

# BUILDING RECORDING IN 2009

SOMERSET VERNACULAR BUILDING RESEARCH GROUP

## INTRODUCTION

Survey work in Stogursey has been completed and has included not only more buildings in the village centre but also most of the outlying farms. From the summaries below, it can be seen that some interesting and unusual plan-forms have been revealed. Also the increased emphasis on documentary research has greatly assisted the survey work; for example on farmsteads it has helped to interpret the original uses of surviving agricultural buildings. Drafting of the volume is also well underway and publication is scheduled for later this year. This will be the Group's 13th village survey to be completed. Already plans are underway for two more systematic surveys, the first at Winscombe, beginning in March 2010, will include a selection of some 50 houses at the instigation of Professor Mick Aston as a contribution to his community project on the parish (see p. 167). Longer term and also beginning in 2010, a detailed survey of Axbridge is proposed and hopes to utilise information from the 14th-century records of the town's corporation, which are in the process of being translated. These two projects will result in the Group being busier than ever. In addition, surveying of individual buildings in various parts of Somerset has been undertaken, often at the request of owners. Among the more outstanding in 2009 has been Clevedon Court, listed Grade I and a property of the National Trust since 1960 although still lived in by the Elton family, who acquired the estate in 1709. As with many other complex buildings, the Group's report contains comprehensive descriptions and discussion of the evidence revealed. Copies of the

full SVBRG reports and survey drawings are deposited in the County Record Office and the National Monuments Record in Swindon, and the Group continues to be indebted to the owners and occupiers of the houses visited for their kindness in allowing access. The photographs reproduced below were taken by Mike Hargreaves, John Rickard and Martin Watts.

## SURVEYS

### **Clevedon, Clevedon Court ST423716**

The house has a particularly complex plan, but may be described as being of three major elements. In the centre is the great hall with porch and oriel projecting to the south (Fig. 1) and the screens passage with buttery and pantry to the east. To the west of the hall is a solar block which has a slightly different alignment (north-west/south-east). To the east of the hall a kitchen and tower have a different alignment again (north-east/south-west), the kitchen still more pronounced. To the north of the hall there is a north porch and a stair turret to the north-west. In former times a substantial west wing had been added, but this was destroyed by fire in 1882 and although rebuilt was demolished in 1960. Documentary sources reveal that the manor was held by the de Clevedon family from around 1150 and that they owned a manor house on this site. It is thought that about 1320 John de Clevedon built the core of the present house and incorporated parts of the former buildings. The layout of the pre-1320 site



*Fig. 1 Clevedon Court, south front (photo John Rickard)*

is conjectural, but it appears that the western solar block and the eastern kitchen and tower are survivals from that period. In particular the very thick walls, narrow windows and proportions of the tower strongly suggest a guard tower (Fig. 2). The kitchen is usually referred to as the old great hall, but this is more likely to have been a detached kitchen, with the original hall standing further to the west. The dating of this part has been confirmed by



*Fig. 2 Clevedon Court, tower (photo John Rickard)*

archaeological excavation in 2001, which showed that the footings predate the 14th-century construction of the central part of the house and may date from the 13th or possibly even the 12th century. To the west, the solar block is slightly misaligned with the otherwise fairly rectilinear 1320 hall, suggesting that it already existed, possibly as a two-storey chamber block. The platform on which the house and its immediate buildings stand is quite small, thus the new hall seems to have been squeezed between the retained earlier buildings. The two-storey west wing (now gone) was added in 1570 and the solar was raised to three floors. The above account highlights the recent discoveries and conclusions and is only a much abbreviated summary of the report, which also includes detailed arguments about the form of the original roof structures.

#### **Farrington Gurney, Manor House ST633557**

The house has been much altered and extended but the original south range (Fig. 3) is a symmetrical seven-bay block with a central two-storey porch dated 1637 with the initials of the builder Richard Mogg. Built of squared and coursed rubble with stone dressings, it is two storeys with attics, the attic windows in gabled dormers with apex finials. The house then had a U-shaped plan, confirmed by an estate map and survey of 1795, which described the holdings of the Prince of Wales in Farrington Gurney (the estate having belonged to the Crown from the early 14th century). The rear courtyard was infilled probably in the 18th century and the east wing was added in the 19th century. The Manor House descended in the Mogg family until 1930.



