



Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors

*R. I. C. S.*

Centenary of the  
Northumberland and Durham Branch

1888—1988



100



Compiled and edited by Alan G. Johnson, FRICS. December 1987

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Papers presented to the Branch by Allan Mentz  
in 1927 and by Ian N. Swanson in 1957

Charles H. A. Brown.

RICS Year Book.

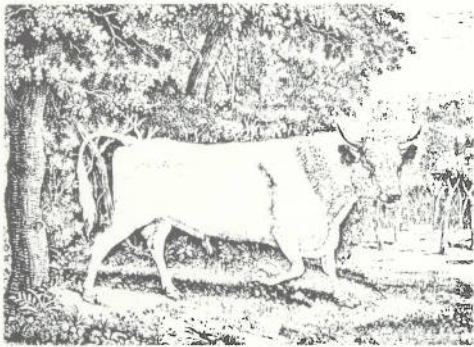


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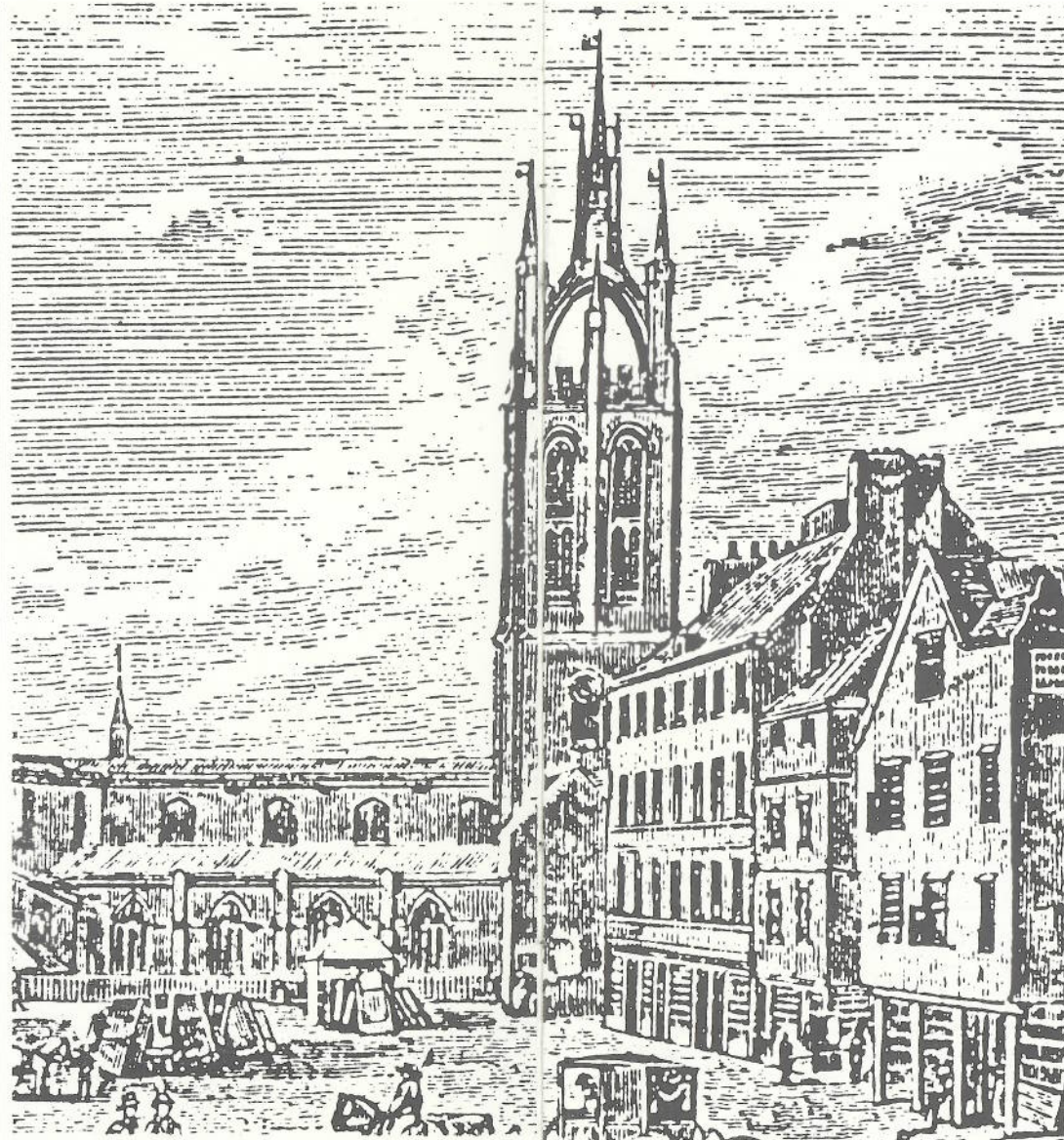
# IN 1988 THE NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM BRANCH OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTION OF CHARTERED SURVEYORS CELEBRATES ITS CENTENARY.

