

The Shrivenham Enclosure

The survey is dated 3rd June 1658

Measurements in Acres, Roods and Perches

This document shows that the land of Shrivenham, in the mid 17th century, was still set out in the mediaeval open fields system, whereby huge tracts were made up of small strips. Some of the land was deemed as common and could be used by anyone, but the act of enclosing created fields as we know them today, bounded by hedges, ditches and fences rather than mounds between strips. This certainly made agriculture more efficient but it meant that previous waste and common lands were taken under more control by the local Lord of the Manor. It also made land much more saleable by having clearly defined boundaries.

In the Shrivenham Salop Manor Court Book, Henry Marten is recorded as the Lord up to 18th December 1656. From then the Lords were recorded as Sir John Pettus and Thomas Husey, probably caretakers of young Henry Marten's estates, who had been made bankrupt. From the 4th June 1657, the Lord is recorded as John Wildman. The change in ownership prompted a check on the validity of all copyholds and leaseholds and the court books of the Manors of Salop and Stallpits contain long lists of copies and leases produced by tenants in 1657.

John Wildman was an experienced estate agent, well-practiced during the civil war years and had clearly been trained in matters of the law. With tenants producing their documents for the Bailiffs to inspect, John Wildman and a posse of Lawyers, handed in their Bill of Complaint to the High Court of Chancery in London. This set the process of enclosing John Wildman's lands within the parish of Shrivenham.

The document that is now displayed in the Memorial Hall, Shrivenham, contains the names of 60 people who were likely to have been the principal villagers. Their names and those of the Bailiffs and Lawyers have been produced as a separate list.



Above. A typical mediaeval land layout of strips



Above. A map of 1750 showing a typical land layout after enclosure

Below. List of people named in the document and appear in the left-hand margin.

John Hedges

William Hedges

Henry Hedges

William Warren

Thomas Pinnell

Henry Porter

Ellen Porter his wife

Thomas Midwinter

Thomas Gearinge

Thomas Smyth

Oliver Pleydell

The President & Fellows of the Colledge of St Mary Magdalen within the

University of Oxford

William Langton Esq

Thomas Fettiplace Esq

Mary Fettiplace his Wife

Henry Warneford

Thomas North

Jane Stratton

Thomas Stratton

William Pound

Edward Prestwood

Charles Blagrove

William Jenner

Thomas Anger

Alice his Wife

William Batson

Henry Anger

Marryan Anger his Wife

Edmund Steward
Robert Steward
Richard Eyloe
Richard Day
Robert Hardinge
John Hardinge
John Samon
John Day
Thomas Browne
William Day
John Turton
Thomas Cox
William Fairthorne
Thomas Blagrove
Thomas Clark
Margaret Clark his Wife
Thomas Jenner
Alice Ayres
Mary Ayres
Richard Ayres
William Naish
Thomas Hedges
Robert Southby
John Hardinge
Edmond Westwall
John Harris
John Hull
Henry Hedges
John Haggard

William Kent

Thomas Reade

Lawyers and people with a financial interest in Shrivenham, with John
Wildman of Langley Place in the county of Bucks

Sir John Billingsley of St Nicholas Lane, Canon St, London, Vintner

William Layton of the City of Westminster in the county of Middx, Gent,

Thomas Willward of Grays Inn , county Middx Esq

William Dickson of the Middle Temple, London, Esq

Overseers/Bailiffs of the Enclosing:

John Southby Esq

Thomas Vilett

Thomas White

Thomas Kemble

William Cleeve

Alexander Cleeve, Gent.

Jonathan Godfrey, Gent, was the Surveyor or 'Measurer of Land'

Capital letters E,W,N,S = points of the compass

The Lord (of the Manor) John Wildman

For his farms and other lands which by purchase and other agreements he hath taken into his hands.

Meadow. In the breach is one plot extending from the Cowleaze W; over Tweene Brooks down to Beckett grounds E; which beside Mr North's part that is therein containeth. 36.2.0

One plot lying at the upper end of the Westmead next Bourton fields containeth 22.2.20

One other plot in the said mead between the west stone E; and Mrs Stratton and others W; containeth 11.3.16

Another plot at the lower end of the said meadow Mrs Stratton next on the S; Mr Fettiplace N 19.0.20

Pasture. One plot in the Cowleaze lying next to Stanesweeke grounds S; and extending from Milbery land W; to the Packway E; containeth 40.2.10

