Northumberland Collections Service

Enclosure Awards

The Enclosure movement is generally divided into two periods between 1765-1780 and 1793-1815 where the greater part of the enclosure of open fields, commons and wastelands by Parliamentary methods occurred. However Enclosure as a system of boundering large areas of land into individual fields has taken place for centuries. Where an agreement between the landowners in a township or parish could be reached amicably, lands were enclosed and little documentation survives, such as is the case in Northumberland. When an agreement could not be reached a private or public act of Parliament took place. The first act to enclose land was passed in 1604, enclosing land at Radipole in Dorset.

A large debate has ensued in historical quarters as to the beneficiaries of Enclosure. The economic effects of Enclosure were generally of most benefit to landowners. Previously open field farming where a farmer might own strips scattered over a wide area were difficult to cultivate. By amalgamating the open strips into one area and then boundering it by walls or hedges, enclosure could reap benefits over and above its costs. At the same time the improvement of drainage and agricultural machinery and processes meant farming became more economic. Unfortunately for tenants this meant re-negotiation of their terms as an Enclosure Act annulled the leases on land and property. As the land was assumed to be more productive, landlords felt justified in doubling rents, often leading to the re-allocation of tenancies.

The Enclosure Awards with the Northumberland Collections Service are in the main results of private bills in Parliament where agreement could not be met amongst the varied landowners as to the distribution of their lands. Much of Northumberland was enclosed by the 18th century as single landowners owned so much and enclosure presented them with a money saving devise.

Where Parliamentary methods were used to enclose an area, the first step after the passing of the bill was the appointment of Commissioners to conduct a survey and consider the claims of landowners and of the common rights over land. This process could be lengthy and there could be a considerable time lag between the passing of the act and the production of the award. The allocation of the land was set out in the award, with an accompanying schedule and plan. One copy was deposited with the Clerk of the Peace and it is usually this copy, which survives at the Northumberland Collections Service as part of the registration group of records in the Quarter Session deposits, hence the reference QRA.

The Award gives the acreage and dimensions of the new allotments and also the owners and tenants. The map marks with a T on the inside boundary which owners were responsible for the maintenance of walls and hedges. As well as marking boundaries and owner/tenants, an award will show public rights of way, public utilities e.g. public wells and instances of particular allotments (e.g. quarries, gravel or sand pits) being granted to bodies such as the parish. Part of the Commissioners' remit was to define public rights of way such as highways, bridleways and footpaths, most of which followed an ancient route. New roads were also created across the newly enclosed open fields, commons and wastes. These were given standard widths of 30 or 40

foot and enclosed by a hedge or wall, the width allowed grazing to take place along the route and for travellers to avoid potholes and can still be recognised today by their wide verges and straight routes.

An asterisk (*) indicates that the award/plan is held at Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office.