The origins of The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors are to be found in social clubs, the purpose of which was to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas without any conscious intention of forming a regulatory institution. The antecedents of the RICS can be traced directly to the Surveyors' Club (founded in 1792), the Land Surveyors' Club (founded in 1834) and the Surveyors' Association (founded 1864). Membership appears to have been dependent on eminence in the emergent profession of surveying, which embraced in those days the particular skills of valuing land, measuring boundaries in connection with private Bills and quantity surveying – already a distinct profession.

By 1868 there was sufficient identity of purpose among this apparently diverse group to warrant the creation (on 23rd March of that year) of the Institution of Surveyors, the direct precursor of the present Institution. The initial membership included auctioneers, appraisers and valuers, estate agents, road surveyors, land surveyors, land agents, estate managers and quantity surveyors.



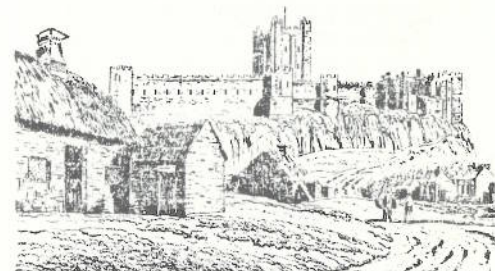
Chillingham Wild Cattle



Cloth Market

Subsequently, the name was changed to the Surveyors' Institution, and Queen Victoria granted a Royal Charter in 1881. The royal patronage was bestowed in 1921 and the name was again altered in 1930 to the Chartered Surveyors' Institution. Since 1946, the title has been as it is today.

In the past hundred years, the Institution has amalgamated with many kindred associations among which were the Irish Land Agents' Association, the Irish Quantity Surveyors' Association, the Scottish Estate Factors' Association, the Faculty of Surveyors of Scotland, The Institute of Mining Surveyors and, in 1922, the Quantity Surveyors' Association. More recently major amalgamations have taken place with the "three Chartered Societies of the land", the RICS, the Chartered Auctioneers' and Estate Agents' Institute and the Chartered Land Agents' Society in 1970, and with the Institute of Quantity Surveyors in 1983. From an initial membership in 1868 of rather less than 200, the Institution has expanded to a point at which it now has over 52,000 corporate members and over 20,000 attached classes (mainly Probationers and Students).



Bamburgh Castle



THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSES AND  
ACTIVITIES OF THE INSTITUTION ARE  
SET OUT IN SECTION THREE OF THE  
SUPPLEMENTAL CHARTER 1973,  
WHICH PROVIDES AS FOLLOWS:

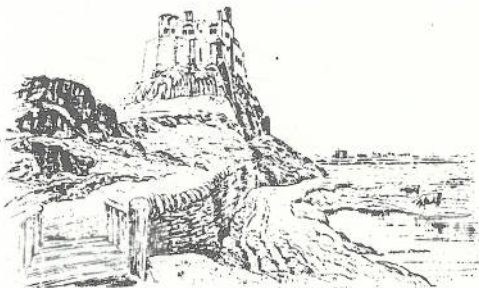
"The objects of the Institution shall be to secure the advancement and facilitate the acquisition of that knowledge which constitutes the profession of a surveyor, namely, the arts, sciences and practice of:

- (a) determining the value of all the descriptions of landed and house property and of the various interests therein;
- (b) managing and developing estates and other business concerned with the management of landed property;
- (c) securing the optimal use of land and its associated resources to meet social and economic needs;
- (d) surveying the structure and conditions of buildings and their services and advising on their maintenance, alteration and improvement;
- (e) measuring and delineating the physical features of the Earth;
- (f) managing, developing and surveying mineral property;
- (g) determining the economic use of resources of the construction industry, and the financial appraisal and measurement of construction work;
- (h) selling (whether by auction or otherwise), buying or letting, as an agent, real or personal property or any interest therein and to maintain and promote the usefulness of the profession for the public advantage".

