

*Life in
Ecchinswell and Sydmonton
in the Sixteenth Century*

*A study of two North Hampshire Parishes based
mainly on Wills and Inventories*



*by
Rosemary Leamon*

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Measurements

640 acres	=	1 square mile
4 roods	=	1 acre
40 square rods, poles, perches	=	1 rood
1 square rod, pole or perch	=	30¼ square yards
1 rod, pole or perch	=	5½ yards (5.1292 metres)

To convert acres to hectares multiply by 0.4047

Cover photograph of ancient track, which linked
Ecchinswell Village to the meadow; taken in April
1988 by the Author.

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1995 © Rosemary Leamon
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Rosemary Leamon

INTRODUCTION

The two rural parishes of Ecchinswell and Sydmonton were chosen for research into the development of their historic landscape because of the wealth of maps and documents available, especially those of the Bishopric of Winchester for the manor of Ecchinswell which had been in their hands since before the Domesday Survey. By the sixteenth century the manor was leased to a firmarius. Another landholder in the latter parish was Winchester College. At the time of The Tithe Award of 1846 Winchester College held the same lands, that is 2.8% of the land area, The Hospital of St Cross 37%, and 45 other owners the remaining areas.

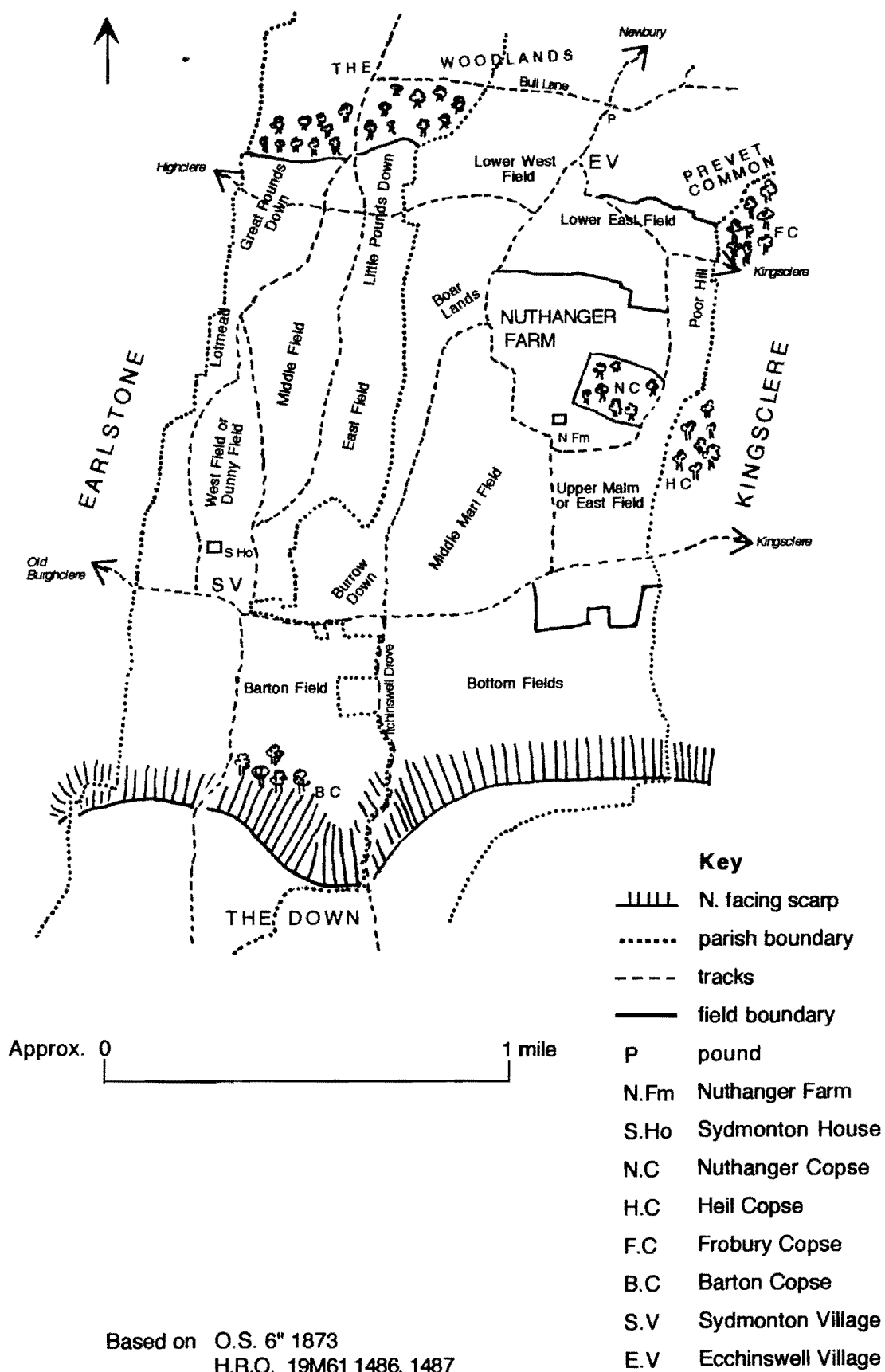
Sydmonton was part of the endowment of Romsey Abbey until the Dissolution when in 1539 it was granted to a branch of the Kingsmill family who held it until recently. After the sale of Sydmonton Court and its accompanying estate the Kingsmill documents were deposited in Hampshire Record Office (H.R.O.).

Equally important was the proximity of these places for fieldwork.

After working backwards from 1900 to 1600 it was decided to transcribe the run of wills and inventories for the sixteenth century held at H.R.O. As this present study is an offshoot from the main aim no attempt has been made to obtain wills and inventories from other sources but supportive information from other sixteenth century documents which cast light on farming and settlement has been incorporated.

From the wills it can be seen that kinship and friendship, the same minister for their chapels, dependency on the mother church of Kingsclere, bequests to repair both chapels linked the inhabitants; leases show land rented in either tything. Sydmonton seemed to look east rather than west to the neighbouring liberty of Earlstone or beyond to the manor of Burghclere. A map of 1753 shows the common fields of both tythings as does the eighteenth century terrier of their woodlands. In 1852 was instituted the civil parish of Ecchinswell with Sydmonton, thus separated from Kingsclere, and in 1887 the new church of St Lawrence became the parish church.

OPEN FIELDS



PHYSICAL LANDSCAPE AND LAND USE

Ecchinswell (previously Itchingswell) and Sydmonton are adjacent parallel strip parishes approximately 6 miles in length. They are bounded on the north by a tributary of the R. Kennet previously called the R. Albourne, now Enborne, which is also along this stretch the county boundary between Berkshire and Hampshire. The Roman road, the Portway, running from Calleva (Silchester) south west towards Andover is the southern boundary. Each parish is about about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile wide, their common border following no particular physical landmarks, and the few demarcating trees have all but gone; the outermost boundaries of each follow small right bank tributaries of the Enborne. These boundaries are as stated in the Anglo Saxon charter bounds and on all maps up to the nineteenth century, when the parishes were amalgamated.

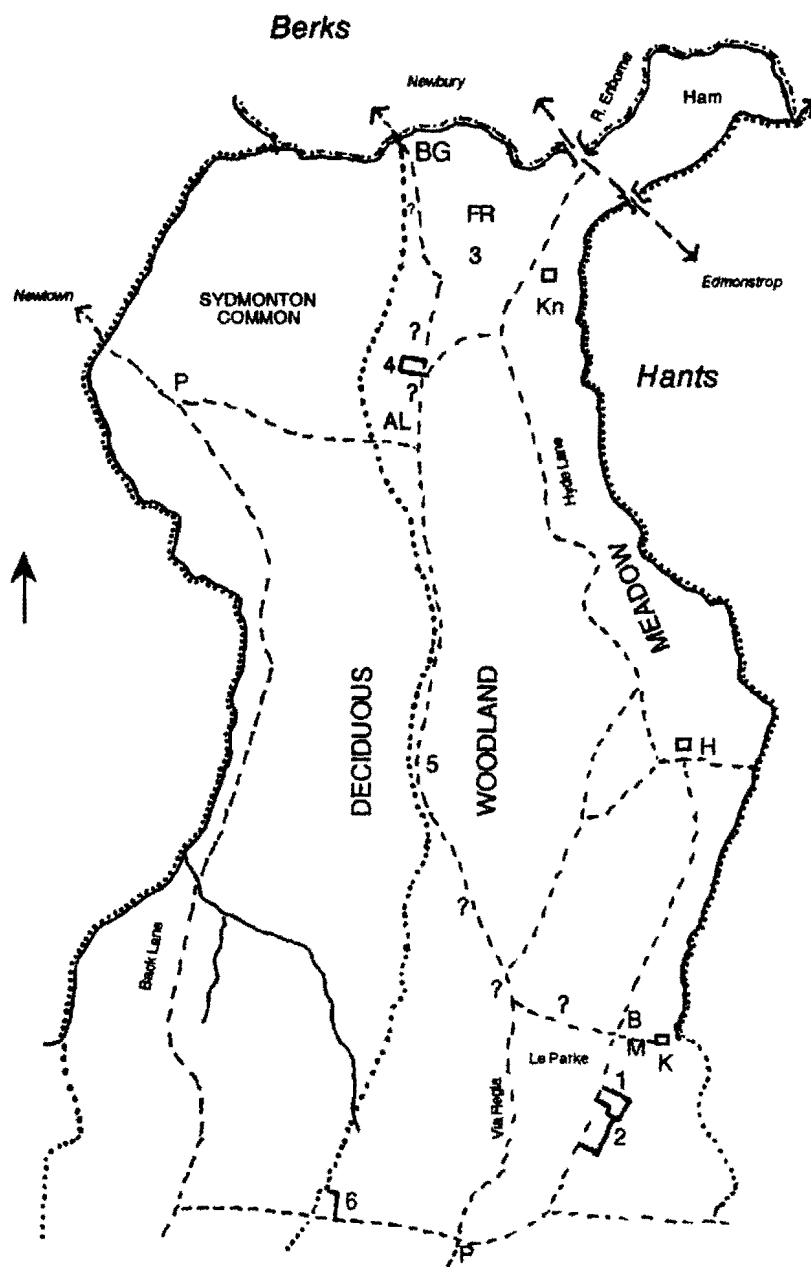
The geology has affected the relief, drainage, soils and subsequent land use in common with other similar strip parishes. The area of the chalk dip slope and north facing scarp in the south, comprising roughly a third of each manor, provided the huge pastoral area for sheep and draught animals. The firmarius of Ecchinswell was allowed up to 400 sheep most of which were wethers which produce thick fleeces suitable for spinning and weaving. A lease in the Kingsmill documents for 1643 (19M61/486) states an individual has "common of pasture for 240 sheep, according to the proportion of 80 sheep per yardland", and, as they were probably unploughed, the sixteenth century inhabitants would have walked over the remains of the Celtic Fields and the rabbit warrens. The latter are referred to in the Pipe Rolls and the Kingsmill papers, and appear in present place names such as Ashley Warren Farm.

At the foot of the scarp on the fertile soils of the weathered Upper Greensand, a malmstone exposed by erosion of the Kingsclere pericline, lay the common fields. The accompanying Map 1 shows their names and extent as they were at the time of the 1753 map (19M61/1486). Ecchinswell open field names reflect the soil type. For the Sydmonton section no strips are shown and the area was poorly surveyed but the fields are named.

Happily the surveyors for Ecchinswell drew each strip meticulously using the $16\frac{1}{2}$ foot pole at the scale of 16 poles to the inch. The size of each strip, labelled as $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1 acre but sometimes up to 4 acres, and even a block of 6 acres for Hyde Farm, was written on each together with the name of the holder. In reality, however, after centuries of ploughing, the strips were probably of varying sizes. The measurement on the ground was done with a pole called a lugg $16\frac{1}{2}$ feet long and in his barn Bever (50) had "dry luggs". Confirmation that this length was used in the area is given in a Kingsmill lease for 1643 (19M61/503) where there is reference to a parcel of arable in the great South Field, "measured at $16\frac{1}{2}$ feet to the lugg", locating it adjacent to "a great linch or ley bank". There are no signs of these strips today. On the map of 1753 no total acreage was given for the common fields of Sydmonton but the total for the Ecchinswell common fields was given as 517 acres.

The northern steeply dipping limb of the anticline exposes the chalk, used for quarries, and the less fertile Upper Chalk outcrop gives rise to the place names Poor Hill and Nothing Hill. It forms a low W-E ridge, about 20 m. above the open fields, and in a sheltered site at the head of a north facing small dry valley lies the grange farm of Nuthanger still on Upper Greensand. This ridge lies further north in Sydmonton and Earlsstone and, shown only on the 1st Ed O.S., was a windmill (G.R.approx.485594) on the border between these two tythings; no documentary evidence for a mill

The Woodlands



Key

- County boundary
- Parish boundary
- - - Tracks

- Kn Knightsbridge
- H Hyde Farm
- K Kisby's
- P Pound

- B.M Broad Marsh
- B.G Bishops Green
- FR Frithlond
- AL Ashlands

- 1 Drakesmead
- 2 Deme
- 3 Maskells
- 4 Farmore
- 5 Broke Mead
- 6 Westmede
- ? Possible dwelling sites

Based on: O.S. 6" 1873
H.R.O. Ecchinswell Enclosure & Tithe Maps.
Fieldwork

has otherwise been found for Sydmonton. The field name of Great Pounds Down suggests there was once an enclosure here. The Dunny name may be an adjective deriving from O.E. "dun" meaning a down or hill which is apposite for this field. (However this is pure supposition as no earlier names are available).

Sydmonton House and its erstwhile village, however, lie on a spring line whose water still feeds fish ponds. The village of Ecchinswell lies just over half a mile to the north of Nuthanger on a spring line marked by various ponds whence flows a stream that powered the mill.(Maps 3&4)

Here is the southern boundary of the third major land use area named on the maps as the Woodlands.(Map 2). The deciduous trees, underwood, pollarded and coppiced trees, whose cutting was strictly controlled, were an important renewable resource. Tenants were allowed to cut wood for hedging and fencing, repairs, fuel, agricultural tools etc.; oak, ash, elm, alder, hazel for example had their different uses. Activity would have been greatest in the autumn and winter after harvesting.

The trees grow on the Reading Beds and sticky soils of the London Clay outcrop, suitable for making bricks, or on gravels deriving from the Lower Bagshot Beds, resulting in field names like "Gravelly Close". From these woodlands were cut the closes, the "breaches", enlarged over the centuries, and whose names changed making it difficult to locate all but a few of the sixteenth century closes; about 40 names have been culled from leases. Nineteenth century maps retain the shapes of a few older fields suggesting that some at least of the medieval to sixteenth century tofts and messuages were dispersed on or near the Back Lane north from Sydmonton, the Via Regia north to Newbury, and Hyde Lane. Certainly there were small tenements in the extreme north on the flanks of Sydmonton Common, an infertile area of Plateau Gravels, and in Bishop's Green; these were the small plots taken from the "waste soil" of the lord, the purpresture parts of an acre for pasture and probably pig pannage in the marsh and groves south of the R.Enborne on the Valley and River Gravels, and alluvium.

