

It is quite obvious that the evidence submitted by National Grid's heritage assessment has been very weak. They have not even marked on their heritage route map one of the most important heritage sites in the UK, Little Wenham Castle plus 7 associated listed buildings, which will be affected by the Norwich to Tilbury line. The cluster includes a scheduled monument, the Castle, a Grade 1 Listed Church, a Grade 2 star tithe barn, and 5 Grade 2 buildings or monuments. These buildings are also wrongly classified by National Grid in their Additional Submissions AS068/083, which omits the Grade 2 star tithe barn completely.

Historic England state that Little Wenham Castle is one of the earliest brick structures in the UK and is of National Importance. Pevsner describes Little Wenham Castle, which is actually a fortified house, as of great historical importance and one of the forerunners of English domestic architecture. Suffolk Institute of Archaeology describes the cluster as Nationally Important heritage assets.

The NPPF definition of significance includes the setting and the communal assessment. The setting at Little Wenham is exceptional with a cluster of listed buildings covering the development of domestic rural architecture from the mid 13th century to the mid 16th century. There are frequent visitors to both the castle and the church, including from Wenham, Massachusetts, which was founded by emigrants from Little Wenham in 1643. It is important to note the setting because National Grid have assessed individual buildings without realising that what makes Little Wenham unique is the combination of important buildings, 3 of which are high value, led by the Castle which is a building in regular use.

However, the cluster is not shown in full on the maps (6.11.F2) that National Grid have published in support of their application. Only two of the 8 listed buildings are shown and the Castle is not shown as a scheduled monument. This is misleading evidence and sloppy management.

The 2025 consultation route has moved the line from the 2023 consultation route to 0.9 mile from Little Wenham Castle but the Suffolk farm land is very flat and National Grid have ignored the Holford and Horlock Rules so the Castle still has a view to the north and north west of pylons including the J 27 angle tower and the J 35 cable sealing end. National Grid also appear to have ignored the possibility of using model T pylons which would blend with the landscape better than the high lattice pylons. On a recent visit by a scout group the leader commented. " A young boy climbing high on the ramparts would be crestfallen by the intrusion of high pylons into his dream of knights in shining armour and bows and arrows ".

We have submitted through Savills land agents, an alternative line from J 35 northward which recognises the Holford rules, uses Brimlin Wood to mitigate the effect and does away with the angle tower at J 27 by straightening the line. So far, National Grid have not responded.

We would request a site visit from the inspectors in order to appreciate the totality of the site and to experience the life of the castle. National Grid have submitted a Draft Statement of Common Good (5.9.14) which states (3.2.14/15) that, in their view, the project would not result in Substantial Harm. It is clear they have not taken into account the levels of care required by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeology Act 1979, as well as ignoring the Holford Rules. A nationally important monument deserves better consideration than to be judged by what is substantial harm.

There should also be a Landscape and Visual Impact assessment to identify the significance and effects of change resulting from the development. In this case a thirteenth century castle which is still in use and in good condition would be severely affected by the proximity of high lattice pylons erected on flat Suffolk farmland. We need a description of further measures designed to reduce significant adverse effects.

In Somerset, the Mendip Hills AONB puts the cables underground. Across the Somerset Levels the Wetlands have Tpylons. Similarly, Dedham Vale cables will be underground and could have Tpylons on the neighbouring farmland north of historic Little Wenham. All areas are vital to mitigate adverse effects. From the north east of the Dedham Vale one would clearly see the CSE and proposed lattice pylons. The field boundaries around Little Wenham cluster reflect those found on historic map (1783).

John Constable painted Little Wenham church in 1798 and a pen and ink drawing of the tomb of John Brewse, also a watercolour of the church showing the river and woods beside the church with a view across the landscape. Many visitors visit the church for this reason.

The current proposed pylon line will be harmful to every one of the historic buildings: 5 pylons can be seen from the towers of the church and castle ramparts and 2-3 pylons visible across the mail footpath near the church. The undeveloped nature of the farmland within a secluded, rural setting, contributes to the significance of the hamlet.

