

ONE HUNDRED FIELD NAMES OF OXFORDSHIRE

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1. ALL

Oak Plat
Poor's Plot
Devil's Bit
Nan's Nap
Sour Mead
Sweet Ale
Pied Piece
Pest House
Bell Butts
Gin Ground

5. ALL

Common Plash
Middle Dole
Single Oak
Cuckoo Pen
Parson's Slade
Gogmoor Leys
Furmity Piece
Sallow Beds
Little Steach
Revel Mead

9. ten voices

Duck Puddle
Dean Pightle
Horse Itchen
Pinx Heron
Hare Hedges
Clay Assarts
Long Ladies
Reeve Acre
Long Witness
Top Gallant

10. ALL: 3 times

The Hams 1. Andante
The Braid 2. Moderato
The Hive 3. Prestissimo
The Balk
The Slays
The Clasps
The Spurts
The Shanks
The Bower
The Hook
The Clamp
The Hyde
The Hurst
The Slack
The String
The Pound
The Farthing
The Linchets
The Breeches
The Ridings
The Lanket
The Knowle
The Coombs
The Sturt

2. eleven voices

Squitch Field
Quail Chase
Grist Mill
Hog Hole
Glebe Land
Long Swarths
Coney Corner
Black Boles
Sermon Acres
Seven Mowers
Great Couch

6. ALL: single voices improvising

Calais
Catsbrain
Chatterpie
Clatterpits
Bachelors
Butterday
Creamer
Balsam
Judas
Monkums
Innings
Stripes

3. GROUP ONE

Cockle Furlong
Urchin Furlong
Deadman's Furlong
Wimblestraw's Furlong

7. GROUP ONE

Ten Farundels
Upper Abrahams
Little Grubbing
Shooting Stagmoor
Enter Common
Withy Eyot
Stomacher Patch

4. GROUP TWO

Lammas Ground
Dragon Ground
Furzy Ground
Sickle Ground
Cradle Ground

8. GROUP TWO

Shoulder of Mutton
Mole Catcher's Hook
No Man's Gore
Hatch Yatt Piece
Little Fox Holes
Gallows Tree Common
Snap Dragon Spring

My most popular poem for many voices. Cat No 174, 1980. Ten verses, scored for voices speaking in unison (ALL); in 2 GROUPS; ten voices speaking sequentially; and a passage for free-form improvisation by single voices. This is the handout. The names come from The English Place Name Society's Oxfordshire. Isabelle Spencer, calligrapher, made 2 copies of a beautiful booklet with the 'verses' spread over the pages. The Sackner Archive USA has one; I have the other. I see each 'verse' as a stained glass panel... a tapestry... a carpet... Recorded on my CD 1, with explanation of some of the names in the accompanying booklet.