

## 7. WRECCLESHAM MAPS.

### INTRODUCTION.

Maps provide the Local Historian with an excellent resource showing not only what was the position at any given time but also the changes that have taken place in the period since the maps were drawn. There are many sources of maps that will be considered in the course of this paper. The maps prior to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century were fairly rudimentary but none the less give an idea of settlement patterns in earlier days. Since then and with the introduction of Ordnance Survey maps in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century there is a source of good information of the development that has taken place in Wrecclesham over the past 200 years. With the introduction of computer technology and the availability of digital maps, projected from satellites, map making has made rapid progress. There are a number of map sources that you can be directed towards which we will explore here and at the meeting.

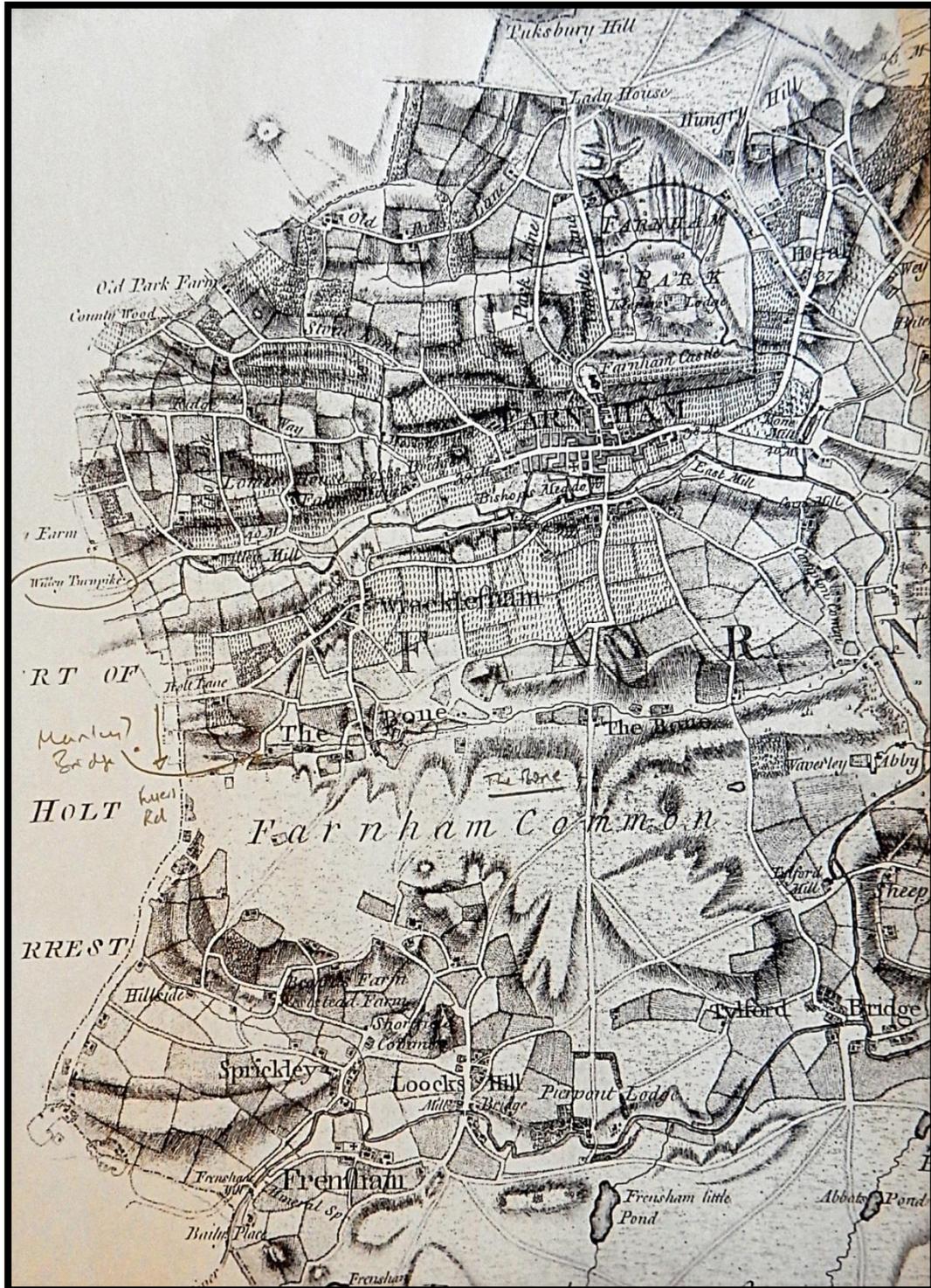
### EARLY MAPS.

