

ACA's point - view as a whole

1 VIEW

Picture of ^{houses} Craven painted by H&H in 1984 book has not changed that much. Craven includes a large part of the Yorkshire Dales in the Pennines. An area of scattered settlements – farms and nucleated villages- and rural. Limestone and sandstone abundant as building materials.

2 MAP

Craven is still an admin area. Includes upper Wharfedale/Littondale/Langstrothdale; upper Airedale and Malham; Upper Ribblesdale; upper reaches of river Greta. Traditionally a larger area (two wapentakes) (Whittakers History of the Deanery of Craven covered Forest of Bowland and Dentdale in N – still thought of as Craven geographical area)

3 STONE HOUSES

Picturesque stone houses built by the high number of freeholders predominate. Harrison and Hutton refer to Craven as rivalling scenic areas like the Cotswolds. Fine masonry is a feature. Houses reflect local geology in diverse building materials. There are a variety/diversity of plan-types as shown in H&H.

Building recording has continued supporting many of the conclusions in H&H Vernac Houses (1984). It is still the only book on N Yorkshire Vernac houses .

4 MED. HIGH STATUS

There are a few medieval high status houses too eg 14thC Hellifield peel and Farnhill Hall – both with open halls and tower like solar ends. First floor halls too. No real continuation to the vernacular level although linear buildings of house and barn in Cracoe can be matched to 16thC cruck-built linear houses

5 DOORHEADS

Doorheads are what the Craven man spent his money on and they are a feature. Datestones indicate quite early rebuilding in 17thC peaking in 1670s/80s. Ribblesdale particularly is rich in design. B Hutton (Doorways in the Dales) suggested a "Ribble school" of design. Not followed up.

6 TIMBER TRUSSES

Craven is one of the most treeless areas of England - because of its rich grazing lands in prehistoric and medieval monastic times. There were woodlands remaining in most townships in the 17thC and oak and ash were used in building. Ribblesdale carved king block truss is a feature on Ribble valley on the limestone. Simple 1804 ashwood truss in Upper wharfedale.

7 PAGET HALL, gargrave TRUSS

An example of the **tall Craven house** not uncommon in Craven, with open attic space. Possibly originating as a stone wing to a hall that has gone. On the low ground near the river Aire. It has a fine oak **roof arch-braced roof** of 16? /17thC

8 REUSED TIMBER

H&H comment that there is a variety of **reused timber noted** but they did not interpret it. This is one area where recent work has made progress. H&H do ask "when Vale of York buildings were all timber by 16thC then what was in the west.....?"

Archaeologists also ask that with documentary evidence indicating so many timber buildings, where has all the evidence gone?

9 LAINGER HOUSE 1673 Report 584 recorded in August 1979

The linear house and barn has an extraordinary porch and was a monastic farm by ...
Reason for recording- The record date of 1979 almost coincides with Barbara published diary excerpts and says something about how and why recording was going on. One is struck by the **pace** of recording compared to now. The way we **draw** has changed because different information is now being noted.

"after all the effort we have put into Craven it comes as something of a shock to me to find that I have only recorded 24 houses in I think nine visits. It seems like hundreds of houses and we have been going up and down to Craven for years. It's a glorious part of the world and I am having a whale of a summer perhaps a last fling before I start writing The Book."

She also writes that with running classes in Yorks she needed records for teaching purposes??

The YVBSG has held a number of **conferences** in the area over the years eg Long Preston, Burnsall and Thorpe, Malham, Hebden; as well as recording days. **A fifth** of the YVBSG archive records are from Craven area.

Lainger **needs reinterpreting** as H&H seem to have overlooked the lower roofline of the house and adjoining barn. The interpretation was that the east parlour was an addition, when it appears to be earlier. As only houses were looked at and not the barn adjoining, perhaps opportunities lost?

10 ROOFLINES

The **heightened rooflines** I have seen at Lainger are not unusual in Craven. Here are examples from Silsden, Stainforth, Littondale and Kettlewell where sandstone, not limestone is typically used for the added dressed work in the raised walling.

11 INVESTIGATIONS: FELL EDGE 1535

Like many old farmsteads including Lainger House, this is a **linear building**. In conversion the former barn revealed re-used timber with half lap joints usually seen on cruck buildings. Research for a book on Add Moorside in 200?? Indicated that Fell Edge is one of several farms that provided income for **Rycrofts charity from c 1535** so it must have existed then. It seems such buildings pre-date the great rebuilding of 17thC?

