



Towards a Landscape History of  
WALSHAM LE WILLOWS,  
SUFFOLK

## East Anglian Archaeology

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EAST ANGLIAN ARCHAEOLOGY



*Frontispiece*  
Aerial view of Walsham le Willows, August 1995  
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# **Towards a Landscape History of Walsham le Willows, Suffolk**

**by S.E. West and  
A. McLaughlin**

with illustrations by S.E. West  
and D. Nuttall

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Walsham le Willows  
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## Abbreviations

SRO	Suffolk Record Office (Bury St Edmunds)	DoE	Department of the Environment
NRO	Norfolk Record Office	FB 119b	Field Book 1577 and paragraph number
PRO	Public Record Office	T 4.7	<i>Terratorium</i> 1587, Folio and paragraph number
TA	Tax Assessment (1283) in Powell 1910	Survey	
BL Add.	British Library Additional Ms	10.2	1695 survey, Folio and paragraph number
AR	Account Roll		
CR	Court Roll		
R	Rental		
Ch	Charter		

Note: all Court Rolls, Rentals, Account Rolls and Charters are in the SRO (Bury)

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## Summary

This study grew out of the archaeological field survey of the parish undertaken by the authors in the early 1980s. The discovery of a series of distinct medieval sites along the south side of Clay Street suggested that some correlation might be possible with the 1577 survey already published (Dodd 1974).

After a preliminary attempt showed this to be the case, the field survey was broadened into the landscape history of the parish using the results of the fieldwalking survey for the prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval periods and enlarged by the reconstructed landscapes in map form drawn from the 1577 and 1695 manorial surveys. As the work progressed it became clear that the 1695 survey was based upon the *Terratorium* of 1581 which had, in turn, been constructed from older records. The wealth of documentary sources for Walsham include an important series of manor court rolls, rentals and wills which have enabled the names of a significant number of the fields and tenements to be traced to the early 14th century. In this way it has been possible to link the archaeological fieldwork with a hypothetical medieval map of Walsham drawing on the 1581 survey and followed by the

reconstructed maps for the 1577 and 1695 surveys. The standing buildings, the surviving hedgerows and the few remaining earthworks have provided valuable fragments of information which have been incorporated into an overall view of the landscape history of the parish.

There remains a mass of original documents, including Court Rolls, rentals and wills on which work is still progressing. The authors feel that the results of the fieldwalking, integrated with the main documentary surveys should be presented at this time, together with the maps depicting land use, tenements, tenants holdings and free and copyhold land which are derived from our scrutiny of the main documentary sources.

Although some fieldwalking surveys have been published in the region, notably south-west Suffolk by the Haverhill and District Archaeological Group (Charge 1989; 1990; 1995; 1996; Taylor 1985), other fieldwalking surveys are not yet available for comparison.

Please note that throughout the text, Field Book refers to the 1577 survey; *Terratorium* to the 1581 survey; Survey to the 1695 survey and 'surveys' is a general not specific reference.

### Addendum

In August 1998 while this book was in press, work in the nave of the church revealed more of the limestone block at the base of the north-east arcade pillar, first noted in 1986 during the archaeological survey.

It is now clear that the block is complete and that originally it had been decorated on all four sides with scroll-like ornament, with a tight volute at each corner. On three and a half sides the ornament has been dressed away. Seen from above the stone appears square but at a depth of four and a half inches (11.5cm) from the top the corners are cut back to form a chamfer with a single pendant

chevron. Part of the remaining ornament may yet survive below the Victorian pavement to the east. In discussion with Dr Plunkett (Keeper of Archaeology at Ipswich Museum) it was felt that the ornament could be c.1120; a fragment of the Domesday church in existence prior to the foundation of the Augustinian Priory of Ixworth (c.1170), which held the manor of Church House thereafter.

It would appear that this is either an unusual decorated capital, or possibly even a font, reused as the base of one of the 15th-century arcade pillars.

Measurements:  $28\frac{1}{2} \times 28\frac{3}{4}$  inches (72.5 × 73cm)  
10 inches (25.3cm) thick. Midland limestone.



# Chapter 1. Introduction

## I. The Place Name

In *Domesday* the name is Wal(e)sam, in 1095 Walesham (Bury Abbey). Ekwall suggests 'Walsh'sHAM, but goes on to say that the early forms of the type Walsham may suggest that the first element is rather the old English Wael. If so, the original form was Waeles-ham, or ham of the 'Welsh', possibly relating to surviving Romano-British inhabitants.

The earliest known use of 'the willows' is in a will of John Robhood, 1537 (SRO IC 500/2/20).

## II. Location, Geology and Topography

(Figs 1, 2, 3)

Walsham le Willows is situated some twelve miles north-east of Bury St Edmunds, approximately equi-distant from Diss, Bury and Stowmarket. It is a roughly rectangular parish, about one and a half by four miles overall, containing 2817 acres on an east-west axis. It lies on the edge of the central boulder-clay area of Suffolk with gravels and loams to the south and west and heavier land to the east. An unnamed stream divides the parish longitudinally and is marked by a tongue of gravel which broadens to the west, so that much of the original central core of the village round the church is on the gravel terrace of the stream. To either side, the valley

slopes reach a height of 200 feet. The valley floor broadens as it approaches Badwell Ash to form the water-meadow which was exploited as the Great or common meadow.

The church and original core are a little west of a central position from which five hamlets, including a green, were developed in medieval times. The main pattern of roads, as retained today, have clearly been in use for at least 700 years; a number of ways and lanes have survived as footpaths and some have vanished altogether. The main routes are east-west and must be of considerable antiquity; some of the north-south roads, such as the way to Botesdale, can be shown to be later developments.

Allwood Green, at the east end of the parish, originally one of the largest commons in central Suffolk with about 900 acres, was shared by five parishes in the 19th century: Walsham, Rickinghall Inferior, Rickinghall Superior, Gislingham and Finningham. Three other parishes: Botesdale, Burgate and Westhorpe may well have had access to the common in earlier times, by virtue of the configuration of their boundaries. A circular earthwork of unknown origin known as Cromwell's Plantation or Stoland Abbey is situated on this common, just beyond the Walsham parish boundary.

Today the parish is largely arable and large-scale hedge clearances since World War 2 have, to a great extent, destroyed the medieval field pattern.

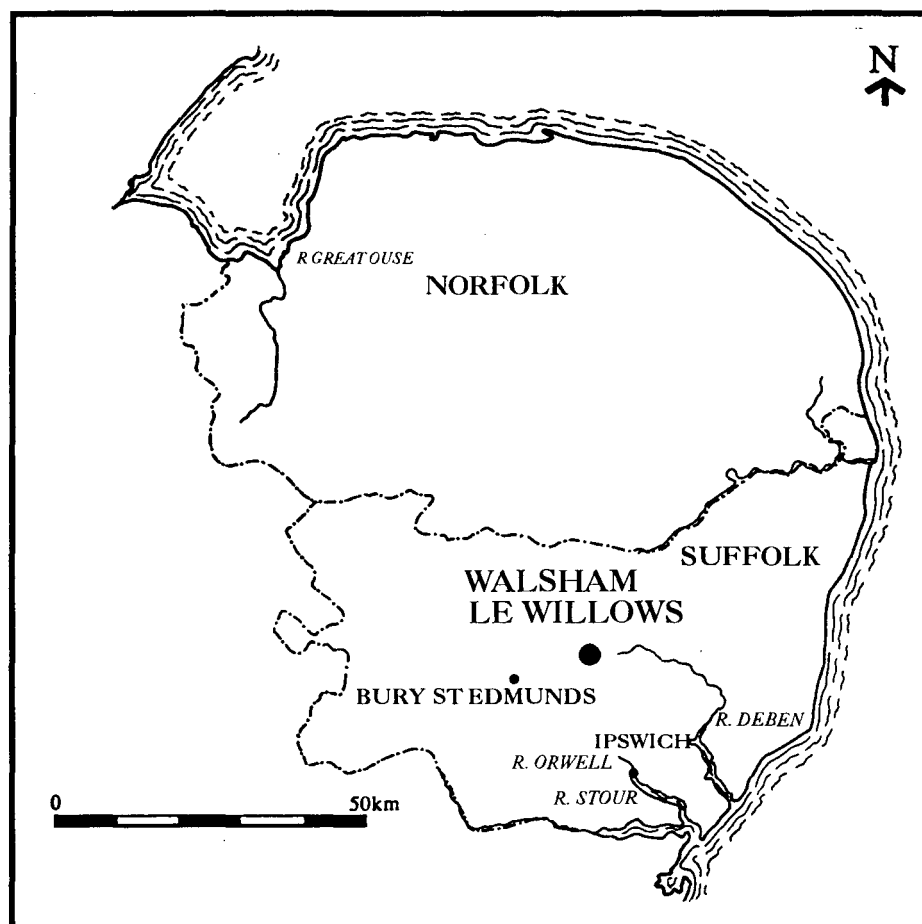


Figure 1 Location

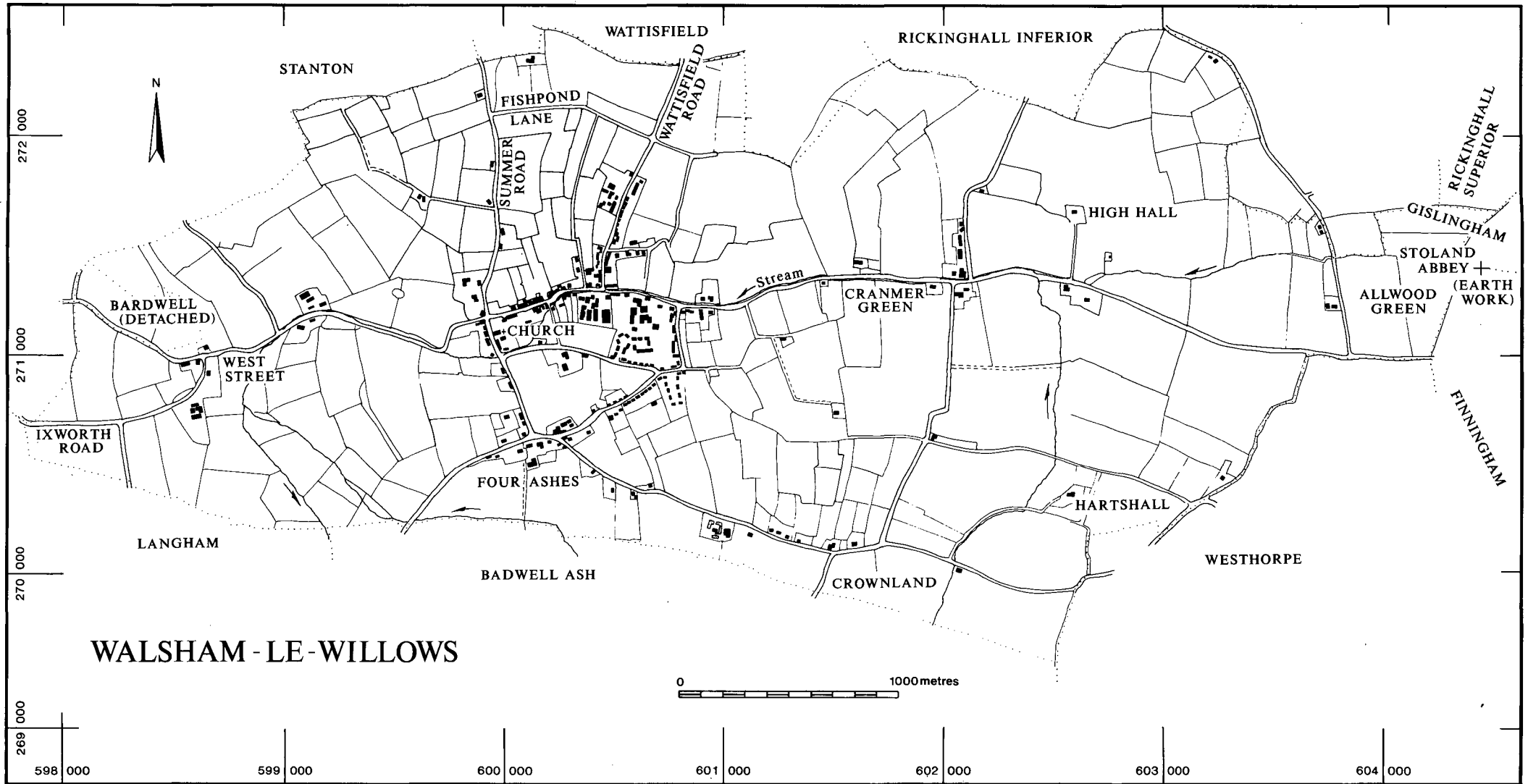


Figure 2 Walsham le Willows

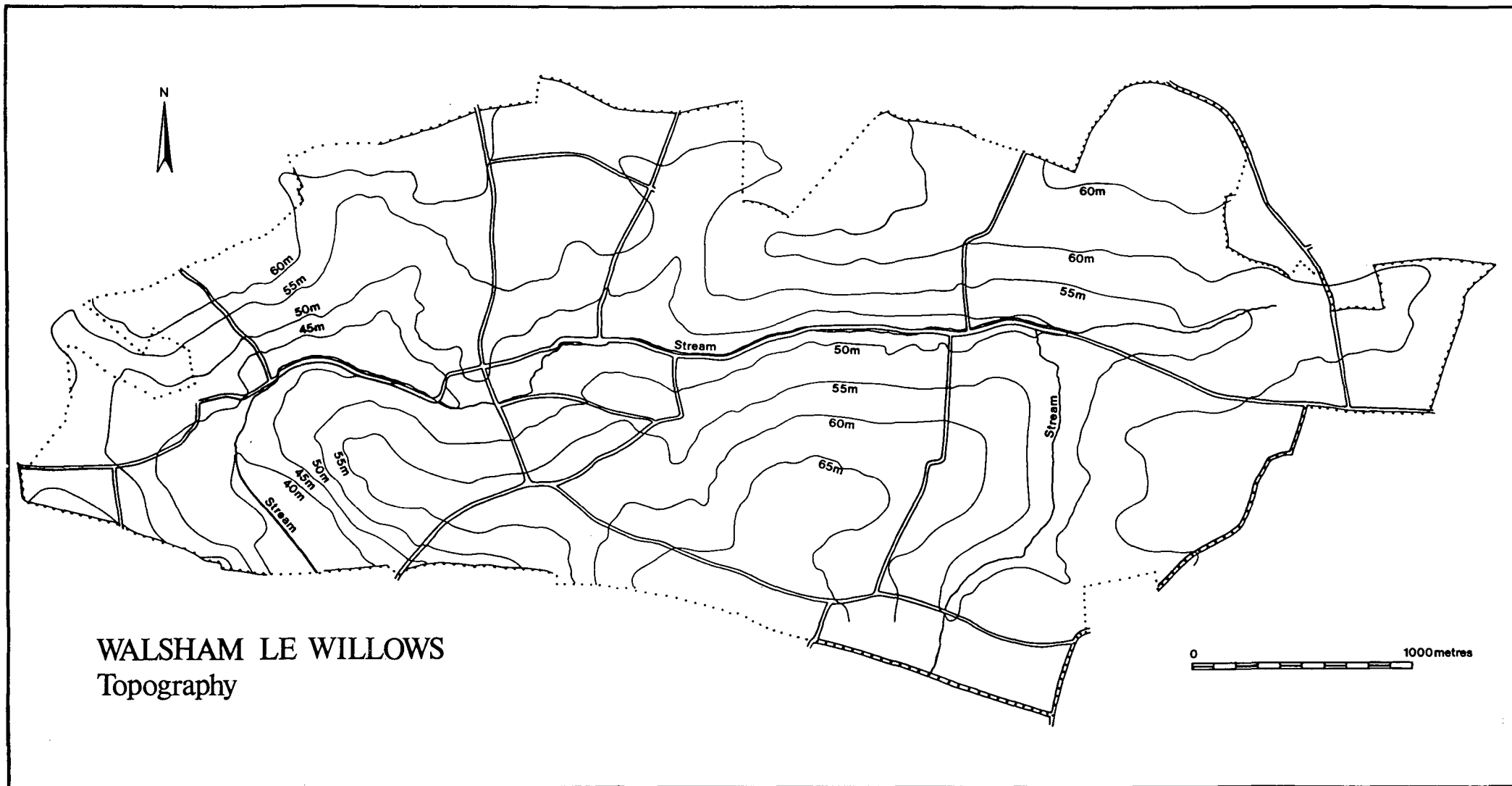


Figure 3 Topography

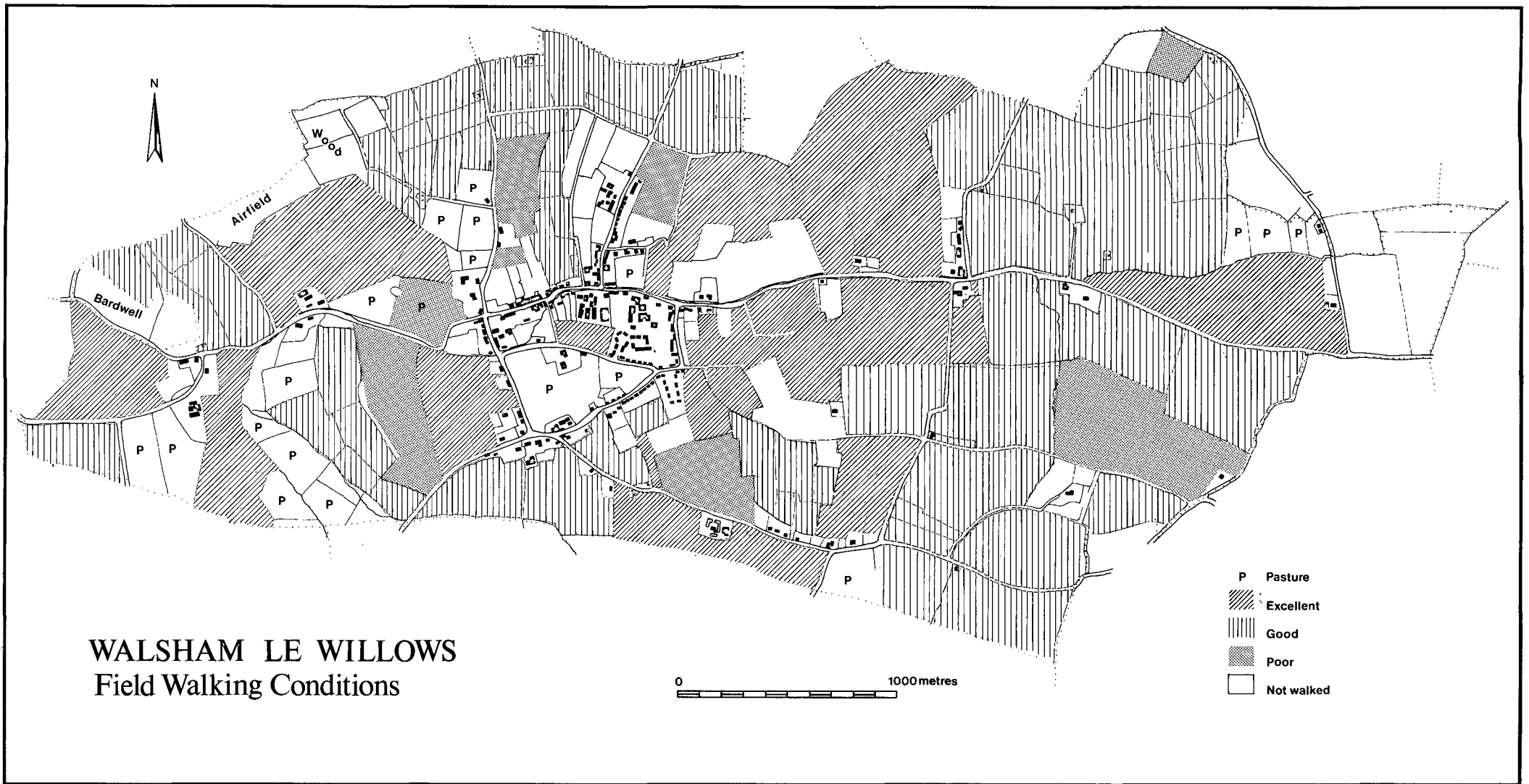


Figure 4 Fieldwalking conditions

# Chapter 2. The Archaeological Survey

## I. Introduction

(Fig. 4)

Over the course of nine years from November 1979 to February 1987, 81% of the parish has been fieldwalked. Of the remainder, 9% is pasture and a small, but important area at the west end of Cranmer Green has not been available. The method adopted was the now standard 10 metre transects of each field with more detailed searches of areas producing groups of potsherds. The material has been analysed and allocated site numbers where appropriate and incorporated in the County Sites and Monuments Record held by the Archaeological Unit in Bury St Edmunds.

It was our policy to involve local people in the fieldwalking programme and, over the years, many people contributed time and interest to the project. Training sessions on pottery recognition were held and each day's finds were discussed in regular meetings of the group. A hard core of some six fieldwalkers developed a high level of expertise in surface collecting and identification of flint and pottery artefacts.

No excavations were undertaken and metal detectors were not used.

It is acknowledged that soil conditions and the participation of many helpers in the field may have resulted in a degree of unevenness in the recovery rate, but the resulting pattern of new sites suggests that the survey has been highly successful and that it is unlikely that much has been missed, even bearing in mind the problems of survival of prehistoric and Early Anglo-Saxon hand-made pottery. Prior to the survey, five sites were listed on the Sites and Monuments Record; fieldwalking has produced a further seventy-eight sites.

## II. Prehistoric Evidence

(Fig. 5)

No prehistoric pottery was found in the course of the field survey; but a considerable scatter of flintwork was recovered, with occasional denser concentrations and a few artefacts. Half a bifacial flaked Mesolithic flint axe was found on the high land in the north-east corner of the parish (WLW 068). A polished Neolithic flint axe is an older find from near Hartshall Farm (WLW 001) and is now in Moyses Hall Museum, Bury St Edmunds. These, and four rough flint scrapers were all found on the heavy clay areas at the east end of the parish, some three kilometres from the concentrations of flintwork on the gravel terraces to the west, suggesting settlement on the lighter soils with some exploitation of the forested region in a more temporary way. On the gravel terraces in the west half of the parish the general scatter of flint flakes was much more marked with six small areas of concentrations each with more than twenty flakes. An unlocated find of a 'fine flint axe' was exhibited by S. Golding at a meeting of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology in 1855 (Anon 1859), but cannot now be located. Golding held land south of Clay Street; the axe

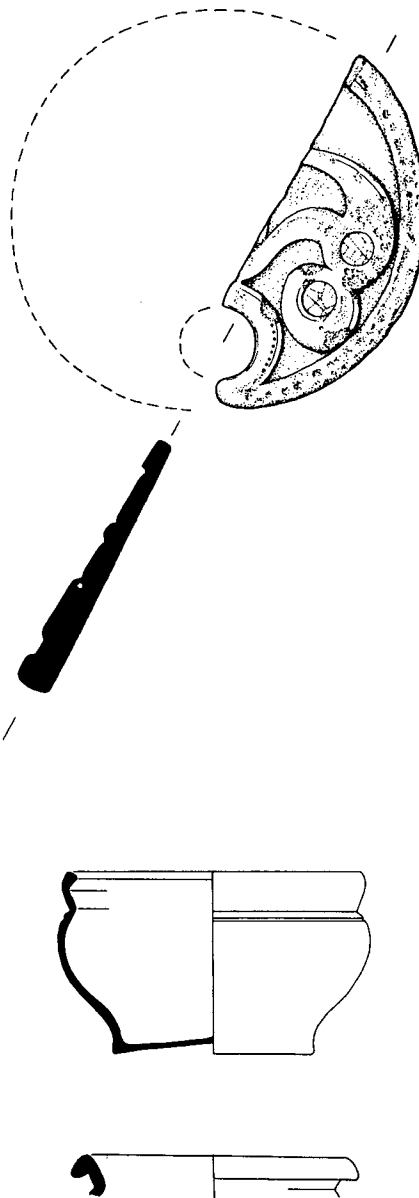


Figure 6 Iron Age object, scale 1:1, Romano-British pottery, scale 1:4

may have been found there, or taken to him as his interest in archaeology was probably well known.

The Iron Age is represented by a single stray find (WLW 084) of a fragment of an ornamented bronze object found close to Old Hall at the east end of the parish (Fig. 6). The site of the discovery is close to a group of later Romano-British sites (WLW 041-045). The fragment (Fig. 6) consists of about a third of a circular object, possibly a pendant, originally *c.* 5.4cm in diameter and a maximum of 5mm thick. The face bears part of a late La Tène ornament derived from the classical palmette-and-scroll similar to those on the horse terrets from Westhall and Weybread.

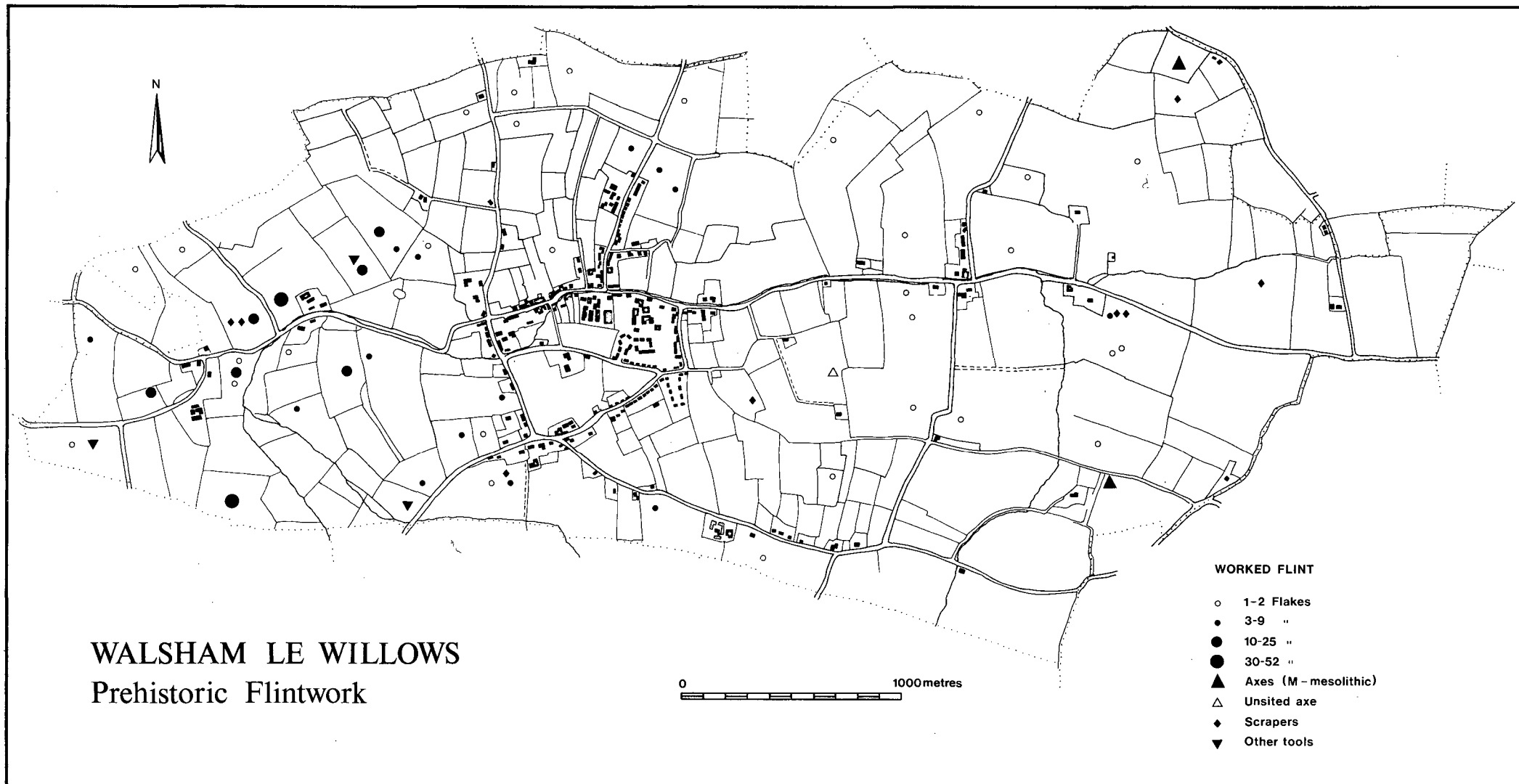


Figure 5 Distribution of prehistoric flintwork



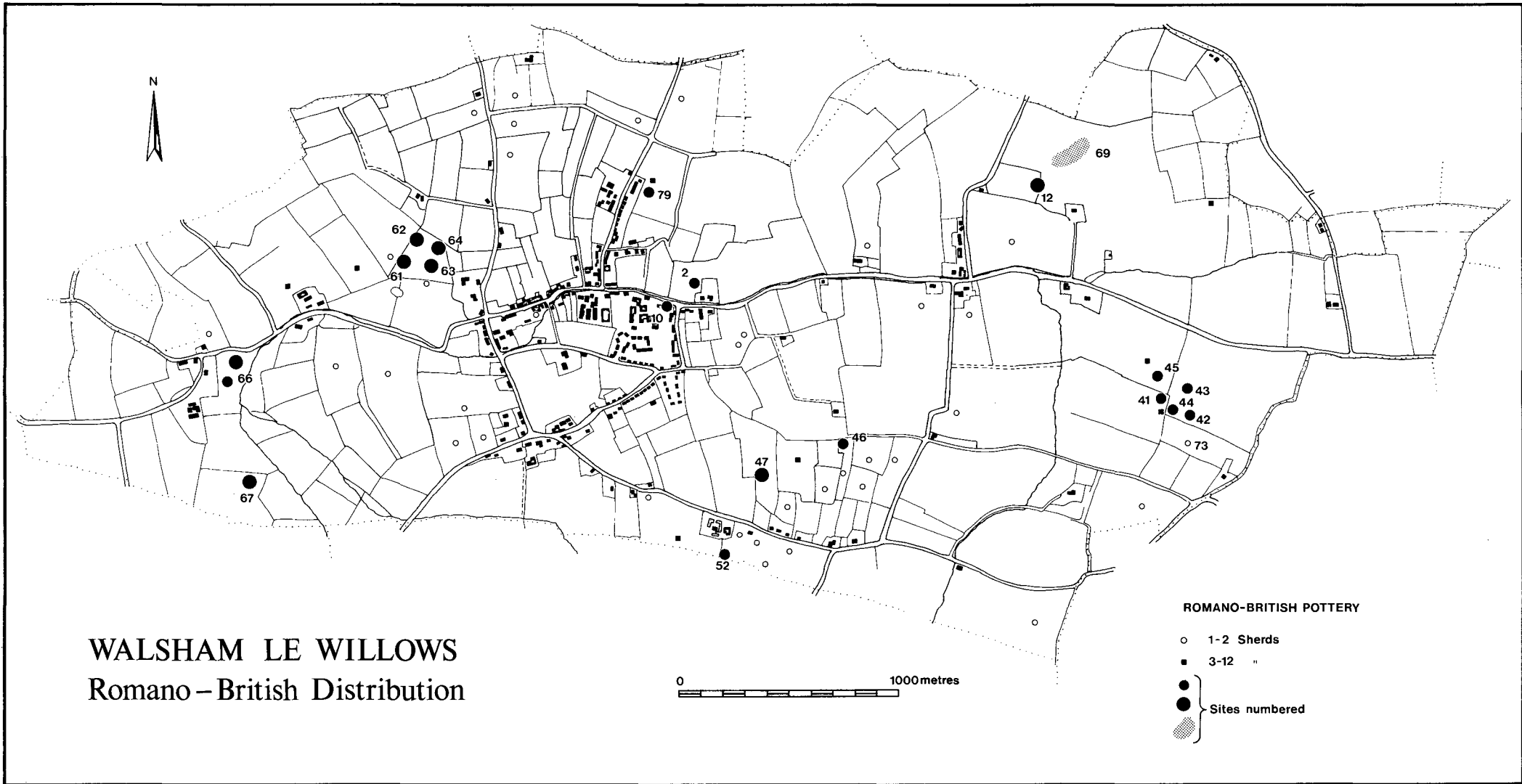


Figure 7 Distribution of Romano-British material

County	Site No.	No. of Sherds	Dating	
A	11	4		
	12	8	1 Oxford	
	69	146	L1-E2	
B	41	80	3-4C	
	42	186	2-4C	1 Rhenish, 1 Nene Valley, 1 Oxford
	43	49	2-3C	
	44	52	2-4C	1 Nene Valley
	45	51	2-3C	
	73	17		
C	61	26		
	62	45	3-4C	
	63	39	2C	
	64	34		
D	66	178	3-4C	Nene valley Mortarium
	67	33	2-3C	
E	46	7		
	47	32	2-3C	Lava quern fragment
	52	35	1-2C	
	79	22		
F	2	20		7 rims
	10	Broken pot and sherd		Sherd of poppyhead beaker and Fig. 6.3.

(Both sites previously recorded on the SMR)

Table 1 Romano-British sites

There is part of a cast hole *c.* 1cm in diameter near one edge. Two small enclosed roundels in the design still retain inset amethyst-coloured (?) glass. There are faint traces of fine line and dot outlining on the main shapes but the piece is worn and corroded. The larger recesses in the field probably originally held enamel but no trace now survives. The object probably dates to the mid 1st century AD. It remains in private hands.

### III. Romano-British Evidence

(Fig. 7; Table 1)

Previous to the field survey, two Romano-British sites were recorded (WLW 002 and 010), close together near Townhouse Lane. A further nineteen sites have been added by the field survey, twelve of them forming three distinct clusters of two, four and six sites respectively. The remainder are more dispersed. In the western half of the parish the sites all lie on the gravel terrace close to water (WLW 2, 10, 61, 62, 63, 64, 66, 67). In contrast, those in the east, where the gravel terrace has largely petered out, are situated on the clay plateau well back from the valley bottom and the stream (11, 12, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 52, 69, 73, 79).

The field evidence largely consists of sherds of highly micaceous fabrics attributable to the kilns in the adjoining parish of Watisfield, with occasional Nene Valley wares. No samian was found on any of the sites and none of the sites produced tile fragments or building debris of any kind; the overall impression being one of fairly small-scale activity, persisting on five of the sites for some time. For the rest the thin scatters may represent seasonal or short-lived occupations.

The main groups are:

- A. (11, 12, 69) on the plateau north of High Hall, where the occupation spans the late 1st to the 4th century.
- B. (41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 73) six sites to the south-east of Old Hall where the first five are all very close together, run from the 2nd to the 4th centuries, including two Nene Valley sherds, one possible Rhenish ware and one Oxfordshire fragment.
- C. (61, 62, 63, 64). On the gravel terrace at the west end of the parish, four closely related sites run from the 2nd to the 4th centuries. The next two groups are less closely situated but could be related:
- D. (66, 67) both valley bottom sites; 66 with a Nene Valley mortarium, between them spanning the 2nd to the 4th centuries; 79 is isolated on the clay plateau toward the north edge of the parish.
- E. (46, 47, 52). Three sites on the high land to the south of the parish, one producing a fragment of lava quern and spanning the 2nd to the 3rd centuries.
- F. Sites 2 and 10 probably represent a bigger site now largely obscured in the valley bottom.  
Fig. 6, 2: Site 002. Rim of light grey micaceous ware.  
Fig. 6, 3: Site 010. Semi-complete bowl in a hard, light grey fabric, with fine sand temper and very micaceous. Inturned rim and slight 'kick' to the base. Both are probably products of the Watisfield kilns some two miles away to the north.

No metalwork has been retrieved from these sites but denarii of Constantine and Constantius 'found at Walsham le Willows' were exhibited at a quarterly meeting of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology in 1859 by a Miss Wilkinson. A puddingstone quern, recorded by Barker (1907, 373) as having been found in the parish may well be that still to be seen built into the west wall of the churchyard. Apart from the concentrations listed above as 'sites' there is a thin scatter of potsherds over a wide area of the parish, particularly noticeable round Group D and on the gravels at the west end. If these scatters represent manuring of fields then a considerable acreage was exploited through the three centuries of Romano-British occupation, with the addition of pasture and woodland increasing the areas suggested by the spread of potsherds on both the light and heavy land.

The Romano-British sites in Walsham are part of a much wider exploitation of the landscape. Immediately to the north are the pottery making industries centred on Watisfield whose distinctive mica-rich pottery constitutes much of that found in Walsham. Some four miles to the west the Ixworth-Pakenham complex of sites was the focal point of Romano-British occupation for the area, and is currently considered to be a market centre. A ring of villas around Ixworth at Redcastle Farm, Pakenham; Stanton Chair; Dover Farm, Ixworth and Wicken, in an extension of Bardwell underlines the importance of the Ixworth-Pakenham centre, with the relatively stable occupation at Walsham part of the local economic chain. The known Roman road in this area is the basically north-south route of the Peddars Way through Stanton and Langham, a little to the west of Walsham. No east-west routes are known but connections between the Ixworth/Pakenham centre and the pottery making area around Watisfield are one obvious possibility. On the whole the evidence from Walsham and the surrounding area tends to suggest that 'Walsham' was relatively insignificant in the Roman period; then, as now, not really on the road to anywhere, although in reach of villa estates, a market centre and rural pottery industries.

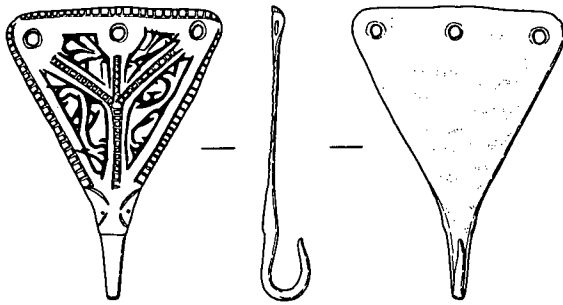


Figure 8 Late Saxon dress fitting. Scale 1:1

#### IV. Medieval Evidence

(Figs 8, 9, 10; Tables 2, 3)

The field survey revealed forty-four sites, to which may be added the two moated sites of High Hall and Crownlands, both now occupied by standing buildings. There are eight standing buildings of pre 16th-century origin and a further twenty-four listed as 16th-century. Seven standing houses listed as post 1600 are on the sites of tenements mentioned in the 1577 survey and so may yet be found to contain an earlier core. The church survives as the principal medieval building, little changed since the 15th-century remodelling. It is likely that the church was at the original central core of the settlement on the gravel terrace on the north bank of the stream. The *Domesday Survey* confirms the presence of a Late Saxon settlement here but little archaeological evidence has been found, largely because the area round the church is totally built up.

There is no evidence of an Early Saxon settlement, the nearest being that at Badwell Ash, the adjacent parish to the south. The worn fragment of Middle Saxon Ipswich ware (date range *c.* 650–850 AD) were found on the west side of the 'Causeway' (Church Street), TM 0004 7081), some distance from the village centre. An Ipswich Ware rim with a flat top, in distinctive 'pimply' fabric and two worn sherds were found in the garden of The Old Bakery (TM 0019 7121), two hundred and fifty yards east of the church. The Late Saxon phase is represented by a large triangular silver *dress-fastener* (Fig. 8). There are three holes for attachment and the decorative field is divided into four panels in two pairs bearing plant motifs emphasised with niello inlay. The division of the design and the outer edges are beaded. Behind the hook are two dots with curved lines suggesting an animal head. Length: 3.8cm. This is a high-class example of a well-known type of fitting from the 9th century. It was found in the area which became Cranmer Green in the 13th century but probably represents a loss rather than an indication of a settlement. It remains in private hands. One potsherd of Late Saxon Thetford ware was found as a stray piece some 100 yards away.

The main east-west road system as it is today has preserved the principal medieval routes almost entirely. The great age of these routes is confirmed by the positions of the hamlets which grew up along them. The major extension of Cranmer Green to the east is situated in the valley bottom as is that of West Street; the other hamlets at Four Ashes and Crownlands are on the higher clay soils toward the southern boundary of the parish. (Fig. 9)

Two small groups of sites were found outside this pattern; the first between the east end of Cranmer Green and the High Hall sites consists of four sites well spread out in Block 2a (1577). Two of these have early medieval pottery (15, 76) and all four have 13th/14th-century pottery.

The second is a group of three sites on the north side of the way to Badwell Ash, just west of the Four Ashes hamlet. Like the previous group, this small group of sites is not closely associated with a road and in this case are in an area with remnant woodland names (Stubbings). All three sites have a strong 13th/14th-century pottery element but little else. All trace of settlement here had been lost by the time of the 1577 survey.

Outside this quite tight pattern of settlement no other sites were found, apart from the two mill sites (57, 46) occupying totally isolated positions.

- A. The main street and church: the built-up nature of the area has prevented the discovery of archaeological sites so that the development around the church cannot be understood. On the north side of the crossroads a small open space in front of Walsham Hall (Manor) known as Hall Green is first mentioned in a court roll of 1453 (CR HA 504/1/13.18). The development of the settlement along the street to the east of the church had reached Wattisfield Lane on the north side and rather beyond that on the south by the time of the 1577 survey. A little further to the east is the site of a gildhall on land owned by Walsham town. The positioning of a gildhall at this point must be related to the major development around Cranmer Green.
- B. Cranmer Green and Clay Street (Fig. 10): the field survey identified four sites on the north side of Cranmer Green and twenty-two along Clay Street. This distribution would suggest that these settlements mark the original north and south sides of a large green of approximately forty acres and that encroachments and gradual enclosure took place over a considerable period, so that by the time of the 1577 survey the area of the green was much reduced. The west limits of the green could not be defined by the field survey and there must remain the possibility that it extended at least as far as Carters Lane (now Townhouse Lane), if not further.

The north side of the green is visible as a low scarp in front of Cranmer Farmhouse and in the field to the west. Cranmer Farm is on the site of one of the 1577 tenements (130b) and is listed as 16th-century. Four other archaeological sites were found, all with 13th/14th-century pottery, but two of the sites were still occupied by buildings in 1817 so that the medieval evidence was obscured. Sites 8, 9 and 16 are all referred to in the 1577 survey as tenements.

Clay Street is still visible as a hollow in the ploughed field and as a distinct crop mark in most seasons. Fieldwalking isolated fourteen sites along the south side of which five were occupied tenements in 1577 and two described as sites of former tenements. By 1695 there were three occupied sites and four decayed tenements. Seven of these can be equated with archaeological sites.

Eight of the archaeological sites have early medieval pottery; all twelve have 13th/14th-century material and all but one (24) have a post-medieval scatter.

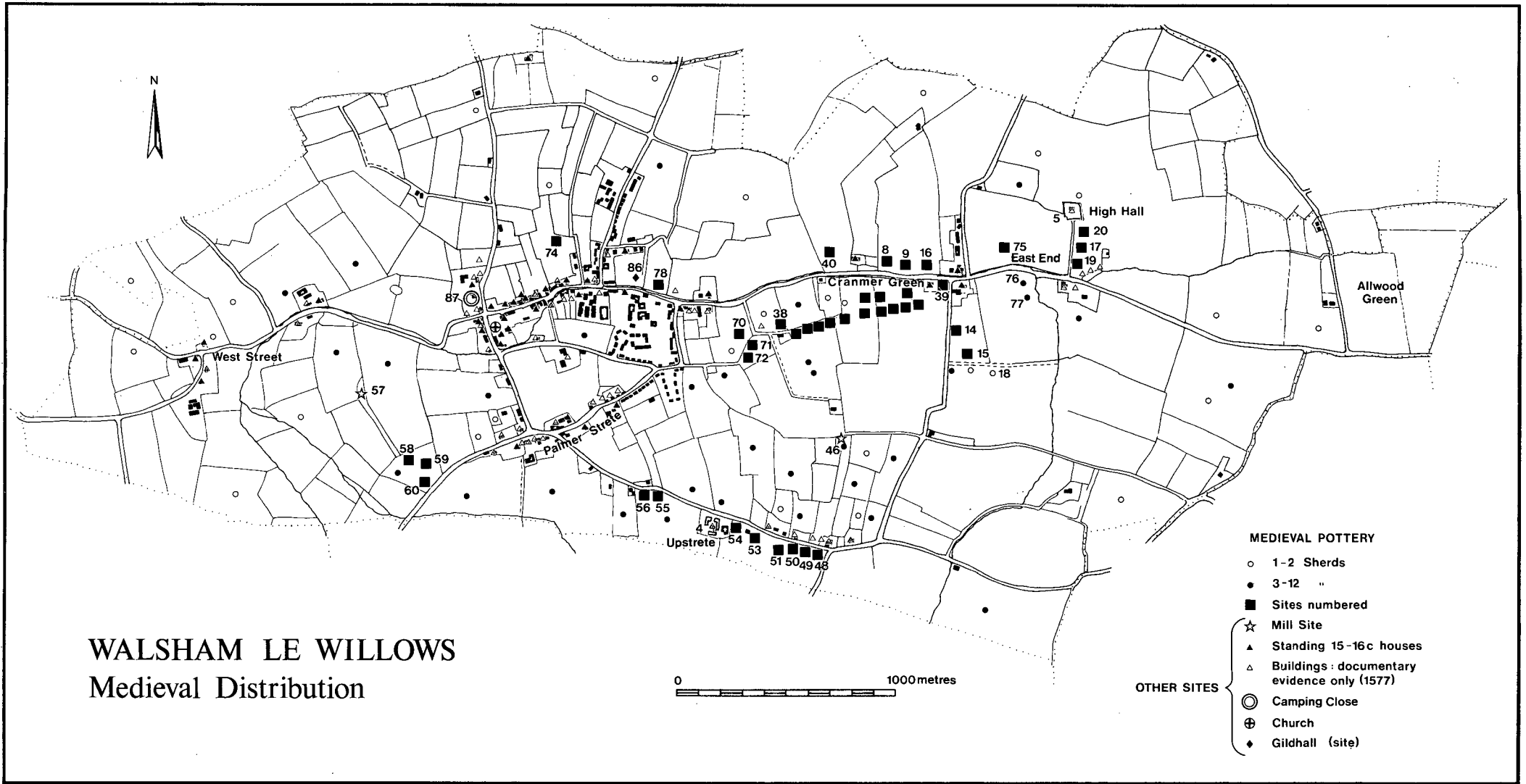


Figure 9 Distribution of Medieval material

There are four archaeological sites along the north side of Clay Street, three of which had tenements in 1577. The decayed site of one other tenement mentioned at the west end in 1577 was not located by field survey. One site was located on the north side of the central area (37) but does not occur in the documentary surveys and may be a mill site. Two sites (34, 35) have two and three sherds respectively of early medieval pottery, and one (38) has only post-medieval material but is not mentioned in the 1577 survey. The sites on the north side of Clay Street could be seen as encroachments on the green, in the case of two (34,35) at an early date.

Green Farm at the extreme east end of the green is listed as 16th-century and equates with a tenement mentioned in the 1577 and 1695 surveys.

C. Upstreet hamlet, now Crownland Road. Here the archaeological and documentary surveys combine to show a linear hamlet on both sides of the way to Westhorpe. On the south side of the road there are eight archaeological sites; two (55, 56) a little detached beyond Crownland Hall. Crownland Hall is a standing building listed as 17th-century but on an older site which occurs in the 1577 survey and is referred to as 'moated' in 1581 (Terratorium). To the east of this site there are six sites, three of which have a few sherds of early medieval pottery; one (50) has one sherd of medieval pottery but is heavily masked by post-medieval scatter and two may be part of one site (53, 54). Site 49 is recorded as a tenement in 1577 (97b, Wm. Wyther) and continued in occupation until c. 1931; site 50 a decayed tenement (97b2, Ralf Stokes) and 51 a tenement, 'newly buylded' (98a, Thomas Smyth, alias Hovell). Number 53 may well be part of this site.

The north side of Upstreet is occupied by buildings and generally not available for field survey. Of the six tenements described in both the 1577 and 1695 surveys, four are still occupied with houses and three of these are listed as 17th-century.

With the outlying tenements to the west of Crownland Hall there have been fourteen houses in this hamlet.

- D. West Street hamlet: No archaeological sites were found but there are four standing buildings on tenements recorded in the 1577 survey. All are listed as late 15th/16th-century.
- E. Four Ashes hamlet, extending east along Palmer Street: No archaeological sites were found as the land is either built-up or gardens. There are eleven houses listed here in the 1577 survey; the sites of seven of which are still occupied by buildings. There is evidence in the form of ditches set back from the present road-edge to suggest that wide strips of common land extended west toward Badwell Ash and east to Staple Cross.
- F. High Hall: This impressive moated site, which was vacant in 1577 and 'built anew with a certain tenement' by 1581, is the site of High Hall Manor. Three archaeological sites were found in the valley bottom beside the long approach from the main road. One (20) had seven sherds of early medieval pottery and all three 13th/14th-century pottery. There was no indication of occupation beyond the 14th century and none of the sites are mentioned in the documentary surveys.
- G. A scattered group of five sites between the east end of Cranmer Green and High Hall; two produced early

1. Early Medieval: c. 1150–1250		
early medieval pottery: Clay Street,	south side:	9 sites
	north side:	2 sites
Cranmer Green,	north side:	1 site
	TOTAL:	12 sites

The distribution indicates early development along the south side of Clay Street.

2. Medieval: c. 1250–1350		
Clay Street,	south side:	15 sites
	north side:	5 sites
Cranmer Green,	north side:	4 sites
	TOTAL:	24 sites

The pottery distribution shows continuity on all twelve early medieval sites and thirteen new sites with a strong suggestion that Cranmer Green had been established. Documentary references appear for: Richard de Cranemere 1283; Clay Street 1318; Cranmer Green 1334. This is the peak occupation period for the green.

3. 1577 Field Book: Documented sites:		
	<i>Occupied</i>	<i>Deserted</i>
Clay Street, south side:	8	3
north side:	3	1
Cranmer Green, north side:	5	
TOTALS:	16	4

The green may have been reduced in size to the west by the development of Chitter Lane; the first reference to which is 1430. The 1577 Field Book shows the southern half of the green enclosed by this time.

4. 1695 Survey: Documented Sites:		
	<i>Occupied</i>	<i>Deserted</i>
Clay Street, south side:	7	6
north side:	4	
Cranmer Green, north side:	5	1
TOTALS:	16	7

5. Cranmer Green on the Enclosure Map of 1819:		
Clay Street, south side:	6	
north side:	4	
Cranmer Green, north side:	4	
TOTALS	14	

Table 2 Clay Street and Cranmer Green: development and decline (Fig. 10)

medieval pottery and all continued into the 13th–14th century. None are mentioned in the 1577 survey but two (76, 77) are described as 'sometime a half message' in 1695. This is the only area in the parish to show a dispersed scatter of tenements.

- H. Three sites west of Four Ashes: lying back from the road to Badwell Ash, this small group produced a quantity of 13th/14th-century pottery and in two cases 2–3 sherds of 15th-century fabrics. These sites occur in an area with a field name implying woodland clearance (Stubbings) and close to a mill mound (57) inferred from the Terratorium. There are no references to tenements here in 1577.

The general distribution of thin scatters of medieval pottery shows a distinct concentration close to the hamlets, presumably by muck-spreading on arable land and much less towards the perimeters of the parish, with none at all in large areas along the north and east. At the eastern end of the parish lay the great common called Allwood (Aldewode) Green which must have had considerable traffic at times to and from it. There is, however, no evidence of permanent occupation on the Walsham part of the perimeter.

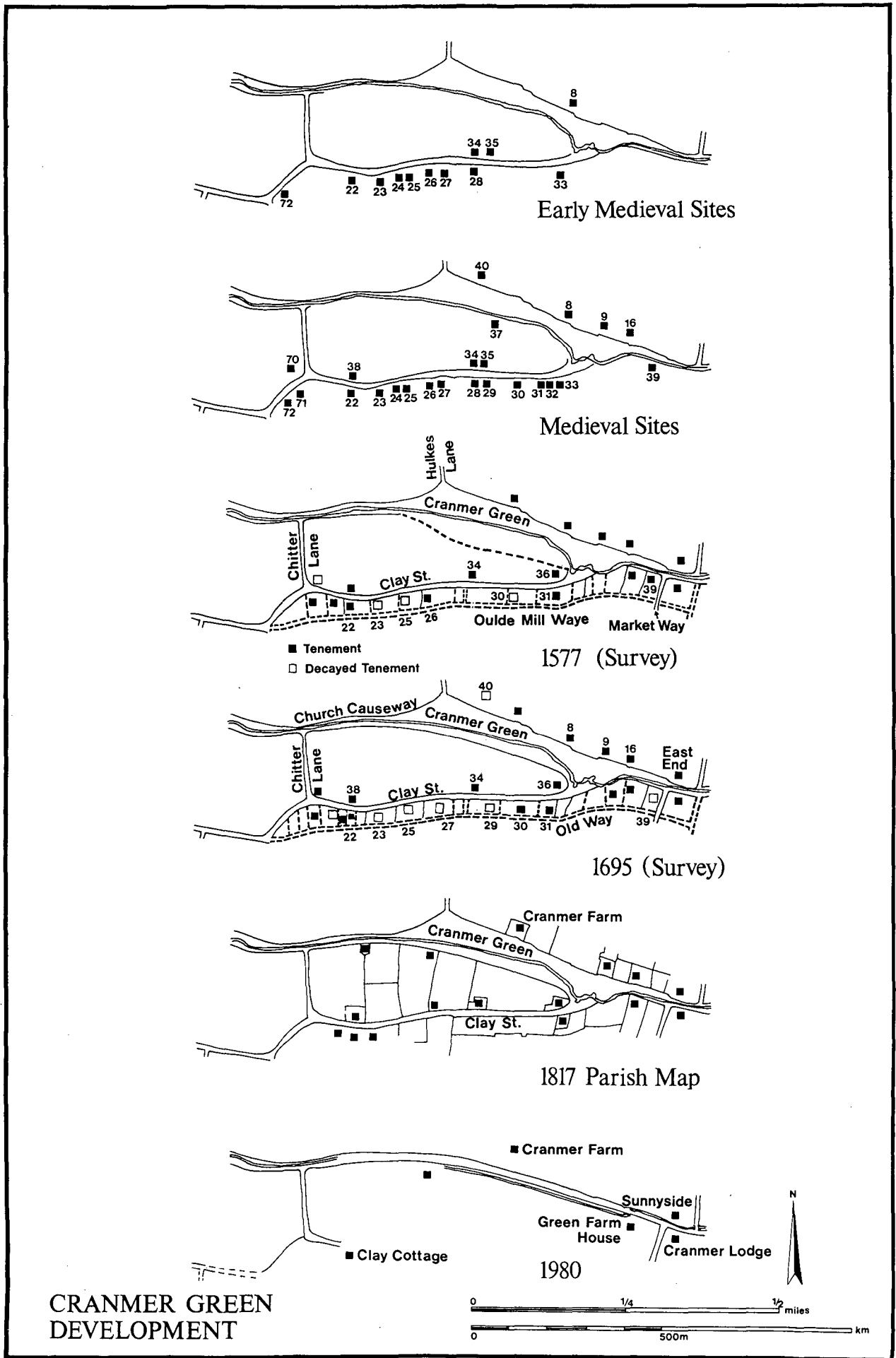


Figure 10 Cranmer Green development

SMR No.	Block	Location	EM	M	Pottery PM	18th/19th century	Lava	Documentary 1577 or 1695 reference	Occ	De
14	3	1577.13a		7						
15	3	1577.9a	2	8						
76	3	1577.8b	3	17	1			1595:5.17		x
77	3	1577.8b		30				1595:6.1		x
Cranmer Green area:										
22	4		6	19	Q	Q		1577:22b2	x	
23	4		9	38	4	3	x	1577:22b		x
24	4	1577:22b	7	139						
25	4		2	20		6		1577:20b3		x
26	4		3	4	1	4		1577:19b2	x	
27	4	1577:19b2	5	64	Q					
28	4		2	16	7			1595:9.8		x
29	4	1577:b2		5	12					
30	4			5	8			1577:17b		x
31	4			6			x	1577:17a2	x	
32	4	1577:17a2		34	12	Q				Part of 31
33	4	1577:17a	2	32	5		x			
71	4	1577:26a2		39	1					
72	4	1577:26a2	8	39						
39	4		1	48	1	3		1577:14a	x	
34	6		2	51	4	168		1577:28b	x	
35	6	1577:28b	3	26						?Part of 34
36	6				Q			1577:28a2	x	?Moat on 1817 map
37	6	1577:28a3		8	Q	Q				PM site?
9	26b			2		Q	x	1577:129b2	x	Standing 1812
8	26b		8	5	Q			1577:130a	x	
16	26b			34	Q	Q	x	1577:129b	x	
38	6				70	Q	2	1577:30a	x	
40	26b			7			x	1577:30b	x	
70	7	1577:31a2		36	4	Q				
Crownlands (Upstrete):										
46	9			8	6			1577:88a		x ?Mill site
48	15	1577:97a2	2	35		Q				
49	15		1	13				1577:97b	x	
50	15			1	Q	Q		1577:97b2	x	
51	15			50		Q		1577:98a	x	
53	15	1577:98a2		3	3	Q				Not Thomas Lacy's house
54	15	1577:98a2	1	11	1					Not Thomas Lacy's house
55	15	1577:98b	3	5						
56	15	1577:98b		17	1					
57	19	1577:108a		27	5					
59	19	1577:108a		10	3	6				
60	19	1577:107b		51						
High Hall:										
5	26			1				1577:124b2		x High Hall, moat
17	26	1577:125a		18	Q	1				
20	26	1577:125a	1	9	1	Q				
19	26			28	Q		x	1577:125a or b		
75	26	1577:126b	6	10						
74	28	1577:138a	8	17	19					
78	29	1577:70b	6	2						Not Gildhall site

Notes:

The lava fragments noted on a number of these sites refer to small hand-mills made of lava imported from the Rhineland throughout the medieval period, not used for large-scale corn milling.

'Early medieval' pottery has a hard, grey sandy fabric, usually with partially oxidised surfaces, giving a red to brown range, often with white grit showing in the fracture. See Hurst 1963 for Barn Road, Norwich and West 1970 for Brome, Suffolk for comparative material.

The unglazed medieval wares with squared rims of the 13th/14th centuries can also be found in West 1970 and Jennings 1981.

Table 3 Pottery quantities from medieval sites, with reference to sites mentioned as 'occupied' or 'sometimes builded' (i.e. vacant) in 1577

## V. Hedgerow Survey

A survey of all the hedges surviving in Walsham was carried out during the summer months of 1979–1984, following the guidelines in Pollard *et al.*, 1974. In theory, most hedges are planted with one or two species and one new species establishes itself in the hedgerow each 100 years. By counting and averaging the number of species in thirty metre stretches of a hedge, it is possible to give it an approximate age. There were problems with some hedges being originally planted with several species and those near gardens and woods were artificially rich. Some species have inevitably disappeared and mature trees have been felled. Very little spindle was found throughout the parish; being a chalk loving plant it does not thrive on clay soil. In addition, its reputation for harbouring blackfly led to an attempt to eradicate it earlier this century. Despite these difficulties the method was found to be surprisingly accurate, to judge from the compatibility of this evidence with the reconstructed survey maps.

