

Lost village views

It was perhaps fitting that a pictorial tour of 'Lost village views' was the subject of the final talk of the local history group season. For some years members of the group have been collating pictures establishing a digital archive to pass on to future generations.

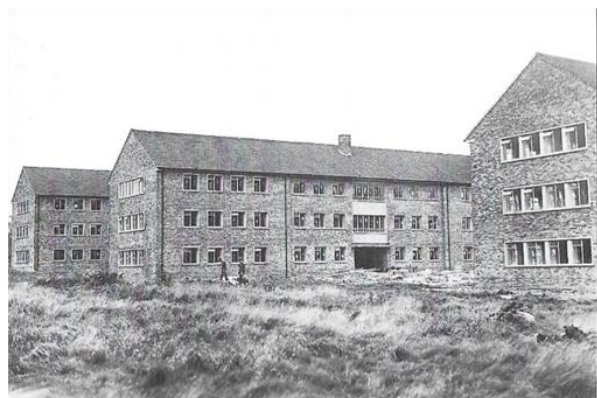
Very few streets remain unchanged from the early twentieth century with old houses demolished along with shops and other commercial properties to be replaced by modern structures.

We started with illustrations of two buildings that existed before Railton's 19th century Beaumanor Hall before moving on to some modest yet picturesque cottages that stood at one time opposite the church in Old Woodhouse. Hearing they were demolished for a road widening scheme that never materialised, prompted some sighs from the audience.

(**Picture a1**) Pictures of the army barracks that stood adjacent to Garat's Hay, as well as those on the site later occupied by Welbeck Defence College, evoked more feelings of nostalgia. (**picture a2**)



Picture 1a



Picture 2a

We were reminded of the Old Forge on the corner of Beacon road/ Main which laterally housed Beacon Pottery. (**Picture b**) The Bull's Head opposite has changed its appearance considerably over the years. We also saw a carrier's cottage, two earlier versions of the Baptist Church and the rather drastic alterations made to Dr Tuckett's 'Stone House' (opposite Long Close **picture c**) The stylish thatched cottage that stood adjacent to the track down to the playing fields was shown in various states of decay; another great loss. Recent incomers were surprised to discover the land adjacent to the Methodist Church was once occupied by a farmhouse once owned by the Wainwrights, known as 'Fir Tree



Picture b



Picture c

cottage/farm.'(picture d) The village hall itself has undergone many changes (housing a coffee house for many years) as too have the two rows of cottages beyond. These over the years housed grocery shops, shoemakers, a drapers, barbers, an iron mongers, a small petrol station and another blacksmiths. On the other side of the road several thatched and slate cottages have been replaced as well as the fondly remembered Lady Rowena's Bird Hill House which stood on the land now occupied by Paterson Drive. (Picture E)

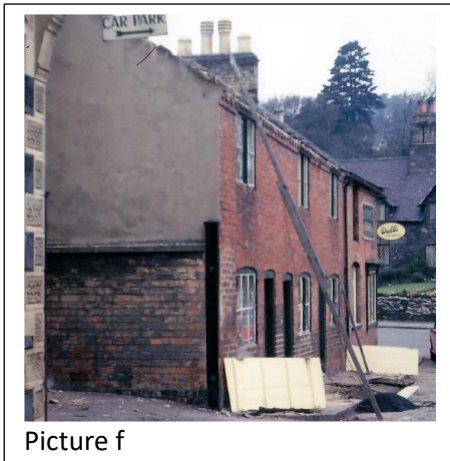


Picture d



Picture e

Up Church Hill and onto Brand Hill more cottages have succumbed (making way for the Pear Tree outdoor terrace- picture f) whilst others have been enlarged (eg The Rectory and Turner's Cottage- opposite Swithland Triangle). Maplewell Road has lost probably more old properties than any other village street. When the tinker, Timothy Squires died his cottage beyond Slater's Row (previously Oak Cottages) was demolished-picture g) New houses (curiously given the unimaginative name of 'Maplewell Cottages') have recently replaced a terrace of village shops once occupied by Avery King and Virgo. Many locals still think of this as the site of the Tudor Cafe (Cottage in the Wood, Paul Leary Restaurant etc). Alongside The Drive stood Hunts Row; two terraces (each containing five small cottages+ pigsties) stood gable-on to Maplewell Road facing each other where Hill Rise stands



Picture f



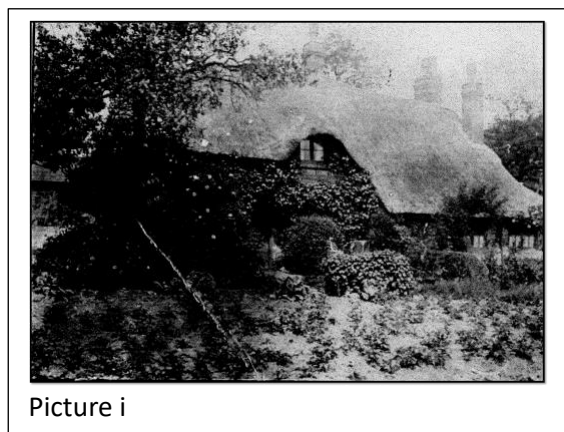
Picture g

today. (picture h) The Curzon Arms may not have changed a lot (apart from being The Anchor up until the Great War) yet next door, 'Copper cottage' was originally the site of another picturesque thatched property. (Picture i)

We were lucky to have Carol Lobel in the audience whose parents, Wilf and Ida Hughes, kept a grocery business in the white cottage on Mill road where it bends.(picture j) She provided us with several pictures from that time. Also Carol let us have the only picture we have found so far of Mill Rd farm that was, occupied by Miss Eugenia Dormer until the early 1960s. The most notable change on Maplewell Road concerns the row of six, stone and slate-roofed houses that once stood just above the entrance to Broomsbrigg's farmwalk. Here the latter part of the 20th century they including the 'Dog and Gun' pub .(picture k) (demolished 2002) . All have been replaced by new builds.



Picture h



Picture i



Picture j



Picture k

We presented only a snapshot of changes that have occurred in the village and we know there are some buildings for which we have only a imagined idea regarding what has gone. So please nag your Grandpa or Great Aunt Nellie to seek out all those forgotten snap-shots of days gone by and get in touch. There are lots of scenes, events and views we don't have. We would love to see them all and hopefully take digital copies (we don't want your originals) so that future generations can see what they have missed of what has gone before. Please contact: markhtemple@gmail.com or ring 01509890830

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