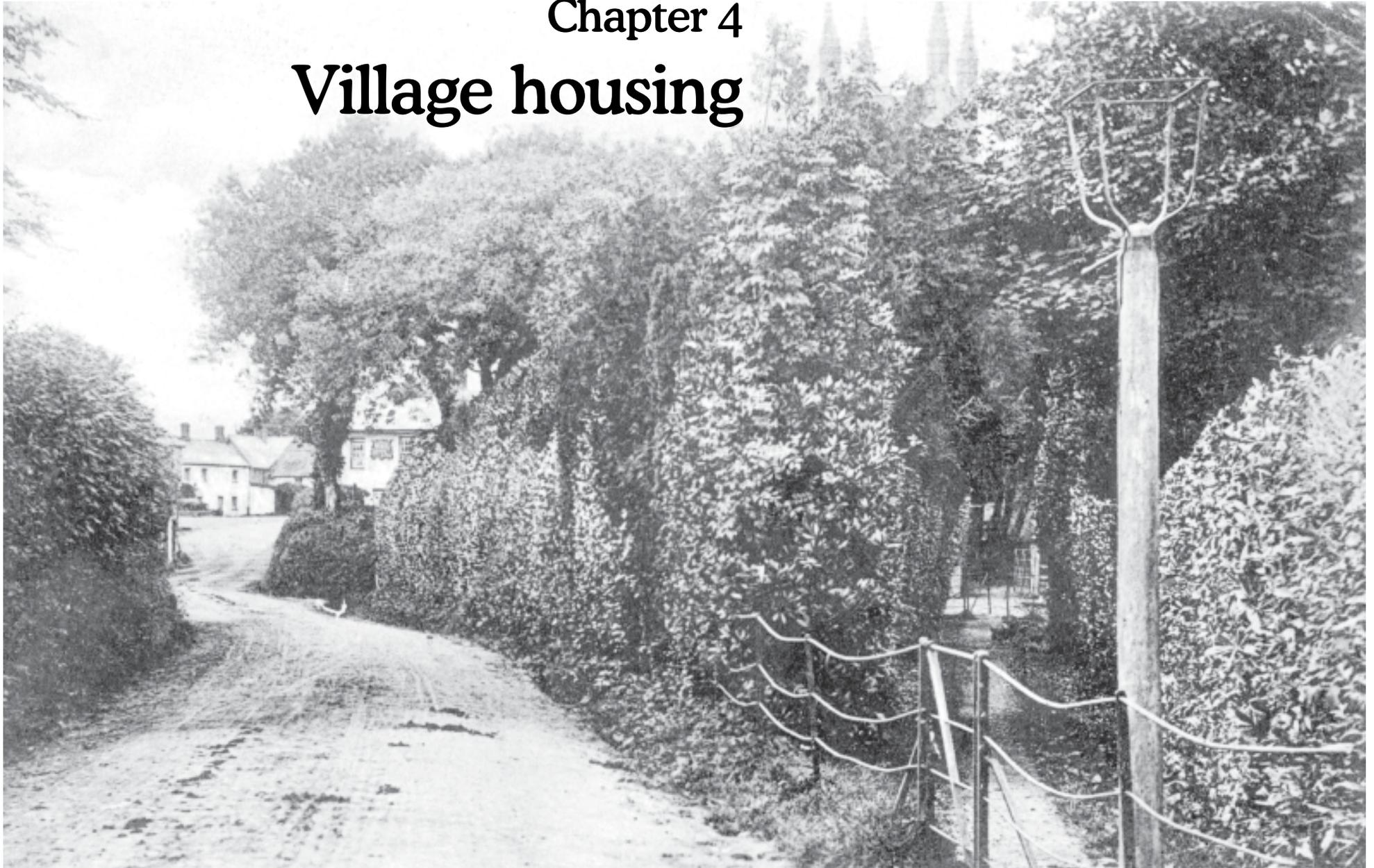


Chapter 4

Village housing



Holsworthy Road, where 'Janaleen' now stands, in 1915.



Cottages in Lower Village circa 1910.



The school house on Mill Road in the 1900's.



Ford Crescent in the early 1990's.



