
A Fourteenth-Century Terrier from Wimpole, Cambridgeshire

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This paper describes and discusses a late medieval terrier for part of the parish of Wimpole, now in the archives of Kings College Cambridge. This forms part of ongoing research into the history and archaeology of Wimpole carried out by the Cambridge Archaeology Field Group (CAFG). It contributes fresh insights into the late medieval settlements and landscape of the parish.

Introduction

Wimpole is a parish of c. 3000 acres in south-west Cambridgeshire (Fig. 1) known for its hall and park created between 1640 and 1851. The emparkment of the parish has preserved much ridge and furrow and other medieval open field remains, however landscaping by George London and Henry Wise (1693–1705), Charles Bridgeman (c. 1720), Robert Greening (c. 1740), Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown (1767) and Henry Repton (1801–1810) has obscured the location and remains of former settlements known to have existed in the 11th to 13th centuries.

Wimpole Hall and its estate were surveyed by the Royal Commission (RCHM 1968, 210–229) and a more detailed survey was produced by English Heritage (Pattison and Barker 2003). Over the last decade the park has been subject to much investigation by members of the Cambridgeshire Archaeology Field Group (CAFG). Investigation has included field-walking, archaeological excavation and the study of written records. A report on this research can be found on the CAFG webpage and also as a paper publication (www.cafg.net, CAFG 2016). During the search for written records a document described in Janus, the Cambridge University online archive catalogue (Janus.lib.cam.ac.uk), as “a detailed rental for manor in Wimpole parish (Wratworth?). Listed by area with decorated initials and heavily abbreviated”, was noted in the archives of Kings College Cambridge (Kings College, KC/KCAR/6/2/176/Wim/1). The estimated date for this document was given as 1250. As part of ongoing study into the parish of Wimpole this document has received considerable scrutiny and interpretation, the subject of this paper. Our conclusion is that this is not a rental but a terrier. Rentals are, as

their name suggests, lists of tenants with the rent due from each property. Terriers however, as their name suggests (from *terre*, land), are land surveys. A well known published example is that of the West fields of Cambridge (Hall and Ravensdale 1976).

The document described

The document originally comprised just over twenty sides of vellum. Of the first leaf all but a fragment is missing and therefore the first two sides are absent. The Latin text is written in Textura Quadrata Script, commonly known as black letter script (Derolez 2006), and as the catalogue description states, the document is very heavily abbreviated. It was probably because of this abbreviation that the document was considered to be a rental of one of the Wimpole manors. For the most part the entries throughout the document run on continuously. Most entries begin with the letter ‘C’ in red ink, denoting to the reader that it is a new entry. This is followed by “It” in black ink, although periodically there are entries which have immediately before their start a small red stylised dragon. These appear when a reference to a field is made (Fig. 2, Plate 9).

A typical entry in the document reads: “*It de.ij.s Rici ex altera parte forere ejusdem Thos Fabri*” (first page entry nine). The “*ij.s.*” at the beginning of this line, and every line until half way through the document, could be interpreted as two shillings to be paid by Richard for part of a headland in the fields, the other part being in the occupation of Thomas the Smith, suggesting the document was a rental. However, two shillings for part of a headland in the late thirteenth or early fourteenth century seems excessive.

About half way through, the “s” is occasionally written as “sel”, thus indicating the true nature of the document, because this is an abbreviation of the word “selion”, a unit of ploughing, not a unit of tenure, which is what would be recorded in a rental (Hall and Ravensdale 1976, 3). Furlongs were units which contained multiple selions. The document in question is therefore a terrier. Terriers of the fourteenth century or earlier are rare. Fewer than half a dozen exist for the whole of Cambridgeshire, so this is a significant

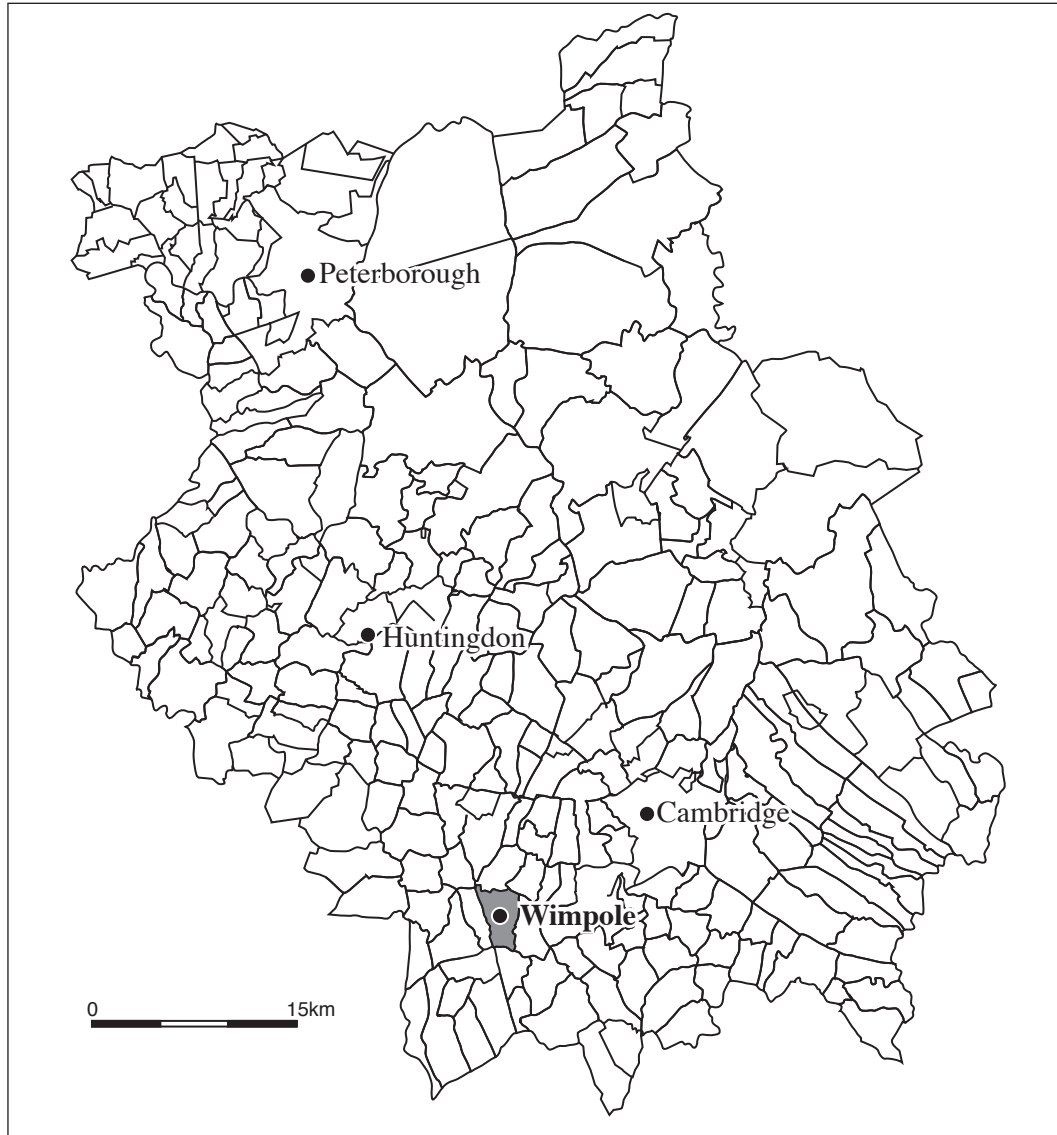


Figure 1. Location of Wimpole.

addition to the known examples.

