

BRITISH JURISDICTIONS PROTOTYPE

BYU Family History Technology Workshop

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Family History Library

Our Beginnings

- 5 years ago
- British Reference saw a need to provide patrons with an easier way to identify record-creating jurisdictions
- Developed paper product to meet need
- Has now migrated to electronic version (not to imply that the paper product isn't still needed)

GIS System

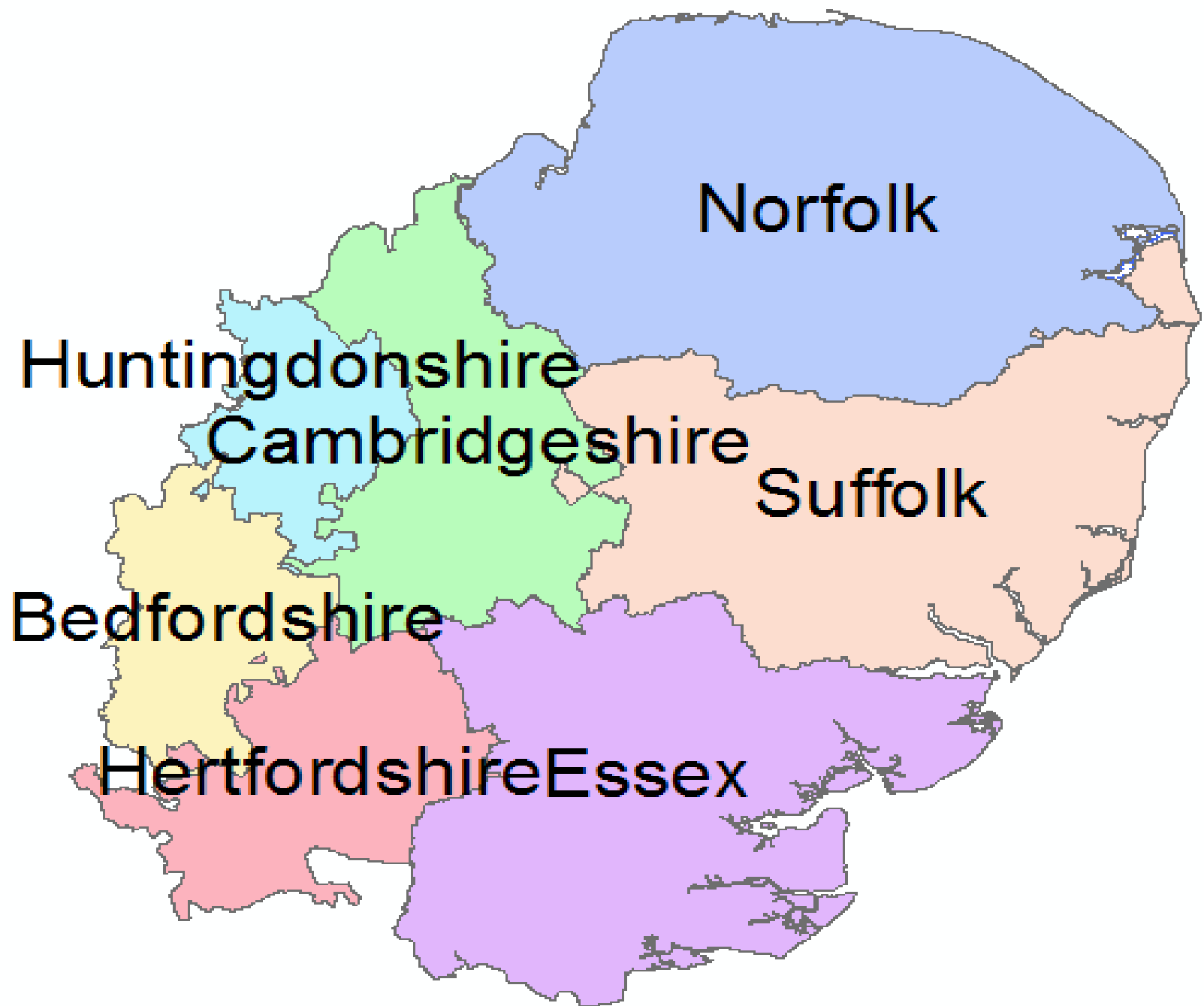
- Geographic Information System integrates:
 - Maps projected to a real world setting
 - Longitude and Latitude
 - Data
 - Whatever we choose
 - Provided in Excel tables
- Combine to create a product giving us
 - search capabilities
 - visual presentation
 - flexibility
- Uses ArcView/ArcMap Software

What can we do with this technology?

- Use it as a Gazetteer
 - Tie known place names to jurisdictions with record-creating capabilities
- Simplify the research process by identifying appropriate record-producing jurisdictions without using 8-10 reference books
- Keep the user on track, not allowing him to waste time dredging through non-record-producing jurisdictions
- Link to FHL catalog
- Link to repository sites to identify records
- Link to indexes we have in our collection
 - Not just the catalog entry, but the actual index

This prototype includes:

- 7 Counties in England
 - Norfolk
 - Suffolk
 - Cambridge
 - Huntingdon
 - Bedford
 - Hertford
 - Essex



Organization

- Parish boundaries as base

The map displays the following parishes (from north to south, west to east):

- Battisford, Ringshall, Barking, Barmston, Coddensham, Hemingstone, Swilland, Clopton, Bourne, Bredfield, Ufford
- Great Bricett, Willisham, Nettlestead, Great Blakenham, Barham, Henley, Witnesham, Grundisburgh, Burgh, Hasketon, Melton
- Naughton, Otton with Little Bricett, Little Blakenham, Claydon, Akenham, Tuddenham, Culpho, Great Bealings, Woodbridge, Snettisham
- Whatfield, Elmsett, Flowton, Bramford, Whitton cum Thurleston, Westerfield, Playford, Little Bealings, Martlesham
- Aldham, Hintfesham, Sproughton, St Margaret, Rushmere, Kesgrave, Waldringfield
- Hadleigh, Chattisham, Washbrook, St Mary le Tower, St Stephen, St Helen, St Helen, St Peter, Holy Trinity, Brightwell with Foxhall, Newbourne, Henley
- Belstead, Wherstead, St Mary Stoke, St Clement, Warren House, Purdis Farm, Bucklesham
- Layham, Raydon, Great Wenham, Capel, St Mary with Little Wenham, Bentley, Freston, Woolverstone, Nacton with Levington, Kirton
- Tattingstone, Holbrook, Amersbourn Priory, Trinley St Martin, Stratton Hall, Trinley St Mary

