

# Marcham in Domesday

tra n̄ fuit in abbacia i. R. E. sed ē q̄ta regi.  
sa abbacia ten̄ ~~an ecclesia~~. Sēp tenuit ~~in ecclesia~~  
R. E. se defd̄ p. xx. hid. modo p. x. hid. tra ē x. car.  
m̄io sunt. iii. car. 7 xiiii. uilli 7 x. bord̄ cū x. car. Ibi  
vi. serui. 7 molin̄ de. xv. sol. 7 c. ac̄ p̄a.  
e hac tra ten̄ Anschil. i. hid. Alium tenuit de abbe. 7  
in d̄mo. i. car. Tot. i. R. E. ualuit. xii. lib. 7 x. sol. modo t̄

# Simon Blackmore



# 'Marcham in Domesday'



Research for a Marcham Society talk  
given by Simon Blackmore in November 2020

# Marcham in Domesday

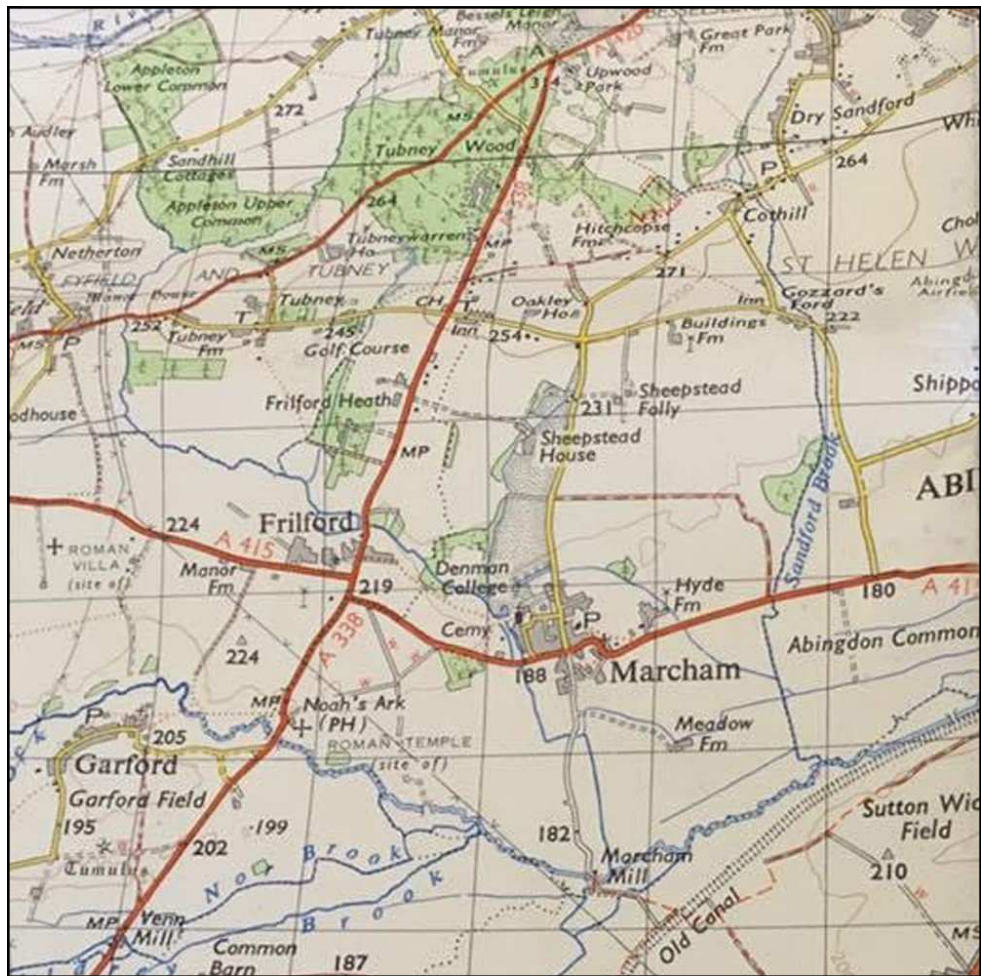


1986 Stamps : marking the 900th anniversary of the Domesday Book

## **MARCHAM in 1086**

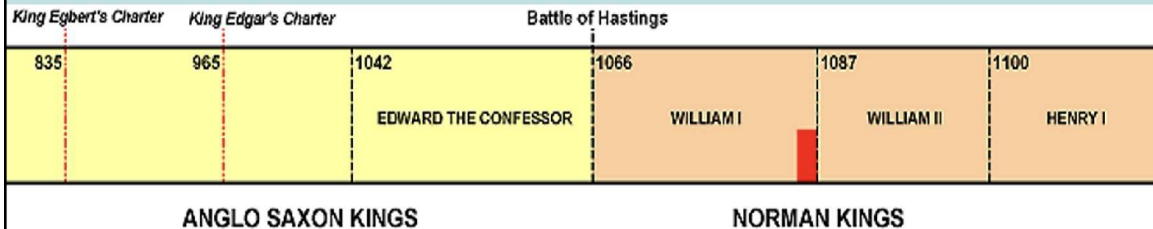
- |                             |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 1) The Historical Context:  | pages 5-8   |
| 2) The County of Berkshire: | pages 9-12  |
| 3) The Marcham 'Hundred':   | pages 13-14 |
| 4) The Village of Marcham:  | pages 15-17 |
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# Marcham in Domesday



Marcham Village as shown in the 1962 Ordnance Survey Map

## When? A Simple Timeline



*The red box shows 1085-6 when Domesday Book data was collected*



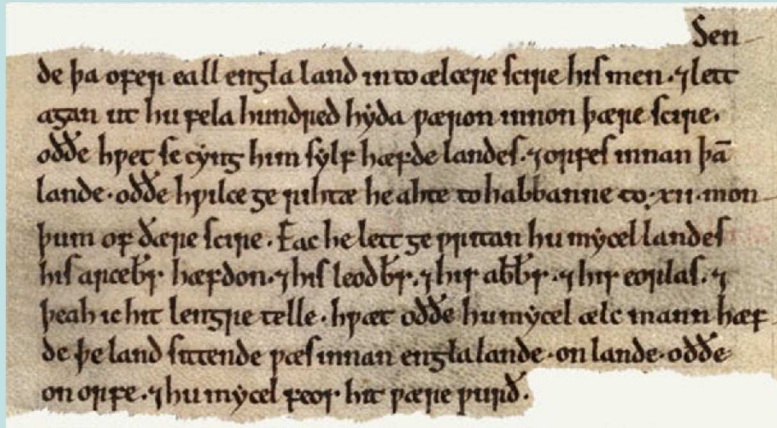
*Left: Edward the Confessor from the Bayeux tapestry*

*Right: A silver coin from William I's reign*



