

# Otterbourne

including Boyatt

<b>1.0</b>	<b>PARISH</b>	Otterbourne (Map 1)
<b>2.0</b>	<b>HUNDRED</b>	Buddlesgate
<b>3.0</b>	<b>NGR</b>	445650 122820
<b>4.0</b>	<b>GEOLOGY</b>	Upper Chalk

## 5.0 SITE CONTEXT (Map 2)

Otterbourne is a wedge-shaped parish c. 6km south of Winchester. The eastern bound has been determined by the complex water-course of the river Itchen, and to the north its adjacent neighbour is Compton and Shawford CP. Hursley is to the west. Since the mid-C19 the parish has been much divided. Land has been lost to the expanding urban mass of Chandlers Ford (south-west) and internally, the Southern Railway line has separated the water meadows along the river from the parish hinterland. The M3 passes through the parish at its north-west corner. The settlement of Otterbourne (30m AOD) is at the centre of the rump of the parish. The principal concentrations of buildings is set out along both sides of the B3335 (known here as Main Road) at the point where it departs from the original course of the Roman road that approaches downhill from Winchester. At the south-west end of Otterbourne settlement, the road begins a steep climb to the summit of Otterbourne Hill (72m AOD).

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

### Church & manor + regular row + common edge

**6.1.1 Regular row** The Main Road settlement of Otterbourne (paragraph 5.0) has the appearance of a double regular row. VCH (3: 440) describes a mix of buildings, some thatch and timber-framed, others red brick and Modern (c. 1900). The present building stock displays almost nothing of antiquity. For the most part, C18 and C19 structures mix with C20 housing stock. Main Road is a section of the Basingstoke to Southampton Turnpike constructed in the 1750s but it does not share the course of the Roman road. Instead it diverges from it by 100m in the north, and by as much as 200m at the south end of the settlement. Obvious features of the turnpike scheme are the White Horse Inn, and the roadside mile stone outside Meadow Cottage. Taking all of the factors into account, it seems probable that Main Road Otterbourne is a C18 Turnpike settlement.

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**6.1.2 Common edge** VCH (3: 440) identifies a discrete area of settlement on the clay and gravel at the top of Otterbourne Hill. This is described as a *village green, round which roughly grouped in a half circle the cottages of this part of the village used to stand. Now, however, the cottages here are mainly modern, and the name Maypolefield, applied to some allotments here, suggests that this was once the scene of the yearly maypole dance.* In reality the settlement thus described is likely to be of post-medieval origin. It stands on the south-east margin of the C18 turnpike where the road cuts through Otterbourne Common, thus representing an incursion of settlement upon the common lands of the wider community. The clays and gravels of this part of the parish suggest that this settlement was founded upon the *common wastes* of Otterbourne and it is evident from the OS 1: 10,560 survey of 1872 that there were clay and / or gravel pits nearby on the north-west side of the turnpike. This then was a semi-industrial community, made viable by the close proximity of the mid-C18 road, and supported by horticultural activity in the form of associated allotments. The presence of a Methodist chapel is a further indicator that here was a settlement of the working poor (OS 1872). This hypothesis would match the observations made in VCH whereby new cottages had replaced older ones. No doubt the settlement began as a shanty town, perhaps one that was used seasonally. Later, permanent use of the site encouraged the development of permanent and better quality houses. The Maypolefield mentioned by VCH might represent the vestiges of a genuine tradition of a ritual activity that took place at the highest point on the commons.

**6.2.1 Church & manor house** The medieval administrative centre of Otterbourne is situated in Kiln Lane 800m east-south-east of the C19 parish church in Main Road. The site of the former parish church (C12 or earlier) is on the north side of the lane whilst the moated manor house site is in the field to the south. They are approximately 200m apart. The two sites are linked by a north / south flowing tributary of the river Itchen that is crossed by a bridge on Kiln Lane. It is probable that the bridge was preceded by a ford and this might have been a significant factor in the choice of location of the church and manor house. More importantly, there is a crossing point on the Itchen itself just 250m to the east. The group includes the derelict buildings of Otterbourne Farm that are just to the north of the churchyard.

**6.2.2** Excavations by Hinton (1990) failed to reveal evidence of the church listed in Domesday (see paragraph 8.2) but this building could have been a chapel attached to the manor house.

