

DOGMERSFIELD AND HARTLEY MAUDITT: TWO DESERTED VILLAGES

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A NUMBER of Hampshire parishes are shown by the one inch to one mile of the Ordnance Survey (Seventh Series) to have anomalous features. They are frequently sparsely inhabited, having few dwellings many of which are well removed from a medieval church and bearing no clear relationship one to the other. Such parishes arouse curiosity and stimulate enquiry.

The deserted village, as a feature of the English landscape, has long been known, some counties having a large number, but the history of only a few is recorded in detail. Destruction of villages took place throughout the Middle Ages and continued into the 17th and 18th centuries.¹ The causes were many and various. Depopulation, sometimes over a period of time, occasioned by greater opportunities elsewhere, by disease, fire, or some other catastrophe, was often followed by the evacuation of a few remaining survivors. Agrarian change, the laying down of arable land to grass and the consequent need for less labour brought about partial or complete depopulation in some areas. Great landowners were known to evict whole villages as a preliminary to the creation of a park, whilst monastic communities absorbed villages or replaced them with granges, perhaps partly to gain greater solitude and partly for agrarian purposes.

Known deserted villages are largely confined to arable England and most of these formerly contained some common open arable field. Field evidence may be available to supplement that of maps and documents. The identification of ridge and furrow in the present landscape in a parish now largely devoid of settlement is one factor which may indicate the former existence of a larger community. Other clues may lie in the presence of unexplained and irregular ridges in the ground, marking the site of former dwellings, the alignment of roads with little relationship to the present landscape, or the isolated church often in close association with the present or former manor house.

Recent work in north-east Hampshire has brought to light details of two such villages.² Both possess parkland, though to differing degrees, both have churches in curious relationship to the settlement of the mid-20th century and both had large manor houses sited near the medieval church, yet isolated from other settlement.

Dogmersfield lies in the Tertiary country of the London Basin. The southern part of the parish, just under 300 feet O.D., is developed on London Clay, 'a cold sterile clay'³ which is 'difficult and expensive to cultivate,'⁴ in many places given over to woodland, and 'some of it . . . has probably never been anything else.'⁵ Some areas have been lightened by downwash from the Bagshot Series but, in 1839 the soil was

¹ M. W. Beresford, *The Lost Villages of England*, London (1954).

² G. I. Meirion-Jones, unpublished M.Phil. Thesis, University of London Library (1969).

³ Tithe File, Dogmersfield.

⁴ A. D. Hall and E. J. Russell, *A Report on the Agriculture and Soils of Kent, Surrey and Sussex*, London (1911), p. 72.

⁵ *Ibid.*

regarded as 'scarcely worth cultivating.'⁶ The northern part is developed on the Bagshot Series rising to just over 325 feet O.D., and supporting lighter soils. It is here that a 'considerable proportion of Arable Land is very prime Turnip and Barley land with sufficient staple for the growth of excellent wheat.'⁷

Hartley Mauditt, in contrast, straddles the escarpment of the Upper Greensand, or Malmstone, which occupies the western two-thirds of the parish. Reaching its finest development here in the western Weald, the Malmstone rises to 571 feet O.D., overlooking the Gault Clay vale 200 feet below to the east. Malmstone soils are famous for their fertility, being 'entirely strong land consisting of a stiff clay or white marly land.'⁸ They are suitable for hops, or indeed for any crop requiring a strong soil; . . . falling to a fine powder on exposure to the air, running frequently into the fissures of the firestone rock, filling them with a rich unctuous mould into which the roots of the hop penetrate 20 feet deep.'⁹ The Gault Clay varies considerably but is in general a stiff clay which 'in its natural state . . . grows oak trees of magnificent size.'¹⁰ On its east, the parish is bordered by the Folkestone Beds, towards which the soils become 'a wet sandy loam, remarkable for timber.'¹¹ Both parishes are thus seen to support a variety of soils, some of which may well support the modified remnants of the original woodland cover, whilst areas of soil exist of sufficient quality to have supported medieval common field agriculture.

The landscape of the mid-19th century

Only minor changes have taken place since 1850, and these are chiefly concerned with removal of some field boundaries in both parishes and a little addition of settlement in Dogmersfield. It is to the Tithe Survey of the mid-19th century that we must turn for the most complete survey of the English landscape ever undertaken.

The use of this survey as a source for the historical geography of north-east Hampshire has been critically examined elsewhere.¹² The Tithe Maps are accurate and show dwellings, other buildings and field boundaries, whilst the accompanying Tithe Apportionment records the owner and occupier of each tithe area, land utilisation, field names and field areas. Further information of relevance to the landscape is frequently to be found in the Tithe Files. The Tithe Maps of both Dogmersfield and Hartley Mauditt have been reduced to a common scale (figs. 41 and 43) and it is with these that a discussion of the changes in the landscape of the two parishes must begin.

Dogmersfield Park occupies most of the western half of the parish.¹³ Two large areas of woodland, several small commons and numerous small, often irregular, fields complete the broad pattern. Within the park, Spratts Hatch¹⁴ and the Dairy House are the only buildings, save for Dogmersfield House itself. Along the western border a few small and irregular closes surround Swans Farm,^{15, 16} but in the north, four small

⁶ Tithe File, Dogmersfield.

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ Tithe File, East Worldham.

⁹ J. Wilkinson, 'The Farming of Hampshire', *Jl. R. Agri. Soc.*, 22 (1861), p. 254.

¹⁰ J. T. Way and J. M. Paine, 'The Chemical and Agricultural Characters of the Chalk Formation', *Jl. R. Agri. Soc.*, 12 (1851), p. 546.

¹¹ G. White, *The Natural History and Antiquities of*

Selborne, London (1789).

¹² G. I. Meirion-Jones, *op. cit.*, Chapter IV.

¹³ Tithe Map and Tithe Apportionment, Dogmersfield.

¹⁴ Hatch from the OE *haec(c)*, a hatch, a grating, a half gate, a gate.

¹⁵ To be associated with the families of Richard Swaine, 1698.

¹⁶ 'Mead' occurs several times here.

