

Bedhampton

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1.0 PARISH | Divided between Havant and Rowlands Castle (formerly Bedhampton) |
| 2.0 HUNDRED | Portsdown |
| 3.0 NGR | 470250 106410 |
| 4.0 GEOLOGY | Upper Chalk; River and Valley Gravel with Coombe deposits (south) and Reading Beds (north). |

5.0 SITE CONTEXT (Map 2)

At 5-10m AOD Bedhampton is 2km south-west of Havant, though late C19 and C20 suburban expansion has determined that the divide between the two is virtually imperceptible.

The settlement is at the centre of an overland route network. The Wayfarer's Walk (B2177) approaches from the west but at Bedhampton it undergoes a slight change of alignment as it continues eastwards upon the line of the Chichester - Wickham – Bitterne (*Clausentum*) Roman road (A259). The Staunton Way approaches Bedhampton from the north passing close to the parish church. From here this route continues southwards as Mill Lane passing between the courses of two streams. One of these (west) is anonymous but it rises in Bedhampton at the house known as *Bedhampton Spring* in Brookside Road. The Hermitage Stream is to the east of Mill Lane. These two streams confluence c. 0.5km south of the church before their combined waters enter Langstone Harbour where a group of four islands, North and South Binness, Long Island and Baker's Island once comprised part of the former parish of Bedhampton.

6.0 PLAN TYPE & DESCRIPTION (Maps 3, 4 & 5)

Church & manor house + irregular agglomeration

6.1.1 Church & manor house Old Bedhampton is south of the A259 Bedhampton Road in an area that is sometimes known as Lower Bedhampton. The C12 parish church of St Thomas the Apostle and the C16 manor house (The Manor) are on the north side of Bidbury Lane at c.9m AOD. The Manor was given a Tudor look in C19 but, according to VCH (3: 143), the earlier timber-framed brick building was demolished in 1881.

6.1.2.1 From the church, the view to the west is across Bidbury (or Bedbury) Mead and to the south, towards the coast, is the flood plane of two streams that rise in Bedhampton and drain into Langstone Harbour (see Paragraph 5.0). Domesday Book mentions two mills and it is probable that the sites of these can be identified. Bedhampton Upper Mill (Paragraph 10.0, No. 45) is at a bend in the Hermitage Stream. Latterly, the Modern waterworks of the Portsmouth Water Company has occupied this mill site, but the associated buildings are now in a state of decay.

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6.1.2.2 The small stream, that rises in Brookside Road has been dammed *c.* 50m south of the parish church (behind the Old Rectory) in order to form an oblong lake, possibly of medieval origin. One hundred and fifty metres south of the lake, the water from the stream enters the Old Mill Dam and it is here that Bedhampton Lower Mill once stood (Paragraph 10.0, No. 46). The two mills, Upper and Lower, were listed as a water mill and a fulling mill in 1338 and 1352. In 1547 they were described as two mills under one roof (VCH 3: 143) which suggests that by this time the two activities had been combined on one site. Pile (1990) refers to two fishponds (stew-ponds) that were mentioned in an inquisition post-mortem of 1286. Pile asserts that these ponds were located in the deer park at Leigh Park.

6.1.2.3 Access to Lower Mill is achieved via Mill Lane, that leads southwards from the B2177 Roman Road passing the parish church *en route* to Lower Mill and onwards to the coast, a total distance of *c.* 1.5km. Domesday Book refers to two salt houses and it is quite probable that these were associated with the Mill Lane route making it a strong candidate for a salters' way.

6.2 Irregular agglomeration There is no regular layout to Old Bedhampton but it does have four houses of high status: The Manor, The Elms, The Old Rectory and Bidbury House (Paragraph 9.0). VCH (3: 142) mentions a hamlet known as Belmont that stood north of the church and this is probably indicated by a cluster of buildings that are recorded as being in this position on the Tithe Map (Map 3) and now occupied by Modern housing. The house of Belmont Park is recalled by the street-name Belmont Grove on the north side of the B2177 (Pile, 1989).

6.3 Site visit conditions: Overcast / showers; occasional bright sun (4.4.2001).

7.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL (Map 5)

7.1 AsAP

7.1.1 Three sites peripheral to Upper and Lower Mills, the possible sites of the two mills mentioned in Domesday Book (Paragraphs 6.1.2.1, 6.1.2.2 and 14.1). The position of the medieval mills might not have corresponded exactly with their later counterparts and for this reason AsAP have determined around the periphery of the known post-medieval buildings.

