

## Where Was Ticcenesfelda Wicum?

One of the charters that we have examined includes land at Ticcenesfeld. Since this land lies on the western side of Ampfield we have assumed that this was an earlier name for Ampfield. Ticcenesfeld also occurs as a landmark in the Chilcomb charter. In both instances the location on the boundary circuits suggests to me that Ticcenesfeld is not a 10th century name for Ampfield but instead refers to Baddesley Common.

S 381: King Edward to Winchester Cathedral; confirmation of 20 hides (manentes) at Crawley and 8 at Hunton, Hants., with appurtenant land at Ticcenesfelda wicum

Donum Edwardi regis to Crawlelea . Clamante divine auctoritatis agiographo commonemur ut terrena presentis seculi lucra dantes . celestia eterne beatitudinis emolumenta iugi indefessoque adquiramus labore . Ideoque incertum futuri temporis statum mutabilitatemque certis dinoscens indiciis . totis uiribus prout posse dederit qui cuncta creauit subnixo delibero ut redemptoris nostri possessionem ecclesiis iure delegatam in priorem sancte religionis statum certis roborata litterulis medullitus consolidarem . Quapropter ego Eadwardus diuina indulgente clementia Angul Saxonum rex . rogatus fui a meo dilecto episcopo . Friðestano . territoria ecclesie Dei cui deseruiebat pertinentia nouis litterarum apicibus renouare . Et ueterum librorum monimenta recenti recuperata auctoritate restaurare . Idcirco uotis eius libenter obtemperans renouare studui territorium illius telluris que noto . Crawanlea . appellatur uocabulo . quantitate . xx et . viii . constans manentium . xx . scilicet æt Crawanlea . et . viii . in Hundantune . reuerende Trinitati . beatoque apostolorum principi . eiusque coapostolo Paulo . uti antecessores nostri priscis dederant temporibus renouando iterum deuotus eterna largior hereditate . Sit igitur prefatum rus cuius ego cum optimatum meorum consilio libertatem fideliter renouaui eterna iocunditate gloriosum cum omnibus sibi rite pertinentibus . pratis uidelicet . pascuis . siluis . expeditionis laborem pontis arcisue restauratione . tantummodo persoluat . alias iocundetur eterna libertate . Si quis autem diaboli plectus instinctu hanc perpetuam nostre renouationis libertatem uiolare uel minuere audax . presumpserit . a sancta corporis et sanguinis domini nostri Iesu Christi communionem . et sancta Dei ecclesia ac sanctorum omnium contubernio segregatus eterna inferni miseria dampnatus intereat . si non satisfactione congrua humiliter correctus emendauerit quod contra nostrum tumidus deliquit decretum . His limitibus hoc rus circumdatur . <a name=S381: Bounds of Crawley>Ærest to beast man lea . ðonne norð to lunden hærpæde . swa to winstanes stapole . of ðam stapole to ðære dic . forð and lang dic . utt to stræt . 7 swa suð 7lang dic . oð fora gean ðane niwan stan . ðonne west 7lang dic . of ðære dic innan sceaftes hangran . swa forð be æfisc to fearn leage suð be herpæde . ðonne to baccan geate . 7 swa forð be efisc to lippan hamme . ðæt to ðam scamelan . swa forð to beatan stapole . ðæt west 7lang dæne to deopan delle . ðæt west 7lang slades to swinburnan . swa norð of ðone æna byrigels . ðonne 7lang dæne . Of fearn dune . ðet forð to screotes dune . swa on sænget ðorn . ðet to trind lea . swa on beastman lea . **þis sind þá wic. ðe hyrað þer to . Ærest æt ticcenesfelda wicum . swa norð 7lang hagan þæt man cymð to fearburnan . þæt forð to mearc dene heafdum . swa norð to seaxes seaðe . swa suð þonan of hit cymð to þære holding stowe . þonne þer suð 7lang hagan of hit cymð æft to ticcefeldes wicum.** To hundatune . Ærest fram ðære ea foran gean ðæs abbodes byrig . ðonne swa norð and lang ðæs grenan weges . to crammære . ðonne ðær up to ðam hricge . ðæt 7land dune to cealc grafan . ðonne innan cealc graf on ðone wyl . swa on ðæt ruge dæl . ðonan east on ðone weg . 7lang weges upp to ðam ricge . swa norð to ðam ðorne . ðær se stapul stent . swa 7lang weges to ðam slæde . ðonne be slæde to ðære byrig . swa nyðer 7lang weges on ðone forð . forð be ea oð hit cymð æft to ðæs abbodes byrig . Ego Eadwardus . Rex hanc restaurationem a me renouatam signum sancte crucis propria manu scribendo firmaui . Ego Plegmund archiepiscopus mellifluam donationem prefati regis subscripsi cum signaculo sancte crucis . Ego Friðestan . episcopus cum consilio eiusdem regis hoc roborauit atque conexi cum triumpho regis eterni . Ego Wulfsige episcopus consensi et subscripsi . Ego Wighelm episcopus consensi et subscripsi . Ego Ceolmund episcopus consensi et subscripsi . Ego Ælweard episcopus consensi et subscripsi . Ego Ælstan filius regis . Ego Ælfweard filius regis . Ego Osferð dux . Ego Ordlaf dux . Ego Beorhtulf dux . Ego Ordgar dux . Ego Heahferd dux . Ego Werulf presbyter . Ego Ælstan presbyter . Ego Beornstan presbyter . Ego Ealhstan presbyter . Ego Deormod minister . Ego Withbrord minister . Ego Odda minister . Ego Ælwold minister . Ego Elred minister . Ego Aðulf minister . Ego Ælferð minister . Ego Wulfheard minister . Ego Ælfric minister . Ego Wulfhelm minister . Ego Uffa minister . Ego Ælfstan minister . Ego Ælfred minister . Ego Ælfstan minister . Ego Wulfhere minister . Ego Aðulf minister . Ego Wulfhun

