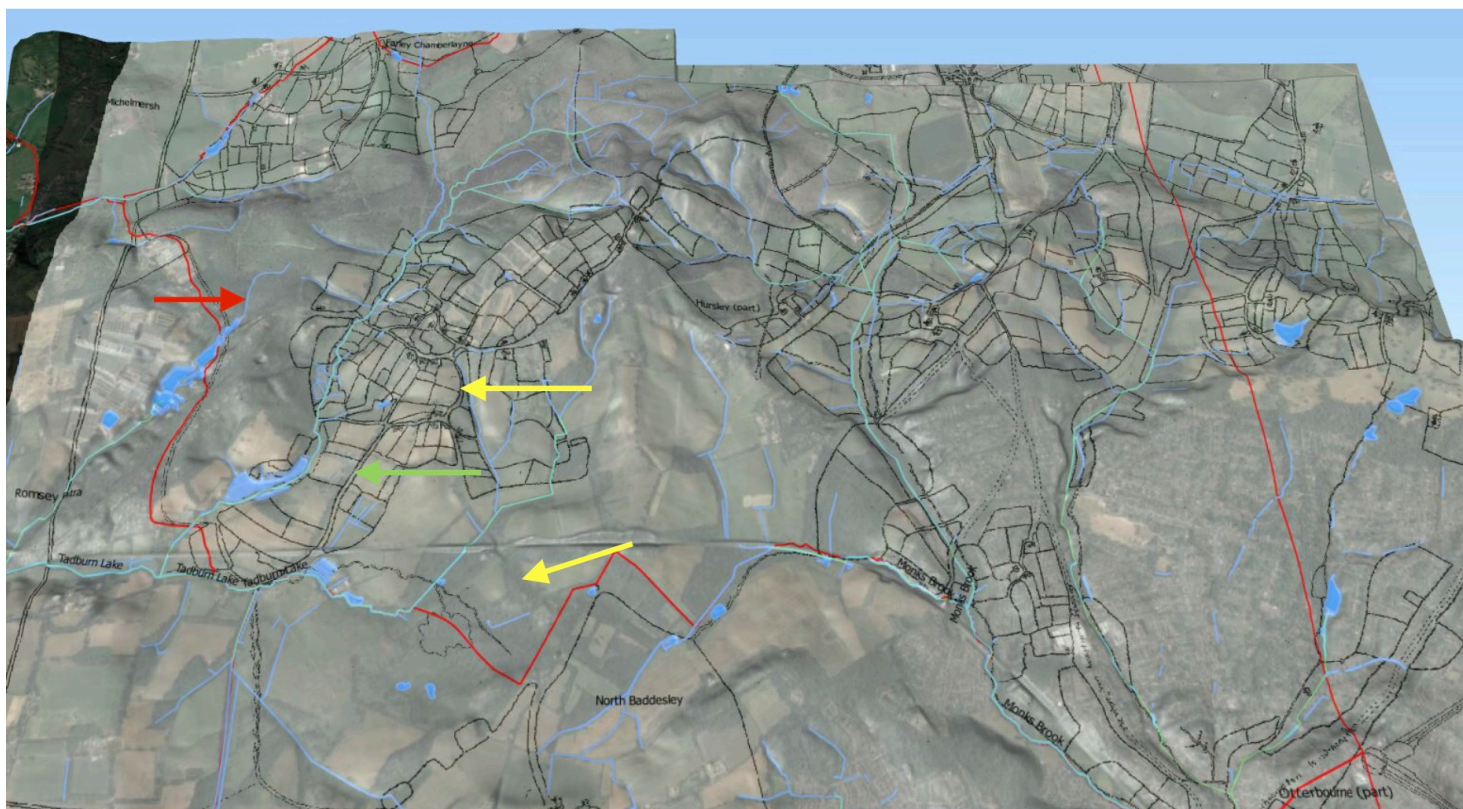


These comments have been prompted by Chris Read's interesting contribution to the discussion on Ticcenesfeld. His paper covered a number of topics concerning the interpretation of the Saxon charters in the area of Baddesley Common represented on the 1588 Hursley map. These include the location of the *haga*, the origin of Emer Pond/Bog and the relationship of the Double Bank to the Hursley boundary.



The map above combines Roger Harris' tracing of the 1588 Hursley estate map with a view from Google Earth, rendered into 3D. The cliff near the northern edge marks the limit of the LiDAR coverage for our area. Red lines denote mid 19th century parish boundaries, apart from the straight line near the right edge that marks the limit of those boundaries in our QGIS data. Surface water has been added. It is very noticeable that the Tadburn north of Emer bog and its tributaries to the south have been extensively canalised, masking the natural drainage pattern. Many of the ponds are artificial and of relatively recent date.

Several features are arrowed: the, appropriately, red arrow points to the location of Bloody Bridge; the colour green is also relevant, pointing to Green Lane. I have suggested in my previous paper that the *haga* on the east side of the land described in the Ampfield charter was on the line of Green Lane; the western *haga* is shown as a ditch on the Hursley map and is followed by the later parish boundary. The yellow arrows point out Pound Lane.