7.2 AsHAP

7.2.1 The settlement centre comprising The Manor (C16 or earlier origin), the parish church (C12 or earlier origin), and Manor Cottage (C19).

7.2.2 The site of Upper Mill for reasons outlined in Paragraph 6.1.2.1.

7.2.3 The site of Lower Mill for reasons outlined in Paragraph 6.1.2.2

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8.0 CHURCH & CHURCHYARD

St Thomas (the Apostle)

- A church at Bedhampton is mentioned in the Domesday Book and there are traces of an older curvilinear churchyard boundary to the south where the graveyard falls away towards the roadside wall. Earthworks in the north-east corner of the graveyard suggest a similar arrangement here
- c. 1140 chancel arch;
- C14 west window, probably re-set when the chancel was rebuilt (C14);
- C14 south doorway;
- C15 piscina;
- 1870 chancel restored (*architect*: EA Gruning);
- 1878 nave restored and north aisle added;
- There is an ancient yew north of the vestry.

9.0 BUILDINGS (Map 4)

| PRN | Details | Dates | Grade |
|------|---|----------------------|-------|
| 6814 | No 42 (Hill Lodge) Bedhampton Hill | early C19 | II |
| 6815 | No 54 The Golden Lion public house, Bedhampton Road | early C19 | II |
| 1434 | Church of St Thomas the Apostle, Bidbury Lane | C12, 13, 14, 1870-78 | II |
| 6816 | The Manor House, off Bidbury Lane | C16, C19 | II |
| 6817 | The Manor House: boundary wall | C16 | II |
| 6818 | Bidbury House, Bidbury Lane | late C18, 19 | II |
| 1636 | The Old Rectory, Bidbury Lane | late C18 | II |
| 6819 | The Old Rectory: stable block | early C19 | II |
| 6820 | The Old Mill House, Mill Lane | C18 | II |
| 6821 | The Old Manor House, Brockhampton Rd | early C19 | II |
| 6822 | Spring Lawn, Brookside Road | early C19 | II |
| 1025 | No 1 Manor Cottage, Lower Road | early C19 | II |
| 6922 | No 2 (The Elms): gate piers, Lower Road | late C18, 19 | II |
| 1421 | No 47 (Sunspan) Portsdown Hill Road | 1936 | II |

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10.0 SMR DATA SW 470000 106000, NE 470600 106700 (Map 4)

| SU 70 NW | No. | NGR | Description |
|----------|-----|---------------|---|
| ** / **m | 11A | 470250 106420 | Medieval. Parish church of St Thomas the Apostle (see 8.0). Pevsner and Lloyd give the church dedication as to St Thomas a Becket but this is incorrect. The listing also is incorrect (see Paragraph 9.0). |
| **m | 11B | 470260 106430 | Medieval. Graves revealed on north side of chancel in 1992 excavation. |
| | 45 | 470310 106080 | Post-medieval. Lower Mill situated at Bedhampton Springs but only the wheelpit, the mill race and the sluices remain. The millhouse survives. |
| **m | 46 | 470450 106250 | Post-medieval. Site of Bedhampton Upper Mill, now demolished. |
| | 48 | 470480 106380 | Modern. Crossing keeper's cottage on the Dorchester to Southampton line. |
| | 97 | 470300 106400 | Medieval. Domesday Book reference (late 1080s). |
| | 105 | 470290 106660 | Negative evidence from a Watching Brief at Bidbury Mead. |
| | 122 | 470200 106600 | Negative evidence from a Watching Brief (Planning Permissions 93/50/439/1-5). |
| | 129 | 470200 106700 | Negative evidence from a Watching Brief in Bidbury Mead Nursery. |
| | 135 | 470400 106370 | Undated. Site of house demolished in 1881. |
| ** | 138 | 470200 106400 | Medieval. Domesday Book reference (late 1080s). Effectively a duplicate of No. 97. |

10.1 Hampshire Romano-British Settlements survey

| Hants No. | NGR | Parish | NAR / NMR No |
|-----------|---------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 90 | 469150 107260 | Bedhampton / Havant | SU60 NE1 / 238381 |
| 117 | 470100 106900 | Bedhampton / Havant | SU 0 NW30 / 224216 |

10.2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)

| SAM No. | NGR | Site |
|---------|---------------|--|
| 328 | 469200 107300 | Roman site south-west of Littlepark Wood. |
| 12118 | 469240 106410 | Bevis's Grave long barrow and early medieval cemetery, 100m west of Belmont Castle. |

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14.2 Subsidy Rolls

| | | | |
|------|--------------------|---------|----------------|
| 1334 | | £4.8.10 | |
| 1524 | <i>1st survey:</i> | £4.19.0 | (27 taxpayers) |
| | <i>2nd survey:</i> | £1.12.8 | (26 taxpayers) |

14.3 Manorial Documents

Bedhampton was a single manor.

