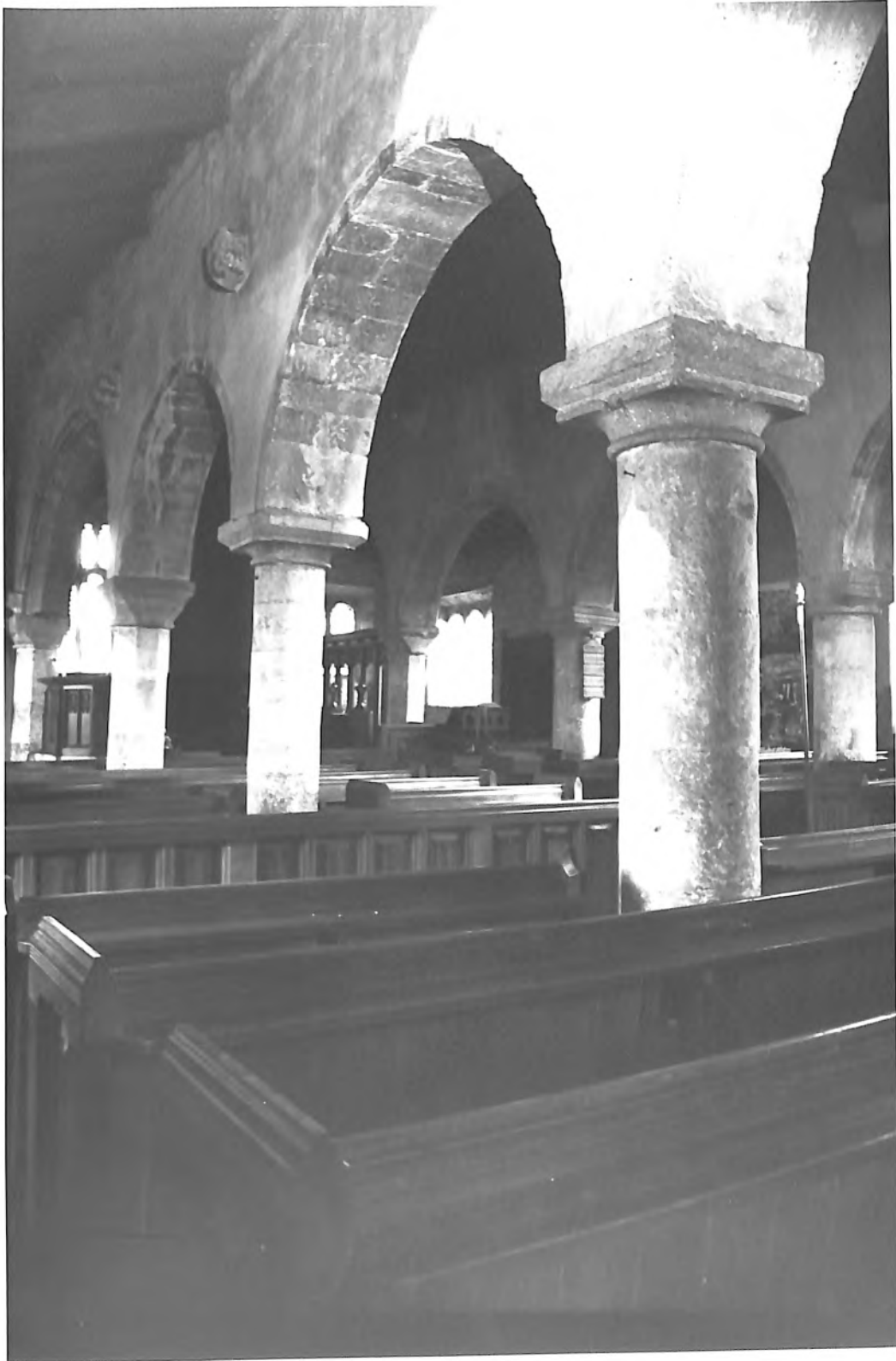
Photograph of the inside of St Oswald Church, showing the alterations which took place in 1870.



Norman font.



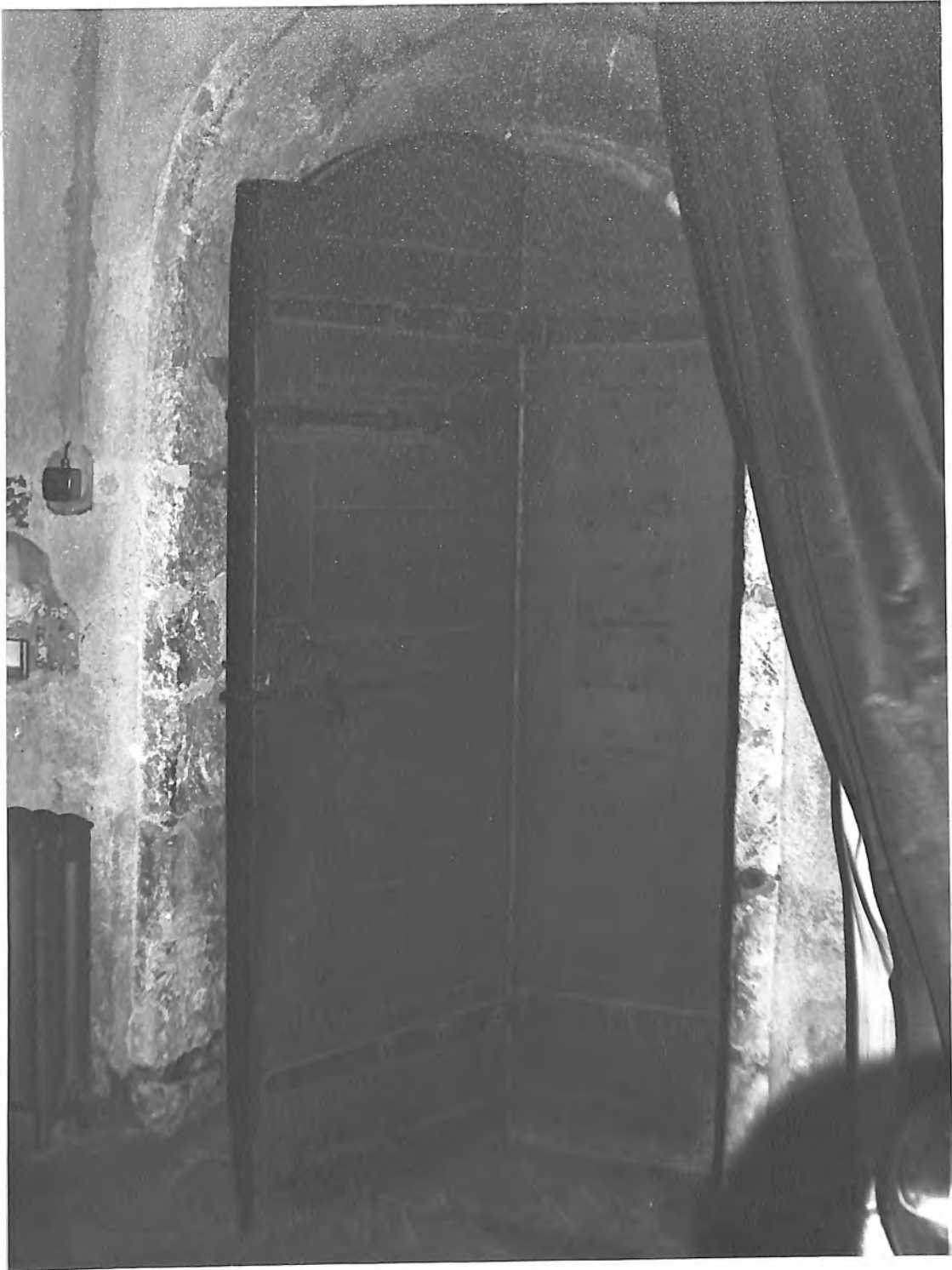
Norman font and the folding door from the inside.



