

Berkshire Charters.

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Continued from p. 102, Vol. XXX, No. ii.

ABBREVIATIONS.

AS., Anglo-Saxon; B. (with a number), number of Charter in Birch's *Cartularium Saxonicum*; K. (with a number), number of Charter in Kemble's *Codex Diplomaticus*; By., Boundary; TA., Tithe Award; p.n., personal name; Pl.N., Place Name; fur., furlong.

EASTHAMPSTEAD.¹

Easthampstead is about $7\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of Windsor.

FIELD NAMES.

Cunworth Copse (OM6) : 5 fur. S.W. by W. of the church.

Littleworth : 3 fur. S.S.E. of same.

Hanworth Plantation : $3\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S. by E. of same.

These three names support a conclusion at which I have arrived from a general consideration of the 'worths' in the charters, that they are holdings carved out of waste land after the best land in the neighbourhood had been taken up.

Long Leake Coppice : $1\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S.S.W. of same.

Great Moor : $1\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S. by E. of same.

Cressy Meadow : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.E. of same.

Skirmers : $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E.S.E. of same.

Little Nacry Field : $3\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S.W. of same.

Inner Hooks : $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S.W. of South Hill Park.

Goormoor Field : $3\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S. by W. of same.

Wykery Copse (OM6). Wood $1\frac{1}{2}$ fur. E. by N. of Peacock Farm.

Sketes Grove : Called Tarman's Copse in OM6. $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.S.E. of same.

Great Hollands : $3\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S.W. of Manor Farm.

Greet Field : 3 fur. S.S.E. of Peacock Farm.

Waterhams : Now a wood $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.S.E. of same. 'Water Enclosures.'

¹ I should have inserted this parish in its proper alphabetical order, had I not forgotten that I had collected its field-names in order to see whether they threw any light on the Winkfield charter.

Northerams : Now a wood (OM6) 3 fur. S.S.W. of Manor Farm.

‘ Northern Enclosures.’

Nackry Field : 5 fur. S.S.W. of same.

Nacry Coppice : 4 fur. S. by W. of same.

Long Leake : $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of same.

Great and Little Stonyham : Two fields $2\frac{3}{4}$ fur. S.E. of same.

Steelwell Coppice : No longer a wood. Immed. N.W. of Church-stile Farm.

Mephams : 1 fur. N.N.E. of same.

Clam Close : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. E. of same.

Blackstones and Kentings : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. by W. of Bracknell station (OM1).

Law Ham : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. by E. of same.

The Moor : Immed. S.S.W. of same.

The Crate : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. W. of same, just N. of railway. ‘ Hurdle.’

Priestwood Croft : $2\frac{3}{4}$ fur. W. of same ; now cut by railway.

Leaches Close : $3\frac{1}{2}$ fur. W.N.W. of the house at Easthampstead Park (OM1). In the park.

Lower Garston : $1\frac{1}{2}$ fur. N.W. of same. In the park.

Great Ham : Immed. W.N.W. of same. In the park.

Mill Moor Coppice : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. W.S.W. of same. In the park. No longer woodland.

Mudwalls Coppice : $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S.W. of same. In the park. No longer woodland.

Duncotes : 3 fur. S.S.W. of same. In park.

Great Bars : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. by W. of same. In park.

Part of Ridings : $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S. by W. of same. In park. ‘ Road cut through a wood.’

KINGSTON LISLE AND SPARSHOLT.

Kingston Lisle is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Wantage.

Sparsholt is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Wantage.

CHARTER.

B. 1121, K. 1247, is a charter recording a grant made in A.D. 963 by King Eadgar to his chamberlain Aethelsie of 10 hides of land at *Speresholt* together with 1 hide and 12 strips of ploughland at *Bathalacing* (Balking) and a mill at *Hirdegrave* having

also 12 strips of ploughland attached to it. Skeat (Berks Pl.N.) interprets the name as 'Sper's Copse.' But there is also a Sparsholt in Hampshire, and there is no other place-name in the Gazetteer of the British Isles which appears to contain this element *Sper* or *Spere*. But it seems to occur in the name of an eyot in the Cherwell, called Sparsey, opposite Water Eaton a few miles N. of Oxford. It would be a very curious coincidence that a personal name *Sper* should occur in two cases in connection with *-holt*, and in no other connection save in this case on the Cherwell. In Tithe Awards of some parishes on the banks of the Test in Hampshire there occur 'spearbeds,' which seem to be beds of rushes, probably bulrushes. But the difficulty of connecting the names Sparsholt and Sparsey with such rushes is that the first element in both is in the genitive singular and therefore, inasmuch as it is not the name of a bird or animal, must apply to an individual object. A wood may indeed be named from some very individual prominent tree in it, but such an origin is inconceivable in the case of a rush. The old forms of the name of the Hampshire Sparsholt are practically the same as those of the Berkshire place-name. On the whole I do not think that any thoroughly satisfactory derivation of this name is at present possible.

SURVEY.

The survey is of the Saxon age; but it presents so many topographical difficulties that it may be well to give it in full before attempting to determine any of the individual landmarks.

1. *Aerest aet Sunemannes Wyrthige*: 'First at Suneimann's Enclosed Piece of Ground.'²

² I cannot enter fully into the question here, but I have reason to suspect that *wyrth*, 'worth,' and *wyrthig*, 'worthy' are not, as has been commonly supposed, mere variants having practically the same meaning. This was first suggested to me by the field names of Somerset, where 'worthy' is still used as the name of a single field without qualification: e.g., 'The Worthy.' On the other hand, it is pretty clear that 'worth' was originally equivalent to what we should call a 'farm.' Nor have I much doubt from an induction from instances of its use in the charters, that 'worth' was a farm which some individual had carved by cultivation out of the waste or pasture land of the original settlement. But 'worthy' is something much smaller—something like an individual field of modern times, even as it is in the field names of Somerset. After all, it is the diminutive form of 'worth,' so that there is nothing very strange in the difference of meaning; it is, in fact, what might be expected from the etymology of the two terms.

2. *Of etc. on gerihte on tha Heafod Stoccas* : 'From the Worthy straight on to the Stakes at the Headland of the Ploughland.'

3. *Of etc. on thone Rugan Hlinc nithewearde* : 'From the Headstakes to the Rough Lynch downward.'

4. *Thonon on gerihte on Bryxstanes Garan sutheweardan* : 'Then straight on to Bryxstan's Gore (triangular piece of ploughland) southward.'

5. *Of etc. on Duddes Dene* : 'From the Gore to Dudd's Dean.'

6. *Of etc. on thone Ealdan Garan suthewearden* : 'From the Dean to the Old Gore southward.'

7. *Thonon on gerihte on tha Bradan Stanas* : 'Then straight on to the Broad Stones.'

8. *Of etc. on Hodan Hlaew* : 'From the Stones to Hoda's Low (tumulus).'

9. *Of etc. on Hremnes Byrig westwardon* : 'From the Low to Ravensbury (Ravens' Camp) westward.'

10. *Of etc. on Lea Cumb* : 'From Ravensbury to Lea Combe.'

11. *Thonon rihte andlang streames* : 'Then straight along stream.'

12. *Th' on Tealeburnan* : 'Then to Teal (?) Bourne.'

13. *Andlang Tealeburnan* : 'Along Teal Bourne.'

14. *Th' on tha Rithe* : 'Then to the Streamlet.'

15. *Andlang Rithe on thone Thorn Stub on Bulan Dic* : 'Along the Streamlet to the Stump of the Thorntree to Bull Dyke.'

16. *Andlang Dices on thaes Cinges Scypena* : 'Along the Dyke to the King's Shippens.'

17. *Of etc. on th' Riscbed* : 'From the Shippens to the Rushbed.'

18. *Of etc. on thaes Cinges Thornas* : 'From the Rushbed to the King's Thorntrees.'

19. *Thonon on gerihte on th' Bean Furlang* : 'Then on straight to the Piece of Ploughland where Beans are grown.'

