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BRIMBLE J.A. - THE RAMBLERS
AND RIDERS GUIDE TO EPPING
FORREST PHOTOCOPY (A RE-ISSUE
OF MAPS CONTAINED IN BRIMBLE'S
"LONDON'S EPPING FORREST 1950"

THE RAMBLERS' AND RIDERS' GUIDE TO EPPING FOREST

COMPILED, AND WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

J. A. BRIMBLE

THE MAPS DRAWN BY LEO VERNON

Since the publication in 1950 of Mr J. A. Brimble's LONDON'S EPPING FOREST, the publishers have had repeated requests to reprint and issue the maps included in the book in a convenient pocket edition, as being the most up-to-date and comprehensive guide to the Forest available.

All intending visitors and lovers of the Forest are recommended to buy his book and use it to study the section of the Forest they intend visiting. Mr Brimble points out that few people are acquainted with the more remote parts and therefore fail to obtain the maximum benefits from this magnificent open space of some 6,000 acres on London's doorstep.

COUNTRY LIFE LIMITED, 2-10 TAVISTOCK STREET
LONDON, W.C.2

INTRODUCTION TO THE FOREST

To the new-comer, the stranger who comes to learn, to acquire knowledge of our Forest, I look with a little envy. For I know well the pleasures that lie before him. I am envious of his increasing appreciation and the enjoyment it will bring him as his acquaintance of the woods expands. I envy his delight in finding the quiet corners and the more beautiful parts—a glade of birches, the majesty of the big beeches, a heathered plain, a viewpoint, a woodland pool, or a tumbling stream in a deep valley.

After a time, if you think you know your Forest, there is no better way to test your knowledge than by stalking closely a herd of deer. They will twist and turn—north, south, east and west—and at last they will probably evade you, leaving you disappointed and perhaps physically exhausted. But if at the finish you can say you have all the time retained complete knowledge of your bearings and whereabouts; could direct with confidence any lost traveller, wherever met, the shortest way to wherever he may wish to go, then you can certainly, henceforward, pack away your maps.

ACCESS TO THE FOREST

BY ROAD. All roads northwards from London cross or meet the North Circular Road. Turn north from it for the Forest at either South Chingford (Crooked Billet) or at Woodford (A.11).

BY RAIL. Steam trains from Liverpool Street Station to Chingford. About 30 minutes. Frequent service. Underground Central Line. From Oxford Circus: Woodford 34 minutes; Buckhurst Hill 37 minutes; Loughton 40 minutes; Debden 44 minutes; Theydon Bois 48 minutes; Epping 51 minutes.

BY COACH. Quickest and most direct route is by Green Line coach No. 718. From Victoria (Eccleston Bridge) via Marble Arch and Baker Street: Buckhurst Hill 59 minutes; Loughton 64 minutes; Wake Arms 71 minutes; Epping Town 79 minutes.

Green Line coach No. 720, Aldgate via Stratford to Epping Town 61 minutes.

BY BUS.	To Epping Town	Route No. 20 from Leytonstone	49 minutes.
		" 250 "	Romford Station 58 "
		" 339 "	Warley 65 "
		" 396 "	Bishop's Stortford 48 "
		" 399 "	Hertford 71 "
	To Wake Arms	" 242 "	Potter's Bar 54 "
	To Loughton	" 38A "	Victoria 88 "
	To Chingford Station	" 121 "	Ponders End 16 "
	To Chingford	" 38 "	Victoria 88 "
	(Royal Forest Hotel)	" 102 "	Golders Green 66 "
		" 145 "	Dagenham 74 "
		" 205 "	Hammond Street 45 "
			(Cheshunt)

On summer Sundays, Route No. 38 is extended to Wake Arms and Route No. 102 to High Beach.

THE MANAGEMENT OF THE FOREST

THE Epping Forest Act of 1878 was the culmination of years of agitation and litigation, during which time the City of London, under their 'rights of common of pasture', fought the long legal battle against enclosure of the Forest and its probable final extinction. The passing of the Act resulted in the restoration to the Forest of 3,000 acres which had been enclosed or appropriated, and the preservation of a total of nearly 6,000 acres as an open space for the enjoyment of the public.

With the passing of the Act, also, the ancient hunting rights of the Crown ceased—royal rights which had been the sole privilege of the Crown since Norman times. By the Act, the Crown was empowered to appoint the Forest Ranger, approval of whose appointment is necessary under certain procedure. The first Ranger to be appointed was the Duke of Connaught (after whom is named Connaught Waters), who held office from 1878 until his death in 1942. Subsequently the King appointed the Duke of Gloucester as Ranger, which office the Duke still holds.

The Act placed Epping Forest under the sole management of the Corporation of the City of London, and the work of administration is performed through a committee known as the Conservators of Epping Forest. This committee of sixteen consists of twelve members of the Court of Common Council, and of whom two are aldermen and four are verderers.

The four verderers must be resident in one of the Forest parishes, and must not be members of the Common Council of the City. The verderers are elected for a term of seven years by the commoners of the Forest—those who by owning lands in a Forest parish have 'rights of common of pasture' in the Forest and whose names are registered as having such rights at the Guildhall of the City of London.

