

Stoke Charity

(formerly Old Stoke)

1.0 PARISH	Stoke Charity, now part of Wonston (Map 1)
2.0 HUNDRED	Buddlesgate
3.0 NGR	448700 139280
4.0 GEOLOGY	Upper Chalk; Alluvium; River Valley Gravels

5.0 SITE CONTEXT (Map 2)

The crossroads at the centre of Stoke Charity settlement stands above the south bank of the river Dever at 69m AOD. Wonston is 1.2m to the west and Micheldever 2.6m to the east. A minor road that follows the course of the river connects these settlements. An earlier name for Stoke Charity is *Old Stoke* and this tradition is preserved by Old Stoke Road that approaches from the south. This road continues across the Dever, as a bridge, to Hunton.

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

Church & manor house + regular row(s)

- 6.1 *Church and manor house*** The central point of Stoke Charity is a four-way cross roads. The ground east of centre, known as Pretty Meadow (VCH 3: 447), has earthworks that appertain to the site of the former manor house and associated garden features. The parish church is north and east of these features. There is also a manorial pond on south bank of the river Dever. The Old Rectory, a building of medieval origin (south of the church), and a house now known as Michael's but which was formerly The Old Farm, make this group complete.
- 6.2 *Regular row(s)*** Two partial parallel rows of cottages flank the lane to Wonston from Stoke Charity crossroads for a distance of 200m westwards. Five of these cottages are C17 or earlier whilst Glebe Cottages on the south side of the lane can be identified as C20 replacements for buildings known to be standing in 1875 (OS 1: 10,560 survey). Elsewhere there are empty plots where earthworks can be detected for an indefinite distance to the west (paragraph 11.0, nos 1 and 2). This apparent regularity of layout is amplified by a discrete group of cottages within a rectilinear enclosure on the north side of the road near to the crossroads (Old Keepers Cottage, Alleyn Cottage and the Old Post Office).
- 6.3 *Synthesis*** Working on the available evidence, Stoke Charity is a settlement of two distinct parts: church and manor house group to the east of the central crossroads with attached parallel regular rows to the west. The proliferation of earthworks in both components identifies it as a shrunken medieval settlement.
- 6.4 *Site visit conditions:*** strong sun (18.6.2002)

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7.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL (Map 5)

7.1 AsAP

7.1.1 The manorial pond on the south side of the Dever bridge on the Hunton road is medieval in origin. In this position it would have been associated with the management of fish stocks in the river. In recent years a watercress bed has been developed on the east side of the pond and there can be little doubt this activity will have dislocated the archaeological potential of this feature.

7.1.2 Earthworks described in paragraph 11.0, no. 8.

7.2 AsHAP

7.2.1 The whole of the church and manor house site including the Old Rectory (paragraph 6.1). The property now known as *Michael's* is outside this area because it is separated from the other buildings by a shallow dry valley. Nevertheless, the importance of *Michael's* as a building of antiquity should not be overlooked

7.2.2 The parallel regular rows and earthworks on the west side of Stoke Charity as described in paragraph 6.2.

8.0 CHURCH & CHURCHYARD

St Mary and St Michael

- The dedication to St Michael is normally accorded to churches situated upon high points *e.g.* Cheriton). The church at Stoke Charity is on a downward slope towards the river Dever but it is possible that it stood upon an artificial mound (paragraph 11.0, no. 7). The impression of height is more pronounced if the viewpoint is westward from the house known as *Michael's*, from this perspective the church is at the east end of a promontory.
- The double dedication can be explained by the presence of the Hampton Chapel that is attached to the north side of the church that probably acted as a chantry;
- *c.* 1190 but probably on an earlier site;
- Rebuilt 1225-50;
- South wall lancet windows *c.* 1220;
- C13 chancel has a slight lean to the south, perhaps following an earlier layout; it also has a brick east end that suggests a repair to structural problems;
- C13 fragment of wall painting, possibly St Gregory in the Hampton Chapel; decorative painting is also visible around a fragment of an Anglo-Norman window arch, now on display;
- The nave was lengthened to the west in the early C14;
- C14 south door that has C17 graffiti on the west jamb and a consecration cross on the east archway span;
- C15 north chapel but the west wall of this is C12 or earlier;
- The north aisle is a later medieval rebuilding of a predecessor – the C12 doorway is not in its original position;

