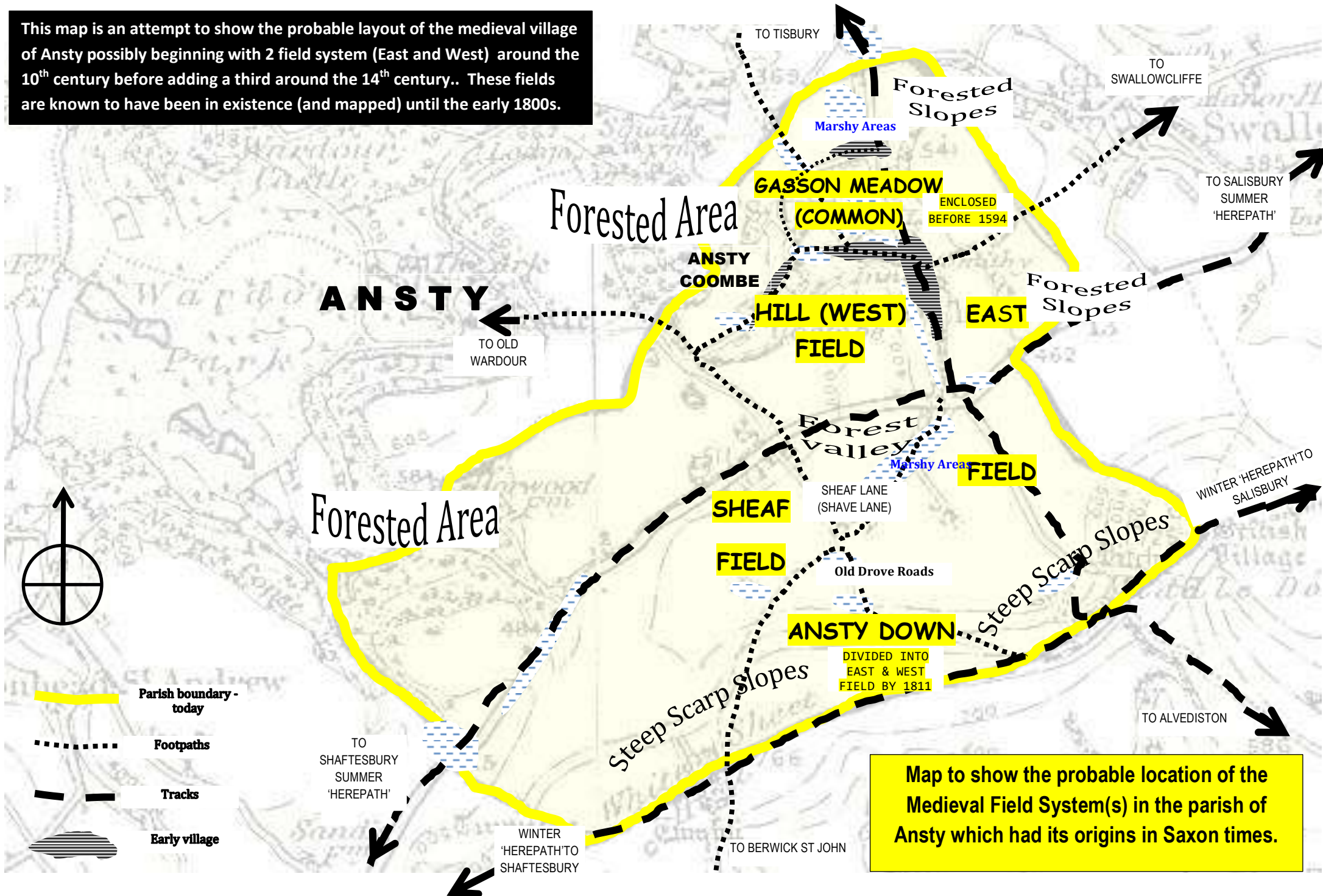


Glimpses of Ansty's past using maps and diagrams

There are plenty of documentary sources available that mention Ansty and its rich heritage but few of them put our lovely parish in context by employing the use of maps and diagrams! The next few pages look at some genuine old maps, along with sketch maps, photo maps and some documentary evidence to allow the reader a few glimpses into Ansty's long and interesting history!

This map is an attempt to show the probable layout of the medieval village of Ansty possibly beginning with 2 field system (East and West) around the 10th century before adding a third around the 14th century.. These fields are known to have been in existence (and mapped) until the early 1800s.



EARLY MAPS SHOWING ANSTY VILLAGE AND ITS IMMEDIATE ENVIRONMENT

Main pic-This is an extract from WILTONIAE Comitatus (loosely translated-'Wiltshire County') It is the earliest map of Wiltshire by Christopher Saxton which dates from 1576. It formed part of an atlas that belonged to William Cecil Lord Burghley, Elizabeth I's Secretary of State. Burghley used this atlas to illustrate domestic matters.

The Wiltshire map is actually a proof copy of one which forms part of Christopher Saxton's Atlas of England and Wales.

This atlas was first published as a whole in 1579. It consists of 35 coloured maps depicting the counties of England and Wales. The atlas is of great significance to British cartography as it set a standard of cartographic representation in Britain and the maps remained the basis for English county mapping, with few exceptions, until after 1750.

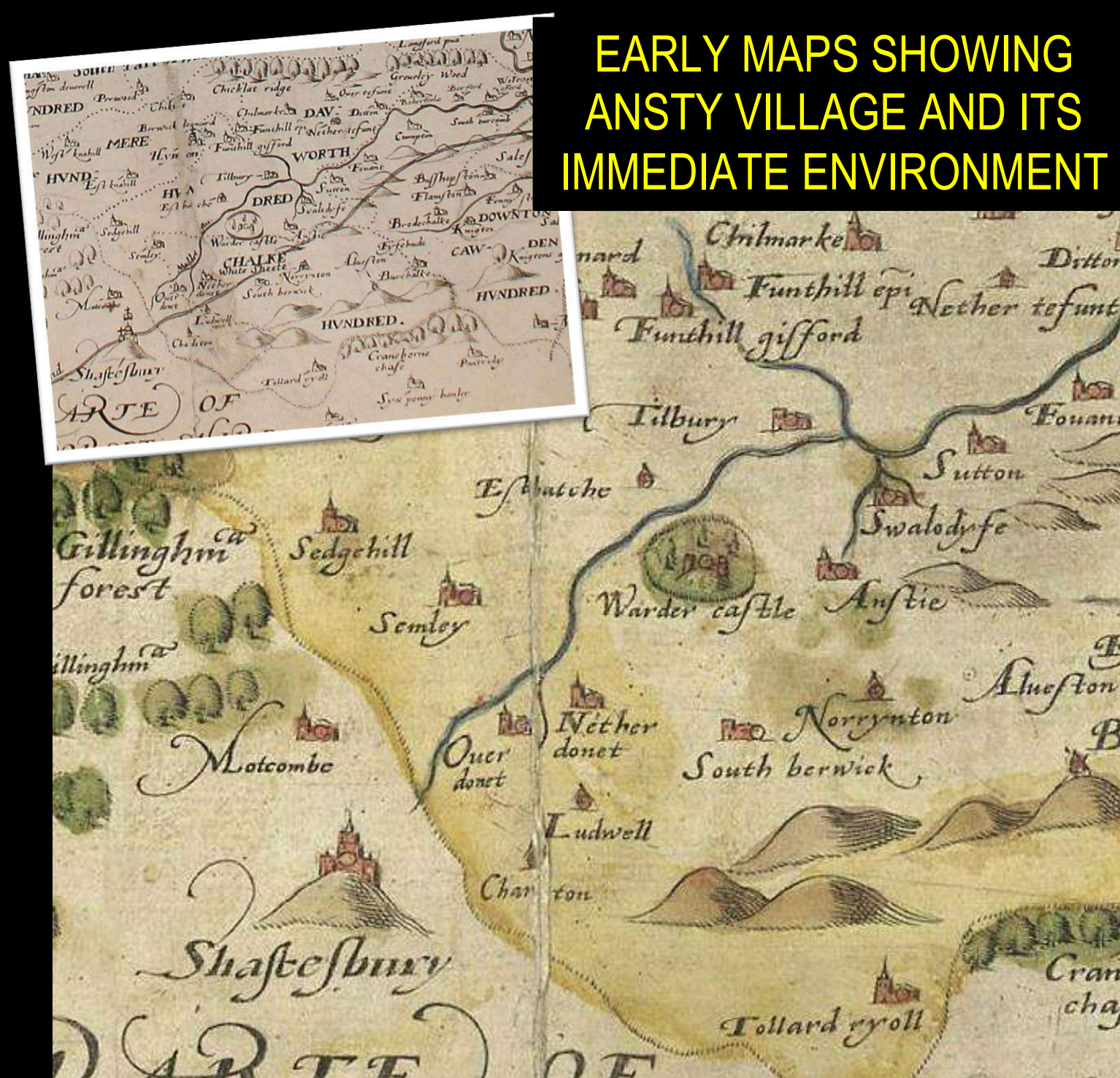
Notes: Anstie is now Ansty; Tilbury is Tisbury; Warder Castle is Wardour Castle (in this case Old Wardour Castle); Swalodyfe is Swallowcliffe; Norrynton is Norrington.

The Nadder river is clearly of some importance; The importance of the former Saxon hilltop site of Shaftesbury is duly recorded.

The Ox-Drove Hills south of South Berwick are clearly marked but the Downs above Ansty and Swallowcliffe are not depicted as 'notable'.

Saxton's map was modified by other cartographers and the inset map of 1689 shows an important addition by P Lea. This shows the main London to Exeter route following the tops of the Downs above Ansty via Whitesheet Hill.

<http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/unvbrit/w/zoomify83467.html>
<http://www.rareoldprints.com/wiltshiremaps>





On the county map of Wiltshire 1611 by John Speed there is an illustration of Stonehenge with a piece of text relating to the history of the stones which Speed wrongly believed to be erected by Aurelius Ambrosius and to be his burial place. This is surrounded by decorative strapwork.

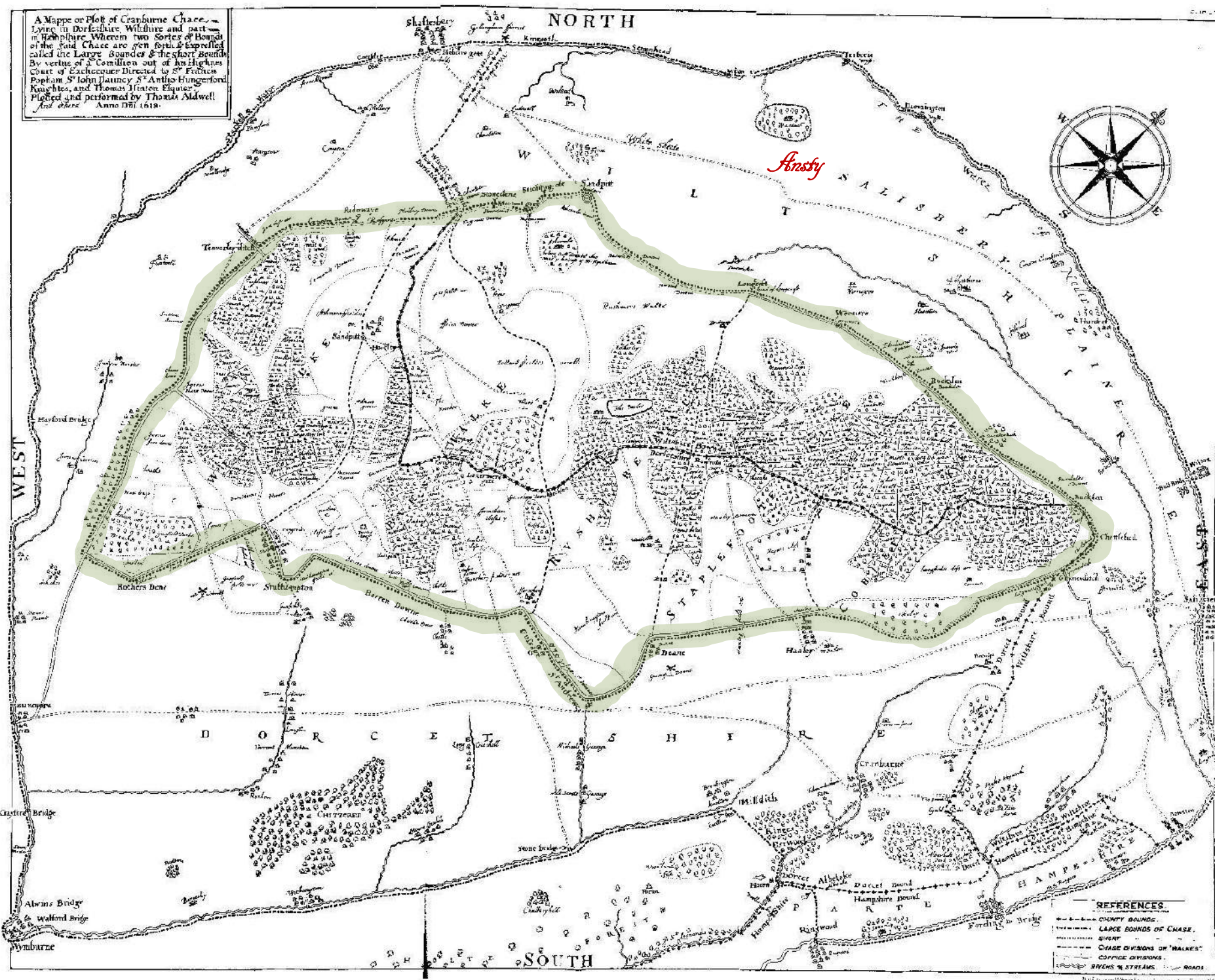
The left side of the map shows a town plan of Salisbury and the coats of arms of the Earls of Wiltshire and Salisbury. John Speed produced his decorative and innovative series of county maps in 1610 for his atlas "The Theatre of the Empire of Great Britaine".

Left- Looking at the map extract from the county map it seems as though Speed made good references to Caxton's earlier map: the chalk downs above Ansty are a little more elaborate

<http://www.rareoldprints.com/wm/6>

<http://www.themaphouse.com/Zoom.aspx?id=9457&ref=WILTS324>

A Mappe or Plot of Cranborne Chase.
Lying in Dorsetshire, Wiltshire and part
in Hampshire. Wherein two Sortes of Bounds
of the said Chase are set forth & exprested
called the Large Boundes & the Chase Boundes
By vertue of a Comission out of the Highnes
Court of Exchequer Directed to S^r Francis
Popham S^r John Pauncey S^r Antho Hungerford
Knights, and Thomas Hinton Esquier.
Plotted and performed by Thomas Aldwell
And others Anno Dⁿi 1618.



ANSTY IN CRANBORNE CHASE 1

This is a very early map of Cranborne Chase (1618) attributed to Thomas Aldwell and others. The remarkably accurate map clearly divides Cranborne Chase into two roughly concentric sections. The outer section is bounded by 'Shaftesbery', 'Tesberie', 'Dunnington', 'Wilton', 'Salisbury', 'FordingBridge', and 'Wymburne'.

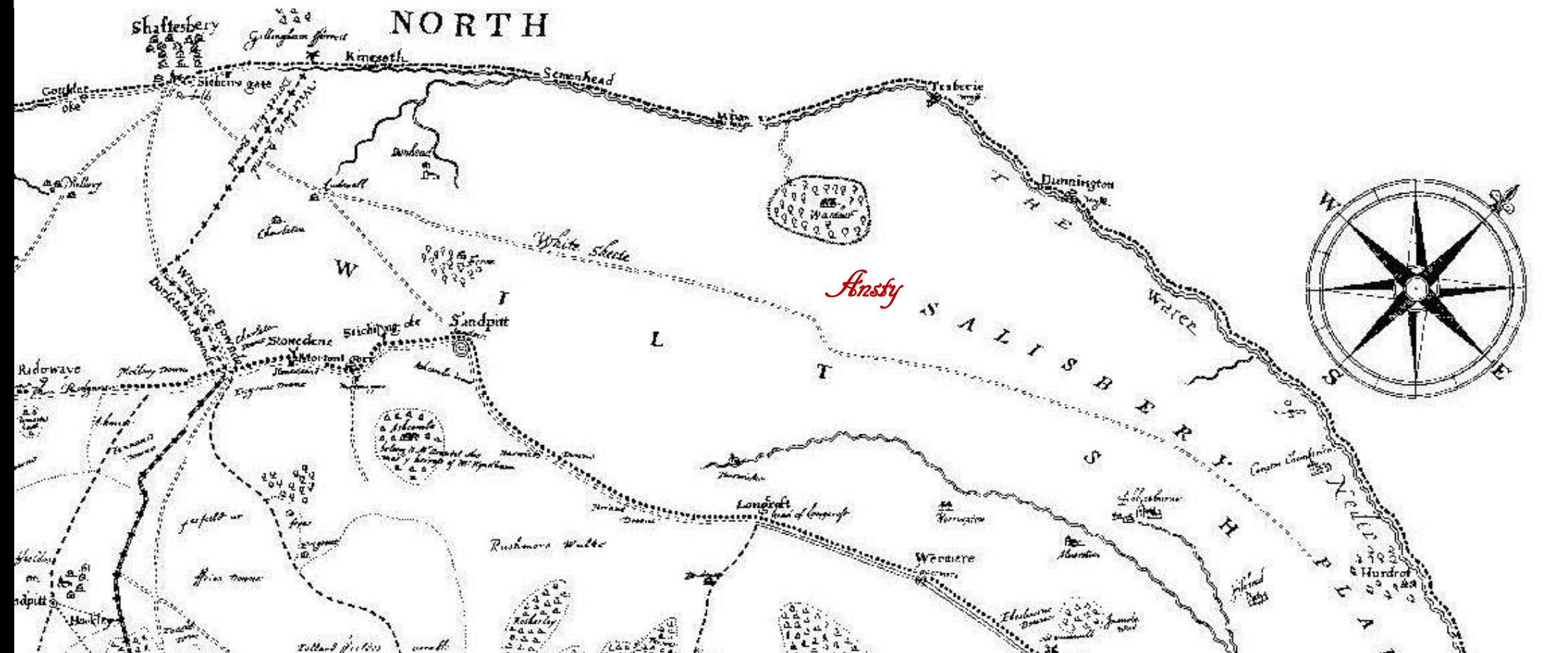
The inner section (marked by dubbed green line) represents the 'Chase' proper. The word 'Chase' means an areas of woodland formerly reserved for hunting; in this case deer. Note the many copses/coppices of the woodland area.

