

- 1.0 PARISH** Soberton (Map 1)
2.0 HUNDRED Meonstoke
3.0 NGR 460950 116795
4.0 GEOLOGY Upper Chalk; Alluvium

5.0 SITE CONTEXT (Map 2)

Soberton is a Meon Valley parish in which the river forms the western bound. It is a parish of mixed resources about 8km in length north to south and *c.* 4km east to west. The settlement of Soberton is in the north-west, above the Meon (*c.* 60m AOD). North and east of this point the parish is principally downland. To the south, Soberton Heath indicates different soils and therefore a different rural economy to that of the chalk downs. This dichotomy is epitomized by the contrast between the large open spaces of the north and the small enclosures at the south end of the parish where there is also area of woodland, a surviving block of the Forest of Bere. The railway reached Soberton in 1903 where there was a station*. Now disused, the course of the line is an important leisure route that links a number of the Meon Valley settlements.

*Known as Droxford Station.

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

Church & manor house + regular row(s)

- 6.1 *Church & manor house*** School Hill runs north / south through the settlement of Soberton and the church and manor house are at the north, uphill end. However, the C11 Church of Ss Peter and Paul is set back from the road on the west side whilst Soberton House (C18) and the attendant Manor Farm (C16) are on the eastern fringe of School Hill.
- 6.2 *Regular row(s)*** South of Manor Farm all of the buildings are within long, slender plots at right angles to School Hill. Some of the houses are C19 and C20, probably replacements for earlier structures. However, a number of C16 / C17 buildings survive on both sides of the road suggesting that the regularity of this layout is of medieval origin (see paragraph 9.0).
- 6.3 *Site visit conditions:*** overcast (20.3.2002).

7.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL (Map 5)

7.1 *AsAP*

7.1.1 An area that takes into account the combined elements of the church, manor house and regular row arrangement of Soberton (paragraphs 6.1 and 6.2). Effectively this AAP includes much of the settlement.

7.2 *AsHAP*

7.2.1 St Peter's Church (C11 in origin) and its churchyard. Moor Hill, the house immediately to the north of the church is C18 but it is mentioned in C16 church records, suggesting that there was a medieval building on this site (HTS 1: 256). For this reason Moor-Hill and its grounds are included in this AHAP.

8.0 CHURCH & CHURCHYARD

8.1 St Peter & St Paul

- The church has commanding views westwards to the Meon valley, and also to the south;
- Pevsner & Lloyd regard the church as a puzzle (1967: 506) and there is no doubt that its architectural development is extremely complex;
- Piers that support the arcading of the north and south aisles include traces of the outer walls of a C11 church;
- Arcading of north aisle contains one C12 pier;
- North arcade *c.* 1180-90;
- South arcade and south transept constructed in C13 (but with brick repairs to the latter);
- Chancel arch C13;
- North chapel *c.* 1300 with modifications in *c.* 1330;
- C16 west tower
- On the jambs of the two east lancet windows of the south transept are the remains of some wall paintings depicting St Anne, St Catherine, St Margaret and an unidentified fourth female figure. Generally regarded as *c.* 1300;
- C15 tomb let into south wall.
- A Roman coffin leans against the outer wall of the south transept. It originated from Bridgen Coffin Field off Station Road (461700 117300) and was one of two found in 1880-81 (VCH 3: 266; HTS 1: 253).

8.2 Church of the Holy Trinity, Newtown, 1847

9.0 BUILDINGS (Map 4)

PRN	Details	Dates	Grade
10847	Bere Farmhouse	C17, 18, 19	II
10848	Bere Farmhouse: barn 30m north-east of	C18, 20	II
10849	Broom Farmhouse	C18, 20	II
10850	East Hoe House	C18, 19, 20	II

