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Design and Access Statement
Listed Building

Proposed Solar Panels on Ex. Swimming Pool Flat Roof
White House Farm, Athelington Road, Southolt, Suffolk, IP23 7TN

Architectural /Listed History Ref No 1214405

The converted barn and outbuildings are consistent with the traditional farm building groups found on what was a working farm in areas of arable cultivation prior to present ownership. This particular group of buildings all now form part of a domestic residence due to various planning permissions granted in recent years as shown below since 1998:

1998 Conversion/extension of barn to form Swimming Pool complex was granted LB/Planning Permissions

2009 Application for Air Source Heat Pump was granted

2008 Conversion of Stables attached to Barn was granted LB/Planning Permissions

2013 Conversion of Barn to ancillary accommodation to the main house was approved, which included roof-lights over the pool area.

Photographs are included to show above works as completed.

Prior to the above work having been completed the Barn was listed as C17, Grade 2 in June 1998. The main structure is Oak timber framed, weatherboarded, some tarred daub to west, north gable and roof corrugated iron sheeting and included in listing for group value to adjacent farmhouse.

Features

The main overall appearance of the solar panels and the storage cupboard for their operation equipment fits cohesively together with the existing surroundings without harming the setting of the main house or converted barn.

Justification

Therefore if there is to be practical solutions to sustain existing buildings with the latest energy requirements a delicate balance has to be struck between that and conservation, by how we heat our properties and balance preservation. Whilst one must respect the quality of history and heritage this doesn't mean rolling back standards of comfort and technology. One must understand what is needed to protect a heritage property for the future and the way our climate is changing effects the materials we use today. Therefore the view taken is that the surrounding area would be little changed to the overall setting of the barn buildings by positioning the panels in the least intrusive.

Access

The main access drive is as existing which serves both the main house, barn and swimming pool area.

September 2023