

Newcastle and its Buildings: Appendix



AIMS:

1. To stimulate an interest in the history of Newcastle through a study of some of its surviving streets and buildings.
2. Help learners to develop their knowledge, observational and interpretive skills to enable them to better understand the evidence that buildings provide.
3. Introduce learners to some of the key sources available locally and nationally for the study of old buildings and offer some guidance as to how they can be accessed and interpreted.
4. To develop individual research skills.
5. To promote a greater enjoyment of all aspects local history.

SUGGESTED READING

Newcastle and Gateshead Pevsner Architectural Guides Grace McCombie (2009)

Newcastle: The Biography A.W. Purdue (2011)

Newcastle and Gateshead before 1700 D. Newton & A. Pollard (Eds) (2009)

Newcastle on Tyne: A Modern History R. Colls & W. Lancaster (2001)

WEEKLY COURSE OUTLINE:

1. 3rd Sept: Buildings as Evidence - How does the study of old buildings contribute to an understanding of the past? Why do some buildings survive when others don't?

2. 17th Sept: The Origins of Newcastle. How did the landscape and physical geography of Newcastle influence the site of its streets and buildings?
3. 24th Sept: The Buildings of Sandhill. Sandhill was the principal thoroughfare of old Newcastle connecting the Tyne Bridge via the Side and Pilgrim Street with the higher districts of the town. It was the commercial and administrative heart of Newcastle and contains some of its best known buildings like the Guildhall and Bessie Surtees House.
4. 8th Oct: Blackfriars. A religious/monastic building which lends itself to a study of the context of the spiritual and temporal power of the medieval church. Subsequent changes of function after the Dissolution are so clearly evident in the fabric of the building that it lends itself to practical fieldwork and invites students to make connections with the documentary sources.
5. 15th Oct: The Black Gate. A defensive structure which facilitates a study of medieval warfare and the evolution of castles. Other local examples of castle design will be used for comparison. The subsequent changes of use of the Black Gate will be studied through the medium of illustrative sources
6. 22nd Oct: Newcastle Trinity House. The buildings of Trinity House and its comprehensive archive provides an opportunity to study the organisation and responsibilities of a Newcastle guild. Selected documentary sources from the Trinity House Collection will be the focus of this study.
7. 29th Oct: The Transformation of Old Newcastle. Explores the growth and development of Newcastle from 1760-1860 through the construction of new streets, residential districts and institutional buildings. The Grainger-Dobson re-development of the city is also examined.
8. 5th Nov: The Emergence of Modern Newcastle. The urban landscape of Newcastle altered significantly during the 20th C. The opening of the Tyne Bridge, the rise of the motor car and the implementation of some controversial planning decisions in the 1960s have left an indelible mark on the city skyline.