



NORFOLK INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY

Notes for speakers at the monthly meetings of the Society

THE SOCIETY

We are a friendly amateur Society, established in 1971. We have about 100 members. Attendance at meetings ranges from about 20 to 40 members. Our membership profile is the same as many similar Societies.

The Society is a member of the National bodies The Association for Industrial Archaeology and The Council for British Archaeology.

We are brought together by a common desire to find out more of the history and archaeology of Industry and Norfolk industry in particular. Its products and its remains, and to ensure they are recorded for posterity. We also are interested in the people who worked in those industries, and how they lived, worked, played and prayed.

Most members have a general interest in the past and our talks sometimes stray somewhat from our core interest.

Speakers can be assured a warm welcome. We fully understand many of our speakers are unused to speaking even to a small group such as ours. Indeed we particularly value such speakers who often give us knowledge unobtainable elsewhere.

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY?

Well to some it's anything to do with industry, the manufacture and making of goods. Included of course are the machines used to make those goods, and the buildings which housed those machines. Machines require a motive power, and industrial archaeology certainly includes wind and watermills, as well as steam and oil engines and the electric motor.

Goods have to be transported, and so roads, rivers, canals and railways are included. From turnpike roads to railways including industrial railways.

There are of course the extractive industries, no coal mines in Norfolk, but everything from neolithic flint mines, the medieval peat diggings that became the Norfolk Broads, major sand quarries, the first major forest plantations for timber around Thetford and of course the North sea gas fields. Extensive chalk workings to make lime, many brick fields and now concrete block manufacture.

And underpinning much of Norfolk's economy is agriculture. Large 19th century farms and even larger 20th century ones. Norfolk was home until the 1960's of a major fishing industry, and there is still an important inshore industry.

We must also include the people who worked in these industries. Their housing, some with "weavers windows" whilst Cromer fishermen may have the crab boiler. The shops and pubs to churches and chapels, all form part of the fabric of society that our members are interested in.

Things don't have to be particularly old for us to be interested in them. It also comes as a surprise to some, but it is rare for us to excavate something. We are more likely to record buildings, machinery and processes.

MEETING FORMAT

Our meetings are fairly informal affairs. They normally start with a few announcements, notices and such like.

The speaker would then be introduced to give the presentation in whatever way they wish. There is no prescribed format - varying from a collection of anecdotes to a more formal presentation of a paper. The speaker may sit or stand, whichever they find most comfortable. Please let us know in advance if you would like the use of a microphone.

Normally, if it is alright with the speaker, there will be questions at the end. The length of a presentation should be from about 45 minutes to a maximum of an hour and a half. Many aim for about an hour.

Afterwards there may be some informal discussion, and where appropriate there can be the display of material for members to inspect.

The speaker is most welcome to join us afterwards, as a guest, for a drink in a nearby public house.

VENUE

The talks are held in the Stanley Cooper Room at the Charing Cross Centre, 17-19 St. John Maddermarket, Norwich. NR2 1DN . This is right in the centre of the City of Norwich.

All meetings start at 7.30pm on the FIRST Thursday of the month. Admission is free, and open to the general public. Speakers are welcome to bring guests.

The room is available from 7pm, and usually someone will be about from 7.10pm. If you would like a member to help you set up earlier please let us know.

The room is on the first floor. It has full access including a lift and toilets close by. The room has flexible seating and can be darkened for projection. It is square in shape and can hold about 50 people.

FACILITIES

We can provide most facilities, however some equipment may need to be booked in advance as we don't keep everything at the venue; so please let us know in beforehand. Our members will help with setting everything up.

There is a wall screen. We can provide slide projectors, digital projectors, lap top computer with standard "Windows" software, overhead projector, video and DVD players, Stands for projectors. Flip charts. Video's or DVD's can be projected onto a large screen with a digital projector.

We can provide a microphone and sound system.

There are tables available for the display of items and room for a display stand.

CAR PARKING

We recommend usage of St. Andrew's Multistorey carpark. This is very close, modern and secure with CCTV and staff around in the evening. Apart from November and December there is usually plenty of space on the ground floor.

HELP CARRYING EQUIPMENT

It is possible to stop to unload equipment outside the building, and we can provide help if requested in advance with carrying equipment from outside or the nearby St. Andrews Carpark. Note that access the St. John Maddermarket is somewhat complex due to the one way system and narrow pedestrianised roads.

EXPENSES and SPEAKERS FEES

Naturally we will pay reasonable travelling expenses and any fees agreed. As a small Society it helps us if you can give some idea of these in advance. Our Treasurer can usually pay you on the night.

