

Summary of the year– A letter from the acting chair

2019 has seen significant change for the Buildings Archaeology Group (BAG) committee. Our Chairman (previously Treasurer), Tim Murphy, stepped down at our May AGM after five years with the Committee. During his time spent leading the group Tim helped rejuvenate and expand the remit of BAG and will be missed.

The Committee has had a number of successes in 2019 including:

- ⇒ Producing an interim update to the Buildings S&G, to address superseded references and terminology in the short term.
- ⇒ Working with CifA HQ to develop a project brief for a full re-write of the Buildings S&G, hopefully going to tender next year.
- ⇒ Inputting into the CifA response to the new Historic England Advice Note
- ⇒ Commenting on the development of the Buildings Specialist Competence Matrix
- ⇒ Hosting a successful AGM event in May which welcomed Eva Forster-Garbutt to talk about Buildings Archaeology at the edge of the Empire: the investigation and recording of heritage buildings in Aotearoa / New Zealand. Eva is Senior Heritage Advisor with Wellington City Council and a Winston Churchill Memorial Trust 2019 Fellow.
- ⇒ Creating a series of new CPD initiatives- Buildings Archaeology in the Pub (BAP) which has run two events in York this year and has a full programme planned for 2020 (see page 9).
- ⇒ Whilst our proposed session for Leeds 2019 was declined, we are pleased to be offering a walking tour and a workshop session at Bath in April 2020. Stuck between a rock and a hard place: Defining the role of the Building's Archaeologist is still looking for speakers. If you are interested in contributing please email me (charlotte.adcock@mottmac.com) with the title of your paper and an abstract of up to 150 words.

2020 is set to be an amazing year for CifA BAG with our upcoming AGM, the CifA Conference, more events already being planned and so much more!

From all of us here on the committee we wish you a wonderful Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the new year!



Norwich Assembly Rooms at Christmas!

Source: Charlotte Adcock

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/groups/buildings](http://www.archaeologists.net/groups/buildings)

Construction History Society

2019 Conference, Queens College, Cambridge

The CHS held its annual 'home' conference again in April at Queens College, Cambridge, its previous international conference having been in Belgium last year. The range of papers in the packed two-day programme was, as ever, diverse and international, with Buildings Archaeology well-represented. The theme for the first day was 'Water', which attracted more abstracts than could be accommodated. The papers covered all aspects of water-related construction from the prehistoric through to the mid 20th century – dams, aqueducts, canals, harbours and docks, watermeadows, water supply engineering, laundries, drainage and sanitation, and simply the challenges of building on or near water. The reviewer's personal favourite was Cesare Tocci's analysis of the piled foundations of 18th century military barracks in Sardinia and how the challenges encountered changed the professional relationship between architect and engineer. A random selection of the other papers might include: Albrecht's analysis of the foundations of 4th century Basilica of Maxentius in Rome; How's survey and interpretation of Roman apotropaic nails; Ledantec's case studies of armatures used in the fixing of external renders in 18th century northern France and Belgium; and McGuinness' humorous romp through some of the more eccentric sanitary inventions of the 18th and 19th centuries.



The papers are all published in the conference proceedings, which is available from the CHS website (www.constructionhistory.co.uk) and/or Amazon; and some papers have been posted on Academia.

Next year's conference will be held 3-5 April 2020 at Queen's College. A call for abstracts will be released later this summer, once the theme has been decided, with a provisional submission date for abstracts in October and final submission of completed papers in January 2020. The next international conference will be held in Portugal in 2021.

Written by
Michael Heaton

NEW MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE



John Mabbitt

MCIFA

I'm a historic environment consultant with Wood, mainly working on EIA for major infrastructure schemes. I grew up around my dad's woodcarving shop, and spent a long time being dragged round various estimating or fitting jobs in the cathedrals and churches of Essex and East Anglia. Before moving into consultancy I worked for several units, did an MA in Field Archaeology at York and became a project manager at TWM Archaeology, where I delivered and managed buildings archaeology projects. I have a doctorate in historical archaeology from Newcastle, considering cultural change as expressed in the urban built environment of the English Revolution.

It's very difficult to identify a favourite building – there are different aspects of each that I like, and it all depends on my mood. But the building that I'd choose is the Church of St Andrew at Abberton in Essex. It's a good example of a village church (listed Grade II* with a very short list entry), built over many periods, a patchwork of stone, brick, wood, plaster and pegtile, but with unusually long views over the reservoir and the marshes down to the River Blackwater. It's redolent of a sense of place and identity, and the smell, the light, the quiet and the cold bring back memories of Sunday mornings.



