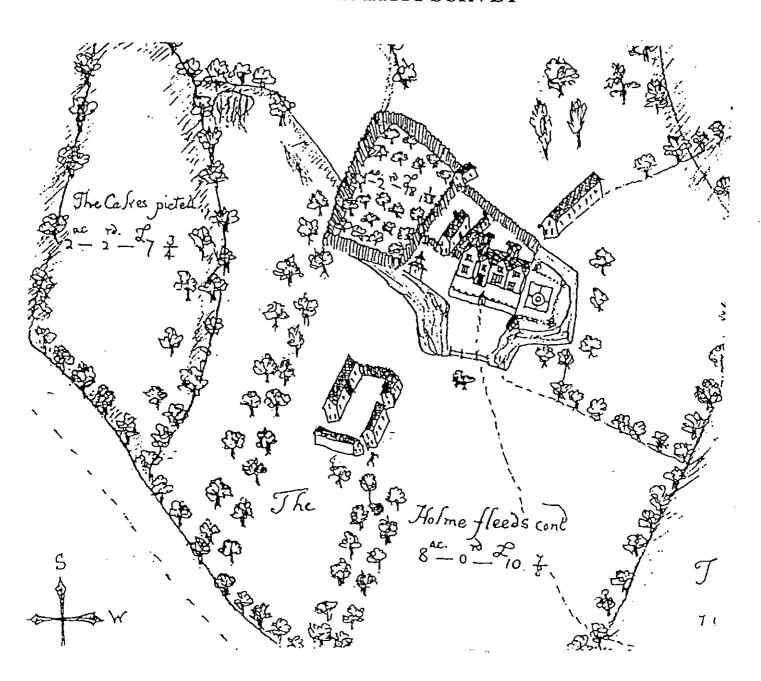
THE FARMSTEADS OF SUFFOLK A THEMATIC SURVEY



Philip Aitkens & Susanna Wade Martins Draft December 1998

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Preface: An Introduction to the Thematic Survey Approach

Historic farm buildings form a prominent and much valued part of the landscape, reminding us how the long history of farming has helped shape the countryside as we see it now. Whilst the listing of farm buildings has formed part of almost every listing survey in rural areas since listing began, a full understanding of their importance and context has taken as long to develop. The field workers on the first listing surveys, conducted in the immediate post-war years, were instructed to 'only look at the village centres and go up no farm tracks'. Rural areas continued to be poorly covered by subsequent survey work and in 1980 the Montagu report noted that 'the vast majority of architecturally or historically interesting farm buildings remain unidentified and unprotected'. Whilst the Historic Buildings resurvey of the 1980s resulted in many exciting discoveries and new additions to the lists, from cruck-roofed hogg houses in the Cumbrian fells to substantial medieval barns, the fieldwork conducted on these parish-by-parish surveys drew our attention to the lack of well-researched criteria for selection. Although farm buildings are by far the most numerous type of historic structure in the countryside, they have only recently been subjected to systematic survey and recording - for example, the National Trust on their estates, the RCHME's National farmsteads Survey (begun in 1992 and now (1998) published as English Farmsteads 1750-1914) and the Kent and Norfolk Farmstead Surveys. Local authorities as well as national bodies have, as a consequence, been hindered by the absence of a sufficiently sound factual basis and analytical assessment of the significance of historic farm buildings, against which to develop policies and determine the importance or otherwise of particular buildings or features.

What we understand about the farm buildings we list has, therefore, changed as the listing process has developed. Making the right choices for listing has become even more important in recent years, because rapid changes in modern agriculture have led to many farm buildings falling into disuse and being demolished and converted. The results of the Buildings at Risk surveys have shown that farm buildings are a category of listed buildings which have been most at risk from dereliction and decay. As a consequence of the pressure to find alternative uses for redundant listed farm buildings, many of the structures listed during the 1980s resurvey have been converted, the great majority to housing. The local authorities approached in the 1989 SAVE survey (A Future for Farm Buildings) had recently confirmed that between 25 and 50% of listed farm buildings had been converted in many areas, the figure being higher in those counties, such as Hampshire and Essex, which were subject to the greatest development pressures. Some of these represent sensitive conversions to commercial or more usually domestic use, but many of the barns listed on resurvey or later have been so badly altered that delisting has been recommended where these have been drawn to our attention.

Spot listing is one obvious solution to addressing weaknesses in the lists, but whilst it continues to have a valuable role it is not the most effective means of

targeting limited resources, enabling all users of the lists to understand more fully the criteria for selection or facilitate a more rounded appreciation of typological and regional characteristics. The importance of context, both in historical and landscape terms, has already led to realisation during the Historic Buildings Resurvey that listing is not always the most appropriate solution to the recognition of the importance of extensive groupings which can be highly characteristic of their areas, most notably with respect to the abundant and predominantly nineteenth century small field barns which characterise the northern Yorkshire dales: a large area of Swaledale and Arkengarthdale has now been designated as a Rural Conservation Area, with grants contributing up to 80% of the cost of repair to walls and barns.

Listed farm buildings form only a fraction of the total resource, and the criteria cannot easily address the issue of buildings which have greater landscape than intrinsic merit.

It is now recognised that enhanced levels of understanding concerning the historic landscape and its component parts comprise an obvious first step in the process which embraces all stages of assessment from selection and identification to recording and planning consent. National policy (English Heritage, Countryside Commission and English Nature, Conservation Issues in Strategic Plans (1993) and Conservation Issues in Local Plans (1996)) has placed an increased emphasis on the understanding of the 'total resource' and its integration into planning policy, and the importance, for example, of defining local distinctiveness. The recent English Heritage Discussion Document, Sustaining the Historic Environment (1997), has emphasised the need for a holistic and sustainable approach, 'based on a thorough understanding of the historic environment and the options for its management', as providing the most balanced and informed method of informing long-term change.

The only safe and sound way, therefore, of selecting the right buildings for listing is to place then firmly in their historical and regional context and, where necessary, to carry out research and survey work to underpin and justify the selection. Well-researched and clearly explained listing descriptions and guidelines, moreover, enhance the likelihood of good communications between ourselves, building owners and local authorities and improve the chance of a building being properly understood at the important stages of negotiating a new use. Guidelines for selection also provide a critical evaluation of farm buildings, in their regional and typological contexts, which can be used to provide the context against which the importance of farm buildings affected by other policies and environmental schemes, such as Conservation Areas and Environmentally Sensitive Areas, can be defined.

To make this possible, English Heritage has started a series of thematic listing surveys of farm buildings, beginning in East Anglia. An illustrated colour booklet, *Understanding Listing - The East Anglian Farm*, has been written in order to explain what the most significant developments in this important region were, and why we consider certain kinds of historic farm buildings to be particularly significant. Norfolk was then chosen as a pilot study area, because it

provided an excellent opportunity to test the selection represented in the 1980s resurvey lists against the results gleaned from a survey by the Centre of East Anglian Studies of selected areas in the county and the pioneering work of Susanna Wade Martins on the nationally important Holkham estate. A limited number of 'examplar listings' - following visits to carefully selected areas - forms only one outcome of this project. Detailed guidelines for assessment of historic farm buildings in the county have been compiled, using the results of both recent research and specialist knowledge to provide a framework for future listing decisions and guidance to owners and local authorities. These draw attention to the historical factors which have influenced the diversity and development of building and farmstead types in the county, and include an analysis of the lists, an explanation of the features associated with each building type and suggested modifications to the listing criteria.

This project has provided us with significant and sometimes thought-provoking data. For example, our analysis of the existing list coverage of farm buildings in Norfolk revealed that 98% of all listed farm buildings were barns, the majority dating from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. It has also drawn attention to the concentration of pre-1700 barns in the wood-pasture areas in the south of the county, where few other farm building types of special interest can be identified. In contrast, eighteenth-century barns are concentrated on the fertile soils of the north-east and the broadland fringe, and are frequently found with early evidence for the accommodation of cattle, in the shape of lean-tos. At the same time our research has shown this emphasis on the barn can work to the detriment of other key buildings on the farmstead, most notably, those relating to cattle husbandry. The increasing use of livestock played a vital role in the great improvements which characterised the so-called Agricultural Revolution. and our research has established the extreme rarity and importance of the few surviving farmsteads which have ranges of buildings exemplifying these trends up to the middle of the nineteenth century. These examples range form Church Farm at Hethel, a rare surviving group in the vernacular tradition and recommended for listing at grade II*, to Waterden Farm, near South Creake, also recommended at II* as an important late-eighteenth century group praised by contemporaries, which included Victorian cattle yards strongly characteristic of developments witnessed on less outstanding groups.

In contrast to the work in Norfolk, which uses the results of research to provide a qualitative basis for analysis and assessment, it has been possible to provide a statistical analysis of the resource in our survey of planned and model farms. These consciously planned complexes were the product of not just the Agricultural Revolution, but also of specific ideologies and scientific experimentation. They are a phenomenon unique to Britain, yet their significance, distribution and survival rate have been difficult to establish within a national context. Our work here has aimed to establish how many farmsteads of this type were built, how many survive, and where they are located. The first phase of the survey has resulted in a short illustrated summary of their historical development of the building type and an illustrated area-based and statistical analysis of both documented and surviving (both listed and non-listed) examples. A separate county-by-county gazetteer of sites has been drawn on a wide range

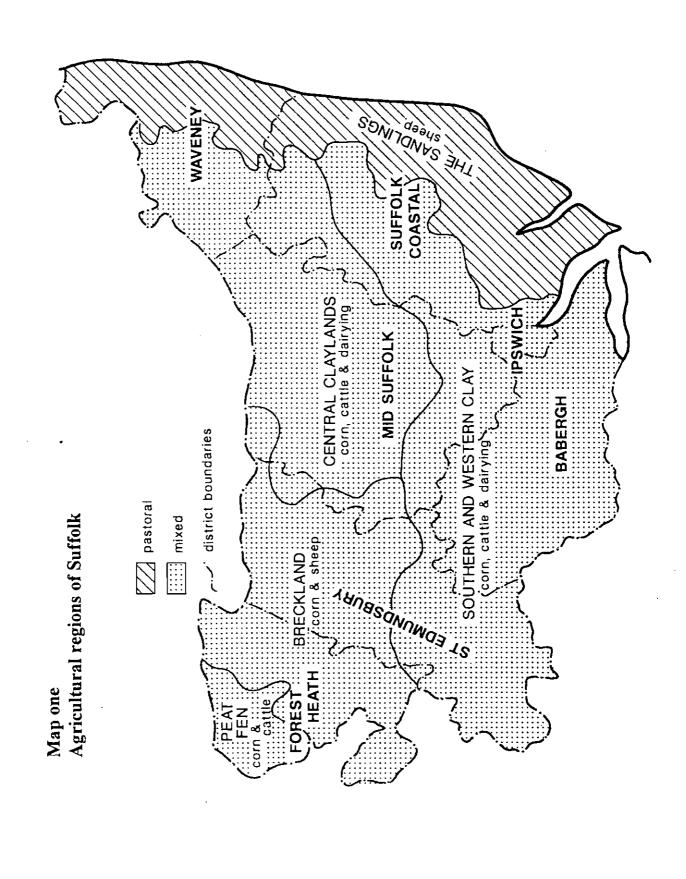
of sources, including the RCHME's National Farmsteads Survey, and has been distributed to relevant Conservation Officers and to all County Sites and Monuments Records.

This draft report on Suffolk farmsteads is building on the pilot methodology adopted in Norfolk with a more detailed statistical analysis of the listed resource. We want to be clear in our advice to users of the statutory lists as to what we believe are the most significant types of farm buildings and complexes in their areas, and what characteristics they will need to display if they are to be viable candidates for listing. Helping a conservation officer understand the special character of farm buildings in a particular location makes informed choices for listing, and all that it involves, a more realistic possibility. Well-researched and clearly explained listing recommendations enhance the likelihood of good communications between ourselves, building owners and the local authorities and improves the chances of the building being properly understood at the important stages of negotiating a future use. This draft report has now been released in order to initiate a critical process of consultation with our colleagues and partners, in order to seek views on how a framework for assessment can not only refine the criteria for listing but also aid the processes of recording and assessment for conservation purposes.

Jeremy Lake

Bob Hawkins

Inspectors of Historic Buildings December 1998



THE FARMSTEADS OF SUFFOLK A THEMATIC SURVEY

1: Introduction and survey methodology

This report follows and builds on the thematic survey of Norfolk farmsteads and the more general leaflet *Understanding Listing, The East Anglian Farm*, both produced by English Heritage in 1997 and alongside which this report should be read. The work in progress on thematic surveys (being a regional pilot focused on Norfolk and a national survey of planned and model farmsteads) was discussed in *Conservation Bulletin* and *Context* the following year. It was a response to the growing appreciation of the value of farm buildings as historical and architectural monuments in their own right. This was coupled with concern over the speed of their destruction, both by unsuitable conversion and demolition and the need to define and characterise their significance in context.

The aims of this report are to provide an overview of the size, typology and character of historic farm buildings and farm steadings in Suffolk in order to produce guidelines for listing, an analysis of the present statutory lists and a framework for future assessment both with relavance to listed and unlisted buildings and examples within the curtilage of listed examples). Historical development, regional variations within the county, building types and dating are all factors which will be considered in this report. Guidelines for selection provide a framework for assessment against which future revisions to the statutory lists should be set. The report concludes with appendices including, recommendations for listing and analysis of the lists followed by an annotated bibliography.

It has become clear that farm buildings should not simply be seen as accessories to a listable farmhouse, or valued primarily for their architectural qualities as vernacular buildings, but also as evidence of agricultural change, research such as that recently completed by the RCHME² has emphasised the importance of regional distinctiveness in farm buildings resulting partly from the underlying geology, but also from the social structure and agricultural systems developed across England³ and for which they are in themselves evidence. Historians of vernacular architecture are also coming to appreciate the importance of farm buildings, not simply for their intrinsic interest as feats of skill and craftsmanship, but also for their value to the study of economic, social and agricultural history. The building should be viewed in its broadest perspective, in relation to its neighbours as part of a pattern of settlement, and within the landscape. We need to investigate the agricultural land to which it was attached, and its economic

¹ Jeremy Lake & Bob Hawkins, "Thematic listing surveys of farm buildings" Context 58 (July 1998), pp.24-25; Jeremy Lake, "New strategy to save farm buildings" Conservation Bulletin (July 1998), pp.22-23

² Paul Barnwell & Colum Giles The English Farmstead 1750-1914 (RCHME 1997)

³ Joan Thirsk, England's Agricultural Regions and Agrarian History, 1500-1750 (1987)

⁴ Matthew Johnson Housing Culture Traditional Architecture in an English Landscape (1993) passim

MMM Areas of superficial survey 1 Assington
2 Leavenheath
3 Nayland with Wissington
4 Bures St Mary Areas of intensive survey 1 Thorpe Morieux
2 Brettenham
3 Hitcham
4 Wattisham
5 Kettlebaston Location of survey parishes in south Suffolk 1 Poslingford 2 Stansfield 3 Hawkeden 4 Somerton 5 Hartest 6 Stanstead 1 Great Bradley
2 Little Bradley
3 Little Thurlow
4 Great Thurlow
5 Great Wratting
6 Little Wratting
7 Withersfield Map two

and social region." The realisation of the importance of farm buildings beyond the purely architectural needs now to be reflected not only the buildings listed, but also in the assessment of historical significance in the list descriptions. Farm buildings in particular need to be seen as part of a working group, demonstrating the "changing relationships between a society and its environment in the broadest sense of the word".

Thematic work in Norfolk showed that there had been a tendency for the lists to concentrate on barns to the detriment of other building types, whilst the process of geographical listing surveys had hindered the identification of complete farmsteads demonstrating the evolution of the farm, including those nineteenth century buildings which represented important changes in farming practice and technology brought about by the agricultural revolution. A preliminary look at Suffolk and Essex, relying heavily on already known examples, while preparing the *Understanding Listing* leaflet, suggested that these problems were also to be found in Suffolk.

The county's lists of buildings of historic and architectural interest were drawn up between 1983 and 1987, although it is important to note that the lists for the former RDCs of Clare, Melford and Cosford in the south of the county date from the 1970s. It is in response to the perceived weaknesses of the lists, particularly in southern parts of Suffolk, which have not been comprehensively surveyed for twenty years, that this re-assessment of the criteria for listing farm buildings in the light of research in Norfolk⁸ has been undertaken.

Not surprisingly, the problems in Suffolk are rather different to those in Norfolk, and it soon became apparent that not only the farm buildings, but also the farmhouses needed to be interpreted and understood within the context of the farmstead. Rarely had their interiors been seen by the listers and they had not been viewed in the context of their attached steadings. Unlike farm buildings, they had been understood as a building type, but the rate of spot-listing applications indicates that, particularly in the southern areas of early relisting, there were many significant examples that had been overlooked. It is for these reasons that here, unlike in Norfolk, the houses have been included within the survey.

Initially the existing statutory lists were examined and analysed according to date, building type, barn size and location. Where appropriate these were mapped (see maps 4-5). The local Districts Were consulted for their advice as to where the strengths and weaknesses of the lists lay, and as a result of consultations sample parishes in the areas which seemed particularly weak were visited (map 2). Other sites for visiting were located through local knowledge,

⁵ C.Dyer "History and vernacular architecture" Vernacular Architecture 28 (1997) pp.1-8, p1-

⁶ E.Mercer "The unfulfilled wider implications of vernacular architecture studies" *Vernacular Architecture* 28 (1997) pp.9-12, p.9

⁷ English Heritage The farmsteads of Norfolk a pilot thematic survey (1997), p.2

⁸ S. Wade Martins Historic Farm Buildings, including a Norfolk Survey (1991)

recent research and observation from the road. All occupiers were notified by letter before we called.

The work has been undertaken in consultation with Jeremy Lake of English Heritage who supervised the project, by the Suffolk-based historic building consultant and expert on timber-framed buildings in the region, Philip Aitkens, and Susanna Wade Martins, agricultural historian and farm buildings consultant who prepared the Norfolk report. It is now our intention to broaden the consultation process in order to seek views on the efficacy of this approach.

2: Historical Background

"There is no other (county) in England so generally interesting to the farming traveller. The horses, carrots and shell marl of the sandlings beyond Woodbridge: the sheep farms near Bury, that possess incontestibly the finest of the breed of sheep called, improperly, Norfolks: the cows and cabbages of High Suffolk; the turnip husbandry of the great farms of the coast: the circumstances also of fens, warrens, hops, hollow draining, etc., form a variety rarely to be found in a single province."

Suffolk contains a wide variety of agricultural regions which are largely the result of its different soils (map 1). These differences were recognised by seventeenth and eighteenth century commentators on the region on and elaborated upon by Arthur Young. As a result, Suffolk agriculture presents many contrasts, with light open lands of the extreme east and west, mostly held in large estates, used as warrens and sheep walks and not enclosed until the nineteenth century. Running across the centre of the county from south-west to the north- east is a band of rich loams known at its northern end as "High Suffolk" where dairying was the main activity, enclosure was early and independent yeoman farmers prospered. In the south-east, heavier clays made farming difficult and, consequently, the farmers generally less well off; a fact that is reflected in the buildings.

• Regional variations: geology, landownership and farming systems

These various patterns of enclosure, land ownership and farming systems have inevitably led to a wide range of changing building requirements, all represented in the farm buildings of the county.

The Fens, Breckland and the Sandlings are the three regions of Suffolk which represent Rackham's classic "planned landscape": 12 an area of late enclosure and reclamations in which the influence of large estates was felt more than in the rest of the county. Buildings are generally post-1750 and placed in the centre of newly enclosed farms made up of large regular fields surrounded by hawthorn hedges. Any woodland has been created by the estate owners for mainly sporting purposes.

The Fens

In the extreme north-west are the peat-based soils of the Fens which supported a watery agricultural system combining waterfowling and reed beds with pasture. Much of the fen in the Mildenhall and Lakenheath area was reclaimed after a Drainage Act of 1759 and was converted into a rectilinear landscape dotted with

⁹ A. Young "Minutes relating to Dairy farms in High Suffolk" Annals of Agriculture V (1786) p. 193

p.193
¹⁰ Anon. ed. D.N.J.Mcculloch Chorography of Suffolk c.1600-1605 (1976), J.Kirby The Suffolk Traveller (1735)

¹¹ A. Young General View of the Agriculture of Suffolk (1813)

¹² O.Rackham The History of the Countryside (1986) pp.4-5.

new farms. A lack of firm foundations for building has resulted in a low survival rate of even the relatively late eighteenth and nineteenth century buildings.

Breckland

To the east of this area is the far larger region of heathland, variously known as Breckland, or by its older name of Fielding. These light, sandy soils were traditionally used for rabbit warrens and sheep, remaining as unenclosed field and common land into the nineteenth century. It was in these regions of open fields that the "foldcourse" system was most highly developed and lasted longest. Under this system tenants only held their land within the open field during the growing season and in the winter the lord of the manor had grazing rights across the fields. The system lasted so long here, with rights being jealously guarded until the end of the eighteenth century, because on these light soils it was mutually beneficial: the lord of the manor had somewhere to put his sheep in the winter, thus resting the commons, and the tenants could have their land manured without the expense of keeping sheep. ¹³

Much of the area was owned by large estates, such as those based at Euston, Ickworth, Culford, and Elveden, all of which undertook enclosure and "improvement" during the Napoleonic war period. Many of the large landlords were able to enclose without a private act of parliament, but this was not always possible where their lands were intermingled with those of the few surviving smaller owners. This is therefore the only part of the county where parliamentary enclosure was an important factor. As a result the region is characterised by regular fields and well-laid out new farmsteads with large impressive houses designed to attract the men of capital needed to farm these hungry soils.

The Sandlings

A similar sandy area is to be found along the east coast and known as the Sandlings. It is narrower and more dissected than Breckland and so often forms part of farms on neighbouring stronger soils. Few farms are entirely confined to sandling soils. Some of the largest and best managed farms were to be found in this region in the early nineteenth century with good crops of carrots produced as fodder. Here again attempts were made to improve the soils which resulted in the building of some new farms, but parliamentary enclosure was far less important here and much of this heathland has remained open sheep walk into this century.

The Suffolk Clays

This region falls within Rackham's definition of "ancient landscape" and his map of landscape regions shows the division between "ancient" and "planned" countryside passing through western Suffolk. Indeed, much of the area is

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¹³ Mark Bailey, A marginal economy? East Anglian Breckland in the later middle ages (1989)

¹⁴ David Dymond "Enclosure and reclamation" in An Historical Atlas of Suffolk ed. Dymond & Martin 2nd ed.(1989)

¹⁵ O.Rackham (1986), p.3

covered by a variety of chalky, clayey soils which are often lumped together as one region. Here a piecemeal process of enclosure by agreement had been largely completed by around 1700 and there were fewer large estates and powerful landlords. Fields were small and hedges too contained fully grown trees with many fields surrounded by wide "borders", cut for hay crops and used for grazing. Open greens survived until the nineteenth century. Medieval settlement was often scattered about the parish and manorial, often moated farms survive on these old settlement sites. In contrast, nineteenth century farms were built along the roads across the newly enclosed greens. Large estates were unusual and instead it was the independent farmers who were some of the most innovative in East Anglia with fodder crops such as turnips and cabbages being grown from the seventeenth century. A change to intensive arable farming, from the late-eighteenth century, resulted in the ploughing up of pasture and the borders around fields.

Within this general pattern there are regional variations. Soils are generally lighter and therefore more suited to cereals in the west, ¹⁶ where medium-sized gentry estates were more in evidence; it is here that the larger, often aisled barns are found. To the east, farms were smaller, farming more mixed and three-bay, unaisled barns, often with stabling at one end, were more usual.

High Suffolk

This term is usually associated with the dairying area of central north Suffolk described so clearly by Young in 1786. The soils were wet and suited to pasture. Land that was ploughed was often used for turnips and cabbages for cattle feed rather than cereals. Here small free-holders dominated, concentrating through the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries on dairy farming, only ploughing up about a third of their acreage at a time. This was an area where woodland, often in the form of hedgerow timber as well as small woods, survived longest. As grain prices rose from the 1760s more land was ploughed and Young noted farms where over a quarter of the land was under the plough; a figure which was set to rise through the Napoleonic wars up to 1815. More cereal growing meant that more crop storage was required. This could be achieved by either extending or building new barns, or building separate cowhouses and stable blocks to allow for the opening up of older multifunctional buildings which had previously incorporated both the functions of barns and livestock accommodation.

The southern clays

In the poorer areas to the south of the Gipping river the clayland landscape is more undulating and the settlement pattern more sparse. Medieval barns survive on numerous isolated farms but they were more meanly built than the fine aisled barns further west.

The southern loams

¹⁶ E.Martin "The soil regions of Suffolk" in An Historical Atlas of Suffolk ed. Dymond & Martin 2nd ed.(1989)

¹⁷ A. Young "Minutes relating to Dairy farms in High Suffolk" Annals of Agriculture V (1786) pp. 192-224

In the extreme south of the area, on the Shotley peninsulas and along the Stour valley penetrating up its tributaries are the best soils in the county, described by Arthur Young as rich loams. Along the low-lying valley bottoms was good pastureland whilst on the valley sides mixed arable farming predominated.

3. Building Characterisation

· Geology and building materials

The geology of Suffolk is reflected clearly in a variety of building materials, and building techniques.

Walling

The most usual wall construction over Suffolk was timber-framing, infilled up to the eighteenth century by wattle and daub which was then plastered and sometimes decorated by pargetting. By the sixteenth century brick infill was used on the buildings of more wealthy owners, and clay lump replaced earlier wattle and daub in the nineteenth century. In the traditional wood-pasture regions, timber-framing continued to be used as late as the early-nineteenth century. The techniques of timber-framed construction will be described later. The open sandy soils of the Brecklands and Sandlings had lost most of their woodland by the middle ages, with the consequence that new buildings for the enclosed fields of the late-eighteenth century was mostly in flint and brick. Clay lump was probably an early nineteenth century introduction. 18 Some particularly impressive examples include the large barn at Maltings Farm, Rougham (now converted to residential use) and a decorative engine house/stable range at Dagworth. An interesting variation is a form of solid clay recommended by the Rev. Copinger Hill of Buxhall and found over much of south Suffolk, especially for cottage building. Clay and straw were mixed together and then built up layer-by-layer on a brick plinth: the whole wall was finally cased in a skin of finer clay. Copinger Hill claimed that such walls, under an overhanging thatched roof could last forty years before any repairs were needed. 19 It is not always easy to identify these walls as distinct from the more usual clay lump, nor is it possible to be sure whether they were built stage-by-stage as recommended by Hill, or within shuttering. Several examples are known to survive in Hitcham and one has been located at Shelley Dairy.

Roofing

Roofing was normally of thatch, with pantiles replacing thatch in the north and west and flat tiles more usual in the south and east by the nineteenth century. Tiles were more durable than thatch which needed constant maintenance. The many reports written for Suffolk landowners on the condition of their buildings in the nineteenth century commented on the "broken down" and leaking thatch roofs and advocated their replacement by tiles.²⁰

Landownership and building

¹⁸ J.McCann, "Is clay lump a traditional building material?" *Vernacular Architecture* (1987) 18, pp.1-16

For example, Suffolk Record Office, Terrier of farms on the Ahburnham estate(mid-Suffolk) 1830 HA1/HB4/2; Report of farms on the Flitcham estate (Waveney) c.1840 HA12 D4 23/1

The Rev. Copinger Hill "On the Construction of Cottages" JRASE 4 (1843) pp.360-361. Walls 14 inches thick could be built up 20 inches to two feet at a time, then left to dry before the next layer was added.

Landowner impact on farmstead design and building varied dramatically and local variations can be the result of different patterns of landownership. We have already noted that the large land owners were generally found on the light Breckland soils of the east and this contrast is clearly seen in the high quality of their buildings, often mid nineteenth century in date, built as carefully planned groups, designed to attract wealthy tenants with the necessary capital to farm their lands intensively.

The rest of Suffolk was noted as a county dominated by a "rich yeomanry" farming anything from 100 to 300 acres - " a most valuable set of men, who, having the means and the most powerful inducements to good husbandry, carry agriculture to a high degree of perfection". Here buildings were less likely to be totally renewed or built as a piece. Instead buildings were added to the farmstead as they were needed and older ones converted. Here the "evolved" rather than the "planned" farmstead is more likely and so medieval survivals are more frequently found.

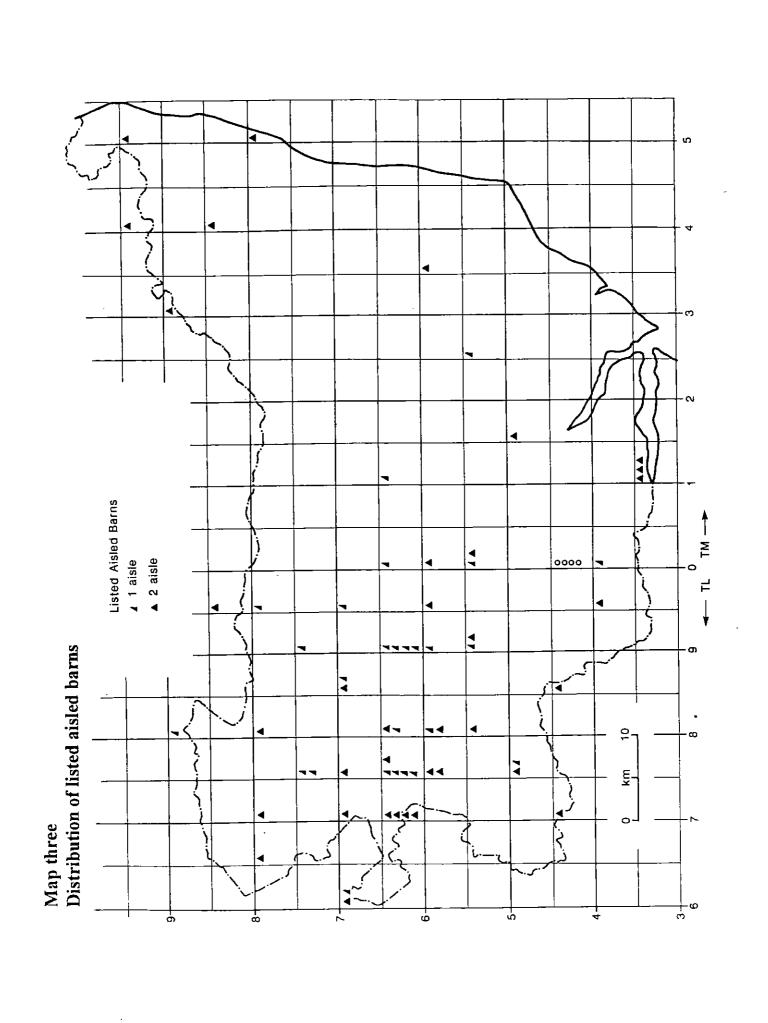
 δ Although there were a few large estates, even on the heavier lands, and the interest of their owners in farm improvement varied dramatically. In general nineteenth century Suffolk landlords away from the light Breckland soils did not replace their farm buildings. Whilst a few pairs of mid-nineteenth century cottages with estate insignia may stand near a farmstead, the farmstead with its house is still timber-framed with some later additions, but generally a few hundred years older. Damning reports for estates such as the Adairs (in the north-east around Flixton and the South Elmhams) and the Ashburnham (mid-Suffolk) estate from the 1750s and 1830s respectively, list buildings in a state of disrepair, but in the case of the Adairs "much on a parr with the common state of repairs of other estates in that country". 22 The buildings of the Ashburnham estates around Creeting were described in 1830 as of a "very inferior description, mostly being very old and having been neglected for many years". 23 Hermann Biddell, writing in 1907 of Suffolk agriculture, said "Suffolk Homesteads are as a rule miserably bad...and often of poor materials" such as thatch, board and haulm. 24 The Webb family at Combs were wealthy tanners who amassed estates in the area and built themselves a fine model farm in the 1860s which was featured on their bill heading, but undertook no improvements on their tenanted farms. This strange lack of interest on the part of landlords in the claylands must be explained by the fact that they did not see the erection of new steadings as economically viable, and that the culture of improvement, so obvious on the newly enclosed lighter lands, was absent here. The fine old barns and sheds surviving from a previous era were seen as adequate, even for midnineteenth century farmers. It does mean, however, that over much of Suffolk there is a remarkably high survival rate of pre-eighteenth century farm buildings. This will be discussed in the following sections.