Although Ansty wasn't marked on this map it has been included (in red) to show where the village was located in the outer section of Cranborne Chase – and that is still the case today (Cranborne Chase AONB).

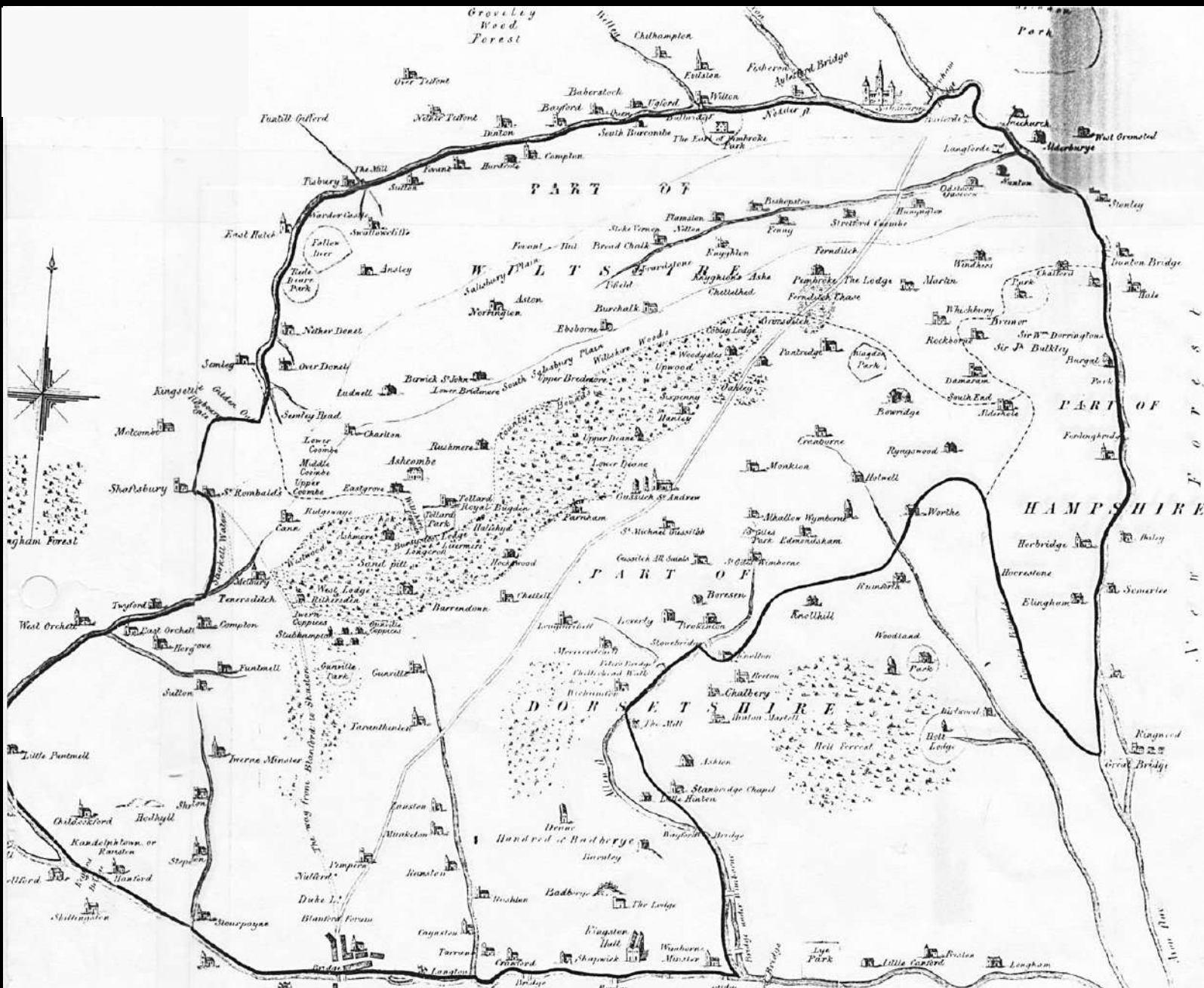
Wilton and Salisbury can just be made out on the 'eastern' edge of the map.

<http://info.sjc.ox.ac.uk/forrests/EarlyMaps.html>

Ansty in Cranborne Chase 2



This close up extract from the previous map by Aldwell shows the setting as it was in 1618. Ansty (marked in red) was not marked on the map but other familiar locations were. The nearby Wardour Estate; 'White Sheete' – a reference to the nearby chalk escarpment; the water of the Nader (R. Nadder); Ashcombe; Dunnington (Dinton); Tesberie (Tisbury); Alviston (Alvediston); Dunhead (Donhead); Ludwell; Shaftesbury (Shaftesbury); Ebbesbourne; Fifield; Hurdorf (Hurdclote) and Compton Chamberlaine. The outer section of the boundary of Cranborne Chase is the bank of the river Nadder and the inner section is marked by the Ox-Drove track that runs across the tops of the Wiltshire Downs from Combe Blissett to Shaftesbury. Note the direction of north on this map puts it on a different orientation as to what we are used to.



ANSTY IN CRANBORNE CHASE 3

Originally drawn by Richard Hardinge of Blandford in 1618; copied by Matthew Hardinge of Blandford in 1677 and then revised in the 18th Century.

This Cranborne Chase Map originally drawn in 1618 by Richard Hardinge of Blandford (Dorset) once again shows the inner and outer sections of the Chase.

The map alignment to north is truer than Aldwell's map of 1618 and 18th century revisions bring us even more familiar sounding place names.

'Anstey' (our own Ansty) is now shown with the deer parks of the Wardour Estate nearby.

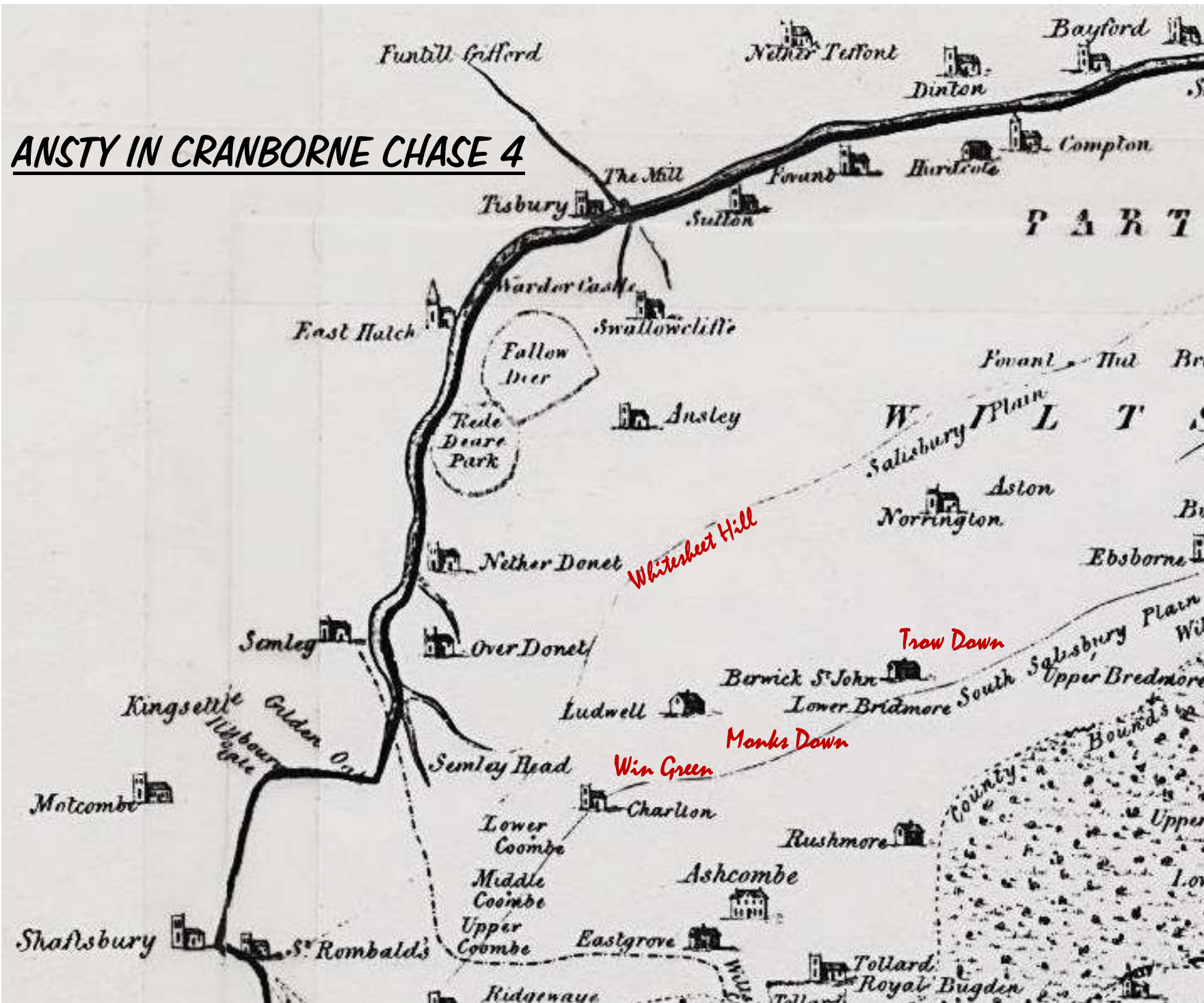
On the map you can locate the ancient main Shaftesbury to Salisbury (London) route via the hilltops (look for *Salisbury Plain* on the map) from St Rombalds (east Shaftesbury) over the high routes between Donheads and Ludwell and up the long climb to Whitesheet Hill, along the scarp tops, past Fovant, Compton Down, Hare Warren, past Salisbury racecourse to Harnham Bridge, Salisbury. It was also referred to as the 'Winter Herepath'.

The other ancient route from Salisbury (Downton) was along the slightly higher Ox-Drove route (marked *South Salisbury Plain* on the map) which linked up with the Shaftesbury – Blandford way. Both these routes became important horse and carriage routes in the 17th and 18th centuries. These routes also connected many other local drove roads including several in the Ansty parish.

The major Salisbury to Blandford route marked on Matthew Hardinge's revised map is now the A354.

<http://info.sjc.ox.ac.uk/forests/Cranborne1618aRev18thc.jpg>

ANSTY IN CRANBORNE CHASE 4



Here is a more detailed look at the area around Ansty at the time of Richard Hardinge's map in 1618 although it was revised during the 18th century.

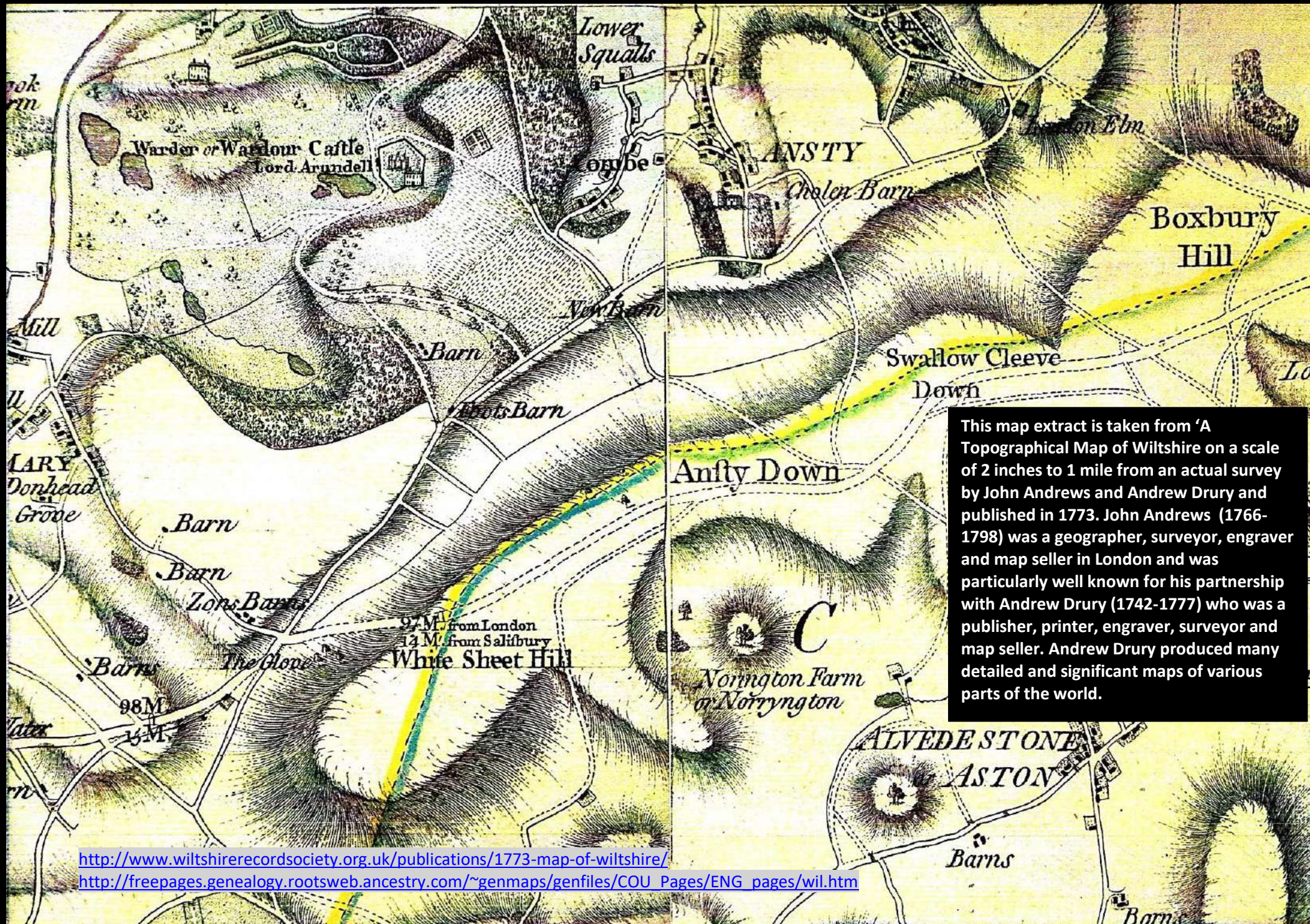
The map is not as accurate as our modern OS maps! Yet one marvels at the relative accuracy achieved 400 years ago! It shows Anstey (now Ansty) with its familiar location with Tisbury with a mill, Swallowcliffe, Warder (Wardour) Castle. The Downs are located with the label 'Salisbury Plain' (i.e. Whitesheet Hill marked in red; Swallowcliffe Down, Fovant Down, Compton Down etc. Note the approximate location of Win Green.

It seems Bayford is now Barford St Martin; Aston is Alvediston; Ebsborne is now Ebbsbourne Wake; Lower Bridmore is now just a farm; Funthill Gifford is now Fonthill Gifford.



This map extract is from an Improved Map of Wiltshire of 1755 by Bowen - with some great facts (of their time) around the edge of the map - a very interesting read! The main Shaftsbury to Wilton road (track) still follows the scarp tops of the chalk downs. The term Donhead (Dunhead) are shaping up! This map shows how the county was split into 'Hundreds' (administrative divisions from before the Norman Conquest). Anstie was in the Dauworth Hundred, later known as the Dunworth Hundred.