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- C15 east window;
- There are 6 incised sundials on the south window of the nave and a further two at the south-west angle of the chancel;
- The church has a shingle spire and bell-chamber;
- A programme of restoration and conservation war carried out between 1991 and 1997

9.0 BUILDINGS (Map 4)

PRN	Details	Dates	Grade
10313	Wells Cottage, Stoke Charity	C16, 17, 18, 20	II
10314	Kirbys Cottage, Stoke Charity	C17, 19, 20	II
10315	Old Keepers Cottage, Stoke Charity	C17, 19, 20	II
10316	Alleyne Cottage, Stoke Charity	C17, 18, 20	II
10317	9 Stoke Charity	mid C18, 19	II
10318	Old Post Office Cottage, Stoke Charity	C17, 18, 19, 20	II
10319	Cottage on the Green, Stoke Charity	early C19	II
10320	Michael's, Stoke Charity (formerly Old Farm)	early C16, 17, 18, 19	II
10321	The (Old) Rectory, Stoke Charity	c. 1495, C17, 19	II
1678	Church of St Mary and St Michael, Stoke Charity	c. 1190, C13, 14, 15, C16, 7	I

10.0 SMR DATA SW 448485 I39085, NE 449125 I39485 (Map 4)

SU43NE	No.		
	11	448530 I39310	Medieval. Wells Cottage. C16 timber-framed building of 2 bays with later modifications and additions.
	12	448870 I39260	Medieval parish church of St Michael (see paragraph 8.0).
	17	448780 I39170	Medieval. The Rectory. C15 timber framed hall of two bays with smaller service bay and later cross wing.
	51A	448780 I39280	Medieval. Site of C16 manor house site thought to be represented by an artificial terrace north-west of the church, or in a disturbed field south of the church.
	51B	448780 I39280	Medieval. Earthworks indicating settlement shrinkage visible near to the church.

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51C	448780 139280	Medieval fish pond site fed by a tributary of the river Test, north-west of the church and west of 51A. It had been converted into watercress beds by 1956.
66	448900 139300	Prehistoric (Late Iron Age). Find spot of gold stater of Commius. Retained by finder.

10.1 Hampshire Romano-British Settlements survey

Hants No.	NGR	Parish	NAR / NMR Nos
	None known.		

10.2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)

SAM No.	NGR	Site
	None.	

11.0 ADDITIONAL SITES / FEATURES (Map 4)

1	448500 139400	At this point and westwards are earthworks that probably represent a continuation of similar features in the field to the east. A roadside building in this field has been demolished since 1875.
2	448585 139340	Representative point of extensive earthworks that probably represent a continuation of similar features in the field to the west. <i>Nos 3, 4, 5 and 6 following represent SMR entries 51A, B, and C that are lumped under one map reference. Here they are dealt with on an individual basis.</i>
3	448800 139390	Medieval fish-pond associated with the manor house of Stoke Charity (SMR 51C).
4	448780 139300	Earthen platform thought to be the site of Old Stoke manor-house. The platform extends (approximately) from the given reference point westwards to the cross roads at the centre of the settlement. In order to compensate for the natural slope of the ground towards the river Dever, the platform is c. 1.5m high on the north side (SMR 51A)
5	448810 139220	Reference point on a hollow way that runs on a south-west / north-east alignment, <i>i.e.</i> from the Old Rectory towards the parish church, and skirting an earthen platform in the process. Clearly it is an old road to the church that respects buildings that once stood upon the platform (SMR 51B).

