



The Sizewell C Project

Application for Listed Building Consent
Upper Abbey Farm, Hay Barn and Cart Lodge
Farm Buildings at Upper Abbey Farm. Leiston, Suffolk:
Heritage Asset Assessment

Revision: 1.0

December 2023

Farm Buildings at Upper Abbey Farm, Leiston, Suffolk

Heritage Asset Assessment



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July 2019

Content

Page

1	Summary
2	Documentary History and Map Regression
12	Building Analysis
	Numbered plan of buildings with key
14	Introduction
15	Listing Descriptions
16	The Timber-Framed Threshing Barn (1)
	Layout and cladding
	Proportions
	Structure
	Layout and purpose
17	Date
18	The Stable (2)
	The Cart Lodge (3)
19	The Small Cart Shed & Stable (4)
	The Small Shelter-Shed (5)
	Fragmentary Cattle Yard (6)
20	The Shelter-Sheds to the North of the Barn (7)
	Historic Significance
22	Schedule of Photographic Record on CD (Appendix 1)
30-41	Appendix 2: Selected Photographs to Illustrate the Text

Farm Buildings at Upper Abbey Farm, Leiston, Suffolk

(TM 452 645)

Heritage Asset Assessment

This report provides an archaeological record and analysis at Historic England (2016) Level 2 of a complex of redundant farm buildings which includes a grade II-listed barn in the curtilage of a grade II-listed former farmhouse. It has been prepared to the standard specified by Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service.

Introduction

The report is accompanied by a CD containing a full photographic record in the form of 128 Canon 5D digital images of 21 megapixels (Appendix 1), but also includes 24 photographs of key features to illustrate the text (Appendix 2). Each image is described in a separate schedule and wherever possible shows a scale rod with half-metre divisions in red and white. The site was inspected on 20th June 2019.

Summary

Upper Abbey Farm lies in open countryside approximately 800 m north-east of the ruins of Leiston Abbey. Until 1795, when it was replaced by a new house now called 'Leiston Old Abbey' 400 m to the south, the grade II-listed farmhouse was the centre of a large estate of some 1,500 acres that included the original location of Leiston Abbey (abandoned due to flooding in the mid-14th century). Known in the 18th century as 'Old Lady Abbey Farm' it may occupy the site of a monastic 'home farm'. The farmhouse is a late-17th or early-18th century timber-framed structure encased in red brick with a late-18th century brick addition to the south, and the farm buildings include a separately listed timber-framed and thatched double threshing barn. The latter is described in Historic England's Schedule as an 18th century structure in six bays with a later rear aisle on the north, but is in fact an historically important fully aisled barn in seven bays that was probably built in its present form in the mid-17th century. Barns with church-like aisles are notoriously rare in the eastern half of Suffolk, and the nearest examples at Snape and Letheringham both occupy monastic sites. The front aisle was removed in the mid-19th century along with a pair of entrance porches but the rest of the building is largely intact and forms one of the most unusual and visually impressive timber frames in the county. It contains numerous unique features, including a central roof truss with medieval-style soulaces, and a series of spandrel struts seemingly designed to reflect a medieval predecessor. Many individual timbers appear to have been salvaged from this earlier building, and the resulting structural anomalies are sufficient to occupy any timber-framing enthusiast for hours at a time.

The 19th century brick stable in the centre of the site remains unaltered externally and illustrates the scale and quality of such buildings on larger farms, but has been partly converted and largely stripped of its fixtures and fittings. The cart lodge at the southern entrance is a particularly good example of a traditional East Anglian building type which retains 19th century grain bins on its upper storey and a set of dated initials that probably commemorate its construction in 1797. The smaller brick sheds alongside are not of particular significance in themselves but were added as part of a mid-19th century refurbishment that included a now fragmentary cattle yard and illustrate the 'High Victorian' system of farming that once dominated Suffolk. A number of educational films were made here in the 1930s when the site was regarded as a complete traditional farmstead that had altered little since the mid-19th century. Most of the buildings featured still survive, albeit in some cases overgrown and in need of repair, and the entire farm is accordingly of particular historic interest.

Documentary Evidence and Map Regression

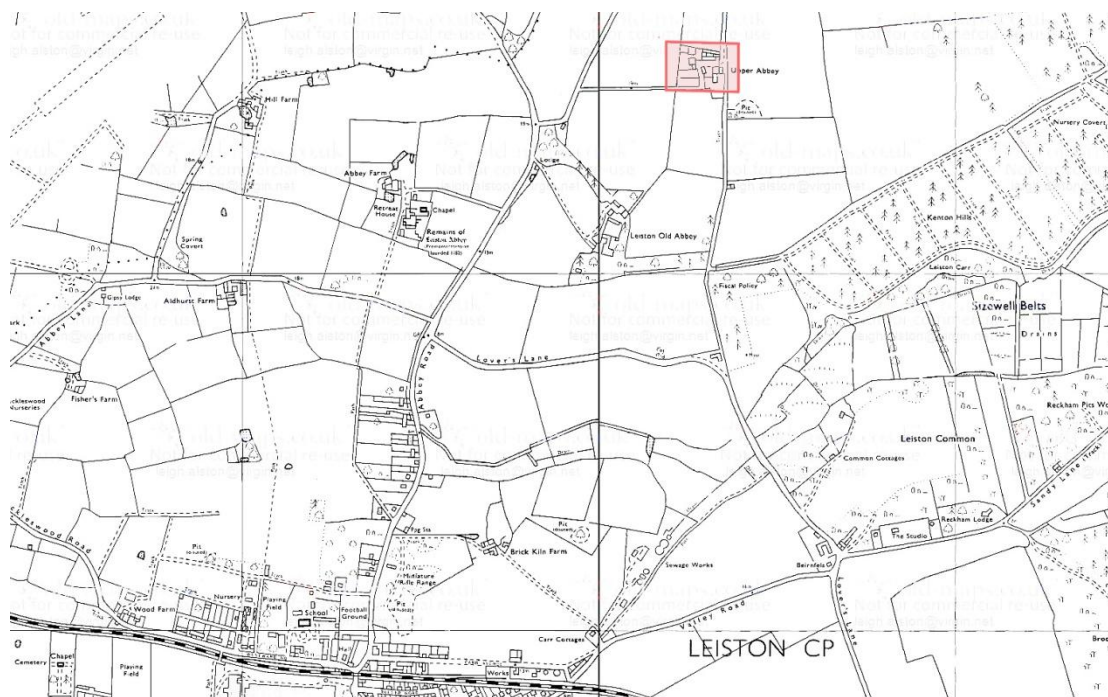


Figure 1. Site location plan highlighting Upper Abbey Farm's isolated position to the north of the town of Leiston with the ruins of Leiston Abbey to the south-west.

Upper Abbey Farm lies in open countryside approximately 2 km NNE of the town of Leiston and 800 m north-east of the ruins of Leiston Abbey. At the time of its sale in 1909 it formed the largest of four tenanted farms on the 1,596 acre 'Leiston Old Abbey' estate, with a total of 521 acres compared with 480 at Lower Abbey Farm 1.4 km to the north. The estate's main residence lay 400 m to the south at 'Leiston Old Abbey', which was described in the sales particulars as a 'miniature mansion house ... situate in a small but well-timbered park' (SRO HD 306/2/1-5). This house was built in 1795 for William Tatnall (Pevsner), and before this date Upper Abbey Farm was the property's principal dwelling. The building is accurately depicted on a rare manuscript map of 1786 by the Woodbridge surveyor Isaac Johnson, and described as the 'Mansion House of this Estate' (figure 3). 'Leiston Old Abbey' was conspicuous by its absence from this survey, its site shown as open fields, but it appeared on a slightly later plan of 1816 (figure 4). The property was named in 1786 only as 'an estate' belonging to W. Tatnall Esquire and occupied by George Doughty, gentleman, but it was labelled 'Old Lady Abby Farm' on Hodskinson's Map of Suffolk published in 1783. This name derives from the old Abbey of St Mary, i.e. Leiston Abbey, which originally lay within the farm's boundary some 2.5 km to the north-east before moving to its present location to avoid coastal flooding in 1363. The site on which it was founded in 1182 is now indicated by the ruins of a chapel near the entrance to Minsmere nature reserve, reputedly built after the demolition of the early medieval buildings and used as an anchorite cell by its penultimate Abbot in his retirement. At the Abbey's Dissolution in 1536 its lands passed to the Duke of Suffolk, including the cattle and corn of the home farm which accounted for three-quarters of the monastery's total value (Victoria County History of Suffolk). In 1653 the estate was acquired by Sir Thomas Bedingfield and described as 'being neere the chappell of the blessed Virgin Mary, commonly called or knowne by the name of the Lady Ould Abby' and then tenanted by Edmund and John Wincoppe (SRO HD/343/2, cited by Anthony Breen in his documentary study of the chapel site for Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, SCCAS report. 2008/090). A later deed in the same collection notes that George Doughty, gentleman, acquired the lease in 1772.



Figure 2

Hodskinson's Map of Suffolk published in 1783, with a detail below. Upper Abbey Farm is marked as 'Old Lady Abby Farm' and an 'Old Chapel' is shown on the original site of Leiston Abbey to the north-east, with its subsequent site labelled 'Leiston Abby' to the west. This name suggests the farm may have formed the 'home farm' of the original abbey. The site was reached by the surviving lane on the east but the current entrance track from the west was already present as indicated by broken lines.



Figure 3

A map of the farm drawn by Isaac Johnson of Woodbridge in 1786, showing north to the right with 'The Ocean' at the bottom and vignettes of the house and chapel at the top. (Suffolk Record Office HD 306/1/1). For details see figures 3a-c below.

This land can be equated with the 'Leiston Old Abbey' estate, and although no early structures now survive it seems likely that the Abbey's medieval farm buildings lay in the immediate vicinity of Upper Abbey Farm, having possibly moved here in the 14th century from Lower Abbey Farm (which is closer to the original Abbey). Such an interpretation is speculative in the absence of archaeological and conclusive documentary evidence, but is supported by the 18th century name 'Old Lady Abbey Farm' and the fact that very few new farm sites were established in East Anglia after the 14th century.

Sales particulars of 1909 describe the property as a 'residential and sporting estate', 'the district being one of the best in England for partridges, wild fowl and other game' (Suffolk Record Office HD306/2/2), and George Doughty is likely to have built the southern range of the present house for his own use between 1772 and its depiction by Johnson in 1786. He married the daughter John Goodwin Esquire of Martlesham Hall and lived in Leiston for most of his life, but towards its end in 1792 he built another larger and more fashionable house in white brick nearby at Theberton Hall and served as High Sherriff of Suffolk the following year. It is rare for a relatively modest Georgian house such as Upper Abbey Farmhouse to be depicted on an estate survey, and rarer still for such a building to have survived almost entirely unaltered; a survival that is largely due to its downgrading within a generation of its construction from the chief residence of a large estate to a tenanted farm.



Figure 3a. The 1786 vignette of the ‘Mansion House of this Estate’ from the south-west.

