

The Landscape History of Hadstock Parish

Part 4 Houses and the Built Environment

1972
2022



The
Hadstock
Society



Hadstock Parish viewed from the South

Introduction

- The following illustrations and accompanying notes describe some of the landscape changes in Hadstock Parish over the last 240 years.
- This presentation, Part 4, deals with buildings and structural features of the built environment. Of the other presentations, Part 1 covers Boundaries, roads, woods and paths, Part 2 covers Field systems, field names and ownership, Part 3, currently being developed, deals with the details of the Inclosure Act of 1801 and Part 5 discusses notable buildings in the Parish.
- Parts 1-2 can be viewed online at archive.hadstock.org.uk All other Parts will be online in 2023.
- The illustrations were created using Adobe Illustrator 2020 software.

Thanks to Lorna Mufty and other Hadstock Society Committee members, and to Ordnancemaps.io for helpful information and comments.

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February 2023

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Sources of Information

- 1777 Chapman and André map of Essex
- 1805 Hadstock Pre-inclosure map, D-Dqy 28 (Essex Record Office)
- 1805 Hadstock Inclosure Award map, Q_RDc7B (Essex Record Office)
- 1805 Ordnance Survey Old Series, Sheet 47
- 1877 Ordnance Survey map, Hadstock Parish
- 1921 Ordnance Survey map, Hadstock Parish
- 2012 Hadstock Conservation Area map
- 2020 Google Earth satellite images