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| 6 | 448835 139205 | Approximate centre of an earthen platform referred to in no. 5 above. This feature is crossed by a Modern concrete block path that offers some protection against wear (SMR 51B). |
| 7 | 448850 139280 | Reference point on a semi-circular platform on the west side of the churchyard that may represent the shape of an earlier boundary, perhaps a low mound. The present churchyard boundary is rectilinear. |
| 8 | 448700 139100 | Approximate position of earthworks on a roadside verge in front of Modern houses. |

12.0 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

- Tithe Map 21M65/F7/225/2 (1838 / 1845)
- GSGB 299 Winchester
- OS 1: 2500 SW 448485 139085, NE 449125 139485
- OS 1: 25000 Explorer 132: Winchester, New Alresford & East Meon
- OS 1: 10,560 448520 139217 (1875)

13.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Coates R 1989 *The Place-names of Hampshire* Southampton, Ensign
- Edwards J 1985 A medieval wall-painting at St Mary and St Michael's Church, Stoke Charity *Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society* **41**: 139-48
- HTS **1**: 333-43 (included under Wonston)
- Qualmann KE 1993 The Church of St Mary and St Michael, Stoke Charity. Report on an archaeological investigation, 1991 *Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society Sectional Newsletter* **20**: 25-32
- VCH 3: 447-51

14.0 PRIMARY HISTORIC SOURCES

14.1 Domesday Book

Not mentioned but VCH (3: 448) suggests that it could be the same as the *Stoches* held by the Bishop of Winchester and entered incorrectly under Meon Hundred. It is not clear as to how this might have happened and the VCH suggestion has to be treated with caution.

14.2 Subsidy Rolls

1334		£1.0.0	
1524	<i>1st survey:</i>	£14.7.10	(29 taxpayers)
	<i>2nd survey:</i>	£14.4.8	(28 taxpayers)

14.3 Manors

Stoke Charity only.

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14.4 Hearth Tax 1665

36 hearths chargeable (11 houses)
1 hearth not chargeable (1 house). Total: 12 houses.

15.0 PLACE NAME

1086 *Stoches*; 1256 *Eledestcke*; 1276 *Elledestok*; c. 1270 *Stokecharite*; 1276 *Eldestok(e)*; 1364 *Oldestoke*; reign of James I *Old Stoke Charitie*. Originally just **stoc* 'dependent farm, grange farm' *i.e.* of Micheldever, held by Hyde Abbey. Ekwall suggested, in a letter to Gover, that the earliest qualifier of the name represents OE *ælede* 'burnt'. This was later taken as *eald* 'old' developing regularly in one tradition into the *Old Stoke* of modern times (Still on the OS map as a house name, 448500 137700). The manor was held in 1276 by Henry de *la Charite*, hence the other tradition. The two traditions merge in an early Stewart document (Coates 1989, 156).

16.0 PHOTOGRAPHS

- Conjectural site of the manor house west of St Michael's church (looking west);
- Conjectural site of the manor house west of St Michael's church (looking south-west).

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 known.			

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>
14551	1749?	None	No figures given. Open fields involving glebe lands. Probably the final phase of a process of informal enclosure.

17.4 Commons & Greens (residual)

None recorded in 1874.