Archaeological surveys identified in the area of the proposed CSE span a range of Romano British periods. Indicating potential Romano British activity in boundary ditches etc. A Roman pot was taken to the lab for inspection. Wenham Castle has many Roman bricks in the building. In June 2026 a metal detector picked up 2 Roman coins by the Church

The N-T Project update 17th February 2026 section C, analysed buildings of importance on the route. Here National Grid have failed to treat Wenham Hamlet as a cluster of medieval buildings which is so exceptional. Also they have MISRECORDED the correct list below:

1. Scheduled Monument Wenham Castle no. 1003759
2. Grade One Listed Buildings All Saints Church Little Wenham
3. Grade Two* Little Wenham Tithe Barn
4. Grade Two, remaining grade 2 buildings in the cluster on the attached sheet.

Please may we have a face-to-face meeting at the enquiry at the end of April.

Thank you very much for your help.

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Mrs Alexandra Macadam

19th February 2026

Interested Party Ref : 

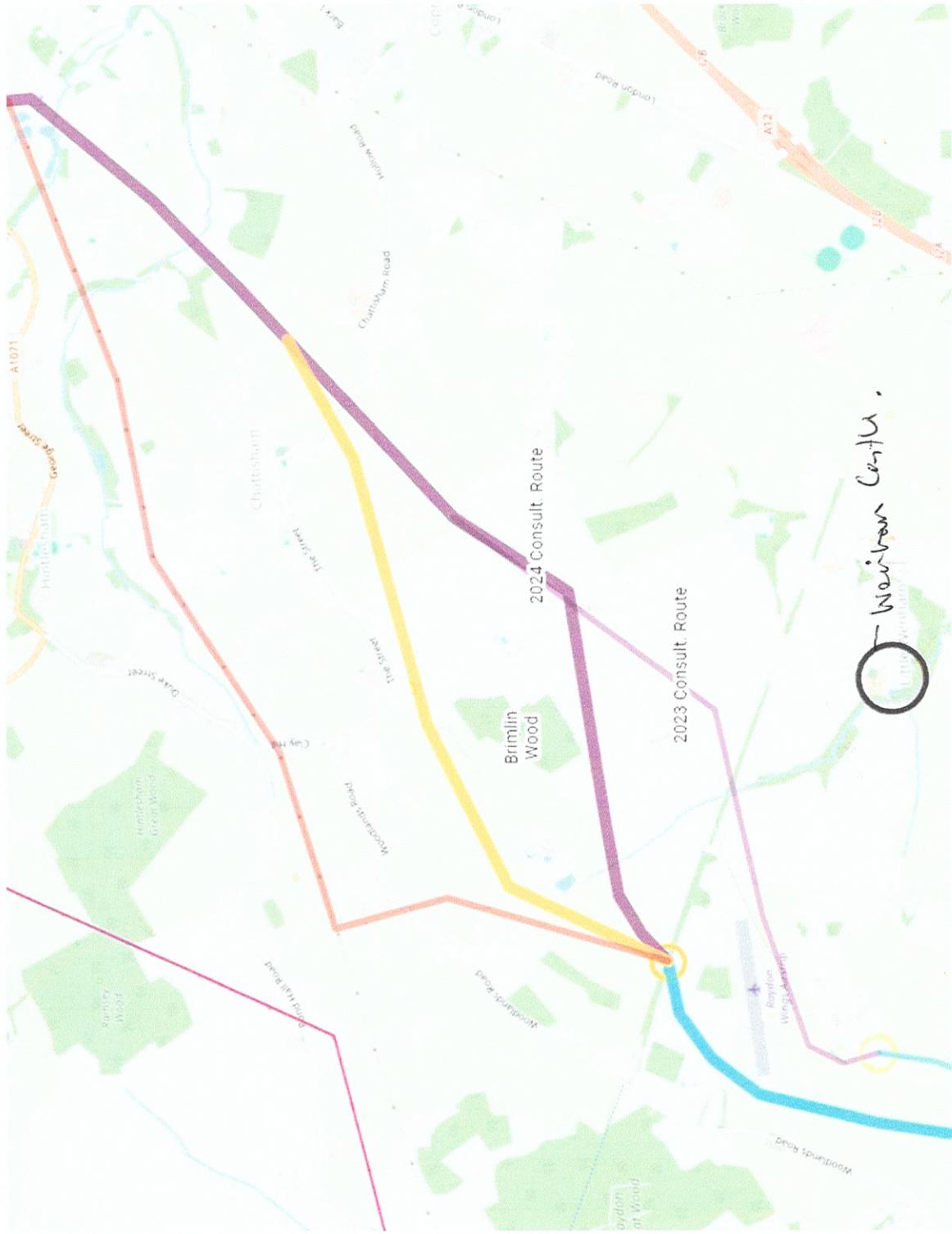
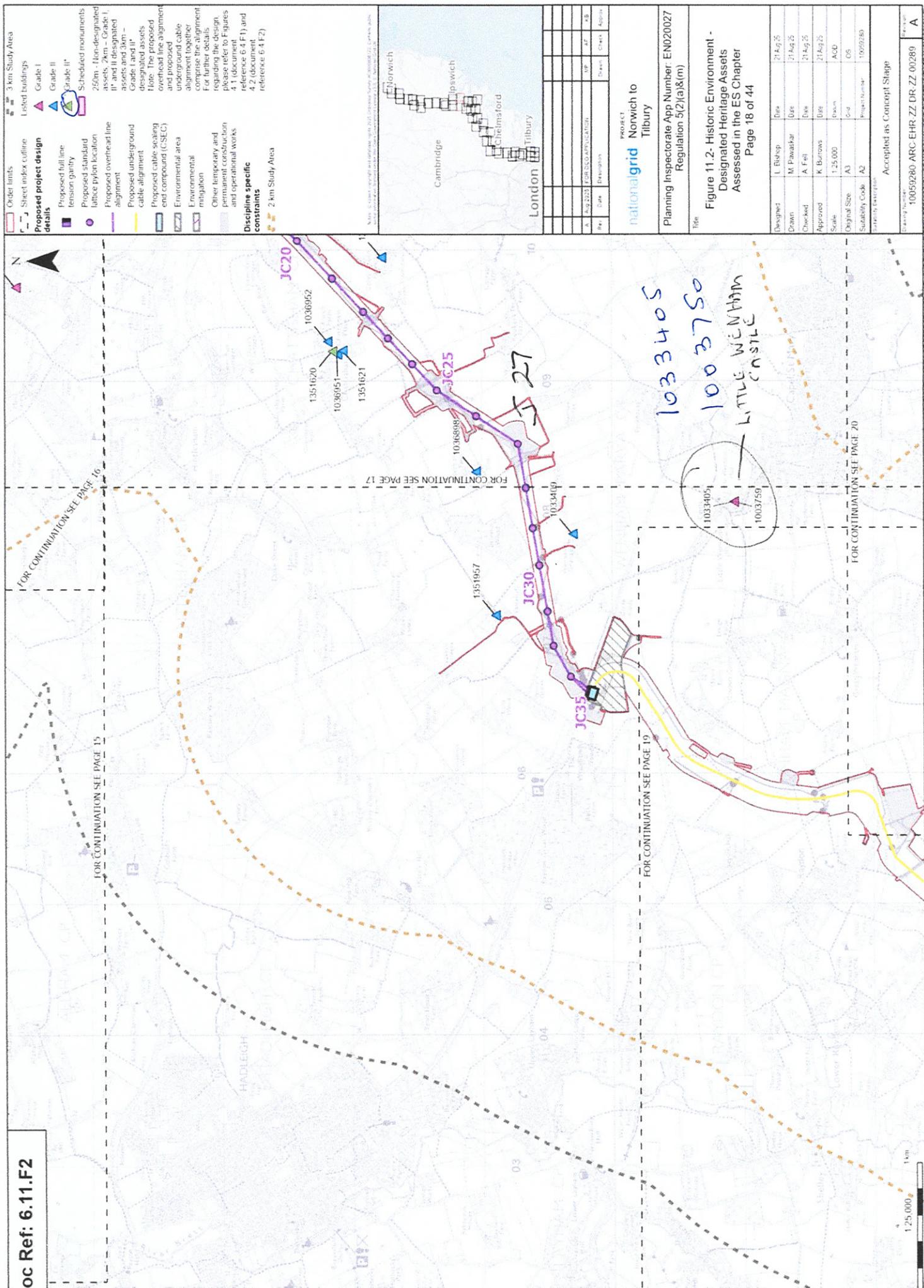


Figure 1 Illustrative Diagram of the Proposed Norwich to Tilbury Project Route near to Little Wenham Hall

Yellow route is Sennells preference.





