

Document Record

Held at: National Archives

Reference: MAF 32/16/51

Source: Original documents

Title: Digital Archive: National Farm Survey Records for the Parish of

Longtown - Part 1; Primary Farm Survey Forms

Place name: Longtown

Date: 1941 - 1942

Description:

When the Second World War began in September 1939, Britain was faced with an urgent need to increase food production, as imports of food and fertilisers were drastically cut. The area of land under cultivation had to be increased significantly and quickly. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries set up War Agricultural Executive Committees in each county ('County War Ags') to carry out a farm survey between 1940 and 1941, and to use the information collected to bring uncultivated land under the plough and to improve poor farms. These records have largely been lost, but once the short-term objective of increasing food production had been met, the government decided to carry out a more general National Farm Survey. This took place between 1941 and 1943, with a longer-term purpose of providing data that would form the basis of post-war planning. Such a survey, of which these documents form part, was seen at the time as a 'Second Domesday Book', a 'permanent and comprehensive record of the conditions on the farms of England and Wales'.

Every farm and holding of five acres and more was surveyed, including those of market gardeners, horticulturists, and poultry-keepers. A set of forms for every farm, completed by farmers and farm inspectors was produced and make up the National Archive record series MAF 32

A set of maps for each county, based on Ordnance Survey maps, showing the land belonging to each farm are also held at the National Archives. These make up record series MAF 73, but are not included in this extract.

Each part of the survey for a given farm bears that farm's unique code. This comprises an abbreviation of the county name, the district, the parish number, and the individual farm number: for example HF/288 for the Herefordshire district of Dore and 51/1 for the parish of Longtown (51) and the individual farm number 1 for Middle Ponthendre Farm. The grid square reference from the Ordnance Survey is also given for each farm; XLIII SE from the 1905 Second Edition in the case of Middle Ponthendre.

The National Farm Survey consists of two distinct components; the primary farm survey and the 1941 Agricultural Returns. The photographs below are of the primary farm survey documents, designated as Part 1 of the National Survey.



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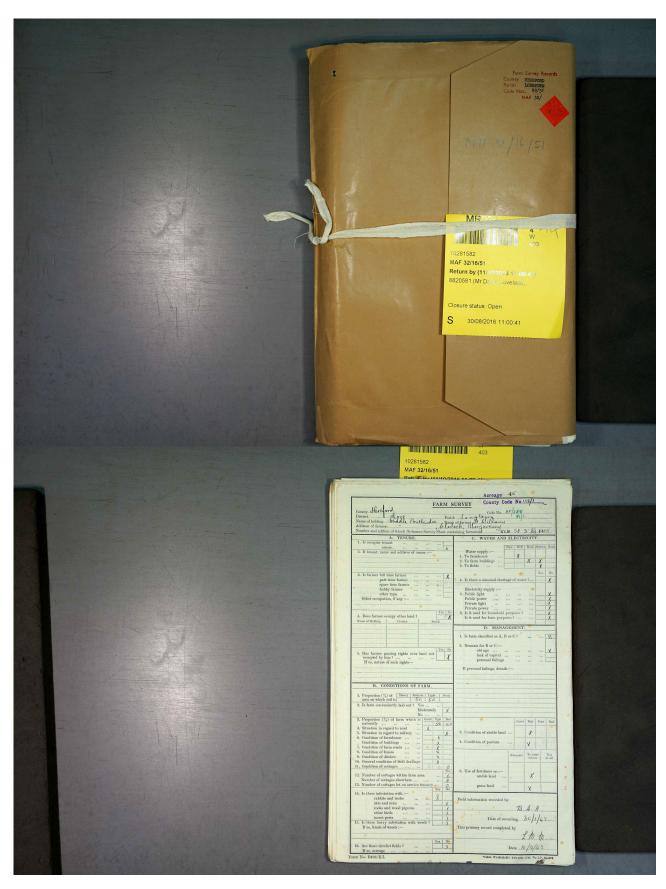
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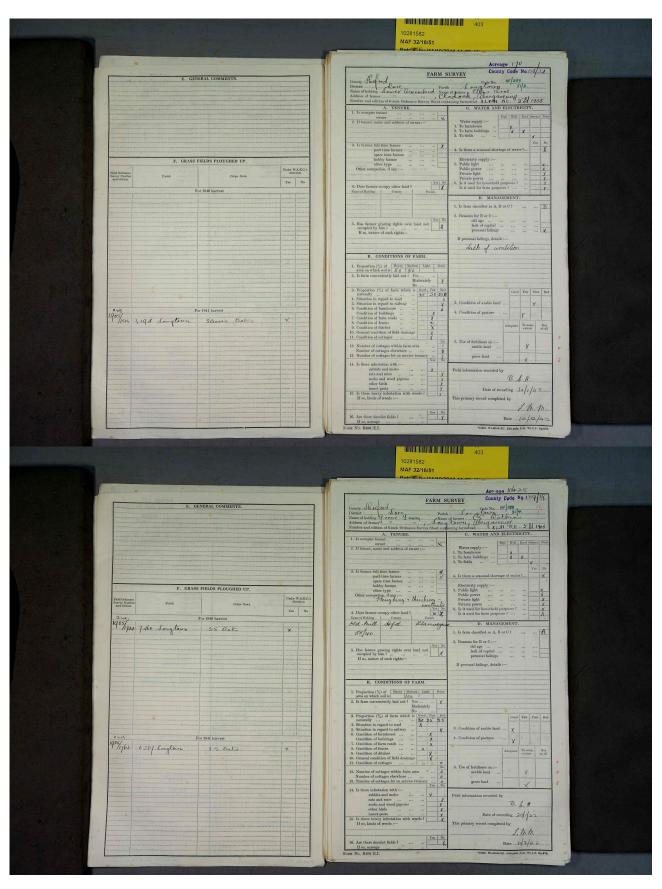
We are grateful to David Lovelace for permission to publish the collection of photographs he has taken of the original documents held in the national Archives for the parish of Longtown, which is a unique resource giving a snapshot of the local farming community at that point in time.



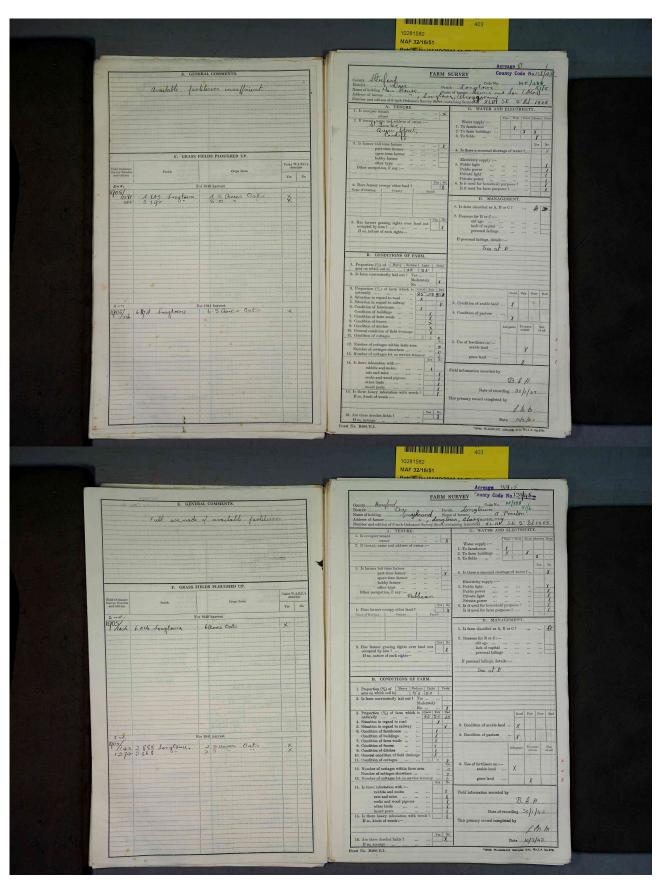
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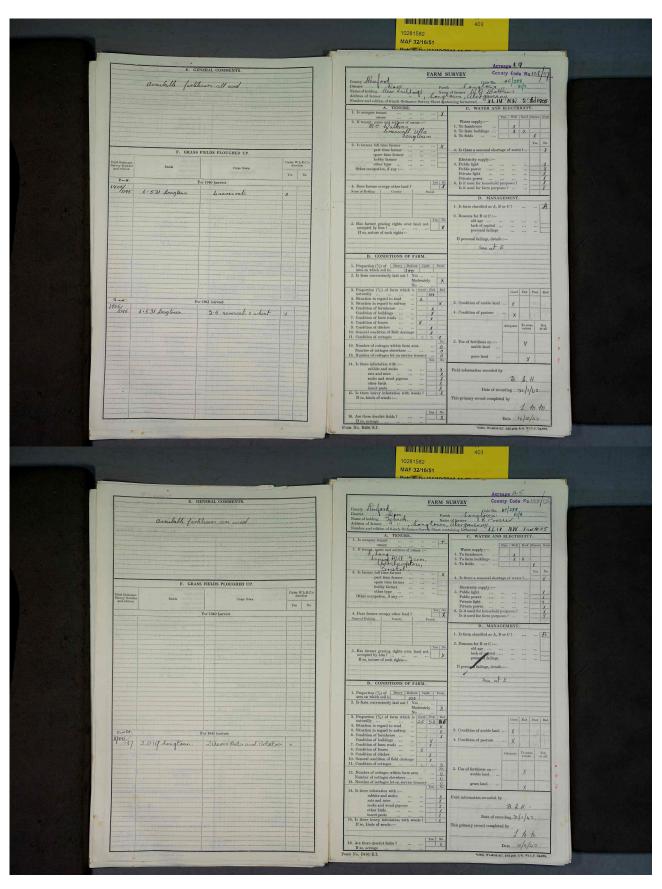




