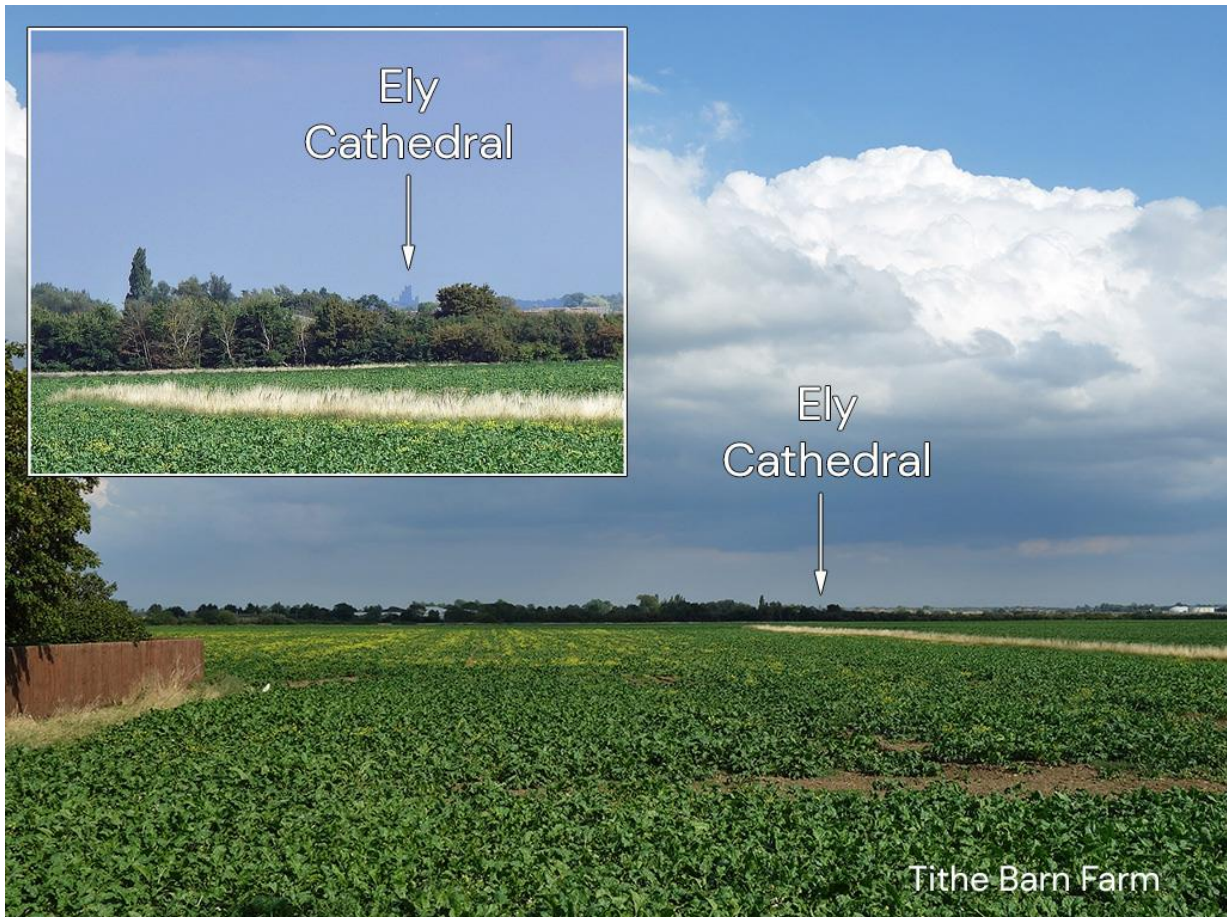


I SPY in Chatteris – 01

The Eastbourne Road Vista

If you walk (or drive) away from Chatteris town centre, heading south along **London Road**, after about half a mile on your left you will reach **Eastbourne Road**. If you proceed in a straight line along this road for about 200 yards you find yourself standing at the edge of an agricultural field that is part of Tithe Fen Farm. Step sideways 3 or 4 yards until you are looking forwards between the telegraph pole and its wire support. Now the excitement begins.



If it is a clear enough day and you carefully scan your eyes along the hedge/tree line in the distance you should be able to make out the shape of **ELY CATHEDRAL**, *the Ship of the Fens*, some 10 miles or more away from you. It may help if you use the *picture above* as a reference.

Now if you turn your head to the right, you will see a second historic building, **TITHE BARN**. (See *picture – right*).

This building is only a few hundred yards away and is easily recognisable by its antiquated appearance (and rusty corrugated iron roof!). The wooden frame of this barn dates to the 16th century.



[SCROLL DOWN FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

ELY CATHEDRAL

The cathedral has its origins in AD 672 when St Etheldreda built Ely Abbey. The present building dates back to 1083, and it was granted cathedral status in 1109. The cathedral is known locally as "the Ship of the Fens" because of its prominent position above the surrounding flat landscape.



CHATTERIS TITHE BARN

The barn is a Grade II Listed Building and the timber frame dates back to the 16th century with the present corrugated metal roof added much later.

Traditionally, in bygone days, farmers would donate 10% of their produce (*a Tithe*) to the local church. These donations would be stored in a Tithe Barn.



You can see some photographs of the inside of Chatteris Tithe Barn on the Chatteris CCAN* website (*Cambridgeshire Community Archive Network).

https://chatteris.ccan.co.uk/content/catalogue_item/chatteris-tithe-barn

Phil (Webmaster)