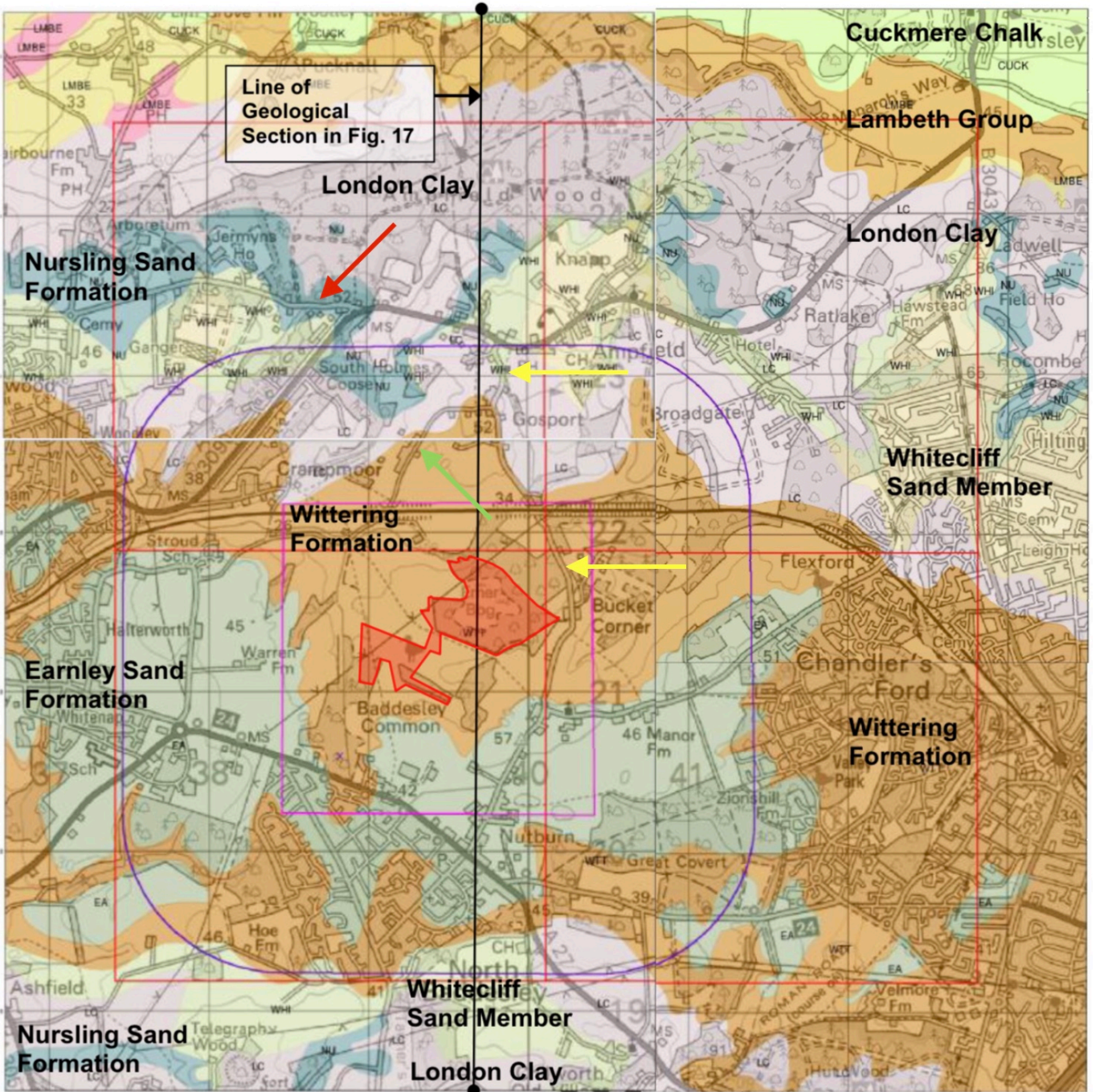


Fig. 12 1:50, 000 scale British Geological Survey Map showing Bedrock deposits only. Also showing the line of section used to derive the cross section in Figure 17.

The geology map above and the two figures below are reproduced from a paper I found online - *Emer Bog and Baddesley Common Hydrological Desk Study* by R H Allen, 2017. Its purpose is to evaluate the potential risk of local development to the area designated as a Special Area of Conservation and a Site of Special Scientific Interest, outlined in red on the maps.

The map demonstrates a general correlation between the bedrock geology and land use. This is largely due to the varying nature of the soils derived from the different formations. London Clay north of Ampfield is covered by woodland. The Wittering Formation underlies the grassland of Baddesley Common and Emer Bog. The strata here are nearly horizontal, infilling a shallow syncline. Clay beds within the bedrock impede drainage, allowing the soil to become waterlogged. Peat develops where the the wet conditions persist throughout the year. The seasonally waterlogged grassland maintains sufficient moisture to allow grazing throughout the dry summer months. Springs develop where sandier layers within the clay lie near the surface, feeding the streams that cross the common. The combination of lush grass and fresh water would have made this area valuable within the local economy for pastoral farming.

7.15 **Figure 17** is a schematic geological cross-section taken north-south through Emer Bog and Baddesley Common. The line of section is shown on **Figure 12** above. It can be seen that the Wittering Formation laminated clays (on which Emer Bog and Baddesley Commons sit) overlie the London Clay in a shallow downfold of the strata (shallow syncline).

