

G L O S S A R Y *

ALDER: *Alnus glutinosa*. Tree favouring moist or marshy habitat.

ALDER CARR: 'a wood of Alders' (Rackham). See CARR. 'Alnet(um)' in medieval Latin Extents.

ALLENS: also OLLAND, corruption of 'Old Lands' suggests land which has long been tilled. 'Land' anciently referred to arable as distinct from pasture or meadow. (? Could also be land once used for arable and then subsequently down to pasture).

ALLOTMENTS: small portion of land let to local residents with little or no land of their own, for the cultivation of vegetables and/or fruit. 1819 Act empowered Churchwardens and Overseers, with consent from the vestry, to buy or rent land and let it in portions to 'poor and industrious' inhabitants of the parish. There have been several amendments to the Act since then, but allotments may still be rented from local councils. In the nineteenth century some estate owners, as at Helmingham, provided plots (allotments) for their labourers to encourage self-sufficiency. 'Allotment' also the term used in enclosure awards when referring to the land allocated to individuals under the award.

BACKHOUSE/BÄCKHUS: 'Backhus, the kitchen or scullery of the farm house' (Claxton), therefore a field lying behind the farmhouse and the service buildings.

BELT: long narrow strip of trees usually designed to shelter light soil from prevailing wind.

BOTTOM: low land; lowest part of a valley.

BREAKUP/BROKEUP: see NEW BROKE UP.

BRICKELL(S)/BRICKLE/BRITTLE: all forms of Brick Kell, i.e. BRICK KILN. See KILN/KELL. Pre C18 bricks were locally made. In many places, especially on estates, this continued well into the C19.

BROOM: *Cytisus scoparius*. Yellow flowered bush. Habitat sandy soil.

BULLACE/BULLICE: *Prunus insititia*, a type of wild plum.

BURROW: fox or rabbit hole.

BUSH/BUSHY: area of densely growing shrubs, usually thorns and briars. Suffolk dialect word for thorn (Claxton).

BUTTS: 1. 'Land, formerly the irregular shaped end pieces of a common field' (Field); 2. Headland where the plough is turned. 3. In some cases it may have been a field set apart for the practice of archery or shooting, compulsory under old statutes when there was a threat of war, or an army was being called up for foreign service.

CAMP/CAMPING: a playing field. For a description of 'camping', an early form of football, see Moor, 'Suffolk Words & Phrases' pp 63 to 66. Camping fields are now known to be places of general entertainment.

N.B. It has also been found to be a corruption of the family name Kemp(e).

CANGLE: see KANGLE.

CARNSEY/CAUSEY: causeway; a pavement or raised footpath, possibly therefore a field near a stream or in a damp place.

CARR/CARRE: 'boggy land, ON Kjarr' (Field). 'Waste boggy ground or wood in boggy place'. (Cl8 Dictionary). See also ALDER and ALDER CARR. A carr can be made up of other damp-loving bushes and trees other than alder.

CLOSE: a hedged or fenced piece of land; an enclosure. Enclosures in Suffolk have come about piecemeal. Some have existed since at least the Cl3. None of the parishes covered by this survey were affected by parliamentary enclosure Acts of the late 18th century and early 19th century.

COMMON: land belonging to a community where certain inhabitants of a village had rights and privileges such as grazing and collecting gorse, heather or brushwood.

CONEY: rabbit - from ME conī, coninger, rabbit warren. (See WARREN). 'Originally the normal name for the animal, rabbit being applied only to the young' (Field).

CONIFER: seems sometimes to be a corruption of 'cony furrow' (rabbit burrow - see CONEY above) rather than a reference to coniferous trees.

COPPA/COPPLAND/COPPE: Field coming into a point at one end. 'A piece of ground into which the rest of the land in a furlong do shoot (join). Coppa, cock of corn, hay or grass, divided into portions fit to be tythed. Coppe, the end of a thing - Chaucer' (18th century dictionary).