The formal language of the Royal Charter does not entirely do justice to the subtle combination of purposes which together constitute the *raison d'être* of a professional society. More revealing is the analysis put forward by the first Associate of the Institution, John Horatio Lloyd, in 1868. "The sponsors of the Institution aim, I conceive, at three things", Lloyd said, "first, intellectual advancement; second, social elevation; third, moral improvement".

THE PRESENT DAY BRANCH STRUCTURE OF  
THE INSTITUTION ORIGINATES FROM THE  
DELIBERATIONS OF THE COUNCIL AS SET  
OUT IN THE ANNUAL REPORT OF 1887-1888.

"The Council have been impressed for some time past with the desirability of further stimulating the interest of the country Members in the welfare and development of the Institution. Circumstances of distance and inability from various causes, to attend the Meetings and take part in the business of the Institution seemed to point to the desirability of introducing some form of local organisation sufficient to bring the Members in all parts of England into more direct relations with the Council. The Council accordingly appointed a large Committee of its Members, in which several of the Past-Presidents were included, to advise as to the steps to be taken to secure the objects in view. After prolonged and careful consideration, the Committee reported in October last recommending the grouping of the country Fellows into Provincial Committees, as far as possible on a county basis; each Committee to elect its own Chairman, to come by virtue of his office upon one of



*Holy Island Castle*

the executive Committees of the Institution. They also recommended that every application for membership should be submitted to and reported on by the Committee of the district from which it emanates before being considered by the Council – an argument which, they pointed out, would operate as an additional safeguard against the admission of unqualified persons.

After careful consideration the Council adopted, in the main, the scheme of the Committee, but determined, before committing themselves to its general introduction, to test its operation in a tentative way in 6 widely-separated districts".



*Grey Street*

The districts selected were –

1. Kent.
2. Devon and Cornwall (combined).
3. Norfolk and Suffolk (combined).
4. Somerset and Dorset with Bristol (combined).
5. Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmorland and Durham (combined).
6. Leicestershire, Northampton and Rutland (combined).

The Northumberland and Durham Branch of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors had its inception on Saturday, April 21st 1888 under its original name, The Northern Counties Provincial Committee. The eleven gentlemen who attended the inaugural meeting at the County Hotel, Neville Street, Newcastle on that Saturday afternoon had travelled from as far afield as Chillingham in the North and Stockton in the South as well as others from Seaham and Sunderland. The meeting was attended by Mr. Julian Rogers the then secretary of the Institution.

Universal satisfaction was expressed by the members with regard to the action of the Council in this matter, and there does not appear to have been any difficulty in arriving at the decision to approve the proposals. Thus the Branch came in to existence.

The Committee comprised all the then Fellows in the four Counties and Mr. Jacob Wilson was elected Chairman.

The objects of these new arrangements as set out in "The Constitution and Regulations of Provincial Committees" have remained constant throughout the subsequent years, and they bear quotation, via:-

- (a) To establish a system of succession to the Standing Committee and, as far as possible, through them, to the Council, on the basis of local selection and of service rendered to the Institution.
- (b) To secure a full representation of the members upon the Standing Committee of the Institution.
- (c) To bring the members generally into closer touch with the Council and to assist the Council in ascertaining their local wants and wishes.
- (d) To give the country members an extended influence over the admission of new members from their own districts, and to provide them with additional means of furthering the interests of the Institution.
- (e) To provide machinery for holding Local Examinations and occasionally Country Meetings of the Institution and for generally increasing the interest of all classes of members in its welfare.



THE TRANSACTIONS OF THE SURVEYORS  
INSTITUTION 1887-1888" LISTS THE MEMBERS  
OF THE ORIGINAL COMMITTEE AS FOLLOWS:-

NORTHERN COUNTIES COMMITTEE.

Chairman—1888-89.

