

A Guide to Researching the Landscape of Surrey in the Middle Ages

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This guide is a collection of links to online resources useful for the study of medieval landscapes in the historic county of Surrey, be they physical, institutional, or toponymical. All of them are available to use free of charge (although a small number offer additional content for which a subscription fee must be paid).

As lengthy as this guide may be, it is by no means comprehensive. In part this is because it began life as a follow-up to a Surrey Archaeological Society study day about the medieval landscape, with a focus not on medieval towns and villages but on the surrounding manors, farms, fields and other rural institutions — hence why materials that primarily concern the latter have been chosen.

Inevitably, relevant resources have been omitted. Therefore, if readers know of other useful websites and pages, please email her@surreycc.gov.uk and they will be added to a revised version. Please use the same address to ask any questions or report information you may have about aspects of Surrey's historic environment.

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All links working as of 15th April 2020.

Key Resources

Perhaps the single best place to start investigating the medieval landscape of Surrey is **Exploring Surrey's Past** (<https://www.exploringsurreypast.org.uk/>). This integrates the Surrey History Centre catalogue, summary versions of most of entries in the Surrey Historic Environment Record (HER) database, and a multitude of other place- and theme-specific pages. Even a simple search using the field at the top of the homepage can yield a wealth of relevant results to help build up a picture of what is already known about a particular locality and its historic landscape. The Advanced Search button in the top right-hand corner of the homepage allows you to construct a more specific search.

Another rich source of information is the **Surrey Archaeological Society** (SyAS) website (<https://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/>). Notable assets include full PDF versions of all issues of *Surrey History* and the *SyAS Bulletin* (save for the most recent two or three in both cases) and [summaries of fieldwork](#) undertaken by the Society in recent years. A [grey literature database](#) is also available for work carried out by commercial units, many of whose reports are downloadable. Abstracts of all volumes of SyAS's main journal, *Surrey Archaeological Collections* (SyAC), published since 2000 can be accessed via [here](#).

Full PDF versions of every article and note published in the *Surrey Archaeological Collections* (again with the exception of the most recent two volumes) are available to read or download from the **Archaeological Data Service** (ADS, <https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/library/browse/series.xhtml?recordId=1000233>). All volumes in SyAS's discontinued [Research Volume series](#) can also be found on the ADS. (Individual articles relevant to particular themes are cited and linked in a later section.)

Often the best summaries of individual parish and manorial histories are those first published in the early years of the 20th century in *The Victoria History of the County of Surrey* (generally called the *Victoria County History*, or *VCH* for short). These have been reproduced — along with the histories of all of the historic county's monastic houses and most of its other medieval ecclesiastical institutions — in webpage form on the **British History Online** (BHO) website (<https://www.british-history.ac.uk/search/series/vch--surrey>). Digitised versions of most of the original hard-copy *VCH* volumes can also be found online; see below for links. BHO has other useful free county-level resources like the [Gazetteer of Markets and Fairs in England and Wales To 1516](#) (and even more for subscribers who pay an annual fee, although access to this content has been made free until 31st July 2020).

BHO does boast some [historic maps](#), but a much greater offer in this regard can be accessed via a dedicated section of the **National Library of Scotland** website (<https://maps.nls.uk/>). The Find By Place search function is the easiest place to start, but familiarising yourself with the types of maps and the ways in which the database is organised will also pay dividends. Whichever way you go about it, the result will almost certainly be high-quality scans of a range of historic Ordnance Survey maps.

Historical Source-Specific Databases

The following are arranged in roughly chronological order, although inevitably there is some overlap given the diversity of subject matters.

The Electronic Sawyer (<https://esawyer.lib.cam.ac.uk/about/index.html>) is a database of all known “Anglo-Saxon” charters from the 7th to 11th centuries, superseding a 1968 book by Professor Peter Sawyer — hence the database’s name. For those unfamiliar with early medieval charters, good place to start with navigating your way around the database is the [Browse](#) tab, and [Charter Search](#) is another way to see what relates to a particular place or theme.