**6.2.3** Beresford and Hurst (1971: 188) suggest that Otterbourne is a deserted medieval settlement and this is irrefutable if one takes into account the church, manor house and farm only. However, there is no visual evidence to support the notion that the church and manor house were spatially central to a nucleated settlement.

**6.3 Site visit conditions:** strong sun (25.4.2002)

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

### 7.1 *AsAP*

None.

### 7.2 *AsHAP*

**7.2.1** The moated manor house site has been designated a SAM (see paragraph 10.2). However, the SAM boundary is tight against the outer edge of the moat and this has to be an unrealistically low indicator of the extent of its archaeological potential. The site of the medieval church must be included since earlier excavations were limited (Hinton, 1990). In addition, the space between church and moated site includes ponds and artificial watercourses that are integral components of this church and manor house site.

## 8.0 CHURCH & CHURCHYARD

### 8.1 **St Matthew, 1837-9** (*architect*: WC Yonge) & later modifications

- A chapelry of Hursley until 1876;
- Brick built.

### 8.2 **The Old Church of St Matthew**

- The site is situated *c.* 0.9km east-south-east of St Matthews, on the north side of Kiln Lane;
- The site of the church and churchyard is on a low promontory. The mainline railway from Southampton to Winchester is on the east side (*c.* 100m), and the western boundary is a stream that passes under Kiln Lane to supply the moat of the manor house *c.* 200m south. Lower ground to the south-south-east is relatively wet.
- The nave of this church was demolished soon after 1839 but the chancel was retained as a chapel whilst the graveyard was still in use;
- At the time of the VCH survey (*c.* 1900) and the subsequent description by Pevsner and Lloyd (*c.* 1965) the chancel was standing and this included C13 lancets.
- The chancel was demolished in 1971 (Schadla-Hall: 144) but there is a photograph in VCH 3 after page 442.
- Southampton University carried out an evaluation of the site between 1982 and 1984. The evidence indicated that the church was of C12 origin and there was no indication of an earlier building on the site although a church at Otterbourne is mentioned in Domesday Book (paragraph 14.1). However, no attempt was made to excavate beneath the surface foundations and features.
- The foundations of the church are visible.

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

PRN	Details	Dates	Grade
1173	Church of St Matthew, Main Road	1836-38	II*
1336	The Chapel House, Highbridge	mid C18, 20	II
2001	The Old Parsonage, Main Road	mid C19	II
431	Cherry Tree Cottage	c. 1900	II
432	The Manor House, Kiln Lane	1699, C20	II
433	Myrtle Cottage	early C18, 19	II
434	Minstrels: summer house at	c.1870	unlisted
9345	Highbridge Farmhouse	mid C18, 19	II
9347	Manor House, Kiln Lane: wall 5m north-west of	early C18	II
9348	Otterbourne Manor House: barn 50m north-west of	C18, 19	II
9349	Bourne House	late C18	II
9350	Sunningdale	mid C18, 20	II
9351	Meadow Cottage	mid C18	II
9352	Meadow Cottage: milestone in front of	early C19	II
9353	Otterbourne House	mid C18, 19, 20	II
9354	Yeomans Drove	late C18, 19, 20	II
9355	The White Horse public house	C18, 19, 20	II
9356	Elderfield	early C18, 19, 20	II
9357	Church of St Matthew: tomb to C Yonge 5m south-west of nave	1901	II
9358	Church of St Matthew: lychgate 15m south-west of	1893	II

## 10.0 SMR DATA SW 445550 122725, NE 446040 123125 (Maps 4 / 1 and 4 / 2)

SU42SE	No.		
	1	446440 122400	Roman road from Winchester to Bitterne.
	2	446440 122400	Medieval. Otterbourne Manor enclosed by a moat of c. 115m x 60m.. The moat is c. 12m wide and 2m deep. There are a number of buildings on the island including a C17 farmhouse. The manor court was held here until the early C19
	6	458000 122400	Roman road from Winchester to Bitterne.
	21	446900 122000	Prehistoric (Neolithic) chipped axe found in 1905-6. No further information.