JACOB WILSON, Chillingham, Alnwick.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| ARMSTRONG, THOMAS JOHN . . .                      | 14, Hawthorne Terrace, Newcastle.                           |
| BOLAM, WILLIAM THOMAS . . .                       | Cross House, Westgate Road, Newcastle.                      |
| BRYDON, ROBERT . . . . .                          | The Dene, Seaham Harbour, Durham.                           |
| CURRY, HENRY JOHN . . . . .                       | 58, High Street, Stockton-on-Tees.                          |
| DENT, RALPH JOHN . . . . .                        | Streatham House, Darlington.                                |
| EADE, ARTHUR WILLOUGHBY }<br>FRENCH . . . . .     | Feethams, Darlington.                                       |
| HEDLEY, JOHN HUNT . . . . .                       | 55, John Street, Sunderland.                                |
| HEDLEY, THOMAS FENWICK . . . . .                  | Sunderland.   |
| HEDLEY, THOMAS FENWICK, JUN. . . . .              | Sunderland.   |
| HESKETT, WILLIAM JAMES . . . . .                  | 24, King Street, Penrith, Cumberland.                       |
| HOLME, JOHN . . . . .                             | Owlet Ash, Milnthorpe, Westmoreland.                        |
| HUDSON, JAMES . . . . .                           | Lowther, Penrith, Cumberland.                               |
| MINTER, WILLIAM . . . . .                         | 81, Bondgate, Darlington.                                   |
| PARMETER, FRANK . . . . .                         | South View House, West Parade, Newcastle.                   |
| POTTS, JOSEPH JUN. . . . .                        | North Cliff, Roker, Sunderland.                             |
| PUNCHARD, FREDERICK . . . . .                     | Underley Estate Office, Kirkby Lonsdale, West-<br>moreland. |
| SAMPLE, THOMAS . . . . .                          | Bothal Castle, Morpeth, Northumberland.                     |
| SCARTH, WILLIAM T. . . . .                        | Raby Castle, Darlington.                                    |
| STANLEY-DODGSON, STANLEY }<br>DICKINSON . . . . . | Estate Office, Somerset House, Whitehaven,<br>Cumberland.   |

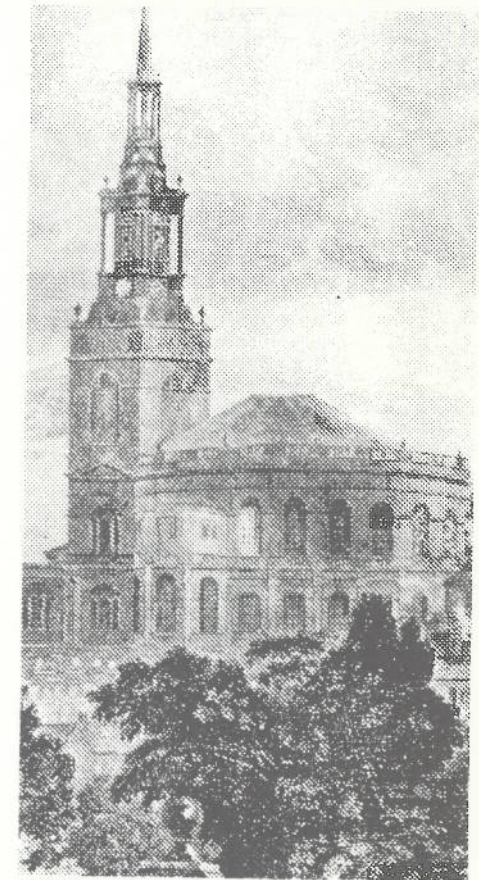


SIR JACOB WILSON, THE FIRST CHAIRMAN

The first Chairman was Mr. (later Sir) Jacob Wilson of Chillingham Barns, Northumberland. His family had been Cumberland farmers and he went to the Royal Agricultural College at Cirencester in 1854 where he received his Diploma having been either first or second in each subject under examination. He later joined his father in working a farm at Woodburn Manor near Newbiggin-by-the-Sea. He won several prizes including one from the Highland Society in 1863 for the best report on the general subject of reaping by machinery. Sir Jacob was agent to the Earl of Tankerville and other landowners in the North of England. On the formation of the Board of Agriculture in 1889, he was appointed Agricultural Adviser and Director of the Land Division. He was best known through this work in building up the Royal Agricultural Society, of which he was a Director. While Agent to the Earl of Tankerville at Chillingham Castle he experimented with crossing the wild cattle with pure-bred shorthorns.