The earliest map of any substance covering the Farnham area is the Roque Map. John Rocque was a French Huguenot, map maker and cartographer who emigrated to England in the early years of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. He is best remembered for his map of London which he published in 1747. In 1769 John Rocque published a map of Surrey and it is from this map that one can get the first impression of the town and villages of Farnham. Prior to Roque there were several maps of Surrey but none of these had sufficient scale or detail to be of much value. They tend to be sold more for decorative purposes and there are a number of Ancient Map providers who sell these products. Typical of these is Christopher Saxton's map of Surrey dated 1759 which is illustrated below.



## THE ROQUES MAP

John Roques Map of Surrey surveyed in 1762 and published in 1768 brought a new accuracy to cartography which is rather more detailed and is a useful early source.



It is possible from this map to identify the principal road and track pattern in Wrecclesham. It also clearly shows the extent of hop growing throughout the village in the 18th Century.

## THE TITHE MAPS 1842.

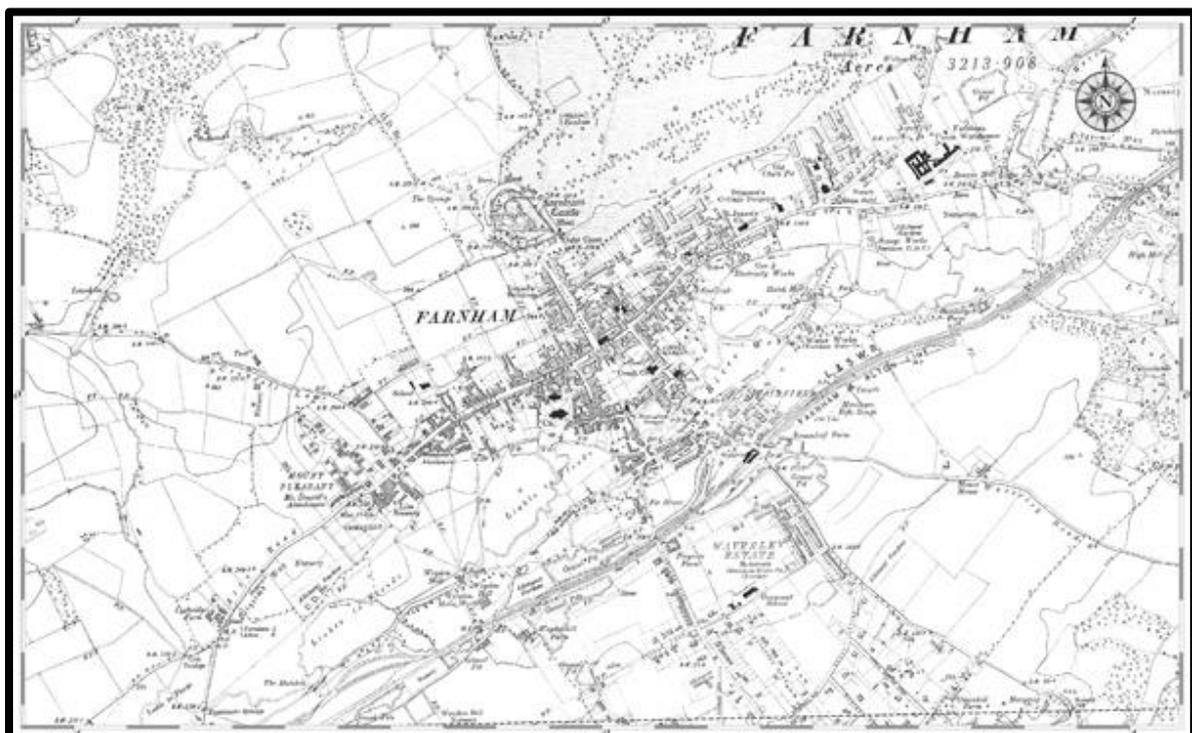
The Surrey Tithe map produced in 1842 is the first to give sufficient detail to identify buildings. Tithe maps for each county in England and Wales were prepared following the Tithe Commutation Act 1836. The payment of a tithe of one tenth of local produce to the church had been established in Saxon times, before the Norman Conquest. It originally was a payment to support the local priest. In Wrecclesham's case this was the Rector of Farnham. Following the dissolution of the monasteries the right to receive tithes was acquired by a number of private landlords. In the Farnham area the land had passed to the Lord of the Manor, the Bishop of Winchester. Each map was accompanied by a schedule listing each piece of land by number. This showed the owners, occupiers and a description of the land in the parish including individual fields - sometimes with field names.