americanairmuseum.com

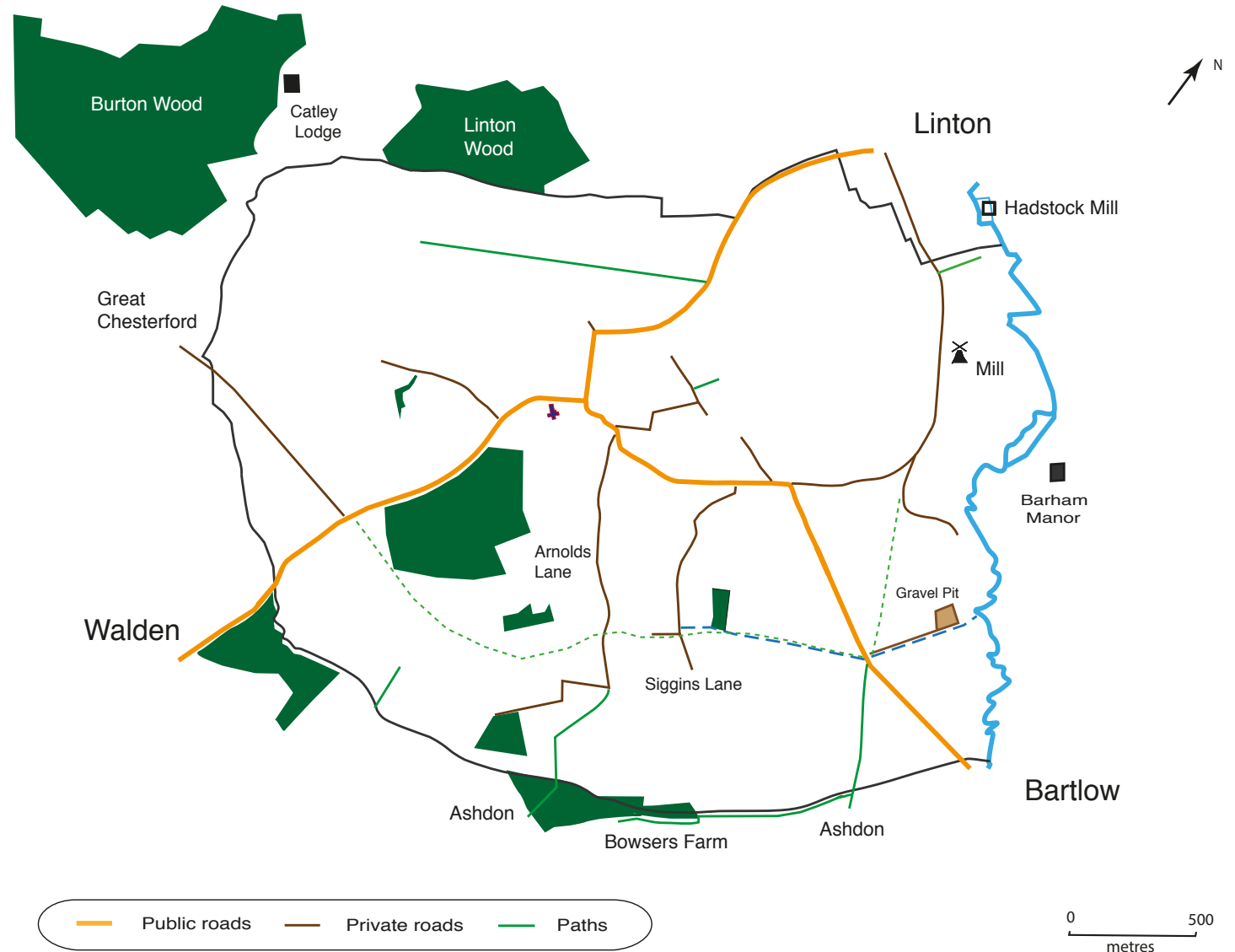
Kelly's Directories 1855-1914

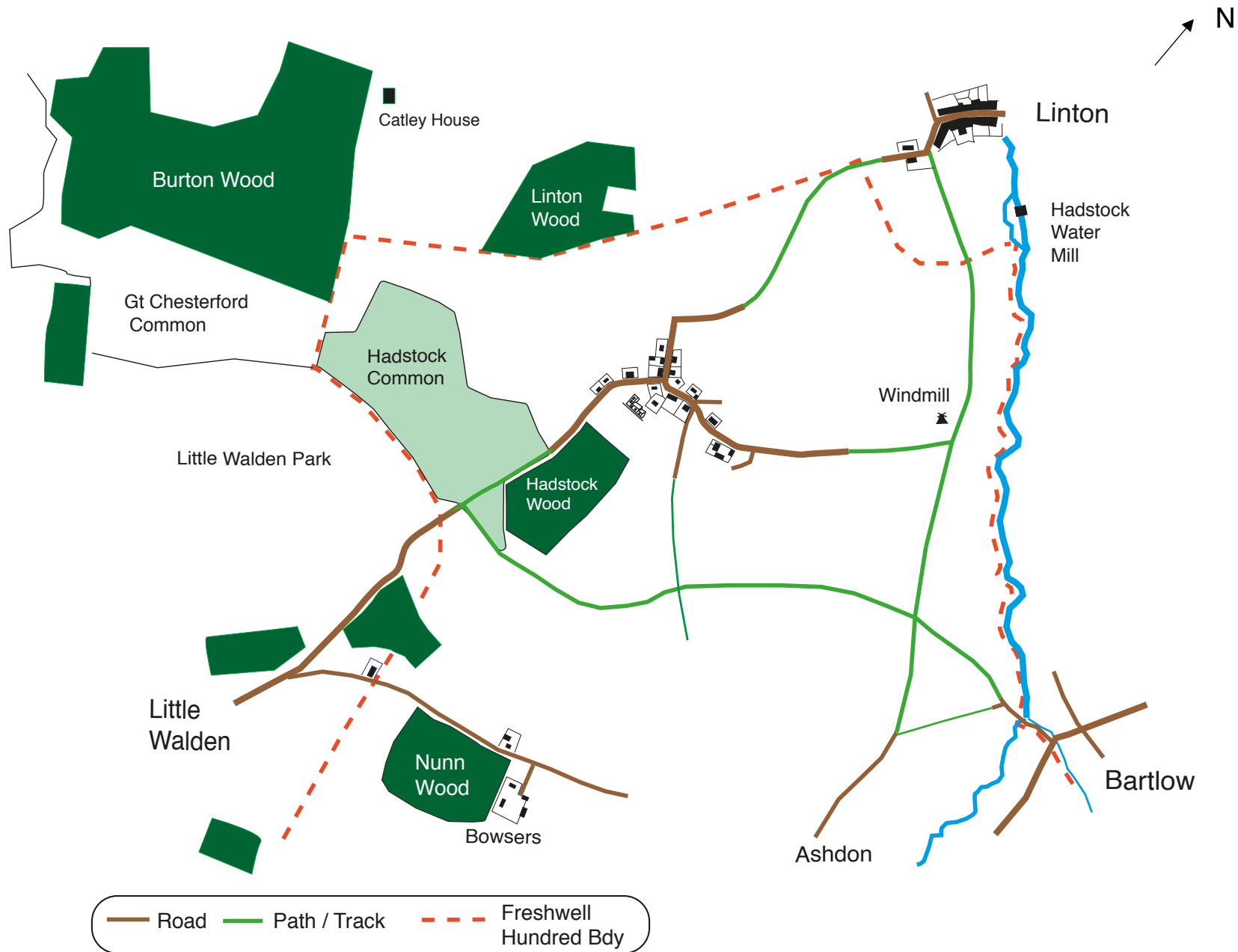
The Essex Record Office

Creation of simplified maps

- Before tracing, all maps were orientated to match the original 1803 pre-inclosure and post inclosure maps, as shown in the illustration on the right, with North as shown.
- These are 2D images and readers are reminded that there is a 70m drop in elevation from the Walden (Hadstock Common) side of the Parish down to Linton, Bartlow and the River Granta.
- The illustrations can be enlarged on screen to read detailed features without loss of resolution.

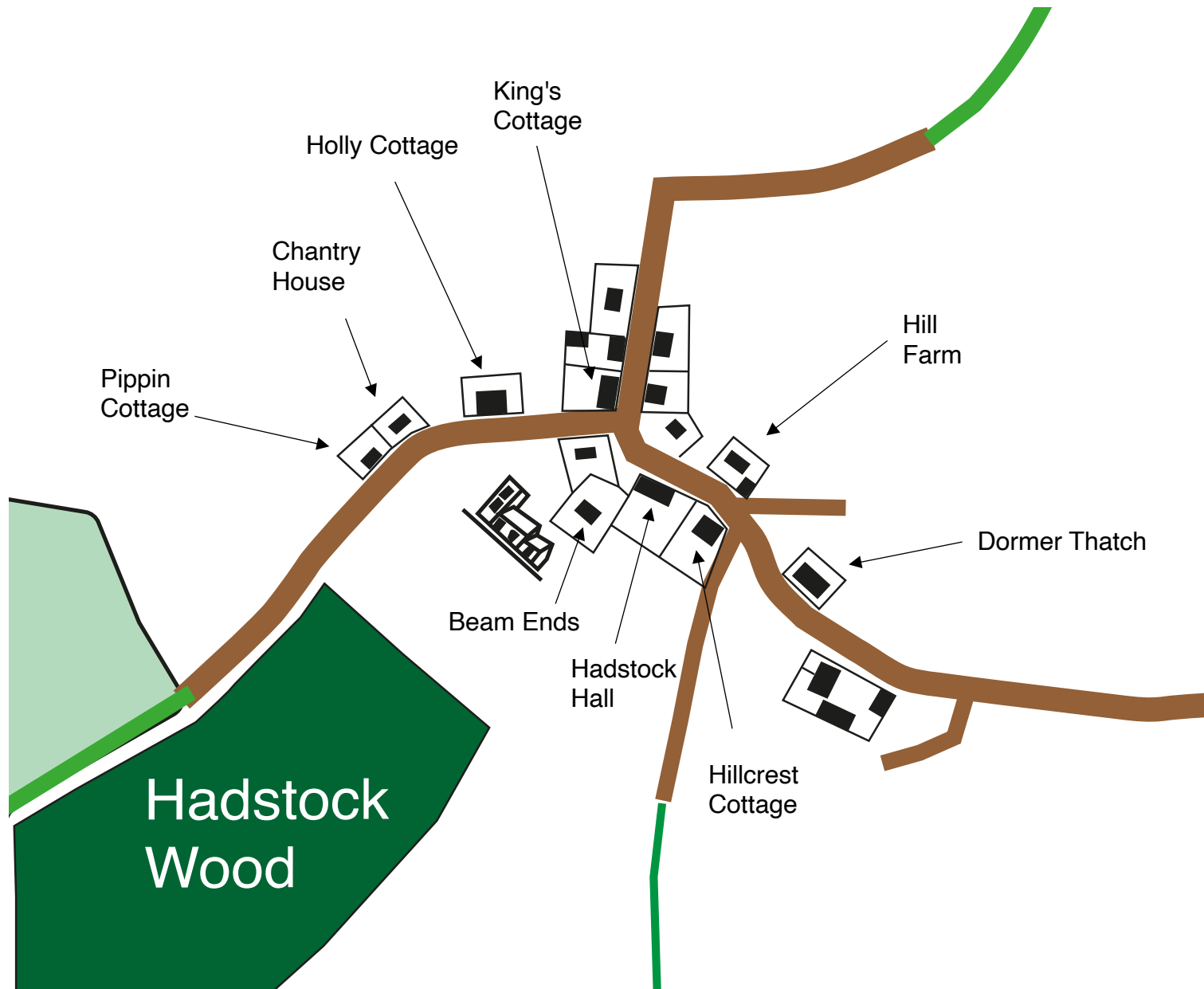
Example: Hadstock Parish 1803





1777 (1)

- The Chapman-André map of Essex is the earliest to illustrate the location of individual buildings and land plots in Hadstock and Bowers.
- The map shows 21 separate buildings in Hadstock and 7 in Bowers and Monks Wood.
- The windmill (centre right) appears wrongly placed when compared to later maps. However, there is evidence it may be an early structure, replaced and relocated on the north side of Chalky Lane around 1790.
- The water mill was built around 1150AD and, although outside the main Parish boundary, was part of Hadstock for many centuries, only becoming part of Linton parish in the 20th century.

