

CHALGRAVE



6

**Bedfordshire Parish Surveys
Historic Landscape and Archaeology**

Bedfordshire

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Historic Landscape and Archaeology

CHALGRAVE



Stephen R. Coleman

CONSERVATION SECTION
COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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PREFACE

This series of publications is a by-product of parish surveys carried out by the Conservation Section of the County Planning Department. It is intended as an inexpensive presentation of material for both local people and students of the historic environment in general, rather than as a comprehensive inventory or a statement of planning policy.

Two survey programmes related to historical conservation have been in progress since the mid 1970s. One has concentrated upon the revision of the lists of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. The other, which provided the groundwork for this essay, covers archaeological sites and the development of the historic landscape in which they lie. Both programmes work on a parish-by-parish basis. They aim to achieve a consistent level of information for the whole county, and also check what is already known. They seek to identify features of historic interest, so that future opportunities to investigate, record or protect may not be missed.

The survey of historic landscape and archaeological features follows a set procedure for each parish. A standard series of published sources is searched, together with aerial photographs, old maps and selected documents in the County Record Office. Information about particular sites and buildings is entered on the Bedfordshire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). This is a data base for the historic environment, and is used for planning, research and education, and to answer general inquiries. SMR data is complemented by a short general essay and a series of maps summarising the development of the historic landscape of the parish in question. This is an interpretation made while it is fresh in the mind of the surveyor and allows the presentation of much material that cannot be stored on a site-specific basis.

Most of the essays, as originally written in the course of the parish surveys, are available for consultation in the Search Room of the County Record Office, and, by appointment, in the Sites and Monuments Record of the County Planning Department. Selected essays have been slightly edited and elaborated for this series, which aims to produce a chronological survey. This is distinct from the "Survey of Bedfordshire" series of publications, a collaborative enterprise with the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England), which describes periods, subjects or groups of parishes by means of an essay and a gazetteer, and involves a greater emphasis on the field survey and recording of topographical features and buildings.

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A M Griffin

County Planning Officer

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These maps are produced on two separate documents ChalgraveSurvey1986-Map1 and ChalgraveSurvey1986-Map2

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Permission to reproduce illustrations has been gratefully received from the Bedfordshire County Record Office for the front cover and plates 4 and 7 (photographs by the Bedfordshire County Council Photographic Unit, copyright reserved);-the Ministry of Defence for plates 1 and 6 (Crown copyright reserved) and the University of Cambridge Committee for Aerial photography for plates 2 and 5 (Cambridge University Collection: copyright reserved). Plate 3 is by the Conservation Section, County Planning" Department.

Particular thanks are also due to Sarah Garner for drawing the two maps and figures 1 and 2 for publication. Cover design for this series by John Johnson.

Although most of the specialist terms used in this essay are explained in the text, further information and other terms will be found in "Glossary of Terms: Historic Landscape and Archaeology" also published by the Planning Department, Bedfordshire County Council.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BHRS Bedfordshire Historical Record Society

CRO Bedfordshire County Record Office, accession letters and numbers of relevant documents usually given.

OS Ordnance Survey

SMR Bedfordshire Sites and Monuments Record, followed by accession number

VCH Victoria County History

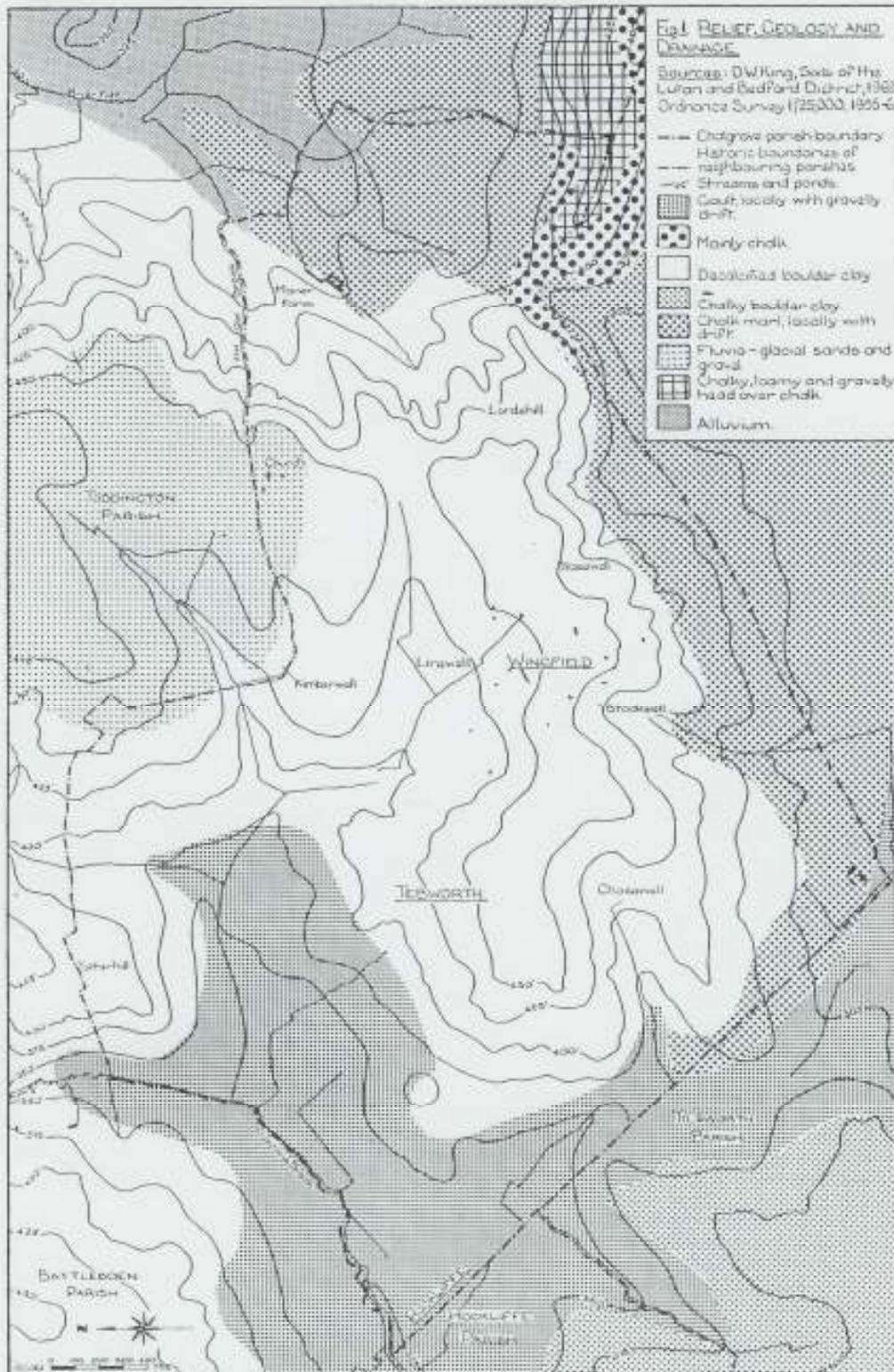
1.

INTRODUCTION (Map 2)

The modern parish of Chalgrave occupies an area of some 927 hectares (2291 acres) in southern Bedfordshire. The historic parish was slightly larger at 983 hectares (2430 acres): part of Hockliffe village which had grown up in Chalgrave parish on the north-east side of the A5 was transferred to Hockliffe parish in 1929 and additional land was transferred in 1985.

Chalgrave is now part of the South Bedfordshire District. It is bordered by the parishes of Battlesden to the north-west, Toddington to the north and east, Houghton Regis to the southeast and Tilsworth and Hockliffe to the south-west.

Apart from that transferred to Hockliffe, settlement in the parish today is largely concentrated in Tebworth and Wingfield and a few dispersed farmsteads



2. THE NATURAL LANDSCAPE (Fig. 1)

Chalgrave parish is dominated by an east-west ridge of boulder clay which rises to over 137 metres (450 feet) above sea level, some 30 metres (100 feet) above the surrounding land. Wingfield is situated on the top and Tebworth on the north-west facing slope of this ridge. Some of the slopes are particularly steep to the east and south-east, as at Lords Hill, and to the west where the ground drops from Tebworth towards the A5. Its non-chalky soils are imperfectly or poorly drained: numerous springs emerge from its slopes on all sides and give rise to several streams which form a roughly radial drainage pattern:

Towards the north-east near the parish boundary the boulder clay is overlain by deposits of sands and gravels which give rise to better drained brown earth soils. Chalgrave Church and the former manor site adjacent are on high ground at the edge of these deposits. To the east and south-east the ground drops steeply away in very undulating fashion for over 30 metres to the lower lying and almost flat easternmost part of the parish. The chalk marl here gives rise to imperfectly drained chalky soils; this area forms part of the drainage basin of the River Flitt which flows away to the north. Chalgrave Manor Farm stands in a slightly raised position on the western edge of this basin.

The chalk marl also extends along the southern parish boundary at the foot of the ridge. At the south-easternmost corner of the parish an outcrop of chalk forms a small steep sided east-west ridge; its top has long been utilised by a trackway, Theedway, known locally here as Lords Hill or Featherbed Lane.

In the west and north-west of the parish, in the valleys below the boulder clay, some lower lying gault clays have been exposed. The gault gives rise to imperfectly or poorly drained chalky soils and is thus crossed by several streams, including part of Clipstone Brook which forms the north-western parish boundary. Hockliffe village along the A5 is situated on former meadowland adjoining the streams.

3. EARLY MAN IN CHALGRAVE

Nothing is known of the prehistory of the area that was later to become Chalgrave parish. Only intensive field walking will recover the evidence for early abandoned settlements.

The oldest surviving feature in Chalgrave is the straight Roman Watling Street (the present A5). It was constructed soon after the conquest in 43 AD as a military supply and communications route to link the Thames crossing with north west England. Because of the emphasis on directness Watling Street's builders paid scant regard to local topography; at Chalgrave it was built over the low lying and poorly drained gault and had to cross several streams. This boggy situation was to cause considerable problems for traffic using the road and for its maintenance, particularly in the post-medieval period. During the Anglo-Saxon period the road alignment was utilised as Chalgrave's western parish boundary.

Despite the existence of this major- Roman road, evidence for Romano-British settlement in Chalgrave is very limited. Only one settlement has been identified and this lay on the chalk ridge near the south-eastern corner of the parish. The pottery and building remains suggest a farmstead of 3rd/4th century date.

Details of chance finds of Romano-British date from elsewhere in the parish are given in the Gazetteer. Of particular interest is a bronze intaglio (seal) ring showing Achilles with a spear and helmet; this was found in c.1860 near the source of the Old Brook on the northern parish boundary near the church. It may have been deposited as a votive object: springs were often centres of religious attention, each having its own local deity who was believed to control the flow of water and was therefore owed homage. Individuals often threw objects in at such sacred places as ritual offerings.

It is surprising that no other settlement remains have been found in Chalgrave, especially in the vicinity of the numerous springs emanating from the central boulder clay ridge. This is particularly apparent when compared with the several springside settlements known on the chalky boulder clay capped ridges to the west. It may be that the clay here, which is more acid than that further west, was not favoured for settlement, though this needs to be confirmed by more fieldwork.

4. THE TENTH AND ELEVENTH CENTURIES (Map 1, Figs. 1 and 2)

The majority of Chalgrave's boundary was fixed by the early 10th century. The only major change later was an extension of the parish eastwards. An important long distance route, Theedway, crossed the parish. The landscape already consisted of extensive arable, a good deal of meadow but little woodland.

Boundaries

By the 10th century a secular estate known as Chalgrave was well defined and established in the landscape. Its boundary had probably been fixed for some considerable time; it is described in detail in a charter of AD 926 in which King Aethelstan granted the estate to a certain Ealdred:-

"Where the dyke shoots on to Watling Street, then along Watling Street till you come to the ford, then along the brook to the second ford. Then from the ford up to the spring and thence to the dell [small valley], and then from the dell to the dyke, and from the dyke to the second dyke to the brook and from the brook to Cynburg well. Then along the dyke to East Coten, thence to the Old Brook, and thence along the rithe [riddy or stream]. Then straight to the Highway and along the Highway to the dyke, and along the dyke to Watling Street" (1).

In the early part of this century F G Gurney, through fieldwork and research, was able to identify most of the Saxon estate boundary with features on the ground around Chalgrave's historic parish boundary; the Saxon estate and medieval ecclesiastical parish of Chalgrave were therefore almost identical (2). Watling Street was immediately identifiable and Gurney showed that the dyke mentioned at the beginning and end of the description as meeting Watling Street was on the alignment of the nearly 3km long Bound Way at the south eastern foot of the boulder clay ridge.

The description thus began from the southernmost point on the boundary (SP 9915 2481). It continued in clockwise fashion, first describing the stretch running directly north-westwards for just under 3 km along the straight and mostly low lying Watling Street. This part of the boundary was thus of late Roman or post-Roman date; it is also evident that there was no occupation along this part of Watling Street in 926 as any existing settlement would have been mentioned.

The first ford in the charter was the point (SP 97152690) where the A5 now crosses Clipstone (formerly Leck) Brook via a bridge just north west of the Woburn turn. The boundary then turned north-eastwards and followed the winding Leck Brook for 2 km to the second ford (SP 98322809) at the foot of Tatterhill. Between this point and the brook just north of Cynburg well (Kirnberwell) it is less easy to identify the description in the description in the

Note that the references (1) etc refer to the notes and references at the end of each section.

*Aethelstan was the eldest, but illegitimate, son of King **Edward the Elder**, born to his common-law wife, Egwina, in AD 895.*

Fig. 2 ANGLO-SAXON FEATURES, A.D. 926

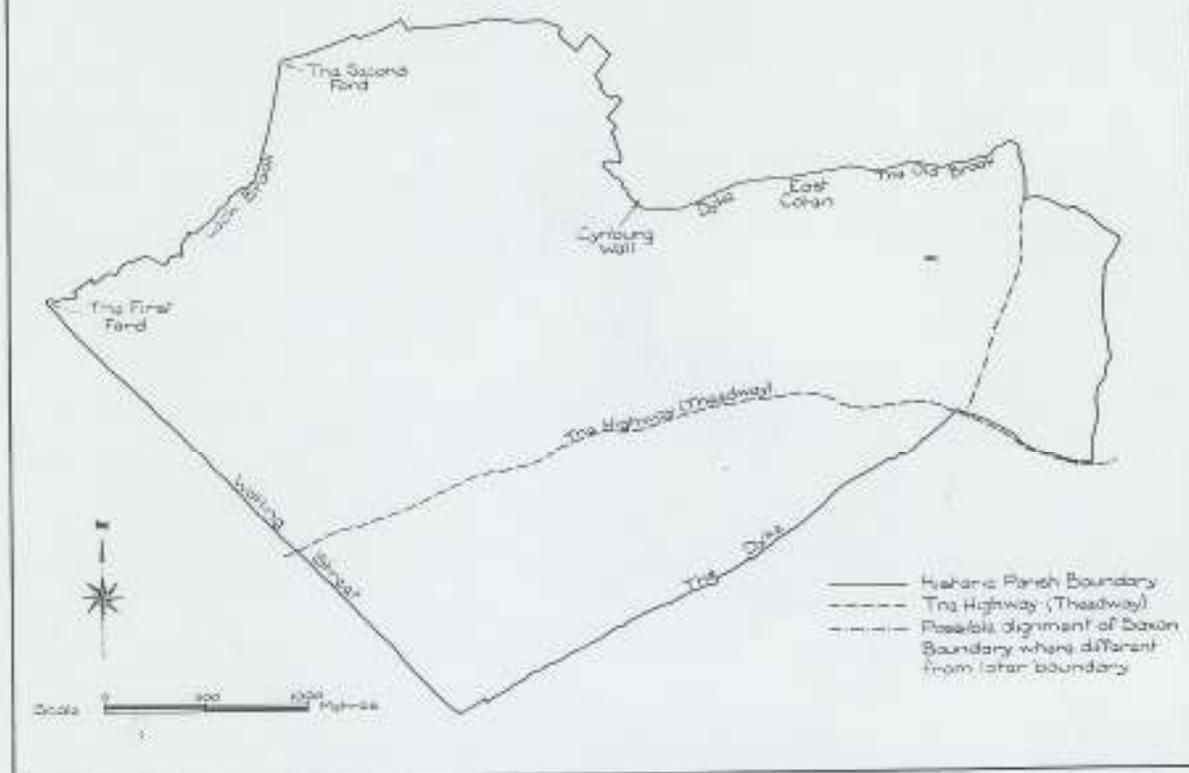
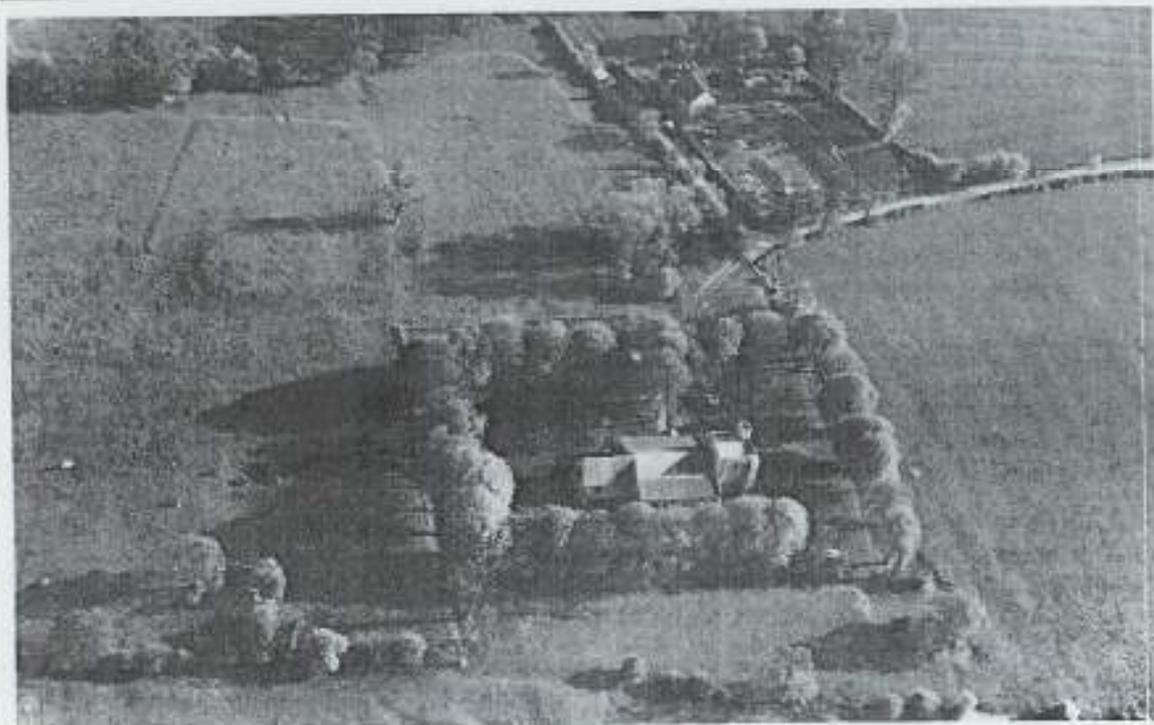