Overleaf I have reproduced the Tithe Map of Wrecclesham which identifies the extent of agricultural land that existed in the village in the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century. It is possible from the schedules accompanying the Tithe Maps to study the ownership of land within an area such as Wrecclesham, and to assemble the ownership of occupation of land by individuals in any area. The Tithe Maps are generally available at the County Records Office, in our case the Surrey History Centre. However a copy of the tithe map for Farnham is available at the Farnham Museum .

One feature that is missing from the Tithe Map drawn in 1842 is the Railway line to Alton which had yet to be developed. The line to Farnham opened in 1849 and the extension of the line to Alton was added in 1852. In all subsequent maps the railway line is a significant feature bisecting the village

## HARDING'S MAP OF FARNHAM

One of the first maps of Farnham shown below was based upon the 1842 Tithe Map. This map shows the railway terminating in Farnham but reveals very little of Wrecclesham.





THE 1842 TITHE MAP OF WRECLESHAM

## THE ORDNANCE SURVEY.

The national agency for cartography, the Ordnance Survey, grew out of the requirements of the military for effective maps of battle zones. Although maps were being produced by the services in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century it wasn't until the early years of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century that the Ordnance Survey came into being. It grew out of the Board of Ordnance, hence its name. In the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century a number of County maps had been produced. The initial emphasis was on maps that were of a scale 1 inch to 1 mile. It was only later that maps of a large scale were produced.

The first Ordnance Survey map was in fact produced in 1801. It was of the County of Kent. The rationale still was related to military needs. Kent, the most easterly southern county was felt to be vulnerable to French Invasion. Four years later a map of Essex was produced. Within the next 20 years about a third of England and Wales had been mapped to a scale 1 inch to 1 mile. In the mid 1930's 6 inch to the mile maps were being produced. The need for this level of detail was partially prompted by the growth of the railways. Railway engineers found that inch to the mile scale was virtually useless for their purposes. The first large scale map of the Wrecchlesham area was produced in 1879. The History Project has a series of these maps dated 1879, 1897 and 1852.

## MAP COMPARISONS

Comparing these maps can give a good impression of changes in the Village. I show below and overleaf two sections of the 1879 and 1912 map of the Broadwell's/Clay Hill area which show the extent of development there was between these two dates.