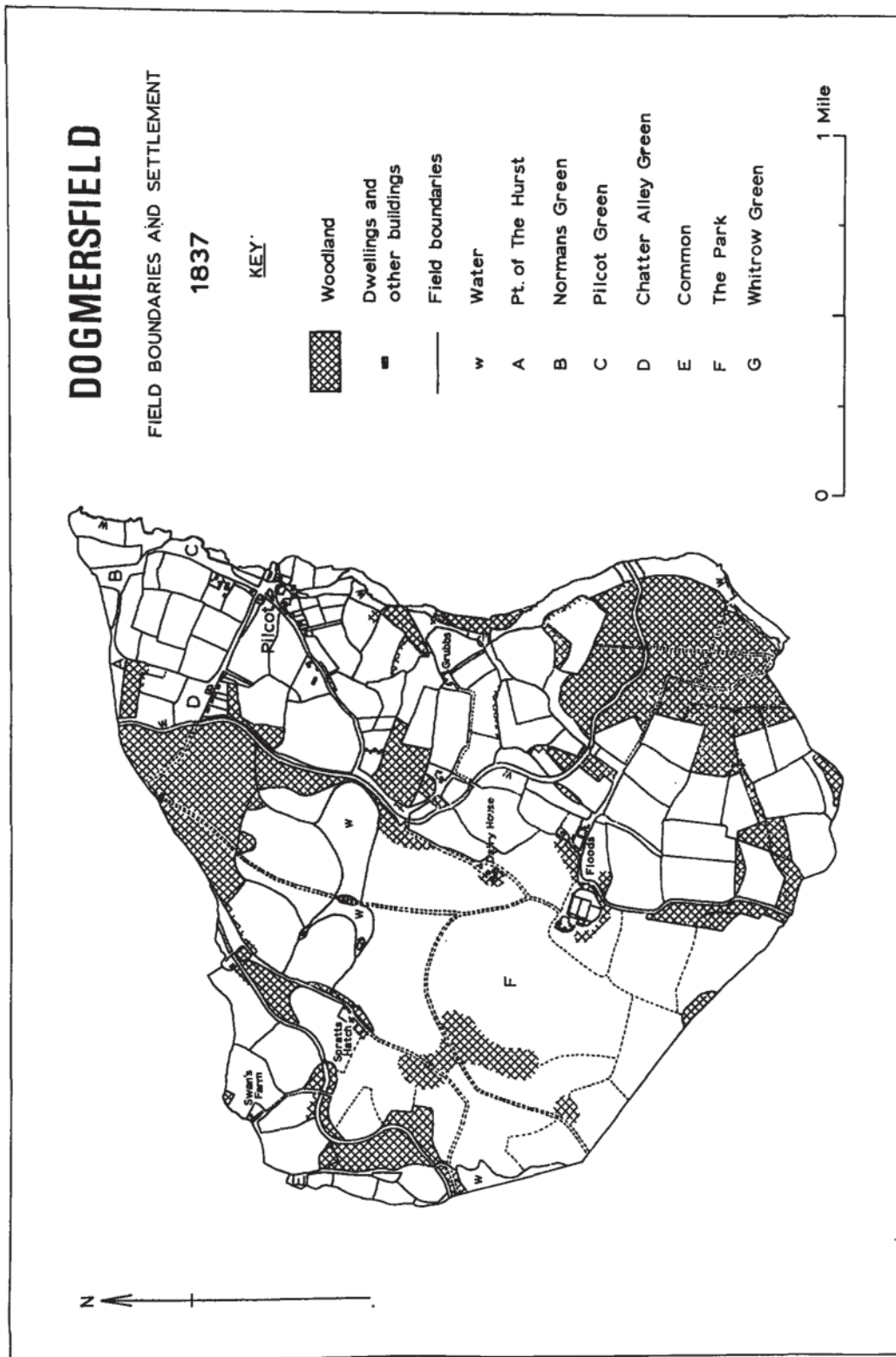


Fig. 41. Dogmersfield - Field Boundaries and Settlement. 1837.

greens surround a pattern of fields¹⁷ only loosely rectilinear, and suggestive of the enclosure of a formerly larger common. The six tofts at Chatter Alley Green have boundaries so straight that a planned origin must be postulated. Floods Farm,¹⁸ next to the church,¹⁹ is bounded on the south by fields whose names do not assist interpretation,²⁰ but south of Grubbs,²¹ field names indicate damp, enclosed land.²² There is little in the field pattern of the eastern part of the parish to suggest former common field, the only possibility being the larger fields south of Floods Farm. Dogmersfield House stands in clear relationship to the park and it is here that a search for former common field must be made, on the higher ground with better soils. Clearly, whatever formerly existed here has been obliterated. The hamlet of Pilcot²³ is of some antiquity whilst Swans, Grubbs and Floods farms probably represent medieval colonisation. Of the two large areas of wood, the northernmost, part of Winchfield Hurst, may be a remnant of the original vegetation, but Coxmoor Wood in part overlies field boundaries, and may here post-date them.

Hartley Mauditt²⁴ shows an open common arable field landscape above the hanger, and woodland with closes to the east.²⁵ Many fields are of about 15 acres, but some exceed 25 acres whilst Hartley Park reaches 73 acres. North and south of Candovers,²⁶ the fields are spectacularly irregular, bear names including Holloways, 'copse' and 'mead' and show beyond doubt that they were assarted from the wood.²⁷ To the far east they are more regular, but still bear clear signs of having been cut from the wood.²⁸ West of the church, patterns are more rectilinear, with narrow fields²⁹ along the watercourse. Here 'field' names predominate, with repeated reference to Barley Field, Mousefield, and South Field, 'mead' names recurring to the far west along the watercourse. After Hartley Wood, the park is the largest single area, lying about pond and church. The absence here of any substantial settlement group, suggests that removal may have taken place. Of the outlying farms, Barleywood³⁰ Jeffries, Hartleywood,³¹ and Chilbery³² all lie outside the common fields, but if these formerly extended into the park, then Chilbery may well have lain in their midst. Candovers almost certainly owes its existence to medieval assarting, but Hartleywood Farm might well be post-medieval.³³ Chilbery is a difficult site, but may be of considerable antiquity. The key to the understanding of Hartley Mauditt may lie in the development of the park.

Changes in the landscape, 1800-1850

The changes between 1800 and 1850 may be elucidated by comparing the Tithe Survey with the First Edition of the one inch to one mile Ordnance Survey Map, and

¹⁷ 'Close' occurs twice.

¹⁸ 'Flode', an intermittent stream, the 's' being pseudo-manorial. John atte Floude, 1327.

¹⁹ This is the second church, built in 1806.

²⁰ Peaked Croft, Bushy Leaze, Broad Field, Flood Field.

²¹ To be associated with the family of Hebry Grubbe, 1327.

²² Close, Bury Mead, Moor Pittle.

²³ OE *pila cot(e)*, 'cottage(s) defended by piles or stakes'.

²⁴ *Heort*, *leah*, 'hart clearing or wood'. William Malduith or Maldoit held the manor in 1086.

²⁵ Tithe Map and Tithe Apportionment, Hartley Mauditt.

²⁶ A manorial name. John de Candevere, 1333.

²⁷ These fields lie on slipped masses of Malmstone.

²⁸ Here, 'wood', 'mead' and 'close' names persist.

²⁹ Bearing 'mead' names.

³⁰ *Leah*, 'barley clearing'. The first element might be *baer*, 'pasture land'.

³¹ 'Hart clearing or wood'.

³² Shilborough, 1591.

³³ This is suggested by the Gault Clay site and the adjacent field patterns.

supplementing this material with miscellaneous documentary evidence, the early censuses and field observation.

