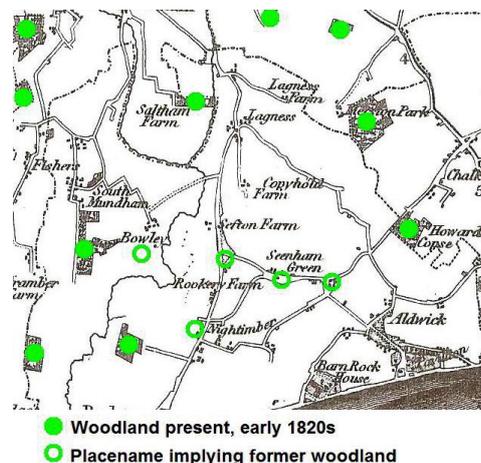


## The local setting

Rose Green was once a part of the manor and tithing (sub-district of a parish) of Nyetimber, which itself was a part of the parish of Pagham. Although Pagham parish is bordered by the diocese of Sussex, it was under the temporal and spiritual control of the Archbishop of Canterbury from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. The Archbishop's spiritual lordship over Pagham extended well beyond the Tudor period.<sup>1</sup>

There is little evidence of prehistoric occupation in Pagham parish, although in the Iron Age, settlements did exist at nearby Oving and North Bersted. Roman pottery has been found in the parish, at Pagham, Nyetimber and some other places, but so far no significant settlement has been located.<sup>2</sup>

Pagham was the site of an early Anglo-Saxon Christian centre. Some of the local village and other names appear to date back to the 7<sup>th</sup> century AD, and are among the earliest-recorded English placenames in the country. Settlements such as Pagham, Bognor, Bersted, Crimsham and the Mundhams all appear in a grant of land made in about 685 AD by King Caedwalla of Sussex to Bishop Wilfrid of Selsey. Pagham church also served as an Anglo-Saxon minster. This was a church staffed by a number of priests, which served a much larger area than the later parish.<sup>3</sup>



### 1. Woodland and woodland-related names in the Nyetimber/Rose Green area, early 19<sup>th</sup> century (base map is 1825 Greenwood Map, but includes placename information from the 1813 first edition Ordnance Survey Map)

The flat landscape of Pagham parish originally included a lot of woodland and marsh. In Nyetimber, most of the woodland had gone by the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. In 1598, out of close on 1,000 acres in the manor, there were only 40 acres of woods. Patches of woodland survived into the early 19<sup>th</sup> century in and around the parish, and placenames such as Bowley, Nyetimber, Sefton Green,

<sup>1</sup> Fleming 1949 I, 3-6;

<sup>2</sup> Pitts 1979; Leslie and Short 1999, 10-25

<sup>3</sup> Sawyer 1968.