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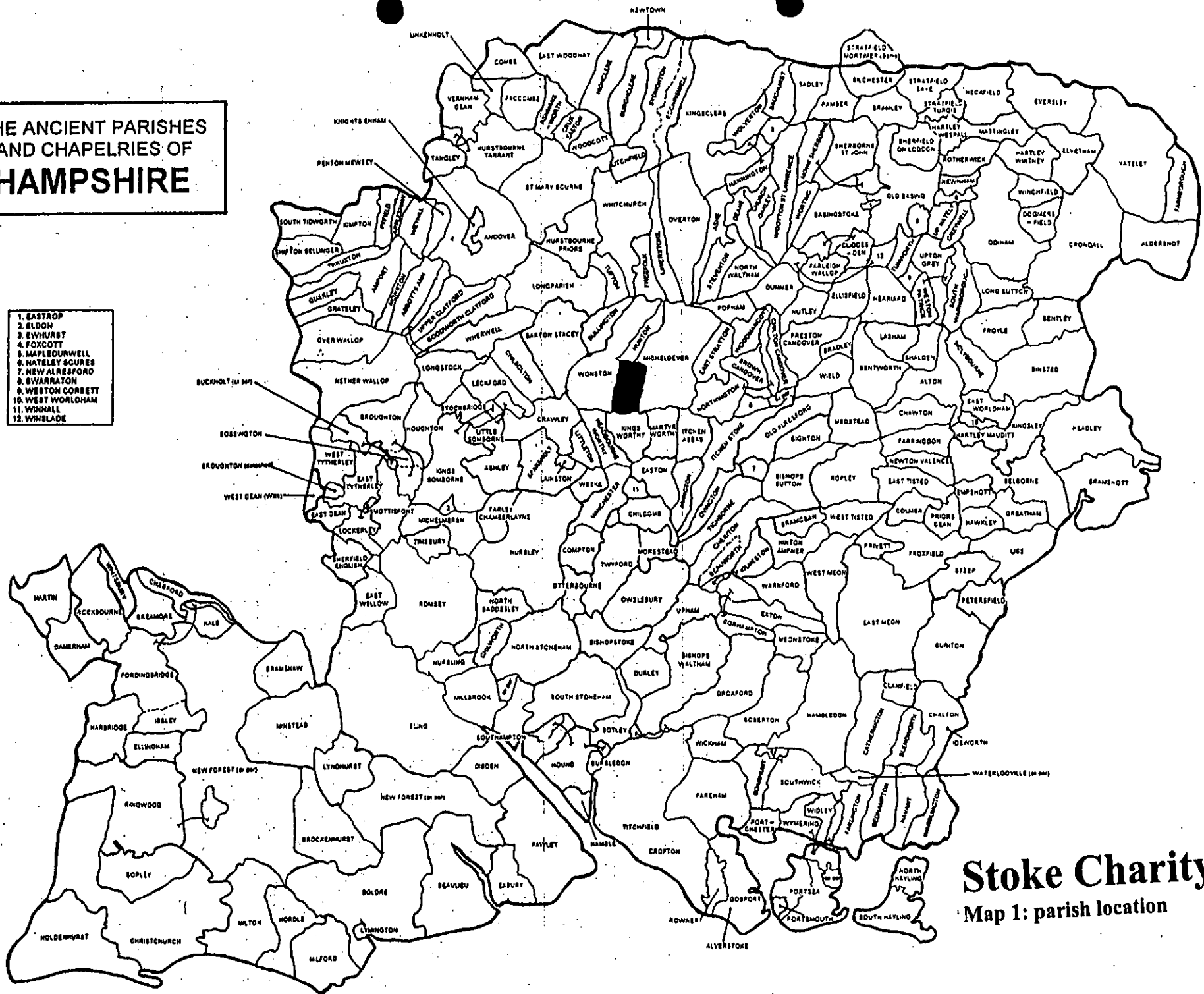
(formerly Old Stoke)

