

Warblington

with Emsworth & notes
on Rowland's Castle

1.0 PARISH	Havant (formerly Warblington)
2.0 HUNDRED	Bosmere
3.0 NGR	472900 105400
4.0 GEOLOGY	Brickearth.

5.0 SITE CONTEXT (Map 2)

Warblington is something of an oasis in an urban sprawl. Immediately to the north (0.5km) the expansion of Havant has been held in check by east / west route of the A27(T), and across wetlands to the east (1km) is the small town of Emsworth. The church and ruined castle occupy the highest ground (approximately 9m AOD) overlooking a stream just 200m to the east that drains into the nearby Langstone and Chichester Harbours (c. 300m south).

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

Church and manor house

6.1.1 Church & manor house The core of the manor of Warblington is the Saxon parish church of St Thomas a Becket and, c. 150m north of it, the moated Warblington Castle. The moat is conspicuous on the Tithe Map of c. 1841 and all subsequent Ordnance Surveys. The remains of a substantial C16 gateway draw the eye but this was built on the site of an earlier moated manor. Moated sites (excluding castles) tend to be a feature of C12 to C15. There is also mention of a park at Warblington and VCH (3: 134) suggests that this might have surrounded the manor house. Moat, park, and the medieval new town at Emsworth (see Paragraph 6.2.1) are features that are quite consistent with the aspirations of the late medieval gentry, but this raises a problem. Moated sites were frequently established away from areas of peasant population, sometimes within assarts (clearings). A moated site within a park would signal a clear distinction of lord from peasantry. As a result, one could not be confident that the C11 and pre-Conquest hall was at the same location as Warblington Castle but there are no known indicators of the site of this earlier hall beyond the supposition that it was probably close to the church. The Sites and Monuments Record (Paragraph 10.0, No. 95) details the presence of earthen platforms c. 120m north-east of the church and a little to the south-east of the moated site. The SMR entry suggests that No. 95 is the site of a deserted medieval village but there is no reason to accept this interpretation, for it is more probable that Warblington was an area of dispersed settlement (see Paragraph 6.1.2). However, the earthworks in question could be associated with a C11 (or earlier) hall.

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6.1.2 VCH (3: 134) describes Warblington parish as comprising rich pasture land to the south (loams) but as being wooded to the north (clays); indeed, the abundant parish woodland is well-illustrated on the Tithe Map of *c.* 1841. The woodlands were an important factor in the local economy, no doubt providing the raw material for the five ships that Emsworth

provided for the fleet in 1341. This pastoral / woodland dichotomy would argue against a village-type settlement pattern and one might envisage a spread of cottages and smallholdings throughout the woodlands of the manor and within the later parish boundaries. The church and manor house group is just 600m south of the A259 Chichester to Bitterne Roman road and it is probable that this overland route was an important factor in the origin of Warblington. It is likely too that this road attracted settlement and VCH (3: 134) tells of a *village* and pond being here at Green Pond Corner in the early 1900s. Casting aside the word '*village*', one might yet imagine this location as being the site of a woodland *hamlet* of some antiquity but none of the present buildings support this notion. Within the Green Pond Corner group were Warblington House and Warblington Farm, south and north of the Havant Road respectively. Both have been demolished, but their layout, as shown on the OS map of *c.* 1870, suggests that this was an area of post-medieval development along the turnpike road of 1810.

6.1.3 Approximately 150m east of Warblington Castle are watercress beds, supplied with fresh spring water via a number of channels. These mark the western fringe of a comparatively marshy area that divides Warblington from Emsworth (see Map 2). It is feasible that this area was once significantly less silted (as at Emsworth) and that the beaching of boats at a point close to the church was once possible. The place-name Conigar Point *c.* 100m distant on the shoreline might be indicative of its former use (Pile, 2000).

