

Upleadon Village Survey

Upleadon is a small village, characterised by scattered outlying farms and cottages and a village core where there was development in the post war period until the 1980's, some of which replaced older buildings. Since then there have been modernisations and extensions but no new build. The housing erected in the 60's and 70's was rather suburban in style, mitigated in part by plots large enough to allow alterations and the planting of trees and hedges.

Serial vision

We decided to start by surveying the two main/longest routes into the village which pass through agricultural land, pasture and arable, ending at the cross roads in the centre . After a pause for a variety of reasons we surveyed the two remaining routes which have a somewhat different character as woodland is a main feature of one of these routes and a feature of the other. Four factors emerged from this survey.

Firstly the importance of hedges in our landscape, both surrounding the farmland and within the residential areas of the village.

Secondly the number of mature trees in the landscape, predominately oak and ash as well as the extensive area of mixed woodland to the north.

Thirdly the number of scattered clusters of housing in addition to farmsteads and isolated cottages outside the settlement boundary.

Fourthly the wide variety of architectural styles including half-timbered, rendered, bricks of varying hues and the random orientations of the various properties.

Overall it has been an interesting exercise. Although it did not highlight anything we did not already know, it did consolidate this knowledge and put into words what we knew but had never had to express before. This has enabled us to highlight points which may not be obvious to an outsider.