*Fig. 3 Farrington Gurney Manor House (photo John Rickard)*

### Fivehead, Silver Street, Spring Grove ST350230

The house is of one-and-half storey with three rooms in line (Fig. 4). A building date in the late 15th century is suggested, based on the beams of the inner room, roof construction (including one jointed-cruck truss) and the smoke blackening of the timbers. The house then comprised an open hall and an inner room with a solar chamber over. Traditionally the entrance would have been at the low end of the hall and there may have been a service room beyond. It is conjectured that in the early 16th century there may have been a smoke hood in the service room, based on the evidence of soot deposits. Around 1600 an upper floor was inserted over the hall, together with a fireplace and stack. The inner room then became a parlour. It is further conjectured that the service room was upgraded to a kitchen with a fireplace, oven and curing chamber in the east gable. Also a cross-passage was created. For some reason, *c.* 1700 the kitchen was destroyed (perhaps as a result of a fire) and to compensate an oven was built next to the hall fireplace. Around 1800 the east end was rebuilt with a loft above. The 1886 OS map shows that a building had been added at the east end of the south elevation and, as in 1841 the property was a small holding of about 24 acres with three orchards, it seems likely that the 'new' building was a cider house and cellar.



*Fig. 4 Fivehead, Spring Grove (photo Mike Hargreaves)*

### High Ham, Hillbourne ST427310

The house (Fig. 5) comprises three rooms in line with a cross-passage and the misalignment of the end room together with variations in wall thickness indicate at least two periods of building. The first phase includes the part to the east of the cross-passage and, based on the details of the beams (Fig.



*Fig. 5 High Ham, Hillbourne (photo John Rickard)*

6) and the jointed-cruck truss (Fig. 7), a 15th-century date is suggested (compared with similar dendro-dated structures in Somerset). There is evidence for the existence of a smoke-bay, which implies that originally this was the service end of a larger house, although the full extent is not clear. Later in the 16th century the hall and cross-passage were built and the smoke-bay was superseded by a fireplace. The roof structure is also supported on jointed-cruck trusses. The house then comprised two units, as the inner room may have been a single-storey lean-to, raised to full height probably in the 18th century. An adjoining 19th-century shop was demolished in recent years. The house was originally part of a farmstead, with two barns surviving – one converted into a house and the other being an early 19th-century threshing barn, much altered in the 20th century. The Tithe Map and Apportionment of 1841 shows that the holding was a mixed farm which warranted the substantial threshing barn and other buildings which existed at that time.



*Fig. 6 High Ham, Hillbourne, framed ceiling (photo John Rickard)*



*Fig. 7 High Ham, Hillbourne, jointed cruck (photo John Rickard)*

**Muchelney, The Parsonage ST399245**

The house (Fig. 8) is of two storeys with three rooms in line and an entrance/stair hall and additions at the rear. Based on the surviving details, the date of building appears to be *c.* 1600. At that time it comprised a hall, with framed ceiling and a fireplace



*Fig. 8 Muchelney, Parsonage (photo John Rickard)*

with curing chamber and oven, cross-passage and an inner room, then unheated. The details of the roof trusses indicate that the house was substantially altered in the mid-18th century (perhaps when it became a parsonage). The curing chamber became disused and service stairs complete with lantern window were inserted; a new fireplace and stack were inserted in the hall; the original stairs were removed and new stairs built creating a stair hall; the inner room became a parlour with the addition of a fireplace; and the walls were raised and the roof rebuilt. Late in the 19th century the two-storey additions were built, perhaps as a dining room and cellar/pantry. The summer oven in the kitchen may also date from this period (Fig. 9).



*Fig. 9 Muchelney, Parsonage, summer oven (photo John Rickard)*

**Nailsea, Kings Hill, No. 3, Nailsea House ST462706**

The house has a complicated building history, but the overall plan is an east–west range to which has been added small wings to north and south and a larger cross-wing at the eastern end. The house is two storeys throughout, although the later east end is taller. There is a date-stone of 1708 with the initials V over R S, thought to be that of Ralph Vigers who



was a tanner in 1700. A tannery owned by Nathaniel Wade of Nailsea Court is known to have existed on this site in 1695. Prior to 1986, when the house was divided into two (the west end is now Lychgate House), it had been in single ownership for a long time, but appears to consist of three units in line, which have similar roof structures. Originally two or three two-storey dwellings appear to have been built at around the same time in the late 16th or early 17th century and were or became part of the tannery complex. These dwellings became part of a large single property when a grander wing was added at the east end in the late 18th century. In the late 19th century a shallow north wing was added and there were internal alterations. The adjoining stables may belong to this period. As no major phase of development of this building can be linked to 1708, the relevance of the date-stone remains unclear.