14.4 Hearth Tax 1665

73 hearths chargeable (19 houses)

8 hearths not chargeable (7 houses). Total: 26 houses.

15.0 PLACE NAME

1086 *Betametone*; 1167, 1242 *Bethameton(a)* 1236, 1248 *Bedham(p)ton*. OE *betehæmatun* 'farm of the inhabitants of *beteham*', the 'beet-estate' (Coates, 1989: 31).

16.0 PHOTOGRAPHS

None taken.

17.0 OTHER PROJECT ELEMENTS

17.1 Pre-Conquest Charters & Writs

None.

17.2 Other parish settlements include:

| <i>Name</i> | <i>MSP No.</i> | <i>NGR / map ref.</i> | <i>First recorded</i> |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| None identified. | | | |

17.3 Enclosures

Parliamentary:

| <i>NEP No.</i> | <i>Act</i> | <i>Order</i> | <i>Award</i> | <i>Details</i> |
|----------------|------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| None known. | | | | |

Formal Agreements:

| <i>NEP No.</i> | <i>Agreement</i> | <i>Award</i> | <i>Details</i> |
|----------------|------------------|--------------|----------------|
| None known. | | | |

17.4 Commons & Greens (residual)

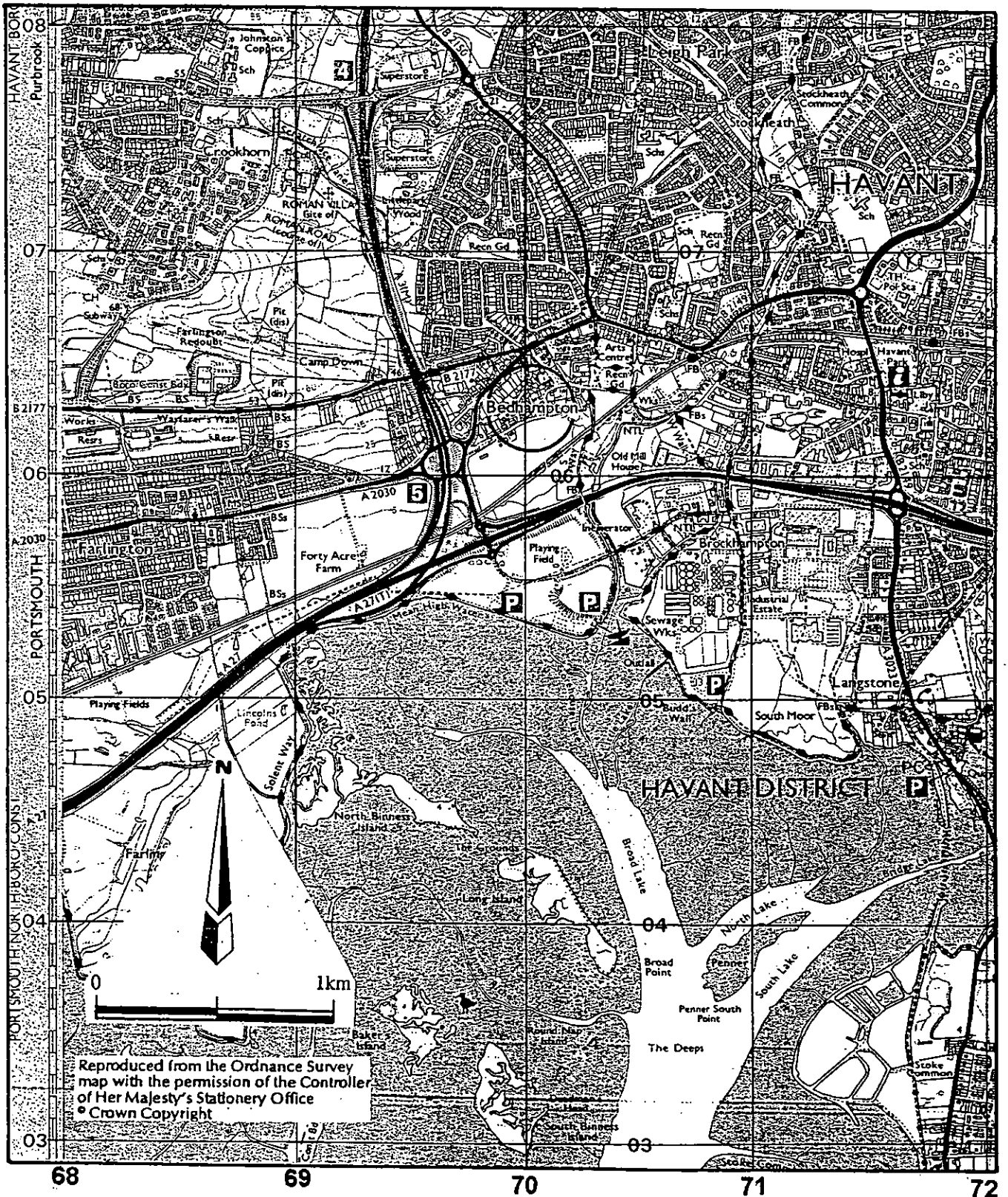
None known but it is probable that areas of the coastal fringe were farmed in common.