Plate 1: 'Hotte and Bailey' earthworks and All Saints Church, 1957.



charter with features on the ground. The known historic parish boundary left Leek Brook and turned abruptly eastwards to run up and over Tatterhill in a slightly angular fashion; it then crossed a slight valley floor before rising again and then running south-eastwards in a series of mainly rectilinear kinks (now largely straightened) down the slope to another brook.

This section of the boundary is characterised by its limited regard for the topography; it cuts across it rather than respects it. This, and its angular course over Tatterhill and north of Kimberwell, suggests that this part of the boundary was determined by circumstances in which man's influence rather than natural factors were predominant. It is probable that this part of the boundary was only fixed after the adjoining estates and settlements had extended their cultivated land to the limits against each other; it was therefore fixed between the arable lands of the adjacent estates and the irregular alignment represents the former interlocking of common field furlongs in adjoining parishes. (The boundary would have followed a more sinuous and naturalistic line had it been established in an undeveloped landscape through woodland or across other uncultivated land). Clearly arable land was already extensive in Saxon Chalgrave and neighbouring estates. The angular manmade course of the historic boundary here is probably reflected in the charter mentioning two dykes in this vicinity: these would have been man-made features necessary to mark the boundary where no suitable natural features existed over the top of the hill and on the slopes. The late Saxon boundary probably crossed Tatterhill and the ground beyond on or near its known historic alignment.

A more obvious course on topographical grounds for this northern boundary would have been the east-west tributary of the Leek Brook south of Tatterhill, but this stream was clearly not the boundary in 926. However, it is possible that some time before 926 Chalgrave was extended northwards into what had been lands belonging to Toddington or that some rationalisation had taken place, resulting in the irregular boundary.

Beyond Kimberwell (TL 00052735) the description in the charter is readily identifiable with the slightly sinuous historic boundary running eastwards for nearly 2 km. This was largely a naturalistic boundary relating more closely to the topography. The dyke mentioned in the charter would have marked the part of the boundary running over the hill east of Kimberwell as far as East Coten. This name means 'east cottages'; it indicates a minor settlement on or close by this part of the boundary and may refer to occupation in 926 close to the present church site. East of East Coten the charter boundary is described as linking to the Old Brook. The present parish boundary still follows the course of this stream as it descends sharply to the Flitt Basin north of Manor Farm.

After reaching the Old Brook the charter describes the boundary as running:-

“along the rithe. Then straight on to the Highway...”

The Highway was Theedway (Thiodweg in the charter), which was the track that entered the parish at its south eastern corner along the top of the chalk ridge. The section of historic parish boundary between the Old Brook and Theedway is of some length; it takes a rather angular course, often at variance with the topography and stream courses, and on the eastern side even runs through the middle of several small closes to divide them between two parishes. This section hardly seems to equate with the simple description in the charter. Although Gurney accepted the historic boundary as that described in the charter, it is more likely that in 926 the estate boundary followed the slightly sinuous but continuous field boundary running for over 1 km directly north-south from where it left the Old Brook to Theedway (Map 1). This fits better with the simple phrase in the charter and would also have made more sense topographically. Thus "along the Highway" meant only 35 metres westwards along Theedway before meeting "the dyke" (Boundway) boundary rather than the 750 metres as now and which Gurney assumed was the case. If this was so, Chalgrave estate or parish must have been extended eastwards and a new boundary fixed sometime after 926, presumably at the expense of Chalton in Toddington parish.

Theedway

This track was a significant feature in the Saxon landscape of Chalgrave and of southern Bedfordshire as a whole. Theedway was probably of prehistoric origins and crossed the area east-west: it ran from the Icknield Way just south of Streatley to the south west corner of Linslade parish. Throughout its length it was closely related to the topography; it would seem to have been part of an important long distance trade route, probably becoming a Salt Way according to the various names including the element salt along or near its course in Linslade, Eggington, Chalton and Bramingham. It was probably linked via the Icknield Way with salterns along the East Anglian fen edges.

Theedway passed right through Chalgrave estate and was to form the main route through Wingfield. East of Wingfield it was later better known as Lordshill or Featherbed Lane and to the west as Chasewell Way. Only a short stretch of Chalgrave's historic parish boundary lay along Theedway, that in the far south-eastern corner, but elsewhere much of the track's course was used to demarcate lengths of several parish and township boundaries, both to the east and particularly west of Chalgrave. Clearly it was a prominent feature in the landscape when estates or parishes were fixing their boundaries.

Settlement

Although the charter of 926 heads its boundary clause as "Metae de Chelegrave" (The Bounds of Chalgrave) its main section detailing the grant describes the property as "terram quae nuncupatur Cealhgraefan et Teobbanwyrthe" (land called Chalgrave and Tebworth) (3) . The use of these words does not necessarily mean that specific settlements with those names existed. Nevertheless Tebworth does mean Toebba's farm or enclosure which

must have been in a particular place (4). The Chalgrave name, however, originally did not refer to a specific settlement or place but to an area. It came to be used as the name for the major landholding or estate locally and for the ecclesiastical parish when it was established, but no village ever took the name. The settlement at what is now known as Chalgrave was East Coten in 926. It is quite likely that East Coten only became commonly known as Chalgrave after its status was improved when the church and early manor site were established there. This made it the ecclesiastical and manorial focus for the coterminous parish and manor of Chalgrave although it was never a settlement of any significant size housing a large agricultural community.

East Coten means 'east cottages' and suggests a small dependent hamlet. The name may have come from its situation in the eastern part of the estate or, more likely, from its position east of another, perhaps primary, settlement probably on the central boulder clay ridge. East Coten's unusual location on the north-eastern boundary of the estate or parish is overemphasised today because the parish church survives there adjacent to the original manorial site. Both of these were possibly only additions to or an upgrading of the earlier settlement at East Coten.

There are very good topographical reasons for East Coten's location. It stood on what was possibly the best locally available site on the southern edge of an area of high ground with good outlooks to the south and east and on the deposit of glacial sands and gravels which provided the best well-drained soils in the area and certainly did not exist elsewhere in Chalgrave. The site was also close to a stream and springs; when viewed from the south-east it and Toddington are very prominent on the higher ground and dominate the skyline.

The location of other settlements in Chalgrave at this time is uncertain. The 9th and 10th centuries were a period of settlement nucleation when the scattered farms and hamlets of the early Anglo-Saxon period were being drawn together into fewer and larger settlements. These larger settlements, however, were not necessarily on the sites of any of the earlier farms.

The Landscape at Domesday

Two entries were made for Chalgrave (Celgrave) when the Domesday Book was compiled in 1086. The main entry refers to a manorial holding held of the King by Albert of Lorraine; the latter had gained possession of it before 1066 and was one of the few major landowners who kept his land after the Conquest. In 1086 Chalgrave manor was assessed at 8 hides and two thirds of 1 virgate (units of land measurement); there was enough arable land available to support 10 ploughs, sufficient meadow for 8 plough teams and woodland adequate for 50 pigs to forage in, possibly some 75 acres (see Domesday Appendix). The other holding was small and consisted of only one third of 1 virgate of arable land held by Ernulf de Hesding whose main property was

*The **virgate** was a **unit** of land area measure in mediæval England. The virgate was a measurement that defined how much land a team of two oxen could plough in a year. It was equivalent to quarter of a **hide** or quarter of a **carucate**. The virgate was 30 **acres** in area. A virgater would then be considered a peasant worker who owned this area of land. Similarly, a half virgater would be a person who owned fifteen acres, who might be called alternatively a bovater. A **bovate** is half of a virgate. However, the terms bovate and virgate tend to be used in different parts of **England**.*

*Virgate is an anglicisation of the **Latin** virgati (plural). The historic English translation was **yardland**.*

the adjoining Manor of Toddington. The Chalgrave landscape at this time was predominantly arable with only a small amount of woodland but significant quantities of valuable meadow flanking the numerous springs and streams. No mill is recorded.

13 villeins, 4 bordars and 6 serfs were also recorded in Chalgrave at Domesday; these were unfree tenants who held their part of the manor's lands in return for labour services on the lord's demesne (manorial home farm) and the payment of fines. They were also heads of household; assuming an average of 5 persons per household this gives a minimum population of about 115. Domesday gives no indication as to the nature and number of settlements at this time; the Chalgrave name used in-Domesday Book is not that of a village but of the estate or manor.

Notes and References:

1. Fowler, 1920, p. 43
2. Gurney, 1920, pp. 163 - 70
3. Stevenson, 1858, p. 83
4. Mawer and Stenton, 1926, p. 116; Fox, 1981, p. 86.

Villein

A peasant who, under the [feudal system](#) of land tenure that prevailed in Europe in the Middle Ages, gave dues and services to a lord in exchange for land. Villeins were not slaves, and were named as freemen and freewomen in medieval documents, but they were not free. They and their land and possessions belonged to the lord of the manor. They were not free to leave the manor, and they were subject to a large number of obligations required by the lord, including work on the lord's demesne two or three days a week, additional work at harvest, and the payment of manorial dues. In many places they also had to pay for the right to brew ale, bake bread, and grind corn at the lord's mill.

At the time of the [Domesday Book](#) (1087) the villeins were the most numerous element in the English population, providing the labour force for the manors. Their social position declined until, by the early 14th century, their personal and legal status was close to that of slaves. After the mid-14th century, as the effects of the [Black Death](#) led to a severe labour shortage, their status improved. By the 15th century villeinage had been supplanted by a system of free tenure and labour in England, but it continued in France until 1789. Life for a medieval villein was undoubtedly hard, as shown in documents such as 'Pierce the Plowman's

bordar (plural [bordars](#))

1. (history) A person ranking below [villeins](#) and above [serfs](#) in the social hierarchy of a [manor](#), holding just enough land to feed a family (about 5 acres) and required to provide labour on the [demesne](#) on specified days of the week.

serf (plural [serfs](#))

A peasant attached to the land owned by a lord and required to perform labour in return for certain legal or customary rights

5. THE MEDIEVAL LANDSCAPE (Map 1)

In the middle ages the majority of the manorial demesne lay as a large compact block of closes and woodland in the east of the parish; part became a small park and warren. The manorial (later parish) church and manor house adjoining stood in an isolated position towards the edge of this demesne; a new manor house was later built further east. There was never a major medieval settlement in this part of the parish. The remaining land in the parish was laid out in large areas of arable with substantial tracts of meadow adjoining the streams; it was cultivated from the settlements at Tebworth and Wingfield which each had their own common field system.

After Domesday little is known of Chalgrave from documents until Dunstable Priory obtained property there in the later 12th century: their records provide useful insights into the Chalgrave landscape during the 13th century when the land was probably being exploited to its fullest (1). By this time the basic pattern of the medieval landscape was already well established.

Manor and Church

The early medieval focus of the Manor of Chalgrave was in the north-east of the parish close to where East Coten is recorded in 926. The earthwork remains of the 12th century manor house site survived until 1970 when they were levelled for agriculture: they consisted of a low mound or motte and an adjoining courtyard or bailey lying immediately south east of the church (Plate 1, Fig. 3). The site was very similar to the many motte and bailey castles that were constructed in England during the late 11th and early 12th centuries. However, the earthworks at Chalgrave were not massive and were probably built more for show than strength; although in a prominent position topographically, with the ground soon dropping sharply to the south east, a better defensive position would have been 200m to the east right at the top of the slope.

The earthworks were partially excavated before destruction. Unfortunately, the limited amount of work that was possible did not show whether the original circular motte was constructed at the end of the 11th century over a previous manor house site. However, during the 12th century a rectangular building stood on the motte which itself was extended north westwards to an oval shape, possibly in the latter half of the century. At the end of the 12th or early in the 13th century the site was abandoned in favour of a new lower lying position for the manor house in an even more isolated location at the foot of the hill to the east. After a period of disuse the motte was heightened and brought back into use during the 14th century, but only for agricultural buildings (2).

demesne (plural ***demesnes***)

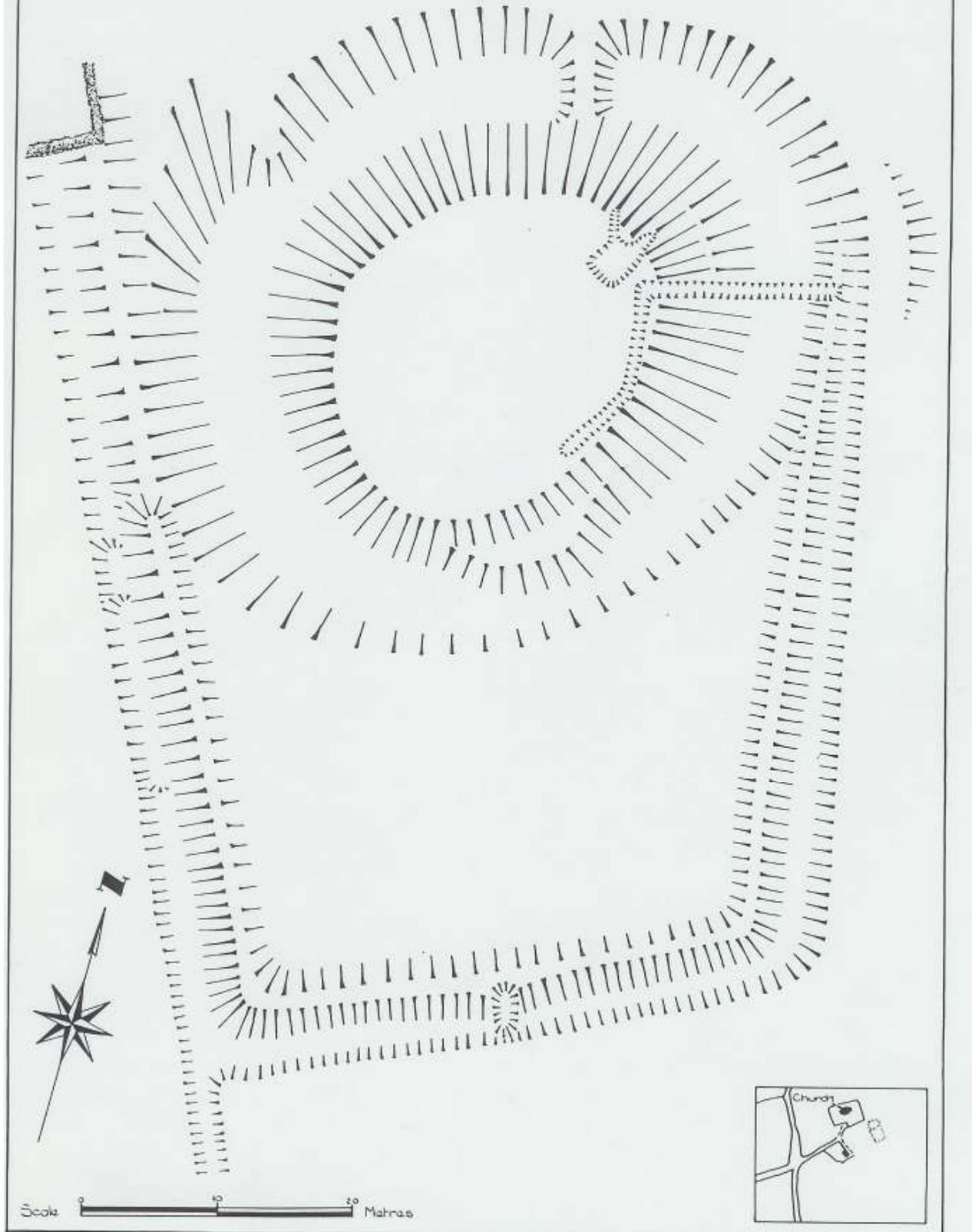
A lord's chief manor place, with that part of the lands belonging thereto which has not been granted out in tenancy; a house, and the land adjoining, kept for the proprietor's own use.