# Marcham in Domesday

## The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle description of Domesday



An extract in Old/Middle English from the Peterborough Chronicle in the Bodleian Library, Oxford

*"[King William] sent his men over all England into every shire and had them find out how many 100 hides there were in the shire, or what land and cattle the King himself had in the country or what dues he ought to have in the 12 months from the shire. He also recorded how much land his archbishops had and his bishops and his abbots and his earls how much each man who was a landholder in England had in land or livestock and how much money it was worth".*

## Towns in Domesday England



18 Towns and 13,400 Villages

In 1086 the total population of Norman England was somewhere between 2 and 2.5 million

# Marcham in Domesday

The Anglo-Saxon shire was an administrative division, next above the 'hundred' and seems to have existed in the south in the time of Alfred the Great (871–899)

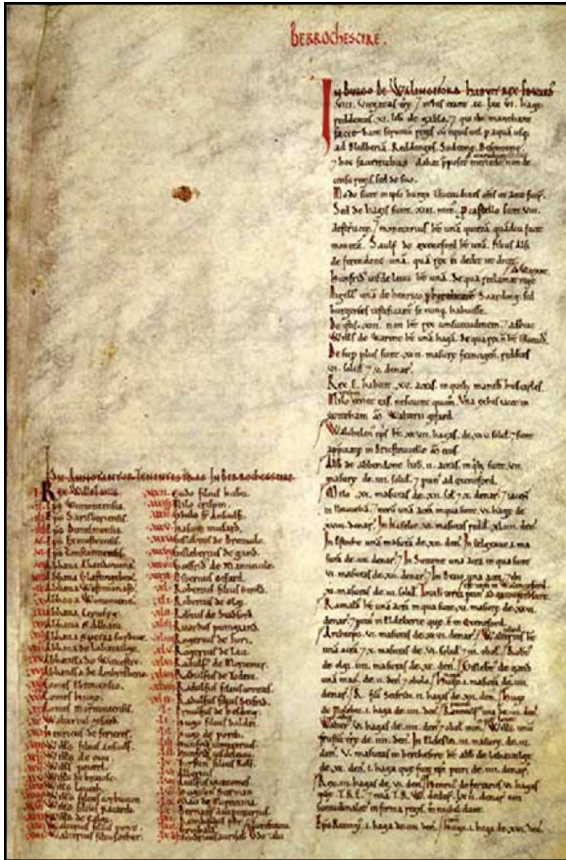
## Assessment by Shire

- Information from 40 Counties
- the Anglo-Saxon period pre-1066 and post-invasion
- Manors, Assets, People in each 'Hundred'
- Every 'tenant-in-chief', (bishop, abbot, baron or sheriff) and other local official, provided the information.
- The same questions were asked to everyone with an interest in land from the barons to the villagers.
- Commissioners checked