Examination of the entries suggests this is a terrier of one manor. It is known that by 1279 there were six manors in Wimpole (Elrington 1973, 265). A description of the scope of the terrier and the manor to which it related would have been given on the missing first page and there is nothing immediately within the document to indicate which manor it relates to. Similarly, while some furlongs are mentioned by name, the document frequently notes that selions lie in the same (un-named) furlong as the previous entry. Sometimes we are informed that a particular selion, or group of selions, is near to a right of way, or a stream, or a topographical location. Only a few furlongs are named.

From the transcribed and translated document, it was agreed that three questions needed answering. Firstly, could a more accurate date for the document be found, as the date given did not match the style of

the writing. Secondly, to which manor did the document relate, and thirdly what could be learned from it about the landscape of Wimpole in the late thirteenth or early fourteenth century?

Dating the document

As noted previously the document is written in a form of black letter script known as Textura Quadrata. This form of script is found in 13th and early 14th century documents. The earlier forms (13th century) frequently have a slightly more rounded appearance to the letters, while the later forms show a much more angular style to the letters. The Wimpole terrier is angular in its style and was therefore thought to be later than the date ascribed to it, which as we shall see is borne out by its content.

As a terrier it is unusual in that from *c.* 1250

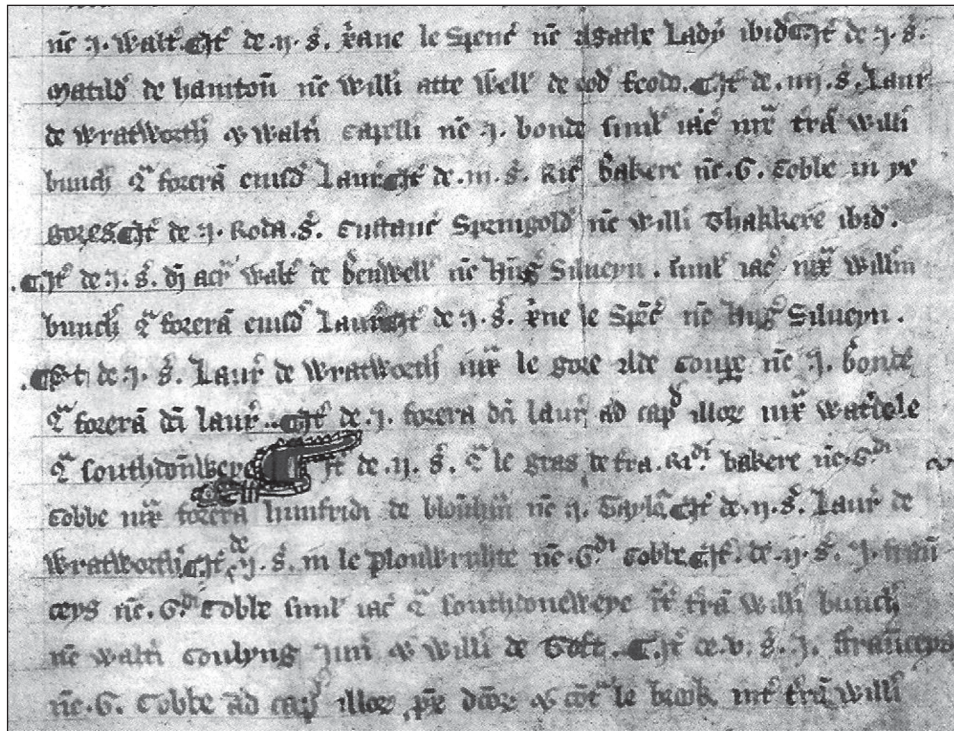


Figure 2. Portion of the terrier (with permission of the Archivist, Kings College). See also Plate 9.

such documents were more commonly written in a Cursive Script, developed for business. Scribes found it speedier to write in cursive script than in a textura script (www.nottingham.ac.uk).

Many persons are named in the document and it was decided to try to match these names against the names given in documents with known dates, such as the Hundred Rolls. Like most early terriers this one gives the name of the current occupier of a selion and its previous occupant. For example, the occupier with the most land named in the document is John Avenel, a manorial lord, whose lands were previously occupied by his father, William Avenel. From the historical record, it appears that William Avenel died c. 1331 (Inquisitions post mortem. National Archives, C 135/28/5). William had inherited the estate from his father John and was succeeded by his son John (d. c. 1360) suggesting a possible date of 1331–60 for the document.

The Avenels are said to have purchased another of the Wimpole manors, the Banks (also spelled Bancis or Banus) manor, in the 1340s (Elrington 1973, 267). In the terrier, John Avenel held virtually all the land recorded as formerly belonging to Robert Banks, thus suggesting a date range of 1340–60 for the document.

The third largest land holder mentioned in the terrier is Geoffrey Cobb, who held land previously occupied by John Fraunceys (Francis). John Fraunceys was lord of what later became known as Cobb's manor between 1332 and c. 1337 (Inquisitions post mortem. National Archives C 135/50/14), when he was succeeded by his son Richard. Richard's daughter and heir Eleanor, widow of John Northwich, married Geoffrey

Cobb c. 1376 and that family was known to be in possession of the manor by 1400. Although the first known association between the Cobbs and Wimpole was in c. 1376, it appears that when the terrier was written a Cobb, possibly the father of Geoffrey, was already renting lands formerly held of John Fraunceys. Again, this appears to be consistent with a date range of 1340–60.

