



Find out about Purton Green's past...

Hello and welcome! My name is Lizzie. I was born in 1280 at the manor of Purton Green. That's over 700 years ago! The house was new then and my family thought it was the latest in luxury.

I'm ten now and I have a younger brother called John and he's seven. Dad is the lord of the manor, called Roger and Mum is Joan. We are pretty well off compared with most people so we have servants!



In winter we stay warm by having a big fire on the floor (yes, really) and the smoke goes up through a hole in the top of the thatched roof.

Our house is always full of people. Dad is a **knight** and so he's an important person around here and he tells other people what they can and can't do! There are other nearby small cottages (hovels really) lived in by peasants who report to Dad.

Fact:

Knight – is a nobleman who owns land and lets it to peasants. The peasants farm the land and swear loyalty to their 'lord' in the manor house. They get protection and justice in return.

In medieval times, there were over 3000 knights. They got their lands from Barons (about 300 of them), who got their lands from the King.



A knight

Surrounding our manor are fields divided into narrow strips. The peasants plough the land and grow cereal crops such as oats, rye, peas and barley. They give Dad some of their crops because he owns the land.





It's a small world here and we grow everything we need. It was big news when the carpenter's son wanted to become a monk and move away. He had to ask Dad's permission and pay a fine for leaving!

Dad liked to collect fines from his peasants when they were naughty. Once, Rosie the cow wandered into the barley field and laid down so Joe got a fine. Then another time, Tom was caught taking extra firewood so he was punished. What's the naughtiest thing you've ever done?

In the Middle Ages, there were some odd punishments. Thieves were put in the stocks where everyone could see they had been naughty! We had great fun throwing rotten veg at them or even tickling their feet. Hee hee..



A thief in the stocks



When I grew up at Purton Green King Edward I was on the throne. He was a strong king and he could get away with being naughty because he was king. Why not colour in this picture of him.

Purton Green became a farmhouse by 1600 and over the centuries, other farmers lived and worked here. During World War II, captured German soldiers stayed in this house and helped run the farm. Sadly, the house lay empty for over 20 years and was in need of help! In 1969, the Landmark Trust bought it and since then many families have enjoyed staying here in this beautiful countryside. I hope you will too!

Unruly Rulers

Who were the medieval (say 'med-ee-evil') kings?

Medieval means in the Middle Ages. This is roughly from when William the Conqueror and the Normans invaded England in 1066 until Henry VIII (that's the 8th) became king in 1509.



King William II Rufus

He was killed hunting.
People say that Henry I ordered it!



King Stephen

Another king who stole the throne, it was meant to be his cousin Matilda's!



King Richard I The Lion Heart

A brave king, he was always fighting a war.



King Henry III

He was a good king who gave money to the poor and liked to pray.



King Edward II

Another bad King, he only listened to his best friend Piers Gaveston and died a nasty death in a dungeon.



King Richard II

He tried to rule without parliament, so the barons helped the next Henry become king.



King Henry V

He wanted to be King of England and France. You guessed it, he started a war!

1066

William the Conqueror

He wasn't even English he came from France.



1087

King Henry I

He stole the throne from his older brother who was away on Crusade.



1100

1135

King Henry II

Some of his knights heard that he was angry at Thomas Becket, the Archbishop of Canterbury. That was the end of poor Thomas, the knights killed him.



1154

1189

King John

Bad King John, he was a cruel and horrible man. He died eating too many peaches!



1199

1216

King Edward I

He invaded and conquered both Wales and Scotland ruling both of them!



1272

1307

King Edward III

He was a good king, even if he did start the 100 years' war.



1327

1377

King Henry IV

He stole the throne from Richard when he was fighting in Ireland. Hard luck Richie!



1399

1413



King Edward IV

He secretly married Elizabeth Woodville. Some say she was a witch!

1422

King Henry VI

He became king at 8 months old! He was weak and hated war. He never fought in any battles.



1461

King Edward V

He was 10 when he became king for 86 days. Then uncle Richard put him and his brother in a tower.



1483

King Richard III

He was a bad king. People say he had his nephews murdered in the Tower of London so he could be king instead.

1483



King Henry VII

He defeated bad King Richard and became the first Tudor king. Hooray!

1485



Meet King Edward I – who ruled when Lizzie grew up at Purton Green.



Hi Eddie!

So when did you become king?

I became King on 16 November 1272 when I was 33.

What's your nickname?

Some people call me 'longshanks' cause I'm tall. My favourite nickname is 'Hammer of the Scots' it makes me sound like a fierce warrior!

What is your favourite thing to do?

I love fighting in battle and conquering countries, especially Wales and Scotland.

What is the naughtiest thing you've ever done?

I stole the sacred Stone of Scone on which Scottish kings are crowned. It was only given back to the Scottish in 1996! How cross did that make the Scots...

Design



What does Purton Green look like?

Can you walk all the way around it?

Can you use any of these words to describe the building?
Draw a circle around the ones that do.

What do you like most about Purton Green?

.....

Castle

Tall

Pretty

Thatched

Stone

Brick

Symmetrical

Home

Square

Elegant

Friendly

Tower

Purton Green was first built around 1250 - that's more than 700 years ago! It was in the style of a **medieval hall** house. That means everyone lived and ate together in one big room, called the hall. This room at Purton Green is special because it wasn't rebuilt in all that time! There would have been an open fire in the middle of the floor and smoke would rise up and out through a hole in the ceiling. Imagine a blackened ceiling from all that smoke!

Servants put together meals at the Low End behind the fancy **gothic** arcade (that's the row of pointy-top arches). There were probably two rooms behind - a buttery for storing butter and beer (!) and a pantry. The kitchen was probably a separate building nearby (if there were a fire, the main hall could be saved).