COPPERAS: 'A name given from early times to sulphates of copper, iron and zinc. In English use now exclusively to green copperas or ferrous sulphate (FeSo₄) also called green vitriol, used in dyeing, tanning and making ink' (Shorter Oxford Dictionary). Nodules of this are known to have been collected along the shore of the Stour in the Cl9, hence Copperas Bay, but there is no knowledge of finding the nodules in this area. Possibly a corruption of COPPA (above) or COPPICE below where it occurs as a fieldname, e.g. Loudham.

COPPICE: trees grown for underwood cropping - coppicing. Cut at certain intervals, e.g. 7, 15 or 20 years, to ground level leaving a 'stool' from which the new growth comes. The resulting poles used for firewood, implement handles, fence posts, etc. A centuries old method of woodland management.

COPROLITE: phosphate nodules found in the Suffolk and Essex crag from which was produced the first artificial fertiliser. Named Coprolite (literally 'stone dung') because it was originally thought to be fossilised dinosaur dung.

COPYHOLD: property held of a manor by 'copy of court roll', for which a 'copyhold rent' had to be paid annually and a 'fine' for a new admission. Copyhold tenure was abolished in 1926.

COVERT/COVER: a small plantation giving 'cover' for game birds. Cover, thicket hiding game.

CRAG: see MARL.

CROFT: a small enclosure usually adjoining a house for pasture or cultivation, 'Any enclosure' (Halliwell).

DECOY: a stretch of water, often artificially constructed, into which wild ducks were enticed and then caught in a system of netting tubes. Nowadays decoys are not used for supplying food but by licensed bird ringers for conservation purposes.

DOLE/DOOL: 'a boundary mark in an unenclosed field a doole post' (Moore). An unfenced piece in a larger field; a share in a common meadow.

DOVEHOUSE: land which contained or was next to a dovehouse. The doves were a source of food for the Manor House or Hall so the buildings were often substantial.

DRIFT: a track leading to fields; a track along which cattle were driven; 'A cartway along an enclosed slip of land' (Rye). Generally a road not kept in repair by the parish (or other authority).

FEN/FENN: marsh land; water meadows, q.v.

FIELD: a piece of ground used for tillage. Originally referred to the areas of open country which the early Saxon settlers found already cleared of shrubs and trees (feld). This can be seen in settlement names such as Bredfield - a 'broad field' (see Suffolk Landscape, pl84, Norman Scarfe). With the cultivation of these areas the word came to mean the unenclosed land used for strip cultivation; now, usually, land bounded by hedge or fence and/or ditch.

FRIDAY STREET: a name which occurs in Monewden, Cretingham, Brandeston and Rendlesham in this survey, and at other places in East Suffolk, e.g. Benhall. So far there is no satisfactory explanation for this name. They are usually ancient green lanes.

FURLONG: a section of an open field; a strip of ploughed land, a furrow length, a group of strips in an open field.

FURROW/FARROW: a trench or drain to carry water; the shallow trench left along the line of exposed earth turned over by the plough. Farrow, usually a corruption of furrow. In rare cases could refer to a field where sows had their litters?

FURZE: *Ulex europaeus* - gorse. A field name found in heathland areas. Gorse was a source of fuel. See WHIN.

GATE: 'A way, path, street or road' (Halliwell). ON Gata. Can also be used for landing place on river. George Arnott suggests (see The Place-names of the Deben Valley Parishes (1946) p xv) that this is from OE geat, a gate.

GLEBE: land forming part of an incumbent's benefice, tilled by him or rented out. Nowadays much of it has been sold off to neighbouring farmers.

GREEN: a piece of public or common land, varying in size. In the area of this survey often to be found at the junction of several roads where there are wide grassy verges. (See also WASTE). Also subsidiary settlement to main village, the open grassland being surrounded by houses which often front onto the green with their own land behind.

GRIP/GRYPE/GROOP: A small open drain; a method of draining. 'Groop (oo as in foot) - an open channel for carrying of water as from the road through the verge to a ditch, ON Grop' (Claxton).

GROVE: a small wood or group of trees, OE Graf. Sometimes occurs as 'grave'.

