

**FWP24a** [unusually, © P.J.Fowler 2000 in the sense that I would like to work this draft up, with further fieldwork, into a publishable paper with appropriate village maps]

## Village Houses and their Dates

This catalogue of 'old' buildings in the three villages of West Overton, Lockeridge and Fyfield is based on the list of DoE 'Listed Buildings', using the official numbers on that List (which therefore provide the key to further information). Fuller accounts exist for those who wish for them in those Lists, which are publicly available (at local Planning Offices or at or through the NMR). We also use other sources as appropriate, but the main source is our own fieldwork. Every building catalogued here in the villages has been examined externally. This was done independently of the List, usually to find subsequently on checking complete agreement with the Inspectors' observations and dating, plus useful internal information not available to us. Listed buildings NOT in the villages are catalogued at the end of this section just to complete the record, though we have not necessarily visited all of them.

The prime purpose of this information here is as archaeological evidence, both as brief record and to use in inferences about the history and development of the extant settlements in their landscapes. The information is therefore arranged chronologically within each village; it is used in this way on the village maps (figs. <<<>>>[these maps, which are in the archive somewhere (!), did not get beyond the rough draft stage once it became obvious that there was not going to be enough space to publish this material in the monograph. – pjf 09/00]). In fact, however, the buildings are not as useful in illuminating settlement development and morphology as was hoped would be the case.

Overall, nothing still standing (apart from elements of the two churches and perhaps nos. 127 and 149, West Overton) appears to be earlier than C17, and though a sprinkling of C18 and C19 houses remains, the historically significant fact is the scale of destruction, replacement and new construction in the C20, especially since the 1950s. The villages now look very different from their appearance 35 years ago, never mind the changes (especially in Lockeridge) between 1850-1950; and one can well imagine a septuagarian woman in 1850 making the same remark about the differences between the village houses of her childhood and her old age, for there were wholesale changes between c 1780 and 1850 [quite unconsciously, here, I can see in retrospect, was the germ of the idea behind *The Land of Lettice Sweetapple*, 1998: it must have lurked, awaiting our inevitable discovery of the historical Lettice, for three years. – pjf 09/00]. And indeed, as our maps show, fairly drastic changes also took place within short periods of that lifetime. Indeed, given the clear evidence of change in the standing buildings and the equally eloquent if silent evidence from the buildings that are no

longer there, the most interesting inference from the architecture as archaeology is that by itself, never mind any other evidence, it indicates not just rapid but **frequent** change.

Yet while individual buildings come and go quite quickly, as discussed *above* (p. 00), modern destruction and building have by and large somehow respected the villages' historic morphology. Critical evidence remains in the horizontal dimension rather than in upright structures. Nevertheless, some of the older houses do appear to occupy 'historic' positions reflecting former arrangements of roads and lanes as well as actual buildings; and one suspects that some of their lower courses and foundations of sarsen stones may well be earlier than 1600. On visible evidence, however, no medieval buildings survive other than the much-altered churches. Sarsen stone as a local building material was clearly much used in the C17-19 for cottages but was increasingly replaced by brick, especially for grander houses, from the early C18 onwards; pre-1600, one imagines it was used but, as the buildings at *Raddun* suggest, perhaps mainly as foundations for what were largely timber structures. While it can be anticipated that a great deal of sarsen foundations underlie the earthworks S and SW of Overton church, the medieval villages would probably have appeared very much as collections of low thatched humps rather than as visibly vertically-sided stone buildings.

## **West Overton**

### **1700 or earlier**

#### **127 - Church Hill cottage**

Cottage : C17 or earlier

Single storey.

Colourwashed brick with later additions, thatched roof.

#### **128 - Verger's cottage**

Two cottages at right angles. C17 and 1746.

Single storey with attic - raised to two storeys in 1746

Thatched roof, sarsen blocks, heightened in brick.

#### **149 - House**

C16 and C17.

Two storeys and attic.

Sarsen with timber framed and tile hung upper floor, thatched roof

#### **150 - Row of cottages.**

C17 and C18.