Above is the text of charter S 381 from Electronic Sawyer. The charter dates from between 909 when Frithestan became bishop of Winchester and the death of Edward the Elder in 924. I have highlighted the section pertaining to Ticcenefeld. This line precedes the description of the bounds: **þis sind þá wíc. ðe hyrað þer to.** How should we translate this? The word **hyrað** means ‘hire’ which suggests that this is a temporary arrangement, a lease rather than a grant of land. This preface to the boundary circuit does not give a name for the area denoted by the landmarks. As for **þis sind þá wíc**, **sind** means ‘are’, so **wíc** is plural. The word has a variety of meanings according to a Old English Translator. It is unclear what the word means in this context.

wíc Strong Neuter Noun dwelling-place lodging habitation house mansion village town pl entrenchments camp castle fortress street lane bay creek		
wíc	Singular	Plural
Nominative	(the/that þæt) wíc	(the/those þá) wíc
Accusative	(the/that þæt) wíc	(the/those þá) wíc
Genitive	(the/that þæs) wíces	(the/those þára) wíca
Dative	(the/that þæm) wíce	(the/those þæm) wícum

The boundary starts by heading north along the **haga** from **ticcenefeld** **wicum** and returns to the start by heading south along another **haga** to **ticcefeldes wicum**. The **wicum** is, or are, either within the estate at its southern tip or to the south of it. Is **ticcenefeld**/**ticcefeldes** the name of the estate enclosed within the **haga**? A **feld** in Old English was an open space used for rough grazing, not an enclosed area of pasture or arable as we would use the word field today. In this instance the open countryside is associated with a young goat, **ticcen** is genitive singular, or with someone named Ticce. PASE records the names Ticcea, Tycea and Tycca. The Anglo-Saxons did not explicitly assign names to locations. Place-names developed from the descriptions of places which were in common use. It is difficult to see how a field could have been widely associated with a single baby goat. Its name must reflect its ownership. **Cules felda** might also have been named for its owner, from the name Culla.

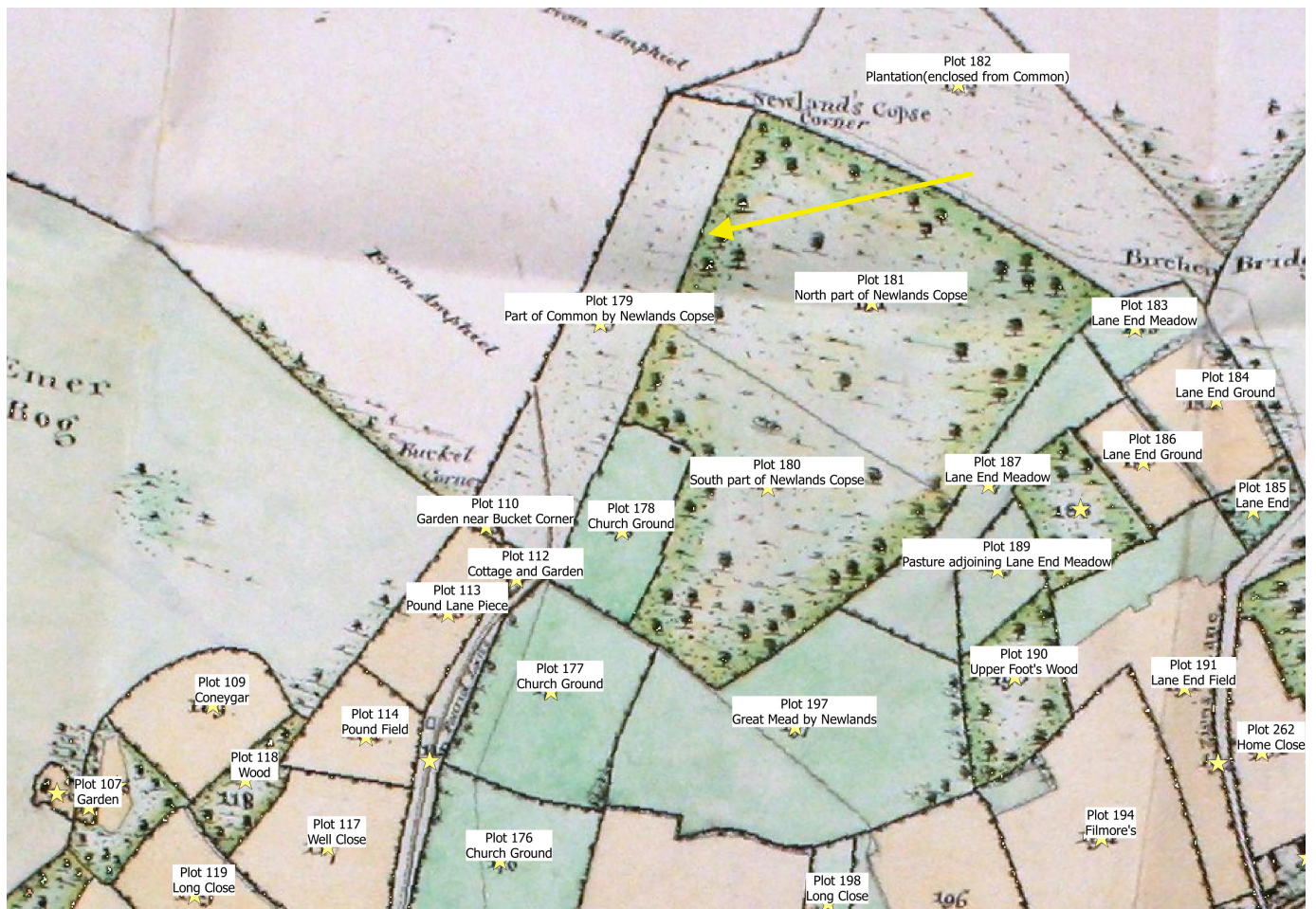
to searnægles forda	to searnagles ford
þæt up be swæðelinge	then up by Swathling
to sugebroce	to ?wagtail/bird brook
ðæt forð be mearce	then forth by the boundary
to cules felda	to pigeon field
forð be gehrihtum gemære	forth by the straight boundary
to stodleage	to stud lea
swa to ticnes felda	so to Ticensfelda
þæt to mearc dene	then to boundary dene
swa to tæppe leage	so to tappe lea

