

# Quaker Meeting Houses in Great Britain

## National Overview Report



March 2017

**Quaker Meeting Houses in the Great Britain**

**National Overview Report**

**Prepared for**

**The Religious Society of Friends and Historic England**

**By**

**The Architectural History Practice Limited**

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*Cover images clockwise from top left:  
Hertford (Herts.), Brant Broughton (Lincs.),  
Blackheath (Greater London) and Cartmel (Cumbria)  
(AHP)*

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A national survey of Quaker meeting houses in use or still in Quaker ownership was commissioned by The Religious Society of Friends and Historic England from The Architectural History Practice Ltd. (AHP) in 2014, and was undertaken in 2015 and 2016. A pilot survey of meeting houses in the East of England completed in 2014 tested the methodology for assessing the significance of meeting houses and attached burial grounds, and recording their current condition, management and use. Quaker volunteers were a key part of the project and have provided some key information for this survey, which was used in the final reports which AHP has compiled. The survey is part of the Historic England *Taking Stock* project (project reference: 6350), an initiative to assess the heritage significance of places of worship. This survey of meeting houses is intended to aid local and area meetings in their care and management of meeting house buildings, and to inform planning authorities and Historic England, Cadw and Historic Environment Scotland when considering proposals to change buildings and burial grounds, so that their heritage significance can be taken into account alongside other considerations.

The reports and outputs produced for this project fall into five categories:

- a report for each meeting house,
- summaries for each area meeting,
- regional summaries of the survey findings, historical development and architectural trends for each project region,
- this overview report which summarises the overall findings, and
- spreadsheets of the data for all meeting houses in the survey.

Regional summary reports were produced for the nine English regions (the Channel Islands were included in the report for the South East), and for Scotland and Wales. Due to the structure of area meetings, the project regions sometimes overlapped the boundaries of Historic England regions, resulting in slight discrepancies in scope. Where area meetings straddle the English-Welsh border the data on meeting houses in the relevant regional summaries and Welsh reports was presented to reflect the administrative boundary.

The regional reports indicate some contrasts in architectural style and character that generally reflect regional characteristics in vernacular building traditions. Only very minor variations in plan form were found across the regions, and on the whole the buildings are fairly consistent within each main historic phase, expressing national patterns in Quaker practice. Historic meeting houses display some distinctive characteristics in their plan form, simplicity of character and fittings that reflect Quaker faith and practice and distinguish them from other Nonconformist places of worship. In some areas such as Greater London early historic meeting houses are rare as buildings have been rebuilt or closed. In parts of the North West and South West larger numbers of early meeting houses survive, although many have also closed in these regions as membership has declined.

In total 345 meeting houses were visited across Great Britain: 324 in England, 12 in Wales, 7 in Scotland and 2 in the Channel Islands. Former meeting houses that are no longer in the ownership of Friends were not included in the survey, nor were detached burial grounds

although the existence of both was referred to when known. Separate reports were prepared for Friends House, London and for Swarthmoor Hall, Cumbria.

143 (41%) of the 345 meeting houses in Great Britain are listed (the distribution is summarised in the table in figure 18). Some ancillary structures such as frontage buildings and boundary walls are also separately listed. The review identified 23 meeting houses potentially suitable for listing, 5 ancillary structures which merit inclusion in existing listings or being listed in their own right, and 11 meeting houses whose listing grade might need to be amended. Minor amendments to list entries have been notified to Historic England, Cadw or Historic Environment Scotland.

154 (45%) meeting houses in Great Britain retain 'attached' burial grounds adjacent to the meeting house (see table in figure 22). Burial grounds are an important part of the historic settings of meeting houses, and also have heritage significance in their own right; many pre-date the existing meeting house and were created to serve an earlier meeting house on the site and are likely to have archaeological value. Some also have ecological significance and are managed to encourage wildlife. Detached burial grounds were not included in this project but, where known, their locations are referred to in the reports.

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

### **2.1. Aims and purpose of the national survey of meeting houses**

The background to this survey is similar to other *Taking Stock* surveys carried out for Roman Catholic dioceses which were also part-funded by Historic England (previously English Heritage). Some area meetings are experiencing declining membership, diminishing financial resources and the pressures of maintaining a large and ageing building stock, whilst being committed to continuing their Quaker mission and ministry. Some historic meeting houses may not be well suited to the changing needs of the local meeting and their community, and buildings located in isolated rural areas may have little scope for community use; however many of these are important historic buildings that are part of the Quaker heritage and also significant to the wider local community. The survey was commissioned to assist Friends when considering how to ensure that their buildings meet the Quaker ideals of simplicity, good environmental stewardship, community service, the needs of today's society, and unencumbered access for all those who use the meeting house. Initially, the survey was to cover England, Wales and the Channel Islands, but was extended to cover Scotland in 2016.

The overall aims of the national survey are to:

- Establish an accessible, up-to-date and comprehensive assessment of the heritage values of all Quaker meeting houses in use or still in Quaker ownership and associated burial grounds, for all those involved in their care and management, including advisers, through the planning and listed building consent processes.
- Create a management tool for the Religious Society of Friends.
- Develop and document a holistic approach to assessing significance, threats and opportunities facing meeting houses and their associated burial grounds.
- Build capacity, by developing the skilled volunteer potential of the Religious Society of Friends, in researching and understanding their Quaker buildings.

### **2.2. Structure of the national overview report**

This report summarises the findings of the nine regional summaries for England, and similar reports for Scotland and Wales. It aims to provide Friends, local planning authorities and Historic England, Cadw and Historic Environment Scotland with a useful source of contextual information to enhance understanding about meeting houses. It consists of:

- Introduction
- A brief architectural and historical overview
- Tables detailing the findings of the projects, including:
  - the four heritage categories
  - meeting houses already protected by listing
  - potential candidates for listing
  - listed buildings which might need to be regraded
  - the condition of the buildings
  - the condition of attached burial grounds

- A note on issues affecting the vulnerability of meeting houses
- Meeting houses requiring special consideration or support
- A note on community use and examples of good practice

An appendix lists the architects and architectural firms who have designed meeting houses.

### **2.3. Methodology**

The first phase of the national survey was the East of England pilot in 2014 which tested the approach in a survey of 33 meeting houses. The pilot and an evaluation process enabled the scope of the volunteer survey and the structure and content of the AHP reports to be refined. Subsequent project region surveys were informed by the pilot.

The first stage in each regional survey was a training and information day for volunteers and area meeting coordinators. The purpose of the survey and the process of completing the survey form for volunteers were explained at the event, to clarify the information which volunteers from local meetings were expected to collect. Most of the forms were completed by volunteers in advance of AHP's site visits.

Meeting houses and attached burial grounds were visited by AHP staff with assistance from area meeting coordinators and local meeting volunteers. AHP consulted all Historic Environment Records (HERs) and undertook selective additional research. A report was produced for each meeting house by AHP and the findings for each area meeting were highlighted in area meeting summaries. The local meeting and area meeting reports were circulated by AHP to local and area meetings for their comments. The authors are pleased to report that they received positive input from volunteers and area meeting coordinators, and that the quality of information provided was generally high. Factual data and the survey results were collated onto Excel spreadsheets for the use of Friends.

The individual reports for England and Scotland were uploaded to the Oasis data collection website and thus disseminated to Historic Environment Records (HERs) and the Grey Literature Library of the Archaeology Data Service. The reports for Scotland were also sent to Historic Environment Scotland. The reports for Wales were sent to the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments for Wales and Cadw. The reports for the Channel Islands were sent to the relevant conservation officers.

A summary report was prepared for each project region. Due to the structure of the area meetings, several project regions included some meeting houses in different Historic England regions or in adjoining counties. For precise information on this, please refer to the spreadsheets for each region.

Additional reports were prepared for two other important Quaker properties, Friends House in London and Swarthmoor Hall in Cumbria.

## 2.4. Authors of the overview report

The survey of meeting houses in Great Britain was undertaken by the Architectural History Practice Ltd. (AHP) between 2014 and the end of 2016. This overview report was written by Johanna Roethe and Marion Barter.

**Marion Barter** (a Director of AHP) read Archaeology and Geography at Nottingham University and spent her early career as an archaeologist. She holds an MA in Conservation Studies from York University. As part of the national Listed Buildings Resurvey in the 1980s, she assessed buildings for listing in Wiltshire. She now has over thirty years of experience in building conservation, including eleven years as a local authority conservation officer in Yorkshire. She worked with English Heritage as a Historic Buildings Inspector for the North West from 1999 to 2005. She has served on Diocesan Advisory Committees in Sheffield and Manchester and on the Carlisle Cathedral Fabric Advisory Committee. She is a full member of the Institute of Historic Buildings Conservation. She joined AHP in 2005 and manages the consultancy's work in the North of England, producing conservation plans, significance appraisals and guidance on conservation areas. Marion managed the Quaker Meeting Houses Heritage Project for AHP, and assessed and compiled reports on meeting houses in the North of England, part of the Midlands, north and mid Wales and Scotland.

**Johanna Roethe** is a Senior Associate at AHP. She read History of Art and Architecture at the Georg-August-Universität, Göttingen, and at Trinity College, Dublin, and subsequently completed a Master's degree in the Conservation of Historic Buildings at the University of Bath. She has worked for the Church of England's Cathedral and Church Buildings Division, English Heritage and the RIBA Drawings Collection, gaining experience with a range of building types, as well as in different aspects of building conservation and historical research. Her recent publications include articles on 'William Ranger and his artificial stone at Ickworth' in the *Georgian Group Journal* (2013), and an article on the twentieth-century campaign to save Temple Manor, Strood, Kent, in *Archaeologia Cantiana* (2015). She is a member of the Institute of Historic Building Conservation. Johanna assessed and compiled reports on meeting houses in the South East, South West, East of England, part of the Midlands, south Wales and the Channel Islands.

## 2.5. Acknowledgements

The authors would particularly like to thank all members of the Steering Group for their continuous support throughout the project: Esther Boyd, Diana Evans, Colin Gerard, Lisa Kiew, Linda Monckton, Vincent Poupard, Colin South, and particularly Ingrid Greenhow, clerk to the project. We would also like to thank all the area meeting coordinators and local meeting volunteers who generously gave their time and enthusiasm to make the project a success. Hubert Lidbetter's grandson, Mark Sessions, kindly allowed us to use plans and photographs by his grandfather. David Butler's valuable publications were referred to for most meeting houses, and we are grateful for his permission to use plans from his published books.



## 2.6. Limitations

The project design for the Quaker Meeting Houses Heritage Project was developed by AHP and agreed jointly with the Friends and Historic England in 2014. However, the opinions within the project's reports, both with regard to the potential for listing, the condition of meeting houses, the way they are used and managed, and the scope for change are those of the authors alone. Volunteers from local meetings provided valuable information for most of the reports, particularly about the history of the meeting houses and how they are used and managed today. AHP has undertaken limited additional research using primary sources, but the reports rely heavily on material supplied by volunteers and it has not been possible to check all of this. Although volunteers provided corrections or comments on draft reports, AHP bears responsibility for the content and conclusions. The findings are not intended in any way to fetter the discretion of other bodies, including Historic England, the Religious Society of Friends, local planning authorities, Cadw or Historic Environment Scotland, to advise or act as they see fit in the light of national or local policies, guidance and priorities.

## 2.7. Copyright

Copyright for all documentation, however produced, stored or archived in connection with this project and not already in the public domain is vested with the Religious Society of Friends.

## 2.8. Select bibliography

There are numerous pamphlets and smaller publications relating to individual meeting houses, many of which are held by local meetings, and are referred to in the individual reports. The archives in Friends House have been consulted on a few specific meeting houses, and archives held by local meetings have also been a valuable source. In some cases, the archives of area or local meetings have been deposited in county record offices. For Yorkshire there is a useful online Quaker research resource managed by the University of Hull. The major published work on meeting houses by David Butler draws on the archive in Friends House and on local material, and Butler's work has been a valuable starting point for this project. Key publications which have been consulted are:

William Alexander, *Observations on the Construction and Fitting up of Meeting-houses &c. for public worship [...]*, 1820

Oliver Bradbury, 'Paul Victor Edison Mauger FRIBA (1896-1982), A Quaker Architect at Welwyn Garden City', *Herts Past and Present*, series 3, issue 13, 2009

David Butler, *Quaker Meeting Houses of the Lake Counties*, 1978

David Butler, *The Quaker Meeting Houses of Britain* (2 volumes), 1999

Eleanor Gawne, 'Buildings of Endearing Simplicity, The Friends Meeting Houses of Hubert Lidbetter', *Twentieth Century Architecture (The Journal of the Twentieth Century Society)*, volume 3: *The Twentieth Century Church*, 1998

Hubert Lidbetter, *The Friends Meeting House*, 1961 (second edition, 1979)

Peter Robson, *Fred Rowntree, Architect*, 2014

Kenneth H. Southall, *Our Quaker Heritage, Early Meeting Houses*, 1974 (second impression 1984)

Christopher Stell, *Inventory of Nonconformist chapels and meeting houses in Central England*, 1986

Christopher Stell, *Inventory of Nonconformist chapels and meeting houses in Eastern England*, 2002

Christopher Stell, *Inventory of Nonconformist chapels and meeting houses in the North of England*, 1994

Christopher Stell, *Inventory of Nonconformist chapels and meeting houses in South West England*, 1991

County volumes in the *Buildings of England, Buildings of Scotland* and *Buildings of Wales* series

Historic England guidance on listing:

[www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/](http://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/)

<http://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/dlsg-places-worship/>

### **3. ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL OVERVIEW**

Like the whole project, this brief architectural and historical account focuses on meeting houses and buildings still owned by Quakers. For more detail and regional characteristics the eleven regional summary reports should be referred to.

#### **3.1. Meeting house plan-forms and fittings**

As David Butler observes, ‘the primary consideration [for a Quaker meeting house] was and is that neither the building, the land on which it stands, nor the burial ground is in any sense consecrated or dedicated ... Friends had inherited the belief that a barn was just as valid as a church or chapel as a place for Christian worship’.<sup>1</sup> From the beginnings of Quakerism, meeting houses were functional and designed to express the Quaker value of simplicity. George Fox and other early Quakers were critical of traditional churches or ‘steeple houses’ built by the Established Church, considering them an unnecessary obstacle to a spiritual relationship with God.

Although simplicity was a characteristic of most early dissenting chapels, the layout and internal form of Quaker meeting houses differed markedly from these. Quakers rejected a set form of service with music and did not need either a symbolic focal point such as an altar for Holy Communion, or a prominent pulpit for preaching. This resulted in meeting houses with simple internal spaces without the large fixed pieces of furniture which were common in other places of worship. The only expression of hierarchy in early meeting houses was in the provision of a raised platform or stand for the recorded ministers and elders at one end of the room; this became the focal point of the meeting room, with seating for the rest of the meeting facing the stand.

David Butler provides a typology of internal layouts and plan forms to illustrate variations in internal arrangements (Butler, pp. 890-1). Broadly speaking, all meeting houses were provided with a large, full-height meeting room for worship, and many also had a smaller meeting room for women’s business meetings (figures 1, 2). Often the latter was on the ground floor below a gallery or loft that could be used to provide extra seating. But some of the earliest meeting houses were small, single-cell structures, like Skipton (figure 1).

Meeting houses very rarely contain stained glass, coloured decoration or moulded ornament. Walls and ceilings were usually plainly plastered and originally lime-washed and floors were laid with stone or plain wooden boards. Joinery for wall panelling and screens was often oak in early meeting houses, but with pine used from the later eighteenth century.

Those attending meetings sat on fixed or moveable benches, which were normally arranged in rows on a level floor. The use of seating on the minister’s and elders’ stand was carefully controlled until 1924, when ministers were no longer recorded and stands were mainly used by the elders.

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<sup>1</sup> Butler, 1999, p. 888.

Another distinctive characteristic of early meeting houses was the use of a screen between two meeting room spaces that could be opened – at least partly – to combine the spaces for communal worship. The lower part of the screen was normally fixed but above this panelled shutters could be raised, to enable people in each space to see and hear each other. The simplest early shutters were hung on hinges and when raised were secured to the ceiling on wrought iron hooks (figure 3). By the eighteenth century, screens were sometimes installed with panels that could be raised vertically like sash windows, but some meeting houses retained both types on the same screen. In the most technologically advanced examples, a winch system was used to raise shutters or sliding screens, rather like the mechanism used in theatres for lifting scenery (figure 3).