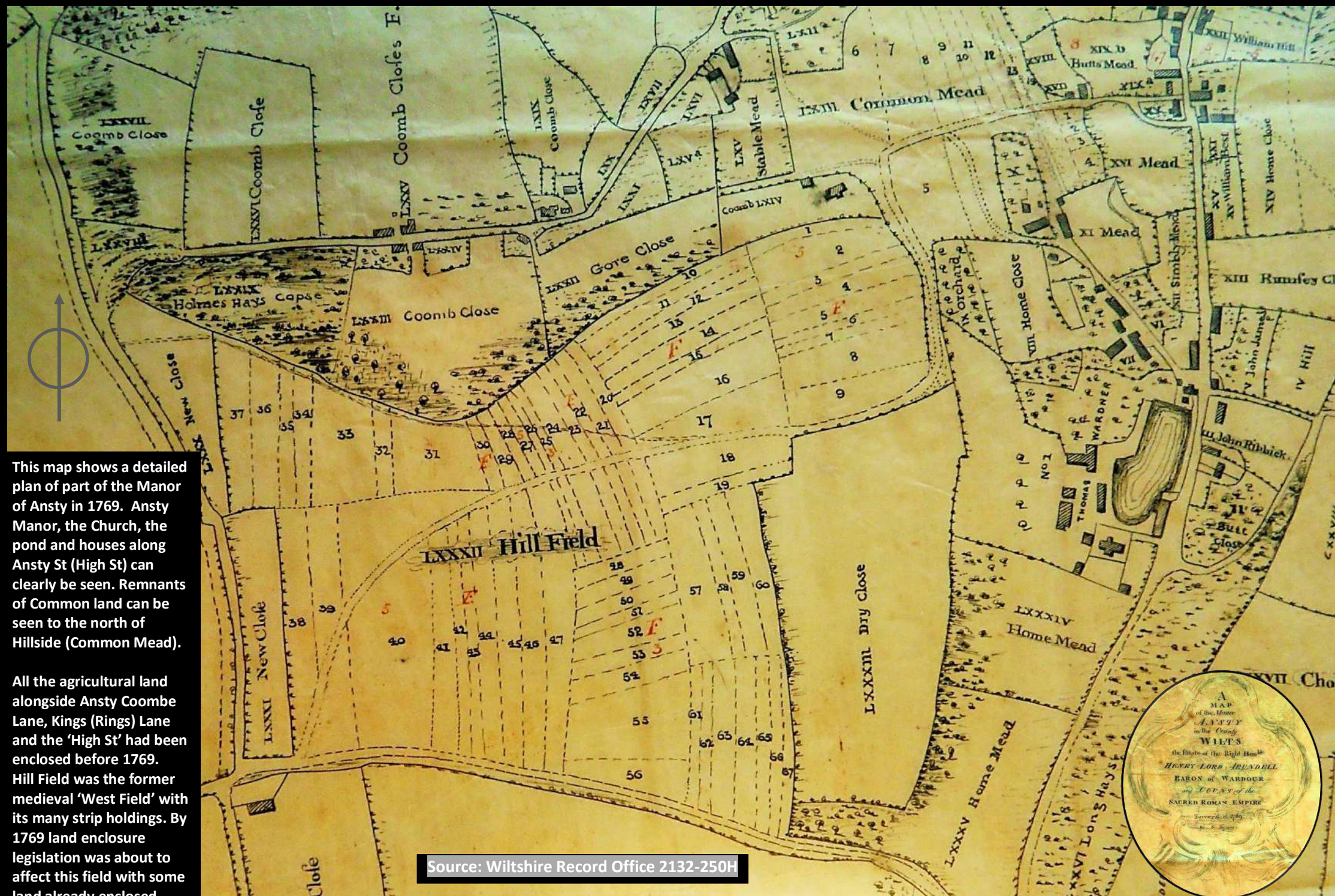
<http://www.oldmapsonline.org/map/unibern/000992179>



This map extract is taken from 'A Topographical Map of Wiltshire on a scale of 2 inches to 1 mile from an actual survey by John Andrews and Andrew Drury and published in 1773. John Andrews (1766-1798) was a geographer, surveyor, engraver and map seller in London and was particularly well known for his partnership with Andrew Drury (1742-1777) who was a publisher, printer, engraver, surveyor and map seller. Andrew Drury produced many detailed and significant maps of various parts of the world.

<http://www.wiltshirerecordsociety.org.uk/publications/1773-map-of-wiltshire/>

http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~genmaps/genfiles/COU_Pages/ENG_pages/wil.htm



This map shows a detailed plan of part of the Manor of Ansty in 1769. Ansty Manor, the Church, the pond and houses along Ansty St (High St) can clearly be seen. Remnants of Common land can be seen to the north of Hillside (Common Mead).

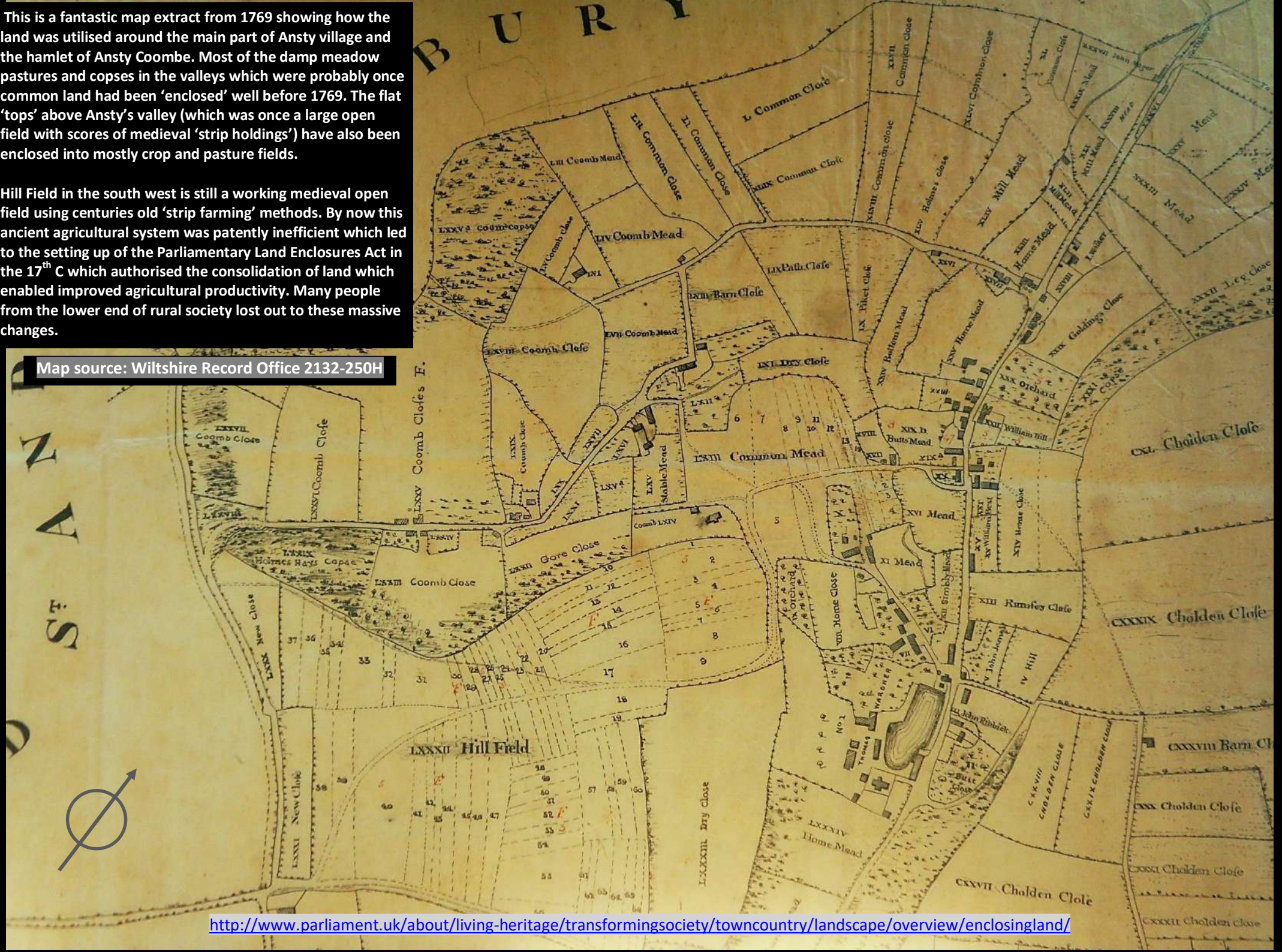
All the agricultural land alongside Ansty Coombe Lane, Kings (Rings) Lane and the 'High St' had been enclosed before 1769. Hill Field was the former medieval 'West Field' with its many strip holdings. By 1769 land enclosure legislation was about to affect this field with some land already enclosed.

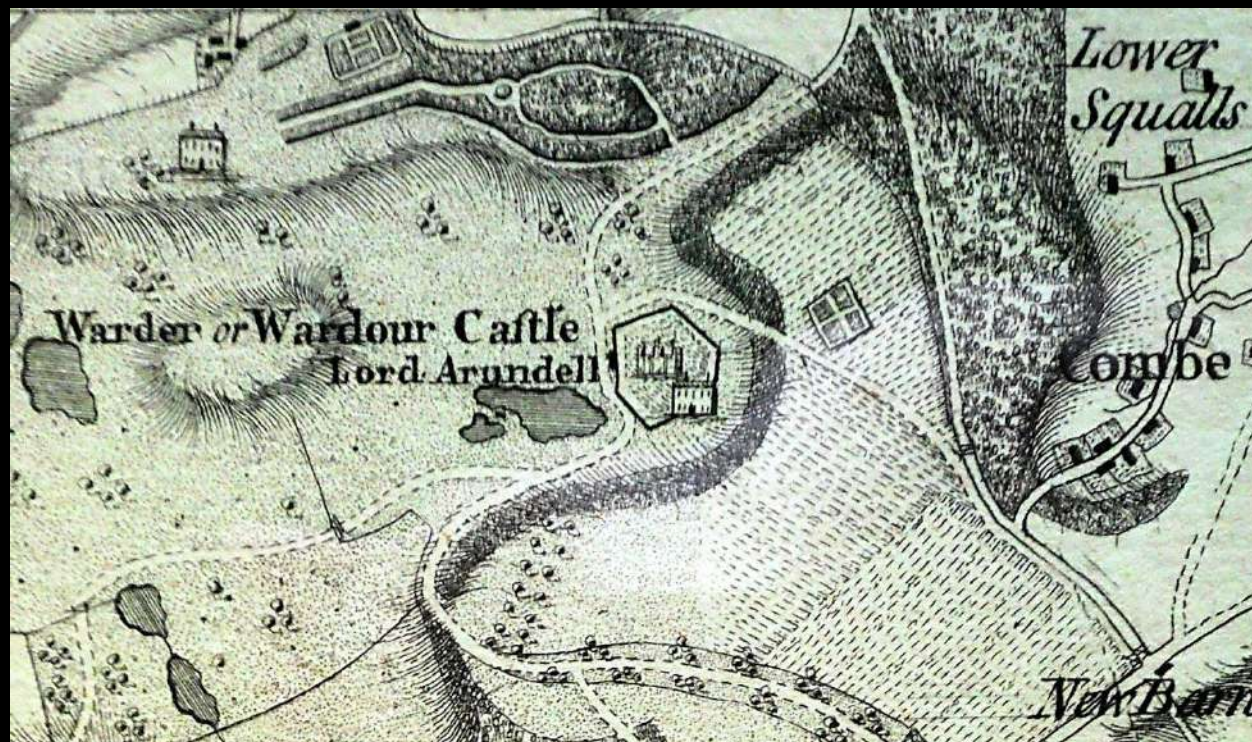
Source: Wiltshire Record Office 2132-250H

This is a fantastic map extract from 1769 showing how the land was utilised around the main part of Ansty village and the hamlet of Ansty Coombe. Most of the damp meadow pastures and copses in the valleys which were probably once common land had been 'enclosed' well before 1769. The flat 'tops' above Ansty's valley (which was once a large open field with scores of medieval 'strip holdings') have also been enclosed into mostly crop and pasture fields.

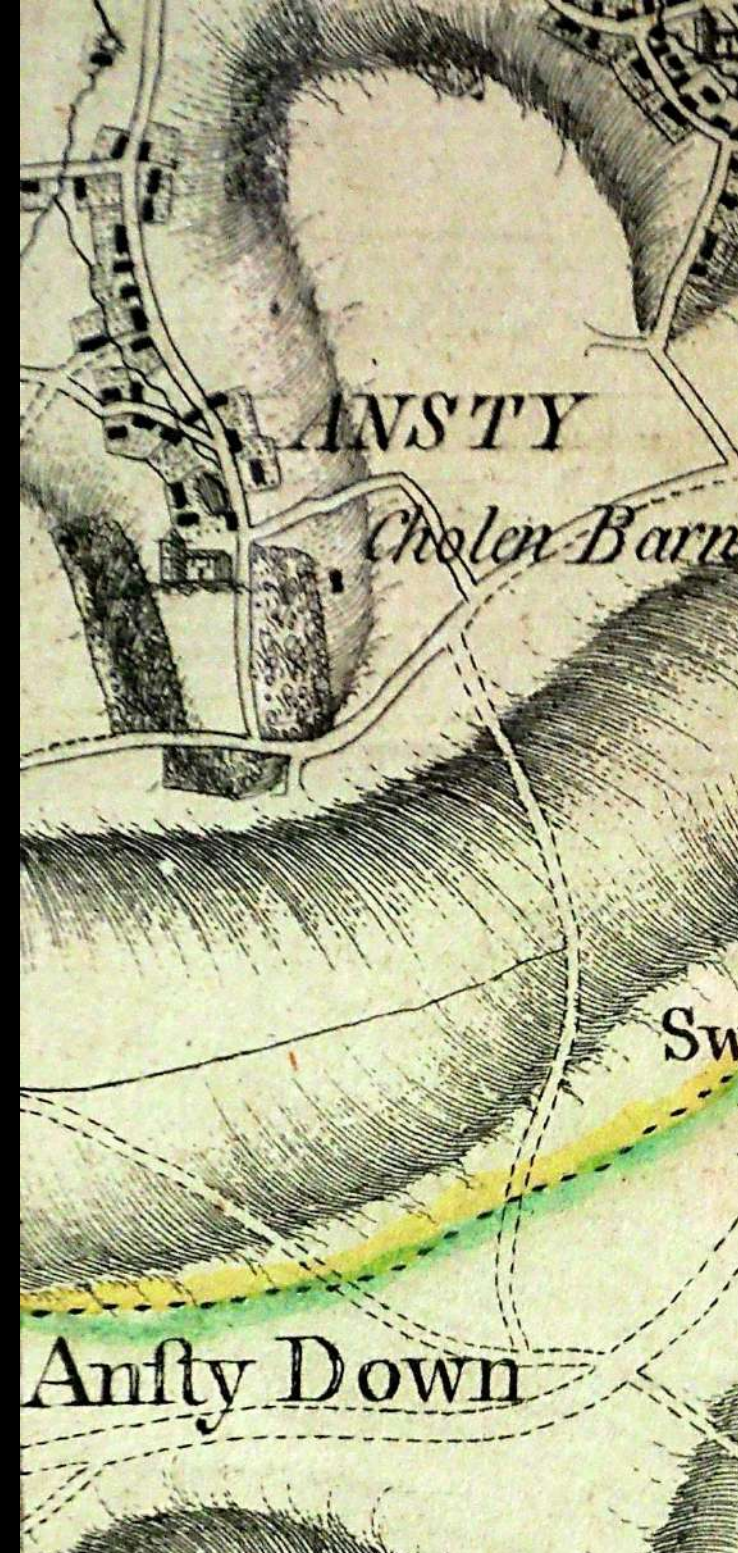
Hill Field in the south west is still a working medieval open field using centuries old 'strip farming' methods. By now this ancient agricultural system was patently inefficient which led to the setting up of the Parliamentary Land Enclosures Act in the 17th C which authorised the consolidation of land which enabled improved agricultural productivity. Many people from the lower end of rural society lost out to these massive changes.

Map source: Wiltshire Record Office 2132-250H





These local map extracts are taken from 'A Topographical Map of Wiltshire' on a scale of 2 inches to 1 mile from an actual survey by John Andrews and Andrew Drury and published in 1773. They show the locality of Ansty and is remarkable for its detail and accuracy. Nearly 250 years later modern residents of Ansty will easily recognise the landscape and some of the named features.



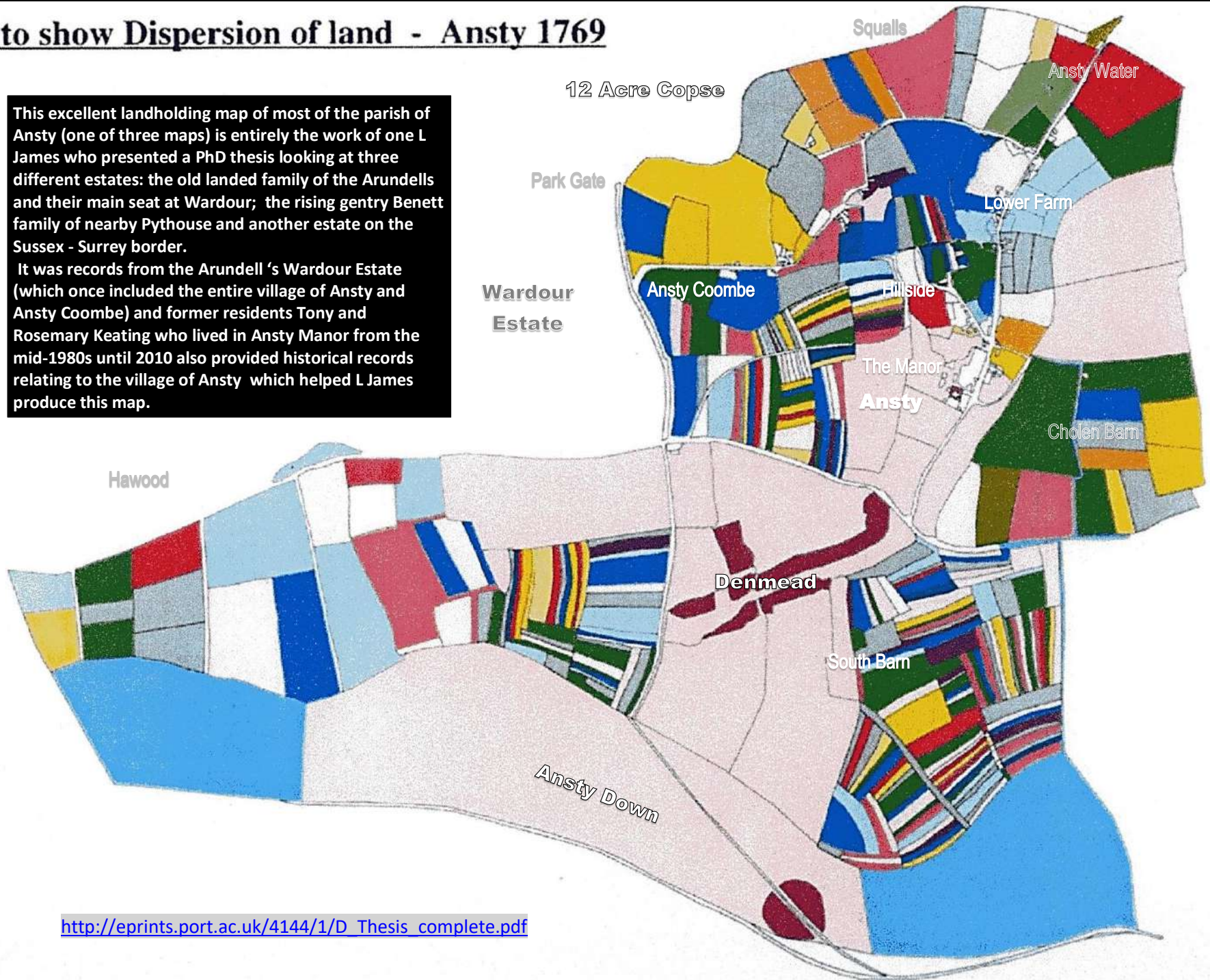
Map to show Dispersion of land - Ansty 1769

ANSTY Landholding 1769

- William Hill
- William Frampton
- William Coombs
- William Burden
- William Best
- Thomas Wardner
- Thomas Shepherd
- Thomas Parsons
- Thomas Lambert
- Thomas Best
- Robert Moor
- Nicholas Parsons
- Mary Pike
- Lord Arundell
- Joseph Jerratt
- Joseph Butt
- John Ayres
- John Ribbicks(F)
- John Moger
- John James
- John Fitz
- John Butt
- John Ayres
- James Walker
- George Brookman
- Elizabeth Herod
- Edward Jerratt
- Common Property
- Charles Burden
- Augustin King
- Andrew Barratt
- Adam Hill

This excellent landholding map of most of the parish of Ansty (one of three maps) is entirely the work of one L James who presented a PhD thesis looking at three different estates: the old landed family of the Arundells and their main seat at Wardour; the rising gentry Benett family of nearby Pythouse and another estate on the Sussex - Surrey border.