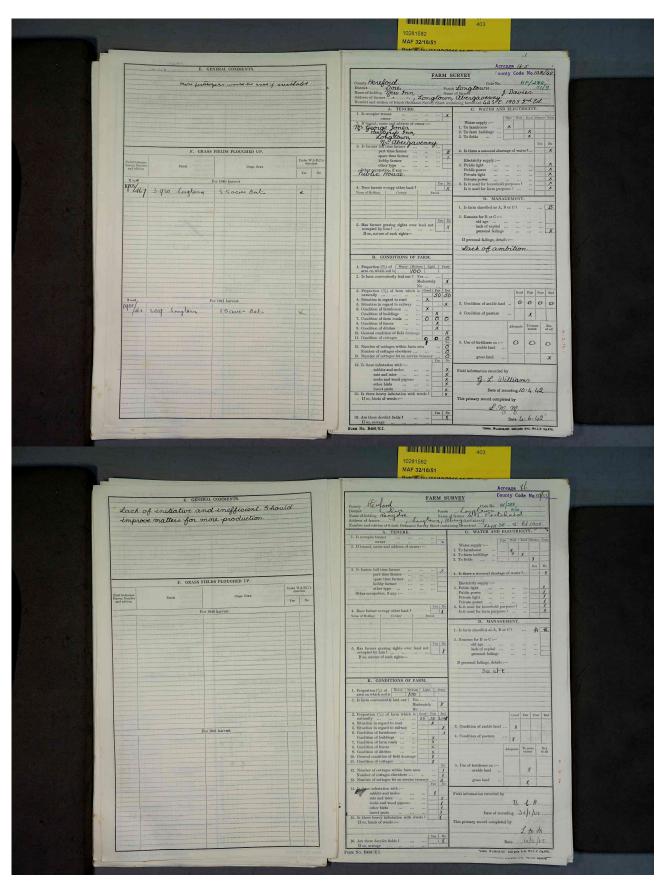




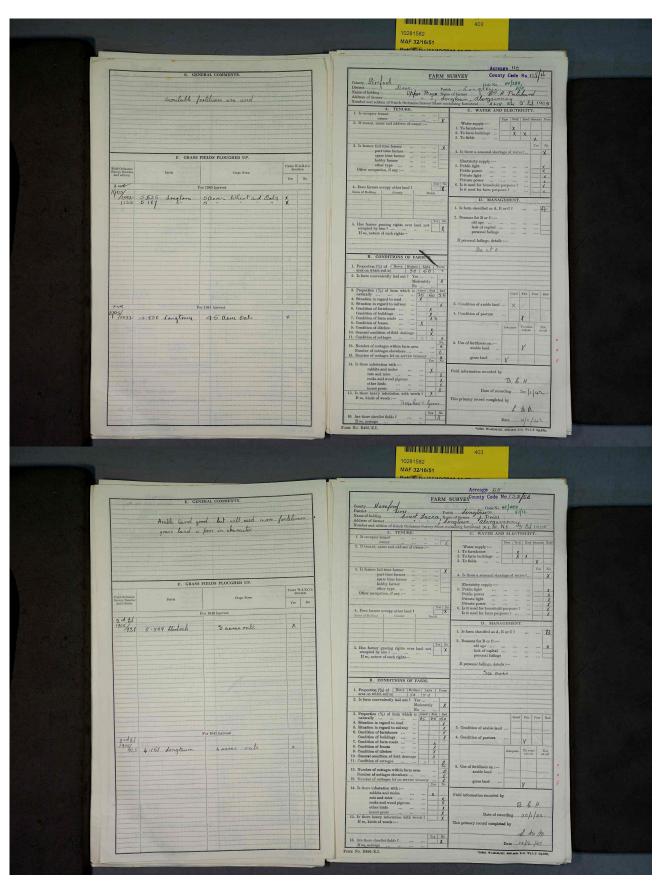




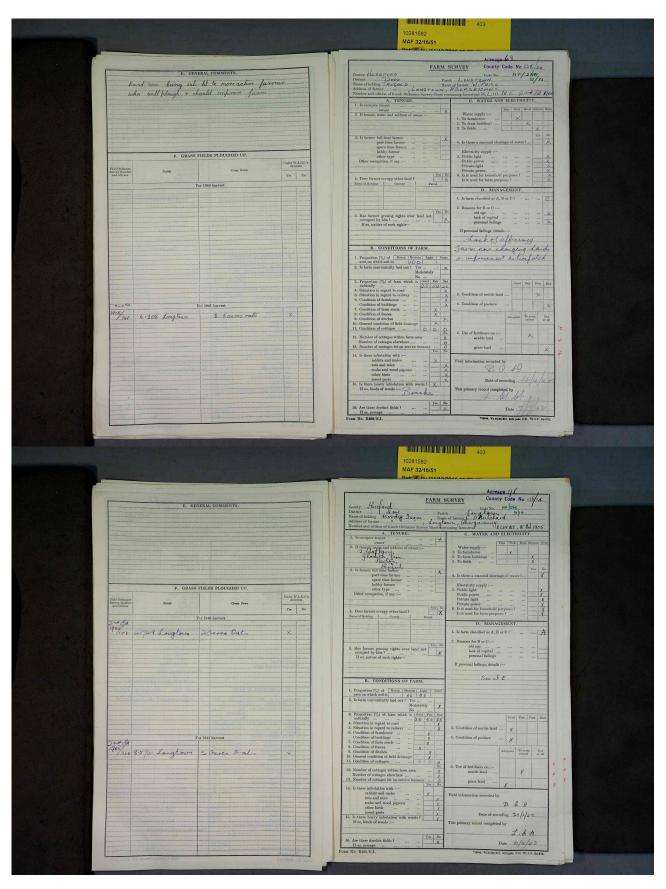




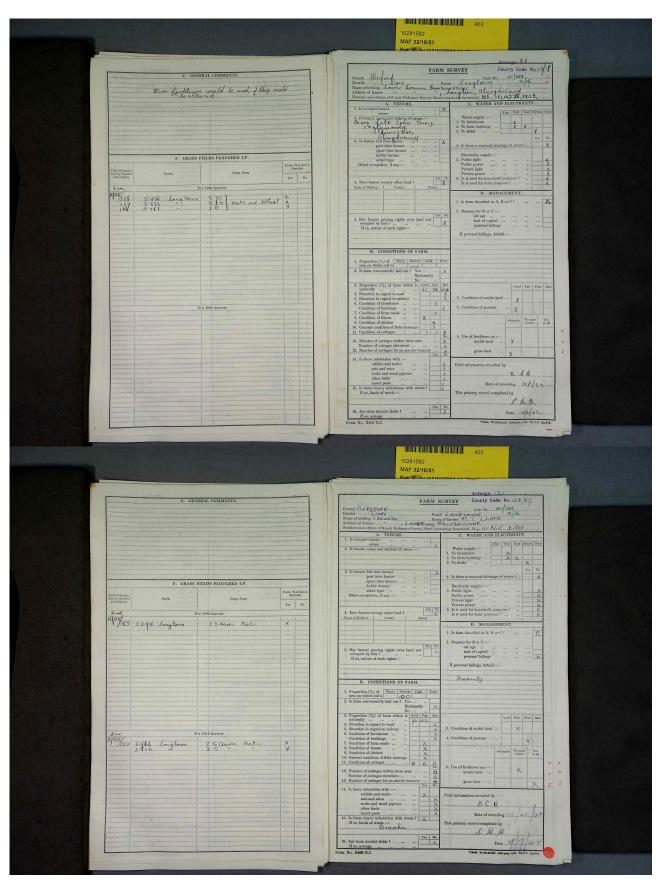




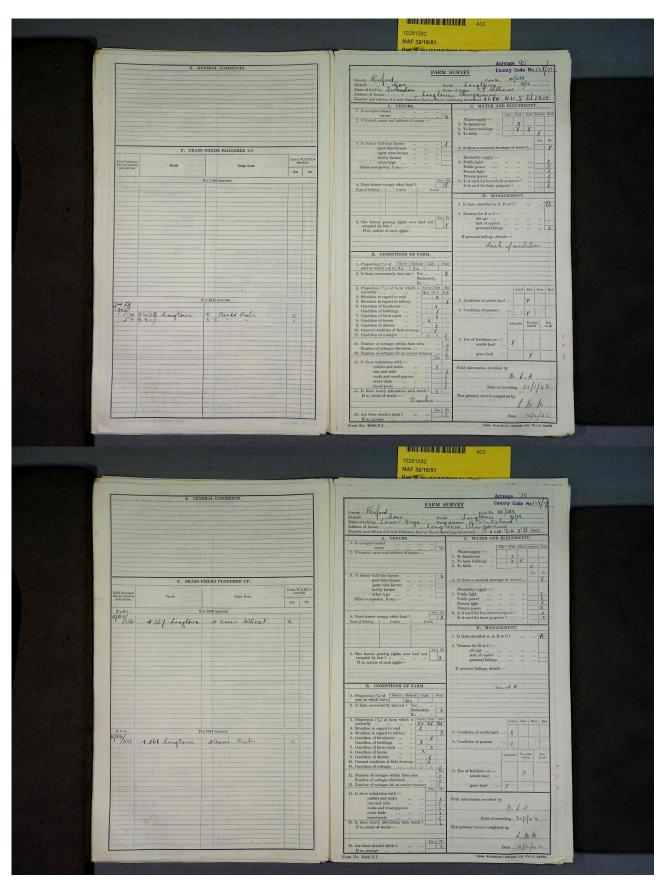




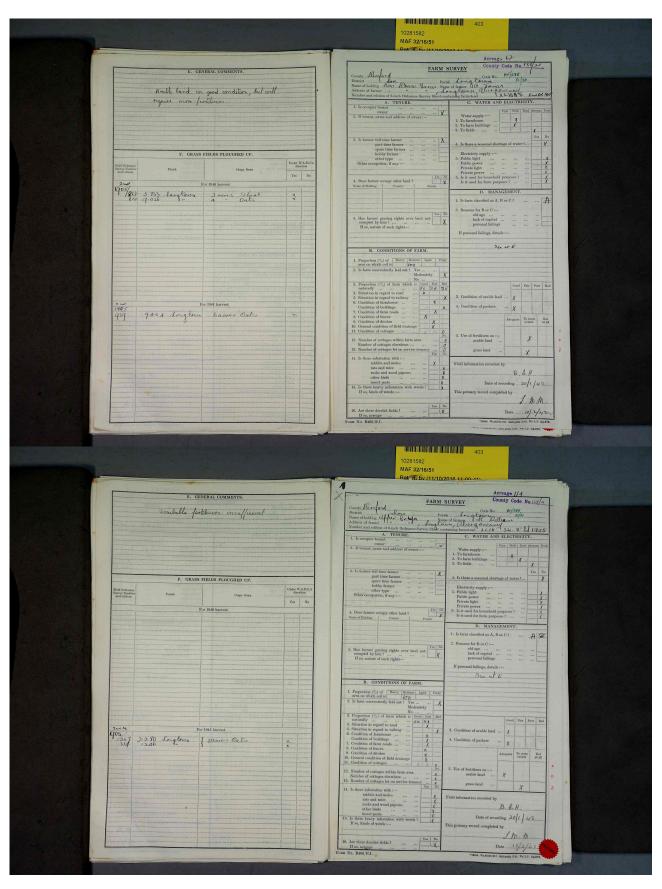