At the time of the Norman Conquest, Berkshire formed part of the Earldom of Harold, and supported him staunchly at the battle of Hastings. This loyalty was punished and at the time of the Domesday no estates of any importance were in the hands of Englishmen.

# Marcham in Domesday



**BERROCHESCIRE.**

**R**ex Willelmus. Eudo filius hibra. Milo crispin. Gihilo fr Antulfi. Haisore mulard. Gislebertus de Brezeule. Gostfrid de Manneule. Robertus filius Givols. Robertus de elgi.

## Berkshire

(Berrochescire)

- The Domesday account for Berkshire begins with the **Terra Regis**
- Then the lands of the bishops of Winchester, Salisbury, Durham, Exeter and Coutances then the lands of the **Abbot of Abingdon**
- Lastly those of the great lay barons starting with the **Count of Evreux**.
- Each of their lands, like those of the King, are divided into **hundreds** and then subdivided into the **manors** or villages held.

On the right is the detail from the title page for Berkshire and the position on the list of landowners shows the relative importance of Abingdon Abbey.

# Marcham in Domesday

## Abingdon Abbey as a landowner

| King Egbert's Charter                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |     | King Edgar's Charter |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Battle of Hastings |         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------|
| 835                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 965 | 1042                 | 1066                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1087               | 1100    |
| EDWARD THE CONFESSOR                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |     |                      | WILLIAM I                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | WILLIAM II         | HENRY I |
| ANGLO SAXON KINGS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |     |                      | NORMAN KINGS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                    |         |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Of all the land listed in Domesday Book, it is estimated that the King owned 15% and the Church 25%</li><li>• Abingdon Abbey was an important religious, political and economic centre.</li><li>• Before Edward the Confessor, the Abbey had been gifted Marcham either by King Egbert in 835 or King Edgar in 965</li><li>• Under the Norman rule, many lords changed but Abingdon retained its lands.</li><li>• The Abbey held records and charters that survive by being quoted in the <i>Abingdon Chronicles</i>.</li><li>• The Abbey was dissolved by Henry VIII in 1539</li></ul> |     |                      | <p>12. (B26) <i>Carta Ecgerhti regis de Mercham et de ecclesie Abbdonensis libertate</i>.<sup>66</sup></p> <p>In nomine Dei et Domini nostri Ihesu Christi redemptoris mundi. Anno Dominice incarnationis .dcccxxxv., indictione tercia decima, ego Ecgbert,<sup>6</sup> rex occidentalium Saxonum, dedi monasterium illud<sup>c</sup> Mercham quinquaginta manentium ad Abbdune,<sup>67</sup> cum licentia et consensu totius nostre gentis et unanimitate<sup>d</sup> omnium optimatum. Hec donatio fuit facta in Pascha in Dorcheestre,<sup>e</sup> et postera uice eandem donationem liberaliter in Natali confirmauimus, anno imperii nostri quarto et tricensimo. Et sic mandamus, in nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti, ut nullus superueniat hominum ibi, superbia inflatus, nec rex suum pastum requirat uel habentes homines quos</p> <p>12. (B26) <i>Charter of King Ecgerht concerning Marcham and the liberty of the church of Abingdon</i>.<sup>66</sup></p> <p>In the name of God and of our Lord Jesus Christ redeemer of the world. In the year of our Lord 835, the thirteenth indiction, I, Ecgerht king of the West Saxons, have given to Abingdon that monastery at Marcham amounting to fifty hides,<sup>67</sup> with the permission and consent of all our people and the unanimous accord of all the leading men. This gift was made at Easter in Dorchester,<sup>68</sup> and on a later occasion we freely confirmed this gift at Christmas, in the thirty-fourth year of our dominion. And so we instruct, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, that no man, puffed up with pride, may encroach there, no king seek hospitality or the retainers</p> |                    |         |

The text on the right is from the charter of 835 quoted in the *Abingdon Chronicles* and some scholars think that it is a forgery. The charter of 965 is thought more reliable.

