

THE FIELD-NAMES OF ENSTONE AND LITTLE TEW PARISHES, OXON.

EDITED BY R. T. LATTEY

The material for the accompanying map (FIG. 53) has been collected and prepared for publication by members of the Enstone History Circle, which Circle has also borne part of the cost of publication. The maps have been redrawn in the Ashmolean Museum by Mrs. M. E. Cox from rough drafts prepared by the compilers. The field names for Glympton parish are taken from the frontispiece map in the Rev. H. Barnett's *Glympton* (*Oxf. Record Soc.*, v, 1923) and do not represent new research.

A. ENSTONE

The sources used in compiling the Enstone portion are :

- (a) Enclosure Awards for Neat and Church Enstone.
- (b) Tything Award for the whole parish.
- (c) Maps of Dean and Chalford by Stephen Jefferies, 1743. [These are in Oriol College Treasury and are reproduced in J. L. G. Mowat, *Sixteen Old Maps of Properties in Oxfordshire* (Oxford, 1888).]
- (d) An Estate Map of Heythrop when it was Lord Shrewsbury's property in 1753, which is now in the possession of Heythrop College.
- (e) Enquiries made among people in the district who were likely to have relevant information.

Enstone parish is the largest in Oxfordshire—6,245 acres—and of a very irregular outline. It is natural to look for the Saxon division into woodland, arable and hay meadows. The first is undoubtedly to be seen in the long extension into Wychwood running past Ditchley House in the direction of Woodstock. To this day the inhabitants of Enstone are allowed to draw wood for fuel from Ditchley. As the parish has been divided into seven hamlets from very early times it is likely that the arable and grazing was somewhat intermixed. The place used to be known as Enstone of the seven towns. These were Neat and Church Enstone, Broadstone Hill, Lidstone, Gagingwell, Cleveley and Radford. The place became the property of the Abbey of Winchcombe early in the ninth century and remained so until the dissolution. We might expect to find traces of history in the field names, but except for Rectory Farm there is little to show.

Various pieces bear the name Leazow, an old name for gleaning. These are in the part which is known to have been divided into Quarters and thus were certainly arable.

The Tything Man's Acre was formerly held by the Tything Man rent-free in lieu of salary. It is now merged in an airfield.

The Vineyard seems oddly named considering that it is one of the bleakest sites in the neighbourhood.

Some of the names in Radford refer to an 'abbey'. It is known that some sort of a religious house was at one time here and remains are still visible, but the establishment was certainly not of the status of an abbey.

R. T. LATTEY

Hindjones is a curious word. It occurs in a list of particulars dated 1634 and is still in use. The name Jones is not unknown in these parts—e.g. Chastleton House was built by a Jones—and the wool trade into Wales may account for its prevalence.

Old Chalford was at one time a flourishing hamlet with a chapel served by chaplains from Enstone. No trace of this could be found in the names. There are traces of buildings in Canes Close and (?) in Home Ground. Mrs. Lobel has published a most interesting history of Dean and Chalford (Oxfordshire Record Society, vol. xvii), in which there occur various names with no indication of location. It has, unfortunately, not been possible to fit any of them to later names.

The Chapel Hill shown was probably so called because it was on the way to Chapel House Heath which lies outside the parish. This field has been cut in two by the comparatively modern road to Chipping Norton. The same is true of some other fields alongside this road.

B. LITTLE TEW

The field names for this portion of the map have been collected by Miss Jerrold and Mrs. Fitt, who have compared them with terriers in *The Cartulary of Eynsham Abbey* (edited by the Rev. H. E. Salter, Oxf. Hist. Soc., vols. XLIX, LI).

The following variations in spelling should be recorded :

Yerrell (now), Yellhill (early nineteenth century), Helille (1260).

Yellhill Close South, South Yearol.

Long Yell Furlong, Long Yearol.

Costers, Costowa (1260).

Great Ayleborough Hill, Great Ayleboro Hill, Ailespiteshille (1260).

Snails Hill Field (now), Aylesborough Meadow, Ayleborough Close, Railbrough, Ailborow (all early nineteenth century).

Note also that the parish boundaries of Little Tew, Great Tew and Swerford have been adjusted in the last fifty years. The stone on the roadside near Castle Farm marked the meeting of Little Tew, Swerford and Heythrop.