The master of the house sat with his family at the High End for meals. They watched the servants bring the food in a procession from the Low End. Imagine every meal being like a formal banquet! Would you like that lifestyle? Later they went upstairs to sleep in the room above called the **solar**.

Other parts of Purton Green did change over the years. Walls were rebuilt at one end around 1400 and at the other end around 1600. That's when a chimney was added and one of the upstairs floors was rebuilt.

Facts:

Gothic - is a style of building that began in the 1100s. Many big cathedrals are this style with pointed arched windows and buttresses on outside walls.

Solar - is a private room for the master of the house and his family, away from the servants.

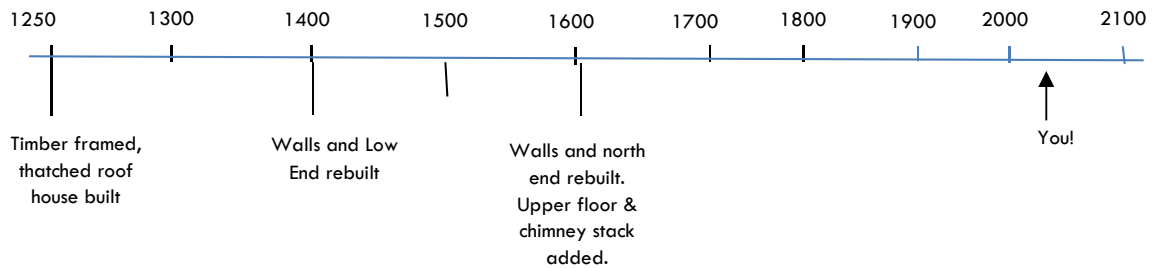
The word could come from the Latin word "solus" meaning "alone" - "I want to be alone!" Or, it could come from the Latin for "of the sun", "solaris". That's because it was probably the brightest room.

Today, we can have **solar** panels on the roof of a house to produce energy from the sun.





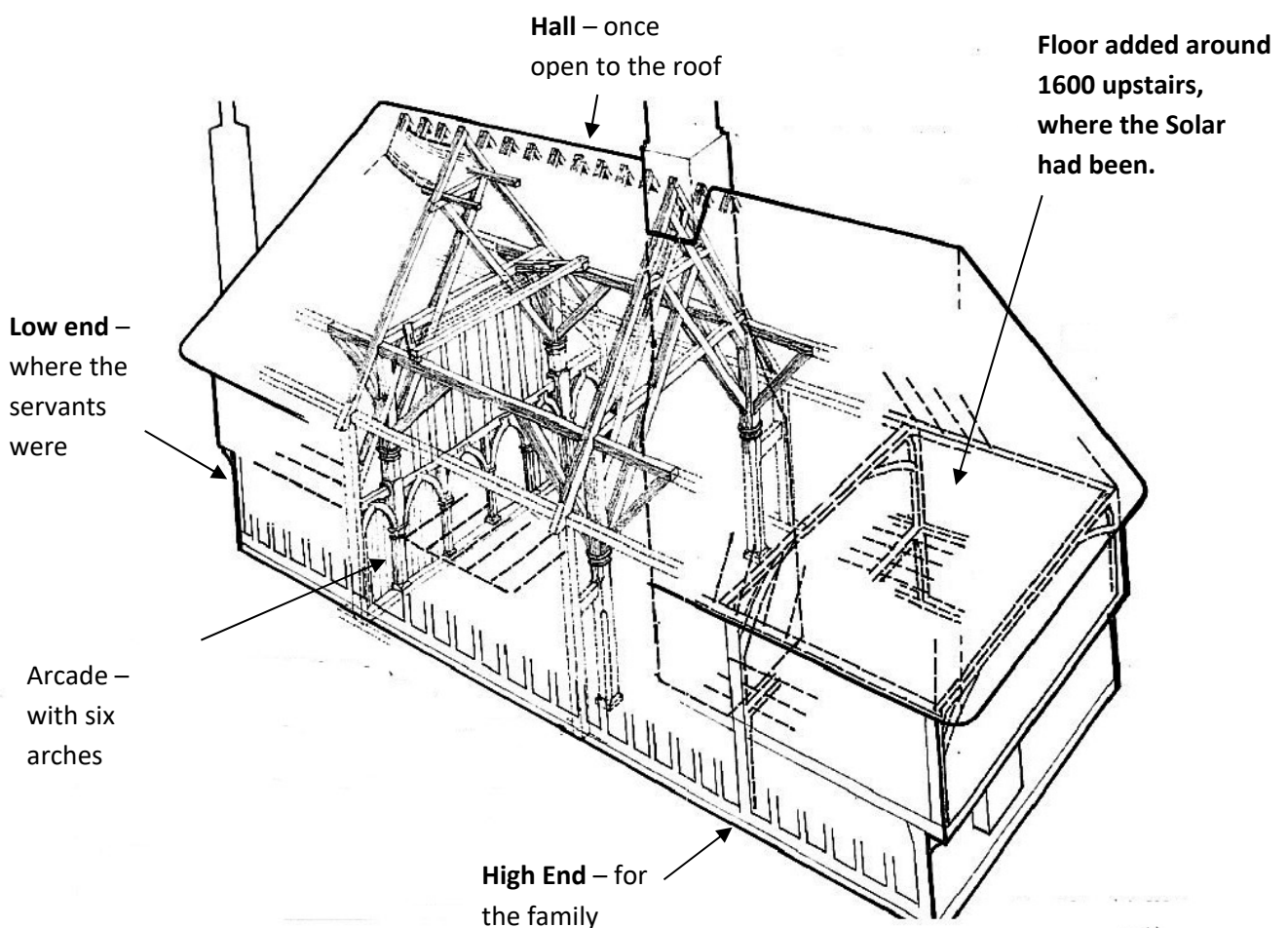
This is a timeline to help you think about how very old Purton Green is:



Purton Green was built in three main stages.