The earliest surviving architecture in the present All Saints Church adjoining the motte site dates from the early 13th century. However, documentary sources indicate that there was a church in Chalgrave during the 12th century: this belonged to the Loring family, the lords of Chalgrave Manor and descendants of Albert of Lorraine recorded in Domesday (3). This earlier church had probably been founded by the Lorings and constructed primarily for their own use and profit: presumably it would have been close to their manor house and probably was on the site of the present church. Before 1185 lay proprietorial control of the earlier church was relinquished when Roger de Loring (died c.1185) gave it and some land elsewhere in Chalgrave to Dunstable Priory (4). The transfer of churches to religious houses by lay proprietors was common throughout England in this period. This was partly due to the fact that the latter were not then obtaining the expected profits from their investment and that the monastic institutions could do better (5). Ownership of churches gave valuable rights to obtain tithes and offerings from the parish. Tithes were a tenth part of the produce of land and stock from the fields of a parish paid annually by the parishioners for the support of the parish church.

Transfers of ownership were often soon followed by the rebuilding of the churches involved. All Saints Church seems to have been no exception and was rebuilt by Dunstable Priory at the beginning of the 13th century: it was dedicated in 1219 (6). A small manorial church was probably replaced by a larger building more suited to its new role of serving a parish community, despite the inconvenience of its location for the majority of the population in the parish at Tebworth and Wingfield. There may be a link between the gift of the church by the Lorings to Dunstable Priory and their abandonment of the adjacent manor house site at about the same time or shortly after. This completed the severing of the original link between manor and church.

The isolation of All Saints Church today is due to its predecessor's origins as a manorial church, not because any associated village has disappeared. Apart from the manor site there is no evidence, from finds or earthworks, for any substantial settlement here. The ridge and furrow that once surrounded the church and manor sites showed no signs of overploughing of earlier features and indicate what had probably always been arable land. Further confirmation that agricultural land predominated here in the medieval period comes from an analysis of the vicarial glebe, the lands belonging to the vicar for the support of himself and his church. The vicarage in Chalgrave Church was ordained in 1220 by the Bishop of Lincoln a vicar was appointed to run the parish in place of the rector, Dunstable Priory. The latter retained the 'greater' tithes of grain and hay while for his support the vicar took the 'lesser' tithes of milk, eggs and honey, all the altar offerings, and was given lands adjoining the church, the glebe. These lands were formerly part of the demesne and consisted of a small croft and garden on the south side assigned to the vicar as a site for a vicarage house and a larger croft of 4 acres to the west (7).

Fig.3 EARTHWORKS OF 'MOTTE AND BAILEY'
(CHALGRAVE MANOR)
(From a survey by B.K.Davison, 1970)



Analysis of rather later glebe terriers and other documents clearly identifies these lands: the proposed vicarage house site was in what became known as Glebe Close, on the west side of the motte and bailey to the south of the church; the other croft was that west of the church later known as Hawkins or Vicarage Close (Map 1) (8).

In 1220 the church and manor site were immediately surrounded by agricultural land in closes that were part of either the demesne or glebe. Very little land was available for a settlement: the only possible locations for dwellings were small areas abutting on the western and possibly the southern sides of Church Green. No substantial settlement ever existed at Chalgrave Church; at the very most there might have been a handful of cottages as possibly in 1376 (9). From at least the early 13th century the major settlements were elsewhere in the parish and it was to these that the field systems were related, not to any focus at the church.

Though isolated, Chalgrave Church as the parish church was evidently well maintained and refurbished throughout the medieval period. Of the early 13th century work the north arcade of the nave survives; the south doorway dates from the mid 13th century. A major refurbishment occurred during the early 14th century: the chancel, priest's doorway and the south arcade and aisle of the nave date from this time. Other 14th century features include several windows and a piscina. The west tower was begun in the late 14th century. Much of the remaining work in the church is of 15th century date and includes the roof, south porch, some windows and a piscina. Particularly significant are the wall paintings on the nave and aisle walls. These include figures of c.1300, 14th century armorial shields and depictions of saints dating from 1300-1460 (10).

Chantries were founded in Chalgrave Church for members of the Loring family in 1273 and 1406: priests were paid to sing masses and pray for the souls of the deceased in chapels set aside for the purpose within the church (11). The chantry founded in 1406 consisted of three chaplains, one of whom was the master. For their support they were granted property which included:

"a messuage [dwelling house] in Chargrave called 'Oldorchard. ' "

This house was originally demesne property (12); it was later known as the Chantry House, an apparently substantial building which stood immediately east of the church on the site later occupied by Church Farm (Map 2). After the Dissolution the Chantry House and attached property was granted to Henry Parker and Peter Grey in 1549 (13). In 1612 the property was described as the house with garden, dovehouse, close and four acres of inclosed land (14). The dovehouse probably gave its name to Dovehouse Close adjoining the Chantry House.

*A **piscina** or **sacrarium** is a shallow basin placed near the **altar** of a **church**, used for washing the communion vessels. They are often made of stone and fitted with a drain, and are in some cases used to dispose of materials used in the sacraments. They are found in **Roman Catholic** and **Anglican** churches, and a similar vessel is used in **Eastern Orthodox** churches.*

When the original manor house site was abandoned in the late 12th or early 13th century the new site chosen was probably the moat dug out at TL 01692719 along one of the tributaries of the River Flitt. The moat lay at the edge of the Flitt basin at the foot of the high ground around Toddington which dominated it. It was perhaps a desire to keep up with current fashions that influenced the change to the lower site where there was a more substantial water supply to feed both a moat and fishponds, besides a considerable area of permanent pasture and valuable meadow land.

At some time in the later 13th or early 14th century the manor house was probably moved again, this time just north to the present site of Chalgrave Manor Farm. In the late 14th century the manorial complex was very large; a manorial 'extent' (survey) of 1386/7 describes the manor house and its farmstead as then consisting of a Hall, Chapel, several chambers, solar, three larders, two latrines, pantry, wine cellar, buttery, bakehouse, dairy, brewhouse, malthouse, well-house, "kylnehouse", granary, "heybern", strawbarn, large barn, "pesebarn", barn gatehouse, carthouse, the outer gatehouse, "Knedhous", "Zylhous", stables, carters stable, cowhouse, pigsty, 'le Boorsty', small and large sheepcotes and oxhouse with an Inner Court, Basecourt and new Postern Gate (15). Gardens and orchards adjoined and the survey also mentions a dovecote, fishponds, other ponds and the moat nearby.

The extent also described the remainder of the manorial estate, listing the demesne lands and property and all the tenants, their holdings and the rents and services due from them. This shows that despite having some arable in the common fields of the parish, most of the demesne lands lay in closes near to the manor house and consisted mainly of pasture and meadow. In fact the whole of the area east of the Dunstable/Houghton Regis to Toddington road, with the exception of some small areas of glebe by the church, was probably demesne land in 1386/7, just as it was in 1800 at the time of Enclosure. In 1366 Sir Nigel Loring as lord of Chalgrave Manor was granted the right of free warren (the right to hunt game freely) over his demesne lands and also:-

"Licence to impark his woodsof Chalgrave
and to hold the parks so made to him and his heirs without let or hindrance" (16).

The latter referred to the area near the manor house where several woods still survived in 1800, though these were probably more extensive in the 14th century. A park is mentioned close to the manor house in 1386/7 when the indications are that it was not particularly large. In the late 15th century closes predominated on the demesne and in 1491 Sir Robert Broughton as lord of the manor leased to two individuals:-

"The pasture within the Closures of Chalgrove with the Lodge and all the Conies [rabbits] belonging to the Manor of "Chalgrove" (17)

This refers to a rabbit warren which apparently did not exist in 1386/7 and may therefore be of 15th century origins. However in the 16th and 17th centuries the warren name was used generally to describe the manorial demesne closes and woods near Manor Farm (18). Today the name is preserved in Warrenmore Spinney in the centre of the former demesne (Map 2).

It is very striking that throughout the medieval and later periods the manor house and its compact demesne lands lay to the east quite separate from the settlements and agricultural land in the remainder of the parish. The reason for this is not known, unless it was a deliberate policy of isolation by the manorial lords at an early date.

Until 1386 Chalgrave manor was in the hands of the Loring family, descendants of the Albert of Lorraine recorded in Domesday. However, they were only the mesne or intermediate lords and were subject to the Barony of Bedford which had the overlordship. When Sir Nigel Loring died the property was to be divided between his two daughters and co-heirs: the proposed division was laid out in the extent of 1386/7, with the tenants, lands and revenues distributed between them and the manor house buildings as well. However, for some reason this division of the Chalgrave property never occurred; the whole manor went to the younger daughter, Margaret. She had married Thomas Pever, lord of Toddington Manor, with which Chalgrave Manor was to descend until the early 17th century. Thomas Pever held Chalgrave until 1429 when he left it in his will to his daughter Mary's son, John Broughton, whose family held it into the 16th century (19).

Agriculture

By the 13th century the main settlements in Chalgrave parish were on the boulder clay ridge at Tebworth and Wingfield. Though the name Tebworth is mentioned in 926 neither it nor Wingfield begin to occur regularly in documents until the early 13th century (20). By then each community, like the farmed landscape, was very well developed and had been in existence for some considerable time. Most of the land lay as pasture and meadow or large arable fields grazed or cultivated 'in common' (jointly). A 'field' in the medieval sense was an area of arable land; it consisted of a group of 'furlongs' which were blocks of parallel ridges or strips belonging to many different owners or tenants. They gave rise to the ridge and furrow earthworks shown on Map 1 and which are still visible in some parts of the Chalgrave landscape today. Medieval fields were governed by common rules of cultivation and grazing, usually decided upon by an assembly of the tenants at the manorial courts. Today's fields are really 'closes', enclosed land in single ownership. Tebworth and Wingfield each had its own long established common field system of agriculture. These separated the parish into two townships distinct from the large block of manorial demesne closes to the east.

Wingfield's common field land lay chiefly to the south-west, south-east of the village; during the 13th

century it was in two fields, an East Field and a West Field, the latter including what later became Mill Field. Wingfield's lands may have remained in two fields during the 14th century but there is a hint of subdivision in the later 13th or early 14th century. The names North Field and South Field occur and a grant probably of c.1300 describes land in a field "del West" and in a field "del North". It is possible that the land was then divided into North, South and West Fields but it is also possible that North and South were simply alternative names for East and West respectively (21).

Tebworth's lands lay chiefly to the west and north of that village; they were also divided into two fields, again an East Field and a West Field, the latter abutting on Watling Street. Tebworth's land remained in two fields during the 14th century (22).

The common fields in Chalgrave were as extensive during the 13th century as at the end of the 18th century. The arable stretched right to the limits of the parish, probably just as shown by the ridge and furrow on Map 1. This ridge and furrow was nearly always orientated down the slopes, presumably to aid drainage. Scattered between the arable was a good deal of meadow flanking Chalgrave's many springs and streams. Tebworth had rather more meadow than Wingfield. Meadowland was once a prominent feature throughout the Chalgrave landscape and in the economy of the parish; it provided a valuable haycrop and additional grazing. Overall the landscape was probably rather open and dominated by agricultural land. Woodland existed only amongst the closes of the manorial demesne in the east of the parish.

Some indication of the crops grown and stock kept in Chalgrave can be gleaned from the records of the manorial court for the period 1278-1313. Wheat was the main crop while there are also occasional references to oats, barley, drage (a mixture of barley and oats) and beans. The most numerous stock were sheep but there were also pigs, cows, oxen and horses. Geese also seem to have been plentiful; there was even a gooseherd (23). Most of the stock in Chalgrave would have been gathered into common herds and pastured on the common field stubble or fallow for at least part of the year and on the available pastures or meadows at other times. Such grazing was carefully regulated through the manorial courts. Stock that strayed were placed in the parish pound or pinfold which is mentioned in 1299 and 1386/7 (24). Animals could only be retrieved from this small enclosure on the payment of a fine by their owners.

The tenants' grain had to be processed at the manorial windmill in the parish; this was a source of income for the lord as a proportion of the grain known as 'multure' was paid to him. The earliest known reference to the mill is in 1216 and there were several other references in the 13th and 14th centuries (25). Its location is unknown and it is not certain that it was on the site of the later windmill near Wingfield (Map 2).

Notes and References:

See numbers in brackets () up to page 23

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6. SETTLEMENT AND BUILDINGS (Maps 1 and 2)

The chief settlements were the villages on the central ridge at Tebworth and Wingfield. Population increase during the early medieval period led to the expansion of both settlements but earthwork remains demonstrate that contraction followed later. Tebworth expanded again during the post-medieval period. A chapel-of-ease once stood on Tebworth's green and a grange was established at Wingfield as a focus for Dunstable Priory's Manor of Wingfield. From the 13th century settlement developed on the meadows beside Watling Street at Hockcliffe; it continued to expand throughout the post-medieval period and several inns were established there.

Map 1 illustrates the settlement pattern that had evolved in Chalgrave by the end of the 18th century. The main settlements were at Tebworth and Wingfield in the centre of the parish, both focusing on greens. To the west settlement had developed strung out along Watling Street; to the east were two isolated farmsteads, one next to the church and the other at Manor Farm. The whole of this arrangement was at least medieval in origin.

A manorial rental of 1376 provides a rough guide to the relative (not absolute) sizes of the settlements during the later 14th century: landholdings, including cottages, belonging to the tenants are listed, with 32 cottages for Tebworth and 17 for Wingfield (1). Tebworth seems always to have been the major settlement in the parish. A further 8 cottages are listed in 1376 for another settlement but damage to part of the document means that this place cannot be identified with certainty. It may refer to cottages in the east of the parish, perhaps near All Saints Church or even by the manor house. It may be significant that each of these 8 holdings consisted of only a cottage and adjoining croft with little or no common field land in Tebworth's and Wingfield's fields. Were these workers in the manor house or on its demesne estate?

Tebworth

The early medieval village and its crofts (small closes) at Tebworth on the north facing slope probably clustered around or close to the small green formed by a wide junction of three roads. A chapel stood on the north western part of this green from at least the later 13th century. This was a chapel-of-ease provided as an alternative to the distant and isolated mother church of Chalgrave. It is mentioned in 1277 when the canons of Dunstable Priory were apparently neglecting their duty to hold services there on three days each week, despite the 36 acres of land formerly endowed by Tebworth parishioners to support this. In 1286 Tebworth's parishioners demanded a chantry in the chapel or the lands given for it to be restored. Nothing more is known of this chapel until after the Dissolution; in 1549 it apparently was in ruins on its granting to William Smythe and his son William. However, court roll entries of 1551 and 1552



Plate 2f Earthworks on the south east side of Tebworth, 1974.

Plate 3f Shoulder of Mutton Cottage, Tebworth, 1975.



indicate that One chapel (dedicated to Saint Martin) was still standing to serve both Tebworth and Wingfield and was also used for the holding of the manorial courts. No trace of the chapel remains today (2).

Elsewhere in Tebworth traces of other features of probable medieval origin do survive. On the south east side of the village deserted settlement earthworks have been identified in the four closes which include Hitch, Poultons and Habletts Closes (Plate 2). The boundaries between these closes should be noted; they are sinuous and reflect the typical reversed S shape of ridge and furrow. These closes represent part of Tebworth's expansion over former arable land. This would have been a response to a substantial growth of population generally in England during the early medieval period, particularly in the 13th century. It is also evidenced in Chalgrave by the subdivision of large agricultural holdings into an increasing number of smaller ones (3). More earthworks survive on the opposite side of Wingfield Road south east of Town Close (Plate 2). The several linear earthworks at right angles to the road may be the boundary remains of further former crofts possibly laid out over flattened common field ridge and furrow orientated in the same direction. In both locations any house sites were later abandoned when at some time contraction followed expansion.