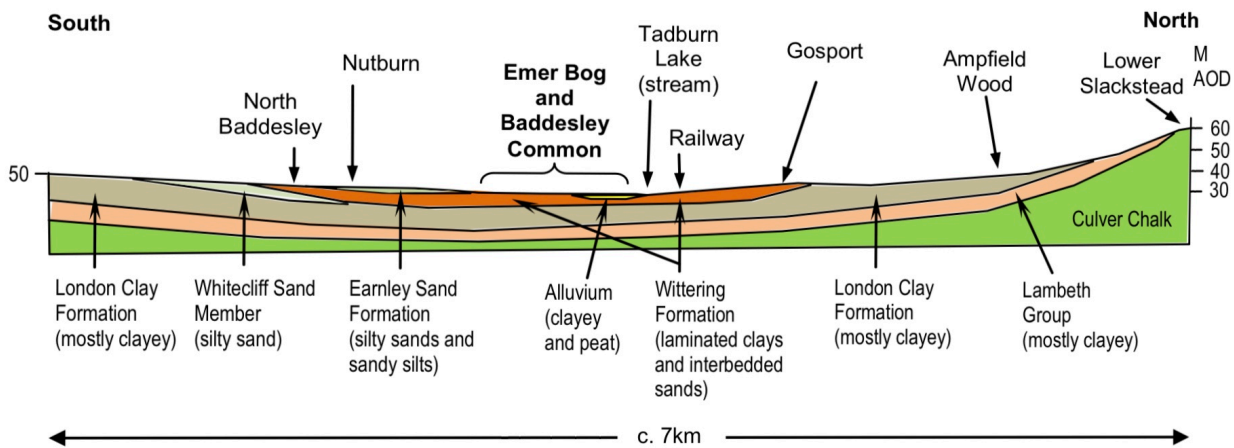
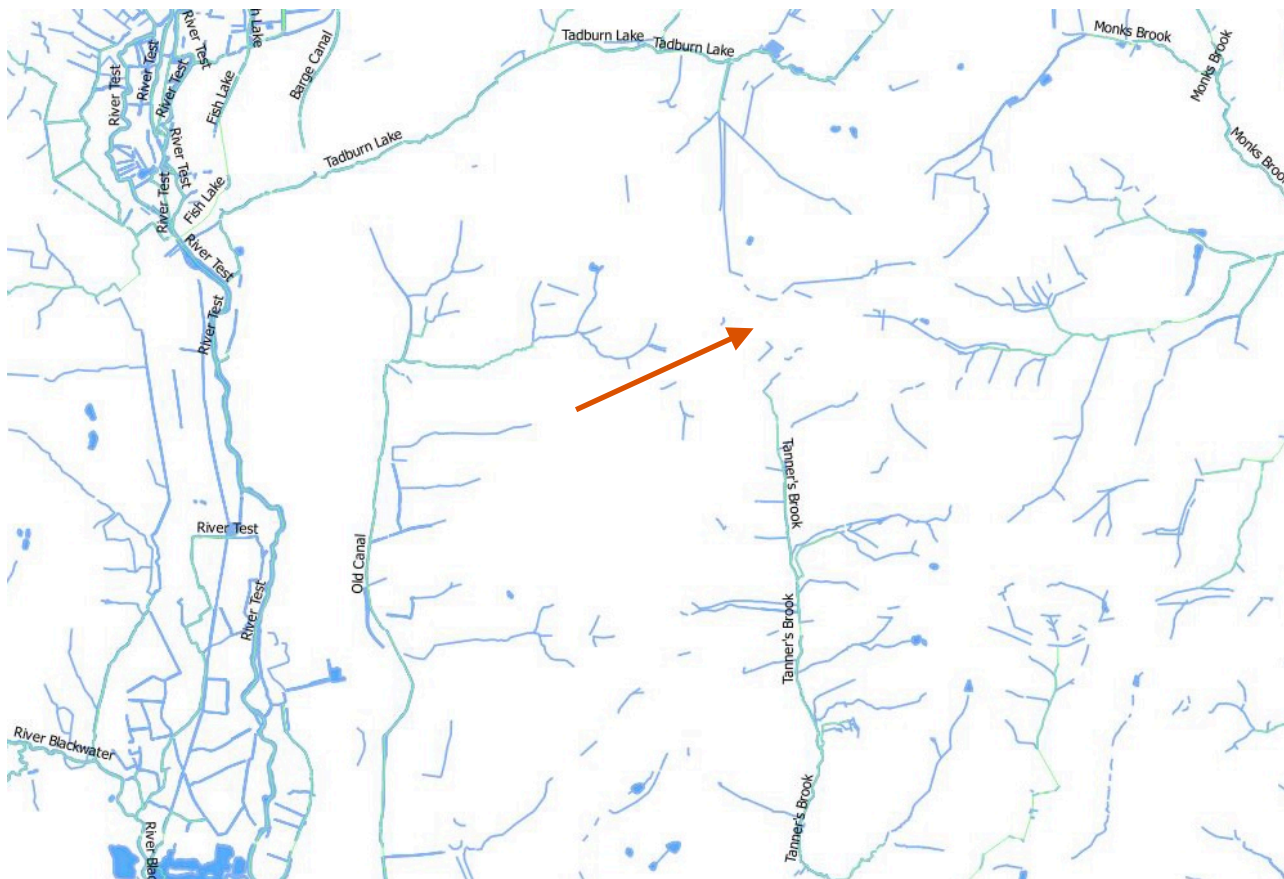
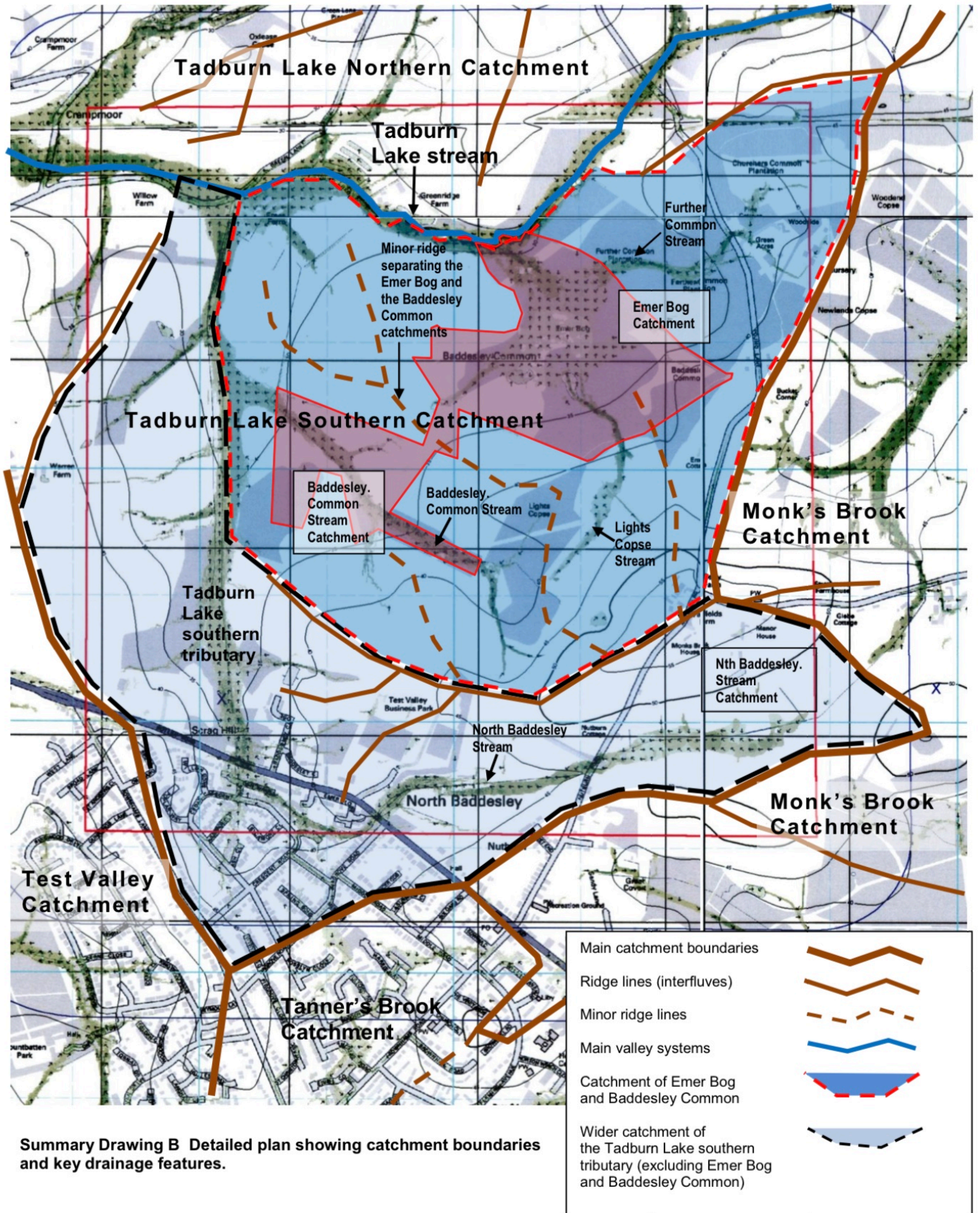


