

NAME Ashmansworth
PARISH Ashmansworth
HUNDRED Evingar
DISTRICT Basingstoke and Deane
NGR SU 415575
GEOLOGY Clay with Flints.

SITE CONTEXT The line of settlement making up the village lies along a NW-SE ridge, although not along the very crest of the ridge but slightly on the SE facing slope. The NE end of the settlement lies at 230m OD while Lower Fm, at the SW end of the ridge is at around 200m OD with the land falling away steeply on three sides.

PLAN TYPE & DESCRIPTION Irregular row with a high degree of dispersion.

There is a principal focus of settlement at the N end of the row where there is a widening of the road at points where two roads meet and then, after some 120m divide. It appears that there has been some encroachment onto the verge on the SE side of the road in the centre of this area and also along the NW side where there are three plots lying parallel to the road. In the area to the E of the largest pond, the plots are relatively small compared with the plots alongside the road to the S where the buildings are well spaced until, at about 200m S of the main group, the plan becomes one of small clusters of four or five buildings, often a single farmstead or a group of cottages. There are gaps of up to 150m between groups. One farmstead, the second to last as one progresses to the SW is accompanied by the church which is set slightly back away from the road. The last farmstead to the SW is the largest and has some cottages within the cluster.

AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

At present the areas of archaeological potential are based on the C19 plan of the settlement. Therefore there are several separate AHAPs which are centred upon the farms ranged along the road. The areas between the AHAPs are regarded as AAPs as it is not known whether the settlement pattern is the result of a more regular line of habitation breaking up to leave the irregular row still existing. In some valley settlements spaces between areas of occupation have been shown to have been occupied and abandoned in the medieval period. Does that model also fit this ridge line of settlement as well?

The area around the larger focus of houses at the N end of Ashmansworth is also an AHAP connected to the AHAP around Steeles farm by an AAP covering the areas on either side of the road.

It is worth noting that on the NW side of the road, a footpath runs parallel to the road N of the church along a line that could be taken as a back lane to any properties that may have stood along the road.

CHURCH & CHURCHYARD St James. Norman chancel arch. Chancel C13.

Chaplelry dependent upon East Woodhay.

The churchyard is irregular in shape. It appears as a rectangle but with a curvilinear E boundary.

BUILDINGS

(Listed)

Church of St James I
Lower Manor Fmhse Early C19 II
Ashmansworth House C18 early and late C19 II
The Flint House Early C19 II
Mere Cottage Early C19 II
Steeles Fmhse C17 early and mid C19 II
Ashmansworth Manor Early C19 c.1900 II
The Old Cottage C17, C18 and C19 II
Four Ashes C17, refronted C18 II

(Un-listed)

Cottages near Lower Manor Farm are of later C19-early C20 build

SMR DATA

1	41065663	Med church
2	41065663	Roman pot
3	41025656	Ditto
4	41025656	Med pot and building material. excavation revealed cobbled courtyard and Norman buildings at 41115657, two cobbled roads at 40985661 and an early C12 hearth beneath the floor of a demolished barn at 41065656.

ADDITIONAL SITES/FEATURES

1	41155665	Earthworks. 'Humps and bumps' in an area of permanent pasture SE of the church. slightly to the N of this area the Tithe map shows a complex of buildings which have been demolished
2	41055655	Site of two large outbuildings, probably barns shown on the Tithe map
3	41055625	Site of cottage shown on Tithe map

CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES OS 1:2,500 SU 4056-4156, 4057-4157; Tithe map 21M65/F7/10/2 (1840)

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Piggott. Newbury Field Club (excavations) c.1955

PRIMARY HISTORIC SOURCES

Domesday Not mentioned

Subsidy Rolls

1334 0. 1. 10

1524 1. 0. 4 (15 taxpayers)