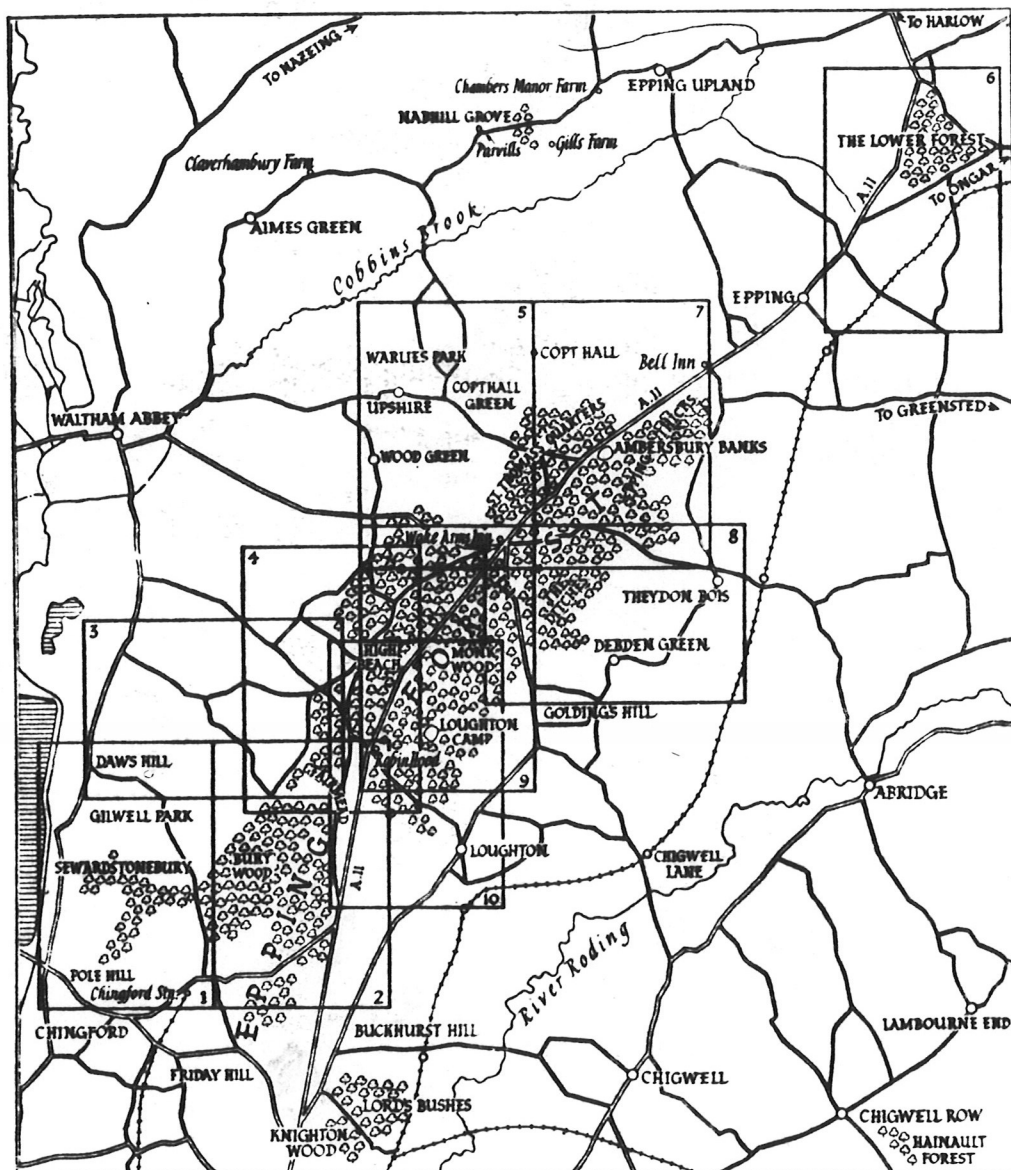
Today the interpretation of a 'commoner' is one who is the owner in one of the Forest parishes of at least half an acre of land, inclusive of the site of a house. This limitation of area of property comes to us from the old days, when to be entitled to 'rights of common of pasture' it was necessary to possess sufficient land on which to bring in, from off the Forest, the owner's cattle during the 'fence' month. The 'fence' month was the month in early summer when the fawns were born, which in the case of the Fallow deer is June.

To carry out the proper control of the Forest the Conservators appoint a Superintendent who is resident at The Warren (between Ranger's Road and Loughton). Under the Superintendent there are seventeen Forest keepers who are responsible for the good order and control of their respective beats. In addition, there are two or three assistant keepers, a number of woodmen and other workmen, and a staff to keep in condition the public golf-course on Chingford Plain.


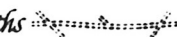
The keepers are busy all the year round, and on duty seven days a week looking after their respective areas. They must protect the birds and the deer and the flowers from poachers and ruthless visitors, they must prevent the vandalism of cutting and damaging trees, and always they are trying to keep the natural beauty of the Forest from being disfigured by litter and rubbish—quite an undertaking during the summer months, and, in particular after Bank Holidays. In the dry seasons there is the constant fighting of fires and all the work involved in clearing up the charred remains of bushes and young trees.

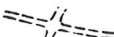
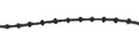
The Epping Forest Act provides that 'the Conservators shall at all times as far as possible preserve the natural aspect of the Forest'.