²¹ A. Young General View of the Agriculture of Suffolk (1813), p.8

²² Suffolk Record Office HA12 D3/1

²³ Suffolk Record Office HA1 HB4/2

²⁴ H.Biddell "Agriculture" Victoria County History of Suffolk vol. II (1907), p.388



• Dating Farm Buildings -general

Medieval barns

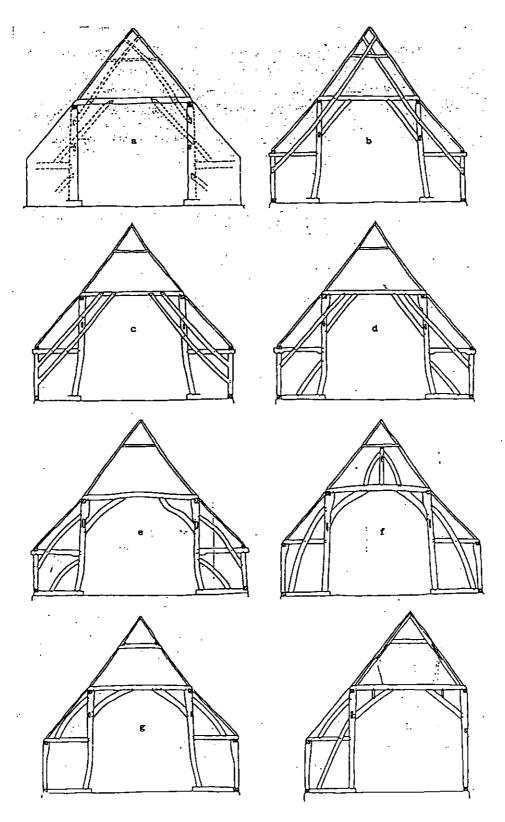
There are probably between twenty and thirty known examples of barns constructed between 1200 and 1500 in Suffolk, a very small proportion of the total of standing barns (map 3). Nearly all of these barns have two aisles and can be dated by the jointing and the type of passing brace design used (figs. 1-& 2). In much of south-east England, evidence has been found for a period of widespread rural building development between c.1270 and 1350. This is true of Suffolk, where houses and barns of this date remain with much alteration, but more commonly in the form of reused timbers. A quite complete barn is at St Bartholomews Priory, Sudbury, a monastic example of c.1350.

At this period, barns must on average have been smaller than in the sixteenth century because yields were lower. Even on manor sites, only two or three bays of an earlier barn can be expected, the longer thirteenth and fourteenth century survivals being more probably monastic. The survival of a small early barn will be dependent on a later decision to extend it rather than rebuild, as in the elongated barn at Hall Farm, Alpheton. On the other hand, at Hall Farm, Whepstead the 8-bay barn was completely rebuilt in the seventeenth century, but all eight bays are built of major components from an equally large monastic barn of c.1300.

Post-medieval aisled barns reuse major components from thirteenth and fourteenth century barns which may have stood on the same site or nearby. A good example is at Brickhouse Farm, Hitcham, where many of the major timbers come from a larger aisled barn of c.1300, whose size and quality would have required a wealthy patron: the Abbey of Ely owned the manor of Hitcham Hall at that time and the site of the manor house is not far away. These timbers greatly increase the historic interest of the building. We may be able to demonstrate after more field work how many fourteenth century aisled barns were still standing in c.1600. Some of these must have been neglected and others were of inferior workmanship, but the impression is that they were nearly all too small in capacity for the rapidly expanding crop volumes harvested on Elizabethan farms.

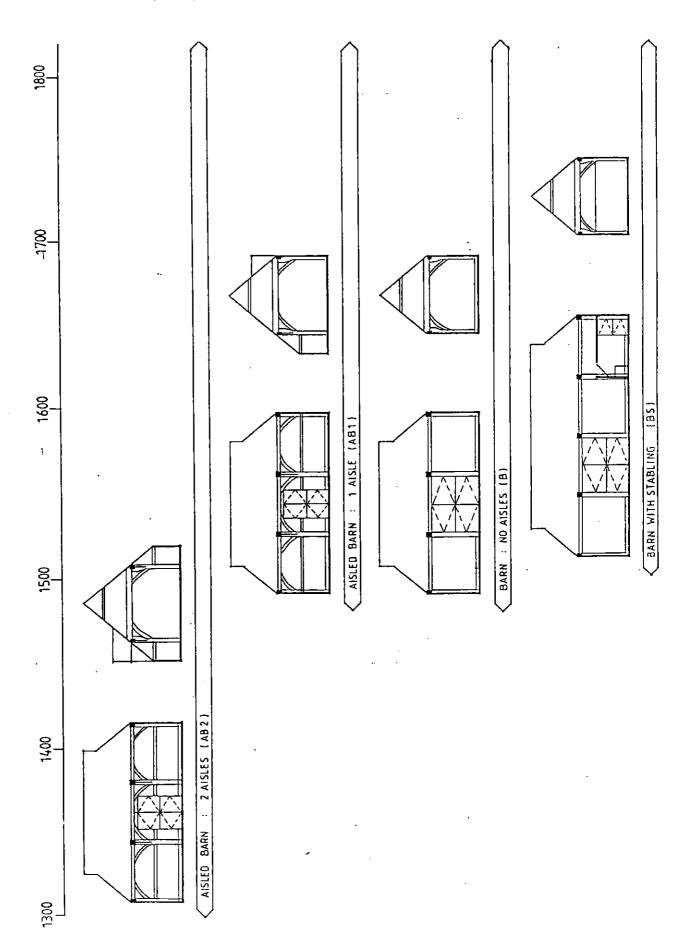
There are surprisingly few bains dateable to the fifteenth century in Suffolk, although there may be several awaiting discovery in south Suffolk. These are likely to have two aisles and crown-posts roofs. The earliest known single-aisled barn in Suffolk is the large, late-fifteenth century barn at Place Farm, Hawstead, but this seems to have been greatly reduced in length during the eighteenth century.

Figure one Cross sections of Suffolk aisled barns



- a. Desning Hall, Gazeley (Tl 734633) 13th cent. or earlier
- b. Old Hall Farm, Alpheton (TL874505) mid-13th cent. or earlier
- c. Hall Farm, Whepstead (TL833582) late-13th cent.
- d. St Bartholemew's Priory, Sudbury (TL872582) mid-14th cent.
- e. Street Farm, Mildenhall (TL713770) mid-14th cent.
- f. Abbots Hall Farm, Breneleigh (TL925473) 15th cent.
- g. Milden Hall, Milden (TL945461) mid-16th cent.
- h. Upper Abbey Farm, Leiston (TM453645) 18th cent

Figure two
Aisled barn types by date



The earliest unaisled barns date from the late-fifteenth century. Perhaps the finest example is the large queenpost-roofed barn at Rook Hall, Eye, (a scheduled Ancient Monument). The barn at Street Farm, Stone Street, Crowfield dates from the fifteenth century. It represents the opposite extreme: this small, simple three-bay barn appears from jointing evidence to be the same age as the medieval house. Even if this barn has been rebuilt later using mostly older components this is a very rare example of a small fifteenth century barn.

In view of the good survival rate of fifteenth century farmhouses in Suffolk, the rarity of fifteenth century barns is surprising. The reason appears to be that on these farmsteads the existing fourteenth century or earlier barns were kept, even when the old house was inadequate and needed rebuilding by the fifteenth century. Alternatively, many small fifteenth century barns were all rebuilt around 1600 on a much larger scale. This also implies a change of farming emphasis: agricultural wealth in the fifteenth century may have been largely based on other factors than corn-growing.

Early-sixteenth century barns

In the absence of reliable statistics, it could be estimated from available evidence (map 4) that between five and ten times more barns survive from the period c.1550 to 1600 than from the previous 50 years and we must conclude that far more were built. Therefore it is important when examining barns to try and identify those examples built in the first half of the century.

A limited number of very fine early-sixteenth century barns survive on manorial estates and some of these were built to a remarkably high standard. Perhaps the most outstanding of the group is at Framsden Hall, which may be of c.1500. It is twelve bays long: the lower walling is of red brick with burnt headers in a diaper pattern while the upper level is timber framed with once pink-painted bricknogging, all to match the house of the same date. This has a very early example of a two-tier butt purlin roof with windbraces and a rare example of a triangular ridge piece. Queen struts complete this precocious roof of a type not usually found much before 1600. Included with the select group of outstanding early Tudor barns should be several that have lost their first roof structure or have been otherwise disguised. At Winston Hall Farm the design of the walls of the large barn has similarities to the Framsden barn and it could well be by the same carpenter. For this reason the replacement of the roof by an eighteenth century butt-purlin type and the removal of wattle and daub in the nineteenth century in favour of weatherboarding does not disqualify the building from a place beside the Framsden one in significance.

The only tree-ring dated farm building in Suffolk at the time of writing is at Wingfield College, a queenpost-roofed, unaisled, barn with an integral stable and loft above at the north end. Timbers were felled in 1527, probably within a year or two of construction. An even larger queenpost-roofed example at Badley Hall Farm was built in two phases and possibly the second phase was also built in the 1520's, contemporary with the manor house constructed for the Poley family. The mid-sixteenth century unaisled barn at Roydon Hall, Creeting St Peter is in ten bays. Its extremely wide span is roofed by two tiers

Number of Listed Farm Buildings-by Date - 1500-1600 ver of Listed Farm Buildings -te – post 1700 tuidings other then Berns Maps showing distribution of listed farm buildings by date Number of Listed Farm Buildings by Date - pre 1500 Number of Listed Farm Building by Date - 1600-1700

Map four

of queenposts. Three bays were designed to have stabling with a large hayloft above.

The earlier of the two barns at Little Stonham Hall was built in the first half of the century. The heavily-built frame has deep and obvious windbraces. The actual pattern of braces in a sixteenth century barn varies from one small subregion to another, but the massive studs and prominent bracing are good indicators of date. This barn began with a single bay of stabling, but was enlarged within a century, when a second barn was built close by with more extensive stables integrated.

At Fenn Farm, Hitcham there are two barns of c.1600 built end-to-end and perhaps during the same operation. The northern barn is much smaller and seems to have been built almost entirely of components from a very solidly-built barn of c.1500. One might ask why the earlier barn was demolished and rebuilt on a similar scale - perhaps it had been standing on a different site where it was no longer needed.

Sixteenth century Roof Types

Sixteenth century barns tend to have heavy studwork and strongly-braced trusses with a variety of roof types depending on the precise date and where in the county the farm was located. This period of rapid change and development in roof design is described briefly below. It will be seen that the medieval types lingered well into the century but it was at this time that the numerous types of side purlin roof were being introduced. In the poorer areas of west Suffolk, however, the simplest side purlin roofs became the dominant type even into the nineteenth century.

- 1. Good examples of coupled rafter roofs in farm buildings are rare, although most medieval barns had them. Although they were widespread even until the mid-sixteenth century not many examples survive.
- 2. Suffolk farm buildings with crown-post roofs are now also rare, especially outside Babergh District. They are not normally found in buildings constructed after 1550
- 3. Queenpost roofs are found in north and east Suffolk from the fifteenth century to the mid-sixteenth century and the majority of the survivors date from the latter period.
- 4. Simple clasped-purlin roofs were being introduced in the mid-sixteenth century. Such early examples are sometimes difficult to distinguish from later plain purlin roofs but are more heavily framed than seventeenth century examples and generally lack windbraces. In particular the hip construction is likely to be stronger than in the later-sixteenth century or early-seventeenth century. After c.1600 the roof of a farm building is more likely to be gabled, especially in east Suffolk.
- 5. At the end of the sixteenth century, clasped-purlin roofs might have reduced principal rafters which are not necessarily above the trusses beneath. Such a roof will probably have windbraces up to the purlins, but not necessarily in each bay and the braces may be very thin and inadequate.

- 6. Around 1600, two-tier side purlin roofs were being introduced in a variety of combinations. A popular type had a lower tier of butt-purlins and an upper tier of windbraced clasped-purlins.
- 7. Two-tier butt-purlin roofs were used in very high-quality sixteenth century buildings, but not in barns (but see barn at Framsden Hall). They became popular in mid-seventeenth century and through the eighteenth century in farm buildings where the purlins could be staggered in height from bay to bay.
- 8. In the later-seventeenth century and through the eighteenth century two-tier butt-purlin roofs may have bisected rafters tenoned into the purlins to save on the cost of long timbers.
- 9. During the eighteenth century butt purlin roofs sometimes incorporated long diagonal rafter braces into which the rafters are bisected. The type continued into the nineteenth century.

Late-sixteenth century Barns

West Suffolk was a county with an emphasis on arable production, and large barns continued to be built on manor sites throughout the sixteenth century. Some were still being built with aisles, either along the back or both back and front. While the popularity of aisled barns was declining on manorial farms by 1600 it was the smaller farms which continued the tradition, even beyond 1800.

Remarkably, in east Suffolk, the distribution map shows an area in which aisled barns were not built in the sixteenth century, or later. This is apparently because of a different emphasis in farming methods: in east Suffolk dairying was a source of great wealth and the total arable crop volume on a given farm was smaller. The extra capacity afforded by aisles may not have been considered necessary.

The dissolution of St Edmunds Abbey in 1539 resulted in a subdivision of the Abbey's estates, especially in the countryside around Bury St Edmunds. Some of the Abbey's aisled barns at, for instance, Hall Farm, Whepstead, and Manor Farm, Great Barton (and until the 1980's at Little Horringer Hall) remained in use with greater or lesser degrees of repair or reconstruction, but on a number of farms, especially to the west of the town, large new aisled barns were still being built in the early-seventeenth century.

On the smaller farms throughout the county, a massive rebuilding programme was under way between 1550 and 1650 with the peak activity around 1600. On the dairy farms of mid and north Suffolk the new barn was typically of three bays with a central threshing floor, and a fourth bay contained lofted stable accommodation. At Mill Green Farm, Stonham Aspal is a good example, converted to a house in c. 1997.

Only more wealthy farmers would invest in a porch at the main entrance of a sixteenth century. Its value is obvious in protecting both laden carts and the threshing operation from bad weather. At this date it is more likely that only a small doorway is placed opposite in the rear wall. The smaller barn at **Badley Hall Farm** has such a door, blocked at an early stage when the barn was

converted to a stable. More usually, the small door is enlarged instead, even to the full height and width of the bay, at some date from c.1650-1800. Further, a porch might be added to the rear but containing only a single or double door for draught and pedestrian use. This expands the threshing area or provides parking space for a second cart. Rear porches were a nineteenth century feature in general, but at Thurston Hall Farm, Hawkedon the rear porch is part of the original mid-sixteenth century design: as a moat is immediately behind the barn it cannot have been an entrance porch. A barn with an integral sixteenth century entrance porch is of greater interest than the much more widespread type which received a porch in the eighteenth or nineteenth century. Of course, a barn with an aisle along the front as well as the rear must have a porch designed from the outset to give sufficient height for a loaded wagon to enter.

At Wetherden Hall Farm, Hitcham is one surviving wing of a manor house. Formerly incorporated into this building of about the 1570's or 80's was a 5-bay barn and beyond that, at the end of the building, a further block apparently for domestic accommodation or stabling. To have a barn integrated with domestic accommodation in a Suffolk manor house like this is rare. Normally a large late-sixteenth century manor would have a proportionately large barn flanking the entrance to the base court and in the circumstances of Wetherden Hall, where there was a moat, just outside the island. The large barn, undoubtedly built during the same building campaign at Wetherden Hall was moved to Sicklesmere in 1987 to form the annexe to The Rushbrook Arms public house.

At Milden Hall Farm there are two large aisled barns, both built c.1550-80, implying that the manor had a very large acreage of grain at the period. The aisles continued both along the sides and round the ends of the barns, but the internal planning was not straightforward. One barn was designed to have stabling in the two last bays with a full-height partition and a loft above. The other barn had integral cartlodges within the aisle at either end, partitioned off from the body of the barn at lower level.

Many late-sixteenth century barns take advantage of available timber from a demolished building elsewhere on site. This can be instantly recognizable when the timbers are smoke-blackened. At Hawkedon Hall Farm, the late-sixteenth century single aisled barn has many such smoke-blackened timbers, including more than thirty rafters and the components from the hipped ends of the original roof. Arcade posts are trenched for passing braces and one was first used in a partition truss which had an arched doorhead. Therefore, when the barn was built a smoke-blackened aisled hall or kitchen must have been available for recycling.

Barns, like houses, may have a front and a rear wall in which the quality of framing is designed to be seen or not, depending on position. The Wingfield College barn is an especially good example where each bay of the front wall has heavy close-studding above and below a midrail which served as the head member to doors and windows in the stable. The rear wall, on the other hand,

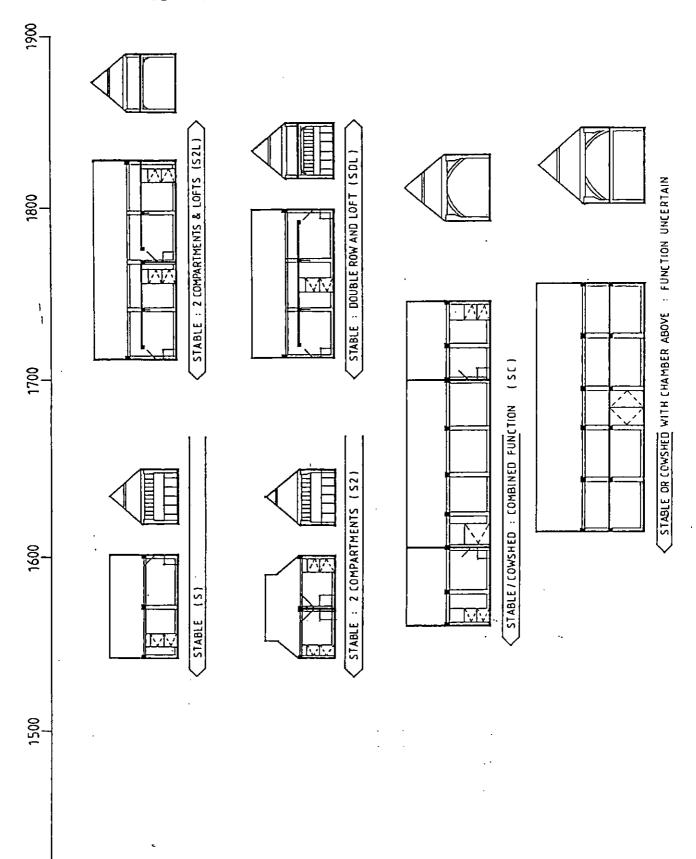
had heavy but widely-spaced studs rising from plinth to eaves with arched windbracing to stiffen it at the corners. The much smaller unaisled barn at **Brickhouse Farm, Hitcham**, also has a midrail along one sidewall. There is very different full-height studding on the other wall, which has much heavier arched windbracing on the inner face rather than the outer. In this instance the two sidewalls have totally different personalities and it is the side facing away from the house which is apparently of higher quality. At the **Hitcham** site, the rear wall of the barn may have faced a road which has long since been extinguished, and then have been regarded as the front wall. This is a reminder that the planning of the site can sometimes be interpreted by the details of a surviving building, even when modern developments have resulted in clearance.

Seventeenth century Barns

The period of rebuilding continued up until the mid-seventeenth century, after which decline set in both in constructional quality and number of barns being built. The reuse of timbers increased, as well as the use of species other than oak and this corresponded with the introduction of primary bracing from c. 1680 onwards, whereby shorter studs could be used. The mid-seventeenth century six-bay barn at Dale Farm, Hitcham is a good example. It had a rear aisle, and the final bay was partitioned off from the outset for stabling with a hayloft above it. There is so much reused timber that it is unclear how much of the barn may have been altered later; at the west end the gable wall and part of the front wall may have been rebuilt as late as c. 1800 using primary braced studding.

Figure three Stable types by date

8



Stables

Sixteenth and seventeenth century Stables

A little research has been carried out on the design and development of barns in Suffolk, but nothing on stables. Fig. 3 gathers together a few of the recently examined stable buildings and in some cases formalizes and completes their layout hypothetically. They may turn out to be typical examples, or they may not. Before about 1700, it was normal practice to fix a manger with hayrack above to partition walls across the building. The external gable wall may have been the site for harness racks in this arrangement and the entrance door for each unit of stabling would be close to the end of one long wall and possibly with a second doorway opposite in the rear wall.

Where such buildings survive from the sixteenth or seventeenth century they will have been refurbished at least once. At Winston Hall (fig 4) and at Cranley Hall, Eye (fig.5) the arrangement was reversed in the late-eighteenth century, so that mangers were fixed to the external gable walls and the entrance doorways moved towards the centre of the front wall.

The simplest of the early stables that survive have either one or two units of stabling along these lines. Chevers Farm, Stonham Aspal has typically heavy sixteenth century studding with long windbraces and a coupled rafter roof. The long wall facing the road has a middle rail and the studwork is intended, perhaps, for display. Although the central dividing partition may have had back-to-back mangers for two units of stabling this has been completely removed at a later stage. We cannot tell for sure whether this was a stable or a neathouse because there are insufficient examples from this early period to make comparisons, but the unequal subdivision suggests that perhaps there was one compartment for each function. The building lacks an upper floor for hay storage, and on a small farm like this perhaps a hayloft should not be expected before c.1600.

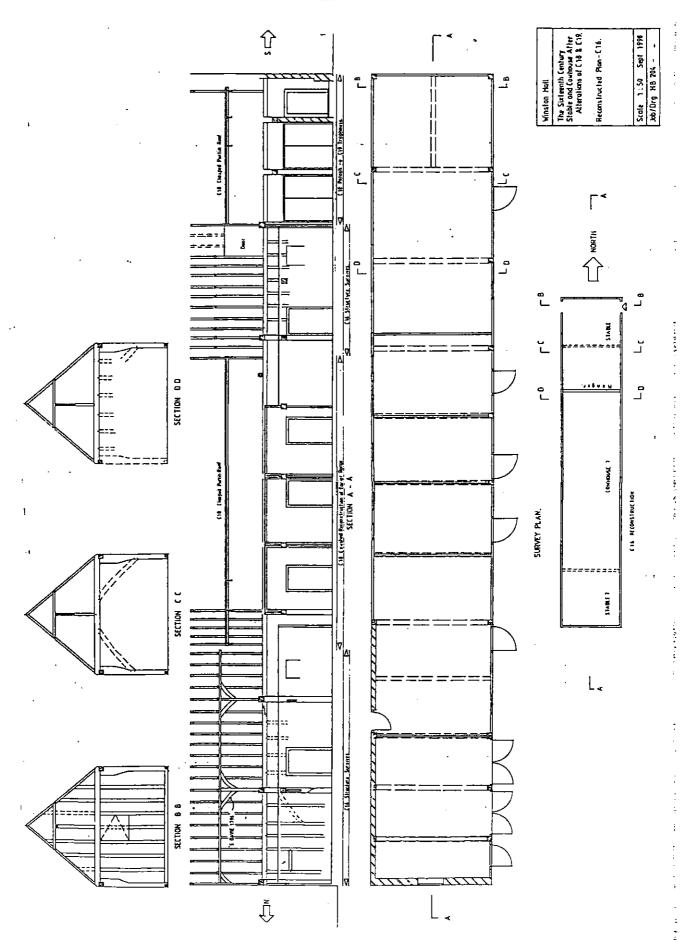
A building of slightly smaller size and in one unit stands at Whitehouse Farm, Hitcham. It is a little later, dating from after 1600. Originally it was constructed of two equal bays and without a loft. Near the centre of one long wall was the only entrance doorway. Although one gable wall is missing there is no evidence elsewhere in the building for the fixing of mangers or harness racks. The building therefore does not fit the specification suggested above for a stable.

Perhaps it was a cowhouse or perhaps there were other types of stable.

A two-unit stable building at Cranley Hall, Eye dates from the early-seventeenth century, and its plan form is unusually complete (fig.5). During acceighteenth century alteration phase the mangers appear to have been moved from a back-to-back position across the central partition to a new position on the two gable walls. At this time a new doorway was inserted near the centre of the front wall (possibly replacing two separate doorways at opposite ends of the same wall). There is a full-height loft, accessed from an external doorway in one gable as well as through a trimmed opening with loft ladder inside one of the stables. This may well be a typical example of a stable with full-height loft on a

downsha

Figure four Stables and cowhouse at Winston Hall



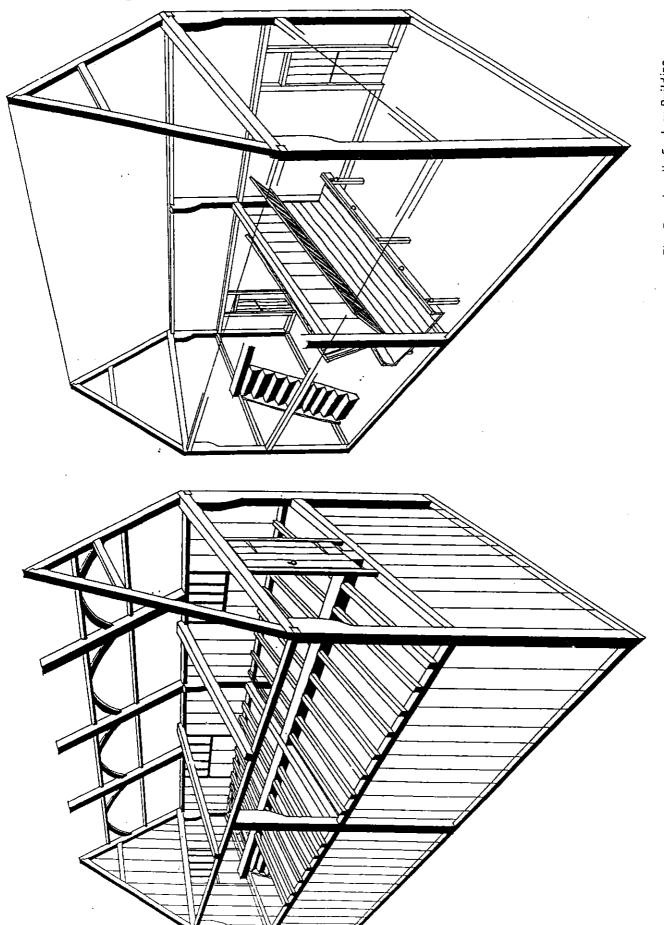
small seventeenth century manor as well as displaying typical alterations of the eighteenth century after a hundred years of wear and tear.

Small single-storey detached stables dating from the sixteenth century are rare. On a few manor sites much longer examples do survive, containing several units of stabling and with more than a hint of composite use. Such a range at Winston Hall (fig. 4) still retains part of its crown-post roof dating from the mid or later-sixteenth century. There was clearly a stable at the north end partitioned off from some other function but there were major eighteenth century alterations to the whole building. However the overall length has not changed because the south end of the structure also dates from the sixteenth century. A late-eighteenth century survey describes the range as stabling at the north end, a cowshed at the centre, and a potash at the south end, 25 While it cannot be proved it was designed in the sixteenth century as both a stable and cowhouse, it is perhaps unlikely that a building 25m long was only used as stabling. Another single storey range at Roydon Hall, Creeting St Peter also dates from the mid-to-late-sixteenth century, but different elements of the building have survived in different ways. Because the entire rear wall has survived as well as evidence for all the partitioning, it can be seen that there was a central four bay compartment which may have been designed as a cowshed with two-bay compartments at either end which were almost certainly intended as stabling. In the early-seventeenth century a further unit of stabling was added at each end to result in a total length of 35m. Again, the building had no loft until the eighteenth century.

There is a reasonable survival of stabling from the seventeenth century in Mid Suffolk District, but with a wide variety of detailed differences in design. The construction date can usually be confirmed by examining, for instance, the roof structure (which of course follows the evolution already described for barns). At Barley House Farm, Winston is an early-seventeenth century building four bays long, divided into two equal sized, lofted spaces with a full-height partition between the two. The internal planning of the two stables seems to have been different and the two loft spaces are also different in detail: one loft had only one small window but the other was better lit. Although this is a small and quite simple building, the irregular planning of doors and windows tells us that it was carefully designed and not symmetrical in purpose. Further study of such buildings may explain why.

A similar stable of c.1600 at Greenwood Farm, Mickfield sheds further light on this. The elderly farmer has always known it as a stable and bullock house. The latter was three bays long and the former, as usual, two bays long, with a full-height partition between them. There were upper chambers and over the bullock house a further loft in the roof space above that. The building succumbed to the hurricane of 1987.

²⁵ Cambridge Univ. Library, Ely Dean & Chapter 137731 (I am grateful to John Theobald for this information



Stables at Cranley Hall, Eye — The Seventeenth Century Building II — showing seventeenth century interior arrangement.

Stables at Cranley Hall, Eye — The Seventeenth Century Building I — from the rear.

Buildings which must be interpreted as two-storied stables on a very large scale appear around 1600. At **Doveshill Farm**, **Badley**, a building 25m long was constructed in eight bays. Until the nineteenth century it was completely floored and the loft was undivided, but also apparently unlit. At ground storey level a stable-type doorway survives in the very centre of one long wall but nineteenth century conversion into a barn has destroyed any evidence for other doorways. One suspects that there were several internal partitions to which mangers were fixed.

A building of the same date as the Doveshill Farm stable is at Whitehouse Farm, Hitcham. It is now six bays long but was once longer in a westerly direction. It also underwent a conversion to a barn around 1800. However, in this case there are widely-spaced diamond-mullioned windows surviving at first floor level in both long walls. There is structural evidence for a full-height loft from end to end, but it is difficult to assess where internal ground-storey partitions may have been. The holding was only of 20 acres and the farm had copyhold status, therefore the stable was surely too large for such a farm. It is far from clear what such a small farm would do with so many horses and it seems unlikely that such a large and well-constructed building would have been used as a cowshed. There may have been an undocumented connection with the manor of Loose Hall nearby, or perhaps there was an agricultural contracting business based here?

On many farms there was certainly an increased provision for stabling during the seventeenth century. At **Badley Hall Farm** there were two sixteenth century barns, one of which was much larger than the other. The smaller barn was converted sometime after about 1650 into stabling: whereas only one of the five bays had previously been stabling, now a loft was carried across the whole building and barn doors reduced to a more suitable size.