Further expansion of settlement may be represented on the north west side of Tebworth by the larger closes which fronted on both sides of The Lane (Map 1). On the west side of the road there were earthworks in Long Close and the adjoining close to the south east until new houses were built there in the late 1970's. These earthworks may have been the remains of a few house sites laid out over permanent pasture or meadow enclosed from the common fields, as also was Pullens Close. On the east side of the road the large close around Lane Farm contained ridge and furrow which showed it had been created by enclosing a portion of a common field arable furlong. When this occurred is not known but the site of Lane Farm does represent an extension of the settlement, though here it may only be post-medieval in origin. The present building at Lane Farm dates from the late 18th century with 19th century additions.

On the south side of Tebworth the central part of West Close Furlong was enclosed at some time, again probably during the post-medieval period. This resulted in two oddly situated closes almost surrounded by common field land; two buildings isolated from the village core stood on these in the late 18th century.

The green in Tebworth remained the chief focus for settlement throughout the post-medieval period. However, during the 18th century various buildings encroached on the green. . This process was controlled by the manor court: some had to be demolished whilst others were allowed to remain on payment of an annual rent (4). A pound was situated on the south east side of the green in the later 18th and early 19th centuries; it

replaced an earlier pound nearby (5). It is not known where the parish stocks mentioned in 1757 and 1764 stood (6).

No buildings of origins earlier than the 16th century survive today in Tebworth, and then only the timber framed cottage at 30 The Lane dates from that century. The two other timber framed cottages of interest in Tebworth are of 17th century origins, 2 The Lane which has an 18th century brick addition, and Shoulder of Mutton Cottage (Plate 3). Brick replaced timber as the main building material during the 17th century and in Tebworth a particular characteristic of the frontages of some of the surviving larger and farmhouse buildings is the pattern of chequered brickwork created by the use of red stretchers and blue/grey vitrified headers. Such designs are found in Buttercup Farm and Tithe Farm; they are typical of many late 17th and early 18th century buildings in this part of Bedfordshire. It also occurs in the 18th century house at 22 Hockliffe Road. Nearby the design of the 18th century Park Farmhouse also makes use of the two types of brick but in a different way to give a predominantly grey brick building with red brick dressings (Plate 4). Such houses are a contrast to the several 19th century brick buildings in Tebworth constructed of yellow gault bricks.

Wingfield

Map 1 shows the majority of the post-medieval settlement at Wingfield as fronting on two sides of a roughly rectangular green, in effect a substantial widening of Theedway. By the later 18th century this green was possibly smaller than it had been originally: Grove Grass Croft and the small close to its south west and just north of Hill Farm may once have also been part of the green.

The row of buildings and closes fronting on the northern side of the green was fairly regular in plan but the grouping of closes and settlement to the south and south west was rather less regular. Furthermore, substantial deserted settlement earthworks survived in Bushy and Pevers Closes south of Hill Farm until they were ploughed in the late 1970's (Plate 5, Fig. 4). The earthworks included a holloway running from the southernmost point of the green through the centre of the closes in a north west to south east direction; several platforms adjoined. The successor to the holloway was probably the pre-Enclosure lane running along the west side of Pevers Close: it cut through former common field ridge and furrow and probably dates from after the desertion of this part of the settlement and the laying out of the closes in its place.

The earthworks may represent part of an original settlement at Wingfield on the more favourable south facing slope to which the green was later added in the 12th century, laid out along the top of the ridge beside Theedway. This may then have been followed by the establishment of settlement and closes along the northern side of and just below the green, all effectively on the north facing slope, and an extension of the pre-existing village. A fairly regular plan evolved here though

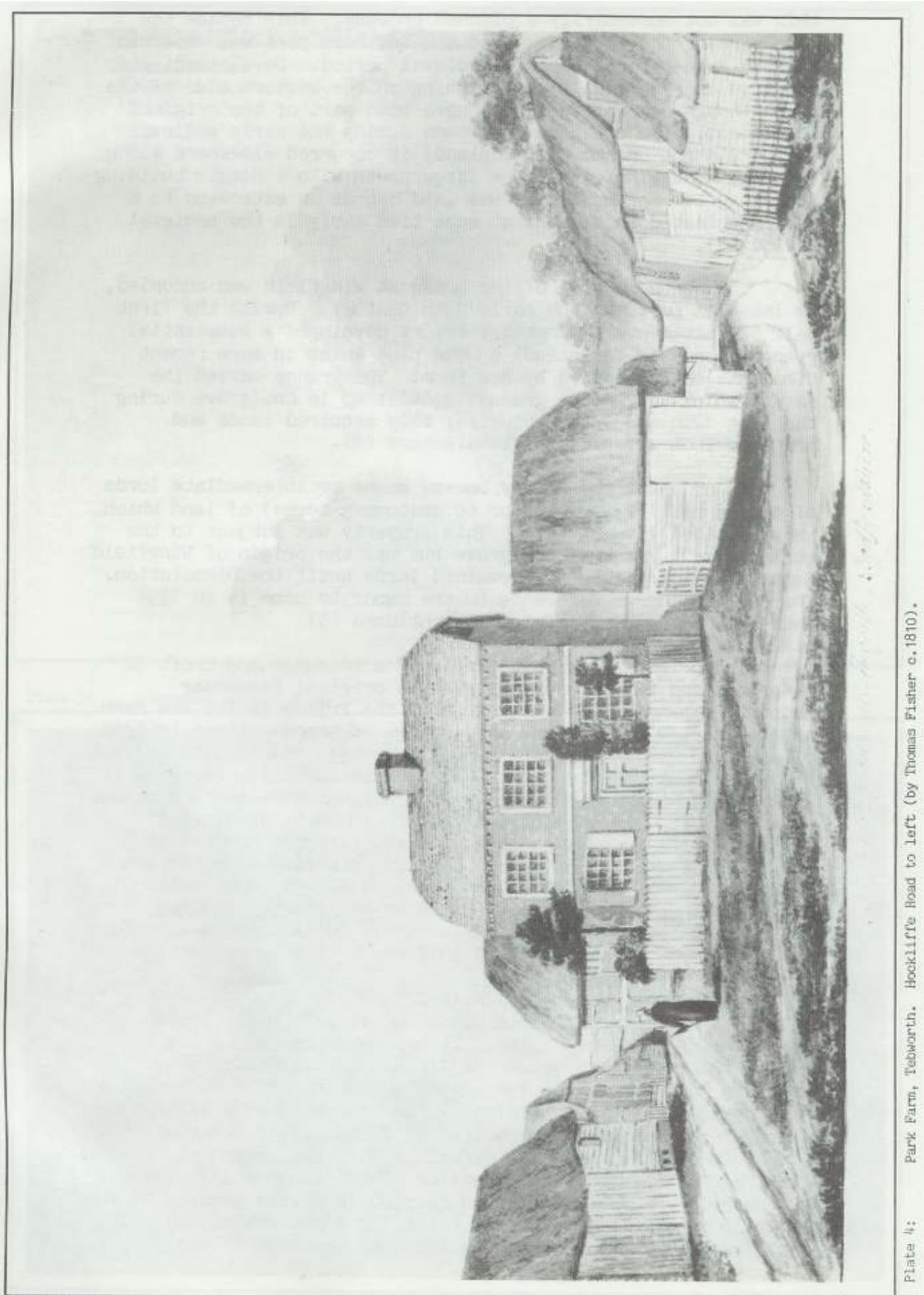


Plate 4: Park Farm, Tebworth. Hockliffe Road to left (by Thomas Fisher c. 1810).

this was not necessarily a planned process. This became the main part of the settlement and the southern part was deserted at some date before the post-medieval period. Development also occurred in the small plots fronting on the western side of the green though some of these may have been part of the original settlement. The creation of greens during the early medieval period was not uncommon in England; it occurred elsewhere along Theedway at Eggington where a large green with a single building row along its northern side was laid out as an extension to a small nucleated settlement at some time early in the medieval period (7).

The northern side of the green at Wingfield was occupied, at least in part, by the early 13th century. During the first half of that century Dunstable Priory developed a substantial grange (monastic farmstead) on the plot which in more recent times has been occupied by New Farm. The grange served the estate which the Priory gradually built up in Chalgrave during the late 12th and 13th centuries; they acquired lands and property from a variety of benefactors (8).

In c.1190/5 the Priory became mesne or intermediate lords of half a hide (2 virgates or 60 customary acres) of land which they obtained in Wingfield. This property was subject to the Loring's main Manor of Chalgrave but was the origin of Wingfield Manor of which the Priory remained lords until the Dissolution. The earliest known reference to the manor by name is in 1334 when the "Manor of Wynefeld" is mentioned (9).

The original half hide included a messuage and croft in Wingfield and this presumably was the original farmhouse property expanded into the grange by the Priory on the New Farm site. In c.1225 there was an exchange of three selions (ridges of arable) between the lord of Chalgrave Manor's tenants and the Prior to enable the latter to enlarge his curtilage (courtyard) at Wingfield. This and a grant of a half-acre by another tenant to the Priory" for the increment of their curia at Winfeld" shows that the Priory was extending its farmyard complex at Wingfield beyond its original confines by taking in a portion of what had been common field land (10). A steady construction programme then seems to have ensued on the site, including a building finished there in 1238, a dovecote in 1248, a sheepfold in 1250 and a cowhouse in 1253 (11).

Besides the manor Dunstable Priory also had the rectory and advowson (the right to appoint the vicar) of Chalgrave Church until the Dissolution. At this time the manor and rectory together were valued at £18.0.0 (12). However, two accounts dating from the early 1540's just after the Dissolution have caused a little confusion: under the heading Wingfield the former Dunstable property, valued at £18.0.0., is referred to simply as the "Rectory of Wingfield within the parish of Chalgrave" with no specific mention of the manor (13). There was no Rectory of Wingfield and this would really seem to be a slightly muddled and condensed title for a property which included both the Manor of Wingfield and the rectory and advowson of Chalgrave Church.

*In law, the term **messuage** equates to a **dwelling-house** and includes outbuildings, orchard, **curtilage** or court-yard and garden. At one time messuage supposedly had a more extensive meaning than that comprised in the word house or site, but such distinction, if it ever existed, no longer survives*

Fig.4 SETTLEMENT EARTHWORKS AT HILL FARM,
WINGFIELD.

(From a survey by P.J.Woodward and A.H.Simco,
1976)

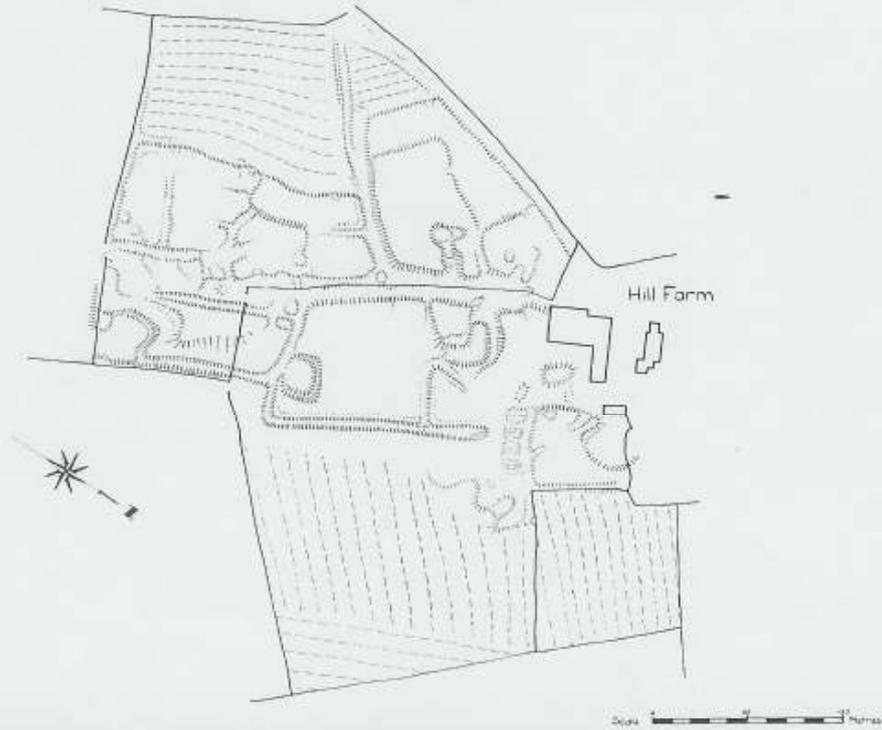


Plate 5: Deserted settlement earthworks south of Hill Farm, Wingfield, 1974.



Following the Dissolution the former Dunstable property was annexed in 1542 to the Honour of Ampthill, and in 1549 the crown granted it to William Smythe and his son, William. This presumably included the manor of Wingfield which according to the Victoria County History was sold by the Smythes to Thomas Impie in 1569. After this date the descent of the manor is difficult to trace until Thomas Gilpin of Hockliffe bought it during the mid 18th century. At the time of Enclosure in 1800 the manor was held by Richard Gilpin (14).

Sometime after 1549 the rectory of Chalgrave Church, a small amount of glebe land and the great tithes, was Obtained by Trinity Hall, Cambridge who still held it in 1800. The advowson, however, remained initially with the owners of Wing field Manor as above but from 1579 was in the hands of the Potts family who kept it into the early 18th century. During the mid 18th century Thomas Gilpin acquired it and thus returned it to the same ownership as Wing field Manor (15). Gilpin was also the patron of the rectory and parish church of Hockliffe to which the vicarage of Chalgrave was annexed. From 1771 Chalgrave and Hockliffe were ecclesiastically united (16).

During the post-medieval period Wingfield Manor's demesne farmstead complex was the most substantial in the village. It was very prominent in the row of settlement fronting on the northern side of Wingfield Green. By the late 18th century this part of the settlement had been extended to the west of what was later to become New Farm by the encroachment of dwellings in small closes on to common field land. The present Coottee Cottage, a timber-framed and brick built cottage of 17th century origins, may have been part of this development. Slightly further west portions of the south eastern end of The Parks had been enclosed with buildings erected on the easternmost part.

Most of the remainder of Wingfield village fronted in a row on the western side of the Green. The exception was Hill Farm to the south. This was known for much of the post-medieval period as Fenshams Farm (17).

Apart from Coottee Cottage few other examples of timber-framing remain in Wing field; brick predominates in the surviving historic buildings. The earliest dated examples include the 18th century Plough Inn and on the west side of the former green, Pond Farm dated 1699 (another example of the use of the chequered brickwork design). Towards the eastern end of the northern row the lack of buildings in some of the closes fronting on the green suggests that some settlement desertion had occurred there by the end of the 18th century.

Church and Manor

Provision was made in the medieval period for housing the vicar of Chalgrave close to the parish church. However, by 1673 the vicarage house was no longer standing in the close south of the church nor was there alternative provision elsewhere in the parish. This was confirmed in 1709 and by a memorandum dated 1743 in the parish registers, although the glebe still included

the closes adjoining on the west, north and south of the churchyard (18). No new vicarage house was built in Chalgrave parish until 1862, and that was in Tebworth. The only buildings close by the church during the post-medieval period were those on the former Chantry House site. This was known as Church Farm early in the present century but has now been demolished (19). This was another property the Gilpins obtained during the 18th century and in which the Potts family also had an interest during the early 17th century (20).

The Potts' principal involvement in Chalgrave parish came in a period during the late 16th and early 17th centuries when they tenanted the main Chalgrave Manor's extensive demesne lands; the enclosed portion in the east of the parish was called Chalgrave Farm or Warren (21). They occupied Chalgrave Manor Farm, the former manor house, which in the late 18th century was a large and isolated complex of buildings including the surviving farmhouse. This dates chiefly from the 17th and 18th centuries and is built in three parts with parallel roof ridges, one part being timber framed. The remainder is brick as are the 18th century stables and outbuildings.

The mesne lords of Chalgrave Manor no longer used Chalgrave manor house as a residence after the late 14th century when the property was joined with Toddington Manor, the chief seat until 1615. From 1429 Chalgrave Manor was held by the Broughton family until in 1529 it passed by marriage to the Cheney family. They held it until 1614 when Thomas Wentworth inherited it with Toddington. Wentworth sold Chalgrave Manor to the Crofts family in 1615 who in turn sold it to the Mercers Company in 1629. At the same time the manor was released from its overlordship. The Mercers Company held the manor into the present century (22).

Hockliffe in the parish of Chalgrave

Before the 13th century little settlement had been established on the meadow land beside Watling Street. However, the Hospital of St John the Baptist was founded before 1209 on the Hockliffe side of the road at SP 97702633 where Hockliffe House now stands (23). This seems to have encouraged the establishment of a few more dwellings in previously uninhabited locations on both sides of Watling Street during the 13th century (24). This piecemeal development gathered pace as the movement of people and trade increased along Watling Street during the later medieval and early post-medieval periods. A successful roadside settlement developed despite its location on the damp meadowland which flanked streams crossing the poorly drained gault here.

By the later 18th century a sizeable area of the low lying and formerly common meadows had been enclosed beside the road in the north west corner of Chalgrave parish, presumably in piecemeal fashion. This land was divided into closes in most of which dwellings had been established. To the south east, just as far as Chasewell Way, were further, more isolated, dwellings which lacked the larger attached closes.

