

- 1.0 PARISH** Crondall  
**2.0 HUNDRED** Crondall  
**3.0 NGR** SU 48160 14980  
**4.0 GEOLOGY** Interface of London Clay (west), Bagshot Beds, Bracklesham Beds (east)

## 5.0 SITE CONTEXT

The settlement is spread along Church Lane which extends northwards from the A287 Odiham Road (174m AOD) downhill towards Homecroft Farm at the junction with Ewshott Lane / Dare's Lane. The road network of Ewshot effectively divides the settlement into 4 zones; north, west, north-east and south-east. The south-east zone comprises C20 detached housing, each within its own irregular-shaped plot. This area is bounded to the east by the B3013 Fleet road. Properties of similar date can be seen on the western side of Church Lane, south of St. Mary's Church. The church is virtually at the centre of Ewshot, on the east side of the road. Woodland is abundant except to the north-west around Homecroft Farm and beyond, where the ground is open.

## 6.0 PLAN TYPE & DESCRIPTION

### **Polyfocal: single farmstead + agglomeration**

Ewshot is a complex settlement with two apparent centres which have become amalgamated by late C19 and C20 development.

**6.1 *Single farmstead*** Homecroft Farm is at the north end of Ewshot on the west side of Church Lane at the point where it meets Ewshot Lane. The present buildings are C19 but may include older fabric. The Tithe Map (1846) shows other agricultural buildings close by, but on the north side of Ewshot Lane. These latter buildings no longer exist and the site is now occupied by a recreation ground and the village hall. The farm and its associated buildings face onto a rectilinear plot (south-east) cut by a small stream in the south-west corner. It is probable that this was once an area of meadow land, perhaps held in common by a wider community. However, it had been divided into two unequal parts by 1846, the stream flowing through the smaller south-west portion, which also contained a bankside cottage.

**6.2 *Agglomeration*** The second Ewshot settlement focus is south-south-east of Homeshot Farm, c. 150m uphill along Church Lane (thus named since 1873). At this point the road divides at the crossing point of a small stream, Church Lane veering south-eastwards whilst School Lane leads off towards the south-west. Approximately 100m further to the south, the two lanes again converge, continuing southwards as Church Lane. This deviation of the two lanes demarcates a lozenge-shaped island of land which may once have been held in common but which, in 1846, contained one small croft which today is known as Little Orchard (9.0). A second road fork is situated c. 40m south of the first. Here, an unadopted track leads south-east off Church Lane, running uphill, eventually as a bridleway. The Tithe Map shows that the triangular

space between Church Lane and the track was once divided into four linear land plots roughly aligned on a north-west / south-east axis (Map 2, page 118). A fifth plot was described by an inverted 'U'-shaped boundary on the north-east side of the unadopted track. These plots may accord with the holdings of 'five free tenants' recorded as being at Ewshot in 1302 (VCH 4: 9). Just south of here, a sub-rectangular enclosure (c. 3600m<sup>2</sup>) is also shown on the Tithe map. It seems to represent a woodland clearing accessed by a separate track from Church Lane. If the 5 linear plots do represent the 1302 holdings, then the process of sub-division was already underway by 1846. Today, the principal boundaries have been disguised by modern development. The sub-rectangular enclosure is now occupied by the house known as Broomhill Heights.

**6.2.1** Church Lane continues southwards from the second settlement focus, but from St Mary's Church onwards runs straight, indicating a modern arrangement. However, it was thus in 1846, by which time occupation of the west side of the road had begun. Of particular note is a complex of buildings associated with St Mary's House (opposite the church) which still stands. South of this complex, a large land plot had been split into four units at right angles to the road, and subsequently re-parcelled into yet smaller plots. Only three plots were occupied by cottages. It is likely that this stretch of Church Lane was laid out at the same time as the four original (*ie* un-divided) plots: a planned extension to the earlier settlement around School Lane.

**6.3** *Synthesis* as a working hypothesis, the settlement pattern at Ewshot may be summarised as follows:

**6.3.1** At the north end, at the junction of Church Lane and Ewshot Lane, a small farmstead cluster centred upon Homecroft Farm. Here, the fields are relatively large with irregular boundaries. The countryside is only lightly wooded.

**6.3.2** South-south-east of Homecroft Farm and beyond a south-west / north-east flowing stream, a different pattern emerges. Smaller, linear land units with curving boundaries are evident, suggesting arable land use within an area which is heavily wooded today and which may always have been so. The enclosure at Broomfield Heights (see above) may have been an assart, and it is possible that the whole of this area of settlement represents clearance of the woodland; hence the five free tenants of 1302. The land north of St. Mary's House and around School Lane may also have been cleared and settled at this time.