This is a section of boundary clause of the 909 Chilcomb charter (S 376), traveling clockwise from Chandlers Ford. Several of these landmarks follow the northern boundary of North Baddesley. The arrows on the estate map below point to the location of the ‘straight boundary’. An offset in the 19th century parish boundary takes in a strip of land enclosed from the common. A boundary circuit of North Baddesley from 1731 also includes ‘a strait line’ extending north from Buckets Corner. Heading south the Chilcomb boundary came to **stodleage** and **swa to ticnes felda**.

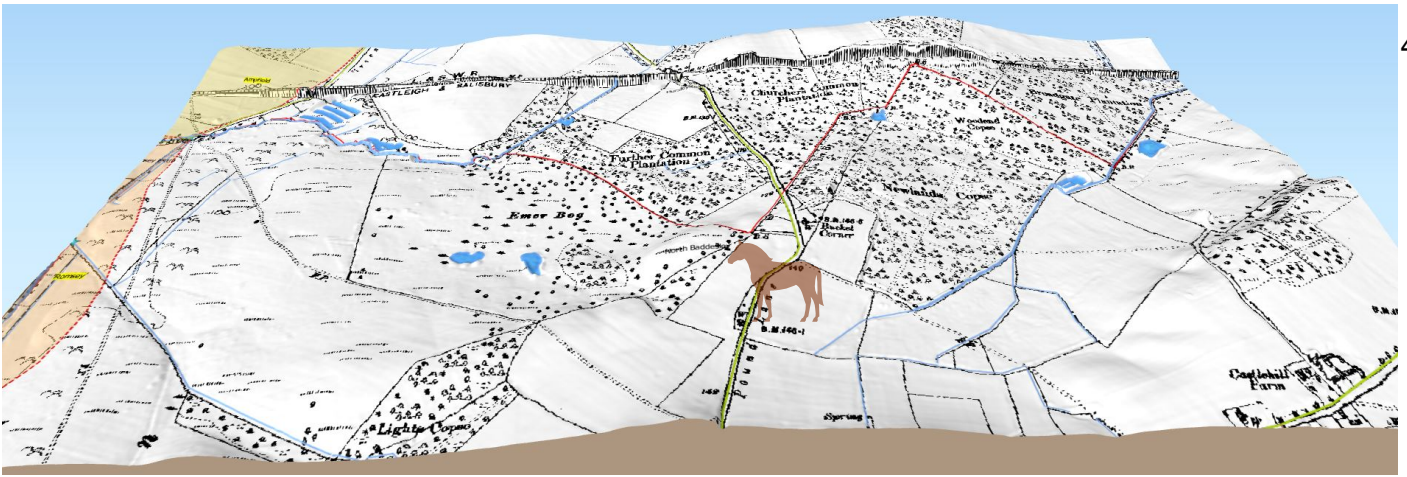




Badesley estate map, 1826.