Alison Dickens

MCIFA

I am Director of Granta Heritage, a small Independent company specialising in buildings, churches and research, however until mid 2019 I was a senior Project Manager at CAU (University of Cambridge) where I ran very large projects from urban redevelopment to a 10,000 house new town.

After 28 years I really wanted to reengage more directly with the archaeology, particularly with standing buildings, my first love. Having worked on railways, medieval churches, department stores, public houses, industrial structures and WWII installations there is never going to be a risk of lack of variety. My aim is to combine the tried and tested with the latest techniques to provides not only detailed records but thorough, consideration.

My favourite building? Whichever I'm working on right now – but if I have to choose it would be the tiny 12th century thatched church in Rampton, near Cambridge one of only two such surviving in the county. It is in no way grand, but the story of that community is in its stones from the Saxon grave slabs to the layers of wall paintings, to its east window rebuilt in the 1920s from stones recovered from a nearby farm using drawings by a 1790s antiquarian – a hidden gem.



Jeremy Lake

MCIFA

Jeremy Lake is a heritage consultant who worked in private practice and between 1988 and 2016 with English Heritage (now Historic England), where he worked for the Listing Team on area surveys and thematic assessment of buildings for protection and management, landscape characterisation and scoping the future issues for change for landscape and resources. This work and personal interests has resulted in a wide range of professional and academic publications, from swimming pools to farmsteads, historic landscapes, military heritage and the architectural legacy of Methodism: he has served and continues to serve various societies and serves on the Methodist Church Listed Buildings Advisory Group, the National Trust's Historic Environment Advisory Group.

A building near where I live that I return to on a regular basis, and show to visitors new to the area, is St Mary's Church in Deerhurst. Not only is it one of the most complete Saxon churches surviving in England, incredibly dating from the 8th century before the first Viking raids and with some wonderful works of sculpture. With its tall tower it stands sentinel-like along the east bank of the Severn. It also makes one think and wonder about our ever-changing landscape – there are Romano-British burials beneath and around it, it sits within a monastic precinct which includes a farmhouse adapted from the remains of the 14th century cloister and to the south east are the remains of a shrunken medieval settlement – probably dating from after the foundation of the church and before the dedication of Odde's Chapel in 1056.



Catherine Bell

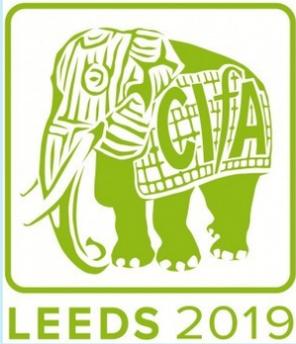
Advisor

I am a caseworker for the Council for British Archaeology, which involves assessing Listed Building Consent planning applications from across England. I really enjoy this work, as it involves learning about a vast range of buildings from all periods (provided they have a decent Heritage Assessment) and speaking up, on behalf of the building, if its significance is not properly understood or proposals would cause an unjustified degree of harm. I moved into the heritage sector, from farming, after studying the Cultural Heritage Management Masters at York. My interests include the relationship between continuity and change in the historic environment, specifically the public realm, and the creativity and imagination required to find the path which respects the first whilst enabling the second.

My favourite building? Changes most weeks, but one I come back to is St. Michael's Church, Crambe. The south wall is a tapestry of the interventions into the building at the centre of a small community over the course of 1000 years. Its time depth fills me with awe and makes me feel very small.

2019

Heritage in the news



In April the Cifa Conference takes place in the Royal Armouries in Leeds

On the 15 April heritage enthusiasts were left shocked when Notre Dame caught fire. However devastating to this historic landmark it did reveal essential information about the buildings construction and in particular showcased new techniques used by firefighters to suppress the fire whilst minimising damage to the cathedral.

On 19 July, a 1980s Sainsbury's in Camden became the first purpose-built Supermarket to be listed.

On the 20 May BAG welcome Winston Churchill Trust Memorial Fellow 2019 and Senior Heritage Advisor for Wellington City Council- Eva Forster Garbutt.

She provides a fascinating talk on buildings Archaeology at the edge of the Empire which is enjoyed by all.

Jodrell Bank Observatory in Cheshire, was added to the UNESCO world heritage list in July!

