

The Thames

River of the English Heartland













Thames Head

Lechlade

Bampton

Stanton Harcourt

Radcot

Godstow Abbey

Oxford

Abingdon

Dorchester

Highworth

Cricklade

Somerford Keynes

Barley Mow

Benson

Marlow

Hambleden

Cookham

London

Streatley

Henley-on-Thames

Maidenhead

The City

Docklands

Goring

Sonning

Eton

Westminster

South Bank

Thames Barrier

Pangbourne

Reading

Windsor

Richmond

Kingston

N

Weybridge

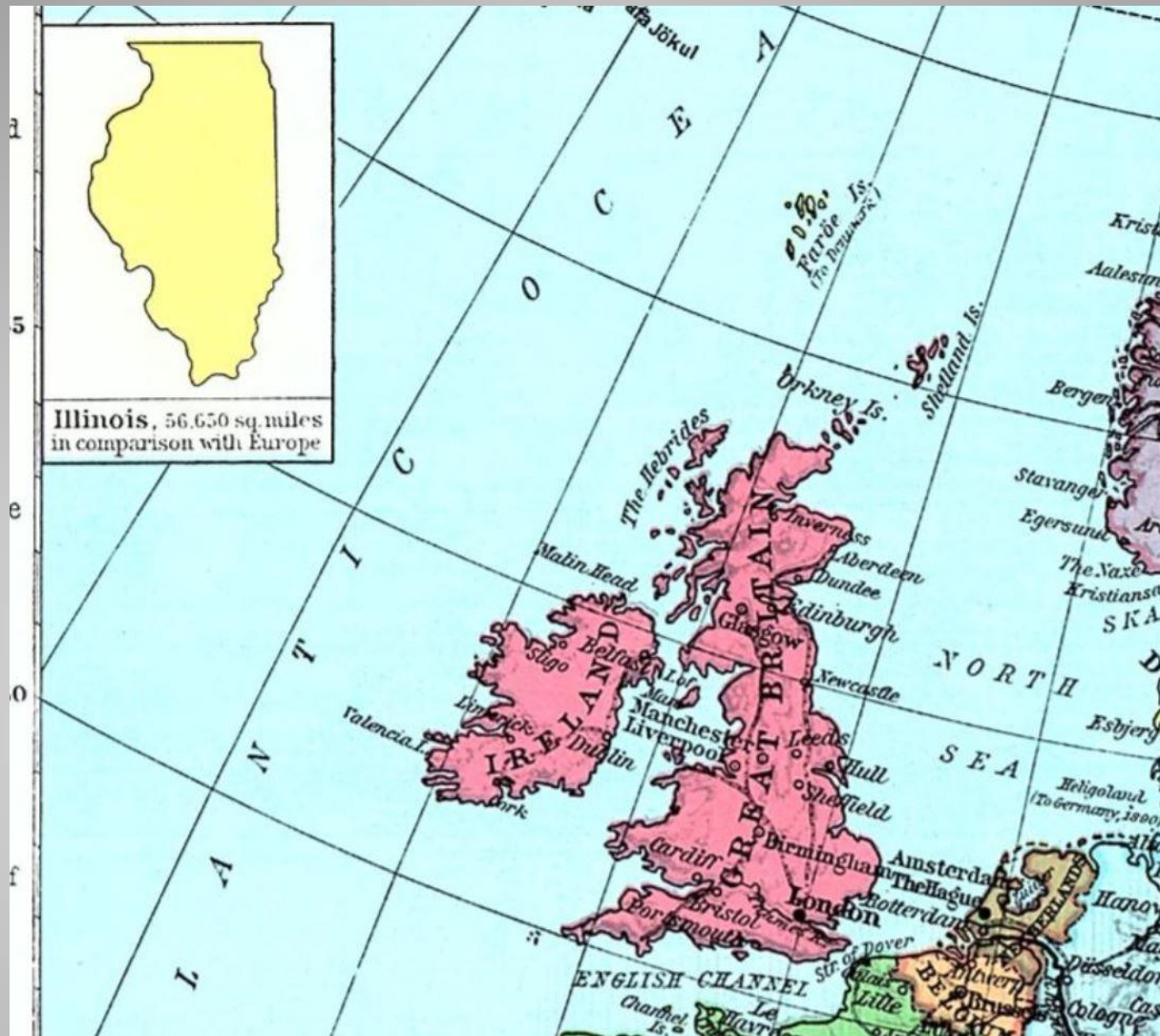
Molesey



The **pronunciation** of '**Thames**' comes from the word's original spelling, which had pre-Celtic roots. Simply put, the river's name has always been **pronounced 'tems'**, with a simple 't' sound. The modern spelling of the word **Thames** illustrates an interesting phenomenon in the history of the English language.

The spelling **Thames**, which first appears in 1649, is an example of the kind of "learned" respelling that went on in English from the late Renaissance through the Enlightenment, when the prestige of Latin and Greek prompted scholars to "correct" the form of many English words.

The **a** in **Thames** is etymologically correct, since the Latin forms had that vowel, but the **h** is a "learned" error, added in the mistaken belief that **Thames** derived from Greek.

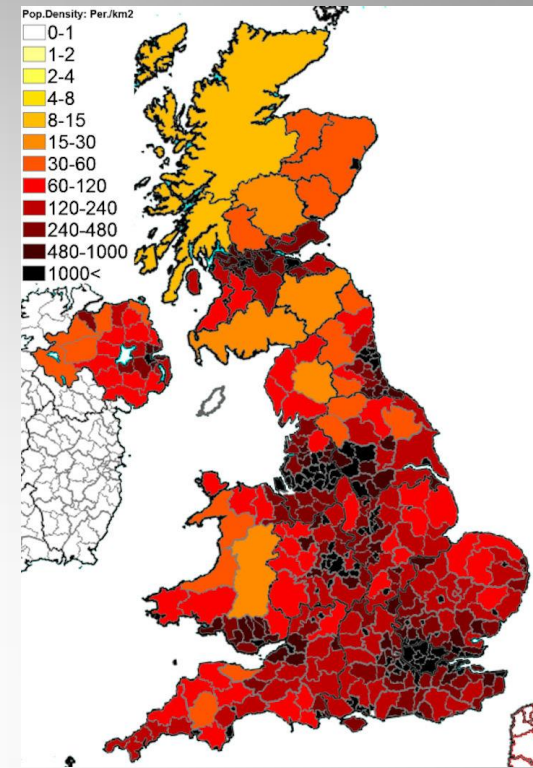
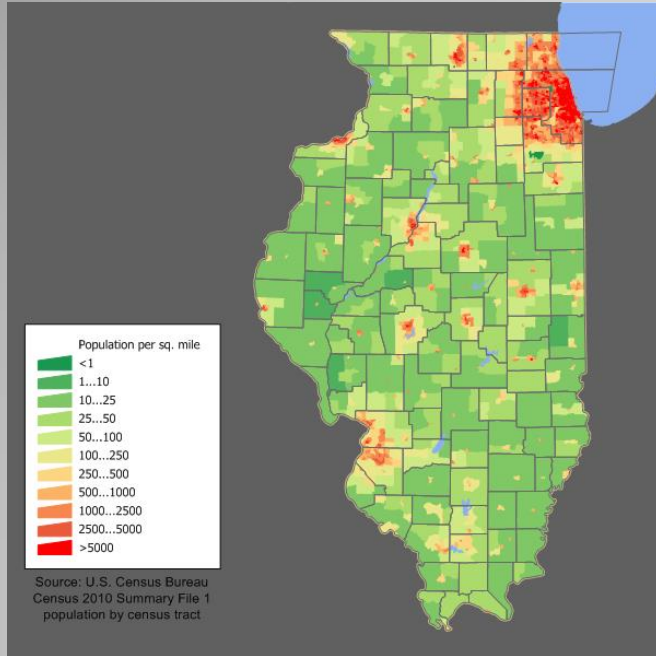


ILLINOIS — 56,650 sq. mi.

ENGLAND / WALES — 58,355 sq. mi.

[England 50,337 sq. mi.]

[Wales 8,018 sq. mi.]



Population

- Total

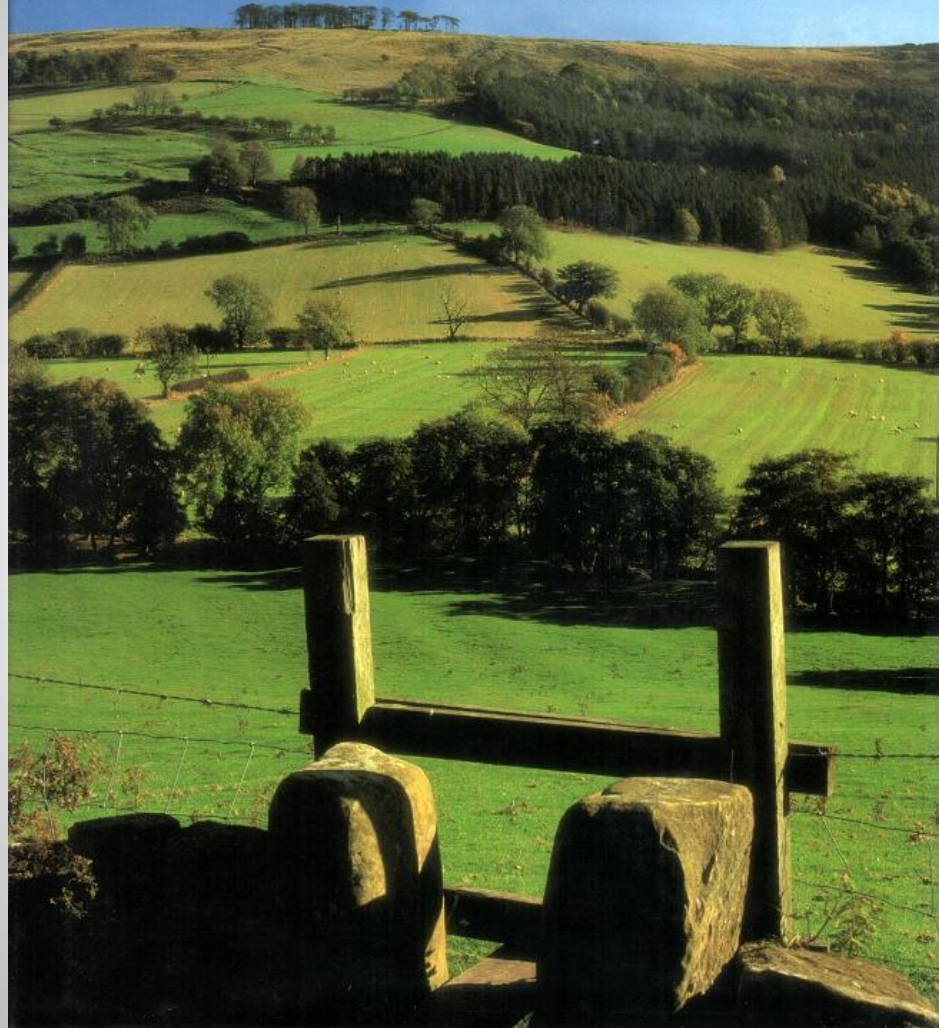
Ranked 5th

12,801,539 (2016 est.)

	Population mid-2016	Share of UK population
England	55,268,100	84.2%
Wales	3,113,200	4.7%
Scotland	5,404,700	8.2%
Northern Ireland	1,862,100	2.8%
UK	65,648,100	100.0%

The English Landscape

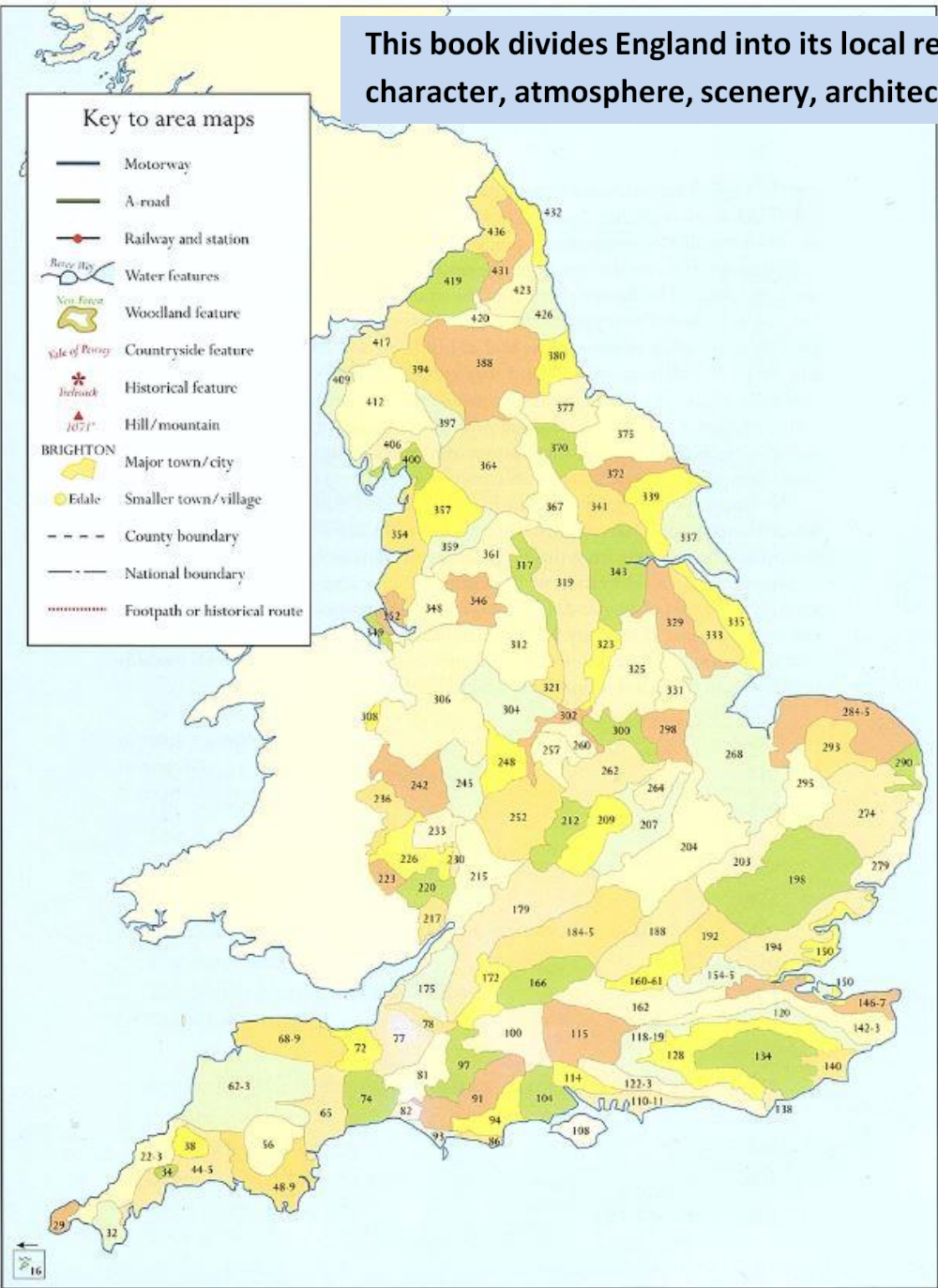
with an introduction by Bill Bryson

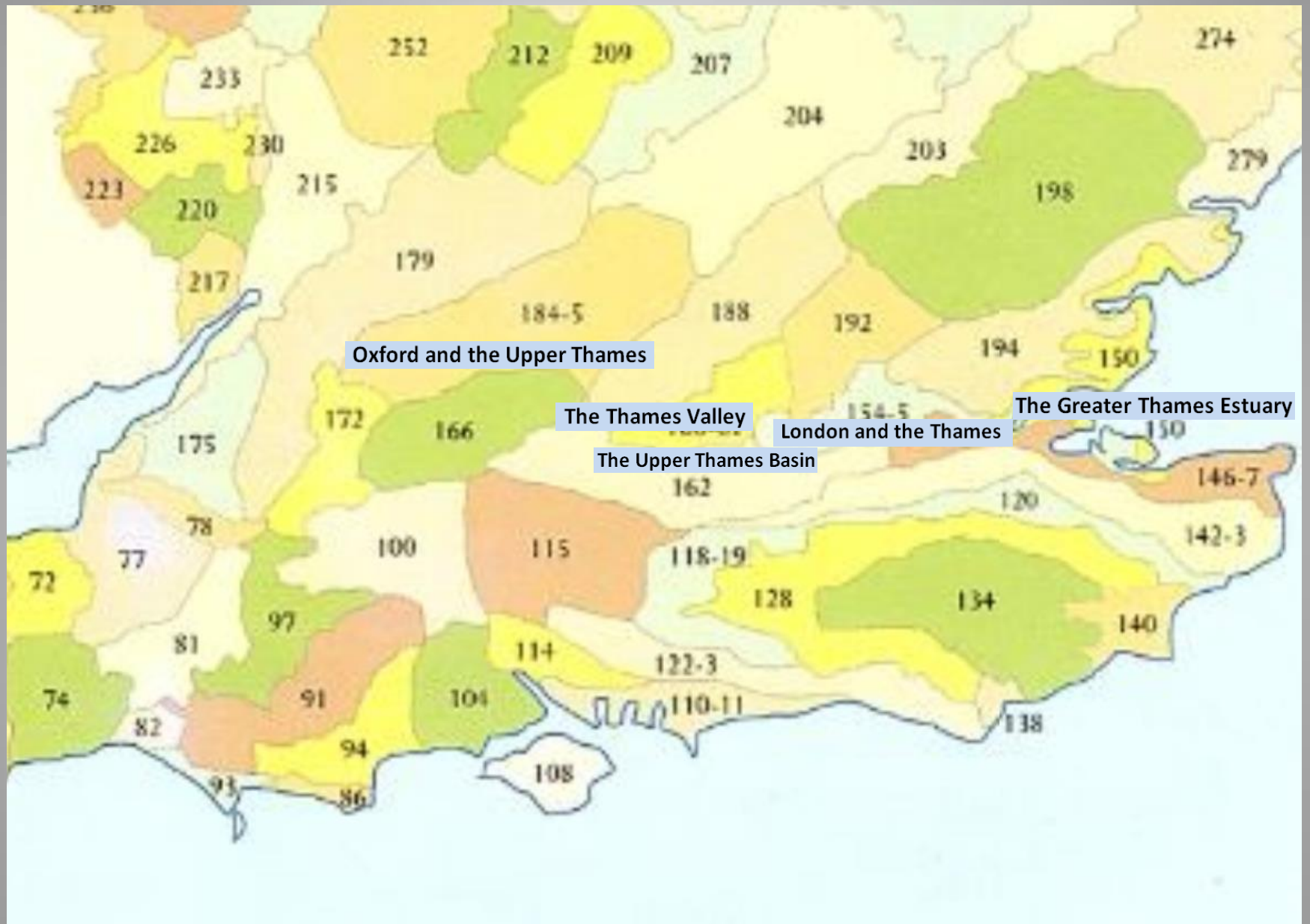


This book divides England into its local regions, each with its own character, atmosphere, scenery, architecture and vegetation.

Key to area maps

- Motorway
- A road
- Railway and station
- Water features
- Woodland feature
- Countryside feature
- Historical feature
- Hill/mountain
- Major town/city
- Smaller town/village
- County boundary
- National boundary
- Footpath or historical route



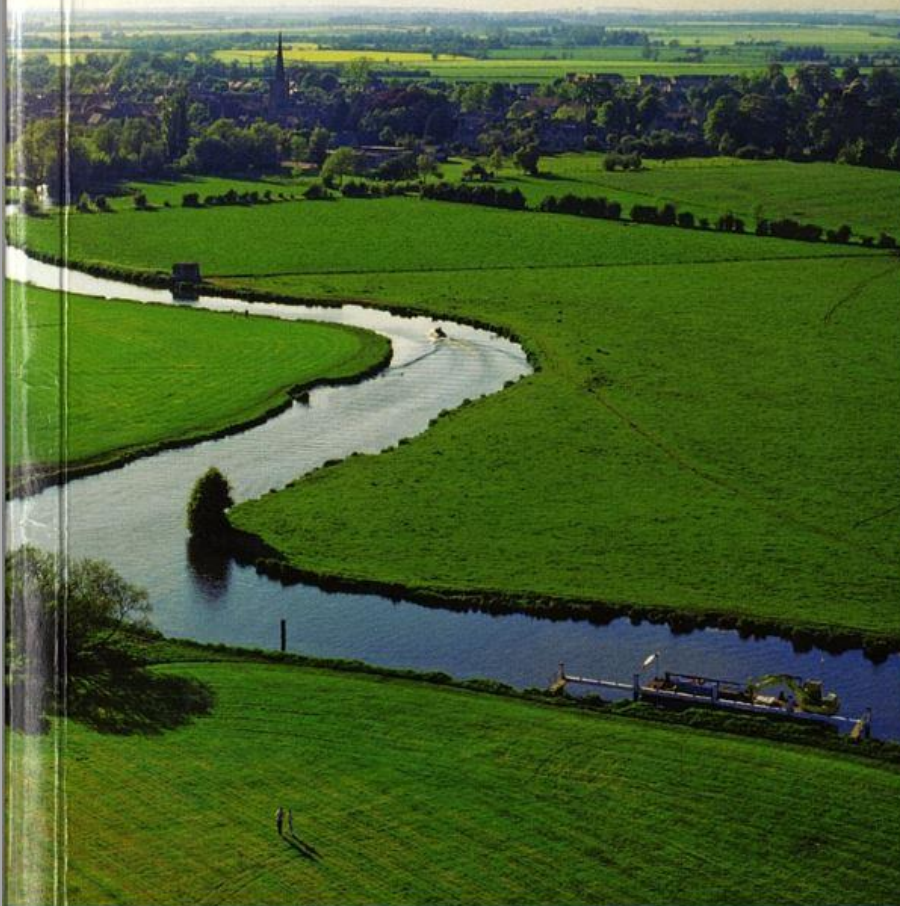




Thames Path National Trail

Public Footpath

OFFICIAL NATIONAL
TRAIL GUIDE



Thames Path

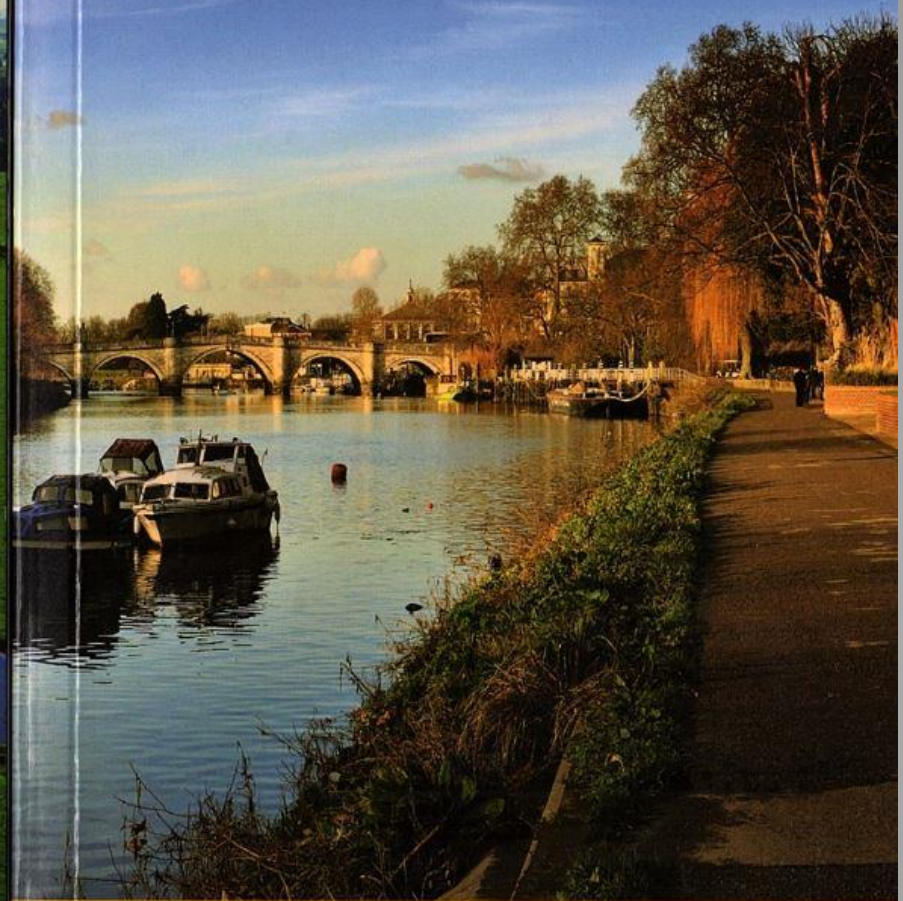
in the Country

David Sharp and Tony Gowers

From the source to Hampton Court



OFFICIAL NATIONAL
TRAIL GUIDE



Thames Path

in London

Phoebe Clapham

From Hampton Court to Crayford Ness:
50 miles of historic riverside walk



THE NATIONAL TRAILS

1. North Downs Way

2. South Downs Way

3. England Coast Path

4. South West Coast Path

5. Thames Path

6. The Ridgeway

7. Peddars Way and Norfolk Coast Path

8. Offa's Dyke Path

9. Glyndwr's Path

10. Pembrokeshire Coast Path

11. Pennine Bridleway

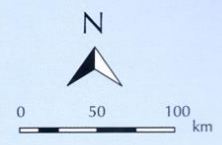
12. Pennine Way

14. Cleveland Way

15. Hadrian's Wall Path



Please note –
as publishers update
maps, not all the titles
shown on this grid may
currently be available.



National Trails are long distance footpaths and bridleways in England and Wales. They are administered by [Natural England](#), a statutory agency of the UK government, and [Natural Resources Wales](#) (successor body to the Countryside Council for Wales), a Welsh Government-sponsored body.

National Trails are marked with an **acorn** symbol along the route.

In **Scotland**, the equivalent trails are called **Scotland's Great Trails** and are administered by [Scottish Natural Heritage](#).





