

This part of the pre-enclosure map (left), made for the Le Strange Hunstanton Estate in 1700, shows some of the central and southern area of Courtyard Farm. The weaker land to the south, on the edge of Ringstead Parish, is marked as 'Sheeps Ling' - rough grazing for sheep. The land to the west and north is strip farmed in hundreds of small strips of land. Several strips are marked as belonging to one of what were then three Ringstead churches, St Peter, St Andrew and St Thomas. The post enclosure map (right) shows the farm much as it is today. 'Poors Firing' was land set aside by the Estate for the use of the poor, just dispossessed of their strips of land by enclosure – it was planted with gorse (whins), used as fuel to cook bread when dried, and had a sand and a stone pit for building materials.

