



OUTSIDE

Looking at the front: Three main areas: service wing on the west (left), the main hall (middle) and what were the owner's private quarters on the east (right).

Originally built perhaps in 1300s the projecting part of the main hall and of the 'solar' wing (note the larger round-headed mullioned windows upstairs) were constructed in 1500s. Service wing re-constructed as three-storey structure in the 1600s – flat-headed mullioned windows and dove-cote.

Latterly (by 1800) the Manor House became four cottages. The south east corner had a 5th cottage - see band of paler masonry slanting down.

Note mortices in chimney stack on east wall to carry timbers for the upper floor of the cottage. Some residual limewash : cottage internal wall.

At the bottom of the east wall is a square opening – outlet for loo.

Go round to the back of the building.

Note relationship of solar wing, stair tower and chimney stack. The wall of service wing is over the archway that leads to the rear door. Rear door was in original north wall.



Go to the north west corner.
See 30 metres of Roman wall.

West wall is on line of Roman wall, with
?drainage spout from kitchen

Go back **INSIDE** the house and into the cross-passage.



Note wall plaque recording donation of Manor House to Ilkley by Percy Dalton.



On left are two ground floor service rooms, possibly a buttery and kitchen. **Their Caernarvon arch lintels were characteristic of the late 1300s.**

Step down briefly into the west wing and note low ceiling compared with cross passage. In passage, above the first doorway note boxed-in stairs linking the floor level of the upper gallery to the much lower first floor of the west wing - **originally steps to minstrel's gallery when housebody had no first floor.**



Verbeia Roman altar, wording decayed but preserved on copy made 1608 now near Myddelton Lodge. Note issue about Roman name of Ilkley: Olicana or Verbeia?

Note the position of the rear door - the original north wall. Interpretation boards show MH history.

Go into the housebody - once single storey clear to roof. Turn left to see 1801 Thomas Girtin painting with Manor House.



Fireplace: (replaces original centre hearth) : right side neatly chamfered, left square c cruder = done at different times, size of fireplace has varied.

Go into the fireplace and **look up the chimney**, slopes outwards towards top.
 Inside the fireplace, **rear wall on right small blocked-off square may have been a bread-oven.**

Further right is a small blocked-off doorway which would have connected with the stair tower - ?pele tower. Thick stone.

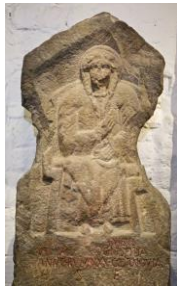
Past the doorway is aerial view of Ilkley c.1952 - with the railway to Skipton (removed c1966).

Dividing (east) wall. Left doorway's left jamb and right doorway's right jamb are chamfered (corner stones) indicating made early. Wall extends up through the upper storey, probably inserted 1700s for the cottages.

Via the right doorway, enter solar wing now local history gallery. It was extended to N&S in C16 with mullioned windows.

Proceed clockwise for a tour through Ilkley's history.

Display case covering early times including Roman period - several artefacts temporarily removed to Bradford.



Three figure tombstone, may never have been incised with words.

Vedica Roman tombstone - nationally important - to British Cornovii woman from the Chester area.

Interpretation boards through the ages.



Fireplace with chamfered surround and huge triangular stone lintel.

The round headed mullioned window in the south wall is not transomed (no horizontal cross-piece) - ? because wall so thick no need for reinforcement.

The windows to E&N walls are square headed - of later date.

Go into stair tower (if available)

The doorway has a distinctive triangular lintel and chamfered edges reminiscent of fireplace in Solar

Ahead is a modern fire-exit door. To its left is a blocked-off small door to fireplace.

Above on right - quoins. Original stairs turned back to access upper floor via a half landing (notice the ledge on the west wall of the tower) and entered the floor through the chamber above the Hall.

Move into the first gallery. **This may have been the Great Chamber**, truncated by the later dividing wall. Note **the roof trusses: the king posts (vertical), tie beams (horizontal) and principal rafters.**



Mortices cut into the tie-beams took smaller timbers that formerly supported a plastered ceiling. First (northernmost) tie-beam far face shows Roman numerals that number the mortices in sequence.

The trusses are now supported by the dividing wall, originally by timbers running into the roof of the main hall.

Latrine closet or *garderobe* for storing clothes: fumes drove away moths. The opening of the chute has been covered by a thick glass plate - take a look down.

The large fireplace parallels that of the solar below and shares the same chimney.

The round-headed mullion window in the south wall lights the solar chamber. The other windows are 'modern'.

There is a small fireplace in the dividing wall for a cottage.

Note ancient grotesque head = corbel for truss.

On the other side of the wall is a stone 'Head of a Baby' (1971) by local sculptor Bert Roberts.

Go into second gallery.

Here the original dimensions of the Hall are best appreciated.

Note on the south side (left) how the roof trusses rest on a long beam (wall plate) running the length of the room. This was the line of the medieval wall. The projecting bay at the near end of the south wall is later, outside the wall plate beam.

The western truss is not quite parallel with its wall, needing support from two timbers across the corners of the room. This shows discontinuity in construction between the older building and the west (service) wing. **Truss possibly reused from another site.**



The wall running along the northern side is on the line of the wall of the medieval hall. It now forms the internal wall of the stair tower and chimney stack.

In the west wall is a small doorway, **perhaps this was the minstrels' gallery over the original single floor housebody.**