Eighteenth century Stables

In earlier agricultural stables, either the building was single-storied with no loft accommodation at all, or else there was a second storey framed carefully into the design. Because the eaves line was at least at shoulder height it was easy to walk around in the loft and a number of examples have windows. Sometimes these spaces are designated as domestic but this is not necessarily correct.

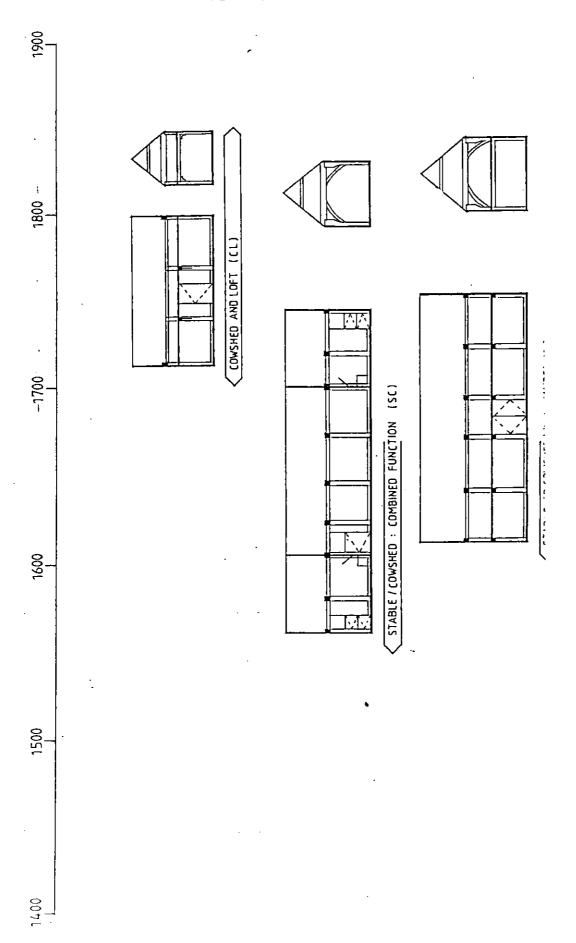
In the eighteenth century a new category became popular in which the eaves line was only about one metre above the loft floor. There were no tiebeams across the interior of the building because they would have been in the way; instead the side walls were tied by the floor beams of the loft. By about 1770, heavy solid knees were used to support these beams and fixed by bolts. At the Winston Hall building the knees are fixed above the beams, but serve the same function.

The standard of carpentry was in decline in the eighteenth century. Stables of this period can be identified by their roofs, often of butt purlin form, and by the

use of primary braced studding in the walls and the higher incidence of second hand timber.

The internal arrangement of eighteenth century stables was evolving. It appears that the principal of drops immediately above the hayrack was introduced whereby hay or chaff stored in the loft could be dropped directly into the rack. The earliest examples of a stable with a central doorway and mangers fixed to the two gable walls of the same space appear in the eighteenth century. An alternative development was the provision of stalls along the rear wall of the building instead of on the cross walls.

Figure six Stable/cowhouse types by date



Cowsheds

There is great difficulty in distinguishing cowsheds from stables in Suffolk, which can only be resolved by a thorough survey to pinpoint likely examples of each type (fig.6). The pilot study of farm buildings in Norfolk has concluded that there is no evidence for specific accommodation for cows in that county, and the agricultural commentator, William Marshall categorically states in the 1780's that 'cowhouses are unknown in a Norfolk farmery²⁶. On the other hand, there is abundant evidence for cowhouses in the other neighbouring county of Essex. For instance, a very detailed survey, dated about 1556, covers the greater part of Ingatestone, near Chelmsford.²⁷ It records the buildings on each holding. There were 38 barns, 18 stables, and 8 shetons (cowsheds).

One of the first known mentions of a cowshed in medieval Suffolk is at Acton Hall, Acton near Sudbury. The Household Book of Dame Alyce de Bryene of Acton Hall survives from September 1412 to September 1413. Among the appendices translated for publication by the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History are details of payments for building repairs to the barn, cowshepene (cowshed) and carthouse. By the seventeenth century, a cowshed was known from documents as a neathouse (pronounced nettus, to rhyme with lettuce). The term is current among the older generation of Suffolk dairy farmers, but will not long outlive the century. It is not used in any other county. A cowshed is specified at Winston Hall Farm in the survey of 1788.

The terms used in Suffolk are therefore:

- 1. Cowshippen (Fifteenth and sixteenth century)
- 2. Neathouse (seventeenth to twentieth century
- 3. Cowshed (Eighteenth to twentieth century).

Probably the first late-twentieth century attempt to identify historic cowsheds as a group was made during the Resurvey of the mid 1980's. It appears from it that most surviving neathouses date only from the eighteenthor early-nineteenth century, and most of those did not conform to the then current criteria for listing. Others are likely to have been mis-identified as stables.

A good but unlisted neathouse is at Badley Hall Farm, about 10 metres east of the large barn. It was built in the mid-eighteenth century, with a loft supported on bolted knees just below eaves level. The loft tiebeams restrained the butt-purlin roof. The building was mentioned in a survey of 1830 as a cowshed for 12 cows, at a time when the farm had 200 acres let to a tenant. Later in the nineteenth century the building was repaired and converted to a workshop and sawpit house, an operation which probably saved it from demolition at a later stage. There is no clear evidence that the internal space of the cowshed was subdivided. A long eighteenth century building at Moat Farm, Framsden was not listed at Resurvey but may well be a simple neathouse for a larger herd.

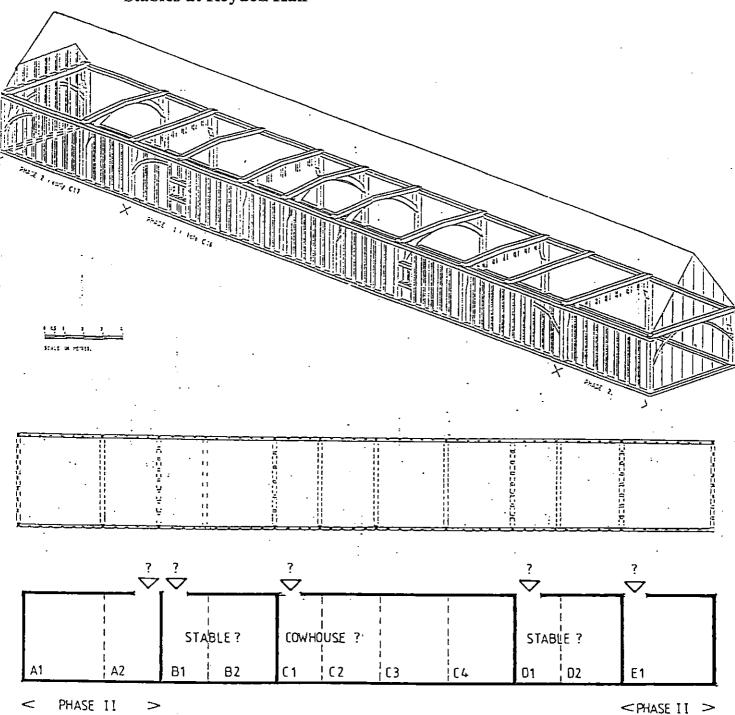
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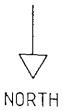
²⁶ W. Marshall The Rural Economy of Norfolk vol 1 (1783), p.83

²⁷ Particia Ryan "The barns of Ingatestone 1556 to 1601" Essex Historic Buildings Group 3 (November 1986)

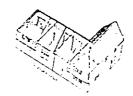
²⁸ Suffolk Record Office HA1/HB4/2

Figure seven Stables at Roydon Hall





THE "STABLES" AT ROYDON HALL, CREETING STPETER. ANALYSIS SEPTEMBER 1998.



PHILIP AITKENS
Historic Buildings Consultant

Mill Form Hengrave Turn SGF diminds, Softh B, 1928 of R Telephone (91284) 794–597 Lack of subdivision may provide the necessary evidence that a building was a cowshed and not a stable. The 25m long stable range at **Winston Hall**, (see Seventeenth Century Stables above) although built in the sixteenth century, now comprises a mid-eighteenth century centre section identified in a 1778 survey as a cowshed.

The 'stable' at Roydon Hall, Creeting St Peter already mentioned is very depleted (fig.7), but most of the rear wall and the central section of front wall remains. This central section is the earliest and it comprises four bays with arched braced open trusses. Other sixteenth and seventeenth century stables so far identified have two-bay compartments with mangers fixed to the crosswalls. Later cowsheds are long and undivided, and so there is a case for suggesting that this is the earliest cowshed still standing in Suffolk and possibly in East Anglia.

The House

The survival rate of medieval farmhouses across much of Suffolk is high by national standards; much higher than in Norfolk but not quite so high as in Essex and the south east. The popular idea of a medieval Suffolk farmhouse is of an open hall with a jettied crosswing at the upper end, and possibly a second crosswing at the low end containing service rooms, but this is a special type usually confined to the cloth towns and the surrounding settlements in south Suffolk. The majority of Suffolk farmhouses were rectangular in plan at this date, with an open hall and small, twin service rooms leading from the cross-passage. At the opposite end in nearly all cases was a small parlour cell. Both the end cells had a loft space above them beneath a hipped, or half-hipped, roof. Particularly in mid-Suffolk, only the occasional example had a cross-wing.

It is remarkable that many of these fifteenth centuryhouses survive and not a few fourteenth century ones, and yet the barns that must have accompanied them almost never survive.

The planning of the fifteenth century Suffolk farmhouse was uniform but differences are found in carpentry details in different parts of the county, especially in relation to roof design. In the south the main roof type employed crown-posts, the central post over the open hall often being decorative. In mid and east Suffolk, this was a much less popular form. Coupled rafter roofs continued and, in the early-sixteenth century, blossomed for a short while, even in quite high-quality open hall houses in south mid Suffolk such as Abbots Mead, Pettaugh and Nos 92-94, Ipswich road, Helmingham. This had been the major roof type in fourteenth century houses, especially small ones. The distribution map in the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology Local History Atlas of Suffolk shows the concentration of queenpost roofs in mid and north Suffolk. This fashion continued into the early and mid-sixteenth century in the same area.

Smaller sixteenth century houses in Suffolk show a remarkable diversity in plan form, and all the roof types described in the dating section on barns above are found in great numbers. The sixteenth century plan form is largely determined by the positioning of a chimneystack. (Around the third quarter of the century more chimneys were being built of timber than of brick. Although most of these have been swept away and replaced by brick ones, several good timber framed chimneystacks are still in use in the county.) In south Suffolk the earliest fireplace might be positioned against a cross-passage and heating the open hall. Surprisingly, this type is almost unknown in north mid Suffolk where the earliest chimneystacks are placed between the hall and parlour and within the body of the parlour. In this area especially, the parlour was remarkably small and probably only used for sleeping and storage. In the smallest houses only the hall would be heated. The chimneystack placed at the upper end of the hall became the universal site by the early-seventeenth century in East Anglian farmhouses, yet there are

²⁹ Sylvia Colman "Crown-post roofs" An Historical Atlas of Suffolk ed. Dymond & Martin 2nd ed.(1989), pp.134-5

regional differences for the siting of the chimney in the sixteenth century, implying that there was a difference in the lifestyle of the family in different areas.

Whitings Farmhouse at Mendlesham has the character of a typical dairying farm of mid Suffolk, although rather unusually there is only one full-width service room, not two. The parlour was originally very small. Now that a loft over the hall was incorporated in the design, extra storage was possible, and the subdivision of the loft allowed for a cool cheeseroom over the service end. The first chimneystack between hall and parlour, as in several other sixteenth century houses, did not emerge through the ridge but instead discharged into the roofspace, the smoke being dispersed through a gablet over the parlour cell as it would have done in a medieval house.

Many sixteenth century farmhouses lacked a parlour cell; the chimney would then be placed at the gable end of the hall or against the cross-passage. Some quite large farmhouses were built along these lines. The lack of a parlour may have been due to family circumstances, but some examples may well have had a detached kitchen instead. The chambers in small farmhouses could be subdivided in different ways. The two-cell house might only have a single chamber, or there might be a division above the centre of the hall. These rooms were for storage rather than occupation and sometimes had little or no natural daylight over the hall before the insertion of dormers. The hall-chamber was, according to inventories, often used as a granary.

By the sixteenth century, mid Suffolk houses tended to be noticeably taller than in the south. By the mid-sixteenth century, some farmhouses already had a loft over the hall chamber as well as over the parlour chamber: and full-length lofts were widespread by the 1570s and 80s. The dairying areas did not suffer from the collapse of the broadcloth industry which devastated south-west Suffolk in the mid-sixteenth century; instead the dairying industry was going from strength to strength.

The modernisation of medieval houses continued after 1600. A striking improvement was the reconstruction on a larger scale of the parlour block, very well illustrated at Read Hall, Mickfield in Suffolk Houses, by Eric Sandon. However, this was not the only obvious expression of farming wealth at the turn of the seventeenth century. As well as reconstructing farm buildings, the farmer also might extend the service accommodation in the house. A large dairy and/or kitchen might be added to the existing service rooms, or might replace them. A substantial minority of sixteenth century farmhouses had a detached kitchen (see separate section beneath). This outbuilding might be developed in size in the seventeenth century almost out of recognition; in particular to provide a much larger dairy with cheese storage above. At Brundish Manor, also illustrated in Suffolk Houses, the detached corner-to-corner sixteenth century kitchen was greatly raised in height and length to rival the mass of the farmhouse, itself a substantial building. Whereas in other counties the principal of the detached kitchen was in sharp decline before 1600, it continued to thrive through the seventeenth century in mid-Suffolk.

A number of wealthy landowners built hunting lodges in their parks during the mid-sixteenth century. These tall buildings featured a massive central chimneystack, and with their unconventional planning may have been the prototypes for the surge of large lobby-entrance houses which appeared just before 1600 and continued through the seventeenth century.

In contrast to Norfolk, farmhouse-building declined sharply in the eighteenth century, and alterations to earlier houses tend to be cosmetic, especially in west Suffolk where Stanchills Farmhouse, Hengrave, dated 1775, is an exception proving the rule. However, in north mid Suffolk especially the vernacular forms continued, in particular the three-cell lobby-entrance form. Here brick construction began to take the place of timber framing.

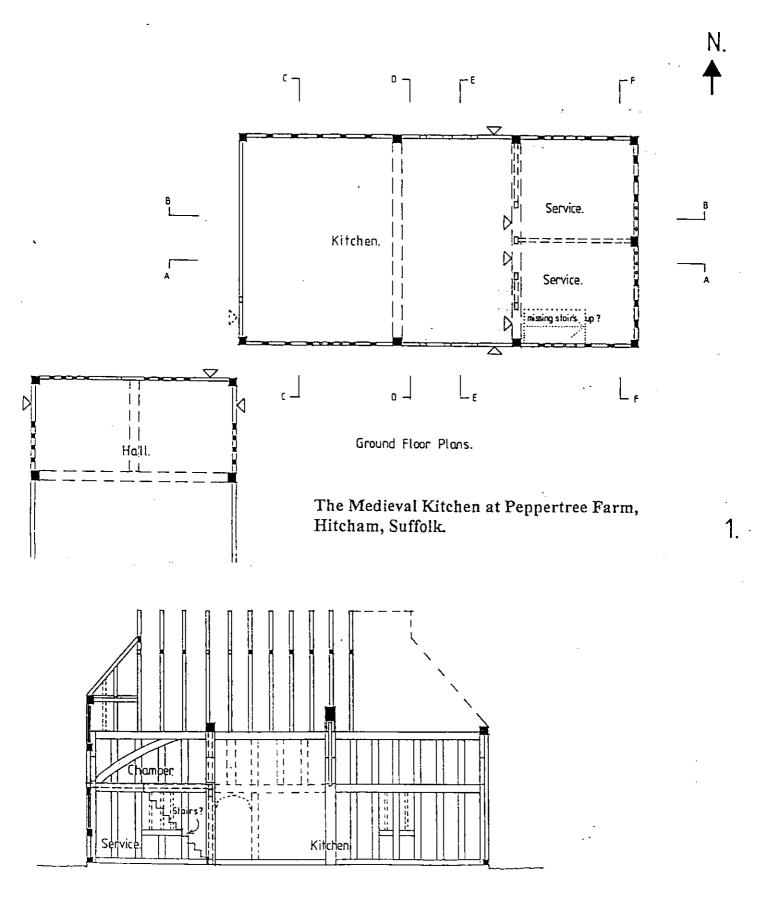
The revival of grain prices at the turn of the nineteenth century is reflected in the reconstruction of farmhouses as well as of farm buildings. Vernacular forms of planning were by now abandoned in most cases, but notably in south Babergh District, traditional materials and techniques continued in use. A popular form was a square-planned house of timber framing with lath and plaster cladding and a steeply-pitched, hipped plaintiled roof. Many, but by no means all of these, may have an earlier timber-framed core, very heavily disguised. The house would have a classical central front door and three or five bays of sash windows. In west Suffolk especially, modernisations of this period might include a brick cladding to the facade of the earlier house and reroofing using Welsh slate. Sometimes the earlier roof structure would be entirely removed and rebuilt at a much lower pitch with hipped ends. This can result in a heavy disguise for a much older building. A cluster of medieval and sixteenth century farmhouses in the Whepstead area, south of Bury St Edmunds, were disguised in this way in around the 1840's. Buildings with early-nineteenth century origins, or remodellings, need to be assessed on their merits: hard-and-fast rules cannot be applied here. However, their listablity is especially vulnerable to twentieth century depletion.

Local builders in more isolated parts of Suffolk continued to use vernacular techniques well into the nineteenth century, particularly in the design of joinery. Quite extensive alterations could unintentionally extend the strong vernacular character of a farmhouse for many more generations.

During the 1998 survey of Hitcham, fifteenth century houses were examined at **Dale Farmhouse**, Barrels Farmhouse and Causeway House Farmhouse, of which two were not listed. Because the emphasis of the study is on farmsteads rather than houses, the interiors of very few farmhouses were examined. A number of medieval houses have already been identified in the lists for Hitcham, and others certainly await identification. This inevitably applies to much of south Suffolk. A medieval house with a good survival of framing but which has lost an historic roof structure is still listable and, to a lesser degree, this is still true of most houses constructed before 1700. However, there are other factors to consider in altered buildings. If a house has clear evidence of rare plan form or structural technique, such as the use of basecrucks, then it may be listable despite severe alterations.

Because of the variability in quality and survival rate in different parts of the county of all vernacular buildings a greater inclusiveness may sometimes be appropriate. In Forest Heath District, for example, there are few sixteenth century vernacular buildings. Plan forms are simple and old-fashioned and the scale much smaller than in mid Suffolk. Poplar Cottage, Hollywell Row, Mildenhall is an open-hall house with a smoke-blackened side-purlin roof. In this context an open hearth would no longer have been used in most of Suffolk. At Crooked Cottage, 14 Church Road, Moulton is a seventeenth century house: it was still built with a single-storey plan and apparently with a timber-framed chimney, even at such a late date. This sharp drop in quality and size continues to be noticeable through much of Cambridgeshire.

Figure eight Kitchen at Peppertree Farm, Hitcham



Section A - A.

The Medieval Kitchen at Peppertree Farm, Hitcham, Suffolk

Kitchens

The Hitcham Parish survey has unearthed a previously unknown and unlisted example of a very well preserved medieval detached kitchen. No methodical study has been made of this building type in Suffolk but in 1997 David and Barbara Martin set out the principle for identifying kitchens in the Rape of Hastings, Sussex.³⁰ The article has produced controversy. Suggestion is made that many of these buildings are not kitchens but unit houses. In Suffolk a good number of detached kitchens survive (see appendix 6). The Peppertree Farm example (fig. 8) is perhaps the best preserved of them all. Early examples date from the fifteenth and early-sixteenth centuries. Typically they comprise a two-bay 'open hall' with an attached two-storied cell at the service end. Apart from the lack of a parlour cell these buildings can be very difficult or impossible to distinguish from late medieval open hall houses of a modest context. The following pointers can help to distinguish a kitchen from a small house:

- 1. There is also a near-contemporary house nearby on the same site.
- 2. Small, typical open hall houses rarely lack a parlour cell., whereas 'open hall' type kitchens in Suffolk have not yet been found with a parlour cell.
- 3. Peppertree Farm may be unique in having evidence for most or all of the original windows and even more helpfully perhaps, negative evidence where windows could not have existed.
- 4. Low-level windows with sliding shutters are not to be expected in normal open halls but are to be expected in kitchens. Small high-level windows under the eaves with hinged shutters are not to be found in normal open hall houses but are typical aids to draught control in kitchens.

A detached kitchen, if it remains detached, may be adapted in one of two ways.

- 1. It is modernised by the insertion of a chimneystack and upper floor continuing in use as a semi-domestic range down the centuries.
- 2. The kitchen becomes a shed-like space and possibly a normal small barn (as at Peppertree Farm). This may preserve the original design of the kitchen better but will involve the removal of floors and partitions.

There is some evidence that where a detached kitchen continues in use on a sixteenth century site then the sixteenth century house which replaces a medieval one but keeps in use the detached kitchen is likely to be incomplete in its planning. Thus at Peppertree Farm there is no service cell in the early-sixteenth century house, which is most unusual.

The continuing development of the kitchen type during the sixteenth century is complex and also is in need of thorough study. The open area of the kitchen shrinks in size, eventually to become a chimneystack, either timber-framed or brick. At Watering Farm, Somersham, the prominent detached kitchen of late-sixteenth century date has an apparent smoke bay which may in fact have been a full-height space containing a smokey chimneystack. The storeyed accommodation has become much larger than previous plan types and the long upper storey still

³⁰ David and Barbara Martin "Detached kitchens in eastern Sussex" Vernacular Architecture 28 (1997) pp.85-91

contains grain bins as it may always have done, complete with unglazed windows and louvres.

A good number of mid Suffolk farmsteads have two long ranges set corner-to-corner, or perhaps as a result of later alterations now arranged in an attached L-plan. Brundish Manor³¹ is a good example where a corner-to-corner kitchen became a relatively small part of the range and we need to consider the other functions in separate detail.

³¹ E.Sandon Suffolk Houses (1977) plate 227

4: Guidelines for selection

The complete farmstead and its buildings- historical background and criteria for individual farm buildings

Farm buildings are by far the most numerous type of historic structure in the countryside. Most farmhouses are surrounded by a cluster of barn, stables, livestock shelters and implement sheds. Because there are so many farm buildings surviving in East Anglia and because substantial numbers of them are already listed, any new listing programme must remain highly selective whilst seeking also to address the long-term issues of assessment which follow on from listing and which relate to countryside character.

The overwhelming proportion of listed buildings in the region are barns: while these rarely stood alone, they are readily identified and understood and are frequently the most impressive structure on the farmstead.

Other building types and buildings of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries have fared less well because they are less well understood. But their interest not only lies in their variety as individual examples of their type, but also in their functionalism and the way in which they reflect principal developments and characteristics. In them we can "read" past farming systems and so they form, not only a vital part of the historic landscape, but also a unique source of farming history. Despite the regional variations which have been outlined, most farms had much in common. They were all, by and large, self-sufficient and so needed a mixture of cereals and livestock. All farmers produced cereals for both animal feed and their own consumption, and all kept animals to manure the fields. To do this, farmers had to find enough feed to maintain at least some of their animals over the winter. Certain farm buildings were therefore common to all farms but their shape and size was determined by the ratio of cereals to livestock. The barn provided storage for the crop and a threshing floor where it could be prepared for use on the farm or for market. The stables ensured that horses would be warm, dry and properly fed. Their food - cereals and chaff - and bedding was produced in the barn and hay was often stored in a loft above them. By the mid-eighteenth century, livestock was increasingly wintered in yards or loose boxes. Ideally, these were situated near the supplies of food and bedding. Grain might be stored in a granary or sometimes in the farmhouse. Sheds provided shelter for implements.

East Anglia was at the forefront of the improvements in crop rotation from the end of the seventeenth century, which had a significant effect on farm building design. Under earlier farming regimes, animals were put out on the stubble left over from the harvest for the winter before it was ploughed in, in the spring. Winter crops were planted on land that had been fallow. This gave rise to a basic rotation cycle of barley-fallow-wheat. It was the introduction of improved grasses such as sainfoin and clover, and winter feed-crops such as turnips, that released farmers from this restrictive cycle. Grass, sown as temporary pasture, was also used for making hay, and turnips formed a 'break' crop between one cereal and the next, eliminating the need for the fallow year whilst also providing nutritious feed. In its simplest form it can be summarised as wheat-roots-barley-

grasses. This improved system has its origins in the late-seventeenth century on the good loams (where an extra crop of grain could often be fitted in) and was taken up by the larger estates on the poorer soils in the eighteenth century, who sometimes encouraged their tenants to 'improve' by providing them with good ranges of new farm buildings.

The production of more winter feed allowed for the keeping of more cattle for fattening. These could be fed in yards where they trod down the straw left after threshing, increasing the production of good manure for corn production. This in turn increased both corn yields and the amount of straw for bedding and manure and chaff for horse feed. This perfect 'closed circuit' system worked best when the farm buildings were carefully laid out specifically to accommodate it. The concept of 'planned' or 'model' farms dates from the 1740s. More often than not these took the form of symmetrical layouts around courtyards. The barn would form one side of the yard with sheds forming wings at right angles, one containing the stables and the other the cattle sheds. Feed stores and ancillary buildings along with cart sheds facing onto the roadway, made up the fourth side.

This layout was adopted on most new farms, whether architect-designed or not, and formed the basic framework within which accommodation was provided, the form of the loose boxes and yards, for the feeding and stalling of increasing numbers of cattle between 1840 and 1870 (the result of an increasingly urban and meat-eating population, coupled with the development of the railway system). It is during this period, more than at any other time, that farming techniques were reflected in buildings that could truly be described as factories for production, with steam engines for working threshing machines, preparing feed for animals and powering grain bruisers and rollers, turnip cutters and cake crushers. High-input/high-output systems based on the availability of artificial fertilisers and feeds were replacing the 'closed circuit' methods that relied on farm-produced feeds and manure.

But after about 1870, with the beginning of large-scale importing of grain from the American prairies and meat in refrigerated ships from New Zealand and Argentina, prices fell and farming entered a depression from which it did not recover until the First World War. Only the wealthiest landowners continued to build model or experimental farms; most put up very little, perhaps investing in dairy buildings or cattle sheds in an attempt to attract tenants.

Changes of emphasis in farming activity thus had an enormous effect on the design of individual buildings and their arrangement within the farmstead, whether the steading is evolved or - as is more rarely the case in Suffolk - a planned group. Some preliminary guidance on the criteria for selection follow this statement.

It is important, in assessing the overall importance of an historic farmstead, to assess the significance and relationship of the farmhouse to its development - particularly its social and economic context. In exceptional circumstances, a

farmhouse of marginal listable quality can be included if it forms part of an otherwise outstanding group of historic farm buildings.

The age of a building is often considered an important criteria for listing. However, farm buildings are notoriously difficult to date with accuracy. We can however say whether they are "pre-improvement", part of the first phase of "improvement" or of the Victorian phase, and these are more meaningful divisions in Suffolk, than rigid categories by date. The existing criteria, as outlined in PPG 15, 6.11 can only provide a framework within which knowledge and discernment must be employed, and they do not readily relate to the principal phases in agricultural history. These broadly fall within three phases:

- the pre-1770 category, which includes all buildings in the 'pre-improvement phase', when surviving farm buildings can be most strongly representative of both the variety and development of regional agricultural systems and local vernacular traditions.
- The 1770-1870 category, the most important period of farm building development. In the period up to 1830, the remodeling of farms on the lighter soils was accompanied by the enclosure of common land and open fields, and the period up to 1870 is then, as we have seen, especially characterised by an increase in cattle accommodation. Up to the mid-nineteenth century, farm buildings could still be planned and constructed in a distinctive vernacular tradition, and even new materials such as clay lump and rammed earth have a regional character.
- The post-1870 category, a period of retrenchment generally, is characterised by little fresh investment in farm buildings other than repair and modification.

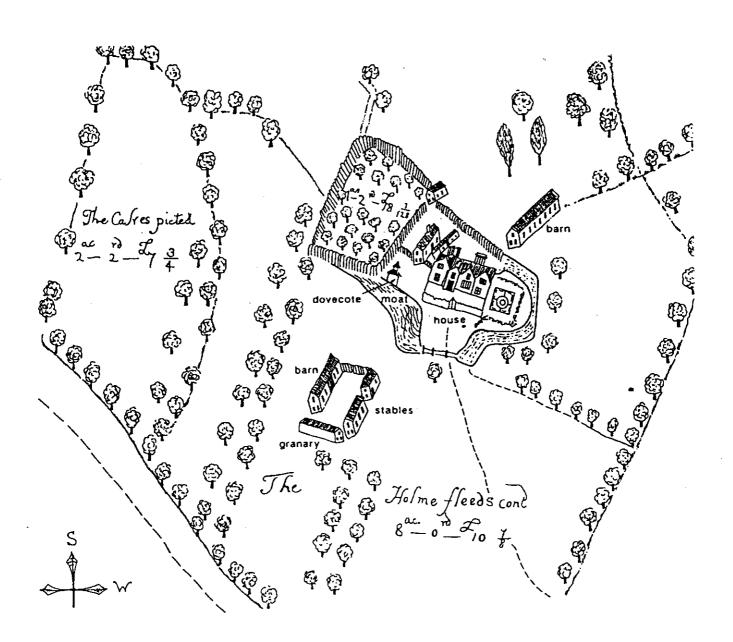
Other criteria are the degree of completeness of the farmstead or individual building as an example of its period, or, conversely, how far the group shows the development of a farmstead through the three periods of development identified.

Individual buildings may have strong intrinsic interest in terms of materials and display of craftsmanship, or their rarity or impressiveness as examples of their type. Others may, through their degree of alteration or late date, lack strong intrinsic interest but relate to an outstanding group of listed/listable buildings. Such groups may be strongly representative of the character and development of regional farming and vernacular traditions; they may also reflect national trends and developments, increasingly important in terms of farm building design and planning from the late-eighteenth century. Clear documentation, as in the cases of Cranley Hall and Winston Hall, will enhance the historic interest of these groups through enabling an accurate interpretation of their functional relationship and contextual significance.

The farmstead as a whole

We know little of the form of the farmstead before 1600, but excavation evidence would suggest that a group of buildings around a central court was the

Figure nine Plan of Cranley Hall in 1626



usual East Anglian layout.32 The survival of medieval barns rather than of other farm buildings suggests that this was always the most substantial building, but sheds for livestock and implements as well as stables are clearly indicated in medieval documents.³³ Map evidence becomes available from the sixteenth century. The particularly detailed one for Ingatestone (to the south- in Essex) in 1556 shows that most of the larger farms had buildings other than barns. Eighteen stables and eight cowhouses are shown as well as the 38 barns³⁴. Where there is no building other than a barn, this must have been a multipurpose building and we shall argue that such barns were common in Suffolk as well. A survey of 1597 for the property of Pembroke College in Wyverstone describes "a large barn with a stable at the northern end of the same barn". 35 Some barns may have contained cowhouses as well as stables. A small four-bay seventeenth century barn at Cookley Green Farm, Cookley serving a farm of about 70 acres, about 15 acres of which was in tilth in the early eighteenth century contained a lofted area covering two bays. It is shown with both a barn and stable door on a map of 1740. Two bays of stabling on a farm with only 15 acres of arable seems accessive; it seems more likely that in fact cattle were kept in that area as well.36 However, as we have seen, very few buildings other than barns remain, as livestock sheds were replaced and extended in the nineteenth century. A terrier of 1830 describes 25 farms in the Needham Market area of mid-Suffolk. Although stables and cowhouses were mentioned on all the farms. those of timber were frequently described as in "indifferent repair" or in a "very bad state, should be removed". On the contrary a new built stable for ten horses with a granary over of brick and tile was described as "capital". 37

Where pre-eighteenth century buildings form part of a group, they could well be listable even if, in their own right, they may seem to be too fragmentary to justify such protection. Group value can thus supercede intrinsic value. Thus, the unusually complete early example (early seventeenth century) of a courtyard group shown on a plan of Cranley Hall, Eye (fig. 9) is an example of a group that should be listed as a whole although the barn has lost its original roof structure.