The long established water meadows bordering the streams rising from the scarp foot springs provided important grazing and hay. Near Kisby's was Broad Marsh, called Bishop's Marsh and Great Marsh by the nineteenth century, where it is still wet and in pasture. The area called Privet had long been important to the villagers for grazing. In Sydmonton, which did not have the extensive water meadows associated with Ecchinswell, was a Lot Mead which means that the tenants' portions were allocated by lot and then marked on the ground by various means.

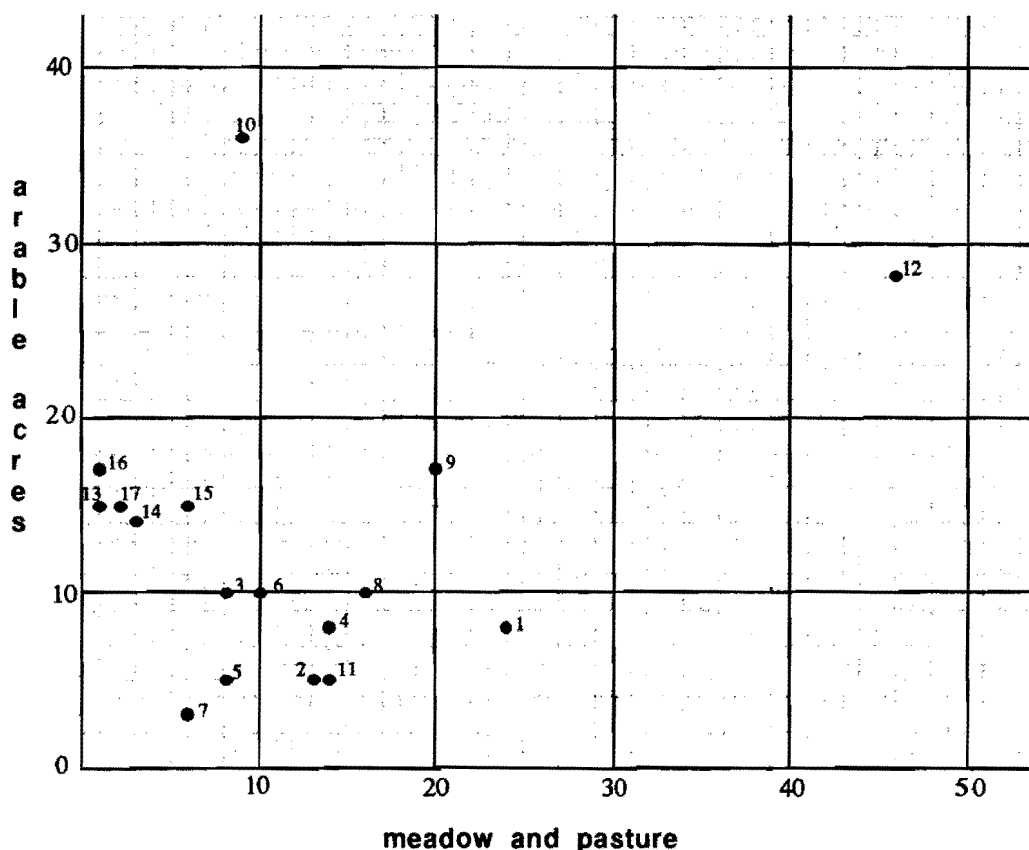
The Chronological List at the end of the text lists the testators.

FARMING

Under their leases the people had a dwelling and varying amounts of land usually located in each of the above areas of land use but because a block term is mainly used such as a cote of bondland or 2 acres of purpresture it is not possible to deduce either the whereabouts of the land or the use to which it was put. Partly because fallow is omitted from the inventories, it is impossible to deduce much from them about the acreages or to equate them with those in the leases. It is probably preferable, therefore, to use the Royal Purveyance (RP) of 1575 to give an overall picture at a specific date. According to the RP there were 22 tenants of land in Sydmonton and 31 in Ecchinswell, including the firmarius. The differences within and between the two manors can be seen on the scatter graphs.

ROYAL PURVEYANCE

Sydmonton 1575

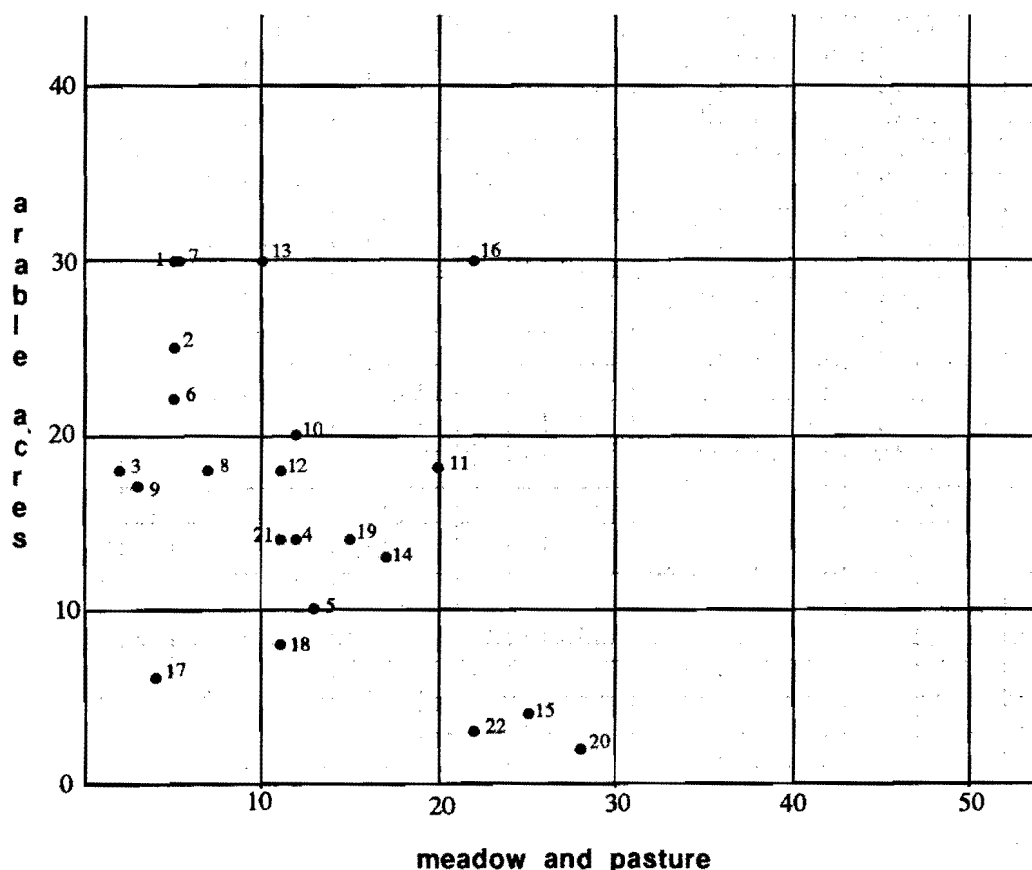


Key

- 1 John Harding
- 2 John Millett
- 3 John Knowle
- 4 Alice Nutt
- 5 Richard Rowland
- 6 Thos. Mason
- 7 Edmund Mason
- 8 Henry Boyer
- 9 John Mason
- 10 Thos. Mason
- 11 Walter Salter
- 12 Cambers
- 13 John Josye
- 14 William Sanders
- 15 John Wallis
- 16 Steph. Dancastle
- 17 Richard Wallis

(excluded are holdings not recorded in acres, or without pasture)

Ecchinswell 1575



Key

- 1 John Bever
- 2 Peter Rowland
- 3 John Young
- 4 John Benham & Henry Witchers
- 5 Richard Morrice
- 6 Ingram Franckline
- 7 Thos. Franckline
- 8 William White
- 9 John Rumboll
- 10 William Reynold
- 11 John White
- 12 John Reynold
- 13 Joan Young
- 14 Richard Swithine
- 15 Paul Winkworth
- 16 John Leggatt
- 17 Agnes Bolle
- 18 Richard White
- 19 Edmund Winkworth
- 20 William Prissmall
- 21 John Fosberry
- 22 Walter Allford

11 of the above 39 people had small amounts of wood (1 – 5 acres). Yardland holdings are omitted.

Leases refer to virgates, semivirgates and yardlands and these would have comprised the strips scattered in the common fields. It has been said that a semi virgate of probably 10 - 20 acres was sufficient for a family. Rarely, the acreage of a virgate is given viz: John Winkworth had 1 messuage and 1 virgate of bondland containing 20 acres.(11M59/E1/116/6).

An example of the type of common field holding in Ecchinswell is this extract from a lease of William Dancastell who was the uncle and nearest heir of Stephen (60) in 1616 (11M59/E1/117/5):

2½ acres lying in the common field called Middle Malm

2½ acres lying in the common field called Little Malm

1½ acre lying in the common field called Eastfield

1 acre lying in the common field called Westfield

Information from another lease (11M59/E1/116/6) refers to strips in Eastfield and Westfield and half an acre on Barnard's hill in the common field called Bore(Boar)land. (This name may reflect the campus borealis or Northfield of a hundred years earlier or refer to berlande, bere being a type of barley).

The inventory of Rowland (53), taken in May, furnishes an example for Sydmonton:

2½ acres wheat and 1 yard in ye common fields of Sydmonton

1 yard also of vetches and ½ acre of rye

3 acres of barley and dredge in ye common fields of Sydmonton

Analysis of the inventories comparing time of appraisal and crops in store, together with a search through the Pipe Rolls, confirm the expected three field crop rotation as:

fallow - land rested before wheat; grazed to provide dung, and weeded;

winter crops - wheat, rye;

spring crops - barley, oats, peas, vetches;

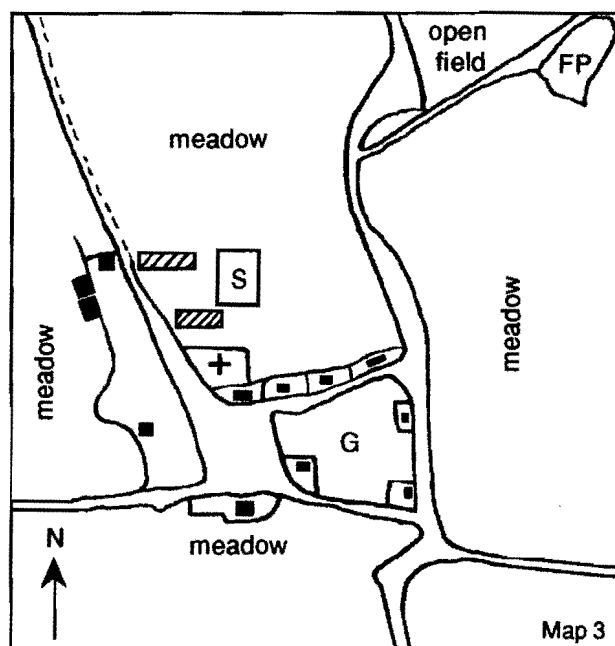
The leguminous crops, the dung mixed with straw from the animal shelters and spread on the fields, together with animal grazing after harvesting, all helped to maintain soil fertility. The grain and the peas were for seed and human consumption, straw for thatching, fodder and bedding, barley for beer, chaff for horses and cattle, pea haulms and vetches for fodder.

A cote of bondland may include the area e.g. 8 acres, and it may or may not be named. The names of tenants' holding in Ecchinswell can sometimes be traced back through the Pipe Rolls, such as Tawyers viz: "1 cote once of John Tawyer" for 1454-1455(B1/191). The sixteenth century lease of a cote of bondland comprised 10 acres of which 7 were in the common fields, another half acre close of meadow called Tawyer, one close called Island close, and a parcel of purpresture. In 1213-1214 (B1/4) Aylwin is mentioned and the family remained on the manor until in the sixteenth century the holding called Aylwins comprised a messuage and one virgate of bondland lying in the common fields. The Manor Courts were still recording the holding into the nineteenth century as one messuage and one yard bondland. The examples could be multiplied. Unfortunately lack of earlier records for Sydmonton precludes such histories.

The closes could be for pasture or arable; for example Pricsmall (63) in April prior to harvesting had meslin in Ham close, rye in Northcroft, oats in Broadcroft and wheat and vetches in Moorcroft.

Another unit of bondland was a gavel but no acreages were given in the leases; for example in 1581 (B1/282) Winkworth had 1 toft and 1 gavel and Young had 1 messuage 1 gavel and 18 acres purpresture.

SYDMONTON VILLAGE 1751



0 32 perches
0 176yds/161m
(0.1 mile)

Key

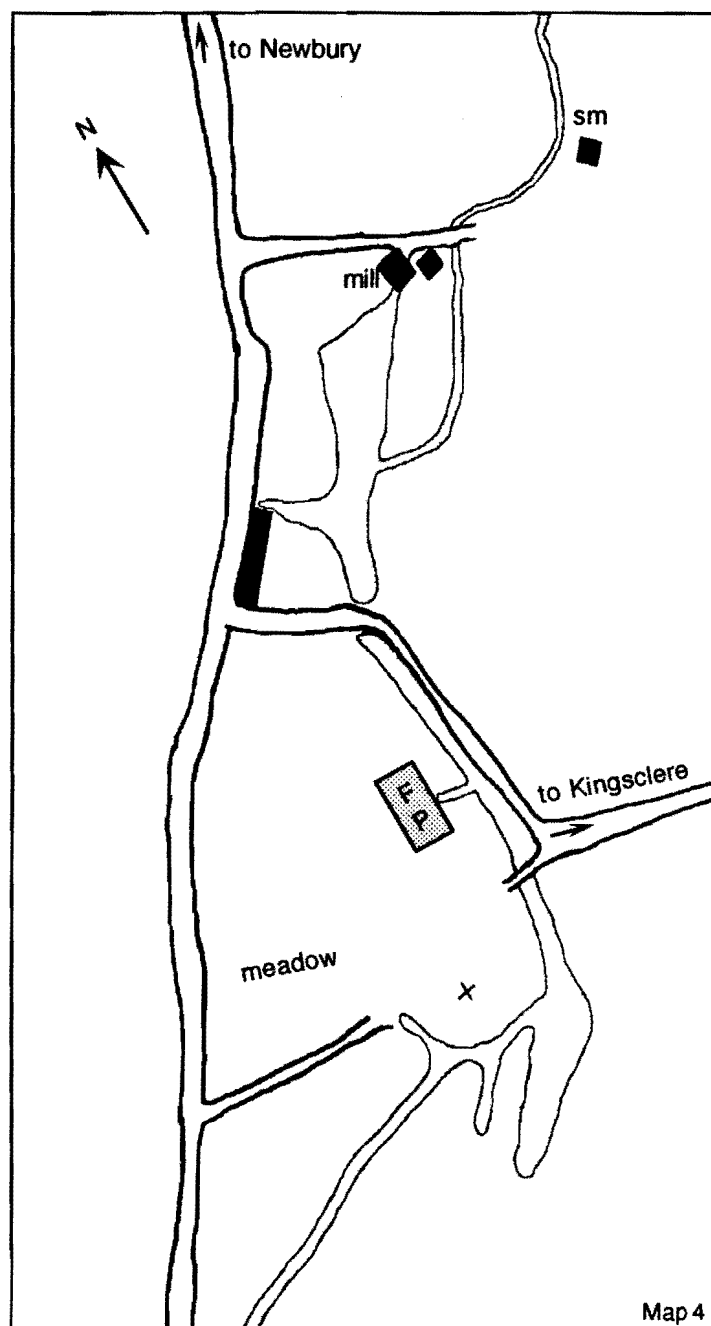
- + Chapel
- S Sydmonton House
- FP Fish Pond
- G Gardens, back side

■ Dwellings

▨ Possible barn

Map taken from H.R.O. 19M61/1485

ECCHINSWELL VILLAGE



0 20 perches
0 110yds/100m

© R. Leamon 1994

Key

- + Chapel
- sm Smithy in 1846
- FP Fish Pond

■ Probable dwellings; other sites unknown

▨ Streams and ponds as in 1846

Map based on 1846 Tithe Map H.R.O. 5M64/6,15.

