

West Midlands and the English Marches - Tabulations

In the 1st Column of Tables WM1 & WM2, the letters signify the following;

CH ≡ Cheshire, SH ≡ Shrops, ST ≡ Staffs;

WA ≡ Warwicks, WM ≡ West Midlands;

HE ≡ Herefords, WO ≡ Worcesters;

GL ≡ Gloucesters, BR ≡ Bristol:

The red typescript means that a bridge has not been visited.

In all Tables any entry of '?' alone means unknown, but added after another symbol or number it implies a high level of doubt. 'c' before any number means that it is an approximation.

Table WM1: Locations and Dimensions

KEY: Column Headings reading from the left

No. ≡ Unique identifying number for every bridge, made up from a 1-letter or 2-letter county identifier and a number based on alphabetical ordering of bridge names in the county.

Bridge ≡ Name of the bridge, if possible the most generally accepted one.

OS Location ≡ Standard 8-symbol position

River ≡ Name of the river crossed by the bridge, unless it is un-named.

Catchment, if the named river does not flow directly to the sea, the river which does carry its contents to the sea; exceptions are made for major rivers which flow into others, like the River Ure.

Arch No., shown as 'River Arches + Flood Arches', or 'Arches Now (Original Number)' where appropriate.

Arch Shape, symbols; G ≡ Gothic, or Pointed, (shaded, xxxx) S-C ≡ Semi-circular, 4-C ≡ 4-centred or Tudor, Se ≡ Segmental, R ≡ Rectangular including Square.

Arch Span ≡ the span of the largest original arch, prior to extension or rebuilding.

OW ≡ Bridge Width, the width of the original bridge, as built, prior to widening operations, normally measured between parapets, or rails.

Date, refers to the oldest surviving part of the bridge, and 'Arch Span' & 'OW' will normally relate to it.

The appropriate columns are shaded according to whether they have arches spanning more than 7.5m, xxxx; widths less than 2.2m, (effectively footbridges of all types including packhorse and clapper bridges), xxxx

CH1	Chester Dee Bridge	SJ 407 657	R. Dee		7	G	18m	c4m	c1387
CH2	Colley Mill Bridge	SJ 891 658	R. Dane	R. Weaver	2	Se	?	3.9m	c1700
CH3	Hockenhull PH Bridges (3)	SJ 476 657	R. Gowy	R. Mersey	1	Se	6.3m	1.5m	17 th C
CH1M	Little Moreton Hall Bridge	SJ 832 589	Wet Moat		1	G	c4.8m	2m	c1450
SH1	Bridgnorth Severn Bridge	SO 719 930	R. Severn		7/8	Se	?	3.6m	14 th & 19 th C
SH2	Clun Bridge	SO 301 809	R. Clun	R. Teme	4/5	Se/R	c4m	3.3m	15 th C
SH3	Harpwood Bridge	SO 691 916	Mor B.	R. Severn	2	Se	c3.8m	2.1m	17 th C
SH4	Ludford Bridge	SO 513 742	R. Teme	R. Severn	3	Se	c9m	3.6m	15 th C
SH5	Rushbury PH Bridge	SO 513 916	Eaton B.	R. Teme	1	Se	3.6m	1.5m	17 th C