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including East Hoe

	10851	East Hoe House: dovecot 20m north of	C16	II
	10852	East Hoe House: barn at	C18	II
	10853	Church of St Peter	C12, 13, 15, 16	I
	10854	Ingoldfield Farmhouse	C16, 17, 18, 20	II
	10855	Ingoldfield Farmhouse: barn 30m south-west of	C17, 20	II
	10856	Pilgrim Cottage	C17, 20	II
	10857	Pilgrim Cottage: granary 20m north of	early C19	II
	10858	1 Rookesbury Lodges	C19	II
	10859	2 Rookesbury Lodges	C19	II
	10860	Soberton Mill House	early C18, 20	II
	10861	Soberton Mill House: mill 10m south-west of	C18, 19	II
	10862	Southend Farmhouse	C16, 18, 19, 20	II
	10863	Wood End House	C17, 18, 19	II
	10864	Church of the Holy Trinity, Newtown	1847	II
	10865	Soberton Cottage, School Hill	C17, 20	II
	10866	Soberton Cottage: gate piers at	post-medieval	II
	10867	Soberton House, School Hill:	C18, 19	II
	10868	Manor Farmhouse, School Hill	C16, 17, 18, 20	II
	10869	White Lion Inn, School Hill	C18, 19, 20	II
	10870	South View Cottage, School Hill	C17, 19	II
	10871	1 School Hill	C17, 19	II
	10872	Manor Farm Cottage, School Hill	early C17, c. 1800, 1900	II
	10873	Porch House, School Hill	C16, 18, c. 1900	II
	10874	Little Bere Farmhouse, Selworth Lane	C17, 20	II
	10875	Fir Trees, West Street	C17, 20	II
	10876	Yew Tree Cottage, West Street	C17, 18, 20	II
	10877	Maypoles, West Street	C17, 20	II
	10878	Maypoles, Cole Hill	c. 1450, 1600, C18, C20	II
	14231	Maypoles: barn to rear of	not given	not listed
	14442	Meon Place Cottage, High Street	not given	not listed
	14461	Hoegate Farm, Hoe Street: granary at	early C19	not listed
listed	14917	Bold Forester public house, Forester Road	1709, 19, 20	II
	42045	Bere Farmhouse, Heath Road: cow shed 50m east-north-east of	late C19	not listed
listed	42046	Bere Farmhouse: cow shed 30m north-east of	late C19	not listed

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42047	Bere Farmhouse: cow shed east-north-east of	late C19	not listed
42071	Hoegate Farmhouse, Hoe Street	late C19	not listed
42073	Hoegate Farmhouse: barn 15m north-west of	late C19	not listed
42074	Russels Farmhouse, Armsworth Lane	C16, c. 1800	not listed
42075	Russels Farmhouse: barn 20m north-north-east of	late C19	not listed
42077	Russels Farmhouse: cart shed 30m north-east of	late C19	not listed
42086	Hoegate Farm, Hoe Street: creep hole at Manor Farm Cottage, School Hill Moor-Hill, Cutts Arch	late C19 C17 C18 with earlier origins	not listed not listed not listed

10.0 SMR DATA SW 460710 116485, NE 461385 116935 (Map 4)

SU61NW	No.		
**m	28	461060 116810	Medieval. Manor Farmhouse. C16 timber-framed building with later alterations and additions.
	29	461090 116690	Medieval. Porch House. C16 timber-framed building. Formerly two cottages.
**m	53	460960 116790	Medieval parish church of St Peter (see paragraph 8.0).
	71	461000 116800	Medieval. Soberton was first recorded in the Domesday Book, late 1080s.

10.1 Hampshire Romano-British Settlements survey

Hants No.	NGR	Parish	NAR / NMR Nos
91	462480 115620	Soberton (Bottom Copse)	SU61NW20

10.2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)

SAM No.	NGR	Site
459	462400 115600	Roman villa in Bottom Copse.

11.0 ADDITIONAL SITES / FEATURES (Map 4)

- | | | |
|---|---------------|---|
| 1 | 460900 I16800 | There is a local tradition that there are traces of ridge and furrow ploughing in the field west of the church. This was not visible on the day of the site visit but light conditions were not favourable. |
| 2 | 461020 I16800 | Since 1872 number of buildings have been lost in the field east of the church and on the north side of Cutts Arch. |
| 3 | 461135 I16640 | Site of building demolished since 1872 |
| 4 | 461205 I16600 | Site of building demolished since 1872 |

12.0 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

- Tithe Map 21M65/F7/210/2 (1842 / 1842)
- GSGB 316 Fareham
- OS 1: 2500 SW 460710 I16485, NE 461385 I16935
- OS 1: 25000 Explorer 119: Meon Valley, Portsmouth, Gosport & Fareham
- OS 1: 10,560 460966 I16643 (1872)

13.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Aldsworth F 1979 Droxford Anglo-Saxon Cemetery, Hampshire *Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society* **35**: 93-182
NB The site is in Soberton but near to the former Droxford Station
- Coates R 1989 *The Place-names of Hampshire* Southampton, Ensign
- Collins FB & Hurst JC 1978 *Meonstoke and Soberton: some chapters of its history* Winchester, Winton
- HTS **1**: 251-58
- Pevsner N & Lloyd D 1967 *The Buildings of England: Hampshire and the Isle of Wight* London, Penguin
- VCH **3**: 257-68

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.

