

- 1.0 PARISH** Winchfield
2.0 HUNDRED Odiham
3.0 NGR SU 47680 15360 (Church)
4.0 GEOLOGY Bracklesham Beds.

5.0 SITE CONTEXT

5.1 The parish church of St Mary stands at 76m AOD (OS bench mark) on a slight eminence surrounded by a network of small streams and drains, these being part of the watershed of the River Hart to the north. However, the church was not built at the highest point; the land continues to rise until it culminates in a knoll some 75m east of the churchyard. North of the church (*c.* 200m) is Court House, an erstwhile farm complex. This too, was constructed on higher ground but, at one time, benefited from a sequence of ponds which are still traceable. The north / south road route through the settlement is tortuous, forming right angles at three points. One of these acute deviations is immediately opposite the church (west, *c.* 100m) and this became the chosen site for a late C19 school and schoolhouse.

5.2 The site is not marked as Winchfield on modern OS maps, the name being applied to the C19 railway station and adjoining settlement at 476200 154400. According to OS 6 inch First Edition (1875), the station was situated at Shapley Heath.

6.0 PLAN TYPE & DESCRIPTION

Church and manor / farm

6.1 The antiquity of this site is attested by the C12 fabric of the church and, of course, it is conceivable that this stands upon the site of an older building. Court House is either a home farm and / or a manor house site. The Tithe map (1843) shows that buildings associated with Court House once extended further south towards the church and it is likely that this was always the focus of settlement in the vicinity of Winchfield church. However, the general pattern for Winchfield parish is one of dispersed settlement, there being a number of outlying farmsteads (*eg* Bridge Farm, Hurst Farm, Cranford Farm) but no attestable examples of medieval nucleation. In this sense it is clear that Winchfield has fulfilled the role of a 'central place' in matters ecclesiastical, administrative and, later, educational, but it is not demonstrable that it has ever been the principal population centre of the parish (*qv* Winchfield Hurst).

6.1.1 Nevertheless, the north / south road route through Winchfield suggests that there is much that is yet to be understood. Three sharp deviations in the route suggest interesting associations with land allotment. One of these acute turns occurs between the church and the school but it is probable that this was once a cross-roads; a right of way heads eastwards through the churchyard and beyond, probably once a better-used route to and from Winchfield Hurst. Another track (not a right of way) provides a southward route towards the Old Rectory and on to Spratt's Hatch Lane (the parish boundary). Between the former school and a modern house, Corner Piece, the Tithe map indicates that the present road was once much wider suggesting, perhaps, a green. In the hedgerows here, wild hops betray earlier land-use (there is an oast at Court House).

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6.1.2 Examination of the fields immediately east of the churchyard revealed no ceramics other than fragments of terracotta tile or pipe which were frequent. Superficial signs of linear features set at 45 degrees to drainage ditches are indicative of a C19 drainage scheme. The picture was similar west of Corner Piece where the ground is lower and wetter. Here too, terracotta fragments were evident, but nothing else.

6.1 *Site visit conditions:* hazy sun; dry (moist, sticky soil).

7.0 AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

7.1 AAP (map 5, page 268)

The putative green west of the church may also have been a settlement area, though the site visit did not produce any compelling evidence such as the presence of derelict house plots or pot scatters. The AAP continues eastwards and north to include the church and Court Farm. Beyond the farm (north) a further c. 200m x 200m along the roadside takes in an unexplained sharp deviation in the route.

7.2 AHAP

Court House, probably the manor house site, has potential as a long-standing settlement nucleus which was conceivably more extensive than it is today. The C12 or earlier church site is of obvious importance. The intervening space between church and manor house sites is included within the AHAP; there were buildings in this zone in 1843 and it represents a possible settlement site (Map 3, page 266). Present field boundaries are not helpful in determining the possible limits of the manorial complex and the AHAP limits are purely arbitrary.

8.0 CHURCH & CHURCHYARD

St. Mary

- Norman: west tower with 3 original windows and archway; north and south doorways; chancel arch; 2 north and 2 south windows. It may therefore be presumed that much of the wall fabric is of similar date.
- C12 Purbeck Marble font (HTS).
- 1850: north aisle; top of tower.
- Access to the church interior was not possible but, on the south side, there was evidence of C13-14 work in the porch.
- A drainage trench has been cut around the entire perimeter of the church walls, effectively severing the church from its archaeological context.
- The churchyard has been extended southwards since 1843. The former southern boundary is represented as a low east / west earthwork.

