

**JOURNAL OF THE  
ENGLISH PLACE-NAME SOCIETY**

Volume 50

2018

including the 94th Annual Report  
for the year 2018

Editors

PAUL CAVILL  
REBECCA GREGORY

Reviews Editor

CHLOÉ COLLA

General Editor

RICHARD COATES



ISSN 1351-3095  
Nottingham 2019

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY 2017-18

- President: Prof. J. Jesch BA, PhD
- Vice-Presidents: Prof. S. D. Keynes, MA, LittD, FBA  
Prof. P. C. McClure, BA, PhD  
D. N. Parsons, MA, PhD  
Prof. D. G. Scragg, BA, PhD, FEA
- Hon. Vice-Presidents: Prof. C. Dyer, BA, PhD  
Prof. G. Fellows-Jensen, PhD, DrPhil  
Prof. H. W. Owen, BA, MA, PhD  
Prof. T. Turville-Petre, MA, MLitt
- Council: Prof. L. Abrams, MA, PhD, FRHistS, FSA  
J. Baker, BA, MA, PhD  
K. M. Briggs, BSc, PhD  
\*P. Cavill, BA, MPhil, PhD  
A. Cole, MA, DPhil  
\*Prof. B. H. Cox, PhD, FSA  
\*P. Cullen, BA, PhD  
F. Edmonds, MA, MSc, DPhil, FSA Scot  
\*J. Freeman, MA  
\*R. Gregory, BA, MA, PhD  
Prof. C. A. Hough, MA, PhD, FSA  
\*Prof. J. Insley, MA, PhD  
R. Jones, BA, DPhil  
\*A.D. Mills, MA, DLit  
\*O. J. Padel, MA, LittD  
D. H. Parkin, BA, PhD  
E. Rye, BA, MA, PhD  
T. Styles, BA, PhD
- Hon. Director: \*Prof. R. A. Coates, MA, PhD, FSA
- Hon. Deputy Director: \*D. N. Parsons, MA, PhD
- Hon. Secretary: \*J. Carroll, MA, PhD
- Hon. Treasurer: A. Ellis, BSc, PGCE, ACA

\*Editors of the Society

## Contents

### Editorial

- Golden Jubilee: the *Journal* celebrates its first 50 years 5  
**Richard Coates**

### Articles

- Where in Suffolk was *Wicklaw*? 11  
**Keith Briggs**

- Dorking, Surrey 17  
**Rob Briggs**

- Two lost place-names in the west Midlands: *Gaia* in Lichfield  
and *The Gay* in Shrewbury 55  
**Richard Coates**

- Two Chiltern place-names reconsidered: Elvendon and Misbourne 65  
**Ann Cole**

- Medieval place-names in a landscape: Branscombe 75  
**John Torrance**

### Reviews

- Lindy Brady (2017), *Writing the Welsh Borderlands in Anglo-Saxon  
England* 97  
**David Callander**

- Vanessa Greatorex and Mike Headon, eds (2014), *Field-names in  
Cheshire, Shropshire and North-East Wales. Recent work by  
members of the Chester Society for Landscape History* 99  
**Eleanor Rye**

4	JOURNAL OF THE ENGLISH PLACE-NAME SOCIETY 50 (2018)	
	Patrick Hanks, Richard Coates and Peter McClure (2016), <i>The Oxford Dictionary of Family Names in Britain and Ireland</i>	102
	<b>John Insley</b>	
	Mark McKerracher (2018), <i>Farming Transformed in Anglo-Saxon England: Agriculture in the long eighth century</i>	112
	<b>Debby Banham</b>	
	Simon Taylor with Peter McNiven and Eila Williamson (2017), <i>The Place-Names of Kinross-shire</i>	114
	<b>Sofia Evemalm</b>	
	Tom Williamson, Gerry Barnes and Toby Pillatt (2017), <i>Trees in England: Management and disease since 1600</i>	116
	<b>Jessica Treacher</b>	
	<u>Obituary</u>	
	George Redmonds, 1935–2018	121
	<b>Jennifer Scherr</b>	
	<u>Notices and addenda</u>	
	Alfred Oscroft Essay Prize 2018	125
	Reports:	
	Hon. Director	127
	<b>Richard Coates</b>	
	Hon. Treasurer	129
	<b>Andrea Ellis</b>	
	Accounts	131
	Errata for vol. 49 (2017)	138
	Abbreviations	139

For the first time, abbreviations for counties, languages, county place-name surveys, and other frequently-cited publications can be found in the back of this volume.