Other possible clues to the dating of the terrier were noted. The manor held by Henry Childerley in 1279 had passed to Sir Hugh Cliderhowe by 1368 (Elrington 1973, 266), and while it is not known exactly when this transfer took place, Sir Hugh Cliderhowe is mentioned in the terrier. Warin de Bassingbourn sold his manor to John Aylton, who sold it on to Sir Roger Suylton (Swillington) in c. 1375 (Elrington *et al.* 1973, 265). In the terrier are references to 23 specified selions formerly held by Warin de Bassingbourn now held by Suylton, and two to the fee of Bassingbourn now Suylton. This could suggest a date as late as 1375; however, as the tenure by which each piece of land was held is not given in the terrier, it is possible that persons such as Geoffrey Cobb and Sir Roger Suylton were renting lands prior to those lands coming into their possession. It was not uncommon for manorial lords to let land to others of a similar status, who then sublet to others, and in the document there is at least one example of land being sublet. There are some inconsistencies in these dates but the most likely period at which the document was written is between 1331 and 1375.

The Manor

There are no immediate clues in the document to tell us which manor the document relates to. A search of the archives nationally failed to find any other early terriers of Wimpole, and only one early map exists showing the pre-enclosed field system. This map by Benjamin Hare was produced for Thomas Chicheley in 1638 (Cambridgeshire Archives. R77/1). Hare's map shows all the furlongs, meadows, selions and leys as they existed in 1638. However, the furlongs are not named on the map. Some furlongs have alphabetical characters on them indicating that the map originally had some form of reference or terrier associated with it, which has since been lost.

In addition to the Hare map, several other documents exist from the 17th century. Some relate to exchanges of land between Thomas Chicheley and various tenants, where the tenant received land in the neighbouring parish of Orwell in exchange for his land in Wimpole. From these deeds it became clear that many of the locations existing in the 14th century retained their names into the 17th century. With the absence of a reference in the Hare map, pinpointing the locations mentioned in the exchanges was not always possible. Later maps, of 18th and early 19th century date, associated with various periods of imparkment and landscaping, were also consulted.

Within the terrier, the only clue to the location of the manor is given in two entries. The first indicates that a piece of land called '*Brayinsdole the land of Avenel*' lay '*next to the manor*', and the second relates to two crofts, one of which '*abutts against Banus Meadow and lay against the gate of the manor*'. From the Hare map, it was found that one of these, 'Brayinsdole' had survived into the 17th century, when it was called 'Brians Dole' (No. 22 on Fig. 5). This piece of land in 1638 lay against a series of closes all bearing the name Avenel (Cambridgeshire Archives R77/1), and has long been considered to be the location of the Avenel's manor house.

Comparing the names and locations from the terrier with the Hare map showed that the terrier included selions in many, although not all, of the furlongs in the parish, including land in the open fields and closes around the former hamlets of Wratworth and Whitwell. This suggests that the terrier relates to the land held by the Avenels in the fourteenth century.

The Landscape of Wimpole

In studying the document and attempting to locate the lands and features described it became clear that, while the document is a good example of a terrier of the fourteenth century, it has within it some errors. When the scribe made a mistake, he made a note in the margin to correct his error, for example in two instances he combined two entries into one and made a note to indicate this was the case. However, there are several instances with combined entries which he clearly did not notice. Unlike many terriers of the

fourteenth century, the entries do not follow the set path taken by those identifying the lands and their occupiers, as is usually the case.

The handwriting style is one that can only be produced with care on a firm surface such as a desk which suggests that the document is a transcription from notes taken in the field, either by the scribe or other surveyors. Such tasks were probably undertaken by experienced local farmers or fieldsmen. Almost at the end of the document we find an entry relating to some selions previously missed out which the scribe had noted in a rent book.

Another trend noted was the number of references to furlongs or other pieces of land called "Dole". Glossaries tend to suggest that the term 'dole' usually refers to a portion of a meadow, the word being derived from the Latin '*Dola*' meaning portion. It was clear that many of these references related to lands in the arable areas away from the permanent pastures. Reaney notes that land with "Dole" names is common in Cambridgeshire (Reaney 1943, 318). A subsequent review of a 1686 map of the neighbouring parish of Orwell, which shows the furlongs in the open fields of that parish, reveals that many of its furlongs also had 'dole' names (CUL Maps. Deposited.R.a.1). In the West fields of Cambridge "dole" appears to have been applied to marginal land, or in wet places liable to water-logging (Hall and Ravensdale 1976, 19). This holds true for the areas with Dole names in Orwell but is less evident in the northern of Wimpole's two fields. Here lands with dole names occur on the hill in the centre of the field as well as on the margins of the field and also in the meadows and watery places in the valley.

Taking into account the inconsistencies, naming trends and those areas with two names, it became easier to identify some of the topographical names and the location of the named furlongs in the terrier. It was not possible to identify the location of each of the selions described. This was because the Hare map of 1638 shows selions in the open fields at that time, calling them lands or pieces. A piece was a block of land which had formerly comprised several selions. The Hare map also shows that by 1638 there was considerable subdivision of some of the furlongs and much land had been turned over to pasture. As noted earlier, a further problem when considering the Hare map was that it does not contain furlong names. Furlongs extant in 1638 are outlined but not named. By contrast, the 1686 map of Orwell has every furlong named but does not show any of the selions in the fields. As a result, matching the selions in the terrier with the strips or lands on the Hare map, or the map of Orwell for those areas transferred to that parish, proved impossible.

It is clear from the description of streams and roads, and the names of some pieces of land identifiable in the 17th century, that Avenel's manor and the crofts lay towards the north of the present Wimpole Hall and church. The name "Avenells" survived until the middle of the 18th century as Avenals Mead and Avenals land, when it disappeared in the extension

of the Park northwards and the extension of the lakes by Capability Brown, as did Brains Dole (Adshead 2007, 59). The Brains Dole is described in the terrier as next to the Manor. The manor house site probably lay where the lake now sits. There are no references in the terrier to the small dispersed settlement areas of Wimpole that existed in the 17th century, such as Bennall End and Thresham End. The survey for English Heritage (Pattison and Barker 2003, 8) has shown that some settlement remains (house platforms, etc.) at Bennall End overlay medieval ridge and furrow, and might therefore indicate displacement from the original medieval settlement location. There are references to only two cottages: one near Kokkelsmere (probably named after the tenant) and one on Coustrete, but the one reference to Wimpole village suggests it was not far from the Mare Way.

