



# Stow Parish Archive

## Newsletter

May 2008

In April the BBC Website reported that because of the proposed return of the railway, Historic Scotland want to identify important structures and review existing listed buildings in the parish. In this newsletter we thought we would briefly describe some local landmarks - once again courtesy of George Wood's collection.

### **Parish Church, Heriot**

Church rebuilt in pink rubble by Wardrop and Reid in 1875 in a highly fancy Gothic style. One of the harled gables is an old survivor from the old kirk of 1804.

### **Borthwick Hall, Heriot**

By, John Henderson, 1852. Baronial in style with Tudor hood moulds. A central tower and a corner stair turret dominate its complex composition.

### **Crookston Old House**

A two-storey 17<sup>th</sup> century house with crowstepped - gables it was altered around 1860. A ground-floor room is part of a tower built after 1446 by John Borthwick.

### **Crookston House**

Built from 1816 to 1819 in the 1860's it was given a Jacobean style by Wardrop and Brown. In addition to the interiors they added towers and turrets, a gabled ballroom and an observatory. At the rear of the house are two Celtic stones which are said to come from the ancient church in Borthwick.

### **Burnhouse**

Early 19<sup>th</sup> century, whin walls and stone dressings. There are five bays with the centre advanced in addition to a columnar door piece at the head of a balustraded stair.

### **Torquhan House**

Built in 1823 in coursed whin, with sandstone dressing of great refinement. There is a Roman Doric doorpiece in a pediment centre and single storey pavilions with Venetian windows. Kinnear and Peddie carried out alterations in 1885.

### **St.Mary of Wedale Parish Church**

Built in 1873 by Wardrop and Brown. Early English in style and decorated in pink and yellow sandstone. The tree-stage pinnacled tower, plus spire is attached to what seems to be the west end, but is actually the north.

### **Old Parish Church**

Disused since the opening of the new church in 1876 some stone of the late 15<sup>th</sup> century can be seen on the north nave wall and in the south-west corner where there is a section of the old base course. The church was largely rebuilt in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Torsonce House (Before fire & rebuild)**

Built in 1886 by David Bryce. Tall with braced gables and iron balconies. Mullioned windows and a tower were added to the east front. There were Bryce interiors and a library on the first floor but the rest was transformed around 1900 with moulded plasterwork in the Jacobean style.

### **Bow**

At Bow there is the well-preserved foundation of a Broch. The inner courtyard was about 10M in diameter within a wall about 4.6M thick.

### **Bowland House**

Built 1810 in Castellated Tudor Gothic on a spectacular hilltop it is coursed in black whin but the dressings are in sandstone. The house from late Victorian period has seen a considerable number of additions and style changes through to the 1920's.

**Please come along on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May from 7.30 onwards and help us add to the Archive anything of interest. We can copy any photos or documents or we can simply make notes on any memories that you have that would be of interest.**

**We were delighted to meet Mr Bill Cowe and his brother Stewart at our last meeting. They were evacuated here during the War and have a host of memories and fascinating stories to pass on. Bill would be pleased to hear from anyone who remembers Colin Boyd, Hamish Rutherford, Jimmy Leischman, Norman Nicolson, Jimmy Watt. Please get in touch with Wendy in the first instance, 730 560.**