

pre-Roman in origin. The possible Iron Age origin of the Enfield boundary has been discussed earlier.

The line around Chingford, Waltham and Epping begins to look attractive as a minster parish boundary. There is no such nice boundary curving around Edmonton. Rather we meet another, apparently defensive, boundary defining a territory well to the west. Nevertheless this boundary following up into Cheshunt seems to define the extent of occupied or agriculturally-used land, as opposed to forest waste, so that it does, at some date, bound the settlements of Edmonton, Enfield and Cheshunt and therefore the areas here judged to be in the minster parish of Waltham. However the line of Ermine Street, to the east of the boundary (Fig. 3), may have been considered as the defining line of the diocese, for the places listed as in the diocese might, in the 7th century, have not stretched to the west of the Street. Again the administrators of the minster parish may not have thought in terms of boundaries at all but only in terms of places. However this may be, with or without recognised boundaries, Edmonton, Enfield and Cheshunt, and possibly other places to the north are here reasoned to have been in the minster parish of Waltham in the 7th century.

As far as London is concerned the picture is certainly sketchy; it is hoped that the possibilities outlined here

63. W. Rodwell *op cit* fn 22, 93, 95, 97.

will prompt those with local knowledge to pursue the matter further. The minster parish of St. Paul's can reasonably stretch well to the west, but not to the east, over the Lea, into what must be the minster parish of Barking straddling the lower Roding. Westwards, the minster parish of St. Paul's may have stretched as far as St. Pancras, with Hampstead beyond being in some such land unit including Hendon and Stanmore and based on a minster church at some such royal vill as Kingsbury⁶⁴. It will be interesting to see what the future holds for this particular aspect of the past.

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64. K. Bailey *op cit* fn 12, 119.

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