The Surveyors' Drawings,³⁴ prepared, at a scale of two inches to one mile, for the first edition of the one inch to one mile Ordnance Survey Map have some limitations. Difficulties arise because the northern part of the area was surveyed in 1792,³⁵ whilst the greater part had to wait until 1808-9, the work of 1792 appearing to be much more thorough than the later work. In 1792, field boundaries are shown in some detail, woods and shaws are sketched, and heath, park and meadow distinguished from the remaining arable and pasture. In 1808-9, although some meadow is shown, field boundaries are rudimentary and open land must be inferred from the road boundaries, according to whether they are fenced or unfenced. Woodland is not to be relied upon for its true areal extent for some coppices on heavy soils is entirely missing and whereas the possibility of their having been reduced in size or entirely destroyed must not be overlooked, the probability is that most of them were far more extensive than the drawings suggest. The Gault Clay lands and most of the valley bottoms are stippled, presumably to indicate grassland. Comparison with the Tithe Survey and modern maps shows that the main framework of roads, and the location of buildings are, with a few exceptions, accurate. No distinction is made, however, between dwellings and other buildings, so that only a general impression may be formed concerning the growth and the degree of infill. Isolated farms and cottages pose a greater problem for the presence of a building on the drawings does not prove the existence of a dwelling. Furthermore, it is apparent that in a number of cases, sites were first occupied by farm buildings only, homesteads being erected at a later date. The possibility of omission must not be discounted: the absence of a dwelling or other feature on the drawings is no proof that it did not exist. Characteristically shaped field boundaries can be identified with those of the Tithe Map, and in some cases with those of the current Ordnance Survey six-inch map, and it is clear that some are grossly distorted. Clearly they are sketched and not surveyed and are an indication only of broad patterns of enclosed and open land.

The period in question began during a war that had considerable effect upon the landscape. Need for greater agricultural production led to the increased cultivation of marginal lands whilst the requirements of war led to the destruction of woodland. The extreme depression of agriculture during the years 1814-16 was followed by stagnation which lasted until the accession of Queen Victoria in 1837,³⁶ the year of the Tithe Redemption Act.

Dogmersfield in 1792 is dominated by its park extending northwards to the edge of Winchfield Hurst and Tundry Green, in fact almost to the canal. A number of dwellings lie at the northern end, notably the pair of lodges, and buildings are shown on the site of the Dairy House. Dogmersfield House stands alone, Floods Farm being the only dwelling close to the church.³⁷ Between 1792 and 1837 several new sites appeared. The Chatter Alley houses were present in 1792, contradicting the view that they were moved

³⁴ B.M., 2550(7).

³⁵ This date is that of the Bill presented by the Surveyor for his services. It is assumed that the work preceded this date.

³⁶ Lord Ernle, *English Farming Past and Present*, London (1961), p. 316 *et seq.*

³⁷ The position of this church on the Surveyors' Drawings is puzzling. Either the location is inaccurate or the date attributed to the Drawings is too early, or the Surveyors anticipated the demolition of the medieval church and the erection of that of 1806. The latter seems more likely.

from Duckery, near Spratts Hatch, in 1838.³⁸ These houses are now much altered, but the regular pattern of the gardens already observed is entirely consistent with the suggestion of removal from elsewhere and re-erection on the common here. A late 18th-century date is suggested by field evidence, a date which accords with the evidence to be presented for the extension of the park. The Rectory, built in 1836 on a site adjacent to the new church,³⁹ appears to replace some cottages, whilst the old parsonage, a timber framed structure near Blacksmiths Bridge, retained its function as a farm. Population rose from 212 (1801) to 304 (1851), an increase which, though substantial, is consistent with the small increase in the number of dwellings. Few houses now surviving show evidence of early 19th century building, but the post office has an early 19th century front.⁴⁰

Hartley Mauditt is more difficult. The Surveyors' Drawings show the church standing alone in an enclosure that is almost certainly a park. Two sites do not appear in the 1809 map. One or more of the cottages shown at Candovers in 1840 may be later than 1809. Population increased from 57 (1801 and 1811) to 87 (1851).

The landscape before 1700

It is appropriate at this point to turn to earlier evidence, in particular to that afforded by the various 17th century surveys. The Hearth Tax Returns have been analysed elsewhere and may be accepted as accurate.⁴¹ The quantitative evidence of settlement which they provide is the only such evidence suitable for direct comparison with that of the Tithe Survey. Dogmersfield in 1665 contained 57 dwellings,⁴² increasing to 68 by 1674,⁴³ the increase being of dwellings with only one hearth 'not chargeable', except for a forge recorded in 1673-4, but not in 1665. There are clearly some additions and subtractions of hearths here, one dwelling of nine hearths having disappeared by 1673.^{44, 45} Apart from the large number of poor houses with only one hearth, the bulk consists of two, three and four hearths which may be associated with a number of substantial timber framed houses dating from before 1642 and surviving in the parish. The old Parsonage is one such structure, whilst a hamlet clearly existed at Pilcot for no less than 10 timber framed dwellings survive here. By 1837 only 31 dwellings were left.⁴⁶

Hartley Mauditt had 23 houses in 1665,⁴⁷ 21 in 1673,⁴⁸ and 16 in 1674,⁴⁹ a progressive decline of significance. The drop is mainly accounted for by the poorer houses with only one hearth. The largest dwelling recorded, with 16 hearths,⁵⁰ is almost certainly the house shown next to the church in 1759,⁵¹ or its predecessor. Two houses each with three hearths appeared between 1665 and 1674.

³⁸ H. M. Larnier, *Dogmersfield, Hants: A History, 1066-1936*, Winchester (1936), p. 13.

³⁹ The third church, on the third site.

⁴⁰ H.R.O., M.H.L.G., Dogmersfield.

⁴¹ G. I. Meirion-Jones, *op. cit.*, p. 159 *et seq.*

⁴² P.R.O., E. 179/176/565.

⁴³ P.R.O., E. 179/247/30.

⁴⁴ P.R.O., E. 179/176/569.

⁴⁵ Will. Godson in 1665 had nine hearths, but by 1673 there were only five. No house of nine hearths is

recorded in 1673, thus making it extremely unlikely that he merely moved house.

⁴⁶ Tithe Apportionment, Dogmersfield.

⁴⁷ P.R.O., E. 179/176/565.

⁴⁸ P.R.O., E. 179/176/569.

⁴⁹ P.R.O., E. 179/247/30.

⁵⁰ Sir Nich. Stewart's house showed an increase in hearths from 15 to 16 between 1665 and 1673.

⁵¹ B.M., 2550(7).

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Miscellaneous documentary evidence dating from before 1700 provides further details of the landscape of the two parishes.

Dogmersfield street is named in 1656,⁵² 1695,⁵³ and 1697,⁵⁴ the use of the word 'street' clearly implying a centre of settlement close to the medieval church.⁵⁵ Settlement was also associated with the commons, for a cottage lay on the north side of Tundry Green in 1692⁵⁶ at which date the messuage called Whittrow may be associated with Whittrow Green (fig. 41).⁵⁷ In 1690, a cottage stood in Whittrow Lane, near Tundry Green.⁵⁸ Several other dwellings of the period cannot be located; 'two messuages and a halfe a yardland called Swards . . . and one customary cottage called Chandlong' in 1690;⁵⁹ 'one messuage or tenement called . . . Northey' in 1680;⁶⁰ 'one messuage . . . called Briench' in 1684;⁶¹ and a messuage called Cades in 1700.⁶² Grubbs was clearly present in 1647⁶³ and 1668,⁶⁴ and Shermans and Farrowes, which can no longer be identified, in 1651⁶⁵ and 1665⁶⁶ respectively. The movement of sites was not confined to the 18th century, for in 1693 a dwelling near Tundry Green had within memory been moved to that site from elsewhere.⁶⁷ A map of 1616 shows clearly that Pillars, a group of closes of two, three and four acres, lay south-west of Spratts Hatch near the parish boundary, Pillars Green being continuous with Lambden Common in Odiham.⁶⁸ A dwelling is located just north of the green, and there is reference to Dockmansfield town, where the manor house was newly built in 1581.⁶⁹ Clearly a nucleus of dwellings lay near the medieval church in 1616.

