Landscape History Today: the Bulletin of CSLH

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New publication—and matching cake
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Please make sure all contributions for the September edition of the Bulletin are with the editor by 30 June 2017.

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First of all, a big ‘thank you’ to everyone who filled in a questionnaire to help us with our future planning. We received a good response and are pleased to announce that the ‘Top 3’ CSLH activities unsurprisingly are lectures, field visits and the Bulletin. One of the things members particularly appreciated was our forthcoming programme of events, so this bumper edition contains those all important dates for your diary.

The autumn season is often a busy one for the Planning Team and this year has been no exception with our 30th anniversary celebrations and the launch of our most recent publication Landscapes Past and Present: Cheshire and Beyond. Members may have seen the picture of a number of the contributors and the anniversary book shaped cake which appeared in the Chester Observer. This event was followed by a very successful joint conference with the Society for Landscape Studies.

As you are aware, both Mike (Headon) and I are stepping down at the forthcoming AGM in January. The existing Planning Team have been working very closely to ensure there is a seamless handover. I know that they, and many of you, will appreciate the valuable contribution Mike has made to the Society. Having held every ‘official’ role on the Planning Team, and plenty of others besides, Mike’s knowledge and experience will be hard to replace. So from all of us, a huge ‘Thank you’ for everything you have done for CSLH.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the various planning teams I have worked with during my time as Chair. It has been a great pleasure to have been Chairman of a Society with so many talented, supportive and appreciative members.

With very best wishes to you all for the forthcoming year,

Sharon
Editor’s Desk

Happy New Year to all members. Here we are with the first of our two Bulletins for 2017—and what a mammoth edition to put together this time!

January’s issue contains plenty to share from last year’s series of highly interesting events. As usual we now look ahead to a fresh programme of lectures and field visits, ably put together by a zestful Planning Team. Some changes are on the way... but as always we are striving for continuity.

To those contributors who supplied articles, reports, personal impressions... many thanks. To those who have not yet done so, maybe this is a resolution to make – and keep! In our recent survey ‘variety’ topped the list of expectations of our Bulletin. Let’s keep aiming for that. One editorial plea—be sure to clearly identify and date all your submissions. This helps enormously.

So...at last, enjoy this read!

Julie
One of my (very few) duties as President of Chester Society for Landscape History (CSLH) is to step forward at each AGM to conduct the election (or usually the re-election) of our Chairman. For the past seven years, since 2009, it has been my pleasure to announce the election of Dr Sharon Varey, who is now standing down after a period of outstanding progress for the Society. We have been extremely fortunate as a Society in the calibre of our Chairmen - Monty Cordwell, Mike Headon, Ray Jones, to name only those since the turn of the millennium - all of whom have brought energy, expertise and vision to their leadership of the Society. However, I am sure that they would wish to join me in paying tribute to Sharon’s exceptional contribution, highlighted by - but not confined to - her oversight of the 25th and 30th anniversary celebrations, her joint-organisation of the associated conferences (or Research Days) and her joint-editorship of the accompanying books of members’ papers, published by the University of Chester Press.

Having graduated with a distinction from Chester College’s MA in Landscape, Heritage & Society, Sharon became a committee member of CSLH in 2001 and immediately set about developing the website from scratch. In due course, she also took over the editorship of the Society’s Newsletter, considerably expanding its content and revamping its presentation, so that it is now rebranded as a Bulletin, Landscape History Today. She continued in both roles after she became Chairman in 2009, only relinquishing them as part of the reordering of Planning Team duties which has been a feature of the past year. And throughout her decade-and-a-half on the committee (or Planning Team), she has been a fount of ideas, a ‘modernising force’ and a keen promoter of social events for what is widely regarded as one of the friendliest learned societies in the area.
In the year Sharon became Chairman, she completed her doctorate on ‘Society and the Land – the Changing Landscape of Baschurch, North Shropshire, c.1550-2000’. In the years since then she has built on this work, with further research and publications, and she has now been invited to contribute to the revivified Victoria County History of Shropshire. We wish Sharon every success with her future scholarship in the field of landscape history and thank her wholeheartedly for all that she has done for CSLH as committee member and Chair.

Graeme White

Sharon—Our outgoing Chair
Friday

We began at the beginning, with a visit to the prehistoric henge monument at Arbor Low. Most of the group had fortified themselves against the early rain with a visit to Brierlow Bar Bookstore near Buxton en route to the meeting-place. The weather began to improve immediately and we had a fine weekend. Arbor Low is an impressive monument, a stone circle set within a bank and ditch, at an elevated location with views for long distances so likewise visible for long distances. The stones are now fallen, making it harder to get an overall impression of the site under wet grass; on the southwest, the henge bank is interrupted by a large and later round barrow. At the centre are a group of stones called a cove, likewise fallen but perhaps originally forming an upright box. After a close inspection of the henge, our group processed a few hundred metres southwest to Gib Hill, a Neolithic long barrow with a Bronze Age round barrow superimposed. The monuments each have a single interpretation board, and there was some discussion of the futility of trying to illustrate the supposed rites taking place at the monuments – even more so because not only were the components of this site constructed over more than a thousand years, but also no excavation had taken place here for more than a hundred years.

Pondering these deep spiritual matters, we made our way to the Bull’s Head at Monyash, where we fortified ourselves corporeally with an excellent lunch. There was time too to visit St Leonard’s church, grade II* listed, with a Norman piscine and sedilia, a 15th-century font, interesting floor tiles, a large Royal Arms board, and a puzzling mixture of architecture of different periods.
One reason for the prosperity of Monyash was the lead ores beneath the soil, and the next visit was to Magpie Mine near Sheldon, now cared for by the Peak District Mines Historical Society. The surface remains are the best example in Britain of an 18th/19th-century lead mine. Keith Gregory of the PDMHS was our guide, the first of a series of excellent guides throughout the weekend, and he took us on a tour that was comprehensive enough for us to picture exactly what went on beneath the surface. One of the most remarkable features of the Derbyshire mines are the underground drainage channels or soughs; the one at Magpie runs 2km and the outflow into the river Wye near Ashford-in-the-Water can still be seen. Another noticeable aspect of the tour was the way the word “Cornish” kept recurring – Cornish engineers, Cornish pumping engines, Cornish-style powder house. We learned of the Barmote, the local lead-mining court where anyone could stake a claim; we learned that the corrugated iron shed housing the winder is one of the very few scheduled corrugated iron constructions, and we learned of the feud between Magpie miners and miners from the adjacent Maypitt mine brought about by the difficulty of demarcating surface land boundaries at the underground seams. This culminated in the deaths of three Maypitt miners in 1833, suffocated by smoke from a fire lit by the Magpie miners. A murder trial took place, but all 24 Magpie miners were acquitted. The mine closed in 1924, but was reopened in the 1940s by a New Zealand company; it closed for good in 1954, with the end of the Korean War and the fall in the price of lead.