Because so many hedges have been removed it was not possible to define one hedge as that bordering one field on both sides. Instead, a length of hedge appearing to be continuous was counted as one hedge although, for instance, it may have been a boundary of one field on one side and three fields on the other. The number of hedges in Table 4 equates with the number of surviving continuous hedges, in some cases bordering several fields, based on the 1842 tithe map. No account was taken of the length of the hedge which varied considerably.

A total of 225 hedges were surveyed, twenty-seven being on the parish boundary, fifty-eight on roadside or lanes as shown on the 1577 reconstructed survey map and 140 were field boundaries. Thirteen of the parish boundary hedges were found to be 700 years plus. Seventeen of the roadside hedges were 700 years plus and a further thirteen were *c.* 600 years old. Of the field boundary hedges 150 were aged between 400 and 700 years. This implies considerable enclosure by hedges of the former open or common fields during the 14th, 15th and 16th centuries. From 1317 onwards the court rolls record instances of tenants consolidating their holdings by surrendering lands in exchange for those held by other tenants, presumably to the mutual benefit of both. In 1328 (CR HA 504/1/3.5) William Robbehod surrendered to Matthew Terwald a small strip of land lying between two strips already held by Matthew thus allowing him to enlarge his holding. In 1368 (CR HA 504/1/7.8) two cases of surrender and exchange of enclosed land are recorded.

In 1453 (CR HA 504/1/13.17) John Shepperd obstructed a common way near Stapilweye Cross with a newly made hedge and ditch in an attempt at enclosure.

As expected, parts of the hedge of the Hundred Lane which was the boundary of the Hartismere and Blackbourn hundreds and of the Liberty of St Edmund contained many different trees and shrubs. Eleven species were growing in one thirty metre stretch and ten species in two other stretches, the entire hedge averaging nine species. The hedge should then be in the order of 900 years old, and the lane possibly older.

Apart from the Hundred Lane only two other lanes, Fishponds and Hartshall are still green lanes *i.e.* hedged and ditched either side. Both are public rights of way. Fishponds has a particularly species-rich hedge on both sides of the lane, totalling seventeen species in all

including spindle, buckthorn and hornbeam, all rare in the parish. The average age was *c.* 800 years. Mill Lane, Clay Street, Netherway and Summer Lane are at least 650 years old on documentary evidence, being mentioned in early 14th-century court rolls. The hedges of these lanes indicated an age of 700–800 years.

Place names with a hedge element include Anneshedge, Arable Hedge Close, Hedge Pasture and Thevesheg. The latter was first mentioned in a court roll of 1337 and still exists, although somewhat reduced in species.

One short hedge running from east-to-west in Mill Field contains nine species and together with adjoining hedges of *c.* 700 and *c.* 800 years was probably the boundary of a tenement held in 1577 by Richard Cook (see Fig. 18). The site of the windmill, already obliterated by 1577, was, until recently, surrounded on three sides by hedges of *c.* 700 and 800 years old.

One anomalous area is Great Netherelles in Block 26a, a large close of pasture containing 60 acres, being demesne land of High Hall manor. Both surveys describe the pasture as one large area but it was, in fact, partly sub-divided. Hedges in the north-east corner of the close were dated as 400 to 800 years old. Court roll entries verify this evidence. In 1427 (CR HA 504/1/12.5) Netherhawe Pasture containing 60 acres 1 rood 35 perches part of the demesne, was leased to John Ryngebell. In 1447 (CR HA 504/1/13.10) he surrendered 3 acres 1 rood of Netherhaghpasture to another villein. The close was further broken up in 1526 (CR HA 504/1/18.16) when another 1½ acres were surrendered.

Almost every hedge contained both hawthorn and blackthorn: the obvious choice for making an animal-proof barrier. Elder, elm (mostly runners from dying trees), field maple and dog-rose were common, followed by dogwood and hazel. Most of the older hedges contained ash and sometimes oak; spindle and crab-apple were only found in older hedgerows. There were very few hornbeams or buckthorns and just one guelder rose and one black poplar. There were a few sallows and willows but these mostly grow around ponds and will need safeguarding if Walsham is to remain 'le Willows'.

It is important to note that the vast majority of hedgerows shown on the 1817 map have been removed, mostly since World War II. The evidence is, therefore, much depleted and fragmented and impossible to interpret meaningfully.

The following table of the analysis of surviving hedges in the parish shows that the majority are of medieval origin.

<i>Approx. age</i>	<i>No. of hedges</i>	<i>Approx. date planted</i>
1000 years	2	1000 AD
900	5	1100
800	18	1200
700	36	1300
600	49	1400
500	48	1500
400	46	1600
300	23	1700
200	1	1800
100	1	1900

Table 4 Hedges remaining within Walsham Parish



## VI. Archaeological Sites and Listed Buildings Identified in the Surveys

The accompanying Table (5) contains all the houses mentioned in the 1577 Field Book and the 1695 survey with corresponding folio numbers and names of tenants (not necessarily occupants). There are fifty-three buildings still standing which can be identified with houses in the surveys. These are designated as 'Listed Buildings' by the Department of the Environment but fragments of others may well be incorporated in buildings not so listed. Where buildings are not 'listed', the numbers preceded by 'C' refer to Sylvia Colman's listing (Colman 1969). Colman's dating coupled with the detailed

descriptions in the DoE listing provide a comprehensive cover of the standing buildings.

Twenty-one archaeological sites were found which can be identified with houses mentioned in the surveys.

In the case of houses for which there are no standing buildings or archaeological evidence, it can be assumed that the site is obscured or unavailable for search.

## VII. The Pound

The village still possesses a red brick pound, built in the 19th century and recently restored, at the south end of Townhouse Lane, possibly replacing an earlier one near the church, shown on the 1817 Parish map, of which no trace remains.

Block No 1695	Arch Site No	Listed Bldgs No	Main Structural Date	1577 No	1577 Tenant	1695 Fol: No	1695 Tenant	Notes
2		3/38	18C	5b	Richard Rampely	5.7	John Hunt	Coopers in 1695 now Old Hall
2				6a	Richard Carter	5.8	John Hunt	
3	076					5.17	Thomas Smyth	
3	077					6.1	Thomas Smyth	
4	039	3/39	16C	13b	Thomas Hawes	7.19	Thomas Lodge	Now Canmer Lodge
				14a	John Robwood Junior	8.11	Ann Fisk	
4		3/41	16C	16a	Andrew Hawes	8.12	Ann Fisk	Now Green Farmhouse (adjoining 8.13)
4						8.13	Edward Crispe	
4	031			17a2	John Robwood Senior	9.11	Edward Crispe	
4	030			17b	John Robwood Senior	9.7	Edward Crispe	
4	28/29					9.8	Edward Crispe	'heretofore built'
4	026 or 27			19b2	Robert Ludman	10.15	John Smeare	'Wasted' in 1695
4	025			20b3	Steven Harris	11.6	Edward Crispe	Longs in 1695
4	023			22b	John Lynge	11.13	Edward Crispe	Mancers in 1695
4	022			22b2	Nicholas Grocer	12.15	John Grocer	Furneyes in 1695
4				24a2	John Grocer	12.18	John Baker	Grymsbyes in 1695
						or		now Clay Cottage
						12.20	John Grocer	
4				24b	John Lynge		John Smeare	
5		3/47	16C	34b	William Hawes	14.6	Thomas Bennett	Now Fernside
				34b	William Hawes	14.8	Thomas Bennett	
5				35a	Katherine Sparke	14.12	Thomas Rice	
5		C.15/18	E.17C	35b2	William Ryse	15.2	Samuel Youngman	Lakenhams in 1695 now Cygnet House
5						15.7	Edmund Nicholas	Ballards in 1695 ?now Bank House
5		3/64	L.16C poss. earlier core	36a	Richard Saundy	15.9	Thomas Bugg	Curtes in 1695 ?now Coopers
5				36b2	William Atwell			
5		C.15/21	17C	37a	Richard Reignberd	5.10	John Rayneberd	Leves or Rands in 1695, now possibly Avenue House
				37a2	John Parker	16.2	John Rayneberd	
5				37b	John Clark	15.13	Robert Reignberd	Now Brook House
6	036			28a2	John Jesoppe	16.3	Elizabeth Scase	Frosts in 1695
6	034 or 035			8b	John Carter	16.8	William Hawes Senior	Weders and Godfreys in 1577
6	038			30a	Reginald Rampely	16.15	John Grocer	
6				30b	Robert Jordan	16.17	John Grocer	Maryonnes in 1695
7				32a	Johanna Hawes	17.3	Mary Davy	Cottage
7				32a	Johanna Hawes	17.4	Mary Davey	House
7		3/49	L.15C	32b	John Carter	17.5	Richard Warner	Now Townhouse
8				42b2	Reinold Ryce	17.8	James Grocer	Harwards in 1577 and 1695
				43a	Richard Reigneberd	17.10	George Kidd	Fyberdes or Peppers in 1577 and Freeberdes in 1695

<i>Block No 1695</i>	<i>Arch Site No</i>	<i>Listed Bldgs No</i>	<i>Main Structural Date</i>	<i>1577 No</i>	<i>1577 Tenant</i>	<i>1695 Fol: No</i>	<i>1695 Tenant</i>	<i>Notes</i>
8				43b	Anthony Padnall	17.11	Samuel Youngman	Abrams in 1577 and Abrahams in 1695 survey
8				43b2	Anthony Padnall	17.12	Samuel Youngman	Now Grove Cottage
8				43b3	Laurence Reigneberd	17.14	Francis Asty	
8		3/56	16C	44b	Thomas Page	18.1	Francis Asty	Kembalds in 1577 and 1695 now Four Ashes
8				44b2	William Waller	18.3	Samuel Page	Now Gurney Cottage
9		3/45	E.17C	86b	Robert Jordan	18.6	Simeon Daynes	Now Fir Tree Farmhouse
9				89a2	Thomas Brydges	19.2	Samuel Hart	
9		3/44	E.17C	88b2	John Tyler	19.3	Samuel Hart	Now Riding Farmhouse
9				89b	John Rushebroke	19.8	Ruben Bridges	
9		9/375	17C	90b2	John Rampely	19.10	Heirs of Robert Reve	Now The Quillett
9				91b	Richard Cooke	19.17	Thomas Cook	Now Crownland Farm
9						20.1	Thomas Cook	Void
9		3/58	E.16C	95b2	John Robwood Senior	21.6	Francis Asty	Now Willow Tree Farmhouse
9		3/57	E-mid 16C	96b	Steven Hawes	21.13	Francis Asty	Spyllmans in 1577 and 1695 now Old Vicarage
15	048			97a2	John Russhebrooke	26.11	Sara Canham	
15	049			97b	William Wyther	26.13	Sara Canham	Vincent's in 1695
15	050			97b2	Ralf Stokes	26.15	Sara Canham	
15	051			98a	Thomas Smith/Hovell	26.18	Sara Canham	
15		3/43	17C	98a2	Thomas Lacy	26.19	Sara Canham	Now Crownland Hall
15		3/42	E.18C			27.1	John Clarke	Copleys in 1695 now Crownland Cottage
16		C.14/35	E.19C (older core)	46a2	John Page	27.6	John Grocer	Now The Rosary
16				46b2	John Myller	27.8	John Drake	Springalls in 1695
16		3/51	17C older fragments	47a	William Pope	27.10	Samuel Fisher	Now Four Ashes Cottages
16		3/52	15C	47a2	William Pope	27.11	Samuel Fisher	Tussies in rentals (15C) now Four Ashes Farmhouse
16				47a2	Robert Neal			
16		2/26	E.17C			28.1	Samuel Fisher	Now Thatched Cottage
17		2/31	15C	101a2	Hugh Johnson	28.9	Lucy Roper	Beacons in 1695 now Sweetbriars
17				101b	John Vincent	28.11	Thomas Martin	Now estate cottage next to Sweetbriars
17		2/32	16C	101b2	Nicholas Marten	28.12	Thomas Martin	Now Church Farmhouse
17						28.13	Thomas Martin	
17		2/33	18C	102a	Nicholas Marten	28.14	Thomas Martin	Bretts in 1577, now Church Rise
17		3/50	E.18C	104b	William Pope	29.11	William Baker	Spicers in 1695 now The Elms
17			L.Med.	104a2	Robert Jorden	29.13	William Voyce	Now cottage at Hill Nursery
18/19		2/86	18C (E.17C core)	115a2	Thomas Flatman	32.3	Thomas Page	Now The Lawn
18/19		2/87	E.19C	114a	Thomas Flatman	31.15	Thomas Page	'Greens' in 1577 now Lawn Cottage
20				59a2	Cyssly Margerye	33.2	Lucie Roper	Now Willow Court
20				60a	John Vyncent	32.14	Lucie Roper	Barnes in 1577, Conygers in 1695 now Willow House
20				60a2	John Knight	32.16	Lucie Roper	
21		2/29	L.16C/E.17C	161a	John Margery	33.8	John Purcas	Skottes in 1577, now Brooke Farmhouse
21		2/88	E.19C	157b	Thomas Flatman	33.10	John Cooke	Cockes in 1577 and 1695 now Brook Farm Cottage
21		2/85	L.15C	163b	Nicholas Marten	34.3	Robert Baker	Lynehams in 1577 and 1695 now West Cottage
23				150a	Thomas Grocer	36.11	John Freeman	Site of Walsham Manor in 1577, Pyckards in 1695
23		2/78	E.18C	149b	Thomas Grocer	36.12	John Freeman	Now Hall House
23				149a2	John Margery	36.13	John Freeman	

<i>Block No</i> <i>1695</i>	<i>Arch Site No</i>	<i>Listed Bldgs No</i>	<i>Main Structural Date</i>	<i>1577 No</i>	<i>1577 Tenant</i>	<i>1695 Fol: No</i>	<i>1695 Tenant</i>	<i>Notes</i>
26a						39.3	Richard Tyndall	Now Porters Farm
26a				123b	Michel Fynbowe	39.11	John Hunt	
26a				125b	Richard Rampely	39.12	John Hunt	
26a				125a2	Peter Fuller	39.13	John Hunt	Scyres in 1695
26a	005	3/37	L.16C	124b2	Moat of High Hall	39.14	High Hall	Still High Hall
26b		3/36	L.16C	128a	John Robwood Junior	41.3	Ann Fisk	Now Sunnyside
26b	016			129b	John Robwood Senior	41.14	John Grocer	Spaldings in 1577
26b	009			129b2	William Howes	42.1	William Voyce	
26b	008			130a	Alice Rampely	42.2	Joseph Ward	Frosts and Manns in 1577
26b	040			130b	Francis Rookwood	42.8	Thomas Complin	Cranmer in 1695
26b		3/35	E.16C	130b	Francis Rookwood	42.7	Thomas Complin	Ponchons in 1695 now Cranmer Farmhouse
27		3/80	16C	145a3	John Reigneberd	44.6	John Grocer	Now Fishponds (Hayhouse)
28		3/77	E.19C	134a2	Mary Spark	45.12	Robert Warner	Marlers in 1695 survey, now Maltings House
28				137b2	Augustus Vyncent	45.13	Robert Warner	Now Lane End Cottage and others
28						46.1	Robert Waner	
28				138a	John Parker	46.2	Elizabeth Canham	Now Chestnuts
28				141a	Steven Vincent	46.3	John Freeman	Sybbes in 1695 now Limes
28		3/74	mid 16C	141b	Richard Reigneberd	46.6	Edward Crispe	Myllons in 1577
28				141b2	Richard Reigneberd	46.8	Edward Crispe	Now Sideways House
28		3/73	E.17C	143a2	Clarke	46.9	Alice Clarke	Gooles in 1577, Goldes in 1695, now Sideways Garage
28		3/71	15C	143b	Anne Vyncente	46.10	John Freeman	Now White House
28						46.11	Susan Peck	Now Tiled House
28		3/70	c.1600	143b2	John Reve	46.12	Elizabeth Rayneberd	Now possibly South Side
28		3/68	16/17C	144a	Thomas Smythe	46.13	John Hunt	Now Yew Tree Cottage
28								Cocksalls in 1695 now Dages
28		3/68	16/17C	144a	Thomas Smythe	47.1	John Hunt	
28		3/67	16C	144b	Walsham Town	47.3	Walsham Town	Towne House in 1577, now Gildhall
28		2/65	16C	144b2	John Vyncent	47.4	Elizabeth Canham	Fullers in 1695 now Six Bells PH
29				72b	Mary Sparkes	47.5	Samuel Youngham	Forcettes in 1577
29		3/46	c.1600	71a	John Hawes of the Bushes	47.6	Robert Hagtree	Mansers in 1695
29								Now The Rookery
29				70b	Walsham Town	47.7	Walsham Town	The Gildhall in 1577
29				69a	Ralph Stokes	47.8	John Salkeld	Sares in 1577 and 1695
29		3/48	16C			47.9	John Salkeld	
29				68b	Ralph Stokes	47.10	John Salkeld	Now Woodlands
30	007	2/59		38a2	Parish Church	51.3	Parish Church	Still Parish Church
30		2/27	E.16C	38b	Church House Manor	51.4	Church House Manor	Now The Priory
30		2/30	16C core	39a	John Page	51.5	Israel Shyn	Now Priors Close
30		3/53	16C	39b	John Robwood	51.6	Heirs of George Complin	Now The Beeches
30		3/60	15C	40a	John Howell/ Smythe	51.8	Thomas Jarrold	Now Blue Boar Inn
30			17C	39b3	Edward Clarke	52.1	Thomas Youngman	Now St Catherines
30			L.17C	40a2	Andrew Curtis	52.2	Sarah Syer	Now Maplestead
30				41a	Thomas Lacy	52.3	Thomas Lacy	Backhouse 1695
30						52.4	Mary Raynberd	Called a 'back house' in 1695
30		3/61	16C		Jolycote Hill	52.5	Margaret Block	Now Clive Cottage
30					Jolycote Hill	52.6	John Grocer	
31		2/82	15C	53a	John Hawes de Westrete	54.18	Robert Rushbroke	Now Home Farmhouse
32		2/84	16C	169a2	John Parker	55.1	John Grocer	Wardes in 1695 now West Street Farmhouse
32		2/83	E.16C	52b2	Thomas Baker	56.7	Robert Baker	Wardes in 1695 now Mr Cobbalds, West Street

Table 5 Archaeological sites and listed buildings identified in the surveys

# Chapter 3. The Documentary Evidence

## I. Domesday Survey

There are only three entries in the Suffolk section of the *Domesday Book*, one of which is described as a manor previous to 1066. The entries are worth quoting in full:

### *Domesday Book: Suffolk (Rumble 1986)*

6. Land of Robert Malet:  
Hundred [of] BLACKBOURN  
299 In WALSHAM (Le Willows) Hubert holds from Robert Malet 1 free man with 60 acres, over whom his predecessor had patronage before 1066. Always 1 plough.  
Meadow, 2 acres; woodland, 4 pigs.  
Value always 10s.  
St. Edmunds (has) full jurisdiction.

14. Land of St. Edmunds:  
92 In WALSHAM (Le Willows) 30 free men with 3 carucates of land.  
2 smallholders.  
Then 9 ploughs, now 6.  
Meadow, 8 acres; woodland at 30 pigs.  
These (free men) could grant and sell their land, but the full jurisdiction and patronage still belong to St. (Edmunds).  
Value then 30s; now 45[s].  
Of these free men and this land, Robert Blunt holds 10 free men with 2 carucates of land; 2 ploughs; value 40s in the same assessment.

66. Land of Robert Blunt:  
2 Aki held WALSHAM (le Willows) before 1066; as a manor, 2 carucates of land.  
Always 4 smallholders.  
Then 2 ploughs in lordship, now 3; ½ mens plough.  
Meadow, 5 acres; woodland, 20 pigs. Always 1 cob. Then 3 cattle, now 1; then 40 pigs, now 29; then 5 sheep, now 30.  
Value then 40s; now 60[s].  
In the same (Walsham le Willows) 20 free men under patronage; 1 carucate of land. Always 2 ploughs.  
Meadow, 2 acres; woodland, 10 pigs.  
Value then 10s; now 20[s].  
In the same (Walsham le Willows) 3 free men and a half; 1 carucate of land. Then and later 3½ ploughs, now 2.  
Meadow, 2½ acres; woodland at 4 pigs.  
Value always 20s.  
½ church, 10 acres. Meadow, 1 acre. Value 8d.  
It has 2 leagues in length and 6 furlongs in width; 17d in tax.  
Others hold there.

Aki is the only named Saxon landholder before 1066. His holdings included land as manors in Westleton, Ixworth, Great Ashfield and Wyken which was part of Stanton and Walsham. Smaller holdings were situated in Wyverstone, Westhorpe and Gislingham where thirty acres were held of the lordship of Walsham. Apart from Westleton all his holdings were in a close association.

Some confusion has arisen regarding the number of Walsham manors because both High Hall and Church House Manor were also known by other names; that is, Wildcattes, Overhall and Esthouse. However, a study of the court rolls show a main manor of Walsham situated in Summer Road; High Hall at the east end of the parish which became part of Walsham Manor in 1379 and Church House, being the lands of the Prior of Ixworth and based at 'The Priory next to the church. A limited range of court rolls survive for the years 1409–1508 for Church House Manor.

A generalised account of the devolvement of the manors can be found in Copinger 1909 and an extensive discussion in Dodd 1974.

Our work in Walsham has relied on the published version of the 1577 survey (Dodd 1974) as the original is held at the University of Chicago. A copy of the 1695 survey was obtained and compared with the *Territorium* of 1581.

## II. The Surveys of Walsham

In 1577 Sir Nicholas Bacon, Lord of the Manor of Walsham, ordered a written survey to be made of all the holdings in the manor. Known as a Field Book the survey consists of a description of each piece of land, stating the tenant, whether free or copyhold, the abutments and the size. The land use, whether pasture, arable, woodland or meadow is given in approximately two-thirds of the entries. There is some mention of hedges and other field divisions and occasionally other information. This survey was published in 1974 by the Suffolk Record Society (vol. xvii, edited by K.M. Dodd). A typical entry reads:

'Richard Cooke — One customary crofte of arrable grownde in the tenure of the said Richard Cooke lyeth este by a customary close of arrable grownde in the tenure of Nicholas Grocer, weste by another customary close thereby in the tenure of the said Richard Cooke, northe uppon Mell Lane, and sowthe uppon his laste said crofte and pytle and conteyneth — 4 acres 26 perches' (FB 92a2).

In several items an additional measurement is given in brackets. For example, Steven Hawes held a grove containing one acre thirty-five perches (but by copy [this refers to the tenant's 'copy' or title to the tenure], two acres) (FB 108a2), so in some entries the legal documents from which the copyhold acres were taken must have been examined in addition to the land measured by the surveyor. Measured entries are given more precisely in acres, roods and perches than those mentioned as 'by copy' which are usually given to the nearest acre.

Apart from the evidence of a letter from John Hunt, the surveyor to Nicholas Bacon, informing him that rain was delaying the survey as it would shrink the line, (Dodd 1974, 23) there are numerous indications in the text of the Field Book that the author was in the field looking at the land and buildings; that it was a measured survey. The first 'went' or section to be surveyed was that on the eastern boundary of the parish, south of the main street which runs from east to west dividing it in half. Moving westwards, the next went was then measured and this method continued consistently through most of the parish (see map Fig. 11). Within each went the same is true; the surveyor started at the east end and proceeded in an anticlockwise way round the went. It is thus possible to 'follow' the surveyor round the fields and draw a conjectural map of 1577 onto the earliest available map of Walsham dated 1817. Some discrepancies occur in abutments and acreages but a general layout of the landscape can be achieved.

In 1581 another survey (SRO T J529/3) which will be referred to as the *Territorium* was written in Latin with the same format as the Field Book; each piece of land described is located within its went. Each entry in the

*Terratorium* imparts the same information as the Field Book but with these differences:

- 1) The sizes of plots of land are usually given to the nearest acre, sometimes to the nearest rood, but only in perches in the case of land under one rood. This is because the *Terratorium* is a traditional survey, *i.e.* compiled largely from the examination of documents such as court rolls which give measurements to the nearest acre or rood but rarely perches.
- 2) Almost 1000 entries are described in the *Terratorium* compared with 600 in the Field Book.
- 3) Whereas the Field Book described basically square-shaped fields, a large proportion of those in the *Terratorium* are long, thin strips. For example: in 1577 the third went, or Block 3, consisted of just fourteen pieces of land but in 1581 consisted of forty-eight pieces, mostly strips (see map Fig. 14). The explanation for these differences is not that the landscape itself had changed but that the method of survey differed. It is probable that in 1581 the went contained just fourteen pieces of land as in 1577 but the information recorded was obtained from earlier court rolls, charters and other documents, rather than from observation in the field. The documents used were pre 1581 and therefore reflected a medieval landscape of large arable areas subdivided into numerous strips originally held, intermixed, by many different tenants. In 1577 Richard Rampley held land that had been small strips which he used as one larger field (FB 119b; T 4.7, 8, 9). Consolidation of strips by surrender and exchange is frequently recorded in 14th- and 15th-century court rolls. It should be possible to fit the strips of 1581 onto the fields of the conjectural map of 1577 but as two different methods of survey were employed, this only works for the smaller went and parts of the larger ones.
- 4) The names of up to three previous tenants are given. For example, the entry for Block I paragraph I reads, 'John Ederyche alias Jeames holds by copy one close of pasture formerly Thomas Ryse, lately William Preston and later Roger Powlyn...'. Many of these names occur in earlier documents, particularly in court rolls.
- 5) Although some mention of tenements or holdings by name occurs in the Field Book, it is from the *Terratorium* that most information regarding these can be gleaned. In addition, ten headlands, two mill sites and many place names are of medieval origin.

Thus, although the *Terratorium* was compiled in 1581 it would appear to be largely a description of the late medieval field pattern of Walsham.

In 1695 another survey of the manor (SRO HA504/5/13) was made by order of Sir Robert Bacon and claims to be made '...as well by the oathes of the Tenants of the said Mannor and Examination and due search of the ancient Rentalls, Court Rolls and other Evidences of the said Mannor. As by walking through and about the Lands of the said Mannor with the Tenants of the same...'. It is, however, largely an English translation of the *Terratorium*. The same number of entries appears, the pieces of land are the same size and the land use is identical. Some changes in buildings or rebuilding are noted and the tenants' names are updated. It is possible to draw a conjectural plan for 1581/1695 but as the *Terratorium* is based on documents and not observed in

the field, it is more difficult than in the case of the Field Book and more discrepancies occur in abuttals and acreages. The result, however, is a plan of Walsham before consolidation of all the strips and enclosure of fields took place, that is, of 15th-century date, or possibly earlier.

Figure 40 is the conjectural map of 1581 which formed the basis for the 1695 survey; Figs 45–69 constitute an atlas of the 1695 survey with the updated information of the tenants names and houses made at the time.

#### Perambulation 1584

In addition there is the Perambulation of 1584 in Latin with an English version of 1695, appended here:

##### Walsham Town

'The perambulation circuit and bounds of the said town as often time by the inhabitants of the same have been anciently perambulated.

Begin at the church there and tend south or southeast unto the Kings Way called Palmer Street where turn on the left hand by the same way unto the tenement sometime of William Waller now of Samuel Page right over against the said tenement is a certain way called Wood Way leading unto the wood of the lord called Ladys Wood going on by the said way south or southeast unto the Procession Way between Walsham and Badwell called Peddars Path and go on directly eastwards unto the Hundred Mere or Francis Path where is a three-way leet where lyeth a Procession Way between Walsham and Westhorpe going northward by the said Procession Way otherwise the Hundred Mere or Francis Path unto a way called Angrave Way where is another three-way leet where turn east or northeast by the way tending unto Angrave Croft and unto the close called Aprils sometime of Thomas Hart now of Samuel Hart where turn into the said close and go by the east end of the same and through the land sometime of William Wither and Margaret Bartlett widow now of John Amis. And at the east end of the said John Amis his land go eastwards through the close sometime of William Hart now of John Amis called Angrave Meadow where lyeth a Procession Way between Walsham and Westhorpe unto the west side of a close sometime of Reynold Rampley now of John Amis called Smallbrook where go into the said close and tend by the west side of the same unto Angrave Way unto Angrave Cross where sometime was erected a certain cross and from thence directly northeast by the Hundred Mere on the west side of the pales of Westhorpe Park unto Helves Wood and from thence directly unto the common way called the Upper Way leading from Allwood Green unto Walsham there is a three-way leet where turn on the right hand and go east unto the said common called Allwood Green and from thence over the said Hundred Mere tending directly east through the said common called Allwood Green the length of ninety perches unto the end of the said park of Westhorpe where going north over the said common unto certain firs there where is a certain dole post or oaken stubb where a certain oak did grow and from thence go northwest over the said common unto a certain dole where turn on the left hand and go west unto a certain slade of the said common and go by the said slade southwest unto the corner of a close sometime of Thomas Smith now of Richard Tyndall gent. on the one hand called Bluntes where turn on the right hand and go westwardly unto the Hundred Mere aforesaid where turn on the left hand and go northwardly by the said Hundred Mere unto the corner of another close sometime of the said Thomas Smith now of the said Richard Tyndall where now is erected a certain house where turn on the left hand and go westwardly unto the house sometime of the said Thomas Smith now of John Freeman of Westhall in the town of Rickinghall. And there turn by the east end of the said house into a close sometime of the said Thomas now of the said John where lyeth a Procession Way between Walsham and Rickinghall and from there turn into the close sometime of the said Thomas now of the said John Freeman of Westhall formerly called Ulverswell now called Houndswell over the said close through one half thereof unto a close of the demesne of this manor called Netherhaw and go by the east side of the said close north and northwest unto another close of the demesne of this manor called Great Netherelles where go from the bars of the said close southwest unto the close sometime of John Robhood the younger now of Ann Fisk widow, where turn westwardly through the Procession Way between Walsham and Rickinghall through the land sometime of the said John Robhood and Francis Rookewood gent. now of Thomas Complin gent. unto the close of John Hawes of the Bushes sometime now of Doctor Crask called Botesdale Close and so by the north side of the said close unto the common way Hulkes Lane which leadeth from Cranmer Green to Wattisfield where turn on the right hand and go northwest unto a close called Long Tyndalls sometime of Mary Spark now of John Salkeld clerk called Pynchons Bottom and so turn by

the southeast side of the said close and go north unto a way called Wattisfield Lane at a corner of a close sometime of Francis Rookewood now of the said John Salkeld called Pynchons Bottom and go by the said way westward unto a certain three-way leet at Strondes Wood called Strondes Cross where a certain cross was erected. And from there go directly west by the Procession Way between Walsham and Wattisfield unto a certain entry sometime of John Rayneberd now of John Grocer called Fishpond Entry unto a pond there called Fishpond where turn into the close sometime of Richard Rayneberd now of John Couzens where lyeth the Procession Way between Walsham and Wattisfield and go by the said Procession Way unto the common way called Somer Way and so directly west through a certain way there leading from Walsham to Stanton where lyeth the said Procession Way between Walsham and Wattisfield unto a certain three-way leet where turn on the left hand into a certain way which leadeth from Walsham to Stanton and go by the said way directly southeast unto a close sometime of Thomas Flotman now of Phillippa Page widow called Felgate Close where turn on the right hand by a certain way leading unto Wrenshall and go west unto a close sometime of Thomas Baker now of the said John Grocer called Reading where turn into the said close and go southeast unto a close sometime of Nicholas Martin now of John Hinsby called Skeets where lyeth a Procession Way between Walsham and Bardwell and go west through part of the east end of the said close unto a close sometime of Thomas Parker of Stanton now of the said John Grocer and through the said close unto the common way which leadeth unto Walsham Cross and from thence to Thetford where turn on the left hand and go north unto Walsham Cross aforesaid where a certain cross was erected where there is a three-way leet and so over the said way going into the close sometime of Robert Ashfield esq. now of [blank] Currant esq. and go south through the said close unto the close sometime of Thomas Lacy gent. late Shuckfords and now of the said John Grocer where lyeth the aforesaid Procession Way between Walsham and Bardwell by the corner of the said close where is a common way leading from Walsham to Ixworth and going over the said way go by the same unto a certain watering there formerly called Langham Watering now called Hill Watering right over against the said watering is a certain lane tending directly through the same south unto another three-way leet at the corner of the close sometime of John Hawes of West Street now of Robert Rushbrooke gent. called Hornes Close where turn on the left hand and go east unto the land sometime of John Robhood the younger now of the said Robert Rushbrooke called Gogeons by the south side of the same where lyeth a Procession Way between Walsham and Langham unto the Great Meadow of Walsham by divers landmarks there called doles where lyeth the said Procession Way between Walsham and Langham and between Walsham and Badwell Ashfield. And from thence by the said bounds go eastwards unto the common way leading from Walsham to Badwell where turn into the close sometime of the said Thomas Lacy now of Samuel Fisher called Rennells and there go east through the Procession Way between Walsham and Badwell by Ladyswood Field unto the aforesaid common way called Wood Way where turn north unto the tenement wherein the said Samuel Page now inhabits and there turn into the aforesaid way called Palmer Street and go north unto the church of Walsham aforesaid where we first began.

The whole bounds of Walsham is by measure eleven miles and an half wanting three perches.'

### The Parish of Walsham le Willows

Walsham has no prehistoric earthworks, no Roman villas, no medieval ridge and furrow and most historic landscape features have been ploughed up, cut down or allowed to fall into ruin long ago. Even so, a few remain; close and careful inspection of the present landscape, together with a study of available documents has resulted in some understanding of the changes that have taken place. The following is a discussion of the parish, section by section, relating the present topography of the village to the documentary sources.

The perambulation of 1584, published with the Field Book, shows the parish boundary to be unchanged from that of the present day and pinpoints three of the four crosses, *i.e.* Angrave, Strondes and Walsham Cross on the boundary, the fourth being Staple Cross to the west of Cranmer Green, within the parish. The southern boundary is shown on maps partly as a surviving path and partly as a stepped line, indicating a former path or road. The Hundred Lane on the east was the boundary of both the Liberty of St Edmund and that of Blackbourne Hundred.

After crossing Allwood Green the boundary follows the line of woodland dividing Walsham from Rickinghall and Wattisfield. A public footpath marks this part of the Procession Way *i.e.* the parish boundary from Summer Road westwards towards the Stanton and Bardwell parish limits. Where the Walsham boundary meets the Ixworth Road there is a large pond which served the three parishes of Walsham, Langham and Bardwell. As indicated on the map (Fig. 38) parts of the manor of Walsham extended over the parish boundary. The 16th-century parish boundary clearly shows instances of early parochial encroachment, most noticeable with the detached portion of Bardwell at the west end, but equally so with parts of Wattisfield, Westhorpe and Rickinghall. One encroachment, at least, occurred in the early 14th century or before, for in a court roll of 1334 (CR HA 504/1/3.27) Lord Alexander was excused a fine for easement of his carts carrying dung along Stubweye (which was the 'severalty' or private property of the lord of Walsham manor) as far as Pincheons, his land in Wattisfield, which is the large wedge of land on the northern boundary and by then already part of Wattisfield parish.

The road system has remained relatively unchanged since at least the 14th century and divides the parish into sections or wents of a size which were convenient for the commissioned surveys and for our study. The numbers allotted here to the sections follow those used in the 1695 Survey. To avoid confusion, the three surveys will be referred to as 'the Field Book' (1577), the '*Terratorium*' (1581) and 'the Survey' (1695). It would appear that the east/west routes lying parallel to the valley, together with Summer Road and the Causeway were developed earlier than the north/south roads. Upstrete, Clay Street, Palmer Street *etc.*, are all mentioned in 14th-century court rolls. The hedges, on the whole, are older and the original lanes were wider with verges used for grazing and sometimes gated to restrict movement of livestock. The hedge (now destroyed) of Market Way, now known as Bribery, contained on average six species and it is likely that the road was made when the market at Botesdale began in 1220. Hulkes Lane may have been the original way to Wattisfield with Wattisfield Road coming later, the hedge there containing just three species. The wide verges were later used in some cases for houses; the majority of the earlier houses being well back from the present roads, with the exception of the village centre. Some verges had been used as allotments prior to development as housing, as shown on the Tithe Map.

The village is centred along the stream to the east of the church and minor settlements on the outskirts of the parish were established early as evidenced by fieldwalking results. An undated rental of *c.* 1465 (R HA 504/8/4) and later rentals divide the parish into Eastend, Clay Strete, Upstrete, Palmerstrete, Churchstrete and Westrete. Eastend and Claystrete were already well in decline by 1465; there are only five and six tenements respectively listed in the rental, considerably fewer than those found by fieldwalking. In other parts of the village, rebuilding on derelict sites, largely in the 16th and 17th centuries, meant that the medieval pattern was retained until the 19th century when Victorian infill gave the village centre its crowded appearance and the 20th century added ribbon development and small estates.

The descriptions of all the wents in the *Terratorium*, with the exception of those in the village centre contain references to common-field cultivation and 14th-century court rolls describe the surrender of small strips of land.

<i>Block No</i>	<i>1695 Survey Fol</i>	<i>1581 Terratorium Fol</i>	<i>1577 Field Book No</i>
1	1.1- 2.5	3.1-4.11	117a-120a
2	2.6-5.16	4.12-9.9	1a-7a
3	5.17-8.9	10.1-13.4	8a-13b
4	8.10-13.15	13.5-20.3	13b2-27b
5	13.16-16.2	20.4-23.5	33a-37b
6	16.3-16.18	23.6-24.13	28a-30b
7	16.19-17.5	25.1-25.8	31a-32b
8	17.6-18.5	25.9-27.3	42a-45a2
9	18.6-21.13	27.4-32.8	86a-96b
10 & 11	22.1-24.21	32.9-37.7	73a-80b
12	25.1-25.7	37.8-38.5	81a-82b
13 & 14	25.8-26.8	38.6-40.1	84a-85b
15	26.9-27.5	40.2-41.9	97a-100a
16	27.6-28.8	41.10-43.6	46a-48b
17	28.9-29.13	43.7-45.7	101a-106a
18 & 19	29.14-32.13	45.8-50.5	107a-116b
20	32.14-33.7	50.6-52.2	59a-62a3
21	33.8-34.4	52.3-53.3	157b,161a,163a-164a
22	34.5-35.2	53.4-54.8	165a-168b
23	35.3-36.13	55.1-57.4	149a-155b
24	37.1-39.1	57.5-60.4	158a-160b,161b-162b
25	39.2	60.5	121a
26a	39.3-40.4	60.6-62.3	121b-127b
26b	40.5-43.13	62.4-66.9	128a-132a2
27	44.1-44.7	67.1-67.7	145a-146b
28	44.8-47.4	68.1-71.4	134a-144b2
29	47.5-51.2	71.5-75.15	63a-72b, 133a2 (Hatchmere)
30	51.3-52.6	76.1-77.3	38a-41b
31	52.7-54.18	77.4-80.5	53a-57b
32 & 33	55.1-56.14	80.6-82.7	52a-52b2+169a-171a
34	57.1-61.5	82.8-87.2	174b-176b

Table 6 Concordance of Blocks and Folio numbers

Enclosure of the open fields was a gradual process but by 1577 only one furlong of strips (FB 170c-171a) remained apart from the Great Meadow. Details of crops and livestock are not given in the surveys but the land use was overwhelmingly pastoral. The first accurate account of land use was in 1817 by which time c. 1600 acres were arable compared to half that amount of pasture. This century has seen a swing back to intensive arable farming but within the last few years further changes towards varied uses are beginning to take place.

Many field names originated from the names of tenants holding the land. Others were descriptive of soil type or location. A few persisted from the 14th century until at least 1842, particularly the names of demesne land. Many other names found in the court rolls were of a transitory nature and do not occur elsewhere. Although the names of some fields survived until 1842 many changes had inevitably occurred in the intervening years.

The following text describing each went, or block, needs to be read in conjunction with the 1577 and 1581/1695 maps. The word tenement is used to mean both a messuage, or house and a holding of land but it is obvious which meaning is applicable. The acreage of any particular field varies slightly from one survey to another; this is due to the method of making the surveys (p. 19). The total acreage of each went is taken from the 1819 map.

Many fields were described as divided into smaller ones, without reference to hedge or fence. To avoid confusion of extra division lines the simple sign of + has been used on the maps.

### Survey numbering

Each of the three surveys has its own system of numbering wents, (*i.e.* blocks of land), and pieces of land within the wents. In the 1577 survey (Field Book) the description of

the position of the first went is numbered 1a and the first piece of land described is numbered 1b to conform with the folio numbers in the original. The next piece is not numbered (it has been given the number 1b2) and the third piece is 2a. The unnumbered pieces have been given intervening letters and numbers. In the 1581 survey (*Terratorium*) the first went is numbered 1 and each paragraph (*i.e.* each piece of land) is numbered. Each folio (*i.e.* page) is numbered starting with number 3 (folios 1 and 2 being introductory pages) and the first paragraph on each folio is numbered 1 regardless of its position within the went (*e.g.* the first paragraph on folio 4 is numbered 1 but is the ninth piece of land in went 1). In the 1695 survey the wents are described and numbered in the same order as the 1581 survey. The first folio, however, is number 1 and as more paragraphs are written on each page, the paragraph numbers do not correspond with those of 1581.

Example — the house and land adjoining the churchyard is numbered thus:

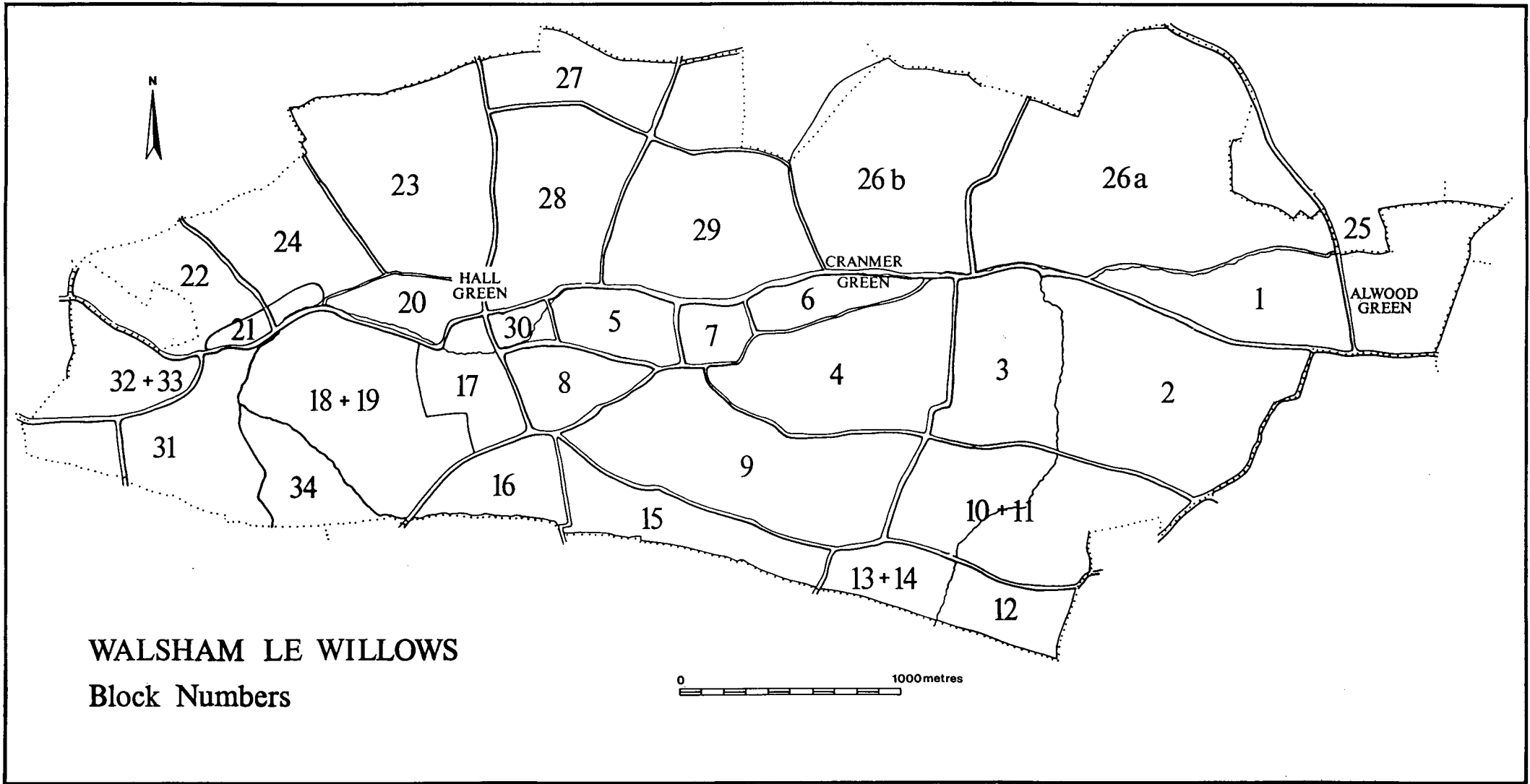
1577 – 39b 3 (paragraph number)

1581 – 76.6 (folio and paragraph number)

1695 – 52.8 (folio and paragraph number)

Although the two numbering systems do not conform, it is logical to follow the order of description in the surveys although this means that two different sets of numbers are used. These are shown in Table 6. As the 1695 survey has numbered 'wents' or 'blocks' and the 1577 Field Book does not, we have adopted the 1695 numbering and ordering of the blocks in the following descriptions in order to avoid allocating yet another set of numbers (Fig. 11).

The large maps of Walsham and the accompanying Atlases for the surveys of 1577 and 1695 are based upon the Parish Map of 1817 and consequently are not related to the National Grid. For reference the Parish Church is situated at NGR TM 9995 7115.



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Figure 11 Block numbering, based on 1695 Survey



## Discussion by Blocks

### Block 1

(Fig. 12)

Position in parish – east

Abuttals N – Nether Way or Stream  
S – Finningham Road  
E – Alwood Green  
W – Tip adjoins Block 26

Aspect – slight slope to north

Size – c. 72 acres

The easternmost block or went adjoins Allwood Green which extends beyond the parish boundary. The stream running through the village centre from east to west enters the north-east corner of this went and forms its northern boundary along a path known as Nether Way. The hedge here is c. 700 years old and includes a quince, probably an escape from nearby High Hall. The southern boundary is the road which becomes the main street of the village, once known as Upper or Over Way. On the eastern edge of the went a road leading to Westhall and then Rickinghall was made in 1819 as part of the enclosure of Allwood Green. It joins with the former Wood Lane to become the north-east parish boundary. The went is triangular, the tip being at the western end.

There are several indications that the went may have originally been part of Allwood Green as the shape suggests the funnel end of a large common. No sites were found during fieldwalking but there was earlier habitation around the western point (see Block 26). Regular field division suggests enclosure rather than piecemeal assarting which would appear as fields of unequal size and irregular shape. The close in the north-east corner of the went was still part of the green before the 1819 enclosure and the Field Book gives two 'green' field names: Grene Close and Allwood Green Close. The 'butts' element of Little or Shortbutts hall may imply it was once used for archery which required common or waste land, but is, in this remote position, more likely to refer to 'butts' or 'headlands' in the agricultural sense.

However, the narrow strips shown on the conjectural map of the 1581 *Terratorium* which was constructed from medieval documents, point to medieval methods of cultivation, perhaps at a later stage. A rental of 1327 (R HA 504/5/1) lists the demesne land of Nicholas de Walsham, *i.e.* High Hall manor and includes the croft of the Shepherd of Aldewode. This may be the same land as that called Shepecote Close in the surveys and in court rolls of High Hall manor from 1335-46 when tenants regularly damaged the lord's crops (CR HA 504/1/3.33-5.3). There is no mention of Allwood or Allwood Green in early documents; this area was obviously then known as Aldewode. In a court roll of 1453 (CR HA 504/1/13.18) the first known spelling 'Alwodegrene' occurs. Other wentes in the parish also contained a mixture of demesne enclosures and cultivated strips in the hands of tenants.

Two hedges remain within the went, both at least 500 years old. One is alongside a track which aligns with the former Peddars Path in the adjoining block to the south. The other divides two fields described in the *Terratorium* as parcel of the tenement Saddes. John Sad held land at Estend, the former name for this part of the parish, at his death in 1429 (CR HA 504/1/12.8).

The *Terratorium* lists many tenants as formerly holding strips or closes, but by at least 1577 most of the went was held by one man, Richard Rampley. By 1581 he had gained another nine and a half acres and by 1695 almost all the went was one holding and has remained so.

The Enclosure Act of 1819 awarded eighty-two acres of Allwood Green, formerly intercommoned with the Rickinghalls, Gislingham, and Finningham, to the parish of Walsham. The Town Farm Trust was formed to manage the land for the benefit of the poor in an attempt to reduce the cost of parochial relief. A bailiff's house was built, now called Town Farm, and the road alongside established. It was finally sold in 1954. Ironically, this former common land was one of the few areas inaccessible for fieldwalking.

The field pattern was virtually unchanged between 1577 and at least 1842, but of the original names only Taylors remained. The went is now three large fields plus a smaller field, part of Town Farm. The land was a mixture of arable and pasture until recently; it is now mostly arable. A small reservoir has been dug at the western tip.

### Block 2

(Fig. 13)

Position in parish – east

Abuttals N – the road to Finningham, adjoining Block 1  
S – Hartshall Lane  
E – Hundred Lane  
W – a secondary stream which joins the main stream in the north-west corner

Aspect – relatively flat

Size – c. 182 acres

Only one house, Old Hall, remains of a small group of houses formerly in the north-west corner of the went. Botany Farm stands in the extreme south-east. The site of a small Romano-British settlement was found alongside Peddars Path. Of the few remaining hedges, the one along the Hundred Lane, which is also the parish boundary, is at least 900 years old. The former Peddars Path hedge survives and is c. 600 years old as is the one north of the former Angrave Close. The name Angrave is a corruption from Angerhale, 'anger', meaning pasture (Ekwall 1966). A rental for 1537 (RHA 504/5/7) states that R. Rampley held land abutting upon Coopers Lane lying in 'le Southfeld'; which was the west part of the went. Peddars Path was probably the dividing line between the two fields. The went contains numerous interesting field names: Bonde, Walpole, Noble, Payne, Couper, Taylor, Francis and Leve which were all names of medieval tenants. Stoniland, Black Acre, Willoughere, Trendlewood, Netherbrook, Newer and Goryland (a triangular piece of land), are descriptive. The derivation of Naples and Deusdeux (Dousedeux, Ducedeux) remain obscure. The earliest map of the parish in 1817 shows the names of Bonde, Trundle and Stone retained although the field pattern was considerably altered *i.e.* from basically four large fields to about twenty-five smaller ones. The went appears to have been largely arable in the medieval period with many references to crop damage in the court rolls and from at least 1330 oats, peas, wheat and dredge, (a mixture of oats and barley), were grown at Ducedeux (CR HA 504/1/3-13). An account of 1437/8 (Acc HA 504/3/15-16) refers to land called Walpolescroft next to the sheepfold of the Prior of Ixworth. The land to the east

of Walpolescroft belonged to Church House Manor. By 1577 a good proportion of the went was pasture (land use is not given for every field in the Field Book) and the *Terratorium* describes only fifteen acres as arable, the rest being pasture.

Angrave Close had, by 1695, been acquired by the Rayneberd family and divided into four smaller fields. They continued to hold the same land for at least 150 years, building the farmhouse of Botany Farm. Two of those small fields survive, but most of the went is now large arable fields.

### Block 3

(Fig. 14)

Position in parish – east

Abutments N – the stream and road to Finningham  
S – Hartshall Lane  
E – a secondary stream, adjoining Block 2  
W – Bribery Lane, formerly Market Lane

Aspect – slopes slightly towards the north and east

Size – c. 92 acres

It is apparent from the description in the *Terratorium* of numerous small strips of land and two headlands that this went was once an open field. Two references to 'Southfield otherwise Sandfield' in the *Terratorium* indicate that this was the name of the northern part of the went but the Field Book describes Lucenden Close, in the south, as lying in Millfield, which was the name of the went adjoining on the west.

Several strips in this block were 'parcel of the tenement Paynes' (*Terratorium*) and were connected to other land over the brook by Paynes Lane. Abbottes Way (Field Book) continues north to become a road to Botesdale and joins with the 'Outgoing unto Westhorpe' (*Terratorium*) towards the south.

Annesledge or Agnesledge near Bondes Wood was woodland in the 14th century (CR HA 504/1.7) when it changed hands but by 1581 the only remaining woods were Luchesdell Grove and Bondes Wood. The name of Hardishawe first appears in a court roll of 1316 (CR HA 504/1/1.1) and is the origin of Hartshall. Hartshall Lane is not mentioned but as it is an extension of Mill Lane, it may also have been called Mill Lane.

A message described as 'sometime built' in 1581 (T 10.1) was found in the north-east corner of the went during field walking, together with a second similar site nearby (1581, T 10.2) which was occupied in 1581 but deserted by 1695 (site nos 76, 77). The site of a house demolished during living memory and known locally as Bottle Hall because it was decorated with bottles was easily located by the spread of building debris on the south side of the track central to the went. Bribery Cottage, first shown on the tithe map, is in the south-west corner of the went. Its garden is a remnant of a furlong which was respected when Market Way 'otherwise New Way' (*Terratorium*) was made, creating a sharp double bend in the road. Market Way was used as pasture and had gates at either end to restrict the movement of livestock.

The hedge of Hartshall Lane, the only one remaining in the went, contains just five species. However, other sections of the same hedge further along the lane showed it to be up to 800 years old.

The place names of Paynes, Bondes, Coopers and Taylors can all be recognised as names of medieval tenants. The names of Home Field, Sand Field, Paynes and

Hawes were retained until 1842, by which time the went had lost all its wood and was divided into nineteen fields, the largest of which was nine and a half acres. The whole went, except for Bribery Cottage, is now part of Cranmer Lodge farm. The farmhouse, named after nearby Cranmer Green, is a '16th century farmhouse with an older core' (listed no. 3/39) and described in the Field Book as 'very well buylded'. The went is now farmed as two large arable fields.

### Block 4

(Fig. 15)

There is no Block 4 in the surveys as Block 3 extends to near Staple Way, presumably because Market Way was made into a road after the original construction of the survey. This suggests the existence of a survey earlier than that of 1577. For convenience, this section has been divided at Market Way with Market Way included in this section.

Position in parish – east of central

Abutments N – Clay Street and Cranmer Green

S – Mill Lane

E – the road known as Bribery Lane  
(formerly Market Way)

W – the tip reaches nearly to Staple Way

Aspect – sloping slightly to the north

Size – c. 132 acres

It is clear that the line of Clay Street in the Middle Ages formed the southern edge of Cranmer Green with a row of tenements facing onto the green, bounded by Clay Street on the north and a lane called the Old Mill Way behind. This lane gave access to the rear of the houses and fields beyond. Fifteen medieval sites were found by fieldwalking along this edge of the went and two houses remain, *i.e.* Green Farm House at the east end and Clay Cottage at the west edge, making seventeen sites in all. By 1577 only seven houses remained plus three which were said, in the Field Book, to be void or decayed. One '...in times past was a tenemente buylded now vtterly decayed and no mencion left of hitt...'. The Old Mill Way was also in decline and out of use in many places by this time but small pieces were still described in the surveys. In 1695 six houses and five empty sites were recorded. The estate map of 1817 shows five houses but by 1842 about half of Clay Street had disappeared and is shown on the Tithe map only as field boundaries with just three houses.

The maps constructed from the surveys suggest that originally the occupant of each house held a narrow strip of land from the house right down to the southern edge of the went at Mill Lane. The boundaries of some of those fields were S-shaped following long ploughing curves from the early medieval period as indicated by the pottery of the early 13th century found on the nearby house sites. In 1577 each tenant held between approximately seven and twelve acres (some held land in other went) with the exception of John Robwood senior who held over twenty acres and was one of the principal tenants of the manor. By this date some of the smaller holdings had already fused to become larger ones. Throughout the 14th and 15th century court rolls there are instances of land being surrendered enabling tenants to enlarge existing fields.

This made for easier cultivation of tilled land or enabled a larger plot to be enclosed for pasture. There are also many examples of tenants exchanging land, through surrenders, so that both benefit from larger plots. The

process of enlarging fields continued, until by 1842 the went contained about thirty-five fields and only one curved hedgeline remained. The went is referred to in the survey as Millfield although the windmill stood south of Mill Lane in another went also known as Millfield.

Clay Street is first mentioned by name in a court roll of 1318 (CR HA 504/1/1.7) when Matilda, Agatha and Alice le Longe surrendered a cottage and land abutting upon Cley Strete. Longes was described in the survey as 'now decayed' and was found by fieldwalking.

Keeping houses in good repair was a constant problem for medieval tenants. In 1362 (CR HA 504/1/6.9) Robert and Walter Rampolye were ordered to make good waste made in their tenement Longes, which they then held. A surplus of tenements following the plague of 1349 no doubt hastened the decline of Clay Street. A small section of hedge still survives along the lane; it is at least 700 years old.

The field called Salous, (Salons in the Field Book) was known as Salowes in a rental of 1537 (R HA 504/5/7). A large pond with access from three fields, including Salons, is shown on the earliest maps of Walsham; perhaps it was surrounded by willow trees. Mansers (tenement), Knight and Peyntour (field names) are derived from the names of medieval tenants, which occur in rentals and court rolls.

Much of the land is described as ground, 'croft or close' without indication of crops grown. The Field Book states that about sixty acres were pasture, seventeen acres arable (with the remainder unspecified). The *Terratorium* describes considerably more pasture. It is interesting that several small fields situated south of the Old Mill Way are described in 1577 as 'verye good pasture ground' and 'used for mowynng ground'. One rood of pasture, in 1581, was called Flaxyard. Flax was certainly grown in Walsham, according to a court roll of 1318 (CR HA 504/1/4.13). The 19th-century maps describe as pasture a two acre field in the north-east corner of the went but call it Hopground. The went is now basically four large fields used for growing grain and sugar beet. Folly Hall and a cottage which are first shown on the 1817 map close to Mill Lane have now been demolished and a nearby barn converted to a luxury dwelling with access from Mill Lane which has been partly re-established, having been one of the many roads stopped as part of the 1819 Enclosure Award.

#### Block 5

(Fig. 16)

Position in parish – centre

Abuttals N – The Street (formerly known as Church Street and/or Guildhall Street)  
 S – Grove Road (formerly Wortouts Lane)  
 E – Townhouse Lane (formerly Carters Lane)  
 W – the stream as it leaves the village street to run behind the church

Aspect – level

Size – c. 42 acres

As this section is largely built up, fieldwalking was restricted to a small portion of the southern half and no sites were found. Modern housing fills the east side together with a pig breeding unit, Elmside Farm. The yard of Clarkes, a builders' merchant occupies the central part of the north of the went, bordered by older houses. The gardens of these properties extend to a c. 700 year old hedge which runs from east to west dividing the went in

half. The 1817 map shows this hedge line as stepped suggesting that it was once a path giving access to fields on the south side, or a back lane to the houses on Guildhall Street, which is strengthened by traces of a hollow way.