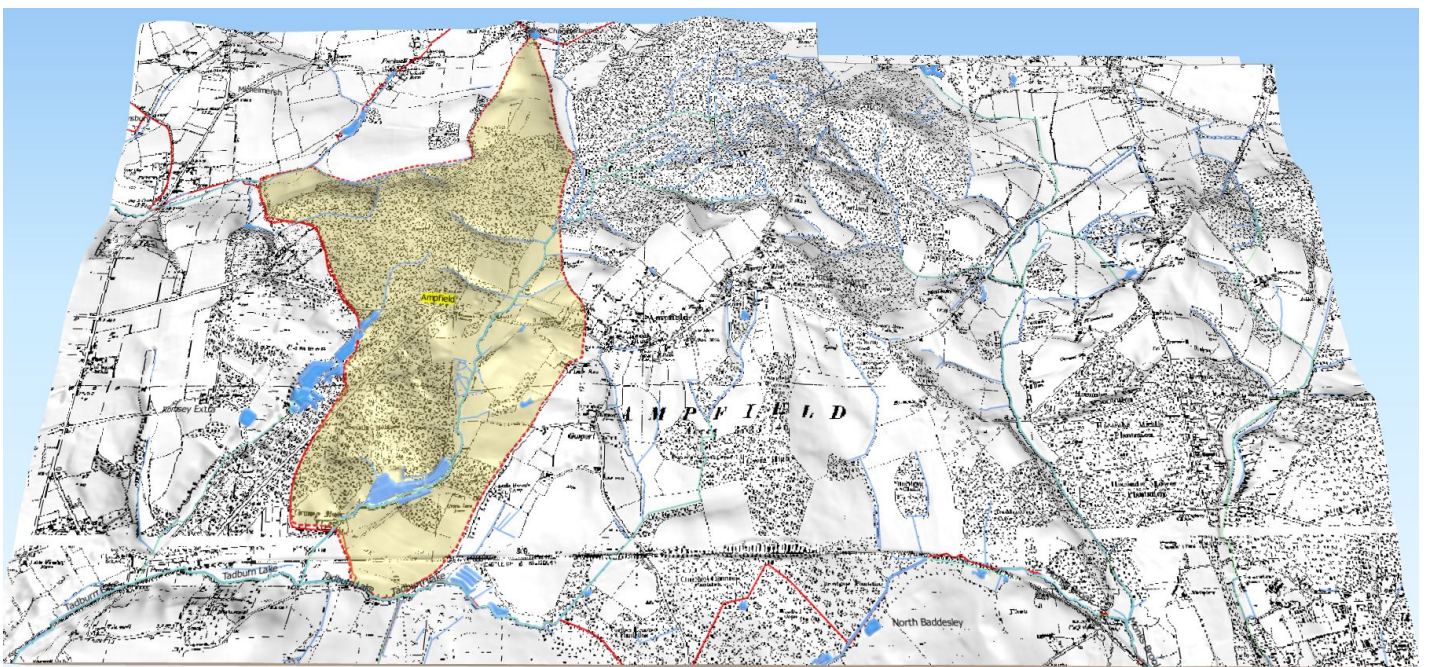




The map above is based on the second edition OS map combined with current surface water. The straight boundary of the Chilcomb charter ended in the vicinity of Bucket Corner at Stud Lea, wood pasture where horses were bred. The 3D depiction shows that this is an area of higher ground east of Emer Bog, still with scattered trees in the 19th century. Ticcenesfeld lay to the northwest. The southern tip of the Ampfield estate, the start and end point of the charter boundary clause, is on the left edge of the map. This area is shown as open, treeless grassland, a landscape that would fit the description as a **feld**.

Ampfield boundary clause:

ærest æt ticcenesfelda wicum	first at Ticcen's field wicum
swa norð andlang hagan	so north along the haga
Pæt man cymð to fearburnan	until you come to Fairbourne
Pæt forð to mearc dene heafdum	then onto the head of the boundary dene
swa norð to seaxes seaðe	so north to Seax pond
swa suð Ponan of hit cymð to Pære holding stowe	so south until it comes to the carcass place
Ponne Per suð andlang hagan	then there south along the haga
of hit cymð æft to ticcefeldes wicum	till it comes again to "ticcensfield' wicum