Manorial Documents

Hearth Tax

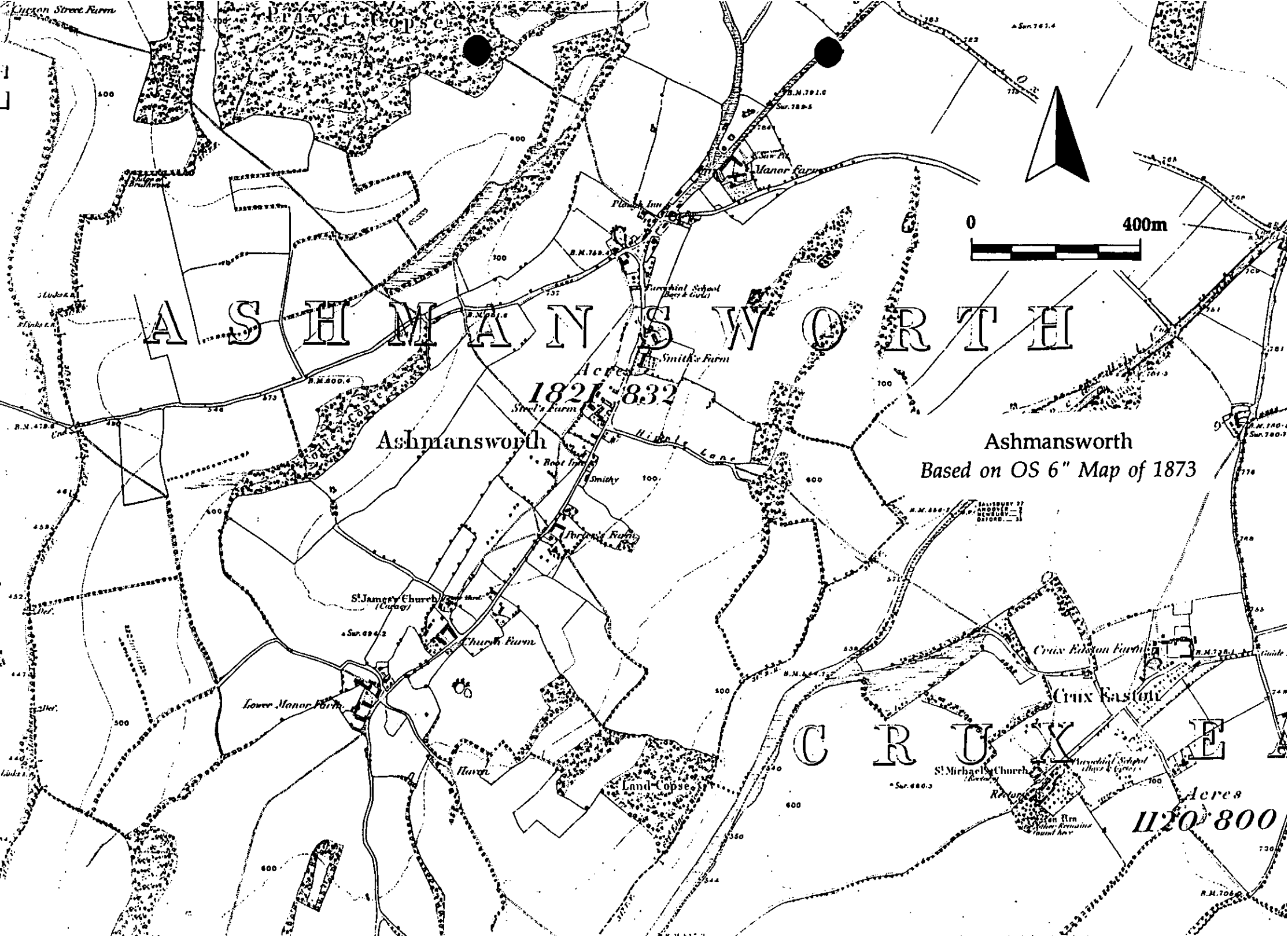
1665 35 hearths chargeable (20 houses)
10 hearths not chargeable (10 houses) Total 30 houses

PLACE NAME 909 *æscmæres wyrde*. Probably *Æscmere* 'ash pool'.

PHOTOGRAPHS 8/2-4

OTHER PROJECT ARCHIVE ELEMENTS

Mentioned in a charters of 909 (ref. 378 in Sawyer, 1968, p 164) and 934 (ref. 1491, p 174).