12 STAKE HILL (recorded 1994)

Neighbouring Silsden Moor was tenanted out by the Cliffords and rentals began about 1523. 1559 Silsden Moor survey refs to 3 payre of crucks newly builded.

This one has a raised roofline, firehood of a small dwelling, continuous walling for house and barn. The tie beam inside is dated 1691 (with initials?) This matches the 17thC tenants who raised the barn to the present. So again the barn seemed to predate the 17thC rebuilding.

13 CROW TREES

Also on Silsden Moor this linear house had a porch added in 1690s to an older 17thC house. In addition, the barn had steep roofline, breaks in walling and possible padstones. Cruck timber was found. The barn however was clearly older than the house. Also has opposing doorways in the same position as at (Sue's work) - Coxons farm survives -1669 datestone- Coxon Family mentioned in 1520s. 1586 4 pairs of crucks and a firehouse (five bays?) Today linear much rebuilt but retains a door between house and barn.

14 HOUSES OR BARN?

H&H looked only at houses - as many people do. Lodge Hall in Ribblesdale is one that catches attention from passers by but its many barns are ignored. Middle House at Malham is another example, the house has been much recorded (by this group and NT etc) but as far as I know, no one has looked at the barn which appears older with re-used timber. Barns are full of information; they have the same rebuilding as houses and have the advantage of being rather open spaces when empty. You can see much better.

15 LODGE HALL BARN - *An example of value*

This barn at Lodge Hall for example has a hogg house attached (unusual to see these) Inside trusses made from reused timber and again padstones in wall.

16 HOLE

My interest in this reused timber goes back to Silsden Moor in 1989 as an 18thC barn being converted. The roof timber showed more of these reused pieces with halving joints. The roof was removed so the timber could be measured. There seemed to be cruck blades and purlins.

17 DREBLY STANDING CRUCK

There are ~~ir~~ were a few standing crucks for comparison. This one shows what the structure looked like. Steep roof for ling thatch. Long A-shaped timbers. Wind braces. Chapel le dale piece of reused showing hal-lap joint typical of that carpentry style.

18 RECONSTRUCTING CRAVEN CRUCKS in 19??

before long myself and Arnold Pacey had enough measurements for a short paper showing Craven crucks using standing and re-used examples.

19 CRUCK CATALOGUE (1984 in H&H)

In the 1980s Nat Alcock was producing his national cruck catalogue. This was mostly of standing cruck structures but he did accept re-used examples from Craven. In 1984 you can see rather sparse for Craven and none at all for Ribblesdale

20 LOW BIRKWITH; RIBBLE CRUCKS

This all changed in 1995 when the YVBSG held a recording conference based at Horton in Craven, with the local history group there. I was given several farm buildings to record at Low Birkwith a former monastic farm (Sawley?) One field barn had a reused cruck, fallen from the roof. This was ideal for measuring. On the review day later that year I saw more which hadn't been noted.

Ribblesdale has many reused crucks as seem to be in most of Craven.

21 SINK HILL BARN (2003 record)

Whilst we are told that most field barns are 18/19thC, this Littondale barn is typical of a barn with all the features of barns older than this and apparently older than the 17thC great rebuilding. Clearance boulder plinth, steep thatched roofline, use of limestone for dressed work, batter. Inside trusses made from reused timber with halvings

22 INTERIOR

Sketches of the timber identified cruck blades for tie beams, one very long 7.50. purlin raised with halvings for cruck and windbraces.

23 RENARD close LAITHE

In Kilnsey this field barn has a rebuild datestone of 1667 and initials of Chris Wade. Inside again re-used crucks and purlins. Documentary evidence indicates the name derived from a late 16thC owner, surrounding closes are mentioned by 16thC. The owner in 1616 was described as a builder? and may have built the barn

24 KETTLEWELL FIELD BARN

Kettlewell is well known for its field barns and part of the township became part of the Nevilles Manor of Wensleydale which was surveyed c 1605? This survey lists all the tenants and 61?? Field houses or field barns. This shows that field barns existed. The uWHG has been involved in surveys to try and find these early barns using documentary and structural clues. Surveys by myself and Arnold Pacey have already noted that Wibberton barn had all the old features, as in Littondale at Sink Hill. We also learned that Wibberton was a township that had disappeared by 1300 so possibly it remained in occupation. A cruck fragment remains and nearly rotted away.

