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ENGLISH BEE BOLES

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INTRODUCTION

The only published references to bee boles which we have been able to trace are a few short notes and pictures in the *Scottish Beekeeper* and in W. Herrod-Hempsall's *Beekeeping new and old*. These give the general impression that such constructions are quite uncommon; we have therefore been considerably surprised, since the National Beekeeping Museum opened a register of bee boles and old beehouses in 1952, to learn of the existence of over a hundred sites in the British Isles. The following study is based on 74 sets of bee boles in England (including the Isle of Man), some of which are illustrated in Fig. 2 - Fig. 8. Those recorded from Scotland (36), Wales (4) and Ireland (3) will be dealt with in a future paper; so also will old beehouses, penthouses and other shelters, 30 of which have already been reported from Britain.

While our enquiries in other countries have not been extensive, it should be put on record that no bee boles have been found, nor any references to them in available literature. A more thorough search would be most worthwhile in wet districts with abundant building stone, such as Brittany. In the Dalmatian island of Brač (Goetze, 1931; Ritterman, 1953) the hives themselves were built of stone; some were on (or partly in) the ground, but others were wall recesses superficially similar to bee boles. The bees built their comb directly in the recesses, however, and no hive was used.

Our thanks are due to beekeepers and others throughout the country who have responded to our request for information about bee boles. We have received particularly valuable help from the following:

Mr. H. Allen, Miss M. D. Bindley, Mrs. V. F. Desborough, Miss M. Hartley, Mrs. E. Hawthornthwaite, Mr. D. M. Jesper, Mr. and Mrs. Mason, Mr. H. Miller, Mr. J. H. D. Myatt, Mr. W. J. Robinson, Mr. A. Russell, Mr. W. Shuker, Mr. J. Swarbrick, Mr. G. M. Trinnick, Mrs. E. Wilson, Mrs. S. E. Wilson.

It has been impossible for the authors to visit all the bee boles reported, but those inspected by one or both of us are marked * in Table 1. For the rest we have relied on the photographs, measurements and other details kindly sent in by helpers, some of whom went to considerable trouble to obtain the necessary information.

DEFINITION AND NOMENCLATURE

It seems desirable to define the term *bee bole* more exactly than has been done in the past. The word *bole* or *boal* is defined in Jamieson's *Dictionary of the Scottish Language* (1927) as 'a square aperture in the wall of a house for holding small articles'; it is said to be derived from the Welsh word *bolch* or *bwlc* meaning 'a gap or notch, an

aperture'. The more recent *Scottish National Dictionary* (Vol.2, 1941) gives the meaning simply as 'a recess in the wall'. The term *bee bole* has been in common use in Scotland, and we have taken it into use for the whole kingdom — there seems to be no corresponding English word — defining it as 'a wall recess made to shelter a [straw] hive'. We include among the bee boles recesses (*e.g.*, 2, 100)‡ which take two skeps, but not shelters (whether for one or more skeps) built *on to* a wall, nor separate structures. A bee bole is essentially an integral part of the wall, and is recessed on all sides, only the front being open. The term *bee garth* (Welsh *gardd*), which Herrod-Hempsall (1930) uses as synonymous with *bee bole*, should describe the enclosure — usually a walled garden — on to which the recesses open, and not the recesses themselves. In the Yorkshire dales the term *bee hole* is common (also *pig hole*, *hen hole*, *etc.*), but it is by no means universal there, and not common elsewhere.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. *Geographical distribution*

Fig. 1 shows the distribution of the bee boles, which have so far been recorded from 18 English counties.† Yorkshire (30), Lancashire (8) and the Isle of Man (6) can claim 44 sets between them, and only 20 sets (out of the 74 here considered) lie south of a line drawn from the Wash to Cardigan Bay. All but about 10 lie in the third of England which receives over 30 inches of rain a year. Bee boles may well prove as common in Devonshire as in the north country (see Table 1), and it is curious that none, other than a modern reproduction at Gulval, have yet been reported from Cornwall.

2. *Materials*

Bee boles were usually constructed of whatever was the common local building material. Wherever stone was plentiful — as in Yorkshire, the Lake District, the Isle of Man and Derbyshire — it was generally used. Elsewhere brick was most common (15, 41, 49, 68, 78, 90, 91), but some of the Devonshire bee boles were built into the cob walls of houses (70, see Fig. 8), and one in Derbyshire is hewn out of a limestone crag (97).

3. *Type of property*

Many of the oldest bee boles (41, 44, 68, 78, 116) are associated with Tudor manor houses, such as that shown in Fig. 3. The recesses are mostly shallower and narrower than the general average, and not numerous at any one place.

A large group of bee boles is associated with small farms or cottages (*e.g.*, 29, 30, 90, 99, 102, 106, 121). They are chiefly in dry stone walls; they are often roughly constructed — like those in Fig. 2 — but give better shelter than the brick ones because they are deeper; they do not, as a rule, number more than 2-6.

Finally some recesses are connected with more important farms and houses, where the walls may be of dressed stone and mortar (58, 59); the lintels and jambs may be shaped with care (7, 63); there may be a

‡ Numbers in italics in the text are the key numbers of the bee boles (see Table 1). We regret that there is not enough space to include a numerical index.