All these buildings formed part of a settlement known in 16th to 18th century documents as Hockley in the Hole or alternatively Hockley or Hockliffe street, due to its low lying and roadside situation. The part of this settlement in Chalgrave parish was usually described in the documents as "Hockliffe in the parish of Chalgrave"; in 1929 it was transferred to Hockliffe parish. '

Watling Street was increasingly used by travellers during the post-medieval period: they brought an expanding volume of trade and goods along it, to and from London. It also became the major cattle drove road to the London stock markets from Wales and north western England. Hockliffe developed to take advantage of the passing custom and was an important coaching halt for changing horses and an overnight stopping place for drove herds (25). Several inns became established there during the 16th and 17th centuries; details of those in Chalgrave parish are given in the Gazetteer.

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See numbers in brackets () from page 23 to 34

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7. THE PRE-ENCLOSURE LANDSCAPE (Map 1)

Apart from the demesne closes in the east of the parish, post-medieval Chalgrave was dominated by common field agriculture until Enclosure in 1800. Documents indicate how the common field furlongs and meadows were arranged, marked out, bounded and managed. From the 16th century some landholdings were amalgamated and scattered strips consolidated into blocks. However, only a very small amount of piecemeal permanent enclosure occurred. Two windmills are known and it has been possible to reconstruct the pre-Enclosure arrangement of roads and tracks.

Agriculture

The documents show that Tebworth's common field land was recognizably distinct from that of Wingfield throughout the post-medieval period, just as it had been in the medieval period. However, there had been developments in the organisation of the fields of each 'township'. Throughout the 17th century Tebworth's land was divided into three fields Church Field, Leek Field and Gravelly (or Gravel Pit) Field. The area called Great Park Close or The Parks was also part of Tebworth's common field land but was separate from the three main fields. This arrangement continued into the 18th century but during that century there are a few references to a Tatterhill Field, which was the north eastern part of Leek Field, and to a Toddington Field. The latter was sometimes used as an alternative name for Church Field but was also possibly used for a particular area within Church Field towards the boundary with Toddington.

Throughout the 17th and 18th centuries Wingfield's land was divided into four fields - Mill Field, Church Field, South Field (later Grass Grove Field) and the small New Field.

All these main divisions, as interpreted from the documents, are shown on Map 1; the open field boundaries were mostly significant features like streams, meadows and roads.

In spite of the clear distinction between the two township areas, their agriculture was not managed separately by each community but by one body acting for both, the manor court of the main Chalgrave Manor. This is evident from the 16th and 17th century manorial court records which list many by-laws, especially concerning the regulation of grazing and orders for ditching and hedging; these had clearly been decided upon by a single representative body, the jury or the homage, for the whole parish (1). Similarly references in the court records to the marking out of boundaries in the common fields indicate a single body of men as responsible for both areas of land :-

"all that are of the Jury shall mete at the Church Crosse upon the xxth day of this month of November to sett out the bounds that are in the feelde of Wingfeild and Tebworth"(2)

Such a marking out was at least an annual event, usually carried out in October at the beginning of the new farming year. It is a reminder that the common field landscape was less open and featureless than has often been thought; there were visible boundary features that broke up the large tracts of arable and meadow. However, most of the boundary markers were of a small and temporary nature such as stakes, but were laid out across the landscape in some quantity:-

"Agreed. . . . and ordered that the Meetes and bounds of the lands lyinge betweene the Lords and their Tennants and betweene Tennant and Tennant lyinge within the Mannor Chalgrave shall be sett out and staked out by the foreman of the homage and five others"(3)

"It is ordeyned that all the tenants of this lordeshipp shall sett stakes to mere and marke fourth the ire meadowe grounds and haids in all places of this Lordeshipp before the feaste of all Seynts....."(4)

Disregard for such bounds was strictly controlled by the manorial court (5).

Temporary hurdle fencing was also used, especially to control the herds pastured or folded on different parts of the common fields at various times in the year; the majority of the by-laws in the court records are concerned with the regulation of such grazing. Some more permanent or fixed boundaries such as hedges and ditches also existed in the common fields and meadows, though these are not shown on any maps despite documentary evidence for their existence. Chalgrave's Enclosure map drawn up in 1797 only shows the general area of the common field land and the newly proposed bounds within them; none of the pre-Enclosure boundaries in the common fields known from deeds are shown. The Chalgrave court records include numerous references to ditch cleaning and recutting in the arable fields and meadows and there are several references to the maintenance of hedges which ran beside many of the ditches (6).

Although fixed boundary features already existed a firm control was kept over attempts by individuals to enclose permanently consolidated holdings in the common fields. Consolidation was often the result of engrossment (the amalgamation of landholdings) which was occurring in Chalgrave as individuals built up their estates (7). As a result much of the land in Tebworth and Wingfield became concentrated in the ownership of fewer hands; many had properties in the fields of both Tebworth and Wingfield but some still only had property in one or the other. From the later medieval period onwards by a process of purchase and exchange some individuals consolidated their widely scattered strips or holdings in the common fields into more convenient blocks. These allowed their owners or

tenants to cultivate larger parcels of arable in fewer places; otherwise the furlongs were still mainly cultivated in strips in many separate ownerships or tenancies. For example, in 1758 Daniel Osborn exchanged small amounts of land with four other individuals so that he might:-'

"bring together his land in Brook [Leck] Field and Gravelly Field, Tebworth" (8) .

Between 1643 and 1679 the Duncombe family of Battlesden bought up numerous small plots of meadow all in the meadows adjoining the Leck Brook and Battlesden parish. They were presumably attempting to consolidate a block of meadow next to their main estate (9). Often only the result rather than the process of consolidation is recorded in the documents, as in a detailed Marriage Settlement concerning Henry Brandreth and the lands belonging to Hill Farm, Wingfield in 1745. This lists much land, including several small consolidated blocks: in Mill Field - "seven and a half acres lying together", "In Thorne and Barnhill furlongs, three and a half acres being three ridges arable and piece grass ground lying together" and in Church Field in Church Furlong - "four acres lying in twelve ridges"(10). Once common rights, such as grazing, were extinguished over such parcels, they could have been permanently hedged or fenced and then regarded as closes. However, as this would have resulted in the reduction of the area over which common rights were enjoyed, attempts to enclose consolidated blocks in Chalgrave were resisted throughout the post-medieval period. Such cases were already evident in the later 16th century, as in 1567:-

"Roberte Pepiat Roberte Bonyan William Howse and Roberte Goodrich have inclosed certeyn Closes within the manor and kepeth them several [not allowing common rights]. Wherefore it is ordeyned that they shall ley forth the same Closes to be comon When harvest is home uppon payne of forfeiture to the Lorde xxd. "(11)

The court's decision that such closes had to be thrown open at least for part of the year to allow common grazing over them is typical. In the following year a general order was made:-

"All men that have or shall inclose any grounde that hath byn heretofore comon or made any closes aboute this manor more then have byn accustomed of olde tyme shall ley forth the same befor hollontyde nexte uppon payne of forfeiture for eny acre xxs." (12)

Nevertheless, common field 'closes' continued to be created in both Tebworth's and Wingfield's common fields in the 17th century (13). Map 1 shows, however, that individuals had little success in permanently extinguishing common rights to create closes held purely in single ownership; only relatively small areas of former common field adjoining the settlements had achieved this by the late 18th century.

The large area known as The Hitch in Wingfield Church Field was permanently hedged but maintained its common field status; it was subdivided like any other furlong and during the 17th and 18th centuries was a mixture of arable and pasture or leys (14). The Hitch was significant because it was cropped every year; unlike the remainder of the common fields it was never fallowed (15). The Hitch had a more specialized status or function outside the normal rotational practices of the remainder of the parish. The name Hitch is often associated with common field land used for more specialized or different crops and the practice of hitching involved the sowing of what would normally have been fallow with crops (16).

Adjoining The Hitch, Great Park Close or The Parks was again a large separately enclosed area of common field land, in this case belonging to Tebworth. Many references to this occur from the 16th century onwards and show it to be hedged and subdivided. During the 18th century it included both arable and pasture and was divided into several 'closes' though still retaining common field status (17). However, by the late 18th century some parts of The Parks, Spring Park and an area at its south-eastern end adjoining Wingfield, had had the common rights extinguished over them: this made them true closes.

Little in detail is known of the cropping rotations used in Chalgrave's common fields. The clearest clue is unfortunately rather late in date, 1795, when land in both Grass Grove and Mill Fields in Wingfield was said to be "obliged to be fallowed once in three years" (18). A three course rotation was then employed but this may not be a true reflection of most of the post-medieval period: some by-laws in court record entries of the later 16th and early 17th centuries concerning the regulation of grazing mention the Fallow Field, Tilth Field, White or Barley Stubble Field and the Bean Stubble Field, suggesting a four course rotation (19). This may have been a recent introduction: in 1587, when the vicar of Chalgrave complained about his meadow allotments, he stated that in 1575 the inhabitants had "altered the course of their husbandry" (20). However, there is nothing in the court records of the time to indicate any radical changes in husbandry practices.

How Tebworth's and Wingfield's common fields were divided for the rotations is unknown. A three or four course rotation does not necessarily imply a system of agriculture in three or four compact fields; any number of common fields could be managed in such rotations. Crop rotation was usually independent of the layout of the fields; furlongs within the fields rather than the fields themselves were the units of crop rotation or 'seasons'. One such season (an area or areas simultaneously under the same crop or the same fallow) was not necessarily a compact block but could be a collection of several pieces of land scattered throughout all the fields and additional lands which were assigned to the same course in the cropping sequence. Portions of one field could therefore be assigned to each of the different seasons at the same time (21).

Rotations including fallow, wheat and barley and beans were fairly typical in the Chalgrave area. One thing that is clear is that the same rotation was employed in both Tebworth' and Wingfield's fields: for cropping and grazing they were managed together as the same set of rules applied to both (22) This meant that intercommoning (adjoining communities utilising each other's grazing) was possible and practised to a certain extent; this is indicated in 1567 and 1568:-

"the inhabitantts of Wingfield shall not bring-e nor kepe their Cattell in the feilds of Tebworth further then_of oulde tyme they have byn accustomed to come that is to peynes Leeke and Flytt Ditche" (23)

The listing of by-laws regulating common field grazing only became frequent in the Chalgrave court records from the mid 16th century onwards. They stated the dates at which the areas of fallow or stubble were closed to or made available for pasturing and also dealt with stinting, the control of the numbers of stock allowed on the commons (24). Sheep, cattle, horses and pigs were all subject to these regulations, necessary in an arable dominated economy and landscape with permanent pasture in short supply. Occasional references in the document, indicate that some scattered and isolated leys or ridges laid to grass did exist in the common fields.

In Wingfield extra pasturage was provided by Wingfield Green and probably by Wingfield Heath though again the former's use was controlled by the by-laws. Wingfield Green would seem to have been mostly grazed by horses and geese, the latter apparently quite common and their numbers controlled in the later 16th and 17th centuries. Wingfield Heath was a large triangular extension of Wingfield Green along the top of the ridge beside Theedway. However, nothing is known of its history or use apart from the fact that it was common land or waste and not utilised for common field arable agriculture. It is most likely that it provided common grazing.

Grazing was also provided at certain times of the year in the parish meadows, particularly when they were thrown open after they had been mown and cleared. Again this was regulated by the by-laws which were necessary to protect the valuable annual hay crop (25). Tebworth in particular had sizeable areas of streamside common meadow.

The Demesne

Little is known of agricultural practices during the post-medieval period on the extensive enclosed demesne lands surrounding the former manor house in the east of the parish.

Several small areas of woodland survived amongst the demesne closes in the late 18th century. Apart from the hedgerows these were the only woods in the parish: they provided the manorial tenants with timber though this was sometimes obtained illegally, hence the cases brought before the manorial courts and the penalties imposed (26). The only information locally available concerning the demesne agriculture is for 1625 when an agreement was reached between the lord of the manor, Sir John Crofts, and his tenants (27). In part it resolved problems that had arisen concerning lanes crossing the demesne lands, including one to the church. As the demesne's mixed farming economy involved using the arable and pasture interchangeably these lanes were apparently sometimes pasture and sometimes ploughed. However, the tenants wished to be more certain of the state of the lanes and Sir John Crofts agreed to keep certain specified closes as permanent pasture whilst the remainder could be kept as arable, whether ploughed or sometimes leys (temporary pasture). This must have necessitated some changes in the agricultural management of the demesne.

Mills

Grain grown in Chalgrave parish during much of the post-medieval period would have been processed in the windmill situated on the top of the ridge just south-west of Wingfield (Map 2). A mill stood here in 1596 (28) and had probably already occupied the site for some time: by the early 17th Century it had given its name to the particular common field of Wingfield in which it stood, Mill Field, in which there was also a Mill Furlong. The use of these names would seem to have been long established but it is not certain whether this was the site of the medieval windmill. The Wingfield mill remained in use until the mid 18th century but had gone by 1765 (29). It had been replaced by a new windmill erected in the mid 1750's on a slight knoll west of Tebworth (Map 2). This was built by Thomas Newland and Henry Knight on former common arable strips in Sandy Coxstead Furlong which they obtained and consolidated by exchange in 1753 (30). However, this windmill had gone by 1815 (31). No other windmill was built later in the parish.

Roads and Tracks

No large scale pre-Enclosure plan exists for Chalgrave parish but it has been possible to reconstruct the network of main roads and tracks that had evolved by the post-medieval period. However, only the most important of these are shown on Map 1. There were also numerous paths and tracks which crisscrossed the common arable fields via baulks and headlands; they gave access to various parts of the common agricultural land within the parish. Some were permanent, some possibly not and most were probably used only seasonally. Hence, they are difficult to map.

The most important through route was Watling Street along the south-western parish boundary. Watling Street, or the West Chester Road, had been of national importance since Roman times.

but traffic passing along it increased dramatically from the middle of the medieval period onwards.

The passage of numerous herds of cattle, carts and carriages posed many problems for Watling Street's upkeep. In the 17th century the upkeep of a highway was the responsibility of the parishes through which it passed. Therefore, Chalgrave, Hockliffe and Tilsworth shared the costs of Watling Street between them; the former was responsible for the eastern half of the road and the latter pair for the western half. Documents of the 16th century onwards indicate continuous concern for the condition of the road and its repair, particularly in winter: much of the road passing through Chalgrave was low lying and crossed by streams. Certain individuals even left money in their wills for the maintenance and repair of the road in and near Hockliffe (32) but it still retained an apparently national reputation for bad conditions throughout the 17th century. William Camden commented in 1607:-

"Hockley in the Hole, so named of the miry way in Winter. time, very troublesome to Travellers."

Celia Fiennes in 1697 said:-

"We came over a sad road called Hockley in the Hole as full of deep slows in winter it must be impassable." (33)

The financial and physical burden of maintaining Watling Street must have lain heavily upon the local population. However, during the early 18th century their hardship was relieved by the establishment of turnpike trusts. These were given the right to collect tolls for the maintenance of a particular stretch of road along which they controlled the movement of travellers. The stretch of Watling Street from Hockliffe to Stony Stratford was turnpiked in 1706 and that from Dunstable to Hockliffe in 1710; they remained so until 1867 and 1873 respectively (34).

Turnpiking brought improvements and even by 1724 Daniel Defoe whilst journeying was able to comment:-

"We now see the most dismal Piece of Ground for Travelling that ever was in England handsomely repaired; namely from the top of the chalky hill beyond Dunstable down into Hockley Lane, and through Hockley, justly called Hockley in the Hole."(35)

Harking back to the pre-turnpike days he notes:-

"such a road for Coaches as worse was hardly ever seen".

Lysons commented in 1806:-

"Hockliffe 's situation is low, it was noted for its miry road, which of late years has been much improved".

Even greater improvements were made in the early 19th century as a result of increased expenditure.

The westernmost corner of Chalgrave parish was crossed by the road from Woburn to Hockliffe. It joined Watling street beside the Star Inn, through which a branch of the same road passed via a carriage arch. This route was also turnpiked in 1706 when it was considerably improved and then regularly kept in repair (36). In c.1821 the section of this road running through Battlesden parish to the north was replaced by a newly built stretch on a more easterly and gently curving alignment (37). The new road entered Chalgrave parish slightly further west along Leck Brook than previously; it then followed a straight course to its original junction with Watling Street rather than the earlier sinuous course shown on Map 17. The new alignment caused the parish boundary here to be altered slightly. This road remained a turnpike road until 1877 and is now the B5.28 (38).

