

NAME Boldre  
PARISH Boldre  
HUNDRED Christchurch  
NGR SZ319985  
GEOLOGY Alluvium, Barton Sands, Osborne and Headon Beds and Plateau Gravels to E

**SITE CONTEXT** The church, isolated from the rest of the settlement, stands at the end of a short spur at just over 30m OD in a prominent position overlooking the valley of the Lymington River. The main area of settlement lies on the W bank of the river over 1km SSW of the church at 5m OD.

**PLAN TYPE & DESCRIPTION** Isolated church, small irregular agglomeration and general dispersed settlement pattern. Pilley is a common edge settlement.

The church stands in a locally prominent position, especially when viewed from the W. There is no settlement in the immediate vicinity of the church. The siting of the church on high ground is a situation found in several settlements with churches of attested antiquity such as Burley, Minstead and Eling.

The principal area of settlement on the W bank of the river consists of several cottages grouped around a small triangular area upon which a cottage has been built. The plots are irregular in size and shape and there is evidence for encroachment on the road-side verge. Generally the settlement pattern is one of dispersed farmsteads many of which can (by name) be traced back to Domesday or C12-13.

Pilley is an area of settlement which appears to have filled up an outgang or funnol leading onto the common. There are islands of encroachment onto the neck of the outgang as well as along the sides. Settlement in this area generally was well spaced in the C19.

**AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL** The small area of nucleated settlement that goes by the name Boldre is regarded as being an AAP. At present there is no archaeological information available with which to suggest that this settlement was in existence in the medieval period and there are no buildings that appear to have even late-medieval elements within them but the possibility that this was a small hamlet within a generally dispersed settlement pattern during the medieval period should be investigated.

There is no evidence for there having been any settlement around the church and as it was a foundation of Christchurch Priory rather than a 'lord of the manor', it is possible that the church was sited in a place that was convenient to all or most of the dispersed settlement of the area. However, the possibility that the church may have attracted some settlement which has since disappeared can only be discounted through archaeological investigation.

The settlement at Pilley to the E of the settlement of Boldre also presents problems. There are three separate entries in Domesday Book for small land holdings in Pilley, all of which, except for some small areas of meadow, were taken into the forest. The record of meadow may suggest that the holdings were located at the W end of Pilley near the Lymington River (in the area of Pilley Farm) but alternatively, there may have been access to meadow land for holdings sited away from the river valley. The C19 picture of Pilley is mainly one of encroachment onto an outgang or funnel onto the common. Several possible stages of encroachment can be seen from Pilley Street to Pilley Bailey. Due to the amount of modern development in these area, no area of archaeological potential has been designated but any opportunity to investigate any gaps within the settlement to begin to try to understand the chronology of development should be taken.

CHURCH & CHURCHYARD St John. S arcade of c.1175, N arcade early C13. S aisle and nave extended in the late C13.

Boldre church may have been founded by the mother church of Christchurch around 950 (Hase, 1994, 62).

#### BUILDINGS

(Listed)

Haywood Manor Church Lane C17 wing of earlier house in present house II

Church of St John II\*

Haywards Fmhse C17 and C18 II

Gilpins Cottage Pilley Hill Old school 1792 altered 1875 II

(Un-listed)

The Red Lion C18

Boldre Bridge Cottage 1786 on date stone

Most houses on the E side of Boldre Lane or C19 with Watersmead and Twyford

Cottage possibly dating from the late C18.

#### SMR DATA

SZ39NW

1	31149799	Site of med chapel Destroyed
36	32429746	Post-med ice-house
40	31909830	Med village mentioned in Domesday Book
41	31109810	ditto
49	32809750	Landscape park
50	32509730	ditto
52	31559830	Garden
53	31459800	Landscape park
54	31609805	Garden
55	31149797	ditto

#### ADDITIONAL SITES/FEATURES

1	31869837	Site of building shown on OS 1st Edition 6" map
2	31839832	Site of building shown on OS 1st Ed 6" map

3 31609803 Site of cottage shown on Tithe map

CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES Tithe map 21M65/F7/26/2 (1841) OS 1st edition 6" map 1870; OS 1:2,500 SZ 3198, 3298, 3299.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

### PRIMARY HISTORIC SOURCES

**Domesday** In Boldre Hundred. Payne held 2 manors called Boldre. Two freeholders held them jointly. Then it answered for 2 hides. Now it is in the Forest, except 6 acres of meadow which Hugh of St Quentin's holds. The land was for 4 pl. The value was £3.