The concept of a farm with buildings placed around a courtyard can thus be seen to date back well before the era of the "agricultural revolution," and the juxtaposition of buildings can often help in their interpretation. Cowhouses may be placed conveniently for the dairy, and stables near barns where straw and chaff were processed. There is thus a clear distinction between those planned farmsteads designed as a piece, often by an architect and in accordance with ideas being spread amongst the gentry through national journals and other

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³² P.Wade-Martins "Village sites in Launditch Hundred" East Anglian Archaeology 10 (1980), pp.113-114

^{(1980),} pp.113-114

33 For instance, F.G.Davenport The Economic Development of a Norfolk Manor 1086-1565
(1967)pp.21 & 49

³⁴ Patricia Ryan "The Barns of Ingatestone -1556 to 1601 Essex Historic Buildings Group 3 (November 1986)

³⁵ Translation by R. Virgoe. I am grateful to John Theobald for this information.

³⁶ I am grateful to John Theobald for this information

³⁷ Suffolk Record Office HA1/HB4/2

publications,³⁸ and those traditional groups loosely built around yards whose buildings reflect more explicitly both traditional building techniques and regional farming systems.

A typical layout of an evolved farmstead includes an earlier barn, extended or with a porch added as grain output increased at the end of the eighteenth century. A second barn might then built or an integral stable opened up to increase barn space. A granary above a cart shed was often also a later addition, again providing housing for the increased grain output. A separate cowhouse and later stable block to replace the stable originally in the barn was also built.

By the beginning of the nineteenth century an E or U-shaped plan with the barn along the north side and yards open to the south with shelter sheds, stables or loose boxes to the east and west became more usual. It is surprising that this standard layout is unusual in Suffolk with many farmsteads retaining a scatter of free-standing buildings around a yard. Early maps often show a barn and stable placed in a yard near the house, a neathouse at a short distance in a meadow and the name carthouse meadow near the house is also frequently found. The reason for this scatter is unclear. Possibly it is because the timber-framed tradition is more suited to the construction of individual buildings than long linked ranges, which are usually of brick. If cows were let out of the neathouse during the day, or in summer, only brought in for milking, then it could be more convenient to have the neathouse in the fields. None of these isolated neathouses has as yet been located.

Farmsteads which have conciously been planned as a single group as well as those where an evolution to meet changing farming systems is clear should be considered for listing as a whole, even where some of the individual components would not justify such treatment.

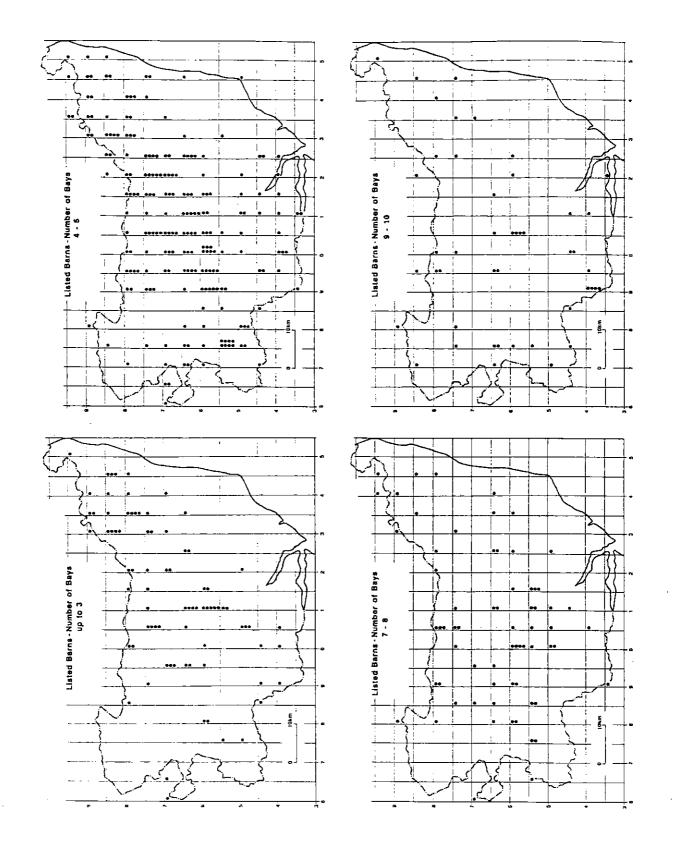
The barn

Most barns have certain features in common and are, at their simplest, rectangular open buildings with one or more threshing floors. They can be highly representative of local building traditions. Although dated barns are rare in Suffolk, their existence can help in the establishing of plan types and building styles and may increase the case for the barn's listablity. Whilst the functional rectangular barn is a plain building, there are various ways in which it can be embellished. Brick examples contain decorative ventilation slits, grilles and owl holes. The weight of the straw and corn against the walls of a full barn could be such that buttresses and pilasters might be added to support them. Threshing floors on which the grain was hand-flailed out of the corn head sometimes survive and these can be of wood, stone or brick. The number of bays in the

³⁸ Planned and model farmsteads are (1998) the subject of a thematic survey by English Heritage. Their development, character and distribution is summarised in *Model Farmsteads Thematic Survey* English Heritage (1997)

³⁹For instance, a map of Hors Farm in Wissett and Rumburgh surveyed in 1816 shows a neathouse in the field and a "carthouse close" near the house. (Suffolk Record Office X6/5) I am grateful to John Theobald for this information.

Map five Maps showing distribution of listed barns by size



barn governs the number of threshing floors (a three-bay barn would have one threshing floor and a five bay example, two) and the number of threshing floors can an indication of the importance of cereal to the farm.

Map 5 shows the distribution of listed barns by size. Barns of over ten bays are to be found in the west on the large Breckland farms not brought into cultivation until the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries as well on the mid-Suffolk claylands and in the north-east of the county. The majority of barns are of a medium 4-6 bay size and are found across central-Suffolk on the rich loams of yeoman holdings, with slightly larger barns of 7-8 bays being found in the cereal growing west-of- centre and south. In contrast the smallest barns of three bay barns tend to be in the east of the county.

As the barn is usually the oldest and most frequent survival on the farmstead, criteria for listing should be increasingly stringent for later (post 1700) examples (see above). However, where the barn is part of a complete, or nearly complete group, then a greater degree of alteration may be acceptable. Evidence of reused timbers or that the barn was originally divided to form, for instance, stables at one end, would add to the interest and therefore the listability of the building. As yields rose in the eighteenth century barn space could be expanded, either by taking down divisions within the barn, extending the building, or building an entirely new barn. Porches were also frequently added. All these changes are part of the farm's history and a later barn could well become listable as part of an evolved group. As we have seen barns were often multi-purpose buildings including stables and sometimes even cowhouses as at Grange Farm, Little Stonham (fig. 10) and these buildings are particularly worthy of consideration for listing. The number of bays can be an indication of the previous existence of a stable at one end, as this is more likely if there is an even number of bays and an off centre threshing door.

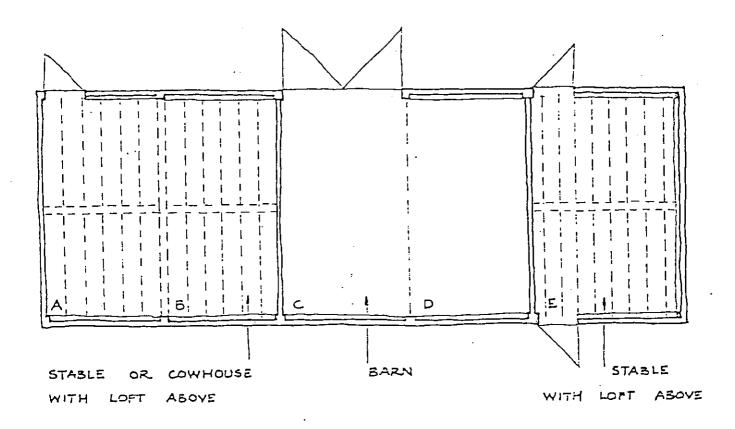
A nineteenth century labour surplus meant that unlike the more industrialised parts of the country, mechanical powering of the barn was unusual in Suffolk before 1850, although horse-powered threshing machines were being constructed by Mr Asbey of Blythburgh by 1813.⁴⁰ Two roundhouses to house horse engines are represented in the list; one at Grange Farm, Hengrave (II) (St Edmundsbury D.C) and another at Dagworth Hall, Old Newton (II) (Mid-Suffolk D.C) and it is unlikely that there are many others waiting to be identified.

Stables

After the barn and house, the stables are often the oldest building on the farm. The farmer's most valuable possession, was his horses and on their health depended the working of the farm. Stables needed to be well ventilated and with plenty of light for grooming and harnessing. The earliest stables were an integral part of the barn, usually taking up the final bay, and on some farms they still survive in this position, with a hayloft above. Such survivals are unusual and

⁴⁰ A. Young General View of the Agriculture of Suffolk (1813), p.34

Figure ten Outbuilding at Grange farm, Little Stonham



PLAN OF BUILDING IN 17th CENTURY

OUTBUILDING AT GRANGE FARM, LITTLE STONHAM

good examples are listable. In other barns the evidence of a floor to a hayloft and a partition wall are visible as well as the hexagonal mortise holes for the divisions of mullioned windows and evidence for stable doors. Of nearly 500 listed barns, evidence for integral stables was noted in 54 and many others no doubt await identification.

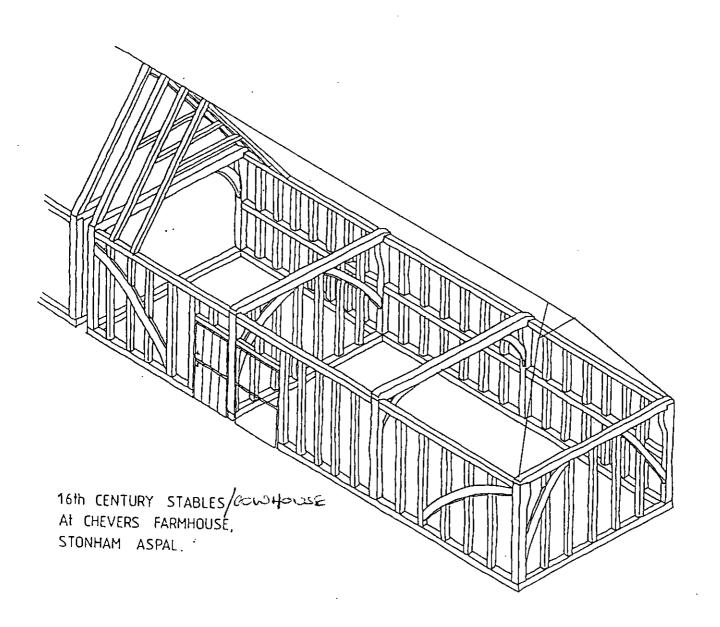
Free-standing stables began to be built from the sixteenth century. They are normally two-storey buildings with a hayloft above and the horses stalled across the building, along the gable walls, with a central door between two windows along one side. The floors were cobbled, and later of brick, with drainage channels laid across the floors. High status examples could have plastered ceilings to prevent dust falling through into the horses' eyes. Frequently there was an opening along the ceiling above the hay racks to allow hay to be pushed down into them from the loft above. Whilst most surviving stables are timberframed, a few more ornate brick examples are to be found as at Westwood Lodge, Blythborough and Hill House Farm, Needham Market. Many are small buildings but a few much longer examples, such as the six bay building of c. 1600, converted to a barn c. 1800 at Whitehouse Farm, Hitcham, (already discussed) remain. As we have seen, examples at Roydon Hall and Winston Hall may have included cattle as well as horse accommodation. An unusual seventeenth century example at Nortons Hall, Norton consists of a stable with cart shed on one end. Because stables are a rare survival, they may be listable, so long as their function is still recognisable, even if they have been subsequently altered. Only rarely does any stalling survive. Hay racks and mangers are more frequently still in place and although they have usually been replaced many times during the life of the building, they add to the building's interest.

By the late eighteenth century horses were more likely to be stalled along the length of the buildings and hay to be stored in a separate hay house rather than in a loft. These later buildings would have to be part of a complete farmstead to be listable, unless they possess strong intrinsic merit for their degree of preservation or architectural interest.

Other livestock accommodation

Whilst the form and function of barns has changed little since the middle ages, livestock accommodation has. Documentary and excavation evidence suggests that some animals were housed in medieval times, but no recognisable examples survive. The term "neathouse" appears in documents and on maps from the seventeenth century, but there are great problems in identifying such buildings on the ground and establishing whether they were built as stables or cattle sheds. No doubt the functions were often interchangeable. Cattle sheds are less likely to be lofted than stables and also there was usually less concern about lighting, so windows were less frequently included. Some examples such as at Green Farm, Stowupland and Chevers Farm, Stonham Aspal (fig. 11) are small sixteenth century buildings, too low to have contained a loft and so probably built for cattle. A "barn and granary" at Onehouse Hall (II) and a "farm building" at Further Hall Farm, Boulge (II) may also be examples of neathouses. Examples of cattle housing built before the eighteenth century are

Figure eleven Neathouse at Chevers Farm, Stonham Aspal



national context and any further examples from before 1700 that survive in a recognisable form would certainly be listable.

Even as late as the eighteenth century many dairy cows were kept outside, often tethered in the fields during the winter, and moved to neathouses with their calves after calving, thus reducing the need for buildings. One of the reasons given for tethering rather than letting them run free was that the dung could be collected for manure, and by the end of the eighteenth century the value of manure for the increased yields of the agricultural revolution was being appreciated. With this came the provision of shelter sheds around straw yards where manure would build up during the winter. As has already been stated these sort of regular E-and U-shaped layouts seem to be unusual in Suffolk. Instead the free standing buildings were roughly grouped around a yard and linked by walls or temporary hurdles to form an enclosure. The distribution of planned farmyards is clearly linked to land ownership and only where there was estate building in brick in the nineteenth century do regular yards survive. Where they are part of an improved farm layout, as at Home Farm, Tendring Hall, Stoke by Nayland, they may be listable.

From the 1850s, covered yards for the shelter of cattle were being recommended in the farming press, but few were built in Suffolk. Where they survive in a complete form, as at **Model Farm**, **Combs** and at Smallbridge Farm, Bures, they should be considered for listing. Less complete examples, as at Exhibition Farm, Withersfield, are not listable.

Evidence for sheep houses has not been recognised in the Lists. Although sheep would have fattened faster indoors, they were valued for their role as manure producers in the fields. Lowland sheep systems involved the folding of sheep outside on root crops and none were housed. Sheep sheds are shown on nineteenth century plans of the Flitcham estate at South Elmham Hall⁴², where they look like small shelter sheds but they do not survive.

Pigs were undoubtedly kept on most farms, and particularly on dairying establishments where there would have been whey to feed them on: however little evidence for pig sties survives, even in the dairying areas and timber-framing would hardly have been a suitable building material. Pigs were often left to run in yards amongst the cattle. As a building type, they deserve to be treated seriously if they are part of outstanding farm groups and any examples should be considered for listing.

Field barns

Barns, with cattle yards and sheds to the south and placed out in the fields at some distance for the main steading, were an important feature of some large farms on improved estates. They are uncommon in Suffolk, and only occur on the lighter soils of Breckland and the Sandlings - reflecting a pattern seen more generally in Norfolk. They are a particularly vulnerable type of building as they

A. Young "Minutes relating to dairy farms" Annals of Agriculture V (1786) p.204
 Suffolk Record Office HA12 D4 23/1

have outlived their usefulness and are usually too remote to convert. Surviving examples are not however considered to have special interest, unless they predate the 1830s and relate to significant estate improvement. As we have seen neathouses were also frequently built at a distance from the main buildings, and for the same reasons have also been subject to demolition. Survivals are therefore also rare, and early examples are likely to be of great interest.

Granaries and cart sheds

Probate inventories suggest that up to the eighteenth century barns were used for storing implements and threshed grain as well as the unthreshed crop, and certainly few earlier granaries and cart sheds survive. In many cases granaries were inserted over already existing cart sheds after c.1750 as more grain was being produced when yields rose and traditionally pastoral areas were becoming arable. Any recognisable earlier examples are, therefore, likely to be listable. Most granaries areat first floor level, although there are a few later examples built up on brick piers. Those at Browns Farm, Hitcham and Hill Farm, Drinkstone are late eighteenth or early nineteenth century. Typical granary features are the weatherboarded side walls, often with slatted openings for ventilation, and the close boarded, sometimes plastered floors and walls to prevent grain becoming lodged in crevices. By the mid-nineteenth century grain bins were built into the granary and winches were sometimes provided. Trap doors in the floor allowed sacks to be lowered into wagons below. Staircases to granaries are often wide with shallow treads to ease the carrying of large heavy sacks. Nineteenth century examples where a high proportion of these typical features survive are likely to be listable.

5: Survey Analysis

General analysis

About 500 farm buildings are listed across Suffolk, but these are very unevenly distributed. This distribution is very much related to the farming regions and settlement patterns already described.

Medieval

Suffolk's long and distinguished history of timber-framed buildings can be traced back, through its listed buildings, to the thirteenth century with the survival of at least six aisled barns (figs 1 & 2). As we have seen, they are particularly associated with monastic and other ecclesiastical sites as well as farms which were owned by Cambridge colleges. The barn at Abbey Farm, Snape, II* (Suffolk Coastal D.C.) was built about 1300. The barn at Manor Farm, Great Barton II*(St Edmundsbury D.C.), was built in the thirteenth century, with the aisles replaced in the sixteenth. Desning Hall Farm, Gazeley II (Forest Heath D.C) contains a few components with some of the earliest jointing techniques found in Suffolk, suggesting an early thirteenth century date. Hall Farm, Alpheton (II) (Babergh D.C.) part of which was rebuilt in the sixteenth century, and Church Farm, Fressingfield, (II*) (Mid-Suffolk D.C) was rebuilt in the seventeenth century again using much of its earlier timber, some of it probably in situ. Two thirteenth century barns are listed at Butley Abbey (II)(Suffolk Coastal D.C.), but they are both stone monastic buildings in origin which were later converted to barns. Fourteenth century examples include barns at Choppins Hill Farm, Coddenham (II) and Abbots Hall, Stowmarket (II*)(both Mid-Suffolk D.C), Manor Farm, Shipmeadow (II*) (Waveney D.C.), and St Bartholomew's Priory, Sudbury (II*) (St Edmundsbury D.C.).

Very few listed buildings have been attributed to the fifteenth century, although they do include fine examples at Moor Hall, Eye (II*), (Mid-Suffolk D.C), Place Farm, Hawstead (II), and Blackthorpe Farm Rougham (II) (both St Edmundsbury D.C.), Woodend Farm, Copdock (II) and Ravens Hall Farm, Lindsey (II) (Babergh D.C.) and Abbey Farm Leiston (II) (Suffolk Coastal D.C.) a brick stable block identified as late-fifteenth or early sixteenth century survives (II), probably the earliest agricultural building other than a barn, in the county. From the late fifteenth and early sixteenth century are two impressive barns with queen post roofs, at Hall Farm, Badley II* and Rooks Hall Eye (unlisted, but scheduled) (both Mid-Suffolk D.C). This technique, allowing for a high clear-span roof was replacing the aisled tradition by the sixteenth century.

It can be seen that although these medieval survivals are widely distributed, (map 4) the majority are in the west of the county, typically on monastic sites, where they may have been particularly well built and so were not replaced by later generations of yeomen farmers. In the east, where there were fewer monastic and college estates, the emerging yeoman farmers of the sixteenth century were concentrating on dairying and so made no great efforts to maintain earlier barns. Fieldwork has established that they Two new farms were created on the dge of

Saxted when woodland was cleared in the early seventeenth century, and the tenant was given permission to take down houses at create two new farms. At one of these farms (World's End Farm), a new barn was built using timbers from one of these houses and at least four beams with lozenge-shaped mortises for window mullions and the grooves for shutters are incorporated in the fabric. Timbers from earlier barns could also be used. At Badley Hall (II) (Mid-Suffolk D.C.) timbers from an aisled barn were re-used in the early sixteenth century to build the fine new barn with a queen post roof already discussed. 43 To assess the original distribution of aisled barns it is important to look for fragments of them, and re-used timbers, in later buildings. There is no doubt that many more fragments await identification. Map 3 shows only those examples built before 1800 and a concentration in the west of the county is obvious.

It is not surprising that all these medieval buildings are barns. Although there are documentary references to granaries, stables, cowhouses and piggeries on East Anglian farms in the middle ages⁴⁴, they have not survived. They probably did not carry the same status as the great barns and may well have been constructed of less durable materials such as mud and faggots.

• 1500-1700

The most noticeable feature resulting from the mapping of listed farm buildings in Suffolk is the number of pre-1700 buildings surviving in the county compared with further north (map 4) Very roughly, they are concentrated in a band through the anciently enclosed claylands of Suffolk and south-east Norfolk, also characterised by early enclosure. 45 Nearly every parish in Mid-Suffolk has at least one farm building built before 1700 and many of these are over 100 years older. In contrast, post-1700 farm buildings are mainly located in north-west Suffolk, in Breckland, and in the north-east Sandlings, both areas where landlords were involved in enclosure and estate improvement in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

By far the majority of listed farm buildings in Suffolk date from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, the majority being barns. In Babergh, where as we have seen, poor soils dominate over much of the District and so increasing productivity was difficult, they are fairly evenly divided between the two centuries whilst elsewhere, as productivity rose on the better soils, additional buildings were needed and the proportion of seventeenth century buildings is greater. There appears to be a concentration of seventeenth century building in the north-east of the county, but otherwise farms across the county with sixteenth century buildings had newer buildings added to the group as grain yields improved during the following century. As we have seen, barns were extended and porches added.

⁴³ P.Aitkens, "Aisled barns in Suffolk" Journal of the Historic Farm Buildings Group 3

^{(1989),} pp58-72

44 For instance see F.G.Davenport, The Economic Development of a Norfolk Manor 1086-1565

⁴⁵ English Heritage Farmsteads of Norfolk A thematic survey (1997)

Documentary evidence shows that barns were multi-functional buildings. Seventeenth century inventories list implements and farm produce other than cereals being stored in them. Maps and terriers describe stables, stables and cowhouses and granaries, and stables and cowhouses all sharing buildings. A map of 1812 for Worlds End Farm, Saxtead shows a small barn with stable adjoining, a cowhouse and stable and a cowhouse and stable. 46 such buildings continued to be built through the eighteenth century. In barns where the actual divisions have since gone, archaeological evidence in the form of mullioned windows and the mortises for loft floors often remains.

It is from this period that buildings other than barns first begin to survive. These include a sixteenth century cart shed at Boundary Farm South Elmham St Michael and six seventeenth century cart sheds. Although they all now have granaries above, they were usually later additions. Seven listed free standing stables are identified as sixteenth century and nine as seventeenth. However, as well as the separate buildings, at least 50 have been identified within the structure of barns. No doubt there are many that have not as yet been identified. As well as the mid-sixteenth century barn and dairy at Boundary Farm, Framsden (II), there is a mid-seventeenth century stable (II*). A granary and stable, probably contemporary with the barn at Cranley Hall, Eye (II) form a distinct courtyard group. These, and any which await identification are highly significant. Of particular importance is a long lofted multi-purpose building with a crown-post roof at Winston Hall Farm of sixteenth and seventeenth century dates (fig. 4) and described as stables and cowhouse in 1820. All these examples are in Mid-Suffolk D.C, a further indication of the importance of mixed farming in the fertile High Suffolk region.

Post 1700

The distribution of post-1700 listed buildings can be seen from map 4. Some are cart sheds, stables and granaries added to older premises and for the first time free-standing cowhouses and neathouses (Hall Farm, Coney Weston (II)) begin to appear on the lists; listings in the north-east are more likely to include barns that were part of a new farm built as a result of enclosure. Grange Farm Sapiston (II) (St Edmundsbury D.C) is a mid-nineteenth century flint and brick complex (now converted) illustrative of the sort of farms erected by the Duke of Grafton. The site, next to the church was not a new one as the farmhouse is seventeenth century, but the enclosure and improvement of the surrounding land necessitated the provision of new buildings.

A typical layout of an evolved farmstead includes an earlier barn, extended or with a porch added as grain output increased at the end of the eighteenth century. A second barn was built or an integral stable opened up to increase barn space. A granary above a cart shed was often also a later addition, again providing housing for the increased grain output. A separate cowhouse and later stable block to replace the stable originally in the barn was also built.

⁴⁶ Pembroke College, Cambridge Archives, Framlingham V4/7. I am grateful to John Theobald for this information

Very few groups of farm buildings have been listed as a whole, but at Shelley Dairy Farm (II) (Babergh D.C.) there are two barns, one stable, one cart shed and a cart shed with a granary above - all free standing buildings only very loosely grouped around two yards and dating from the end of the eighteenth or early nineteenth century.

As we have seen, the evolution of a nineteenth century text book layout of a barn with shelter sheds on a U or E-plan to the south seems only rarely to have taken place. Similarly it was only on the farms of Breckland that new farms on this layout were built.

This was not a county of great estates, and so it is not surprising that few of the model farms associated with the home farms of the wealthiest landlords, were built. Model Farm, Combs (II)(Mid-Suffolk D.C) is a good mid-century example, while Home Farm, Culford (II*) is a fine example of an 1830s build with water-powered barn machinery later developed by Lord Cadogan with covered yards and tramways incorporating turn tables. The most recent model farm is the Home Farm at Rushbrook built for the Rothschilds in the 1930s. The name, Exhibition Farm at Withersfield (St Edmundsbury D.C.) indicates a date of 1851 and a planned brick group of sheds enclosing a covered yard, with a timber-framed barn behind survives, if in a somewhat mutilated form. The estate was a small one which changed hands several times during the nineteenth century. At Hall Farm, Hinderclay (II) (Mid-Suffolk D.C), a mid-nineteenth century brick multi-functional building reminiscent of the Great Barn at Holkham (Norfolk)⁴⁷ consists of a two-threshing floor barn with porches on either side and lean-to outshuts containing loose boxes, shelter sheds and a piggerry with henhouse above. This farm was part of the Redgrave estate owned by George Wilson.

Of those estates that did exist, that of the Duke of Grafton around Euston in Breckland and the Rev. Copinger Hill around Buxhall in the south both attracted interest through the writings of their owners. The Dukes of Grafton rebuilt many of their farms on substantial lines and Copinger Hill's interest in cottage building, and particularly in the use of solid clay as a walling material has already been discussed. The Tollemache family owned extensive lands around Helmingham where they built a large number of cottages. However in contrast to their Cheshire and Lincolnshire estates, they do not appear to have undertaken a major farm rebuilding programme. Brick livestock sheds were added to existing premises and new cottages were built in the later nineteenth century, but totally new farms are not apparent.

⁴⁸ Rev.Copinger Hill "On the Construction of Cottages" *JRASE* 4 (1843) pp.356-369

⁴⁷ English Heritage Understanding Listing The East Anglian Farm (1997), p.1

Analysis by District

In all cases there will be gaps in the lists, and so what follows should be seen as general guidance based on the documentary analysis, analysis of the lists and rapid fieldwork described above.

Babergh

Babergh District covers much of the poorer southern claylands to the south and west of the Gipping Valley and so we might therefore expect a poorer standard of farm buildings. It also includes much of the area not re-surveyed in the 1980s, such as the old Rural Districts of Hadleigh (1972), Melford (1978), Sudbury and Cosford (1980) and recent case work has highlighted the short comings of these lists so far as both farm houses and farm buildings are concerned. The only pre-fifteenth century farm building identified in the lists is the partly thirteenth century aisled barn at Hall Farm, Alpheton (II) and only two barns are identified as fifteenth century. As elsewhere, it is buildings of the sixteenth and seventeenth century which are most numerous, with 28 sixteenth and 34 seventeenth century examples listed. In total, 83 barns and 9 other farm buildings (none pre-dating 1700) are listed within the District and the county distribution map shows a far lower density than to the north and east.

Because of the concern over under-listing in Babergh District it was decided to investigate sample parishes (map 2) in some detail to assess the size of the problem. Much of the area is remote and the population has always been low. Most of the historic buildings identified in the lists are grouped in parish centres which, on the whole did not include farm buildings. The farmsteads were widely scattered and in the case of Somerton, Hartest, Boxted and Kettlesbaston, disappointingly few historic buildings have survived. For Leavenheath the lists seemed very inadequate both as far as houses and farm buildings were concerned, and there were several farms in the parishes of Great and Little Bradley, Nayland and Bures where further investigation was needed. However, because of the work that had already been done in Hitcham by Edward Martins, using both documentary and archaeological sources, we decided to concentrate our efforts there. Our initial rapid roadside survey had identified thirteen sites with a total of 25 potentially listable farm buildings. Two other sites included two listable houses, but no listable farm buildings. Of the thirteen sites, access was only possible to eight farms, five of which contained listed houses. Of the others, those at Whitehouse Farm, and Peppertree Farm were considered to be listable (see descriptions in appendix for details). Within the group as a whole, it was clear that several had late medieval cores and that the list descriptions, although accurate as far as they went, needed expanding. However, as far as farm buildings were concerned, the inadequacies of the present lists were far more apparent with at least seven being listable. A major rebuilding programme about 1600 was obvious with a further phase about 1800. In buildings of both dates there was a remarkably high incidence of re-used timber. Although no stables were listed in Hitcham, stabling of the seventeenth century or earlier was found on many farms. An outstanding unlisted building was the barn at

⁴⁹ The descriptions of those already listed are also lacking in detail.

Peppertree Farm, which had originally been built in the late fifteenth century probably as a detached kitchen for the house (fig. 8).

Babergh was not an area of great estates, but two nineteenth century complexes, one at Smallbridge Hall Farm, Bures, (only partly listed) and Tendring Hall, Stoke by Nayland are examples of extensive estate building on home farm sites. The parish of Buxhall was the seat of the cottage improver, Rev. Copinger Hill and although it is clear that he rebuilt many cottages, there is little evidence that his direct involvement extended to farm buildings. In near-by Great Finborough, the Pettiward family rebuilt the hall and school and refronted many of their farmhouses, but undertook little farm building. There are examples within the area of solid clay building as recommended by Copinger Hill. One example is a shelter shed at Shelley Dairy, and a cart shed at Dale Farm, Hitcham.

Conclusion

This area was always poorer than that of Mid-Suffolk to the north, but there are many buildings worthy of listing that have not yet been investigated. Work in the sample parishes shows that the District would benefit from more detailed work.