Bridge End is built into the old wall of a monastic road. Massive plinth, rebuilt stonework. Curious paved area at the side seen elsewhere. Possibly the site of a helm - open sided shed - predating the field barn. Helms common in 13thC and SAM has identified earthwork remains in Dales

25 HOWLE BECK REBUILD

Further evidence of the 17thC rebuilding of earlier barns comes from **documentary sources**. It was **rebuilt by Thomas Kidd mason in 1689**, to an L-shape with wider shippon and dimensions were included. A number of barns at Howle Beck. I checked them. Surprisingly one that looked rectangular turned out to be of exact dimensions inside. Not only that but the trusses were of reused crucks (find...) It seems unlikely crucks are from the 1689 phase by which time most houses had stone roofs using the sandstone flags from the hill tops.

Howlebeck lathe- a field house or field barn- is to be rebuilt for £3. To be 11 yards long, 5 yards wide, 7 yards wide at shippon end i.e. L-shaped. 4 yards high. (Of all the barns at Howlebeck, there was only one that fitted this size) To break all the great stones (quoins?) Hew one door. But first old Howlebeck was pulled down. £1 paid for this in 1689. Payments include for stones for walling. There were slates and lead but no mention of any timber so this almost certainly came from the old fieldhouse. This one has trusses of substantial curved timbers with halvings, too long for upper crucks or raised crucks.

Accounts in upper Wharfedale include rebuilding **Hillcastle s barn Conistone-**

Again the accounts are for pulling down the old field house. Two gauges of slates were purchased for 14 shillings and payments for cutting stones, for walling, getting and bringing the corner stones (quoins) and Slating the porch 3 shilling. but accounts also include 30 shillings for getting ling and thatching. Again no accounts for timber so possibly it was just rethatched perhaps with old roof timbers reset. Unclear if these were cruck like for thatched roof or full crucks.

26 L WINSKILL FARMYARD BARN-(P RAFTERS)

Farmyards barns too have re-used timber. Winskill was a farm of **Sawley Abbey**. At the dissolution two farms? The 18thC barn there has remains of **a linear house** with firehood at one end. Good quality re-used **oak crucks** make up the barn trusses -pair of crucks for one truss; and a purlin for another tie beam. Tree-ring dates soon.

27 LP BARN -(P RAFTERS)

As at Winskill the **truss rebuilt c 1710** (truss like Cattleside 1714) with good cruck blades as P Rafters. Edge of pasture and arable land. Another barn in LP (Guys Villa) has a date of 1708 and reused crucks but on a monastic site with the same family as those who were monastic tenants.

28 PARCIVAL HALL REBUILD 1737

This barn is dated 1737 but is full of reused crucks. Rebuilding accounts show that old timber and stone was recycled to save costs.

After the Dissolution it ceased to be part of Bolton Priory estate. In **1736 the barn was bought** by Henry Simpson. It was describes as **a large barn 24 yds x 7 yds with very good timber but thatched with ling**. It was noted that if the barn was "taken down and rebuilt, there are in it stones and large timber sufficient and will want only slates, laths and spars (rafters)" It was rebuilt as 16 yds long (a bay shorter) but still 7 yards wide. (They kept the foundations) The older barn was

29 HOUSES TO BARNS etc

Another reason to not ignore barns is that they can include dwelling, Spittal Croft in Littondale (recorded 2003) is one bay of a house, now used for sheep. The firehood and steep roofline of an earlier phase remains. The remaining cell has good 17thC stonework and is two-storey representing a later phase. The name is found in the 16thC., It is likely that it was a Fountains Abbey property and so may be an old site alongside the monastic road. A hospice in Littondale is mentioned in FA leases but not by name.

30 BARNS TO HOUSES

1840s was a shortage of houses in Craven and conversions of end bays of barns with fireplace are not unusual. Perhaps earlier too?

31 POST AND TRUSS- FOLD FARM

Old farm is the only known timber framed house in the Dales. It was a priests house for Coverham Abbey. The open hall survives with a linear solar end. The low end is missing. Timber posts run down the wall. In the 17thC it was encased in stone with a floor put in to make it two storey . The roof is elaborately carved with cusped braces. Dendro date c 1460. Medieval buildings were overwhelmingly of timber, as SAM points out, but remains seem rare.

32 LOW BRADLEY HALL

Datestone of 1676?. Site of a farm of Bolton priory. A timber post as barn lintel . Interior has much reused timber. Drawing it helped interpret it as from a timber framed house. Decorative framing and mortices for posts and braces.

