NORTH YORKSHIRE
AND CLEVELAND
VERNACULAR BUILDINGS
STUDY GROUP 799

NORTH TORKS (N.R.)

RUTTON HANG, TROUBTON SILMARD, THE MANSE. SE176871 Visited 13th.June 1982.

Owners: Mrs C.Robson and Mr. M.Oreed

Introduction

This attractive two storey house, facing south, stands at the west end of the small village of Thornton Steward and on the south side of the street. It looks down and over the meanders of the river Ure to Jervaulx Park and Abbey on the southern bank, providing it with charming and delightful vistas of lower densleydale. One of the most interesting features of the house is the attached one-storey agricultural building on its east side which contains two crucks. There are no inscribed dates to indicate the age of the Manse although it is known that there was a church in Thornton Steward in 1086.

Exterior description

Front (south). The roof consists of a stone ridge piece and stone slabs. There are raised coping stones on the west and east gables, ending with kneelers. The kneeler on the west gable appears to be a reproduction. The three chimneys are of red brick, built on brick bases with corbel courses near the top. They are situated one on each gable and one just off the centre of the house. This is smaller than the other two.

The walls are of sandstone laid to even courses and part of the wall is heavily rendered with mortar. The foundation course runs the length of the house, which has a slight fall towards the east.

There are five windows in the upper storey, from west to east:-

1, Small window, moulded lintel and jambs, two holes in lintel to hold iron bars. Very rough badly cut sill.

- 2. Sash window 3/3 panes, moulded lintel and jambs which have been lengthened by the insertion of stones towards the top. Small narrow stone sill.
- 3. Narrower than former window, modern with stone lintel and sill. 4. & 5. Surrounds as window 2 but number 4 having 4/8 panes and number 5 with a casement window.

There are four windows in the lower storey, from west to east:1. Modern window with large stone lintel, no sill; to the east of
this window are some stones resembling a door jamb.

- 2. Larger than the previous window with large stone lintel and narrow sill. There is a modern semi-circular step below this window with a straight join on the east side indicating it had once been a door. This would have been a second alteration, as the stones resembling door jambs near the first window suggest a much wider opening.
- 3. Moulded lintel and jambs, large stones inserted in jambs. Large stone sill. Sash windows with two panes.

4. East of door as window 3.

Door east of centre. Convex moulded surround; east jamb of 3 pieces, west jamb of 4: these rest on large stressed stones forming part of the foundation course. One large semi-circular stone step.

Above the door is a stressed stone with fine moulded surround surmounted by reversed scrolls. The carving below is impossible to define owing to the severe weathering of the stone.

There are stressed quoins at the east end of the house only.