20. *Thonon on Snelles (Hlince) ufewardan* : 'Then to Snell's Lynch upward.'

21. *Of Snelles Lince th' eft on Sunemannes Weorthig* : ' From Snell's Lynch once more to Sunemann's Enclosed Piece.'

Note appended :—*Aand thaer hyrth in an Hyrde Wic aet Badalacing and an hid landes and XII aeceras maede and an miln aet Hyrde Grafe and XII aeceres landes* : ' And there belongs to it a Herdsmen's Farm Steading at Balking and one hide of ploughland and twelve strips of mead and a mill at Herdsmen's Grove and twelve strips of ploughland.

The first landmark whose position is determinable is 8. *Hodan Hlaew* is mentioned in the Uffington charter and also in an Ashbury charter ; and a comparison with these charters shows that on the W. By. of Kingston Lisle, possibly on the site of the small circular plantation which stands close to the By. about 2 or 3 fur. S. of Rams Hill (OM1), or at any rate somewhere quite near that point.

Hremnes Byrig of 9 is also mentioned in the Uffington and in another Ashbury charter ; and there is no doubt that it was a camp on the top of Rams Hill, the name of which preserves, with the usual corruption, the name of the camp. The contour of the vallum is just discernible in the ploughland.

Lea Cumb of 10 is the combe into which the W. By. runs just N. of Rams Hill (OM1), at a point due W. of Kingston village.

The *stream* of 11 is the stream which runs down that combe, along which the By. runs as far as the road from Kingston Lisle to Uffington. Here the stream has been diverted ; but the wavy nature of the W. By. N. of the road shows that the stream went formerly along that part of the By. also to a point N. of the Wilts and Berks Canal where the old and new courses of the stream unite once more. Thus landmark 11 seems to take the survey to the N.W. angle of the parish 7 fur. due N. of the hamlet of Fawler.

The *Tealeburna* of 12 and 13 is mentioned in an Ashbury charter and also in the charter of Goosey. It is Stutfield Brook which forms the W. part of the N. By. of Kingston Lisle.

The *Bulan Dic* of 15 presents a difficulty. It is mentioned in the Uffington charter (B. 687, K. 1129). The *Thorn Stubb* of

the same landmark is mentioned in the above Uffington charter and also in the Ashbury charter (B. 899, K. 1168).

The landmarks given at this part of the By. in the three charters come in the following order :—

Rith (Sparsholt).

Thorn Stubb (Sparsholt, Uffington, Ashbury).

Bulen Dices Ende, ' the end of Bula's dyke ' (Ashbury).

Aethelferthes Mearc, ' Aethelferth's Balk ' (Ashbury).

Bulen Dic (Sparsholt, Uffington, Ashbury).

Moreover it appears as if the *Thorn Stubb* were at the end of *Bulen Dic*. Also apparently at the *Thorn Stubb* the Sparsholt By. parts company with the By. of the other two charters.

Now Bula's Dyke appears to be the straightened course of the S. Ock which forms the N. end of the E. By. of Uffington just E. of Moor Mill (OM1), and the *Rith* of the Sparsholt charter seems to be a small stream on the Uffington-Balking By. S. of Uffington station. Thus it is almost certain that the By. given in the survey includes some small portion of the S.W. part of Balking parish which may be identified with the 1 hide at Balking mentioned in the note appended to the survey.

It is now possible to determine with something like probability the landmarks 12-16 inclusive.

12. The name *Tealeburna* appears to be applied to the *stream* of 11 as it used to run along the N. part of the W. By. of Kingston N. of the hamlet of Fawler (OM1).

13. It goes along the *Tealeburna* as far as the N.W. corner of Kingston parish, 7 fur. N. of Fawler (OM1).

14. It then runs up the *Rith* in a N.N.W. direction along the By. of Uffington and Balking.

15. It then comes to the *Thorn Stubb* and *Bulan Dic*, of which the former must have been close to the site of Uffington station.

16. It does not reach the end of *Bulan Dic*, for that would bring it to the N. Ock, which would almost certainly have been mentioned, had the By. given ever reached it. Therefore the *Cinges Scypena* must have been on the Uffington-Balking By. just N. of Uffington station, about due W. of the church at

Balking. At this point the By. must have turned E. along the N. By. of the hide at Balking.

There follow landmarks 17-21, of which the last is where the survey began. This was almost certainly a cardinal point in the By., and there cannot be much real doubt that it was the N.E. corner of the grant. But another thing becomes plain, that, though the grant is labelled Sparsholt, it is really a grant of the lands on Kingston Lisle, for in the first place the hidage and in the second place the number of landmarks in that part of the survey which has yet to be considered render it practically certain that the survey cannot include the large area of Sparsholt parish as well as that Kingston Lisle.

It is further to be noted (1) that landmarks 17-21 do not mention again the *Tealeburna* (Stutfield Brook) though that brook forms the western half of the present N. By. of Kingston Lisle ; (2) that towards the E. end of the present N. By. of that parish at the present day the parish extends N. of that brook.

According to B. 1121, K.1247, Balking was a 5 hide land-unit, and therefore, as the parish is 1,580 acres, the acreage per hide would be over 300 acres, so that the whole of the parish S. of a line drawn E. and W. through the church might be included in the 1 hide of this present grant. It is on the whole probable that landmarks 17-20 were on a line from the place indicated as the site of the *Cinges Scypena* of 16 parallel with the railway and about 1 fur. N. of it, meeting the present N. By. of Kingston at the northernmost point of it $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. N.N.W. of Hale Farm. As to the individual landmarks 17-20 it will be seen that they are all of a nature such as to render the possibility of identifying them unlikely ; but possibly *Snelles Hlinc* of 20 was on the S. slope of Green Hill, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. of Hale Farm (OM1). It is also possible that the triangular piece of the parish to the N. of the Stutfield Brook was the *Sunemannes Weorthig* of landmarks 1 and 17 of the survey.

It is fairly certain that the *Hyrde Wic* of the note appended to the survey was somewhere near Stutfield Brook, and that the mill at *Hyrde Graf* was also on that brook.

It remains to attempt to trace the remaining landmarks of the survey, 2-7, which must have been on the E. and S. boundaries of the land-unit.

The comparative fewness of the landmarks is very likely due to the fact that Kingston was a member or dependency of Sparsholt, and therefore the By. between them did not require very minute definition. The E. By. seems to be defined by only three landmarks, the Headland Stakes of 2, which were probably where the land begins to rise to the Down on the E. edge of Kingston Lisle Park (OM1). The *Ruh Hlinc* was, as the word *nithewearde* shows, on the S. slope of the Down, somewhere N. of Scary Hill (OM1). Perhaps Bryxstan's Gore was at the S.E. corner of the parish about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Scary Hill (OM1). *Duddes Denu* of 5 was almost certainly the 60ft. deep valley on the S. By. to the S. of the same hill. The Broad Stones of 7 were probably the S.W. angle of the parish By. about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.S.E. of Hare Warren (OM1).

LOCAL AND FIELD NAMES OF KINGSTON LISLE.

Great Hams : $3\frac{1}{2}$ fur. W.S.W. of Hale Farm (OM1). 'Enclosures.'

Probably 'mead' which had been divided up in severalty.

See notes on Watchfield.

Little Hams : Small field on N. side of Stutfield Brook (OM1)
3 fur. W. of same farm.

The Moors : Immed. S.W. of same farm. 'Swampy Ground.'

Long Dell Wood : Now Long Spinney Copse (OM6). About
3 fur. N. of Kingston Common Farm (OM1). 'Quarry'
or 'Stonedigging.'

Great Speney : Immed. N.N.W. of same farm, on other side of
canal. 'Speney' is a variant of 'spinney.'

Mead Lands : On W. By. $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. of canal. Old hayland.

The Gizzardges : W. By. immed. S. of canal.

The Breach : $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Kingston Common Farm (OM1). 'Land
broken up by the plough.'