Wihtlac held 1 hide in Boldreford from the King. Now it is in the Forest, except 2 acres of meadow which the Hugh St Quentin's holds. The value was £10.

Saewulf and Ælfric has 2 hides in Battramsley; it answered for as much. Now it is in the Forest, except 4 acres of meadow which Hugh St Quintin holds. Land for 5 pl. Value was £3. Peret the Forester holds half a virgate there from the King.

Hugh of Port holds 1.5 virgates in Pilley and Hugh St Quintin from him. Algar held it jointly. Then it answered for 1.5 virgates; now for nothing because it is all in the Forest, except 1.5 acres of meadow. The land was for 1 pl. The value was 10s.

Edric held 1 hide in Pilley from the King; it answered for as much. Now it is in the Forest, except 6 acres of meadow which Hugh of St Quintin holds. The value was 30s.

Ælfric held half a hide in Pilley; it answered for as much. Now it is in the Forest, except for 3 acres of meadow which he still holds. Land for 2 pl. The value was 15s.

Earl Roger holds 1 hide in S Baddesley and Durand from him. Swarting held it jointly. Then it answered for 1 hide; now for 1 virgate, the others are in the Forest. Land for 1 pl. 1 villager and 3 smallholders have 1 pl. Value 3s.

Earl Roger holds half a hide in Walhampton and Fulkwin from him. Alnoth held it jointly. Then it answered for half a hide; now for 1 virgate. Land for 1 pl. It is in lordship with 1 smallholder and 1 slave. Value before 1066, 15s; later and now 10s. The woodland is in the Forest; value 4s.

### Subsidy Rolls

1334	2. 9. 0
1524	1. 10. 2 (17 taxpayers recorded in Christchurch Hundred)
	2. 3. 4 (28 taxpayers recorded in New Forest Hundred)

**Manorial Documents** Manor of Boldreford, possibly the Domesday 1 hide has been identified as The Shallows S of Boldre Bridge.

Manor of Brattramley, 2 hides in 1086 held by Saulf and Alfric which was taken into the forest apart from 4a retained by Saulf. In 1296 1 messuage and 1 carucate of land was held by Alice Foucher and a mill was recorded in 1296, 1324, 1348 and 1542 (VCH IV, 617).

Manor of Heywood was not recorded in Domesday Book. In 1371 Edmund de Kendal died sised of 4 messuages and 6a of land in Heywood (VCH IV, 618).

### **Hearth Tax**

PLACE NAME 1086 *Bovre*, Temp Stephen *Bolra*. Usually said to be the old name of the river. The Domesday Book form however does not fit. Coates suggests that the when the site was repopulated after the depopulation by the Conqueror, Boldre was a new name for the manor and settlement.

### PHOTOGRAPHS

#### OTHER PROJECT ARCHIVE ELEMENTS

The parishes of East Boldre and South Baddesley were taken out of Boldre in 1840 and 1859 respectively.

In 1236 50a of heath was granted to Breamore Priory to compensate for the land lost by the foundation of Beaulieu. The right to inclose the heath and hold free of view of foresters saving the king's venison was also granted (VCH IV, 612).