2013 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ + Source - Wickhams

2013

11 + Wickhams - Lechlade

2014 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ - Lechlade - Tadpole Bridge [TROUT INN]

6 $\frac{1}{2}$ - Tadpole Bridge - Newbridge [ROSE ROOMS]

7 $\frac{1}{2}$ - Newbridge - Swinford Bridge

6 $\frac{1}{2}$ - Swinford Bridge - Oxford

9 $\frac{3}{4}$ - Oxford - Abingdon

2015 8 - Abingdon - Donchester

5 $\frac{1}{2}$ - Donchester - Wallingford

7 $\frac{1}{4}$ - Wallingford - Stratley / Sonning

7 $\frac{1}{2}$ - Stratley / Sonning - Tilehurst

6 $\frac{3}{4}$ - Tilehurst - Sonning

5 $\frac{1}{2}$ - Sonning - Henley-on-Thames

8 $\frac{1}{2}$ - Henley-on-Thames - Marlow

2016 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ - Marlow - Maidenhead

6 $\frac{1}{2}$ - Maidenhead - Windsor

8 $\frac{1}{2}$ - Windsor - Slaves

5 $\frac{1}{2}$ - Slaves - Slough

6 $\frac{1}{4}$ - Slough - Hampton Court

2015 5 + Hampton Court - Teddington

5 $\frac{3}{4}$ + Teddington - Kew

5 $\frac{3}{4}$ - Kew - Putney

6 - Putney - Vauxhall

4 + Vauxhall - Loosdun - Town Bridge

2016 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ - Town Bridge - Greenwich

5 $\frac{3}{4}$ - Greenwich - Woolwich

27 DAYS 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ - Woolwich - Crayford Ness

THE KENTISH THAMES WALK

- 9.25 - Maidstone to Dartford, Dartford to Grain
6.4 - Grain to Gravesend
8 - Gravesend to Cliffe
14 - Cliffe to Allhallows
37.65

THE ESSEX THAMES

- 10 - Rainham to Grays
11 - Tilbury⁽⁷⁾ to East Tilbury⁽⁴⁾ / Buxfleet to Leigh
21

TOTAL MIKE, 5 YEARS -

252 mi.
in 33 days
- AVG. 7.6 mi/DAY

THAMES PATH
Public Footpath



Thames Barrier London
184 miles 294 km



 **THAMES PATH**
 *Blackwall Point* 2¹/₄m
Greenwich Foot Tunnel 4¹/₂m
Tower Bridge 9¹/₄m
Source of Thames 180 m

 **THAMES PATH EXTENSION**
Woolwich Dockyard 1¹/₂m 
Woolwich Foot Tunnel 1 m
Crayford Ness 9³/₄m

 **Interim Route**
via Woolwich Road  + 1¹/₂m 
(follow Green Chain Walk)

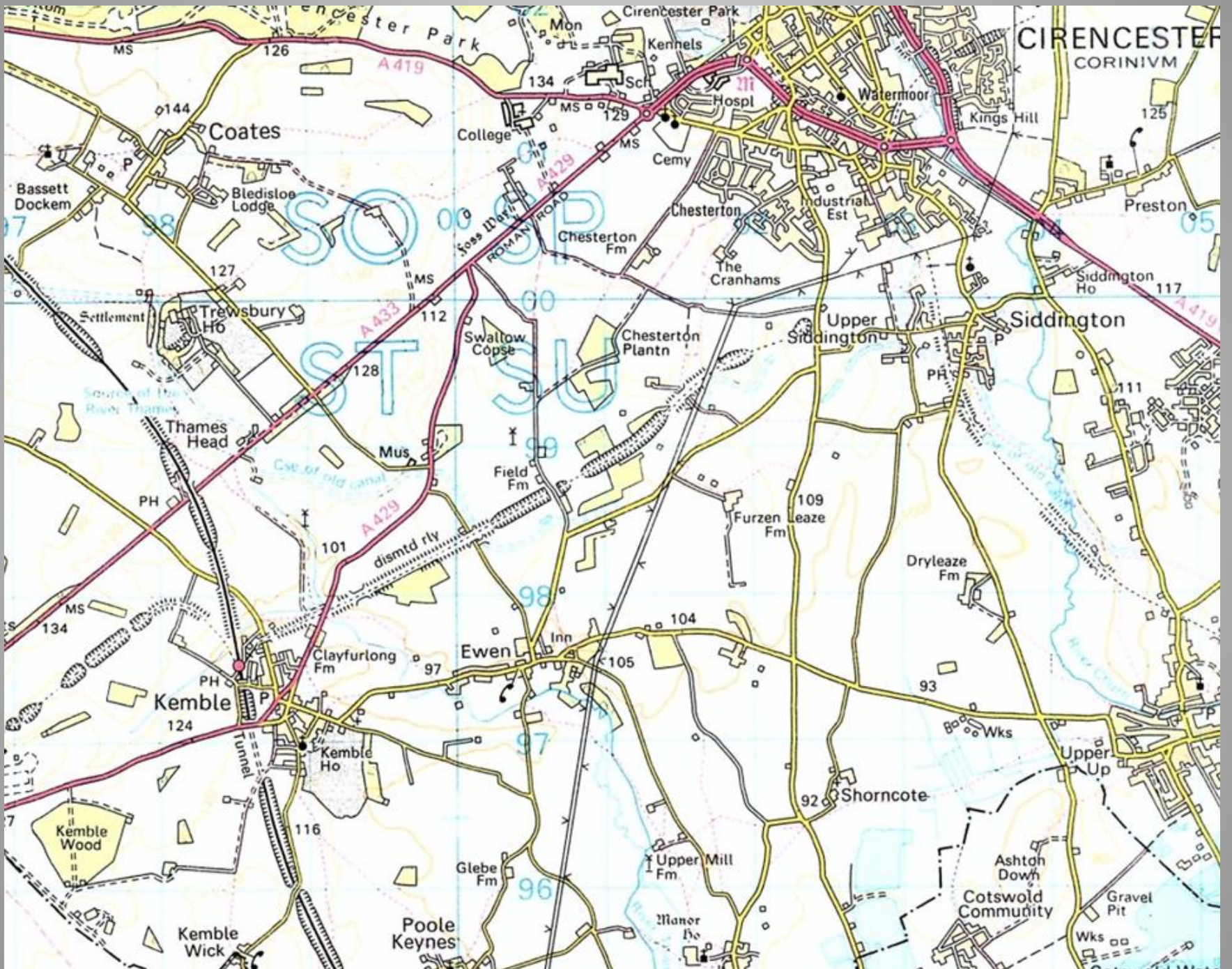
 **GREEN CHAIN WALK**
Maryon Park 1¹/₂m
Oxleas Wood 4¹/₄m
Crystal Palace Park 16¹/₄m

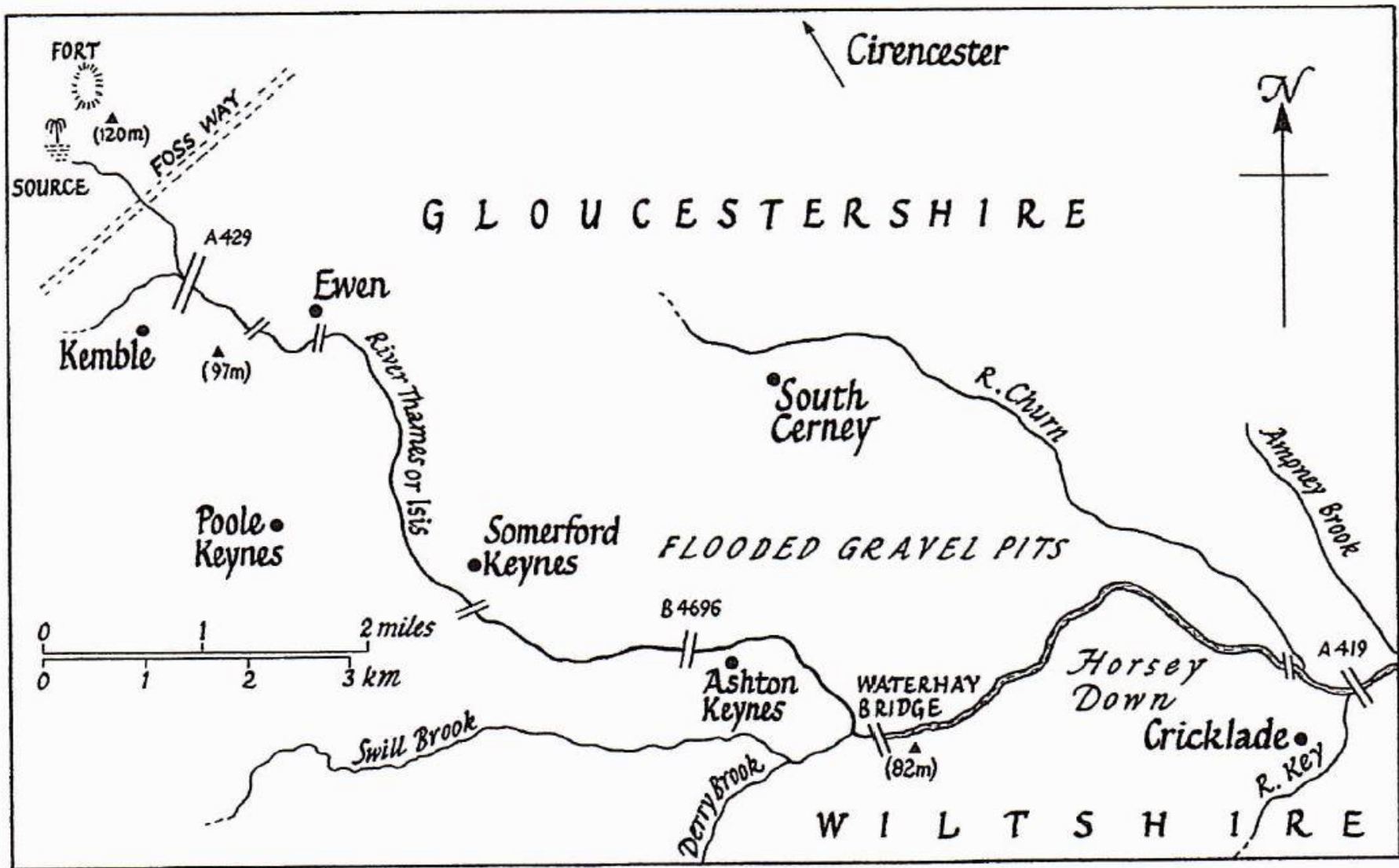
AROUND EACH BEND: THEMES AND TOPICS ALONG THE THAMES

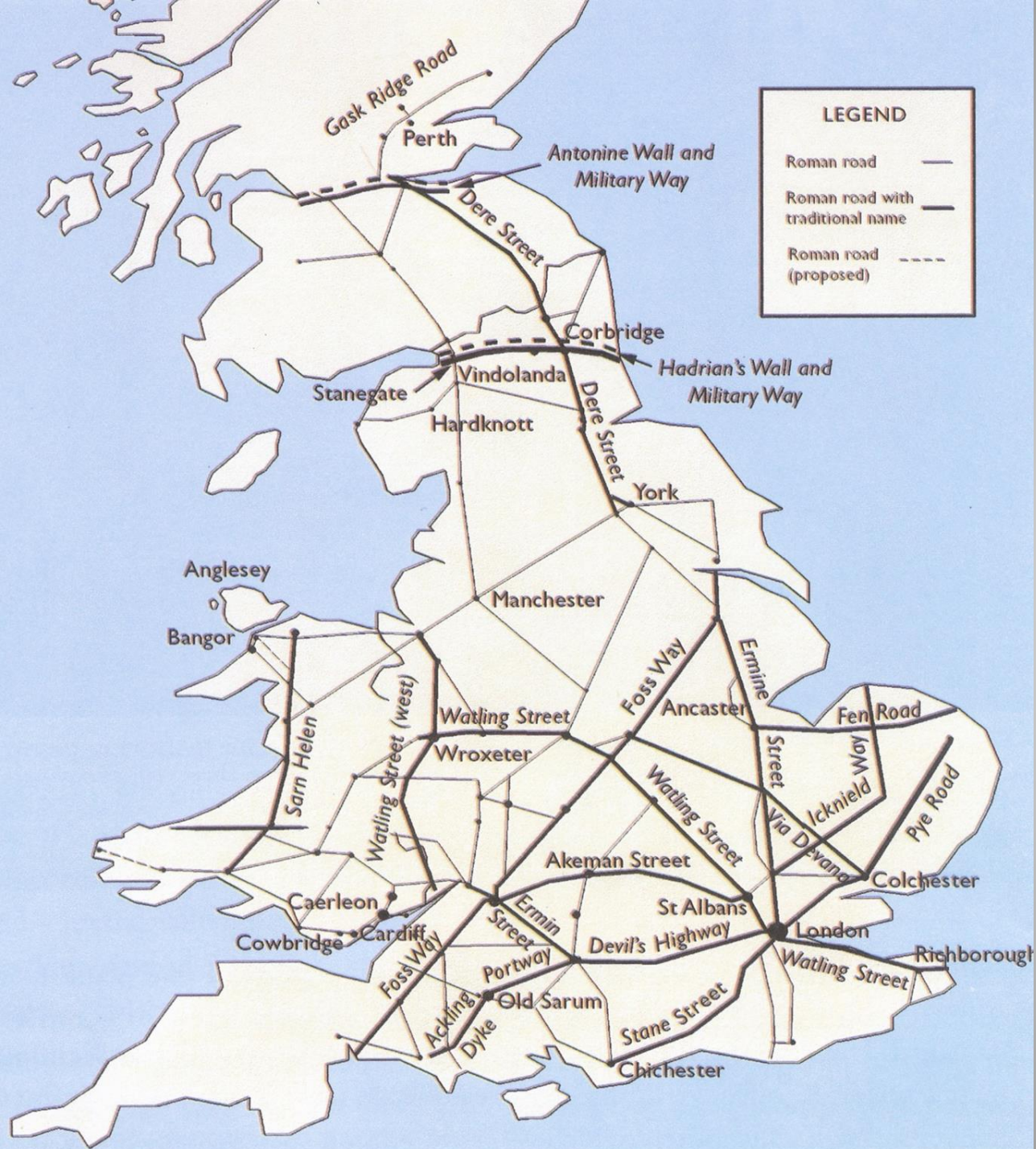
- Locks and weirs
- Bridges
- Boats
- Canals and towpaths
- Nature preserves
- Villages, towns....pubs and tearooms
- History
- Archaeology
- Castles
- Churches
- Literature
- Music
- Art
- Country estates, splendid houses
- LONDON: a multitude of themes, topics, sights and subjects.
- East of London: history, industry; from pollution to clean water



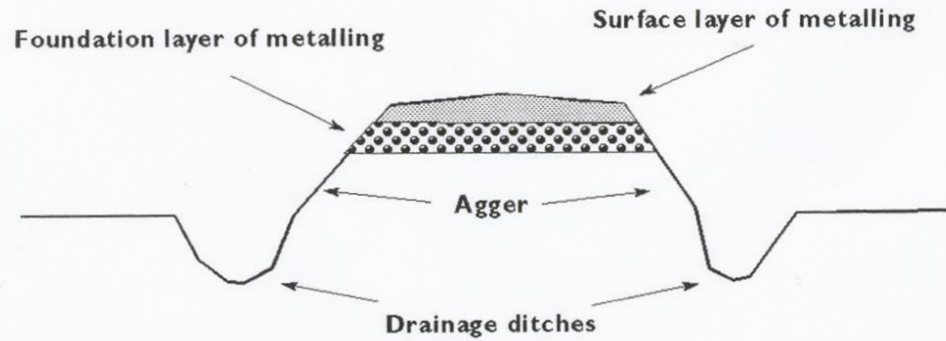
The Source of the Thames





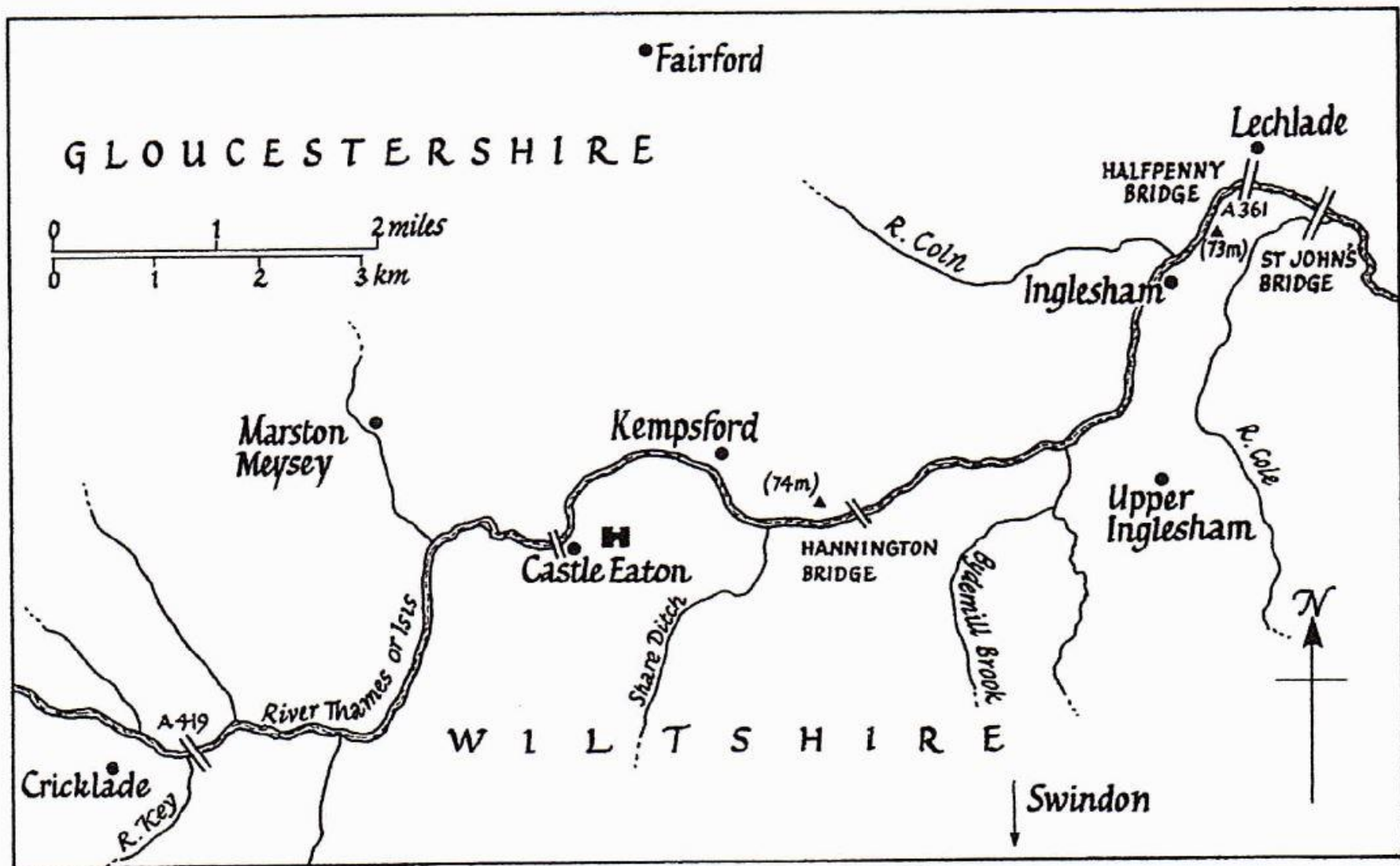


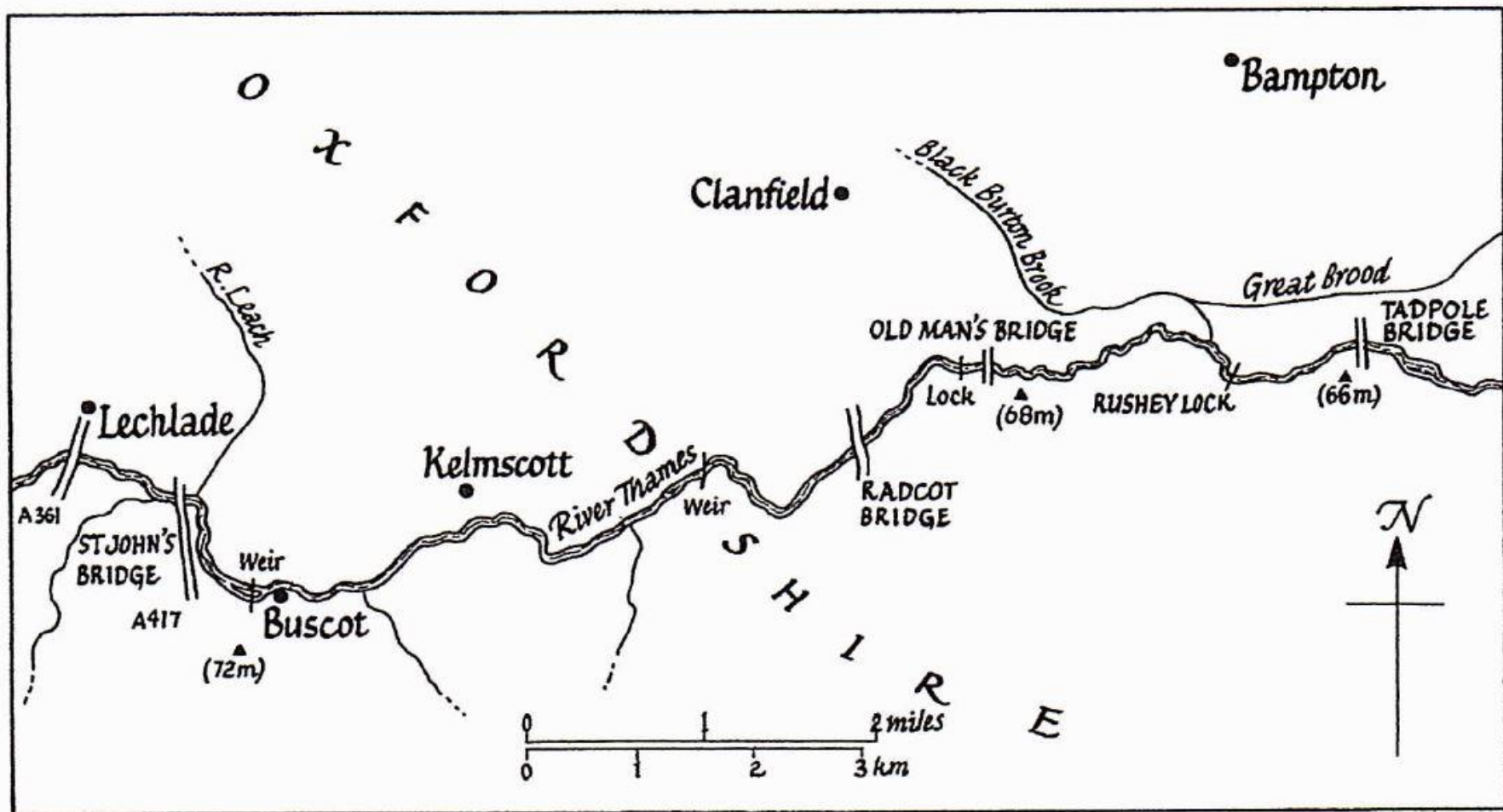
ROMAN ROAD CROSS-SECTION



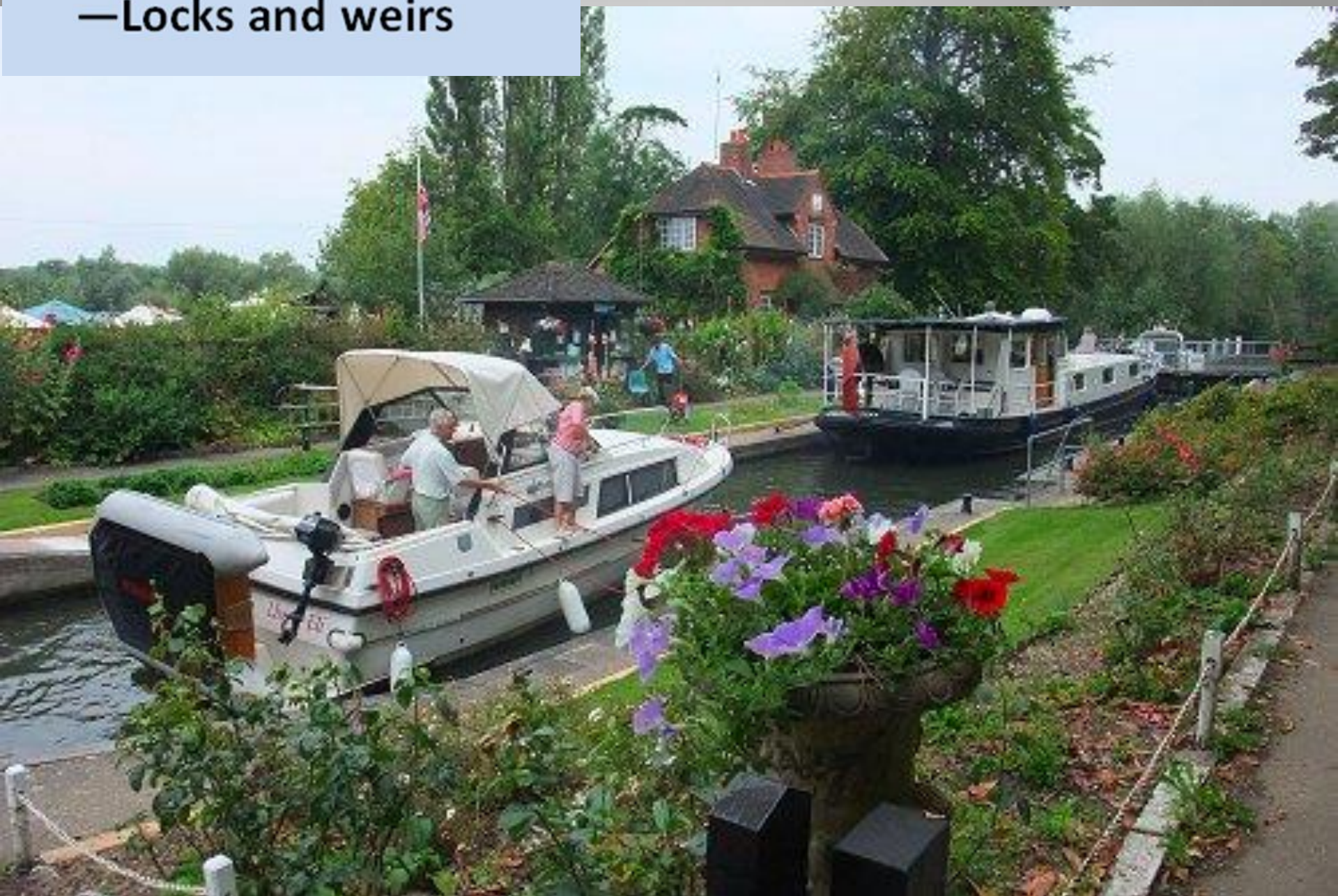
25. *Diagram of a 'typical' cross-section of a Roman road, showing the agger, drainage ditches and stone metalling. All these elements help to protect the underlying ground from damage by wheeled vehicles.*



