

Romanby School

This citizens of Romanby banded together in 1870 determined to build a school, which came to fruition in Romanby Church of England School in 1873.

Mrs Mitchell's Seminary for Young Ladies & Girls Schools

Young ladies were catered for from 1815, with the opening of Mrs Mitchell's Seminary for Young Ladies. Romanby House in 1849 was an "Establishment for Young Ladies" and Durham House on the High Street was converted into a boarding school for girls run by Adelaide Forster in the 1860's and 1870's.

Samuel Jackson's West House School

In the 19th Century the main private school was Samuel Jackson's West House School at the southern entrance to the Applegarth. This well conducted school lasted almost to the end of the century. Jackson was dedicated to educating his pupils which he did with great success and his ex-pupils such as John Boston and George Hird led the way in commercial and social development of the town in the earlier twentieth century.

Below Left: West School Classroom of 1913

Below: Samuel Jackson's West School - 1950's

Photo credit: Colin Narramore



Miss Nelson's Private School

Miss Nelson's Private School close to Thirsk Road and South Parade. The building accommodated about twenty boys and girls between the ages of five and fifteen years. Later part of the land behind the house was purchased by the newly-formed Northallerton Bowling Club, whilst in later years the house was also bought by the club which is still in existence.

20th CENTURY

New Grammar School & Northallerton College

In 1895 two fields of nearly nine acres were purchased from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners on the southeast of Northallerton for a new Grammar School – the present site of Northallerton College. A new Grammar School was built in 1909, situated near the recently built elegant villas and houses of Thirsk Road. The school gained immediate acclaim for its "park-like, refined and classical appearance"

The rejuvenated and thriving Grammar School had brought to the lives of many local young people, but immediately at the outbreak of the First World War the school was commandeered by the 4th Battalion of The Princess of Wales Own Yorkshire Regiment, the Green Howards and became their regiment and training ground until Easter 1916.

At the end of the First World War the school returned to normality with around two hundred and thirty students equally boys and girls, with a new sixth form accommodating 20 pupils.

Northallerton College

By 1985 even though much progress had been made towards a comprehensive Northallerton still bore the outward signs of a grammar school. In 1986 the Grammar School became the pilot school in North Yorkshire for a "community education" school, becoming permanent in 1988 and replicated across North Yorkshire. In 1994 "Northallerton Grammar School" became "Northallerton College"

Wensley House/Mrs Lord's School

Wensley House School was a private Kindergarten and Preparatory School in Northallerton for 30 years. It was established in 1925 by Harriet Lord nee Harrison (1889-1968), who grew up in Marske by the Sea. Harriet was a tall, energetic and sociable woman with a love of music and drama. After attending Darlington Training College, she became an Elementary School teacher in Northallerton

The school changed premises and was renamed Wensley House School when it moved to 20 South Parade (then known as The Limes) in the late 1920s. The house had formerly been the home of the Dairy Manager, Charles Tisdale who died in 1928. Len Lord joined his wife working at the school, teaching and running the finances, though it was still commonly known as "Mrs Lord's school"



Above Left: 1950

Above: 1930

Far Left: 1930

Left: 1931

Photo credit: Nina Johnson