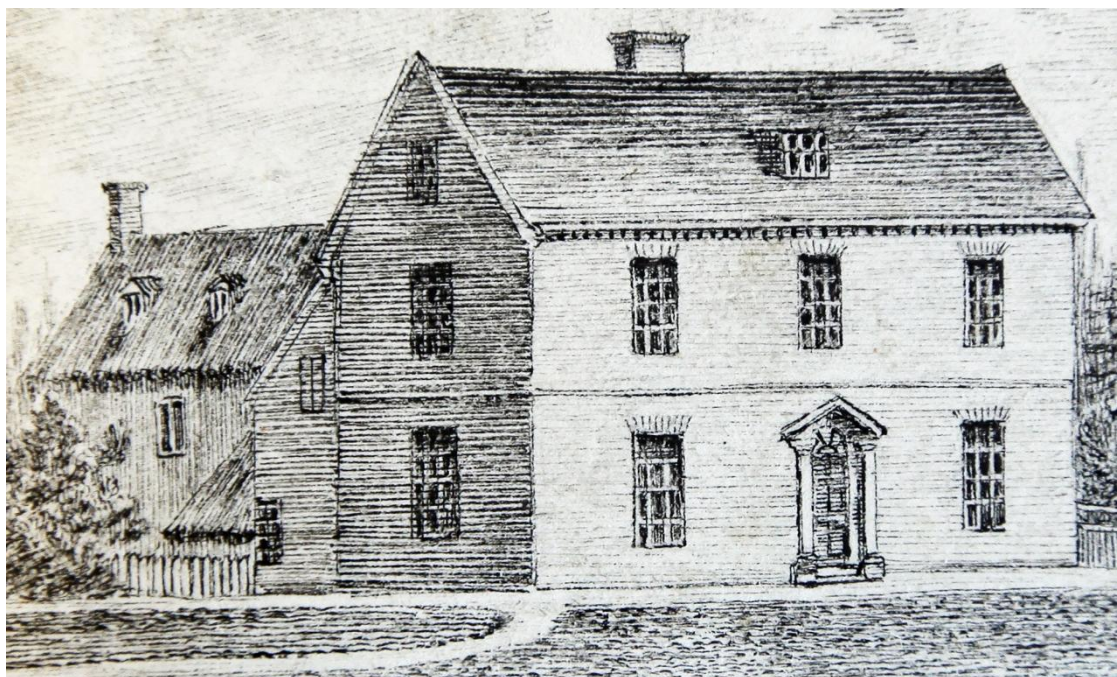


Figure 3b. A detail of Isaac Johnson’s drawing of George Doughty’s new house in 1786, looking remarkably as it did before the recent fire. The rear wing appears to be thatched and an additional lean-to shed adjoins the southern end of its western elevation. The imposing door case and splayed fanlight still survive within the later brick porch. It is rare for a relatively modest Georgian farmhouse to have been depicted in this way and to have survived almost completely unaltered.

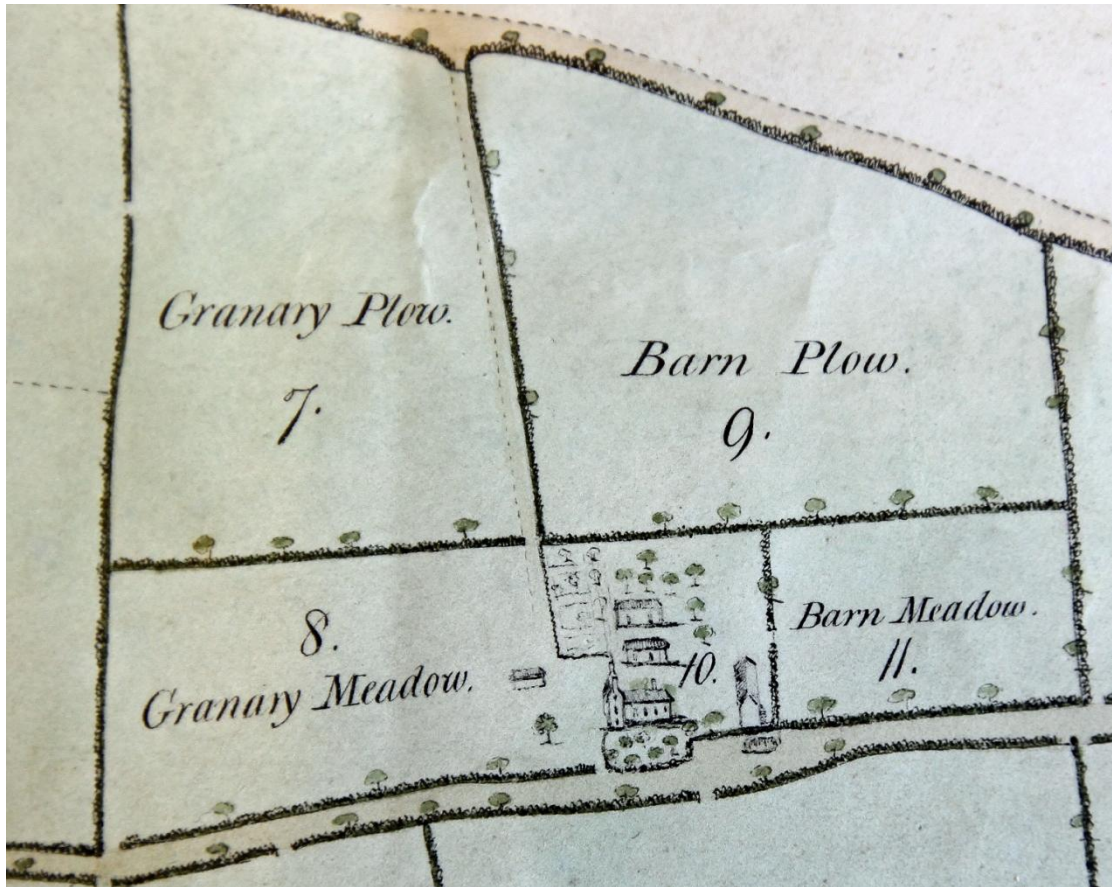


Figure 3c. Details of the farm on the 1786 map (viewed from the east). The listed barn lies on its present site to the right (no. 1 in figure 13), with two other substantial outbuildings to the west of the house, but these are stylised rather than depicted accurately. The central structure may well represent the predecessor of the existing stable (2). Note the demolished probable granary in 'Granary Meadow' to the south which is likely to have been replaced by the existing granary above the cart lodge (3).



Figure 4. The 'Mansion' on Isaac Johnson's draft map of 1786, re-oriented to show north at the top. (SRO HD 306/2/1-5). All four farm buildings are depicted with rectangular outlines much as on the finished map (figure 3). Note the name 'Barker' added in a later hand which probably refers to the 19th century tenant Daniel Barker whose initials appear on the fragmentary cattle yard (6).



Figure 5. A plan of William Tatnall's estate in 1816 showing a group of new farm buildings to the west (SRO HD 306/2/1-5). The barn is shown with two porches for which evidence survives in the present building. It seems unlikely that Johnson would have omitted them in 1786 – which suggests they were previously disguised by the front aisle – or that some major reconstruction had occurred in the interim. The L-shaped building occupies the site of the present stable (2) but probably represents a smaller predecessor – and appears (improbably) to adjoin the cart lodge of 1797 (3).

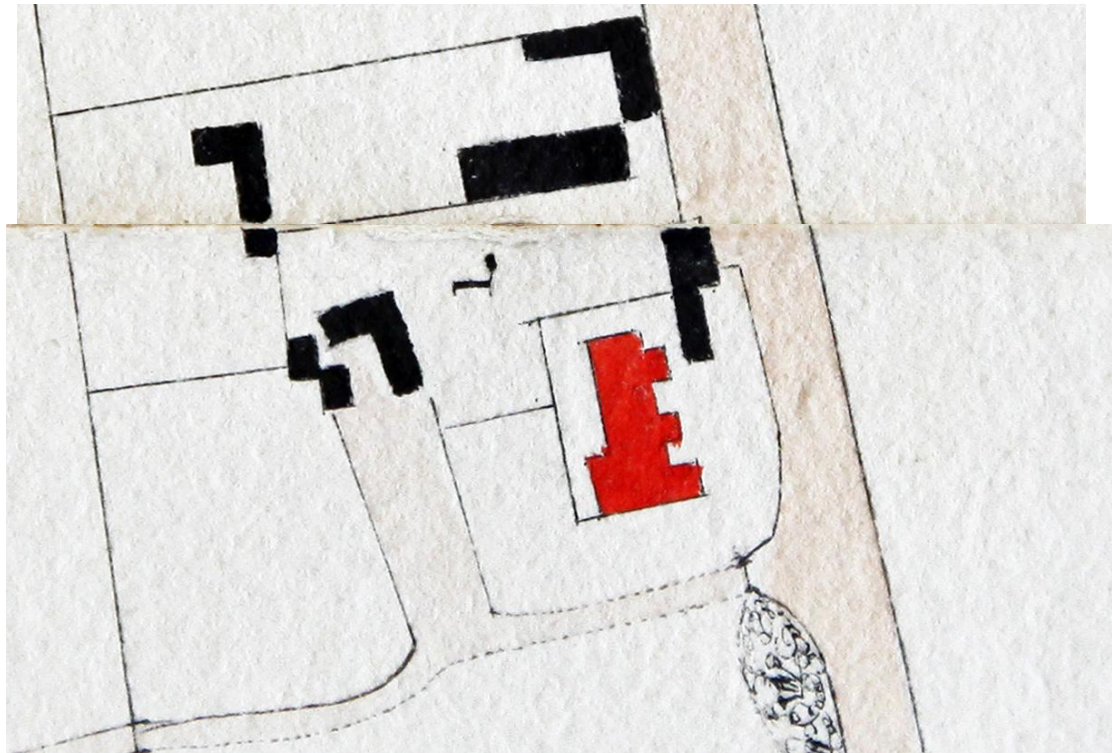


Figure 6. The farm in 1856, then owned by the Honourable S.M.A. Rose (SRO HD 306/2/1-5). The house in red remained much as in 1814 but the barn had lost its southern porches and a new L-shaped range of shelter-sheds had been built to the north (7). The L-shaped stable (2) is shown much as today, with the cart lodge (3) and the newly built cart shed (4) adjoining corner-to-corner. The tithe survey of 1841 omits the entire farm as it was not tithable (the Abbey would have owned the tithe).



Figure 7. The estate outlined on the Ordnance Survey of 1883 (SRO HD 306/2/1-5).

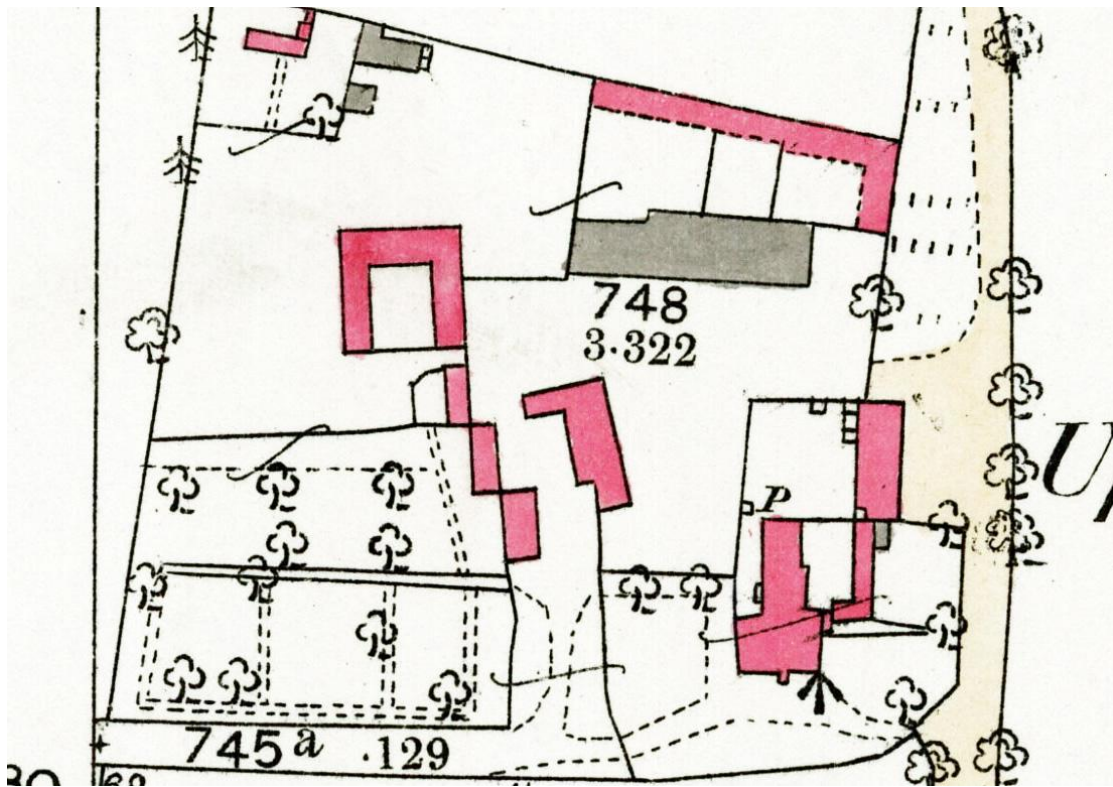


Figure 8. The highly accurate First Edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey of 1881. The house had been much modified since 1856 and the farm buildings had acquired their present layout with the smaller shelter-shed (5) added to the south of the new U-shaped cattle yard (6). The red-brick cottage had also been built to the north-west (shown in red). The eastern half of the U-shaped cattle yard (6) may have survived from 1856.

