1.0 PARISH  Old Alresford (Map 1)
2.0 HUNDRED  Fawley
3.0 NGR  458610 /33680
4.0 GEOLOGY  Upper Chalk; River Valley Gravel

5.0 SITE CONTEXT (Map 2)
The parish of Old Alresford (now including Godsfield) is c. 8km in length extending from the District boundary of East Hampshire in the north-east to the river Itchen at Itchen Stoke in the south-west. For much of its length the parish is c. 1.6km wide. The principal settlement is also known as Old Alresford (c. 70m AOD) and this is situated towards the south-west end of the parish, in the valley of the river Alre. The area is noted for its watercress beds and these can be seen to the west and to the south-east of Old Alresford. Just 1km to the south is the later medieval town of New Alresford but this is now administratively separate from the parent parish.

6.0 PLAN TYPE & DESCRIPTION (Maps 3, 4 and 5)
Church & manor house + regular rows
6.1 Church & manor house  The church of St Mary is probably C12 (or earlier) in origin but major rebuilding programmes in the C18 and C19 have left almost no evidence of the medieval building. The church stands upon a low knoll, a feature that suggests a pre-Christian or early Christian origin for the site. Less than 50m east-north-east of the church stands Old Alresford (manor) House. This building is C18 but it is on the site of a medieval predecessor. In an account of Old Alresford written in the C18 (Sumner, 192 : 335), GB Rodney tells of a tradition whereby the juries of the manorial Court Leet met at a certain spot in the garden of the House. Presumably, this traditional meeting place must have been marked in some way. South, and to the rear of the manor house is Old Alresford Park and Old Alresford Pond. The pond is a reservoir that supplies the river Itchen, and it is thought that it was created as part of Bishop Geoffrey de Lucy's late C12 scheme to render the river Itchen navigable from Alresford to Winchester.

6.2 Regular rows  The B3046 passes through the parish of Old Alresford in a more or less north / south direction, and it is the principal route through an area of settlement that is situated 300m north of St Mary's Church. This part of Old Alresford is a double regular row, the buildings to the east and west of the B3046 being set at right angles to the road. This arrangement of properties is most obvious on the east side where a common rear boundary is also apparent. However, most of the buildings are C19 or C20. So far as is known, the oldest structures (C17) are concentrated around a triangular junction of Kiln Lane (from the east-south-east) and the B3046. South of the junction the road is divided by a large triangular green. The overall regularity of
the layout of Old Alresford (north of St Mary's) suggests that it is a settlement that has been planned. Planned linear settlements of this type have much in common with medieval new towns where burgage plots are set out in a uniform manner at right angles to the road. The C12 town of New Alresford that was carved out of the southern tip of the parish, has similar regular qualities to Old Alresford. It is quite possible that the town and a re-planned rural settlement were devised at the same time (late C12).

6.3 A conjectural sequence of historic settlement at Alresford is as follows:

- **Phase 1** (C10, C11 or earlier) Church and manor house, attendant farms (e.g. Manor Farm), occasional cottages;
- **Phase 2** (late C12) development of new town (New Alresford), rebuilding of St Mary's, planned appendage to rural settlement (Old Alresford).

6.4 **Site visit conditions:** strong sun (19.4.2002)

7.0 **ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL** (Maps 3, 4 and 5)

7.1 **AsAP**

7.1.1 The group of properties at the junction of Kiln Lane with the B3046 includes some of the earliest known structures in Old Alresford. Kiln Lane is classified as an ox drove way and it has the characteristic wayside embankments of a much-used route.

7.2 **AsHAP**

7.2.1 The parish church and the manor house are at the south end of Old Alresford. Both buildings are of medieval origin although subsequent rebuilding has obscured the evidence (see paragraphs 6.1 and 11.0, no. 4)

8.0 **CHURCH & CHURCHYARD**

St Mary, 1753

- Probably C12 origin;
- Reconstructed c. 1400 as a result of fire damage;
- Parts of the C12 and C16 remain in the church;
- Totally rebuilt in 1753;
- 1769 west tower was replaced by the present structure using bricks from the derelict manor house at Abbotstone, owned by the Duke of Bolton (green glaze is evident on the bricks of the south-east quoin- IH / 2002);
- C19 south transept and north vestry;
- 1852 Caen stone font (the SMR says that it is Norman);
- Interior gothicized by Colson in 1862.
NB The full SMR entry alludes to a fragment of C14 wall painting representing a ship. This could not be found at the time of this survey (2002). The Church guide leaflet does not mention this painting directly but it does say, ...and then in 1938, when electric light was installed together with a new heating system, the stencilling on the east wall and chancel arch was painted over. If the stenciling is a reference to the wall painting, then the chancel arch and at least a part of the east wall must be medieval.

