Description of the Demesne

The manorial extent is a written description of the quantity and location of land pertaining to the manor. In this example the land in demesne (that land owned and cultivated by the manorial lord) is measured and described in exceptional detail. It is difficult to establish from this extent whether the furlong, called Hospusus, is a separate entity entirely under the lord's cultivation, or is composed of a mixture of tenants' and demesne land. A furlong is traditionally interpreted by medieval historians to be a ploughing division in the "open fields."

Terra arabilis ibidem in dominico

A Est ibidem in cultura vocatur Hosco subtus boscum
domain in quinque wentis--xxv acras vj perticas
dimidiam i j pedes dimidiam--unde super le Wente
abuttant super Hosco v acras iij rodas iij perticas
iiij quarteria iij pedes dimidiam super le Went
ad capitem eiusdem vocatur Apeltonestede v acras
iiij rodas dimidiam xix perticas iij quarterium
super le Wente vocatur Bertishedlond abuttant
super le Lound iij acras iij rodas xxx perticas
dimidiam et sic super le Wente ex parte occidentali
eiusdem vocatur Brounesgate viij acras iij rodas
dimidiam xij perticas iij quarterium iij pedes

Arable land here in demesne

There is here in the furlong called Hospusus under
the lord's wood in 5 wents--25 acres, 6 1/2 perches,
and 1 1/2 feet--in which on the Went abutting upon
Hospusus there are 5 acres 2 rods and 3 3/4 perches
and 2 1/2 feet, at the head of the Went called
Apeltonestede there are 5 acres and 3 rods and 18
1/2 perches, on the Went called Schortewodewong 1
acre and 3 1/3 rods and 19 1/4 perches, on the
Went called Bertishedlond abutting on the Lound 2
acres and 2 rods and 30 1/3 perches, and on the
western side of the Went called Brounesgate 8
acres and 3 1/2 rods and 14 1/4 perches and 3 feet.

Bacon 832

C. 1300