SUFFOLK INSTITUTE of ARCHAEOLOGY and HISTORY

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23rd November 2022

Free post EAST ANGLIA GREEN
For the attention of Liam Walker

COPY

IMPACT OF THE EAST ANGLIA GREEN DEVELOPMENT ON LITTLE WENHAM and GREAT WENHAM

I am writing to express the Suffolk Institute's extreme concern that the suggested route of the pylons of East Anglia Green (<https://eastangliagreen.participatr.io/index.php?contentid=27>) passes directly over **an exceptional cluster of nationally-important heritage assets**, as listed below, that stand in a very quiet and visually secluded part of the Suffolk countryside. The visual impact of towering pylons on the setting of these heritage gems would be substantial and damaging. This is particularly so in the case of Little Wenham, where the Castle and Church are at the heart of a cluster of buildings that is impressive not only for their great historical significance, but also for the calmness and beauty of their setting. **This should be among the last places to be considered for the intrusion of a pylon line.**

Listed below are the **nationally-important heritage assets** that would be affected by the pylons:

Little Wenham:

Little Wenham Castle – Listed Building Grade I and a Scheduled Monument. This is the star in an outstanding collection. It was rightly described by that great architectural authority, Sir Nikolaus Pevsner (*The Buildings of England, West Suffolk* – 3rd edition 2015 and all previous editions back to 1961) as one of the *incunabula* [in the sense of 'the earliest stages or first traces in the development'] of English domestic architecture, marking the transition from castles to manor houses. He also stressed its 'great historical importance ... [in that] it is built largely of brick and represents one of the earliest uses of home-made brick in England'. Dating from the late 13th century, it truly has a national importance and its setting would be severely damaged by pylons.

Little Wenham Church – LB Grade I. This church is a fitting companion to its close neighbour, the Castle, and is of the same date, with a tower added in the 15th century. It has outstanding 13th-century wall paintings and an important collection of medieval and Tudor monuments. Because of its significance, it is now in the care of The Churches Conservation Trust.

Tomb in the churchyard – LB Grade II

Little Wenham Hall Farmhouse – LB Grade II. A 16th-century timber-framed building that lies beside the moat that forms the southern boundary of the Castle site.

Little Wenham Hall Barn – LB Grade II*. A 16th-century timber-framed barn with brick nogging, near the church.

Little Wenham Hall Farm Buildings to West of the Barn – LB Grade II

Little Wenham Hall Farm Buildings North of L.W. Castle – LB Grade II

Little Wenham Hall Garden Wall – LB Grade II

Wenham Grove Farmhouse – LB Grade II

Jermyns Farmhouse – LB Grade II

Jermyns Farmhouse Barn – LB Grade II

Great Wenham:

Great Wenham Church – LB Grade II*. 14th-century church with a 15th-century tower with flint flushwork.

Old Rectory – LB Grade II

Walnut Thatch – LB Grade II

Priory Farmhouse – LB Grade II*. 15th-century timber-framed building.

Pump next to Priory Farmhouse LB Grade II

Wenham Place – LB Grade II*. Remains of an early 16th-century brick mansion.

Wenham Place Walled Garden – LB Grade II

Threeways – LB Grade II

In conclusion, the Suffolk Institute sees it as an imperative that the idea of routing the pylon line over Little and Great Wenham should be reconsidered.