6.2.1 Emsworth (Map 6) No discussion of Warblington would be complete without consideration of the nearby small town of Emsworth. The two settlements are linked by the Church Path that begins immediately south of Warblington churchyard and thereafter follows a coastal route to Emsworth where it divides at the south-west corner of the town. From here, one branch continued along the coast to the market place at Emsworth and on to the tidal pond at the mouth of the River Ems at the point where it is bridged by the A259 Roman Road. The second branch of the Church Path (known as Warblington Road in Emsworth) can be seen to cross the town diagonally from south-west to north-east to reach the north end of the tidal Mill Pond and the A259. This is in direct contrast to the other roads in Emsworth which are laid out in grid-like fashion. This stark contrast between Warblington Road and other roads in the town suggests that this route pre-dated the foundation of the town. Archaeological excavation close to the mid-point of Warblington Road confirms its earlier

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importance (Bradley, 1973: 29-35). Here, a Late Saxon site was identified with Roman ceramic building materials also present. This could be the site of the curtilage mentioned in the place-name definition (Paragraph 15.0). The excavator notes that later (*i.e.* post-Conquest) medieval pottery from the site was associated with a cultivated field. Presumably, Church Path / Warblington Road had been an important path from Warblington to mooring facilities at Emsworth prior to the foundation of the town with its planned grid-like layout (Map 2). Conversely, Church Path was also an important route between Emsworth and the parish church at Warblington.

6.1.2 The position of Emsworth at the south-east corner of Warblington parish, tight upon the county boundary with Sussex, is fairly typical of a medieval new town foundation (*e.g.* Devizes [Wiltshire] 'at the divisions [boundaries]'). Such a placement allowed the owner of the town to partition it off from the rest of the parish, in the legal and topographical sense, in order to make it independent from the jurisdiction of the shire. It seems that development of town status at Emsworth was signalled by the granting of a market charter to Henry Fitzherbert in 1239. Herbert was lord of the manor of Warblington from *c.* 1230-1 (VCH 3: 135) and so it is clear that it was his family who established the new town within their own manor at this time. The site of Emsworth was an advantageous one. It had good mooring facilities in the two tidal ponds, and access to the Roman Road route from Chichester to Wickham and *Clausentum* (Bitterne, on the River Itchen). It is thought that the River Ems was once navigable as far as Westbourne on the Sussex side of the border and if so, Emsworth would have been a promontory town similar to Poole (Dorset) which was being developed by the lords of Canford Magna at about the same time. Since Warblington was a parcel of Westbourne at the time of the Domesday survey, the river would have provided a means of communication between the two manorial centres (via the Church Path or Roman road routes).

6.3 *Rowland's Castle* is now in East Hampshire District but the Tithe Map (*c.* 1841) shows that it sat astride the Hampshire / Sussex border at the north end of Warblington. The County boundary passed through a meeting point of a number of roads at Rowland's Castle, and this pivotal point is marked by a 'stump' on the Tithe Map. This stump was obviously a county boundary marker and this serves as a reminder of the strategic importance of the motte and bailey at Rowland's castle, sited here to command routeways as well as the territorial divide. The lords of Westbourne on the Sussex side of the border were, at times, sheriffs of Sussex; they were border lords who also held the marcher manor of Warblington in Hampshire.

6.4 *Site visit conditions:* changeable; sun and showers (5.4.2001); thundery storms and bright sun (4.7.2001)

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7.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

7.1 *AsAP*

7.1.1 South of Warblington Castle including the buildings of Warblington Castle Farm (origin not determined) and a swathe of land up to the watercress beds.

7.1.2 An area north of Warblington Castle that extends into the supposed site of Warblington Park (Paragraph 6.1.1). The archaeological potential of the Castle cannot be confined to the area within the moat, and it is necessary to take account of siege activity during the C17.

- NB**
1. Consideration should be given to the area around Green Pond Corner on the A259 Emsworth Road (472600 106100; Paragraph 6.1.2);
 2. A rectangular feature shown on the Tithe Map (Map 3) c. 300m west of Warblington Castle. An initial interpretation would be a pond with central island but confirmation and date is desirable.
 3. Possible coastal inlet and mooring area at 473000 105100 (Paragraph 6.1.3).

7.2 *AsHAP*

7.2.1 The site of Warblington Castle and the entire area of the moated site extending westwards towards the watercress beds.