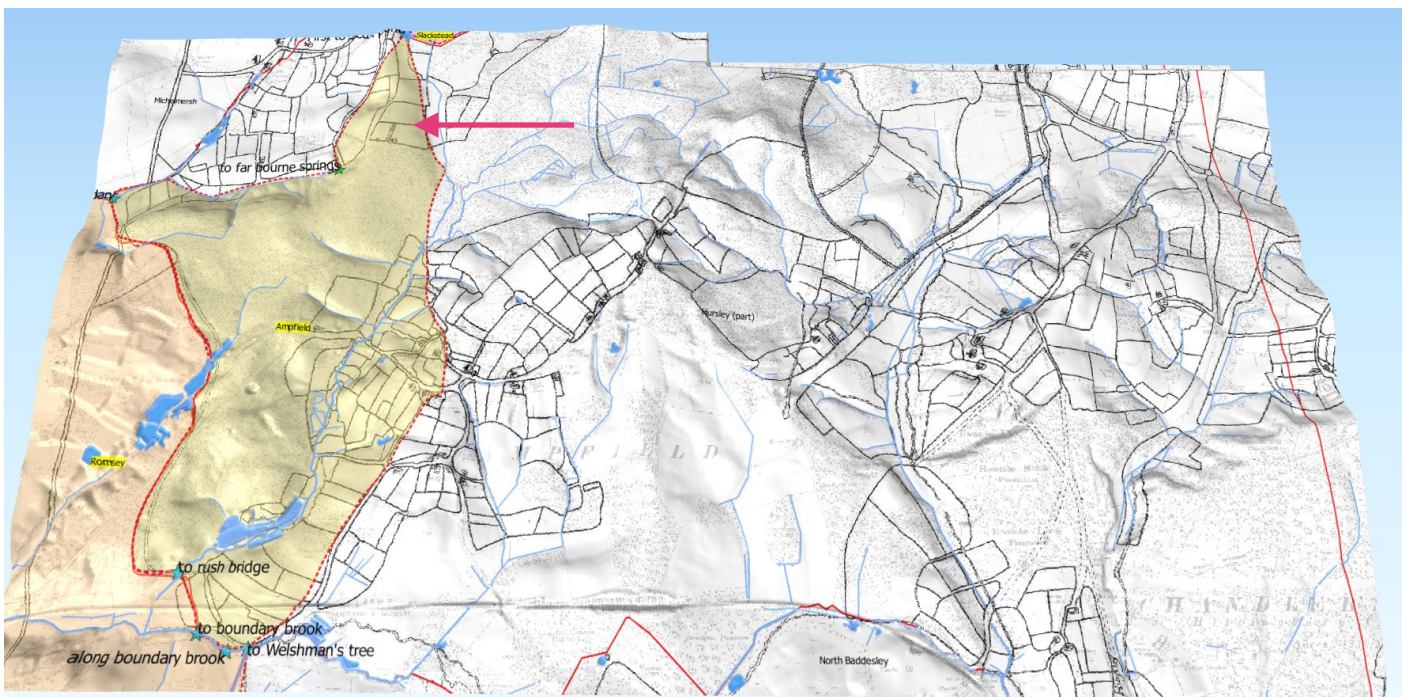




The clockwise circuit of the Ampfield charter boundary can be followed with a high degree of confidence for much of its length. The west edge is defined by the Bishop's Bank, the **haga**. The boundary then runs east to the head of the boundary dene, a valley that shows clearly in the topography. It turns north to **seaxes seathe**, Woolley Green pond. It probably headed south along a shallow valley, but its precise line is unclear. The **holding stowe** was located somewhere along the east boundary, possibly on or near Ampfield Hill, now bisected by the modern road. The words mean 'carcass place', that is, a slaughterhouse. It must have been near a road for the meat to be taken away. Another **haga** completed the boundary, probably running along the line of Green Lane.

The area enclosed within the boundary is largely woodland. It can hardly have been described as a **feld**. The land must have been leased to Crawley as a source of wood and timber. The slaughterhouse would have provided venison from deer confined within the **haga**. Domestic animals would have been taken to market on the hoof.

I think that Ticcenesfeld was the name for Baddesley Common, at least the northern portion of the common. The Chilcomb charter refers to the field as a landmark following on from Stud Lea. That boundary description jumps from Ticesfeld all the way to the Boundary Dene. The failure to mention the Bishop's Bank suggests that it was a prominent feature in the landscape by 909. The Ampfield charter starts and ends at a more specific location at the southern tip of the bounded land, at **Ticcenesfelda wicum**. **Wic** in a place-name is considered to mean a specialised farm, often translated as a dairy farm. The word in the charter is plural. I very much doubt that we are dealing with multiple farms here. However, the connection with dairying could be valid. During the course of my research I came across a reference to a dialect word 'wick' meaning a temporary shelter used for milking or cheese making. The common was used for pasture. The Tadburn and its tributaries would have provided cool water to keep milk fresh. The combination of possible translations for the word would work with this interpretation, a collection of temporary shelters perhaps each within an enclosure to manage the animals. It would require water nearby and a routeway to a market. Compare this scene with the list of meanings for **wic**: *dwelling-place lodging habitation house mansion village town pl entrenchments camp castle fortress street lane bay creek*.



The map above shows the field outlines from the 1588 map of the Hursley estate drawn by Ralph Treswell. Charter points for the Romsey charter S 812 of c. 972 are indicated by blue stars. Note that the double line near the left edge of the map is the border of the Treswell map. The red line along the right edge is also not a feature, but marks the limit of our mapped parish boundary data. The arrow points to the location of a Roman settlement.



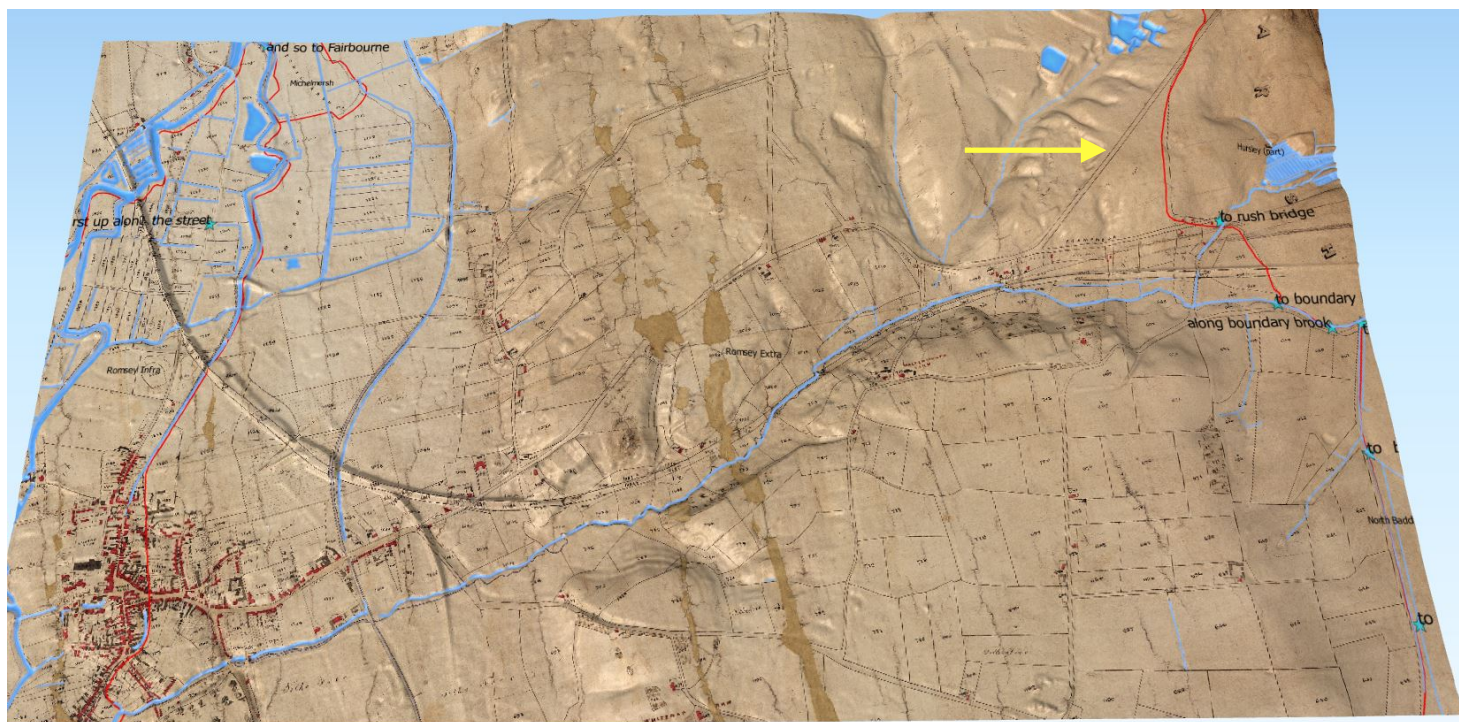
The boundary surveyors for a charter needed to describe a complete clockwise circuit of the land that was the subject of the grant or lease. Although any point could have served to start the survey, it would have made sense to gather the group together at a conveniently accessible location - easy to get to to start, easy to get back home from at the end of the day's work. Since the land at Ampfield belonged to the bishop of Winchester, it was part of the Chilcomb estate, the surveying party must have included officials from Winchester. Since **Ticcenesfelda wicum** was chosen it must have been accessible from the town, presumably via Hursley. The Treswell map shows the lanes running between fields. The splayed entrances to the lanes add a sense of movement within the landscape, formed as livestock fanned out onto the open pasture and serving to funnel them back along the lanes and droves. There are no tracks shown crossing the common east of Ampfield. However, an examination of the topography would indicate that wheeled traffic would have followed along the edges of the fields to avoid the small valleys and ridges.