9.0 BUILDINGS (See also listings under **Winchfield Hurst**)

PRN	Details	Dates	Grade
728	Church of St. Mary	C12, 15, 19	I
4561	Stacey's Bridge, Basingstoke Canal	1792	II
4562	Bailey's (Bridge) Farmhouse	C17, 18	II
4563	Cheverton's	C17, 18, mod	II

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4564	Court House Farmhouse (HTS makes it C16 / C17)	C17, 18	II
4565	Cranford's Farm Barn	C18	II
1525	Kiln at Brickfield	c. 1860	II
4568	Old Rectory	c. 1730	II
4569	Valley End, Potbridge	C17, 18, 20	II
4570	Winchfield House	late C18	II*
4572	Winchfield House: stable block N of	late C18	II
4573	Winchfield House: N lodge	early C19	II
4574	Winchfield House: S lodge	early C19	II
4576	Vale Farm: barn at	C18	II
unlisted	The Old School & The Old Schoolhouse The school has two fine, lofty SE-facing gothick windows	later C19	
unlisted	Court House Farm complex: oast	C19	

10.0 SMR DATA SW 47500 15300, NE 47800 15600

SU75SE	No.	
3	47683 15373	Post-medieval, C17, 18. Farmhouse with 2 possible fishponds in farmyard and field in front of house (NB One pond is certainly marked on the Tithe map c. 40m NE of the house at 7690 5375, the other is probably at 7689 5390- IH 1997).
4	47680 15360	Medieval parish church C12, 15 with C19 alterations.
60	47680 15360	Medieval estate mentioned in Domesday Book; conjectural centre (as amended from 476200 154400 which is the site of the C19 railway settlement).
63	47650 15320	Prehistoric, unspecified date. Single flint flake from pipeline easement strip.
69	47615 15355	Woodland boundary of unknown date. HCC AP ref: run 8e099.

11.0 ADDITIONAL SITES / FEATURES

1	476780 153580	(spot point) former boundary earthwork in churchyard; probably marks the course of the former route Winchfield Hurst (6.1.1).
2	476795 153700	Site of building, 1843
3	476820 153720	Site of buildings (3), 1843
4	476810 153810	Site of agricultural building, 1843

12.0 CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

- Tithe Map 21M65/F7/263/2 (1843/44)
- GSGB 284 Basingstoke
- OS 1: 2500 SW 47652 15343, NE 47706 15422
- OS 1: 25000 Pathfinder 1204 (SU 65/75), Basingstoke

13.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY**14.0 PRIMARY HISTORIC SOURCES****14.1 Domesday Book**

9,1 Chertsey Abbey holds Winchfield, and Walter son of Othere (holds) from the Abbey. Alwin held it from King Edward in freehold; it never belonged to the Abbey. Then and now it answered for 5 hides. Land for 8 ploughs. 10 villagers and 7 smallholders with 1½ ploughs. Value before 1066, 100s; later 60s; now 30s.

14.2 Subsidy Rolls

1334		£0.18. 2¼	
1524	<i>1st survey:</i>	Not listed.	
	<i>2nd survey:</i>	£2.10. 6	(24 taxpayers)

14.3 Manorial Documents

Winchfield and (possibly) Cheverton (the latter now represented by a farm; *qv* 17.3).

14.4 Hearth Tax

1665	72 hearths chargeable (32 houses), 9 hearths not chargeable (9 houses). Total 41 houses.
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15.0 PLACE NAME 1229 *Winchefeld*; c13 *Wyncheffeud*; 1229 *Wynchesfeld*. OE 'open land by a nook' (*wincel*).

16.0 PHOTOGRAPHS**17.0 OTHER PROJECT ELEMENTS****17.1 Pre-Conquest Charters**

AD 727. Frithuwold, *subregulus* of Surrey, and Eorcenwold, to Chertsey Minster; grant of land at (amongst others) Winchfield with Elvetham, Hants. (347 / **1181**)