Most of us followed the organisers’ advice and broke the last leg of our journey to Cromford with a visit to the village of Winster, another village which had prospered through lead mining and through its position as a transport hub near the prehistoric Portway, medieval saltways from Cheshire, and the 18th-century turnpike from Nottingham to Newhaven. The prosperity is evident in Main Street, which contains many notable buildings built in a mixture of limestone and gritstone. The most impressive building in Main Street, however, is built of brick, at least on the first storey. It is the Market House, built in the late 17th
or early 18th century, and the first property to be acquired by the National Trust in the Peak District. The first floor contains an unstaffed information room with displays illustrating the history of Winster, a scale model of the village, and an additional display dedicated to the village’s twinning with Monterubbiano in Italy, an arrangement which has clearly been thriving for thirty years or so.

Finally to our accommodation for the weekend, Willersley Castle at Cromford. This was intimately connected with our choice of the Derwent Valley as a destination, as it was the house that Richard Arkwright caused to be built for himself. Building started in 1786 after Arkwright had been knighted, on a spectacular but somewhat narrow and precipitous site above the river valley, to the designs of William Thomas, a London architect influenced by Thomas Adam. Unfortunately, construction was interrupted by a disastrous fire, and it is thought this may have contributed towards Arkwright’s death in 1792 in his sixtieth year. The work was completed under the supervision of Thomas Gardner of Uttoxeter, a local architect. Luckily we had a safe and non-combustible weekend. After dinner on Friday night, we were treated to a very extensive talk on Arkwright’s achievements by David Hool, former director of the Arkwright Society.

(Thanks to Mike Johnson for his extensive notes.)

Mike Headon
Richard Arkwright was born in Preston, the 13th and last child of a tailor. He was apprenticed to a hairdresser and then moved to Bolton to work for a wig maker. Here he acquired a reputation for the quality of his wigs.

In March 1755 he married Patience Holt and set up as a barber-surgeon. They had a son, Richard, in December of that year but Patience was to die in 1756.

He married again in March 1761, Margaret Biggins, and continued his wig making business. He travelled throughout the north west and Peak District buying hair for this business. This brought him to Cromford where he noted the potential of the various water courses. He had also begun to develop an interest in clocks and other mechanical devices. He came across a roller spinning machine being developed by Thomas Highs and John Kay and he joined their enterprise. Their machine became the basis of Arkwright’s invention of a roller spinning frame and, after pushing Highs and Kay out of the business, he further developed it with the financial support of two distant relatives. He initially set up a roller spinning business in Nottingham powered by horses but soon decided that water power offered a more effective source of power. Remembering the potential of Cromford he rented a site on Bonsall Brook for a cost of £14 per year and with tremendous confidence began the construction of his first mill. The rest is history!

Ref Cromford Mills Guide

2 CROMFORD MILLS

It was at Cromford in 1771 that Arkwright started the first successful cotton-spinning mill to be powered by water. A number of the original buildings remain standing today. The buildings, incorporating timber in their construction and so not fire proof, are grouped round an irregular courtyard. The outer walls, facing the road, have no windows on the lower floors, suggesting a de-
fence against industrial spies and rioters. It looks rather grim now and must always have been forbidding. About 200 were employed and these were mainly children and women. Water was supplied partly by the Bonsall Brook and partly by a drain from the lead mines called the Cromford Sough. The site is believed to have reached its complete form as a cotton spinning complex by 1790 and continued to manufacture cotton thread until sometime in the 1880s although the scale was much reduced after the 1840s. During the latter part of the nineteenth century the site was used by various companies including two laundries and a brewery. From the 1920s until the early 1970s the site was occupied by a chemical works, manufacturing coloured paint pigment.

Rescue of the site began in 1979 with its purchase by the Arkwright Society. Most of the original buildings were dilapidated, some were derelict and some were chemically contaminated. More than £7m has been spent since that date in restoring the buildings and bringing the site back to life and finding sustainable uses for its buildings.

Our visit began with a tour of the earliest mill building, a rather forlorn three storey structure which had originally five storeys. It had been eleven bays long with its width limited to some 30 feet by the size of the largest timber beams which would, unpropped, provide sufficient space and presumably load bearing capacity for Arkwright’s early machinery. Our tour continued with a demonstration of the principles of Arkwright’s early processes and description of his employment methods. Finally we examined the site of two of his early water wheels and the hydraulic arrangements for providing water to and from them.

Ref Pevsner Derbyshire

Cromford Mills Guide.

3 ST MARY’S CHURCH CROMFORD

On entering this 1790s church one is faced with a puzzle. Despite the Georgian date the interior of the church has a mid or late Victorian appearance. The walls are covered with stencilled patterns reminiscent of something by Pugin,
the chancel arch by painted figures. All this in a church dating from some 20 years before Pugin’s birth. Thankfully there was an explanation.

After building his house, now Willersley Castle Hotel, Arkwright began the building of a chapel to serve the needs of his family and of the community of workers that had grown up around the mill. He died soon after this and the building was completed by his son. It was opened in 1797 and was consecrated as a daughter church of the parish of Wirksworth. Some years later in 1869 it eventually became the parish church for Cromford. Early records describe it as ‘a stone built preaching box’. Hence my surprise at the sight meeting me as I entered.

The explanation was the ‘Gothicisation’ carried out in the 1850s when the chancel was extended, the windows remodelled and a tower and entrance porch added. All this by a Derby architect Henry Isaac Stevens. Later, in the 1880s, the mural paintings were added by a London based artist, Alfred Octavius Hemming, to mark the centenary of the church and also Queen Victoria’s Diamond Jubilee.

Ref Church Guide.