18.0 ILLUSTRATIONS

- 1 Map 1: Parish location (not to scale)
- 2 Map 2: Settlement location at 1: 2500
- 3 Map 3: *c.* 1845 Tithe Map transcribed at 1: 2500 reduced to 71%
- 4 Map 4: Development & archaeological features at 1: 2500 reduced to 71%
- 5 Map 5: Areas of archaeological potential at 1: 2500 reduced to 71%

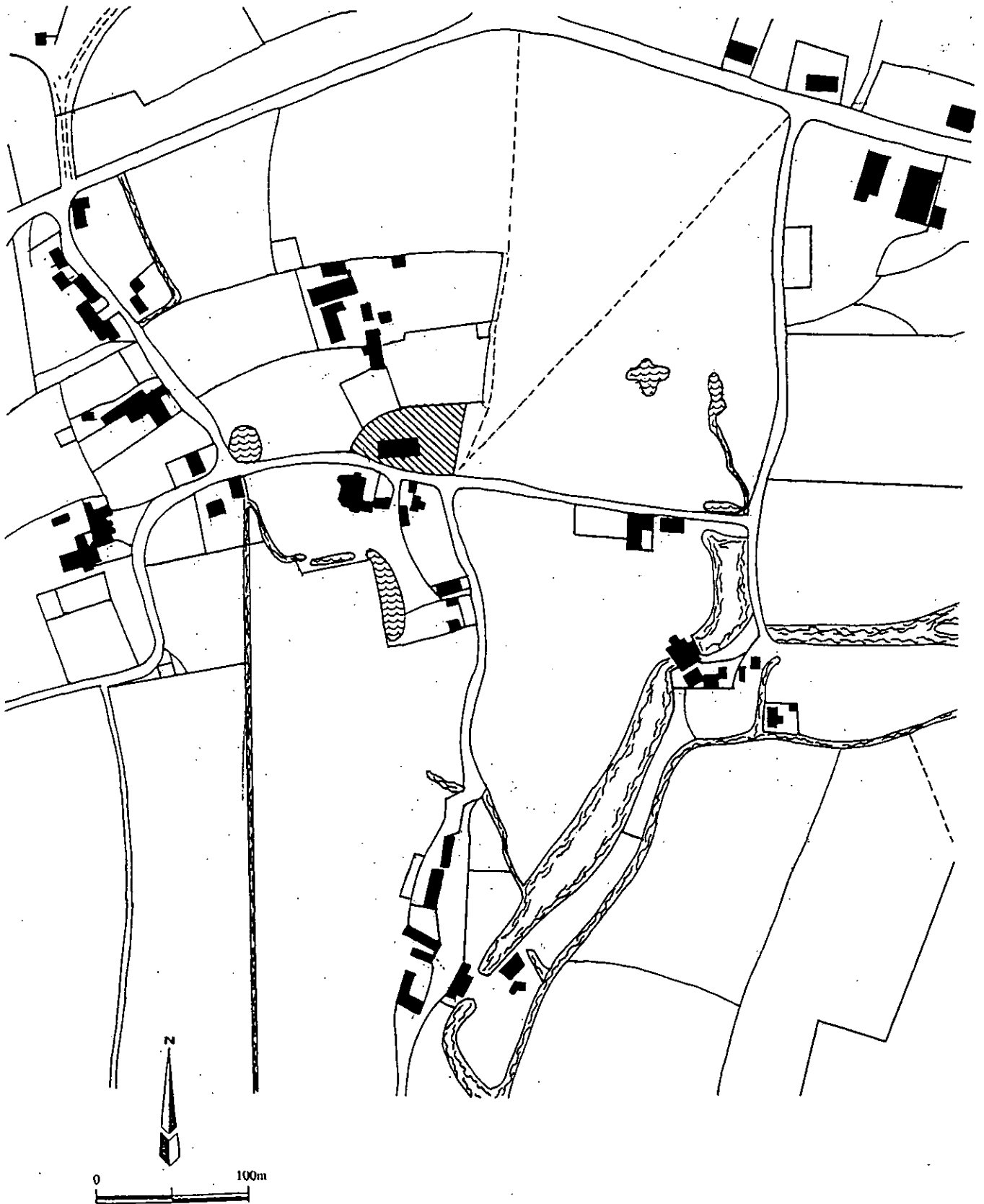
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Map 2: general location