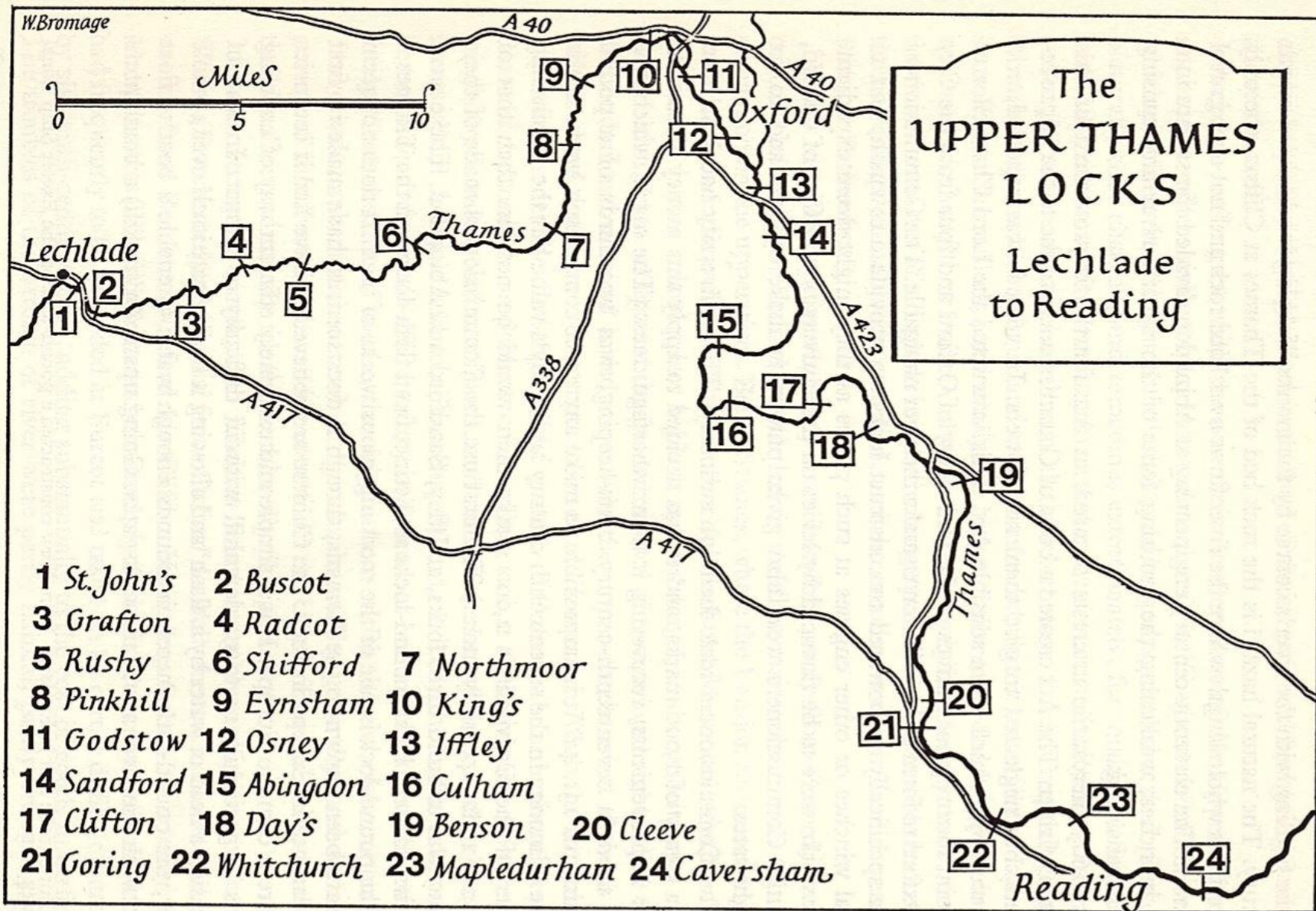




—Locks and weirs



—Locks and weirs



—Locks and weirs



Goring-on-Thames
Lock and Weir

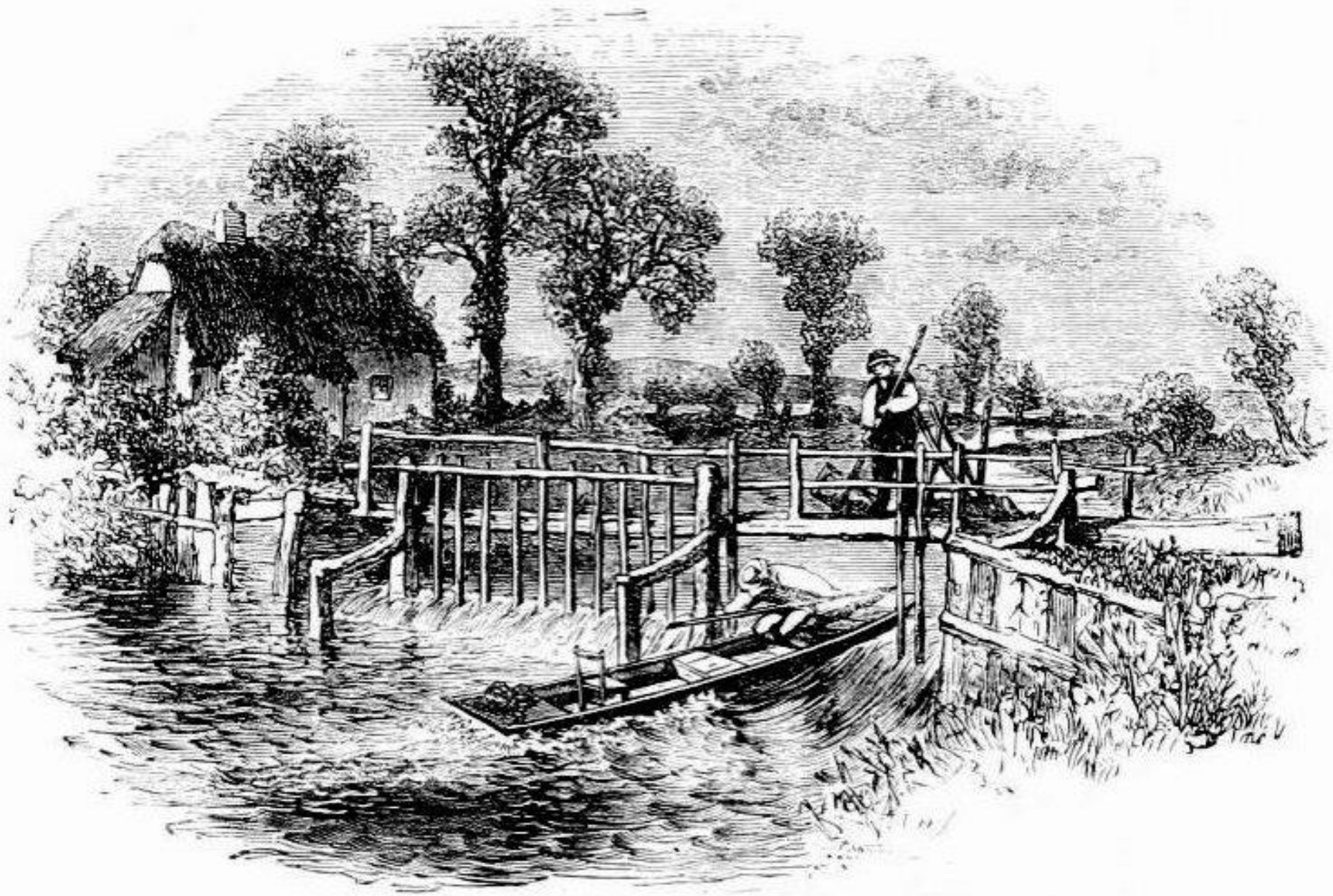


weir

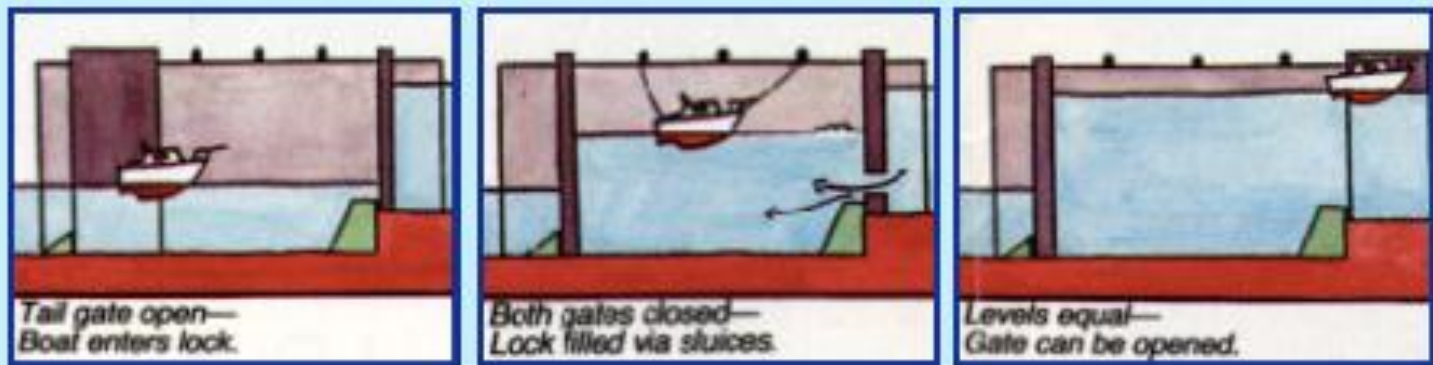
/wir/ 

noun


a low dam built across a river to raise the level of water upstream or regulate its flow.



The next stage in lock development is what we have today, the pound lock.



Basically a pound lock is a man-made chamber with heavy gates at either end. There are sluices within these huge gates, which can be opened and closed, to control the flow of water into and out of the chamber.

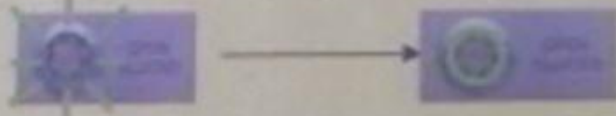
 Is blue light on?

No



Use manual winding (see other instructions).
Help? Call 0800 807060

Yes


Press Open Sluices button **1** and release when operation starts and wait for 4 minutes until flashing green goes solid



Press and hold Open Gates **2**

 Boats in to lock!! 

Hold Close gates **3** then Close Sluices **4**

 Go to other lock gates – and follow Part 2!

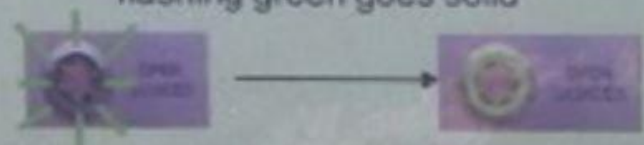
To go upstream Part 1

First timers – it's easier than it seems!
Just take it slow and follow each step.



Go to other lock gates – and follow Part 2!

Press Open Sluices button **1**
and release when operation starts and wait until
flashing green goes solid



Press and hold Open Gates **2**

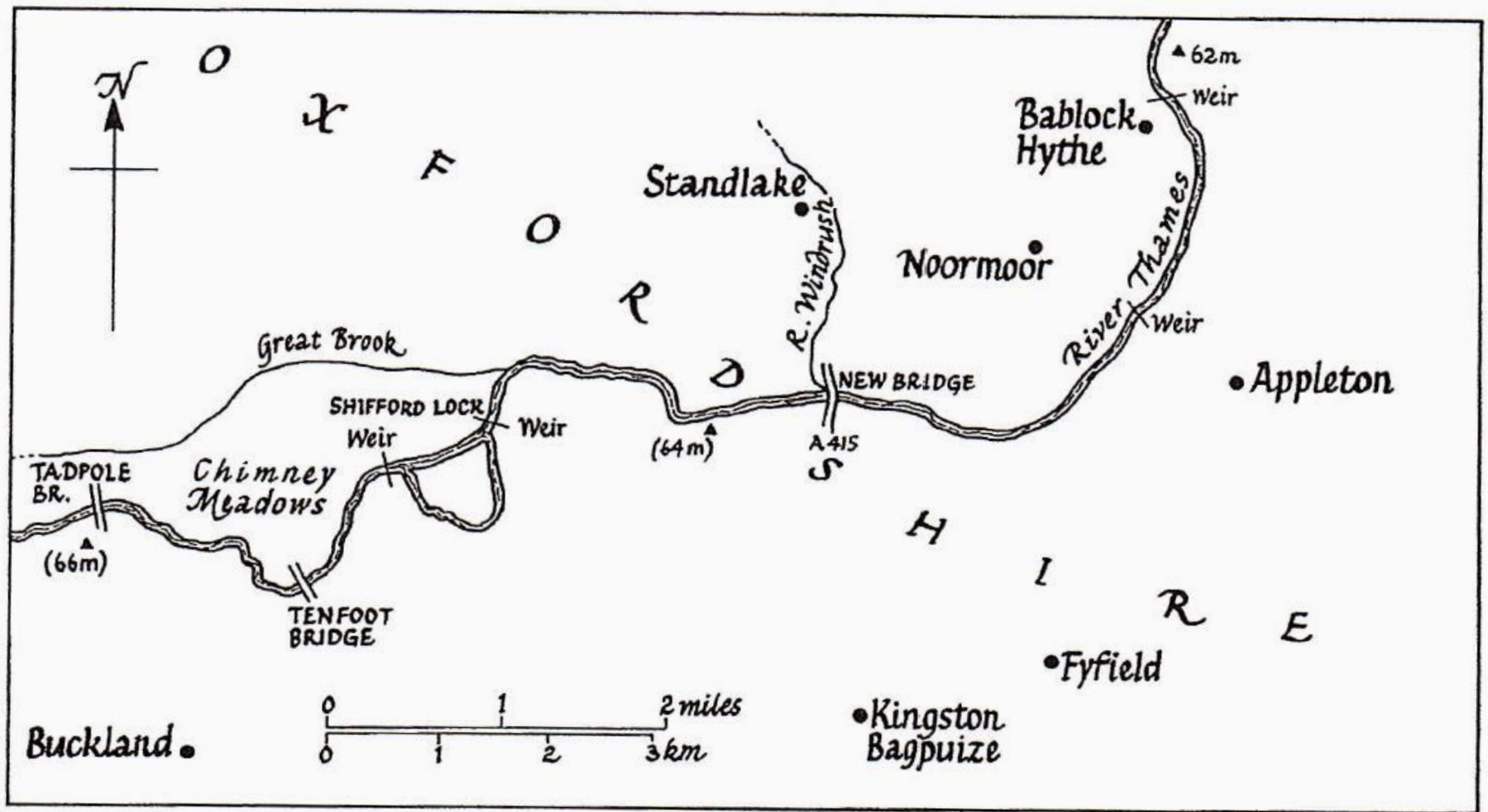
Boats out of lock!!

Close gates **3**

To go downstream Part 2



—Bridges



Medieval stone....



Radcot Bridge (13th century)



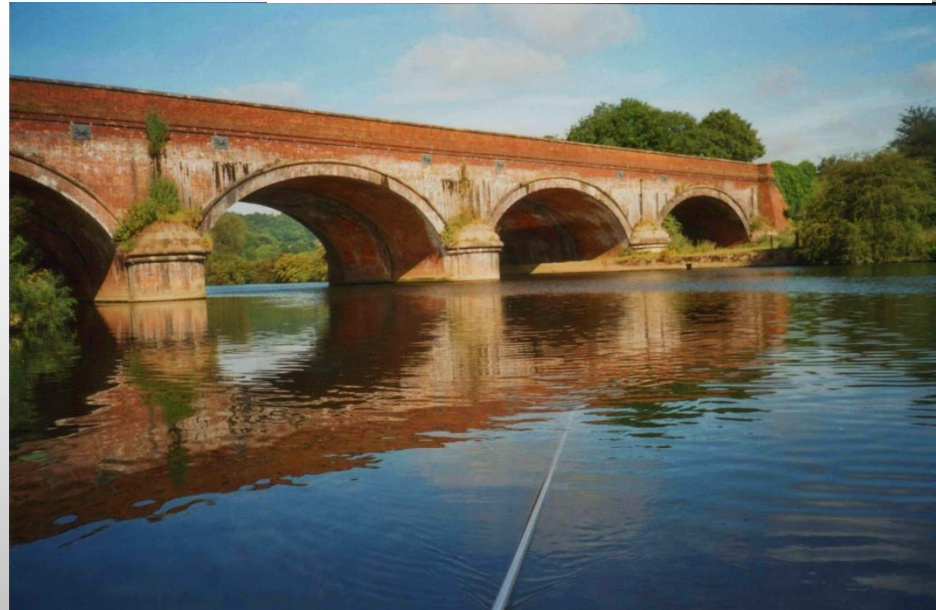
New Bridge (13th century)

Victorian brick....



Great Western Railway bridge at Maidenhead,
designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel, 1839

Gatehampton Railway Bridge





....after 180 years!

Modern steel....



Tower Bridge, London

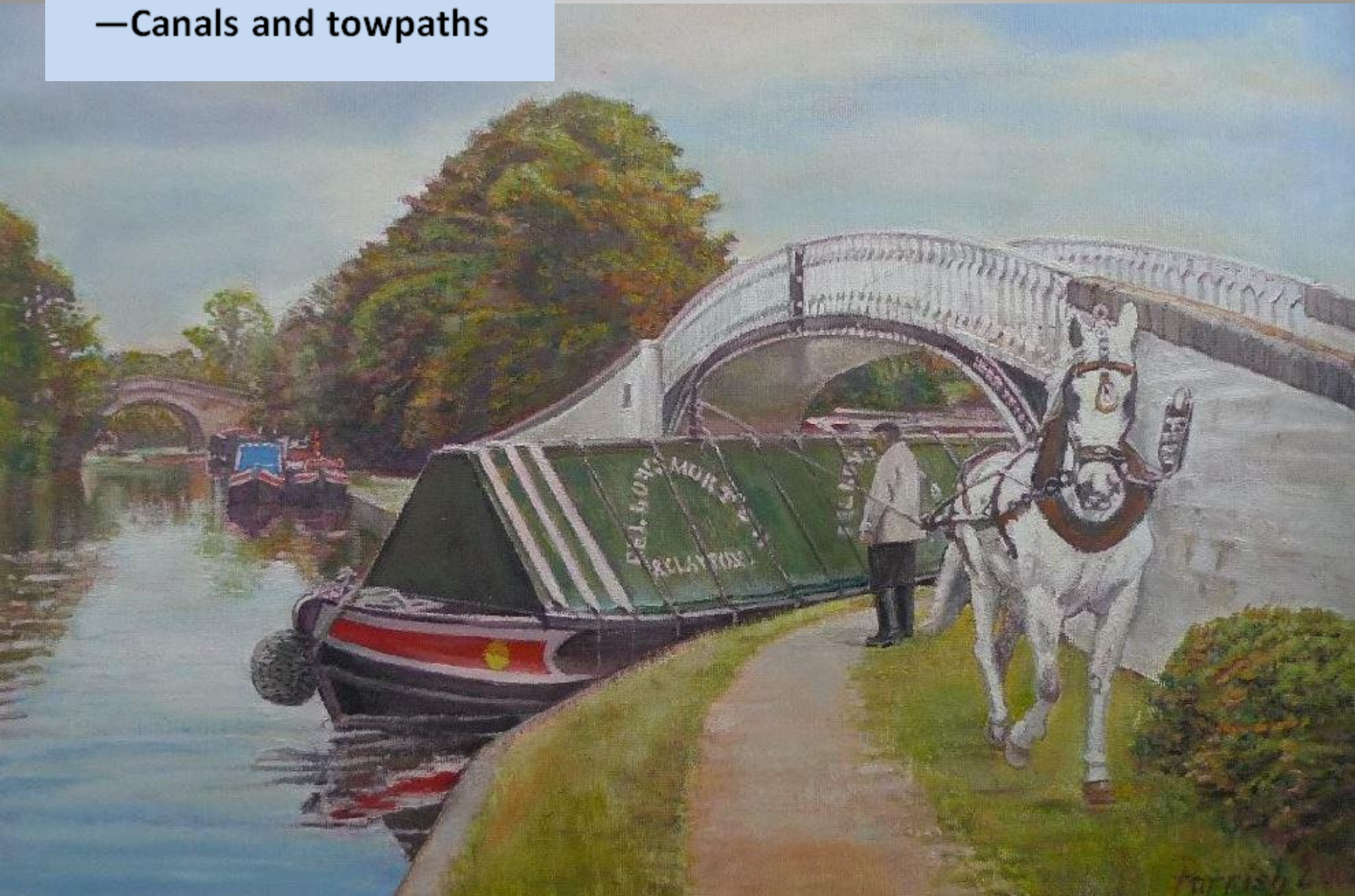
1894

Queen Elizabeth II Bridge

1991



—Canals and towpaths





The canal system in about 1830

Canal construction reached its peak in the 'canal mania' of the 1790s. By the 1830s, some 4,023

kilometres (2,500 miles) of canal, including navigable rivers, had spread across the country.

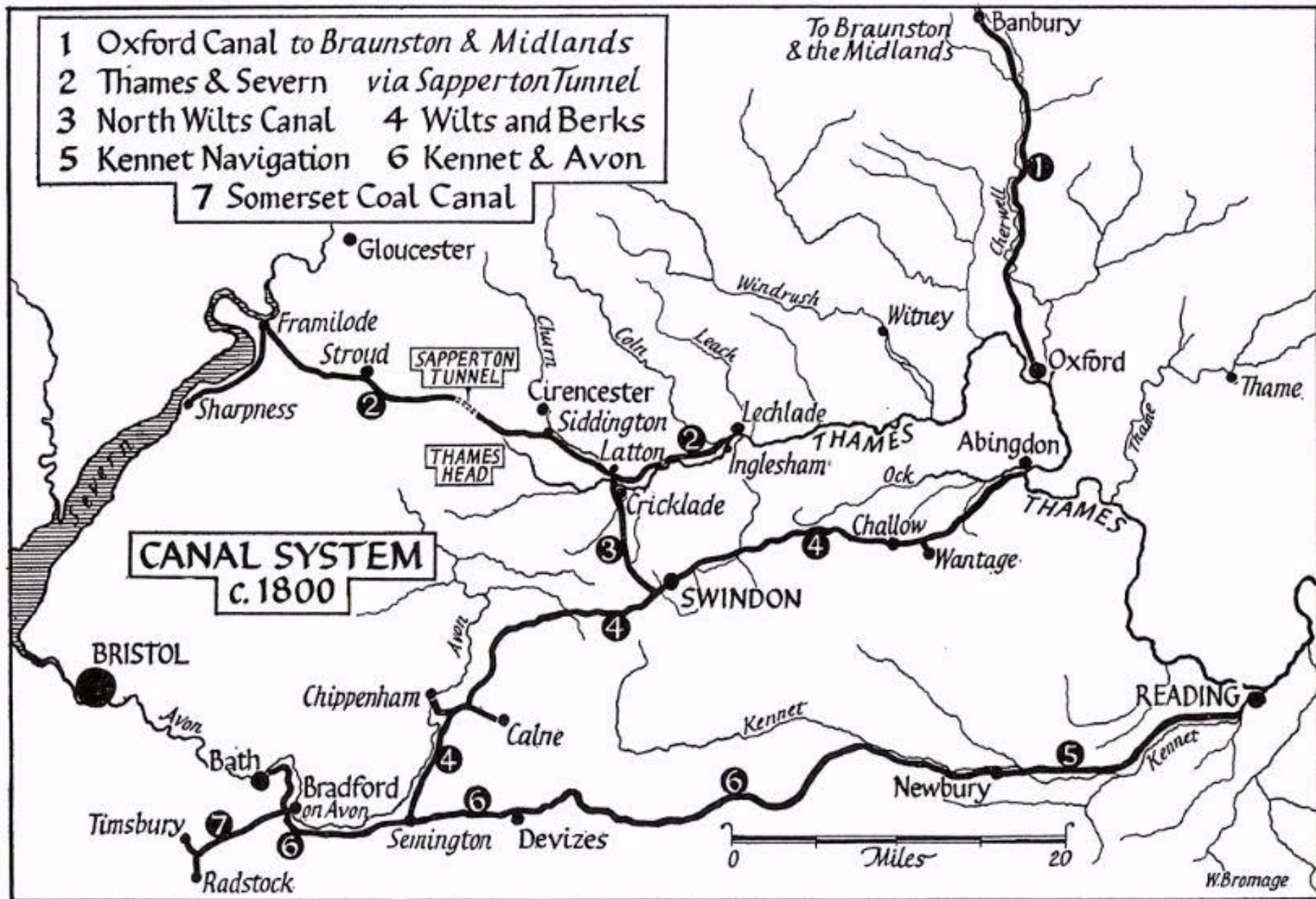
Warwick & Birmingham Canal

Oxford Canal

Grand Junction Canal

Thames & Severn Canal

Kennet & Avon Canal



Map 13 Canal system.



—Boats









A Typical Holiday Cruiser



A Typical Small Day Boat



A Typical Dutch Barge Holiday Boat



A Typical Narrowboat Holiday Boat



A Salter Passenger Launch



A Restored Passenger Steam Launch



An Up-River Trip Boat



A Sight-seeing Boat in Central London

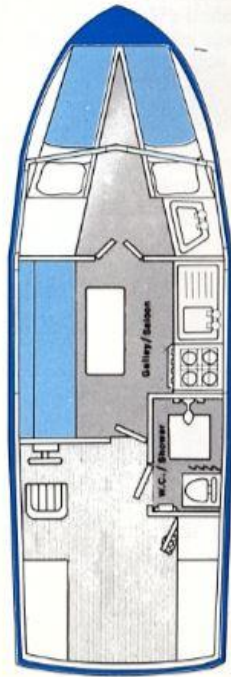
HIRING A BOAT

It can be very disappointing to find the boat you have hired for a week or a fortnight does not live up to your expectations. Minor niggles may cause amusement, but major defects can mar your holiday. So how do you choose? Ideally, if you can see a particular boat before you book it, and talk to the hire company, you will know that all is OK. But for the majority of people this is impractical, as it would likely as not involve an additional long journey to the boatyard. No boatyard worth its salt, however, would turn down a request to view.

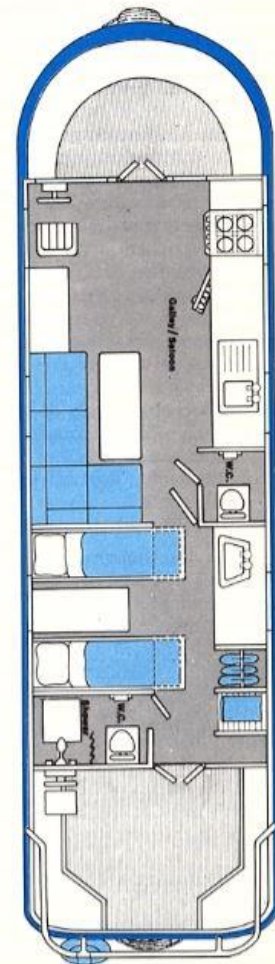
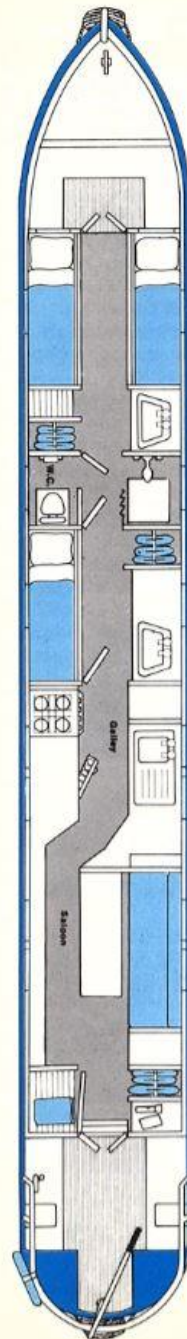
Second only to actual viewing the boat is the recommendation of a friend who has personal experience of a particular company, and can give you a first-hand account. All the best hire companies get a good percentage of their bookings either as repeats or by recommendation.

If you are starting from scratch, here is some general advice.

1. A well-produced brochure showing detailed plans, interior photographs and a full specification is a great help. Many of the boat hire companies on the River Thames, and elsewhere, have their bookings handled by two major agencies - Blakes and Hoscasons Holidays - who both produce very comprehensive colour brochures. If you want to know more about a particular craft which they offer,

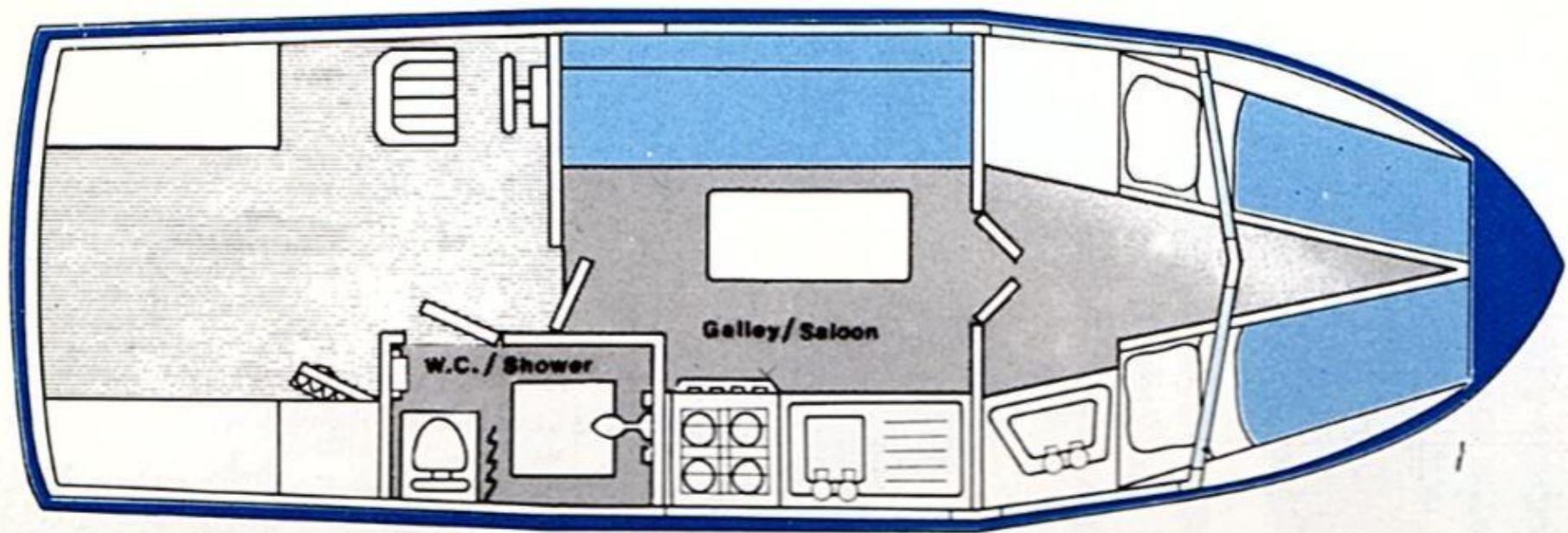


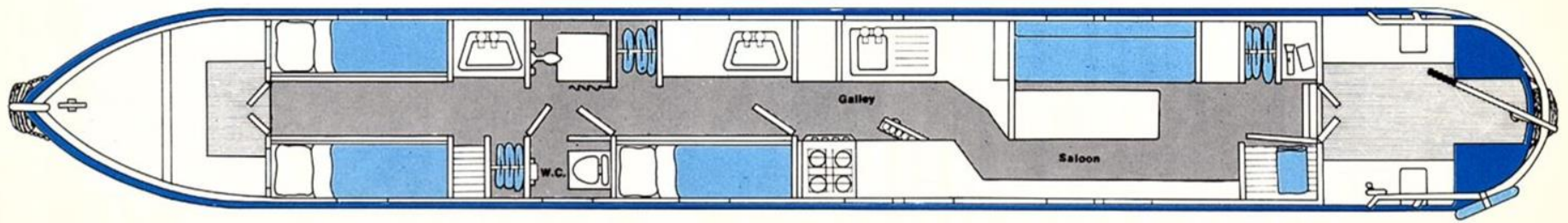
A typical compact four-berth cruiser



A typical wide beam holiday boat, common on rivers and the Norfolk Broads

A typical narrowboat, most common on the canal system





St John's Lock Daytime only

Faringdon Road, Lechlade, Glos GL7 3HA

☎ 01367 252309

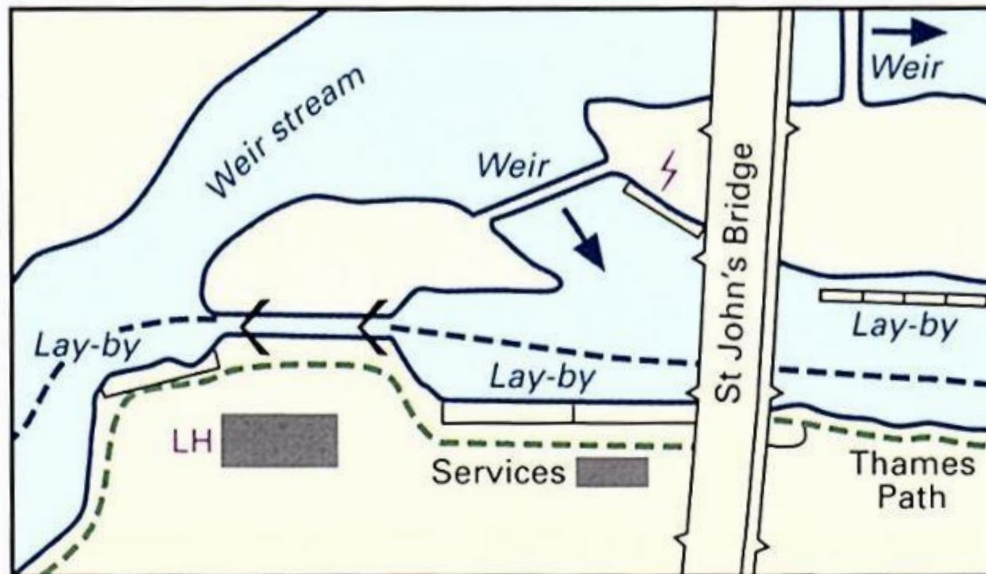
110'3" (33.60m) long x 14'10" (4.52m) wide

Rise (fall) 2'10" (0.85m)

Max. draught 4'4" (1.32m)

Manual operation only (see notes at end of previous section).