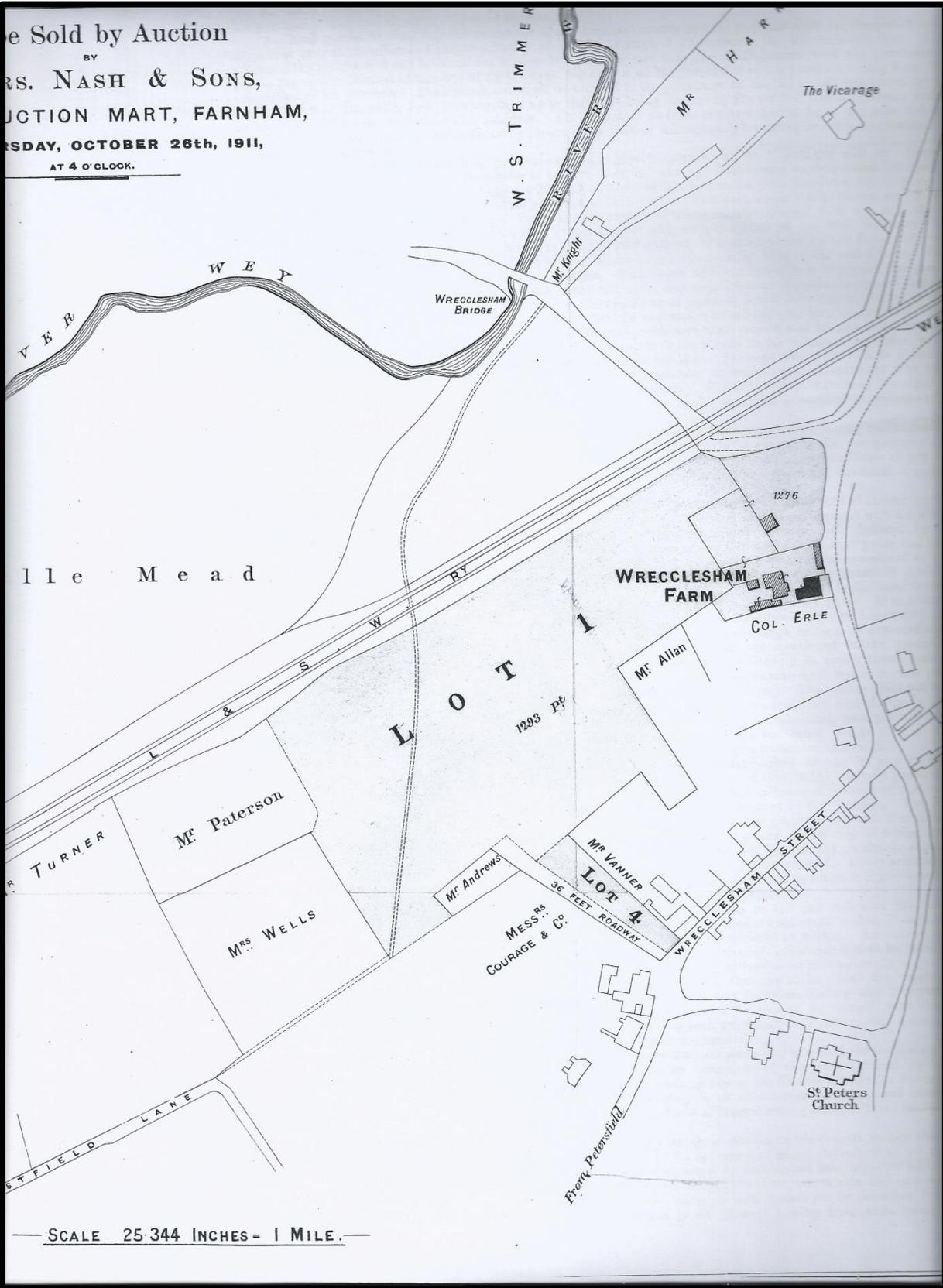
## ESTATE AGENTS MAPS AND PLANS

Another fruitful source of mapping is the product of Estate Agents. In Victorian Times these agents were capable of producing accurate maps of areas which were for sale. The History Project has managed to acquire a number of Estate Agents Particulars of sale and there are maps contained in them which provide good information to supplement other maps produced at the time. One of the advantages of these is that they may also contain information about land ownership of surrounding areas.

The example overleaf of the plan accompanying the sale of the Wreclesham Farm in what is now called Wreclesham Road, but was once the Farnham Road, leading down to the Coxbridge Roundabout.

