

# Kings Worthy

## and Abbots Worthy

<b>1.0</b>	<b>PARISH</b>	Kings Worthy (Map 1)
<b>2.0</b>	<b>HUNDRED</b>	Abbots Worthy: Micheldever Kings Worthy: Barton Stacey
<b>3.0</b>	<b>NGR</b>	Abbots Worthy      449730 132690 Kings Worthy        449270 132340
<b>4.0</b>	<b>GEOLOGY</b>	Abbots Worthy: Upper Chalk Kings Worthy: Alluvium; Upper Chalk

**5.0 SITE CONTEXT** (Map 2)

**5.1** The settlement of Kings Worthy (c. 50m AOD) is on the north bank of the river Itchen, within 1km north-north-east of Abbots Barton, a northern suburb of Winchester City. The A33 Basingstoke Road (a Roman route) cuts through the parish in a north-east direction, effectively dividing Kings Worthy (west) from Abbots Worthy (east). Modern railway lines have influenced the morphology of Kings Worthy, development having extended northwards to meet the London-bound line.

**5.2** Abbots Worthy is on the south-east limit of the parish of Kings Worthy and its principal buildings are arranged along either side of Mill Lane. At 50m AOD it occupies a fording point on the river Itchen.

**6.0 PLAN TYPE & DESCRIPTION** (Maps 3, 4 / 1, 4 / 2, 5 / 1 and 5 / 2)

**6.1.1 Abbots Worthy: regular row**

Abbotsworthy House (C18 / C19) is at the south-west corner of a crossroads that comprises Park Lane (north), the B3047 (east / west) and Mill Lane (south). At least four properties of medieval origin are arranged at right angles to Park Lane and Mill Lane, a tentative suggestion of a regular row. Worthy Park, which includes a cemetery of early medieval date, is situated within 100m north-east of Abbotsworthy House on the parish boundary with Martyr Worthy (paragraph 10.0, no. 45A; cf Martyr Worthy). Early Saxon cemeteries were frequently associated with important boundaries and this coincidence argues strongly in favour of the antiquity of the Abbots Worthy / Martyr Worthy divide at this point.

**6.1.2** Abbots Worthy is listed in Domesday Book and a mill is included in the entry. The mill

buildings at the bottom of Mill Lane are post-medieval constructions but it is probable that they occupy the site of an earlier mill because the *Mill House* and four other properties that front onto Mill Lane are C17. The location of these late medieval buildings was conditioned by their proximity to the mill and the associated crossing point on the river Itchen.

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## 6.2 Kings Worthy: Church and manor

6.2.1 St Mary's church is C12 or earlier and Kings Worthy Court is C18. Kings Worthy was

a Domesday estate and for this reason a medieval church and manor arrangement might be inferred, but conclusive evidence remains to be found. The settlement of Kings Worthy has produced nothing in the way of archaeological finds, with the exception of some late medieval (C16) pottery from the vicinity of the church (paragraph 10.0, no. 54).

6.2.2 There is a group of three late medieval buildings in Mary's Close, east of the church. Two of these buildings (Tavern Cottage and The Old Post Office) stand within plots that align perfectly with the course of Mary's Close. At Kings Worthy, Mary's Close is effectively an irregular section of a lane (now a footpath) once known as the King's Way but now renamed the Pilgrim's Way. It is a medieval road that starts in Winchester, heading northwards to Abbots Barton following the west bank of the river Itchen to St Mary's church at Kings Worthy, Abbots Worthy (mill), Martyr Worthy, and further eastwards along the Itchen valley. It is perhaps not surprising that Tavern Cottage and the Old Post Office were situated alongside this once important route. St Mary's Close was at the centre of medieval Kings Worthy.

6.3 *Site visit conditions:* strong sun (18.6.20)

## 7.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL (Maps 5 / 1 and 5 / 2)

### Abbots Worthy:

#### 7.1 *AsAP*

7.1.1 Abbots Worthy House is potentially on the site of medieval buildings given its close proximity to other structures of this date. Consequently, the grounds of the House have been defined as an AAP as delineated by the former boundary with Kings Worthy (west), the B3047 (north), Mill Lane (east), and the river Itchen (south). *Mill House* (C17) falls within this AAP.

7.1.2 The properties known as *The Hirst, Old farm Cottages, and nos 6 & 7 Mill Lane* are of medieval origin and should be regarded as AAPs.

7.1.3 Abbots Worthy Mill is C18 but it is situated close to the medieval road from Winchester and the site could be the same as the mill mentioned in Domesday Book.

#### 7.2 *AsHAP*

None identified.

### Kings Worthy:

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### 7.3 AsAP

**7.3.1** Kings Worthy Court, possibly the site of a medieval manor house. This AAP has been

limited by a C20 housing development to the north and west.

**7.3.2** The properties known as *Weald Cottage* (Church Lane), and the *Old Cottage* (B3047) are of medieval origin and should be regarded as AAPs.

### 7.4 AsHAP

**7.4.1** The church and churchyard of St Mary together with the west end of Mary Lane (including *Tavern Cottage* (C17) and *The Old Post Office* (C17)) for reasons given in paragraphs 6.2.1 and 6.2.2.