One other plot there lying between the Packway W; and the Breach meadow 5.1.0

One plot in the Slade between William Day W; and Thomas Angell E containeth 3.2.10

Sands Land

One plot lying between Beckett brook E and little infurlong now assigned to Richard Day W 13.0.4

One little paddock adjoining formerly Mrs Stratton's 0.1.31

One other plot or close called Barnicles – Henry Angell lying next on the N and William Hunt S	1.3.36
One plot or close commonly called Common Close	4.2.0
One plot above the Slade next to Abbots Way E and the Lord one other plot next on the W containeth	4.2.16
One other plot or close above the Slade next to the aforesaid close E and the highway to Highworth next on the W	13.3.30
One plot on the south side of the town next to John Cutler’s home close N and next on the W side of the Packway	12.1.6
One other plot adjoining the aforesaid plot lying next on the E and Robert Harding W	5.1.6
One plot or close toward Sandhill lying next on the N side the way that leadeth towards Stalpitts Mrs Stratton N	6.0.0
One other plot or close the said way S, Mrs Stratton N the Lords’s aforesaid close E, Mrs Stratton in the W, Stonefield next on the W	7.1.36
One plot or close at Sandhill called Perfitts Down lying between Mrs Stratton W, and the highway to Highworth E	6.0.24
One other plot or close there called Whitehouse Down	2.1.0
One close at Townsend next to the highway that leadeth toward Highworth E and Henry Angell next on the W, in part	10.1.10
One other close lying next at the W end of the last ground on the south side of the way that leadeth to Stalpitts	15.3.20
One other plot in the Sands above Stalpitts house and shooteth on Bourton field W, the west Stonefield lying next on the N, Great Rimes and Thomas Pinnell S 3	37.1.10
The said plot or close called Great Rimes containeth	5.0.20

One other plot in Claylands between William Warren E and Thomas Brown W
3.1.0

One piece of Headland that shooteth out of Henry Angell's close, the highway
south and William Nash N 0.0.16

Stoneland

One plot in the East Stonefield at Cuthern Farrington Way next on the N and
Great Infurlong S 5.1.14

One plot in the said field above Ratcombe Mrs Stratton and Richard Eloie lying
next on the S and Thomas Angell N 23.3.10

One plot in the said field shooting from Highworth Way W to the Lord's
meadow E, Thomas Angell lying next on the S and Mrs Stratton next on the
other side 29.1.20

Meadow in East Stonefield

One plot of meadow ground in the said field shooting on the brook late John
Cutlers 4.0.24

One plot in the said field shooting on the brook and is called Great Penny Hooks
6.0.8

One plot of arable and meadow in the said field shooting on the brook lying
between Great Penny Hooks north and Little Penny Hooks south 3.0.26

One plot next the brook called Little Penny Hooks 1.1.30

One other plot next the brook called Mean Mead 4.2.18

West Stone land

One plot in the West Stone Field extending from the Sands above Stallpits house
south and unto Mr Warnefords plot north and is bounded on the west by West
Mead and Mr Warnefords plot at goose furlong, Mr Pleydell, Mrs Stratton, Mr
Langton and Thomas Clarke their several plots lying next on the east through
which said plot of the Lord's there are driftways to be allowed which are not yet

set forth for the use of Thomas Clarke, Mr Langton and Mrs Stratton for their coming to and from their several plots in the said field and also a way into the west mead for the use of Mr Pleydell, Mrs Stratton, Thomas Angell and Henry Angell for their coming to and from their several plots, wherein is also to be noted that Mrs Stratton is to have a way through Mr Pleydell's to her new plot and Henry Angell is to have a passage through Thomas Angell's to his plot it formerly being both one which said plot of the Lord's with the ways therein contains in the whole

134.2.10

Sum of Lord

501.3.21

Lands held by Lease and by Copy of Courtrole

John Hedges

Meadow. One plot in the Breaches next to the Cow pasture West and Thomas Clarke East

4.1.37

Sands Land. One plot in the Sands at Yellow Butts next to the highway to Highworth West and Mr Pleydell East

6.3.9

Stoneland. One plot in the East Stonefield next to Mr Pleydell's Northford.