The entrance to the village from the Holsworthy Road in the early 1990's.



Manor Park in the early 1990's.

Housing development

Mr. W. Beckly of Hamsworthy was the main builder in Bradworthy up to 1930. Very few new houses were built in the village during the first two decades of the century, but some shops were constructed and many old cottages were improved.

Between 1920 and 1930 W. Beckly built four new houses as grants became available. Again, more cottages were improved and most thatched roofs were replaced with slate.

A number of farm buildings were also erected. Between 1930 and

1922	Billiard Room
1922-23	Men's Institute
1922-23	Trebarwick
1924-25	Cory's butchers shop and house
1925-26	Lew bungalow
1927	Beechwood (for A. Roberts)
1927	Wickett's Garage and Power Station



Staff of Beckly & Sons circa 1930. Back Row: W. Bond, H. Mills, W. Cann, G. Jones. Front Row: F. Beckly, C. Kinsman, C. Johns, W. Beckly, R. Jewell, W. Jennings.



Staff of W.A. Beckly, Builder in 1926. A. Slee, S. Ham, F. Slee, D. Slee, L. Slee, F. Slee, A. Roberts, Mr. Yeo.

1934 Becklys carried on with mainly restoration work.

In 1934 Mr. A. Roberts of Bradworthy and Mr. G. Jones of Sutcombe set up as Messrs Roberts and Jones, and were to be the main builders until they retired in 1975.

Up to 1939 they built six new houses, erected several farm buildings and also undertook repairs and drainage work. During the 1939-45 War some of their staff joined the Forces, the rest were kept busy constructing blackouts, repairs and farm buildings. Two agricultural cottages were constructed in Mill Road during the War.



North Road in the 1930's.

After 1945 Roberts and Jones built several houses in the area, but most of their work involved improving farm buildings, attaching water supplies to the mains, and general improvements.

1936	Old Police House
1937	School bell & turret were dismantled
1938	Blissland (for Mrs. Hockins)
1938	Sunways (for Mr. G. Balsdon)
1943-44	Two agricultural cottages in Mill Road
1946-47	Cottage at Instaple
1953	Bungalow in Berridon Road
1969-70	Ashdene (for Mr. J. Cann)
1971	Bungalow at Wrangworthy
1972	Hillcrest bungalow (for Mr. K. Prance)

The first two Council houses were built in 1944. The council housing estate at Tucker's Park began with fourteen Cornish Unit houses in 1948 - by 1970 there were forty.

Up to 1975 about forty more houses were built, mostly by outside builders.

Since then Alan Balsdon has built over seventy houses in the village - at Manor Park (12), Ford Crescent (30), and St. John's Drive (24).



Tucker's Park in 1950.

The Torrridge District Council has asked the Parish Council for its observations upon a nomination for the residential development in Bradworthy. Accordingly the Council has requested that the site be known as 'Manor Park' (November 1978)

Development of the Langdon Road Industrial Estate started in 1980, where over twenty houses have been built.

More recently, eight houses have been constructed in Elizabeth Lea Close.

The new council houses in Tucker's Park, North Road, are ready for occupation this month (the first four were occupied in April). The old name of the field, Tucker's Park, is being retained and designated to the new housing estate. Thus will the name of one of Bradworthy's old families, now extinct, be perpetuated in this modern extension of the village. The Tuckers appear in the earliest records and one of the houses which stood on the site of the present Wade's Hotel was known as Tucker's House and Tenement. (July 1948)

Since 1970 a number of houses have also been built along North Road (6), Mill Road (5), Holsworthy Road (3), and in Lower Village (5).

In 1985 Bradworthy was downgraded to 'Intermediate Status' within the Rural Development Scheme.