† Also unconfirmed records from Cheshire, Hereford, Herts., Monmouth, Northants., Notts., Worcs.

long row of bee boles as in Fig. 5 (26, 43, 84, 95, 96), or two tiers (4, 40, 64, 120). Packwood in Warwickshire (15) is outstanding in this group. Its 30 bee boles may have been built as part of the ornamentation of a formal Carolean garden rather than for serious beekeeping purposes.

DETAILED CONSIDERATIONS

1. *Number of bee boles at any one site*

There are 2, 3 or 4 bee boles at more than half the total number of sites studied. At five (17, 57, 71, 97, 129) we found only one, but some of these were large enough to hold two (17, 71, 97) and another (129) four skeps; the fifth (57) was near a beehouse. There may formerly have been more with the single one at 41. In only ten places are there more than 8 bee boles together, three in the Isle of Man (26, 43, 66) and two in Somerset (131, 132); the other five are well scattered. The greatest number recorded is thirty at Packwood (15).

2. *Dimensions of bee boles*

Since some of the bee boles antedate any English skeps still in existence by some 350 years, any information about contemporary skep sizes which can be gleaned from their measurements is of interest.

Height. Over two-thirds are between 18 and 30 inches high. The lowest is 68 (Fig. 3), only 14 inches to the top of a rounded arch.

Breadth. The great majority are between 15 and 28 inches wide. Two sets only are as narrow as 11-13 inches (42, 68). Many of the wider recesses, such as two in Fig. 2, were no doubt intended to hold two skeps each (2, 17, 48, 56, 71, 97, 100, 102, 125, 129, 130).

Depth. The variation here is between narrower limits, 14-21 inches being most usual. Seven sets are deeper, with 30 inches as the maximum (17); five are only 10-11 inches (41, 44, 68, 78, 117) — all except the last in Tudor brick walls. The depth was no doubt often limited by the thickness of the wall itself, brick walls being generally thinner than stone walls, but it seems curious that so few of the bee boles were given protruding walls such as those in 2, which could easily have added a few inches to the depth (2, 90, 94 have a protruding base which could act as an alighting shelf). If the skeps were on separate floors they *could* have projected beyond the wall itself, but they would not then have been protected from rain.

Sizes recommended for skeps have varied from author to author and from century to century; the later trend has been towards larger skeps, and some of the Tudor bee boles certainly indicate the use of very small ones. Southerne (1593) says that small hives are better than large for obtaining honey; skeps should not be 'above 15 or 16 rolles' nor contain more than half a bushel [4 gallons]. A modern skep of 12 rolls is 9 inches high (with extra rolls for the flat top). Butler in *The Feminine Monarchie* (1609) recommends a height of 17 inches, a diameter of 13-15 inches and a capacity of 3 pecks [6 gallons]; he says 'Hives are to be made of any size between 5 and 7 gallons'. Thomas Morris of Isleworth (1791), whose beekeeping won him a premium from the Royal Society of Arts, used hives 9 inches deep and 14 inches across, containing 5 Winchester gallons. Isaac (1799) preferred them 6 inches deep, 12 inches diameter — or for cottagers 8 inches deep, 13 inches diameter. Filleul (1851) advised a depth of 9 inches and a diameter of 12 inches for cottagers, but he himself preferred skeps 8 inches deep and 15 inches in diameter for a stock intended to swarm, or 9 inches

deep and 11 inches diameter for a stock intended for honey production. Some nineteenth-century skeps were however much larger.

In general the height of the bee boles seems to have been sufficient for skeps of the sizes recommended at the period when they were built, even allowing for a cap (or bell jar) for storing honey for removal. Some, but by no means all, would have allowed the use of a hackle, but we have no evidence whether it was customary to use a hackle on skeps already protected by bee boles. We know of one instance in Scotland of extra straw being packed round the skeps in winter.

3. *Shape*

Most of the bee boles are rectangular, but not infrequently they have rounded top arches (6, 7, 15, 29, 44, 63, 70, 90, 91, 94, 116), and occasionally they have rounded backs (120, 131). In one set (78) the tops are gabled. Sometimes all or some of the recesses have been filled in with stone or rubble (57, 66, 86, 119, 121).

4. *Position in the wall*

Bee boles are most commonly set close together as in Fig. 4, but they may be in twos (59) or threes (48), or there may be 3 or 4 widely spaced in a wall as in Fig. 3 (68, 75, 77). Several sets are at a corner, on two adjacent walls (102, 100 in Fig. 2). The height of the base above the ground may be up to 7 ft. (70, Fig. 8), but only six sets (1, 44, 70, 95, 97, 129) are more than 3 ft., and almost two-thirds are 18-30 inches, above ground. A few appear to be at ground level (41, 125) or below (40), but enquiry shows that ground level is now higher than formerly. Occasionally they are at two levels, one above the other (4, 40, 64, 120); the upper recesses of 64 (Fig. 5) may originally have been higher, or it is just possible that there was once a third row above the two existing rows. Skeps kept at 70, 7 ft. high, must have been handled from a ladder; this would also have been necessary at Bladon in Oxfordshire, where skeps can still be seen on projecting supports at the level of the first-floor windows of an old cottage.

5. *Position in relation to the house*

A few sets are in the walls of the house itself as in Fig. 3 (17, 25, 49, 68, 70, 102), but they are much more commonly found in the walls enclosing a garden or orchard near the house, sometimes actually within view of windows (5, 44, 59, 62, 116), but occasionally also in walls beyond the immediate garden (27, 63, 75, 100, 124). Those at 99 might be classed as an out-apiary; they could only have been a heather stand, and are on the moor $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the farm.