It was records from the Arundell's Wardour Estate (which once included the entire village of Ansty and Ansty Coombe) and former residents Tony and Rosemary Keating who lived in Ansty Manor from the mid-1980s until 2010 also provided historical records relating to the village of Ansty which helped L James produce this map.



The Inclosure Acts (or "Enclosure Acts" in modern spelling) were a series of United Kingdom Acts of Parliament which enclosed open fields and common land in the country, creating legal property rights to land that was previously considered common. Between 1604 and 1914, over 5,200 individual Enclosure Acts were put into place, enclosing a vast 6.8 million acres (2,800,000 ha; 28,000 km²).

Prior to the enclosures in England, a portion of the land was categorized as "common" or "waste". "Common" land was under some kind of collective control often referred to as the open field system, where a single plot of land was divided among groups, often a lord and employed or participating peasants. This facilitated common grazing and crop rotation. "Waste" was the only land not officially claimed by any group, often cultivated by landless peasants.

Enclosure Acts for small areas had been passed sporadically since the 12th century, but with the rise of the Industrial Revolution, they became more commonplace. In search of better financial returns, landowners looked for more efficient farming techniques. Enclosures were also created so that landowners could charge higher rent to the people working the land and this was at least partially responsible for peasants leaving the countryside to work in the city in industrial factories.

In 1801, the Inclosure (Consolidation) Act was passed to tidy up previous acts. In 1845, another General Inclosure Act allowed for the appointment of Inclosure Commissioners who could enclose land without submitting a request to Parliament.

This 1769 base map (based on work by L James in 2011) shows what was left of the basic 'Germanic' Open (Arable) Field system so prevalent in England. These two or three (sometimes more) vast open fields surrounded by meadow and 'waste' common land had their origins back in Saxon times.

Here in Ansty by the mediaeval period there were 3 large arable open fields: West Field (sometimes referred to as Hill Field) —enclosed by Ansty Coombe Lane, Kings Lane, Ansty (High) Street, and what we now know as the A30; East Field —enclosed by FP2 footpath (to Swallowcliffe, moving south along the parish boundary and up on to the drove road on the slopes, and then following Shave Lane back east along the A30 and up the High Street; Sheaf Field covered a large area west of Shave Lane between the foot of the Downs and the A30.

This map shows how the agricultural landscape looked in 1769. Much of the common land had already been inclosed and a fair section of the arable land holding strips too.



Ansty's agricultural ancestry, 1769

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inclosure_Acts

<http://www.thelandmagazine.org.uk/articles/short-history-enclosure-britain>

Map plan to show open field landholdings in Ansty in 1769 superimposed on to today's satellite imagery





The narrow field strips or 'shots' in this part of East Field had been inclosed before 1769 probably as a result of Parliamentary Inclosure Acts that allowed the plots to be allotted or awarded to specific individuals. Most former land workers lost out, some becoming 'hired 'labour'.

EAST FIELD (what is left of it)

Once again by using the land dispersion map for Ansty by L James it was possible to superimpose the holdings of 1769 on to the modern landscape. This time it is the 'East Open Arable Field' that we are looking at: the southern half still reflects well its medieval origins with the scores of furlongs, subdivided into tiny narrow plots. This was a way of life that existed for centuries. Landholders would have strips scattered over all three of the great fields that existed in Ansty.

Although there is no visual evidence today of the original medieval strips it is remarkable how today's field boundaries, tracks, roads and footpaths are all instantly recognisable from the old field boundaries of 1769

Map plan showing open field landholdings in Ansty in 1769 superimposed on to today's satellite imagery

Map plan showing
open field
landholdings in Ansty
in 1769
superimposed on to
today's satellite
imagery from Google
maps

The narrow field strips or 'shots' in this part of Sheaf Field had been inclosed before 1769 probably as a result of Inclosure Acts that allowed the small plots to be amalgamated and then allotted or awarded to specific individuals. Most former village land workers (usually yeomen or tenant farmers) lost out, some becoming 'hired' labour or losing out altogether and having to seek work elsewhere.



By using the land dispersion map for Ansty by L James it was possible to superimpose the holdings of 1769 on to the modern landscape. This time it is the 'Sheaf Field' that we are looking at: only a small patch of the landscape in 1769 still reflects well its medieval origins with the score or so of furlongs, subdivided into tiny narrow plots. Nevertheless, major landscape boundaries from 1769 can still be easily recognised today.

Appropriately enough the modern Ansty Pick Your Own fruit and vegetable holding gives more than a curtesy to the old style medieval open field system because they cultivate on small land plots albeit very efficiently. The medieval open field system changed because it was deemed inefficient even back then. Judging from research Ansty remained 'conservative' to the last!

This field boundary marks an even earlier one: an earthwork bank that runs from scarp top to scarp foot and thought to be of Bronze Age and represents a boundary marker. It is still visible but much has been ploughed out.

<http://www.parliament.uk/about/living-heritage/transformingsociety/towncountry/landscape/overview/enclosingland/>
<https://www.google.com/maps/@51.03061,-2.06706,5702m/data=!3m1!1e3>

*Part of the modern
parish of Ansty*
showing inclosed field names as
in 1769

Left- This photo map shows the field patterns of today covering the main settlement part of Ansty and Ansty Coombe. Many of the field boundaries are the same today as they were almost 250 years ago! The large field area just north of the A30 was known as Hill Field or West Field and in 1769 a large portion of it was still being cultivated under the 'open-field system'.

Under the open-field system, each manor or village similar to Ansty had two or three large fields, often several hundred acres each, which were divided into many narrow strips of land. The strips were cultivated by individuals or peasant families, often called tenants or serfs and originate back to Saxon times. In tandem with such fields were areas of unimproved 'common-land' where tenants were able to turn their animals out to graze. When the Normans arrived in 1066 they merely adopted and modified the process under the 'Feudal System' which remained largely intact until the end of the 14th century.

However a good few open fields, including Hill Field (colloquially known locally as the 'practice polo field' after a failed attempt to introduce this sport of the super-rich to Ansty in very recent times) still existed in the 18th century. Almost all the land surrounding Hill Field had been 'inclosed' by 1769 under various legal agreements and parliamentary acts. Words such as 'mead' and 'close' indicate that much of the land was now under the control of private ownership. Of course, many individuals whose families had toiled on the lands for generations lost out to these changes but farming became more efficient with greater yields.

Unfortunately, apart from the wide grassy expanse on view today there is no tangible evidence of the open-field ridge and furrow farming. But we do have map evidence that these fields once existed!

Information based on satellite image of 2011

<https://www.google.co.uk/maps/place/Ansty,+Salisbury/>

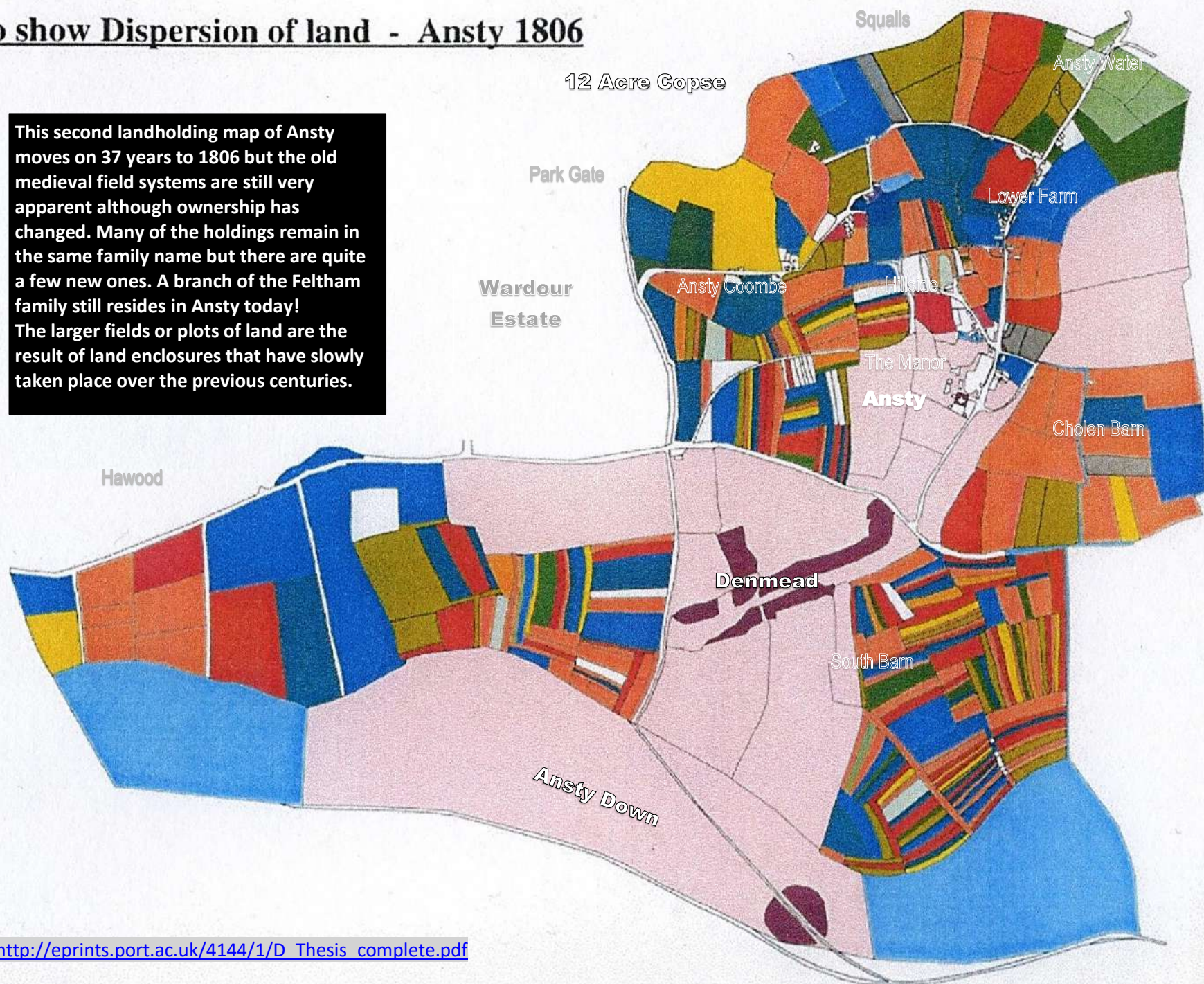
<http://www.acraew.org.uk/history-common-land-and-village-greens>

Map to show Dispersion of land - Ansty 1806

ANSTY Landholding 1806

- Wm Everett
- Wm Best
- William Hill
- William Burden
- Thos & Sarah Jerrard
- Thomas Wardner
- Thomas Lambert
- Thomas Best
- Peter Green
- Lord Arundell
- Josiah Jerrard
- Josiah James
- Josiah Carter
- Joseph James
- John Ribbicks (F)
- John Parsons
- John Fitz
- John Butt & Wm Best
- John Butt
- John Bowles
- John Ayres
- James Lever
- James Jerrard
- Henry Turner
- Henry King
- George Wardner
- David Feltham
- Common Property
- Charles Burden
- Catherine Short
- Barbara Brown

This second landholding map of Ansty moves on 37 years to 1806 but the old medieval field systems are still very apparent although ownership has changed. Many of the holdings remain in the same family name but there are quite a few new ones. A branch of the Feltham family still resides in Ansty today! The larger fields or plots of land are the result of land enclosures that have slowly taken place over the previous centuries.



http://eprints.port.ac.uk/4144/1/D_Thesis_complete.pdf



This map extract (1807) is from a range of original large scale Ordnance Survey drawings made by draughtsmen to present a detailed picture of England and Wales between the 1780s and 1840. They were the forerunner of our much beloved OS Maps today.

This was the first comprehensive survey since Christopher Saxton's county maps of the 1570's – an age away. Being significantly larger in scale, the preliminary drawings show much more detail than the printed maps. Together, they present a picture of Regency England and Wales unparalleled in its accuracy.

Notes: Ansty can be seen top centre; Ansty Coombe is presented as 'Combe'; the grand access to Wardour Castle from what we now call the A30 between Foots Barn and New Barn; the forested slopes around Ansty are very much the same 200 years later although conifers have replaced indigenous species in too many areas; Ansty Water marks a ford where springs from Ansty and Squalls meet at the T junction; Hawood is now known as Horwood.

There is no direct track from Ansty to Alvedeston (Alvediston) - you would have to go via Shave Lane (at Newbarn). The Salisbury to Shaftesbury route over Whitesheet Hill was losing favour to the roadway at the foot of the hills.

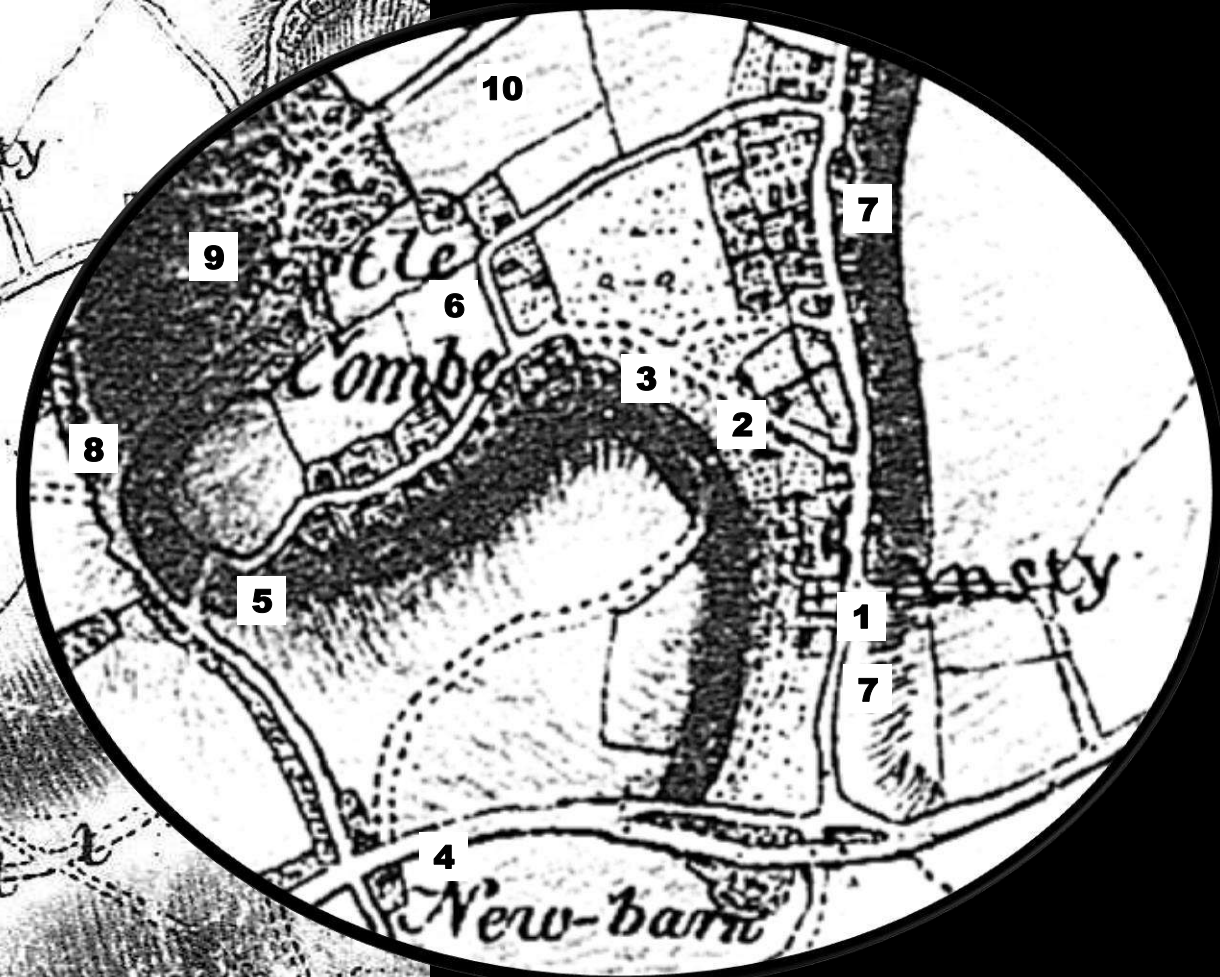
<http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/ordsurvdrawing/b/zoomify82280.html>
<http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/ordsurvdrawing/curatorintro23261.html>

