

NAME Wherwell
PARISH Wherwell
HUNDRED Wherwell
DISTRICT Test Valley
NGR SU 389408
GEOLOGY Upper chalk and alluvium

SITE CONTEXT The village lies on the NW bank of the River Test, mainly on the lower slopes of the steep valley side but with some houses actually on the flood plain alongside the river. The 50m contour runs through the settlement almost along the line of the SW-NE road. To the NW the valley side rises sharply to over 90m OD.

PLAN TYPE & DESCRIPTION Composite. Regular rows and irregular row.

Within the plan of Wherwell several blocks of regular rows are obvious. On the SE side of the river alongside the lane that leads to the church there is a block of three plots of equal size with a thinner and shorter plot along the river bank. On the N side of the lane there are two units with shorter tofts, the E unit appearing to be later than the W unit as it overlaps the W unit along the rear boundary.

On the NW side of the river and on the N side of the lane to the church there are the remains of another regular row, the rear boundary of which curves round to continue as the rear boundary of some of the plots along the main street through the village.

Opposite the junction of Church Street and the main road on the NW side of the road there is another regular row which appears to have had some of its plots amalgamated. The rear boundary continues either side of the row but bounds empty, open fields except for a very small plot in the N field. Between the river and the main road there seems to have been some division into strips but either most of the strips have been amalgamated into large holdings or there never was a regular row here. SW of the cross roads where the road from the NW joins the SW-NE road there are few houses and those present are well spaced forming an irregular row.

S of the church is Wherwell Abbey but the full extent of the Abbey precinct is not known.

AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

The site of the Abbey is covered by an AHAP which extends along both sides of Church Street to Winchester Road. The properties on the NW side of Winchester Street up to and including the White Lion to the SW and Mount Cottage in the NE are also within the AHAP. Much of this area appears to have been a regular row. The gaps shown on the Tithe map may represent areas that have been abandoned rather than areas that have never been occupied. The site of the Manor on the SE side of Winchester Road and the adjoining properties to the SW are also within the AHAP.

An AAP covers the building line on the SE side of the road to the SW where the C19 map shows intermittent and probably later development but at what date development along this part of the settlement took place is uncertain.

CHURCH & CHURCHYARD St Peter and Holy Cross. 1856-8. Architectural fragments from the old church inside and in the vicarage including a block with Anglo-Saxon interlace re-used as a cross shaft C13.

BUILDINGS

(Listed)

Nos 5 and 6 Chant Close Former railway station 1884 II
Nos 25 and 26 Church St Late C18 II
The Vicarage, outbuildings and wall C18 with mid C19 additions II
Church of St Peter and Holy Cross 1856-8 replacing med church II
No 27 Church St Late C18 II
No 28 C15, C16 and some early C19 features II*
Rosemary Cottage Early C18 with late C19 ext II
No 29 C17 with C19 details II
Vine Cottage, Fullerton C18 with C20 rear ext II
The Mill House on ancient site Late C18 II
Fullerton Grange Fmhse and cob wall Late C18 with mid C19 ext II
Fodder Store 15 yds E of Fullerton Grange Late C18 II
Granary 30 yds N of Fullerton Grange Early C19 II
Old Malt House, Fullerton Rd C17 with C19 alterations II
May Cottage Late C18 with alterations and additions of C20 II
Aldings Once 2 Mid C18 II
No 44 Fullerton Rd Once 2 Mid C18 II
Westmill Mid C18 II
Cottonworth Fmhse C17 with C18 brick cladding II
Dublin Fmhse, Longparish Rd C18 with C19 features II
Cartshed 15 yds W and Barn 30 yds S of Dublin Fmhse C18 II
No 4 Longparish Rd Once 2 Late C18 II
Nos 8 and 9 Late C18 II
Toll Cottage, Winchester Rd Early C19 II
Mount Cottage Late C18 II
Mount View C17 with early C20 addition II
No 13 Winchester Rd Once 5 now 2 Mainly C18 II
Andover Lodge c. 1830 II
No 16 Early C19 II
Nos 17 and 18 C17 with C20 minor additions II
Nos 19 and 21 Range of cottages now 2 C17 II
Ivy Cottage C18 II
Pound Tree Cottage Mostly late C19 but of earlier origin II
Post Office Mid C19 II (GV)
Chestnut Cottage Late C18 II
The Manor and boundary wall Mid C19 II

