

# MANUSCRIPT MAPS OF SURREY:

WITH A LIST OF KNOWN EXAMPLES IN THE PUBLIC  
RECORD OFFICE.

BY

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IN view of the essential importance to archæology of an adequate study of topography, it may be well to examine the very various directions in which we may look to find ancient and modern maps and plans, and the very diverse reasons for their preservation. I do not at present mean to deal with the collections of maps in the British Museum and elsewhere preserved for purely antiquarian reasons, but rather to touch on the various public repositories in which maps have been preserved for legal and administrative reasons.

Here a twofold difficulty confronts the searcher. Either maps, being merely incidentally annexed to surveys or returns, are left out of the catalogues, and can only be discovered by searching through a mass of documents; or they have been embodied in a special collection, and being divorced from their context lose half their historical value. There is, for example, a map of Chaldon Parish among the "Treasury Maps," with some statistics as to enclosed and unenclosed land; but there is no reference to the correspondence originally accompanying it which might explain how this single parish map came to be preserved among a collection

whose Surrey contents consist chiefly of dockyard plans.

The chief public collections in which we may hope to find Surrey maps are the public records in the Record Office and the local records in the custody of the Clerk of the Peace. But there are other collections of maps among departmental records which have not yet been transferred to the Record Office; and maps may also be found among such public but unofficial collections as the Estate Exchange Registry at Tokenhouse Yard.

The maps in the Public Record Office are for the most part scattered among various classes, and such maps as are made up into collections, Duchy of Lancaster Maps, State Paper Office Maps, Treasury Maps and the like, contain comparatively little about Surrey.

It will, therefore, be advisable to consider what classes of documents are likely to contain maps of Surrey and why.

I will take first the maps which have come into the office for legal purposes, by which I mean principally those annexed to Deeds Enrolled. The enrolment of deeds for safe custody is a practice which goes back in the Courts of Chancery and the King's Bench to mediæval times, but maps are not found attached to such deeds until the latter part of the 18th century. There do not appear to be any instances of Surrey maps till the year 1774, when we find a plan of Tooting annexed to a deed on the King's Bench Plea Roll, but after this date they are frequent. Between 1780 and 1799 there are 16 Surrey maps annexed to deeds on the Common Pleas Recovery Roll, and 11 on the Close Roll; and deeds are also to be found with plans annexed on the rolls of the King's Bench and Exchequer of Pleas. Many of these deeds are Inclosure Awards, which will be treated separately below.

Turning now to the administrative reasons for which maps and plans have been preserved among the public records, we find the earliest maps among documents relating to Crown lands. As in the case of deeds enrolled,

we find manuscript surveys in great quantities before we come upon any maps. In the general series of Rentals and Surveys, it is not until the reign of Elizabeth that they occur; there are two or three of this reign dealing with plans of Banstead Heath, in which Banstead Downs are marked as the property of the Queen. Their *raison d'être* appears to be a claim by one R. Whitfield on the borders of this property.

Another class of records dealing with Crown lands which begins later than the general series of Rentals and Surveys happens, in the case of Surrey, to contain an earlier and very interesting map. I refer to the books of the Court of Augmentations, established by Henry VIII, to deal with the confiscated monastic possessions. In a volume of depositions taken in this Court is one of the reign of Edward VI, relating to encroachments in Morden, near the royal palace of Nonsuch. It is perhaps the presence of more or less skilled cartographers in this neighbourhood which accounts for the two maps annexed to this document; they are both water-colour sketch maps, one made by the plaintiffs and the other by Commissioners appointed by the Court. There are some striking discrepancies in detail, and both, especially the latter, go in for picturesque elaboration of trees and buildings to an extent which would shock a scientific mapmaker.

The administration of Crown lands is further dealt with in the Domestic State Papers. In those for the reign of James I is to be found a report from the Royal Surveyor, Simon Basill, on the state of a lodge in Bagshot Park, containing a careful and apparently accurate plan.

A large proportion of the Crown lands were and are still owned by the King as Duke of Lancaster, and the records of these lands include a special collection of maps; but Surrey is only represented by one map, an early one of Southwark, of which copies exist in the Guildhall and British Museum.