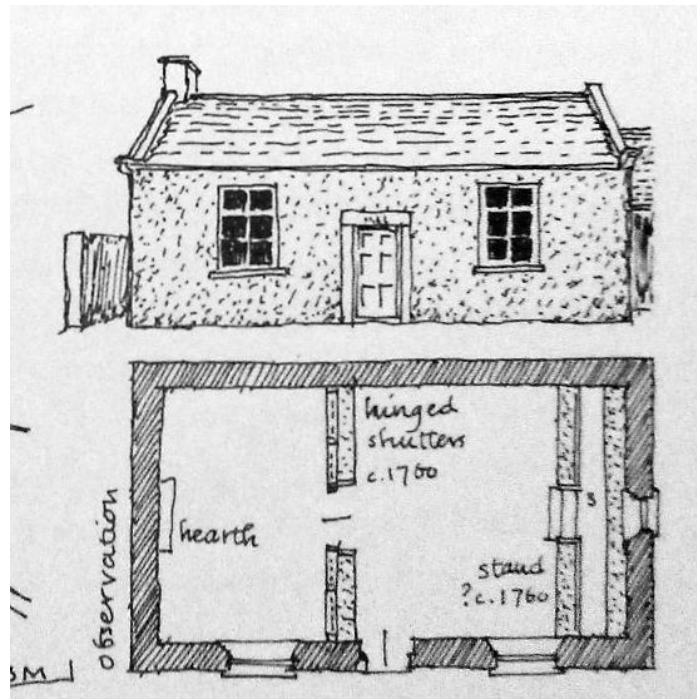


Figure 1: Example of a small meeting house: Skipton Meeting House, West Yorkshire, 1693. Ground floor plan (not to scale) (Butler, vol. 2, p. 837)

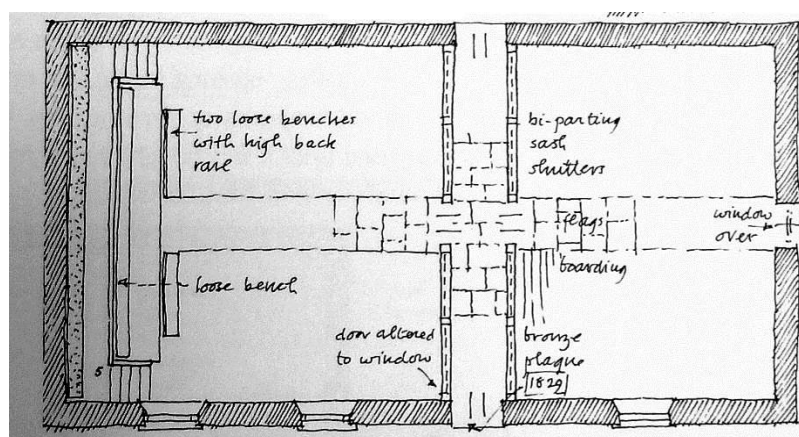


Figure 2: Example of a larger meeting house: St Austell Meeting House, Cornwall, 1829. Ground floor plan (not to scale) (Butler, vol. 1, p. 71)



Figure 3: The hinged shutters at Colthouse, Cumbria, 1688-9 (left), and the counter-balanced screen at Dorking, Surrey, 1846 (right)

The stand fell out of use in the twentieth century, as by then Quakers preferred to be seated together on the same level. However, historic stands survive in many older meeting houses (figure 4). Along with the moveable shutters and sliding screens, the stand and its fittings were designed and constructed by skilled local craftsmen and the resulting joinery often includes distinctive examples of historic carpentry. The stand usually incorporates fitted benches along the back wall, with straight backs that are often integrated into dado panelling which is ramped up to the back wall and alongside the steps. There are usually two tiers of fixed benches with a free-standing rail to the front where ministers stood to speak. Some stands have a small hinged table or flap fitted to the back of a bench, as a writing desk for the clerk, and there are also examples of small wall cupboards used to hold books or perhaps candlesticks or a lamp. The rail at the front of the stand, along with the balustrade to the front of the gallery, is sometimes the only example of enriched joinery; most have turned balusters and a moulded handrail. The style of the balustrades and wall panelling can be a useful clue to dating, as the joinery follows regional and national trends in detail and form; this often shows that internal joinery is of more than one phase or that old joinery was retained or re-used when a meeting house was rebuilt.



Figure 4: Examples of stands: Marazion, Cornwall, 1688/89 (left), and Gildersome, West Yorks., 1756

In 1896, Britain Yearly Meeting decided to unite the men's and women's business meetings, and separate rooms were no longer needed. Shared meetings became the norm and the separate room became available for other uses, such as a school room. Twentieth-century meeting houses were generally built with one large meeting room, but larger meetings were also provided with ancillary rooms used for education, mission or social purposes.

There is evidence that most early meeting houses were not heated, although Friends met all year round. The exception to this seems to be in north Cumbria where a few meeting houses were built with an open fireplace in the centre of the elders' stand (Pardshaw, for example). By the eighteenth century, heating was commonly provided in the lobby or small meeting room by means of an open fireplace. By the mid-nineteenth century, the main meeting room was sometimes equipped with heating. Solid fuel stoves, often with a metal flue pipe rising through the roof, were the most common kind of retrospectively-fitted Victorian heating arrangement and traces of these (most often a brick or stone floor slab in the centre of the meeting room) can frequently be found. The stoves and later gas heating and lighting required improved ventilation to deal with fumes and provide fresh air. Wall vents such as Tobin tubes and ceiling grilles connected to ridge vents were sometimes provided in nineteenth-century meeting houses.

Meetings generally took place during the day and there was no need for lighting in early meeting houses. Later on, some had gas lighting installed and original gas light fittings survive in some cases. Even minor fittings can be a significant part of the character of meeting houses. Timber rails with turned wooden hat pegs are a distinctive fitting in some early ones, in porches and meeting rooms.

### **3.2. Early Quaker meeting houses**

Some of the first gathering places of early Quakers were in the open air, not in buildings. Most famously, in the 1650s George Fox spoke to followers on hillsides such as Pardshaw Crag and Firbank Fell in the North West of England or Bristol's old Friary orchard in the South West. Many of the first regular Quaker meetings were held in private houses, barns and other secular premises, and also at burial grounds.

Intolerance and persecution were constant threats to early Quaker meetings. Charles II's Declaration of Indulgence (1672) briefly suspended the penal laws against Nonconformists but they were quickly re-instated. The Act of Toleration, which received royal assent in 1689, permitted the legal establishment of meeting houses, whether in adapted domestic premises, where the property was loaned or given by a sympathetic owner, or in purpose-built premises. The latter were a clear expression of the Quakers' confidence and determination to openly practice their faith.

Despite harsh persecution, a number of meeting houses were purpose-built or established in converted premises. Surviving meeting houses built before the Toleration Act include Hertford (Herts.) of 1670 (the oldest still in use, figure 5), Almeley Wootton (Heref., 1672), Alton (Hants., 1672), Faringdon (Oxon, 1672–3), Ifield (West Sussex, 1675), Brigflatts (Cumbria, 1675), Lancaster (1677), Ettington (Warks., 1684), Jordans (Bucks, 1688) and

Marazion (Cornwall, 1688/89). These early meeting houses were built by local craftsmen using local skills and materials and were on a domestic scale. They frequently resemble vernacular houses built following regional traditions and using local materials. Windows tended to be of horizontal proportions, with casements. Contrasts between early meeting houses in different regions generally reflect local vernacular traditions and building materials, particularly for meeting houses built up to the late eighteenth century.



Figure 5: Hertford Meeting House of 1670, the oldest surviving meeting house still in use

A number of older buildings were converted to Quaker use in the seventeenth century. Surviving examples include Broad Campden (Glos., possibly a Tudor cottage, converted in 1663, figure 6), Cirencester (Glos., built or converted in 1673), St Helen's (Merseyside, a Tudor house, converted in 1679), Swarthmoor (Cumbria, a barn and a cottage, given by George Fox in 1688) and the Blue Idol (West Sussex, a farmhouse, converted in the 1690s).



Figure 6: An early conversion of an older building: Broad Campden, Glos., converted to Quaker use in 1663

All of these early meeting houses are in England. In Scotland, there is just one known seventeenth-century meeting house (built in 1681, at Kinmuck) but this is no longer in Quaker ownership. No pre-1700 Quaker buildings are known in Wales, where the oldest surviving purpose-built meeting house in use is at Dolobran, built in 1700. There are only two purpose-built meeting houses in Scotland still owned by Quakers: Dundee (1891) and Aberdeen (1902). The two Channel Islands buildings date from 1811 (Guernsey) and 1872 (Jersey).

### 3.3. Georgian meeting houses

Throughout the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries many new meeting houses were purpose-built or earlier buildings remodelled or entirely rebuilt; of the 324 meeting houses still owned by Friends in England, around 60 were built or altered in the eighteenth century. While most seventeenth-century and early eighteenth-century buildings were part of the vernacular tradition, ‘polite’ designs began to emerge during the eighteenth century echoing trends in domestic architecture.

Meeting houses in large urban centres tended to be architecturally more ambitious. Notable examples include the former Quakers’ Friars Meeting House in Bristol (1747-9), Upper Goat Lane in Norwich (1820s) and Mount Street Meeting House in Manchester (1831), the latter designed in Greek Revival style. But most Georgian buildings were smaller and less elaborate, typically simple rectangular structures often with hipped roofs and vertically-proportioned sash or casement windows (figure 7). Depending on locally available materials they might be built of brick or stone. There are examples of earlier buildings being improved in this period, with sash windows being installed in place of casements, as at Swarthmoor and Colthouse (both in Cumbria).



Figure 7: Examples of Georgian meeting houses: Charlbury, Oxon., 1779 (left), and Neath, Wales, 1799-1800

Georgian meeting house interiors share some characteristics; they were generally lofty and well-lit by clear-glazed sash windows, and were fitted with panelling to the dado, stand, screens and gallery. The joinery followed national and regional trends in domestic interiors



and was usually made of pine or deal and usually left unpainted for simplicity, although oak joinery is found in early eighteenth-century meeting houses.



Figure 8: Georgian interiors: Wallingford, Oxon., 1724 (left), and Warrington, Merseyside, 1830

A noticeably higher proportion of the Georgian meeting houses were built or rebuilt around the 1820s and 1830s, coinciding with a national building boom after the end of the Napoleonic Wars. After 1800, it also became more common for meeting houses to be designed by an architect or surveyor and there was increasing evidence of the influence of polite architecture on meeting house design. Early architects who built several meeting houses are John Bevans (fl. 1789-1808) who designed at least four (in London, Derby and Guildford, Surrey); and Samuel Whitfield Daukes (1811-80) who designed at least three (Gloucester, Hitchin and Staines), as well as winning the competition for the Friends' School at Sidcot, Somerset (1836-8).

### 3.4. Victorian and Edwardian meeting houses

During the Victorian period, meeting houses were built in a wider variety of architectural styles than previously. Architects played an increasingly important role in their design and construction and fewer meeting houses were built according to local vernacular traditions. This increase in stylistic eclecticism reflects both a wider national move away from the vernacular in the wake of industrialisation, and the raising of the architect's professional status.

Victorian and Edwardian meeting houses were designed in a range of styles, from neoclassical to Tudor, 'Jacobethan' and Gothic. In general, Quakers seem to have avoided the revived Gothic style, probably due to its association with the Established Church, but there are a few Gothic Revival meeting houses, including Scholes in West Yorkshire (1883, William Henry Thorp) and Exeter, Devon (1876, Edward Appleton).

Planforms varied according to the size of the plot and local requirements. Designers of the larger Victorian and Edwardian meeting houses tended to place the meeting room(s) at the rear, behind a front range which contained ancillary functions. Several Victorian interiors have survived with original fittings; they generally continue established traditions, with panelled dados, raised stands, moveable benches and panelled moveable screens.

In the West Midlands, the Cadbury family of chocolate-makers were influential in the adult school movement in the area; they funded the building of many meeting houses and adult schools, including the meeting house at their model village of Bournville (figure 9). The adult school movement was active across the country and prompted new buildings or classroom extensions, as at Settle (North Yorks.) where first an extension to the meeting house and later a separate Adult School building were constructed, both in the nineteenth century. New meeting houses were increasingly built with integral classrooms.



Figure 9: Victorian and Edwardian meeting houses: Street, Som., 1850, by J. Francis Cotterell, left, and Bournville, Warks., 1905, by W.A. Harvey

Not surprisingly, Quakers had considerable affinity with the Arts and Crafts Movement and its emphasis on revived vernacular architecture as well as on good, plain, honest craftsmanship. They also shared many ideals with the Garden City Movement. Several meeting houses, particularly in outer London and the Home Counties, display some Arts and Crafts character, including those at Hampstead (1907, by Fred Rowntree) and Purley (1909, by George Pepler & Ernest Allen, both significant figures in the Garden City movement and the development of modern town planning).

An interesting group of buildings are the meeting houses built at several seaside resorts and spa towns in the nineteenth century. Initially, summer meetings for worship were held in hired private rooms or lodgings but purpose-built meeting houses became viable as numbers increased. The Pease family of Darlington were benefactors of a number of meeting houses at seaside towns, for example at St Helier (Jersey), Saltburn by the Sea (North Yorks., closed), and Seaton Carew (County Durham, closed). In Colwyn Bay, North Wales, the 1899 meeting house was paid for by the Barlow family.

### **3.5. The twentieth century (after 1918) and the twenty-first century**

Several changes in the way meeting houses were used in the twentieth century influenced their design and layout. Separate meeting rooms for men's and women's business were no longer needed after 1896 and from the 1920s stands were not provided in new buildings, as ministers were not recorded after 1924.

By the interwar years, there was a shift towards a more relaxed approach to internal planning, alongside the provision of more rooms for different uses. Relatively few meeting houses were built and surviving examples are generally modest and mostly in a vernacular style, with Arts and Crafts references.

The plans of post-war meeting houses were influenced by the need for a wide range of ancillary rooms in addition to a single meeting room. Even small meeting houses tended to include classrooms and additional meeting rooms as well as a kitchen, WCs and often a library.

The most prolific architect of meeting houses was Hubert Lidbetter, whose career spanned the 1920s to the 1960s. He designed four large urban meeting houses; the inter-war examples are in a classical tradition: Friends House, London (1924-27) and Bull Street, Birmingham (1931-33). Liverpool (1941, demolished) and Sheffield (1964, sold and adapted for alternative use) were in a simple mid-century style influenced by modernism. But more typical were his numerous smaller meeting houses of a domestic neo-Georgian character, such as Brentwood, Essex (figure 10).

Strikingly modern meeting houses include those at Heswall (Merseyside, 1963, by Beech and Thomas, figure 10) and the brutalist building at Blackheath (Greater London, 1972, by Trevor Dannatt). Modernist post-war meeting houses by nationally important architects are relatively rare.



Figure 10: Post-war buildings: Brentwood, Essex, 1957, by Hubert Lidbetter, left, and Heswall, Merseyside, 1963, by Beech and Thomas

New meeting houses continue to be built in the twenty-first century, albeit at a slower rate. They include those at Plymouth (2003), Liverpool (2006, figure 11), Kingston in Greater London (2014) and Stockport (2015). New buildings are generally of high design and sustainability standards; minimising environmental impact is now an important Quaker principle. Kingston Quaker Centre (figure 11) was a joint winner of the ACE/RIBA award for religious architecture in 2015.

While the re-use and conversion of existing buildings goes back to the early days of Quakerism, this practice has been increasingly popular in the second half of the twentieth century and the early twenty-first century. New or re-established local meetings in particular

favour this solution. Apart from domestic buildings, such conversions utilise a wide range of building types, including former public houses, Brethren halls, church schoolrooms, agricultural and industrial buildings, and even a boat store.



Figure 11: Recent buildings: Kingston, Greater London, 2014 by John Langley of Tectus Architecture, left, and Liverpool, 2006, by Page and Park

### 3.6. Architects of Quaker meeting houses

There have been relatively few studies of the architecture of purpose-built Quaker meeting houses and none looking specifically at their architects. David Butler's two-volume *The Quaker Meeting Houses of Britain* (1999) includes an appendix listing architects and their works. There have also been a few studies of twentieth-century architects of Quaker buildings, notably Peter Robson's book on Fred Rowntree, Oliver Bradbury's article on Paul V.E. Mauger, and Eleanor Gawne's article on Hubert Lidbetter.<sup>2</sup>

As the list of architects compiled as part of this project (see appendix) demonstrates, out of over 170 architects only 20 designed two or more meeting houses. Only four architects designed five or more meeting houses and all of them were Quakers: John Bevans (five meeting houses, including one unconfirmed attribution), Hubert Lidbetter (seven under his name and ten under his practice's name which were built before his death), P.V.E. Mauger (six), and Fred Rowntree (five).

The reason for such diverse patronage is that the architect for a new Quaker meeting house is generally chosen by the local meeting, who frequently appointed a local architect who was not a Quaker. As David Butler has pointed out, 'Friends very often preferred to employ a local architect in general practice rather than look further for a Quaker'.<sup>3</sup> This may be partly because there were relatively few architects who were also Quakers. The most notable

<sup>2</sup> Peter Robson, *Fred Rowntree, Architect* (Newby Books, 2014); Oliver Bradbury, 'Paul Victor Edison Mauger FRIBA (1896-1982), A Quaker Architect at Welwyn Garden City', *Herts Past and Present*, series 3, issue 13, 2009; Eleanor Gawne, 'Buildings of endearing simplicity: The Friends Meeting Houses of Hubert Lidbetter', *The Twentieth Century Church (Twentieth Century Architecture 3. The Journal of the Twentieth Century Society*, 1998, 85-92.

<sup>3</sup> Butler, p. 908.

architects of national repute who were Quakers – Thomas Rickman, Alfred Waterhouse and Charles Holden – built hardly any meeting houses. Rickman made alterations to the Liverpool Meeting House; Waterhouse built one meeting house at Cartmel (Cumbria) and altered that at Manchester; Holden built none. Friends' schools appear to have employed Quaker architects more consistently than local meetings, although more detailed research is needed on the patronage of the schools.