The other major routes passing through the parish were the north-south road in the east of the parish linking Toddington and Dunstable/Houghton Regis, the present A5120, and two eastwest routes, Frenchmans Way and Theedway". The earliest known reference to Frenchmans Way occurs in c.1225 (39) but today only a footpath follows part of its course. The part of Theedway west of Wingfield was known as Chasewell Way from at least the 16th century and today is just a footpath. The part east of Wingfield was Lordshill Lane which is still a road until it becomes a green lane on leaving the parish. Theedway's use as an important through route declined during the medieval period and it was not greatly used as such afterwards. The whole length of this track was very closely related to the topography. It entered Chalgrave from the east along the top of the chalk ridge which formed the parish boundary. After crossing a slight hollow it then followed the top of the boulder clay ridge through Wingfield, but to the west dropped to follow the valley floor of the Chasewell stream as far as Watling Street below Kates Hill.

The parish as a whole was well served by main through routes heading in a variety of directions. However, the main centres of historic settlement at Wingfield and Tebworth were not directly related to any of these main routes with the exception of Theedway passing through Wingfield. Links between these settlements and the main routes were provided by a second tier network of roads and tracks shown on Map 1. Several radiated from Tebworth - Coxstead Way, Blanstead Way, Millway, Glovers Way (the present Wingfield Road), Church Way, and one linking with Frenchmans Way. Some of these have now gone or only survive in part as footpaths. Another track ran southward from Wingfield towards Thorn in Houghton Regis. It crossed Bound Way, so named as it ran along the parish boundary between Chalgrave and Houghton Regis. Bound Way's role in the Chalgrave network of tracks is not entirely clear, although it was possibly of ancient origins.

Occupations and Industry

The evidence for occupations before 1800 is limited: the main source is the parish registers but not all incumbents

recorded occupations. Detailed information is only available from the end of the 17th century.

Not surprisingly, agricultural occupations dominated, with individuals engaged in such work making up two-thirds of the total of 143 recorded. The great majority were labourers and the next most numerous were the farmers. Also recorded were shepherds, husbandmen, a ploughman, a horse courser and a wheat buyer. The inns along Watling Street account for the innkeepers and more particularly for the numbers of servants that are recorded.

Over a period of some one hundred years only 31 tradesmen were recorded. Of these, carpenters were the most numerous followed by butchers and blacksmiths. The Hearth Tax returns for 1671 include a reference to a forge (40) and a forge or blacksmith's shop stood on the green in Tebworth in 1755 (41). The latter may have been the blacksmith's forge which by c.1810 stood on the site of 2 Hockliffe Road in which a smithy operated into the present century until at least 1928 (42). The adjacent 4 Hockliffe Road is today called 'Forge Cottage'. There were only one or two references to a cobbler, shoemaker, glover, tailor, spinthress, weaver, tallow chandler, shopkeeper, barber, apothecary, nurse and schoolmaster.

Some quarrying was carried out in the parish. In 1656 John Adkins is recorded as:-

"slaine by digging of gravill the pitt falng on him" (43).

Just west of Tebworth the ploughed down earthworks of several pits survive in an area that was known as Gravell Pitt furlong in 1612/3 (Plate 6) (44). They also provided the name for the common field in which they lay - Gravelly or Gravel Pit Field, its name from at least 1624 (45). These pits were of early post-medieval or even medieval origins.

Those of the parish poor unable to get work during the 18th century were accommodated by the parish workhouse which is known to have existed between at least 1738 and 1775 (46). It was a cottage property rented to Overseers for the benefit of the poor.

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8. ENCLOSURE AND THE 19TH CENTURY LANDSCAPE (Maps 1 and 2)

Official Enclosure took place at the beginning of the 19th century. The common arable fields and meadows, Wingfield Green and Wingfield Heath were divided by straight boundaries and the plots reallocated. New isolated farmsteads were erected, a number of straight new roads were built and several other tracks were stopped up. Population increased dramatically and several new buildings were erected for residential and community purposes, particularly in Tebworth and Hockliffe.

The parliamentary Act for the enclosure of an estimated 1,780 acres of common arable, meadow and waste in Chalgrave parish was passed in 1797; the Award was not signed and did not become effective until 1800. The Enclosure resulted in considerable alterations to the pattern of landholding and changes in the agricultural organisation and management in the parish, including the establishment of some new farmsteads. New roads and paths were laid out, others were stopped up or had their status changed. The areas of closes adjoining Hockliffe, Tebworth, Wingfield and in the eastern part of the parish were largely unaffected apart from a handful which were involved in exchanges of ownership (1).

Agriculture

Enclosure ended the communal system of farming by agreement and extinguished the common rights. After much surveying, meetings, discussion, mapping and planning, the common fields, Wingfield Heath and Green were subdivided by precise, new straight boundaries into regular blocks. Each block was allotted to an individual in place of his land formerly dispersed in strips throughout the fields, and in place of his right of common: owners with large landholdings had more than one allotment. Where the allotments were particularly large the owners themselves or their occupiers usually subdivided them further with their own boundaries. New boundaries were thus created and a large number of new hedges planted. In the common field areas the new boundaries were laid out on alignments usually at variance with the pre-Enclosure landscape, its furlongs and ridge and furrow (Plate 6): most of the former boundaries were ignored and swept away. Also the rigid, straight boundaries of the new regular fields contrasted with the irregularity of the ancient closes.

The annual payment of the great tithes in cash or kind was also extinguished at Enclosure; it was replaced by large, permanent allotments of land to the Master and Fellows of Trinity Hall, Cambridge as Rector. These were entirely new landholdings which had to be created from the existing lands in the parish; in effect each landholder had to give up a portion' of land to the rector in lieu of tithes. Trinity Hall obtained just over 329 acres in this way besides nearly 4 acres in lieu of the glebe. This was the second largest amount of land allocated in the parish: most of it was allotted in one huge

block of 253 acres taken from Mill Field and Gravelly Field adjoining Watling Street; the remainder was allotted in a block taken from Wingfield Church Field and Wingfield Heath south of Church Way. The lesser or vicarial tithes were replaced by a block of just over 49 acres given to the vicar from Leck Field. The vicar also had allotments in lieu of the glebe (just over 2 acres) belonging to the vicarage.

The largest amount of land, just over 448 acres, was allotted to Richard Gilpin in several parcels located in different parts of the parish. The main blocks were allocated adjacent or near to the farmsteads that belonged to Gilpin White Horse Farm in Hockliffe, Church Farm by the Church, Tithe Farm in Tebworth and Pond and Manor Farms in Wingfield. The whole of this estate, including the demesne of the Manor of Wingfield, had been acquired by Thomas Gilpin during the mid 18th century (2).

The lords of Chalgrave Manor, the Mercers Company, were allocated allotments totalling only just over 10 acres and this was partly in lieu of waste. This demonstrates that little of the manorial demesne lay in the common fields in the period before 1800. The demesne had for long been almost entirely confined to the area of closes in the east of the parish.

All the remaining allotments were very varied in size. They chiefly consisted of single blocks of land given to individuals and laid out as conveniently as they could be for their existing farm-houses, though this was not always possible: and/or with direct access from at least one of the main roads.

The impact of Enclosure on agricultural practices in Chalgrave is not easy to deduce. In 1801, just after Enclosure: the Home Office Acreage Returns recorded a total of 921 acres as arable, just over a third of the parish acreage. The crops grown and their acreages were as follows - Wheat 323, Barley 179, Oats 88, Peas 68, Beans 200, Turnips or Rape 63. However, it is uncertain how accurate these returns were. They were compiled by the local incumbents who often noted difficulties in obtaining the right information due to uncooperative farmers, deliberate concealment and incorrect answers (3). The area of arable was actually probably larger in the earlier 19th century than indicated here, especially in the light of other documentary evidence for agriculture on the lands of individual farms such as Home Farm, Tebworth (in 1806), the estate of the Bull Inn, Tilsworth in Chalgrave (also in 1806), White Horse Farm, Hockliffe (in 1822) and Halworth Farm, Wingfield (in 1848). On all these farms a mixed agricultural economy was practised in which arable covered the larger acreage; on Home and Halworth Farms there was three times as much arable as pasture (4).

During the later 19th century grassland seems to have increased at the expense of arable: at the beginning of the present century two thirds of the parish was permanent pasture and the rest, apart from the woods, was arable. The chief crops were wheat, barley, oats, beans and peas (5). However, the



Plate 6: Post-enclosure boundaries and road overlying ridge and furrow north east of Tibworth, 1953.
Plate 7: All Saints Church following storm damage, 1898.



proportion of arable to pasture probably varied from farm to farm, depending partly on its location. In 1919 on the Chalgrave Manor Farm property the amounts of arable and pasture were roughly equal (6).

Communications

Enclosure significantly changed the network of roads and tracks in Chalgrave parish. A combination of factors influenced these alterations. The changes in farming brought about by the ending of the common field system and the redistribution of land required less access for all to land in the various parts of the parish; some of the old tracks would no longer be particularly useful. Some tracks may already have declined in use; in other cases routeways on different and more convenient alignments were probably desired by this time. Finally, roads laid out on new and straight alignments made it easier for the Enclosure Commissioners to plan and allocate the new regular allotments.

Some of the pre-Enclosure routeways were stopped up and taken out of use - Coxstead Way, Frenchmans Way, Blanstead way, Millway, Boundway and the southern end of the track leading from Wingfield to Boundway. More significantly three straight stretches of new roads were constructed over former common field arable and meadow by Michaelmas 1800 (7). Two were 40 feet wide, that leading south-west from Tebworth to Watling Street, and that leading north-east from Tebworth towards Toddington (Plate 6). The other was a 30 feet wide continuation north-west of the road from Tebworth towards Battlesden. The latter still retains the typical look of an Enclosure road. Parts of Church Way were straightened, particularly at the end nearest Tebworth; at Wingfield the enclosure of the Green and Heath resulted in the permanent definition, and in places straightening, of the various routes that had always crossed them.

By 1815 a tollgate was set up across Watling Street at its junction with the newly built road from Tebworth (now Hockliffe Road) (8).

A new and extensive system of footpaths chiefly radiating from Tebworth and Wingfield was also designated at Enclosure. Only one of these followed an ancient alignment, that along Chasewell Way (part of Theedway) leading to Watling Street. However, some of the designated footpaths did not come into regular use and several paths used in the parish since the 19th century are on different alignments to those proposed. This is in part due to the realignment of the original planned straight courses to respect the field boundaries made by owners in subdividing their allotments after Enclosure. Also there are now a number of extra footpaths not designated at Enclosure; some follow the courses of tracks stopped up at Enclosure.

In order that the roads could be maintained the Enclosure Commissioners allotted four small plots of land, totalling 3 acres, for use as public stone and gravel pits. These were at SP 98682645 adjoining Hockliffe Road, TL 00012701 adjoining Chalgrave Road,

TL 00332577 south of Wingfield with a new access route laid out to it, and at SP 99722777 adjoining Toddington Road. There are indications that all except perhaps the latter were utilised (9).

Settlement

The reallocation of land at Enclosure resulted in additions to the settlement pattern during the 19th century, in particular the establishment of new isolated farmsteads away from the old settlement cores. This was especially so in those instances where the larger newly allotted blocks of farmland did not conveniently adjoin farmsteads in the villages. Farmsteads were therefore built upon their new property, as at Tatterhill Farm in the north of the parish. However, this was in ruins by 1920 and has been demolished since 1960 (10). Similarly College Farm was built on the smaller of the allotments to the Master and Fellows of Trinity Hall, Cambridge on the south side of Chalgrave Road.

Trinity Hall's large main allotment lay beside Watling Street. Initially it was farmed from a nearby property that had existed before Enclosure and fronted on Watling Street just north west of its junction with Chaseswell Way. This was the former Bull Inn which Trinity Hall bought from J Perry at Enclosure and turned into a farmstead; it was then no longer serving as an inn. However, sometime between 1826 and 1880 Trinity Hall built a new replacement farmstead to the south east. This was originally known as Rectory Farm but is now Trinity Hall Farm. The former Bull Inn was known as Old Farm in 1880 and was demolished in the early part of the present century (11).

Though not on newly allotted land another new isolated farmstead erected before 1826 was New Barn Farmhouse on the southern side of the manorial demesne property (12). To the north near the church but on the same property Church Cottages were also built before 1826. Lordshill Cottage adjacent to Great Wood was built before 1880 (13).

Another isolated building erected after Enclosure was what is now Hill Cottage south west of Tebworth. This was not a farmstead but was built before 1815 (possibly between 1797 and 1800) as the parish Pest House. This was an early equivalent of the isolation hospital where persons suffering from infectious diseases, such as smallpox, were sent. It was erected on the corner of the small allotment to The Minister and Churchwardens of the Parish of Chalgrave in lieu of the Churchlands; the land was described as Pest House Field in the Enclosure award. By 1837 the property was no longer used as a Pest House and was sold off as two cottages (14).

Not all the new farmsteads erected soon after Enclosure were isolated. In Tebworth Ivy Farmhouse and farmstead was built in yellow brick in the early 19th century on former common field land adjoining the old village core. It stood beside the

Great Pond, a large public pond which still survives in part today.

During the 19th century there were many other new building developments in or adjoining the old village cores at Hockliffe, Tebworth and Wingfield; these were less a result of the Enclosure than of the rapidly rising population in the parish. At the time of the first census in 1801 the population of Chalgrave parish stood at 534 but throughout the century the population steadily rose until in 1871 it reached a peak of 993. After that it declined even more rapidly and in 1901 stood at 593 (Appendix 11). When the population was rising several new brick cottages were built, particularly in Tebworth, such as 21-3 Hockliffe Road. Particularly noticeable was the use of local yellow gault bricks in several buildings, including 18-24 and 28 The-Lane and 2 Hockliffe Road. The latter and the adjoining red brick number 4, also of 19th century date, were built on what had been the small Tebworth Green. This open space had already been encroached upon before Enclosure (15) but during the 19th century it was almost completely enclosed and developed. Cottages which once stood on its south-eastern portion have, however, been demolished, leaving only a wide roadside verge. Buildings on its north-western side have also been demolished.

Other new 19th century buildings in Tebworth included the Gothic style brick Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in Toddington Road; it was erected and dedicated in 1842 (16). In association with this chapel the 19th century gault brick building off The Lane at SP 99042682 was used as a day school with house attached from at least c.1860 (17). In 1885 Kelly's Directory described it as a Wesleyan (or British) mixed school for 85 children with a house for the master. It remained in use into the early part of the present century but was later only used as a Sunday School. In 1862 a new vicarage house was built in brick on the triangular plot of former common field land in the angle between Toddington and Chalgrave Roads. It is now in private hands and no longer a vicarage house.

By 1894 Church of England services were again being held in Tebworth. In 1888 the tower of the isolated parish church fell during a thunderstorm and destroyed part of the nave (Plate 7) (18). This rendered the church unusable and an alternative venue was more conveniently provided at Tebworth off Wingfield Road in a new brick building dedicated to St Mary. By 1903 the parish church was repaired sufficiently for services to be held there in summer but St Mary's Church continued to be used as well. In recent years St Mary's Church has been altered and converted into a private house. Also in recent years the adjoining Church of England Voluntary Primary School has been closed. This was built in red brick with blue diaperwork in 1854/5 as a National School and teacher's house serving both Tebworth and Wingfield; it opened in 1855 (19).

Public houses also existed in Tebworth during the 19th century. The Queens head is recorded from at least 1822. though in 1821 it was described as the Three Horse Shoes or Queens

Head. The present building was erected in 1926 (20). The Cock beerhouse was trading from at least before 1867 until just before 1914. It is now a private house (21). Shoulder of Mutton Cottage was a public house from at least before 1822 but again ceased trading just before 1914. It is now a private house but has in part been used as an office for the adjoining timber yard (Plate 3) (22).

In Wingfield the large home farmstead for the Gilpin's Wingfield Manor demesne property, present in the late 18th century, was demolished before 1880. It was replaced by a new but smaller farmstead known as New Farm on part of the same site (23). A little further west at SP 99972624 a Wesleyan Methodist Chapel was built in 1833. However, this building was sold in 1946-7 (24). At the other end of the settlement the easternmost group of buildings present at the end of the 18th century have been demolished during the present century. Though set well back from the road during the 19th century these had originally fronted directly on to Wingfield Heath before Enclosure. Earthworks still survive in pasture on this site and in the surrounding field; they mark the former, but now deserted, eastern end of Wingfield village.

The building that is now the Plough Inn in Wingfield was licensed premises by 1822. It is housed in an 18th century building and is still a public house today (25).

The part of Hockliffe village in Chalgrave parish continued to develop during the 19th century; many new houses were added to the inns already there since the post-medieval period. During the mid and later 18th century some of the main developments had occurred in the angle between Woburn Road and Watling Street in the southern corner of the former Pondwicks Close. Here a variety of buildings had been erected, including several cottages divided into tenements, a butchers shop, slaughter house, several barns and some stables which in 1838 were described as being used for Liverpool Coach Horses (26). One of the barns here was the first premises used by the Independent congregation in Hockliffe. In 1806 it was described as being:

"lately fitted up and now used as a Place of Worship for Protestant Dissenters." (27).