SH6	Stottesdon Prescott Bridge	SO 663 815	Rea B.	R.Teme	2	Se	c3.8m	c1.4m	17 th C
SH1M	Albright Hussey Bridge	SJ 502 176	Wet Moat		1	S-C	c0.5m	2.75m	16 th C
ST1	Elford Bridge, West	SK 199 091	oxbow	R. Tame	8	Se	?	4.8m	16 th C
ST2	Great Heywood PH Bridge	SJ 995 226	R. Trent		14	Se	c4.5m	1.5m	16 th C
ST3	Horton Brook Clapper Bridge	SJ 938 569	Horton B.	R. Dove	2	R	c1.8m	0.65m	17/18 th C
ST4	Oakamoor Bridge	SK 054 449	R. Churnet	R.Dove	4	3-C/Se	?	4.5m?	c1710
ST5	Somerford Bridge	SJ 895 092	R. Penk	R. Trent	4	Se	?	?	17 th C
ST6	Walton Bridge	SJ 902 334	R. Trent		3 + 5	G	c4.5m	3.6m	15 th C
WA1	Bidford Bridge	SP 099 518	R. Avon	R. Severn	8	G/S-C	4m	3.6m	15 th C
WA2	Binton Bridge	SP 145 530	R. Avon	R. Severn	?	?	?	?	13 th C core?
WA3	Blyth Bridge	SP 211 898	R. Blythe	R. Tame	?	?	?	?	17 th C
WA4	Bretford Bridge	SP 430 770	R. Avon	R. Severn	5	G	?	2.8m?	15 th C?
WA5	Clopton Bridge	SP 206 549	R. Avon	R. Severn	14	G	5.7m	4.8m	1480
WA6	Cole Bridge	SP 199 895	R. Cole	R. Tame	6	Se	c4.5m	c2.5m	16 th C
WA7	Dow Old Bridge	SP 543 779	R. Avon	R. Severn	6	Se	?	3m	17 th /18 th C
WA8	Furnace End Bridge	SP 248 918	R. Bourne	R. Tame	1	Se	1.2m	3.6m	15 th C
WA9	Grendon Bridge	SK 285 010	R. Anker	R.Tame	4	G	c4.3m	3.3m	15 th C
WA10	Halford Bridge	SP 259 453	R. Stour	R. Avon	4	G	2.7m	c4m	16 th C
WA11	Honington Bridge	SP 263 422	R. Stour	R. Avon	5	Se	c3m	c2.8m	17 th C
WA12	Hunningham Bridge	SP 373 685	R. Leam	R. Avon	3+2?	S-C/Se	c4.5m	3.3m	16/17 th C
WA13	Marton Bridge	SP 407 691	R. Leam	R. Avon	2+1?	G	4.3m	4.5m	1414
WA14	Oversley Bridge	SP 093 570	R. Arrow	R. Avon	4 + 3	Se	?	3.6m	1600
WA15	Shipston-on-Stour Bridge	SP 260 405	R. Stour	R. Avon	6	G	3.7m	2.4m	16 th C
WA16	Stare Bridge	SP 330 715	R. Avon	R. Severn	9	G/Se	c6m	3m	15 th C
WA17	Stoneleigh Bridge	SP 332 737	R. Sowe	R. Avon	8?	3-C?	c3.5m	c4m	16 th C?
WA18	Tidmington Bridge	SP 264 381	R. Stour	R. Avon	3	Se	?	?	1615?
WA19	Warwick Old Castle Bridge	SP 285 645	R. Avon	R. Severn	12?	G/4-C	?	?	14 th C
WA20	Water Orton Bridge	SP 174 914	R.Tame	R. Trent	6	S-C/Se	4.5m	>3m	c1520
WA1M	Astley Castle Moat Bridge	SP 312 895	Dry		1	Se	c3m	2.5m	17 th C
WM1	Bacons End Bridge	SP 183 874	R. Cole	R. Tame	3	Se/G?	?	?	15 th or 18 th C
WM2	Hampton-in-Arden PH Bridge	SP 213 801	R. Blythe	R. Tame	5	G/Se	3.4m	1.9m	15 th C
WM1M	Shustoke Hall Bridge	SP 234 900	Wet		1	Se	1.4m	1.1m	17 th C
HE1	Eaton Bridge	SO 507 585	R. Lugg	R. Wye	3	Se	4.7m	4.5m	16 th C
HE2	Hampton Bishop Footbridge	SO 559 389	R. Lugg	R. Wye	3	Se	c3.7m	2.8m	17 th C
HE3	Hereford Wye Bridge	SO 508 396	R. Wye		6	4-C/Se	c9m	c3.5m	15 th C
HE4	Leystone Bridge	SO 518 477	R. Lugg	R. Wye	4	Se	?	3.6m	17 th C
HE5	Lugg Bridge	SO 532 418	R. Lugg	R. Wye	3	G/Se	>7.5m	4.9m	14 th C
HE6	Lugwardine Bridge	SO 546 407	R. Lugg	R. Wye	3	Se	c5.5m	3.9m	17 th C
HE7	Mordiford Bridge	SO 570 375	R. Lugg	R. Wye	2 + 7	G/Se	6.9m	5.1m	14 th C
HE8	Moreton-on-Lugg Bridge	SO 513 459	R. Lugg	R. Wye	3	S-C/Se	c7m	3.3m	16 th C
HE9	Risbury PH Bridge	SO 540 549	buried		2	Se	c2.5m	c2m	16 th C?
HE10	Stretton Sugwas Bridge	SO 474 434	un-named	R. Wye	1	G	2.5m	5.2m	14 th C
HE11	Wilton Bridge	SO 590 242	R. Wye		6	Se	9.5m	5.5m	1599
HE1M	Goodrich Castle Bridge	SO 577 200	Dry		2	G	c2m	3m	14 th C
WO1	Pershore Bridge	SO 953 451	R. Avon	R. Severn	6 + 3	Se	c8.5m	<3.5m	17 th C
WO2	Powick Bridge	SO 835 525	R. Teme	R. Severn	3 + 2	Se	c6.5m	c3m	15 th C
WO3	Shell PH Bridge	SO 951 597	Bow B.	R. Avon	2	S-C	c3m	<1m	17 th C
WO4	Tenbury Wells Teme Bridge	SO 596 686	R. Teme	R. Severn	6	Se	?	3.6m	15 th C
WO1M	Belbroughton Moor Hall Bridge	SO 935 784	Wet Moat		1	Se	<4m	2m	17 th C
WO2M	Harvington Hall Bridge	SO 878 744	Wet Moat		1	Se	2.5m	2m	16 th C
GL1	Bibury Foot-bridge	SP 116 067	R. Coln	R. Thames	3	Se	c2m	1.9m	17 th C
GL2	Cassey Compton Bridges	SP 049 150	R. Coln	R. Thames	?	?	?	?	17 th & 19 th C
GL3	Kebles Clapper Bridge	SP 201 052	R. Leach	R. Thames	5	R	c1.4m	c1.2m	15 th C?
GL4	King John's Bridge	SO 894 332	R. Avon (Mill)	R. Severn	5	Se	6.6m	5.6m	1190
GL5	Lower Slaughter Bridges	SP 177 223	Rs. Dikler & Eye	R. Windrush	?	?	?	?	17/18 th C

