

*Ball House*

Another interesting feature of Breeze House is the winter edge – a small ledge which juts out from the building just above the windows. This type of ledge was very common on buildings of the 17th century and earlier.

***Ball House (1627)***

was the home of John Moore, a celebrated Quaker preacher, in the 17th century. In the early 1700s the house was bought by a Francis Walton, one of the Marsden Hall family, and he and his descendants stayed for more than 150 years. One, Jem o' Ball (James Walton) gained a reputation for terrorizing the district when he was not in jail.

The porch at Ball House bears the inscription "IM 1627 AM", the initials of the builder, John Moore and his wife Ann. Part of the building however was standing much earlier, a 'Bawlhous' on the same site being recorded on a map of 1561.

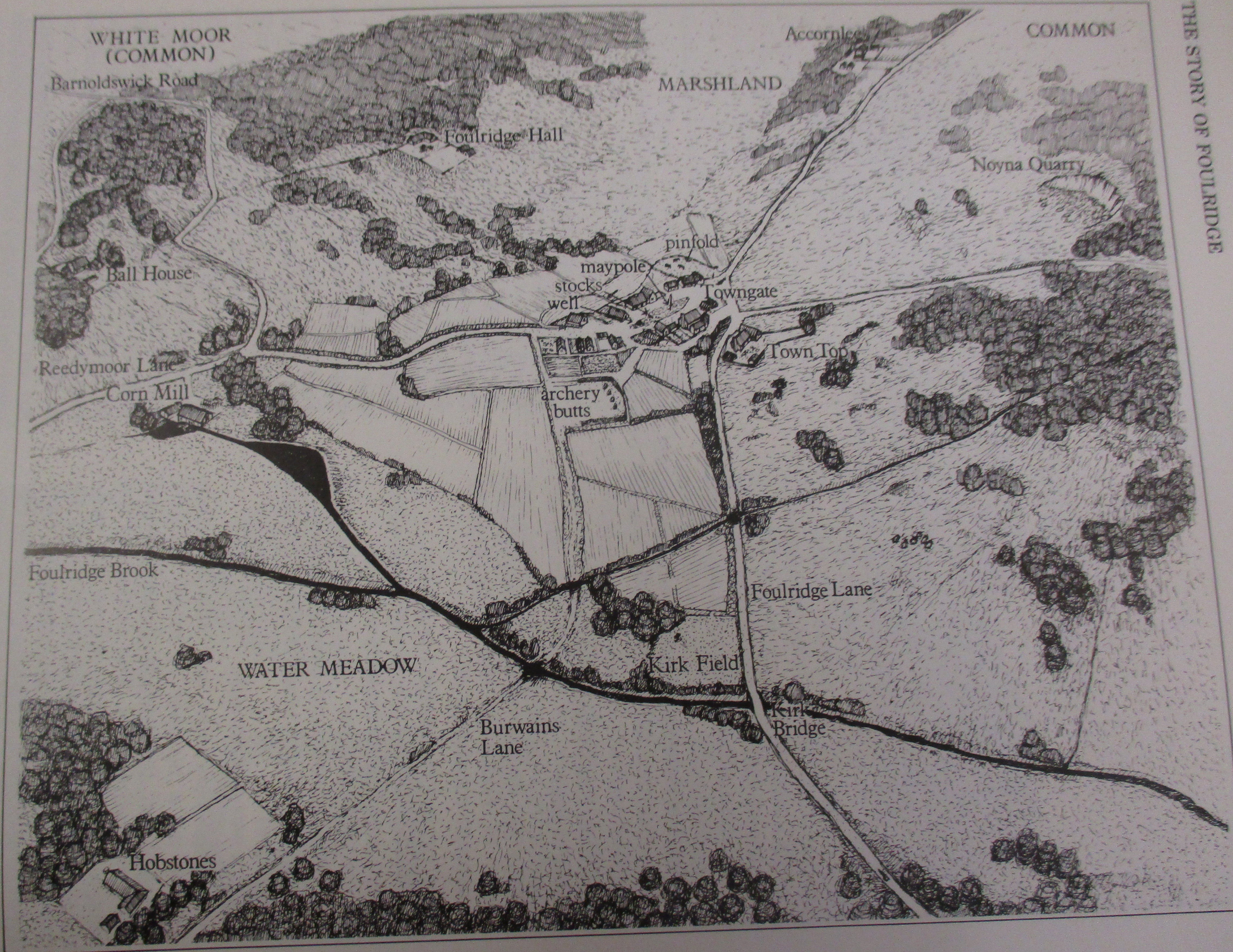
Stone seats inside the porch bear a number of shallow depressions caused by sandstone being crushed to make sand for spreading on the house floor. At the rear of the house is another unusual feature – a blocked up doorway on the first floor. It is possible that bales of wool were taken up a ramp to be stored upstairs. First floor rooms were often used for storage, even in wealthier houses.