## 8.0 CHURCH & CHURCHYARD

**St Mary, Kings Worthy. Mostly 1864** (*architect: J Colson*)

**NB** Abbots Worthy is not a separate parish and therefore does not have a parish church or ancient chapel of ease.

- The present building is late C12 origin, and this might be the earliest church on the site since no Kings Worthy church is mentioned in Domesday Book;
- C13 west tower;
- The south chapel has three re-used C15-16 windows;
- Font C15;
- A C15 stained glass roundel depicts St Swithun & St Birinus, but most of the other glass panels are C19;
- Chancel rebuilt C19, north polygonal vestry and south chapel also of this date;
- Stands within an irregular churchyard on the Pilgrim's Way route;
- A late C20 church extension has been added to the south side of the church.

## 9.0 BUILDINGS (Maps 4 / 1 and 4 / 2)

PRN	Details	Dates	Grade
1228	Old Farm Cottages (1 of 2)	C17, 1718, C18, 19	II
1231	Church of St Mary	C12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 1864	II*
1652	The Old Post Office	C17, 18, 19	II
332	Kingsworthy Grove	c. 1830 and mid C19	II
333	The Old Cottage, London Road	C17, 18, 19, 20	II
41227	Abbots Worthy Mill, Mill Lane: barn at	C18	II
41632	Weald Cottage, Church Lane (1 of 2)	C17, 19	II
42701	Hinton House, Basingstoke Road	1860s	unlisted
9634	Kings Worthy Grove, Abbots Worthy: stable block 20m north-west of	c. 1830, C20	II
9635	Old School House, Abbots Worthy	late C18, mid C19	II

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9636	Well Cottage, Abbots Worthy	late C18	II
9637	Old Farm Cottages (2 of 2)	C17, 1718, C18, 19	II
9638	Tudor Cottage, Church Lane	C17, 19	II
9639	Old Thatch, 27 Church Lane	late C18, 19, 20	II
9640	12 Church Lane	early C19	II
9641	Vergers Cottage, 14 Church Lane	early C19	II
9642	Briar Cottage, Church Lane	C18, 20	II
9643	The Cart & Horses public house, London Road	early C18, 20	II
9644	Shop, London Road (Kingsworthy Antiques in 1984; see 333)	C17, 18, 19, 20	II
9645	Wisteria, London Road	late C18, 19	II
9646	St Marys churchyard, London Road: 3 x tomb chests	1786, 1798 / 1800, 1802	II
9647	Keepers Cottage, 4 Mill Lane	C17, 20	II
9648	6 Mill Lane	C17, 18, 19	II
9649	7 Mill Lane	C17, 18, 19	II
9650	Mill House, Mill Lane	C17, 18, 19	II
9651	Abbots Worthy Mill, Mill Lane	C18	II
9652	Ramblers, Park Lane	early C19	II
9653	The Hurst, Park Lane	C17, 19	II
9654	Hill Rise, 1 Lovedon Lane	early C19, 20	II
9656	Hill Rise, 2 Lovedon Lane	early 19, 20	II
9657	Bull Farmhouse, Lovedon Lane	C17, 18, 19	II
9658	1 Mill Lane	c. 1840	II
9659	2 Mill Lane	c. 1840	II
9660	3 Mill Lane	C17, 18, 19, 20	II
9661	Tavern Cottage, St Marys Close	C17, 20	II

### 10.0 SMR DATA (Maps 4 / 1 and 4 / 2)

#### Abbots Worthy

SW 432460 149425, NE 450015 132895

#### Kings Worthy:

SW 449005 132180, NE 449570 132635

SU43SE	No.		
	36	449880 132500	Post-medieval. C18 watermill, of two storeys and 5 bays with weather-boarded barn attached.
	73	449970 132890	Medieval (early). Worthy Park Saxon cemetery discovered in 1944. Excavations in 1961-2 revealed 150 inhumations, some cremations, some of which ranged from C5 to C7. The site remains unpublished.
	107	449700 132500	Medieval. Domesday reference to Abbots

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	149	449600 132500	Worthy. Post-medieval. Parkland surrounding Abbots Worthy House.
SU53SW	45A	450000 132890	Medieval (early) Saxon cemetery discovered in 1944, excavated by SC Hawkes in 1962. There were 40 urned cremations of C5 and C6. 95 Inhumations of C6 and C7.
	72A	450000 132700	Post-medieval. Landscape park (house built 1829).
	72B	450000 132700	Medieval deer park. Shown on Speed's map of 1611.
<b>Kings Worthy</b>		SW 449005 132180, NE 449570 132635	
SU43SE	No.		
	17	449290 132330	Medieval parish church (see paragraph 8.0).
	54	449280 132330	Medieval. Findspot of a jug handle in the churchyard. Probably C15 / C16.
	85	449800 132650	Prehistoric (Bronze Age) crouched burial excavated at 5 Mill Lane, Kings Worthy.
	105	449300 132300	Medieval. Domesday reference to Kings Worthy.

### 10.1 Hampshire Romano-British Settlements survey

<i>Hants No.</i>	<i>NGR</i>	<i>Parish</i>	<i>NAR / NMR Nos</i>
57	448700 133440	Kings Worthy	SU44SE6

### 10.2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)

<i>SAM No.</i>	<i>NGR</i>	<i>Site</i>
514	449900 132900	Anglo-Saxon cemetery in Worthy Park (at boundary between Kings Worthy and Martyr Worthy IH 10.2000).
12049	448680 133360	Iron Age field system, banjo enclosure and Romano-British villa 500m east of Woodhams Farm.

