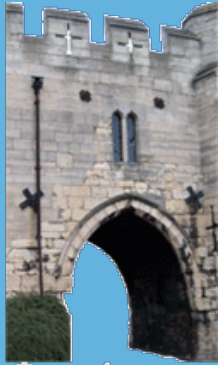


GATEHOUSE NEWS



Gatehouse

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

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18 April 2017

Yorkshire Records Updated

In anticipation of the [Castle Studies Group](#) annual conference, this year based in Harrogate, I've been checking and updating the Gatehouse records for North Yorkshire. This often resulted in relatively little visible effect although it took a good hour to work out what the primary source mentioned in some descriptions actually was for [Deighton Moat](#) (A miscellaneous inquisition in which the "ditches around the manor" held "divers fishes reckoned at 20s.) and an another couple of hours looking at the [town defences at Knaresborough](#) added a couple of paragraphs of description (including an interesting note on the origin of the name of Gracious Street) and comment.

A number of other site descriptions have been update, extended or otherwise improved. A few links to online copies of texts added and some links to websites have been updated (or, more generally, broken links have been removed).

Oliver Creighton's PhD Thesis

During the online searching associated with the above I became aware Oliver Creighton doctoral thesis *Castles and Landscapes: An Archaeological Survey of Yorkshire and the East Midlands* from 1998 has become available

online ([University of Leicester](#)). I've added the relevant references to some 300+ records and added Creighton's comments to a few records where these added points of interest and value. Doing this, in its turn, lead to some improvements to records in the East Midlands most notably for Derbyshire, where links are now given for the *Derbyshire Archaeological Journal* (digitised and available from the [Archaeological Data Service](#)) and Leicestershire, where the HER records on [Heritage Gateway](#) have fairly recently been much improved.

I also found that [East Anglian Archaeology](#) have digitised a number of their reports such as Beric Morley and David Gurney's 1997 report of Castle Rising Castle ([EAA 81](#)).

East London

I'm most grateful to Charles Hollwey for letting me know of three sites he has become aware of through reading Gillian Tindall's *The Tunnel Through Time: A New Route for an Old London Journey* (2016: Anytime Books). I've

EAA 81



CASTLE RISING CASTLE,
NORFOLK

East Anglian Archaeology
Field Archaeology Division, Norfolk Museums Service 1997



Worcester House in 1840 a few years before it was demolished. Alternatively known as King John's Palace - a name shared with a few other old houses in the East End of London.

not read this myself but Chas gave me the details I needed to produce records for the, now lost, [Worcester House](#) and the much altered [Bromley Hall](#), two late medieval houses with some *fortified* architectural features. The final site is the intriguing lost [Whitechapel Mount](#), which once stood just to the west of the London Hospital. This appears most often to be described as a C17 Civil War fort but in Peter Ackroyd's *London The Biography* he describes it as a midden mound. I'm sure Ackroyd has done his research but I can't from his book identify a source for that idea but an archaeological investigation found "ashy fill deposits" and one can well imagine that a city as large as medieval London could indeed, over hundreds of years, produce a mound of wood and coal ash 40 feet high. What is clear is that it was never a motte as was suggested on an online local history forum (no authoritative source has ever made that suggestion).

Other improvements

Joe Schweningen kindly let me know that J. Meek's 2012 article on Roch Castle in *The Journal of the Pembrokeshire Historical Society* is available [online](#).

A number of fairly short videos on places in the Isle of Man by [Culture Vannin](#) are available via vimeo, notably [The Story of Castle Rushen: Europe's best-preserved Medieval Castle](#) presented by Charles Guard. This has high visual production standards and the history, while a little dated, is well presented. Links have been added to the relevant pages in Gatehouse.



New Sites Added

In addition to the three sites in East London mentioned above Oliver Creighton included four 'possible' (i.e. dubious) sites in his thesis not previously in Gatehouse.

- [Crofton 'castelgate'](#) - 12th or 13th century place-name reference which probable related to a modest manorial centre.
- [Dumpling Castle, Tickhill](#) - A place-name which I suspect originates in ironic humour rather than from a lost motte.

■ [Rastrick Round Hill](#) - A prominent but seeming natural hill with a remarkable resemblance to a motte.

■ [Thirsk Tenter Croft](#) - Also known as Millgate moated site. A scheduled homestead moat with a mound of upcast soil from digging the moat giving an appearance of a small motte and bailey.

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A montage of some of sites due to be visited by the Castle Studies Group this weekend. No prizes for identifying these.