By 1825 this had become too small and dilapidated and the new Congregational Chapel was built on the Hockliffe side of the road opposite the Red Lion. The old building reverted to its former use as a barn. Later in the century, by at least 1877, the Primitive Methodists had a chapel on almost the same site. However they abandoned these premises in 1913 (28). Already by 1882 some of the other buildings here had been demolished (29); the remainder were demolished in the present century. A garage building now stands on the site.

In 1844 a school was built in the north east corner of Pondwicks Close. This followed the giving of a triangular plot of land by the Gilpins to the National Society as a school site

Note The Red Lion is now demolished and is replaced by a small housing estate

for poor persons of Hockliffe and Chalgrave. In 1847 this mixed National School was licensed as an additional place of worship for the Sunday Evening Service. In 1854 a teacher's house was added to the school. These premises are no longer a school; a new Lower School has been built in recent years a little further to the north east along the Woburn Road (30).

Further south-east along the Chalgrave side of Watling Street several brick cottages were erected during the 19th century. These included 1 and 2 Riverdale, the row including Ivy Cottages and adjacent buildings and, a little more isolated, the row built of gault bricks called Royal Cottages.

Industry

By the- later 19th century clay was being dug to make bricks along Hockliffe Road to the south-west of Tebworth. In 1880 a clay pit and brick kiln occupied one of the plots that had been allocated at Enclosure to provide material for the maintenance of the roads. This brickworks was probably run by Nathaniel Gurney during the 1860's. However, by 1901 both the brickworks and clay pit were disused; the ploughed remains partly survive today (31). Another brickworks was opened up during the 19th century in the southern corner of the parish; it was disused by 1880 but marked by water filled hollows (32). A sizeable water filled pit was also apparent to the south of Tatterhill Farm in 1880. Despite partial infilling it remains today. In Tebworth itself a sand pit had been opened up by 1880 on the west side of The Lane at SP 98992682; it was disused by 1901 but its remains are visible in pasture (33).

Several other pits of probable post-Enclosure origin but of unknown purpose have been recorded in the parish from aerial photographs, especially those taken by the RAF in the 1940's. Several were cut into ridge and furrow, as at SP 98512808 near Tatterhill which still survives in pasture, at TL 00192597 near Hill Farm, Wingfield, at TL 01472724 near Chalgrave Manor Farm which have been ploughed out, and a little further east at TL 01982730 which no longer survives. Also near Chalgrave Manor Farm another pit at TL 01502714 has been ploughed out, as have most of the traces of the possible pits near Watling Street at SP 98252600.

Timber merchants are recorded in Tebworth since the mid 19th century and a saw mill, initially steam driven, has been in what were once Poultons and Habletts Close since at least early in the present century. This is now just a timber yard (34). The only cottage industry of any significance was straw plaiting in which many of the women were engaged. This was common in this part of the county (35).

Notes and References:

See numbers in brackets () from page 35 to 52

- 1 .CRO: MC 55, 1797; MA 30/1 and A30, Enclosure Map and Award, 1797, 1800
2. CRO: P103/2/2,3, 1822
3. List and Index Society, 1982

Note The Timber yard is now gone and replaced by Woodlands and The old Woodyard housing estate

4 CRO: KK 786, 1806; T41/1-2, 1806; P103/2/2,3, 1822; SA 544, 1848
 5 VCH, 1912, p.345
 6 Bucks CRO: D/X 320, 1919
 7 CRO: QSM, Vol.21, 1800-3
 8 CRO: MIC 1/0/6, O.S. 2"
 9 CRO: X52/89 , 1844-5; RAF Aerial Photographs: QB17-18
 10 Gurney, 1920, p.165; O.S. 6", 1960
 11 Bryants Map, 1826; O.S. 6" 1st Edition, surveyed 1879/81; CRO: X268/1-44, 1797/8
 12 Bryants Map, 1826
 13 O.S. 6", 1st Edition, surveyed 1879/81
 14 CRO: A and MA 30/1, 1800/1797; MIC 1/0/6, O.S. 2"; CRT 130 CHA 7; Bryants Map, 1826
 15 CRO: MC 14
 16 CRO: AD 3712, 1842
 17 Directories: various
 18 CRO: Z 50/26/1; P114/28/24, 1901
 19 CRO: AD 3865/43; Directories: various; Godber, 1969, p.507
 20 CRO: CLP 13, 1822-8; B231, 1821
 21 Kelly's Directories: various; CRO: HN UNCAT, Box 24; Returns of Licensed Premises, 1876,
 1891, 1903; Luton Evening Post 14/7/81
 22 CRO: CLP 13, 1822-8
 23 O.S. 6", 1st Edition, surveyed 1879/81; CRO: AD 3717, 1917
 24 Bushby, 1975, p.168; O.S. 25",1901,1925; CRO: ME 371
 25 CRO: CLP 13, 1822-8
 26 CRO: HN UNCAT, Boxes 52, 136 and 145
 27 CRO: HN UNCAT, Box 145
 28 Tibbutt, 1959, pp. 18-19
 29 O.S. 25", 1st Edition, 1882
 30 CRO: P103/29/1,3; AD 3865/20; Bushby, 1975, p.168
 31 O.S. 6", 1st Edition, surveyed 1879/81; Kelly's Directories, 1864, 1869; O.S. 25",1901
 32 Luton Museum, 4/50/60, map annotated by F G Gurney
 33 O.S. 6", 1st Edition, surveyed 1879/81; O.S. 25", 1901
 34 CRO: AD 3717, 1917
 35 VCH, 1912, p.345

9. THE MODERN LANDSCAPE (Map 2)

The most significant developments with regard to settlement in the historic parish of Chalgrave during the present century have occurred in the west along Watling Street. In 1929 the parish boundary here was altered: that part of Hockliffe village lying in Chalgrave parish and some adjoining land was transferred to Hockliffe parish. Following this and particularly since the 1950's the majority of Hockliffe village's expansion has taken place there. In particular this has taken the form of developments behind the main street frontage, such as Manor Avenue, White Horse Close, Birch's Close, Nine Lands and Kilby Road. This expansion led in 1985 to a further transfer of land from Chalgrave parish to Hockliffe parish.

Modern developments in Tebworth and Wingfield villages have been limited. During and since the 1950's the main building developments have been at the western end of Wingfield, along the road linking Wingfield and Tebworth, on the east side of Toddington Road just outside Tebworth and on various small plots in or near the Tebworth village core, including some redevelopment.

The services provided in the two villages are now very limited. Wingfield only has the Plough Inn and Tebworth the Queens Head public house and a post office. The school has closed in recent years.

At present the majority of Chalgrave parish is still agricultural land. However, changes in agriculture in the parish since the 1950's have seen much of the permanent grass present in the earlier part of the century ploughed up for arable. As a result a good deal of the ridge and furrow fossilized as earthworks in pasture and still surviving during the 1940's (see M3.p 1) has been flattened. Nevertheless significant areas of pasture and some ridge and furrow still survive, particularly in and around Tebworth village, where the shrunken settlement earthworks still largely remain, and to its north and north west along the Clipstone (Leek) Brook, either side of the road towards Battlesden and west of Toddington Road. Much of the latter areas have always been meadow. Unfortunately the shrunken settlement earthworks on the southern side of Wingfield have been destroyed for arable cultivation.

The change over to arable has been accompanied by the removal of some hedges and other boundaries to enlarge fields. West of the Toddington to Dunstable/Houghton Regis road this has chiefly involved boundaries of post-Enclosure date and only a limited number have gone. Hedgerow removal here has certainly been less than in many other parishes.

Rather more impact has been made on the historic landscape of the long enclosed former manorial demesne east of the Toddington to Dunstable/Houghton Regis road. Here considerable lengths of the numerous ancient close boundaries have been grubbed up: very few of the boundaries shown on Map 1 survive

Note – I'm afraid the post office closed in 1961

today. However, the hedgerow removal here is not just a recent phenomenon: a good many of the close boundaries had already been removed by 1880. Also, several of the small scattered woods and the larger area of wood adjoining Lordshill Lane, all present at the end of the 18th century, had been grubbed up by 1880. This left Great Wood and Warrenmore Spinney as the main woods, as they still are today. Apart from the loss of hedgerows the increased area under the plough here has also destroyed the earthwork remains of much ridge and furrow and, more significantly, of the 'motte and bailey' manor site near All Saints Church. Several other minor earthworks of interest at the foot of the slope below All Saints Church and scattered elsewhere across this area have also been destroyed.

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APPENDIX I: DOOMESDAY BOOK ENTRIES

Entries in Domesday Book, 1086 (taken from VCH Beds. I, 1904, pp 234, 255).

In Celgrave Ernulf holds the third part of 1 virgate of land. It is and was worth 2 shillings T.R.E. and after This land Edward Wit held T.R.E.

M. Albert of Lorraine holds of the king Celgrave. It is assessed at 8 hides and two thirds of 1 virgate. There is land for 10 ploughs. In the demesne are 3 carucates of land, and on it are 2 ploughs. There 13 villeins have ploughs. There are 4 bordars and 6 serfs, meadow (sufficient) for 8 plough teams, woodland (to feed) 50 swine. It is worth 7 pounds; when received (was worth) 6 pounds, and as much T.R.E. This manor the same Albert held the T.R.E. and could assign to who he wished.

APPENDIX II: POPULATION

1801	-	534
1811	-	633
1821	-	710
1831	-	746
1841	-	818
1851	-	952
1861	-	961
1871	-	993
1881	-	873
1891	-	730
1901	-	593
1911	-	573
1921	-	541
1931	-	377
1951	-	364
1961	-	319
1971	-	358
1981	-	390

The figures before 1931 include that part of Hockliffe village which lay in Chalgrave parish until its transfer to Hockliffe parish in 1929. The figures from 1931 onwards do not include this part of Hockliffe village.

Sources: - VCH Beds. 11, 1908, p 114; Directories: various; Statistics in County Planning Department, Bedfordshire county Council.

GAZETTEER OF SELECTED SITES, FEATURES AND BUILDINGS

This gazetteer is selective and arranged under the following headings:

Prehistoric and Roman
Ecclesiastical and Manorial Buildings or Sites Earthworks
Inns and Public Houses,
Parish or Community Buildings and Features Schools
Chapels (Nonconformist)
Industrial and Related Features
Military Features
Domestic Buildings

Further information available from the Bedfordshire County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR).

PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN

INHUMATION, Toddington Road, Tebworth (SP 992 268).
Skeleton and pot of unknown date found c.1870 opposite the Methodist Chapel. SMR 1952.

ROMAN OCCUPATION, south west of Chalton (TL 023 261).
3rd and 4th century pottery, brick, roof tile, flint cobbles, animal bones and iron objects recovered from extensive area.
SMR 1438.

ROMAN POTTERY, south west of Tebworth (SP 987 266). Fragment of 3rd century grey ware found in 1976. SMR 7725.

ROMAN POTTERY, north east of Tebworth (SP 996 269). Pot found in 1918.
SMR 3293.

ROMAN INTAGLIO RING, north east of All Saints Church (TL 011 275).
Found c.1860 near the source of the Old Brook. Shows Achilles with a spear and helmet. May have been deposited as a votive object.
SMR 1419. See frontispiece.

ECCLESIASTICAL AND MANORIAL BUILDINGS OR SITES

ALL SAINTS CHURCH (TL 009 274).
Rubble and ashlar walls, tower of chequered flint and Totternhoe stone. Some fine Early English-work in 5 bay north arcade with octagonal piers and stiff-leaf capitals. South doorway of slightly later date. Chancel and south aisle are early 14th century and so is a piscina with a carved ogee arch. The tower was commenced late 14th century. This now looks strange since the top part collapsed in 1888 and has never been rebuilt. There are elaborate 14th century wall paintings - aisle walls have representations of figures in canopied niches; nave walls have armorial scrolls. South aisle tomb of Sir Nigel Loring. Similar north aisle monument.
SMR 946. Listed Building Grade I. See plate 7.

ST MARTIN I S CHAPEL, Tebworth (SP 990 268).
A chapel of ease in existence by 1277 on the north west edge of Tebworth Green. Said to be in ruins in 1549 but still in use in 1562. Manor courts also held there. Demolished well before the late 18th century.
SMR 11797.

ST MARY'S CHAPEL, Tebworth (SP 992 267).

Chapel of ease built in brick in 1889. Used for services after storm damage to All Saints Church in 1888 initially forced the latter's closure and then for a period only allowed its occasional use in summer. Chapel converted into a house in recent years.
SMR 11802.

VICARAGE HOUSE, south of All Saints Church (TL 009 274).

At the ordination of the vicarage in 1220 a plot on the south side of the churchyard was given as a site for a vicarage house. No vicarage house there in 1693 (nor anywhere else in the parish). Plot later known as Glebe Close.
SMR 11804.

VICARAGE HOUSE, Chalgrave Road, Tebworth (SP 993 268).

Built in 1862 to the designs of George Halton. First vicarage house in parish for some centuries. Now a private house.
SMR 6854.

CHANTRY HOUSE/CHURCH FARM, east of All Saints Church (TL 009 274).

House called 'Oldorchard' given for the support of the master and chaplains of c chantry founded in All Saints Church in 1406 but dissolved just over a century later. Was a farmhouse known as the Chantry House during the post-medieval period but by the early 19th century was largely demolished. The remains became known as Church Farm during the 19th century but are now totally demolished.
SMR 11803.

'MOTTE AND BAILEY', south east of All Saints Church (TL 009 274).

Earthworks of a low mound and courtyard survived here until late 1970 when they were levelled for agriculture. Site partially excavated in 1951 and 1970. Probably was the early medieval manor house site but was abandoned as such during the later 12th or early 13th century.

SMR 721. See figure 3 and plate 1.

MOAT AND FISHPONDS, south east of Manor Farm (TL 017 272).

The moat, fed by a stream from the south west, possibly succeeded the 'motte and bailey' as the manor house site in the late 12th or early 13th century. However it had probably been abandoned by the mid 14th century. Moat and fishponds mentioned in medieval documents.

SMR 91.

CHALGRAVE MANOR FARM (TL 016 273).

Probably the site of the later medieval manor house. Large complex described in detail in 1386-7. Present house dates from the 17th and 18th centuries. Built in three 2 storey parts with parallel roof ridges. Old clay tile roofs. Two south sections cement rendered. South face has 4 double hung sashes with glazing bars and 19th century porch. North part 17th century timber-frame mainly re-cased in 18th century brickwork. Timber-framing exposed in west gable end. This part has various types of modern casements.

SMR 5648. Listed Building Grade 11.

NEW FARM, Wing field (TL 001 263).

Site of the demesne farmhouse and farmstead for Wingfield Manor from at least the early 13th century. Belonged to Dunstable Priory until the Dissolution. Present buildings on the site date from the 19th century.

SMR 14450.

EARTHWORKS

South east side of Tebworth (SP 993 266).

Earthworks of abandoned house sites surviving in pasture and fronting on the south east side of Parkview Lane. Probably of medieval origin.

SMR 760. See plate 2.

West side of Wingfield Road, Tebworth (SP 992 265).

Parallel linear earthworks surviving in pasture and overlying flattened ridge and furrow orientated in the same direction. Possibly were the boundaries of crofts belonging to houses which may once have fronted on the road here.

SMR 760. See plate 2.

South of Hill Farm, Wing field (TL 001 258).

Substantial earthworks of a holloway and several adjoining house platforms once marked an abandoned portion of the Wingfield settlement. Ploughed up in the late 1970's. SMR 1874 see figure 4 and plate 5

North east side of Wing field (TL 003 264).

Earthworks set back from the present road and surviving in pasture mark the former eastern end of the Wingfield settlement before Enclosure.

SMR 12000.

South east of All Saints Church (TL 011 272).

Near the foot of the slope below All Saints Church were once two large subcircular areas enclosed by ditches and, just to their north east, two smaller subrectangular ditched enclosures with inner banks thrown up from the ditches. All overlay or were cut into ridge and furrow. Their origin and function are unknown though the subcircular features could be the remains of groves of trees and the other two could have contained buildings. All were ploughed up in the early 1970's.

SMR 11975.

INNS AND PUBLIC HOUSES

BELL public house, Watling Street. Now Hockliffe parish (SP 979 262). Trading by 1772 and still trading today.

SMR 6644. [*Since demolished and now a McDonalds*]

BULL INN, Watling Street (SP 983 257).

Trading in 1796 but bought by Trinity Hall, Cambridge shortly afterwards following Enclosure. After 1800 the premises were utilised as a farmhouse only

and were demolished in the early part of the present century.

SMR 11769.

BUTCHERS ARMS, Tebworth.

Trading in 1779 but closed by 1789. In 1693 the premises included a malt kiln

SMR 11799.

COCK beerhouse, The Green, Tebworth.

Premises built in 1834 and trading as a beerhouse by 1853. Closed between 1910 and 1914 and now a private house.

SMR 11796.

CROSS KEYS INN, Watling Street. Now Hockliffe parish. Trading in 1677 but closed by 1750.

SMR 11601.

MAGPIE beerhouse, Watling Street. SMR 12002. .Now Hockliffe parish (SP 974 267).

NORTH STAR INN, Watling Street (SP 991 249). SMR 14027.