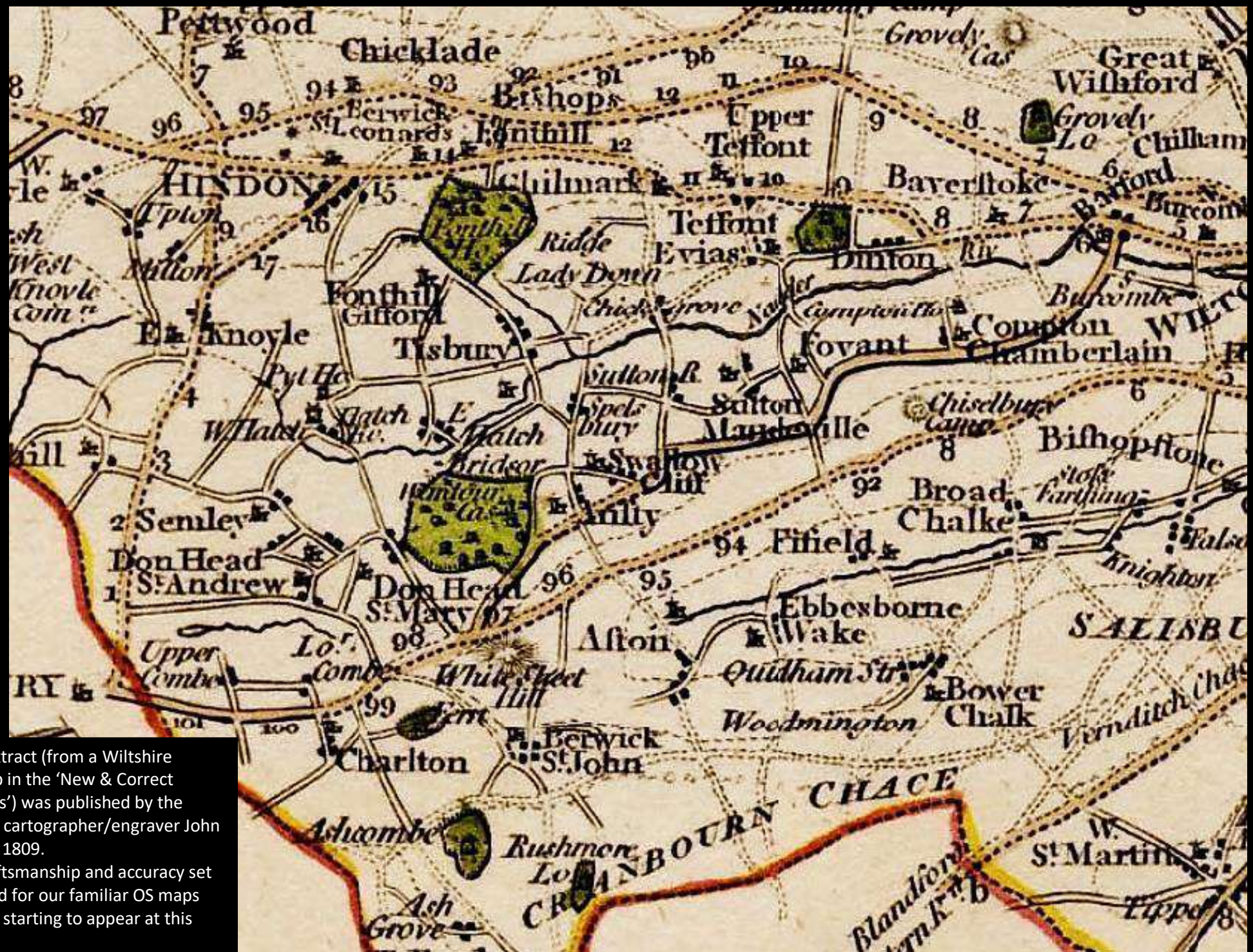


This is a closer look at OS Drawings of 1807 (2 inch series). We can clearly see:

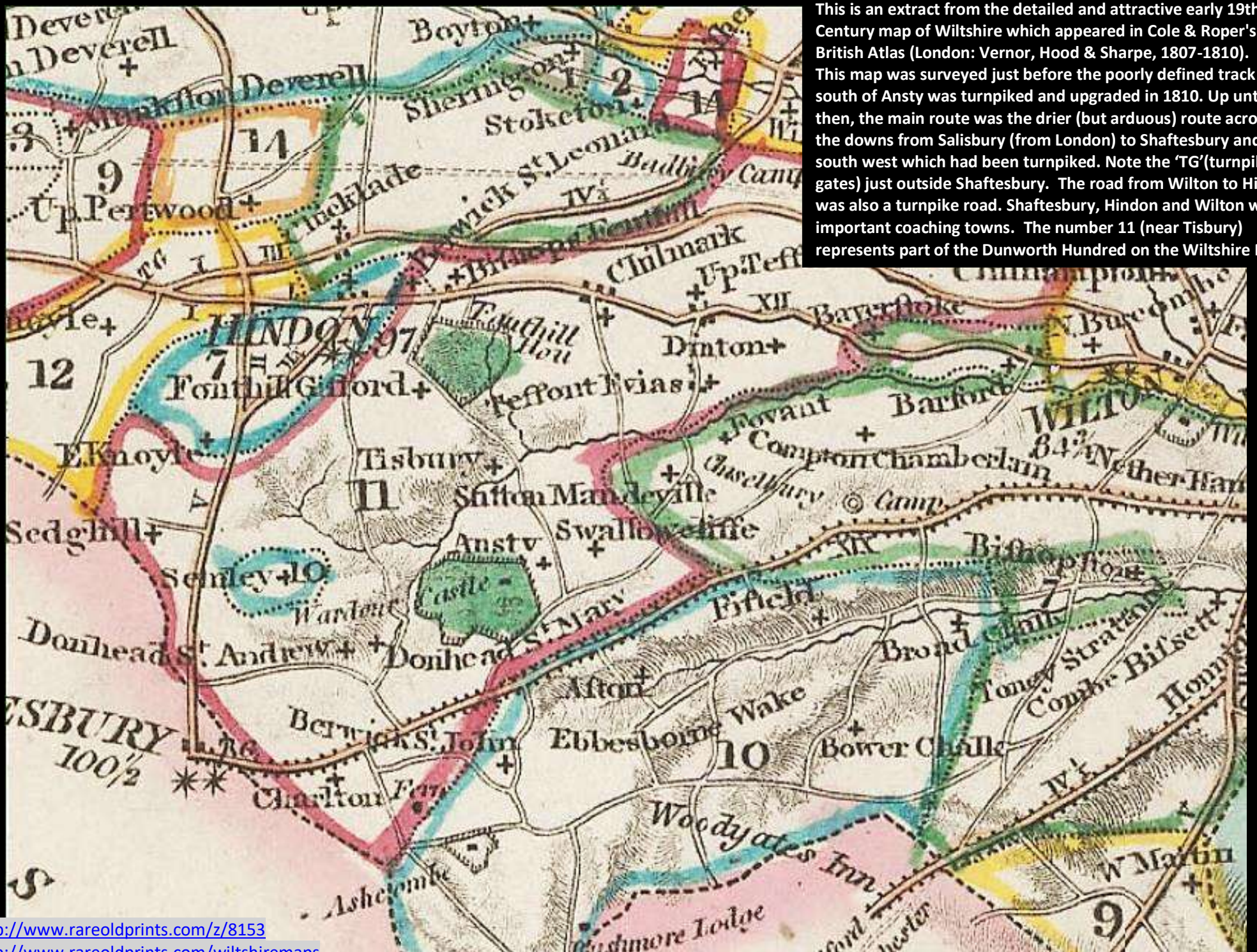
- (1) St James' Church and The Manor buildings and the various cottages along Ansty Street-High Street (7)
- (2) Hillside Farm and the Stables can be picked out and the meadow beyond
- (3) Coombe Lane (and Blind Lane) are represented as tracks which join up with another track from Newbarn (4).
- (5) Ansty Coombe Lane (west) joins up with Kings Lane (6) and then the High Street (7) further north in the village of Ansty.

The track from Park Gate (8) above makes its way across 12 Acre Copse (9) to Squalls Lane (10) and it is still there today.





This map extract (from a Wiltshire County map in the 'New & Correct English Atlas') was published by the well-known cartographer/engraver John Cary also in 1809. His fine craftsmanship and accuracy set the standard for our familiar OS maps which were starting to appear at this stage.



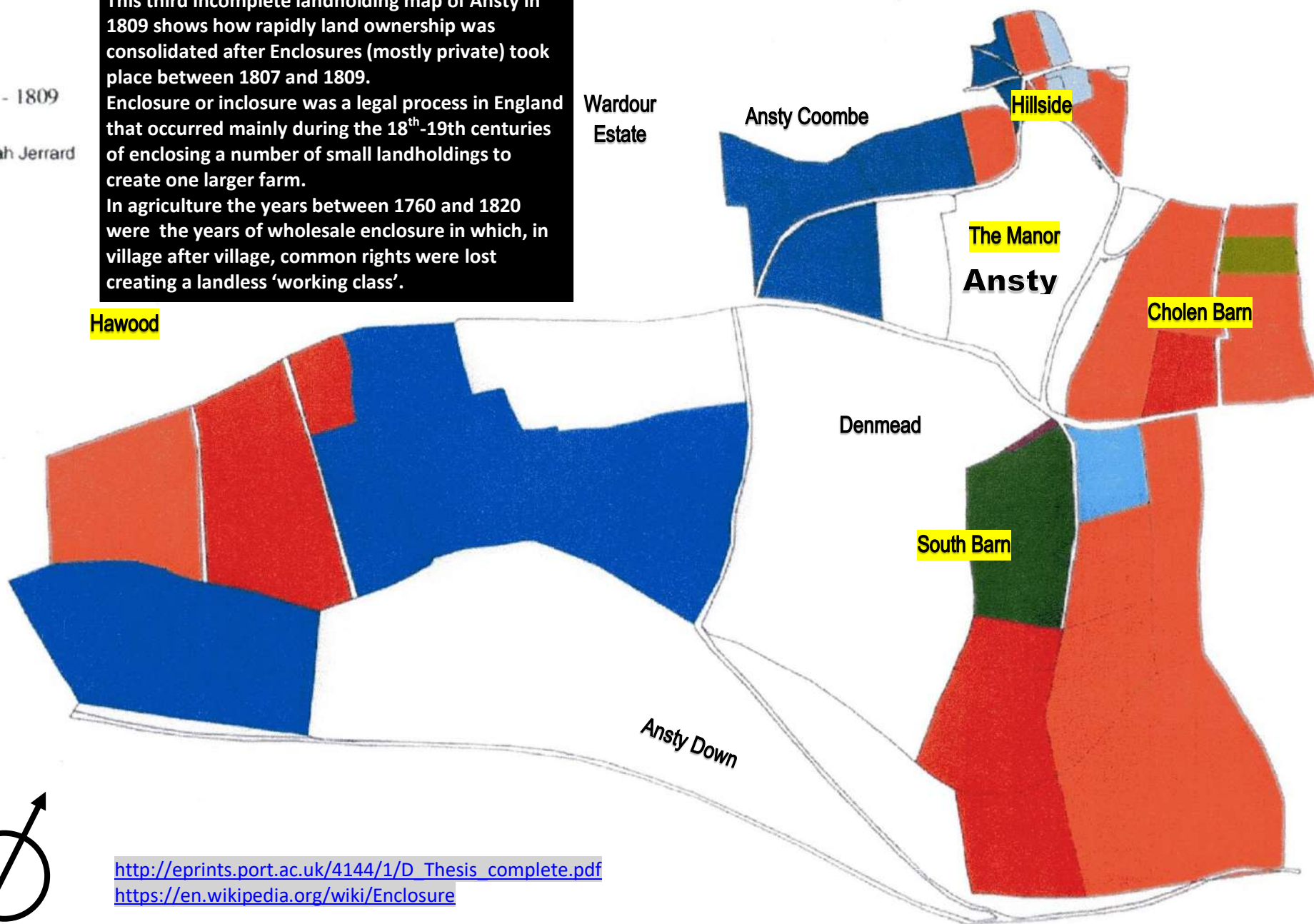
This is an extract from the detailed and attractive early 19th Century map of Wiltshire which appeared in Cole & Roper's British Atlas (London: Vernor, Hood & Sharpe, 1807-1810). This map was surveyed just before the poorly defined track just south of Ansty was turnpiked and upgraded in 1810. Up until then, the main route was the drier (but arduous) route across the downs from Salisbury (from London) to Shaftesbury and the south west which had been turnpiked. Note the 'TG'(turnpike gates) just outside Shaftesbury. The road from Wilton to Hindon was also a turnpike road. Shaftesbury, Hindon and Wilton were important coaching towns. The number 11 (near Tisbury) represents part of the Dunworth Hundred on the Wiltshire Map.

Map to Show Allotments of Land After Enclosure - 1809

This third incomplete landholding map of Ansty in 1809 shows how rapidly land ownership was consolidated after Enclosures (mostly private) took place between 1807 and 1809. Enclosure or inclosure was a legal process in England that occurred mainly during the 18th-19th centuries of enclosing a number of small landholdings to create one larger farm. In agriculture the years between 1760 and 1820 were the years of wholesale enclosure in which, in village after village, common rights were lost creating a landless 'working class'.

Land Allotment - 1809

- William Burden
- Thomas and Sarah Jerrard
- Peter Green
- Lord Arundell
- Josiah Jerrard
- John Bowles
- James Jerrard
- Henry Turner
- Henry King
- George Wardner
- Barbara Brown



http://eprints.port.ac.uk/4144/1/D_Thesis_complete.pdf
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enclosure>

Ansty Inclosure

Copy

On the next few pages there follows extracts from maps and documents concerning the 'Indenture of Awards' by Mr Joseph Hodgkinson and Mr John Seagrim, both land surveyors appointed to 'inclose' open land in the parish of Ansty in 1810.

They were responsible for awarding plots of land mostly from what was left of the old open fields and commons to individual farmers in Ansty. Not all of these recipients actually resided in Ansty itself; some of them probably hired locals to do the work for them.

This land transfer from the community to private land holders seems to have been enacted without an 'Act of Parliament' remembering that the whole of Ansty and its lands belonged to the Arundell family of Wardour.

The Indenture of Award
of Mr Joseph Hodgkinson and
Mr John Seagrim. —

This map extract is part of a plan of the allotments in the manor of Ansty surveyed for the land inclosures (enclosures) drawn in 1809 by George Bassett. A long history of open field cultivation and common husbandry by the village community came to an end. Most villagers or peasants did not own the land they farmed: they paid for the right to farm strips of land; paid taxes on the food they grew; had little or no say in its management and their crops were often prescribed by the landowners from whom they leased the land.

The size of the strip of land each peasant farmed was defined in acres. An acre was measured by the amount of area that a single farmer could plough in a single day. The open field system declined in use due to soil depletion and more individualized methods of farming. Peasants planted the same crops year after year to make a living; however, this ran the soil dry of essential nutrients, such as nitrogen. Gradually, the open field system shifted to a more-regulated form of crop rotation, in which fields were planted in three-year rotations. This system helped push agriculture toward the modern model of individual land-owning farmers.

Before the enclosure movement, when land was not being cultivated, it was available to the community for grazing of livestock and other needs. Enclosing land using fences or hedges cut off the land for common use and made it available only to one farmer or landowner. Theoretically, this increased the efficiency of land use.



12 Acre Copse

Former GASSON MEADOW
COMMONLAND

Wardour Estate

On this map extract (same as the previous map) some extra text information has been added by the compiler (in red) to familiarise interested readers with various locations in Ansty.
All land north of Hill Field or West Field and Gasson Mead have already been enclosed and so is not part of this survey. Parts of Ansty Coombe Lane and Kings Lane did exist but are not shown on this map. At the time there was no lane around Frogpond bend, just a footpath.
Much of the former northern part of East Field had been enclosed before 1769.