There were, however, other administrative activities of the Crown which have also resulted incidentally in

the preservation of maps. From very early times special commissions of inquiry were issued from the Crown to deal with encroachments and other irregularities. The returns to these are full of valuable information and often include maps. Thus we have an Elizabethan plan of Lambeth, and maps of Dulwich and Woking dating from 1606 and 1631 respectively.

In later times the most fruitful source of maps among the Departments is the Treasury, which has unfortunately formed them into a special collection, with no record of their origin. We may assume, however, that they were originally annexed to correspondence; and when this correspondence is fully indexed it may be possible to rediscover the letters in which they were enclosed. In this collection Surrey is numerically well represented, but the majority of the sixteen maps which include any part of Surrey relate to the docks and many, being printed, are really outside the scope of this paper.

With the War Office records, on the other hand, the case is different. That office has not formed its maps into a special collection, and one cannot be sure what maps a student may happen to come across enclosed in correspondence. There is a plan, for instance, of a proposed burial ground for the barracks at Guildford annexed to some letters detailing the need for a special provision.

So far I have dealt with some of the classes of records actually in the Record Office which contain maps: but there are other official collections of maps which have not yet been transferred there as they are still in constant use. I refer particularly to those at the Ministry of Agriculture, which, though a recently constituted department, has taken over the functions of the Tithe Commissioners, appointed under an Act of 1836, and the Inclosure Commission, constituted ten years later.

Both these bodies accumulated large collections of maps. A catalogue of the tithe maps up to 1887 was included in a Blue Book of that year, and a list

(including maps) of those Inclosure Awards which are in that office was made in 1893. The custody of Inclosure Awards is a somewhat complicated matter. Awards under the Act of 1845 are at the Board of Agriculture, and a copy of each is deposited with the Clerk of the Peace for the county concerned, but Awards under earlier Acts may either have been enrolled in one of the Courts of Law, and so be at the Record Office, or they may be deposited with the Clerk of the Peace. A list of all those Awards now with the Clerks of the Peace forms a House of Commons Return (No. 50, of 1904). This mentions 58 Surrey Awards, ranging in date from 1779 to 1886, but unfortunately does not mention whether plans are annexed. Of the Inclosure Awards enrolled in one of the Courts of Justice and now in the Record Office, ten relate to Surrey, and seven of them have plans attached.

In addition to these official sources there is another collection of maps, of a semi-public nature, which may include valuable information as to the changes which have taken place on the face of our county in the past century. This is the large collection of Auctioneers' Particulars, dating from 1857, at the Estate Exchange, Tokenhouse Yard. Many of these have plans attached—all, in fact, which deal with estates of more than a few acres. Unhappily there is nothing in the registers to show definitely whether there is a plan in each case; but as the collection is arranged according to counties it should not prove an impossible task to discover what plans there are in this collection which relate to Surrey.

The annexed List of Maps in the Public Record Office is as complete as present knowledge makes possible. It is hoped in the future to carry the matter further by publishing lists of maps drawn from the other repositories indicated in this article; and the Author would further be glad to receive any contributions towards a List of Manuscript Maps of Surrey, preserved locally or in private hands, so that eventually a complete bibliography of this subject may be produced.

PROVISIONAL LIST<sup>1</sup> OF MAPS AND PLANS IN THE  
PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE.

CLASS.	REFERENCE.	APPROX. DATE.	PARISH OR LOCALITY, AND REMARKS.
CHANCERY	Close Roll 6843, <i>m.</i> 17, <i>No.</i> 11	1788	Mitcham. Plan
	" " 6894, " 47, " 1	1789	Camberwell and Peckham. Plan
	" " 7011, " 6, " 16	1791	Rotherhithe. Plan
	" " 7066, " 11, " 17	1792	Barnfield, Stoke next Guildford. Plan
	" " 7182, " 36, " 4	1794	Southfield, Wands- worth. Plan
	" " 7183, " 22, " 10	"	Rotherhithe. Plan
	" " 7341, " 21, " 12	1797	Esher. Plan
	" " 7390, " 36, " 9	1798	Newington Butts. Plan
	" " 7393, " 33, " 6	"	St. George's, South- wark. Plan
	" " 7444, " 32, " 8	1799	Churchfield, Mortlake. Plan
	" " " " 34, " 7	"	Halbridge, Carshalton. Plan
	" " 10,433, " 36, " 8	1827	St. Mary, Newington. Plan
	" " 14,239, " 36	1851	Walworth. Enclosure Award
EXCHEQUER	K.R. Misc. Bks. 25	Late 15th cent.	Contains coloured plan of Chertsey Abbey (see frontispiece to Surrey Rec. Soc., No. 5)
	Special Commissions 92	1563-4	Levehurst in Lambeth. Plan
	" " 4638	1606-7	Dulwich. Survey with Plan
	" " 5669	1631-2	Woking. Survey with Plan
	Augmentation Office, Misc. Bks. 122, 947		Nonsuch and Morden. Depositions with coloured plans attached
	Plea Roll 1239	1818	West Horsley. Enclo- sure Award