The only official architect in the British Quaker administration was the surveyor to Six Weeks Meeting (since 2017 London Quakers Property Trust), a body which still manages the Quaker property in the Greater London area, including the meeting houses. No detailed list exists of the postholders but the post appears to have originated in the 1840s with William Beck as the first known surveyor. The surveyor was responsible for a range of property-related issues, including sales of land and buildings, dealing with tenants, maintenance, repairs, and disputes, for example with Victorian railway companies.<sup>4</sup>

Most of the known Six Weeks Meeting surveyors rarely designed new meeting houses in their official capacity – with the exception of Hubert Lidbetter (1885-1966) and his son Martin (1914-92). Hubert Lidbetter, whose career was launched when winning the competition for Friends House in London in 1923, became Six Weeks Meeting Surveyor in 1935. During the interwar period he designed only a few meeting houses – including those in Birmingham and Liverpool – as well as several schemes of extensions and alterations. But his practice expanded after the war, when he and his son Martin, who joined him in practice in 1950, were responsible for ten new meeting houses and fifteen schemes ranging from alterations to restorations, extensions and conversions of existing buildings. Not all of these were in London but most are located in London and the Home Counties, with only a handful further north.

No subsequent Six Weeks Meeting Surveyor has had a comparable number of Quaker commissions. For example, John Marsh, the Surveyor in the 1980s and early 1990s, was responsible for work at six meeting houses (including one outside of London), all of which was either refurbishment, extension or other alterations.

As Quakers are a relatively small religious group, it was generally not profitable for an architect to specialise in meeting houses and other Quaker buildings until the middle of the twentieth century. Hubert Lidbetter was the first architect who was able to make a career building meeting houses, and restoring and rebuilding numerous war-damaged ones. His son continued the practice into the 1970s and succeeded to his father's posts as the surveyor to Six Weeks Meeting (from 1958) and consultant architect to Friends House (from 1966). However, even the Lidbetters could not afford to focus exclusively on meeting houses; their output included also work for most Friends' schools in England, several Methodist and Congregational churches, the East London Tabernacle Baptist Church (1955) and the Salvation Army's International Headquarters in London (1961-63).

John Bevans (fl. 1789-1808) is the earliest known architect who worked extensively for Quaker clients. He designed at least four meeting houses across the country: Devonshire

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<sup>4</sup> The minutes of Six Weeks Meeting (now London Quakers Property Trust) are in the archive at Friends House, London.

House, London (from 1789), Westminster (1799), Guildford (Surrey, 1804-6) and Derby (1808). The meeting house at Winchmore Hill, London (1790), has also been attributed to him. He is also known for designing the Friends' School at Islington (1780s) and the Retreat at York (1794-6), an institution 'for insane persons of the Society of Friends'.<sup>5</sup>

Fred Rowntree (1860-1927) used personal Quaker networks to gain architectural work. He was distantly related to the chocolate-making Rowntrees of York and designed several buildings for the Rowntree Cocoa Works. He also designed houses for several family members and a Quaker adult school in Scarborough which had been founded by his cousins. He designed five meeting houses: Dundee (Scotland, 1891-3), Scarborough (North Yorks., 1894), Hampstead (Greater London, 1907), Golders Green (London, 1913), and Muswell Hill (Greater London, 1926), as well as an extension at Cambridge (1927). He worked on most Friends' schools in England, and designed other Quaker buildings such as the Barclay Hall and the Mission Hall in Walthamstow (both in London). He was also closely involved at Jordans (Bucks.), where he was among a group of Friends involved with the restoration of the meeting house, and the acquisition and refurbishment of the adjacent farmhouse. He also prepared designs for the projected self-sufficient Quaker village at Jordans (built 1919-23). Together with Addison Hutton, an American Quaker architect, he designed the Lebanon Hospital for the Insane (opened in 1900), which had been founded in 1898 by Theophilus Waldmeier, a Swiss Quaker.

Like Hubert Lidbetter, Paul Victor Edison Mauger (1896-1982) came to prominence in the immediate post-war years and supplemented his architectural work for Quakers by designing Nonconformist churches; he and his practice designed at least nine Methodist churches. They designed six meeting houses, as well as extensions and alterations for seven more. He was also employed by at least one of the Friends' schools, designing laboratories for the school in Saffron Walden in the 1950s.

### **3.7. Loose furnishings**

Historic meeting houses were equipped with a limited selection of loose furnishings, alongside fitted furnishings such as the ministers' stand and fitted benches. Fixtures such as wall panelling, moveable screens and fitted benches are protected through listing where the meeting house is a listed building, but loose furnishings are not covered by this statutory protection. The reports on individual meeting houses provide information on loose furnishings and highlight where they are part of the heritage interest of the meeting house, to draw attention to their significance (although they are not covered by listing legislation). Over time, some originally fixed furnishings have been altered so as to be moveable, to increase flexibility.

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<sup>5</sup> Samuel Tuke, *A Description of the Retreat* [...], 1813, [www.theretreatyork.org.uk/timeline.html](http://www.theretreatyork.org.uk/timeline.html)



Figure 12: Maldon Meeting House, Essex, 1820-1, with a full set of moveable benches as well as fixed wall-benches and the stand

The earliest loose benches (or ‘forms’) were very simple, and initially may not have had backs or any concession to comfort. Later, back rails were added to some of them (figure 13). By the early nineteenth century, some common patterns of loose bench design were in use; these generally have an open back with horizontal rails, plain legs and simply shaped arm rests (figures 12, 13). Early arm rests are often solid, but more refined examples are open with turned vertical supports to the end of the arm. Late nineteenth and early twentieth-century bench ends are frequently of the inverted Y-type.



Figure 13: Converted forms at Come-to-Good, Cornwall, left, and typical early nineteenth-century benches at Pardshaw, Cumbria

Small oak tables with turned legs are sometimes seen in meeting houses, which are now placed at the centre of a circle of chairs. The origins of these tables are hard to assess; many may have been made for domestic use. Other potentially early furnishings might include

coffin stools or tables. Loose furnishings may include pieces of furniture that were given to the meeting, but not made specifically for use in meeting houses.

Some Quaker meeting houses, particularly in the Midlands (e.g. Malvern, 1938) contain oak furnishings made by the Brynmawr furniture factory in South Wales in the 1930s. The factory was established in 1929 under an initiative led by Quaker Peter Scott to provide skilled employment during the Depression. The furniture was designed by Arthur Reynolds and Paul Matt.

### **3.8. Burial grounds**

The project assessed the contribution that attached burial grounds make to the heritage significance of the meeting house, and considered how well they are maintained. Detached burial grounds were outside the scope of the survey but are widespread, and the many early examples merit a separate assessment. The reports provide grid references for the locations of detached burial grounds, where known and provided by Friends.

154 meeting houses in Great Britain have attached burial grounds, i.e. 45% of the total number of meeting houses, and a much higher proportion than was anticipated at the start of this survey. In some cases, the burial ground is the earliest element of the site, as the meeting house was sometimes built later (as at Colthouse in Cumbria where meetings initially took place in the burial ground) or was rebuilt on the same site over time. David Butler notes that nationally ‘nearly half of all burial grounds were acquired before 1700’.<sup>6</sup> Sites in this category are likely to have archaeological potential.

From the mid-seventeenth century, Quakers were either denied the right to bury their dead in the parish graveyard, or chose not to. Early burials took place in gardens and orchards, but soon Friends began to acquire their own burial grounds as an expression of their testimony of ‘one place being no more holy than another’.<sup>7</sup> Common standards for Quaker burial grounds were agreed relatively early: George Fox provided written advice in 1668, including ‘to buy decent burying-places’ and to ‘let them be decently and well fenced’. Most burial grounds were usually enclosed in some way, often with brick or stone walls and sometimes with a secure gated entrance. Some walls incorporate fixed benches as at Airton in North Yorkshire.

Early burials were not normally marked but the custom appears to have grown until Yearly Meeting decided in 1717 that all gravestones should be removed. Compliance was slow and patchy and earlier gravestones have survived at several meeting houses. Without grave markers, plans were important to record the position of the earliest burials; Quakers maintain good records, and some meetings retain plans showing the position of the individual burials. From 1850, Yearly Meeting approved the use of plain headstones, of a uniform size and design. The inscriptions on the headstones follow some conventions distinctive to the Friends, such as the use of numerals for the month (e.g. ‘11<sup>th</sup> month’), the common names for the months and days being rejected on account of their pre-Christian

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<sup>6</sup> Butler, p. 904.

<sup>7</sup> Butler, p. 903.



origins. The simple semi-circular or segmental-headed stones are a distinctive feature of Quaker burial grounds. There are a few regional variations in shape, material and style, and some have a simple moulded detail to the arched head.



Figure 14: Examples of attached burial grounds (clockwise from top left): Pales (Wales), Hemel Hempstead (Herts.), Darlington (County Durham), Alton (Hants.)

In some burial grounds, the stones have been laid flat (if they were previously standing upright) or moved to the boundary walls to ease maintenance. Where burial grounds are closed for burials they may still be in use for the burying of ashes from cremations, with simple stone markers used to record names and dates. From the mid-nineteenth century, some urban Quaker burial grounds were closed for public health reasons; as these still required maintenance, some were given to local authorities as public open spaces or gardens. Not all closed burial grounds have survived, however; some have been turned into car parks, landscaped or built over, usually after re-interment of the burials elsewhere. In such cases, surviving headstones may have been moved to other meeting house sites or burial grounds. Chest tombs are very rare in Quaker burial grounds; the only known examples are at the former meeting house at Farfield, North Yorkshire, which is now in the care of the Historic Chapels Trust.

Burial grounds form a significant part of the setting of meeting houses, contributing to the significance of listed buildings, for evidential, communal, aesthetic and historic values, and also contributing to the quality of the local environment whether in towns, or as part of the rural scene in villages and open countryside. In some cases, the walls enclosing burial

grounds are separately listed, while some may be considered to be curtilage structures covered by the listing of the meeting house building.

Many local meetings have made efforts to maintain and improve the biodiversity of their burial grounds. Measures include the sowing of wildflower seeds, mowing regimes to encourage wildflowers in grass, planting of fruit trees, and the installation of bird and insect boxes.

### 3.9. Ancillary buildings

In addition to the meeting house, Friends sometimes erected other buildings on the same site to meet their practical needs. Where ancillary buildings exist, they are noted in the individual reports. In rural areas the most common additional building were found to be a stable or a gig house, sometimes with a mounting block. There are also a few examples of a privy or earth closet, as at Colthouse, Cumbria. Other ancillary structures include a cottage for the warden (or caretaker) and a schoolroom or adult school, which might be attached or freestanding, contemporary or a later addition. During the late nineteenth century, a number of mission halls were built but few of these appear to survive; a rare example is at Pakefield, Norfolk, of 1897 (figure 15).



Figure 15: The gig house/cart shed at Monyash, Derbys., left, and the mission hall at Pakefield, Norf.

Partly for reasons of privacy, particularly in towns, meeting houses were often built behind frontage buildings, to the rear of plots. Others were built in the vicinity of buildings serving charitable or educational Quaker uses. Where such buildings are now in separate ownership they were not included in detail in this project, although their historical association with the meeting house is referred to.

### 3.10. Archaeology

The survey assessed the archaeological potential of meeting houses and attached burial grounds, with reference to the local Historic Environment Record and to available evidence such as historic mapping. In most cases the only information about the archaeological potential of a site relates to the presence of a meeting house and its burial ground, but in

some cases, particularly in long-established urban settlements, there may be earlier below-ground archaeology. The siting of purpose-built meeting houses in urban areas tends to follow two patterns: a burial ground and early meeting house were sometimes established on the rear of burgage plots first laid out in the medieval period close to the centre, or empty plots of land were given or acquired for the purpose on the edge of an urban area, as part of post-medieval expansion. Generally, the former site types are more likely to yield archaeological potential from more than one phase of activity than the latter.

In rural areas, meeting houses and burial grounds were often established on greenfield sites on the edges of villages or on isolated sites away from settlements. As in urban areas, the current meeting house may be the latest in a succession of meeting houses built on the same site, or may have been established in a building originally built for another purpose. Depending on whether the existing meeting house was built over the site of an earlier building or adjacent to it, the archaeological potential of the site may relate to earlier structures on the site as well as to the burial ground.

The archaeology of the meeting house fabric has the potential to reveal more about the construction and form of existing buildings and earlier phases. Detailed recording and building investigation could enable information to be gleaned on matters such as blocked openings, removed internal partitions and fittings, extensions, evidence for heating methods, and historic finishes such as lime-wash and floor surfaces. Opportunities for building investigation can arise during building repairs or refurbishment and even at the most basic and low-cost level, a dated photographic recording of a building (inside and out) will provide a useful record for the future, if kept with the meeting house records.

The individual meeting house reports for England and Scotland have been deposited in Historic Environment Records, via the Oasis data collection form and are also available on the [Archaeology Data Service](#) website.

## 4. GENERAL FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 4.1. Overview of the project regions

In total, 345 meeting houses were visited across eleven project regions. (The project region boundaries in England do not always correspond exactly to the Historic England regions.) These 345 meeting houses are all still owned by the Quakers; former meeting houses which have been sold were not part of this project. The buildings were distributed relatively evenly across England, with fewer in the North East (11 meeting houses) and a larger concentration in the South East (65), to some extent reflecting the general population distribution. Wales (12 buildings) and Scotland (7) have relatively small numbers of meeting houses. Two meeting houses are located on the Channel Islands (surveyed as part of the South East).

143 buildings were already listed, that is 41% of the total number of meeting houses visited for this project. 154 meeting houses (45% of the total) have an attached burial ground. Detached burial grounds were not included in the project, but, where known, their locations are given by national grid reference. Their total number is not easy to ascertain as many are no longer owned by Friends.

<b>Project regions</b>	<b>Meeting Houses visited</b>	<b>Listed Meeting Houses</b>	<b>Attached burial grounds</b>
<b>East of England</b>	33	16	17
<b>East Midlands</b>	18	10	11
<b>Greater London</b>	34	7	9
<b>North East</b>	11	6	4
<b>North West</b>	43	19	22
<b>South East (without Channel Islands)</b>	63	24	28
<b>South West</b>	50	22	23
<b>West Midlands</b>	37	15	18
<b>Yorkshire</b>	35	14	18
<b>England (total)</b>	<i>324</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>150</i>
<b>Scotland</b>	7	4	0
<b>Wales</b>	12	5	4
<b>Channel Islands</b>	2	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>142</b> (41% of the total)	<b>154</b> (45% of the total)

Figure 16: Table providing an overview of the project

The distribution of meeting houses covered by the survey does not reflect the historic distribution of meeting houses. In some areas, there has been a high rate of loss, particularly in London where no early meeting houses have survived in use due to successive rebuilding and replacement. David Butler's published volumes cover all meeting houses, including those no longer in Quaker ownership. The rate of closure and loss can be readily revealed with reference to one small area; Butler's 1978 published survey of *Quaker Meeting Houses in the Lake Counties* reveals that of the 74 meeting houses he recorded in Cumbria, less than half (35) are still in Quaker ownership. A detailed assessment of survival in all areas has not been undertaken, but as decline in meeting membership is a national pattern, the results may be comparable.

There are some contrasts between regions in terms of the architectural character of meeting houses, which largely reflect differences in vernacular building traditions and materials, particularly among earlier meeting houses (built before the mid-eighteenth century). A very few meeting houses are timber-framed (such as Almeley Wootton in Herefordshire and Blue Idol in Sussex); most are built of brick or local stone. Thatched roofs are also rare, with only a few examples (Pales in Wales, Portishead in Somerset and Come to Good, Cornwall). There are also some variations in plan-form with some small regional differences discernible: meeting houses with cross passages dividing the two meeting rooms seem to be more common in the East of England, Cornwall and Yorkshire compared to other regions, where meeting houses are generally divided by only a screen with moveable shutters.

#### **4.2. Categories used in the reports**

Each meeting house has been assessed and placed in one of four categories. The purpose of these categories is to aid assessment of each building not just for architectural or historical significance, but also in terms of their sensitivity to change (something which list descriptions historically were never intended to do). It is hoped that the categories will assist the careful management of change at both the strategic and area meeting level.

The categories are:

- Category 1: Meeting houses of outstanding significance and with limited scope for alteration that should be retained in use as places of worship, with fabric and/or furnishings protected from all but the most modest changes. Meeting houses in this category are usually listed Grade I or II\*, but may include particularly complete Grade II buildings.
- Category 2: Meeting houses of high significance that could accommodate change if carefully and sympathetically managed. They are usually listed Grade II, but may include more highly graded meeting houses. A few Category 2 buildings are not listed and have been identified as potential candidates for listing.
- Category 3: Meeting houses of some significance that should be retained in use if possible, but with scope for more extensive alteration or adaptation in the interests of securing a sustainable future. This category mostly includes those which are not considered to be eligible for statutory designation ('listing') under current criteria,

although this may change if criteria are widened in the future. It also includes meeting houses which make a positive contribution to a conservation area and their local scene.

