

Heritage Statement

Background

We purchased Stow Farmhouse in October 2006. Prior to this we had a building survey done on the property which found damp in the sole plate and recommended we engaged the services of a micro-bore timber specialist to survey the sole plate in detail, which we did. He recommended that the sole plate was repaired in places and renewed in places. (Extracts of the report attached).

The works were done in two stages, the first stage was on the annex in 2006 and the second stage was on the main house in 2007.

We engaged the services of Barbara Bosworth, the then conservation officer, who visited and liaised with ourselves and our builder at least twice, once at least in 2006 and once at least in 2007. She was happy with what we were doing but it wasn't until about two months ago we realized that there was no record of this 'approval' at the Council.

Invoices of these works from our builder are attached.

List description (from Heritage England)

GREAT SAMPFORD HIGH STREET 1. 5222 (west side) The Stow TL 6435 40/333
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2. Late C16 timber-framed and plastered house with a cross wing at the south end. Another wing projects to the west at the rear. Two storeys and attics to the cross wing and one storey and attics to the main block. The windows are C18-C19 double-hung sashes with vertical glazing bars. Roofs tiled, with an original central chimney stack with the shafts rebuilt to the old pattern. There is an external chimney stack of similar pattern at the south end. The upper room on the cross wing has good moulded ceiling beams and the roof is said to have the original construction. (RCHM 11).

Listing NGR: TL6422835484

Brief History

Stow Farmhouse (previously known as The Stow) was the farmhouse for a farm (see photo below) whose outbuildings were destroyed by a fire in the village. This fire also destroyed the roof of our annex, which was subsequently replaced with a tin roof.



Key elements which contribute to its significance

The property dates back to the late 16th century and has many elements that contribute to its significance such as good moulded ceiling beams in the main bedroom, a crown post in the main loft and an aesthetically pleasing fireplace in the lounge.

Key elements affected by the works

None of the key elements which contribute to the significance of Stow Farmhouse have been affected by the works.

Assessment of impact on significance

As none of the key elements which contribute to the significance of Stow Farmhouse have been affected by the works, in fact the works cannot even be seen from outside at all, there was no need to take measures to mitigate the impact.

Furthermore, without the works, the property would very likely have fallen into disrepair as the original sole plate could have twisted with the result that the vertical posts would have randomly dropped. It was a structural issue that needed rectifying.

