

Morestead

1.0	PARISH	Morestead, now Owslebury CP (Map 1)
2.0	HUNDRED	Fawley
3.0	NGR	450970 125480
4.0	GEOLOGY	Upper Chalk

5.0 SITE CONTEXT (Map 2)

- 5.1** Morestead is 5km south-east of Winchester and the principal components of the settlement are set out along the north-west / south-east course of a Roman road now closely shadowed for part of its route by a Modern road known as Morestead Road. The parish lands are on the edge of the South Downs and here these are crossed by a number of tracks including Ox Drove and the Kings Way. Two of these tracks are now lanes that meet as crossroads with Morestead Road at the north-west end of the settlement. One of these lanes takes a west-south-west course to Twyford; the route eastwards is now known as Fawley Lane but for most of its length it remains a track. It is at this crossroads that the Roman and Modern routes most closely coincide with the straight line of the older road lying c. 50m south-west of its counterpart.
- 5.2** According to VCH (3: 329) Longwood was a warren of local fame. This too was a downland feature that continues to be marked on current Ordnance Survey maps. It is commemorated elsewhere as Warren Lane and Morestead Warren Farm. Morestead Down is a military range. The settlement is a risky one to survey; there are no footpaths on the busy main road and for this reason the churchyard is easy to miss.

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

Church and manor house / irregular row

- 6.1** The settlement of Morestead comprises three discrete elements.
- 6.1.1** The first of these is immediately south of the Fawley Lane crossroads (see paragraph 5.1) where a group of buildings belong to Complins Farm. The course of the Roman road runs directly between the farm buildings and Morestead Road.
- 6.1.2** Within 100m south-east of Complins Farm was Burgess Farm, likewise on the west side of the road. VCH (3: 329) calls it Burgers Farm but this is clearly not right because the OS map of 1872 has it as *Burgess* showing the farm buildings as being directly opposite the church, churchyard and rectory which are on the east side of the road. According to the layout of the 1872 map, Burgess Farm and the church and rectory group all share the same enclosure but are split by the course of Morestead Road that deviates slightly to the east at this point to form a junction with Old Down

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Lane. Today, the picture has changed slightly. Old Down Lane has become an eastward continuation of Morestead Road, whilst Burgess Farm has survived as a name now associated with the buildings of the former Morestead Farm c. 100m further to the south-east.

6.1.3 In 1872 Morestead Farm and Morestead Manor House occupied much the same site. The buildings of the farmyard were virtually bisected by the course of the Roman road and the C17 Manor House stands almost directly upon its line. This group of buildings stands at a corner of the former parish boundary with Owslebury.

6.1.4 *Synthesis* It can be argued that Morestead is a church and manor house settlement albeit that the two are within separate enclosures at c. 150m distance. However, the layout of the three principal building groups of Complins Farm, Burgess Farm / church, and Morestead Farm / Manor House suggests an irregular row format of discrete settlement components bound together by the course of a Roman road. This road is a significant feature in the development of Morestead because it also forms the line of the old parish boundary with Owslebury, south of the manor house.

6.2 *Site visit conditions:* hazy sun (17.4.2002)

7.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL (Map 5)

7.1 *AsAP*

7.1.1 Various sections of the Roman road that runs parallel to Morestead Road.

7.2 *AsHAP*

7.2.1 Complins Farm includes a section of Roman road.

7.2.2 The site of Burgess Farm includes a section of Roman road.

7.2.3 Morestead Manor House and grounds include a section of Roman road. The C17 house is possibly on the site of an earlier building and it is situated close to a break-in-line of the former parish boundary.

7.2.4 The church is of medieval origin and therefore the churchyard and the rectory grounds comprise an AHAP.

8.0 CHURCH & CHURCHYARD

Dedication unknown

- One of the nine chapels listed in Domesday under Chilcombe;
- C12 nave including north and south doorways;
- The north doorway (that includes a springing arch) is blocked, the upper courses of the blocking material consist of C18 bricks;
- C12 font of Purbeck Marble;
- C13 west window is blocked by a C19 school that was appended to this end of the church;

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- C18 arched brace roof;
- Restored extensively in 1873;
- C19 chancel in Neo-Norman style;
- Brick bellcote of C18 / 19;
- VCH (3: 330) asserts that the old rectory was built against the west wall of the nave but that this building was demolished in 1833 to make way for a school on the same site (if this was the case then the rectory must have been a very small one – IH). At this time there was a substantial rebuilding of the church and a new rectory was built a little to the south-east (VCH 3: 330).
- There are old architectural fragments in the in the east end of the north chancel wall;
- The church and churchyard comprise an oasis in a settlement blighted by passing traffic.