6. *Aspect*

As might be expected, the majority of boles face south (39 out of 75 records). Less expected, perhaps, is the fact that of the remainder 24 face east or south-east and only 7 face west or south-west. Bee boles facing east would be protected from rain driving from the west (the prevailing direction), and shaded from the sun in the hottest part of summer days; moreover morning sun has often been advocated for getting foragers to start work early. The remaining 5 sets face north or north-east (40, 129, 41, 60, 119); the last three are connected with houses which date from the sixteenth century or earlier — whether this is a coincidence or not we do not know.

7. *Date of construction*

This is a most tantalizing problem. On the one hand, the chief interest of the boles lies in the fact that, being made of much more durable materials than skeps or hives, they are likely to be among the oldest existing beekeeping relics in this country. On the other hand, very few of them carry a date or are situated in walls which are mentioned in any documents that can be traced. The age of walls may be gauged to some extent by their materials or workmanship, but as a rule this only tells us the century in which the building was done. All too often walls crumble with neglect, and may be rebuilt with materials older or more recent than those originally used, so that dating is a complicated task.

The fifteenth or early sixteenth century brick manor houses, with bee boles either in the house walls or in walls closely connected with the house, are the best documented sites, and these may be the oldest bee boles in England.

44. At Roydon Hall in Kent, built in 1530, the eight bee boles are in a garden wall within view of the house, and are generally considered to have been erected at the same time.

41. At West Stow Hall in Suffolk the recesses can be closely dated, but were not certainly intended for bees. There are three facing north on the outside of a covered passage built between 1559 and 1652, and one facing west in the remains of a wall which was connected with a chapel built between 1485 and 1522. These aspects are not typical, and the recesses are very shallow. The solitary recess is very like others in brick and may have been one of a group now crumbled away; a possible use as a Holy Water stoup is not out of the question however.

78. Quebec House at Westerham in Kent — a National Trust property — has three recesses in the south wall of the stable which formed one side of a Tudor fruit garden. The wall is built in English bond of red brick and probably dates from the late sixteenth century. The recesses, which have an unusual gabled shape, are again shallow. They show traces of smoke and may have been used to house braziers intended for keeping frost away from the fruit on the wall. Enquiries made at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew and the Botanical Gardens at Oxford have produced no evidence that this was a Tudor practice, and it seems possible that the recesses were built for bees and used subsequently for braziers.

116. Bilton Hall. The Yorkshire Archaeological Society dates the house and the wall with bee boles as late sixteenth or early seventeenth century.

68. At Gainsborough Old Hall, Lincolnshire (built in 1480) there are four small boles in the east wall of the house, shown in Fig. 3, which is known to have been refaced with brick in 1600 by Walter Hickman. A more recent addition to the house may well hide a further two bee boles.

It is quite possible that some of the other bee boles are earlier than this group by a century or more, but it seems impossible to date them with any accuracy. They are listed in the first group below, which also includes smaller houses of the sixteenth century or earlier. The other groups are later.

1. 26, 43, 119. These houses in the Isle of Man, and 34 (Westmorland), 84 (Lancs.), 17 (Dorset), were almost certainly built before 1600, and probably the bee boles too.

60. This house in Giggleswick, which belonged to a monastery, was built in 1400, and these bee boles *may* be the oldest still existing.

4. The wall at Nutwithcote in which these bee boles are situated forms part of the buildings of a grange of Fountains Abbey, and may also have been built in the fifteenth century, before the Dissolution.

2. Bee boles connected with seventeenth century houses: 62, 75 (Yorkshire), 85, 86, 88 (Lancs.), 94, 95 (Glos.), 15 (Warwickshire).

3. Bee boles connected with eighteenth century houses : 59, 77 (Yorkshire), 47 (Derbyshire), 91 (Kent).
4. Bee boles connected with nineteenth century houses : 34, 64, 65, 117 (Yorkshire), 102 (Lancs.), 104 (Isle of Man). There was probably an earlier house on some of these properties, and the bee boles may well be older than the present house.

A date is carved on some of the above houses ; others can be dated from documents, or because they are very typical of a certain period. All the bee boles recorded are connected with houses over 100 years old, but many of them cannot be dated with any certainty.

After the introduction of movable-frame hives into Britain in 1862, skeps went steadily out of fashion. People with sufficient means to build bee boles were soon using wooden hives instead, though no doubt those already in existence remained in use here and there, especially in remote country districts. As a rule the bee boles have not been used 'within living memory' ; occasionally some old person remembers having seen or heard of hives in them (35, 47, 64, 71, 88, 97, 102, 125).

RECESSES BUILT FOR OTHER PURPOSES THAN BEEKEEPING

It is by no means easy to decide whether some of the wall recesses were built to shelter skeps, and if there is no local information of their being used for bees one must be guided by cumulative evidence. Points in favour of a beekeeping use are :

1. Aspect S. or S.E. and in a sheltered position.
2. Dimensions within the range given in Table 1.
3. Recesses grouped in twos, threes and fours or forming a long line.
4. Situated in a garden or orchard wall.
5. A beekeeping tradition connected with the site.