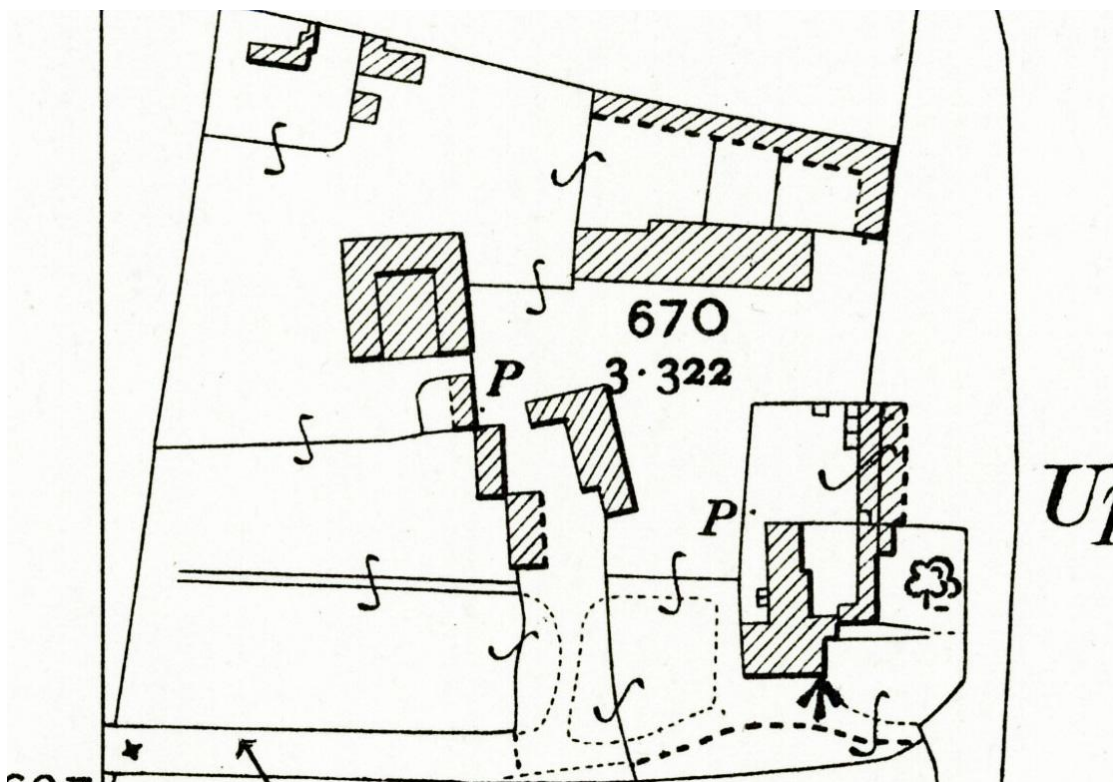


Figure 9. The Second Edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey of 1903 showing little change.

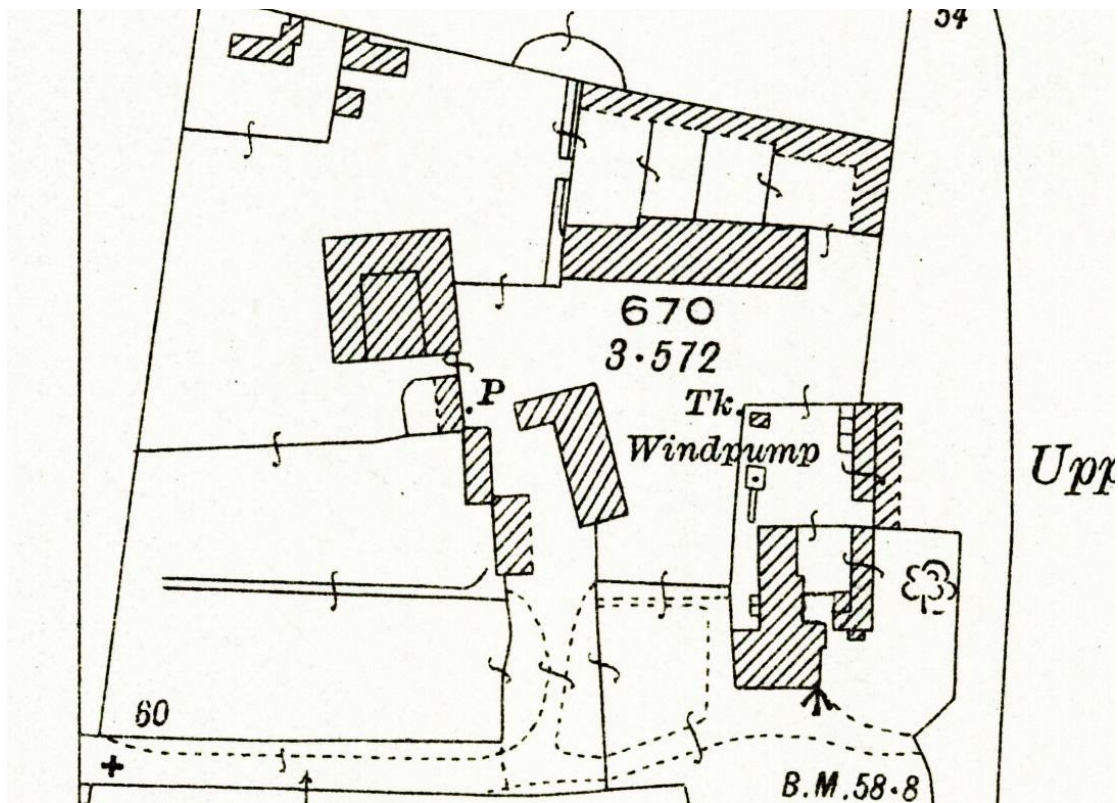


Figure 10. The Second Edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey of 1925 with a new wind pump.

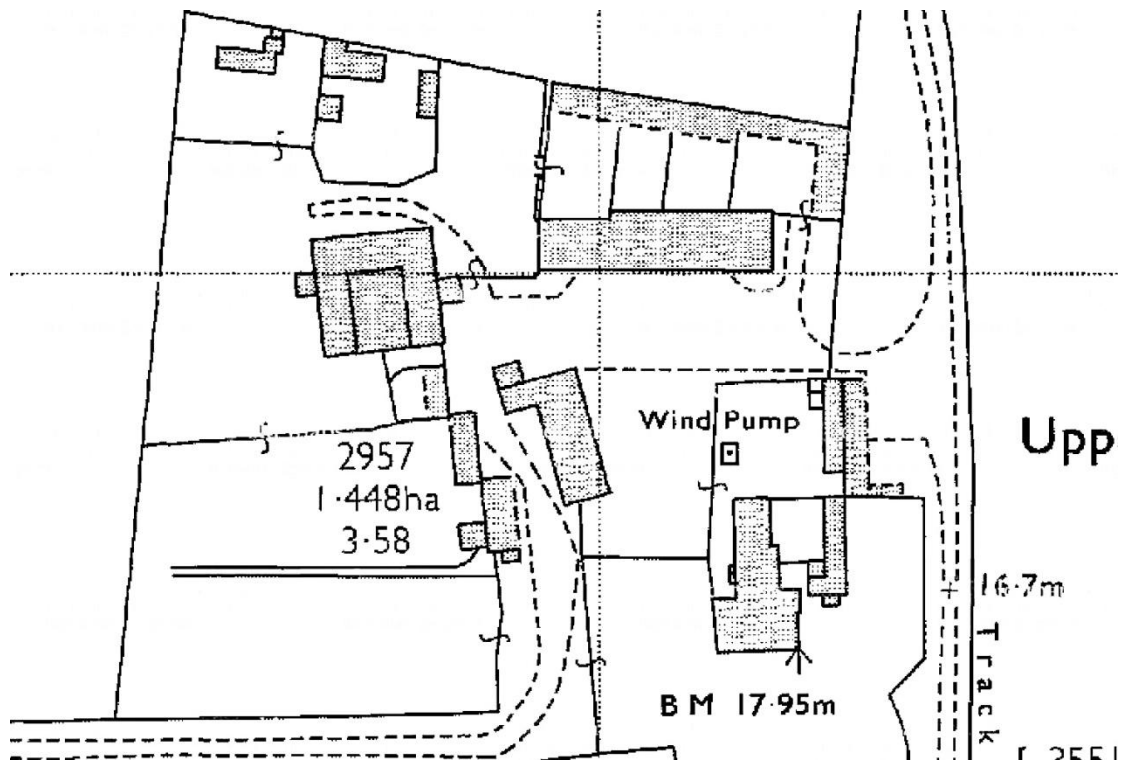


Figure 11. 25 inch Ordnance Survey of 1971. The buildings of 1881 still survived at this date, although the western half of the shelter-shed to the north of the barn (7) had been enlarged.