4 NATIONAL STONE CENTRE

Set within disused limestone quarries above Cromford the National Stone Centre is a 50 acre site of Special Scientific Interest. It is notable in that it provides a host of opportunities to encourage children and young people to develop an interest in Geology. Our guided tour began with a startling description of the location of Derbyshire 300 million years ago, a tropical island something similar to the Bahamas today. It continued with a walk round a number of locations which demonstrated rock shelves, a quarry face which had been a shallow lagoon, crinoid beds and other geological features.

Ref Stone Centre Leaflet
5 CROMFORD CANAL

The Cromford Canal was opened in 1794 and ran almost 15 miles from the Erewash Canal at Langley Mill to Cromford. Its engineers were Benjamin Outram and William Jessop. To its summit at Ironville there were 14 locks and from there a short branch led to Pinxton. From the top lock at Ironville it followed a level path level to Cromford, a route which included the Butterley Tunnel.

Only 5 miles of the canal are still intact and in water after 200 years. This stretch, from Cromford and Ambergate is sadly isolated from the rest of the canal system, much of the remainder having been sold off, infilled or open cast.

The canal’s traffic was predominately coal, limestone, grit stone and lead plus a wide range of general goods. It enabled the industrial development of the upper Derwent and Erewash valleys, linking them by waterway to the rest of the country.

The canal provided its investors with dividends of over 20% in the 1830s but in later decades the railways began to take its traffic and income and presumably dividends declined. Eventually it was sold in 1852 to what was to become the Midland Railway. In 1900 the Butterley Tunnel closed due to mining subsidence but traffic continued on the isolated halves, with coal traffic surviving into the 1930s. It was officially abandoned in 1944.

Restoration and reconstruction is supported by the Friends of the Cromford Canal, formed in 2002 and on whose narrow boat we enjoyed a two hour gentle cruise along that stretch of the canal from Cromford which is still navigable.

Ref Cromford Canal Leaflet.

David Savage

Sep 2016
Cromford- Day 3

**Scarthin Walk**

The last day began with a short walk around Scarthin led by Mike and Maggie Taylor.

To all intents and purposes now a part of Cromford, Scarthin is in fact a separate village gathered round its mill pond and up its surrounding slopes. The people were originally mostly lead miners and quarrymen who had the necessary skills to carve out platforms up the steep valley sides for their homes, creating space where none had existed before.

The village is at the bottom of the road known as the Via Gellia (A5012), its name not Roman but probably coined by or about one of the local lead mine owners, Philip Eyre Gell, in the late eighteenth century. Later, the road gave its name to the wool and cotton mix textile Viyella, which was produced nearby by W. Hollins & Company.

Several mills operated in the valley, the lowest of which still stands next to the village mill pond and has an impressive nineteenth century waterwheel.

The A6 runs along the edge of the village through a deep cutting, the “Scarthin Nick”, blasted out in 1815 when the route was turnpiked.

**Middleton Top Winding Engine House**

We then moved on to a pleasantly sunny Middleton Top, where the group split into two for a guided tour of the winding engine house, one of originally six on the Cromford & High Peak Railway.

The Cromford & High Peak was set up in 1825 and opened by 1831, linking the Cromford Canal with the Peak Forest Canal at Whaley Bridge, a distance of 34 miles. It was engineered by Josias Jessop, the son of William Jessop, the builder of the Cromford Canal. A series of near level sections were connected by nine inclined planes enabling a total climb of just under 1000 feet. Its purpose was to provide a direct link between Nottinghamshire/Derbyshire and Lancashire,
so avoiding the circuitous Trent & Mersey route.

After 30 disappointingly unprofitable years, the line was leased to and, in 1887 amalgamated with, the London and North Western Railway (LNWR). They closed the northern section in 1892. The line then became part of the London, Midland & Scottish (LMS) in 1923 before being absorbed into British Rail in 1948 and finally closing altogether in 1963. Though originally (and worryingly!) carrying passengers as well as freight, for most of its existence the line served the quarrying industry.

The two Middleton Top single cylinder rotative beam engines served the 708 yard long, 1 in 8¼ Middleton Incline and were built by the Butterley Company in 1829 for £2,000. Originally steam powered, demonstrations now involve an electric motor but still give a good impression of the way the engines operated. The two original boilers providing the power are housed outside the engine house and appear to have been replaced in 1869. The last of the replacements operated until 1957, when it failed safety tests, and for the last few years of operation a static locomotive powered the beam engines.

Wagons were at first attached to endless chains on the inclines but they were replaced by wire ropes in 1856. Between the inclines, wagons were pulled by locomotives; travelling from one end to the other must have been rather tortuous involving much hitching and unhitching.

Inside the engine house there is a large drum and pointer, the telegraph installed in 1830. It, together with the beam engines themselves, claim to be the oldest in the world serving a railway.

Finally, our informative and passionate guide said that runaways were relatively common and that one of the most disastrous resulted in a train of wagons overshooting the Cromford Canal and adjacent valley railway and ending up in the River Derwent beyond.
Edensor

Angus Watson led our final visit on ‘The Power and People of the Peak’ to the principal Chatsworth Estate village of Edensor (pronounced ‘Ensor’). The village, mentioned in the Domesday Book, originally lay between the river and the road through the Park. From 1755 to 1764, Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown carried out the major design and planting schemes for the fourth Duke of Devonshire and those buildings visible from his own much-improved House were taken down, with tenants temporarily rehoused in the villages of Pilsley and Beeley until re-sited and reconstructed on the other side of the road. It was the sixth Duke who completed the dismantling of the old village and built the present one enclosed by low walling and iron railings, painted today in that distinctive ‘Chatsworth Blue’. Estate officers and their families occupied these quirky houses, among them the Gamekeeper, the Librarian and Keeper of Collections and retired members of the household.

Our starting point was in front of Edensor House, the former Edensor Inn; a superb brick building with an elegant portico (or porte-cochere). The cluster of grapes carved in stone gave rise to the familiar name ‘The Grapes’ for this inn that served travellers, not the villagers! It became the Chatsworth Institute and now houses the Chatsworth Estate Offices.

We crossed the busy road through the park to view the Italianate and the English Gate lodges, designed by Sir Jeffery Wyatville. This was just the beginning of a journey through an architectural pattern book where symmetry and sameness were cast aside in favour of more eclectic and exuberant designs. The story goes that local architect, John Robertson of Derby, approached the Duke with plans for buildings on the new site for Edensor, chosen by Joseph Paxton in his remodelling of the Chatsworth landscape. The Duke, being pre-occupied with other matters, could not make up his mind so accepted all the different styles in the book – Norman, Jacobean, Italianate and Swiss, many reminiscent of The Grand Tour. Joseph Paxton’s attention to detail with the progress of the
new Edensor is evident from the correspondence of the time. Even when travelling with the sixth Duke, he was checking on the design and construction of the Norman Fountain and other matters.