In Sydmonton in 1557 John Brian, servant of Lady Kingsmill, had taken over the cottage formerly lived in by John Martin (8) who had just died - maybe one of the dwellings shown on Map 3. In John's inventory he had "all maner of graine in the felde" valued at £5/6/8. The lease (19M61/498) records the cottage, 2 messuages with 2 virgates pertaining and 1 "cassakell" of land. A Thomas Mason in 1575, maybe (43), held Aynoldes given in the Kingsmill lease (/468) as a messuage, 1 toft and ½ yardland in North Sydmonton and 1 yardland in South Sydmonton, being 1 close of meadow and 30 acres dispersed in the common fields, plus common pasture for 800 sheep.

The families who feature in the sixteenth century leases are those of the wills and inventories, the Lay Subsidy of 1586 and the RP of 1575. By the mid seventeenth century many of the testator names have gone, such as Leggat and Sweteaple, and the newcomers creeping into the leases at the end of the sixteenth century imply a change.

The sixteenth century farming economy would have been a mixed one with perhaps an emphasis by individuals on sheep or arable as is suggested by the RP and some of the inventories. It is not known where the surplus above the household requirement was sold.

WILLS

The wills and inventories were selected from a list for Ecchinswell and Sydmonton which started in 1528; 1620 was chosen as a date to finish as changes were well on the way by then.

A will begins with the date and name of the testator and the dwelling place which was always simply Ecchinswell for those inhabitants, but for those in Sydmonton there was a differentiation between the those who lived in North Sydmonton, the one (19) in South Sydmonton, and the rest classed as Sydmonton. Unfortunately the occupation was not always given in either will or inventory and can only be deduced. The testator then frequently referred to himself as sick in body but of good mind and remembrance. Never is the cause of sickness given. The known and possible dates of death plotted on the graph below suggest a cluster in 1558 which perhaps reflects an influenza epidemic. In all wills the soul was then committed to Almighty God; the first wills, written when Catholicism prevailed, continue with phrases such as "Saviour and Redeemer", "the blessed Mother Our Lady Saint Mary" and the "holy company of heaven".

In the 1570's, by which time the country was largely Protestant, this changed to "God the Saviour", and the "Holy Ghost" by whom the testator trusted to be saved.

In 1579 John Wallis (30), self styled "minister of the word of God", for the chapels of Sydmonton and Ecchinswell, was a Calvinist who, to quote, bequeathed his "Soul into the hands of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost in whose name I was baptised in whom only I hope and believe to be saved, my body to the earth from whence it came, for earth I am and to earth I must return again". This introduction was unique.

In the 1580's, and after this, although Peter Phernhead was responsible for most of the wills, the heading varied perhaps at his or the testator's whim; on the whole they became increasingly simpler with phrases such as "certain hope of resurrection to eternal life through Jesus Christ Our Lord", "God the eternal creator", or "invisible and only wise God" to leaving "the soul to Almighty God".

In the wills up to the mid 1560's most testators asked to be prayed for as a benefactor having willed money and or sheep to chapels and church. Bever (2), who was probably the firmarius, left a cow "to Sir John Apawne his ghostly father" for him to say a trental of masses for his soul. William (3) left sheep so that the souls of his grandparents, parents, sisters and himself could be prayed for. Wither, the firmarius, (21), left 12d. for four tapers to burn on Sundays about his house for the span of a month.

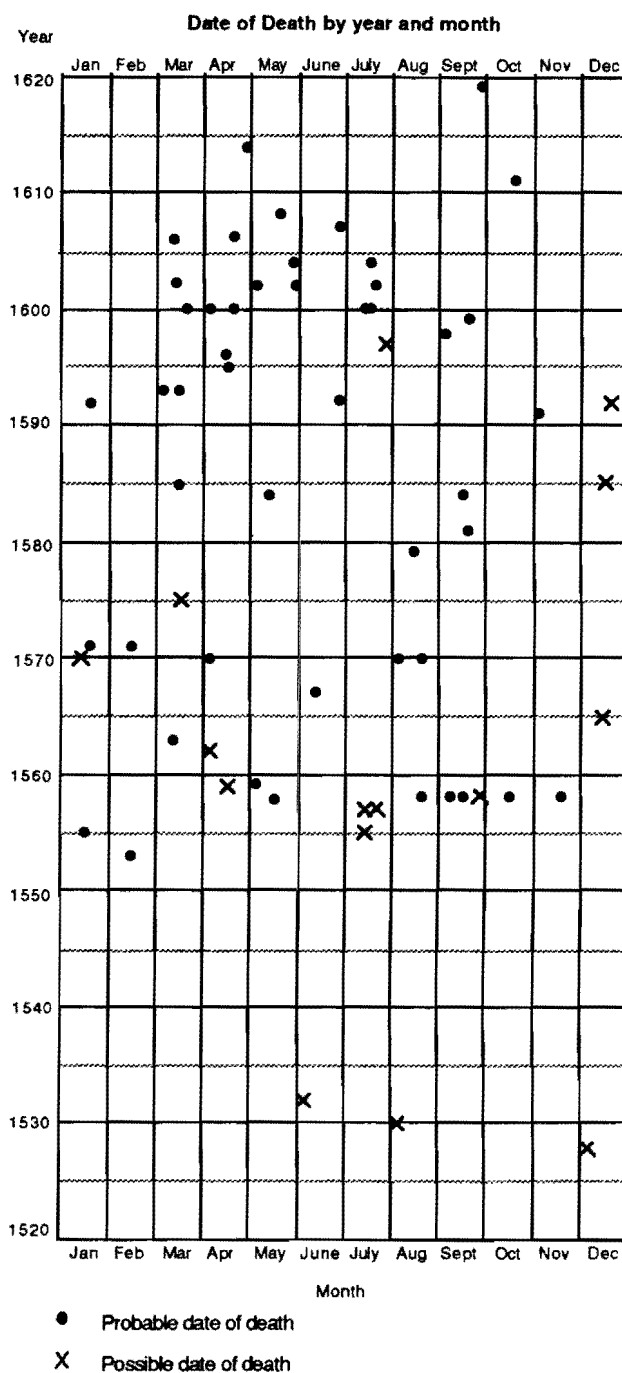
Then came the formal request for the body to be buried "in the churchyard of Kingsclere" which after 1576 became simply "body to the earth". The sole exception to these was that of Wither (21) who asked to be buried "in the newe yle" of Kingsclere church, which is an interesting sidelight. Sadly there was a rebuilding in 1848-9 ...

From 1581 to 1600 there were donations for reparations to both Ecchinswell and Sydmonton chapels by dwellers in each tything; neither chapel now exists, but their previous locations are on Maps 3 and 4. .

Apart from a gap between 1570 and 1579 thirty eight people left amounts to these chapels, the parish church of Kingsclere and the Mother church of St. Swithun, Winchester. On average the amount was 4d. but the wealthier, like Wall (48), Wither (54) and Walter (64) left more.

From the 1570s amounts were also left specifically to the poor of Ecchinswell, Sydmonton and Kingsclere; Young (45) left £4 to the latter and others left a bushel of wheat.

An analysis of the main section of the wills, the bequests, shows a common format with the most important goods being listed first. If a craftsmen, tools or timber and the workshop were handed down to a son or son-in-law. Eleven wills specified the plough and or cart, sometimes with animals and the gear, and these went to sons, or wife and son, perhaps with a request that they were to care for the rest of the family still at home. Grain crops, either in the field or harvested, were willed in 20 cases, often to the wife or daughters. Leases held by any tenure pertaining to lands or dwellings were willed in 12 instances. One or more animals were left in every will; lambs were frequently donated to grandchildren and godchildren; sometimes a cow bred to the use of a named person; Rede (15) left a "cow called Nightingale" to his daughter.



Furniture was often specified such as the "best" coffer going to one child and the "next best" to another; many objects used in the house were homemade and of little value and were disguised under the general term of the "rest of my goods". This was also the case with cooking implements and bedding viz:- "a flock bed and all belonging to it , two of my best platters and the black pan". Because of its value, clothing was carefully apportioned to relatives and friends, with the more worn going to the poor.

One wonders what was behind Richard Rowland's (53) careful listing of seemingly every object, animal or lease, which he divided up and willed to his wife, daughter and two sons. The elder son, who was the main inheritor and executor, was to bring up the younger (a common intention) and the daughter was only to marry with the consent of the overseers of the will or she would forfeit her inheritance. Also Richard requested that the corn in the house and barn was to be shared amongst them as before his death. Peter Rowland (35) willed that his daughter should receive house room with her brother, food, and fodder for her animals. In return she was to care for the house.

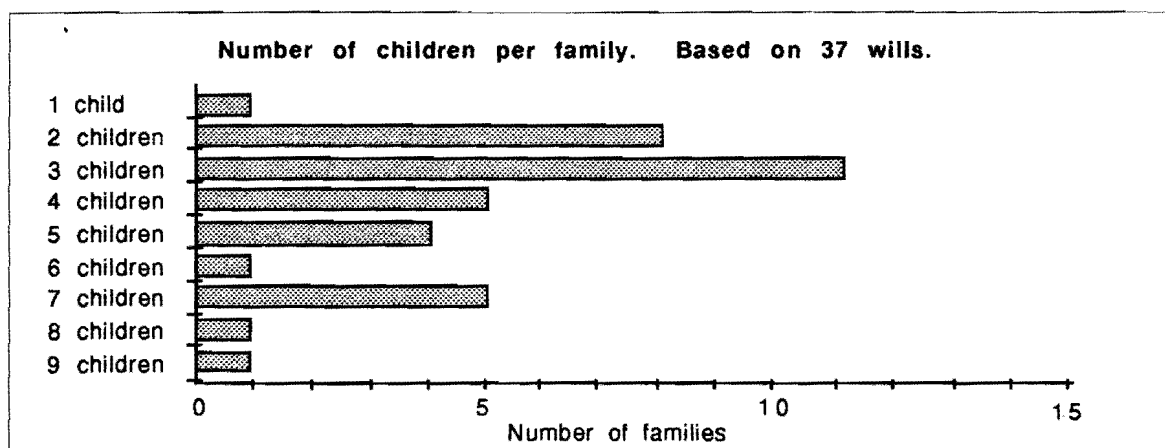
Twenty six testators willed money to relatives, friends, godchildren, the poor and in four cases to servants where it is clear that the sexes were to be treated equally. With regard to the larger amounts it was sometimes specified that it had to be given on certain dates or at given intervals of time, or at lawful age.

If a wife remained she usually received the remainder of the goods and chattels. Richard King (44) left all his goods to his wife because she was "darke and lyke to have need of them" - was she perhaps a gypsy? A son sometimes had the responsibility of caring for his mother or his siblings and was to be fairly recompensed (13).

In 20 cases the wife was the sole executrix; in 5 cases wife and son; in 3 cases the daughter(s); and in the rest sons or, rarely, other relatives.

There were generally two overseers to the will and here the choice reflects someone whom the testator liked or could trust such as a "loving friend" (1), or neighbours (6), (7), and if the governance of a son or sibling was necessary, then someone of standing from either tything might be chosen (2) (3). If the task was more onerous, then the payment to the overseers for their pains could be more considerable.

Finally there were witnesses to the will whose names were written by the will writer; from the mid 1580s onwards these people drew a mark beside their names. The writer of the will was occasionally named as such, as was Peter Phernhead, the curate. Wall (48) was able to write but it is difficult to tell who else could.



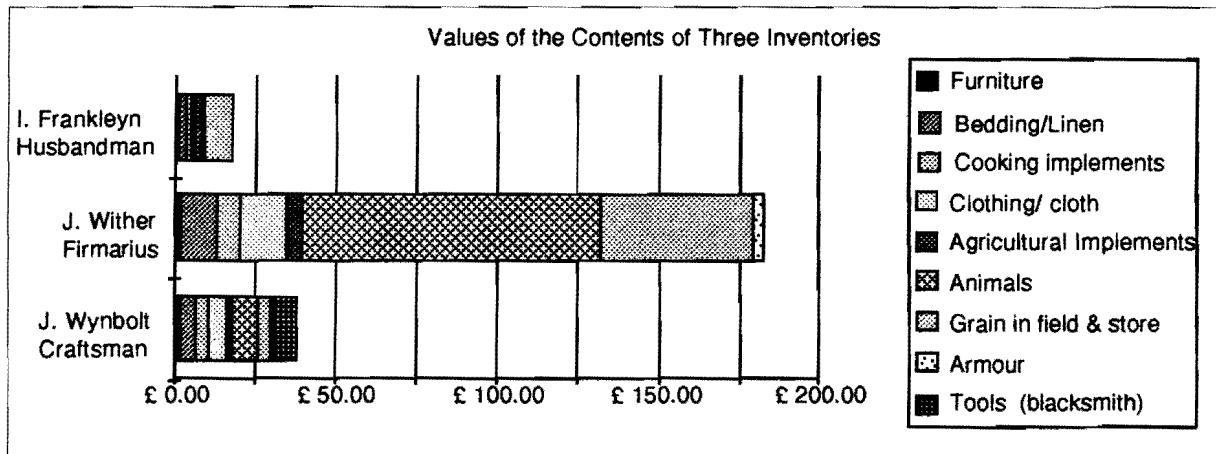
INVENTORIES

Apart from the fact that it is luck that they survive, wills and inventories were drawn up by the wealthier people and those with more standing in the community such as the yeomen, husbandmen, and craftsmen who had something of value to leave. Unsung therefore are the poor and the sub tenants whose names may appear in bequests to the poor.

The appraisers viewed and priced the goods and chattels as soon as possible after the death, sometimes giving the exact date. The time of year affects the view of an individual's farming as in mid year the grain in store may have been consumed and the current year's not harvested; and if acreages of corn "in grass" are noted they may not relate to the leases.

