

List of Local Heritage Assets in Stow Maries

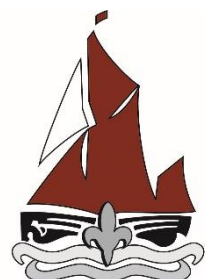


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MALDON DISTRICT
COUNCIL

Introduction

The Maldon District contains over a thousand nationally listed buildings, which are protected by law. It has also been recognised that there are many historic buildings which, although they may not meet the criteria for national listing, possess local value because of their architectural and historic interest. Maldon District Council is developing Parish Lists of Local Heritage Assets to identify and celebrate these locally important buildings. Inclusion on a 'local list' does not of itself bring any additional consent requirements over and above the existing requirement for planning permission, but it does mean that a building's heritage significance will be a material consideration in the planning process. The following criteria have been developed to help identify those buildings which merit inclusion on the Parish Lists of Local Heritage Assets. As with the national lists the word 'building' can apply to any type of permanent structure.

1. Age and integrity

- a. All buildings which retain a significant degree of pre-1840 architectural character in terms of form, materials and stylistic detailing or for which there is realistic potential for restoration of that character.
- b. 1840-1880 buildings that are reasonably complete and of good local architectural and historic interest
- c. 1880-1945 buildings that are substantially complete and of very good local architectural and historic interest
- d. Post 1945 buildings that are wholly complete and of an outstanding level of local architectural and historic interest
- e. Buildings which are valued as rare examples of a particular type

2. Historic Interest

- a. Historic association with important national or local historical figures, architects, events or industry
- b. Social or communal importance: relating to structures perceived as a source of local identity and cohesion. (This might include important commemorative structures such as war memorials or places of worship).

3. Architectural Interest

- a. Important examples of a past type or style
- b. Quality materials, detailing and workmanship
- c. Buildings which display technological innovation
- d. Group Value: Buildings whose local importance derives from their visual relationship with other important buildings in a village or town setting or where they make an important contribution to an historic skyline.
- e. Buildings which make a positive contribution to an attractive rural setting
- f. Sustainability: Buildings which can be easily adapted for continuing use due to robust construction or quality materials

This document lists the buildings in the parish of Stow Maries which have been identified as meeting the above criteria.



Church Lane, The Old School House

Photograph taken May 2015

Description

This former teacher's house and adjoining schoolroom was built in 1871 as a National (Church of England) School. It was opened in 1872, with room for 68 children in one schoolroom. It was replaced by a new school in 1927 and became a private house. It is constructed of red brick with steeply-pitched roofs covered with clay tiles. The building has a picturesque character, as a result of the asymmetrical composition of the different ranges.

Significance

This is a well-preserved example of a Victorian National School. It shares group value with the adjacent grade II* listed parish church and Smythe Hall. Although humble in scale, it is an attractive building, of good quality materials, detailing and composition.



Church Lane, Smythe Hall

Photograph taken 20 February 2019

Description

This is a single-storey, timber-framed and rendered building, with some mock-Tudor-style decorative framing on the eastern gable. The roof is covered by natural slate. The windows are all 21st century uPVC replacements. This hall was built as the new Church of England School in 1927 following the closure of the adjacent 1871 school. It was founded by the Rector at the time, G. F. Smythe. It remained in use as a school until 1940, when it was requisitioned by the army. The building is now the church hall, named in honour of its founder.

Significance

This little building has value because of its local historical associations and its communal importance.