Houses of note

Blatchborough

This estate dates from Norman times. For centuries

In the evening Capt. and Mrs. Lockyer kindly opened the lovely grounds. There is an aviary, where several varieties of rare birds are kept. The great attraction however, was the model railway, on which many enjoyed the novel experience of travelling 'by train' around the grounds, fir grove and gardens. The track which runs around the grounds is 380 yards in length. There are two locomotives. One is a replica in miniature of an English express, and the other - the latest - is a working scale model of a giant goods engine which is in use on the Chesapeake-Ohio Railway, USA. Both were built entirely by Capt. Lockyer, who even fashions each component in his workshop. He

works on the models in the winter, and the American model has taken him six years to construct. It weighs 200lbs, measures over 5 feet in length, and will draw nine people. Anthracite coal is used and the engine can maintain a speed of five miles per hour. Capt. Lockyer's latest model cost him something around £200 and the track costs about 2s a yard to lay. This railway is a marvellous example of Capt. Lockyer's engineering skill. The beautiful model engine was built entirely by himself, and took years to perfect. It develops sufficient power to draw seven or eight people. (August 1937)

WEST DOWN RAILWAY	
SYNOPSIS OF ROUTE	
1. Home Straight	6. Boggy Straight
2. Grove of the Gods	7. Wood Gradient
3. Daffodil Curve	8. Measured Mile
4. Dead Man's Gulch	9. Greenhouse Curve
5. Cyprus Tunnel	10. Garden Gradient
	11. Grove of the Gods

FARE 6d.



West Down House.

much of the Blatchborough lands belonged to the county family of Calmady. The small mansion adjoining South Blatchborough farmhouse was built about 1822, as the dowry of a Calmady daughter who had married Charles Henry Hotchkys.

present dwelling is the best preserved old house in the parish. The older part is believed to date from the 14th century. It was held by the Tyrels. The Ashton family has owned it for nearly 200 years.



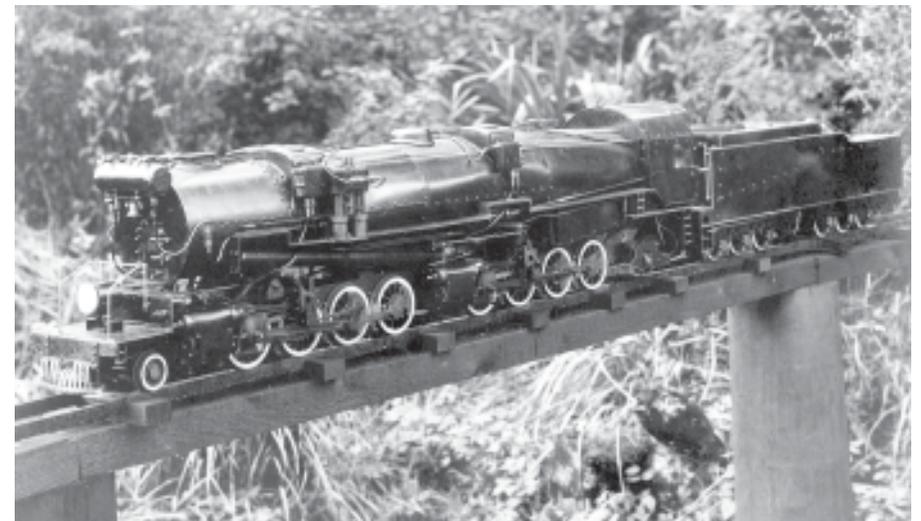
Berridon Hall.

Vicarage

The former vicarage is mainly Georgian and stands on the site of an older house.

Lower Alfordisworthy

This was a Domesday manor. The



Captain Lockyer's railway in the 1940's at West Down House.



Cleverdon.

Cleverdon House

Residence and surgery of Bradworthy doctors for well over a century. The present house appears to be mainly Georgian and was the home of Mrs. Eliza Langdon (1809-1848) who left the Langdon Charity to the parish. Cleverdon Barton was probably the home farm of the manor.



Lympscott Farmhouse in 1965.

Lympscott

Lympscott appears in very early records and is referred to as 'a mansion' in the 17th century lawsuit which followed the death, intestate, in 1681, of Abraham Hayman, a merchant and an alderman of Bideford. The Wren family are said to have been

mainly responsible for the present appearance of the house. It was said to have been haunted by a clergyman named Comber, who lived there last century, and was Vicar of Welcombe.

West Down House and Berridon Hall

These are small mansions, owing their present structural layout mainly to the Wren family, as also does Lympscott.



Blatchborough.



Lower Alfordisworthy.