Fig. 17 Schematic geological cross section north-south through Emer Bog and Baddesley Common showing the arrangement of strata. Precise dip of strata at Emer Bog is uncertain. Based on 1:50,000 scale geological map. Vertical scale exaggerated. Not to scale.



The map above shows the drainage pattern for the various streams east of the Test. The arrow points to the southern end of Baddesley Common. The surface water in this area drains towards the four cardinal points: north to the Tadburn Lake, south to Tanner's Brook, east to Monk's Brook and west towards the Test. The catchment areas for each stream are mapped below. Brown lines mark the ridges that form the watersheds, showing the detail of this complex system of minor waterways.



Summary Drawing B Detailed plan showing catchment boundaries and key drainage features.

The Haga

Chris Read provided a reference that discussed the meaning of the term *haga*. This source pointed out that the use of the word was related to areas of woodland and considered that some, at least, were associated with deer parks. Chris suggested that the *haga* mentioned in the Ampfield charter might have run along Pound Lane to the southern boundary of the Hursley estate shown on the Treswell map. Extending the *haga* this far south doesn't fit the charter evidence. The Ampfield charter describes a *haga* running north from *Ticcenefelda wicum* and another returning south on the east side of the tract of land to complete the boundary circuit. The western *haga* ends at Crampmoor in the Romsey charter with natural features defining the continuing boundary. This idea also doesn't work in regards to the function of a *haga* - it would not have been constructed to enclose a large area of grassland.

One of the landmarks on the Ampfield charter boundary gives a strong indication that the *haga* was used to enclose a deer park - the *holding stowe*. Translating *stowe* is simple - it means 'place'. What that place was used for is less easy to determine. Old English *hold* means a dead body or corpse. This word was not used when referring to an execution site. Given its association with a *haga*, the deceased must have been deer. I have come across an early 15th century description of deer hunting that might be relevant. It describes the killing of large numbers of deer by driving them with dogs to a prearranged point where hunters were positioned with their bows. Carts collected the slain deer, as the hunting continued, and took them 'to the place where the *curées* have been usually held'. The carcasses were then laid out in rows, separating the harts from the hinds, with 'all the heads one way and every deer's feet to the other's back'. The carcasses were then 'unmade', ritualistically divided up and apportioned to the various beneficiaries. The *curée* was the reward given to the hounds of the internal organs.

Hunting was a high status activity, and venison was a high status food prior to the Conquest. We know from Ælfric's Colloquy that the Anglo-Saxons hunted with dogs which were used to drive deer into nets. This method of hunting would have been appropriate for procuring a quantity of venison for a feast. It would make sense for the hunters to have a designated area for processing large numbers of carcasses. We think the *holding stowe* was located on or near Ampfield Hill, now intersected by the main road. The earlier Saxon routeway would have continued on a similar line towards Winchester, making this a convenient location for the transport of the meat to the Bishop and the monks.

I found an interesting and relevant article online, but cannot get access to it. The abstract is copied from cambridge.org.

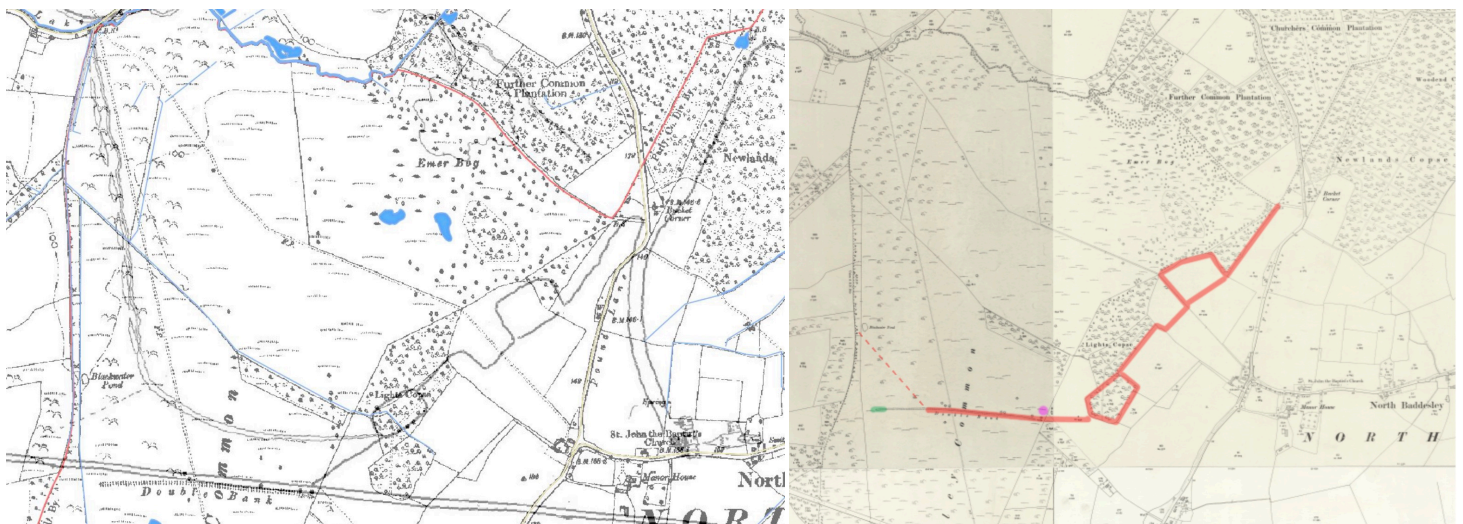
Aristocratic deer hunting in late Anglo-Saxon England: a reconsideration, based upon the Vita S. Dvnstani, Tim Flight, 2016.