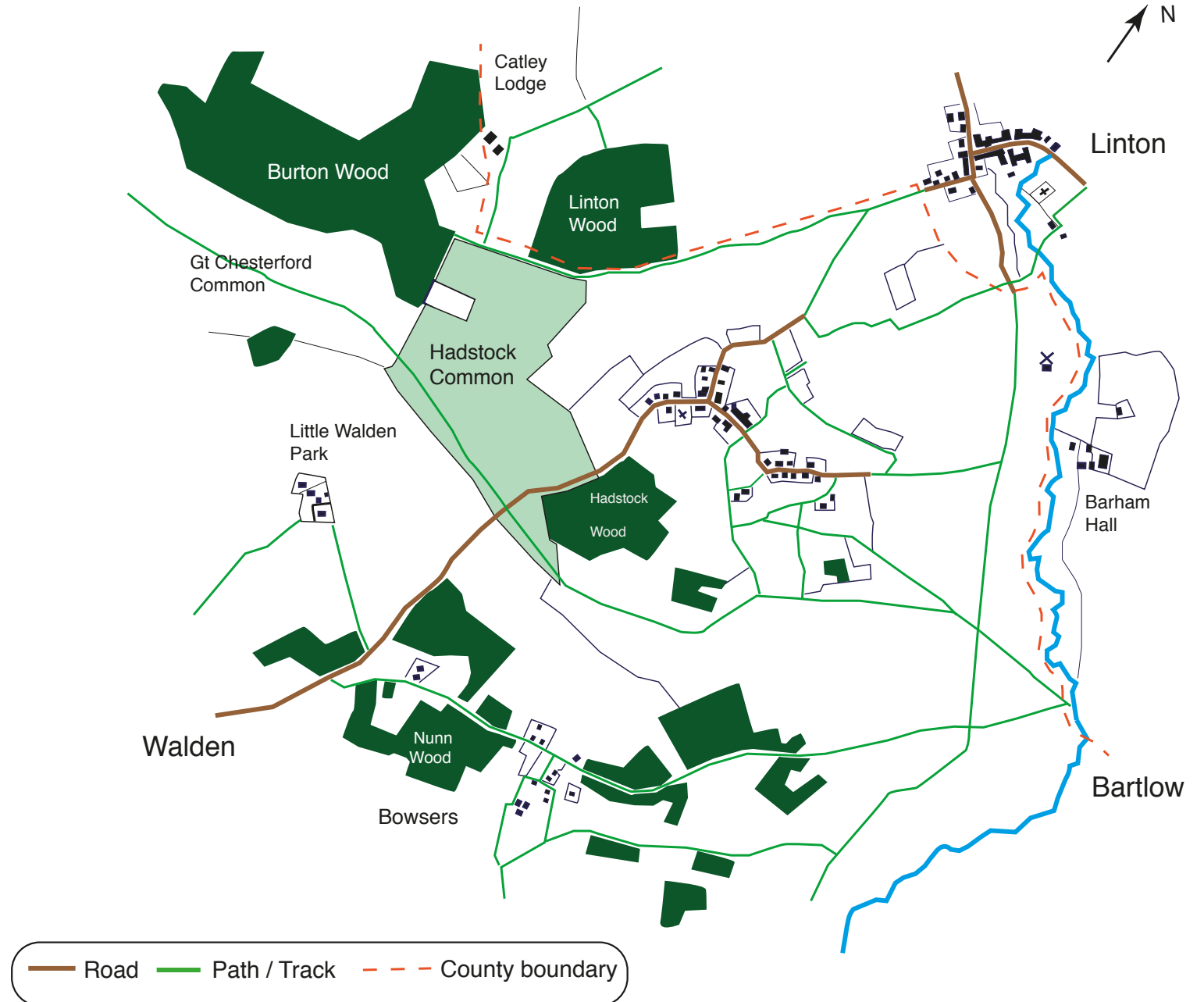


1777 (2)

- Seventeenth century houses on the Walden Road seen today can be tentatively identified in the Chapman-André map, such as Holly Cottage, Chantry House and Pippins (originally Lilac Cottage).
- However, the house footprint sizes appear incorrect and there are two other 17th century houses missing from the map, Bardsfield and Manor House on the west side of the Walden Road.
- This casts doubt on map accuracy for showing individual village buildings. Some blocks may indicate a collection of buildings.
- Kings Cottage, Hill Farm, Hadstock Hall, Beam Ends, Dormer Thatch and Hillcrest Cottage are other listed 16/17th century buildings existing today, and seem to be better illustrated in terms of location.
- The population in 1777 is not known but in 1792, Rev J Addison Carr recorded a total of 391 parishioners.

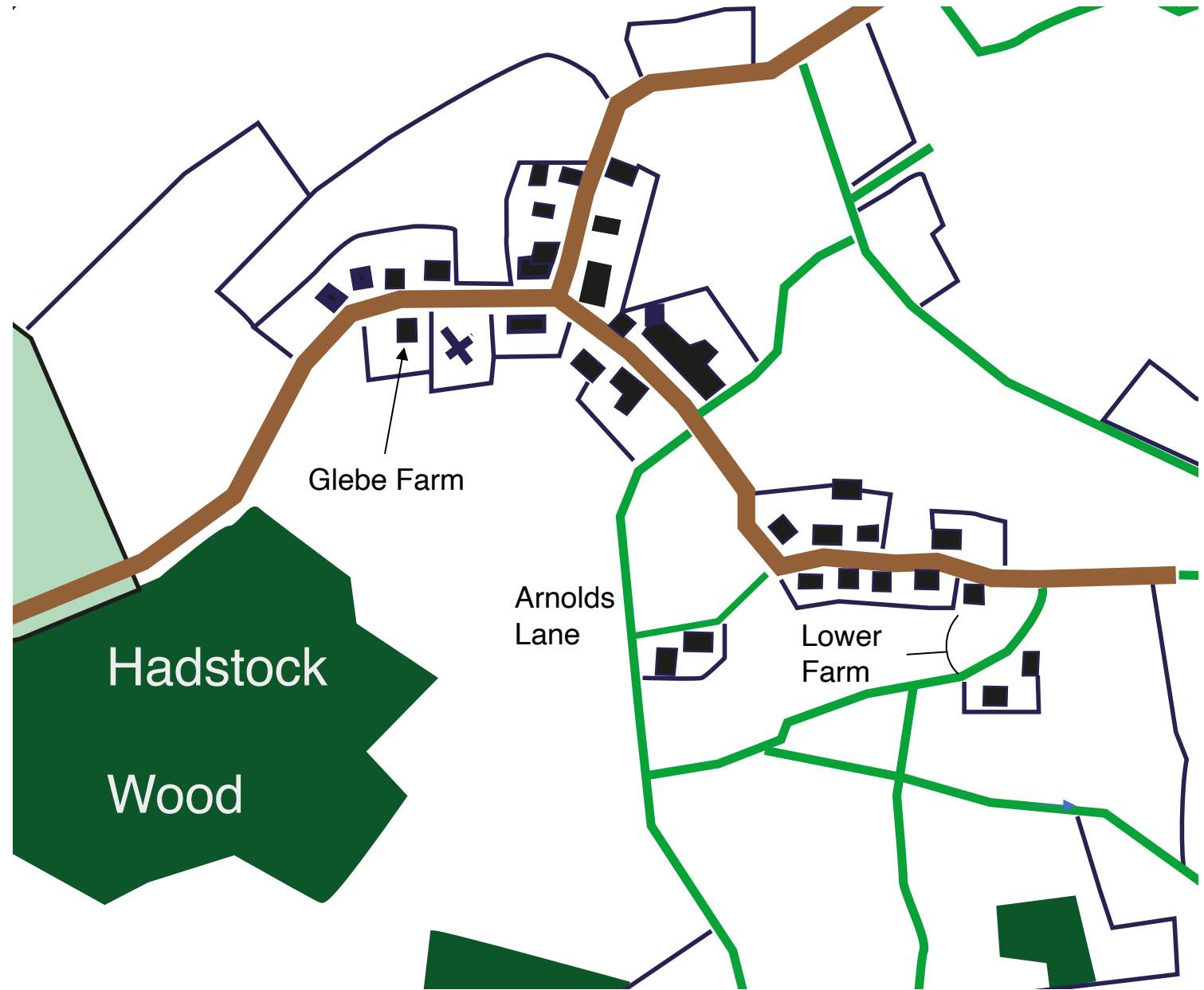
c.1801 (1)