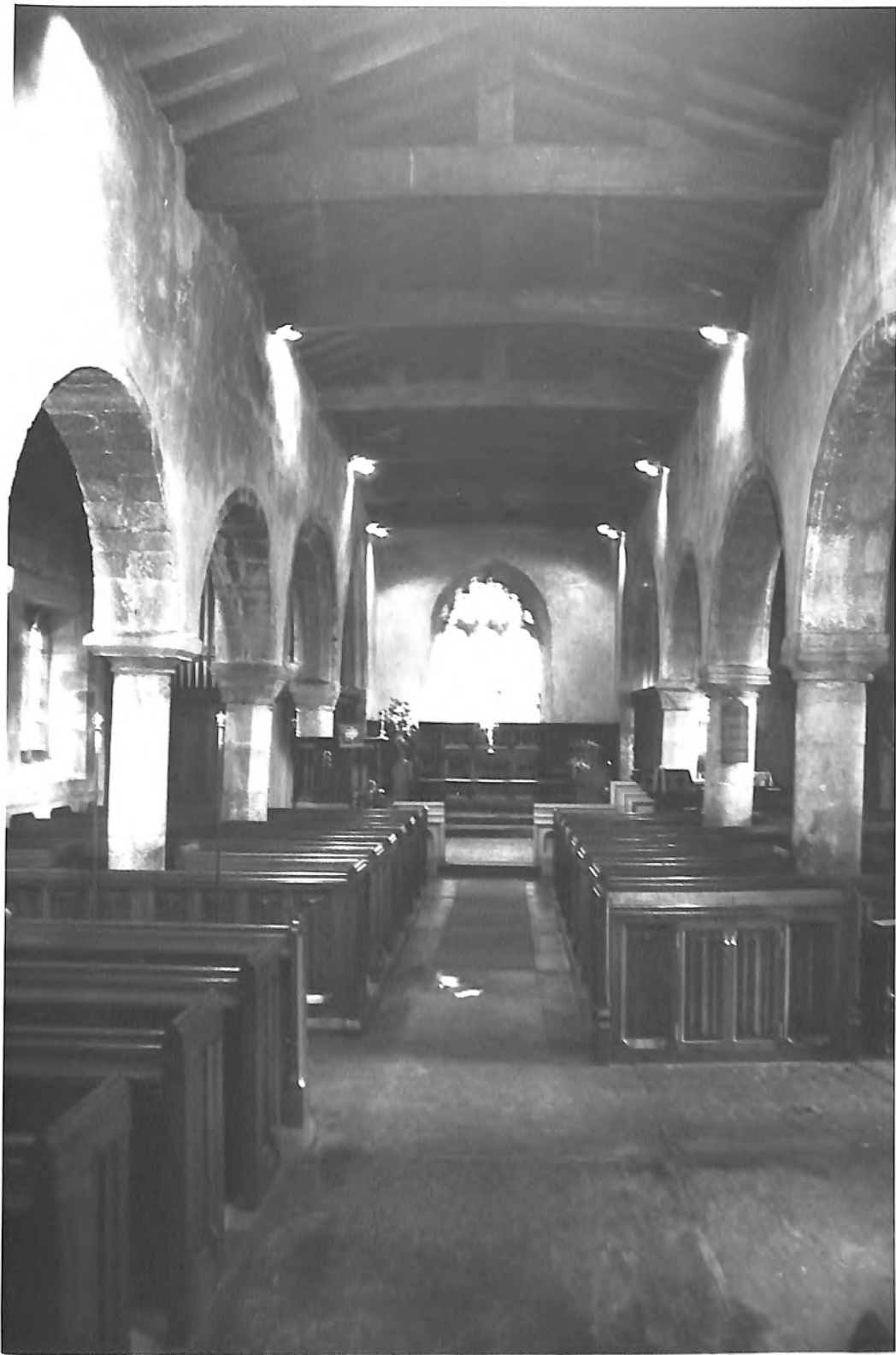
Inside view of St Oswald Church.



St Oswald Church, churchyard and house which was formerly the Free Grammar School in the 18th and early 19th centuries.



Picture of the "folding door" at St.Oswald Church.



Inside view of St Oswald Church.

CONFIRMATION 1943

Back Row:

Walter Sutcliffe, John Peel, Allan Davis,
Mr R Trusler, D Firth, P Roberts, Mr H
Frankland

Second Row:

Dellis Thompson, Maud Sedgewick, Iris
Thompson, Sylvia Thompson, Shirley
Morphet, Barbara Blenkiron, Marion Green,
Monica Millman, Margaret Sutcliffe, Mary
Millman

Front Row:

Millicent White, Evelyn Newhouse, Rev J
Renton, Bishop John Blunt, Mrs Green,
Shirley Green, Florence Bateson



Confirmation class, 1943.

(names opposite).

CONFIRMATION PHOTO AT ST. OSWALD'S

CHURCH. HORTON-IN-R'DALE.

JUNE 6th 1942.

by the Rt. Rev. Bishop of Bradford.

Vicar of Horton - Rev. Gordon-Kerr. and

Mrs Kerr.

Photo.
78.