The original 14th century church of St Peter’s was retained by Robertson, but it was re-built in 1864-70 in the Early English style by George Gilbert Scott for the seventh Duke of Devonshire. A practice for choral evensong was taking place in this magnificent church so we moved into the churchyard to see the chest tomb of the Paxton family. Also in the churchyard is the grave of Kathleen Kennedy, sister of John F. Kennedy, former President of the United States, who was married to a Cavendish heir to the Dukedom, but who was killed in Belgium in the last war.

Throughout our visit, Angus drew on Estate records and Paxton’s correspondence to give us a fascinating insight into many aspects of this built environment and what it was, and is like to live at Edensor. From a planned Estate village to the planning of a CSLH residential, we should record our thanks to Angus and Merren Watson for their help with contacts and speakers for our 2016 study break. Angus was formerly Vice-Chairman of the Arkwright Society and involved in the World Heritage Project for the Derwent Valley Mills. His knowledge and love of the area greatly enriched our time in Derbyshire.

(Saturday 17th September 2016 11.00am-12.15pm)

**Cromford – a town walk**

Our first walk of the study break was with Arkwright in mind, taking us to the Greyhound Hotel he had built in 1788 to accommodate businessmen and visitors to the mill, to the Market Place for which he had secured a Charter and to the industrial housing (first in the country) for his workers and their families. As we progressed up the footpath behind houses on the Wirksworth Road, we had a better view of the position and grandeur of the house he had built for himself and his family, Willersley Castle. All this set against stunning views towards The
Heights of Abraham and Jacob, Matlock Bath and Riber Castle.

David Hool, our guest lecturer from the previous evening, accompanied us on the walk, providing further explanations and interpretations on the walking and historical notes we had to hand.

Our walk took us first to the Cromford Sough or ‘Bear Pit’. Originally part of the water management system for draining lead mines on Cromford Moor, it was used to control the flow down to water wheels powering Arkwright’s spinning mills. From the Sough we made our way to the School at the end of North Street, built by Arkwright’s son, also Richard. Passing pig stys, troughs and a pinfold, beyond was the old town lock-up with two cells. All around us were allotments and as we came to the backs of the North Street tenements we were greeted by magnificent sunflowers and productive veg. patches. ‘Growing your own’ was clearly part of Arkwright’s vision for his industrial housing project although the hilly landscape meant that a plot was not necessarily adjacent to or level with where you lived! Some workers were ‘rewarded’ with a cow and one wonders how glad the recipient would be, given the long hours worked in the mills and a limited income. Another mouth to feed and care for, whatever the yield in milk or meat?

The houses Arkwright had built for his workers were on three floors, the top floor having long windows to let in light for workers and their weaving frames. The ground and first floors provided living accommodation with one family per room. Up to six families probably occupied each house with one water trough at the end of the street and a pub, The Bell, at the other. There is some debate over the naming of North Street. Some say it was the name of the publican, Isaac North. Others say it was probably Arkwright’s wish to ingratiate himself with the upper echelons of Society. Lord North, who became Prime Minister, had visited Cromford and it is thought the street may have been named after him.

We climbed up to the Almshouses founded in 1662 under the Will of Lady Mary Armine (nee Talbot) whose weathered coat of arms figured at the end of the
row. From here we made our way through modern housing back to the main road and down into the Market Square noting more 3-storey Arkwright housing as well as pre-Arkwright cottages with somewhat rougher stonework. After bidding farewell to David Hool, we made our way back to the elegant surroundings of Willersley Castle for lunch.

Julian Tweed & Ruth Hockney
A few days after the Society’s 2016 study break in Cromford we were walking in the Alpujarra in Southern Spain. Here the ‘white villages’ are strung out along the 4000’ contour, separated by deep ravines scoured out by snow melt from the sierras and shaped by temperature extremes. This dramatic and arid landscape has lent itself to many a spaghetti Western! These high villages only exist where springs emerge from the hillsides and the challenge is to grow food and power mills and presses in this semi-desert environment.

It occurred to us that there were similarities in the way the landscapes of Cromford and say, Jubar, Yegen and Valor have been shaped to support a working population. At Cromford we saw how water was drained from the mines above Cromford using long soughs; how ponds and streams, such as the Bonsall Brook, had driven mills for grinding and crushing minerals. When Richard Arkwright came to Cromford he

exploited the existing technology and skills in the area, ambitiously channelling water across and under the village to power his cotton spinning mills.

Today, the Cromford landscape is testimony to centuries of effort in draining and moving water.

Fig.1. ‘The Bear Pit’ – fed by a long sough from the Black Rocks Lead Mines, Cromford
In Spain, it was the Berbers who, over 1100 years ago, built hundreds of miles of water channels (acequias) to feed water from springs and streams into the terraces struggling to grow crops in the thin earth. The edges of these terraces were banked up so they could be flooded for a short time then retain water for a few more hours after the supply had been cut off. The management of the water supply and the unlocking of the sluice gates was the responsibility of the ‘acequiero’ and the system still exists today, ensuring everyone gets a fair share of this precious resource. Each township elects a water officer who rides (usually on a moped) or walks along the channels opening and closing padlocks on the sluice gates to give each grower their ‘ration’ (usually 2 hours of flow once or twice a month). The growers conserve water using ‘moats’ around fruit trees or plants, hoeing the soil into channels that make the plots look like a cross between a potato field and a Japanese garden!

Until electricity reached this remote region, waterpower drove the mills for grinding corn and crushing olives. We learned how water shortages caused problems with transport on the Cromford Canal and about the loss of power to the spinning mills until the damming of the Bonsall Brook. While we were in Spain, there was a serious dispute between two finca owners because one of them had fallen asleep after his lunch and missed his two hours of water for that month – he had not opened the sluice gate to his terraces and the neighbour got the benefit!