7.2.2 The Saxon church and churchyard of St Thomas a Becket.

7.2.3 The house platforms that are thought to exist close to the north-east corner of the churchyard (Paragraph 10.0, No. 95).

8.0 CHURCH & CHURCHYARD

St Thomas a Becket

- The dedication of the church suggests that Warblington was on a pilgrim route to Canterbury;
- The church must be one of the two listed under the Westbourne entry (Sussex) in Domesday Book; its pre-Conquest origin and architectural stature allow that this might have been a *minster* church;
- The Saxon central tower containing Roman tile in the construction fabric; the lower stage was re-constructed C13;
- The second stage of the tower has romanesque openings in north & south walls (sacristan's doors?); they are constructed of Roman tiles and were originally doorways;
- The second stage of the tower is probably the upper floor of a two-stage structure;
- C12 - C13 construction of much of the rest of the church; a three-bay nave and aisles added to west of tower, also the present chancel was built on the traditional site of the Saxon nave; third stage added to tower;

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- C15 north porch;
- 1859 & 1893 minor restorations;
- The large graveyard and the presence of two fine grave watcher's lodges are indicative of the fact that Warblington was the parish church for Emsworth until 1841;
- There is a curvilinear aspect to the churchyard on the south side.

9.0 BUILDINGS (Map 4)

PRN	Details	Dates	Grade
651	Parish Church of St Thomas a Becket, Church Lane	C13, 15, 19	I
652	Warblington Castle Farmhouse, Church La.	C17	II
653	Warblington Lodge, Church Lane	c. 1830	II
1064	The Old Rectory, Pook Lane	C18, 19	II
1414	Warblington Castle, Church Lane	1514-26	II*
1119	St Thomas a Beckett: NW Grave watcher's hut	early C19	II
6826	St Thomas a Beckett: SE Grave watcher's hut	early C19	II
6827	Barn: 50m NW of parish church, Church Lane	C17	II
6828-9	Nos 5 & 6 Castle Cottage, Church Lane	early C19	II
6830	Warblington Cottage: granary east of	early C19	II
6832	Warblington Lodge: cottage, stables etc.	early C19	II
6836-7	Nos 1 & 2 Eastleigh Road	C16, 19	II
6932	Middlestoke Farmhouse, Northwood Lane	C17, 19	II
6992	No. 10 South Leigh Road	C18	II

10.0 SMR DATA SW 472520 105300, NE 473200 106300 (Map 4)

SU 70 NW	No.		
	1	473100 106050	Roman. Traces of the east / west Chichester to Bitterne road.
	10	472900 105420	Medieval. Parish church of St Thomas a Becket (see 8.0).
	17	472800 106000	Romano-British. Pottery sherd finds. Now in Portsmouth City Museum.
of	77A	472950 105570	Medieval. Warblington Castle built on the site of an earlier moated manor house.

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	77B	472950 105570	Medieval. Moat associated with 77A.
**	95	473000 105500	Medieval. Reputed site of a deserted medieval settlement (This is unlikely to be the case in the sense that it was a village. Warblington is more likely to have been a dispersed settlement [See discussion in Paragraph 6.1.1] IH).
	111	472600 105700	Medieval. Find spot of a Chichester halfpenny. HCMS Acc. A 1980 7H.
	126	472800 105400	Post-medieval. Turin (L-shaped) aisled barn, mainly C18.

10.1 Hampshire Romano-British Settlements survey

Hants No.	NGR	Parish	NAR / NMR Nos
113	473360 105860	Warblington / Havant	SU70 NW8 / 242152
116	472870 105290	Warblington / Havant	SU70 NW13 / 212242195

10.2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)

SAM No.	NGR	Site
98	473000 105600	Warblington Castle (moated site).
547	472800 105400	Black Barn.

11.0 ADDITIONAL SITES / FEATURES (Map 4)

1	472540 105700	Site of house present on the Tithe Map of c. 1841
2	472950 105390	Curvilinear aspect to churchyard.
3	472560 105550	Rectilinear feature shown on Tithe Map of c. 1841

12.0 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

- Tithe Map 21M65/F7/243/2 (* / 1841)
- GSGB 316 Fareham
- OS 1: 2500 SW 472520 105300, NE 473200 106300
- OS 1: 25000 Explorer: Chichester, South Harting & Selsey
- OS 1: 10,560 c. 1870, First Edition.