(continued)

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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		£3.17.7	
1524	<i>1st survey:</i>	£23.17.2	(59 taxpayers)
	<i>2nd survey:</i>	£10.1.4	(54 taxpayers)

14.3 Manors

Soberton; Flexland (also known as Flexland Cobham and Inglefield); Wallops Russell; Flexland; Longspiers (Longsperys); East Hoe; Bere.

NB Russell's Farm, Bere Farm and Ingoldfield Farm are all in the south of the parish amongst the residual parcels of the Forest of Bere. It is therefore very probable that these manors represent assarts, and therefore explain the complex manorial structure of Soberton.

14.4 Hearth Tax 1665

Soberton:	159 hearths chargeable (49 houses) 32 hearths not chargeable (29 houses). Total: 78 houses.
East Hoe:	44 hearths chargeable (15 houses) 10 hearths not chargeable (6 houses). Total: 21 houses.

15.0 PLACE NAME

1086 *Sudbertune*; C12 *Subertune*; 1280 *Suthberton*. OE **suðberetun* 'south grange farm', *i.e.* south from Meonstoke / Corhampton. It became a grange of Beaulieu Abbey in 1205 (Coates 1989, 151).

16.0 PHOTOGRAPHS

- None taken.

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>
Broom Farm	2190	462200 115220	1497
Ingoldsfield Farm	2195	461180 114410	1207
Mislingford	2196	458890 114100	1280
Russels Farm	2197	462300 114300	C13
Wallopswood Farm	2202	463000 118000	1212

17.3 Enclosures

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>
Enclosed by informal means by 1840.			

17.4 Commons & Greens (residual)

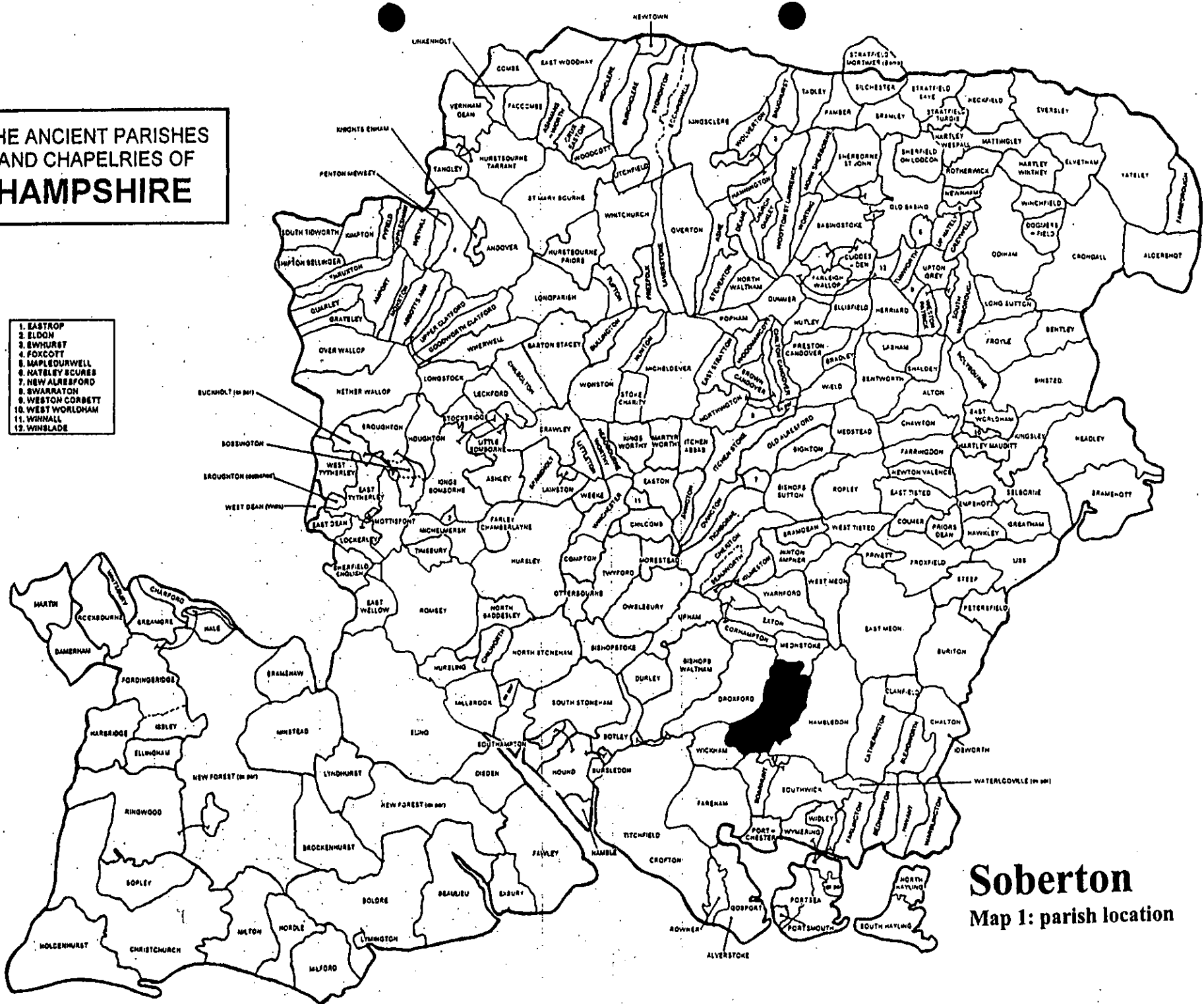
None recorded in 1874.

