

**HISTORIC FARMLAND LANDSCAPES OF THE SURREY HILLS  
SURREY COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY**

**Introduction to Historic Farmland Landscapes  
Wotton Village Hall  
27<sup>th</sup> June 2006**

**List of Key Archives**

The following provides an initial list of main sources from which to collate information about a particular site, property or area. Many examples of these will be on view for you to look at on the 10<sup>th</sup> July at the Surrey History Centre at Woking.

**Surrey History Centre**

Tel: 130 Goldsworth Road, Woking, Surrey, GU21 1ND 01483 518737

[www.surreycc.gov.uk](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk) email: [shs@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:shs@surreycc.gov.uk)

**Centre for Kentish Studies**

Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ

Tel: 01622 694363

[www.kent.gov.uk/arcives](http://www.kent.gov.uk/arcives) e:mail [archives@kent.gov.uk](mailto:archives@kent.gov.uk)

**Historic Maps**

**Ordnance Survey**

These start with the Ordnance Surveyor's Draft Drawings for the 1" 1<sup>st</sup> Edition. Held at the Map Dept, British Library. Surveyed at 3 or 6" to the mile. [Copies at SHC].

OS 1" - little detail at local scale.

OS 6" 1<sup>st</sup> Edition - first really detailed map c. 1870s

Subsequent editions 2<sup>nd</sup> c. 1890s, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition c.1910 Revised c. 1930s Provisional c. 1940s

OS 25" 1<sup>st</sup> Edition c. 1890s - very detailed

[All the above should be available at SHC and possibly some at your local library]

**Tithe Maps and Awards**

These date from c. 1836- 1845 and were prepared under the Tithe Commutation Act of 1836 to record and itemise all lands liable for payment of Tithe. Very detailed with owner/occupier, landuse, names, acreage and tithes due. [Parish copies generally are held at county record offices and the Tithe Commissioners copy held at the National Archives [TNA] (formerly the Public Record Office at Kew). Really useful source and a good point to work both backwards and forwards in time.

**Enclosure**

Where land was formerly managed as 'open' commons, heaths and open fields, there may be an enclosure act, award and map available when it was then subsequently enclosed to fields, [Available at SHC and at TNA]

### **Estate**

Where a property was once part of a larger estate, there maybe an estate map available or several. This is particularly the case at Wotton where there are some really fine estate maps preserved in the Evelyn Mss collection. Other maps may also survive.

### **County Maps**

There are several 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century county maps, such as John Rocque 1767 and Christopher Greenwood 1820 which may also be useful. Some examples are on display.

### Secondary References

#### **Place-names**

Check the parish/es in which the area you are interested in, in the county volume of the English Place Name Society. This gives the earliest references for the origin of names together with sources, which can then be followed up, such as Domesday and Anglo-Saxon Charters.

#### **Victoria County History**

These volumes are an excellent source of information on parish histories, especially early manorial histories, together with sources. Provide the background history to any area. See also Manning and Bray 'History of Surrey' and for Kent Edward Hasted's Topographical and Historical Survey of the County of Kent c. 1797. Again these give sources which can be followed up.

#### **Domesday**

Check if the parish/manor in which your site lies is recorded in 'Domesday'. This may give clues to size and features within manor, such as a mill.

#### **Anglo-Saxon Charters**

The Place-name volume will indicate if the parish/manor/name is mentioned in an Anglo Saxon Charter. There are several bibliographies and lists of charters available.

#### **Surrey Archaeological Journal**

Check the index of the Surrey Archaeological Societies Journal for references to the parish/manor/ farm. There may already have been a significant amount of work already undertaken or transcripts of documents published.

Surrey Archaeological Society  
Castle Arch, Guildford, GU1 3SX  
Tel: 01483 532454

[www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk](http://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk) email: [surreyarch@compuserve.com](mailto:surreyarch@compuserve.com)

#### **Illustrations**

This section includes prints, paintings, postcards, photographs etc. which provide visual clues to landscape and how it has changed over the years. Postcards in particular can be immensely useful and are good to use for illustrative material. Available at SHC, local libraries, Surrey Archaeological Society and local museums.

### Original Manuscripts

This section covers briefly a few of the main archives worth checking

#### **Title Deeds**

Useful for when property changed hands. May also have an abstract of title attached. There may be detailed descriptions of the property with names of fields, boundaries etc.

#### **Leases**

May give detailed description of lands and also how they should be farmed, when manured, what trees/timber allowed etc.

#### **Surveys & Perambulations**

These may be found in larger collections of estate documents. Again descriptions of lands and may also be inventories of property

#### **Rentals**

Owner and occupier information together with land descriptions

#### **Wills**

Wills may provide a list of equipment as well as property

#### **Accounts**

Depending on the detail, there may be descriptions of work undertaken, who did it, where and how much for.

### Other Sources

#### **Aerial Photographs**

There is the national collection of aerial photographs held by English Heritage as part of the National Monuments Record [NMR] at Swindon. These date from pre-war to present day. By sending the four grid reference co-ordinates of your site, a list of both vertical and oblique can be obtained. These can be viewed, by appointment at Swindon. There are projects in progress to place many images on-line. Contact the EH website and follow links.

Collections of Aerial Photographs are also held in the county by Surrey County Council. Contact the SCC Sites and Monuments Record Officer [See below].

#### **NMR and SMR**

The National Monuments Record and the Sites and Monuments Record are the main source of public information about archaeological sites. The records have evolved as information is collated and therefore are not comprehensive. If there are no sites recorded it does not mean that there isn't anything there, rather the area has not been studied in detail or information has not been reported and submitted. These records are vital for the Landscape Archaeologist in understanding what is already known about a site and help to make informed decisions about management of land and also of the archaeological resource. Copies of surveys and research work should be sent for deposit on the SMR, to help research in the future.

The National Monuments Record  
NMR Enquiry & Research Services, National Monuments Record,  
English Heritage, Kemble Drive, Swindon, SN2 2GZ  
Tel: 01793 414600  
[www.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk) email: [nmrinfo@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:nmrinfo@english-heritage.org.uk)

Surrey SMR  
Surrey County Council, County Hall, Kingston-Upon-Thames, Surrey, KT1 2DY  
Tel: 020 8541 9083  
e-mail: [smr@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:smr@surreycc.gov.uk)

Kent SMR  
The Sites and Monuments Record Officer,  
Heritage Conservation Group, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent  
ME14 1XX  
01622 221541  
[www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk) Email: [heritageconservation@Kent.gov.uk](mailto:heritageconservation@Kent.gov.uk)

### **The National Archives**

The Nation's archives held at Kew – a vast and wide-ranging source of material including Land Utilisation Surveys, MAFF reports. The main catalogues are on-line. A visit here may be needed after researching at the SHC.

Access to Archives  
[www.a2a.org.uk](http://www.a2a.org.uk)

The National Archives (formerly the Public Record Office)  
Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU  
Tel: 020 8392 5200  
[www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk) email: [enquiry@nationalarchives.gov.uk](mailto:enquiry@nationalarchives.gov.uk)

### **The British Library**

Holds Medieval and Anglo-Saxon material as well as later deeds etc. Again check with web site. Some printed catalogues are held at the SHC.