Yours faithfully

Edward Martin

Views from the **APPENDIX 4**
main footpath
Fuller Long

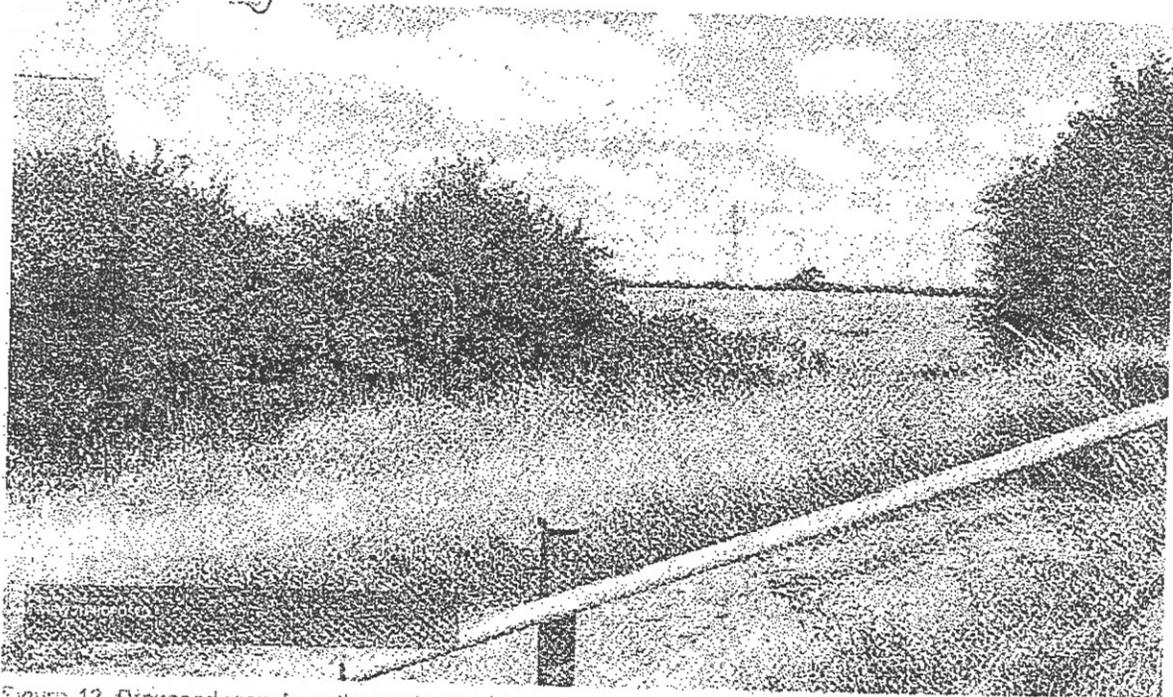


Figure 13. Proposed view from the ancient trackway looking northeast the grade I Little Wenham Church and the grade II barn towards the open countryside beyond.

- 6.1.7. As set out above, the significance of the assets individually within the hamlet of Little Wenham varies from high to extremely high, with setting making a considerable contribution to the understanding and appreciation of each of these assets. However, it is the group, and collective value of the assets as an example of a small, largely unaltered farming hamlet, set around a former defensive site, that is considered to convey an additional level of significance to the significance of the hamlet as a whole that makes it essentially of national significance. This level of significance is in great part derived from the setting within which each of these assets can be understood and appreciated both individually and collectively. However, great weight for an appreciation and understanding of these assets is derived from the way in which the hamlet as a whole offers the opportunity to connect the present to a landscape little altered by any modern incursion and, therefore, the landscape conveys not only a visual appreciation of a setting largely contemporary with the assets themselves, but one imbued with the sensibilities of the historic context within which people lived and worked within the site and its associated landscape. The 'transportative', other 'timeliness', conveyed by the setting of these assets and this site as a whole is of such note that it has clearly resulted in a contemporary appreciation of its natural and historical interest through the ages, something that has resulted in its appreciation from world famous artists like John Constable and contemporary visitors to the site, in addition to the purely visual and aesthetic qualities of the site of the hamlet and its adjacent landscape significance is further derived from qualities that imbue the location with a resonance that is felt, and permeates through the site into

Appendix 3

Fuller Long

the landscape, introducing a modern form with associated noise (from the electrical field surrounding the lines) and light pollution from the aviation obstruction lights.



Figure 9 Extant view from the castle turret looking north past the grade I Little Wenham Church and the grade II* barn