LangScape (<https://langscape.org.uk/>) presents many (but unfortunately not all) of the boundary clauses found in no small number of Anglo-Saxon-period charters. They describe in various levels of detail the boundaries of the piece or pieces of land that are the subject(s) of the charter in question, and hence provide uniquely-detailed testament of the nature of early medieval landscapes. LangScape allows the texts to be read in a number of ways, including glossed, i.e. with a Modern English translation running beneath the Old English or Latin text. There are also numerous options available via the [Database](#) tab.

Open Domesday (<https://opendomesday.org/>) gives access to digests of the texts and images of the pages of Domesday Book relevant to many Surrey manors/parishes. It does not provide complete translations of Domesday Book entries, meaning sometimes information is omitted (although the vast majority of the contents of the entries for Surrey are reproduced).

The **Manorial Documents Register** (<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/manor-search>) allows for easy searching of online archival catalogue entries pertaining to manorial documents of various types from England and Wales. A bit more background information about it and links to other resources can be found [here](#).

The Taxatio Database (<https://www.dhi.ac.uk/taxatio/>) presents the information contained in the ecclesiastical taxation assessment of 1291-92, also known as the *taxatio* of Pope Nicholas IV. It is of no little interest for the valuations and other details it provides about parish churches (and prebends) across England and Wales at the end of the 13th century.

One of the earliest and most famous maps of Great Britain is the so-called **Gough Map**, probably produced in the latter half of the 14th century, so it’s little wonder it has a website dedicated to it (<http://www.goughmap.org/>). Here a [digitized version of the map](#) can be scrutinized alongside [information](#) about the map.

The Soldier in Late Medieval England (<https://www.medievalsoldier.org/>) is a database that was brought to the attention of the Surrey HER by a recent graduate who came in for some careers advice. It contains the names of men who served as soldiers for the English crown in

the period 1369-1453. The [database](#) can be searched using a large number of criteria; abbreviated forms of place-names (e.g. Gui* for Guildford) are useful for finding Surrey-specific results.

Mapping the Medieval Countryside (<http://www.inquisitionspostmortem.ac.uk/>) is another database arising from an academic research project that studied inquisitions post mortem – the written records of inquiries held at their deaths of tenants-in-chief of the crown to establish what lands they held. They are perhaps the most detailed sources of evidence about the later medieval landscape, on a level with and sometimes superior to Domesday Book, but on the whole less well known. Unfortunately the database is again incomplete; nevertheless even in its present form as a digital edition of all inquisitions post mortem of the period 1399 to 1447 it has a tendency to provide at least one result for a search of a place-name or that of a particular landholding family.

Guides to Documentary Sources Relevant to Medieval Landscapes

Surrey History Centre

The History Centre has a mass of online research guidance accessible via the [Archives and History Research Guides](#) page of its website. These include ones covering [manorial records](#) and the [Loseley manuscripts](#) — both encompass significant medieval elements. Particularly handy from a landscape research perspective, meanwhile, are the guides about [Enclosure Maps and Awards](#) and [Tithe Maps and Apportionments](#).

The National Archives

There are a mind-boggling 385 [research guides](#) on The National Archives website that cover all manner of topics, from medieval pipe rolls to [inquisitions post mortem](#) to [maps and plans](#) (and much, much more besides).

University of Nottingham Manuscripts and Special Collections

The [Research Guidance](#) provided by the University of Nottingham may overlap in subject matter with the above, but is very well written and can help answer queries on everything from [archive jargon-busting](#) to series on [Reading and Understanding Medieval Documents](#) and [Deeds in Depth](#) that will teach you how to tell a feoffment from a final concord.

Medieval Language Resources

There is a great range of online reference resources for both Medieval Latin and pre-modern forms of English. A word of caution; some of the following are quite “technical” and can

require a level of prior familiarity with the language in question in order to get the best out of it as a research tool.

Medieval Latin

The obvious starting point is the **Dictionary of Medieval Latin from British and Irish Sources** (<http://www.dmlbs.ox.ac.uk/web/online.html>). The full-fat version requires a subscription, but a free version that allows headwords to be searched can be accessed at <https://logeion.uchicago.edu/lexidium>.