33 HIGH BRADLEY HALL AND BARN

This was site of the Manor house of Bradleys Both and part of extensive Craven estates of the Clifford family. House rebuilt in stone c 1600 (architectural details) But evidence that a timber west wing survived to the 18thC . There is no old front door except from former hearth passage site . now a gap at west end. Note barn behind

34 AISLED BARN

This has a reused, unaisled timber frame which was two-storey. Tie beam has carved leaf design. Almost certainly from the adjacent hall. The aisles were added for the barn in 17thC. Listed building but frame removed last year in conversion.

35 1751? BARN POSTS REUSED

Crag End barn nearby is dated (1751) and is full of floor beams, posts and other remains very likely from the west wing of the hall. The porch lintel is of posts. These were reconstructed in the HB Book

36 BOLTON ABBEY TEA SHOP FRAME

Another medieval timber frame is seen in the BA tea cottage. In the 18thC it was an aisled barn. In 19thC divided into two cottages. Narrow medieval house no aisles, two storey, with intermediate truss, studded wall (possibly one of the gatehouses) ; converted to barn c 1600 (stone wall to aisle). 18thC map shows it still a barn. Perhaps moved as at High Bradley and East Ridd Hall in Keighley.

37 REUSED RAFTERS various

Reused rafters are also a feature . Usually long and well cut with small halvings or mortices. When visible very high carpenter numbers are also seen. This one pegged at the apex . The interpretation could be that they are from medieval or late medieval roofs with paired rafters.

38 KINGPOSTS OF REUSED TIMBER HIGH BRADLEY

Local study of High Bradley revealed some kingposts curiously re-used . All that fitted was that they were **crown posts** cut down. There were **long rafters with** halvings too. Carleton church This compares with the roof in Gisburn church of 12th C. If these are that early then the only comparison is with surviving high status roofs. By chance some timbers from the medieval roof of Carleton in Craven church turned up under the 19thC floor. Sue W. told me so I went and measured them. The results were drawn in Pacey Craven church roofs. They are mentioned in **Bob Meeson's paper in VA (VAG 2012)** as possibly 13thC , an example of a seven-canted roof form, and a candidate for dendro-dating .

40 Addingham church dendro

~~KPost Roof so similar to BA greta barn. Surveyed. Dendro c 1530 but re-used from earlier roof.~~

41 GREAT BARN DENDRO (valuable tool)

Surveyed and Drawn . this revealed two parts different. All **dendro 1517/18** but two woods and carpenter groups. Drawings reproduced in **Med Arch (SAM)**

42 VARIETY OF FARM BUILDINGS

There are a **variety of buildings** that reflect farming activity, not just barns. Hen-piggery by the farmhouse; the milking shed or dairy on the summer cow pasture are examples. The hull (shed) or helm seem to be small or inferior structures lacking hay storage.

43 URBAN SURVEYS

Little has been recorded in towns. The **Skipton Community History Project** (for which SueW was Project leader) has recently discovered , for example, one buildings on a medieval town centre site in Skipton, with a roof full of impressive large re-used oak crucks as well as timber posts. Early 18thC buildings with cellars full of re-used timber may have been salvaged due to a shortage in the pre-canal age So there is still much to discover.

44 APOTROPAICS

Protective markings are currently in vogue within vernac arch studies. I was noting this in 1980s. The daisy wheel is seen on door head designs and scarfed into timber. There is still debate as to whether some are not craftsmen's working drawings

45 CRAFTSMEN AND BUILDERS

18th/19thC was largely ignored by H&H since they focussed on the great rebuilding. Local Studies of 18th and 19th work has helped identify craftsmen in stone and timber and how they worked as well as the commissioners of building. Generations often carried on. There were often signature details too. Architects pattern books used in the windows of The folly at Settle and the doorways in Addingham.

Personal view

46 CONCLUSION

Looking at buildings other than houses tells us as much about what was there before the great rebuilding in the 17thC. Looking at reused timber in particular has pushed back the dates and answers questions asked by H&H about what was there before. Looking at farm buildings reveals more about the variety of buildings and pushes back the dates of field barns beyond the 18thC possibly to late 16thC. Tree ring dating tool may supply a few answers. Local studies means that all buildings are being investigated - ie buildings of all dates and types. This puts them in context rather than spasmodic recording. Working with local history groups is perhaps the way forward in helping extract historical info from buildings. Publications..