These appraisers named themselves either at the top or the bottom of the list of items. There were always at least two and sometimes more if the job was likely to be more taxing, as for Wynbolt (14) which appeared to need six; occasionally no names are given. Most of the families, as revealed by the testator list, provided an appraiser at some time with certain persons perhaps being in demand over a small number of years, such as John Leggat, Lawrence Frankleyn, John Penton, Robert and Thomas Mason, Paul Winkworth and John Rumboll.

Obviously the values given depend on the appraisers and sometimes objects are grouped disguising their worth; maybe they did not bother to mention some things so we are in ignorance of their existence. (see the Chronological List for Inventory Values)



Unfortunately many appraisers did not refer to hall or chambers so one does not have a reliable picture of the size of the dwellings or what was contained in each room although in some cases one can deduce that an appraiser was moving into another room. The Chronological List gives only the spaces named. The consequences of most of the testators being old or infirm create problems for interpreting their lifestyles. From the leases one learns that the previously wealthy were poor, others were living with a son or daughter, perhaps in another dwelling, who fed them and to whom they had already given many of their belongings; most were still in their homes, sometimes living in one chamber, but leases paid by son or daughter were on condition the parent continued to live there. Household objects may have belonged to the wife so do not show in a widower's inventory. Money owed to the testator, or "money in his purse", may show that he had been surprisingly wealthy; these amounts have been omitted from the total inventory value. Occasionally there was no summa totalis. Figures were in Roman numerals until after 1585 when 15 inventories used Arabic for pence, notably 4d and 8d, and very occasionally for shillings.

In conclusion one can say that, despite the problems, the inventories are important, firstly, for providing a list of objects, names of dwelling spaces and outside buildings, and secondly, for revealing improvements in domestic life and in the buildings themselves. The ensuing sections show a gradual progress in the last quarter of the century accelerating by the 1600s so that life in the 1620s was vastly different from that of the 1520s. Leases and inventories complement each other.

Curates

The names and dates below are taken from the wills only; they were probably the curates for the two chapels :

1528-1532	John Apawne
1555-1567	John Carter
1557	Richard Meade
1562	John Hunt, Hugh Langley
1570	James Ward
1579	John Wallis
1581-1606	Peter Phernhead

John Wallis (30) was a widower when he died in August 1579 leaving 3 married daughters and seemingly nine grandchildren. He was quite well off because, having forgiven his sons-in-law for the money they owed to him, he left a total of £4/- to the family, £2/1/8 to two servants and had £2/- in his purse. He had horses, cattle and 30 sheep which he kept perhaps on the 6 acres pasture recorded for him in the RP. According to the latter he held 15 acres in the common fields in 1575 which would account for the plough and harrow in his inventory.

Firmarius

The firmarius of the manor of Ecchinswell lived at Nuthanger, the manorial grange where the manorial courts were held and the leases recorded. In 1528 Richard Bever (2) was the firmarius followed by his son William (3) but there is no evidence of where they lived. They both refer to lands held by copy and indenture in their wills. After an interval Richard Wither took the lease followed by his son John (21), and then his son Henry (54). The R.P. states that " Henry Withers holdeth the manor in farme by estimacon x yarde lande whereof in pasture xxxiiij ac., and wood sufficient for his fewel, and in medow xxj ac., the rest in errable". Wither paid £19/4/- for all the arable lands, pasture, meadow and 400 sheep. The Wither family was extensive and there are frequent references to members of it holding land in north Hants. After Henry's death Henry Wallop, knight, held it throughout the rest of the period under discussion.

Gentry

The only gentleman recorded in this run of wills was Francis Wall (48) linked by marriage and friendship to the Wither family. The value of his leases in Ecchinswell and for a mill and land in Upper Clatford came to £95/-/. The most wealthy and powerful family was a branch of the Kingmsmills at Sydmonton House and the only references to them concerned rent .

Yeomen and Husbandmen

The arbitrary use of these terms is portrayed by Dancastell (60) who is deemed a husbandman in his inventory but a yeoman owing £12 to Wither (54) in the latter's inventory. The title of Yeoman is generally believed to have been held by a free tenant who was usually a respected member of the community. The inventories of the yeomen here show them to be quite wealthy but there are anomalies if there is sole reliance on the inventory value. From the evidence used other named yeomen were Rede, Wither, Leggat, Walter, Fielder and Ingram Rowland whose father, Peter, was a husbandman, a term used for a tenant farmer. After 1591 designations were given to all the testators.

Labourers

There must have been a large number of these but there are only two testators (44,61).

Craftsmen

Fortunately there are inventories extant for some of the trades which would have provided the local community with its agricultural tools, from ploughs and carts to bill hooks, and all its domestic requirements. Those who specialised in a certain craft also needed to farm in what was then a mainly subsistence economy.

The millers, father and son, both called Richard Morris (6,31), leased a water mill with a messuage in Ecchinswell which was probably on the site of the present mill building. In their inventories, and that of the widow (40), are listed 4 mill bills, a sledge and an iron bar, 2 pairs of millstones, 2 spindles, 2 mill nicks, a mill brace and a toll coffer. Probably the bushel, half bushel, peck, gallon and 3 measuring pots were for the grain. One of the overseers of the will of Richard Morris (6) was John Wynbolt, his neighbour.

From the contents of Wynbolt's (14) will and inventory it is deduced that he was a blacksmith. The 1846 Tithe Map shows a smithy near the mill (see Map 4). To his son-in-law, Paul Winkworth, Wynbolt left charcoal and the contents of his shop (i.e. workshop) and from him he seems to have bought "cole and iron" for which he owed 23s.3d. The inventory specifies a shop which contained the following tools valued between £7 and £8 plus £5 worth of "sey coles".

1 large and 1 small bekhorne	vice	bellows	dogs
8 hammers - hand, nailing, riveting, shoeing	swage	tenon saw	butteris
chisels - 2 binding, 1 hard + 1	pliers	pincers	binding slogg
	pritchels	prickyers	sledges
	7 prs. tongs	plate sheers	2 fullers
	4 mandrells	1 nail tool.	budget

The 3 dozen horseshoes and 10 tools for turning augers and wimbles, together priced at 4s. 6d., were "at Nubery lienge" along with other tools.

He had nearly 14 acres in grain and peas but lacked any farm equipment. Although no horse was listed, saddle, bridle, panel and boots were recorded, which suggests, knowing his wealth, that he had owned a valuable horse. He owed Paul for a cart bound with iron.

Nicholas Willis (22) left all the tools of his occupation to his son and from the inventory one can see that he was a cooper who no doubt made the tubs and kives etc. used in nearly every household.

12 boards	35 cwt. of timber	31 ashes	2 ½ doz. hoops	lathe
saws	joynters	axes	adzes	hatchet
hammers	wedges	spandrels	wimbles	augers
pincers	gauge	iron	wood shaves	
knives - drawing, setting				

The value placed on the above was between £3 and £4. There were nearly six acres of grain and peas, and the plough was left jointly to the two sons.

Just four months later Richard Allford (24) died leaving behind his wife, Agnes, and nine children. It seems that he was a sawyer because amongst his debtors can be identified six sawing jobs not paid for. The tools pertaining to this trade were a grinding stone, hammers, chisels, augers, wimbles, handsaw and pincers. Richard also earned money by mowing and hiring out his yoke of oxen.

That year his wife was excused churchscot (B1/273) but she died six months after her husband and this inventory (26) included 100 feet of boards.

John Phaire (41) of Sydmonton, named for his occupation, in the inventory had:

"Item utensils or implements belonging to ye occupation of a smith as followeth

1 anvil 1 pair of bellows 1 iron vice 1 bekhorne 1 iron swage 1 grindstone

2 iron sledges 4 pair of tongs or pliers 2 iron dogs 1 hand hammer 1 shoeing

hammer 1 pair of pincers 1 nail swage and five files. £2/-."

He was not as wealthy as Wynbolt and did not have the valuable goods and chattels associated with the former. His animals and crops were worth £11/-/- out of a total inventory value of £18/-/-. Dame Bridget Kingsmill owed him £4/13/-.

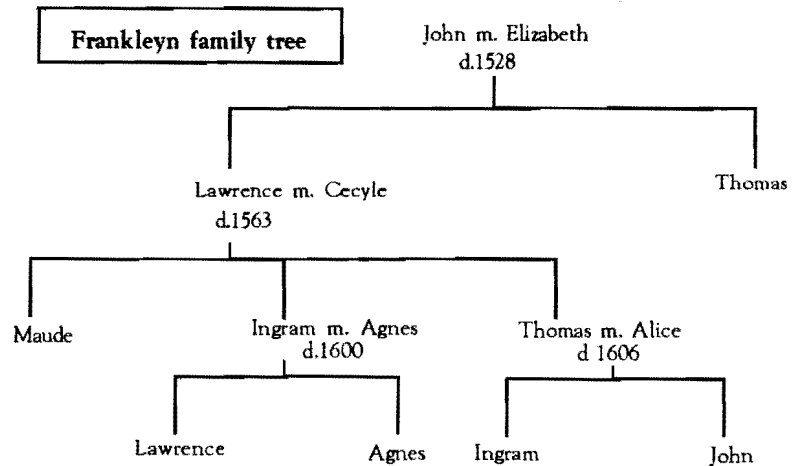
The glover, Edmund Mason (38), had only 5 sheep so he probably bought in the sheepskins as required. He was owed £12/4/- but owed £14/-/- himself. In his inventory are listed 7 sheepskins, 46 lbs. of woollen yarn, 3 lbs. of leg wool, 10 lbs. of coarse wool at 2d. a lb., and 35½ lbs. of wool together valued at £4/3/1 which represents 20% of the inventory's total value.

Richard Michenor (57), called a wool cloth weaver, had only the one loom priced at 13s 4d. as a clue to his trade. Farming was a mainstay as he had a plough, cart, two horses and six working bullocks valued at just over £13/-/- so maybe he ploughed for others as there is no mention of ploughlands or grain in store - though the inventory was taken in mid July; the total value was just over £16/-/-. Interestingly, he left to his brother a house and its contents at Wirges in Ecchinswell which is one of the very few places to be named in an inventory. (See Dwellings section).

CASE HISTORY

The Frankleyns (variously - layne, - lyn) and sometimes "alias Placy(e)" have been selected for a case history because of the number of documents available. From the Pipe Rolls we know they were in Ecchinswell by the 1400's and in 1421 a Frankleyn was the reeve.

John (1), who died in 1528, was a cooper who left his workshop with "all the taly and timber belonging" to his son Lawrence and the residue of the workshop was to be divided between the latter and the other son, Thomas. Everything else was left to his wife.



Lawrence (18), termed a cooper in his will, left to his son Ingram his tools, half the timber in the orchard and half the timber in the workshop so there is no record of anything connected with the trade in his inventory. To his brother Thomas, Ingram's uncle, he left "200 of timbers" which suggests coopering was a family affair. Nothing more is learned about Thomas except that either he or his brother Lawrence paid the lease for 1 cottage and 1 parcel of purpresture, which was 6 parts of an acre at Whiteyeat. Lawrence, however, must have been quite wealthy as he leased a lot of land from Winchester College, much of which can be located from the 1846 Tithe Map.

In the 1540s he had the toft of a messuage called Maskells, toft of a messuage called Reynaldes bounding on the common called Boltes Green, parcel of ground called Farmoor acre (Farmer's Acre by 1846), a croft called Brokemeade, and a parcel called Wirge whose site is as yet unknown. However, unaltered to this day is Westmead, on the north side of Bull's Lane, called Bull's Lane Meadow in 1846, bordering on what was Abbey of Romsey land i.e. Sydmonton parish boundary. He also held a 2½ acre parcel of pasture named Diem in 1846 and Deme in the 1540s which probably had belonged to Deme who was in Ecchinswell in the early thirteenth century; and also a croft called Drakesmeade adjacent to the former. In the 1990s these two fields are in pasture with hedges and seemingly of their original shape. Lawrence was responsible for the upkeep of the hedges and ditches at his own expense. (See Map 2).

Out of all the inventories listed, Lawrence had appraised four, been an overseer twice, and a witness to a will three times.

When he died Lawrence left his grounds called Broxe and Maskells, and a meadow at Newtown, to be divided equally between his son Thomas and his wife Cecyle; the latter was to have Lawrence's part of the parsonage of Ecchinswell. His daughter, Maude, was left 20 sheep, some money and a few household goods.

He lived in a dwelling which had a hall with table and seating and was where they cooked, a chamber with bedding, chests and table linen, and a putative kitchen as the inventory next lists his cooking and brewing vessels before going outside to list grain, animals, agricultural tools, and to record his 12 acres of wheat, rye and vetches "upon the ground". The total value of the inventory

was just over £68/- of which his cattle, horses, sheep and pigs constituted half.

After his mother's death, the son Ingram (51), in 1571 took over the lease of 1 messuage, ½ a virgate, 1 gavel of bondland, 2 acres and ½ part of one acre, to which in the ensuing years was added a lease for the cottage with curtilage called Plotthouse. In the R.P. he is listed as having 22 acres of arable and 5 acres of pasture but his July 1600 inventory recorded 14½ acres of wheat and barley in the common fields. He was termed a husbandman and there is no reference to cooper ware though the saw, axes, hatchet, bill, wedges and grindstone were priced at £10/4/8 out of a total value of nearly £28/- suggesting they were of good quality. To his unmarried daughter, Agnes, he left £20/-, a bed and a calf and everything else equally to his wife Agnes and son Lawrence. The inventory does not state clearly the rooms but there was definitely a hall and at least one chamber.

*Ingram
H.R.O.
1600 A29/1*

1600 A29/1 © H.R.O.

Ingram's brother, Thomas (59), who died six years later was married to Alice to whom he left everything until her death or possible remarriage when the sons Ingram and John were to inherit equally. At the time of the R.P. he had held 30 acres of arable, 5 acres of pasture and 2 acres of wood but at his death he seemed to be a poor husbandman as his inventory value was only £6/-/. This was based on a few household goods but presumably the willed goods would not have been listed; nor was there any clue as to the number of rooms. No Frankleyns are in the 1586 Lay Subsidy list.

Lawrence, the only son and heir of Ingram (51), took over the above described lease, though not Plotthouse, and in 1601 applied to destroy one old kitchen. The heriot on his father's death had been 1 cow and 1 horse and his widowed mother Agnes was excused paying churchscot. By 1665 there was a Franklin living in a two hearth dwelling in Sydmonton.