Points against a beekeeping use :

1. Aspect N. or W.
2. A solitary recess — unless big enough to hold two skeps.
3. Dimensions outside the range given in Table 1.
4. Recesses facing across a door, path or road, or into a yard where animals came at any time (*e.g.*, for shearing or milking). But buildings may have been altered since the boles were used.
5. A definite tradition of some other use — though the other use may have been secondary.

We have found wall recesses bearing some superficial resemblance to bee boles, which have been used :

1. To house hens, rabbits, garden tools, *etc.* (may be a secondary use).
2. As shelves for farm tools and utensils, particularly milk vessels. Such ledges are usually solitary and near the back door or barn entrance.
3. ? To hold braziers for heating orchard walls (see p. 213).
4. For housing falcons, as at East Riddlesden Hall, Keighley. These have vestiges of doors, and the recess is wider than the aperture, the re-entrant part sometimes having a shelf.
5. In connection with ecclesiastical buildings, recesses to hold Holy Water stoups or statues of saints. Such recesses are usually unsuitable for bees (*e.g.*, near a door, facing N.).
6. As purely ornamental structures. Certain recesses at Canterbury have long puzzled the Cathedral authorities ; it is unlikely they were meant for saints since they are in a part of the outer wall built in Cromwell's time. Further, exactly similar recesses were laid bare by bombing during the last war in several of the town's cellars. For want of better suggestions we are forced to conclude that they were simply part of the general design of all these buildings.

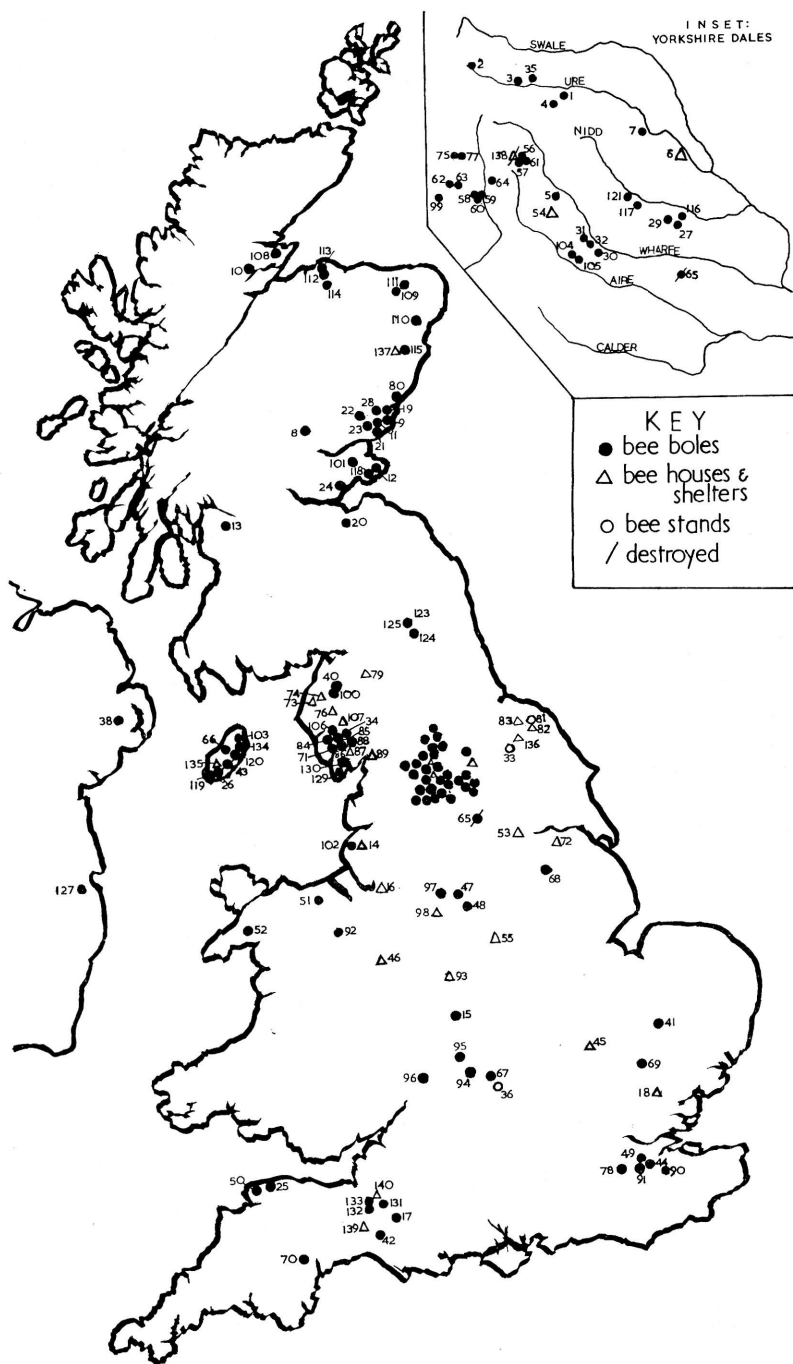


Fig. 1. Map showing sites of bee boles, beehouses and other bee shelters (only bee boles in England are considered in this article).