The terrier refers to 'Oldwyk', and from the description of lands etc., this corresponds with the presumed location of the former hamlet of Wratworth. Extensive field walking by CAFG has revealed Mid-Saxon and Saxo-Norman/early medieval pottery in this area (CAFG 2016, Plates 7, 8), suggesting that although the settlement at Wratworth had gone, its site, the Old Wyk (Old Settlement) lived on in people's memories. Wratworth was one of three settlements in 1086 in what is now Wimpole parish, the other two being Whitwell and Wimpole itself. Both Wratworth and Whitwell are thought to have died out in the late twelfth or early thirteenth centuries and do not appear in the 1279 Hundred Rolls. Wimpole village with its church lay next to the manor house of the de Bassingbourns. This moated house with gatehouse and gardens survived into the early seventeenth century, when it was demolished and the present Wimpole Hall begun. The terrier only refers to the main village of Wimpole in relation to its fields, crofts and a road known as Wimple Weye.

Mapping the Landscape

Using the information from the terrier together with maps of Wimpole and Orwell from the 17th to 19th centuries and other documentation, the locations of key features in the landscape were mapped out. The process included georeferencing the Hare Map of 1638 and the 1686 Map of Orwell on to a map of the modern landscape, noting on to the new layer the furlongs named in both these maps. Additional topographical names were noted from later maps similarly georeferenced. This was followed by field walking of those areas such as the large open field north-west of Wimpole Hall (Fig. 5, furlongs 64 and 66) where no furlong information was given on the maps, but which had surviving field remains including extensive ridge and furrow visible on the ground. From the maps and other documentation it was clear that many of the furlong and topographical names given in the terrier survived into the 17th century and some survive in the present landscape. Mapping out the landscape in this manner gives a greater understand-

ing of the changes that have taken place over the last seven centuries, which will now be discussed.

Parish boundary changes

When comparing the location of the furlongs in the terrier with locations on both the Hare map and the 1686 map of Orwell it became clear that some of the furlongs mentioned in the terrier were, by 1686, in Orwell parish. Most of these were located in the south-west corner of Orwell, where the hamlet of Whitwell is believed to have existed (NMR368579), suggesting these were part of its former fields, absorbed into Orwell parish after the demise of Whitwell (Fig. 5, furlongs 85, 86, 88). It appears likely that a road originally known as Priest Path, which then ran south-east to north-west through both Orwell and Wimpole was, for at least part of its way through the present parish of Orwell, the parish boundary. The north-west portion of this road from the Cambridge to Royston road (A603) going through Wimpole parish, survives as the main route through to Wimpole Hall.

Similarly, north-east of this road the land between it and the stream below Thornberry Hill on the Orwell side of the present parish boundary, is land that appears to have transferred to Orwell with the demise of Wratworth (CAFG 2016, Plate 4). It has been long recognised that the lands of both Whitwell and Wratworth were split between Orwell and Wimpole. The terrier gives a clearer indication of which land transferred from both the two former settlements into Orwell.

Roads

Several roads are mentioned in the terrier. Comparison between the terrier, the Hare map of 1638 and the map of Orwell 1686, has made it possible to identify most of the roads mentioned (Fig. 3, Table 1).

Some roads have unusual names. Amongst these is Quenden Way. The name 'Quenden', is probably "The Womans Valley". Thus, the way through the Womans Valley (Ekwall, 377). This may be a reference to a former lady of Avenels Manor, the road coming south from the Mare Way to the presumed site of the Avenel manor house. The name Stapildole Way suggests it led towards a furlong called the Stapildole. The 'Stapil' element of the name suggests the presence of a stone pillar, and later documents confirmed the presence of such a stone. A deed of exchange made in 1648 includes the reference to two selions, each of one acre "*lying together in Whimney Leys, Chicheley on W, N head abuts a great stone called Wimple Stone*" (Cambridgeshire Archives, L17/6).

Windmills

Wimpole was known to have had two windmills in the fourteenth century (Elrington 1973, 269). The loca-

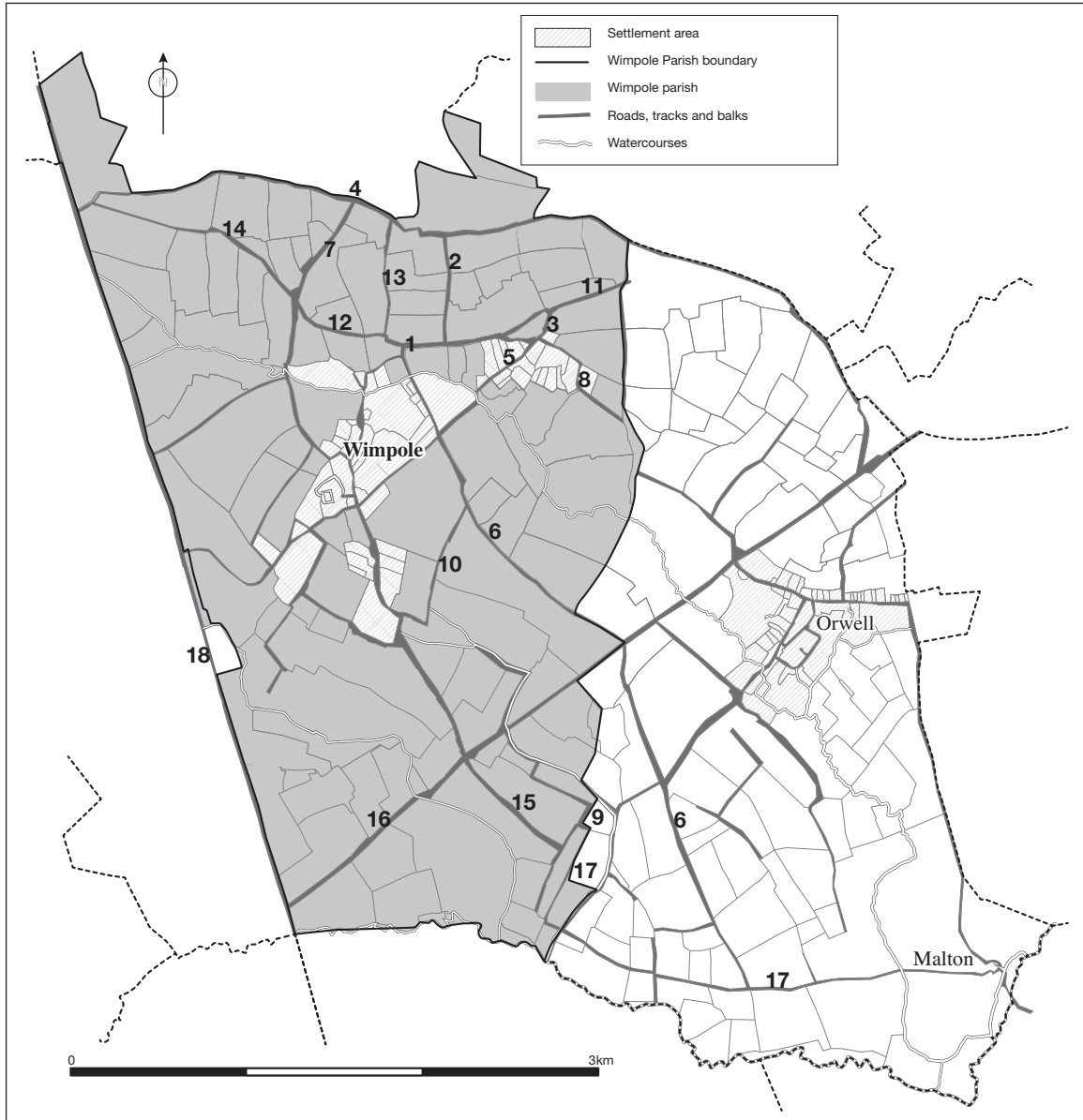


Figure 3. Roads existing in 17th century with 14th century names.