GULL: 'a drainage ditch, ME Goule' (Field). 'A deep channel made by a stream' (Claxton). 'A breach in the bank of a river; a path locally running at the bottom of a narrow valley or along the foot of a steep bank' (18th century Dictionary).

HA HA/HAW HAW: a deep ditch and bank on the edge of a garden to separate it from a surrounding deer park and to prevent deer from getting into the garden.

HALE: a small corner of land. 'Land on a secluded nook OE Halh' (Field).

HALL: 'Land attached to the hall, the property of the Lord of the Manor' (Field). Sometimes found to be a corruption of HALE, above or HAUGH, below.

HARROW: three cornered piece of land, shaped like a medieval triangular harrow.

HAUGH/HAW/HOO/HUGH: 1. A steep ridge; the end of a ridge where the land falls away; a burial or natural mound. 2. An enclosed piece of land. Some examples in this survey refer to woodland enclosed by a ditch and bank. N.B. Haughfen, a family name in the Woodbridge area during 16th century. Has been corrupted to Awfens, Orphans and now Office, see Eyke place names.

HAVEN/HAFEN: half meadow; but could also be a corruption from the Latin 'avena' oats, as HAVERS below.

HAVERS/HAVERLAND/HOVELAND: oats; land on which they had been grown. See also HAFEN above.

HAWSIES: fruit of the hawthorn, haws.

HEMPLAND: a small plot for the cultivation of hemp, in accordance with the statutes of 1533 and 1563; by extension can also refer to any small plot especially one by a dwelling. (Cannabar(ium) in medieval Latin extents).

HERN: sharp angular field, a nook or corner.

HOLE/HOLT: a grove or copse; HOLE also used for a low lying area.

HOLME/HAULM: water meadows, riverside ground, but sometimes refers to 'higher ground amid marshes' (Field).

HONEYLANDS/HONEYPOT etc: possibly area of sticky clay; field where beehives were kept (especially if it is a small area) or productive land - 'flowing with milk and honey' (Field).

HOP GROUND/YARD: land where hops were grown. Like Hempland it was sometimes a small area of previously waste land near the homestead. Humulus lupulus was introduced into England in the 16th century from Flanders. It is used to season beer and give it a bitter flavour.

KANGLE/KANGELL: fenced enclosure, also CANGLE.

KILN/KELL: a furnace for lime burning, brick making or malt or hop drying. In this survey it usually refers to there having been a brick kiln in or near the field. See BRICKELL.

KNOLL/KNOWL: hillock, OE Cnoll. The top of a hill. The word is also used locally for the patch of grassland left in the centre of converging roads.

LAIID/LAYD: see LAY/LEY, also NEWLAID.

LAMPIT: see PIT.

LAUND(E)/LAWN: "a compartment within a park having few trees' (Rackham). 'A great Plain in a Park' (18th century Dictionary). PLANE: 'part of a forest having few or no trees' (Rackham). The laund could also extend beyond the bank and ditch boundary of the park.

LAY/LEY: temporary grassland sown after arable; 'land left fallow and allowed to revert to pasture to provide grazing'. (Taylor). Now also clover sown with the corn crop but left to grow on after harvest.

LEA/LEYS: meadow land, see MEADOW.

LIGHT: a long, narrow, tree bordered clearing giving a vista in landscaped parks of the 17th to 19th centuries.

LODGE: a small house at the entrance to a park or grounds belonging to a mansion; a house in a deer park which was temporarily occupied during the hunting season. Also used for farm buildings e.g. cartlodge, haylodge.

LUCERNE: *Medicago sativa*, purple medick. First cultivated in England as a fodder crop in the 17th century. Known also as Alfalfa.

MANOR: originally a feudal territorial and economic unit (England). The Lord of the Manor could exact certain rents and days of work from those living within it. Customs, rights and obligations varied in different manors. By 18th and 19th century it often referred to 'a seat or dwelling' (Halliwell), a large house central to an estate.