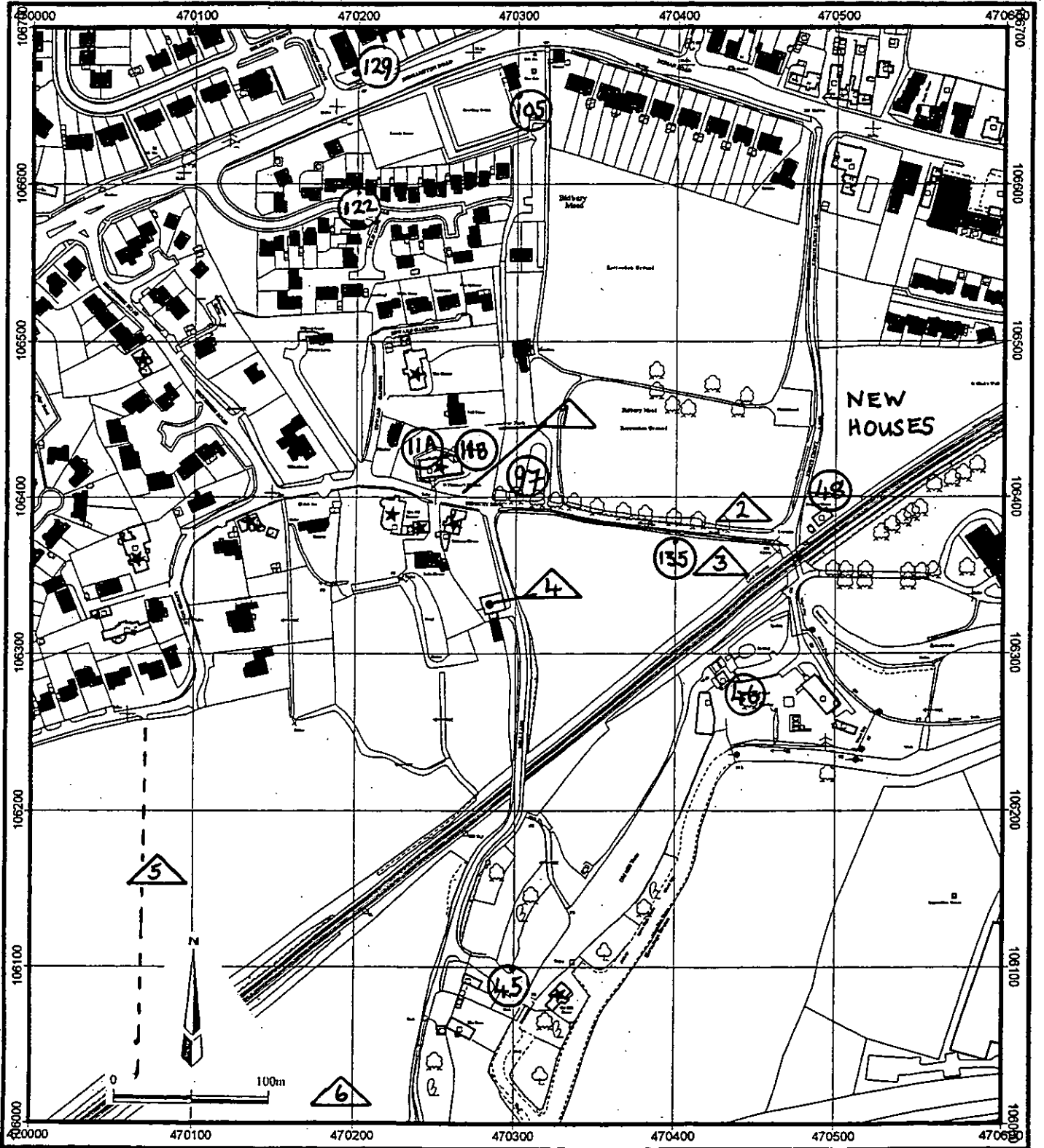
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Map 3: transcribed from the
Tithe Map of c. 1845