GL6	Mickla Clapper Bridge	SP 608 999	Cone B.	R. Severn	2	R	0.7m?	2.5m?	17 th /18 th C
GL7	Naunton Clapper Bridge	SP 130 226	R. Windrush	R. Thames	3	R	?	c3m	17/18 th C
GL8	Sturt PH Bridge	ST 731 881	R. Little Avon	R. Severn	2	G/S-C	?	1.5m	15/16 th C
GL9	Tetbury Cutwell Bridge	ST 887 930	The Splash	R. Avon (Br.)	1 + 1	G/R	?	2m	16/17 th C
GL10	Tetbury Waters Bridge	ST 889 929	The Splash	R. Avon (Br.)	1	Se	?	2m	1622
GL11	Tetbury Wiltshire Bridge	ST 893 930	R. Avon (Br.)		1	S-C	?	?	16 th C
GL12	Tewkesbury Swilgate Bridge	SO 889 332	R. Swilgate	R. Severn	1	S-C	?	>3m	1635 core
GL13	Todenham PH Bridge	SP 245 375	Knee B.	R. Avon	2	S-C	c4m	1.8m	15 th C?
GL14	Upper Slaughter Clapper Bridge	SP 155 233	R. Eye	R. Windrush	2	R	?	?	17 th C
BR1	Wickham Bridge	ST 619 761	R. Frome	R. Avon (Br.)	2 + 1	S-C	?	?	17 th C

Table WM2: Bridge Characteristics

KEY: Column Headings reading from the left

No. & Bridge as in Table S1

Fabric, the building material, A ≡ ashlar, CR ≡ Coursed Rubble, R ≡ Random Rubble, B ≡ Brick, W ≡ Wood; if two types are present in significant proportions, it is shown A/CR.

Profile, as seen from upstream or downstream, where possible referring to the original bridge, F ≡ Flat, P ≡ Rising to a central Peak, H ≡ Humped, C ≡ Gently curved.