A whole group of timber framed dwellings, some of them substantial, survive at Pilcot⁷¹ and it is clear that a hamlet existed here c. 1600. The 'cot' element could be of post-Conquest date, but this is unlikely as the mill recorded here in the 15th, 16th and 17th centuries, and surviving today, almost certainly stands on the site of that recorded in 1086.⁷² At this latter date, 10 villeins, eight bordars and a serf worked land for six ploughs. The church probably stood on the site of that demolished in 1806.⁷³ The names of John atte Whittrowe (1327),⁷⁴ John atte Floude (1327)⁷⁵ and John atte Holebeane (1327),⁷⁶ suggest a degree of dispersion in the 14th century.⁷⁷ Two family names, Grubbs (1327) and Swans (1698) may be identified with Grubbs and Swans farms, although it is likely that Swans was occupied long before 1698. Thus it is probable that by 1086 the parish contained two nuclei, one centred on the church, the other at Pilcot, with a dispersed pattern in evidence by the early 14th century.

Several references to common field in Dogmersfield occur during the 17th century. In 1690, land existed 'in Northidge',⁷⁸ whilst in 1695, 'one close of arable land

⁵² H.R.O., 15M50/787.

⁵³ H.R.O., 15M50/721/14.

⁵⁴ H.R.O., 15M50/721/19.

⁵⁵ This lay north-west of Floods Farm.

⁵⁶ H.R.O., 15M50/721/106.

⁵⁷ H.R.O., 15M50/796/37.

⁵⁸ H.R.O., 15M50/721/8.

⁵⁹ H.R.O., 15M50/721/7a.

⁶⁰ H.R.O., 15M50/721/1.

⁶¹ H.R.O., 15M50/721/2.

⁶² H.R.O., 15M50/721/20.

⁶³ H.R.O., 15M50/754.

⁶⁴ H.R.O., 15M50/776.

⁶⁵ H.R.O., 15M50/781.

⁶⁶ H.R.O., 15M50/796/12.

⁶⁷ H.R.O., 15M50/721/13.

⁶⁸ B.M., 2560(52).

⁶⁹ B.M., Maps 188.e.2.(3).

⁷⁰ H. M. Larnier, *op. cit.*, p. 6.

⁷¹ H.R.O., M.H.L.G., Dogmersfield.

⁷² V.C.H., Hampshire.

⁷³ V.C.H., IV, p. 72.

⁷⁴ Whitrow Common.

⁷⁵ Floods Farm.

⁷⁶ This name cannot be identified.

⁷⁷ J. E. B. Gover, *op. cit.*

⁷⁸ H.R.O., 15M50/721/7a.

contained in the whole three acres' lay 'on ye south side of the common field called Northedge Field'.⁷⁹ In 1651 there is land 'in a common field of Dogmersfield'.⁸⁰ This is Norrige field (*sic*) but more than one field probably existed, for in the same year three acres lay 'in a ffield called Elsdens'.⁸¹ The extent of common grazing in the parish during the 17th century is not clear but in 1656 four customary tenants surrendered their rights⁸² to numerous commons.⁸³ In 1689, Tundry Green and Lakes Green contained 20 acres, Pillars Green three acres, the Hurst 100 acres, Coles Green three acres, Whittrow Green six acres, Pillcott Green 10 acres and Selloms Green four acres.⁸⁴ In 1693, however, it is claimed that Selloms Green was taken in 'about 40 years' ago.⁸⁵ Thus Dogmersfield in the 17th century possessed numerous small commons, with at least one, and possibly two, common fields.

The most complete pre-1665 survey of Hartley Mauditt is that of 1591.⁸⁶ Although their locations are not specified, it is probable that the manor house lay adjacent to the church⁸⁷ and that the parsonage occupied its 1840 site (fig. 42). Shilborough is to be associated with Chilbury.⁸⁸ Assuming that the reference to tenement in the document implies the existence of a dwelling as well as land, then a total of 19 dwellings existed in 1591, compared with 23 in 1665. The foundation and cellars of the 18th century manor house survive, south of the church, but, to the north, the field is irregular, suggesting that dwellings may once have lain here. Some dwellings probably lay on the Gault Clay on the margins of the wood and a dispersed element is probable, for Candovers Farm is a timber frame structure, the reference to a John de Candevere (1333)⁸⁹ and Robert de Berleye (1276)⁹⁰ suggesting that both Candovers and Barleywood were then occupied. Nevertheless the conclusion that a nucleus of dwellings must have lain close to the church is inescapable. The evidence of field systems shortly to be discussed shows that in 1591, much of the arable land lay in the demesne, and since the population was then not inconsiderable, it may have relied partly on occupations other than agriculture. In 1586, three persons of Hartlye Mawditt were apprehended in Winchester, two being tailor and weaver respectively.⁹¹ That acquisition of land by the lord of the manor was in progress in the later 16th century is suggested by the incomplete series of records of a series of hearings in the court of the Duchy of Lancaster, evolving around the succession to customary lands. In 1576, it is alleged that the eldest son was traditionally entitled to succeed his father on payment of a fine, but when Sir Richard Norton tried to fine for his father's tenement, Nicholas Tichborne refused to accept it, granting the land instead to one of his own sons,⁹² his justification being that custom permitted the lord to dispose as he pleased.⁹³ Norton's allegation, denied by

⁷⁹ H.R.O., 15M50/721/15.

⁸⁰ H.R.O., 15M50/782.

⁸¹ H.R.O., 15M50/781.

⁸² H.R.O., 15M50/723/2.

⁸³ 'One parcell of land called Tundry Greene and one other parcell . . . called Pillars Greene and one parcell called Hurst, one parcell called Coles Greene, one parcell called Whittrow Greene . . . and one other parcell . . . called Pillcott Greene . . .'

⁸⁴ H.R.O., 15M50/723/3.

⁸⁵ H.R.O., 15M50/724.

⁸⁶ P.R.O., D.L. 42/116.

⁸⁷ Isaac Taylor's map (B.M. 2550(7)), and the foundations in the field to the south of the church support this interpretation.

⁸⁸ J. E. B. Gover, *op. cit.*

⁸⁹ *Ibid.*

⁹⁰ *Ibid.*

⁹¹ H. T. White, 'A Hampshire Plot', *Proc. Hamps. Fld. Club and Arch. Soc.*, 12 (1932). The three persons are: William Michell, tailor, Richard Noyse, husbandman, Zacharie Mansell, weaver.

⁹² P.R.O., D.L. 1/101. N.1.

⁹³ P.R.O., D.L. 1/101. N.1a.