#### Stawley, Appley, Little Brimley ST072216

The house was formerly part of a farmstead, the barn and byre having been converted into dwellings. The plan comprises three units with baffle entry and an integral outshut under a cat-slide roof. The lobby-entry plan-form with central entry in line with the central stack is unusual for Somerset. The jointed-cruck roof trusses and other details are indicative of an early 17th-century date and the main walls would have been of cob. It then comprised parlour, lobby, kitchen, dairy, buttery (beer/cider cellar) and service room. The principal chamber was over the parlour and there may have been a cheese loft over the dairy. The house was partly rebuilt and re-faced probably during the third quarter of the 19th century.

#### Stoke St Mary, Haydon Farm ST255238

The farmhouse (Fig. 10) is part of a large farmstead and comprises a two-unit plan with central cross-passage with a two-storey addition on the south gable end and lean-to additions at the rear. The form of construction and the details indicate a date in the late 17th century. Built of brick in Flemish bond, there is no evidence to suggest that it is the cladding of an earlier building, as proposed in the Listing description. The original plan would have been kitchen, cross-passage and parlour with two gable stacks and first-floor rooms and attics. The parlour ceiling was formerly divided into four equal parts, three of which have decorative plasterwork – an eight-pointed star-shaped pattern with fleur-de-lis



*Fig. 10 Stoke St Mary, Haydon Farm (photo John Rickard)*

mouldings (Fig. 11). The pattern and details suggest a late 16th-century date, but presumably it is an example of a plasterer following an archaic style. The undecorated panel is probably the result of alterations to the fireplace. The lean-to service room, perhaps a dairy, and the two-storey addition date from c. 1800. A further addition to the kitchen was built before 1887 (when it appeared on the OS map). A comparison between the Tithing Map of 1840 and various OS maps – together with the structural evidence that survives – indicate that much of the farmstead existed by 1840. The size and variety of the buildings show that this had been a large mixed holding from the early 19th century with an emphasis on dairying and cider production. Interestingly teazles were also an important crop. Among the more significant farm buildings are a cider house, formerly with a press, horse-gin and apple loft, a threshing barn, hay barn, stables, cart shed, wagon house, trap house, sheep houses, calf houses and cow sheds.



*Fig. 11 Stoke St Mary, Haydon Farm, parlour ceiling (photo John Rickard)*

**Stogursey, Burton, Knighton Cottage ST193444**

The two-room plan has a central entry into a stair hall and additions at the rear. The front range (Fig. 12), comprising kitchen, stair hall and parlour, dates from the 18th century. However, what appears to be the remnant of an earlier roof truss suggests that the property may be a rebuilding of that time. Also the proximity of the truss to the present party wall indicates that the property originally extended further to the south and was demolished when the adjoining cottages were built. A single-storey extension to the north was added in the mid 19th century, probably as a carpenter's workshop, as the house was occupied by a carpenter at the time of the 1841 census.



*Fig. 12 Stogursey, Burton, Knighton Cottage (photo Mike Hargreaves)*

**Stogursey, Castle Street, Town Mill ST223428**

The mill is situated north of the castle and utilises the water system supplying the castle moat and the overflow from St Andrew's Well along the rear of the burgage plots. The leat runs north from the moat in an open channel along the rear of the mill and was diverted south via the launder (trough) onto the waterwheel. The mill is a two-storey building (Fig. 13), attached to the Mill House, with a single-storey extension on the front elevation and an iron overshot wheel (Fig. 14) on the northern gable. The ground (or meal) floor houses the timber hurst frame (Fig. 15) which carries the pit wheel, wallower (gear), spur wheel and the two stone nuts. These nuts drive two pairs of millstones at first-floor level (Fig. 16). The upright shaft also drives a lay shaft at this level, via the crown wheel and pinion, which powered the sack hoist and flour grader or dresser (no longer present).



*Fig. 13 Stogursey, Castle Street, Town Mill (photo Mike Hargreaves)*



*Fig. 14 Stogursey, Castle Street, Town Mill, wheel (photo Martin Watts)*

In the loft, most of the sack hoist survives and the remains of the timber launder have been stacked at the far end of the loft. The surviving evidence suggests that the present mill building dates from the mid 18th century and that the extension was added in the 19th century. Of the mill machinery, the vertical shaft and some of the gear wheels are probably 18th century, whilst the wheel, cast by



Fig. 15 Stogursey, Castle Street, Town Mill, hurst  
(photo Martin Watts)



Fig. 16 Stogursey, Castle Street, Town Mill, stone-  
floor (photo Martin Watts)

James Culverwell of Bridgwater, is late 19th or early 20th century. The mill remained in use until 1948. The documentary history of Stogursey Mill has been published in the Victoria County History (*Somerset, VI* (1992), 149) and the mill machinery is the subject of a full report by Martin Watts.