Other settlement in the parish includes:

Battramsley First recorded 1086

East End

Haywards Farm First recorded 1280

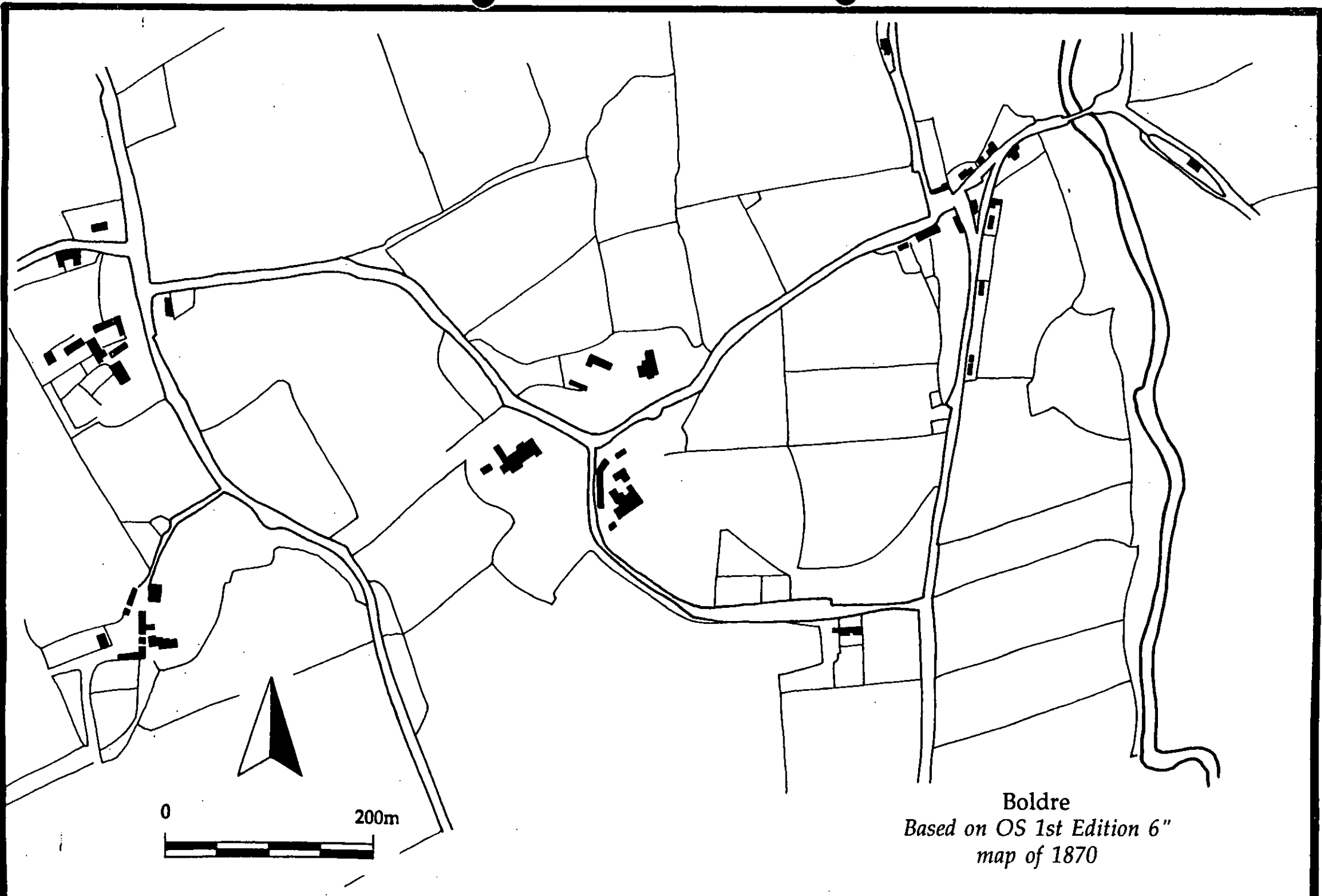
Lisle Court (Sharprix) First recorded Temp John

