

Mapping out Hamble's past

18th November 2008 - Roy Underdown Pavilion

Ian Underdown, the Society's Chairman, gave an interesting and detailed talk how Hamble has appeared on maps over the centuries. He used old maps and sea charts to show Hamble's important features and how it developed into the village we know today. One of the earliest maps by Christopher Saxton, 1575, featured Hamble's St Andrew's Castle and one of the first sea charts by Edmund Dummer, 1698, showed salt making at Hamble Point. Surprisingly, it is another sea chart by Joseph Avery, 1721, on which the first roads in the area appear. It is from this time more detail of local land marks and other features such as ferries were shown. One of the highlights of the evening was being able to view an original 1725 estate map of Satchell which was superbly drawn. Hamble was much smaller than today and it was not until the early 1900s that the boundary changed to include most of Satchell Lane. As time moved on the detail and quality of the maps improved to the current standard produced by Ordnance Survey. Ian even showed the excellent mapping facilities available on the internet today and the many views of Hamble that may be seen. The audience included local residents, yachtsmen and visitors, with a wide age range from a school boy to someone approaching his ninth decade! After the talk Ian answered many questions and received many compliments on his presentation.