Cowderoys : Immed. N. of the hamlet of Fawler.

Fawler : Hamlet (OM1). This is one of the most interesting
names in Berkshire. In a document of the time of Henry I
(Abingdon Cartulary, II, p. 125) are the following words :

'Prope montem ubi ad Album Equum scanditur ab antiquo tempore ecclesia istud manerium *Offentun* (Uffington) appellatum in dominio possidet, justa quod villa hidarum adjacet ex jure ecclesiae, quam *Speresholt* nominant.' Later occur the words: '*Esperesholt*, quae et alio nomine vocatur *Flagaflora*.'

This quotation shows two things: (1) that the old name of the land-unit of Kingston Lisle was *Flagaflora*, which is Fawler; nay more, that the whole of both Sparsholt and Kingston was sometimes comprehended under that name.

There can be little question that this *Flagaflora* of the Abingdon Cartulary is a miswriting for *Fagaflora*, 'coloured or variegated floor,' for in the first place had the original name contained 'l' it is practically impossible that that letter should have dropped out in the modern name Fawler, which is without any doubt the place referred to in the document. Moreover the name Fawler occurs in Oxfordshire, which is referred to as *Faga Flora* in the survey attached to B. 607, K. 340 (Alexander, Pl.N. Oxon). In the latter case the reference is to the mosaic floor of a Roman villa; and there can be little doubt that the reference is the same in this Berkshire name of Fawler.³

Linch Coppice: N. side of road halfway between Fawler and Kingston. Not now a wood.

Blacklands: The large field immed. S.W. of the village. The name may refer either to the badness or to the colour of the soil.

Middle Spars: Between Kingston Common Farm (OMI) and the E. By. The name looks as if it was the same as the first element in the name of Sparsholt. See previous notes on that name.

Blowing Stone Furlong: Immed. W. of The Warren (OMI), on the other side of the road. Named after the well-known Blowing Stone which is near its N.E. corner. 'Furlong' in field names implies ploughland.

³ The OM. does not mark any Roman site at the place; but it might be well for some local archaeologist to examine the hamlet and its immediate neighbourhood to see whether any remains of pottery or fragments of ancient bricks indicate such a site.

Lambourne Furlong : Immed. S. of The Warren (OM1). Perhaps the people of the neighbouring parish of Lambourn had some rights here.

Furlong above Ridgeway : 5 fur. N. by E. of Kingston Warren Farm (OM1).

Crog Hill : In extreme S.E. angle of parish, 7 fur. S. by E. of above farm.

FIELD NAMES OF SPARSHOLT.

Ramsleaze : $1\frac{1}{2}$ fur. N. of Northfield Farm (OM1).

Great Over Meadow : 3 fur. S.S.W. of same farm. 'Upper.'

Little Over Meadow : $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of same farm.

Lower Wighill : $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S. of the same farm. 'Wig' is possibly that element which is found in the word 'earwig,' and means some sort of insect. It is peculiarly common in the frequent local name Wigmore.

Gospel Leaze : $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. N.W. by W. of Broadleaze Farm (OM1). The place where the gospel was read in the perambulation of the bounds on 'Gang Days,' Rogation Days.

Potash Ground : 1 fur. W.N.W. of same farm.

Great Ground : Immed. N.E. of same farm.

Upper Westcote Meadow : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. by W. of same farm. 'West Cottage.'

The Strings : Immed. S. of South Farm (OM1). A name applied to ditches.

Moat Ground : $1\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S.E. of same farm.

The Upper Ham : 3 fur. E. by S. of Broadleaze Farm (OM1), just N. of the canal.

Breach Meadow : About 300 yds. S. by W. of same farm. 'Land broken up by the plough.'

Great Redlands : $1\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S. of Redlands Farm (OM1).

Long Rushleys : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. by E. of same farm.

Picked Close : About 300 yds. S.E. of same farm.

The Groves : On N. edge of village, $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. of the church (OM1).

Slade : 3 fur. N. by W. of church.

Great Tun Furlong : On E. By. $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. E.S.E. of church.

Upper Reeves : Just outside village, $1\frac{1}{2}$ fur. W.N.W. of church.
 'Small enclosures for cattle, pigs, or poultry.' Or may refer to the property of a reeve (local official).

Blacklands : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. W.S.W. of church (OMr). See notes on Kingston Lisle.

Wigmore : In Sparsholt Park, on the S. edge of it. A very common field and local name in the southern counties. The very frequent association of the first element Wig- with -more renders it almost impossible to assume, as it has been assumed, that it is a personal name. It is probably from AS. *wicga*, which meant some kind of insect. Cf. 'earwig.'

Ickleton and White Field Furlong : Immed. S.W. of the S.W. angle of Sparsholt Park. Ickleton Way was a late variant of the name Icknield Way which here forms the N. By. of the field.

Starveall Furlong : Immed. W. of Field Barn (OMr). Name very common in Berks. Obviously implies bad land.

Barrow Hill Piece : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.N.E. of Hill Barn (OMr). Tumulus to S.E. of it.

Picked Piece : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. of same barn. 'Having an acute angle.'

SPEEN.

Speen is 1 m. N.W. of Newbury.

There is only one reference to Speen itself in the charters. This is in B. 366, K. 214. The charter professes to date from A.D. 821 and records the grant of privileges by King Kenulf of Mercia to lands of Abingdon, a list of which is given. This list ends as follows : '*Boxora* (Boxford), *Weliford* (Welford), cum appenditiis suis, *Wicham* (Wickham in Welford) cum suis campis sicut Ceadwalla rex perdonavit, cum illa silva integra quae dicitur *Spene Pohanlaeh et Trinlaeh*.'

The reference is to timber land in *Spene* (Speen) which was apparently attached to the land-unit of Wickham. It is possible that this woodland is represented at the present day by the large woods on the ridge W.N.W. of Stockcross (OMr).⁴

⁴ Skeat (Berks Pl.N.) has a long note on this name Speen. It is a curious coincidence that the Roman station Spinae should have been on or near the site of the modern village of Speen ; but it is no more than a coincidence, for Skeat shows conclusively that there can be no connection between the names.

Though there is no charter surviving of Speen as a whole, and may never have been one, there is one of Benham which forms the S. part of the parish.

CHARTER.

B. 942, K. 1199, is a charter of the reputed date A.D. 956 recording the grant of 25 hides in *Bennahamme* by King Eadwuuig to a certain Aelfsige.

The hidage suggests that the grant was of more than average area, but the survey attached to the document is only partially traceable at the present day.

SURVEY.

The survey is of the Saxon age, and may be of the reputed date of the charter.

1. *Aerest of Cynetan on tha Maerdic* : 'First from the Kennet to the Boundary Dyke.'

The survey seems to begin at the S.W. corner of Speen parish, where its W. By. leaves the Kennet 3 fur. S.S.E. of the crossroads at Halfway (OM1). The *Maerdic* ran N. from the river along the straight W. By. of Speen parish.

2. *Of etc. on Haeddes Wyl* : 'From the Dyke to Haedd's Spring.'

3. *Of etc. on Claenan Crundel* : 'From the Spring to Clean Quarry.' (Probably a stone digging devoid of brushwood.)

4. *Of etc. on the Readan Hane* : 'From the Quarry to the Red Stone.'

5. *Of etc. on Wigmundes Swelgende* : 'From the Stone to Wigmund's Deep Hole.'⁵

6. *Of etc. up on thane Hryc* : 'From the Deep Hole up to the Ridge.'

Here the survey reaches the summit of the ridge along which the N. By. of Speen runs for some distance. But it is very uncertain whether it reaches the summit of it at the point where

⁵ I translate *swelgend* as in the dictionaries, while certain that it had some other meaning than those there given. But, though it occurs on various occasions in charter boundaries, no crucial instance of it has as yet come within my experience.

the present W. By. of Speen reaches it, near Wickham Heath, or whether the old By. followed another line leaving to the N. some of the woodland in the N.W. part of the parish, woodland which seems, as has been said, to have been formerly attached to Wickham. My impression is that it went up to the springs marked OM6 3 fur. N. by W. of Nalderhill House (OMr), and then turned E. towards Scotch Wood (OMr), reaching the top of the ridge somewhere about the middle of the N. By. of that wood. If so, the *Haeddes Wyl* of 2 was one of these springs. Investigation on the spot might find the site of the old *crundel* (quarry) of 3; but 4 and 5 are probably not determinable at the present day.