NOTE

The following corrections to the names on the map are required :

- (a) In Little Tew village, for 'Marshes' read 'Marches'.
- (b) One mile S. of Little Tew, for 'Oxenton' read 'Oxendun', and for 'Plant pits' read 'Plank pits'.
- (c) $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles WNW. of Little Tew, for 'Shoel Meadow' read 'Showell Meadow'.

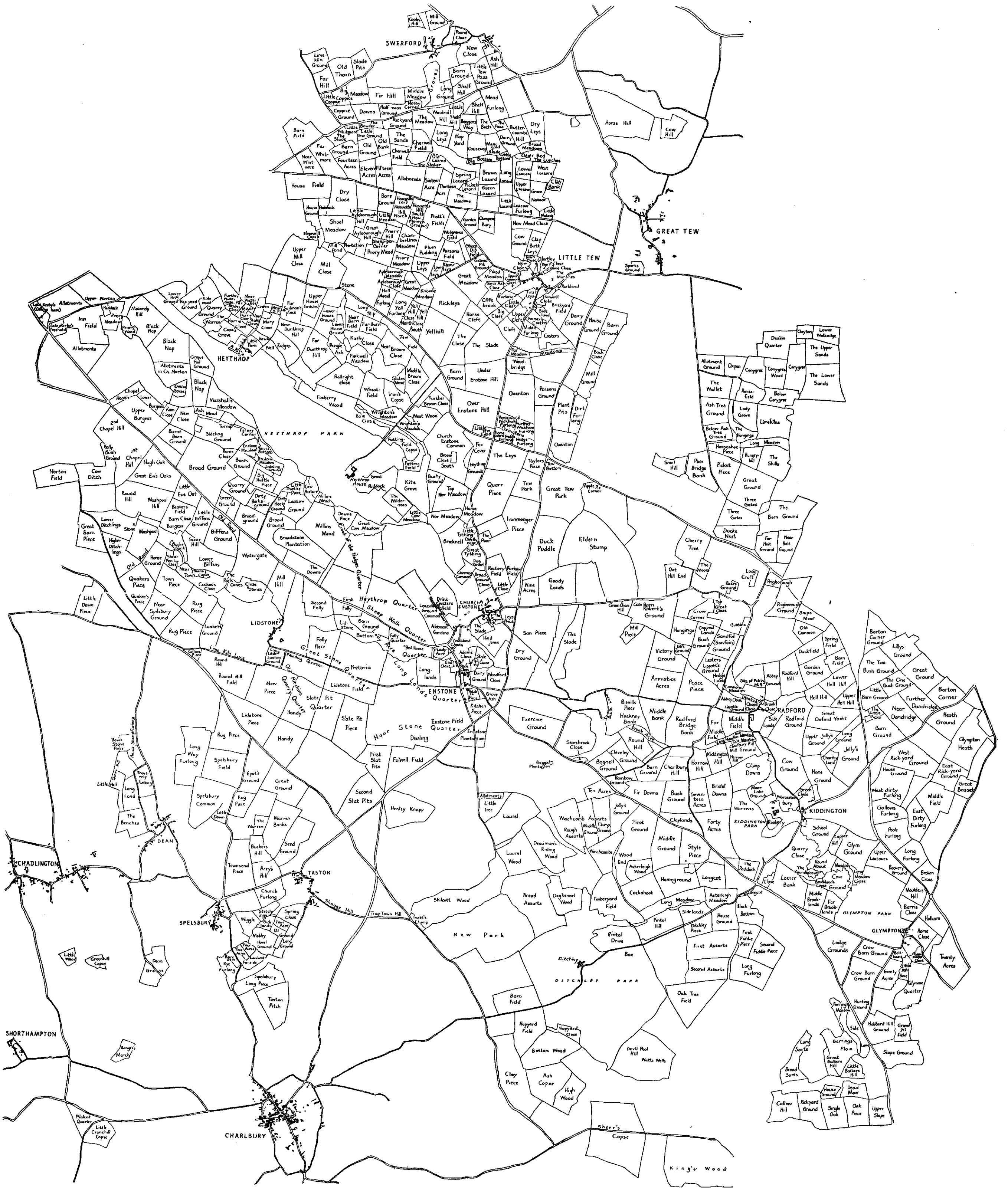


FIG. 53
ENSTONE AND LITTLE TEW, OXON.

Map of the parishes showing field-names (p. 265 f.) scale 2 in. = 1 mile.

Based on the 6-in. O.S. map with the sanction of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office.