

M/S R. Turner,  
Scheduling Section,  
English Heritage,  
Fortress House, 23 Savile Row,  
London, W1X 1AB.

Ref: MPP1/ AA53520/1

Dear Ms Turner,

Listing of moated site at Ewhurst Place.

Thank you for your letter and enclosures. It seems a pity that the listing should be put in force based on a 4 hour visit by a young new archaeology graduate, not a medieval specialist, and apparently without consultation of archives or other documents. The map enclosed is so small as to be laughable for such an important step certainly as regard the freeholder.

I enclose your form LA02/20014 completed from which you will see that I own the property (subject to two leases). I also enclose two photostats of maps, with apologies for their standard and a photostat produced as part of a development proposition for the site. The Close frontage. This last Map will at least allow you to see what I propose listing.

Reference to Map 1., dating from 1930, will show the medieval farm buildings lay to the south west of Ewhurst Place in an area by the area 616 and covered an area of 1.7607 acres. Although not included in my purchase in 1954 these buildings were still present. I included a medieval barn approx 90 feet long of massive timber construction, a seventeenth century granary, and various later additions. A duck pond which I have coloured yellow lay opposite these and connected by overflows into the moat and the drainage ditch between 152 and 153.

Despite efforts on my part to acquire and preserve the important buildings, The Crawley development Corporation demolished the pond, and you will see from map 2. the tail of the pond and the ditch-your outer moat- lies under the Climping Road development.

The ditch was further deep dug and drained as was that between 152 as far as the northeast corner of the site. The ? fish pond the moat was also filled in. In my view its purpose was more on drainage overflow with drain into the moat than vice versa. The Corporation acquired half of the field 618 in order to all Ardingly Close development. (see map 3).

Reference to the tithe map at the County archiv (circa 1809) shows that the only buildings north and east of th were two small barns as indicated on Map 3 in red. Otherwise it the layout as shown on maps 1 and 2.

You should also be aware that the area bounding Close indicated by the letters CDEFIJK and L on Map 3 has been market for development for the past three years. So far the cos been to me

- £4,000 solicitors fees
- £85,000 purchase of lease of bungalow 7 Ardingl
- with a further 10% of development price to pay

leaseholder

In view of the above I would suggest an alterna listing along the green line (map 3) subject to the usual usage garden and orchard areas allowing for the replanting of garden s fruit trees according to normal horticultural practice. I would willing to meet you or your representatives on site to discuss : this proposal or alternatively compensation for abortive expend based on the original proposal.

Yours sincerely,  
signature

Ivan Clout, OBE, MA, FRCGP, etc.

5.1.92