Refuges, total number, referring if possible to the original bridge; NA entered for single-arch bridges

Arch Rings with nomenclature **W/X/Y/Z** where **W** ≡ number of arch rings, **X** is an indicator for chamfering ≡ C, or not ≡ U, **Y** describes the arrangement of the arch rings with categories F ≡ Flush, R ≡ Recessed, H ≡ Hood Mould, above, 2O ≡ Arch Rings in two orders, etc., and **Z** indicates the finish on the individual voussoirs in the arch rings with R ≡ Rough, unshaped, S ≡ Shaped, D ≡ Dressed, finely machined. 3 examples are given below.

3/C/2O/D



1/U/H/S



1/U/F/R



Soffits and Ribs Features, number of ribs, and whether they are chamfered ≡ C (as above, left), or not ≡ U

Pier Width, subjective estimate, B ≡ Broad, U ≡ Unexceptional, S ≡ Slender, C ≡ Pierced Causeway, & NA for a bridge with 1 arch

Parapet Features, entries only if non-standard, R ≡ Railings, C ≡ Corbelled Out, S ≡ Splayed Out at ends, Low, None.

W <-- >, entries indicate whether the bridge has been widened, No, Yes (but how unknown), U ≡ Upstream Face, D ≡ Downstream Face, B ≡ Both Faces

Date as in Table WM1

Shading in the relevant columns means chamfered arch rings, xxxx, hood moulds, xxxx, and ribs, xxxx. In cases where chamfering and hood moulds are present, I have added ** to the former

