

ENCLOSURE ACTS AND AWARDS RELATING TO LANDS IN THE COUNTY OF SURREY.

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PREFACE.

A VERY competent authority¹ has said, "The difficulty in the way of gaining an understanding of the true effects of enclosure . . . is the lack of statistical evidence." It is understandable enough that this difficulty should arise for the enclosures of the 16th and 17th centuries, but it is surprising that the same difficulty should obtain with reference to the Parliamentary enclosures of the 18th and 19th centuries. The problem is not wholly the lack of evidence upon certain points, but also the existence of widely differing estimates given by different authorities concerning the same phenomena.

The first important statistics upon the question are, we think, those given in the *Reports* of the Parliamentary Committees and Select Committees of 1795, 1797 and 1800.² These, especially the

¹ Professor W. Hasbach, *The English Agricultural Labourer*, London, 1908, App. II (IV), p. 179.

² *Report from the Select Committee . . . on promoting the Cultivation of Waste lands . . . 1795; Report from the Committee . . . on promoting the*

1797¹ *Report*, contain tables of the numbers of Enclosure Acts passed in each year for each county. These were taken bodily by Sir John Porter for his *Progress of the Nation*, the figures in which replaced the earlier estimates in Chalmers's *Estimate of the Comparative Strength of Great Britain*. In 1870 Sir Robert Hunter in the *Statistical Journal*² gave a similar table of Enclosure Acts in counties under three headings: Acts passed in the 18th century, Acts passed 1800-42, and Enclosures under the General Acts 1845-69. Much more detailed statistics appear in the late Dr. G. Slater's book,³ and in Professor Gonner's work cited below. This last work contains some twenty statistical appendices, the data in which are drawn primarily from the Acts, though some are taken from the Awards and from "good estimates."⁴ Dr. Slater's tables, on the other hand, are based entirely on such Enclosure Acts as were to be found in the Library of the British Museum (Dr. Slater having assumed that the British Museum collection was more or less a complete one), and upon those only in so far as their preambles contained specific mention of open-field arable land.

Various Blue-book Lists of Enclosure Acts and Awards have been issued from time to time. In 1865 the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records printed a list of plans⁵ attached to Awards enrolled in Chancery, and in the Courts of King's Bench and Common Pleas. The next year⁶ this was followed by a list of the Awards themselves, including a few enrolled among national records other than those mentioned above. Early lists of Enclosure Acts together with other local Acts had already been published in Bramwell's *Analytical Table of Private Statutes*⁷ and in Vardon's *Index to Local and Personal and Private Acts, 1708-1839*.⁸ In 1843 a list of Enclosure Acts alone appeared in *Lord Worsley's Return*,⁹ several times re-issued, having been revised to date and last appearing in 1914. The Stationery Office *List of Acts Local and Personal*¹⁰ includes particulars of all Acts 1800-99. Enclosure Awards deposited or enrolled among county records are indexed in a Blue-

Cultivation of Waste . . . Lands . . . and common Arable Fields, 1797; Report of ditto . . . on . . . the means of facilitating . . . the Enclosure of Waste Lands . . . Common Arable Fields . . . etc. . . . 1800. All printed by the Commons Preservation Society, London, 1866.

¹ Reprint above cited, pp. 50-7.

² 1870, p. 404.

³ *The English Peasantry and the Enclosure of Common Fields*, London, 1908.

⁴ E. C. K. Gonner, *Common Land and Inclosure*, London, 1912, Appendices.

⁵ *Report*, XXVI (1865), App., pp. 1-29, 1-15.

⁶ *Report*, XXVII (1866), App., pp. 1-29.

⁷ 2 vols., 1813 and 1835, reprinted, London, 1913.

⁸ London, 1840.

⁹ *Parliamentary Papers (House of Commons)*, 325 (1843), 399 (1914).

¹⁰ 1900.

book issued in 1904,¹ based upon the answers returned to a questionnaire circulated to all Clerks of the Peace in 1903. Awards under the General Acts of 1845 *et seq.* are listed in another Blue-book issued in 1893.²

Most of these lists, however, are put together in a very haphazard and unmethodical fashion. The two *Reports of the Deputy Keeper* do not tally with each other, much less with all the remaining lists, and while the 1914 Blue-book is generally very reliable, so far as it goes, that of 1904 is a perfect masterpiece of muddle and inaccuracy, every Clerk of the Peace having compiled his County list according to his own ideas, and the national return being composed simply of the County lists combined. It will be understandable enough that the value of the lists varies widely from county to county. Some of them are so carefully compiled that it would be almost impossible to improve on them: others are so confused and inaccurate as to be almost worthless. Like the lists in the Deputy Keeper's *Reports*, the Blue-book of 1904 contains some references to non-Parliamentary enclosures. Another respect in which this book is of great value is that it is the only printed record of enclosures under the early General Acts,³ the Awards for which, unlike all others, were never enrolled nationally but only locally. Such enclosures, forming a class intermediate between those of the 18th century, which were generally attained with complete disregard for all interests save those of the dominant landed class, and the latest enclosures under the General Acts, where considerations of public interests have been paramount, deserve very much more attention than they have ever received.

As we have indicated above, Dr. Slater's lists of Enclosure Acts purport to include all Acts covering lands which included any proportion of open-field arable land. Acts relating to the enclosure of common meadow, pasture, and waste, alone, are excluded from them.⁴ Although there are many errors in these lists, some of which it is believed have been corrected in those below, Dr. Slater's decision has generally been accepted as to whether or not any Act included reference to open-field arable, though in some instances it has been possible to correct a few of his mistakes by reference to the 1866 *Report*, which gives quite full particulars of the lands affected, and occasionally by reference also to the 1904 Blue-book, and by enquiry from students of local history in the county.

¹ *P.P. (H.C.)*, 50 (1904).

² *P.P. (H.C.)*, 455 (1893).

³ Especially of Enclosures under the 1836 Act, 6 & 7 Wm. IV. c. 115.

⁴ Though Acts including open common field and waste of meadow, however small the proportion of common field might be, are included. Dr. Slater's working methods are described above upon the authority of a letter to the author.

It is submitted then that the lists below are likely to be useful to local historians in that they contain :

- (1) A complete list as regards Surrey of Enclosure Acts and of enclosures under the General Acts.
- (2) An indication (based on Dr. Slater's work) as to which Acts included any proportion however small of open-field arable, and which Acts related to common meadow and waste alone.
- (3) A list (we believe, the only one in print—apart from the scattered and inaccurate references in the 1904 Blue-book) of enclosures under the General Acts of 1836 *et seq.*
- (4) Particulars of all formal agreements or awards enrolled with the Clerk of the Peace and relating to non-Parliamentary enclosures in the county, and similar particulars of such agreements and Awards *c.* 1750–1840 enrolled in the national Courts.
- (5) Details of the enrolment of all Parliamentary Enclosure Awards enrolled either in the national Courts at Westminster or among the records of the county. (It seems that Acts rarely made no provision for the enrolment of awards somewhere or other, and such Awards as were not enrolled either at Westminster or with the Clerk of the Peace were generally entered among the records of the local Manorial Courts.)
- (7) Notes of all major mistakes in previous works upon such important data as dates, areas, etc., so far as it has been possible to check these, and of all the main changes in the official names of the parishes which have taken place subsequent to the enclosures. These, it is hoped, will enable the enquirer to identify with some degree of assurance the data relating to any particular enclosure.

Though this work cannot claim to be anything more than a mere compilation, it is hoped that at any rate it may be a useful one. It is quite certain that despite all our care it must contain errors. We shall be very grateful if any fellow-student noting such will be good enough to send us a postcard correcting them. Similarly we shall be indebted to any user of the lists who is able to fill up the gaps which still remain in them. Such help will be duly acknowledged if ever this article appears in a complete work covering the whole country, as we hope that perhaps some day in happier times it may. Meanwhile such corrections will be entered in a copy of this article deposited in the library of the London School of Economics, and in another, available for reference in the library of the Public Record Office. A copy has been sent to the Clerk of the Peace ; it will be available similarly for corrections and additions.

INTRODUCTION.