- Category 4: Meeting houses of low architectural, historical or archaeological significance, which could be disposed of without detriment to their heritage interest. Many of these are fairly modern buildings that may possess high social value and serve their meetings very well, but do not possess architectural or historic interest.

32 buildings (9%) were placed in category 1; 127 (37%) in category 2; 118 (34%) in category 3 and 68 (20%) in category 4. The highest numbers of Category 1 meeting houses are in the North West and South West, both regions with a particularly strong Quaker history and heritage.

<b>Project regions</b>	<b>Category 1</b>	<b>Category 2</b>	<b>Category 3</b>	<b>Category 4</b>
<b>East of England</b>	0	14	15	4
<b>East Midlands</b>	1	10	6	1
<b>Greater London</b>	1	10	15	8
<b>North East</b>	0	7	4	0
<b>North West</b>	9	14	11	9
<b>South East (without the Channel Islands)</b>	4	21	23	15
<b>South West</b>	11	11	20	8
<b>West Midlands</b>	2	17	13	5
<b>Yorkshire</b>	1	16	6	12
<b>England total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Scotland</b>	0	5	1	1
<b>Wales</b>	3	2	2	5
<b>Channel Islands</b>	0	0	2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>32 (9%)</b>	<b>127 (37%)</b>	<b>118 (34%)</b>	<b>68 (20%)</b>

Figure 17: Table showing the number of meeting houses in each heritage category

### 4.3. Listed buildings

143 (i.e. 41%) of the meeting houses visited were already listed at the start of this project. Of these 5 (3.5%) are listed Grade I; 34 (24%) Grade II\* or B, and 104 (73%) Grade II or C. (Grades A, B and C are in use in Scotland; Grades I, II\* and II in England and Wales.) Listed meeting houses are therefore generally more highly graded than other building types (in England about 2.5% of listed buildings are Grade I, 5.5% Grade II\* and 92% Grade II). The percentage of Grade II\* meeting houses relative to those in Grade II is particularly noteworthy.

<b>Project regions</b>	<b>Total number of meeting houses visited</b>	<b>Listed meeting houses</b>	<b>Grade I or A</b>	<b>Grade II* or B</b>	<b>Grade II or C</b>
<b>East of England</b>	33	16	0	2	14
<b>East Midlands</b>	18	10	1	0	9
<b>Greater London</b>	34	7	0	1	6
<b>North East</b>	11	6	0	1	5
<b>North West</b>	43	19	1	8	10
<b>South East (without Channel Islands)</b>	63	24	2	4	18
<b>South West</b>	50	22	1	5	16
<b>West Midlands</b>	37	15	0	5	10
<b>Yorkshire</b>	35	14	0	2	12
<b>England total</b>	<i>324</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>100</i>
<b>Scotland</b>	7	4	0	4	0
<b>Wales</b>	12	5	0	2	3
<b>Channel Islands</b>	2	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>142</b> (41% of the total)	<b>5</b> (1% of the total, 3.5% of all listed MHs)	<b>34</b> (10% of the total, 24% of all listed MHs)	<b>103</b> (30% of the total, 73% of all listed MHs)

Figure 18: Table showing the distribution of the listed meeting houses across listing grades

A few ancillary buildings are separately listed, such as stables, domestic buildings or schoolrooms; these are not included in the above table which only covers meeting houses.

#### **4.4. Buildings with potential for listing**

The survey found that there is generally a good correlation between category 1 and 2 buildings and statutory listings. 23 buildings (6% of the total) were identified as potential candidates for listing. They are listed in the regional summary reports.

Five ancillary structures were also identified as possible candidates for listing. All are located near listed meeting houses and can probably be considered listed as curtilage structures. It is recommended that they are specifically included in the list entry for the meeting house in question, or considered for listing in their own right. They are also highlighted in the regional summary reports. Further discussion with Historic England, Cadw or Historic Environment Scotland is recommended for all the potential listing candidates, to enable an assessment for listing at an early stage and to avoid unexpected spot-listing during the development of proposals. Where meeting houses are unlisted they may be regarded as ‘non-designated heritage assets’ by local planning authorities. These are buildings or sites identified as having a degree of significance which merits consideration in planning decisions. Some local authorities identify non-designated heritage assets as ‘locally listed’. Thirteen meeting houses are on Local Lists, including Gildencroft (Norfolk), Southampton (Hants.), and Monkseaton (Northumb.).



<b>Project regions</b>	<b>Total number of meeting houses visited</b>	<b>Listed meeting houses</b>	<b>Potential listing candidates (meeting houses)</b>	<b>Potential listing candidates (ancillary buildings)</b>
<b>East of England</b>	33	16	1	0
<b>East Midlands</b>	18	10	1	0
<b>Greater London</b>	34	7	3	0
<b>North East</b>	11	6	2	0
<b>North West</b>	43	19	5	0
<b>South East (without Channel Islands)</b>	63	24	1	1
<b>South West</b>	50	22	1	3
<b>West Midlands</b>	37	15	4	0
<b>Yorkshire</b>	35	14	3	1
<b>England total</b>	<i>326</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>5</i>
<b>Scotland</b>	7	4	1	0
<b>Wales</b>	12	5	1	0
<b>Channel Islands</b>	2	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>142</b> (41% of the total)	<b>23</b> (6% of the total)	<b>5</b>

Figure 19: Table showing the numbers of listed buildings and potential list candidates

#### 4.5. Possible amendments to listing grades

While listing grades were generally considered to be appropriate, the project found that those of 11 meeting houses might need to be amended. Most of these are buildings which may be eligible for upgrading (from Grade II to II\* or II\* to I), as they compare well to similar highly-graded meeting houses. These cases are highlighted in the regional summaries.

Existing list descriptions are generally satisfactory, but a few are brief and inadequate as a guide to significance, particularly in relation to the plan-form, interiors and fittings. Errors and omissions are identified in the individual building reports, which each include an up-to-date building description. Historic England has been notified of recommended minor amendments.

<b>Project regions</b>	<b>Total number of meeting houses visited</b>	<b>Listed meeting houses</b>	<b>Possible listing grade amendments</b>
<b>East of England</b>	33	16	1
<b>East Midlands</b>	18	10	0
<b>Greater London</b>	34	7	0
<b>North East</b>	11	6	0
<b>North West</b>	43	19	1
<b>South East (without Channel Islands)</b>	63	24	2
<b>South West</b>	50	22	6
<b>West Midlands</b>	37	15	0
<b>Yorkshire</b>	35	14	0
<b><i>England total</i></b>	<i>324</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>10</i>
<b>Scotland</b>	7	4	0
<b>Wales</b>	12	5	1
<b>Channel Islands</b>	2	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>142</b> (41% of the total)	<b>11</b> (8% of all listed MHs)

Figure 20: Table showing the distribution of potential amendments to listed building grades

#### **4.6. Conservation Areas and World Heritage Sites**

203 meeting houses, i.e. well over half, are located in a conservation area. In addition, the attached burial ground at Stansted Mountfichet (Essex) is located in a conservation area, while the meeting house is excluded. Conservation Areas were introduced in 1967 under the Civic Amenities Act, as a form of designation which aims to protect areas of special architectural or historic interest. They are generally designated by the local planning authority.

Meeting houses in conservation areas generally make a positive contribution to the special character of the conservation area, for example for their historical value and for their architectural detailing, massing and scale, the use of local materials and building construction methods, and, where applicable, the presence of an attached burial ground. Designation also affords a certain amount of protection, for example, demolition in a conservation area requires planning permission.

Four meeting houses (Bath, Edinburgh, Liverpool and Tavistock) are located in World Heritage Sites (WHS). These are designated by UNESCO due to their outstanding universal value. The protection of a World Heritage Site is the responsibility of the national government but designation brings no additional planning controls. Instead, protection is afforded through the planning system as well as through other designations (listed buildings, scheduled monuments, conservation areas etc.).

#### **4.7. The condition of buildings**

The project made a rapid assessment of building and burial ground condition, and each report uses Historic England's condition categories. In some cases, recent quinquennial inspection reports were provided by local meetings. It should be noted that the authors of the AHP reports are not architects or surveyors, and the assessments were carried out from ground level only. These caveats notwithstanding, meeting houses were generally found to be in good condition and well maintained, reflecting well on local and area meetings' custodianship.

The majority (88%) of meeting houses was found to be in good condition with a further 38 (11%) in fair condition. Only 5 meeting houses (1% of the total) were considered to be in poor condition: one each in the East Midlands, the North East and Wales, and two in the South West (see below 4.9). No meeting houses were considered to be in very poor condition and it is unlikely that any would meet the criteria for 'Heritage at Risk', although a few listed ancillary buildings may fall into this category, such as the Grade II listed schoolroom at Pardshaw in Cumbria.

<b>Project regions</b>	<b>Total number of MHs visited</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Very poor</b>
<b>East of England</b>	33	28	5	0	0
<b>East Midlands</b>	18	16	1	1	0
<b>Greater London</b>	34	27	7	0	0
<b>North East</b>	11	8	2	1	0
<b>North West</b>	43	39	4	0	0
<b>South East (without Channel Islands)</b>	63	57	6	0	0
<b>South West</b>	50	45	3	2	0
<b>Wales</b>	12	10	2	1	0
<b>West Midlands</b>	37	31	5	0	0
<b>Yorkshire</b>	35	33	2	0	0
<b><i>England total</i></b>	<i>324</i>	<i>284</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>0</i>
<b>Scotland</b>	7	6	1	0	0
<b>Wales</b>	12	10	2	1	0
<b>Channel Islands</b>	2	2	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>302</b> (88%)	<b>38</b> (11%)	<b>5</b> (1%)	<b>0</b>

Figure 21: Table showing the condition of all meeting house buildings

To sustain their heritage significance it is important that meeting houses continue to be well maintained, so they are fit for their primary purpose and continue to serve their communities. Regular liaison with Historic England, Cadw or Historic Environment Scotland is recommended for up-to-date information on grants, sources of funding and advice. Area meetings may benefit from guidance provided by organisations such as the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB), which is promoting the concept of

maintenance co-operatives for places of worship; see [www.spabmcp.org.uk](http://www.spabmcp.org.uk). Funding from non-lottery sources includes:

- National Churches Trust ([www.nationalchurchestrust.org/our-grants](http://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/our-grants)),
- Arthur Rank Centre Resources for Rural Places of Worship ([www.arthurrankcentre.org.uk/publications-and-resources/rural-church-buildings](http://www.arthurrankcentre.org.uk/publications-and-resources/rural-church-buildings))
- County Churches Trusts ([www.britainexpress.com/county-church-trusts.htm](http://www.britainexpress.com/county-church-trusts.htm))
- Directory of funding for historic buildings ([www.ffhb.org.uk](http://www.ffhb.org.uk))
- The Church of England also has advice on funding ([www.churchcare.co.uk/churches/funding-and-grants/fundraising-news](http://www.churchcare.co.uk/churches/funding-and-grants/fundraising-news))

#### **4.8. The condition of burial grounds**

The burial grounds attached to meeting houses were generally found to be well maintained. 131 (84.6%) are in optimal/generally satisfactory condition (equivalent of good). 19 (12.8%) are in generally satisfactory condition but with minor localised problems. 4 (2.6%) are in a generally satisfactory condition but with significant localised problems. Three of the latter are in Greater London and one in Wales. The condition categories are those used by Historic England to assess the condition of historic parks and gardens.

Project regions	Attached burial grounds	Optimal/ generally satisfactory (equivalent of good)	Generally satisfactory but with minor localised problems (equivalent of fair)	Generally satisfactory but with significant localised problems (equivalent of fair)	Generally unsatisfactory with major localised problems (equivalent of poor)	Extensive significant problems (equivalent of very bad)
<b>East of England</b>	17	16	1	0	0	0
<b>East Midlands</b>	11	6	5	0	0	0
<b>Greater London</b>	9	4	2	3	0	0
<b>North East</b>	4	2	2	0	0	0
<b>North West</b>	22	21	1	0	0	0
<b>South East (without Channel Islands)</b>	28	28	0	0	0	0
<b>South West</b>	23	19	4	0	0	0
<b>West Midlands</b>	18	15	3	0	0	0
<b>Yorkshire</b>	18	18	0	0	0	0
<b>England total</b>	<i>150</i>	<i>129</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<b>Scotland</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Wales</b>	4	2	1	1	0	0
<b>Channel Islands</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>131</b> (84.4%)	<b>19</b> (12.9%)	<b>4</b> (2.6%)	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Figure 22: Table showing the condition of attached burial grounds in all project regions

## **4.9. Issues and vulnerabilities**

Like other historic places of worship, some meeting houses are vulnerable to declining membership, lack of funds to cover maintenance and repair, under-use, and damage from heritage crime.

### **4.9.1. Under-used buildings**

Declining meeting membership and an increasingly elderly membership threaten the future sustainability of some meeting house buildings. Unlike church buildings, meeting houses can be, and frequently are, used not just for Quaker meetings and events but also for a wide range of community uses. The buildings are relatively flexible compared to, say, Anglican churches, and can generally be easily adapted for wider use, which in turn might generate an income which can be used for maintenance and improvements. However, small local meetings are not all able to manage a large programme of bookings, or find the funds to employ a bookings manager and some are in remote locations where there is low demand for community use.

A minority of local meetings are unable to increase and diversify the use of their buildings. This might be due to remote rural location, restrictive covenants or planning conditions, lack of parking, lack of facilities, issues with damp and insufficient heating, or the lack of someone to manage the bookings and lock up in the evening. In some villages and towns, there is a superfluity of community spaces and the meeting house attracts relatively few bookings. Whilst listing is sometimes perceived as an obstacle to refurbishing or remodelling a meeting house, there are some good examples of listed meeting houses which have been extended or remodelled, showing that statutory protection in itself does not prevent change (see section 4.10, below).

### **4.9.2. Lack of funds for maintenance or repairs**

Not every local meeting has sufficient funds for major repairs or even regular maintenance. However, most area meetings have funds for larger repairs which the local meetings can access when needed. Many area meetings also organise the quinquennial surveys of all meeting houses and other property. Where an area meeting does not manage this process and this is left to the local meetings, inspections and maintenance may fall behind. The capacity to raise funds and apply for grants is limited in some area meetings. Britain Yearly Meeting has recently appointed a Property Support Officer to provide strategic advice to Friends and support property management.

### **4.9.3. Heritage crime and antisocial behaviour**

Another localised threat is presented by heritage crime. Some meeting houses have experienced this in some form, including the theft of historic gates, outdoor sculpture, historic flagstones, and, most damagingly, lead and copper from the roof or the rainwater

goods. Antisocial activities at meeting houses may include littering, damaged or broken windows, drug-use or unauthorised rough sleeping in the burial ground or outbuildings. The presence of regular users and a resident warden or property manager often helps to discourage antisocial activities and crime. Some meetings tolerate or do not report some activities that other building owners may find threatening, such as rough-sleeping, due to Quaker values.

#### **4.9.4. Rural and urban issues**

Meeting houses in city or town centre locations may be more sustainable due to a larger membership and demand for rooms for letting from Quakers and community users. But they might also experience higher incidents of antisocial behaviour, particularly when located near nightclub areas. Rural meeting houses struggle with different problems. They include potentially long distances between the meeting house and the members of the meeting, declining permanent communities in holiday areas, lack of public transport especially on Sundays, and the lack of a Resident Friend or caretaker who lives nearby and can keep an eye on the meeting house.

#### **4.9.5. New uses after closure**

Meeting houses may be closed and sold because the local meeting is 'laid down' (i.e. dissolved) or because the building no longer fulfils the meeting's requirements, for example because it is too large or too expensive to run. A few closed meeting houses remain in Quaker ownership (and were included in this project), such as those at Woburn Sands, Bucks. (now a nursery), Gildencroft, Norfolk (now a children's centre), Hoddesdon, Herts. (currently seeking a new use), Broughton, Cumbria (used by another denomination) and Whitehaven, Cumbria (for sale).

In most cases of closure and disposal, meeting houses tend to be converted to residential use. This generally entails the subdivision of the main meeting room and risks the loss of furnishings and fittings such as the ministers' and elders' stand. For a historic meeting house with significant surviving fixtures and fittings this is not a satisfactory solution as it harms the significance of the building, and a suitable community or commercial use which can preserve more of the interior and retain public access is usually preferable. Changes to the exterior and interiors of listed meeting houses are protected by legislation (for England and Wales this is the 1990 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act). Both non-designated and designated meeting houses are covered by heritage policies in the National Planning Policy Framework, which apply when a change of use or development is proposed through the planning process.

There are some examples of remote rural meeting houses now owned and managed by building trusts: Farfield, North Yorkshire, and Coanwood, Northumberland (both Grade II\*) are now in the ownership of the Historic Chapels Trust. These are notable for their unaltered interiors, complete with historic benches and other fittings. Preservation by the Trust has enabled the interiors and setting to be kept intact. They are kept unlocked, open to walkers



and passers-by. Once a year Hexham Meeting holds a meeting for worship and a picnic at Coanwood.

#### **4.10. Meeting houses requiring special consideration and support**

A few meeting houses visited during this project face issues such as poor condition, lack of use, or lack of capacity within the meeting to maintain the building. These all need to be discussed with relevant parties at the earliest possible opportunity, and the options carefully considered.