In original written texts, Medieval Latin words tended to be abbreviated. Because the abbreviations used served to shorten parts rather than entire words, they tended to conform to generally-accepted conventions (instead of being the innovations of individual scribes). The benchmark work for deciphering the many abbreviations to be found in Medieval Latin manuscripts is Adriano Cappelli's 1899 *Lexicon abbreviaturarum*, a PDF of which has been made available by the University of Kansas and can be accessed [here](#).

Old English

As good a place as any to start is with **Online Bosworth Toller** (<http://bosworth.ff.cuni.cz>), a 21st-century version of what since the 19th century has been one of the most important dictionaries of the language compiled. This will be superseded by the Dictionary of Old English (<https://www.doe.utoronto.ca/pages/index.html>), currently completed as far as the letter / and available via subscription – although there is an option to sign up for free access, allowing the user 20 free logins every year.

For another perspective on the vocabulary of Old English, the **Thesaurus of Old English** (<https://oldenglishthesaurus.arts.gla.ac.uk>) is very handy, although it too isn't the most straightforward site for beginners to use. However, a bit of persistence will surely have its rewards!

Middle English

The **Middle English Compendium** is great – above all the **Middle English Dictionary** (<https://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/middle-english-dictionary/dictionary>). It is rather more user-friendly for the beginner than the above-mentioned Old English resources, as the word search field is preceded by a drop-down menu that allows searches against Modern English word equivalents and definitions (among other things).

The **English Dialect Dictionary** (<http://eddonline-proj.uibk.ac.at/edd/termsOfUse.jsp>) is another online version of a much older printed work (Joseph Wright's *English Dialect Dictionary*). It's tricky to get to grips with, but with perseverance offers a lot to anyone interested in local dialects.

Place-Names

Toponyms cut across most if not all of the above languages (plus others like Brittonic and Anglo-Norman). The **Key to English Place-Names** (<http://kepn.nottingham.ac.uk/>) provides currently-accepted etymologies of major place-names, i.e. those of parishes and other significant places. A shortcut to an interactive map of names it covers in Surrey is [here](#).

Surrey Place-Name and Dialect Studies Articles

The following is a non-comprehensive list of articles on Surrey-related names and dialect topics. Some are by non-specialists, who combined deep local knowledge with due respect for the process of historic names study to produce high-quality and robust interpretations.

Granville Leveson-Gower, 'Surrey Etymologies. Tandridge Hundred', *SyAC*, **6** (1874), 78-108 ([link](#)) and 'Surrey Etymologies. Tandridge Hundred. Part II', *SyAC*, **6** (1874), 127-228 ([link](#))

Arthur Bonner, 'Surrey Place-Names', *SyAC*, **36** (1925), 85-101 ([link](#))

R. N. Bloxham, 'On some Minor Place-names in Ockham and Wisley', *SyAC*, **60** (1963), 55-62 ([link](#))

John McNeil Dodgson, 'The significance of the distribution of the English place-name in -ingas, -inga- in south-east England', *Medieval Archaeology*, **10** (1966), 1-29 ([link](#))

Joan Wakeford, 'Two *walh* names in the fields of Kingston', *SyAC*, **75** (1984), 251-56 ([link](#))

David North, 'Surrey dialect research', *SyAC*, **77** (1986), 153-62 ([link](#))

Roger Ellaby, 'Horley revisited: reflections on the place-name of a Wealden settlement', *SyAC*, **95** (2010), 271-79 ([link](#))

Rob Briggs, 'Dorking, Surrey', *Journal of the English Place-Name Society*, **50** (2018), 18-54 ([link](#))

Some Surrey Archaeological Collections Medieval Highlights

Archaeology

The institution of the **manorial/demesne centre** is manifested archaeologically in a broad range of examples, from the palatial to the humble. A surprising number of later medieval manor sites, often moated, have been subject to archaeological investigation: [Lagham near South Godstone](#) (surrounded by an exceptionally large moat that is doubtless the result of a 1262 licence to crenellate), [Manor Farm on the edge of Guildford](#) (the royal manor house at the centre of Guildford Park), [South Park Farm near Grayswood](#), [Hope Cottage in Egham](#) and [East Shalford](#). Also the 12th- to 14th-century building excavated in [Henley Wood, Chelsham](#) that is of manorial quality but cannot be satisfactorily squared with the documentary records of the period.