Facilities Chemical toilet disposal and pump-out unit, refuse, toilets, drinking water tap for cans, electric charging point.



kind of waterway. However, we have charted

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THAMES PATH
Alternative Route
avoids bridge steps



THAMES PATH
Public Footpath

THAMES PATH
Public Footpath



DUKE
HOTEL BOATS

DUKE & DUCHESS
HOTEL BOATS

DUKE



Henley-on-Thames

Site of the River and Rowing Museum
and of the annual Henley Regatta



Henley Royal Regatta



[Official website](#)

Location	Henley-on-Thames, England
Organiser	The stewards of Henley Royal Regatta
Patron	HM Queen Elizabeth II
Course	The Straight Course (since 1924), River Thames
Course length	1 mile, 550 yards (2,112 m)
Events	20 (currently)
Trophy	Numerous



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Dress Code



Ladies



Fashion

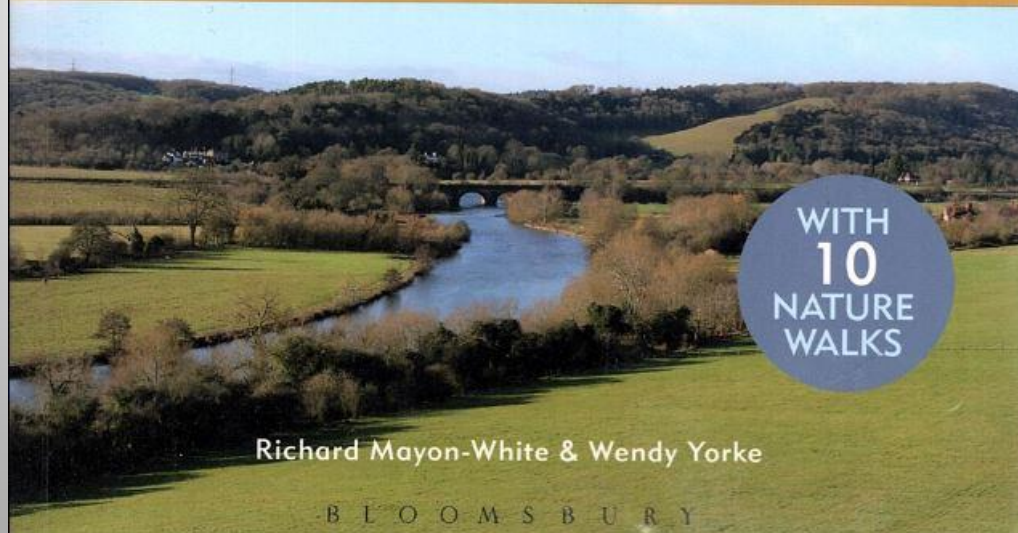


—Nature preserves



EXPLORING
THE THAMES
WILDERNESS

A guide to the natural Thames



WITH
10
NATURE
WALKS

Richard Mayon-White & Wendy Yorke

B L O O M S B U R Y

...lists 154 nature preserves, maintained by various agencies.

68



37 Long Bridges Nature Park

HOW TO GET THERE

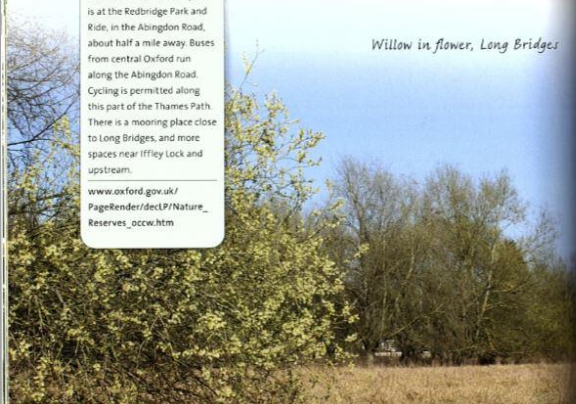
Long Bridges Nature Park [SP524046]

Donnington Bridge Road, Oxford OX4 4AX. Enter from the Thames Path which runs between the reserve and the main channel of the Thames. The nearest official car park is at the Redbridge Park and Ride, in the Abingdon Road, about half a mile away. Buses from central Oxford run along the Abingdon Road. Cycling is permitted along this part of the Thames Path. There is a mooring place close to Long Bridges, and more spaces near Iffley Lock and upstream.

www.oxford.gov.uk/PageRender/declp/Nature_Reserves_0ccw.htm

This park is beside a former bathing pool in one of the side-streams of the Thames running through Oxford. It is a good place for a picnic and to watch events on the river, and was cleared and improved in the autumn of 2011. Its features are willows, blackberries and grassy glades. Canoeists can explore the side-stream down to the weirs, and enter a network of backwaters. Iffley Meadows are on the other side of Weirs Lane.

Willow in flower, Long Bridges



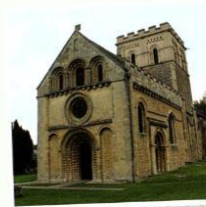
CENTRAL OXFORD TO ABINGDON

69



38 Iffley Meadows

These are ancient flood meadows, with lots of fritillaries in spring, which are counted by volunteers (Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT)). In the marshier area on the south southern side, there are lots of cuckoo-flowers that appear at about the same time as the fritillaries. There are walks through and around the meadows to streams and corners of scrubland. Resident birds include meadow pipits, water rail and snipe. Iffley Lock nearby has the remains of an early pound lock, now functioning as one of the weirs. Iffley village has a pretty Norman church and several pubs.



Iffley Church

102 Dumsey Meadow

HOW TO GET THERE

Dumsey Meadow [TQ055667]

As written on the information board at Dumsey Meadow, meadows like this were to be found all along the Thames only a few decades ago. These were meadows that had never been ploughed nor spread with artificial fertilisers. Grazing kept the grass short, and wildflowers could flourish. Dumsey Meadow is not as wet as Chertsey Meads, so there are fewer marsh plants and reeds. The website in the 'How to get there' box lists the plants that can be found here. The pollarded willows and clumps of hawthorn bushes shelter birds and insects.

The seats, views of the river and boats, and the Kingfisher pub by Chertsey Bridge offer a rest to tired walkers along the Thames Path. The meadow is used for Chertsey Regatta in August.

Chertsey Bridge Road, the B375. There is car parking (pay and display). The Thames Path goes along the river edge of the meadow. Mooring is available at Chertsey Lock, and it is also possible for small boats to moor on the banks of the meadow. Open at all times.

www.english-nature.org.uk/citation/citation_photo/1007206.pdf

Dumsey Meadow



10 invasive species causing problems in the UK

These invasive non-native species are causing harm to environments and native wildlife.

30th March 2017

GB Non-native Species Secretariat

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A a -



The Non-native Species Secretariat (NNS) has the responsibility for helping to coordinate the approach to invasive non-native species in Great Britain.

These are examples of invasive species which have become established in Great Britain and are causing problems.

3. Grey squirrel



Grey squirrel © GB NNS

Originally a native of North America, grey squirrels were deliberately released into the wild in Great Britain in 1876, and carry a pox virus to which our native red squirrel is very susceptible.

Red squirrels have now been wiped out across most of Great Britain, mainly through disease transmission, and now only a few populations remain in England and Wales. Fortunately, red squirrels still have a stronghold in Scotland and dedicated programmes are helping to ensure their conservation.

7. Muntjac



Muntjac deer © GB NNS

This small deer from China and Taiwan was brought to Great Britain in 1831 to be kept in collections, but is now common across most of England and parts of Wales.

Muntjac grazing can have serious impacts in woodlands where they can clear shrubs and prevent tree regeneration, affecting other wildlife including birds and butterflies.

4. American mink



American mink preying on a juvenile gannet © John W Anderson

Another American native, mink were introduced to Great Britain in 1929 for use in fur farming but individuals began to escape from farms and breed in the wild.

Since their introduction, the native water vole has experienced one of the most rapid and serious declines of any British wild mammal during the 20th century. There has been a decline in as much as 94 per cent in the number of water vole sites, and predation by the invasive American mink has been a key factor in this decline.

1. Japanese knotweed



Japanese knotweed breaking through concrete © GB NNSS

Originally from eastern Asia, the Japanese knotweed introduced to Great Britain by the Victorians in 1886 as an ornamental garden plant.

It is now widely established across most of Great Britain, and is notorious for forming dense stands which are extremely hard to control. It is estimated the Japanese knotweed costs the economy £166 million a year.

5. Himalayan balsam



Himalayan balsam © VWB photos / Getty

Like many other invasive plants, Himalayan balsam was introduced by the Victorians for use in ornamental gardens. It is still occasionally used today as a garden plant, but can also be found growing wild across much of Great Britain, where it crowds out native plants including tansy which is the only food plant of the endangered tansy beetle.

2. Rhododendron



Rhododendron covering a hillside in Wales © Natural Resources Wales

Rhododendron was first introduced in 1763 from the Iberian Peninsula for use in gardens, and there are now few areas of Great Britain are not affected by this plant.

It blocks light, preventing other species from growing beneath it and leaving only trees that are able to grow above the level of the rhododendron canopy. It also carries diseases which are fatal to some of our native trees.

8. American skunk cabbage



American skunk cabbage © GB NNSS

This North American plant was introduced in 1947 by ornamental plant collectors, who admired its striking flowers.

It has become established in some wet woodlands, where it crowds out native plant species and makes its presence known by emitting a strong skunk-like odour.



10. Signal crayfish



Signal crayfish © Trevor Renals

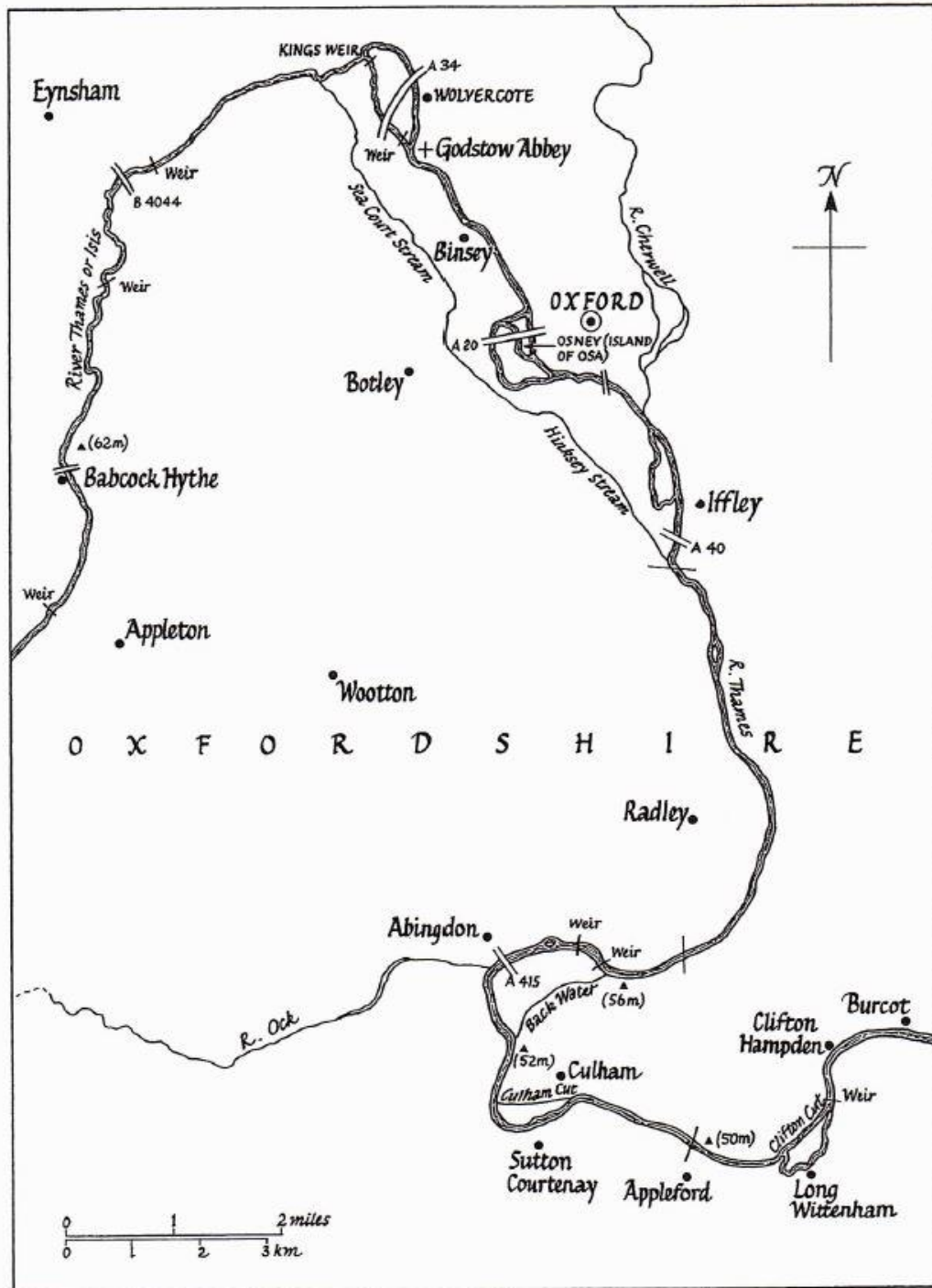
This lobster-like freshwater species was introduced from America in 1975 to be farmed for food, but quickly escaped and spread rapidly through Great Britain.

Since its arrival it has driven the white-clawed crayfish towards extinction through competition and transmission of a crayfish plague, which doesn't harm signal crayfish but is fatal to white-clawed crayfish. It also burrows into riverbanks leading to erosion and increasing flood risk.

Non-native invasive species to look out for that could cause big problems if they become established.

[Read more about the GB non-native species secretariat](#)

Category: | [British Wildlife](#) |



—Literature



....the most famous picnic site in the world! July 4, 1862.



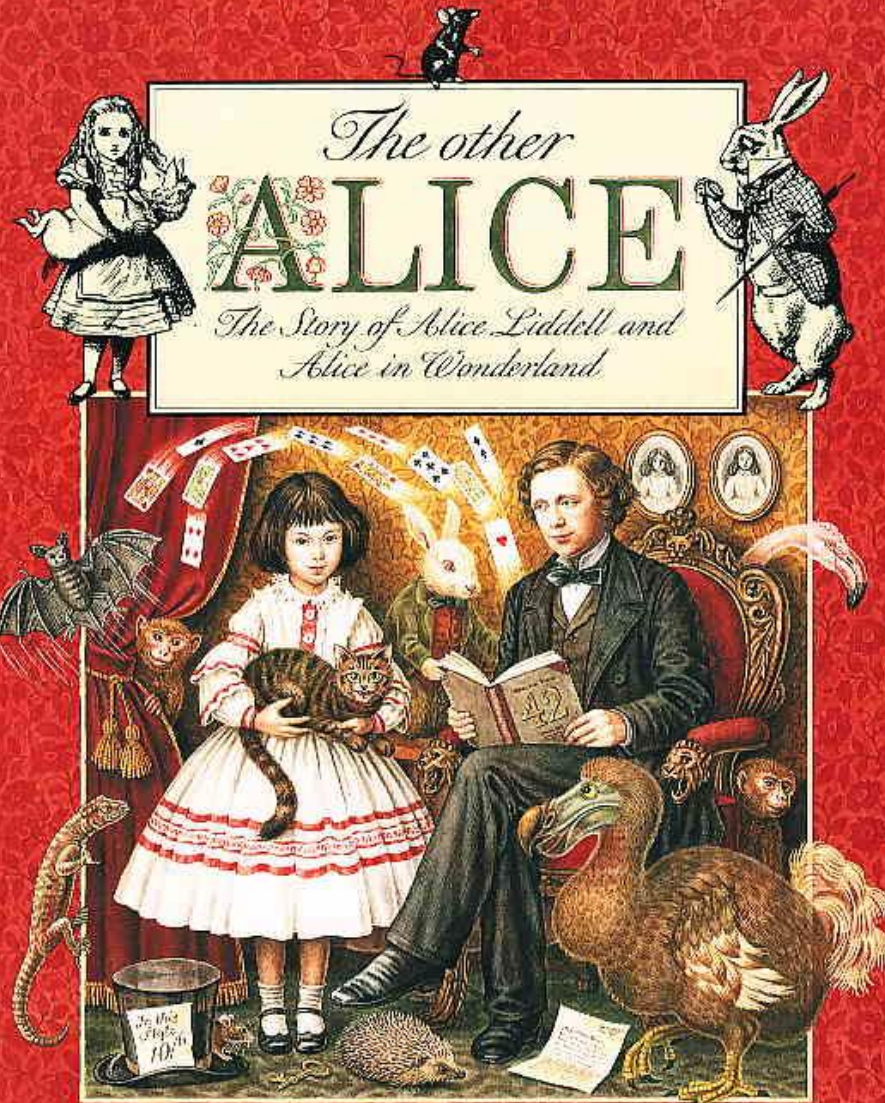
Alice Liddell



Alice Liddell



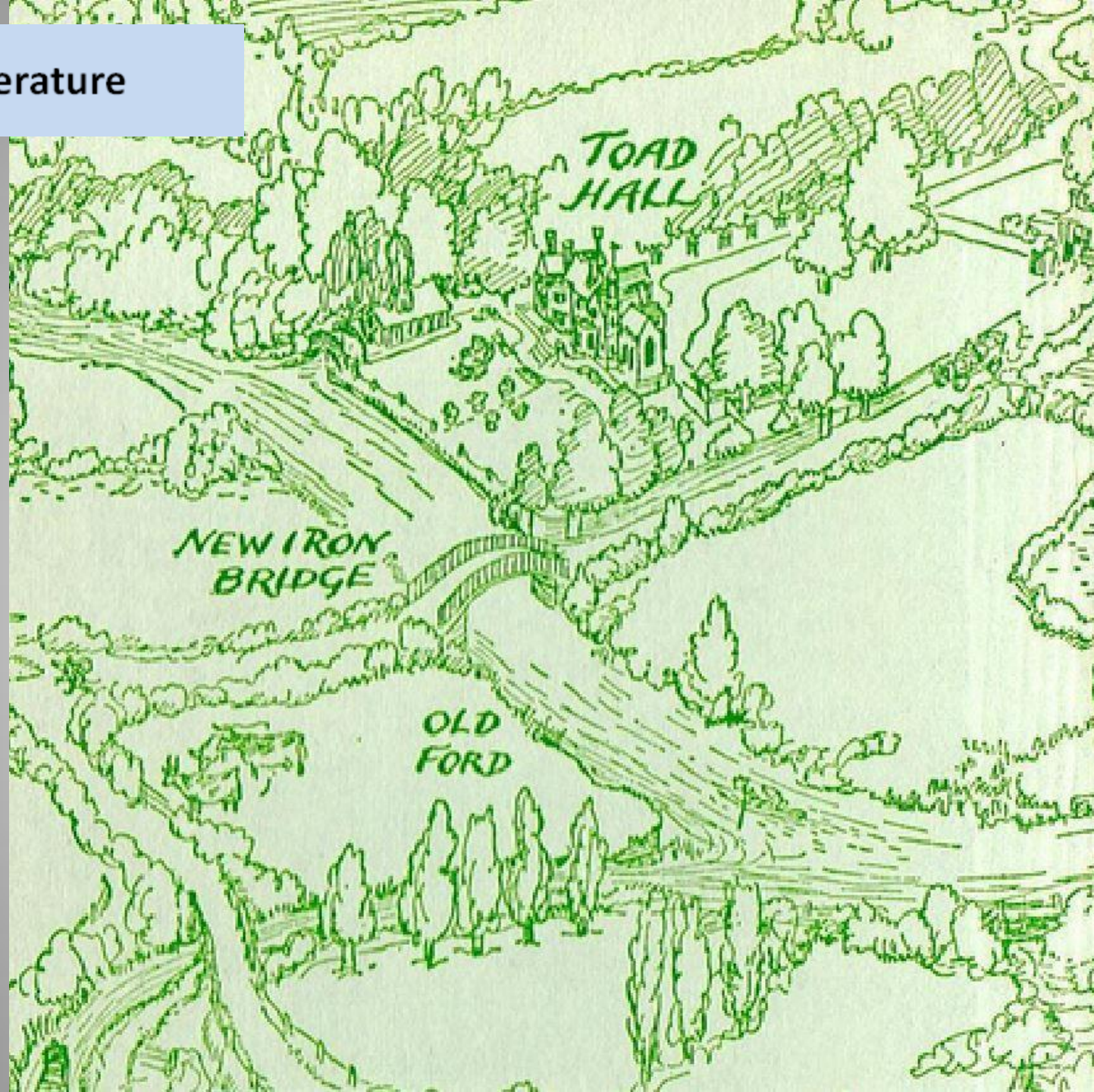
Prof. Charles Dodgson
(Lewis Carroll)



CHRISTINA BJÖRK & INGA-KARIN ERIKSSON

R&S
BOOKS

—Literature





PENGUIN  CLASSICS

KENNETH GRAHAME

The Wind in the Willows

—Literature



PENGUIN CLASSICS

JEROME K. JEROME

Three Men in a Boat

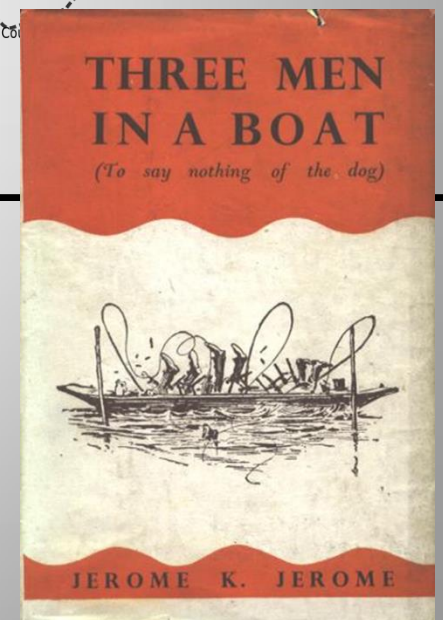
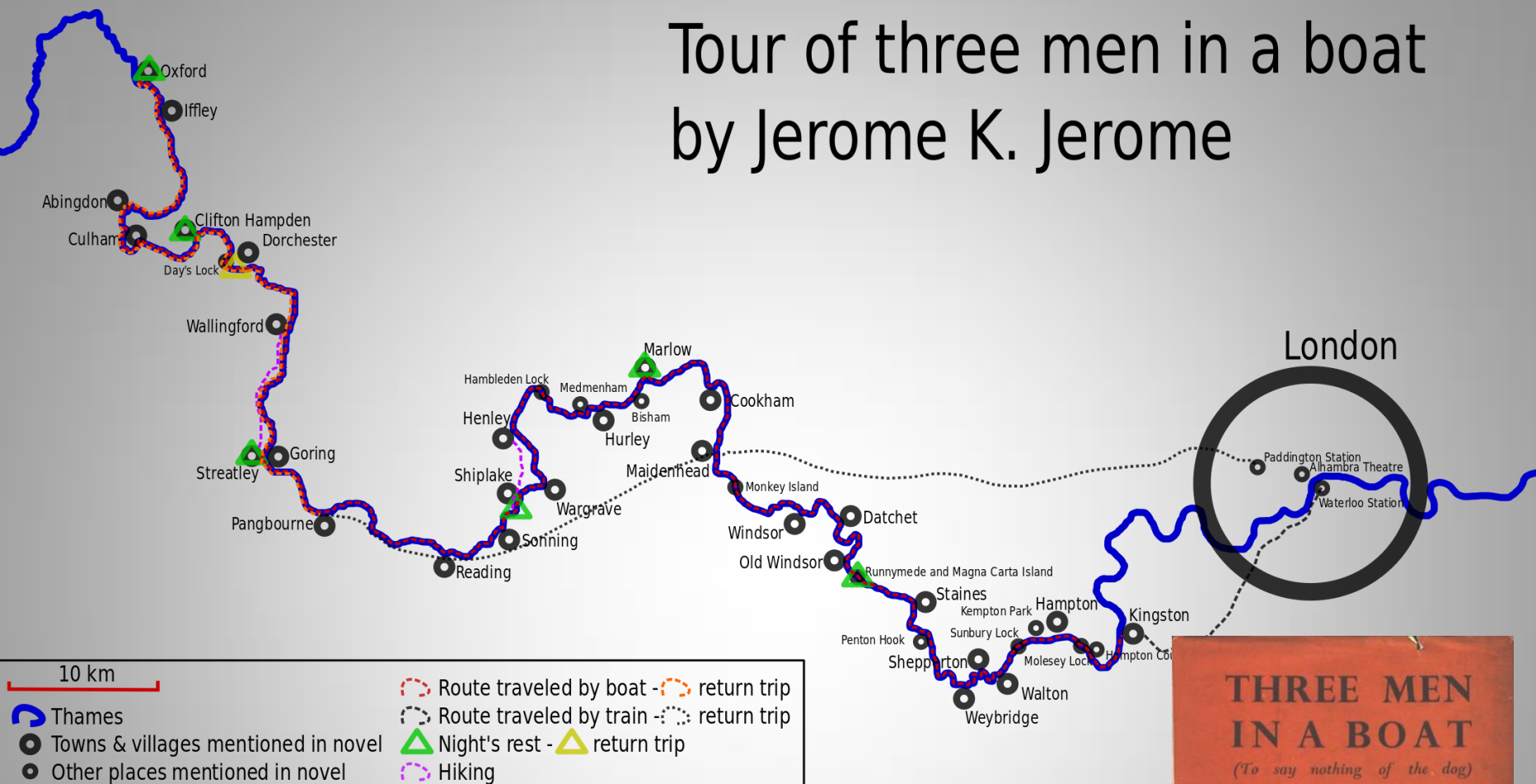


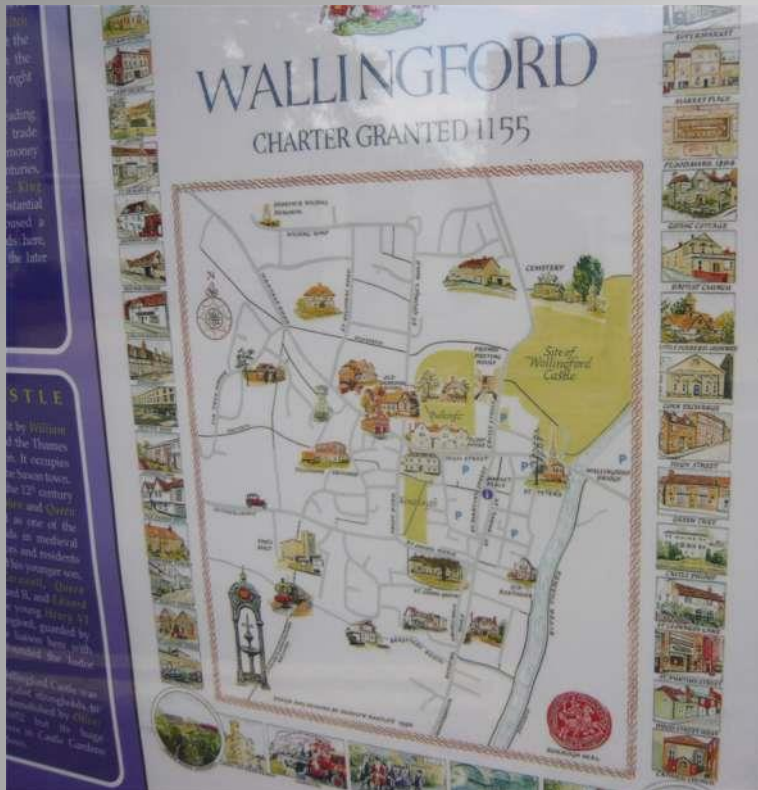
THREE MEN IN A BOAT

(TO SAY NOTHING OF THE DOG).