Fig.2 An Acequia or Water Channel in the Alpujarra
One of the significant features of the Derbyshire Peak District is its dry stone walling and a visit to The National Stone Centre near Wirksworth was on the itinerary for the Cromford residential. This was on the recommendation of two Dry Stone Wallers we met on a reconnaissance mission in 2015! They were repairing the farm wall beside the path up to Arbor Low. In conversation we learned their skills had taken them all over the world and that they had also been instrumental in setting up The National Stone Centre. The Millenium Wall, put up by craftsmen wallers from all over the country, certainly opened our eyes to the variety of walling styles across the UK imposed by the local geology and materials available.

In the Alpujarras, the landscape of terraces with retaining stone walls are a common feature but they are not necessarily of dry stone. As water is scarce and the geology is subject to temperature extremes, mortar or cement is often used to hold the stones in place.
After visiting Arkwright’s Mill and the walk round Cromford, members on the study break were able to visit the Church of St Mary with its stunning wall paintings and stained glass by A.O. Hemming, 1897.
Eight years ago we were in the village of Jubar (origin: probably Arabic from ‘al-jub’ meaning ‘water well’) and were struck by the Moorish resonances there in the names of houses, streets and the structure of the church. We were unable to gain access then as archaeological excavations and renovations were underway. La Iglesia del Cristo de la Columna is one of the oldest places in the Alpujarra, mentioned in early 16th century documents. The weather vane on the top of the bell-tower bears the Christian symbol of the cross and the Jewish Star of David. Inside the church, the Mudejar coffered ceiling, the oldest of its kind in the Alpujarra, carries the Star of David on the beams and the St James scallop shell motif in the two roof corners above the altar. The structure of the building itself is clearly that of an ancient mosque with a women’s gallery at the back of the building. This site has witnessed many different forms of worship from pre-history to the present day – a good place for seeing the archaeology of religions.

During the renovations, previously unknown wall paintings were discovered and they are unusual in their mix of shaman, Christian and Moorish symbols: the curandera (a native healer, shaman or witch) wearing a white hijab can be seen with her back to the figure of Christ crucified. On the far right is St Peter with the keys to heaven and a small dog at his feet and next to him, another saint bearing a sword or scimitar – is this St James or a symbol of the early Roman martyrs. The Romans occupied the Alpujarra and the neighbouring village of Mairena is believed to have been a roman settlement established by one Marius. St Christopher holding the baby Jesus can also be seen on the right. Whether the figure of a woman with a crown and halo is the Virgin Mary or Queen Isabella who evicted the Jews and the Moors from Spain in the 15th century is open to question. There are questions too as to whether some of the figures are representations of characters living in Jubar at the time.
So for those who were on the Cromford residential, we hope this comparison with some features in the Alpujarran landscape might be of interest. If you haven’t yet tasted the CSLH Residential experience, hopefully this article demonstrates the portability of our mutual interest and love of any landscape and its history. You can take it anywhere!
On a sunny Sunday last Autumn the Society hosted a very special event – afloat. This cruise on the river Dee was the setting for none other than the official launch of Landscapes Past and Present Cheshire and Beyond. Published by the University of Chester Press and edited by Sharon M. Varey and Graeme J. White the book gathered together papers researched and written by members of Chester Society for Landscape History to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Society in 2016. The occasion was elevated – if this was at all possible - by a custom-made cake gracing the buffet table aboard the Lady Diana. It drew much admiration. Here’s how a few of our members viewed the day. Firstly Mike Taylor then Peter Roberts.
Cruising on the Dee: Cheshire and Beyond

Viewed from the Manchester Ship Canal, the gardens of Thelwall look like Step-toe's yard. Aspiring compost heaps, an old fridge and broken mowers greet the cruising public. I was therefore unexpectedly surprised with the enjoyment and interest given by the CSLH Cruise on the Dee where, as a backdrop for the launch of 'Landscapes Past and Present: Cheshire and Beyond', we were treated to a stately glide past wonderfully colourful, smart houses and gardens before breaking into the countryside as we sailed towards Eccleston - not a fridge in sight. There was a good two-course buffet with a gorgeous chocolate torte that packed enough calories to fuel an Arctic expedition.

The book launch was a great success and was achieved with style, enthusiasm and humour. The editors, authors and the Managing Editor of Chester University Press were photographed together and I think they must all have felt pretty happy with the outcome of the event. Two other points need to be mentioned. First, it was so pleasant to meet many of the founder members of the Society on board the 'Lady Diana'. It was an event that attracted everyone. Second, I was astounded by the cake that was made to commemorate thirty years of the Society. What an amazing creation; I felt sad when it was cut up although it did taste rather good. Third, there was the kingfisher perched on the railings. I never said I could count. Many congratulations and thanks to the organisers, especially Sharon.

As we drove nearer to Chester the sun became brighter and the clouds cleared. When we arrived alongside the river the Lady Diana, our vessel for the day, looked very welcoming and so set the tone for the rest of the afternoon. Our journey down the river (or was it up?) was stately and smooth. The conversation buzzed and we enjoyed our lunch. Our crew and catering staff were superb allowing us to take in the view of Chester and its environs from a not so familiar angle. We could have gone round again. Our copy of Landscapes Past and Present will always remind us of a very pleasant afternoon.
As if the Book Launch was not enough, a second event took place in October, this time on land and more precisely at St Mary’s Centre, Chester. Entitled ‘From the Peak to the Sea, from the Mersey to the Dee: the landscapes of Cheshire and its regions’ this Conference was held jointly with the Society for Landscape Studies. The publication reviewed on page 34 was the subject of one of these presentations. In their own words, here are some participants’ views of this stimulating day.

Organisers and Speakers

Graeme White
A view from the Society for Landscape Studies

Founded in 1979, the Society for Landscape Studies aims to advance public education by promoting the study of landscape in all its aspects. With a little over two hundred members, it is not much bigger than many local archaeology or history societies. Yet it has a reach that extends to both the national and international levels, where its highly-respected journal, Landscape History, plays an important role in achieving the Society’s aim. This is complemented by the holding of conferences and field meetings. And, given the Society’s modest size, it is no surprise that it relies heavily on the knowledge and enthusiasm of some of those local societies around the country to make these events happen. This year our peripatetic annual conference came to rest in Chester, where we were delighted to be the guests of the Chester Society for Landscape History.