Of the **lower-status settlement sites** at which archaeological work has been undertaken, the deserted farmsteads site in [Woodlands Field, Earlswood](#) and [General's Grove near Godstone](#) may be taken as typical. The [moated priest's house at Burstow](#) (as an added bonus, a scholarly account of the place-name is appended) and a destroyed moated site [near Moat Farm, Hookwood](#) that may well never have been of any particular significance in an "institutional" sense underscore the morphological diversity of sub-manorial rural habitation sites. Dennis Turner produced a [provisional list of moated sites in Surrey](#) that was published in 1977; a fully revised list, ideally based on a dedicated research project, is desperately needed.

Transitioning from settlements to places of rural production, Mark Service's 2010 article provides a historical geographical analysis of the [landholdings of Waverley Abbey](#) that could be replicated for other monastic houses with extensive landholdings in Surrey. A few years prior, the late Chris Currie authored this [article](#) on medieval (and later) fishponds in the county that shows we need to think beyond farms and fields when considering the infrastructure of how people were fed in Surrey in the middle ages.

The study of medieval **field systems** is a necessary endeavour to understanding the rural landscape of Surrey in the middle ages, but unfortunately for most lacks the appeal of rural settlement archaeology. [This 1973 paper](#) remains the best introduction to them at a county level, although is now over 45 years old and the subject is in great need of revisiting.

Lastly, no small number of non-agricultural **rural industrial sites** have been discovered. Medieval ceramics production sites have been investigated archaeologically, including pottery kilns at [Clacket Lane, Titsey](#) (the subject of a permanent display in the motorway services of the same name) and [Bushfield Shaw, Earlswood](#), and a tile kiln in [Farnham Park](#). So too have a number of Wealden glass-houses, i.e. glassmaking sites, such as at [Blunden's Wood, Hambledon](#) and [Frome Copse, Chiddingfold](#).

History

Mary Saaler wrote two important synopses using manorial records for [Farleigh](#) and [Tillingdown](#) in the 14th century, including statistical analysis alongside more traditional textual interpretation. These joined previous analyses of manorial records from [Oxted](#), [Banstead](#), and [Chipstead](#), and show East Surrey has been well served by historians interested in medieval manorial records.

Late medieval wills proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, which include all sorts of details about the possessions and connections of the deceased as well as place- and field-name spellings, were covered in two articles by Hilda J. Hooper published in [1950](#) and [1952](#).

For exemplifications of what can result from detailed expert research into a rich set of medieval documentary records, see Prof John Blair's 1980 study of the [pre-1200 Surrey endowments of Lewes Priory](#) (and its later [addendum](#)), and Dr Mark Page's more recent article '[The peasant land market on the bishop of Winchester's manor of Farnham, 1263-1349](#)'. Roger Ellaby's study tracing the [Wealden dennis of Merstham](#) over the course of several centuries takes a longer-term view. But even a [solitary charter](#) can reveal a great deal.

Five More Studies Relevant to Surrey's Medieval Landscapes

E. M. Yates, 'A Study of Settlement Patterns', *Field Studies Journal*, 1.3 (1961), 65-84 ([link](#)).

A not very well-known study encompassing several parishes along the Tillingbourne and Mole valleys in mid-Surrey. Quite pioneering in its time, both in terms of its scale and interdisciplinary scope, although some of its conclusions are now somewhat dated and should be treated with caution.

Pamela Taylor, 'Domesday Mortlake', *Anglo-Norman Studies*, 32 (2010), 203-230 ([link](#)).

This essay exemplifies how to move beyond the brief statements of facts and figures to be found in a typical Domesday Book entry to build up a picture of how the estate came into being and what kinds of landscapes can be reconstructed from the available evidence (which is richer for Mortlake and surrounding area than for a lot of Surrey parishes, but is by no means exceptional). It also has much to say about other published scholarship on earlier medieval Surrey, offering some useful correctives along the way.