A S H M A N S W O R T H



Ashmansworth

Ashmansworth
Based on OS 6" Map of 1873

Acres
1821-832

C R U I K E W E L L

Acres
1120-800

St. James's Church
(Cruikewell)

St. Michael's Church
(Cruikewell)

Land Copse

Cruikewell Farm

Church Farm

Lower Manor Farm

Manor Farm

Flax Mill

Parochial School
(Beer & Gold)

Smith's Farm

Street's Farm

Higgle Lane

Boat Lane

Parson's Ridge

Haven

Ratton

Manor Farm

St. Luke's Farm

St. Luke's

St. Luke's

St. Luke's

St. Luke's

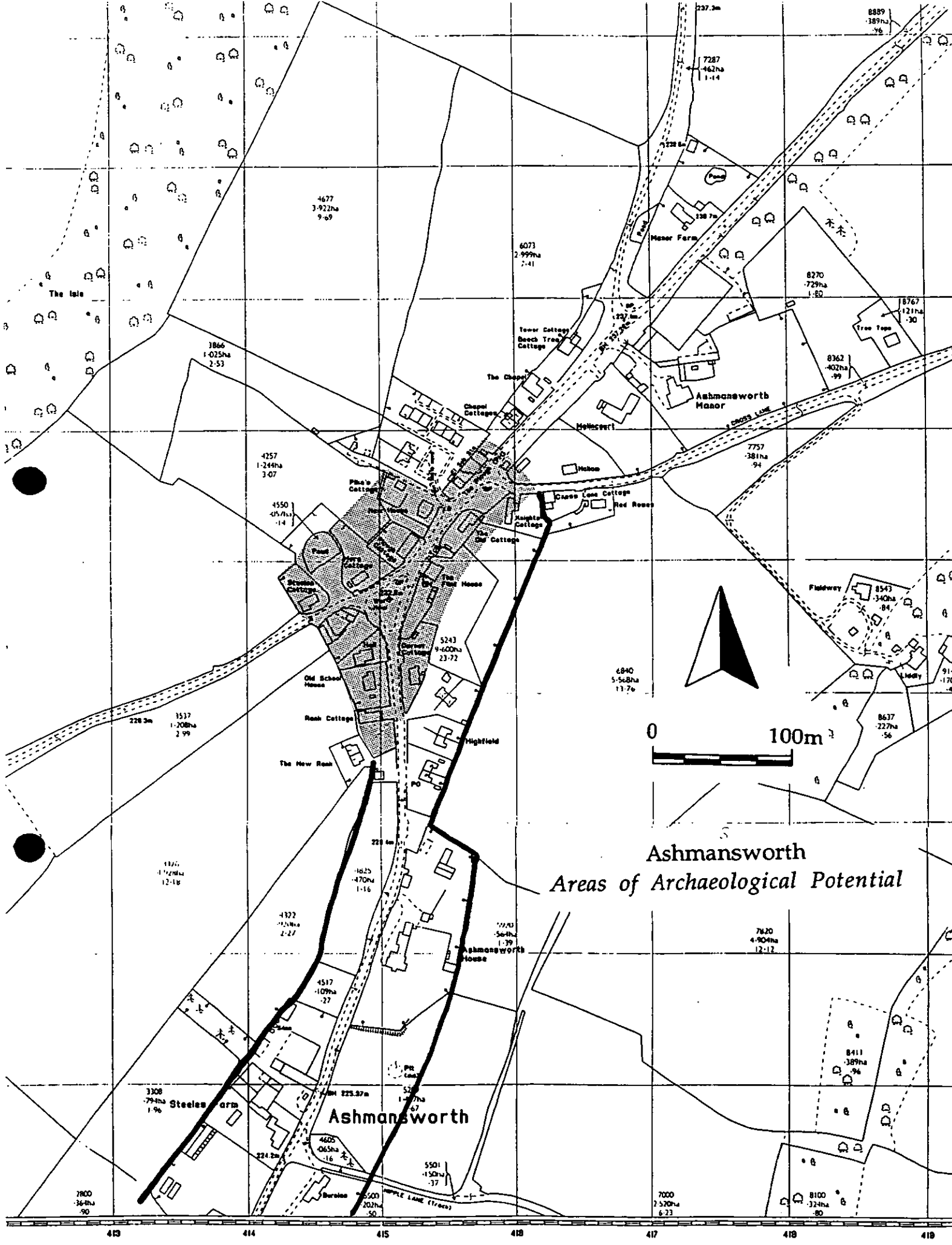
St. Luke's

St. Luke's

