

## Surveys 2010

**Aller, Lion House and The Old Rectory. ST399293.**



*Fig. 1. Aller, Old Rectory and Lion House, stair/garderobe turret at left hand side, (photo, John Rickard)*

A former Rectory now two separate houses. Much of the earlier building has been lost but remnants of an elaborate roof structure including arch-braced jointed-cruick trusses and windbraces, moulded beams, moulded doorways, moulded windows and early glass indicate a 15<sup>th</sup> century period of build. The north end of the house was then 2-storeys and comprised a parlour and a principal chamber over, – access to the latter being by a stair turret with two integral garderobes. The large 2-centred moulded Ham stone arch (ca.1400) may have given access to a chapel wing or an oriel. The central and southern parts of the house probably contained the hall and service rooms. A four-bay barn within the curtilage is likely to have been a Tithe Barn. It has jointed-cruick and arch-braced trusses, perhaps dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

**Allowenshay, Carter's & Shepherd's Cottages, ST39335.**

Listed, (dated 1715) this building is constructed of local stone rubble with Ham stone ashlar dressings. It was built as a single 3-room plan property of one and a half storeys in the early 16<sup>th</sup> century comprising an unheated service room with opposing doorways but no defined cross passage, an open hall with a smoke hood and an unheated inner room, with solar over, defined by a plank and muntin partition topped by a multiple-moulded head beam rising into a post and truss framework for the upper partition. Stairs from the hall via a door, now blocked, in the partition accessed the solar floor. In the late 16<sup>th</sup> century the 6-panel framed ceiling (simple flat 7cm chamfers with cyma stops) with chamber over was inserted into the hall and accessed by newel stairs rising from it. Early to mid 17<sup>th</sup> century fireplaces were inserted at both gable ends; a large inglenook with oven converted the service room to a kitchen which was ceiled, creating a chamber above. About 1800 the walls were raised and a new roof superimposed over the original post and truss construction. In 1914 the land owner, Earl Poulett of Hinton St. George, carried out extensive alterations including the removal of the hall smoke hood and associated stairs, replacing the fireplace with his own bricks embossed with an earl's coronet and the letter 'P'. He added an addition at the north gable enabling the property to be divided into two cottages.

**Blagdon, Honeysuckle House, Church Street. ST505589.**

This one and a half storey two-unit house dates from 17<sup>th</sup> century and has a roof construction with two trusses with extended collars, a feature unusual for Somerset but relatively common in South Gloucestershire, which suggests a former dormer window. A service wing was added later in the century and in the 18<sup>th</sup> century the house was substantially upgraded and given a more conventional appearance.

**Charlton Mackrell, The Farmstead, Lytes Cary Manor. ST533265.**

Late in the 16<sup>th</sup> or early 17<sup>th</sup> century the farmstead was developed with the large threshing barn as the principal feature. Over the following centuries it was further developed, - the bulk of the building occurring during the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. These later buildings formed a comprehensive high-quality beef stock-rearing/fattening unit. (This survey was undertaken in conjunction with Ms Judith Teasdale of Teasdale Environmental Design on behalf of the National Trust).

**Combe St Nicholas, Fforden, Wadeford, ST309106.**



*Fig. 2. Combe St Nicholas, Chequerwork on the front wall at Fforden (photo, John Rickard)*

This house was originally surveyed by the Group in 2004. One of the features of the house was the diaper pattern of black chert and white calcareous grit on the fireplace wall in the cross passage.

In 2010 the external pebble-dash render was stripped to undertake structural repairs, particularly to the front wall of the house, and this revealed that the front wall had been built using the black and white stones to create a chequer pattern. Sadly only an estimated 15% of the wall retains this pattern, the remainder having been subject to many phases of alteration or repair.

**Cudworth, Ware Farmhouse (formerly Higher Ware). ST382 105**



*Fig. 3. Cudworth, Ware Farmhouse, (photo, John Rickard)*

Smoke-blackened jointed-cruck trusses indicate a 15<sup>th</sup> century cob walled house which comprised an open hall (including a passageway) and service room. A rare wind-eye, shuttered internally, set high in the north wall (there had probably been another in the south wall) would have dispersed the smoke. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century a smoke-bay with oven and curing chamber was built at the west gable and, later in the century, a fireplace/stack was built in the hall and the cross-passage defined. A framed ceiling supported a first floor chamber and stairs were also built. Major changes occurred in the late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> century which included the rebuilding of the cob walls in stone and subsequent alterations to roof level and windows. It had been part of the Cudworth manor estate which was bought by the Earl Paulet of Hinton St George in 1791 [*'Somerset Complete Guide'*, Robin Bush (1994)]. Subsequently substantial alterations followed including the rebuilding of the S walls and the E gable and the addition of a threshing barn and water mill.