MAP INDEX



KEY TO MAPS

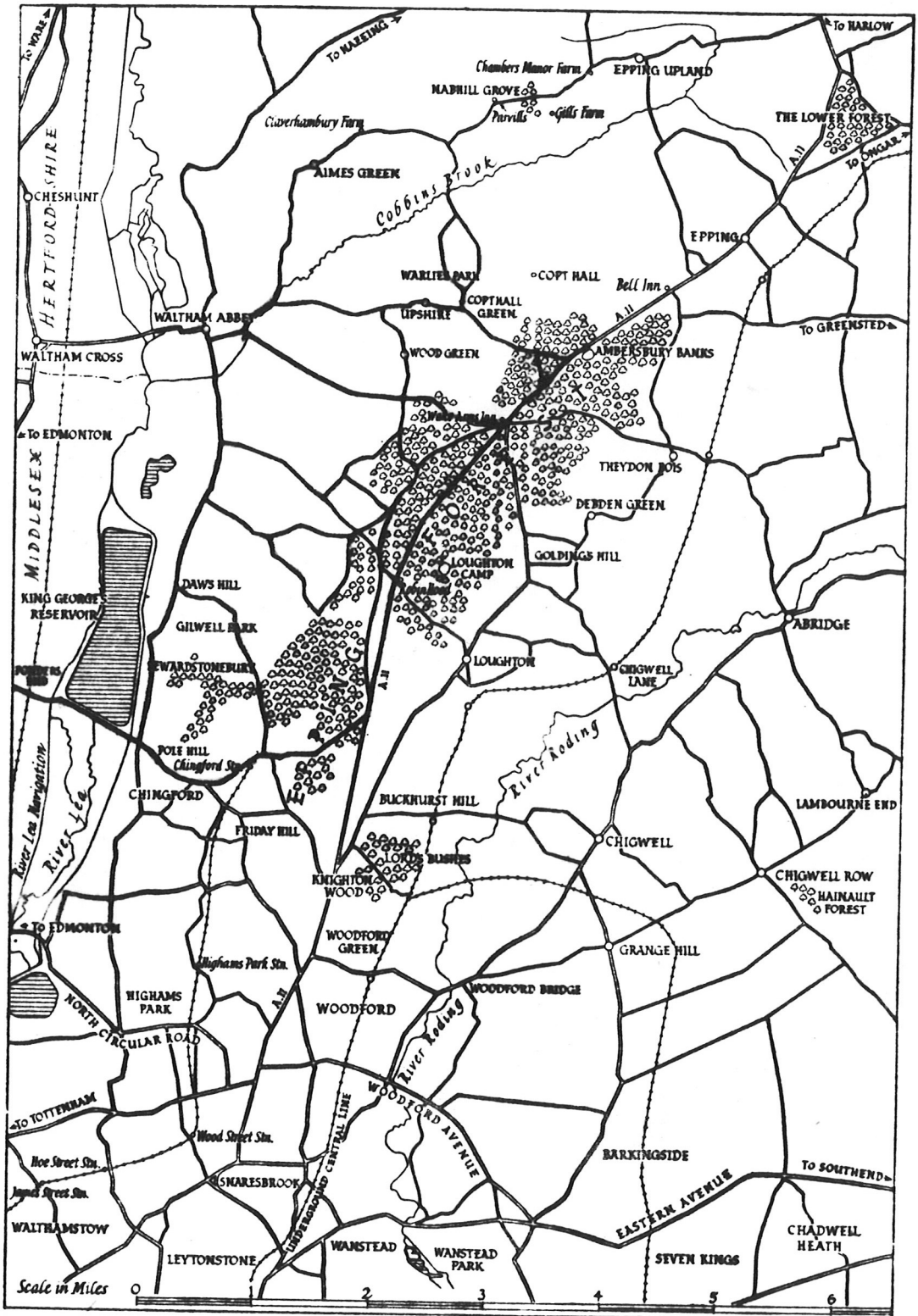
Roads 
Footpaths 

Green Rides. 
Railways 

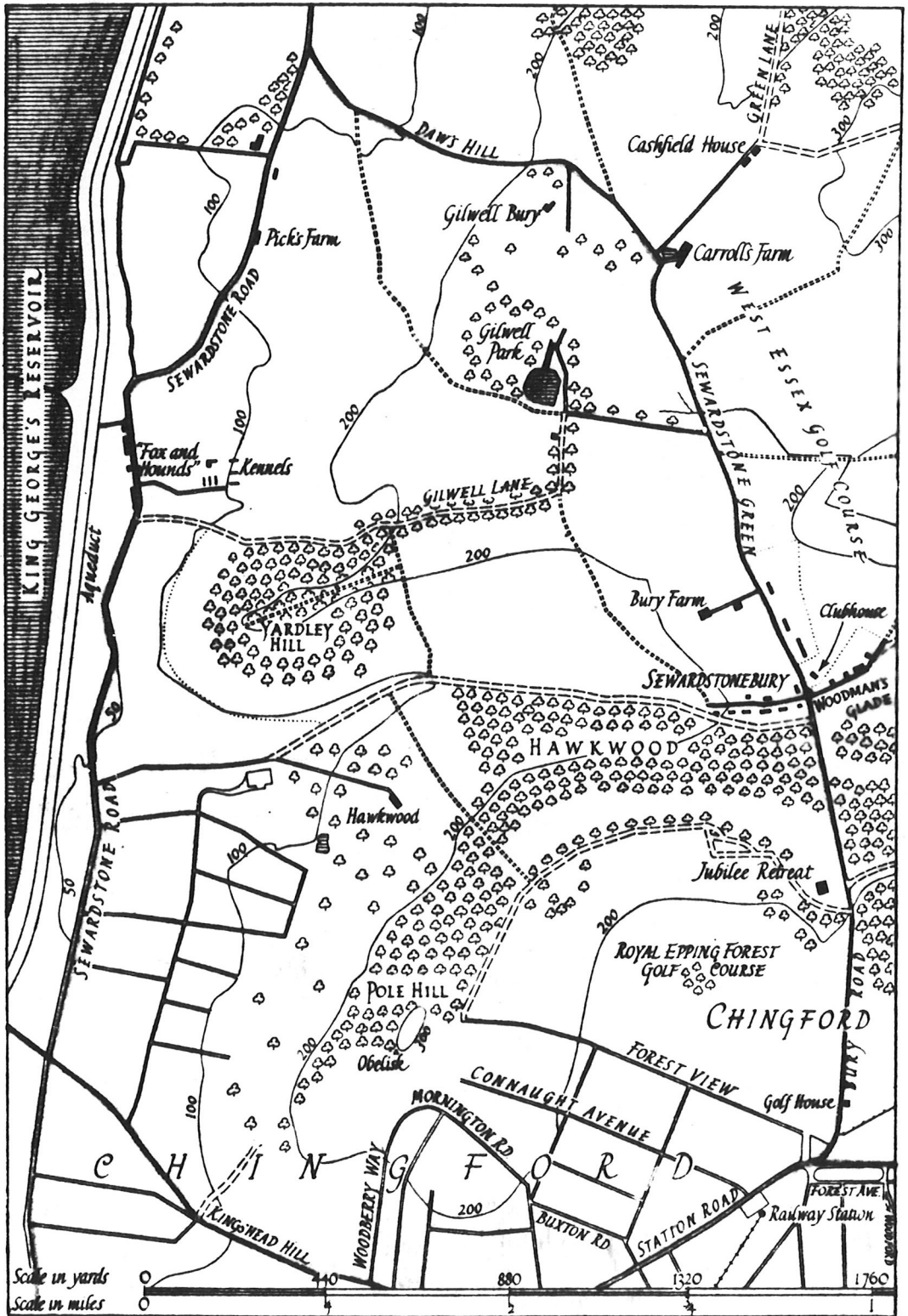
Boundaries of private property 
Contour lines 

The above Index shows the areas covered by the maps on pages 6-15, starting up the west side of the main road from Chingford through High Beach and Copt Hall to Epping, and back down the east side through Theydon Bois and Monk Wood to Buckhurst Hill.

