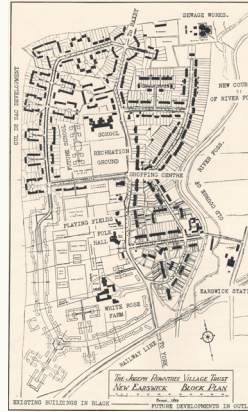


1899

Foundation of the Garden Cities Association.

Ebenezer Howard, author of *Garden Cities of Tomorrow*, was one of the forces behind the Garden Cities Movement.



1902–03

Parker and Unwin are engaged by Joseph Rowntree to create a model village in New Earswick.

Initial plans are laid out, using Haxby Road as the backbone of the village and the curving river Foss defining its eastern boundary.

The housing density was 12 houses to an acre, well below the average of 40 at the time – and still below the national average today in Britain.

The first houses are built and occupied, on Western Terrace, Poplar Grove and Station Avenue.

1907

Opening of the Folk Hall, to meet the social needs of the community at the heart of the village.

A Village Council is set up.

Joseph insists on a measure of self-government and co-operative decision making – visionary for its time.



1912

New Earswick Primary School opens, one of the first 'open air' schools in the country.

Joseph Rowntree proudly promised that 'the education of the girls, though not identical in character with, shall be as liberal as that of the boys.'



1915

PM Lloyd George summonses Seebohm Rowntree to investigate the dimensions and priorities of national post-war housing.



1919

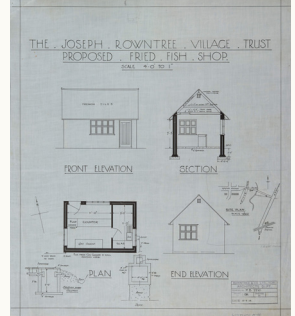
Government-subsidised housing at the start of the 'Homes for Heroes' scheme and the inter-war development.

Joseph Rowntree is known to have voiced his disappointment in the post-war housing in the village, owing to tighter costs and regulated subsidies.

Barry Parker is appointed principal architect of New Earswick, while Raymond Unwin becomes more involved in public sector work nationally.

1923

The national Town Planning Institute Conference is held in York.



1926

Methodist Chapel built, with Trust funding.

1926–36

Clifton Lodge Estate is built, on the former land owned by Joseph Rowntree and using ideas from New Earswick.



1936–46

No new building in this period.

1942–62

Lois de Soissons, architect of Welwyn Garden City, is appointed consultant architect to the Trust.



1950

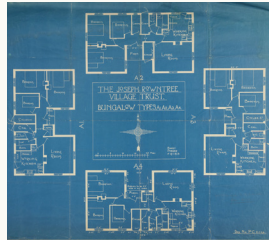
New building begins around White Rose Avenue, and also a modernisation programme for individual houses.

The village now has nearly 500 three-bedroomed houses as well as 40 larger houses, and 90 smaller-sized cottages.

1954

Death of Seebohm Rowntree.

Although his father was the original instigator of the village, much of the execution of the plans had fallen to Seebohm Rowntree.



1965

Closure of Earswick railway station, on the York to Beverley line.

The pub (on the Huntington side of the railway – there is still no pub in the village!) was formerly known as the Flag and Whistle.



1968

The Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust is created as a legally separate housing association.

The JRHT also has housing schemes elsewhere in York and across the North of England.

The Folk Hall is extended and modernised.

1982

The Trust wins a High Court case determining that leasehold schemes for the elderly are a form of 'charitable' housing.

1987

A shared ownership scheme is built at Woodlands Place.

A doctors' surgery is built.



2002

A Housing Conference is held to celebrate New Earswick's centenary, chaired by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh.

1990

JRMT changes its name to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) and moves to The Homestead, the former home of Seebohm Rowntree.



2019

Opening of New Lodge development.

1901

Seebohm Rowntree attends the conference of the Garden Cities Association at Bourneville, the model village of the Cadbury company started in 1895. There he meets the architects Barry Parker and Raymond Unwin.

Seebohm Rowntree wrote *Poverty: a Study of Town Life*, a groundbreaking work showing that 27% of the population in York lived below the poverty line. New Earswick village is partly a response to this study.

Joseph Rowntree buys 150 acres close to land already owned by Rowntree & Co Ltd where the factory is located on Haxby Road.

1904

Joseph Rowntree puts a large part of his wealth into various trusts, one of which was the Joseph Rowntree Village Trust, intended to manage the New Earswick estate.

'The object shall be the improvement of the condition of the working classes ... not only artisans and mechanics but also shop assistants and clerks, and all persons who earn their living ... by the work of their hands or their minds.' Joseph Rowntree

A new phase of building starts, with Hawthorne Terrace and Chestnut Grove.

1910

Ivy Place, around a green, creates a courtyard effect.

The architects incorporated features that had worked well in the past, such as a village green and inviting views through the arches between the rows of houses.



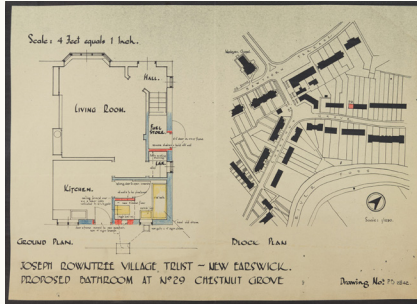
New Earswick is the first community in which the housing layouts and designs of the Garden Cities Movement were tried out. Other early examples were Letchworth, Welwyn, and Hampstead Garden Suburb.

Joseph Rowntree determined to try a combined experiment in social engineering, housing and planning.

1918

New Earswick's housing designs are included as prototypes in the Government Housing Manual.

Council-built estates such as Tang Hall were similar in design, and many of the ideas were adopted in new estates nationally.



1920

The first bungalows start to be built, in cul-de-sacs off a main feeder road.

The cul-de-sac is a noted characteristic of the Parker and Unwin planning concept.

1925

Death of Joseph Rowntree.



1935

The Folk Hall is extended.

1941

The Joseph Rowntree Secondary School opens.



1948

The Nature Reserve is created on the site of the old village brickworks.

1962

Circular block 'Swedish flats' is built, that includes double glazed windows and electric underfloor heating.



1967

New Earswick Swimming Pool is opened.

1979–80

Thirty three dwellings are built on Willow Bank as community leasehold properties, but they have to be sold on 99-year leases as they are not deemed to be 'charitable' housing.

The village by now has some 800 houses and a population of about 2,300.

1988

Rowntree shares are sold when Nestlé takes over the company. This brings increased income to the Trusts.

Juniper Close, a mixed tenure development, is built.

The Friends Meeting House opens, for Quaker worship.



1984

A hostel for people with learning difficulties is opened at Dormary Court in partnership with MENCAP.

2010

Joseph Rowntree Secondary School is rebuilt.

Today just over 200 of the early homes are listed and the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust still holds the freehold of the greater part of all the properties in the village and acts as landlord to the residents and supports the village with community and educational activities.

The integrity of the original design and concept are still clearly apparent. They regularly bring students of architecture from across the world to visit New Earswick.

The smell of chocolate from the Nestlé factory a mile or so towards the south is a pleasant reminder of why the village exists in the first place – a reminder that 'from chocolate comes change'.





"New Earswick is an example, and one of the earliest, of what can be done modestly and effectively to meet the demand for higher standards of life."

W L Hare







THE STORY OF  
NEW EARSWICK



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