There seems little need here to enter into a detailed discussion either of the Open Field System or of the Enclosure movement. It may suffice to call attention to the fact that the English Enclosure Act evolved quite naturally from the methods which had been adopted to carry out enclosure in earlier times. Throughout the 17th century it had been usual for lords and tenants who desired to enclose their lands to do so by private agreement¹ either with or without securing confirmation of this in Chancery or the Court of Exchequer. Sometimes it appears that a Chancery suit was undertaken in order to bring pressure to bear on a dissentient minority. Naturally there followed from this a demand for a General Act confirming Decrees obtained in this fashion, and when a Bill to this effect was rejected in 1664 the same end was achieved by the introduction within the next century of a whole series of Private Acts, many of these, especially the early ones, confirming arrangements already come to by private agreement. It was natural that enclosure by Act should develop in an age when the power of the legislature was rapidly overshadowing that of the monarchy. After all, both the Chancery Decree and the Private Act are essentially the answer of the Sovereign to the petition of the subject, the Chancery Decree being issued when the petition has been addressed to the King in his Chancery, the Private Act when the petition has been addressed to the King in his Court of Parliament.² And in fact, as Lord Ernle points out,³ after the Restoration the jurisdiction of the Chancery was "at first supplemented, then ousted, by the private Act of Parliament."

Stray Enclosure Acts appear before 1702 but they are rare in the extreme—but six in all; from 1702 to 1760 there are 249. None of these relates to Surrey. After 1760 the tide of Enclosure flows fast, and in 1769 the first Surrey Act is recorded.

From the early Acts, sanctioning existing agreements, there gradually developed the more typical Enclosure Act, appointing Commissioners to make the partition and confirming in advance the Award they should make. The vast majority of the Acts from 1760 on are of this type, and operations under this kind of Act are quite familiar to the student from the admirable accounts given in any of the works cited. Enclosures under Acts of this sort are listed in Sections A and B.

¹ W. H. R. Curtler, *The Enclosure and Redistribution of our Land*, Oxford, 1920, p. 136.

² Gonner, *op. cit.*, pp. 55-6, 183.

³ Ernle, *English Farming past and present*, 5th ed., London, 1936, p. 162.

The enormous expense attached to enclosure carried out by this method early caused a demand for a General Act to simplify and cheapen proceedings.¹ After 140 years of more or less continuous agitation this demand was at last met by the passing of the General Enclosure Act of 1801.² This Act, which arrived on the Statute Book after a great part of the work of enclosure had been completed without its aid, was a "Clauses Act" only. References to it are incorporated in almost all the special Enclosure Acts passed in the years following 1801. The next General Act of any great importance was that of 1836.³ This permitted enclosure by the consent of a majority of the proprietors (generally at least two-thirds) without any application to Parliament. No account of enclosures under it has appeared in any of the Parliamentary publications (save for the very incomplete references in the second of the three Blue-books cited above), and they have been almost entirely neglected by historians. This is unfortunate, since in some respects they are the most interesting of all enclosures, lying as they do in a class intermediate between those enclosures carried out essentially by Parliamentary authority, often without the real consent of many of the landowners affected, and those effected by agreement of the landowners concerned, without the formality and expense incurred by an application for Parliamentary sanction. This Act properly related to open fields only, though actually many enclosures of land other than open-field were quite improperly carried out by its means. It was extended to cover lands other than open fields by a further Act four years later.⁴ Enclosures under these two Acts are listed below in Sections C and D. It is probable that some at any rate of those listed in Section C may on further enquiry be transferred to Section D.

The third really important General Act was that of 1845.⁵ This Act set up a body of Enclosure Commissioners who had the power to authorize the enclosure of lands not including any "waste of a manor" by Provisional Order without Parliamentary sanction, and had the more restricted power of authorizing the enclosure of lands including the waste of any manor or manors by a similar Provisional Order, but which had to be confirmed by Parliament, after inclusion in the Schedule of an annual Enclosure Act. Sections E (i) and (ii) and F (i) and (ii) give lists of all local enclosures carried out under the 1845 Act and the (annual) General Acts which followed it. That is, Sections C-F give complete lists of all enclosures carried out under any General Act except the

¹ Gonner, *op. cit.*, pp. 56-8, and refs. there cited.

² 41 Geo. III, c. 101.

³ 6 and 7 Wm. IV, c. 115.

⁴ 3 and 4 Vict., c. 31.

⁵ 6 and 7 Vict., c. 118.

first (Clauses) Act. For references to Acts incorporating general clauses it will usually be sufficient to take all the Private Acts in Sections A and B from 1801 onwards.

Among the many series of historical records relating to the story of the countryside which are preserved either in the various local repositories within each county or among the national archives in the Public Record Office, there are few, if any, to rival in interest and importance the long line of Enclosure Awards, covering largely the period of the reign of George III, 1760–1820, but as will be seen in the lists below, on occasion dealing with a period half a century after this and about a century before it. Especially with regard to agrotechnical matters, and the social and economic problems which are so closely interwoven with them, there is all the difference between the Awards, which form an extensive, continuous and fairly systematic series, and the county, isolated and fragmentary scraps of evidence which, apart from the Enclosure Returns of 1517,¹ 1549 and the 1620's and 1630's, are our sole source of information as to the agrarian problem in earlier ages. The fact that the series of Enclosure Awards is almost a complete one makes it possible, too, to summarize its contents and to base an argument upon them with some degree of confidence and honesty and without the haunting fear that records not quoted because they have disappeared may contain evidence very much outweighing that in the records cited. Therefore it is not too much to claim that these Enclosure Awards of Georgian times are in their evidential value infinitely more weighty than all other enclosure records taken together. It is surprising, then, that so little attention has been given to them by local historians.

The primary purpose of the Awards was at once to achieve and to register the change from the ancient methods of husbandry, and the use of open-field arable land, of common meadow, and of common pasture—the “common” *par excellence*—to the modern system of land-ownership, tenure and “cultivation in severalty.” But the Awards have much more than merely legal or agrotechnical interest and importance. They form the best—in many cases the only—source of accurate information as to the distribution of land-ownership in English villages of a century and a half ago. They are full of information as to the types of land tenure prevalent in the different districts. In perhaps half the villages of the country they serve as ultimate title-deeds to a great part of the land, both that belonging to ordinary proprietors and that allotted to Rectors, Vicars, and lay inpropriators in lieu of tithe and glebe. They

¹ Dealt with most admirably by the late I. R. Leadam in his *Domesday of Inclosures*, London, 1897.

record the lands forming the endowments of ancient village charities and schools. They are the final authority for information as to the course and breadth of the highways, the existence of footpaths, bridle-ways and Rights of Way, and the courses, breadths, and liability for cleansing of most of the surface drains. The Awards and the plans which are appended to most of them register the ownership of hedges and fences, they distinguish between titheable and non-titheable lands (many villages in the Midlands especially having had their tithes commuted largely under Enclosure Acts, so that the Enclosure Awards in many counties are better sources of information as to tithe than are the Tithe Awards), and they specify the allotments of land for public purposes—generally to the parish Surveyors of Highways for use as parish gravel-pits—which are the origins of the greater part of what land still remains vested in the ownership of such minor Local Government bodies as Parish Meetings and Parish Councils.

Accordingly the Enclosure Awards are invaluable sources of information not only to the historian or antiquary—and to him whether his interest be mainly ecclesiastical or civil, economic or social—but also to the present-day administrator who is concerned with land-drainage, highways, footpaths, provision of allotments, charity administration, or the use made by the minor Local Government bodies of the endowments entrusted to them.

It is no wonder that, as is noted in the *Report of the Public Records Commission* of 1910-16,¹ the Enclosure Awards are “more often consulted than any other documents in the county repositories,” and no less an authority than Lord Passfield, in the evidence which he gave before the same Commission,² was at pains to point out the value of these records to the local, and for that matter to the national, historian. His arguments were reinforced by those of Sir Lawrence Chubb who, in his capacity as Secretary to what was then the Footpaths and Commons Preservation Society, had had much occasion to use the Awards for evidential purposes. Sir Lawrence estimated that “many” of the Awards existed in one copy only, and that “a considerable proportion” of them had entirely disappeared. Another witness put this proportion as high as one-third. It is because so many of the original Awards have been lost that we have thought it well to include here details of the “enrolment” of all Awards where such enrolment could be traced. The original Award *should*, of course, be either in the parish chest of the place concerned or in the custody of the Parish Council or Parish Meeting. Even where it is still in proper custody it is often difficult of access to the enquirer, especially the enquirer

¹ *Report III*, Pt. i, p. 10.