9.0 BUILDINGS (Map 4)

PRN	Details	Dates	Grade
386	Morestead Church	C12, 13, 18, 1873	II
9872	Morestead Church: tomb chest south of west end	C18	II
9873	Morestead Grove, Morestead Road	1836, c. 1910	II
9874	Morestead Manor, Morestead Road	late C17, 18, 19	II
9892	Milestone 1600m north-north-west of Morestead Cross	early C19	II
9893	Hill Farmhouse	C17, 18, 19, 20	II
9894	Bottom Pond Cottages	1838	II
9895	Bottom Pond Cottages: milestone 300m south-east of	early C19	II

10.0 SMR DATA SW 450700 125340, NE 451110 125820 (Map 4)

SU52NW	No.		
	31	450970 125480	Medieval parish church, dedication unknown (see paragraph 8.00).
	82	450900 125400	Medieval. Morestead was first documented by name in 1158.

10.1 Hampshire Romano-British Settlements survey

Hants No.	NGR	Parish	NAR / NMR Nos
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None known but the settlement is on the line of a Roman road. VCH (3: 329) says that by local repute, the church lies close to a Roman well. The only well marked on the OS 1: 10,560 survey of 1872 is situated on the Roman road at its junction with Fawley Lane c. 200m north-north-west of the church, opposite a pond (see paragraph 11.0, no.1).

10.2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)

<i>SAM No.</i>	<i>NGR</i>	<i>Site</i>
159	452500 127800	Fawley Down round barrows (on the north-east boundary of the former parish of Morestead).
12114	451980 125370	Long barrow 250m south-west of Warren Farm.

11.0 ADDITIONAL SITES / FEATURES (Map 4)

1	450860 125700	Approximate centre of a funnelled approach to a downland track that began at Complins Farm and continued in a north-easterly direction. This feature has been cut by the Morestead Road, a turnpike development. See milestone at 450880 125630 as marked on the OS Explorer Map of 1997.
2	450875 125660	Site of a cottage and plot shown as present on the 1872 OS map. A well is marked just north of this point at <i>c.</i> 460870 125690 and this is the best candidate for the well referred to in paragraph 10.1.
3	450990 125450	Lost building in the church and rectory group marked as present on the 1872 10,560 map. Earthworks at the south end of the churchyard indicate the site
4	450835 125580	Site of barn on Complin's Farm shown on OS 1: 10,560 of 1872, but subsequently demolished.
5	450890 125540	Site of house at Complin's Farm shown on OS 1: 10,560 of 1872, but subsequently demolished.

12.0 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

- Tithe Map 21M65/F7/163/2 (1844 / 1844)
- GSGB 299 Winchester
- OS 1: 2500 SW 450700 125340, NE 451110 125820
- OS 1: 25000 Explorer 132: Winchester, New Alresford & East Meon
- OS 1 10,560 451176 125435 (1872)

13.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Coates R 1989 *The Place-names of Hampshire* Southampton, Ensign
- HTS 1: 235-44
- VCH 3: 329-30

14.0 PRIMARY HISTORIC SOURCES

14.1 Domesday Book

Not mentioned. Probably included under Chilcomb.

14.2 Subsidy Rolls

1334		£0.17.6	
1524	<i>1st survey:</i>	£0.18.4	(5 taxpayers)
	<i>2nd survey:</i>	£0.18.4	(7 taxpayers)

14.3 Manorial Documents

Morestead only (originally a sub-manor of Chilcomb).

14.4 Hearth Tax 1665

11 hearths chargeable (4 houses)
4 hearths not chargeable (3 houses). Total: 7 houses.

15.0 PLACE NAME

C12, C13 *Morested, Morestede*. Morestead is at the end of a dry valley, and the sense

of OE *mor* here must be ‘barren upland’. A large section of the north-east part of the parish was given over to *Longwood Warren*; its use as warren testifies that it was not prime agricultural land. OE *stede* has been fully investigated by Sandred (1963). It appears to mean ‘site of something’, ‘the site of something no longer there’. No better translation than ‘moor place’ can be offered. The other sense of OE *mor* ‘marshy area’, is in evidence close by in the water meadows of *Twyford Moors*, but these are not close enough to give rise to the present name (Coates 1989, 119).