MARKET: land next to a way leading to Market; or a form of Mark (OE Mearc), land on a boundary. Some Market Closes and Fields in this survey are on boundaries.

MARKLANDS: land on boundary.

MARL: Clay or chalky clay used to 'improve' the land, especially light land. In his 'General View of the Agriculture of the County of Suffolk (1813) p.186 - 194, Arthur Young writes of its use and value as a manure, and of Crag (Shell Marl), which he felt was only 'good for once'.

MARSH: boggy land - OE Mersc.

MEAD/MEADOW: permanent grassland kept for mowing hay - see PASTURE.

MEAR/MEER: boundary, land by a boundary, OE (ge)maere. Meresmen looked after and marked parish boundaries. Meering 'the act of surveying ... and agreeing, on the ground, the true legal boundary' (Ordnance Survey). Sometimes spelt MERE.

MERE: a lake, pool or pond. Often spelt as, and confused with the above. Check with map or on the ground.

MESSUAGE: a dwelling house with or without its outbuildings and adjoining yards and sometimes including a garden and orchard.

MILL/MELL: many of the villages on the River Deben had water mills, some of which are mentioned in Domesday Book; as well as numerous windmills after their introduction in the 13th century.

MILL LEAT: water course diverting water from a river to a mill and flowing on back to the river a little lower down stream.

MOOR: wasteland, OE *Mor*, 'In Suffolk any uninclosed land' (Halliwell).

NEATHOUSE/NETTUS: cow-house, byre.

NEW BROKE UP: land (pasture, waste or heath) lately ploughed up, i.e. when it was so named. See NEWLANDS.

NEW LAID/NEW LAY: land newly tilled and sown with grass for pasture. (see LAY) It is also used in another sense for 'new made' e.g. New Laid Pit or New Laid Pond, newly dug out.

NEWLANDS: land which had, when originally named, been recently enclosed or recently tilled, c.f. ALLENS.

NOWLEY: see KNOLL/KNOWL.

NURSERY: place where young trees are raised. Sometimes refers to a very young plantation.

OFF BARN: barn situated well away from farm house and main buildings.

OFF HAND: 'a man holding a second farm on which he does not reside is said to farm it off hand - Suffolk' (Halliwell).

OFFICE: such fields are usually near a building associated with an agricultural industry carried out in a small way on the farm, hence Potash Office, Malt Office. Nowadays the name can also refer to the farm office of an estate. See Letheringham.

OLLANDS: see ALLENS.

OSIER: *Salix viminalis*, the osier willow, see below.

OSIER GROUND: marshy areas where plantations of osiers were grown. They were coppiced to produce a large quantity of new pliable stems used in basket making and other wicker work.

PACKWAY/PACKFIELD: a packway was the direct route between market towns and/or ports, thus name given to a field next to a track used by pack horses. Many of these are now parts of the modern road system, others survive as footpaths and bridleways.

PADDOCK: grass enclosure, OE *pearroc*.

PALE: 'fence, often used for deer-proof fence round park' (Rackham). 'A ditch or trench a limit or boundary' (Halliwell).

PARK: Area of land, partly wood pasture, enclosed by a ditch and bank and perhaps topped with a pale (fence) or thorn hedge, intended for keeping deer for hunting; (see Rackham, *Trees & Woodland in the British Landscape*, 1976, Chapter 8 for a fuller description). Later, 18th and 19th century pleasure grounds laid out with avenues, ornamental lakes and lawns, surrounding country houses. Deer were often kept but were for ornamental purposes. Deer hunting as a source of meat declined after the 17th century.

PARTIBLE: land shared by more than one owner or parish, e.g. a gravel pit. Also that which involves partition of inheritance e.g. land split between several sons.

PASTURE: grass field for grazing, ME pasture. cf MEADOW.

PIECE: originally small section of much larger field, but usually used instead of 'field', often when it is next to something specific, e.g. Dovehouse Piece, Shop Piece.

PIGHTLE/PIGHTELL/PIKLE: a small enclosure.