Left-to-Right - 35 candidates

Back Row:

John Booth, George Perfect, Bill Shepherd,
Harry Jackson, George Beresford, Douglas
Howarth, Arthur (Gaddy) Greenbank, Sydney
Metcalfe, Dennis Smales, Ken Newhouse,
Mr. M. Perfect.

MIDDLE-ROW:-

Mr. J. W. Morphet & Mr John Peel, Gordon Sedgewick
Vince Campbell, Fred Sedgwick, Peggy Mason
Mary Summers, Margaret Millman, Kathleen
Johnstone, Winnie Hodgson, Jean Hodgson
Olive Stapleton, Beth Pollard, May Newhouse
Brian Blaw, Joe Wilson, Bobby Hill.

FRONT-ROW:-

Maion Nelson, Margaret Booth, Margaret
Davies,
- Davies, Maud Bairstow, Margaret Alderson,
Vicar - Bishop - Mrs Kerr - Kenneth Sedgewick,
Bobby Shepherd, Alec Morphet, Ronnie
Davidson, Bernard Rogers.

Dear Miss Foster

25/8/89,

Enclosed is the list of
Names of Confirmation Candidates
for your exhibition photograph,
JUNE 6th - 1942.

Also could I order 1 photo
of the soldier in army uniform
- VICTOR LUND, taken in East
Africa in 1945.

Thank you.
K. Lund

Back Row - John Booth, George Perfect, Billy Shepherd,
Harry Jackson, George Barneford, Dary Howarth
Arthur Greenbank, Sidney Metcalf, Dennis Snales

Middle Row - Mr J. W. Morphet, Mr. J. Peal, Gordon Sedgwick
Vincent Campbell, Fred Sedgwick, Margaret Mason
Mary Summers, Margaret Campbell, Kathleen Johnson
Winne Hodgson, Jean Hodgson, Olive Stapleton,
Beth Pollard, May Newhouse, Brian Row
Joe Wilson, Bobby Hill

Behind. Kenneth Newhouse Mr M. Perfect

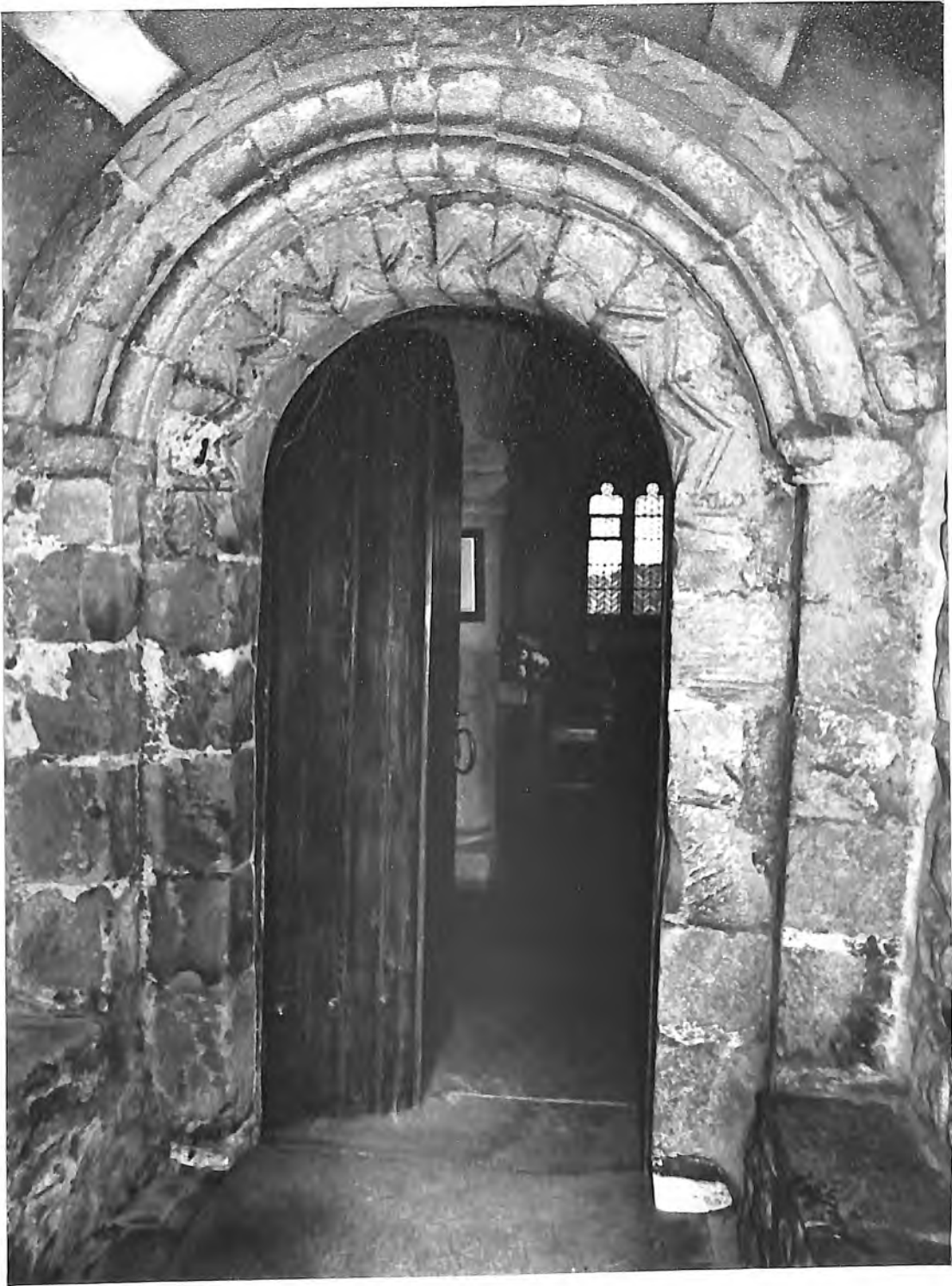
Front Row - Marion Nelson, Margaret Booth, (?)
Maud Bairstow, Margaret Alderson, Rev Kerr,
The Bishop, Mrs. Kerr, Kenneth Sedgwick,
Chris Shepherd, Alec Morphet, Ronnie Davidson
(Bernard Rogers)



WILSONS Lay Rectors of Horton.