<sup>1</sup> For much of the information on which this List is based the writer is indebted to Miss E. H. Fairbrother.



CLASS.	REFERENCE.	APPROX. DATE.	PARISH OR LOCALITY, AND REMARKS.
KING'S BENCH	Plea Roll 384, <i>ro.</i> 94	1774	Tooting. Plan
	" " 683, " 199	1797	Mickleham. Plan
	" " 724, " 482	1800	Rotherhithe. Plan
	" " " " 915	"	St. Mary's, Newington. Plan
	" " 1064, " 401	1822	Rotherhithe. Plan
	" " " " 402	"	St. Mary's, Rother- hithe. Plan
	" " 1132, " 254	1826	St. Mary's, Lambeth. Plan
	" " 1135, " 200	"	St. Mary's, Lambeth. Plan
	" " 1310, " 3152	1837	Battersea. Enclosure Award
COMMON PLEAS	Recovery Roll 794, <i>ro.</i> 128	1781	St. Mary's, Rother- hithe. Plan
	" " 807, " 183	1785	Battersea. Plan
	" " 809, " 166	"	Cheam. Plan
	" " 813, " 319	1786	" "
	" " 825, " 344	1789	St. Mary's, Bermond- sey. Plan
	" " 840, " 13	1793	Croydon or Bermond- sey. Plan
	" " 843, " 109	1794	Croydon. Plan
	" " " " 112	"	" "
	" " 844, " 82	"	" "
	" " 846, " 55	"	" "
	" " " " 59	"	" "
	" " " " 63	"	" "
	" " 846, " 113	1794	Croydon. Plan
	" " 851, " 17	1796	" "
	" " " " 25	"	" "
	" " " " 326	"	" "
	" " 871, " 50	1801	Little Bookham. Plan
	" " 880, " 62	1801	Richmond. Plan
	" " " " 62	1803	Ewell. Enclosure Award
	" " 881, " 160	"	Laleham. Enclosure Award
	" " 886, " 53	1804	Rotherhithe. Plan
	" " 887, " 74	1805	Rotherhithe, St. Mary's. Plan
	" " 891, " 8	1806	St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey. Plan
	" " 911, " 89	1811	St. John's, Southwark

CLASS.	REFERENCE.	APPROX. DATE.	PARISH OR LOCALITY, AND REMARKS.
COMMON PLEAS— <i>con.</i>	Recovery Roll 915, ro. 95	1812	Thorpe. Enclosure Award
	" " 918, " 47	"	Addington
	" " 922, " 71	1813	St. Mary Magdalen, Bermondsey
	" " 933, " 95	1816	St. John's, Southwark
	" " " " 65	"	Horley
	" " 937, " 105	1817	St. John's, Southwark
	" " 938, " 9	"	" "
	" " 959, " 133	1823	Addington
DUCHY OF LANCASTER	Maps 74	—	Southwark
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	Rentals and Surveys, 15/29	Temp. Eliz.	Banstead. Plan
	" " " 20/18	"	" "
STATE PAPERS	S.P., Dom. Jas. I, 53, No. 11 (1)	1610	Bagshot Park. Plan of lodge
TREASURY	T 62/4	1793 & 1835	Southwark
	/10	1837	Chaldon Parish
	/44	1793	Bermondsey
	/114	—	Surrey and Kent Commercial Roads