Ansty Coombe

Hillside

Former WEST
OPEN FIELD

Cholden Hill

The Manor and
Church

New Barn

Part of former
SHEAF OPEN
FIELD

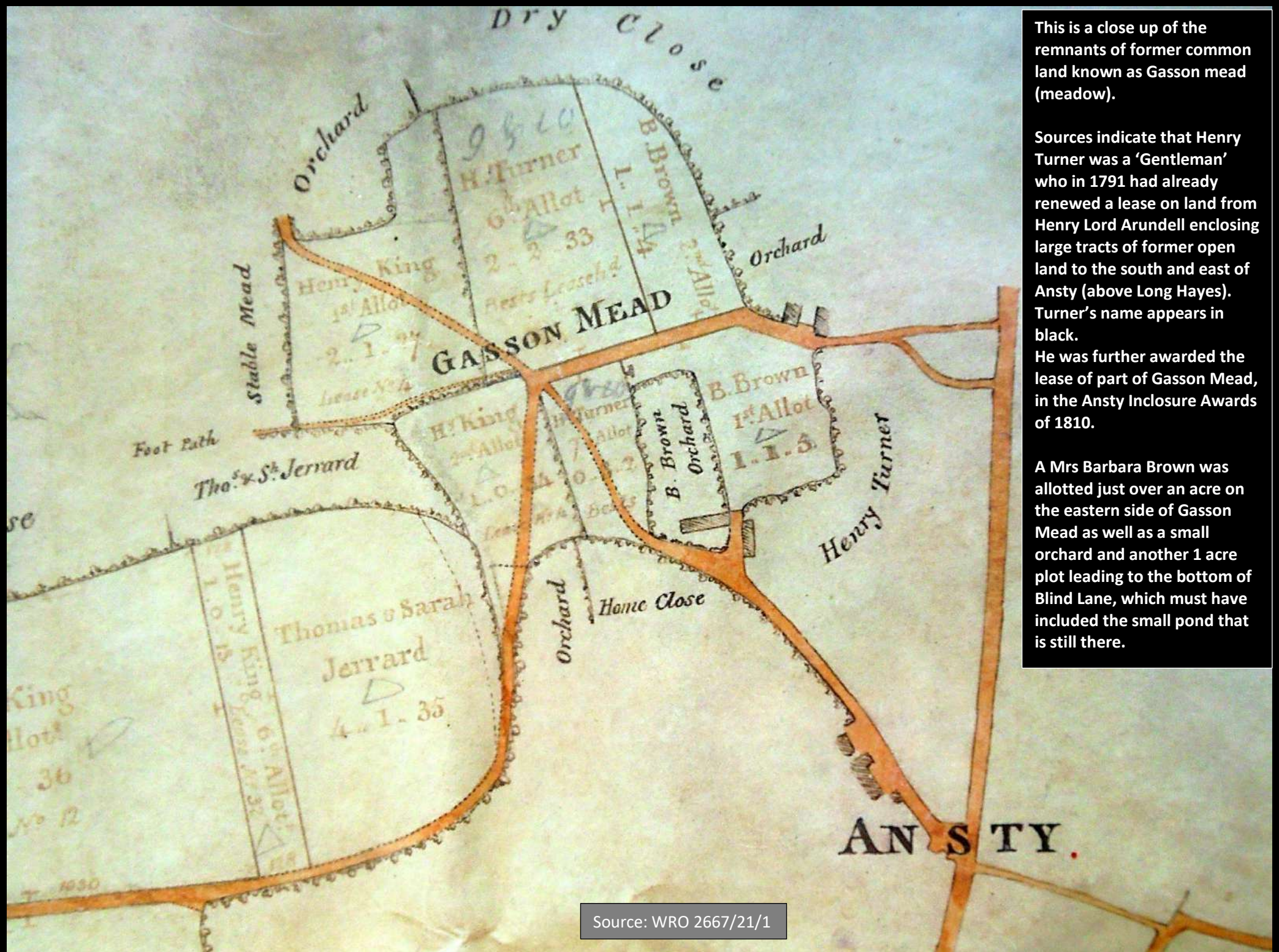
Shave (Sheaf) Lane

Denmead Copses

Part of former EAST OPEN FIELD

The Jerrards were another well-known Ansty Family with several branches including an architect and a blacksmith.





Footway over Sheaf
field.

This extract shows part of the documentation drawn up by Hodgkinson and Seagrim for their copy of 'Ansty Inclosure: the Indenture of Awards'. 1811

Signed sealed and Delivered by the
within named John Scarrin, Henry
King, James Gerrard, Thomas Gerrard
Sarah Gerrard ^{and} John Bowles and
~~William Burden~~ in the presence of
John Nicholson
P. M. Miller
Geo. Bassett.

Various signatures adorn the end of land awards document including Henry King, James Gerrard, Thomas Gerrard, John Bowles and William Burden. Sources indicate that Bowles and Burden both seem to have risen from Yeoman farmer stock in Ansty. Geo Bassett drew up the map plan in 1809, probably based on an earlier map survey.

This is a transcript of the hand written document detailing the purpose for and the execution of changes to land ownership of open common fields and pastures within the parish of Anstey (sic)

ANSTY INCLOSURE AWARD (WRO 2667/1/1/321) (extract)

[Title]

"Dated 1810

Anstey Inclosure

The Indenture of Award

Mr. Joseph Hodgkinson and Mr. John Seagrim"

"To all to whom these Presents shall come Joseph Hodgkinson of Arundell Street in the Strand in the County of Middlesex and John Seagrim of Wilton in the County of Wilts Land Surveyors **Send Greeting Whereas** by Indenture of Lease and Release bearing date respectively the sixteenth and seventeenth days of May in the year One thousand eight hundred and nine the Release being of four parts made between the Right Honourable Charles Lord Clifford Baron of Chudleigh in the County of Devon and the Right Honourable James Everard Lord Arundell Baron of Wardour in the County of Wilts Trustees for sale and exchange of the several Lands Tenements and Hereditaments of the Right Honourable Henry Lord Arundell Baron of Wardour deceased of the first part The Right Honourable Mary Christina Lady Dowager Arundell Devisee in fee named and appointed in and by the last Will and Testament of the said Henry Lord Arundell of the second part The several other persons executing the now writing Indentures being severally Owners of Lands in the open and common fields of Ansty in the sd. County of Wilts of the third part and the said Joseph Hodgkinson and Joseph Seagrim as being named and appointed as well by and on the part and behalf of the said Charles Lord Clifford James Everard Lord Arundell and Christina Dowager Lady Arundell as of the several other persons parties to and executing the said writed Indentures for the purposes therein and hereinafter in part mentioned of the fourth part **Reciting** that there were within the Parish of Anstey aforesaid divers open and common fields and common pastures the property whereof was in the said Charles Lord Clifford James Everard Lord Arundell Mary Christina Lady Arundell and the said several other persons parties thereto of the third part but that the same lay intermixed and dispersed and therefore in the present state incapable of any considerable improvement and stating that if the said open common fields and pastures were divided into specific shares and allotted unto and amongst the several proprietors in lieu of and in proportion to their respective rights and interests the same would be more convenient for occupation and might be considerably improved and further that the said several persons parties to the said Indentures interested in the said several open common fields for effectuating the premises without the expence of an Act of Parliament had mutually agreed to convey over all and every their rights and interests in the said several Lands so situated in the Common fields aforesaid unto and to the use of the said Joseph Hodgkinson and John Seagrim in the manner and upon the trusts therein mentioned....."

"..... **Be it known** that we the said Joseph Hodgkinson and John Seagrim the persons appointed under and by virtue of the powers of the said Indenture of Release and Instrument of Consent **Do** by this our award indented fairly written on Parchment and executed by us in the presence of so many of the proprietors or persons interested therein as attended at a Meeting held by us [.....] in the first place award and confirm the several Public and Private Roads Ways and footpaths in manner hereinafter mentioned that is to say"

"Public Road over the Gasson and Hill Field" **"One** Public carriage and drift way of the breadth of twenty feet leading out of Ansty Town in a south westerly direction over the Meadow called the Gasson and continuing along the ancient track as far as North East Corner of the second Allotment hereinafter awarded to Henry King from thence across the said Allotment again into the said Ancient Track to the Hill ffield and over the said ffield into the Turnpike Road leading from Shaftsbury to Salisbury"

"Public Road over the Gasson" **"One** other Public Carriage and Drift Way of the breadth of fifteen feet leading from and out of a Lane opposite the House belonging to Mrs Barbara Brown over the said Meadow called the Gasson in a westerly direction to another Lane leading to Tisbury"

"Public Road over Long Hays" **"One** other Public Carriage and Drift Way of the breadth of twenty four feet leading out of Ansty Town at the Common pound into and along a certain Old Inclosure called the Long Hays belonging to Ansty ffarm as far as the Turnpike road leading from Salisbury to Shaftsbury"

"One other Public Carriage and Drift Way of the breadth of twenty feet leading from and out of an Ancient Lane nearly opposite the South West corner of the Hill ffield into the said Sheaf field and along the East side of the said ffield as far as Ansty ffarm Down being part of the Ancient way from Wardour to Salisbury"

"Private Road" **"One** Private Carriage and Drift Way of the breadth of fifteen feet leading out of the said Turnpike road at Ansty Bridge through and over an Allotment of Arable land hereby awarded to the Right Honorable Mary Christina Lady Dowager Arundell (in lieu of the before mentioned Road set out over the Old inclosed Ground called the Long Hays) to an Allotment of Arable land belonging to Peter Green and to part of Ansty ffarm"

"Private Road over part of the East Field" "One other private road of the breadth of twenty feet leading out of the said Turnpike road near Ansty Bridge aforesaid in a Southerly direction over part of the East field as far as the second Allotment hereinafter awarded to George Wardner and the fourth Allotment hereinafter awarded to Henry Turner"

"Private road to James Jerrards 3rd allotment" "One other Private carriage and drift way of the breadth of twenty feet leading out of the said Turnpike road into the field called the Sheaf field and over part of the same field as far as third Allotment herinafter awarded to James Jerrard"

"Footways to Alvediston" "One Public footway of the breadth of four feet leading from and out of the before mentioned Private road set out over part of the said East field along the south west side of the said fourth Allotment hereinafter awarded to the said Henry Turner and across the third Allotment of Down hereinafter awarded to the said George Wardner and being part of the ffootway from Ansty to Alvediston"

"Footway from Ansty to Wardour" "One other Public footway of the like breadth of four feet leading from and out of the Public carriage road set out over Hill ffield along part of the East and on the North side of the third Allotment hereinafter awarded to the said Henry King being part of the footway from Ansty to Wardour"

"One other Public footway of the like breadth of four feet leading from and out of the said Public road over the Gasson Meadow at the North East corner of the second Allotment herinafter Awarded to the said Henry King in a South Westerly direction as far as the Meadow called Stable Mead being also part of a footway from Ansty to Wardour"

"Footway over Sheaf field" "One other Public footway of the like breadth of four feet leading from and out of the before mentioned Public carriage and drift road set out along the east side of Sheaf field at the North East corner of the said field along the ancient track over the first and second Allotments hereinafter awarded to the said James Jerrard to Ansty ffarm Down being part of the footway from Ansty to Alvediston"

"and which said Public and Private roads and footways are more particularly laid down and described in a certain Map or Plan hereunto annexed for the better ascertainment of the said roads and ways and also for the better ascertainment of the several Allotments hereinafter awarded to the several persons hereinafter named"

"And we the said Joseph Hodgkinson and John Seagrim Do hereby Award order and direct that the said Public carriage and drift roads and footways so by Us set out and ascertained as aforesaid shall be for ever maintained and kept in repair by and at the expense of the Surveyor or Surveyors of the Highways of the said Parish of Ansty for the time being in the like manner as the said Public roads within the said Parish are by law required to be maintained and kept in repair and that proper stiles shall be maintained and kept in repair by and at the expense of the Proprietors of such Allotments for the time being"

"And We do hereby further award order and direct that the Grass and Herbage arising and renewing from and upon such Public and Private carriage and drift ways so set out by us as aforesaid shall for ever hereafter belong to and be the sole right of the Proprietors of the Lands and Grounds which next adjoin the said roads and ways on either side thereof as far as the Crown of the said Roads or Ways"

"And Lastly we award that the said recited Indentures of Lease and Release for safe preservation and for the Benefit of all parties shall be inrolled in His Majesty's Court of Kings Bench and these Presents or a Copy thereof be deposited with the Clerk of the Peace for the County of Wilts In Witness whereof we the said Joseph Hodgkinson and John Seagrim hereunto set our hands and seals the ffirst day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and Eleven and we the said James Jerrard Mary Christina Dowager Lady Arundell Henry King Thomas and Sara Jerrard John Bowles and William Burden have severally subscribed our names at the foot of these Presents as assenting to the several matters and things on our respective parts stated to be by us assented to"

[signed]

Various signatures adorn the end of land awards document including Henry King, James Gerrard, Thomas Gerrard, John Bowles and William Burden. Sources indicate that Bowles and Burden both seem to have risen from Yeoman farmer stock in Ansty.

N.B. For the Indenture of Lease and Release see WRO 2667/1/1/319 & 2667/1/1/320 respectively. For the Inclosure Award Map of 1809 see WRO 2667/21/1



A closer view of Ansty in 1811 from OS 1 inch Old Series Sheet 15. The 'hachuring technique' was an early method of trying to show the relief (or 'lie of the land') before the advent of contour lines. It worked after a fashion: one got the impression of hills, slopes and valleys.

This is another OS Map forming the basis of the 1 inch Old Series Sheets. (This one is Sheet 15). It captures the setting of Ansty beautifully.



One of the earliest Road Maps!

Left- Extract (137, 138) showing part of the London to Exeter Road Map for our local area by Edward Mogg published in 1817. This survey of the high roads of England and Wales was produced in 4 editions published in English and held by 11 libraries worldwide. Mogg was a Cartographer and engraver based in London.

The original London to Exeter journey would have involved the arduous journey up and down the steep Whitesheet Hill - following the 'winter' herepath to Salisbury (from Shaftesbury). One solitary milestone can still be seen just before the steep descent down Whitesheet Hill to Shaftesbury. This section remains a byway open to all traffic.

This beautiful map extract from Mogg's survey shows part of the road journey (by horse and carriage) from London to Exeter along the recently turnpiked (1887-1788) sections of the road (familiar to us as the A30) from Barford and Compton Chamberlain through to Ansty and then on the Shaftesbury. In those days, even on this much improved road frequent rests were needed by both passengers and horses! A turnpike was a road on which a toll was collected to pay for the improvements.

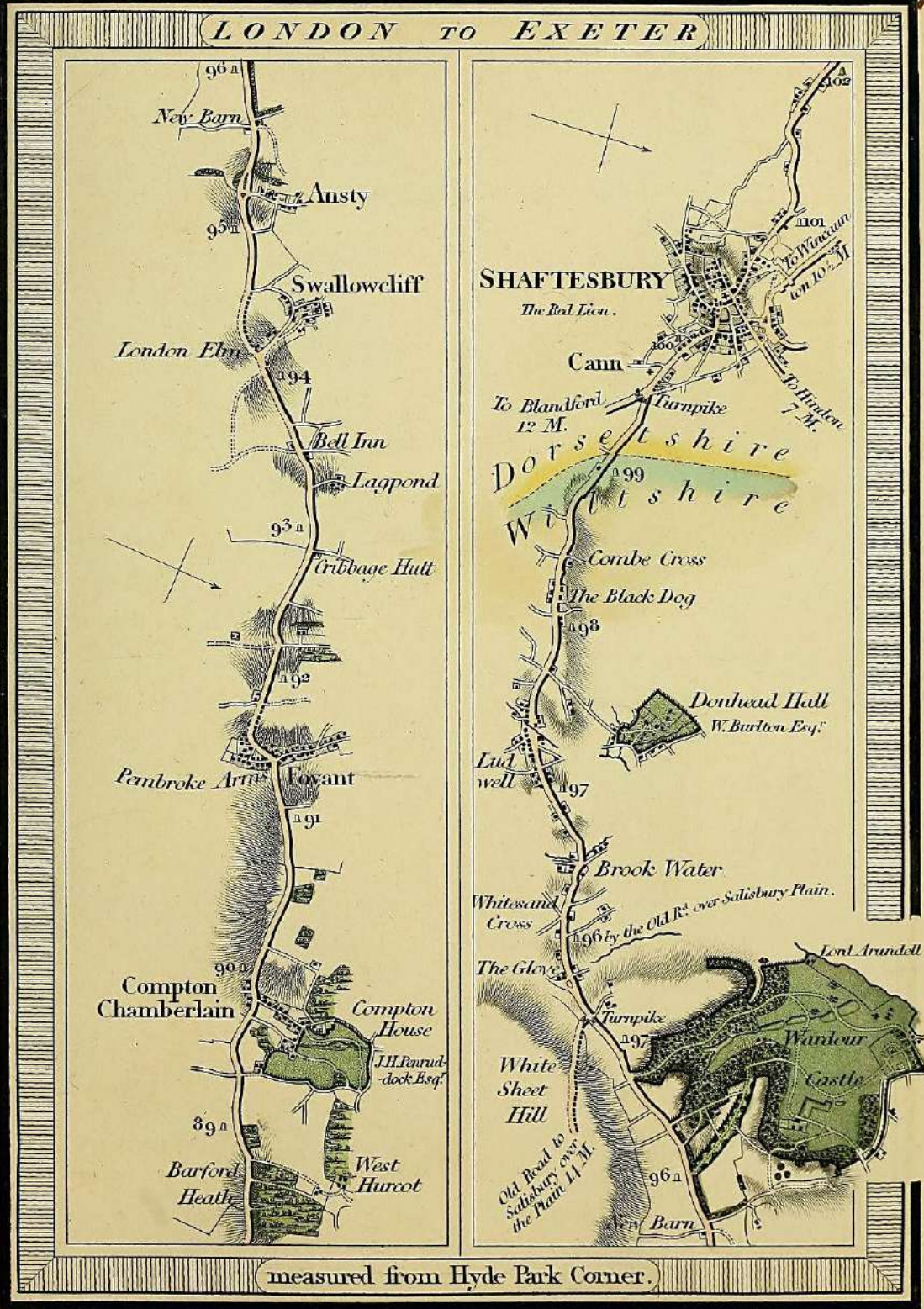
Note the Inns and Public Houses marked as well as the milestones measuring the distance from London in miles. The London Elm was a well-known watering hole (long closed) on the main Swallowcliffe junction with the then new Turnpike road following the line of the old 'summer' herepath. The milestone shown on the map is on the Salisbury to Shaftesbury carriageway (now the present A30) very near to the entrance of the Ansty PYO farm shop. On Mogg's map survey it is marked as the 96th milestone (from London). A milestone is currently located (on the opposite side of the road) perhaps 150 metres west of New Barn Lodge (Ansty). It is made of limestone of 18th Century origin and was rescued from obscurity and the risk of damage by local farmer Peter Dalton of Horwood in 2016. There are still quite a few of these milestones on the wayside of the A30 but some went missing (mostly during WW2) and others have been neglected or lost altogether despite their listed status. Whether the milestone on Moggs's map was a different milestone to the one we see today is yet to be determined.