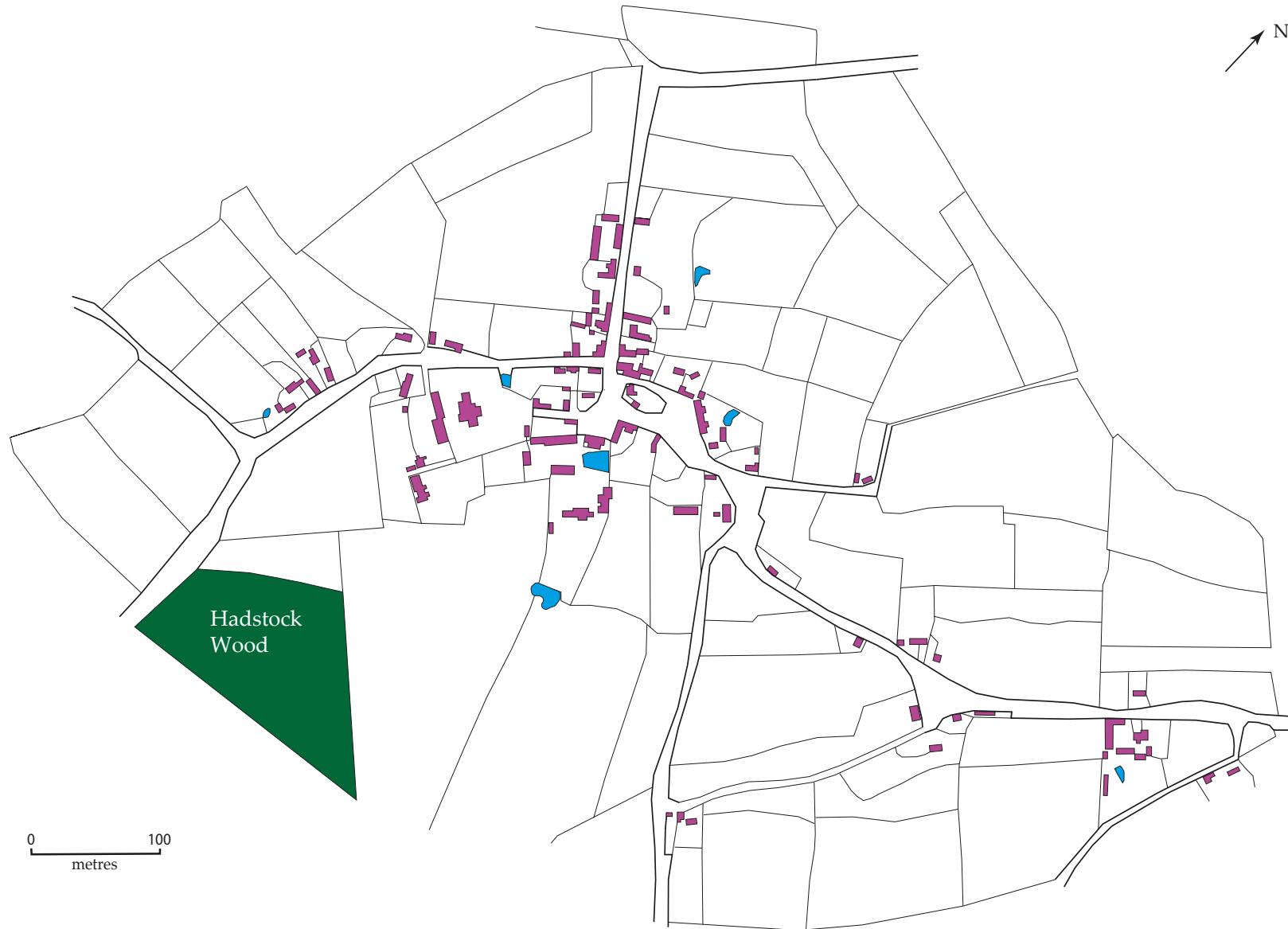
- This is the Parish seen in the 1805 First Series Ordnance Survey map for Essex, sheet 47, the second of the county series produced to give topographic information in preparation for a possible invasion by Napoleon.
- Essex surveying started in 1799 and was completed by 1803. The map precedes the pre- and post-inclosure maps of Hadstock where surveying took place in 1801-1804.
- More buildings are evident compared to the 1777 Chapman and André map, with 32 in the village and 15 in Bowers and Monks Wood. The network of paths is more extensive, and some field boundaries are now evident.
- Woodland shapes seem to have been carefully surveyed, and the windmill is in a new position compared to the 1777 map.



c.1801 (2)

- Compared to the Chapman-André 1777 map, the most obvious change is the increased number of buildings along the Bartlow Road. In addition, two new buildings are evident off Arnolds Lane.
- There are 4 buildings illustrated on the West side of Walden Road, compared to 3 in the 1777 Chapman-Andre map.
- Some buildings are clearly barns, but in comparison with the much larger number of buildings seen in the 1803 enclosure map discussed next, it seems that the building footprints seen here are indicative only.
- This has been confirmed by direct contact with experts from the Charles Close Society in 2021 who noted that for both this map and the commercially produced Chapman-André map, a single footprint may show one building or a collection of buildings.





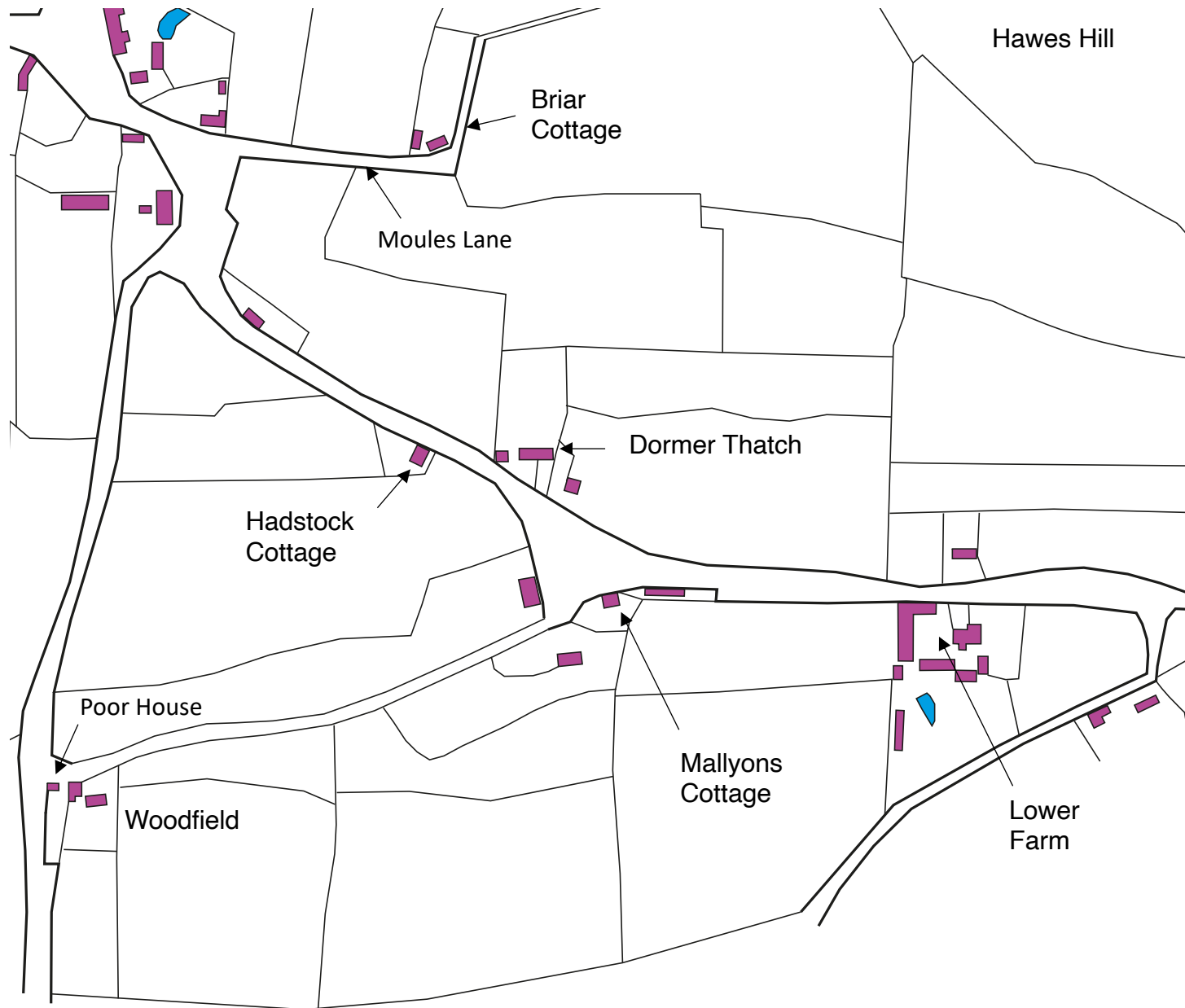
c.1803 (1)