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24	445690 122090	Roman pottery discovered at Wood Vale next to supposed metalling of Roman road. Winchester City Museum.
38	445900 122100	Medieval park and enclosure marked on the Tithe Map but no longer visible.
**	39A 446530 122660	Medieval. Site of former parish church of St Matthew (see paragraph 8.2).
41	446500 122500	Medieval. Otterbourne is listed by Beresford as a deserted medieval village but there is no evidence to support this notion (IH/2002).
52	445900 122200	Roman. Find spot of a bronze coin of Commodus (AD 176-92). Retained by finder.
**	89 445600 122800	Medieval. Fishery mentioned in Domesday Book. Otterbourne first mentioned in AD 958. This is more likely to have been situated on the river Itchen, or on its tributary just to the west of the medieval church site (446500 122700) (IH/2002).
108	446000 123000	Post-medieval / Modern. Late C19 – C20. Gardens formerly associated with Otterbourne House but now incorporated into the grounds of two bungalows built in the 1940s.

### 10.1 Hampshire Romano-British Settlements survey

<i>Hants No.</i>	<i>NGR</i>	<i>Parish</i>	<i>NAR / NMR Nos</i>
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None identified but the Roman road from north Hampshire to Southampton (*Claudentum*) passes through the parish and this is an indicator of the potential for Roman settlement remains in Otterbourne.

### 10.2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)

<i>SAM No.</i>	<i>NGR</i>	<i>Site</i>
12055	446430 122400	Moated site at Otterbourne Manor.

## 11.0 ADDITIONAL SITES / FEATURES (Map 4)

1 See paragraph 7.2.1

## 12.0 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

- Tithe Map 21M65/F7/180/2 (1839 / 1840)
- GSGB 299 Winchester
- OS 1: 2500 SW 445550 122725, NE 446040 123125
- OS 1: 25000 Explorer 132: Winchester, New Alresford & East Meon
- OS 1: 10560 445587 122881 (1872)

## 13.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Beresford M & Hurst JG 1971 *Deserted Medieval Villages* Guildford & London, Lutterworth
- Coates R 1989 *The Place-names of Hampshire* Southampton, Ensign
- HTS 1: 229-233
- Hinton DA 1990 Excavations at Otterbourne Old Church, Hampshire *Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society* **46**: 73-89
- Shadla-Hall RT 1977 *The Winchester District: the archaeological potential* Winchester City District Council
- VCH 3: 440-4
- Viner DJ 1970 The industrial archaeology of Hampshire roads: a survey *Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society* **26**: 155-172

## 14.0 PRIMARY HISTORIC SOURCES

### 14.1 Domesday Book

29, 1 Ralph of Mortimer holds *Otterbourne*. Chipping held it from the Bishopric of Winchester; he could not withdraw from the Church. Then and now it answered for 4 hides. Land for 5 ploughs. In lordship 1 plough; 10 villagers and 8 smallholders with 2 ploughs. A church; 6 slaves; meadow, 50 acres; a fishery at 2s; from pasturage 10s. Value before 1066 £8; later and now 100s.

### 14.2 Subsidy Rolls

1334		£0.16.4	
1524	<i>1st survey:</i>	£1.17.8	(14 taxpayers)
	<i>2nd survey:</i>	£2.0.6	(17 taxpayers)

### 14.3 Manors

Otterbourne (a parcel of Chilcomb); Allbrook Farm (?).

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## 14.4 Hearth Tax 1665

Otterbourne: 47 hearths chargeable (18 houses)  
 23 hearths not chargeable (20 houses\*). Total: 38.  
 \*including one demolished

Boyatt: 33 hearths chargeable (14 houses)  
 4 hearths not chargeable (4 houses). Total: 18 houses.

## 15.0 PLACE NAME

963 x 975 (C12) (*to*) *oterburna(n)*. OE ‘otter stream’, a small tributary of the Itchen (Coates 1989, 127).

## 16.0 PHOTOGRAPHS

- Milestone outside Heather Cottage, Main Road;
- Churchyard of the medieval church looking west.

## 17.0 OTHER PROJECT ELEMENTS

### 17.1 Pre-Conquest Charters

- AD 963 X 975 King Edgar to the church of Winchester; confirmation of land at Twyford, Crawley, Owslebury, Hensting in Colden Common, Hampshire; Hortun; Bishopstoke, Otterbourne, Chilland in Martyr Worthy, Easton and Hunton, Hampshire. *Latin* (260 / 827).