### 11.0 ADDITIONAL SITES / FEATURES (Maps 4 / 1 and 4 / 2)

#### 11.1 Abbots Worthy:

None identified.

#### 11.2 Kings Worthy:

1	449500 132600	Group of common edge cottages lost since 1874.
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# Kings Worthy and Abbots Worthy

## 12.0 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

- Tithe Map 21M65/F7/136/2 (\* / 1840)
- GSGB 299 Winchester
- OS 1: 2500 Abbots Worthy: SW 432460 149425, NE 450015 132895  
Kings Worthy: SW 449005 132180, NE 449570 132635
- OS 1: 25000 Explorer 132: Winchester, New Alresford & East Meon
- OS 1: 10560 Abbots Worthy: 449929 132727 (1874)  
Kings Worthy: 449142 132405 (1874)

## 13.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Coates 1989 *The Place-names of Hampshire* Southampton, Ensign
- Currie C 1985 Woodhams's Farm, Kings Worthy, near Winchester, Hampshire  
*Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society* Sectional  
Newsletter **3**: 18-20
- Finn P & Johnston P (ed) 1999 *A History of the Worthy Villages* Headbourne Worthy,  
Worthys Local History Group
- HTS **1**: 169-74
- VCH **4**: 430-3

## 14.0 PRIMARY HISTORIC SOURCES

### 14.1 Domesday Book

*1, 17* Barton (Stacey) was of King Edward's revenue; it paid half a day's revenue in all things. (*Kings*) *Worthy*, an outlier, is attached to this. It was never assessed in hides except for 6 hides only which were and are held by freedman. They did not state the number of hides. Land for 25 ploughs. In lordship 5 ploughs; 28 villagers and 47 small-holders with 18 ploughs. 8 slaves; 3 mills at 42s 6d. 6 freedmen; meadow, 37 acres; woodland at 80 pigs from pasturage; from grazing 46s. Value before 1066 £38 8s 4d; later the same. Value now £33; however it pays £52 6s 1d.

(*6, 17* (St Peter's, Winchester) The Abbey itself holds (*Abbots*) *Worthy* in lordship. It was always (in the lands of the) Monastery. There are 7 hides but they never paid tax. Land for 3 ploughs. In lordship 2 ploughs; 2 villagers and 9 smallholders without a plough, 4 slaves; a mill at 20s; meadow, 63 acres. Besides this, the Abbey itself has 72 acres of meadow that King Edward gave to this Church, and the pasturage that they call the Moor, 80 acres of meadow. Value of all this before 1066 £6; later 110s; now £6.10.

# Kings Worthy and Abbots Worthy

## 14.2 Subsidy Rolls

1334

Abbots Worthy	£1.19.6
Kings Worthy	£3.3.8

1524

Abbots Worthy

<i>1st survey:</i>	No return	
<i>2nd survey:</i>	£6.11.6	(26 taxpayers)

Kings Worthy

<i>1st survey:</i>	No return	
<i>2nd survey:</i>	£2.16.2	(27 taxpayers)

## 14.3 Manors

Kings Worthy; Abbots Worthy. Kings Worthy was a tithing of Barton Stacey at the time of the Domesday survey.

## 14.4 Hearth Tax 1665

Abbots Worthy      26 hearths chargeable (12 houses)  
0 hearths not chargeable (0 houses). Total: 12 houses.

Kings Worthy:      23 hearths chargeable (14 houses)  
9 hearths not chargeable (8 houses). Total: 22 houses.

## 15.0 PLACE NAME

**15.1** 825 (C12) (*æt worþige, worðige* (Martyr Worthy); 854 (C12) (to), *æt worðige* (?Headbourne Worthy); 904 (?C16) (to) *worthigsætena (mearc)* (Headbourne Worthy); 904 (? C16) (*andlang*) *worthihaema (mearc)* (Headbourne Worthy). 955 x 958 (C14) (*æt þan twan*) *worþigum* (?King's and Martyr Worthy); 1001 *worðig* (?Headbourne Worthy); 1026 (C12) *wurthige* (Abbot's Worthy in King's Worthy); 1086 *Ordie* (all) (Coates, 1989: 182).). *Worthy* derives from the OE *worðig* meaning 'curtilage' though Grundy speculates that the root word could be *worð –ig* meaning 'curtilage island' (Grundy 1926: 127). Such a description fits well with the character of the river Itchen which divides at several points forming a multiplicity of islands at this location.

**15.2** Abbots Worthy (1248 *Abbotswrth*) was held by Hyde Abbey from 909, though prior to that date, in the grant document, it was known as *Easton Worthy*. (Coates, 1989: 182).

**15.3** Kings Worthy was held by the king before, and at the same time as the Domesday survey (Coates, 1989: 182).

# Kings Worthy and Abbots Worthy

## 16.0 PHOTOGRAPHS

None taken.

## 17.0 OTHER PROJECT ELEMENTS

### 17.1 Pre-Conquest Charters

Abbots Worthy

- AD 1026            King Canute to Lyfing, bishop; grant of land at Abbots Worthy, Hampshire. *Latin with English bounds* (289 / **962**).
  