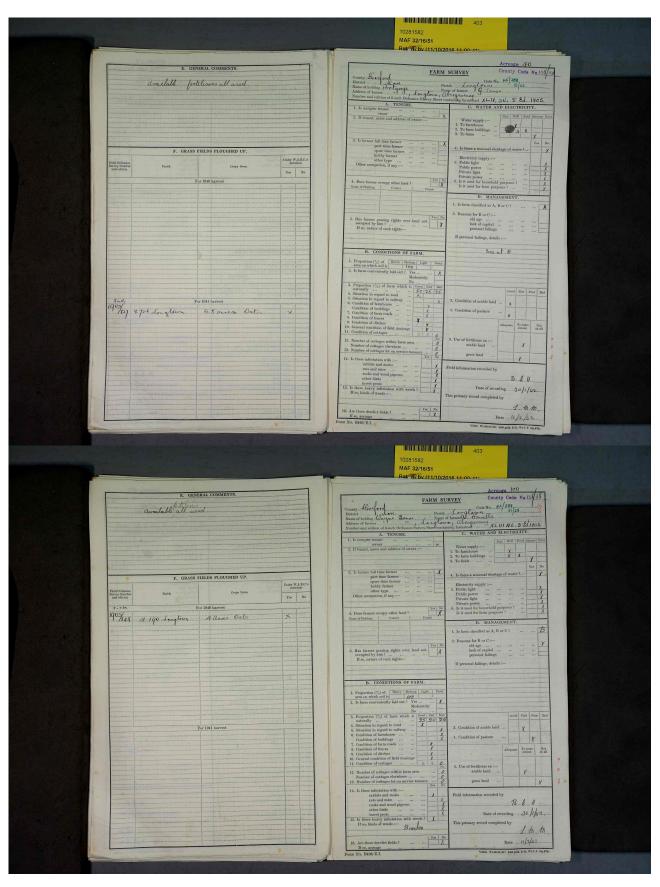




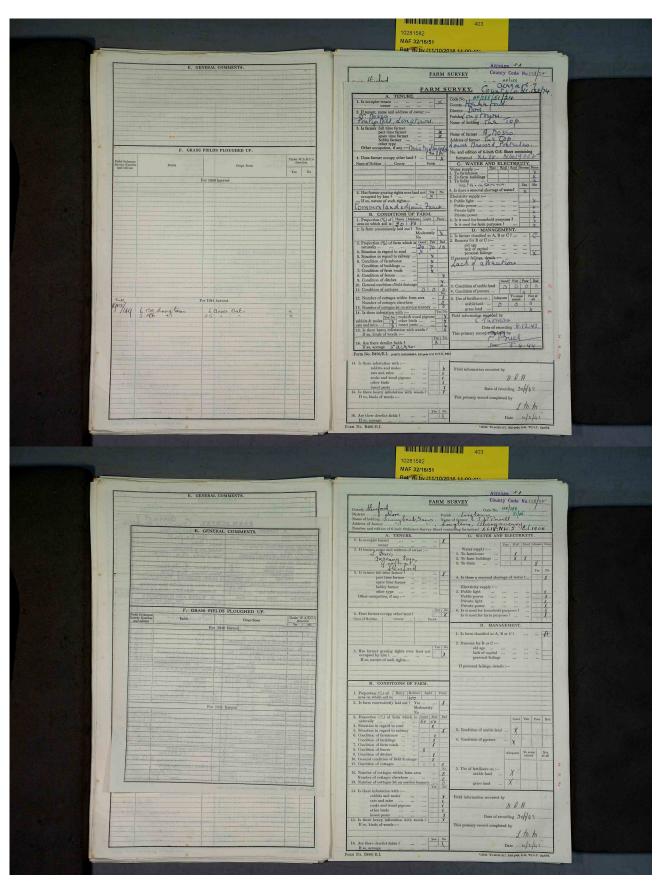




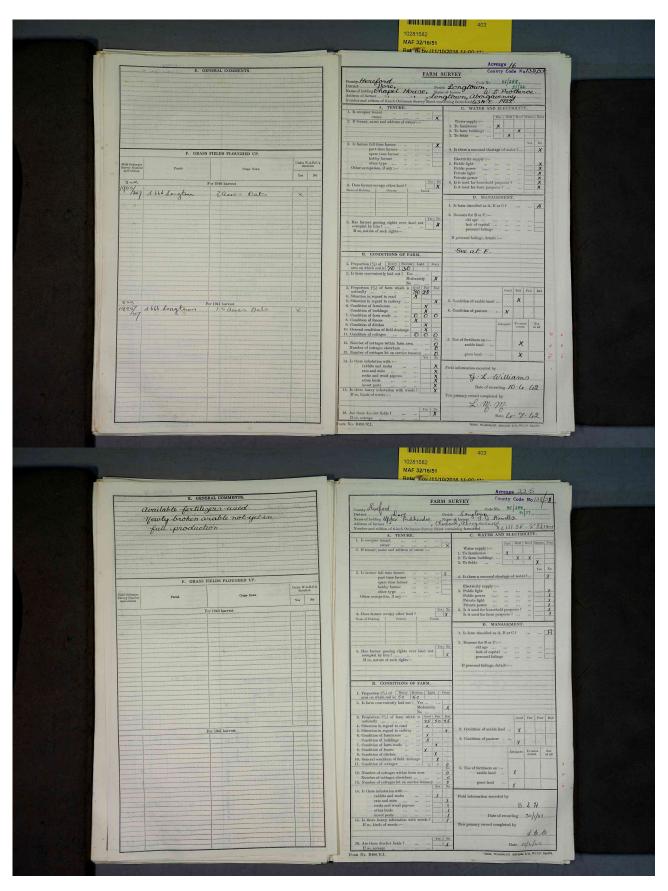




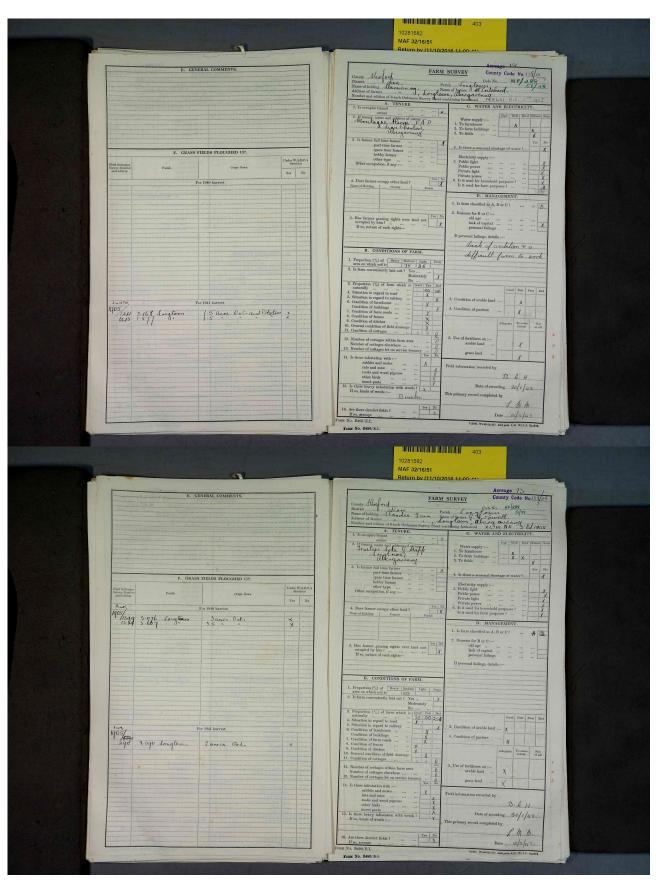




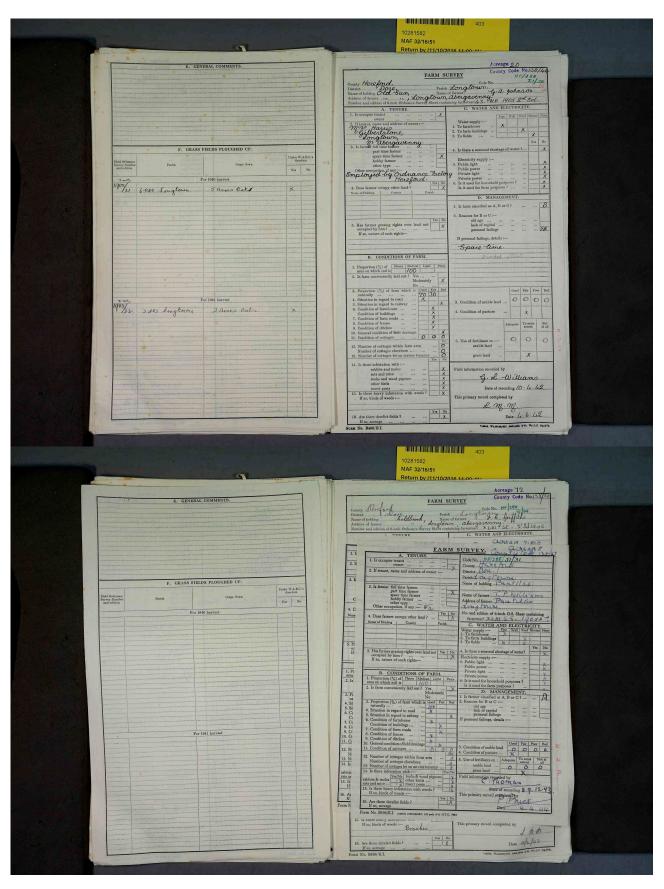




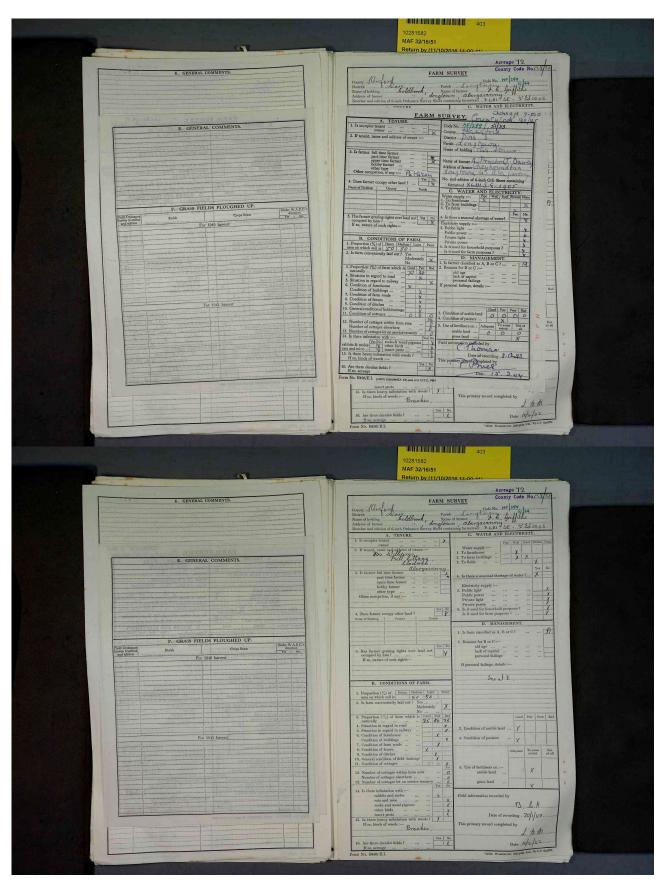




