

Barns at The Rookery, Wilby, Suffolk WBY 024

Heritage Asset Assessment

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Barns at The Rookery, Worlingworth Road, Wilby, Suffolk

(TM 228 713)

Heritage Asset Assessment

This report provides a written and photographic analysis and record at English Heritage (2006) Level 3 of a grade II-listed timber-framed barn in the curtilage of a grade II-listed farmhouse. It provides a similar record at level 2 of the adjoining complex of farm buildings, and has been prepared to a specification written by Edward Martin of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (ref. SpecHAA(EM)_pre_Rookery_Wilby_2011, dated 11th April 2011). The report is intended to inform and accompany a planning application for conversion.

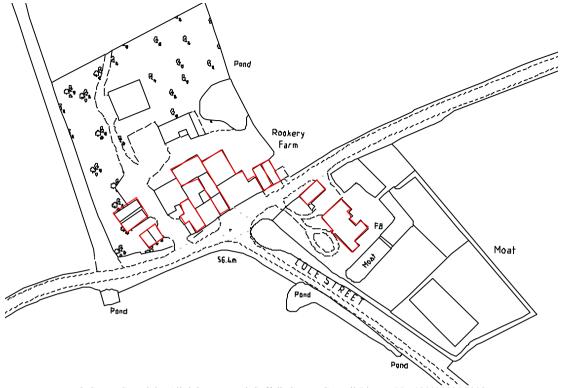
Introduction

The following text is accompanied by a CD containing a photographic record in the form of 150 digital images of 21 megapixels (Appendix 1), but also includes 14 printed photographs of key features to illustrate the text (Appendix 2). Each image is described in a separate schedule and the site was inspected on 15th June and 14th September 2011.

Summary

The Rookery lies in open, arable countryside at a medieval crossroads approximately 1.5 km south-west of St Mary's church and 500 m east of the boundaries of Athelington and Horham parishes. The site consists of a grade II-listed 16th century timber-framed moated farmhouse to the south of the road and a substantial complex of farm buildings to the north. At the time of the tithe survey in 1838 the property was an owner-occupied arable holding with only 76 acres in Wilby parish but is known to have formed part of a large local estate belonging to the affluent Green family in the 17th century and possibly earlier.

Most of the farm buildings date from the mid- and late-19th century, including two pantiled brick shelter-sheds and an unusually well preserved timber-framed and weatherboarded stable with a slate roof which retains its original manger, hay rack and harness hooks (complete with leather tack). Together they illustrate the agricultural revolution known today as Victorian High Farming and are of both visual and historic interest accordingly. The site is of national importance, however, due to the presence of two 16th century timber-framed barns with intact queen-post roof structures. Although one is correctly listed at grade II the second is almost identical in both layout and condition but has been omitted in error from the Schedule of Listed Buildings. It presumably escaped notice as it is less conspicuous from the road and has lost its original thatch. The presence of two contemporary Tudor barns on the same property is highly unusual and offers major historic insight into the nature of vernacular farm yards in the 16th century. They form two sides of a courtyard and were both designed with stables and hay lofts lit by diamond-mullion windows at one end and three-bay threshing barns at the other. Ironically the unlisted barn is the more interesting of the two, with rare evidence of a cart thoroughfare and an internal barrier that may relate to its partial use as a hay barn rather than a standard threshing barn. It is strongly recommended that this building should be afforded the protection of listed status as soon as possible.



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Figure 1

Figure 1 Modern Ordnance Survey

Outlining in red the various buildings of the farm complex on the northern side of Worlingworth Road and the grade II-listed moated farmhouse to the south. The junction with Cole Street lies immediately opposite the two 16th century barns to the west of the site and there is some evidence that it once continued through the northernmost of the two barns to join the ancient green lane shown here to the left. See figure 5 for more detail.

Documentary and Cartographic Evidence

The Rookery lies in open, arable countryside at a medieval crossroads between the Worlingworth Road, Cole Street and a green lane leading towards Horham approximately 1.5 km south-west of St Mary's church and 500 m east of the boundaries of Athelington and Horham parishes. The site consists of a grade II-listed 16th century timber-framed moated farmhouse to the south of the road and a substantial complex of farm buildings including two 16th century barns to the north. The house was not inspected for the purpose of this report and its original orientation is unclear, but the building now faces south-west towards Cole Street and lies some 70 m east of the two 16th century barns at the western end of the farm complex. This unusual relationship may relate to the restrictions of the moat and road junction, which prohibited the standard arrangement of the period in which farmhouses were approached through their farm yards. The junction between Cole Street to the south and the green lane to Horham to the north is now staggered, but the original entrance to the northernmost of the barns lies on the direct route between the two and there is evidence of a rare thoroughfare that might have created a more traditional layout. Although the two timber-framed and weatherboarded barns are almost identical in date, structure and condition, the thatched barn adjoining the road to the south (no. 1 in figure 5) is separately listed at grade II (and dated in the Schedule to the 16th century 'with 18th century alterations'), while its counterpart aligned at right-angles to the north is not (no. 2). The only significant different between them is the loss of the original thatch to the northern barn, which is now covered in corrugated asbestos.

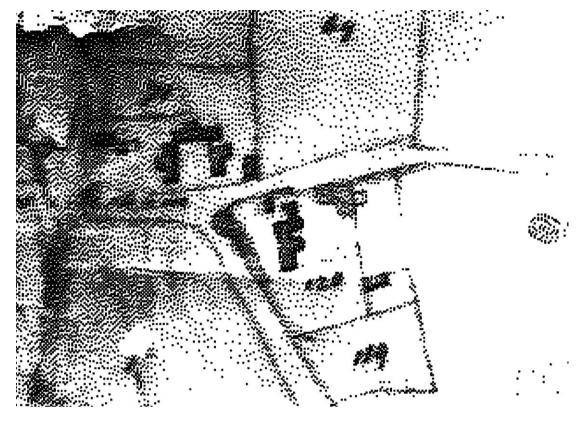


Figure 2

The Wilby tithe map of 1838 (from a copy of the original in the PRO, kindly supplied by the owners). The two 16th century barns (buildings 1 and 2 in figure 5) are shown with rear porches to the west and north of a courtyard along with a third structure to the east that no longer survives. The stable (4) also appears to be shown to the east, but the cart lodge (3) and the rest of the present farm complex had yet to be built.

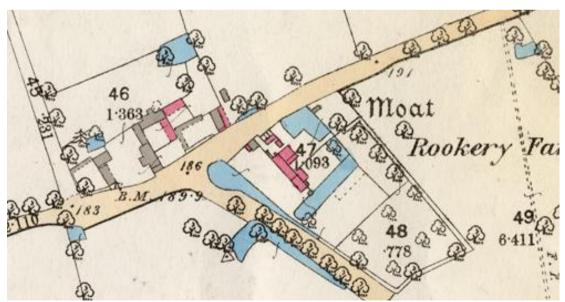


Figure 3
First Edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey of 1885.

The principal elements of the complex are now shown much as they remain, with the open-sided elevations of the cart lodge (3) and the various shelter-sheds adjoining the yards indicated by broken lines.

Research notes by local historian Keith Clarke record Rookery Farm in the possession of Richard Green at the time of his death in 1647, when it passed to his son Thomas (dated 1996 and kindly supplied by the owners). This reference probably derives from the court rolls of Wilby manor in the Suffolk Record Office, which begin in the same year. The Green family were significant landowners, owning several properties in the immediate vicinity, and it is not certain whether Rookery Farm was leased or occupied by a member. Their connection with the area antedated 1647 by at least half a century as Copinger records a Thomas Green acquiring the manor of Wathersdale in neighbouring Laxfield as early as 1605. In 1674 Richard Greene paid tax on 11 hearths in Wilby - the largest number in the parish - and Thomas Green, the political writer of the mid-18th century, is said in his biography to have been the son of another Thomas Green of Wilby: 'an ex-soapboiler' who married Jane Mould (DNB). The Greens are commemorated by a series of fine funeral monuments in the church, and the connection of Rookery Farm with such a family of minor gentry during the 17th century probably explains the scale and quality of the buildings on the site despite the relatively small acreage associated with the holding in the 19th century. On the surrender of Thomas Green in 1732 the court rolls record the accession of William Petty, a surgeon, and indicate the apparent dismantling of the Green's former estate in 1780 when George Culham was admitted to Rookery Farm alone.