Extract from Inventory of Richard Wyllis of Ecchinswell
Appraised and valued on 14th day of February 1570/71

*Item in the chamber of Robert a gowne a pollinoure
a shewe a surce. a pearse of hof. & a rlyte. } p. 10
Item a flocke bodde. a rylot. a bolstere. in pollinoure
a pearse of shewes. & a table rlyte. } p. 11
Item a ffloure. a Cassette. a pollinoure a rylot
a byngreffe a shewe. in a poynt. in a rylot
a pearse of hof. and a rlyte. } p. 12
Item a bodstode. a shewe rlyte. in a rylot
a lottre. a rylot. a pearse of shewes. a bolstere. } p. 13
& a rylot of wolle.*

DWELLINGS

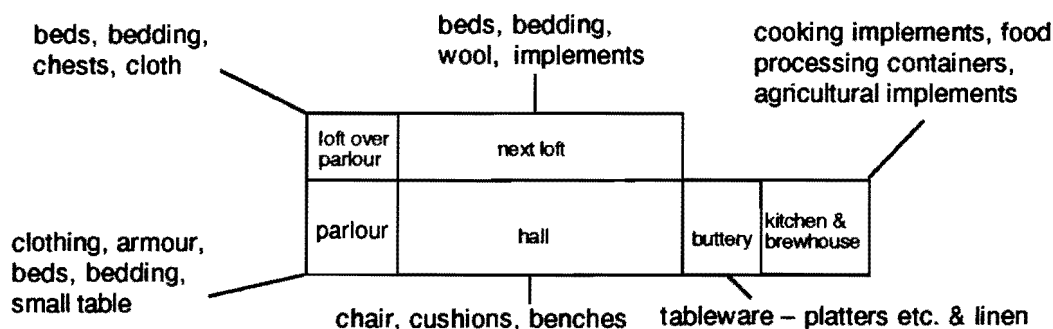
Maps (3&4) of the nucleated settlements show the difference between the village plans even though there is less evidence for the form of Ecchinswell. Although the location of the scattered tofts tenements and messuages cannot be proved it seems, from the leases, that there were dwellings bordering the long roads linking the open fields and villages to the northern boundaries. Here was the wet and marshy land of Bishop's Green recorded for Ecchinswell as the "waste land" of the lord, perhaps the quarter part of an acre on which a cottage might be built.

In the Pipe Rolls of the 1240s appears 1 virgate called Frithlond, meaning woodland pasture or scrub, which would have grown on the soils here and was possibly an early assart in these northern woodlands. A toft was added at an unknown date and over the years the derivation was lost and it was called Freelond and by the time of the Tithe Map it was Great Free Lands of 8 acres.

Along the track between the Newbury road and Kisby's was another marshy area where there were purpresture encroachments hinted at in "1 cottage and 14 parts of 1 acre adjacent to Broad Marsh" and "1 cottage and a quarter part of 1 acre purpresture in two parcels adjacent to Broad Marsh". At the lane junction was perhaps the site of Plot House, a cottage with a fifth of an acre on the east side of the Via Regia and abutting on the marsh. The park mentioned in the 1208 Pipe Roll, no longer in use as such, was probably the site of a cottage with 1 rood in Little Park called Stubbs, which suggests coppicing at some time.

Nuthanger - grange farm

Diagram showing possible elevation and contents of each room.

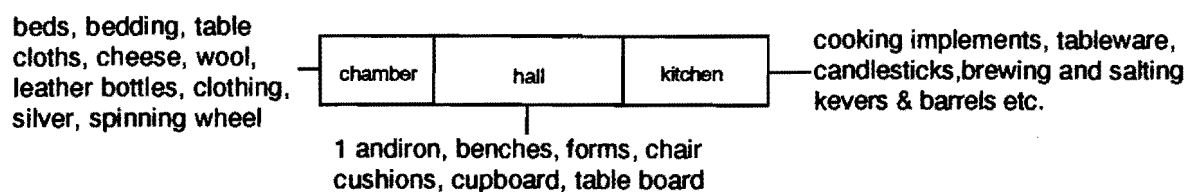


The diagram above attempts to show the contents of the rooms as stated in the 1567 inventory of the firmarius. The 1602 inventory values at 6sh 8d "all the glass in the windows of the hall and chambers" but does not name any of these so the items cannot be located, although they do reveal a more comfortable lifestyle. At the time of the 1665 Hearth Tax there were 6 hearths; sites of wells, now filled in, for both inside and outside the house, are visible today.

The unknown appraisers of the inventory of John Rede (15), yeoman of Sydmonton, who died in November 1558, left a very clear list of his belongings in each room so this has been selected to illustrate a dwelling typical of that period when a family lived in the hall, where the hearth was the focal point, and perhaps had a chamber adjacent. (See opposite page). The roofs of such dwellings were probably thatched with walls of timber, lath and plaster.

The chief beneficiary under Rede's will was his son in law Edmund Winkworth for whom there is a lease stating this (19M61/506) dated 1563 and naming it as Cambers. In the R.P. the latter was said to be in the occupation of Sir William Kingsmill, knight.

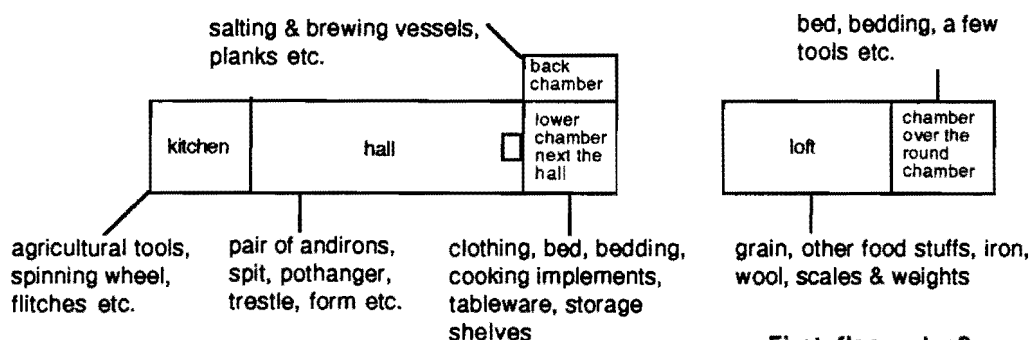
Plan of house – contents correct but juxtaposition of rooms is supposition



plough, cart, tools, grain, acres, cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, hens, ducks

John Pricsmall (63), whose ancestors were living in Ecchinswell by at least the 1250s, was a husbandman whose inventory was valued at just on £60/-/. When he died in April 1614 he lived in a prestigious dwelling which shows well the advances in living standards achieved by some. It also demonstrates the problems of trying to reconstruct a building's plan from an inventory.

A possible plan – possibilities are given as an illustration of the problems of reconstructing a house plan from an inventory.



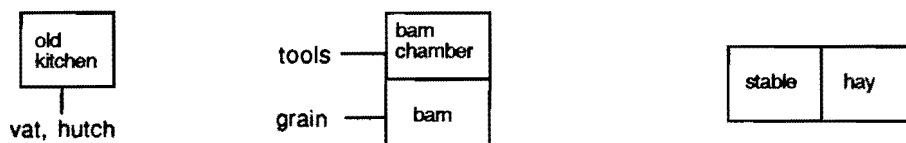
Ground floor plan ?

The back chamber is possibly an outshut, where the kitchen could also be rather than on the end of the hall. A pair of andirons suggests a wall fireplace.

First floor plan?

A chamber, round in plan, is unknown at this period and poses problems; should it have been a "ground" floor chamber? The loft could be over the kitchen and/or the back chamber, or could run the length of the dwelling and be accessible by an external ladder.

Outside



plough, cart, harrow, wood, cattle, horses, pigs, sheep, hens, garden, closes of land

The yeoman William Fielder of North Sydmonton, who had been an overseer of Henry Wither's will, when he died in 1616 lived in a house with a ground floor of a hall, a lodging chamber, a new chamber and a buttery. An upper floor had been inserted and had a chamber over the lodging chamber and one over the new chamber. Perhaps at the same time there was added a feature only recorded this once in these inventories, "the chimney in the hall", which implies brickwork.

The only description in a lease of a dwelling is in 1614 (E1/117/2) with reference to a small plot of 1 rood called New Mill, held by the Leggat family, with an orchard and a cottage consisting of a hall and two chambers at its western end.

Other improvements, known only for Ecchinswell, were unspectacular and generally took the form of requests to knock down an old kitchen or workshop and rebuild, and at the most to erect a new cottage. These changes occurred mainly in the seventeenth century. Another sign of affluence, creeping in at the end of the century, was glass in the windows as was recorded for the yeoman Wither and the gentleman Wall.

However there was one development which may have attracted a lot of attention! In a close of 1 acre called Wirges was a small tenement with an orchard called the Workhouse which was divided and separated with plants and quickhedges; and then The Great Tenement was built with a gateroom and a well and orchard. These changes took place probably in the last quarter of the sixteenth century and it is unfortunate that the close cannot be located more precisely - it seems to have been on the west side of the highway.

CONTENTS OF THE INVENTORIES

Furniture

By the time they died some of the people were old, maybe widows or widowers, who had already given away anything of use or value to the next generation; people like Thomas Harding and John Lambe have no furniture listed perhaps because it remained with their wives; and others probably lived in with one of the family who used the furniture and cooked for them. Thus, 48 inventories have been used to give some idea of the objects used.

Tables were found in every household in the hall, although the latter was not always named. Earlier in the century these consisted of boards or planks on trestles which were put out for the meal and then tidied away; seventeen households had these. Later some had a table board with a frame but only one joined frame (54) was noted. In general, joined furniture made with mortice and tenon was found here in the 1580s onwards; otherwise, furniture was made with pegs or nails by a carpenter. Occasionally tables were described as folding (14, 34, 41), or square (39) or round (14). Rarely was there a table in a chamber.

Forms were the commonest type of seating (39 inventories); Frankleyn (18) for example had "a table in the hall and the forms thereto belonging". Benches too were frequent, the Morris household having cloths for the same; and they had the only record of the term *bancnett* meaning a bench. Backboards, a sign of greater comfort, listed for 15 households all after 1591, were for "over ye bench". Chairs are found throughout the period in 32 households; Rumball (52) had a turned chair and Pricsmall (63) had a round chair and two green cushions in his lower chamber along with his bed. Twenty six inventories record stools, the joined ones starting in the 1580s. In the houses of the more wealthy, throughout the period, were cushions; along with the latter item Wither (54) had one carpet and a little carpet cloth, both of which were to cover tables.

Cupboards, three with cloths, were boards on which were stored table ware and hence were found in practically every household even if sometimes old or rotten. The store cupboard, called an *ambry*, was found in 6 households (6,16,34,48,49,52). Another type of store cupboard, a *hutch*, is listed 4 times (15,16,18,63). The shelf board was recorded from 1570 onwards in 16 inventories.

Storage of clothing, bedding and other possessions was mainly in coffers; every one of the 48 households had at least one, reflecting the number of occupants and their wealth. Ingram Frankleyn (51) had 6 and three people (14,48,53) had 5. Chests were only in half the number of households but these were valuable objects and were willed to members of the family; for instance,

Agnes Allford leaves to the eldest son "the greatest chest and a coffer with a lock". The following entry for Martin (29) gives an average value "2 coffers and a chest 3s. 4d." The term forcer for a type of chest appears once (43). Twelve inventories from 1552 onwards refer to a press although the term was qualified by "for clothes" after 1600.

Painted cloths, of unknown subjects, are found in the hall and chambers, mainly of the wealthier who could afford to keep out the draughts and have a form of decoration but could not aspire to a tapestry. Those of Morris (31) were worth 10s. Bever (50), however, had 2 painted cloths worth 10d. listed amongst objects in and near his barn - perhaps he didn't have the heart to throw them away! Another sign of greater wealth and aspiration at the turn of the century was the fitting of "wainscott" which, because it was valuable and removeable, was recorded, and so it was for Francis Wall (1600) and Ingram Rowland (1619) who left it to his son.

Beds and Bedding

The following bedding for John Martin (61), a poor labourer is typical:

"2 bedsteads, 1 flock bed, 1 flock bolster, 3 canvas sheets, 3 old blankets, 1 coverlet"

Nine inventories either have no bedding mentioned at all or there is a phrase such as "bedding and all lying thereto" or the "chambers implementaries", (e.g. 7 - 11). Richard Allford died first and his bed was willed by his widow to their son John; similarly with Richard and Joan Leggat. Perhaps Nut (28) never had one and slept on a flock bed on the floor. Bedsteads were either boarded, that is made by a carpenter from boards nailed or pegged, or joined but until the late 1590s no distinction was made; inventories after this show people often had both types. Rowland (35) had one bedcase and Pricsmall (63) had two old ones containing flock valued at 5s. Truckle beds, which wheeled under a bedstead, are only listed for Wither (21) and Wall (48); Wither (54) and Wall also had curtains for a bed.

Testers and/or ceilings feature in 18 inventories, the former term being much more common; the following extracts are typical :- Mason (5) had a "tester with hangings of linen"; Wynbolt (14) "3 painted cloths and 2 testers worth 3s. 4d." Rede (15) had "4 painted cloths worth 5s", and a white tester; Mason (38) had in "ye chamber" a canvas tester and 2 painted cloths; another had a holland tester with a fringe. From 1558 onwards 19 inventories had stained or painted cloths, seemingly in the sleeping area,

The bedsteads were strung with cord, perhaps made of flax, and on these were placed the flock or feather beds; 24 inventories list feather ones which were in the dwellings of the more affluent although these people had flock ones as well. Only Wither (21) and Allford (26) had a mattress which could have been filled with wool, feathers or straw. With only a couple of exceptions, one of whom was a labourer (44), all had bolsters either flock or feather; those with feather bolsters tended also to have feather pillows. Although 20 households which had pillows had no pillowberes listed, it is perhaps likely some had been removed because every household had sheets, with only 4 having no more than two and these were certainly poor. Sheets were surprisingly plentiful and not just amongst the wealthiest though Wall (48) had 32 and Wither (54) had 45 but he did have more beds than anyone else. Sheets were made from canvas, holland and lockram; similarly the pillowberes though there is one fustian entry. There are no entries for bolster covers and only one is called a tick bolster. Blankets were in 34 inventories, and coverlets in 45 and the terms list, thread and shred are used to describe the latter. Hellings must have been rather superior, perhaps a type of quilt covering, as they are only recorded for Wynbolt (14) who had 6,

and Wither (21) who had two.

Two cradles are listed (12, 24) but others could obviously have been in use amongst the next generation. Only Wall (48) and Wither (54) had warming pans and pewter chamber pots.

Cooking - Hearth and Utensils

The location of the andirons, found in each dwelling, is the main clue as to whether cooking took place over a wood fire at the hearth in the hall, or, more rarely, at least until later in the century, in a chamber or kitchen. (It is not possible to be more precise). Wynbolt (14), Wither (21) at Nuthanger, and Whyte (25) had the cooking in the kitchen. Wm. Fielder's utensils were "in the chimney". On the firedogs rested broches or spits; from iron bars were suspended pothangers and pothooks; cotterells, a form of hook or crane, were only listed 7 times. Flesh hooks - only two - were listed with pothooks.

Common were kettles of all sizes, often brass and willed to children; a cathorne was willed by Wall (48). Cauldrons are in 12 inventories and were important and valued containers in which to place pots for boiling; they could be 7 gawnes (gallons) and the two Rede (15) owned were worth 12s.