7. *Andlang Hrycces to Aellan Stapole*: 'Along the ridge to Ella's Pole.'

This is mentioned in the Boxford charter. It seems to have stood at the branching of the roads at the N.E. angle of Scotch Wood (OMr).

8. *Of etc. on Accan gefyrhthe*⁶: 'From the Pole to the Oak (?)
.....'

9. *Of etc. on Meos Broces Ford*: 'From the (Clump of Oak Bushes (?)) to the Ford of Moss Brook.'

This brook is mentioned in the Boxford charter, and a comparison of the two surveys shows that it was the little brook which comes from a wood and flows down to the Lambourn by the side of the road about 400 yds. S.E. of Huntsgreen Farm (OMr).

So, if the interpretation of landmark 8 be right, the *Accan Gefyrhth* was on the site of what is now Starveall Plantation (OM6).

10. *Of etc. on Screget*: 'From the Ford to . . . Gate (?)'.

This name is evidently in a corrupted form in the text. It is only possible to guess that the second element is *geat*.

11. *Of etc. on Holan Broces Haeffod*: 'From the Gate (?) to the Head of Hollow Brook.'

⁶ There is a reading *Aecan* for *Accan*. But the last word of the landmark is the difficulty. I should have guessed it to mean 'forward' did it not appear in the next landmark as an obvious substantive. I can only make the very vague conjecture that it is connected with that word *frith* which is not in the lexicons, but seems to mean 'brushwood.' In that case, *Accan Gefyrhth* would mean a clump of young oaks or oakbushes.

It is clear that the By. does not follow the Speen By. to the Lambourn, or that stream would almost certainly have been mentioned. From the ford of Moss Brook it appears to follow what is now the Boxford-Speen road till it meets the line of the Roman road just E. of Stockcross (OM1). Here a spring is marked in OM6 which gives rise to a small brook which runs N.N.E. to the Lambourn. This is the Head of the Hollow Brook.

The rest of the survey is not really traceable.

12. *Thonne on thaet Haecget* : 'Then to the Hatchgate.'

13. *Thonne on tha Rode eastewearde* : 'Then to the Woodland Ride eastward.'

I have taken *rod* to mean a 'ride' cut through a wood probably for the purpose of snaring and shooting game.

14. *Of etc. on Maer Lace* : 'From the Ride to the Sluggish Boundary Stream.'

15. *Of etc. on Stapleford ut on Cynetan* : 'From the Sluggish Stream to the Ford of the Pole out to the Kennet.'

16. *Thanne up andlang healfan streame eft on Maerdic* : 'Then up along mid-stream once more to the Boundary Dyke.'

A note is added : *and Codan Med therto* : 'and Coda's mead besides.'

It is just possible that the *Maer Lacu* of 14 is the brook on the S. part of the E. By. of Speen just before it reaches the Kennet. If only the position of *Stapleford* of 15 were determinable, the solution of this latter part of the survey would be facilitated.⁷

LOCAL NAMES.

The local names of Speen are either obvious in origin or uninteresting for the most part.

Bagnor : Hamlet on the Lambourn. Almost certainly *Bacgan-ora*, 'Bacga's Hillslope.' This personal name occurs in that of Bagley Wood near Oxford.

Speenhamland : *Spenhamelund* (Rotuli de Finnibus, A.D. 1225).

'The Ploughland of the House (Enclosure (?)) of Speen.'

Benham : *Bennahamm* of the charter. 'Banna's Enclosure.'

⁷ Estate maps or records of the property of Benham Court might preserve the name. Anyone who has access to them might do a very useful little piece of research.

STEVENTON.

Steventon is 4 m. S. of Abingdon.

Old names on its By. will be found in the Hendred, Hanney, Drayton, and Milton charters.

FIELD NAMES.

The Tithe Award Map of this parish was made before the Enclosure Act was applied to the parish, and therefore shows all the divisions of the common fields, which amount to many hundreds.

Lay Mead : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. W. of Steventon Lock (OMr). 'A meadow ; a place where animals lie.'

Hin Mead : Immed. W. of the lock.

Common Lays : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. E.S.E. of the lock.

East Water Slate : $4\frac{1}{2}$ fur. E.N.E. of the lock. 'Slate' or 'Sleight' is a sheep pasture.

East Mere Ditch : A ditch on the By. 5 fur. E. by N. of the lock. *Maere*, a 'boundary' or 'balk.'

Verb Lands : 5 fur. E. of lock.

Upper, Middle, and Little Hinge : $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. by S. of lock.

Mere Dike : Forms S. By. of Drayton. The *Maere Dic* of the Drayton charter. 'Boundary Dyke.'

Bindage : Just S. of where the canal crosses the W. By. 'Land used for the growing of straw for binding sheaves.'

Gooseham shooting on Hayward's Half : On E. edge of Cow Common (OMr). 'Enclosure for Geese.' The 'hayward' was a village official in charge of the mead.

Highmead shooting on Common : S.E. edge of Cow Common (OMr).

Town Croft Hades : 3 fur. N. of Lower Farm in Hendred.

Ealing Furlong : $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. by N. of same farm.

Crow Ditch : $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. N. by E. of same farm.

Mass Furlong : $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. of same farm. Probably land left originally for the saying of masses. Same name occurs in Radley.

Causeway Croft Furlong : $3\frac{1}{2}$ fur. N.E. of same farm.

Corn Lark : 5 fur. N.E. of same farm.

Old New Broke : 3 fur. N.W. of Coldharbour Barn (OMr).

- Long Strings : 3 fur. N.E. by N. of same barn. 'Ditches.'
- Trulocks Wergs : On S.E. edge of Steventon Field (OMr).
 'Wergs' is derived from AS. *withigas*, which in this connection means 'withy hurdles.'
- Lower Stone Furlong : 7 fur. N. by W. of the church (OMr).
- Bartimer Bushes : $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.N.W. of church.
- Witley Furlong : $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. N.N.W. of church.
- Tattle Hinge Furlong : $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. N. by W. of church.
- Hove Yards : $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N. of church.
- Nan Hill : $8\frac{1}{2}$ fur. N.E. of church.
- Home Sutton : $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. N.E. of station.
- Pugsden : Two fields $\frac{3}{4}$ m. E.S.E. of station.
- Picked Piece : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. W. of church. 'Having an acute angle.'
- Drove Way and Mere adjoining : 3 fur. E.S.E. of church. 'Balk.'
- Burley Furlong : 5 fur. E.S.E. of Steventon Farm (OMr).
- South Quabb : $3\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S.S.E. of same farm. 'A marshy place or bog.'
- Burn Bake : Just S. of last. 'Land reclaimed by mattock and by burning.'

SUNNINGWELL AND WOOTTON.

Sunningwell and Wootton are $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.S.W. and S.W. respectively of Oxford. It is well to take them together because the Sunningwell (Bayworth) charter includes Wootton.

CHARTERS.

In B. 366, K. 214, *Sunningawille* is mentioned among the lands of Abingdon in A.D. 821. In B. 850, a charter of the reputed date A.D. 811, *Sunnigwell (an)* is also mentioned in a list of Abingdon lands.

The most important charter referring to it is B. 932, K. 1202, which records the grant in A.D. 956 by King Eaduuig to Aelfric the thegn of 25 hides *aet Baegenweorthe*, written *Baenwurthe* in the title of the document. This is Bayworth, the hamlet in Sunningwell parish.

The survey attached to the charter shows the grant to have included Wootton.

SURVEY.