**6.3.3** South of the church and on the west side of the road, rectangular plots were set out at right angles to Church Lane. The regular format of these plots and the straightness of the road from here southwards, may indicate late manorial planning. These plots became sub-divided and reduced in length, perhaps indicating that the enterprise was never successful. The absence of properties on alternate plots in 1846 is indicative of a planned attenuated row.

**6.4** The establishment of a camp for the Royal Field Artillery (1900) more than doubled the population of Ewshot (VCH 4: 5).

**6.5** *Site visit conditions:* intervals of strong, low sun; dry.

## 7.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

### 7.1 *AsAP* (Map 4, page 120)

**7.1.1** Homecroft Farm has potential as an isolated farmstead settlement site with early origins. The farm, the nearby brickworks and the sites of demolished buildings have been included within the AAP. From Homecroft Farm, Church Lane (formerly Ewshot Hill) leads southwards and the lane margins constitute a possible settlement area. At the intersection with School Lane and the bridleway one enters the probable area of later medieval woodland clearance and settlement (6.2). All of this is within the AAP. The existing buildings are mostly C19, perhaps earlier in some cases.

**7.1.2** A second AAP comprises the sub-rectangular plot adjacent to, and south-west of 7.1.1 and which is shown on the Tithe Map (Map 2). The original purpose of this *enclosure* is not clear.

### 7.2 *AsHAP* (Map 4)

**7.2.1** Homecroft Farm and yards which possibly occupy an earlier farmstead site (6.1 & 7.1.1.).

**7.2.2** The area of the Church Lane / School Lane / bridleway intersection which is likely to be the focus of the C14 settlement at Ewshot.

## 8.0 CHURCH & CHURCHYARD

**St. Mary, 1873.**

## 9.0 BUILDINGS

A number of buildings in Ewshot require close inspection. None are listed.

PRN	Details	Dates	Grade
	Homecroft Farm, Church Lane (W)	C18?	
	Little Orchard, School Lane (E)	1841	
	Built by Parson White, relative of Gilbert White of Selborne (HTS 3: 21)		
	School Lane House (W)	C18-19	
	Yew Tree Cottage, Church Lane (E)	C18?	
	Coombe Wood Cottage, Odiham Road (HTS 3: 20)	C18	
	Redlands Farm, Warren Corner (HTS 3: 20)	C18	
	Heath Hill Cottage, Warren Corner (HTS 3: 20)	C18	
	Heath House (481800 149400; HTS 3: 14)	C16	

## 10.0 SMR DATA SW 48100 14900, NE 48200 15050

SU84NW	No.	
34A	48200 14960	Mesolithic. Flint debitage.
34B	48200 14960	Neolithic. Flint debitage.

**11.0 ADDITIONAL SITES / FEATURES**

1	481680 149740	Approximate centre of irregular enclosure, 1846
2	481790 149870	Site of cottage within plot, 1846
3	481640 150120	Site of cottage, 1846
4	481560 150150	Approximate site of post-medieval brickworks
5	481620 150230	Approximate site of agricultural complex, 1846
6	481700 149900	Medieval land allotments (see 6.2)

**12.0 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES**

- Tithe Map 21M65/F7/57/2 (1846/47)
- GSGB 285 Aldershot
- OS 1: 2500 SW 48139 14959, NE 48189 15027
- OS 1: 25000 Pathfinder 1225, Farnham and Godalming

**13.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY****14.0 PRIMARY HISTORIC SOURCES**

**14.1 Domesday Book** Not mentioned. Probably included in Crondall.

**14.2 Subsidy Rolls****14.3 Manorial Documents**

A manor of Crondall (*qv*) and Linked with the manor of Itchell from 1579.

**14.4 Hearth Tax**

1665 79 hearths chargeable (25 houses)  
0 hearths not chargeable. Total: 25 houses.