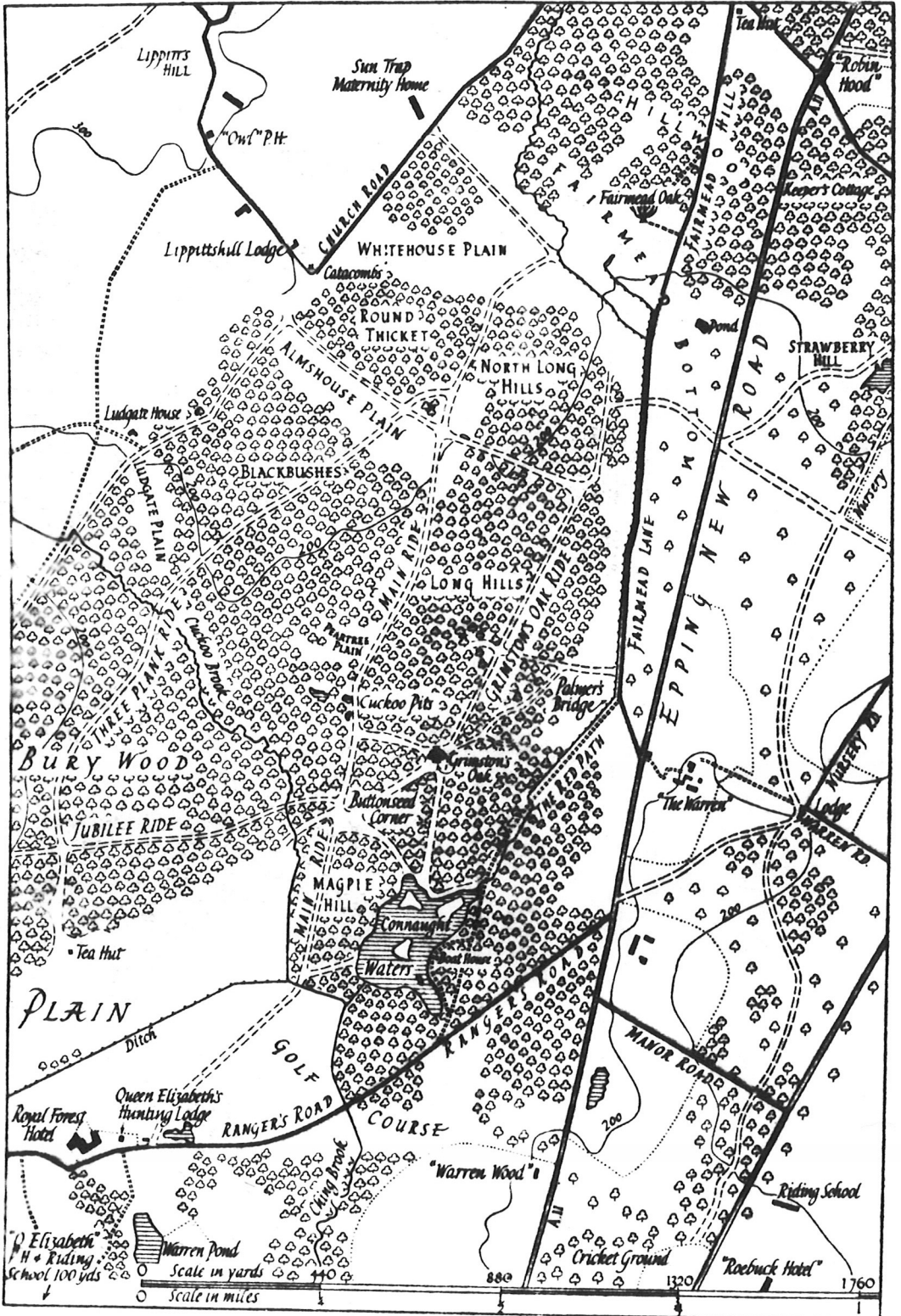
GENERAL MAP OF DISTRICT



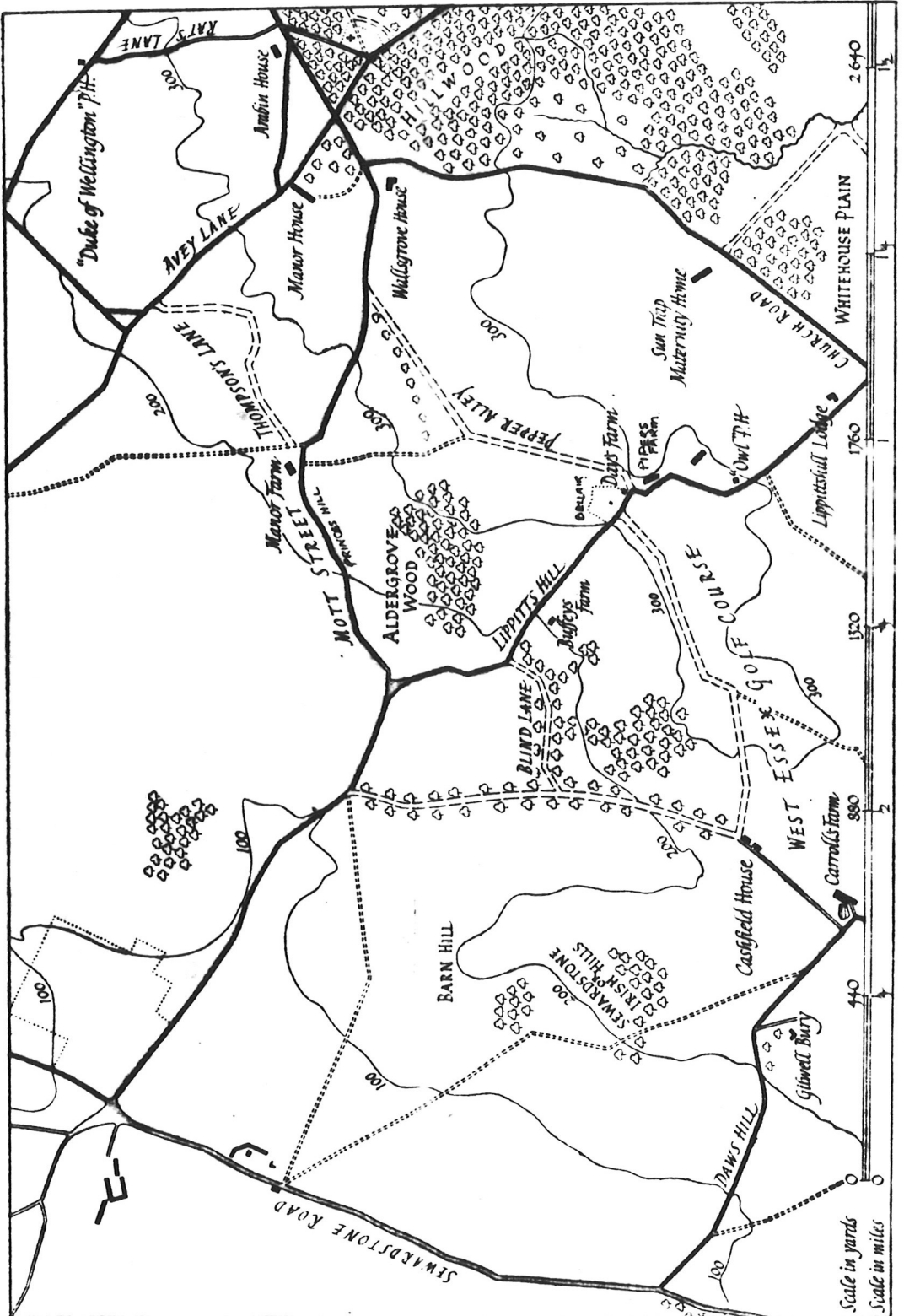
