

## 17. Early Maps of the Romney Marsh area

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### Introduction

This list includes the earliest known maps. For innumerable later maps see the catalogues in the British Museum Map Room (which includes maps kept in the Map Room and in the Manuscripts Dept.); the Public Record Office at Chancery Lane and at Kew; the East Sussex Record Office; and the Kent Archives Office. For a list of maps of the Rother valleys and some of Rye Harbour 1590–1738 see Eddison 1988.

Attention is also drawn to the sets of maps of the Waterings of Romney Marsh proper, in the Kent Archives Office:

- 1) 1652 – c. 1654. Thomas Boycott, Thomas Ramsden and John Beale (12 maps).
- 2) 1705. Samuel Newman and Francis Hill (3 maps).
- 3) 1721. Jared Hill (2 maps).
- 4) c. 1759–1763. Thomas Hogben, volume of 19 maps.
- 5) 1759–1766. Thomas Hogben (14 maps).

All the entries are manuscript maps except where stated otherwise. Where the map has a formal title, this is given first, sometimes in abbreviated form. In some cases place names are given, to indicate the outside limits of the map.

Abbreviations used are as follows:

BL British Library  
ESRO East Sussex Record Office  
KAO Kent Archives Office  
PRO Public Record Office

### Maps

1537 Playden and Guldeford, Brenzett and Brookland (parts of). Pictorial plan. PRO MPF 61 (Chancery Lane).

c. 1572 Rye and its harbour. John Prowez. Annexed to a petition of 1595, but the date given here follows the ESRO Rye catalogue. PRO MPF 212 (Chancery Lane).

n.d. (on state of Guldeford innings, mid-16th century) Manor of Higham and Hundred of Goldspore, including Guldeford (inned marsh and salts), Broomhill (inned marsh and salts), Camber Castle and New Winchelsea. Surveyor unknown. All Souls College, Oxford CTM 417a/1.

1589 Several small parcels of land in the parishes of Ivychurch, Brookland and Appledore. Property map. Thomas Clerke. All Souls College, Oxford CTM 417a/5. Also a similar map by T. Clerke: All Souls College Hov. Map III.12.

1589 Manor of Scotney in the parishes of Lydd and Broomhill. Property map. Thomas Clerke of Stamford. All Souls College, Oxford

CTM 226/64. Also a similar map by T. Clerke, All Souls College Hov. Map III.8.

1589 Several small parcels of land in Ivychurch, Hope and Appledore. Property map. Thomas Langdon, according to the plot of Thomas Clerke. All Souls College CTM 50/59.

1589 Manor of Googie Hall (TR 039294) together with adjacent lands called Swanscome, in the parish of Newchurch. Property map. Thomas Clerke of Stamford. All Souls College, Oxford CTM 417a/4. Also a similar map by Clerke: All Souls College Hov. Map III.9.

1589 Land in Midley called Newlands. Property map. Thomas Clerke. All Souls College, Oxford CTM 417a/2. Also a similar map by Clerke: All Souls College Hov. Map III.10.

1589 Romney and Hope. Thomas Clerke. Property map. All Souls College Hov. Map III.11.

1591 The town of Rye. Winchelsea, Udimore, Northiam, Beckley and Peasmarsh. PRO MPF 3 (Chancery Lane).

1591 Intended improvements to the port of Rye. Gedeviso Gienuily (otherwise Gedivilo, Genibelli or Jenabell). ESRO Rye 47/45.

1592 Romney Marsh proper (i.e. north of Rhee Wall). Illustrating sea defence and land drainage. Surveyor unknown (? T.Langdon). All Souls College, Oxford CTM 417a/6. See also All Souls College Hov. Map III.13 and BL Cotton Augustus 1 i 24. Also a copy, KAO S/Rm P8.

n.d. (?late 16th c.). North Walland, South Walland and Dengemarsh. All the marshland south of the Rhee Wall, to Camber Castle, Rye and the Appledore Channel, also part of the Appledore Dowles. Sea defence and land drainage map, illustrating waterings. Thomas Gull. All Souls College, Oxford CTM 226a/65a.

n.d. (? 1592) another map, similar to the above, surveyor unknown (?T.Langdon). All Souls College, Oxford Hov. Map III.14.

1594 The decayed Harbrough of Rye, with the courses ..... of the fresh waters ..... Rye Harbour, Rother Levels, Walland and Romney Marshes. Philip Symondson. Original in Rye Town Hall. Photograph: ESRO Rye 132/6.

1596 Kent. Philip Symondson. OS facsimile reprint of printed edition of Stent, c. 1650. Kent County Library, local studies section, map 16/10.

1599 Romney and Walland Marshes and Rother Levels. Hastings, Bodiam, Biddenden, West Hythe. Particular interest in the watercourses and their outfalls. John Stoneham. Original(?) Hastings Museum MA 189. Copies ESRO Rye 132/7,8.

temp. Eliz.I. Romney and Walland Marsh and Rother Levels. BL Cotton Augustus 1 i 25. Reduced negative ESRO Rye 132/9. This map is reproduced in Dugdale, 1662 and Harris, 1719.

c. 1600 River Rother, Robertsbridge, Hastings and Lydd. BL Cotton Augustus 1 i 63. Reduced negative ESRO Rye 132/10.

1610 Printed map of Sussex. John Norden. ESRO Rye 132/11.

1611 Printed map of Kent. John Speed. Kent County Library, local studies section.

1614 Lands in Romney Marsh and Walland Marsh known as Spitleland, in the parishes of New Romney, Old Romney, Ivychurch and Snargate held by Magdalen College and formerly held by the late chapel of St. Stephen and St. Thomas at New Romney. William Webb. Magdalen College, Oxford, Maps 24. KAO U1823 P84 is a copy, c. 1930, of the four plots in New Romney.

1617 Romney and Walland Marshes. Matthew Poker. KAO U1823 P2 (Cock, 1930).

The better known edition of this map, printed by James Cole c. 1737, is given in the Soil Survey Memoir (Green 1968). See also ESRO Rye 132/13,14 and Kent County Library, local studies section, Map 16/3.

1628 Marsh lands in Iden, Wittersham Level. Ambrose Cogger. Hastings Museum MA 188.

1628 Appledore: Lands of Edward Chute, showing River Rother and Redhill Gutt. KAO Q/Z P1.

## References

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Rother and its estuary and associated drainage problems, 1635–1737. In this volume, chapter 12.

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