- Following the 1801 Hadstock Inclosure Act, a Parish survey was carried out by Nockolds of Saffron Walden. Detailed maps were produced before inclosure and after the Award decisions, both published in 1805.
- Both maps show there were around 95 village buildings, many more than the OS map illustrated a few years earlier.
- The Rector, Rev J Addison Carr, carried out his own Parish survey in 1807 and identified some 62 houses, and 66 families.
- This c1803 map therefore shows at least 30 barns and outbuildings,
- The population of Hadstock Parish in 1803 was probably close to 329, the figure the Rev Carr reported four years later in 1807.
- The next three illustrations show more detail.

c.1803 (2)

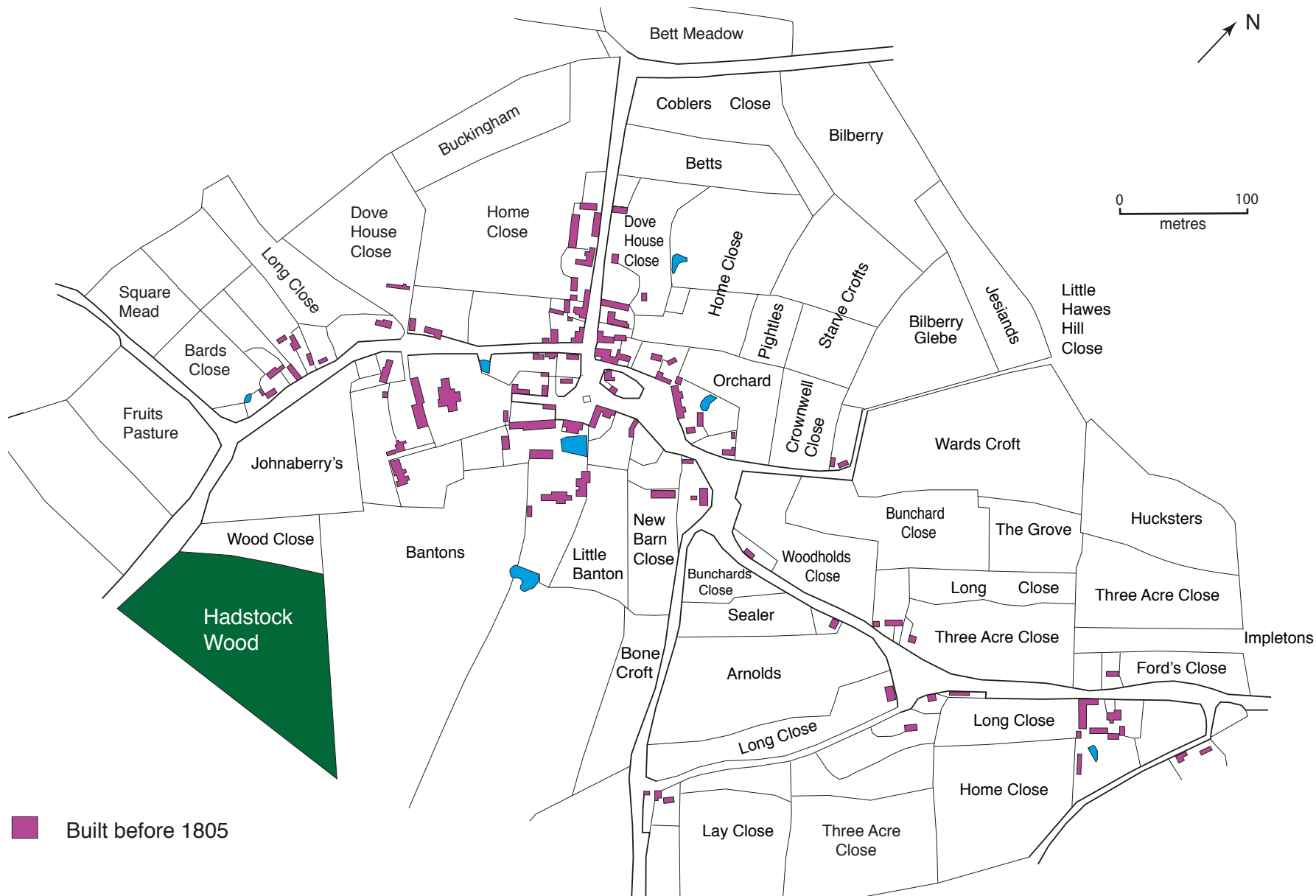


- Sydenham Malthus owned the Manor House and Lordship Farm, along with one third of all Parish land. Buck Smoothy was the tenant farmer for the Lordship Farm. Malthus lived in Surrey.
- Davey's farm was owned by Sir John Barrington and Edward Green. John Davey was the tenant farmer for all Barrington/Green land.
- The rectory of the Rev John Addison Carr was in the current Church car park.
- Bardsfield was owned and rented out by Robert Chalk Senior who lived in Linton. The Bard family lived in Hadstock from before 1800 to 1860.
- Sir George Baker, Physician to George III, owned Maddings/Chantry House.
- Robert Chalk Junior ran a blacksmiths shop by the Green. Nearby was the village pound which held stray animals.



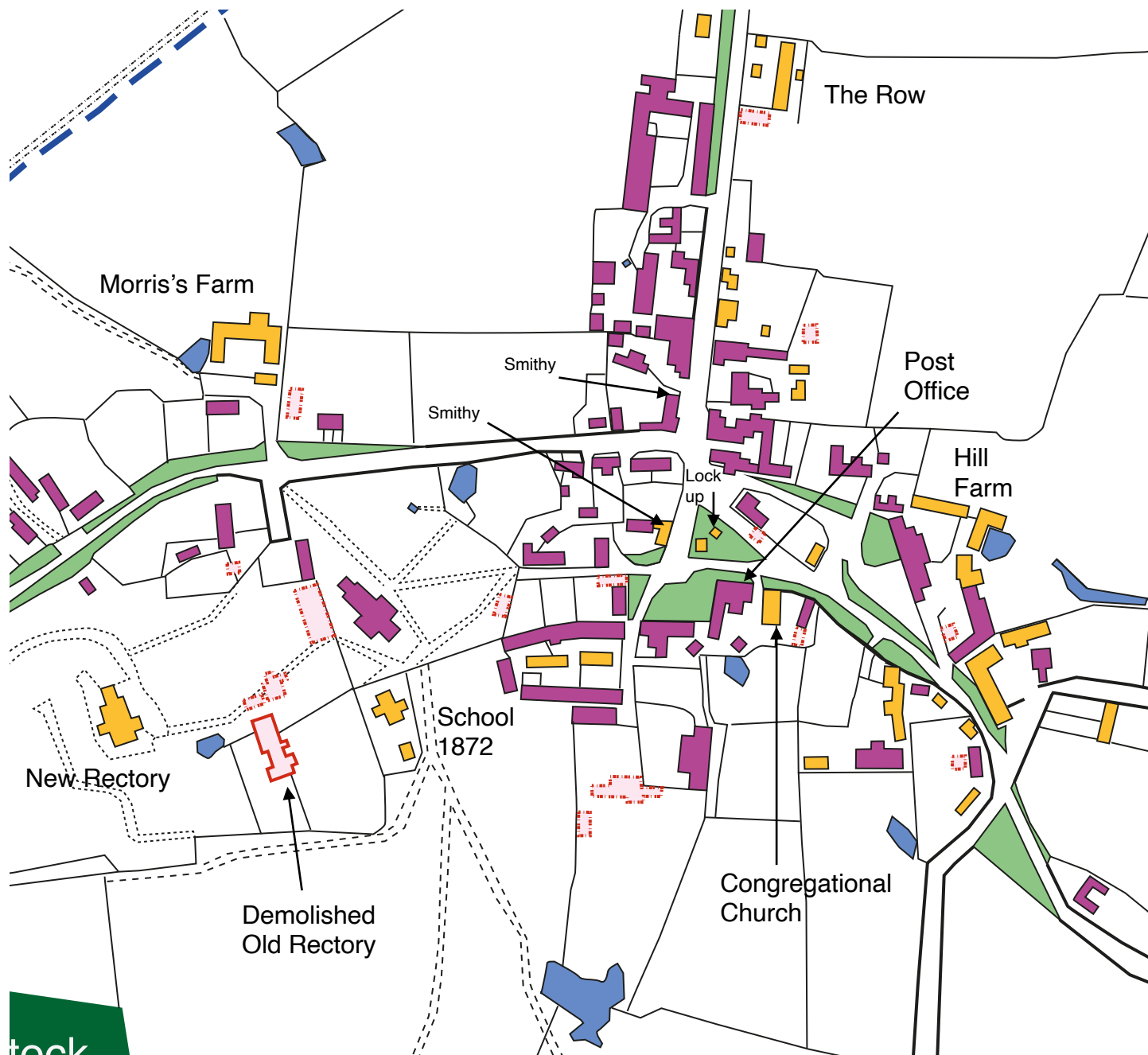
c.1803 (3)