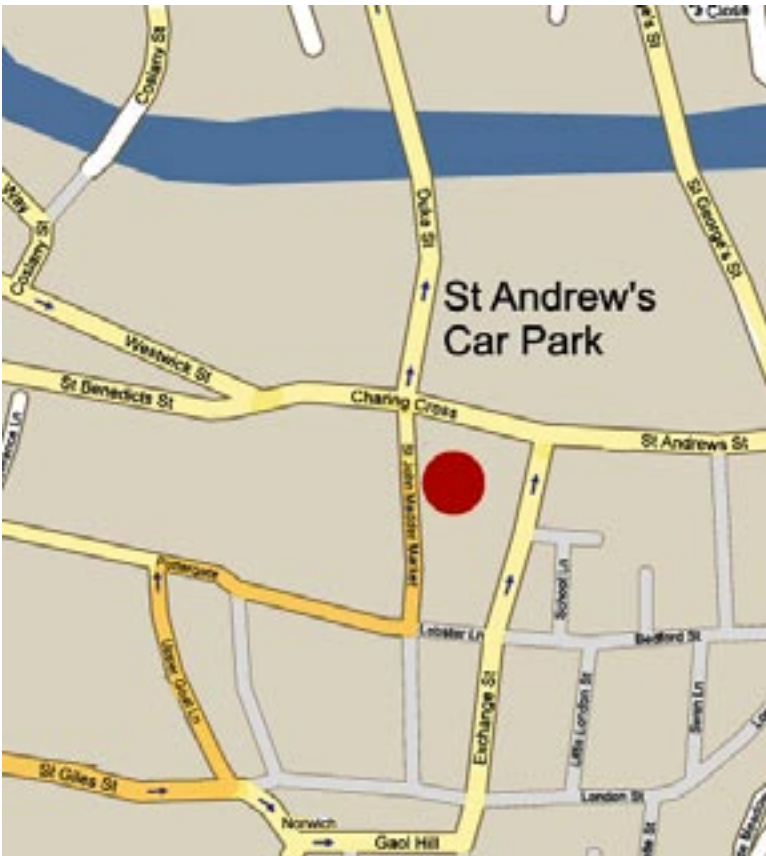
OTHER HELP

We can assist with the preparation of a talk, including help preparing slides (film or digital) or other visual material. Please discuss this with us as soon as possible.

Location of the Charing Cross Centre In the centre of Norwich



Red Spot is location of Charing Cross Centre



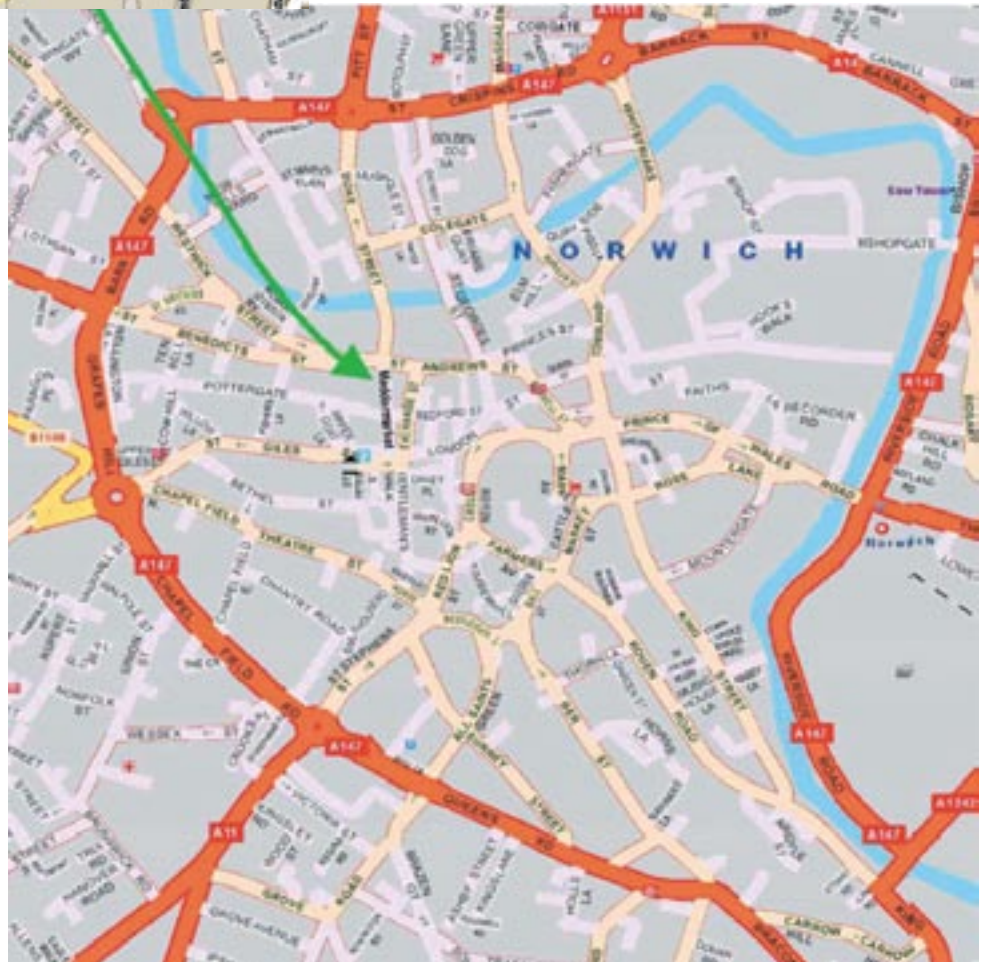
Charing Cross Centre
17- 19 St John Maddermarket
Norwich
NR2 1DN
01603 620926

Parking

We recommend the nearby St Andrew's Carpark which is CCTV monitored and reasonably secure.

The car park entrance is on Duke Street.

It is possible to stop to drop off outside the building if you have heavy items, please let us know so we can provide assistance. Access is difficult, best via St Giles' Street, Upper Goat Lane (Narrow access only for loading), Pottergate (Pedestrianised and metal posts and Maddermarket (past church, turn left in front of pub, stop alongside high wall.



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