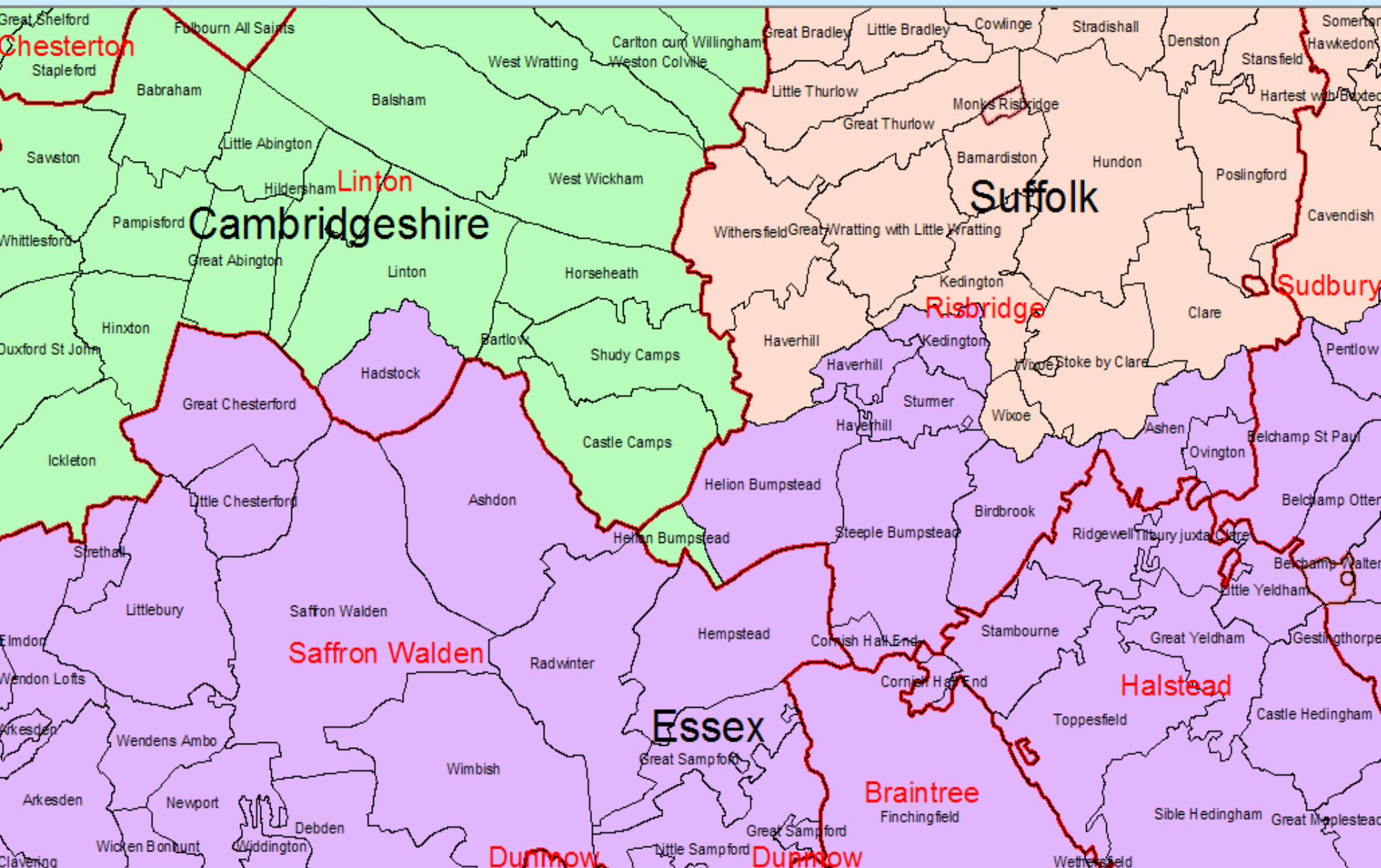
Parish Boundaries



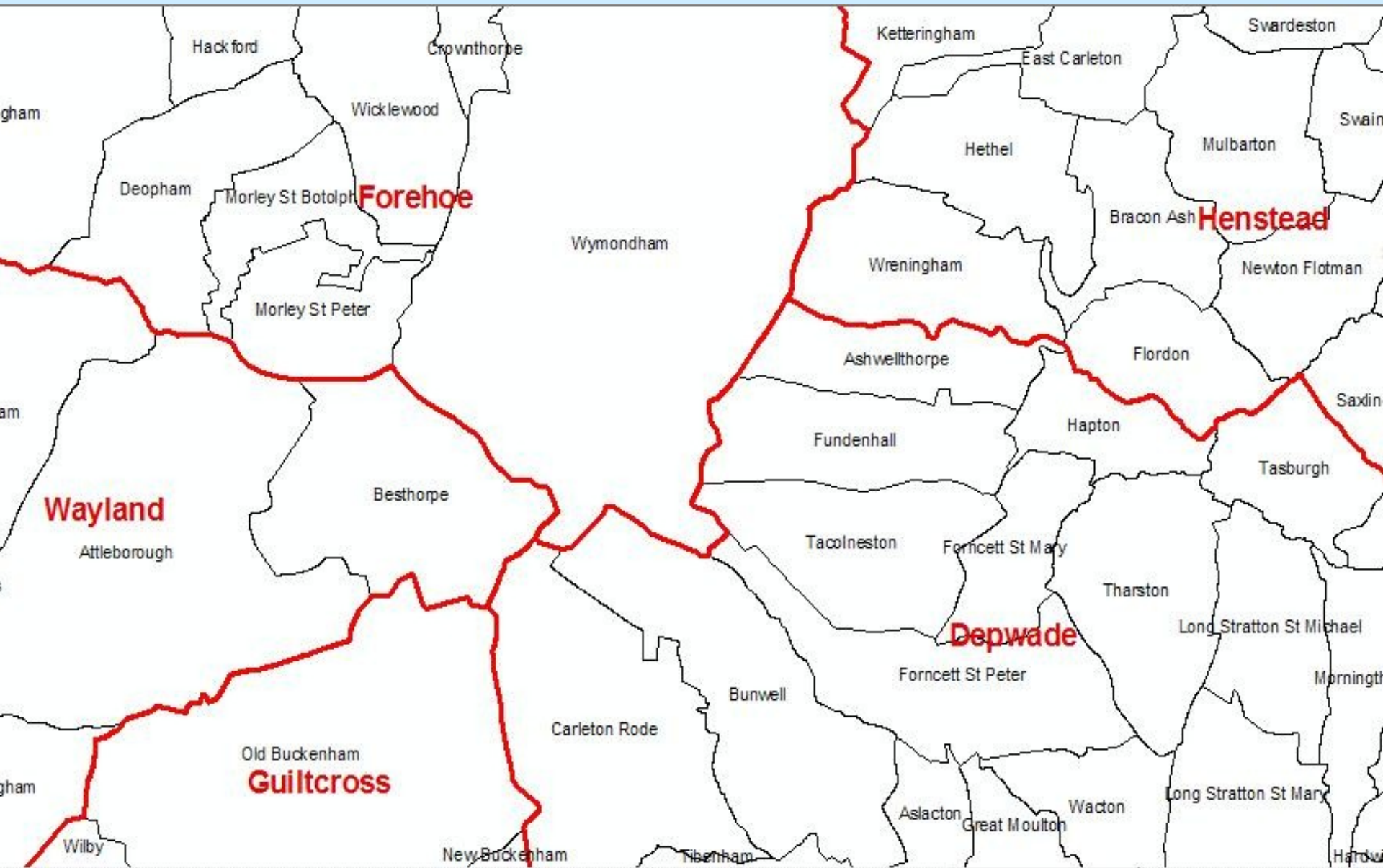
Organization

- Parish boundaries as base
- All jurisdictions overlay this parish boundary base.