For two weeks in August Norwich Cathedral installed a 55ft-tall helter skelter in its nave so that visitors could enjoy a better view of its ornate roof.

Between the 13- 22 September Heritage Open Days celebrated its 25th Anniversary .



Parliament reveals plans to demolish grade II* listed Richmond House for the creation of the temporary Chamber for MPs whilst the Palace of Westminster is refurbished.



Historic England

Statements of Heritage Significance

Analysing Significance in Heritage

Historic England Advice Note 12





In August the new Tintagel bridge was opened.

From 1 October sentencing for damage to historic buildings, archaeological sites or objects will consider the impact of destroying unique parts of the country's history, which will be taken into account during the sentencing process.

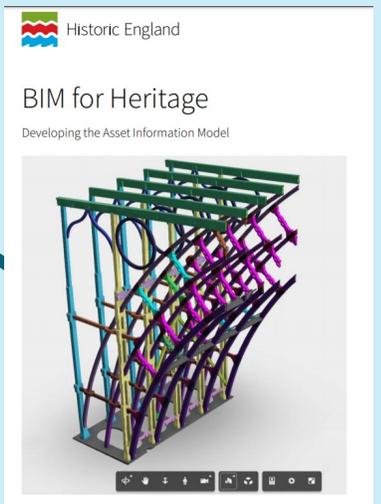


New Historic England Guidance published on 21 October on Heritage Significance.

In October Auckland Castle in Durham re-opened to the public after a £12.5m restoration.



On the 4 December guidance for using BIM for Heritage was released by Historic England.



Significance:

Assets





BAP: Buildings Archaeologists in the Pub

A new series of lectures in York.

Our Buildings Archaeologists in the Pub Meeting was launched in a small pub room in York and welcomed two sets of speakers. Keith Knight (Chair IHBC Yorkshire Branch) began the session by discussing the relationship between archaeology and historic buildings and the complimentary roles of architects, historic building consultants and archaeologists. After a brief beer break and an introduction session we then heard from Dr Kate Giles, Dr Dav Smith and Dr Matt Jenkins (University of York) who were presenting on teaching buildings archaeology and mapping the skills needed for the future. Each presenting a different essential skill and encouraging debate amongst us on what exactly was essential to teach the next generation of Buildings Archaeologists.

Our second session in November was kindly hosted by the King's Manor to facilitate the

influx of audience members to listed to Jane Grenville's talk on Revising Pevsner.

Dr Jane Grenville (York Civic Trust/ University of York) gave an illustrated talk about her journey across the North Riding of Yorkshire as she revised Nikolaus Pevsner's iconic series. Jane talked about Pevsner's passion for English architecture in the region whilst picking out some of the highlights she discovered along the way. This was a fascinating talk that gave further insight into the man behind this key text and introduced us to some fascinating architectural gems hidden throughout Yorkshire – and one "helter skelter from hell".

We now have a full timetable ready for 2020 which includes some fascinating lectures. Keep an eye on the [ClfA event page](#) and on Twitter [@ClfABAG](#) for further updates in the new year!

14 January - Bethany Watrous (Digital Heritage)

“Digital Heritage: understanding lost or changed structures through immersive technology”

By going through a case study of Slingsby Castle, this talk will examine how the creation of immersive digital models of lost or changed structures can lead to new archaeological insights.

10 March - John Oxley (City of York Council)

“Linking the visible and the invisible: excavation and building analysis in York”

Archaeological deposits in York form a continuous sequence from the earliest post-glacial cultural deposits through to the lead on the roof of York Minster. An archaeological watching brief and limited excavation on the site of a new electricity sub-station in Newgate provides an opportunity to look at this continuity of deposit and structure and allows reflection on the interface between sub-surface and above-ground archaeological practice.

Further upcoming events

12 May - Bob Greeves

Traditional Buildings – Construction Marks and Ritual Marks

14 July- Gill Chitty (University of York)

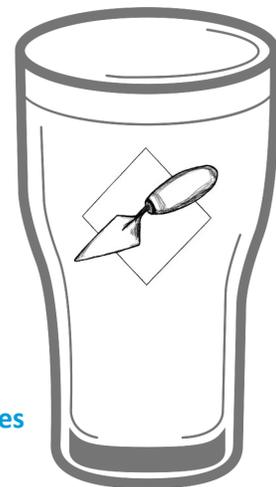
Conservation in action: Engagement and Participation

8 September - Catherine Bell (CBA)

What’s the contribution of the National Amenity Societies?

