

Talk Outline

Reconstructing a Mining Community

Denise Bates

The talk, **Reconstructing a Mining Community**, is based on more than a decade's personal experience of investigating the 54 miners houses at Jarratts Buildings, Worsborough Dale, near Barnsley, where three generations of my ancestors lived. The houses had a strong community identity and became a well-known feature of the town. They were initially built to house workers at a local colliery in the 1850s and demolished in the slum clearances of the 1950s.

The principles, practicalities and pitfalls covered in the talk can be used to study other communities. They are illustrated by reference to Jarratts.

Components of the talk

what is the value of trying to recover the history of small communities

selecting a suitable community to investigate

the sources available to a researcher

linking the community to wider social, economic and political history

making contact with others who may have relevant information

recording and disseminating the research

The talk **Reconstructing a Mining Community** is suitable for groups with an interest in family history, local history, nineteenth and twentieth century history and the history of coal mining.

My credentials

History Graduate (MA)

Practical experience of researching and reconstructing the history of a mining community

Author of *Historical Research Using British Newspapers* (published 2016)

Author of *Breach of Promise to Marry* (published 2014)

Author of *Pit Lasses* (published 2012)

Author of features on nineteenth and twentieth century history

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