The map includes the Bishop's Bank indicated by parallel lines labelled 'the Diche or bonnde betwene the two manors'. No roads or lanes are shown crossing the line of the bank. It seems that Jermyns Lane did not exist at this time. If there was no road, there would have been no need for a crossing at Bloody Bridge. If there was no bridge in the 16th century, how likely is it that Cynegils was killed at Bloody Bridge in the 7th century?

to ðare laðemere	to the lathery pond
and siðen oure bi bisshopes marke	and afterwards over by the bishop's boundary
to ris brigge .	to rush bridge
of mearkbrok	to the boundary brook

Landmarks on the Romsey boundary.

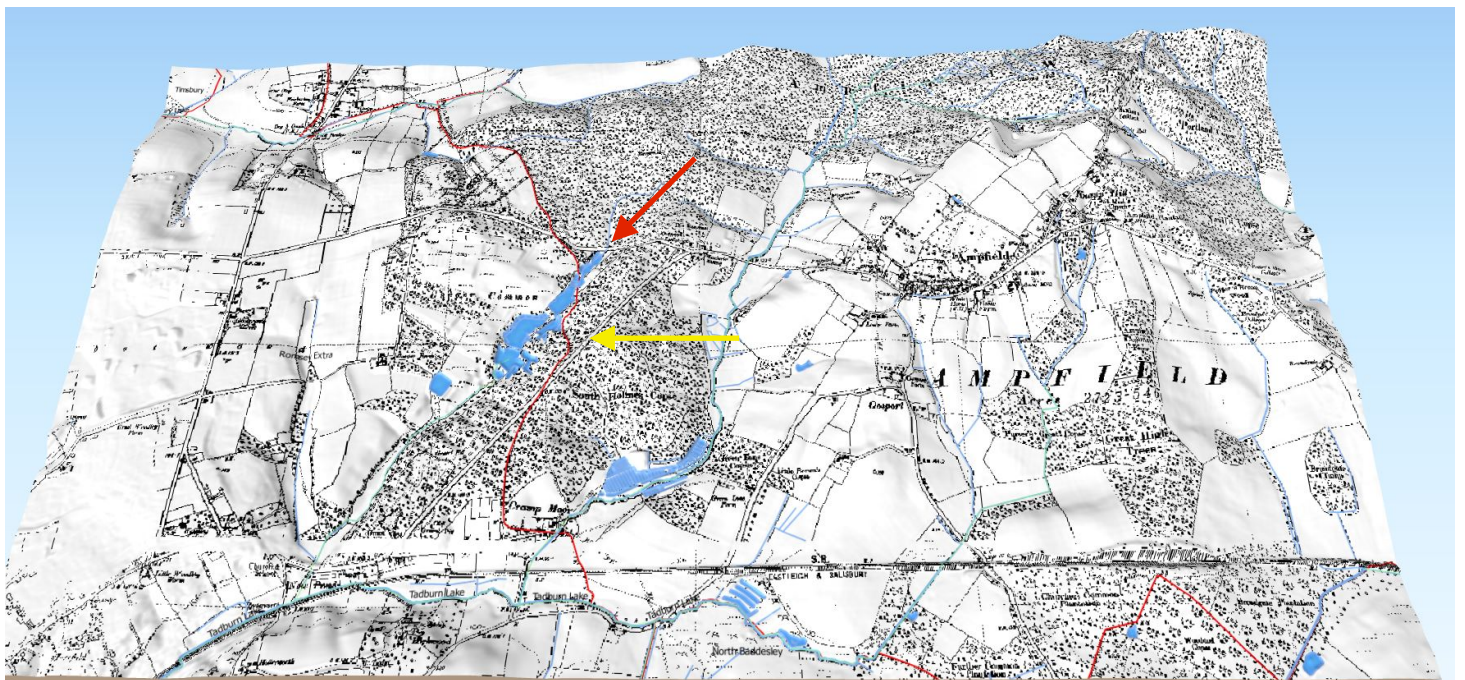
The Romsey charter boundary follows the full length of the Bishop's Bank, referred to as the bishop's boundary, from its northern end where it met the Fairbourne to **ris brigge**. The first word could be either rush (**rus**) or brushwood (**hris**) and might refer to the material used to construct a causeway to the bridge. A bridge is indicative of two features in the landscape: a waterway and a road. The 1845 tithe map shows a road continuing east from The Hundred to the rush bridge. Before the construction of the Straight Mile, arrowed in yellow, this would have been the route from Romsey to Winchester. This would have been the route to Winchester in the 10th century.