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 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

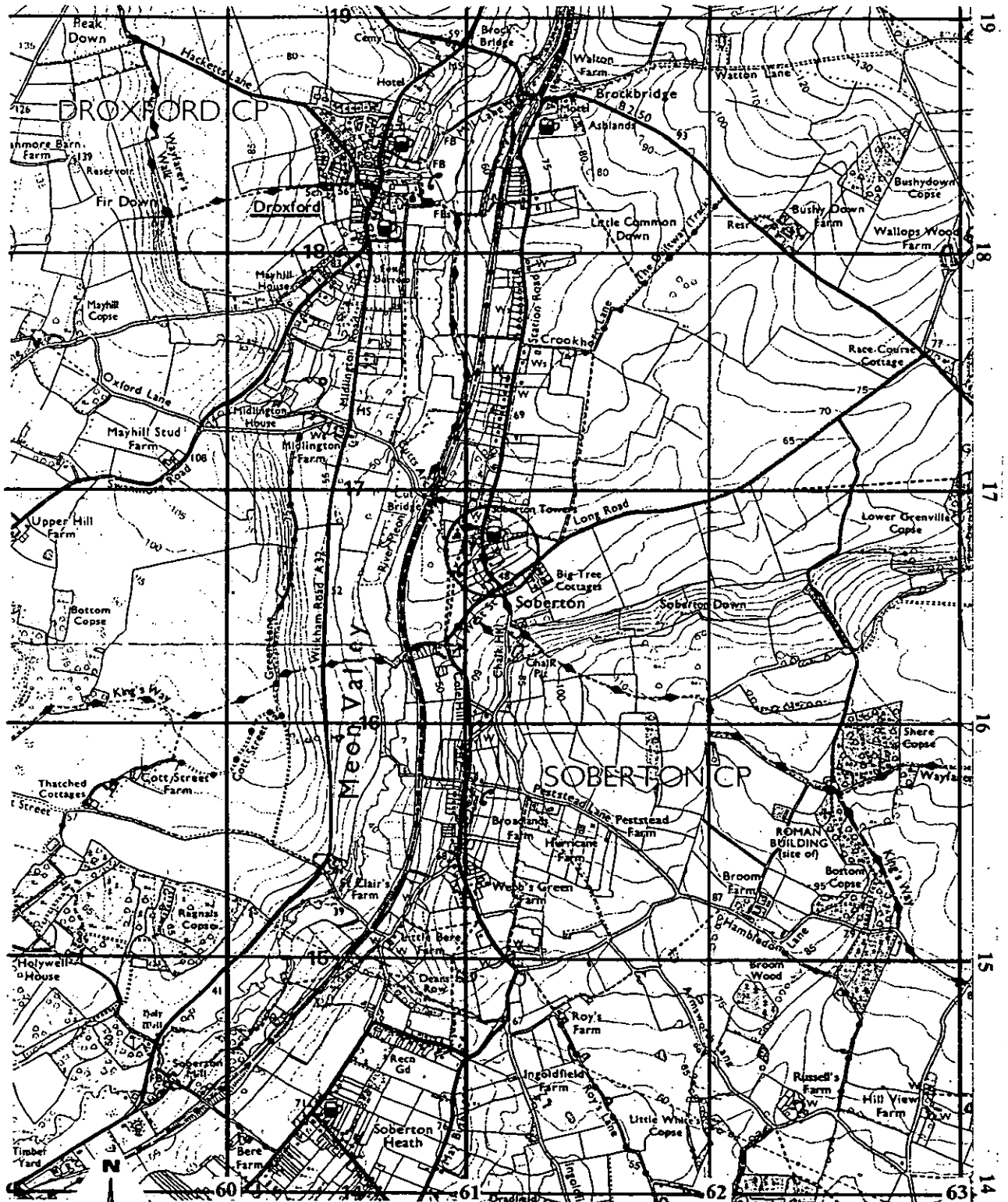
1. EASTROP
2. ELDON
3. EWHURST
4. FOXCOTT
5. MAPLEOURWELL
6. NATELEY SCURES
7. NEW ALRESFORD
8. SWARRATON
9. WESTON CORBETT
10. WEST WORLDHAM
11. WINHALL
12. WINSLADE