16.0 PHOTOGRAPHS

- Church and attached school from the south.

17.0 OTHER PROJECT ELEMENTS

17.1 Pre-Conquest Charters

None listed by Sawyer, 1968.

17.2 Other parish settlements include:

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

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17.3 Enclosures

Parliamentary:

<i>NEP No.</i>	<i>Act</i>	<i>Order</i>	<i>Award</i>	<i>Details</i>
14094		1852	1852	153.56 acres (actual; 95 acres (award). Morestead Down.

Formal Agreements:

<i>NEP No.</i>	<i>Agreement</i>	<i>Award</i>	<i>Details</i>
No formal enclosure known.			

17.4 Commons & Greens (residual)

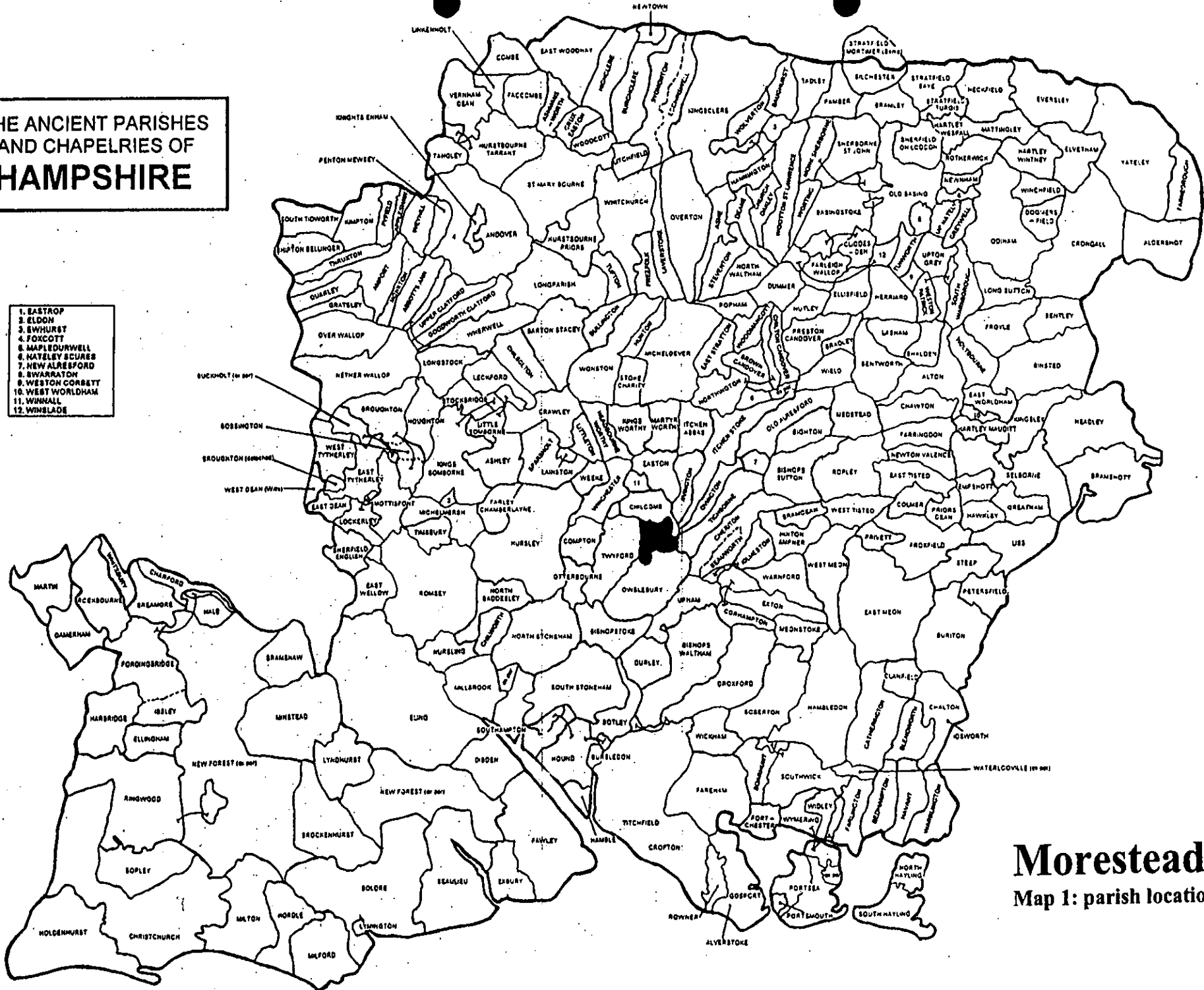
No common was recorded in 1874 but VCH 3: 329 refers to a *No-man's land* of about 5 acres *lately enclosed* which was situated in the extreme south of the parish.