The Bibliography for 2017 will appear in *The Journal of the English Place-Name Society* 51 (2019).

## Where in Suffolk was *Wicklaw*?

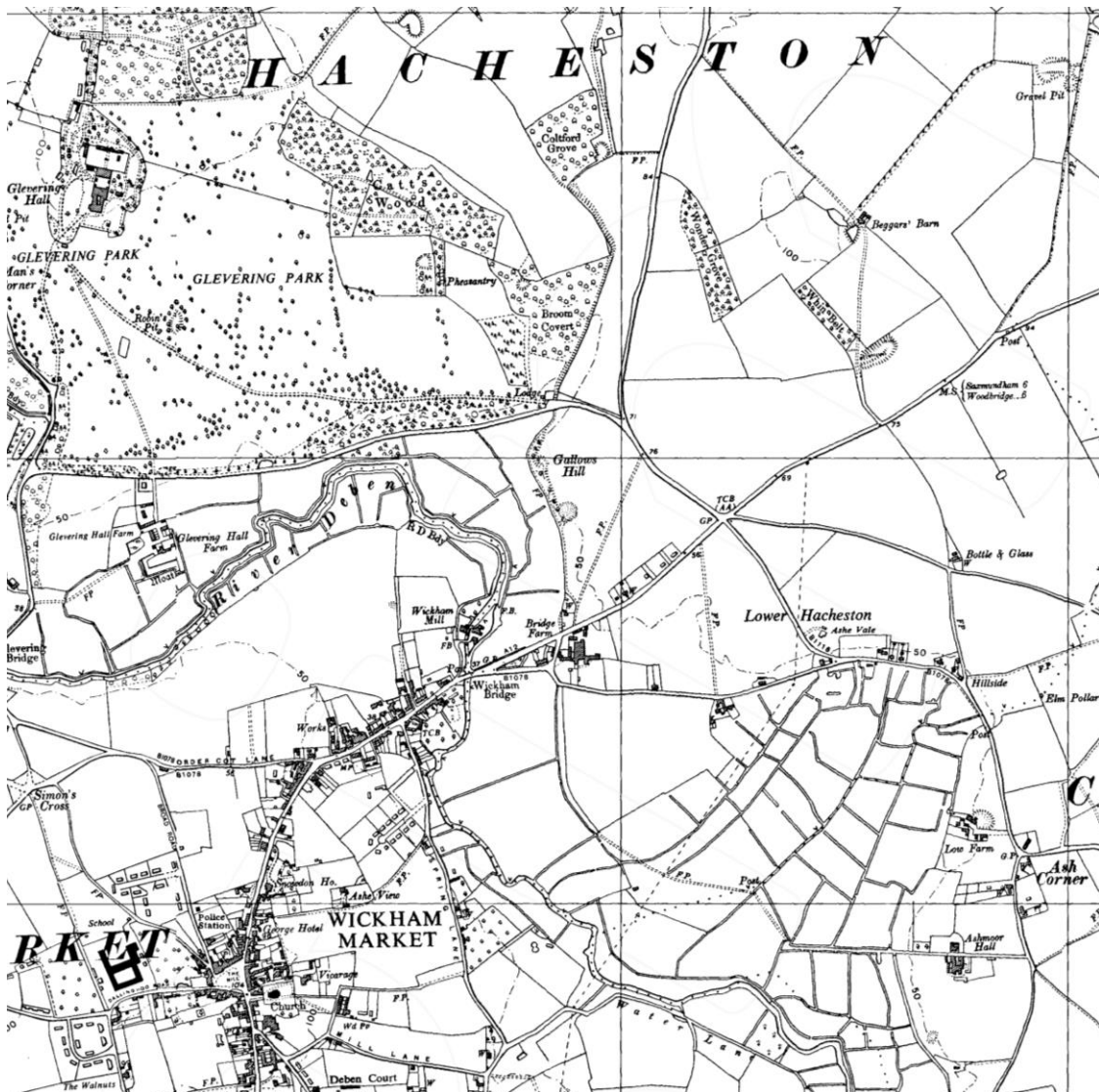
Keith Briggs

The large land-holding in south-east Suffolk belonging to Ely Abbey was called *Wicklaw*. This has always been assumed to be the name of a mound (OE *hlāw*), but the exact location of this feature and the meaning of the specific *wic-* have never been clear. Here we add some new evidence, from surnames, and from a site recorded as *Wikelohel*, to deduce a location in or near Hacheston or Rendlesham. The *wic-* element is probably to be associated with Wickham Market, both names denoting the same Roman settlement.

\*

The five and a half hundreds held since pre-Conquest times by the abbey of Ely in southeast Suffolk (Plomesgate, Wilford, Colneis, Carlford, Loes, Parham) were known by a name usually given the modern form Wicklaw, sometimes written Wicklow (Green 1966). Wicklaw is certainly a name for a mound (OE *hlāw*) which was very likely a meeting-site, and probably has OE *wīc*, from Latin *uīc(us)*, as specific (Coates 1999: 111), but a precise location for this feature has never been identified. Hence the aim of this note is to collect the place-name and personal name evidence, and argue that it points to a site in the Hacheston and Rendlesham area near Wickham Market (Figure 1).

The name appears as *æt Wichlawan* in S 779, a possibly spurious charter of King Edgar of the year 970 to Ely Abbey, the Latin version stating *in Uuichlauuan in provincia Orientalium Saxonum*; as *ad Wichelau v<sup>que</sup> et dimidium centuriatum 1042×1066* in S 1051, the spurious grant of King Edward to Ely Abbey (Blake 1962: 161–63; Hart 1966: 67); and as *apud Wychelau* in a Bury document of 1160 (Douglas 1932: xli). This last item concerns a gift of land in Orford and Gedgrave