Fig. 2. Bridge End, Thirlspot, Cumberland. Primitive bee boles in dry stone wall. Two on right are for two skeps. No.100



Fig. 3. Gainsborough Old Hall, Lincs. Small brick bee boles built when wall was refaced in 1600. No. 68

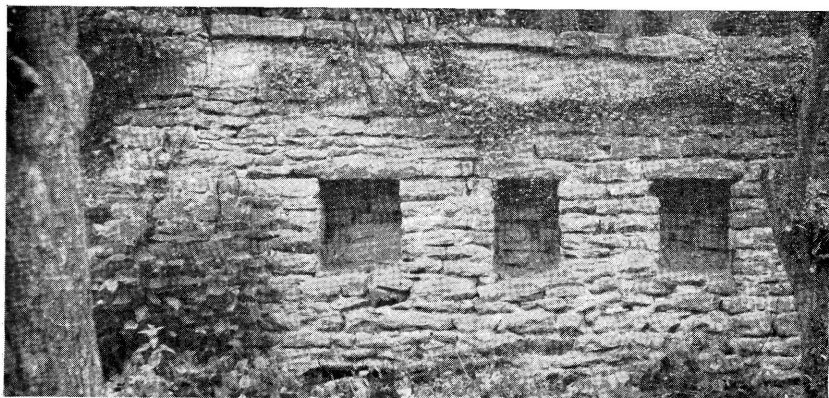


Fig. 4. Lincoln Hill, Humshaugh, Northumberland. 'Typical' set of bee boles in wall of stone and mortar (compare with Fig. 2). No. 124

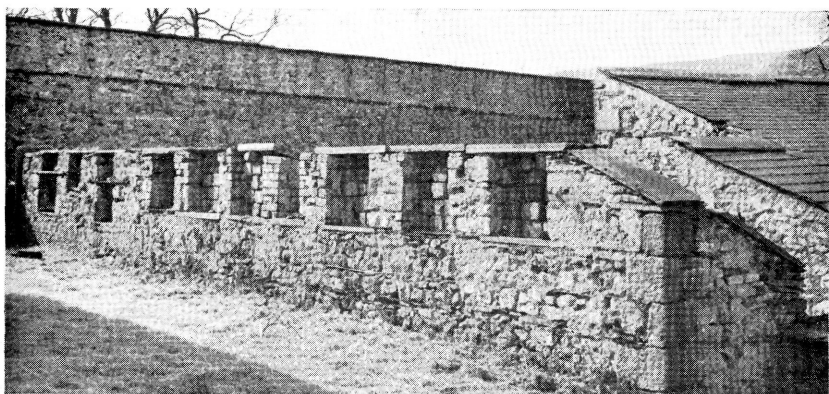


Fig. 5. Taitlands Youth Hostel, Stainforth, W. Yorks. Remains of long row of bee boles, some in two tiers; wall probably higher at one time. No. 64

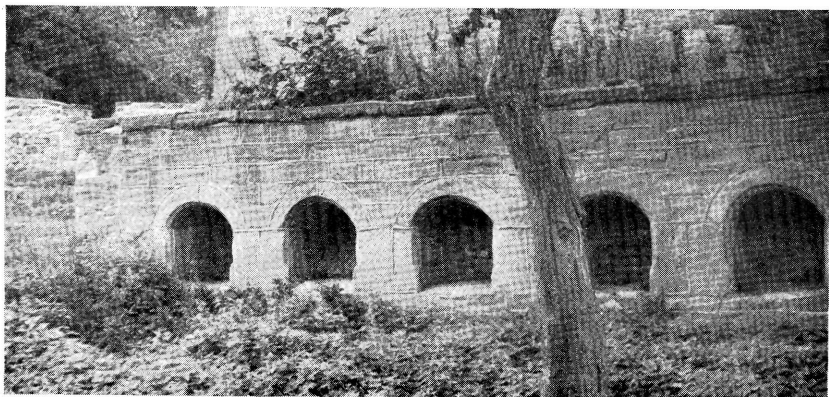


Fig. 6. Nutwithcote, Masham, N. Yorks. Bee boles of carefully dressed stone, recently restored (compare with Figs. 2 and 4). No. 7



Fig. 7. Ballachurry, Isle of Man. Row of 11 widely spaced (16th century ?) bee boles at farm with winter beehouse. No. 26 *Mrs. S. E. Wilson*



Fig. 8. Horslake, Cheriton Bishop, Devon. Two high (17th century ?) bee boles in cob wall of cottage on left of picture). No. 70 *Mrs. Collings-Wells*

CONCLUSION

It appears that the practice of sheltering skeps in bee boles was far more widely spread — especially in the wetter parts of the country — than has previously been realized. We are certain that many more bee boles could be located (and we should be glad to hear of them) ; so far they have been discovered in almost every stone-wall district where somebody has made a search. The absence of any mention of them in any of the early bee books which we have studied is puzzling. The only contemporary picture known to us is a seventeenth-century painting in oils on a wooden panel which Miss M. D. Bindley found at Charity Farm, Lovington (Somerset). This shows the house and formal garden, with the owner(?) in Cavalier dress in the foreground ; each of his eleven bee boles (131) has a skep in it.

These recesses must have given reasonably good shelter from rain and the wind carrying it, but they were only suitable for a type of bee-keeping which involved little handling of the hive, since the manipulator had to stand in the bees' line of flight. Some of the more sheltered and sunny bee boles must have been extremely hot in the summer.

