

The Folly was built in the late 1670s by Richard Preston, a wealthy lawyer. Its exterior was described as 'exotic' by Nicholas Pevsner and the unusual windows 'as more Bauhaus than 17th century' by Simon Jenkins in his book, *England's Thousand Best Houses*.

The building stands on the original main road into the town and undoubtedly was built to make an impact. It had extensive gardens across the street with a garden tower, now demolished. In the 18th century the new Toll road became the main highway into Settle, leaving The Folly in a quiet corner of the town.



HRH The Prince of Wales with Alan Bennett, Trust President, at the opening of The Folly

On Preston's death in 1695, the house passed to his eldest daughter who sold it in 1703 to the Dawson family of Langcliffe, who lived there only briefly, and whose descendants owned it for almost 300 years. From 1708 the Dawsons leased The Folly for commercial and domestic uses, during which time it has been a farmhouse, bakery, warehouse, furniture shop, café, fish and chip shop and doctor's surgery.

The Folly Divided

Mr Philip Dawson was the only member of the family in modern times to live in The Folly. Having restored the roof and leaded windows, he sold it in 1983 to an antique dealer. In 1990 it was sold to a developer who obtained planning permission to divide the house into two for retail and residential purposes.

In 1996, the Hall and South Ranges were eventually purchased by the North Craven Building Preservation Trust through a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, with the aim of opening Settle's only Grade I Listed Building to the public. After a major restoration it was opened as the Museum of North Craven Life by HRH The Prince of Wales on 17th December 2001. Since then The Folly has hosted regularly changing exhibitions and events for both visitors and the local community.

Reuniting The Folly In February 2010 an opportunity arose for the Trust to purchase the North Range, supported by a loan from the Architectural Heritage Fund. The Trust was then able to reunite the two halves of The Folly and will open it in its entirety for all to enjoy, following restoration and refurbishment.



View of the North Range and rear garden

The Trust's Plans for The Folly

- to bring the two parts of The Folly together again
- to open it for everyone to visit and enjoy
- to make it an important tourist attraction, and boost the local economy
- to expand the role of the Museum of North Craven Life
- to provide a range of activities for all ages, including talks, educational visits, family events and workshops
- to work in partnership with other local organisations
- to promote a range of fund-raising activities

Funds are urgently needed:

- to repay the loans for the acquisition of the entire building
- to refurbish the North Range, including new heating, rewiring, and removal of modern partitioning to the upper floors and reopening blocked doorways to reunite the two parts of the building
- to improve access for the disabled
- to renew fire and security alarms to meet public access requirements
- to restore the rear garden
- to create an Endowment Fund to maintain and run The Folly for the future

We Need Your Help To Raise £1.625 million

The Trust needs to raise £625,000 to repay the loans for the acquisition of the two parts of the building and a further £1 million to provide an Endowment Fund to generate a regular income for the vital maintenance of this Grade I building. The Trust receives no grants towards the operation and maintenance of The Folly, which is run by volunteers.

The Folly Appeal

We are delighted to announce that the Trust has already received a very generous anonymous gift of shares which is a wonderful start for The Appeal.

We now invite the local community and interested groups and individuals further afield to help preserve The Folly for future generations. All donations large or small are welcome and will be gratefully acknowledged.



How You Can Help

Please choose an option from the form below and post it to us using the address provided. Alternatively, you can donate via our website and also find out more information on the appeal: www.ncbpt.org.uk/appeal

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Email _____ Tel _____

A A cheque, payable to The Folly Appeal, is enclosed for the sum of £ _____ (please sign the Gift Aid form overleaf if eligible)

B I would like to support the Appeal with regular payments by Standing Order of £ _____ per month/quarter/half year/annually until further notice. (please sign the standing order form overleaf)

C I would like to donate some shares, please contact me by (please tick) telephone email

D Please discuss my support of the Appeal by contacting me by (please tick) telephone email

E I would like to discuss giving a legacy to the Trust

Notes:

- (1) UK tax payers' personal donations under either A and B will be increased currently by 28% Gift Aid by completing the declaration overleaf.
- (2) Please complete the Standing Order form overleaf if applicable.
- (3) Companies paying corporation tax can qualify for tax relief by donating gross, the amount being treated as a charge on income. Accountants' advice should be taken to benefit appropriately.
- (4) **All donations will be gratefully received and recorded for posterity at The Folly. Donors of larger sums may wish to be associated by name with a specific part of the restoration.**

Please return to: North Craven Building Preservation Trust,
6 Chapel St, Settle, North Yorks, BD24 9HS

GIFT AID DECLARATION

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THE FOLLY APPEAL

North Craven Building Preservation Trust
Charity Number 505438

Please treat: *(tick the appropriate box)*

- the enclosed sum of £ _____
as a Gift Aid donation: **OR**
- all gifts of money made today and in future
as Gift Aid donations.