### Stogursey, Castle Street, No. 8 ST203428

The house (Fig. 17) has two rooms with a central passage and a lean-to extension to one side at the rear. A former workshop was situated on the other side of a yard. The evidence of structural and internal details (Fig. 18) suggests that the house was built in the early 19th century and then comprised two rooms with an outshut, used as a scullery. An extension to the rear covering part of the yard was added probably in the second half of the 19th century and the lean-to raised to provide an additional first-floor room. The stairs were also relocated at this time. In recent years the workshop has been incorporated into the living accommodation.



Fig. 17 Stogursey, Castle Street, No. 8 (photo John  
Rickard)



Fig. 18 Stogursey, Castle Street, No. 8, reused roof  
timber (photo John Rickard)

**Stogursey, Castle Street, No. 10 ST203428**

The plan is double-pile, but one of the elements at the rear has been assimilated into the adjoining house, No. 12. It was probably built as a two-storey double-pile house and formerly comprised a living room and parlour with service rooms at the rear. Based on this plan form and the roof construction, an early 18th-century date is suggested. The 1887 and 1904 OS maps show that in that period Nos 10 and 12 were within the same curtilage and included an enclosed yard, later reverting to two separate properties.

**Stogursey, Colepool, No. 41, Webber's Cottage ST193436**

The house (Fig. 19) has a two-unit plan with a central entry into a staircase hall with a lean-to at the rear. There is a detached single-storey utility building at the rear. Originally built *c.* 1800, the house then comprised parlour and living room/kitchen with two service rooms in the lean-to used as a scullery and perhaps a dairy.



*Fig. 19 Stogursey, Colepool, No. 41, Webber's Cottage (photo Mike Hargreaves)*

**Stogursey, Farringdon Hill Farm SYT213434**

The house (Fig. 20) is detached and overlooks the farmstead. It is three rooms in line with cross-passage and turret stair, with substantial additions on the north side. Documentary records indicate that the house is on the site of Farringdon manor house, but no evidence has been found of an earlier structure. The misalignment of the front wall and the change in roof pitch suggest that there were two building



*Fig. 20 Stogursey, Farringdon Hill Farm (photo Mike Hargreaves)*

phases. The eastern part appears to date from the late 16th century and comprised hall and inner room with access at what was then the gable end. Access to the first floor at that time would have been by a winding stair alongside the stack. The west end was added *c.* 1600 and comprised kitchen, cross-passage and stair turret. In the mid 19th century additions were built along the north elevation comprising the single-storey kitchen and perhaps a dairy. The irregular alignment of two interior walls corresponds with the line of a boundary wall at the rear, shown on the 1886 OS map and which suggests that the east end of the additions could have been part of an earlier structure. At the same time the main house was updated and the roof of the front range rebuilt. The 1841 Tithe Map shows that there were some farm buildings on site, but the 1886 OS map illustrates that there had been substantial rebuilding in the intervening period. The farmstead then appears to have comprised three yards with two cattle sheds, bull pen, calf pens, stables, granary and threshing barn with a horse-engine outside in the rick yard. Of these buildings only the basic structure of the threshing barn and stables survive. The documentary history of Farringdon Manor is recorded in the Victoria County History (*Somerset*, VI (1992), 141).

**Stogursey, High Street, No. 2 ST204429**

The house has a roughly rectangular plan with an extension to the front (south) and a longer extension to the north. It appears to have been built in the early 19th century (Figs 21, 22 and 23) and the front elevation with the extension and canted bay window is of one build. The rear extension was probably a former workshop that has now been incorporated as part of the living accommodation.





*Fig. 21 Stogursey, High Street, No. 2, stairs  
(photo John Rickard)*



*Fig. 23 Stogursey, High Street, No. 2, carpenters' marks  
(photo John Rickard)*

#### **Stogursey, High Street, No. 4 ST204429**

The house has a roughly rectangular plan with two rooms on the ground floor. It appears to have been built in the early 19th century and matches the adjoining property, No. 2, both externally and in fireplace construction. Therefore both seem to have been built at the same time by the same builder.

#### **Stogursey, High Street, No. 10 ST203429**

The house occupies a site of the corner of Lime Street and comprises two rooms and a small outshut at the rear. Originally part of a larger house including the adjoining properties in High Street and Lime Street, it was built in the late 16th or early 17th century and was refronted in the mid to late 18th century. There was an extensive fire in 1998 that destroyed the upper floors and roofs of this and the neighbouring properties.