HARTLEY MAUDITT

SOME ELEMENTS OF THE LANDSCAPE

1591

COMPILED FROM P.A.O. DL 42/116 AND THE TITHE SURVEY

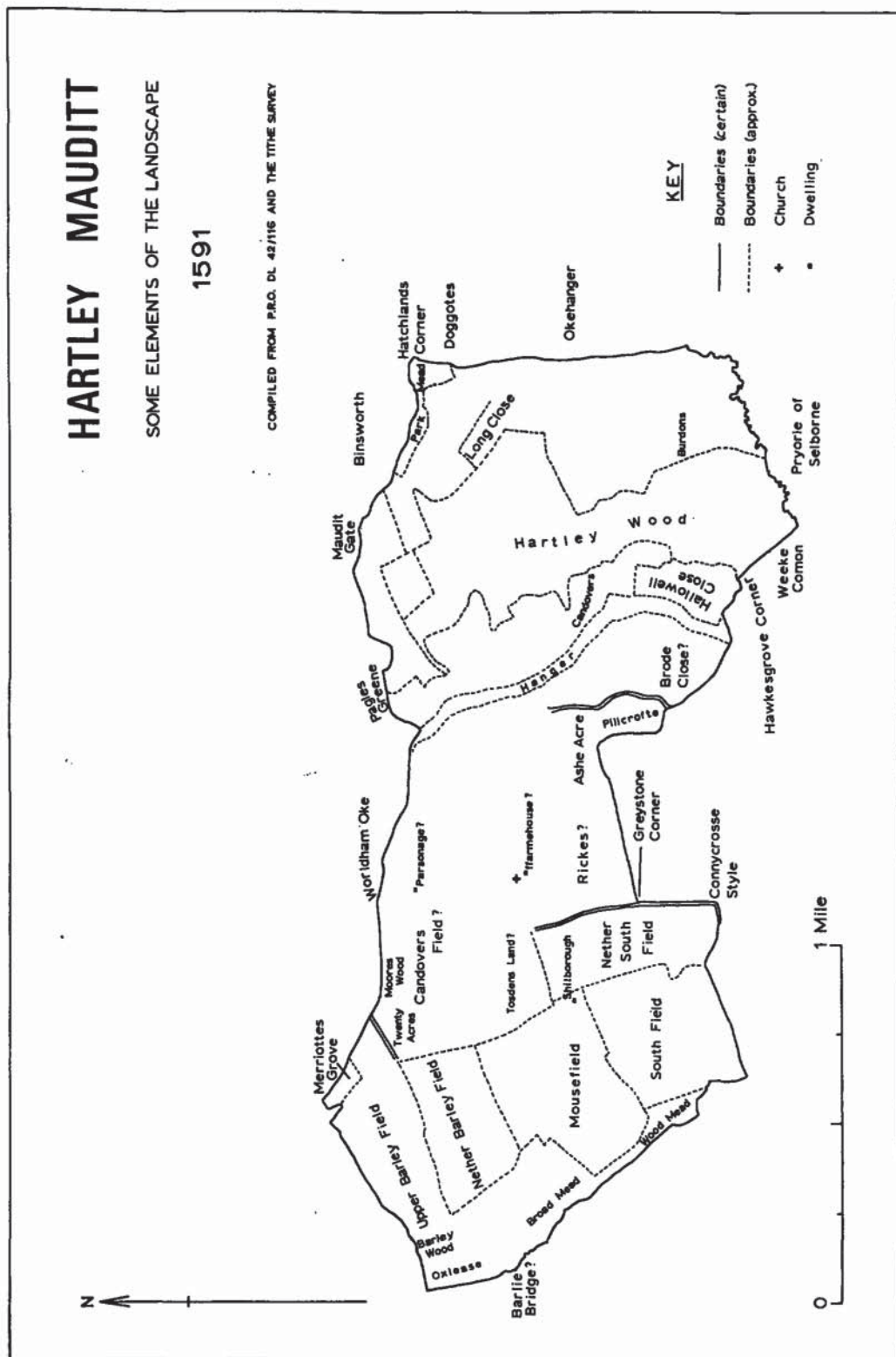


Fig. 42. Hartley Mauditt - Some elements of the Landscape, 1591.

Tichborne, that the latter had taken 'verye great and excessyve ffynes to the impoverishment of the Tenante' seems to have had some substance for one fine was increased from 20 shillings to 16 pounds,⁹⁴ though over what period of time is not clear. There is thus a distinct pointer to the fact that Tichborne was attempting to use his power to increase demesne holdings, a suggestion supported by the amount of demesne land in 1591.⁹⁵ In several other cases he does not show up well.⁹⁶ The outcome of these cases is not known, but it is clear that the very large amount of demesne land in 1591 would make any attempt at emparking much easier, and this must have been an important factor in the making of the park. In 1283 the parish contained a capital messuage, a small grange, nine free tenants, four customary tenants, 14 cottars and certain other cottars 'qui frequentur removentur'⁹⁷ a population greater than that of 1591 or 1665. In 1086, there were only two hides, here having been six before the Conquest, eight villeins and five bordars working land for eight ploughs.⁹⁸

The survey of 1591 also permits the reconstruction of the field pattern of Hartley Mauditt at this date, the results being presented in fig. 42.⁹⁹ The total acreage at this date is only rather more than half that of 1840, but the boundaries at the two dates are identical and the discrepancy must be ascribed to the vagaries of 16th century surveying. The demesne of 1591 was extensive, totalling 713 acres,¹⁰⁰ including much, if not all, of those fields identified as common field (figs. 42 and 43). Hartley Wood is recorded as containing 100 acres both in 1591 and also in 1283.¹⁰¹ Its measured extent in 1840 was 188 acres if Osgoods Wood is included, which it must be for it would not otherwise fit the bounds of the 1591 survey. The three terms 'cottage', 'messuage' and 'tenement' are each taken to imply the existence of a dwelling, of which a total of 19 then existed.¹⁰² The size of holdings ranged from one to 52 acres, none comparing in size with the demesne. Thus there can be no doubt that by 1591 common field had effectively ceased to exist, that it had been largely incorporated into the demesne and that the tenants' land was held in closes.¹⁰³

No direct evidence of nucleation is available but the extensive proven common field seriously reduces potential sites for dwellings. A few may have been dispersed about the margins of the parish or on the Gault Clay. Nevertheless, the conclusion that a nucleation that lay north of the church, where the field surface is uneven, is almost inescapable.

Thus both parishes by 1700 possessed nucleated and dispersed settlement together

⁹⁴ P.R.O., D.L. 1/101. N.1b.

⁹⁵ *Supra*.

⁹⁶ P.R.O., D.L. 1/108. M.1; M.1a; M.1c; D.L. 1/103. c.7.

⁹⁷ V.C.H. II, p. 508.

⁹⁸ *Ibid*.

⁹⁹ Most of the names can be identified. The stump of 'Worldham Oke' stood on a small patch of green within living memory, for which information I am indebted to the Rev. G. E. C. Knapp.

¹⁰⁰ P.R.O., D.L. 42/116.

¹⁰¹ V.C.H. II, p. 508.

¹⁰² The use of the word 'tenement' is occasionally ambiguous. Properly it is 'the land held by a tenant in

the community, i.e. his land in the common fields and the common rights attached to it. It includes his house and garden. In the courts this term could be used of a very wide variety of holdings, especially "free tenements". (R. A. Butlin, *Some Terms used in Agrarian History*, *Agric. Hist. Rev.*, 9 (1961), p. 99). The problem lies in whether a dwelling can always be sure to have existed. Clearly a resident of one tithing may have held lands, his 'tenement' in another tithing. It need not necessarily follow that he held a dwelling there. Equally, such a dwelling may have been let. Each reference must be treated on its merits, but the majority, as in this case, probably included dwellings.