² *Report III*, Pt. iii, p. 10.

from outside, and there are evident advantages to the student who intends to examine a whole series of Awards in finding them all together in one place in recognized custody. It was quite usual for an Enclosure Act to order that in addition to the Commissioners' original Award, which was to be deposited with the public books and writings of the parish concerned, a duplicate copy, with or without its plan, should be entered on the rolls of some court of record. At first this enrolment was often carried out in some of the national courts—the Chancery, or the King's Bench, latterly usually in the Court of Common Pleas, and, for parishes having Duchy property, usually in the records of the royal Duchy of Lancaster, afterwards often among the county records. Early records are often to be found among the minutes of Quarter Sessions; for later ones, the counties often purchased special volumes in which Enclosure Awards are to be found entered among registration of annuities, lists of Papists' estates, parochial agreements for the establishment of "Gilbert" Unions, and administrative oddments generally. Sometimes Awards were entered among the records of the courts of honours or of manors, and it may well be that the work now in progress in the Public Record Office, that of listing all the Court Rolls known to survive in England, may lead eventually to the discovery of a number of enrolled Enclosure Awards whose whereabouts are now unknown. It seems certain that there was some substance in the allegation made that some Commissioners, anxious to ensure that the Award deposited in the parish should be the only copy, and that its custodian therefore should receive any fees payable upon its consultation or extraction, disregarded the terms of the Act and enrolled the Award nowhere at all.

Normally, therefore, the enquirer interested in the enclosure of any particular parish has three principal sources of information open to him—the House of Commons *Journals*, which will give an account of the proceedings leading to the passing of the Act, the Act itself, and the Award executed in pursuance of it (or the enrolled copy of this Award if the original is not to be found). Data concerning these last two will normally be found in the columns below, and from these it is a simple matter to turn up the first-named. When the original Award is not to be found, particulars of the enrolment given below will often enable one to obtain access to such an enrolled copy. From these three sources it should not be difficult to make out the story of any particular enclosure as a more or less continuous narrative. Even so, however, the story will lack beginning, middle and end.

Obviously it should begin with the gradually-growing discontent

of the leading proprietors in the place with the rigid and inelastic open-field system which prevented them from modernizing their methods of husbandry as they wished: the informal discussions they would hold among themselves, and the tentative enquiries made of the attorneys who specialized in this class of business as to the cost of an attempt at enclosure. Probably in many cases this would be followed by a visit to a neighbouring township which had recently been enclosed, or by long discussions with its proprietors after business had been concluded on Market Day. Then would come the ceaseless propaganda among the smaller and more conservatively minded landowners in favour of the scheme, the insistence upon the benefits that could be expected to accrue from it: the modernization of obsolete technique and the abolition of outworn customs which it would make possible. Farmers would benefit by the enormous increase of productivity which was confidently predicted, the Lord of the Manor would receive a sufficient compensation for his not very valuable interest in the soil of the common, the Incumbent could have his tithe commuted at a handsome valuation. The highways might well be improved while the enthusiasm for progress lasted. The "deserving poor" would find small plots in severalty much easier to work than scattered scraps in the open fields and would be much better off without the largely illusory benefits of the common—even if they secured no compensation whatever for, *e.g.*, Common Rights which had actually been exercised by pure usurpation, they would have no difficulty in finding work upon the new, large, well-cultivated farms. Certainly they would benefit by the removal of the very real temptation to idleness which the possession of a large common entailed. The undeserving poor, especially the insubordinate squatters, living in riotous squalor in their tumbledown hovels on the common, would be both better and better-off if they were compelled to work regularly for an employer. Everyone in the parish would gain by the increase of employment in hedging, ditching, fencing, draining, and the fall in the rates which was confidently expected as soon as the common ceased to form a constant attraction to all the beggars, wasters and drunkards in the district.

Then the story should deal with the methods used to induce the small freeholders at last to give a reluctant consent and with the gradual buying-out of those who proved recalcitrant to the last, until finally the promoters had the necessary *quantum* of consent in support of their proposal.

Of all this, however, the greater part of the records have perished and the story can but be pieced together from casual and fragmentary references. It is clear, however, that this, or something

very like it, must have happened before ever the Enclosure Petition was drafted by the local attorney to be presented to the House by one of the County Members and to be embodied in a Bill, and finally in an Act of Parliament.

The missing middle of the story—how, when and where the Commissioners met, how they regulated their proceedings, dealt with the infinity of claims, just, unjust and dubious, submitted to them, tried to harmonize conflicting interests, and eventually reduced the systemless chaos of the open-field village to something more in accordance with their conception of what a reasonably well-ordered parish should be, can hardly be discovered without the aid of the Commissioners' working papers. It is very doubtful whether many of the Commissions kept any minutes at all (there was no statutory rule that they should do so), and of the few Commissions that were business-like enough to keep proper minute-books, but few records are known to survive. Neither the British Museum nor the Public Record Office has any, nor are there any among the collections of the London School of Economics. It is very much to be desired that such minute-books as are known to survive should be properly edited and published, since, until this is done, the student will never be able to obtain a grasp of the Commissioners' working methods.¹

The end of the story is not yet. Nor will it arrive until the much-discussed "Land Question" shall finally be settled (if indeed any such settlement is possible), in a fashion which shall be just as well to the landowner and the peasant as to the community at large whose vital interests are so closely concerned in it. Whether enclosure tended to land monopoly, as is so often alleged: what was its effect in the long run upon the productivity of English land: did it actually result in the "high farming" advocated by its pioneers or was its outcome at last the reversion to something approaching prairie methods, bringing rural depopulation and unemployment in their train: were the smaller proprietors actually maintained in the possession of their holdings or, if they were dispossessed in later years, how far enclosure may be fairly blamed for their disappearance: what prospects had they of attaining the precarious dignity of a farm tenancy of their own and how far did they go to swell the ranks of the new urban proletariat whose existence nowadays, divorced from all means of production, both

¹ We believe that the only minute-books to be so printed are: that for Drayton Parslow, Bucks, 1797-1801 (ed. by Mr. G. Eland and printed in *Records of Buckinghamshire*, Vol. XI, no. 25, Buckingham, 1923), and that for East Drayton, Notts (edited by the present author and printed in the (Nottinghamshire) *Thoroton Society Transactions*, Vol. XLI, Nottingham, 1937).

manufacturing and agricultural, is the cause of so much concern to all men of goodwill.

These questions and many like them are not unworthy of attention and, given it, should at length be capable of solution. It will be more than adequate recompense for the labour involved in this compilation if its publication contributes, in however modest a degree, towards the elucidation of such questions and the solution of such problems.

FIELD SYSTEMS AND ENCLOSURE MOVEMENTS IN SURREY

Early Field Systems in Surrey.

Surrey, as may be seen in Prof. Gray's map,¹ was until lately held to lie wholly outside the area formerly characterized by the two- and three-field systems under which agriculture was carried on in the English Midlands. Prof. Gray included it in the special area which he styled "the Lower Thames Basin," consisting of most of Surrey, Essex, Hertfordshire, Middlesex and south Buckinghamshire with a portion of Bedfordshire.² In this area he considered he had found field systems of a transitional type, tending to display some features of the true Midland variety, but mainly consisting of hybrids of the Kentish and East Anglian systems.

Throughout the area the unit of villein tenure was the virgate, but a very different virgate from that of the Midlands. The virgates were distributed not more or less equally among two or three large "fields" but among many fields or furlongs, varying widely in area, and apparently quite devoid of any systematic arrangement. Such a system as this would arise quite naturally in an area formerly heavily wooded, where abundance of waste obviated the necessity of maintaining pasture rights on a fallow field. Gradual reclamation would account for the scattering of the furlongs and of the selions in them. Some portions of the area, *e.g.* Hertfordshire, show strong Midland affiliations, Essex, as one would expect, displays a close resemblance in its field system to that of East Anglia, while Surrey, naturally enough, shows the strongest marks of "Kentish" influence.