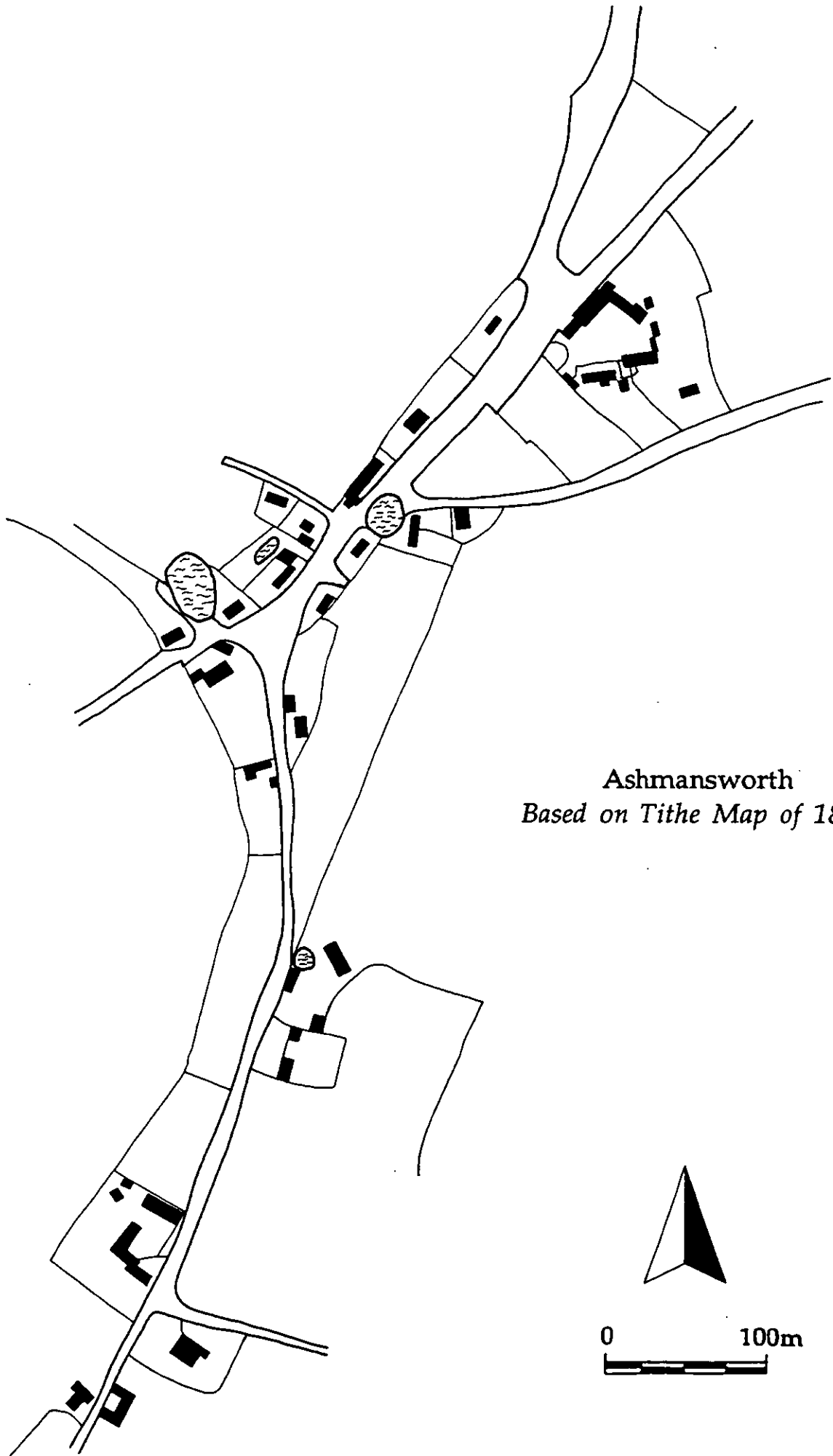
St. Luke's

St. Luke's

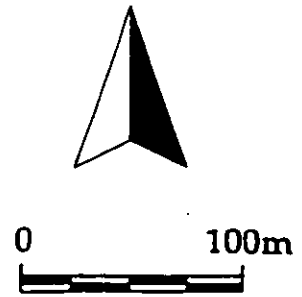
St. Luke's

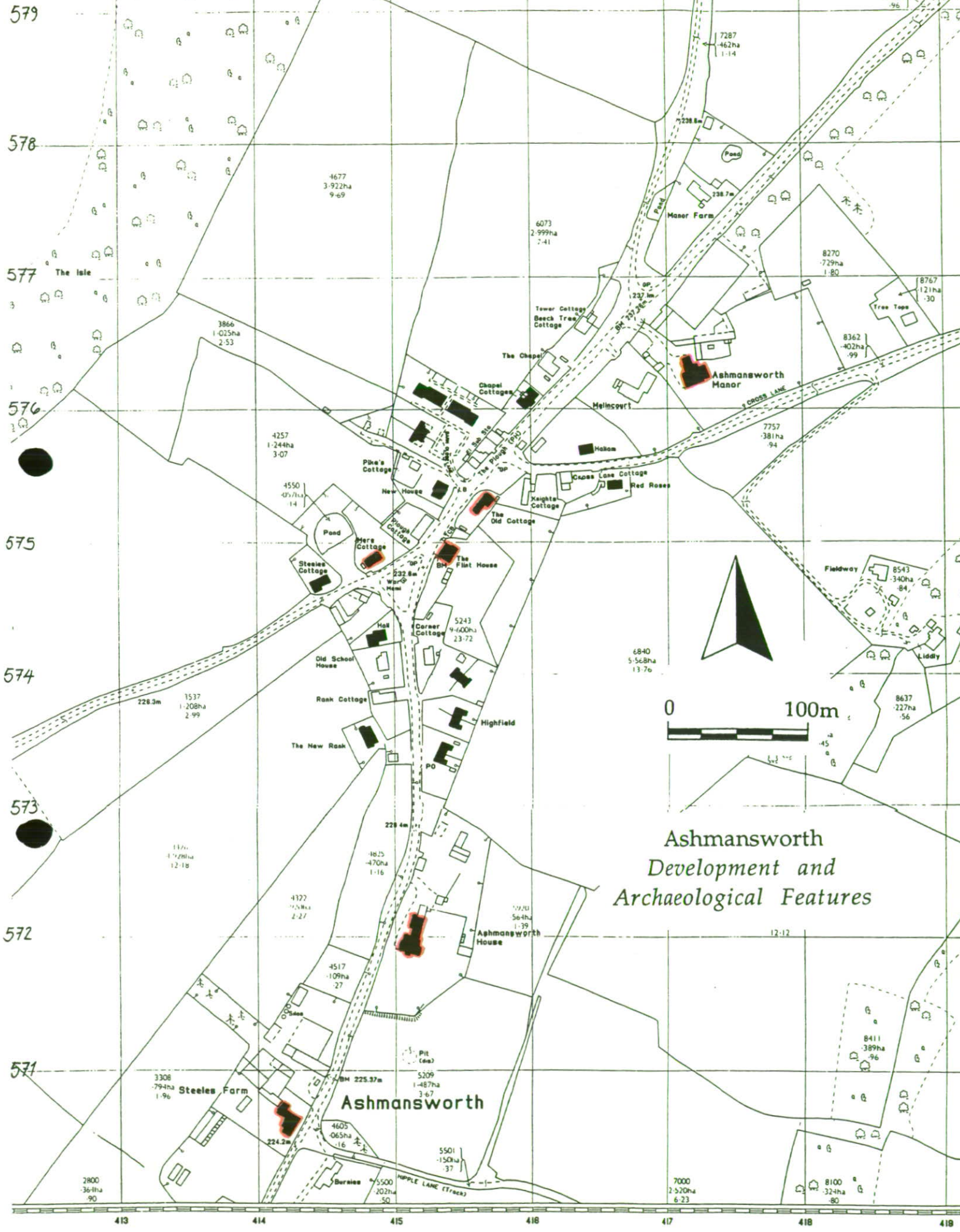


Ashmansworth
Areas of Archaeological Potential