Forest Heath

Forest Heath District is one of the smallest in Suffolk and consists of much land in the extreme north-west of the county which was not enclosed or brought into cultivation until the nineteenth century. Away from these empty areas, population was still sparse and the few listed farm buildings (all barns, except for an early nineteenth century granary at Church Farm, Herringswell (II) and eighteenth century barns, stabling and cart shed at Wangford Hall (II)) are concentrated on the large farmsteads of manorial or ecclesiastical origin. One of the county's earliest aisled barns, dating in part from the thirteenth century is at Desning Hall, Gazeley (II). Of the nine other listed barns, one is identified as sixteenth century, six as seventeenth century and two, eighteenth century. It is in this part of the county, along the Cambridgeshire border, where building materials other than wattle and daub were used. A barn listed as seventeenth century at Exeter Stud, Exning (II) is of brick and clunch, and by the nineteenth century brick and flint was frequently used.

Drainage of Mildenhall and Lakenheath Fens had begun by the mid-eighteenth century and drove roads and drains across them are marked on Hodskinson's map with wind drainage mills on the River Lark. However, the area was still unenclosed pasture. To the south of the fen are heathy Breckland commons with the hamlets of West and Beck Row and the villages of Eriswell and Lakenheath along their edge. No pre-nineteenth century farm buildings survive on the commons or fens. There is a much altered flint and gault brick group at Kenny Hill Farm, Mildenhall (TL673801), including a single threshing floor barn, and a mid-century estate built farm with barn and out buildings near the church in the

⁵⁰ P. Aitkens "Aisled Barns in Suffolk" Journal of the Historic Farm Buildings Group 3 (1989) p.61 & 70

⁵¹ J. Hodskinson, The County of Suffolk (1783) Suffolk Records Society Reprint vol. XV (1972)

flint and brick estate village of Eriswell (TL722781). Two common edge farms contain earlier buildings in the form of large aisled barns. The chalk and brick example at **Holywell Farm** (II) is a single threshing floor aisled barn dated to the fourteenth century⁵² (listed as late seventeenth century), now converted to domestic use. A further aisled barn at Beck Lodge, Mildenhall (TL701772) on the edge of the airfield is a late (probably mid-nineteenth century) example.

To the south and east the land is light, some of which was used for warrens and much of which remained open arable on which a foldcourse system of agriculture operated until the nineteenth century. Not surprisingly on this poor land, villages are well scattered, and the late enclosure means that except for a few manorial sites on islands of better clay soils, there are few old farms away from the villages. An example is **Wamil Hall**, an old manorial site shown by Hodskinson between Mildenhall and West Row. The group of nineteenth century farm buildings includes a late sixteenth century two-threshing floor aisled barn (II).

To the south of the region, the soil improves, but population is still sparse and few buildings of any special interest survive. A fine nineteenth century complex with a timber-framed single-aisled barn is in the process of being converted at an old manorial site at Denham Hall (TL757617)

Finally, a late model farm survives at Cavenham. Built in 1902 by J.Goldsmidt with an impressive brick stable range along the front with a central arched entrance to a yard flanked by cow sheds and incorporating a seventeenth century barn along the rear, it has been much altered and so is not listable.

Conclusion

This is a sparsely populated area, much of which was fen, heath and sheep walk until the nineteenth century. Its late reclamation means that buildings of historic interest are scarce.

Suffolk Coastal

This District is dominated by the Sandlings region, much of which remained open heath until this century. Consisting of light acid soils similar to Breckland, the region stretches down the Suffolk coast, but is nowhere more than 16 kilometres wide. All the parishes within it also possessed at least one other soil type- coastal marsh to the east or clay to the west.

By the seventeenth century, away from the most acid soils, there had been considerable piecemeal enclosure. The heaths were mostly let as sheep walk rather than used as common land and by the nineteenth century the area was renowned as sheep breeding country with famous flocks being kept, particularly at Martlesham and Butley Abbey. Maps of the early eighteenth century distribution of breeding flocks in East Anglia show clearly the importance of the Sandlings. ⁵³ Cattle were kept on the grazing marshes.

⁵² P. Aitkens (1989) pp.61 & 70

⁵³ P. Wade Martins *Black Faces* (1993), pp.49 & 51

Much of the coastal strip was estate owned by the eighteenth century and the farms were large (over 300 acres). Alongside the sandy heaths they contained enough arable land to operate a mixed farming system. In 1794 Sawyer's Farm, near Ipswich was described as consisting of a "variety of soils, but very little good", and this is typical of the area. On the poorest soils rye was the principal crop. Turnips grew well as preparation for a barley crop. There was always a danger of trying to "overcrop" (i.e. grow too many grain crops without putting down to grass). However, if plenty of stock was kept, then the land could be well manured.

The fact that farms were traditionally based on a mixed economy, albeit, making use of extensive sheep walks, is indicated by the types of farm buildings listed in early-nineteenth century surveys, which include barns (often more than one per farm), stables, cowhouses and granaries. The surveys stress, however, that the buildings were in need of repair.

Early farm buildings at Butley Abbey (II) and Abbey Farm, Snape (II*), are of monastic origin. Those at Butley are converted from thirteenth century monastic buildings, and the aisled barn at Snape, also thirteenth century, was part of the abbey estates. A further monastic barn dating from the fifteenth century survives at Abbey Farm Leiston (II), whilst there is a late-fifteenth century brick stable block at Westwood Lodge, Blythborough (II). There are more listed buildings dating from the sixteenth century (16), all of them barns, and thirty from the seventeenth century, one of which, at Searson's Farm, Trimley St Mary (II), is a cart shed and another, at Valley Farm, Witnesham (II), is a barn with an integral stable. Not more than ten eighteenth century barns have been listed and in these we see brick replacing timber-framing as a building material. The nineteenth century saw the creation of new farms, particularly on the estate-owned lands, such as the Home Farm at Capel St Andrew - an extensive brick complex of several builds, now largely disused.

Because of the existence of estates, there are a few model farms in the area. Home Farm, Nacton was built by the Prettyman family in the mid-nineteenth century. It is of brick and consists of single storey-building around a yard, with a two-storey barn and granaries opposite the entrance. It is now mostly converted to offices. The ornate **Model Farm**, **Easton** (II) dates from the 1870s, but contains a circular dairy and a seventeenth century barn. It is now part of a farm park.

Conclusion

In common with other areas there are few farm buildings other than barns listed. Late-eighteenth century surveys show that stables, granaries and cowhouses existed, but they also suggest they were in poor repair and so they have not survived. Certainly there were farms where there was no accommodation for cattle. Biddell described farms in Playford where bullocks were grazed all winter

55 Suffolk Record Office HA 93/3/141 & 144

⁵⁴ Suffolk Record Office HA93/3/144 "Valuation of Sawyer's Farm, near Ipswich"

in the field where the turnips grew. ⁵⁶ The majority of listed barns date from the seventeenth century. Much of the area consisted of poor farmland in which population was sparse, and so it is not one where we would expect to find a wealth of early buildings. The poverty of the soil did not allow for the growth of the prosperous yeoman farmers we see in High Suffolk, and the farm buildings that remain chiefly relate to estate improvements for arable farming in the late-eighteenth and nineteenth century.

Mid-Suffolk District

This is the District containing the best soils in the county including the dairying area of High Suffolk, and so not surprisingly, the richest legacy of farm buildings. There are over 200 listed barns in the area. It contains the heavier soils where woodland and particularly hedge timber was allowed to flourish, so in the middle ages, at least, there was no shortage of timber. The heavier land was more suited to wheat than barley, and cabbages and beans than turnips. A dairy industry based on cabbage-fed cows was important until the end of the eighteenth century, but little evidence for this livestock husbandry remains in the buildings. According to Arthur Young, the cows were often kept outside, fed in the fields during the winter where they poached the land. He noted that every farm was "well furnished with neathouses, where the cows had standings" and were tied three feet apart. However these were only used for milking and feeding, rather than keeping in all winter.⁵⁷ By the early nineteenth century the dairies were being given up and cereals grown instead. Biddell describes a cheese room or "large upper chamber, shelved on both sides, with lattice windows at the ends for securing a draught", which he saw as a child, "but has long been dismantled and used for other purposes". 58 It is worth looking for these cheese rooms in the upper floors of farmhouses, and also to look for evidence of dividing walls in open barns which may well have contained stall divisions for cattle in the past.

No buildings have as yet been identified as neathouses although a sixteenth century barn at Chevers Farm, Stonham Aspal (fig. 11) "may possibly have been built as a neathouse". ⁵⁹ Near the fine sixteenth century barn at Roydon Hall (II*) was a long low building of inferior build which may have been a cow or neathouse (fig. 7). Its roof has been replaced and its front wall has gone. It was thought to be too incomplete to list, but was a rare survival of an early livestock building.

The long building at Winston Hall Farm (II) already described (fig.4) is of similar proportions as that at Roydon, and although the central section has been rebuilt it no doubt represents an example, if a somewhat fragmentary one, of a sixteenth/seventeenth century stable and cowhouse.

59 List description

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⁵⁶ H.Biddell "Agriculture" Victoria County History of Suffolk vol. II, (1907) p.394

⁵⁷ A. Young "Minutes relating to the Dairy Farms of High Suffolk" Annals of Agriculture V (1786) p.203

⁵⁸ H.Biddell "Agriculture" Victoria County History of Suffolk, vol. II (1907) p.386

Although cowhouses (or neathouses) have proved difficult to find on the ground, there is certainly documentary evidence for them. A terrier of farms in the Creeting area compiled in 1830 describes 25 sets of buildings in detail.⁶⁰ Nearly all have at least one barn with stables, cattle yards wagon lodges, granaries and cowhouses. Piggeries and henhouses were also an important part of most yards. Cheese rooms, apple lofts and granaries were sometimes located in the house. In one farm at Badley the three servant's bedrooms had once been a cheese loft. It is clear from the documentary evidence that most mid-nineteenth century farms consisted of a collection of buildings, including cowhouses and piggeries. Survival of these predominantly timber buildings in good condition is an extreme rarity. They need to be seriously considered for listing if anything like a complete farm complex is to be protected. At Holyoak Farm, Combs a timber built poultry house, stable for 8 horses, a thatched barn with lean-to stable, a cattle yard and a thatched waggon lodge on posts with faggot walls are described in a terrier of 1830.⁶¹ A late eighteenth century stable, granary over cart shed and barn dated 1849 are listed at this site. At Badley Hall, where the barn and dovecote and bake house are listed, a cowhouse for 12 cows, thatched with a loft over and a stable for 10 horses in two divisions, piggeries, and a hay barn are also described as well as a detached dairy and cheese chamber (probably the listed bake house). Two unlisted buildings on the site have been identified as the cowhouse and stables and they should all be listed as a group.

Six listed barns are described as dating from before 1500, four of which are grade II* (Moor Hall Farm, Eye, Abbots Hall Farm, Stowmarket, Badley Hall Farm, Badley, and Church Farm, Fressingfield). The fourteenth century barns at Choppins Hill Farm, Coddenham(II) and Abbots Hall Barn, Stowmarket are all aisled.

As elsewhere, by far the majority date from the sixteenth and seventeenth century (82, sixteenth century; 114, seventeenth century), enforcing the impression that there was a massive rebuilding of agricultural buildings. particularly in the seventeenth century. Again it is mostly barns that survive, but there is also a scatter of cart sheds, stables and granaries as well as several barns with integral stabling. There are far fewer eighteenth and nineteenth century farm buildings represented in the lists and this appears to reflect accurately the lack of later good quality buildings. Bearing in mind that High Suffolk changed from being a predominantly dairying area in the late eighteenth century to one concentrating on the production of cereals, this is perhaps surprising, but there are three possible explanations. Documentary evidence would suggest that there was in fact more cereal growing in the area pre-1780 than Arthur Young would have us believe. 62 Secondly many of the sixteenth and seventeenth century structures were almost certainly multi-functional when they were built, housing cows or horses as well as grain and were opened up for barn use in the late eighteenth centuries. A closer inspection of the fabric might reveal evidence for the internal divisions that were taken out. Surviving seventeenth and eighteenth

⁶⁰ Suffolk Record Office HA1/HB4/2

⁶¹ Suffolk Record Office HA1/HB4/2

⁶² I am grateful to John Theobald for this information

century maps show farm yards with a variety of buildings. An apparently early planned group is shown on a plan of Cranley Hall Eye (1626) (fig.9)⁶³ where a barn, stables and cowhouses are shown around a courtyard has already been discussed. The stables and a possible cowhouse, both with lofts above are listed, but the barn, which has been much altered, (but forms an important part of the group) is not. A 1624 plan of a 120 acre farm in Aspell and Debenham shows a house and cottage with a barn and two single-storey long buildings beside yards as well as a windowless building with a single door opening out into the fields.⁶⁴ A similar variety of buildings is shown at Fairstead Park, and College Farm (Hoxne, Wetheringsett and Denham) in 1757.⁶⁵A third possibility is that in the nineteenth century more of the grain crop was stacked outside, thus rendering the addition of barn spaces unnecessary. If this was the case, it is in contrast to the situation north of the border, where, in Norfolk, there was a great deal of barn building from the mid-eighteenth century.

By the mid-eighteenth century alternatives to timber-framed wattle and daub methods of construction begin to be found. A red brick barn and stable at Pountney Hall, Mellis (II) is dated 1743 and a few other brick eighteenth and nineteenth century farm buildings are listed. Flint and brick survives from the nineteenth century with examples at Tostock House (II) and Cramner Green, Walsham le Willows (II). Clay lump barns are listed at Church Farm, Finningham (II) and Hall Farm, Wortham (II). An unusual example of an archaic building tradition is a mid-nineteenth century brick aisled barn at Falcon's Hall, Rickingwell Superior (II). An ornate dairy range fronting the drive to Harleston Hall (II) is dated 1879 and has recently been converted, while a substantial brick mid-nineteenth century group including a barn is listed at Hinderclay Hall (II).

As elsewhere, eighteenth and nineteenth century listed buildings include not only barns, but stables, granaries and cart sheds.

Mid-Suffolk was traditionally an area of small owners and many owner-occupier farms. It is, therefore, not surprising that only one model farm, that at Combs (II), has been identified for listing. Dated 1867 it consisted of a barn to the rear of two yards, one covered for cattle and the other open for horses, with a front range and central covered entrance. The whole group has recently been converted. Hall Farm, Hinderclay (II) consists of a huge double porched barn with integral lean-tos built in the 1840s as a showpiece.

Some parishes seem particularly rich in listed farm buildings with over four in Combs, Crowfield, Drinkstone, Eye, Felsham, Framsden, Gislingham, Hoxne, Mellis, Norton, Rattlesden, and Stradbrooke. It is perhaps surprising that in Walsham le Willows, with its high density of early listed houses, there is a very poor survival of farm buildings with only one listed, and that dates from the nineteenth century.

⁶³ Suffolk Record Office HD78:2671 Eye

⁶⁴ Suffolk Record Office HB79/2/1

⁶⁵ Suffolk Record Office HB21/280/2

Conclusion

This area was thoroughly re-surveyed in the 1980s, and the current lists are representative of the types of pre-1800 buildings to be found in the District. As elsewhere there were problems of access. Emphasis was placed on the importance of the barn and small buildings were not so readlily interpreted and identified. In view of the richness of the resource and the early prosperity of the dairying area, there must be listable examples of livestock housing waiting to be located. There may also be room for the inclusion of some buildings which were not regarded as complete enough at the time of resurvey, but may represent an important part of the outstanding evolved farmsteads.

Saint Edmundsbury District

The district of St Edmundsbury stretches the length of the county on the western side and so covers a variety of farming regions. The northern part is in Breckland and covers some of the large lightland estates including those of Livermere, Elveden, Euston and Culford. Over most of Breckland enclosure was late and, except for a few farms along the more fertile valleys, most of the buildings are nineteenth century flint and brick structures. Although those around Euston are substantial, they do not exhibit enough of their planned origins or architectural form to make them listable. Similarly the Culford farms are typical, but not outstanding enclosure farms. The exception is the remarkable group at the Home Farm, Culford (II) consisting of an eighteenth century barn altered by the Rev.Benyon (1824-1889) in the mid-nineteenth century when shelter sheds and livestock buildings were built enclosing yards. Lord Cadogan (1889-1935) in the late nineteenth century added covered yards, tramways and dairy fittings to create his model dairy farm.

Another planned group is that at Hall Farm, Lackford, now on the edge of gravel workings and built in the mid-nineteenth century, probably by The Rev. James Holden, who owned the parish. On a courtyard plan, the barn forms the rear side with matching cart sheds with granaries over on either side of the entrance. The group has been altered in recent years, but the layout is still clear.

The Duke of Norfolk owned estates in Fornham St Martin and Fornham St Genevieve and rebuilt the Hall Farms in both parishes in the early nineteenth century; the plans survive at Arundel.⁶⁶ The group at Fornham St Genevieve have been converted to offices, but again the courtyard plan and flint and brick buildings survive. The buildings at Fornham St Martin are still in farming use. Both groups include impressive listed houses.

Alongside these farms built on newly enclosed land, there are a few earlier barns which served farms based in the fertile river valleys of Breckland. These include the seventeenth century barns at Sparrow Hall, Euston and Wordwell Hall, Wordwell, but on the whole, there are more eighteenth and nineteenth century listed buildings in this region than elsewhere in Suffolk.

⁶⁶ Arundel Estate Office ACA MD1729

A late example of a model farm is that at Home Farm, Rushbrook, built by the Rothschilds. The date is uncertain although it is probably 1930s. Although model farms from this period are rare, it is small scale and simple and probably not listable.

To the south of the District, the soils become heavier and the typical characteristics of south Suffolk farms take over. Surviving buildings are older and timber-framed. There are four listed barns within the District dating from before 1500 and and 37 from between 1500 and 1700, although half of the listed farm buildings date from after 1700. Unlike the north, large estates were not typical of the area. The Weller-Pooley estate owned land in Hartest, but whilst there is some nineteenth century brick building in the parish, there was no concerted building programme: a rapid survey of the area indicated that there are no groups of strong architectural or historical merit.

The 1,440 Withersfield estate consisting of five farms was put up for sale in 1892, and whilst most of the farms consisted of groups of free-standing buildings typical of the area, the largest (319 acres) was Exhibition Farm, probably built shortly after 1851 as an impressive planned group with a pair of covered yards.⁶⁷

Only eight of the listed farm buildings in the District are not barns. They are all eighteenth and nineteenth century. It is remarkable that the only listed stable in the district is an eighteenth century stable example at Wrenshall Farm, Stanton (II). There must surely be others awaiting identification. There is a complete nineteenth century farmstead at The Grange, Sapiston (II), but other than this all the non-barn listings are eighteenth and nineteenth century cart sheds and granaries.

Whilst the northern part of the District was resurveyed for listing in the 1980s, the Rural District of Clare in the south has not been looked at since the 1970s and it is here that most of the problems of inadequate listing and list descriptions occur. A windscreen survey of the parishes of Stansfield, Hawkedon and Poslingford suggested that in all three parishes there were several groups of buildings which should be looked at more closely to establish their listability. A closer look at Hawkedon emphasised the importance of barn space in the area, with either single or double aisled barns on at least five of the farms and most farms having more than one barn with dates varying from the sixteenth century to nineteenth centuries, suggesting a gradual increase in grain production. Whilst most of the best barns were listed, none of the mainly eighteenth century stables and cowhouses had been included, and there is certainly scope for extending listing to these buildings where they form an integral part of the farmstead. All of the farms investigated were evolved farmsteads with separate free-standing timber-framed buildings, sometimes around a yard, but not conceived as E or Ushaped cattle yards with shelter sheds.

⁶⁷ Suffolk Record Office HD730/1397/2

Conclusions

There are great contrasts in farming history across the area, with the scattered farms associated with greens and individual manors across the south of the District and part of the former Clare Rural District, and larger lightland estates in the north. However, even in the light lands there were pockets of more fertile soils where earlier arable farming has resulted in a few medieval buildings surviving. Listing to the north is more adequate than in the south, (the former Clare R.D.) but there is an obvious lack of listing of farm buildings other than barns.

Waveney

Waveney District covers a small area in the extreme south-east of the county with an unusually high concentration of estates for Suffolk. In the western corner are the heavy clayland parishes of the South Elmhams and Ilkeshalls. Much of the area was part of the Flixton estate and was divided into small fields and under pasture until the extension of tiled under-drainage in the midnineteenth century. However, now nearly all of the hedges have gone and except for the few areas of commons which survive, most of the area is ploughed. Settlement is scattered and, except for a few enclosure farms, most farmsteads are on ancient sites and several sixteenth century barns remain. Eighteenth and nineteenth century surveys of the Flixton estate describe the land as heavy and difficult to cultivate with the buildings in poor repair. A 1750 survey stated that "The farms want a good deal of repair, but I think are much on a parr with the common state of repairs on other estates in that country". 68 Most livestock sheds or stables were replaced in the nineteenth century. Only after the 1870s did the Flixton estate show much interest in its buildings when applications were made to the agricultural improvements companies, established in the late-1840s after the repeal of the Corn Laws, for loans to finance the work. As a result, some new shelter sheds and livestock ranges were built.

Further east are the parks of Somerleyton, Benacre, Henham and Sotterley. At Henham there are some eighteenth century brick barns(II) and a nineteenth century farm within the park. There is a nineteenth century covered yard behind coach houses and stables at Sotterley Park (II). However, none of these estates seem to have undertaken large-scale farm rebuilding programmes resulting in individual buildings or complete steadings.

In the District as a whole there are about 60 listed farm buildings. The earliest is the fourteenth century aisled barn at Manor Farm, Shipmeadow (II*). In common with the rest of the county most of the listed buildings are sixteenth (14) and seventeenth century (28). A sixteenth century cart shed with granary at Boundary Farm South Elmham St Michael is listed ⁶⁹, but otherwise the few listed non-barn farm buildings are eighteenth and nineteenth century. Whilst

⁶⁸ Suffolk Record Office HA12 D3/1

⁶⁹ This farm has been ambiguously located in the lists; the postal address is in Ilkeshall St Margaret and most of the farmyard (although possibly not the building in question) is in that parish.

timber-framed buildings form the majority of the listed buildings within this District, there are some brick, and brick and flint examples.

Conclusions

In general, buildings are widely scattered and the lists for this region reflected fairly accurately the surviving farm buildings of historical importance.

General conclusions

List Descriptions

It was clear that the amount of detail given in the list descriptions varies greatly across the county, with the shortest ones being for buildings in the areas of south Suffolk not covered by the accelerated re-survey. Over half (46) of those for Babergh give no description of the structure of the buildings and in the Clare district of St Edmundsbury the problem is similar. Typical are the entries for Cavendish:

A C15-C17 timber-framed and weatherboarded barn. 4 bays, with a gabled entrance bay. Roof pantiled.

and

2 late medieval timber-framed and weatherboarded barns, one of 6 bays and one of four bays. Roof pantiled.

Neither of these descriptions give any indication of the evidence for the dates ascribed to the buildings and are an indication of the need at the time to identify and designate rather than to justify the selection of particular buildings. Access was often not possible and so the roof and timber-frame construction was not inspected. Ideally the interiors of all buildings should be viewed so that the evidence for the dating of the building can be assessed. Most farm buildings have gone through more than one phase of building and changed use several times. The history of the building should be reflected in the description and evidence for earlier partitions, extensions and floors should be looked for and described. A description such as that for a barn west of Naughton Hall as "C17-C18 timber-framed and weatherboarded barn with thatched roof' gives none of the evidence on which the listability of the building was assessed, or the important features to be preserved in any programme of alteration; an important reason why some assessment of the building's historical significance is so crucial. Preliminary work in the parish of Hitcham emphasised the fact that timber was a valuable commodity and was frequently re-used. Evidence for reuse can provide clues for the types of earlier building on the site as at Badley Hall (see above).

A further weakness of the earlier lists is the use of such subjective words as "picturesque" in the description of the buildings, as at Valley Farm, Milden. They do not help in an assessment of architectural and historical importance, while typing errors which result in a barn at Owl's Farm, Milden being described as "timber-framed and weatherboarded C10 barn" are less than helpful!

A building at the Old Manor House, Theberton (Suffolk Coastal) is described as "A small barn, probably C17; timber-framed and weatherboarded. Two storeys, external wooden steps to first floor level". This description suggests that the building is a granary or hayloft over animal accommodation rather than a barn. The Model Farm at Combs (Mid-Suffolk) lacks an interpretation of the buildings that make up the group and this illustrates the problem that, while earlier timber-framed structures are frequently well served by their descriptions, nineteenth century ones may not be. If the functions of the various elements that made up the model farm had been better understood, its conversion might have been more sympathetic.

The problem is far less in those other Districts which haveh detailed descriptions of the timber-framing justifying the dating of most listed farm buildings.

6. Conclusions

One clear conclusion to be drawn from this overview of farmsteadings in Suffolk is that the farm building resource in the county is very rich, particularly for the period before 1700. This is remarkable in a national context, bearing comparison only with what we know of Essex and Kent, and can largely be attributed to the substantial yeoman holdings of 1-300 acres on the anciently-enclosed claylands away from the Breckland and Sandling soils, which witnessed little consolidation or redevelopment in the ensuing centuries. There appears to have been a major period of rebuilding affecting both farmhouses and farm buildings between 1550 and 1650, with a considerable re-use of medieval timbers. Another characteristic factor worthy of consideration is the multi-functional nature of farm buildings, a feature more commonly associated with the northern uplands of England from the late-seventeenth century, but increasingly recognised in the archaeology of buildings in lowland areas, such as the dairying areas in the claylands on north Wiltshire. To

It follows that any buildings or parts of buildings dating from before 1550, and any substantially complete buildings up to 1770 - especially important being the 1550-1650 period - would be listable. Altered buildings, for example barns which had their roof structures removed, should still be considered for listing if they either form part of an outstanding group or retain strong interest (for example evidence for stabling or early cattle housing) in their plan form or surviving features.

Farmsteads

Very few medieval farm buildings other than barns remain. No complete farmsteads survive from the period before 1600, and very few from before the late-eighteenth century. Documentary sources and maps give us a few clues as to how the buildings on these early farms were arranged. Sometimes they were set around a courtyard but more often than not they were scattered more informally. Farmsteads with early groups of buildings are more likely to survive in the more traditional 'wood-pasture' parts of the region away from the improving estates. Even here, however, cattle yards were nearly always added during the nineteenth century for the more efficient production of manure.

The distribution and number of surviving planned and model farms is largely confined to the lighter soils of Suffolk, and is not such an important characteristic of the county's landscape as evolved groups. Those with buildings of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries or before are extremely rare and where they survive they would be candidates for listing, sometimes at a high grade, for they could have great significance in manifesting the development and regional variations in agricultural systems: it follows that a representative example of later building types, for example mid-nineteenth century cattle yards, can be included (even at a high grade) if they form part of an outstanding group. Agricultural depression meant that very few complete farmsteads were built after 1880 and, because of their rarity, especially if they demonstrate the use of

⁷⁰ Pamela M. Slocombe, Wiltshire Farm Buildings, 1500-1900 (1989)

new building techniques or farming methods of national rather than only local significance, they may be considered for listing, but the criteria adopted would be very tight indeed.

In addition to understanding the significance of the farmstead, there are three building types which are worthy of further elucidation in this conclusion:

Barns

The barn, designed to house the processing of cereal crops, is usually the largest and most impressive building in the farm group. A number of medieval barns survive, although many were altered over time and fragments of medieval carpentry survive encased (or re-used) in later buildings. The builders of barns throughout the region remained quite conservative, modeling them on precedents well-established by 1600 right through until 1800. It follows that only complete examples of eighteenth and nineteenth barns should be seriously considered for listing, although dated examples using archaic techniques and those with important farmsteadings will merit further consideration. Clear evidence for an original multi-functional purpose is also an additional factor, sometimes only visible through the archaeology of a barn which originated as a stable or cowhouse but remodeled for corn storage and processing during the Napoleonic period, for example.

Wealthy owners often sought to embellish their barns for display purposes, sometimes to a standard almost equal to that of their house, as at Framsden Hall, one of the finest timber-framed manor houses in Suffolk. Of equal historical importance, however, is that barns also reflect the regional diversity of farming practice. In areas where dairying rather than grain production was the main farming activity, such as the claylands of the Depwade area of Norfolk, and the counties of Essex and Suffolk, barns of sixteenth and seventeenth century date remained large enough for the amount of storage space needed for animal fodder in the nineteenth century. Soils were generally lighter and more suited to cereals in the west of Suffolk, where medium-sized gentry estates were more in evidence and the largest, often aisled barns, are to be found. To the east, farms were smaller, farming more mixed and three-bay unaisled barns, often with stabling at one end were more usual.

Stables

In a national context, freestanding stables of the sixteenth to seventeenth century date merit listing as rare surviving examples. Unusually complete (such as the stable in the manorial group at Cranley Hall, Eye) and/or architecturally elaborate examples (such as the high-status example at Baylham Hall, near Ipswich, a sixteenth century brick and timber-framed stable block with moulded window mullions and a crown post in the accommodation or lodgings in the upper storey, above the stables) merit listing at a high grade. More free-standing stables of the eighteenth century survive, although substantially complete examples are still rare.

Cattle housing

The most significant changes in the planning and design of farmsteadings, were concerned with the housing of cattle. Early examples which predate the 1830s,

although difficult to identify, are highly significant, particularly where they relate to multi-functional buildings or other buildings in an important steading. Later examples, which only rarely form part of planned groups, should only be considered where they form part of an important steading.

Bibliography

Philip Aitkens, "Aisled barns in Suffolk" Journal of the Historic Farm Buildings Group 3 (1989) pp.58-72

This survey analysises the distribution of aisled barns within the county and describes and discusses the surviving examples.

Paul Barnwell & Colum Giles The English Farmstead, 1750-1914 (1997). Athough none of the sample areas chosen by the Royal Commission are in Suffolk, and their study only begins in 1750, there is a general consideration of the importance of historic farm buildings and a methodology for their study and recording which is worthy of emulation.

David Dymond and Edward Martin (eds.) An Historical Atlas of Suffolk 2nd ed. (1989)

This useful volume contains maps showing soil regions, Greens, Commons and Tyes, Enclosure and Reclamation, Agriculture in 1854, listed buildings, and aisled barns.

English Heritage Understanding Listing: the East Anglian Farm
This booklet contains a brief outline of the development of farm buildings within
East Anglia and the important elements of the farmsteads as well as explaining
the listing procedure.

John Hodskinson The County of Suffolk (1783) Suffolk Record Society Reprint vol. XV (1972)

This reprint of the first county map shows farms and settlements as they were before the major period of agricultural change associated with the Napoleonic wars.

Matthew Johnstone Housing Culture Traditional Architecture in an English Landscape (1993)

This book contains some useful sample studies, and is mainly concerned with the interpretation of the buildings in a social and cultural context.

Oliver Rackham The History of the Countryside (1986)

This national survey is written by a Suffolk ecologist who draws much of his evidence from within the county. His definitions and explanations for the "ancient" and "planned" landscapes are particularly relevant.

William and Hugh Raynbird *The Agriculture of Suffolk* (1849) This report describes the county's agriculture mid-century.

Eric Sandon Suffolk Houses (1977)

This beautifully illustrated book is the only one as yet available on the subject.