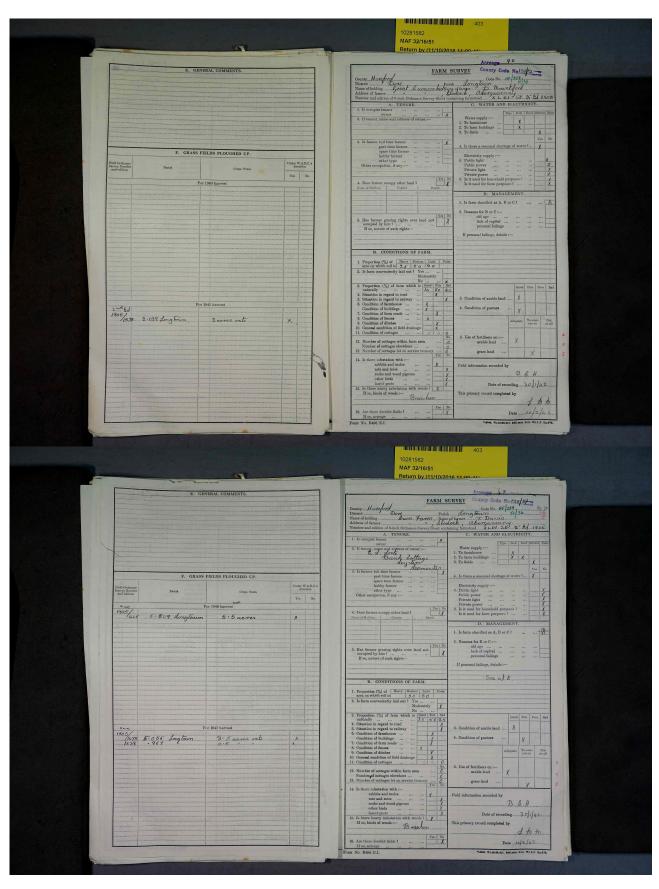




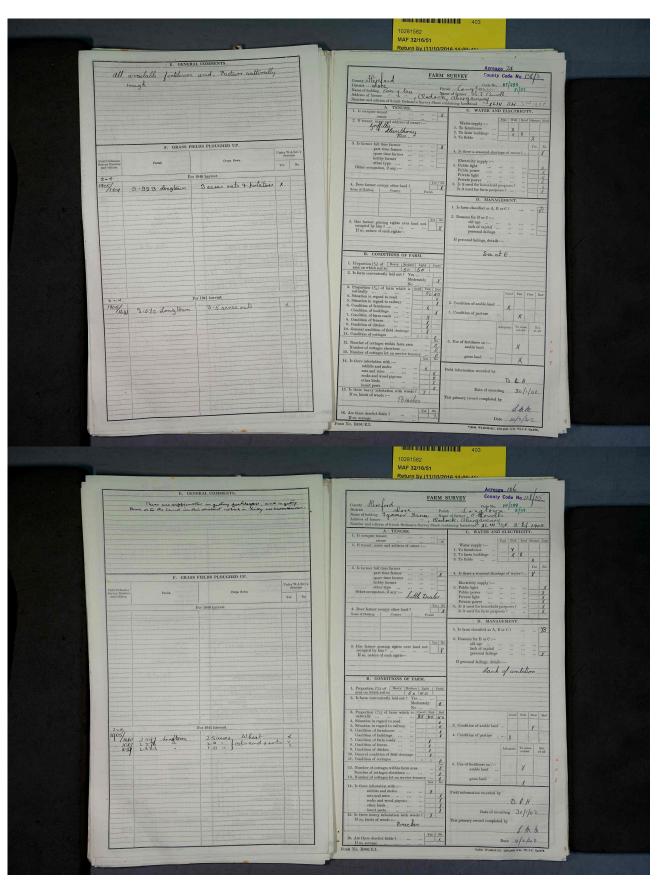






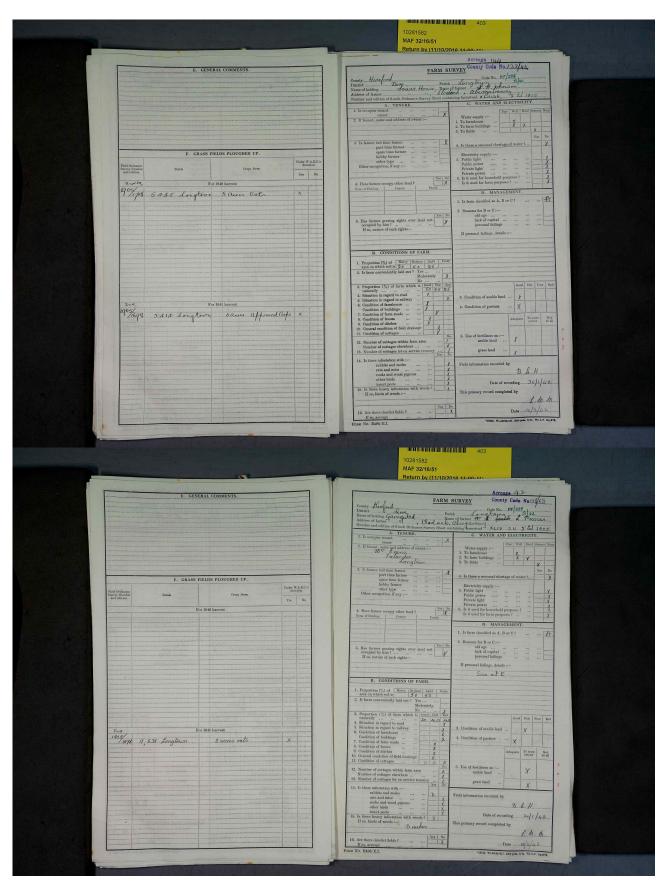






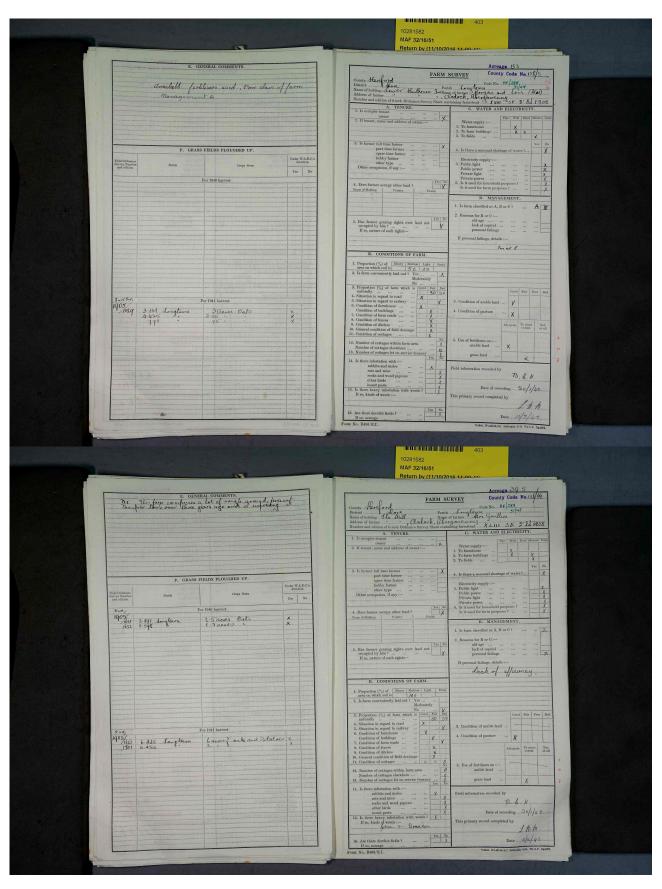


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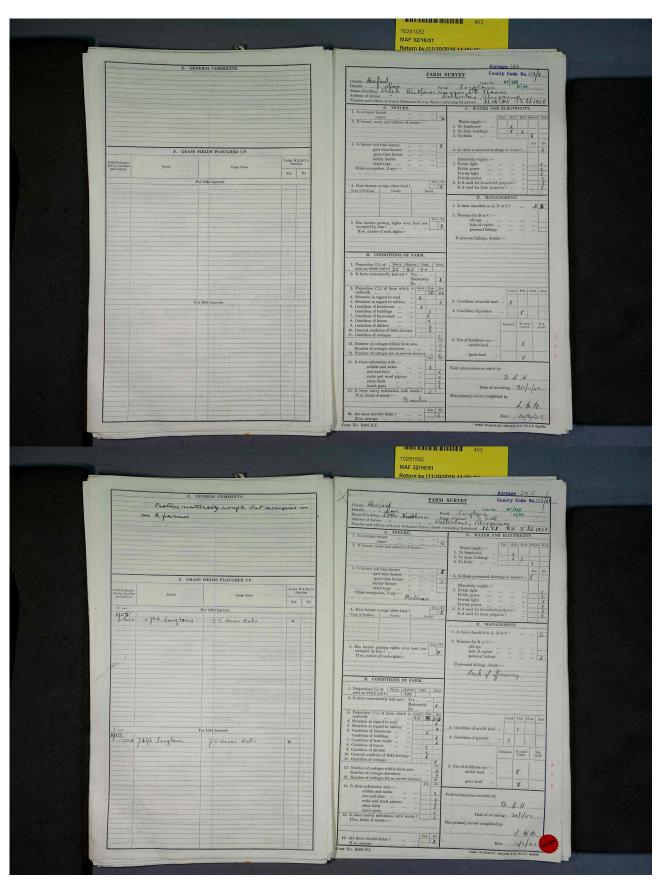