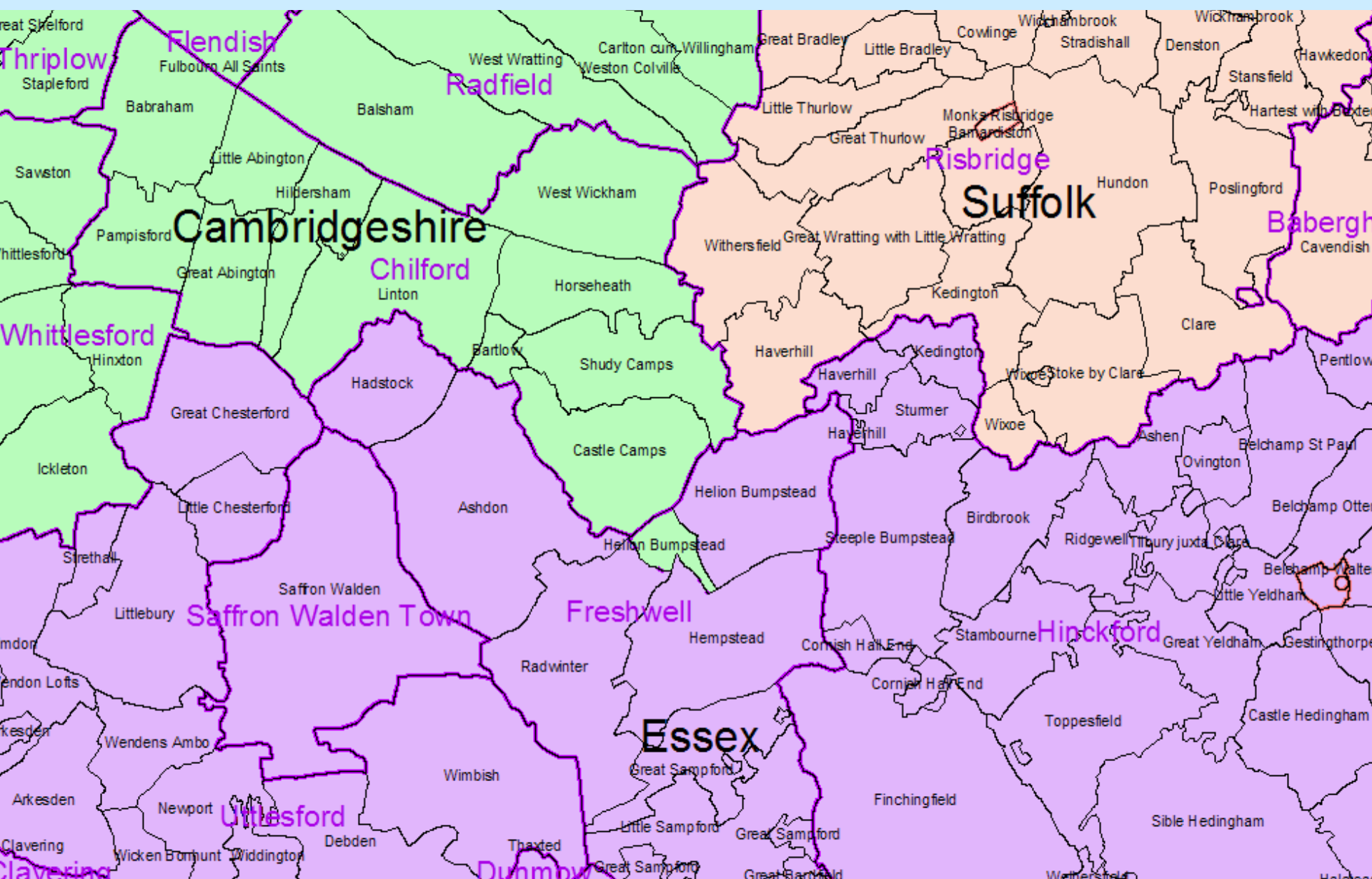
Civil Registration Districts



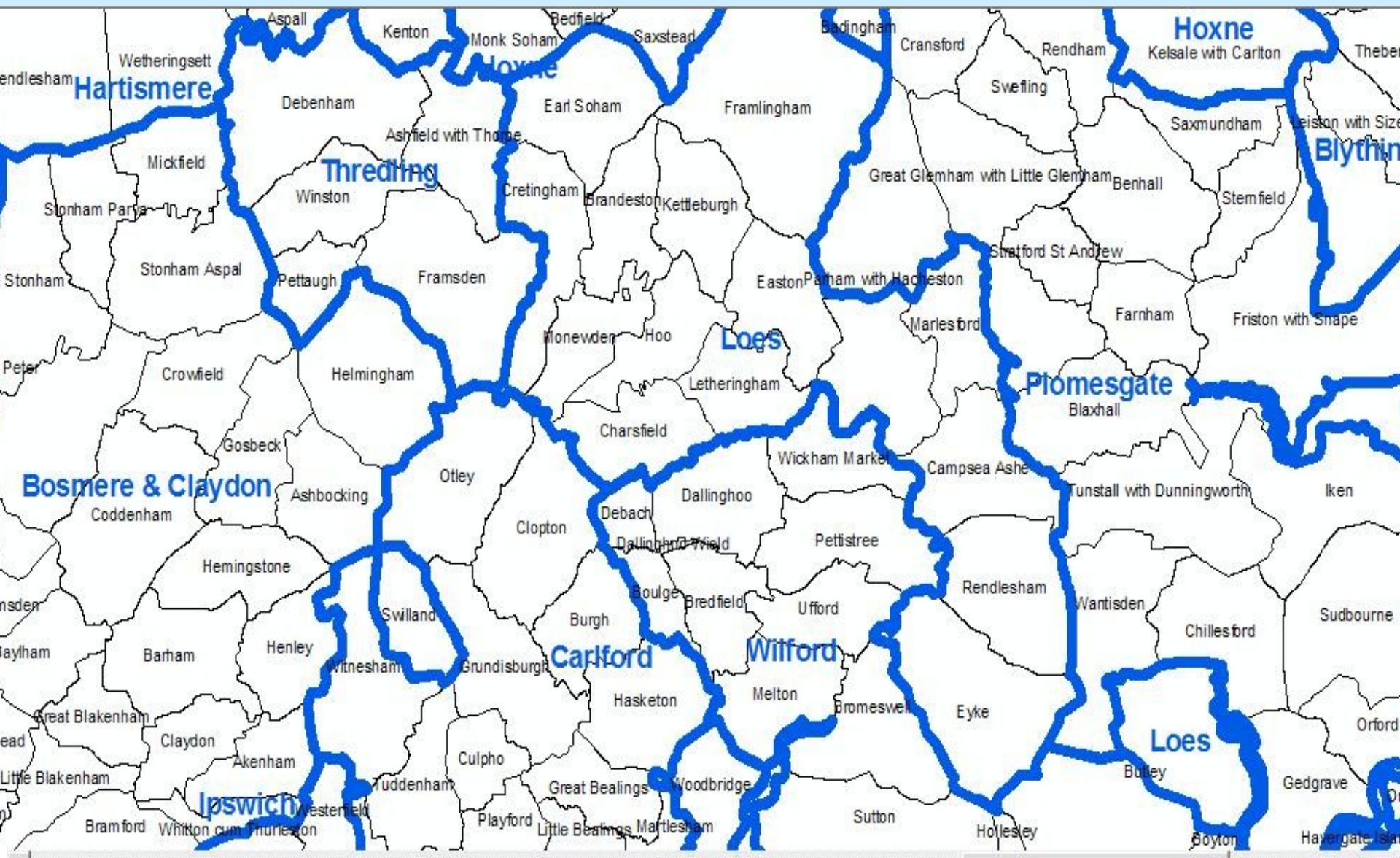
Civil Registration Districts



Hundred Jurisdiction



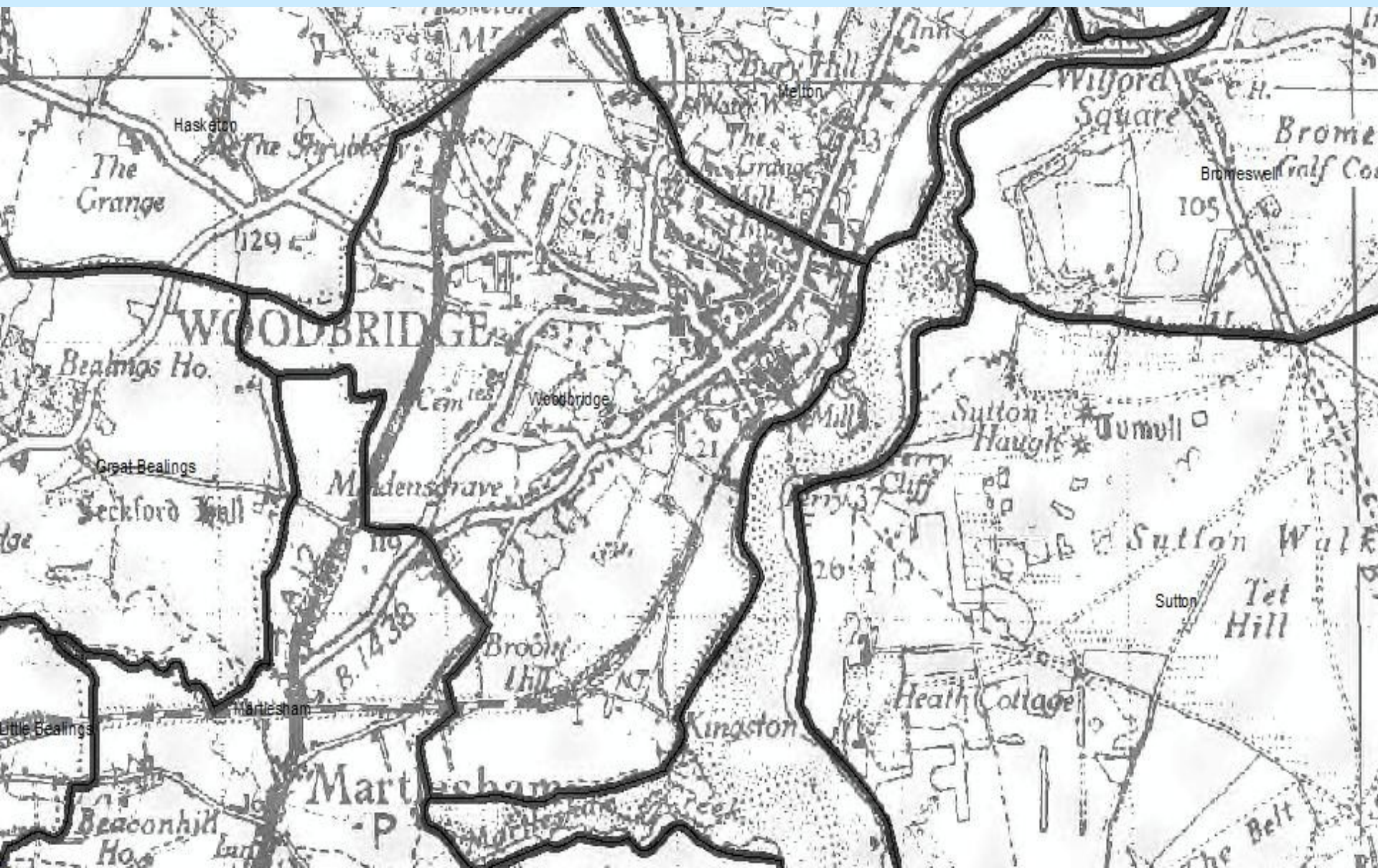
Hundreds



Organization

- Parish boundaries as base
- All jurisdictions are laid over these parish boundaries
- Ordnance Survey maps as background
 - Show geographical features, such as rivers, roads,
 - Gives farm names, Halls, Manors, etc.
 - Not electronically searchable, but visually available