You must pay an amount of Income and /or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year commencing 6 April that is at least equal to the amount of tax that the The Folly Appeal will reclaim on your gift(s) for that year.

DONOR'S DETAILS (tax payer's name only)

Forename(s) _____
Surname _____
Home address _____
Postcode _____
Date _____ day of _____ 201 _____

STANDING ORDER

To _____ Bank/Building Society
Branch Address _____
Post code _____
Sort code _____ Account No _____

Please pay to the account of The Folly Appeal:

The Co-operative Bank, 1 Balloon St, Manchester, M60 4EP
Sort Code: 08-90-00 **Account No:** 70872310 the sum of
£ _____ on the _____ day of _____ (month)
and thereafter the same amount monthly/quarterly/half yearly/
annually until cancelled by notification in writing.

Signed _____ Date _____
Address _____
Post code _____
Email _____ Tel. no _____

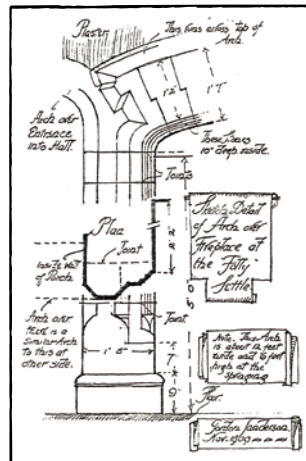
Please return to North Craven Building Preservation Trust,
6 Chapel St, Settle, North Yorks, BD24 9HS

"I am so pleased to hear that the Building Trust has now acquired the whole of The Folly. It has always been an ambition as this is the most notable building in Settle, and possibly the whole of North Craven. To be able to restore it as a whole and give it a proper function in the life of the community justifies everything the Building Trust has been trying to do - and which has often been urged on us by local opinion"

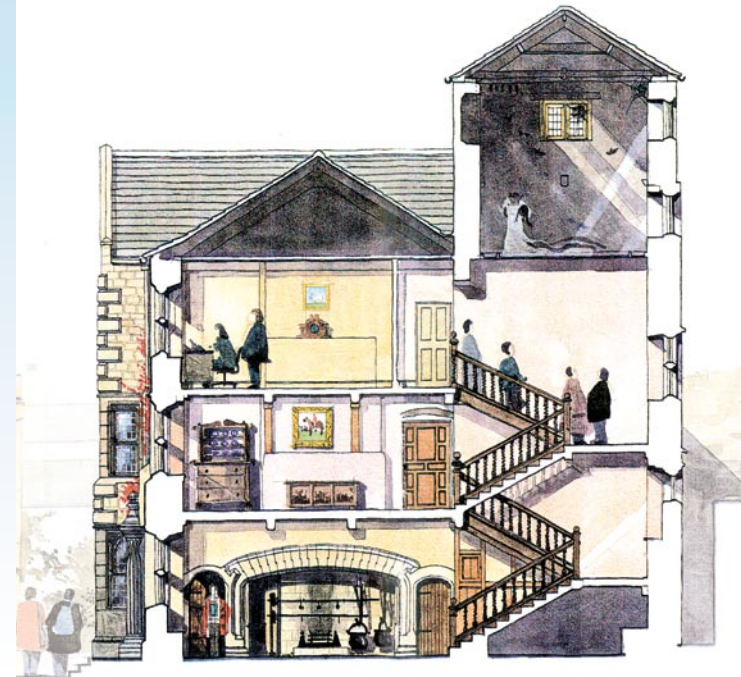
Alan Bennett

Alan Bennett

President, North Craven Building Preservation Trust



Images from The Folly Archive



Cross section through The Folly. Illus. by Richard Carman © Purcell Miller Tritton

For further information about The Folly Project, please contact:

The Appeal Office,
North Craven Building
Preservation Trust,
6 Chapel St,
Settle,
North Yorkshire,
BD24 9HS

Email & Website:
appeal@ncbpt.org.uk
www.ncbpt.org.uk/appeal

Donate Online
www.ncbpt.org.uk/appeal

The Folly is three minutes from the town centre at the foot of Victoria Street, opposite Chapel Street.

Car Parking is available close by in Greenfoot Car Park.

Bus Services stop in the Market Place.

Rail Services There are regular daytime services to Settle along the famous Settle-Carlisle Line.

North Craven Building Preservation Trust, (registered Charity 505438), was formed in 1978. It seeks to rescue, repair and restore buildings of architectural and historical importance which are at risk. It owns several properties in Settle from which it derives rental income to support its activities.

The Trust gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the Heritage Trust for the North West and the financial support from a range of other organisations and individuals in the restoration and ongoing development of The Folly.



The Folly

SETTLE • NORTH YORKSHIRE

AN APPEAL

by NORTH CRAVEN
BUILDING PRESERVATION TRUST



www.ncbpt.org.uk/appeal