- In the north of the village, most of the 1803 buildings are recognisable today.
- However, the three buildings at Woodfield on Arnold's Lane were demolished before 1900, one of which was a poor house run by Hadstock overseers.
- Several of today's well-known cottages are evident in the map, such as Briar Cottage, Hadstock Cottage, Dormer Thatch and Mallyons.
- Hawes families had been in Hadstock since 1700. The name Hawes was associated not only with the local hill but also with four of the villages Open field shots.
- Two families with the surname Mole lived here in 1792, probably in Briar cottage. By 1871 John and Mary Mole had changed their name to Moule and the lane became known as Moules Lane.



c.1803 (4)

- There were 156 privately owned inclosures or closes, most sited around the village, as seen here.
- The majority had names, and several of these names are with us today, over 200 years later.
- Examples of Close names still here in 2022 are: Coblers (now Cobblers), Orchard Pightle, Bilberry, New Barn Close, Arnolds and Bantons.



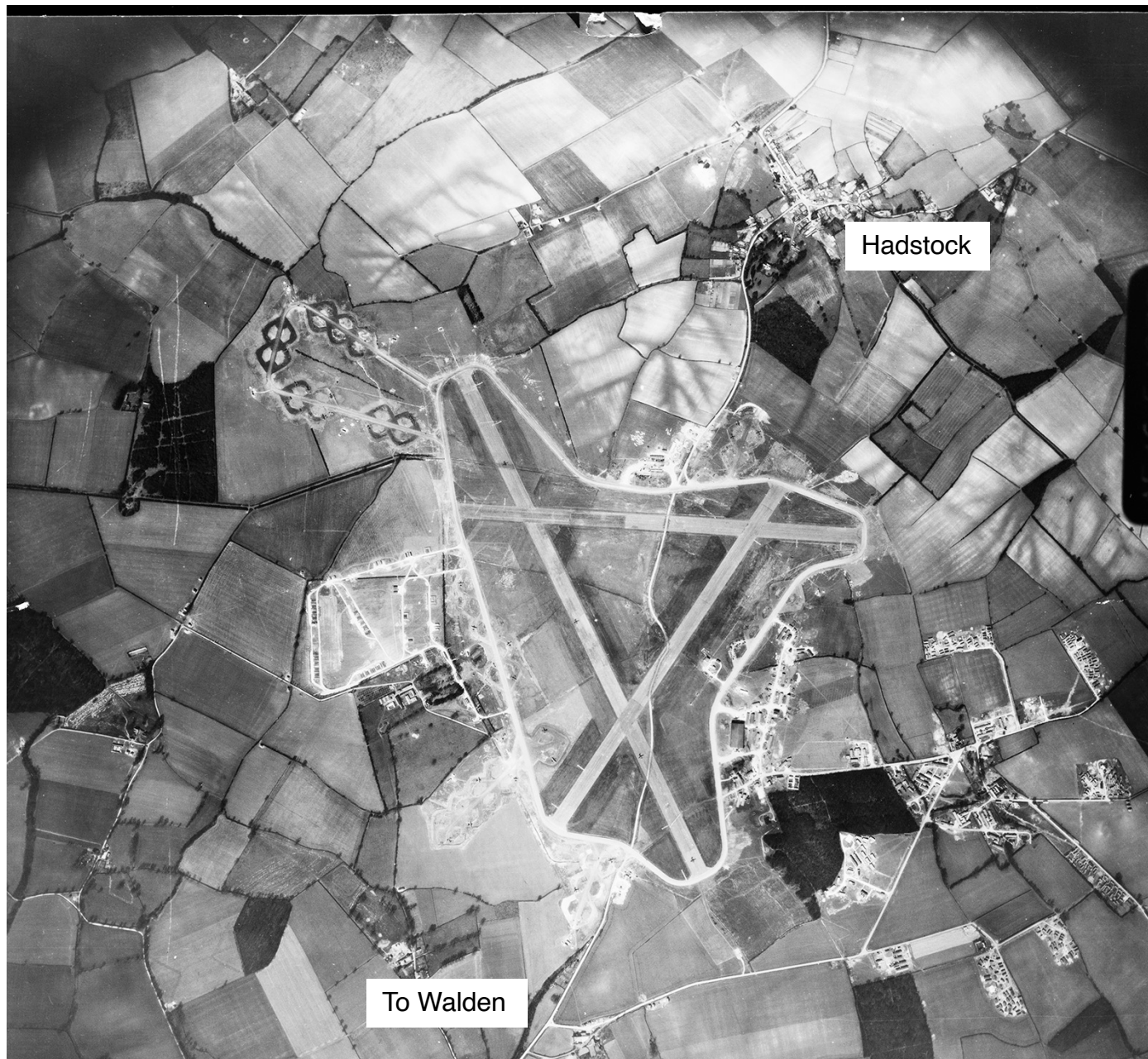
1877

- This shows buildings around the village centre some 75 years later.
- Those buildings in orange were constructed between 1805 and 1877, and include a new Rectory, Morris's Farm and a cluster of new buildings around Hill Farm on the Bartlow Road.
- Barns/outbuildings demolished since 1805 are indicated with dashed red outlines.
- A terrace of houses (now the Row) has appeared on the Linton Road.
- Building of a church school was completed in 1872, as well as a Congregational Church.
- Two smithies were at work near the Green, where there was also a lock-up (now in Saffron Walden museum).
- The Post Office was in Pond House.
- Census data indicates that the population was around 455 with 110 households.