Norman Scarfe The Suffolk Landscape (1972)

This book was written before interest in farm buildings had developed, but it provides useful background information on the Suffolk medieval landscape.

Susanna Wade Martins Historic Farm Buildings, including a Norfolk survey (1991).

The first part of this book provides a general introduction to the subject while the second part consists of a survey of Norfolk which provides useful comparative material.

Arthur Young "Minutes relating to Dairy farms in High Suffolk" Annal of Agriculture V (1786)pp.192-224 provides a full description including the methods of stalling cows, of dairy farming in the late -eighteenth century.

Arthur Young General View of the agriculture of Suffolk (1813) gives a full description of agriculture at the time.

APPENDIX ONE BUILDINGS RECOMMENDED FOR LISTING

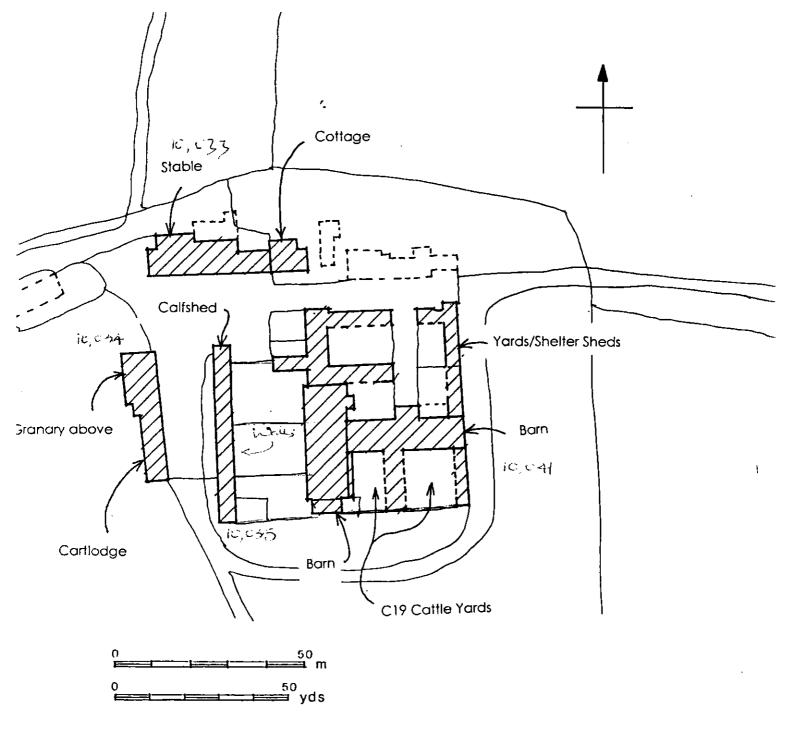
BABERGH D.C.

Tendring Hall Farm, Stoke-by-Nayland, Suffolk TL993352

This farmstead is being recommended because it is a good example of a large-scale estate farm dating from the late-eighteenth century, but with buildings representative of the changes in agriculture during the nineteenth century. The two large timber-framed barns are typical of the period of increasing grain productivity in the Napoleonic wars, and the E-shaped yards and other cattle accommodation of the increasing interest in livestock in the mid-nineteenth century. Although it was not planned as a whole, it does demonstrate the importance of estate activity in the building of farmsteads.

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> 12/ TL 93 NE.



Recommended for listing or currently listed with serial number.
Other buildings.
 Since demolished

Black 142406

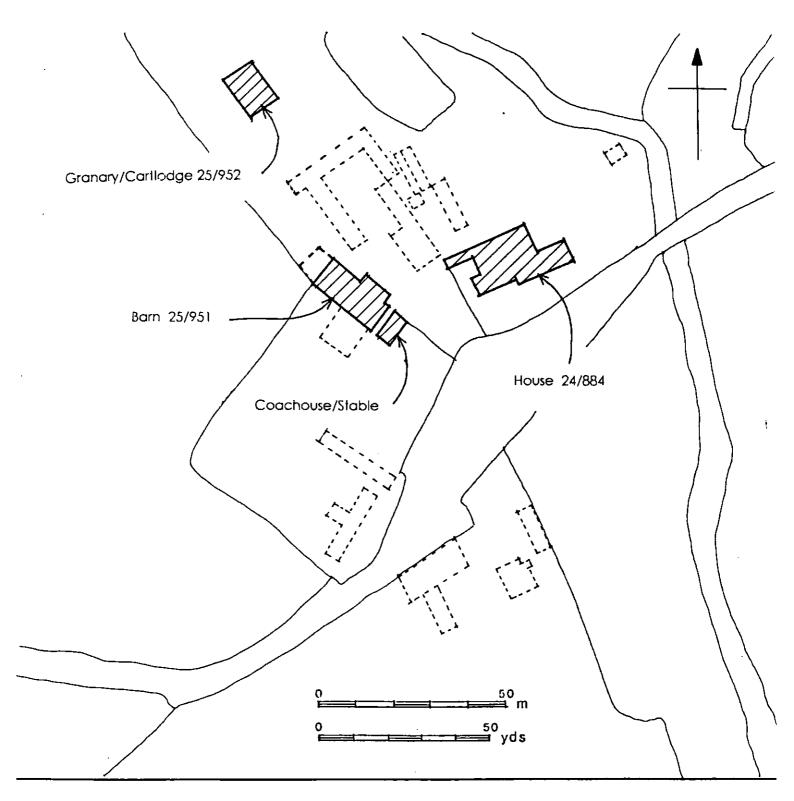
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BABERGH D.C.

Scotland Place Farm, Stoke-by-Nayland, Suffolk TL994366

The stable to the south of the barn is recommended for listing because, although later than the listed barn, it is an important element in the evolved farmstead and a good example of this class of building, which is under-represented in the lists.

- '/ TL 943L



Recommended for listing or currently listed with serial number.

Other buildings.

Since demolished.

BABERGH D.C.

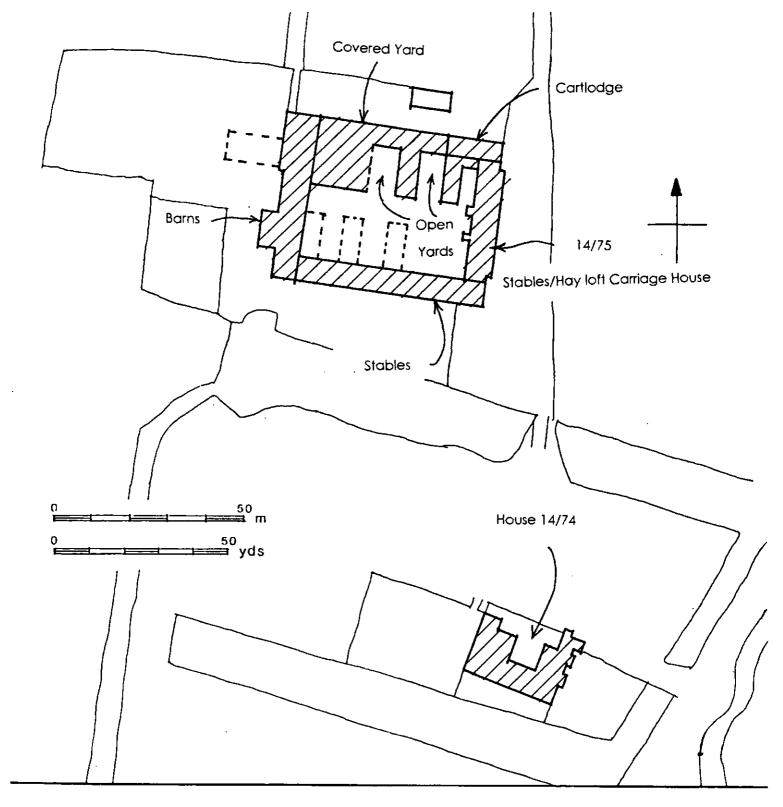
Smallbridge Hall Farm, Bures, Suffolk TL928332

Planned farms are unusual in Suffolk and so this near-complete example is of interest in a regional context. However as a relatively late building, its inclusion has to be justified in a national context where model farms are feature of the "high farming" period and this is "an imposing example of an early Victorian model farm..remarkably well preserved". (Leigh Alston "Smallbridge Hall Farm, Bures" Suffolk Mills Group Newsletter 57 <Sept. 1993>) It should be listed as a whole. Smallbridge Hall itself (14/74 II*) is one wing of a C16 mansion, restored in the late C19 and in 1920 was the seat of the Waldegrave family until they sold in the mid C19.

It can be dated to the early 1850s and so its layout with a covered yard is innovative for that date. Its value in increased because of the evidence for the use of water power in the barn. It is therefore listable in both local and national terms.

124649 Frankeddings to W 14/10,042

TL 93 8W



Recommended for listing or currently listed with serial number.
 Other buildings.
 Since demolished.

142422

Browns Farmhouse, Hitcham

10,00

House. Late C16 or early C17, 3-cell plan, one storey with attics. Timber-framed, formerly plastered and encased in a gault brick c.1900. Thatched roof with axial chimney of red brick, rebuilt late C20. 3 eyebrow dormers. Front door at cross entry position.

INTERIOR: framing fully exposed, poor quality studding, much reused timber. Original design has a single flue chimneystack with a fireplace in the hall backing onto the cross passage. Twin service rooms united in late C17 refurbishment. Tow tier tenoned purlin, late C17. Chimneystack has good ruddled brickwork in the chamber over the hall, covered probably late C17/18 with whitewash.

Barn 30m west of Browns Farmhouse, Hitcham 10,000

Barn. Late C16 or early C17. Three-bay plan with central threshing floor paved with bricks on edge. C19 porch, or perhaps earlier, facing house with pantiled roof. Main roof formerly plaintiled, largely clad in corrugated iron.

INTERIOR: Quite good studding with very long tension braces at the corners. Good jowled storeyposts with archbracing evidence up to the tiebeams. All the braces replaced: one truss has early C19 bolted knees replacement. Roof entirely reconstructed, probably late C17 with clasped purlin type design. Barn extended northwards by further 3 bays in early C19.

33/ 71 95 SE

Dale Farmhouse, Hitcham

Farmhouse. C15 with early C17 and 1868 alterations. 3-cell plan, one storey with attics. Timber-framed and plastered upper level, underbuilt in red brick with gault brick dressings in 1868. Thatched roof with axial chimneystack of narrow red bricks. Early C20 casements with small panes and plaintiled entrance porch with cusped bargeboards c.1868.

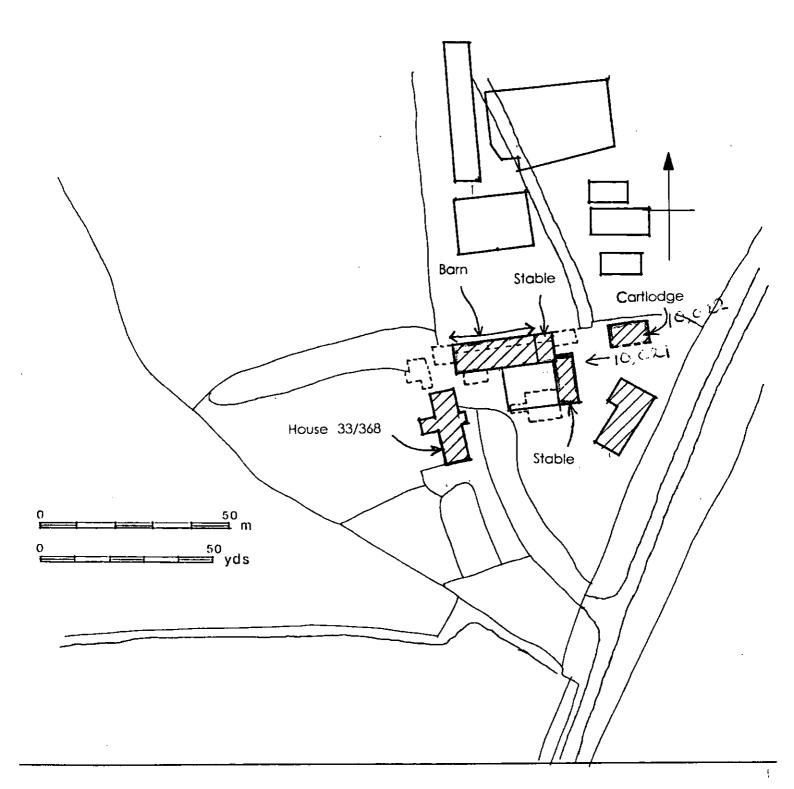
INTERIOR: An open hall house with service end to right and cross entry at front porch position. The twin service rooms have been united, probably in C17. Beyond to right is a further cell opening from one of the service rooms (a rare feature). The hall has exposed close studding in the upper end wall with chamfered 4-centred arched doorway into parlour. Heavy, unchamfered first floor joists in service end. Open truss tiebeam, chamfered and steeply cambered with one of pair of chamfered 4-centred archbraces. Roof structure complete but crownpost, if any, removed. Long edge-halved and bridled scarf joints. Large chimneystack with single flue inserted into cross passage possible C16 or early C17. Inserted early C17 floor with exposed chamfered joists with rudimentary leaf stops. A short spere beside the fireplace may be a repositioned medieval spere with broad vertical planks.

Barn 20m to north-east of Dale Farmhouse

Barn. C17. 6 bays, one rear aisle. Timber-framed and weatherboarded walls, asbestos sheeted roof, formerly thatched. The eastern, sixth bay partitioned off for stabling with the stabling extended into part of fifth bay in C19.

INTERIOR: Part of loft floor structure still in position above stables. Jowled storeyposts and arcade posts with some archbraces still in position. Studded main walls with middle rail to front wall with tension braces. Odd limited areas of original wattle and daub infill survive. Windbraced, clasped purlin roof. Third bay from west has brick threshing floor and barn doors to front. Barn ahs very high incidence of reused timber of all periods, including particularly rafters. At right angles to barn at east end projecting southwards is a stable range of early C19 red brick at lower level, timber-framed and weatherboarded at upper level with corrugated iron roof, formerly slated. First floor structure is of reused C16 timbers of great interest. Moulded ceiling joists, later whitewashed, of unusually deep and narrow section together with matching double ogee-moulded bridging beam. Mortices show evidence for very closely-spaced joists together with other recut joists and beams. This is exceptionally slender and closely-spaced joisting for mid C16 date indicating possibly the ceiling of a parlour chamber of a high quality room.

Cartheige 1424-12



Recommended for listing or currently listed with serial number.
Other buildings.
Since demolished.

142493

BABERGH D.C

Ennals Farmhouse, Hitcham

Farmhouse. Circa 1530-1550. 3-cell plan but with further cell at the service end. Parlour cell is in crosswing form, which may be slightly earlier, say c.1500-1520. 2storeys and attics: timber-framed and plastered, long-wall jettied along front west elevation. Plaintiled roof. Axial c.1655 chimneystack with four shafts linked at the head. A gable chimney at the service end. Lobby-entrance with single storey gabled plaintiled porch, dated 1655 on gable tiebeam. Enrichment of vine scroll with dentils to soffit. Damaged drop finials at centre and both sides, with arcading dentilled underside. Early C19 6-panelled entrance door with side lights. At first storey early C19 sashes with various casements and french doors at ground storey level. Pargetting at ground storey level has large panels with bolection moulded borders. To left is a single storey C17 extension set forward, of reused timbers, perhaps used as a kitchen. INTERIOR: A hall in two bays with richly-moulded main beams exposed. Ogee and scotia mouldings to binding beam. Bridging beam has two rolls with scotia between and on either side. Open fireplace with cambered lintel, brand mark, initial RB. The lintel is unchamfered and may be reused: the chimneystack has been rebuilt in the C17. At the service end the rail has matching mouldings of ogee and scotia. Single service room beyond passage and beyond that a second room, probably a kitchen, with complete diamond mullioned window of 5-lights in the rear wall. At the extreme corner of the frontage a doorway into this room with evidence for a 4-centred arched head. At first floor level is a chamber above the end room but the chamber above the service room is divided into two by a studded partition which seems original, but not quite central. Plain crownpost roof with braces with 4-centred curvature. Parlour crosswing has a crownpost roof of slightly earlier type. The chamber is divided into two. Crownpost braces are deeper and of a different type. In the parlour a central beam with very deep chamfers with step stops and parlour fireplace with elliptical head deeply recessed within a square frame. Brickwork all exposed but originally plastered of C17 character. The chimneystack seems to have been totally rebuilt then.

TL 95 SE.

BABERGH D.C

142494

10,023

Fenn Farmhouse, Hitcham.

House. C16 in two phases: early C19 alterations. Timber-framed and plastered, 2-storeys. 3-cell plan, pantiled roof with axial chimneystack of red brick. 12-light sash windows on the east elevation. In the lobby entrance position the front door has been replaced by a window. On the south elevation is a rear C19 kitchen wing of 2 storeys, lower, with an entrance porch which may be a C20 replacement.

INTERIOR: At the south end is a cell with exposed, unchamfered ceiling joists of large dimensions, perhaps early C16 and in the hall beams and joists with broader chamfer with curved stops, an open fireplace reusing chamfered lintel, truncated. The hall probably of late C16 origin. No timber-framing visible at first floor level. Roof structure not examined.

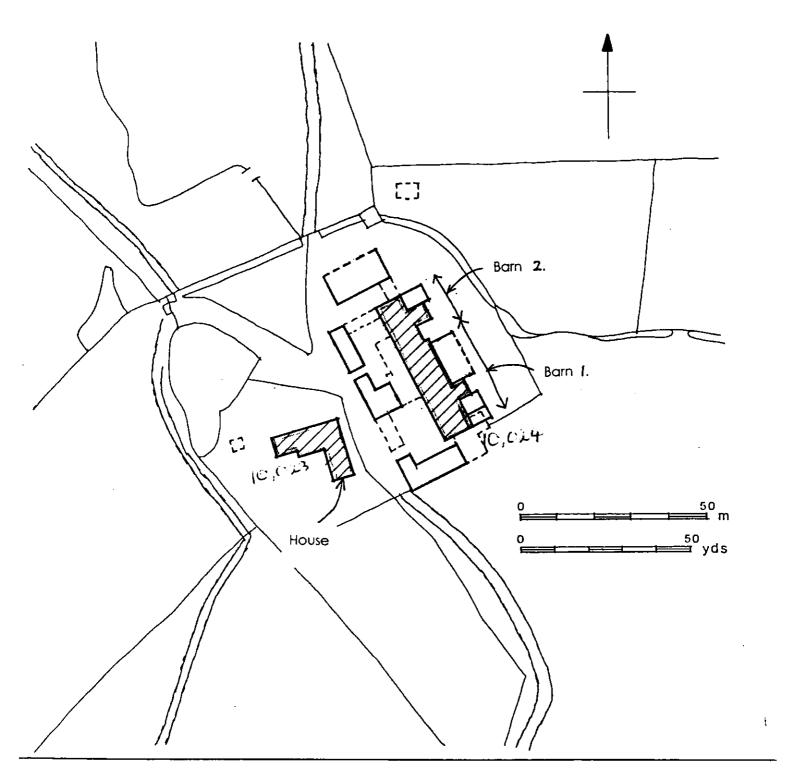
142495 Barn 30m north-east of Fenn Farmhouse, Hitcham

10,024

Barn. Circa 1600. In two attached sections. A 6-bay barn of c.1600, timber-framed and weatherboarded with corrugated iron roof.

INTERIOR: Roof of side purlin construction with principal rafters at half bay intervals. Two tiers of butt purlins: the upper tier have fairly straight, slender windbraces and collars at each principal rafter truss, high up. Archbrace tiebeams and open trusses. At the southern end closed trusses have long tension braces. Most side walls also have tension braces in one direction but not the other. High incidence of reused timber studding but the roof and wallplates are of this date. Bay 5 and 6 at the north end have evidence for an upper floor structure above stabling and truss 5 has mortices in the underside of the tiebeam for studding. The stable doorway in the west side of Bay 6 appears to be in the original position. The studwork at the north end of the east wall is largely replaced in the early C19 but with principal timbers in place. Bladed scarf joints in the wallplates. In Bay 3 from the south is a threshing floor of on-edge white bricks and a substantial porch added early C19 on the east side with almost entirely reused timbers.

The second, lower barn is of the same date, in 5 bays, windbraced, clasped purlin roof, full height studding in sidewalls, heavy studs reused from an earlier building together with many tiebeams and principal posts, possibly of c.1500. In the centre of the east wall, a large C19 porch constructed with reused timbers and clasped purlin roof with threshing floor as with the other barn but all on a smaller scale.



Recommended for listing or currently listed with serial number.
Other buildings.
 Since demolished.

369?

BABERGH D.C

142497

Old Bloxhall House, Hitcham

Former farmhouse. Circa 1600 with crosswing of late C15. Timber-framed with brick cladding, plaintiled roof. Chimneystacks of red brick. Crosswing chimneystack has octagonal shafts c.1600. 2-stories and attics. Casements C19 and C20. Entrance porch to north side c.1600 with gabled plaintiled roof.

INTERIOR: The crosswing has close studding evidence in two bays, strongly cambered tiebeam centre of chamber with evidence for crownpost roof. Studding at junction of hall has smoke-blackening for former open hall. Crosswing roof of clasped purlin type with principal rafters reduced at collars and purlins have shallow windbraces. In the parlour, diamond-mullioned windows, no evidence of glazing. The hall has sidelights from large windows which have roll-and-scotia moulded mullions, possibly reused from C16 window. In the hall joists laid flat with shallow chamfers, scroll stopped. In the parlour joists set on edge, chamfered but perhaps originally plastered.

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33 72 95 SE

BABERGH D.C

JAZAGE
JOSE JAKAT

Pennertree Farmhouse

10, 425

House. Early C16 with alteration of c.1860. 2-storeys 2-cell plan. Timber-framed, clad in red brick and extended to left. Slated roof, hipped, formerly thatched. Axial C17 chimneystack of red brick. Small-pane casement windows with gault brick surrounds and segmental heads. Two glazed panelled entrance doorways. Cell to south of chimney rebuilt c.1860.

INTERIOR: To right, 2-bay hall with exposed heavy close-studding. Window evidence front, back and in north gable. Cross-passage doorways in front and back walls at right-hand end. The rear depressed 4-centred arched doorway in position. Opposing front door evidence only. Blocked doorway in gable from the hall towards kitchen, without arched head evidence. Wide open fireplace with cambered lintel; probably C17 chimneystack. At first floor level, 2-bay chamber over hall with archbraced cambered tiebeam to open truss and simple rectangular-sectioned crownpost. Tension bracing exposed internally. Mullioned windows in front and rear walls and in gable.

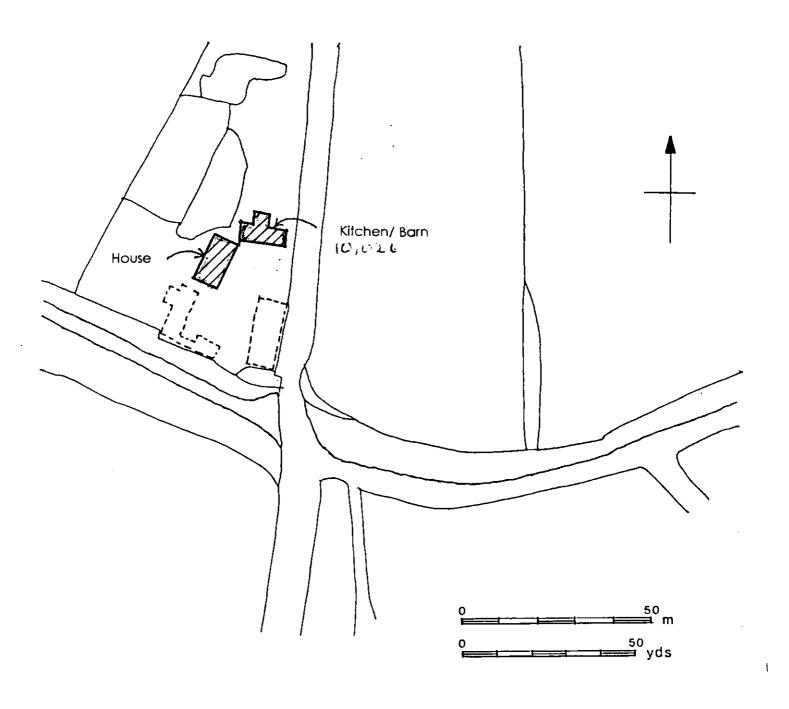
10,026

Barn, formerly kitchen 1 metre north-west of Peppertree Farmhouse, Hitcham

Barn, formerly kitchen. Late C15, converted to barn in early C19. 2-bay open hall type kitchen with storeyed service end under hipped roof. Timber-framed weatherboarded. Pantiled roof formerly thatched. Converted to barn C19 with gabled porch on north side.

INTERIOR: 2-bay kitchen open to full-height. Central open truss with chamfered and cambered tiebeam, deep, solid archbraces, unchamfered from jowled storeyposts. Coupled-rafter roof. Rear north sidewall has full height studding with arched windbrace from cornerpost. South sidewall upper bay has mid-rail with closer spaced studding. Beneath mid-rail two windows separated by shutter slide space. End gable wall destroyed but upper tiebeam in position with evidence for 2-light diamond mullioned window immediately beneath at high level with hinged shutter. Lower bay sidewalls removed in C19 for barn conversion. Evidence for rear cross passage doorway with arched head. Evidence for wide double-pegged post immediately above head of door at front and back (of uncertain purpose). Partition truss at lower end retains only tiebeam. Evidence for windbraced studwork above and below. Service end framing complete. Rear window with central mullion in place - evidence for two others. Front window beneath midrail has shutter slide. Close studding to front elevation with windbrace apparently inserted because smoke-blackened (other timbers in service end unstained). Rear elevation close studding full height with long arched windbrace. Gable wall half-hipped with tension braced close studding. Twin first floor and ground floor windows separated by central post. Two mullions surviving. All windows formerly of four lights. Hipped end roof complete over service area with unusual half-hipped design in roof structure. Smoke gablet in position with upper collar supporting hip rafters, smoke blackening at upper level of roof only. Kitchen has moderate smoke blackening on timbers throughout but mainly clad in corrugated iron and no infill surviving. Gabled porch has primary-braced studding of reused timbers.

An article by David Martin in *Vernacular Architecture 1997* on medieval kitchens in south east Sussex gives valuable parallels for the surviving Suffolk group of kitchens, but those which he describes are all more developed and later in type, only having at most a single open bay for an open hearth. This type is also found in Suffolk but in most cases can be confidently dated to the early or mid C16.



Recommended for listing or currently listed with serial number.
Other buildings.
 Since demolished.

BABERGH D.C

142500

33 TL 955E

(0,017

Causeway House Farmhouse, Hitcham

Farmhouse. C15 with C17 alterations. One storey with attics. 3-cell plan, lobby-entrance in C17. Timber-framed encased at the front in gault brick in the late C19. Thatched roof, hipped with eyebrow dormers containing late C19 large-pane sashes. Axial C17 chimneystack of red brick. Tripartite sash windows with large panes, late C19. Single storey gabled entrance porch of gault brick with plaintiled roof, 4-panelled glazed entrance door.

INTERIOR: Central open hall with widely-spaced studding, upper end partition visible (altered). In hall chamber, studded partition with tension bracing exposed. Hall open truss entirely removed but stub of chamfered archbrace visible beneath inserted first floor structure. Service end, at first storey level half-hipped gable evidence with original base cruck exposed. Central gable post probably had a pair of windows flanking. Late C16 inserted first floor, bridging beam exposed with curved stepped stops. Lintelled late C16 open fireplace in hall. Plain framing in C17 extension including truss in chamber lacking tiebeam at mid-point. Roof structure of C15 building not examined, but evidence for crownpost system.

34 TM 055W.

BABERGH D.C

1425C1

Whitehouse Farmhouse, Hitcham

Farmhouse. Circa 1600. 3-cell plan with lobby entrance. 2 storeys, timber framed, encased at the front and gables in brick, gault at the front and red at the sides, perhaps c.1900. Casement windows C20, C19 4-panelled entrance door. Concrete plaintiled roof with axial chimneystack. C17 type sawtooth shaft stack constructed in C20. The rear wall is plastered. The brick facade was under repair during the visit and the timber-framing exposed to a small degree. Interior not examined.

142502

10,029

Barn 100m south-east of Whitehouse Farmhouse, Hitcham.

Barn. Early C17 and C19. Timber-framed with tarred weatherboarding. Roof presently asbestos cement sheeted, previously thatched. A porch on the east side and a low leanto roofed porch opposite on the west of the second bay from the north. INTERIOR: Four bays, each with archbraced open trusses, but one truss has bolted knee on one side only. Bays one and two from the north are of an early C17 stable converted c.1800 to a barn when the building was doubled in length towards the south. The closed truss at the north end is gabled with fairly complete studding. Second truss along is open and has one of a pair of archbraces surviving. The third truss originally was a closed truss with full-height studding and was given nailed archbraces during the barn conversion. The fourth truss along is open on the west side: it has a brace fixed with nails or bolts and on the opposite side a kneebrace fixed with bolts. The fifth truss at the south gable had studding top to bottom. northern half of the roof has clasped purlins with square-set collars and reduced principals with straight windbraces up to the purlins. Most of the common rafters are missing. The remainder of the roof was entirely rebuilt in the C20 to The same pitch. The side walls of the northernmost bay have good full-height studding with straight tension windbraces and in the middle of the east wall a horizontal member appears to be a doorhead which has later been blocked. The head is properly tenoned and pegged in. Opposite in the west wall a doorhead appears to have been inserted later: it is not properly morticed and pegged but has subsequently been blocked by a central stud. There is no clear evidence of a loft although this may have been lost without trace. The central bay has had in the west wall full-height studding with windbracing as before: most of this has been removed. In the east side wall there are two surviving studs and a windbrace before the barn doorway was cut in by the removal of the plate laying a second plate over the top to increase the headroom. The porch is of the C19 but constructed from components probably taken from the original building, including two plates and studs. Side walls of the two southern bays have bisected studs with long primary braces. The south gable has been opened completely in the C20 and converted into a machinery shed.

Barn 10m to the north-east of Whitehouse Farmh

10,031

Barn. Early C19. Timber-framed and weatherboarded with asbestos cement sheeted roof, formerly thatched. Four bays, two aisles, a porch on the east side with lowpitched leanto roof, formerly gabled. Fragmentary survival of earlier barn, particularly aisle walls.