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**

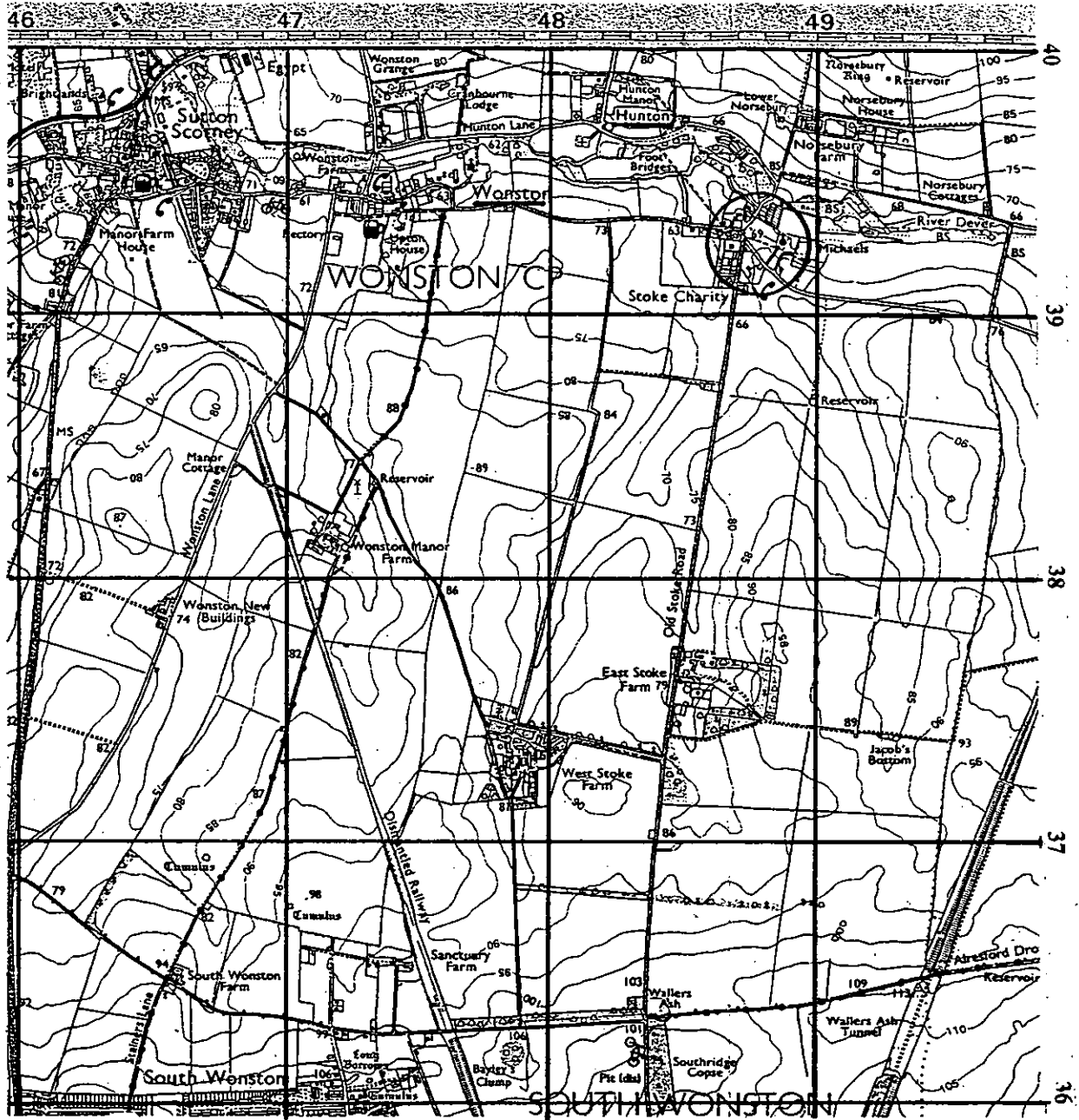
1. EASTROP
2. ELDON
3. EWHURST
4. FOXCOTT
5. MAPLEDEURWELL
6. NATELEY SCURES
7. NEW ALRESFORD
8. SWARRATON
9. WESTON CORBETT
10. WEST WOODHAM
11. WINHALL
12. WYNBLADE