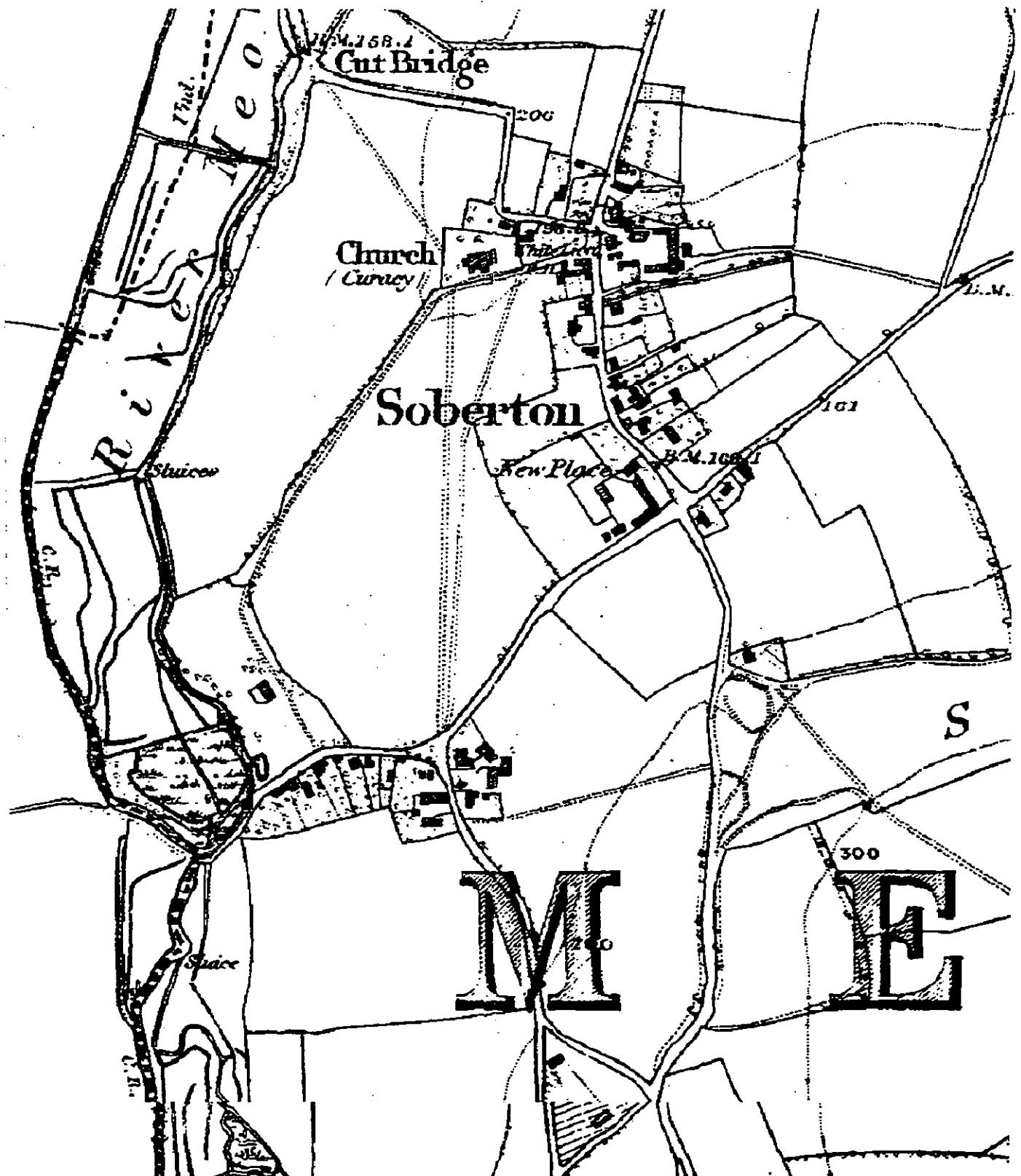
Soberton
Map 1: parish location

Soberton

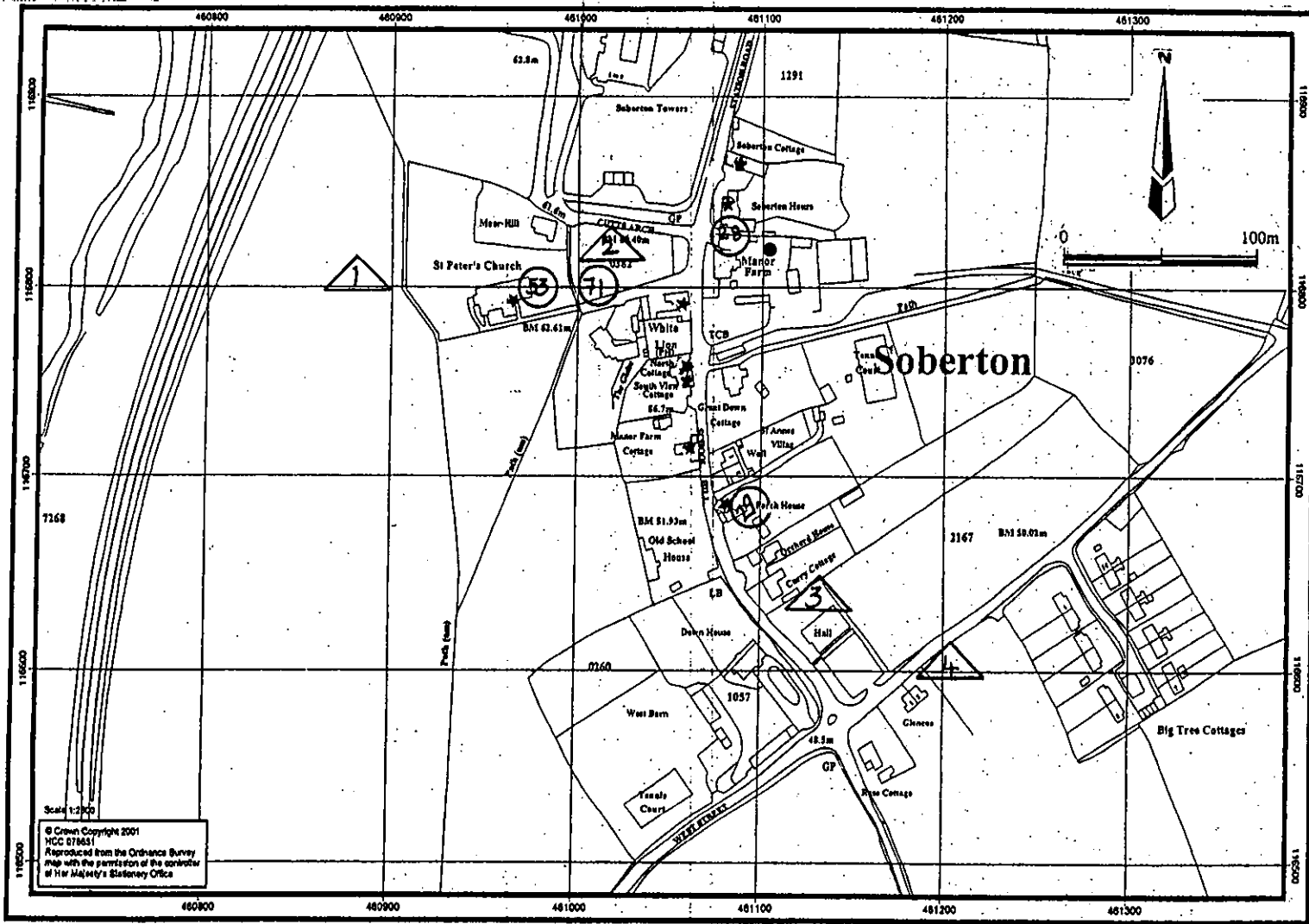