##### **4.10.1. Meeting houses in poor condition**

Five meeting houses were found to be in poor condition, two of which are listed buildings and one is a potential candidate for listing. The following is a summary; please refer to the individual reports for further details.

###### East Midlands project region

**Monyash Meeting House** (Derbys.; Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Area Meeting) is an early meeting house which retains the essentials of what is probably the early eighteenth-century plan, interior elements and exterior appearance, with evidence of earlier origins. The building is Grade II listed. A programme of repair and maintenance was instituted following surveys undertaken in 2002 and in 2009. The works included repair of the roof, with a grant from the Peak Park Authority, and the installation of new rainwater goods. In 2008-10 damaging modern plaster was replaced with lime plaster. While care has been taken to ensure that the basic envelope is repaired, works of completing plastering, repairing the gallery floor and installation of services are still required. The last QI took place in December 2014 and no works have been undertaken since that time (as of November 2015).

###### North East project region

**Monkseaton Meeting House** (Northumberland; Northumbria Area Meeting) is an interesting late Georgian vernacular survival, originally single storey, which was extended and adapted in the early twentieth century, initially for residential use and then as a meeting house. It is locally listed and has been identified by this review as a marginal candidate for statutory listing. The local meeting attempts to keep on top of maintenance, but there are significant fabric problems. The most recent quinquennial inspection report (2011) identified a number of maintenance and repair needs, including poor detailing at the roof junctions with neighbouring properties, dampness, evidence of rot in nearly all the windows and some evidence of dry rot. Since that time, repairs have been carried out to the roof and gulleys and the kitchen window has been replaced (in uPVC). Fire doors have been installed. The damp issue remains unresolved.

## South West project region

**New Milton Meeting House** (Hants; Bournemouth Coastal Area Meeting) is a utilitarian and unlisted building of c.1900 which originally may have been a stable. It was acquired and converted to Quaker use in 1981-82. The building recently (2016) experienced serious water ingress where the pitched and the flat roofs meet. The meeting is planning works to remedy this. There is also a damp patch on the outside of the rear wall, due to a split gutter.

**Torbay Meeting House** (Devon; Devon Area Meeting) is an unlisted nineteenth-century villa which was converted for Quaker use in 1955. While most of the building is in good condition, there are severe problems with damp, water ingress and mould at the junction of the extension and the kitchen. The meeting is currently planning to demolish the old toilet extension and build a new one in order to resolve this problem.

## Wales

**Neath Meeting House** (West Glamorgan; South Wales Area Meeting) was built in 1799-1800 on a site beside Neath Castle. It is listed Grade II and retains several original and historic features, including the elders' and ministers' stand with a panelled former gallery opposite. There are long-standing damp problems, particularly in the wall facing the castle. The internal walls of the meeting room suffer from condensation and mould. The slate roof has been repaired on an *ad hoc* basis (and not always with natural slate) and will need comprehensive repair at some point. The meeting house does not have a recent quinquennial inspection report, due to lack of funds. It would benefit from the advice of a qualified conservation architect who could advise on remedial measures to deal with the damp and condensation problems. It is recommended that a quinquennial inspection regime be instituted.

### **4.10.2. Meeting houses facing other issues**

Several listed meeting houses are at risk in the short or medium term due to shrinking membership, under-use and lack of funds for maintenance and repairs. Local and area meetings concerned are currently considering their options. These assessments are to a certain extent subjective and rely heavily on the information provided by the local meeting volunteers. Please refer to the individual reports for further detail.

## East of England project region

**Bardfield Meeting House** (Essex; Thaxted Area Meeting) is a timber-framed structure of 1806 with an attached historic burial ground. It was built in the garden of the medieval Buck's House, in the historic centre of Great Bardfield. The Grade II-listed building is in good condition, but is used for only two hours per week by Friends and for only 2.5 hours by others. This relatively low level of use is possibly due to its location in a small village with other facilities, and the lack of disabled access to the site from the street. Average attendance at meetings for worship is only four people and there is concern about the future viability of the meeting.

### North East project region

**Allendale Meeting House** (Northumb.; Northumbria Area Meeting) is part of an important group of historic meeting house, burial ground and cottage in an idyllic location on the west bank of the East Allen. The Grade II-listed meeting house was rebuilt in the 1860s, possibly incorporating material from its Georgian predecessor. This is the oldest meeting house in Northumberland still in regular use for Quaker worship. The building is in fair condition but no quinquennial inspection report has been prepared and there is currently no maintenance and repair plan. The building is reasonably well maintained, and appears to be wind and weathertight, although the roof is considered to be in need of re-slating. Inside, there are problems with damp and lack of ventilation. The area meeting is establishing a buildings fund, into which rental income from the cottage will be paid. Apart from use by Friends (approximately 1.5 hours a week) the building is not used, on account of the relative inaccessibility of the site by public transport, lack of off-street car parking and modern facilities. Carefully-managed change would make the building more welcoming and need not be harmful to the special interest of the building. Provided the main historic features are retained, it should be possible to improve access, update facilities, address the damp problem and maybe consider sustainability measures such as secondary glazing. If improved roof insulation is proposed, reinstatement of plaster ceilings might be carried out at the same time, to the benefit of the internal character and appearance of the building.

### North West project region

**Pardshaw Meeting House** (Cumbria; Cumberland Area Meeting) is a fine example of a meeting house developed in the first half of the eighteenth century, and associated with early Quakerism in rural West Cumbria. The Grade II-listed building retains some original fittings although the large meeting room has been slightly altered. Apart from the meeting house of 1729, the complex includes stables of 1731 and a school room of 1745, also listed. The site's heritage significance is under threat from under-use, lack of funds and the deteriorating condition of the ancillary structures. The meeting house is in fair condition but the listed former school room is in poor condition with damage inside from water ingress following lead theft, and probable dry rot. The meeting house is maintained with difficulty and there are no funds or revenue to cover routine repairs and maintenance. All major work has to be funded by grant assistance or by the area meeting. The location, access issues and lack of facilities mean that the buildings are not in demand for community use. Within the next ten years, the area meeting will take a decision on the future of the meeting house, and unless circumstances change will probably be forced to sell it. It is currently not sustainable as a meeting house and the area meeting lacks the funds to maintain it.

### South East project region

**Chesham Meeting House** (Bucks.; Chilterns Area Meeting) is a late eighteenth-century meeting house, with a little-altered interior, adjoining an earlier burial ground. The Grade II-listed building retains much of its original character and fabric. Features such as the full-height shutters and the fixed seating in the elders' stand are important survivals, evocative of Quaker tradition and worship. The building is in good condition but is currently used by Quakers for only two hours a week, due to strong local competition, the lack of hot water and

car parking, access issues and the poor facilities. All of these issues combined with the presence of better-equipped meeting houses in the vicinity put the long-term viability of the building into doubt.

### South West project region

**Gloucester Meeting House** (Glos.; Gloucester Area Meeting) dates from the 1830s, and was designed by the significant local architect Samuel Daukes, with additions of 1879 by J. P. Moore. The Grade II-listed meeting house is in good condition, following repairs to make good damage from arson in 2011. The building is maintained by a small and diminishing number of members and attenders, and current arrangements are probably not sustainable. If it is not possible greatly to increase income from third party hiring, it may be necessary to consider transferring the meeting to alternative premises (perhaps the gatehouse), and leasing the meeting house for a suitable commercial use. The site's location close to the town centre, tourist sites and an area of regeneration may all be helpful in this respect; against this however are the constraints of the listing, and the desirability of preserving the interior and its features. Subdivision of the internal spaces of the main meeting rooms would be highly regrettable, but may be justified if non-damaging and reversible, and as a means of securing a sustainable new use for the building

### Yorkshire project region

**Airton Meeting House** (West Yorks.; Craven and Keighley Area Meeting) has high significance as a good example of a vernacular Yorkshire meeting house of the 1690s, with fittings dating from the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century. It is listed Grade II and is in fair condition. Its future seems uncertain, due to lack of adequate funding and under-use. The last quinquennial inspection in 2012 identified an urgent need for attention to roofs and gutters. Roof repairs commenced in August 2016, part-funded by a grant from the Places of Worship Roof Repair scheme. The meeting uses the building for about four hours twice a month, plus occasional half-day and evening events, and for Area Meetings. Community use is highly variable, from nil to about 150 hours a week. Airton is close to the Pennine Way and at the midpoint of the Way of the Roses cycle path in a popular tourist area and visited by organised walking parties for its historic interest. The meeting house is generally kept unlocked, and is the only community space for the southern end of Malhamdale. The meeting house receives about 11,000 visitors a year and could be an important centre for Quaker outreach, if funds were available to sustain this. The future of this meeting house seems uncertain; it would be most unfortunate if it were to close.

### Wales

**Milford Haven Meeting House** (Pembs.; South Wales Area Meeting) is unique in Great Britain as a meeting house founded by whaling families from Nantucket who settled here and helped develop the town and port. The Grade II-listed building of 1811 was built on a site acquired in 1801 for a burial ground. It is in fair condition – as far as is known, as there has been no quinquennial inspection for some time, due to lack of funds. The meeting house suffers from damp problems which are caused by the cementitious render of the external walls. If this is not removed soon the building's condition will deteriorate further.

**The Pales Meeting House** (Powys; Southern Marches Area Meeting) of 1745 is the earliest purpose-built meeting house in continuous use in Wales, with a burial ground in continuous use since the 1670s. The building is listed Grade II\*. It retains the historic plan form and some original fittings such as the stand and shuttered openings. The building is in good condition, following the re-thatching of the roof in 2014. However, the meeting does not have sufficient funds to maintain and upgrade the building, apart from a surplus from the 2014 works which can only be used for the roof. The building is used for two hours a week by Quakers and for an average of four hours by other groups; the remote location with narrow, steep single-track road access and no public transport makes increased use unlikely. The Pales is now directly the responsibility of the area meeting trustees, while plans for its future are considered, but the Llandrindod Friends continue to meet there intermittently. In the medium and long term, the Trustees are considering whether the warden's cottage could be remodelled to provide a cottage that can be let for visitors on short breaks and retreats, as well as providing accommodation for a warden or Friend in residence.

#### **4.11. Community use and examples of good practice**

##### **4.11.1. Community use**

Quakers have been opening their buildings to the wider community for many years, and community activity is a well-established and important part of how meeting houses are used. Compared with other places of worship, meeting houses are often fairly easy to adapt for non-worship use, and in many cases their fittings need not be an obstacle to change provided they are taken into account at an early stage. There are some meeting houses which are less easily suited to community use, perhaps because of their rural location or lack of facilities such as parking and good access; in others the heritage significance of the fittings may be a constraint, although the character and atmosphere of historic meeting houses is an attraction to some users.

A number of meeting houses – especially larger urban buildings with several rooms which can be used independently – are heavily used, including Westminster (about 80 hours per week on average), Saffron Walden (90 hours), Edinburgh (about 90 hours), Glasgow (about 92 hours), Central Manchester (about 100 hours), Brighton (about 110 hours), Liverpool (131.5 hours), Sheffield Central (about 160 hours), and York Friargate (about 350 hours).

Depending on the level of bookings, use by community groups might be administered and managed by the warden or a dedicated lettings or bookings manager who might be a volunteer from the local meeting or a professional employed for this. Cardiff and Bath employ the Ethical Property Company to manage bookings and room lettings.

Most users regularly use space in the meeting houses for one hour or two per week. They include a wide range of users, including reading groups, yoga classes, counsellors, language classes and groups like Alcoholics Anonymous. Meeting rooms with suitable kitchen and toilet facilities might also be let for some functions, although most meetings forbid the consumption of alcohol on their premises.

Some meeting houses have only one main user in addition to meetings for worship. This is generally the case with buildings which are used as nurseries, for example those at Dunmow (Essex), Dorking (Surrey) and Cockermouth (Cumbria). At Milford Haven (Wales), a nursery uses a former children's room which is attached to the meeting house but can be used independently of it.

Other longer term uses include the renting out of office space (Cardiff, Swansea and Bridgend, all in Wales), especially to small, ethical companies with a community focus, and the Quaker tapestry exhibition with a visitor café at Kendal (Cumbria).

Several meeting houses have converted part of their property to residential use, either for charitable or commercial purposes. At Winchester (Hants.), the upper floors contain the warden's flat as well as short-term accommodation for people in need. An extension was built at Wisbech (Cams.) in the 1970s to provide flats for single elderly people in conjunction with the East Anglia Housing Association. At Ifield (West Sussex), a large residential centre was built in the 1970s which is now used, in conjunction with two attic rooms in the meeting house, as accommodation for single people in need. As part of a recent refurbishment, the upper floors of Taunton Meeting House (Som.) were converted to flats, one of which is used by the warden and one is commercially let. Several former wardens' cottages are now commercially let, including those at Southampton (Hants.), Capel (Sussex), and the Blue Idol (West Sussex).

Visitor accommodation or hostel use is another potential use for parts of a meeting house and ancillary buildings in particular. Wells-next-the-Sea (Norfolk, Grade II) for example has a flat on the upper floor and a chalet in the garden which are well-used for holiday lets. Brigflatts (Cumbria, Grade I) has a twin bedroom on the first floor of the meeting house. At Airton (West Yorks., Grade II) the barn attached to the meeting house provides accommodation for up to six people in bunk beds. Similarly, a bunkhouse in the barn at Rookhow (Cumbria) is available for lettings all year round and is used for approximately 3-4 days per week. The attached cottage at Dolobran (Wales, Grade II\*) has two bedrooms for Friends and visitors. The potential for holiday accommodation is also currently being explored for the Pales Meeting House in Wales. Elsewhere, such use with its need for time-intensive management and funds to maintain and upgrade the facilities has not proved sustainable: guesthouse use in the house attached to the Blue Idol Meeting House ceased about 10 years ago, and the use of an attic in the 1980s extension at Bardfield (Essex, Grade II) to provide accommodation for travelling young Friends never took off.

#### **4.11.2. Heritage tourism**

Many meeting houses have a short history or guide and are regularly open to the wider public. Several rural meeting houses are left unlocked during daylight hours for visitors and passing ramblers, as at Airton (West Yorks.) and Mosedale (Cumbria). Most historic meeting houses have potential for heritage tourism in some form. Milford Haven Local Meeting, for example, has prepared a well-designed leaflet about their building, as well as a leaflet for a self-guided walk around the town focusing on Quaker history. The building is

regularly open to visitors, including on the annual Founders' Day when the founding of the town by Quakers from Nantucket is commemorated. Dorking Meeting House (Surrey) has staged several exhibitions during Heritage Open Days about Bernard Ireland Macalpine (known as Bim) and his time with the Friends War Victims Relief Committee in France during the First World War. Wisbech Local Meeting (Cambs.) have links with nearby Peckover House, a National Trust property formerly owned by the Quaker Peckover family, who built the meeting house and are buried in the attached burial ground. Both buildings are occasionally open to visitors for joint events.

#### **4.11.3. Property management**

The successful management of meeting houses depends partly on the capacity and skills of trustees in the area meeting, who may benefit from sharing good practice and information between area meetings. In some areas good practice is shared, but in a few areas awareness of good exemplars of maintenance and community use in the neighbouring area meetings is lacking. Improving good practice and sharing knowledge is one of the objectives for the newly appointed Property Support Officer.

Most area meetings organise and fund the quinquennial inspection (QI) of all meeting houses and other properties in their area, generally commissioning a single firm of architects or surveyors. It is important that copies of the quinquennial inspection reports are kept and regularly reviewed both by the area meeting and the local meeting, rather than by one person to share the information. A few area meetings undertake their own annual inspections; this is a useful way of keeping track of potential issues between inspections but should not be seen as a replacement for regular inspections by qualified professionals.

#### **4.11.4. Well-designed alterations and extensions**

Many meeting houses have been carefully updated and extended over time in order to continue to fulfil Friends' needs and accommodate community users. The requirements of the users and needs of the main historic building need not be irreconcilable, and most buildings can be sympathetically extended. Further advice can be found in Historic England's guidance note on *New Work in Historic Places of Worship* (second edition, 2012).<sup>8</sup> Generally, the survey found that the quality of workmanship and detailing for alterations and additions to historic meeting houses, whether traditional or contemporary in character, is high.

A recent extension of 2014 at Amersham, Bucks., was designed in a similar vernacular style to that of the meeting house (figure 23). It has minimal impact on the visual appearance of the Grade II\*-listed meeting house as it was designed using a complementary style, scale and materials. It has also has minimal impact on historic fabric, as it is connected to an older extension of the 1950s. The architect for the extension was Malcolm Barnett. Another vernacular-style addition in the Chilterns is the L-plan wing added to Jordans Meeting

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<sup>8</sup> <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/new-work-in-historic-places-of-worship/>

House (Bucks.) as part of the post-fire repairs in 2005-8, to a design by Andrew Townsend Architects (figure 23).



Figure 23: Two successful extensions in a vernacular style: the new wing at Jordans, Bucks., (left) and a new addition at the far left of the meeting house at Amersham, Bucks.