1921

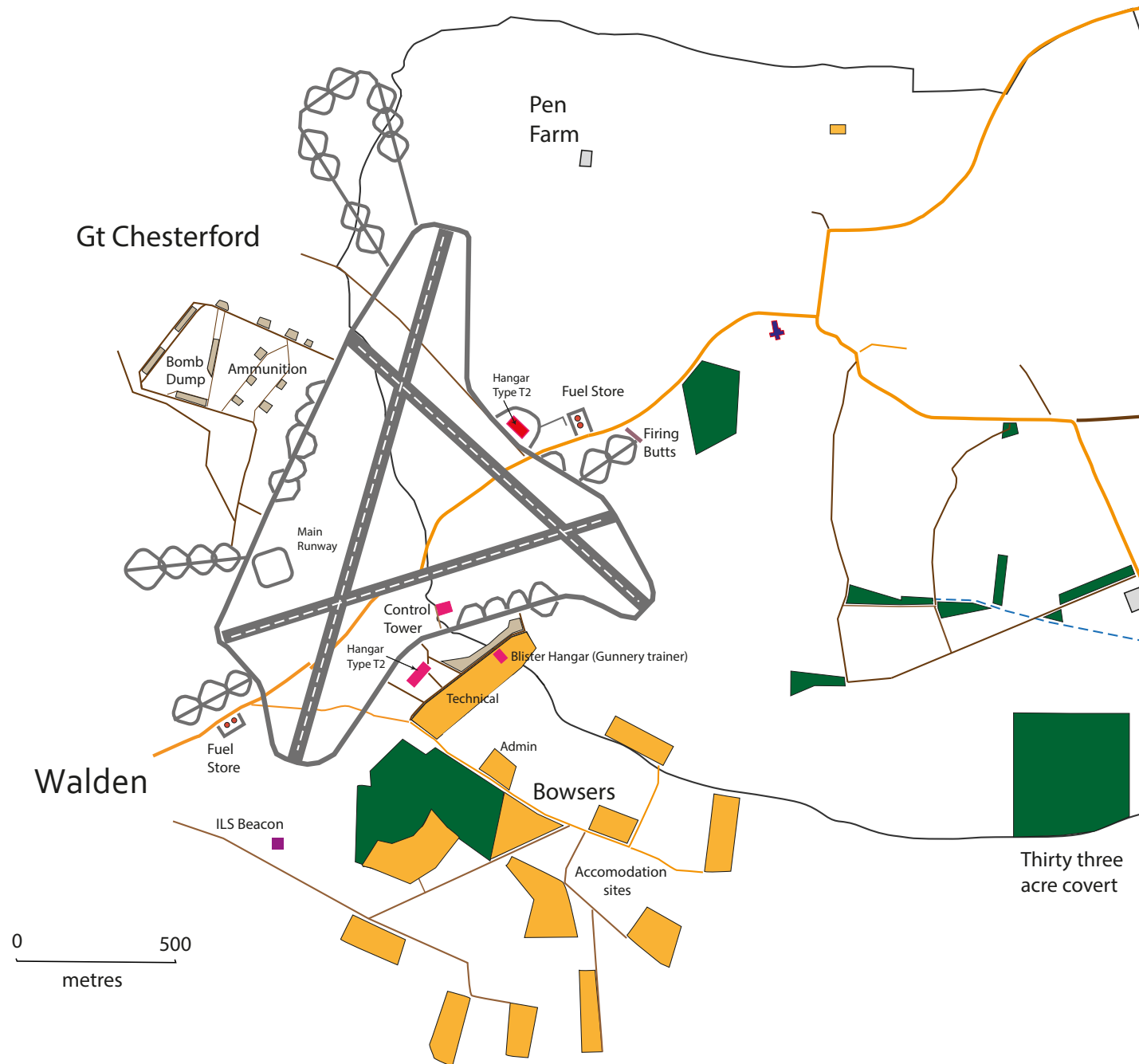
- This illustrates the main village buildings in 1921.
- There was very little new build between 1877 and 1921, Lordship Cottages on Linton Road being the only new construction in the main village.
- However, several buildings were demolished (red dotted outlines). Most were farm buildings, but one building (two cottages) on Church Path (then known as the Carsey) was lost due to fire.
- Around 300 people were recorded in the census of this year, living in 85 households.



1944

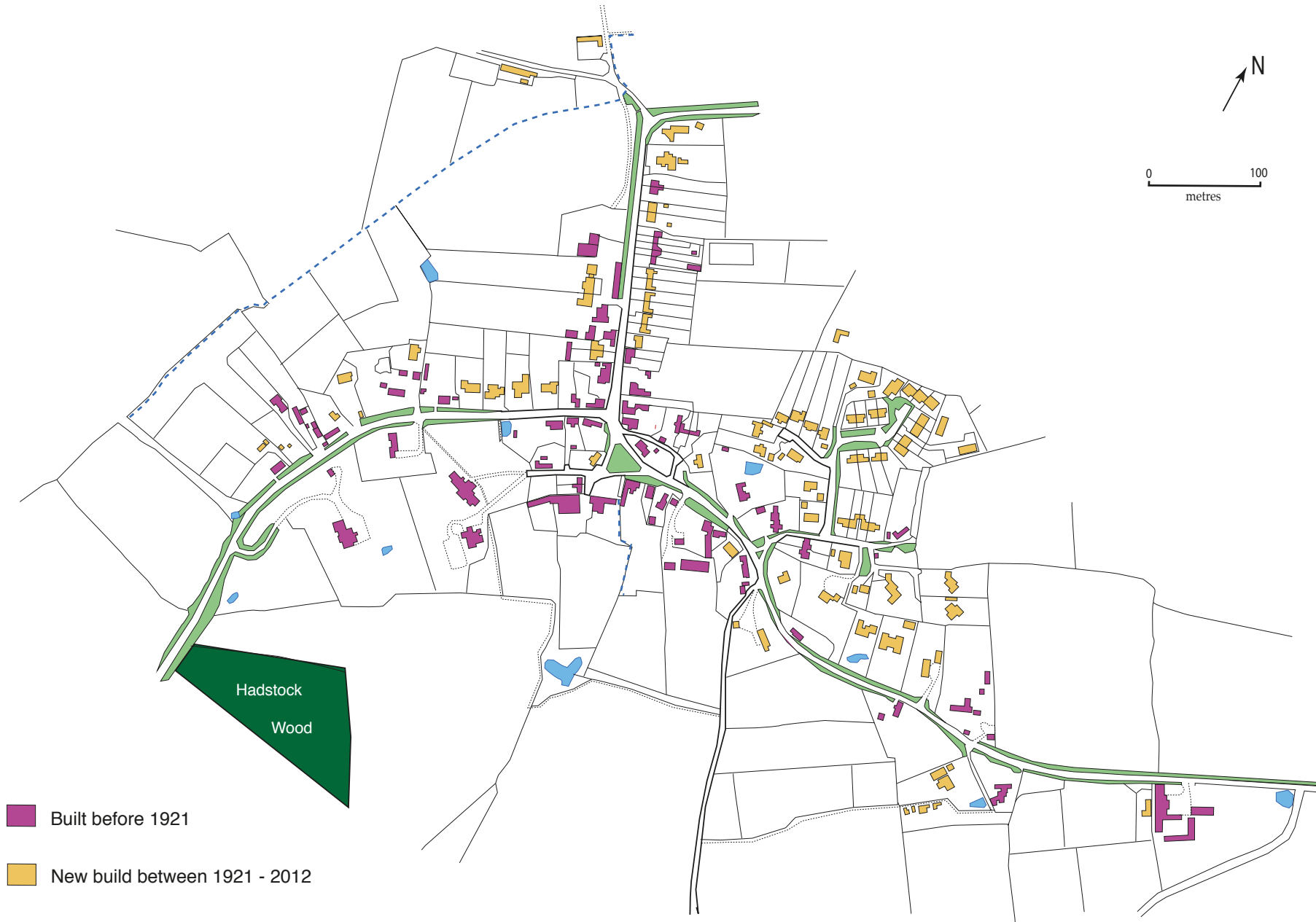
- The construction of Little Walden airfield (USAAF Station 165) started in 1941.
- This near-dusk aerial view shows the lit-up built environment with administration and technical units, together with living quarters, spread around the runway system and the aircraft hard standing areas.
- Airfield buildings and infrastructure were sited across three Parishes: Hadstock, Saffron Walden and Ashdon.
- The bomber and fighter operational units flying from the airfield between 1943 and 1946 were discussed in Part 1: Boundaries, roads woods and paths.
- Up to 3000 personnel were working at the site during the war.