Ashmansworth
Based on Tithe Map of 1840

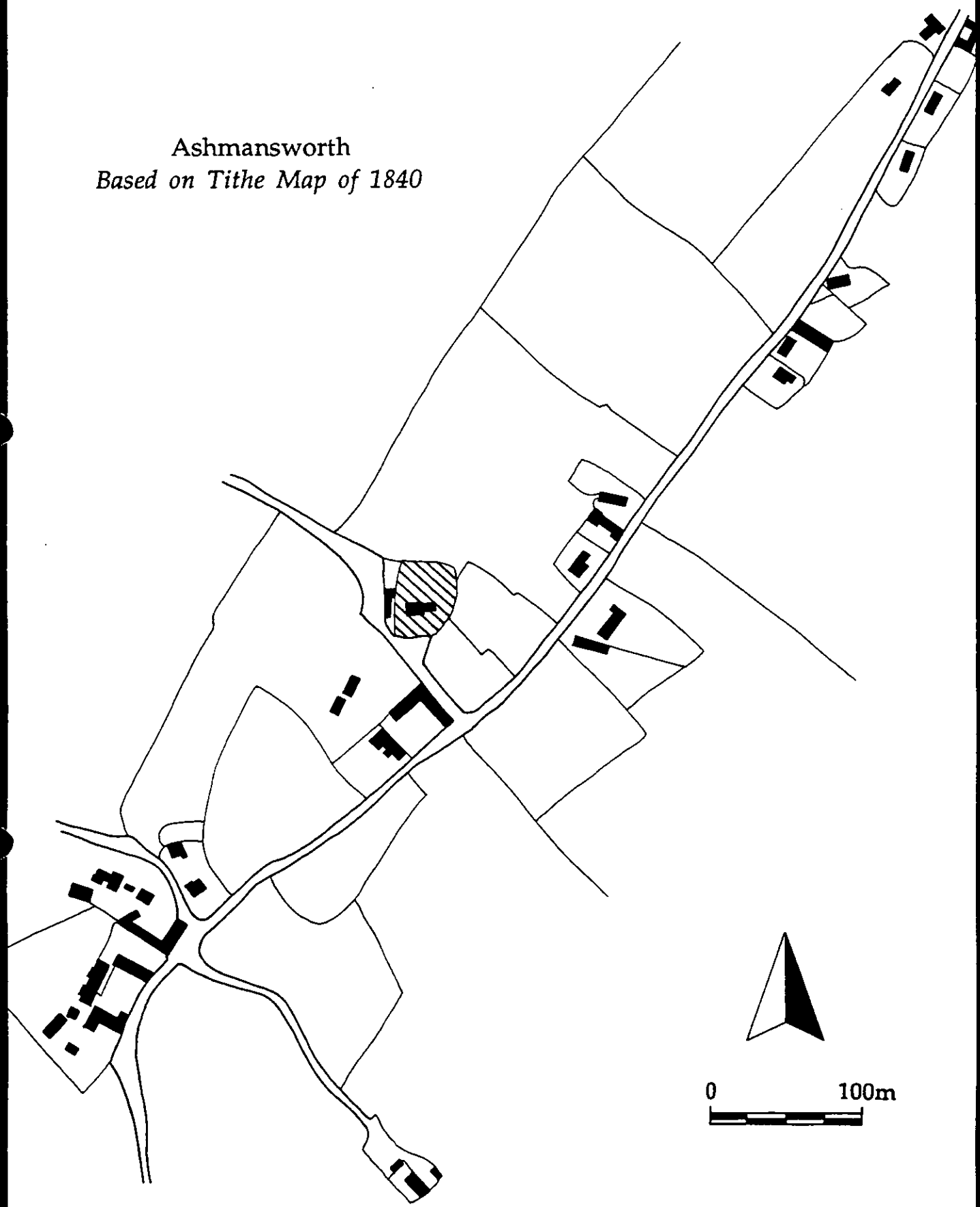


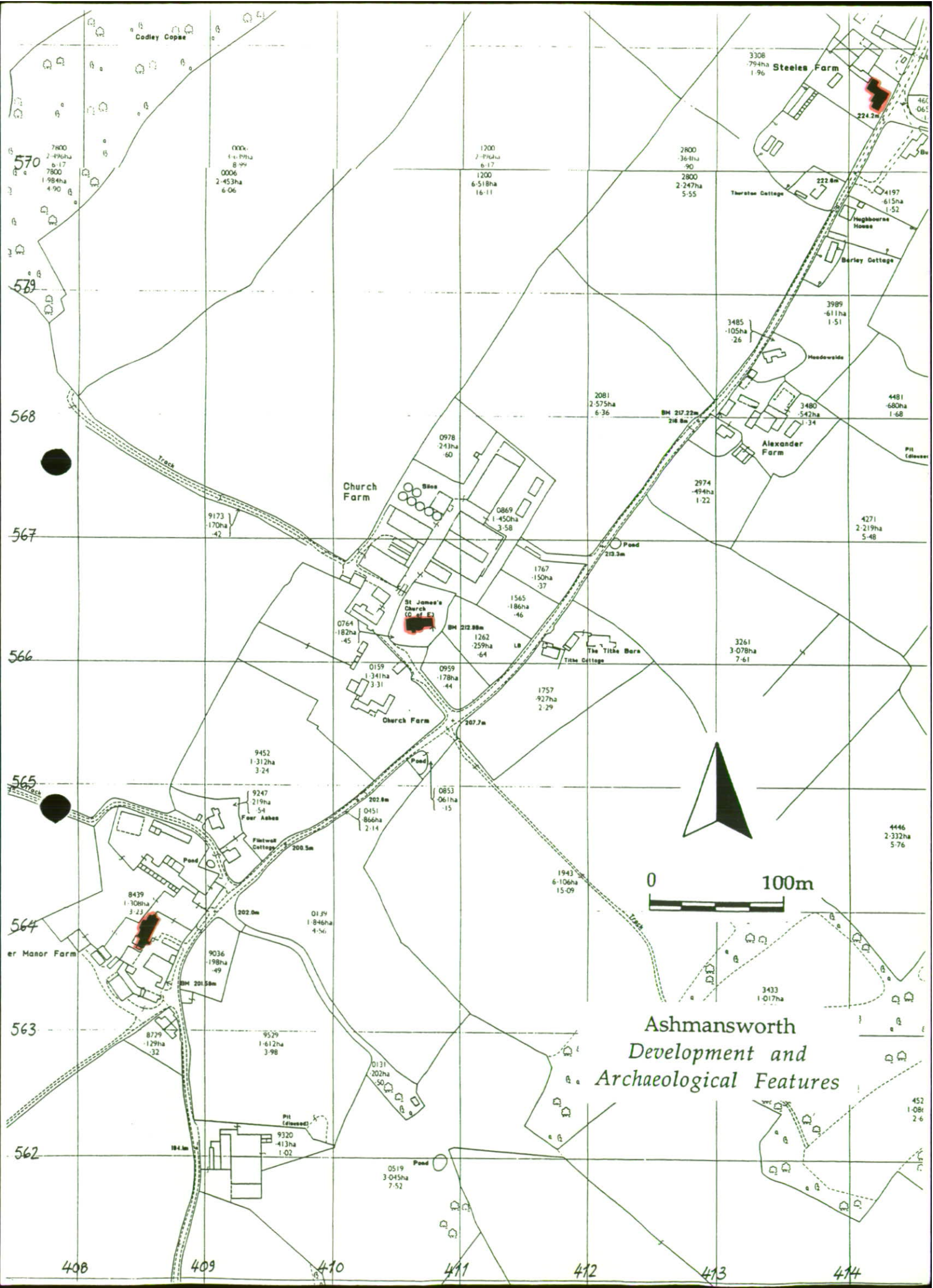


Ashmansworth Development and Archaeological Features