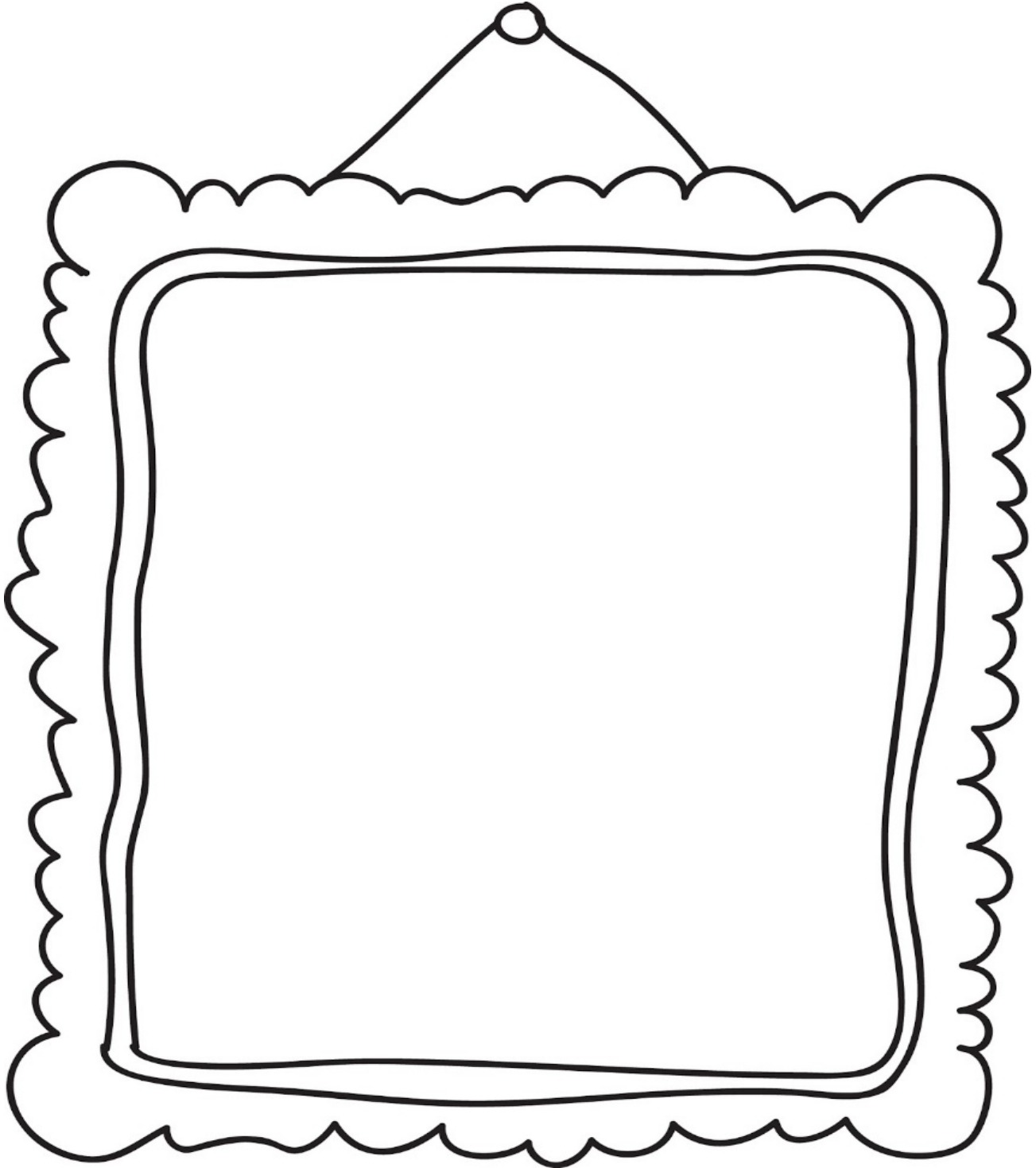
1. 1250-80 All the walls and roofs and timber frame – but no chimneys! There probably were two upper rooms at each end.
2. 1400-50 Outer walls rebuilt inside old for extra height.
3. 1600 Now a well-off farmhouse. Chimney added and floor added at the High End.

Can you work out roughly where you are sitting now? Put a X to show where you are.





Buildings are quite easy to draw. They are usually made up from lots of geometric shapes, like squares, triangles and circles. **Have a go at drawing any side of Purton Green.**



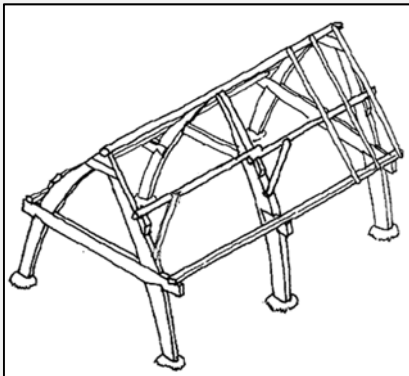


What is Purton Green built from?

Fact:

The simplest house frame was a Cruck. A curved tree was cut in two pieces along its length. You needed one cruck at each end of the building and one in the middle. This created your frame, which you then added to and filled in with mud walls and a straw thatched roof.

A Cruck frame was quick to build but it had not much room upstairs.



Purton Green is built with a wooden frame. Buildings with wooden frames are quite rare today. Most were pulled down to make way for more modern building. They caught fire easily too. Timber houses were quick and cheap to build (timber is wood used for building).