Sir Jacob Wilson

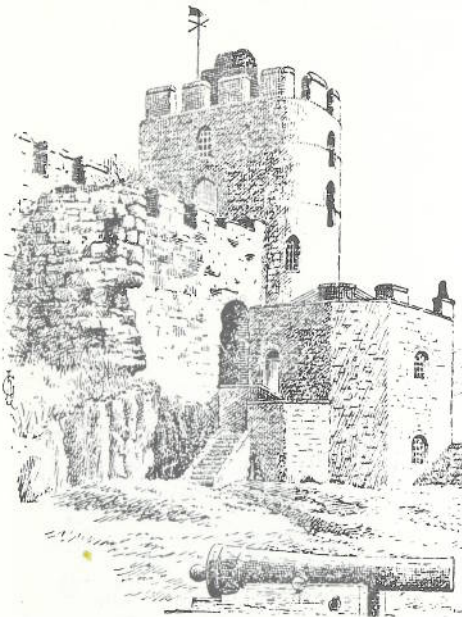


All Saints

The second Branch Chairman was Mr. W. T. Scarth who had been Chief Agent at Raby Castle where he had served under four Dukes and the then Lord Barnard. A large gathering was arranged in August 1898 at Raby Hall where Lord Barnard presided in order to present to William Thomas Scarth (then aged 78) an illuminated address. The report in the local press the following day, however, was under the title "Tragic Affair at Raby Castle" for, after expressing his thanks and replying to the toast, the unfortunate Mr. Scarth collapsed and died before the local doctor arrived.



In 1894 the Northern Counties Provincial Committee was split into two Committees, one comprising the counties of Cumberland & Westmorland and the other Northumberland & Durham, giving us the structure of the Branch as we know it today. At that time Professional Associates were only allowed to attend meetings and it was not until 1906 that they were given any rights of representation on the Committee or of taking active part in the business of meetings.



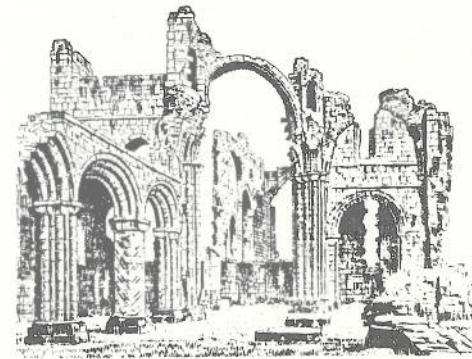
*Bamburgh Castle – Clock Tower*

Provincial Committees ceased to be so called when the new Rules in 1919 reconstructed the provincial organisations, and they then took on the name of "County Branches". Up to 1910 the Branch only met annually, but after the passing of the Finance Act, 1910, it was imbued with a new life and henceforward regular meetings of the Branch and Committee took place.

In May 1904 the Annual Summer Meeting of the Institution was held at Newcastle in response to a joint invitation from the Northumberland & Durham and Cumberland & Westmorland Provincial Committee.



The first Branch Dinner was held in 1912. Ever since the first world war, the Annual Dinner has been considered to be one of the best of the season in Newcastle.



*The Priory, Holy Island*

In 1926 Mr. H. Taylor, a well-known Consulting Engineer, presented the Branch with the Chairman's badge of office, which is still in use. A gold plate is added to the ribbon every year to record each Chairman's name. The design has been so well appreciated that several other branches have copied the badge.

In 1922 the Branch Membership was 125 and in 1939 was 163. By 1957 the total had reached 572.

In January 1955, the Institute of Mining Surveyors became absorbed in the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and this led to an increase of some 100 Members of the Branch. The size of the Branch was further increased in 1970 with the amalgamation of the RICS, the Chartered Auctioneers' and Estate Agents Institute and the Chartered Land Agents' Society. The 1983 amalgamation with the Institute of Quantity Surveyors pushed the membership of the Branch over the 2000 mark.