MAP ONE



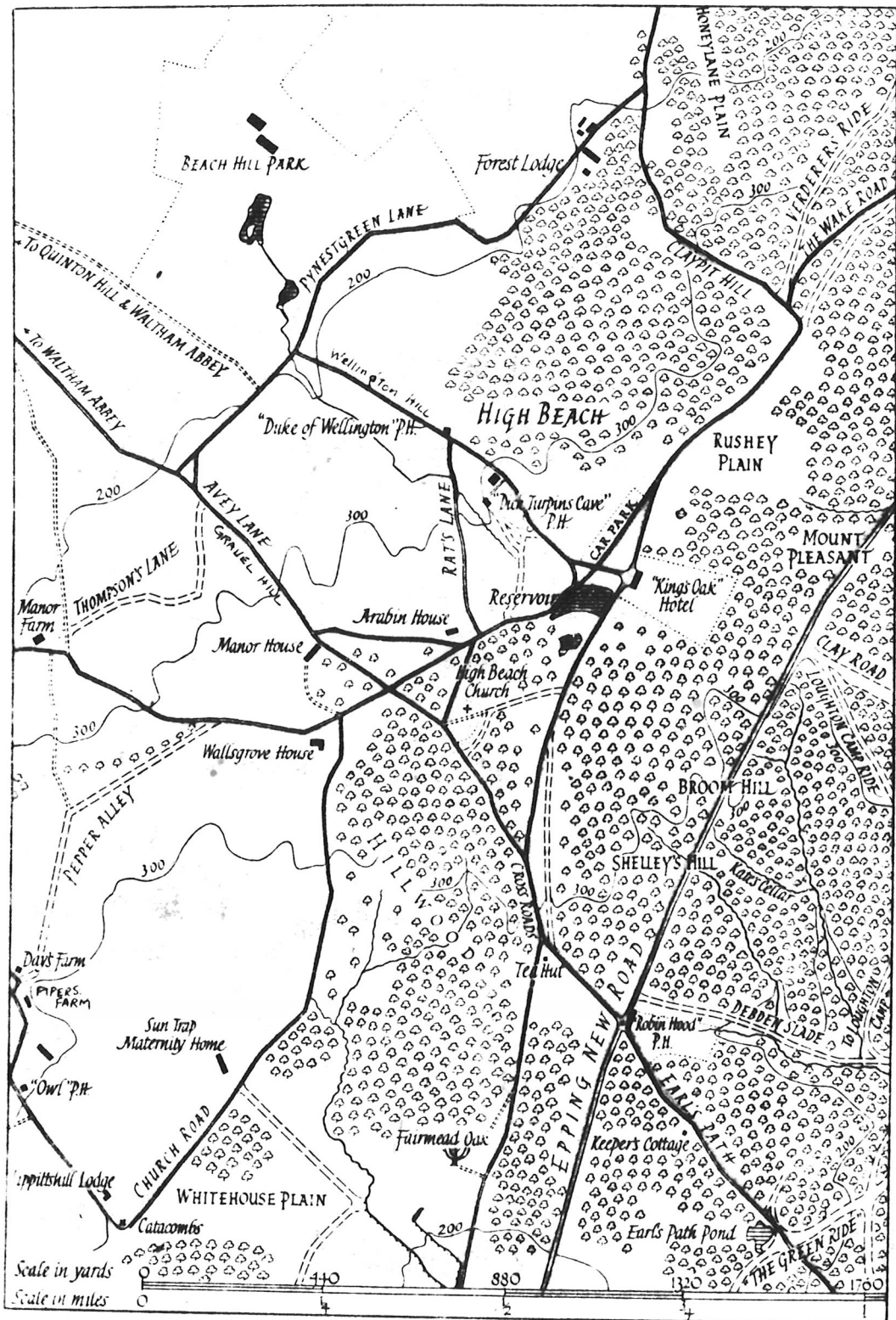
MAP TWO