# Marcham in Domesday

## Berkshire

- Berkshire was divided into 21 'hundreds'
- Each hundred was valued according to 'hides', plough teams and men
- Individual features were included such as mills, churches and fishponds
- These were assessed for tax and values were compared between 1065 and 1086
- Note the fall in the hides for *Lambourn, Hilleslau, Wilfol and Ganfield*

Domesday Tables (FH Baring, 1901)

SUMMARY OF THE HUNDREDS

| HUNDREDS                  | HIDES           |                 | TEAM LANDS | VALUES |      | TEAMS |      | MEN  |                  |      |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|--------|------|-------|------|------|------------------|------|
|                           | 1065            | 1086            |            | 1065   | 1086 | dem   | men  | vill | bord             | serv |
| Bray and Beynhurst        | 93 <sup>a</sup> | 46 <sup>a</sup> | 130        | 131    | 111  | 24    | 109  | 228  | 67 <sup>a</sup>  | 30   |
| Riplesmere                | 60              | 27              | [50]       | 53     | 37   | 8     | 40   | 89   | 12               | 1    |
| Charlton                  | 145             | 45              | 141        | 143    | 118  | 17    | 117  | 165  | 69               | 33   |
| Reading                   | 153             | 110             | 221        | 188    | 173  | 29    | 165  | 245  | 200              | 47   |
| Hesletsford               | 117             | 44              | 91         | 160    | 171  | 29    | 64   | 106  | 165 <sup>a</sup> | 50   |
| Blewbury                  | 127             | 79              | 103        | 185    | 208  | 27    | 75   | 164  | 154 <sup>a</sup> | 56   |
| Nachededorne              | 103             | 60              | 88         | 101    | 85   | 26    | 38   | 75   | 101              | 37   |
| Bucklebury                | 47              | 30              | [60]       | 48     | 48   | 13    | 47   | 60   | 50               | 34   |
| Tatcham                   | 74              | 33              | 103        | 87     | 111  | 17    | 74   | 117  | 100              | 29   |
| Roeberg                   | 128             | 66              | 95         | 92     | 80   | 25    | 71   | 107  | 135              | 26   |
| Kintbury                  | 133             | 74              | 102        | 120    | 114  | 36    | 70   | 121  | 186              | 76   |
| Eagle                     | 96              | 51              | 74         | 132    | 131  | 23    | 41   | 74   | 90               | 38   |
| Lamboura ●                | 73              | 19              | 75         | 94     | 74   | 15    | 39   | 73   | 103              | 18   |
| Wantage                   | 239             | 133             | 146        | 251    | 264  | 47    | 59   | 174  | 318 <sup>a</sup> | 53   |
| Hilleslau ●               | 140             | 61              | 77         | 113    | 127  | 25    | 34   | 75   | 125              | 42   |
| Shrivenham ●              | 71              | 12              | 49         | 54     | 68   | 11    | 40   | 102  | 52               | 8    |
| Wilfol ●                  | 144             | 24              | 68         | 91     | 99   | 25    | 33   | 85   | 77               | 47   |
| Ganfield ●                | 185             | 69              | 100        | 160    | 134  | 31    | 52   | 119  | 125 <sup>a</sup> | 76   |
| Marcham ●                 | 141             | 110             | 107        | 102    | 98   | 40    | 56   | 147  | 131              | 42 ● |
| Sutton                    | 123             | 49              | 104        | 150    | 181  | 25    | 65   | 200  | 166              | 30   |
| Horner                    | 110             | 70              | 125        | 93     | 131  | 27    | 72   | 159  | 167              | 20   |
|                           | 2502            | 1213            | 2109       | 2548   | 2561 | 520   | 1361 | 2685 | 2593             | 793  |
| Other counts <sup>a</sup> | 2502            |                 | 2087       | 2384   | 2378 |       | 1796 | 2623 | 2577             | 792  |

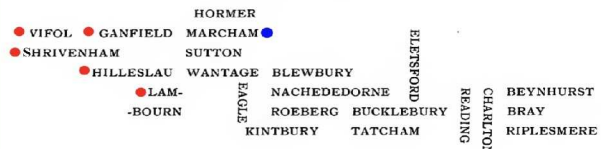
<sup>a</sup> These include cotters.

<sup>a</sup> These are cotters only.

<sup>a</sup> Fractions have been rounded off.