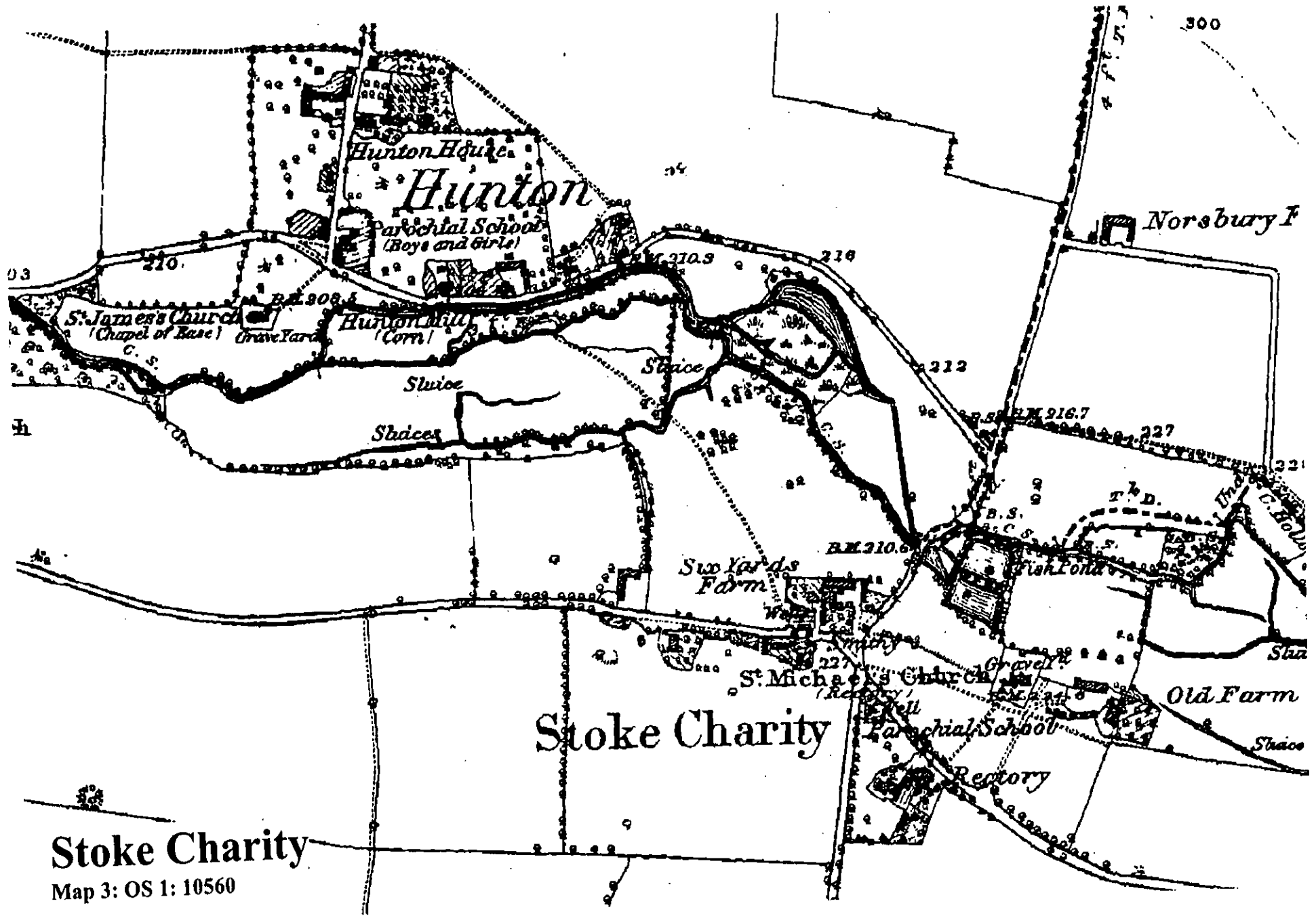
Stoke Charity
Map 1: parish location

Stoke Charity

Map 2: general location

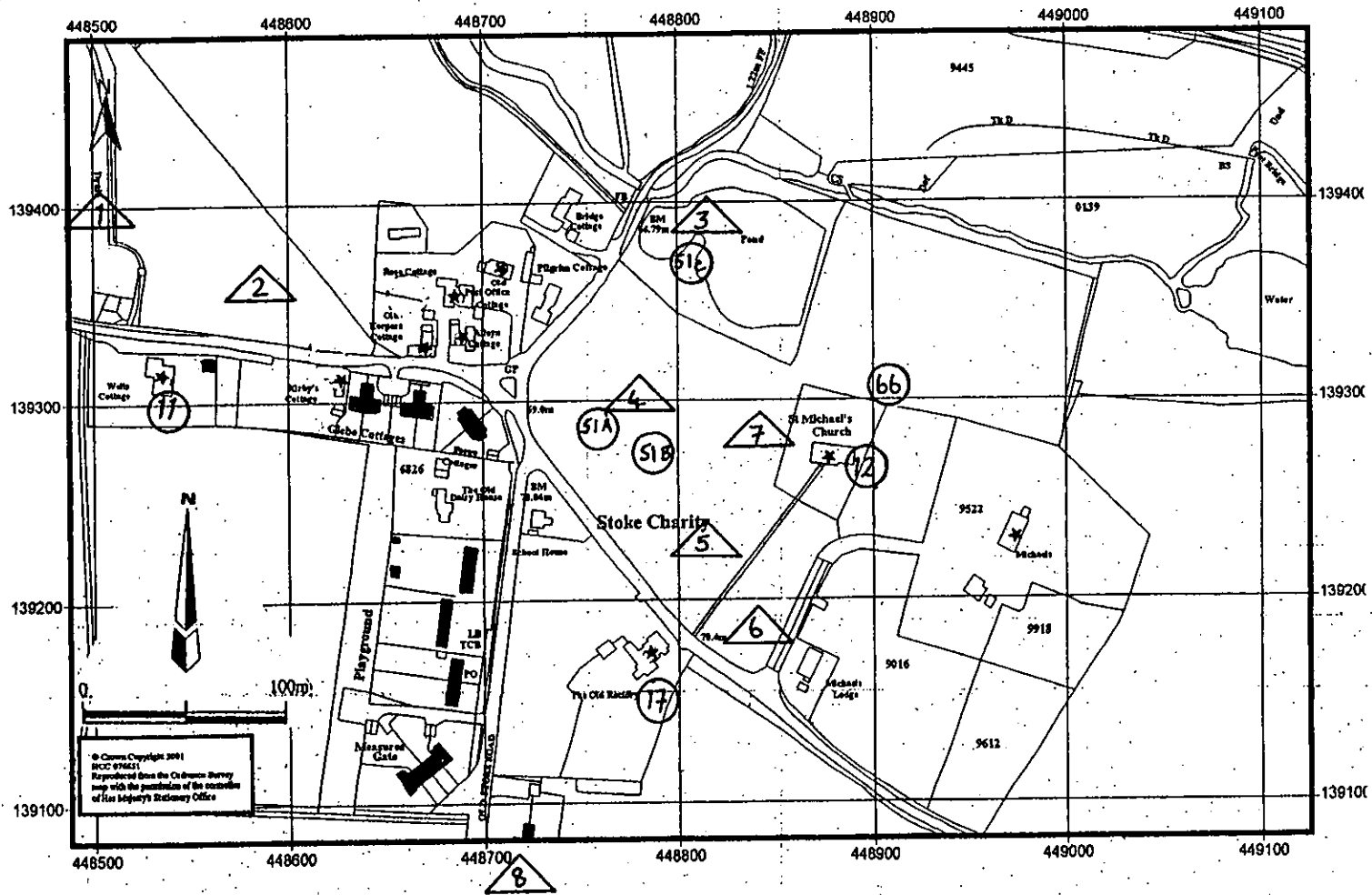