Enclosure Awards and Plans

REFERENCE	NAME OF COMMON
NRO 404/228	ACOMB, (1655 AWARD), (COPY AWARD 1694), (ABSTRACT OF AWARD 1779).
NRO 691/61/29	ACOMB, 1799 (AWARD).
NRO 3590/42	ACOMB COMMON, C.1799 (PLAN).
QRA 5/1	AKELD & HUMBLETON, 1867 (AWARD & PLAN).
NRO 3216/2	ALLENDALE, C.1800 (DRAFT OF AWARD) ALLENDALE; SEE HEXHAMSHIRE.
ZCE 9/14	ALNHAM COMMON AWARD, 1775 (EXTRACTS ONLY).
QRA 7/1	ALNHAM MOOR, 1776 (AWARD & PLAN).
NRO 691/62/4	ALNWICK MOOR, 1854 (AWARD).
QRA 3/1-8	ALNWICK MOOR/AYDON FOREST, 1854 (AWARD & PLAN).
NRO 304/63-64	ALWINTON, 1781-1782 (AWARD).
QRA 4/1-2	ALWINTON, 1862 (AWARD & PLAN).
EP 99/52	ALWINTON COMMON, 1862 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 8/1-4	APPERLEY, MICKLEY, FAIRLEY-MAY & BROOMLEY, 1817 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRD 7/8	AYDON, 1810 (AWARD) AND COPY PLAN NRO.
	AYDON FOREST; ALSO SEE ALNWICK MOOR.
QRA 6/1-2	AYLE, 1810 (AWARD & PLAN).
EP 59/36	BAMBURGH, N.D. (AWARD).
ZCE 9/12	BEANLEY, 1781 (AWARD).
	BILLY MOOR & TYNEMOUTH MOOR; SEE SHIREMOOR.
NRO 691/62/4	BILLY MOOR, 1790 (AWARD).
	BLACKBURN COMMON; SEE TARRETBURN.
	BLACK HEDDON; SEE HETHERSLAW.
QRD 8	BLENKINSOPP, 1819 (AWARD).
QRD 5	BRANXTON, 1781 (AWARD).
ZBM 8	BRANXTON, 1781 (AWARD) *.
2DE 17/1	BRANXTON COMMON, 1781 (AWARD & PLAN).
	BROADPOOL; SEE WARKS FELL.
ZLO XI	BROOMHAUGH, 1719 (AWARD).
ZCO IV/49	BROOMLEY, 1812-1817 (AWARD).
	BROOMLEY; SEE APPERLEY.
QRA 10/1	BROWN MOOR/HAWDON FIELDS, 1824 (AWARD & PLAN).
	BROWNRIGG COMMON; SEE RATTENRAW.
QRA 9	BULBECK, 1771 (AWARD & PLAN).
ZBT 7/1	BUTELAND, 1805 (AWARD).
EP 20/88	CALLERTON COMMON, 1857 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRD 7/9	CHESTERHOPE & STIDDLEHILL, 1810 (AWARD) AND COPY PLAN
ZBL 68/2	CHESTERWOOD, 1792 (AWARD).
NRO 683/16	CHESWICK, 1719 & 1814 (AWARDS) *.
QRA 11/1	CHIRNELLS, 1809 (AWARD & PLAN).

ZGR dm/10 & 11	COLDTOWN, 1743 (AWARD).
NRO 2786	COLD COATS, 1719 (AWARD).
NRO 959	CORBRIDGE, 1779 (PRINTED AWARD COPY).
ZHE 105/3	CORBRIDGE, 1779 (TRACING OF PLAN).
NRO 467/42/1	CORBRIDGE, 1779 (ACT & AWARD).
NRO 2649	CORBRIDGE COMMON, 1779 (ACT 1776 & AWARD 13.9.1779).
NRO 3057	CORBRIDGE, 1779 (PLAN).
NRO 467/42	CORBRIDGE, (ACT 1776, AWARD 1779).
	CORBRIDGE FELL; SEE FARNLEY.
QRA 12	CORSENSIDE AND EAST & WEST WOODBURN, 1795 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 15/1	EACHWICK, 1854 (AWARD & PLAN).
NRO 404/258	EACHWICK, N.D. (PLAN ONLY).
	EACHWICK MOOR; SEE SLALEY NORTH & SOUTH FIELDS.
	EALS; SEE THORNEYBURN.
QRA 16/1	EARLE & WOOLER, 1867 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 14/1-3	EAST COANWOOD, 1851 (AWARD & PLAN).
NRO 304/8-9	EAST ORD INFIELD & COMMON, 1732 (AWARDS).
ZBM 8	EGLINGHAM, 1781 (AWARD) *.
QRA 17/1	ELISHAW, 1871 (AWARD & PLAN).
NRO 3704/2/3	ELISHAW COMMON, 1809 (AWARD).
NRO 3590/39	ELLINGHAM RIG & SHITLINGTON COMMON, 1808 (PLAN).
QRA 18/1	ELLINGHAM RIG & SHITLINGTON, 1811 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRD 3/1	ELSDON, 1731.
ZBM 8	EMBLETON, 1736 (AWARD) *.
	FAIRLEY-MAY; SEE APPERLEY.
QRA 13	FARNLEY & THE SOUTH COMMON/CORBRIDGE FELL, 1779 (AWARD & PLAN).
NRO 959	FARNLEY & THE SOUTH COMMON/CORBRIDGE FELL, 1779 (AWARD).
QRA 20/1	FEATHERSTONE, 1814 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 22	FELTON, 1754 (AWARD).
NRO 5429/1-2	FELTON, 1754 (COPY PLAN).
QRA 19	FORD, 1866 (AWARD & PLAN).
	FOREST OF LOWES COMMON; SEE RIDLEY MOOR & HOTBANK.
QRA 21/1	FOURSTONES, 1779 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 23/1	FULCHERSIDE & HIGH RIGG/HEDLEY FELL/MICKLEY MOOR & PRUDHOE LANE/PRUDHOE MOOR, 1780 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRD 7/7	GARRETSHIELS, 1809 (AWARD) & COPY PLAN NRO.
	GREYSTEADS; SEE THORNEYBURN.
QRA 24/1	GRINDON, 1797 (AWARD & PLAN).
ZBL 269/10	GRINDON COMMON AWARD, 1751 (PLAN).
QRA 25	GUNNERTON, 1741-1742 (AWARD).
NRO 691/62/8	GUNNERTON COMMON, 1741 (EXTRACT FROM AWARD).
ZAD 3/1-2	HALTWHISTLE, 1713 (AWARD).
QRA 33/1-2	HALTWHISTLE, 1713 (AWARD).
QRA 32/1	HARBOTTLE, 1817 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 26/1	HARESHAW, 1887 (AWARD & PLAN).
NRO 404/214.H	HARESHAW COMMON, 1811 (PLAN ONLY).
QRA 28/1-4	HARTLEYBURN, 1869 (AWARD & PLAN).
ZCE 9/16	HARTLEYBURN AWARD, 1869 (TEXT & PLAN).