to Ely by Willelmus de Caisneto, sheriff of Norfolk, and was given with many present (*multorum presencia*) at what was probably a shire court meeting. This strongly suggests that Wicklaw was still being used as a meeting site in the twelfth century. In the Calendar of Charter Rolls, under 17 Henry III



**Figure 1:** An area centred on Gallows Hill in a six-inch Ordnance Survey map of 1945 (published 1951). Rendlesham is just off the map to the south-east.

© Crown Copyright and Landmark Information Group Limited (2018).

All rights reserved (1951).

(1233), mention is made of the five and half hundreds of *Wyckelawe* and the *triling*<sup>1</sup> of Wyneston (Winston), in a grant to Ely Abbey.

Hart (1992: 71) and Fairclough (2003: 269) have suggested that Wicklaw might have been another name for Thingstead in Ipswich, which was a town meeting site after 1200, and probably earlier. This location is outside the Wicklaw group of hundreds, and there is no good evidence to support the proposal. Anderson/Arngart (1934: 83–84) cites Vincent Redstone’s opinion that Wicklaw was at Gallows Hill in Hacheston. This

<sup>1</sup> The modern Thredling Hundred.

is a site 1.4 km north-east of Wickham Market, and was the location of a Roman settlement (Scarfe 2002: 42–43). A reference to *Wittlow Galowes*, mentioned in a 1433 extent (Dyke et al. 1980: 24), where the extent is stated to be privately owned and not further identified, might support this proposal. If this were the correct site, the element *wīc* having the sense ‘Roman settlement’ in the names Wicklaw and Wickham would plausibly be an explicit reference in both cases to the known Hacheston Roman town. The location is also within four kilometres of Rendlesham, the important Anglo-Saxon royal site mentioned by Bede (Pearson, Noort, and Woolf 1976: 40), with both places being linked by the River Deben.