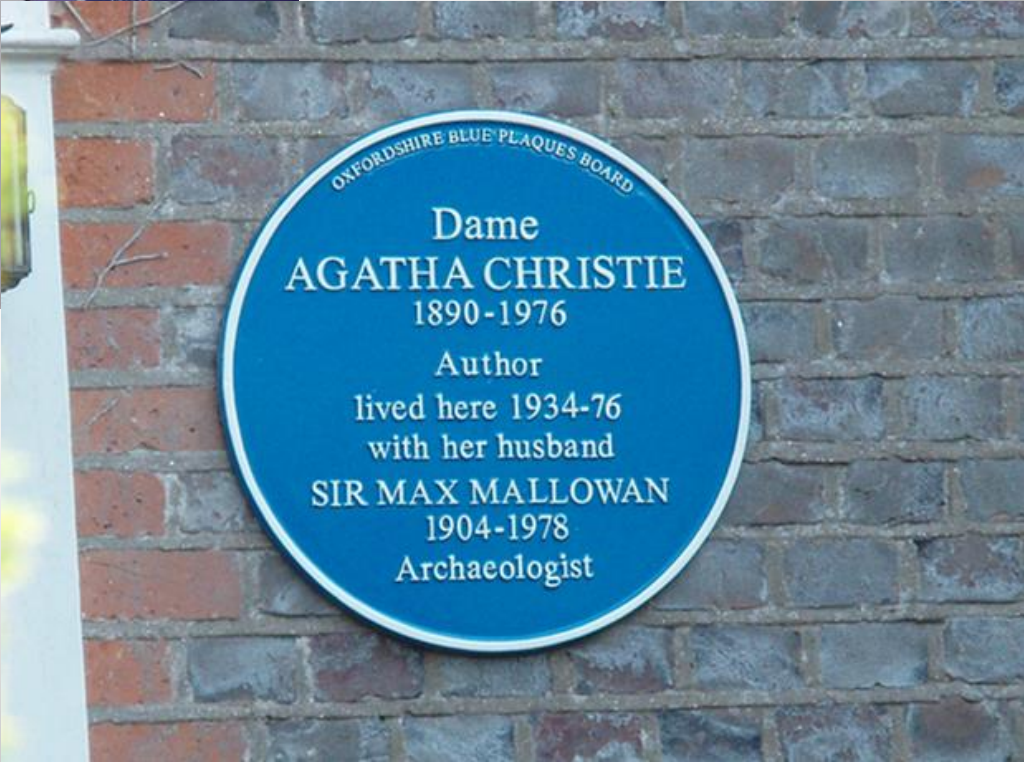
Tour of three men in a boat by Jerome K. Jerome





Brewing and important and was reflected in century houses a The elegant Tou Place, built in 16 courts, the town l The famous judg Christie resided i She was President who still perform Exchange Theatre

TODAY



Dame Agatha Christie Trail



2 Not very far from the brook is Winterbrook House to your left where Agatha Christie and Max Mallowan lived from 1934-1976. There is now a blue plaque on the house. The house is not easy to see as there is a large hedge round it. Agatha used to say that 'it was very close to the main road.'



3 Almost opposite on your right is Winterbrook Lane. Go down it. The lane eventually becomes a gravel path. Continue on until you shortly arrive at the Wallingford bypass. Cross the road carefully to the gravel path opposite. Go down the path until you reach-

4 The railway line known as the 'Bunk'. Cross the line very carefully after checking both ways for trains. Trains do not regularly run nowadays but the line can be busy at certain times of the year particularly at holiday times. Having crossed to the other side of the line go through the white gates and turn immediately to your left and follow the waymarked path which is running parallel to the railway line. After a mile or so and several stiles later you will come a place where the path appears to be curving to the right and taking you towards a copse of



trees. Ignore this as you can continue on the path towards a new stile albeit the path is very narrow. Having climbed the stile head in a diagonal direction across the field. You will eventually come to a stile which will bring you onto a road. Cross the road carefully and go down the gravel path to-

5 St Mary's Church, Cholsey. If the church is locked then do take some time to look round the outside. Go to the back of the church where you will see on next to a wall on your left -

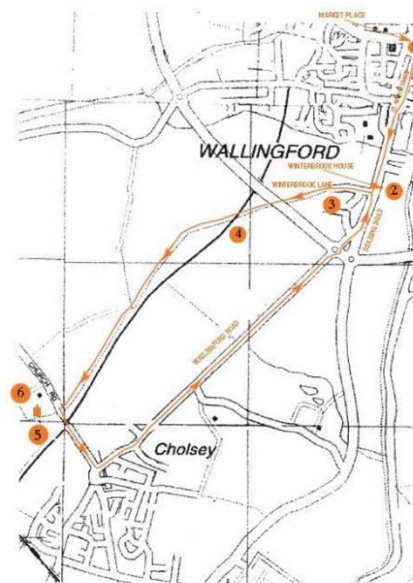


6 The grave of Dame Agatha Christie under her married name of Mallowan. You can't miss it as it is one of the most impressive graves in the churchyard.

To return to Wallingford you have a choice - return to the road and either go back the way you came or turn right and follow the road into Cholsey. At the first mini roundabout turn left (it is signposted to Wallingford). You will go past the Red Lion public house where you can take refreshment.



Continue down the road until you come to a roundabout on the Wallingford bypass. Turn right where almost immediately you will come across another roundabout. Follow the sign to Wallingford. You will soon find familiar landmarks you have previously seen.



This project is being part financed by South Oxfordshire District Council and South East England Development Agency.
Produced by Wallingford Partnership Limited



Designed & Printed by Alby Printing Co, Wallingford. T. 01491 836282

www.wallingford.co.uk

Celebrating Agatha Christie

18 - 20 September 2015 -

*a Weekend of celebrations in Wallingford
& Cholsey*

Talk 'An interview with Agatha Christie - a Wallingford exclusive' & screening of Agatha Christie film 'Agatha'

Guided Agatha Christie walks with train ride

Two Agatha Christie exhibitions - 'At Home with the Queen of Crime' & 'Agatha Christie and Cholsey'

Guided historical town and castle walks

'Blue Murder at St Mary's' - a concert with a touch of Agatha Christie

Cholsey & Wallingford Railway heritage train rides

Visit Agatha Christie's grave in Cholsey churchyard

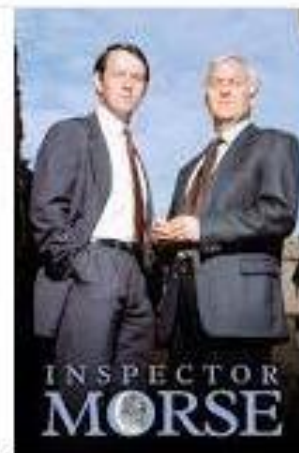
Cream teas and much, much more!



Some events are ticketed and only available if booked in advance. For more information, visit Wallingford Museum, or Town Information Centre, or www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk

Inspector Morse

British drama series



8.1/10

IMDb

4.4/5

Amazon.com

8.3/10

TV.com

86% liked this TV show

Google users



Inspector Morse embodies cultured, upper-middle-class Britishness, and enjoys the finer things in life - good beer, vintage cars, fine opera. He and his trusty companion, Detective Sergeant Lewis, solve the crimes that plague the environs of University of Oxford. Although he's a brilliant detective, Morse is not infallible - and he's often pretty grumpy to boot. But he and Lewis tend to make sure the bad guys pay for their crimes.

First episode date: January 6, 1987

Theme song: [Inspector Morse Theme Song](#)

Spin-off: [Lewis](#)

Inspector Morse



John Thaw as Morse

First appearance *Last Bus to Woodstock* (1975)

Last appearance *The Remorseful Day* (1999)

Created by Colin Dexter

Portrayed by John Thaw (Television) (1987-2000)
Shaun Evans (Television) (2012-present)
Andrew Burt (BBC Radio) (1985)
John Shrapnel (BBC Radio) (1992-96), Neil Pearson (BBC Radio) (2017)
Colin Baker (stage)

Information

Title Detective Chief Inspector

Nationality British

Also appears in *Inspector Morse television series* (1987-2000)
Endeavour (2012-present)

Novels [edit]

The novels in the series are:

- *Last Bus to Woodstock* (1975)
- *Last Seen Wearing* (1976)
- *The Silent World of Nicholas Quinn* (1977)
- *Service of All the Dead* (1979)
- *The Dead of Jericho* (1981)
- *The Riddle of the Third Mile* (1983)
- *The Secret of Annexe 3* (1986)
- *The Wench is Dead* (1989)
- *The Jewel That Was Ours* (1991)
- *The Way Through the Woods* (1992)
- *The Daughters of Cain* (1994)
- *Death is Now My Neighbour* (1996)
- *The Remorseful Day* (1999)

Inspector Morse also appears in several stories in Dexter's short story collection, *Morse's Greatest Mystery and Other Stories* (1993, expanded edition 1994).

In Dexter's last book, *The Remorseful Day*, Morse dies in hospital from a heart attack.

Midsomer Murders is a British television detective drama^[1] that has aired on ITV since 1997. The show is based on Caroline Graham's *Chief Inspector Barnaby* book series, as originally adapted by Anthony Horowitz. The current lead character is DCI John Barnaby (Neil Dudgeon), who works for Causton CID. Dudgeon's character is the younger cousin of former lead character DCI Tom Barnaby (John Nettles). Dudgeon first appeared as randy gardener Daniel Bolt in the Series 4 episode "Garden of Death". Dudgeon permanently joined the show in 2011 following Nettles' departure.

Midsomer Murders

The logo for the television series "Midsomer Murders" is displayed in a white, serif font against a black rectangular background. The words "MIDSOMER" and "MURDERS" are stacked vertically, with "MIDSOMER" on top and "MURDERS" below it. The font is elegant and slightly stylized, with long descenders on the letters 'S' and 'R'.

Genre

Crime drama, *mystery fiction*

Based on

Chief Inspector Barnaby
by Caroline Graham

Discover the real-life locations of TV's Midsomer Murders

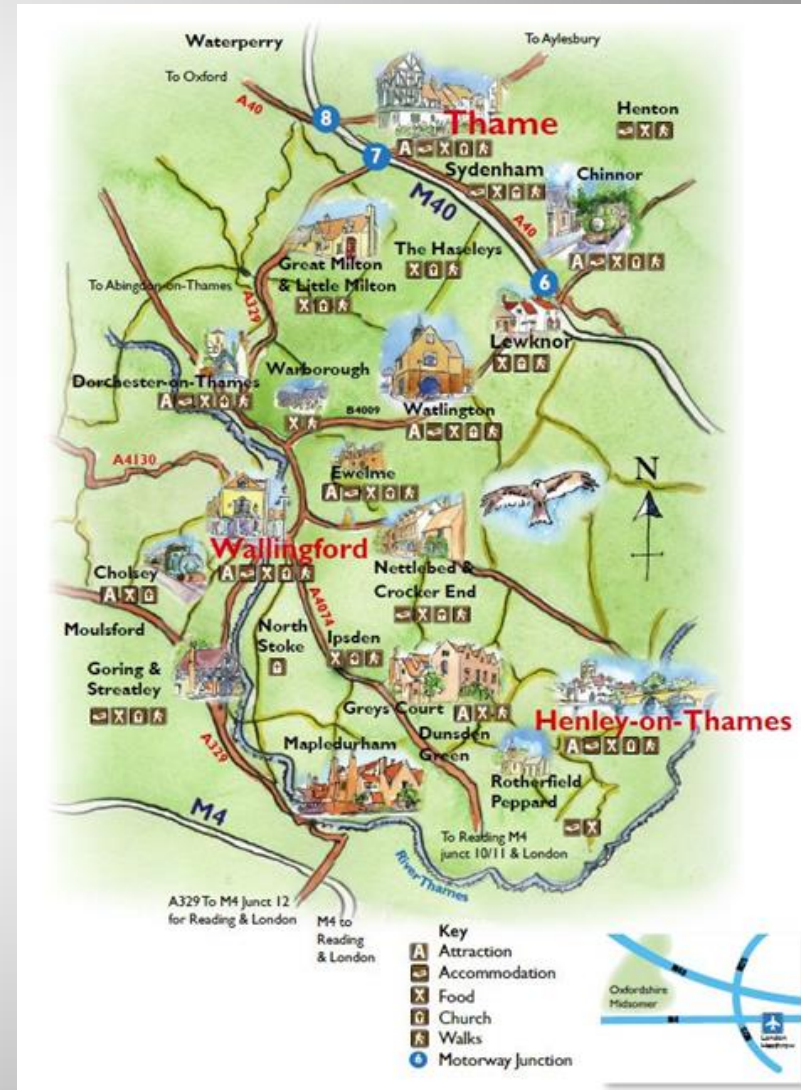


Midsomer Murders charms millions of international viewers ...but where is it filmed?

Fans know Midsomer as the home of traditional pubs, village greens, fetes and Sunday afternoon cricket. They watch the improbable number of murders committed in dastardly yet creative ways, and solved by the unflappable Detective Chief Inspector Barnaby of Causton CID. But that's the fictional Midsomer County.

The real-life Midsomer Murders locations are spread across Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire where towns and villages have names every bit as wonderful as their fictional counterparts. South Oxfordshire's villages, stately homes, stone cottages and market towns provide around half of the filming locations.

This rural English countryside is a short distance outside of London and easily reached for a relaxing short break. If you watch Midsomer Murders and think "I wonder where it is" - you've found the right place. Use these pages to find somewhere to stay and take a tour in the footsteps of Inspector Barnaby; enjoying a beer in the local pub or posing for photographs beside the village church.



About Midsomer Murders



Find out where **the real Causton** is and which real-life towns and villages are used in the show. Take a trip **behind the scenes** and read some accounts of **being an extra**. Brush up on **facts and trivia** about Midsomer Murders.

Plan Your Visit



If you love Midsomer Murders on TV, why not visit for real? We've got all the information you need to **plan your trip**, including a **touring map**, details of **market towns, villages and hamlets** in the area plus **other resources** including local attractions and **places to stay**.

Explore Midsomer

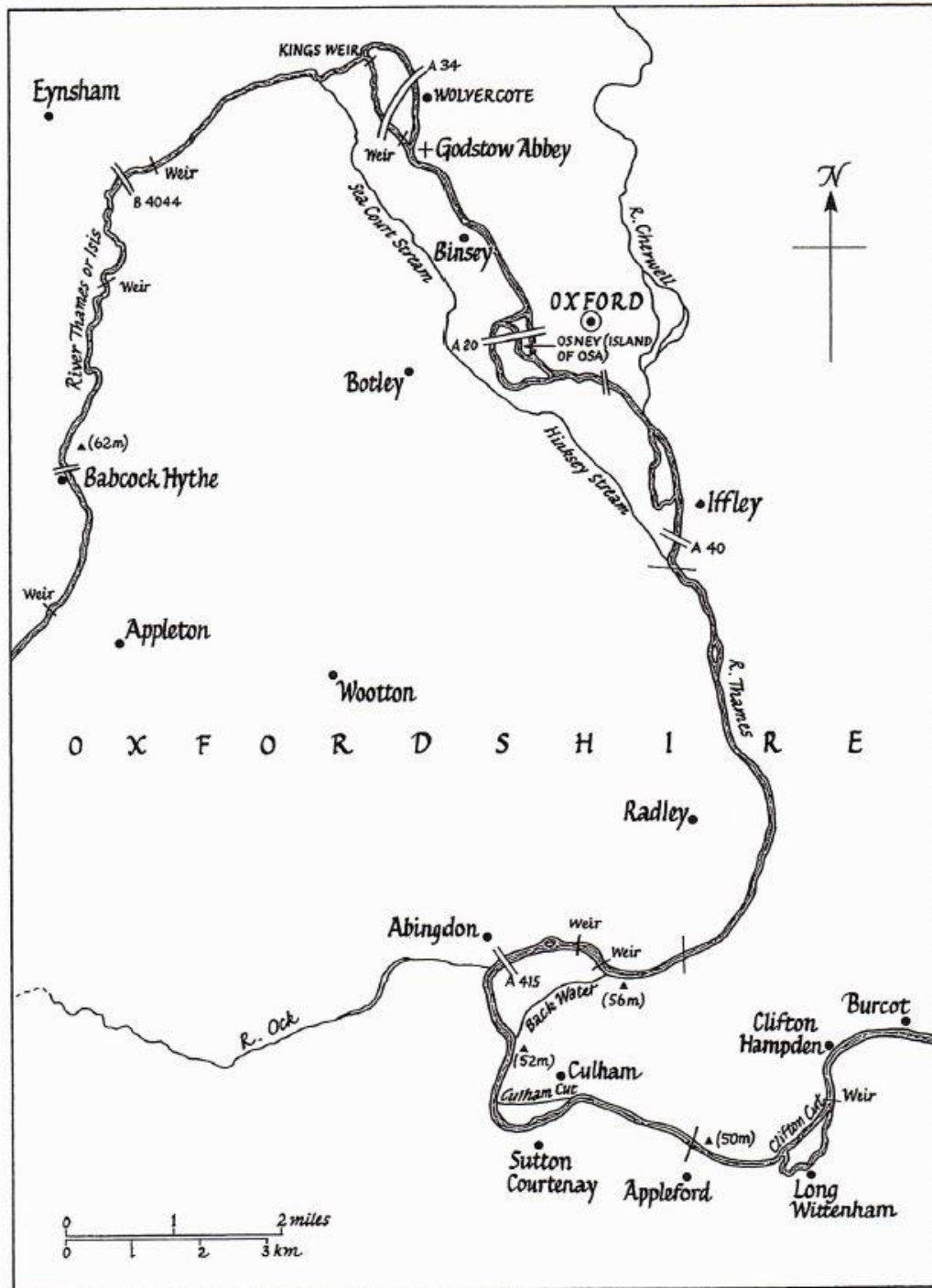


Enjoy a self-drive tour, following our **Northern Trail** and taking in Midsomer Newton Museum and Causton Library or the **Southern Trail** which visits Causton Playhouse, as well as pubs, churches and shops filmed for the series.

*Images in the carousel at the top of this page are **Dorchester on Thames**, kindly supplied by and © Chris Behan from his book **Exploring Midsomer**, and **Henley on Thames** © Steve Mann.*




“They always fill me with a certain horror. It is my belief, Watson, founded upon my experience, that the lowest and vilest alleys in London do not present a more dreadful record of sin than does the smiling and beautiful countryside.”



—Villages, towns....pubs and tearooms





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1352



Barley Mow

fizz friday

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CAVALIERI PROSECCO

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EVERY FRIDAY



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NDAY




CHEF & BREWER
...

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YEASTED
BREAD BASKET

Free Friday
£9.99



Toilets

100% 2 FEETBANG
Get Alike

18

Pubs have had to reinvent themselves since the nationwide ban on smoking went into effect in 2008....





Mind your Head

The Bar



~ Duck or Grouse ~



Turf
Tavern





WHILST HERE AT
OXFORD UNIVERSITY...

— In 1963 —

AT THE TURF TAVERN

BOB HAWKE

FORMER AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER
ENTERED THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS
— AFTER DOWNING A —

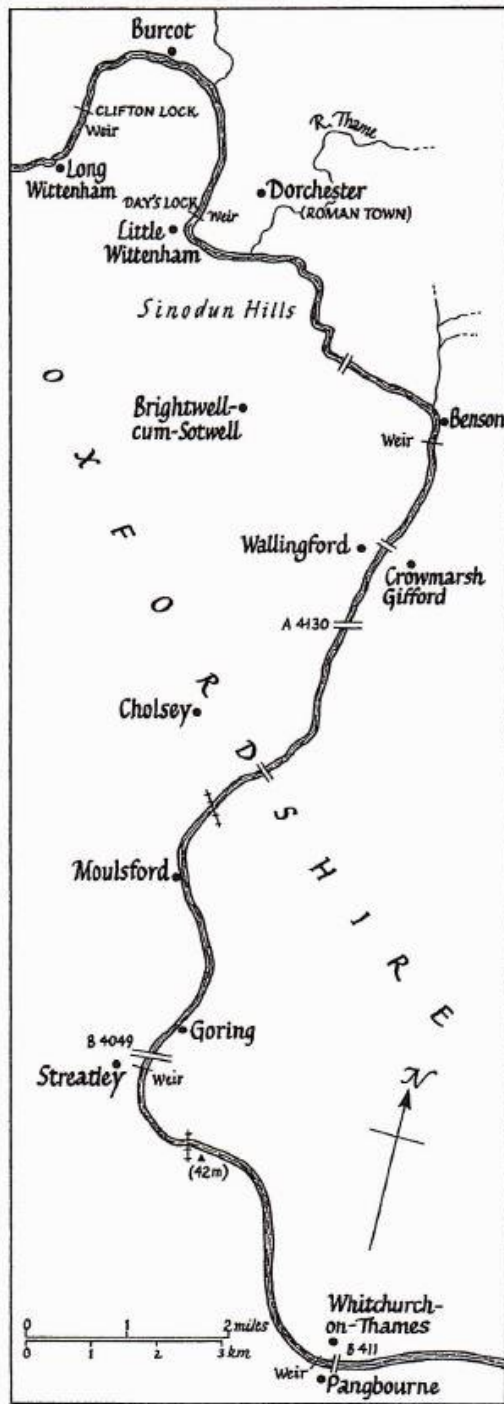
YARD of ALE IN 11 SECONDS

THERE HAVE BEEN MANY FAMOUS
PEOPLE THROUGH OUR DOORS
HERE ARE JUST A FEW...

- ELIZABETH TAYLOR
- MARGARET THATCHER
- STEPHEN HAWKING
- OSCAR WILDE
- THOMAS HARDY
- DAVID CAMERON
- EMMA WATSON
- ERNEST HEMMINGWAY
- BEN KINGSLEY
- JACK GLEESON

BILL C

IT IS ALLEGE
AT THE TUR
THAT BILL CL
AT OXFORD UNIV
THE SIXTIES 'C
INHALE' WHIL
ILLEGAL SUBS



—Archaeology



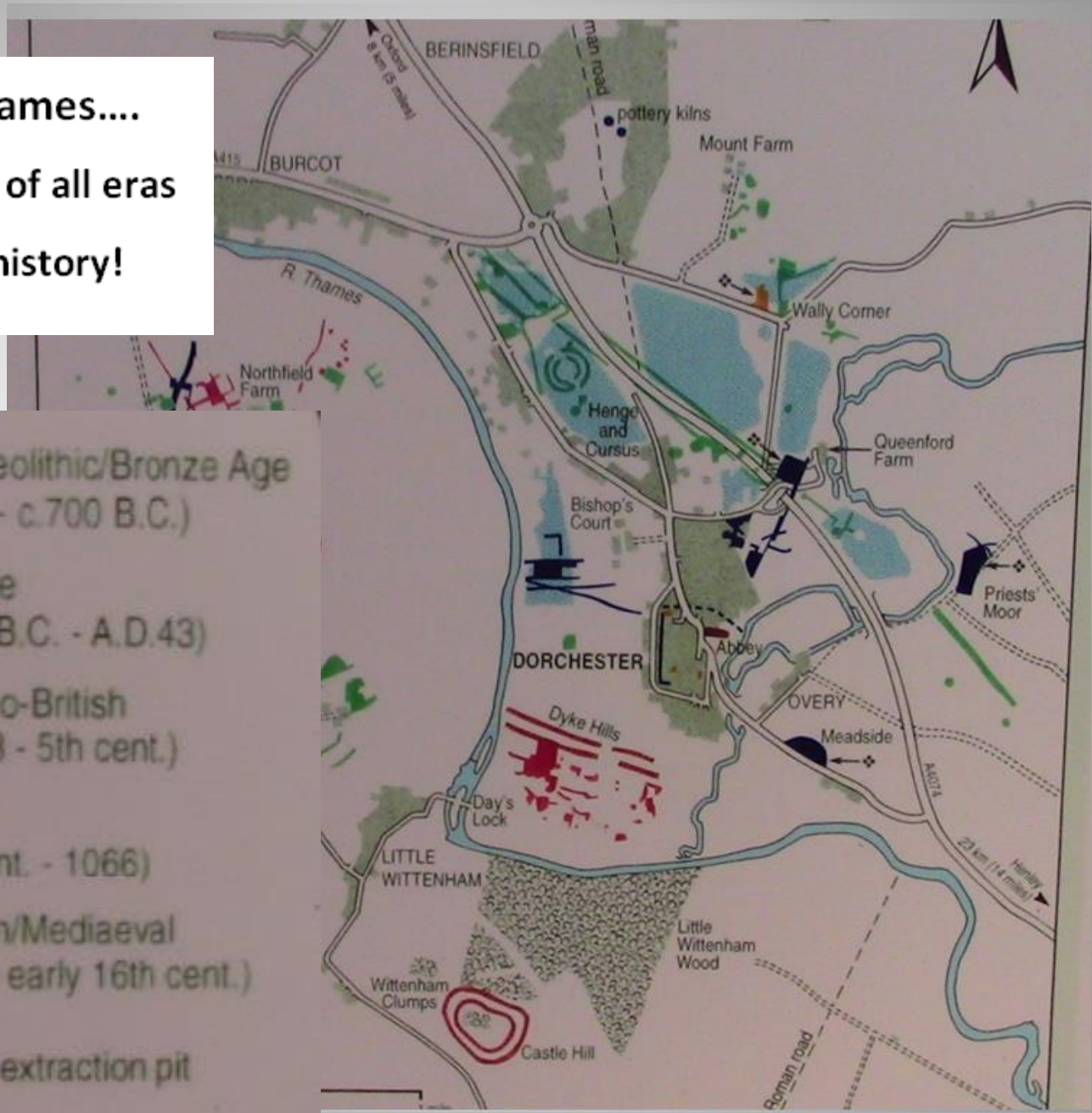
DEVILS QUOITS



Dorchester-on-Thames....

....rich in archaeology of all eras
of prehistory and history!

-  Late Neolithic/Bronze Age
(2,500 - c.700 B.C.)
-  Iron Age
(c.700 B.C. - A.D.43)
-  Romano-British
(A.D.43 - 5th cent.)
-  Saxon
(5th cent. - 1066)
-  Norman/Mediaeval
(1066 - early 16th cent.)
-  Gravel extraction pit





Mesolithic (c. 10000 - 4000BC)

1. Mesolithic flint tools, often called 'Thames picks', found in the gravel deposits near Abingdon.
The black flint was found near Radley and is around 7,000 years old.