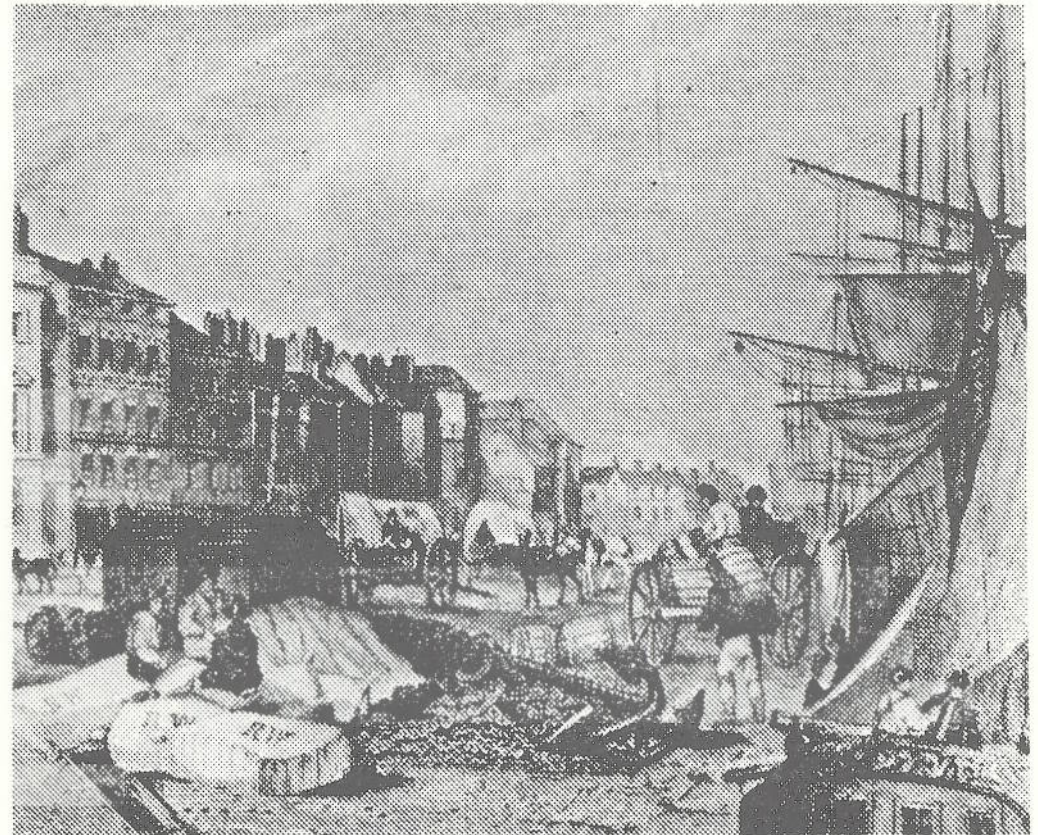
The Branch has provided three Presidents of the Institution. In 1922 J. McClare Clark became President followed in 1969 by his son John Clark. In recent times G. M. Townsend was President in 1984.

Since the beginning of the Branch, Members on Teesside have been stalwart and regular supporters, despite the difficulty in attending Branch functions in Newcastle. In the nineteen fifties a Sub Area complete with its own Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Committee was formed on Teesside.

The Junior Organisation was founded in 1929 for members of the Institution below the age of thirty-three. Many of the Members of the Junior Organisation have subsequently become Members of the Senior Branch Committee and have occupied the Chair.

We are grateful to our founding members for their foresight, energy and enthusiasm. Although they could have had no idea how or in what form the Institution would proceed, it has, nevertheless, prospered and now extends to cover many Divisions within the profession of Surveying and its influence extends to many spheres of current activities.

We also owe a debt of gratitude to all those members who have given of their time and talents over the years to maintain the ever increasing activities of the Branch.