No.	Bridge	Fabric	Profile	No. of Refuges	Arch Ring Features	Soffits & Ribs Features	Pier Width	Parapet Features	<--> W	Build Date
CH1	Chester Dee Bridge	CR	F	8	2/C/2O/D	0	B	R	U	c1387
CH2	Colley Mill Bridge	A	F	2	2/U/2O/D	0	B		No	c1700
CH3	Hockenhull PH Bridges	A	H	NA	2/U/2O/D	0	NA	Low	No	17 th C
CH1M	Little Moreton Hall Bridge	A	F	NA	1/U/F/D	0	NA		No	c1450
SH1	Bridgnorth Severn Bridge	A	F	6	?	5, 1 arch?	U	R	B	14 th & 19 th C
SH2	Clun Bridge	R	C	6	2/U/2O/S	3U	U		No	15 th C
SH3	Harpwood Bridge	R	F	0	1/U/F/S	0	B		U?	17 th C
SH4	Ludford Bridge	CR	F	4	2/U/2O/S	3U	B	S	No	15 th C
SH5	Rushbury PH Bridge	R	C	NA	1/U/F/R	0	NA	None	No	17 th C
SH6	Stottesdon Prescott Bridge	CR	H	2	2/U/2O/S	3U	B	R	U	17 th C
SH1M	Albright Hussey Bridge	R	F	NA	1/U/F/S	0	NA	Low	No?	16 th C
ST1	Elford Bridge, West	A	F	4	1/U/H/D	0	U	R	No	16 th C
ST2	Great Heywood PH Bridge	A	F	26	2/U/2O/D	0	B	Low	No	16 th C
ST3	Horton Brook Clapper Bridge	A	F	NA	NA	0	U	R	No	17/18 th C
ST4	Oakamoor Bridge	A	F	0	1/U/F/D	0	C		U	c1710
ST5	Somerford Bridge	A	F	6	1/U/F/D	0	B		D	17 th C
ST6	Walton Bridge	CR	F	0	1/C/F/D?	3U	B		B	15 th C
WA1	Bidford Bridge	CR	F	7	2/U/F/S	0	B		No	15 th C
WA2	Binton Bridge	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	13 th C core?
WA3	Blyth Bridge	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	B	17 th C
WA4	Bretford Bridge	A	F	0	?	0	U		B	15 th C?
WA5	Clopton Bridge	A	F	0	1/U/F/D	0	B	Low	U	1480
WA6	Cole Bridge	A	F	0	2/C/2O/D	0	U		D	16 th C
WA7	Dow Old Bridge	A	F	0	1/U/F/D	0	U	None	U	17 th /18 th C
WA8	Furnace End Bridge	CR/R	H	NA	1/U/F/D	2C + 2U	NA		U	15 th C
WA9	Grendon Bridge	A	H	2	1/U/H/D	0	U		No	15 th C
WA10	Halford Bridge	A	F	0	2/U/F/D	0	C		?	16 th C
WA11	Honington Bridge	A/CR	H	0	1/U/F/D	0	B		D	17 th C
WA12	Hunningham Bridge	CR	F	4	2/U/2O/D	0	B		No	16 th C
WA13	Marton Bridge	CR	F	0	2/C/2O/D	0	U		No	1414
WA14	Oversley Bridge	CR/B	C	1	1/U/F/S	0	B/C		U	1600
WA15	Shipston-on-Stour Bridge	CR	F	0	1/U/F/S	0	B		U	16 th C
WA16	Stare Bridge	CR	F	3	2/U/2O/S	0	B		No	15 th C
WA17	Stoneleigh Bridge	A	F	0	1/U/F/S	0	B		D	16 th C?
WA18	Tidmington Bridge	A	F	0	?	0	U	C	?	1615?
WA19	Warwick Old Castle Bridge	A	F	?	3/C/2O/D	0	B	?	Yes	14 th C
WA20	Water Orton Bridge	CR	F	10	1/C/F/S	0	B		No	16 th C
WA1M	Astley Castle Moat Bridge.	R	F	NA	1/U/F/S	0	NA		No	17 th C
WM1	Bacons End Bridge	A	F	0	1/U/F/D	0	U	R	D	15 or 18 th C
WM2	Hampton-in-Arden PH Bridge	CR	F	4	1/C/F/S	0	B	R	No	15 th C
WM1M	Shustoke Hall Bridge	B	F	NA	1/U/F/B	0	NA		No	17 th C
HE1	Eaton Bridge	R/A	F	4	1/U/F/D	3U	B		U	16 th C
HE2	Hampton Bishop Footbridge	A/B	P	0	1/U/F/S	0	B	R	No	17 th C
HE3	Hereford Wye Bridge	CR	F	10	2/U/2O/S	1 X 3U	B		B	15 th C
HE4	Leystone Bridge	CR	H	0	1/U/F/S	0	B		No	17 th C
HE5	Lugg Bridge	R	F	4	2/U/F/S	3U	B		D	14 th C
HE6	Lugwardine Bridge	CR	F	0	1/U/F/D	0	U	C	U	17 th C
HE7	Mordiford Bridge	CR	F	0	1/U/F/S	3U	B/C		No	14 th C
HE8	Moreton-on-Lugg Bridge	R	C	4	1/U/F/D	1 X 2U	B		No	16 th C
HE9	Risbury PH Bridge	R	H	0	1/U/F/R	0	U	None	No	16 th C?

HE10	Stretton Sugwas Bridge	R	H	NA	1/U/F/R	0	NA	None	No?	14 th C
HE11	Wilton Bridge	CR	F	5	1/U/F/D	3C	B	R	U	1599
HE1M	Goodrich Castle Bridge	A	F	0	3/C/3O/D	3/4C	B	R	No	14 th C
WO1	Pershore Bridge	R	F	5	1/U/F/S	0	B		No	17 th C
WO2	Powick Bridge	R	F	5	1/U/F/S	0	B		No	15 th C
WO3	Shell PH Bridge	CR	F	0	1/U/F/S	0	S	Low	No	17 th C
WO4	Tenbury Wells Teme Bridge	R	F	4	1/U/F/S	4U	B	R	B	15 th C
WO1M	Belbroughton Moor Hall Br.	B	F	NA	1/U/F/B	0	NA	Low	No	17 th C
WO2M	Harvington Hall Bridges	A/B	F	NA	1/U/F/S, B	0	NA	Low	No?	16 th C
GL1	Bibury Foot-bridge	R	F	0	1/U/F/S	0	B	R	No	17 th C
GL2	Cassey Compton Bridges	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	17 th & 19 th C
GL3	Kebles Clapper Bridge	R	F	NA	NA	NA	U	None	No	15 th C?
GL4	King John's Bridge	CR	F	8	1/C/F/S	4C	B		D	1190
GL5	Lower Slaughter Bridges	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	17/18 th C
GL6	Mickla Clapper Bridge	CR	F	NA	NA	NA	B	None	No	17 th C
GL7	Naunton Clapper Bridge	R	F	NA	NA	0	U	None	U?	17/18 th C
GL8	Sturt PH Bridge	R	F	0	1/U/F/S	0	U	None	No	15/16 th C
GL9	Tetbury Cutwell Bridge	R	F	NA	1/U/F/R	0	C	R	No	16/17 th C
GL10	Tetbury Waters Bridge	CR	F	NA	1/U/F/R	0	NA	None	No	1622
GL11	Tetbury Wiltshire Bridge	R	F	NA	1/U/F/R?	0	C		U	16 th C
GL12	Tewkesbury Swilgate Bridge	CR	F	NA	?	0	NA		B	1635 core
GL13	Todenham PH Bridge	R	C	1	1/C/F/D	0	U	R	No	15 th C?
GL14	Upper Slaughter Clapper Br.	R	F	NA	NA	0	U	None	No	17 th C
BR1	Wickham Bridge	R	F	0	1/U/F/S	0	U		No	17 th C