- Barns imp
- Reused timber
- Farm buildings are old.
- Tree ring imp
- Local studies (All buildings & not just)
- Local studies groups & publications

Thanks for photos- A apcey, sue w, david j, lynne primmer, ann trhake, Sonia, jane lummom

*Concl - look at all buildings up
helped date houses & what was
field barns (some) not 18/19C*

3,400 words end

*Tree ring dating useful for
All buildings of all dates - local studies
local groups & publications*

omit

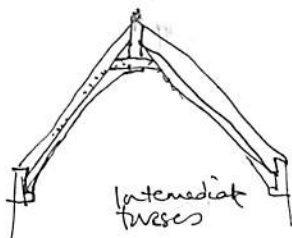
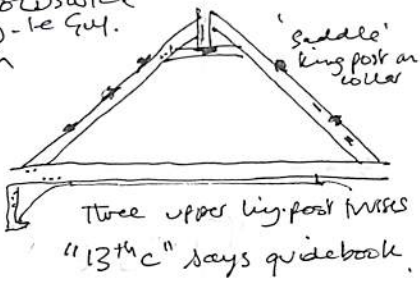
This Laithe at low hall Appletreewick is dated 1690 but looks earlier.

SLIDE Inside it has reused crucks for tie beam and purlins.

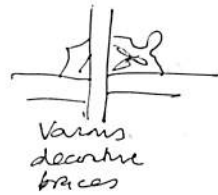
OHP- This section drawing better shows the tie beam. Also a high quality reused timber for hayloft. It has circle carpenter marks- perhaps medieval/apotropaic? (the hall was restored c1658- substantial 17th C house 7 herthas))

SOME CHURCHES * have better drawing

BARNBOSWICK
St Mary-le-Guy.
church

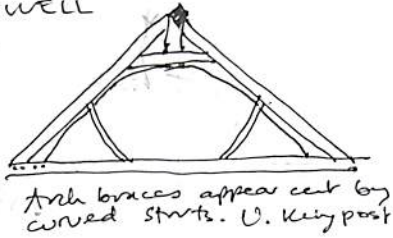


birdsmouth joints



Various decorative braces

BRACEWELL
church

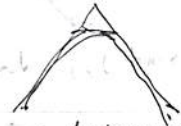


Arch braces appear cent by curved struts. U. King post

KILDWICK



king post (Octagonal)



Intermediate trusses arch-braced

BROUGHTON
church (EIslack)

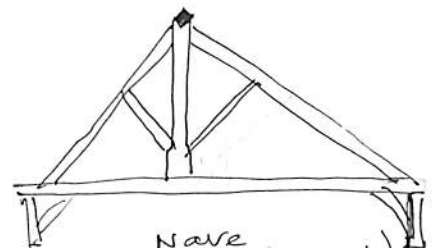


Channel trusses - octagonal king post



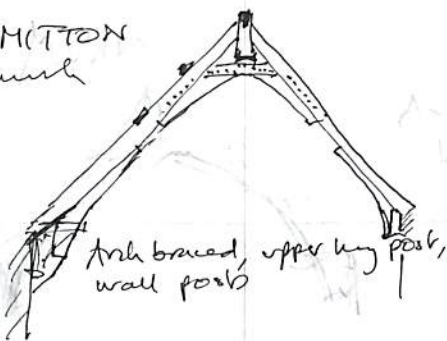
Intermediate channel trusses

"14th c" says guidebook.



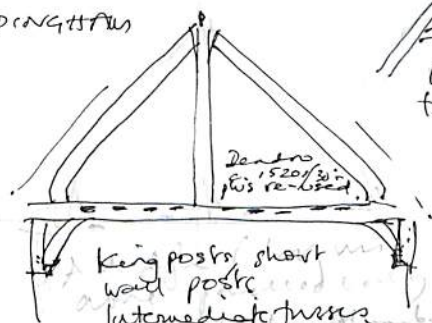
Nave (king post & wall posts)

MITTON
church



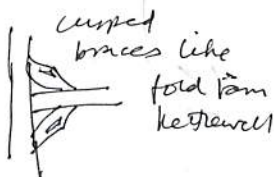
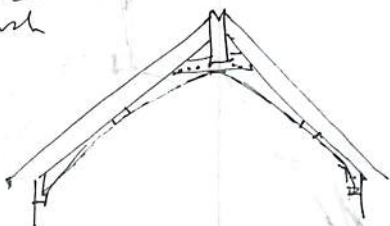
Arch braced, upper king post, wall posts

ADDINGTON



King posts, short wall posts, intermediate trusses. Roof was not designed to be seen. It was paralleled (also Addington church 1522 similar king posts & intermediates over paralleled ceiling)

SLAIDBURN
church



curved braces like fold iron Kethwell



MUKER church
Thatched until 1760s (Purlins are re-used with battings)