It is impossible to ascertain how far back the practice was common, since few walls are standing which date from before the sixteenth century ; but we feel sure that it was quite widespread in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

Records show that in some places where no bees are now kept, colonies must have been numerous at one time. In the little Yorkshire hamlet of Arncliffe in Littondale for instance there are now no bee-keepers, but we found a ruined beehouse and 3 sets of bee boles. At Feizor (an even smaller Yorkshire hamlet near Settle) there are no bee-keepers now, but two sets of bee boles remain. It is interesting to speculate on the circumstances which made beekeeping worth while in these remote communities, where conditions now seem singularly unpropitious, and to wonder when and why it finally died out.

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TABLE 1. LIST OF BEE BOLES RECORDED IN ENGLAND UP TO SEPTEMBER 1953

2

NOTES :

- Col. 1. Key Number is that used in the record albums at the National Beekeeping Museum, 7 Shinfield Road, Reading. Bee boles visited by one or both authors are marked *.
- Col. 2. The address of each site is given, but this does not necessarily mean that the owners will welcome visitors.
- Col. 4. Measurements are given in inches (1 inch=2.54 cm.) in the following order : height, breadth, depth ; the figure below gives the height of the base above ground. Some of the figures 12, 24, 36 are only approximate. ‡ against the breadth indicates accommodation for two skeps.
- Col. 6. (a) Unless otherwise stated boles are rectangular, and built of stone.
 (b) Unless the spacing is indicated, they are close together (6-12 in. apart).
 (c) 'Fig. — in W.H.H.' refers to *Beekeeping New and Old* by W. Herrod-Hempsall.
 (d) 17C.=seventeenth century, etc.

† Several more recently reported, but not yet confirmed

Key No.	Address	No. boles	Size and height above ground	Aspect	Reported by	Remarks
CUMBERLAND (2)† 40*	Greta Grove, Keswick	14	18 × 15 × 14 0 & 18	N	Mrs. E. Wilson	Boles on 2 levels (ground level has been raised) ; made of stone, slate and plaster, with brick piers. Resembles No. 64. Not certainly for bees.
100*	Bridge End Farm, Thirlspot	1 2	23 × 22 × 25 23 × 41½ × 25 24	SE SW	Mrs. E. Wilson	In 2 walls of neglected garden, some way from house. Fig. 2.
DERBYSHIRE (3) 47*	Robin Hood, Baslow	5	28 × 26 × 14 10	S	Dr. E. Crane	Bees in box in one bole. Date of house 1798. Neglected.
48	Cuckoostone Grange Farm, nr. Matlock	6	36 × 40½ × 14 Varies	S	Mr. J. H. D. Myatt	2 rows of 3 in wall on sloping ground. 'The sunniest place on the farm.' Fig. 1411/1 (unnamed) in W.H.H.
97	Mill House, Millersdale	1	42 × 36½ × 18 72	S	Mr. J. Swarbrick Mr. J. H. D. Myatt	Hewn out of limestone crag ; known as 'bee niche'. Used for bees in early 19C.
DEVON (3)† 25	Zephyr Cottage, Lynton	6			Mr. J. Doubt	In house wall.
50	Pack of Cards Hotel, Combe Martin	12	18 × 18 × 15 18	SE	Mr. G. L. Lewis	Brick piers between boles. Original house 1644. Present house 18C.
70	Horslake, Cheriton Bishop	2	20 × 24 × 22 84	SE	Mrs. Collings-Wells	Boles in cob wall of house, probably 17C. Fig. 8.
DORSET (2) 17	Little Westrow, Holwell, Sherborne	1	32 × 32½ × 30 36	E	Miss H. B. Warry	Probably 1595. Owner has recently re-opened recess.
42	Lower Farm, Corscombe	4	16 × 12 × 16 26	S	Mrs. Barratt	
ESSEX (1) 69	Horham Hall, Thaxted				Mr. F. W. Steer	Article and picture in <i>Country Life</i> 8.7.05.
GLOUCESTERSHIRE (3) 94	Old Farm, Aston Magna	4	16 × 16 × 16 20	S	Miss M. D. Bindley	Rounded top arches ; alighting projection. Probably 17C.