Successful additions to historic meeting houses do not need to be of a historicist character. A particularly well-designed extension was added in 2013 to the timber-framed meeting house (Grade II\* listed) at Almeley Wootton of 1672 (figure 24). This modern, flat-roofed extension was built to high sustainability standards and is partially clad in timber with a projecting ‘colonnade’ of posts and lintels built using traditional timber framing methods. It was designed by the architects Nicolette and Martin Baines of Leominster with the engineer Mike Speak and grant-aided by the National Churches Trust. It was shortlisted for a design award in 2014 (West of England LABC Building Excellence Awards).

Another strikingly modern addition to a historic meeting house is at Bury St Edmunds (Suffolk), added in 2007-8 to replace a garden room of 1982 (figure 24). Housing a wide glazed entrance corridor/link, garden room, kitchen and WCs, it was designed by Modece Architects of Bury St Edmunds.



Figure 24: Two additions in a modern style: Recent extension at Almeley Wootton, Herefordshire, left, and the extension at Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, right



Other good examples include the extension of 1994 at Skipton (North Yorks), the Priory Rooms at Birmingham Bull Street of 2002 by the architects Peter Hing and Jones, the Nantucket Room of 2007 at Milford Haven (Wales) by Acanthus Holden, and the new meeting room of 2014/15 at Taunton (Somerset) by Philip Proctor Associates.

In some cases, an extension with no internal connection has been built to avoid damage to the listed building. Ettington Meeting House (Warks.; Grade II\*) of 1684-9 has a small extension of 1986 by Peter White which provides toilet and kitchen facilities, as well as a small children's room. The extension has its own external access, presumably in order not to disturb the historic fabric and the stand at the rear wall, against which the extension abuts.

A completely freestanding ancillary building is another way of providing additional meeting space or amenities with minimum impact on the main building. In 1985 a detached block was built close to the Grade II\*-listed meeting house at Long Sutton (Som.), designed by Alan and Ann Thomas (figure 25). Containing a children's room, kitchen and toilets, this is a well-designed detached square building under a pyramidal roof.

Sometimes, an existing ancillary building can be adapted, obviating the need for an expensive new building and giving an existing one a new function. For example, the former barns at the Come-to-Good Meeting House in Cornwall and the Blue Idol Meeting House in West Sussex are now children's rooms. At Brant Broughton (Lincs.), two outbuildings have been successfully converted: a late eighteenth-century stable building is now used as additional meeting space, and a formerly open corrugated iron carriage shed, now also meeting space, was converted in the 1990s by the county council, with the insertion of a modern timber 'pod' (figure 25). Initially used by the council as a village heritage centre, the building is now managed by the local meeting.



Figure 25: Examples of detached buildings: The detached block of 1985 at Long Sutton, Som., left, and the converted Victorian carriage shed at Brant Broughton, Lincs.

Some changes can be accommodated in the existing building envelope, without the need for an extension. Mount Street Meeting House in Manchester (Grade II) dates from 1830 but has been altered on many occasions. Recent alterations of 1999 and 2012 by the Bernard Taylor Partnership upgraded the rooms and facilities and reversed some of the more harmful earlier alterations. On a smaller scale, some facilities can be inserted unobtrusively into existing buildings. For example, small kitchen and toilet facilities might be inserted at the

rear of the meeting room, as at Hastings (East Sussex) and Guernsey (Channel Islands). At Southampton (Hants), a small kitchenette hidden in a modern cupboard has been inserted, while at Broad Campden (Glos., Grade II) and at Ashburton (Devon) simple sink units with cupboards have been sufficient for the users of the meeting rooms (figure 26). (Ashburton also has a full kitchen on the floor below.)



Figure 26: A kitchenette in a cupboard at Southampton, Hants., left, and a sink unit in the gallery at Broad Campden, Glos.

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## APPENDIX 1: ARCHITECTS OF PURPOSE-BUILT MEETING HOUSES

Compiled by Johanna Roethe, The Architectural History Practice

This list is based on that compiled by David Butler (*The Quaker Meeting Houses of Britain*, vol. 2, pp. 908-913) and was further refined by the research undertaken by AHP staff during the Quaker Meeting Houses Heritage Project (2014–16) and by additional research in Friends House Library and the RIBA Library.

The main focus is on purpose-built meeting houses; only selected extensions, renovations, alterations and conversions of other buildings to Quaker use are noted. An asterisk (\*) denotes a listed building.

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**ABEL SYKES PARTNERSHIP**, see Michael SYKES

**ACANTHUS HOLDEN**, of Pembroke

- Milford Haven (Pembs), 2007, extension \*

**ALBURY, Frederick William** (1845-1912), see BROWN & ALBURY

**ALDERSON, William** (1804-34)

A Quaker, of Chelsea. His main building was the Middlesex County Lunatic Asylum in Hanwell (1829-31). He also designed a Quaker school in Wigton.

- Hoddesdon (Herts), 1828 \*
- Stoke Newington (London), 1827-28 (demolished)
- Wigton (Cumbria), 1830, (no longer in Quaker ownership) \*, unconfirmed attribution

**ALLEN, Ernest Gladstone** FRIBA (1881-1964)

A Quaker and architect. He was educated at Bootham (Quaker) School, York, and articled to C.M. Shriner ARIBA. He was in partnership with Sir George Lionel PEPLER as Pepler & Allen from 1905 until 1914. Both were active in the early town planning movement. Allen was elected a member of the Town Planning Institute in 1914 and became its president in 1936-7. He was also in partnership with Longstreth Thompson (as Allen & Thompson) and in 1921-44 with Alfred Potter as Allen & Potter.

- East Grinstead (Surrey), 1952, conversion
- Alton (Hants), 1961 or 1964-65, restoration \*
- Oxted (Surrey), 1963-64, conversion

**ALLEY, Peter Bradshaw** (died 1870)

A Quaker and architect of Manchester. He was in partnership with Richard LANE, architect of the Mount Street meeting house in Manchester. While Alfred WATERHOUSE was articled to Lane as the head of the practice, Alley claimed later that 'Waterhouse was practically, really and morally my pupil'.

- Sale (Greater Manchester), 1856-60

## **ANDREW TOWNSEND ARCHITECTS**

- Jordans (Bucks.), 2005-8, restoration and extension \*

## **APPLETON, Edward** (1832-1916)

- Torquay (Devon), 1853-56 (no longer in Quaker ownership)
- Exeter (Devon), 1876

## **ARMSTRONG, J.R.**

Architect to the Bournville Village Trust whose other works include Weoley Hill United Reformed Church (1933) and Rubery Congregational Chapel (1928).

- Malvern (Worcs), 1937-38

## **ARNOLD, Harold Godwin** ARIBA (1920-99)

A Quaker and architect

- Wokingham (Berks), 1963, conversion

## **BAILY, John**

- Friargate, York (Yorks), 1980s, alterations
- Thirsk (North Yorks), 2006, alterations \*

## **BAINES, Nicolette and Martin Baines**, architects of Leominster

- Almeley Wootton (Herefs), 2014, extension \*

## **BANGMA, W. John** RIBA

- East Garston (Berks), 1979
- Marlborough (Wilts), 1986, alterations

## **BARBER, BUNDY & PARTNERS**

- Reigate (Surrey), 1983-4

## **BARNES, William Edwin** FRIBA (fl. 1957-94)

A Quaker and architect, of Letchworth

- Letchworth (Herts), 1957, addition \*
- Stevenage (Herts), 1959
- Cambridge (Cambs), 1969, alterations and extension
- Devizes (Wilts), 1994

## **BARNETT, (Ralph) Malcolm**

A Quaker and architect, member of Henley-on-Thames meeting

- Maidenhead (Berks), 1998-99, extension
- Amersham (Bucks), 2014, extension \*

## **BARTLETT & GRAY** F/FRIBA

Architectural firm based in West Bridgford, Notts.

- Nottingham (Notts), 1961 (project architect Colin Gray)
- Chesterfield (Derbys), 1971-2
- Mansfield (Notts), 1973

### **BAYLISS, M.H.**

- Adel (West Yorks), 2007, extension

### **BECK, William** (1823-1907), ARIBA (1845-77)

A Quaker historian and architect of London. Together with T. Frederick Ball, he wrote *The London Friends' Meetings* of 1869 (also known as 'Beck & Ball' after the authors). Notable works by Beck include the Quaker Bedford Institute, London (1865, since demolished), the Saffron Walden General Hospital (1866, built with money from the Gibson family of Quaker bankers), the British and Foreign School Society's Training College for Masters in Borough Road, London (1858), as well as a wing for the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Victoria Park, London. In the 1860s and 1870s, Beck was in partnership with W.W. LEE. He was surveyor to Six Weeks Meeting by 1862 and until c.1874, when he was succeeded by Lee.

- Epping (Essex), 1850
- Reigate (Surrey), 1857 (demolished)
- Hastings (East Sussex), 1865-6

### **BEECH, Gerald Rushworth** (1921-2013), see BEECH & THOMAS

### **BEECH & THOMAS**

The partnership of Dewi-Prys THOMAS (1916-85), of Liverpool, and Gerald R. BEECH. Their collaborations included the Heswall meeting house and Cedarwood house in Liverpool (Grade II\*).

- Heswall (Ches), 1961-2 (and 1970 extension by Beech)

### **BENNETT & BIDWELL**

The partnership of Robert BENNETT (1878-1956) and Benjamin Wilson BIDWELL (1877-1944), former assistants of Parker & Unwin. They established an office in Letchworth in 1907, designed numerous buildings there and became significant figures in the garden city movement.

- Letchworth (Herts), 1907 \*

### **BENNETT, Robert** (1878-1956), see BENNETT & BIDWELL

### **Gordon BENOY & Partners**

- Barnsley (South Yorks), 1968-9

### **BERNARD TAYLOR PARTNERSHIP**, see Vicky SAUNDERS

### **BEVANS, John** (fl. 1789-1808)

A Quaker builder and architect of Plaistow (Essex). Apart from designing several meeting houses, he was also responsible for the Retreat at York (1794-6)\*, a model institution 'for insane persons of the Society of Friends', and the Friends' School at Islington (1780s; demolished).

- London, Devonshire House (Greater London), from 1789 (demolished)
- Winchmore Hill (Greater London), 1790 \* (unconfirmed attribution)
- Westminster (Greater London), 1799 (demolished)

- Guildford (Surrey), 1804-06 \*
- Derby (Derbys), 1808 \*

**BIDWELL, Benjamin Wilson** (1877-1944), see BENNETT & BIDWELL

**BINYON, Brightwen** FRIBA (1846-1905)

A Quaker and architect, based in Ipswich. He went to the Friends' School in Kendal and trained under Alfred WATERHOUSE between 1863 and 1871.

- Colchester (Essex), 1891, extension

**BIRCHALL, Edward** (1838-1903)

Architect, of Leeds. He designed a Quaker mortuary chapel at Adel (West Yorks) in 1870 which was later converted to meeting house use.

- Leeds, Woodhouse (West Yorks), 1867-68

**BLACKIE, James**, architect, of Tricker Blackie Architects

- Sudbury (Suffolk), 2012, extension and alterations

**BLESSLEY, William H.** (fl. 1868-73)

- Middlesbrough (North Yorks), 1873

**BLOMFIELD, Giles**

The practice is now known as Blomfield Cartlidge, Truro.

- Truro (Corn), 1981-82, alterations \*
- St Austell (Corn), 1983, alterations \*
- St Austell (Corn), 2002-4, extension and alterations \*

**BOTTOMLEY, J.**, architect, possibly identical with John Mitchell Bottomley (1847-1935)

- Saltburn (North Yorks), 1887 (no longer in Quaker ownership)

**BOURNE, Cecil John** (1920-91)

Formed partnership of CECIL BOURNE & WOODS with Philip WOODS

- Wisbech (Cambs), 1971-2, alterations and extensions \*

**Cecil BOURNE & WOODS**, see Cecil BOURNE and Philip WOODS

**BOYS, Edwin**, of Cambridge

- Cambridge (Cambs), 1895, alteration

**BRAITHWAITE, Geoffrey Morland** (1881-1965)

A Quaker architect, of Kendal

- Kendal (Cumbria), 1934-6, alterations

**BRAMHALL BLENKHAM ARCHITECTS**

- New Earswick (North Yorks), 2002, extension

### **BRIGG, Edward**

A Quaker and amateur architect

- Maidstone (Kent), 1812 (demolished)

### **BROWN, Leonard L. ARIBA** (fl. 1935-39)

A Quaker and architect, member of Letchworth meeting

- Peterborough (Cambs), 1935-36
- Colchester (Essex), 1938
- New Barnet (Herts), 1939

### **BROWN & ALBURY**

A partnership formed by John Thomas BROWN (1942-c1885) and Frederick William ALBURY, of Reading

- Reading (Berks), mission hall and classroom block, 1880 (no longer in Quaker ownership)

### **BROWNING, Arnold J.** of C. FRANK TIMOTHY ASSOCIATES

- Cheltenham (Glos), 1984-85

### **B.S. ASSOCIATES** of Oxford

- Swindon (Wilts), 1976, extension

### **BURGESS, Edward** (1847-1928 or 1929)

A Quaker (according to Butler until c.1909) and architect, of London. Notable works include the Friends' School at Saffron Walden (1879) and additions to the Saffron Walden town hall (1880), both of which were due to the generosity of George Stacey Gibson, a prominent local Quaker. Burgess's known works also include a department store for Messrs Rowntree at Scarborough in the 1880s and a wing for the Quaker Mount School at York (c.1882). Fred ROWNTREE worked in his office in 1881-84.

- Leicester (Leics), 1876 (no longer in Quaker ownership)

### **CARLINE, John** (1761-1835)

A mason, builder and architect of Shrewsbury. His works in Shrewsbury include the Welsh Bridge (1793-5) and St Almund's church (1794-5), both of which he designed and built. His son John III Carline also became an architect and builder, while his son Thomas became a sculptor and later Surveyor of Bridges to the North Riding of Yorkshire.

- Shrewsbury (Salop), 1807 or 1808 (no longer in Quaker ownership)

### **CASTLE, Hubert H.** (d. 1942)

A Quaker and architect

- South Manchester, Wythenshawe Road (Gtr Manchester), 1939

### **CLAYTON & BLACK**

A prolific and eclectic Brighton practice of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Among notable works are the baroque offices of the Royal Assurance Society, Brighton (1904, Grade II). See also HOLFORD & CLAYTON.

- Brighton (East Sussex), 1876-77, extension and alterations \*

- Tunbridge Wells (Kent), 1894

**CLEWER, James Selby**

A Quaker and architect to the Bournville Village Trust

- Birmingham Hall Green, 1963, alterations
- Redditch (Worcs), 1974

**CLIFFORD, LEE & GALE**, see Frederick W. GREGORY

**CODLING, Christopher C., RIBA**

The son of PETER CODLING

- Beccles (Suffolk), 1983, extension
- North Walsham (Norfolk), 1984, restoration \*
- Norwich (Norfolk), 1987, alteration

**CODLING, Peter ARIBA**

Architect, based in Norwich.

- Sheringham (Norfolk), 1963 (also extension of 1987)

**COLLIS, John** (d. 1827), of Chelmsford

- Chelmsford (Essex), 1823-24 (no longer in Quaker ownership) \*

**COTTERELL, Albert Player Isaac AMICE** (1861-1951)

A Quaker and a surveyor and sanitary engineer

- Bristol Horfield, 1908-9

**COTTERELL, J. Frank (Francis)**

A Quaker architect of Bath and friend of the Clark family of Street, Somerset

- Street (Som), 1850 \*

**CULPIN, Ewart Gladstone FRIBA** (1877-1946)

An architect, social reformer, and chairman of the London County Council (1938-39). From 1936 he was in practice with his son, Clifford Culpin, as Culpin & Son (continued after E.G. Culpin's death as Clifford Culpin & Partners).

- Ilford (Essex), 1927

**DAGEN, Joe**, of Ritchie and Dagen of Dundee

- Dundee (Angus), 1989, alteration \*

**DALBY, Anthony**

- Keighley (West Yorks), c.1990, alterations

**DANNATT, (James) Trevor FRIBA** (born 1920)

Dannatt designed the Assembly Hall \* (1965-6) at the Bootham (Quaker) School, York, and one meeting house. He was also consulted over 1972 proposals for alterations to Friends House, London \*.

- Blackheath (Greater London), 1971-2



**DAUKES, Samuel Whitfield (1811-80)**

A pupil of James Pigott PRITCHETT. Daukes (also spelled Dawkes) practised mainly in Gloucester, Cheltenham and London, specialising in railway stations and churches. He won the competitions to design the Friends' School \* at Sidcot (Som., design 1834, built 1838) and for the second Middlesex County Asylum at Colney Hatch (1847-51). His practice was continued by James Philip MOORE.

- Gloucester (Glos), 1835 \*
- Cheltenham (Glos), 1836 (no longer in Quaker ownership), unconfirmed attribution\*
- Hitchin (Herts), 1840 (no longer in Quaker ownership) \*
- Staines (London), 1844 (demolished)

**DAWSON, Charles James (1850-1933)**

- Barking (Essex), 1903

**DENMAN, John Leopold (1882-1975)**

- Canterbury (Kent), 1956

**DENTON & TUNLEY**, partnership of Trevor Denton and Wayland TUNLEY

**DESIGN GROUP PARTNERSHIP**

- Chester (Ches), 1974-75

**DOUBLEDAY, William (1846-1938)**

A Quaker and architect, born in Great Coggeshall, son of the Quaker grocer William Doubleday (c.1807-86). He went to the Quaker School at Ackworth and was articled to John Ross of Darlington, George Bidlake of Wolverhampton, James Tait of Leicester and A.T. Jackson of Belfast. In 1874, he was in partnership with Edward Banks at Wolverhampton; the practice later extended to Birmingham. He built a number of banks.