The timber from Oak trees was the best for building because it is very hard. Oak is a common tree in Britain, and it was grown especially to supply timber for building – not just houses but ships too. You can still see big oak trees in the countryside today. They look like this, and they have wiggly leaves and acorns in the autumn.



Next time you go for a walk, see if you can spot one.

People who work with wood are called carpenters.

Over time, timber framed houses started to look more like boxes, with a triangle for the roof. People wanted to have proper rooms upstairs.

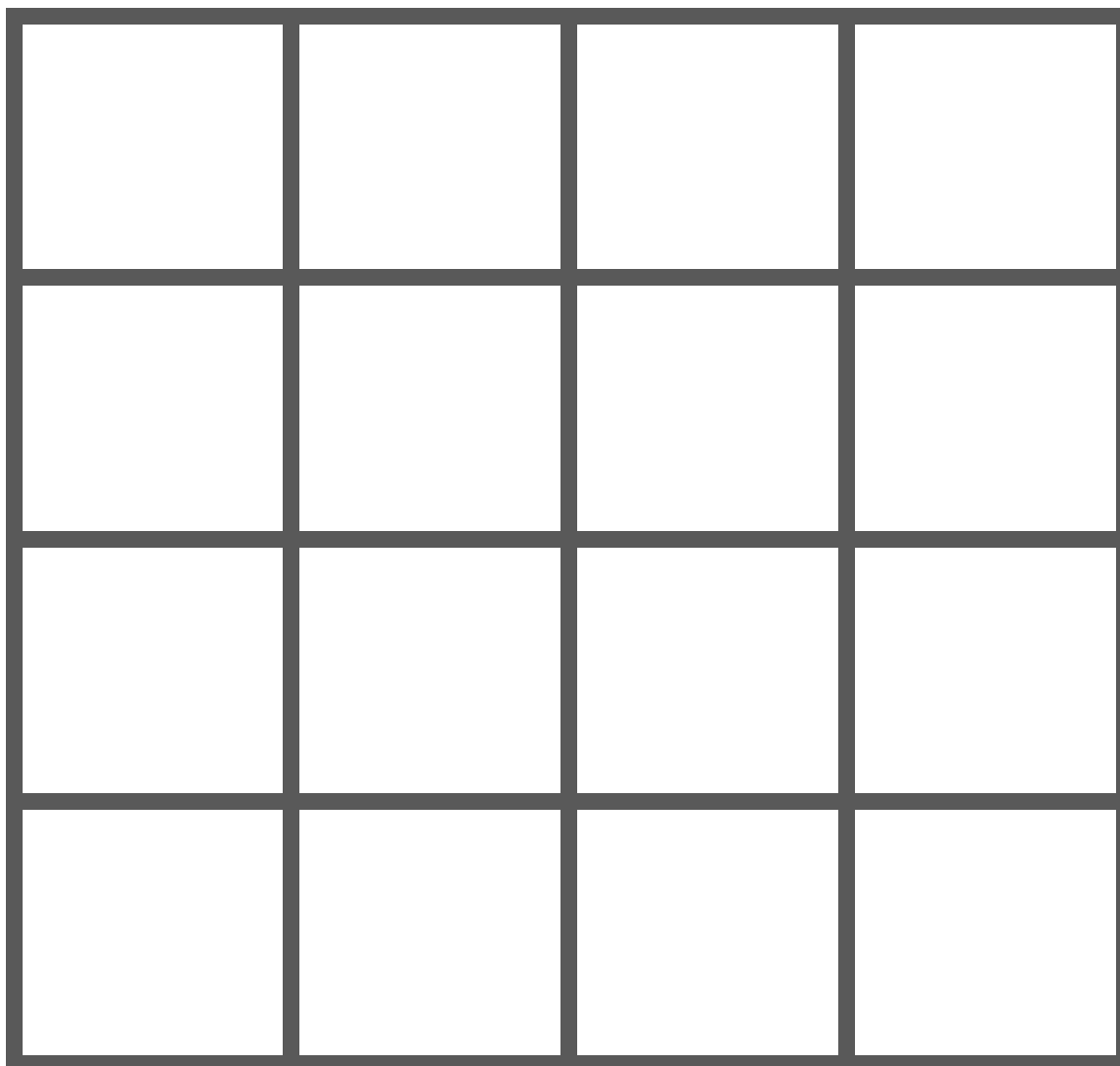
This is a picture of Langley Gatehouse, also owned by Landmark. The carpenter has made lovely patterns inside the basic box frame as decoration (say 'dec-or-ayshun').





The walls between the sections of timber frame were made of mud, with bits of straw and perhaps a bit of cow or horse poo! Smelly, eh.

If the grid below is your timber frame – design a pattern to make it more decorative. The carpenters were clever people and could make curves out of straight pieces of wood – so you can be as creative as you like! You can add windows and doors if you like.



Stone

Glass

What other building materials can you find outside and inside Purton Green?

Wood

Plastic

Circle what you can see and say where you found them.

Metal

Clay

Flint

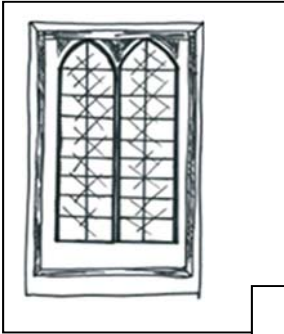
Concrete

Brick

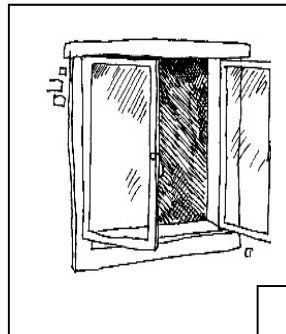
Ceramic



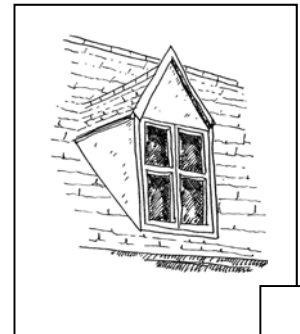
The size and shape of windows tells you a lot about the age and style of the building. What type of windows does Purton Green have?