By the time of the Wilby tithe survey in 1838 the farm was an owner-occupied holding with 76 acres in the parish belonging to George Culham Seaman, who appears to have retained ownership throughout the mid-19th century as White's Directory of 1874 records Rookery Farm in the hands of his executors. Even by the standards of the 1830s, 76 acres was a modest holding which would not normally be associated with two substantial barns and would have failed even to meet the standard 100-acre threshold for Yeoman status in the 17th century. A farm of this size would have required only two or three working horses, for example, at the average rate of 20 to 30 acres per animal, and scarcely justifies the scale of the surviving early-19th century stable. It seems likely that substantially more land extended over the nearby borders with several neighbouring parishes: Until a reorganisation of the late-19th century the land on the western side of the green lane adjoining the barns was in the Hamlet of Hilton which belonged to Hoxne (information kindly supplied by the owners) to which it was connected by a long, narrow strip of the parish (White's Suffolk Directory of 1844).

The tithe map of 1838 shows both timber-framed barns forming the western and northern sides of a broad yard together with an additional structure that no longer survives to the east (figure 2). The latter was presumably demolished when the present diary shed was built in front of the northern barn in the mid-19th century (i.e. no. 7 in building) and may have extended onto the sites of the present yards to the east (nos. 5 and 6). The two barns appear to adjoin each other corner to corner, and while this may be an error on the part of the surveyor the map seems highly accurate in other respects: it is entirely possible that the northern barn (no. 2) was moved by several metres during the extensive 19th century refurbishment that included the replacement of its ground sills and plinth. The stable (no. 4) also appears to be shown in the south-eastern corner of a large rectangular enclosure but the rest of the modern complex, including the cart lodge and granary to the west (no.3), is conspicuous by its absence. Both barns are depicted with rear porches much as they remain (although the northern porch has since been rebuilt). The relevant area of the tithe map in the Suffolk Record Office has been damaged and the version reproduced here was kindly supplied by the owners from a copy of the original in the Public Record Office at Kew.

By the time of the Ordnance Survey of 1885 the principal elements of the modern farm complex were already in place, and the site had evidently undergone a dramatic transformation of the kind seen on most East Anglian farms during the middle decades of the 19th century. These changes reflect the agricultural revolution of the period which saw the introduction of a system of yard-based mixed animal husbandry known today as Victorian High Farming. The arrival of the railways in the 1840s dramatically increased the market for

beef and dairy produce as cereal prices (kept artificially high for a generation) collapsed after the Repeal of the Corn Laws in 1846 and new ideas of industrial efficiency replaced the old tradition of keeping animals abroad in the fields. Whether or not the northern barn was moved further from the road, a new brick shelter-shed was built against the eastern end of its southern elevation and another against its eastern gable (the former facing west and the latter south). A third L-shaped shelter-shed of timber (highlighted in grey rather than red) had appeared to the south-east creating no fewer than four enclosed cattle and horse yards, while a fifth open-sided range was added to the rear of the stable. The cart lodge and granary had also been built as part of a separate enclosed yard to the west, creating an unusually extensive and sophisticated complex. The presence of new buildings in both timber and brick by 1885 suggests these changes may have occurred in two phases, with the traditional timber structures perhaps dating from the 1840s while the surviving brickwork is more consistent with a date of circa 1880. This is also indicated by the fact that the L-shaped timber shed had been demolished by 1904 and replaced by new brick sheds that still survive (to the north of the south-eastern yard (no. 5) and at the southern end of the dairy range (no. 7) as shown in figure 4. A timber shed which adjoined the western gable of the northern barn in 1885 had also disappeared by 1904. The alterations to the barns may relate to the earlier of these two post 1838 redevelopments. Despite the addition of various corrugated iron silo and tractor sheds in the mid-20th century, and the covering of the open yards, the principal buildings of 1904 still survive and the site represents an unusually complete late-Victorian farm complex.

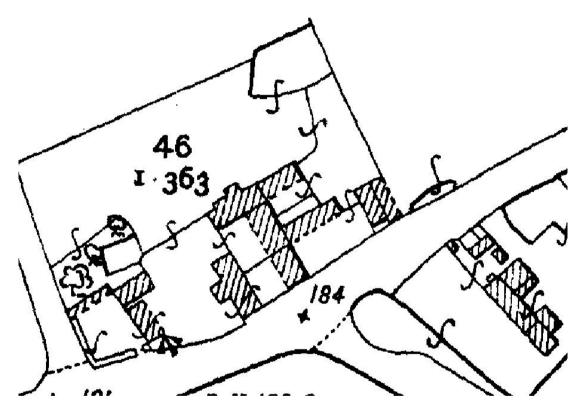


Figure 4
Second Edition 25 inch Ordnance Survey of 1904.

The complex had undergone further modification since 1885, with the replacement of the L-shaped range of open-sided sheds to the south-east (shown in grey in figure 3) by the present brick ranges adjoining the wood yard (5) (i.e. the southern end of the present dairy range (7) and the yard's northern shed). Apart from its mid-20th century additions the complex shown here is still recognisable today.

Building Analysis

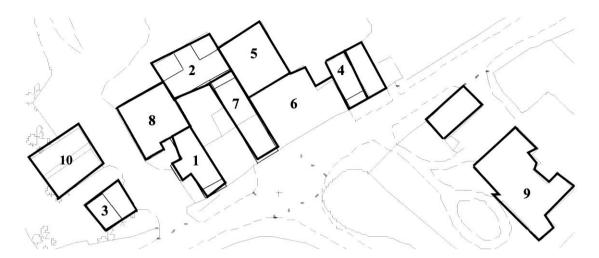


Figure 5

Block plan of the site, identifying each historic element with a number for ease of reference in the text and photographs. Based on the Ordnance Survey.

Key:

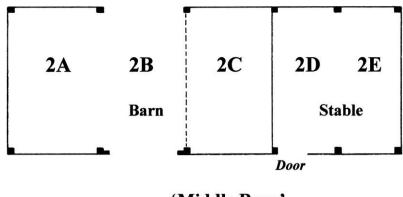
- 1. 'Thatched Barn'. A grade II-listed 16th century timber-framed and weatherboarded four-bay barn with a thatched queen-post roof. Originally with half-hipped gables and divided by an internal partition into a three-bay threshing barn to the south and a single-bay stable and hay loft to the north. Evidence of three diamond-mullion windows to the loft and a fourth lighting the stable. The stable entered by an east-facing door adjoining the north-eastern corner post but with no evidence of a rear door. The barn also entered from the east in its central bay and with evidence of a small rear door immediately opposite in the usual manner. The roof and principal timbers intact but most common studs replaced during an extensive refurbishment of the early-to mid-19th century which included the insertion of a new ground sill on a brick plinth, the removal of the stable and loft, and the construction of the present vertical gables along with a rear porch. The floors are of 20th century concrete throughout.
- 'Middle Barn'. A 16th century timber-framed and weatherboarded five-bay barn with a formerly thatched queen-post roof now covered with corrugated asbestos. The framing and 19th century refurbishment almost identical to that of the grade II-listed barn (1). Originally with half-hipped gables and divided by an internal partition into a three-bay threshing barn to the west and a two-bay stable and hay loft to the east. Evidence of two diamond-mullion windows to the loft. The stable entered by a southfacing door adjoining the south-eastern corner of the threshing barn but with no evidence of a rear door. The barn also entered from the south in its central bay and with evidence of a second full-height doorway in the rear wall immediately opposite apparently to create a vehicle thoroughfare (a very rare feature in a barn of this period). There is also evidence of a low rail dividing this thoroughfare from the adjoining bay to the east. The roof and principal timbers are intact but the 19th century refurbishment included the removal of the stable and its loft, the replacement of most common studs on a new sill and brick plinth, the construction of the present vertical gables and the removal of the entrance from its original position (in bay 2B in figure 6) to the adjoining bay on the east (bay 2C). The survival of two contemporary Tudor barns in the same farmyard is highly unusual, particularly at the vernacular level, and is of national

historic importance. The unlisted barn is the more unusual of the two, given its possession of opposing full-height doors, and should be separately listed at grade II. The floors are of $20^{\rm th}$ century concrete throughout.

