



BERDEN HALL FARM SOLAR

APPENDIX 5.2: ILLUSTRATIVE MATERIAL FOR
ASSESSING THE EFFECT OF THE SOLAR FARM ON
HERITAGE ASSETS

October 2022

INTRODUCTION

This report provides further illustrative material to allow the effect of the Proposed Solar Farm on key historical assets to be assessed, in particular:

- 1) Church of St Nicholas (NHLE: 1170264) Grade I listed.
- 2) Berden Hall (NHLE: 1112468) Grade II*.
- 3) Granary North-East of Berden Hall (NHLE: 1306141) Grade II
- 4) The Crump and Former Barn (now a room) adjoining to North-West (NHLE: 1112471)
- 5) BERDEN PRIORY (NHLE: 1112470) Grade: II*

The relationship of these assets to the Proposed Solar Farm is illustrated in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Location Plan



Google Earth

The Church of St Nicholas: View 1 from the east side of the church yard looking west

The church is separated from the solar farm by:

- A line of tree cover on the west side of the churchyard.
- A detached dwelling with tree cover on its west boundary.
- A 100m wide field with a mature hedge west of the dwelling.
- A 122m wide field and a proposed native hedge with trees along the east side of the solar farm.

As a result, the setting of the church is protected by multiple layers of screening., as the following photographs and photomontages illustrate.

Note:

Photographs in this report were taken on the 29th September 2022 using a Sony Alpha camera, set at a height of 1.5m above ground level. The camera has a full frame sensor and was set in panoramic mode, 50mm focal length, in portrait, to show the context of the setting.





This photograph from the adjacent field to the west (not the field in which the solar farm is proposed, which is further west) illustrates how the church is set behind a detached dwelling within tree cover, which restrict views from the churchyard.



The view illustrates how the hedge on the west side of the field screens the field in which the solar farm will lie from view. The solar farm will be set 122m back from the hedge, separated by a proposed native hedge with trees.



The solar farm will lie behind the hedge, out of view. It has been photomontaged in outline (blue dashed line) to show its massing and extent beyond the hedge. A further layer of screening will be provided by native hedge and tree planting.





A plantation of birch trees provides substantial protection to the settings of the church and Berden Hall and this will increase as the trees gain stature.



The view from the western edge of the birch plantation which protects the setting of Berden Hall. The fields in which the solar panels will be located are screened in summer by mature hedge and tree cover.



The solar farm will be screened in summer by the vegetation and will be barely visible in winter. The wire frame overlay indicates the extent and scale of the solar farm behind the hedges.



Illustrating the level of screening provided by the hedge. The solar farm will be visible through the gap in the hedge, but not from the curtilage of the hall.





The church and hall are not visible. The panels will extend across the ploughed field as far as the grass unploughed section.



The outline of the panels is superimposed across the field.





The Crump is an earthwork but lies behind the dwelling 'The Crump', and is shrouded in the trees that grow over and around it. In this view it is also screened by hedgerow trees which lie on the south side of the solar farm, which will be retained and augmented with new planting. In this view. The Crump is not visible as a feature from the surrounding countryside.

The Crump: View 8 wire frame photomontage illustrating the extent of the solar farm within the field



The proposed solar farm will block the view, although this is not a public view, the footpath runs along the north side of the hedge at this point. It is proposed to plant a hedge along the perimeter to visually enclose the solar farm.





View 10 taken from here looking towards the proposed solar farm



The proposed solar farm will lie 490m to the south of the priory, screened by tree cover and rising ground.



This is the view from the south side of the hedge and tree cover in front of the Priory, illustrating how there will be no inter-visibility between the Priory and the proposed solar farm.