Fixed Picture



Casement

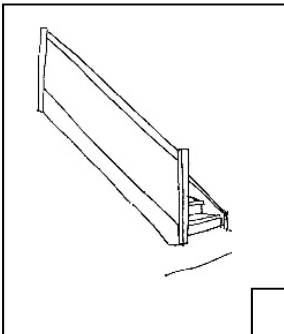


Dormer or attic

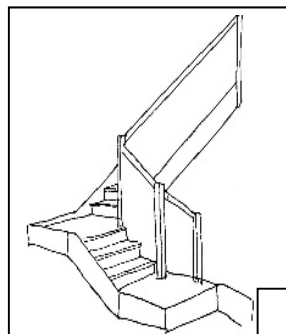
Fact:

Have you seen that in some very old buildings the windows don't open? Imagine how hot it got in the summer! When the casement window was invented it was the first type of window to open.

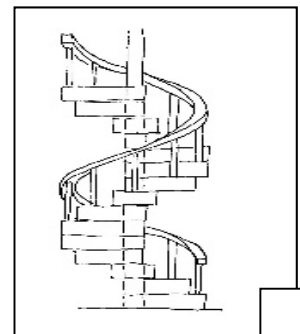
There are many different styles of staircases. Which style is closest to the old staircase at Purton Green?



Straight

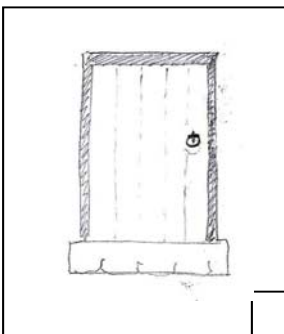


Quarter turn

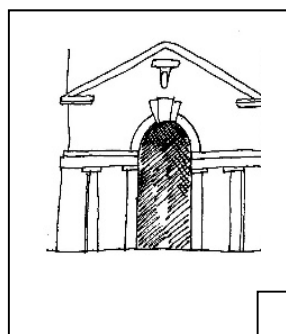


Spiral

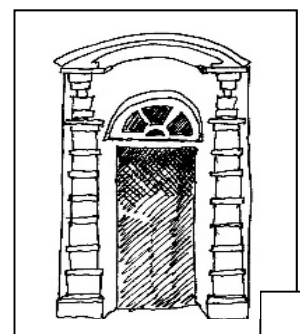
Entrances can be grand or simple. Which front door is most like the one at Purton Green?



Vernacular



Porch



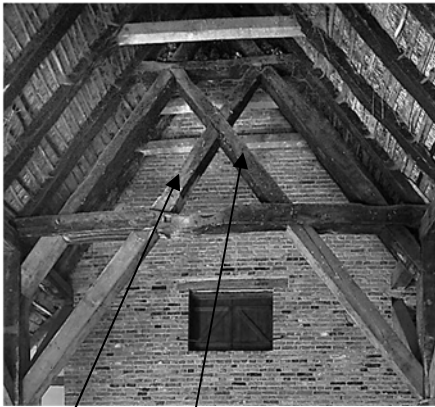
Canopy

Quest



Discover more about Purton Green

Purton Green has been here for over 700 years. Follow this Quest to discover more about it. In that time, the building has got a little smaller and taller. Walls and floors have been replaced and the central hall is open again as it was over 700 years ago! The difference is you don't have to sit on the floor around an open fire anymore



Passing or scissor braces

Look up at the ceiling in the hall. Can you see where the beams cross each other? These are called **passing braces** or **scissor braces**. They support the roof **truss** (the frame). The passing braces make this roof very special because they are original. Houses built just 100 or so years later no longer had this style of frame.

How many sets of passing braces do you see?

At the Low End, how many arches can you see in the arcade? _____ . Originally, there were six. These were discovered when Landmark restored the building – they had been covered up for centuries!

Have you seen how the upper storey extends beyond the ground floor at both ends of Purton Green? This is called a **jetty**. This happened around 1400 at the Low End and 1600 at the High End, when the rooms upstairs were made bigger. The beams you see outside the building are the supporting beams for the floor inside.



Jetty



Can you find this section of carved wood? Which room is it in? _____

What shape do you see carved at the very top? _____. Draw the shape here:

This is a carved **lintel** discovered by Landmark during the restoration in 1970. It was above the fireplace of the chimney added around 1600.

Fact:

Lintel – is a long piece of wood or stone at the top of a window or door or fireplace. It supports the wall above.

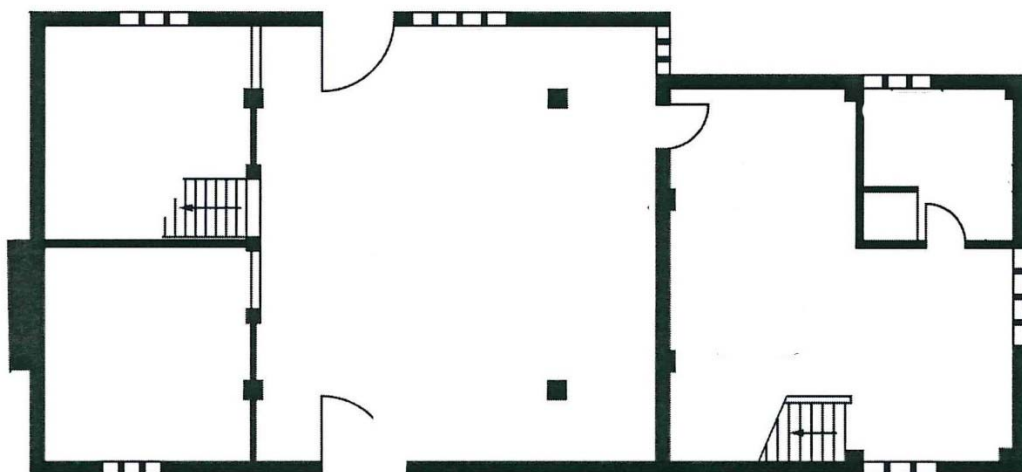
Today many lintels are made of steel or concrete.