- Cart Lodge and Granary. A mid-19th century timber-framed weatherboarded cart lodge of three bays with a first-floor granary. The bays divided by open studwork partitions on low brick plinths and the outer walls on tall brick plinths of 1.2 m. Some re-used timber. Open to the east where it adjoins an access track alongside the main farm complex and formerly part of a separate yard to the west of which no trace survives (as shown in figures 3 and 4 above). Evidence of red ochre pigment beneath the later tar of its external cladding (many local farm buildings were decorated in this way before cheap tar became available as a by-product of town gas production). Not shown on the tithe map of 1838 but probably built by 1850. The entire roof and much of the granary storey was removed in the mid-20th century when the present leanto roof of corrugated iron was added, apparently resting on the sloping divisions of the original eastern grain bins. The rear (western) elevation and both gables are also now clad in corrugated iron with the original boarding to the east protected by an open leanto extension of corrugated iron. This building is a traditional East Anglian cart lodge but has been too heavily mutilated to be of special historic significance.
- Stable. The timber-framed and weatherboarded building with a slate roof in the south-eastern corner of the farm complex is an unusually well preserved mid-19th century stable with a hay loft. It extends to 9.8 m in length by 4.8 m in overall width (32.25 ft by 15.75 ft) on an approximately NW-SE axis and rises to 3.7 m (13 ft) at its eaves (including a tall brick plinth of 1.6 m or 5 ft which is now externally rendered with cement). The internal ceiling gives a clearance of 2.2 m (7 ft) above the present concrete floor, but this may up as much as 15 cm above the original floor level. The stable is entered by half-hung doors in the centre of its western elevation with a loft hatch immediately above, and is now divided into two approximately equal compartments by a 20th century boarded partition but was initially undivided. An original boarded manger extends the length of the rear (eastern) wall with a hay rack and hay drop above although only a short length of the latter remains in situ at the northern end of the southern compartment and the southern end of the northern compartment. The top of the manger rises to 86 cm (34 ins) above the present floor (approximately 1 m originally) and the lower edge of the rack to 1.6 m (5.5 ft). A number of bentwood harness hooks survive against the western wall – still supporting leather tack at the time of inspection. The remains of an internal loft ladder adjoin the same elevation to the south of the entrance. The shallow-pitched roof structure consists of butt-purlins with a ridge-board and the wall studs are interrupted by nailed primary braces. These features suggest a mid-19th century origin but the building appears to be shown on the tithe map of 1838 (figure 2) and it may date from as early as circa 1830. It is possible however that the tithe map illustrates an earlier structure on the same site, and the present stable may represent a rebuilding of circa 1850. The red-brick and pantiled lean-to shed which adjoins the southern gable and returns along the eastern elevation is not integral to the stable's plinth and is a slightly later addition which appears to have formed a loose box to the south (with double-hung doors to the east) and an open-sided shelter-shed adjoining the neighbouring field to the east as shown on the Ordnance Survey of 1885 (figure 3). The loose box is linked internally to the stable and may have operated as a tack room at some point, although there is no evidence of harness hooks. The sheltershed is now obscured by a 20th century extension of cement block-work and has been converted into a series of animal pens. The stable is a good example of its kind, retaining both its original proportions and internal fittings, but is not of sufficient age or rarity to meet the strict English Heritage criteria for listing in its own right.

- 5. Shelter-shed and Yard (known as the middle yard). A mid- to late-19th century cattle yard enclosed by a red-brick wall with a contemporary pantiled brick shelter-shed to the north, the remains of a later boarded shelter-shed to the south and with a mid-20th century roof of corrugated iron. The 19th century shelter-shed has a clasped-purlin roof structure of machine-sawn softwood with tall-sectioned rafters and cross-bracing. The yard and northern shed are shown on the Ordnance Survey of 1885 but are unlikely to pre-date it by more than a decade given the late-19th century character of the latter's roof timbers. It is not of special interest in itself but forms part of a traditional red-brick and pantiled yard complex of some visual and historic value.
- 6. Shelter-shed and Yard (known as the wood yard). A covered yard with a late-20th century roof of corrugated asbestos, a wall of cement-block-work adjoining the road to the south and a late-19th century red-brick and pantiled shelter-shed to the north. The clasped-purlin roof of the shelter-shed consisting of machine-sawn softwood. A narrower timber-framed shelter-shed occupied the site in 1885 (figure 3) but the present shed had replaced it by 1904 (figure 4). Like the shelter-shed of the adjoining yard to the north it is not of special interest in itself but forms part of a traditional red-brick and pantiled yard complex of some visual and historic value.
- Dairy. A single-storied red-brick and pantiled range used as a milking parlour in the 20th century with a dairy to the south. Built in two phases as indicated by a straight joint in the eastern elevation (at the western end of the shelter-shed in the adjoining yard, 6) and by the Ordnance Survey of 1885 which shows the northern section but not the southern. The northern section of *circa* 1870 is now enclosed by cement block-work but was formerly an open-sided shelter-shed facing the barn yard on the west (known as the collecting yard) and with a clasped-purlin roof of machine-sawn softwood. Now containing a series of late-20th century loose boxes. The southern section of *circa* 1900 with a 20th century ceiling and internal partitions relating to its use as a dairy but with evidence of original doorways to the north and south of its western elevation and probably designed as a pair of loose boxes or feed sheds. The present roadside gable door is secondary, as are the various Crittall windows and doors of its later conversion. This range has been heavily altered and is not of special interest but forms part of a traditional red-brick and pantiled yard complex of some visual and historic value.
- 8. Modern Sheds. A pair of late-20th century tractor and silo sheds of no historic value. The smaller shed to the west with a wooden frame and the taller shed to the east steel framed. Both clad in corrugated iron with corrugated asbestos roofs. The gables of the two adjoining barns are preserved by the eastern shed.
- 9. Farmhouse. A grade II-listed timber-framed and rendered structure with a 19th century western facade of painted brick. Dated in the Schedule of Listed Buildings to the 16th century but with no additional description or analysis. Not inspected for the purpose of this report.
- 10. Nissen huts. A pair of mid-20th century Nissen huts now used as a workshop and tractor shed.

The two 16th century barns are discussed in more detail below



'Middle Barn'

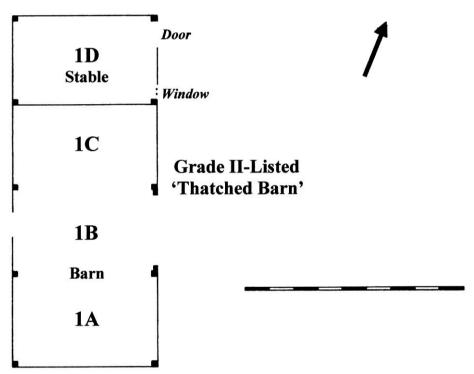


Figure 6

Schematic ground plan of the 16th century barns showing their original layout and identifying each bay for ease of reference in the text and photographs. Scale in metres. The broken line between bays 2B and 2C indicates a possible half-height barrier for which mortises survive in the storey posts.

The Thatched Barn (1)

Proportions

The grade II-listed thatched barn to the west of the farm complex is a timber-framed and weatherboarded structure in four bays on an approximately north-west/south-east axis at right-angles to the adjoining road. It extends to 14.25 m length by 6 m in overall width (46.75 ft by 19.5 ft) and its walls rise to 3.7 m (12 ft) above the internal concrete floor including a

red-brick plinth of approximately 0.5 m (20 ins) which varies in height due to the uneven ground.

Structure

The principal components of the timber frame are typical of the mid-16th century, including the jowled storey posts, roof-plates, tie-beams and the main queen-post roof structure, but almost all the original wall studs were replaced during an extensive 19th century refurbishment which included the insertion of the brick plinth and the present ground sill. It was not uncommon for early barns to be overhauled at this period, often in order to raise their height (which might have declined as successive sill beams rotted over the years) and to provide taller plinths able to accommodate and withstand the depth of manure in the newly fashionable cattle yards alongside. It is less usual for the studwork to be renewed so thoroughly, but the 16th century timbers were widely spaced in comparison to their replacements and were presumably considered inadequate by the standards of the 19th century. The Schedule of Listed Buildings dates these alterations to the 18th century but the brickwork of the plinth and the character of the new studwork (with narrow primary braces nailed rather than pegged to the frame), is highly characteristic of the early to mid-19th century, as are the bolted knee-braces that replaced the original arch-braces to the tie-beams at the same time. The changes are difficult to date with certainty however, and could range from circa 1830 at the earliest to circa 1850, possibly having formed part of the wider mid-19th century refurbishment of the site which included the construction of the timber-framed shelter-sheds shown to the east in 1885 but demolished by 1904 (figures 3 and 4). Despite the loss of its studwork the 16th century structure is undoubtedly in situ rather than re-used as key components that would not have been reinstated during any process of reassembly remain in place; these include the diagonal hip or jack rafters of the two gables, which were initially half-hipped, along with their respective purlins (pegged to the largely original rafters) and the hip collars (each with three pegs for the central hip rafters). The upper studs between the two gable tie-beams (i.e. the tie-beam at eaves level and the hip tie-beam 0.75 m or 2.5 ft above) also remain in situ as it would have been impossible to extract them, although additional studs have been nailed in between.