- AD 955 X 958    Will of Ælfsige, bishop, concerning land at Taunton, Somerset; Crondall, Abbots Ann, the two Worthys (possibly Kings Worthy and Martyr Worthy), *Clere* (Burghclere or Highclere), Tichborne, Ringwood, all in Hampshire; *Ciltrigtune* (possibly Cholderton, Wiltshire) and at Netley, Hampshire the beneficiaries including the King and Old and New Minsters, Winchester. *Old English, Middle English and Latin versions* (417 / **1491**).

### 17.2 Other parish settlements include:

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

### 17.3 Enclosures

There were two separate systems in this parish:

#### 17.3.1 Abbots Worthy:

*Parliamentary:*

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

*Formal Agreements:*

<i>NEP No.</i>	<i>Agreement</i>	<i>Award</i>	<i>Details</i>
Enclosure was accomplished by informal means.			

#### 17.3.2 Kings Worthy:

*Parliamentary:*

<i>NEP No.</i>	<i>Act</i>	<i>Order</i>	<i>Award</i>	<i>Details</i>
14159	General, 1845		1852	479.73 acres (actual); 487 acres (award). Worthy Down & The Dean.



# Kings Worthy and Abbots Worthy

*Formal Agreements:*

<i>NEP No.</i>	<i>Agreement</i>	<i>Award</i>	<i>Details</i>
'Informal' enclosures by Sir Chaloner Ogle in 1773.			

**17.4 Commons & Greens (residual)**

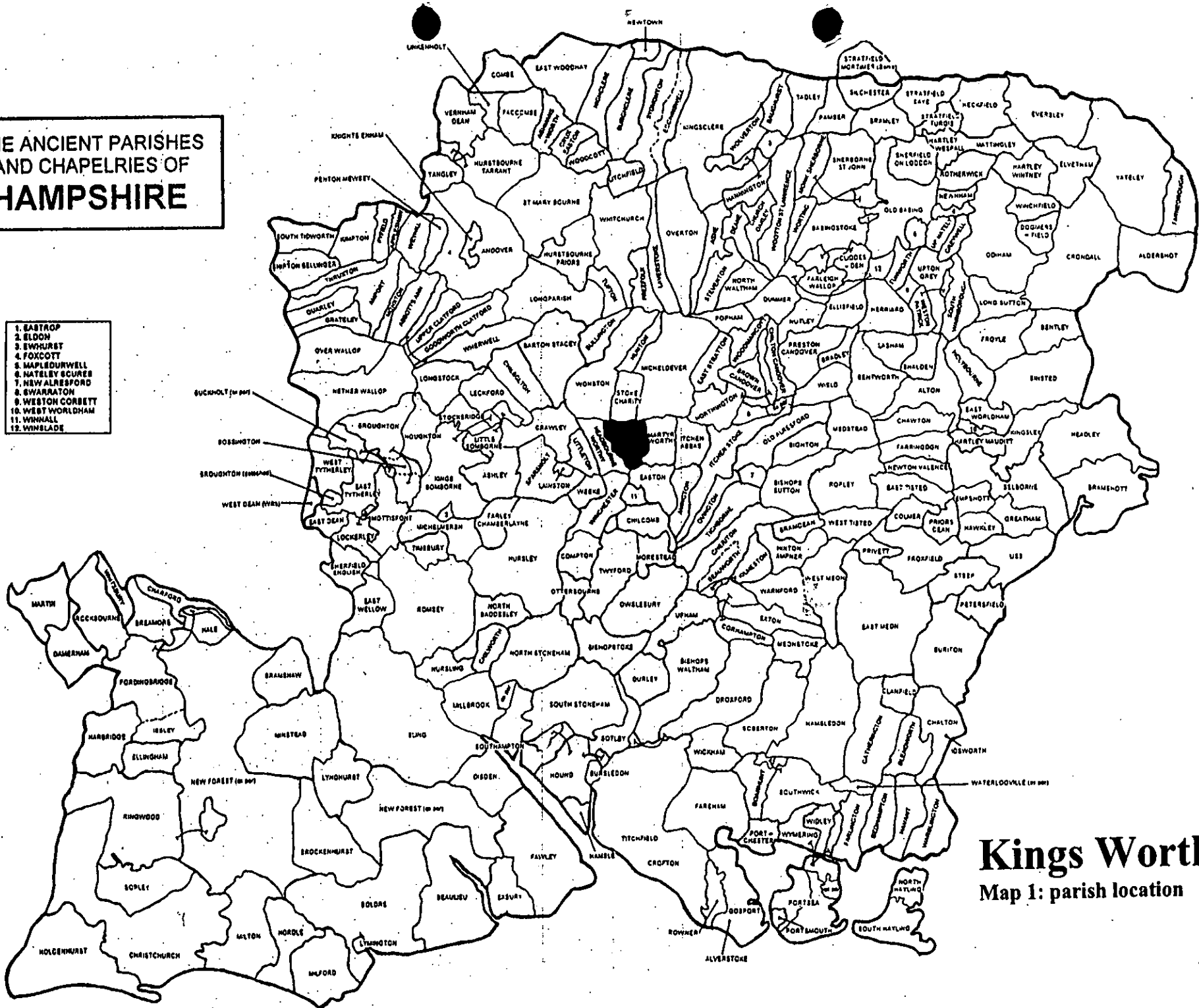
None recorded in 1874.