Building Analysis

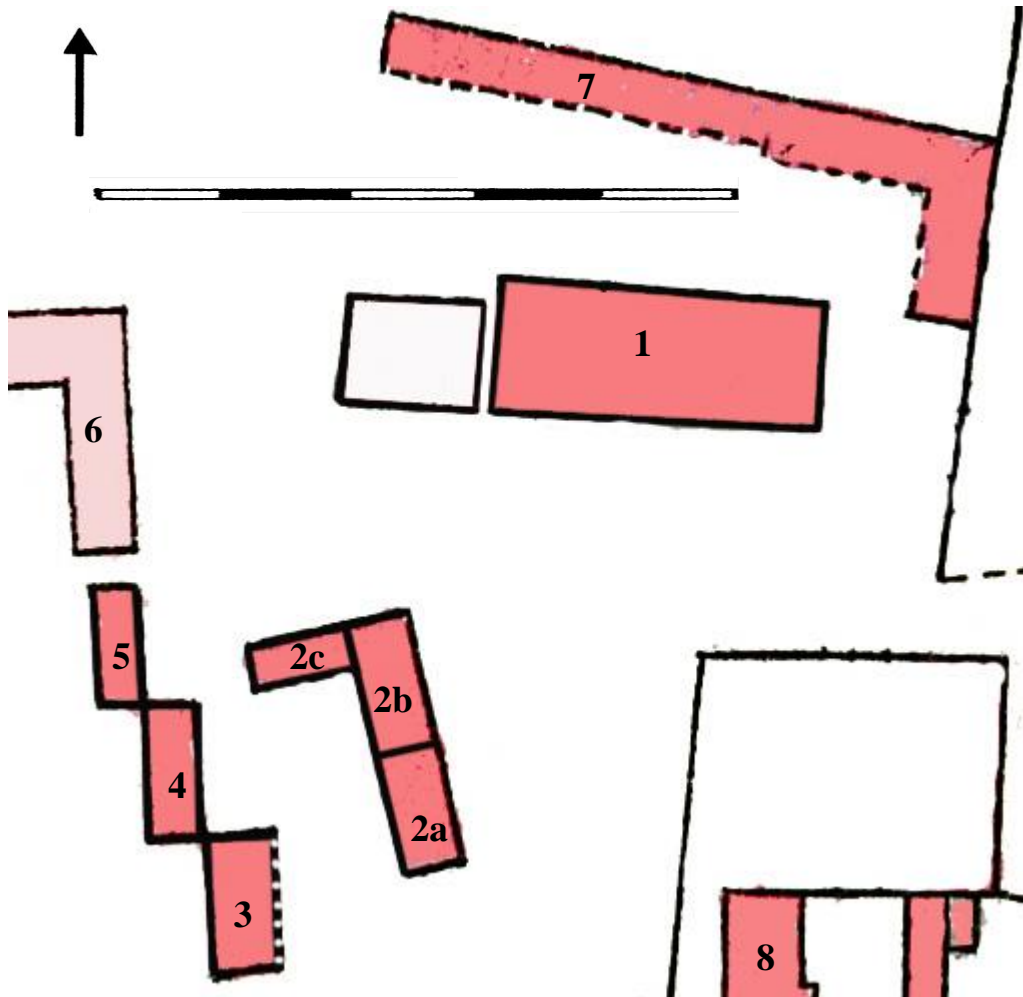


Figure 13

A block plan of the site adapted from the Ordnance Survey identifying the historic structures and their various compartments with a number for ease of reference in the text and photographic record. The detached building to the west of the barn (1) is a late-20th century replacement of an earlier structure that adjoined the barn's gable. 50 metre scale in blocks of 5 metres.

Key

1. **Double Threshing Barn.** A grade II-listed timber-framed, weatherboarded and thatched double threshing barn in 7 bays with an integral rear aisle to the north and evidence of a missing front aisle with twin entrance porches. The structure is otherwise exceptionally complete but contains a number of anomalies and highly unusual features including spandrel struts and soulaces to a unique central roof truss with double collars. In its present form the building probably dates from the mid-17th century but incorporates parts of a medieval aisled predecessor which it may have been designed to reflect. The external wall of the northern aisle was rebuilt in the late-18th or early-19th century and the front wall in the mid-19th century when the porches were removed. The carpentry of the principal timbers is more typical of the 18th century than the 17th, and the absence of porches from Isaac Johnson's depiction in 1786 raises the possibility that the 17th century framing was

substantially rebuilt or even entirely re-erected shortly afterwards. This barn is among the most impressive and structurally intriguing in Suffolk.

2. **Stable.** A large mid-19th century L-shaped red-brick and pantiled stable with a hay loft over the front range on the east and a single-storied range to the rear. The front range is currently divided into two compartments of which the southernmost has been converted into a farm office (2a) but a blocked additional door opened onto a missing central tack room.
3. **Cart Lodge.** A five-bay open-sided red-brick cart lodge flanking the southern entrance to the site with a weatherboarded granary above. The granary preserves 19th century boarded grain bins but was not accessible at the time of inspection. A series of initials to the northern gable are dated 1797 and probably commemorate the building's construction but the roof structure was renewed in the mid-19th century.
4. **Small Cart Shed and Stable.** A small, single-storied red-brick and pantiled mid-19th century cart shed with an integral stable to the south.
5. **Small Shelter Shed.** A single-storied shelter-shed of flint-rubble with red-brick dressing open on the west and formerly serving a small cattle yard as shown on the Ordnance Survey of 1881.
6. **Former Cattle Yard (now fragmentary).** The south-eastern corner of a large mid-19th century U-shaped range of brick and flint-rubble sheds forming a cattle yard – the rest of which has been demolished. A plaque bearing the initials D B (probably for the tenant in 1855, Daniel Barker) with an uncertain date (either 1838 or more probably 1858) survives on the southern wall. The eastern half of this complex may be shown on the map of 1856 but the rest appears for the first time on the 1881 Ordnance Survey.
7. **Range of Shelter-Sheds.** A long L-shaped range of 19th century shelter-sheds facing a cattle yard to the north of the barn. The narrower, pantiled eastern section was present by 1856 but was inaccessible at the time of inspection, and the western section was added before 1881 but rebuilt with a wider roof in the mid-20th century.
8. **Upper Abbey Farmhouse.** The former farmhouse consists of a late-18th century red-brick range to the south with a slightly older but heavily disguised timber-framed wing of the late-17th or early-18th century to the north. The latter has formed a separate dwelling for at least a century, with sales particulars of 1909 describing it as a five-roomed bailiff's house as opposed to the adjoining 'Old Georgian Farmhouse' which was occupied separately. This building is the subject of a separate survey dated 2013.

N.B. The site also includes a mid-19th century two-storied pantiled red-brick cottage laid in Flemish Bond with a symmetrical southern facade containing a central entrance flanked by windows and gable chimneys. Apart from the replacement of its windows this building remains little altered externally and was shown in the north-western corner of the site on the Ordnance Survey of 1881 but not the map of 1856. It was not inspected internally for the purpose of this report.

Introduction

The farm buildings at Upper Abbey Farm are arranged in an unusually scattered pattern to the north-west of the house as shown in figure 13. This stands in contrast to the unified courtyards grouped around threshing barns found on most local farmsteads, and may relate to a change of orientation in the 18th century. The site was probably approached initially by a meandering lane of medieval character on the east but is now entered from the south by a short, straight track that is not defined by substantial ditches and appears to have been inserted against a field boundary to provide a link with the road on the west. The older rear range of the house lies on the same axis as the lane to the east, with the timber-framed threshing barn adjoining at right-angles to form a farm yard to the north in the traditional manner. The western track was in existence by 1783 (figure 2) and is respected by the present southern facade of the house and by the brick buildings to the west of the site. Cart lodges were typically placed at the entrances to farm complexes and structure 3 in figure 13 was clearly intended to serve the ‘new’ southern approach. The following account of the individual buildings is intended to be read in conjunction with the descriptive captions to illustrations 1-24 in Appendix 2. The house is not discussed further but forms the subject of a separate Heritage Asset Assessment by the same author dated January 2013.

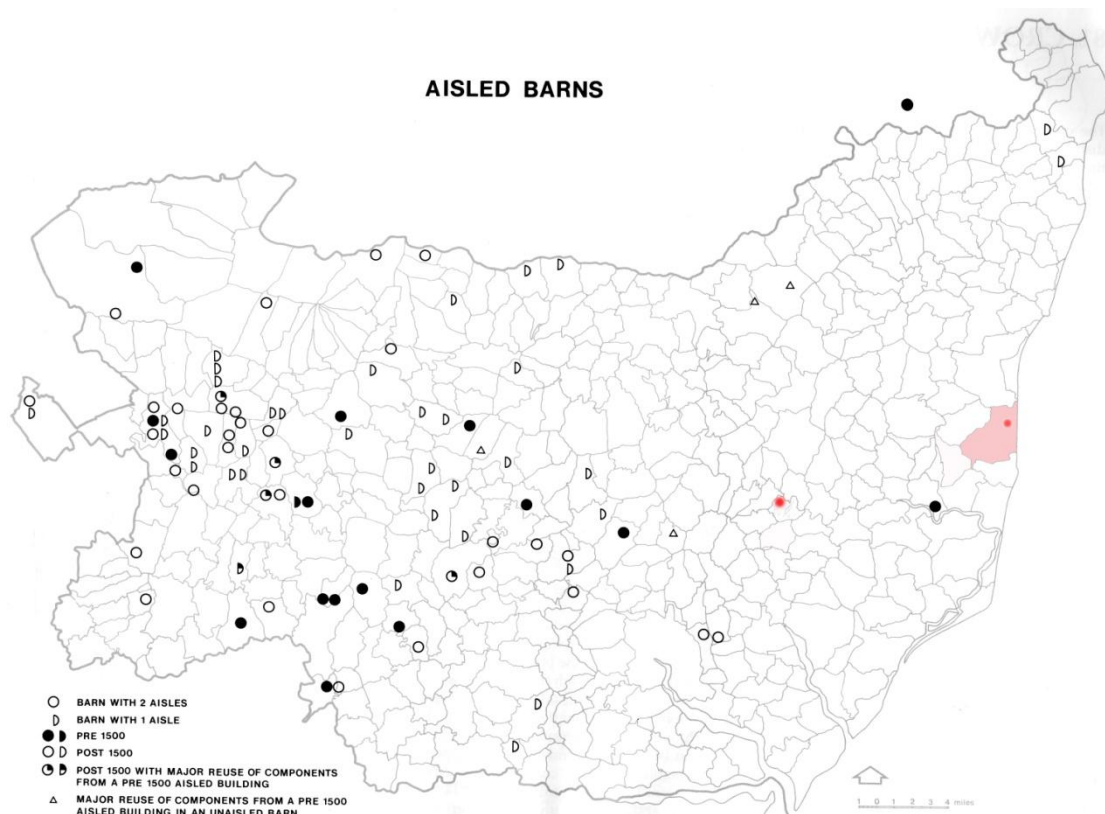


Figure 14a

A distribution map of aisled barns in Suffolk, showing the great majority in the western half of the county (Historical Atlas of Suffolk, ed. Dymond & Martin, Suffolk County Council, 1999). The example at Upper Abbey Farm was omitted as its surviving aisle was wrongly described by Historic England as a later extension – but has been added here in red with Leiston parish highlighted in pink. The nearest example to the south-west is at Abbey Farm Snape (formerly a Benedictine Priory), and another recent discovery at Letheringham Abbey has also been added in red.