Scholarship is divided over whether there existed a tradition of recreational hunting in Anglo-Saxon England, in addition to pragmatic forms of venery, and the extent to which it was altered by the Normans after the Conquest. However, hunting scholarship has hitherto neglected the detailed account of a recreational royal deer hunt in the Vita S. Dvnstani. By analysing this account, which describes a hunt resembling a typically 'Norman' *chasse par force de chiens*, I reassess the evidence for the nature of hunting in laws, charters, and the archaeological record. I posit that the Anglo-Saxon aristocracy hunted in a similar manner to the Normans, and that hunting was a socially inscribed pursuit, legally restricted to the ruling classes long before 1066. This argument supports the definition of the disputed charter term *haga* ('enclosure') in certain instances as an Anglo-Saxon hunting park. Finally, I suggest the existence of a specialized Anglo-Saxon hunting dog developed specifically to hunt large quarry in the 'Norman' manner.

I have suggested that *Ticcensfeld* was the name used for an area of Baddesley Common. Chris Read suggested that the mention of the name in the Ampfield and Chilcomb charters, but not Romsey's, implies that the area was within the bounds of the two charters. I don't think that the evidence supports this conclusion. The description of the Ampfield boundary starts at *Ticcensfelda wicum*. The word *wicum* is plural. Whatever a *wic* was, more than one of them was clearly not a single point on the map. This is not one of the landmarks defining the boundary; it is the location where the survey party convened to start their perambulation. The actual boundary would have been perfectly obvious - the *haga*. The people involved would have included representatives of the king and the bishop, along with local informants, meeting at some arranged time. There is no reason to assume that they would have met inside the *haga*. The mention of *Ticcensfelda wicum* in the Ampfield charter does not imply that *Ticcensfeld* was located within the Ampfield bounds.

The Romsey estate bordered Chilcomb and Ampfield. Since each boundary was described as a clockwise circuit, the surveys of contiguous estates proceeded in opposite directions along the shared boundary. Romsey's boundary followed the *haga* from its northern end, near the Fairbourne, south to Crampmoor. The continuing boundary was defined by a watercourse, the *markbroc*. The fact that *Ticcensfeld* is not mentioned tells us nothing about its location, simply that it was not required as a landmark to define the boundary.

The Chilcomb charter boundary approaches the area of Baddesley Common from the east. The landmarks appear to correspond to the shifts in direction, the zigs and zags, of the later parish boundaries beyond Chandler's Ford and Swathling. However, it isn't clear that the line of the 10th century boundary was preserved as it crossed Emer Bog and the Common. The southern boundary of the Hursley estate on the 1588 map is further to the south. Is this the boundary of Chilcomb?

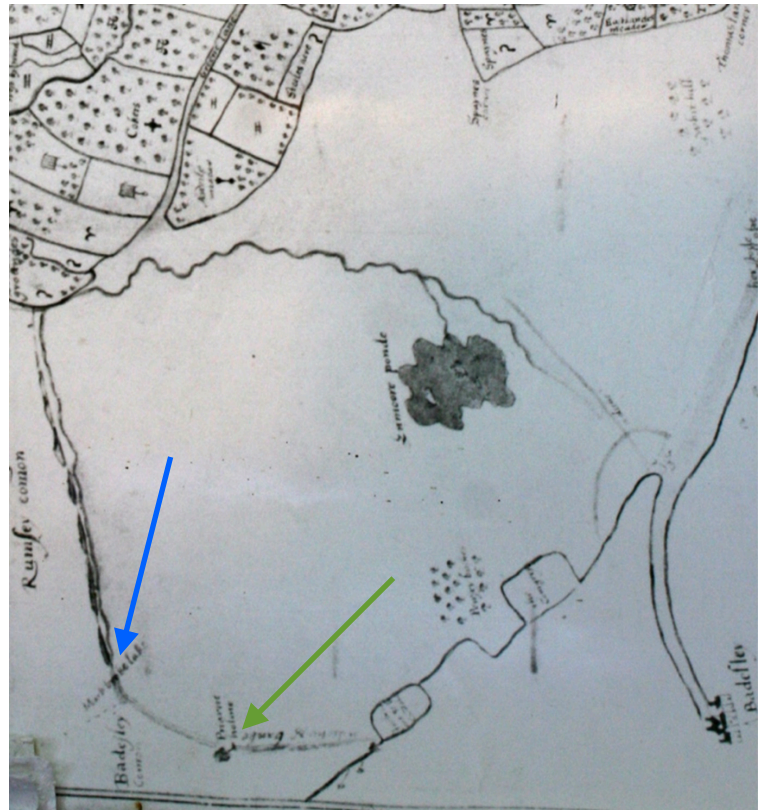


The map on the left shows the parish boundary, in red, heading southwest to Bucket Corner, then running towards the Tadburn north of Emer Bog. The Hursley boundary continues on from Bucket Corner before swinging west and north towards Crampmoor. Two enclosures adjacent to the boundary give it a distinctive outline; Chris Read has suggested its position on a more recent OS map. The line taken by the Chilcomb boundary cannot be determined from the charter landmarks which follow the straight boundary to Stud Lea and so to *Ticnes felda*. There is no reason to assume that it followed the parish boundary. The Hursley map shows that the boundary shifted north sometime between 1588 and the 19th century. The stud could have been near Bucket Corner or further south, with the open ground of Ticcensfeld lying to the west.