5.2.25

Stone land. Allowed in the said plot for Henry Angells way

0.0.29

Summary

17.0.20

William Warrin

Meadow. One meadow plot at the lower end of the Breaches near Beckett 2.0.29

Pasture. One plot in the Cowpasture next to the packway W and lying between The Pinnill S and Edward Prestwood N 1.2.4

Sandsland. One plot or close in the sands lying next on the W of his meadow aforesaid and butting on Edward Prestwood's home close 4.0.0

One other plot there adjoining 2.3.18

One plot in Claylands next to Hackerne way N and Mr Langton's S 2.2.5

One other little plot lying near Beckett 0.1.18

Summary 13.2.4

The Lord's Tenants. Thomas Pinnell by Copy

Pasture. On plot in the Cowleaze 2.1.30

Sands Lands. The said Thomas Pinnell holds by lease one plot in the Sands next Hackern Way S the Lord N the tow Rimes W, Mr Pleydell E 6.0.6

Summary 8.1.36

Note: Through the last plot the Lord is to have for a way for going to and coming from the Great Rimes

Thomas Midwinter

Pasture. One plot in the Cowpasture at the gate and next to the packway 0.3.7

Sandsland. One plot or close called Little Rimes 2.2.22

One other plot shooting on Hackeron Way between Will Nash E & Mr Pleydell S. 2.2.30

Summary 7.0.19

Thomas Gerring

One plot in the Slade 1.3.8

Sandsland. One plot in the Sands next to Stallpits green N the Lord lying next on the other sides 4.1.1

Summary 6.0.9

Thomas Smith

Sandsland. One acre by repute lying in Cleylands next to the Cowleaze E and Mr Langton next on the W 0.3.30

Lands held free and by copy of Inheritance by rents and service etc

Mr Oliver Pleydell for his Glebe and other lands

Meadow. One plot at Coppid Thorne extending in part over tweene brooks containing 27.1.3

One plot in the West mead between Mrs Stratton N and the Lord S 12.3.37

Pasture. One plot in the cowpasture next Bourton field W and the highway E
23.1.18

Sandslands. One plot in the Sands next to the Cowleaze S the Lord and Robert Harding N 51.3.10

One little close near Nashes's lane 1.2.35

One close near Beckett the said Mr Pleydell's old inclosure lying next on the S and the Lord on the other three sides	2.2.10
One close called Little Northford	1.2.33
One close called Great Northford	9.3.17
One close on Abbot's Hill formerly taken in	7.1.12
One plot between the said close and the highway to Highworth with part of two headlands shooting on the S side the said close to the E side thereof	2.3.18
One plot at the N side the said close extending from Yellow Butts to Fisher's Way	26.1.38
One plot in the sands butting on Hackern way S the Lord N Thomas Midwinter E and Thomas Pinnell next on the W	10.0.23
Stoneland. One plot in the E stonefield next to the W stonefield and Sandhill Way E	34.2.20
One plot in the W stonefield between Mr Warnford N Mrs Stratton and the Lord S	30.0.9
Summary	242.3.3

**Freehold and Copy of Inheritance and College hold Mr William Langton
being College hold**

Meadow. One plot in tweene brooks mead next to Bourton lower close	4.3.16
One parcel in the said Bourton Lower Close being by repute 2 acres but contains	1.10.16
Herbage. The after feeding of the said close from Lammas to our Lady Day yearly which beside the said 2 acres containeth	6.0.8
Also the after feeding as aforesaid of Bourton upper close containing	7.3.0

One ground or plot called Stanesweeke Marrish	21.3.4
Sandsland. One plot in the Sands at Cleylands	36.3.10
Stoneland. One plot in the W. Stonefield butting on the E	
Stonefield Hedge E and lyeth between Mrs Stratten and the Lord N and Thomas Clarke S	21.1.39
Summary	99.3.13

Mr Henry Warnford

Stoneland & Meadow. One plot in the E Stonefield being next to the brook	34.1.19
One plot in the W Stonefied also lying round next the brook	58.3.38

Mr Thomas North

Meadow. One fourth part of the 15 acres piece of overthrough meadow in the breaches, not being plotted but contains	1.3.18
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Freehold and Copyhold of Inheritance

Mrs Jane Stratten widow

Meadow. One plot in the breaches next to the Drift Way	13.0.18
One plot or close in the W Mead called Nine acres	9.0.0