**Ditchheat, Yew Tree Cottage, Alhampton. ST627347.**

An open-hall house with smoke-blackened roof structure comprising trusses with curved feet, – probably denoting a late 15<sup>th</sup> century date of build of which only the open-hall survives. A post-and-truss structure independent of the walls suggests that the walls originally had been of cob. Late in the 16<sup>th</sup> century a smoke-bay was inserted at the E-gable; a parlour wing was added in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and included bead-moulded ceiling joists and a beam with ‘egg and dart’ enrichment. Later, the low end (which might have been a byre?) was converted to two cottages. [Note: Three other late medieval houses in Alhampton have trusses with curved feet.]

### **East Pennard, Lower Huxham Farm, ST592359**

Listed as late 16<sup>th</sup> century. The plan is 3 rooms in line with wings and a central cross passage. It is conjectured that the present house encompasses remnants of a single storey Open- Hall house dating from the late 15<sup>th</sup> or early 16<sup>th</sup> century on the basis of a 70cm wall thickness and the deep 4-centred head and 10cm chamfers of the Douling stone gable Hall doorway. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century the hall hearth was replaced by a Douling stone fireplace comprising a stone lintel, with soffit cut to a 4-centred head, and orthostatic jambs; both had 8cm chamfers, those on the jambs terminating in bull-nosed stops. A first floor solar may have been added, accessed by stairs in the hall. A thick wall in the south west corner indicates a former inner room or parlour. About 1600 the dwelling was upgraded to certainly provide a plan of hall, cross passage and kitchen; the walls and the roof were raised to create two storeys, and new mullioned windows and fireplaces were inserted in the parlour and the kitchen, this latter with oven and curing chamber. The inserted upper floor contained an elaborately moulded and chequered framed ceiling over the hall. In the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century both gable ends were extended, providing a wring house/cider cellar and a cheese room, and the cross passage widened to take a new flight of stairs. The east wing evolved in the 20<sup>th</sup> century



**Henstridge, London House, High Street. ST725197.**

Being relatively remote in the SE of Somerset, no other buildings have hitherto been researched in this locality by the Group. This is a prominent house in the centre of what had been the busy commercial High Street which during the 19<sup>th</sup> century was used as two shops. It had been of two-storeys with attics and comprised parlour, service room and kitchen and probably dates from the mid 17<sup>th</sup> century; the particular features of note which support this date are a bedroom fireplace with a stone surround with unusually ornate vase stops with a 4-centred head and an ogee moulded stone mantel shelf, also partitions having wide posts with ogee mouldings and panels with shallow bead mouldings. There are two flights of winding stairs to the attic which contains tie-and-collar roof trusses and purlins, the trusses braced and fixed to the tie-beams with iron reinforcing plate. A 'firemark', fitted high on the front wall is inscribed 'AD1714 (UN)ION' together with clasped hands [found to have been issued by the Union Assurance Society].

**Lovington, Priory Farm House, Wheathill, East Lydford. ST582308.**

Wall thicknesses (95cm) together with reserved chamfered Douling stone mouldings to fireplaces and mullioned windows indicate a 16<sup>th</sup> century build; the house then appears to have been L-shaped, comprised two-storeys and included a hall, cross-passage, parlour and kitchen – suggesting a farmhouse of some status. In the early 17<sup>th</sup> century the hall was upgraded having a high 4-panel deeply chamfered framed ceiling the walls were raised and a new roof built having cambered collars and tie-beams with cyma stops and three tiers of butt-purlins. Douling stone ovolo moulded mullioned windows and surrounds were then added. Later in the 17<sup>th</sup> century a dairy and underground cellar were built. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century there were further extensive additions with fittings commensurate with higher status.