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13.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bradley R 1973 A Late Saxon Site at Emsworth *Rescue Archaeology in Hampshire 1*: 29-37
- Coates R 1989 *Hampshire place-names* Southampton, Ensign
- Pile J 2000 Ora Place Names in the Portsmouth Area *Hampshire Field Club & Archaeological Society Newsletter* 33: 3-7
- VCH 3: 134-9

14.0 PRIMARY HISTORIC SOURCES

14.1 Domesday Book

Earl Roger. 2 churches and a mill. Listed under Westbourne, West Sussex.

21, 9 Sired holds *Newtimber* from the Earl (Roger). He himself held it from Earl Harold. Then and now it answered for 3 hides. Land for 2 ploughs. In lordship 2 oxen in plough; 2 (villagers) and 4 smallholders with ½ plough. A mill at 5s; meadow, 3 acres; a fishery. The value is and was 30s.

14.2 Subsidy Rolls

1334		£3.4.8	
1524	<i>1st survey:</i>	£5.12.8	(29 taxpayers)
	<i>2nd survey:</i>	£10.10.11	(69 taxpayers)

NB The second 1524 survey probably includes tithings that were excluded from the first survey.

14.3 Manorial Documents

Manors recorded are Warblington (originally parcel of Westbourne, East Sussex), Neutibrige (or Newtimber) with Wade Court as its manorial centre; Emsworth.

14.4 Hearth Tax 1665

<i>Warblington</i>	63 hearths chargeable (21 houses) 14 hearths not chargeable (11 houses). Total: 32 houses.
<i>Emsworth</i>	65 hearths chargeable (31 houses) 24 hearths not chargeable (21 houses). Total: 52 houses.
<i>Newtimber</i>	11 hearths chargeable (4 houses). 4 hearths not chargeable (3 houses). Total: 7 houses.

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15.0 PLACE NAME

15.1 1086 *Warblitetone*; c. 1170 *Wargligetona*; 1186 *Werblinton*; C13 *Warblin(g)ton(e)*. Several possibilities all derived from the OE personal name *Wærblið* (f): *Wærbliðantun* = *Wærblið's* Farm; *Wærbliðintun*, the same in essence; *Wærbliðingatun* = farm associated with *Wærblið* (Coates, 1989: 170).

15.2 1224 *Emelswurth*, *Emneswrth*; 1268 *Empnesworth*; 1304 *Emlesworth*. OE *Æmeleswyrð* 'Æmele's curtilage'. Spellings in *n* predominate in the later medieval period; this is a result of the assimilation of *l* to the preceding nasal consonant, a common type of change. There are sporadic forms without *s* in the C13 (Coates, 1989: 72). The name of the associated river Ems is presumably a back-formation of the place-name (IH).

16.0 PHOTOGRAPHS

None taken.

17.0 OTHER PROJECT ELEMENTS

17.1 Pre-Conquest Charters & Writs

None.

17.2 Other parish settlements include:

<i>Name</i>	<i>MSP No.</i>	<i>NGR / map ref.</i>	<i>First recorded</i>
Emsworth		475000 106000	1224
Neutibrigge or Newtimber			1086

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17.3 Enclosures

Parliamentary:

<i>NEP No.</i>	<i>Act</i>	<i>Order</i>	<i>Award</i>	<i>Details</i>
14147	51 Geo III cap. 8, 1810		1814	519.57 acres (actual), 568 acres (Act). Coldharbour Green, Emsworth Common, waste.
36014	1819			128 acres, principally in Sussex.

Formal Agreements:

<i>NEP No.</i>	<i>Agreement</i>	<i>Award</i>	<i>Details</i>
None known.			