In 1968 the house, together with Noyna Bottom Farm, featured in the television production of Anne Bronte's 'Tenant of Wildfell Hall'. Ball House also has another Bronte connection - there is an oriel window built into the gable end which came from the porchway of Wycoller Hall, the Ferndean Manor of Jane Eyre.

***Moss Houses***

Just off Watery Lane is Moss Houses which dates from between 1625 and 1650, and was owned by the Bolton family for

A reconstruction of Foulridge in the 16th Century

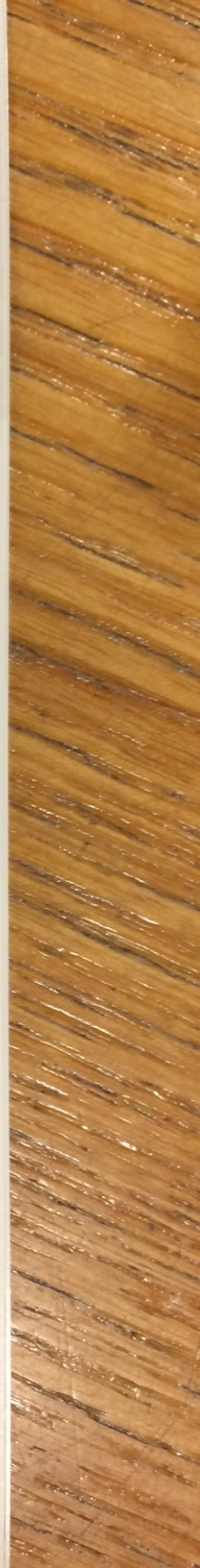
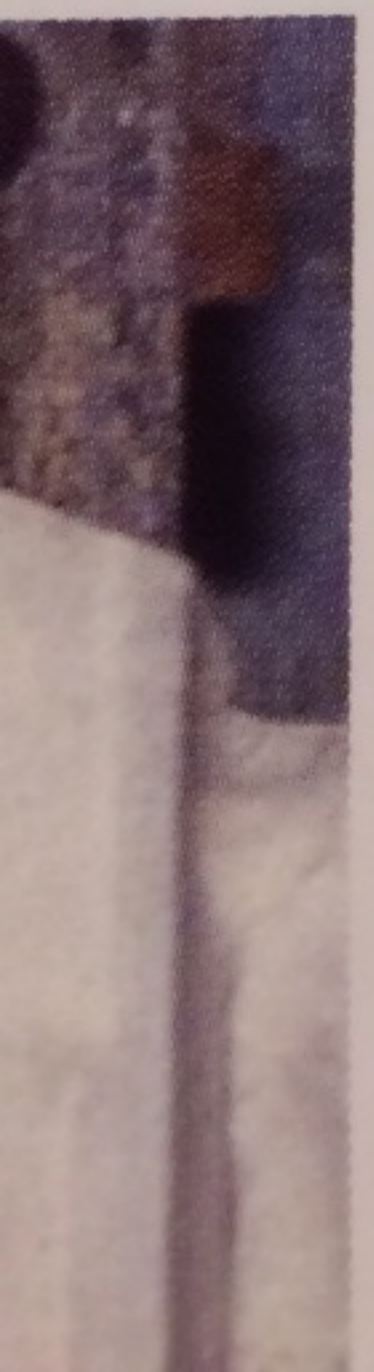


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At the top of Ball House Lane was this **Bargain Stone** – where the touch of a hand became as good as a receipt. The custom began when farmers assembled around the stone to strike a bargain for the cattle or wool they had. When the price was agreed, they sealed the bargain by touching hands through the hole in the stone. The stone was damaged by farm vehicles in 1998 and was subsequently removed to the garden at Ball House.