Single storey and attic.

Timber framed, now replaced with sarsen with brick dressings, thatched roof.

**152 - House**

C17 and early C19.

Single storey with attic, later extended to two storeys

Timber framed with colourwashed brick noggins.

**1700 - 99**

**151 - Rectory , now house.**

Late C18. Extensions after 1860.

Two storeys with attics.

Sarsen, faced with rendered brickwork. Slate roof.

**154 - Cottage.**

Late C18 - early C19.

Single storey with attic, raised to two storeys.

Sarsen with thatched roof.

**155 - Farmhouse.**

Late C18 - early C19.

Two storeys.

Flemish brickwork with slate roof.

**1800 - 1850**

**129 - Church of St Michael**

C13 or earlier. Rebuilt 1877 - 88. Tower 1883.

Flint with squared stone sarsen banding and Bath stone quoining and dressings.

**153 - Pair of estate cottages.**

c1880.

Two storeys.

Timber framing with patterned brickwork and slate roof.

**Lockeridge**

## **1700 or earlier**

### **134 - Cottage.**

C17.

Two storeys.

Colourwashed sarsen and part brick with some timber framing. Thatched and shingled roofs.

### **135 - Cottage.**

C17.

Single storey and attic.

Sarsen with some timber framing with brick noggins, all colourwashed. Thatched roof.

### **137 - House.**

Late C17 - early C18.

Two storeys.

Sarsen with limestone dressings. Thatched roof.

### **138 - House.**

C17 or early C18.

Single storey with attic.

Colourwashed sarsen with vestigial timber framing. Thatched roof.

### **139 - Farmhouse.**

Mid C17.

Two storeys and attics.

Squared sarsen with thatched roof.

### **141 - House.**

C17 and early C19.

Two storeys and attics.

Brick with C20 tiled roof.

### **147 - Cottage.**

C17 - C18.

Single storey and attic.

Whitewashed sarsen with thatched roof.

## **1700 - 1799**

**132 - Lockeridge house.**

c1740.

Two storeys, attics and cellars.

Diaper brickwork with slated roof.

**143 - Cottage.**

C18 with early C19 alterations and C20 extension.

Two storeys.

Sarsen with brick dressings and thatched roof.

**144 - Cottage.**

Early C18.

Two storeys.

Brick with thatched roofs.

**145 - Three cottages (now one house).**

Probably C18.

Single storey and attics.

Colourwashed sarsen with thatched roof.

**146 - Detached cottage.**

C18.

Two storeys.

Brick front, rubble gable. Rear, third brick, two thirds sarsen. Hipped thatched roof.

**1800 - 1850**

**136 - Pair of estate cottages.**

c1870 - 1880.

? Storeys ?

Flemish brickwork on stone foundation plinth. Tile hung to first floor, tiled roof.

**140 - Three estate cottages in row.**

c1870 - 1880.

? storeys ?

Flemish brickwork, banded with stone and blue brick. Tiled roof.

**142 - Two cottages (now one house).**

Early C19.

Single storey and attics.

Sarsen with brick dressings. Thatched roof.

**148 - House.**

Early C19.

Two storeys.

Rendered with slate roof.

**Fyfield**

**33 - Church of St. Nicholas**

Anglican parish church C13, 15, and restored 1849. Flint, with interspersed limestone and limestone ashlar W tower.

**34 - Graveyard** of above, with two late C18 chest tombs; and **35** - six other chest tombs and two ledger slabs in three rows, all C18

**36 - 24 Bath Road**

House, C17, rebuilt C18, of sarsen and brick with thatched roof; two storeys, two bays

**37 - Eastside Cottage, Clatford Bottom**

Cottage, late C17/early C18.

Two storeys.

Sarsen and brick with thatched roof.

**38 - House.**

C18.

Two storeys.

Sarsen with brick dressings, thatched roof.

**39 - Spring Cottage, Lower Fyfield**

C18, rendered sarsen with thatched roof, two storeys, two bays with rear wing