The queen-post roof structure survives almost completely intact, with good evidence for half-hips at both ends as described above. The original ridge-piece to which the rafters appear to be pegged horizontally is an unusual feature for the area (they are more common further north in the county) and terminates at the hips, while the long, thin braces from the queen-posts to the purlins (of which one is missing) are confined to the threshing bay in an equally unusual manner but where they would have had maximum decorative impact. The ends of the four purlins were secured by additional collars where they abutted the hips but these have been removed. Queen-post roofs are confined to north central Suffolk, as plotted in the Historical Atlas of Suffolk (ed. Dymond & Martin, SCC, 1999) and good examples such as this are rare. Close dating is impossible in the absence of decorative features, but the presence of edge-halved and bridled scarf joints in the roof-plates (quickly superseded by other forms at the beginning of the 17th century) combines with the generally heavy nature of the frame, the absence of 'cranks' (i.e. the sharply angled braces popular in the final quarter of the century), and the thin queen-post braces to suggest an origin in the third quarter of the 16th century.

Layout

The interior is now completely open but was originally divided into a three-bay threshing barn of standard layout to the south and a single-bay stable with a hay loft to the north. The barn was approximately 10.5 m in length internally (35 ft) and the stable a little over 3 m (10 ft). The former's central threshing bay was entered by full-height doors from the yard, as indicated by wide mortises for curved jambs in the eastern roof-plate, with a smaller door to the rear of uncertain proportions shown by the irregular spacing of the empty stud mortises in

the western plate. It is entirely normal for pre-19th century barns to be provided with small rear doors in this manner, sufficient to create a through-draught for threshing and winnowing but not to admit vehicles. The present western porch is a 19th century addition designed chiefly to extend the length of the threshing floor.

The arrangement of the stable is revealed in the pattern of empty mortises in the principal timbers. Mortises for the mid-rail of the missing internal partition are clearly visible in the storey posts along with a single pegged stud mortise in the soffit of the roof collar, although the tie-beam is a 19th century replacement. The partition evidently extended to the roof rather than terminating at the loft floor or tie-beam to allow internal loading (as is sometimes found elsewhere). A mid-rail in the northern gable supported the opposite ends of the loft joists, and there are sill and lintel mortises for small windows lighting both the loft and stable in its south-eastern corner. The loft was also lit by two further diamond-mullion windows to the north and west, although only the former is associated with a shutter rebate, but there is no evidence of an external hatch and it would have been entered by an internal ladder of the type which survives in the 19th century stable (4). The north-eastern corner post contains a rebate and lintel mortise for an entrance door of 86 cm (34 ins) in width and there seems to have been no rear doorway. It is unclear whether the horses were stalled against the narrow rear wall or the wider southern gable; the latter would have afforded more space but a hay rack here would have obstructed the eastern window. Many Suffolk barns incorporated stables in this manner, but the practise is rare elsewhere in Britain.

Apotropaic marks

An additional point of interest can be seen on the external weatherboarding of the southern gable, now protected by a lean-to shed, where three circular apotropaic marks are preserved. One of these forms a classic 'daisy wheel' with compass-incised 'petals'. Such marks were intended as evil-averting symbols to protect the contents of a building from witchcraft and other evil spirits, and range in date from the 17th century to the 19th. These examples presumably date from the barn's 19th century refurbishment: The building was originally rendered externally, as demonstrated by notches for the horizontal staves of wattle-and-daub in the outer edges of the principal posts and by the waney exteriors of the timbers. A series of incised lines in the internal plaster of the rear porch are probably tally marks relating to the storage of grain sacks in the porch. The unusual external guttering of the barn is among its most striking features; dating only from the 20th century it consists of narrow sheets of corrugated iron supported on nailed wooden brackets beneath the thatch eaves, and extends along the entire eastern elevation and the northern gable.

The Middle Barn (2)

Similarities

The structure of the second (unlisted) timber-framed and weatherboarded barn on the site is almost identical to the first, and lies at right-angles 6 m (19.5 ft) to the north. It is exactly the same height and width but is slightly longer overall at 15.9 m in length and contains five bays rather than four. At 10.5 m (35 ft) the three-bay barn to the west is the same but the stable and loft to the west is slightly longer at 4.9 m (16 ft) internally and accounts for the additional bay. The character of the timber and its framing is remarkably similar but there are subtle differences such the smaller queen-post braces (although these are also confined to the barn's central threshing floor) and the presence of two pegs to each tenon of the scarf joints rather than one. The common studs were also renewed in exactly the same manner as the listed barn, but the roof gables are less well preserved; while both appear to have been half-hipped, the upper tie-beams and studs were replaced when the vertical gable was added in the 19th century

and the hip rafters, purlins and collars have also been lost. This supports the cartographic evidence that the barn was moved further to the north between 1838 and 1885 (figures 2 and 3) – and its rafters are more likely to have been dismantled and re-erected accordingly. Surprising as it may seem, it was not uncommon for substantial timber framed buildings to be moved over short distances without completely disassembling their main structures, but common rafters would have been more difficult to retain in situ. The upper part of the western gable appears to have been rebuilt in the 20th century but was impossible to survey at close quarters due to the presence of a modern wire-mesh hay loft in the two western bays, which are divided by a 20th century boarded partition from the rest. The entrance bay was moved in the 19th century from its original position in bay 2B to the more central adjoining bay to the east (2C), and a rear (northern) porch was provided. This porch was almost completely demolished in the late-20th century when a large corrugated iron lean-to shed was added to the entire length of the same elevation, but a section of its wall and plinth remains intact to the west – along with the scar of its roof where the corrugated asbestos has been patched with tin. The tie-beam of the original internal partition is intact (unlike its thatched counterpart) and contains six empty stud mortises but none in the collar – although the partition clearly rose into the roof as there are stud mortises in the upper surface of the same tie-beam (and the studs were presumably nailed to the collar). The open truss of the two-bay hay loft lacked arch-braces as there are no mortises in its tie-beam, yet two brace mortises were cut into the storey posts as if they were initially intended but not installed (they were scarcely necessary given the narrow length of the bays).

Differences

There are three significant differences in the original layout of the two barns. Where the arrangement of the listed barn is standard for its period, that of the unlisted barn is unusual in key respects: the width of its stable door; the presence of an apparent vehicle thoroughfare in the threshing bay; and an associated rail alongside.

The tie-beam of the stable's eastern gable and the front (southern) roof-plate contain mortises for diamond-mullion windows, but none existed to the rear or (as far as can be determined) in the stable itself. The stable door lay at the opposite end of the front wall, adjoining the corner post of the threshing barn rather than the gable, and was significantly wider at 1.2 m (4 ft) as opposed to 86 cm. The stud mortise in the roof-plate immediately above the door lintel is not pegged and it is possible that a loft hatch existed here, but the short studs above lintels were often left without pegs and this is not certain. The original heights of the various doors and ceilings are impossible to determine with any accurate given the alterations to the plinth and sills in the 19th century. The doors of most early stables are surprisingly narrow, reflecting the smaller nature of working animals before the breeding programmes of the 18th century, and a gap of 4 ft is unusual and (arguably) more appropriate for cattle than horses. However cows were usually kept in fields with their own loft-less neat-houses at this period, and are unlikely to have occupied this building – although the possibility cannot be ruled out. The absence of any rear door in the stable is also out of the ordinary, but reflects that of the thatched barn: Most early stables possessed opposing entrances.