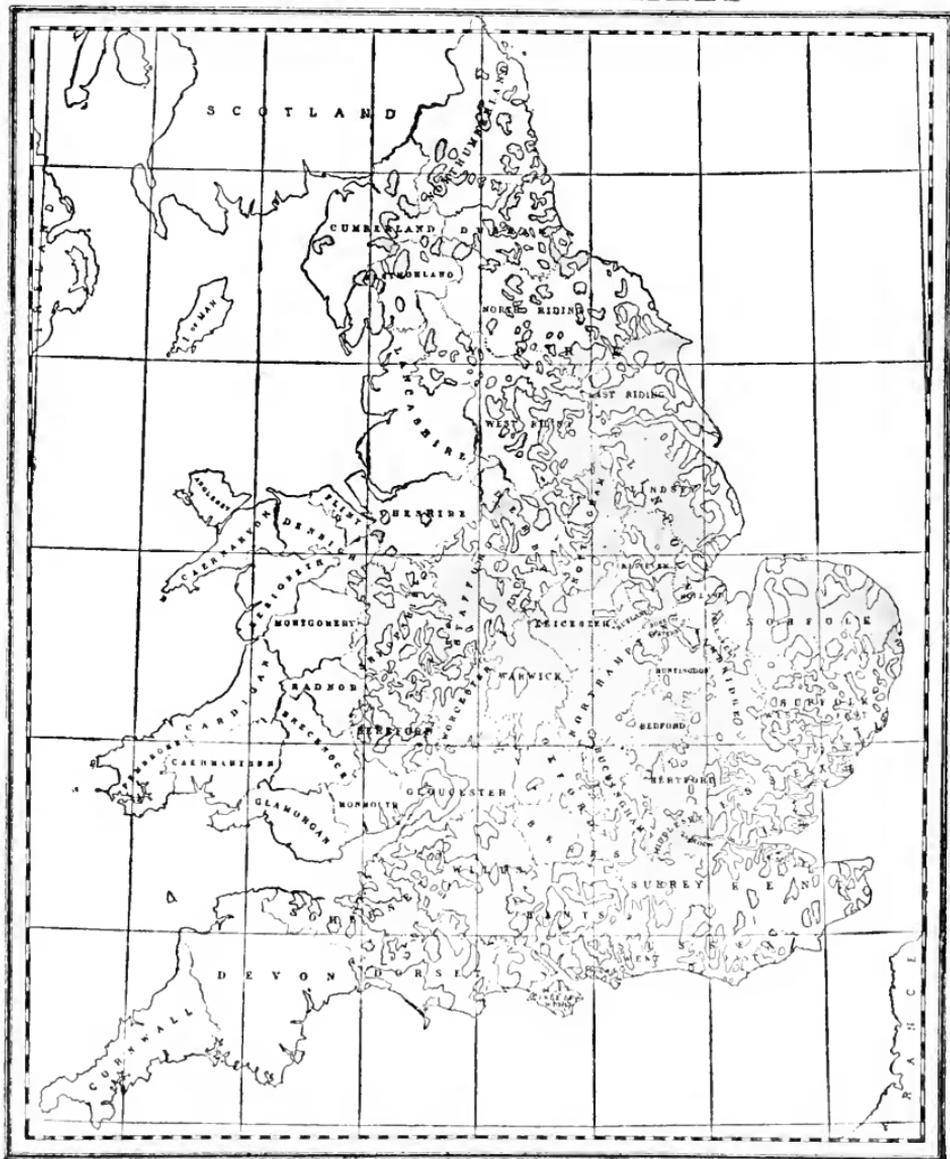
Dr. and Mrs. Orwin³ have found in Surrey evidence of open-

¹ H. L. Gray, *English Field Systems*, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A., 1915, frontispiece. A better map is reproduced here (p. 130), from Dr. and Mrs. Orwin, *The Open Fields*, Oxford, 1938, by permission of the authors.

² Prof. Gray's rather ambiguous note on p. 355 means clearly that south Surrey is to be excluded from the area of the "Thames Basin," not included in that of the true open-field system.

³ *The Open Fields*, Oxford, 1938, p. 64.

ENGLAND AND WALES



Scale

Miles 10 5 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 Miles

THE FORMER EXTENT OF OPEN FIELD IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

Reproduced, by permission of Dr. and Mrs. C. S. Orwin, from *The Open Fields*, p. 65, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1938.

field cultivation almost everywhere except in the south-east corner, to the south and east of Guildford. This is one of the respects in which their work has very considerably modified the generally accepted statements put forth by Professor Gray a quarter of a century ago. They have found of course no trace of open-field cultivation in the Weald, but consider that "a map of Surrey . . . showing mediæval open-field villages would coincide approximately with one showing those mentioned as being cultivated at the time of Domesday."

In investigating the matter, Professor Gray examined a series of *inquisitiones post mortem* of the late 13th and early 14th centuries. In his Surrey examples he found no record whatever of a demesne being "one third valueless because it lies in common."¹ At the same time there is, for example, at Molesey, evidence of a three-course rotation upon the enclosed demesne. So it seems that mediævally in the county there is definite proof of a three-course rotation, without common pasture in the fallow year, and quite divorced from any three-field system. Another particularly interesting example is quoted by Gray from Ewell,² where in the 13th century there were *tenementa* reminiscent of those in Norfolk, but bearing similar names to those of the contemporary units in Kent. His conclusion from this is that at Ewell certainly, and presumably in other Surrey townships concerning which data are lacking, there is the connecting link between the East Anglian system and that of Kent.

Gray found evidence of open-field conditions in the county in a series of fines, etc., of early mediæval date. The places mentioned are: "Becham"³ (now Bookham), 1199-1200; Camberwell, 1198-9; Carshalton, 1203-4; Kingston, 1218-19; "Maudon" (now Malden), 1212-13; Mitcham, 1234-5; Polstede (now Polsted), 1198-9; Thorp (now Thorpe), 1218-19, and Walworth, 1323-4. Data for the Tudor period he has taken from a series of terriers⁴ apparently of former monastic lands, drawn up in 1547-8. The townships dealt with include Ashtead, Claygate, Eashing, East Molesey, Esher, Lambeth, Malden, Pirbright, Shalford, Waddington (in Coulsdon), West Cheam and West Molesey. In all these places the only information available is that the arable lands were in open fields of some kind. At Ewell, Kingston, Sutton, Walton-on-Thames, West Clandon, Weybridge and Worplesdon some of the terriers mention several fields (but ascribe widely different areas to the lands belonging to one individual holding in the different fields). Others specify the land as contained in certain furlongs, but say nothing as to the grouping of the furlongs in "fields."

¹ *Op. cit.*, p. 396.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 367.

² *Ibid.*, p. 396.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 357.

The only exception he has noted to the scattering of the arable parcels occurs near the Kentish border at Banstead, Sanderstead and Gatton, in 1199-1200 and 1206-7 respectively. Here, as one would have expected, estates tend to be consolidated, though there were common fields, sometimes quite large but relatively barren ones, as, for example, at Coulsdon in 1324-5, 1430 and 1495-6.

In general the system in vogue was the highly irregular one of the types already indicated, not a symmetrical two- or three-field system of the Midland pattern. Other records cited by Professor Gray prove that this was true of Banstead 1680, Battersea 1547-8, Bisley 1404-5, Chertsey 1454-5, Chobham 1452-3, East Clandon 1409-10, Egham 1484-5, Epsom 1509-10, Keyo (now Kew) *c.* 1600, West Sheen *alias* Richmond *c.* 1600, and Merstham 1522.

We may well accept (with certain reservations made necessary by Dr. and Mrs. Orwin's later work) Professor Gray's suggested summary of Surrey field history. Briefly this runs as follows :

Probably in early times the Kentish system or something very like it prevailed within the county. Division of holdings equally among three arable fields was never very widely prevalent. The general aspect of a villein holding must have been very much that of an East Anglian one, or that of a Kentish one after the disintegration of the *iugum* had set in. Or again, Surrey, like Kent, East Anglia and Essex, was originally within the sphere of "Roman" agrarian influence. Like East Anglia and Essex it diverged from the norm more than did Kent, and finally, like East Anglia, it re-organized the disintegrating *iugum* and re-christened it with a name—the virgate—properly applying rather to the Midland unit.

It has been thought wise to enter into some detail concerning the history of field systems in Surrey (though the notes given above make no claim to originality and are in the main a *précis* of Professor Gray's conclusions and of Dr. and Mrs. Orwin's), because the County Reporters, W. James and G. Malcolm,¹ perhaps misled by their enquiries in Buckinghamshire on which they were reporting simultaneously, describe a three-course rotation and even a three-field system as formerly prevalent in the county, while Professor Gray, it will be seen, doubts how far a true three-field system ever existed here.

Early Enclosures in Surrey.