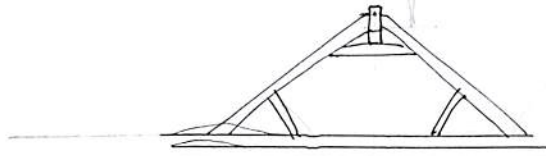
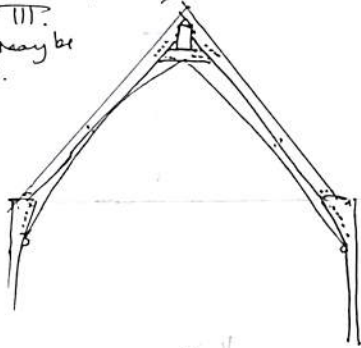


flat lanted roofs e.g. Bolton Priory Skipton

Lanted flat roofs Bolton Priory Skipton

SOME HOUSES

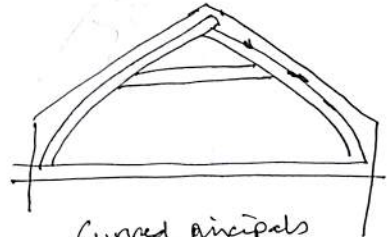
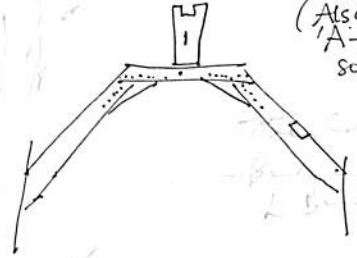
FOLD FARM
Westbury (1470s.)
Truss III.
Posts may be
older.



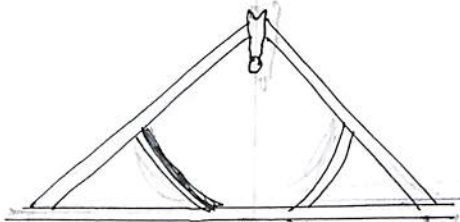
* LOW HOUSE ADDINGTON
(shaped king post)

ADDINGTON STANER HOUSE

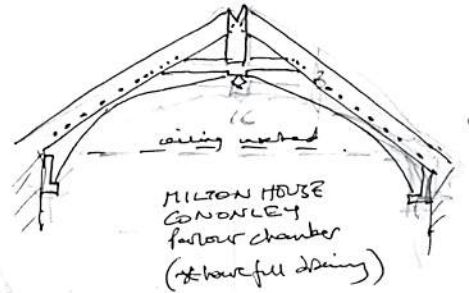
(Also an
"A-frame"
so c 1520?)



Curved principals
eg. Low Badley Old Hall *
The Cross, Burton - in - hunsdale
etc



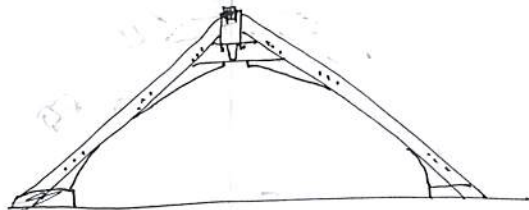
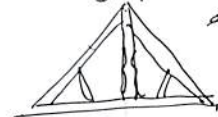
KING BLOES (late 17c)
eg * Wenning Hopping barn, Clapham
barn, Skyrrethams
* The Folly (N. & S. wings) Settle.
Stephen Park, Wigglesworth(?)



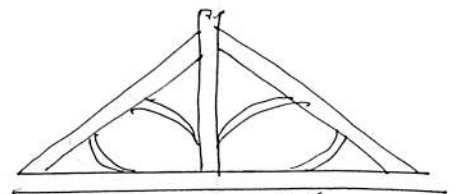
MILTON HOUSE
CONORLEY
hall chamber
(* beautiful drawing)

Shaped king posts

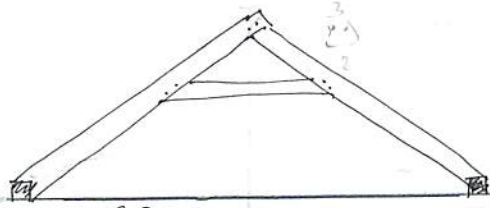
eg. Lyon house
EASTBURN *



EAST RIDDLEWELL HALL
(E wing) (possibly re-used?)



* THE FOLLY, SETTLE
(hall chamber)



NORTON CONYERS HALL
(dendro 1580s)
("West" coast style?)



Decorative
gables