Billing itself as a ‘cultural hub in the heart of the city’, St Mary’s was surely one of the more unusual settings for a Society conference. It is almost certainly the first time we have used a community venue that is a former church, and had our AGM (always held during the lunch break) accompanied by 17th century effigies (Thomas Gamul and his wife). Light filtered by stained glass illuminated the main proceedings of the day, and the figure of Christ looked down from the fine east window, in front of which the six speakers made their offerings to an eager audience. The subject matter ranged from the contextual “Where does Cheshire belong?” to the microscopic “What can pollen tell us about the history of the Cheshire landscape?”, with case studies of different scales of landscape, from the Wirral to individual buildings at Horton cum Peel. The speakers clearly had all been well briefed, and gave performances befitting of this ‘creative space’. They were all interesting, engaging, and, importantly for the organisers with an eye on the clock, concise. Keeping to time is important for the audience too, as even the best presentation is improved by a coffee and the opportunity to reflect on it in the company of others. The organisers had also pre-
pared admirably for this aspect of the meeting, and refreshments were amply supplied. The provision of a strawberries-and-cream dessert is surely another first for a Society for Landscape Studies conference!

Thanks are due to all those involved in planning and running a highly successful day. But, of course, it does not end there. A popular feature of Society for Landscape Studies conferences is the opportunity to visit some of the landscapes and sites in the company of the relevant speakers. Our field weekend to Cheshire will take place in the spring, and we are indebted to the Chester Society for Landscape History once again, for you have taken on the organising of this as well. Thanks for a great conference, and we look forward to joining you again in the spring.

Anthony Robinson

Newsletter Editor and Publicity Officer

Society for Landscape Studies

The catering, with strawberries and cream, proved popular!
Our Impressions of the day - Anne and David Savage

We set out in good time as there had been warnings of possible parking problems due to the University Open Day. These were not to materialise and we were able to park within a few hundred yards of the venue. An unexpectedly good start to the day! Graeme’s opening piece on Cheshire’s dilemma in not knowing whether it lies in the North or the Midlands, or indeed in Wales, appealed to us as we are from Peterborough which similarly sits on a border, that between the Midlands and East Anglia. That opener was a good scene setter for the rest of the day in which the speakers went into more detailed accounts of aspects of Cheshire’s landscape and history. Overall it was a balanced programme with a distinct local focus. Congratulations are due to the organisers and the speakers, and especially to the various and ever changing Chairmen who kept it all going absolutely to time.
The Alderley Edge Landscape Project (AELP) began, we are told, with ‘a shovel, a singer of tales and an archaeologist’. From this curious, and rather romantic, origin comes a work of daunting scholarship by no fewer than 34 contributors across an equally daunting range of disciplines. Result: a record, a reference but also a deeply inspiring detective story. Literary insights come from Cheshire author Alan Garner. There is folklore and a touch of alchemy… and of course The Wizard. Is the Legend of Alderley evidence for a prehistoric view of time?
Garner thinks so. The volume is then divided into a five parts on the geology and natural deposits of the Edge (mining has occurred since the Bronze Age); flora and fauna; and two parts on Human History - archaeology and underground; and overground: the social history. A trove of material to engage members here. The final section, appropriately, looks forward to a sustainable future.

It is not ‘close text’ by any means. Oral history transcripts add local voices. Chapters are richly provided with enough photographs past and present, line drawings, maps, town plans, tables, technical diagrams and genealogies to spur on any casual reader to keep exploring. Although many of the illustrations are in black and white, 32 pages of colour plates feature vivid mineral formations and no less colourful plant and animal life of Alderley’s complex ecosystem. Several glossaries and a truly comprehensive index are extremely helpful.

The Alderley story told here represents several decades of an ambitious and innovative landscape study. Certainly what comes across is how many different facets of research must blend to understand the life of a long-inhabited community. The size and price of the book may mean it is not an impulse purchase but because of its wide-ranging approach it deserves a slot on many different sorts of bookshelves. Former director of the Manchester Museum Tristram Besterman put it thus: ‘And for those who may never have been near Alderley, there is resonance in its pages for anyone who is interested in their relationship with the land and how it subtly informs our sense of who we are.’ Now if that is not closest to the hearts of all landscape historians, what is?
Please note that this year the 2017 Annual General Meeting of the Society will take place at 7.15 p.m. immediately preceding the January lecture, and not at the February lecture as in previous years.

**Monday 30 January 2017**  
**Soundscapes of English Towns**  
**David Mitchell**

David Mitchell is the Town Crier of Chester, the only place in Britain to have retained the tradition of regular midday proclamations. He has made many appearances on TV and radio, and has also played the Town Crier in two full-length films – ‘Moll Flanders’ with Alex Kingston and ‘24 Hour Party People’ with Steve Coogan. Together with his wife, Julie, he was the subject of a documentary made by NHK, a leading Japanese television company. David is an award-winning speaker on the luncheon club and after-dinner circuit, having professionally entertained hundreds of audiences. David has hosted four World Town Crier Tournaments in Chester, and he was first-ever recipient of the Chester Chronicle’s ‘Pride of Cheshire’ Award, as voted for by readers.
Anthony Annakin-Smith

Anthony is a well-known local speaker. He is a keen researcher into landscape history and has spoken and published widely on various aspects of the subject. He has a Masters in Landscape Heritage and Society from the University of Chester and a Diploma in Landscape History from the University of Liverpool. Research interests include the transatlantic slave trade, the maritime history of the Dee estuary, the development of Parkgate as a port and resort, and sea salt making on the Wirral. A keen leader of walks, Anthony is the author of the popular Wirral Walks: 100 Miles of the Best Walks in the Area. In 2017, the University of Chester Press will publish his new book on Neston Collieries, based on his latest research.

His talk will focus on two aspects of landscape development – the geology of the area, which has greatly influenced historic land use; and the use of boundaries which have been laid down over the past thousand years and more. Profusely illustrated, using modern photographs and historic maps, Anthony’s talk will help you look at the Wirral in a new light.
Keith Lilley is Professor of Historical Geography at Queen’s University Belfast and specialises in the use of maps and mapping to explore medieval worlds. His books include, Urban Life in the Middle Ages, City and Cosmos – the Medieval World in Urban Form, and most recently, Mapping Medieval Geographies, published by Cambridge University Press. He is particularly interested in using spatial technologies to map medieval urban landscapes, as well as developing digital methods to analyse medieval and early modern maps. His funded research projects have included working on medieval Chester (http://www.medievalchester.ac.uk/index.html; http://discover.medievalchester.ac.uk/), Swansea (http://www.medievalswansea.ac.uk/en/), and also the 'new towns' of King Edward I in Wales (http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/atlas_ahrb_2005/atlas.cfm).