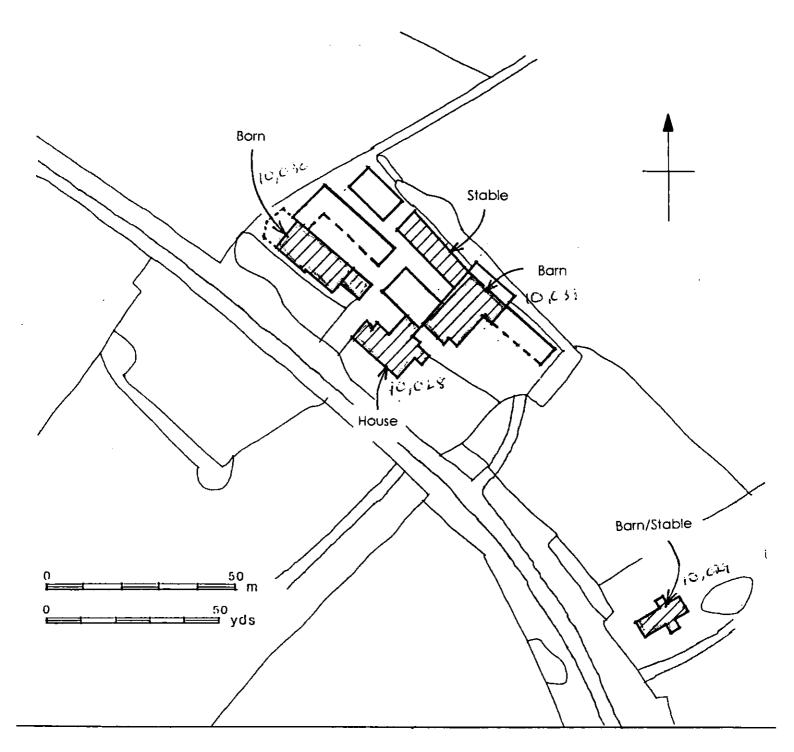
INTERIOR: The arcade posts are unjowled and have bolted knees up to tiebeams. The arcade braces are rather thin; some straight, some curved, variable. Long, bladed scarf joints in featureless arcade plates. No bracing within the aisles, normal assembly. In the end walls along primary braces with bisected studding, clasped purlin roof of simple design. Extensive reuse of medieval timber in the aisles, also central gable post in the south wall has a pair of lap-jointed brace matrices. This appears to have been an arcade plate having seatings for rafters on the surface. Numerous undateable timbers elsewhere, but possibly this was an early C14, or earlier, barn totally reconstructed in 1800. Attractive herringbone brick on-edge threshing floor.

1425 Barn, formerly stable 12 metres west of Whitehouse Farmhouse

10, e30

Barn. Construxted as range of stables c.1600. Converted to barn c.1800. Timber-framed and weatherboarded, pantiled roof. Six bays, formerly extending further to the west.

INTERIOR: Good close studding with tension braces; a few areas of original wattle and daub survive, mostly replaced by daub plaster and elsewhere weatherboarding. Mortice evidence for upper floor construction, removed c.1800. Diamond-mullioned window evidence in several positions at first floor level. Clasped purlin roof with thin, curved windbraces. No principal rafters, archbracing to tiebeams mostly removed and replaced by bolted knees c.1800. Barn conversion includes insertion of barn doors into north face third bay from the west end together with good constructed porch in opposite south face. First floor beams spanned between storeyposts with central bridging beam with common joists upon clamps fixed to inner face of sidewall studding. The clamps still survive in places but none of the remaining first floor structure. At the east end of the building is a brick-built granary with store below integrated with the earlier timber frame as well as C19 brick outshuts along the south side. In the north wall the high level weatherboarded walling has pitching doors boarded at high level. In the south porch of the barn the internal face is partly plastered over and there is all kinds of graffiti, including inscribed, flower-type superstitious symbols, some of which are incomplete.



	Recommended for listing or currently listed with serial number.
	Other buildings.
1	Since demolished.

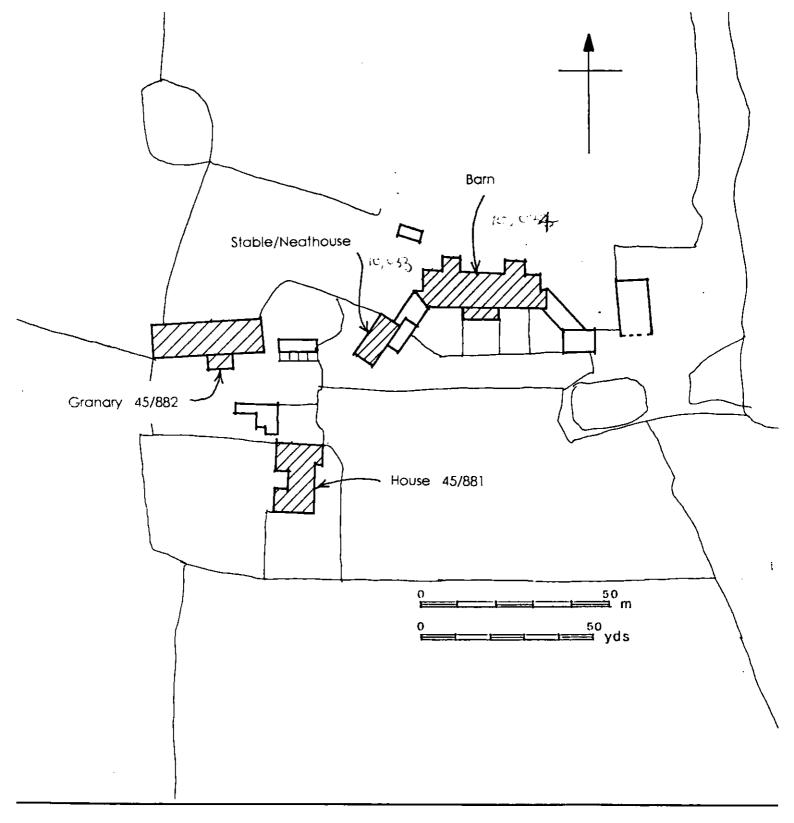
High Trees Farm, Polstead, Suffolk

TL985396

The barn and the stable on this site, along with the already-listed granary, form a good group of buildings. The stable, although a relatively late building, is a good example of an underlisted type of building, and the barn is also listable as part of the group. The barn is shown on the tithe map (SRO TI54/2) and is therefore pre-1840, whilst the stable is slightly layer. The granary is no doubt the oldest building and therefore is quite rightly listed. However the three buildings form an economic unit and are unspoilt by any modern buildings on the site. The buildings form a traditional group with the C16-C17 house (5/881)

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TL 93 NE 45/



	Recommended for listing or currently listed with serial number.
	Other buildings.
::	Since demolished.

SAINT EDMUNDSBURY D.C.

HAWKEDON

Gallowgate Farmhouse

10,017 142513

Farmhouse, probably C18 with earlier and possibly medieval rear wing. 2 storeys, three windows, gabled chimneys to left and right, timber-framed and rough cast with concrete plaintiled roof. C20 casement windows, central entrance doorway with 4panelled late C18 or early C19 door. The eastern gable chimney is the earlier, possibly late C18. Rear range much lower and said to be medieval and a park keepers house. Interior not examined.

> 10,013 Barn 30m east of Gallowgate Farmhouse

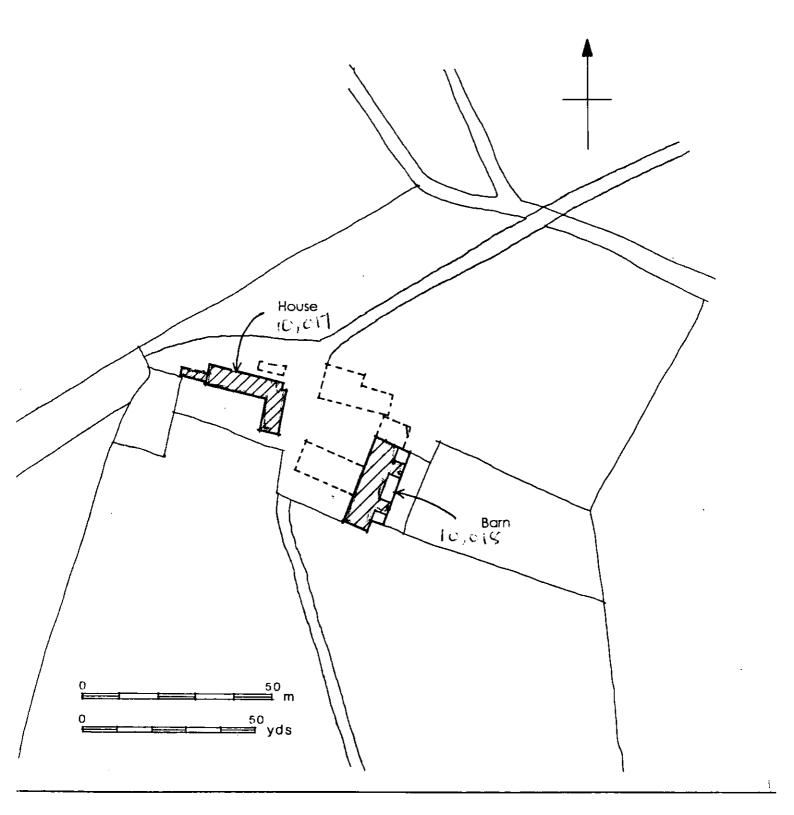
142514

22

Barn, late C16, timber framed and weatherboarded with slated roof formerly plaintiled or thatched. Three bays, central bay with threshing floor, barn doors facing

INTERIOR: Doorposts have strongly accentuated jowls at head. Open truss tiebeams, three out of four braces in place. The eastern braces have strong ogee curvature but not the western survivor. Good close studding without original visible windbracing. Long internal braces applied later to east wall. Plain clasped purlin roof without windbracing. On the east side a gabled timber-framed weatherboarded porch added in the C18. Primary braced studwork and simple clasped purlin roof. At the south end, a C18 barn constructed as an extension, of three bays with a central threshing floor. Set of four barns doors to the west and porch to the east. Tiebeams have long straight archbraces and jowled post heads. Primary braced studding, clasped purlin roof.

> TI 85 5W 8/



Recommended for listing or currently listed with serial number.

Other buildings.

Since demolished.

7/ TE 75 SE

SAINT EDMUNDSBURY D.C.

142515

Barn 15m to the west of Hawkedon Hall.

Barn, late C16 or c.1600. Timber framed, weatherboarded, asbestos cement sheeted roof. 6 bays, one aisle along south side. Threshing floor at third bay from east end. Original gabled porch on north side.

INTERIOR: Tiebeam braces replaced by bolted knees, probably late C18/early C19. Arcade plates have long braces, some straight, some cranked. Plain clasped purlin roof, hipped at the east end. No ancillary bracing in the roof. Principal trusses at full bay intervals with slightly larger rafter couples and straight collars. Middle rail at north wall and both gables, which have central storey posts and arched windbraces on the inner face. A number of reused timbers from possibly a C14 house including arcade posts and particularly a large number of smoke-blackened medieval rafters. Arcade plates have face-halved and bladed scarf joints. High incidence of reused medieval studs. Close studded aisle wall with arch windbracing at end bay. Importance of building greatly increased by reuse of components from possible C14 Hawkedon Hall.

142516

Barn 30m south west of Hawkedon Hall

10,020

Barn. Circa 1800. Timber-framed, weatherboarded, corrugated iron roof, tall, flint rubble plinth with red brick quoins. 4 bays, the entrance and threshing floor at second bay from the south. At the rear a gabled porch.

INTERIOR: Kneebrace tiebeams at open trusses, clasped purlin roof. Studding with midrails and primary braces. High incidence of reused timber. One open truss tiebeam has archbrace evidence from previous use. Listable as part of farmstead group.

142517 Barn 50m north west of Hawkedon Hall

10 022

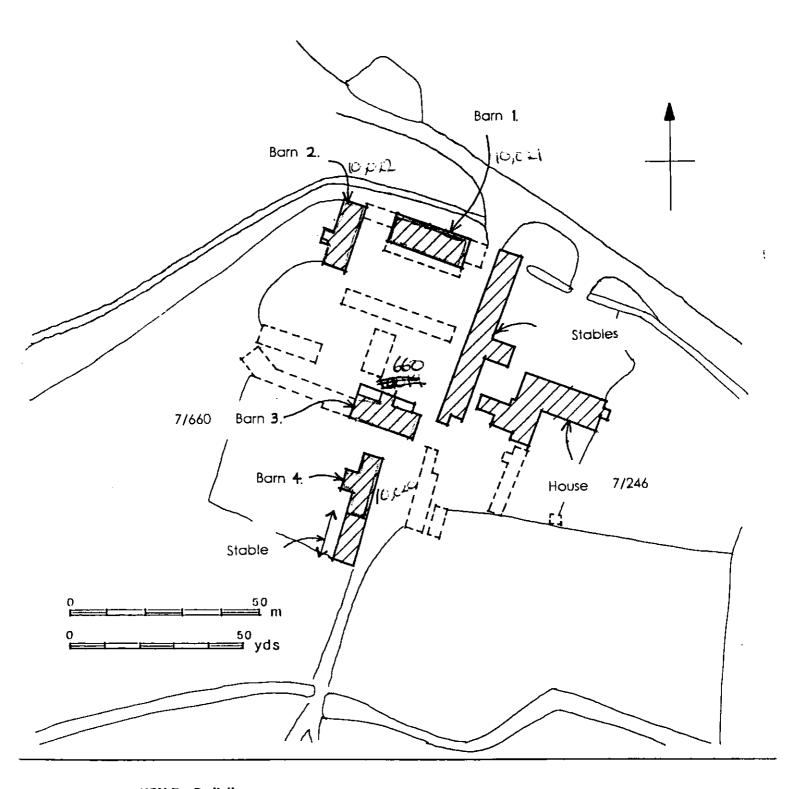
Barn. Mid C18. Four bays, one aisle to west. Gabled porch bay on west side, two INTERIOR: Timber framed, weatherboarded, corrugated iron roof formerly thatched. Archbraces to tiebeams and arcade plates. Jowled arcade posts. Clasped purlin roof. Studding largely concealed.

142513

10, 621

Barn 30m north west of Hawkedon Hall

Barn. Early C19. About five bays. Timber framed, weatherboarded, slated roof, flint and brick plinth.



Recommended for listing or currently listed with serial number.
Other buildings.
Since demolished.

SAINT EDMUNDSBURY D.C.

7/ TL 75 SE 10,023

14.2519 E

Barn. C16 in two phases. Timber framed, weatherboarded on red brick plinth: thatched roof hipped at both ends. Six bays, entrance doors at third bay from the north. Small C16 porch opposite close to moat.

INTERIOR: Heavy close studding with tension stud bracing in all bays except fourth from the north. Middle rails throughout. At the end walls the braces are long and ogee shaped. Clasped purlin roof. Slightly larger principal rafters at bay intervals which do not correspond to the trusses beneath. Windbracing up to purlins from principal rafters, only a few at the north end remain. Strong hip structure with collars at two levels. Archbraces all replaced apparently c 1600 at shallower pitch but still strong. Also windbraces in external walls replaced or augmented in some places, probably same date. Rear porch well-constructed with apparently original leanto roof. Jowled cornerposts and windbraces. The 'aisle tiebeams' jowled to back of storeyposts. Evidence for studding formerly continuing from middle rail upwards. At front entrance door jambs have well-cut curved jowls at head.

142520

10,024

Barn aligned east/west 30m to the south-east of Thurston/Hall

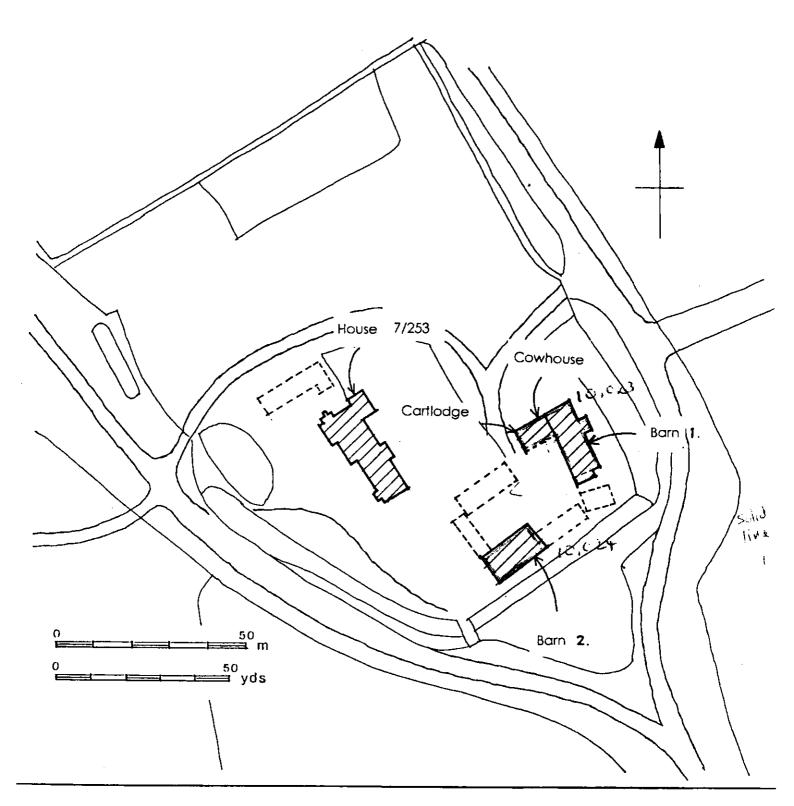
Barn c.1600 with alterations of early C19. Timber-framed, weatherboarded with slated roof. Five bays, one aisle along south side (reconstructed early C19). Entrance doors at central bay (north side). Sliding doors replace earlier hinged doors.

INTERIOR: Close studding of C16 with tension stud bracing in gables and at end bay side walls to front. High incidence of reused studs. Open trusses of archbraced tiebeams and jowled storeyposts with fairly short arcade braces, mainly perhaps reused timbers. Open truss tiebeam braces at shallow angle indicating late C16 or c.1600. Significant reuse of medieval timbers, probably early C14. Several arcade posts reused from early C14 barn with passing brace trenches, also tiebeams which have mortices on the underside for the ends of passing braces. The arcade plate along the aisle has through-splayed scarf joints with face pegs and forelock bolts. The arcade plate has lap-joint housings without notches for the first phase arcade braces. The original quality of the jointing has been compromised by the poor quality of the arcade plate. In one place a lap joint for an arcade brace is almost non-existent because of waney-edged timber. The jamb posts of the doorway have jowls with curved offsets in a similar way to the other barn. In the west gable to south of centre is an apparent pitching door above the mid rail with a head member pegged in about a foot beneath the tiebeam and the windbracing is asymmetrical to allow for the door. The east gable is rebuilt in early C19 with primary braced studding.

Cartlodge and cow house attached to barn 50m east of Thurston Hall (42:52)

Cartlodge. Early C19. Timber-framed and weatherboarded with pantiled roof. 2-bay

cartlodge at western end with cowhouse in third bay to east. INTERIOR: Timber-framing of almost entirely reused timbers including heavy studding, tiebeams (some of which appear to match the studding) and wallplates including also rafters from a side purlin roof possibly with original collars and purlins of C17 or late C16 type. Some studs are reused from domestic situation with diamond mullion evidence. Rear wallplate also has mullion evidence. Cowhouse has concrete floor and whitewashed walls and rafters.



KEY To Buildings.

Recommended for listing or currently listed with serial number.

Other buildings.

Since demolished.

SAINT EDMUNDSBURY D.C.

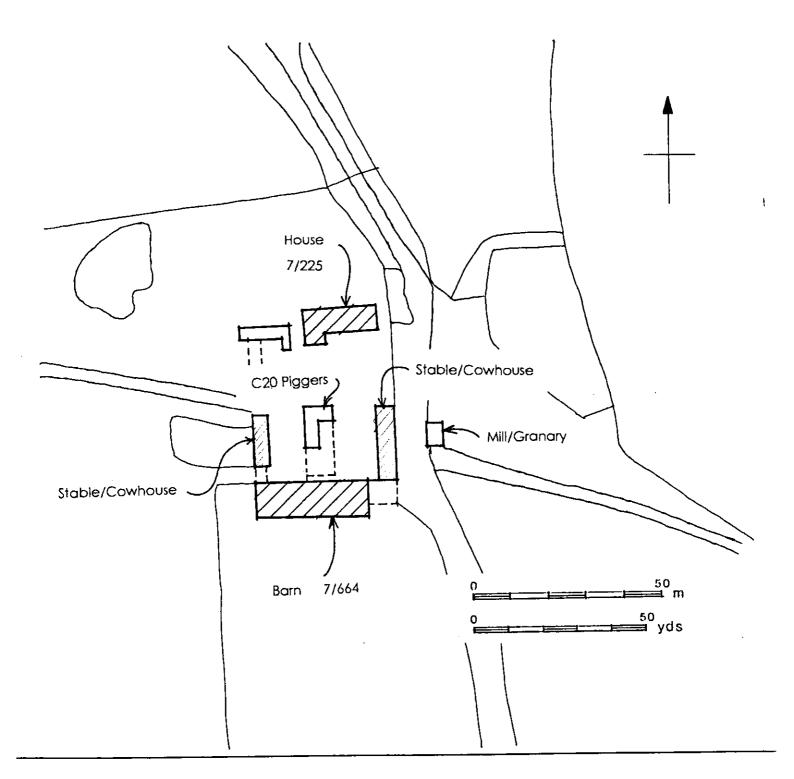
Swans Hall, Hawkedon, Suffolk TL798511

This manorial farmstead group beside a fine grade I listed medieval house is an example of an evolved farmstead behind a seventeenth century aisled barn. The two smaller livestock sheds are unusually complete survivals of an under-listed type of building.

Although the stables/cowhouses are of a later date than the barn, they are marked on the 1840 tithe map, (T113/2). As a group they represent a good and unusually unaltered survival of an evolved farm from the C17 to the C20. Buildings arranged in a U-shape around a yard are also an unusual survival in Suffolk. To the north of the yard and completing the group is the fine listed manorial farm house (7/255 I) contemporary with the barn.

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287,180.



KEY To Buildings.

	Recommended for listing or currently listed with serial number.
	Other buildings.
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Badley Hall Farm, Suffolk TM062559

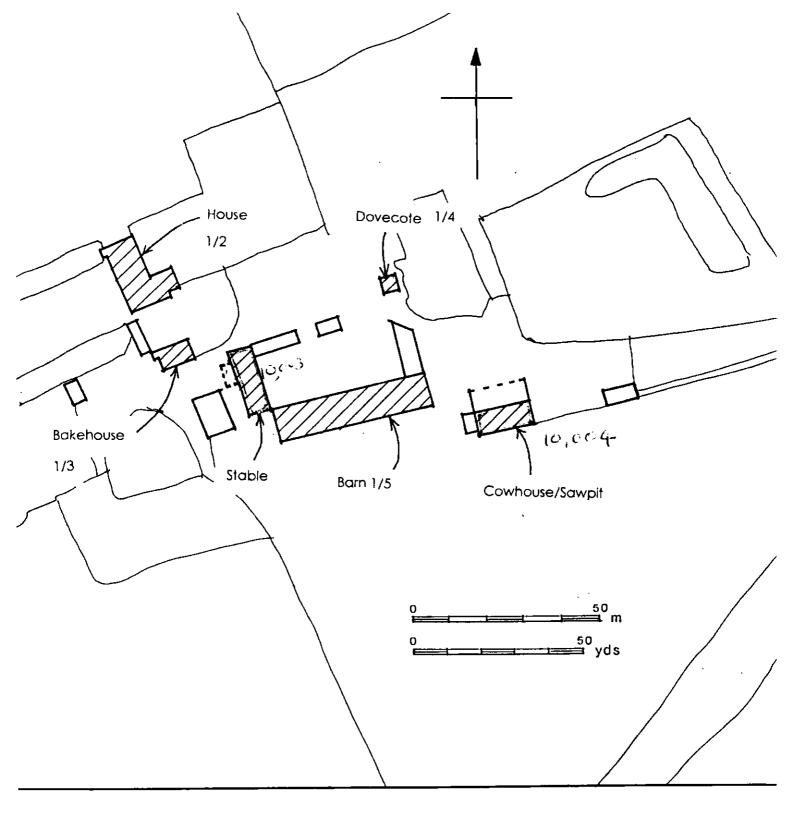
(The house, dove cot and bake house as well as the barn (TM05NE) are all listed I1*, but two other buildings <stables and cowhouse> should also be added to the lists) The buildings at Badley form an important manorial group alongside the fine house, dovecote and bakehouse. They date from the fifteenth to nineteenth century and so represent an evolved farmstead, with buildings modified and adapted to changing needs. The seventeenth century barn was altered to form a stable, and the late-eighteenth century cowhouse became a workshop with sawpit (in itself an unusual survival).

Although both the stables and cowhouse have been much altered they form an important part of this evolved manorial farmstead where a wing of a C16 manor house forms the present farm house. The barn is C15 or early C16 and the dovecote is of similar date. These two C17 and C18 buildings form a significant part of this largely unspoilt group. Documentary evidence of the farm layout in 1740 and 1830 survives and so their functions at this date are known.

Stable. Originally barn north-west of larger barn, forming west side of yard. Mid C16, adapted as stable C17. Alterations of C19 and C20. Timber-framed, clad with tarred weatherboarding. Tall, C19 plinth of red brick to east elevation. C20 low-pitched roof of corrugated iron. Boarded stable doors.

INTERIOR: Heavy C16 timber-framing, tension stud-braced and with midrail to east and north elevation. In four bays, from the west: Bay 1 is largest, Bay 2 contains evidence for set of barn doors, later removed. Rear wall opposite has blocked pedestrian door. Bay 4 was probably partitioned off as stabling with loft above (evidence obscured). Jowled storeyposts, open trusses with long archbraces (some missing). Loft floor inserted with binding beams and square-set joists (mostly removed) when barns doors removed and replaced by studding above pair of stable doors. Plaster ceiling applied to stables C17 or C18. Further C19 remodelling phase when studwork, especially to west elevation, partly replaced. Boarded internal cladding replaces plaster and external weatherboarding applied. Brick floor and tack pegs in eastern bay indicate more recent use of stabling, but also evidence for mangers along much of west wall. 'Stabling in two divisions for ten horses' is listed in a terrier of 1850 (SRO HA1/HB4/2) and this building is most likely to be the one mentioned.

Cowhouse. To south-east of barn aligned east-west; late C18 timber-framed with brick infill on east face, (facing entrance to house); otherwise weatherboarded. 5 bays, originally lofted, tie beams supported on massive roughly cut bolted knee braces and no sign of mortices for earlier bracing. Four jowelled corner posts to building. Roof much rebuilt with flimsy purlins and diagonal bracing nailed on. It has been much altered and doorways are not original. Most recently it was used as a sawing shed and carpenter's shop with a carpenter's bench and brick lined C19 saw pit in place (a rare survival). A "cowhouse for 12 cows" is listed in a terrier of 1830 (SRO HA1/HB4/2)" and this building is most likely to be the one mentioned.



KEY To Buildings.

	Recommended for listing or currently listed with serial number.
	Other buildings.
:	Since demolished.

MID-SUFFOLK D.C.

Cranley Hall, Eye, Suffolk (fig.7) TM153729 (TM17SE 585-1/4/87 & 88 II recommendation to upgrade to II*)

This is an exceptionally rare group of farm buildings which survives with the house (dating from C15 with C17 additions)(585-1/4/85 II*) and dovecote (listed as garden house)(585-1/4/86) as shown on a map of 1626 (SROI, HD78:2671 Eye) and as such is an early survival of a documented planned courtyard plan. Very few granaries and stables of this date remain and here they are placed around a yard, as shown on a contemporary plan of the site. They appear to have been carefully planned as a courtyard layout which makes this an early example of a planned farm. To the north is a fine manor house (listed II*), with which it forms an important manorial group. The map shows the granary and stable very much as they are now with a missing building at the south end of the west side of the yard. The barn is shown as a more lofty building than that surviving. Whether all the buildings were built as one is unclear. The barn has been partly rebuilt and reroofed and the roofs of the stable and granary differ. However enough remains of the original layout to make them of importance as a group and to recommend listing the whole group at II*.

MID-SUFFOLK D.C.

Cranley Hall, Eye, Suffolk

TM153729 (TM17SE 585-1/4/87 & 88Il recommendation to upgrade to II*)

Planned farm. C17, timber-framed, weatherboarded and wattle and daub with some flint and brick work, pan-tiled and corrugated roofs.

PLAN: barn to east, stables (1/4/88) to west and granary (1/4/87) to north of yard. Barn should be included in the listing.

Stable (1/4/88). Early C17. Timber-framed and plastered, west wall of flint rubble with red brick quoining up to first floor level. Walling entirely covered in tar except patched areas of weatherboarding. Roman pantiled roof.

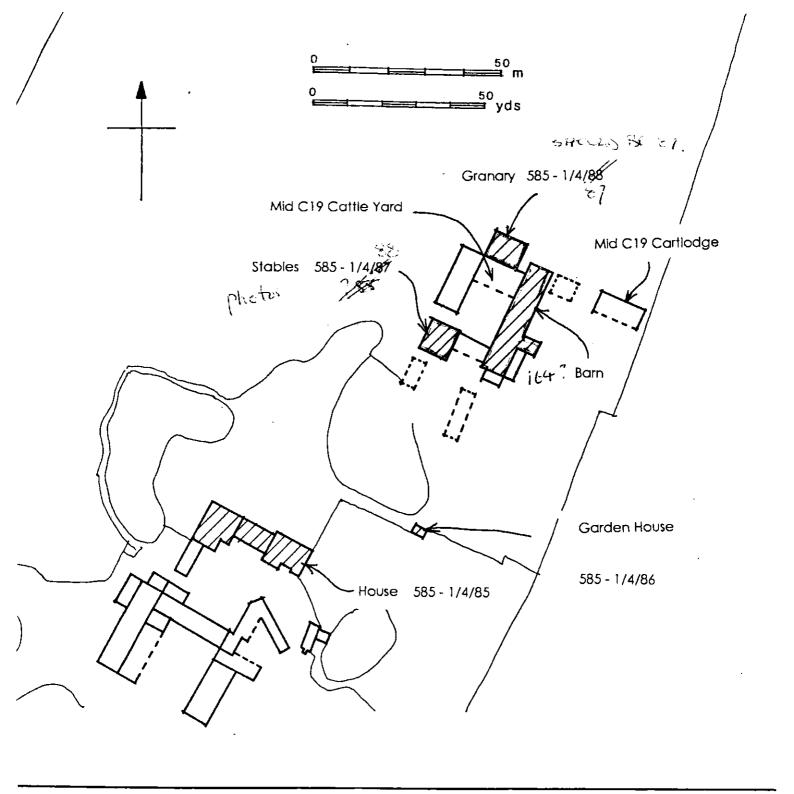
EXTERIOR: Wide stable door in heavy frame set in C18 masonry. On either side a wooden 4-light window with oblong mullions: C18 or possibly earlier reset. Above, two 5-light ovolo-mullioned windows of C17. A further ovolo-mullioned window in west gable and boarded door in original C17 opening to east gable of loft. Lean-to roofed rear C18 extension containing harness and tack rooms.

INTERIOR: Good close-studding and exposed loft floor with chamfered square-set joists. Evidence for central close-studded partition dividing into two equal cells. 4-bay butt-purlin roof: the upper tier of purlins windbraced to heavy principal rafters. Loft divided into three bays by two tiebeams. C18 alterations include replacement of studwork to lower level of both gables in primary bracework, to which mangers and hayracks remain attached. Brick stable floor. Haydrop trimmed into first floor structure above racks.

Granary (1/4/87). Along west side of yard. Early C17 with remodelling of C18. Plastered and colourwashed timber frame, partly weatherboarded, underbuilt up to first storey level in red brick. Roof of Roman pantiles. Two stories, two window range facing north. Open cartshed entry to east supported on central post. EXTERIOR: At upper level north side two C17 diamond-mullioned windows, one 3-light and one 5-light. On south side opposite a C17 ovolo-mullioned window. INTERIOR: First floor walling of C17 close-studding, partly repaired in C18 primary-braced work. C18 first floor structure built into brickwork with oak binding beams and on-edge joists. C18 reconstructed roof in four bays with two tiers of staggered butt-purlins with collars and queen struts. Jowled principal posts and tiebeams and principal rafters. Fragmentary remains of C18 grain bins.