In order to map the Saxon charters, we have had to select a single point to represent each landmark. The lea, wood pasture, and the *feld*, open land, were not precise locations defining the boundary. Grazing animals would not have confined themselves within notional boundaries, so, in the absence of fencing, a general definition of the boundary would have been sufficient. Leas are common boundary landmarks; where a circuit reaches a lea, it is reasonable to interpret the boundary as continuing through the lea, not skirting around it. The horse stud was located on wood pasture on the eastern or southern edge of the open grassland. Ticcensfeld lay between the stud and the *haga* at Crampmoor. The Chilcomb boundary would have crossed it.

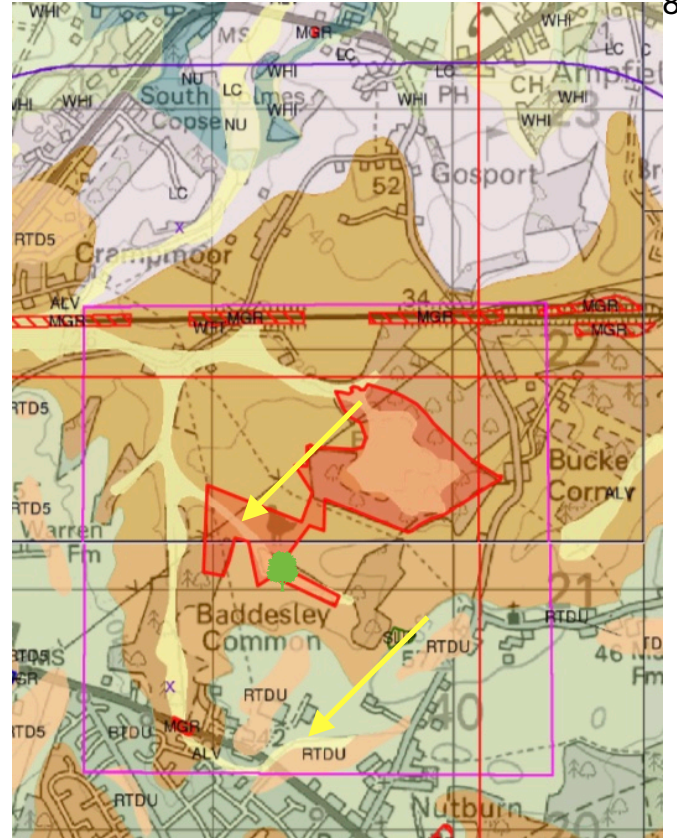
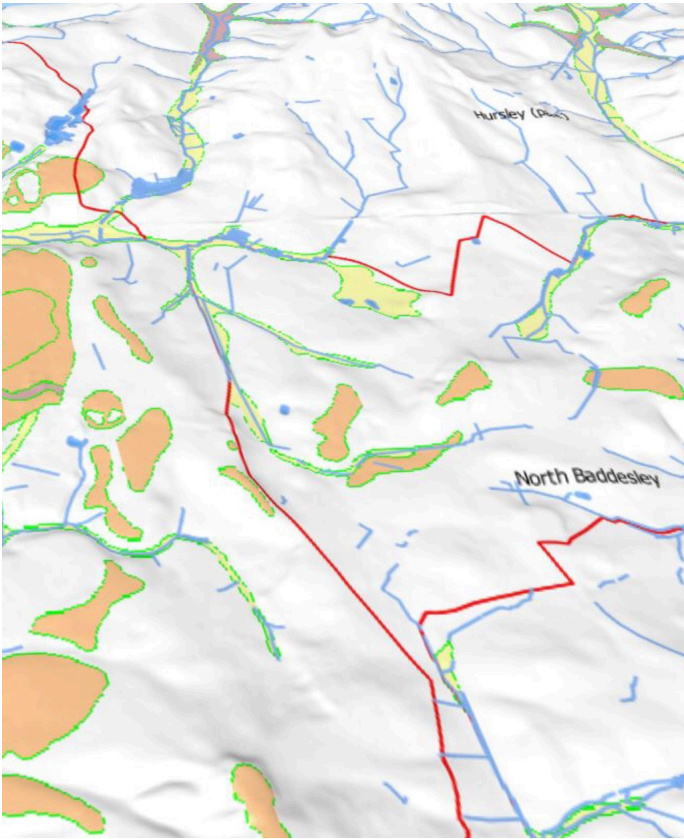
More Boundaries - the Romsey charter

Chris Read's interesting comments on the location of the Hursley boundary pointed out a couple of the 1588 landmarks that are significant for the interpretation of the Romsey charter. The Markebrokelake, blue arrow, has acquired the 'lake' suffix which seems to be a feature in local stream names; in the 10th century it was the mearkbrok, the boundary brook. This is labelled on the stream catchment map as the Tadburn Lake southern tributary. East along the Hursley boundary is a drawing of a tree, green arrow, labelled Priarne Holme; Romsey's boundary also goes along the brook to a tree - the cumerantreuwe. East of the tree Hursley's boundary is labelled 'a dicke & banke' which Chris interprets as the Double Bank. Romsey's boundary continues to marchbokesheued - the head of marchbrok. From there it goes to the broad pond and then south to the springs of gryndenbrok, now Tanner's Brook. How can we place the landmarks of these two boundaries on a modern map?