- Edward W of Nether ^{where?} Lebene ^{west} fl. 1615
- Thomas W of Hewsham Hall ^{where?} west fl 1636
- Henry W of Underley ^(nr. Kirby Lonsdale) west fl. 1636-9 ^{died}
- Thomas W of Underholme ^{west?} fl. 1639
(nephew of Henry above) ^{where?}
- ^{son} Thomas W, heir of Henry above fl. 1663
+ descendant of Edward
- Mrs Jane W. relict of Thos W. of Beecroft ¹⁷²²
^(or 1702??)
^{buried 1723}
- Rev. Thos W. (impropriator) 1745
- Thomas Dean of Carlisle = ^{sister?} dau of
Josias Morley of Rylstone, & died 1778
- Rev. Thomas Wilson-Morley became
impropriator in 1778
- and sold to Rev. Geo Holden in ?1798
who died age 64 in 1821
- Bishop of Ripon presented in ~~1866~~
1866
1872

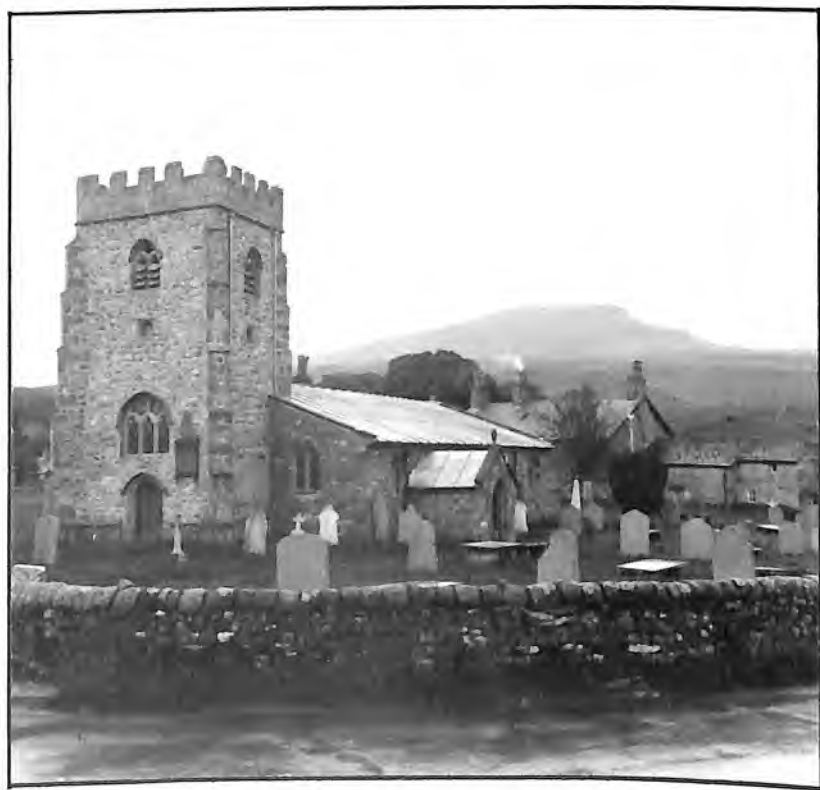
Lay rectors of Horton.



The Norman Porch, showing the unusual folding door, designed to reduce heat loss when the door is opened in Winter. The door also has an early latch, which is very simple, but burglar proof.

K11
98-84

St. Oswald's Church
Horton-in-Ribblesdale



The Church on
The Pennine Way

History of the Church

The present edifice is probably as old as the reign of Henry the First (1100—1135).

Originally the parish belonged to Jervaulx Abbey and was no doubt served by a priest from that parish.

Early in the thirteenth century a dispute arose between the Abbot and Convent of Fountains and the Abbot and Convent of Jervaulx over certain grants of land; this was finally resolved in 1224. During the dispute the patronage lapsed to the Archbishop of York and in 1249 the advowson was appropriated to the nuns of Clemmenthorpe, near York, who sent a priest who was removable at the pleasure of the prioress.

Towards the middle of the Eighteenth century the advowson came into the hands of Dr. Wilson, Dean of Carlisle, who during the reign of George I lived at Beecroft Hall. Some time later the advowson was purchased by the Revd. Dr. George Holden, LL.D., who was vicar from 1798 to 1821 and was school master of Horton for nearly forty years.

The advowson was ultimately transferred to the Bishop of Ripon by the Holden family.

At present time the church is in the Deanery of Bowland and the Diocese of Bradford, the Bishop of Bradford being Patron.

At the end of the 14th century the Chancel and Aisles were extended eastwards to their present position and the tower rebuilt.

In 1823 considerable alterations were made, although because of the poor workmanship and the dissatisfaction of the Archdeacon, the work was not completed until 1825. The lead was taken from the roof, melted down and the silver extracted, which meant that the whole job had to be done again some 50 years later. New box pews, a three decker pulpit, and the erection of new churchwardens and singers galleries were part of this restoration. The total cost came to £460.

In 1879 further restoration work was necessary. This was to be far more extensive than anything which had been done before. The singers' gallery was removed completely. (Note marks on the two western pillars). The floor of the church raised, and the present oak pews, pulpit, lectern, screens, and reredos were put in. The roof

1714
-1727

2
was
replaced
by
wood
1825

21 was raised and became a single span. Thus the Disappearance of the clerestory and roof windows. (Corbel stones in both north and south aisles are evidence of this). The total cost came to £1039.0.5d.

From "North Craven Churches" The Revd. Canon W. A. SHUFFREY—published by J. Whitehead & Son, Leeds:

"one of the most successful (restorations) which has been carried out in Craven in recent years.....no unnecessary alterations were made in the fabric. The ancient masonry was left undisturbed, except where repairs were absolutely necessary."

Lych Gates

The entrance to the churchyard is through the Lych Gates. The roofs are formed by large flags of Helwith Bridge slates.

South Door

The arch and moulding with 'dog tooth' moulding are definitely of the Norman period.

Notice the grooves on the side stones made by the sharpening of arrow heads and knives.

Font

The stone font with lead lined bowl is of Norman origin and bears the zig zag carving of that period.

The base of the font is a block of local gritstone. The cover, simple in design, is made of old oak.

Tower

The massive tower, 41 feet high, was built in the late 14th or early 15th century. Traces of Norman work are on the east side.

The oak screen was completed and glazed in 1965 by the generosity of the parishioners of the hamlet of Selside.

Bells

There are three bells. The Tenor dated 1614 bears the Latin inscription "I will sing to Thee O God with a pleasant sound." The Treble and Middle Bells were both cast at George Dalton's Foundry in York. A paper in the archives reads: "The Middle Bell at Horton

was cast anew in the year 1776 in 1770 the Little Bell was cast anew. Paid for ye casting £10.1.2. carrying and re-carrying from York to Settle £2.0.0."

Nave

The pillars and arches of the Nave are of the Norman period whilst those of the Chancel are late 14th or early 15th century work.

