

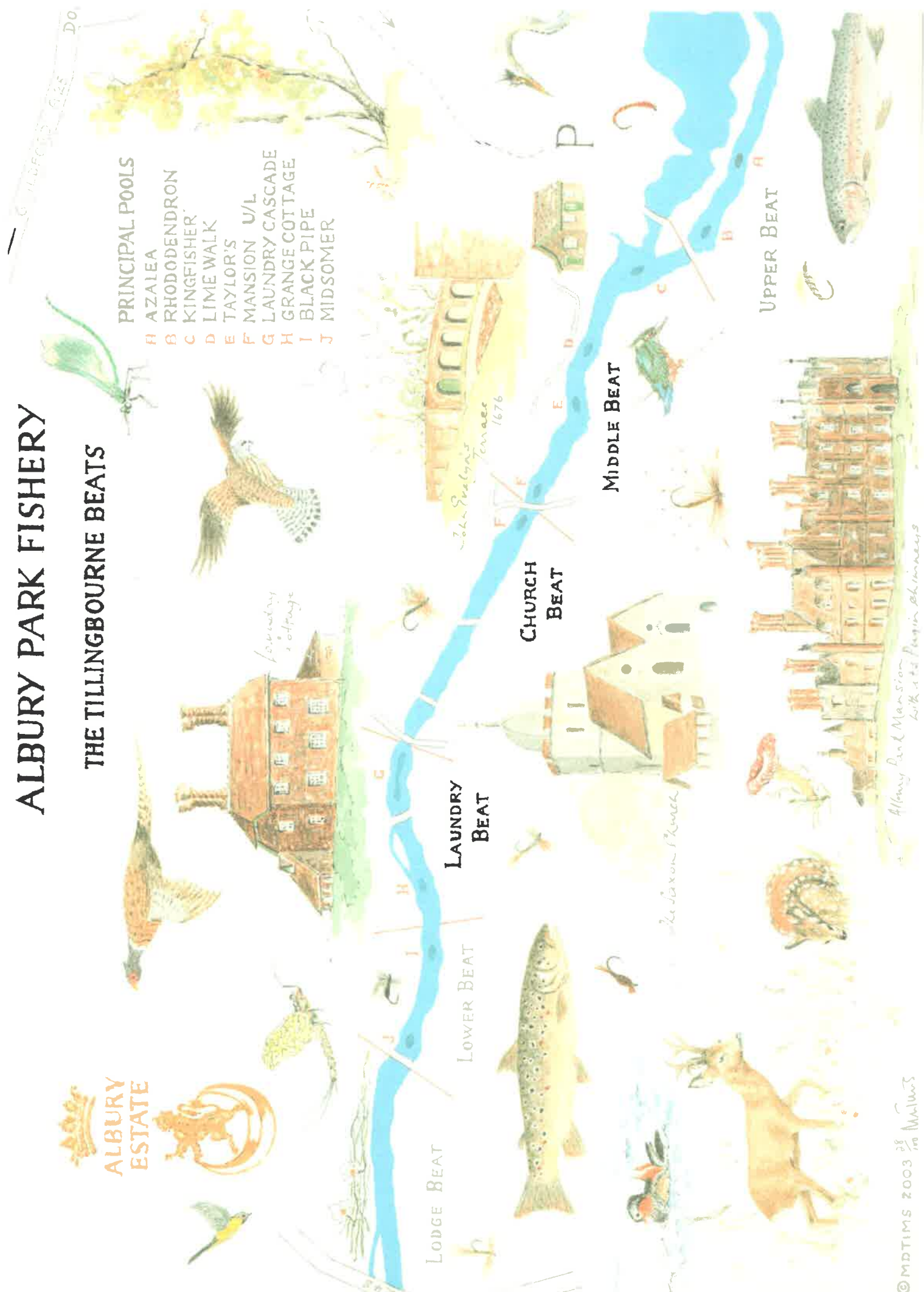
ALBURY PARK FISHERY

THE TILLINGBOURNE BEATS



PRINCIPAL POOLS

- H AZALEA
- B RHODODENDRON
- C KINGFISHER
- D LIME WALK
- E TAYLOR'S
- F MANSION U/L
- G LAUNDRY CASCADE
- H GRANGE COTTAGE
- I BLACK PIPE
- J MIDSOMER



The Beats

Upper Beat

On the far side of the river it is still just possible to identify the route of the original road from Shere to the Mansion and old Albury village, moved over 200 years ago

Middle Beat

On the walk down the beat glance to your right up the slope, originally planted as a vineyard, to the top terrace designed by John Evelyn around 1660. It still retains the pool and fountain sited above a Roman style bathhouse. Originally this section of the river was widened to form an 80 feet wide canal. It survived for less than 150 years before it was returned to a clear flowing stream.