Landmarks on the Romsey charter, S 812, c. 972

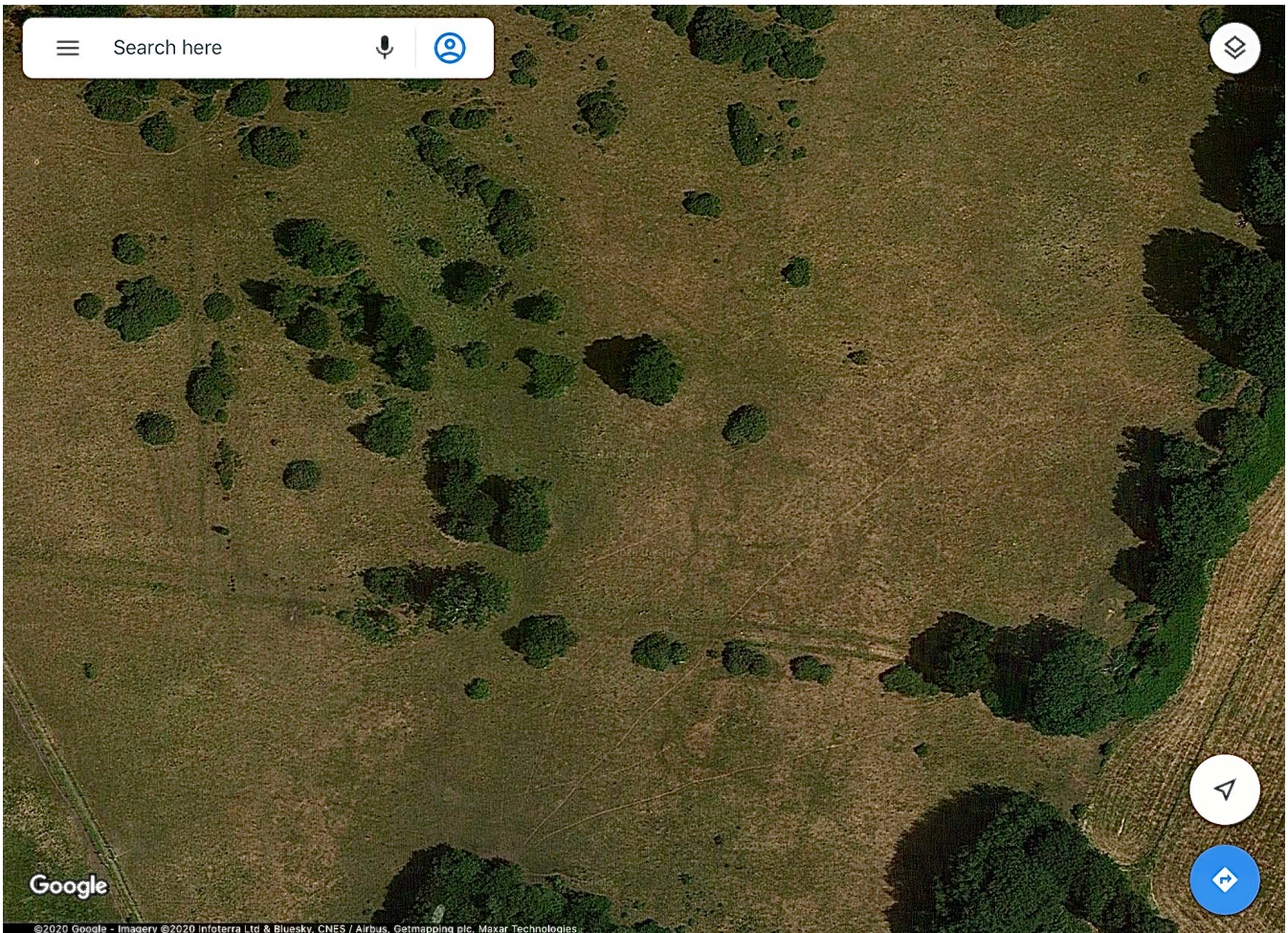
and siðen oure bi bisshopes marke	and afterwards over by the bishop's boundary
to ris brigge	to rush bridge
of mearkbrok	to boundary brook
andlang mearkbrok	along boundary brook
to cumerantreuwe	to Welshman's tree
on marchbokesheued	to the head of boundary brook
on ðane brod mere	to the broad pond
Of thane suðrist	from there south
in nan 'ða' willan of gryndenbrok	to the spring of Grindingbrook
on stennes paeg	to Sten's path



The landmarks in the Romsey charter do not fit in with the later parish boundary as it heads south from the Tadburn. The 3D map shows surface water along with the superficial geology - river terrace deposits in orange and alluvium in yellow. The parish boundary follows the southern tributary of the Tadburn, *mearkbrok*, and then shifts west to run along a ridge of higher ground. It is missing the other watery features mentioned in the charter. The location of the streams are apparent from the yellow alluvium on the geology map (Allen, 2017, Fig. 13). I think that the Hursley boundary runs southeast from the *mearkbrok* along the Baddesley Common Stream, with the bank and ditch following the line of the alluvium. Locating the boundary here places it opposite the village and church, as shown on the map. The Double Bank is too far south and much longer than the single bank forming the boundary. I suggest that Romsey's boundary follows the stream as far as the tree, then heads south to the head of *mearkbrok*, recorded with a variation in the spelling as *marchbrokesheued*. The broad pond lay somewhere between this brook and the springs feeding Tanner's Brook. There is no pond here now, but it could have been lost with the drainage work that has been carried out on the common.

The arrows and the tree indicate the Romsey boundary in relation to the Baddesley estate map. Field 109 is the Coneygar of the 1588 map. The location of the second enclosure shown along the boundary is not apparent in the later field layout. Note the position and length of the Double Bank.





The image above from Google Earth shows the Double Bank as a pair of parallel lines. The greener grass must be growing over ditches. If there were two banks they must, presumably, have been outside the ditches. I have no idea of the purpose or date of this earthwork. There is another parch mark crossing the ditches at a right angle. At the southern end it forms a sinuously curving line and develops into a more angular pattern. This looks like WWI practise trenches.

The tree

Is it a coincidence that a tree features as a landmark in both the Romsey charter of c. 972 and the Hursley estate map of 1588, arguably in the same location? I think not. We had some difficulty translating *cumerantreuwe*. It doesn't seem to be a word for a particular species of tree. Also, it is referred to without a definite article - it was a named, individual tree. The 1588 map also records a single, named tree - Priarne Holme. Holme is the Middle English word for holly (*Ilex aquifolium*); it could possibly also refer to the holm oak (*Quercus ilex*), an evergreen with similar leaves to holly. The holm oak is a native of the Mediterranean area and is thought to have been introduced to Britain in the mid to late 16th century, so a notably-sized specimen on Baddesley Common in 1588 is unlikely.