The southern roof-plate of the threshing barn's central bay contains the usual mortises for separate jambs abutting the storey posts and a housing for a vertical bar or post to which the doors could be secured. Instead of the long mortises for shaped jambs in the thatched barn, the unlisted barn has two mortises for separate brackets as shown in the drawings. Remarkably, the rear roof-plate also possessed small corner brackets but lacked separate jambs. There is no evidence of an original rear porch, which would have been most unlikely in the 16th century, and the barn seems to have possessed a genuine cart thoroughfare in a manner not expected until the 19th century. In addition, a pair of pegged mortises in the adjacent storey posts to the east appear to have secured a horizontal rail which spanned the width of the barn at a height of approximately 1.5 m – presumably to form the top of a barrier

or screen dividing the thoroughfare from the rest of the barn (the area between the rail and tie-beam was open, apart from a pair of arch-braces). There are no such mortises in the western storey posts, and the whole arrangement is highly atypical. The most likely explanation is that the unlisted barn represents a rare 16th century hay barn which required a thoroughfare for hay carts, perhaps with one bay used for normal grain storage. It is also striking that the apparent thoroughfare lies on a direct line between Cole Street to the south and the green lane to Horham to the north, and might (more fancifully, perhaps) have operated as a gatehouse to the farm complex in a manner occasionally found elsewhere (e.g. the 16th century barn at Pond Farm Thrandeston recorded for Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service in June 2011, where the thoroughfare occupies a separate bay at the end of the threshing barn).

Historic Significance

The farm complex at The Rookery is of exceptional historic interest due to the presence of two 16th century barns with intact queen-post roofs. Although one is correctly listed at grade II the second is almost identical in both layout and condition but has been omitted in error from the Schedule of Listed Buildings. It presumably escaped notice as it is less conspicuous from the road and has lost its original thatch. The presence of two contemporary Tudor barns on the same property is highly unusual and offers major historic insight into the nature of vernacular farm yards in the 16th century. The evidence of medieval farming accounts in the region suggests that twin barns were then common, with one usually dedicated to oats and the other to wheat, but surviving pairs are rare – particularly with stables in both structures – and the site must be considered of national importance. Ironically the unlisted barn is the more interesting of the two, with evidence of a cart thoroughfare and an internal barrier that may relate to its partial use as a hay barn. While hay barns also appear as a specific type in the medieval documentary record they have not been recognised on the ground hitherto. The rest of the farm buildings date from the 19th century but are also of some historic interest, representing a well-preserved example of a Victorian cattle vard complex and including a particularly good stable with an intact manger and hay rack.

Frame Drawings (pages 14-18)

Reconstructing the original arrangement of the framing and highlighting the remaining original timbers in grey. The inserted 19th century ground sills are shown (since the height of the original sills is uncertain) but the 19th century studwork is not. All scales in metres.

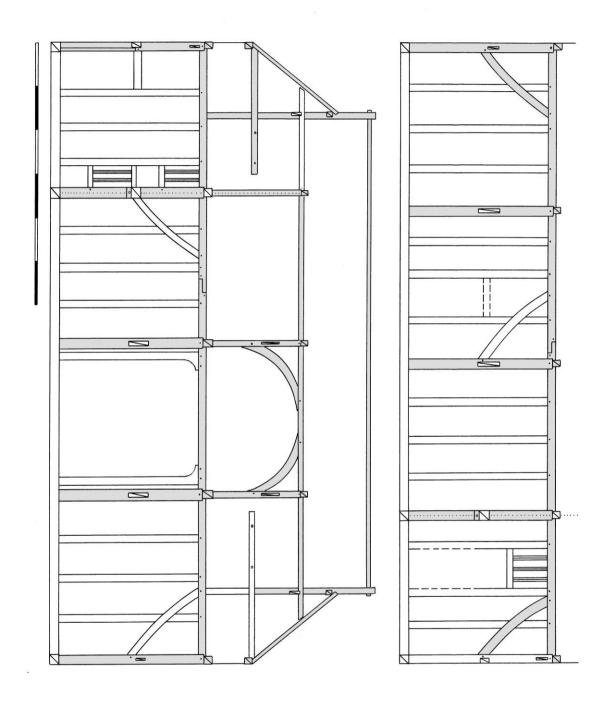


Figure 7
Thatched Barn (Listed)

The internal eastern (front) elevation with its half-hipped queen-post roof structure (below) and the internal western (rear) elevation. The lofted stable bay is shown to the left and right respectively.

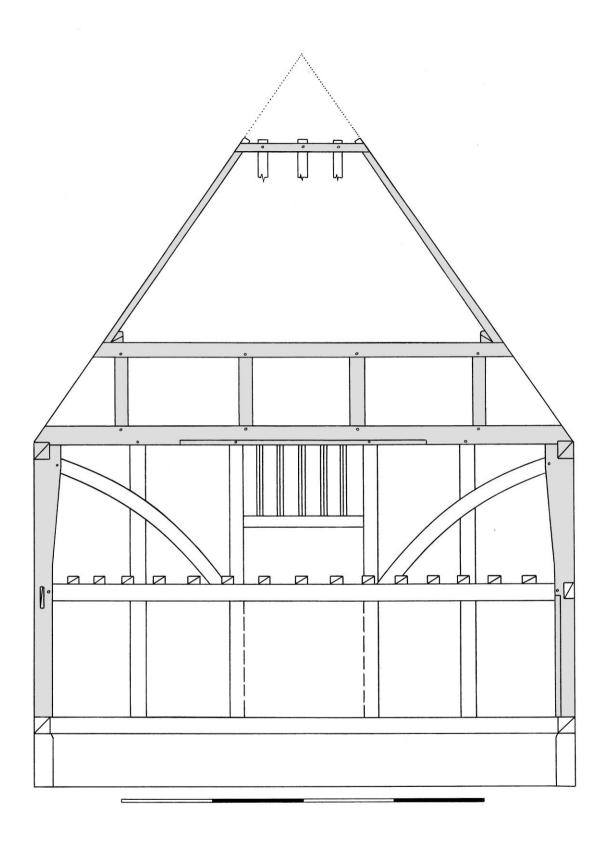


Figure 7
Thatched Barn

The internal northern gable showing the arrangement of the half-hip with the (missing) joists of the original hay loft supported by a mid-rail. The north-eastern corner post to the right shows the rebate and lintel of the stable door.

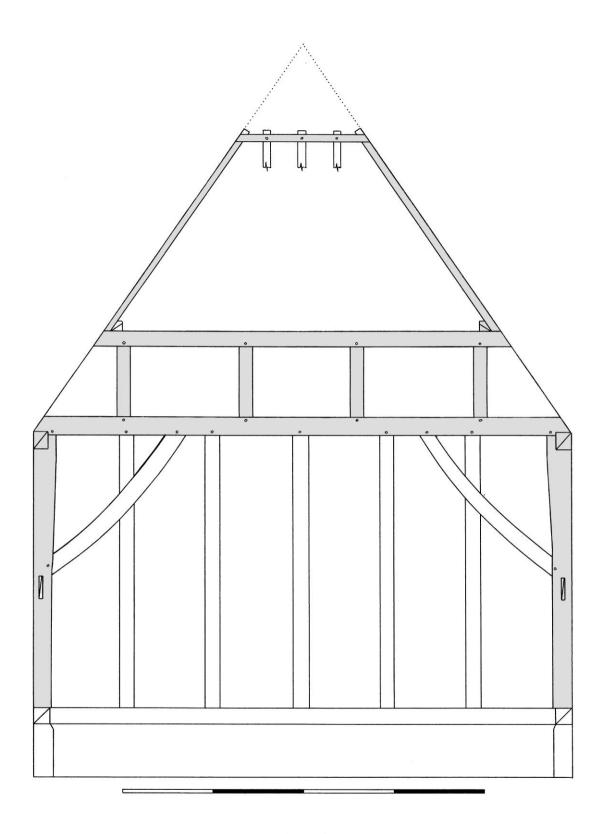


Figure 8
Thatched Barn
The internal southern gable showing the arrangement of the half-hip with pegged purlins securing the ends of the upper tie-beam to the rafters.