<sup>a</sup> Maitland, D.B. and S. p. 400, Pearson and Ellis.

Diagram of the hundreds



The red markers show the hundreds that suffered between 1065 and 1086 from 'William's March' when the Norman Army crossed Berkshire before capturing London.

# Marcham in Domesday

## Berkshire: 1065 to 1086

### "William's March"



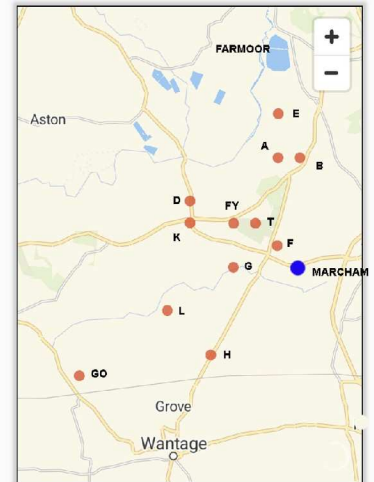
The red line shows the route that 'William's March' took in 1066 and the green line shows the later 'Harrying of the North' campaigns waged by King William in the winter of 1069–70 to subjugate northern England.

# Marcham in Domesday

## The Marcham Hundred

There were 13 places in the hundred of **Marcham** in Domesday Book.

| Name                                | Households |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| <a href="#">[East] Hanney</a>       | 56         |
| <a href="#">Fyfield</a>             | 40         |
| <a href="#">Kingston [Bagpuize]</a> | 40         |
| ● <a href="#">Marcham</a>           | 34         |
| <a href="#">Frilford</a>            | 26         |
| <a href="#">Garford</a>             | 26         |
| <a href="#">Appleton</a>            | 23         |
| <a href="#">Lyford</a>              | 22         |
| <a href="#">Draycott [Moor]</a>     | 20         |
| <a href="#">Tubney</a>              | 20         |
| <a href="#">Goosey</a>              | 17         |
| <a href="#">Eaton</a>               | 16         |
| <a href="#">[Bessels] Leigh</a>     | 12         |



Although Marcham was the administrative centre of its Hundred, it was not the most populated village. It was the wealthiest and also the closest to Abingdon Abbey.

# Marcham in Domesday

## The Marcham Hundred

- Marcham is titled as 'Merceham'
- Marcham is the highest valued of the parishes followed by Garford, Fifield and Goosey (blue)
- Two Churches (red)
- Five Fisheries (green)
- Three Mills (orange)

### Status of 'Men'

Freemen - 56 (15%)

Villeins - 147 (39%)

Bordars - 131 (35%)

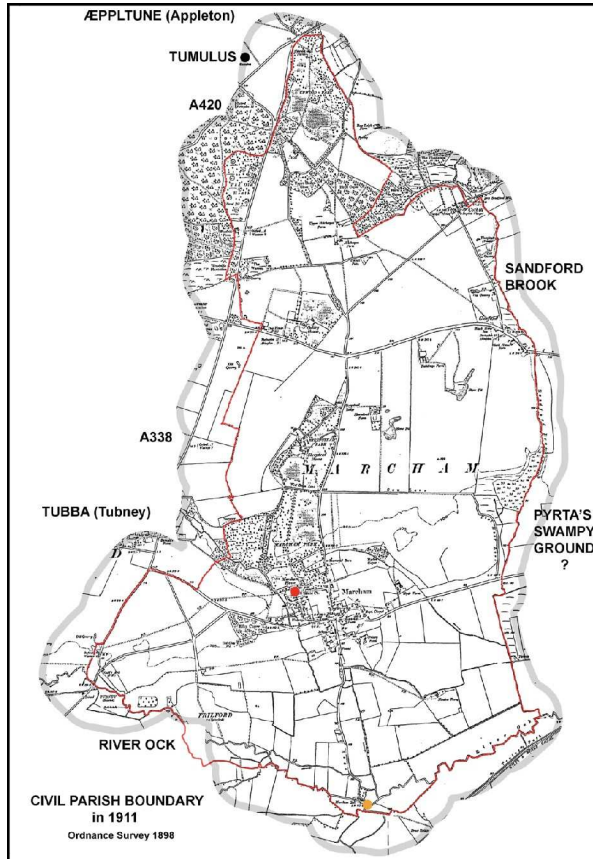
Slaves - 42 (11%)