tion of one of these appears on the 1638 map, on which it is shown as a post mill standing on a mound. This mound survives in the park to the west of Wimpole Hall (Pattison and Barker 2003, 30–31). The location of the other mill was unknown. According to the terrier, this second mill, owned by the Avenels, lay within a furlong known as ‘Mill Dole’. This mill was recorded in both 1331 and 1359 (Elrington 1973, 269). The terrier informs us that a selion in the occupation of William de Wratworth abutted the mill.

Mill Dole Furlong occupied the land on which the Georgian folly now stands and extended north in the present belt of trees. Fieldwork suggests that a low mound in the wooded area immediately behind the folly could be the mill mound for this windmill, although this cannot be fully confirmed without further investigation.

Topography

Some of the topographical names noted in the terrier survived well into the nineteenth century, and a couple still exist today, including Thornberry Hill.

Different parts of a hill or of a valley appear to have been given different names along sections of their length. For example, the ridge along which the Mare Way track runs was variously called Southdon Hill at its eastern end near the parish boundary with Orwell, Oldwyk Hill, slightly further west and below Eversden Wood, and then Blank Well Hill immediately east of the present road to Wimpole Hall. In what would today be considered as the valley floor, we find instances where low rises in the ground are given hill names. The names of some of these “hills” survived into the 19th century, and include Smyths Hill and

Table 1. Roads identified in the terrier.

No. on map	Road name	Notes
1	Benedoleweye	The name suggests a road going to a shared area of land (a Dole) where Beans were grown. In existence in 1638 but gone by the mid-18th century.
2	Grededich	Green Ditch Way. In existence in 1638 but gone by the mid-18th century.
3	Hamelesweye	A short section of road close to the Orwell parish boundary. In existence in 1638 but gone by the mid-18th century. Hameles appears to have been the name of a local family.
4	Le Mare	The Mare Way, an ancient trackway, survives partly as a road and partly as a greenway or footpath in the north of the parish
5	Portweye	Port Way, a road that led from Wimpole village to Port Hill and on to the Mare Way in the far north-east of Wimpole. It survives in part as a greenway.
6	Pritipath or Pitipath	Priest Path, a road leading from Potters way in the south east of Orwell Parish through Wimpole. Its north part through Wimpole survives as a road.
7	Quenedenweye	Part of the length of this former way is marked by a footpath between the folly and the wooded belt, that is along the side of a shallow valley between two spurs of land. The name 'Quenden' occurs as a place name in Essex, where it has been interpreted as meaning 'Womans Valley' (Ekwall, 377). However, 'Quenden' might also be the survival of a personal name, 'Cynemaers valley way'.
8	Regiam Viam	Royal Way. A road passing east of Cobb's Wood heading to a common in 1686. Gone by the mid-18th century.
9	Rigweye	A road in the south east of the parish. The name means Rhee Way: it went south towards the river Rhee (Cam).
10	Shitestrete	The name indicates a dirty or muddy lane. It left the former village of Wimpole at its southern end alongside the Moor.
11	Southdon Way	The South Down Way. This remained in existence in 1638 but was gone by the mid-18th century.
12	Stapildoleweye	In existence in 1638 but gone by the mid-18th century. The portion of the name 'Stapil' suggests a stone pillar existed somewhere near this road. Such a stone still existed in 1648, for in a deed of exchange we find a reference to two selions whose north head, 'abuts a great stone called Wimple Stone'.(CRO: L17/6).
13	Wlgarisweye	Vulgar Way, or the Common Way. Survives today as a road going north from Old Wimpole to the Mare Way.
14	Wrangdenweye	This road had largely disappeared by 1638. The name suggests a road going through a crooked valley. <i>Wrang</i> = Crooked.
15	Wynpoleweye	Originally the road between the former settlement of Whitwell and Wimpole.
16	Coustrate	Cow Street, the main road between Royston and Cambridge. In the 17th century it was known as Cowstread Way.
17	Pottesweye	An ancient trackway which crossed the River Rhee at Malton and then skirted around the river meadows to the Cambridge Royston road. By the 17th century it comprised two parts, Great Potters Way and Little Potters Way.
18	Aruyng Strate	Arrington Street, the main road through the village of Arrington, now the A1198. A Roman road, the Ermine Street.

Brashil, both mentioned in the terrier.

The majority of streams are referred to as Sykes, Ridies and Brooks. The difference between them is hard to determine, but probably in part relates to their size or rate of flow, with a Ridie being smaller than a Syke and a Brook being larger than either of the other two. However, one stream next to the parish boundary with Orwell appears to confuse this. The terrier refers to it as 'the Sykeridie'. It appears to have two stream name elements combined. This combination may be partly explained by considering the roots of these terms. The term 'Ridie' is derived from an Old Norse word for a small stream and the term Syke is derived from the Old English. A consideration of the terrain and land use of the area through which the stream passes suggests that this might also be a miss-spelling on the part of the scribe: the term here might not be 'Sykeridie' but 'Sykerydde', which

would refer to a stream passing through a clearing. The location of this stream close to the Orwell parish boundary was wooded in the 17th century and it remains wooded now (Cobbs Wood). The evidence for open field agriculture over part of this area is scant, suggesting this may have been a wooded area in the fourteenth century. Other than 'Ridies', 'Sykes' and Brooks, there is also one instance in the terrier of a stream being called Bech or Beck (see below).

The names of some of the topographical locations show evidence of both Old English and Old Norse names. Old Norse names include Ridie as above and Aldebech (*Alde* = Old and *Bech* = Beck), meaning old stream. Old English names include Oldwyk (old settlement), and Syke (stream).