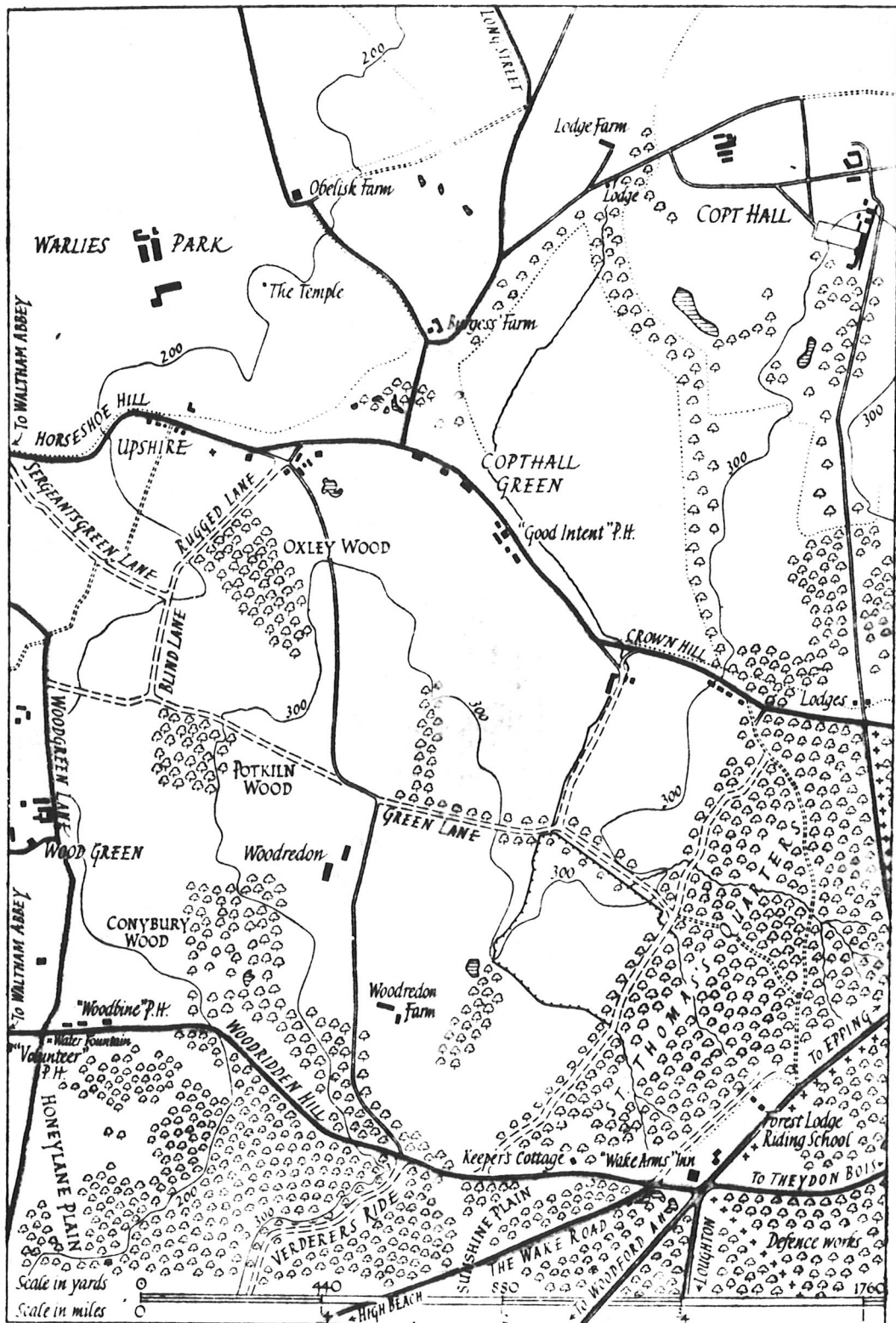
MAP THREE



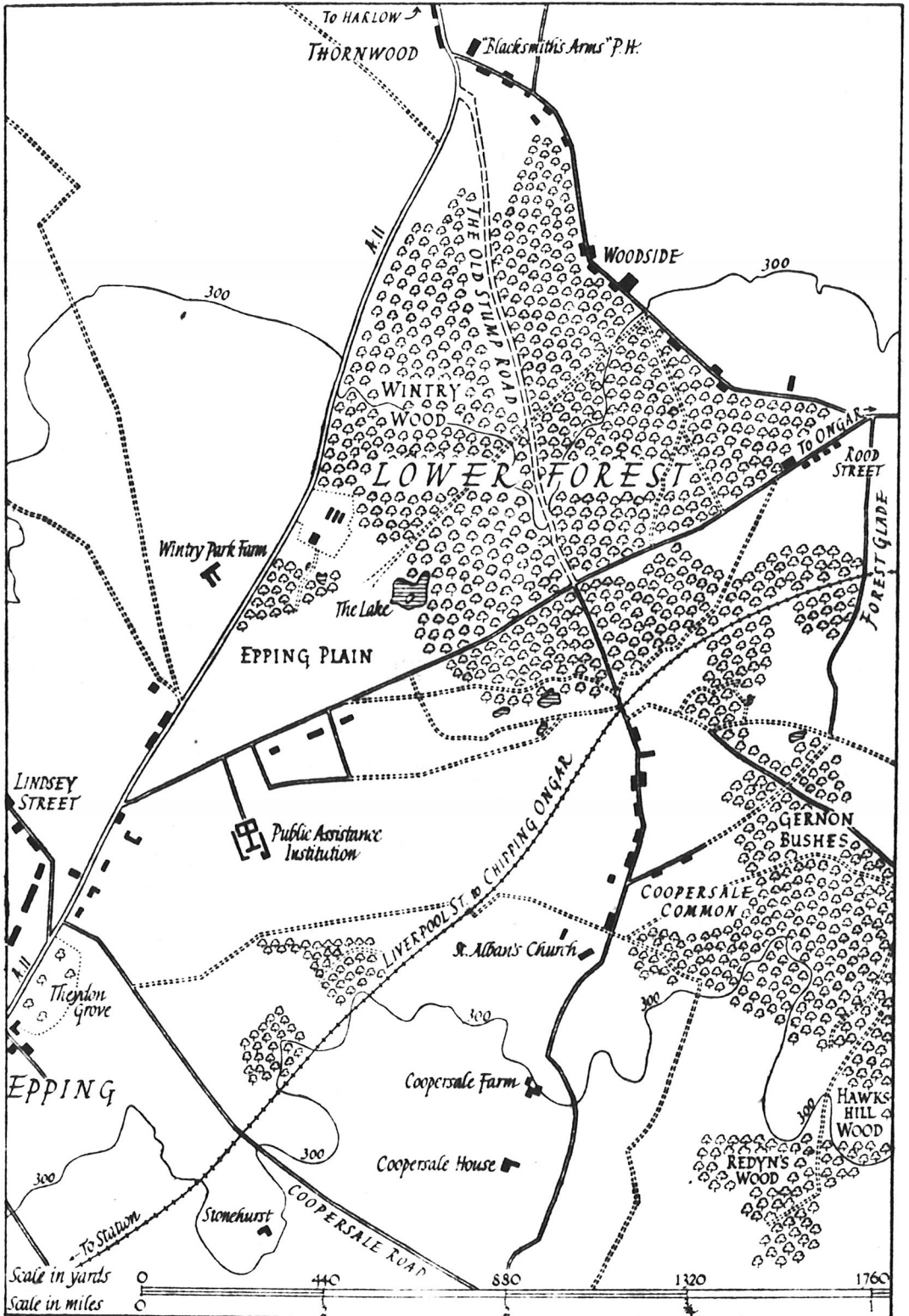
MAP FOUR