2. A flint core showing the faces from which small blades and microliths have been struck.

3. Flint blades used for cutting and scrapers used to clean fat from animal skins.

4. Microliths are small, sharp pieces of flint that were pushed into a piece of wood to make a knife or arrowhead.
They are found in large numbers on Mesolithic sites.

2. Double ended iron axe or chisel probably used to cut and shape wood

A small amount of iron has been skilfully shaped into a useful tool.

3. Gold coins, called staters, with horse and wheel designs

(a) Atrebatas stater, c.50BC, with a triple-tailed horse and a laurel wreath from the head of Apollo. On loan from the estate of the late John Neville Wood

(b) Catuvellauni half stater, c.20AD, with the initials CA to show that it was made in Camulodunum (Colchester). Found in Dorchester-on-Thames.

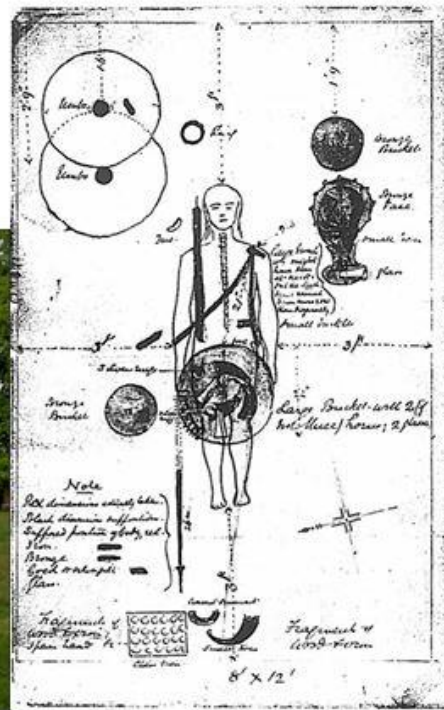
Aerial photography reveals ancient earthworks as cropmarks.



Fig. 8.14 A ring ditch and other cropmarks in Minchin Recreation Ground, Dorchester-on-Thames, shown in an image from Google Earth

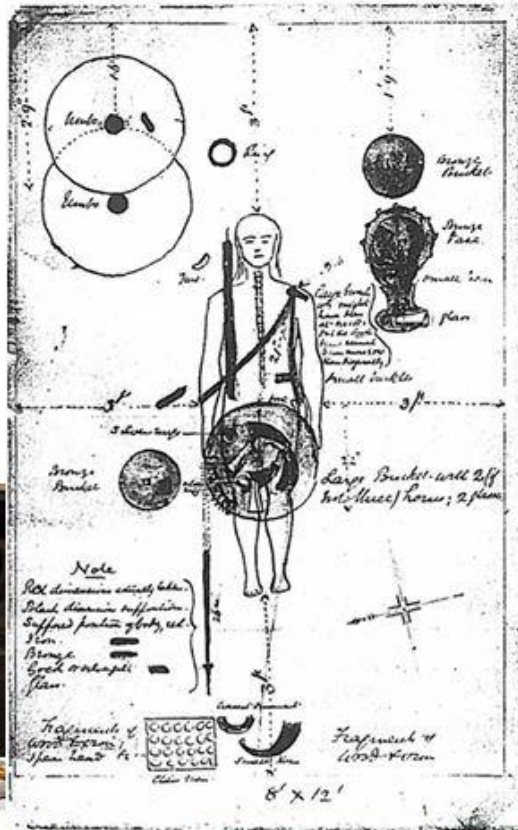


Dyke Hills south of Dorchester, a ridge guarding an ancient Celtic riverside town.



ANGLO-SAXON PRINCELY BURIAL

TAPLOW MOUND



ANGLO-SAXON PRINCELY BURIAL

TAPLOW MOUND



SWANSCOMBE SKULL FRAGMENTS AND HAND AXE

400,000 YA







—Country estates, splendid houses



Hardwick Hall



Mapledurham House

In 1883 more than half of the acreage of England and Wales was owned by 4,217 people.

—“Country Houses,” in G. Grigson’s Shell Country Alphabet

Look who owns Britain: A third of the country **STILL** belongs to the aristocracy

By [TAMARA COHEN FOR THE DAILY MAIL](#)
UPDATED: 03:58 EDT, 10 November 2010



 **179**
View comments

More than a third of Britain's land is still in the hands of a tiny group of aristocrats, according to the most extensive ownership survey in nearly 140 years.

In a shock to those who believed the landed gentry were a dying breed, blue-blooded owners still control vast swathes of the country within their inherited estates.

A group of 36,000 individuals – only 0.6 per cent of the population – own 50 per cent of rural land.

Their assets account for 20million out of Britain's 60million acres of land, and the researchers estimate that the vast majority is actually owned by a wealthy core of just 1,200 aristocrats and their relatives.

The top ten individual biggest owners control a staggering total of more than a million acres between them.

These figures have been uncovered by the 'Who Owns Britain?' report by Country Life Magazine, thought to be the most extensive survey of its type undertaken since 1872.

The top private landowner, not just in Britain but Europe, is the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensbury, whose four sumptuous estates cover 240,000 acres in England and Scotland.

But while his land is the most vast, it is not the most valuable, as the net worth depends on how much is farmland, as well as the value of the property and sporting and heritage activities on it.

The most valuable land belongs to Number 4 on the list, the Duke of Westminster, whose Grosvenor Estate, worth a whopping £6billion, takes in the wealthiest areas of London, including Belgravia and Mayfair.

Second on the list of the most land owned is Scottish magnate the Duke of Atholl.

His 145,700 acres have pushed Prince Charles, who as Duke of Cornwall has 133,000 acres, into third place on the list of individual owners.

Yet all are dwarfed by the incredible reach of corporate land-ownership, which barely existed 100 years ago.



Well off: The Duke of Westminster has a property portfolio totalling around £6billion

Yet all are dwarfed by the incredible reach of corporate land-ownership, which barely existed 100 years ago.

As the biggest 19th-century landowners such as the Church have been sidelined by economic and social changes, their land has been snapped up by the state, charities and the private sector.

More than 2.5million acres – 4 per cent of the country – is in the hands of the Government-run Forestry Commission, which the Coalition plans to privatise. Second on the list is the fast-expanding National Trust, with 630,000 acres.

Catching up swiftly are foreign investors and even supermarkets.

Waitrose owns a 4,000-acre estate in Hampshire, which it runs as a farm, while Tesco's 2,545 stores alone take up 770 acres.

Most of the report's information has been uncovered only in the past five years after a registration campaign targeting huge landowners who had previously avoided disclosing their assets.

The report's author, Kevin Cahill, who has been researching land ownership for ten years, told the Daily Mail: 'A small minority still own a huge amount of Britain's land and what surprises many people is that over the last 100 years, not a lot has changed.'

'For the rich the pursuit of land is as important as it's ever been. They receive subsidies and most of their assets are held in trust, avoiding inheritance tax.'

'The biggest change in land ownership in the past 100 years is that people who live in cities now finance the countryside whereas it used to be the other way around.'

Read the full report in *Country Life*, on sale today.

Who owns what among nation's super-rich



Stately: The Duke of Buccleuch's Drumlanrig Castle



Imposing: Blair Castle in Perthshire, jewel in the crown of the Duke of Atholl's property portfolio

1. DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH

AREA: 240,000 ACRES
LAND VALUE: £800M-£1BN

RICHARD Scott, 56, is the 10th Duke of Buccleuch and 12th Duke of Queensberry who inherited the property empire on his father's death three years ago.

He owns four major estates, the most magnificent of which is Queensberry, Dumfries and Galloway, which contains Drumlanrig, the 17th-century castle where he lives with his wife and four children.

The other three are Langholm in Dumfries and Galloway, Bowhill in the Scottish Borders and Boughton in Northamptonshire. He also has about 850 high-value acres around Dalkeith Palace near Edinburgh.

Around 1,000 people live on the estates, and the Duke (above) has 489 full-time employees, plus 78 seasonal workers in the summer.

At No 345 in this year's Sunday Times Rich List, the issue of



their wealth, excluding land value - estimated at £180m - has been controversial.

Shortly before his death, John Scott, the 9th Duke, asked the compilers of the Rich List to downgrade his wealth to 'level-pegging with Sean Connery', who was then worth £85m.

John argued that if he sold his art collection - which included a £50m da Vinci masterpiece - he would have to give up 80 per cent of the proceeds in tax.

2. TRUSTEES OF THE DUKEDOM OF ATHOLL

AREA: 145,700 ACRES
LAND VALUE: £364M

The 11th Duke of Atholl, John Murray, was born in South Africa and worked as a surveyor when in 1996 at the age of 67 he inherited the Dukedom.



3. PRINCE CHARLES, AS DUKE OF CORNWALL

AREA: 133,602 ACRES
LAND VALUE: £1BN-£1.2BN

Created by Edward III in 1377, the Duchy of Cornwall provides an income for the heir to the throne.

4. GERALD GROSVENOR, DUKE OF WESTMINSTER

AREA: 133,100 ACRES
LAND VALUE: £6BN

His Grosvenor Estate employs 1,200 people in nine countries and contains the most valuable real

estate in Mayfair, Belgravia and Pimlico.

5. RALPH PERCY, DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND

AREA: 130,000 ACRES
LAND VALUE: £800M-£1BN

Ralph Percy, 53, the 12th Duke, owns about 120,000 acres around Alnwick Castle in Northumberland, which featured in Blackadder and as Hogwarts in the Harry Potter films.

6. CAPTAIN ALWYNE FARQUHARSON

AREA: 128,000 ACRES
LAND VALUE: £320M

Now in his 90s and living in Norfolk, his land on the family estate at Braemar Castle in Aberdeenshire is at the heart of the Cairngorms National Park.

7. IAN OGILVIE-GRANT, EARL OF SEAFIELD

AREA: 101,000 ACRES
LAND VALUE: £253M

The 13th earl, Ian Ogilvie-Grant succeeded in 1969 and has three

estates in Scotland.

8. ELIZABETH MILLICENT SUTHERLAND, COUNTESS OF SUTHERLAND

AREA: 82,239 ACRES
LAND VALUE: £206M

The Sutherlands had 1.3m acres in 1872, the second largest landowners after the Church of England, but have lost or sold much of their estate in the last 100 years.

9. BARONESS WILLOUGHBY DE'ERESBY

AREA: 78,200 ACRES
LAND VALUE: £120M

The 27th Baroness has 15,000 acres in Lincolnshire and 63,200 in Perthshire, where she lives in Drummond.

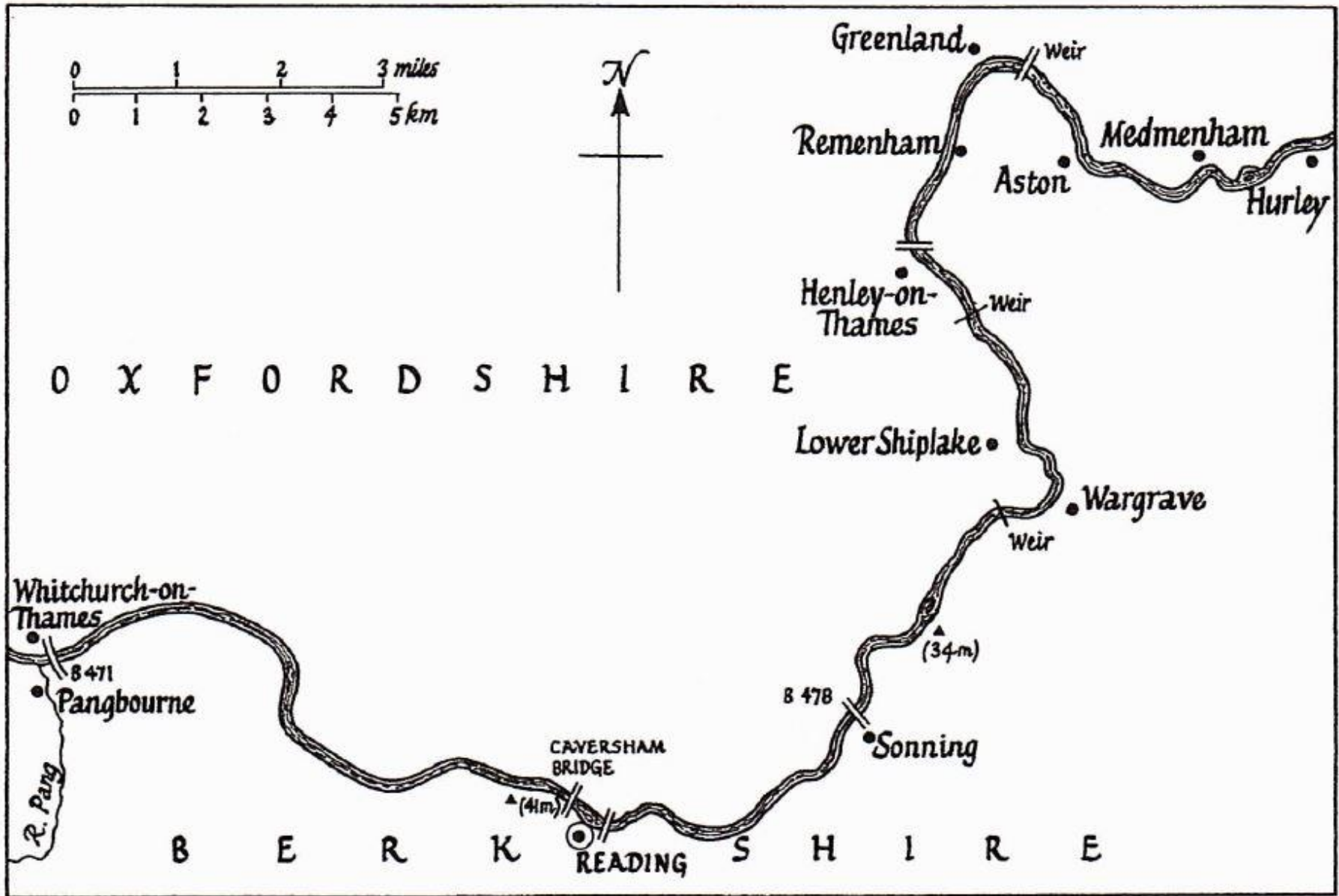
10. MICHAEL PEARSON, THE 4TH VISCOUNT COWDRAY, AND THE PEARSON FAMILY

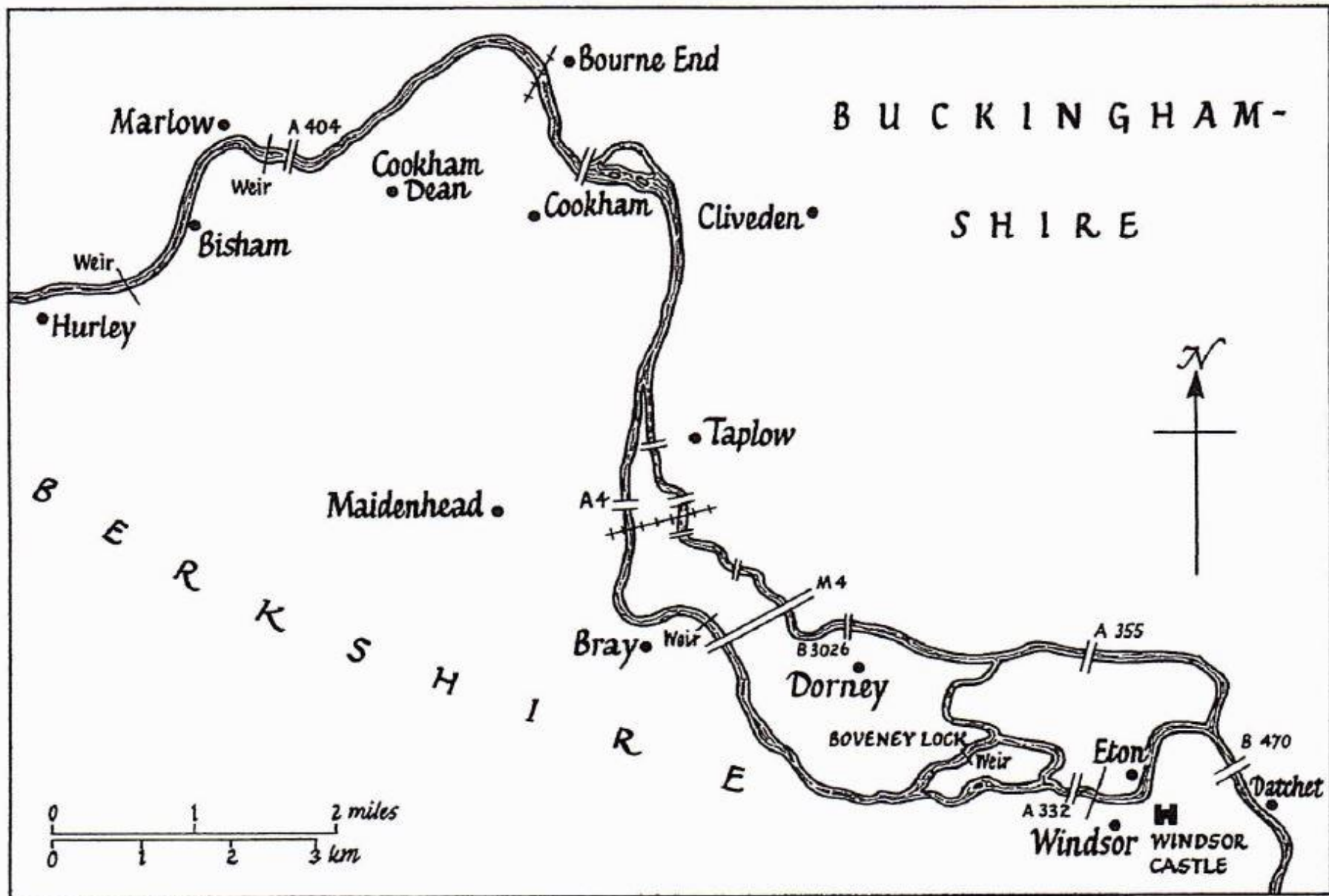
AREA: 69,500 ACRES
LAND VALUE: £285M

Their 16,500 acre estate at Cowdray Park, Sussex, is worth at least £100million.



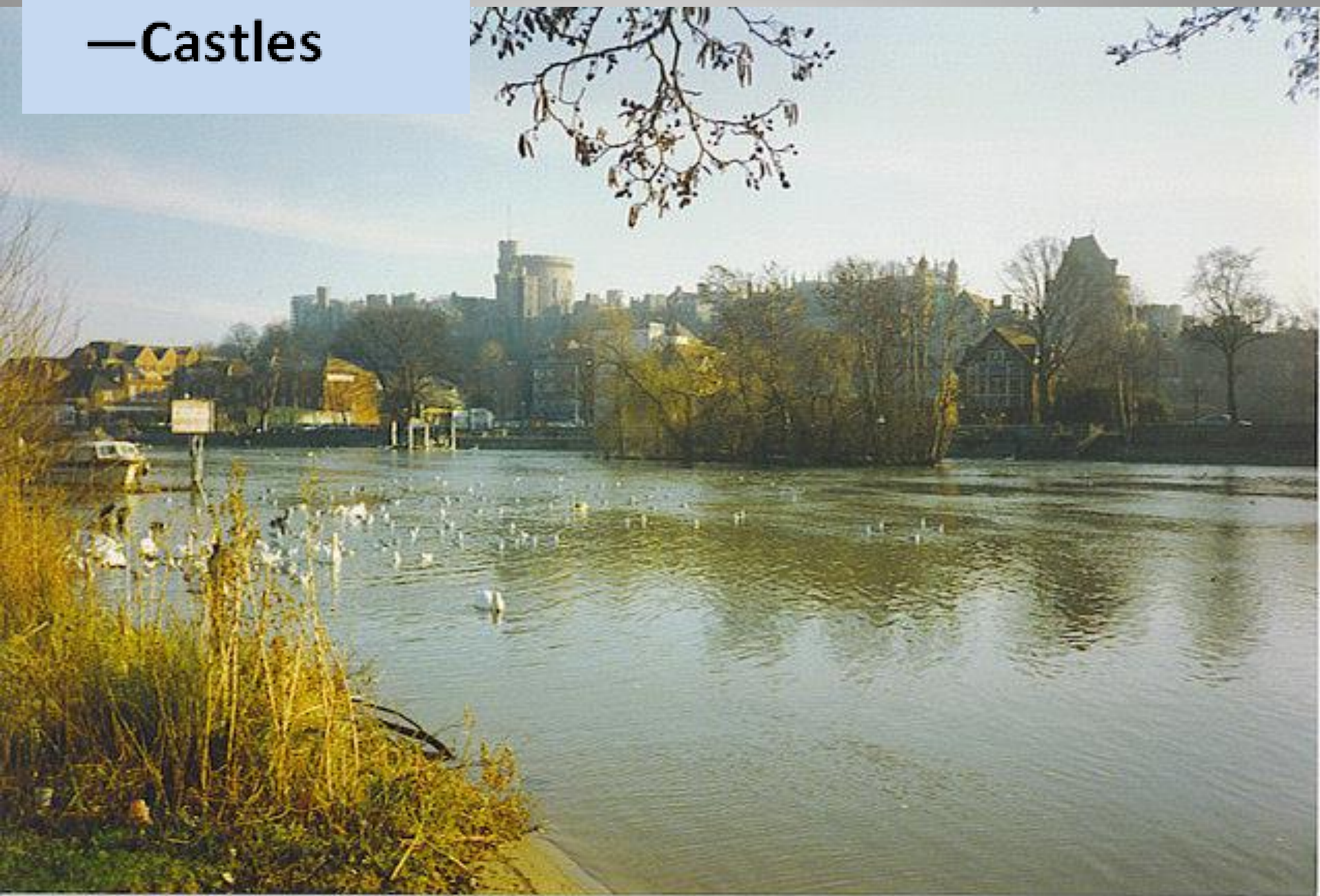








—Castles



—Castles

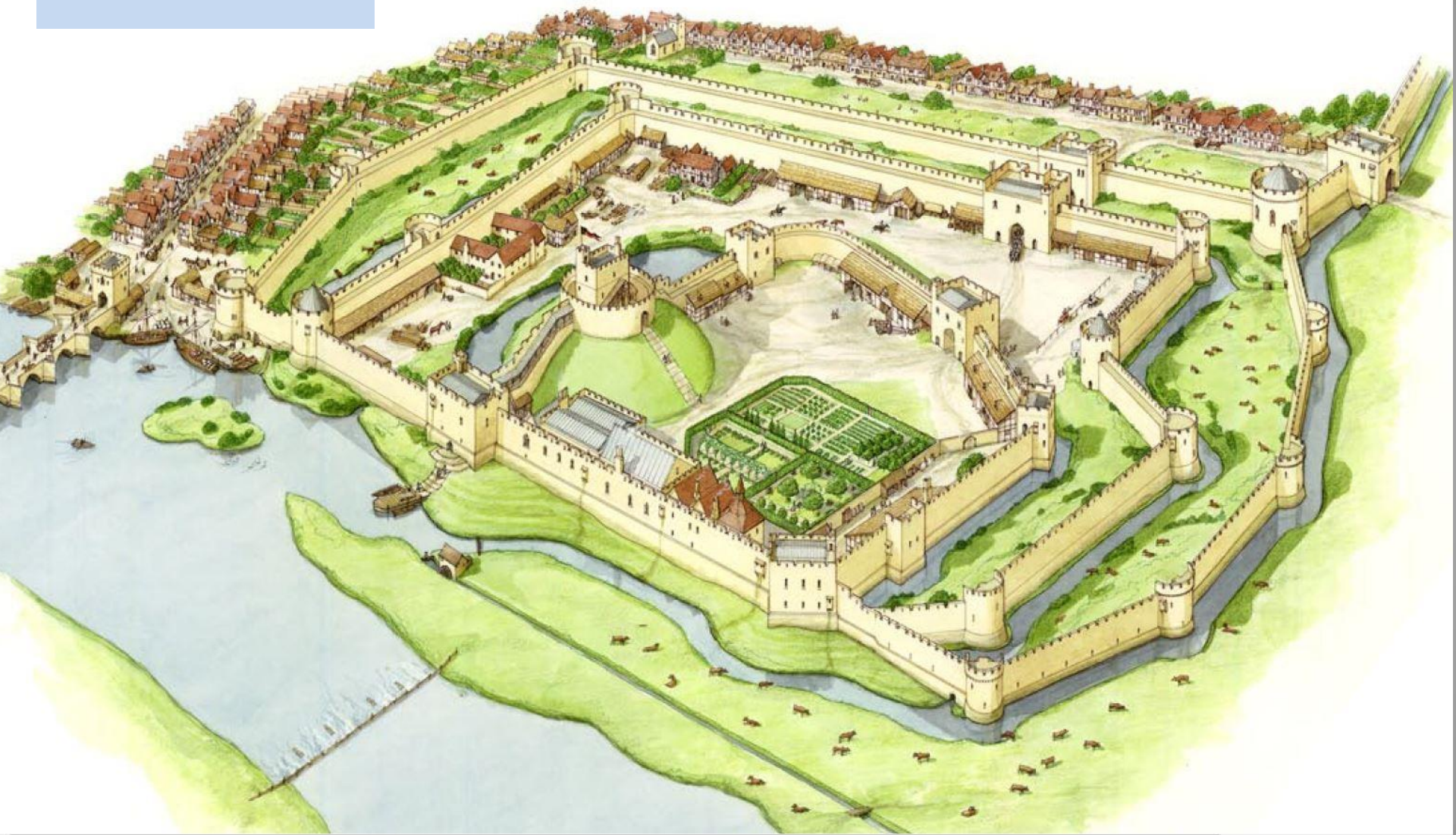


Windsor Castle



Windsor Castle

—Castles



Wallingford Castle



Wallingford Castle ↑

12 (right) Map of castles built in England during the generation after 1066. They are concentrated in the existing county towns, to reinforce the seizure of power.



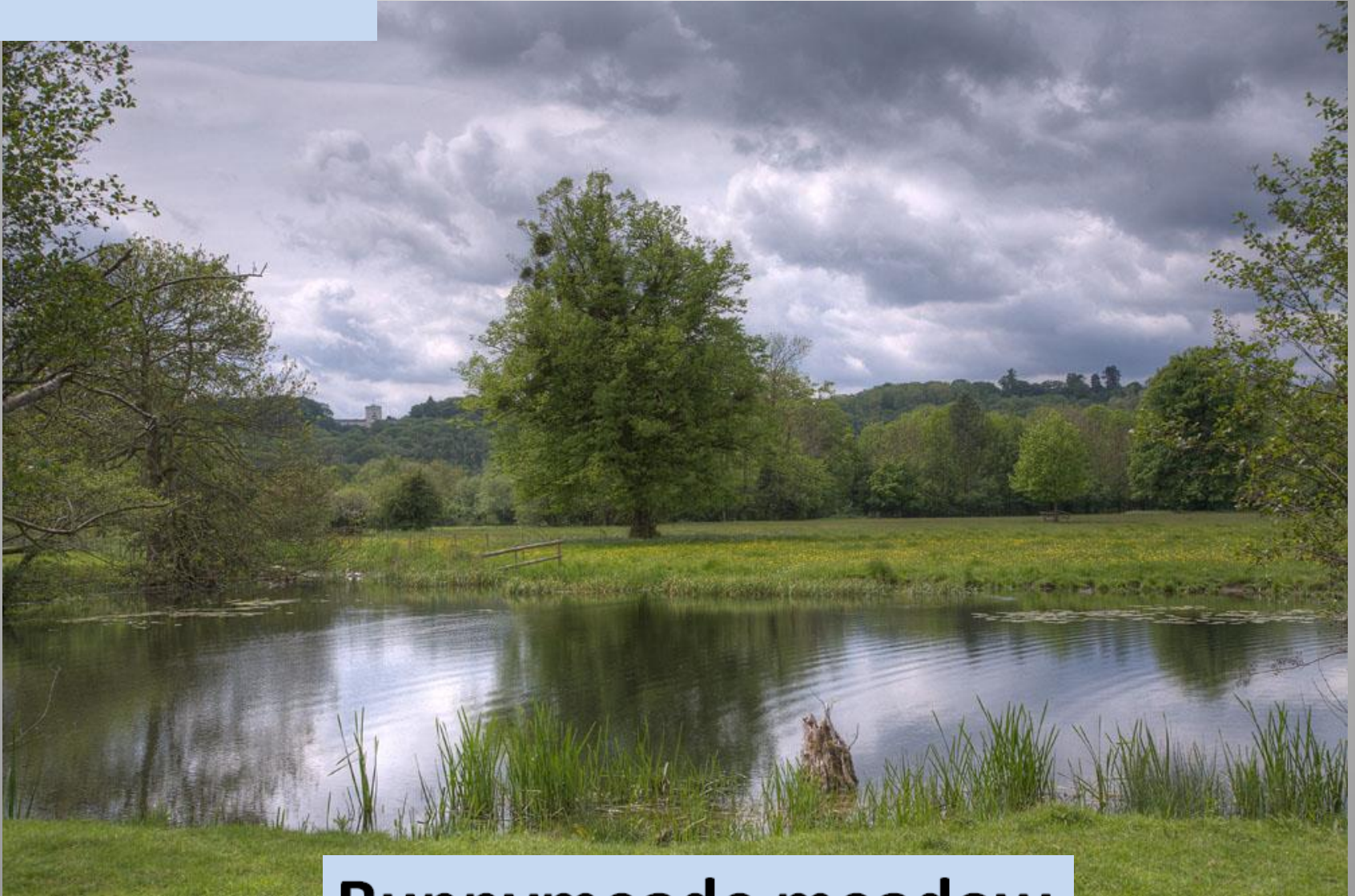


Windsor Castle



Tower of London

—History



Runnymede meadow



JOHN SEALING MAGNA CHARTA. 1215.





