Etheldreda', had an extensive jurisdiction comprising the five and a half hundreds known as the Liberty of St Etheldreda. In our area the Abbey's holdings were small and scattered in Wantisden, Capel, Rendlesham, Sutton and Shottisham, but it possessed the whole of neighbouring Sudbourne.

Making the map

In the absence of contemporary maps, a reconstruction based on the Domesday statistics was a challenge. This is a first depiction of a portion of the Norman landscape of England. It has been imagined as a contemporary needlework panel in the style of the Bayeux Tapestry which had been embroidered about 20 years earlier to narrate the Norman Conquest. The presumed coastline and the location of rivers and churches were the only fixed points within which to fit the information. A single animal with a numeral below is used to represent the number listed in an entry. The mill at Boyton, recorded as no longer in use by 1086, is depicted

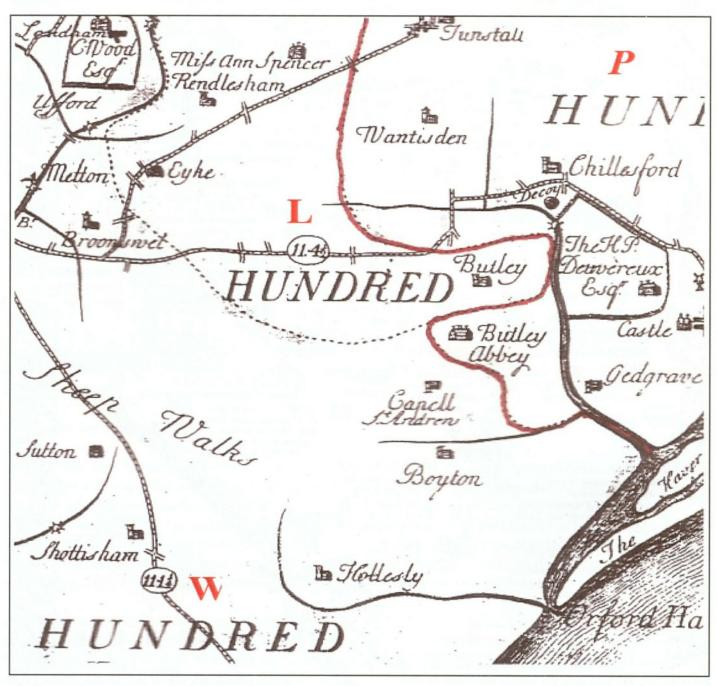


Figure 3. Portion of a map published by John Kirby in 1736. It shows Butley divided between the Hundred of Loes (L) and that of Plomesgate (P). The villages to the south lie in the Hundred of Willford (W). (V Fenwick's additions in red)