The pillars on the North side are less in diameter than those on the South. Masons' Marks can be found scratched on some of the stones in the pillars.

The Octagonal pillar has on the carved capital a shield bearing a Fleur-de-Lis a design repeated on the moulding of the South arch in the Sanctuary, in the East window and on the desk ends of the Choir Stalls. All the Pillars have a marked lean to the South. The South Wall has an outward lean measured as 9 cm. in one place.

The polished cow horns hanging on the pillars are used as flower vases.

Memorial Brasses

In the North Aisle are several brasses removed from tombstones in the Churchyard to preserve them from the weather.

The small rectangular brass is in memory of John Armitstead of Dubcoat who in 1725 endowed "The Free Grammar School at Horton."

The Organ

The Two manual organ was built by Mr Moses Sagar Organ Builder of Leeds and opened in August 1896.

It was restored by Messrs Hopkins and Son, Organ Builders of York and re-opened on August 31st 1906.

The Reredos

This beautiful piece of work, the gift of Mrs Foster in memory of her sons, is of oak 'linen fold' panels with a fine carved centre panel.

The Altar purchased in 1946 replaces the one now in the Lady Chapel.

The Brass Cross is a memorial to Thomas Ion, 33 years Sexton who died in office November 4th 1903.

The Windows

The East window of the Chancel and that of the South Aisle are both examples of Victorian stained glass.

The Chancel window has three lights representing: The Nativity: The Crucifixion: The Ascension. The window was given by the Foster Family in memory of John William Foster 1879.

The two light window at the East end of the South Aisle represents the Raising of the Widow's Son at Nain. This window is in memory of Thomas Foster who died in Canada in 1880 and Bryan Heseldon Foster who died in 1889.

The West window contains three fragments of pre-Reformation glass. The Mitred head of Thomas a Beckett Archbishop of Canterbury. A portrait of the Blessed Virgin Mary. A portion of an heraldic shield believed to be part of the coat of arms of Jervaulx Abbey in Wensleydale who owned land in Horton.

The windows on the South and North sides of the church are filled with tinted glass in a pleasing chevron pattern. The windows on the North side were inserted in 1879 to replace ugly sash windows of wood.

The Lady Chapel

At the East end of the South Aisle was Dedicated by the Bishop of Bradford on Sunday April 17th 1969. The seats formerly facing the Chancel were shortened and turned to face East and refixed on a new floor. The existing floor was raised to form the Sanctuary.

The Altar Rail and Credence were made from the remaining oak. The Altar is the one removed from the Chancel when the new High Altar was purchased in 1946. The Altar Pall, Carpet and Curtains were purchased from the sum of £100 bequeathed by the late Mr A. Hall 'for the adornment of Horton-in-Ribblesdale Church'. Other furnishings were given by parishioners.

Church Plate

This consists of one Silver Chalice bearing the Hall and date marks of York 1679 Maker Marmaduke Best.

One large silver Chalice inscribed "The gift of Mrs Jane Wilson relict of Mr Thomas Wilson late of Beecroft. Anno Salutis Humanae." 1722. London Hall Mark 1722.

One large silver Footed Paten with similar inscription. Hall Mark 1717. Maker John Boddington. Amorial bearing on Chalice and Paten

A wolf salient and in chief a fleur-de-lis between two roundels.

One silver Wine Flagon date 1906

One silver Wafer Box date 1948

One modern silver Paten to match the 1679 Chalice

One silver Communion Service for use at the Communion of sick. Given by the parishioners to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. June 1897.

Two large Pewter Flagons without spouts c. 1700 said to have been filled with warm ale and handed round the company at funerals.

Electric Lighting

Was installed in 1937 through the generosity of members of the Langstroth family residing in U.S.A.

"In memory of their Ancestors 1559—1767."

Registers, Books and Documents

The Registers commence in 1556 and except for one or two pages which are missing continue to the present time. In 1597 the burial of 74 persons is recorded. Horton evidently had a plague. On April 3rd 1821 George Metcalfe of Horton was buried, aged 100.

The Churchwardens Accounts for 1800 show the various activities and business of the Parish. The Accounts of the Overseers of the Poor provide an interesting commentary on the so called 'good old days.'

In addition to these are the large leather bound Bible and Service books used in the 'three Decker' pulpit, these were purchased in 1827. There is also a leather bound Holy Bible containing the Book of Common Prayer and "the whole Book of Psalms collected in English Metre by Thomas Sternhold, John Hopkins, and others." This book was published in 1751.

Amongst the many documents are old deeds the earliest dated 1672, copies of John Armitstead's Deed to Horton School and Will both dated 1725. Indentures binding poor children to domestic service and "A Proclamation against PROFANING SUNDAY" ordered to be read June 21st 1837.

All the Registers and Documents, apart from recent records, are lodged with the County Archivist of North Yorkshire, County Hall, Northallerton. These are available for public inspection. *AT A PRIDE*

A summary of the documents at County Hall is kept by the vicar.

The School

The earliest mention of a school at Horton is in a copy of the Will of Agnes Clapham dated 1695 bequeathing the sum of £10 for the benefit of the school at Horton, the trustees to pay the interest yearly to the schoolmaster thereof.

In 1725 John Armitstead conveyed to trustees a message called Dubcoats with certain land and grazing rights to be held in trust to provide 'a fit and able schoolmaster to teach and instruct youth and children in the school situate in Horton-in-Ribblesdale such person to be unmarried and in priest's or deacon's orders.' By his will dated March 1725 he bequeathed a sum of £200 to be laid out in the purchase of land the income to be used for the same purpose.

The school was known as Horton-in-Ribblesdale Grammar School.

The Schoolmasters have from time to time combined their duties with those of Incumbent as did the Reverend Thomas Holden LL.D. died 1820, who according to 'A Topographical Dictionary of Yorkshire' 1822: 'he educated a greater number of

Clergymen for the Establishment than most men in a similar situation. He was a man of high classical and mathematical attainments.'

The present School, now known as Horton-in-Ribblesdale Church of England Primary School, stands on the site across the Horton Beck and was completely rehabilitated in 1970 making it one of the most up to date in North Ribblesdale.

It is an Aided Church School with three bodies of management
School Managers
School Foundation Governors
School Exhibition Foundation Governors.

Church Cottage

The house in the corner of the churchyard was until 1854 the Free Grammar School at Horton.

The schoolroom was used For worship during the periods of restoration.

The Vicarage

The Vicarage or Parsonage was built in 1868 from the designs of Mr Thompson, Architect of Kendal.