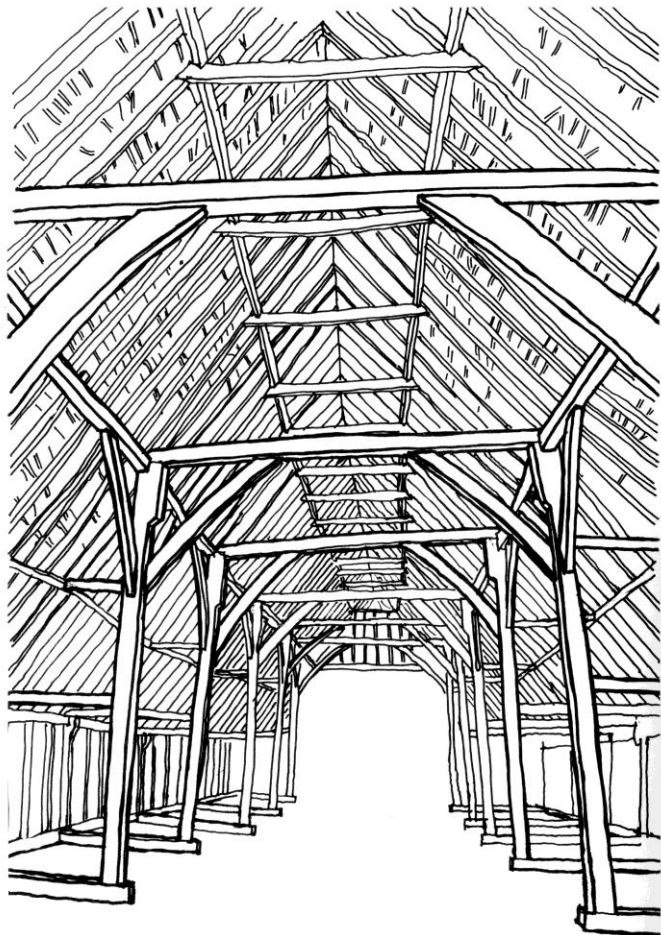
Listing Descriptions

Two of the buildings on the site are listed at grade II, with the house and barn described as follows in Historic England's Schedule (nos. 8 and 1 respectively in figure 13):

Leiston-cum-Sizewell. Upper Abbey Farmhouse. First listed 13 March 1951. Last amendment 15 March 1983. Farmhouse. 17th century rear, late-18th century front facing south. Earlier part is timber framed, partly encased in brick with plastered gable end; pantiled roof. 2-storeys and attic. Casement windows with small panes, plain boarded doors. 18th century front of red brick, with brick band at first floor level and brick modillion cornice; slated roof with plain tiles at rear. 2-storeys plus attic. 3 window range, sashes with glazing bars, flat arches. Central doorway with recessed 6-panel door, pilasters and broken pediment, panelled reveals. Semi-circular fanlight with radiating and circular glazing bars. 20th century brick porch.

Leiston-cum-Sizewell. Barn 40 m north of Upper Abbey Farmhouse. First listed 2 August 1983. Barn. 18th century. Timber framed and weatherboarded, thatched. 6 bays. Aisle extension to north.

The limited description of the barn is inaccurate as the timber frame is in 7 bays rather than 6 and the northern aisle is an original feature as opposed to a later extension. Its exact date is open to question as noted below.



Illus. 14b
A fully aisled barn at
Rectory Farm Gazely,
demolished in 1965.
(From the Historical Atlas
of Suffolk.)
The front aisle at Upper
Abbey Farm has been
removed.

The Timber-Framed Threshing Barn (1)

Layout and cladding

The timber-framed, thatched and weatherboarded barn of 7 bays to the north of the site forms a double threshing barn of standard layout with twin entrances facing a large yard to the south entered from the lane on the east. The entrances lie in the third bay from the east and the second bay from the west but the brick or boarded threshing floors have been removed and the interior now consists only of 20th century concrete and loose earth. The full-height southern doors are of traditional half-hung form but lack retaining boards and are 20th century replacements, but the low, half-hung rear doors, which span the length of their respective bays, probably survive in part from the 19th century. They are heavily tarred and their retaining boards remain *in situ*, but they are blocked externally with recent weatherboarding that extends along the entire northern elevation and contrasts with the late-19th or early-20th century cladding of the southern elevation and gables. The thatch is confined to the main roof structure with the northern aisle renewed in corrugated asbestos. The two rear doorways are uniform but the main eastern entrance contains original arch-braces in its upper corners while its counterpart on the west retains a fully tenoned lintel beneath its roof-plate with no evidence of arch-braces. This is one of many structural anomalies in the barn for which the reasons are unclear. The present lower door lintels are later insertions that were probably added when the original porches shown on the map of 1816 were removed in the mid-19th century.

Proportions

In contrast to its standard layout the barn's timber frame is highly unusual and contains several unique features. It extends to an impressive 27.9 m in length by 9.75 m in total width (91.5 ft by 32 ft), with the latter consisting of a main span or nave of 7.3 m and a rear (northern) aisle of 2.4 m (24 ft and 8 ft respectively). This aisle is fully original to the building and it is unclear why the listing inspector regarded it as a later addition. The storey posts of the southern wall all contain empty pegged mortices for the tie-beams and braces of a matching aisle which was subsequently removed and replaced by the present wall timbers (which are nailed insertions), so the barn was initially fully aisled and would have extended to 12.2 m in width (40 ft). The empty mortices of the four posts flanking the main entrances differ in height from those elsewhere (illus. A2. 12), and secured the walls of original gabled entrance porches that were still present in 1816 but had been removed by 1856 (figures 5 and 6). At 3.6 m in length (12 ft) both threshing bays are slightly narrower than the barn's remaining five bays of 3.9 m (13 ft) confirming that the asymmetrical layout remains unaltered. The front wall rises to 5.1 m in height at its roof-plate (16.75 ft) and the rear aisle to 2.1 m (6.75 ft), with the roof steeply pitched at approximately 55 degrees for thatch. Increasing the width of a barn by the use of aisles like those of a church is a practice rarely found in the eastern half of Suffolk as shown by the distribution map in figure 14a. This may reflect the greater emphasis on cereal rather than dairy production in the west of the county, and may also relate to the influence of larger monastic estates such as those of Bury Abbey. Smaller, secular farmsteads were less likely to require such buildings. This link between monastic estate farming and aisled barns is supported by the three recorded instances in the vicinity of Leiston which include this example (ostensibly a reconstruction of a Pre-reformation structure) and others at Snape and Letheringham Abbeys (the latter now in the parish of Hoo). The notorious inadequacy of the listing survey in East Suffolk may also play a role, with others awaiting discovery.

Structure

Apart from the loss of its front aisle the timber frame is exceptionally well preserved, with a full complement of arch-braces to its arcade plates and tie-beams matched by wind-braces in its roof of double linear butt-purlins. Arch-braces were routinely replaced by bolted knee-braces in the 19th century to increase headroom, and the intact display here is among the most

impressive and picturesque to survive in Suffolk (illus. A2. 6). The structure contains several unusual features including vertical spandrel struts pegged between the tie-beams and arch-braces of every open truss in a manner normally found only in domestic open halls of the late-14th and early-15th centuries. Curiously, two of the rear arcade braces are provided with identical struts, both associated with scarf joints in the arcade-plate to which they may have been intended to offer support (illus. A2. 8). There are no such struts to the front plate, but one of its two joints lies above an additional inner brace that may have been provided for the same purpose (illus. A2. 10). Neither of these features has any parallel elsewhere. Further anomalies include the central truss of the roof which contains two horizontal collars instead of the usual one, along with a pair of diagonal soulaces to the lower collar in the style of the 13th and 14th centuries. The easternmost truss also contains double collars, albeit without soulaces, and forms a clasped-purlin structure in contrast to the two tiers of butt-purlins in the rest of the roof (illus. A2.7). It is very difficult to believe that any carpenter would have designed a roof in this eccentric way, and there is extensive evidence to indicate the barn consists of components salvaged from one or more earlier buildings. Several rafters contain irrelevant mortices such as those flanking the central truss (A2. 7), the principal rafters of which are stepped above the upper collar and were clearly cut for a clasped-purlin roof. The most obvious evidence of second-hand timber lies in the rear aisle where the tie-beams, central studs and the lower of the two sets of braces that descend from the arcade posts are completely different in character from the rest of the frame (illus. A2. 9). Their large size, with the studs measuring 19 cm by 15 (7.5 ins by 6), and roughly hewn edges are typical of the Middle Ages, contrasting with the sharp edges and much smaller sections of the upper braces and the main timbers elsewhere. The outer ends of the aisle tie-beams all contain truncated mortices for jowled wall posts but now simply abut the inner face of the existing roof-plate. The framing of the two gables is also oddly mismatched, with an additional asymmetrical post interrupting the mid-rail to the east but not the west.

Date

The combination of features and timbers of different periods makes the barn difficult to date closely in its present form. The curved wind-braces to the upper tier of purlins coupled with face-halved and bladed scarf joints in the arcade plates would normally point towards the mid-17th century, but the sharply sawn character of the principal posts and arcade plates is more typical of the 18th century or even the beginning of the 19th. The plinths of uniform red brick beneath the ground sills also indicate a relatively recent origin, as does the framing of the back wall which consists of short studs without braces that are tenoned to both the roof-plates and sills but with only every third stud secured by pegs. Framing of this kind would not be expected before the 18th century, and contrasts with the fully pegged studwork of the two gables which contain heavy, internally trenched braces in the manner of the 17th century and before. The entire back wall was probably rebuilt in the late-18th century with a new brick sill to accommodate the existing wide doors. Small rear doors had been the norm hitherto – sufficient to create a through-draught for threshing and winnowing but not to admit vehicles. The rest of the barn was probably built in the mid-17th century re-using timbers from a 14th or 15th century aisled barn. Many post-medieval aisled barns in Suffolk consist of re-used material in this way, as noted in figure 14a. The unique spandrel struts are second-hand timbers with visibly different surface textures to the tie-beams and braces they link, and were presumably intended to replicate the appearance of this older barn that may well have occupied the same site. There is some evidence of re-use from non-agricultural buildings, including at least one moulded 16th century example in the western gable, but most are plain. The roof purlins also show evidence of re-use, with a mottled texture that differs from the rest of the timber and an additional set of rafter pegs that does not belong to the current structure. This may relate to the replacement of the common rafters in the 19th century, but also raises the possibility that even the 17th century features of the barn were recycled as part of an 18th century refurbishment – perhaps soon after Johnson's survey of 1786 which appears to omit both the aisles and porches. It is not unknown for entire barns to be disassembled and re-erected on new sites, and such a scenario would explain the 18th century appearance of the

principal timbers, but the earlier features are more likely to have been salvaged from Johnson's barn. It seems somewhat unlikely that a medieval barn with a 17th century roof could have been provided with new aisles and porches after 1786 only to lose the front aisle and porches again within 70 years. The present southern wall consists of more randomly re-used studs interrupted by diagonal primary braces with nailed rather than tenoned joints in the typical style of the mid-19th century, confirming the cartographic evidence which indicates the front aisle and porches were removed between 1816 and 1856.

The Stable (2)

The main stable in the centre of the complex is a substantial red-brick building with fully hipped pantiled roofs that faces east towards the main yard north of the house. It consists of a 1.5 storey range laid in Flemish Bond on an approximately north-south axis (2a & 2b) and a possibly slightly later single-storied rear range in Monk Bond which projects at right-angles from the northern end of its back wall to form an L-shaped outline (2c). The main structure extends to 22.1 m in length by 5.1 m in total width (72.5 ft by 16.75 ft) with an internal ceiling clearance of 2.5 m (8.25 ft), while the rear wing is 10.6 m long by 5.2 m wide (35 ft by 17 ft). The roof structures both consist of clasped-purlins with nailed collars, a ridge-board and uniform tall-sectioned rafters with some evidence of re-use (illus. A2. 18) – in the typical manner of the mid-19th century. The rear wing forms a single space, open to its roof, but may have been sub-divided initially as it is accessible by two doors in the centre of its northern wall and to the north of its western gable – both of which are respected by closers (quarter-bricks) in the bonding. The gable has been reinforced with massive concrete buttresses but these seem unnecessary as there is no sign of movement in the brickwork and they may have been part of a WWII system of tank traps. A detached rectangular block immediately to the north bears the marks of shutters to all four sides and was probably part of the same defensive system. The level beaches of East Anglia were considered ideal for tank invasion and substantial defences of this kind survive throughout the area.

