

but more rarely. Among the waste there were fragments of used glass, probably brought to the glasshouse as cullet.

3. The raw materials found include white-veined quartz of local provenience, and beech charcoal.⁶²

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THE LONG-HOUSE: A PLEA FOR CLARITY

The term 'long-house' was coined by Iorwerth C. Peate⁶³ to describe a house in which one end is used for cattle. It is a literal translation of the Welsh term *tŷ hir*, found in medieval documents, which he suggested was applied to houses of this type. The same term in a Latin form, *longa domus*, occurs in English documents, but its usage has not been studied in detail. Whether either name means more than a house that is, in a literal sense, long, is not relevant to present usage, as Peate's coinage has been accepted and employed. Precise definitions have been discussed, on the basis of direct access between house and byre,⁶⁴ of entry to the house via the byre,⁶⁵ or of a common access for people and cattle.⁶⁶ These have been designed to clarify the development of the type, or to distinguish it from similar structures, notably the Yorkshire laithe-house, but all accept and use the original meaning of long-house. The type of structure concerned can be clearly recognized both in standing buildings and from excavations, from the drain or other features in the byre. It certainly needs and merits an individual name.

However, the term has also been used with a much wider meaning, notably by J. G. Hurst in the book *Deserted Medieval Villages*,⁶⁷ to describe any three-room house in which the third room is apparently used for farm purposes. This includes most long-houses in the strict sense, except those with only one domestic room. The dual usage has produced the somewhat absurd situation that the term is used in two distinct senses in two sections of the one book.⁶⁸

This ambiguity can and does lead to confusion about what is intended in particular instances and we wish to put forward the strongest possible plea for consistency in usage. Clearly there are two alternatives. 'Long-house' can be used in the particular sense and other terms, such as 'three-unit plan' or 'cross-passage house', as appropriate, for the more general plan-types; or 'long-house' can be used in a general sense and another term may be adopted for the house that includes a byre. This is solely a matter of nomenclature and should carry no implications about the development of or relationships between plan-types. Either solution would be better than the present situation, but we would urge that 'long-house' be used only in the sense 'house-and-byre', and for excavated sites only when there is positive evidence of a byre. This is because:

1. Priority clearly belongs to this meaning. Although refinement of a definition is obviously acceptable, a major change in meaning should not be.
2. The term has been extensively used in published work with this meaning.

⁶² I thank Mr. Jeremy Haslam for his kind advice. I am also grateful to Mr. Hugo Blake and Mr. Jeremy Haslam for translating and editing this brief account of the glasshouse.

⁶³ I. C. Peate, *The Welsh House* (Liverpool, 1940).

⁶⁴ J. T. Smith, 'The long-house in Monmouthshire' in *Culture and Environment*, ed. I. Ll. Foster and L. Alcock (London, 1963), 389-414.

⁶⁵ P. Smith, 'The long-house and the laithe-house', *ibid.*, 415-38.

⁶⁶ N. W. Alcock, 'Devonshire farmhouses, pt. II', *Trans. Devonshire Assoc.*, CI (1969), 83-106.

⁶⁷ J. G. Hurst, 'A review of archaeological research' in M. W. Beresford and J. G. Hurst, *Deserted Medieval Villages* (London, 1971), 112-16.

⁶⁸ By Hurst, *loc. cit.* in note 67; L. A. S. Butler, 'Wales: deserted medieval settlements', *ibid.*, 263-4.

3. With this meaning the nomenclature (which is arbitrary) has been clearly separated from theories about the development, etc., of the type. This has not yet been achieved for the wide sense.

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THE BANGOR CONFERENCE, 1972

The 15th Annual Conference of the Society was held at Bangor, north Wales, from 7-10 April, 1972. The theme of the Conference was 'The Castles of north Wales'. The conference opened on Friday, 7 April, with a lecture by Dr. Glanville Jones on 'The defences of independent north Wales', preceded by a reception given by the University College of North Wales. On Saturday morning, 8 April, the President (Dr. A. J. Taylor) lectured on 'The building of the north Wales castles' and Mr. C. N. Johns on 'The building of Caernarvon, 1283-c. 1330'; in the afternoon the conference visited Beaumaris Castle, Aberlleiniog and Penmon. On Sunday, 9 April, the conference visited the castles at Criccieth, Caernarvon and Harlech, and on Monday, 10 April, those at Conway, Rhuddlan and Flint and dispersed in the evening. The Society must record its gratitude to Mr. R. G. Livens who acted as local secretary for the conference.

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