10 November - Teagan Zoldoske (ADS)

The ADS’s voyage into expanding its dissemination of digital archives



IHBC: Heritage Risk and Resilience

2019 Conference, Nottingham



· INSTITUTE · OF · HISTORIC ·
BUILDING · CONSERVATION

The Friday Day School began with a address from the Keynote speaker Zaki Aslan introducing us to disaster risk management (DRM) in the world context.

The morning then started with Session 1 focusing on fire. Steve Emery, fire officer for Oxford University, discussed the importance of working with the fire and emergency services to be prepare an emergency and salvage plan for your building. He discussed how this enabled civilian salvage teams to work safely alongside fire fighters to ensure significant historic assets are safely protected in the event of a fire. This was then demonstrated by Liz Davidson, senior project manager at the Glasgow School of Art, who discussed the two devastating fires which decimated Charles Rennie Mackintosh's library in 2014 and then again (just before reopening) in 2018.

As we moved into the next session of Structural Failure Ed Morton of the Morton Partnership gave a fast-paced run-through of projects that he has worked on as a CARE (Conservation Accreditation Register for Engineers) engineer. He discussed the wide ranging and diverse number of projects on which he has worked and considered how challenging the status quo and using common sense it is almost always possible to repair and re-use historic buildings.

Gez Pegram, a director of Mason Clark Associates, then discussed the use of drones to survey hard-to-reach places at the Grade II listed Victoria Mills in Grimsby, which led to urgent works and comprehensive restoration on the eight-storey grain store. Finally Ben Robinson, principal advisor for heritage at risk at Historic England, gave an overview of the Heritage at Risk Campaign, reflecting on its successes over the

past 20 years and setting out where he believes resources should be prioritised in the future.

After lunch the day continued with session 3 covering security, digital technology and legal issues. Stephen Armon-Smith of Essex Police gave a presentation on 'Heritage Security' and the role of the police in protecting assets. Lyn Wilson, a heritage scientist who is digital documentation manager at Historic Environment Scotland (HES), then spoke about digital technology could help with the monitoring of sensitive historic assets to future proof against disaster.

Charles Mynors, a lawyer with the Law Commission of England and Wales, set out the legal remedies for the destruction of heritage assets, whether through deliberate neglect or demolition whilst Nigel Hewitson, a leading planning solicitor with Gowling WLG, provided an update on the legal provisions for tackling risk and resilience in England.

Finally, session 4 looked at the protection of assets against flooding. James Innerdale, an accredited conservation architect and consultant, spoke about preparing against natural flooding, which he contrasted to flooding caused by stripping lead off roofs and 'over-zealous fire services'. Helen Brownlie of Allerdale Borough Council then presented a case study of the 2009 flood in Cockermouth, Cumbria and a final case study of the day, entitled "The Phoenix Case" discussed the reconstruction of Stoke Rochford Hall after a fire in 2005.

Next year's conference will be held 18th– 20th June 2020 in Brighton based on the theme of Old Towns : New Futures. More information can be found online here: <https://brighton2020.ihbc.org.uk/>

Written by

Charlotte Adcock

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Charlotte Adcock

Acting Chair

Nigel Neil

Secretary

Esther Robinson Wild

Treasurer

Ordinary Members:

- **Gillian Scott**
- **Tiffany Snowden**
- **Beverley Kerr**
- **Alison Dickens**
- **Jeremy Lake**
- **John Mabbitt**

Advisors:

- **Catherine Bell**

CifA Buildings Archaeology Group

The group aims to promote the analysis of the built environment and to raise awareness of approaches and methodologies to address the wider role of buildings archaeology with other professionals in built heritage sector by:

- advising CifA council on issues relating to standing buildings and being consulted during the drafting of new recording guidelines and heritage legislation.
- Producing regular newsletters (two per year)
- Articles in the CifA magazine 'The Archaeologist'
- Training events (seminars, guidance and conference sessions)
- Developing links with associated heritage professionals
- To provide a forum for addressing the wider role of buildings archaeology within the built heritage sector

Membership is **free to CifA members**, and £10 for non-members.

Email: groups@archaeologists.net

DO YOU HAVE NEWS OR AN INTERESTING PROJECT TO SHARE?

We would be grateful for any articles or news for our next newsletter.

For further information please contact: charlotte.adcock@mottmac.com

CifA

**Buildings
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Edited by:
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