For obvious reasons Surrey, like the other counties having irregular field systems, tended in general towards early enclosure, like its neighbours Middlesex and Hertfordshire, and like part of the county of Norfolk, with which, as we have already pointed out,

¹ *General View . . .*, London, 1794, p. 38.

it was allied in its open-field structure. Nevertheless it was among the few counties outside the Midland open-field belt to retain an extensive area of common field until the era of Parliamentary enclosure.¹ Professor Tawney² notes Malden as early as 1452 as an instance of the disappearance of the old uniformity of holdings which marked the beginning of the end of the old village community. Here in this year there still existed intact some of the 15- and 16-acre holdings which had originally been normal, but side by side with these are found other holdings of from 2 to 24 acres.

Such open field as survived in the county was largely in the northern half. Mr. Curtler³ follows Professor Gray in saying that Surrey open fields were mainly near the Thames, that in general the county never contained much open field, and that much land was enclosed directly from the waste state when the forests were destroyed in the 17th century. Even allowing for these interesting and important survivals, Surrey is still in the main a county of early enclosure. Marshall,⁴ a much sounder guide than the Malcolms, very truly considered that the open-field system never gained a real footing in the Weald, and we have quoted above evidence confirming his supposition.

Leland,⁵ an invaluable source as to the agrarian history of most English counties, hardly mentions Surrey, though he must have passed through it on his way from Hampton Court to London.

The county does not appear in the *Domesday* of 1517. Apparently it was reported on, but there are no extant returns.⁶

Surrey is not included among the counties to which the 1536 Depopulation Act was to apply.⁷ It was affected by the agrarian disturbances of 1549, though the disaffected here soon submitted and confessed their faults "with verie lowlye submission," offering to fight the western rebels.⁸ Like its neighbours, Essex, Middlesex, Hertfordshire and Sussex, but unlike Hampshire, this county was also excepted from the last Depopulation Act, that of 1597, with, according to the *Considerations* of 1607, "thereby noe Inconvenience in ye stat found."⁹ Surrey was of course one of the counties

¹ Gray, *op. cit.*, p. 404.

² *The Agrarian Problem* . . . , London, 1912, p. 68.

³ *Enclosure and Redistribution* . . . , Oxford, 1920, p. 220.

⁴ Quoted in Slater, *op. cit.*, p. 232.

⁵ *Itinerary*, 1538-44, ed. Miss L. T. Smith, London, 1907, Vol. I, p. 106.

⁶ Dr. E. F. Gay in *Trans. R. Hist. Soc.*, N.S., Vol. XIV (1900), p. 238.

⁷ 27 Hen. VIII, c. 22 (1536), Miss H. M. Leonard in *Trans. R. Hist. Soc.*, N.S., Vol. XIX (1905), p. 124.

⁸ Dr. E. F. Gay in *Trans. R. Hist. Soc.*, N.S., Vol. XVIII (1904), p. 202, fn. 5.

⁹ G. Slater, *op. cit.*, 1907, App. II, p. 328; Archdeacon Cunningham, *English Industry and Commerce*, Vol. II, Cambridge, 1892, App. ii, pp. 702-3.

seriously affected by the "Diggers" agrarian movement of 1649. Winstanley and his associates represented themselves as the Lamb of Righteousness in conflict with the Dragon of Unrighteousness. Their intention was to establish communist agrarian settlements on the commons. Their early headquarters were on "George Hill in Surrey" (St. George's Hill) from whence Fairfax's soldiery had some difficulty in ejecting them.¹ This seems to indicate that Surrey was a county affected by the prevalent agrarian distress, though one, of course, with extensive areas of common still remaining (as for that matter, they do still). Blith² in 1649 describes Surrey as an enclosed county, and Aubrey³ a little later refers to the "spacious Vale . . . full of enclos'd Pastures" from Dorking to the "Northdown-Hills in Sussex [sic]," and to the Surrey Weald, "which, like the Wealds of Sussex and Kent, is a rich, deep, enclos'd country." Blome in 1673 says "where it beareth upon the Thames and lieth as a plain and champion country it is grateful to the husbandman." According to Professor Gonner's tables,⁴ based on Ogilby's maps of 1675, Surrey is 23rd of the 37 counties listed in order of the percentage of open land still remaining, with a total enclosure of some 27 per cent so far as this may be estimated from the percentage of fenced road in the total mileage of road in the county. Celia Fiennes⁵ a little later says not a great deal of the condition of Surrey with respect to enclosure. From other sources, however, it is known that extensive enclosure had taken place in the county (? shortly) before 1700. Meager⁶ in 1697 includes Surrey among the enclosed counties where the people can "live happily and supply corn to the open field counties."

Definite dates can be given for few of these early enclosures. It is shown by Professor Gray,⁷ however, that Merstham was half enclosed by 1522, Byfleet and Bisley entirely by 1600, and Banstead mainly before 1680.

Defoe⁸ in 1724 speaks of West Surrey as "poor, sterile, given up to barrenness." He notes also that "abundance of the inhabitants are what we call cottagers, and live chiefly by the

¹ Scrutton, *Commons and Common Fields*, Cambridge, 1887, p. 109.

² *English Improver* . . ., London, 1649.

³ Aubrey, Vol. IV, p. 172, and Vol. III, p. 48.

⁴ E. K. C. Gonner, *op. cit.*, p. 173, and J. Ogilby, *Britannia* . . ., 1675.

⁵ *Through England on a Side-saddle, in the time of William and Mary; being the diary of Celia Fiennes*, London, 1888.

⁶ *Mystery of Husbandry*, London, 1697, quoted by G. E. Fussell in *Ministry of Agriculture Journal*, Jan. 1937, p. 144.

⁷ *Op. cit.*, pp. 364-7.

⁸ *A Tour Thro' . . . Great Britain, 1724* (Everyman Edition), London, 1928, Vol. I, p. 143.

benefit of the large commons and heath grounds of which the quantity is so very great. . . ."

By the 18th century probably nearly all the Weald had gradually been enclosed and heavy inroads had been made upon the relatively small open fields in the north of the county. Marshall ¹ in 1798 says the whole district between Pulborough and Midhurst ". . . is in a state of inclosure except a few small heathlets and commons, and except a small remnant of common field in the 'Maam' (Gault ?) soil." Eden ² in 1797 makes several references to Surrey commons but only one to open fields, those of Walton-on-Thames, where enclosed land was worth 31s. an acre, open field about £1.

The County Reporters ³ list the parishes still containing open fields at the end of the 18th century. Only a single township has more than 800 acres and only half a dozen have more than 350 a. They are: "from Carshalton to Sutton and Cheam" 3,000 a., Mortlake, Putney, Wandsworth and Battersea 1,340 a., Epsom 800 a., Ashted 700 a., Ewell 600-700 a., Merve (now Merrow) and Horsehill (now Horsell) 510 a., Bookham 450 a., Send 365 plus 50 plus 70 a., Weybridge and Walton 350 a., Thorp (now Thorpe) 350 a., Egham 300 a., East and West Clandon 300 a., Hythe-fields 250 a., Runnymede 160 a., Yardmead and Longmead (townships ?) 100 a. Altogether James and Malcolm report 12,305 (?) a. of open fields with c. 75,000 a. of waste. According to Stevenson, since the time of the first report there had been enclosed 4,500 a. of heath and 2,700 a. of open-field land, a total area of 12,100 a.

Eden ⁴ of course makes no suggestion of giving a complete list of Surrey commons. In his text he says that Reigate had one of 600 a. Here he says nothing of the effect of the common's existence upon the condition of the inhabitants. Walton-on-Thames had 4,000 a., 40 or 50 of which had been enclosed by encroachment during the previous forty years. Professor Gonner ⁵ summarizes the enclosure history of Surrey as indicating firstly that a good deal of land in this county was and is of very little value for agricultural purposes. His second point is that, of the land which was not worthless or nearly so, a great deal was heavily wooded. Thirdly he suggests that in the remaining land, agriculturally desirable, and taken into cultivation under open-field usages, enclosure often took place very early, no doubt influenced by the

¹ *Rural Economy of Southern Counties*, London, 1798, Vol. II, p. 100.

² *State of the Poor*, condensed reprint, London, 1928, p. 321. The suggestion that Maam = Gault is Dr. Slater's, *op. cit.*, p. 356.

³ James and Malcolm, *op. cit.*, pp. 45-50; Stevenson, *General View . . .*, London, 1813 (written 1806-7), p. 356.

⁴ *Op. cit.*, pp. 321-2.

⁵ *Op. cit.*, pp. 38-40.

enclosure of waste directly into a state of severalty which was taking place at the same time. The enclosure of the waste was mainly early, in the 16th century a good deal of common and waste was taken in, in the 17th century there was extensive enclosure both of common land and of common field. The Parliamentary enclosures of the 18th and 19th centuries represent but the culmination and completion of a process which had been going on for centuries.