**North Petherton, 16/18, Hammet Street. ST289329.**

The smoke blackened roof structure indicates that the properties (taken together) comprised an open-hall house with a solar chamber and service end. Originally of cob and thatch it probably dates from the 15<sup>th</sup> century. A lateral stack/fireplace and upper floor and supported on beams and joists, all with chamfers and step and run-out stops, was inserted in the mid 16<sup>th</sup> century and although a fireplace was inserted in the service room it did not have a ceiling at that time. Also, in that period a two-storey addition was built onto the W. gable - perhaps as a separate cottage with workshop at the rear? Early in the 19<sup>th</sup> century the building was substantially altered to create two/three separate dwellings.

**Stogursey, The Almshouses, Lime Street. ST204429**



*Fig. 4. Stogursey, Lime Street almshouses. (photo, Mike Hargreaves)*

This almshouse was originally built for six poor women about 1870. The building is largely rendered, probably over local rubble blue lias stone, with ashlar quoins. It comprises six one-and-a-half storey terraced dwellings each with two rooms on the ground floor and rooms above. Alterations in 1981 extended the dwellings on the north side.

**Stogursey, The Almshouses, Saint Andrew's Road. ST203428**



*Fig. 5. Stogursey, The Ding Darling Bell. (photo, John Rickard)*

The almshouses, at the junction of St. Andrew's Road and Castle Street, were built in 1821 to provide accommodation for 3 poor men. They are currently rendered, probably over local rubble lias stone, with a tiled roof. Each of the three terraced dwellings had two ground floor rooms, the entrance door opening directly into each front room, with rooms above and a group of in-line outhouses. The building was extensively re-modelled in 1981 to provide four dwellings. The 'Ding Darling Bell', rescued from the 16<sup>th</sup> century almshouse in the town square, is mounted on the roof of this building and still rung twice daily.

## Stogursey, Cathanger Farmhouse, Cathanger. ST218422



*Fig. 6. Cathanger, framed ceiling and frieze. (photo, John Rickard)*

Considered to be on the site of the capital messuage of Cathanger manor, it is a one-and-a half storey house built of local lias stone, now divided into two dwellings, Cleeve Cottage and Moore's Cottage. The early plan form seems to be the traditional three rooms and cross passage plan with a cross wing at the western end and later additions to the north and east. However, an earlier survey in 1994 surmised that this may be a rare example of a medieval long house with the byre at the exceptionally long 'low end' incorporating the downward slope of the land. Then the domestic accommodation would have comprised an open hall and an inner room with a solar above. Certainly the walls of the hall and the south wall of the low end have a late medieval thickness. A major refurbishment appears to have taken place in the 16<sup>th</sup> century; cooking facilities seem to have been moved to the inner room creating a kitchen, the new hall fireplace has a re-used cambered collar from a 15<sup>th</sup> century arch-braced roof as a lintel whilst a jamb on it has a half-pyramid stop. At the same time the former byre was replaced by a parlour with an impressive six-panel framed ceiling exhibiting deep chamfers and step/ogee moulding. A projecting south wing with wall thicknesses suggesting 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> century was also built, possibly as a brewhouse. General 'gentrification' occurred in the 18<sup>th</sup> century creating a drawing room in the brewhouse with a high corniced ceiling, whilst the wall beams of the framed ceiling in the parlour were plastered and decorated with a frieze depicting birds interspersed with a rose motif. On the division of the property a fireplace and oven were inserted in the parlour. No evidence of an early roof remains; the extant one dates to the early 17<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Stogursey, The Old Vicarage, 3 Church Street. ST205429**

In 1487 it is documented that Eton College (lords of the manor) 'provided a house for the Vicar'. A 1774 map shows a property in this location marked 'Vicars'. The L-shaped plan is a two-room range (hall and parlour) and cross passage fronting the street and church with a north wing (kitchen, service room/s and turret stairs) alongside a former roadway. Peculiarly, there is no evidence of a room on the east side of the cross passage where the ground falls away. A much modified fire place in the hall has lias stone jambs with hollow chamfers terminating at the base in half-pyramid stops; this suggests a late 15<sup>th</sup> century or early 16<sup>th</sup> century date. The consistent wall thickness, 77 cm, in the range and wing support this date and the three fireplaces suggest that the building was always of two-storeys. The front range experienced an extensive up-grade early in the 17<sup>th</sup> century (proportions of the rooms, the windows, the beams, the fireplace and the new roof). At the same time a two-storey extension, with walls of 60cm, was built into the angle of the house.