PIT: there were numerous clay, gravel and sand pits in the area. Clay for brick making, gravel for the roads in pre-tarmac days and sand for building. They were an important part of parish economy. Churchwardens and surveyors' accounts abound with items such as 'Layd out to Mr. Marriott for gravel for the wayes - 0 2.8; for two loads of sand 0.4.0; Paid to Thomas Sarles for digging clay - 0.8.0' (Bredfield 1656/7 FC 27//1/2) Many are now overgrown with brambles and bushes, some survive as ponds and others have been filled in with rubbish and covered with top soil so that the name only is left. Some other prefixes are marl, crag (see MARL) and LAM or LOOM meaning 'loam diggings, OE Lam pytt' (Field), loam being clay for brickmaking.

PLANTATION: a stand of planted trees or bushes (not an orchard).

POLLARD: tree which is cropped by regular cutting back at branch level, leaving the trunk and encouraging new growth from the crown.

POORHOUSE: field by the Town or Poor House; land which once belonged to it. Many villages set aside a house for the indigent poor and homeless after the 1601 Poor Law - these were forerunners of the C19 Workhouses set up to serve a Union of Parishes after the 1834 Poor Law .

POPPLE: Suffolk dialect word for poplar tree.

POTASH: crude potassium carbonate obtained by percolating water through vegetable ashes to separate the soluble from the insoluble. The solution was then evaporated in iron pots (hence the name) and when dry used as a fertilizer.

POUND: an enclosure for stray animals. Each village had a manorial pound in the middle ages.

PRIVY: earth closet or 'outside' lavatory.

PROCESSION/SESSIONS: field on a boundary. Refers to the procession round the boundary at Rogation time to check the marks and make villagers conversant with the extent of the parish - important when rates had to be exacted, and spent, within those limits.

QUILL: wooden pipe which carries the water of a ditch or stream under the bed of a river. In a deed dated 1846 the Rev. Ellis Walford of Dallinghoo was paid £4 annually for permission to lay 'a quill or water course' across his estate at Hoo 'thro' the river there' for the 'purpose of draining some portion of the estate of Septimus Worrell', which was in Kettleburgh on the other side of the Deben. (SRO (I) Austin family archives 50/18/10.2 (2)).

READING/REEDING/REEDLANDS/RIDINGS: usually refers to cleared woodland or a clearing in a wood. 'Reed, a very small wood; East' (Halliwell). Could refer to marshy reed-growing land if near a water course (check location). Confusion arises because the late cleared woodlands were often those left on the clay covered, waterlogged, higher plateau lands. Unless well ditched and drained after clearing they continued to be wet and grow water-loving plants. Reedland can also refer to beds of Norfolk reed grown beside rivers for thatching.

ROOKYARD: these are usually stackyards or small pieces of land by farm buildings. As small groups of trees were able to grow round these uncultivated spots unchecked they, presumably, were often colonised by rooks. Rookyards were deliberately encouraged in medieval times as an additional meat supply.

ROW: a hedge, an abbreviation of hedge row. Also row of trees.

ROWEN: 'rowens, after grass - Suffolk' (Halliwell), aftermath of mown meadows or rough pasture full of stubble and weeds' (18th century Dictionary), 'rough arable or grass land, OE ruh' (Field).

SALLOW: *Salix caprea*, pussy willow or *Salix atrocinerea*, common willow. Both sources of 'palm' for Easter Sunday.

SHEEPWALK: an unfenced tract of land for pasturing sheep. In this survey they are mainly to be found on the old heaths. 'Walk, unenclosed land' (Halliwell).

SESSIONS: see PROCESSION.

SHOOT/SHOTTING/SHOT: 'division of a common field' (Field). 'Shot - part or portion' (18th century Dictionary); 'shot ends'; irregular pieces of land at the edge of a furlong.

SKIRTS/SKIRTINGS/SKUTS: land on a boundary. It can refer to land on a farm boundary, the edge of a clearing, the edge of a river or stream or the parish boundary.

SPINNEY: 'a small wood which originally consisted of thorns; Latin *spinae*' (Rackham), or was contained by (fenced with) thorn hedges.