- Coggeshall (Essex), 1877

**ELLIOT MANNING PARTNERSHIP**

- Keswick (Cumbria), 1995

**EVANS, Kenneth Halstead ARIBA**

A Quaker and architect

- Southport (Lancs), 1960
- Wrexham (Clwyd), 1965 (demolished)
- St Helens (Lancs), 1965-6, extensions
- Wigan (Lancs), 1971, conversion
- Liverpool Paradise St, 1982 (demolished)

**FORD, Hugh Hubbard FRIBA (1906-1980)**

He trained under Sir Albert Richardson and then became an assistant in Sir Aston Webb's practice. He set up in private practice in Eastbourne, where he undertook much post-war planning and housing work. In 1965 the practice became formally a partnership and by 1974 there were offices in Brighton and London.

- Eastbourne (East Sussex), 1938-39 (conversion), 1951-52 (rebuilding)

**FOWLER, Henry Tutty** ARIBA (1874-1934)

A Quaker and architect. He trained in the office of John F. Curwen, of Kendal. In 1902, he set up in private practice and in 1904 he took over the practice of J.Y. MacIntosh at Barrow-in-Furness. His principal works include the Wesleyan Methodist Kings Hall in Barrow, as well as buildings and extensions for the North Lonsdale Hospital, the Barrow Co-operative Society and the Barrow Board of Guardians. His successor was George Whitfield.

- Brigflatts (West Yorks), 1900-05, restoration and alterations
- Cheltenham (Glos), 1903 (demolished)

**FOX, Francis** (1818-1914)

A Quaker and railway engineer, of Teignmouth, Devon

- Wellington (Som), 1845 \*

**FOXLEY, Paul** of Foxley Architects

- Ilkley (West Yorks), 2000-01, extension

**FRANKLIN, Robert** of Oxford

- Charlbury (Oxon), 1990-1, extension \*

**FRASER, Richard** FRIBA

- New Earswick (North Yorks), 1966

**FRITH (or FIRTH), Edward** (1685-c.1747)

A prominent member of Stafford Monthly Meeting and of the Quarterly Meeting from 1717. He went bankrupt in 1737. Denis Stuarts's 2001 PhD thesis *The Early Quaker Movement in Staffordshire, 1651-1743* has a brief biographical note but makes no mention of him being an architect or builder.

- Stafford (Staffs), 1730 \*

**FRITH, Norman Laurence** (1914-2015) ARIBA, RICS, MSIA

A Quaker and architect

- Romford (Essex), 1961
- Harlow (Essex), 1962
- Wanstead (Essex), 1968
- Saffron Walden (Essex), 1969, alterations and extensions
- Canterbury (Kent), 1971, extension
- Maidstone (Kent), 1976
- Ambleside (Cumbria), 1984, alterations (no longer in Quaker ownership) \*

**GARDENER, Alfred H.** FRIBA

- Coventry (Warks), 1953
- Leicester (Leics), 1955

**GARNER, Michael**

- Llandrindod Wells (Powys), 1985

### **Ainsley GOMMON Architects**

Architectural practice based in Liverpool and Hawarden (Flintshire)

- Wrexham (Clwyd), 2006
- Liverpool, 2006 (in association with PAGE AND PARK) and 2012, alterations

### **GOULD, Caroline**

- Claverham (Som), 2000, extension \*

### **GRAYSON, George Enoch** FRIBA (1833/4-1912)

An architect of Liverpool. He began private practice in 1857 and from 1886 he was in partnership with Edward Ould. His son, George Hastwell Grayson (1871-1951) later became a partner in the practice. Grayson and Ould built a number of listed buildings, including churches, banks and housing at Port Sunlight.

- Birkenhead (Ches), 1892

### **GREGORY, Frederick W.** ARIBA

A Quaker and architect, practised as part of CLIFFORD, LEE & GALE

- Stafford, 1956, restoration
- Uttoxeter (Staffs), 1958 or 1961, restoration
- Cotteridge (Warks), 1964
- Wolverhampton (Staffs), 1969
- Hartshill (Warks), 1972

### **Geoffrey GUNNING & ASSOCIATES**, of Ivybridge

- Plymouth (Devon), 2003

### **William TELFORD GUNSON & SON**

A practice founded by William Telford Gunson, who served his articles in London, and worked in the city surveyor's office in Manchester, before setting up in private practice in 1873. He was joined by his son, Ernest Gunson. The surveying side of the practice still continues as 'W.T. Gunson'.

- Bolton (Greater Manchester), 1971-72

### **HALL & WOOD**, see L. Sutton WOOD

### **HALLIDAY & AGATE**, of Manchester

- Mount Street, Manchester (Greater Manchester), 1962, alterations \*

### **HARRISON, T.** of JACKSON & JACKSON of Ashford and Folkestone, Kent

- Ashford (Kent), 1956-57

### **HARRISON & HALL**, architects

- Wyresdale (Lancs), 1883 (no longer in Quaker ownership)

### **HART, R.P.**, of ROTHESAY BUILDING DESIGN

- Bedford (Beds), 1998-99, extension

**HARVEY, William Alexander** (1874-1951)

Architect to Bournville Village Trust

- Birmingham, Bournville (Warks), 1905 \*

**HASLAM & CHAPMAN**, of Bolton, see also SHAW & VOWLES

- Marsden (Yorks), 1909, extension (attribution based on drawings at the MH)

**HENMAN, William**

- Edgbaston (Warks), 1893

**HICKMAN, Ernest James** ARIBA, part of the firm JACKSON & JACKSON

- Birmingham Northfield (Warks), 1930

**HODGSON & TRITTON**

- Carlisle (Cumbria), 1963

**HOLFORD & CLAYTON**, probably the same firm as CLAYTON & BLACK, the architects of the works at Brighton as given in the *Buildings of England* (Butler gives Holford & Clayton)

- Brighton (East Sussex), 1876-77, extension and alterations \*

**HOLROYD, P.T.**

- Wakefield (West Yorks), 1965

**HORNBLOWER, Lewis**

- Birkenhead (Ches), 1854 (no longer in Quaker ownership)

**HOWARD, Martin**

A Quaker, architect and member of Great Bardfield meeting

- Great Bardfield (Essex), 1985-86, extension \*

**HUNTER, CRUICKSHANK & SEWARD**

- Mount Street, Manchester (Greater Manchester), 1923, alterations

**HYDE, Norman V.** ARIBA (fl. 1963-81)

- Luton (Bedfs), 1963
- Watford (Herts), 1970, extension
- Harpenden (Herts), 1972 alterations
- St Albans (Herts), 1981, alterations

**IMRIE, PORTER & WAKEFIELD**

Architectural practice of Warminster, successor to a series of partnerships founded by George Blair Imrie (1885-1952), including Stoddard, Pine-Coffin & Imrie; Pine-Coffin, Imrie & Angell (1913-1930s); Imrie & Scott-Willey (1930s to late 1940s).

- Bedminster (Bristol), 1954

**INNERDALE, James**

- Airton (North Yorks), 2004-11, restoration \*

**INSALL, Sir Donald** RIBA (born 1926)

Surveyor to Six Weeks Meeting

- St Albans (Herts), 1995, extension
- Walthamstow (Essex), 1997, conversion

**JACKSON & JACKSON**, possibly two different practices of that name, see E.J. HICKMAN and T. HARRISON

**JACKSON, Leonard L.**

A Quaker, architect and member of the Reading meeting

- Maidenhead (Berks), 1935

**JOHNSON, E. Austen** of Huddersfield

- Wooldale (West Yorks), 1985, extension \*

**JOLLEY EDWARDS ASSOCIATES**

- Barnt Green, Birmingham, 1969

**JONES, STOCKS AND PARTNERS**

- Friargate, York (Yorks), 1981, extension

**KELLY, William**

- Aberdeen (Aberd), 1902

**KITCHING & LEE**

- Shildon (Durham), 1907 (no longer in Quaker ownership)

**KONRAD, Joseph**

Quaker and member of the Hull Local Meeting

- Beverley (Yorks), 1961

**LANDER, Harold Clapham** (1869-1955)

A Fabian and an associate of Ebenezer Howard. He practised as LANDER & KEMP.

- Welwyn Garden City (Herts), 1926

**LANDER & KEMP**, SEE Harold Clapham LANDER

**LANE, Richard** (1795-1880)

Lane was Manchester's 'first strictly professional architect' (Colvin) and its principal architect during the 1820s and 30s. He built or remodelled some of the city's most important public and institutional buildings, for some years in partnership with P.B. ALLEY (with whom Alfred WATERHOUSE actually served his articles). Lane retired in 1859.

- Mount Street, Manchester (Greater Manchester), 1828-31 \*

### **LANGLEY, John**, of TECTUS ARCHITECTURE

- Kingston (Greater London), 2014

### **LEE, William Ward** (1823-85)

Architect and surveyor to Six Weeks Meeting from c.1874, at various times in partnership with William BECK (1860s and 1870s) and John Allen Tregelles (c.1883). Beck & Lee were architects to the Improved Industrial Dwellings Company, with Lee as the named architect for the Company's Coleshill, Ebury and Lumley Buildings, London. Lee was responsible for the Memorial Hall at Bunhill Fields, London (1881, largely destroyed during the war) and possibly also for the adjacent adult school (1888).

- Bunhill Fields (Greater London), 1881 (the former manager's house of the Memorial Hall)
- Westminster (Greater London), 1883 (partly destroyed)

### **LESTER, John Milne** LRIBA (born 1864)

He was apprenticed to John Hall THORP of Leeds in the 1880s. He set up in private practice in 1894.

- Willesden (Greater London), 1900 (no longer in Quaker ownership)

### **LIDBETTER, Hubert** FRIBA (1885-1966)

A Quaker and prolific architect of meeting houses. Born in Dublin, he attended the Quaker schools of Ackworth and Bootham before being articled to Henry Higginson of Carlisle (1902-6). He subsequently worked for the architects Fred ROWNTREE (1906), Arthur Heron Ryan-Tenison, and Ashley & Newman. He set up his own practice in 1918 in association with Gerald Warren (1881-1936). In 1923, he won the limited competition for Friends House, London. He was surveyor to Six Weeks Meeting (1935-57) and from 1950 practised with his son H. MARTIN LIDBETTER as H. & H.M. LIDBETTER. As well as designing numerous meeting houses, he worked on most Friends' schools and built Methodist and Congregationalist churches. He was Vice-President of the RIBA in 1942-3. His wife Ethelwyn (1882-1976) and his sister's husband Herbert (Ethelwyn's brother) were members of the Rowntree family and distant relatives of the architect Fred Rowntree in whose practice Lidbetter briefly worked in 1906. (Fred Rowntree's aunt Hannah was Ethelwyn's maternal grandmother.)

- Friends House (Greater London), 1925-27 \*
- Selly Oak, Birmingham, 1926-8, unconfirmed attribution
- Bull Street, Birmingham, 1931-33
- Blue Idol, Thakeham (West Sussex), 1934-5, restoration and extension \*
- Harrow (Greater London), 1935
- Staines (Greater London), 1936 (demolished)
- St Albans (Herts), 1937, minor alterations
- Horsham (Surrey), 1939, extension \*
- Sutton Coldfield (Warks), 1939
- Liverpool (Lancs), 1941 (demolished)

**H. & H.M. LIDBETTER**, see also Hubert LIDBETTER and H. Martin LIDBETTER

The practice's non-Quaker works include the East London Tabernacle Baptist Church (1955), and the Salvation Army's International Headquarters in the City of London (1961-63, demolished).

- Hertford (Herts), 1952, restoration \*
- Watford (Herts), 1953
- Ealing (Greater London), 1954
- Southend (Essex), 1955, alteration
- Hammersmith (Greater London), 1954-55
- Westminster (Greater London), 1956
- Croydon (Greater London), 1956-9
- Stoke Newington (Greater London), 1957
- Streatham & Brixton (Greater London), 1957
- Wandsworth (Greater London), 1957, alterations and extension \*
- Amersham (Bucks), 1957, extension \*
- Brentwood (Essex), 1957
- Epping (Essex), 1957, alteration (attribution)
- Jordans (Bucks), 1958, alterations and extension \*
- Brentford & Isleworth (Greater London), 1958, addition
- Brentwood (Essex), 1959-60, extension
- Kingston (Surrey), 1960, alteration
- Horsham (Surrey), 1961, restoration \*
- Harrow (Greater London), 1962, extension
- Uxbridge (Greater London), 1962, extension \*
- Tottenham (Greater London), 1962
- Muswell Hill (Greater London), 1962, extension
- Ifield (Sussex), 1957 or 1960-2, alteration \*
- Sheffield Central (West Yorks), 1962-64 (no longer in Quaker ownership)
- Spalding (Lincs), 1965, alteration and 1966, extension

**LIDBETTER, (Hubert) Martin** (1914-92)

He joined his father Hubert LIDBETTER in practice in 1950 and succeeded to his posts as surveyor to Six Weeks Meeting (from 1958) and consultant architect to Friends House (from 1966).

- Edgware (Greater London), 1967
- Sunderland (Tyne & Wear), 1969, conversion
- Bewdley (Worcs), 1970, extension \*
- Forest Hill (Greater London), 1973, extension
- Sutton (Surrey), 1969-70
- Egham (Surrey), 1971 or c.1973, conversion

**LOCKWOOD, Henry Francis** FRIBA (1811-78)

Architect of Hull, Bradford and London. He was articled to Peter Frederick Robinson and commenced practice in Hull in c.1834. He was in practice with William Mawson and Richard MAWSON. He was architect to Sir Titus Salt of Saltaire.

see LOCKWOOD & MAWSON

**LOCKWOOD, Frederick William** (1840-1917)

A Quaker and architect, he practised in Belfast but retired to Yorkshire in c.1900.

- Lincoln (Lincs), 1910 \*

**LOCKWOOD & MAWSON**

From 1849 Henry Francis LOCKWOOD was in partnership with Richard MAWSON.

- Bradford, Fountain Street (West Yorks), 1877 (no longer in Quaker ownership)

**MAITLAND, Waldo**

- Come-to-Good (Corn), 1967, extension \*

**MANNING, Thomas**

- Sibford Gower (Oxon), 1864

**MARSH, John**

A Quaker, surveyor to Six Weeks Meeting. Part of the Marsh, Eddison, Brown Partnership

- Muswell Hill (Greater London), 1982-5, extension
- Purley (Greater London), 1985-6, extension
- Oxford (Oxon), 1986, alteration
- Winchmore Hill (London), 1987, refurbishment and extension \*
- Ealing (Greater London), 1990, extension
- Hampstead (Greater London), 1990, refurbishment \*

**MARSH, R.S.**, architect and surveyor

- Cockermouth (Cumbria), 1884, rebuilding of 1782 meeting house

**MASON GILLIBRAND**, architects of Lancaster

- Settle (North Yorks), 2004, extension \*

**MAUGER, Paul Victor Edison**, FRIBA (1896–1982)

A Quaker and architect of Welwyn Garden City and Welwyn. He attended the Friends' School in Saffron Walden and trained at the Architectural Association. As well as Quaker meeting houses, he and his practice built at least nine Methodist churches, as well as laboratories (c.1956) for the Friends' School, Saffron Walden. He was president of the Essex, Cambs & Herts Society of Architects in 1956-7. The practice was known as Paul Mauger & Partners; Mauger Gavin & Associates/Partners; and Mauger, Gavin, Mathers & Mitchell.

- St Albans (Herts), 1957, extension
- Chelmsford (Essex), 1957-58
- Hemel Hempstead (Herts), 1958, alterations \*
- Hitchin (Herts), 1957
- Bromley (Greater London), 1961-2
- Eccles (Lancs), 1962
- Warrington (Lancs), 1962, alterations and unexecuted alterations of 1963
- South Manchester, Wythenshawe Road (Greater Manchester), 1963, extension
- Berkhamsted (Herts), 1964, alterations and extension \*
- Slough (Bucks), 1966
- Stansted Mountfichet (Essex), 1967



- Welwyn Garden City (Herts), 1968, alterations and extension
- Hemel Hempstead (Herts), 1974, alterations \*

**MAWSON, Richard** (1834-1904), see LOCKWOOD & MAWSON

**MAXWELL & TUKE**

Architectural firm of Manchester founded by James Maxwell (died 1893) and William Charles Tuke (died 1893), and later headed by Francis William Maxwell (born 1863).

- Ilkley (West Yorks), 1869

**MILLWARD, Henry**

An architect and builder

- Woonton (Heref), 1888 (no longer in Quaker ownership)

**MODECE ARCHITECTS**, of Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk

- Bury St Edmunds (Suff.), 2007-8, extension \*

**MOORE, James Philip** (fl. 1872-1902)

Moore continued the practice of S.W. Daukes. His practice archive is held by Gloucestershire Archives.