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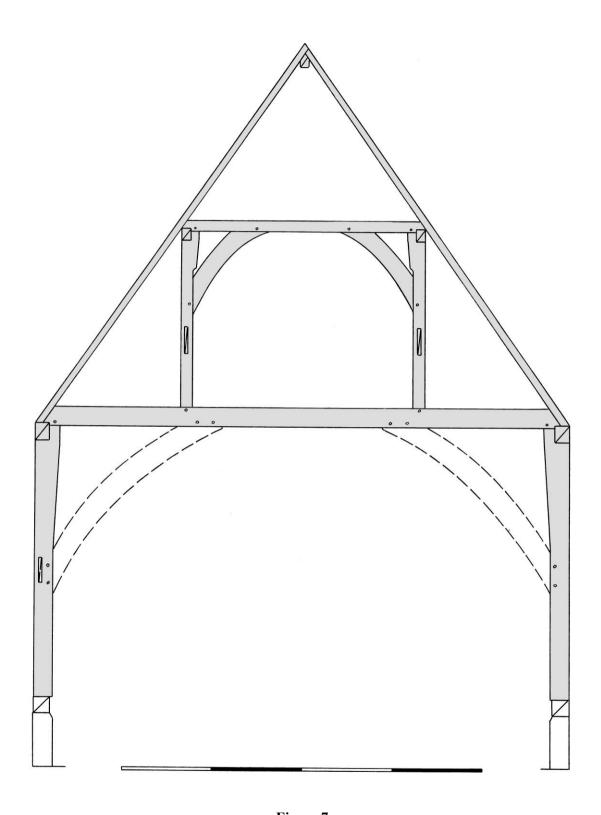


Figure 7
Thatched Barn
The queen-post open truss between bays 1B and 1C seen from the south. The trusses of the Middle Barn are almost identical but with smaller collar and purlin braces.

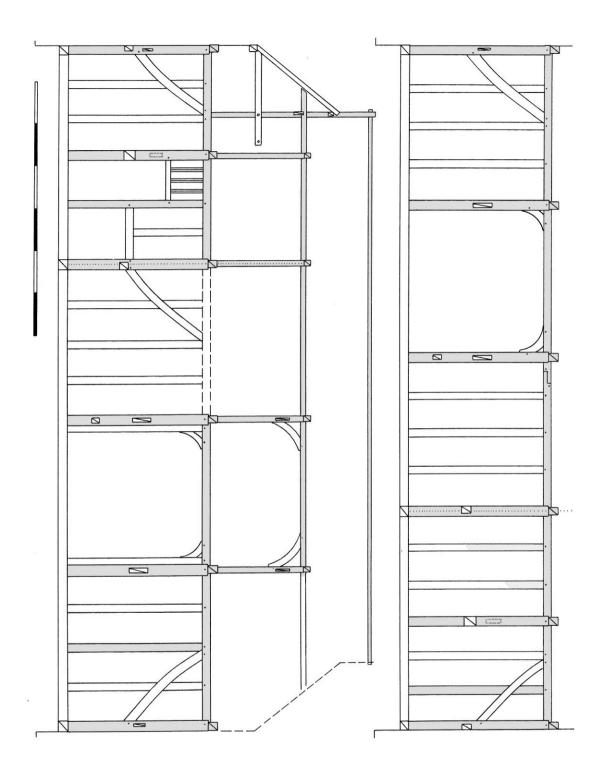


Figure 7
Middle Barn (Not Listed)

The internal southern (front) elevation with its half-hipped queen-post roof structure (below) and the internal northern (rear) elevation. The lofted stable bays are shown to the left and right respectively.

Note the presence of an apparent cart entrance to both front and rear, and the rail spanning the storey posts to the east.

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Appendix 1 (on accompanying CD): Full Photographic Record

Descriptions of Photographs in Appendix 1

Photograph no.

- 1. General view of site from south showing thatched barn (1) & middle barn (2) to left, dairy (7) & Wood Yard (6) centre & stable (4) right.
- 2. General view of site from Worlingworth Road to west showing Cole Street and farmhouse (9) to right and farm complex to left.
- 3. Exterior of grade II-listed 16th century farmhouse from site of farm complex on opposite side of Worlingworth Road to north-west.
- 4. General view of site from north-east showing farm complex to right and farmhouse on opposite side of road to left.
- 5. General view of site from north-west showing Nissen huts (10) to right with corrugated iron sheds (8) and Middle Barn (2) to left.
- 6. General view of site from west showing cement-block sheds to left and Middle Barn with scar of demolished gabled porch in centre.
- 7. Exterior of Nissen huts (10) from north showing cart lodge & granary (3) in rear.
- 8. Interior from eastern entrance of northern Nissen hut (10).
- 9. Interior from eastern entrance of southern Nissen hut (10).
- 10. Exterior from north of cart lodge & granary (3) showing truncated roof to right & 20th century lean-to addition to left.
- 11. External southern gable of cart lodge (3) seen from Worlingworth Road.
- 12. Interior of cart lodge (3) from south showing original weatherboarded exterior to left.
- 13. Interior of cart lodge from north showing 20th century addition to left and original open arcade and weatherboarded granary to right.
- 14. Original eastern exterior of cart lodge (3) with open arcade & weatherboarded first-floor granary seen from 20th century lean-to addition.
- 15. Original interior of cart lodge (3) from south-east showing open arcade with tall brick plinth and bay partitions.
- 16. Interior of cart lodge (3) from north showing tall-sectioned loft joists and bay divisions of open studwork.
- 17. Weatherboarded eastern exterior of granary above cart lodge (3) showing early red ochre pigment beneath later tar.

- 18. Weatherboarded eastern exterior of granary above cart lodge (3) showing brick infill of studwork & truncated roof structure.
- 19. Interior of granary storey of cart lodge showing modern truncated roof resting on apparently original boarded grain bin.
- 20. Exterior of thatched barn (1) from west showing lean-to adjoining southern gable & farmhouse (9) in rear to right.
- 21. Western exterior of thatched barn (1) showing gabled porch adjoining original rear elevation with 20th century sheds (8) to left.
- 22. Eastern exterior of thatched barn (1) from adjoining yard showing proximity to middle barn (2) with corrugated asbestos roof to right.
- 23. Barn 1. Southern external gable showing corrugated iron cladding with lean-to shed and yard wall to right.
- 24. Barn 1. Detail of tarred weatherboarding & brick plinth of western exterior showing gabled porch to left.
- 25. Barn 1. Eastern exterior showing lean-to shed attached to southern gable to left.
- 26. Barn 1. Eastern exterior showing thatched roof and unusual guttering of corrugated iron supported on wooden brackets.
- 27. Barn 1. Southern external gable from lean-to shed showing apotropaic marks to right of ladder to former loft.
- 28. Barn 1. Detail of apotropaic circles to external boarding of southern gable.
- 29. Barn 1. Detail of apotropaic 'daisywheel' circle to external boarding of southern gable.
- 30. Barn 1. Interior from west of lean-to shed adjoining southern gable showing reused timber in southern wall to right.
- 31. Barn 1. Detail of retaining boarding and cross-braced door to eastern entrance.
- 32. Barn 1. Northern external gable from 20th century corrugated iron shed (8) showing guttering of corrugated iron on wood brackets.
- 33. Barn 1. Detail of corrugated iron guttering to northern external gable seen from 20th century shed (8).
- 34. Barn 1. Interior from south showing 16th century queen-post roof with 19th century knee-braces & mortises for arch-braces to tie-beams.
- 35. Barn 1. Interior from north showing 20th century feed mill by Potters of Wickham Market to left.
- 36. Barn 1. Detail of maker's plate on 20th century feed mill by Potters of Wickham Market in bay 1C.

- 37. Barn 1. Interior from north in natural light showing concrete floor & boarded vehicle inspection pit in threshing bay 1B.
- 38. Barn 1. 16th century queen-post roof structure from south-east showing evidence of original half-hip with gablet to southern gable left.
- 39. Barn 1. Queen-post roof structure from north showing arch-braces to purlins in central threshing bay (1B) only.
- 40. Barn 1. Queen-post roof structure from north showing original ridge-piece and purlin braces in threshing bay 1B.
- 41. Barn 1. Western roof of southern bay (1A) showing original hip gablet collar and purlins with vertical extension to left.
- 42. Barn 1. Roof structure of threshing bay (1B) from east showing original archbraces from queen-posts to purlins.
- 43. Barn 1. Western roof of northern bay (1D) showing original hip rafter and collar with later vertical gable to right.
- 44. Barn 1. Eastern roof of northern bay (1D) showing hip timbers & stud mortise of stable partition in queen-post collar with later tie-beam.
- 45. Barn 1. Eastern roof of southern bay (1A) showing original hip rafter and collar with missing half-hip purlin.
- 46. Barn 1. Internal southern gable showing 19th century studwork replacing all common timbers except central stud.
- 47. Barn 1. Detail of southern internal gable showing original half-hip tie-beam, purlins and collar with three pegs for hip rafters.
- 48. Barn 1. Western interior of southern bay (1A) showing all common timbers replaced except reverse-curved internal corner brace to left.
- 49. Barn 1. Western (rear) interior of entrance bay (1B) showing mortises for studwork removed to gain access to 19th century porch.
- 50. Barn 1. Soffit of eastern roof plate of threshing bay (1B) showing stud and brace mortises for original wall with gap for small rear door.
- 51. Barn 1. Western exterior of entrance bay 1B from later porch showing unpainted weatherboarding and inspection pit in concrete floor.
- 52. Barn 1. Detail of edge-halved and bridled scarf joint in western roof-plate of entrance bay 1B seen from later porch.
- 53. Barn 1. Internal western doors of 19th century rear porch showing nailed primary wall braces.
- 54. Barn 1. Northern interior of 19th century western porch adjoining entrance bay 1B.