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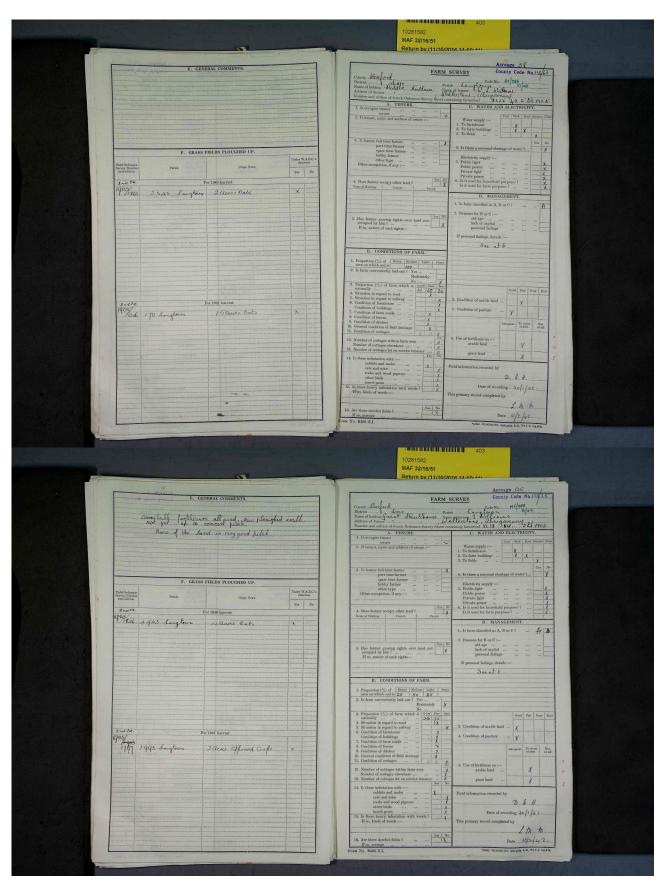