Map 2: general location



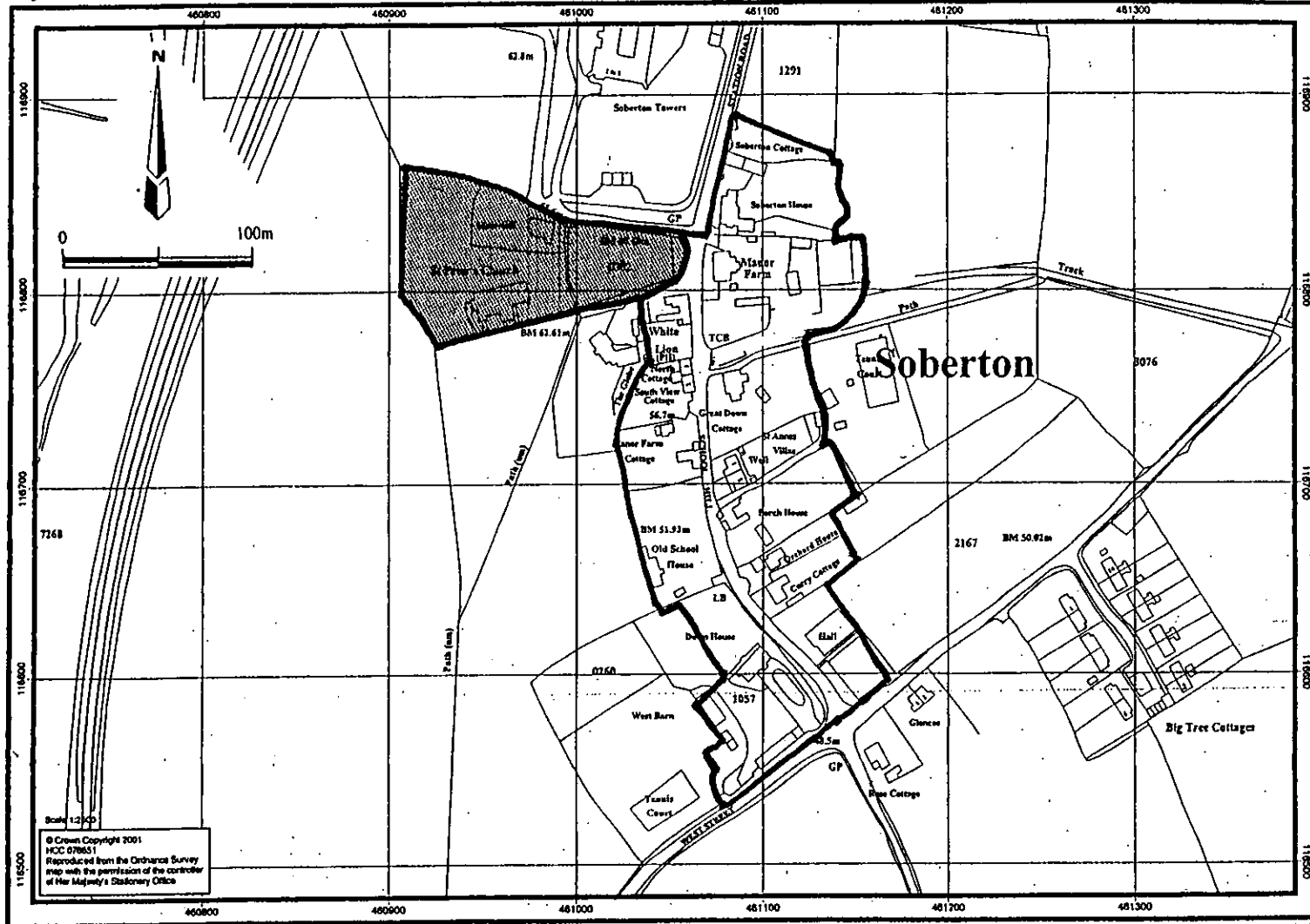
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Soberton
Map 3: OS 1: 10560



Soberton
 Map 4: development &
 archaeological features



Soberton
Map 5: areas of archaeological
potential