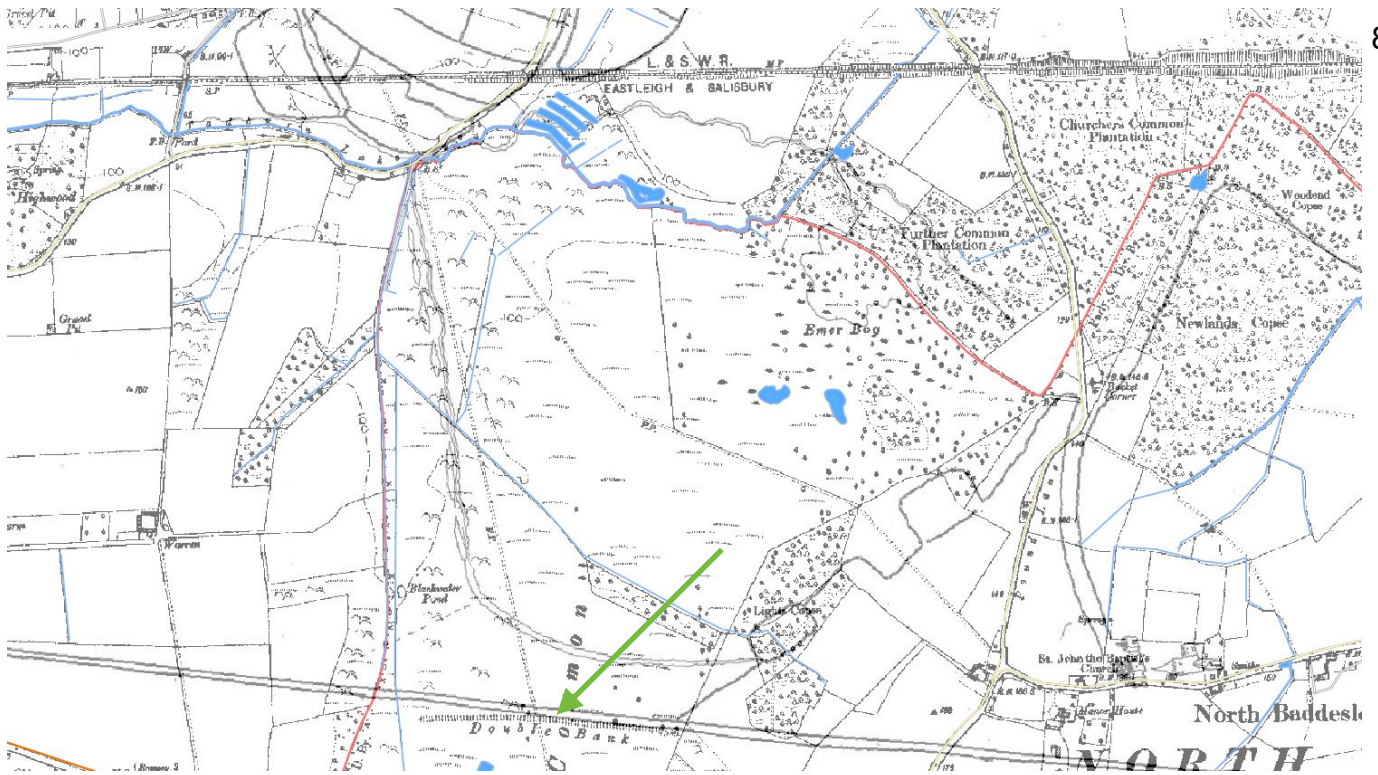


The road on the Romsey tithe map ends at the parish boundary. This detail of the Hursley map shows a continuation of the road along Theven Lane. The route probably headed north along Greene Lane and on to Gosport, then on through Ampfield (Anvile) and Hursley to Winchester. Newe Lane and Newlandes fields would have been relatively recent enclosures or assarts within the charter boundary.



3rd edition OS map with parish boundaries in red. The Straight Mile is arrowed in yellow and Bloody Bridge on Jermyns Lane arrowed red.