There is no mention of the 'Marcham Hundred' after 1086  
– it becomes the 'Ock Hundred'

| Mills<br>shill                | Wood<br>pigs | Mead<br>pigs | MODERN NAMES<br>DOMESDAY NAMES | HIDES<br>1065/1086 | LANDS<br>1065/1086 | £ VALUE<br>1065 post 1086 | TEAMS<br>dem men | MEN<br>vill bor serv |     |     |     |     |     |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| MERCEHAM (MARCHAM NOW IN OCK) |              |              |                                |                    |                    |                           |                  |                      |     |     |     |     |     |
| 15                            | ...          | 100          | Marcham †<br>Mercham           | 20                 | 10                 | 10                        | 12½              | 12½                  | 3   | 10  | 18  | 10  | 6   |
|                               |              | 40           | Frilford ...<br>Frielford      | 10                 | 10                 | 4                         | 2                | 2                    | 4   | 2   | 8   | ... | ... |
|                               |              | 15           | in Tubney Tobenie              | 1                  | 1                  | 6                         | 2                | 2                    | 4   | 0   | 6   | 2   | 16  |
|                               |              | 2            | 59 b 1 v.p. 43                 | 2                  | 2                  | 1                         | 2                | 1½                   | ... | ... | ... | 2   | ... |
|                               |              |              | [? Oakley] Leie                | 14                 | 1                  | 1                         | 5                | 2                    | 4   | 2   | 3   | ... | 12  |
| 7½                            |              | 30           | Garford ...                    | 10                 | 6                  | 7                         | 12               | 10                   | 10  | 3   | 3   | 10  | 10  |
|                               |              | 6            | Wareford                       |                    |                    |                           |                  |                      | 1   | ... | ... | 6   | ... |
|                               |              | 100          | Hannev v.p. 45, 77             | 10                 | 10                 | 7                         | 8                | 7                    | 7   | ... | 2   | 10  | ... |
| 12                            |              | 60           | Hanlei                         |                    |                    |                           |                  |                      | 2   | ½   | ... | 9   | 4   |
|                               |              | 100          | Goosey v.p. 45                 | 17                 | 11                 | 9                         | 9                | 10                   | 10  | 2   | 3   | 6   | 3   |
|                               |              | 35           | Gosei                          |                    |                    |                           |                  |                      | 1   | ½   | 7   | ... | ... |
|                               |              | 4            | Lyford ...                     | 7                  | 7                  | 3                         | 4                | ...                  | 5   | 2   | 2   | 8   | 7   |
|                               |              | 36           | in Linford ...                 | 10                 | 3                  | 3                         | 1½               | 1                    | 2   | 1   | ½   | 3   | 3   |
|                               |              | 40           | Draycot Moor fish.<br>Draicote | 10                 | 10                 | 8                         | 5                | 5                    | 6   | ... | 7   | 16  | ... |
|                               |              | 30           | Kingston fish 5s               | 5                  | 4                  | 4                         | 5                | ...                  | 3   | 2   | 1   | 6   | 9   |
|                               |              | 30           | Chingestune ...                | 5                  | 5                  | 4                         | 3                | ...                  | 2½  | 2   | 2   | 11  | 6   |
|                               |              | 100          | Fifield †                      | 10                 | 10                 | 8                         | 10               | 10                   | 6   | 2   | 3   | 13  | 5   |
|                               |              | 12           | Fivehide ½ fish 11½s           | 5                  | 6                  | 6                         | ...              | 5                    | 2   | 2   | 2   | 8   | 3   |
|                               |              |              | Appleton ...                   | 5                  | 2½                 | 4                         | 4                | 3                    | 2½  | 1   | 1   | 3   | 5   |
|                               |              |              | Aplelone<br>Apletune fish 34s  | 5                  | 2½                 | 6                         | 5                | 3½                   | 3   | 1   | 1   | 4   | 5   |
|                               |              | 25           | ? Eaton fish 5s                | 5                  | 5                  | 4                         | 3                | ...                  | 2½  | 2   | 3   | 3   | 4   |
|                               |              | 25           | E(i)dlune 2 fish 18s           | 5                  | 5                  | 4                         | 3                | ...                  | 3½  | 2   | 1   | 3   | 6   |
|                               |              |              |                                | 141                | 110                | 107                       | 102              |                      | 98  | 40  | 56  | 147 | 131 |
|                               |              |              |                                |                    |                    |                           |                  |                      |     |     |     | 142 |     |

This chart shows the relative wealth of the villages within the Marcham Hundred and Marcham with its Church, Meadows and its Mill was given the highest value.