The survey is of the Saxon age, perhaps contemporary with the reputed date of the grant.

1. *Aerest of Gorgraefan up andlang Slades on thone Thorn*: 'First from the Trench at the Gore (?) (triangular piece of ploughland) up along the Slade (valley) to the Thorntree.'

This is also the first landmark of the Wootton charter. (See later.) It was at the extreme S. end of Wootton parish, about 200 yds. W. of the little hamlet of Cholswell (OMr). The Slade was evidently the hollow or depression in which the brook which runs past Cholswell, called Wildmoor Brook (OM6), runs. The Thorntree must have been somewhere on the S.W. By. of Wootton where the road from Cothill to Oxford crosses it.

2. *Thonne on on thaet Crundel sutheweard*: 'Then to the Stonedigging approaching it from the south.'⁸

This *Crundel* was probably on the S.W. By. of Wootton somewhere near where the road from Cothill (OMr) to Oxford crosses it.

3. *Thonne to than Pulle th' on Laeces Ford*: 'Then up to the Pool (then) to Leech's Ford.'⁹

'Leech' would mean a physician. The old name survives in three field-names in the neighbourhood of the ford, which was where the Abingdon-Bessilsleigh road crosses Sandford Brook (OMr). In Bessilsleigh there are two fields called Stonepit Lachford and Lachford; and in Wootton a field called Lashford immed. S.E. of the ford.

4. *Thonne up andlang Rithe on Gemaer Weg*: 'Then up along the Streamlet to the Boundary Way.'

The *Rith* is the upper part of Sandford Brook (OMr). The *Gemaer Weg* is now represented by a piece of the Abingdon-Cumnor road along which the By. runs for a furlong just E. of

⁸ There is no question about the meaning of *sutheweard* here, because topographically it can only have one meaning. But the words used in orienting Saxon surveys do present sometimes great difficulties, chiefly, I suspect, because the copyists of charters were not over careful in copying their endings.

⁹ Alexander (Pl.N. Oxon) seems to think that there may have been a Saxon word *laec* meaning a stream. That is possible; but I prefer the interpretation I have given it.

Little Bradley Farm (OMr), and perhaps also by the field road along which the By., running N.E. from near Henwood Cottages (OMr), runs for nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ m.

5. *Andlang Weges on tha Dic aet Scobban Oran* : 'Along the Track to the Dyke at Scobba's Hillslope.'

The By. is now running up the hill towards Henwood (OMr). *Scobban Ora* is the S.W. slope of that hill. The Dyke was probably where the By. leaves the field road for some distance at a point $\frac{1}{4}$ m. E. of Henwood Cottages.

6. *Andlang Dic on Gemaer Weg* : 'Along the Dyke to the Boundary Way.'

This is the same track as in 5. The By. meets it again about 300 yds. N.N.E. of where it left it. (See OM6).

7. *Andlang Weges on butan Thorn Hangran on Ceobba Stan* : 'Along the Track round the Hanging Wood of the Thorntrees to Ceobba's Stone.'

The *Thorn Hangra* must have stood where the house called Whitebarn (OMr) now stands, and also on the site of Stone's Copse (OM6). *Ceobba Stan* is mentioned in the Wootton charter under the name *Cybban Stan*, and under the same name in the Hinksey charter. It must therefore have been on a common By. between Wootton and Hinksey; but at the present day those parishes have no common By., for there lies between them a narrow S.E. extension of the parish of Cumnor.

Of this part of Cumnor something must now be said. It appears to have been in early Saxon times an independent land-unit called *Geatescumb*, a name which survives in a field name Yatscombe or Gatscombe, and also a farm name (OMr) on the road from Oxford to Boar's Hill (OMr). A very early charter dating, so it is said, before A.D. 688, which only survives in a fragmentary form, and records a grant made by Ceadwalla of Wessex to Abingdon, speaks of 20 hides, and says that there belong to these 20 hides '*silva quae vocatur Adeleahing, et alia Colmonora et Geatescum.*' This is the Yatscombe above mentioned, and it is probable that the name included the whole of what is now this projecting piece of Cumnor parish. But

what the charter seems to imply is that *Geatescum* was a separate land-unit.

The tendency was in later Saxon times for these small land-units to be joined to others in the neighbourhood, especially for ecclesiastical purposes. That is how parishes formed of tithings come into being; and, if the localities in which such parishes are found be noted, it will be seen that they are situated in regions which were in early times heavily wooded. These tithings are indeed descended from small land-units carved out of wooded lands at some period after the first Saxon settlements in this country had been made. As to *Geatescumb* it seems that, when it came to be blocked in with other land-units, it was not attached at first to Cumnor, but was divided between Hinksey and Wootton. The boundaries of the present charter do not pass along the modern E. By. of Wootton, but along a line roughly speaking about halfway between that By. and the W. By. of Hinksey. Later there seems to have come a time when *Geatescumb* was taken away from Wootton and Hinksey, and blocked with Cumnor. This was probably done at the instance of the monastery of Abingdon for reasons—it may be either ecclesiastical or secular—of its own.

The *Ceobba or Cybban Stan* of this and the Wootton and Hinksey charters must have stood somewhere near the northernmost point of Stone's Copse, possibly where the bridle road from Chilswell Farm (OMr) to Chawley passes the N. end of that copse. That the name of the copse itself may be reminiscent of the former existence of the old stone is quite possible, for there is in local and field names a strong tendency for them to take the possessive form when all recollection of their origin has passed away.

8. *Forth andlang Gemaer Weges on thone Weg aet Cealfes Wulle*: 'Forth along the Boundary Way to the Way at Calf's Spring.'

This *Weg* was probably on the line of the bridle way which leads from the Oxford-Boar's Hill road past Chilswell Farm to the Oxford-Cumnor road at Chawley (OMr). The *Cealfes Wyl* is evidently the small stream which flows past Chilswell Farm.

9. *Forth andlang Weges to Yfemestan Leage* : 'Forth along the Way to the Top Lea.'

This lea is mentioned in the Hinksey charter. It was on the N.W. side of the Oxford-Boar's Hill road in the interval between where the Hinksey By. and the Chilswell bridle road abut on that road.

10. *Thonne forth ofer Sciteres Clif to Hig Wege* : 'Then forth over Archer's (?) Steep Slope to the Hay Way.'

The Hay Way is the Oxford-Boar's Hill road. It is evident that it got that name because it was the way from the mead land of Wootton, which was on the eyot behind the fever hospital at Cold Arbour (OM6) which is at the bend of the Boar's Hill-Oxford road about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.E. of the bridge over the Great Western Railway. This mead is not mentioned in any charter ; but the eyot behind the hospital was formerly part of the parish of Wootton.

The landmarks which follow are difficult to follow, because the survey is traversing a complicated piece of boundary. They correspond largely with the landmarks given in the Abingdon charter B. 924, K. 441¹⁰ ; but the landmarks come in the reverse order.

11. *Andlang Weges to than Rahhege* : 'Along the Way to the Roedeer Hedge.'

12. *Andlang Weges on Haesel Dic* : 'Along the Way to Hasel Dyke.'

13. *Thonne on Wulfstanes Dic* : 'Then to Wulfstan's Dyke.'

14. *Of thaere Dic on Maduces Lea* : 'From the Dyke to Madduc's Lea.'

15. *Thurh thone Lea on thone Put* : 'Through the Lea to the Pit.'

16. *Of etc. on thone Ellen Stub* : 'From the Pit to the Stump of the Elder-tree.'

17. *Thonne on Lippan Dic* : 'Then to Lippan's Dyke.'

18. *Andlang (Dic) on Seofon Aeceras westewealde* : 'Along the Dyke to the Seven Strips of Ploughland westward.'

¹⁰ Published in this Journal, Vol. XXVII., No. 1 (Spring, 1922) and Vol XXVIII., No. 2.

19. *Thonne on thone Haethenan Byrgels*: 'Then to the Heathen Burial-place.'