*The Quayside*



# CHAIRMEN

1887-89 Jacob Wilson  
 1889-90 W. T. Scarth  
 1890-91 F. Punched  
 1891-92 W. J. Heskett  
 1892-93 Thos. Sample  
 1893-94 H. Wallace  
 1894-95 Jas. Hudson  
 1895-01 T. J. Armstrong  
 1901-03 C. Rowlandson  
 1903-05 J. M. Clark  
 1905-06 A. W. F. Wade  
 1906-07 C. E. Carr  
 1907-08 R. Brydon  
 1908-09 Sir F. E. Walker, Bt.  
 1909-10 H. T. Pierson  
 1910-11 C. H. Sample  
 1911-12 J. N. Hedley  
 1912-14 J. W. Taylor  
 1914-16 W. Townend  
 1916-18 G. T. Brown  
 1918-20 W. Waite Sanderson  
 1920-21 J. Ezard Miller  
 1921-22 F. G. Edge  
 1922-23 J. M. Clark  
 1923-24 W. J. Cochran  
 1924-25 Jas. Scott  
 1925-26 J. P. Allen  
 1926-27 C. McGhie  
 1927-28 Jos. Spain  
 1928-29 John Scott  
 1929-30 H. W. Taylor  
 1930-31 H. Burch  
 1931-32 A. E. Killick  
 1932-33 W. Milburn  
 1933-34 F. P. Mill  
 1934-35 W. J. Hackett  
 1935-36 A. S. Bowes  
 1936-37 F. W. Hall  
 1937-38 W. Townend  
 1938-39 T. C. Hill  
 1939-42 A. P. Ker  
 1942-45 H. A. Booth

1945-46 R. S. Barrett  
 1946-47 John Clark  
 1947-49 W. B. Townend  
 1949-51 R. Parker  
 1951-52 A. S. Bowes  
 1952-53 O. J. Bowes  
 1953-54 H. A. Booth  
 1954-55 C. J. Gilbert  
 1955-56 A. B. Hindmarsh  
 1956-57 W. Hand  
 1957-58 W. Barnes  
 1958-59 R. Stringer  
 1959-60 I. N. Swanson  
 1960-61 N. R. Palmer  
 1961-62 J. W. Summers  
 1962-63 C. H. Tinsley  
 1963-64 John Thompson  
 1964-65 Basil Noble  
 1965-66 H. Ll. G. Williams  
 1966-67 J. B. Ross  
 1967-68 H. A. Stonehouse  
 1968-69 R. A. S. Sisterson  
 1969-70 C. W. Martindale  
 1970-71 J. B. Wearmouth  
 1971-72 R. Scott  
 1972-73 K. A. Clark  
 1973-74 R. T. Harvey  
 1974-75 N. Blackburn  
 1975-76 R. A. Edmonds  
 1976-77 H. T. G. Glen-Davison  
 1977-78 P. J. Dudding  
 1978-79 W. Wallace  
 1979-80 G. Dickinson  
 1980-81 C. Clark  
 1981-82 J. W. Dickson  
 1982-83 J. T. M. Newbigin  
 1983-84 E. Wright  
 1984-85 D. I. Thomson  
 1985-86 B. N. Furniss  
 1986-87 I. D. Carmichael  
 1987-88 C. H. A. Brown



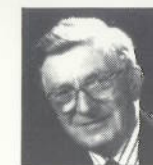
E. Wright



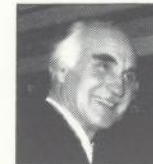
J. A. Summers



D. Baxendale



G. Dickinson



J. W. Dickson



J. B. Wearmouth



H. T. G. Glen-Davison



Back Row (left to right): M. Oliver, W. Wallace, R. Scott, P. J. Dudding, J. T. M. Newbigin.  
 Middle Row (left to right): A. G. Johnson, R. A. Edmonds, N. Blackburn, C. Clark, R. T. Harvey.  
 Front Row (left to right): R. A. S. Sisterson, B. Noble, C. H. A. Brown, W. Hand.