### 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

*Parliamentary:*

<i>NEP No.</i>	<i>Act</i>	<i>Order</i>	<i>Award</i>	<i>Details</i>
14098	1836		1837	59.34 acres (actual); 59 acres (award). Otterbourne Mead.

*Formal Agreements:*

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

### 17.4 Commons & Greens (residual)

Otterbourne Hill (25 acres) remains; 7.5 acres regulated in 1903.

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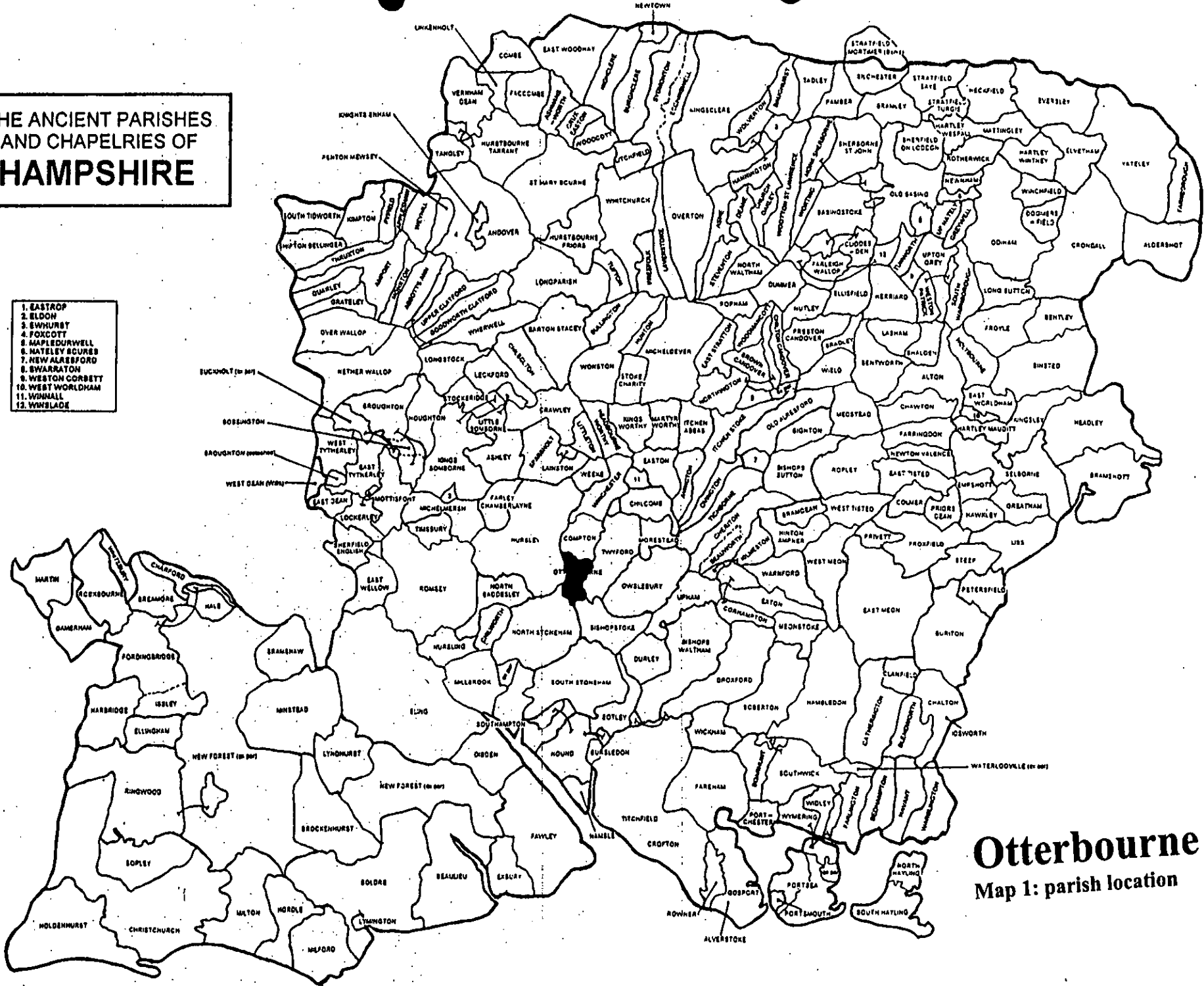
## **18.0 ILLUSTRATIONS**