- 55. Barn 1. Southern interior of 19th century western porch adjoining entrance bay 1B showing tally marks in plaster to right of scale.
- 56. Barn 1. Detail of grain tally marks in plaster to southern interior of 19th century western porch adjoining entrance bay 1B.
- 57. Barn 1. Western interior showing mid-rail mortise of stable partition in post between bays 1C & 1D & mullion mortises in roof-plate.
- 58. Barn 1. Detail of western storey post between bays 1C & D showing mid-rail mortise with groove for pegged rail beneath.
- 59. Barn 1. Detail of western roof-plate of northern bay (1D) showing diamond mullion mortises for hay loft window & original brace to right.
- 60. Barn 1. Open truss between bays 1D & C from north showing replaced tie-beam and central stud mortise of stable partition in roof collar.
- 61. Barn 1. Northern internal gable showing hip rafters & all studs replaced below tie-beam with diamond mullion mortises and shutter rebate.
- 62. Barn 1. Detail of northern tie-beam soffit showing stud & diamond mullions mortises with shutter rebate for hay loft window.
- 63. Barn 1. Eastern interior showing position of original stable door in bay 1D to left.
- 64. Barn 1. Eastern interior of bay 1D showing stable door rebate and lintel mortise in corner post to left.
- 65. Barn 1. Detail of eastern interior of bay 1D showing two diamond mullion mortises in roof-plate & sill mortise in post.
- 66. Barn 1. Detail of eastern storey post between bays 1D and 1C from north showing sill and lintel mortises of ground-floor stable window.
- 67. Barn 1. Eastern roof-plate of bay 1C showing empty stud and brace mortises with edge-halved and bridled scarf joint to right.
- 68. Barn 1. Eastern roof structure of bay 1C showing lack of purlin braces to queenposts and northern hip evidence to left.
- 69. Barn 1. Eastern interior of entrance bay (1B) showing narrow modern studs above present door lintel.
- 70. Barn 1. Detail of eastern roof-plate in bay 1B showing large pegged mortises or original door jambs with door post mortise in centre.
- 71. Barn 1. Roof structure of entrance bay (1B) from west showing three intact purlin braces to queen-posts.
- 72. Barn 1. Eastern interior of southern bay (1A) showing entirely replaced wall studs.
- 73. Entrance from north to enclosed yard adjoining barns showing junction of Worlingworth Road and Cole Street in rear.

- 74. Western exterior of central diary shed (7) showing 20th century infill of original open shelter-shed left.
- 75. Northern end of eastern exterior of thatched barn (1) from adjoining yard.
- 76. Barn 2. Southern exterior from adjoining yard showing corrugated asbestos roof covering with thatch of barn 1 to left.
- 77. Barn 2. Weatherboarded southern exterior from adjoining yard showing 20th century hay rack to left and entrance doors in bay 2C right.
- 78. Barn 2. Western external gable from 20th century shed (8) showing tarred render above weatherboarding.
- 79. Barn 2. Eastern external gable from adjoining yard (5) showing unpainted boarding with entrance door to left.
- 80. Barn 2. Weatherboarded northern exterior of bays 2A & B from adjoining 20th century corrugated iron lean-to shed.
- 81. Barn 2. Interior of 20th century shed showing northern exterior of bays 2A & B to right.
- 82. Barn 2. Northern interior of corrugated iron shed adjoining northern elevation s of bays 2A & B.
- 83. Barn 2. Boarded northern exterior of bays 2D & 2E from adjoining 20th century shed showing inserted entrance in bay 2C to right.
- 84. Barn 2. Barn 2. Interior of 20th century shed from east showing remains of 19th century gabled porch with inserted entrance in bay 2C to left.
- 85. Barn 2. Interior of western gable showing replaced studwork with original corner posts and tie-beam & wire mesh hay loft above.
- 86. Barn 2. Southern interior of western bays 2A & 2B showing original central stud of bay A right and original entrance in bay B to left.
- 87. Barn 2. Southern roof-plate of bay 2B showing mortises of door jambs and brackets to left & right with door post mortise in centre.
- 88. Barn 2. Northern interior of bays 2A & 2B showing renewed 19th century studs with position of full-height doorway in bay 2B to right.
- 89. Barn 2. Northern roof-plate of bay 2B showing mortises for pegged corner brackets and central door post.
- 90. Barn 2. Modern partition from west between blocked original entrance bay (2B) and later entrance (2c) showing apparent rail mortises in posts.
- 91. Barn 2. Detail of north-eastern storey post of bay 2B showing pegged mortise for apparent horizontal rail against adjoining bay 2C.

- 92. Barn 2. Detail of south-eastern storey post of bay 2B showing pegged mortise for apparent horizontal rail against adjoining bay 2C.
- 93. Barn 2. Interior from east showing queen-post truss between bays 2D & 2C with six stud mortises in tie-beam for stable partition.
- 94. Barn 2. Intact queen-post roof from east showing purlin braces in original entrance bay 2B only.
- 95. Barn 2. Queen-post truss between threshing bay 2B and 2A from east showing missing purlin braces (shorter braces than barn 1).
- 96. Barn 2. Queen post between bays C & D from west showing lack of braces and evidence of original half hip in rear.
- 97. Barn 2. Queen post open truss of stable loft D-E from west showing collar at hip end of purlin with new vertical gable beyond.
- 98. Barn 2. Eastern bays from south showing narrow bays of original stable and loft to right and secondary entrance in bay 2C to left.
- 99. Barn 2. Detail of edge-halved and bridled scarf joint in northern roof-plate of bay 2C with bracket of later entrance.
- 100. Barn 2. Northern roof of stable bays D & E showing missing hip rafters but trench for collar at end of purlin (as in barn 1).
- 101. Barn 2. Internal eastern gable showing removed upper hip tie-beam & diamond mullion mortises in centre of lower tie-beam.
- 102. Barn 2. Detail of diamond mullion mortises in centre of western tie beam. All studs replaced.
- 103. Barn 2. Eastern bays from north showing intact roof and secondary entrance in bay 2C to right (cutting roof-plate).
- 104. Barn 2. Southern interior of bay C (right) showing later entrance and missing roof-plate.
- 105. Barn 2. Southern interior of bays E and D showing modern door beneath stable window mullions & blocked original wide door to right.
- 106. Barn 2. Detail of southern storey post between bays E & D showing binding joist mortise with corbel and extraneous mortise above.
- 107. Barn 2. Detail of window mullions and sill mortises to southern interior of bay D showing original stud to right.
- 108. Barn 2. Northern roof-plate of bay C showing empty mortises above secondary entrance.
- 109. Barn 2. Northern interior of bays D & E showing original stud in bay E to right.
- 110. Barn 2. Northern interior of bay D showing two original studs cut by later primary brace and twin mortises in storey post (as opposite).