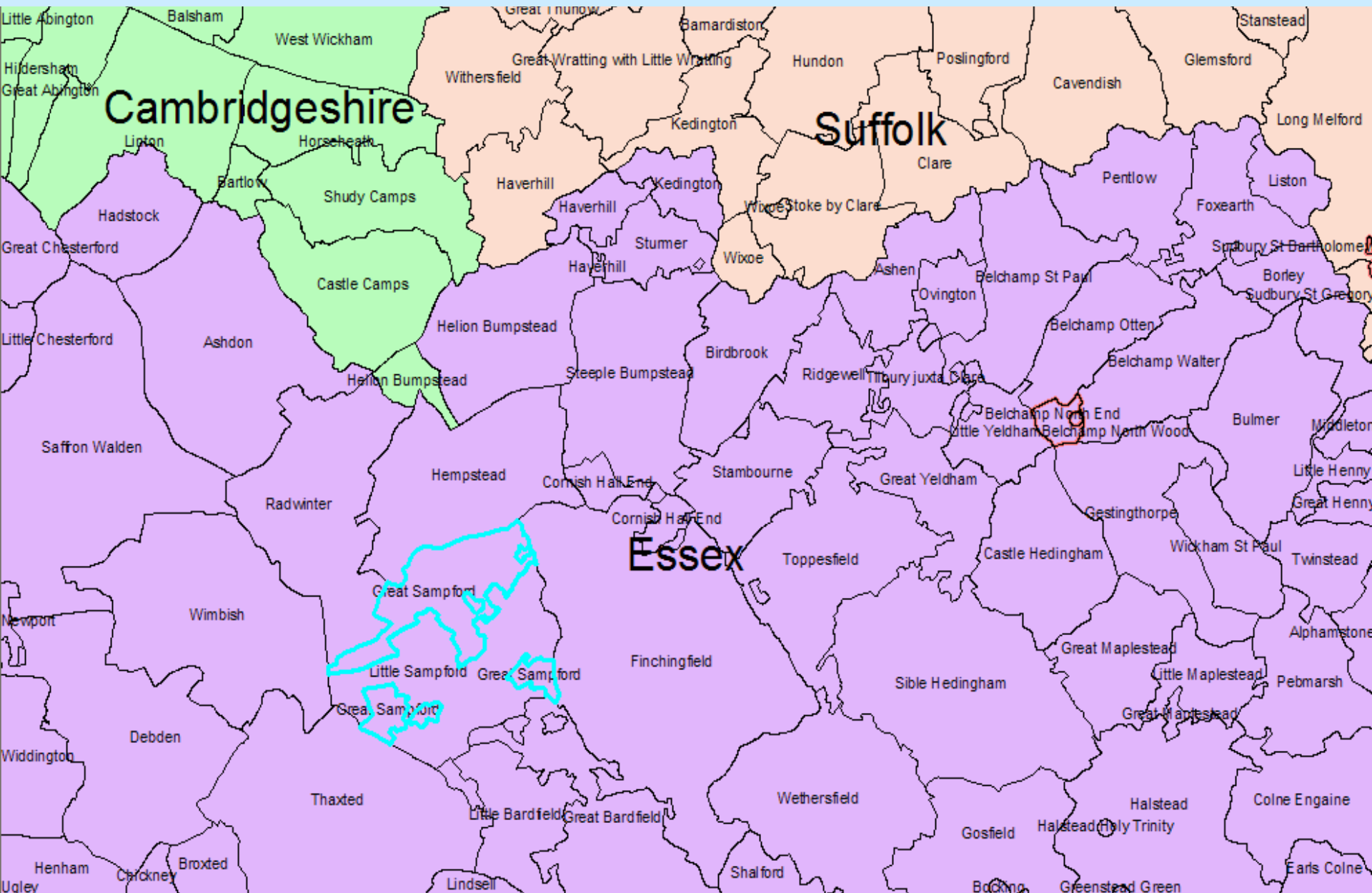
Ordnance Survey Background



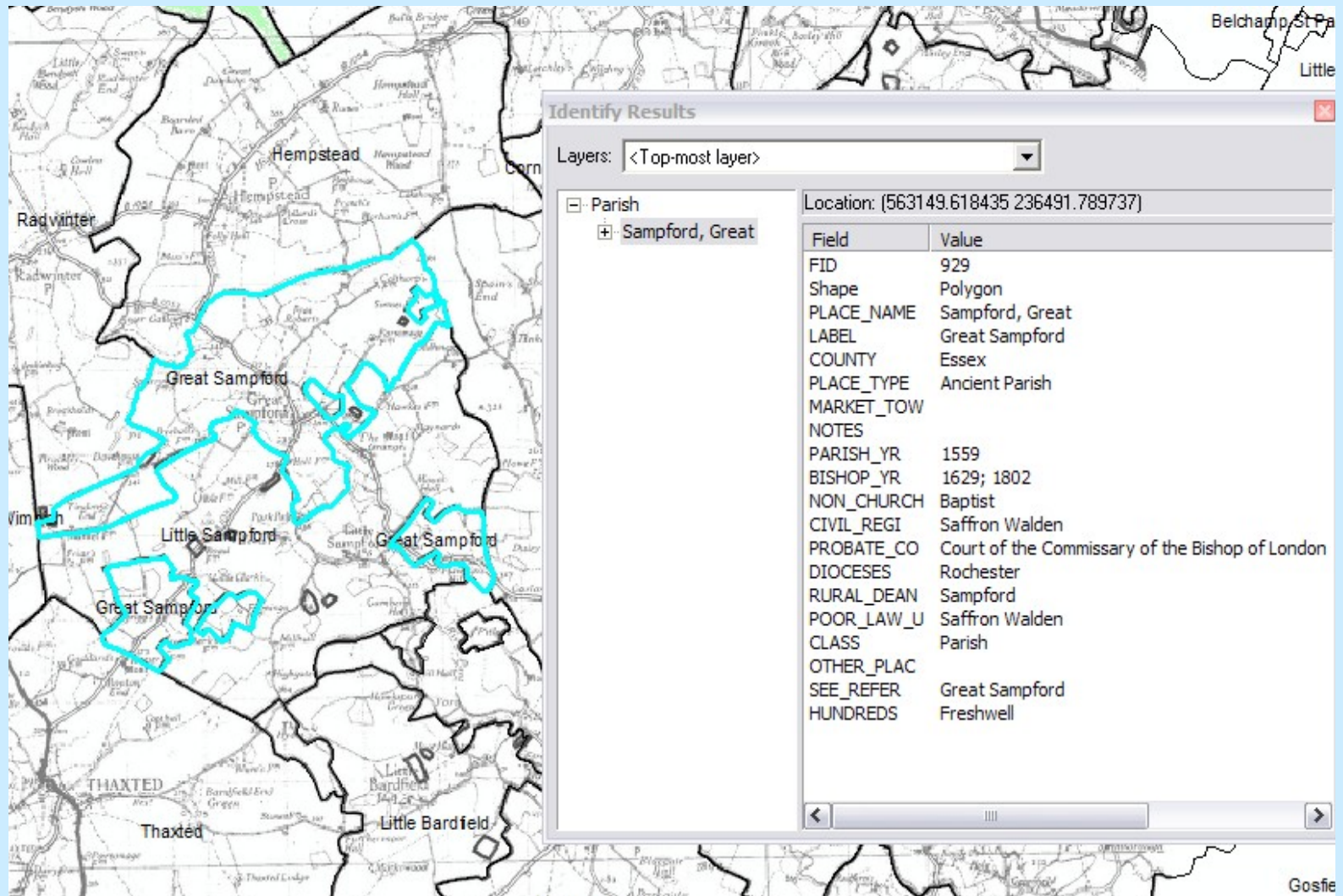
Data Included in Prototype

- Place Type
 - Ancient Parish, Ecclesiastical Parish, Chapelry, Extra-parochial
- See References, Variant Spellings
- Other Places in the Parish
 - Hamlet, Village, Township
- Beginning Date of Church of England Parish Registers and Bishop's Transcripts
- Non-Church of England Denominations
- Civil Registration Districts
- Hundreds
- Probate Courts
- Dioceses
- Rural Deaneries
- Poor Law Unions
- Notes giving changes in a parish over time or other helpful information