—Art

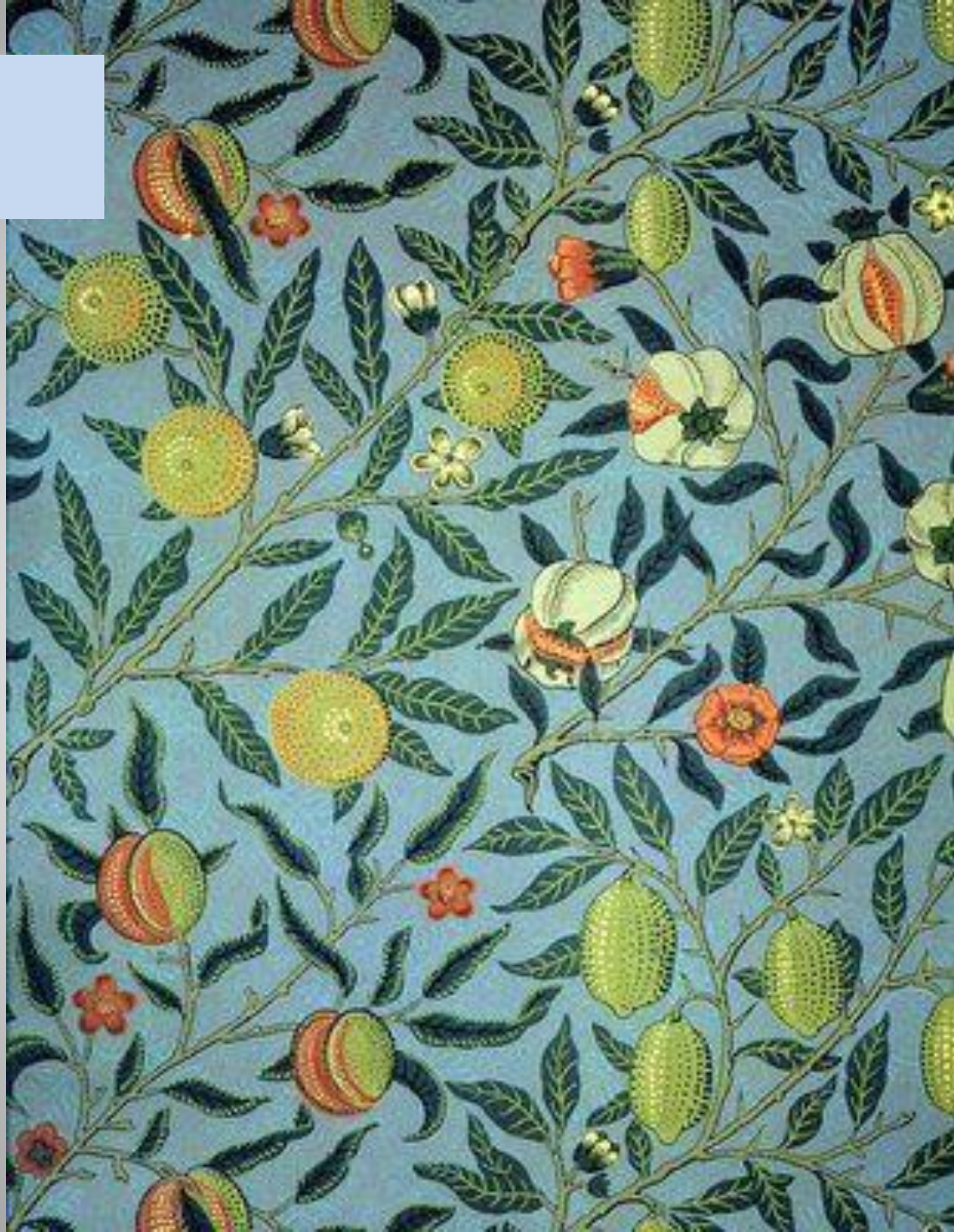


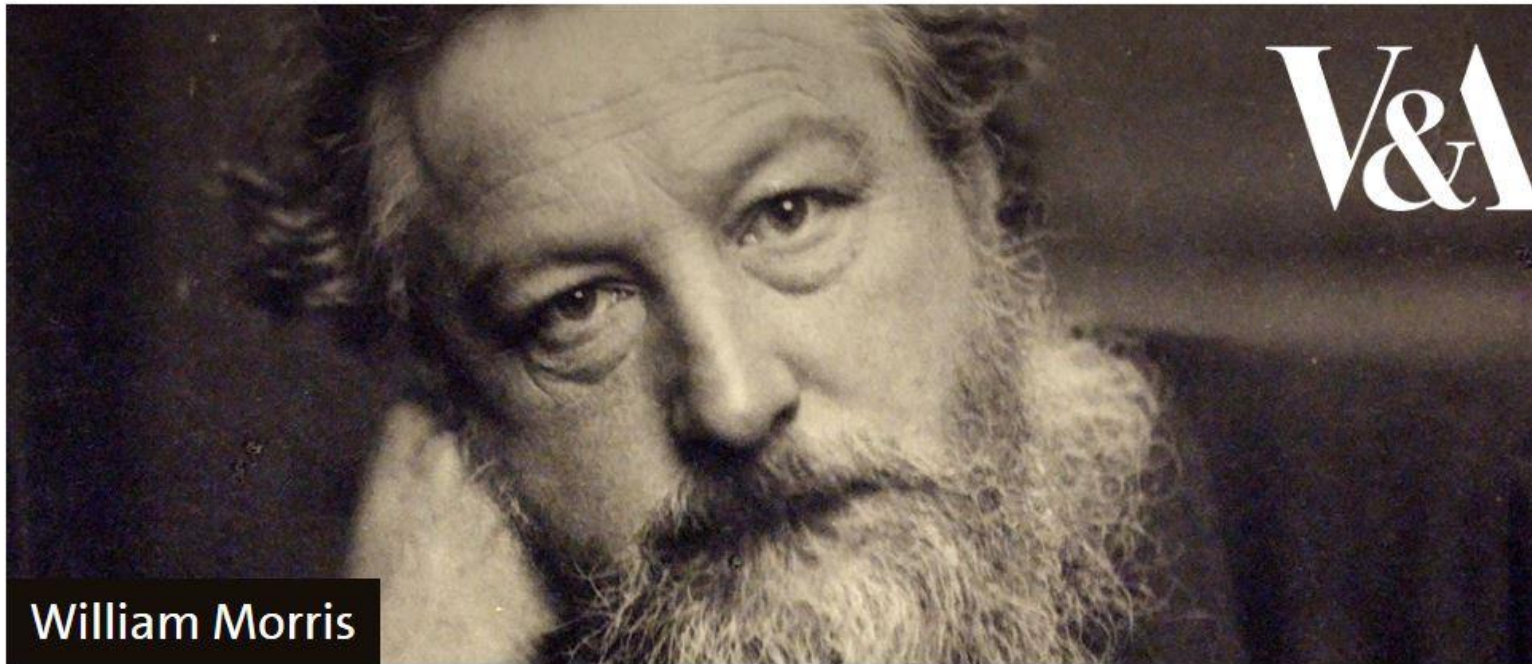
Stanley Spencer, "View from Cookham Bridge," 1936



Paul Nash, "Wittenham Clumps, Dorchester-on-Thames," 1912

—Art





William Morris

William Morris (24 March 1834 – 3 October 1896) was an English textile designer, artist, writer, and socialist associated with the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood and the English Arts and Crafts Movement. The V&A holds an extensive collection of wallpaper, textile and tile designs.



Biography of William Morris



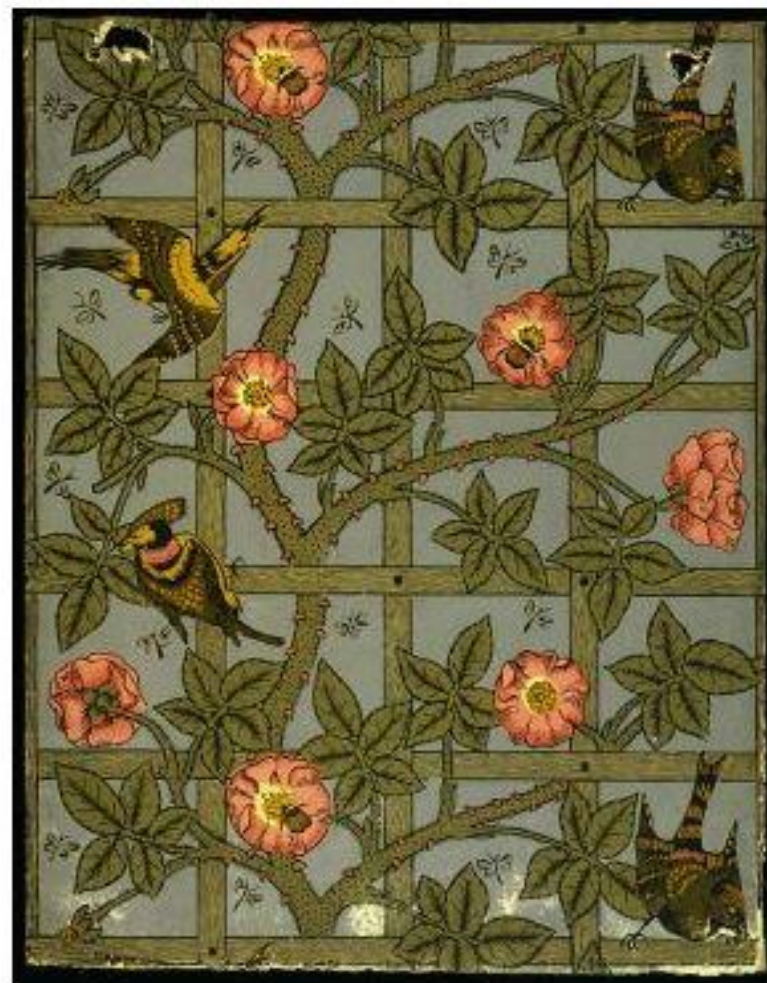
William Morris & Wallpaper Design

Interactive Map



William Morris & Wallpaper Design

Morris's name and reputation are indissolubly linked to wallpaper design, but there is a tendency to over-estimate the influence he had in this field, at least in his own lifetime. In fact, despite his much repeated belief in 'art for all', his wallpapers, like most of the products of Morris & Co., were hand-made and expensive, and consequently had a relatively limited take-up. His papers were slow to find a market beyond fellow artists, and were positively disliked by some influential figures, such as Oscar Wilde. However, he has had a long-lived effect on wallpaper design and consumption, creating designs which have enjoyed lasting appeal.

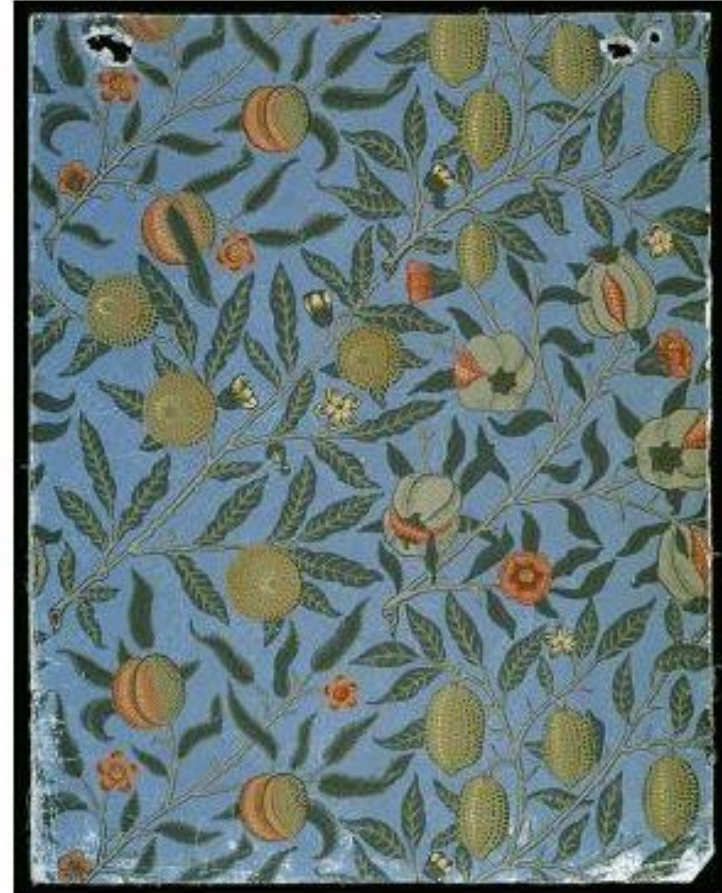


'Trellis' woodblock printed wallpaper, by William Morris, England, 1864. Museum no. E.452-1919, © Victoria & Albert Museum, London

'any decoration is futile ... when it does not remind you of something beyond itself.'



'Daisy' wallpaper by William Morris, 1864. Museum no. E.443-1919, © Victoria & Albert Museum, London



'Fruit' (or 'Pomegranate') wallpaper, by William Morris, 1866. Museum no. E.447-1919. © Victoria & Albert Museum, London

Nature as inspiration





Joseph Mallord William Turner

London from Greenwich Park

exhibited 1809





Joseph Mallord William Turner
(1775–1851)

**Rain, Steam and Speed – The
Great Western Railway, 1844**

A steam engine advances across a bridge in the rain. In front of the train, a hare runs for cover. The scene has been identified as the railway bridge over the Thames at Maidenhead. The picture demonstrates Turner's ability to capture atmospheric effects in paint.

Oil on canvas

NG538. Turner Bequest, 1856

1075 ·)))

THE GREAT WINDS
BY J.M.W. TURNER
1843









THE GREAT WATERS
BY J.M.W. TURNER
1844



Joseph Mallord William Turner
(1775–1851)

**The Fighting Temeraire tugged to
her Last Berth to be broken up, 1838,
1839**

The painting depicts the last journey of the *Temeraire*, a famous warship sold by the Royal Navy in 1838. It was towed up the Thames from Sheerness in Kent to a ship-breaker's yard in Rotherhithe, South London. Turner contrasts the veteran ship, seen against the setting sun, with the modern steam-propelled tug.

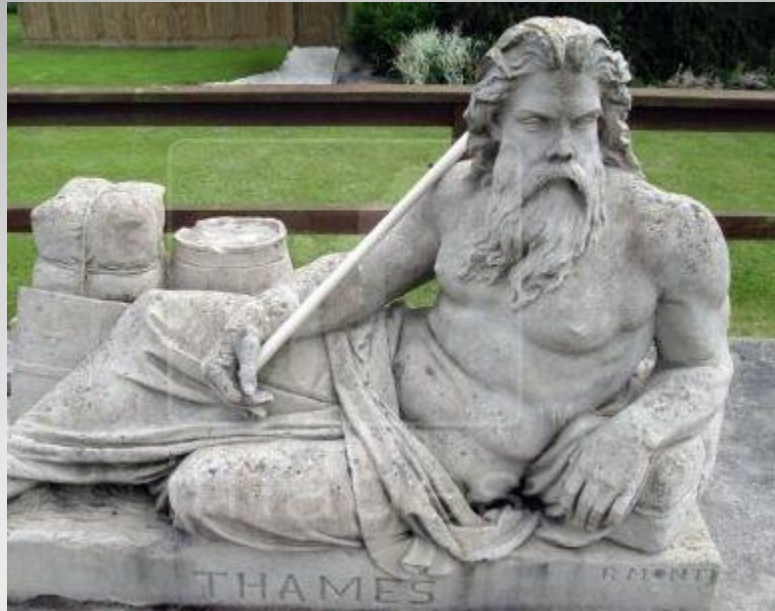
Oil on canvas

NG524. Turner Bequest, 1856



1074)))

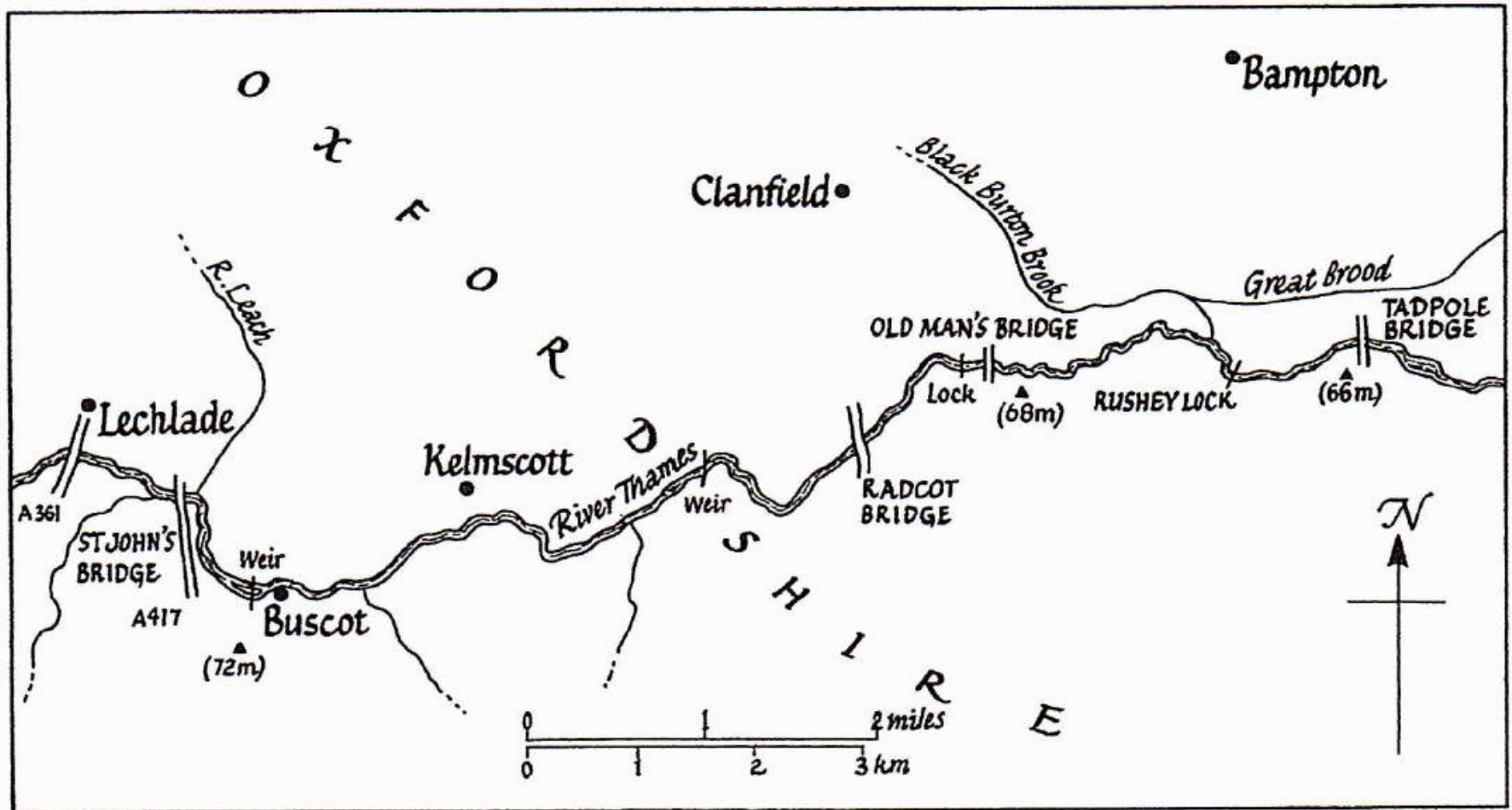




Any questions

for Old Father Thames?

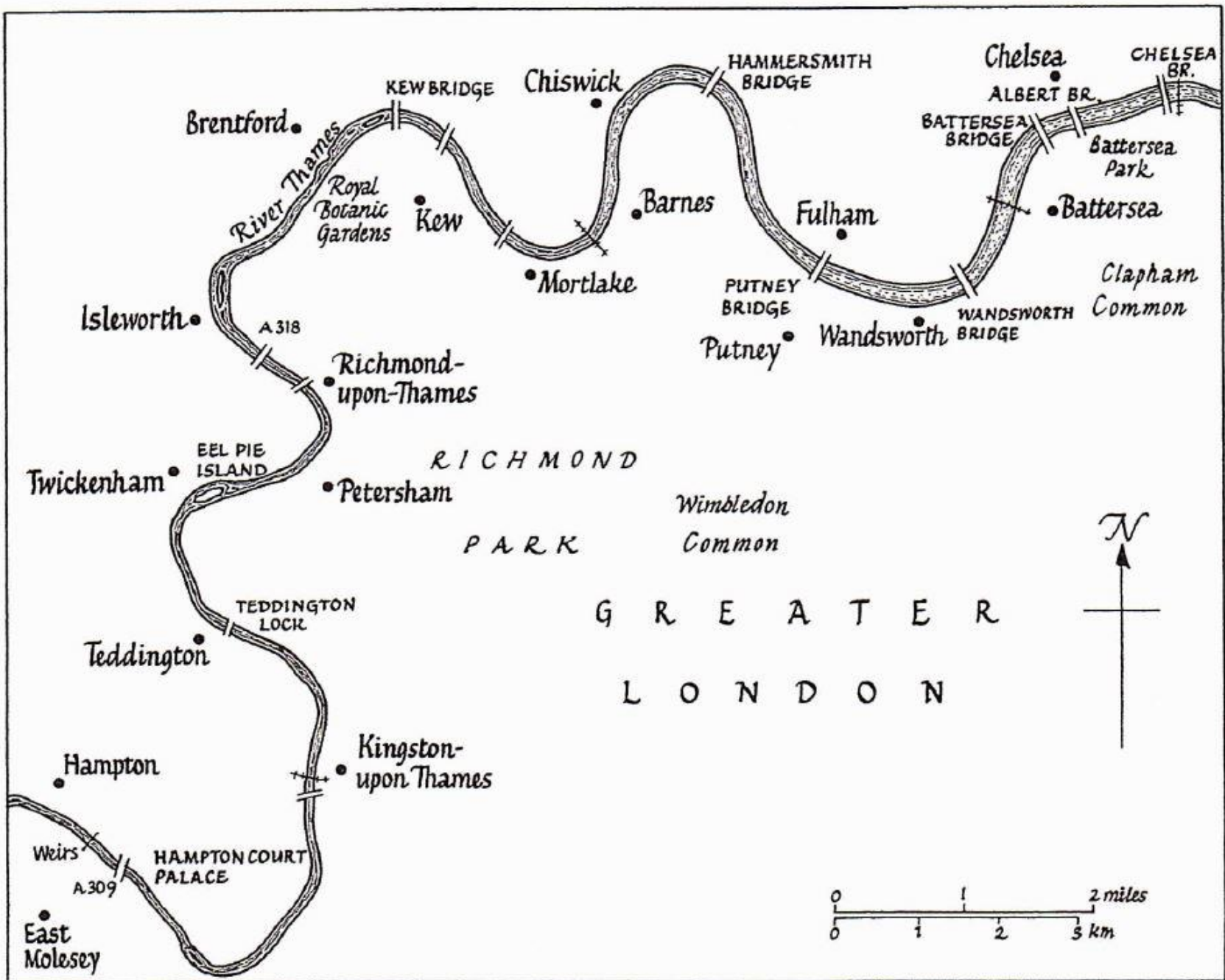
A surprise around every bend.....



A day's walk, Lechlade to the Tadpole Bridge

—LONDON: a multitude of themes, topics, sights and subjects.





Brentford.

KEW BRIDGE

Chiswick

HAMMERSMITH BRIDGE

Chelsea

CHELSEA BR.

Royal Botanic Gardens

Kew

Barnes

Fulham

BATTERSEA BRIDGE

ALBERT BR.