- 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**

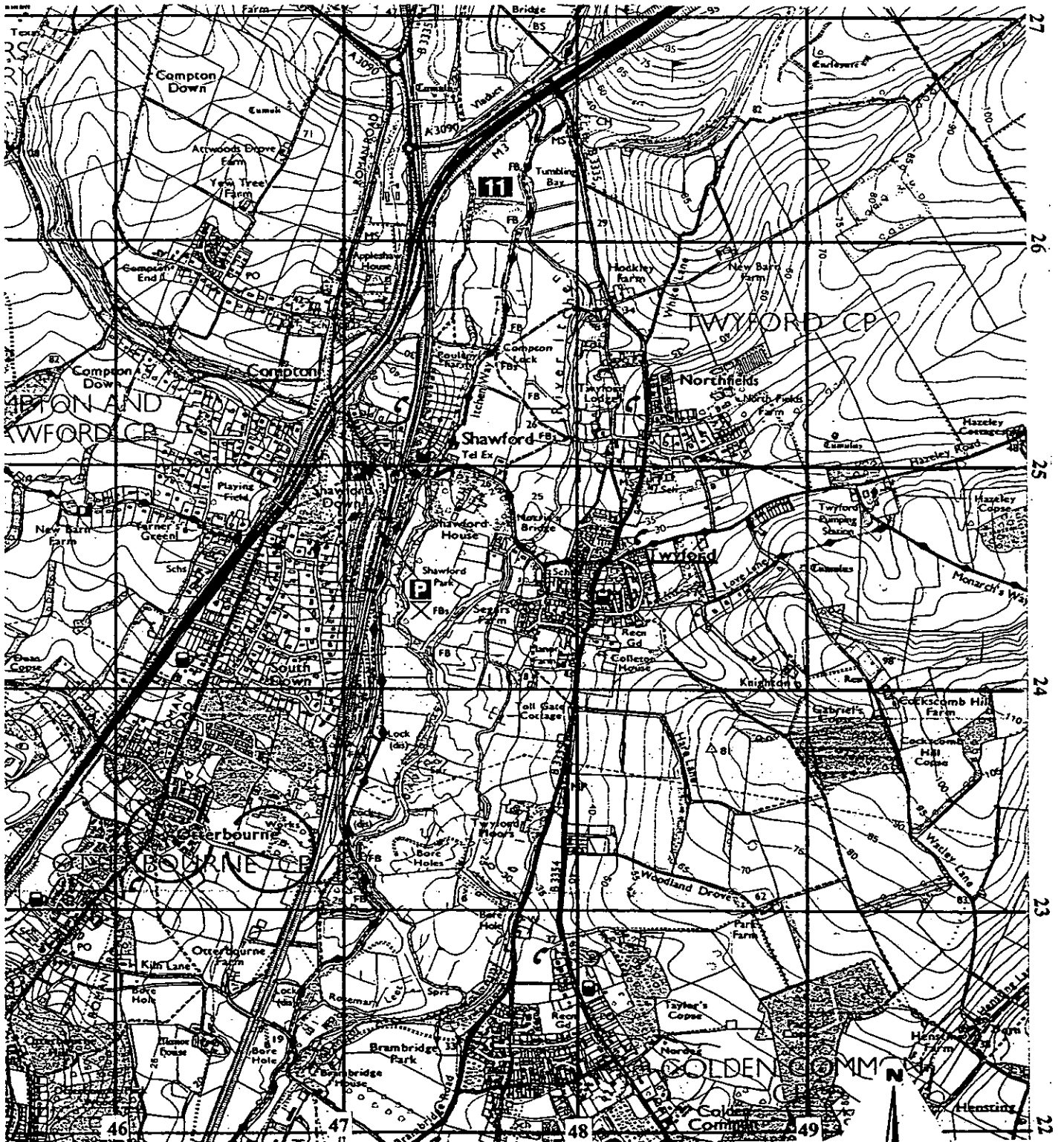
- 1. EASTROP
- 2. ELDON
- 3. EWHURBY
- 4. FOXCOTT
- 5. HARPLEDURWELL
- 6. HATELEY SCURFS
- 7. NEW ALRESFORD
- 8. SWARRATON
- 9. WESTON CORBETT
- 10. WEST WORTHAM
- 11. WINNALL
- 12. WINDLADE