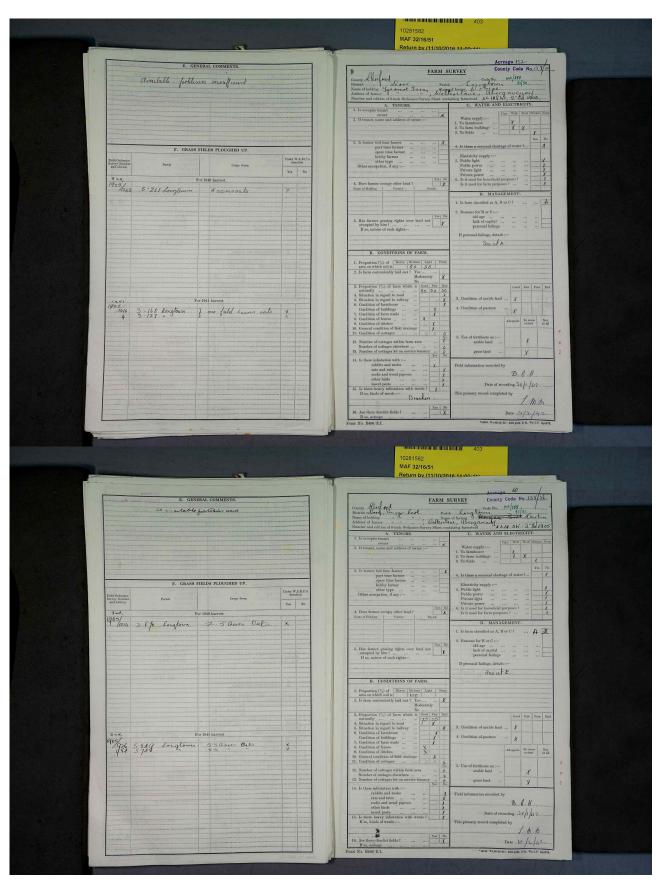




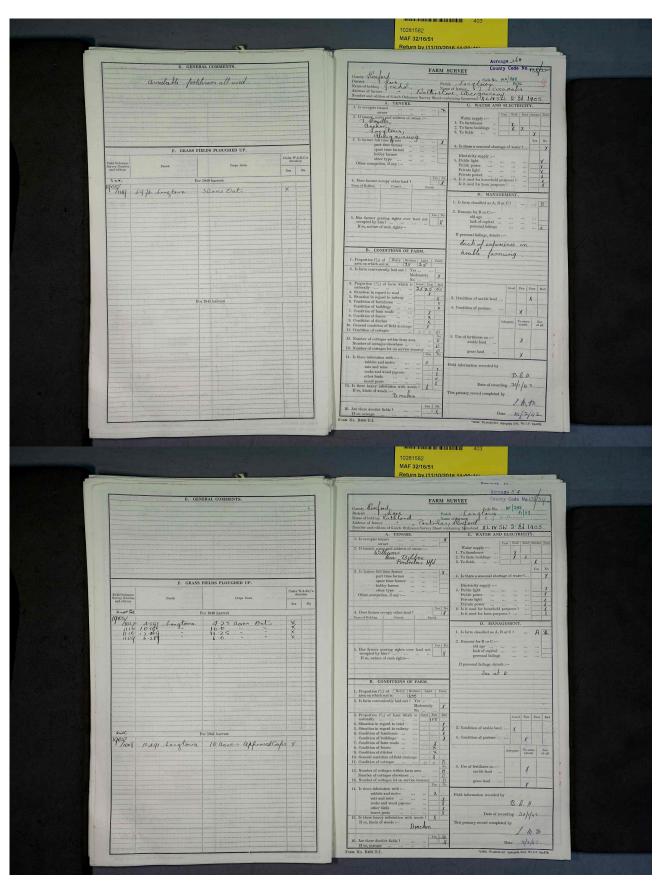




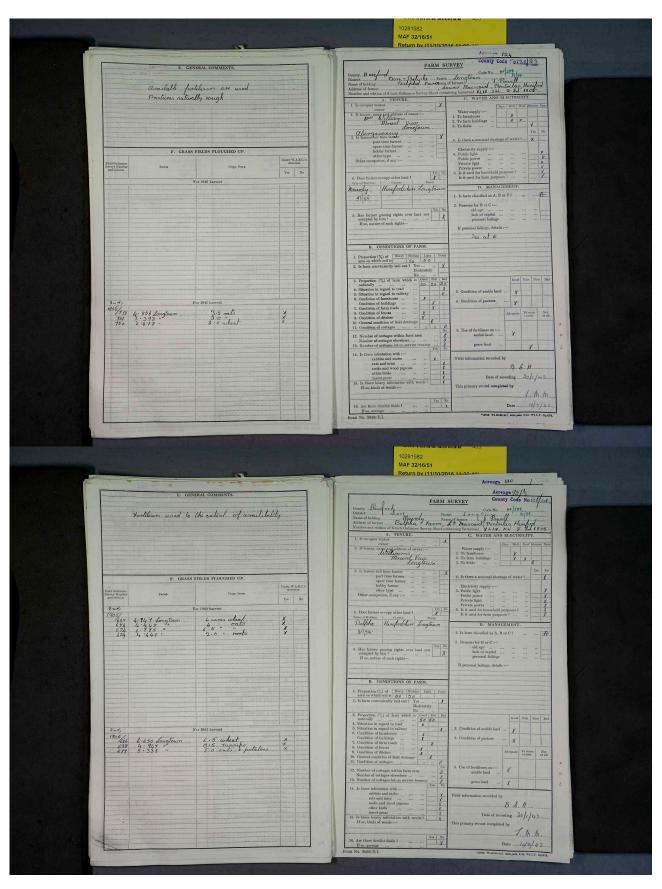




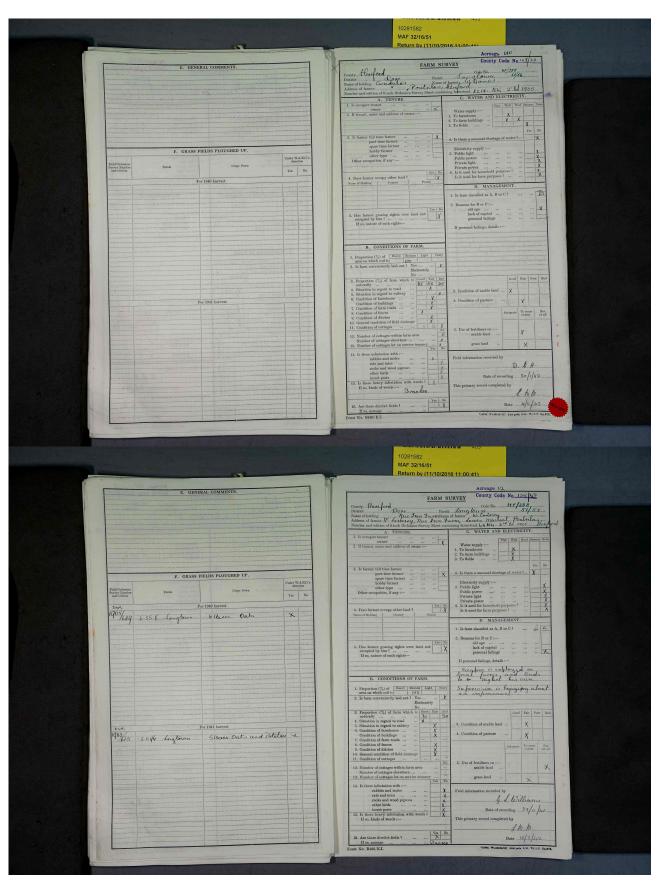




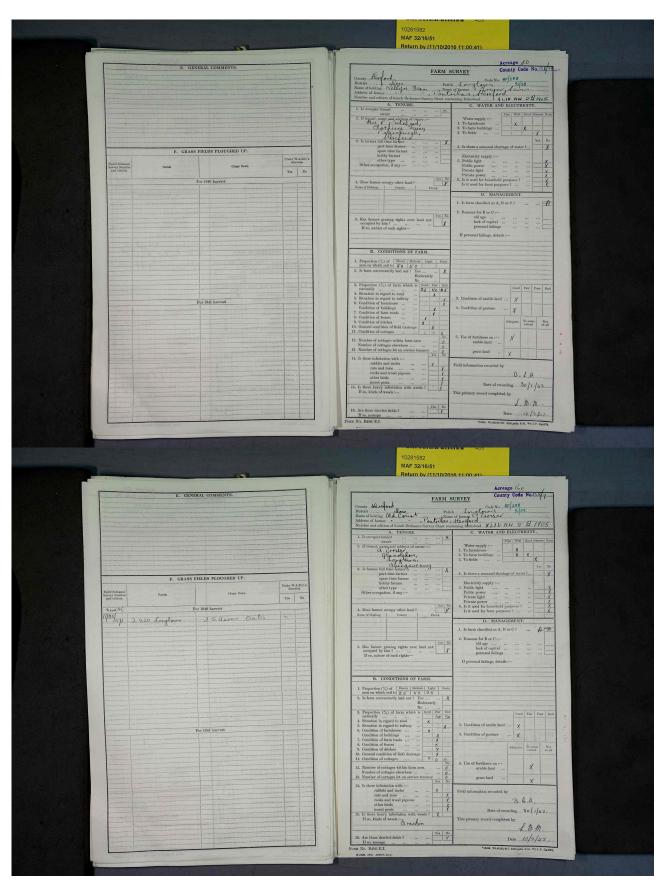




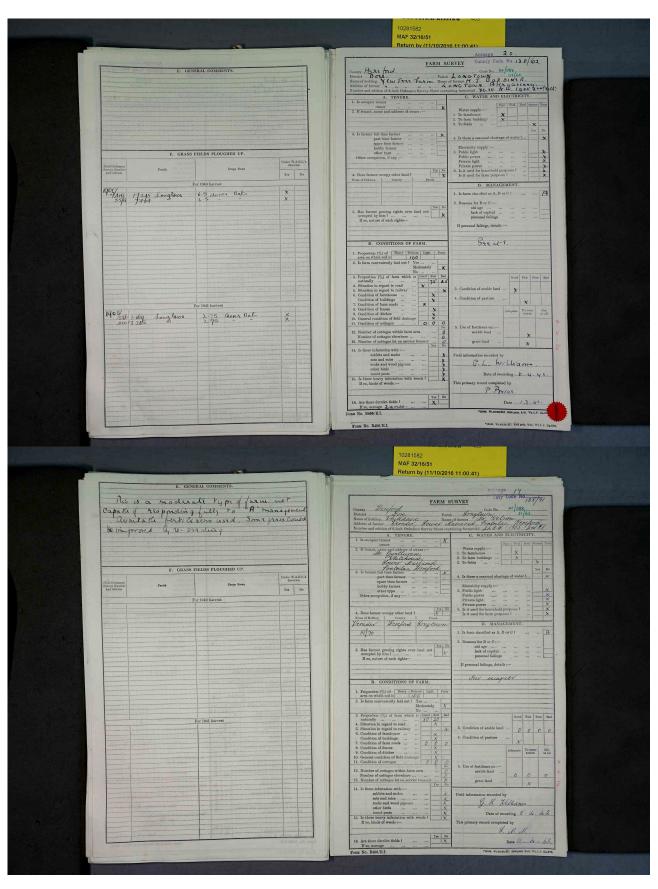




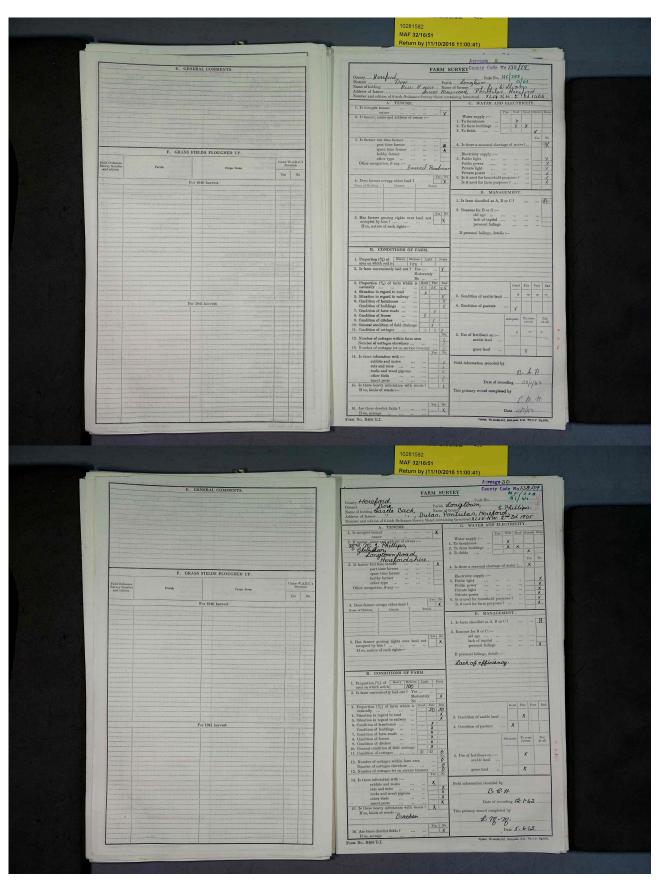






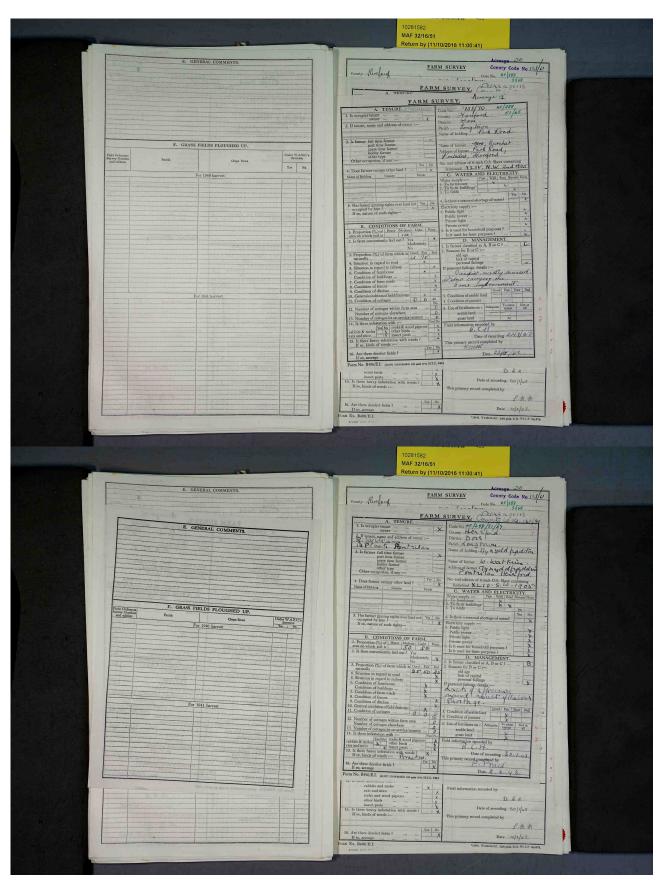






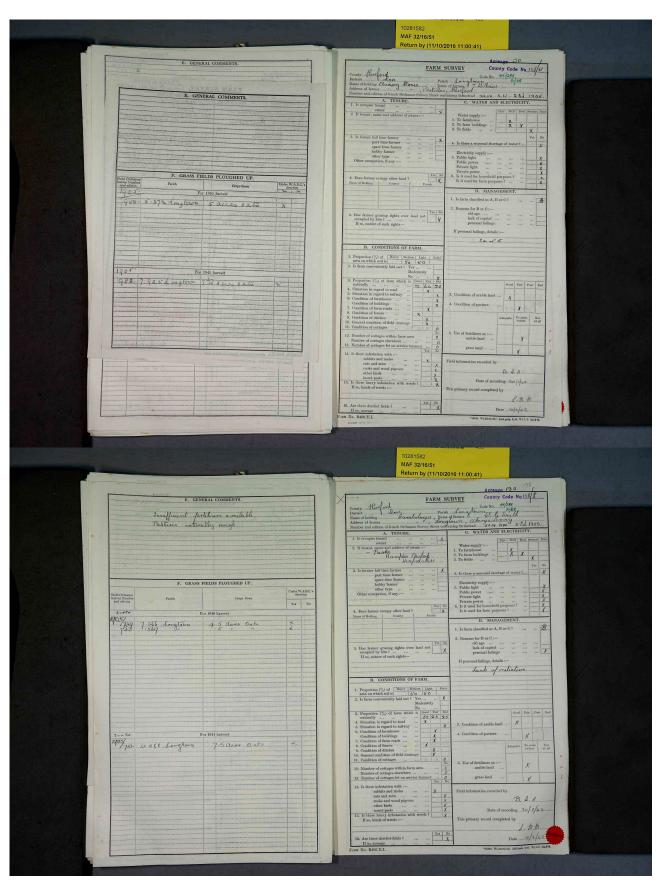


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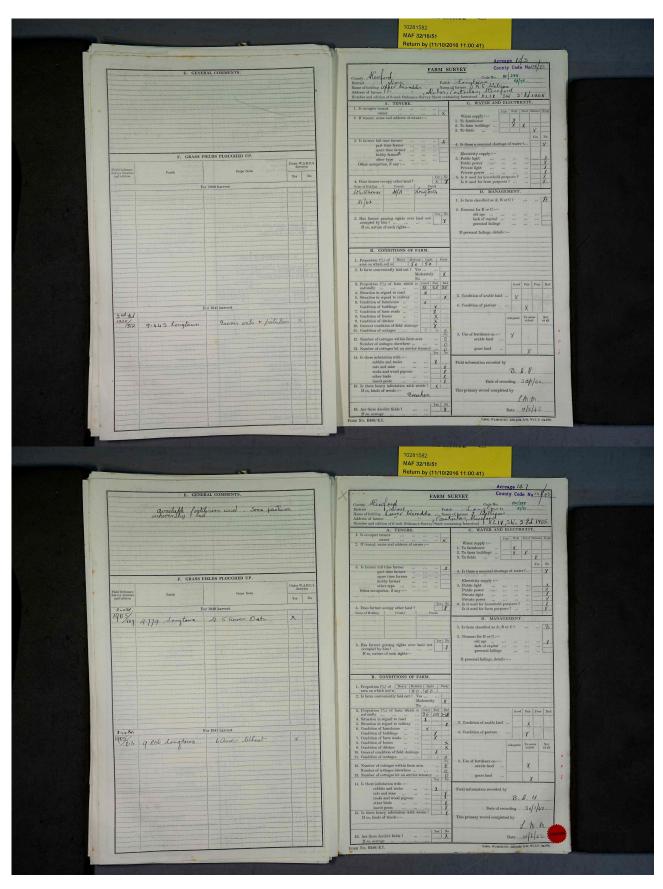