The main stable is now divided into two compartments, 2a and 2b, of which the former operates as a farm office, but there is evidence of an additional central door in the eastern facade (illus. A2 15 & 16). This door appears to have opened into a narrow tack room that was probably also linked to the stable on the north, but may have served a missing internal stair to the loft as the present joists are jointed above a series of empty partition mortices (illus. A2. 16). An identical series of mortices indicates a missing tack room against the southern gable, although some of the ceiling timbers have been re-used and some empty mortices elsewhere relate only to previous buildings. The two main stables were arranged in the usual manner, with central entrances flanked by windows in the facade and hay racks above mangers against the 'blind' rear wall. The racks and mangers have been removed but the positions of the hay drops in the ceiling which allowed the racks to be filled from the loft are indicated by the short inserted boards with which they are blocked – the joints of which are misaligned with those in the rest of the ceiling. These inserted boards are secured by the rails of hay racks with holes for missing tines. Original wooden harness hooks still project from the gable and eastern wall of the well preserved northern stable (2b), secured by wooden rails set into the brickwork (illus. A2. 16). Ostensibly original internal loft ladders also survive in the front internal corners of both stables (illus. A2. 17), but the present internal partition is a later insertion that probably relates to the office conversion. Original hatches lie above each of the stable doors allowing the loft to be loaded from the exterior, and the paint scar of a demolished lean-to shown on late-19th century maps is visible against the back wall. This lean-to was not keyed to the brickwork and was probably a later addition.

The Cart Lodge (3)

The red-brick cart lodge flanking the southern entrance to the site on the west is of typical East Anglian form with an open arcade of five bays to the east and a granary with a

weatherboarded facade above (illus. A2. 1 & 19). It extends to 12.5 m in length by 5.5 m in total width and rises to 3.1 m at its roof-plates (41 ft by 18 by 10). The granary is reached by an external brick stair against the southern gable but this was overgrown at the time of inspection and the first-floor door blocked by modern boarding leaving the loft inaccessible. An original loading door or window in the northern gable was similarly blocked and the image of the loft in illustration A2. 21 was taken through a small hole in its floorboards. This image reveals a substantially framed front wall and a series of intact boarded grain bins in a southern compartment along with an ostensibly rebuilt roof of tall-sectioned softwood. Pantiles survive to the rear, although the roof has partly collapsed, but the front slope is now covered with corrugated iron. The roughly-hewn, tall-sectioned joists of the ground-floor ceiling are tenoned to the principal joists and are consistent with a series of initials carefully incised into the external brickwork of the northern gable and all dated 1797: 'Z K', 'M B' and 'R B'. Initials of this kind usually relate to builders or farmworkers rather than owners, and it is probably not coincidental that no fewer than four farmers with surnames beginning with the letter B were recorded in White's Suffolk Directory for 1844: Backhouse, Barker, Barley and Baxter. The name 'Barker' has been added to the 1786 map and Daniel Barker was the only farmer with initials matching those of cattle shed's plaque in White's editions for both 1844 and 1855. A further name, B Button, is visible to the south of the door to the southern stable (2a), but its script appears to date only from the 20th century.

The Small Cart Shed and Stable (4)

The small red-brick and pantiled shed in the centre of the stepped range of three buildings to the west of the main stable (2) is divided into two compartments with a cart shed on the north and a stable for the cart horse to the south (illus. A2. 19 & 22). It extends to a total of 10 m in length by 4.25 m in width (33 ft by 17 ft) and rises to 2 m (6.75 ft) at its eaves, with the cart shed also 4.25 m long and the stable 5.8 m (19 ft). The former is entered by double doors from the track on the east and the latter by a central half-hung door with a glazed window on the south. A second window overlaps the cart shed and a narrow central bay that probably formed a tack room but of which only a short section of wall survives. An original doorway links the two remaining areas and the interior has been stripped of historic fixtures and fittings - apart from a good brick floor with a central lateral drain in the stable and a 20th century iron manger. The roof structure is concealed by 20th century boarding but the uniform nature of the red brick-work laid in Monk Bond indicates a date in the mid-19th century.

The Small Shelter-Shed (5)

The northernmost of the three buildings adjoining corner-to-corner to the west of the site forms a small shelter-shed with an open-sided elevation to the west (illus. A2. 22). In contrast to its brick neighbours this consists of flint-rubble with red-brick dressing, although both gables are of red-brick laid in Monk Bond (the northern gable largely rebuilt in the 20th century). The pantiled roof is fully hipped and the building extends to 8.9 m in length by 4 m in width with eaves of 2 m (29 ft by 13 by 6.75). The western wall was heavily overgrown at the time of inspection but appears to retain a full complement of timber arcade posts with a clasped-purlin roof of tall-sectioned softwood with nailed collars and a ridge-board - all typical of the mid-19th century. This shed was first shown on the Ordnance Survey of 1881 adjoining a small, irregular enclosure on the west and probably served a bullock yard in close proximity to the main cattle yard on the north (6).

Fragmentary Cattle Yard (6)

A large U-shaped range of sheds enclosing a single yard with a southern entrance was shown on the historic Ordnance Surveys, but only overgrown fragments now survive in its south-

eastern corner (illus. A2. 23). The eastern wall consisted of flint-rubble with red-brick dressing, and the southern of red brick laid in Monk Bond with an original door on the east (respected by closers). The yard was provided with a roof between 1881 and 1903, and is likely to have contained the 'cow-house for ten' and 'bullock boxes for sixteen' listed in the sales particulars of 1909. The principal interest of the remaining fragment lies in the dated plaque set into the southern wall which bears the initials 'D B' along with an unfortunately weathered and illegible date ending in '8'. The penultimate numeral is possibly a '3' but probably a '5', and a date of 1858 is consistent with the fabric and the appearance of the U-shaped range in its final form in 1881 but not 1856. Enclosed cattle yards of this kind were built on many East Anglian farmsteads in the 1850s and 60s with the widespread introduction of the yard-based system of mixed animal husbandry known today as Victorian High Farming. The initials are probably those of Daniel Barker who was named as a farmer in the parish in White's Directories for 1844 and 1855.

The Shelter-Sheds to the North of the Barn (7)

A large range of open-sided shelter-sheds lies to the north of the threshing barn, much as depicted on the Ordnance Survey of 1881 and probably incorporating a smaller L-shaped range shown to the east on the map of 1856 (to the left in illus. A2. 4). This eastern range was overgrown and inaccessible at the time of inspection, but retained a pantiled roof in contrast to the wider range on the west which is now covered in 20th century corrugated iron. The latter's roof structure and the timber posts of its open southern elevation also date only from the mid-20th century, consisting of uniformly sawn softwood, and the structure shown on the 19th century maps has evidently been substantially rebuilt. The rear (northern) wall retains a 19th century red-brick plinth but its post-and-rail fabric has also been renewed and is now clad externally in corrugated iron. An internal partition of red-brick terminates approximately 2 m short of the present southern wall suggesting the building has been enlarged, and this is consistent with the Ordnance Survey of 1971 which shows it significantly wider than the potentially older section to the east - unlike the Ordnance Survey of 1925 which shows it narrower. This western section is now 6.4 m in width with eaves of 2 m (21 ft by 6.75). No historic fixtures or fittings appear to survive, but similar shelter-sheds were often built in the mid-19th century to serve cattle yards adjoining barns and the structures must have formed the 'large open yard with cattle sheds around' described in 1909.

Historic Significance

The farm buildings at Upper Abbey Farm are of considerable historic interest for a number of reasons. When filmed in the 1930s the site was used to illustrate a method of farming that was already perceived as outmoded, and it was regarded as a complete traditional farmstead that had altered little since the mid-19th century. Unfortunately several of the key structures highlighted have since been demolished, and this is no longer the case. Part of the covered cattle yard to the north-west of the site was shown in the films as a 'barn' in which cattle-feed was prepared, but has now vanished without trace, and a large structure of uncertain purpose to the west of the threshing barn has also been replaced. The brick stable in the centre of the site remains unaltered externally and illustrates the scale and quality of such buildings on larger farms, but has been partly converted and largely stripped of its fixtures and fittings. The cart lodge at the southern entrance is a particularly good example of a traditional East Anglian building type which retains 19th century grain bins on its upper storey and an unusual set of inscriptions that probably commemorate its construction in 1797. The smaller brick sheds alongside are not of special significance in themselves but were added as part of the same mid-19th century phase that included the missing cattle yard and illustrate the 'High Victorian' remodelling found on so many local farms. Their uniform pantiled roofs and corner-to-corner abutments lend a picturesque appearance to the site. By far the most historically important

building of the complex is the grade II-listed threshing barn which contains one of the most unusual and visually impressive timber frames in Suffolk. Although not of great age relative to other barns in the county its aisled structure is of special significance, reflecting a medieval tradition rarely seen in East Suffolk and probably directly influenced by a monastic predecessor – of which key elements appear to have been re-used in its framing. This evidence of an early aisled barn of the type expected on a monastic site increases the likelihood that Upper Abbey Farm originated as an estate farmstead of Leiston Abbey – which is also indicated by its 18th century name and the lack of evidence for newly established post-medieval sites elsewhere in the region. The apparent absence of aisles and porches from Isaac Johnson’s two depictions of 1786 is worrying, but even if a major reconstruction occurred shortly afterwards the key medieval and 17th century features are far more likely to have originated in the barn he saw than to have been imported from another site. Apart from the subsequent loss of its front aisle in the mid-19th century the barn’s structure remains exceptionally intact, with a fine array of original braces and a remarkable series of curious structural anomalies guaranteed to entertain any timber-framing enthusiast for hours at a time.

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Schedule of full photographic record follows (pp. 22-29)

Appendix 1 (on accompanying CD): Full Photographic Record

Descriptions of Photographs in Appendix 1

1. A general view of the site from the entrance track to the south-west showing the house on the right with the farm buildings in the rear.
2. A general view of the farm buildings from the site entrance to the south showing the stable (2) in the centre with the cart lodge (3) to left & the barn (1) right.
3. A general view from the south-east showing the cart lodge (3) to the left of the brick stable (2) with the barn (1) on the right.
4. A general view from the south showing the brick stable (2) on the left with the thatched barn (1) in the rear to the right.
5. A general view of the cart lodge (3) at the southern entrance to the site with the cart shed (4) and shelter-shed (5) in the rear to the right.
6. A general view from the north showing the shelter-shed (5) on the right with the cart shed (4) and cart lodge (3) in the rear.
7. A general view of the site from the barn (1) to the north showing the house on the left with the stable (2) in the centre and the shelter-shed (5) to the right.
8. A general view from the west showing the stable (2) on the right and the barn (1) to the left with the eastern site entrance in the centre.
9. A general view from the eastern site entrance showing the stable (2) on the left with the barn (1) on the right.
10. A general view of the site from the north showing the stable (2) on the left and the stepped arrangement of the cart lodge, cart shed & shelter-shed (3-5).
11. The exterior of the weatherboarded and thatched formerly fully aisled double threshing barn (1) from the south-east with the stable (2) on the left.
12. The southern facade of the barn (1) from which a front aisle and projecting porches have been removed showing its 19th century deal weatherboarding.
13. A detail of the eastern doors in the barn's southern facade (1), the fine condition of which suggests they are 20th century replacements.
14. The yard to the rear (north) of the barn showing the largely overgrown and inaccessible shelter-shed (7) to the left with the barn (1) on the right.
15. The rear exterior of the barn (1) from the north-west showing its intact aisle clad in modern boarding with an asbestos roof.
16. A detail of the wide western doorway in the barn's northern exterior (1) which is respected by the brick plinth but blocked with modern boarding.
17. The eastern external gable of the barn (1) showing the profile of its rear aisle on the right which was originally replicated on the left.