**Otterbourne**  
Map 1: parish location

# Otterbourne

## Map 2: general location



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445700 445800 445900 446000 446100 446200 446300 446400 446500

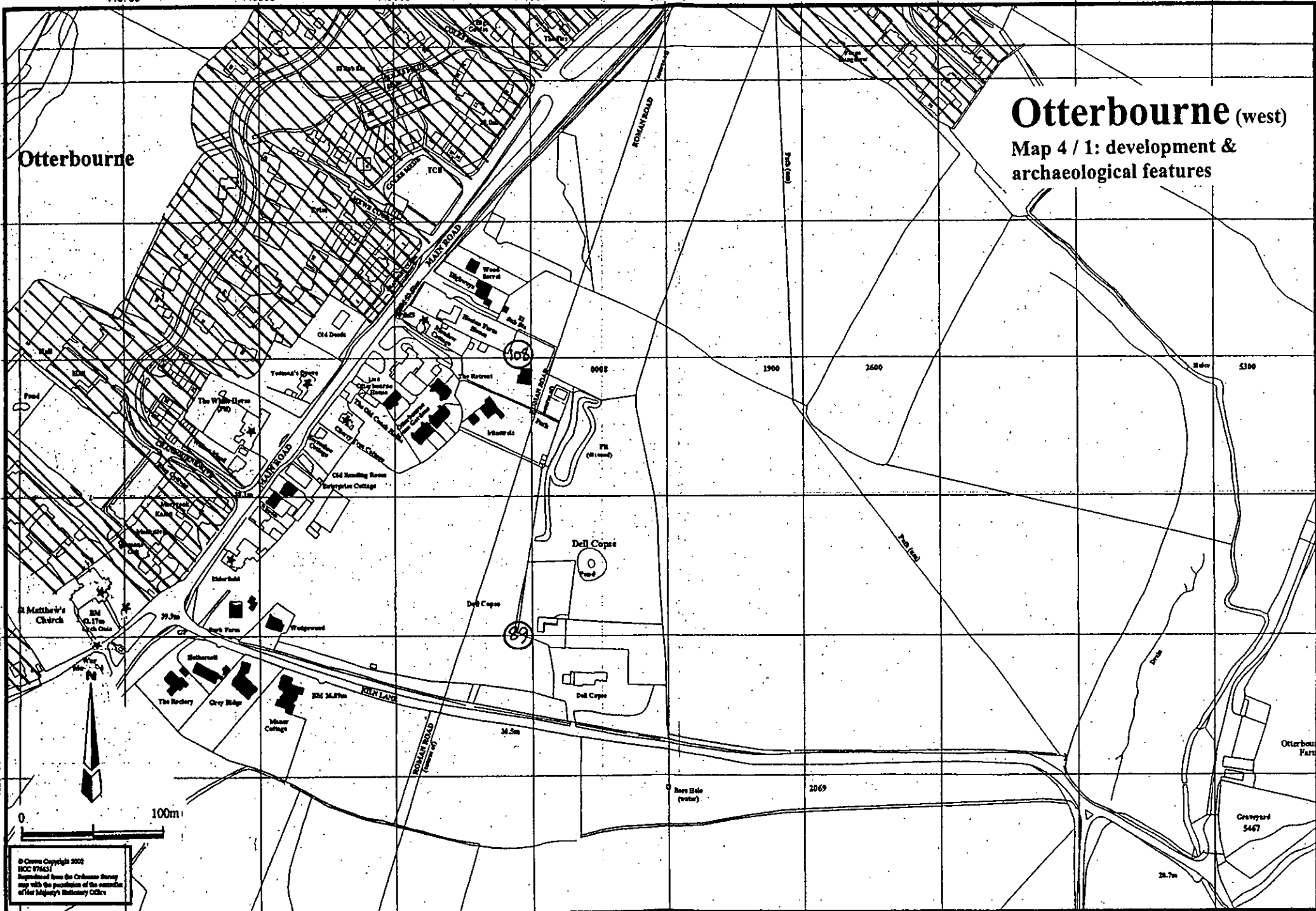
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Otterbourne