20. *Thonne on thaet Scorte Land suthewearde*: 'Then to the Short Plough Land southward.'

21. *Thaet andlang Furrh on thone Healpan Aecer*: 'Then along the Furrow to the Half Strip of Ploughland.'

22. *Thonne on thaet Rithig Bed*: 'Then to the Bed of the Streamlet.'

On this stretch of By. the Abingdon charter mentioned gives the following landmarks, taking them in reverse order, and giving the numbers in that charter

32. *Hig Weg* (10): 31. *Gemaer Weg on Baegen Wyrth* (Bayworth) (12): 30. *Haesel Dic* (12): 29. *Aecer Dic* (13 (?)): 28. *Eald Dic* (13 (?)): 27. *Madoces Leah* (14): 26. *Horopyt* (15): 25. *Brembel Thyrnas and Dic*: 24. *Ellen Styb* (16): 23. *Sucgan Graf*: 22. *Lippan Dic* (17): 21. *Seofon Aeceras* (18): 20. *Heathenan Byrgels* (19): 19. *Sceort Lond* (20): 18. *Furrh* (21): 17. *Healf Aecer* (21): 16. *Heafod*: 15. *Fyrh*: 13. *Withig Bed* (22).

Returning to the Bayworth landmarks:

Sciteres Clif is the steep slope up which the Oxford-Boar's Hill road ascends just before the road to Abingdon turns away from it. 11 takes the survey up the road towards Boar's Hill until it reaches the westernmost angle of Bagley Wood, where the Sunningwell By. diverges from the road in a S.S.E. direction. 12. Here the *Weg* is not the *Higweg* of the previous landmark, but part of a much more important road which ran in former times down the W. side of Bagley Wood (OM1), a piece of the important ridgeway which came from Faringdon and beyond along the watershed between the Ock and the Thames to Cumnor and then over Cumnor Hurst, and along the ridge of Boar's Hill to Abingdon.¹¹

It will be seen from the map that this edge of Bagley Wood is on the watershed. It is probable that the *Rahhege* of 11 ran along the side of this road along the W. edge of Bagley Wood. No doubt the wood contained roedeer.

¹¹ A detailed note on this end of this ridgeway is given in reference to an Abingdon charter in Vol. XXVII., No. 1, of this Journal, p. 99.

Here the boundary comes to the bounds of that small extra parochial piece of land called Chandling's Farm (OM1), which is included in the Abingdon charter of A.D. 955, but not included in that of 956. This present charter is dated in the latter year, so that we must conclude that in 955-6 this piece of land was transferred from Abingdon to Bayworth. The change was probably of no great significance, merely the transfer for administrative purposes of a piece of land from one of the abbey estates to another. Both this charter and the Abingdon charter above quoted follow very minutely the bounds of this little piece of land.

12. The Hazel Dyke ran probably along the S. By. of Bagley Wood which lies W. of the Oxford-Abingdon road.¹²

13. Wulfstan's Dyke represents either one or both of the Acre and Old Dykes of the Abingdon charter. I think it must have run down the N. part of the E. By. of Chandling's Farm, parallel to, and about 80 yds. W. of, the Oxford-Abingdon road. But as a fact all that can be said of the dykes in this part of this survey and in the corresponding part of the Abingdon charter is that they are certainly the ditches which run along the S. edge of Bagley Wood W. of the Oxford-Abingdon road, and also those which surround the one field (OM6) belonging to Chandling's Farm which lies on the E. side of that road. That field is evidently the *Maduces Leah* of 14.

The Pit of 15 is probably still surviving in the old pond on the By. of Chandling's Farm, a little more than 100 yds. E. of the buildings of the farm, and about 3 chains W. of the Oxford-Abingdon Road, where the By. of the farm turns S.

The Elder Stump of 16 was possibly where the Sunningwell By. turns W. at the point where the Sunningwell Lane leaves the Oxford-Abingdon road.

The *Lippan Dic* was almost certainly a ditch running down that part of the Sunningwell By. which runs for more than half a mile in all but a straight line S. from a point on Sunningwell Lane. Further S. of this the Sunningwell By. makes a series of

¹² In my notes on the Abingdon charter I put it E. of the road ; but I think that the position here suggested is the more probable.

angles, and no doubt the *Seofon Aeceras* of 18 and the *Haethen Byrgels* of 19 were at two of these angles.

The *Sceort Land* of 20 was perhaps on the site of the field now called Short Moor which is on the Sunningwell By. about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. by E. of Northcourt (OM1).

The *Healf Aecer* of 21 was probably at the point a little more than $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.W. of Northcourt (OM1) where the Sunningwell By. turns S.S.E.

The *Rithig Bed* was at the S. point of the long narrow projection of Sunningwell parish which comes close to the N.W. edge of Northcourt. It is called *Withig Bed* in the Abingdon charter. But it is quite possible that both names were applied to the same piece of land, for this *Rithig Bed* is on a small stream which is called *Pippel Rithig* in an Abingdon charter; and no doubt the bed was a 'withy bed,' i.e. *Withig Bed*.¹³

23. *Thonne on Dunan Ford*: 'Then to Duna's Ford' (or possibly 'Ford of the Down').

24. *Of etc. andlang Sunnigga Wullae Broces on Wudaeford*: 'From the Ford along Sunningwell Brook to Wood Ford.'

Sunningwell Brook is the stream which, coming from the N.W., flows past the W. edge of Northcourt, forming for nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ m. the E. By. of Sunningwell. The name of the *Dunan Forda* of 23 is partly preserved in the name of Dunmoor, that of the field which lies about 3 fur. W.N.W. of Northcourt.

Wudaeford of 24 is mentioned in the Wootton and both the Abingdon charters. It was where about 3 fur. E.N.E. of Cholswell (OM1) the lane which comes down S.S.W. from Sunningwell crosses the above-mentioned brook.

25. *Thonne andlang Hricges on West Mor innon thone Broc*: 'Then along the Ridge to West Swamp towards the Brook.'

This brook is Wildmoor Brook (OM1). From Wood Ford the By. runs W. towards it, but does not actually reach it. The West Swamp was no doubt by this brook. The Ridge was the rise of land between the Sunningwell and Wildmoor Brooks.

¹³ It will be seen that I have, since publishing the notes on the Abingdon charter in Vol. XXVII. of this Journal, been able to define more accurately some of the landmarks mentioned in that and in the present charter.

26. *Up andlang Broces on Gorgraves thaer hit aer on feng :*
 'Up along the Brook to the Trench at the Gore where it first began.'

The By. runs up Wildmoor Brook to landmark 1.

The main survey is followed by two supplementary surveys of two pieces of mead which belonged to the land unit. The attachment of these pieces of mead to the main grant would be due to the fact that there was not in it sufficient water-meadow to provide hay for the cattle of the holders of land in it.

SURVEY OF THE FIRST PIECE OF MEAD.

This sint thara mead gemara the to than Lande ge byriath :
 'These are the bounds of the Mead which belongs to the Arable Land' :—

1. *Aerest of thaere Brycge on Berige :* 'First from the Bridge to Beaver (?) Island.'

This island, as is clear from the Kennington and one of the Abingdon charters, is the great eyot which extends from the Long Bridges, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. below Folly Bridge at Oxford, down to the Railway Bridge at Kennington. The Bridge here mentioned appears to have been at the S. end of the island, close to the railway bridge, across the large backwater which runs along the W. side of the island. *Berig* was a mead of the main Abingdon lands and of Kennington; therefore it is improbable that it was part of the mead of Bayworth. Hence the survey starts at the bridge at the S. end of the island, and does not include any part of the island itself.

2. *Up andlang midstremes oth foran ongean tha Niwan Dic :*
 'Up along midstream until opposite the New Dyke.'

The boundary ran up the backwater to the W. of *Berig* as far as the N. By. of Radley parish, which leaves this backwater and runs S.W. across the railway just where the line from Thame joins the main line. The New Dyke was an artificial ditch which started at this point on the backwater, ran for a furlong to the first angle in the Radley By. and then turned S.S.E.