¹⁰³ P.R.O., D.L. 42/116.

with the decayed remnants of common field, Dogmersfield quite clearly having two nuclei, one at Pilcot and a second close to the church. Both parishes had extensive woodland and field patterns interpreted as medieval assarts, associated with a pattern of dispersed farms frequently bearing the family names that has been associated with this type of settlement over the whole of north-east Hampshire. It is thus clear that the dramatic changes must have taken place during the 18th century. It is to an examination of these that we must now turn.

The 18th Century

The changes in the landscape of the 18th century are not easy to adduce, for documentary evidence, widely scattered both in time and place, provides uneven coverage. Isaac Taylor's map gives a useful picture of the county at mid-century,¹⁰⁴ whilst local surveys provide detail for limited areas.

Drawn to a scale of one inch to one mile, and published in 1759, Isaac Taylor's map, one of the first topographical maps of Hampshire, provides, when compared with the Surveyors' Drawings,¹⁰⁵ a means of elucidating some of the changes of the later 18th century. It attempts to show villages, dispersed farms, churches, mills, woodland, heath and rough pasture, streams, and relief for which hachuring is used. Comparison with the Ordnance Survey one inch to one mile map, Seventh Series, shows it to be broadly accurate. Many dwellings are drawn in relief, others are represented by small black squares. Palings are drawn to depict enclosed parkland and it is possible to distinguish open heath and down, but no distinction may be made between arable land and grassland. Field boundaries are not shown but principal roads as well as many minor roads are marked, broken lines being used where they cross unenclosed land. This map provides a useful, if somewhat superficial picture of the area in mid-century, but, like the Surveyors' Drawings, it is useful only for what it shows, omission of a dwelling or other feature being no proof of its non-existence.

The century was to see dramatic changes in the landscape of Dogmersfield. From 1778 the construction of the Basingstoke Canal affected the parish but the principal changes have earlier origins.

A park has been in existence in Dogmersfield since the 12th century.¹⁰⁶ In the 13th century, the Bishop of Bath and Wells¹⁰⁷ was given leave to increase it by enclosing seven acres of pasture.¹⁰⁸ Further increases, enclosure with dyke and hedge, and restocking with deer¹⁰⁹ are all recorded during that century.¹¹⁰ A park-keeper is mentioned in the 16th century.¹¹¹

At the beginning of the 18th century, a number of commons clearly existed, for there is evidence of encroachment on the waste. Henry Stokdill in 1705 'made an enclosure part of . . . Tundry Greene',¹¹² and Ambrose Gunner 'lett rayles and posts on ye comon'.¹¹³ Joseph Sharp in 1710 was accused of having 'lately made an encroachment upon the Lords Waste by taking part of Tundry Green with Pales',¹¹⁴ and there is

¹⁰⁴ B.M., 2550(7).

¹⁰⁵ B.M., Map Room.

¹⁰⁶ V.C.H., IV, p. 72.

¹⁰⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁹ B.M. Add. Mss. 39,964, ff. 379.

¹¹⁰ V.C.H., IV, p. 72.

¹¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹¹² H.R.O., 15M50/718.

¹¹³ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁴ H.R.O., 15M50/719.

reference to 'the newly enclosed ground of Mr. Hall of Mounds Moor'.¹¹⁵ Stokdill and Gunner are accused of further encroachments in 1710.¹¹⁶ Evidence of outlying dwellings is also forthcoming, for in 1717, John Searle surrendered 'one messuage or cottage . . . scituate . . . at the end of a lane called Whittrow Lane next to the comon called Tundry Greene',¹¹⁷ and in 1708, Jonathan Hare surrendered 'all the messuage or Tenement called Spratts Hatch'.¹¹⁸ Henry Bath surrendered 'one cottage . . . with barne and other outhouses . . . in the street of Dogmersfield' in 1704,¹¹⁹ whilst in 1714, there is a record of 'one customary messuage . . . abutting on Dogmersfield Street'.¹²⁰ In 1710, one messuage lay 'near ye churchgate'.¹²¹ Thus there is clear evidence in the early 18th century of a dwelling at Spratts Hatch and also of several dwellings in Dogmersfield street, the name of which suggests a degree of nucleation. Settlement also existed at Pilcot, for not only do the timber framed houses survive here, but in 1729, Richard Draper was granted 'one little house called a workhouse lately erected and built . . . upon . . . Pilcot Green'.¹²² The degree of enclosure at this date is difficult to estimate, but in 1704 'one acre of Northedge Field'¹²³ changed hands, suggesting that some common field may still have lain open, although the 'three acres called Northedge Close'¹²⁴ indicate that some enclosure had already taken place within it. New building is also in evidence, for apart from the house on Pilcot Green, there was a 'new built messuage or tenement erected on part of . . . backside belonging to the copyhold messuage . . . called Lakes'.¹²⁵

Paulet St. John succeeded to the Dogmersfield estate in 1729 and it is between this date and his death in 1780 that many changes took place. A schedule¹²⁶ and map were produced by Will Godson but the map is not to be found. The undated schedule is of unmistakable style, and can safely be ascribed to 1739, the date of an almost identical schedule and map of Odiham.¹²⁷ The schedule lists only those lands belonging to Paulet St. John, clearly not the whole parish for, even allowing for inaccuracies in measurement, there is too great a discrepancy between the area of land in the schedule and the area of the parish.¹²⁸ Several known houses are also missing. Dogmersfield House was rebuilt in 1728¹²⁹ and added to in 1744.¹³⁰ A formal garden seems to have existed in 1730,¹³¹ but in 1739 the gardens occupy six acres and, in addition, the park, which includes a 'cannal'¹³² and two ponds, a further 41a. 3r. 30p.¹³³ A large number of small closes clearly lie about the house, probably on the western side, amounting to 245 acres, of which 136 acres are arable. The majority of the fields are of two to three acres, only four exceeding 10 acres. Most of the field names are modern, but the significant Northedge¹³⁴ appears seven times.¹³⁵ It is not possible to locate this field with

¹¹⁵ H.R.O., 15M50/1134/1.

¹¹⁶ H.R.O., 15M50/719.

¹¹⁷ H.R.O., 15M50/721/32c.

¹¹⁸ H.R.O., 15M50/721/27.

¹¹⁹ H.R.O., 15M50/721/23.

¹²⁰ H.R.O., 15M50/721/30.

¹²¹ H.R.O., 15M50/721/28.

¹²² H.R.O., 15M50/720/13.

¹²³ H.R.O., 15M50/721/24.

¹²⁴ H.R.O., 15M50/721/30.

¹²⁵ H.R.O., 15M50/720/14.

¹²⁶ H.R.O., 15M50/1278.

¹²⁷ H.R.O., 15M50/1279 and B.M. Maps 188.k.2.

¹²⁸ The total area in 1839 (Tithe Apportionment) is 1606a. or. 36p., that of 1739 is 1,190a. 2r. 30p.

¹²⁹ H.R.O., M.H.L.G., Dogmersfield.

¹³⁰ H. M. Larnier, *op. cit.*, p. 11.

¹³¹ *Ibid.*, p. 12.

¹³² This is probably the rectangular area of water shown on one of the oil paintings, *infra*.

¹³³ H.R.O., 15M50/1278.

¹³⁴ *Supra*.

¹³⁵ Great Norrage, Little Norrage, Parkers Norrage, the Next Norrage joining to Parkers, Norrage Close, The four acre Norrage Close, The three acre Norrage Close.