The names of these two trees are somewhat mysterious. The only Old English word I found in Bosworth-Toller that resembles *cumeran* is *Cumere* which means 'the British of Strathclyde'. It is similar to the Welsh word for Welsh. I haven't found any word resembling Priarne. Was the later tree a descendant of the Saxon one? A holly tree has a lifespan of 300 years, so a couple of generations would separate the two.

Discussion

It is difficult to trace the early boundaries on the ground on Baddesley Common. We have a map from 1588 but can't be sure how it relates to the later estate and OS maps. Locating the Chilcomb and Romsey charter landmarks is even less certain. What is clear is that boundaries have shifted in this area: the Romsey charter doesn't describe the 19th century parish boundary, the Hursley estate extended south onto Baddesley Common and there is no particular evidence to align the Chilcomb and parish boundaries north of Emer Bog. I think these shifts reflect a change in the value of the land within the local economy. It became less important to hold a portion of this land by the time that the parish boundaries were fixed.

In my paper on Jermyns Lane, I argued that a main route between Romsey and Winchester crossed the north edge of Baddesley Common. This developed because there was a reason for people to come here, not simply passing through. The Chilcomb charter mentions Stud Lea somewhere on the east side of the common. The place-name Hursley means Horse Lea. This well-watered grassland was a good place for raising horses. Other place-names denote personal ownership: Ticca's feld and Badda's lea. I think these names date back to a time predating the charters, to the early or mid-Saxon period when individuals held land and the economy was based on stock rearing.

The sharing of Baddesley Common, with its complicated drainage pattern, by the adjoining estates might reflect the definition of territories based on watersheds. This is discussed by Stuart Brookes in his paper 'On the Territorial Organisation of Early Medieval Hampshire' in *The Land of the English Kin*, 2020. He states that 'the tendency to form a river valley territory is most clearly expressed in Chilcomb regio, the boundaries of which conform almost precisely to the upper watershed of the River Itchen.' (p. 290). The Chilcomb estate also extends into the watershed of the Test, taking in the northern catchment of the Tadburn. The southern tributary of the Tadburn was named the Boundary Brook, demonstrating the use of waterways as boundaries. The Fairbourne runs through the Boundary Dene which is one of the Chilcomb charter landmarks - another physical feature used to define a territory.

Below are two of Brooke's maps which are interesting for our study area. The soil map, detail right, highlights the contrast between the Hampshire Basin and the Chalk. The broad river terrace flanking the Test shows up clearly as an area with free-draining soil. Romsey is located on a patch of very high fertility soil - the terrace gravels here are capped by brickearth. Is the symbol for an early Anglo-Saxon findspot based on the spearhead? The other map positions a hundred meeting-place in Romsey, at Hundred Bridge. Has anyone heard of this?



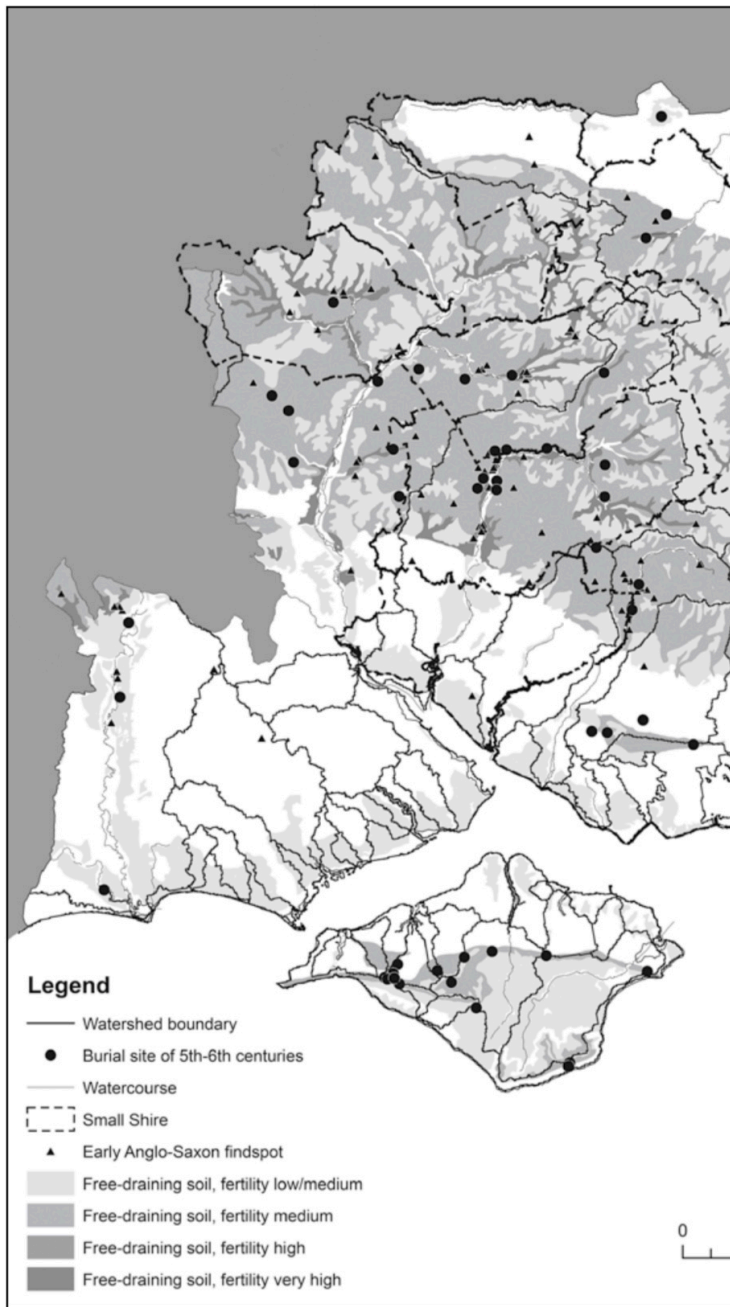


FIGURE 13.3 Early Anglo-Saxon burials of the 5th and 6th centuries in Hampshire shown against the distribution of free-draining soils, after: Harrington and Welch, *Early Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms*



Baddesley Common



FIGURE 13.2 Small shires and *regiones* of Hampshire, shown alongside the Domesday hundreds and their meeting-places