3. *Up andlang Dic*¹⁴ : 'Up along the Dyke.'

There is no difficulty in marking the course of the New Dyke on the map. It runs at the present day as a ditch, from the above-mentioned point, where the Radley By. turns S.S.E. a few yards W. of the railway, in a straight line for more than a mile parallel with, and close to, the railway on its E. side, as far as the lane which runs from the Oxford-Radley road to Sandford Mill (OM1), where it joins the brook (*Wulfrices Broc* of the Abingdon charter).

4. *Thonne oth midne streamen* : 'Then as far as mid stream.'

5. *Nither andlang streames up on thone Greatan Wilig* : 'Down along stream up to the Great Willowtree.'

6. *Thonne andlang thaere Hege Raewe ut on tha Ea oth midne stream* : 'Then along the Hedgerow (Row of Trees) out to the River as far as midstream.'

These landmarks are not easy to follow. The Great Willow of 5 is shown by an Abingdon charter to have stood on the Berkshire bank of the river somewhere about opposite to the S. end of the Eyot (*Herdig*) on the Oxfordshire side of the river, (though actually in Berkshire), about 3 fur. below Sandford Mill (OM1). Apparently there was a break in the continuity of this mead of Bayworth, and the small field which lies S. of the lane from the Oxford-Radley road to Sandford Mill was not included in it. If this be right, then the new Dyke terminated at this lane and the By. ran (landmark 4) E. to the river. It then went down the river to the Great Willow of 5. From there it went along the S. and W. boundaries of the field on the Oxfordshire side of the river opposite to the Eyot, and then (landmark 6) returned to the river along the N. By. of this field. It is noticeable (OM6) that there is still a 'hedgerow,' row of trees, along the W. By. of this field. From there the By. went up the river to the bridge at the S. end of *Berig*.

¹⁴ Birch (C.S.) omits these words from his text, but prints them in a note under the evident impression that they are a gloss. As a fact, they must have been an original landmark of the survey.

SURVEY OF THE SECOND PIECE OF MEAD.

Thonne synt this tha ge maero thaere maede aet Ennan Beorgum :
 'Then these are the boundaries of the mead at Enna's Barrow.'

Were it not for the field names of Radley it would be quite impossible to determine the site of this mead. In them however the field between Radley village and the river through which passes the road to the ferry to Nuneham is called Bayworth Meadow, and the two fields to the S. of that field, and S. of a largish backwater of the river are called Homeward Eney and Further Eney. This name contains evidently the *Ennan* of the survey, in other words Eney is derived from an original *Ennan-ig*, 'Enna's Island.'

1. *Of thaere Dice Ende ford* (probably for forth) *thon* (for on (?)) *tha Ea* : 'From the End of the Dyke out to the River.'

2. *Nither andlang midstreames up on tha Won Lace oth foran ongearn thone Beorh* : 'Down along midstream up to the Crooked Backwater till opposite the Barrow.'

3. *Thaer be tweonan Meade and dune eft on tha Dic* : 'Then between the Meads and down again to the Dyke.'

The Dyke of 1 was the N. By. of Bayworth Meadow. The By. then runs in 2 down the river to the mouth of the backwater about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. below the ferry to Nuneham. This is the Crooked Backwater of 2. There is perceptible a slight rise in the field S. of the backwater which may mark the site of the old barrow. In 3 the By. runs up the W. side of Bayworth Meadow to the Dyke of 1. Probably the small fields between Bayworth Meadow and Radley village were also meads, and hence the *betweonan Meade* of 3.

THE WOOTTON CHARTER.

K. 1283 is a charter recording the grant in A.D. 985 by King Aethelred to his servant Leofwin of 10 hides at *Wuttun*.

The lands had been granted to Abingdon by King Kenulf in A.D. 821 ; and they were in the possession of the abbey at a time later than this present grant.

This grant is confined to the lands of Wootton. It does not include Sunningwell ; nor does it take in that part of Cumnor

(*Geatescumb*) which was included in the Sunningwell (Bayworth) charter. It is probable therefore that the latter was transferred to Cumnor between A.D. 956 and A.D. 985.

SURVEY.

The survey is of the Saxon age.

The landmarks which correspond with those of the Sunningwell charter will be referred to that charter.

1. *Aerest aet Gorgrafes Slaede on thaet Crundel* : 'First from the Slade of the Trench¹⁵ of the Gore to the Quarry.'

For the *Gorgraf* see 1 of the previous charter. So also the *Slaed*. For the *Crundel* see 2 of previous charter.

2. *Of etc. on Laeces Ford on thone Mor* : 'From the Quarry to Leech's Ford to the Swampy Ground.'

See 3 of previous charter. The *Mor* would be beside Sandford Brook near the Ford.

3. *Of etc. on Ceobban Hangran* : 'From the Ford to Ceobba's Hanging Wood.'

4. *Of etc. on thaet Waeterslaed* : 'From the Hanging Wood to the Waterslade (Valley).'

5. *Of etc. on Sceobban Oran Wylle* : 'From the Waterslade to the Spring of Scobba's Hillside.'

6. *Of etc. on Wrothhangran* : 'From the Spring on Scobba's Hillside to the Hanging Wood of (Crime (?)).'¹⁶

7. *Of etc. on Cybban Stan* : 'From the Hanging Wood of (Crime (?)) to Ceobba's Stone.'

This last landmark is 7 of the previous charter.

Also 5 of this charter corresponds in a sense to 5 of the previous charter.

¹⁵ As between this and the Sunningwell charter there is on the face of the text a discrepancy. In the charters generally there is such a tendency to mix up the words for 'trench' and 'grove,' that it is impossible to say in many instances to which of these two features the reference is. That is so in the present case. This first landmark may be either a trench or a grove which was near the gore. The Sunningwell charter would suggest the former; the Wootton charter the latter.

¹⁶ I query the translation because in Saxon nomenclature a place name of this type is very rare indeed. Saxon place names are of a very matter-of-fact character, quite unlike the fanciful and more picturesque type of nomenclature found in Celtic regions.

Though the landmarks are not all the same, the two surveys are following the same line. The *Ceobban Hangra* of 2 must have been on the N.W. By. of Wootton about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. E. of Henwood Cottages (OM1). The *Waeterslaed* of 4 and the Spring of 5 must have been near the marshy ground marked OM6, near the third angle which the N.W. By. of Wootton makes N.E. of the Abingdon-Cumnor road. The Hanging Wood of 6 was a wood on what is now the site of Hen Wood and Stone's Copse.

The survey has now reached the N.E. angle of Stone's Copse or a point close to it. Henceforth the By. of the present grant diverges from that of the Bayworth charter.

There cannot be much doubt that the name *Scobba* is a miswriting for *Ceobba* or *Cybba* of the other landmarks.

8. *Of etc. on thone Hrycgweg*: 'From the Stone to the Ridgeway.'

The line of the ridgeway is lost at this point; but, as has been said, it was a ridgeway which was part of the ridgeway along the watershed of the Ock and the Thames which came from beyond Faringdon to Cumnor and then followed the watershed over Cumnor Hurst and Boar's Hill to Abingdon. It appears later in the present charter. This part of it must have come up through Stone's Copse (OM6) and impinged on the Wootton By. at the re-entering angle that By. makes about 3 fur. W. of Whitebarn House (OM1). The next landmark shows that it ran along that By. for what must have been at most a short way.

9. *Andlang Weges on Colmenoran*: 'Along the Way to (Charcoal Burners' (?)) Hillside.'

That *Colmenora* is not Cumnor but the name of this W. end of Boar's Hill has been shown in the notes on Cumnor. Here it seems to be applied to the N. slope of the hill.

10. *Of etc. on Waendles Cumb*: 'From Colmenora to Waendel's Combe.'¹⁷

¹⁷ Bowing to popular prejudice as shown in the interpretation of place names containing the element *Waendel*, I translate as above. But I am becoming more and more convinced that *waendel* was really a quarry, sandpit, chalkpit, or gravelpit into which a cart road led. There are two gravelpits at the head of this combe.