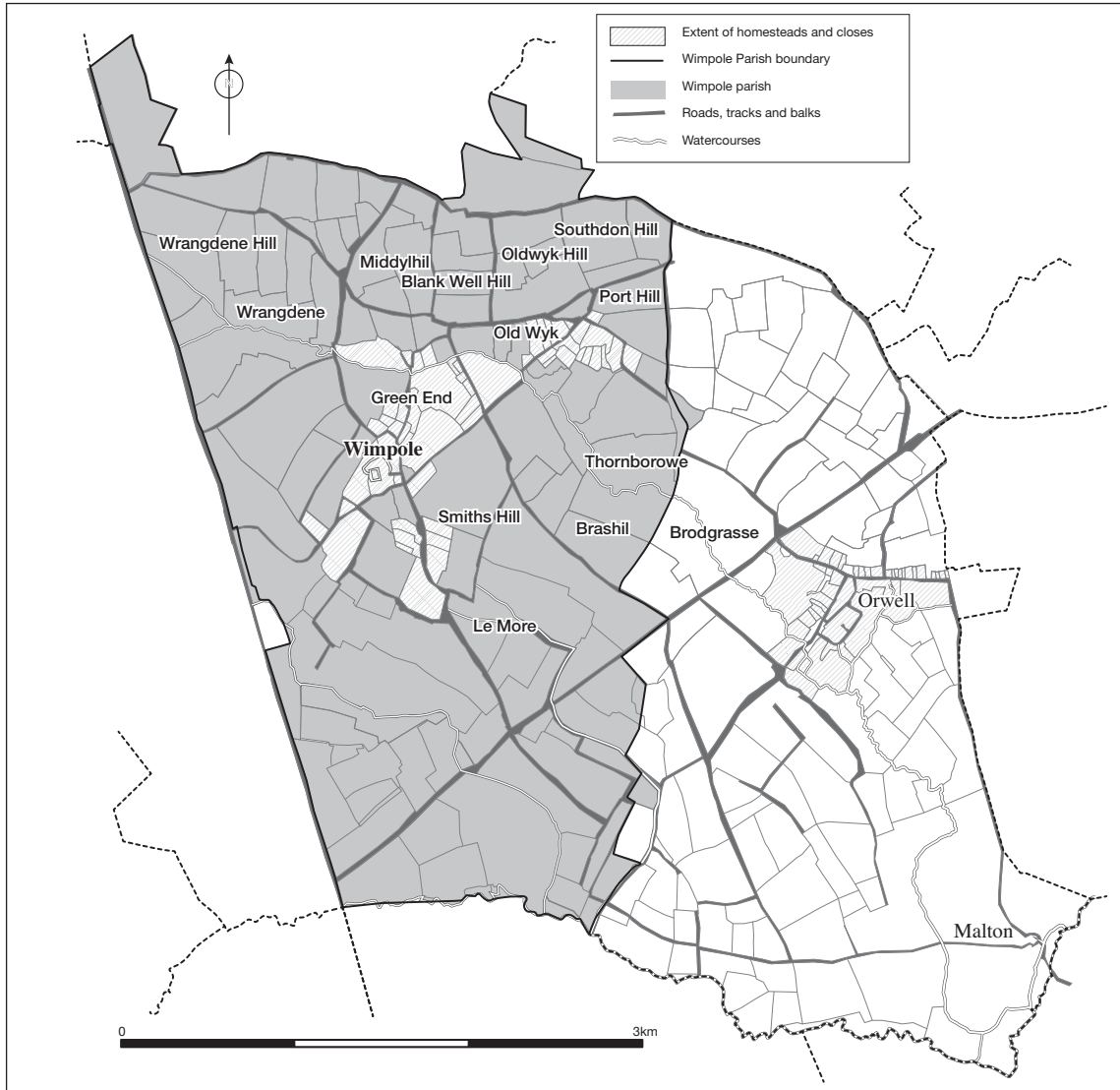


Figure 4. Topography of Wimpole.

Names of Fields

According to the Victoria County History, Wimpole had two fields known as North Field and South Field in the thirteenth century (Elrington 1973, 268). There are very few references to fields in the terrier and in most instances where it does refer to a field, the terrier states *"in the field of Wimpole"*. In the whole document, there are only three references to named fields. The two named fields are *"Campo Boriali"* (North Field) and *"Oneribus Campi"* (Burden Field), suggesting that in the 14th century Wimpole retained two fields as had been the case in the thirteenth century (British Library. Add.Ms. 36234. f.3). However, the terrier does not refer to the southern field as the south field, but gives it the alternative name of *"Oneribus Campi"*.

Furlong Names

From the 1638 map, field observation and aerial photographs, 91 furlongs in the fields of Wimpole were noted. This includes either all or part of six furlongs transferred into Orwell parish after the demise of Wratworth and Whitwell. Fig. 5 shows the probable layout of the furlongs of Wimpole in the middle of the fourteenth century, based upon the layout of the furlongs in the seventeenth century.

While only a few of the furlongs in the open fields are referred to by name, from the descriptions of their location it has been possible to identify the locations of almost all the named furlongs by cross referencing the other later maps of Wimpole, the 1686 map descriptions in the map of Orwell and other later maps of Wimpole, using the process previously described. The likely meanings of the names of the furlongs are set out in Table 2.

Balks and Headlands

Balks were strips of unploughed land between some strips, perhaps used to provide grass for hay (Hall and Ravensdale 1976, 19–25). Occasionally they acted as divisions within furlongs, providing an access link between headlands, often crossing numerous furlongs. Although balks continued to be used well into the 17th century, surprisingly only two are recorded in the terrier. These are Hamclyngcrouche, which by 1638 was known as Hanging Balk, which crossed between the headlands of at least three furlongs, and Howlotisbalke, the location of which has not been identified. Headlands, the turning place for the plough, are always referred to by the name of the person renting the headland.

Etymological Roots

As has been shown, many of the names for furlongs and other pieces of land in the parish originate from the topography. A few appear to indicate early personal names and others (later?) family names. In most Cambridgeshire parishes there is evidence of both Norse and Old English names within the landscape and Wimpole is no exception.

Land Occupation

The terrier lists 67 persons, including the church of Wimpole and the Vicar of Orwell, who are holding specified (by number of selions or acreage) pieces of land in the open fields, some also holding croft land. The totals are 941.5 selions and 26 crofts. In addition, there are 26 persons who are named and who hold unspecified pieces of land. The amount of land held in the furlongs varied considerably, with the largest land holder being, unsurprisingly, the manorial lords of the manors within the parish of Wimpole or the surrounding parishes. Seventeen persons were noted as holding one selion of land and a further eight as holding only two selions. This may indicate a group of cottagers, or that these were persons who held the majority of their land of other manors. Amongst these were a Shepherd, a Wheelright, a Baker, a Sadler and a Smith, suggesting that at least some of them derived much of their income from a trade rather than from the land.