# Otterbourne (west)

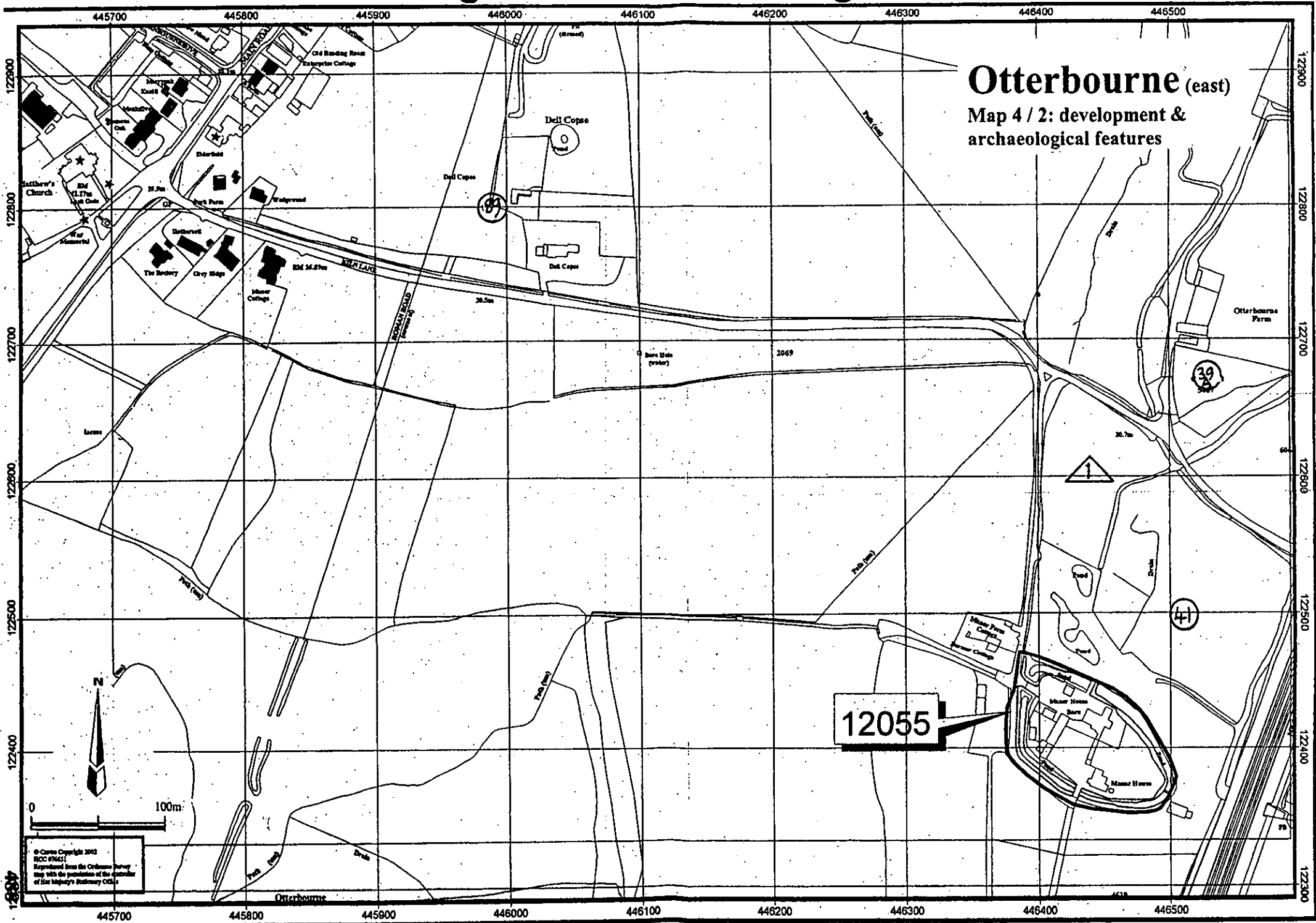
Map 4 / 1: development & archaeological features