Frying pans, gridirons for grilling, grateirons, dripper pans, fire pans and trivets were frequent; less common were bellows, coal rake for charcoal (probably this as it was owned by the blacksmith), fire pokers, shovels and tongs.

A variety of cooking vessels such as pots, pans, chafing dishes, posnets and skillets were used but only in two or three lists were there what seemed to be earthenware containers called cruses, pipkins, and pappans. Skimmers and ladles also appear being common after 1600 and before that only in richer households.

Rede (15) and Frankleyn (18) had lavers, kept in the kitchen, which were basins used for washing before and after meals; of course, the "basins", found in most inventories, could have been used for such a purpose.

Besides the kives, mainly for brewing, are kevers some referred to as kneading or moulding, milk or salting, long or round; also in most households were numerous tubs, troughs, cowles, barrels, vats and buckets. Moulding kevers, moulding boards and dowgrate could be associated with bread making. Ten households each had a boulting which and others had a boulting tub or a boulting hutch so these may have been for sifting flour or meal. The three bucking cowles (12, 31, 52) may have been used for soaking clothes.

Tableware

All inventories record platters and dishes; predominant were those made from wood called treen, but pewter, brass and latten were used although they cannot be quantified. Trenchers are found in 36 inventories and in 26 of these they were in multiples of 6; many had 12, the Withers, father and son, had 72. Pottingers and porringers were in 36 inventories, sometimes specified as pewter. Most people used basins, bowls and pots made of wood, pewter, latten, and brass; Morris (6) had a leather pot.

Drinking cups are recorded nine times; although the earthenware ale cups were rarely listed they were surely very common. Certainly other vessels were for the richer - Wall (48) and Rowland (53) had tankards; Morris (31) and Pricsmall (63) had glasses and Wall had two aquavitae bottles.

Spoons occur in 31 inventories seemingly made of wood, horn, tin or pewter. Only 5

mention silver ones; Wall had five, worth 16s.8d. and in his will there is mention of two silver spoons with acorns at the top. In Wither's (21) list there is an item "the mazer bound with silver and two silver spoons 13s. 4d." The mazer was willed to his wife.

Forks were not yet in use and knives were personal so not listed.

Saucers, for sauces, were in 35 households,. Salt-cellars were in each but pepper mills were only in two (16,29) and six only had a mustard pot or mill. 15 wealthier households had one or two pestle and mortars or spice mortar.

Tablecloths are listed in 29 inventories; before the mid 1590s only the wealthier had them but after that date they are in all inventories; they were made of diaper or canvas. Ten wealthier households had napkins, made of diaper or holland, of whom five also had towels. Bever (50) had handwipers as well as all the above.

Knives

Extracting information from all parts of the inventories there seem to have been six types: chopping, wood, dressing, drawing, setting and hanger.

Lighting

Candle sticks were necessarily ubiquitous and were made of iron, brass or pewter; two were described as bowl; most households had two or more. Lanterns were surely more common than is implied by being recorded 5 times only (5,34,48,49,52). They were made from horn, set in metal, thus protecting the candle. The latter were made from tallow in all households.

Clothing

As clothing was a valuable commodity, it was often willed to relations and friends as in the following example extracted from the will of the wealthy blacksmith John Wynbolt (14):

Item unto Simon Wynbolt my best slefflys coite

Item unto Robert my brother my next best coite

and thus he continues with a dozen more articles to nine more people. Eighteen people left clothing, although only Richard Bever (50) specifically requested that the poor should benefit from his apparel. Richard Michenor (57), a bachelor, left his sloppes and jerkin to his servant.

Inventories usually have an item referring vaguely to "his apparell", or "wearing gear" which on average varied in value from 6s.8d to £1/-/-. Not surprisingly the wealthier had more clothing and a greater variety viz: Wynbolt's (14) was worth £4/19/8, John Wither's (21) £4/-/- and Francis Wall's (48) £3/7/8. Breeches, and Venetians which belonged to Richard Bever (50), are only mentioned right at the end of the century. The best dressed women seem to have been Margery Morris (40), Joan Whetlond (13), and Mrs Wynbolt who between them provided most of the names for the articles in the list below. Agnes Allford (26) has listed in her inventory:- 5 aprons, 5 smocks, 5 kerchiefs, 4 partlets, 4 petticoats, 2 waistcoats, 1 frock, 1 hat, a wrap, 2 pair of hose and a pair of shoes. In her will she gave five articles of clothing to members of the family and then requested that all her linen clothes should be divided amongst her six daughters at the discretion of the overseers.

MEN		WOMEN	
coat	shoes	frocks	waistcoat
cloke	boots	gowns	petticoat
cassock	hose	kirtle-full	aprons
cap	hat	kirtle-half	smock
doublet	smocks	cap	shoes
jerkin	shirts	wrap	hose
jacket	truse	kerchiefs	thrummed hat
waistcoat	sloppes	head kerchiefs	hat
breeches	oversloppes	neck rayles	partlet
Venetians	stockings	nycettes	pair of sleeves
		whittells	

MATERIALS used in clothing were:

buckskin	russells	diaper	durance
leather	russett	lyst	felt
canvas	holland	worsted (stuff)	fustian
lockram	rugge	camlet	crese/crese cloth
kersey	wool	linen	frise

Occasionally a colour is mentioned and these are black, white, red and green. "Taches" mentioned in Wynbolt's inventory are probably some form of hook or clasp. He was the only one to have two chrisoms, worth 6d., amongst the clothing. From the 1560s onwards 15 shoeing horns are given, made of metal or horn and usually found in the hall.

Jewellery

As an afterthought tucked away in the bottom right hand corner of Abraham Walter's will (64) is an item "I do also give unto Thomas Walter my son my gold ring which was his mothers". Otherwise, rings were silver and listed for Joan Whyte (4), Joan Whetlond (13) whose wedding ring was worth 16d., and for John Rede (15).

Weapons and Armour

By law if his goods were worth at least £10 - £20 a man had to provide armour, and, after the 1571 statute, practice at the butts was expected, and yew longbows were imported. Fifteen households had one or more weapons listed but only Henry Wither (54) had firearms namely a musket and a caliver. The most wealthy were Henry and his father John, and Francis Wall (48) and these three alone had protective armour which meant corslet, habergeon with morion and skulls, and halberd. Boots and spurs are only listed for John Wither. The other twelve who were yeomen, husbandmen, and craftsmen (12, 14, 32, 36, 41, 42, 43, 50, 56, 60, 63, 64,) had an assortment of swords, daggers, bows and arrows, warrbill, jack, buckler and hanger knife.

Books

No books are listed in the inventories and only the will of Wallis (30) mentions any and these were a book of Calvin's works and one "called Musculus". However the latter was an error as it would have been the name of the author i.e. either Andreas Musculus or Wolfgang Musculus who were German theologians. These books were left to his daughter.

Wool and Cloth

Seventeen inventories mention wool varying in quantity between 3 lbs. and 3 tods. Prices reflect the quality but in general 1lb. of wool was priced between 4d. and 6d. An occasional exception was 2d or 9d. There is little positive correlation between the numbers of sheep and amount of wool listed, suggesting that other factors are more important; for instance, it was probably more profitable to sell the sheepskins or wool. Only seven of these inventories had spinning wheels, called tournes, mostly with cards, stock cards and a few reels; five more households had wheels but no wool. One might assume that in these households the necessary wool was bought at need.

Richard Whetlond (12) had 220 sheep, more than anyone else, and 98 lbs. of wool, the entries being:

Item 2 tods and a half of fleece wool	33s.4d.
Item 1 tod of locks and lambs wool	5s.

By the time his wife died, most of the sheep had gone to their children but 93lbs. of wool remained to her which she asked to be disposed of as follows:

Item all my coarse wool and lambs wool to be made into household cloth and the fine wool to be sold to pay for the making of the cloth.

Wynbolt (14) willed that his wife should make a garment for a poor widow and a coat of frise for each of her children.

Agnes Allford (26) willed that all her yarn and wool should be equally divided between her eldest son and her six daughters. Francis Wall (48) had 22 yards of wool cloth worth £2/- and wool also worth £2/-/. Stored in a loft John Wither had 100 yards of new cloth, russett, red and white for household use priced at £6/13/4 and in another loft 2 tods of white and russett yarn worth £2/-/. Fustian was worth 8d. a yard (14) and carsey 1s 4d. a yard (5). Willis (22) was the sole person to have hemp listed - 6 lbs.

Butter and Cheese

There is no reference to a dairy or milkhouse and the surprisingly few mentions of butter or cheese in store perhaps suggests they belonged to the household or had been distributed before the appraisers arrived! Butter churns are listed for 12 households but only Francis Wall (48) has an item for "butter and cheese" valued at £3/6/8. Ten households had cheese vats, with the richer ones owning between four and eight (21, 24, 34, 48). Nine households had a cheese press and these were the people who had cheese stored being valued either by weight or number. For instance, John Wither (21) had 20 cheeses valued at 8d. each, but the little cheeses of Agnes Allford were 3d. each; Richard Whetlond (12) had two hundred weight of cheese priced at 16s. and John Pricsmall (63) had 5 cheeses weighing 12lbs. valued at 3s.

Beef

Apart from John Winkworth's (34) two breast rounds of beef, five other inventories list loins of beef, Francis Wall (48) and Henry Wither (54) storing six each. Cleavers for cutting meat were recorded for Morris (6) and Wall (48).

Pork

In a subsistence economy pigs were important suppliers of food. The same J. Winkworth (34) had 8 flitches and a quarter of bacon; Wall had 12 hogs of bacon. Twenty five households recorded flitches of bacon often "atte roof"; 12 had one flitch, 1 had nine and 4 had eight. Agnes Allford had salted and smoked enough "flytches" to leave one to each of her nine children. Salt was actually mentioned in only three inventories (34, 43, 63) and thirteen record a powdering trough for salting, or pickling, of which six also had a salting trough or vat or kever. Agnes left her best powdering trough to her son Walter plus the wish that it should "remain" to his eldest son.

Fat

Grease, lard and tallow seem only to have been in amounts worth mentioning in the inventories of Wither, Wall and Pricsmall (21,48,63,) when they were worth 2s a gallon or 4d a lb.

Brewing

Although only Nuthanger had a brewhouse, ale was the main drink and would have been made in many households, especially after harvesting. Twenty inventories record malt which comes from the sprouted barley. John Wither had 18qrs, his son Henry, 5qrs, 13 other people had between 3qrs and 1½ bushels and 6 had no specific amount. John Rumboll (52) had "dredge maulte in ye garner and in ye vault two quarters". A qr. of malt was worth about 10s. "Yooting" vats, for soaking the barley, were in eight households; four had malt querns (14,18,48,54) and practically every inventory had some form of sieve, more usually hair cloth or malt. Less frequent are the terms clansieve (22,26) and search (63). Only Wall (48) had hops valued at £1/-/. Some of the cauldrons may have been used for boiling the wort. For storage, the wooden vats, tubs, barrels, kives sometimes prefixed by "ale", were ubiquitous and numerous; 3 firkins are listed but the term "cask" is not mentioned at all. The use of standers on which to place barrels is a term only used rarely.

Verjuice barrells and kivers reflect the gathering of crab apples.

Agricultural Implements

The most common tools were bills, or, bill hooks, which were sometimes described as hedging, forest, or faggot. Axes and wedges, for splitting wood, were obviously necessary but far fewer saws and hammers were in evidence. Hatchets and mattocks for breaking up the ground or grubbing up trees were in about a third of the inventories. Similar numbers of augers and shovels are recorded but only six spades. Prongs are four times more common.

Ploughs are the most important piece of equipment for arable farming but equating acres and ploughs is no simple matter. The following comments refer to 58 inventories because three couples (12/13, 16/17, 24/26) have each been counted as one:

28 inventories show acres and ploughs and 10 show acres and no plough

7 inventories show no acres but have a plough

13 inventories show no acres and no ploughs

One can attempt to explain these anomalies only by looking at each pair of will and inventory. As many of the testators were old they still paid for the leases but a son worked the fields and already owned the plough - this is true for men and widows. Some who had once been well-off husbandmen had only a few personal belongings left and others were labourers and poor widows. Although an old plough was often only valued at a few shillings, those "with the apparel" could be worth anything from 6s. 8d to £1. Ploughs were left to heirs in nine wills - to one or two sons, or wife and son, or a brother, and were not appraised. Some people probably shared a plough with a neighbour as the upkeep of a plough team of either oxen or horses would have been considerable. Wall (48) had 2 pairs of wheels recorded in the plough item which raises the question of the type of plough used.

Also associated with preparing the ground were ten ox yokes, a couple of plough shoes called sulc(t)oes, coulter, chains, a plough ring, iron hooks for an ox yoke and five seedelopps meaning a seed lepe or lip for carrying seed. Twenty inventories record harrows which were pulled by horses. Only one roller was mentioned and that was "old" as, indeed, many of the tools were so described. Four rakes and three hoes occur.

For harvesting there were scythes and riphooks, some households having eight of the latter (16,21,34), others had three or four. Riddles, or ridders, were for sieving; there were baskets called "wyllyes" because they were made from willow of which there was no shortage in these two parishes. Seven winnowing sheets and eighteen sacks are recorded.

Thirty seven inventories list carts, some people having two (18,48,54), of which just under half had iron bound wheels; Pricsmall (37) had a pair of cart wheels. The water cart and barrel listed for Wallis (30) were worth 5s. whereas his ironbound cart was valued at £1. Occasional cart lines, single wheels, strakes and stroddes are mentioned. The ladders could have been for extending the carts to carry hay, for instance, or of a type for roof access.

Considering the importance of sheep the frequency of tools is very low. Hurdles or wattles for controlling grazing are mentioned five times, shears nine, sheephooks twice, pitch pan and sheep bells once. Whetlond (12) who had most sheep, according to the inventory had none of these!

If the term "horsegear" is expanded it could incorporate one or more of the following: bridle, halter, harness, and maybe a panel (listed eight times) which could mean cloth or pad for placing under a saddle. Riding saddles feature six times (14,21,25,48,54,63) and only the gentleman Wall had a side saddle.

Grain

About half the inventories record wheat and barley in store, measured in quarters or bushels, and about a third mention oats; clearly the amounts recorded partly reflect the time of year. Thirteen inventories mention rye which was mixed with wheat to make bread.

Only once did the appraisers state the price per quarter (24), and frequently no amounts are given, or grains are grouped together, making it difficult to assess values so the following, for a quarter, should be treated with caution.

	Wheat	Rye	Barley	Oats
1550s	7s.		6s.	4s.
1570s	10s.	6s.8d.	7s.6d.	3s.4d.
1600s	16s.	11s.	10s.	7s.6d.

No mention is made of the condition of the grain except by the testator (39) who willed "2 bushels of wheat good sweete and marketable".

Fodder

Hay is stored in half the households, and associated with it twice were straw or fodder. Wall (48) has "hay for horses" but otherwise no use is stated. If amounts were given it was in cocks, joales or loads; occasionally it was said to be in a barn.