HARTLEY MAUDITT

FIELD BOUNDARIES AND SETTLEMENT

1840

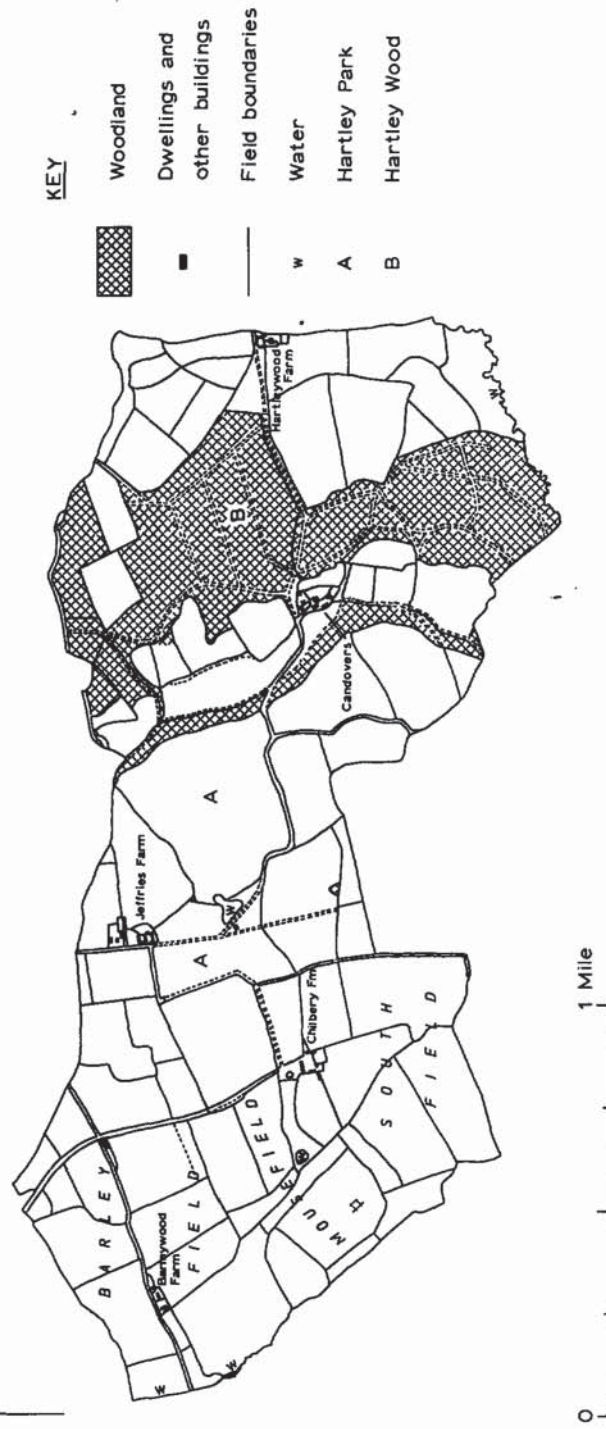


Fig. 43. Hartley Mauditt – Field Boundaries and Settlement, 1840.

any precision, but it is clearly a decayed common field, now seemingly entirely in the hands of the lord of the manor, for no other reference to it can be found in the schedule.¹³⁶ Coxmoor Wood at this date contains 79 acres. Although there is reason to believe that some houses and lands are omitted, as neither the rectory nor the glebe lands are mentioned, and because it is highly probable that there were many more houses in Dogmersfield street, the schedule does provide invaluable evidence of the nature of the enclosure and the distribution of settlement. Several dispersed farms are recorded. Robert Varndell held 48 acres in closes of from one to seven acres, by the church, and Will Varndell held Loan Barn Farm, which cannot be identified, containing 48 acres. Floods Farm consisted of 284 acres of which 241 were arable and sufficient field-names here can be identified with those of the Tithe Survey to suggest that this holding is consolidated and lies largely south and east of the present Flood Farm. Pilcoates, Hardings and Noahs farms, each with house and garden, probably lay close to Pilcot and contain a total of 72 acres. Grubbs and Beeches are referred to as 'upper and lower house',¹³⁷ the total 109 acres containing 102 acres of arable. Baths farm amounted to 53 acres (44 acres of arable)¹³⁸ and Dogmersfield street, is associated with only four houses. Whitrow Green, containing 7a. 3r. 26p., is associated with a house and garden, and a house and farm of 11 acres. Winchfield Hurst, 126a. 2r. 03p., had two farms adjoining, one of 21 acres and the other of 47 acres, whilst Tundry Green, 26a. or. 02p., was bordered by five dwellings. It is probable that more dwellings existed near all these commons. Thus Dogmersfield in 1739 consisted of a number of outlying farms, dwellings in the street, and dwellings associated with the commons. The parish was almost entirely enclosed, the closes being small, mostly of two, three and four acres, with an occasional field exceeding 10 acres.

By 1759¹³⁹ the area of the park had greatly increased, and a wall,¹⁴⁰ closely approximating to that of 1840, is shown on the south-east, south and south-west. The medieval church stands by Dogmersfield House, and a group of dwellings lines the road north-east of the church.¹⁴¹ Pilcot too has numerous dwellings in addition to a mill, but the most striking feature of the landscape in 1759 is the existence of ornamental towers and arches, leaving no doubt that the park was the subject of modification and addition.¹⁴² Coxmoor Wood and Tundry Green are named in 1759, the latter being continuous with Winchfield Hurst.¹⁴³ The appearance of part of the parish in the mid-18th century is preserved in two oil paintings of c. 1747.¹⁴⁴ These depict the park with house, church and village,¹⁴⁵ the ornamental buildings drawn on the 1759 map, and with the enclosed fields on the slopes of the Hale Plateau rising beyond. To the left of the house stands the medieval church, downslope of which lie the stables and a line of about a dozen houses. The picture and Isaac Taylor's map support each other in attesting the accuracy of this evidence. Clearly Dogmersfield village in the mid-18th

¹³⁶ It almost certainly lay north of the house, between house and Hurst.

¹³⁷ Beeches, clearly close to Grubbs may have lain on lower ground near Whitrow Green.

¹³⁸ This may have lain in Dogmersfield street, *supra*.

¹³⁹ B.M., 2550(7).

¹⁴⁰ Probably that mentioned in the Odiham Enclo-

sure Act of 1739. H.L.R.O., Original Act, 12 Geo. II, no. 67.

¹⁴¹ Dogmersfield Street.

¹⁴² M. Girouard, 'Echoes of a Georgian Romantic', *Country Life*, 2.1.1964.

¹⁴³ B.M., 2550(7).

¹⁴⁴ M. Girouard, *op. cit.*

¹⁴⁵ i.e., Dogmersfield Street.

century lay along a street close to the house and church. A further group of about 15 buildings, some clearly timber framed, with brick chimney stacks and both thatch and tile roofs, is arranged about Wale Pond¹⁴⁶ the precursor of Tundry Pond. This is the area of water shown on the 1759 map, the scatter of black dots representing dwellings. Little 18th century building exists in the parish, but there is some at Pilcot, notably the Queen's Head, Double Lodges, just in Odiham parish, being of late 18th century date.¹⁴⁷

The extent of the commons was threatened in 1758 for it was then agreed 'between Pawlet St. John . . . owner of the wastes and commons . . . and owner and proprietor . . . of the Tenements to which right of common in and upon the said common doth belong: Henry Pawlet St. John . . . and Henry Smith one of the copyhold Tenants of the said manor having right of comon . . . that it shall and may be lawfull . . . for the said Pawlet St. John and Henry Pawlet St. John . . . to inclose and keep inclosed all or any part of the said waste or comon for the purposes of planting and preserving of Trees and underwoods'.¹⁴⁸ The commons were to be shared out in proportion to the interest,¹⁴⁹ but it is not specified which commons were to be enclosed. Probably Tundry Green was the target since it lay within the park. This was clearly not wholly implemented for some commons remained in 1837 (fig. 41).