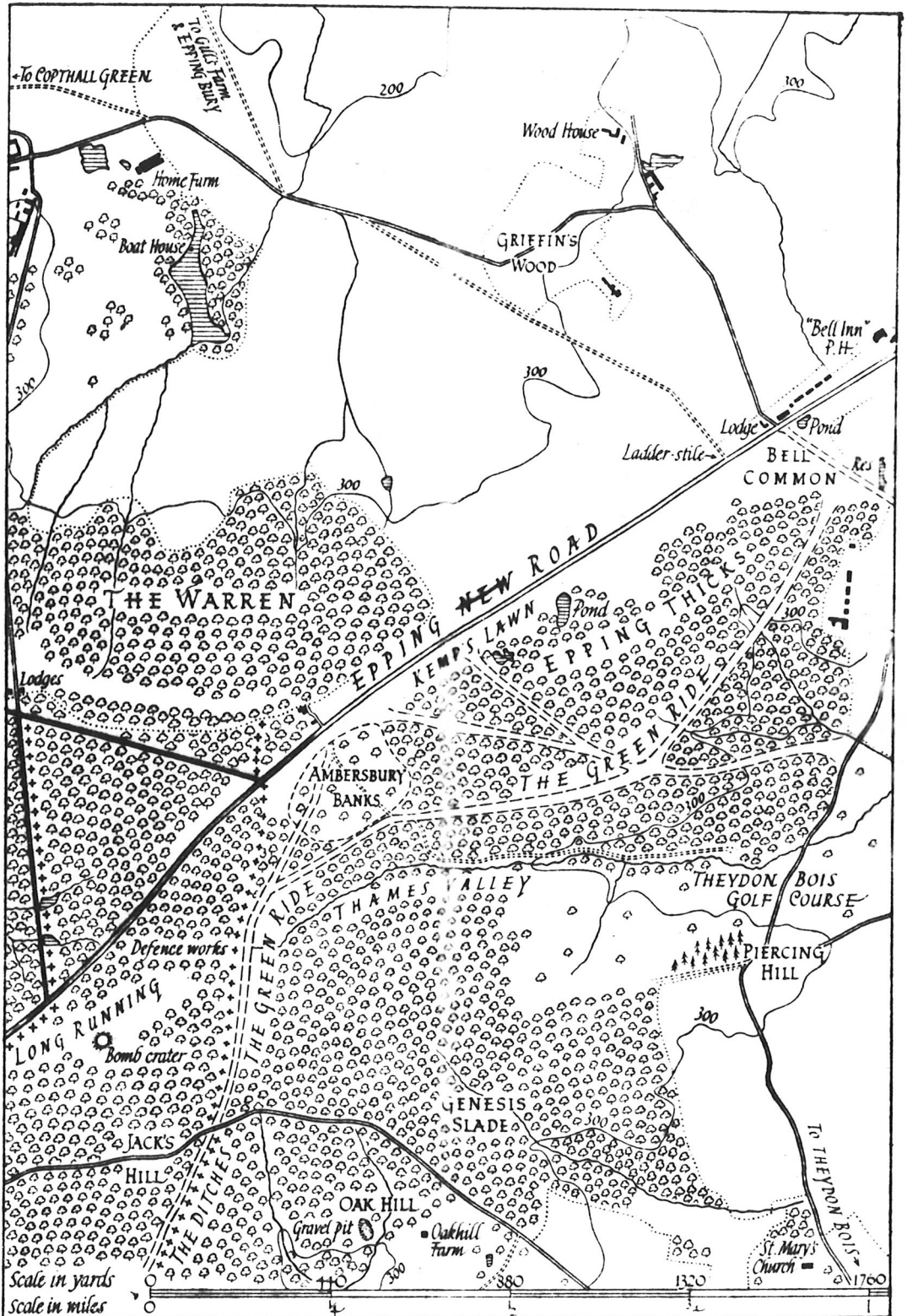
MAP FIVE



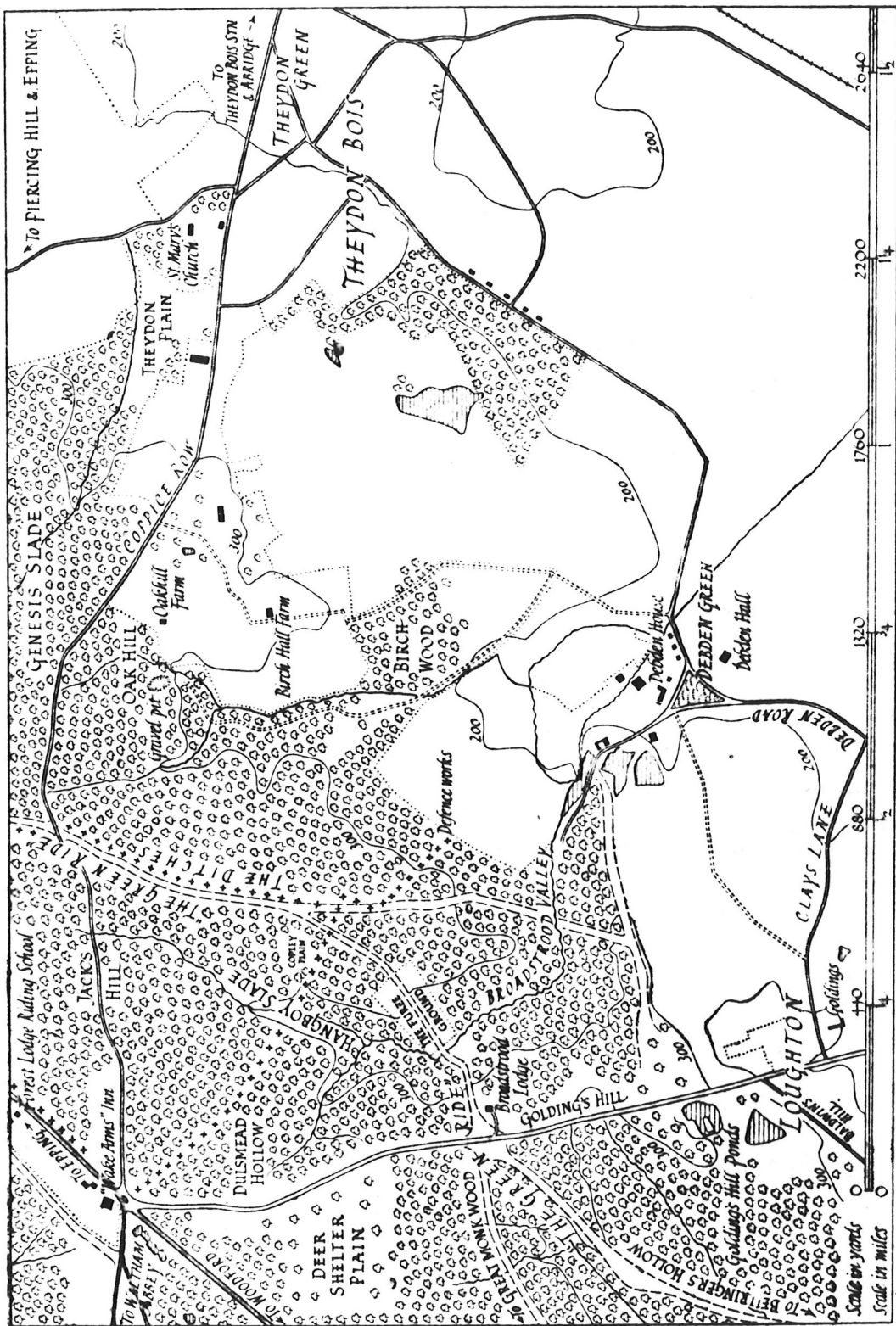
