

# Community Archaeology Study Days 2007/8



## Vernacular Buildings and Vernacular Crafts

By Peter Gouldsbrough and members of the York Consortium for  
Conservation and Craftsmanship

Poppleton Tithe Barn

Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2007

Feedback from the study day:

*'Good mix of speakers, well-illustrated with slides and examples.'*

*'Good opportunity to speak to craftsmen about their work and contribution to conservation.'*

Previous study days have considered vernacular buildings in the townscape at Poppleton and Dringhouses with Alison Sinclair. We have also looked at the building recording process at the Royal Observer Corps Building on the Knavesmire with Tony Berry. This study



day focused on some of the vernacular crafts and building materials used both in the past and today in building conservation. Today's talk provided information about the conservation of buildings that had a functional rather than monumental purpose. The conservation of different kinds of historic buildings remains a very important issue for all those interested in our heritage.



Peter Gouldsbrough started us out by providing an introduction to vernacular building materials. Martin Stancliffe from the York Consortium for Conservation and Craftsmanship then gave some background information about his organization. Next, Roger Silk from Houghton's of York gave an introduction to woodworking. After lunch, York Handmade Brick provided a discussion about types of brick. Matthias Garn talked about stone, while Steve Pickering discussed lime mortar and Don Barker spoke about blacksmithing. These speakers provided all of us with useful information about the many materials used in conserving historic buildings. This will allow us to look at buildings in a whole new way, with an eye to their continued upkeep.

First picture: [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Nether\\_Poppleton\\_Tithe\\_Barn.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Nether_Poppleton_Tithe_Barn.jpg)