#### **Stogursey, High Street, No. 15 ST202429**

The house is one room deep with a small off-set extension to the rear. A newel stair gives access to the first floor (Fig. 24). The thick front wall and the form of the door suggest a 17th-century date and parts of the roof structure may also be of this period. The relationship of this house with its neighbour is unclear, as the upper floor front wall thickness indicates 19th-century construction and this, together with the similar wall thickness of the adjoining house, may imply reconstruction or adaptation of non-domestic buildings.



*Fig. 22 Stogursey, High Street, No. 2, king-post truss  
(photo John Rickard)*



*Fig. 24 Stogursey, High Street, No. 15, stair newel and balusters (photo John Rickard)*

**Stogursey, High Street, No. 46, Quantock House ST201429**

The house has a principal block of rectangular plan fronting the street (Fig. 25), but has a complex history with additions to the rear and sides. An unusually thick wall in one room may be the relic of a medieval structure, but no other evidence survives. The roof structure, wall thicknesses and beams indicate that the main house was built at the end of the 16th or the beginning of the 17th century. It would then have been of one-and-half storey with, probably, a single-storey lean-to at the rear. Alterations, perhaps in the 18th century, included raising the roof. Major changes, probably in the early 19th century, involved the construction of the cat-slide roof and the addition of a second storey at the rear, together with internal fittings throughout. This phase also included the building of barns to the north and west of the house. The building of a separate one-and-half storey dwelling with gabled dormers and a carriage entrance to the south of the barns at the west end of the site occurred sometime between 1841 and 1886 as may be deduced from the maps of those dates. Possibly at the same time a narrow extension was built attached to the east gable end to enable easier internal circulation. The two properties have since been merged.



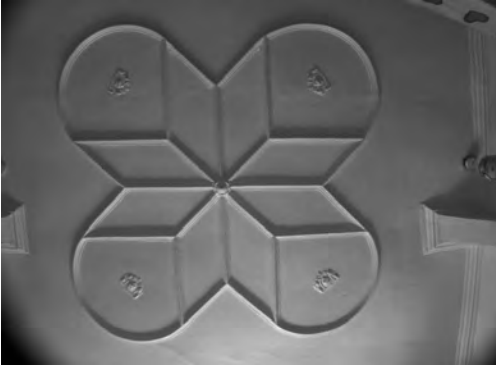
*Fig. 25 Stogursey, High Street, No. 46, Quantock House (photo John Rickard)*

**Stogursey, Higher Monkton Cottage ST210424**

The plan form of the building is of two east–west ranges (Fig. 26) which are misaligned and overlap each other, the southern range being slightly larger overall. This range is set to the east of the other and has a barn range projecting northwards at its eastern end. The land falls away steeply on the north side of the north range, which is one-and-half storey with a single-storey lean-to at its western gable. Originally of two-room and cross-passage plan, the central passage has porches added front and rear. The south range is also one-and-half storey with a two-room, cross-passage plan form. However, over the west room the roof is aligned north–south and both ground and first-floor rooms have higher ceilings. The chamber ceiling has moulded plaster decoration and



*Fig. 26 Stogursey, Higher Monkton Cottage (photo John Rickard)*



*Fig. 27 Stogursey, Higher Monkton Cottage, chamber ceiling (photo John Rickard)*

a plaster cornice (Fig. 27). The style of the single-rib plasterwork indicates a date of *c.* 1600. The original building was the north range and the roof structure suggests a late 16th-century date. The west end of the south range appears to date from a similar period and was clearly intended to impress with its decorative plasterwork, elaborate cornices and deep chamfered beams. Whether this was a replacement of an earlier structure or a new building is not clear. The eastward extension of the southern range by the addition of another kitchen suggests that the house was being divided, possibly in the late 17th century or even later. This addition created a second cross-passage and an oddly formed access to the western room. The eaves and roof of the north range were later raised. The complex plan may indicate the provision of accommodation for two related families and evidence for this possibility comes from the Tithe Map and Apportionment of 1841 as the building is referred to as Monkton and Sowden Farm. The land belonging to the property was also in two parts. By the time of the 1886 OS map it was referred to as Higher Monkton Farm.

#### **Stogursey, Knighton, Eton Cottage ST193443**

The wall thicknesses, roof structure and details suggest that the house (Fig. 28) dates from the early 18th century and was then one-and-a-half storey comprising living room/kitchen, and a service room, with access directly into the living room. The fireplace lintel has the remnants of inscribed circles, which are probably witch (apotropaic or ritual) marks. The lean-to rooms at each end are probably contemporary. There have been modern additions.



