



Gatehouse News

30 March 2015

Developments of the Gatehouse Website. The comprehensive bibliography and gazetteer of the castles, fortifications and palaces of medieval England and Wales.

John Busby was kind enough to point out a broken link to me which resulted in me finding out that HistoricWales had, for some obscure reason, changed the urls to the individual listing reports for listed building in Wales. These were all changed in no systematic fashion so I had to individually research for the online record and update every Gatehouse record individually to update the link in the listing 'button'.

Broken links remain a particular bugbear but one of the more positive aspects of the current austerity in local governments is that local council sites are changing their urls somewhat less often and links to online HER seem reasonably stable and we seem to be having less of this sort of thoughtless change of url as a system is updated.

We will have to see what happens to the online resources provided by English Heritage when it splits into [Historic England](#) (the statutory historic environment protection agency and formally known as The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England) and [English Heritage](#) (the charity charged with the care of the national collection of historic monuments on 1 April 2015).

Historic England still has a purpose to "Promote the public's enjoyment of, and advance their knowledge of, ancient monuments and historic buildings" Hopefully this will include the maintenance of;

- [The National Heritage List for England](#), which has online versions of listing and scheduling reports (Here the url has changed

to a [historicengland](#) one and their have been some design changes but, unusually, this change was done with the good manners of having an automatic transfer from the older english-heritage link and in a fashion where the concordance between old and new urls is obvious and straightforward so updating of the numerous links in Gatehouse will be easily done. Other website providers - particular local council should note this can be done!)

- [PastScape](#) the online HER (Other than some slight design changes (mainly replacing the old EH logo with the new HE logo) this seems unchanged.
- [HeritageGateway](#), potentially the most comprehensive online archaeological resource for England, also seems unaffected beyond a change of logo

Other former EH resources ([Images of England](#), [Heritage Explorer](#) and [ViewFinder](#)) still exist under HE currently with only with logo changes but PastScape and these other sites may well be updated and this may effect the links given in Gatehouse.

As always if you do find a broken link in Gatehouse please do let me know. I am but one man and with so many links across the thousands of pages of Gatehouse I would not have time to eat or sleep, let alone do historic research, if I tried to update links more regularly.



The new Historic England logo - quite the relevance to either England or historic monuments is lost on me. English Heritage appear, at the moment, to be retaining the rather more obviously heritage and english logo.

I've have however updated the general links on the [Gatehouse links page](#).

My detailed re-examination of Perriam and Robinson's *The Medieval Fortified Buildings of Cumbria* (1998 Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society) is finally finished resulting in a further 3 dozen mostly dubious sites being added to the Gatehouse database.

Greg Sarnecki was kind enough to let me know of a lost moated site of the Percy family at Low Catton, on the River Ouse upstream of Wrestle Castle in Yorkshire which, given the status of the family and their other houses probably had some fortification beyond the moat.

New Sites Added

In Lancashire North of the Sands;

- [Abbot Hall](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable as fortified as not moated or mentioned as a tower.
- [Broughton Hall](#) Medieval hall - questionable.
- [Cartmel Priory Gatehouse](#) Monastic gatehouse.
- [Frith Hall, Upper Holker](#) Medieval hall - questionable.
- [Walton Hall](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable
- [Aldingham Grange](#) Moated site - possible fortified manor house.
- [Bardsea Hall](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [Furness Abbey](#) Monastic gatehouses.
- [Plumpton Hall](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.

In Yorkshire;

- [Dowbiggin Foot](#) Site of C16 'stonehouse' questionable bastle.
- [Hebblethwaithe Hall](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [East Stonehouse Dentdale](#) Site of C16 'stonehouse' questionable bastle.
- [Stone Hall Soolbank](#) Site of C16 'stonehouse' questionable bastle.
- [Low Catton Manor House](#) Moated house of the Percy's - possibly fortified.

In Westmorland;

- [Acorn Bank](#) Scant remains of a manor house held by the Templar.
- [Eastfield Syke](#) moated site but probably that of a woodward not manorial.

- [Ellergill](#) Possible site of medieval house but nothing to suggest this was fortified or of gentry status - rejected.
- [Hilton Beacon](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [Kirkby Stephen Rectory](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [Kirkby Thore Hall](#) C14 hall with solar block - questionable.
- [Murton Hall](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [Sandford](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [Setterah Park](#) Large moat - possible fortified house.
- [Soulby Hall](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [Tarn House Ravenstonedale](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [Warcop Hall](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [High Biggins Old Hall](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [Blease Hall](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [Casterton Old Hall](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [Casterton Old Manor](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [Collinfield](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [Hawes Hall](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [Helsington Laithes](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [Nether Staveley Old Hall](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [Beetham Pasonage Farm](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.
- [Rydal Mound](#) questionable motte.
- [Rydal Old Hall](#) Site of medieval hall - questionable.