One other plot in the said mead lying between the Lord's N and Mr Pleydell S	13.0.32
Pasture One plot in the Cowleaze next to Milbery Way	21.1.20
Sands One paddock at Cutherne	0.3.0
Land One close at Towns end next on the S side of the Slade	11.2.24
One plot under Sandhill extending from Highworth way E to the West Stone field W	24.1.0
Three parcels or plots at Sandhill lying together called the Downes	8.1.0
One plot or close at Yellow Butts	7.3.26
Stoneland & Meadow. One plot in the W stone field near Stallpitt house	19.0.0
One other plot in the said field between Mr Langton S and Mr Pleydell N	18.2.0
One plot in the E stone field next Sandhill way and Mr Pleydell W the Lord and widow Ayres E extending from Yellow Butts S to Mr Warnford's plot N	48.0.11
One other plot in the said field at Ratcombe bottom and Meane Mead	12.2.0
Summary	207.2.11

William Pound clerk for his Glebe

Meadow. One plot in the breaches lying next to the Sands N and William Jenner S	8.2.20
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The said William Pound for his free land

Sandsland. One plot in the Sands at the close ends between the Packway W and Richard Ayres next on the E 1.3.0

Edward Prestwood

Meadow. One plot in the Breaches near Beckett 3.2.32

Pasture One plot in the Cowleaze between Will Jenner W the Packway and Thomas Midwinter next on the E 3.0.26

Another plot in the Cowleaze in Warrin's use the said Will Warrin for the Lord lying next on the S and Robert Harding N 2.0.28

Sandsland. One plot or close next his home close 1.1.10

Another plot in the Sands next Breach Meadow 5.1.2

Stoneland. One plot in E Stonefield upon Brimhill, Richard Day and Henry Angell lying next on S and Will Jenner N 9.1.1

Summary 24.3.18

Mr Charles Blagrove

Meadow. One plot in the Breaches next to the Cow pasture W and Mrs Stratton next on the E 6.3.12

Pasture. One plot in the Cowleaze next Mrs Stratton W And Richard Eyloe and the Lord E 12.1.20

Sands Land. One plot or close at his yards end 1.2.11

Another plot on the south side of the town between John Sammon E & Richard Eyloe W 14.3.20

One plot shooting on the Slade lying between Fishers way E and Abbots way W
15.3.10

Another plot in the Sands at Cleylands between John Day N, Mr Langton S and
shooting on the Cowlane E 2.1.12

Stone Land. One plot in the E stonefield upon Brimhill between Mrs Stratton at
Ratcombe N and Will Jenner S 18.1.10

Another plot in said field being picked lying above Ratcombe between Fishers
way E and Abbots way W 2.0.4

Summary 74.0.19

William Jenner

Meadow. One plot of meadow in the Breaches between Mr Pound N and John
Sammon S 3.1.13

Pasture. One plot in the Cowleaze between Edward Prestwood E and Richard
Eyloe W 3.3.33

Sandsland. One plot in Abbots Hill 8.1.16

Stoneland. One plot in the East stone field on Brimhill 10.2.27

Summary 26.1.9

Thomas Angell

Meadow. One plot in the west mead next Bourton field 4.0.12
One other plot next adjoining 2.0.26

Pasture. One plot in the Slade next his home close 2.1.20
One plot in the East Stone field the Lord lying Next on both sides
14.3.38

Summary 23.2.16

Henry Angell

Meadow. One plot in the west mead next Bourton field 4.0.11

Pasture. One plot in the Slade at the lower end 1.2.4

Sandsland. One close at Barnicles thre Lord lying next on land The S and Richard Day N 1.1.38

One close shooting on Hackern Way S of the Lord N & E and Will Nash W 5.3.0

Stoneland. One plot in the East stone field upon Brimhill Next Mr Pleydell's Northfords 4.2.13

Summary 17.2.26

Richard Eyloe

Meadow. One plot in the Breaches shooting on the Brook John Sammon next in the N and the Lord S 2.1.7

Pasture. One plot in the Cowleaze next Mr Blagrave W and William Jenner E 2.1.20

Sandsland One plot in the Sands shooting on the Cowleaze The Packway being next on the W and Mr Blagrave Next on the E 5.3.23

Stoneland One plot in the East stone field on the far side of Rottcombe Mrs Stratten S & E the Lord W & N 10.0.13

Summary 20.2.23

Richard Day

Meadow. One plot in the breaches next the Driftway N the Lord E & S and Thomas Clarke W 3.0.2

Pasture. One part at Cuthorne next the highway N & W Mrs Stratten a paddock S 1.3.6

Sandsland. One plot in the sands called Little in furlong 5.1.26

Stoneland. One part in the East stone field upon Brimhill Next the highway 9.2.38