**15.0 PLACE NAME** 1236 *Hyweshate*; 1256 *Yweset*; 1305 *Iweshate*. OE / ME *Iwsceat* 'yew corner'. *Sceat* often means an administrative 'corner'

**16.0 PHOTOGRAPHS****17.0 OTHER PROJECT ELEMENTS**

**17.1** Formerly a tithing of Crondall (VCH 4: 5)

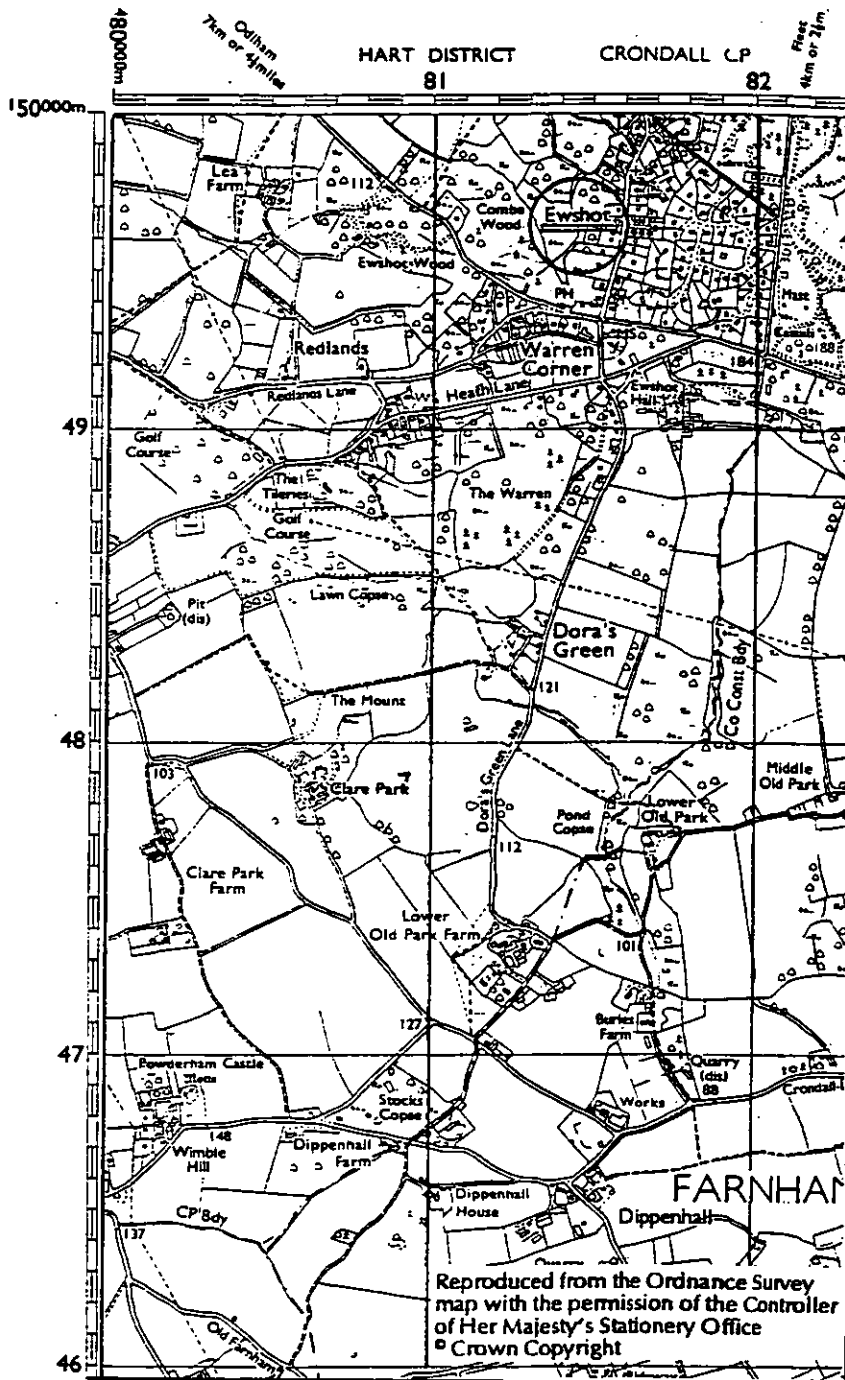
**17.2** Buildings behind (west) of Homecroft Farm are associated with a former brickworks.

**17.3** 1279 Robert de Burgh held land in Ewshot of Geoffrey Giffard, Bishop of Winchester (VCH 4: 9).

## **18 ILLUSTRATIONS**

- 1 Location map at 1: 25000
- 2 Tithe Map transcription at 1: 2500
- 3 Map: Development and Archaeological Features at 1: 2500
- 4 Map: Areas of Archaeological Potential at 1: 2500.

### Map 1



Map 2