	HAWDON FIELDS; SEE BROWN MOOR.
ZMD 36	HEDDON ON WALL, 1717 (AWARD).
	HEDLEY FELL; SEE FULCHERSIDE & HIGH RIGG.
NRO 404/248	HEIGHINGTON, 1636 (COPY AWARD).
NRO 691/62/6	HENSHAW, 1784 (AWARD & PLANS).
NRO 309/M/71	HENSHAW, 1783-87 (PLANS).
	HENSHAW; SEE MELKRIDGE.
	HEPPLE; SEE TOSSON.
ZSW 50	HETHERSLAW & BLACK HEDDON (AWARD).
ZSW 41,43	HEUGH, 1721 (AWARD).
NRO 322/BOX/28	HEUGH, 1725 (COPY AWARD 1870).
EP 76/34	HEUGH AWARD, 1726.
NRO 379	HEUGH, 1726 (TYPESCRIPT OF AWARD).
ZGI XXXII/1,2	HEXHAM, EAST & WEST, 1755 (PLANS).
QRD/2/1	HEXHAM, EAST & WEST, 1750-1757 (AWARD).
NRO 2950/71	HEXHAMSHIRE & ALLENDALE, 1792 (PRINTED AWARD COPY).
QRA 31/1	HEXHAMSHIRE & ALLENDALE, 1800 (AWARD & PLAN).
NRO 4685	HEXHAMSHIRE & ALLENDALE, 1792 (AWARD).
NRO 691/62/8	HEXHAMSHIRE & ALLENDALE COMMONS, 1800 (COPY AWARD).
QRA 27/1	HIGH CALLERTON, 1857 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 30/1	HORSLEY, 1815 (AWARD & PLAN).
	HOUSEDEN; SEE HOWTELL.
ZBM 8	HOWTEL, 1777 (AWARD) *.
NRO 2802/13	HOWTEL COMMON, 1779 (COPY AWARD) *.
QRA 29/1-2	HOWTELL OR HOUSEDEN, 1779 (AWARD & PLAN).
	HUMBLETON; SEE AKELD.
	HUMBLETON; SEE WOOLER.
EP 76/33	INGOE, 1709 (AWARD).
ZMI S/23	INGOE, 1873 (PRIVATE AWARD).
NRO 5428	INGOE, 1696 (DEEDS), 1709 (AWARD).
NRO 3331/233	INGOE COMMON, NOT DATED. (TRACING OF PLAN).
QRA 35/1	KILLINGWORTH MOOR, 1793 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 34	KNARESDALE, 1859 (PLAN).
ZMD 44/1	KNARESDALE AWARD, 1859 (AWARD).
EP 70/32	KNARESDALE, 1859 (AWARD & PLANS).
QRA 37/1-4	LAMBLEY, 1868 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 39/1	LANGLEY SOUTH, 1796 (AWARD & PLAN).
	LANTON; SEE MILFIELD.
QRA 40/1	LEESFELL, MORALEE & HAGBANK, 1779 (AWARD & PLAN).
NRO 404/249	LEES FELL, C.1777 (COPY AWARD & ACT 1777).
QRA 36/1-3	LONGFRAMLINGTON, 1855 (AWARD & PLAN).
NRO 3226/10	LONGFRAMLINGTON COMMON, 29.4.1730 (AWARD ONLY).
QRA 38/1	LONGHOUGHTON, 1815 (AWARD & PLAN).
ZMI B/1/III	LOWICK, 1710 (AWARD).
ZBM 8	LOWICK, 1724 (AWARD) *.
QRD 7/1/1-5	MELKRIDGE & HENSHAW, 1787 (AWARD) AND COPY PLANS NRO.
EP 163/6	MICKLEY, APPERLEY, FAIRLEY MAY & BROOMLEY, 1817 (AWARD).
	MICKLEY; SEE APPERLEY.
NRO 404/214.B	MICKLEY, (ACT, 1812 & AWARD 1817).