The southern boundary of the estate on the Hursley map, shown as a black line, doesn't follow the 19th century parish boundary, in red, to the north of Emer Bog. It runs southwest from Bucket Corner where the depiction of two enclosures along the boundary looks like a broken pair of spectacles. The location of the boundary relative to the modern map is inexact. Treswell carefully mapped houses and property boundaries, even depicting different styles of gate construction. He took less care with the southern boundary. The section of the map above shows that North Baddesley church and Pound Lane are positioned too far to the east. At its southern extent, the boundary is shown as a double line. This might represent the Double Bank shown on the OS map, arrowed and partially obscured by the map frame. If the Chilcomb boundary followed this one, Stud Lea could be further to the south of Bucket Corner. Was the Double Bank used to manage the horses?

## Discussion

The land at Ampfield defined in the charter would have been mainly woodland in the early 10th century, as it is to this day. There is a good, down-to-earth reason for this - the soil is best suited for growing trees. The bedrock underlying Ampfield Wood and South Holmes Copse is London Clay. Between them is a strip of Nursling Sand, a formation consisting of clay, silt and sand. The southern tip of the area, approaching the Tadburn, is underlain by the Wittering Formation. This bedrock extends over much of Baddesley Common and Emer Bog. Alternating beds of clay and sand result in areas of soggy ground edged by springs. This land is suitable for pasture. Perhaps there was a clearing here for the deer, on land bordered west, south and east by a **haga**.

At the northern side of the leased land a triangular projection, enclosing a broad ridge, extends to **seaxes seath**, Woolley Green pond. The pond lies near the rim of the Hampshire Basin, fed by the chalk aquifer to the north. O. G. S. Crawford suggested that the Old English word is the same as 'seethe' - where water welling up from the floor of the pond appears to boil. The bedrock here is the Lambeth Group. The sand, silt and clay of this formation produces soils that are suitable for woodland and for arable farming. The walls of a Roman settlement must still have been visible here in the fields named Chesterley. I think the purpose of this northward projection was to give access to the routeways on the Chalk for the transport of wood and timber to Crawley.



The Ampfield land lies on the edge of the Chilcomb estate. They share their western boundary between Ticcenesfelda and Woolley Green pond, where the Ampfield boundary heads south. The Chilcomb estate was said to have been granted to Winchester Cathedral by Cynegils in the early 7th century. In a charter of 854 (S 325) Ethelwulf confirmed its beneficial hidation, taxing the hundred hide estate as one hide. This arrangement was confirmed again by his grandson Edward the Elder in 909 in a charter (S 376) which included a boundary clause. The grant to Winchester of Crawley, which is located outside of Chilcomb on its northern border, and the lease of associated land at Ampfield is recorded in an undated charter (S 381). This refers to Bishop Frithestan so must date from between 909 when he became bishop and Edward the Elder's death in 924. At the time of the charter Winchester had held Chilcomb for generations if not centuries. The land at Ampfield formed part of the Chilcomb estate. Why was it necessary for the king to grant a lease on this land to Winchester's new estate at Crawley if the land already belonged to Winchester? The land in question was woodland. Did the king retain control of woodland as a key resource? Does this explain the payment to Edward's grandson Edgar by the nuns of Romsey for the purchase of woodland? The entrepreneurial nuns invested a considerable sum in order to increase the value of their estate. Does the name Abbotswood (Abbey's/Abbess's Wood) celebrate their ownership?

The charter describes the land at Ampfield using the plural noun **wic**. Grundy translated this as an outlying farm. I think the word was used for an area of specialised production. In this case the woodland might have been divided into more than one compartment in order to manage cycles of felling or coppicing. Alternatively, an area set aside for deer might have been considered as a separate **wic**.

As well as being a specialised activity, I think the word was used for an activity that was seasonal. Therefore, a **wic** would be occupied for only part of the year. In Ryan Lavelle's book *Alfred's Wars*, there are several passages from the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle in which he translates the word as 'camp': **wicum** as 'camps', **wicstowe namon** as 'made camp' and **gewicod** as 'encamped' (pp. 179, 187, 188). The word forms the place-names for the major Middle Saxon emporia - Hamwic, Lundenwic and Ipswich. The **wic** element referred to the waterside market area. Trading would have been seasonal. Merchants would not have undertaken sea voyages in the stormy winter months. The peace treaty between Ethelred and Olaf Tryggvason, possibly dating to 994 when the Vikings overwintered in Southampton, detailed the protections afforded to traders. Although Hamwic had been abandoned by this time, I think one clause helps to paint a picture of a **wic**: 3.2 If he has drawn his ship ashore or built a cabin or pitched a tent, then he is to have peace, and all his goods. (*Ibid.*, p. 330)

I think that **Ticcenesfelda wicum** was an area on the northwestern corner of Baddesley Common that was used primarily for dairying. Temporary shelters and enclosures would have been built alongside the pasture. It was accessible by road from Romsey and, since it was chosen as the starting point of the boundary survey, also from Winchester. It was a convenient location for a party of officials and local informants to meet, just outside the **haga** enclosing the woodland.

This was a rural economy. Mares and their foals grazed the wood pasture at Stud Lea. Cows and ewes were brought in from the pasture for milking at the encampment alongside the Tadburn. Perhaps the dairymaids returned to Romsey at the end of the day. The nuns might have sent their servants out along the road to Crampmoor to buy fresh milk and butter. The traffic back and forth justified the construction of a bridge. Contained within the **haga**, the deer would have been unaware of their fate as the hunters set up their nets. Their meat was processed at a location near the road and the venison loaded onto carts for the monks. Foresters would have set up their camps in the woodland. By analysing the charters, it is possible to populate and animate the 10th century Anglo-Saxon landscape.



