

PAGES FROM OUR VICTORIA HALL EXHIBITION SEPT
2004

OLD MAP OF SETTLE TOWN

Re-drawn by JOHN FOX

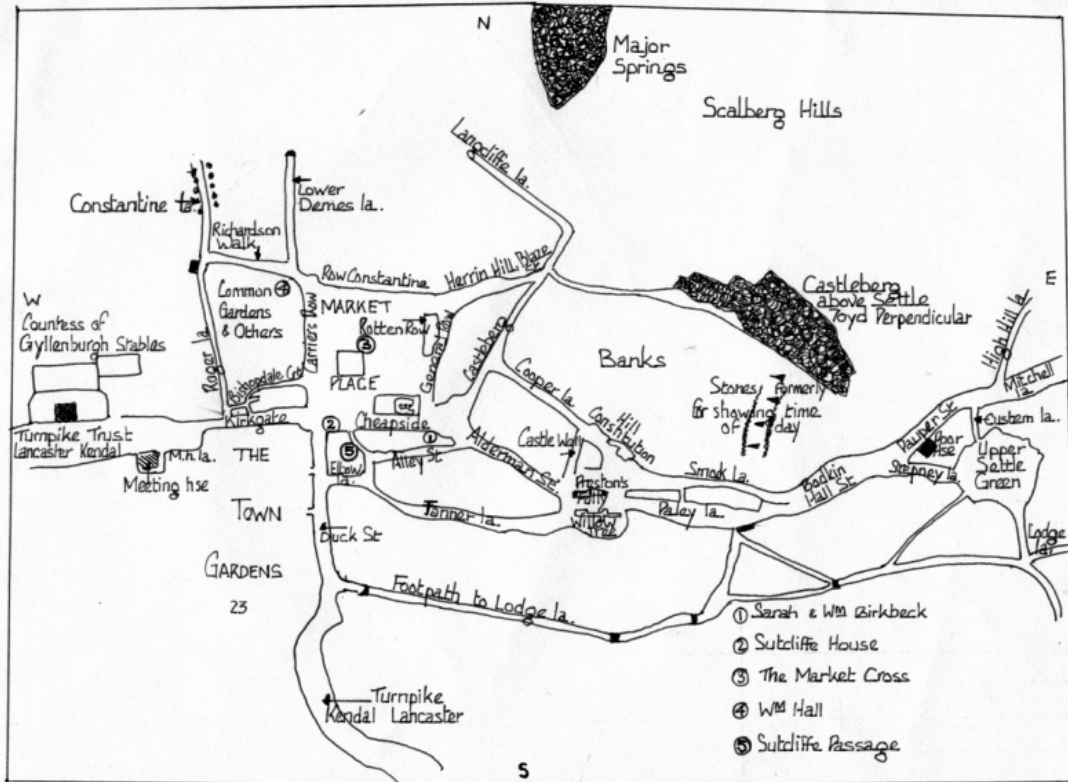
A Sketch Map by John Fox from an original sketch map of C1765 by John Coakley Lettsom 1744-1815

This interesting map can be found in the house of the Darby family at Ironbridge, Lettsom having been educated at the same Quaker School in Penketh and being a family friend had sent it to his contemporary. Born in the West Indies, Lettsome was sent to England to be cared for by the Rawlinson family of Furness. On leaving school in 1761 he came to Settle to serve an apprenticeship with Surgeon Abraham Sutcliffe (the builder of Sutcliffe House – now the SPAR shop). After spending time back in the West Indies doctoring the estate workers, he studied for Doctor of Medicine at Leydon, later becoming a noted Surgeon in London.

The Map is very sketchy as far as buildings are concerned, showing only the main Quaker residences, and a few public buildings, but the naming of the roads and lanes is very detailed and shows just how much they had altered by the time of the Tithe Survey of 1844. Although most of the aspects are accurately sketched, Lettsome seems to have gone somewhat awry on the south-eastern side making the area of The Green very askew compared to the rest of the map.

Of all the roads named only Kirkgate, Bishopdale Court, Cheapside and the Market Place remain the same today, along with Mitchell Lane and High Hill Lane. Note that what we now know as The Shambles is named as Rotten Row on the map (a nick-name perhaps?). There is no road through to Giggleswick on the north side of the Market Place at this time, only footpaths towards Langcliffe and Giggleswick through fields. Note also that there is an alleyway right around Sutcliffe House (now the Spar) which shows that there was a way through from the back of Cheapside to what was then Duck Lane. Note also that the Poor House is on the right-hand side of the road leaving Upper Settle, later it was moved across the road to enlarged premises at the former home of the Kidd family.

Map of Settle circa 1760. drawn by J.C. Lettsom for Joseph Rathbone of Liverpool.



COMPARE JOHN'S COPY WITH LETTSOM'S ORIGINAL



COMPARE THIS LETTSOM MAP WITH THE ORIGINAL SETTLE TITHE MAP DATED 1844

This map was drawn up when the system of paying tithes to the Church for various crops, animals, etc. was changed to a fixed money system. Each building and piece of land was numbered, the owner and tenant named, the size of the plot given and the tithe amount to be paid. Unfortunately none of the roads were named on the map and we have not yet established when the present names came into being. The names written in are what the roads are called today.

This was the great Victorian Age of discovery, invention and building and Settle was no exception as plans were made to bring the railway through, build new churches and schools to educate people. The Old Toll Booth in the Market Place had been pulled down and replaced with a brand new Town Hall; a new road had been put through to Settle Bridge (now Church Street), Duck Street was changed to Duke Street, Victoria Road and Albert Hill came into being and rows of terraced houses were built on the outskirts of the town. There was not yet a Station Road leading off from Duke Street, because the railway had not yet been built.

In the Settle Census of 1851 some of the roads are named in the centre of Settle; these include Market Place; Constitution Hill; Kirkgate or Eagle Street or Spread Eagle Street (after the Hostelry of that name); Duke Street; Chapel Square; New Street (now Church Street); Castlebergh Wells; Back Stables (the back of Cheapside); Town Head; Back Lane (led from Townhead to top of what is now Victoria Road); Folly Hall; Low Gate (not established where this was yet); High Hill (was this what became Albert Hill?); Greenhead; Green Upper Settle and Upper Settle. So Victoria Road and Albert Hill had not then been named as such, and were probably renamed after the great Jubilee celebrations.



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