ALLOTMENTS AND SMALL HOLDINGS IN OXFORDSHIRE, A SURVEY MADE ON BEHALF OF THE INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649127634

Allotments and small holdings in Oxfordshire, a survey made on behalf of the Institute for Research in Agricultural Economics, University of Oxford by Arthur W. Ashby

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

ARTHUR W. ASHBY

ALLOTMENTS AND SMALL HOLDINGS IN OXFORDSHIRE, A SURVEY MADE ON BEHALF OF THE INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD



ALLOTMENTS AND SMALL HOLDINGS IN OXFORDSHIRE

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS LONDON EDINBURGH GLASGOW NEW YORK TORONTO MELBOURNE CAPE TOWN BOMBAY HUMPHREY MILFORD FUBLISHER TO THE UNIVERSITY

46.30

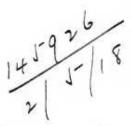
ALLOTMENTS AND SMALL HOLDINGS IN OXFORDSHIRE

A SURVEY

MADE ON BEHALF OF THE INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

BY

ARTHUR W. ASHBY



OXFORD AT THE CLARENDON PRESS 1917

PREFACE

This survey of the allotments and small holdings of Oxfordshire, made in the latter part of 1913 and the earlier part of 1914, was to have formed a part of the Report on the agriculture of the county recently issued on behalf of the Institute.1 But of late years public interest in this branch of the industry has been stimulated by the consideration of problems connected with the improvement of conditions of life among rural workers, the retention of the labourer on the land, and the increase of food production, so that a closer study of the history and present circumstances of the small agricultural holdings of the county seemed to be called for than their position in its rural economy would appear, at first sight, to justify. Thus, this special inquiry was undertaken with the object of determining, as far as possible, the conditions which have led to the creation of allotments and small holdings in Oxfordshire, and to consider how far these conditions are likely to prevail in the future. At the same time, the causes of failure and the circumstances necessary for the most successful development have been investigated.

The survey is the work of Mr. A. W. Ashby, research assistant in the Institute, and was carried out by him with the aid of a research scholarship of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. The work was greatly facilitated by the ready co-operation of a large number of interested persons,

Agriculture in Oxfordshire, by John Orr, with a chapter on soils by C. G. T. Morison. Oxford University Press, 1916.

to whom the author and the Institute are very much indebted for their kindly interest and assistance. Many
allotment owners, or their agents, allotment cultivators and
small holders not only offered information with regard to
their own holdings, but placed time at the disposal of the
author to direct attention to other items of interest. Without the assistance, also, of numerous overseers, assistant
overseers, and rate collectors, it would have been impossible
to obtain some of the information. Thanks are also due
to Mr. P. Elford and Mr. S. Heaton, for information on
educational work on gardens and allotments, and to
Mr. Lester Smith, the county land agent, whose willingness to supply information on many points that arose is
greatly appreciated.

C. S. ORWIN, Director.

Institute for Research in Agricultural Economics, Oxford.

October, 1916.

CONTENTS

PART I. ALLOTMENTS

TART I. ADDOLMENTS	
CHAPTER	PAGE
I. Introduction: The Place of Allotments in	
RUBAL ECONOMY	1
II. THE HISTORY OF ALLOTMENTS	13
III. ALLOTMENTS IN OXFORDSHIRE	23
IV. THE DEMAND FOR ALLOTMENTS	37
V. CONDITIONS OF TENANCY	44
VI. METHODS OF CULTIVATION AND ECONOMIC EFFECTS	52
APPENDIX I: CHANGES IN ALLOTMENT TENANCIES AS	
ILLUSTRATED BY THE PARISH OF	
STONESFIELD, OXFORDSHIRE, 1895-1913	79
APPENDIX II: INCREASE AND DECREASE OF ALLOT-	
MENTS UNDER PARISH COUNCILS IN	
Охговряния, 1908-14	82
g g	
PART II. SMALL HOLDINGS	
CHAPTER	PAGE
I. Introduction	85
II. HISTORY OF SMALL HOLDINGS IN OXFORDSHIRE .	102
III. DISTRIBUTION OF HOLDINGS	125
IV. SMALL HOLDINGS COLONIES	134
V. COUNTY COUNCIL HOLDINGS	141
VI. EMPLOYMENT, CROPS, AND STOCK	152
	169
INDEX	193
ANDRA	400