- 111. Barn 2. Southern exterior from adjoining dairy shed (7) showing doors to barn and both eastern and western yards to left & right.
- 112. Interior of northern end of dairy shed (7) from barn (2) to north showing entrance to cattle stalls.
- 113. Interior of dairy shed (7) from south showing milking parlour with later cattle stalls or loose boxes.
- 114. Interior of dairy shed (7) from north showing original softwood roof structure and cement-block infill to western wall.
- 115. Interior of southern section of dairy shed (7) from east showing door to road in rear to left.
- 116. Interior of southern section of dairy shed (7) from west showing door to wood yard (6) to left.
- 117. Exterior of eastern yard (5) showing northern brick shelter-shed to right and southern shelter-shed (6) to left with barns in rear.
- 118. Interior of shelter-shed to north of eastern yard (5) showing gable of middle barn (2) in rear.
- 119. Eastern covered yard (5) from east showing 19th century shelter-shed to right with middle barn (2) in rear right & dairy shed (7) left.
- 120. Eastern yard from north showing connecting door to brick shelter-shed of wood yard (6) with dairy shed (7) to right.
- 121. Eastern yard (5) from west showing eastern entrance gates with door to shelter-shed of wood yard (6) to right.
- 122. Interior from east of 19th century shelter-shed adjoining wood yard (6) showing dairy shed (7) in rear.
- 123. Interior from west of 19th century shelter-shed adjoining wood yard (6) showing stable (4) in rear to right.
- 124. Interior from west of wood yard (6) with 20th century roof and entrance to Worlingworth Road to right.
- 125. Interior from east of wood yard (6) with 20th century roof and dairy shed (7) in rear.
- 126. Eastern end of wood yard (6) from south showing stable (4) to right.
- 127. Stable (4). Western exterior from covered wood yard (6) showing entrance to southern lean-to right & loft hatch above door to left.
- 128. Stable (4). Exterior from north showing brick shelter-sheds (5 & 6) to right.
- 129. Stable (4). Northern external gable showing lean-to brick shed adjoining eastern exterior to left.

- 130. Stable (4). Exterior from north-east showing cement-block addition to 19th century brick lean-to adjoining eastern elevation.
- 131. Stable (4). Interior from north-east of lean-to shed adjoining eastern elevation showing 20th century calf stalls or sties.
- 132. Stable (4). Internal eastern gable showing door to lean-to tack room to right and boarded manger to left.
- 133. Stable (4). Eastern interior showing boarded manger and remnant of hay rack with boarded partition to northern section to left.
- 134. Stable (4). Interior from southern gable showing manger and hay rack below hay drop in loft ceiling with partition to northern section.
- 135. Stable (4). Detail from south of 19th century wooden hay rack with diamond-section bars beneath hay drop.
- 136. Stable (4). Western interior of southern section showing external entrance and door to northern section to right.
- 137. Stable (4). Eastern interior of northern section showing intact boarded manger with northern gable to left.
- 138. Stable (4). Interior of northern section from north showing hay drop in loft floor above missing hay rack and door to southern section.
- 139. Stable (4). Western interior of northern section showing bentwood harness hooks with tack and western entrance to left.
- 140. Stable (4). Detail from north of bentwood harness hooks with leather tack projecting from western interior.
- 141. Stable (4). Northern internal gable showing manger to right and bentwood harness hooks to left.
- 142. Stable (4). Western interior of southern section showing wall ladder to hay loft and bentwood harness hooks with door to lean-to left.
- 143. Stable (4). Interior of hay loft from south showing butt-purlin roof structure with re-used timber and hay drop to right.
- 144. Stable (4). Internal southern gable of hay loft showing nailed primary braces and rafters of lean-to.
- 145. Stable (4). Western interior of hay loft showing butt-purlin roof structure with inverted knee-braces & loading hatch in centre.
- 146. Stable (4). Boarded southern gable within lean-to shed.
- 147. Stable (4). Interior of lean-to shed from west showing brick wall to road to right and boarded southern gable to left.

- 148. Stable (4). Interior of southern lean-to from east showing western entrance to wood yard (5) and blocked door to stable to right.
- 149. Interior from south of western section of corrugated iron shed (8).
- 150. Interior from north of western section of corrugated iron shed (8) showing northern and western gables of barns (1 & 2) to left.

(Photographic Appendix 2 follows on pp. 28-34)

Appendix 2 (pp. 28-34): Selected Printed Photographs



Illus. 1 General view of the farm complex from across the farmhouse moat to the south, showing from left to right the grade II-listed 16th century thatched barn (1) with the contemporary 'middle barn' (2) in the rear, the brick dairy range (7) and 20th century covered yard (6) in the centre and the 19th century weatherboarded stable (4) with its brick southern lean-to to the right.



Illus. 2 The exterior of the thatched barn (1) from the west showing its 19th century gabled porch and southern lean-to shed. The grade II-listed 16th century farmhouse is visible on the opposite side of the Woodbridge Road to the right.



Illus. 3 The eastern exterior of the thatched barn (1) from the adjoining yard showing its close proximity to the contemporary middle barn to the right. Note the unusual guttering of corrugated iron supported on wooden brackets beneath the thatch eaves. The framing and condition of the two barns are almost identical but the thatch of the middle barn has been replaced with corrugated asbestos.



Illus. 4 Thatched barn (1). The fine late-16th century queen-post roof structure from the south-east, showing the evidence for an original half-hip with a gablet to the southern gable. The present vertical gable is part of an extensive 19th century refurbishment which included the insertion of a new ground sill and brick plinth, along with the replacement most of the original wall studs. Note the empty mortises of the arch-braces to the tie-beams replaced with knee-braces at the same time.



Illus. 5 Thatched barn (1). The queen-post roof structure from the south showing the original ridge-piece and the purlin braces that are confined for decorative effect to the threshing bay (1B). The middle barn (2) is identical in this respect.



Illus. 6 Thatched barn (1). The interior of the northern gable showing the 19th century studwork with nailed primary braces. The short studs between the upper tie-beam of the half-hip are original, as are the diagonal hip rafters and purlins. This bay was built as a stable entered by a door against the corner post to the right and evidence is visible here of three diamond-mullion windows to its loft (to the extreme left and right, and in the centre of the tie-beam).



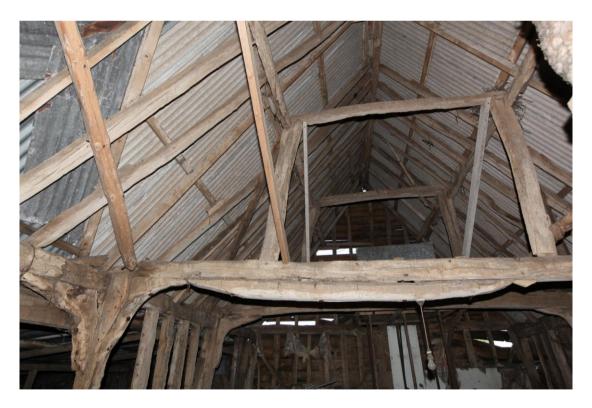
Illus. 7 Thatched barn (1). Detail of the underside of the northern gable tie-beam showing a series of empty mortises for studs and the diamond-mullions of a central six-light window with sliding shutters on both sides. The hip collar at the top of this image contains three peg holes for original rafters.



Illus. 8 Middle barn (2). The interior from the east showing the intact queen-post roof structure, which is less visible than that of the thatched barn due to the presence of the 20th century boarded partition visible here and a wire-mesh hay loft in the two western bays (2A and 2B). The tie-beam in the foreground contains the empty stud mortises of an original partition which divided a three-bay threshing barn to the west from a two-bay stable and loft to the east.



Illus. 9 Middle barn (2). The queen-post roof above the two eastern bays, seen from the east (but hidden from beneath by a wire-mesh loft). Like the thatched barn, only the threshing bay (2B) was provided with braces, of which three have been lost.



Illus. 10 Middle barn (2). The roof trusses of the eastern bays which lack braces to either the purlins or collars. There is evidence of a half-hip at the eastern gable but (like that of the thatched barn) it was converted into a vertical gable in the 19th century.



Illus. 11 Middle barn (2). The southern interior of the two eastern bays (2E and 2D) which originally formed a stable with a loft. The present door and the main entrance to the extreme right (bay C) are secondary, the latter replacing the previous thoroughfare in bay B in the 19th century. The majority of the common studs are 19th century replacements but the stud to the right of the central door is original and contains the mortises of a diamond-mullion loft window sill to its left and the lintel of a blocked door to its right.



Illus. 12 The farm complex from the north-east showing the 19th century brick sheltersheds of the two eastern yards (5 and 6) with the two barns in the rear and the well preserved 19th century weatherboarded stable to the left.



Illus. 13 Stable (4). The southern section of the interior from the southern gable, showing the intact 19th century boarded manger and hay rack beneath a hay drop in the loft ceiling to the right. The manger continues into the northern section beyond the boarded partition.



Illus. 14 Stable (4). The interior of the hay loft from the south showing the butt-purlin roof structure with re-used timber and the hay drop above the rack to the right.