Two 16th-century houses, Fernside and Bank House (known as Ballards in 1581) can be traced in surveys and on maps from 1577 to the present day. Cygnet House, previously the Swan public house, is listed as an early 17th-century building. William Ryse held a messuage on this site in 1577 plus two adjoining pigsties. The *Terratorium* calls the messuage Lakenhams and an adjoining croft Stewards. A rental of 1537 (R HA 504/5/7) gives the tenants (of Lakinhou) as Robert and Isabella Vyncent. They also held a croft called Stewards. A 1595 rental (R HA 504/5/8) stated 'William Ryse pays by the year for his tenement Lakenes 3s'. The property was probably named after William Lakynham, a late 14th-century villein first mentioned in a court roll of 1398 (CR HA 504/1/9.18).

An avenue was made through the went in the last century giving access from the Grove, a newly built mansion house, to the village centre. The 17th-century Avenue Cottage stands on the site of Rands, a cottage held by Richard Reignberd in 1577. In 1695 John Rayneberd held 'one tenement built called Leves now called Rands' and the *Terratorium* adds that it was formerly held by Adam Rande. Leve or Lene was a common medieval surname in Walsham.

Whereas the older houses were positioned along a line set back from the stream, the later 18th/19th-century cottages were built in front of them utilizing the waste ground adjoining Jolycote Hill on the south side of the stream. Master John's Close was part of a larger tenement comprising one messuage, twenty-two acres of land and pasture and two acres one rood of meadow, six acres of which lay in the adjoining went to the north. Master John was one of the highest tax payers named in the assessment for Walsham in 1283 (Powell 1910). The tenement was frequently mentioned in court rolls from 1328 onwards when it was held by Lord Alexander de Walsham. Several charters survive from 1385–1421, formerly kept in the parish chest in the church, concerning the granting of the tenement to a syndicate of Walsham men, including clerics. This indicates that the land was used for the benefit of the parish. It was transferred to the Trustees of Walsham Town Land who held it in 1577.

Several cottages and a Wesleyan chapel were built by 1817 on the waste land beside the stream. The chapel no longer exists. The title map shows the addition of a blacksmiths shop (now Bridge House) next to the stream and the 1903 Ordnance Survey map records the extension to the school built on waste land north of the stream and itemised in Block 30. The place names of Rands and Master Johns continued until at least 1842. The *Terratorium* cites a hempland containing twenty perches. Today only about nine acres of the went is undeveloped.

#### Block 6

(Fig. 15)

Position in parish – central (Cranmer Green)

Abuttals N – Finningham Road  
 S – remainder of Clay Street and Block 4  
 E – the tip reaches the Green Farmhouse  
 W – the road previously known as Chitter Lane

Aspect – flat  
Size – c. 29 acres

This section facing tenements on the south side of Clay Street can be reasonably supposed to have been part of Cranmer Green when it was about three times larger than in the 19th century. Enclosure clearly began before 1577 and was completed as part of the 1819 enclosure award.

Evidence of a tenant attempting to acquire small pieces of the common to enlarge his holding comes in a court roll of 1335 (CR HA 504/1/3.32) when Walter Osberne was fined 6d for making ‘...an encroachment at Godesfreysyerd appropriating to himself from the common land seven perches in length and two feet in width’. Twelve years later he succeeded in the enlargement when he was granted one and a half acres of ‘...a garden called Godefseyspyghtil’ (CR HA 504/1/5.7). Godefroys is named in the Field Book and the *Terratorium* and can therefore be mapped with confidence. The site was located by fieldwalking and included potsherds from the 13th century onwards. Four other archaeological sites were found in this went, of which two were post-medieval and two contained some medieval pottery. The scatter of artefacts on the field near Godfreys tenement included the bowls of twenty-four 17th-century clay pipes, possibly the result of a small industry.

Two c. 500 year old interior hedges survive on the went; further evidence of late medieval enclosure. The hedge alongside the former Chitter Lane contained eight species but is a short stretch and, therefore, the dating is unreliable. The name of Chetesylyane first occurs in 1430 (CR HA 504/1/12.9).

Without any earlier spellings of the name it is possible that Cranmer is derived from cranes’ mere. However, a Robert Crane appears on the 1283 tax return (Powell 1910) and in 1333 (CR HA 504/1/3.22) a Robert Crane surrendered land in Cranescroft abutting upon Clay Street and, no doubt, gave his name to the croft of that name at the west end of the went. The name of Richard de Cranmere also appears on the 1283 tax return and he presumably took his name from the green — conflicting evidence! Land once held by Richard Mourtton and surrendered to Alice Moorton in 1424 (CR HA 504/1/12.2) was probably the Mortonscroft of 1581 which abutted onto Clay Street. The name of Frosts messuage at the east end of the went may have originated with a former tenant *i.e.* John Frost, a 14th-century villein. There was another Frosts tenement adjoining Manns tenement in Block 26 to the north.

By 1817 the northern edge of the common still survived as waste land with the stream traversing it and a slight scarp is still visible in places. Three cottages had been built on a partly moated site where Frosts once stood. Godfrey’s tenement is described as a cottage and the house in Cretecroft still survived. A blacksmith’s shop was operating on the north of the went near to a Baptist meeting house. By 1842 Godfreys had disappeared together with most of Clay Street and only a hedgeline is shown on the tithe map.

Today the burial ground of the Baptist chapel remains. The green has been totally enclosed but Clay Street can still be traced as a slight hollow in the larger field that now incorporates the east end of the went.

Block 7  
(Fig. 16)

Position in parish – central, adjoining Cranmer Green  
Abuttals N – Finningham Road (formerly Guildhall Street)  
S – track (formerly Clay Street)  
E – lane previously known as Chitter Lane  
W – Townhouse Road (formerly Carters Lane)

Aspect – flat  
Size – c. 22 acres

This small section of land adjoins Cranmer Green with Chitter Lane between. It is possible that the part of Clay Street to the south of the went was once a continuation of the Old Mill Way which ran behind the tenements facing onto Cranmer Green. The went formerly comprised small closes of pasture and a few tenements. One medieval site was found in the south-east corner of the went, in the field called Machons in the *Terratorium* and corrupted to Mchettes in the Field Book. This may be the messuage that Walter Machon once held in Clay Street which was surrendered in 1318 (CR HA 504/1/1.7).

Part of the c. 700 year old hedge of Clay Street still survives along the south side of the went and one interior hedge, which divided Joanne Hawes’ tenement, is of the same age. The hedge alongside the same holding was found to be c. 500 years old as were both hedges of the long close of the former townhouse.

The townhouse is a late 15th-century building, now privately owned, but formerly used as accommodation for the poor of the parish and distinct from the workhouse which provided board, lodging and work.

Townhouse Road joins Staple Way ‘where in times past was placed a cross called the Staple Waye Crose’ (FB 32b). A red brick pound built here, in the south-west corner of the went in the 19th century, has been recently restored. Part of the long close south of the Townhouse is now a childrens’ playground.

The 1817 map shows one house replacing the two houses of the surveys later to become the Cherry Tree public house. By 1842 there was a blacksmith’s shop and a few cottages built near the Cherry Tree. There is now a row of cottages behind the original ones and some modern infill. The field pattern is remarkably unaltered although the land use has changed from mainly pasture in the 16th century to arable. Machons Close now belongs to the Town Trust and is leased to local people as small fields.

Block 8  
(Fig. 17)

Position in parish – central  
Abuttals N – Grove Road (formerly Whortupps Lane)  
S – Palmer Street  
E – tip reaches Staple Way  
W – Church Street

Aspect – gentle north facing slope  
Size – c. 41 acres

This triangular section to the south of the church and village centre is mostly parkland belonging to the Grove, a large white brick house built by Samuel Golding in the early 19th century. The former stable block on the north side is now a residential building. On the south side, facing Palmer Street, are several houses and cottages.

Boundary hedges contained five species but were possibly planted as mixed hedges early last century. No

interior hedges have survived but, as parkland, the went is well wooded, with some trees remaining along the original hedgelines. The small field pattern was maintained from 1577 until at least 1819 and gave way to parkland sometime before the tithe map was drawn in 1842 when The Grove was built. It is noticeable that the older buildings are set back from the road implying that Palmer Street was once wider with grass verges. This may explain a court roll entry for 1335 (CR HA 504/1/3.31) of 'depasturing the common at Palmerstrete'. The junction of Palmer Street and Grove Road was, in fact, named Broadway in the *Terratorium*. The house called Kembaldes in 1577 was built in the 16th century and still stands and may replace an earlier tenement held by Nicholas Kembald, a miller, in the 14th century. (CR HA 504/1/1.18). There is no reference to a mill here in any of the surveys but the croft behind the house was called Mill Field in 1817. The tenement of William Waller may be the cottage now known as Guerney Cottage. Grove cottage is on the site of Abrams, the tenement of Anthony Padnall. These are the three older buildings set back from the road; the more recent houses and cottages were built on the verges close to the road. A house which first appears on the 1842 map became The Four Ashes Inn by 1864 (Harrod's Directory).

The names of Peppers and Pyes Close survived up to 1817 but that of Goryland is not used; it reappears on the tithe map. The gravel pit apparently became too small for Walsham's needs and in 1601 the Town Trust acquired four acres in Badwell Ash with a gravel pit (Ch FL 646/11/36). The Grove prevails as an area of mature parkland where cattle are grazed in the summer months.

#### Block 9

(Fig. 18 – east part; Fig. 19 – west part)

Position in parish – to the south of centre

Abuttals N – Mill Lane

S – Crownland Road (formerly Upstrete)

E – Bribery Lane (formerly Market or New Way)

W – Palmer Street

Aspect – rises slightly from the south to the highest point, the site of the old mill on the north edge with a marked drop to the north-west

Size – c. 195 acres (but only 160a as surveyed in 1577)

The Field Book named this section Mell Fielde and states that 'it is said that a wyndemyne sometymes stode whereof (as it is said) Mell Fyelde toke firste his name'. The one and a half acre field in which the mill stood remained intact until 1991; considerable medieval pottery was found there. Small narrow strips of land described in the *Terratorium* indicate that this went was once largely an open field. The strips run from north to south except in the north-west corner where they follow the line of Mill Lane. The holding of John Tyler (FB 88b2) is of particular interest. He was tenant of the house, the long field behind the house and a further small field where the mill once stood. Three hedges, ranging in age from c. 500 to c. 700 years surrounded this holding in 1984. The *Terratorium* describes a path called Mill Way along the east of the fields which would have given access to the mill from Upstreet on the south. A headland, mentioned in the *Terratorium* to the east of the former mill, is further evidence of ploughing in a north and south direction.

The large area of land in the south-west of the went named Cowe Leyzer in 1577 and Cowlyzer in 1695 is a former common pasture. At the beginning of the 15th century several men were charged with digging pits at Upstrete, presumably for clay (CR HA 504/10/5 and 7). There is a sharp drop in the ground level at the north end of this field presumably where the pasture ended and the ploughing began, *i.e.* taking the soil downhill away from the pasture. Runnells Lane gave access to the common from Palmer Street. A charter of 1385 (Ch EL 159/12/2) cites '2 acres of land; lying upon le Longelonde— and abutting upon le Rennell towards the east' and 'one acre of land at le Rennell—abutting upon le Regeweeye towards the east'. Both these pieces of land can be identified in the Field Book and *Terratorium* and can be mapped with confidence. A court roll of 1344 (CR HA 504/1/4.35) details a surrender of land at Longeland abutting upon the messuage of John Taillour; the orchard adjoining the house was still called Tallyers in 1577.

Pennesmeare (FB 94b) was once four or five parcels of land but 'nowe lyinge all into one' in 1577, but the five pieces are described separately in the *Terratorium*, — describing the landscape of a date prior to 1577.

Nosyll Path in the north-east of the went is referred to in the *Terratorium* and appears as a 'stepped' hedgeline on the 1817 map.

The majority of the interior hedges were dated at between c. 400 and c. 600 years old but one short stretch was much older at c. 900 years. This hedge was a continuation of the north end of Spytletouts (FB 91a) and it may have divided two tenements; the surveys show that different tenants held the fields either side of the hedge and there is no evidence that it was ever one holding.

Spyllmans tenement in Palmer Street was ordered to be rebuilt in 1332 (CR HA 504/1/3.17). Domus Spelman appears as a free tenant in 1327 (R HA 504/5/1) paying 1d and one hen at Christmas. In the 1327 Lay Subsidy (Suffolk Green Books IX Vol. 11) Robert Spileman paid 6d. In a list of c. 1465 (R HA 504/8/4) John Hawys junior, a customary tenant owed five ploughings and one ploughale for the tenement of Robert Spilman in Palmer Street. The present house, known as The Old Vicarage, is listed as early to mid 16th-century. The messuage of John Taillour, mentioned above, was rebuilt in the early 16th century, and is now called Willow Tree Farm. Three 17th-century houses in Crownland Road, namely Firtree Farm, Riding Farm and The Quillett stand on the sites of the 1577 messuages of Robert Jordon, John Tyler and John Rampley respectively. Crownland Farm is a later building on the site of Richard Cooke's 1577 house on a holding of c. twenty acres which extended to Mill Lane. The ditches of a 'void' messuage can still be traced in pasture to the west.

Thomas Cooke, who in 1695 held the tenement formerly of Richard Cooke, was an early congregationalist who, as a dissenter from the church, was denied burial in the churchyard. An entry in the parish register for 1656 suggests he was not alone. 'Witting, Joseph singleman dyed at Upstreet on Saturday Nov. 15th and was put into a hole in Thos. Cookes orteyard on the next day by the brethren of the separation'.

The 19th-century maps show the house of John Russhebrooke (1577) still standing. All the older houses on this went were placed well back from the road, allowing the verges to be used for grazing. By 1817 a new house,

now known as the Mount, had been built on the wide road verge at the junction of Palmer Street and Crownland Road. Rennells Close and Spittle Touts retained their names; Cowleazer had become Cow Lizzards, in four fields called Lower, Upper, Long and Short. Two fields in the far north-east corner of the went, abutting on Market Way, were called Mill Fields and the real former mill field was part of Long Meadow.

By 1842 a cottage had been built on the extreme south-east corner of the went; it has now gone. The house now known as Pound Farm is shown on the tithe map as abutting upon Runnells Lane. A small maltings, again on the road verge was in operation at the west end of Palmer Street. Spittletouts, Lizzards and Mill Field continued as field names. The 'spittle' element is often indicative of an association with a hospital; in this case there may have been a connection with the preceptory of Knights Hospitallers in nearby Gislingham. The earliest record of the use of this field name is in a will of 1529 (SRO IC 500/2/18).

The field pattern remained remarkably unchanged until recently but hedges are still being destroyed to make larger fields for the mainly arable crops. A few more houses have now been built on the went, together with a row of semi-detached houses along Palmer Street and a small development called Staple Close next to Runnells Lane.

#### Blocks 10 & 11

(Fig. 20)

Position – south-east corner of parish

Abuttals N – Hartshall Lane  
 S – Westhorpe Road (formerly Angrave Way)  
 E – Hundred Lane  
 W – Bribery Lane (formerly Market Way)

Aspect – Generally sloping towards the centre

Size – c. 135 acres

This section is divided into two blocks in the *Terratorium* but not in the Field Book, so has been treated as one.

This went is dominated by a stream which flows north to join the main stream through the village and its tributary running across the centre. Long, thin strip fields once ran from the brook to Market Way and a headland was formed in the south-west corner. No sites were found during the fieldwalking survey. The early 18th-century Hartshall Farm (now a specialist nursery) and nearby Hartshall Cottage are the only houses now on the went. Aprylles Close was not mentioned in the Field Book or Survey but has been located on the conjectural map for 1577 by reference to the perambulation of the parish dated 1584. A rental of 1327 (R HA 504/5/1) details payment by William Wodebite for the tenement of Roger Aparil. He was ordered to rebuild a house on April's tenement in 1340 (CR HA 504/1/4.23); when he died in 1345 he held a messuage and nine acres called Apprels. As no sites were found it is probable that Hartshall Farm was built on or near the site of the April's tenement.

The name Angrave does not appear in early documents but that of Angerhale is frequent and has been corrupted to Angrave. In 1333 a villein was charged with appropriating to himself a strip of land by digging ditches at Angerhale Weye (CR HA 504/1/3.21). During a nine year period from 1335–44 many villeins were accused of

making unlawful passage at Angerhalefeld; one made a path on the headland. While much of the went was intensively cultivated, it appears that Guspathe Field was always pasture. Ten acres of land at Gusperefeld were granted to a villein in 1398 (CR HA 504/1/9.17) and seven acres to another in 1427 (CR HA 504/1/12.5).

Smallbrook is referred to in court rolls from 1324 onwards (CR HA 504/1/1.16) always as pasture or meadow. Hewood or Heywood Close is one of several Heywood names in the vicinity and may refer to the high wood or Ladyswood, nearby.

By 1817 the went contained twenty-five regular shaped fields; the names of Smallbrook and Aprils survived and The Syke had become Seek. The only change by 1842 was that the name Smallbrook had disappeared. The *Terratorium* indicates that, apart from Gusper Field, this went was intensively cultivated prior to the 16th century. It was then all used as pasture, except for twenty acres of 'land', presumably arable. It is now all arable except for the nursery in the centre of the went.

#### Block 12

(Fig. 21)

Position – south-east corner of parish adjoining parish boundaries south and east

Abuttals N – Westhorpe Road, alias Greene Way  
 S – parish boundary  
 E – Hundred Lane  
 W – a small brook

Aspect – slight slope to the west

Size – c. 37 acres

Traditionally used for a mixture of pasture, meadow and arable farming, this section stretches from the Hundred Lane with its c. 900 year old hedge to the brook where the remaining hedge was found to be c. 700 years old. Although still a public footpath, no hedge survives on the southern boundary. All interior hedges and that of Westhorpe Road have gone.

No sites were found while fieldwalking. One house, known as Proctor's Barn, has been built in the north-west corner on the site of a barn owned in 1817 by John Proctor.

Early references to Southbrook (CR HA 504/1/1.1) show that the west side of the went was used for grazing the lord's own flocks of sheep. The Prior of Ixworth in 1329 had the liberty of a fold of forty sheep and one ram 'which feed as far as Suthbroke towards Angerhale' (CR HA 504/1/2.2). There are also instances of unlawful grazing and trespass in the lord's meadow and hay. Damage of wheat, oats and barley between 1338 and 1344 show that part of the went was cultivated. The Field Book gives little information regarding land use but describes two long strips of land; in the *Terratorium* Angrave Close is divided into two with a hedge and is arable. Only the name of Hyewood is retained into the 19th century, corrupted to Hewards. By then the went contained ten regular shaped fields, mainly arable. It is now all one ploughed field.

#### Blocks 13 & 14

(Fig. 21)

Position – south-east of parish adjoining the last block on the east

Abuttals N – Westhorpe Road  
 S – parish boundary  
 E – a small brook and block 12

W – formerly Painters Headland

Aspect – slight slope to east

Size – c. 32 acres

This section is divided into two in the *Terratorium* along Haddes Path at the headland of two sets of strips, but treated here as one went as it is in the Field Book. Known as Well Field it contains ‘a well or pond whereof as it is said Well Felde tooke first his name (as the tenants and inhabitantes there do reporte)’ (FB 85a).

Remnants of hedges remain only in the north-west corner, which were found to be c. 700 years old. The four field boundaries shown on the 1577 conjectural map were, no doubt, medieval arable strip boundaries and they are still evident on the 1842 tithe map. No indication of land use was made in the Field Book; the *Terratorium* describes a mixture of pasture and ‘land’.

No sites were found and there are now no buildings, but the 19th-century maps show a cottage built on the Westhorpe Road verge. They also show half an acre of wood along the brook. Two fields adjoined this wood; one was called New Close in 1817 and the other New Broke Up in 1842; they adjoined Stubbing Way on the south. These names imply wood clearance; Ladyswood, or Highwood, largely in Badwell Ash, probably extended this far.

By the 19th century the went had become eight rectangular fields; a mixture of arable and pasture. Only the Well Field name was retained. It is now two fields, largely arable. The well or pond is still a pleasant feature in pasture crossed by a footpath.

#### Block 15

(Fig. 22)

Position – south edge of parish

Abuttals N – Crownland Road formerly Upstreet

S – parish boundary

E – Road to Great Ashfield (formerly Painters Headland)

W – formerly Wood Way or Ladywood Way

Aspect – flat

Size – c. 67 acres

The centre of this long narrow went is occupied by ‘one capital tenement built with a curtilage and garden surrounded with a moat’ (*Terratorium* 1581). A message but not the moat is mentioned in the Field Book, the tenement of Thomas Lacy. Crownland Hall, a 17th-century house, partly timber-framed and partly of red brick construction, now stands on the site (Colman 1969, no. 8/52). A total of seven early medieval sites were located along Crownland Road to the east of Crownland Hall and opposite the houses in Block 9 making a substantial early settlement. Each tenement would appear to have been an elongated small-holding reaching to the parish boundary on the south and containing about two acres. The *Terratorium* also mentions a former tenement called Copleys, situated near the west end of the went. Thatched with a timber frame, Crownland Cottage was built on this site in the early 18th century. The sites of two medieval tenements were found nearby. A post windmill shown on Hodkinson’s map of 1783 occupied a site halfway between Crownland Hall and Four Ashes until at least 1881; a red brick house now stands there. The hedges associated with this house are the only remaining ones in the went. One, between 600 and 700 years old is perhaps an early tenement boundary stretching from Crownland Road to and along the parish boundary for a short stretch. The

parish boundary, known as the Procession Way or Peddars Path is stepped on the tithe map indicating that it was once a path, probably a green lane. Fields now extend over the boundary into the next parish without path or hedge. The hedgeline of Copclose Way on the 1577 map, is also shown as ‘stepped’ on the tithe map. A Coppelowes tenement of 1351 (CR HA 504/1/5.18) may have become corrupted to Copleys. The *Terratorium* gives ‘Gurrys’ as an alternative name for this close. As there is no other mention of Gurrys but many items refer to damage at Curryscroft in the court rolls from 1328 (CR HA 504/1/3.7) onwards and Currys has not been located elsewhere, it is tempting to associate the two. Woodway was also called Ladyswood Way in the *Terratorium* and led to Ladyswood. Two houses have been built near Woodway and one next to Crownland Hall on the site of one of the earlier tenements.

The Field Book refers to most of the land as crofts and in the *Terratorium* the land is almost all pasture. The tithe map shows that it was used for a mixture of arable and pasture; today it is mostly arable.

#### Block 16

(Fig. 23)

Position – south of parish

Abuttals N – Badwell Road/alias Palmer Street

S – parish boundary

E – former Wood Way

W – Badwell Road

Aspect – south facing slope

Size – c. 43 acres

The description in the *Terratorium* of this went indicates that it was once, in part at least, an open field of ploughed strips stretching from Badwell Road to the parish boundary. One c. 600 year old interior hedge, running from north to south, remains implying consolidation of some strips into larger fields in the 14th/15th century. Traces of an old path can be seen in the field just west of this hedge leading to the abutments of a 17th-century brick-built bridge over the ditch on the parish boundary. Noticeably wide verges along the Badwell Road edge of the went, now partly wooded, were, no doubt, once used for grazing purposes. A court roll of 1337 (CR HA 504/1/4.6) refers to the Grendel as an abuttal of both Springald tenement and Ladyswood. ‘Grendel’ or ‘grundel’ is a local name for a deep, wide ditch, both the Procession Way at the western tip of the went and ‘The Ronnells’ could be described thus and may be the grendel of 1337. The meaning of Thevishedge is probably derived from ‘theve’, i.e. ewe of the first or second year (Fisher 1968). The name persisted until at least 1842.

A group of houses in the north-east corner forms part of the Four Ashes hamlet. In 1817 the Reverend A. Rogers had a school house now known as ‘The Rosary’ which possibly encapsulates the remnants of an older house (Colman 1969, no. 14/35). Between The Rosary and the 17th-century ‘Four Ash’ cottage is the site of Springald’s tenement listed in the survey but demolished within living memory. Four Ashes Farmhouse, a 15th-century three bay medieval house with complex additions was held by William Pope in 1577 ‘...one tenemente verve well buylded...’ A rental of c. 1465 (R HA 504/8/4) shows that a Thomas Potager paid for the tenement of Richard Tussey with three ‘ploughales’ and another of 1595 (R HA 504/5/8) states that ‘William Pope pays...19s.5¼d for his

Tenement Tussies and other lands'. An early 17th-century (Colman 1969, no. 11/38) thatched cottage in Badwell Road was not mentioned in the Field Book but in the 1581 *Terratorium* was a 'tenement newly built'. The last building is a Victorian red brick cottage.

The 19th-century maps show the land use as a mixture of arable and pasture. It is now all arable.

#### Block 17

(Fig. 24)

Position in parish – west of centre

Abutalls N – the road to Ixworth (formerly Bury Way)  
 S – Badwell Road and part of former Rottelles Lane  
 E – Causeway (formerly Church Street)  
 W – footpath (formerly Rottelles Lane)

Aspect – sloping north towards the brook

Size – c. 46 acres

The unnamed brook, surrounded by meadow, flows from east to west through this went. Two groups of houses, one in the north-east opposite the church and the other in the south-east at Four Ashes, were in evidence before 1577. There is a suggestion of some cultivation in strips at an earlier date near Rottelles Lane. This lane was stopped in 1786 being considered 'totally unnecessary' (SRO Q SH108) but was reinstated and now goes straight from Ixworth Road to Badwell Road. The earliest reference to the lane is in a rental of 1537 (R HA 504/5/7) but repeated cases of damage to the lord's crops in le Oldtuft, the adjoining field, occur from 1329 (CR HA 504/1/3.9) onwards. The hedge along Rottelles Lane bordering Oldtuft is c. 600 years old as is the hedge to the south of the same field. This hedge stretches nearly to the Causeway; perhaps Oldtuft also stretched right across the went.

Although a large number of scattered sherds dating from early medieval to the 20th century plus one piece of Ipswich ware were found in the south part of the went, no sites were located. Some of the present houses on this went are medieval and others are built on older sites. Church Farmhouse, held by Nicholas Marten in 1577, is a 16th-century building said to be 'newly built' in the *Terratorium*. 'Sweetbriars' at the north corner was also said to be 'newly built' but as this has been found to be an open-halled medieval building the reference must refer to the major 16th-century renovation when the chimney was inserted and the cross passage blocked by hearths. Immediately to the west of this house is a 16th-century cottage, not mentioned in the surveys; it may be a converted bakehouse or outhouse originally part of Sweetbriars. In 1695 Sweetbriars was called Beacons. In the 15th century it was held by John Becon a baker whose wife Alice was a brewer of ale. (CR HA 504/1/13.16 onwards) The cottage to the south of Sweetbriars, standing on the half acre of hempland of 1581, is a pair of estate houses built in 1866 by John Martineau for his employees at a time of rapid population increase. Two later sets of these cottages lower down the causeway are ornately decorated with exposed timber-framing and carry Biblical moral inscriptions and texts. An 18th-century timber-framed cottage has been built beside the brook, on the site of the tenement previously known as Brettes.

In the southern group, the 1577 tenement of Robert Jordon is still standing; it is the medieval cottage next to

Hill Cottage garden centre. The Elms was built in the early 18th century on the site of the former Spicers tenement.

By 1817 a maltings was operating in the north of the went and the adjoining field was called Kiln Field. The field name is retained on the tithe map but the maltings had gone, probably due to competition from the larger one built in Wattisfield Road. This area is now the cemetery extension. A pound is marked on the 1817 map by the bridge, but the details are erased in the description; perhaps the pound had just gone out of use and the new one built at the other end of the parish at the southern end of Townhouse Lane. The meadow to the south of the brook is still known as Gallant's Meadow as it was in the last century. A public footpath along the stream provides one of many pleasant walks through the village. The fields to the south of the went are now arable and modern building has filled most of the gaps between the older houses along the Causeway.

#### Blocks 18 & 19

(Fig. 25)

Position in parish – west of centre

Abutalls N – Ixworth Road  
 S – Badwell Road  
 E – formerly Rottelles Lane  
 W – Great Meadow

Aspect – south facing slope

Size – c. 135 acres

Lack of sufficient information and the omission of a considerable area in the surveys has resulted in inaccuracies in the conjectural maps for this block. The *Terratorium* described much of the went as strips, most of which ran downhill towards the stream. Three small closes were said to lie in Lound Field which may have been the name of the whole went, although it was also called West Field. There are references in the court rolls to Loundefeld from 1348 onwards (CR HA 504/1/5.9) but no location is given. An open field further west in the parish was also known as West Field. The name of the went is, therefore, ambiguous.

A 'Stubbings' field name and close described as 'pasture woodground' suggest that Spyllmans Wood of 1581 was the remnant of a once larger wooded area. Today a wide strip of copse along Badwell Road with a ditch on the inner edge lies opposite the verge in Block 16 making the original road there particularly wide. The fragmentary remains of the ditched enclosure of the mill mount are preserved in the plantation on the brow of the hill.

Three sites producing 13th/14th-century pottery were found in the south-east corner of the went; there is no mention of them in the surveys. The Lawn and Lawn Cottage now occupy the sites of a former messuage and tenement; the latter a stable block conversion. Evidence from the 19th-century maps shows that the Lawn and its grounds underwent considerable remodelling and enlargement of the house and stables. Extensive landscaping to the south with circular clumps of trees, a long copse on the sky-line and a coach drive through to the Badwell Road are still in evidence. The 1819 enclosure map shows a plan to divert the road immediately in front of the house some way to the north, but this was never carried out. Many of the early field names for this went are descriptive, for example: Bullescroft, Millway, Stoneyland and Impton, meaning an enclosure for saplings (Fisher 1968).



Greens Meadow appears on a hand-drawn map of 1785 (SRO Q SH107) close to the earlier Grene Tenement, but by the 19th century the name had disappeared. Gowns Entry was also shown in 1785, changed to Gowns Meadow in 1817 and back to Gowns Entry in 1842. Most hedges on the went have now been removed to enlarge the fields for intensive agriculture. The hedge at the north end of Rottelles Lane is intact and at least 600 years old, including crab apple and spindle. Young indigenous trees have recently been planted and a wide mown path helps to make this an interesting and pleasant walk.

#### Block 20

(Fig. 26)

Position in parish – west of central

Abuttals N – a driftway  
S – Ixworth road  
E – Summer Road  
W – Brook Farm

Aspect – south facing

Size – c. 34 acres

Situated in the north-west corner of the crossroads opposite the church, this small went has the stream running in a deep cut along the south side. A central pond is said to be fed by a spring and a larger, circular pond known as Noah's Ark replaces a plantation of the 19th century in the north of the went. Small channels connect the ponds to the stream draining what was originally a low-lying meadow. Boundary hedges along the north and south of the went are c. 600 years old and a hedge alongside a footpath from the Ixworth Road to Noah's Ark shown on the 19th-century maps but not on the conjectural maps, contains an average of three species.

One large piece of Romano-British pottery was found in a rabbit hole near the former drift way in the north side of the block and no doubt there is more lying under the pasture from the Romano-British sites (WLW 061–064) in the adjoining field to the north.

Willow Court, a neo Georgian house, now replaces the messuage of Cyssly Margery in 1577 and Lucie Roper in 1695. There was an educational establishment on the site from at least 1884 when the Ordnance Survey map shows the site as an Industrial Home for Waifs and Strays. Photographs exist of about thirty boys outside the school in 1919. In the 1920s a certain Major Faithful ran a Parents National Education Union school there, which would appear to have been a model for later progressive schools throughout the country.

Willow House has now been built on the site of Barnes tenement which John Vincent held in 1577 and Lucie Roper held in 1695. In a will of 1529 (SRO IC 500/2/18) Wm. Vincent bequeathed Bernyscloos containing four acres to his son Thomas — no doubt the same close called Dampond held by John Vincent in 1577. In a will of 1549 (SRO IC 500/2/21) Stephen Vincent bequeathed to his son John 'a tenement called Bearnas and all the land and appurtenances thereto adjoining...' Thomas Berne formerly held both the tenement and the close (*Terratorium*), hence the name. The whole of the area on the east side, at least, and perhaps a larger part, was known earlier as the Conyger, i.e. rabbit warren (*Terratorium*).

The area between these two tenements, known as the Game Place, was an Elizabethan open air theatre described in the Field Book as 'a place compassed round with a fayer banke cast up on a good height and having many great

trees called populers growynge about the same banke, in the myddest a fayre round place of earth wyth a stone wall about the same to the height of the earth made of purpose for the use of stage players...' In an article entitled *Another Elizabethan Theatre in the Round* Kenneth M. Dodd (Dodd 1970) editor of the Field Book of Walsham le Willows uses a rental of 1509 (BL Add. 14850) and court rolls of the late 15th century to show that land occupied by the Game Place belonged to the feoffes of Walsham and was formerly a camping close; that is, land used for sports and para-military activities. The Camping Close is first referred to in (AR HA504/3/15.12) 1451–2 when a close called Campyngclose was held by John Becon.

The name of Gooches Hill probably relates to a 14th-century family of that name. Most of the other field and road names are descriptive.

Although basically pasture ground, part of the went was described as arable in 1577 and part of Dampond Field was a hop-yard in 1581. The far west corner was an orchard in 1577 and still orchard in 1842.

The went is still used as pasture and provides a pleasant approach to the village.

#### Block 21

(Fig. 27)

Position in parish – west

Abuttals N – formerly Coldham Path and driftway  
S – West Street  
E – Western tip of Block 20  
W – Posters Lane

Aspect – slight slope to the south

Size – c. 16 acres

This block borders the Ixworth Road along the southern edge of Block 22 and part of Block 24. The east end of the block contains Brook Farm, a late 16th- or early 17th-century house (Listed No. 2/29) formerly known as Skottes and held in 1577 by John Margery. Brook Farm Cottage next to the farmhouse is early 19th-century (Listed No. 2/88). A former tenement on the same site was held by Thomas Flatman gent. in 1577 and was known as Cokes. By 1695 it was 'wasted'.

West Cottage, a late 15th-century house held by Nicholas Marten in 1577 and called Lynehams, is situated at the west end of the block. There was a chalk pit within the croft adjoining the tenement in 1577. The remainder of the went has been a mixture of arable and pasture; it is now incorporated into the large arable fields to the north.

Modern farm buildings and a bungalow have been erected in the south-west corner.

#### Block 22

(Fig. 27)

Position in parish – north-west corner

Abuttals N – parish boundary (formerly Colmer Way)  
S – Block 21 (formerly Coldham Path)  
E – Reading Lane  
W – parish boundary (with Bardwell)

Aspect – slight southerly slope

Size – c. 46 acres

The frequency of Readings and Stubbings place names suggest that this went was once heavily wooded. The virtually detached part of Bardwell parish on the western edge was clearly originally part of Walsham but had become part of Bardwell by at least 1577 with just a fragment of wood remaining. There is some indication of

cultivation of strips in the surveys together with larger enclosures.

Part of the parish boundary hedge along the former Procession Way survives and is c. 900 years old. Two interior hedges contain seven species, but may have been planted as mixed hedges around a farmhouse which stood in the centre of the went during the last century. Two other interior hedges, c. 500 and c. 600 years old respectively probably originate from the enclosure of the larger fields.

Posters Lane, an impressive wide lane, was known as Market Way and, as a continuation of both Ixworth Road and the former Coldham Path, was a drovers' way and a major route linking the interior of Suffolk to the important Anglo-Danish and Norman town of Thetford. Colmer (Way) and Coldham (Croft) may be descriptive names for a bleak area. Although the name of Skythes (Close) resembles (Wickham) Skeith where Skeith is an Old Norse element meaning racecourse (Ekwall 1966), an earlier spelling of Sket in 1351 (CR HA 504/1/5.17) refers to a former tenant, Agnes Sket.

A major concentration of Bronze Age flint flakes and two scrapers was revealed during the fieldwalking survey, together with the 19th-century farmhouse site.

By 1817 Couldham Croft had become Golden Croft and six fields still retained a Readings or Stubbings element. As in most of the parish the land use in the 19th century was a mixture of arable and pasture. It is now largely arable, although the remnant of woodland is pasture.

#### *Block 23*

(Fig. 28)

Position in parish – north-west

Abuttals N – parish boundary (formerly Procession Way)

S – Block 20 (formerly Drift Way)

E – Summer Lane

W – Block 24 (formerly Felgate Lane and Colmer Way)

Aspect – slight south-westerly slope

Size – c. 157 acres

The mansion house of Walsham Manor was situated in the south-east corner of this went and the centre was formerly occupied by the demesne wood known as North Hall Wood. The close to the north of the wood was called le Launde implying it was a clearing used as a small deer park. A lane led from behind the manor house to the wood and the fields beyond. The shallow depression of the lane can still be traced on the ground as far as the south side of the present Sandpits Farm.

Three of these fields, namely Dovehousewong, Cocksdyrt and Bromeswonge can be traced to the early 14th century in court rolls, and Childerwell to the early 15th century. Court roll entries for Dovehousewong, Bromeswonge and Childerwell refer to damage by villeins to the lord or lady's crops. In the case of Cocksdyrt the court roll entries are for the surrender of small pieces of land. Cocksdyrt is the only close in which there is any suggestion of strips of land described in the *Terratorium*. At the court held on 18 October 1453 (CR HA 504/1/13.18,19) a total of 283 acres of demesne land was granted to twenty tenants, seventy-four acres of which were to John Robhood junior. Land at Bromeswonge and Childerswell was amongst that granted. Only the wood remained as demesne land by 1577.

Three separate hedges along the lane to the wood are c. 400 years old; perhaps planted to enclose the demesne fields when they were granted. Hedges bordering Dovehousewong and Bromeswonge are c. 800 years old as are those of the parish boundary and Summer Lane. Hedges containing five or six species surround the fields formerly North Hall Wood.

The field in which the manor house and later Pyckards stood is now pasture and no sign of the buildings remain. No medieval sites were found on the went. Four discrete spreads of Romano-British pottery within the fifteen acres of Dovehousewong were located and also a concentration of twenty-one prehistoric flint flakes in a small area north-west of Dovehousewong.

Sandpits Farm is not mentioned in the surveys although it is listed as a mid 17th-century building. A straight access lane from Summer Lane to the farm was made sometime between 1819 and 1842 and the nearby hedge removed. The line of the hedge and its accompanying ditch can be traced at the south of the present village sports field. The mature trees in the hedge were spared and now provide shelter for spectators.

By the 19th century some of the fields had been reduced in size but the names of Launde, Sandpits, Dovehouse and Northwood remained. The name of Cocksdyrt had disappeared but a nearby field was called Dirty Lane Piece.

Hall House, built in the early 18th century, replaced the tenement in the south-east corner of the went. A cricket pavilion, motor repair shop and one new house have been built along Summer Road. A fine avenue of oaks, first shown on the OS map of 1903 stretches from behind Hall House to Sandpits Farm. The far north-west corner of the went, formerly Cocksdyrt, is now a wood with surviving bomb stores of the 2nd World War airfield on an adjacent piece. A few hedges have been removed to make larger fields but the medieval field pattern is still basically retained with good hedges and a continued mixture of land use.

#### *Block 24*

(Fig. 27)

Position in parish – west

Abuttals N – parish boundary (formerly Colmer Lane or Wrenshall Lane)

S – Blocks 20 and 21 (formerly a driftway)

E – Block 23 (formerly Felgate Lane or Way to Stanton)

W – Reading Lane

Aspect – south facing slope

Size – c. 78 acres

There are two parcels of land in this block included in the Field Book but omitted in the *Terratorium*, one of which is referred to but not described. Small strips of land in the west of the went specified in the *Terratorium* suggest that it was once an open field and although it is not named as such in the surveys, Felgate was originally called Feldgate. By 1577 the went comprised one large pasture of thirty-five acres, an arable field of fourteen acres, some smaller closes and some woodland. A broad path from Ixworth Road allowing access to the pasture and, no doubt, formerly to the ploughed strips, retains a c. 600 year old hedge. The hedges alongside Reading Lane and Ixworth Road are of the same age. The verges of Reading Lane contain relic woodland species including wood anemone.

Part of the hedge along the northern boundary survives and is c. 800 years old.

A portion of Wardes Wood was granted to a number of local men in a charter of 1385 (Ch FL 646/11/7). Together with other land at the west end of the parish and elsewhere in Walsham, it eventually became gild property. Wardes tenement is frequently mentioned in court rolls from 1393 onwards and members of the Warde family lived at West Street from at least 1316.

Two concentrations of Bronze Age flint flakes were found on the lower gravel terraces together with a flint fabricator and a small scatter of Romano British pottery.

The 19th-century maps show a mixture of arable and pasture in twelve regular sized fields. A plantation to the north of the went could have been a remnant of Cokes Wood. The northern section of the went was appropriated during the 2nd World War for use as an airfield and the top soil has been disturbed rendering it unsuitable for fieldwalking. The went now comprises large arable fields. There is a public footpath along the field edge where Felgate Lane once existed.

#### Block 25

(Fig. 29)

Position in parish – east

Abuttals N – parish of Rickinghall  
S – Allwood Green  
E – Allwood Green  
W – Road to Rickinghall (formerly Hundred Lane)

Aspect – flat

Size – 11 acres

Known as Blunts, presumably named after the *Domesday* tenant Robert le Blund, this small went is described in both surveys as pasture. It is within the parish of Rickinghall Inferior.

#### Block 26a

(Figs 29 – east part, 30 – west part)

Position in parish – north east

For convenience this large went has been divided into two, at the road to Rickinghall. The east part of the went is described first.

Abuttals N – road to Rickinghall (formerly Procession Way)  
S – Finningham Road and stream (formerly 'Nether Way')  
E – road to Rickinghall and parish boundary  
W – road to Botesdale (formerly Market Way)

Aspect – south facing

Size – c. 280 acres

This part of the went was dominated by the manor of High Hall surrounded by its demesne land. In the surveys about 120 acres were still listed as demesne land, most having been already leased. Heyhall Close, Oxpightle and Catlins Close were leased to Richard and John Deye in 1460 (CR HA 504/1/13.29) and in his will of 1489 (NRO Typpes, 68) Richard bequeathed High Hall tenement to his wife. In 1427 'the lord leased to John Ryngebelle a certain pasture containing 3 score acres one rod and 35 perches of pasture at Netherawepasture lying at Estende' (CR HA 504/1/12.5). A picture of the medieval landscape can be envisaged by recourse to the court rolls from 1333 onwards when crops of the lord's wheat, barley, oats and peas were regularly damaged by villeins. Some of the

woodland suggested by the rounded northern boundary was still in existence in the late 15th century when trespass in the woodland (CR HA 504/1/13.30) at Heighhall took place. There is a reference to a sheep fold in 1380 (CR HA 504/1/8.6) and sufficient pasture for cows. In 1398 (CR HA 504/1/9.17) partridges were taken and doves snared in the dove-house. In 1498 a heathcock (black grouse) was killed at Hayhallclos (CR HA 504/1/17.20).

The northern boundary hedge is at least 800 years old and that of Netherway c. 700 years. Part of the hedges on either side of Great Netherelles Close still survive and were found to be c. 600 years.

A Mesolithic axe, a scraper and a scatter of worked flakes were found near the northern boundary. One substantial and two smaller Romano-British sites were located in this half of the went.

High Hall, now derelict, is surrounded by a square moat with evidence of secondary moated enclosures to the south and east. Two medieval sites south of High Hall contained 13th/14th-century pottery and one other 12th/13th- and 14th-century pottery. A modern reservoir covers the sites of the three tenements shown on the conjectural maps. One of these was named Scyers in the *Terratorium*, no doubt the home of Adam and Robert Syre who were amongst those damaging the wood at Heyghall in 1386 (CR HA 504/1/8.13).

A tenement was 'newly built' between 1577 and 1581 in the south-eastern corner of the went in the close held by Thomas Hovel alias Smith. Two bungalows also now stand on the same site. A cottage and a bungalow have been built on the north-eastern edge of the went; an isolated cottage is situated near the reservoir and one on the road to Rickinghall.

The 19th-century maps show this part of the went then comprised forty-five fields, the largest being seventeen acres, and used for a mixture of arable and pasture. The road to Rickinghall was probably made for access to the market in Botesdale (granted 1220) and on the 19th-century maps was still called Market Way. It traversed two fields known as Thoroughfare Closes.

Some small fields still exist near to the small farms on the east boundaries of the went and the land use is largely arable.

#### Block 26b

(Fig. 31)

Position in parish – north central

Abuttals N – the parishes of Wattisfield and Rickinghall  
S – Finningham Road (formerly Cranmer Green)  
E – Market way to Botesdale  
W – lane formerly Hulkes Lane

Aspect – south facing

Size – c. 167 acres

The western half of Block 26 is situated on and borders the northern edge of the former Cranmer Green.

The Field Book describes five tenements along the edge of the green; two (Cranmer Farm and Sunnyside) are still standing and the other three were located during fieldwalking. Two other medieval sites were found to the west of Cranmer Farmhouse, one of which is mentioned in the *Terratorium* as a decayed tenement. The conjectural maps show small crofts adjoining the tenements with large arable fields and pasture to the north. In addition, the

*Terratorium* describes some small strips of land, probably remnants of open field cultivation in the western half of the block. The wedge-shaped section in Wattisfield parish to the north may have been a furlong known as Botmefeld or Botmelond, names used in court rolls of 1347 (CR HA 504/1/5.7) and 1391 (CR HA 504/1/9.7) Le Botme was the name of land near that of William Hawys and John Hulke mentioned in a roll of 1317 (CR HA 504/1/1.3) and described in the *Terratorium* as near Pynchons Botome at the north end of Hulkes Lane. The *Terratorium* mentions Northfield on two occasions for fields in this part of the went and in 1412 land lying in le Botme was surrendered in le Northfield (CR HA 504/1/10.12). It therefore seems likely that the common field was so named. The earliest mention of Hulkes Lane is in 1577 but Hulkes Wood, Croft and Bridge were referred to in 1317 when Peter Hulkes surrendered land there (CR HA 504/1/1.6). Although the Field Book is the earliest document referring to Hulkes Lane, the hedges on both sides of the lane are c. 600 years old. The northern parish boundary hedge is the same age. Of the few surviving internal hedges, one on the north-east side of Neates Pasture is c. 600 years old and one to the east of Cranmer Farmhouse c. 500 years old. The name Neates Pasture refers to dairy farming.

The last remnant of Cranmer Green to the south of this went was enclosed in 1819 and became a grove by 1842. It is now incorporated into the adjoining field. Two cottages were still occupying the sites of former tenements in 1817 and just one by 1842. At that time there were about twenty-five fields, some arable, some pasture. The land use is now arable.

Cranmer Farmhouse is an early 16th-century building (Listed No. 3/35) and Sunnyside House is late 16th-century (Listed No. 3/36). Some new housing for farmworkers has been built north of Sunnyside on the road to Rickinghall.

#### Block 27

(Fig. 32)

Position in parish – north central

Abuttals N – parish boundary  
S – Fishpond Lane  
E – Wattisfield Road  
W – Summer Lane

Aspect – flat

Size – c. 58 acres

This small went formerly comprised one large close with smaller fields to the east and west. The central close, at least, was once demesne land, for in 1407 a villein damaged the lord's oats at Fyshpondfeld (CR HA 504/1/10.5) and in 1429 William Hawys was granted the lease of forty-two acres called Fyshpondfeld for ten years (CR HA 504/1/12.8), *i.e.* the exact size of the field as described in the *Terratorium*. A c. 700 year old hedge extends along the west side of the close. In the Field Book the close is described as 'sometymes 4 parcelles' and in the *Terratorium* as 'divided into two parts with a certain old hedge'. It seems likely, therefore, that the hedge had been cut down but not destroyed to make a larger close when the survey took place in 1577, and that the c. 900 year old hedge still surviving within the close is the 'old hedge' of the *Terratorium*.

In Block 28 Fishpond Lane itself is referred to in the *Terratorium*, as 'the several way of the lord'. A good hedge retained on either side of the lane is c. 800 years old.

Perhaps the lane gave access to the pond which is mentioned in the *Terratorium* (T 67.5).

No tenements are described in the surveys but both the Field Book and *Terratorium* refer to a 'hay house' built where now stands a mid 16th-century farmhouse encased in 20th-century brick (Listed No. 3/80). A large pond is still part of the property. One bungalow has been built on the east side of the went on Wattisfield Road.

In the 16th century the went was all pasture except for eleven acres of arable; by the 19th century it was mixed arable and pasture and is now entirely arable. A barn first shown on the 1842 map still stands in the centre of the went.

#### Block 28

(Fig. 32)

Position in parish – north central

Abuttals N – Fishpond Lane  
S – The Street  
E – Wattisfield Road  
W – Summer Road

Aspect – flat

Size – c. 110 acres

Long curving hedge lines running from north to south, shown on the 19th-century maps, together with a few remaining strips recorded in the *Terratorium* and many closes described as 'formerly divided' in the Field Book, suggest that this went was once an open field. One small close was called Northfield in 1577, possibly a remnant of the name of the whole went. Wattisfield Road hedge is only c. 300 years old; perhaps this went was formerly part of a larger one with the adjoining Block 29. The continuation of Fishpond Lane into Hatchmere Lane as a northern boundary supports this suggestion. Hedges bordering New Close, that is new in 1581, on the east and south and several other interior hedges are c. 400 or c. 500 years old implying mainly 15th-century enclosure of the strips into small fields.

A charter for 1426 (Ch EL 159/12/14) grants two tenements 'lately of John Kebbyll chaplain and Saunders' next to the cottage called Sybbes to several Walsham men considered to be trustees of a gild. Sybbes itself was likewise granted in 1432 (Ch EL 159/12/15) but was back in single tenancy by 1577 when held by Steven Vyncente, after the reformation. These tenements abutted south upon Church Street and north upon Fishpondfeld and must be the same land as that held by Walsham Town in the 16th century and held today by the Town Trust. The 19th-century maps show a cottage in the close of the former Steven Vyncente and this site was located while fieldwalking by a scatter of medieval sherds. It is likely that this is the site of one of the three tenements granted. Two acres of woodland were included in the town land and Steven Vyncente held a small grove called Bondes Wood, the name no doubt derived from its former tenant Simon Bond (T 69.10).

The southern part of the went comprised tenements bordering the north side of Church Way now known as The Street. Of the thirteen houses along the Street mentioned in the surveys nine are still standing (see Listed Buildings appendix) and form the larger part of the present conservation area of the village. The Six Bells public house formerly 'called Fullers... sometime of William Fuller' (T 71.4) was bequeathed by a Stephen Vyncent in his will of 1549 (SRO IC 500/2/21) 'with all my ware and

	<i>Church Street (opposite church) Block 28</i>	<i>Finningham Road (Master John's Close) Block 29</i>	<i>Townhouse Road (Carters Lane) Block 7</i>
1577	FB 144b Townhouse in the tenure of Walsham town	FB 70b Gildhall held by feoffees of trust to Walsham town	FB 32b Customary tenement in the tenure of John Carter
1581	Fol: 71.3 Tenement newly built sometime of Margery Say held by Walsham township by copy	Fol: 71.7 Tenement held free by Township of Walsham	Fol: 25.8 Message held by John Carter
1695	Fol: 47.3 Tenement sometime of Margery Say held by Walsham township by copy	Fol: 47.7 Tenement held free by Township of Walsham	Fol: 17.5 Message held by Richard Warner
1817	87 Workhouse Feoffees of Town land occupied by poor persons	56 Townhouse Feoffees of Town land occupied by poor persons	474 Cottage John Elliot
1842	212 Workhouse Feoffees of Walsham Town land	125 Demolished (lawn) John Elliot	538 Cottage Feoffees of Town land

Table 7 Walsham: Gildhalls, Townhouses and Workhouse

stuff in my meserye (*i.e.* mercery) shoppe'. This corner opposite the church would have been a prime site for a shop.

The tenement called the Towne House in the Field Book because it was held by Walsham town, that is, parish property was described in the *Terratorium* as 'newly builded'. A deed of 1622 (SRO FL 646/11/39) grants a 'messuage or tenement now newly made and connected to a dwelling house called or commonly known by the name of the new Guildhall', to John Binges a grocer. The abuttals imply that the deed is for part of the gildhall itself. It later became the village workhouse providing work in the form of spinning and is now owned by the Town Trust. It is listed as a Grade II, 16th-century building, but is 'possibly a conversion of the gildhall building itself' (Listed No. 3/67). The stock of two gilds is valued at £6 in the Lay Subsidy of 1524 (Suffolk Green Books X). The first mention of a hall is in a court roll of 1462 when William Vyncent was fined 3d for placing 'a hedge in and upon the common way leading to the church of Walsham up to le yeldhalle...' (CR HA 504/1/14.3).

The next house, now known as Dages, is two connected houses, one large, one smaller. In 1389 (CR HA 504/1/9.3) John Coggeshale was granted one acre of the lord's demesne on which to build a house, which he later surrendered, in 1426 (CR HA 504/1/12.3) to Thomas Hereward on the condition that he, Thomas Hereward, build a house next door for John and his wife Alice, presumably for their old age. In the *Terratorium* (T 70.9) the tenement is called Cocksalls and states that it was sometime held by John Coggesale and later Thomas Herewarde.

The rear part of the Tiled House (T 70.7) is one of the oldest buildings in the village complete with smoke-blackened roof and crown-post of a former open hall.

'South Side', west of the Tiled House and set back from the road, is probably the house and small yard held by Susan Peck in 1695 but not existing in 1577 or 1581.

It is not possible from the evidence to place the house now called Sideways accurately but as Gooles (FB 141b2) was described as decayed in 1577, it is more likely to be Myllons (FB 141b). Sideways is a mid 16th-century

building and so was unlikely to be in a state of decay by 1577. On the other hand it could have been rebuilt soon after 1577. It is just described as a tenement in the *Terratorium*.

In addition to the listed buildings the north side of the village street contains other more recent but interesting houses, two shops, several former shops and a former infant school opened in 1872. There is also a Congregational Church built on classical lines and several Victorian cottages built to house the rapidly rising population of that time. The Maltings, now converted into dwellings, together with the large house of the former proprietor, occupy the corner plot of Wattisfield Road. 19th- and 20th-century houses occupy the southern end of Wattisfield Road and further north a flour mill was in operation until recently, the round-house of the former post-mill still being preserved.

The 1817 map shows a wheelwright and blacksmiths at Dages and another blacksmith on the maltings site. By 1842 the maltings and accompanying house had been built.

The went has lost many of its hedges to enlarge fields but some small fields remain including those held by the Town Trust and leased to local people.

#### *Block 29*

(Fig. 33)

Position in parish – north

Abuttals N – formerly Hatchmere Way

S – Finningham Road

E – formerly Hulkes Lane

W – Wattisfield Road

Aspect – south facing slope

Size – 132 acres

Long, narrow strips in the north-west corner, described in the *Terratorium*, show that part of this went, at least, was formerly cultivated as an open or common field. The east side still retained some remnants of woodland in 1577 and Sares Pasture alias Sares Wood towards the west was described in the Field Book as 'beynge good pasture ground hath bene or the greatest parte thereof hath bene in

tymes past a wood and yett hath good store of bouldinges or poullardes growynge thereuppon' (FB 69b2). The southern edge of the block bordered the stream and the main street through the village and contained tenements. One medieval tenement site was found in Master John's Close and the enclosing ditch round the site of the former gildhall is visible in rough pasture but most of the south part of the went was unavailable for field walking.

Access to the central fields, woods and clay pits was by Sares Way which ran along the north side of the tenements and could be entered at Wattisfield Road (this part of the lane still survives) and also from Finningham Road.

Few hedges remain but a small section along Sares Way was found to be c. 800 years old, although the number of species may have been enriched by the proximity of woodland. The hedges of Hatchmere Lane and Hulkes Lane are between c. 600 and c. 700 years old.

Much of the went was held in 1577 by John Hawes of the Bushes, alias the elder, who lived to the south of Sares Lane in the house now known as the Rookery. Several generations of Hawes held a tenement there before him, notably Walter and William who held a messuage, a bakehouse and forty acres previously held by their father Robert, and a cause of constant strife recorded in the mid 14th-century court rolls. A messuage and land called Sarres in the Field Book was no doubt held by Robert Sare, a freeman of the 14th century. The predominance of 'Hulkes' place names in the east of the went originated with the Hulkes family who held the land in the 14th century and probably earlier. Boynhall Field was previously demesne land belonging to Walsham Manor. The origin of Master John's Close has already been discussed — (see Block 5). Little is known, at present, about the site in the south-west corner of the close. The Field Book describes it as a 'Guyld Hall' and the *Terratorium* as a 'tenement'. The Lay Subsidy of 1524 assessed the stock of two gilds, although three gilds are mentioned in wills of around the same date (SRO IC 500/2/17 and IC 500/2/15). This shows that at least two gildhalls existed, one in Church Street and the one under discussion. They were both held by Walsham Town by 1577.

Kebbeles Close was a 'toft sometime built' (T 72.2) and may have been held by Richard Keball, a prominent Walsham resident in the early 14th century. The names of Hawes, Hulc, Sare and Kelbel all occur in the 1283 tax assessment (Powell 1910).

The messuage held by Ralph Stokes (FB 68b), now called Woodlands, is described in an inventory of 1699 of John Salkeld, a Presbyterian minister who had held the living of Worlington and who was imprisoned for his religious beliefs during the Commonwealth period (SRO IC 500/3/26/66). The Hearth Tax Returns for 1674 (Suffolk Green Books XI, vol. 13) show that a Mr Salkell had seven hearths, the second highest number in the parish.

It is interesting that the two fields lying either side of the former clay pits are called Fullers in the Field Book. This may be an earlier connection with the cloth trade; either the digging of fullers earth or the washing of wool in the pits, or indeed, both.

The names of Hatchmer, Sarr, Hulk and Mancer are retained until 1817 and the field held by Elizabeth Davey, widow, in 1695 was still called Davys Close. The map of

1842 names the Finningham Road, Guildhall Street (and the village street, Church Street) but the gildhall/townhouse was no longer standing. The names of Hatchmeers, Hulks, and Mansers continued while Sares had been corrupted to Snares. Much of Sares Way was stopped in the enclosure of 1819. Over thirty fields enclosed by miles of hedges and containing twelve ponds and three houses comprised the went in the last century. It now contains two large arable fields and a few small closes of mixed use. Modern dwellings extend almost the length of Wattisfield Road, sheltered housing for the elderly occupies the corner site and is adjacent to a modern primary school. A photograph survives of Forcettes/Mansers tenement which was demolished within living memory, when a police house, now a private residence, was built on the site.

Note:- The *Terratorium* does not record the field to the north of this block. The Field Book describes it as an arable field called Great Hatchmere containing thirty-five acres, divided into two parts. The hedge along the west of the field, i.e. Wattisfield Road, is c. 300 years old. All interior hedges have been removed.

By 1817 it was divided into four fields and by 1842 into five, all arable.

#### Block 30

(Fig. 16)

Position in parish – central

Abuttals N – Church Street

S – Grove Road formerly Whortouts Lane

E – the stream and Block 5

W – The Causeway

Aspect – gravel terrace immediately to the north of the brook

Size – 8½ acres

This small section south-east of the crossroads at the village centre contains both the church and the former Church House manor house.