# Marcham in Domesday



## Marcham

### Parish boundaries in 965AD (50 hides including Frilford)

The Saxon description of Marcham Parish boundary  
quoted in the Charter of 965AD

*His metis prefatum rus hinc inde giratur.*

*Þis is þara fiftig hida land gemæra to Merchamme Ærest of Eoccan on mæne mor of mæne more up on hwite more of hwite more on heafoces hamme of hæuokes hamm on Tubba forða of Tubba forða andlang mores to Æppeltune on þone broc of þæn broce on þone pæð of þane pape on þone ealdan hege of þan ealdan hæge on pyrtan more of pyrtan more pæt eft on Eoccan*

*Anno dominee incarnationis .dcccxcv. scripta est hec carta*

This is the boundary of the 50 hides at Marcham

1. First from the Ock to the swampy land that is in common occupation
2. From Common Moor or Swamp to the White Swamp
3. From White Swamp to Hawk's Enclosure (Hawksham)
4. From Hawksham to Tubba's Ford
5. From Tubba's Ford along the Swamp to Appleton to the Brook.
6. From the Brook to the Path
7. From the Path to the Old Hedge
8. From the Old Hedge to Pyrtan's Swampy Ground
9. From Pyrtan's Swamp then again to the Ock

The boundaries on the West include Tubney (Tubba)  
and Appleton (Æppltune)

*Translation by G.B. Gundy*

The 965 AD Charter quotes the Anglo-Saxon boundaries for Marcham and they differ very little from the Civil Parish of 1911. The Ock, Tubney and Appleton are mentioned.

# Marcham in Domesday

## Marcham in Domesday (1086)

Marcham

x

h̄ t̄ra n̄ fuit in abbacia T. R. E. sed ē q̄ta regi.  
**I**psa abbacia ten̄ ~~ante eā~~. Sēp tenuit ~~h̄ m̄t̄e eā h̄ m̄t̄e~~.  
T. R. E. se def̄t p̄. xx. hid̄. modo p̄ x. hid̄. t̄ra ē. x. car̄. In  
d̄mo sunt. iii. car̄. 7 xiiii. uilli 7 x. bord̄ cū. x. car̄. Ibi gēda  
7 vi. serui. 7 molin̄ de. xv. sol̄. 7 c. ac̄ p̄a.  
De hac t̄ra ten̄ Anschil. .i. hid̄. Alium tenuit de abbe. 7 ibi  
ē in d̄mo. i. car̄. Tot̄ T. R. E. ualuit. xii. lib̄ 7 x. sol̄. Modo. ~~und̄~~.  
T. R. E. ~~und̄~~ Sēp tenuit T. R. E. se def̄t

The villagers would have spoken old English and the Normans old French,  
but Latin was the 'common' administrative language.  
Abbreviations and set phrases were used. The red lines are used as 'highlighters'.

# Marcham in Domesday



## The Description of Marcham

### MERCEHAM – Marcham

Ipsa abbatia ten[et] MERCEHA[M]. Se[m]p[er] tenuit.

IN MERCEHA[M] h[un]dre[d]u[m] T[em]pore R[egis] E[dwardi] se def[en]d[it] p[ro] xx hid[is]. Modo p[ro] x hid[is].

Terra est x car[ucas]. In dominio sunt iii car[ucas], xviii vill[an]i, x bord[arii] cu[m] x car[ucas].

Ibi eccle[si]a, vi servi, molin[us] de xv sol[idis], c acr[ae] pasturae.

De hac t[er]ra ten[et] Anschi i hid. Aluuin[us] tenuit de abbe, ibi est in dominio i car[uca].

Tot[em] T[em]pore R[egis] E[dwardi] valuit xii lib[ras], x sol[idas]. Modo tantum.

### Translation:

- The **Abbey** itself holds Marcham in the Marcham Hundred. It has always held it.
- In the time of King Edward it answered for twenty hides, now for ten hides.
- There is [land for] ten **ploughs**; in the domain there are three ploughs, eighteen villeins and ten smallholders with ten ploughs.
- There [is] a **church**, six slaves, a **mill** worth fifteen shillings, [and] 100 acres of **pasture**.
- **Anschi** [now] holds one hide of this land. [Before] **Alwin** held it from the Abbot. There is one plough in [that] domain.
- In all at the time of King Edward it was worth twelve pounds ten shillings in total. Now as much.

The importance of the number of ploughs, the church, the mill and the pasture reflect the wealth of the village - there is no mention of fisheries or woodland as in other villages.