**18.0 ILLUSTRATIONS**

- 1 Map 1: Parish location (not to scale)
- 2 Map 2: General (settlement) location at 1: 25000
- 3 Map 3: Ordnance Survey First Edition County Series (c. 1870s) not to scale
- 4 Maps 4 / 1 and 4 / 2: Development & archaeological features at 1: 2500 reduced to 71%
- 5 Maps 5 / 1 and 5 / 2: Areas of archaeological potential at 1: 2500 reduced to 71%

**THE ANCIENT PARISHES  
AND CHAPELRIES OF  
HAMPSHIRE**

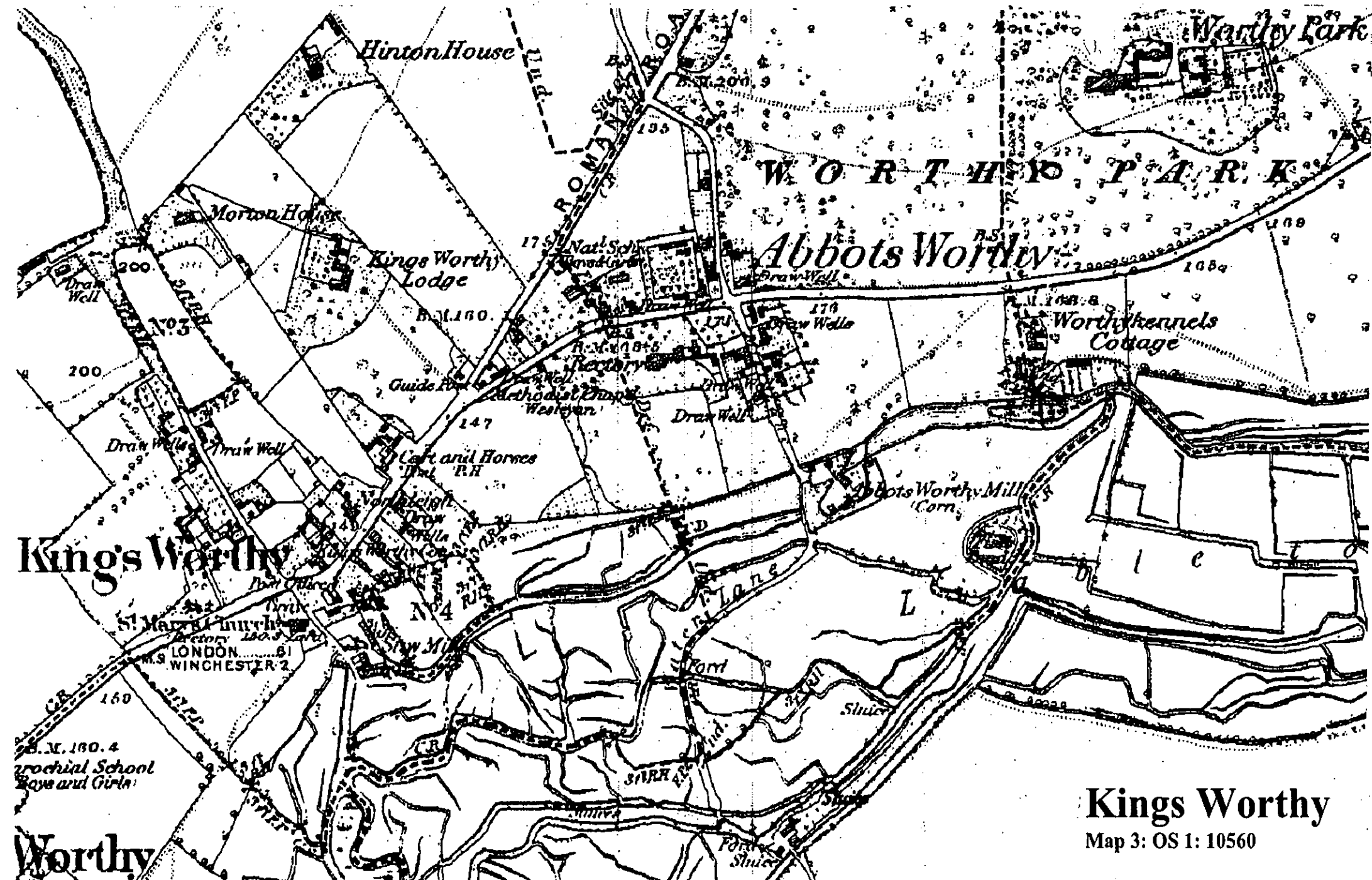
1. EASTROP
2. ELDON
3. EWHURST
4. FOXCOTT
5. MAPLEDURWELL
6. NATELY SCURES
7. NEW ALRESFORD
8. SWARATON
9. WESTON CORBETT
10. WEST WOLDHAM
11. WINNALL
12. WINSLADE



**Kings Worthy**  
Map 1: parish location



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Hinton House

Worthy Park

WORTHY PARK

Abbots Worthy

Worthy Kennels Cottage

Kings Worthy

Abbots Worthy Mill (Corn)