One Middle Saxon Ipswich Ware rim and two worn sherds were found in a garden at the east end of the Block and constitute the only evidence for Saxon settlement close to the medieval core of the village.

Half a church is recorded in the *Domesday Survey* of 1086. A large limestone block with traces of scrollwork now serving as the base for the east pillar of the north arcade is the only surviving trace of identifiable Norman work. The nave, aisles and tower were rebuilt in the 15th century as evidenced from wills from 1403–1465. These contain bequests towards a new (rood) beam, new stonework, carpentry work and 'sufficient glass for a window in the clerestory' (SRO IC 500/2/9,10). The chancel walls were not apparently rebuilt at that time and are part of the older medieval church. A 13th-century grave slab and the 14th-century font provide some continuity through the intervening 400 years.

Described in the Field Book as 'The said personage house or seate of the manor of Church House beyng a house verve well buylded and tyled and diveres good rooms to the same belonginge', the Priory is an early 16th-century building. On one of the beams there is a carved shield with the initials of Sir Richard Aldwich, who was a canon at Ixworth Priory in 1534.

Adjoining the Priory is The Beeches (FB 39b), a 16th-century building, the home and until recently the surgery of the local GP for many decades. The house now

known as The Beeches (Colman 1969) was held by John Robwood junior in 1577. The Robhoods formerly lived at Cranmer Green but in 1457, John Robhood and his wife were granted land to build near the 'rectory. If the rectory was the Church House, then this gives an earlier date to The Beeches (CR HA 504/1/13-23). The Blue Boar public house (FB 40a), despite its red brick facade, is of 15th-century origin with a smoke-blackened crown-post roof over a former open hall. 'Priors Close' (FB 39a) has a 16th-century core. Therefore, although altered and extended, the major buildings around the church are virtually the same as in the 16th-century surveys.

A cluster of cottages, one 17th-century and the other 19th-century, now replaces those around the Blue Boar. An attractive Sunday School was built by John Martineau in 1902 next to the manor house in the former Church Street, now known as the Causeway, and a cottage has been built close to the pond seen on the 16th-century maps.

At the eastern end of the went the tenement held by Thomas Lacey in 1577 was built in the 16th century and is now called Clive Cottage. His customary croft is now a bowling green with a pavilion and memorial hall. The Institute building erected in 1858 for use as a library and reading room has recently been converted into a private home. Clive House, in front of Clive Cottage, the old bakery and the shop which once housed the village fire engine complete the buildings to the west of the Avenue.

The wide road verge at the eastern tip of the went formerly known as Jolycote Hill and probably the only available space near the village centre was used for the first National School and school-house building in 1848. One other cottage completes the infill here.

#### Block 31

(Figs 34, 35)

Position in parish – west

Abutments N – West Street  
S – Langham parish  
E – former Great Meadow  
W – formerly Paynes Ditch

Note: The west end of this block (Horne's Close) is included on Fig. 35 – with Blocks 32 and 33.

Aspect – east facing slope

Size – c. 92 acres

Although the northernmost six acres of this went are described in the *Terratorium* as being in Block 32, they are included in this went as in the Field Book.

It seems likely that an earlier road once followed the stream south along the 'waye' before turning west to join Deepmere Way, probably along the Patches Lane, making a different division of the went.

The western side of the went comprised two large fields of c. twenty acres divided by Mill Way, which led to Langham. Strips of land are described in Horne's Close in the *Terratorium* but the surveyor in the field in 1577 called it 'a great pasture', wherein free and customary land could not be distinguished because 'ould mencions of meares, furrowes, hedlonde and other markes are filled up and worne awaye'. Many strips on the eastern side of this former open or common field called Weststrete Field or Meadow Field are described in the *Terratorium*. Some of the strips shown surviving in 1577 were described as divided by hedges and dykes; others are itemised separately because some were free and some customary land.

A c. 800 year old hedge survives along Mill Lane and one of c. 700 years on the edge of the Mickle Meadow. On the east boundary of the grounds of West House (built in the former Patches Croft) a hedge, containing four different species, may have been planted as a mixed hedge in the early 19th century when Captain Thomas Wilkinson turned Deepmere Close, together with several small fields, into parkland. The tithe map shows the trees still standing where the hedges had been removed. These grounds are still pasture with many mature trees. The east side of the went is part of Home Farm and mostly arable. A Romano-British site was located on the east side of this land.

#### Blocks 32 and 33

(Fig. 35)

Position in parish – west

Abutments N – Posters Lane  
S – West Street and Home Farm  
E – former Great Meadow  
W – parish boundary with part of Bardwell

Aspect – slight south-easterly slope

Size – c. 60 acres

These blocks consist of a triangular went plus about six acres at the north of Block 31. Apart from the Great Meadow (see Block 34) this is the only went which still contained working strips of land in 1577. Known as West Street Field it was probably originally associated with the field of the same name south of West Street and described in the last block.

Posters Lane, once the Queens highway to Thetford, becomes a very wide path, ditched on either side but with no surviving hedges. Deepmere Way, now West Street, is mentioned in a court roll of 1338 (CR HA 504/1/4.10) when unlawful digging occurred on the common there. Wide road verges visible on the 1819 map were, no doubt, used for common grazing and illegal digging for gravel.

St Katherine's Close may be associated with a gild of that name, for there was a chapel of St Katherine in the church where William Potager, a chaplain of Walsham, wished for a 'priest to celebrate annually for my soul and the souls of my parents' (Will 1481 – NRO 117A Caston). However, a St Katherine's Croft is listed as demesne land of Nicholas de Walsham in a rental of 1327 (R HA 504/5/1) and is mentioned in a court roll of Lord Alexander de Walsham of 1321 (CR HA 504/1/1.15). These documents apply, however, to land in the east of the parish where no mention of St Katherine's Croft occurs in the surveys.

In 1577 the surviving strips of West Street Field were cultivated by just two men who held alternate strips. One of them, John Parker, also held the messuage called Wardes, formerly Ebelles and now West Street Farmhouse. Another house, also called Wardes in the *Terratorium*, together with the six acres at the north of the last block, was held by Thomas Baker. In c. 1465 Robert Baker held Wardes tenement and Adam dil Ebell held Ebell's tenement (R HA 504/8/4) and both surnames occur in the 14th-century court rolls, so although the present houses on these sites are both apparently 16th-century, they were probably built on earlier sites and may incorporate older buildings.

By 1817 the names of St Katherine's Close and West Street Field had disappeared and the went contained ten small fields. The hedge and part of a path or headland at the west of the former strips were shown on the map but

this was stopped in the 1819 enclosure. The name Broom Field applied to a field in the north-west of the went is probably associated with the flora of the sandy soil of that area. The land use of the went was then a mixture of pasture and arable and is now largely arable. One more recent house has been built in West Street south of West Street farmhouse and a nearby outbuilding has been converted to a cottage.

#### Block 34

(Fig. 36)

Position in parish – south-west

Abuttals N – West Street  
S – Ixworth Road  
E – Blocks 18 and 19  
W – Block 31

Aspect – flat

Size – c. 60 acres

This triangular went is situated at the point where the stream runs through an area of flat land before entering Badwell Ash parish. It was permanent grassland used for growing hay and in 1577 contained two-thirds of the meadow in Walsham. During the medieval period it was usually referred to as the Mickle Meadow, sometimes the Great Meadow, or Walsham Field. Later it was known as the Lammas Meadow as commoners had rights to graze animals from Lammas Day (August 1st) after the hay had been cut until Candlemas (February 2nd). Marker stones, or posts (doles), indicated the boundaries of the strips which were held, some free and some copyhold, for services or rent in the same manner as land in the open fields. They were not exchanged on a regular basis, as was the custom in some other manors. A pole of sixteen and a half feet was used for measuring arable land but a pole of fourteen and a half feet was used in the Great Meadow (Dodd 1974, 50) (Customal of Walsham, 4th March 1577, N.C.Bacon MSS 1266). The division of the meadowland into strips regulated the cutting of the hay.

The descriptions in the *Terratorium* are particularly rich in names of former tenants and place names, many of which also occur in 14th-century court rolls, mostly in cases of surrender of land. They include Harwe (a harrow-shaped strip), Turpett, Tawbotts, Hookstream, Broddale, Rayneberds Swath and Lampland. The manor court rolls also contain many instances of damage by animals, as well as orders for the stream to be scoured and cleared. Tenants were responsible for the maintenance of that part of the stream that was adjacent to their strip. The *Terratorium* describes over ninety separate strips of meadow; the Field Book lists thirty-two tenants. Being based on medieval documents, the *Terratorium* does not take account of the consolidation of the strips of meadow which had occurred by 1581. The fall in population after the plague had allowed the fewer tenants to acquire larger strips. The Field Book gives the size of the holdings but not the position or abuttals. The *Terratorium* gives the abuttals but the vast quantity of strips renders their plotting on a conjectural map virtually impossible. Over sixty long, narrow strips are shown on the 1817 parish map indicating the former pattern. The enclosure award of 1819 ordered the river crossing the Lammas Lands to be re-directed and the plan shows the new cut in a channel along the length of the meadow, presumably to improve the drainage. The meadow was then divided into about twenty plots, the majority being allocated to John Sparke of the nearby

mansion house (now The Lawns). By 1842 a further channel had been cut through the meadow which then comprised seven fields, all devoted to pasture. This pattern has continued to the present day. The outline of the meadow can still be traced on recent maps. As no abuttals are given in the 1577 survey, we have produced a version based upon the 1817 map.

#### Block 35

Hatchmere Field — included as north part of Block 29 (Fig. 33).

### III. Place Names

(Tables 8–11)

Like the place name of Walsham itself, many of the names of roads and fields go back beyond written sources. Long usage and pronunciation have played havoc with the spellings which may not closely resemble the original names. A good example of this corruption is Lucenden Grove of 1577 (but Luchedell in the *Terratorium*), Lost Dale and Doll's Grove in 1817 and Lewsell in 1842. Lyrerithesdyl and Lenerithisdel are the earliest spellings available for the same land, which was the lord's wood in 1318 (CR HA 504/1/1.5).

The common cow-pasture called Cowleswe in the 14th century had become Cow Leyzer in 1577 and Cow Lizzards by 1842. The name originates from 'cowleaze' meaning the right to put a cow on the common pasture (Fisher 1968).

Aldewood, Cranmere and Deepmere must be regarded as the earliest recorded place names; all appear as surnames with the prefix 'de' in the 1283 tax assessment.

The names of fourteen crofts and pieces of land; the demesne land of Nicholas de Walsham, appear on a rental of 1327. Of these, Ducedeu, Hamstale, Hordishawe, Netherhawe and Hangerhalefeld can be identified in the surveys.

Dirty Lane Piece, the name of a field near Sandpits Farm in 1842 probably derives from a nearby Coxedurte of 1577.

A few names which appear in the surveys cannot be placed on the conjectural maps as they are referred to only as abuttals for other pieces of land and their position is unclear.

#### Road names

Out of a total of sixty-nine names for roads, lanes, ways and paths in the two surveys; thirty are probably descriptive, although the meanings and origins of several are obscure. This group includes all the names implying the clearance of woodland, such as Stubbing and Hatchmere, the 'lower' and 'upper' road names and names which probably describe the path itself, for example, Clay Street and Hollmere (hollow way). Seventeen of these names can be traced to medieval court rolls and charters and of these, thirteen survived into the 19th century.

Five of the descriptive names are still in use.

Twenty-two road names contain a destination, four of which are nearby towns or villages (*i.e.* Thetford, Bury, Wattisfield and Westhorpe) and the others local amenities. Many of these names started as 'the way to Wattisfield' or 'the way to the mill' and gradually became Wattisfield Lane and Mill Way. Ten names at least are of medieval origin and seven can be found on the 19th-century maps.



<i>Name</i>	<i>Other Name or Spelling</i>	<i>First Reference</i>	<i>1577</i>	<i>1581</i>	<i>1584</i>	<i>19th C</i>	<i>First Occurrence of name as Surname</i>
Abbottes Way	Old Abbottes Way	1577 FB 126b	X				
Angrave Way	(H) Angerhale Weye	1348 CR: HA 504/1/2.7	X	X	X	X	
Bere Way	Church Way	1581 Fol: 21.5		X			
Bury Way	Beryweye	1333 CR: HA 504/1/3.23	X			X	
Carters Lane		1577 FB 31a	X	X		X	1319 le Carter (CR)
Chase Way		1581 Fol: 69.7		X			
Chitters Lane	Chetesylane	1430 CR: HA 504/1/12/9a	X	X		X	
Church Way/Street		1327 CR: HA 504/1/3.3	X	X		X	
Clay Street		1318 CR: HA 504/1/1.7	X	X		X	
Coldham Path	Cowledome/Couldham	1577 FB 163a	X	X			
Colmer Way	Coulmere Weye	1385 Ch: EL 159/12/1	X	X		X	
Coopers Lane	Coupers/Copers	1537 R: HA 504/5/7	X	X			1317 le Cupper (CR)
Deepmore Way	Depmerweye	1338 CR: HA 504/1/4.10	X	X		X	
Drift Way		1577 FB 59a	X	X			
Eastend	Esthinde	1335 CR: HA 504/1/3.31		X			
Felgate Lane		1581 Fol: 60.3		X	X		
Fishpond Lane/Way	Myddle Way/	1537 R: HA 504/5/7	X	X		X	
Frances Path	Hundred Mere	1577 FB 121a	X	X	X	X	1283 Fraunceys (TA)
Gooches Hill		1581 Fol: 52.2		X			1303 Goche (CR)
Green Way		1577 FB 84a	X	X		X	
Guildhall Street	Church Way	1577 FB 38a	X	X		X	
Hades Path		1581 Fol: 39.8	X				
Hartshall Lane	Hordishawe	1316 CR: HA 504/1/1.1	X	X		X	
Hatchmere Lane		1346 CR: HA 504/1/5.1	X	X		X	
Heywood Lane	Hyewood	1577 FB 82a3	X	X		X	
Hollmere		1348 CR: HA 504/1/5.8		X			
Hoxons Lane	Honey/Rottells	1581 Fol: 45.8		X		X	
Hulkes Lane		1577 FB 130b	X	X		X	1283 Hulc (TA)
Hundred Lane/Mere		1316 CR: HA 504/1/1.3	X	X	X	X	
Jollycoate Hill		1577 FB 41b	X	X		X	1445 Jolys
Market Way	Botesdale Lane	1351 CR: HA 504/1/5.18	X	X		X	
Meadow Way	Medweweye	1427 CR: HA 504/1/12.5		X			
Mill Way/Mere/Lane	Melnemere	1318 CR: HA 504/1/1.7	X	X		X	
Nether Way	Way to Gislingham	1325 CR: HA 504/1/2.6	X	X		X	
New Way	Market Way	1581 Fol: 13.5		X			
North Hall Wood Lane		1577 FB 152b	X				
Nosyll Path	Knosyl/Nolysweye	1317 CR: HA 504/1/1.4		X			
Nunns Lane		1577 FB 163a	X				1383 Nunne (CR)
Outgoeing	Outgongishende	1317 CR: HA 504/1/2.4		X			
Ould Myl Way		1577 FB 17b3	X				
Overway	Upper Way	1346 CR: HA 504/1/5.1	X	X	X	X	
Packway	Patches Lane	1577 FB 53a	X	X			
Painters Headland	Payntours	1577 FB 85b	X	X		X	1316 le Peyntour
Palmer Street		1318 CR: HA 504/1/1.7	X	X	X	X	
Paynes Lane		1577 FB 8b	X	X			1283 Payn (TA)
Peddars Path/Way		1343 CR: HA 504/1/4.31	X	X	X	X	
Procession Way/Path	Prossyon Weye	1424 CR: HA 504/1/12.1	X	X	X	X	
Reading Lane	Reddinge	1577 FB 163a	X	X		X	
Ronnelles Lane	Runnelles	1577 FB 93a	X	X		X	
Rottelles Lane	Rotptillis Lane/ Rotyllys/Hoxon	1537 R: HA 504/5/7	X	X		X	
Sares Way		1577 FB 68b	X	X			1283 Sare (TA)
Spyllmans Lane		1577 FB 107b	X	X			1283 Spileman (TA)
Staple Way	Stapilweye	1319 CR: HA 504/1/1.13	X	X		X	
Stubbings Lane	Stubbyngeweye	1337 CR: HA 504/1/4.6	X	X		X	
Stubbway		1334 CR: HA 504/1/3.27		X			
Summer Way/Lane	Somerweye/Sumner	1332 CR: HA 504/1/3.18	X	X	X	X	
Theftord Way		1577 FB 163a	X	X			
Town Entrie		1577 FB 137b	X	X			
Upstrete	Upper Street Way	1303 CR: HA 504/1/3.4	X	X		X	
Wattisfield Lane/Way		1577 FB 63a	X	X	X	X	
Well Field Lane	Brooke Way	1577 FB 81a	X	X		X	
West Street		1346 CR: HA 504/1/5.1		X			
Westhall Hill		1577 FB 122a2	X	X			
Westhorpe Lane/Way		1383 CR: HA 504/1/8.8	X			X	
West Myll Way		1581 Fol: 48.2		X			
Whortupps Lane	Wortoutes	1537 R: HA 504/5/7	X	X		X	
Woodway		1345 CR: HA 504/1/4.37	X	X	X		
Wrenshall Lane		1577 FB 158a	X	X		X	

Table 8 Place names: roads, lanes, paths and ways

Other lanes were almost certainly in existence in the 14th century but not mentioned by name in early documents. For example, Fish Pond Lane is referred to in court rolls; as 'the severalty of the lord'. As a continuation of Hatchmere Lane it may have had the same name until the Wattisfield Road separated the two.

Three other road names (Eastend, West Street and Well Field Lane) concern position rather than destination. Eastend is now known as Finningham Road; the medieval name disappeared with the medieval settlement. Although most of its houses had fallen into decay, Clay Street continued as a name into the 19th century and the small section of road now surviving is still known as Clay Street. Upstreet became Crownland Road sometime after 1842, while the other 'major' roads, namely Staple Way, Palmer Street, Summer Road, West Street and Church Street have retained their medieval names into the 20th century, that is, over a period of at least 600 years.

Road names containing surnames are, as is to be expected, of a more transitory nature. Many in this category, for example, Hawyslane and Fullers Way were in use in the 14th century but did not survive until the surveys were made. The Spyllmans Lane of 1577 may be named after a 16th-century Spyllman rather than his ancestor. Painters is the only headland to have survived as a road; and one on Mill Field is now part of Mill Lane. There is no sign of an earthwork in either case and other headlands within large fields were ploughed out long ago.

One medieval surname which survived into the 19th century as a place name was that of Hulke. It first occurs as W.Hulc in the tax assessment of 1283 and recurs as Hulc, Hulk and Hulke in early 14th-century court rolls. Although the last mention of the surname is in 1366, the names of Hulkes Bridge, Wood and Croft continued into the 16th century and Hulkes Lane occurs on the 1819 enclosure map among many lanes to be stopped.

Some roads have two names and the main street through the village has had at least three. In 1577 it was Church Way, alias Guildhall Street; in the *Terratorium* it was Guildhall Street; in a rental of 1595 it was known as Church Street and in the 1623 Herbage Book (SRO FL 646/3/20-2) as both Towne Street and Guildhall Street. The 19th-century maps call the main street Church Street with Guildhall Street further to the east near the gildhall in Master John's Close. The road along the west end of the church was Church Street in the 16th century and on the 1819 map and Church Street Way on the tithe map of 1842. It is now the Causeway. Other confusions arise due to the plurality of names such as Market Way, Drift Way and Mill Way.

One headland within Mill Field was named Nosyll Path in the *Terratorium*. It is referred to as Knosyl in 1317 (CR HA 504/1/1.4) and, if medieval dyslexia is taken into account, as Nolyssweye in 1391 (CR HA 504/1/9.6).

The 'gate' names, for example, Doushouse Gate, are unlikely to be of Scandinavian origin meaning street, as often lanes were used as pasture and gates were required to control livestock.

Four 'cross' names occur as locations. One, Staple Cross, was evidently a physical cross of stone or wood (FB 32b); Walsham Cross, Strondes Cross and Angrave Cross are mentioned in the 1584 perambulation. The perambulation or Procession Way was the route followed in Rogationtide when the parish boundaries were walked or 'beaten'; a few sections of the circuit now remain as designated footpaths.

Out of a total of sixty-nine road names, twenty-nine originate in medieval documents and of these, twenty continued in use to the 19th century. Eight of these are still in use today.

### Field names

(Table 9)

Of 200 field, close, wood and meadow names in the two surveys, fifty-four would appear to take their names from tenants. Blunts Close, near High Hall, is probably a remnant of the land held by Robert le Blund, tenant-in-chief in 1086 (*Domesday Survey*). Another sixteen names can be found in the list of tax-payers in 1283 (Powell 1910) and a further twenty-nine in 14th-century court rolls. Although many surnames can be traced back for several hundred years, a field may, of course, take its name from a later tenant of the same name. It is remarkable that Blunts Close is marked on the 1819 enclosure map, 750 years later.

Magister Johannes was the second largest tax payer in 1283 and, although also referred to as 'the river meadow', his close is still known as Master John's Close. The names of a few other medieval tenants, for example, Bonde and Hulke, survived into the 19th century but no trace of their woods, pightles or names remain today.

The majority of the field names can be said to be descriptive. Many describe size and shape. The prefixes of 'great' and 'little' occur more frequently in 1577; perhaps the writing of the survey itself led to the need to distinguish some fields by name to avoid confusion. By the 19th century, most names were descriptive of size and shape. Today many farmers know their fields only by size. Three wood-clearance names *i.e.* Hatchmere, Readings and Stubbings survived into the 19th century. Although very little wood remained at the time of the surveys, remnants in the form of wood-pasture would have been a constant reminder of former woods.

Names concerned with local amenities like the mill, church and fishpond are inclined to have medieval origins and to persist into the last century. They are more likely to have survived until the present day as road and farm names than as field names.

Few names of animals or crops were used in the surveys, but they became more popular in the 19th century as names of small crofts and closes.

Over a quarter of the field names used in the surveys can be identified on the maps of the 19th century or in their schedules. In some instances, for example, Master John's Close and Kemballes, the field size and position has remained almost intact. Sometimes the name appears to have moved to a nearby field. Taylors Meadow of 1842 is opposite the Taylors Croft or Pightle of 1577 and was probably a parcel of the original Taylors tenement. Sometimes the name of an open or common field is retained after its enclosure in just one small close. Examples of this can be found in Mill, North and Sand Field. Great Hatchmere, a large field in 1577, was divided into five smaller ones by the 19th century. Three of these were named Lower, Middle and Upper Hatchmeers.

Occasionally the opposite is true and two or more small fields retain a slightly altered name after conversion into a larger field. Stony Lande Pightle and Stony Lande Close had their dividing hedge removed to become the Stone Meadow of 1842.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Other name or spelling</i>	<i>First reference</i>	<i>1577</i>	<i>1581</i>	<i>1584</i>	<i>19C</i>	<i>First Occurrence of name as surname</i>
Allwood Green/Close	Aldewode	1318 CR:HA 504/1/1.8	X	X	X	X	
Angrave Close/Meadow	(H)Angerhale	1327 CR:HA 504/5/1	X	X	X	X	
Anneshedge	Agneshedge	1318 CR:HA 504/1/1.7		X			
Arrable Hedge Close		1577 FB 131a	X				
Badwell Close/Land		1577 FB 21a3	X	X			
Barlye Close		1577 FB 986	X				
Billings Close		1577 FB 128a2	X	X			1430 (CR) (Byllyng)
Blackacre	Blakeaker	1316 CR:HA 504/1/1.3		X			
Blunts Close		1329 CR:HA 504/1/2.2	X	X	X	X	1086 (DB) (Blund)
Bolestoft	Bolistoot	1489 Will:Types 68(NRO)		X			
Bondes Wood/Meadow		1577 FB 9b	X	X		X	1333 (CR)
Botesdale Close/Croft	Botolvysdale	1529 Will:IC 500/2/18 (SRO)	X	X	X	X	
Botome	Botme/Botne	1317 CR:HA 504/1/1.7		X			
Bowles Yard		1577 FB 90a	X				
Boynall Close	Boynhall/ Boynhaugh	1331 CR:HA 504/1/3:15	X	X			
Bradland		1581 Fol: 27.6		X			
Breache and Bull Croft		1577 FB 113b	X				
Broad Close		1577 FB 128b	X				
Broaddale		1581 Fol: 47.6		X			
Broad Oak	Sweete Oak	1581 Fol: 52.3		X		X	
Broddale	Brodeale	1336 CR:HA 504/1/4.4		X			
Bromeswong	Cromeswong	1334 CR:HA 504/1/3.27	X	X			
Brook Close/Bridge etc.		1317 CR:HA 504/1/1.6	X	X		X	
Bulles Croft		1577 FB 116b	X				
Bulstoft		1581 Fol: 48.5	X				
Burches Wood/Close		1321 CR:HA 504/1/1.15	X	X			
Calke Pightle		1581 Fol: 44.5		X			
Catlins Close		1347 CR:HA 504/1/5.3	X	X			
Chelderwell Close	Chirdilwell	1371 CR:HA 504/1/7.16	X	X			
Church Close/Bridge		1329 CR:HA 504/1/3.9	X	X		X	
Clarke Road Meadow		1581 Fol: 86.14		X			
Claypit Pightle		1577 Fol: 65b	X				
Cockes Close	Cooks	1577 FB 159b	X	X		X	1283 (TA) (Coco)
Cocksdyrt	Coxedurte	1317 CR:HA 504/1/1.6	X	X			1283 (TA) (Coco)
Cokes Wood		1577 Fol: 159b	X				1283 (TA) (Coco)
Coldham Close/Croft	Couldham/ Golden 19C	1385 Ch:EL 159/12/1	X	X		X	
Coopers Close	Copers	1577 FB 4b2	X	X			1317 (CR) (Couper)
Copleys Close	Copclose/ Gurrys 19C	1577 FB 99a	X	X			1283 (TA) (Coppelowe)
Cow Leyzer Close	Cowleswe/ Lizards 19C	1338 CR:HA 504/1/4.10	X	X		X	
Cranes Gapp/Croft		1333 CR:HA 504/1/3.22		X			1283 (TA)
Cranmer Green	Cranemere Common	1334 CR:HA 504/1/3.25	X	X	X	X	1283 (TA)
Crete Croft		1581 Fol: 24.10		X			
Dampond Close		1577 FB 60b	X	X			
Deepmere Close	Deepmore	1577 FB 57a	X	X			
Donnes Yard		1581 Fol: 23.4		X			1316 (CR) (Dun)
Dousedeux	Deusdeux/Ducedeux	1327 R:HA 504/5/1	X	X			
Dovehouse Gate		1581 Fol: 13.5		X			
Dovehouse Wong	Dufhouswong	1334 CR:HA 504/1/3.27		X		X	
Dunches Acre		1581 Fol: 21.10		X			
Elve Pasture		1537 R:HA 504/5/7		X			
Felgate Close		1581 Fol: 60.3		X	X		
Fishpond Close/Field		1336 CR:HA 504/1/4.4		X		X	
Five Acre Close		1577 FB 129a2	X				
Flaxyard		1581 Fol: 14.7		X			
Francis Rowe		1581 Fol: 7.15	X				1283 (TA) (Franceys)
Fullers Croft		1577 FB 67a2	X				1316 (CR) (le Fuller)
Game Place		1577 FB 59b	X	X			
Gogeons Botom/Close	Godgyons/ Gudgeons	1537 Will:IC RT/20/16	X	X	X	X	1359 (CR) (Goggion)
Gooldes Pightle	Goldes	1577 FB 154b	X				
Goryland		1366 CR:HA 504/1/7.1	X	X	X		
Great Field Close		1577 FB 161b	X				
Great Hartshall Close	Hartshaugh	1577 FB 79a2	X				

<i>Name</i>	<i>Other name or spelling</i>	<i>First reference</i>	<i>1577</i>	<i>1581</i>	<i>1584</i>	<i>19C</i>	<i>First Occurrence of name as surname</i>
Great Hatchmere Close		1577 FB 133a2	X				
Great Meadow		1577 FB 62a	X				
Great Meadow of Walsham	Mickle/Lammas 19C	1316 CR:HA 504/1/1.1	X	X	X	X	
Great Netherelles Close		1577 FB 122a2	X	X	X		
Green Close		1577 FB 118a	X				
Grenes Pightle/Croft <i>etc.</i>		1577 FB 114b	X				1316 (CR)
Gusper Field/Close	Guyspathe	1398 CR:HA 504/1/9.17	X	X			
Hall Green		1453 CR:HA 504/1/13/18	X	X		X	
Hallands		1581 Fol: 24.3		X			
Hall Close/Croft		1371 CR:HA 504/1/7.16		X			
Hame, the		1577 FB 113a	X	X			
Hampstall	Hamstale	1327 R:HA 504/5/1		X			
Harryroves Grove/Close		1537 Will:IC RT/20/16	X	X			
Harteshall Brook/Meadow <i>etc.</i>	Hardishaugh/Hordishaugh	1327 R:HA 504/5/1	X	X		X	
Hatchmere Field		1336 CR:HA 504/1/4.1		X		X	
Hawes Croft <i>etc.</i>		1577 FB 71b2	X				1283 (TA)
Hawe Toft	Howe Toft/Tops	1581 Fol: 52.3		X		X	1283 (TA)
Hedge Close		1537 R:HA 504/5/7	X	X			
Hempland		1581 Fol: 23.5		X			
Hewood Pightle/Close	Hyewood/Roughmere	1329 CR:HA 504/1/3.11	X	X		X	
High Hall Close/Grove	Wyldecattes	1388 CR:HA 504/1/9.1	X	X			
Home Close		1537 R:HA 504/5/7		X		X	
Homeplace Land		1581 Fol: 10.15		X			
Hornes Close		1577 FB 57b	X	X	X	X	1327 (CR)
Hoxens Close		1577 FB 116a	X	X		X	1581 (T)
Hulkes Grove/Pasture <i>etc.</i>		1317 CR:HA 504/1/1.6	X	X		X	1283 (TA) (Hulc)
Impton		1428 CR:HA 504/1/12.6		X			
Jacks Yard/Pightle		1537 R:HA 504/5/7	X	X			
Kebells Close		1397 CR:HA 504/1/9.14	X	X			1283 (TA) (Kelbel)
Kemballes Close	Kembaldes	1577 FB44a2	X	X			1283 (TA)
Kemballs Croft	Kembaldes	1335 CR:HA 504/1/3.32	X	X			1283 (TA) (Kembald)
Knights Close		1577 FB 26b	X	X		X	1577 (FB)
Ladyswood Bridge Close	Lanediswode	1316 CR:HA 504/1/1.1	X	X	X		
Lampland		1581 Fol: 85.3		X			
Lanquett Close	Lonquett/Longest	1577 FB 129a	X	X			
Lawnde Close	Lounde	1329 CR:HA 504/1/3.12	X	X		X	
Little Buttesshall Close	Shortebuthaghe	1390 CR:HA 504/1/9.4	X	X			
Little Catesland		1581 Fol: 29.6		X			
Little Meadow		1329 CR:HA 504/1/2.2		X		X	
Little Netherelles Close		1577 FB 124a	X				
Little Hatchmere Close		1577 FB 70a3	X				
Little Field Close		1577 FB 50b2	X				
Longe Londes Close		1319 CR:HA 504/1/1.13	X			X	
Longe Reading Close		1577 FB 167a	X				
Longe Wayte	Langethweyt	1327 CR:HA 504/1/3.3		X			
Lound Field		1581 Fol: 46.1		X			
Lucenden Close/Grove <i>etc.</i>	Lynnerithesdyl <i>etc.</i>	1328 CR:HA 504/1/3.5	X	X		X	
Machettes Close	Machons	1317 CR:HA 504/1/1.3	X	X			1316 (CR)
Master Johns Close		1385 Ch:EL 159/12/2	X	X		X	1283 (TA)
Meadow Field	West Street Field	1577 FB 55b	X	X			
Megmans Pightle		1581 Fol: 54.1		X			
Mellfield/Close		1317 CR:HA 504/1/1.3	X	X		X	
Mellers Croft	Packes Close	1577 FB 95a	X	X			1317 (CR)
Mortons Croft		1581 Fol: 24.11		X			1424 (CR)
Myllmount	Mellermunt	1329 CR:HA 504/3/3.9		X			
Naples Croft		1577 FB 4b	X				
Neates Pasture		1577 FB 131b	X	X			
Nether Brook Close		1577 FB 3 b2	X	X			
Nether Haugh Close	Netherelles	1327 R:HA 504/5/1	X	X	X	X	
Nether Leves Close		1577 FB 2 b2	X	X			1316 (CR) (Lene)
New Close		1537 R:HA 504/5/7		X		X	
Newers Croft	Nowers Close	1577 FB 6 a2	X	X			
Nobles Acre		1581 Fol: 7.7		X			1316 (CR) (le Noble)
Norrays Pightle		1577 FB 111a2	X				1317 (CR)
North Field/Close		1317 CR:HA 504/1/1.6	X	X			

<i>Name</i>	<i>Other name or spelling</i>	<i>First reference</i>	<i>1577</i>	<i>1581</i>	<i>1584</i>	<i>19C</i>	<i>First Occurrence of name as surname</i>
Norrays Pightle		1577 FB 111a2	X				1317 (CR)
North Field/Close		1317 CR:HA 504/1/1.6	X	X			
North Hall Wood	North Haugh	1329 CR:HA 504/1/2.2	X	X		X	
North Wroe		1319 CR:HA 504/1/1.13		X			
Nunns Close		1537 R:HA 504/5/7	X	X			1383 (CR) (Nunne)
Oldtuft		1328 CR:HA 504/1/2.1		X			
Otte Close		1577 FB 124a	X				
Over Brook Orchard	Linges Orchard	1577 FB 29a	X				1400 (CR) (Lyng)
Overcroft		1351 CR:HA 504/1/5.18		X			
Oxpightle		1537 Will: RT 20/16 (SRO)	X	X			
Patches Croft		1411 CR:HA 504/1/10.10	X				1334 (CR)
Paynes Acre/Close <i>etc</i>		1577 FB 6b	X	X		X	1283 (TA)
Penns Meare Close	Pyncesmeare	1432 CR:HA 504/1/12.11	X	X			
Pies Close		1502 Will: Popy 194 (NRO)	X	X		X	1316 (CR)
Preades Close		1581 Fol: 33.5		X			1327 (R)
Pryors the		1581 Fol: 62.10		X			
Pyckyll Acre		1581 Fol: 15.8		X			
Reddinge Close		1334 CR:HA 504/1/3.26	X	X	X	X	
Rennells Close	Ronnells	1385 Ch:EL 159/12/2	X	X	X	X	
Saint Katherines Close		1327 R:HA 504/5/1	X	X			
Salons Close	Salowes	1537 R:HA 504/5/7	X	X			
Sandfield	South Field	1317 CR:HA 504/1/1.4		X		X	
Sandpit Field		1551 Will:Bucke F32 (PRO)	X	X		X	
Sares Acre/Close <i>etc</i>	Sarrs	1340 CR:HA 504/1/4.22	X			X	1283 (TA)
Saundrysland		1581 Fol: 17.10		X			1581 (T)
Sawers Pightle		1344 CR:HA 504/1/4.32		X			1317 (CR)
Seeke, the	Syke,Seyke	1316 CR:HA 504/1/1.1	X	X		X	
Shebush	Shyte Bush	1328 CR:HA 504/1/3.6		X			
Sheepcoat Close/Land		1335 CR:HA 504/1/3.33	X	X			
Short Holme		1581 Fol: 86.8		X			
Smallbroke Close		1324 CR:HA 504/1/1.26	X	X	X	X	
Sopers Croft		1577 FB 94b2	X	X			1398 (CR)(Souper)
Sowthe Brooke Close	Sudbroke	1316 CR:HA 504/1/1.1	X	X			
Springalds Pasture		1581 Fol: 42.2		X			1316 (CR)
Spyllmans Field/Wood		1342 CR:HA 504/1/4.29	X	X			1283 (TA)
Spytletowtes Close/Pightle	Spittyl Tuft	1529 Will:IC 500/2/18 (SRO)	X			X	
Stewards Croft		1537 R:HA 504/5/7		X			
Stonyland/Meadow		1317 CR:HA 504/1/1.6	X	X		X	
Stubbing Close		1316 CR:HA 504/1/1.3	X	X		X	
Syers Croft		1334 CR:HA 504/1/3.24		X			1283 (TA)(Syre)
Tallyers Orchard		1577 FB 95b	X				1316 (CR)(Taylour)
Tawbotts		1581 Fol: 87.1		X			
Taylors Croft/Pightle		1560 Will:Mellershe 48(PRO)	X			X	1316 (CR)
Theveshedge	Thevisheg	1337 CR:HA 504/1/4.6	X	X		X	
Tiptotts Croft		1551 Will:Bucke F32(PRO)		X			1283 (TA)
Toft, the		1319 CR:HA 504/1/1.13		X			
Town Close/Land <i>etc</i>		1577 FB 33b2	X	X		X	
Trendlewood	Trundlewood/ Trundles	1335 CR:HA 504/1/3.32	X	X		X	
Turpitts Acre	Turpitts	1334 CR:HA 504/1/3.24		X			
Twenty Feet		1581 Fol: 86.2		X			
Upper Brooke Close		1577 FB 10a	X			X	
Upper Leves	Leavys	1577 FB 2b	X	X			1316 (CR) (Lene)
Upper Netherelle Close		1577 FB 124 b	X				
Upper Syke		1581 Fol: 35.12		X			
Vaunceys Pasture		1581 Fol: 43.5		X			1331 (CR) (Wauncey)
Walpoles Croft		1388 CR:HA 504/1/9.1		X			1338 (CR)
Wardes Wood		1385 Ch:FL 646/1/1/7	X	X		X	1283 (TA)
Well Field		1316 CR:HA 504/1/1.1	X	X		X	
Well Pond		1581 Fol: 39.11		X			
Westmyll Field		1581 Fol: 47.10		X			
Weytmans		1581 Fol: 64.7		X			1317 (CR) (Whytman)
Willoughme Pasture	Wilwemere	1316 CR:504/1/1.3		X			
Wills Croft	Wylles	1577 FB 53a	X	X			1328 (CR) (Welles)
Wynters Close		1577 FB 162b	X	X		X	1317 (CR)
Wyses Wood		1577 FB 66a	X	X			

Table 9 Place names: fields, closes, meadows *etc.*

Although some of the descriptive names defy interpretation at present, a few deserve mention. In 1428 (CR HA 504/1/12.6) one acre of land was surrendered at Impetone ('enclosure for saplings' — Fisher 1968) at Westrete tenement. It recurs in the *Terratorium* as Impton in West Street.

In 1489 Richard Dey, 'purposing to go on a pilgrimage on the sea', bequeathed land in the Great Meadow 'to the sustentation of the lights everlasting'. His will was proved in 1492, the land he left to pay for the lights in the church was listed as Lampland in the *Terratorium* with him as a former tenant (T 85.3).

#### Tenement Names

Forty of the built tenements, messuages and cottages are named in the surveys (Table 10); many others are described with their abutments and have been placed on the conjectural maps but are not named. Eight named tenements were said to be wasted or void. In addition, thirty-two tenements are named as parcels of land (Table 11), for example, (Survey 1.1) 'John Hunt, gent. holdeth by copy one close of pasture sometimes of John Ederich parcel of the tenement Saddes...' These refer to tenements in the broadest sense of the word, *i.e.* a holding of land which would usually include a domestic house. In some instances the tenement size is given, for example, 'parcel of 12 acres'.

With the exception of Conygers, High Hall and the three gildhalls or town-houses, all the tenements appear to be named after tenants.

Twenty-two of the tenements named in the surveys recur in a rental of 1595 (R HA 504/5/8) and a few are mentioned in wills. Twenty-three tenement names occurred in 14th/15th-century documents and therefore survived at least 100 years and a few, for example, Spyllmans, were in existence for over 200 years. Only High Hall retains its original name today, although now sadly derelict. Cranmer Farmhouse is the name now given to Ponchons Tenement which was adjacent to the wasted Cranmer Tenement in 1581. Beacons now applies to the house lying next to the original Beacons; now called Sweetbriars. Two local families have recently named their homes after earlier place names *i.e.* Hatchmere and Jolycote; hopefully this is a trend which will be followed by others.

The 1581 *Terratorium* refers to parcels of medieval tenements but these are not complete, for example Typtots tenement consisted of, at least, twenty-eight acres in Upstrete and was surrendered by John Typtot to his son John in 1456 (CR HA 504/1/13.24) but only 1 acre 3 roods are accounted for in the *Terratorium*. The three best recorded tenements are Cranmer with seventy-one acres and Paynes and Sadds each consisting of thirty-one acres. There are numerous references to Paynes tenement in the court rolls, the earliest being 1326 (CR HA 504/1/1.18) when the tenement, formerly of William Payn, was wasted and damaged. William Payn was a taxpayer in 1283. John Kyng, a cooper also known as John Cooper, was granted all the tenement called Paynes in 1430 (CR HA 504/1/12.9). The house called Coopers in 1581 is, no doubt, Paynes tenement.

There is no evidence in either the court rolls or in the references to parcels of tenements in the *Terratorium* that tenants held strips of land in each or several of the open fields. Although land may have been more widely dispersed earlier, by the late medieval period at least, tenants' holdings were all within a confined area close to their houses as shown in Fig. 37.

By 1577 the small holdings were still confined to an area close to the dwelling house of the tenant concerned but the larger holdings of the two John Robwoods and John Parker were spread over a wide area and would have been farmed by employed labour.

A selection of tenants' holdings is shown on Fig. 38 and it is notable how blocks of land can be seen to persist as entities from the medieval tenancies through to the 16th century and beyond.

#### IV. Land Use

(Figs 39, 40, Table 12)

Sources of information about land use, crops and livestock are neither numerous nor comprehensive for this parish.

The *Domesday* entry for Walsham lists a total of *c.* 900 acres of land, 19½ acres of meadow and wood for 68 pigs. A rental including the measured demesne land of Nicholas de Walsham in 1327 (R HA 504/5/1) divides *c.* 200 acres of land, mostly identified as at the east end of the parish, into 30 acres in crofts, presumably enclosed pasture, and 170 acres of cultivated land.

The tax assessment of 1283 (Powell, 1910) lists ninety tenants together with details of grain and legumes grown and livestock. Grain totalled *c.* 244 quarters; in detail, 149 quarters of barley, 50 quarters of oats, 37 quarters of wheat and 8 quarters of rye. All but seven of those assessed paid tax on barley, about half grew oats and wheat and thirteen grew rye. Most people grew peas and fourteen grew beans. Tax was also paid on 92 horses, 197 cows, 40 bulls, 100 calves, 52 pigs and sheep and lambs totalling 337. Apart from the lady of the manor with 45, only five people paid tax on more than 15 sheep and lambs.

During the 14th/15th centuries fees were paid regularly for scores of sheep in folds. All the crops mentioned above continued to be grown during the 14th century but quantities are unknown. They are mostly referred to in court rolls as cases of damage to the lords' crops.

Dodd (1974, 34ff) discusses the land use of the parish at length from his analysis of the descriptions in the 1577 survey and makes the point that the high percentage of unspecified land makes conclusions both 'tentative and tenuous. If unspecified land, 'land and omitted areas are brought together they amount to some 27 per cent of the total acreage. Dodd's figures of 2677 acres include 37 acres of Ladies Wood, an extra-parochial holding in Badwell Ash, but do not, apparently, include the other 224 acres of pasture, arable 'land' and wood on the periphery of Walsham in Badwell, Stanton, Wattisfield and Rickinghall that are listed in the Field Book of 1577.

In both the 1577 survey and *Terratorium* of 1581 there are important omissions which have come to light during the course of the mapping of the two documents. For 1577 there is clearly a considerable area omitted from the north central part of Block 18/19. A comparison with the 1581 acreages suggests that some 20 acres were not included. The situation is worse (from the Lord's point of view) in 1581 with a total of 94 acres excluded from the *Terratorium*: in Block 24: 15 acres; Block 26b: 19.2–35 acres; Block 27/28: 17.2–20 acres and a further 4–2.12 acres; Block 29: 2 acres; Block 35: 35 acres. The omitted acres came to light by noting discrepancies in the abutments of fields and have been estimated by comparing the total acreages in the areas involved in 1577 and 1581, noting in passing that both surveys are inaccurate in terms of modern surveying.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Other name or spelling</i>	<i>First reference</i>	<i>1577</i>	<i>1581</i>	<i>First reference to surname</i>
Ballards Messuage		1581 Fol: 22.6		X	1595 (R)
Barnes Tenement	Bernes/ Bearnes	1549 Will:IC 500/2/21(SRO)	X		1448 (CR)
Beacons Tenement		1537 R:HA 504/5/7		X	1436 (CR) (Becon)
Brettes Tenement		1577 FB 102a	X		1331 (CR) (Bret)
Cocksalls Cottage	Cogeshalls	1581 Fol: 70.9		X	1386 (CR) (Coggeshall)
Conyger Tenement		1537 R:HA 504/5/7		X	
Coopers Messuage	Copers/Coupers	1537 R:HA 504/5/7		X	1317 (CR) (le Cupper)
Curtes Messuage		c.1465 R:HA 504/8/4		X	1411 (CR)
Forcettes Tenement	Forsaydes	1565 Will:IC 500/2/32(SRO)	X		1490 (CR)
Frostes Messuage		c.1465 R:HA 504/8/4	X	X	1365 (CR)
Fullers Tenement		c.1465 R:HA 504/8/4		X	1316 (CR)
Furneys Tenement		1473 Will:IC 500/2/11(SRO)		X	1351 (CR) (Furneyscroft)
Gooles Tenement	Goldes	1577 FB 141b2	X	X	1537 (R)
Greenes Messuage		1385 Ch:EL 159/12/1	X		1316 (CR)
Grymsbyes Tenement		1581 Fol: 18.13		X	1625 (Herbage Book)
Harwards Messuage		c.1465 R:HA 504/8/4	X	X	1316 (CR) (Hereward)
High Hall Tenement	Wildcattes	1380 CR:HA 504/1/8.6		X	Rebuilt between 1577 & 1581
Kembaldes Tenement		1577 FB 44b	X	X	1283 (TA)
Lakenhams Messuage		1537 R:HA 504/5/7		X	1398 (CR)
Leves Tenement	Leves/Randes	1399 CR:HA 504/1/10.1	X	X	1316 (CR)
Lynhams Tenement		1577 FB 163b	X	X	1537 (R)
Manns Messuage		1474 R:HA 504/5/3	X	X	1283 (TA)
Marlers Tenement		1581 Fol: 69.6		X	1283 (TA)
Maryonnes Tenement		1581 Fol: 24.12		X	
Myllons Tenement		1577 FB 141b	X		
Peppers Tenement	Fyberds/ Freeberds	1410 CR:HA 504/1/10.7	X	X	1398 (CR) (Pepir)
Ponchons Tenement		1581 Fol: 64.11		X	
Pychards Tenement	Pyckards	1577 FB 150a	X	X	
Scyers Tenement		1581 Fol: 61.9		X	1283 (TA) (Syre)
Spaldings Tenement		1577 FB 129b	X	X	
Spicers Tenement		c.1465 R:HA 504/8/4		X	1344 (CR)
Springalls Messuage		1581 Fol: 42.2		X	1316 (CR) (Springold)
Spyllmans Messuage		1339 CR:HA 504/1/2.5	X	X	1283 (TA)
Sybbes Tenement		1398 CR:HA 504/1/9.18		X	
Vincents Tenement		1581 Fol: 40.6		X	1385 (CR)
Walsham Guyld Hall		1462 CR:HA 504/1/14.3	X	X	
Walsham Town House		1577 FB 144b	X	X	
Wardes Tenement		1393 CR:HA 504/1/9.11		X	1283 (TA)
Weders Messuage		1577 FB 28b	X		
Wyllys Messuage	Wellys	1444 CR:HA 504/1/13/4	X		1328 (CR) (de Welles)

Table 10 Place names: tenements (built)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Other name or spelling</i>	<i>First reference</i>	<i>1577</i>	<i>1581</i>	<i>First reference to surname</i>
Abrams Tenement	Abrahams	1577 FB 43b	X	X	1424 (CR)
Cockes Tenement	Cooks	1551 Will: Bucke F32(PRO)	X	X	1283 (TA) (Coco)
Copleys Tenement	Coppelowes	1388 CR:HA 504/1/9.1		X	1283 (TA)
Cranmer Tenement	Cranemere	1581 Fol: 65.1		X	1283 (TA)
Longes Tenement		1335 CR:HA 504/1/3.29		X	1316 (CR)
Mancers Tenement	Mauncer	1410 CR:HA 504/1/10.7		X	1348 (CR) (Manser)
Sares Tenement		1385 Ch:EL 159/12/2	X	X	1283 (TA)
Taylor's Tenement		1359 CR:HA 504/1/6.3		X	1316 (CR)

The following tenements are mentioned as parcels of land only: Boyes, Byllings, Carman, Crosses, Deyes, Ebells Ermitts, Francis, Goslyns, Holmes, Paynes, Qualmes, Saddes, Swyfts, Springalde, Margerys, Manns, Spaldings, Vincents, Vaunces, Copleys, Peppers, Bondes, Grymsbyes, Leves, Spyllmans, Typtots, Wardes, Harwards and the Old Tufte.

Those underlined are all mentioned in the 1581 *Terratorium* and are plotted on Fig. 37.

It must be remembered that the 1581 records of earlier tenements are unlikely to provide a complete list of the holdings of these tenements and that consequently Fig. 37 must be used with caution for some were certainly larger.

Table 11 Tenements (wasted)

	1577 (Dodd)	1577	1581	1577 Extra-Parochial
Pasture	1052	1097.3.21	1622.10.34	84.3.14
Arable	328	417.3.5	180.7.11	33.3.7
Arable and pasture	114	43.3.23	20.1.6	
Land	744	671.2.12	214.2.12	48.2.34
Land and pasture			85.1.10	
Meadow	123	99.1.2	55.1.26	
Houses	202	213.3.11	245.3.28	
Wood	114	47.3.39	85.3.0	49.2.0 (Ladies Wood 37a)
Wood and pasture		3.2.14	71.1.0	5.0.0
Wood and meadow			2.0.0	
Orchard		8.0.22	0.0.3	
Orchard and pasture			5.2.0	
Garden and pasture			2.2.0	
Church, game place, } Ways, hempland, pit }		2.0.32	6.0.3	
Unspecified		12.0.0		
Omitted (estimated)		20.2.25	96.0.2	
	2677	2638.2.6	2694.3.10	261.2.34

Table 12 Comparisons of land use (acreages)

In the 1577 survey the route of the surveyor can be traced as he moved through the fields even in complex areas such as Block 4 and Block 18/19. Particularly in Block 4 one can see the surveyor making a conscious effort to follow groupings of pieces of land in relationship to the holdings of the tenants (see Figs 15 and 25) The implications of this might lead to an understanding of the nature of the divisions between fields or pieces of land in terms of permanent features of ditches and hedges or marks. The surveyor would surely be likely to choose a route which would not involve too much loss of time in retracing his steps. Presumably blocks of land in one tenancy would be interconnected by gateways or lanes.

In the *Terratorium* the situation is confused by the large number of strips, which by 1695 were clearly grouped into large holdings. It is apparent that there were changes in the tenants between 1577 and 1581, although many remained the same. The mapping of these has not been attempted at this time.

The acreages in the *Terratorium* are repeated in the 1695 survey, as are the descriptions of land use, which invalidates its use for a discussion of the late 17th-century landscape. As the names of the tenants, their predecessors and the state of the houses are the only changes made in 1695 it suggests that land use was not a primary concern at the time.

The total acreages for 1577 (2638) and 1581 (2694), as derived from the two documents are close at 56 acres, but it must be remembered that c. 20 acres were omitted from the 1577 survey and c. 90 acres from the *Terratorium*. If these are added to the stated totals the difference would be some 126 acres.

Many of these houses (messuages, tenements, cottages) are stated to have closes, pightles or land attached; more often than not the acreages are included with that of the houses. This must depress the acreages somewhat for the other categories of land.

Of the ninety-four houses listed (plus two doubles) in 1577, thirty-seven have no land mentioned. These plots can range from 16 perches to as much as 4 acres (FB 157b). Of these there are twenty-seven with less than one acre. None of these have orchards and of those with more than one acre (ten), six have orchards. There are fifty-six houses listed with land attached; if a rough gauge of half an acre per house is applied then for the total ninety-four houses,

some estimated 47 acres can be deducted from the 213.2.11 acres as set down in the Field Book.

The 166 acres are mainly unspecified land: 125.1.9 acres with pasture: 17.10.3; arable: 16.0.32; grove: 9.0.20; grove/pasture 7.1.8 and meadow at 3.1.36 acres. Thirty-eight houses are described as having orchards and thirty with 'gardens' of unspecified sizes.

In 1577 the 1097 acres of pasture, together with mixed arable/pasture, meadow and wood/pasture, totalling 1242 acres represented 47 per cent of the total.

The *Terratorium*, four years later, states the land use for all but 214 acres of its total of 2694 acres but as it is based on legal documents it is unlikely that the composer saw each field, relying instead on the tenants description of usage. The pasture amounted to 1622 acres which, if added to the mixed arable, wood and meadow, would total 1902 acres or 70 per cent of the total.

Although pasture was spread throughout, the concentration in the north-east was in larger crofts and closes and was often referred to as former woodland. The soil in this area is heavy clay; it would have been difficult to cultivate and may have been the last major area of woodland in the parish to be cleared. The only substantial area of woodland remaining within the parish in the 16th century was the 22 acres of North Hall Wood which was the lord's demesne. Ladyswood containing 37 acres of demesne woodland belonged to Walsham manor but was within Badwell Ash parish. A number of small groves amounted to another 20 acres. The total amount of wood seems inadequate to supply the timber required for the re-building of houses which took place in the 16th and 17th centuries but presumably the parish was well stocked with trees in hedges, on verges and on waste land. Every tenant had the right to fell and sell timber on his free or copyhold land for the building or repairing of his tenements and other buildings. It was also the custom for '...every tenant to fell stow cropp shred and plant in the ways and commons every man against his own ground for his own commodity and profit'. (Dodd 1974, 50). This custom seems to reflect the lack of woodland timber.

An account for Church House Manor for 1555-6 includes Thomas Seaman who lived at Westhall Manor and was one of Nicholas Bacon's manorial officials. He did not hold land in Walsham but leased fifty-four acres of the demesne near Allwood Green with a stock of cows



worth £30 (Dodd 1974, 42). Wills and inventories for the 16th century mention small numbers of cattle and some sheep. 'In 1577 small herds of cattle and milch cows may have been the main occupants of the pastures but, as in an earlier day, this would not have precluded entirely the small flocks of sheep, the swine or the geese and other fowl of the tenants'. (Dodd 1974, 43).

Cattle certainly outnumbered sheep by the early 17th century. The Herbage Book (SRO FL 646/3/20-2) lists ninety tenants who paid tithes in 1625 giving details of numbers and/or value of animals. Fifty-four people kept a total of nearly 500 cows and even more calves. Only twenty-two people paid tithes on sheep. Payment was also made on arable land known as 'ploughturne', meadow land in the Great Meadow and at Hartshall; eggs, geese, orchards, wood for hearths, hemp, some hops and a few pigs.

Of the thirty-five probate inventories available for the 17th century, nineteen listed cattle, two people having 4 each, seven having 5 or more, five having 10 or more and five having 20 or more. Leonard Nunn, a yeoman who died in 1668 kept 16 cows, 2 bulls and 6 heifers. In his dairy were 27 firkins (a firkin being c. 8 gallons) of butter valued at £21 12s and 102 cheeses valued at £10 10s. He also owned 6 horses, 7 sheep, pigs and many farming implements including a horse mill. George Complyn, another yeoman, whose inventory is also dated 1668 had a total of 19 cattle, 11 sheep, 7 horses and 5 pigs. He also had 105 cheeses.

The dairy herds continued into the 18th century; of the ten inventories available for this period seven people kept a total of approximately 85 cattle (some are priced instead of numbered). Two people had a total of 41 sheep and there was more evidence of horses, carts and carriages. There were many references to turnips, peas, beans and grain crops and most yards contained ploughs, harrows and other agricultural implements. The emphasis on arable farming was obviously well under way.

The maps of 1817, 1819 and 1842 show a landscape divided into small fields, very few more than 15 acres and most approximately of 6 acres. By 1842 1653 acres, nearly two-thirds of the parish, were arable; meadow and pasture accounted for 897 acres and wood 20 acres. This was almost the complete opposite of the situation in the 16th century when nearly three quarters of the land use was pastoral. The rapid rise in population which led to wet, heavy land such as Hartshall being cultivated in the middle ages, had recurred in the early 19th century with the same result, *i.e.* the need to grow more grain.

This century has seen the loss of ponds and hedges to make large fields to accommodate modern machinery in an intensive arable landscape. The reasons are economic rather than demographic, as in the early 14th and 19th centuries.

## V. Mills

An extract from the Inquisition Post Mortem of Robert de Valoynes in 1282 records two windmills held in Walsham valued at £1 13s 4d per annum (Powell 1910).

In 1317 two men were each fined 3d for grinding their corn somewhere other than at the mill of the lord (CR HA 504/1/1.3) and in 1343 Walter le Meller was accused of contempt for refusing to inform on those who milled away from the lord's mill (CR HA 504/1/4.31). Small hand-mills were clearly used throughout the parish, as evidenced by the fragments of lava querns found on a number of sites.

The occupational surname continued, for in 1395 John Mellor was granted a windmill for a term of three years paying ground corn as rent. He was to 'find for the sails of the said mill sufficient cloth at his own expense, and he shall place cogs and staves on the back of the mill and on the trundles of the said mill' (CR HA 504/1/9.11).

'Estmelne' and 'Estmellefeld' are referred to in early 14th-century court rolls but the location is not revealed. The first reference to Westmill is in 1338 (CR HA 504/1/4.12); it can be placed on the map from its description in the *Terratorium* and was located during fieldwalking (Blocks 18/19 FB 31.8). Of the numerous references to Millfield in court rolls from 1316 onwards, the majority appear to apply to the section described in Block 9. The Field Book entry 'it is said that a Wyndemylne sometymes stode' suggests that it was within the memory of the tenants of 1577; perhaps the mound survived until then. The parcel of land was described as the Myll Mount in the *Terratorium* and medieval sherds were found there.

A post-mill at Crownland Road (Grid Ref: TM 0058 7036) is shown on Hodkinson's map of 1783 and also on the 6" OS map of 1881. No sign of it survives. The house which accompanied the mill is now known as Crownland House.

A second post-mill, in Wattisfield Road, first shown on the 1817 parish map was demolished in 1917 but the roundhouse is still retained. The present mill was built in 1939 and enlarged in 1954.

One other reference to a Mill Field concerns the croft behind Kembaldes tenement (Block 8). There is no mention of a mill here in the surveys; it is marked on the 1817 parish map only and may refer to the site of the tenement of Nicholas Kembald the miller of the 14th century.