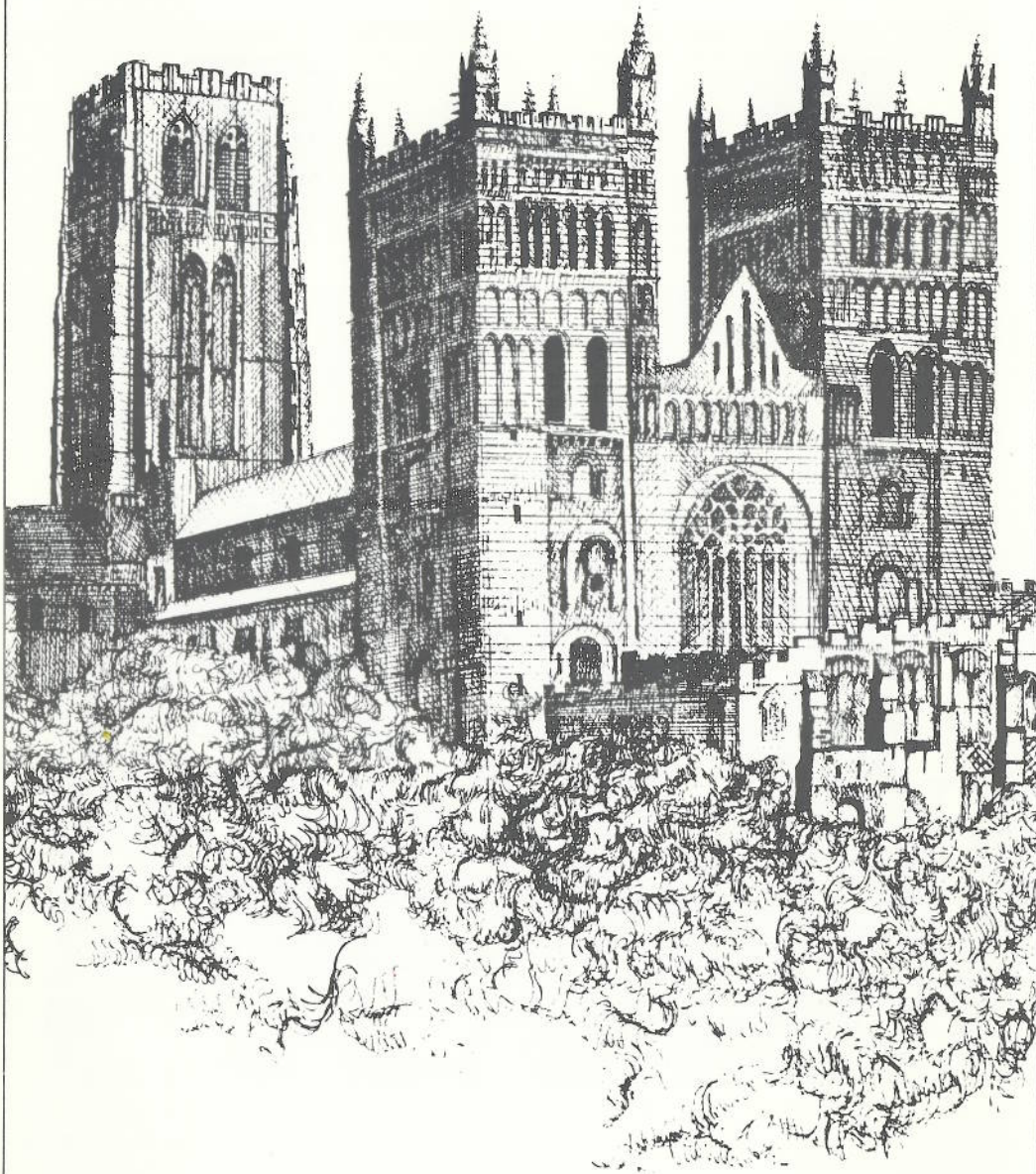
# HONORARY SECRETARIES

1889-90 J. J. Bowman  
 1890-91 A. Webster  
 1891-92 Jas. Hudson  
 1892-93 W. C. Sample  
 1893-94 N. Clark  
 1894-95 C. Sample  
 1902-03 A. W. F. Wade  
 1903-04 C. H. James  
 1904-05 C. H. Sample  
 1905-06 S. M. Rowlandson  
 1906-07 D. F. Aynesley  
 1907-08 J. A. Robinson  
 1908-14 A. P. Ker  
 1914-21 C. McGhie



1921-26 W. Turpin  
 1926-28 W. J. Hackett  
 1928-33 T. C. Hill  
 1933-39 John Clark  
 1939-46 C. McGhie  
 1946-58 I. N. Swanson  
 1958-63 R. A. S. Sisterson  
 1963-66 J. B. Wearmouth  
 1966-69 D. Baxendale  
 1969-73 R. A. Edmonds  
 1973-77 G. Dickinson  
 1977-80 B. N. Furniss  
 1980-85 A. G. Johnson  
 1985- M. Oliver





*Durham Cathedral*