**Stogursey, Steyning Manor North. ST219428**



*Fig. 7. Stogursey, Baulk timber stair at Steyning Manor North. (photo, John Rickard)*

This is possibly the domestic end of a long house, but more likely a two-room dwelling; evidence of smoke blackening confirms an open hall and inner room with a solar over it accessed by a steep stair or ladder. A shallow peaked-headed entry door with diagonal stops on the jambs suggests an early 15<sup>th</sup> century build. Major refurbishment occurred to the open hall in the early 16<sup>th</sup> century; the hall was ceiled, the beams have 14cm chamfers with step-and-run-out stops; a winder stair was inserted to access the upper floor; a fireplace was inserted with an additional fireplace above in the hall chamber; mullioned wooden windows were added to these two rooms: they and their shutter pintles remain. The third in-line room, the kitchen, has walls of a similar thickness to the house and may have been created from the byre. The beams, with 12cm chamfers, suggest a later development. A large fireplace with associated curing chamber, corn drying kiln and bread oven was inserted against the gable wall. Most importantly a stair turret was constructed containing a newel stair of solid baulk timber. The roof over this section has collar and tie-beam trusses, tapering principals and three strings of in-line purlins. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century a corridor was built to link this property with Steyning Manor South.



**Stogursey, Steyning Manor South. ST219428**



*Fig. 8. Stogursey, Steyning Manor South. Ornate plasterwork on overmantel and ceiling beams. (photo, John Rickard)*

This was built as a complete house six metres south of the old manor house. The symmetrical double-pile four-room plan is unusually progressive for the 17<sup>th</sup> century date attributed to its gabled external form and internal features. The central entrance is through a storied porch and a fine nailed door in a four-centred, moulded and elegantly stopped door frame. This probably led to a cross passage, now incorporated into a room with mid 17<sup>th</sup> century panelling and ornate high-relief plasterwork cladding to the ceiling beams and an ornamental overmantel over a bolection-moulded wooden chimney piece suggesting refurbishment in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century with good quality joinery. Double doors of a similar date separate it from the dining-parlour. This is lined with bolection-moulded panelling; the chimney piece is similar and surmounted by a painted panel. The central stair hall contains a dog-leg staircase with heavy, plain newels, turned balusters and an unusual double-height balustrade on the landing; a panelled door with an open grill at the top encloses the stair top and it and the balustrade are surmounted by two rails tipped with iron spikes suggesting a need to make this floor secure. The rooms to either side of the stair hall have four-centred arched timber moulded door frames, but the arrangement of these doors is not typical of four-room plan houses suggesting that the old house provided the service facilities.

### **Stogursey, Steyning Manor Farm. ST219428**

The roof of the four-bay threshing barn is of jointed cruck construction and dates from the 15<sup>th</sup> century. About 1796 there is reference to 'a barn, stables, other outhouses, courts and yards.' The horse-engine house, hack stables and wagon house are depicted on the 1841 Tithe Map, probably dating from 1800. By the 1886 OS Map a cow shed, wagon house/horse stables and an outdoor horse-engine had been added.

**Stringston, Honibere Farm, Lilstock. ST182435.**

It is said that the house had been burnt and substantially rebuilt, probably during the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup>. century. Remnants of thicker walls suggest that the earlier house may have comprised two rooms. The property had belonged to John Acland of Fairfield, Stogursey and in ca1770 it totalled 159 acres with a well established farmstead and gardens. (S.R.O. ref. DD/AH66/11) A comprehensive set of buildings were shown on the 1887 O.S. map which, from surviving evidence, included stables, cart shed, cow-sheds, threshing barn, wagon-horse stables, pigsties and chicken houses.