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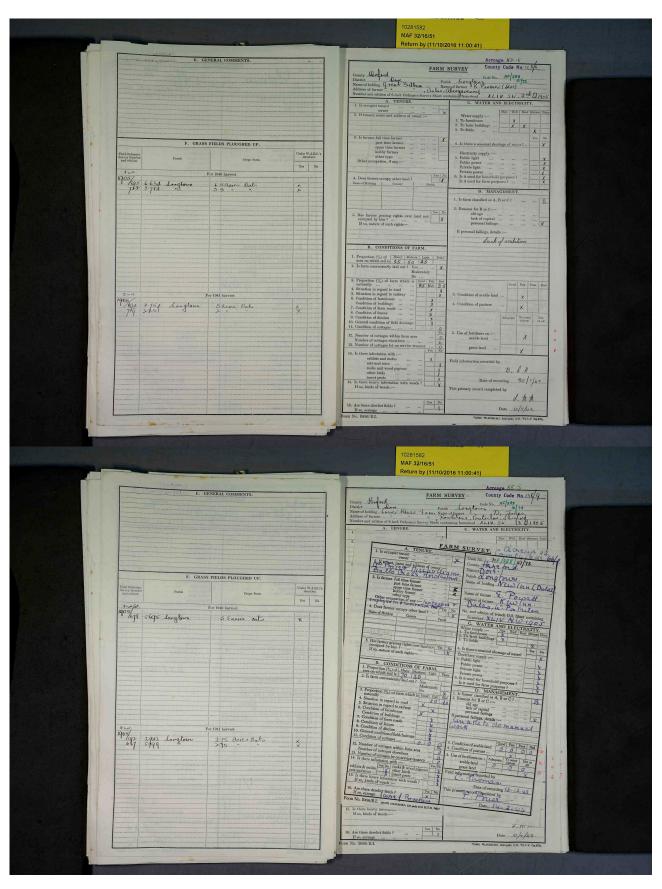






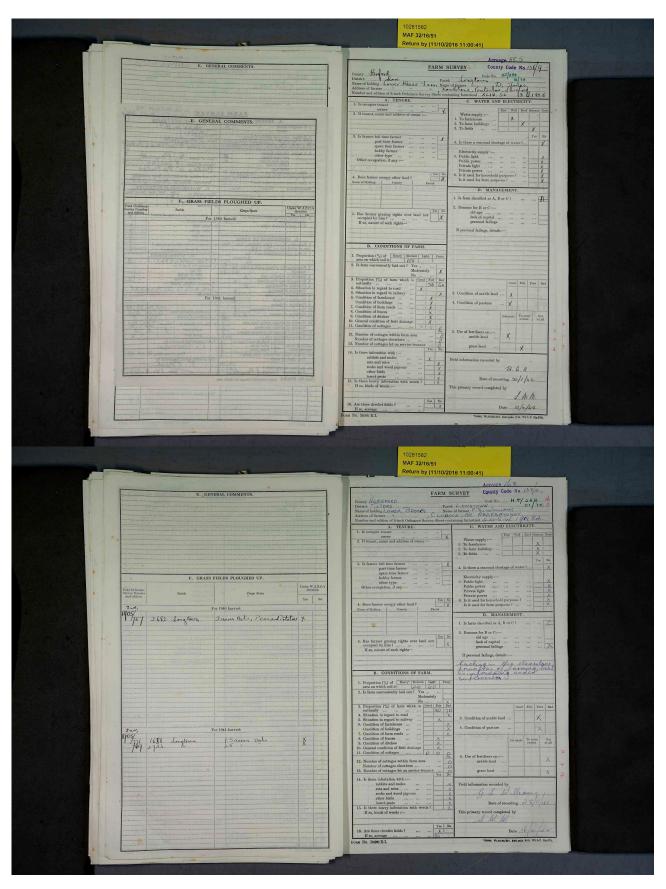








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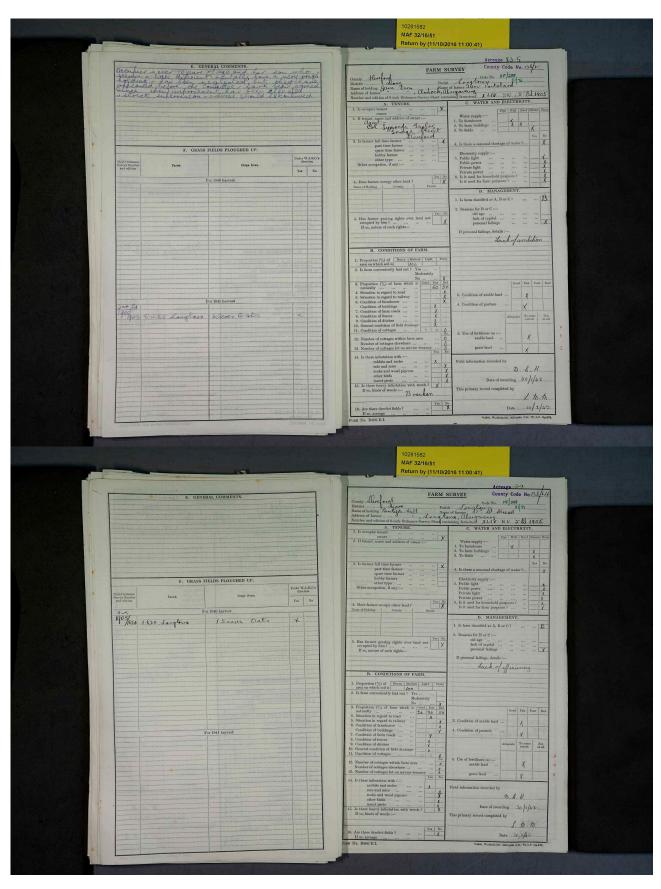


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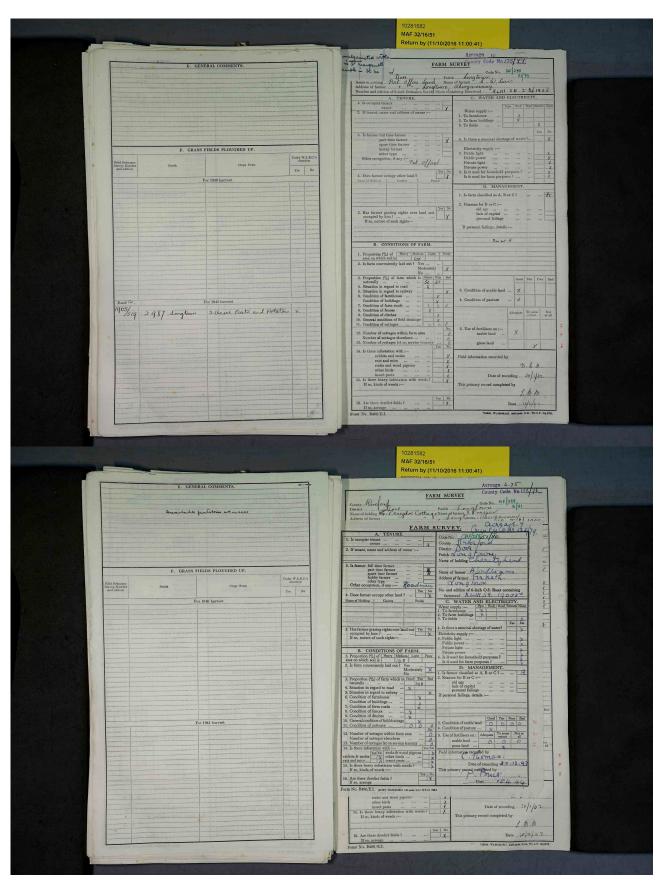
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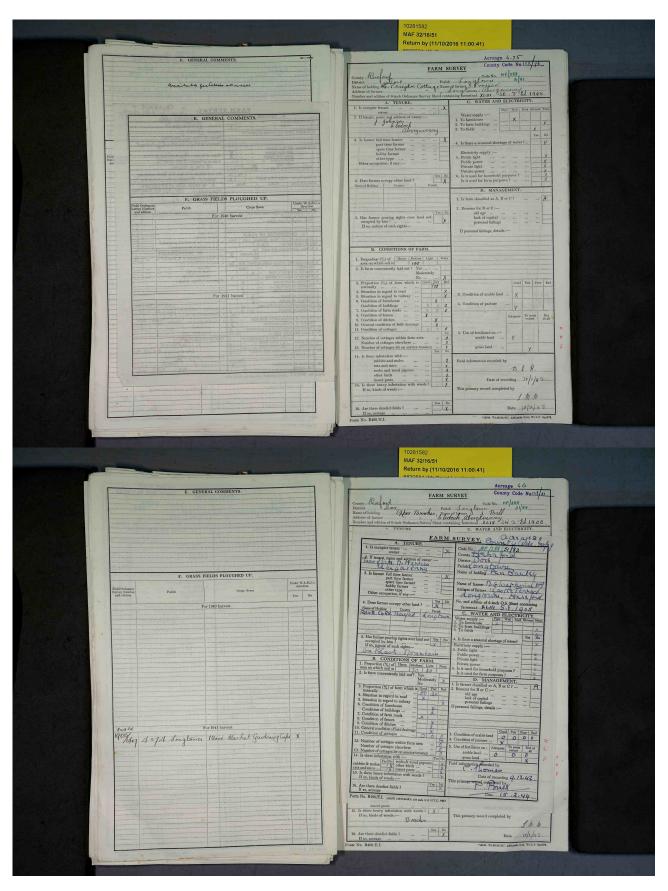