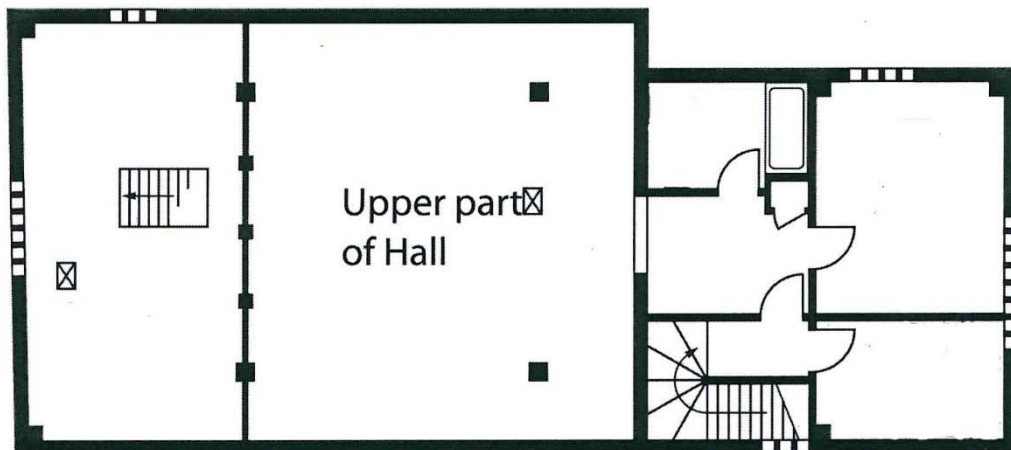
Living in Purton Green

The floorplan of a building is a map of the rooms. Purton Green has two floors. The plan below shows you the shape of them. Take a walk around and write on the plan what each room is used for.

Ground floor



First floor



We use these symbols to show where beds, tables and bathrooms are. Draw the symbols on to the floorplans to show where the furniture is.



Bed



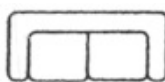
Rectangular (or a round) table



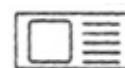
Bathroom



Cooker



Sofa



Kitchen sink



Can you find an example of each of these things inside Purton Green. Describe, or draw the object when you find it.

Your favourite piece of furniture

Your favourite window

Draw the pattern of a rug on the floor

Why not draw your own design for a timber frame house in the box below. You can start with an A shaped frame and add beams for support.

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for drawing a timber frame house design.



Can you answer these questions correctly?

1. What is Purton Green made of?

Bricks

Wood

Stone

Straw

2. How old is Purton Green?

100 years

500 years

50 years

Over 700 years

3. What is a stile?

A fashion design

Ladder

A walking stick

Steps in a fence for
walkers but not
animals

4. Which one of these foods is not made from milk?

Rice

Cheese

Butter

Cream

5. Who was on the throne when Lizzie lived at Purton Green?

George I

Edward I

Edward II

George II

6. Which of the following would you not find at Purton Green

Flagstones

Beams

Brick

Turret

7. On which type of farm would you only grow crops?

Mixed

Rubble

Arable

Livestock

8. What is a female sheep called?

Mutton

Ewe

Lamb

Ram

9. Which of these names has a King of England not had?

George

Baldrick

James

Charles

10. In which county is Purton Green?

Norfolk

Shropshire

Suffolk

Surrey

To find the answers skip two pages...



Colour in the pheasant below

You can look up the pheasant in the Bird Book in the Landmark bookcase to copy the colours if you wish.