Prof. Lilley has used these projects to examine processes of urbanisation in frontier and peripheral regions and nations, including aspects of urban design and planning in the Middle Ages. Building on his previous mapping projects, such as 'Linguistic Geographies' (http://www.goughmap.org/), Prof. Lilley is currently Co-Investigator on a Leverhulme Trust funded research project called Mapping Lineages, using quantitative analyses to explore cartographic relationships between historic maps of Great Britain, including those by George Lily and John Speed. He is also writing a new book bringing these project together, provisionally called Ruling the Realm: Sovereignty, Survey and Statecraft under the Plantagenet Kings.
"Mapping Marcher Landscapes" explores the importance of thinking about the place of mapping through focusing on one particular geographical concept: the borderland. Ranging across the medieval and the modern eras, and maps from the borders as well as of the borders, a case is made for marginal spaces acting as sites of cartographic innovation. This requires some consideration of what is meant by ‘mapping’, adopting Nicholas Howe’s approach that sees mapping as both textual and visual, and literal and metaphorical. Unfolding ‘the map’ along these lines helps us to engage with the cartographic imaginations of those in the past who sought to represent spatially the world around them, and also, in some cases, to shape that world as well.

"Mapping Marcher Landscapes", then, is a journey through space and time – through places in, on and of the margins – and the many kinds of mappings that have occurred in them. My starting point is a ‘map of maps’ which appears in Skelton and Harvey’s Local Maps and Plans of Medieval England and shows for the Welsh borders a cartographic void, an distinct absence of maps. Yet from mapping the March, the evidence shows instead a vibrant cartographic consciousness existing across and along the frontier between England and Wales during the Middle Ages and Early Modern era. From mappae mundi to medieval charters, from the plans of ‘new towns’ to so-called ‘national’ maps, such as the Gough Map and maps of Humphrey Llwyd, the marginal places of the Welsh March can be seen to have been anything but an empty mapping space or a blank on the edge of the ‘map of maps’. The geographic margins on the borders of England and Wales were instead places of cartographic innovation, and indeed they still are.
Keith has a first degree in Archaeology and Anthropology and a PhD in Archaeology, both from Cambridge University. Following a career in West African archaeology between 1977 and 1988, including a teaching post in a Nigerian university, he spent the years between 1989 and 2014 developing and directing local government archaeological services in England, in Oxfordshire, Plymouth and Herefordshire (1998-2014; MBE, 2007). Since 2014 he has worked as an archaeological/heritage consultant in a small specialist practice that is based in Chester, Oxford and Hereford.

Keith’s past research has included African historical archaeology and material culture studies, regional archaeologies of western Britain, the Neolithic period in Britain, and the history and archaeology of the Kingdom of Mercia in the eighth and ninth centuries, with special reference to the frontier with Wales. He has recently published The Archaeology of Herefordshire: An Exploration (Logaston Press, 2015) and, with Ian Bapty, Offa’s Dyke: Landscape and Hegemony in Eighth-Century Britain (Windgather, 2016). His current research is focused primarily on Neolithic Britain, with a (so far) six-year programme of field investigation (co-directed with Professor Julian Thomas of Manchester University) at the Early Neolithic hilltop complex at Dorstone Hill in Herefordshire, not far from Hay-on-Wye.

This talk will draw attention to the geographical extremes of Mercia’s western frontier in the period of Mercian hegemony, and the role(s) of Offa’s Dyke then and subsequently. A particular focus of the research that the talk
reports some amongst the findings of, has been how the Dyke affected and reflected the landscapes it traversed, and what its possible relation to other frontier features, including Wat’s Dyke, may have been.

Mark is a Reader in Human Geography at the University of Liverpool. Prior to this he held posts at the Universities of Portsmouth, St Andrews, Exeter and Nottingham. Mark’s main research interests relate to agricultural and rural change in the War and post-war periods. He is currently on the Committee of the Society for Landscape Studies and the editorial boards of Landscape History and Environment and History. His work has appeared in journals such as Journal of Historical Geography, Journal of Rural Studies and Land Use Policy.

In this talk, Mark will consider the use of oral history and its role within landscape and environmental history. He will reflect on his own use of oral histories (and what he has termed ‘farm life history’) across a number of projects – commonly focussing on agricultural change – as well as examining some of the wider debates surrounding oral history and its usefulness in (re)constructing the past.
Monday 27 November 2017
The Chester Odeon and Other Recent City Excavations
Leigh Dodd

Leigh Dodd is Principal Archaeologist with Earthworks Archaeology.

Recent Excavations in Chester will discuss the archaeological findings made during the excavation of a variety of re-development sites including: the former Odeon theatre; the former George Street School; the former Habitat store, Pepper Street, and the new bus station site at Gorse Stacks. The results from these excavations has shed new light on the history and archaeology of the land use and activities undertaken at these sites from the Roman period through to the Second World War.

Field Visits

9th April 2017
The Landscape of Peel
Sharon Varey

This afternoon walk will look at the landscape of Peel near Tarvin which was the subject of Sharon’s talk at the joint CSLH/SLS conference and recent article in Landscapes Past and Present. Members will be able to view the exterior remains of 17th century Peel Hall, the 18th century farm buildings and walled gardens. The visit will give members the chance to ‘walk the landscape,’ view the ‘lumps and bumps’ and visit the site of a possible former duck ‘decoy,’ now a wetland habitat.

Although a leisurely walk on lanes, tracks and across fields, this visit will unfortunately not be suitable for members with mobility difficulties.
26th April 2017
LLANDUDNO – IT’S NOT ALL ABOUT THE MOSTYNS
Mike Headon

Not all of Llandudno was created by the Mostyns. The main centre of the resort remains indeed Mostyn land, and the Society has scrutinised it on a previous field trip some years ago. Nowadays it’s well served by town trails and information boards. Craig-y-don, however, the area to the east of the town centre, is less well served, but the story of its development, and its history and architecture, are just as interesting, though little-known in comparison. We’ll see how Craig-y-don has managed to maintain a separate identity from Llandudno proper. This field visit will consist of a long but gentle walk on flat paved surfaces – guaranteed to remain at sea level at all times.

20th May 2017
Marple / Mellor
Gwilym Hughes

We will visit the Marple area on Saturday 20 May. Our trip will be led by members of the Mellor Archaeological Trust and will begin at the remains of the Mellor Mill, which was the largest cotton mill in existence when it was built in 1790-92. We will be shown the industrial archaeological work that is in hand to open up the site.