# Marcham in Domesday

## The People of Marcham

### NAME: ALWIN

This landowner is associated with 360 places before the Conquest; 67 after the Conquest. (Note that the same name is not necessarily the same person.)

#### Before the Conquest

##### Lord in 1066:

Addington, Mow, Buckinghamshire

Aldbury, Tring, Hertfordshire

Aldington, Eythorne, Kent

Alfildestuna, Sandford, Suffolk

Alston, Diptford, Devon

[» Show 351 more](#)

##### Overlord in 1066:

[Botolph] Claydon and [East] Claydon,

Waddesdon, Buckinghamshire

Clatiges, Fordingbridge, Hampshire

Dean [Prior], Diptford, Devon

Salden, Mursley, Buckinghamshire

[St Paul's] Cray, Helmsfleet, Kent



- **ALWIN** was a landowner in Marcham before 1066
- The name Alwin came from the Old English personal names *Alfwīn*, and *Elwīn*, which means *friend*.
- Alwin was a Saxon ealdorman (royal official) of East Anglia, fourth and youngest son of the ealdorman Aethelstan, called the Half-king who held lands in Somerset, Berkshire and Middlesex.

## The People of Marcham

### NAME: ESKIL (OF SEACOURT)

This landowner is associated with 0 places before the Conquest; 4 after the Conquest. (Note that the same name is not necessarily the same person.)

#### After the Conquest

##### Lord in 1086:

The immediate lord over the peasants after the Conquest, who paid tax to the tenant-in-chief.

Bayworth, Horner, Berkshire

Fawler, Hildslow, Berkshire

Marcham, Marcham, Berkshire

Seacourt, Horner, Berkshire



### ANCHIL or ESKIL was a Landowner after 1066

Eskil of Seacourt is mentioned in the *Abingdon Chronicle* as he incurred the wrath of William II (Rufus) when he became king – a dispute over watercourses in Botley? In 1088 he died in prison. William then confiscated some of his lands.

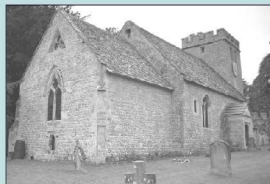
# Marcham in Domesday



## The People of Marcham

**Eskil (Anschi) and Ansfride (Ansfrida) de Seacourt**

**ESKIL** (?-1088) == **ANSFRIDE** (1070-1160?)



Wytham Church

↓  
**William** = Daughter of Simon 'Dispenser'  
(Henry I's steward)  
He regained Seacourt and Bayworth (c1101)  
and Marcham too?

*(Weir, A. Britain's Royal Families: The Complete Genealogy, 2011)*

Ansfride (probably a Saxon name) is thought to have been from Fawler, one of Eskil's estates. Eskil and Ansfride were probably married in Wytham Church.



## The People of Marcham



**Ansfride (Ansfrida) de Seacourt**

**HENRY I** (1068-1135) =/= **ANSFRIDE** (1070-1160?)

**Richard of Lincoln**

(1101-1120, died in the White Ship)



**Fulk FitzRoy**

(Monk at Abingdon Abbey)



(Weir, A. *Britain's Royal Families: The Complete Genealogy*, 2011)

After Eskil's death in 1088, Ansfride eventually became mistress to Henry I, by whom she had two sons. When she died, she was buried in the cloister at Abingdon Abbey.

# Marcham in Domesday



Marcham Church (top left)  
Marcham Mill (top right)  
Hyde Farm (bottom left)

These are buildings that we know existed in Norman Marcham but they have been restored or rebuilt many times since.

Norman pottery has been found in the garden of Hyde Farm. There is little evidence of other Norman finds in the rest of the village.

# Marcham in Domesday



## How many people were actually living in Marcham ?

We know more about the absentee landlords than the inhabitants of the village itself.

There were approximately thirty-four households in Marcham parish (see page 13)

- Villeins* - 18 (living and working for the lord on 'tied' land)
- Bordars* - 10 (small holders, also known as 'cottars', cottagers)
- Serfs* - 6 (slaves or labourers owned by the lord with no land)

Total =  $\overline{34}$  men living in Marcham (not necessarily in the village)

## Estimated total population of Marcham in 1086

To include women and children, one can multiple number of men by 4 or 5 :-

(This is assuming that slaves also had families)

$(34 \text{ men} \times 4) = \text{circa } 136$  or  $(34 \text{ men} \times 5) = \text{circa } 170$

Today's population of Marcham Village is well over 2,000 which would have been the size of a town in Norman times.



## **Sources and Acknowledgements**

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