There are, however, two types of additional evidence not used by the aforementioned authorities. Firstly, the surname *de Wykelawe* is found exactly in the Hacheston and Rendlesham areas in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. This name probably belonged to a single land-owning family but with members residing in different places, meaning that the surname alone cannot pin down the exact location. Nevertheless, the cumulative evidence supports the Hacheston-Rendlesham hypothesis. Secondly, there is the identification of a lost site *Wikelohel*, probably in Rendlesham, which may be the original Wicklaw. Let us now examine this evidence.

The surnames are as follows: *Johannes de Wykelowe*, occurring in an early thirteenth-century Sibton charter (Brown 1987: no. 139); a quitclaim of 1272 (SRO<sup>2</sup> HD1538/172/3) has a *Roger de Wykelawe* as witness; *Geoffrey de Wykelowe* occurs in the Calendar of Charter Rolls for 1303; *Hamon de Wikelowe* occurs in Ipswich in 1313 (Martin 1973: 55); *Roger de Wikkelow* is mentioned in a fine relating to Hacheston and Marlesford of 1317/8 (Rye 1900);<sup>3</sup> *Johanne de Wyckelowe* is listed under Hacheston in the 1327 Subsidy Roll (S.H.A.H. 1906: 133); *John Wicklowe* of Easton occurs in a 1362 feoffment (HD1538/10/55); and *Roger de Wikelowe* appears in an undated feoffment relating to Wickham Market in HD1538/424/14.<sup>4</sup> Note also the field-name *Wykkelowelond* 1413, probably from the surname, in a deed relating to Wantisden, Chillesford, Butley, Rendlesham, and Blaxhall, with the exact location not being stated (HD1538/183/7).

<sup>2</sup> SRO = Suffolk Record Office; all subsequent catalogue numbers refer also to the SRO.

<sup>3</sup> Image available at: <[http://aalt.law.uh.edu/AALT7/CP25\(1\)/CP25\\_1\\_217\\_51-59/IMG\\_0454.htm](http://aalt.law.uh.edu/AALT7/CP25(1)/CP25_1_217_51-59/IMG_0454.htm)>.

<sup>4</sup> Copinger (no date [c.1904]: 382) states that BL Add MS 19155 contains a pedigree of the *Wikelowe* family.

Our evidence concerning *Wikelohel* comes from a fine of 1205 (Dodwell 1950: no. 444); *Ricardi de Wikelawe* is mentioned in the same fine.<sup>5</sup> In her edition, Dodwell could not read the parish name in the faded manuscript, and left it unidentified. But the fine can be fixed as referring to Rendlesham on the basis of the unusual field-names *Potbrede* and *Tunlegh* which occur in other Rendlesham documents. *Potbrede* occurs in the 1355 Rendlesham deed HB416/B1/34. This compound of *pot* and *brede* seems to be very rare as a field-name; it perhaps has a jocular meaning ‘a strip of land only as wide as a pot’.<sup>6</sup> HB416/B4/1/30, which is a sixteenth-century copy of a 1396/7 survey of Rendlesham, mentions *Tunley*, *Wrangtunley*, and *Overtunley*. These places are briefly discussed by Williamson (2013: 215). Various people surnamed *de Tunleye* are also found in Rendlesham.<sup>7</sup> Although both elements here are common, the compound, with some such meaning as ‘townland clearing’, is not. The place-name in question from the 1205 fine is printed *Wikelehel* by Dodwell, but an examination of the manuscript reveals that *Wikelohel* is more likely to be the correct reading. The name is a compound with OE *hyll* ‘hill’, in its normal Suffolk ME form *hel* (Kristensson 1995: 192). If the original *hlāw* of Wicklaw was on this hill, then the location is fixed to Rendlesham. However, it might just be the hill of the Wicklaw family, in which case we have not progressed. Either way, all the evidence presented in this note supports the hypothesis that Wicklaw was in the Hacheston or Rendlesham area (the modern parish of Campsey Ash intervenes between these two), and Gallows Hill may still turn out to be correct.