### **Tintinhull, Batcombe House, Head Street. ST497193**

Detailed on the John Napper map, the house is constructed of roughly cut and squared hamstone with ashlar dressings and has a traditional three-unit and cross passage plan. A build of the early 16<sup>th</sup> century is suggested by the slightly cambered beams (13cm chamfers), the fire-hood, the trusses T1 & 3 (collar-beam and trusses set well below the present roof line) and the angle of the ceiling joists (possible herring-boning). It then comprised a one-and-a-half storey east end which included the hall, inner room and chambers above accessed by winding stairs from the hall. The west end, consisting of cross passage and service room, was open to the roof. Early in the 17<sup>th</sup> century a fireplace with a four-centred head inscribed with apotropaic (anti-witch) marks was inserted in the fire-hood hearth of the hall. The west end was ceiled, using 6cm chamfered beams with cyma stops, and the north front re-fenestrated with mullioned windows. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century the walls and roof were raised, but the thatch retained, a second fireplace was installed in the west gable wall and the hall fireplace in-filled with brickwork. A well, partially covered by the north front hall wall, is visible today, possibly indicating earlier development of this site.

**Trent (Dorset), Hummer Farmhouse, Hummer. ST589197.**



*Fig. 9. Trent, Hummer Farmhouse, (photo, John Rickard)*



*Fig. 10. Trent, Hummer Farmhouse, 12<sup>th</sup> century stone doorway, (photo, John Rickard)*

A substantial multi-phase farmhouse deserving of its Grade II\* Listing. In the 15<sup>th</sup> century it was single-storey and comprised an inner room, open hall, service room and cross-passage with a lateral stack at the back of the hall and a smoke bay in the service room. There may have been a solar over the inner room. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century additional fireplaces, curing chamber and winding stairs were inserted as was an upper floor. Re-fronting also occurred including ground-floor Ham stone mullioned windows and 4-centred moulded Ham stone doorway and eye-brow dormers in the thatch roof. In the 17<sup>th</sup> century a dairy/cheese room with cheese loft was added and also servants' attic accommodation. The 18<sup>th</sup> century saw the walls and roof being raised and first-floor mullioned windows inserted. Also in this period, a cider house, apple-loft and cart-shed were added. [Note: Internally, a 12<sup>th</sup> century elaborately moulded stone doorway has probably been brought from the site of a chapel in nearby Adber]. The holding totalled 63 acres in 1839, 125a. in 1851 and 132a between 1861-1891.

**Trent (Dorset), Rigg Lane Farmhouse. ST597187.**

A 15<sup>th</sup> century house, originally probably of cob and comprising a two-bay open hall encompassing the later cross-passage, plus a service room and inner room. The roof structure in the area of the hall is heavily smoke-blackened. The structure over the other rooms was sooted to a lesser degree indicating that they would have been unheated but only separated from the hall by low, head-height, partitions. The roof structure comprises jointed-cruck trusses with trenched purlins, three tiers of trenched purlins and one tier of wind-braces. Late in the 16<sup>th</sup> century the hall-stack/fireplace, stairs and the framed ceiling were inserted in the hall but the rooms either side may have remained open to the roof and not ceiled until the late 17<sup>th</sup> century. The cob walls were replaced with stone perhaps in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Wells, 19, 21, 21A, St. John's Street. ST548454.**

There are 'clean' trusses with curved-feet, windbraces and a sequence of carpenter's marks, also diagonal stops on a doorway, all suggesting that these houses had been part of a much longer open-hall house, probably dating from the 15/16<sup>th</sup> century and which had fireplaces/stacks from the start. Cyma stops on the beams indicate that the upper floors were inserted in the early 17th century.

**Winscombe, The Cottage by the Church, Church Lane. ST412568.**



*Fig. 11. Winscombe, The Cottage by the Church, (photo, John Rickard)*

The property appears on the Dean and Chapter Map, 1792, and on the Tithe Map, 1839, as a single range. Today it is one and a half storeys high with two ranges in double-pile form. Built in the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century it comprised a kitchen-living room and an unheated service room. The walls of these rooms have an internal ‘batter’, diminishing in a curve from 65cm thickness at floor level to 53cm at the ceiling. This is more common in industrial buildings but the fireplace, beams and gable window lead us to suggest that it has always had a domestic purpose. The rear range dates from the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century with external quoins and window openings constructed in brick. The original range was probably re-roofed, and clad in double Roman tiles, to accord with this and the thatch removed. More modern, cavity wall, extensions with a floor level some 50cm below the rest of the building allow for the down hill slope. The front elevation is enhanced by three small gables over the first floor windows. The walls are part rendered and colour washed.