Surviving Commons in Surrey.

Surrey as one of the Home Counties, and one particularly rich in commons, was early taken under the special care of the Footpaths and Commons Preservation Society, and no doubt it owes to this fact the continued possession of several of its still remaining commons. Lord Eversley¹ has noted commons disputes of one kind or another in over 30 Surrey parishes. Taking these in alphabetical order, Banstead has four large commons of a total area of some 1300 a. The Court Rolls of the manor from 1379 to modern times and a regulation as to stinting the common, adopted by the Manor Court and entered on the Court Rolls, supplied the evidence needed for the final defeat of an attempt at an enclosure which lasted from 1864 onwards and was the subject of a law-suit lasting from 1877-86. The common is now the subject of a Regulation Order. Barnes Common is of some 120 a. and was regulated in 1876 with the approval of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, who have owned the manor since before the Norman Conquest. Carshalton Common is about 160 a. in extent. It is apparently not regulated under the Commons Act of 1866, nor is Wocham's Heath, 90 a. Clapham Common consists of about 200 a., half in the manor of Clapham and half in Battersea. It was drained and improved by a committee of residents, and with their approval and the consent of the manorial lords it was regulated in 1877, £18,000 being paid for the manorial rights. Coulsdon Commons consisted of 551 a. in 1732. They are now about 400. Attempts at further enclosure were made in the years following 1865, and a law-suit followed in 1877. An injunction was granted against the Lord of the Manor, and the common was at last vested in the City of London Corporation virtually as trustees for the public. Epsom Common consists of 443 a. and Epsom Downs of 430 a. These were, when Eversley wrote, without any statutory protection, but are now covered by a regulation scheme. Esher Commons are of 315 a. They have so far received no statutory protection, nor have the 40 a. of Farley Commons. There are 126 a.

¹ G. Shaw Lefevre, *English Commons and Forests*, London, 1894, *passim*.

in Ham Common, not yet protected by any regulation scheme. Mitcham Common was formerly 900 a. in extent, but it is now about 570. It lay in three parishes and seven manors, and it has been the subject of numerous disputes from 1239 onwards. In 1535 1,000 a. were enclosed by the Lord of the Manor of Beddington, and another 200 a. in 1820. In 1882 the manorial lord of Wallington attempted to enclose a portion which he claimed as in his manor, and as a result of the agitation which developed, the whole area was regulated in 1891 under the Metropolitan Commons Act of 1866. It had previously had two or three narrow escapes from the designs of railway engineers and the planners of sewage-farms. Piggs Marsh Common, 53 a., in Mitcham, is still not regulated, nor are the 20 a. of Palewell Common. Peckham Rye Common of 64 a. was saved between 1865 and 1882 by the action of the parishioners and the Camberwell Vestry and has since been extended by another 49 a. Petersham Common of 20 a. has received no legal protection. Redhill and Earlswood Commons of 324 a. were regulated in 1884, under the Commons Act of 1876, the public being awarded the right of walking and playing games over the whole area. Richmond Park was formerly subject to certain Common Rights. The whole 2,050 a. has been opened to the public by successive sovereigns. Rusket Common (20 a.) and Sheen Common (83 a.) have so far received no legal protection. Stockwell Green was first enclosed in 1813 and an attempt was made to get it thrown open again in 1874, but failed on a legal technicality. Streatham Common is some 66 a. in area. It was regulated in 1884 under the Metropolitan Commons Act of 1866 and is now under the care of the London County Council. The 309 a. in the commons of Thames Ditton have not been officially regulated. Tooting Bec Common is 144 a. Tooting Graveney Common is 63 a. The former is regulated under the Metropolitan Commons Act of 1866, the latter was saved by a successful lawsuit in 1871. Both are now in the care of the London County Council, the manorial rights having been bought out by the Metropolitan Board of Works for £10,200 and for £3,000 respectively. Walton Common (500 a.) and Walton-on-Thames Heath (150 a.) are still unprotected. Wandsworth Common is 194 a. in extent. It appears to have been a local custom to grant leave to enclose fairly extensive areas in return for annual payments to the poor of the parish, *e.g.* two areas of 92 a. and 23 a. were so enclosed in 1782 on payments of annuities of £50 and £20 respectively. The Commons suffered badly at the hands of railway companies, and 60 a. were granted at once for an orphanage. The remaining area was secured in 1871 under a Special Act, on payment of an annuity of £250 to the Lord of the Manor. At first

it was vested in local Conservators whose duties were later taken over by the Metropolitan Board of Works, now, of course, succeeded by the London County Council. West End Common has 134 a. So far it has not been officially regulated. Wimbledon Common survived the attempt at enclosure in the time of the first Duke of Leeds (1694-1712). The present area known as Wimbledon Common is of some 1,000 a. of which, strictly speaking, 230 a. are waste of the manor of Wimbledon, 200 a. are in the manor of Putney and 70 a. are waste of the manors of Battersea and Wandsworth. Common rights not only of pasture but also of turbarry, etc., survived here until late years, and the management of the common by the homage who appointed surveyors, gravel-diggers, and common-keepers lasted until well into the 19th century. A dispute arose between the commoners and their lord, Earl Spencer, in 1864, which had a most important effect on the whole movement for commons preservation in England, and which indeed was one of its primary causes. Legal proceedings began in 1860, but were happily compromised in 1870, the terms of composition being embodied in a special Act passed in 1871. In return for the surrender of the whole of his rights in the commons named Earl Spencer was to receive a perpetual annuity of £1,200 representing his average annual receipts from the sale of gravel, etc.

The common of Wisley (?) a., has a special interest of its own. It was proposed to enclose it under the annual Bill of 1869 with but 9 a. of allotments for public purposes. Influential opposition led firstly to the deletion of the Wisley proposals from the Bill, and finally to the appointment of a Select Committee and the deferment of all enclosure proposals until after this should have reported, to the abortive Commons Bill of 1871, and at last to the successful Commons Act of 1876.

Surrey Enclosure Acts and Awards.

The lists of Surrey Enclosure Acts and Awards begin with St. George's Fields in 1769 and end, so far as Special Acts are concerned, with Charlwood in 1843. Between these two dates there are 51 Acts; 29 of these include amounts (generally quite small ones) of open arable field (List A) and the remaining 22 (List B) are for the enclosure of common pasture and waste, etc., alone. Acts of both classes are fairly evenly distributed throughout the whole period; in Surrey, unlike most other counties, there are no marked "peak" periods. One gathers that Parliamentary enclosure in Surrey was a long-continued and sustained process. It may well be that the close proximity to London of much of the land affected offered a standing inducement to enclosure where

a modicum of agreement could be arrived at, so consequently the marked stimuli of the 1780's and 1790's hardly existed here, since, in any case, the agricultural value of the land was often not its main feature. Surrey enclosures under the General Acts of 1836 and 1840 (Lists C and D) seem to be confined to two instances only, Bisley and Chobham, both under the 1836 Act. In a county never possessing very much in the way of open fields this is very much what one would have expected. Surrey enclosures under the General Acts of 1845 *et seq.* (Lists E and F) are mostly of waste only. There are but four enclosures of open field under these late Acts. It is perhaps rather surprising to find even these four enclosures of land including open-field arable (if, indeed, I am correct in supposing that all four did include open-field arable), in the county whose agrarian history has been that set forth above.

Finally, Surrey enclosures by agreement in the 18th and 19th centuries (List G) seem to be very small in number. Probably this is not to be taken as indicating that no enclosures took place. As noted above, the manorial organization survived to a surprisingly recent period in the county, and no doubt much enclosure took place by consent of the homage in the Manorial Courts. We have above noted some instances of such enclosures. It may well be that a great deal of such enclosure is recorded nowhere save in the Court Rolls, which are not generally accessible.

It is perhaps significant that, as recorded by Dr. Slatér,¹ there are at least four Surrey townships—Ashted, East Clandon, Thorpe and West Clandon—which were open in 1793 but which are certainly enclosed now (and apparently were so at the time of tithe commutation in the 1840's), and for which no Enclosure Act or Award or Enrolment is known to exist.