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445700 445800 445900 446000 446100 446200 446300 446400 446500

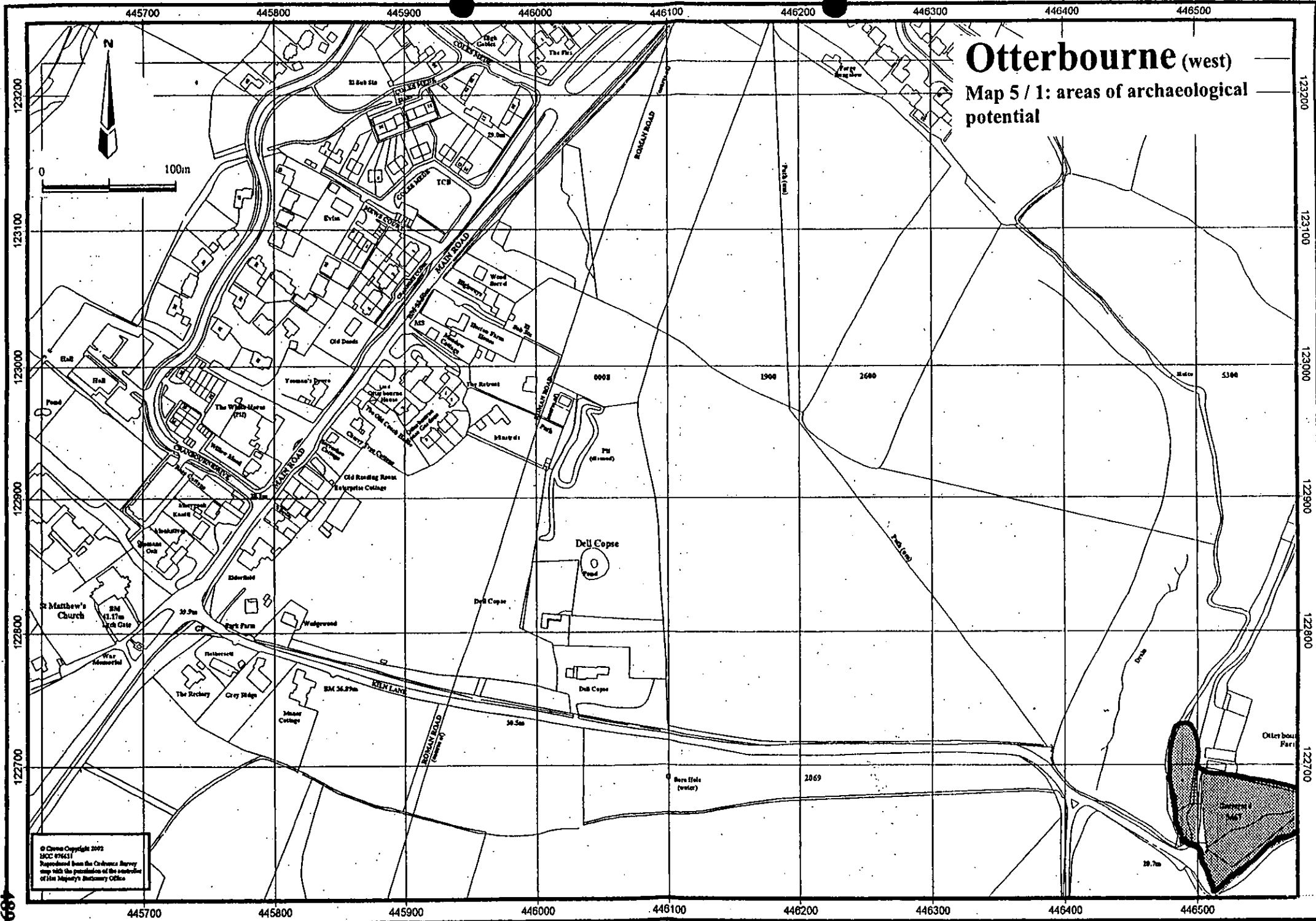


# Otterbourne (east)

## Map 4 / 2: development & archaeological features

**12055**

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# Otterbourne (west)

## Map 5 / 1: areas of archaeological potential

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