



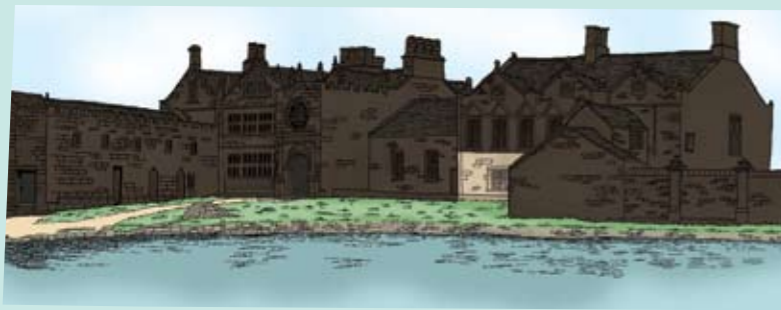
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A brief history of East Riddlesden Hall

Welcome

The history of this site dates back over 1400 years.

These pictures show you the development of the estate over the last 900 years.



1100s – 1400s

Between 1125 and 1400 the estate was owned by the Maude family, known as the Maude De Montalt. A single storey hall was constructed in the early 1300s. This was built where the remains of the Starkie Wing now stand.



1400s – 1500s

A new farmhouse was constructed to the west of the hall and was lived in by the Paslew family from 1400. The Paslews were ranked among the lesser gentry of West Yorkshire, although they owned a side chapel in the parish church in Keighley. Their coat of arms also still appears outside the west window of Bingley Parish Church.



1500s – 1600s

Ellen Paslew married Robert Rishworth of Halifax. The house was passed to Robert in 1572, and after complicated legal transactions he purchased the full estate in 1591.



1600s – 1700s

John Rishworth sold the estate to James Murgatroyd in 1638. The purchase agreement allowed John to retain rooms at the manor for his own use until his death.

James carried out most of the renovation work to the property, including building the Great Hall. This room was probably temporary. James died in 1653, 11 years before John, and the temporary room is still standing today.

Upon John's death his sons James and John disputed ownership. We believe John mortgaged East Riddlesden Hall to Edmund Starkie without his brother's knowledge. The Starkies lived at East Riddlesden Hall from 1672 in part ownership with the Murgatroyds.



1700s – 1800s

Edmund Starkie obtained full possession in 1708 and made many changes including completing the Starkie Wing and installing the gate posts that still stand today. Sadly Edmund didn't have long to enjoy full possession. After he died in 1712, his nephew Nicholas took control.

The Starkies continued to live here as peaceful gentlemen, and East Riddlesden Hall settled down to a century of stability. In 1797, the last male Starkie of Riddlesden died.



1800s - today

For the next 120 years, East Riddlesden Hall belonged to absentee owners (the Bacon and Bence families) and was lived in by a number of tenant farmers. The Bailey family (pictured in the tea room) was the last family to live here.

Over time the Starkie Wing fell into disrepair and was demolished in 1905. Today only the façade remains. Between c.1860 and 1930, the estate was sold off little by little. Two brothers from Keighley, William and John Brigg, saved the building from demolition in 1933. They donated it to the National Trust in 1934.

We hope that this has given you a useful background to East Riddlesden Hall. If you have any questions or would like further information, please speak to a member of our friendly team. Guidebooks are also available to buy in our shop.