Various, *Medieval Settlement Research Group Annual Report*, 12 (1997) ([link](#)). This journal (now named [Medieval Settlement Research](#)) is always worth perusing, but this volume is especially relevant to Surrey because some of its contents represent papers given at the Group's 1998 Spring Conference held at Royal Holloway in Egham, the theme of which was 'Medieval Settlement in Surrey and Nearby'. The papers by Judie English ('A possible early Wealden settlement type') and Dennis Turner ('Thunderfield, Surrey – Central place or Shieling') are key texts for demonstrating the peculiarities of the Surrey Weald and the challenges of studying its early historic settlement and land-use patterns.

Tim Tatton-Brown, 'The Quarrying and Distribution of Reigate Stone in the Middle Ages', *Medieval Archaeology*, 45 (2001), 189-201 ([link](#)). The industry that grew up around the extraction of stone from the band of Upper Greensand on the scarp slope of the North Downs in the Reigate area was a significant one in the later middle ages. This article provides an excellent synthesis of the historical, architectural and archaeological evidence for Reigate Stone.

Brian Hope-Taylor, 'The excavation of a motte at Abinger in Surrey', *Archaeological Journal*, 107 (1952), 15-43 ([link](#)). The best-known medieval castles in Surrey may be the ones associated with towns (Guildford, Farnham, Reigate), but there were other, lesser examples that existed in rural contexts. This is the published report of the excavation that were conducted on the motte at Abinger sometime in the years after the Second World War. It was pioneering for its day, as Hope-Taylor makes clear in the initial sections of the report. The construction of the motte and the first structure atop it were dated to *circa* 1100 on the strength of pottery sherds found in the excavation; a broader date-range reaching back into the very late 11th century and forward into the early part of the 12th may now be preferred.

Other County, Local and Specialist Medieval Journals

Increasingly, articles and sometimes even full volumes of archaeological and other landscape studies-related journals are being uploaded to the internet for anyone to read and/or download. SyAS has blazed a trail in this regard by making almost all of its publications available via its website. The following relate to counties and areas in the wider region around Surrey or with specific relevance to the middle ages, beginning with those journals that are available via the ADS then moving onto ones that are available via other websites.

What's on ADS

- [**London Archaeologist**](#) (from the very first issue of Winter 1968 to Volume 15(1) published in Summer 2017; it often includes reports on sites and monuments in the parts of southern London that formerly fell within Surrey)
- [**Sussex Archaeological Collections**](#) (currently Volumes 137 to 154 only, but a project is afoot to have all earlier volumes scanned)
- [**Berkshire Archaeological Journal**](#) (previously known as *Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, and Oxfordshire Archaeological Journal*, and before that the *(Quarterly) Transactions of the Berkshire Archaeological and Architectural Society*; currently all issues up to Volume 70 for 1997)
- [**Medieval Archaeology**](#) (the journal of the Society for Medieval Archaeology; it marked its 50th anniversary by making Volumes 1-50 for 1957 to 2006 available for free online)

What's not on ADS

- [**Transactions of London and Middlesex Archaeological Society**](#) (a mix of PDFs of entire volumes and ones of single articles up to Volume 66 for 2015)
- [**Wealden Iron**](#) (journal of the Wealden Iron Research Group, covering Surrey, Sussex and Kent; all volumes published 1969-2018 are available, as are back issues of its twice-yearly *Newsletter*)
- [**Archaeologia Cantiana**](#) (the Kent county archaeological journal, with contents of all volumes up to Volume 138 for 2017; all links are also gathered on [another page](#), but it looks as though this has been superseded and may no longer be updated with new article PDFs)
- [**Hampshire Studies**](#) (previously *Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club*; arrangements are a little more complex than most, with free-to-access PDFs up to and including Volume 70 for 2015 and volumes thereafter available via [online subscription](#) only)