9.0 BUILDINGS (Map 4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRN</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10252</td>
<td>Prospect House</td>
<td>early C19, 20</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10253</td>
<td>Victoria Cottage</td>
<td>C17, 18, 19, 20</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10254</td>
<td>April Cottage (previously Green End)</td>
<td>C17, 18, 19</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10255</td>
<td>Drovers Return</td>
<td>C17, 1968</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10256</td>
<td>Manor Farm: barn at</td>
<td>late C17, 18</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10257</td>
<td>Manor Farmhouse</td>
<td>mid C18 &amp; earlier</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10258</td>
<td>Pinglestone Farm: barn at</td>
<td>late C17</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10259</td>
<td>Swan Cottage</td>
<td>early C19</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10260</td>
<td>Weir Mill</td>
<td>1814, C19, 20</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10261</td>
<td>Old Alresford Place (former rectory)</td>
<td>c.1740, C19</td>
<td>II*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10262</td>
<td>Church of St Mary: lych gate 20m north-west of</td>
<td>C18</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10263</td>
<td>Church of St Mary</td>
<td>c. 1300, C14, C19</td>
<td>II*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10264</td>
<td>St Mary’s churchyard: 6 x tomb chests (4 x north of chancel; 1 x east of chancel; 1 x south of tower)</td>
<td>early C19</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10265</td>
<td>Old Alresford House: wall and gates to forecourt of</td>
<td>mid C18</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10267</td>
<td>Armsworth House</td>
<td>early C19, 20</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10268</td>
<td>Armsworth Park House</td>
<td>C18, 19, 20</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10272</td>
<td>Lower Lanham Farmhouse</td>
<td>mid C18, 20</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10273</td>
<td>Lower Lanham Farmhouse: barn at</td>
<td>C18</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1150</td>
<td>Upton House</td>
<td>c.1764, C18, 19</td>
<td>II*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14103</td>
<td>Upton Park Farm: farm buildings at</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>unlisted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14104</td>
<td>Upton Park Farm: greenhouse at</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>unlisted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14194</td>
<td>School House, Basingstoke Road</td>
<td>C19</td>
<td>unlisted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14629</td>
<td>Armsworth Park House: barn at</td>
<td>not given</td>
<td>unlisted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1856</td>
<td>Upton Park House: stables at</td>
<td>C18, 19</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>412</td>
<td>Northleigh Cottage, Kiln Lane</td>
<td>C17, 18, 19</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>518</td>
<td>Old Alresford House</td>
<td>1749-51</td>
<td>II*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>831</td>
<td>Upton Park Farm, Kiln Lane: barn at</td>
<td>C18</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
10.0 SMR DATA

SU53SE No.

8  458810 133650  Medieval parish church of St Mary (see paragraph 8.0).
10  458890 133670  Medieval. Site of the ancient manor house of Old Alresford manor now occupied by a C18 building.
49  458640 133950  Medieval. Find spot of grass tempered pottery sherd.
51  459100 133800  Approximate location of a post-medieval ice-house. The pit has been walled-up and only the passage remains. There was one inner door.
105  458700 133600  Medieval. (Old) Alresford first documented in AD 701.

10.1 Hampshire Romano-British Settlements survey

Hants No.  NGR  Parish  NAR / NMR Nos

69  458000 133000  Old Alresford  SU53SE12
70  462000 136000  Old Alresford  SU63NW13

10.2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)

SAM No.  NGR  Site

129  458900 133000  Alresford Bridge.
315  462300 136500  Roman villa north of Bighton Wood.
12143  462590 136780  Bowl barrow 600m east of Upper Lanham Farm.

11.0 ADDITIONAL SITES / FEATURES (Map 4)

1  458895 134380  Low linear earthworks at the north end of Old Alresford that might be indicative of lost settlement units, or Modern pipe trench. The OS 10,560 map of 1873 has no buildings occupying this site.
2  459100 134080  Earthworks in the field west of Upton Park Farm.
3  458830 133605  Sumner ([undated]: 338) tells of an impromptu excavation, in 1769, of a mound that was situated in the south-east corner of the churchyard. Apparently, the mound concealed the foundations of a wall and a pavement within it (a mosaic? – IH / 2002).
12.0 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES
- Tithe Map 21M65/F7/178/2 (1839 / 1840)
- GSGB 300 Alresford
- OS 1: 2500 SW 458475 133470, NE 459115 134425
- OS 1: 25000 Explorer 132: Winchester, New Alresford & East Meon
- OS 1: 10,560 459022 134156 (1873)

13.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY
- Coates R 1989 *The Place-names of Hampshire* Southampton, Ensign
- HTS 1: 217-224
- VCH 3: 304-6

14.0 PRIMARY HISTORIC SOURCES
14.1 Domesday Book
(2,1) Walkelin, Bishop of Winchester holds Alresford in lordship. It is and always was in the Bishopric. Before 1066 it answered for 51 hides; now for 42 hides. Land for 40 ploughs. In lordship 10 ploughs; 48 villagers and 36 smallholders with 13 ploughs. 31 slaves; 9 mills at £9 30d. Meadow, 8 acres; woodland at 10 pigs pasturage; from grazing, 50d; 3 churches at £4. They paid £6 a year, but they could not bear it.