As compared with previous listings, the following 8 bridges have been omitted for the reasons given;

Sandon Bridge, Staffs which has been replaced by a modern bridge

Bransford Bridge, Worcs which has disappeared except for a few stone blocks on the banks

Worm Bridge, Herefords which has been demolished and replaced

Jury Bridge, Herefords has been replaced by a 19th century bridge

Ford Bridge, Herefords which has been replaced by a modern bridge

Astley Packhorse Bridge, Worcs where the consensus is that it is an 18th or 19th century bridge

Stoneleigh Coach Bridge, Warwicks, inaccessible on private land

Charlecote Park Bridges, Warwicks, no evidence that any bridge survived the 17th century reordering of the landscape

Table WM3 Status of Bridge Visits, & Dating Summary – West Midlands & English Marches

COUNTIES	No. OF BRIDGES	No. VISITED	PRE-1600	PRE-1500	PRE-1400	PRE-1300
Cheshire, Shropshire & Staffs.	17	17	9	6	2	0
Warwickshire & West Midlands	24	24	18	11	2	1
Herefordshire & Worcestershire	18	18	12	7	4	0
Gloucestershire & Bristol	15	15	6	4	1	1
Totals	74	74	45	28	9	2

Notes:

1. I have identified 74 old bridges in the West Midlands and the English Marches on the basis that they incorporate significant parts, such as one or more arches, which date from before 1700; I have visited all of them. As can be seen from Table WM3, 28 of the bridges had their origins in the 17th century, 17 in the 16th century, 19 in the 15th century, 7 in the 14th century, and 2 earlier than that.

2. From Table WM2, it can be seen that of the 70 bridges where enough of the old bridge was exposed to allow a judgement, 46 (66%) were built in large part of ashlar, coursed squared rubble, or a combination of the two, a similar proportion to that found in the other English regions. However there is something of a west/east divide in the region since the rubble built bridges are exclusively to be found in the marcher counties of Shropshire, Herefordshire and Gloucestershire. 5 bridges incorporate a significant amount of brick.

3. There are 20 bridges listed in Table WM1 which have one or more pointed (Gothic) arches, and 17 were built before 1500 and can fairly be called medieval. Only Hereford Wye Bridge and Warwick Old Castle Bridge have four-centred arches.

4. In Table WM1, it can be seen that 6 of the bridges have one or more arches spanning at least 7.5m, and 4 of them were built before 1500. There may be a few more for which relevant dimensions have not been recorded, but not enough to change the overall picture that wide spans are rare in this region.

5. In Table WM2, I have highlighted the two other features most often associated with antiquity in bridges, namely chamfered arch rings, and chamfered ribs. In this case, only 10 bridges have chamfered arch rings and 8 were built prior to 1500. Only 4 bridges have chamfered ribs, and 3 were built prior to 1500. Unchamfered ribs are more prevalent than elsewhere, appearing on 11 bridges in total, and 8 of them were built pre-1500.

6. Only 2 bridges have hood moulds, and both were built prior to 1600.