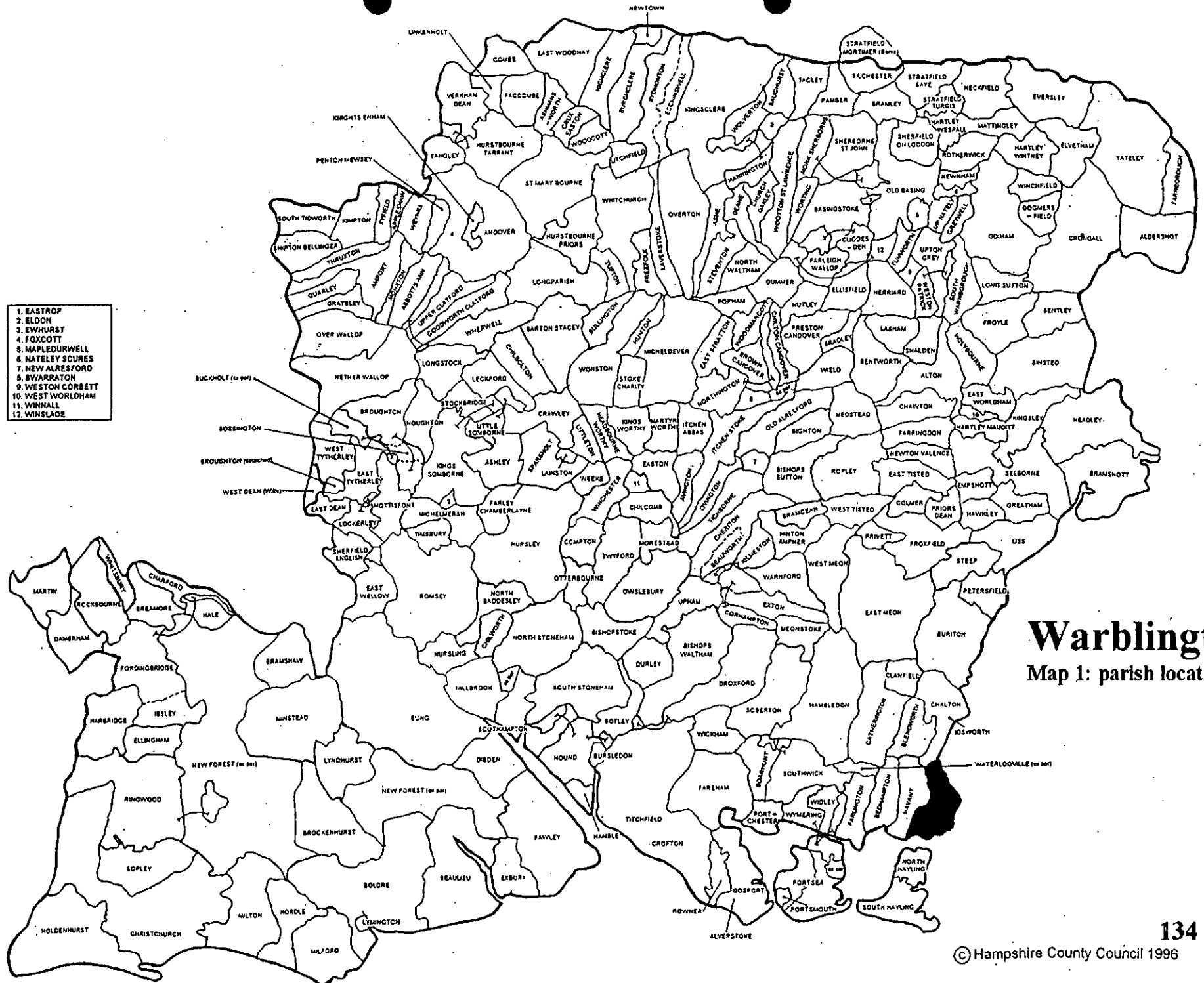
17.4 Commons & Greens (residual)

Emsworth Common; Green Pond Corner.