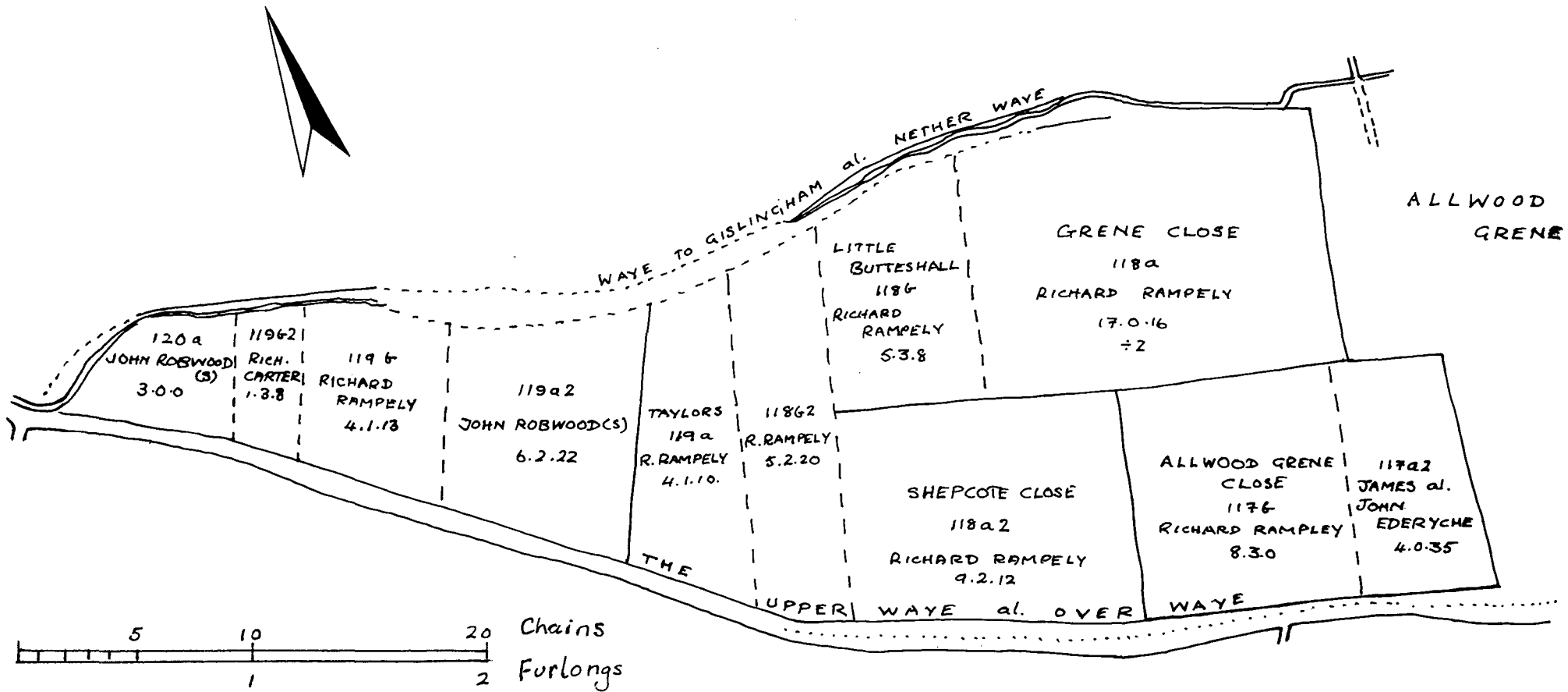
### Maltings

Barley to the value of nearly £30 per annum was grown in Walsham in the late 13th century (Powell 1910). There is a reference to organised malting in 1343 when a villein was heavily fined for failing to close the oast (house) allowing malt to be stolen (CR HA 504/1/4.30).

Three maltings were in operation during the last century. One with an adjoining Kiln Field is shown, close to the present cemetery, on the 1817 parish map. The premises of William Cornwell, who operated a maltings in Palmer Street near Four Ashes are shown on the tithe map. The house and premises of John Miller junior are shown on the tithe map and Whites directory of 1844 lists him as a corn-merchant, maltster, ale and porter brewer. These maltings were situated at the corner of Wattisfield Road and are now converted into dwellings.

# BLOCK 1

48



1 chain = 4 rods = 22 yds.

Field measurements given in 'acres, rods and perches';  
but 'rod' in the Field Book must mean 'rood', i.e. 40 perches.

Figure 12 1577 Survey Block 1

BLOCK 2

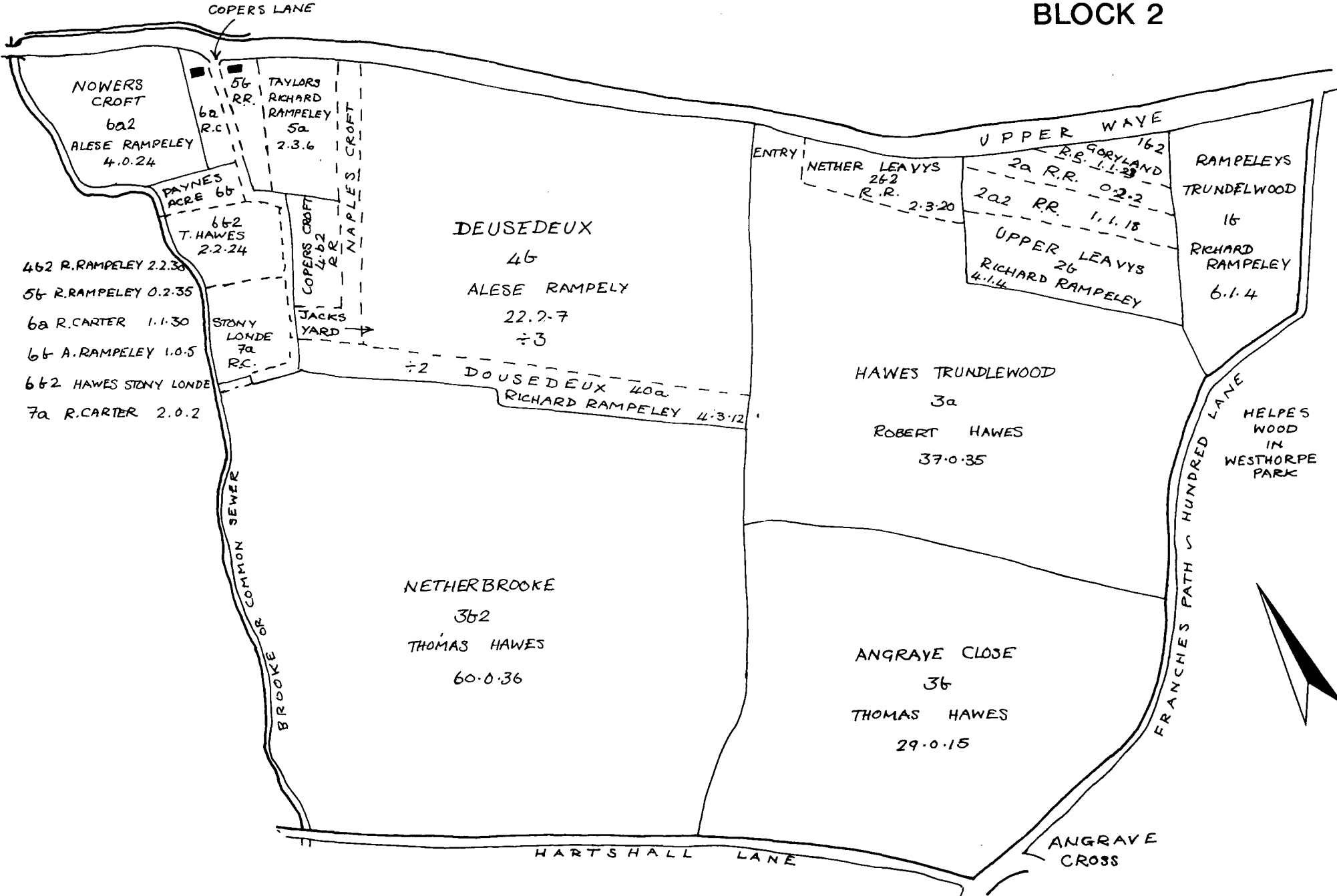
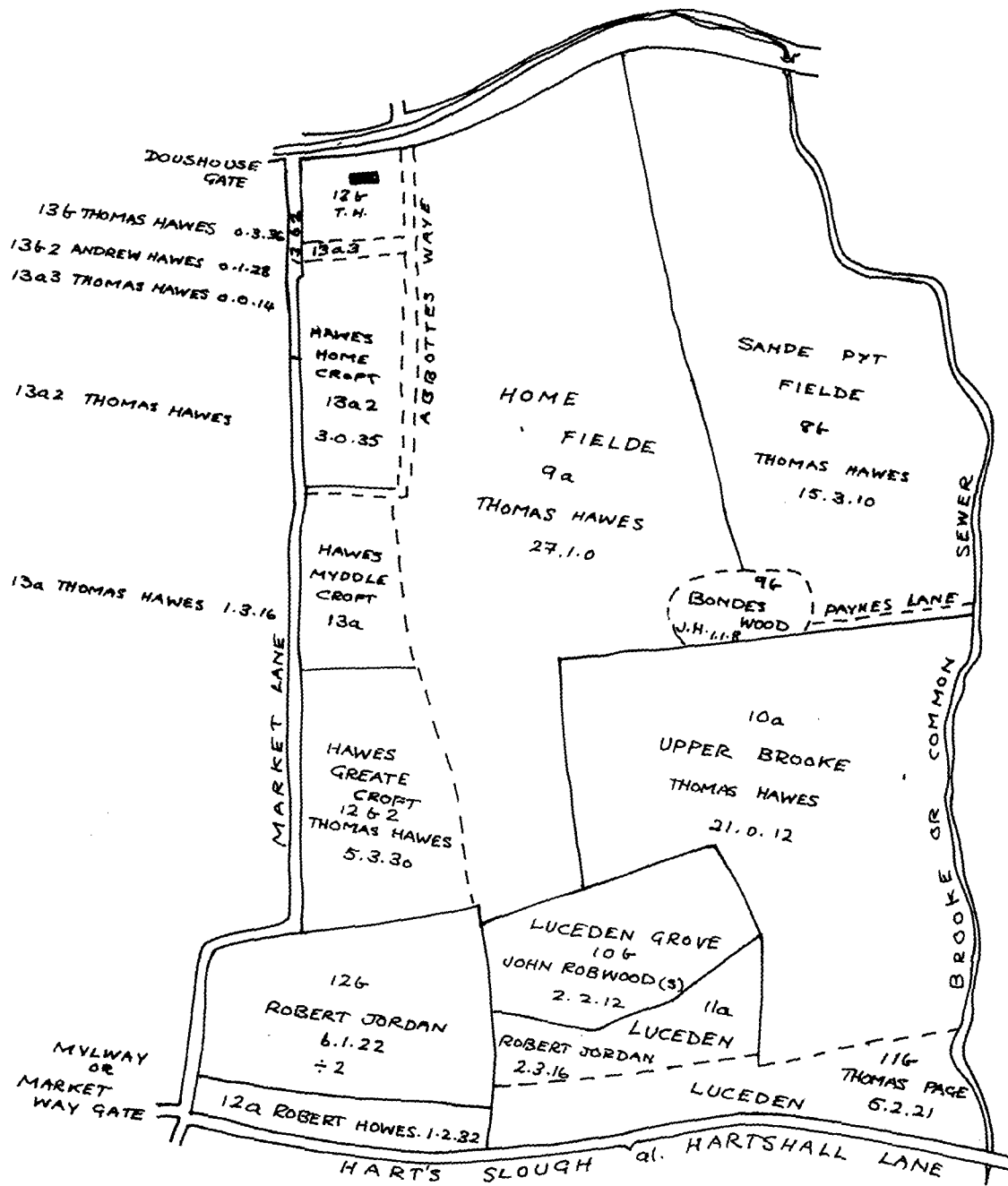


Figure 13 1577 Survey Block 2

# BLOCK 3



50

Figure 14 1577 Survey Block 3

BLOCKS 4,6

- 14a2 J. ROBWOOD (S) 0.0.12
- 14a3 J. ROBWOOD (S) 1.1.0
- 16a A. HAWES 0.3.26
- 16b J. ROBWOOD (S) 0.2.18
- 16b2 J. ROBWOOD (S) 0.2.0
- 17a J. ROBWOOD (S) 0.0.38 1/2
- 17b3 J. ROBWOOD (S) 0.1.25
- 18a J. JESSUP 0.3.6
- 19a3 J. JESSUP 0.0.12
- 19a R. LUDMAN 0.0.12
- 20a3 S. HAWES 0.1.8
- 21a S. HARRYS 0.3.8
- 21a4 S. HARRYS 0.0.13
- 22a J. CARTER 0.1.8
- 22a3 J. LYNGE 0.2.10
- 22b3 N. GROCER 0.0.21
- 22b J. LYNGE 0.0.16
- 24a N. GROCER 0.3.12
- 24b J. LYNGE 0.2.14
- 26b J. LYNGE 0.2.30
- 26b S. HARRIS 1.3.10

- 286 J. CARTER: WEDERS. 0.1.5.
- 28b2 J. CARTER: GODFREYS Pythe 0.1.24
- 28b4 J. CARTER: 0.2.0
- 29a J. LYNGE 0.2.8

- 16b3 J. ROBWOOD (S) 0.1.18
- 19b3 R. LUDMAN 0.0.15

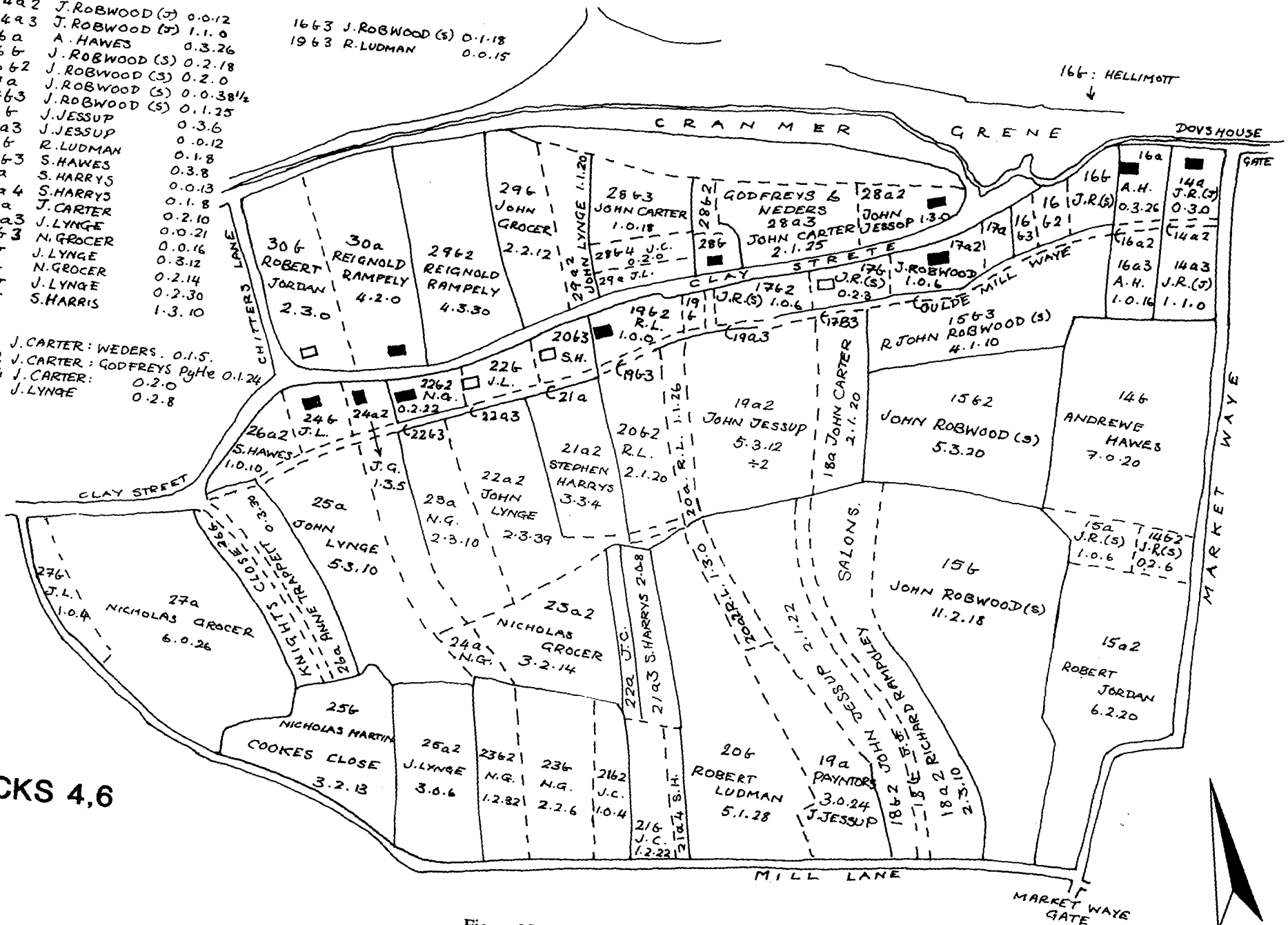


Figure 15 1577 Survey Blocks 4, 6

# BLOCKS 5,7,30

52

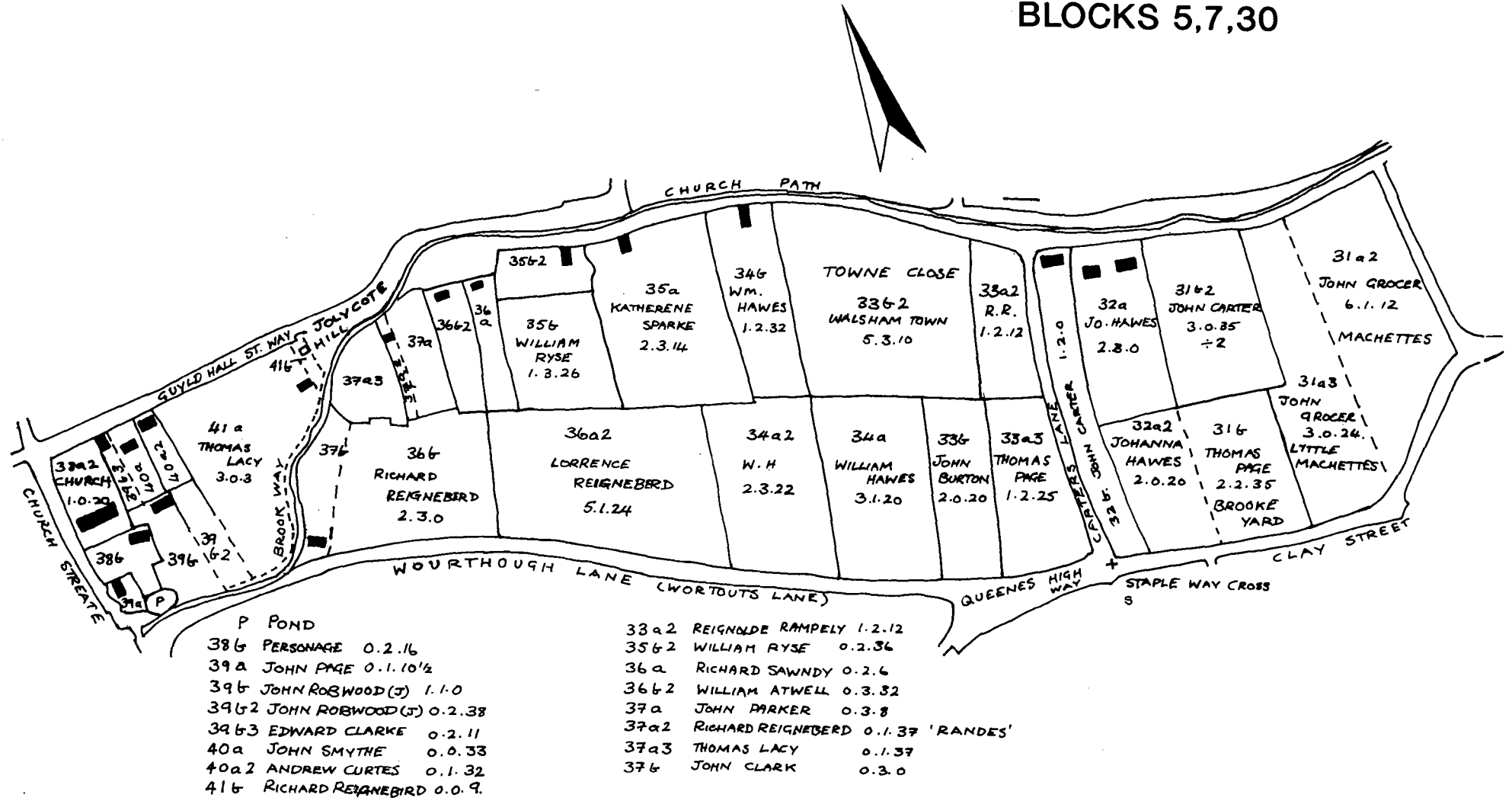


Figure 16 1577 Survey Blocks 5, 7, 30

# BLOCK 8

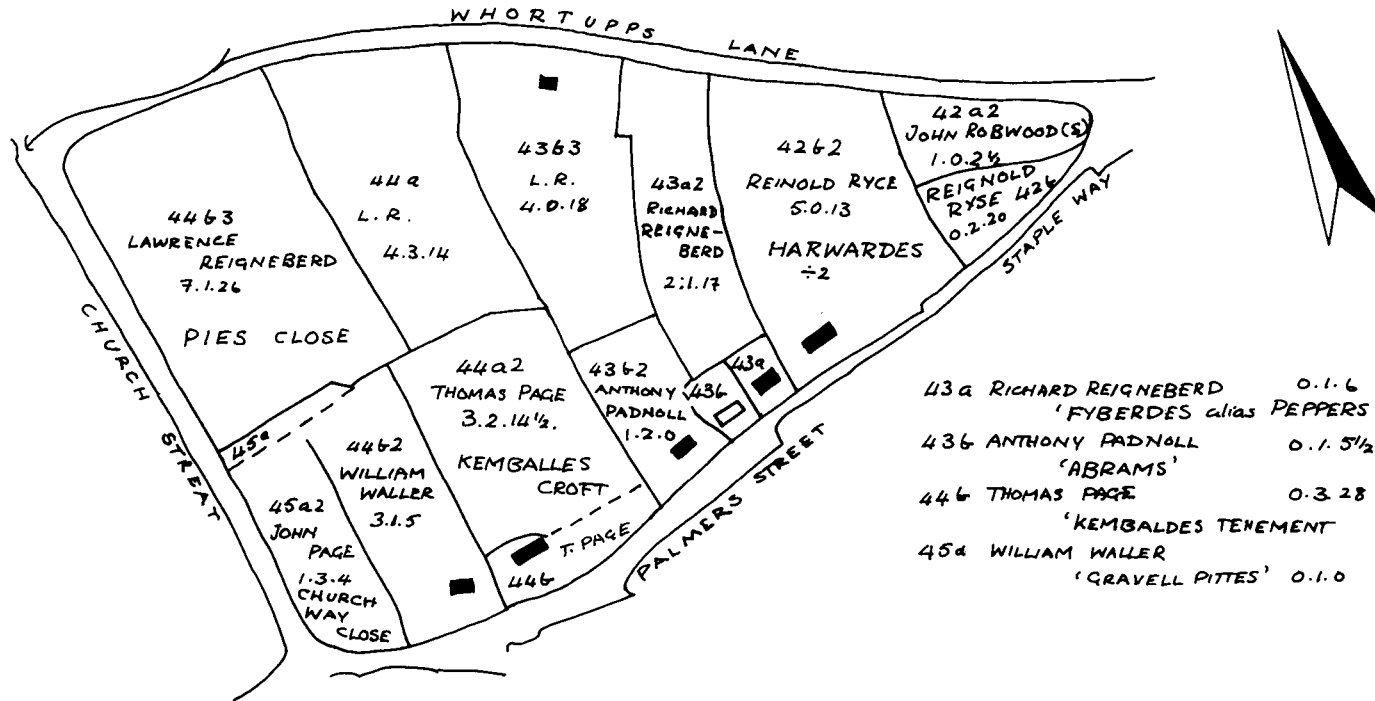
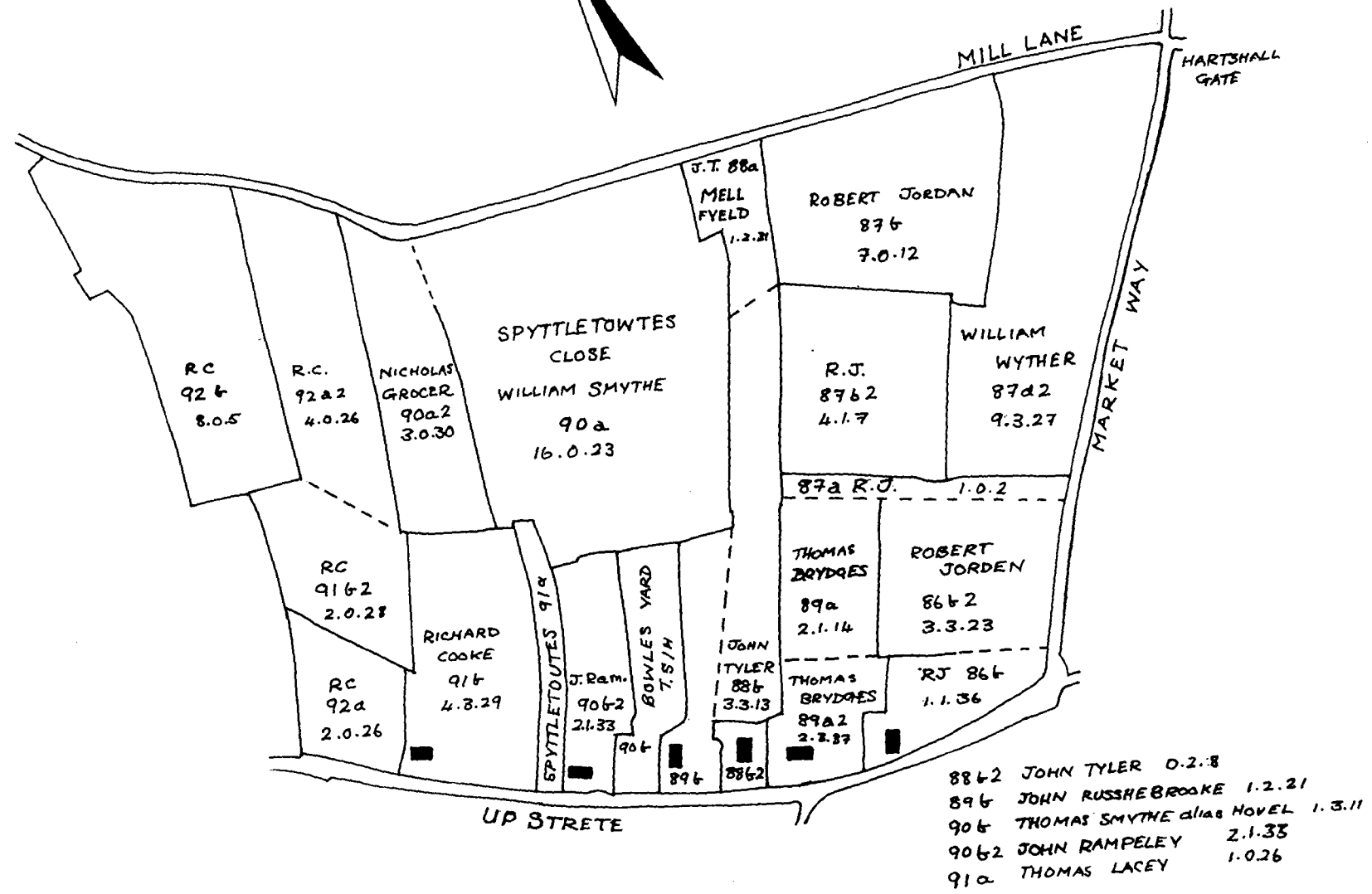


Figure 17 1577 Survey Block 8

# BLOCK 9 (East Part)

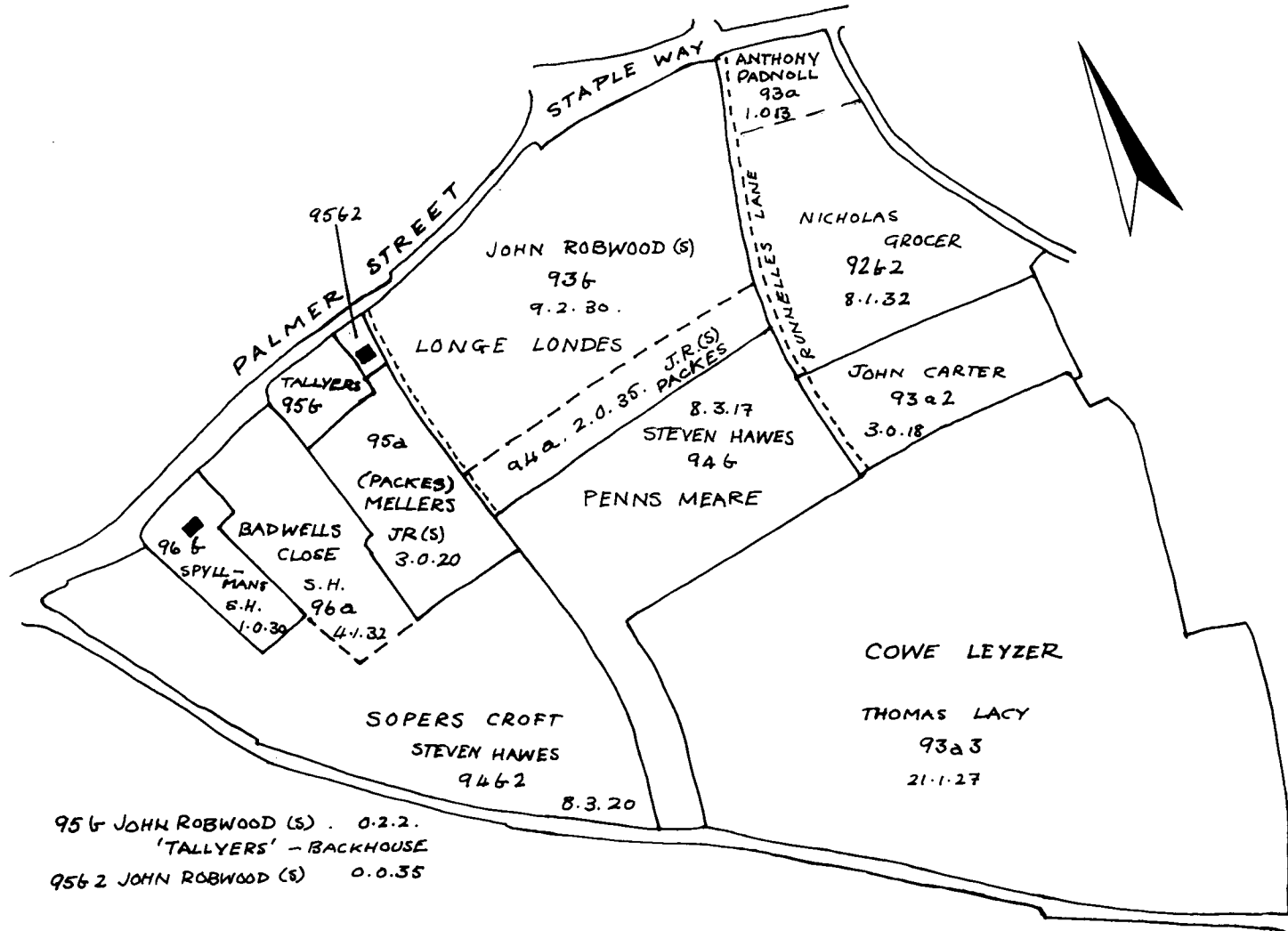


54

Figure 18 1577 Survey Block 9 (East part)



# BLOCK 9 (West Part)



55

Figure 19 1577 Survey Block 9 (West part)

# BLOCKS 10,11

56

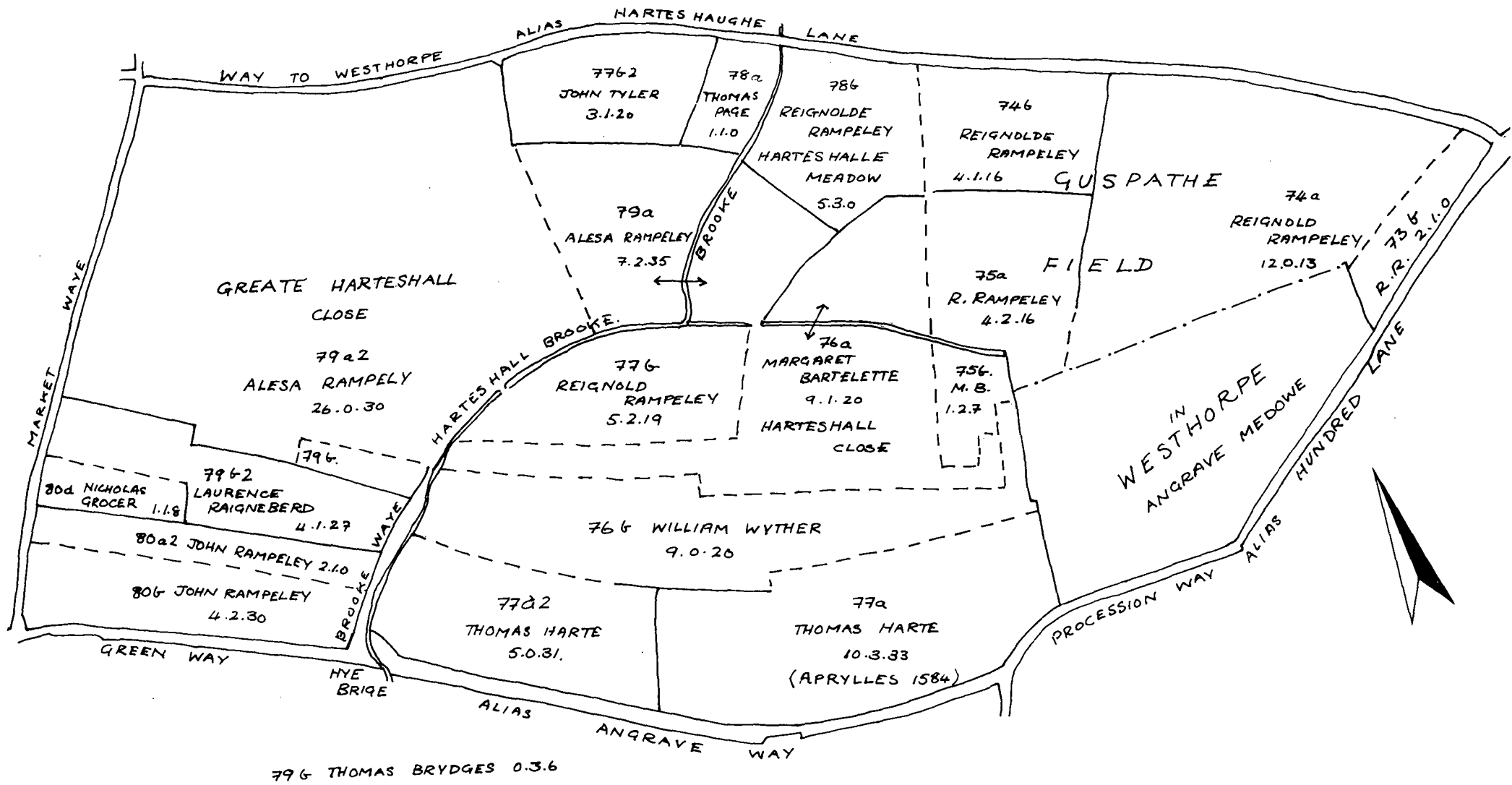
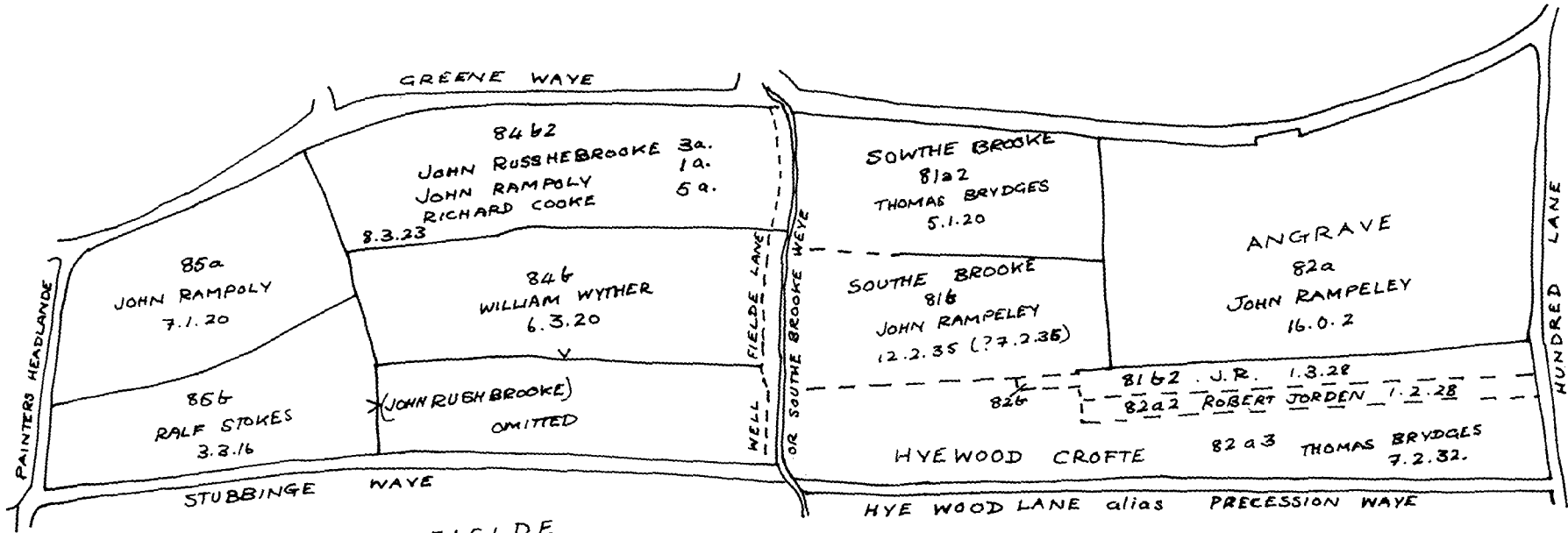


Figure 20 1577 Survey Blocks 10,11

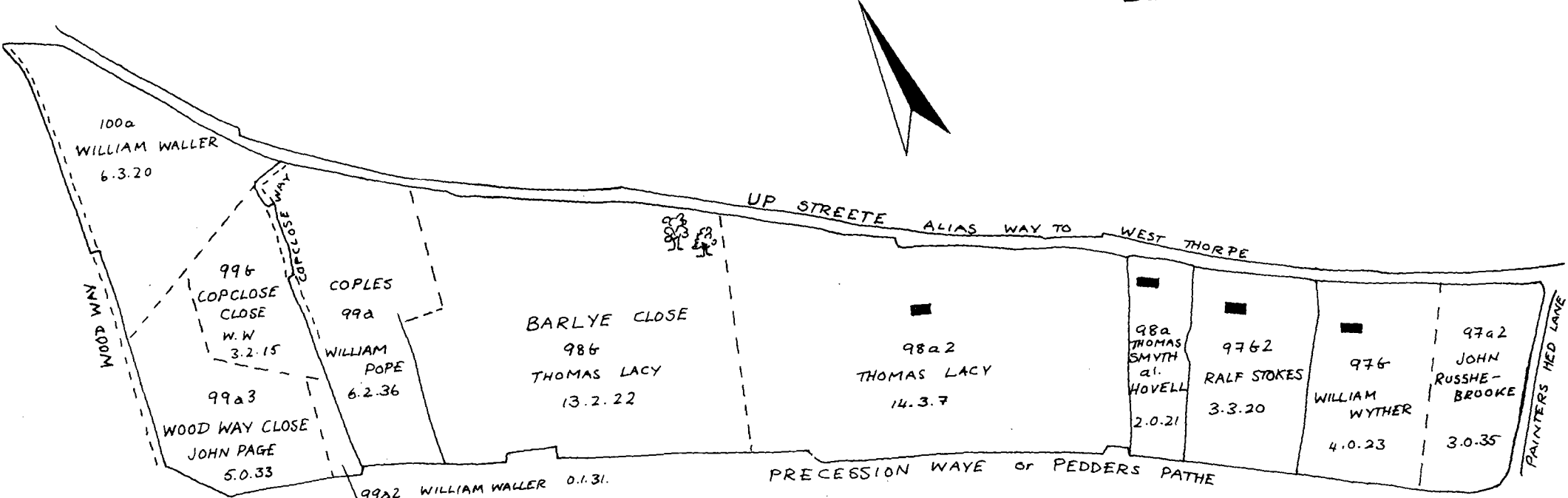
# BLOCKS 12, 13, 14



81b2 ANGRAVE PYTLE  
 82a2 HEWOOD PYTLE  
 82b THOMAS BRYDGES 0.0.10  
 83a - 83b in Badwell Ash.

Figure 21 1577 Survey Blocks 12, 13, 14

BLOCK 15



58

Figure 22 1577 Survey Block 15

BLOCK 16

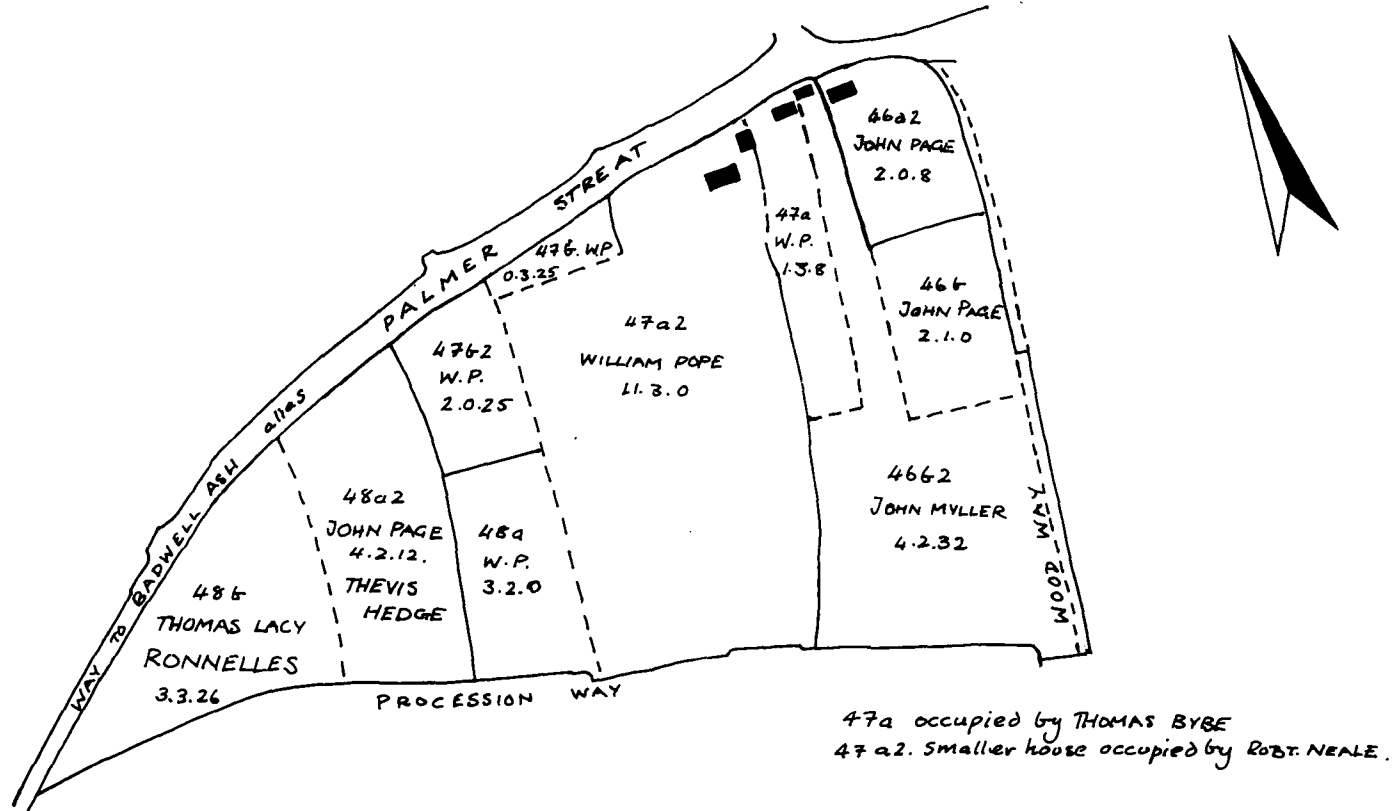


Figure 23 1577 Survey Block 16

# BLOCK 17

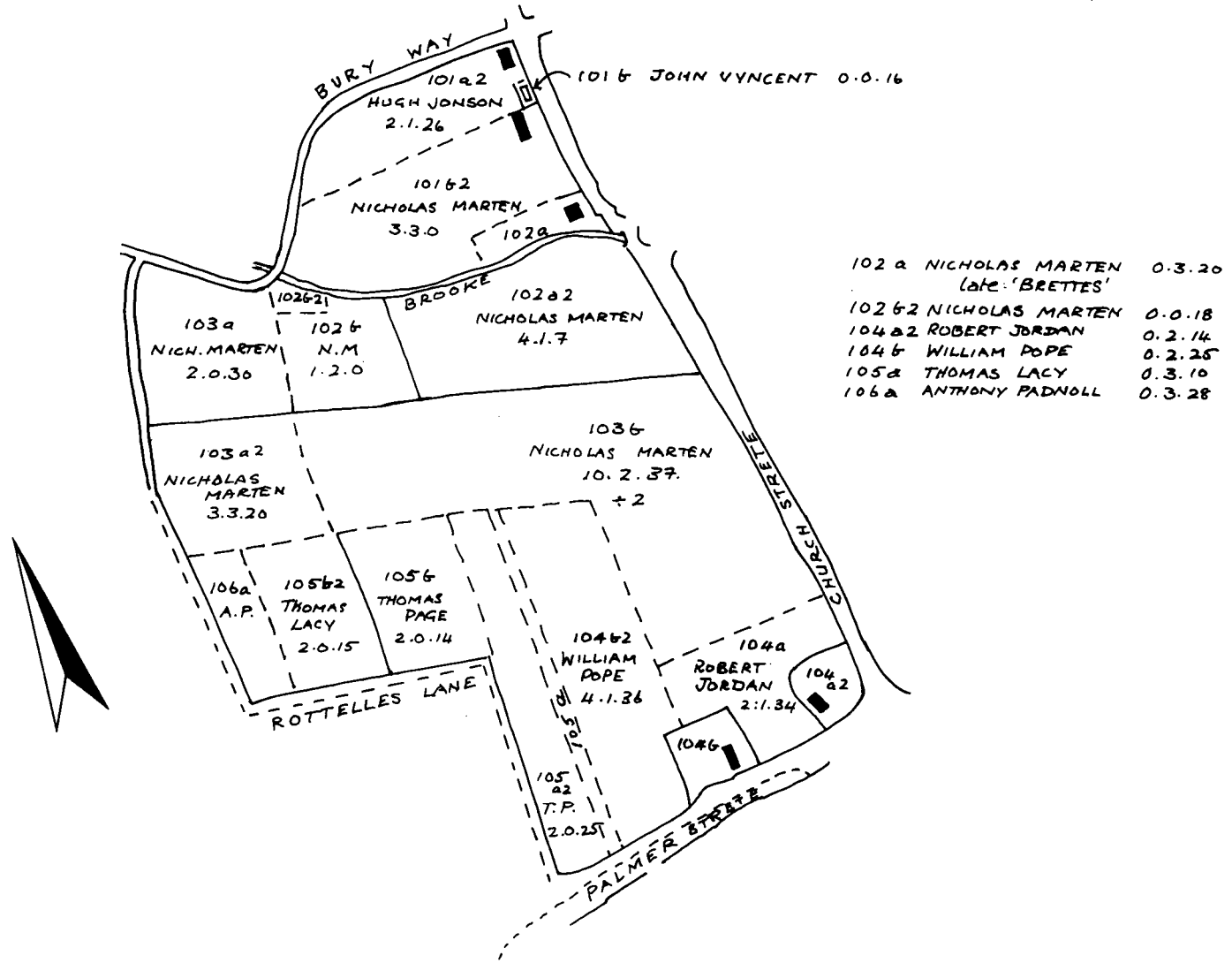


Figure 24 1577 Survey Block 17

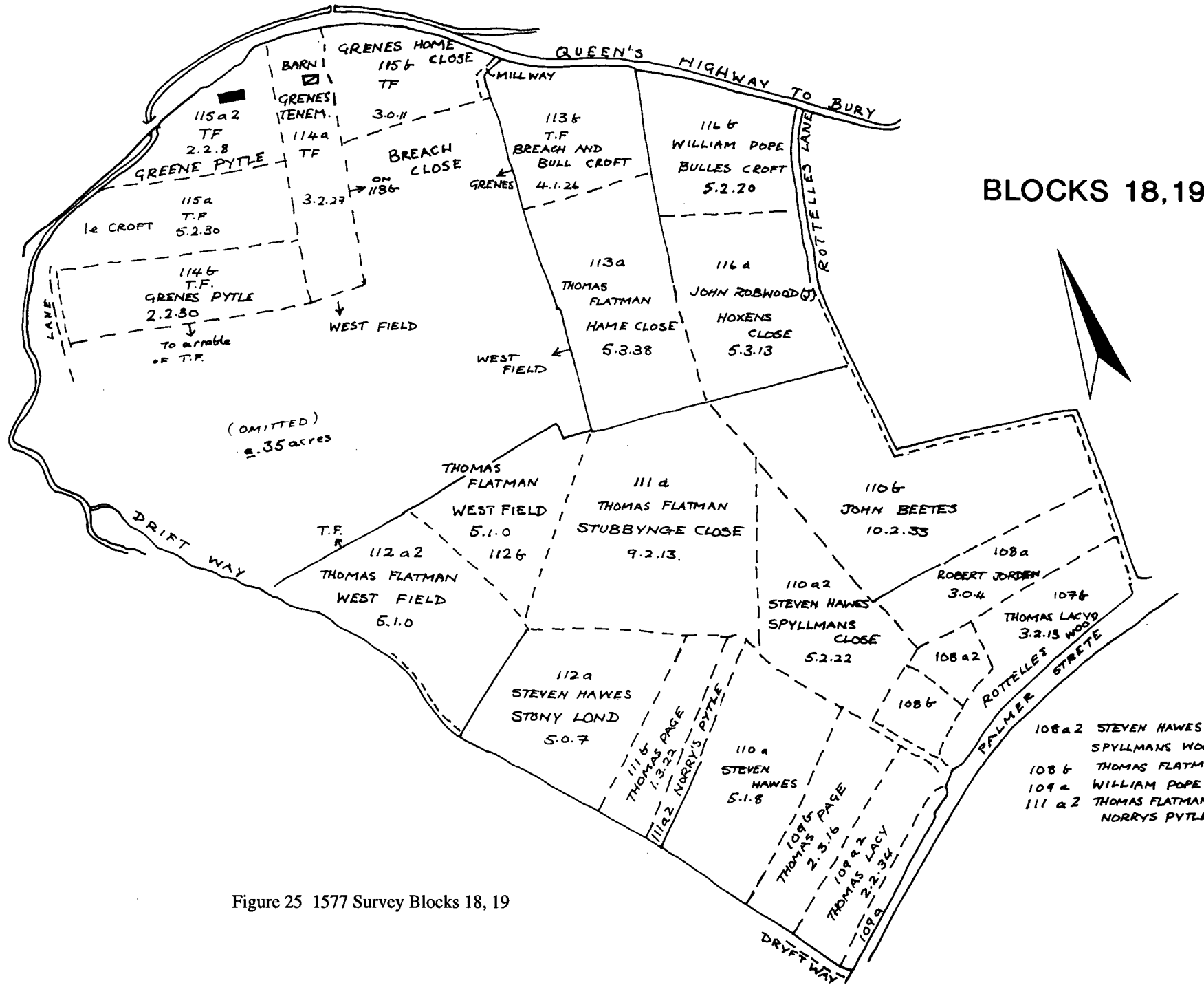
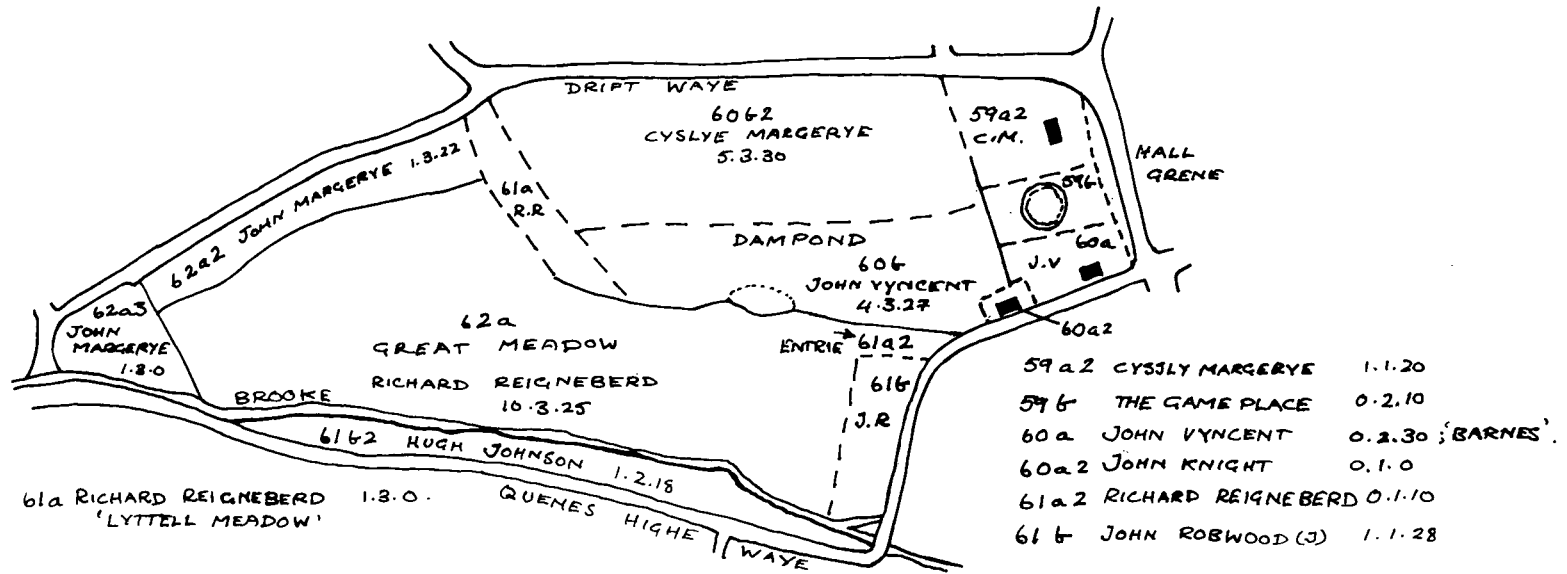


