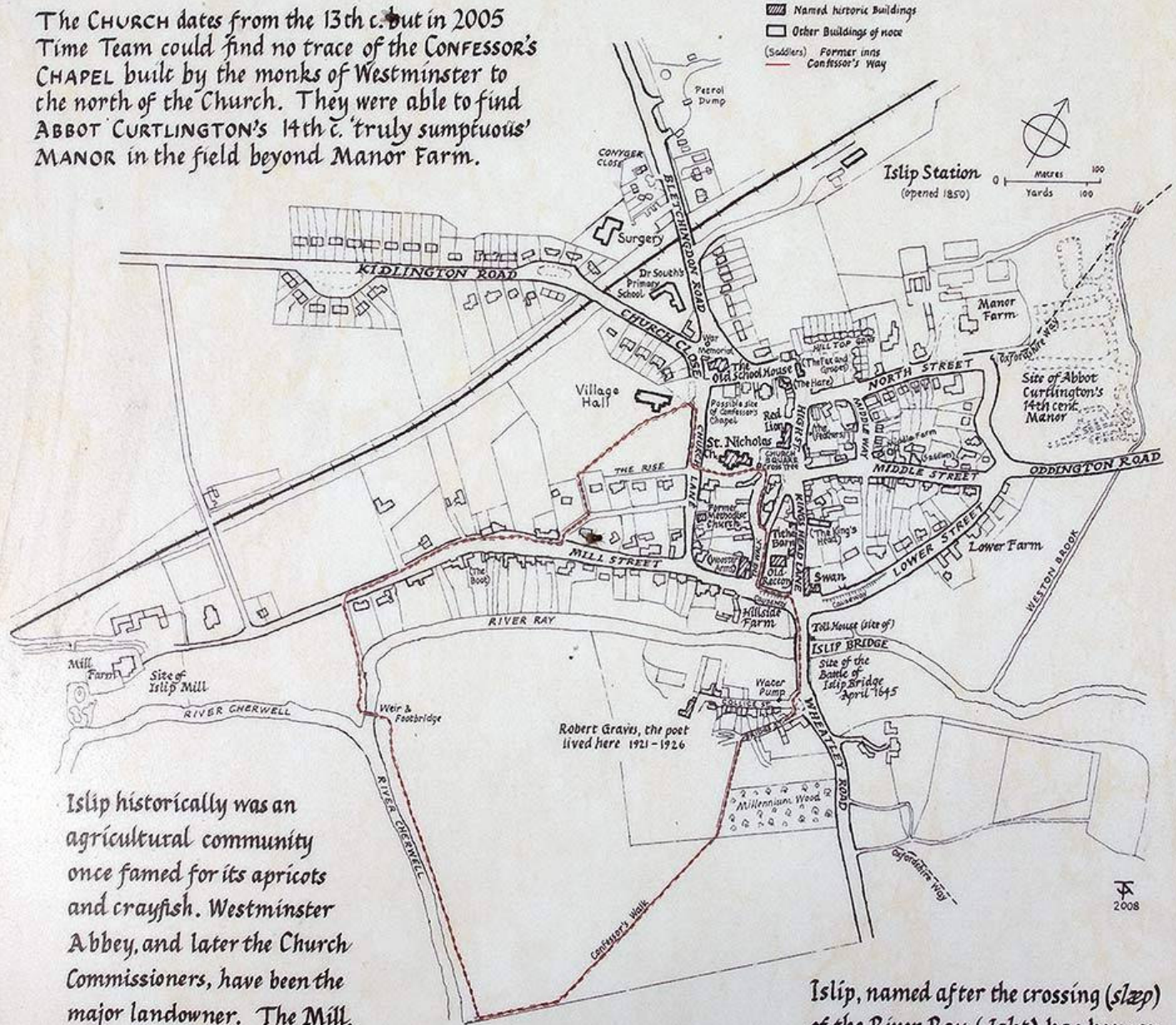


ISLIP

Around 1005 the Saxon settlement of Islip was birthplace to **EDWARD THE CONFESSOR**, king (1042-1066) and saint (canonised 1161). Before his death, Edward gave Islip to his new Abbey of Westminster and the link is maintained today in the appointment of Rectors. These have included **DR. SOUTH**, who built the **OLD RECTORY** and founded the **SCHOOL**, and **DEAN BUCKLAND** the 19th.c. geologist.

The **CHURCH** dates from the 13th c. but in 2005 Time Team could find no trace of the **CONFESSOR'S CHAPEL** built by the monks of Westminster to the north of the Church. They were able to find **ABBOT CURTLINGTON'S** 14th c. 'truly sumptuous' **MANOR** in the field beyond Manor Farm.



Islip historically was an agricultural community once famed for its apricots and crayfish. Westminster Abbey, and later the Church Commissioners, have been the major landowner. The Mill, mentioned in the Domesday Book, and rebuilt in 18c, ceased work in 1949 and was pulled down.

Made possible by a grant from the Local Heritage Initiative to celebrate the Millennium of the Birth of Edward the Confessor



Local Heritage initiative

The Bridge was vital to the defence of Oxford during the Civil War and the village changed hands several times. Cromwell's New Model Army defeated a Royalist Garrison at the Battle of Islip Bridge on the 23rd April 1645.

Islip, named after the crossing (*slæp*) of the River Ray (Ight) has been an important thoroughfare through the ages. In the 17th and 18th c. the village, with at least 6 inns, was the overnight stop on the 2-day journey from London to Worcester. The road was turnpiked in 1778 but the **TOLL HOUSE**, sited in the car park opposite the Swan, was demolished in 1878.