Records of Enrolment of Surrey Enclosure Awards exist in relatively few instances. No doubt this is partly because the Surrey open lands concerning which agreement could be arrived at were enclosed long before the era of Parliamentary enclosure with its paraphernalia of Act, Award, Enrolment, etc. Probably here to a greater extent than in most other counties, the instances of enclosure recorded are those of townships where agreement could not be arrived at earlier, and where, it may be, the smaller proprietors were gradually bought out in order to give the necessary *quantum* of consent. It may also be that in this highly manorialized district, where, as indicated above, Courts Leet and Baron remained in active operation until well into the 19th century, it was usual to enrol such awards as were made rather in the records of Manorial Courts than those of Quarter Sessions, the Chancery or the Courts

¹ *Op. cit.*, p. 233.

of the King's Bench or Common Pleas. Both these last suggestions are however merely speculative. It is quite likely that some reader having the detailed local knowledge of Surrey archives to which we cannot lay claim may be in a position either to confirm or to refute them.

TABULAR SUMMARY.

Wherever possible, place-names have been given in their generally accepted *modern* forms. All Acts in the official return,¹ are included. These in Dr. Slater's lists,² as including open-field arable, are in list A. These not in Dr. Slater's list presumably relate to meadow and waste alone. These are in list B. The 1836³ Act authorized the enclosure of open field alone, though it was frequently used to carry out the enclosure of open lands of other classes.⁴ Unless evidence to the contrary is available it is assumed here that the Act was properly applied, so that, enclosures under it are of common field. These are in list C. This Act was extended in 1840⁵ to cover lammas lands, etc., 1840, and enclosures carried out under the 1836 and 1840 Acts are entered in list D.

The General Act of 1845⁶ authorized enclosure of lands other than common pastures by Provisional Order alone. This provision remained in force until the sixth Amending Act,⁷ with an exceptional clause in favour of enclosures actually in progress in 1852. So, for some ten years from 1845 proposed enclosures not including the waste of a manor were not submitted to Parliament for approval. After 1852 all enclosures required statutory authorization, and this was given in the annual General Act. Lists E and F cover enclosures in those two classes. The data have been obtained from the various official Blue-books,⁸ from the Enclosure Commissioners' Annual Reports, and from the Ministry of Agriculture Memorandum,⁹ for Awards from 1893 onwards.¹⁰ Enclosures by agreement entered in list G—actually in this county *nil*—are not, of course, a correct indication of those actually carried out. There are no such Surrey enclosures of which formal written record survives either in the Public Record Office, or among the county records.

¹ *P.P. (H.C.)*, 399 (1914).

² *Op. cit.*, App. 2.

³ 6 & 7 Wm. IV, c. 115 (1836).

⁴ Cooke, *Inclosures and Rights of Common*, 1864, p. 84.

⁵ 3 & 4 Vic. c. 31 (1840).

⁶ 6 & 7 Vic. c. 118 (1845).

⁷ 15 & 16 Vic. c. 39 (1852).

⁸ *P.P.* above cited, also *P.P.s* 455 (1893), and 50 (1904).

⁹ No. 702/I.G.

¹⁰ Such local lists as are available have been consulted and the data have been checked by various gentlemen whose help is acknowledged elsewhere.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED (pp. 142-8).

*	. . . .	Enrolled copy of Award has plan attached.
( )	. . . .	Estimated acreage.
A.	. . . .	Award acreage.
a.	. . . .	Acres.
Ch.	. . . .	Award enrolled on Chancery Close Roll in Public Record Office.
C.P.	. . . .	Award enrolled on Common Pleas Recovery Roll in Public Record Office.
C.R.	. . . .	Award enrolled among County Records in custody of Clerk of the Peace.
D. of L.	. . . .	Award enrolled among records of Duchy of Lancaster in Duchy Office.
E.P.	. . . .	Award enrolled on Exchequer of Pleas Rolls in Public Record Office.
K.B.	. . . .	Award enrolled on King's Bench Plea Rolls in Public Record Office.
(M)	. . . .	Manor.
n.s.	. . . .	(Area) not specified.
(P.)	. . . .	Parish.
P.P.	. . . .	Parliamentary Paper.
P.R.O.	. . . .	Public Record Office.

A. Enclosures by Act of Lands including Open-Field Arable.

Date of Act.	Place(s).	Area in cover estimated in Act. ?	Date of Award. ?	Award enrolled. ?	Footnotes.
1769	St. George's Fields	?	?	?	Public Act. Not in Slater. <i>Quaere</i> containing open arable? Any award?
1772	St. George's Fields	?	?	?	Public Act. Not in Slater. <i>Quaere</i> containing open arable? Any award?
1774	Clapham (M.)	?	?	?	Public Act. Not in Slater. <i>Quaere</i> containing open arable? Any award?
1779	Cobham	370	1779	C.R.	Public Act. Not in Slater. <i>Quaere</i> containing open arable?
1785	Richmond	?	?	?	Public Act. Not in Slater. <i>Quaere</i> containing open arable? Any award?
1797	Croydon	2,950	1801	C.R.	Amending Acts 1803 and 1879.
1800	Walton Leigh (M.) in Chertsey and Walton-on-Thames (Ps.)	n.s.	1804	C.R.	Or Chertsey (Tything) in Walton-on-Thames (P.) as in 1914 Blue-book.
1800	Byfleet (M.) in Byfleet and Wey-bridge (Ps.)	n.s.	1811	C.R.	
1801	Ewell	1,200	1803	C.P. 43 Geo. III 1803*	
1801	Fetcham	620	1813	C.R.	
1802	West Horsley	400	?	E.P. 58 Geo. III 1818*	800 a. according to Slater.
1803	Sutton (M.) and (Tything) in Woking (<i>recte</i> Woking) and Sutton next Woking (M.)	412	1808	C.R.	Indexed as W. in 1914 Blue-book.

1805	Pyrford (M.) and Chertsey (Tything) in Pyrford and Chertsey (Ps.)	n.s.	1815	C.R.	
1806	Cheame (<i>recte</i> Cheam)	1,760	?	D. of L., Lib. 4, P. 180	800 a. according to Slater.
1807	Thorpe	1,400	?	C.P. 52	
1808	Chertsey	2,000	?	Geo. III 1812*	
1808	Kingston and Imber Court <i>als</i> Inworth (Ms.) (<i>recte</i> Imber Court) in Kingston and Thames Ditton	1,350	1838	C.R.	1914 Blue-book says K. and T. D. Act also provides for the erection of a Court House in Kingston.
1809	Sutton (M.) and (P.)	n.s.	1816	C.R.	
1812	Windlesham.	4,156	1814	C.R.	
1812	Beddington and Bandon (Ms.) in Beddington	500	1820	C.R.	1,000 a. according to Slater. Beddington (M.) in Bandon (M.) according to <i>Surrey Parish Records</i> . Amending Act, 1819.
1812	Brockham and East Betchworth (Ms.) in Betchworth (P.)	n.s.	1817	C.R.	Not Betchworth as in Slater. Indexed in 1914 Blue-book as Betchworth only.
1814	Egham	n.s.	1817	C.R.	
1815	East and West Moulsey (<i>recte</i> Moulsey) (Ps.)	700	1821	C.R.	
1818	Talworth <i>als</i> (<i>et recte</i>) Tolworth (M.) in Long Ditton	400	1820	C.R.	
1821	Great Bookham	700	1822	C.R.	
1827	Peckham	240	1830	?	Original award is in London C.R.
B. Enclosures by Act of Lands not including Open-Field Arable.					
1770	Walworth Common in St. Mary's (P.), Newington, <i>als</i> Newington Butts (now Newington)	?	?	Ch. 1851*	Amending Act, 1851. 1914 Blue-book indexes this Act as Newington, the amending Act as Walworth

Date of Act.	Place(s).	Area in cover estimated in Act. ?	Date of Award. ?	Award enrolled. C.P. 35 Geo. III 1795 ?	Footnotes.
1793	Cobham <i>als</i> Coveham (M.) in Cobham (P.)	?	?	1795 ?	
1800	East Horsley and Ockham	?	?	?	
1801	Frimley (M.) in Ash (P.)	n.s.	1826	C.R.	
1802	Efingham East Court (M.)	126	1808	C.R.	
1803	Send and Ripley (P.)	1,600	1815	C.R.	S. was formerly a Chapelry in R. Parish. Indexed in 1914 Blue-book as L. and P.
1803	Peasmarsh in Loseley (M.) in St. Nicholas (P.), Guildford, and Shalford, and Peasmarsh in Polsted (M.) in Compton (P.)	n.s.	1832	C.R.	Apparently two separate Awards in C.R.
1803	Godalming and Cat(te)shall (Ms.) in Godalming, Chiddingfold and Compton (Ps.)	n.s.	1811	C.R.	43 Geo. III, not 45 Geo. III as in <i>Surrey Parish Registers</i> .
1803	Wanborow (M.) in Worplesdon, Wanborough, Ash and Puttenham (Ps.)	n.s.	?	?	
1805	Dulwich (M.) in St. Giles (P.), Camberwell	130	1809	?	Original award is in London C.R. Amending Act, 1821.
1806	Lambeth (M.)	200	1810	?	Original award is in London C.R.
1807	Crewse Common in Warlingham	132	1808	C.R.	
1807	Kingswood Liberty in Ewell	427	1815	C.R.	Award 1815-18 according to <i>Surrey Parish Records</i> . Indexed in 1914 Blue-book as E. only.
1809	Lingfield	650	1816	C.R.	
1810	Blechingley and Horne (Ps.)	800	1814	C.R.	