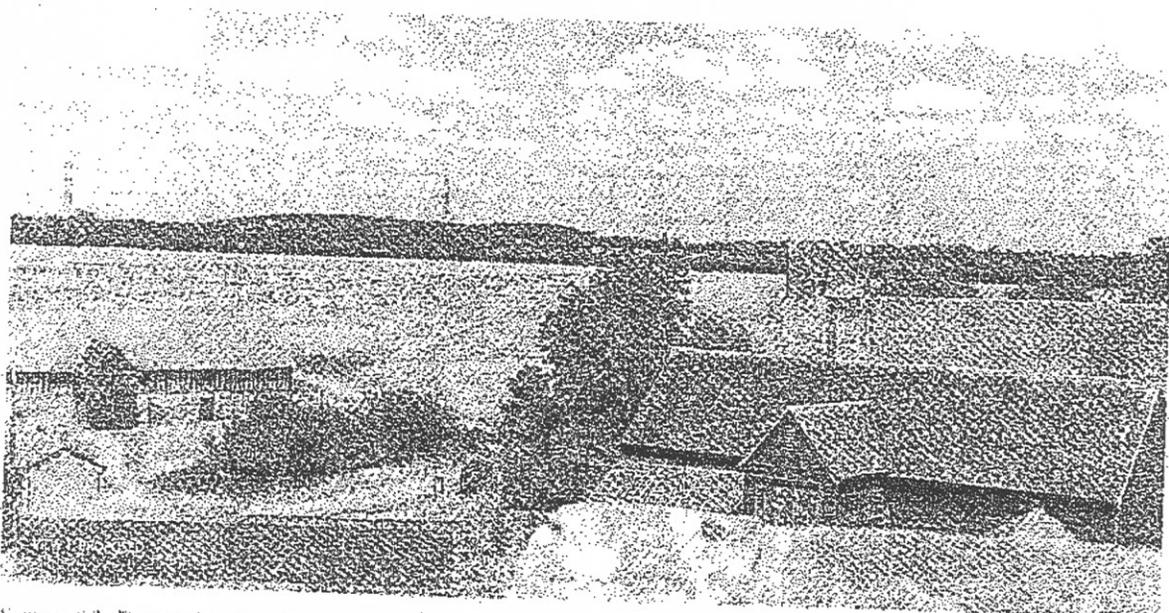
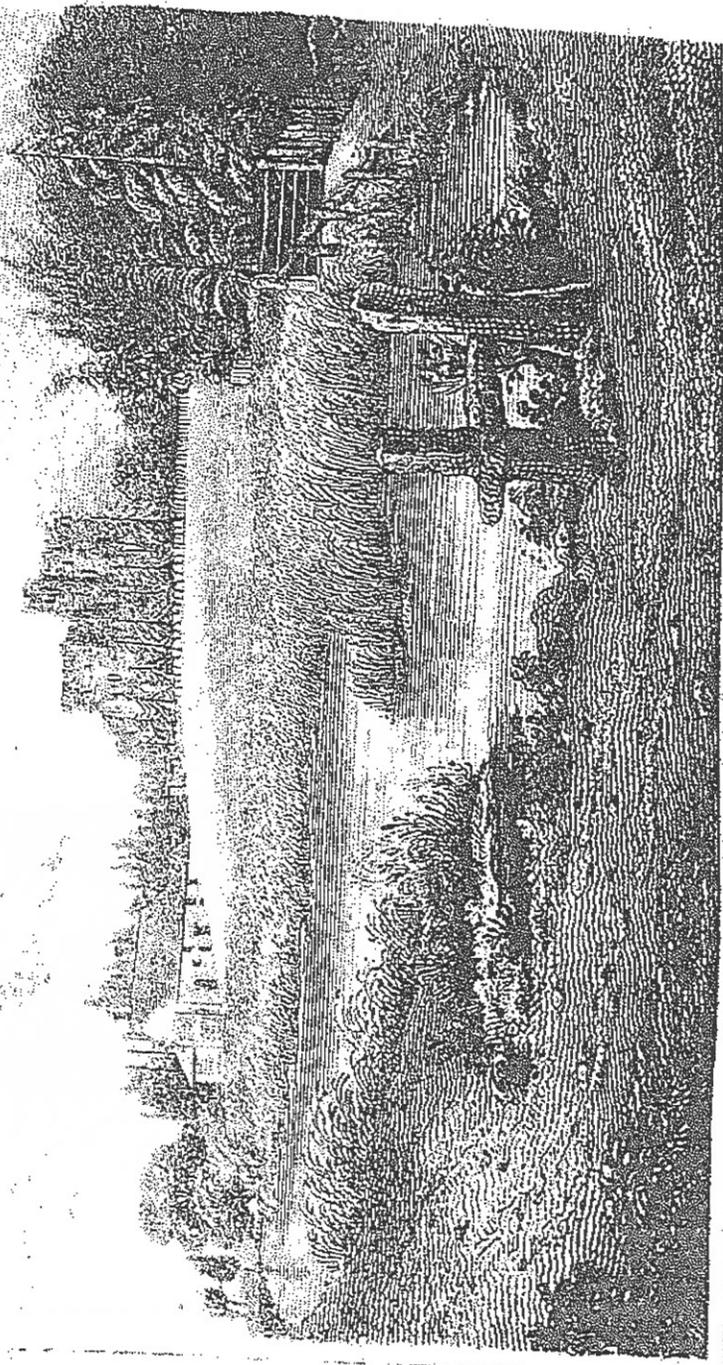


Figure 10 Proposed view from the castle turret looking north past the grade I Little Wenham Church and the grade II* barn



Engraved by E. Roberts from a sketch by L. B. Kern for the "Illustrations accompanying the

LITTLE WYOMING ILLINOIS
S. W. F. O. L. K.

HISTORIC WATER MEADOWS + ANGLE APPENDIX 2