

## The extent of East Meon in 1086

As the following entry shows there are 7 mills and 68 and a half plough-teams in the two manors of "Menes" being the Lord's (then held by William I) and Meonchurch (then held by the monks of Winchester)

<http://www.eastmeonhistory.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Domesday-entry-analysis.pdf>

This probably is the area described in detail in the survey of 1647

1647 Boundaries of the Manors of East Meon and Meonchurch

'This manor lieth part in Hampshire and part in Sussex and is bounded as follows, viz.: By a bound post standing in Basing Dean parting this manor and the manor of West Meon west ... and by the parish of West Tisted upon the north-west to Hoar Thorns, and so by the manor of Colemeare and a wood called Colemearewood on the north ... and from thence upon the manor of Prior's Dean upon the north-east to the rising of a little brook in Brooker's mead, and so by that little brook to the parish of Liss, and thence to Wheatham dell and the yew-tree at Wheatham Green, and by a little lake to the Prince's Bridge, and so by the river to Lord's mill and from thence by a little stream unto Kettler's brook and so by the highway to Polehill, then by a footpath to Tilmer gate ... from thence to Beerland bounding upon the manor of Berriton, from thence to a great oak standing in the midst of Chescombe and so abutting upon the manor of Berriton and Mapledurham upon the south-east unto a great ash standing on the side of Butser Hill ... and so to the lower gate of Hiden abutting upon the parish of Clanfield, on the south from the aforesaid gate to Broad Halfpenny abutting upon the parish of Katherington, thence to Pye Lane abutting upon the parish of Hambledon ... from thence abutting upon the parish of West Meon, upon the south-west as far as Westbury, from thence towards the west upon certain lands belonging to Westbury, and so upon the land of Peak farm towards the north-west upon the parish of Privett ... and so to Basing Post standing in Basing Dean aforesaid.' Certain payments were made from the manor to various officials of the bishopric—the measurer of the tithecorn and wheat of the rectory, the surveyor and steward of the lordships belonging to the bishopric, the treasurer of 'Wolvesey,' the bailiff of the bailiwick of East Meon, the clerk of the bailiwick of East Meon and Meonchurch, and two reeves and a beadle, and the net annual value of the manor was estimated at £281 5s. 1½d.'

This is traceable on a detail current OS map in the main. Peake Farm, Basing Dean Post (The Angel previously "Pig & Whistle", Colemore, Wheatham Green, Prince's Bridge (Hilliers Nursery on A3), Lords Mill (Sheet Mill), Tilmore Gate (probably approximately Pizza Express in Petersfield, Hyden Down, Beerlands ...all still there. Trees obviously no longer identifiable. I have roughly drawn the boundaries on the accompanying Powerpoint slide. I roughly think that covers 15 to 20 square miles...plenty of romm of 200-300 oxen! I found the link below useful to get close detail.

<http://www.walkingclub.org.uk/OS-maps/Explorer/133-haslemere-petersfield.shtml>

There is visible evidence of 8 mills in this delineated area: Drayton, Frogmore, South Farm (East Meon), Ramsdean, Lord's Mill and Bridge Mill (Sheet), Adhurst/Steep Mill, and Oakshott. Probably the seven in Domesday are seven of these eight. It should not be assumed they were necessarily always corn mills. Certainly there is evidence that Ramsdean was a fulling mill and

so possibly were others. Petersfield was a centre for the production of Kerseys (a woollen textile).

As for oxen...a few possibly different perspectives (not an area I know much about.

I suspect both female and males were used in teams?

Feeding animals over winter was difficult and risked humans starving instead...so perhaps females weren't allowed to calf every year?

Oxen probably seldom used for meat production. Pigs much more common and mutton, rabbits, and cultivated fish all evidenced in East Meon early records

Oxen teams used for all sorts of year round purposes (hauling timber, carting, etc.)

Very unlikely that carcasses were buried. Saxon and Normans used everything possible to good purpose. Bones as final resort would be ground up as high nitrogen fertiliser (I am just about to put blood, bone and hoof fertiliser on my dahlias!)

A "household" could represent a quite numerous mini community as an extended family consisting of three generations.