For more than eight hundred years men and women crossing the lonely fells and Penygent have looked over the 19,000 acres of Horton Parish stretching from Helwith Bridge to Cam Houses and seen Horton Church with a feeling of relief and entered it to thank God for a safe journey.

Today history repeats itself, many coming down the Pennine Way look down on Horton Church and call in to rest and pray in this fine old church dedicated to St. Oswald.

"The Church on the Pennine Way"

List of Ministers and Incumbents

- c.1200 Adam Persona de Horton
1232 Robert de Fegeshe
c.1250 Richard the Clerk
1250 to 1607 No records found
1607 John Tennant
1673 John Ashbrooke
1712 John Carr
(Headmaster of Giggleswick Grammar School)
1745 Joseph Hudson
1769 William Paley
(Headmaster of Giggleswick Grammar School)
1782 T. Clapham *(Minister)*
1783 Thos. Harrison *(Minister)*
1788 William Hughes
^{Thomas} 1798 ~~George~~ Holden, LL.D. *g.*
1821 George Holden, M.A.
1825 William Bury
1866 Amos William Pitcher
1872 Joseph Senior, LL.D.
1883 Frank Webster Whaley, M.A.
1924 Frederick Arthur Rawcliffe
1941 Neil Macdonald Gordon Kerr
1944 John Hodgson Renton, M.A.
1951 Harry Elliott, L.Th.
1959 John Roland Parker
1966 James Philip Stringer
1973 John Claypole Bacon
19

(+ Stamford)

was at
Stamford

Ingham Lodge . INGMAN LODGE

A great deal seems to appear at this very ancient farm, originally called Ingham Lodge, Yng deriving from the Norse word meaning to take from - to enclose.

At a guess I would say that there has been at least three dwellings at one time.

Ingham Lodge was at one period in time a place which housed very strong minded Quakers, who were prepared to be imprisoned for their convictions.

Across from the house is a Quaker burial ground measuring 18 yds x 8 yds, Listed below are the names of people buried there, as yet only these are known, but I feel there could be more, records at one time being rather neglected.

George Greenbantie (poss of Thomas) buried 18th Dec. 1679.

John Moore of Ingham Lodge " 14th May 1699.

Stephen Egline (senior) of Selside died 4th Oct buried 6th Oct 1706

Mary Wildman wife of Matthew Wildman of Ingham Lodge, buried 9th Jan 1706/7

Isobel Atkinson widow of Lodge Hall. buried 7th June 1712.

William Bentham of Gauber died 20th Dec. buried 23rd Dec 1719.

Margaret Egline of Selside died 26th Dec. buried 29th Dec 1723/4

The burial ground being closed for burials in the year of 1729. A minute of Settle monthly meeting of 2.5.1729 reads "Whereas this Meett. At this time as well here afor have had under their consideration the small number of friends belonging to Selside Meeting. It has therefore been thought most advisable for them to Joyn with friends of Settle meeting they themselves also inclining

there-to. To which for the present this Meeting gives consent."

Quakers meetings recorded to take place within the friends homes around Selside, and as there appears no record of a meeting house, so what is thought to be the remains of one, could well be an old dwelling.

' Amongst a large number of old papers found in the roof of Settle meeting house, was found a scrap of paper relating to accounts which commences 1773.

' Do paid R. Chapman for repairs of Selside burying ground 2/3d'. In recent years the burial ground was bought by Mr William Mason the present farmer of Ingham Lodge.

Re Quakers and Sufferings.

John Moore of Ingham Lodge was prosecuted for tithes in 1696 and imprisoned in York Castle, he died at the Lodge after his release.

Matthew Wildman also of Ingham Lodge was too a strong Quaker as also his wife, who is now in the burial ground, Matthew, ~~we~~ I can not as yet determine as to where ~~to~~ he is buried.

Matthew and his wife who came from Austwick was married there 30th June 1656, he and his wife Mary were at that time not Quakers.

Taken from the book by Brayshaw.

Matthew Wildman of Horton-in-Ribblesdale for being at two meetings was fined for himself and his wife forty shillings and also having the fines of others laid upon him the value of twenty shillings, for which fines distress

was made by offices of his household goods and hay to the value of £4-15-0d. Richard Armistead and Matthew Wildman together fined £5-15-0d for appearing at meetings. On 12th March 1675 he was imprisoned and again 9th Oct 1682. both times at Lancaster Castle.

In 1714 Julian Frankland again a Quaker (Minister) was sued for tithe valued at 6/2d and had taken from her a cow which was sold for £3-5-4d, later for tithe valued at 6s, were taken from her, three cows, two calves and hay worth £18.

This the greater part of the Widows substance did not satisfy the Prosecutor, who, on the pretence that the goods were over valued, prosecuted her again in an inferior court in the county, but a verdict was there given against him, at which he was much enraged and threatened "that he would never cease to prosecute the Widow till he had got her into York Castle", but was prevented of his ~~death~~ purpose by death a few weeks later.

Julian Frankland at Great Burrow in the Parish of Tunstall, Lancaster, in June 1655, "In her maturity she renounced the vain delights and pleasures of the world and became convinced of the truth." Which made her eleven years of age, at the time of her convictions.

She was married but her husbands name is unknown and was apparently childless, "but that is not 100 per cent sure"

She died 23rd Nov 1743 and was buried at the Friends burial ground at Settle. NB. It is possible that she was related to Richard Frankland of Rathmell Academy

She had been a Minister for about 50 yrs. PTO

of All Information Re. Quakers.

Found Friends meeting house Euston Rd Euston London
And the Brotherton Library University of Leeds.
Mr Russell Mortimer being of great Assistance.
(Librarian of Archives).

Besse's 'Sufferings' page 169.

1688 19th Oct, John Moore of Ingman Lodge in the parish
of Horton was sent to [York Castle] gaol at the suit of
Thomas Watson (sr) impropriator of tithes.

page 172 Stephen Eglin of Selside charged with owing
£2-1-0 for tithes, which were taken in kind. (date?)

page 150 Quarter Sessions at Wetherby 1682, among 81
persons indicted for absence from Parish Church, told to take
Oath of Allegiance & refused, were named Stephen Eglin,
John Bentham & Matthew Wildman.

Parish of Horton in Ribblesdale - GLEBE TERRIERS

1716 Horton is a curacy, Richard Taylor is the minister. Houses, glebe, great and small tithes all belong to the impropiator who is a minor: Thomas Wilson, gent. Stipend £12 p.a.