MAP SIX



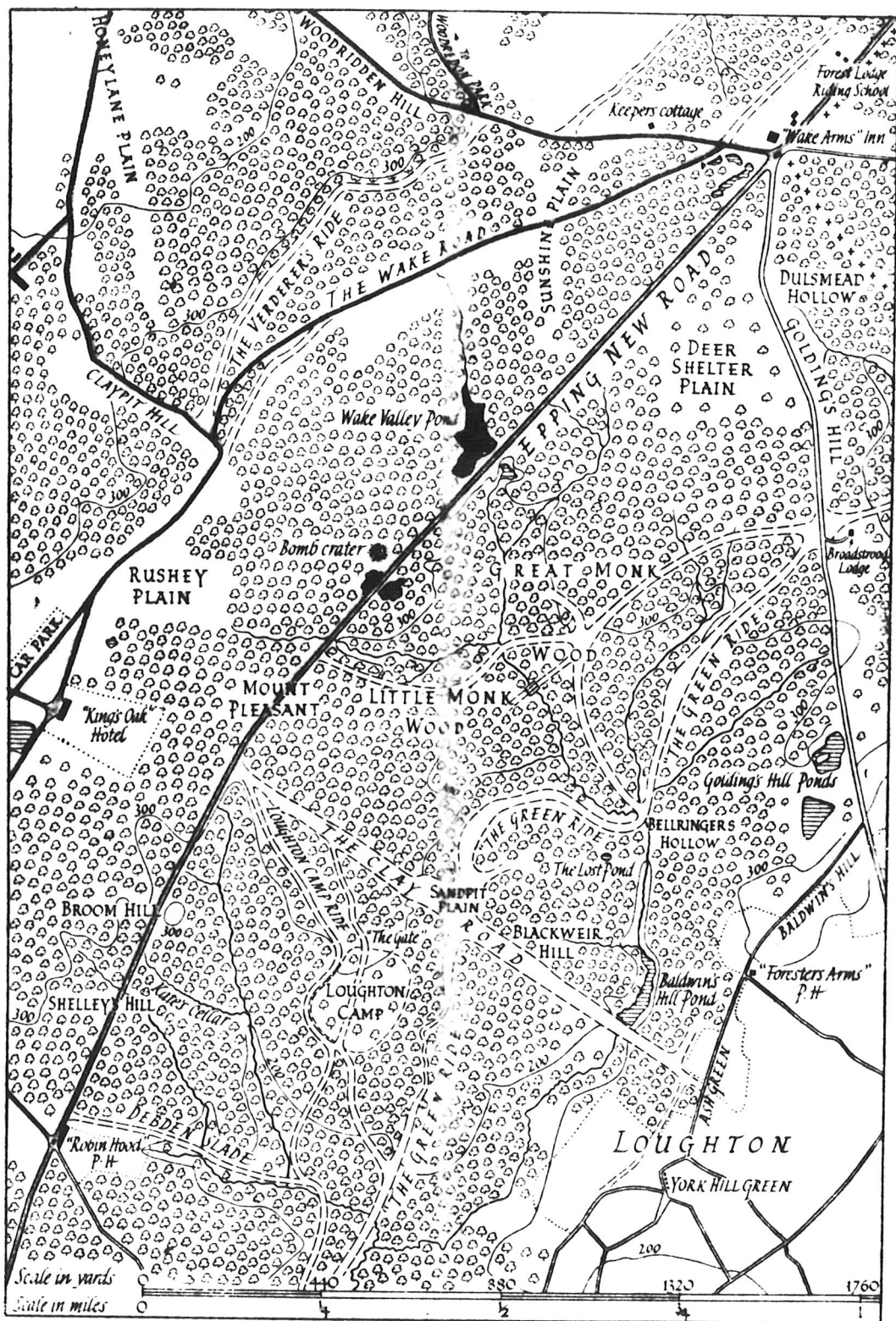
MAP SEVEN



MAP EIGHT



MAP NINE



MAP TEN