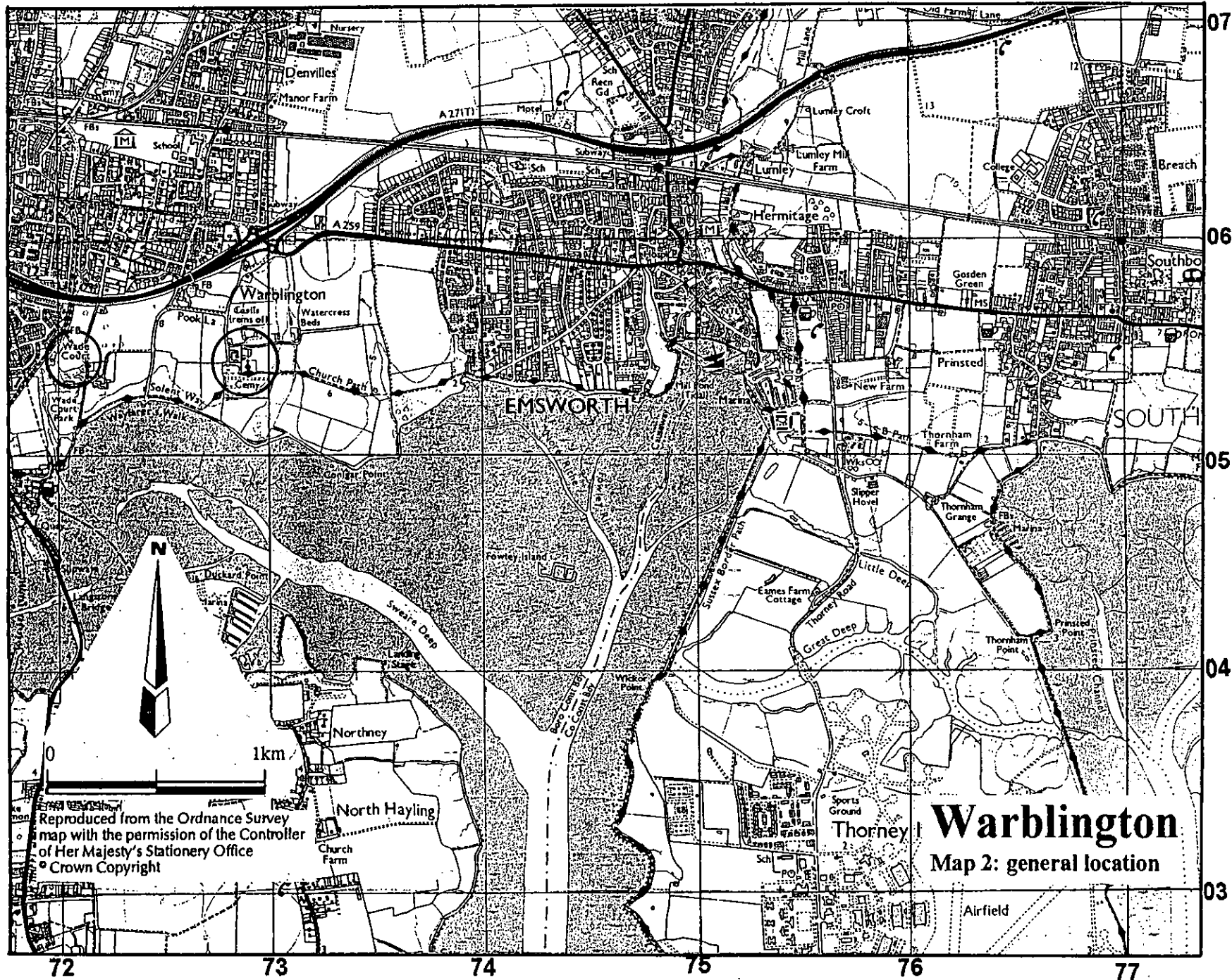
18.0 ILLUSTRATIONS

- 1 Map 1: Parish location (not to scale)
- 2 Map 2: Settlement location at 1: 2500
- 3 Map 3: c. 1841 Tithe Map transcribed at 1: 2500 reduced to 71%
- 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%
- 6 Map 6: Emsworth from the OS First Edition 10,560 map of c. 1870 (not to scale)

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



Warblington
Map 1: parish location



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Warblington
 Map 2: general location

Warblington

Map 3: transcribed from the
Tithe Map of c. 1841