In most instances the scribe noted the number of selions each person held in the open fields, however some entries are very vague. For example, on folio 7, entry no 23, we find *"Item the total land formerly Robert Banus now Avenel lying against Mare Way next to the land of Hugh Quelwright now Suylton & against the headland of William Bunch now Walter Coulyng junior"*. In this instance, no detail is given about what makes up the total or what amount the total was. At the opposite end of the spectrum the most detailed entries, of which there are very few, give the number of selions being occupied and an acreage, for example, folio

5, entry no 14, *"Item of 2 selions, an acre, of Matilda de Hamton now J. Cok"*.

From the descriptions of the selions and whose land they abutted, many of those holding land of the manor held other strips of land, most probably of other manors, giving an indication of the interweaving of selions belonging to the different manors in the same furlong.

Because the terrier names the previous holder of a piece of land, and sometimes more than one, we can see the succession of some pieces of land between family members over two or three generations. For example, the Coulyngs, Fabris, Kokkels, Kyngs, Seffreys, Silveins, and de Wratworths all hold land (between 1 and 143 selions) in this terrier and had been tenants of either the Avenell or the Banus manor in 1279. The name Kokkel, as Cuttel or Kutyl remained in the parish until the middle of the 16th century and King until the early 16th century.

Occasionally exchanges are recorded. Forty names appear in this document for the first time, that is they do not appear in other surveys such as the Hundred Rolls. The total number of individual land holding families present in both the Hundred Rolls and the Terrier was 128.

Sixty-seven percent (n=47) of those whose names are listed in the terrier held under 10 selions in the open fields, and of these only two also held a croft. The majority of the land was held by twenty-one persons, that is those with ten or more selions, of which the two biggest land holders were John Avenel, a manorial lord who held 165 selions and 6 crofts, and Laurence de Wratworth, who held 143 selions and 1 croft. Both held other pieces of land of the manor, of unspecified amounts, as well as land of other manors, some of which is referred to in the terrier. Other large landholders included Galfrid Cobbe with 69 selions but no croft; Robert Suylton with 57 selions and 4 crofts, and John Walter with 46 selions and 1 croft. The Walter Coulyngs, senior and junior, held 49 selions between them, with a croft each. Comparing the names and holdings of the previous occupiers against the occupiers at the time of the terrier suggests a considerable consolidation of land holdings into the hands of a few. Amongst the names of those holding land we find other manorial lords, including Baldwyn St George, Lord of St Georges Manor in the neighbouring parish of Kingston.

A study of the list of those occupying land indicates that some persons had surnames which indicated their profession or trade within the parish. These include Godfrey the Chandler (*Chaundeler*), Henry the Shepherd (*Bercary*), William the Smith (*Fabri*) Hugh the Wheelwright (*Quelwrythe*), Richard the Baker (*Bakere*) and Adam the Cooper (*Coupere*). Several of the names noted in the terrier related to the place of origin of the family. Amongst these were William Rysle (Riseley, Beds.), Matilda de Hinton (Matilda of Hinton), John de Hokyton (John of Oakington) and a chaplain, William de Sutton. A third group had surnames which were derived from the location in the village where the person or their family had resided.

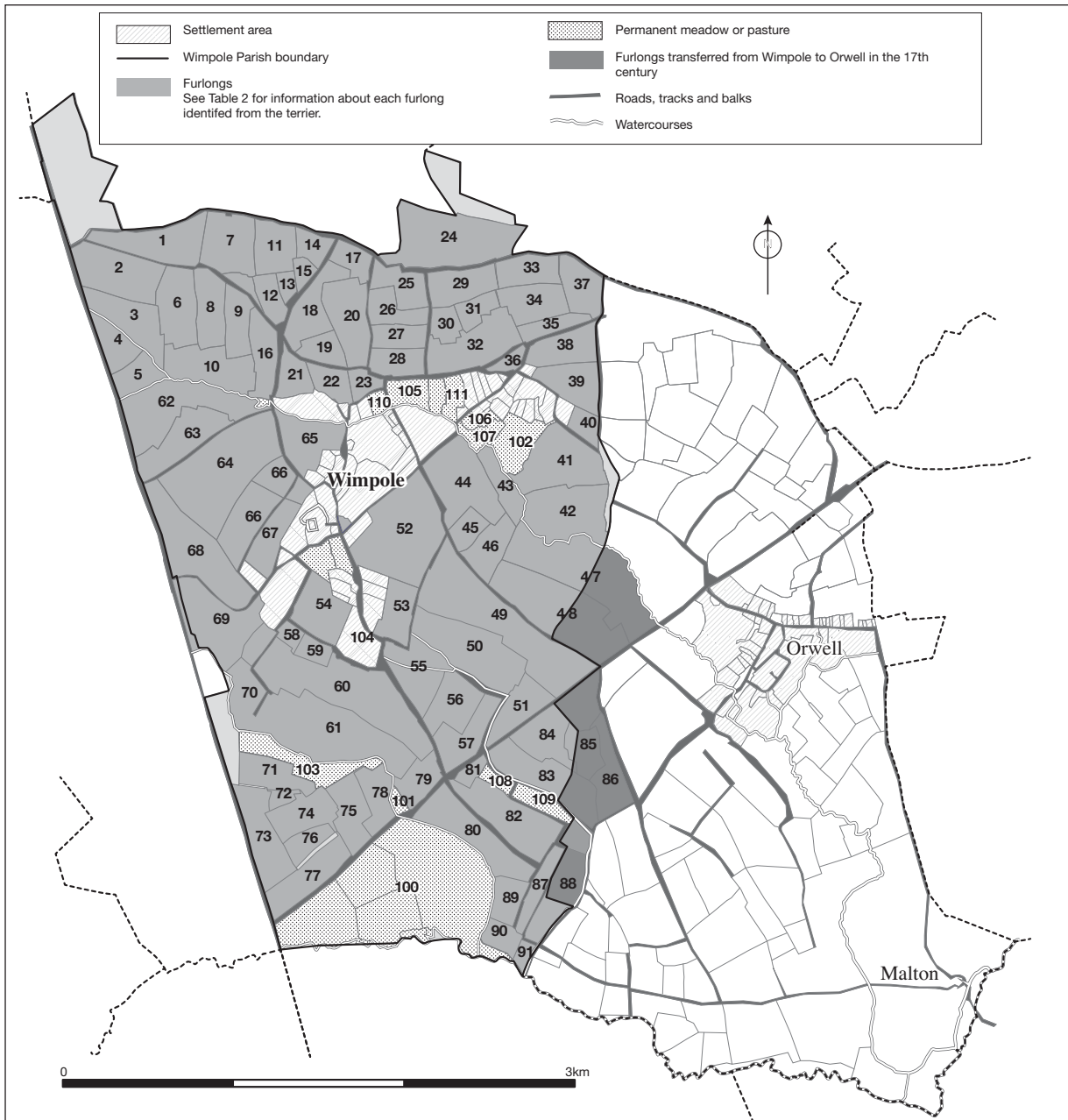


Figure 5. The furlongs in Wimpole and Orwell and the land transferred between Wimpole and Orwell with the demise of Wrathworth and Whitwell.