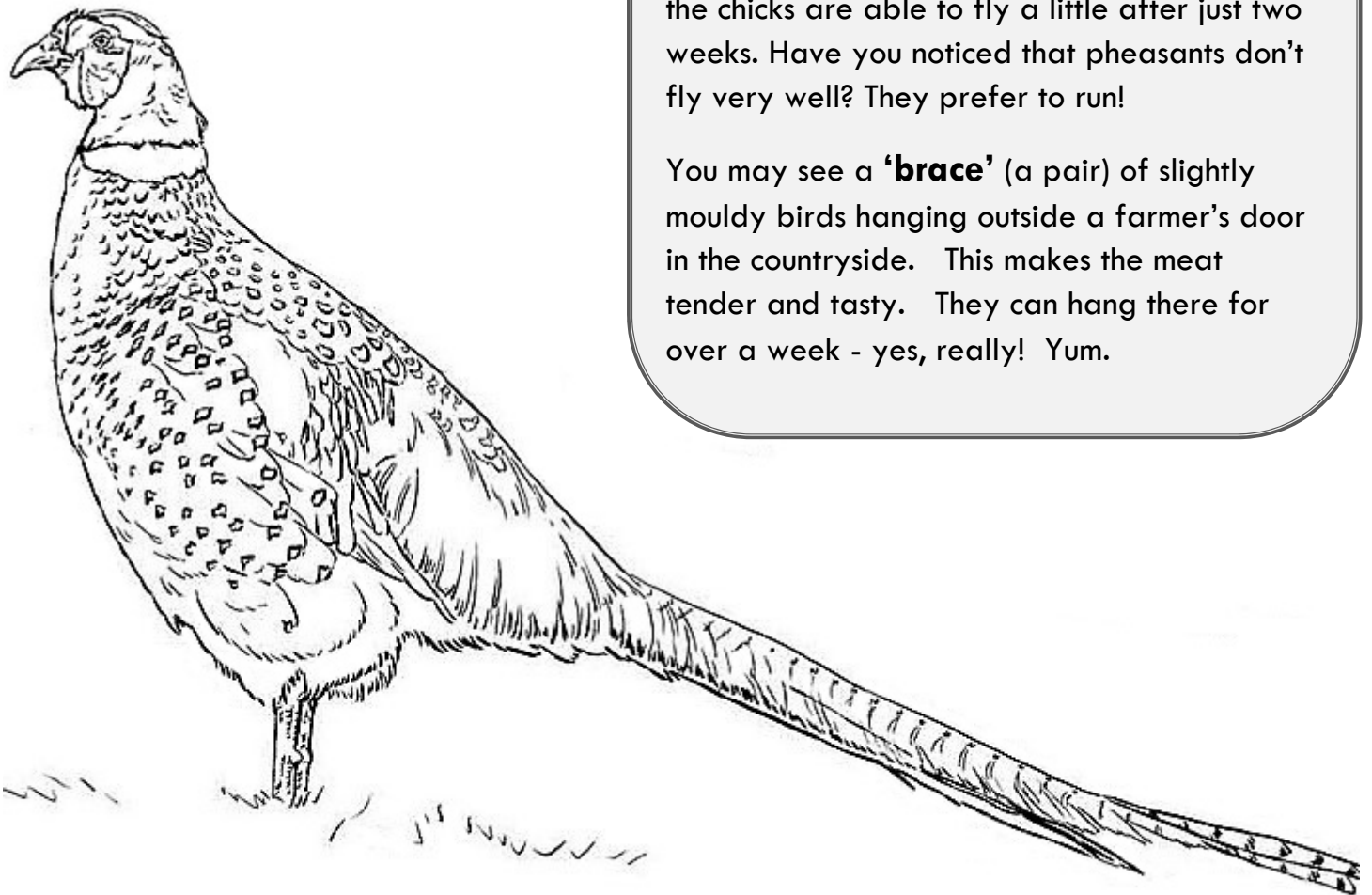
Pheasant Facts:

Common pheasants are bred to be shot during the shooting season, October 1 to February 1. They were brought to Europe from Asia many centuries ago.

The male is the colourful character with a greenish black head and red cheeks. The female (hen) is a bit boring looking! She's a beige-brown colour with darker spots.

There are usually 10-12 eggs in a clutch and the chicks are able to fly a little after just two weeks. Have you noticed that pheasants don't fly very well? They prefer to run!

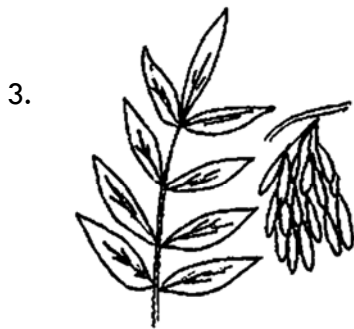
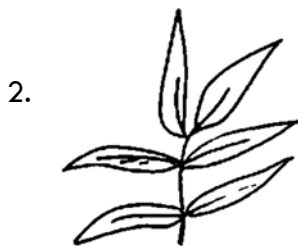
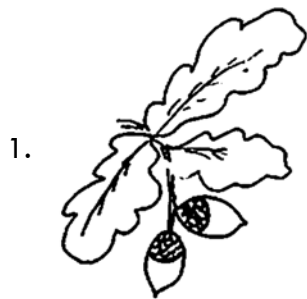
You may see a **'brace'** (a pair) of slightly mouldy birds hanging outside a farmer's door in the countryside. This makes the meat tender and tasty. They can hang there for over a week - yes, really! Yum.





Which leaf belongs to which tree?

Match the leaf to the correct tree.



Horse Chestnut

Willow

Pine

Ash

Oak

Did you match them correctly? Put your score in the box.

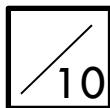


Answer sheet:

Quiz answers:

1. Wood
2. Over 700 years
3. Steps in a fence
4. Rice
5. Edward I
6. Turret
7. Arable
8. Ewe
9. Baldrick
10. Suffolk

How many did you get right?





Purton Green Word Search

Now have a go at the word search. Think about different parts of the building and landscape when filling in the word search. The words to find are at the bottom of the page.

K	C	R	U	C	K	F	R	A	M	E	P
C	W	E	N	O	T	S	G	A	L	F	A
I	I	H	T	U	O	T	T	I	L	E	S
T	O	P	E	R	X	I	Y	D	M	T	T
S	T	A	C	E	G	L	L	A	R	B	U
E	M	N	A	W	L	E	E	E	M	D	R
L	T	A	L	E	I	B	A	U	X	C	E
D	N	F	P	F	M	M	A	T	C	Q	Y
N	A	R	E	E	E	F	R	R	O	O	F
A	S	E	R	N	W	T	A	F	R	R	W
C	A	T	I	C	A	U	B	K	Z	O	A
V	E	F	F	E	S	B	L	V	D	A	W
T	H	A	T	C	H	C	E	N	M	K	T
F	P	R	Q	P	Z	N	I	A	R	G	O
S	H	E	E	P	D	W	O	N	K	Y	W

LIMEWASH

SHEEP

BEAM

CANDLESTICK

PASTURE

EWE

RAFTER

FIREPLACE

TILES

FLAGSTONE

STREAM

COW

CRUCK FRAME

OAK

ROOF

STILE

WHEELBARROW

PHEASANT

WINDOW

FIELD

FENCE

ARABLE

THATCH

GRAIN

How many of these words did you find? Put your score in the box.