- [*Records of Buckinghamshire*](#) (an non-continuous run of volumes are currently available, from Volumes 1 and 2 of the period 1854-60, through to 25 to 31 from 1983-89)
- [*Oxoniensia*](#) (for Oxford and Oxfordshire; free to access up to Volume 79 for 2014; the contents of more recent volumes are available to subscribers only)
- [*Medieval Ceramics*](#) (the Medieval Pottery Research Group journal, of which all volumes up to Volume 33 for 2012 are available in either single PDFs or divided up by articles)
- [*Nomina*](#) (journal of the Society for Name Studies in Britain and Ireland, covering place- and field-names, but also an array of other topics under the name studies umbrella; PDFs are available for the vast majority of articles and reviews up to Volume 37 for 2014)

Books about Historic Surrey Available Online

County Histories and Topographies

*Surrey is fortunate firstly to have several county histories and topographies written by antiquarian authors of various backgrounds, and secondly that most of them are available to read online. The main exception is Owen Manning and William Bray's three-volume *The History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey*, published between 1801 and 1814, a wonderfully thorough work for its time and so a regrettable absence from online repositories for the time being ([Julian Pooley's 2005 article](#) about how their work was researched and published goes a little way towards compensating for this).*

John Aubrey's five-volume work ***The Natural History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey***, compiled in the 1670s but not published until 1718/19, is in many respects the foundational work for local historical research in Surrey. Complete digitised versions of all volumes are available via Google Books: [Volume 1](#); [Volume 2](#); [Volume 3](#); [Volume 4](#); [Volume 5](#). The context to its eventual publication is set out in [this SyAC article](#).

Nathaniel Salmon's ***Antiquities of Surrey: collected from the most antient records*** is a single-volume study published in 1736. Its coverage is uneven, seemingly dependent on Salmon's own levels of interest in a particular place or topic, but in general provides a wealth of unique insights. Available in full via [Internet Archive](#).

Daniel Lysons was a one-time curate of Putney who compiled ***The Environs of London***, a lengthy parish-by-parish historical study of the hinterland of the capital. The first volume, published in 1792, covers what were the parishes in the north-east quadrant of the county of Surrey that would later be ceded to Greater London. A scanned version of the original printed volume has been made available via [Internet Archive](#), while BHO offers the [full text](#) and illustrations split into separate pages, one for each parish.

George A. Cooke first published his ***A Topographical and Statistical Description of the County of Surrey*** in 1810. A new edition followed in 1830. It is a very derivative work, borrowing heavily from Aubrey and seemingly to a degree from Manning and Bray as well (although to be charitable this may be because he was working around the same time as them and so using the same sources). The 1830 edition of Cooke's book is available via [Google Books](#).

Edward Wedlake Brayley published his five-volume ***A Topographical History of Surrey*** between 1841 and 1850. He borrowed a lot from previous works, but at the same time his work provides plenty of novel contributions from the early part of the mid-19th century. Full digitised versions are available from both Internet Archive ([Volume 1](#); [Volume 2](#); [Volume 3](#); [Volume 4](#); [Volume 5](#)) and Google Books ([Volume 1](#); [Volume 2](#); [Volume 3](#); [Volume 4](#); [Volume 5](#)).

Although perhaps not strictly within the thematic parameters of this guide, Arthur Hussey's 1852 ***Notes on the Churches in the Counties of Kent, Sussex and Surrey*** is another work rich

in mid-19th century detail — all the more valuable as it describes many of the churches in their states not long before many were subject to often-drastic “restorations” that obliterated medieval fabric and features. The lengths of his accounts do vary, so some churches are described more fully than others. Available via [Google Books](#); the chapter on Surrey begins on page 313 and runs to page 346.

Henry Elliot Malden is perhaps best known for being the editor of the *Victoria History of the County of Surrey* — introduced much earlier in this guide — but he earlier published **A History of Surrey** (1900). Unlike the works listed above, it eschews a parish-by-parish format and instead provides a chronological account of the development of Surrey. It can be accessed online via the Internet Archive [here](#), as can full versions of the first three VCH Surrey volumes: [Volume 1](#) (general introduction to Surrey); [Volume 2](#) (religious houses plus Farnham Hundred); [Volume 3](#) (most of the Hundreds and parishes in the west and southern portions of the historic county). Volume 4 (covering historic east Surrey) unfortunately seems not to have been made available online.