Summary 19.3.32

Robert Harding

Meadow. One plot in the north west corner of the Breaches 1.0.18

Pasture. One plot in the Cowleaze next the Packway W and the Breaches E John Day N, Edward Prestwood in William Warrin's use S 7.0.20

Sandsland One plot in the Sands next the Cowlane W & shooting on great Yoell N 7.2.0

Another plot next on E of last shooting on little Yoell 4.0.0

Summary 19.2.38

John Sammon

Meadow. One plot of meadow shooting on the brook lying between Will Jenner N and Richard Eloy S 2.3.21

Sandsland. One plot in the Sands shooting on the Breaches S lying Between the Driftway E and Mr Charles Blagrove W 7.3.16

Summary 10.2.37

John Day

Pasture. One plot in the Cowleaze at the gate shooting from The Packway W & Robert Harding E 1.0.16

Sandsland. One plot in the Sands at Claylands lying next Hackern Way N and Charles Blargave S 2.1.26

Summary 3.2.2

Thomas Browne

Sandsland One plot in the Sands at Cleylands next Bourton Field W the Lord E, hacker Way N and Mr Lancton S 1.3.34

William Day

Pasture. One plot at the upper end of the Slade next the Highway W and the Lord E 1.1.37

John Tucker

Pasture. One plot in the Cowleaze on the W side of Milbery way Bourton inclosures next on the S Mr Pleydell N 4.1.30

Thomas Cox

Meadow. One acre by repute in the Breaches butting on the Packway W lying between gully lake S and the Cowpasture N 1.0.37

William Fairthorne

Meadow. One meadow near Watchfield Mill lying next the Mill Pond W and is called the Ham 1.2.33

Mr Thomas Blgrave

Meadow. A meadow plot called pue acrew lying between Mr Pleydells Great Northford W and Watchfield Mill pond E 0.3.27

Thomas Clarke

Meadow. One plot in the Breaches lying next to the Lord S The Driftway N Richard Day E and John Hedges W 4.0.3

Sandsland. One close called the great Yoell 4.1.20

Another close adjoining called Little Yoell 3.1.38

One little piddle at Yellow Butts 2.12

Stoneland. One close in West stone field called Lobsdown 4.2.36

One plot adjoining with Mrs Stratten next on S Mr Lancton N 9.3.28

Summary 27.0.17

Freehold

Alice Ayres widow

Stoneland. One plot in the East stone field at Long hedge end Highworth way N
Mrs Stratten W, Mr Pleydell E 2.2.10

Richard Ayres

Sandsland. One plot in the sands on S side of the town, William Nash lying
next on the E & Mr Pound on W 2.0.0

William Nash

Sandsland. One plot or close formerly taken on at Nash's land end Mr Pleydell
lying next on the E and Mr Blagrove and Richard Ayres W 4.1.20

One other plot at Hacker way, Henry Angell next on the E & Thomas
Midwinter W 2.3.22

Summary 7.1.2

Conclusion

The total account of the Lord and his tenants amounts to in the whole 555.0.19

The Freehold copyhold of Inheritance and College is 938.3.29

The Vicarage Glebe containeth 8.2.20

Witness our hands the 3rd June 1658

John Southby, Thomas Vilett, Alexander Cleeve

A note of such alterations as hath been made since this book was ingrossed

On the south side and west end of Mr Pound's glebe plot of meadow in the Breaches is laid one rood of meadow more which Thomas Reade hath bought together with the after feeding of the said glebe plot who is also to make the

fences on the south side next William Jenner and the west end next to the Driftway it being formerly assigned for Mr Pound to make.

William Warrin's plot in the said mead is abated one rood in quantity of what is in the book, it being taken from thence and added for Thomas Read as aforesaid.

And whereas the Lord hath one plot in Cleylands mentioned in this book containing three acres and one rood, William Warrin is to have one acre and three roods added unto his plot there to hold by lease for three lives and Thomas Browne hath the rest being one acre and a half added unto his plot there and is granted unto him for three lives.

Also

John Cutler hath laid out to him in exchange for his copyhold land, one plot in the Cowleaze at Rutheren fold.

9.2.10

The two plots on the south side of the town next to his yards end is also assigned for him

17.2.12

The plot of meadow at Penny hooks in the East Stonefield being formerly his

4.0.24

Also one plot there shooting from the highway unto the said meadow plot

14.0.7

Summary

45.1.13

All which is allotted and laid (in this book of survey) unto the Lord by the help of it may be butted and bounded if need requires.

This is a true copy of the original

W. Ellis

Oxford Feb 6th 1908