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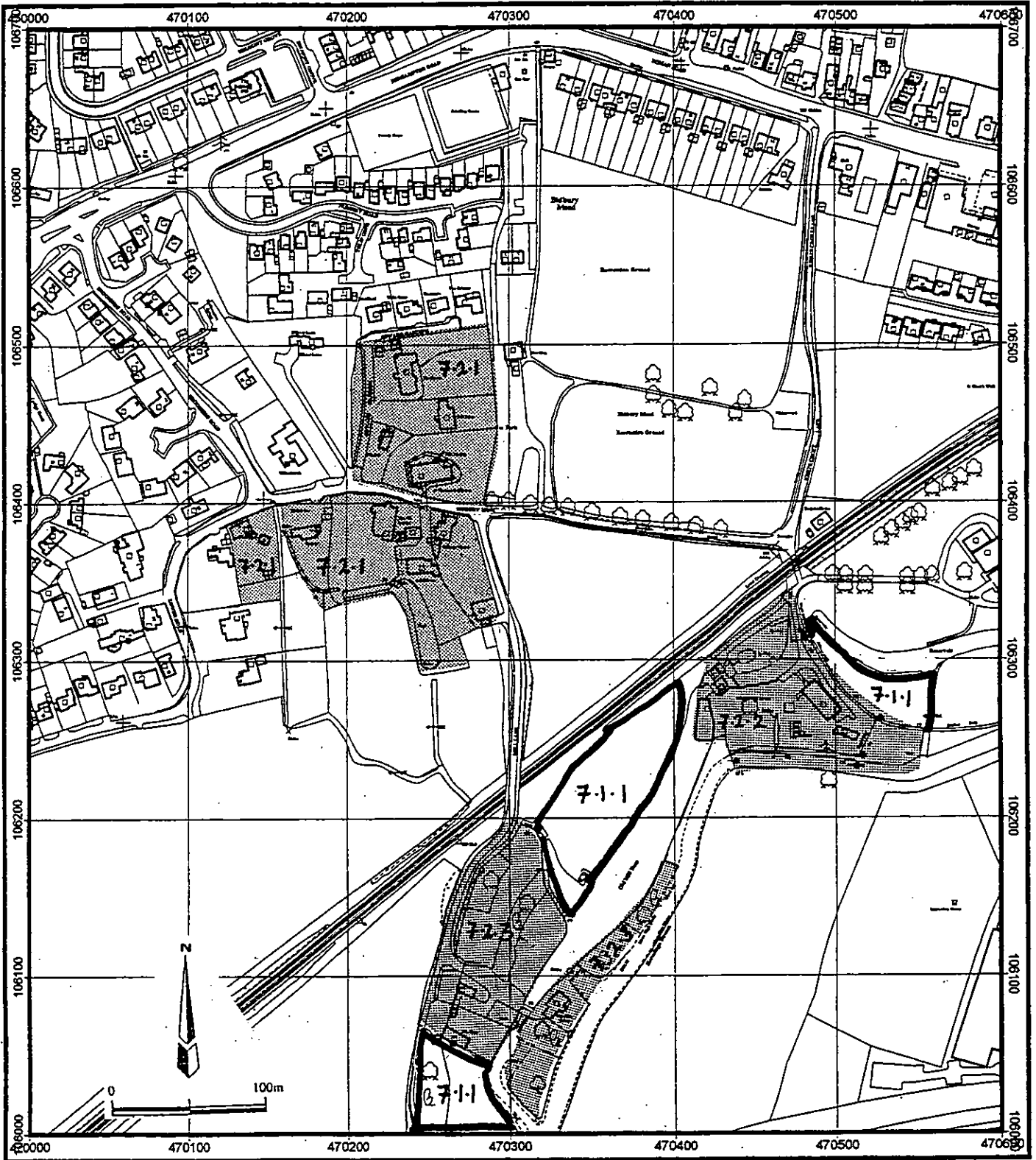
Map 4: development & archaeological features



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Map 5: areas of archaeological potential



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