Figure 25 1577 Survey Blocks 18, 19

# BLOCK 20



62



Figure 26 1577 Survey Block 20



# BLOCKS 21,22,24

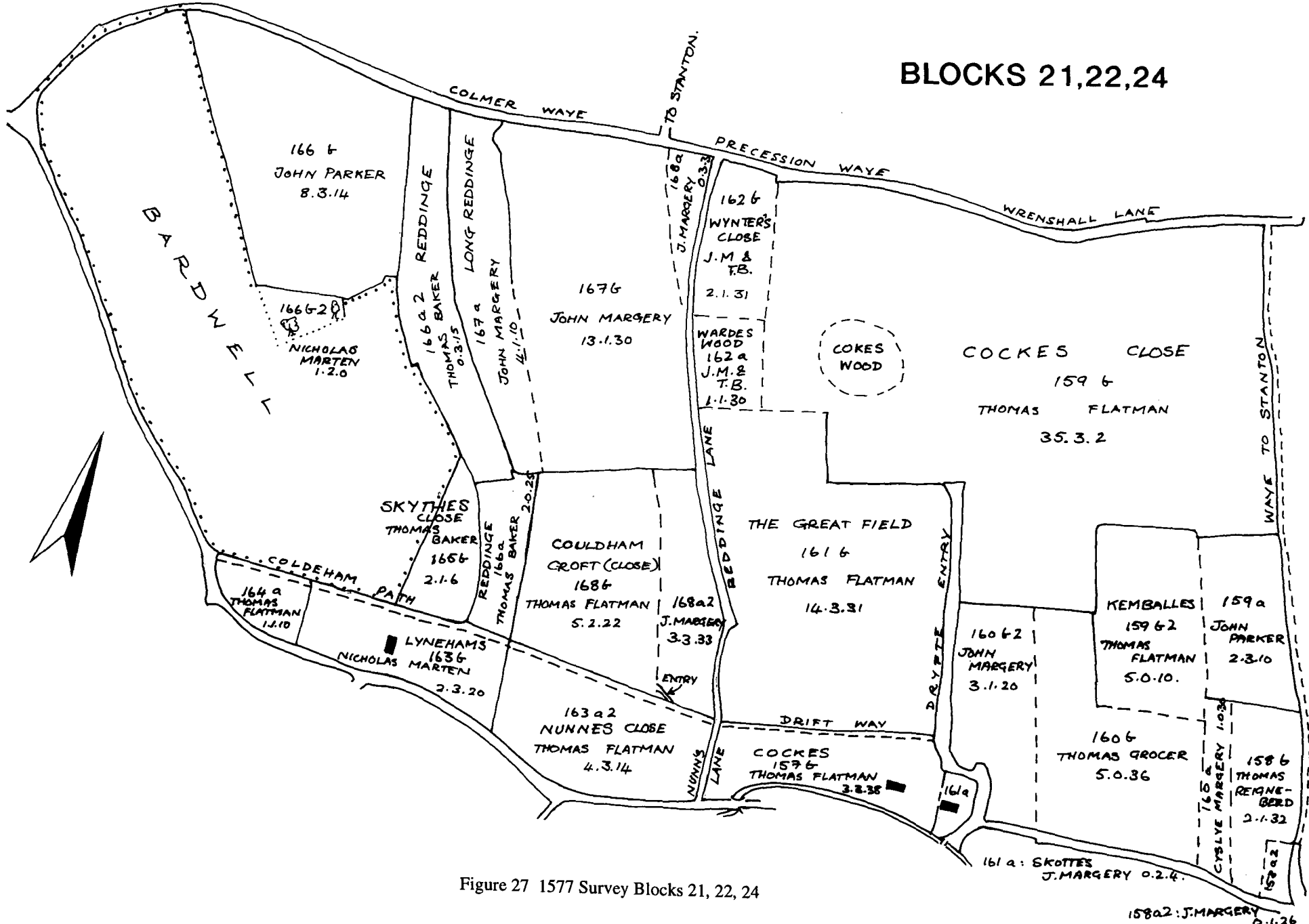


Figure 27 1577 Survey Blocks 21, 22, 24

# BLOCK 23

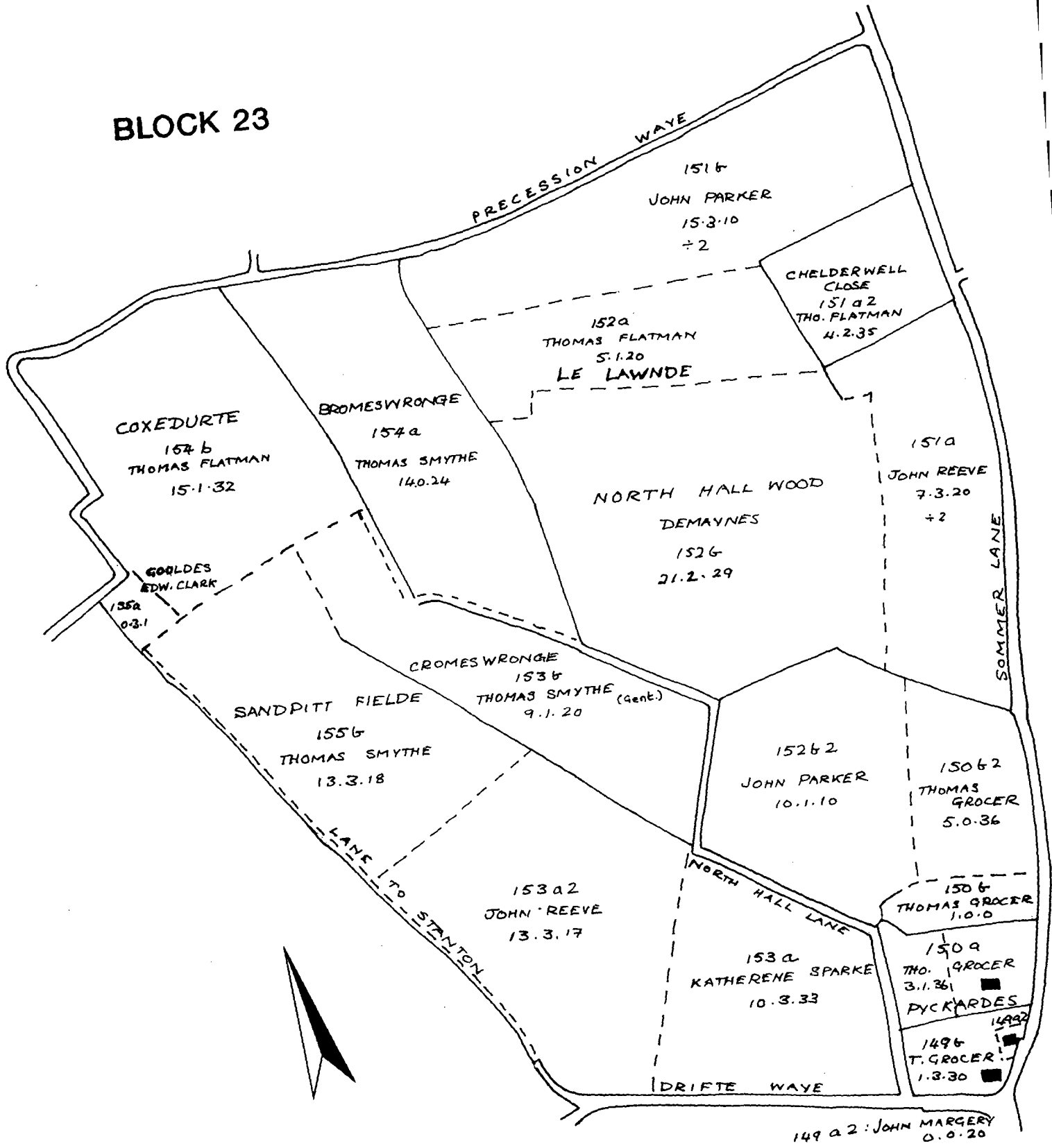
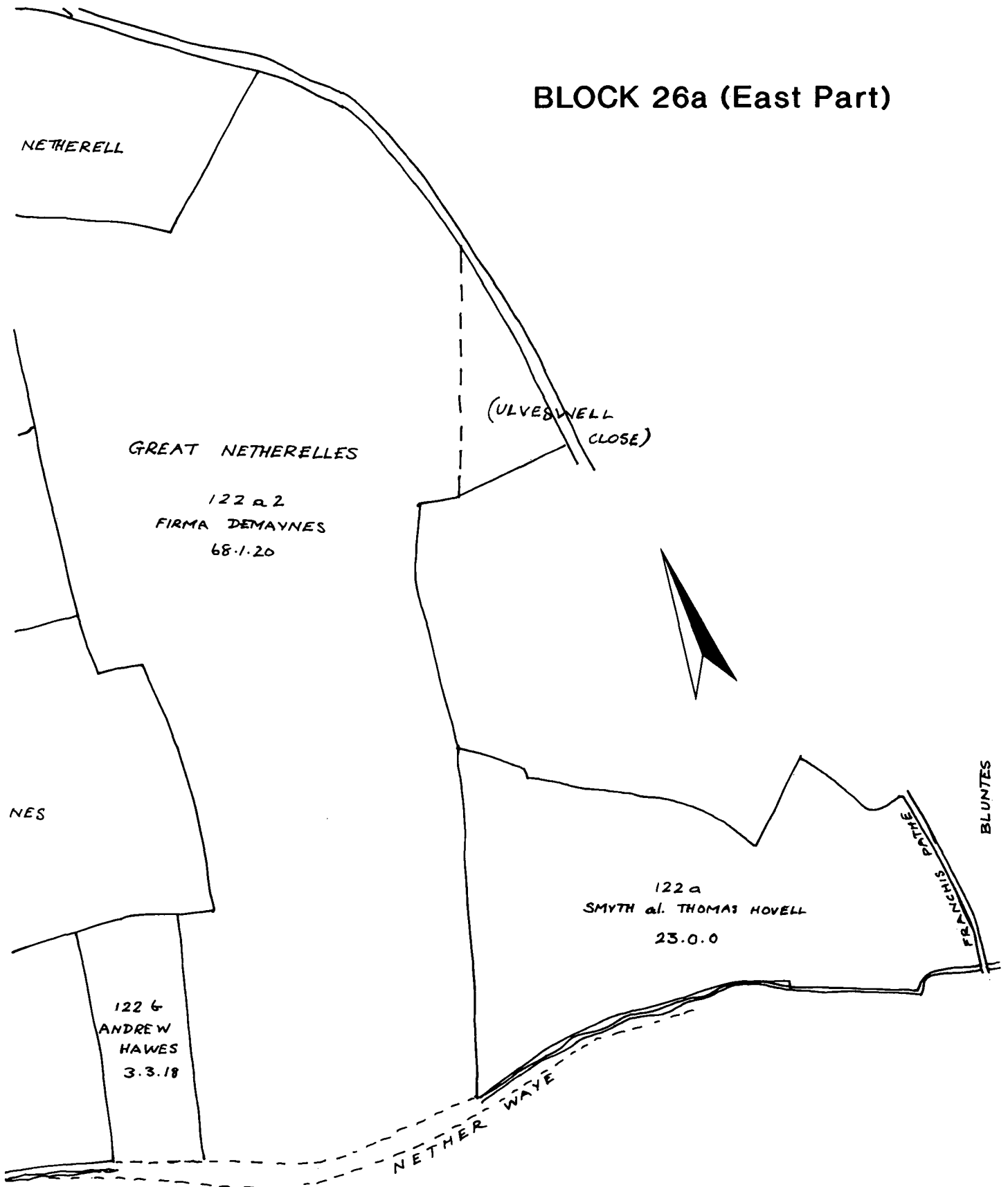


Figure 28 1577 Survey Block 23

# BLOCK 26a (East Part)



- 123 b MICHELL FYNBOWE 2.0.16
- 125 a 2 PETER FULLER 1.0.12
- 125 b RICHARD RAMPELY 1.1.0

Figure 29 1577 Survey Block 26a (East part)

# BLOCK 26a (West Part)

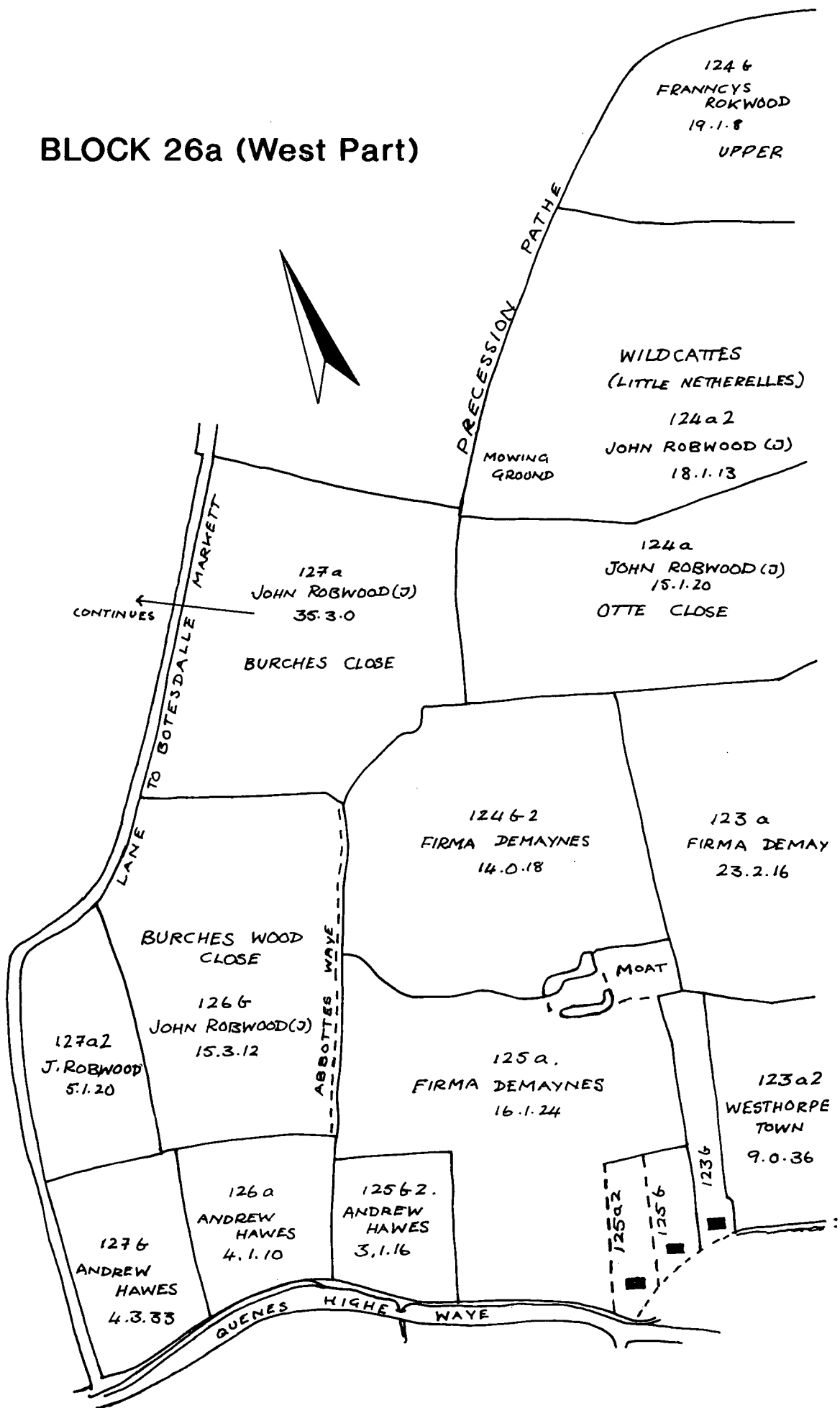
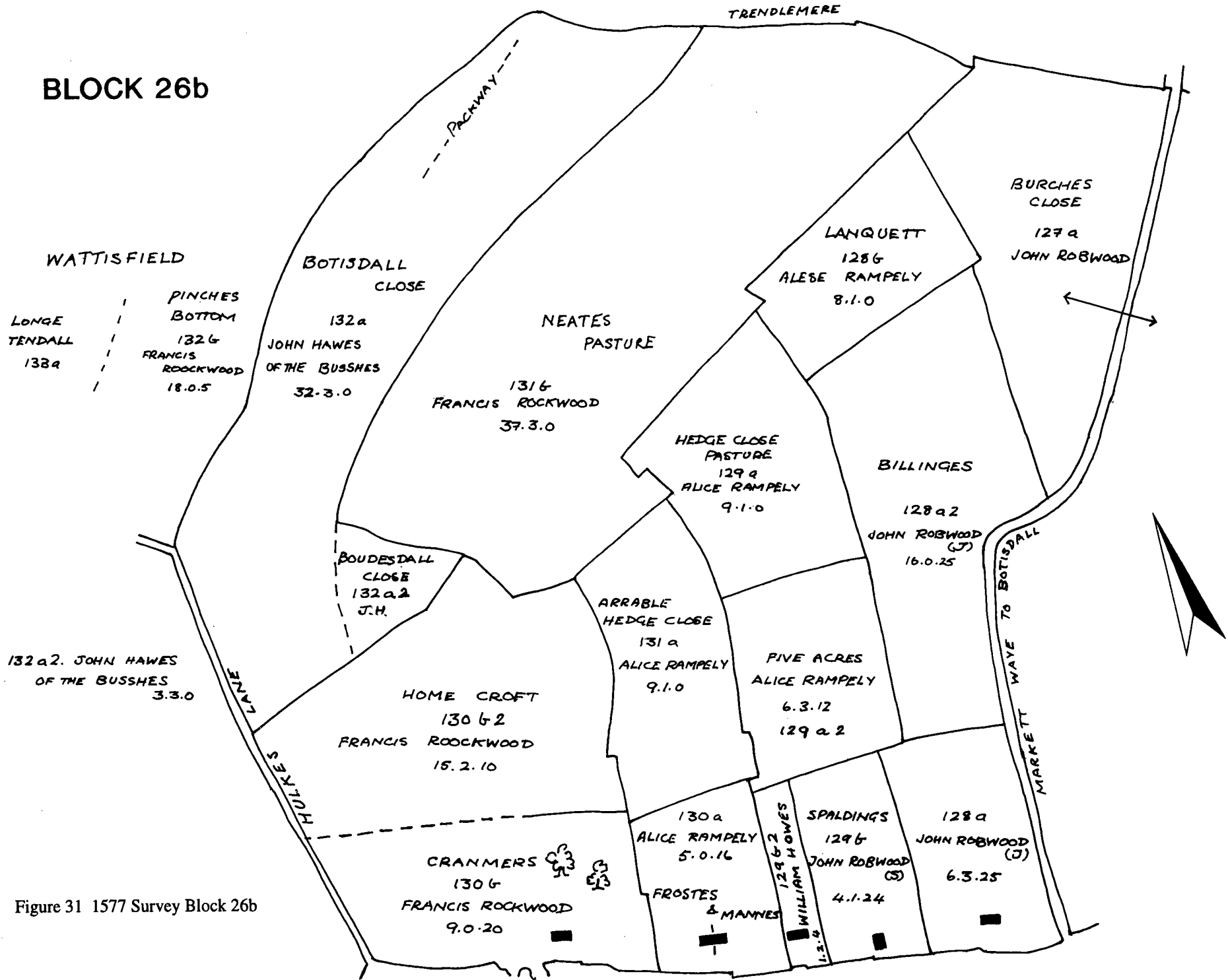


Figure 30 1577 Survey Block 26a (West part)

# BLOCK 26b



67

Figure 31 1577 Survey Block 26b

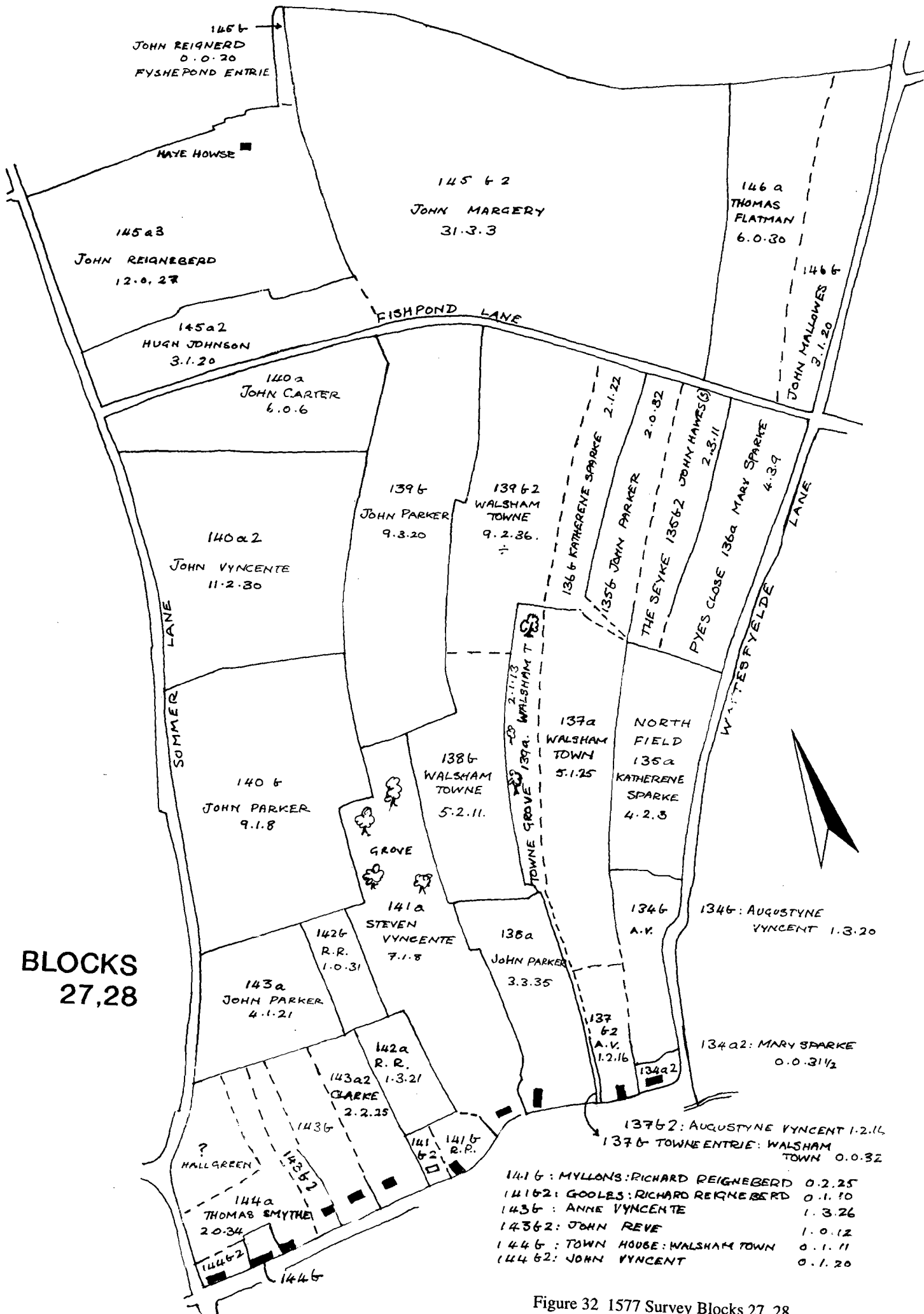


Figure 32 1577 Survey Blocks 27, 28

# BLOCKS 29, 35

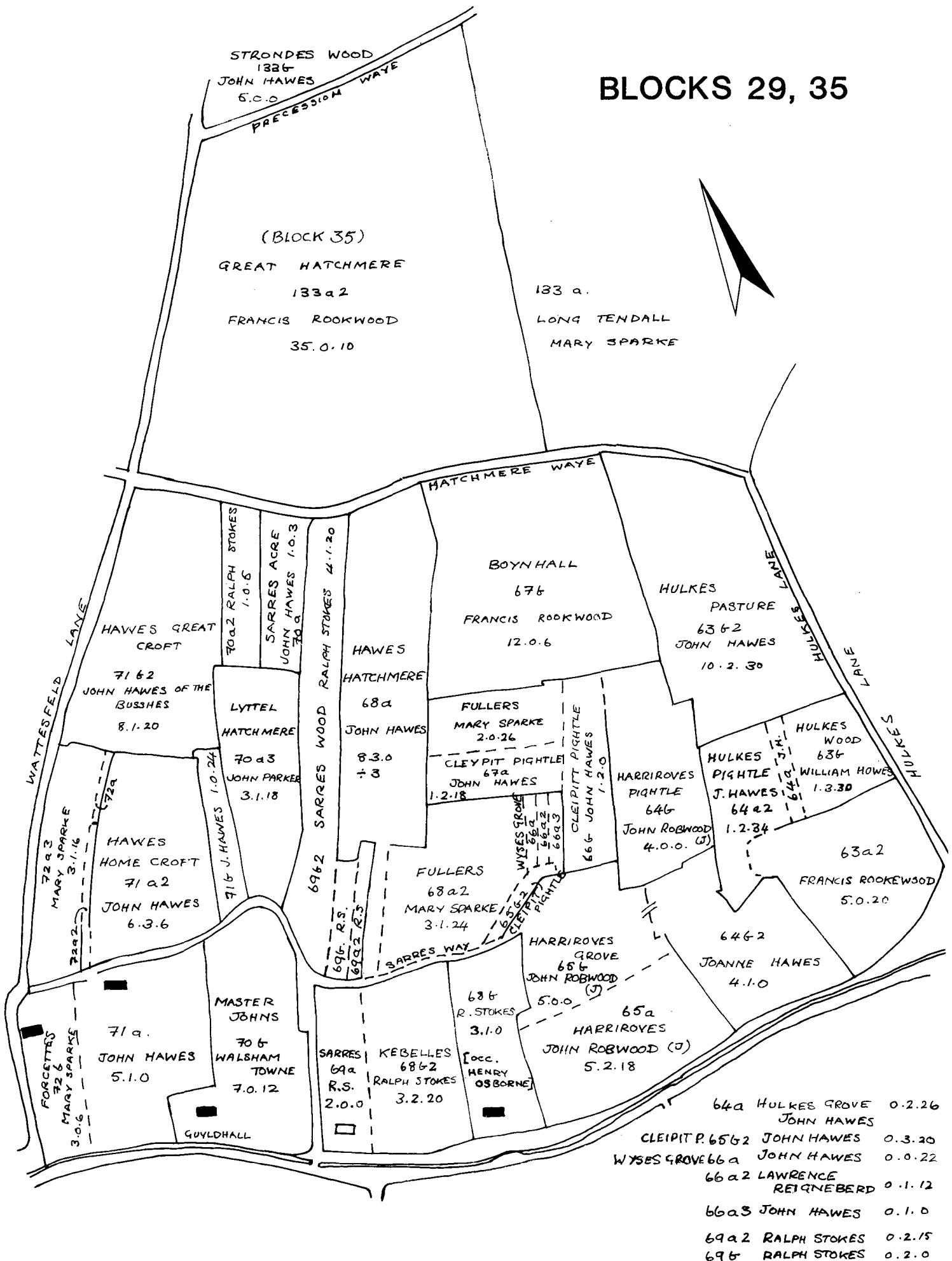


Figure 33 1577 Survey Block 29, including Block 35 (Hatchmere)

# BLOCK 31

70

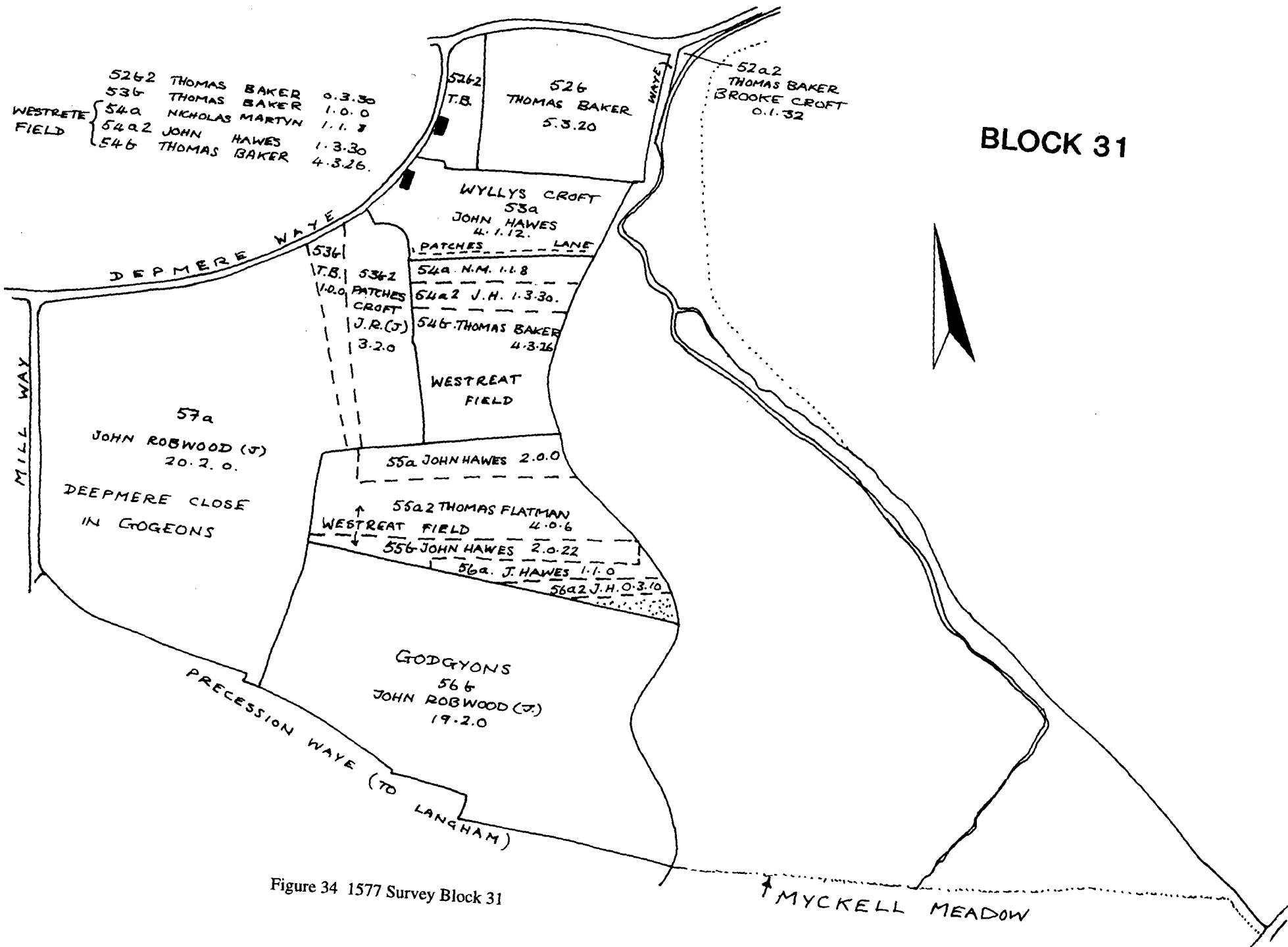


Figure 34 1577 Survey Block 31



# BLOCKS 31(part),32,33

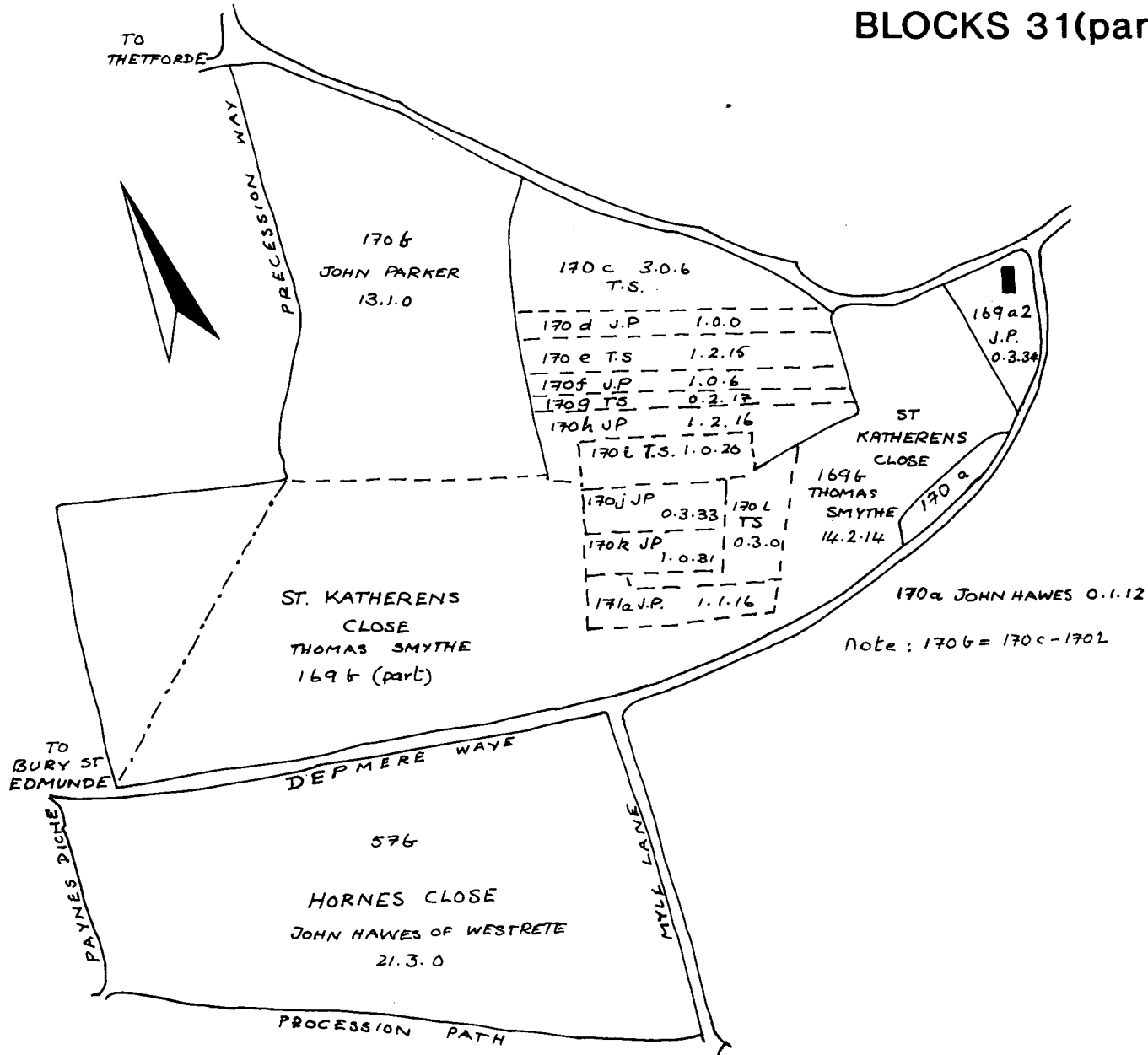


Figure 35 1577 Survey Blocks 31 (part), 32, 33

# BLOCK 34

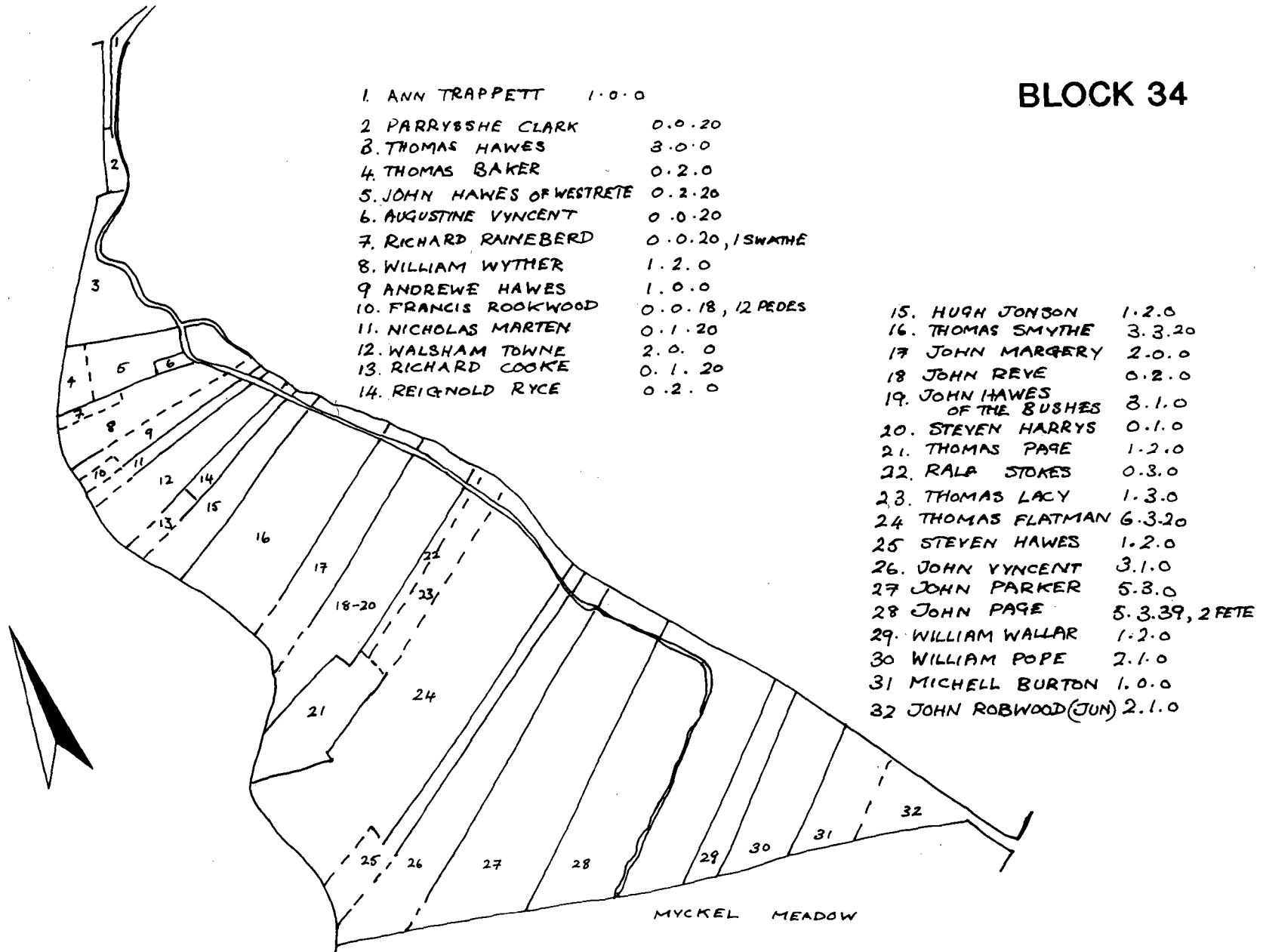
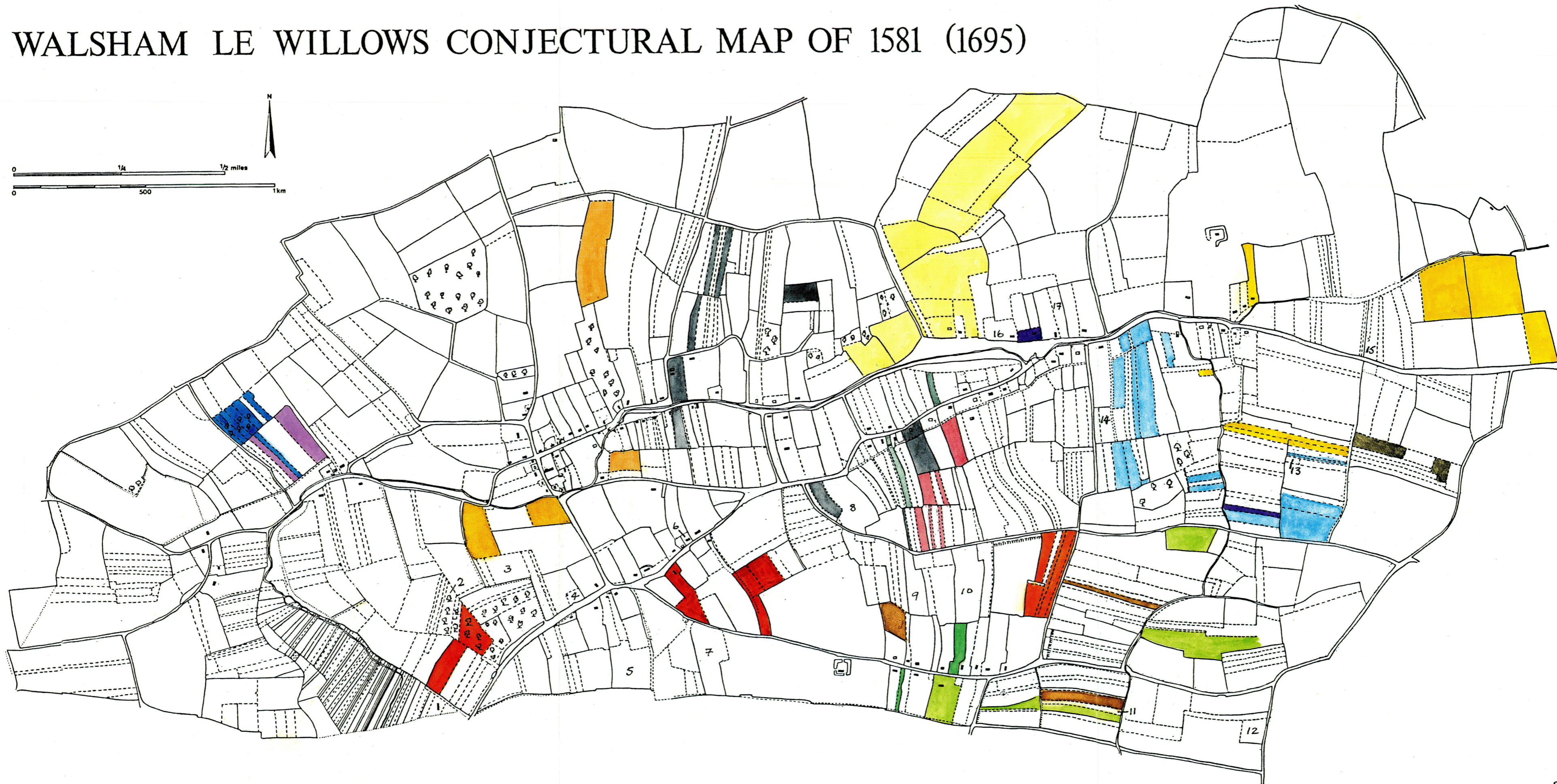
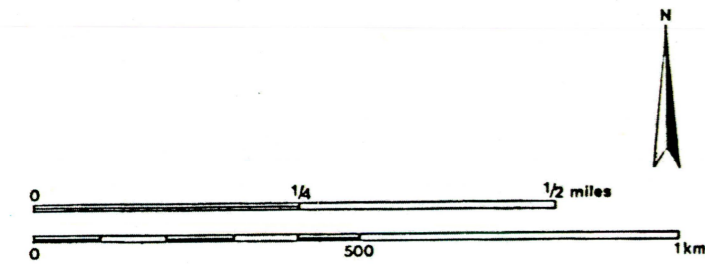


Figure 36 1577 Survey Block 34

# WALSHAM LE WILLOWS CONJECTURAL MAP OF 1581 (1695)

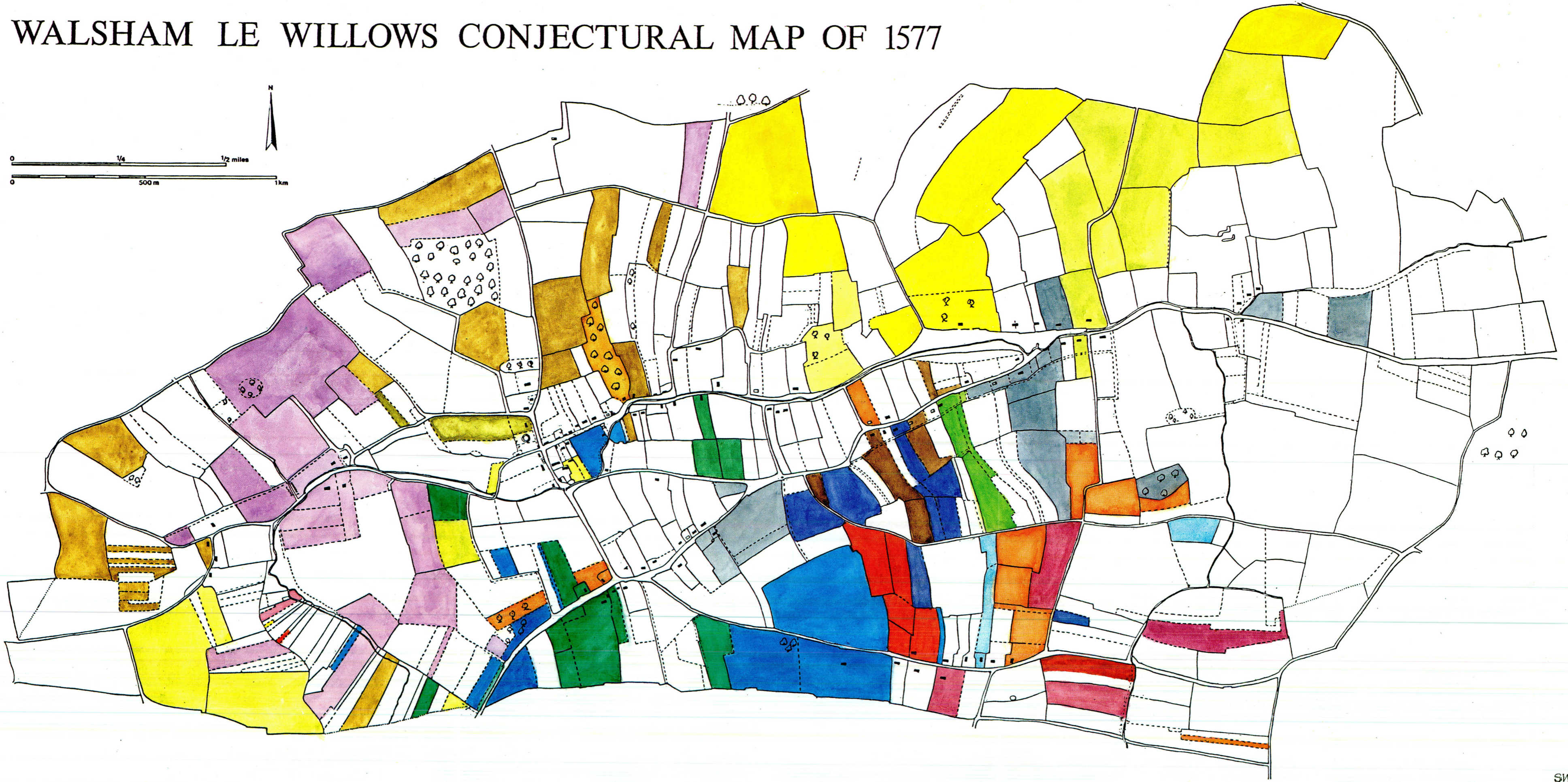
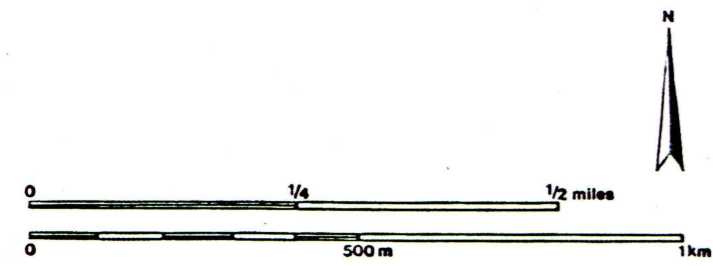


SADDS	HOLMES	OLDTUFT	SPYLLMANS	FRAUNCEYS	EBELLS	WARDES	PAYNES	ERMITTS	VINCENTS	CRANMER	GRYMSBYS	LEVES	TYPTOTTS	DROGES	MANNERS	SWYFTS

Figure 37 Medieval tenements named in 1581 *Terratorium*

SW

# WALSHAM LE WILLOWS CONJECTURAL MAP OF 1577



ROBWOOD, (T)	ROOKWOOD	JORDAN	VINCENT, S.	COOK	WYTHOR	FLATMAN	LACY	GROVER, N.	TYLER	HAWES, W.	POPE	LUDMAN	MARGERY, C.	PARKER	LYNCE	ROBWOOD, (S)
--------------	----------	--------	-------------	------	--------	---------	------	------------	-------	-----------	------	--------	-------------	--------	-------	--------------

Figure 38 Holders of the lands in 1577; a selection of tenants

# WALSHAM LE WILLOWS CONJECTURAL MAP OF 1577



Figure 39 Conjectural map of 1577 with arable and pasture indicated

# WALSHAM LE WILLOWS CONJECTURAL MAP OF 1581 (1695)



Figure 40 Conjectural map of 1581 (medieval sources); with arable and pasture indicated

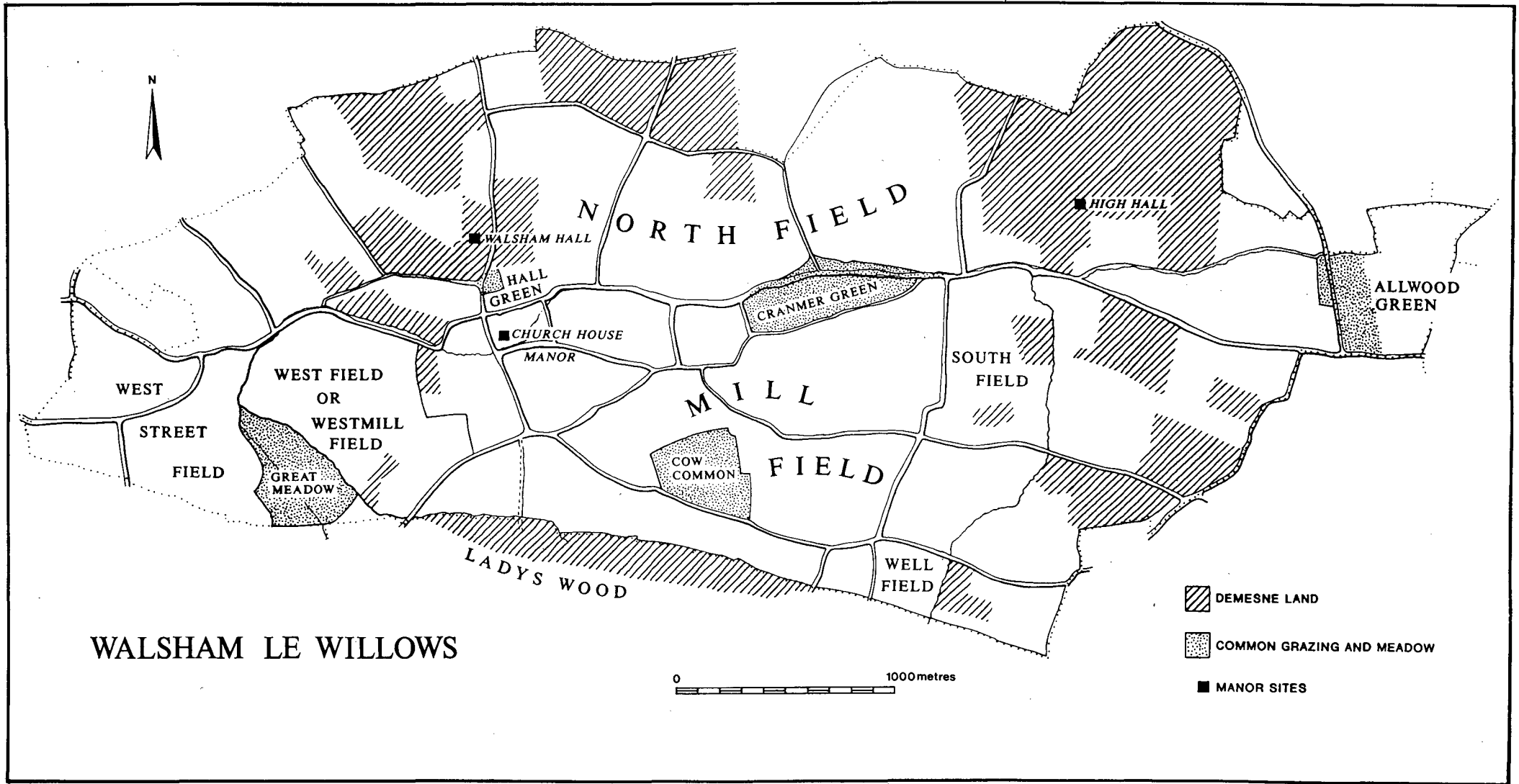


Figure 41 Conjectural map of the open field system and demesne land

# WALSHAM LE WILLOWS CONJECTURAL MAP OF 1577

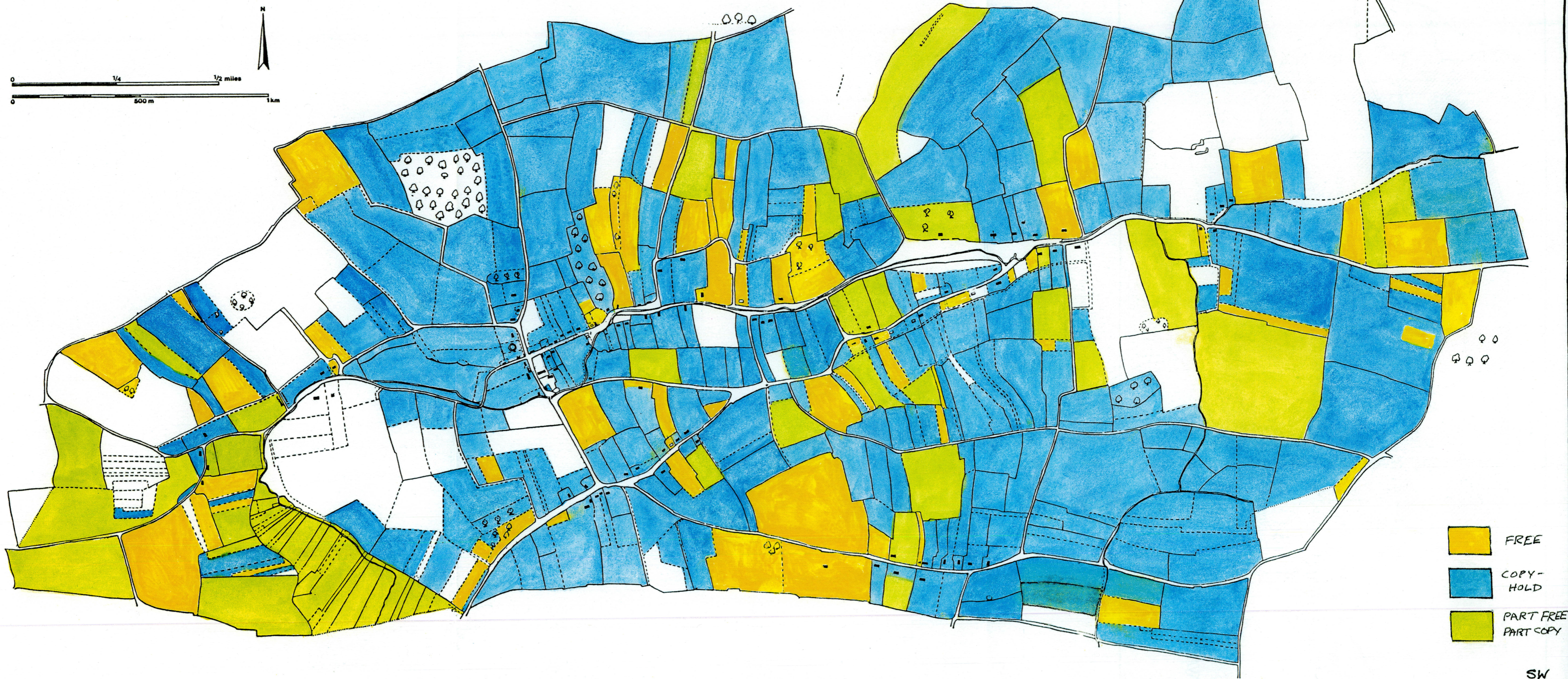


Figure 42 Free and copyhold land, 1577



# WALSHAM LE WILLOWS CONJECTURAL MAP OF 1581 (1695)

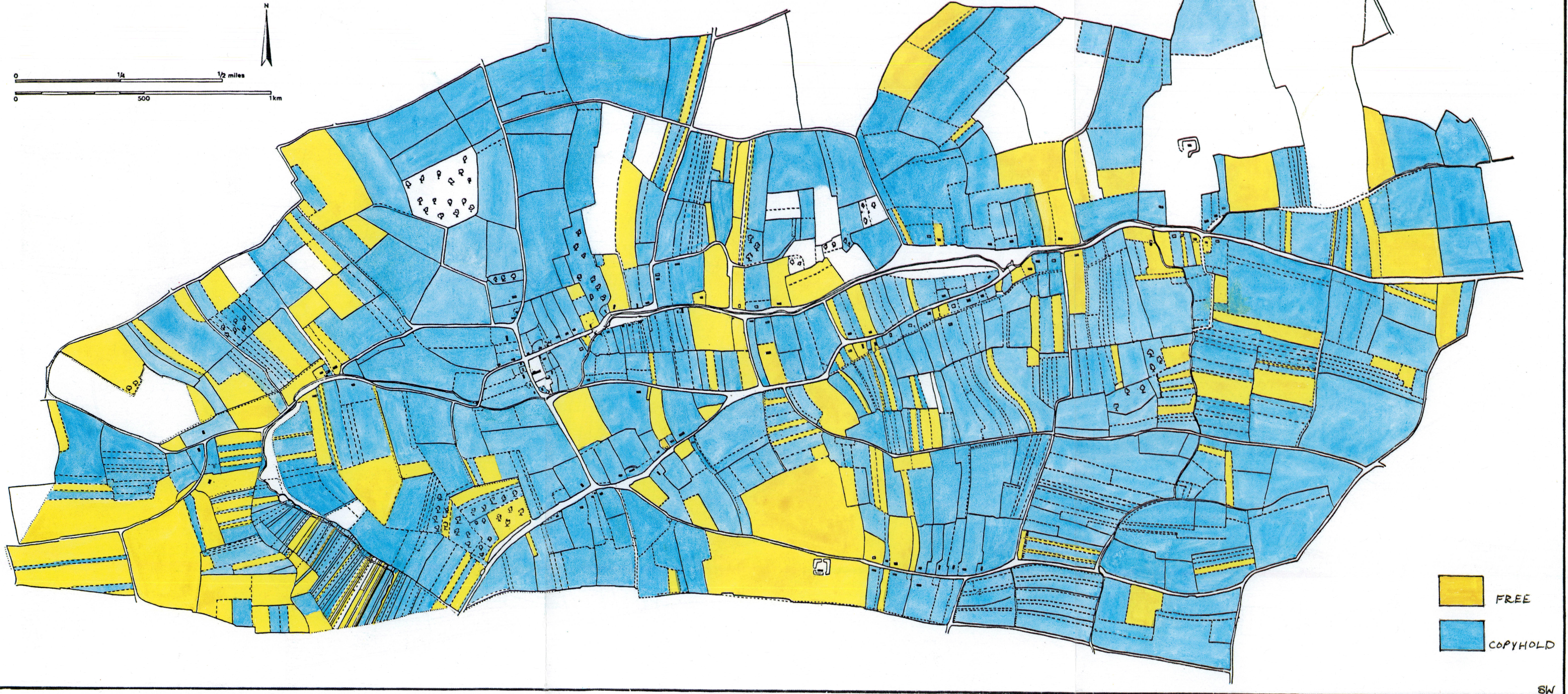


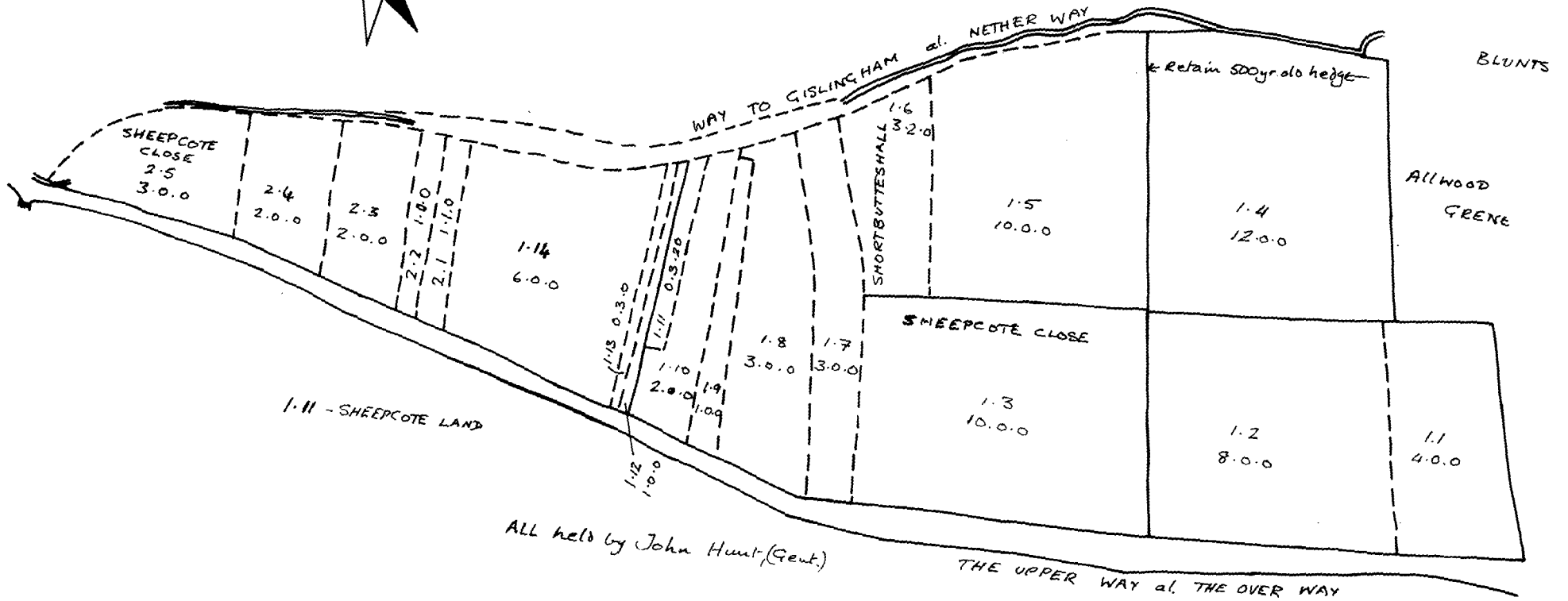
Figure 43 Free and copyhold land, 1581 (medieval sources)

# WALSHAM LE WILLOWS CONJECTURAL MAP OF 1581 (1695)



Figure 44 Lands of Church House Manor (source *Territorium*)

# BLOCK 1



ALL held by John Hunt (Gent.)