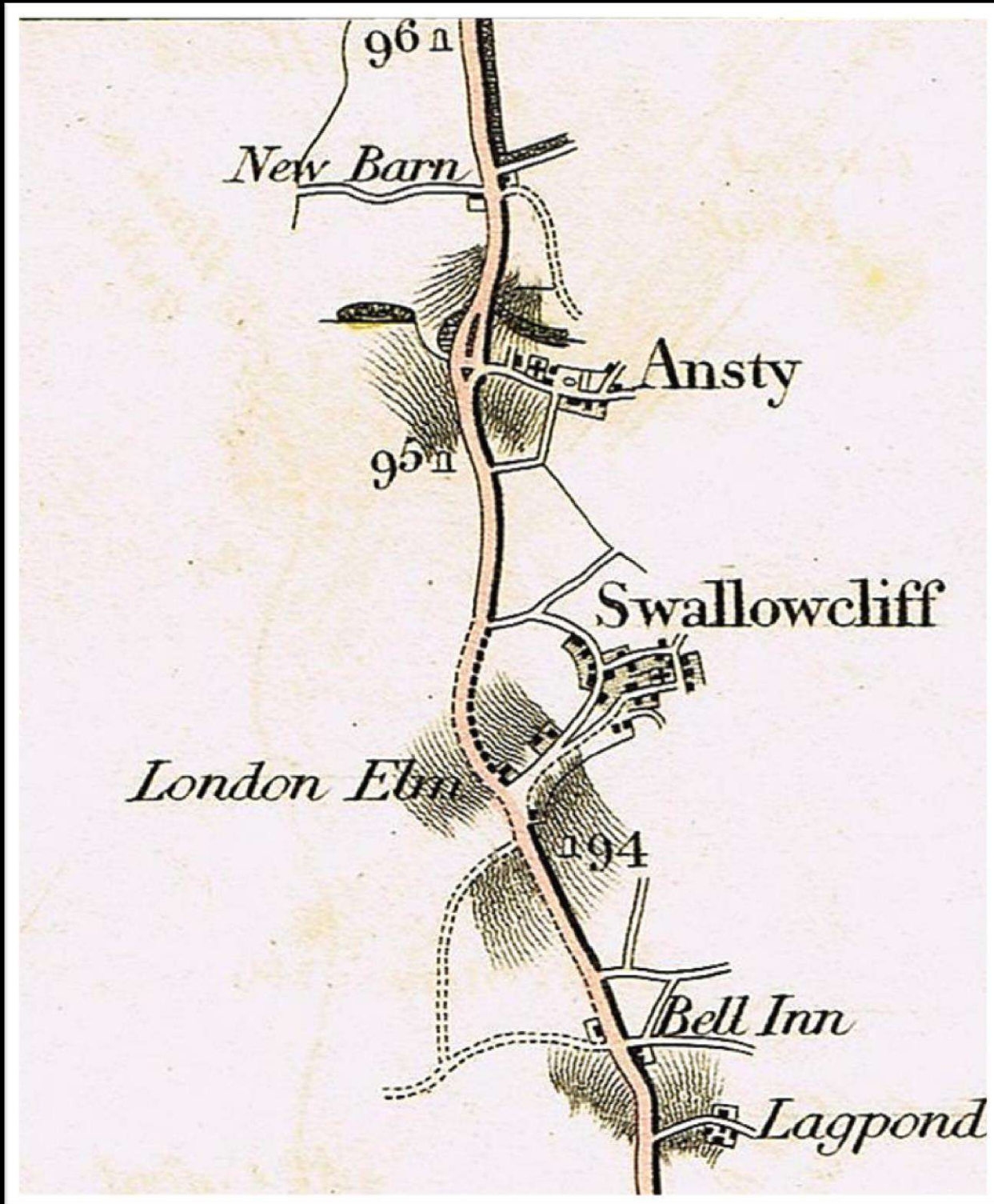
Note also the grand access (now gone) to the Wardour New Castle and grounds. The old Wardour castle (a ruin after the civil war and by now masquerading as a folly to the new castle) was also accessible via Ansty Coombe Lane through the Park Pale gate.

The Wardour Castle estate (bottom right on road map) was to have much influence over the village of Ansty from 1594 until 1946 when almost the whole of the village was sold off in lots when the last incumbent baronet died without heirs.

According to Mogg's survey in 1817, Ansty was a parish containing 50 houses and 242 inhabitants.

Source: <https://www.archive.org/stream/surveyofhighroad00mogg#page/n9/mode/2up>





This extract from the Plate 137 of Mogg's Survey of High Roads in 1816 shows a section of the turnpiked section of the road (now the A30) from Lagpond to the NE to New Barn in the SW.

The 96 Milestone west of New Barn is located on the London (via Salisbury) carriageway on Mogg's map at the top of this extract. There is a milestone currently located on the opposite carriageway. It is a listed structure and is supposed to be looked after by Wiltshire Council. Badly scarred by wear and tear, particularly over the last few years by council verge cutters the stone was resurrected by local farmer Peter Dalton in 2016 who raised the forlorn stone to its original height and locals now volunteer to keep the vegetation from overgrowing the structure so that the verge cutters now see it and hopefully avoid smashing into the stone with their blades.

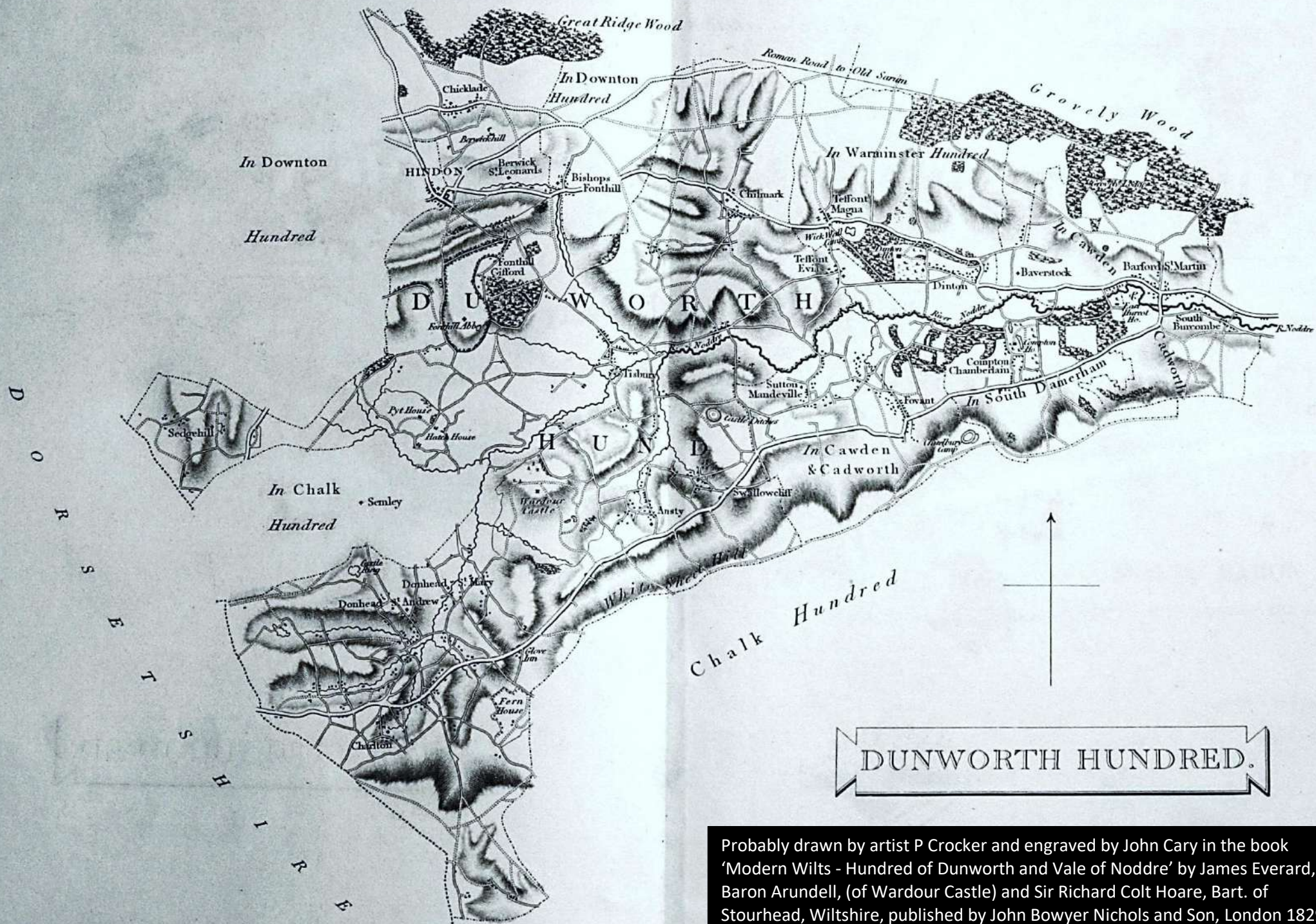
In 2016 there were no council funds to repair the damage so unless the stone is 'adopted' by interested villagers who might also be willing to pay for repairs it will remain in its miserable state. Whether this is the same milestone as the Mogg milestone is yet to be ascertained.

There was no track or road to Alvediston from the turnpiked road but there was a rather grand entrance to Ansty Street (later called the High Street). Here the turnpike road widened into two carriageways. The old street in Ansty ran virtually along a small stream bed as far as the entrance to St James' church car park area – by courtesy of the Manor. This part of the street often flooded in winter and so a new road was built on a slightly raised embankment. This is probably why the name High Street was adopted.

The London Elm Inn was built around 1743 and was a well-known watering hole and stopping place just outside Swallowcliffe for travellers on the turnpike road (and before). Not far away are the London Elm Cottages.

Lagpond Lane is located in Sutton Mandeville.

Left- <https://archive.org/details/surveyofhighroad00mogg>



Probably drawn by artist P Crocker and engraved by John Cary in the book 'Modern Wilts - Hundred of Dunworth and Vale of Noddre' by James Everard, Baron Arundell, (of Wardour Castle) and Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Bart. of Stourhead, Wiltshire, published by John Bowyer Nichols and Son, London 1829.

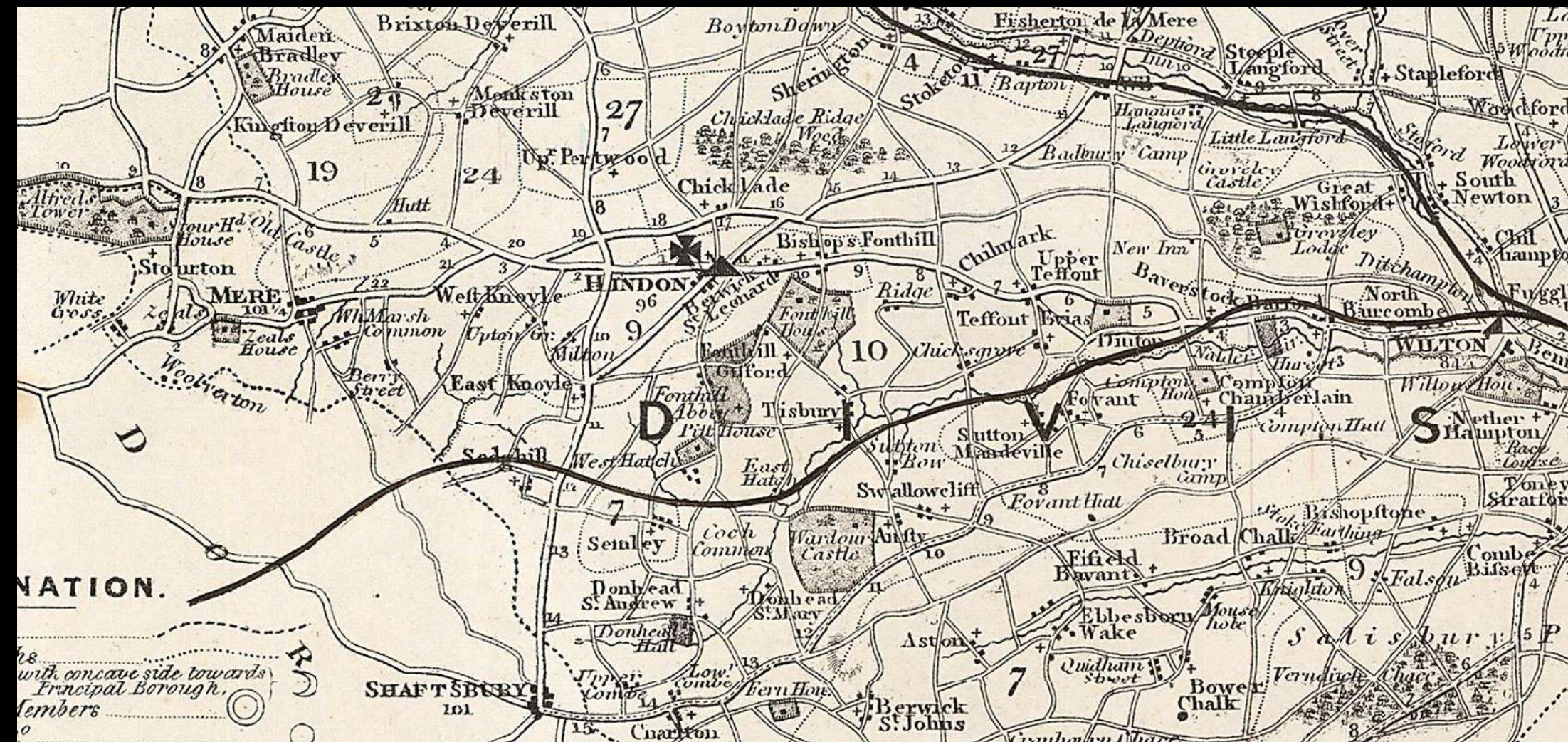


Source: Wiltshire Record Office 2667-21-2H

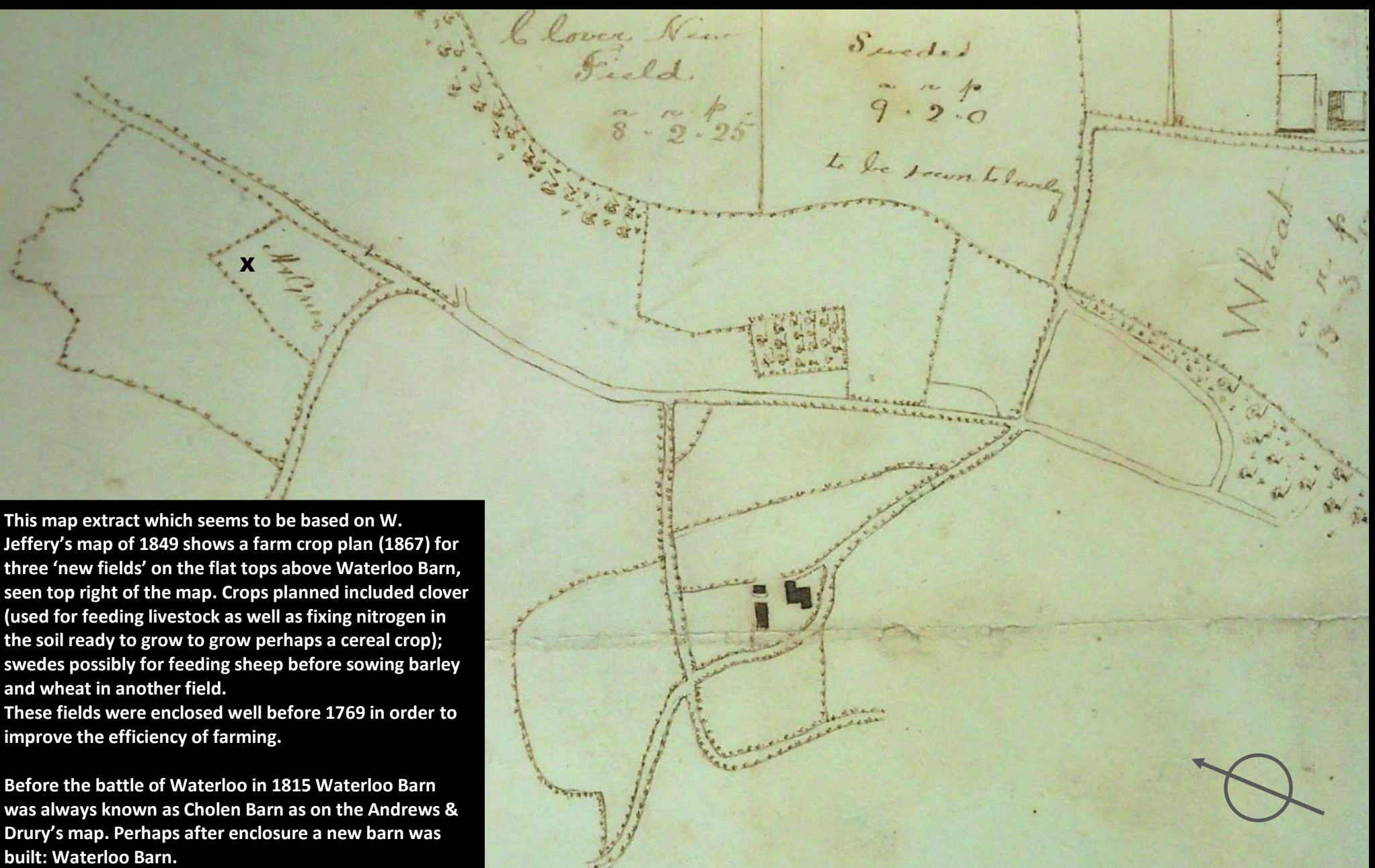
A MAP of the
PARISH of ANSTY, WILTS.

by W. Jeffery. 1849.