18.0 ILLUSTRATIONS

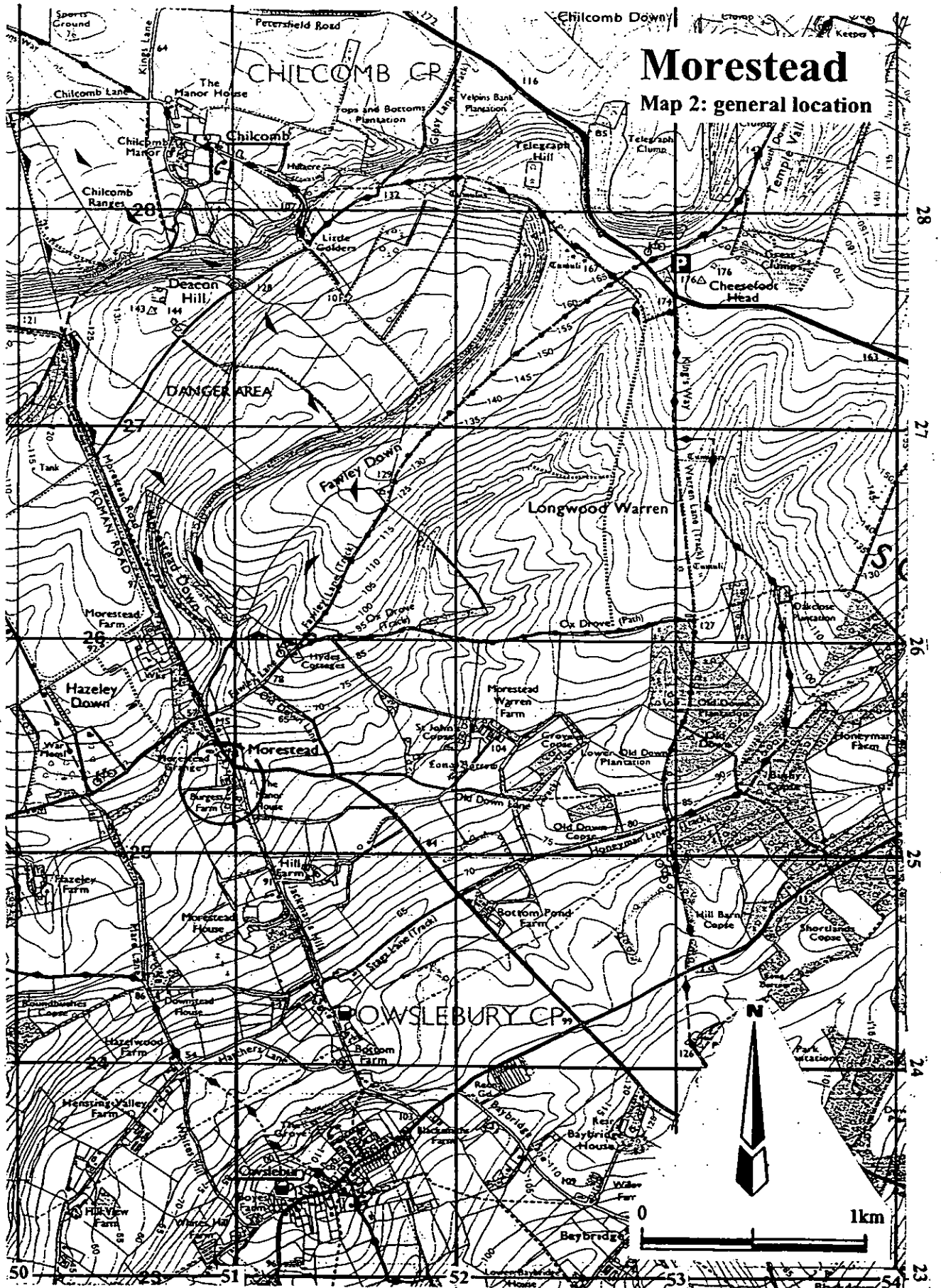
- 1 Map 1: Parish location (not to scale)
- 2 Map 2: General (settlement) location at 1: 25000
- 3 Map 3: Ordnance Survey First Edition County Series (c. 1870s) not to scale
- 4 Map 4: Development & archaeological features at 1: 2500 reduced to 71%
- 5 Map 5: Areas of archaeological potential at 1: 2500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