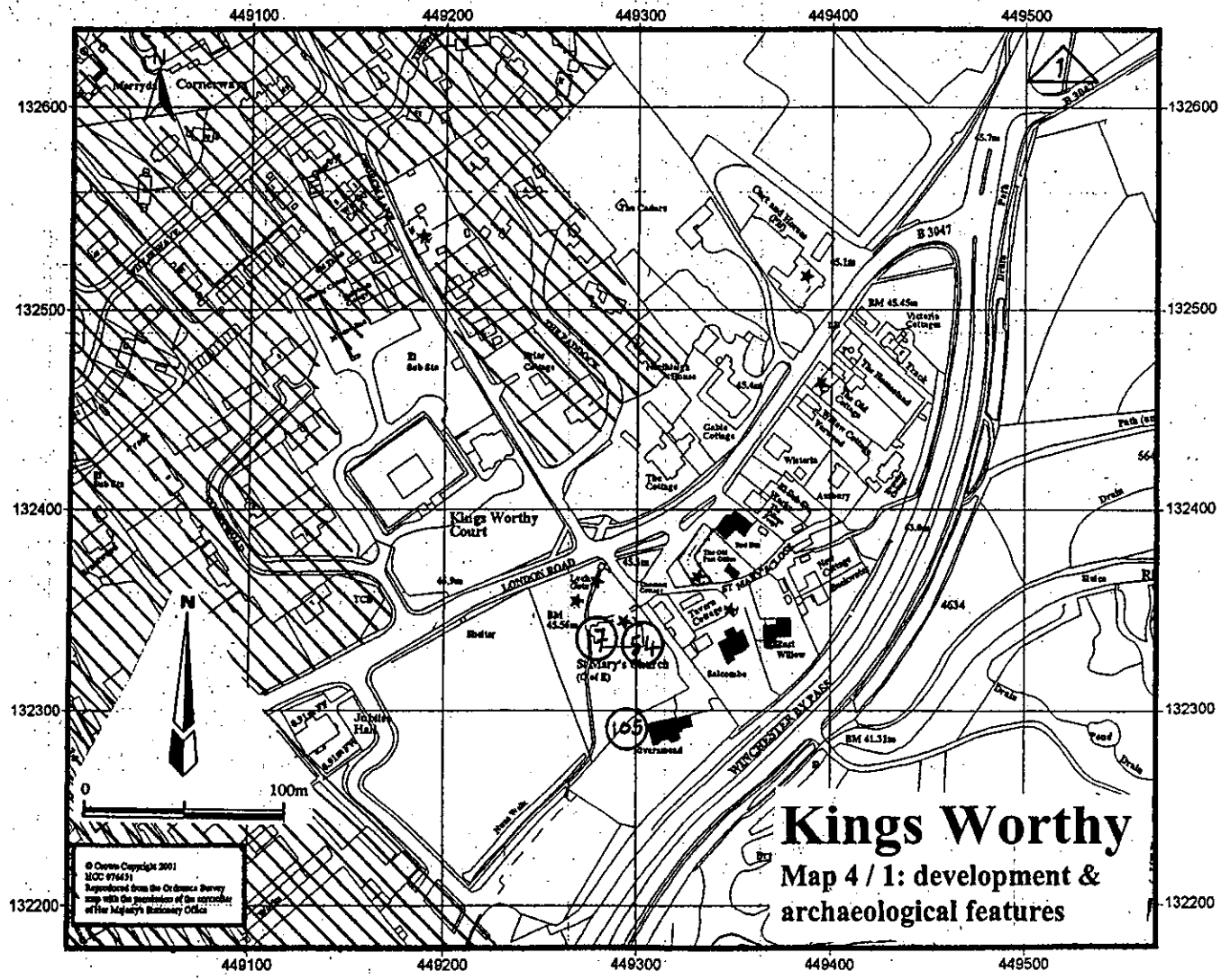
St. Margaret's Church  
LONDON  
WINCHESTER

