

WIVENHOE TOWNSCAPE FORUM: LOCAL LIST RECORDING SHEET AREA C

ADDRESS The Cross, Wivenhoe

POST CODE CO7 9QG-W

WARD

Cross

Quay

CONSERVATION AREA

YES

NO

MAP REFERENCE TM 041228

PHOTOGRAPH

YES

NO

DATE OF ASSET 18th century or earlier.

TYPE OF ASSET Building **Group** Landscape Vista Item Other (please specify)

DESCRIPTION

An early settlement at the junction of roads to Colchester, Elmstead, Brightlingsea and Wivenhoe.

HISTORY AND CONNECTIONS

Early access to the town consisted of the road from Colchester to Elmstead and Walton-on-the-Naze which cut off the north-eastern corner of the ancient parish. A little further south the road from Colchester to Alresford ran through the parish from west to east, with a branch running south-east towards Brightlingsea from which a road turned south-west and then south to reach Wivenhoe quay. This changed when the Lords of the Manor, the de Veres, built a new road called The Entry (now The Avenue), just south of the Cross which ran directly to the manor house circa half a mile further to the south. This became a public road before 1566 and provided a more direct route to the Quay. This may explain why although the earliest settlement in Wivenhoe developed around the Quay in the south-west corner of the parish there was also a notable cluster of houses around The Cross which is clearly shown on the 1734 map of Wivenhoe. Brown states that the settlement including a forge, a wheelwright and a ropery. Ropery House (**LB421656**) and 20 The Cross, also known as Ropery Cottages (**LB421486**) are listed together with Beehive Cottage (**LB421486**) which was formerly an inn. There are also a number of other unlisted early properties such as No 41 The Cross, the pink-washed building known as 'Timbers'.

RESEARCH SOURCES

Victoria County History of Essex X (2001) pp 274-281

Peter Kay's notes, November 2011

1734 Hayward Rush Map

Brown, A.F.J. *Essex at Work 1700-1815* (1969), pp124-5



PHOTOGRAPHS BY Joan Sawyer, April 2011 and Peter Kay November 2011

CRITERIA: HIGHLIGHT IN BOLD AS APPROPRIATE

ARCHITECTURAL VALUE

A++ (very high)

A+ (good)

T-F (timber-framed i.e. C18th or earlier)

?T-F (timber-framed – needs investigation)

HISTORIC VALUE

H++

H+

CONDITION

C++ (complete with no inappropriate alterations/extensions)

C+ (largely complete)

C (good or restorable)

OTHER VALUES

I = iconic value **H = contribution to the historic area in which it stands**

P = prominence Q = quirkiness R = local rarity S = sustainability

Recorded by: Pat Marsden and Peter Kay

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