



Building in Timber

Post and Truss Buildings

SOUTH-YORKSHIRE
forest
A National *community forest* Partner

Name. _____

From the earliest days of settlement our woodlands provided the timber to build houses and barns. You may know of a surviving local timber-framed building. It may be one of the distinctive black and white patterned buildings. Most of these were built using a 'post and truss' construction.

Many of these date from Tudor times. Use the words on the left to complete the passage below.

horizontal

sticks

damp

Tudor

oak

beam

stone

outwards

uprights

jetting

thatch

elm

Timber had been used to build houses and barns for centuries, but in _____

times, when England became more prosperous, many new houses were built.

_____ was considered the best wood to use and carpenters were fined if they

were found to be using cheaper wood such as _____.

The foundations of the house were of _____ which was built for three or four

rows above the ground to protect the timber from _____.

_____ sill pieces were then laid on top of these walls and _____

were fixed into sockets cut into them. These vertical timbers were called studs. On

these studs was fixed another horizontal _____ and the floorboards were laid

across, protruding at each side. This meant that the first floor jutted out over the

walls of the ground floor, a building style known as _____. As each floor was

added the building grew _____ as well as upwards, and the upper floors

almost met across the narrow alleys. The spaces between the oak studs were

filled with 'wattle and daub', which was made from woven _____

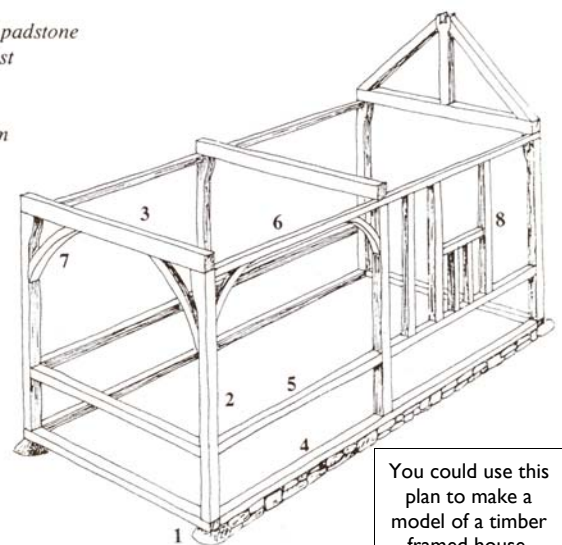
smeared with plaster or mud. The roof was covered with tiles, _____ or,

more usually in our region, with thin stone slabs.

This is a picture of Bishop's House in Meersbrook Park, Sheffield. It was built around the year 1500 for a wealthy yeoman farmer in exactly the way that is described in the passage above. You can see that the whole house is two box frames put together in a T shape.



- 1 stylobate or padstone
- 2 principal post
- 3 tie beam
- 4 sill beam
- 5 girding beam
- 6 wall plate
- 7 brace
- 8 stud



You could use this plan to make a model of a timber framed house.