Horses

Forty four inventories list horses distributed as shown below:

No. of horses per inventory	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9+
Number of Inventories	12	13	5	5	4	1	0	2	2

These were variously described as mares, geldings, colts, fillies, nags, beasts and old! Ten inventories list geldings. Non owners seem to fall into the categories of the aged, widows or the poor as would be expected. Horses were used for riding and as draught animals.

Wither (21) left to his wife "a cart and a plough, 4 oxen and a couple of geldings to draw them with".

Morris (6) left to his son a cart and a plough and four horse beasts. The couple of "cart horse harness" entries merely reflect the use of horses to pull carts as they had for a few hundred years.

The values placed on horses obviously reflect their quality and often they are grouped together such as : 1 mare and her colt 10s. 2 colts 13s.4d. 1 horse and 2 mares £3/-/-

Cattle

Oxen are still used for ploughing in this period being mentioned as such in 14 inventories; plough steers (34), working steers (41), steers used to the yoke (63), and working bullocks (57) are the only four other entries. These animals were worth between £1/10/- to £3/-/- each. At death the hides would have been used. Bullocks of one year or two years are frequently mentioned. The two "shrubbyd oxen" (12) probably meant they were small, and not necessarily of the "scrub" breed. The term "stirtes" only occurs once (41). Bulls are recorded for each firmarius (21,54) and Whetlond (12) but are listed with other beasts:

- (12) 17 kine with heifers and 1 bull £16/-/-
- (21) 2 steers 38 kine and heifers and 2 bulls £43/-/-

Kine are listed for most households and are worth on average £1/10/- each but they are rarely listed by themselves. A cow was an essential for daily sustenance and the few absences in the inventories are explained by old age or poverty.

Sheep

Sheep feature in most of the inventories, which is to be expected in manors stretching on to the Downs, especially in this area noted for its clothiers. In 1575 Henry Wither (54) the firmarius had 54 acres of pasture and at his death had 149 sheep; his brother Peter (46) had 62; and their father John (21) had 160 sheep listed. Perhaps the following three people are an example of those who specialised in wool production viz: Whetlond (12) had 220 sheep, Frankleyn (18) had 125 and Wall (48) had 109. The table below shows the distribution of sheep amongst the remaining inventories:

No. of sheep per inventory	1-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-100
Number of Inventories	12	12	9	5	2	0	0	2

Those who did not have any sheep were widows or had given up farming or maybe had never owned any. Lambs were frequently left in wills. Terms used by the appraisers were sheep, ewes, lambs, teggs and wethers of which Whetlond had 60 "gradlinge" ones.

Pigs

Found in most inventories were pigs which would have been smaller than modern breeds; for example Bever (50) had :

"Item one sow one hog five pigs one shoat" £1/5/-"

Shutes were unweaned pigs ; the term "bacon" hogs was used once (36).

Poultry

As to be expected variations on entries such as five hens and a cock, a goose and a gander, three ducks and a mallard are recorded for practically every household, although only Wall (48) had a hen coop! "Chickens" is rarely used and "capons" tend to be only in wealthier households.

Bees

No honey was mentioned but eleven inventories record stalls of bees. The stalls could have been the grass type, made from reeds or straw, or the wicker type from woven willow or hazel. The keenest bee keeper must have been Dancastell (60) as he had 30 bee stalls and old hives worth £8/6/8. Martin (29) had 12 and the other people between 2 and 9 each.

Firewood

Firewood or faggots, essential for cooking, are listed in half the inventories and any amounts given are in either loads or joales, both terms being used throughout the period. It was sometimes stated to be in the yard, haies, or grounds (50). Mason's (38) 2 joales were valued at 4s. and Wall's (48) 30 loads at £3/-/-.

Compost

From 1595 onwards are seven mentions of "compost or soil" and only once (50) was there mention of the term dung and a dung pike. These heaps could be piled in the haies, wood, yard, or g(y)ate and would have been spread on to the fields.

Gardens

These are mentioned for Dancastell (60) and Pricsmall (63) who both had beans; the latter had onions and garlic in store. However it is known that gardens were important both for small fruit and the daily consumption of vegetables as in potage, for example, and for herbs for healing drinks and dressings. Many of the leases mention orchards.

LINKS WITH OUTSIDE SETTLEMENTS

Lists of debtors for work effected by craftsmen, holders of a lease, birthplace of a husband are the sources for outside links and these are within approximately five miles of the villages. Extending the radius to twelve miles encompasses the only other places mentioned namely Upper Clatford (Wall's lease of a mill), Whitchurch, Basing and Stratfield Mortimer.

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Kingsmill Papers: 19M61 465-667
Wills and Inventories - see Chronological List

MAPS (H.R.O.)

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19M61/1486 1753
17M50 1815
5M64/6,15 1846

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6" 1876
1" 1959 sheet 168
1:50,000 sheets 174, 185
1:25,000 sheets SU45/55, 46/56
1" Geological Survey

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The Inventory of all the goods Sometime John martine of
 Edmondston husbandman in the countie of Hunting
 Item his hols apparell — vij l
 Item his bedding & all longynge thereto — vij l
 Item two coffres — ij l
 Item all his brasse — iij l viij s
 Item all his powder — vij l
 Item all his tresser & vessell — ij l
 Item two tabull boorde & a chaire wth stool — vij l
 Item two bottellis & a basket — vij s
 Item two sylkes two hookes — ij l
 Item a faworne a paire of necke carde — vij s
 Item 10 pound of melle — ij l viij s
 Item a busshell of oyle — ~~vij l~~
 Item a crow — iij s
 Item two horse brestes — iij l
 Item 10 shepe — x l
 Item a sow wth ij piggs — x l iij s
 Item two geese wth other pultry — ij l viij s
 Item a curie wth the apperment — iij l viij s
 Item a plow wth the apperment — x l iij s
 Item 10 madd — iij l viij s
 Item two ladders — iij s
 Item a fole of hey — ij l
 Item two Ropps — vij s
 Item a pincell a bag & pronge — ij s
 Item all minor of graine in the felde — wth all iij l viij s
 Item all his wtho stuffe — x l viij s

Sum totalid wth the vij l

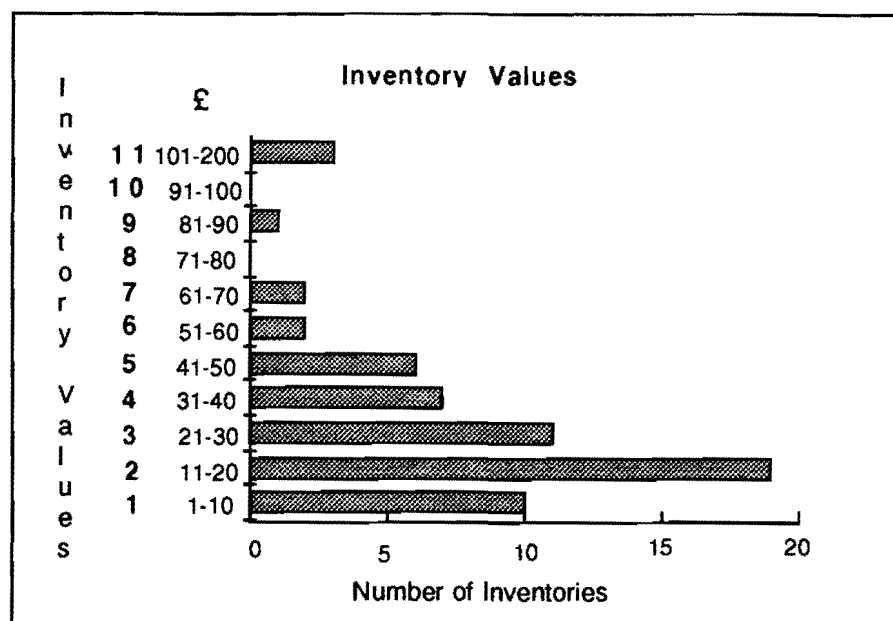
Witnessed by honest men Thomas Lynge John Waller and
 William nthme

A Chronological List of Wills and Inventories 1528 – 1619

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
1	FRANKLEYN Jn	1528	E		cooper	W								S	B1528
2	BEVER Richd	1530	E			W									B1530
3	BEVER Wm	1532	E			W									B1532
4	WHYTE Joan	1553		S	widow	W	I	2							B1554
5	MASON John	1555		S			I	3							U1553
6	MORRIS Richd	1555	E		millr	W	I	3	H						1555 B47
7	MILLETT Alys	1557	E		widow	W	I	1							U1557
8	MARTIN John	1557	E	S	husb	W	I	1							U1557
9	HARDING Thos	1558		S	widower	W	I	2							B1558
10	LAMBE John	1558		S		W	I	1							1558 U 282
11	PRYCSMALL Thos	1558	E			W	I	2	H						B1558
12	WHETLOND Richd	1558	E			W	I	7							A1558
13	WHETLOND Joan	1558	E		widow	W	I	5							1558 B 717
14	WYNBOLT John	1558	E		smith	W	I	4	H	C			K	B, S	1558 U 504
15	REDE John	1558		S	yeoman	W	I	5	H	C			K		B1558
16	LEGGAT Richd	1559	E			W	I	3							U 1559
17	LEGGAT Joan	1559	E		widow	W	I	2							U 1559
18	FRANKLEYN Lawr	1563	E		cooper	W	I	7	H	C					A1563
19	MARTIN John	1565		S			I	3							A1565
20	NAYLE Robert	1566		S		W	I	2							B1566
21	WITHER John	1567	E		(firmar)	W	I	11					K	P, Br, Bu, L, L, B	1570 B 499
22	WILLIS Nic	1570	E		cooper	W	I	2	H	C					B1570
23	SWETEAPLE John	1570		S	husb	W	I	2							1570 B 422
24	ALLFORD Rich	1570	E			W	I	2	H	C			K		1570 B 7
25	WHYTE Wm	1570	E			W	I	1	H	C			K	B	1570B
26	ALLFORD Agnes	1571	E		widow	W		2	H	C			K		1570B
27	WILLIS Richd	1571	E			W	I	2	H	C					B1570
28	NUT Alice	1576		S	widow	W	I	1							B1576
29	MARTIN Wm	1576		S		W	I	3							B1576
30	WALLIS John	1579		S	clerk	W	I	3	H						1579 B 45
31	MORRIS Richd	1581	E		millr	W	I	4							1581 B 77
32	SALTER Walter	1584		S	husb	W	I	5							1584B
33	PARKER Wm	1584	E		lab	W	I	1							B1584
34	WINKWORTH John	1585	E		husb	W	I	5	H						1584 B 96
35	ROWLAND Peter	1585	E		husb	W	I	2							1585 A 101
36	WINKWORTH John	1588	E				I	4							1588 Ad 67
37	PRICSMALL Wm	1591	E		husb	W	I	4	H						1591 A 117
38	MASON Edm	1592		S	glover	W	I	3	H	C					1591 A 96
39	MARTIN John	1592		S	husb	W	I	2	H						1592 B 38
40	MORRIS Marg	1593	E		widow		I	2							1592 Ad 70
41	PHAIRE John	1593		S	smith	W	I	3	H	C					1593 A 90
42	HARDING John	1595		S	husb	W	I	4	H				K		1595 A 36
43	MASON Thos	1596		S	husb	W	I	5	H						1596 A 82
44	KING Richd	1597		S	lab	W	I	2							1597 A 54
45	YOUNG Joan	1598	E		widow	W	I	3	H	C					B1598
46	WITHER Peter	1599	E		husb	W	I	2							1599 A 81
47	MARTIN Margt	1600		S	widow	W	I	2	H						1600 A 43
48	WALL Francis	1600	E		gent	W	I	11						B	1600 A 59

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
49	WINKWORTH Lawr	1600	E		husb	W	I	1							1600 A 66
50	BEVER Richd	1600	E		husb	W	I	6	H					L	1600 A 5
51	FRANKLEYN Ingram	1600	E		husb	W	I	3	H	C					1600 A 29
52	RUMBOLL John	1602	E		husb	W	I	2							1602 A 61
53	ROWLAND Rich	1602		S	husb	W	I	3							1602 A 60
54	WITHER Henry	1602	E		yeoman	W	I	11							1602 A 82
55	BEENHAM Richd	1602	E		husb	W	I	2							1602 B 6
56	SOUTH Paul	1604	E		husb	W	I	4							1604 A 79
57	MICHENOR Richd	1604	E		weaver	W	I	2							1604 A 56
58	MASON Alice	1606		S	widow	W	I	5	H	C				B	1607 A14
59	FRANKLEYN Thos	1606	E		husb	W	I	1							1606 B 22
60	DANCASTELL Stephen	1607		S	husb/ye		I	4							1607 Ad 16
61	MARTIN John	1608		S	lab		I	1							1608 Ad 39
62	LEGGAT John	1611	E		yeoman	W	I	1		C					1611 A 61
63	PRICSMALL John	1614	E		husb		I	6	H	C	C	C	K	old K, L, B, BC	1614 Ad 76
64	WALTER Abraham	1619	E		yeoman	W	I	9	H	C	C				1619 B 76

- A & B List of testators in order of death by present calendar reckoning
C Dwellers in Ecchinswell
D Dwellers in Sydmonton (No. 8 ... born in S and lived in E)
E Occupation
F & G Wills and Inventories extant
H Inventory values (excluding debts and leases) See bar graph below.
I-N Named rooms : H - hall Bu - buttery
C - chamber Br - brewhouse
K - kitchen L - loft
P - parlour B - barn
S - shop (workshop)
- O HRO Reference Numbers



GLOSSARY

Items in Inventories of Ecchinswell and Sydmonton and selected terms from the leases