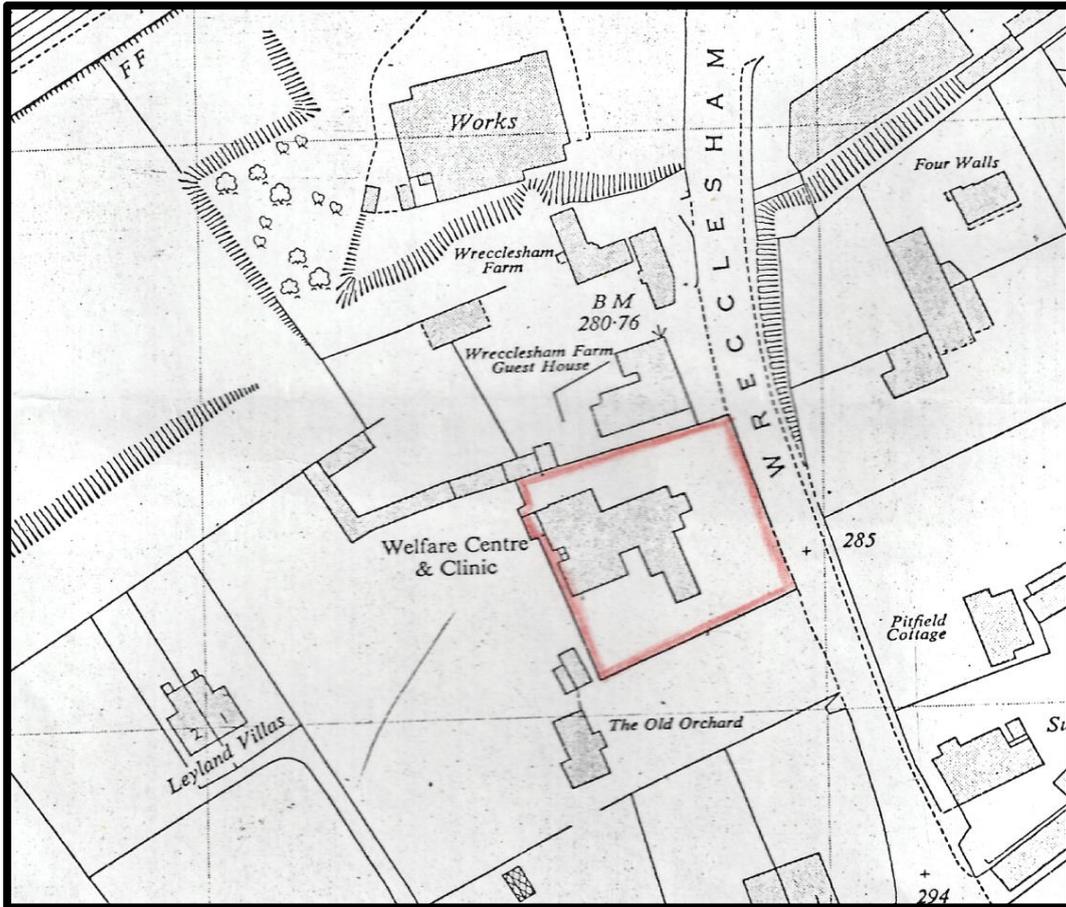
Another example also overleaf, is the plan that was drawn at the time of the sale in the same road of the Parish Hall

e Sold by Auction  
 BY  
 RS. NASH & SONS,  
 UCTION MART, FARNHAM,  
 SSDAY, OCTOBER 26th, 1911,  
 AT 4 O'CLOCK.



SCALE 25 344 INCHES = 1 MILE.

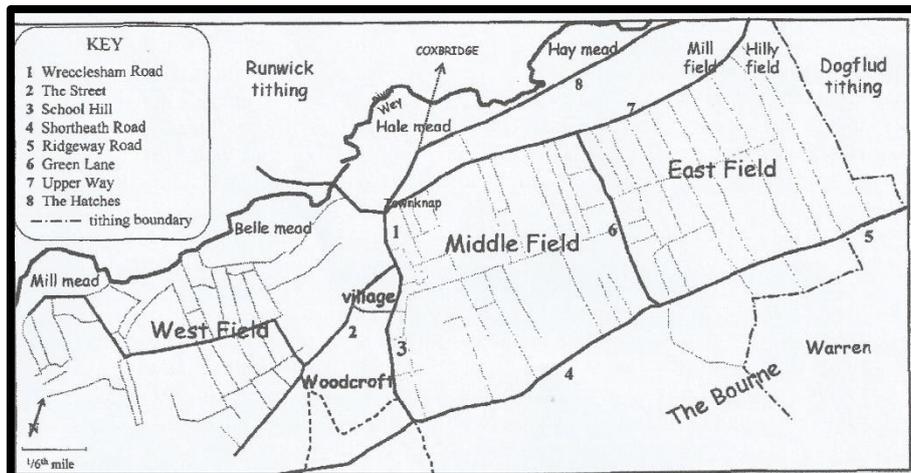
Estate Plan – Wrecclesham Farm



**The Parish Hall Wrecclesham**

**OTHER MAPS**

There are also a number of maps which have been drawn by the author of reports or research papers. These will frequently take a base map, perhaps from the Ordnance Survey and illustrate their argument by hand producing a map. Pat Heather has used this practice considerably in undertaking studies of Wrecclesham. The example below is perhaps typical.



## Satellite and Computer Technology

The introduction of satellite and computers has transformed the field of map making. It is now possible to produce instant maps from the Ordnance Survey on your computer. This ability has also brought about the introduction of satellite navigation, or satnavs, in cars. Instant map making is changing daily and such features as Google map making is making the production of maps or digital photographs of an area available at the press of a button.

Equally interesting is Google Street View which can show you what is on the ground. I can just enter a location eg Beales, Lane Wrecclesham into the computer and out comes a very presentable map or digital photograph. Follow the arrows and you can get one way to photographs of the Street and the other way up School Hill