Woodham Road, Scarr Cottage

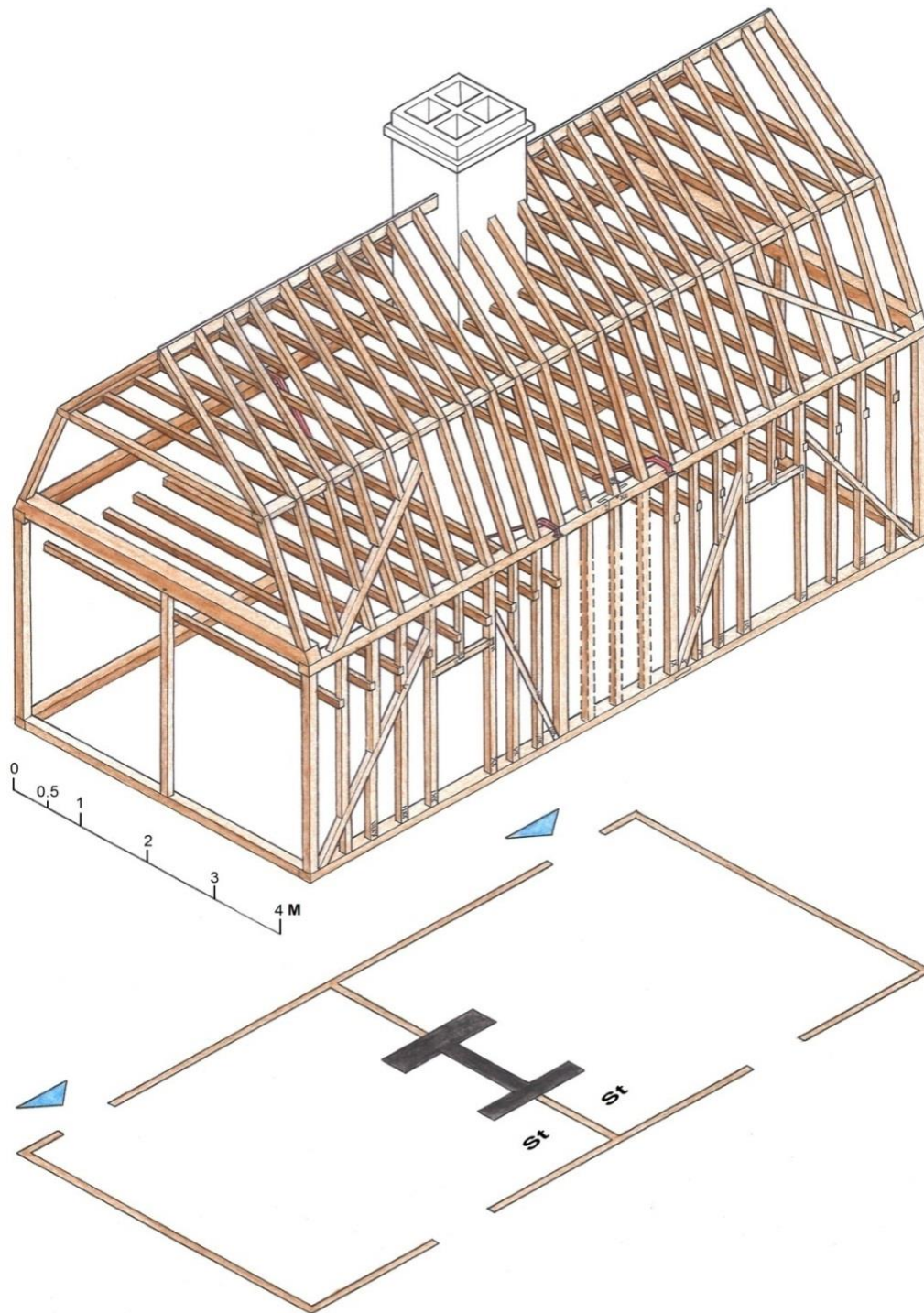
Photograph taken May 2018

Description

This house was built towards the end of the 18th century as a pair of semi-detached cottages (Essex Record Office: D/AER 35/265). The builder was John Burchill, the farmer at Morris Farm, and the intention was probably to house his labourers. It is a 1 ½ storey timber-framed and weather-boarded building, with a gambrel roof clad in clay tiles and a central, ridge-line chimney stack. The house has a good quality timber-framed structure (illustrated in an isometric drawing reproduced on the following page) and original fireplaces.

Significance

This is a well-preserved example of a pair of vernacular Georgian cottages. Modern alterations and extension have been carried out in a sympathetic manner and do not detract from the special character of the building.



Isometric reconstruction illustrating the timber-framed structure and original ground-floor layout of Scarr Cottage. The view is from the rear. The doorways in the rear wall probably led into rear lean-tos which no longer survive. Drawing by Tim Howson, 2015.

Sources

Board, B.: “‘A Venture of Faith’, the building of a school in Stow Maries”, *Essex Archaeology and History*, Volume 32 (2001), pp. 228-236

Board, B.: Exhibition on the history of Stow Maries, displayed in the parish church in 2015

Padfield, A.: “Stow Maries, Great Hayes Farm”, *Essex Archaeology and History*, Volume 35 (2004), pp. 183-4

Preparation of the Register of local heritage assets for Stow Maries was greatly assisted by the input of the late Beryl Board, local historian.