This superb map extract shows central and south Ansty along with Ansty Coombe. It is part of a map of the parish of Ansty produced by W. Jeffery in 1849. The large field in the centre was the former open medieval West Field or Hill Field with its numerous land strips or selions now all removed and fully enclosed. Note the dozen or so established fruit orchards. There appears to be some further working consideration of new field boundaries around Hillside (former common land) and the possibility of a lease where Ridley's Sawmill now stands.



This is a superb extract map of Victorian South Wiltshire from The British Gazetteer (Wiltshire) c 1850 published by H G Collins, London. This map must be a slightly later edition because it has the Salisbury and Yeovil Railway (S&YR) passing just south of Tisbury. Tisbury railway station on this first section of this line, from Salisbury to Gillingham, was opened on 2 May 1859. This map also shows Ansty and its relationship to the rapidly improving road network system. Note the surrounding big houses of the time: Stourhead, Fonthill Abbey, Wardour Castle, Wilton House as well as several impressive but smaller houses.



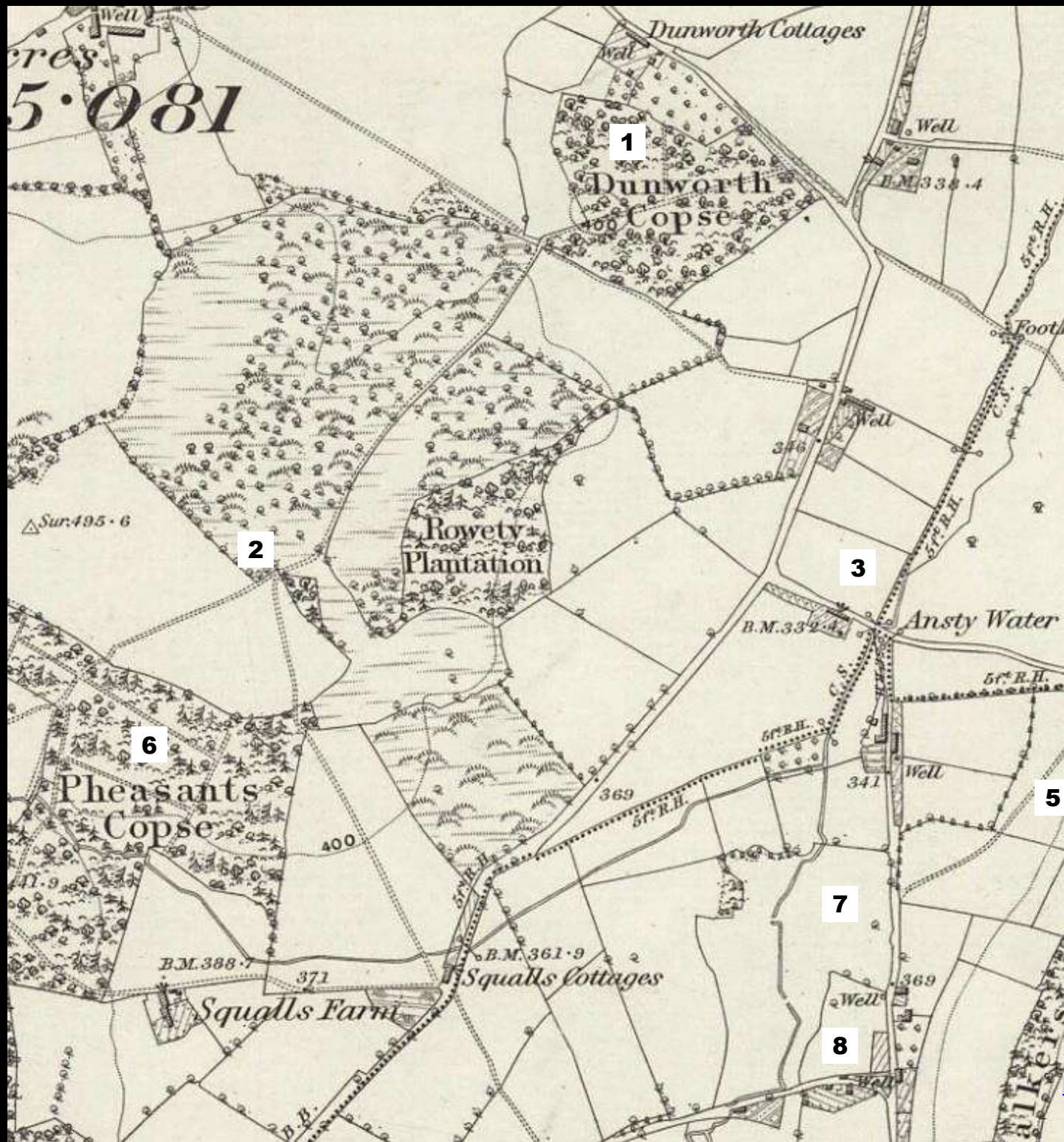
This map extract which seems to be based on W. Jeffery's map of 1849 shows a farm crop plan (1867) for three 'new fields' on the flat tops above Waterloo Barn, seen top right of the map. Crops planned included clover (used for feeding livestock as well as fixing nitrogen in the soil ready to grow to grow perhaps a cereal crop); swedes possibly for feeding sheep before sowing barley and wheat in another field.

These fields were enclosed well before 1769 in order to improve the efficiency of farming.

Before the battle of Waterloo in 1815 Waterloo Barn was always known as Cholen Barn as on the Andrews & Drury's map. Perhaps after enclosure a new barn was built: Waterloo Barn.

The buildings located bottom centre of the frame is Hillside Farm and its Stables bounded by Ansty Coombe Lane to the right and Blind Lane to the left. The patch of land marked X seems to belong to one Henry Green who was listed in the 1861 census as a farmer in Ansty. Perhaps he was farming the three fields mentioned.

Note the field sizes are measured using the old Imperial system (which I grew up with and still use!). Each field area is measured in acres (a), roods (r) - (not to be confused with rods) and perches (p) sometimes known as square rods. The old medieval field strips were measured as 1 'furrow long' (abbreviated to 1 'furlong'). The acre then was measured as a shape being 1 furlong in length by 66 ft. (feet) in breadth. The furlong was subdivided into 'poles'. No wonder some of us went metric: it was enough to drive you up the pole!

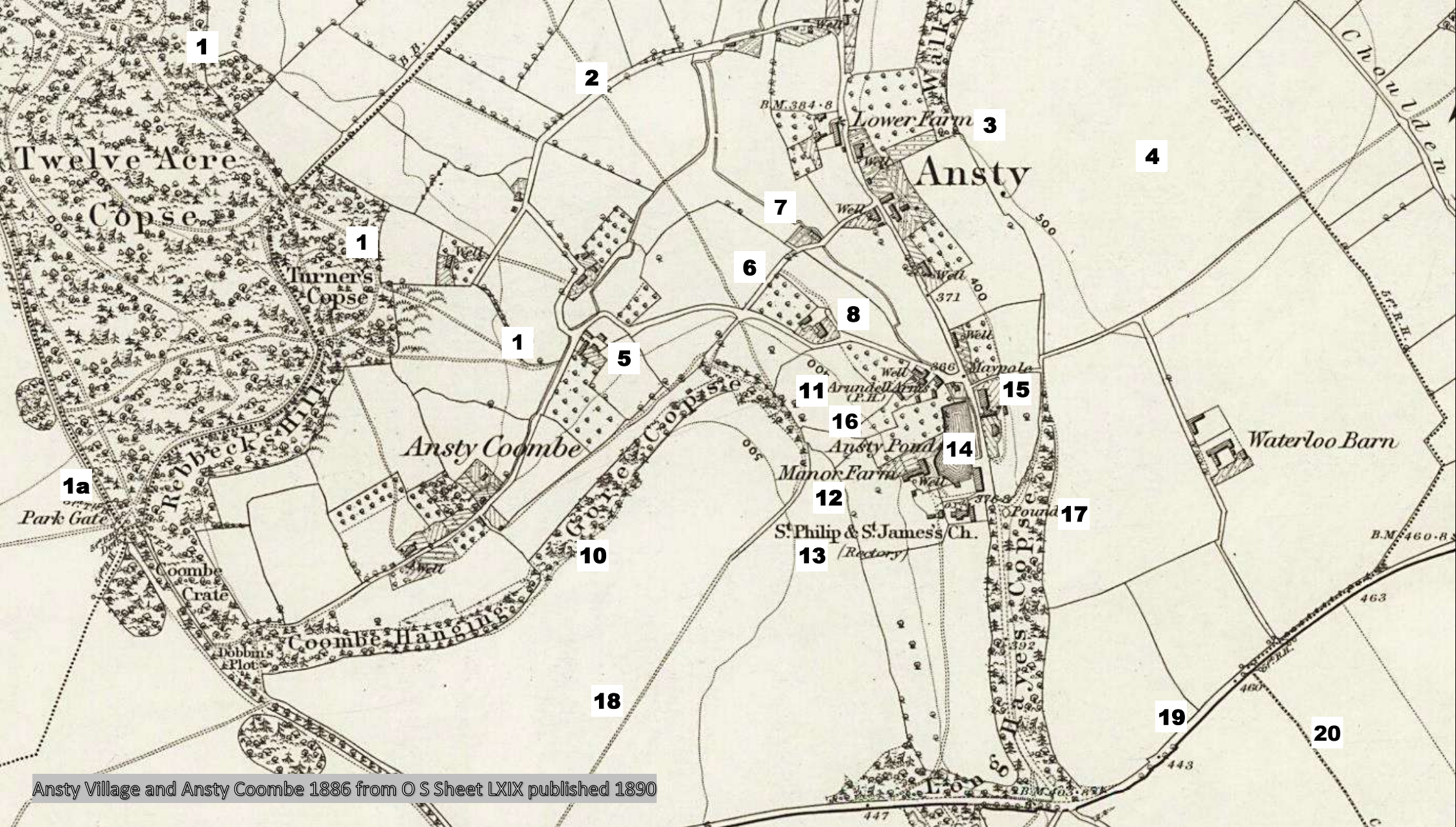


This map extract is a closer look at north Ansty and its locality on OS Sheet LXIX first surveyed in 1886.

Things to note:

- 1 Dunworth Coppice and cottages are a reminder of the Dunworth Hundred. Dunworth was a compact hundred in the Vale of Wardour in the south-west corner of Wiltshire – in effect an administrative division going back to 1084 and possibly before. At that time the Hundred included Ansty, Chilmark, Donhead, Fonthill, Swallowcliffe, Teffont, Tisbury and probably Wardour.
- 2 These longstanding footpaths still exist to this day
- 3 Ansty Water is a meeting point for the parish boundaries of Tisbury, Wardour, Swallowcliffe and Ansty. Ansty Water was also the site of a former tan yard in medieval times.
- 4 Some Ansty pupils would have attended this school built in 1843 (closed 1973).
- 5 This footpath (known as FP1 today) would be the short cut from Ansty to the school.
- 6 Pheasants Coppice is still used for the rearing and shooting of pheasants to this day
- 7 There are still hints along these fields to Ansty Water of some kind of a small scale irrigation system known as 'floated meadows' probably existing 18th - mid 19th centuries.
- 8 The site of Ridley's sawmill today.

<http://opendomesday.org/hundred/dunworth/>
<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/wilts/vol13/pp177-185>
<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/wilts/vol13/pp89-92>
<https://history.wiltshire.gov.uk/community/getschool.php?id=1542>
<http://www.salisburywatermeadows.org.uk/waterabout.htm>



Ansty Village and Ansty Coombe 1886 from O S Sheet LXIX published 1890

ANSTY IN 1886 Things to note:

1 Follow the line of 1s and this may have been one of the various routes to Wardour School where catholic pupils from Ansty would attend – through 12 Acre copse, then the Wardour Estate to the school on the Semley-Tisbury road. A journey (there and back) of about 5 miles. An alternative route might be via

Ansty Coombe, through Park Gate and past Old and New Wardour Castle to the school.

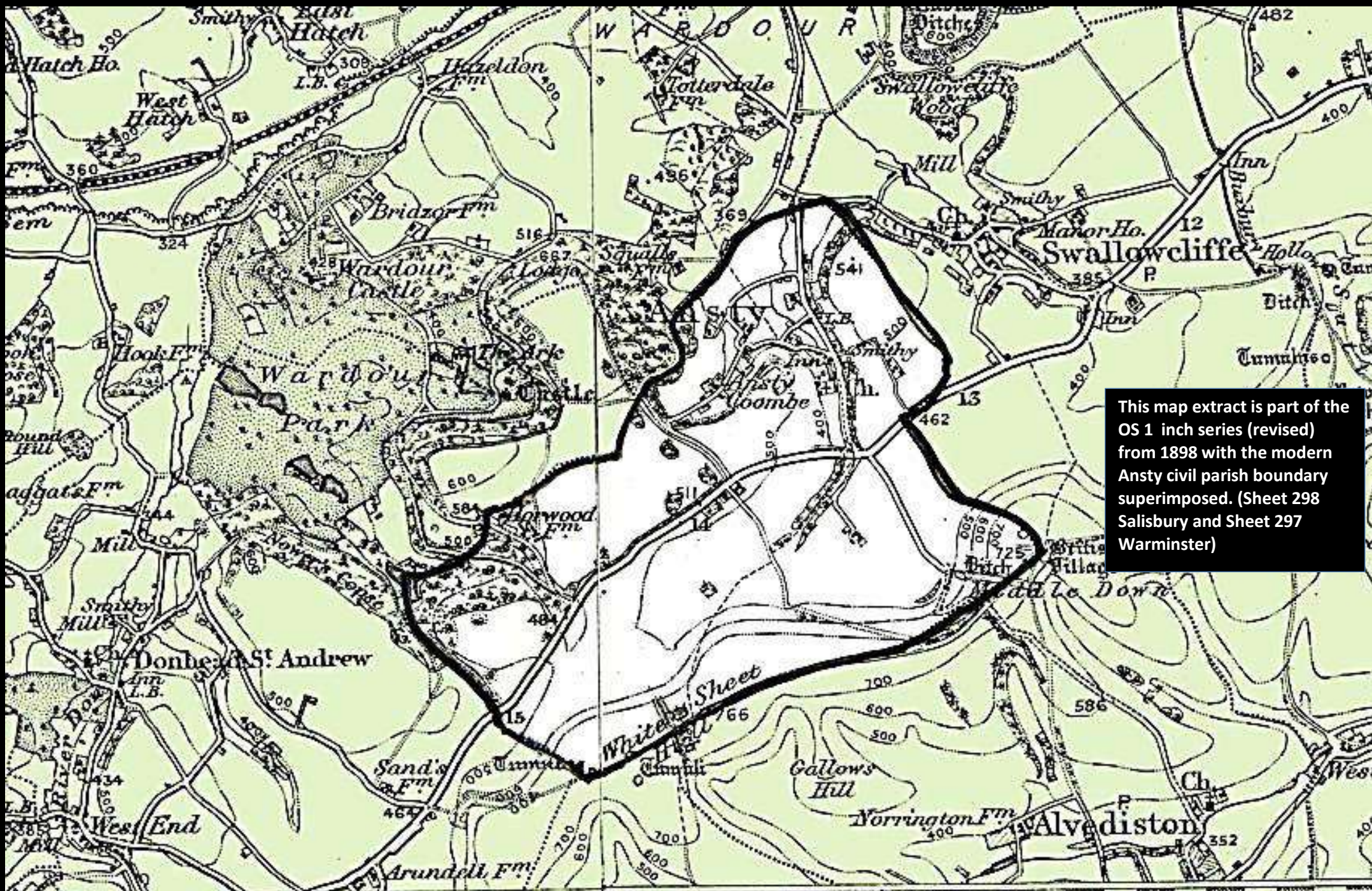
Park Gate was the original entrance into the medieval Old Wardour Castle deer park.

2 King's Lane, formerly Ring's Lane
3 Lower Farm was a large 364 acre farm in 1838 but by 1892 had lost its identity
4 Cholden/Choulden Hill or Calves Down

5 Frogpond (small farm holding)
6 Blind Lane – very old sunken lane
7 Macey's Cottage
8 Hillside Farm and Stables
9 Water meadows once belonging to Ansty Farm around 1834
10 Gore Copse said to contain interments from Civil War
11 Arundell Arms Inn in 1886 became Maypole Inn. Closed in 1973

12 Ansty Manor Farm; called Higher Farm in 1838. Current house built 16C
13 Ansty Anglican Church; first built 1230; dedicated St James 1763
14 Ansty Pond former fish pond
15 The Commandery - part of a group of buildings which once housed a Commandery of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.
16 Footpath to Swallowcliffe village

17 The site of former animal pound
18 Original track connecting medieval field systems with drove routes over Downs
19 Once a poor boggy route known as the 'Summer Herepath' Became main turnpike route from Salisbury to Shaftesbury in early 19th C, Now known as A 30 since 1921.
20. Bridle Road to Swallowcliffe Down



This map extract is part of the OS 1 inch series (revised) from 1898 with the modern Ansty civil parish boundary superimposed. (Sheet 298 Salisbury and Sheet 297 Warminster)