Full Texts of Published Books on Medieval Surrey

In addition to the aforementioned county histories, there are several books publishing Surrey medieval documentary source material in edition or summary that are available via Internet Archive. Most of them were published by the Surrey Record Society (SRS), which continues to produce brilliant editions of original historical sources pertaining to the historic county. More information about the Society and how to join it can be found [here](#), and a list of its currently-available publications is online [here](#).

Pedes finium; or, Fines relating to the county of Surrey, levied in the King's court, from the seventh year of Richard I to the end of the reign of Henry VII, ed. by Frank B. Lewis, **SyAS Extra Volume, 1** (Guildford: SyAS, 1895) ([link](#)). The Feet of Fines are court copies of agreements over property (usually land). Lewis calendared basic details about participants and location(s) of the property in question for every fine for Surrey between the late 12th and early 16th centuries. Remarkably, photographs of all of these fines are available via a [webpage of the O'Quinn Law Library](#) in Houston, part of the Anglo-American Law Tradition website (scroll down to find Surrey). Making sense of these images, however, requires at least an intermediate level of understanding of Medieval Latin and palaeography.

Surrey Taxation Returns. Fifteenths and Tenths: Part (A)—The 1332 Assessment, ed. by J. F. Willard and others, **Surrey Record Society, 18** (London: Roworth & Co. for Surrey Record Society, 1922) ([link](#)). This presents the edited text of a tax on personal property levied by Edward III. For this reason, the returns take the form of lists of personal names, grouped by parishes and townships, and provide an unparalleled window into the population of Surrey in the period not long before the Black Death and the depredations of the period after 1349. The book can be read in conjunction with this scene-setting [1933 SyAC article](#).

Alfred Heales, The Records of Merton Priory in the County of Surrey (London: Henry Frowde, 1898) ([link](#)). One man's compendium of all the records he traced that could be

connected to Merton Priory, perhaps Surrey's most important post-Conquest monastic foundation. While the study has its attractions (translations of sources relevant to no small number of places in historic Surrey, providing some early name spellings), it is a flawed work. As is explained on a [page of the Merton Historical Society website](#), Heales' book represents an uncorrected draft published not long before his death, and so should be treated with due caution — perhaps as a primer to help identify sources edited and contained in other published works.

***Court Rolls of the Manor of Carshalton*, ed. by D. L. Powell, Surrey Record Society, 2 (London: Roworth & Co. for Surrey Record Society, 1916) ([link](#)).** One of the SRS's earliest editions, but in many ways still an exemplary one. The manorial court rolls presented herein begin in 1359 and end in 1505 or 1506. The pages covering the earliest rolls alternate between transcribed Medieval Latin text and Modern English translation — helpful for becoming familiar with the original terms that recur with the greatest frequency.

***Surrey Wills*, ed. by A. V. Peatling and C. L. Kingsford, Surrey Record Society, 5 (London: Roworth & Co. for Surrey Record Society, 1921) ([link](#)).** This volume calendars the wills brought before the Court of the Archdeacon of Surrey for probate to be granted. It spans only a few years — 1484-90 — as these are the terminal dates of the will texts listed in the so-called "Spage" register, the Court's earliest surviving record. The English will texts set out both religious and secular bequests; the latter tend to be more varied, from sheep and grain to pots and money for highway repairs — all in their own ways of interest when considering medieval landscapes of production.

***Register or Memorial of Ewell, Surrey*, ed. by Cecil Deedes (London: Mitchell Hughes & Clark, 1913) ([link](#)).** The edition of a 16th-century transcript of a 1408 manorial survey provides a dizzying amount of detail, including many field- and minor place-names. Following a number of short introductory essays, each page is divided in two: top half with the Latin text, bottom half its English translation.

(Ewell has been unusually well-served with editions of its medieval records, above all the slightly later Fitznells Cartulary, a rare lay cartulary, published by SRS in 1968. One of the co-editors also had an [article published in SyAC in 1977](#) that was a careful rejoinder to an earlier piece about the topography of late medieval and early post-medieval Ewell. The Merton Historical Society has since made a considerable amount of research on the Morden Fee in Ewell available [via its website](#) — and while you're there why not take a look at the page on the manorial court rolls for [Morden manorial court rolls](#)?)