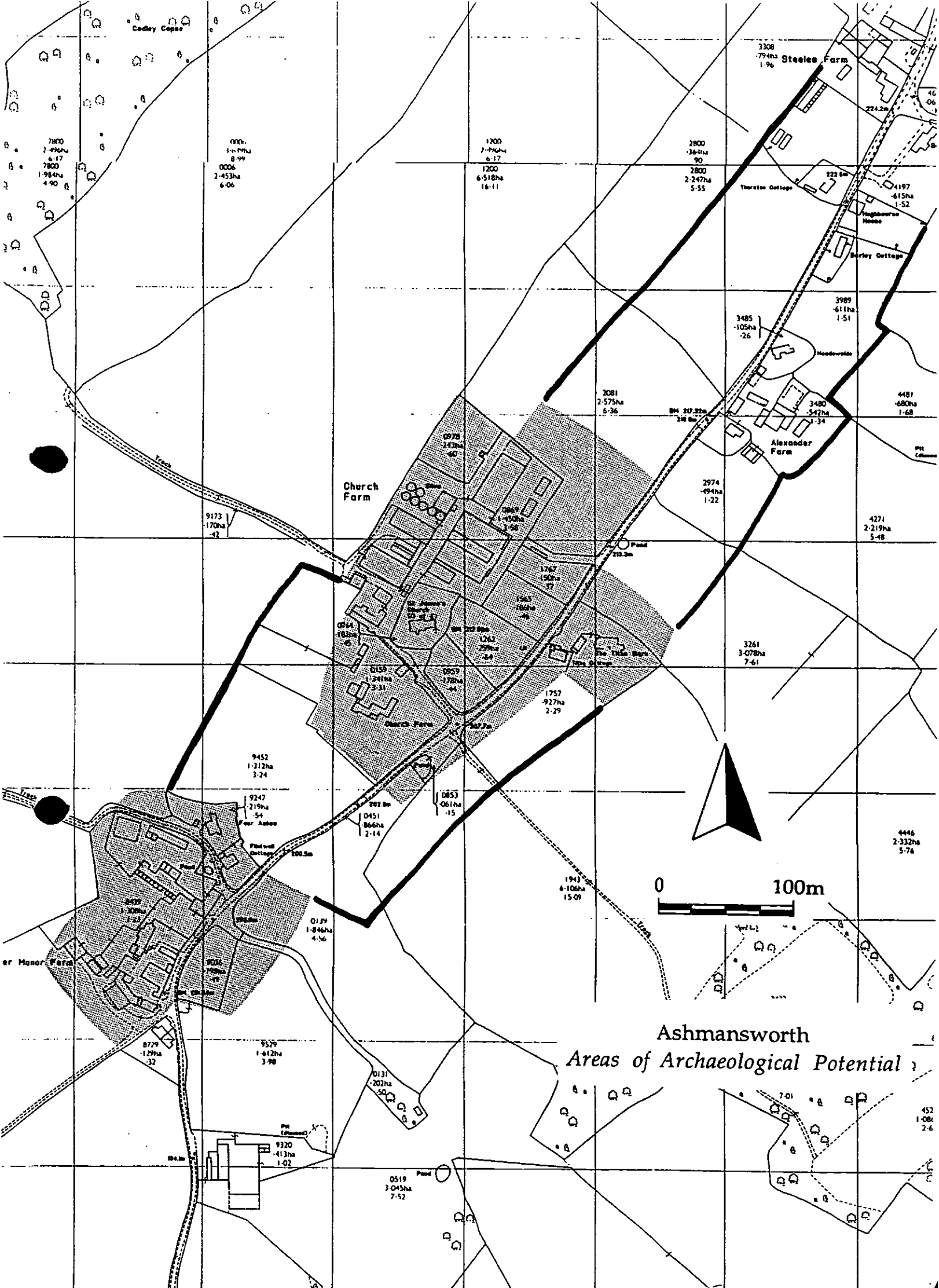


Ashmansworth
Based on Tithe Map of 1840





Ashmansworth
Development and
Archaeological Features



Ashmansworth
Areas of Archaeological Potential