This combe is the large hollow or valley $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.N.W. of Chilswell Farm (OM1).

11. *Of etc. on thone Swanweg*: 'From the Combe to the Swineherds' Way.'

This must have been a track running up the hill from the neighbourhood of Chilswell Farm (OM1), possibly along the line of the present footpath, for such tracks tend to keep the same line for centuries.

12. *Of etc. on Riscleahe ufewearde*: 'From the Way to Rush Lea upward' (or 'to its upper side').

This is a reference to the rushgrown field over which the By. passes about 3 fur. S.S.W. of Chilswell Farm (OM1).

13. *Of etc. on thone Rugan Weg*: 'From the Rush Lea to the Rough Way.'

The line of the Way has vanished. It must have run up through the wood called Tommy's Heath (OM1).

14. *Of etc. on thone Lampyt*: 'From the Way to the Claypit.'

This was probably at or near the E. angle of Tommy's Heath (OM1). There are both ancient and existing claypits in the neighbourhood now.

15. *Of etc. on thaes Cumbe's Heafod*: 'From the Pit to the Head of the Combe.'

This is the hollow on the E. edge of Tommy's Heath. The head of the combe would be near the road.

16. *Of etc. on thone Portweg*: 'From the Head of the Combe to the Portway (Town or Market Way).'

This was part of the ridgeway already mentioned, at this point on the line of the present road along the ridge of Boar's Hill. The Wootton By. follows the road for a few yards close to the house called Foxcombe (OM6). Its name would be due to its leading to the 'port' of Abingdon.

17. *Oth thone Greatan Thorn*: 'As far as the Great Thorntree.'

This might be taken as part of the previous landmark. The tree was at the point where the By. leaves the *Portweg* about 80 yards E. of the house at Foxcombe (OM 6).

18. *Of etc. on Foxhola Cumbe ofeweardne*: 'From the Thorntree to the Combe of the Foxholes from its upper side.'

This combe still has what is practically the old name, Foxcombe. It is the combe to the S. of the house of the same name (OM6), and Wootton Heath (OM1) lies in it. The Wootton By. skirts the upper edge of it.

19. *Of etc. to Blacan Graue* : 'From the Combe to Black Grove.'

This grove survives under the name Blagrove Copse, the wood $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.E. of Blagrove Farm (OM1).

20. *Ofeweardan on tha Dic* : 'On the Dyke from above.'

This must be the translation of *ofeweardan* here, for the By. is running downhill.

21. *Andlang Dic to Heorthamme* : 'Along the Dyke to Harts' Enclosure.'

22. *Of etc. to Wuda Forda* : 'From Harts' Enclosure to the Ford of the Wood.'

This is the Woodford of 24 of the Bayworth charter, i.e. the ford 3 fur. E.N.E. of Cholswell (OM1). Therefore the *Dic* and *Heorthamm* must have been on the By. between this point and Blagrove, the former probably along the By. W. of Sunningwell village, and the latter further S.

23. *Of etc. on Pottenes Treow* : 'From Woodford to Potten's Tree.'

In one of the Abingdon charters this tree is called *Potteles Treow*. It seems to have stood about where the lane from Long Furlong Farm (OM1) enters the Abingdon-Cumnor road.

24. *Of etc. andlang Gemaeres on thone Mor* : 'From the Tree along the Balk to the Swampy Ground.'

The Balk must have run along the By. W.S.W. from the Abingdon-Cumnor road, and the *Mor*, which is mentioned also in the Bayworth charter, was on the Wildmore Brook (OM1) near Cholswell (OM1).

25. *Thaet up andlang Broces on Cealdan Wyl* : 'Then up along the Brook to Cold Spring.'

This spring gives its name to the modern Cholswell, but the actual spring was probably on the By. rather more than 1 fur. N.N.E. of that place.

26. *Of etc. to thaere Thornraewe*: 'From the Cold Spring to the Row of Thorntrees.'

This row of trees must have run S. down the short stretch of By. 1 fur. N. of Cholswell.

27. *Of etc. thaet eft in on Gorgrafes Slaed*: 'From the Row of Thorntrees once more to Gore Grove (or Trench) Slade.'

See landmark 1.

FIELD NAMES OF SUNNINGWELL.

Yatscombe Farm (OM1): Yatscombe Copse, immed. N. of the farm: Bushy Gatscombe (TA.), immed. N.W. of farm: Ploughed Gatscombe (TA.), immed. S.W. of last. The *Geatescumb*, 'Combe of the Gate,' of the charter. If the TA. form represents the pronunciation of the name, as it presumably does, at the time the TA. was made, then we have an interesting case of the hardening of 'g' before 'a' on the analogy of other words with the same combination of letters. AS. *geat*, in which the 'g' was very soft, something between 'j' and 'y,' developed in ME. to *yate*.

Withy Close: $\frac{1}{4}$ m. E. of Yatscombe Farm (OM1).

Middle, Long, and Furzy Hamels: Three fields about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.S.E. of same farm. I suspect the name to be a diminutive of AS. *hamm*, 'enclosure.'

Great Hammels: $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. by E. of Bayworth. See last.

Upper, Middle, and Town Breach: Three fields about 3 fur. W.N.W., W. and W.S.W. of the church at Sunningwell (OM1). 'Land broken by the Plough.'

Upper Bury Close: $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.S.E. of the church.

Lower Waste Hook: $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.S.E. of church. Either 'land on a slope,' or a 'projecting spit of land.'

Sugnell Copse: 1 fur. E.N.E. of Pen Barn (OM1). Probably *Sucganhealh*, 'Hedgesparrow Hollow.' Cf. the *Sucgan Graf* of the Abingdon Charter, which was close to its site. Cf. also Sugworth Farm in the neighbouring parish of Radley.

Great Ground: $\frac{1}{4}$ m. W. of Pen Barn. A name which occurs very frequently once, and only once, in Berkshire parishes.

Penbridge : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. W. by S. of same barn. 'Bridge by the Cattlepen.'

Dunmoor : $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. E. by N. of New Red Farm (OM1). Probably 'Swamp of the Down.' Called *Dene-mor*, probably for *Dune-mor* in an Abingdon charter. Cf. also the *Dunan-forda* of the Bayworth charter.

Long Furlong : $1\frac{1}{2}$ fur. E. of same farm.

Parson's Mead : In the S. end of the tongue of the parish which runs S. towards Northcourt (OM1). The parson of Sunningwell had a share of the hay from this land.

FIELD NAMES OF WOOTTON.

Whitebarn : Name of the field in which Whitebarn House now stands (OM1).

Rowley Heath : Field next S.E. of last. AS. *Ruh Leah*, 'Rough Lea.'

Boars Hill (OM1). The name occurs as Bores Hill in a document of the Fifteenth Century.

Jarnwell Piece : 3 fur. E.N.E. of Mayo's Farm (OM1).

Furzy Stockhill : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.E. of same farm.

Busfield Pond : Immed. E. of same farm, on other side of road.

Limnens : $2\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S.S.E. of same farm.

Hanging Lands : On W. edge of Wootton Heath (OM1).

Fox Field : 3 fur. E.N.E. of Manor Farm (OM1).

Bittoms : $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E.N.E. of same farm.

Flex Field : $3\frac{1}{2}$ fur. E. by N. of same farm. 'Flax.'

The Leys : Immed. N. of Blagrove Farm (OM1).

Well Meadow : 1 fur. W. of same farm.

Water Gate : 1 fur. S.S.W. of same farm.

White Cross : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. W. of same farm.

Grimstones Leys : $1\frac{1}{2}$ fur. S.S.E. of same farm.

Breach : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S.E. of same farm.

Great Ground : 3 fur. S.S.E. of same farm. See above.

Picked Piece : $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. of same farm. 'Having an acute angle.'

(To be continued.)