

MIDDLE WORSHAM FARM

Held freehold of the Manor of Pebsham

PROPERTY DETAILS (NGR TQ 7590 0940)

This farm was situated about ¼ mile further down Worsham Lane to the north east from Upper Worsham. It was farmed along with Lower Worsham for a very long time and lost its identity long ago. It is obvious that it was a farm in its own right at one time by the separate and complete set of farm buildings although very close to Lower Worsham. There is, however, no sign of a house or cottage to serve Middle Worsham.

Middle Worsham has an Oast house though very small as the farm was only growing just over 1 acre of hops in the 1840's. This oast house was built prior to 1839. A later building was built adjoining between 1839 and 1873. This was a granary with a cart shed beneath.



The large barn at Middle Worsham was once thatched but was tinned in 1913 and again in 1961. Adjoining this are the piggeries. David Martin of Robertsbridge has done a structural survey of Middle Worsham Barn but he calls this the west barn as it was by now incorporated into Lower Worsham Farm. (3)



There were other buildings on the edge of a field just passed the cottages (TQ 7578 0940). On this field in the late 18th century there were buildings at rights forming an 'L' shape. This was called 'Haystack Plat' on a farm plan of 1791 (1). By 1839 this had been enlarged to three sides of a square layout and was then called 'Lower Worsham Buildings and Yards' (2). These were standing on a pocket of sand within the clay soil and this was excavated for building purposes in the late 19th century. A cobble wall

of these buildings remained until the 1970's along the roadside but was removed as it became dangerous.

No deeds or other evidence has been found so far which deals with Middle Worsham alone.



Lower Worsham from Boulder Cottage
March 1989



Lower and Middle Worsham March 1989

OWNER/TENANT DETAILS

These will be the same as Lower Worsham P5/36

SOURCES

- 1 ESRO AMS 5828/2 (1791)
- 2 ESRO TD/E 141 Tithe Award
- 3 The Rape of Hastings Architectural Survey Report No 556
Copy In East Sussex Record Office