Church Beat

The old parish church is one of the few Saxon churches remaining in Surrey. About 1140 the Normans built the present tower, which by the 17th century had a spire. The present cupola was in place by 1920. The timbers, door and wall paintings date back over 500 years and are well worth a closer look. At the top end of the beat look across to the Mansion. Over many centuries it has been extensively altered and rebuilt. The house you see today was designed by Augustus Pugin, architect of the Houses of Parliament.

Laundry Beat

Laundry Cottage is on the site of the old Albury corn mill. In existence at the time of the Domesday Survey and rebuilt over the centuries, it was destroyed by fire in 1727 when gunpowder stored on site exploded. The replacement corn mill was converted to a paper mill making bank notes. In 1793 it appears that Charles X, King of France, engaged the owner to produce false bank notes to undermine the French Republic.

Lower Beat

Just across the river you can see the timbered Grange Cottage. This was the George Inn, the village pub of old Albury. The original road to Guildford ran to the left of the building. It is still possible to see the level sites of the original cottages on the grass between the river and the drive to the church.

Lodge Beat

Looking across the river towards the A25 the Catholic Apostolic Church is visible. Built in 1840 by Henry Drummond, then owner of Albury Park, a fervent believer that the Second Coming of Christ was imminent. The New Apostolic Church is still active around the world, although the original 'apostles' made no provision for British leadership succession. The last service at Albury was in 1950, but the church continues to be maintained for the benefit of active worldwide members.

Named Pools

Azalea

Overhanging branches from the azalea trees provide some challenging casting to tempt wily fish lying beneath. The Upper Beat here is slow moving with fish usually circumspect and wary.

Rhododendron

Upper Beat eventually opens into a very large river pool, courtesy of a sluice belonging to a former mill. Flanked by some wonderful flowering bushes, the pool fishes more like a small Stillwater. Trout will approach your fly from all angles, so expect blind takes at any time.

Kingfisher

The major pool in Albury Park, lying beneath Park Lake waterfall. The first fast water for anglers, providing ideal trout habitat, Kingfisher has many fish holding areas.

Lime Walk

A pair of useful pools lie alongside some majesticavenued limes.

Taylor's

Fishable from both banks, and optimum steam width, this pool is named after shepherdess Mudge Taylor, who baillified and ran her flock at Albury until the late 90s.

Mansion Pools – Upper & Lower

Quite open aspect allows water to gain a hold, providing excellent habitat. The gunnera plants here act as useful cover too. The magnificent Mansion building provides a wonderful backdrop.

Church Area

A series of small pools have formed here where the river speeds and chases down the valley. Stealth and accurate casting are definite prerequisites.

Laundry Cascades

Favourite fishing for many, this series of fast flowing pools abounds with ranunculus, great trout holding water. Really heavy nymphs are needed here to hold in the current, overlooked by the former village laundry.

Black Pipe

A deep pool and home to many of the larger fish. The tail provides super fish holding areas amongst the ranunculus, benefitting greatly from recent bank enhancement

Midsomer

Shaded by willow, this pool is approached via tricky casting, and featured in the television series Midsomer Murders!

Albury Park Fishery

This river syndicate fishery formed on the Albury Park section of the Tillingbourne during the 1980s offer a collection of diverse river beats.

With Park Lake, a renovation from a former bog garden, added to the fishery in 1991, Albury Park Syndicate is renowned for providing high quality river and lake sport to discerning anglers in a delightfully peaceful and stunningly beautiful environment. The Park was laid out by the diarist John Evelyn in the late seventeenth century, who formalized the gardens with terracing and balanced geometry, typical of the period, including a central canal measuring 80 feet wide. This had disappeared by the early nineteenth century with the clear flowing Tillingbourne stream width being restored to its former beauty.

The Tillingbourne

The Tillingbourne ('bourn of Tilla's people') rises on the north slope of Leith Hill (highest point in Southern England). The geology ensures a steady flow of clear pure water along the 11 mile route down the valley to meet the Way at Shalford ('shallow ford'). Over the millennia this indefatigable stream has been the lifeblood of this lovely valley.

Albury

This small Surrey village, now renowned for its wonderful chimneys and 3 churches, has been attracting settlers and visitors for over 7,000 years. Invaded by Romans, Saxons, Normans and motor vehicles it has adapted and survived.

Albury Park

The first village of Albury ('old stronghold') was next to the old church by the mansion. The grounds and manor house were extensively remodeled at the end of the Civil War (c:1650). Although the house has changed, the gardens still retain many of the original features. Around 1800 of the Lord of the Manor harassed villagers to move the short distance to what was then the hamlet of Weston Street. The old houses were destroyed and the roads moved.

Lake

In 1701 the grass slope down to the lake was shown as 'the lower orchard' and the river was divided into 3 leats. At some stage two of these leats were combined and transformed into a lavish bog garden. The waterfall at the outlet is still visible.