Recommended for listing

Barn. Early C17 with C19 alterations, timber-framed and plastered (partly tarred) on brick plinth with slate and corrugated iron roof. Deep C19 porch to east and opposing doors to west. Later extension to north and collapsed later lean-to to south of porch. INTERIOR: Five bays, mortised braces some replaced by knee braces, common rafters, queen struts clasping through purlins, both dove-tailed and morticed collars; walls close-studded with mid rail. This building has been much altered and the roof structure rebuilt at lower pitch C19 or C20.



KEY To Buildings.

Recommended for listing or currently listed with serial number.
Other buildings.
Since demolished.

APPENDIX TWO SAMPLE OF BUILDINGS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR LISTING

APPENDIX TWO SAMPLE OF BUILDINGS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR LISTING

BABERGH

Lower House Farm, Shelley

TM023375

Barn. C18. Timber-framed, weatherboarded and plastered on a brick plinth with a thatched roof; two pairs of opposing doors and two south facing porches. INTERIOR: Six bays, shallow morticed arch braces, much re-used timber, but there may be mortice holes for partitions. Vertical wall studding with mid rail. Brick threshing floors survive between doors. Roof: clasped through purlin above collar. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: Not part of a farmyard group and a late example of its type without any distinctive features.

Hall Farm, Alpheton

TM873505 (TL85SE 4/780 II* & 781 II)

Two barns- as described in list description, also stables, loose boxes, and livestock sheds.

Listed aisled barn, C13 and C16, to south; listed C18 barn to north, forming west side of yard. Two-storey brick stable block, dated 1851, gabled to east and west forming western part of north side of yard. Livestock shed, weatherboarded on brick plinth, dated 1848 forming eastern part of north side of yard. Eastern side of yard consists of a weatherboarded gable ended building divided in two with, open ended part to north and looses boxes opening into the yard to the south. There is a later timber livestock shed within the yard.

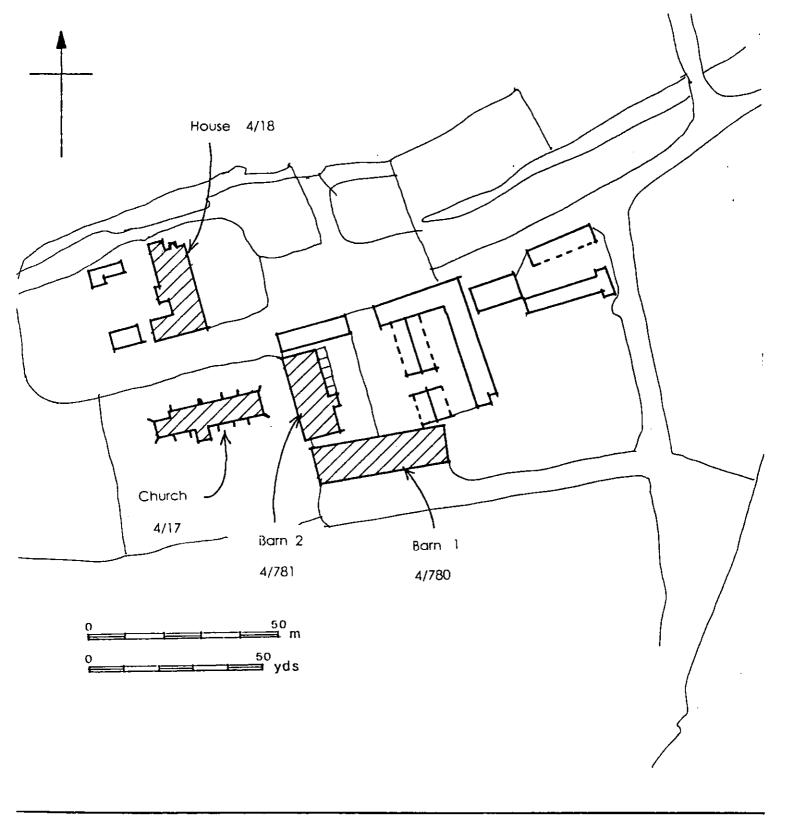
HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Although this evolved farm contains elements from the C13, C16, C18 and C19 with very little C20 alteration, the C19 stables and livestock shed are not good enough examples of their type in either a local or national context to make them listable.

FOREST HEATH

Park Farm Cavenham TL763699

Planned farm. 1902 for J. Goldsmidt, owner of Cavenham Hall, incorporating an earlier barn, of brick; barn timber-framed with wood and brick infill, the whole roofed with distinctive decorative tiles.

PLAN: Courtyard with two storey stables with hayloft above along the front (west) with central arch into yards, cowbyres down both north and south sides and timber-framed barn to east. A trap house abuts stable to the front and there is a further range to one side along the open yard between the stables and the road. The buildings have been altered many times, the floor above the stables has been removed and the building used for grain storage, the cow byres have been opened up and some of the external



KEY To Buildings.

Recommended for listing or currently listed with serial number.

Other buildings.

Since demolished.

doors blocked, and the sides of the barn bricked up and used for livestock. The yard has been partly covered for livestock.

BARN INTERIOR: seven bays, two threshing floors across the second and sixth bays; jowled wall posts with a double row of straight morticed collars to the tie beam. Original queen posts morticed to collar and later queen strutts clasping purlins. Two rows of later through purlins, with earlier, very staggered morticed and pegged chamfered purlins surviving in places. Straight wind braces at corners. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: This is a very late example of a planned farm and must be considered in a national context. Although the front has some architectural distinction it is a very conventional group for its date and has been extensively altered. Not listable

Beck Lodge Farm, Mildenhall

TL6777

Farm buildings. Roughly arranged around a square with flint and brick house remodelled in 1823 (according to datestone) to west, aisled barn to north, cowsheds to east and cartshed/granary to south.

Barn. c.1823, timber-framed and weatherboarded (some original) on brick plinth, with corrugated iron roof (originally thatched).

INTERIOR: Four bays, aisled with queen post box roof, through purlins behind collars. Straight braces from tie beam to aisle posts. Some assembly marks, built of sawn timber. Double opposing doors in third bay to west. Later pantiled extension to west.

Cowshed.C20 weatherboard and brick with pan tiled roof, four doors opening onto the yard. Altered for pigs.

Cartshed/granary. C19 Brick rear (north) and weatherboarded gables and first floor south wall with pantile roof. Four bays the two western openings with modern doors. Exterior staircase on east gable.

INTERIOR: roof; single through purlin with dovetailed collars clasping purlins. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE The group has been too altered to be listable as a whole. The barn is a well built and unusually late example of an aisled construction, but sited in a much altered group and not of special interest in view of its late date. Not listable.

SAINT EDMUNDSBURY

Cocks Green Farm, Sicklemere TL885589

Planned farm. Mid C19 flint and brick with slate roofs.

PLAN: around a courtyard; barn with single threshing floor to south, porched to south, shelter sheds to east and west and single-storey enclosed hipped roof sheds on either side of entrance to north

A small two storey stable to north, with central door and ground-floor window either side and first floor loading door in gable end. Interior not inspected.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Although the group appears to be little altered, it has no special significance in terms of its planning or architectural treatment for this date.

Exhibition Farm, Withersfield TL642488

Planned farm. c1851 for the Withersfield estate. Timber-framed weatherboarded barn with brick sheds enclosing covered yard to south.

PLAN: Barn with two threshing floors and porched to north, double doors opening into yard to south. Three bay covered yard to south enclosed to east by sheds and west by outward facing cartsheds

EXTERIOR: Three gables facing south front the covered yard. Open cartsheds to west now enclosed by breeze blocks, enclosed brick sheds to east

INTERIOR: Covered yards supported by two rows of 6 wooden columns with cast iron spandrels to tie beams. No access to barn and sheds.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: The layout as described in a 1892 sales particulars (SRO HD730/1397/2) is still discernable The covered yard is an early example within the context of the Victorian High farming movement and unusual for Suffolk, but as a complex of this type and date, it must be judged within its national context and against national exemplars and so it is not sufficiently outstanding to outweigh the degree of alteration which has obscured its original plan.

Lackford Hall, Lackford

TL802707

Planned farm. Mid-C19 for Lackford Hall estate; barn and granaries, brick front walls, flint and brick behind, with slate roofs, livestock sheds brick and flint with pantiled roofs.

PLAN:open to the west, barn in centre of east side, with livestock sheds to north and south wrapping round to west. Matching granaries over cartsheds flank yard entrance to west.

EXTERIOR Barn with hipped roof, central double doors, and diamond ventilators either side of dooropenings. Single storey flint and brick sheds, many of the door and window openings are enlarged or inserted. Four-bay cartsheds with internal staircase to weatherboarded granary with off-centre loading bay and rectangular shuttered windows either side for ventilation, under hipped roofs. INTERIOR not inspected.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE The plan is clear, and the matching granaries give the group some architectural merit. However a precis date cannot be assigned to these buildings as no records survive and so it is impossible to say whether or not they are innovative. Only the best preserved examples of this type of planned farms are listable and so this group does not qualify in a national context. They are likely to be preserved as an interpretation centre to the Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

Chadacre Home Farm, Shimpling TL854521

Planned farm. Mid C19 for Lord Halifax's Chadacre estate; brick and flint with slate roof.

PLAN U-plan, open to the south with porched single-threshing floor barn to north, single storey stables to west and stables with hayloft above to east. At south end of east range is an outward facing three-bay cartshed. To the west is an entrance way with a two storey building with gables to east and west, and a pig stye on the south side. Only the plan and shell of the buildings survive,

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE In view of their lack of innovation for this period and the lack of documentation, they do not fulfill the listing criteria.

Home Farm, Rushbrook TL893617

Planned farm. 1930-50 for the Rothschild estate. White washed brick with thatched half-hipped roofs and metal Critall-style windows.

PLAN: around courtyard, entered through gateway to south with two storey central block with clock and pyramidal thatched roof opposite to north. The rest of the buildings are single storey and now mostly used for horses, but may have been built as a dairy farm.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE This is a very late example of a model farm, in a conciously picturesque style. There is nothing innovative in its layout or architectural style and there is no surviving evidence of its original use. Not listable

SUFFOLK COASTAL

Home Farm, Nacton TM220402

Planned farm. c.1850 for the Prettyman family; brick with pantiled roof around courtvard, of brick with pantiled roofs.

PLAN around four sides of a court yard, entrance in centre of east side, single storey ranges to either side, north range, single-storey shelter sheds with central feed-store; south range, single-storey livestock, possibly stables at west end; west range; two storey barn with central gable facing into yard and two-storey ranges either side with implement sheds facing outwards to west.

INTERIORS Mostly converted to office use. Roof trusses with king post above collar and racking strutts from tiebeam to collar.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: The date of these buildings is not known, but they are probably post-1850 and as such a conventional planned group with little innovative detail or architectural merit. The original layout survives, but conversion has made the original functions of the varoius parts difficult to discern. Not listable.

Park Farm, Henham Barn listed as at Henham House TM47NE 4/20

Farm buildings. C17- C19 for the Earl of Stradbrooke, the earlier buildings timber-framed and weatherboarded with some brick, the later buildings red and gault brick. PLAN: L-shaped range to the north of the track; the east-west range a barn and the north-south a stable with hayloft above. To south of the track a waggon lodge with granary above with smithy on east end.

Barn. C17-C18 timber-framed with later brick outshuts on west and north sides; east wall brick and south wall plastered. Double doors to north and south, in second and fifth bays porched through outshuts to north, hipped roof.

INTERIOR: seven bays with massive morticed arch braces and slightly jowled wall posts, close studding with diagonal through studs between wall posts. Last bay to the west partitioned off in brick and a timber framed partition down to eave level at east end of third bay from west. Roof, two rows of butt purlins, principal rafters alternately over ties. Slightly cranked morticed collars. Mortice holes on the under side of the fourth collar from west suggest that there was a partition here.

Stables form a north-south wing at east end of the barn, brick with a pantile roof. Two original openings into loft in west wall, but lower openings altered, probably originally two stable doors, but a wide opening has been cut in at north end. Interior not inspected.

On south side of the barn at the west end is C19 five-bay open sided shelter shed with hipped black pantile roof to south over a brick wall. Brick walls extend west across front of the barn from this shelter shed and south and east from the other end, ending in line with the outer sides of the double doors with a gate post and ball capital. Abutting the barn to the east is a later gault brick two-storey building, probably for storage and food processing.

To south seven-bay waggon lodge, later used as cow house, with granary above, red brick side and back walls to granary level, then weatherboarded above. Hipped black pantiled roof. Front wooden pillars supported on brick piers running back two-thirds of the way through the building. Similar piers extend out from back wall with a small gangway inbetween. Each division is wide enough for a cart, but have most recently been used as cow tyings. Granary above approached by modern replacement stairway on west end.

INTERIOR: roof of principal rafters and collars over interupted tie beams and and queen strutts from floor to collar which would have formed posts for grain bin divisions. Curved strutts run from interrupted ties back to walls. To the west and abutting was a later yellow brick smithy with a chimney. The west wall has been removed to form an open shed.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: The original barn has been utilised in the C19 extension of the buildings to provide livestock accommodation in outshuts and stable range to the rear. The waggon lodge opposite also dates from this phase of improvement. Whilst it could be argued that the group as a whole represents a good example of an evolved farmstead, the later brick buildings have been greatly altered and have little historical or architectural value. Henham Hall was destroyed by fire and only the stables (4/19) remain, so the buildings can not be seen as part of the estate

economic context to the "great house". The barn is listed and listable, but the rest of the group is not.

APPENDIX THREE SAMPLES OF NEW DESCRIPTIONS

APPENDIX THREE SAMPLES OF NEW DESCRIPTIONS

SAINT EDMUNDSBURY

Street Farm, Lidgate TL7258 25/330A II

Old description: A C16-17 timber-framed and weatherboarded barn of 5 bays. Roof pantiled (C20), formerly thatched.

New description: Barn. C16-C17. Timber-framed and weatherboarded on a flint and brick plinth, with pantiled roof.

PLAN: two threshing floors, single aisle to north and with central gabled brick and flint range projecting south into yard.

INTERIOR: C19 brick dividing wall to east of west threshing floor; seven bays, jowled wall posts rise from brick plinth clasping wall plates, arch braces over door ways. Barn in process of conversion, roof not visible.

Other buildings in the group include a granary above an open storage building with brick piggeries on the end to the west, a timber-framed livestock shed on a brick plinth with a cartshed on the end to the east and a hipped roof originally open-fronted shed to the south. All these buildings have been much altered and are not listable.

MID SUFFOLK

Burts Farm, Drinkstone

TL965610 (TL96SE 1/12(barn) & 13(cartshed) II)

Old descripton Barn. Probably C17 or C18. About 5 bays. Timber-framed, part plastered and part weatherboarded. Thatched roof, the ridge repaired in corrugated iron sheeting. At centre bay, east side, is a set of four boarded C19 doors. Included for group value.

New description Barn.C17/C18. Timber-framed on brick plinth with thatched roof, weatherboarded with some lathe and plaster work.

PLAN: five bays with opposing double threshing doors with traditional doors and threshold in place on road side.

INTERIOR: jowled wall posts and morticed cranked arch braces. Through diagonal straight braces in studding. Some re-used and waney timber. Common rafter roof with collars clasping through purlins.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: With the C18 cartlodge (1/13) and C16 house (1/11), the barn forms part of a good example of an evolved post-medieval Suffolk farm.

Cartshed, old description Late C18 or early C19 with C17 core; a granary above. Two drawthrough lanes, each two bays deep; and to right is an integral stable or store one bay wide and 2 bays deep. Timber framed, mainly weatherboarded, partly plastered to right. Corrugated iron roof, once thatched. The front opening has short curved archbraces at each post-head; the rear wall was similar, but is now infilled by weatherboarded timber-framing. A central bridging beam with archbracing supports the granary floor. Primary-braced oak studding in side walls of C18 appearance, but main framing members are of C17 character. Compare cartlodge, 40m south-west of Whitefield House (Item No. 1/20).

New description Cartshed. Late C18, timber-framed on a brick plinth, corrugated iron roof, weatherboarded with lathe and plaster in internal dividing wall.

EXTERIOR: three bays, two deep with two open towards the road as cartshed and a third enclosed, possibly as a stable and with single central door in the gable open towards the house.

INTERIOR: Slightly jowled wall posts, through arch bracing in studding at corners. Some replaced studs. Morticed arch braces to tie beams below granary floor which is unusually high, allowing a fully loaded waggon to stand in the cartshed. Floor boards plastered on under side. Primary-braced oak studding in side walls of C18 appearance, but main framing members are of C17 character. Compare Cartshed 40m south-west of Whitefield House (Item No. 1/20). Roof Common rafter roof with two rows of purlins, the upper row through the lower ones staggered and wedged in. The enclosed (possibly stable) end is entered by a tall, but not original door. The walls are boarded internally and so contruction not visible. Upper floor supported by a massive jowled wall post and tie beam.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE The rebuilding of the barn in the late C17 early C18 is typical of an area where grain production was rising at this time, and as that increase continued into the C18 cartsheds with granaries were often added to farms. The size of the cartshed/granary building is indicative of the increase in arable land that was to be found here. With the C16 house (1/11) the cartshed forms part of a good example of an evolved post-medieval Suffolk farm.

Chevers Farm, Stonham Aspell TM141590 (TM15 NW 5/165 II)

Old description Barn, early C16. 4 bays. Timber-framed and weatherboarded with some C18 cable-pattern pargetting on surviving plastered areas. Corrugated asbestos roof, once thatched. Various C19/C20 boarded doors. Good C16 studwork with tension wind-bracing. Coupled rafter roof, hipped at south end. Two arch-braced open trusses. The timber-framed north gable wall is probably a vestige of an earlier building to the north. An unusually small barn, possibly originally built as stabling or as a cowhouse (neathouse).

New description Farm building. C16. Timber-framed with weatherboard and some wattle and daub infill and some C18 cable-pattern pargetting on surviving plastered areas, corrugated iron roof, originally thatched.

PLAN: Four bays, gable ended with later lean-to aisle on west side, along the south two bays, in brick. North two bays in-filled with breeze block. Mid-rail mortices in wall posts on west side indicate that the aisle is a later addition. Substantial studding of rough wood in east wall. Door openings in south gable and east wall not necessarilly original.

INTERIOR: Curved arch braces in north gable, with central re-used timber post up to just below the ridge, but no bracing in south wall. The timber-framed north gable wall is probably a vestige of an earlier building. Morticed arch braces under first tie from north end. No evidence for a loft. Roof, common rafter with with high morticed collars on alternate rafters.

INTERPRETATION The lack of wide double doors and the small scale of the building would suggest that the building was used for animals rather than as a barn. However, there is no sign of a loft, which one might expect over a stable. This suggests that the building was for cows (a neathouse). It has been considerably altered and no internal fittings survive which make its original function difficult to ascertain. However as few C16 farm buildings other than barns survive, this building is significant as an unusual example of a livestock building of a type which must at one time have been important in this C17 wood/pasture economy.

Tostock House Farm

TL955633 (TL96SE 5/163 II)

Old description Barn. Early C19 flint rubble with dressings of gault brick: parapet gables with tumbled in brickwork. Pantiled roofs. On the north side are 7 bays of flint walling to left of a porch and 4 bays to its right. The porch is also parapet gabled and has horizontally-sliding framed and boarded doors. A porch opposite in the south wall has a weatherboarded gable. In each gault brick pier are three small circular ventilation holes. An integral range of similar design runs southwards from the eastern end of the barn. Included for group value.

New description Farmstead. Mid C19 flint rubble with dressings of gault brick with pantile roof for Gilbert family of Tostock House.

PLAN: L-shaped barn with north/south threshing floor and porch to north and south; also east/west threshing floor with double doors. Roof gabled to west and hipped to south. A east west extension to the northern barn range consists of a two bay open cartshed and enclosed shed below and granary with loft entrance in east gable above. The house is beyond a wall to the west and to the south is a further not-listable L-shaped range of flint and brick loose boxes forming the south-east corner of the yard. (Although part of the group they are too altered to be listable.)

EXTERIOR: Flint rubble with dressings of gault brick: parapet gables with tumbled in brickwork. Pantiled roofs. On the north side are seven bays if flint walling to left of a porch and four bays to its right. The porch is also parapet gabled and has horizontally-sliding framed and boarded doors. The south porch has a weatherboarded gable. INTERIOR not inspected.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE: Planned farms of one build are unusual in Suffolk which is not a county of great estates, and so this is a significant example. These buildings, facing onto the green beside the substantial house of the same style and date were built to impress.

APPENDIX FOUR SCHEDULE OF FARMS VISITED IN HITCHAM AND HAWKEDON

Agree State

Parish of Hawkedon, Suffolk: Schedule of Farmsteads visited August 1998

Address	Building type	Date	Listed?	Listable
Browns Farm (formerly Moat Farm)				
Browns Farmhouse	House	Late C16/ early C17	II	11
Barn 20m north of Browns Farmhouse	Barn	C18	-	<u>-</u>
Gallowgate Farm		-		
Gallowgate Farmhouse	House	C16/C17 and C18	-	П
Barn 30m east of Gallowgate Farmhouse	Barn	Late C16 and C18	-	II
Hawkedon Hall				
Hawkedon Hall	Manor House	early C16 and late C16	II	11
Barn 15m west of Hawkedon Hall	Barn	late C16 with C14 components	П	II
Barn 50m north-west of Hawkedon Hall	Barn	C18	-	II
Barn 30m north-west of Hawkedon Hall	Barn	early C19	II	П

Barn and stable	early C19	•	II
Stables	early C19	-	II
			
House	C17 or earlier C19 alterations	-	? II
Barn or stable	?	-	?
Barn	?	-	?
n			
		П*	
Barn	?	-	?
h of Church)			
Barn	mid C16 early C19 alterations	• •	-
			
Manor house	Late C16	I	I
	Stables House Barn or stable Barn Barn Barn Barn	Stables early C19 House C17 or earlier C19 alterations Barn ? Barn ? Barn ?	Stables early C19 - House C17 or earlier C19 alterations Barn or stable ? - Barn ? - M Barn ? - h of Church) Barn mid C16 early C19 alterations

Barn 30m south of Swans Hall	Barn	late C16	II	II
Group of C19 buildings between house and barn	Stable/ cowshed	early C19	-	II
Thurston Hall Farm				
Thurston Hall	Manor house	early and late C16	II*	II*
Barn 50m east of Thurston Hall	Barn	Late C16	-	II
Barn 30m south east of Thurston Hall	Barn	Late C16, C14 components	•	II

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Parish of Hitcham, Suffolk: Schedule of Farmsteads visited July 1998

Address	Building type	Date	Listed?	Listable
Barreis Farm				
Barrels Farmhouse	Farmhouse	late C15 alterations late C16 and late C20	•	π
Barn, 15m east of Barrels Farmhouse	Barn	Late C16	•	II
Bird Street Farm				
Bird Street Farmhouse	Farmhouse	?C16 with late C20 alterations	-	?
Barn, 40m south of Birds Famhouse	Barn	early C19	•	•
Bloxhall Farm				
Old Bloxhall Farmhouse	Farmhouse	early C16 c.1600	11	II
Barn, 40m to north of Old Bloxhall	?Barn	7	<u>-</u>	Not examined
Farm building 10m north-east of Old Bloxhall	?Stable	?	-	Not examined
Brickhouse Farm				
Brickhouse Fannhouse	Farmhouse	c.1520 alterations of c.1600	11	11*

Barn 30m south east of Brickhouse Farmhouse	Barn	c.1600	11	II
Barn + stables 40m east of Brickhouse Farmhouse	Barn + stable	Late CI6	-	II
Browns Farm				
Browns Farmhouse	Farmhouse	Late C16 with late C17 alterations	II	II
Barn, 30m west of Browns Farmhouse	Barn	Late C16, early C19 extension	-	- ?
Granary, 5m west of Browns Farmhouse	Granary	early C19	-	-?
Bush Farm				
Bush Farmhouse	Farmhouse	?C16/C17	II	II (not examined)
Barn, 30m east of Bush Farmhouse	Barn	?	-	?11
Causeway House Farm				
Causeway House Farmhouse	Farmhouse	late C15, alterations of early C17 and mid C19	-	II
Barn, 40m east of Causeway House Farmhouse	Barn	early/mid C19	-	-
				

Dale Farm (fomerly Downs Farm)

Dale Farmhouse	Farmhouse	Late C15 with early C17 alterations	1 I	П
Barn and integral stable 20m north-east of Dale Farinhouse	Barn + stable	mid C17	•	II
Stable 30m east of Dale Farmhouse	Stable with granary above	early C19	-	II GV
Cartiodge 50m east of Dale Farmhouse	Cartlodge	early C19	-	Il GV
Ennals Farm	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Ennals Farmhouse	Farmhouse	early C16 with alterations of 1655	11	П*
Barn, formerly 20m east of Ennals Farmhouse (building re-erected elsewhere).	Barn	?	•	-
Fenn Farm (Formerly Fen Farm)				
Fenn Farmhouse	Farmhouse	C16 with early C19 alterations	-	II GV
Barn 30m east of Fenn Farmhouse	Barn	c.1600	<u>-</u>	II
Barn 2, 30m north east of Fenn Farmhouse	Barn	c.1600	•	II
Hill Farm				
Hill Farmhouse	Fannhouse	Early C19	-	-

Barn, 80m west of Hill Farmhouse	House, formerly barn	C16 with late C20 alterations	II	?
Lodge Farm.				
Lodge Farmhouse	Farmhouse	7C16 with late C19 alterations	-	?
Barn, 30m north- east of Lodge Farmhouse	Barn	?	-	?
Stables, 40m east of Lodge Farmhouse	?stables	?	-	?
Lucky's Farm				
Lucky's Farmhouse	Farmhouse	?C17 with mid C19 alterations	11	II
Two barns 30m west of Lucky's Farmhouse	Barns?	?	•	?
Outbuilding 20m north of Lucky's Farmhouse	?stable	?	-	?
Outbuilding 30m north east of Lucky's Farmhouse	?granary/ cartlodge	7	-	7
Oak Tree Farm (former	ly Old House Barn)			
Barn, 40m north of Oak Tree Farmhouse	Barn	C16 with C19 alterations	-	?

Peppertree Farm

Peppertree Farmhouse	Farmhouse	c.1520-50	-	II	
Bam/kitchen 10m north-east of Peppertree Farmhouse	Kitchen, later barn	late C15 alterations of c.1800	-	II*	
Plains Farm					
Plains Farmhouse	Farmhouse	C18 alterations Late C19	-	-	
Barn xm north of Plains Farmhouse	Barn	?C18 (fragmentary survival)	-	_	
?Granary/ cartlodge m north of Plains Farmhouse	Granary/ cartlodge	Late C18. Plain and incomplete	-	-	
Stansted Hall Farm					
Stansted Hall Farmhouse	Farmhouse	c.1550 alterations of mid C17	11	11	
Farmbuildings at Stansted Hall Farm	Complex	C19, mid C20 alterations	•	-	
Wetherden Hall Farm					
Wetherden Hall Farmhouse	House (formerly with integral barn at west end).	c.1600	11	П	
Barn, formerly 100m west of Wetherden Hall Farmhouse	Re-erected as PH extension at Sicklesmere near Bury St Edmunds in 1987	late C16	1I	11	

Whitehouse Farm

Whitehouse Farmhouse	Farmhouse	c.1600 with mid C19 alterations	<u>-</u>	11
Stable/barn 20m north-west of Whitehouse Farmhouse	Stable/barn	c.1600 with mid C19 alterations	-	11
Barn 10m north- east of Whitehouse Farmhouse	Barn	c.1800	<u>-</u>	II
Stable/barn 100m south-east of Whitehouse Farmhouse	Barn, originally stable (?)	c. 1600 alterations early C19	-	π

APPENDIX FIVE STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF EXISTING LISTS

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Bays Granary above	Bays	\downarrow	18 C19 Bays
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Cartodae C16 C17 C1	2	C13	C18	5	C19 Bays	Granary above	1-framed	Brick	Ē	P	Part of group	T-framed Brick Rint Other Part of group Grid reference
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31			×		4	×	×					IM35SW
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Cowshed	C16	C16 C17	C18 C19	¢13	Bays	<u>\$</u>	1-framed	Sick	E	<u>₹</u>	Integral stable	1-framed Stick Flint Other Integral stable Part of group	Notes	Olla rererence
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Part of group	×	×		×	×	×			×		×	×	×					×	Int. cartlodge	×						×	×	×	
Officer						Clunch			Clay																				
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Brick		×			×	×									×								×					×	×
1-framed	×		×	×			×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		×	×	×	×	×				×	×	×	×	×	
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APPENDIX SIX: SCHEDULE OF DETACHED KITCHENS

1-5 Westgate St Long Melford LB ref 20/585 TL8646	A wing projecting southwards at the east end of the open hall house. Formerly detached and with storage incorporated. Smoke-blackened crownpost roof. Formerly set corner-to-corner with main house.	3-cell, probably C15 open hall house.	Siting and design conforms to type (see Peppertree Farm).
Lodge Farmhouse Fornham All Saints	Service cell only survives in situ. 2-storied, moulded bridging beam. Half-hipped end toward house supported on base crucks. Early C16. 'Open hall' apparently demolished C18. Smokeblackened timbers incorporated in nearby C18 barn.	High quality, early C16 house immediately in front of kitchen at right-angles and 10 feet away. House never had parlour cell, but linked to kitchen during C18.	Detached 'domestic' outbuilding to rear of contemporary early C16 house.
Bedingfield Hall Bedingfield	Mid C14 large aisled single bay hall type kitchen with integral 2-storey service bay. Half-hipped roof over kitchen indicates detachment at this end but service cell may have been attached to C14 house.	c.1600 domestic range at right-angles, attached to earlier kitchen by corner-to corner.	Smoke-blackened open hall of kitchen not manorial domestic type plan.
Hines Farmhouse Earl Stonham	2-bay smoke-blackened 'open hall' with evidence for missing storied cell. Detached at rear of farmhouse	3-cell later C16 house nearby and in front.	Refer to English Vernacular Houses by Eric Mercer, 1975 (Fig 172) But later demolished.

Type 2: 'Smoke-bay' type kitchens.

Street Farm Wickham St Wickhambrook	Storied cells either side of central smoke bay of early C16.	Kitchen placed at right- angles about 10 feet away from rear of service cell of C15 open hall house (became attached C18).	Detached 'domestic' outbuilding close to rear of farmhouse in contemporary use.
Tudor Grange (formerly known as Waterings Farmhouse), Somersham. (Nettlestead Parish)	Formerly open bay under hipped roof to left, now with later chimneystack. 2-bay centre cell has loft with granary fittings still intact. Further cell beyond to right.	High quality mid C16 house behind and to right of roadside kitchen range, which is perhaps contemporary.	Detached 'domestic' outbuilding to contemporary house.
TM04NE			
Sawyers Farm Little Cornard	Late C14, 3-bay long wall jettied crownpost roofed structure with smoke bay integral at west end.	Kitchen became main dwelling c.1600 when crosswing attached to east end.	Ex inf: Leigh Alston.