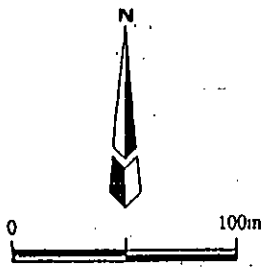
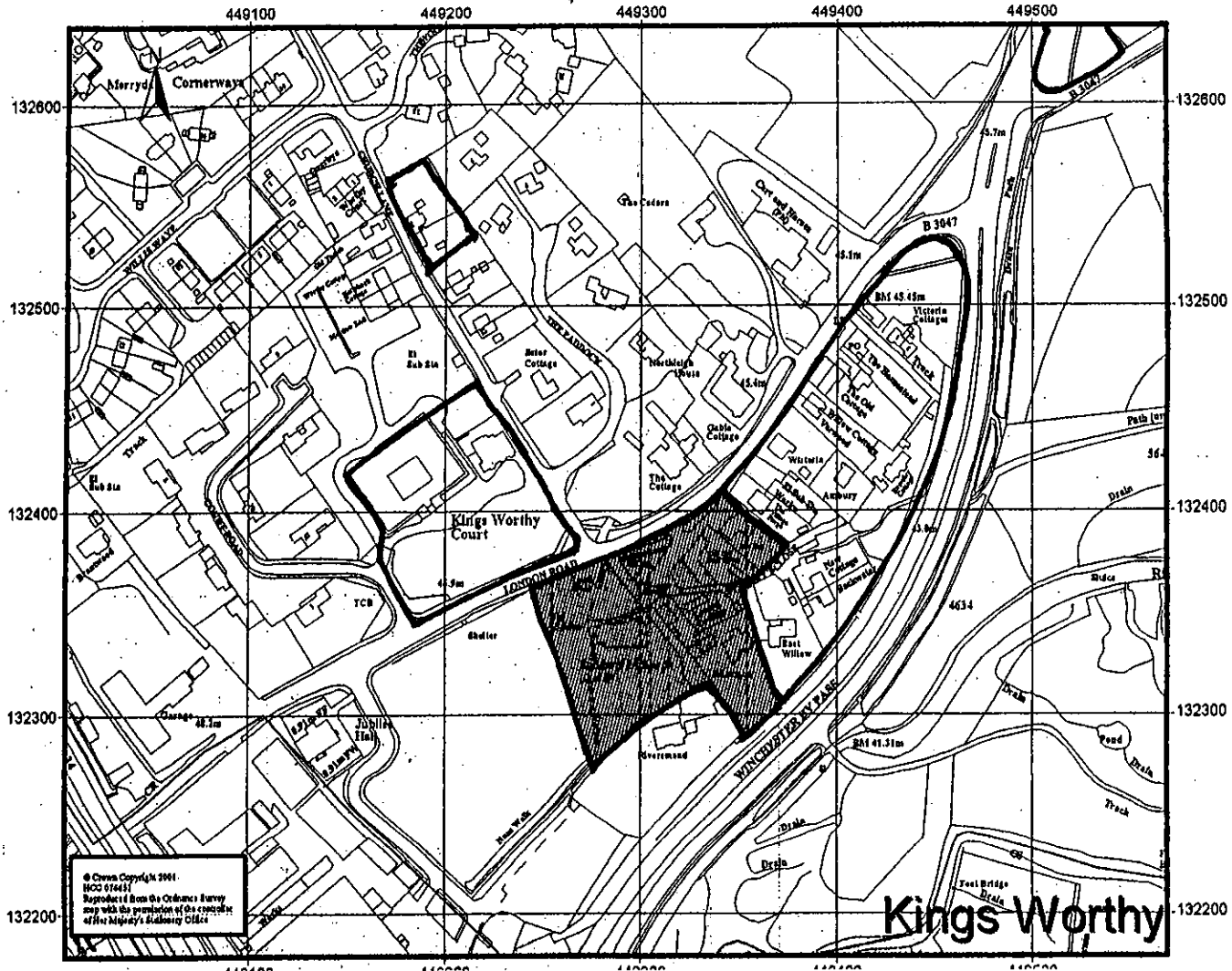
Kings Worthy