18. A general view of the barn's interior from its south-western corner (1) showing its 7 bays with the intact rear aisle on the left.
19. A general view of the barn's roof (1) from the west showing its complete array of tie-beam & arcade-plate braces with wind-braces to the butt-purlin roof.
20. A general view of the barn's interior from its south-eastern corner (1) showing its 7 bays and earth floor with the two southern entrance on the left.
21. The rear aisle of the barn (1) showing its six arcade plates and substantial remains of wattle-and-daub infill in the back wall.
22. A detail of the barn's arch-braced tie-beams from the east (1) showing their unusual vertical spandrel struts consisting of re-use timber with lath nails.
23. The western end of the barn's intact roof structure (1) showing its two tiers of butt-purlins with a full complement of wind-braces to the upper tier.
24. The barn's roof from the west (1) showing its unique central truss with double collars and soulaces to the chamfered lower collar.
25. A detail of the barn's unusual medieval-style central roof truss with double collars and soulaces (1) showing the only missing tie-beam arch-brace at bottom right.
26. A detail from the west of the barn's southern central soulace and chamfered lower collar (1) showing the re-used principal rafter from a clasped-purlin roof.
27. A detail from the west of the barn's only clasped-purlin truss at the eastern end of the roof (1) with an additional collar below.
28. A detail of a typical roof truss in the barn (1) with two tiers of linear butt-purlins with reduced ends, square principals, single collars and wind-braces.
29. The western end of the barn's northern wall showing the rear door and arcade-brace spandrel strut in the second bay from the gable.
30. The eastern end of the barn's northern wall showing the rear door & smaller braces in the third bay from the gable & the arcade-brace spandrel strut in the second.
31. A detail of the easternmost of the two spandrel struts to the barn's arcade plate (1) both apparently designed to support scarf joints.
32. A detail of the easternmost face-halved and bladed scarf joint in the northernmost arcade plate of the barn (1).
33. The barn's asymmetrical eastern internal gable (1) with an additional post interrupting the mid-rail to left of centre & a primary wall brace in the aisle.
34. The southern interior of the barn's eastern bays (1) showing its arcade braces with inserted nailed narrow studs interrupted by diagonal primary braces.
35. The eastern end of the barn's intact roof structure (1) showing the single clasped-purlin truss with two collars on the left.

36. The northern interior of the barn's eastern bay (1) showing only every third stud pegged to the roof-plate with wattle-and-daub infill above a half-height rail.
37. The easternmost truss of the barn's aisle (1) from the east showing the arcade brace with a single stud of heavy scantling beneath the tie.
38. The tie-beam of the easternmost truss of the barn's aisle (1) from the east with a truncated jowl mortice proving the wall has been rebuilt or the tie re-used.
39. The easternmost truss of the barn's aisle (1) from the west showing the heavy ostensibly medieval stud and brace pegged to the ground sill.
40. The easternmost truss of the barn's aisle (1) from the west showing the straight upper aisle brace with a nailed strut supporting the aisle through-purlin.
41. The northern interior of the barn's penultimate eastern bay (1) showing only every third stud pegged to the roof-plate.
42. The 19th century rear doors in the barn's third bay from the east (1) showing the lack of stud pegs in the roof-plate proving the doorway is original to the wall.
43. The interior from the east of the early-20th century boarded grain store in the central bay of the barn's aisle (1).
44. The barn's southern entrance in the third bay from the east (1) showing its original high corner braces to which a later door lintel has been lapped and pegged.
45. A detail of the barn's eastern entrance (1) showing the apparently re-used timber lapped and pegged to the original corner braces.
46. The central bays of the barn's southern interior (1) showing inserted studwork with an additional small arcade brace adjacent to a scarf joint.
47. A detail of the asymmetrical additional inner arcade-plate brace in the centre of the barn's southern interior (1).
48. The western end of the barn (1) from the east showing the single missing tie-beam brace and spandrel strut on the left.
49. The barn's southern entrance in the second bay from the west (1) showing its original high lintel with no corner braces and three pegged studs above.
50. A detail of the barn's western entrance (1) showing its original door lintel pegged to the storey posts with a later nailed replacement beneath.
51. The barn's symmetrical western internal gable (1) with a waney tie-beam, trenched braces and chiselled joint numbers.
52. The rear doors in the barn's second bay from the west (1) showing the ground sills of the northern wall pegged to the jambs.
53. The early-20th century boarded grain store to the east of the barn's western rear door (1) cutting the aisle brace and stud.

54. A detail of the truncated jowl mortice in the aisle tie-beam to the east of the barn's western rear door (1).
55. The barn's eastern internal gable (1) showing the 19th century-style framing of the northern aisle to the left with narrow studs cut by a diagonal primary brace.
56. The central southern storey post of the barn's two easternmost bays (1) showing pegged mortices for the two braces of a missing front aisle.
57. A detail of the central southern storey post of the barn's two easternmost bays (1) showing a pegged mortice for the upper brace of a missing front aisle.
58. The eastern storey post of the barn's eastern entrance (1) showing pegged mortices at different heights to the rear posts probably for a missing porch.
59. A detail of a mortice peg in the eastern storey post of the barn's eastern entrance (1) with a chiselled numeral probably for a missing porch.
60. The western storey post of the barn's eastern entrance (1) showing pegged mortices at different heights to the rear posts probably for a missing porch.
61. A detail of the barn's south-western corner post (1) showing two mortice pegs for the upper brace of a missing aisle.
62. A detail of the barn's south-western corner post (1) showing a single numbered mortice peg for the tie-beam of a missing front aisle.
63. A detail of the double arcade braces in the centre of the barn's southern interior (1) showing chiselled Roman carpenters' numerals to both.
64. The central storey post of the barn's central bays (1) showing double-pegged mortices for the upper and lower braces of a missing front aisle.
65. A detail of the eastern storey post of the barn's western entrance (1) showing double mortice pegs probably for a missing porch.
66. A detail of the western storey post of the barn's western entrance (1) showing double mortice pegs probably for a missing porch.
67. A detail of the barn's south-eastern corner post (1) showing two mortice pegs for the upper brace of a missing aisle.
68. A detail of the barn's south-eastern corner post (1) showing a single mortice peg for the tie-beam of a missing front aisle.
69. The barn (1) from the south-west showing the outline of a demolished adjoining structure replaced by the late-20th century grain store to the left.
70. The eastern facade of the brick stable (2) showing its symmetrical twin entrances & loft hatches with a blocked central door to an additional narrow central shed.
71. A detail of the brickwork to the left of the stable's southern entrance (2a) showing the incised name 'B Button'.

72. The stable from the north showing the original door to the rear range (2c) respected by closers with a possible WWII anti-tank obstacle in the foreground.
73. The possible WWII anti-tank obstacle to the north of the stable (2) as seen from the west with the barn (1) in the rear.
74. The western exterior in the stable's rear range (2c) showing its doorway respected by closers & large concrete buttresses possibly designed as tank barriers.
75. The stable (2) from the south-west showing the whitewashed rear wall of the front range from which a lean-to shed has been removed.
76. The stable (2) from the west showing the whitewash to the rear wall indicating the position of a demolished lean-to shed.
77. The interior of the southern section of the stable (2a) from its eastern entrance showing evidence of a narrow tack room against the gable to the left.
78. The ceiling of the stable's southern section (2a) from the south showing the inserted boards of a hay drop against the back wall to left.
79. The eastern interior of the stable's southern section (2a) now converted into a farm office showing its original central entrance.
80. The southern section of the stable (2a) showing empty ceiling mortices for a narrow tack room against the gable with the blocked hay rack to the right.
81. The northern section of the stable (2b) from the south showing original wooden harness hooks lining the walls with a blocked hay drop to the left.
82. The rear (western) wall of the northern section of the stable (2b) showing the inserted hay-rack rail and boards blocking the hay drop.
83. A detail of the original wooden harness hooks projecting from wooden rails set into the stable's northern gable (2b).
84. The northern section of the stable (2b) from the north showing original wooden harness hooks lining the walls with a blocked hay drop to the right.
85. The eastern interior of the stable's northern section (1b) showing the blocked door to a missing central section with mortices for its partition to the left.
86. The stable's northern section from the north (2b) showing the two original loft ladders to the left with ceiling mortices for a missing partition.
87. The undivided loft above the stable (2) looking south from the northernmost of its two internal loft ladders with the southern ladder on the left.
88. The clasped-purlin roof of the stable (2) from the north showing its uniformly sawn rafters, ridge-board and nailed collars of softwood.
89. The clasped-purlin roof of the stable (2) from the south showing its uniformly sawn rafters, ridge-board and nailed collars of softwood.

90. The stable's rear (western) range from the west (2c) showing its clasped-purlin roof of uniform tall-sectioned softwood.
91. The stable's rear (western) range (2c) from the west showing its two entrances with no indication of an internal partition.
92. The eastern facade of the cart lodge (3) showing its five open bays and weatherboarded first-floor granary.
93. The granary (3) from the south-east showing the heavily overgrown original brick external stair against its southern gable.
94. A detail of the heavily tarred weatherboarding to the granary in the cart lodge's eastern facade.
95. The cart lodge (3) from the north-east showing its blocked granary loading hatch or louver with dated inscriptions to the brickwork beneath.
96. The northern external gable of the cart lodge (3) showing its Flemish Bond brickwork with three central dated inscriptions.
97. A detail of the top inscription to the cart lodge's northern external gable (3) 'ZK 1797'.
98. A detail of the second from top inscription to the cart lodge's northern external gable (3) 'MB 1797'.
99. A detail of the third from top inscription to the cart lodge's northern external gable (3) 'RB 1797'.
100. A detail of the bottom inscription to the cart lodge's northern external gable (3) 'SP 3'.
101. The interior of the cart lodge (3) from its northern gable showing its original ceiling joists with the open eastern arcade on the left.
102. The blind western interior of the cart lodge (3).
103. The northern interior of the cart lodge (3) showing its inset timber rail to which harness hooks are likely to have been attached.
104. A detail from the east of the original cart lodge ceiling (3) showing its well framed soffit-tenon joints with diminished haunches.
105. The eastern interior of the cart lodge (3) showing additional posts inside the original arcade posts on brick plinths.
106. A detail of an iron lamp bracket to the interior of the cart lodge's northernmost arcade post (4).
107. The cart lodge's loft from the north (3) showing a boarded partition with grain bins visible through the door and studs pegged to the roof-plate on the left.
108. The eastern facade of the cart shed (4) showing its original double vehicle doors to the right and the single half-hung door & windows of the integral stable.

109. The interior from the north of the stable to the south of the cart shed (4) showing its eastern window to the left.
110. The interior from the south of the stable to the south of the cart shed (4) showing the probably original internal door to the cart shed.
111. A detail of the early-20th century iron feeding trough frame in the north-western corner of the stable adjoining the cart shed (4).
112. The original brick floor of the stable adjoining the cart shed (4) showing its central lateral drain on the left.
113. The interior of the cart shed (4) from the north showing the probably original internal door to the adjoining stable with the eastern entrance to the left.
114. The eastern interior of the cart shed (4) showing its entrance doors with the probably original internal door to the adjoining stable on the right.
115. The eastern exterior of the small shelter-shed (5) showing its pantiled roof and flint-rubble fabric with red-brick dressing.
116. A detail of the partly rebuilt northern external gable of the small shelter-shed (5) with the cart lodge (3) and cart shed (4) in the rear.
117. The interior from the north of the small shelter-shed (5) showing its flint-rubble fabric and mixed rafters with the open arcade on the right.
118. The largely collapsed northern shed seen from the south-east (6) with its dated plaque to the left.
119. The largely collapsed northern shed from the east (6) showing the remains of its flint-rubble fabric with red-brick dressing.
120. The red-brick southern external wall of the largely collapsed northern shed (6) showing the yard entrance on the left and the dated plaque in the centre.
121. A detail of the plaque to the southern exterior of the largely collapsed northern shed (6) showing the initials 'DB' with an illegible date.
122. The overgrown western open arcade of the shelter-shed (5) with the remains of the northern shed (6) to the left and a modern covered cattle yard to the right.
123. The overgrown site of the largely collapsed northern shed (6) seen from the north-west with the modern covered cattle yard in the rear.
124. The northern shelter-shed (7) from the south-west showing its corrugated iron roof and open arcade.
125. The interior of the northern shelter-shed (7) from its western gable showing its renewed roof of 20th century softwood.
126. The western internal gable of the northern shelter-shed (7) showing its 20th century softwood fabric.