Table 2. Furlong Names and their likely meanings. (Continues on next page.)

No. on map	Name	Meaning / Notes
9	Smyths Dole	
10	Wrangdene Furlong	Furlong in a Crooked Valley, <i>wrang</i> = crooked, <i>dene</i> or <i>denu</i> = valley.
11	Wrangdenplot	
14	Fleylond or Flexlond	The furlong lay on a hill where the land comprises undulating projections, <i>i.e.</i> a furlong where the land flexes.
16	Wrandene Dole	
18	Mill Dole	This furlong lay next to Avenels Windmill.
19	Stapil Dole	Furlong next to a stone pillar.
20	Redmildole	This land lay close to Avenel's windmill, which appears to have been known as Red Mill.

No. on map	Name	Meaning / Notes
22	Brayins Dole	This furlong lay on the lower slope of a valley and the first element, 'Bray' may therefore mean Broad.
23	Benedole	Furlong where Beans were grown.
24	Furlong above Blankwell Hill	
27	Gorbrod	A Broad Gore. A gore is usually a triangular piece of land, although this furlong is rectangular.
28	Benedoleweye Furlong	
30	Offeris Dole	<i>Ofer</i> is a term usually given to land on the top of a promontory (Gelling 1993, 175-5). This furlong lies on the top of a hill.
31	Oldwyk Hill Furlong	Furlong on the hill above the old settlement.
32	Stocking Dole	Stocking suggests a place where cattle were mustered. A shared mustering place.
33	Stoney Dole	Furlong where the ground was stony.
34	Vogetes	The meaning of the name of this furlong is obscure.
35	Edyacre Furlong	Possibly undergrowth or new growth acre. <i>Edy</i> = Edish or new growth.
36	Barewe	Possibly Boar Island. It is a furlong surrounded by roads.
37	Banus Dole	Furlong containing land owned by the Banus or Bounce (later Banks) family.
39	Furlong abutting Porthilweye	
41	Furlong above Thornborowe	A furlong above Thornborough Hill.
42	Thornborowe Hill Furlong	A furlong on the slope of Thornborough Hill. The name suggests this was originally a hill overgrown with thorn bushes.
44	Church Dole	Furlong in which the church of Wimpole held land.
47	Brodgrasse Furlong	This was a furlong next to Brodgrasse Meadow.
48	Priest Path Furlong	These were both furlongs next to the road known in the terrier as Pritipath and in 1638 as Priest Path.
49	Furlong abutting Priests Path	
50	Under Theef Furlong	<i>Theef</i> is an area next to a moor and the name may suggest land taken from the moor (see also 56 below).
52	Smyths Hill Furlong	This was a furlong next to a gentle undulation in the ground known as Smyths or Smith Hill.
53	More Dole	A furlong next to the moor.
54	Benewell Furlong	A furlong near to a well at a place where beans were grown.
55	The Moor	
56	Theef Furlong	Possibly land taken (stolen) from the Moor.
57	Short Butts	A Butt is a term used to denote an area of short(er) selions. Half of this furlong has shorter selions than the other half.
60	Rushbrooke Furlong	A furlong next to a stream known as the Rushbrooke.
61	Stanwade Furlong	Furlong by the stone ford. <i>Stan</i> = Stone, <i>Wade</i> (<i>Gewaed</i>) = Ford.
69	Aldebeach	Furlong named after the stream which ran along its side, the Aldbeach. <i>Ald</i> = Old Beck = Stream.
70	Pecokst ayl	A fan shaped area of land in the west of the parish. It was still named as such in the 17th century (Hare Map) and the 19th century (Tithe Apportionment).
80	Badcocks Dole	A furlong in which some land was occupied by the Badcock family.
82	Brach Furlong	The name <i>Brach</i> or <i>Breach</i> suggests that when this furlong was named it was land newly brought in from the waste. It lies close to a very large area of permanent meadow, from which it was probably taken.
83	Small Mead Furlong	A furlong which lay next to a small meadow
84	Furlong Abutting Cowstrete	<i>Cowstrete</i> was the medieval and later name for the main road between Royston and Cambridge passing through Wimpole and Orwell. This furlong abutted up to it.
85	Oteland Dole	A place where oats were grown.
86	Harlots Dole	The first element in this furlong name may be a personal name (Herela) as in Harlton.
87	Syreslond	The Syres element here may be a personal name.
88	Croft Dole	Land next to some Crofts.
89	Quy tetherudole	In Cambridgeshire <i>Quy</i> is frequently used to mean Cow. Throughout the medieval period animals pastured in Dole Meadows (meadows in shared ownership) were tethered. Although this piece of land appears as a furlong in 1638, it lay by a tributary of the River Rhee and may originally have been a meadow. The name therefore appears to mean, a Dole Meadow in which Cows were tethered.
91	Anglesey	The name suggests Angle Island. The furlong lay between the river and Potters way.

Amongst these names we find Mabel att Made (Mabel at the Meadow), Baldwyn att Well (Baldwyn at the Well or spring), and Robert att Brok (Robert at the Brook).

The terrier names four chaplains, Walter, who is just named as Walter the Chaplain, Master Laurence, Master William de Sutton and Master Robert Fraunceys. Master Robert Fraunceys was possibly a son of the Frauncis family that held the manor that later became known as Cobbs.

Within the terrier are also a couple of references to monastic land, one entry referring to a long piece of land of the Abbess (Priory of St Mary, Clerkenwell) and the other to the land of Clerkenwell. In the 12th century the manor of St Georges in Kingston gave land in Kingston, Eversden and Wimpole to the Priory of St Mary, Clerkenwell, when Avice, the daughter of the then Lord of the Manor, Eustace de Banks, had entered the priory and became a nun (Elrington *et al.* 1973, 114). Further land was given to the nuns of Clerkenwell between 1176 and 83 by William Calvus, who gave land between the wood of William de Bancis and the House of Ailmar the forester (Farrer 1920,251).

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