1810	Horley	700	1816	C.P. 56 Geo. III 1816*
1813	Laleham Burway in Laleham (P.) and in Chertsey Beomond (M.) in Chertsey (P.)	165	1816	Surrey C.R. and E.P. 10 Geo. III, 1819
1814	Efingham Upper Common in Efingham East Court (M.)	130	1815	C.R.
1816	Merton Common in Merton (P.)	90	1817	C.R.
1820	Chessington (Chapelry)	130	1825	C.R.
1821	Kew Green in Kew	19	1824	C.R.
1821	Stoke Dabernon (M.) in Stoke D'Abernon and Leatherhead (Ps.)	400	1823	C.R.
1821	Esher and Cobham	460	?	?
1823	Broad Green and Parson's Green in Croydon	32	1825	C.R.
1827	Penge (Hamlet) in Battersea	430	1827	London C.R. and K.B. 7 Wm. IV, 1837
1843	Charlwood (M.) and (P.)	700	1846	C.R.
1853	Battersea	n.s.	No award	—
<i>C. Enclosures of Open-Field Arable, etc., under the General Act of 1836.</i>				
1836	Bisley	?	1858	C.R.
1836	Chobham	?	1842	C.R.

L. is in Middlesex, C. in Surrey.

Surrey Parish Records does not date the Act.
Public Act, 1 & 2 Geo. IV, not 4 Geo. IV as in 1914 Blue-book.
als S. Dawborne according to the Blue-books.

Surrey Parish Records says 2 Mar. 1811 to 25 Mar. 1825. Presumably first date is that of Meeting to petition.

Public Act. This extinguished the pasture rights over Battersea Common in order to make Battersea Park.

Quære is this under 1836 Act? Award seems very late.

Date of Act.	Place(s).	Area in cover estimated in Act.	Date of Award.	Award enrolled.	Footnotes.
D. Enclosures of Land other than Open-Field Arable under the General Acts of 1836 and 1840.					
NIL.					
E. Enclosures of Land including Open-Field Arable under the General Acts of 1845 et seq.					
(i) By Provisional Order not needing specific Parliamentary sanction.					
NIL.					
(ii) By Provisional Order confirmed in pursuance of Annual General Act.					
Ministry of Agriculture and :					
1851	Carshalton and Wallington Fields in Carshalton and Beddington	1200	1853	C.R.	Not Waddington as in Slater. Surrey Parish Records says 1853-6, the later date being presumably that of enrolment.
1855	Lammas Lands (Windmill Field and Sprigg's Piece) in Barnes	24	1856	C.R.	
1859	Common Fields and Leatherhead	858	1862	C.R.	Surrey Parish Records says 1863-5. I cannot quite understand to what the dates refer.
1865	Epsom	414	1869	C.R.	Not in Blue-book lists of Enclosure Acts but entered in Slater. I do not know what sort of Act this was.
1902	Ham	300	No award?	—	
F. Enclosures of Land not including Open-Field Arable under the General Acts of 1845 et seq.					
(i) By Provisional Order not needing specific Parliamentary confirmation.					
1845	Horley	?	1850	C.R.	
(ii) By Provisional Order confirmed in pursuance of Annual General Act.					

1845 and 1848	Burstow, Copthorne, Smallfield, Driver's Green, Wasp's Green, Weather Hill and Outwood	592	1855	C.R.	1904 Blue-book (incorrectly?) says this included common fields. If so, it should be in List E.
1848	Shelwood (M.) in Betchworth, Charlwood, Horley, Leigh and Newdigate	198	1854	C.R.	
1849	Abbots Wood in Frensham . . .	192	1854	(Hants) C.R.	Indexed in the Blue-books under Hamp- shire—A.W. in Dockenfield.
1850	Tilford (Tything) in Farnham (P.) .	1,270	1853	C.R.	
1850	Caterham, Stanstead and Tupwood, and Platt's and Salmon's Greens	442	1853	C.R.	<i>Surrey Parish Records</i> gives two dates. Presumably the second one is that of enrolment.
1850	Frensham, Churt and Pitfold (Tythings) in Farnham	3,830	1855	C.R.	<i>Surrey Parish Records</i> says only Fren- sham (Tything), and gives the date as 1857. That of enrolment?
1851	Ash (M.) in Ash (P.) . . .	1,130	1857	C.R.	
1851	Pitfold (M.) in Frensham . . .	292	1851	C.R.	<i>Surrey Parish Records</i> says Pitfold in Farnham. <i>Quære</i> Pitfold (M.) and Frensham (Tything) in Farnham (P.)? <i>Surrey Parish Records</i> (incorrectly?) says award 1865.
1852	Seal(e) (<i>recte</i> Seal) . . .	620	1855	C.R.	
1853	Badshott, Runfold, Dogfludd and Wrecclesham (Tythings) in Farn- ham	1,150	1858	C.R.	
1853	Chobham (M.) . . .	29	1855	C.R.	Apparently this Award is not enrolled in C.R., though it should be. The parish authorities have the original, and the Ministry of Agriculture copy is duly deposited in the P.R.O.
1854	Heaverswood (<i>recte</i> Heaver's Wood) in Horley	46	1858	?	

Date of Act.	Place(s).	Area in cover estimated in Act.	Date of Award.	Award enrolled.	Footnotes.
1854	Benhil(l) (<i>recte</i> Benhill) Wood in Sutton (P.)	52	1857	C.R.	
1854	Farnham (M.) in Elstead	1,282	1858	C.R.	<i>Surrey Parish Records</i> indexes as F. only.
1859	Leatherhead.	434	1865	C.R.	<i>Surrey Parish Records</i> dates as 1863-5. Presumably first date is that of Provisional Order.
1861	Chaldon	80	1865	C.R.	
1862	Warlingham.	260	1866	C.R.	I think this must be the W. and Hamsey Green 1867 of the 1904 Blue-book.
1863	East Clandon	390	1867	C.R.	<i>Surrey Parish Records</i> and 1904 Blue-book give the date as 1868—the date of enrolment?
1863	Ockham Common and Heath and May's and Martyr's Greens	400	1871	C.R.	
?	Redhill and Earlswood Commons in Reigate and Horley	?	1886	C.R.	There is also a Regulation Award of the same date (1886) in C.R.
?	Marrow Downs	?	1905	C.R.?	
?	Oxshott Heath in Cobham	?	1905	C.R.?	

G. Enclosures by formal written Agreement with Award enrolled among County or national records.

NIL.

Notes and Queries.

There are Amending Acts for Walworth in Newington (1770), 1851, Croydon (1797), 1803 and 1879, Lambeth (1806), 1821, and Beddington and Bandon (1812), 1819. All the enclosures listed are under Private Acts except the following, which are under Public Acts: St. George's Fields 1769 and 1772, Clapham 1774, Richmond 1785, Kew 1821, Battersea 1853, Redhill *c.* 1886 (*Quære* under the Croydon Amending Act 1879?) and Ham 1902. Laleham 1774, partly in Surrey and partly in Middlesex, is here counted as wholly in the latter county, Laleham and Chertsey 1813 is reckoned as relating to both counties, since Laleham is in Middlesex, Chertsey in Surrey. Abbots Wood in Frensham 1849 is indexed in the Blue-book of 1904 as formerly in Hampshire, now in Surrey; in the 1914 Blue-book it is counted as in Hampshire, here it is reckoned in Surrey. Goring 1804 appears in the 1865 *Report* of the Deputy Keeper of H.M. Public Records as in Surrey and Sussex; in the 1914 Blue-book and here it is counted as wholly in Sussex.

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