Figure 45 1695 Survey Block 1

# BLOCK 2

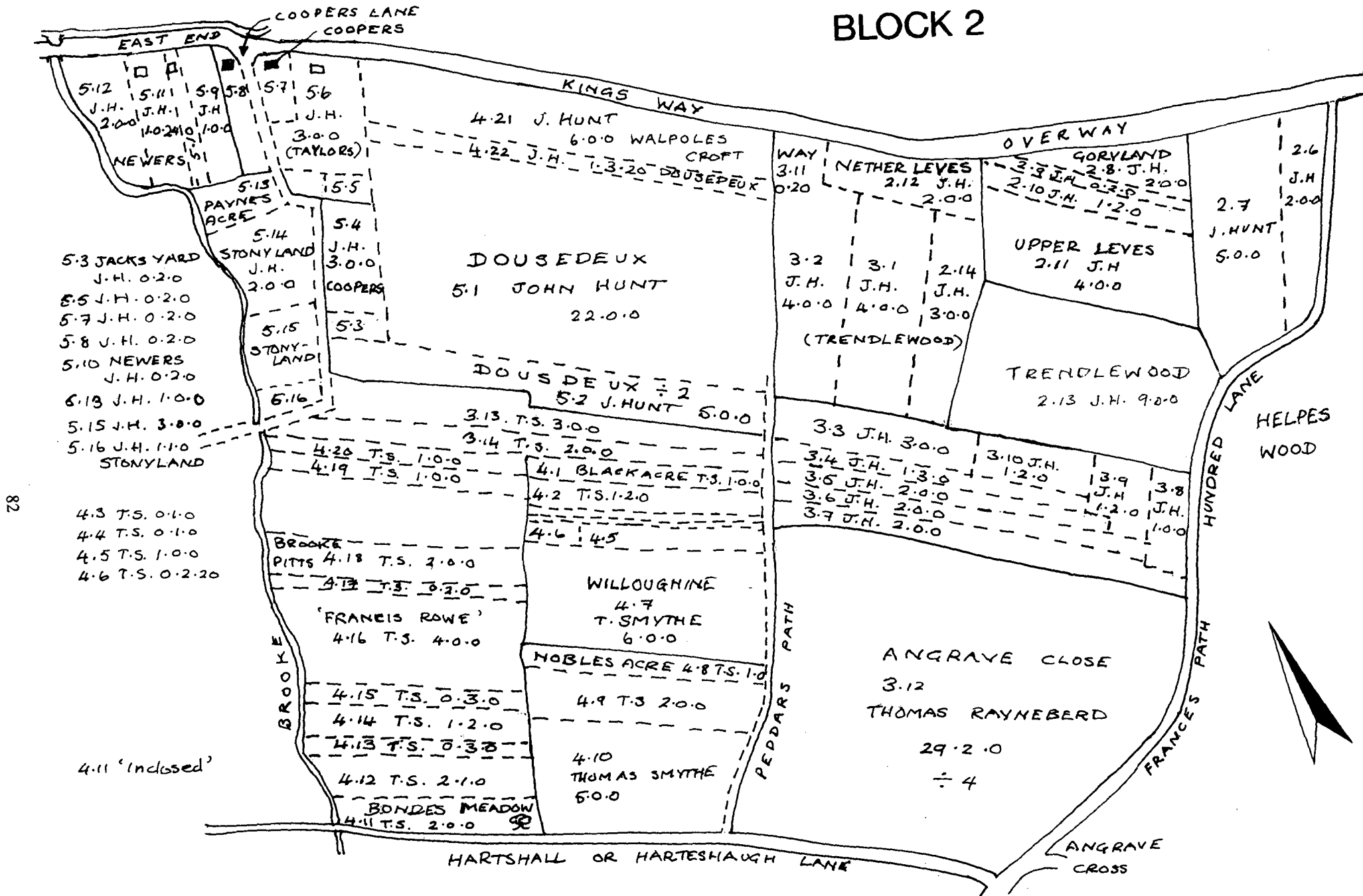
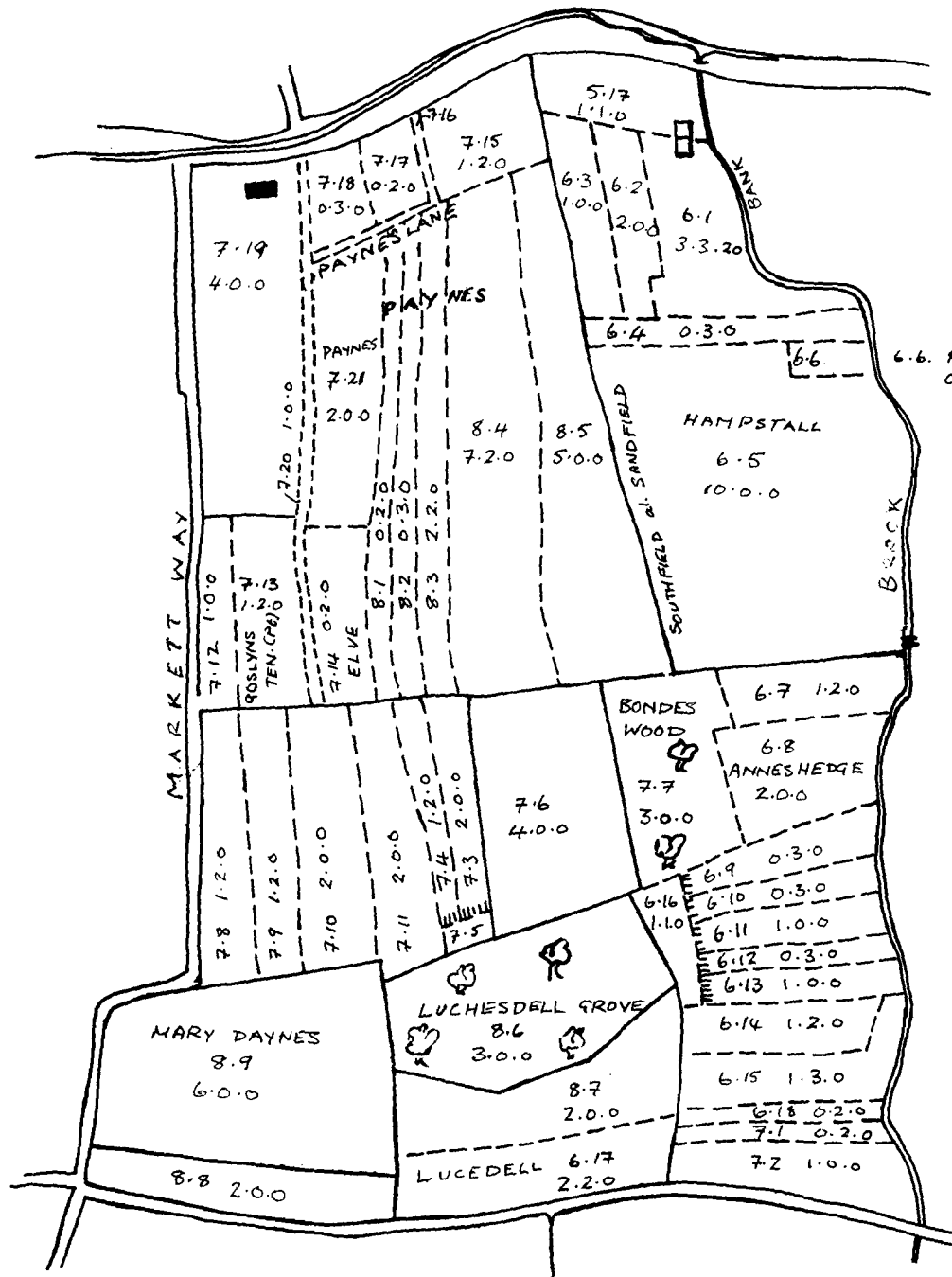


Figure 46 1695 Survey Block 2



# BLOCK 3



7.17 Paynes Right  
 7.20 : old way 'outgoing unto Westhorpe'  
 8.1 : Pond.

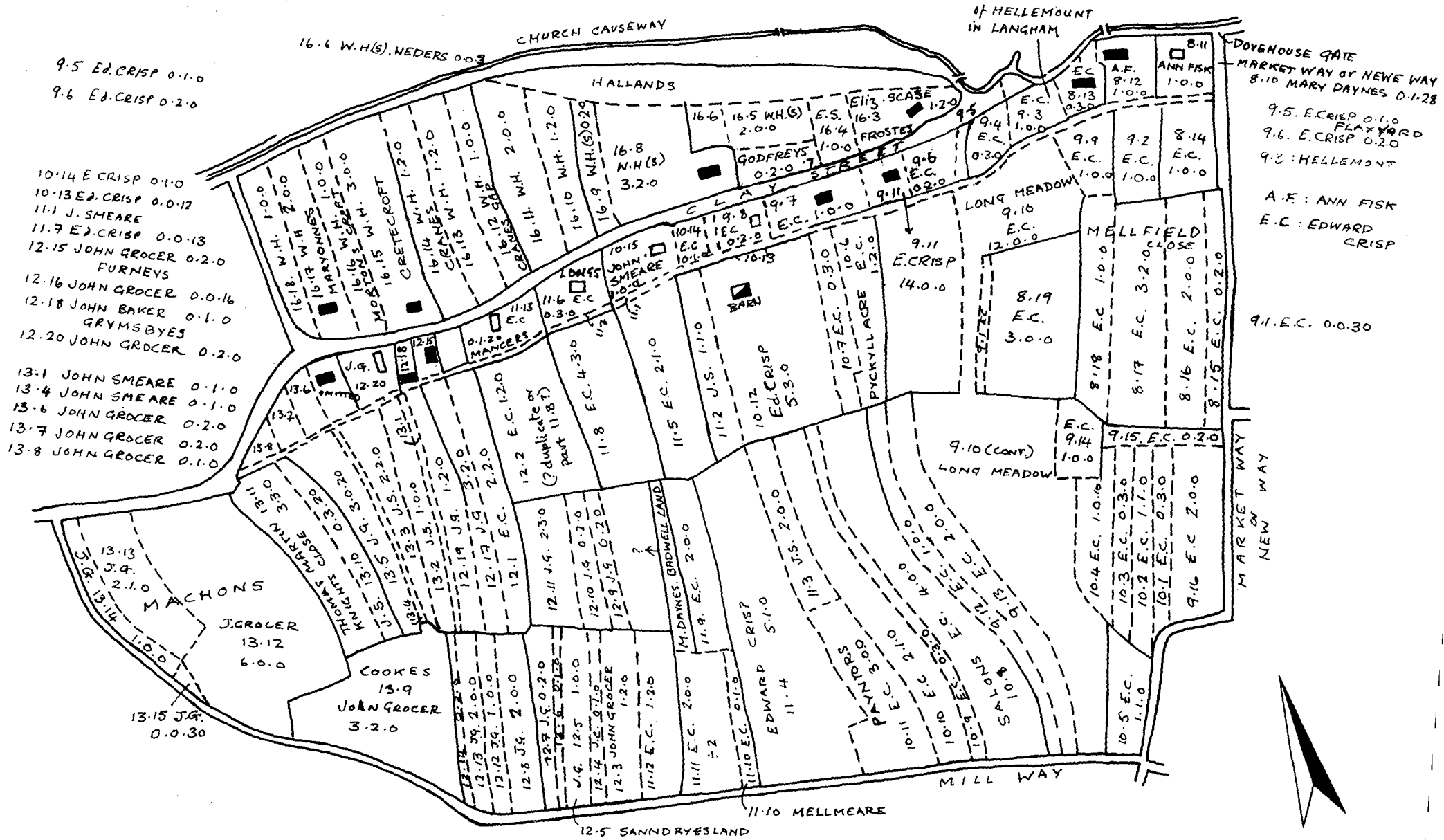
7.5 headland 0.0.20

All held by Thomas Smythe  
 except 8.9, held by Mary Duges  
 6.14 HOMEPLACE LAND

Figure 47 1695 Survey Block 3

# BLOCK 4,6

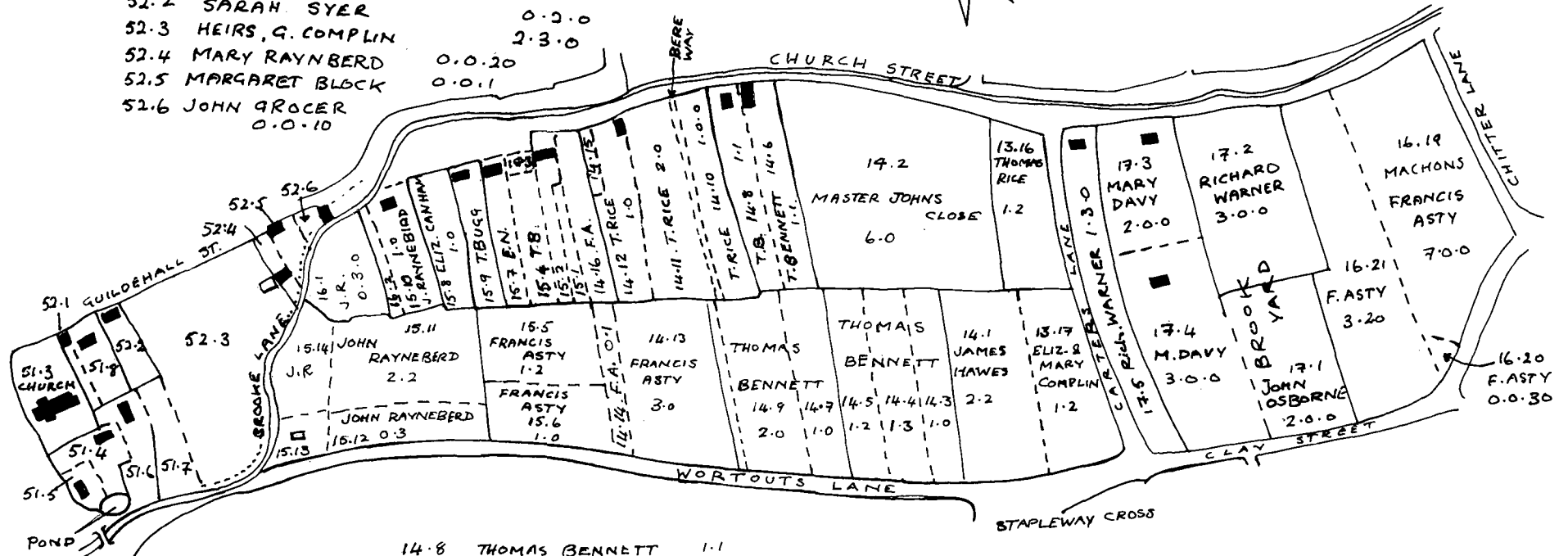
84



# BLOCK 5,7,30

- 51.3 CHURCH 1.0.20
- 51.4 SITE OF CHURCHHOUSE MANOR 0.2.0
- 51.5 ISRAEL SHYN 0.2.0
- 51.6 HEIRS OF GEORGE COMPLIN 1.1.0
- 51.7 HEIRS OF GEORGE COMPLIN 0.3.0
- 51.8 THOMAS YOUNGMAN 0.2.0
- 52.1 THOMAS JARROLD (GARRAD) 0.1.0
- 52.2 SARAH SYER 0.2.0
- 52.3 HEIRS, G. COMPLIN 2.3.0
- 52.4 MARY RAYNEBERD 0.0.20
- 52.5 MARGARET BLOCK 0.0.1
- 52.6 JOHN GROER 0.0.10

85



- 14.8 THOMAS BENNETT 1.1
- 14.10 THOMAS RICE 1.0
- 14.11 THOMAS RICE 2.0
- 14.15 FRANCIS ASTY 1.0 (HOGS YARD)
- 14.16 FRANCIS ASTY 1.0 DUNCHEZ
- 15.1 FRANCIS ASTY 0.1.20
- 15.2 SAMUEL YOUNGMAN 0.1.8 LAKENHAMS
- 15.3 SAMUEL YOUNGMAN 116ft x 9ft
- 15.4 THOMAS BENNETT 0.3 STEWARDS
- 15.7 EDMOND NICHOLAS 0.3 BALLARDS
- 15.9 THOMAS BUGG 1.2 CURTES
- 15.10 JOHN RAYNEBERD 1.0 LEVES, NOW RANDES
- 15.13 ROBERT RAYNEBERD 0.1
- 15.14 JOHN RAYNEBERD 0.2
- 16.1 JOHN RAYNEBERD 0.3 DONNES YARD
- 16.2 JOHN RAYNEBERD 0.0.20 (HEMLAND)

Figure 49 1695 Survey Blocks 5, 7, 30

# BLOCK 8

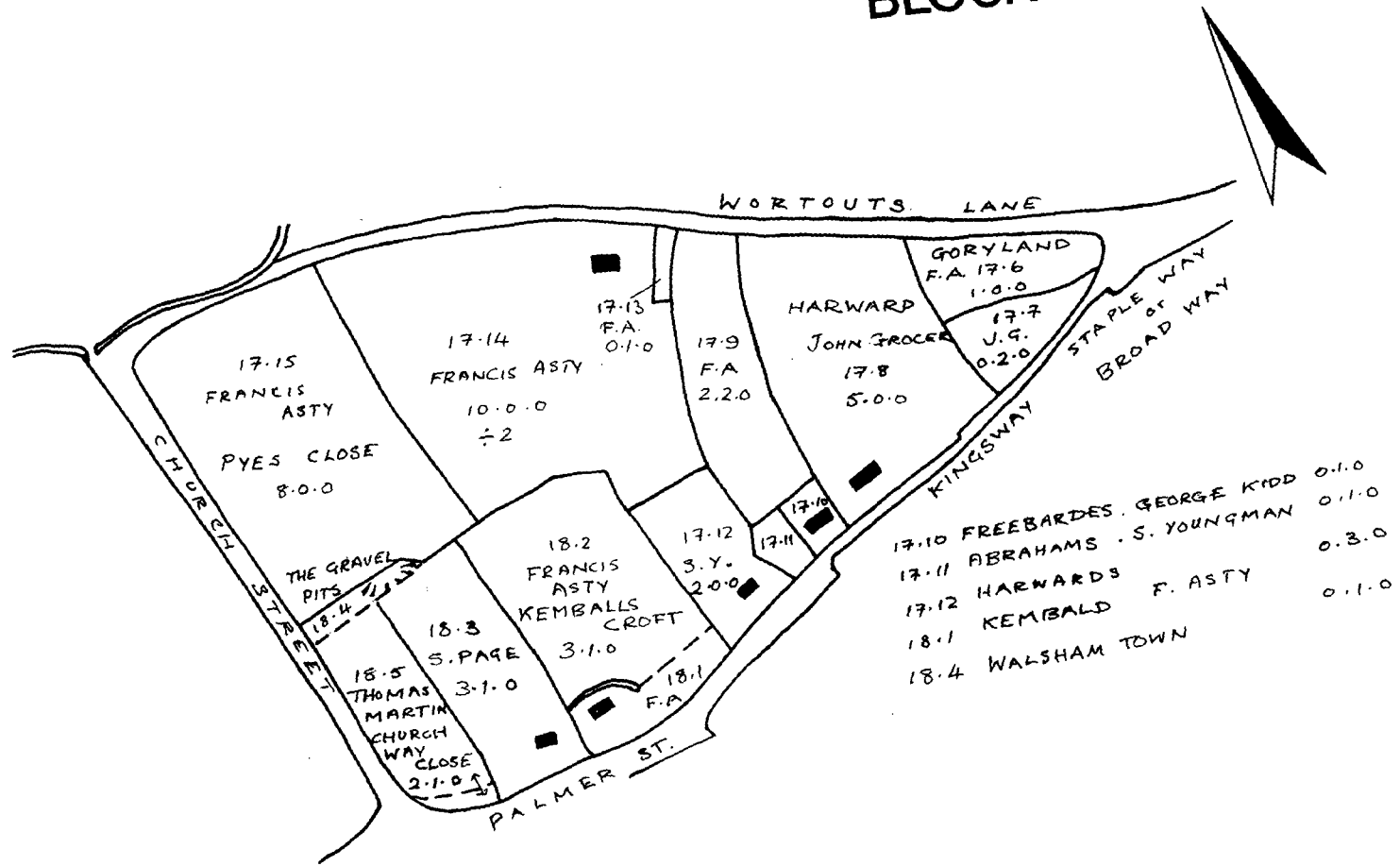
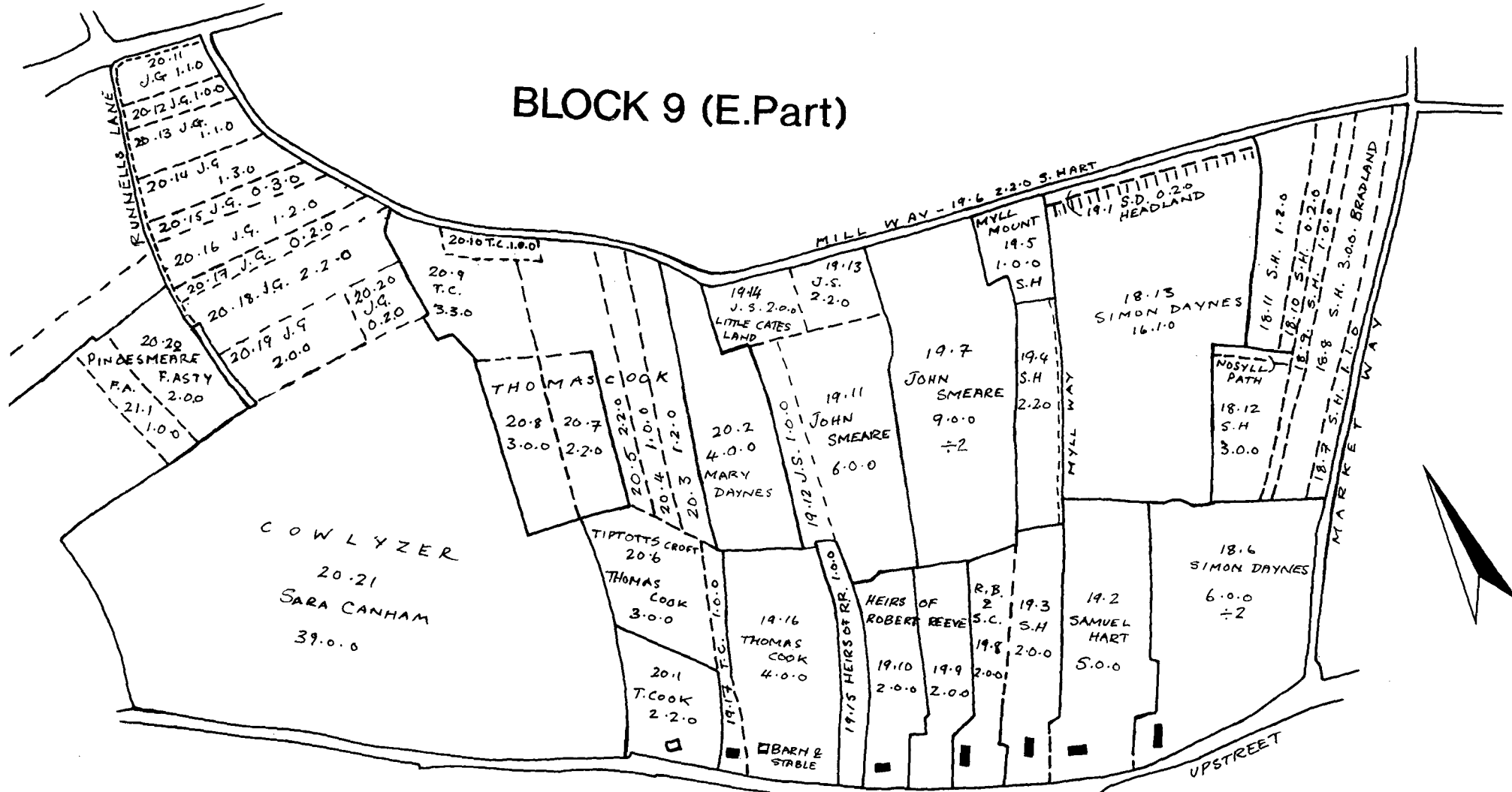


Figure 50 1695 Survey Block 8



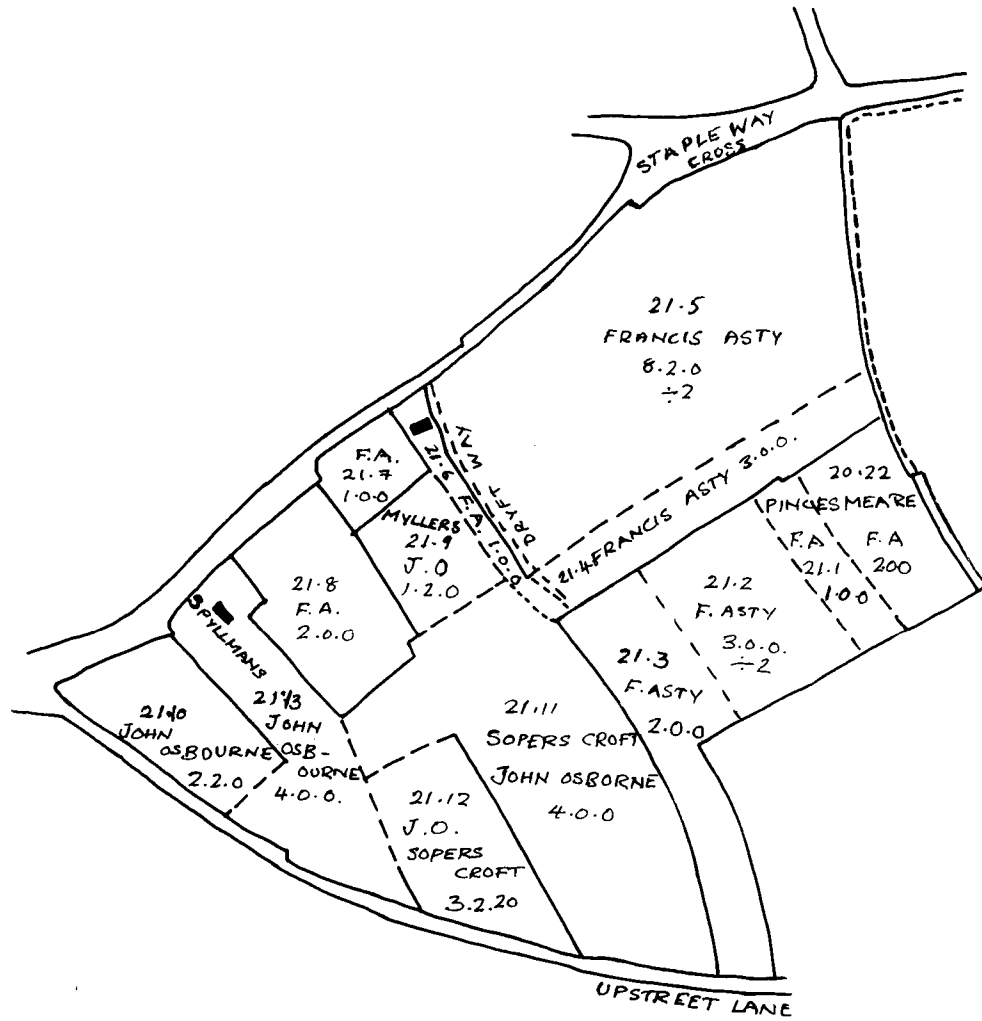
# BLOCK 9 (E.Part)

87



- S.D. SIMON DAYNES
- S.H. SAMUEL HART
- RB RUBEN BRYDGES &
- SC SARA CANHAM
- T.C. THOMAS COOK
- J.G. JOHN GROCER
- F.A. FRANCIS ASTY

Figure 51 1695 Survey Block 9 (East part)



# BLOCK 9 (W.Part)



Figure 52 1695 Survey Block 9 (West part)

# BLOCK 10,11

68

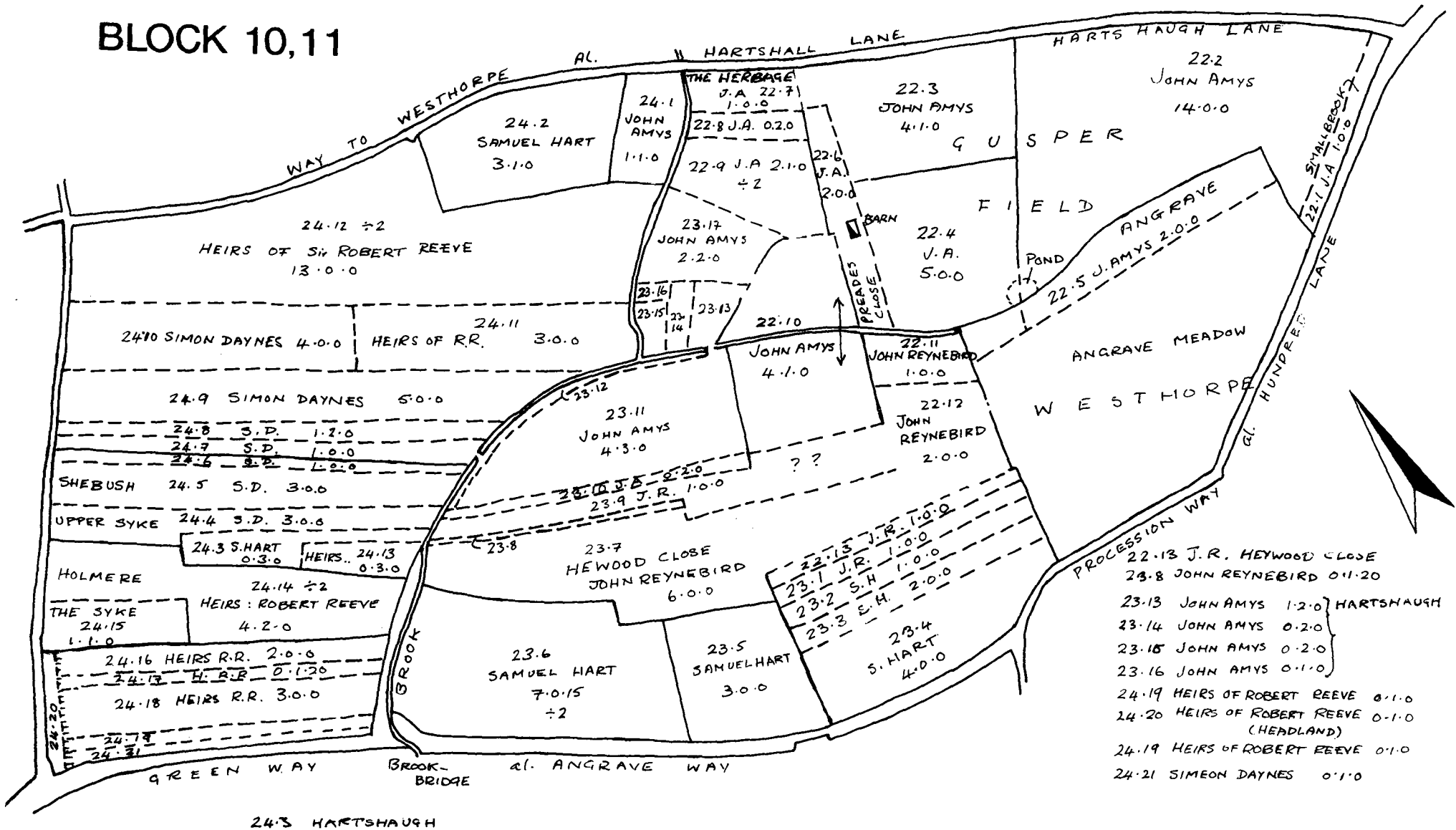


Figure 53 1695 Survey Blocks 10, 11

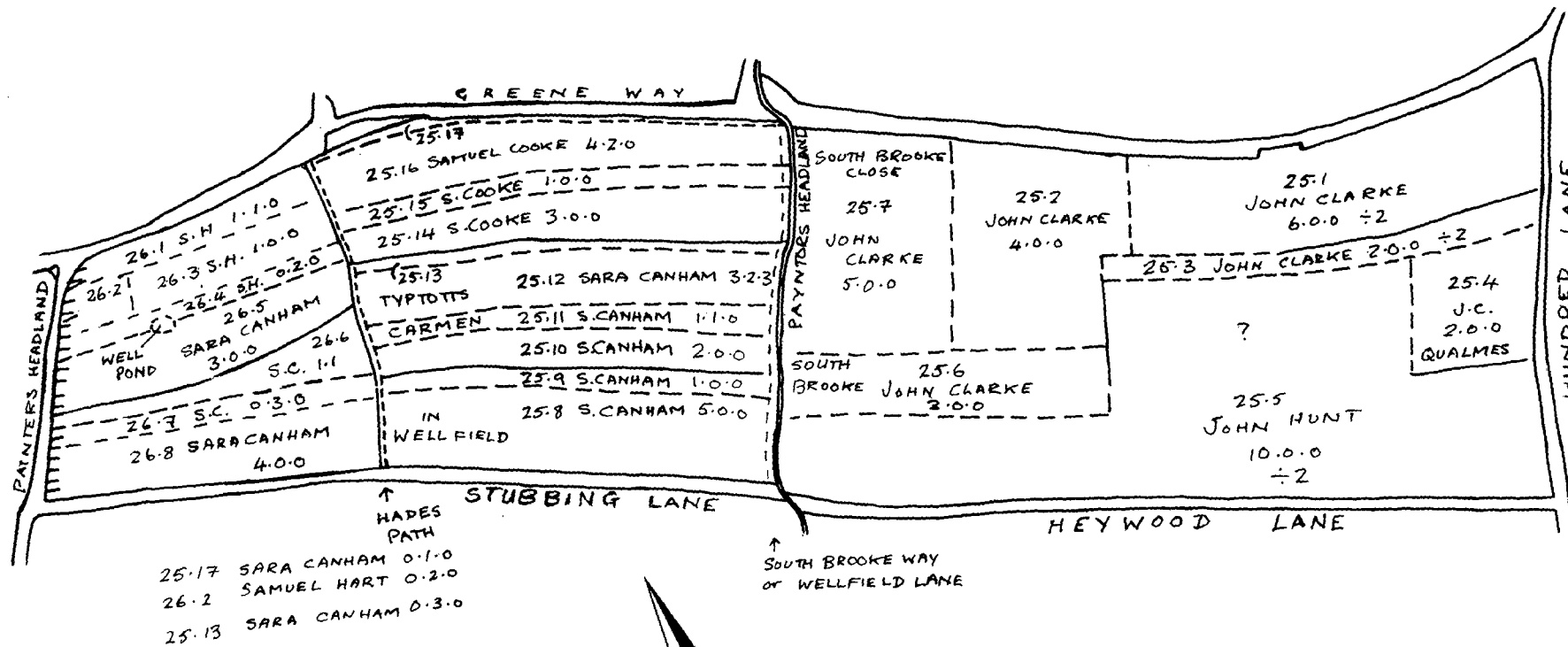
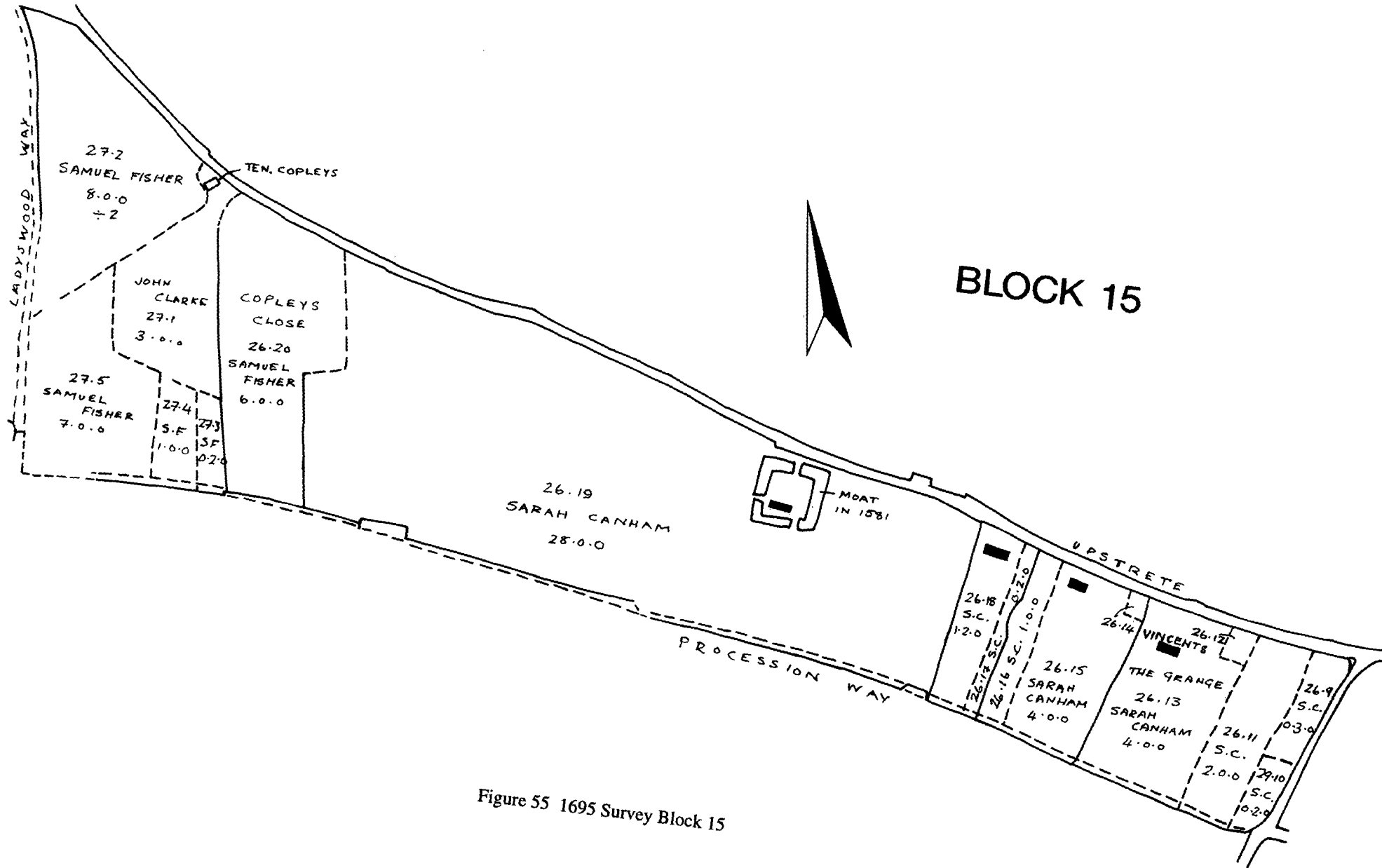
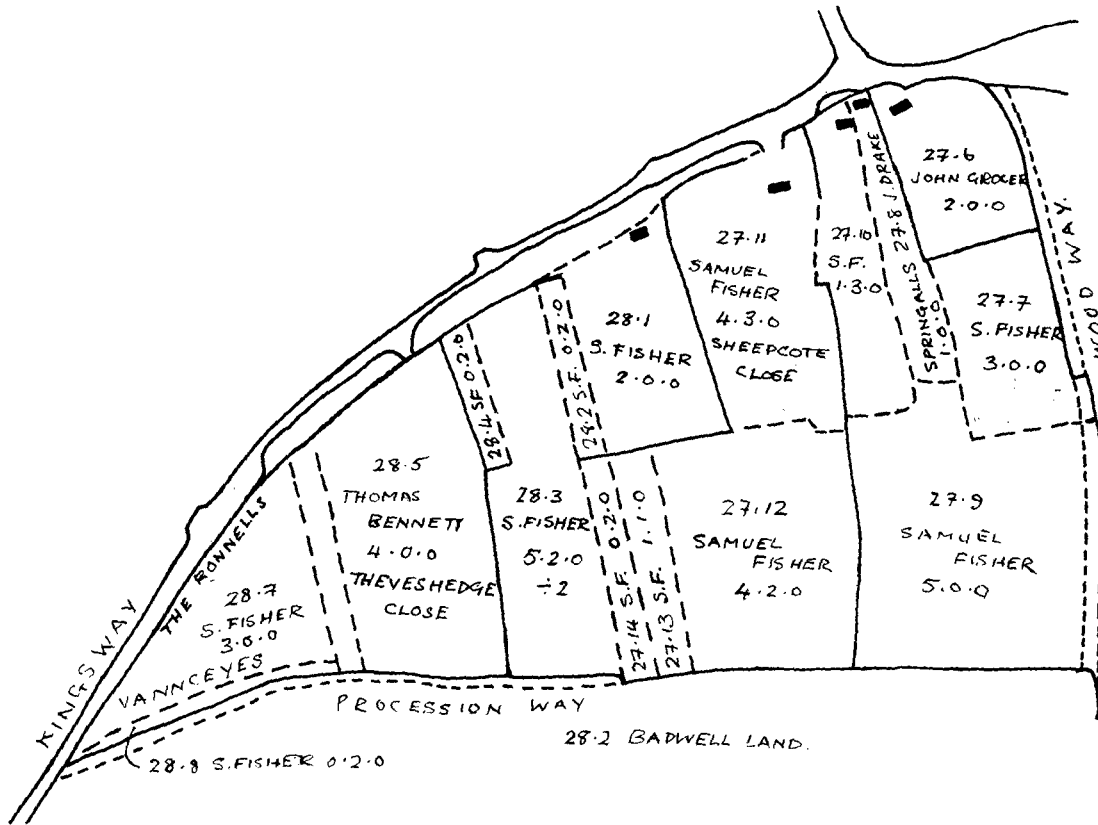


Figure 54 1695 Survey Blocks 12, 13, 14



# BLOCK 15

Figure 55 1695 Survey Block 15



# BLOCK 16



Figure 56 1695 Survey Block 16

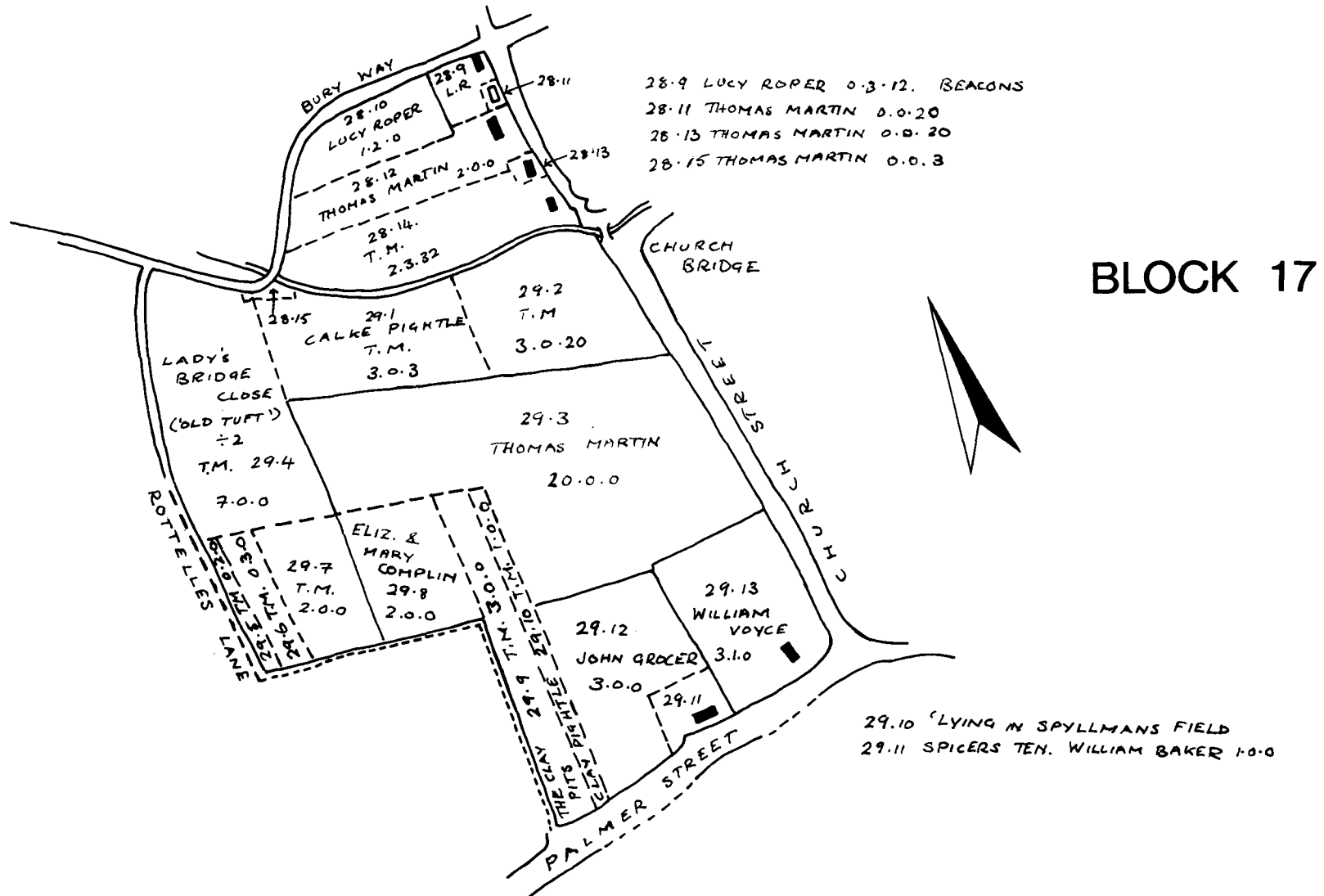


Figure 57 1695 Survey Block 17

# BLOCK 18,19

94

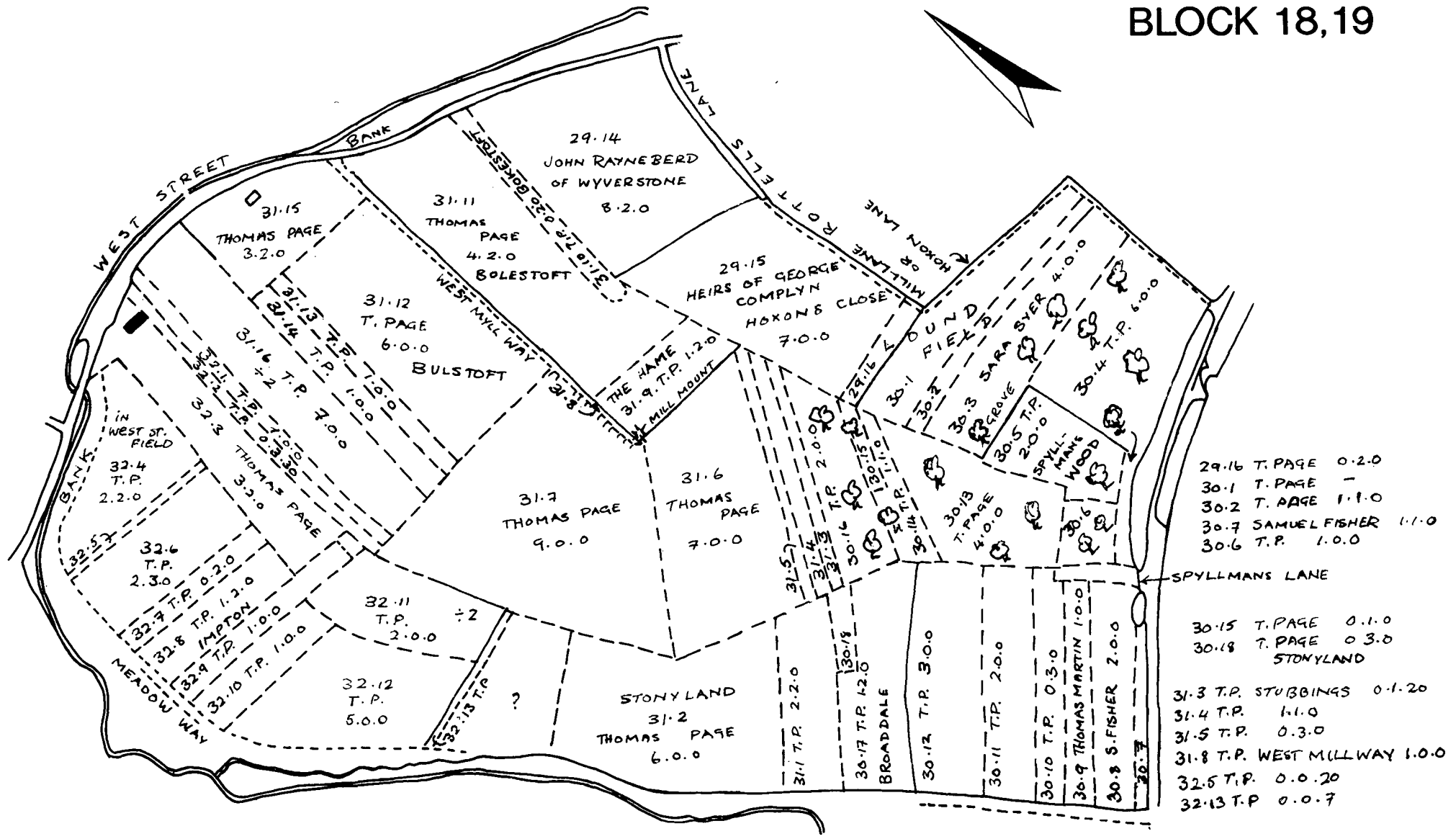


Figure 58 1695 Survey Blocks 18, 19



# BLOCK 20

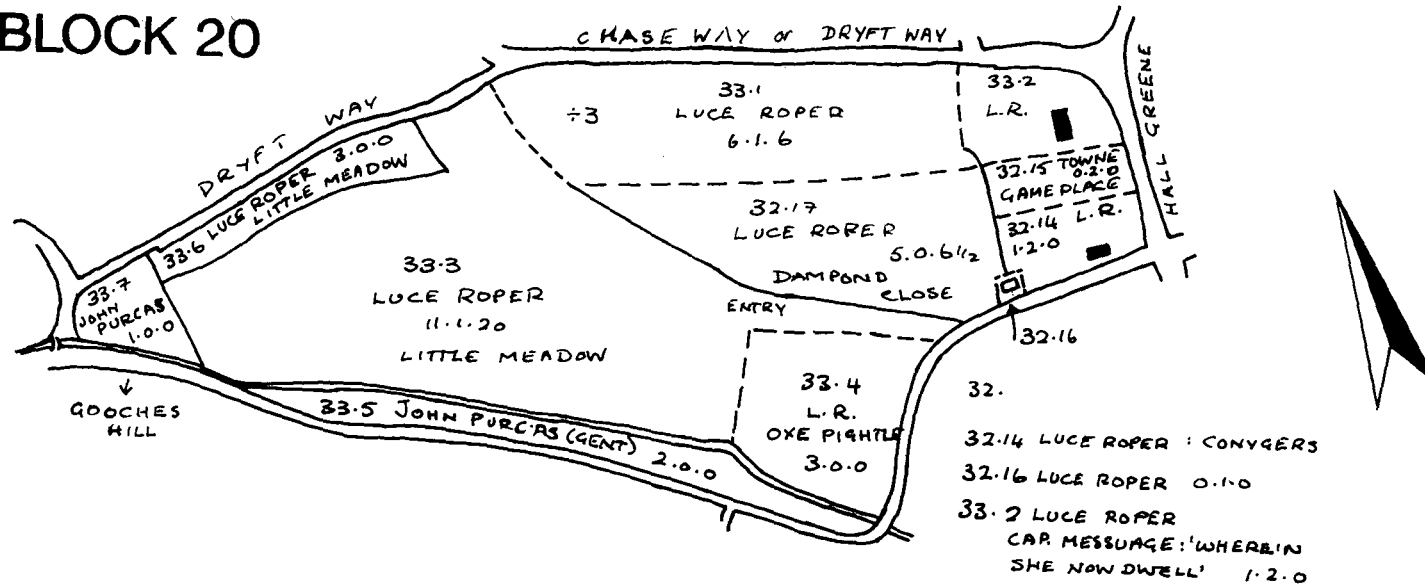
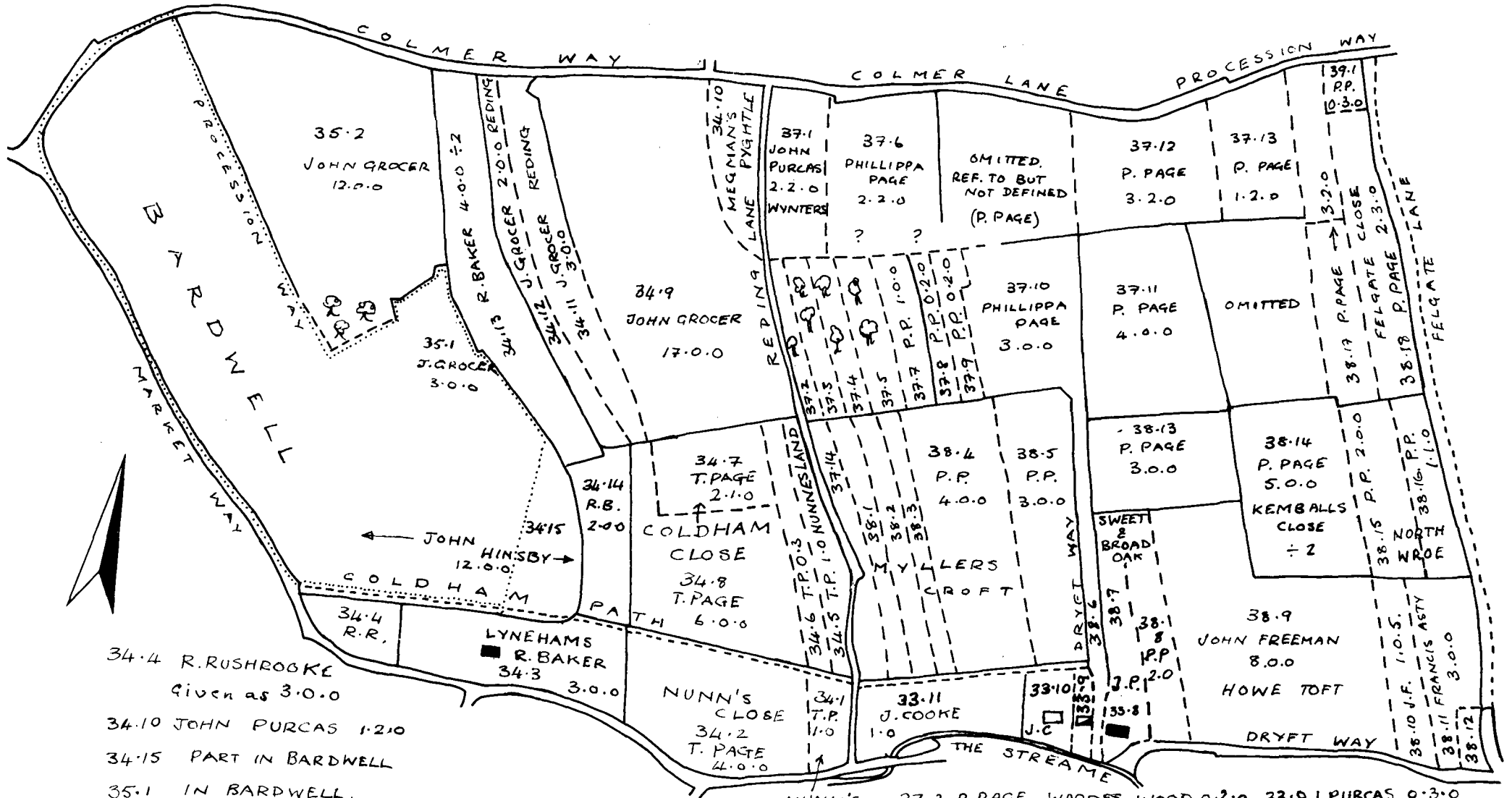


Figure 59 1695 Survey Block 20



# BLOCK 21,22,24

NOTE 1. REDING LANE or WOOD WAY  
 2. 34.9 ACREAGE TOO LARGE

37.2	P. PAGE	WARDES WOOD	0.2.0	33.9	J. PURCAS	0.3.0
37.3	"	"	0.2.0		(BARN)	
37.4	"	"	1.0.0	33.10	J. COOKE	0.2.0
37.14	P. PAGE	MYLLERS CROFT	1.0.0		'COCKS'	
38.1	"	"	1.2.0	33.8	J. PURCAS	2.0.0
38.2	"	"	1.0.0	33.7		
38.3	"	WARDES WOOD	0.1.20			
37.5	"	"	0.1.0			