95	The Manor, Weston-sub-Ede	8	20 × 16 × 13 43	E	Miss M. D. Bindley	Brick piers and back. Probably 1650-1700.
96	The Folly, Gotherington	10	20 × 18 × 12 33	SE	Miss M. D. Bindley	Projecting wooden ledge above.
KENT (5) 44	Royden Hall, East Peckham	8	18 × 14 × 10 48	S	Mr. J. L. Sargeant	Brick ; rounded top arch. Very shallow and high above ground. Date of house 1530 ; walls same period.
49	Wrotham Water, Wrotham (National Trust)	2	16 × 15 × 17 16 × 15 × 20 7 & 0	S	Mrs. V. F. Desborough	Brick. In a dismantled chimney-stack on S. wall of house.
78	Quebec House, Westerham (National Trust)	3	17 × 14 × 10 30	S	Mrs. V. F. Desborough	Brick ; shallow with gabled roof arch. Boles show traces of smoke, ? used for braziers. House late 16C. or early 17C.
90	The Yews, Boxley, Maidstone	2	23 × 18 × 15 36	S	Mrs. V. F. Desborough	Brick ; rounded roof arch.
91	Boroughs Oak Farm, East Peckham	7	19 × 16 × 16 18	SE	Mr. G. L. Haynes	Brick and plaster ; rounded roof arch. In wall which was part of 18C. brewery ; same estate as No. 44.
LANCASHIRE (8) 71	Seathwaite, Duddon Valley	1	21 × 39½ × 20 24	SE	Mr. D. M. Jesper	Held 2 skeps on slate bases (one now in N.B.M.). Possibly used up to 1920.
84	High Yewdale Farm, Coniston	8	16 × 17 × 18 32	E	Mr. J. Swarbrick	House 16C.
85	Holme Ground, Coniston	6	20 × 20 × 20 24	E	Mr. J. Swarbrick	House 17C.
86	High Water Mead, Coniston	2	18 × 20 × ? 30	E	Mr. J. Swarbrick	Boles now blocked up. House probably 17C. Also remains of bee house.
88	Church House, Wray	4	20 × 21 × 20 30	S	Mr. J. Swarbrick	House dated 1622. Boles c.6 ft. apart ; probably used until 1880.
102	Lune Bank Cottage, Aughton	2 1	22 × 38½ × 19 22 × 21 × 19 18	S E	Mr. W. Shuker	At corner of house, in adjacent walls. Early 19C. Used up to c.1920.
129	Neals Row, Urswick	1	54 × 42½ × 18 39	NE	Mr. H. G. Hird	Rounded brick roof arch ; had wooden shelf half way up.
130	Church Style, Pennington	3 (were 4)	48 × 48½ × 20 12	SW	Mr. H. G. Hird	Brick-lined ; each had wooden shelf and divider to make 4 recesses. Probably 1782.
LINCOLNSHIRE (1) 68*	The Old Hall, Gainsborough	4	14 × 12 × 11 23	E	Mrs. E. Hawthornthwaite	Tudor brick ; very shallow, widely spaced. Built in 1600. Fig. 3.
NORTHUMBERLAND (2) 124*	Lincoln Hill, Humshaugh	3	25 × 18-21 × 15 30	W	Major E. C. Portnell	18C. (house rebuilt 1774). In orchard wall across road from house. Fig. 4.
125*	Fox & Hounds Hotel, West Woodburn	6 1	19 × 30-34½ × 15 17 × 16 × 13 0	SE	Major E. C. Portnell	Resident remembers skeps (sometimes two in each) in 1890. Small bole shaped like half-bell.

Key No.	Address	No. boles	Size and height above ground	Aspect	Reported by	Remarks
OXFORDSHIRE (1) 67*	Southams Farm, Stonesfield, Charlbury	2	20 × 16 × 20 36	S	Mr. C. B. Bartlett	
SOMERSET (3) 131	Charity Farm, Lovington	11	24 × 20 × 14 18	S	Miss M. D. Bindley	Rounded at back. 17C. Contemporary oil painting in house shows bee boles in use, owner? in Cavalier dress.
132	Law's Farm, Compton Dundon, nr. Street	17?	18 × 20 × 16 12	W	Miss M. D. Bindley	Neglected, very few boles intact.
133	Rose Cottage, Compton Dundon.	6	16 × 20 × 18 20	S	Miss M. D. Bindley	Probably 1860. 'Arrow-slit' above, to allow flight through high wall.
SUFFOLK (1) 41	West Stow Hall, Bury St. Edmunds	3	20 × 24-30 × 11 25	N	Dr. C. E. Lakin	Tudor brick; very shallow. Ground level raised by rubble. 3 boles
		1	24 × 22 × 10 0	W	Dr. C. E. Lakin	probably 1601; 1 probably 1486-1522; has rounded roof arch.
WARWICKSHIRE (1) 15*	Packwood House, Hockley Heath (National Trust)	30	20 × 21 × 18 9	S	Mr. H. Allen	Brick; rounded roof arch. Garden walls built c.1666.
WESTMORLAND (2) 34	Hilltop Farm, Sawrey (National Trust)	3		S	Mrs. Duke	Probably 16C. Farm belonged to Beatrix Potter; picture of one bole in her <i>Jemima Puddleduck</i> .
106	Weir Cottage, Great Langdale	2		S	Mr. H. Miller	
YORKSHIRE 1* NORTH RIDING (6)	Edgley, West Burton	3	20 × 20 × 16 54	SE	Mrs. E. Hawthornthwaite	17C. house.
2*	Shaw Paddock, Hawes	2	24 × 36½ × 27 24	SW	Miss M. Hartley	Boles protrude from wall. House probably 18C.
3*	Camshouse, Askrigg	3	30 × 24 × 16 30	S	Miss M. Hartley	Farm and garth deserted. Late 18C.
4*	Warnford House, Thorlby	8	27 × 20 × 18 12 & 42	S	Mrs. E. Hawthornthwaite	Probably late 18C. Two tiers.
7*	Nutwiltcote, Masham	6	30 × 24 × 18 18	S	Mrs. E. Hawthornthwaite	Rounded stone top arches; carved. In grange of Fountains Abbey; possibly built before Dissolution. Recently restored. Fig. 6.
35	Spen House, Askrigg	5	36 × 24 × 24 20	S	Mr. Meadows	Rounded roof arch. House built 1841. Boles probably last used 1860.
YORKSHIRE 5* WEST RIDING (24)	Grange Farm, Linton, nr. Grassington	3	18 × 20 × 16 30	W	Dr. Raistrick	Probably put in when house was rebuilt in 1820; now face across path.
27*	Park Side Farm, Follifoot, Harrogate	8	25 × 21-24 × 18 15	S	Dr. E. Crane	Fig. 388a in W.H.H.; date given there 1600. Neglected.

