



The Rick Yard, Castle Farm, Bletsoe, c1910

Large rick yards such as this may have been convenient when it came to threshing time, but needed good insurance against fire. This yard contains more than 35 ricks. A large fire broke out here in 1928 when Charles Measures was tenant, and caused considerable damage (BT 18 April 1928). Allegedly, a boy playing truant was playing with matches. Subsequently, an aerial photograph shows that the stacks were widely distributed around the farm, the insurers having realised the high level of risk.

EB94 (*Richard Campion*)