THE ANCIENT PARISHES
AND CHAPELRIES OF
HAMPSHIRE

- 1. EASTROP
- 2. ELDOH
- 3. ENHURST
- 4. FOXCOTT
- 5. MAPLEOURWELL
- 6. HATELEY SCURES
- 7. NEW ALRESFORD
- 8. SWARRATON
- 9. WESTON CORRETT
- 10. WEST WORLDHAM
- 11. WINNALL
- 12. WINSLADE

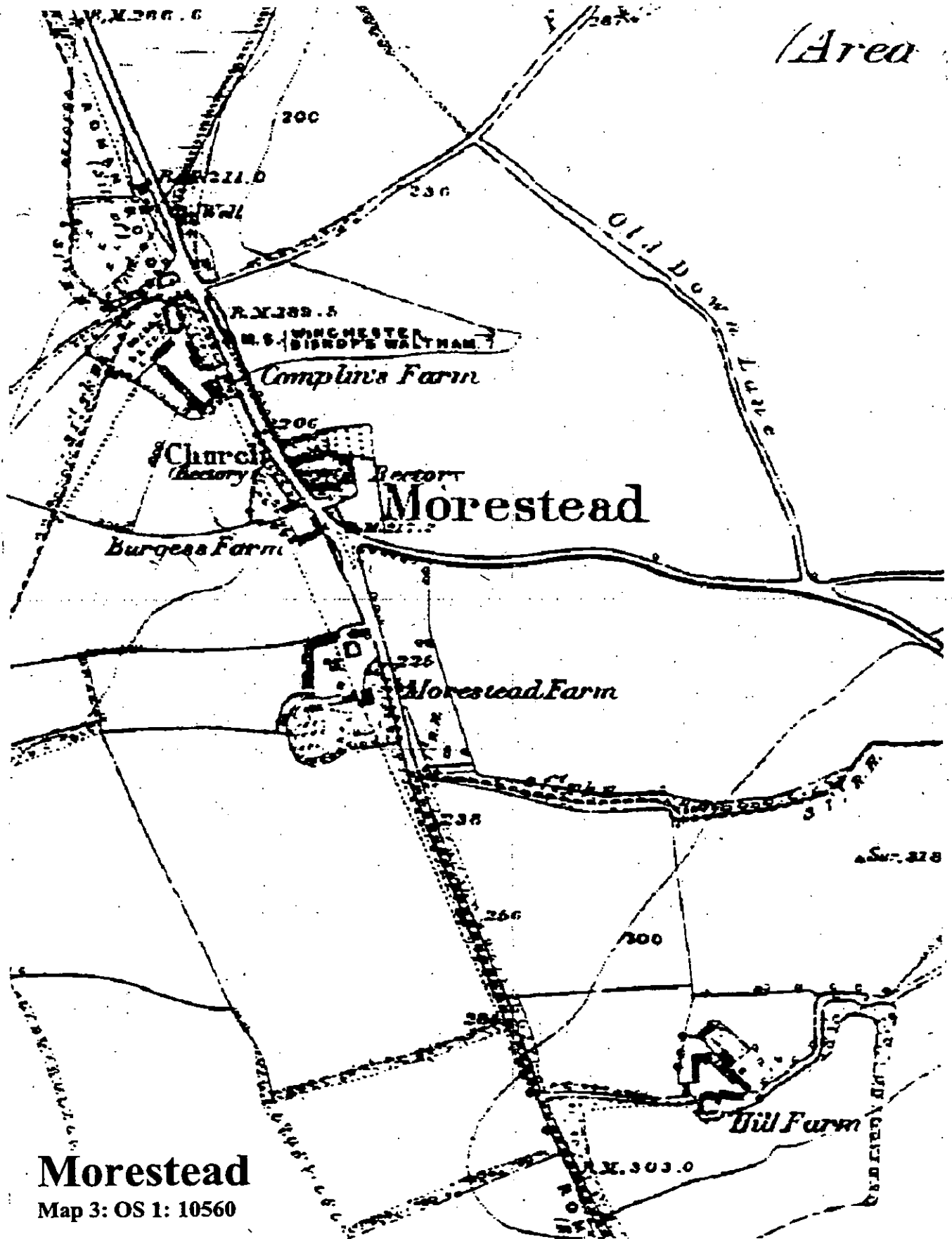


Morestead
Map 1: parish location

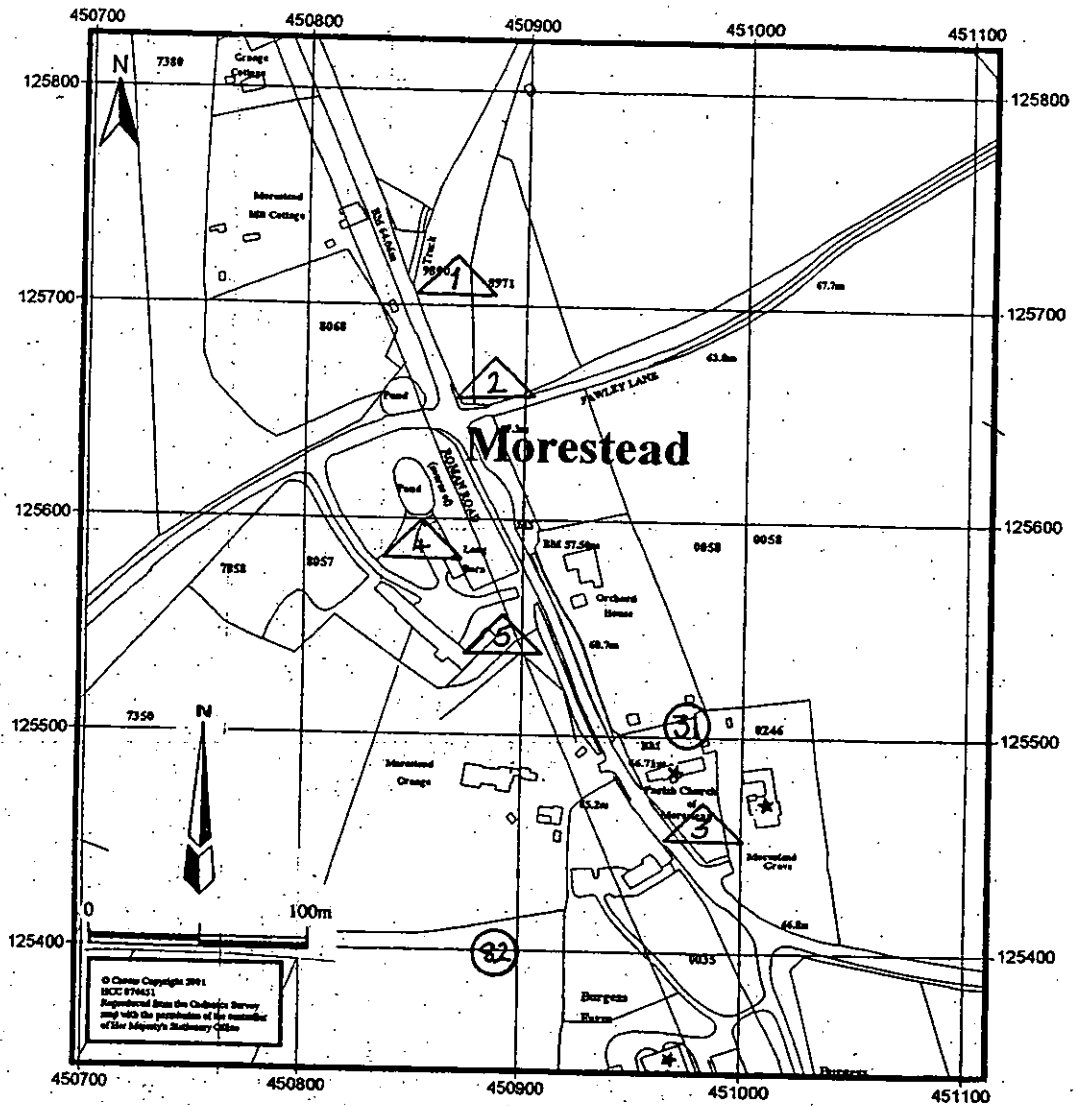


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