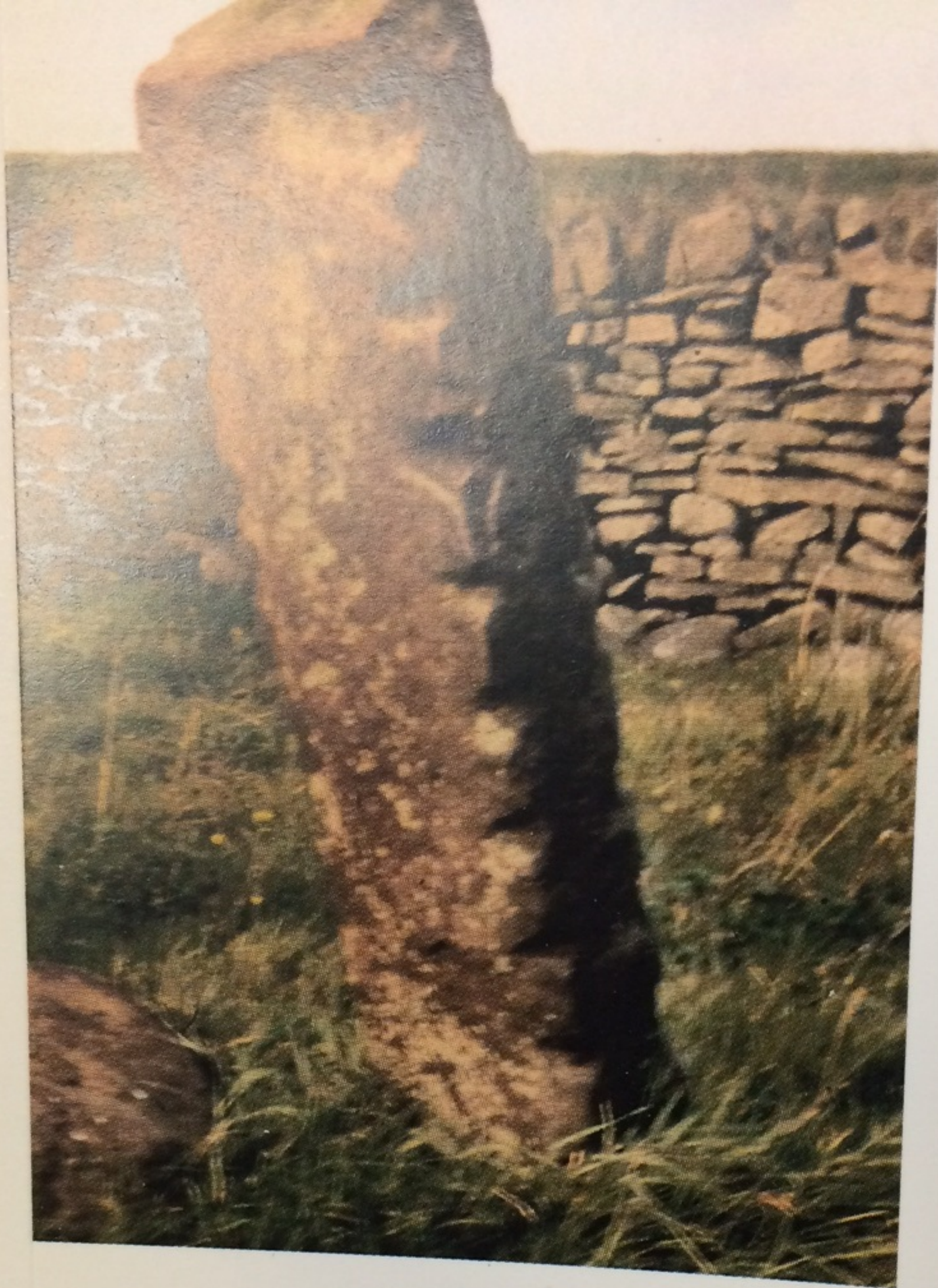


THE MEDIEVAL MANOR



Close by, on land between Croft Mill and Burwains Lane known locally as Bradley Butts, were the **archery targets** where in medieval and early Tudor times

View of Foulridge as it may have appeared in medieval times.



Standing Stone Gate, at the junction of the Barnoldswick Road with the roads to Blacko, Colne and Foulridge, takes its name from the standing stone sited close by which acted as a signpost for early travellers. It is referred to as 'the standing stone on Harrock Hill' on the 1581 Map of Whitemoor.

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## **Foulridge**

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