Granary 25 yds SW (Early C19) and Barn 40 SW (C18 with mid C19 ext) of the Manor II (GV)

Nos 30, 31 and 32 Mid C19 II

Gavel Acre C18 II

Nos 33 and 34 Late C18 II

White Lion Early C19 II

Barn and stables to rear of White Lion C19 II

Corn Mill and Millhouse Early C19 II

Granary 20 yds W of Corn Mill Mid C19 II

Barn 10 yds W of New Barn Fmhse C18 with C19 exterior II

The Priory C18 on site of Nunnery founded about 986 II*

Stable block 30 yds S of the Priory Medieval tithe barn to Priory II*

House and service wing adjoining the Priory to the S Early C19 II

East Lodge to the Priory Mid C19 with C20 addition II

Westover Fmhse Late C18 with C19 ext II

Whitehouse Early C19 II

Windwhistle (Nos 1 and 2) Once a farmhouse Early C19 II

Barn 10 yds NE of Windwhistle C18 II

(Un-listed)

SMR DATA

7	39124075	Med nunnery site of burials and fishponds
8	39144082	Saxon cross shaft mid-late C9
24	39154080	Roman pot and oystershells found in churchyard
28	39184075	Med coffin from Wherwell Abbey
57	39704125	Neo axehead
64	39154085	No archaeology One grave encountered
65	39504130	Negative evidence

ADDITIONAL SITES/FEATURES

1	39194091	Site of several cottages and outbuildings shown on map of 1743 and the Tithe map
2	39134088	Site of 3 detached cottages shown on map of 1743
3	39134096	Site of cottage shown on Tithe map
4	39164086	Site of 2 cottages, 1 shown on map of 1743 and 1 on the Tithe map
5	38994099	Site of cottage shown on Tithe map
6	38824096	ditto
7	38804081	Site of outbuilding shown on Tithe map
8	38814080	Site of cottage shown on Tithe map
9	38774077	ditto
10	38544050	ditto
11	39124117	ditto
12	39084108	Site of outbuilding shown on Tithe map
13	39504110	Watermeadows

14 38784104 Hollow-way. The Old Hill was the former road into the village from Andover and descends the valley side in a deep (2-3m) and wide (10-15m) hollow

CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES 1:2,500 SU 3840-3940, 3841-3941, 3839-3939; Tithe map 21M65/F7/252/2 (1844); 33M49 (1743/4).

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Hase, P. 1988 'The Mother Churches of Hampshire' in *Minsters and Parish Churches* Oxford University Committee for Archaeology Monograph No. 17 Oxford

PRIMARY HISTORIC SOURCES

Domesday Wherwell Abbey holds the whole village in which the Church itself lies. It always held it. Before 1066 it answered for 22 hides; now for 13 hides. Land for 14 pl. In lordship 4 pl; 5 villagers, 12 smallholders, 25 freedmen and 10 slaves with 10 pl. 3 mills at 27s 6d; meadow, 65 acres; woodland at 25 pigs. Value before 1066 and later £10; now £15.

Subsidy Rolls

1334	2. 14. 2
1524	8. 8. 0 (79 taxpayers)

Manorial Documents

Hearth Tax

1665	129 hearths chargeable (36 houses) 56 hearths not chargeable (48 houses) Total 84 houses
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PLACE NAME 955 *hwerwyl* OE *Hwerwiell(as)* literally 'cauldron spring or stream'. The church and priory are on an island formed by the multiple channels of the Test and Dever and the eddies in the Test are well known.

PHOTOGRAPHS

OTHER PROJECT ARCHIVE ELEMENTS

Will of King Eadred includes land at Wherwell 951x955 (ref. 1515 in Sawyer, 1968, p 424).