SPONG/SPONGUE: long narrow strip of land. Rye suggests 'such as a strong active fellow might clear in a spang or leap'. 'Spang, a spring or jump' - (Halliwell).

SPRING: though this may refer to land containing a well or the source of a stream it often refers to the area of a small wood. 'A young wood; a young tree. Still used in Suffolk' (Halliwell). 'A young live fencing of white thorn - also called quick' (Claxton). 'Regrowth of underwood often used as a synonym of coppice' (Rackham).

STEAD: the site of a building; the land on which the building stands - farm stead, mill steading - 'a farm house and offices' (Halliwell).

STEBBING/STUBBING: ground cleared of woodland. Stub: to dig up by the roots.

STOCK: land cleared of tree stumps - old woodland.

STONE HORSE: stallion, hence Suffolk dialect 'stoona' (Claxton). Woodbridge Burial Register SRO(I) (FC 25/D1/2) '8 November 1661 - John Yonges slain by a stone horse'.

STREET: usually land next to the street rather than once being part of a street, 'Land by a Roman road; OE *stræt*' (Field).

SWALE/SWAILE/SWALEY: meadow land, especially in marshy area; a hollow, low place. Also, the Oxford Dictionary gives it as an East Anglian word in use in 1440 meaning shade or a shady place. Locally, undulating land.

TENEMENT: 'that which may be held', a 'holding,'originally a house and/or land, later just a house. (Latin *tenementum*, from *tenere*, to hold).

THICKS: 'a thicket' (Halliwell). 'Grove or wood with thick underwood. Ufford Thicks is a well known game preserve near Woodbridge. We never, I think, use the word in the singular' (Moor).

TOFT: homestead, or an enclosure or field where one once stood.

TOWNLANDS: land, usually willed to the parish, the rent from which was used as directed in the will, often specifically for the poor.

TREVERS/TREVIS/TREVELS: road crossing. Possibly field next to the blacksmiths' Travis where horses were shod.

TUSSOCK: coarse grass, hillocks or grass or sedge.

TWITCH: *Agropyron repens* - couch grass.

TYE: a green or common. 'An extensive common pasture' (Halliwell).

WALK: unenclosed pasture. See SHEEPWALK.

WARREN: land where rabbits breed. Warrens were deliberately set up in sandy parts of estates as a source of food. A field of this name may also refer to an area where they have spread naturally.

WASTE: uncultivated pieces of land, sometimes along wide road verges or at road junctions, used for common pasture. From the 12th century the Lord of the Manor was generally accepted as the owner and their use was controlled by the Manor Courts. In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century many of these pieces were built on by squatters.

WATER MEADOWS: meadows by a river, often flooded at times of high rainfall, usually cut across by drainage channels, which were artificially flooded in spring to provide an early and rich crop of grass.

WENT: 'a course, path, way or passage' (Shorter Oxford English Dictionary), 'a cross-way; a passage, a furlong of land' (Halliwell). A field in which or by which there is a path or a small part of a field separated from the rest by a road or path.

WHIN/WHINNEY: gorse, q.v., ON *hrin*; furze.

WHITMORE/WHITEMORE/WHITEMERE: OE *Hwita* - white - light soil, or *wiht* - small. OE *Mor* - tract of open waste ground or mere/meer, boundary. Each site bearing this name must be judged by observation, but could come from personal name.

WINDING/WINDERS: refers to a curving and usually narrow piece of land.

WRANG/WRANGLE/WRANGLETONS: crooked piece of land. 'Old law term, mis-grown; Trees that will never prove timber' (18th century Dictionary) - because they are crooked.

YARD: OE geard, Dutch gaard, German garten - enclosure, courtyard. Land by a house or other building. Now associated with farm-yard (the area immediately round the sheds and barns) or back yard, (the utility area at the back door of a house). Halliwell refers to a yard as, 'In Suffolk a garden, especially a cottage garden'. In many parts of the United States a garden is still referred to as a yard.

ON Old Norse
OE Old English
ME Middle English

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