**Winscombe, Sandford House, Sandford. ST418596**



*Fig. 19. Winscombe, Sandford House, south elevation, (photo, Mike Hargreaves)*

The house has a two-storey main east/west range with a lean to on the west and a two storey northern wing set at an angle to the main range. The house is rendered over local random conglomerate stone walls and the roof is clad with pantiles. The gabled ends of the main house are finished with Hamstone coping stones a former single-storey farm building has been partly incorporated into the house. It originated as a two room central entry house in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century, extended to the west in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century. Alterations in the late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries included the rear wing and major new internal arrangements.

**Winscombe, Dalecroft, Greenhill Road, ST430598**



*Fig. 20. Winscombe, Dalecroft south elevation (photo John Rickard)*

This two and a half storey house has a one and a half storey lean-to under a catslide roof to the rear. The windows are arranged in a symmetrical manner and above the central upper window is a datestone for 1811. Until 2005 the house had a thatched roof but all the main roof has been replaced. The remaining roof of the catslide has tusk tenoned purlins signalling late 18<sup>th</sup> /early 19<sup>th</sup> century construction. The upper floor is reached by stairs in a rear hall which have a generously dimensioned turned newel and balusters stylistically belonging to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. This stair is thought to replace a straight flight when a small extension was added to the rear. It is likely that fireplaces and doors were also replaced at this time. Access to the attic space was through a door in the rear wall of the main range reached by a stair now gone. The attic walls were all plastered and the space appears to have been undivided indicating its use as storage space rather than accommodation. An outhouse containing a pump, stone trough, and large fireplace with a three-centred wooden lintel arch provided wash-house and baking facilities and is thought to date, by its slightly thinner 45cm walls, to the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Winscombe, 92, Church Road. ST414570**



*Fig. 12. Winscombe, Watcombe, 92, Church Road, (photo, John Rickard)*

The house is of two storeys and has three rooms in each of two parallel ranges. All walls are rendered and the roof is clad with double Roman tiles. The house has been extensively changed. It appears to have originated as a mid 18<sup>th</sup> century, one and a half story dwelling which is evidenced in one remaining room, which probably had a lean-to against the north wall. At this time it was probably thatched. Shortly after construction the house was extended with a further room and lean-to against the east gable and this was further extended in the C19<sup>th</sup>. Later there were significant alterations to the north range, raising the eaves and providing an upper floor over the lean-to. In the mid C20<sup>th</sup> the building underwent a major refit and upgrading to create the house much as seen today, including the installation of features like the north porch, larger windows and the enlargement of rooms by the removal of walls.

**Winscombe, Springfield and Tower House, Church Road. ST413570**



*Fig. 13. Winscombe, Springfield to left Tower House to right, originally one house. (photos John Rickard)*



*Fig. 14. Winscombe, Tower House, now a separate dwelling, (photo, Mike Hargreaves)*

This Italianate style villa has a cross-wing that breaks with the symmetrical style of earlier villas. The builder has also introduced a colour variation by using the red conglomerate sandstone (possibly from an earlier building on the site) up to the string and grey carboniferous limestone above, topping it off with a plain Bath stone frieze, which matches the window dressings, just below the deep eaves. The windows to the cross-wing are round headed on the upper floors and the top floor rooms were for servants. The original plan shows three ground-floor rooms fronting the road and a kitchen behind the probable library in the cross-wing. The stair hall in this house is surprisingly narrow. The 1792 and Tithe maps show a house on the plot, however in 1850 the house was purchased by Thomas Fry and it seems he demolished the existing property and built Springfield. The tower is made of un-squared limestone and was probably added after a new owner arrived in 1910. The house was divided in 1954, the northern part being named Tower House.

