

Sheepy Magna... (Scepa in the Domesday Book, "Island or dry ground in the marsh where sheep graze"; previously known as Great Sheepy). Situated on the banks of the River Sence, on the old turnpike road between Ashby de la Zouch and Atherstone, the village is a long ribbon development of approx. 1½ miles, its length probably due to the fact that it was divided into 2 manors, north and south.

Grade 2 listed Gresley Farmhouse was originally the north manor house but has changed considerably from its original box-framed construction of the early 16th century when it was the home of the Vincent family. The unusually shaped arrangement of ponds opposite are thought to have been part of the formal gardens.

There has been a church here since at least the 13th century; All Saints Church is Grade 2 listed and described as circa 15th century. There were major renovations in: 1789 when the medieval windows and fittings were lost; 1859 when a north aisle was added, it was re-pewed and the entrance porch re-sited and 2018 when re-ordering included a new floor,*



pews and underfloor heating. The late 19th century stained glass windows are by the world famous Victorian visionary Edward Burne Jones (working with William Morris) and Charles Kempe.

Twitchell lane cottages are of cruck frame construction dating to 14th/15th centuries and have been administered as charity cottages since 1811.

New House Grange was a former monastic grange of Merevale Abbey and it is believed that the building of its magnificent Tithe Barn in 1506 was funded by compensation given by Henry VII after the Battle of Bosworth. Owners have included, Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, a favourite of Elizabeth I and the Grendon Hall Estate.

Sheepy Lodge built in the latter half of the 1700s, is Grade 2 listed and was often visited by the celebrated war poet Siegfried Sassoon who was briefly engaged to Dorothy Hanmer, the daughter of the owners.

The ever-popular Black Horse pub has been serving the locals for over 250 years and former landlords include John Skelton, the great grandfather of Olympic showjumper and gold medallist Nick Skelton.

The wheelwright's workshops which date from 1742 were taken down and accurately rebuilt at Snibston in 1992.



Sheepy Memorial Hall was originally an independent dissenters chapel built in 1816. Conveyed to Trustees in 1922 to "perpetuate the memory of all the men of Sheepy who served in the Great War", photos of those who did not return can be seen on the interior balcony wall.

There are still working farms in the village, many of which have their own long histories, and the old farmhouses and their surrounding fields contribute greatly to the attractive environment.