1727 Impropiator Mrs Frances Wilson of Lancaster. Curate John Carr, stipend £15 p.a.

1743 John Carr, curate; stipend £15 p.a. and surplice dues.

1764 Joseph Hudson, curate. 'No dwelling house belonging to him nor has he any right to surplice fees but by special Contract with the Impropiator'.

1770 Robert Wetherall minister, Dr Willson ye Dean of Carlisle Patron. No parsonage or vicarage house. Property specified at Newfield Edge in the township of Middop parish Gisburn. stipend 'near £30'.

1777 William Paley, curate, Dr Wilson Dean of Carlisle Patron. No parsonage, no tithes. Property in Gisburn parish at Newfield Edge. total stipend near £30 p.a.

1781 William Paley, minister; son of the Deam of Carlisle Patron. stipend as above.

1786 George Holden, Minister, Rev. Mr Willson Morley of Carlisle Patron.

1809 Rev George Holden the present curate is the Patron. No tithes.

An estate called Newfield-Edge, rents and issues of above with churchyard dues, surplice fees and £200 of Queen Annes Bounty not yet laid out in a purchase make the whole of the curates stipend which amounts to £40 p.a.

1825 William Bury, Minister. A perpetual curacy. No parsonage house. Estate at Newfield Edge, 15 fields totalling 34 a 2 r 21 p and common for 2 horses, small farmhouse, barn, another barn etc. Part of Cocking Flatts at Ingleton, parish of Bentham 6 a 3 r. Parliamentary grant of £1,200. Churchyard belongs to curate. Clerk and Sexton paid by custom.

from Borthwick Institute, York.

The Headmaster,
The School,
Horton-in-Ribblesdale,
Near Settle,
North Yorkshire.

28 September 1989

Dear Mr. Barker,

I very much appreciated you allowing me to walk round your school on Wednesday and to see where my forebear the Rev. George Holden used to teach. I really enjoyed the atmosphere. I think you've got it so right.

Enclosed are a few notes about the George Holdens which I said I'd let you have. I hope you find them of interest but maybe you, being on the spot know more than I do. Don't hesitate to drop me a line of addition or correction if you feel so inclined. I'd be glad to receive it.

Best wishes to you,

Yours sincerely,

Michael Holden.

Michael Holden,
Newstead Honey Farm,
Novington Lane,
East Chiltington,
Lewes,
Sussex.
BN 7 3 AT
Tel: 0273 890233

A Yorkshire Schoolmaster

Writing about the Rev. George Holden, Headmaster of Horton-in-Lonsdale Free Grammar School is fraught with difficulties because his father was the Rev. George Holden as also was his son the Rev. George Holden, so it needs care to assign the facts to the correct Rev. George.

First of all let us look at the father of 'Horton George'.

He was a local man, born at Kettlesbeck Farm, a few miles south of Clapham, in 1723 - one of a large family who all made their mark by becoming well known figures, if minor ones, in their trades and professions. You can imagine Francis Holden of Westhouse, father of them all saying " You are not to be ordinary people and waste your lives, you are all to do your best and make your mark ". And they did. Of George's brothers Christopher became a brassfounder with his own foundry in Liverpool, Proctor and Richard, like George became Schoolmasters . Richard later ran his own Academy. Thomas became a brewer with his own brewery in Liverpool and John became Official Musician to the City of Glasgow. An amazing achievement for a family which must have been very poor . How it was all done is a mystery . Anyone who has been to Kettlesbeck will know that is is now, as it was then, nothing more than a stone house clinging to a stoney hillside.

However, nothing daunted 'Horton George' passed his examinations and in due course became a clergyman and after due course again, and after marrying Jane Brooks was appointed to the living of Pilling which is on the sea in North Lancashire. Here he met up with a Captain Hutchinson who amongst other things had invented reflecting mirrors for lighthouses, and was at that time Dock Master for the Port of Liverpool and greatly interested in predicting the tides . To this end he had been taking readings of the tide levels at the then small port of Liverpool for a number of years and when he showed this wad of figures to the Rev. George Holden and his brother Richard - both of whom were considerable mathematicians the Holden brothers were confident that by using the data they could publish predictions of tide levels at Liverpool Port. They did indeed do this and the first publication by Richard and George Holden was printed in 1769 as "Holden's Original Pocket Almanack and Tide Table " and contained an engraving of Dr. Richard Holden and a short account of his life . (I have combed all the nautical libraries of England for a copy of this work but none exists till 1790 by which time the engraving and the biography had been dropped.)

There is some doubt as to which of the brothers did the most work on the Tables . Possibly Richard produced the necessary theory whilst George slogged away at the practical calculations, but eventually all the glory accrued to George who was widely described as " a great mathematician and scholar " and "a mathematical genius" .

Whilst all this was taking place he had managed to transfer his living from Pilling to Tatham Fells and to have his house in Bentham. A story goes that one Sunday he was walking over the moor from Bentham to Tatham to hold a service when he suddenly realised that he had made an inaccuracy in one of the tidal calculations . Arriving at Tatham the service was held with the greatest speed and the sermon was dispensed with so that he could shoot off home to Bentham at a very fast walk to put his calculations right . In middle life he resigned his living to become Second Master at Bentham School.
Such was the father of 'Horton George' .

'Horton George' was born in 1758 . He probably went to Bentham School and he certainly went to Glasgow University where he was awarded his LLD following which he became the incumbent of Horton-in-Ribblesdale with an income of £13 a year and a population of 570 . In the same year 1781 he succeeded the Rev. James Sedgwick as Headmaster of the Free Grammar School which had been founded in 1725 by John Armitstead, gentleman, and was open to the boys of the parish indefinitely, free of expense.

A year later he married Ann Proctor, a local girl from a big local family and when his father died in 1793 he came into a small estate at Birch Hill, Sladeburn . He then had income from the incumbancy, income from the School Foundation and income from the estate and presumably was not too badly off by the standards of the time. On the death of his father he also received " 3 bookcases of Latin and Greek books, mathematical books, a Haley's quadrant together with all the books and instruments used in calculating the Liverpool Tide Tables" and he took on from his father the regular updating of the Tables for which ^{he negotiated} a fee of 50 guineas a year where his father had done it for 10 . He continued revising the Tables for the whole of his 40 year teaching life at Horton .

He was a dedicated teacher " a man of high classical and mathematical attainments " and (says the Gentleman's Magazine of 1821) during his whole teaching period "he educated a greater number of clergymen for the Establishment than most men in a similar situation ".

George and Ann had only one child - a son christened George who in time became the Rev. George Holden M.A. and a noted Victorian theologian . He left a large theological library to the Diocese of Ripon . This still exists in an updated form as the Holden Library within the University Library at Leeds.