Keith Briggs  
keith.briggs@bt.com

<sup>5</sup> Image available at: <[http://aalt.law.uh.edu/AALT7/CP25\(1\)/CP25\\_1\\_212\\_2-5/IMG\\_0359.htm](http://aalt.law.uh.edu/AALT7/CP25(1)/CP25_1_212_2-5/IMG_0359.htm)>.

<sup>6</sup> Perhaps also possible is that all instances of the name have been misread from *petbrede*, and the meaning is ‘pit strip’. The 1205 fine is in poor condition and the reading there is uncertain.

<sup>7</sup> HB416/B1/44(a), HB416/B1/44, HD 1538/406/2, HD1538/406/3.



## References

- Anderson [later Arngart], Olof S. (1934), *The English Hundred-Names*, vol. 1 (Lund: C. W. K. Gleerup)
- Blake, E. O., ed. (1962), *Liber Eliensis*, Camden 3<sup>rd</sup> ser., 92 (London: Royal Historical Society)
- Brown, Philippa, ed. (1987), *Sibton Abbey Cartularies and Charters Part 2. Vol. 8. Suffolk Charters* (Woodbridge: Boydell and Brewer)
- Coates, Richard (1999), 'New light from old wicks: the progeny of Latin *vīcus*', *Nomina* 22, 75–116
- Copinger, Walter Arthur (n.d. [c.1904]), *County of Suffolk: Its history as disclosed by existing records and other documents, being materials for the history of Suffolk. Vol. 5. Spachet–Zouche* (London: Henry Sotheran & Co.)
- Dodwell, Barbara, ed. (1950), *Feet of Fines for the County of Norfolk for the Tenth Year of the Reign of King Richard the First, 1198–1199 and for the First Four Years of the Reign of King John, 1199–1202*, vol. 65, Pipe Roll Society new ser. (London: Pipe Roll Society)
- Douglas, David Charles (1932), *Feudal Documents from the Abbey of Bury St. Edmunds* (London: Humphrey Milford for the British Academy, OUP)
- Dyke, Gwen, et al. (1980), *Deben Valley Place Names: Hacheston & Glevring* (Suffolk: Suffolk Local History Council)
- Fairclough, John (2003), 'The bounds of Stoke and the hamlets of Ipswich [S:781]', *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History* 40(3), 262–77
- Green, A. (1966), 'The stewardship of the Liberty of the Eight and a half Hundreds', *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology* 30(3), 255–62
- Hart, Cyril R. (1966), *The Early Charters of Eastern England* (Leicester: Leicester UP)
- (1992), *The Danelaw* (London: Hambledon Press)
- Kristensson, Gillis (1995), *A Survey of Middle English Dialects 1290–1350: The East Midland counties*, Skrifter utgivna av Vetenskapssocieteten i Lund 88 (Lund: Lund University Press)
- Martin, Geoffrey H., ed. (1973), *The Ipswich Recognizance Rolls, 1294–1327*, vol. 16, Suffolk Records Society (Ipswich: SRS)
- Pearson, Michael Parker, Robert van de Noort, and Alex Woolf (1976), 'Three men and a boat: Sutton Hoo and the East Saxon kingdom', *Anglo-Saxon England* 22, 27–50
- Rye, Walter, ed. (1900), *A Calendar of the Feet of Fines for Suffolk* (Ipswich: Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and Natural History)
- S.H.A.H[arvey], ed. (1906), *Suffolk in 1327: Being a subsidy return*, Suffolk Green Books (Woodbridge: G. Booth)
- Scarfe, Norman (2002), *The Suffolk Landscape*, new edn (Chichester: Phillimore)
- Williamson, Tom (2013), *Environment, Society and Landscape in Early Medieval England: Time and topography* (Woodbridge: Boydell).