

THIS IS THE WHITE HOUSE

Aston Munslow, Shropshire



It was the Saxon Manor of Estune
Held by Lord Elmund in 1042 AD.

After the Norman Conquest the King kept Estune for himself with under Lords in charge.

In 1272 early members of the Stedman family had arrived as far north as Corfton — in 1335 AD they bought a large part of the Estune Estate including the dwelling house, where they have resided in direct succession until 1946.

From this Homestead Stedmans are now spread to all quarters of the Globe. Wherever they may be they look to this stronghold of home life with deep affection and respect.

Great occasions of National Rejoicing are heralded by the majestic peals of Stedman — every Christmas morning is greeted by the messengers of Peace and Joy, that Fabian Stedman originated in the latter part of the 1600's. Fabian's father was born in this home. Parties of bell ringers come to spend their annual outing here to picnic in the garden, and by arrangement can have the ancestry of Fabian explained.



The North-West Aspect in afternoon sunlight

Oh! But where is the house where all this family lived for over 600 years? This jumble of different periods, can't be a Norman House — an elegant Cruck Hall, with a Spere Truss and Passage — No sign of kitchen or cooking unless that funny little square place with a sloping roof could be a Bake Oven.

It's too complicated for me — we must have a Guide and go inside to learn about it! There's no extra charge! What an interesting place it is — not being asked for extra money at every turn!

What is that round thing like a ruined tower on the lawn — Come on there are boards with writing on — Oh! What a good swan — I will find out how old he is.

That board directs the way to another picnic area — lots of seats about. Looks as though it were prepared for a Party — Oh, look, you can see the lane from here — why there is a big coach just stopping at the gate! How nice to see these Helpers coming down from the House to meet their Guests!

This seems to me to be different to most places — it's the visitors that get the thought. Surely there must be a donation box somewhere — £1 isn't enough for what we are getting and we haven't been inside yet!!



The Buildings around are of various dates and for different functions. The long barn now known as the Stable Block, started life as a house in 1580 – it then had a single open bay and a passage with steps down into the lane. The end bay as we see it is as it was built in 1680, every detail of its structure original. Coach House somewhat altered with Granary above nevertheless its purpose is the same.

Tool section in the Stable Block has Implements and Tools used on the estate during the Stedman occupation.

The Cider House completely equipped for making Cider as it was done in 1978 during the filming of 'Anne Hughes' Diary'. Anne and her maid Sarah made butter in the Dairy. Baked loaves in the Bake Oven and the Washer Woman did the washing in our Wash House. It was all such fun! Even if the work was hard and days long. This old house was so happy – those weeks we lived in the 16th century!!

This 6½ acres of Saxon Home Life in these modern days is unique, for not only the House and all around are made from the materials from the ground – produced from the earth upon which they stand – and that earth – Trees – Grass – Hedges – Gardens – Lawns have not had a chemical spray throughout History. We are Jealous for its preservation!

A visitor last autumn standing in silent awe at the Newton Wonder Apple Tree before picking had started – was heard to murmur – 'And not a single spray!!' These apples are still a picture of beauty.

An oasis of reality of life of past ages in its natural environment – serving the Present – passing on to the Future.



THE
WHITE HOUSE
DOVECOTE
on the front
lawn.
Listed as an
Ancient
Monument.

Internal photo-
graphs prohibited.
External is permit-
ted if not for com-
mercial purposes.

ADMISSION:

House and Museum: Adults £1, Child 50p.

Museum only: Adults 50p, Child 30p

OPEN from Saturday 2 April to Saturday 29 October.

Saturday and Wednesday

11 am – 5.00 pm each week

Bank Holiday Weeks

11 am – 5.00 pm Mon, Tues, Wed, Sat

May Day – 2 May

11 am – 5.00 pm

2-July – 15 September

11 am – 5.00 pm open Thursday

Adult Architectural and Educational courses welcomed – parties by prior arrangement only.

Written enquiries to The
White House enclosing
s.a.e.

Much Wenlock—
Ludlow road —
B4368

200 yards from Swan Inn

**FREE CAR PARK
TOILETS
PICNIC AREA**