Selected parish



Selected Parish with Identify Results



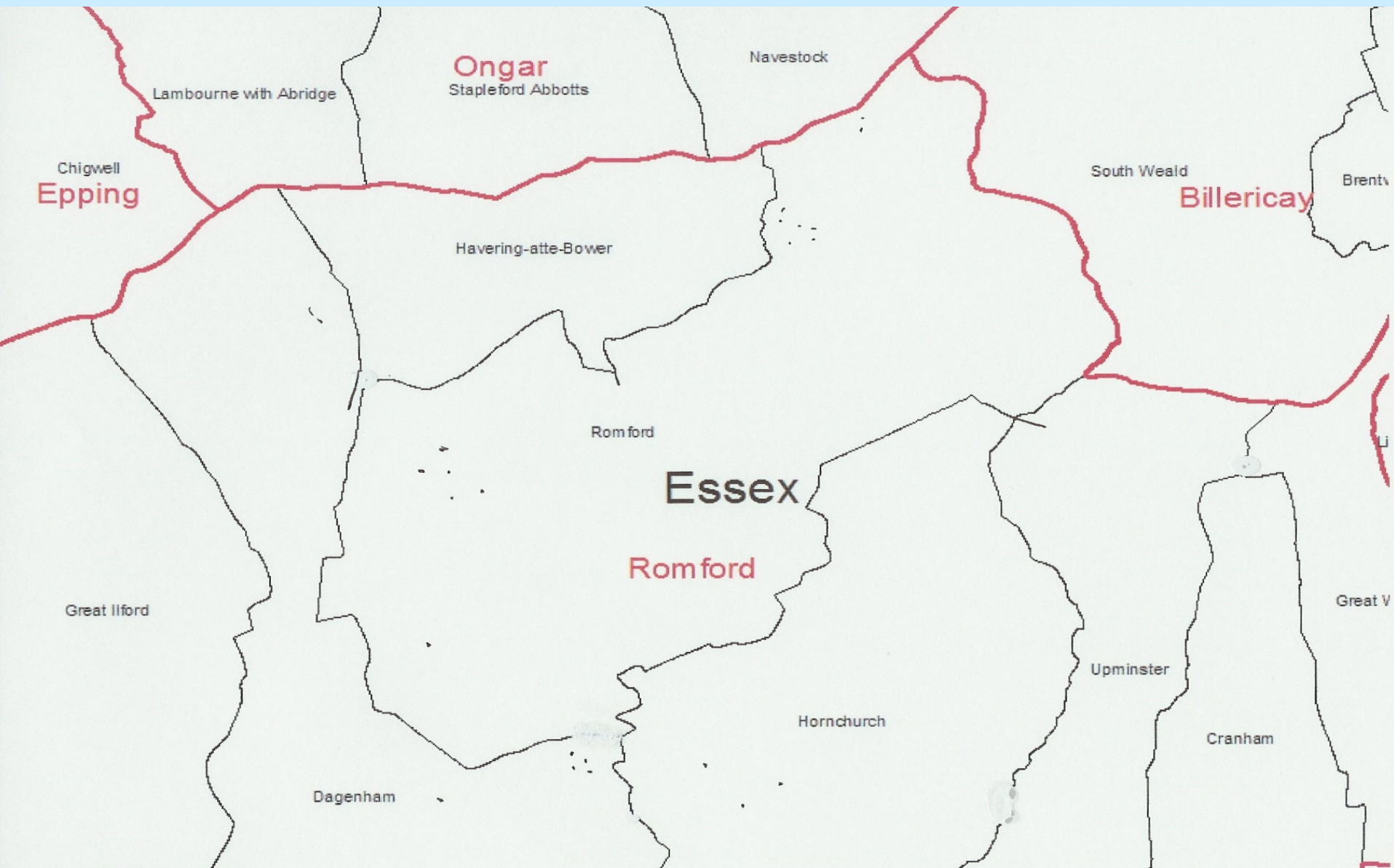
Proposal #1

- Create enclosed polygons from a scanned or digitized image
 - Eliminate the costly drawing, conversion and/or clean-up process required to introduce maps and jurisdictions into ArcView software
 - Provide a technology that could enable the creation of jurisdictional maps for the entire world

Conversion Process

- Essex University produced parish maps in Adobe Illustrator format
- These files must be converted to a CAD format
- Then the CAD files must be moved into ArcView
- This becomes problematic
 - CAD files are “drawn”
 - ArcView requires enclosed polygons to function
 - Conversion process creates “leftover stuff” inside the polygons, once they are created
- We are seeking a solution to this problem

Proposal #1 - Example



Proposal #2

- Develop user interface
 - Make it possible for a novice user to access the data and technology in an intuitive way.

Scenario 1

- In a family history, it states that your ancestor comes from a place called Keswick in England.
- You have looked on a map and did not find the place.
- You want to know where that place is in England so you can find him in the 1841 and 1851 Censuses.

Search for Keswick – 2 identified

The screenshot displays a GIS application interface with a map background showing areas like Cringleford, Eaton, Lakenham, Swardeston, and Dunston. Two windows are open: 'Find' and 'Identify Results'.