*Fig. 28 Stogursey, Knighton, Eton Cottage (photo Mike Hargreaves)*

#### **Stogursey, Knighton, The Glebe House ST193444**

The house (Fig. 29) has three rooms in line with an addition to one side and shallow additions at the rear. The roof structure and other details indicate an initial date of construction at the end of the 18th or beginning of the 19th century. Then it comprised two rooms with an entrance hall between. The original stair probably rose from the hall and there may have been a lean-to scullery at the rear. Prior to 1886 the house was extended by the addition of another room. The stairs may have been relocated to their present position at the same time. Access directly from the added room to the adjoining 'barn' appears to be of long-standing. There were additions at the rear in the 20th century and the barn has been incorporated into the living area.



*Fig. 29 Stogursey, Knighton, Glebe House (photo John Rickard)*

**Stogursey, Knighton, Hill View ST193443**

This is a two-storey end of terrace cottage (Fig. 30) with two front rooms divided by an entrance passage with a lean-to addition at the rear. Dating from the early 19th century, originally it comprised one ground-floor room with a room above, with either a front or end-gable entry. By the time of the 1886 OS map it had been extended and later in the 19th or early 20th century the roof and lean-to were raised to provide additional accommodation.



*Fig. 30 Stogursey, Knighton, Hill View (photo Mike Hargreaves)*

**Stogursey, Peadon Farm ST202414**

The house (Fig. 31) is part of a working farmstead with an adjoining cottage, formerly a granary. The main house has a two-unit plan with central entry/cross-passage and a later wing at the rear. The wall thicknesses of the main range (perhaps cob) and the structural details of the roof trusses suggest a late 16th-century date. Probably in the early 17th century, the house was remodelled which included the insertion of fireplaces and cob stacks (visible in the roof space) and the partitions either side of the cross-passage. The hall fireplace bressumer has a number of holes cut through which suggests that it may have held a spit-jack. The house then comprised hall, cross-passage, kitchen and turret stairs. A small room off the kitchen may have been a corn-drying kiln and for malting barley. The structure shows that it had a flue rising through the first floor and joining the main stack at high level. The 1841 Tithe Map shows the former granary, but the north wing did not appear until the 1886 OS map. It was later described as a kitchen with pantry off, back kitchen,



*Fig. 31 Stogursey, Peadon Farm (photo Mike Hargreaves)*

scullery and dairy. The former granary was converted into a separate dwelling in the mid 20th century. On the evidence of the 1841 and 1886 maps it is clear that the farmstead was developed as a comprehensive mixed farm in the mid 19th century. The farm was sold in 1952 and the particulars described the farm buildings around two yards and included implement sheds, piggeries, cowstall, calf house, calf pens, stable, stock-rearing house with hay store, linhay and large barn. Most of these buildings have now gone and those that survive have been greatly altered.

**Stogursey, St Andrew's Road, No. 6 ST204429**

St Andrew's Road (formerly Back Street) is situated in the centre of the village and the house is one of a row of terraced cottages (Fig. 32). The entrance lobby leads to a front room which provides access to a rear kitchen and the stairs. From the limited evidence available it appears that the front range, which then comprised a one-and-a-half-storey unit, perhaps with a lean-to outshut, dates from the early 18th century. A map of 1795 appears to show the property as part of the Fairfield Estate and joined to No. 5. The 1887 OS map shows that the kitchen extension had been added in the mid-19th century and it is likely that the front part of the house was upgraded at the same time.

**Stogursey, St Andrew's Road, No. 8 ST203427**

The house forms part of a terrace with entry directly from the street into a single unit with additions at the rear. The details of the beams, fireplace and earlier roof line indicate a date of *c.* 1600 and then it





*Fig. 32 Stogursey, St Andrew's Road, No. 6 (photo Mike Hargreaves)*

comprised a single unit with a small service room. The accommodation duplicates that of the adjoining house, No. 7 (see *SANH* 151 (2008), 195) and suggests that they were probably built as two separate single-unit cottages. However, in the mid 19th century – based on the 1841 Tithe Map and Apportionment and Census – they were being occupied as one house. By the time of the 1886 OS map they had reverted to separate units.

#### **Stogursey, St Andrew's Road, No. 10 ST205428**

The house (Fig. 33) has a rectangular plan and is the eastern half of a pair of houses butted to the properties on either side. It is entered directly from the street and has a principal room containing the fireplace. A lean-to at the rear houses the stairs and provided a kitchen/service room. Probably it was constructed in the early 1800s and has remained largely unaltered.



