

## Fact Sheet Number 9.

### Shibden Hall

The following information should start you on your journey into the past

Shibden Hall is a splendid half-timbered manor house set in a landscaped park.

The name comes from *scepe dene* meaning "sheep valley" and the timber-framed house at the centre of the present building was probably built by a member of the Otes family, who farmed sheep here in the 15th century.

Can you think of other 'Dens' (valleys) in the Calderdale area

Oven den doesn't mean Valley of the oven!! It is more likely to mean 'Over the valley'

It is said that Shibden Hall was a model for the Thrushcross Grange of Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*.

**Ghost stories** from the Hall include the tale of a headless coachman who drives a yellow coach around the grounds and of a little girl who drowned in a nearby pond and whose apparition appears during summer.

The lake is 290 yards long and was originally about 10 feet deep.

In 1946, a boy from West Vale drowned in the lake and the depth was reduced to 6 feet by dumping rubble, including the material from demolished air raid shelters.