PLOUGH INN, Wing field (TL 002 263).

Trading by 1822 and still trading today. The present building dates from the 18th century but is altered. Colour washed brick. Two storeys. Thatched roof. Three leaded casements, ground floor cambered relieving arches.

SMR 5647. Listed Building Grade 11.

QUEEN'S HEAD public house, Tebworth (SP 991 268).

Described as the Three Horse Shoes or Queen's Head in 1821. Trading from 1822 to the present as the Queen's Head. Present premises built in 1926.

SMR 11795.

RED LION public house, Watling Street. Now Hockliffe parish (SP 975 266). Trading as the Three Blackbirds in the 1720's but as the Blackbirds by 1802. Name changed to the Red Lion between 1815 and 1821 and rebuilt in the mid 19th century. Still trading today. [*Since demolished and now a housing estate*]

SMR 6423.

SHOULDER OF MUTTON, Watling Street. Now Hockliffe parish (SP 973 267). Trading in 1822 on north side of the White Horse.

SMR 11618.

SHOULDER OF MUTTON public house, Parkview Lane, Tebworth (SP 992 266).

Trading by 1822 but closing between 1910 and 1914. Now an office and private house. Building of 17th century origins. Timber-frame with whitewashed and red brick nogging. Red concrete tile roof. Two storey east wing has four 2-light leaded casements to first floor; three 3-light leaded casements to ground floor. West wing of one storey and attics with one similar casement and one modern casement to west end. Gabled dormer.

SMR 5644. Listed Building Grade n. See plate 3.

STAR INN, Watling Street. Now Hockliffe parish (SP 973 268).

Trading by 1636 and rebuilt in the 18th century. Still trading in 1839 but closed by the 1850's. Now is 1-3 The Limes, an 18th century row of 3, originally 4, cottages. Grey brick with red brick dressings. Old clay tile roof. Four hipped dormers. Two storeys and attics. Five sash windows with glazing bars, 2 casements on right; 2 dummies - flush frames, flat arches. First floor band and vertical red brick flush bands between houses. Modern shop front to ground floor right.

SMR 5332. Listed Building Grade 11.

WHITE HORSE INN, Watling Street. Now Hockliffe parish (SP 974 267).

Trading by 1712 but closing between 1920 and 1924. Now a private house. Late 17th century origins. Grey brick with red brick dressings. Two storeys. Clay tile roof. Projecting gabled wing to either end; right hand wing has 2 sashes with glazing bars: left hand wing has one. Right hand carriageway. Modern right hand round arched window.

SMR 5333. Listed Building Grade 11.

PARISH OR COMMUNITY BUILDINGS AND FEATURES

WORKHOUSE

Referred to between 1738 and 1775.

SMR 11798.

PESTHOUSE, Hockliffe Road (SP 984 263).

Probably built between 1797 and 1800 but already used as private dwellings when sold off by the parish in 1837. Now is Hill Cottage.

SMR 11805.

POUND/PINFOLD

Mentioned in 1299 and 1386-7. SMR 11980.

POUND, The Green, Tebworth (SP 991 267).

New pound on south eastern edge of green proposed in 1755 and present there in the early 19th century.

SMR 11810.

STOCKS

Mentioned in 1757 and 1764.

SMR 11811.

PUMP, junction of Toddington and Chalgrave Roads, Tebworth (SP 992 268). Wooden-cased village pump standing here in the early part of the present century. SMR 11812.

WELL, Wing field (TL 002 263).

Community winchwell existed in a fenced enclosure opposite the Plough Inn during the early part of the present century.

SMR 11813.

GREAT POND, Toddington Road, Tebworth (SP 992 268). Large public pond which still survives.

SMR 11972.

SCHOOLS

NATIONAL SCHOOL, Woburn Road. Now Hockliffe parish (SP 973 269).

Built in 1844 for 118 scholars with teacher's house added in 1854. Initially served both Hockliffe and Chalgrave parishes. Replaced by a new school in recent years.

SMR 6425

NATIONAL SCHOOL, Wing field Road, Tebworth (SP 992 267).

Built in 1855 for 123 scholars to the designs of E O Williams. Included a teacher's house. Became a Church of England Voluntary Primary School during the present century but closed in the early 1980's. Now private houses. Formerly described as red brick with blue diaperwork. One storey. Old clay tile roof. West front has large projecting chimney breast to left hand side. Right hand section projects slightly with 2 long casement windows in gabled dormers. School house in similar style of one storey and attics. SMR 6856. Listed Building Grade 11.

WESLEYAN SCHOOL, The Lane, Tebworth (SP 990 268).

Built in mid 19th century and utilised as a day school from before 1862 into the present century. Later became a Sunday school only. House for master also. Built of yellow brick with red brick dressings. House; 2 storeys. Welsh slate roof. Gable end to road. Modillion eaves. Two sash windows with glazing bars. Six panel door in panelled reveals, surround of Doric pilasters and cornice. School; 1 storey with 3 pairs of pointed arched casements. Gabled porch with modillion eaves. SMR 6852. Listed Building Grade 11.

CHAPELS (NONCONFORMIST)

INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, Watling Street. Now Hockliffe parish (SP 973 268)..

A former barn in the angle between Watling Street and Woburn Road used for worship by 1806. Replaced in 1825 by a new Congregational Chapel on the other side of the road to the south west and reverted to a barn. SMR 6756.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL, Watling Street. Now Hockliffe parish (SP 973 268). Existed in the angle between Watling Street and Woburn Road from 1862. Closed in 1913 and demolished in 1933.

SMR 6747.

WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL, Toddington Road, Tebworth (SP 992 267).

Built in 1842. Gothic style. Red brick with Welsh slate roof behind castellated parapet. North front has two 3-light lattice casements with drip mouldings. One small pointed window in the gable. Four corner turrets surmounted by castellated pinnacles. Gabled porch to west face.

SMR 6774. Listed Building Grade 11.

WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL, Wingfield (TL 000 262). Established in 1833 and used as such into the present century. Sold 1946-7 and now demolished.

SMR 11801.

INDUSTRIAL AND RELATED FEATURES

WINDMILL

Earliest known reference to a windmill is in 1216. Several other references in the 13th and 14th centuries but no locational information.

SMR 11806.

WINDMILL, south west of Wing field (SP 992 257).

Windmill here from at least the late 16th century. Provided name for one of Wingfield's common fields - Mill Field. Could be the same site as the medieval windmill mentioned above. Demolished sometime between 1753 and 1765.

SMR 11807.

WINDMILL, west of Tebworth (SP 983 268).

Built in 1753 or just after but demolished sometime between 1765 and 1797. SMR 3176.

GRAVEL PITS, south west of Tebworth (SP 987 266).

Large area of ploughed hollows which from field name evidence are the remains of early post-medieval or possibly medieval gravel pits.

SMR 11788

STONE PIT AND BRICKWORKS, south west of Tebworth (SP 987 265).

Plot allotted at Enclosure in 1800 as a stone pit for road repairs. By 1864 clay was being dug for bricks fired in a kiln on the site. Abandoned between 1881 and 1901.

SMR 6792.

BRICKWORKS, Watling Street (SP 991 250).

Working in later 19th century but disused by 1901. SMR 14026.

BLACKSMITH'S SHOP, Watling Street. Now Hockliffe Parish (SP 973 269). Present to north west of former National School in 1844.

SMR 11631.

BLACKSMITH'S SHOP, Watling Street. Now Hockliffe Parish (SP 974 268). Present adjoining north side of White Horse Inn in 1882 and 1917.

SMR 11603.

BLACKSMITH'S SHOP, The Green, Tebworth (SP 991'268).

One present in 1755. May be the same as that which existed on the site of the present 2 Hockliffe road throughout the 19th century and into the present century. 4 Hockliffe Road now named as Forge Cottage.

SMR 6843.

SAW MILL, Wingfield Road, Tebworth (SP 992 266).

Established at the end of the 19th century. Site still used as a timber yard today.

SMR 11970.

MILITARY FEATURES

RIFLE RANGE, north east of Chalgrave Manor Farm (TL 019 275).

Series of 7 short, parallel and linear earthworks, some in Toddington parish. Was a First World War Rifle Range but no trace now remains.

SMR 11794.

DOMESTIC BUILDINGS

THE CHESTNUTS, Watling Street. Now Hockliffe parish (SP976 265).

17th and 18th centuries. Red brick stretchers and vitrified headers. Gable end to road. Two storeys. Old clay tile roof.

Casement windows with glazing bars. Heavy red brick stack. Timber-framing visible to road elevation.

SMR 6421. Listed Building Grade 11.

THE HALL, Watling Street. Now Hockliffe parish (SP 981 260).

Bears a plaque inscribed 'AD 1565' but externally is 17th century with later refronting in colourwashed brick. Two storeys. Old clay tile roof. Three casement windows with glazing bars. Two ground floor canted bays. Timber framing visible on north gable end.

SMR 6642. Listed Building Grade 11.

1 - 4 IVY COTTAGES, Watling Street. Now Hockliffe parish (SP 976 264).

Early 19th century. Originally 4 cottages, now 3. Red brick. Two storey. Welsh slate roof. Four sash windows with glazing bars. Four panel doors with bracketed doorhoods.

SMR 6640. Listed Building Grade 11.

BUTTERCUP FARM, Hockliffe Road, Tebworth (SP 990 267). Late 17th century or early 18th century. Chequered red and vitrified brick. Two storeys. Thatched roof. Three casements with glazing bars, ground floor cambered relieving arches.

Doorhood.

SMR 5641. Listed Building Grade 11.

22 HOCKLIFFE ROAD, Tebworth (SP 989 266).

18th century. Red and vitreous brick. Two storey. Clay tile roof. Modillion eaves. Two Yorkshire casements with glazing bars.

Open pedimented doorhood. Higher 19th century section to left. Red brick. Slate roof. One sash window with glazing bars.

SMR 6844. Listed Building Grade 11.

HOME FARM, Toddington Road, Tebworth (SP 992 267).

17th century timber-framed interior. Refaced in rendered brick. Two storeys. Old clay tile roof. Three casement windows. Heavy central chimney stack.

SMR 6847. Listed Building Grade 11.

IVY FARM, Toddington Road, Tebworth (SP 992 268).

Early 19th century. Yellow brick with red brick dressings. Two storeys. Welsh slate roof. Three sash windows with glazing bars under gauged brick heads. Six panel door in panelled reveals. Fanlight with geometric glazing bars. Surround of Doric pilasters and dentil cornice.

SMR 6848. Listed Building Grade 11.

2 THE LANE, Tebworth (SP 991 268).

17th and 18th centuries. Two storeys. West part of whitewashed brick with modillion brick eaves and half-hipped old tile roof. East part timber-framed with whitewashed brick nogging. Thatched roof. Modern 2 and 3-light casements with glazing bars.

SMR 5645. Listed Building Grade 11.

30 THE LANE, Tebworth (SP 990 269).

Probably dating back to the 16th century but with many later alterations and extensions. Two storeys. Red brick ground floor, timber-framed first floor with plaster infill. Thatched roof. Gable end to road. All modern casements. Basically L plan.

Projecting gable to east end of south face has oversailing first floor.

SMR 6853. Listed Building Grade 11.

PARK FARM, Hockliffe Road, Tebworth (SP 990 267).

18th century. Grey brick with red brick dressings. Half-hipped old clay tile roof. Two storeys. Modillion cornice. Three flush sash windows with glazing bars. First floor band. Doric porch.

SMR 5642. Listed Building Grade 11. See plate 4.

BARNS AT PARK FARM, Hockliffe Road, Tebworth (SP 990 267).

Range of 18th century timber-framed and weatherboarded barns. roofs.

SMR 5646. Listed Building Grade 11.

TITHE FARM, Wingfield Road, Tebworth (SP 990 266).

Late 17th or early 18th century. Chequered red and vitrified brick. Two storeys. Old clay tile roof. Brick modillion eaves. Three casements. 19th century porch. Large central brick chimney stack.

SMR 5643. Listed Building Grade 11.

COOTTEE COTTAGE AND 36 TEBWORTH ROAD, Wingfield (TL 000263).

Probably 17th century extensively altered. Front of rendered brick. Two storeys. Welsh slate roof. Four casement windows with glazing bars. Gable to left hand side. Timber-framing with plaster infill visible to rear and west end. SMR 6855. Listed Building Grade 11.

POND FARM, Wingfield (SP 999 262).

South elevation first floor panel with raised letters CSA and date 1699. Chequered brick. Two storeys, old clay tile roof. L plan. East wing has exposed timber-framing to north gable end. Brick band between floors. All modern casements.

SMR 4306. Listed Building Grade 11.

OUTBUILDINGS, north east of Chalgrave Manor Farm (TL 017 273).

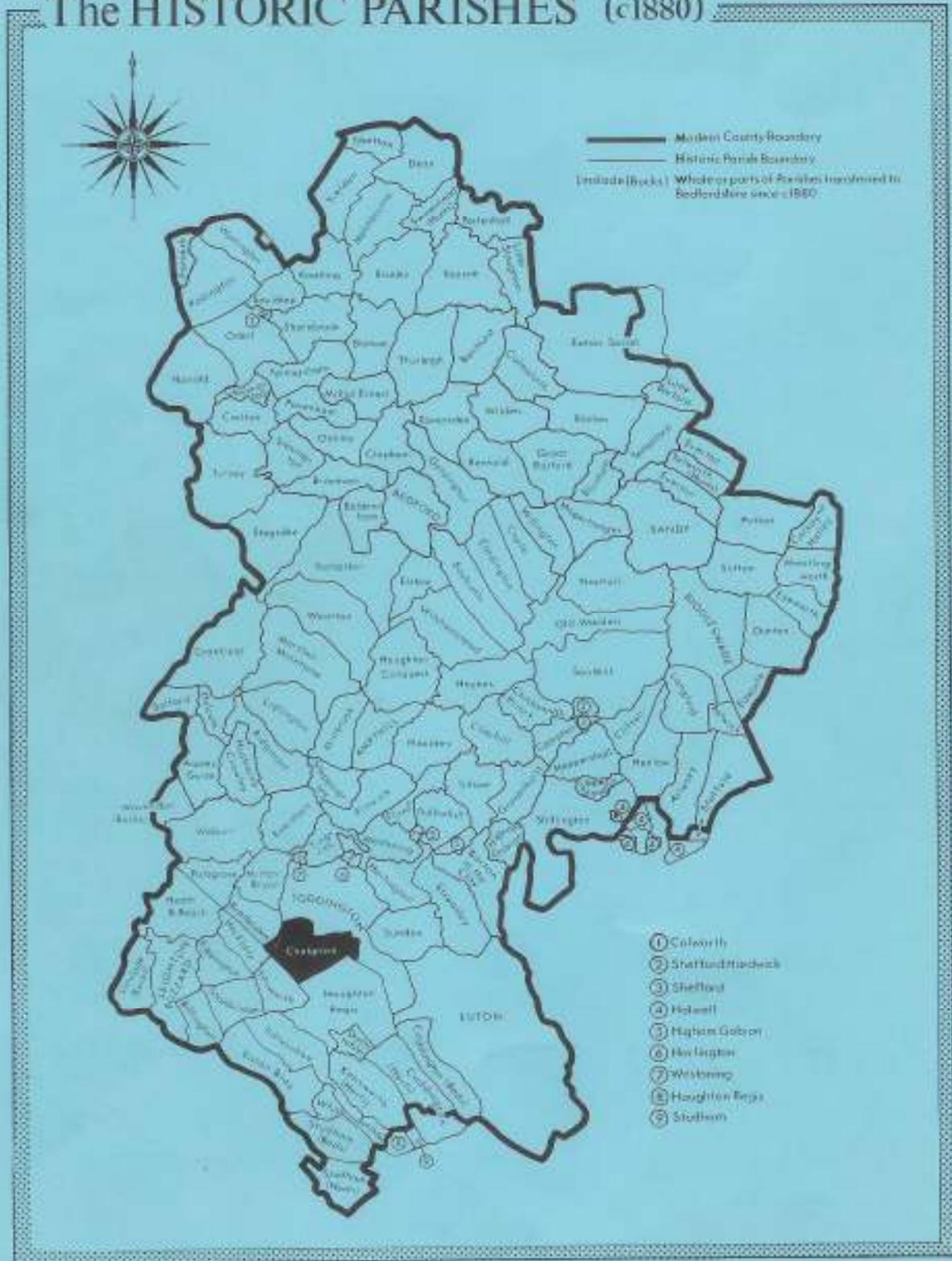
18th century range. Red brick. Two storey central block flanked by one storey blocks. All have hipped Welsh slate roofs.

Central block has bracketed eaves. Two windows flanking first floor door. Central ground floor door with circular head flanked by recessed dummy doorways with similar heads. Right hand single storey block has one casement window and one dummy doorway; left hand block has one doorway and one dummy doorway.

SMR 6850. Listed building Grade II.

BEDFORDSHIRE

The HISTORIC PARISHES (c1880)



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