

Data Collection - Street Scene

- Working Group area and leader: Group E, Gillian Smith
- Reference number on area map: .08
- Street: Stratford Road from junction with Village Street and Church Street running South East
- Photos taken 9 photos by Gillian Smith 3 photos by Jenny Cocks
- Description of Street Scene

Stratford Road from the junction with Church Street runs down a sunken lane, with a steep bank on the LHS. There are a large number of 16th Century Black and White Buildings down this road, built on Keuper Marl foundations and in some cases with whole walls of Keuper Marl (see Harvington Conservation Area, Wychavon District Council publication). The stone is soft, crumbles easily and does not hold lime mortar well. The houses identified as SR2 on the map, form part of The Steps, an area of housing surrounding a Green. The Green was open and formed an attractive backdrop to the housing, but recently has partly been fenced off to provide gardens for the tenants. SR2 and SR3 provide social housing together with the modern cottages and bungalows around the Green. On the opposite side of the road are a row of 1930s Council Houses, with a strongly defined building line, set behind the raised bank of the Holloway.

SR4 and SR5 are old terraced 16th Century Black and white cottages houses, with Keuper Marl sections. SR4 is two houses, the house on the corner of the entrance to the Green being The Old Store, a former sweetshop and next door The Malthouse. The Old Store and SR3 both have old brick exteriors likely to have been added later to the black and white originals. Bank Cottage, SR5, is a black and white cottage again with extensive Keuper Marl walling on the street side, and has a walled garden to the front of the building.

There are then two modern houses, built in the former garden of SR6, Bank House, which is a late Victorian house at the top of the hill behind the modern houses.

The Laurels, SR7, an early 16th Century Black and White house, (originally two cottages) has a Georgian extension added, reputedly built following a fortune earned by a soldier returning from the Napoleonic Wars.

SR8, Fir Bank, is another black and white house, with later extension.

On the LHS of the road, towards the junction with the Village Bypass, are Thatcholm, and Thatchways, both 16th Century black and white cottages, Thatchways having later extensions in keeping with its earlier style. The Church Spire is visible over the roof of Thatchways and through the garden.

Opposite these latter two cottages and up on the hill is The Orchards, SR9. a 1930s House with an agricultural tie

We have included three photos in this section to show the “green lane” style of the Stratford Road. The entrance to the village is an attractive feature of Stratford Road passing between the black and white 16th Century cottages.