From there we will carry on to view the hundred foot high aqueduct that carries the Peak Forest Canal over the River Goyt, the canal locks and lime kilns. The canal and the cotton mill were the result of the endeavours of Samuel Oldknow. His efforts seem to have been unprofitable as he apparently owed £206,000 at the time of his death in 1828.

Refreshments should be available at the nearby Roman Lakes site created as a leisure attraction in the late nineteenth century. One of the developers is
quoted as saying at the time that “People aren’t to know that they weren’t
dug by the Romans”. Of course he didn’t allow for the expertise of our Society.

Saturday 24th June 2017
The Landscape of Thelwall
(joint visit with St. Helens Historical Society)
Maggie and Mike Taylor

Two of the recent publications by the Society ('Field-names' and 'Landscapes') have contained papers on Thelwall. We visited Thelwall in 2008 but have been asked by two societies to arrange another visit to review the landscape referring especially to the newer research.

In the morning, there will be a walk of perhaps three miles taking in the Waste, the Bridgewater Canal and some of the Victorian mansions that were built by the Rylands and other families. We are hoping to visit at least one (overshoes provided) and will see others.

We have booked the Parish Hall as a base (car park, bus stop, tea and toilets) for lunch if you want to bring your own food. There will be plenty of maps and pictures to examine here. Alternatively, the newly revived Pickering Arms pub is only across the road (a most interesting building inside) if you prefer to eat a prepared meal.

In the afternoon, we will focus on the core of the old village and on the Eyes - the meadows alongside the Mersey. Perhaps a mile or so to walk and a more refined pace.
Morning walkers should have their boots on by 10.30 a.m. at the Parish Hall, lunch-break will be around 12.30 p.m. Those wishing to come just for the afternoon walk should be ready to start at 1.30 p.m.

Sunday 16 July 2017
FIELD AND FOREST: features of the rural landscape
in the area of Tarporley and Kelsall
Graeme White

This half-day visit follows on from the President’s papers in the Society’s two books, Landscape History Discoveries in the North West (2012) and Landscapes Past and Present: Cheshire and Beyond (2016), both of which focused on enclosure. Some of the sites may therefore already be familiar to members. We begin by looking at the traces of medieval settlement and open field strips to be found at Burton-by-Tarvin and Clotton, just off the A51. We also examine the rectilinear fields associated with the enclosure of Clotton common in the early 19th century. We then visit the medieval borough of Tarporley before heading along the A49, the old forest road ‘peytefinsty’, then left along the A54 to the Yeld near Kelsall, where we can see evidence of the parliamentary enclosure of Delamere Forest. There will be an opportunity for midday/early afternoon refreshment in nearby Kelsall.

Meet outside the 16th century hall in the hamlet of Burton (SJ508639: CW60ER) at 9.45 a.m. Aim to finish at Kelsall about 2.00 p.m. Toilets and refreshments at Tarporley and in pub at Kelsall.
Chester Society for Landscape History
Field Visits Booking Form 2017

Please use this booking form to indicate the visits that you would like to attend. Details of each trip are given in the Bulletin. A non-returnable booking charge of £3 per person per visit will be requested once a place has been confirmed on your chosen visit(s).

Completed forms should be sent to Gwilym Hughes, 17 Fairacres Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 3HA to arrive no later than Saturday 11th February 2017. Please do not send any money with this booking form. Forms can also be handed in at the January lecture. It is not anticipated that there will be any restriction on numbers unless any visits are especially popular; in which case places will be allocated in order of receipt of booking forms.

Where possible, further communications will be by email so please remember to check your Inbox.

Name of Member(s) ..............................................................................................................................................

Address ...............................................................................................................................................................

Email address ....................................................................................................................................................... 

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<td>Half day</td>
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Some visits will attract additional costs for parking, admissions, lunches, etc. Thelwall will be a full day walk but it will be possible to do the morning or afternoon part only.
Responses to the recent questionnaire circulated to members were eagerly analysed by the Planning Team. All feedback is valuable. Thank you to those who took the time to fill in our survey.

We now know that 94% of you read the Bulletin, and 87% consider it to be ‘important’. This is gratifying! Your preferences seem to be for variety first and foremost, followed by programme details, then short articles and finally trip reports – with a stated emphasis on description of sites visited.

Field Visits 2017 – three are based on articles in the Society’s publication Landscapes Past and Present Cheshire and Beyond. These are Peel Hall (Sharon Varey), Thelwall (Mike Taylor), and enclosures (Graeme White). Come along and see what you have read about!

Reminder – there is NO residential weekend this year.

Deadline for next issue is a little earlier – 30 June 2017. I look forward to your correspondence.
Email editor@chesterlandscapehistory.org.uk

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The Society for Landscape Studies was founded in 1979, with the aim of advancing public education by promoting the study of the landscape in all its aspects. It achieves this aim by:

- Fostering interest in research and fieldwork.
- Publishing material relevant to the understanding of landscape evolution, particularly through its respected journal *Landscape History*.
- Holding conferences, seminars and field meetings.

*Landscape History* is the international refereed journal of the Society. It offers a common meeting-ground for all concerned with the material and cultural evaluation of human use of the land. The ultimate intention is to secure a more penetrating comprehension of landscape evolution and an overall narrative account of landscape prehistory and history, together with an understanding of how this has influenced, and may usefully guide the management of, the present-day landscape.

Members receive:

- Two issues annually of *Landscape History*, and online access to the journal.
- Two issues annually of the Society newsletter, which provides a forum for the exchange of members’ views, and a means of keeping in touch with the latest developments in the field of landscape studies.
- Discounted rates for attendance at the Society’s annual conference and field meetings.

Join us today
I/We wish to apply for membership of the Society for Landscape Studies and:

(please tick one box and add applicable date)

☐ have set up a standing order for annual payments of £30 from _______________

☐ have made an online payment of £30 for the year 20____

☐ enclose a cheque for £30 for the year 20____

Name: (PLEASE PRINT)

Second family member (if applicable): 

Address:

Gift Aid declaration

Name: Home address: Post code:

I am a UK taxpayer, and wish all my subscription payments and donations to the Society for Landscape Studies to be treated as Gift Aid. I understand that I can cancel this declaration at any time by contacting the Society.

Signed: Date: