

## A Pictorial Tour of Fulford Main Street



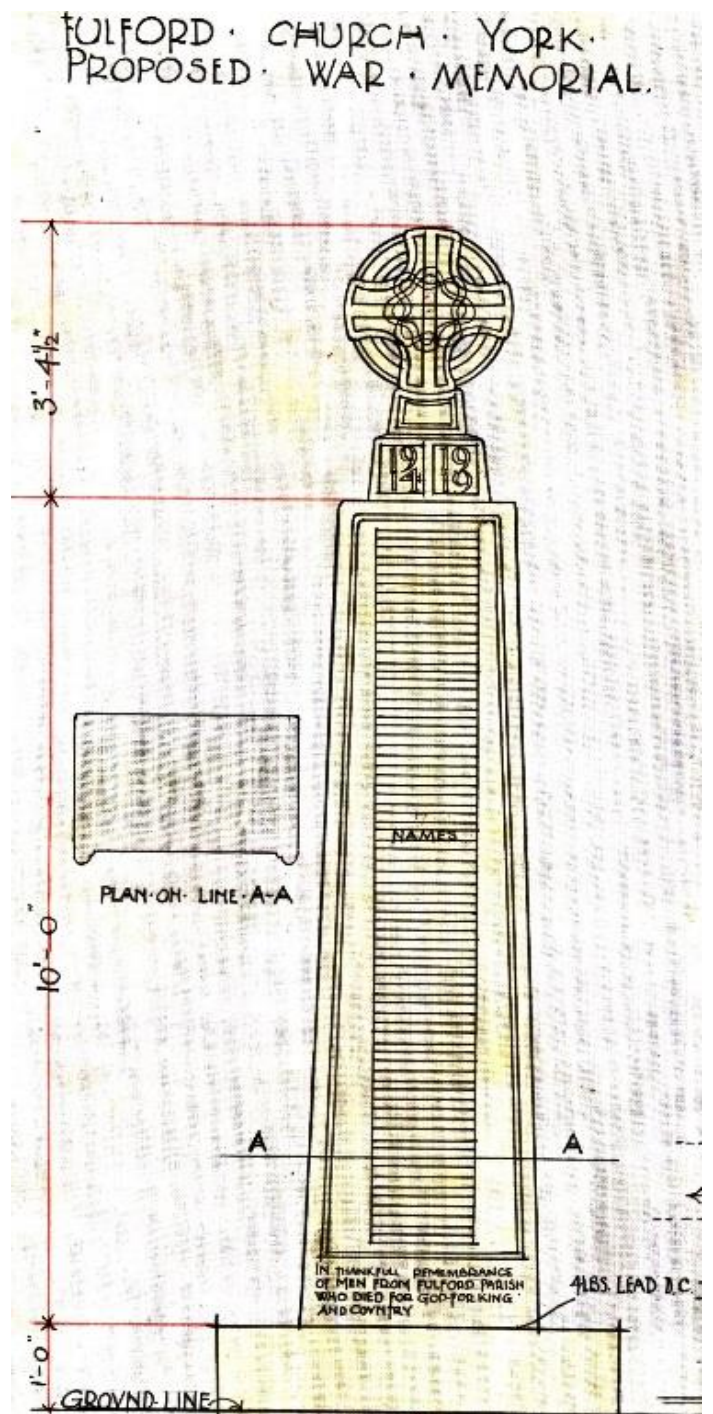
Welcome signs at each end of Main Street, Fulford



St Oswald's Church. Designed in the decorated style by Darlington architect, J P Pritchett junior and opened at Christmas 1866. It replaced the small 11<sup>th</sup> century church near the river Ouse, ½ mile away from the village. A major fire in 1877 destroyed the roof and much of the interior, including stained glass designed by William Morris and Company. The rebuilding was designed by the same architect and supervised by Mr. Brown of Fulford.

The ornate 140ft (42m) spire was a major landmark, but it became unsafe and was replaced in 1924 by the belfry, designed by York architect, Walter Brierley.

The interior is large and open, with Venetian style glass mosaic panels behind the altar. There are a number of Water Brierley designed arts and crafts style monuments to sons of the village who perished during the First World War. Brierley also designed the Portland Stone war memorial in front of the church.



Part of Brierley's drawing for the War Memorial  
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## East Side



13 Main Street was built in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century with a lovely fanlight and elegant door case, the bays were added later.

It has been home to several Fulford Vicars, including William Pickering, whose wife, Joan wrote an excellent history of Fulford, and Dudley Hill who was the last vicar to occupy it in 1977. The 1881 census records the Chaplain of York Prison living here. It has also been lived in by several prominent business men, including the Rieveley coal merchant family and Bernard Woollons, joint owner of a chain of North Yorkshire hardware shops. It was possibly Fulford's first £1m house when sold in 2013.

## East Side



Fanlight and elegant Georgian door case on No 13



This Wesleyan Methodist Chapel was built in 1845. Seating 260 people, it provided more space than the original chapel of 1820, which was a short distance further south, in Back Lane and reached from Main Street via Chapel Alley. A school room was built behind the Chapel for the thriving Sunday School, paid for by donations from Mrs. Kettlewell and many others. Major improvements were undertaken in 1896, with brickwork by Mr Birch, founder of the modern William Birch Building company. It ceased being used as a chapel in 1972 and has recently been sensitively adapted to house an IT company.



The former Free School was founded in 1771 by John Key, of Water Fulford Hall. His endowment paid for 20 pupils whilst others were taught at their parents' expense. In 1835 there were 26 boys but only 6 girls. There were also two endowed schools in the village in 1835, one with 20 children and the other with 22. In 1865 the Free School was closed and amalgamated into the new school in School Lane. In 1930, Harrison's taxi service was based here. The two arches on the front wall were probably large windows, designed to maximise light in the class room.





The Saddle Inn has a large porch-hood over the entrance and the side passage leads to a yard and stables. It was probably designed by Samuel Needham who designed a number of local pubs for the Tadcaster Tower Brewery Company c.1900.

The narrow house on the right, No. 39, has beams dated to the 16<sup>th</sup> century and the building originally extended over the site of the adjacent pub. The 1851 census records James Sharpley as a Victualler, so the older building probably housed the Saddle Inn when it moved to this site from the White House.



The Pavilion Hotel was previously the home of the film music composer John Barry Prendergast. His father John Xavier 'Jack' Prendergast, was a projectionist in the silent film era and later owned a chain of cinemas across northern England, including the Rialto in Fishergate, which also staged concerts and where The Beatles played three times in 1963.

The Old Manor House has 14<sup>th</sup> century origins and retains 16<sup>th</sup> century timber framing. It was substantially rebuilt in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the door case and pretty fanlight are well preserved. Originally one building, it was probably divided in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.  
Was this the original Manor House, before Gate Fulford Hall?

The original 17<sup>th</sup> century farm house, Fulford House, was extensively altered by William Richardson in 1785, with two striking bays facing the road. The large ivy covered wing was added in 1845 to designs by JB & W Atkinson. Brigadier General Edwin Sandys RA JP was inherited the house from his mother, Elizabeth Richardson in 1861. He was a prominent figure in the village and lived here for 50 years.

It was converted into a hotel in 1988.



In 1829, John and Hannah Leng, the original creators of the Fulford Biscuit, moved to No. 77 Main Street. The 1851 census records Mary Leng as 48 and head of the household. She is described as a biscuit manufacturer, along with her sister, Maria, aged 46. A 22 year old cousin, George Leng, was also living there and is described as a baker journeyman.

It was here that two generations of the family made 'Fulford Biscuits'. These were somewhat like a mixture of a Bath Oliver and a plain Water Biscuit, and won prizes at the Leeds exhibition in 1868 and the York exhibition in 1866. White's Directory of 1892 records a family shop at 7 St Samson's Square, and another in Coppergate.

The recipe was sold to Misses A and F Challenger in 1901, after the death of Mrs Jane Leng. The Challenger's continued making the biscuits for a while.

The recipe was thought to have been lost, but has now been rediscovered and sample biscuits are occasionally made by members of the Local History Society.



73 & 75 The outline of the original door case can still be seen on the brickwork of No. 73, so it is likely these were once similar 17<sup>th</sup> century houses. However, the position of the chimney stacks suggests that the internal layout would have been quite different.

No. 73 was once Wintersgill's butcher's shop, with his abattoir behind the shop.



The M T high up on the gable of No. 91 has often been ascribed to Matthew Thompson the local farmer who lived here in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. But it has now been established that the M has swivelled around and was originally a W, referring to William Thorpe the prominent local builder whose family lived here in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Before the Thorpe's, some of the Blacksmith Hick family lived here.



Nos.81-85. Probably built by Thomas Hick, generations of the Hick family of builders, joiners and blacksmiths lived in these early 19<sup>th</sup> century house.

The small brick building in the courtyard has recently been converted into housing, but was originally one of the Hick family blacksmiths workshops.

In the 1881 census, William Hick MRCVS is recorded as a Veterinary Surgeon and his son, Frederick as a Blacksmith.

The narrow passageway to the left is called Chapel Alley, a medieval path leading to the back lane.





The Edwardian Bay Horse is set-back from the road behind the original Bay Mare, so it could continue selling beer while the new pub was being built.



No. 93 was once a farm house(?) and retains its brick relieving arches over the ground floor windows and a simple fanlight over the door.



This pretty row of Victorian cottages faces away from the road.

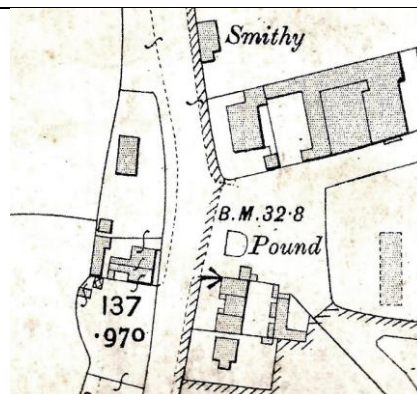


The house facing the road is known as the Tower House due to its brick parapet which hides the slope of the roof and gives it an unusual character.



143, The Dower House for Water Fulford Hall, once the home of Margery Key, widow of Colonel Samuel Key. Behind the old brick wall next to the Dower House, was one of Fulford's blacksmith workshops, run by Edwin Hick





Pinfold Cottages were probably built by some 50 years earlier than the adjacent Boer War cottage by the Key family of Water Fulford Hall. The farm has been known as Ridsdale's, Wilson's and Hardy's Farm, as the tenancy changed.

The 'stack yard' for hay stacks, was across Fordlands Lane behind the farm where the sheltered housing now stands.

This 1907 map shows the village Pinfold and stocks, which used to be next to Pinfold Cottage, at the junction with Fordland's Lane. This was where villagers placed stray cattle, pigs and sheep until their owners paid a fine for their release.

Fordlands Lane was previously Damlands Lane, which referred back to the medieval drainage of the area to make it suitable for farming



Acaster Malbis Pinfold, perhaps similar to Fulford?



Dringhouses Pinfold, perhaps similar to Fulford?



No 151, Cottage Home, an Arts and crafts influenced house built in 1905 by "comrades and friends of the East Yorkshire Regiment" as a home for Boer War veterans. The land and £200 was given by Captain William Henry Key of Water Fulford Hall, in memory of his son, Lt. John Reynard Key who died from wounds sustained at a battle at Orange River in 1901.

The panel on the wall where a plaque used to be, listing the names of 93 men from the East Yorkshire Regiment who died during in the Boer war. The plaque is now displayed in the headquarters of the Regiment at Fulford Barracks.



Just south of the most southerly house is Germany Beck, where the Battle of Fulford is widely believed to have been fought in 1066.

The king of Norway, Harald Hardrada joined forces with Tostig Godwinson the deposed earl of Northumbria, in an invasion of England. They landed some 300 ships at Riccall and defeated the army of York men led by Earl, Morcar. Tostig and Hardrada were both killed a few days later at Stamford Bridge, by the English king Harold Godwinson, who was also soon defeated at Hastings by William the Conqueror.



The occurrence of the battle at Fulford may be no accident. It is possible that Germany Beck was chosen as an outer defensive point for the city of York around the time when Siward was earl of Northumbria (1033-1055). It is also possible that this was the time when the village of Fulford was laid out, with its Main Street and long narrow 'Toft and Croft' plots leading to back lanes on each side.

The village was well established by the time of the Domesday book in 1086, when it is described as being one mile long and half a mile wide, previously owned by Morcar, but after the Conquest by Count Alan of Brittany.



## West Side



Fulford Park House. Attributed to the 18<sup>th</sup> century York architect John Carr and now split into 4 separate apartments, the large bay window and many other Victorian alterations hide a much older building whose owners have often been prominent citizens of York, including the William Hotham, Edward Hotham-Newton, Lt. Col. A G Master and his daughter Audrey Master.

The 1950's alms houses are in its once extensive grounds, which stretched as far as St Oswald's Road

## West Side



The Old House. Built in 1756, probably by its first owner, Bernard Ackroyd, this was once a Dower House for Water Fulford Hall and the home of the Rectory. A popular local doctor, Robert Visick.



Nos. 4 & 8 - These mid-18<sup>th</sup> century cottages have pantile roofs and a brick string course between the floors were built to house staff for The Old House.



Two Georgian houses with elegant door cases. Number 12 was the village Registry Office, during the time when Fulford was part of the East Riding.



Now three houses, the White House was built in 1790 for Robert Soulby. According to a deed of 1815 it was The Blacksmith's Arms, and later The Saddle Inn, until this relocated across the road.

The White House has been home to many prominent local families, including Samuel Adams, founder of Adams Hydraulics in York..





16, 18 & 20. 19<sup>th</sup> Century cottages with large horizontal sliding sash windows. No. 18 was the first village Post Office from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, run by the Hall and Teale families.



No. 24 is the only survivor of a row of Georgian cottages, demolished to build Ings flats. The owner, Billy Press, held out against all attempts to persuade him to sell. The metal straps were installed to provide structural support.



No. 30 was once two cottages and has a lovely early 19<sup>th</sup> century shallow-bow window and was once the Wheatsheaf Inn, with deeds dating back to 1776. Later it housed a school for ladies.

The adjacent passage is known as Medd's Lane and allowed boatmen to easily reach the pub from the river Ouse.

Now named 'Dick Turpin Cottage' apparently because of tales that the highwayman drank in the pub.



38 & 40. Like a number of cottages in Main Street, these 18<sup>th</sup> century homes may originally have been one large farm house. They were recorded as separate cottages in the 1851 census.





The Plough Inn. Built in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century on farmland owned by the Plowman family. The main building has shallow-bay windows and the later extension has sliding-sash windows. The tram from York terminated outside the pub in 1880 and there was an tram office in the building. Air Raid Precautions (ARP) station in the back yard during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War.

Nos. 50 & 52 The brickwork mouldings between the floors show there has been much alteration to these 18<sup>th</sup> century cottages.  
In 1901, number 50 was the village's 2<sup>nd</sup> Post office.



Originally, The Laurels, No. 100 was an early 19<sup>th</sup> century farm house. John Dickson, a farmer and valuer is recorded as living here in the 1901 and 1911 censuses. The large bay windows were probably added when No. 102 was built. The Britton family lived here for much of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, with their dairy and bottling plant behind the houses, served by a milking parlour across the road.

No 140 & 142. A nice pair of mid-Victorian cottages, probably built by the Thorpe family of bricklayers and builders who are recorded living in No. 140 the 1881, 1901 and 1911 census. In 1881, Fredrick Harrison, a Telegraph clerk and his 6 children were living in the smaller cottage next door.