29*	Ruddings, Follifoot, Harrogate	4	29 × 26 × 16 17	S	Dr. E. Crane	Backed and repaired with brick ; rounded top arch. Like No. 116, but later.
30*	Reynard Ing, Ilkley	4	28 × 24 × 24 30	S	Mrs. K. M. Mason	House 1630-1680 (from deeds) ; wall with boles closely connected. Scale model in N.B.M. Not used since 1880.
31*	Smallbanks, Addingham	3	21 × 24 × 16 8	S	Mr. Mason	c. 1800.
32*	Smallbanks, Addingham, Ilkley	2	24 × 21 × 21 32	E	Mr. Mason	Probably 1779.
56*	Bridge End, Arncliffe	1 1	33 × 41½ × 21 33 × 24 × 21 24	S	Mr. M. Miller	House where Kingsley wrote <i>Water Babies</i> .
57*	The Falcon Inn, Arncliffe	1	22 × 22 × ? 18	S	Mr. M. Miller	Partly blocked up ; beside beehouse.
58*	Well House, Giggleswick	4	24 × 22 × 19 6	S	Mr. A. Russell	In well kept garden. Probably 18C.
59*	Queens Rock, Giggleswick	2 2	18 × 25 × 20 11 23 × 26 × 20 22	S	Mr. A. Russell	2 groups of 2 c.30 in. apart. In well kept garden. Part of house dated 1776, part 1720.
60*	Tems House, Giggleswick	1 1	19 × 20 × 18 28 19 × 19 × 16 14	N E	Mrs. Thompson	Boles in different walls of garden. House built in 1400, belonged to monastery.
61*	Lane Top, Arncliffe	4	17-20 × 21-24 × ? ?	E	Mr. M. Miller	Not certain. Face across door in sunless yard ; but buildings may have been altered.
62*	Eldroth Old Hall, nr. Settle	2	19 × 20 × 19 26	S	Mr. A. Russell	In orchard adjoining house. Date on house, 1668, on barn 1662.
63*	Eldroth Old Hall, nr. Settle	8	22 × 20 × 18 26	S	Mr. A. Russell	Shaped roof arch. Dressed stone lintels and jambs. Boles c. 6 ft. apart, in field away from house.
64*	Taitlands, Stainforth (Youth Hostel)	14	All different but near averages	E	Mr. A. Russell	Some in 2 tiers. Stone repaired with brick and plaster ; may have been more boles. Present house 19C., on site of older one. Skeps and eke found in attic. Fig. 5.
65	Wood Nook Farm, Horsforth, Leeds	8	24 × 24 × ? 36	S	Mr. E. Roberts	Probably early 19C. Pulled down 1953.

<i>Key No.</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>No. boles</i>	<i>Size and height above ground</i>	<i>Aspect</i>	<i>Reported by</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
YORKSHIRE 75* W. RIDING— <i>contd.</i>	Old Hall Farm, Feizor	3	18×18×18 24	S	Mr. F. Riley	Boles widely spaced (facing garden) in boundary wall of old packhorse track. House (across road) dated 1699.
77*	Stockdale House, Feizor	3	27×25×25 32	S	Mr. F. Riley	Widely spaced. House c. 1700 ; formerly belonged to Sawley Abbey, Clitheroe.
99*	High Barn, Sandford Farm, Settle	3	17-20×18×17 30	S	Mr. A. Russell	Boles on <i>outside</i> of fold yard wall. Heather site only.
104	Cowburn Farm, Silsden Moor	4	23×22×15 24	S	Mrs. K. M. Mason	Probably 19C.
105	Prospect House, Brunthwaite, Silsden	5	22×20×19 30	S	Mrs. K. M. Mason	18C. or earlier. House in one family for 200 years, but no tradition of beekeeping.
116*	Bilton Hall, nr. Harrogate	2	26×21×16 36	S	Mr. H. Allen	Rounded roof arch. Wall adjoins house, of same narrow Tudor brick. Date said to be 1479.
117*	Field House, Darley	3	18×14×10-12 36	SE	Mr. D. M. Jesper	Shallow, but wall only 17 in. thick. House built by Quakers in 1820 ; boles very plain.
121*	Cottage at Dacre	5	Boles blocked up now	SE	Mr. D. M. Jesper	Neighbour aged 90 remembers bees here about 1920.
ISLE OF MAN (6) 26	Ballachurry, Rushen	11	21×18×15 16	S	Mrs. S. E. Wilson	3 ft. apart. Probably used up to 1850. House 16C. Winter beehouse at same farm. Fig. 7.
43	Ronaldsway Farm	11	?		Mr. T. Rimmer	Farm and wall dated 1506, pulled down in 1939 for building aerodrome.
66	Ballakaighen	10/11	20×21×19 34	SE	Mrs. S. E. Wilson	4 boles open, 6 blocked up (possibly 1 other).
103	The Vicarage, Laxey	5	18×18×18 30	E	Mr. T. Rimmer	Probably 19C.
119	Balladoole, Malew	5	21×17×? 30	NE	Mrs. S. E. Wilson	Present house 16C. ; boles (now blocked up) up the hill at site of older house.
120	The Neary, Sky Hill	7	15×15×15 12 & 30	SE	Mrs. S. E. Wilson	Boles in 2 tiers. Derelict farm, last occupied 1902.