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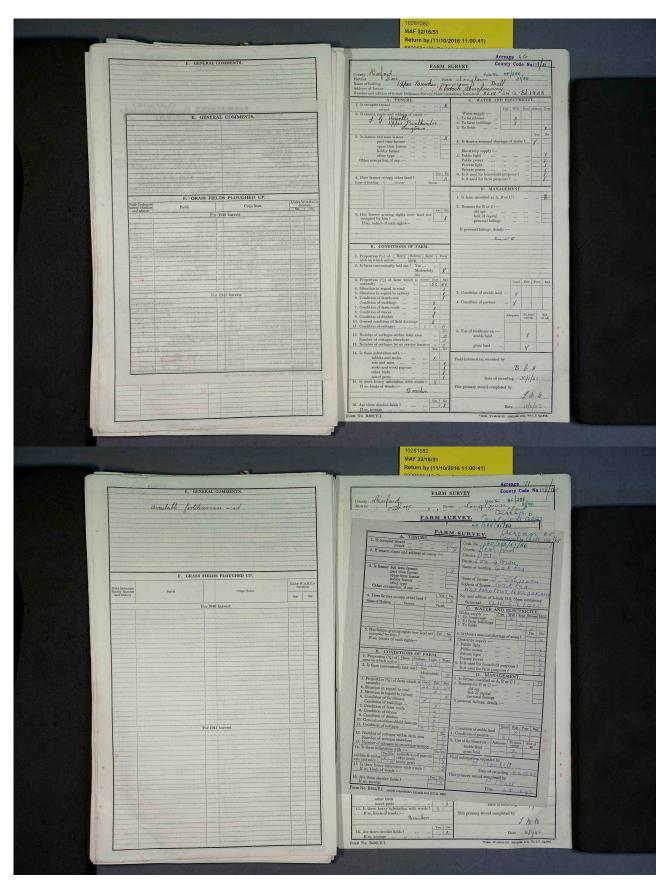
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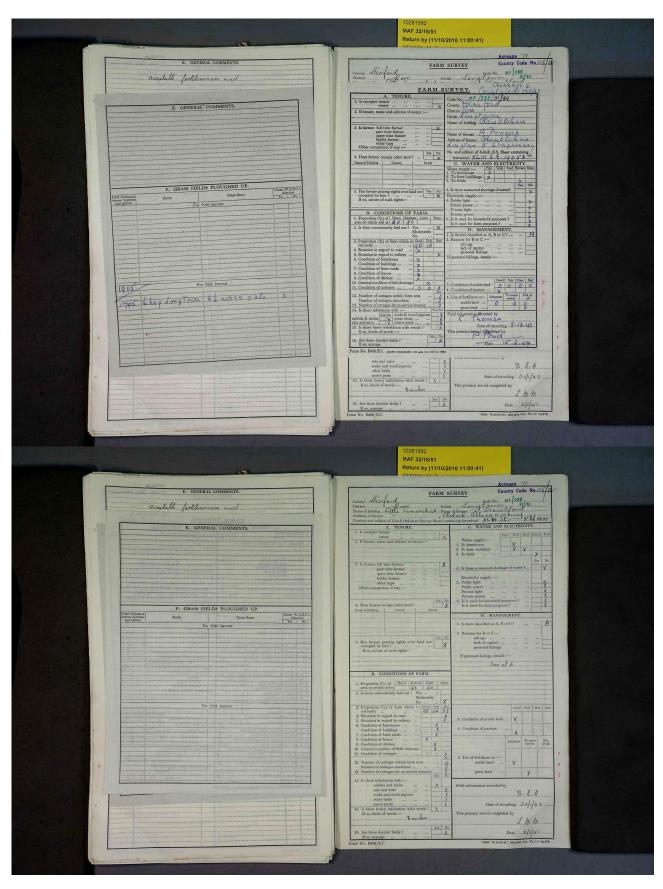


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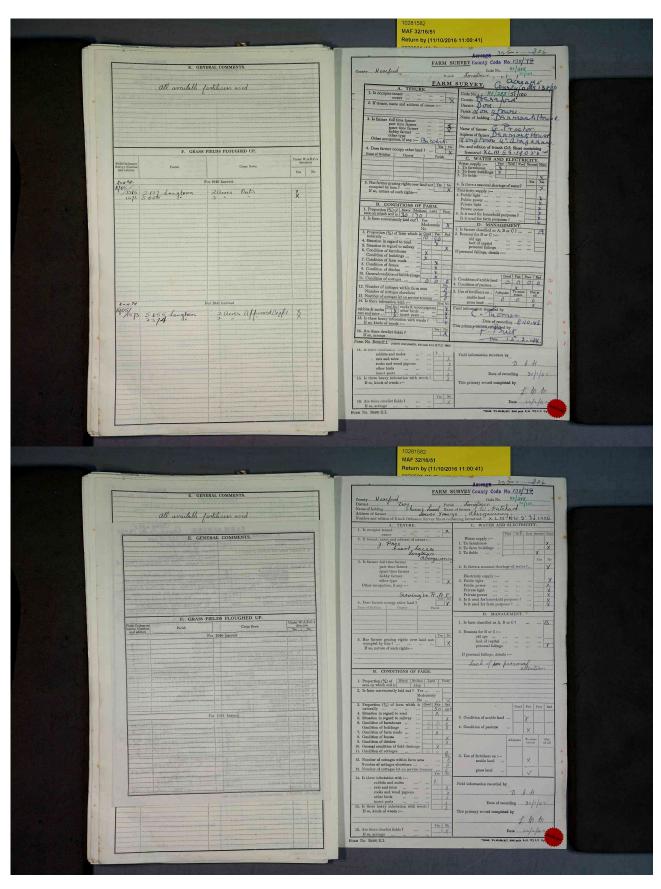


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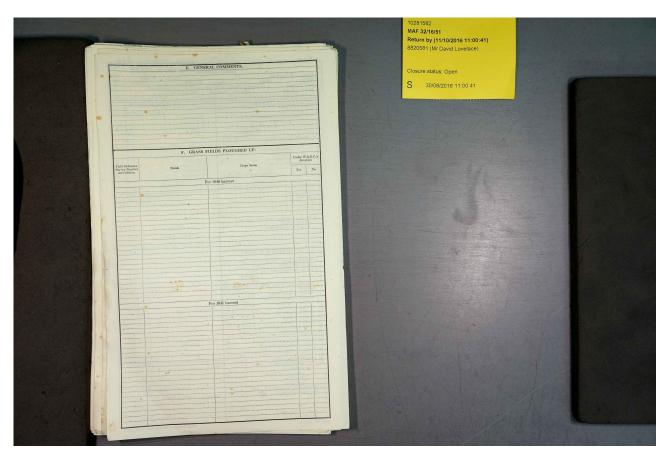






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	Acreage 39.5					
FARM SURVEY County Code No. 13845			E. GENERAL COMMENTS.			
County Hereford County Hereford District Name of holding Jessel County Alexandra A Proctor Name of farmer Name of tarmer Name of tarmer		available fortilesers all wood.				
Number and edition of 6-inch Ordnance Survey Sheet conts A. TENURE.	C. WATER AND ELECTRICITY.					
1. Is occupier tenant	Water supply :					
3. Is farmer full time farmer	4. Is there a seasonal shortage of water ?	er1 X F. GRASS FIELDS PLOUGHED UP.				
spare time farmer hobby farmer	Electricity supply:					
Other occupation, if any :- Publicain.	5. Public light	Field Ordnance Survey Number and edition	Parish	Crops Sown	Under dir Yes	W.A.
4. Does farmer occupy other land ?	6. Is it used for household purposes ?	2md. 1905/		For 1940 harvest		
Name of Holding County Parish	Is it used for farm purposes ?	1905/1195	6.531 Longtown	Lacresoats	×	
	1. Is farm classified as A, B or C?					
	2. Reasons for B or C:—					
5. Has farmer grazing rights over land not occupied by him?	old age lack of capital porsonal failings					
	If personal failings, details:—					
	300 at E	,				
B. CONDITIONS OF FARM.						
1. Proportion (%) of Heavy Medium Light Peaty 450 50						
2. Is farm conveniently laid out ? Yes Moderately No X						
No X No X No X No X No X No X No X No No X	Good Fair Poor Bad					
4. Situation in regard to road X 5. Situation in regard to railway Y	3. Condition of arable land X	2 mol .		For 1941 harvest		
6. Condition of farmhouse Y Condition of buildings X 7. Condition of farm roads X	4. Condition of pasture X	1905/	6.531 Longtown	2.5 acresoats & wheat	×	
8. Condition of fences \(\chi \) 9. Condition of ditches \(\chi \) 10. General condition of field drainage \(\chi \)	Adequate To some extent Not at all					
11. Condition of cottages O O 12. Number of cottages within farm area O	5. Use of fertilisers on :— arable land X					
Number of cottages elsowhere	grass land X					
14. Is there infestation with :— rabbits and moles X	Field information recorded by					
rats and mice	B. G. H.					
insect pests	Date of recording 30/1/42. This primary record completed by	*				
	L.M.M.					
16. Are there derelict fields ? Yes X	Date 10/2/42.					

Observations:

Note that because of the way the records are presented in the original archive each series of photographs in the PDF download documents commences with a single page showing the identity of the first farm; all the following photographs are double pages with the first showing data for the farm identified on the <u>previous</u> page and the second beginning the entry for the <u>next</u> farm. Care is needed when using these records to be sure that the right data is associated with the right property.