- Gloucester (Glos), 1879, extension \*

**NICHOLS, William**

A Quaker and builder, of Gloucester

- Swindon (Wilts), 1901
- Cinderford (Glos), 1930 (demolished)

**PAGE AND PARK**, of Glasgow

- Liverpool, 2006 (in association with Ainsley GOMMON)

**PATIENCE, John Thomas** (c.1774-1842 or 43)

A surveyor of Norwich, became City Surveyor in 1836 and designed several public buildings in Norwich.

- Norwich Goat Lane (Norfolk), 1826 \*

**PECKOVER, Algernon** (1803–1893)

A Quaker and amateur architect. He was a member of the Peckover family of Wisbech and designed several other buildings in Wisbech, including 22-25 North Brink.

- Wisbech (Cambs), 1854 \*

**PEPLER, Sir George Lionel** (1882-1959)

He attended the Bootham (Quaker) School in York, and Leys School, Cambridge. He was articled to the surveyor Walter Hooker of Croydon and began independent practice in 1903 or 1904. From 1905 until 1914 he was in partnership with Ernest Gladstone ALLEN as Pepler & Allen. He left to become chief technical planning inspector at the Local Government Board, a post he retained through organisational changes until 1946. In 1953, he won the first gold

medal of the Town Planning Institute, whose president he had been in 1919-20 and 1949-50. He was awarded the Companion of the Bath in 1944 and was knighted in 1948.

- Purley (Greater London), 1909

#### **PERCY THOMAS PARTNERSHIP**

The Percy Thomas Partnership, one of the most commercially successful British architectural practices of the twentieth century, was founded in 1912, when Percy Thomas (1883–1969) set up in private architectural practice together with Ivor Jones.

- Exeter (Devon), 1992, extension

#### **PETER HING & JONES**

- Birmingham Bull Street, Priory Rooms extension

#### **PHILIP PROCTOR ASSOCIATES**

- Shaftesbury (Dorset), 2004, extension
- Taunton (Som), 2015, extension

#### **PICKERING, Andrew**

- Pontefract (West Yorks), 1998

#### **PLACE ARCHITECTS** of Lincoln

- Balby, Doncaster (South Yorks), 2009, extension

#### **PLEVINS, Thomas**, of Birmingham

- Birmingham, Bull Street (Warks), 1857

#### **PRITCHETT, James Pigott**, the elder (1789-1868)

He was articled to James Medland of Southwark and started practice in London in 1812 but moved to York shortly afterwards. From January 1813 until 1831 he was in partnership with Charles Watson (as WATSON & PRITCHETT). He designed a number of churches, chapels and public buildings; his favourite style was Perpendicular or Tudor Gothic. He was a Congregationalist. Two of his sons (Charles and James) also became architects. S.W. DAUKES was one of his pupils.

- York (East Yorks), 1817
- Ackworth (West Yorks), 1846-7 \* (part of Ackworth Quaker School)

#### **POWELL, Herbert J.** FSA

- Almeley Wootton (Heref), 1956, restoration \*

#### **PPIY Ltd**, architect of York

- Friargate, York (Yorks), 2013-15, extension

#### **PYMER, N.H.**

- Chesham (Bucks), 1962-4, extension \*

**PRICE, Hans Fowler** (fl. 1859-1909)

Architect of Weston super Mare

- Clevedon (Som), 1868

**RAYSON, Thomas** FRIBA (1888-1976)

Rayson set up private practice in Oxford in 1920, after winning the Witney Housing Scheme competition. He specialised in private houses and war memorials.

- Oxford (Oxon), 1954-5

**RIBBANS, William P.**, of Ipswich

- Leiston (Suffolk), 1860 \*

**RICKMAN, Thomas** FSA (1776-1841)

An architect and antiquary of a Quaker family. A self-taught architect, he commenced professional practice in December 1817 in Liverpool. He was a major figure in the Gothic Revival and his churches were generally designed in an (for their time) unusually scholarly Gothic. A Quaker for most of his life, he joined the Irvingites few years before his death. His son, Thomas Miller Rickman (1827-1912), also an architect, worked occasionally with Alfred WATERHOUSE.

- Liverpool (Lancs), 1818, alterations (demolished)

**ROBERTS, David Owen Morris** (1866-1924), of Porthmadoc

- Llandrindod Wells (Powys), 1897-98 (no longer in Quaker ownership)

**ROBINSON, Matthew**, Quaker and architect of Helston

- Marazion (Corn), 2007, alterations \*

**ROTHESAY BUILDING DESIGN**, see R.P. HART

**ROWNTREE, Frederick** FRIBA (1860-1927)

A Quaker and an architect. He was articled to Charles A. BURY of Scarborough, and commenced independent practice in Scarborough in 1884 where he was in partnership until 1890 with Charles Edeson (as Edeson & Rowntree). From 1890 to 1900, he practised in Glasgow in a partnership with Malcolm Stark (born c.1854) as STARK & ROWNTREE. In 1901, he moved to London. From 1912, he was in partnership with his sons Douglas Woodville Rowntree (1888-1966) and Colin Rowntree (1891-1965) (as FRED ROWNTREE & SONS). In 1923, he was one of five Quaker architects invited to take part in the competition for Friends House, London. Apart from meeting houses, Rowntree worked on a number of Quaker buildings including most Friends' schools, the Roscoe Rooms in Scarborough (1903), Barclay Hall for the Bedford Institute Association (1905-6, sold) and the Mission Hall in Walthamstow (1906, no longer in Quaker ownership). He was among a group of Friends who restored the Jordans Meeting House \* (reopened in 1910); he also was instrumental in the acquisition and refurbishment of the Old Jordans Farmhouse, and the design of the projected Jordans Village (1919-23). He was distantly related to the chocolate-making Rowntrees of York as well as to Hubert LIDBETTER's wife. Rowntree also built a number of houses for family members, as well as buildings for the Rowntree Cocoa Works (1890-98, 1904). His sons continued the practice after his death.

- Dundee (Angus), 1891-93 \*
- Scarborough (West Yorks), 1894 (demolished)
- Hampstead (Greater London), 1907 \*
- Golders Green (Greater London), 1913 \*
- Muswell Hill (Greater London), 1926
- Cambridge (Cambs), 1927, extension

### **Fred ROWNTREE & SONS**

Practice founded by Fred ROWNTREE and continued by his sons, Douglas and Colin.

- Cambridge (Cambs), 1950, repairs

### **RUMSBY & RODD**

- Bournemouth (Dorset), 1912

**SANDERSON, James Wright** (1770-1813), architect, of Reading. He was a pupil of James Wyatt.

- Reading (Berks), 1807, alterations (demolished)

### **SANDON, Edward**

A builder and developer, of Southampton. He built several houses in the same road (Ordnance Road) as the meeting house.

- Southampton (Hants), 1884

### **SAUNDERS, Vicky**, part of the BERNARD TAYLOR PARTNERSHIP

- Stockport (Greater Manchester), 2015

### **SCOTT, Joseph**, of Oldham

- Oldham, Turf Lane (Lancs), 1884 (demolished)

### **SEARLES, Michael** (1751-1813)

A surveyor, of London. He trained with his father, also called Michael (died 1799), a carpenter and surveyor of Greenwich. Most of his works were residential developments in South London and he is perhaps best known for the Paragon in Blackheath (c.1793-1807)\*.

- Poole (Dorset), 1796 (no longer in Quaker ownership) \*

### **SHAW & VOWLES**, see also HASLAM & CHAPMAN

- Marsden (Yorks), 1909, extension (unconfirmed attribution)

### **SILK WILSON & SON**, of Manchester

- Preston (Lancs), 1925

### **SMITH, Charles** FRIBA (1832-1912)

After being articled to W.F. Poulton of Reading and working as assistant to W.M. Teulon, he set up in private practice in Reading in 1857. In 1893, he took his son Charles Steward Smith FRIBA (1858-1923) into partnership as Charles Smith & Son. Another son, John Arthur Smith also worked as architect, in Basingstoke. Charles senior was mayor of Reading in 1874-6, as well as a JP and magistrate. His works include halls of residence for the University

College, Reading, as well as (Old) Whiteknights House\* (1858) near Reading for Alfred Waterhouse senior, father of the architect Alfred WATERHOUSE. (The practice's papers are at the Berkshire Record Office.)

- Henley-on-Thames (Oxon), 1894
- Coventry (Warks), 1896-7 (no longer in Quaker ownership)
- Pangbourne (Berks), 1896 (no longer in Quaker ownership)

**SPARKES, Joseph** (1817-1855)

Sparkes was born into a Quaker family at Exeter, where his father was a haberdasher. By 1847 he had moved to Darlington; in 1853 he was appointed Architect to the Stockton & Darlington Railway. His most notable building at Darlington is the Mechanics' Institute of 1853. The Census of 1851 gives his profession as carpenter and by the time of his death in 1855 he was described as a builder. The attribution of the Darlington Meeting House is not entirely clear (see Joshua SPARKES).

- Darlington (Durham), 1846 (unconfirmed attribution) \*

**SPARKES, Joshua**

Joshua, son of John Morse Sparkes (b. 1817), was a relative of Joseph SPARKES, who is also credited with the Darlington meeting house.

- Darlington (Durham), 1847 (unconfirmed attribution) \*

**SPENCE, Charles C. ARIBA**

- Newcastle (Northum), 1961, extension
- Great Ayton (North Yorks), 1967-68, alteration \*

**HUGH V. SPRINCE & PARTNERS**

- Finchley (Greater London), 1967

**STARK & ROWNTREE**, see Frederick ROWNTREE

**STEWART, James** (c.1830-1974), of Carlisle

- Carlisle (Cumbria), 1864, alterations (no longer in Quaker ownership)

**STURGE, Theodore**, Quaker surveyor

- Sidcot (Som), 1926, remodelling

**SYKES, ABEL, TROTTER**, see Michael SYKES and Edwin TROTTER

**Michael SYKES & ASSOCIATES**, see Michael SYKES

**SYKES, Michael** ARIBA (1932-96)

A Quaker and architect, practising as MICHAEL SYKES & ASSOCIATES; SYKES, ABEL, TROTTER; ABEL SYKES PARTNERSHIP.

- Leeds, Roundhay (West Yorks), 1957
- Bridlington (East Yorks), 1984, alterations (no longer in Quaker ownership)
- Leeds, Carlton Hill (West Yorks), 1987
- Sheffield, St James' Street (West Yorks), 1989-90

- Leeds, Rawdon (West Yorks), 1989-91, alterations \*
- Scholes (West Yorks), 1991, extension
- Malton (North Yorks), 1991-93, refurbishment and restoration \*

**TECTUS ARCHITECTURE**, see John LANGLEY

**THOMAS, Bryant K.** ARIBA

- Colchester (Essex), 1971-4, extension behind retained façades

**THOMAS, Dewi-Prys** ARIBA (1916-85)

An architect of Liverpool, practising with Gerald R. BEECH as BEECH & THOMAS. Their collaborations included the Heswall meeting house and a house known as Cedarwood in Liverpool (Grade II\*). See BEECH & THOMAS

**THORP, John Hall** (1823-1904)

A Quaker, builder and timber merchant, father of William Henry THORP

- Carperby (North Yorks), 1864 (no longer in Quaker ownership)

**THORP, William Henry** FRIBA (1852-1944)

A Quaker, son of John Hall THORP

- Scholes (West Yorks), 1883
- Friargate, York (East Yorks), 1884 (partly demolished)

**THORPE, Thomas**, Quaker surveyor

- Beverley (Yorks), 1811 (demolished)

**C. FRANK TIMOTHY ASSOCIATES** see Arnold J. BROWNING

**TREW, Harold Fletcher** FRIBA FSA (b. 1888)

A Quaker and architect, in partnership with H.S. Davis from 1914

- Sidcot (Som), 1926, remodelling (unconfirmed attribution by Butler)

**TRICKER BLACKIE ASSOCIATES**, see James BLACKIE

**TROTTER, Edwin**

- Scarborough (Yorks), 1990
- Great Ayton (North Yorks), 2001, refurbishment and alterations \*

**TULLY, George** (1688-1770)

A Quaker, carpenter and surveyor. He was apprenticed to the Bristol carpenter John Stibbs and later to John Price. He laid out and developed a number of streets and squares in Bristol. Wesley's New Room in Bristol (1748) has been attributed to him. The meeting house in Bristol is credited to George and his son William TULLY, who worked together as 'builders and surveyors'. The stonework and the architectural details of the Bristol meeting house were by the local architect Thomas Paty.

- Bristol, Quakers Friars, 1747-49 (no longer in Quaker ownership) \*

**TULLY, William** (died 1763)

A Quaker and surveyor, who worked with his father George TULLY

- Bristol, Quakers Friars, 1747-49 (no longer in Quaker ownership) \*

**TUNLEY, Wayland**, of DENTON & TUNLEY

- Milton Keynes (Bucks), 1986

**TYLOR, Henry Bedford** (1871-1915)

Chief architect and surveyor to the Bournville Village Trust (1904-12)

- Rugby (Warks), 1908-9

**USHER & ANTHONY**

Architectural practice founded by John Usher (1822-1904) and Alfred Ernest Anthony (c.1853-1920), based at Bedford.

- Woburn Sands (Bucks), 1901

**VOELCKER, Adam and Frances** R/RIBA, Quakers

- Bangor (Gwynedd), 1983
- Oswestry (Salop), 1987, extension

**JOHN WALLIS & ASSOCIATES**

- Balby, Doncaster (South Yorks), 1975

**S. T. WALKER & PARTNERS**

- Kings Heath (Warks), 1983

**WATERHOUSE, Alfred** RA PPRIBA (1830-1905)

Gothic Revival architect of national renown. His most important works include the Manchester Town Hall (1868-77), and the Natural History Museum in South Kensington (1870-80). Born to Quaker parents, Waterhouse's early career was helped by commissions from Quaker clients, for example from J.W. Pease of Darlington. (He, his wife and children were baptised into the Church of England in 1877.) In 1848, he was articled to P.B. ALLEY and Richard LANE of Manchester. (Alley later stated that Waterhouse was formally articled to Lane as the head of the practice, but in fact was articled to himself.) In 1854, Waterhouse started practising in Manchester on his own. His competition-winning design for the Reeth Friends' school in Yorkshire of c.1860 remained unbuilt (Butler), as did his design for the meeting house in Liverpool (1857). Together with his son Paul, he also prepared designs for the Leighton Park Quaker School, the successor to the school in Tottenham which he had attended.

- Cartmel (Cumb), 1859
- Mount Street, Manchester (Greater Manchester), 1860s, alterations \*

**WATKINS, Griffith** (c.1745-1822)

Architect and builder of Haverfordwest (Pembs). He was responsible for building the Pembrokeshire County Gaol (1779-80; since demolished) within the ruins of the medieval Haverfordwest Castle, for building the New Inn (now Lord Nelson Hotel) in Milford Haven (1795-1800), and for developing a row of houses (c.1806) in Robert Street, Milford Haven.

- Milford Haven (Pembs), 1811 \*

**WATSON & PRITCHETT**, see James Pigott PRITCHETT

**WEBSTER, Francis** (1767-1827)

A builder, marble-mason and architect, of Kendal. He designed several local bridges and houses of correction, as well as the assembly rooms in Kendal. In c.1820 he took his son George (1797-1864) into partnership, practising as architect under the name 'Francis Webster & Son'. Francis Webster served as mayor of Kendal in 1823-4.

- Kendal (Cumbria), 1815-6

**WELLAND, John**

- Chichester (West Sussex), 1967

**WHITE, Peter**

- Ettington (Warks), 1986, extension \*

**WHITELEY, Donald**

Quaker architect

- Harrogate (Yorks), 1966 (Donald Whiteley with Elder Lester)

**WILLCOCKS, Conrad Birchwood** FRIBA FSA (1887-1972)

- Wallingford (Berks), c.1924-26, restoration \*

**WILLIAMS, Iowerth M.** ARIBA

A Quaker and architect

- Broad Campden (Glos), 1961-64, restoration \*

**WILLIAMS, Henry**

Architect, of Bristol

- Redland (Bristol), 1884-5

**WILSON, Lawrence**

- Blackburn (Lancs), 1928, extension

**WOFFENDEN, Robert**

- Plymouth (Devon), 2012, alteration

**WOLSTENHOLME, William**, probably a local builder

- Blackburn (Lancs), 1824

**WOOD, Joseph J.**, of Leeds

Designed and built the Quaker adult school of 1898 at Huddersfield (West Yorks)

- Keighley (West Yorks), 1936

**WOOD, L. Sutton**, practising as HALL & WOOD

- New Southgate (Greater London), 1911 (demolished)



**WOODS, Philip**

Woods was in partnership with Cecil J. BOURNE as CECIL BOURNE & WOODS

- Leiston (Suffolk), 1988, extension \*

**WOORE, J.A.**

J. A. Woore was in partnership with Naylor & Sale, a Derby architectural practice. In 1909, J. A. Woore built or rebuilt four houses in Fritchley, Quaker properties which came to the Fritchley Local Meeting as a bequest (three of which continue in Quaker ownership). A firm connected with Woore continues in Derby as Woore Watkins Architects.

- Fritchley (Derbys), 1897

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