

# Edington's Grade II listed 18<sup>th</sup> Century Barn

*South West Heritage Local Heritage List grid ref; ST 38686 40050*



Cited as Hardings Barn on Edington's Village Design Statement but it is a Linhay 'unique in Somerset'. This is why.

**Asset:** Field Barn with attached shelter shed on east and west faces., situated on the corner of Chandlers Lane opposite Chandlers Cottage.

**Description:** Grade II listed 18<sup>th</sup> Century vernacular building known as a Linhay. Visited by J Dallimore (*Somerset Vernacular Architecture Research Group*) 2 Nov 2002 who quoted it as 'unique in Somerset' and



*Unattributed photograph of east face in 2000*

recommended it be upgraded to Grade II\*. An application was made to DCMS 20 Oct 2003. It was turned down but DCMS stated it as; 'well deserving its current listing'.

**Appearance and noteworthy features:** Coursed stone rubble with pan-tiled gambrel double-pitch (catslide) roof with deep eaves. Five bays; rectangular. The long east and west sides feature an open colonnade of rubble piers forming two open shelters. Behind each colonnade access to the barns hay loft is via paired plank doors with iron strap hinges. The doorways are set opposite each other. The west door features a cat hole. The hay loft features an open pitching 'window' on the south side. This building is an unaltered example of the local style of agricultural building in the mid 18th century. There are no stall divisions and there was no need for any means of tying the cattle. The shed provided shelter from the worst of the weather and a place in which cattle could be fed.

**Condition:** Poor and neglected (autumn 2023).

**Significance:** This unique example of its kind in Somerset sits opposite an 18th century cottage along a narrow lane which featured in the Hollinrake's 1993/94 archaeological work. Here they found a Roman cemetery at a tangent 300m west of this linhay plus a Roman villa 100m east. This Romano-British settlement is in an Area of High Archaeological Potential and the field in which this building sits has never been ploughed. In a ditch on the north side of the field a King George III 1797 coin was found in 2019.

**Aim:** To conserve this linhay and thus help to facilitate life in a rural community. It features in *Somerset County Records Office 1839 Tithe Map for Edington*. (Photo © Robert Atkins 3 Oct 2003)