Battersea Park

Battersea

Mortlake

PUTNEY BRIDGE

Putney

Wandsworth

WANDSWORTH BRIDGE

Clapham Common

Isleworth

A 318

Richmond-upon-Thames

Twickenham

EEL PIE ISLAND

Petersham

RICHMOND

Wimbledon

PARK

Common

G R E A T E R

L O N D O N

TEDDINGTON LOCK

Teddington

Hampton

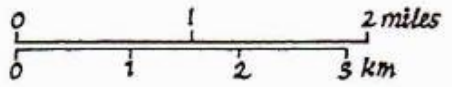
Kingston-upon-Thames

Weirs

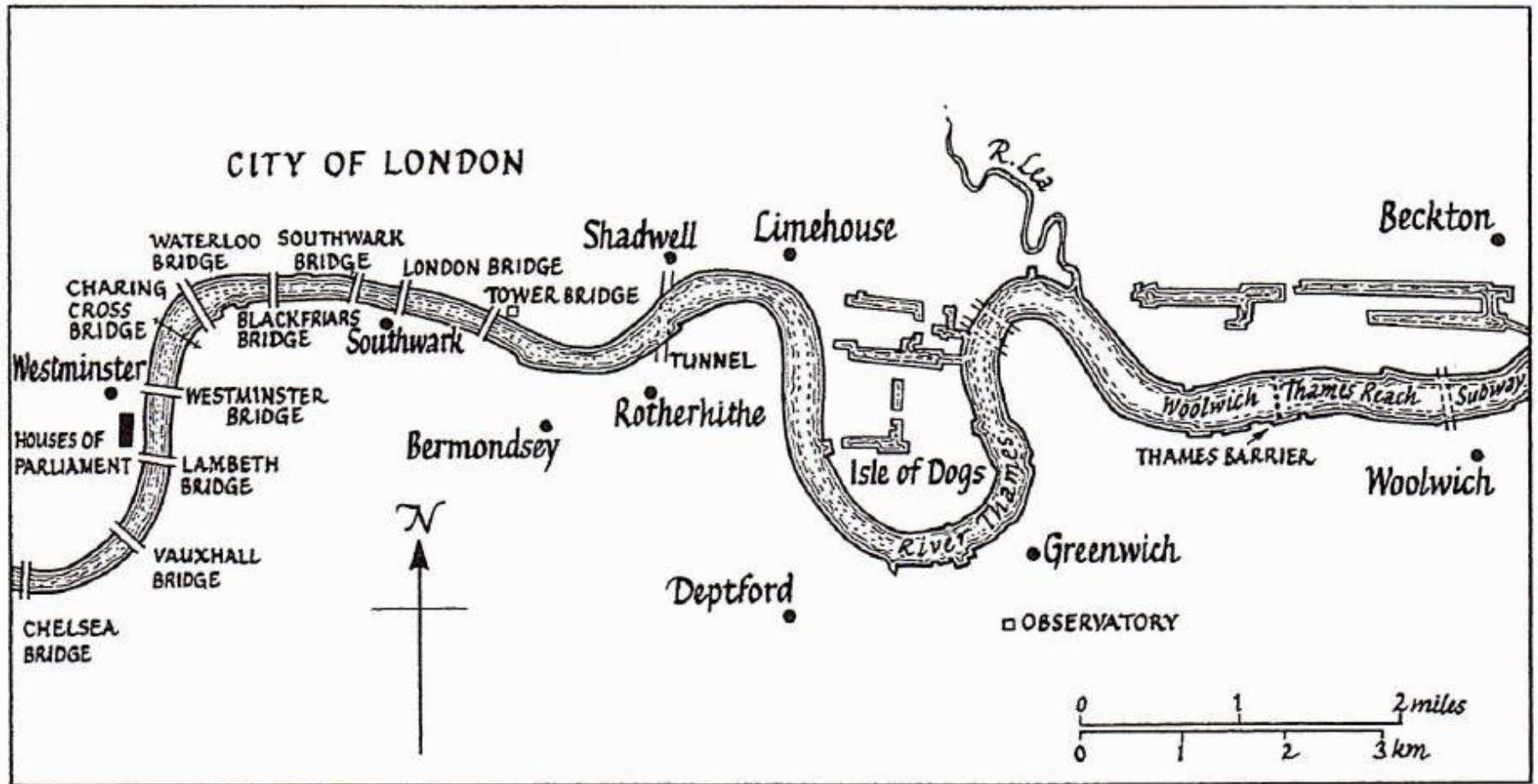
HAMPTON COURT PALACE

A.309

East Molesey

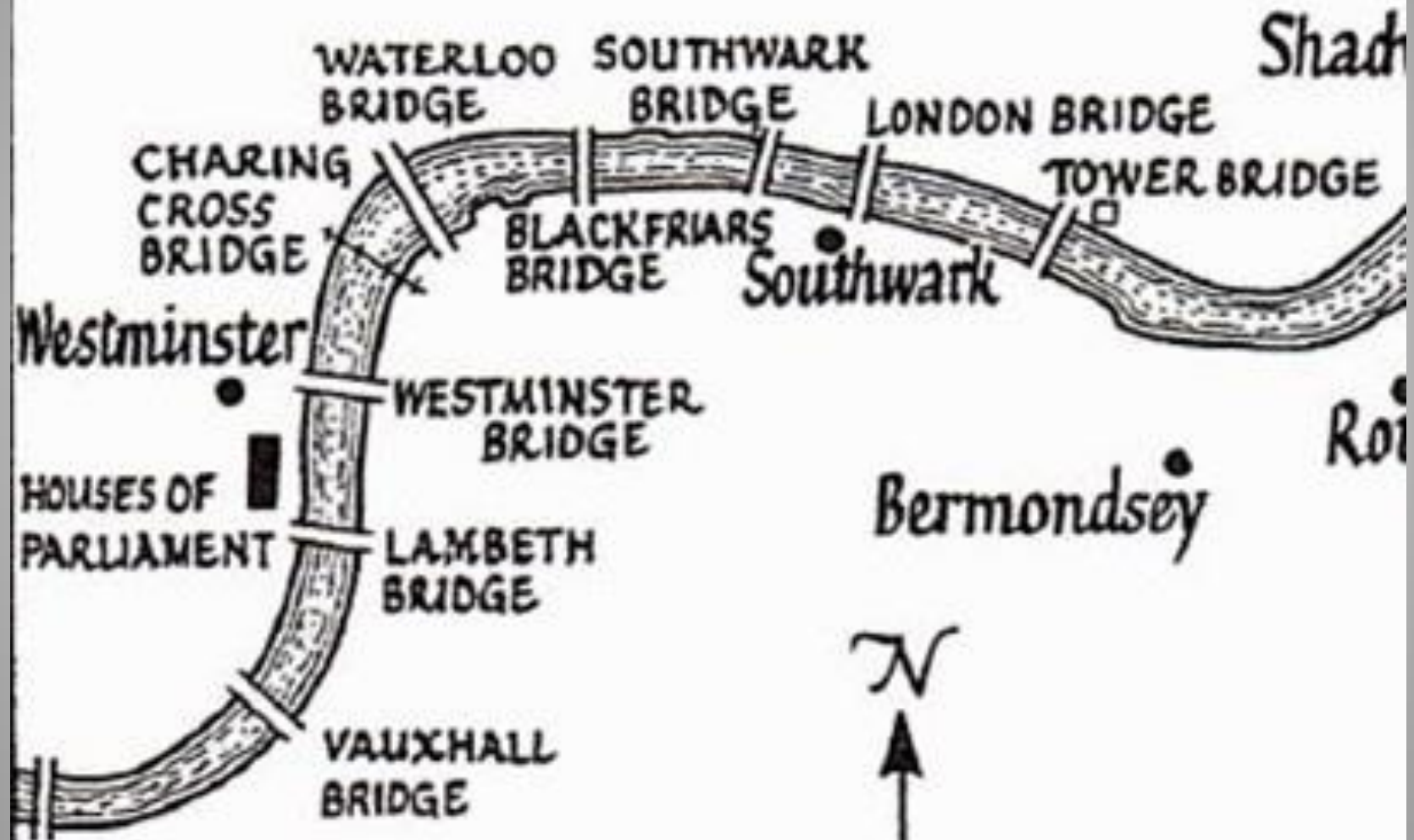


—LONDON: a multitude of themes, topics, sights and subjects.





CITY OF LONDON



A wonderful 4-mile walk: from Vauxhall Bridge to Tower Bridge, through the heart of London.

—LONDON: a multitude of themes, topics, sights and subjects.





The new “East End:” Canary Wharf and the O2.

GREENWICH





The Thames Barrier— flood-control system

—East of London: history, industry; from pollution to clean water

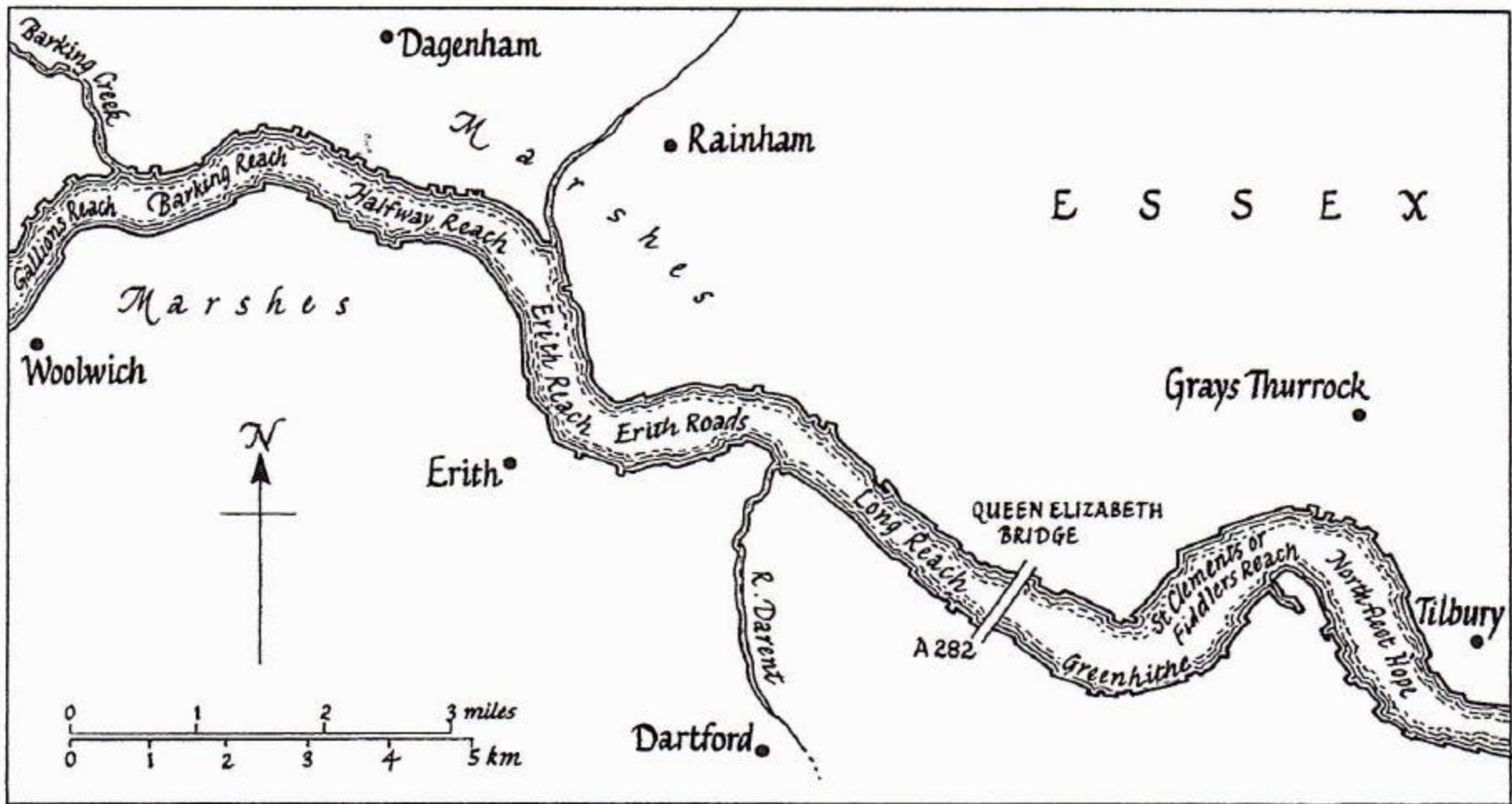


—East of London: history, industry; from pollution to clean water

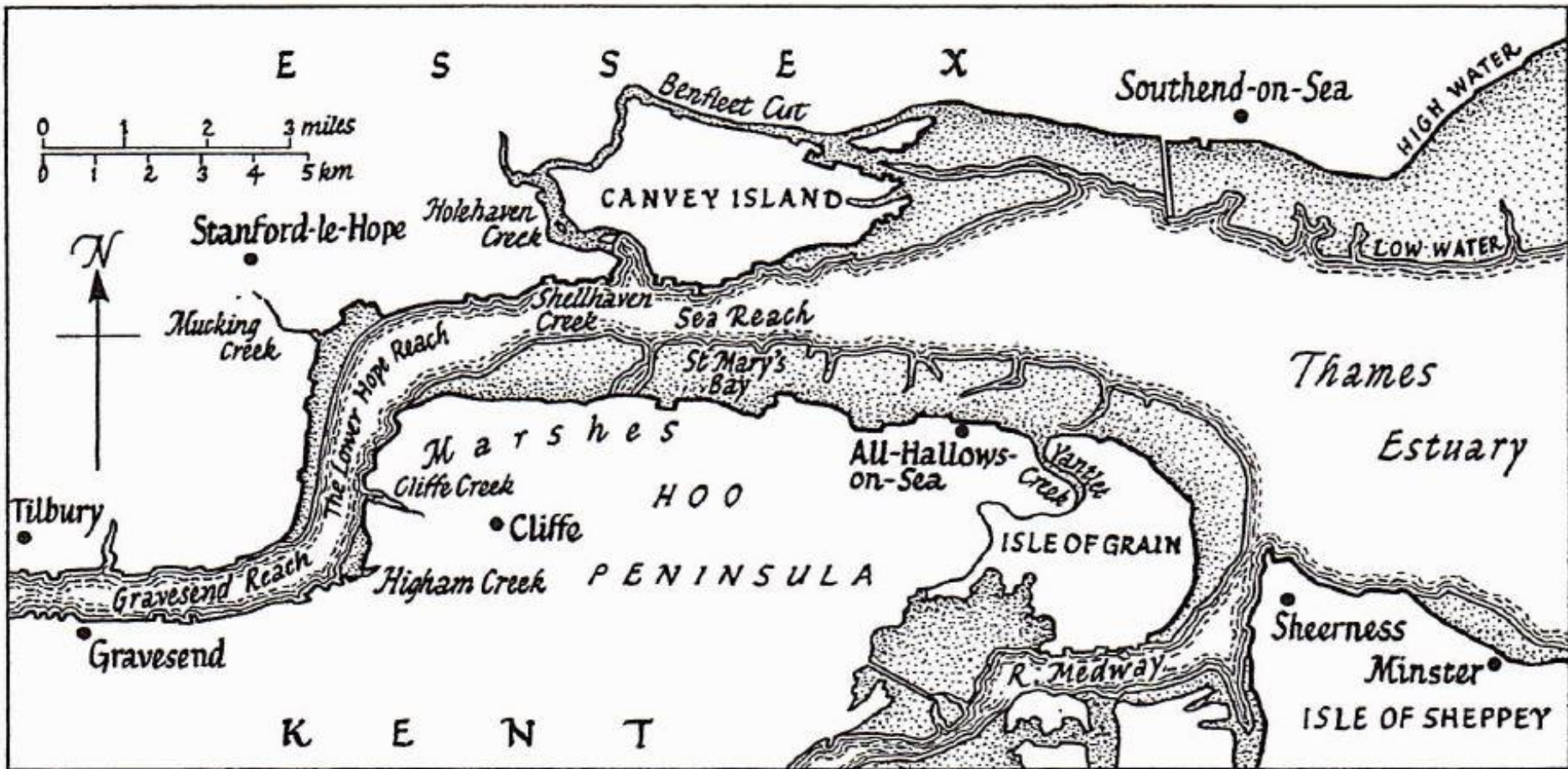


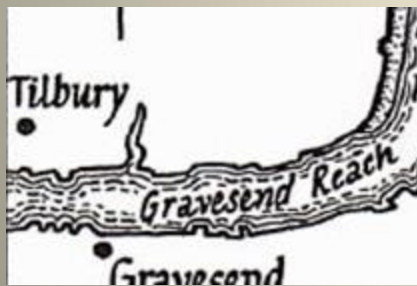






—History





The Queen's speech to her troops at Tilbury, 1588



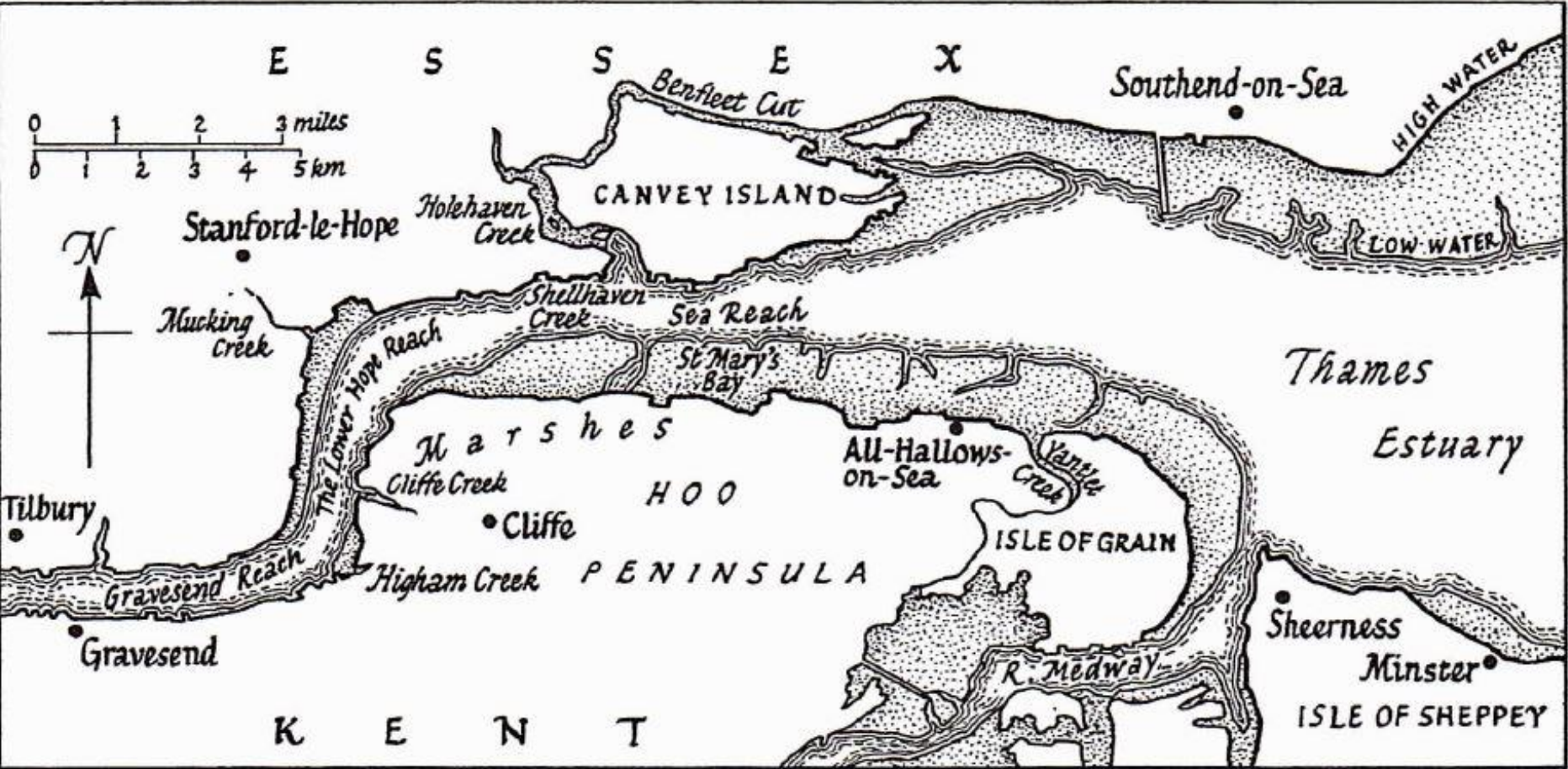
**The Queen's speech to her
troops at Tilbury, 1588**





Rebecca Rolfe

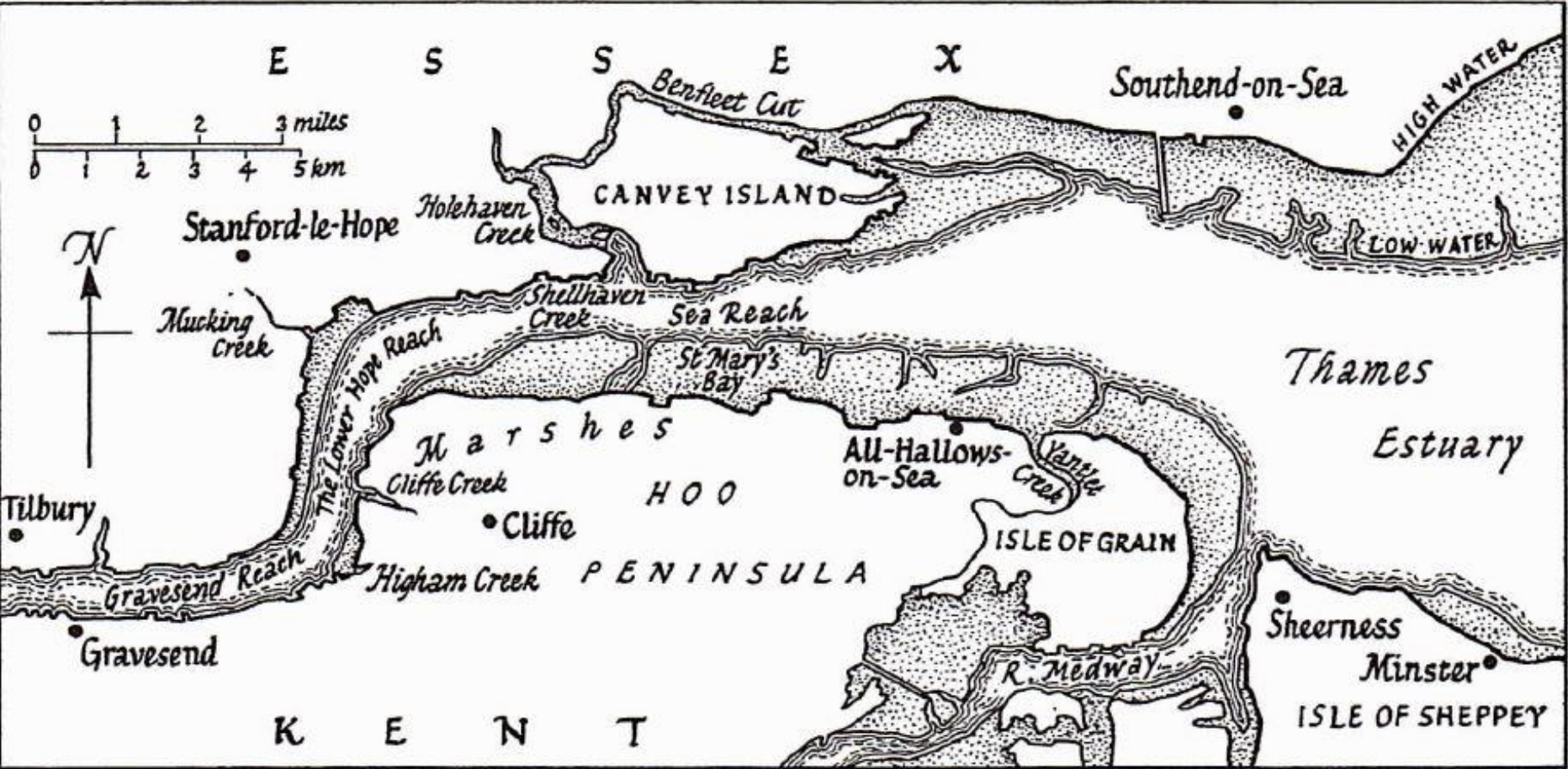
...born Matoaka, nicknamed Pocahontas. Died and buried here, 1617.

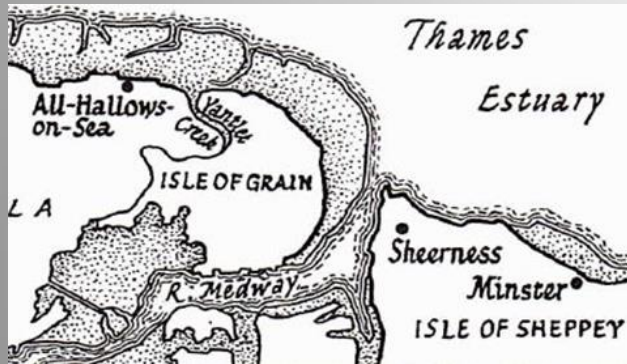


“Great Expectations” by Charles Dickens

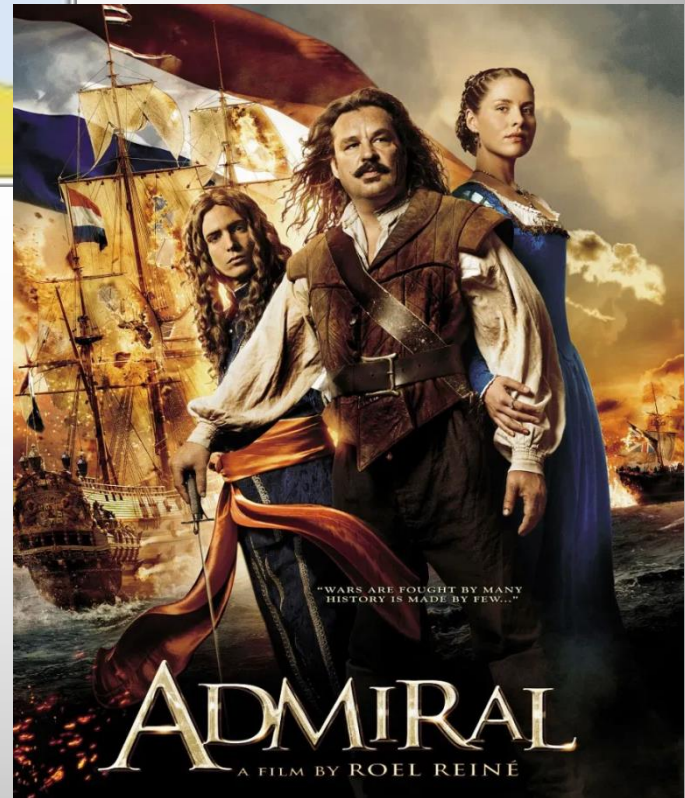
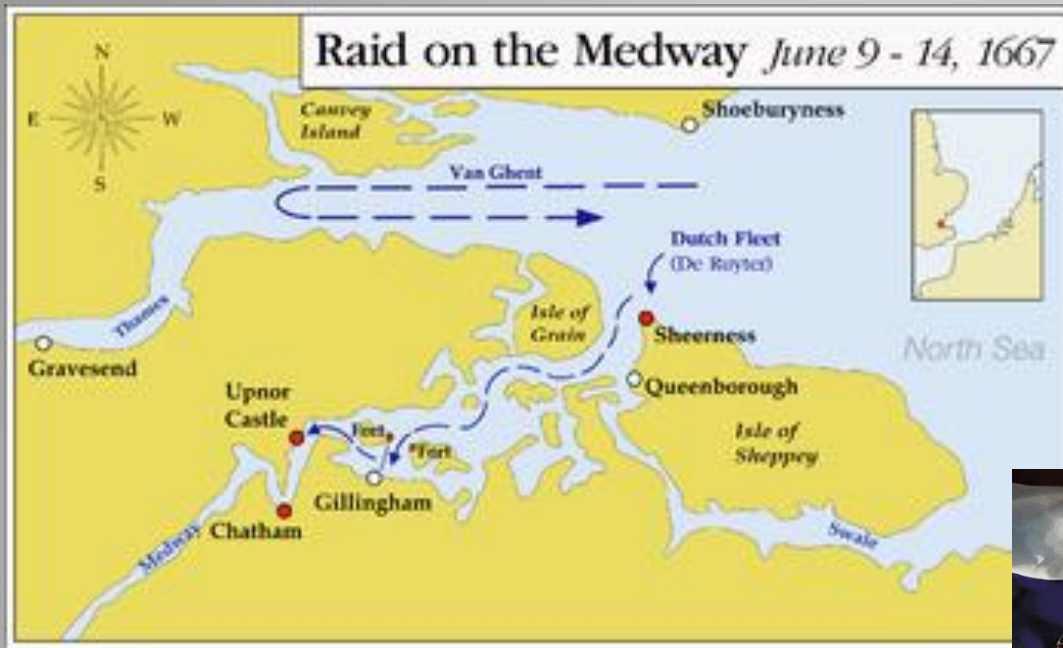
Opening scene







The Dutch in the Medway, 1667





Capture of the “Royal Charles,”

Flagship of the English Navy



Sternpost of the “Royal Charles,”

...now in the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam



0 6 miles
0 10 kilometres

200-400'
0-200'

THE GREATER THAMES ESTUARY



LONDON



ESSEX

HARWICH

Brightlingsea

Clacton-on-Sea

Jaywick

Maldon

Bradwell-on-Sea

South Woodham Ferrers

Burnham-on-Crouch

RAYLEIGH

Foulness Island

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA

River Thames

Sheerness

GRAVESEND

CHATHAM

The Swale

SITTINGBOURNE

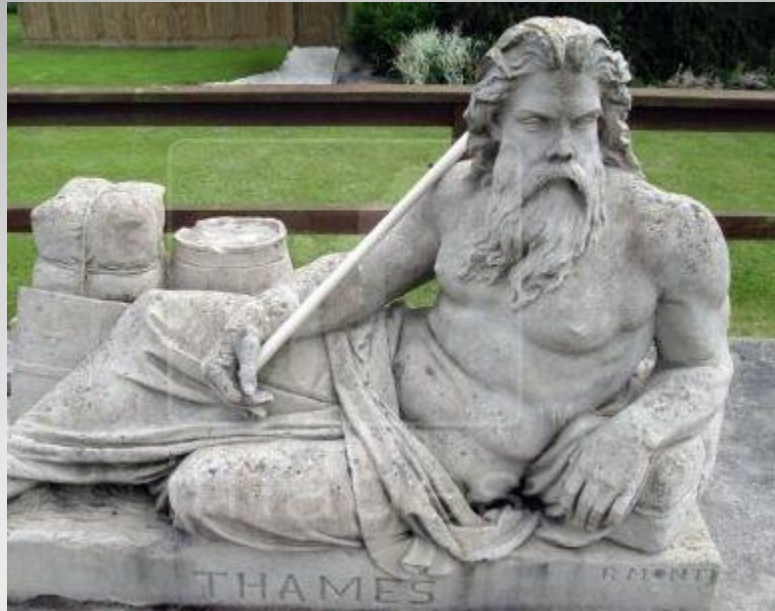


The London Stone



**The Isle of Sheppey, east end....
From the Thames to the English Channel.**





Any questions

for Old Father Thames?