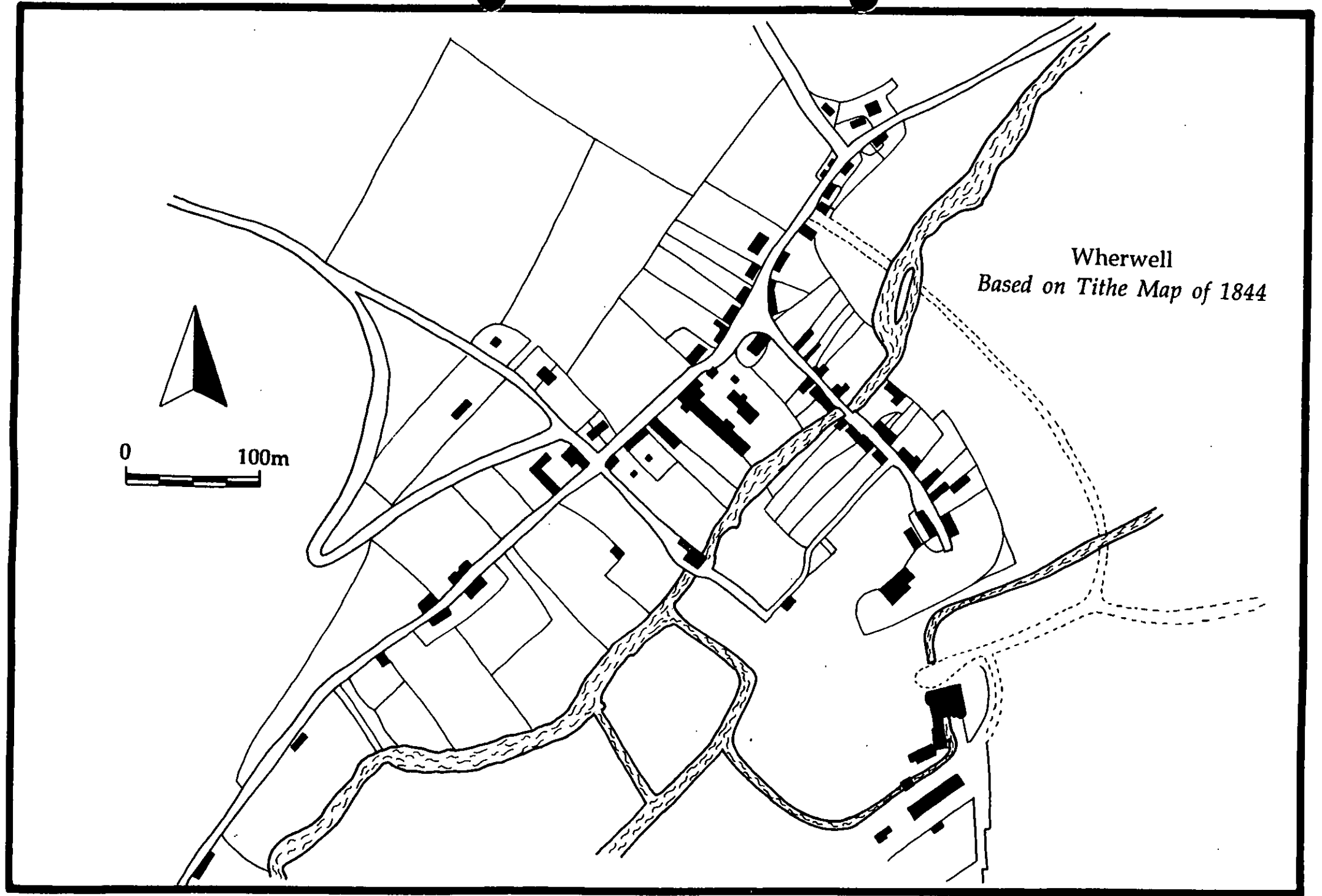
Possible mother church (Hase 1988, p 63).

Benedictine nunnery founded about 986. Abbess Euphemia (1226-1257) built a new and large farmery away from the main buildings and in conjunction with it a dorter

and other necessary offices. Beneath the farmery she constructed a watercourse, through which a stream flowed with sufficient force to carry off all refuse that might corrupt the air. She also built a chapel of the Blessed Virgin, erected outside the cloister behind the farmery. With the chapel she enclosed a large space which was adorned on the N side with vines and trees. On the other side, by the river bank, she built offices. The court of the abbey manor was a useless mass of squalid outbuildings and there was much danger of fire so all were demolished, levelled, and a new hall built. A new mill, some distance from the hall was constructed with great care. The court was surrounded by a wall and vineyards and gardens were planted in places that were formerly useless and barren. A bell tower above the dorter fell and was rebuilt and the presbytery of the church was found to be unsafe and was dismantled. The ground was wet and so it was dug down to a depth of twelve feet to find solid ground. The re-building was completed in her lifetime.

Buildings that remained after the Dissolution included the abbesses lodging with the houses within the quadrat as the water leads from the E side of the cloister to the gate, the farmery, the mill and the millhouse with the slaughter house adjoining, and the brewing and baking houses, with the graneries to the same, the barn and stables in the outer court. To be demolished were the church, the choir and steeple, the cloister, the chapter-house, frater, dormitory, kitchen and the old lodgings between the granary and the hall door (VCH Vol II 1903, pp 132-7).