**Winscombe, Longfield House. ST423573.**



*Fig. 15. Winscombe, Longfield House south elevation (photo, John Rickard)*

The two-storey house has a symmetrical south front of six-over-six sash windows on the upper floor and a pair of canted bays either side of the front door. There is a full height wing on the rear creating an L-plan. A one and a half storey lean-to fills the remainder of the north wall. An open-well staircase with quarter landings has a simple newel, stick balusters and a ramped mahogany handrail. Ceilings at 3m height in the principal lower rooms and 2.75m on the upper floor give an airy feel to the interior. The lean-to provided servant accommodation over a scullery or wash house and was fitted with a narrow stair. The roof structure is of oak tie-beam trusses with tenoned apices and two tiers of butt purlins. This roof is unusual because it is oak whereas almost all houses in this area at this period are of elm; also that is a 17<sup>th</sup> century style of construction. The house is likely to have been built for a prosperous family and its decorative and constructional features suggest a late 18<sup>th</sup> century date. This is supported by the map prepared for the Dean and Chapter of Wells that shows nothing on the site in 1792 but a building is shown on the Tithe Map of 1839

**Winscombe, 10 and 11, The Green. ST421575**



*Fig. 16. Winscombe, No 11 in centre and 10 to left (photo, John Rickard)*

The photo mainly shows number 11, with recently tiled roof, which now has a lean-to extension on the front elevation. These two one-and-a-half storey properties are in a short terrace of double pile plan dwellings with each range being of the same dimension between front and back walls and having the central and exterior walls of the same thickness. Although under two roof ranges, these two properties have interlocking L plans and seem to have gables offset by about 2.5m. In No.10 the roof structure of the rear range has a diagonally set ridge-piece and partially staggered purlins with mortice and tenon joints, suggesting late 18<sup>th</sup> century construction. All the other roofs have been replaced over time. Documentary records reveal that the residents of the Poor House, which stood close to the church, were moved to this site in 1799 which was devoid of buildings according to the 1792 map. It is possible that a building was here by about 1795 and that it was developed to accommodate the fourteen Poor House inhabitants. The simplest arrangement would have been to have seven one-up-one-down units in each range but it is unclear how that can be linked with the current division of the terrace. In 1838 the Poor were transferred to the Union workhouse at Axbridge.

**Winscombe, 46 Woodborough Road. ST419576**

The house appears on the 1839 Tithe Map and the roof structure, elm with collar trusses, indicates an early 19<sup>th</sup> century build. The dwelling unifies several one and a half storey units arranged in line following the curve of the road with a gable lean-to on the south west end and a single storey building connecting with it. The original build was a two room dwelling with only one room heated, now in the centre of the property, but by 1884 most of the units were present. All elevations are rendered or painted, covering the rubble walls. Some windows have brick surrounds with shallow arched heads. The property has had several changes during the late 20<sup>th</sup> century.



**Winscombe, Primrose Cottage. ST420579**



*Fig. 17. Winscombe, Primrose Cottage front elevation, (photo, John Rickard)*

The house originated as a two-storey, two-room, central entry house (possibly created from an earlier outbuilding) under a shallow pitched roof of mid to late 18<sup>th</sup> century construction. A similar sized early 20<sup>th</sup> century range is at the rear and there is a further single storey addition. The front elevation is of exposed masonry showing a random rubble wall of local conglomerate stone with shallow arched heads to window openings. The rear range is brick built.



## **Winscombe, Old Board Farm. ST420578**

The main range of the house is of two storeys with a southern two-storey wing comprising three rooms. There is a single storey modern extension adjoining the north of the house. The house is rendered (over red sandstone and conglomerate random rubble walls) and has a double Roman tiled roof with two brick chimney stacks. The house has been extensively modernised. The limited evidence suggests that it originated in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century as a one and a half storey two-unit house comprising a living room and unheated service room and was extended to the rear and south in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The property was reroofed and further upgraded in the 19<sup>th</sup> century

**Winscombe, Walnut Tree Cottage, Sandford. ST421595**



*Fig. 18. Winscombe, Walnut Tree Cottage front elevation, (photo, John Rickard)*

The house was built as a one and a half storey three-unit cross-passage dwelling in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The rear doorway is typically wide and has an ovolo moulded frame and above is an ovolo mullioned three-light window from that period. In the rear lean-to, which is of later date than the house, there is a cross-planked and chequer-pattern nailed door on long strap hinges which may have been the original front door. In the late 18<sup>th</sup> century the hall and inner room were remodelled, raising the ceilings. The gable wall of the inner room was panelled overall with frames and fielded panels behind which were a full set of cupboards; a fireplace, now reduced to a small tiled hearth, is in the centre. The current stairs, replacing the original stairs near the main fireplace, are a straight flight situated in the cross passage and were probably inserted in the 20<sup>th</sup> century when the house is known to have been in dual occupancy.