W	ADZE	tool for shaping wood
C	ANDIRON	angerans; pair of horizontal bars supported on three feet with vertical uprights to support burning wood
W	ANDVILL	anvil, block on which the smith works metal
A	APORNES	aprons
H	AQUAVITAE	applied to bottles of spirit for drinking
L	ASSART	land cleared for cultivation
W	ASSHES	ash used by a cooper for making casks
F	AUMBRY	aumry(e), amory; chest or cupboard for food or utensils
W	AWGARS	nawger; auger, tool for boring holes in wood
F	BACKBOARD	used with bench
F	BAENK	benk, bank; bench
F	BANCKETTS	banquette; bench
F	BANKER	perhaps cushion for back of a settle or covering; or bench
W	BEAKIRON	bichorne, bickern; bick-iron, beek-iron, cooper's anvil on which hoops are riveted for kitchen utensils
B	BEDCASE	? frame in which bedding placed
B	BEDSTEED	bedstead, can be boarded or joined
L	BINDING	describes chisels and sledges
H	BODKINNE	bodkin, for making holes, or type of needle
A	BODYES	bodice, form of corset
B	BOORDEN	borded; boarded, applied to bedsteads; with panels at head or both ends
H	BOULTING	bolting, describes a trough, which, hutch or tub used in sieving
H	BOWLTER	bolter; a sieve of different meshes for flour or meal
C	BRASSEN	made of brass
C	BROCHE	spit used in cooking
H	BUCKETTES	buckets
H	BUCKING	describes a tub or cowl used for washing or soaking
A	BUCKLER	small round shield
W	BUDGET	leather bag
W	BURDES	boards of timber
H	BUSHELL	bushel; size of container viz. 8 gallons or 4 pecks
W	BUTTERES	butteris, used in shoeing horses to pare hoofs
L	BYLLS	bills, knives with hooked ends used for various tasks; often painted handle eg. black bill
A	CALIVER	light musket
F	CANSTYCKE	canlestick; candlestick, made of iron, brass or pewter
M	CANVAS	usually made from hemp
A	CAP	worn by males of inferior class, by women indoors
L	CAPON	castrated male fowl
F	CAPPCASE	small travelling case or band box
H	CARDS	used prior to spinning to separate and comb out fibres of wool or hemp
M	CARSYE	carsey; kersey, cloth woven from long wool, coarse and ribbed
L	CART E LYNE	? rope for tying hay etc. on to cart
L	CASSAKELL	term for unit of land - area unknown
A	CASSOCK	long loose overcoat buttoned down the front; shorter for farmers
C	CATHORNE	kathorne, half gallon kettle
C	CAWDRON	caudron, caldron; cauldron, large kettle, boiler or cooking pot
M	CHAMLET	camlet, material of various fibres used for a bodice or other garment
H	CHARINE	cherne; chum for butter
C	CHAYFING	chaffing dish held food over a small brazier containing charcoal
H	CHESE	vat - wooden mould in which curd placed before being put in the cheese press
H	CHESE	rack-on which cheeses placed to mature
F	CHIARE	chair
L	CHURCHSCOT	payment of rent with chickens
H	CLANSYVE	large sieve used in brewing to strain hops from the wort
L	CLAPNET	net to throw over ricks at night to catch sparrows

A	CLOKE	loose outer garment of varying length
L	COCKE	cock of hay
B	COFAR	coffer, made of wood for storing clothes or valuables
L	COLT	young male horse
L	COLYMENT	cullen month, refers to sorting out sheep
L	CORNLYNE	to hold the seed basket round the shoulders when sowing, or to bind corn
A	CORSELETT	corset, body armour
C	COTTRELLS	kottrells; cotterel, bar on which to hang pots
H	COWLE	large cask or tub for malt liquor or cooling milk or salting meat
H	COWPE	coope; coop, possibly also a cup
L	COWTER	culter; coulter, iron blade fitted on the plough share to cut soil vertically
M	CRESECLOTH	cress or crest cloth, type of linen used for linings
M	CRISOM	chrisom, shroud, possibly for a child
C	CRUSE	small earthenware vessel for liquids
F	CUBBERD	cup board, shelf on which cups were placed
L	CURTILAGE	ground near and belonging to the dwelling house
M	DIAPER	linen cloth in a woven pattern often used for table napkins, table cloths, towels; unbleached
W	DOGGS	usually of iron, gripping device
L	DONNGE	dung or soil; dung pike
H	DOWE	dowgrate - making or kneading dough, storing bread
W	DRAUGHT	draught shave
W	DRAWING	knife used by wheelwright to shape spokes; shaving and smoothing wood
L	DREDGE	usually oats and barley sown together
W	DRESSING	applied to knife; possibly for cleansing skins
C	DRIPPER	pan to catch juices under the spit
A	DUBLETT	doublet, close fitting garment often buckskin or worsted; sleeves could be detachable
M	DURANCE	durable woollen cloth often for aprons
C	EARED	lugs - applied to dishes with handles
L	EWES	yeawes, female sheep
L	FAGGOTS	bundles of wood for fuel (fewell)
L	FATCHES	see vetch
B	FEATHER	for beds, bolsters, pillows
C	FIRE PAN	portable iron grate with short legs and long handle for broiling meat before the fire
C	FIRE PIKE	long poker
L	FIRMARIUS	"farmer" who paid annual rent to lease property from the owner i.e. manor from the lord
H	FLAPE	? associated with "wanting" - meaning unknown
C	FLESH HOOK	to extract meat from a pot
B	FLOCK	wool unsuitable for spinning, hair, for beds, bolsters, pillows
C	FLOURE	flour cups
L	FLYTCH	flitch, side of pig salted and cured
F	FORME	form
F	FOSSERS	type of chest
M	FRISE	thick woollen cloth
A	FROCK	term for informal gown
W	FULLER	blacksmith's iron hammering tool for making grooves in iron
M	FUSTYAN	fustian, coarse twilled linen cloth with short velvety pile
C	GALLIVERS	metal bars with hooks over the fire
L	GATE	pasture
W	GAUGE	used in measuring by craftsmen
C	GAWNE	gallon, used for kettle
L	GELDING	castrated horse
C	GIRDGION	gridiron, metal bars in grid pattern for broiling meat or fish over the fire
L	GIRSE	girth, band to secure saddle
L	GOSSE	goose chicks
L	GRADLINGE	? used to describe wethers
C	GRATEIRON	see fire pan
L	GRYNDLISTONE	grindstone
A	GYRKYNGS	jerkens, jacket worn over doublet but longer skirts; could be sleeveless

L	HACHETT	hatchet
L	HAIES	hedges, area within the hedges for pigs, storing fuel etc.
H	HAIRSIEVE	coarse cloth from horse hair for drying malt over a kiln
A	HALBEARD	halberd, weapon combining spear with battle-axe fixed on end of long pole
W	HAMMERS	hand, nailing, shoeing; see remitinge
B	HANGING	term for cloth hanging by the bed or on the wall
L	HAPPES	hops or cooper's hoops depending on context
A	HARGABER	habergeon, coat of mail or armour to protect breast and neck
L	HEFFER	heifer, young cow not yet calved
B	HELLING	hilling, healing, type of quilt bed cover; can be a wall hanging
M	HEMP	cannabis sativa, linen substitute, for canvas, ropes
L	HERIOT	render of best beast, object or money on death of tenant, to the lord
L	HINNIS	hens
H	HOCHES	hutch, box or bin
H	HOGWASHTUB	tub for kitchen refuse to feed hogs
M	HOLLAND	cloth, fine linen from inner flax fibres
A	HORNE	shoeing horn
L	HORSHNES	harness
L	HORSLOCK	lock for fetters
A	HOSES	hosen, stockings
L	HURDELS	hurdles, temporary fencing for controlling grazing
A	JACK	coat of mail
L	JOALE	golle, jole; measurement for hay and firewood
F	JOYNTED	joyned; joined, furniture made with mortice, tenon, wooden pegs by a joiner
W	JOYNTERS	joiner, very long upturned plane used by a cooper
H	KAN	can, container with handle on top
H	KEFFER	kiver, kyver; kever, shallow wooden trough or tub; kneading, milk, moulding, siting
L	KEYN	kine, cattle
H	KIVE	tub or vat especially for brewing
A	KYRCHES	kergevers, kerchaffe; kerchief, cloth used to cover the head and neck
A	KYRTLE	half kirtle = skirt; full kirtle = bodice and skirt
W	KYRVINGE SAW	curving saw
C	KYTTILLS	kettelles; kettle, container with lid but no spout
L	LADDERS	to extend carts to carry large loads eg. hay, wood, corn; to reach the roof
H	LANTHORNE	lantern, portable light with metal walls and panels of horn enclosing a candle
W	LATHE	for turning wood
H	LATYNE	latten, metal alloy of copper and zinc; colour like brass
H	LAVER	basin for washing hands before and after meals
W	LEADDEN	describes lead weights; associated with beam scales
M	LEGGWOLL	leg wool used for spinning
H	LETHREN	leather, describes bottles; covered with tar or pitch for beer or cider
H	LIDGING	describes barrels; ? for steeping linen in alkaline solution called lye; ? leaching - liquid thro' cloth
M	LOCKS	unspun fleece
M	LOKERAM	lockram, coarse loosely woven linen used by poorer people
L	LOWDE	load, eg of hay
L	LOWYSE	loin of beef
L	LUGG	measuring pole - perch of 16 1/2 feet
M	LYST	list, strip of woollen cloth or selvedge; type of patchwork; for coverlet
W	MANDREL	cylindrical or cone core round which metal is forged or shaped e.g. iron rings
H	MASER	mazer, goblet or bowl usually of maple - rare and valuable
L	MATTOCK	adze and spike at either end; to grub up trees, loosen hard ground
L	MAUNGER	manger
H	MELE TUB	meal tub containing edible grain or a measure
L	MESTLING	mueslin; maslin, mixture of wheat and rye for bread
H	MOULDING	describes kever and board for shaping and kneading dough
L	MOWE	mound eg. wheat, hay
A	NECK RAYLES	neckerchief folded and worn like a shawl round neck
A	NYCOTTES	nysattes, nytells; nycette, light wrapper for the neck

L	OXEN	castrated bulls; draught animals
L	PANEL	cloth to place under a saddle or a rough saddle
C	PAPPAN	vessel for holding pap or baby food
A	PARTOLETTES	partlet, m. and f. to cover upper part of chest and neck; decorative
H	PECK	container for 2 gallons of dry goods
L	PESEN	peas
A	PETICOTES	petticoat, of inferior material; attached to body of dress by laces or points
H	PEWTER	alloy of tin and lead
B	PILLOWBEARES	pillow cases
W	PINSARS	pincers
C	PIPKIN	small pan or glazed earthenware vessel
W	PLATE SHEERS	shears to cut metal
C	PORRINGER	pryd; metal dish
C	POSNET	small metal pot for boiling with handle and three feet
C	POTHANGELLS	pot hangers or pot hooks; hook and chain attached to a bar or secured in the chimney
C	POTTINGER	potager; small dish for soup etc.
H	POWDRING	describes tubs or troughs for salting or pickling meat
F	PRESSLE	press, large cupboard usually shelved to store clothes
W	PRICHELL	pritchell, pointed hammer for making nail holes in horse shoes
W	PRICKYER	pricker, sharp pointed implement
L	PURPRESTURE	land taken out of the lord's waste
L	PYTCHER PAN	pitch pan to heat pitch for sheep
H	QUERN	small hand-mill for grinding malt, pepper etc.
L	RACK	frame in stable to hold fodder
A	RAPPE	wrap
A	RAYLE	rail, see neckrayle
L	REAPEHOOK	riphook; curved blade with serrated edge
W	REMITINGE	describes a hammer, possibly rimer i.e. to enlarge holes in metal
L	RIDDERS	sieves of different sized mesh for sifting grain
L	ROPES	ropes, made of hemp or straw
M	RUGGE	worsted - sometimes used as coat lining
M	RUSSELL	russet, worsted with lustrous satin like finish
M	RUSSET	homespun coarse woollen cloth - neutral, grey, reddish brown
W	SAW	hand, tenon
C	SAWCERS	saucers, for sauce
C	SCIMER	skimmer
A	SCULL	skull, iron or steel cap
H	SEARCH	fine sieve, strainer
L	SEEDELOPP	basket for carrying seed when sowing
F	SHOLLFFES	shilvebbord; shelf boards
L	SHOTES	shotts, sutes, shuttes; shoat, young weaned pig less than a year old
H	SHOVEL	described as fire and spitting
L	SHRUBBYD	describes small oxen
W	SHYERS	shears, for sheep
H	SILTING	salting kever, trowe, vat
C	SKYLETT	skellet, metal cooking pot with three feet and long handle
W	SLEGGS	sledge, type of heavy hammer
A	SLOPPS	slops, baggy knee breeches
A	SMOCK	f. garment worn next to the skin, m. worn over other clothing
L	SOYLE	soil, term for compost
W	SPANDREL	used by a cooper, ? for measuring
C	SPICE MORTAR	to pulverise spices and other foodstuffs
L	SPINDLE	for grindstone
C	SPIT	for roasting meat before a fire
W	SPOKESHAVE	small plane with slightly curved blade
L	STALLES	hives for bees
H	STANDER	possibly measuring vessel or same as upstander
L	STIRT	stirk, yearling bullock, or heifer between one and two years old

H	STOCK CARDS	large cards on a stand for combing wool
L	STRAKES	iron strips nailed on to a cart wheel
L	STRODDER	listed with cart or plough, often iron, in pairs; meaning unknown
M	STUFFE	stuff, general term for worsted fabric
L	SULTOES	sulcoe, plough shoe
W	SWAGE	tool for shaping wrought-iron etc. by hammering or pressure
B	SYLING	bed ceiling, tester
L	SYTH	scythe
A	TACHES	pair of, attachment such as buckle, clasp, hook
L	TEGGS	tegs, yearling sheep before shorn
B	TESTER	bed canopy of cloth or wood; cloth at bed head
M	THRUMMED	fine felt with long pile or nap used for hats worn by men and women.
L	THYLLHARNIS	harness attached to thill i.e. shaft of cart
B	TICK	linen fabric, used for bolsters
H	TOD	weight of 28 lbs. but varied locally
H	TOURNE	spinning wheel
H	TREEN	wooden trenchers and dishes
H	TRENCHERS	wooden plates
Z	TRENTAL	series of thirty masses for the dead
F	TRESSELLS	trestles, to support a board for a table
C	TREVETT	trivet, metal tripod for cooking vessels
H	TROWE	trough
B	TRUCKLE BED	low bed on wheels pushed under a higher bed
A	TRUSE	knee breeches
H	UPSTANDERS	on which to place barrels
A	VENETIANS	breeches, usually pear shaped, tied below the knee
H	VERKYVES	vering, vergis barrel; verjuice, probably from crab apples; cider; vinegar
L	VETCH	vicia sativa (tares), used for fodder, can smother weeds
L	VIRGATE	number of acres in a virgate are variable within and between tythings
F	WAINSKOTT	wainscot, wooden panels
H	WANTING	? describes flape, slape, shovel, staff
A	WASTCOTE	waistcoat, worn under doublet, often quilted; for warmth, or display
L	WAYMERS	wanlyne, wenlyng; weaned animals
L	WEGGS	wedges, splitting wood etc.
L	WETHERS	male sheep, castrated rams, often have heavier fleeces so kept for wool
A	WHITTELLS	mantle when going out, or a blanket
L	WILLYE	willow, basket
W	WIMBLE	term for either an implement for boring or making a straw rope
L	WINDOWING	windwing, winfyng; winnowing, fanning chaff from grain
H	WITCH	whiche; wiche, wooden box see bowtiter
L	YARDLAND	see virgate
L	YATE	see gate
L	YEAWE	ewes, female sheep
L	YERELINGE	yearling, year old beast
A	YEWE	yew for bows
H	YOTING	yatinge, euting; yote, to soak barley prior to making malt
L	YOWKE	yoke, as for oxen

Key to Categories

- A Apparel and armour
- B Beds and bedding
- C Cooking implements
- F Furniture
- H Household processing
- L Land – farming, tools, animals, crops etc.
- M Materials, cloth
- W Workshop – tools of craftsmen
- Z Miscellaneous

LOCATION OF PARISHES