	MICKLEY MOOR & PRUDHOE LANE; SEE FULCHERSIDE & HIGH RIGG.
QRD 5	MILFIELD OR LANTON, 1758 (AWARD).
NRO 1888/6	MONKRIDGE, 1734-1735, (AWARD).
	MORALEE & HAGBANK; SEE LEESFELL.
NRO 691/62/2	NEWBROUGH COMMON, 1700 (AWARD).
	NEWBROUGH; SEE WALWICK.
QRA 41/1	NEWLANDS & WHITTONSTALL, 1819 (AWARD & PLAN).
EP 4/31/1	NORHAM, 1762 (AWARD).
NRO 3018	NORTH SEATON, 1677 (AWARD).
ZGR dm/10 & 11	OVINGTON, 1708 (AWARD).
QRA 43	PLENMELLER, 1865 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 42/1-5	PRESTWICK CARR, 1860 (AWARD & PLAN).
ZRI 50/17	PRESTWICK CARR, 1857 (PLAN).
NRO 4694/4/17-18	PRESTWICK CARR, 1858 (TRACING PLANS).
NRO 2807/1	PRESTWICK CARR, 1860 (AWARD & PLAN).
EP 84/23	PRESTWICK CARR, 1860 (AWARD & PLANS).
	PRUDHOE MOOR; SEE FULCHERSIDE & HIGH RIGG.
NRO 2950/14	RATTENRAW/BROWNRIGG COMMON, 1828 (PLAN).
	RATTENRAW/BROWNRIGG; SEE TROUGHEND.
QRA 65/1	RIDLEY MOOR & HOTBANK, THE FOREST OF LOWES COMMON, 1751 (AWARD).
ZSA 16/1	RIDLEY MANOR OF, 1751 (COPY AWARD).
ZBL 19/2	RIDLEY COMMON AWARD, 1751 (AWARD).
NRO 404/254	RIDLEY & HOTBANK, NOT DATED (ACT & AWARD).
QRA 44/1	ROCHESTER, 1866 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 46/1-4	ROTHBURY FOREST, 1834 (AWARD & PLAN).
NRO 691/62/3	SANDHOE COMMON, 1698 (COPY AWARD).
EP 103/86	SHARPERTON, 1760 (AWARD).
QRA 47/1	SHILDON, 1755 (AWARD & PLAN).
ZBL 269/25	SHILDON COMMON AWARD, 1755 (TEXT) COPY PLAN 1876.
NRO 3331/246	SHILDON COMMON, 1755 (COPY OF SECTION OF AWARD).
ZSA 16/2	SHILDON COMMON, 1755 (COPY AWARD).
NRO 2649	SHILDON COMMON, 1755 (ACT 1754 & AWARD 10.7.1755).
QRD 6/1	SHIREMOOR, OR BILLY MOOR & TYNEMOUTH MOOR, 1790 (AWARD) & COPY PLAN NRO.
NRO 691/62/4	SHIRE MOOR, 1790 (AWARD).
	SHITLINGTON; SEE ELLINGHAM RIG.
QRA 48	SIMONBURN, 1754 (AWARD).
NRO 404/232	SIMONBURN, 1754 (COPY OF AWARD).
NRO 691/62/5	SIMONBURN MOOR, 1754 (AWARD).
NRO 691/62/7	SLALEY NORTH AND SOUTH FIELDS AND EACHWICK MOOR, 1692 (AWARD).
	SMIDDYWELL RIG & COMMON FIELDS; SEE TARRETBURN.
	STANNERSBURN; SEE THORNEYBURN.
	STIDDLEHILL; SEE CHESTERHOPE.
QRA 54	TARRETBURN, OR BLACKBURN COMMON, SMIDDYWELL RIG & COMMON FIELDS, 1818 (AWARD & PLAN).
NRO 3590/41	TARRETBURN COMMON & SMIDDYWELL RIG, 1819 (PLAN).
QRA 52/1-3	THIRLWELL, 1805 (AWARD & PLANS).