Granted a yearly fair in 1207 and the right to hold a weekly market in 1267 (VCH Vol IV p 416).

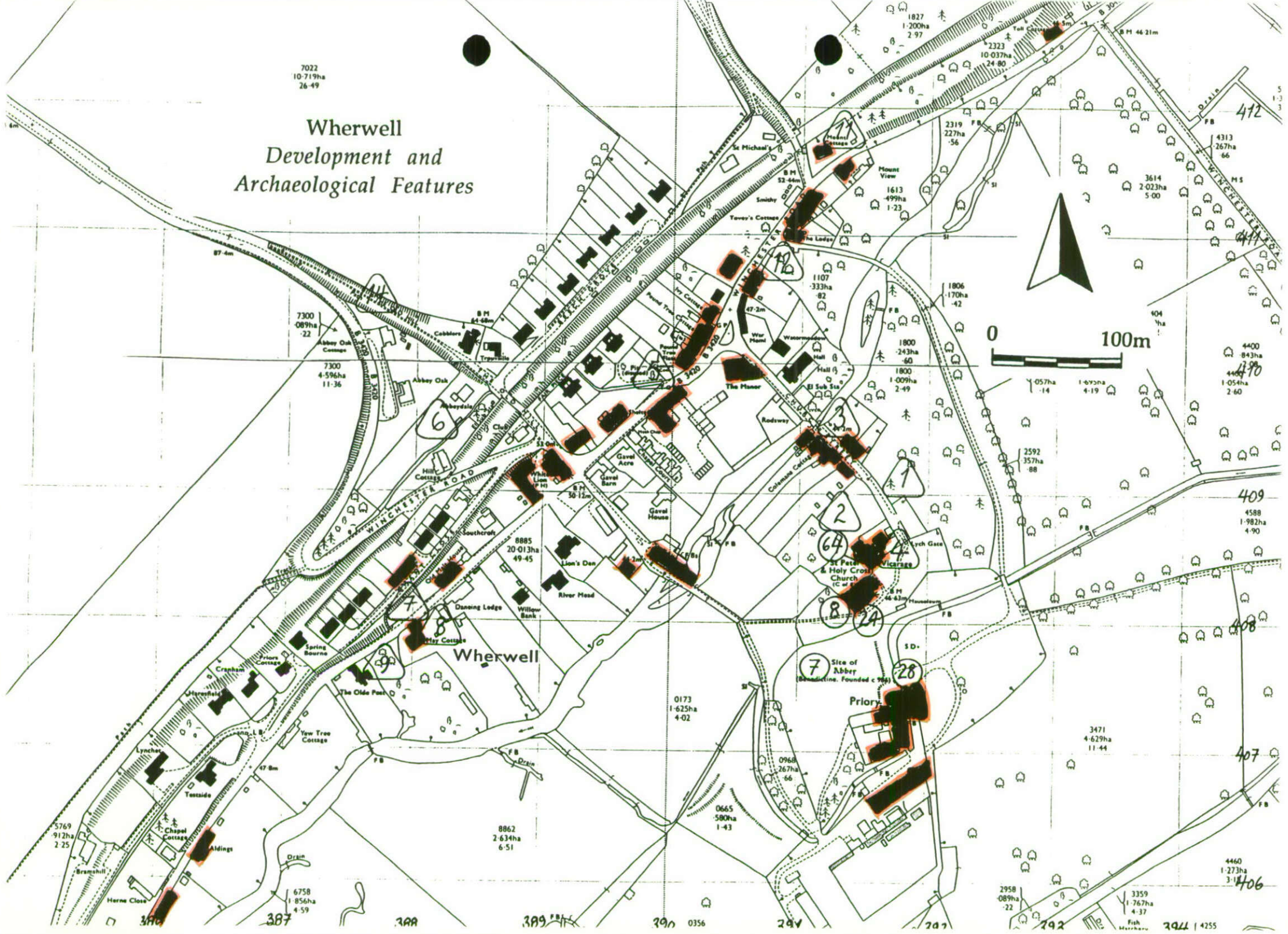


Wherwell
Based on Tithe Map of 1844



0 100m

Wherwell Development and Archaeological Features



Wherwell

Areas of Archaeological Potential