Pilley Farm First recorded 1086

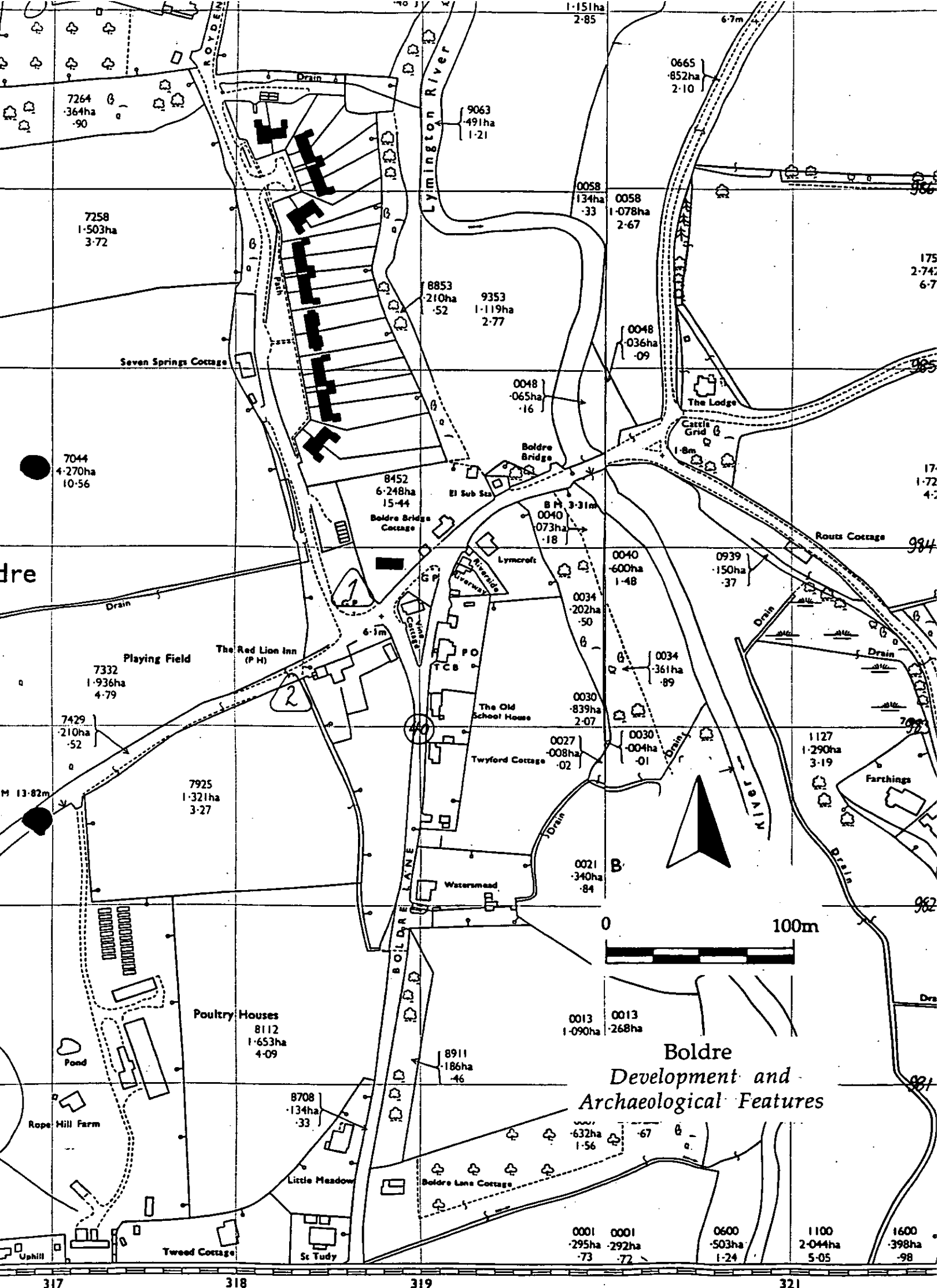
South Baddesley First recorded 1086

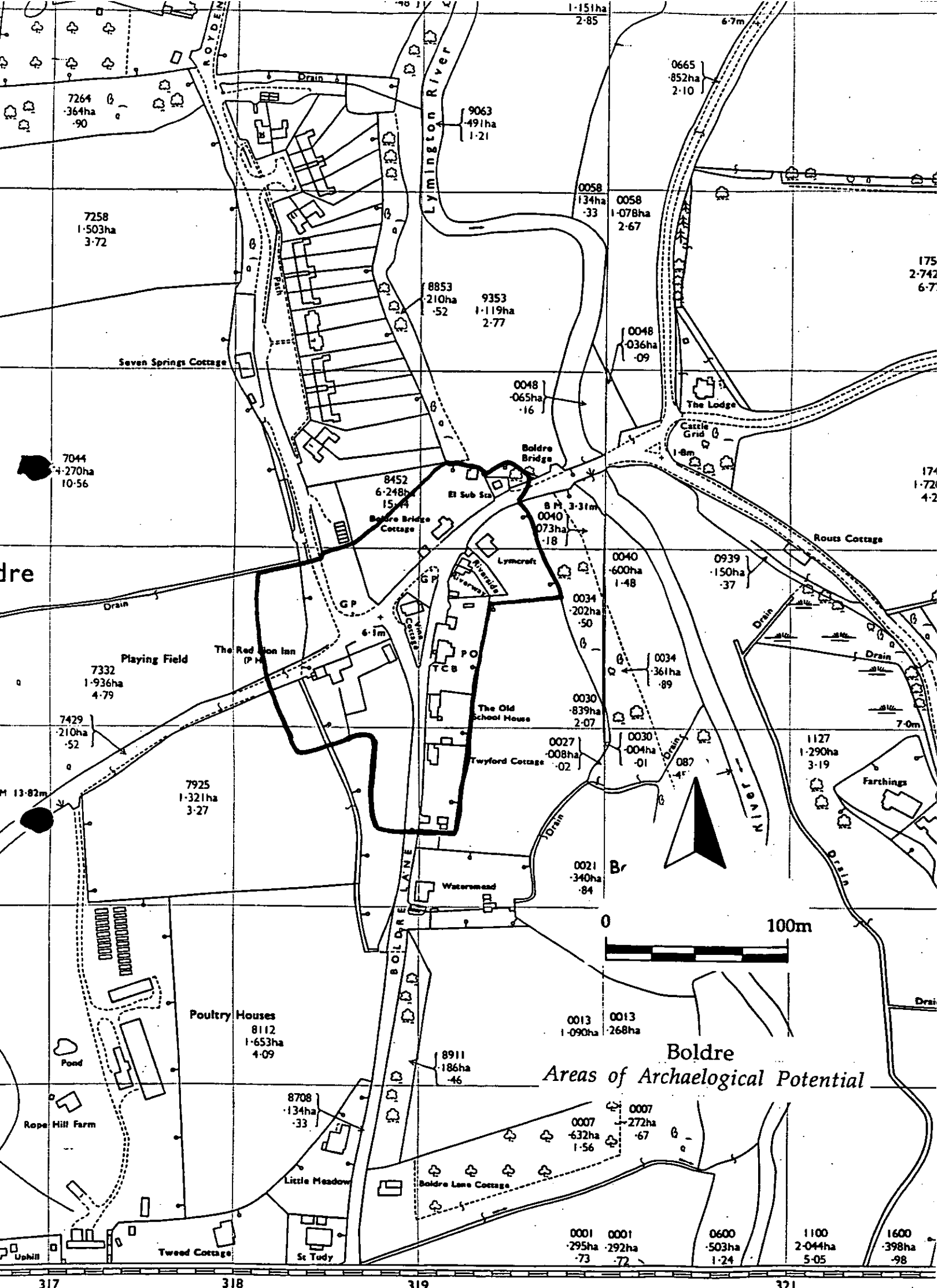
Walhampton First recorded 1086

Warborne First recorded C12



Boldre  
Based on OS 1st Edition 6"  
map of 1870





**Boldre**  
*Areas of Archaeological Potential*