/
24

Create

Design your own coat of arms

Each knight had a coat of arms which they wore on their armour, on their shield or on a banner. The coat of arms belonged to their family and was used to identify the knight in a battle or when fighting in a tournament. With a helmet on, you couldn't see a person's face and a battle was very confusing. The designs were made by people called heralds. Each pattern and symbol had its own meaning and name.

Each knight had a slightly different design based on whether they were the first (or second etc.) son in the family and who they married.

In the space below design your own shield. Use the herald's list to help you. Use your imagination and draw something that you feel describes you!



Bars = Religion and honour	Pale = Military Strength	Fess = Honour	Bend = Defence	Bendlets = Protection
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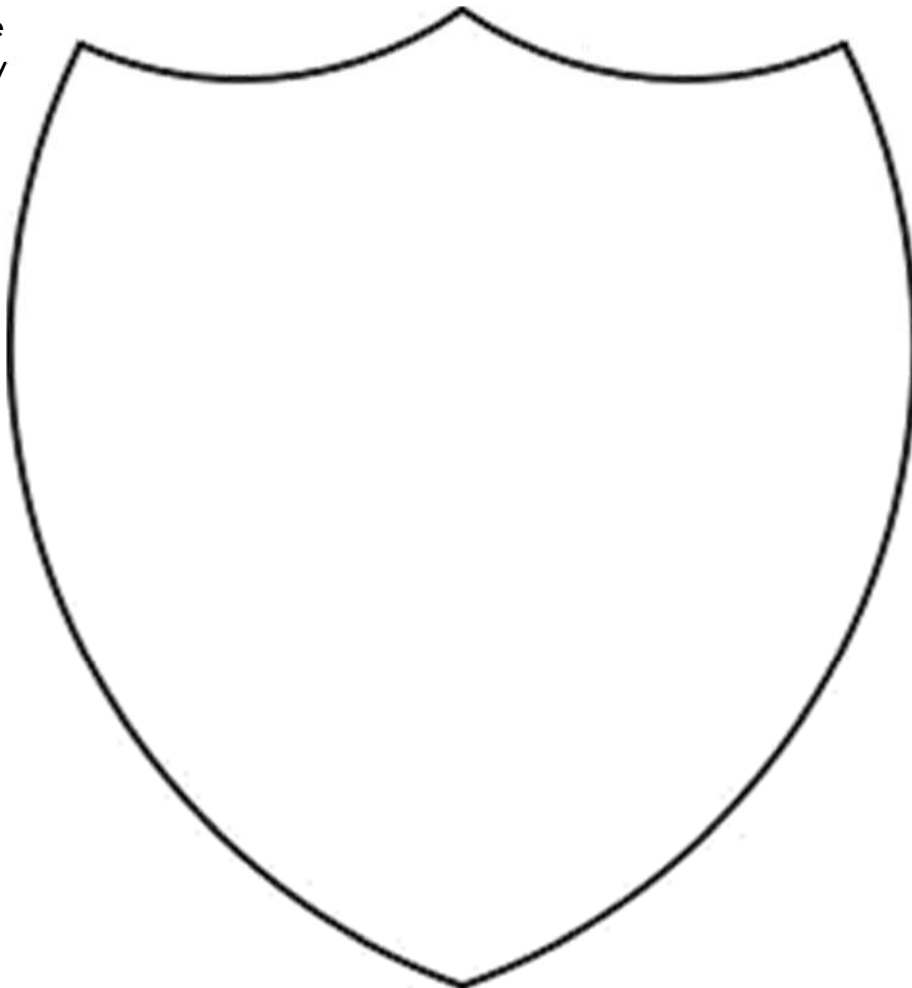
Label = First son	Crescent = Second son	Mullet = Third son	Martlett = Fourth son	Annulat = Fifth son
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Fleur de lis = Sixth son	Rose = Seventh son	Cross moline = Eighth son	Octofoil = Ninth son
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What colours will you use?

- Purple = Purpure
- Orange = Tawny
- Black = Sable
- Green = Vert
- Blue = Azure
- Red = Gules
- Gold = Or





Bake a honey cake

In medieval times cakes were very simple. People either bought the ingredients in a market or grew their own. Honey was used to make things sweeter as sugar came from the Middle East (and later Europe) and was very expensive.

Here's a simple recipe for you to try. You might need the help of an adult.

250g clear honey, plus extra 2 tbsp to glaze	100g dark muscovado sugar
225g unsalted butter	3 large eggs, beaten
	300g self-raising flour

Remember to pre-heat the oven: fan 140 °C or electric 160 °C: Gas 3

- Butter a 20cm round cake tin and line it with baking paper
- Cut the butter into pieces and drop them into a medium pan with the honey and the sugar, let it melt slowly
- When the mixture looks like liquid, turn up the heat under the pan and boil for about 1 minute
- Leave to cool for 15-20 minutes (important - this stops the eggs cooking when they are mixed in!)
- Beat the eggs into the melted honey mixture using a wooden spoon
- Sift the flour into a large bowl and pour in the egg and honey mixture. Beat until you have a smooth, quite runny batter
- Pour the mixture into the cake tin and bake for 50-60 minutes. You can tell it's ready as it will be golden brown and spring back when pressed. Push a skewer into the centre of the cake and it should come out clean.
- Turn the cake out on a wire rack
- Warm 2tbsp honey in a small pan and brush over the top of the cake to give it a sticky glaze, then leave it to cool.
- If you want, serve with vanilla ice cream! This is making me feel hungry...



Colour in this picture of a medieval scene.

