

GUEST EDITORIAL

Three of the articles published in this issue relate to the history of Quaker involvement in commerce and industry. They were originally given as papers at the 'Friends in business' conference held at the Borthwick Institute of Historical Research in York on 26 September 2001. The conference was organised by the Yorkshire Quaker Heritage Project and this is therefore the second issue of *Quaker Studies* to grow out of the collaboration between the Quaker Studies Research association and the Project. The conferences provided a forum in which research could be presented to a wide audience of research students, academics, local and family historians, and Friends. Since the completion of the Project in 2002, Leeds and Hull University Libraries have continued to organise a conference on a Quaker-related theme each year, including education and schools in 2003, and science and the natural world in 2004.

This issue opens with Gill Cookson's investigation into the network of Friends behind the industrial and urban development of Darlington. Cookson is County Editor for the Durham section of the Victoria County History. One of the first fruits of her research (in collaboration with Christine Newman and Graham Potts) has recently been published as *The Townscape of Darlington* (Boydell & Brewer, 2003). In this article, Cookson describes the extent to which local Friends (and those of Darlington origin in the City of London) were involved in financing, establishing and managing a variety of industrial concerns, from the Stockton and Darlington Railway, to collieries in the South Durham coalfield, ironstone mining in Cleveland, locomotive works, iron foundries, and worsted and linen mills. Darlington is an unusual case study of a town where the Society of Friends had almost complete dominance over its social, political and commercial life for the greater part of the nineteenth century. Cookson draws on a wide range of primary sources and secondary literature to separate the myths from the historical evidence in explaining how this came about.

Jane Pietrusiak's paper on the development of Hull Garden Village brings to light one of the less well-known of the many model housing schemes and garden cities which were built in the early decades of the twentieth century. The work of George Cadbury at Bourneville, near Birmingham, and Joseph Rowntree at New Earswick, near York, illustrate the appeal which the garden city movement had to wealthy Quaker industrialists. Pietrusiak explores the motives of the founder of the Garden Village, James Reckitt, chairman of the

starch and pharmaceutical manufacturers, Reckitt & Sons. She draws on his work for the East Riding County Council in such areas as public health and education, his philanthropic record, and wider issues of social reform. She also provides a detailed picture of the vernacular architectural style in which the Village was built. Her paper began life as a prize essay for the East Yorkshire Local History Society and is presented here to a wider scholarship.

As part of the Yorkshire Quaker Heritage Project, Helen Roberts undertook a survey of the surviving archives of Quaker businesses based in Yorkshire; the information gathered has been added to the Location register and is available online at <http://www.hull.ac/lib/archives/quaker>. This article presents selected examples of archives covered by the survey, chosen from a variety of trades and industries, including banking, life assurance, pharmaceuticals, mechanical engineering, confectionery, steel manufacturing, lead mining, estate management, retailing, textile merchants, silk spinners and shipping. It suggests ways in which these sources might be used to underpin research into the Quaker contribution to the economic development of the Yorkshire region, as well as some of the difficulties in doing so.

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