QRA 55/1-3	THORNEYBURN, GREYSTEADS OR EALS & STANNERSBURN, 1816 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 50/1	THORNGRAFTON, 1797 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 49/1	THREAP MOOR, 1815 (AWARD & PLAN).
ZRI 25/29	THROCKLEY FELL, 1830 (AWARD).
NRO 536/1-2	THROCKLEY, 1769 (PLANS).
QRA 53/1	THROPTON OUTER & INNER HILL, 1815 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 51/1	TOSSON or HEPPLE, 1806 (AWARD & PLAN).
ZRW 306-320	TOSSON, 1807 (AWARD).
QRA 56/1	TROUGHEND, 1771 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 45/1-2	TROUGHEND (RATTENRAW/BROWNRIGG), 1870 (AWARD & PLAN).
EP 59/35	TUGHALL MOOR, 1731 (COPY AWARD).
NRO 691/62/4	TYNEMOUTH MOOR, 1790 (AWARD).
ZAL 18/9	WALL, 1690-1691 (AWARD).
NRO 404/247	WALL FELL, 1748 (AWARD).
NRO 691/62/1	WALWICK AWARD, 1699.
ZBT 7/1	WALWICK & NEWBROUGH, 1669.
QRA 63/1	WARK, 1799 (AWARD & PLAN).
ZBM 8	WARK, 1799 (AWARD) *.
QRA 61/1-3	WARKS FELL & BROADPOOL, 1769 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 57/1	WARKWORTH, 1856 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 59/1	WESTNEWTON, 1866 (AWARD & PLAN).
ZMI/B1/III/6,16-17	WHALTON, 1710 (AWARD).
QRA 58/1-4	WHITLAW, 1862 (AWARD & PLAN).
EP 103/37	WHITTON COMMON, 1728 (AWARD).
	WHITTONSTALL; SEE NEWLANDS.
	WOODBURN EAST & WEST; SEE CORSENSIDE.
QRA 62/1	WOOLER, 1778 (AWARD & PLAN).
QRA 60/1-2	WOOLER & HUMBLETON, 1869 (AWARD & PLAN).
	WOOLER; SEE EARLE.

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