127. The northern interior of the northern shelter-shed (7) showing its post-and-rail fabric clad in corrugated iron.
128. The southern facade of the mid-19th century red-brick and pantiled cottage to the north-west of the site.

Photographic Appendix 2 follows on pp. 30-41.

Appendix 2 (pp. 30-41): Selected Photographs to Illustrate the Text



Illus. 1. A general view of the farm buildings from the site entrance to the south showing the brick stable (2) in the centre with the cart lodge and granary (3) to the left and the barn (1) in the rear to the right.



Illus. 2. The main yard from the south showing the brick stable (2) and the thatched and weatherboarded barn (1). Note the asymmetry of the barn's facade, with one of its two sets of entrance doors in the second bay from the left and the other in the third bay from the right. Although of traditional braced construction both doors are in excellent condition and appear to be 20th century replacements. The steel-framed shed to its left is modern.



Illus. 3. A general view of the site from the barn (1) to the north showing the L-shaped brick stable flanked on the left by the house (8) and on the right by the uniformly pantiled small brick cart-shed (4) and the open-sided flint-rubble shelter-shed (5). The large building in the rear to the right is a late-20th century covered cattle yard.



Illus. 4. The narrow yard to the rear (north) of the barn as seen from the west. The long shelter-shed (7) is overgrown and largely inaccessible but the section to the left was largely rebuilt in softwood and corrugated iron during the 20th century. The barn's rear aisle has been re-roofed in corrugated asbestos and clad in modern softwood but original thatch survives above. The outline of a blocked rear doorway opposite the western entrance is visible to the left of the scale rod with another hidden by vegetation in the rear.



Illus. 5. A general view of the barn's interior from its south-eastern corner (1). All seven bays are visible along with the floor of loose earth with no trace of the threshing floors onto which the two southern entrances would have opened. The rear aisle to the right was initially replicated on the left but the structure is otherwise exceptionally intact with only one missing tie-beam brace. The aisle is not a later addition as stated in the listing as there are no stud mortices for an earlier back wall in the arcade-plate.



Illus. 6. A general view of the barn's impressive roof (1) from the west showing its complete array of tie-beam and arcade-plate braces with a full complement of wind-braces in the two-tier roof of linear butt-purlins.



Illus. 7. A detail from the west of the unique central truss of the barn's roof, with double collars and a pair of diagonal soulaces. Trusses of this kind are normally found only in high quality 13th and 14th century roofs. Note the step in the principal rafter above the upper collar which indicates it was re-used from a clasped-purlin roof, and the empty mortices in the common rafter to the left which also indicate re-use.



Illus. 8. The arcade post to the right of the easternmost entrance showing its exceptional spandrels struts and the smaller arcade brace to the threshing bay. Every tie-beam brace contains identical struts but the barn contains only two arcade-brace struts – both beneath scarf joints and both flanking a threshing bay. The struts are re-used timbers.



Illus. 9. The easternmost truss of the barn's aisle (1) as seen from the west. The single, large stud and thick, slightly waney aisle brace and tie-beam with hewn surfaces are typical of the Middle Ages and contrast with the sharp-edged, uniform timber of the upper braces and other key elements such as the arcade-plates. A truncated mortice for a jowled wall post in the left-hand end of the aisle tie proves that the wall framing has been rebuilt or the timbers have been re-used – or both.



Illus. 10. The central bays of the barn's southern wall (1) showing the arcade braces of a missing front aisle. The framing beneath consists of mid-rails and vertical studs cut by diagonal primary braces all nailed in place in the style of the 19th century. Note the unique inner brace to the left of the central post, possibly designed to support a scarf.



Illus. 11. The barn's symmetrical western internal gable (1) with a waney mid-rail, trenched braces and chiselled carpenter's numerals. This contrasts with the eastern gable where the mid-rail is interrupted by an additional post to the rear of its centre. The corner post on the left contains pegged mortices for an identical aisle tie-beam and brace to those on the right.



Illus. 12. The eastern storey post of the barn's eastern entrance (1) showing pegs for three mortices in the external face of the timber – two of which bear crescent-shaped carpenter's numerals reflecting that of the tie-beam brace. These mortices are at different heights to those of the rear arcade posts and the rest of the southern posts but match those of the other three door posts –indicating they secured missing porches. Crescent-shaped numbers were cut with a curved race-knife and are not uncommon.



Illus. 13. The back wall of the easternmost bay (1). The narrow studs are tenoned to the roof-plate and sill but only every third stud is pegged. Framing of this kind indicates a date in the 18th century, as does the uniform brickwork of the tall brick plinth, although the diagonal primary brace in the gable to the right is more consistent with the 19th – as is the fact that the internal aisle tie-beams are butt-jointed and strapped to the roof-plates. The wattle-and-daub between the studs is an original feature.



Illus. 14. The unique double collared truss in the centre of the roof with medieval-style diagonal soulaces to the chamfered lower collar. The roof is otherwise typical of the mid-17th century but the principal rafters are stepped for clasped rather than butt-purlins and the purlins themselves contain irrelevant peg and nail holes indicating re-use.



Illus. 15. The eastern facade of the pantiled brick stable (2) showing its symmetrical twin entrances, loft hatches and windows. The outline of a third blocked door is visible in the centre. This would normally have opened onto an internal loft stair, but there is no obvious evidence of this in the ceiling and it probably served a tack room.



Illus. 16. The eastern interior of the stable's northern section (1b) showing the blocked central door between the two ostensibly original loft ladders with original wooden harness hooks on the left (and wooden rails set into the brickwork for others on the right). The principal joist to the left of the door contains empty mortices for a missing partition but there is no counterpart to the right.



Illus. 17. The northern section of the stable (2b) as seen from the south showing a good series of original wooden harness hooks lining the walls with a blocked hay drop to the left. The floorboards above this drop are short insertions that are aligned differently to the boards elsewhere in the ceiling. The hay racks and mangers have been removed. The bind joist in the rear is a re-used timber with irrelevant empty mortices.



Illus. 18. The undivided hay loft above the stable looking towards its northern gable (2). A number of probably original iron tie-rods span the walls and secure the roof-plates to the floor joists in the absence of tie-beams. The clasped-purlin roof structure consists of uniformly sawn softwood with a ridge-board and nailed collars in the manner of the mid-19th century.



Illus. 19. The cart lodge (3) from the north-east showing the blocked granary loading hatch or louver in its gable with the small cart shed and stable (4) on the right. Four sets of initials lie at vertical intervals to the right of the scale rod, three of which are dated 1797.



Illus. 20. A detail of the third of the three sets of initials neatly incised into the brickwork of the cart lodge's northern external gable (3), all dated 1797: From top to bottom 'Z K', 'M B' and 'R B' (the latter shown here). A fourth set, 'S P' is followed by what appears to be the number '3'. The style of lettering is convincing and the structure probably dates from this year. 'M B' and 'R B' may be Daniel Barker's antecedents.



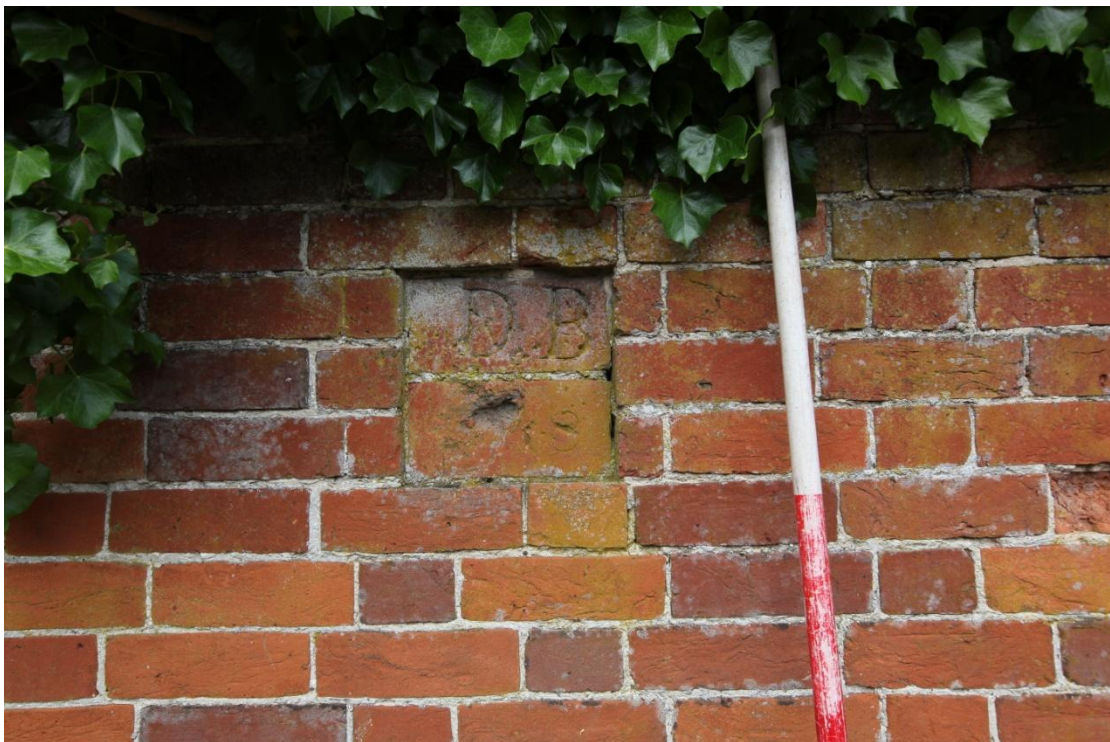
Illus. 21. The cart lodge's loft seen from the north (3) showing a boarded partition with grain bins visible through the door and substantial studs pegged to the roof-plate on the left. The narrow softwood rafters of the clapsed-purlin roof with nailed collars are typical of the mid- to late-19th century and appear to be replacements. The loft was inaccessible at the time of inspection and this image was taken through the floorboards.



Illus. 22. A detail of the partly rebuilt northern external gable of the small shelter-shed (5) with the cart lodge (3) and cart shed (4) in the rear. The shed's eastern wall consists of flint-rubble with red-brick dressing but the gable has always been of brick. The open-arcade to the west (right) is overgrown and was not fully accessible.



Illus. 23. The largely collapsed northern cattle shed viewed from the south-east (6) with its dated plaque to the left. Fragments of a flint-rubble eastern wall with red-brick dressing are hidden in the undergrowth and the doorway to the right of the scale rod is an original feature respected by closers – as is the former gateway on the left.



Illus. 24. A detail of the plaque to the southern exterior of the largely collapsed northern shed (6) showing the initials 'D B' with an illegible date ending in '8' – probably 1858 but possibly 1838. The initials are probably those of Daniel Barker was listed as a farmer in Leiston in White's Directory for 1844 and 55 and whose surname was added to the 1786 map.