Map 3: OS 1: 10560

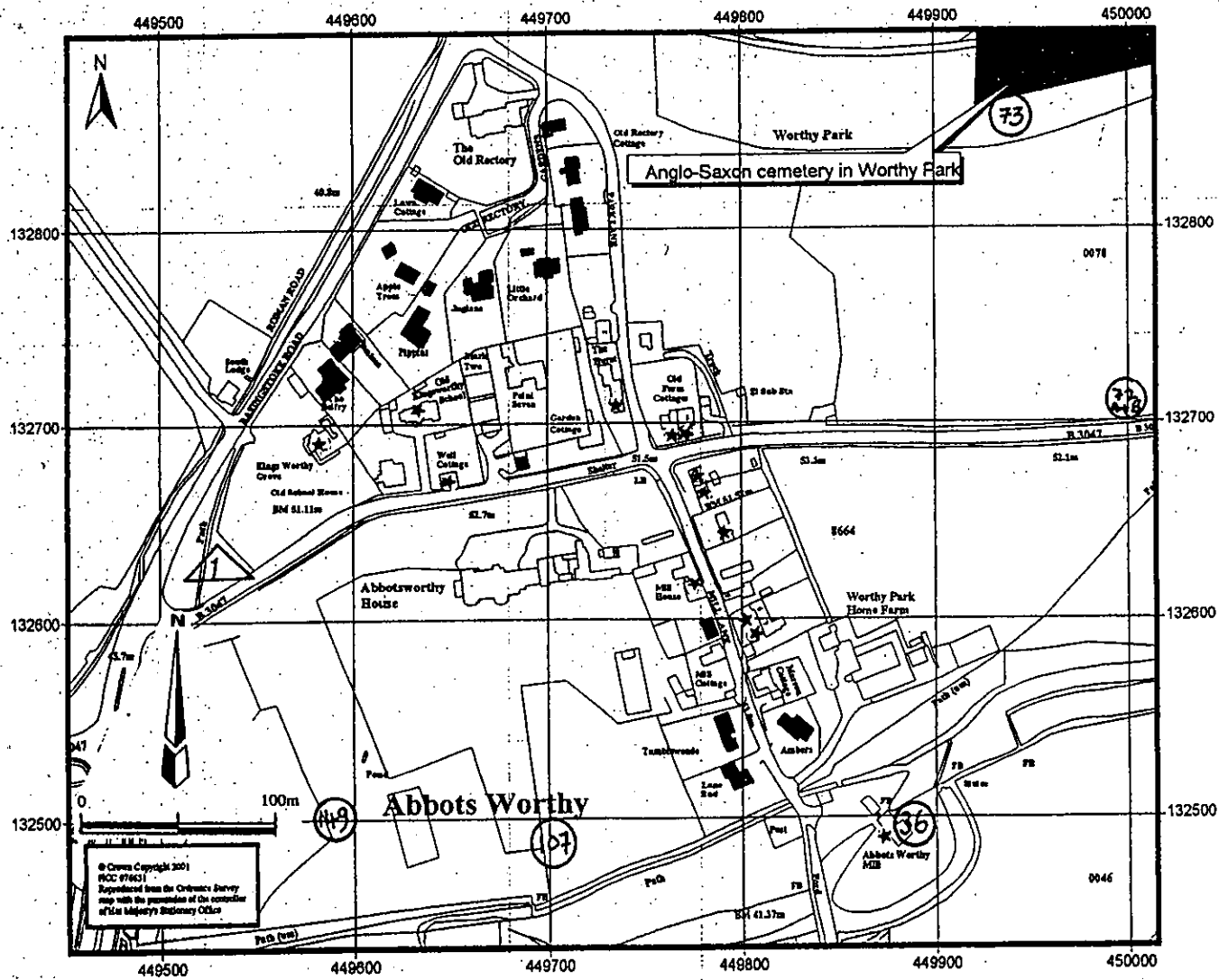
Worthy

Provincial School  
Boys and Girls

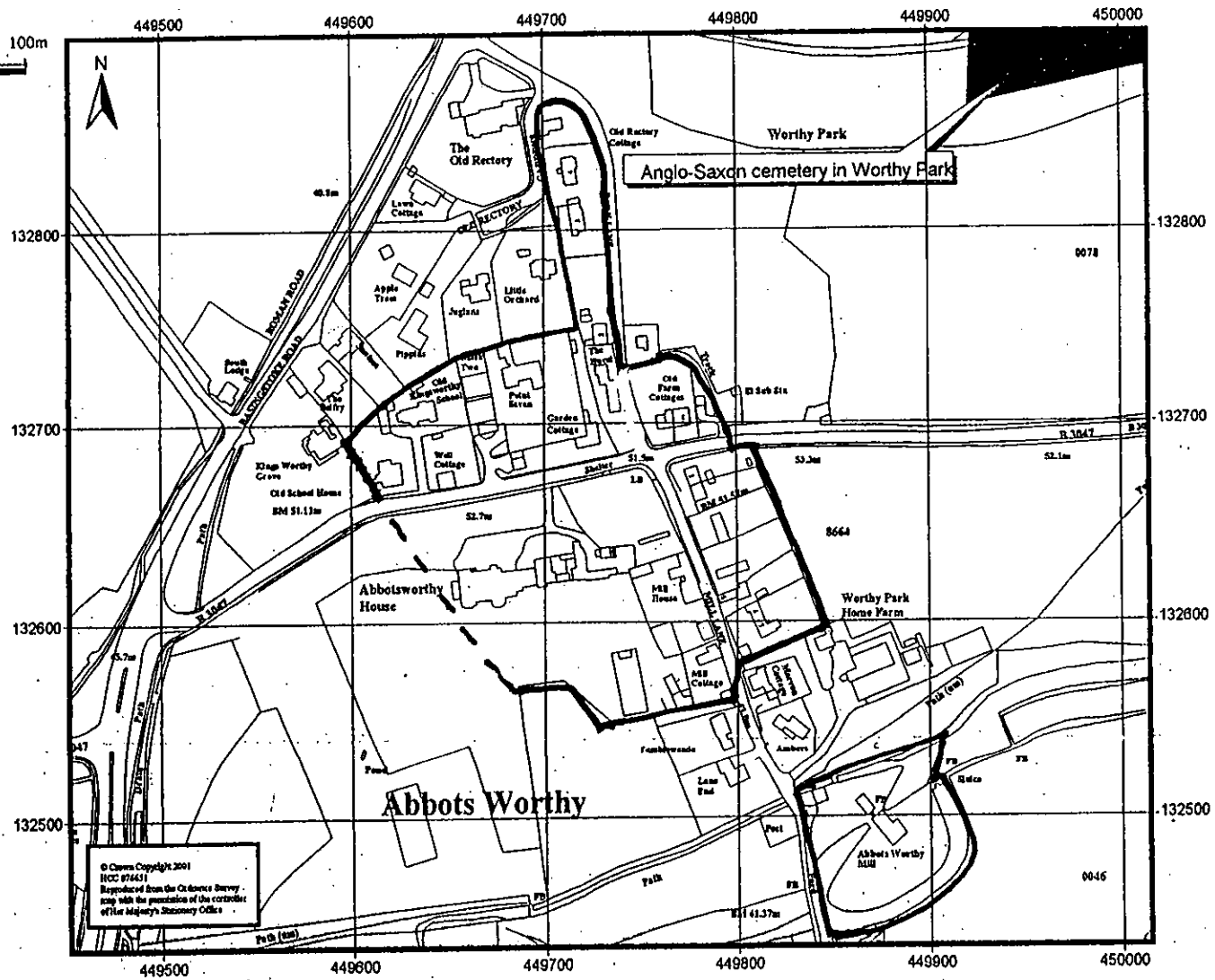
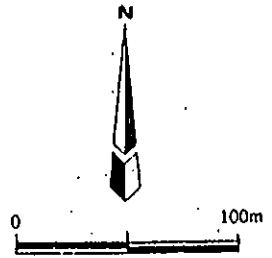




**Kings Worthy**  
 Map 5 / 1: areas of archaeological potential



**Abbots Worthy**  
 Map 4 / 2: development &  
 archaeological features



**Abbots Worthy**  
Map 5 / 2: areas of archaeological  
potential