*Fig. 33 Stogursey, St Andrew's Road, No. 10 (photo Mike Hargreaves)*

#### **Stogursey, St Andrew's Road, No. 14 ST206428**

The house has an original rectangular two-room plan and is entered directly from the street. There is a passageway leading through the property and a small rear extension shown on the 1886 OS map has been replaced. The construction details and the surviving fixtures indicate a date in the late 18th century.

#### **Stogursey, Shurton, Bishop's Cottage ST200440**

The house (Fig. 34) has a two-unit plan with a central-entry cross-passage and lean-to additions at the rear. Structural and decorative details suggest an early/mid 16th-century date for the original build. The house was then of one-and-half-storey and comprised a hall, cross-passage and kitchen with a large fireplace incorporating an oven and curing chamber. There may have been a small outshut at the rear of the kitchen. This plan form is relatively rare in Somerset, although it is similar to the plans of Myrtle Farm and Fisher's Cottage, both in Shurton (see *SANH* 151 (2008), 196 and *SANH* 152 (2009), 239). Perhaps in the early 19th century the curing chamber became redundant and a second staircase was installed in its place and at about the same time the walls and roof were raised to create two full storeys. Later in the 19th century the rear outshut was removed (it appears on the 1887 OS map) and soon after new stairs were inserted and a rear lean-to built. Interesting survivals are two salt or spice cupboards, one alongside the kitchen fireplace and the other next to the fireplace on the first floor above the hall.



*Fig. 34 Stogursey, Shurton, Bishop's Cottage (photo Mike Hargreaves)*

### Stogursey, Shurton, Lower House Farm ST204444

The house (Fig. 35) was the subject of an earlier survey by R. Gilson in 1983. It has a main range of two rooms, one each side of a passage. The room to the west of the passage has been extended and there are additions at the rear. The roof structure is indicative of a date in the early 17th century and the position of the three trusses suggests that at least one more bay existed to the west. This would suggest a three-room and cross-passage plan. However, the common arrangement of the hall heated by a fireplace backing onto the cross-passage is not borne out in the roof structure, as there is no interruption to accommodate the stack. A possibility suggested by Gilson is that a fireplace was sited on the north wall. Also he recorded that the south wall immediately east of the passage was thicker and thus may have been part of an even earlier structure. In the 18th century an outshut was added at the rear and in the late 18th or early 19th century the west gable was removed and the house extended. On the 1886 and 1904 OS maps the property is marked as a beer house and Gilson reported that it had been known as the First and Last Inn.



Fig. 35 Stogursey, Shurton, Lower House Farm  
(photo John Rickard)

### Stogursey, Sowden Cottage ST215418

This house was recorded by Chris Sidaway in 1992 (report in Somerset Record Office), but since then a number of features have been revealed which necessitate revisions of the original interpretation. It probably dates from the 15th century and is built mostly of cob with cruck/jointed-cruck roof trusses

presumably supporting a thatched roof. The west gable was hipped and timber-framed. The house then comprised an inner room with solar over (accessed by winding stair), open hall, cross-passage and a service room. The last was also open, but with a smoke bay and a curing chamber. At the other side of the fireplace there appears to have been access to another small curing/smoking chamber – perhaps for smoking fish, as a similar feature has been noted at nearby Stolford. A possible alternative is a second winding stair with an oven beneath (the area is currently occupied by a modern stair). The outshut, also of cob, may have existed at this time, perhaps with a cat-slide roof. In the early 17th century, a fireplace was inserted in the hall, upper floors were created over the hall and kitchen and the west gable was rebuilt. The roof was reduced in height c. 1900.

### Stogursey, Stolford, Woolstone Farm ST238444

The large farmstead stands in an isolated position at the eastern end of the parish close to the boundary with Stockland Bristol. The farmhouse (Fig. 36) was severely damaged by fire in the early 20th century and only part, comprising three rooms, survived, subsequently much altered and with substantial additions. Historically this was the capital messuage of Woolstone Manor, the descent of which is detailed in the Victoria County History (*Somerset, VI* (1992), 145). The farm buildings have also been extensively adapted, but originally included a linhay, barn, cowshed and piggery. A substantial two-storey granary survives and on the 1886 OS map appears to have a wheel pit, which probably had a supply of water from the pond to drive a wheel for milling, grinding, etc.



