

Gazetteer 1 West of Hereford City: Stretton Sugwas, Herefordshire

Key to Abbreviations:

CMH	Cider Museum, Hereford	NA	National Archives
GRO	Gloucestershire Record Office	NGR	National Grid Reference
HJ	Hereford Journal	NMR	National Monuments Record
HM	Herefordshire Museums	VCH	Victoria County History
HT	Hereford Times	WCT	Woolhope Club Transactions

No. of orchards on tithe award & map		34	
Majority just called 'The Orchard' - no indications of fruit type etc.			
No of orchards on OS 1st ed. map (1889)	31	No of orchards on OS 6 inch map (1950)	19
No of orchards on OS 2nd ed. map (1905)	30	No of orchards on T.O. Map (2013)	9
Primary Sources: Deeds, Wills etc.			
HRO AW28/32/55-28/34/15	Deeds relating to the manor of Stretton Sugwas (Stretton Court Farm estate held by Guys Hospital) – 1638-1788 frequent refs to orchards		
HRO AW28/37/1	deed re. Longlands ditch orchard Stretton Sugwas - 1783		
HRO C99/III/203	Deed re. the Cross House at Stretton Sugwas mentions orchard - 1723		
HRO C99/III/206	Deed re. Cross House at Stretton Sugwas mentions barn & orchard - 1763		
Primary Sources: Estate, tithe maps & plans			
HRO C99/III/216	Survey of Stretton Court – 1757 (extremely detailed perspective plan shows Stretton Court surrounded by orchards)		
HRO C99/III/218	Survey of Stretton Court – 1794		
HRO C99/III/246	Survey of Stretton Court estate - 1805		
HRO C99/III/292	Stretton Court estate plan – 1841		
HRO C99/III/293	Plan of Stretton Court Farm estate – 1841		
Bodleian Library	Ref. Johnson b.62(81)Plan of the Sugwas Court estate - 1845		
HRO C99/III/225	Plan of Stretton Sugwas Court Farm estate – 1852		
Primary Sources: Sale Catalogues, Inventories & Land Valuation Surveys			
Hereford Cathedral Library	Davies Coll. AB/51 - Sugwas Court - Sale catalogue - 1845		

HRO	Sugwas Court Sale Catalogue – 1878	
NA IR 58/38613-38615	<p>Land valuation survey field books for Stretton Sugwas and Breinton</p> <p>Frequent refs to orchards and buildings associated with the orchard industry at Stretton Sugwas including the following:</p> <p>Ref to fruit trees worth £3 at Blacksmith Shop; fruit trees (cider) worth £20 at The Lakes.</p> <p>Ref. to £12 worth (2 orchards) of fruit trees at Sugwas Pool</p> <p>Ref. to fruit trees worth £10 at The Elms, Swainshill;</p> <p>Ref. 6 acres of rough planted fruit trees worth £500 at Sugwas Farm.</p> <p>Ref. to fruit trees worth £20 at Stretton Rectory.</p>	
GRO D2299/2320	Veldiver Farm Stretton Sugwas, Sales particulars and plan - 1920	
NMR SA02026	Sale Catalogue of Guy's Hospital estate including Stretton Court Farm – 1960	
Illustrations (engravings etc) & Photographic Records (incl. aerials)		
HM	James Wathen Collection (1770-1820) includes sketch of Sugwas Court house and park in 1787 (Whitehead, 2001, 350)	
HM	Brian Hatton Collection (Painting of Wye by Sugwas)	
Cider Museum, Hereford	<p>Collection of early 20th c. photographs of cider mills at Cider Museum Hereford includes the following:</p> <p>CMH N136/2 – single screw press at Kite's Nest</p> <p>CMH N136/3 – 4 photo of stone cider mill at Kites Nest</p> <p>CMH N131/11 - Veldifer Farm photo of stone mill</p> <p>CMH N131/12 Travellers Rest photo of mill runner</p> <p>CMH N131/13 Sugwas Farm disused chase segments used as salmon leaps</p> <p>CMH R578/1-2 G – photos of orchard spraying demonstration (late 1940s).</p>	
Herefordshire HER and NMR	Large collection of aerial photographs from 1940s to present	
Secondary Sources: Antiquarian Accounts, Trade Directories etc.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Post Office Directory of Herefordshire</i> (1856) p92: 'famous cider & perry of superior flavour'. • Bull, <i>Apple and Pear as vintage fruits</i> (1886), 239 'Sugwas Kernel, a local variety grown at Sugwas near Hereford but without any great merit'. • Cooke, <i>History and Antiquities of the County of Hereford</i>, Vol. 4 pt 2 (1892), 164, historical account of Sugwas Court • Jakeman & Carver's <i>Directory of Herefordshire</i> (1890) - p.686 – • <i>Kelly's Directory of Herefordshire</i> (1895) - p.166 - (and 1913) - p.190 - mentions 'cider and perry are made here'. produces 'excellent cider and perry' • Whitehead, <i>Survey of Historic Parks and Gardens in Herefordshire</i> (2001), detailed historical account of the Stretton Court estate (346) and the Sugwas Court estate (350-351). 		
Secondary Sources: Articles and Newspaper Cuttings		
CMH	R3	Letter about finding millstones at Stretton Sugwas (by George Marshall c.1920)
HT	26 Apr 1857	Sugwas Court, ref to cider and perry for sale