George Holden of Horton died on 3 January 1821 at the age of 63 and there is a tablet to his memory in Horton Church just as there is a tablet to the memory of his father in Bentham Church. His initials G H can still be seen above the School House door.

M. Holden
September 1989

A RURAL COMMUNITY WITHOUT GENTRY

The conventional picture of 19th century village history is that of a community dominated by the 'Big House' and by the Squire, who maintained a quasi-manorial control over the villagers at the same time keeping them economically dependent; he was seconded or in his absence represented by the rector who was in a position to regulate the day-to-day lives of the parishioners. There are of course variants on this theme, and control might be more or less absolute, but in most cases it appears to have been thought necessary not merely that class distinctions should be maintained, but also that social leadership should be asserted. In the absence of such a framework, how would a community develop? What considerations determine the presence and the dominance of a gentry class? Are such considerations always present?

In the parish church of Horton in Ribblesdale, a village lying on the Pennine Way in the heart of the Three Peaks tourist honeypot, there are none of the elaborate sculptured tombs which we associate with the leading families of a community. Instead there are one or two modest brasses brought in from table tombs in the churchyard, recording the lives of ordinary farmers and clothiers. The Benefit Boards record no gentry among those who left money for the Poor, and the cost of installing electric light was borne by a family that had emigrated to America, whose Horton forebears were either butchers or farmers.

During the Middle Ages the 17,000 acres of the parish, all above 700 feet and with dwellings up to about 1450 feet, were used by four monastic houses as pasture for sheep, horses and cattle. The Fountains Abbey holding seems to have ~~declined in value and to have~~ been of little importance at the time of the Dissolution, since Sir Richard Gresham struck it off the schedule of lands he was buying. It came into the hands of the Cliffords of Skipton Castle, who leased it off for 6,000 years to the sitting tenant at a yearly rent of 16/8 which seems soon to have been forgotten.

The granges of Furness, Jervaulx and St Clements, however, evolved into manors. The large Furness manor - some 125 square miles of property of which about 14 sq miles lay in Horton - was centred on the village of Newby some miles away to the south. It is still in existence, and its records from the time of the Dissolution show that the manorial obligations of the tenants were always negligible, whilst the rights of the Lord of the Manor over the Horton lands by the time of a 1683 survey were pretty well non-existent. This left the tenants effectively indistinguishable from freeholders.

The Jervaulx manor of Horton was bought by a Kentish family and

the farms leased back to its tenants on 99-year leases; by the time these leases fell in the Kentish family had died out and whoever inherited the freehold made no attempt to claim it. In the late 18th century (in connection with an enclosure award) there were said to be 42 Lords of the Manor of Horton, i.e. every man was his own master. The Jervaulx properties were thus in practice relieved of manorial obligations from the time of the Dissolution, and became freehold a century later.

The fourth manor, which was granted to St Clement's Benedictine nunnery at York in 1249 after an obscure dispute about the advowson, was the Rectory manor of Beecroft. It was retained by the Crown well into the reign of Elizabeth I and was then bought by a Cumbrian family called Wilson. In the 1660's the current Thomas Wilson began to assert his right to tithe, but failed because except for his own lands all the Horton people held property that had been Cistercian and claimed exemption from tithe on those grounds. It seems clear that no tithes were being paid, and there was of course no Tithe Apportionment map. In 1795 the Wilsons sold the tithes off to each and every one of the landholders in the parish - again a case of every man his own master. The manorial rights, although at the Dissolution worth more than any other of St Clement's properties, extended only over ten farms and six cottages, which by the 18th century had shrunk to five farms and these were sold not long afterwards. The Wilsons were thus not even considerable land-owners and from about 1700 had ceased to reside in the parish, preferring their Cumbrian estates; by the 19th century the Rectory Manor had ceased to exist. Perhaps, however, the Wilsons were the one family associated with Horton that could be called gentry, and they were the donors to the church of its Communion Plate.

This erosion of manorial control must be paralleled in many villages. What we should then expect, with no resident landlords, would be the accumulation of property and influence in the hands of one or more of the farming families, but this seems not to have happened. Horton is not a nucleated village but consists of a number of isolated farms and a few small hamlets; there is a limited number of family surnames, which has made it necessary to identify people both by name and location as, for instance, John Procter of Birkwith or John Procter of Studfold. We therefore know which holdings were in whose hands at what date. Horton seldom shows very long sequences of the same family at a farm, three generations being about the maximum, and a study of the wills helps to show how this came about.

In the 16th century Adam Eglyne of Studfold died 1548 and left

his property thus: to John 'my oxgange at Horton', to Edmund 'my farm called Hemmyne Scale' and to Richard 'the whole right and title that I have at Studfold'. Richard's son Adam dying in 1597 left holdings at Studfold and Stainforth to his two sons respectively, and there are four more similar cases among the 38 wills studied. In the 17th century, three wills out of 53 studied leave a property of apparently equal value to each of several sons, and in the 18th century seven do so out of 53 studied. (Only 144 wills have been transcribed for study out of some 550 known). It is easy to see in these 16 cases, few though they are, that the accumulation of several farms in one family is negated by the wish to endow all the sons equally - by 'partible inheritance', in fact.

In another 38 cases the whole of the testator's property is left to one son with monetary compensation for his brothers, and in another 37 wills there is only one son available to inherit. There are 14 wills specifying joint inheritance between two or more heirs. It is clear that in the majority of cases the property was kept together and not divided up.

	16th C	17th C	18th C	all
partible inheritance	6	3	7	16
joint inheritance	5	6	3	14
primogeniture*	10	13	15	38
only son	14	14	9	37
other (incl wills with no landed property)	3	17	19	39
total	38	53	53	144

* we cannot be sure that the eldest son is always meant; this column includes all cases when other sons were compensated.

In spite of this, property did not in fact accumulate in the hands of particular families. It is difficult to account for this except by accident, since as we have seen it was actually possible for some fathers to acquire additional holdings in order to endow their sons. In a number of instances, either property or influence seems to have begun to build up, only to disperse again. In 1725 John Armitstead died with £150 in his pocket - at a time when the vicar's stipend was £12 a year - but he had no direct heir and left his fortune to endow the Grammar School. In 1732 Christopher Wetherherd, who had built in 1687 what is unquestionably the finest house in the parish, died a very wealthy man, but his estates were divided among four sons and only two of these remained in Horton. In 1740 Anthony Dowbiggin's two sons inherited three substantial farms, but both died later without heirs and the properties were split up.