Figure 60 1695 Survey Blocks 21, 22, 24

# BLOCK 23

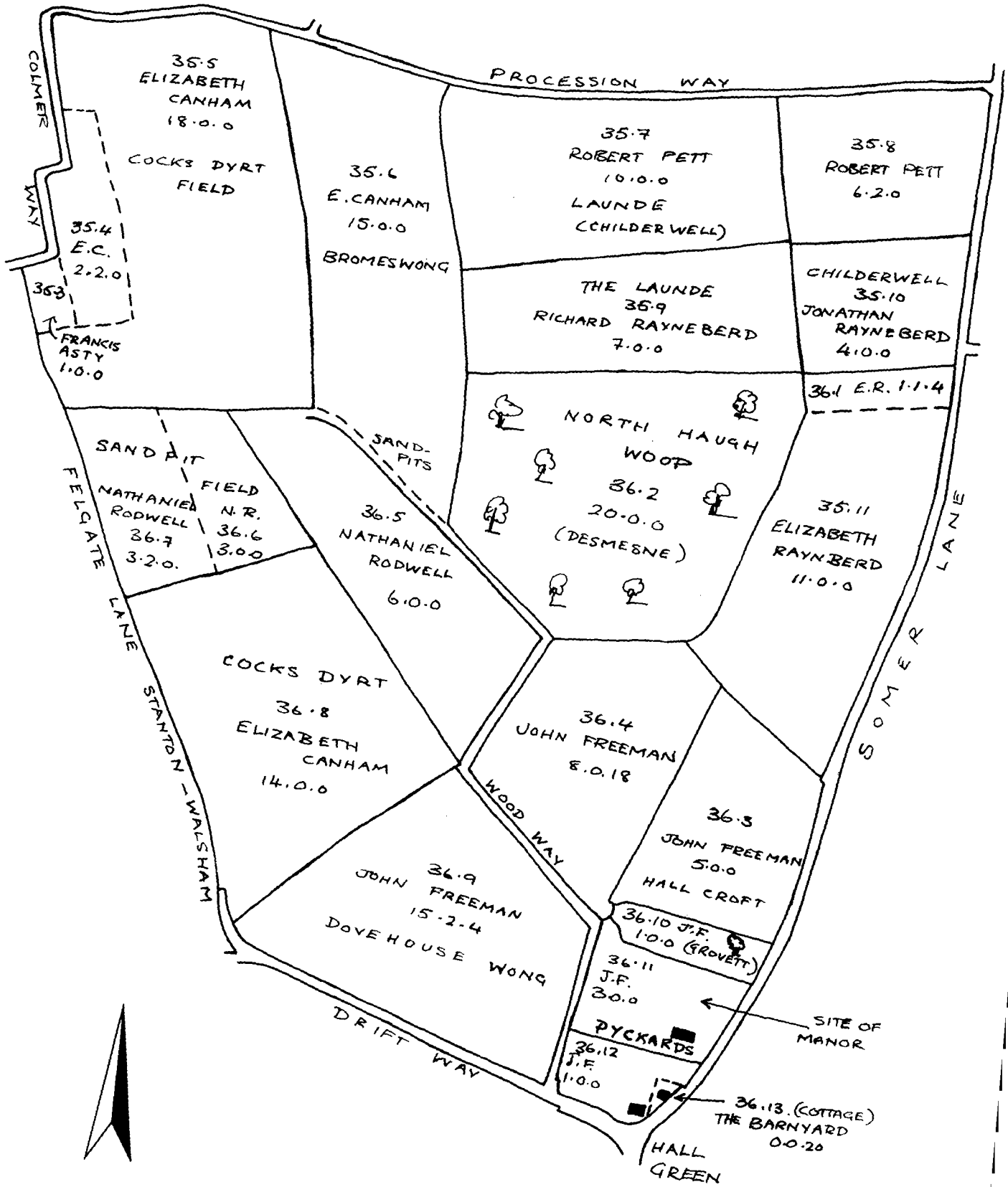


Figure 61 1695 Survey Block 23

# BLOCK 26a (E.Part)

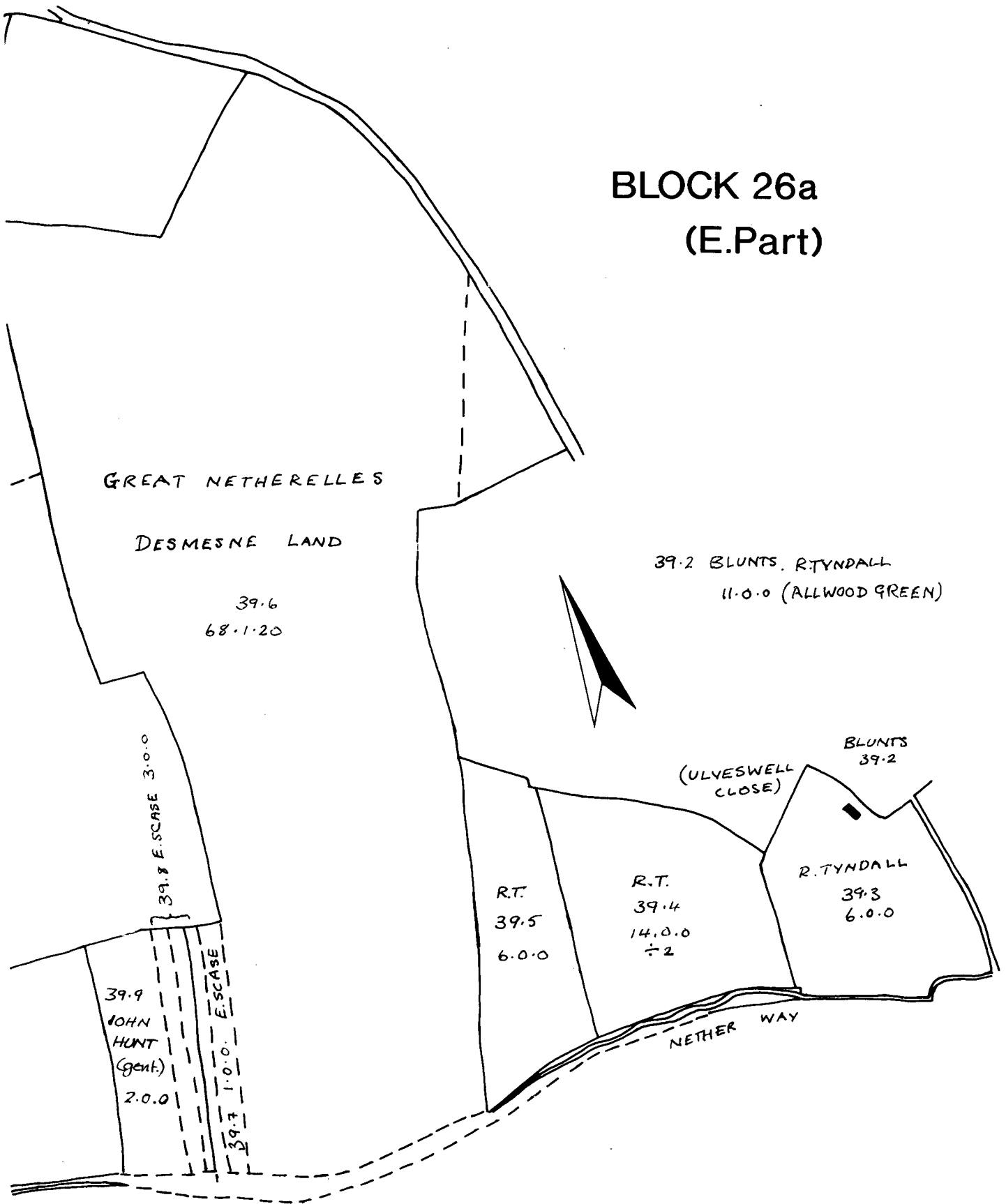


Figure 62 1695 Survey Block 26a (East part)

# BLOCK 26a (W.Part)

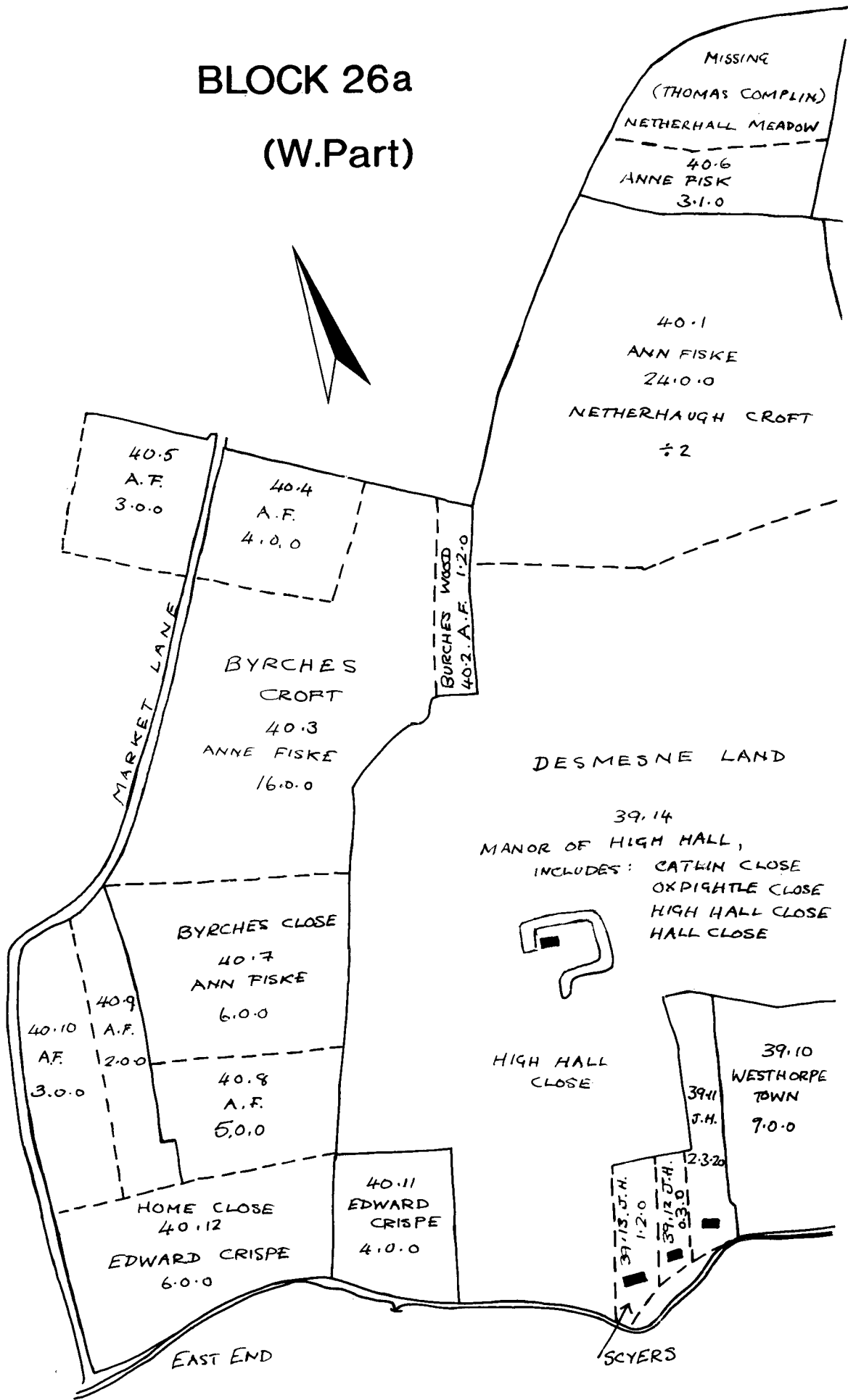


Figure 63 1695 Survey Block 26a (West part)

# BLOCK 26b



- 42.1. WM. VOYCE 1.1.0
- 42.6 WEYTMANS
- 42.7 PONCHONS
- 42.8 CRANMER
- 42.9 0.2.0 SYERS CROFT
- 42.10 0.2.0

NOTE 1. 43.12 & 43.13 PROBABLY REPEAT OF 42.12, 42.13

2. 41.1 & 41.2 PROBABLY REPEAT OF 39.9 & 39.7

3. 43.12; 43.13 DR. CRASKE (6.0.0 total) cannot be accommodated apart from location.

Figure 64 1695 Survey Block 26b

# BLOCK 27,28

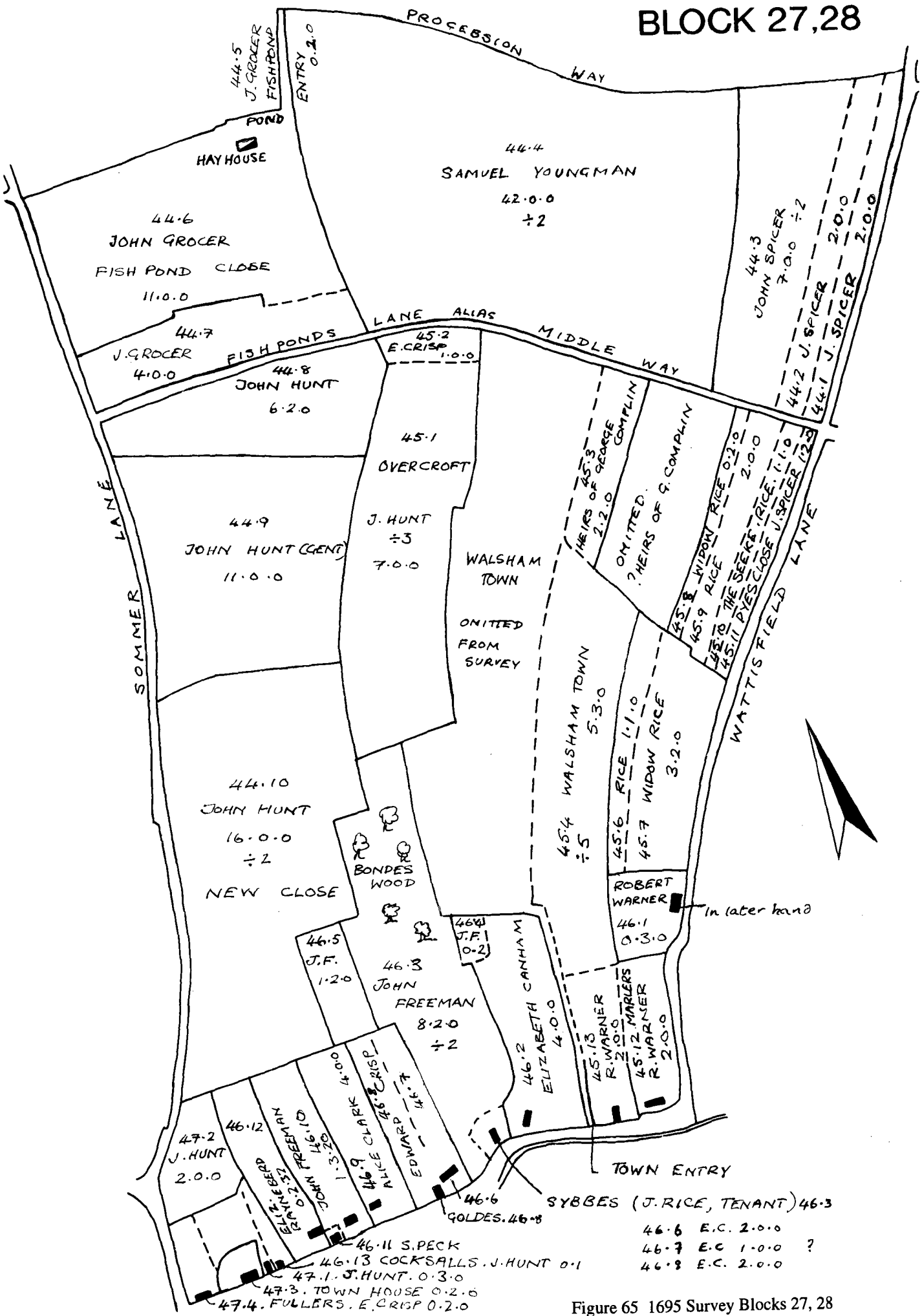
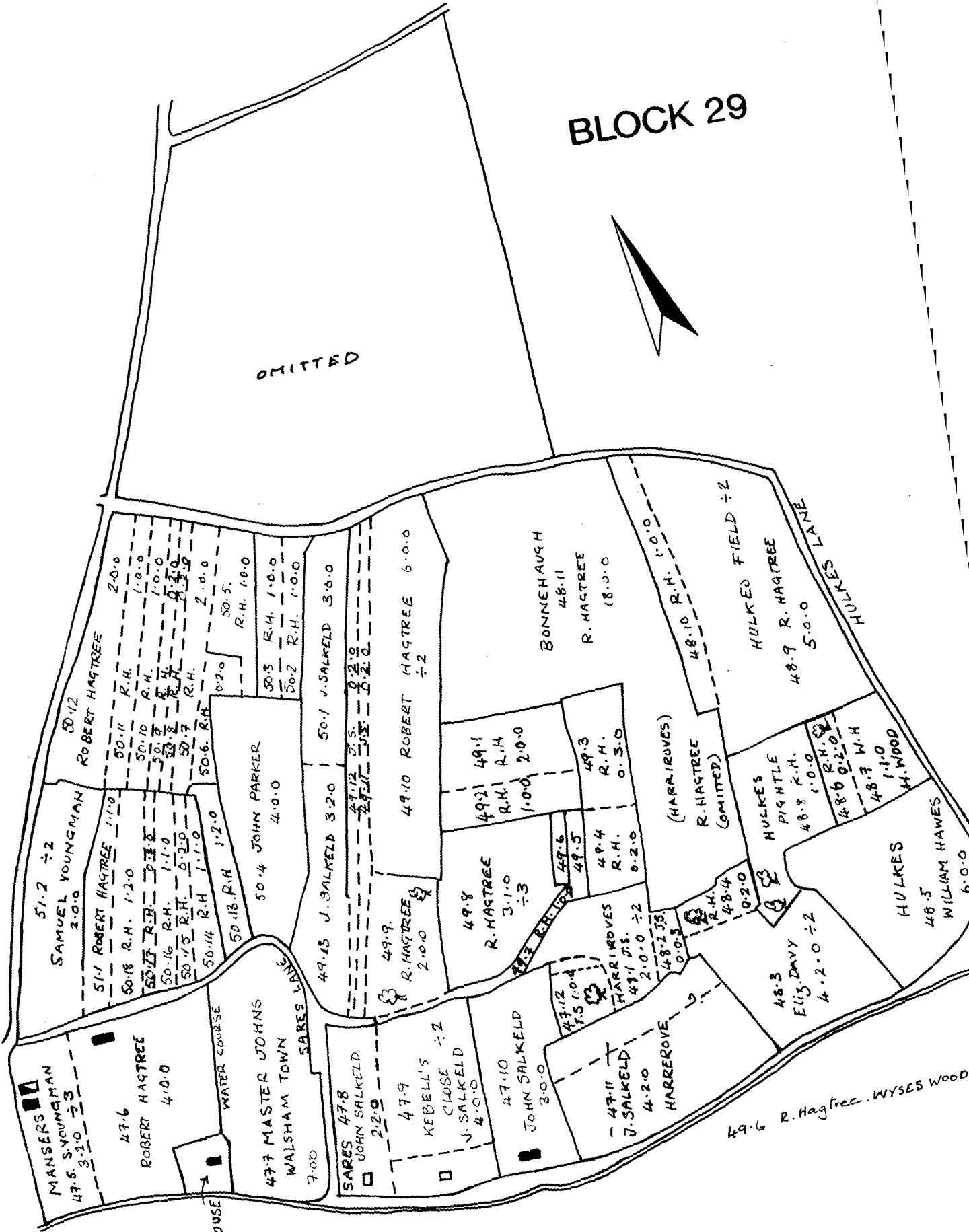


Figure 65 1695 Survey Blocks 27, 28

# BLOCK 29



OMITTED



TOWN HOUSE

WATER COURSE

SARES LANE

49.6 R. Hagtree. WYSES WOOD

Figure 66 1695 Survey Block 29



# BLOCK 31,32,33

103

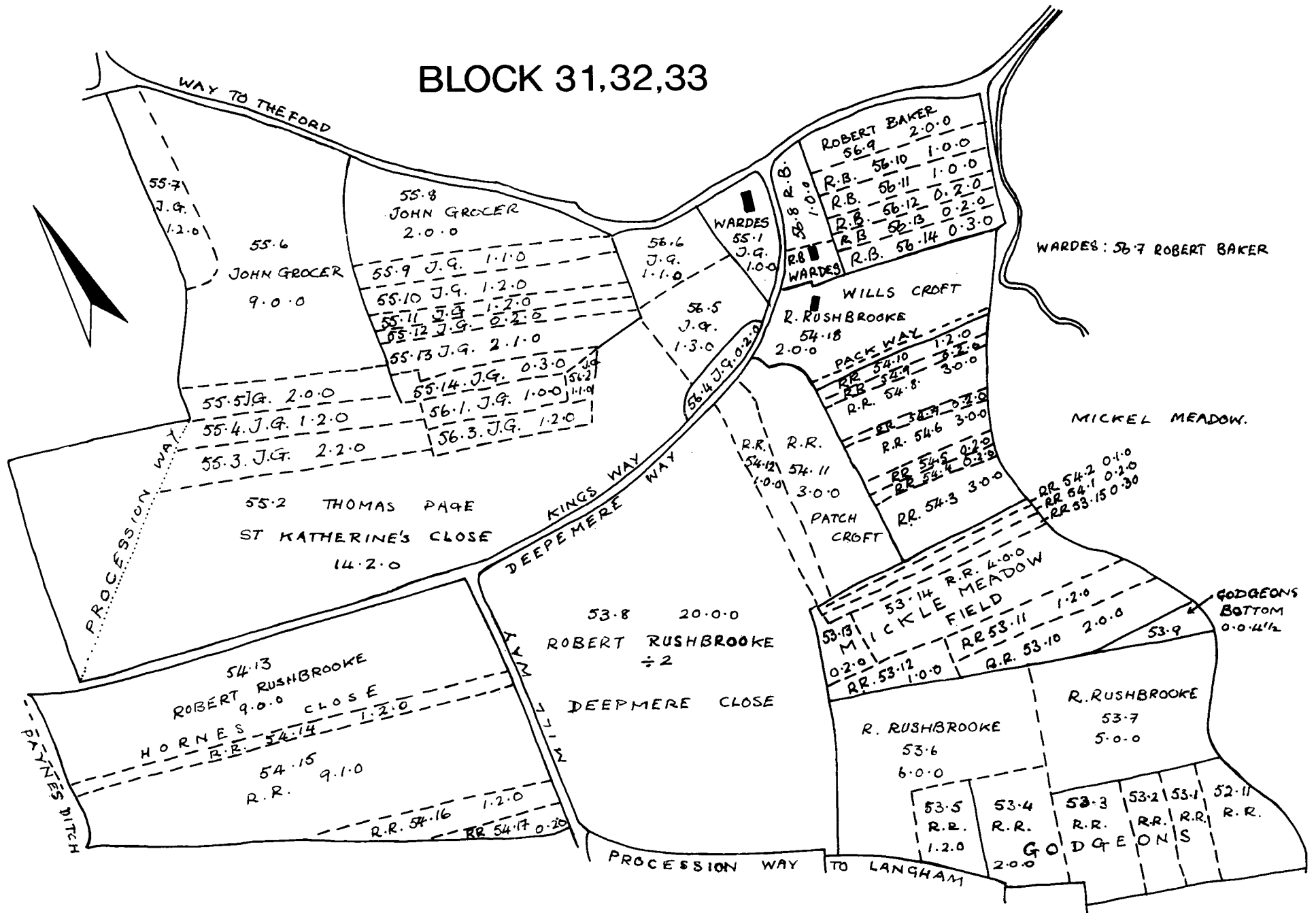


Figure 67 1695 Survey Block 31 (part), 32, 33

# BLOCK 34

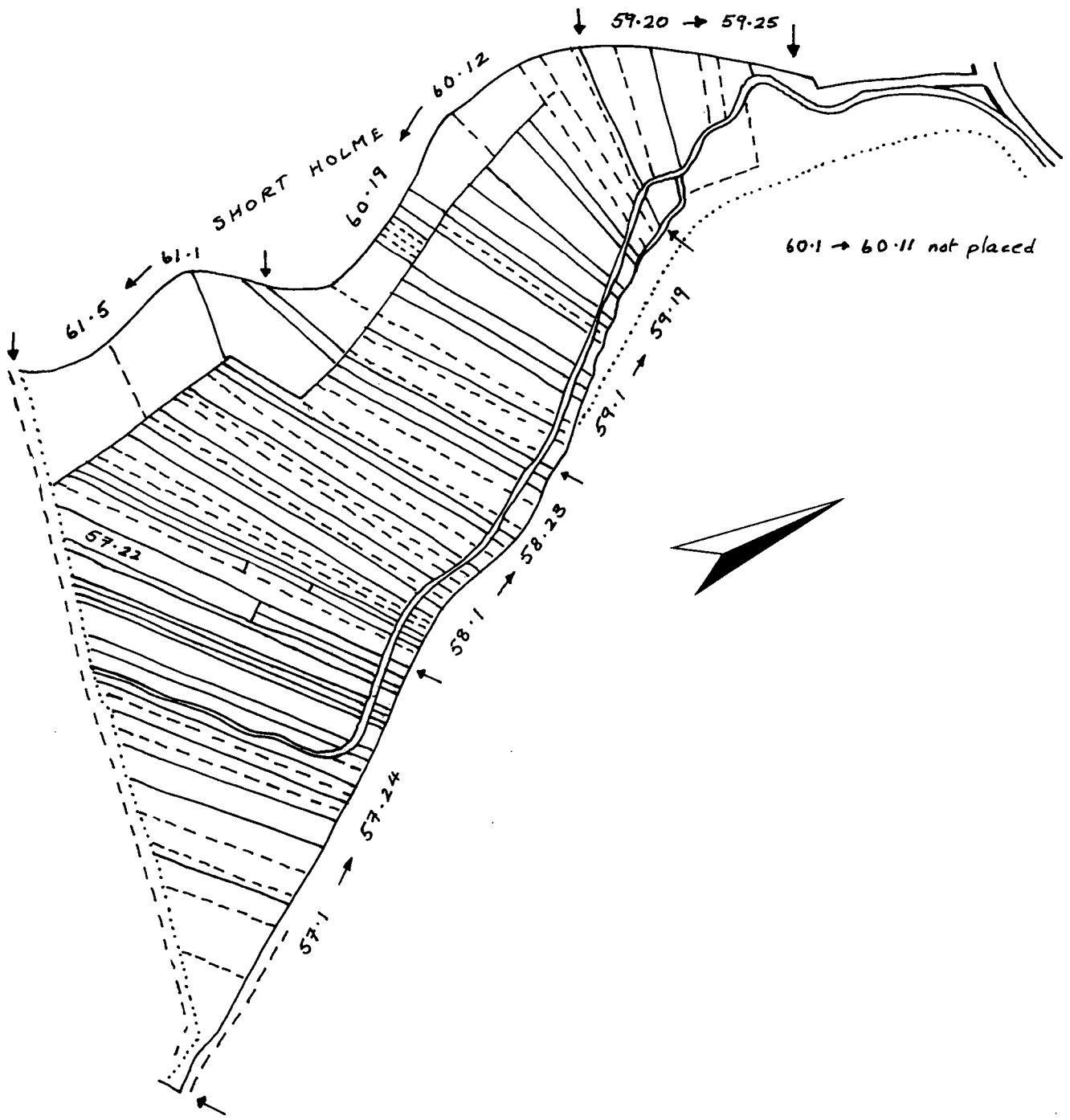


Figure 68 1695 Survey Block 34

## Index of Tenants

(Fig. 68)

The Mickle Meadow or Great Meadow, 1695

'The measure of which said meadow is at 14½ feet to the perch'.

<i>Fol.</i>	<i>Tenant (1695)</i>	<i>Sometime of: (1581)</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	
57.1	Dorothy Allen, Ann Palmer and William Carr	(Thomas Lacy)	0.2.0	
57.2	John Barker	(John Page) Ten. Harwards	1.0.0	Harrow Acre
57.3	John Barker		0.2.0	
57.4	John Barker	(John Page)	11 feet	
57.5	John Grocer	(John Vincent)	0.3.0	
57.6	Robert Warner	(John Vincent)	1.0.0	
57.7	Samual Youngman	(John Parker)	1.0.0	
57.8	Ann Fiske	(John Page)	0.2.0	
57.9	Town of Walsham	(William Waller)	0.3.0	
57.10	Robert Baker	(William Pope)	0.2.0	Turpett Acre
57.11	Samuel Page	(Michael Burton)	0.2.0	Turpett Acre
57.12	Samuel Page	(John Robwood)	0.2.0	
57.13	Walsham Town: the bank on either side of the river			
57.14	Thomas Page	(William Pope)	0.2.0	
57.15	Thomas Page	(William Waller)	0.2.0	
57.16	Thomas Page	(Stephen Hawes)	1.2.0	
57.17	John Salkeld	(Richard Rampley)	0.1.0	
57.18	Robert Baker	(Thomas Flatman)	0.1.20	Twenty Feet
57.19	Thomas Martin	(Stephen Vincent)	0.2.0	
57.20	Dorothy Allen and others	(Thomas Lacy)	1.0.0	(Church House)
57.21	Dorothy Allen and others	(Thomas Lacy)	0.2.0	
57.22	John Salkeld	(Richard Rampley)	0.3.0	
57.23	John Salkeld	(Richard Rampley)	0.1.0	
57.24	Samuel Page	(William Waller)	0.1.0	
58.1	John Grocer	(John Parker)	1.1.0	
58.2	Luce Roper	(John Page)	0.1.0	
58.3	Luce Roper	(John Reeve)	0.1.0	
58.4	Luce Roper	(Thomas Page)	0.2.0	
58.5	Luce Roper	(Thomas Page)	0.1.0	
58.6	Luce Roper	(Thomas Page)	0.2.0	
58.7	John Barker	(John Page)	0.1.0	
58.8	John Barker	(John Howes of the Bushes)	0.1.0	
58.9	Robert Barker	(John Reeve)	0.2.0	in Broddale
58.10	Robert Hagtree	(John Hawes of the Bushes)	1.1.0	
58.11	Robert Hagtree	(John Parker)	1.0.0	
58.12	Robert Hagtree	(John Hawes of the Bushes)	0.1.20	
58.13	John Smeare	(Thomas Flotman)	1.0.0	
58.14	Robert Symonds	(John Margery)	1.0.0	
58.15	John Salkeld	(Richard Rampley)	0.1.0	
58.16	Thomas Complin	(William Pope)	0.2.0	Broddale
58.17	Thomas Complin	(Reynold Rice)	1.0.0	
58.18	John Turner	(Hugh Johnson)	0.2.0	
58.19	John Turner	(Hugh Johnson)	1.0.0	
58.20	John Turner	(Thomas Smyth)	1.0.0	
58.21	Luce Roper	(John Vincent)	0.2.0	in Broddale
58.22	Robert Baker	(Thomas Smyth)	0.2.0	
58.23	Robert Baker	(Thomas Smyth)	0.2.0	
59.1	Robert Baker	(Thomas Smyth)	0.1.20	Lamplands
59.2	Robert Baker	(Thomas Smyth)	0.2.0	
59.3	Robert Baker	(Thomas Smyth)	0.1.20	Lamplands
59.4	Luce Roper	(John Vincent)	0.2.0	
59.5	Luce Roper	(John Vincent)	0.3.20	
59.6	Edward Crispe	(Francis Rookewood)	0.2.0	
59.7	John Raynebird	(Andrew Hawes)	0.2.0	
59.8	Town of Walsham		1.2.0	
59.9	Thomas Martin	(John Pope) Manor of Gt Barton	0.1.0	

<i>Fol.</i>	<i>Tenant (1695)</i>	<i>Sometime of: (1581)</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	
59.10	Thomas Martin	(John Hawes of the Bushes)	0.1.0	
59.11	Thomas Martin	(Nicholas Martin)	0.1.20	
59.12	Town of Walsham	(Thomas Flotman)	1.0.0	
59.13	Thomas Page	(Thomas Flotman)	0.2.0	
59.14	John Freeman	(John Robhood)	1.0.0	
59.15	John Smeare	(Thomas Flotman)	0.1.4	
59.16	John Smeare	(Thomas Flotman)	0.2.0	
59.17	John Smeare	(Thomas Flotman)	1.0.0	
59.18	Robert Hagtree	(John Hawes)	0.3.0	
59.19	Edward Crispe	(Francis Rookewood) 'in bredth 12 feet' — contains 20 ft.		
59.20	Thomas Bennett	(John Page)	0.3.0	(Church House)
59.21	Thomas Bennett	(John Page)	0.3.0	
59.22	John Raynebird	(Andrew Hawes)	1.0.0	
59.23	John Turner	(William Wyther)	0.1.20	
59.24	Edward Crispe	(Francis Rookewood)	0.1.0	
59.25	John Purcas	(John Margery) 'one swathe'	0.2.0	Raynebird's Swath
60.1	Jonathan Raynebird	(John Margery)	0.2.0	
60.2	Jonathan Raynebird	(Thomas Flotman)	0.2.0	
60.3	Robert Rushbrook	(John Vincent)	0.2.0	(Church House)
60.4	Robert Rushbrook	(John Hawes)	0.1.20	
60.5	Robert Rushbrooke	(William Pope)	0.1.0	'Twenty feet'
60.6	Robert Rushbrooke	(John Hawes)	0.1.0	
60.7	Luce Roper	(John Margery)	1.1.0	
60.8	Thomas Page	(Thomas Flotman)	0.2.0	
60.9	Thomas Page	(John Margery)	0.2.0	
60.10	Thomas Page	(Thomas Baker)	0.2.0	
60.11	John Purcas and Robert Baker	(Thomas Flotman)	1.1.0	
Another furlong called the Short Holme and go south or southeast				
60.12	John Grocer	(John Lynge)	1.1.0	
60.13	Luce Roper	(John Margery) (in bredth 4 perches)	0.1.0	
60.14	Robert Rushbrooke	(John Hawes)	0.2.0	
60.15	Edward Crispe	(Francis Rookewoode) in bredth 2 perches	0.0.8	
60.16	Thomas Bennett	(John Margery) in bredth 10 feet	0.0.2	
60.17	Town of Walsham	in bredth 2 perches (the Clarke Road)	0.0.4	
60.18	Lucy Roper	(John Margery)	0.2.0	
60.19	Town of Walsham	part of Master Johns	0.2.0	
61.1	John Freeman	(Richard Raynebird) (bredth 20 ft)	0.0.8½	
61.2	Town of Walsham	(George Hawes)	2.2.0	
61.3	John Grocer	(John Parker)	2.2.0	
61.4	Thomas Page	(Thomas Flotman) Manor of Weken	2.2.0	Rawbotts
61.5	Procession Way			

*Note:* 60.1 to 60.11 not located but possibly on east side of river at the north end

## Chapter 4. Discussion

This short account records the impact of human endeavour on the landscape of a rural parish on the edge of the clay lands of Central Suffolk. From the first incursions of prehistoric peoples, the scattered farmsteads of the Romano-British settlers, and the medieval tenants to the land-owners of today, all have exploited and altered the land according to their changing needs.

The topography of the parish with its central valley and flanking plateaus of clay to the east and gravel areas to the west had been a determining factor in the distribution of human settlement. In the prehistoric period the scatters of flint flakes are noticeably on the gravels in the west of the parish; the three axes; one Mesolithic and two Neolithic, are all in the clay woodland areas. Penetration into the clay areas took place during the Romano-British period with the establishment of clusters of sites. The surface evidence consists of coarse wares with a few sherds of colour-coated pottery suggesting a low-level economy. The spread of occasional sherds beyond the areas of concentrations over large areas of the parish, is an indication of at least some arable farming. The positioning of the settlement sites on the higher land in the east suggests that poor drainage in the valley, slight though it is, made the higher land more attractive.

With the collapse of Roman Britain, the clay areas of Central Suffolk appear to have been abandoned and no Early Saxon sites, and indeed very few artefacts, have been found there. What happened to the indigenous British population is a matter of continuing discussion, but a marked reduction seems to have taken place, possibly as a result of epidemics. There is no evidence of any Early Saxon presence in Walsham although a cemetery of the period is known close to the parish boundary in Badwell Ash and another, further away in Finningham.

Two worn fragments of Ipswich ware some distance from the Church on the east side of Block 17, (FB103b) and the rim and two worn sherds from Block 30 (sFB 41b) are the only indications of settlement in the Middle Saxon phase, when penetration into the clay lands of Suffolk can be seen to be taking place. The central core of the village around the church is obscured by buildings and gardens, unlikely conditions for the recovery of early evidence. The same is true for the Late Saxon Phase, for which the only evidence is a fine silver dress fastening from Cranmer Green, in spite of the fact that the parish was, however, clearly established by the time of Edward the Confessor, as evidenced by the *Domesday Book* entries which record approximately 900 'acres' as farmland.

The most stable feature of the man-made landscape is the road system, likely to have begun in the Roman period, if not before as trackways linking the scattered farmsteads with the market and centre of Pakenham and the cordon of villa estates around it. That the east-west route is of considerable antiquity is reflected in the layout of the field system; the positioning of the church and the early mentions of Summer Road and Church Street (Causeway) suggest that their north-south route is also an early feature. The east-west route from Allwood Green to Posters Lane (for Thetford) and the road from West Street to Bury were known as the King's or Queen's Highway in the later medieval

period, underlining the importance of this route. Early 14th-century references to the Kingsway appear to relate to the route to Bury via Badwell Ash, Palmer Street and possibly Clay Street, joining the east-west route at Cranmer Green. Some of the lanes and ways doubtless arose to service the more inaccessible fields and as droeways for livestock, and there is some evidence for new ways to markets in nearby parishes. Remarkably few changes are apparent from the early 14th century when the earliest records are available. With the tarmacing of the roads in the 20th century, many of these routes have become permanently established and others, originally of equal importance, are reduced to footpaths or have disappeared. The presence of early medieval pottery on defined habitation sites in Upstrete, Eastend and Cranmer Green indicates the early development of hamlets away from the main focus around the church by the early 13th century. The widespread scatter of pottery outside the areas of settlement shows the extent of arable farming.

Apart from the *Domesday Survey* of 1086 and a tax return of 1283, the surviving documentary evidence begins in the early years of the 14th century. The 1327 Lay Subsidy (Suffolk Green Book IX, vol 11) begins with Edward de Pakenham, Lord of Walsham Manor and continues with Alexander de Walsham (*i.e.* High Hall), followed by occupants at Eastend, Cranmer Green and Finningham Road, *i.e.* working west along the main street. This pattern is not continued throughout the whole list; the second half of the Subsidy shows no topographical order or progression of payments. There are many occurrences of the word *campus* in the court rolls and many field place names but most refer to furlongs or other small areas of land. In both surveys and court rolls, North Field and Mill Field emerge as the two largest fields with four smaller ones: South or Sand Field, Well Field, West Street Field and West or West Mill Field.

The demesne land of High Hall, totalling 198 acres, is listed in the 1327 rental of Nicholas de Walsham, of which 132 acres can be identified in the 1581 *Terratorium*. The demesne land of Walsham Manor can be identified from constant references to damage to the lords' crops in the court rolls. In addition, at a Court General of 1453 (CR HA 504/1/13.18) the lady of the manor demised large amounts of former demesne land to tenants, some of which can be identified, and are placed on Fig. 41.

Land held from the manor was either free or copyhold. The Field Book (1577) indicates which in the majority of entries although not all. Much of the 'free land is described as *ut dicitur*, implying a degree of uncertainty and some is claimed to be free, *e.g.* Thomas Lacy held 3 acres 2 roods 13 perches 'by hym claimed to be his freehold (FB 107b). In some cases where the fields comprised former strips, some of which were free and others customary, the land was measured together with no attempt to distinguish it. Nicholas Grover held 3 acres 2 roods 14 perches 'parte customary, parte free... and as yet the free from the copie cannot be distinguished hath bene divided into two partes and measured together (FB 23a2). John Hawes of the Bushes claimed that his father told him the land he held was free (FB 66b). There are a few obvious errors. Steven Hawes held Badwell Close

as freehold (FB 96a) but the reference to the same land in FB 94b2 states that it is customary. There are many instances of apparent doubt as to which manor held the land caused by the statement the land was 'holden of [blank]'. In these cases the land has been assumed to belong to Walsham Manor. Deeds exist for only a few pieces of the free land, for example, Master John's Close and Godgeons Close.

Throughout the 1577 survey and the 1581 *Terratorium*, most of the land is referred to as either free or copyhold. Quite large areas in 1577 are described simply as 'both free and copyhold'; in 1581 there is much more definition since the information was drawn from court rolls and other documents.

Nevertheless, when the two sources are plotted there is a very close correlation between the two, especially where it can be seen that areas of 'both free and copyhold' in 1577 relate to bundles of strips, often alternating between free and copyhold land (Figs 42, 43).

Apart from North Haugh Wood in Block 23, which was the demesne of Walsham Manor, the only demesne land defined as such is a large area around High Hall, which by 1577 was a deserted site enclosed by a moat.

The free land is liberally dispersed throughout the parish usually in strips or, in some cases, larger fields, clearly composed of amalgamated strips (e.g. Hornes Close, Block 33; Myllers Croft in Block 24 and parts of Block 2).

Other large fields, such as Deepmere Close in Block 31, the huge field in Block 15 and others, may not have been strips. Cowleyzer in Block 9 may, for instance, have been common land originally. The large fields in Blocks 27 and 28 must represent the demesne land of Walsham Manor, all copyhold by 1577.

The land belonging to Church House Manor is more fully documented in the *Terratorium* than in the Field Book of 1577 and totals 132 acres 1 rood 7 perches, slightly more than in Dodd (1974, 17). The distribution of Church House Manor lands (Fig. 44) shows a wide dispersal throughout the parish, with many small fields and strips.

The archaeological evidence is abundant for the late 13th and early 14th centuries with thirty sites producing the typical squared rims of the pans and cooking pots of the period, strengthening and emphasising the development of the hamlets of Cranmer Green, Upstrete, East End and, to a lesser extent, West Mill Field.

The development and decline of Cranmer Green is well represented with both archaeological and documentary evidence (Fig. 9). Apart from the Late Saxon silver dress tag, occupation is attested by the occurrence of gritty early medieval pottery on nine sites along the south side of Clay Street, two on the north side and one on the north edge of the green, giving a total of twelve sites. With the absence of documentary evidence before the mention of Clay Street in 1318 and Cranmer Green in 1334, one can only speculate on the origins of the green itself. The existence of the sites along Clay Street in the 12th–early 13th century may be another instance of a linear hamlet like Upstrete, with Cranmer Green developing later to the north. Alternatively the two early medieval sites on the north side of Clay Street could be viewed as an early encroachment on an already existing green. Clay Street is a projection of the way to Badwell Ash, known in part as Palmer Street, and it is interesting that the first development in this area should be along its length rather than along the road from the centre of Walsham itself. The two roads converge to the east and the area known as Cranmer Green lay to the west of that junction. It seems likely that the green originally occupied most of the area

between these two roads. To the west the limits of the green cannot be determined but it can be noted that the earliest reference to Chitter Lane is 1430 (CRHA 504/1/12–9A) and Carter's Lane in 1577. Both could, of course be the west limit, but the small block between these lanes is still townland, i.e. belonging to the parish, and may well have been a western extension of the original Cranmer Green. During the late 13th and early 14th centuries there is a marked rise in the number of sites to twenty-four which represents the peak occupation period for Cranmer Green. It was during this period that Clay Street (1318) and Cranmer Green itself (1334) are documented for the first time and a Richard de Cranemere is mentioned (1283). The 1577 survey, some two hundred years later still shows a marked reduction of habitation to sixteen and mentions four deserted sites. The area of the green had been much reduced and a new road, Chitter Lane, introduced to service Clay Street from the main route through the village centre. By 1695 the green is reduced still further and six deserted house sites plus one unspecified site (Survey 16.10) are mentioned in the Survey, although the number of standing houses had only reduced by one, to fifteen. By 1817 there was a resurgence of occupation with some new cottages and four old sites re-occupied. Ten house sites show continuous occupation.

Allwood Green was the largest open grazing land in the parish and was intercommoned with at least five other parishes. The earlier name 'Aldewode' implies that it was ancient woodland. The wedge shape of Block 1, adjoining Allwood Green suggests that it may have originally been part of the green before being ploughed into strips as indicated in the *Terratorium*. The 14th-century references to Aldewode Green include both damage to the lord's crops and digging on the common there.

There are too few references to Hall Green to estimate its size. It seems to have occupied the land south of Walsham Manor including the area of the Camping Close (later the Game Place) and extended to the east over Summer Road to an unknown extent. The Mickle Meadow was situated at the south-west corner of the parish where the stream flows over flat land causing it to flood periodically. It was divided into strips and held by tenants for the provision of hay.

The twenty-one acres of pasture held by Thomas Lacy in 1577 and known then as Cowe Leyser lie in the south-west quarter of Block 9. Although there is only one mention of the name Cowleswe (Cow Common) in the court rolls for 1338, the numerous cases of digging pits and overstocking the common probably relate to this area.

At first glance there appears to be insufficient grazing for the numbers of animals which were kept prior to enclosure. However, apart from the named greens and pastures there is evidence for wide roadside verges at Upstrete, Palmer Street, Badwell Road and West Street. In addition grazing was allowed on the Great Meadow after the hay had been harvested, on stubble fields and on those which lay fallow.

Throughout the 14th and 15th centuries individuals were surrendering and exchanging strips of arable land in the open fields for the purpose of enlarging their own holdings. Called 'silent enclosure by agreement' (Taylor 1975) the 15th-century court rolls specify nearly fifty cases of men surrendering strips of land to other men whose existing strips lay adjacent to theirs and a further fifty cases of men exchanging strips to the mutual benefit of both. The Black Death of 1349 reduced the population of Walsham by about half. There was less need for intensive crops and fewer people to tend

them. The larger holdings were enclosed with hedges for the containment of sheep and cattle.

The parish by 1577 was largely enclosed with Hall Green and Cranmer Green much reduced; only Allwood Green was largely untouched. The Great Meadow and part of Block 32 were still farmed in strips. The combination of the archaeological and documentary evidence shows that some contraction of settlement had taken place, with many of the archaeological sites ceasing in the 14th century. Of the smaller communities, Upstrete, East End and Cranmer Green were all victims of the decline. It is certain that some families from these areas suffered heavy fatalities during the plague year of 1349. These include the de Cranmeres, Cranes, Mans and Osbernes from Cranmer Green; the Peyntours, Tynetots and Patyls from Upstrete and the Paynes and Tayllours from East End. The impact was severe and difficulties were encountered in finding new tenants for the vacant holdings. Tenements once held by plague victims were still being granted by the lord to other tenants over ten years later. Deterioration and decline may not have been sudden, *i.e.* in 1349, but probably spread over many decades. West Street and Four Ashes are not sufficiently open to provide good fieldwalking results but, since the 1577 survey, West Street has remained more-or-less static with about six houses and Palmer Street/Four Ashes has grown and extended to the east.

Population numbers cannot be accurately assessed until the first full census of 1841. Documents prior to that date are notoriously difficult to interpret and give an indication of population only. However, nearly 1000 named persons are recorded in the court rolls covering the period prior to the Black Death of 1349 and only half that number survived into the 15th century. Numbers were slow to recover until the peak of 1297 in the 1851 census.

Twenty-three early medieval house sites were located during fieldwalking, thirteen of which were located at Cranmer Green. Of the thirteen only six of the original early medieval sites were still standing in 1577 although the number is swollen to sixteen by ten new sites which had accrued in the medieval period. The village centre, around the church, being now totally built up has not produced any medieval pottery or Late Saxon evidence despite the *Domesday* record. Late Saxon pottery, as evidence of manuring was not found in the fields either, although Thetford-type wares are found in rural situations. The available information is shown in Table 13.

The abundance of well-built timber-framed houses of the 16th and 17th centuries reflects the prosperity of yeomen and husbandmen who benefited from the agricultural and population boom of that period.

The *Terratorium* and hence the 1695 map, derived as it was from court rolls and other documents and not a measured survey, presents us with the pre-1577 landscape of the parish, showing a great many strips which had largely been amalgamated by the time of the 1577 survey. Another feature of both the *Terratorium* and the surveys is the long strips of land directly associated with tenements, particularly visible along the south side of Clay Street and the north side of Upstrete in both cases reaching back from the dwelling sites to Mill Lane. The process of amalgamation of these holdings is clearly visible. Although the land use is not given for the entire parish in the Field Book of 1577, pasture, mainly for dairy cattle, was predominant elsewhere in high Suffolk and appears to have been so in Walsham. The *Terratorium* of 1581 records 1800 acres of pasture but changes in land use are

Date	Number	Source	Comments
1086	60½	Domesday	54½ freemen and 6 smallholders
1283	90	Lay Subsidy	Taxpayers - not all resident in Walsham
1327	22	Lay Subsidy	Taxpayers only
1349	c. 1,250	Court Rolls and Locke 1992, 321	119 deaths recorded during Black Death - but population halved
1441	67	Court Roll	Fealty list
1524	67	Lay Subsidy	Taxpayers only
1577	81	Field Book	But 93 houses listed
1638	95	Able Men of Suffolk	Able men between ages of 16-60 years
1674	112	Hearth Tax Returns	73 houses
1695	82	Survey	103 houses listed
1841	1,265	Census	Accurate numbers
1851	1,297	Census	Accurate numbers
1991	986	Census	Accurate numbers
1994	1,020	Mid Suffolk C.C.	Estimated

Table 13 Population

not noted in the up-dated survey of 1695. By the early 19th century, although the field patterns remained basically the same, there was a change in land use, to the extent that by 1842, 1653 acres were arable.

The rising population of the 19th century led to extensive infilling between the existing tenements in the centre of the village and some strengthening of the hamlets with the exception of Clay Street which was reduced to three dwellings and its disappearance as a through route. By 1842 there was no longer a connection with Palmer Street and the houses at the west end of Clay Street were serviced by Chitter Lane.

The study of the documentary surveys allied to the fieldwalking survey has been used to chart the management of the landscape by the change in the field patterns. The common fields of the early medieval period were gradually broken down by a process of enclosure to provide fields more suitable for dairy herds. A return to a largely arable landscape by the 19th century, again to feed a rapidly rising population, changed the use, but not the pattern of smaller fields. The conversion from horse-power to tractors created the opportunity and the necessity to change the landscape on an unprecedented scale by improved drainage, the removal of many miles of hedges and ditches and the wholesale infilling of ponds.

Until recently agriculture predominated as the livelihood of the majority of the rural population; agriculture was labour intensive, all available man-power was required to work the land. Families often moved between villages and towns to secure employment and accommodation but their daily work confined them to their home village. The directories for Suffolk show that the parish was of a size to be self-sufficient in most things, in food, clothing, shelter, health and education, together with a wide variety of other trades and professions.

The far-reaching effects of mechanisation have resulted in the majority of people leaving the village for work and many services. The agricultural revolution in the post-war years of this century has totally changed the landscape and the social infrastructure of the rural way of life.

Finally, it is a matter of some concern that only two objects have been recorded from metal-detectorists, when it is known that many areas have been searched. Much valuable information could be added to the study of Walsham le Willows by an awareness on all sides of the value of the proper recording of discoveries.

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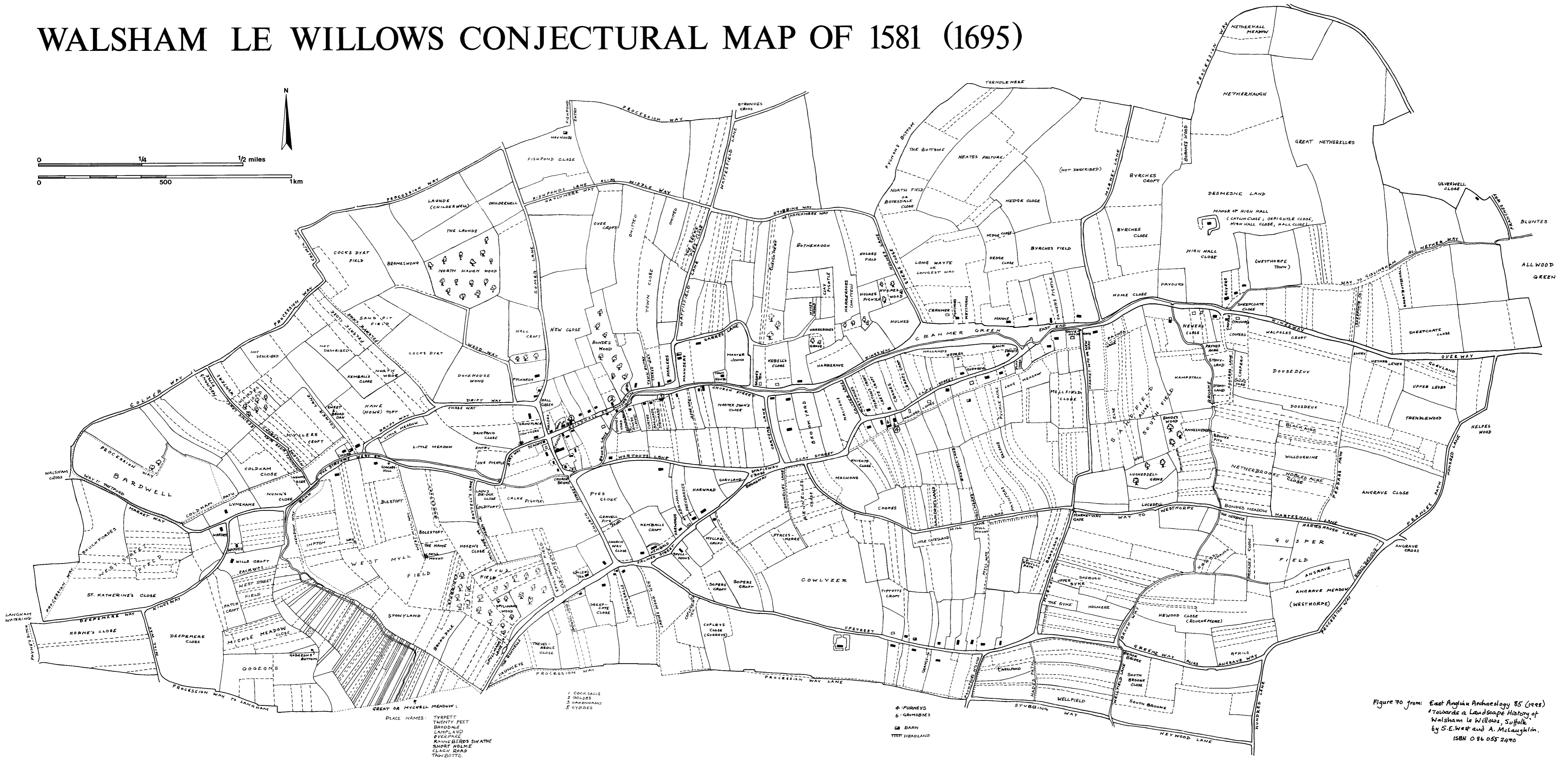
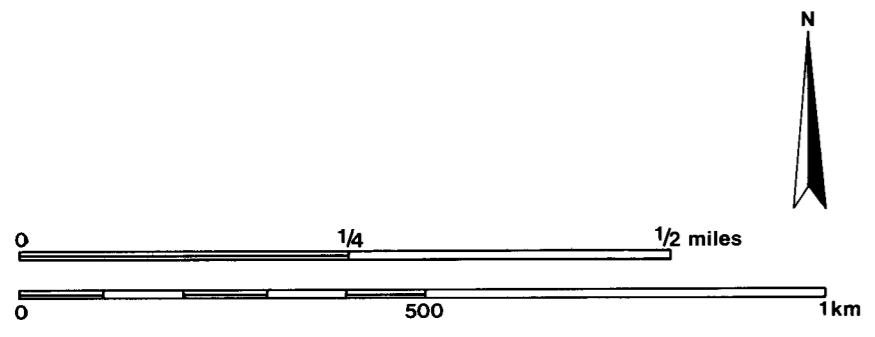
**Note:** The index covers subjects and major topographical features. No personal names are indexed. For existing buildings identified in the 1577 and 1695 surveys see Table 5 (pp 15–17). For detailed indexes of place names see Table 8 (p. 39), Table 9 (pp 41–3), and Tables 10–11 (p. 45). For tenants in the Great Meadow (Mickle Meadow) in 1695 see Fig. 68 (pp 105–6).

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# WALSHAM LE WILLOWS CONJECTURAL MAP OF 1581 (1695)



4 FURNEYS  
 6 GRIMSBYES  
 BARN  
 TITIT HEADLAND

Figure 70 from: East Anglian Archaeology 85 (1998)  
 'Towards a Landscape History of  
 Walsham le Willows, Suffolk'  
 by S.E. West and A. McLaughlin.  
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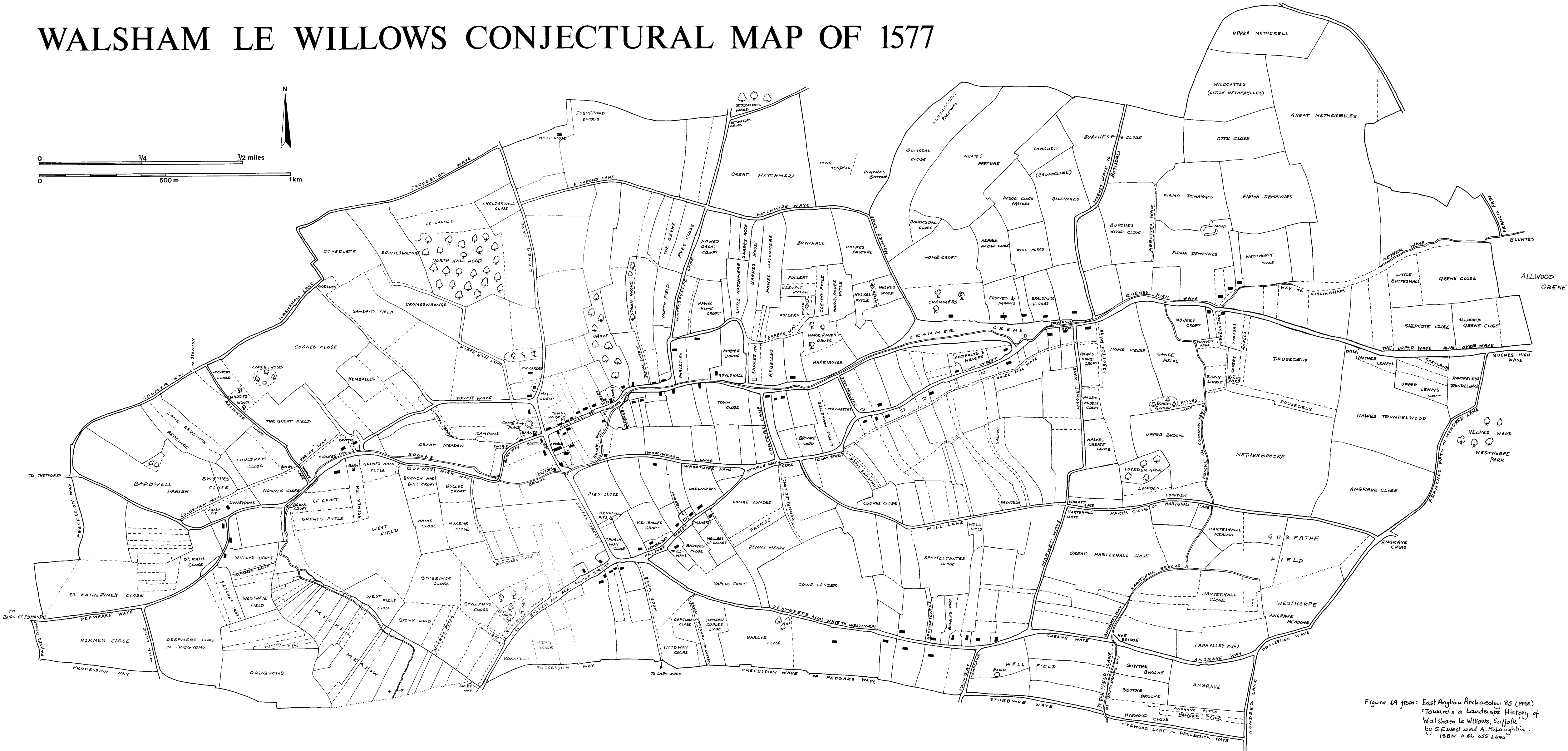
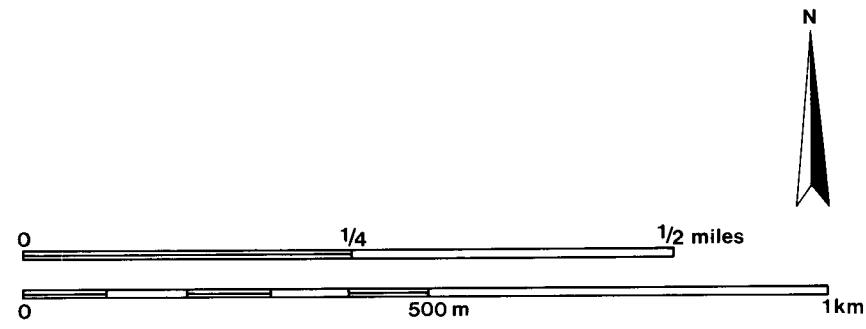


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