Robert holds 3½ hides of the land of this manor; Walter 2 hides; Durand 4 hides in Soberton and 6 hides in Beauworth; an Englishman 1½ hides. They have in lordship 6 ploughs; 17 villagers, 6 smallholders and 19 slaves with 6 ploughs. A mill at 20s; meadow, 6 acres. Wulfric Chipp, Robert’s predecessor, could not go wither he would, nor could Osbern, Walter’s predecessor; nor Edward and Alric, Durand’s predecessors.

Value of the whole manor before 1066 £40; later £20; now , the Bishop’s lordship £40, Robert’s £4, Walter’s 40s, Durand’s £11.

14.2 Subsidy Rolls
1334 £1.9.8
1524 1st survey: £3.4.0 (26 taxpayers)
2nd survey: £2.15.4 (20 taxpayers)
14.3 Manors  
(Old) Alresford only.

14.4 Hearth Tax 1665  
76 hearths chargeable (24 houses)  
13 hearths not chargeable (12 houses). Total: 36 houses.

15.0 PLACE NAME  
701 (C12) (to) alresforda; 947 x 995 (C14) (to) alresforda; 1167 Alresford. OE  
‘alder ford’, with the possible but not certain implication ‘at the alder tree’ because of  
the genitive singular form of the first element. The tradition showing no -s is later  
and only sporadic. Most forms from 701all through the medieval period are of the  
type Alresford. The modern pronunciation may be first hinted at in 1408 (Allesford).  
New Alresford, founded by Bishop Godfrey de Lucy in 1200, is first distinguished in  
the mid C13 (Nova Villa de Alresford), later 1332 Chepyng Alresford, i.e ‘Alresford  
Market’ (town). Alresford does not take its name from the river Alre, but vice versa  
(Coates 1989, 21-2).

16.0 PHOTOGRAPHS  
• Church of St Mary from the south-west with glazed bricks visible on south wall of the  
tower.

17.0 OTHER PROJECT ELEMENTS  
17.1 Pre-Conquest Charters  
• AD 701 Ine, king, to the church of SS Peter and Paul, Winchester; restitution of land at  
• Undated Egbert, king, to the church of Winchester; restitution of land at Alresford,  
• AD 909 King Edward to Frithestan, bishop of Winchester; confirmation of land at  
• AD 956 King Eadwig to Ælfric, his faithful familiar; grant of land at Alresford,  
• AD 963 X 975 King Edgar to the church of Winchester; restoration of land at  
• AD 963 X 975 King Edgar to the bishopric of Winchester; confirmation of land at  
Chilcombe, Hampshire, and restoration of land at Downton, Wiltshire; Taunton,  
Somerset; Alresford, Clere, Tichbourne, Worthy, Hampshire; Fonthill, Wiltshire;  
• AD 879 X 909 Denewulf, bishop, and the community of Winchester, to Alfred; lease,  
for life, of the land at Alresford, Hampshire, with reversion to St Peters. *English* (372 /  
1287).
17.2 Other parish settlements include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>MSP No.</th>
<th>NGR / map ref.</th>
<th>First recorded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Armsworth House</td>
<td>1862</td>
<td>460800/137400</td>
<td>1245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coombe Farm</td>
<td>1863</td>
<td>438500/135200</td>
<td>1245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fobdown Farm</td>
<td>1864</td>
<td>457220/133980</td>
<td>1257</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

17.3 Enclosures

Parliamentary:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEP No.</th>
<th>Act</th>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14004</td>
<td>9 Geo. II</td>
<td>cap. 19, 1736</td>
<td>1737</td>
<td>634.96 acres (actual); 500 acres (Act). Includes land in Medstead, Stankham and Soldridge Commons.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14005 43 Geo. III cap. 67, 1803 1805 104.43 cares (actual); 70 acres (Act). Nythen Common.

Formal Agreements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEP No.</th>
<th>Agreement</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No formal enclosure known.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

17.4 Commons & Greens (residual)

None recorded in 1874, but Old Alresford green remains (2.6 acres).

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%.
Old Alresford

Map 3: OS 1:10560
Old Alresford
Map 4: development & archaeological features