In November, 1767, Lord George Beauclerk of Winchfield complained to Paulet St. John that the latter had made 'great incroachments upon that part of his manor called Winchfield Hurst by enclosing a great part thereof with Pales and a large bank',¹⁵⁰ and claimed the stream to be the true boundary between the two parishes.¹⁵¹ Paulet St. John alleged that the 'stream of water called Wilk's Water' was not the boundary but that 'the true boundary runs along the side of a certain bank lately thrown up with pales erected thereon'¹⁵² close to which 'two porters lodges have also been lately erected'.¹⁵³ Beauclerk also accused St. John of having 'felled . . . a considerable quantity of timber'.¹⁵⁴ In reply, St. John asserted that they 'have erected such a bank . . . and made a large enclosure from the Waste . . . without interruption from the Lord of the Manor of Winchfield' which is 'the strongest evidence of right'.¹⁵⁵ Beauclerk's answer to this is that Lawrence Rudyard¹⁵⁶ was then inactive, careless and necessitous and in that year became bankrupt.¹⁵⁷ He further alleged that St. John 'enclosed with pales 100 or a great number of acres of the waste . . . called Winchfield Hurst and added them to the park . . . and caused some timber . . . to be carried away',¹⁵⁸ and further claimed that in 1734, Benjamin Rudyard had cut down timber on the Hurst and had replanted the same and 'Winchfield men and no other have for time immemorial used the right of common . . . for their sheep and cattle'.¹⁵⁹ Both litigants died before a settlement could be reached and in 1769, Henry Paulet St. John claimed that his father enclosed 50 acres in 'an open and publick manner' in order to

¹⁴⁶ M. Girouard, *op. cit.*

¹⁴⁷ H.R.O., M.H.L.G., Odiham.

¹⁴⁸ H.R.O., 15M50/725/1.

¹⁴⁹ H.R.O., 15M50/725/17.

¹⁵⁰ H.R.O., 15M50/1128.

¹⁵¹ H.R.O., 15M50/1132/2.

¹⁵² H.R.O., 15M50/1134/1.

¹⁵³ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁶ The then lord of the manor of Winchfield.

¹⁵⁷ H.R.O., 15M50/1134/1.

¹⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁵⁹ *Ibid.*

cultivate and improve them.¹⁶⁰ The amount of timber removed by the St. Johns seems to have been considerable, for in 1767 they took 'with force of arms . . . twenty oak trees, twenty ash trees and twenty elm trees'.¹⁶¹ Both parties agreed in 1789 to abide by an Arbitrary Award¹⁶² made in favour of Winchfield, Wilk's Water being declared 'the true and ancient boundary'.¹⁶³ There seems no reason to doubt that the St. Johns attempted to extend their property at a time when they might expect least resistance. Although the process of park-making occupied much of the 18th century, several phases can be recognised. Between 1739 and 1759, the old park was greatly extended and ornamental buildings erected both within and about the ancient areas of settlement and it is clear from the 1759 map, that the park was to extend as far as the Hurst. The removal of dwellings from within the proposed park must have taken place gradually, for there is no evidence to suggest sudden wholesale removal. Probably they were demolished a few at a time when opportunity occurred for in 1788 'Sir Henry Paulet St. John is to find three poor Houses for Dogmersfield parish till he builds up three for the use of ye poor some years ago Sir Paulet St. John pulled down three poor Houses near the Church and a church house ye Clarke lived in'.¹⁶⁴ The second phase involved an attempt to enclose the commons, notably Tundry Green, and an unsuccessful effort to encroach upon Winchfield Hurst. The last phase must have included the final removal of dwellings from around Wale Pond and from the street, probably just before 1800, for the parish was then landscaped.¹⁶⁵ The medieval church was pulled down, perhaps just after 1806, the date of the second church by Flood Farm.

Evidence for Hartley Mauditt in the 18th century is very meagre compared with that for Dogmersfield and is confined largely to Isaac Taylor's map.

In 1759, Hartley Park is named although no attempt is made to show its boundaries, and a large house appears next to the church. This must be the manor house pulled down 'according to tradition' at the end of the 18th century, and of which the foundations, near the church, now remain.¹⁶⁶ No other buildings are shown, although Candovers, a timber framed building, was obviously present, and so probably also was Chilbury Farm. It is clear that the absence of settlement observed in 1840 is due to the existence of a park, but no date can be given to its making, except to observe that it must have been before 1759. Since the evidence of the Hearth Tax records suggests that settlement by the church existed in 1674, an early 18th century date is the most probable for the final removal of dwellings.

Conclusions

The anomalous patterns of settlement are seen in both parishes to have been brought about chiefly by the desire of landowners to create landscaped parks. That of Dogmersfield was the more elaborate and closely resembles the classic type of 18th century English park. Nevertheless, it was not the work of a single period, nor was the removal of settlement a cataclysmic event. Rather its origins lay in the early post-Conquest period. Only after 1739 did the emparking process gather momentum, reaching its

¹⁶⁰ H.R.O., 15M50/1134/11.

¹⁶¹ H.R.O., 15M50/1134/24.

¹⁶² H.R.O., 15M50/1143.

¹⁶³ H.R.O., 15M50/1149.

¹⁶⁴ H. M. Larnier, *op. cit.*, p. 45.

¹⁶⁵ M. Girouard, *op. cit.*

¹⁶⁶ V.C.H., II, p. 508.

DOGMERSFIELD AND HARTLEY MAUDITT: TWO DESERTED VILLAGES

culmination *c.* 1800 when the last of the dwellings and the medieval church were removed. It is probable that the houses were demolished as they became vacant and that Dogmersfield street was only gradually reduced. Hartley park is much smaller and its later development is not known to have been recorded. Nevertheless, a marked decline of dwellings has been observed, the acquisition of land and consolidation of demesne holdings taking place *c.* 1600. The presence of so many dwellings in the later 17th century comes almost as a surprise when so much land must then have been in the hands of the lords of the manor. The references to a woollen trade, perhaps associated with that of Alton, may well help to explain the continued existence of these dwellings. The end probably came just after 1700, when the early 18th century house was built next to the church. Thus was the medieval landscape of two Hampshire parishes largely, but not completely, obliterated.

PLACE-NAMES

The place-name references are taken from the manuscript 'Place-names of Hampshire' in the care of the English Place-name Society, University College, London, with the permission of the author, Mr. J. E. B. Gover.

ABBREVIATIONS

B.M.	British Museum, London.
H.L.R.O.	House of Lords Record Office, London.
H.R.O.	Hampshire Record Office, Winchester.
M.H.L.G.	The lists of buildings of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.
P.R.O.	Public Record Office, London.
V.C.H.	Victoria County History of Hampshire.