HT	20 Jun 1857	Sugwas Court ref to sale of cider hairs and casks
HT	1 Dec 1877	Swainshill ref to cider and casks for sale
HT	13 Sep 1879	The Lakes ref to sale of cider mill
HT	17 Jan 1880	The Lakes ref to sale of cider mill
HT	14 Jan 1888	Travellers Rest -Cottage with cider mill to let
HT	16 Nov 1901	Sugwas Court cider fruit for sale
HT	10 Oct 1904	The Elms Swainshill - fruit for sale
HT	13 Oct 1934	The Hollies Swainshill - ref to cider casks for sale
HT	25 May 1935	The Plantation Swainshill - ref to frost affecting cider blossom
HT	13 Apr 1946	The Boat Inn Stretton Sugwas ref to cider casks for sale
<i>The Commercial Grower</i> , Vol. 104 (1947) 474		Account of demonstration of spraying techniques on a newly planted 26-acre cider apple orchard at Sugwas Court Farm
<i>Herefordshire Agricultural Journal</i> (1948)		Article on 'Cider Orchard Restoration in Herefordshire' includes photo of orchard at Sugwas Court Farm
HT	17 Nov 1978	News report on cider making 'the old way' at Kite's Nest
Heritage Assets recorded in HER associated with orchards or orchard industry		
PRN 6302	Deserted medieval settlement W of Stretton Court Farm	(NGR SO 4600 4200)
PRN 7240	Sugwas Court – Site of former medieval palace of bishops of Hereford rebuilt in 1792	(NGR SO 4542 4081)
PRN 31198	Stretton Court Landscape Park – Post Medieval Landscape Park	(NGR SO 4650 4300)
PRN 31200	Sugwas Court Landscape and Deer Park – Medieval and post-medieval landscape park originally attached to palace of Bishops of Hereford at Sugwas Court	(NGR SO 4552 4060)
Assessment of potential for further research and archaeological investigation		
<p>High – There is high potential for further documentary study of the development of orchards and the orchard industry on the vicinity of Stretton Sugwas, aided particularly by the survival of a considerable body of documentation for the Stretton Court farm estate (in the Guys Hospital estate records held at the HRO) dating back to the 17th century.</p> <p>The HRO and Hereford Cathedral Library hold records for the Sugwas Court estate, formerly belonging to the bishops of Hereford, dating back to the medieval period although much of this remains uncatalogued. The 1910 land valuation survey field books in the NA contain frequent references to orchards. A fairly large number of references to orchards and buildings associated with the orchard industry were gleaned from local newspapers and journals and there are collections of photographs of orchards and cider making in the area held at the Cider Museum in Hereford.</p> <p>There are relatively few recorded heritage sites associated with orchard sites within Stretton Sugwas parish. However there may be limited potential for investigation of landscape features within the Sugwas Court estate (extensively occupied by orchards) and possibly traces of a deserted medieval settlement lying W of Stretton Court Farm</p>		