1944



- The airfield was built for bomber flights, with three runways at 60deg and a 1900yard main runway, aligned NW – SE.
- Around 50 hard standings for stationary aircraft were distributed around the perimeter track and were of the 'spectacle loop' type.
- Bomb and ammunition stores were on the west side of the site. Technical, admin and accommodation sites were near Bowers.
- Circular brick-banded fuel tanks were built adjacent to the Hadstock road (now Harrison Sayer Reserve) and Little Walden road, These were fed by an underground pipeline from Walden to Norwich.
- All units returned to the USA in 1946.

2012 (1)



- Little if any housing was built in the period 1925 to 1945. However, this changed after the war.
- The new build was a mix of local authority and private housing, outbuildings, and stables, imaged in yellow.
- Houses were constructed as infill along the Walden and Linton roads, but the largest developments were in the 1970s and 1980s on the hill around Moules Lane and Bilberry End.
- The population in the 2011 census was 330.
- More detail is shown in the next two illustrations.

2012 (2)



- Two of the post-war new houses on the Walden Road were built by Sir Patrick Hamilton who lived at Maddings (now Chantry House). Morris's farm buildings had been demolished and the replacement house (Ty Nant in 2012) was for his chauffeur and the other, now Maddings Cottage, for a gardener and cook-housekeeper. Both houses have since been enlarged.
- Sir Patrick was Director of Aircraft Propellor Manufacture for the Ministry of Aircraft Production during WW2.
- Waylands was built close to the site of the blacksmiths cottage which had burned down in 1957.
- The village school was closed in 1948 and became the village hall, run by Trustees. In 1984, the hall and grounds were transferred to Hadstock Parish Council.



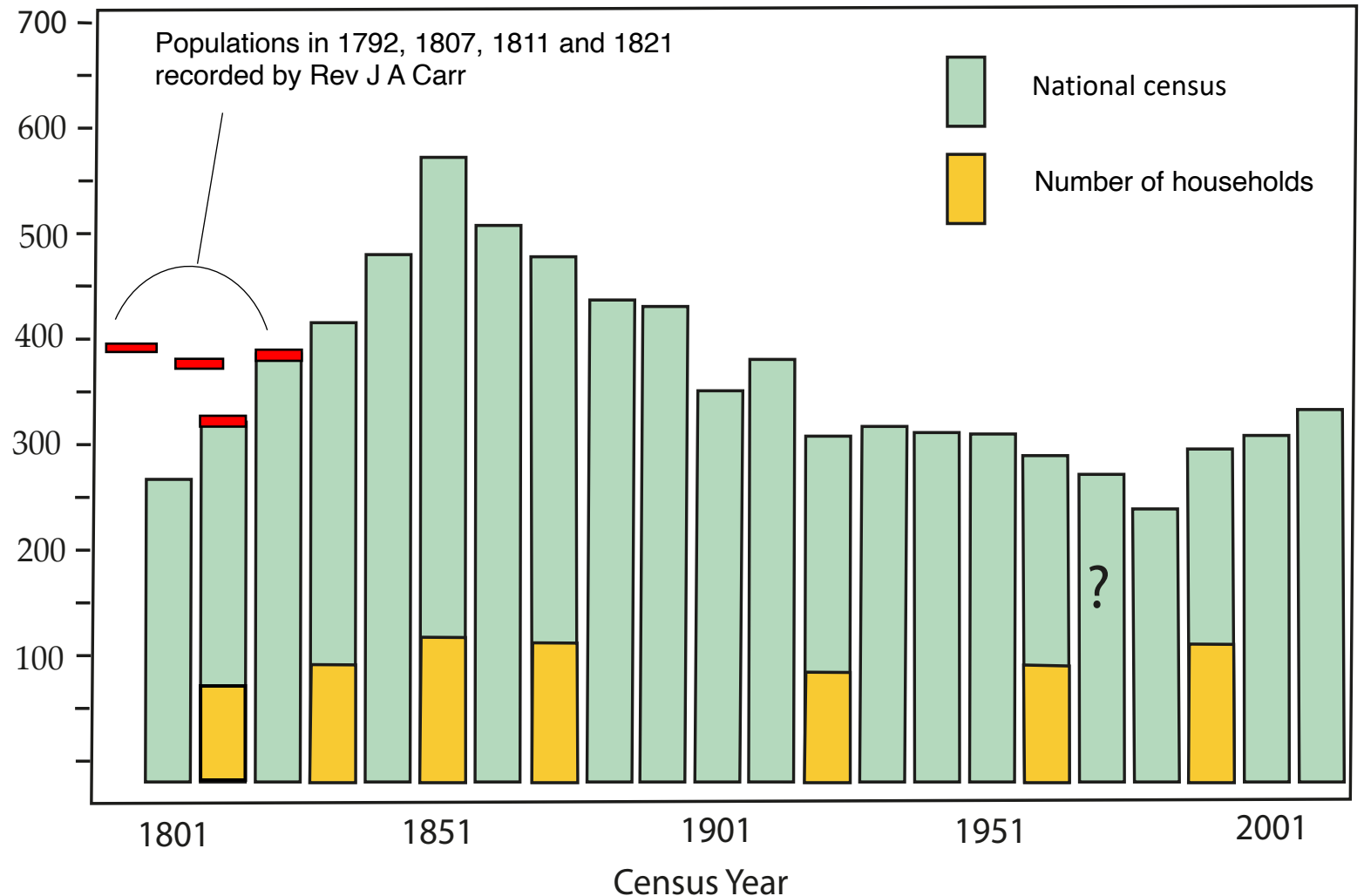
2012 (3)

- This shows the new build along the Linton road from 1921 to 2012 (imaged in yellow). Much of this was constructed in the early 1920s.
- Jack Crawley built and lived in the bungalow on Cobler's corner, now named High Banks, and then moved into the newly constructed house next door, now named Cobblers.
- Six local authority houses were constructed opposite Yew Farm in 1923.
- Further local authority housing came to Hadstock in the period 1950 -1952, first in Moules Lane and then in Bilberry End, with a mix of bungalows and houses.
- The Orchard Pightle development of private houses took place in the 1970s, along with the build of several infill houses in Bilberry End.

Population changes

- National census data show the Parish population more than doubled from 1801 to 1851.
- Rev J Carr carried out his own surveys in 1792, 1807, 1811 and 1821. His 1811/1821 data matched the census data exactly. But his 1792 and 1807 parishioner surveys indicated a bigger population than the 1801 national census.
- Why was the 1801 census population so much lower than Carr's parishioner counts? This needs further research.
- There was a steady decline in numbers after 1851, and the population only started growing again in the 1990s. Around 40 new houses were built between 1940 and 1990.
- Based on the Hadstock Millennium book, the number of Parish households in 2020 was 129, of which 116 were in Hadstock village.

Hadstock Population Changes



Summary

- The Parish population peaked at around 560 in the mid-1850s with 125 households. By 1921, the village population had dropped by a third to 350 with less than 100 households.
- Some local authority houses appeared in the early 1920s, but the largest house expansion took place between 1950-1980. 30 houses and bungalows were built off the Bartlow Road.
- There are now 129 Parish households in 2020 and a population of about 330.
- The number of households in Bowers and Monks Wood hamlets has remained relatively unchanged over 200 years.