Find Window:

- Features: Route Locations | Addresses
- Find: Keswick
- In layers: <Visible layers>
- ☒ Find features that are similar to or contain the search string
- Search: ☒ All fields
- ☐ In fields: FID
- ☐ Each layer's primary display field
- Buttons: Find, Stop, New Search, Cancel
- Right-click a row to show context menu.
- Table:

Value	Layer	Field
Keswick	Parish	PLACE_NAME
Bacton Green; Bromholm; Keswick	Parish	OTHER_PLAC

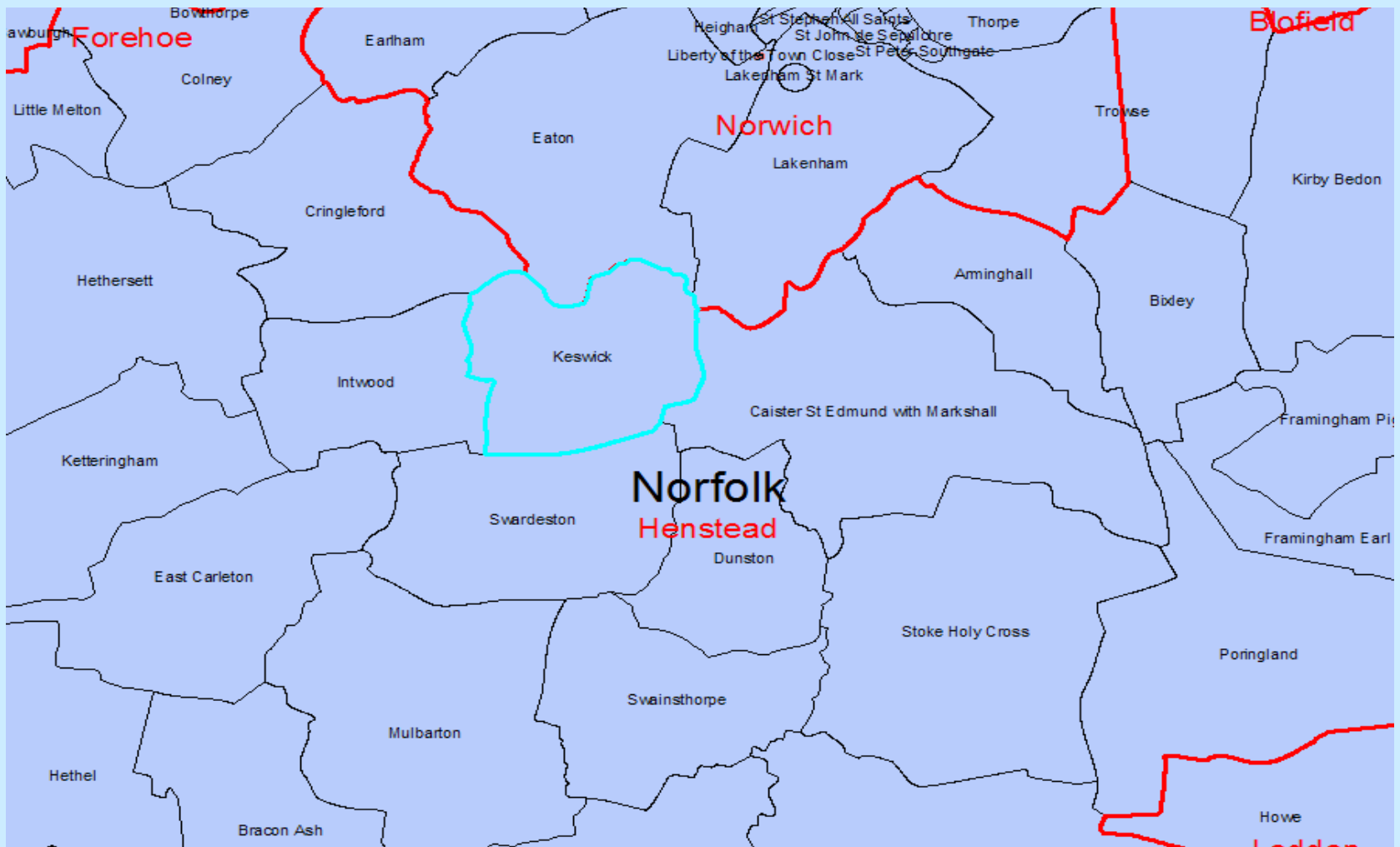
2 objects found.

Identify Results Window:

- Layers: <Top-most layer>
- Tree view: Parish > Keswick
- Table:

Field	Value
FID	1439
Shape	Polygon
PLACE_NAME	Keswick
LABEL	Keswick
COUNTY	Norfolk
PLACE_TYPE	Ancient Parish
MARKET_TOW	
NOTES	
PARISH_YR	None; For records see Intwood
BISHOP_YR	None
NON_CHURCH	None Identified
CIVIL_REGI	Henstead
PROBATE_CO	Court of the Archdeacon of Norfolk
DIOCESES	Norwich
RURAL_DEAN	Humbleyard
POOR_LAW_U	Henstead
CLASS	Parish
OTHER_PLAC	
SEE_REFER	
HUNDREDS	Humbleyard

Keswick Parish



Keswick Hamlet

The screenshot shows a GIS application interface. At the top, a map displays a blue area with a red boundary. Labels on the map include 'Trunch' in the top left, 'North Walsham' in the bottom left, 'Crostwight' in the bottom center, and 'East Ruston' in the bottom right.

Below the map, there are two windows:

Find

Features: Route Locations | Addresses

Find:

In layers:

☒ Find features that are similar to or contain the search string

Search: ☒ All fields

☐ In fields:

☐ Each layer's primary display field

Buttons: Find, Stop, New Search, Cancel

Right-click a row to show context menu.

Value	Layer	Field
Keswick	Parish	PLACE_NAME
Bacton Green; Bromholm; Keswick	Parish	OTHER_PLAC

2 objects found.

Identify Results

Layers:

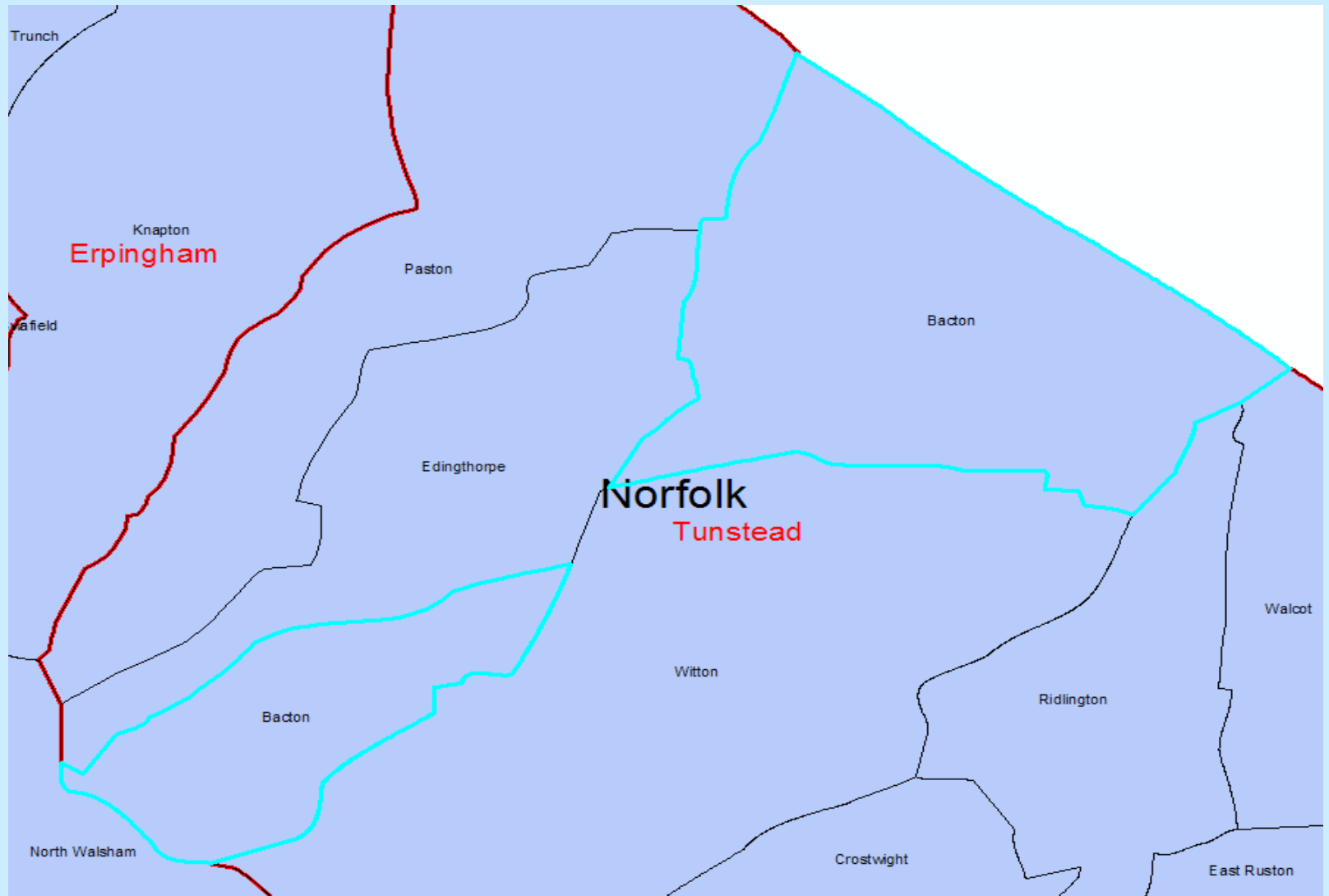
☒ Parish

☒ Bacton

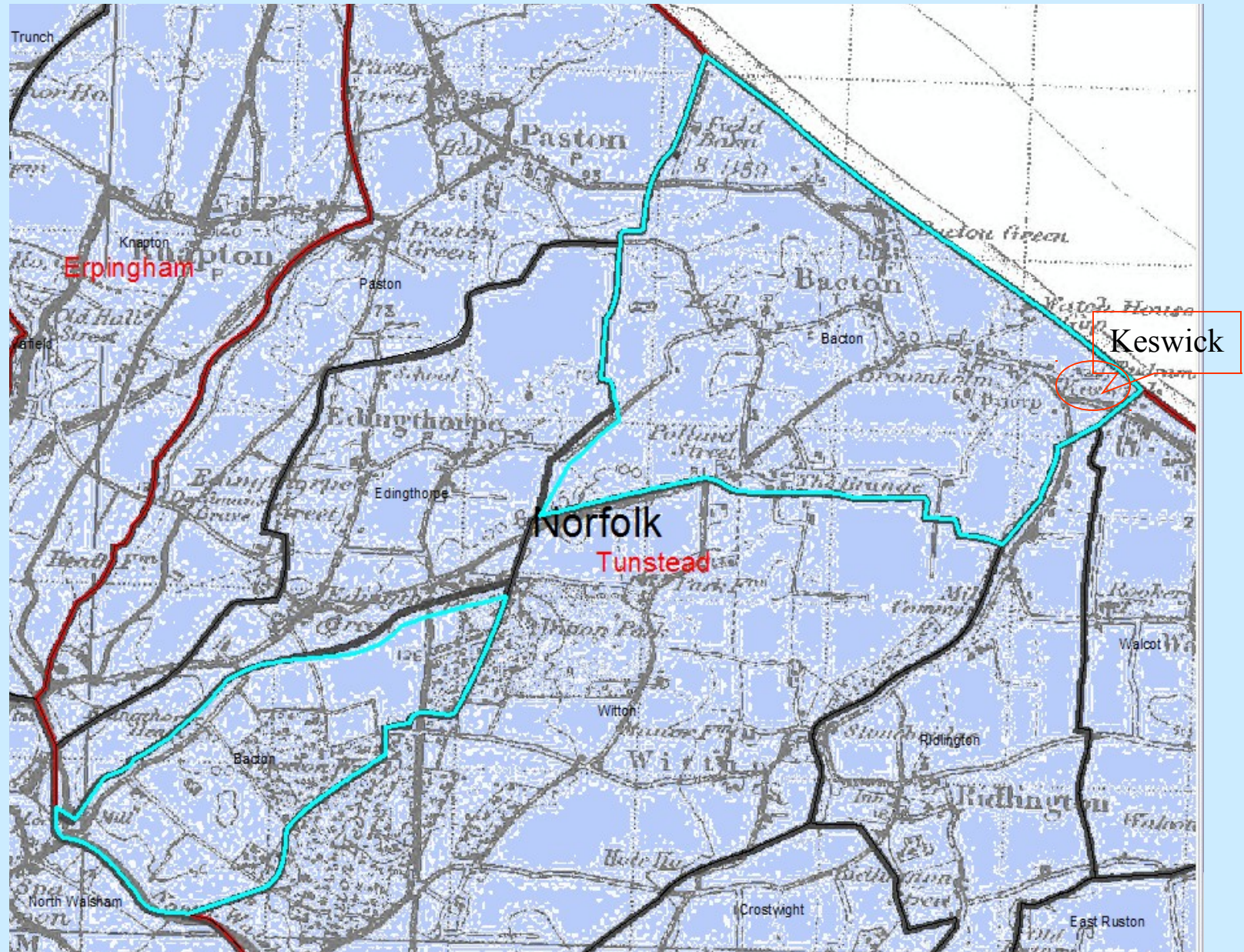
Field	Value
FID	1647
Shape	Polygon
PLACE_NAME	Bacton
LABEL	Bacton
COUNTY	Norfolk
PLACE_TYPE	Ancient Parish
MARKET_TOW	
NOTES	
PARISH_YR	1558
BISHOP_YR	1698
NON_CHURCH	Particular Baptist
CIVIL_REGI	Tunstead
PROBATE_CO	Court of the Archdeacon of Norfolk
DIOCESES	Norwich
RURAL_DEAN	Waxham
POOR_LAW_U	Tunstead and Hap
CLASS	Parish
OTHER_PLAC	Bacton Green; Bromholm; Keswick
SEE_REFER	
HUNDREDS	Tunstead

A red arrow points from the '2 objects found.' status bar to the 'Bacton' entry in the 'Identify Results' window.

Keswick, where are you?



Keswick in Bacton Parish



The End