Fig. 36 Stogursey, Stolford, Woolstone Farm  
(photo Mike Hargreaves)

### Stogursey, Wick, Wick House Farm ST216447

The house (Fig. 37) comprises a two-room plan with a wide central stair-hall and an outshut at the rear. A long rear wing beyond has an inner room, which may always have been domestic, and the outer room is reputed to have been a granary with storage below, now converted to domestic use. The beams, roof construction and fireplace design suggest a date in the late 17th or early 18th century for the front part of the house. At that time the stair-hall may have been an unheated service room, but if so the original position of the staircase is unclear. The rear wing is likely to have been built in the later 18th century with the staircase rebuilt at that time and the service room relocated to the wing. The parlour may have been updated at the same time. The rear lean-to may have been added as a scullery/wash-house at this time or in the early 19th century, as it appears on the 1841 Tithe Map. A full history of the farmstead has been compiled from documents in the Somerset Record Office, which indicate that in 1609–14 it was part of the Earl of Northumberland's estate and a contemporary survey map shows the house with an adjacent octagonal dovecote. A surveyor's report of 1869 list other farm buildings including a barn, linhays, stables and a wagon house.



*Fig. 37 Stogursey, Wick House Farm (photo Mike Hargreaves)*

### Stogursey, Wick, Wick Mill ST215445

The building, which may date from the 17th century, is in a ruinous state (Figs 38 and 39), much overgrown, and the corrugated-iron roof (probably constructed about 50 years ago to protect the machinery) and half the south wall have collapsed. The documentary history of the mill has been compiled by Susan Shaw and there is a full report on the machinery by Martin Watts. In summary, the



*Fig. 38 Stogursey, Wick Mill (photo John Rickard)*



*Fig. 39 Stogursey, Wick Mill, interior (photo John Rickard)*

site is an ancient one and can be positively identified as existing in 1301, and the mill appears on the survey map compiled for the Earl of Northumberland between 1609 and 1614, which shows the watercourses in the same positions as those appearing on the 1841 Tithe Map. The wheel-pit has been backfilled, but it is possible to determine that the wheel was over-shot. A photograph of 1975 by Derrick Warren of the Somerset Industrial Archaeology Society, who made a measured survey, shows the machinery in surprisingly good condition for its apparent age, which would be considered early from its archaic appearance, being made entirely of wood (Fig. 40). However, documentary evidence indicates that the gear was renewed in 1887, but this must have involved replication of the existing machinery. That this archaic form of machinery, which is typical of medieval water mills, survived into the 20th century is exceptional and presumably results from a long tradition of continuous economic repair.



Fig. 40 Stogursey, Wick Mill, gearing (photo Martin Watts)

#### Stogursey, Wick, Zine Cottage ST219445

The L-shaped plan comprises two rooms with a lean-to addition at one side and a rear wing (Fig. 41). The limited evidence available – the plated-yoke roof trusses with the tusk-tenoned purlins and other details – suggests that the two front rooms were built c. 1800. At that time it is likely that the cottage was either a two-unit dwelling or formed an integral part of the adjoining property and may have been a workshop. The large rear wing was added within the last 50 years. For the derivation of the unusual name see *SANH* 151 (2008), 197.



Fig. 41 Stogursey, Wick, Zine Cottage (photo Mike Hargreaves)

#### West Coker, Dibble's Lane, Barton Farmhouse ST518138

The house is detached and no longer part of a farmstead (Fig. 42). It has three rooms in line and a cross-passage plus additions on the east gable with other minor buildings. There is a blocked first-floor pointed-arch window with tracery on the west gable, which together with the wall thicknesses and the remnants of the arch-braced trusses (on which there is no smoke blackening) indicate that this was a high-status house dating from the 15th century. It is conjectured that then it comprised a hall, incorporating a lateral fireplace and winding turret stair, and a screens passage along the west side of the hall with a pantry and buttery. There may have been a detached kitchen. The first floor contained a hall chamber and one or two rooms at the west end – the room lit by the elaborately traceried window may perhaps have been a chapel. In the mid 16th century the lateral stack and stair turret were removed and stacks were inserted at the gable ends, blocking the west window. The cross-passage was re-sited and the central service room created. The south front wall was rebuilt with new windows in the mid 17th century. In the early 19th century the two-storey kitchen wing was added on the east gable and new stairs were inserted. According to *The Annals of West Coker* (1957) by Sir Matthew Nathan, the property was known as 'Penneys tenement' and the Pennys were a West Coker family from the early 14th century and in the 15th century were tenants of Glastonbury Abbey.



Fig. 42 West Coker, Barton Farmhouse (photo Mike Hargreaves)