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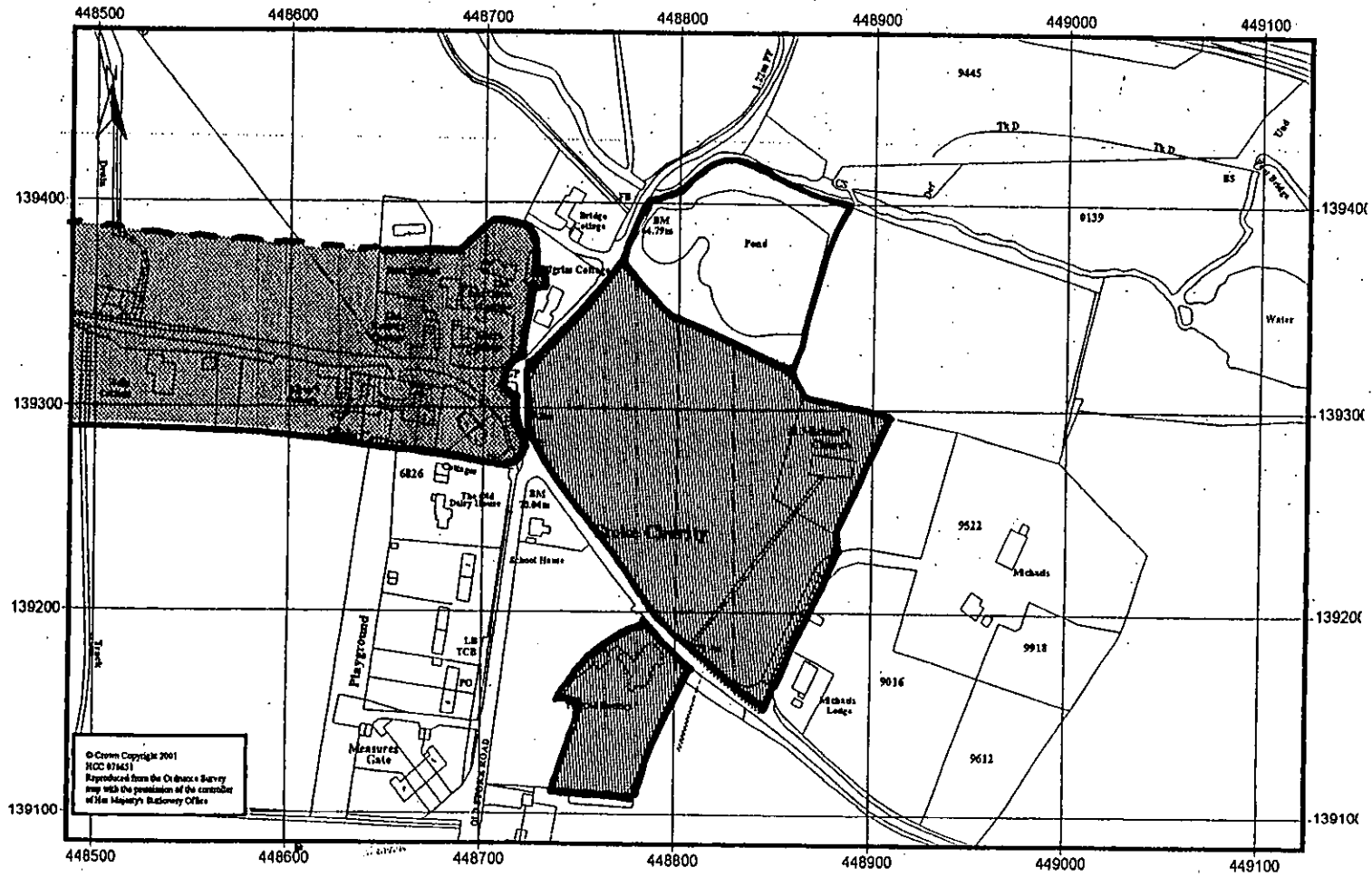


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Map 3: OS 1: 10560



Stoke Charity
 Map 4: development & archaeological features



Stoke Charity
 Map 5: areas of archaeological potential