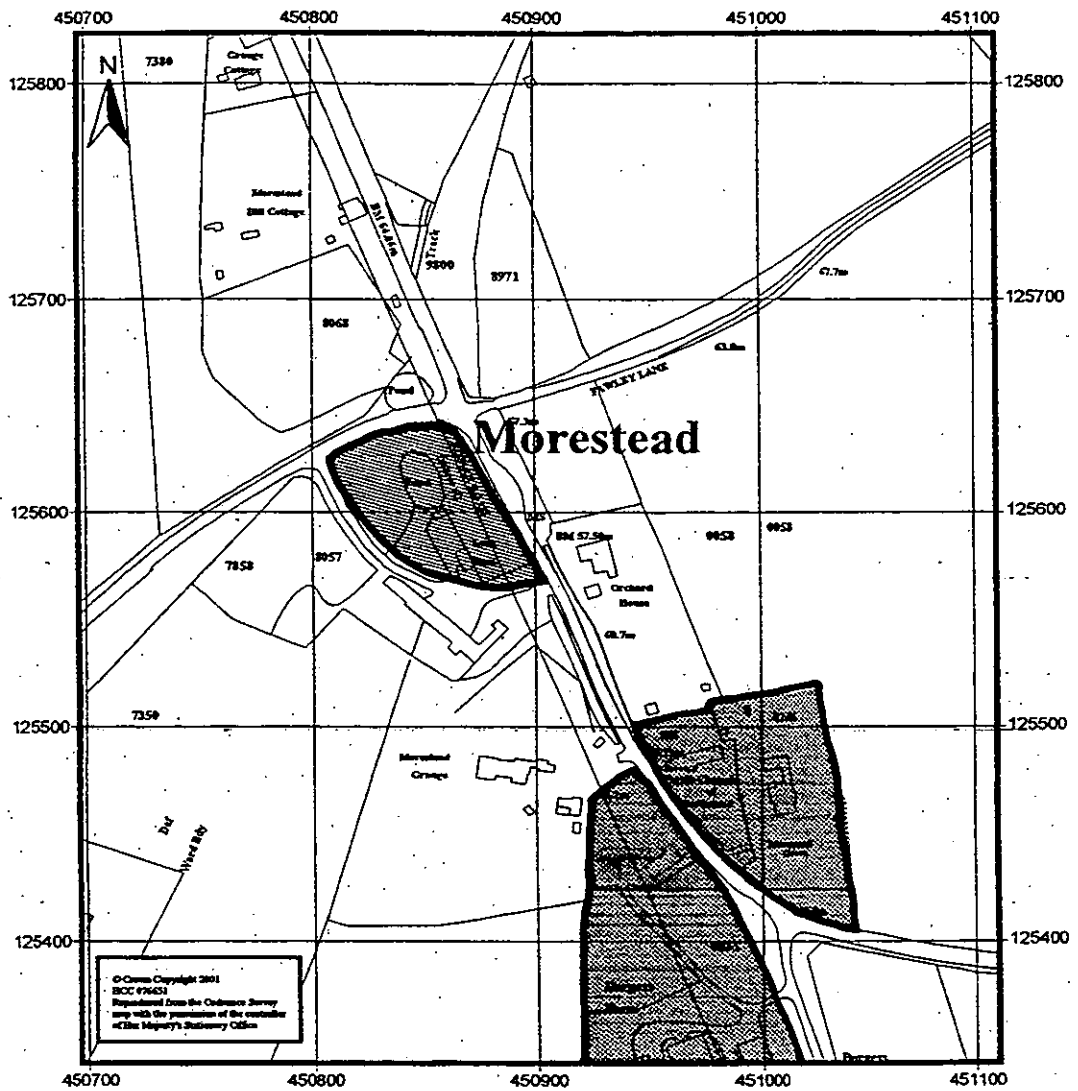
Area



Morestead
 Map 3: OS 1: 10560



Morestead
 Map 4: development & archaeological features



Morestead
Map 5: areas of archaeological potential