17.2 Common: Bears Green 47500 15500

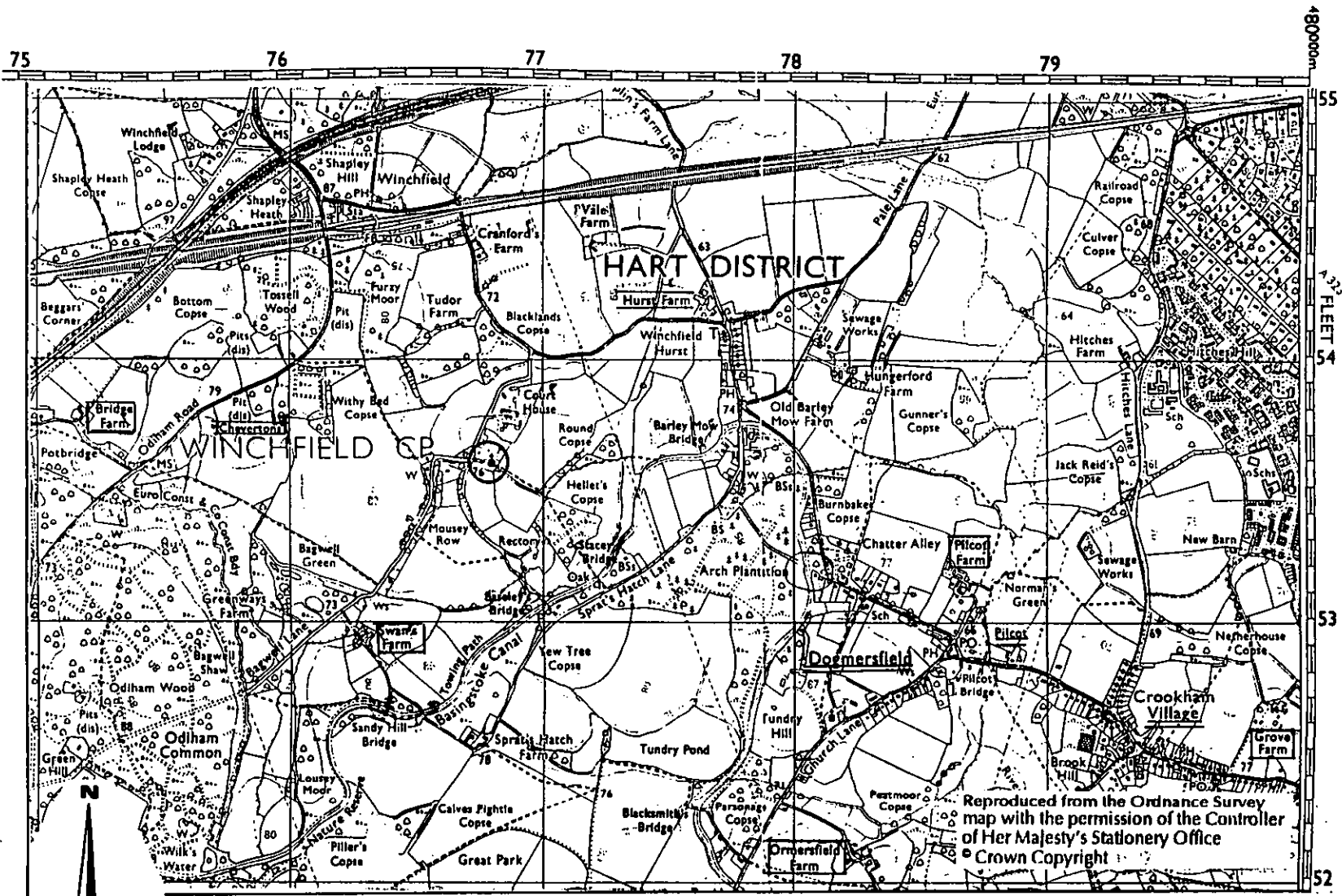
17.3 Other parish settlements include

Chervertons 47570 15370	1256, Chever(e)don
Manwood	1337 (?1327), Manwude (Woodland held in Common)
Moor Cottages	1256, la More (Home of Stephen de More)

There is no good place-name evidence for the location of *Manwood* or *Moor Cottages*. However, Manwood might be tentatively associated with Winchfield Hurst (*qv*), a *wooded eminence* and which is a common edge settlement.

18.0 ILLUSTRATIONS

- 1 Location map at 1: 25000
- 2 Location map at 1: 10000; Winchfield (St Mary's Church) and Winchfield Hurst
- 3 Tithe Map transcription at 1: 2500
- 4 Map: Development and Archaeological Features at 1: 2500
- 5 Map: Areas of Archaeological Potential at 1: 2500.

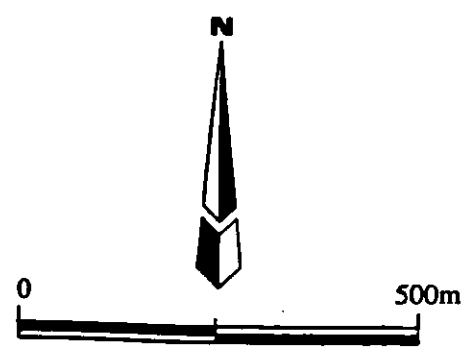
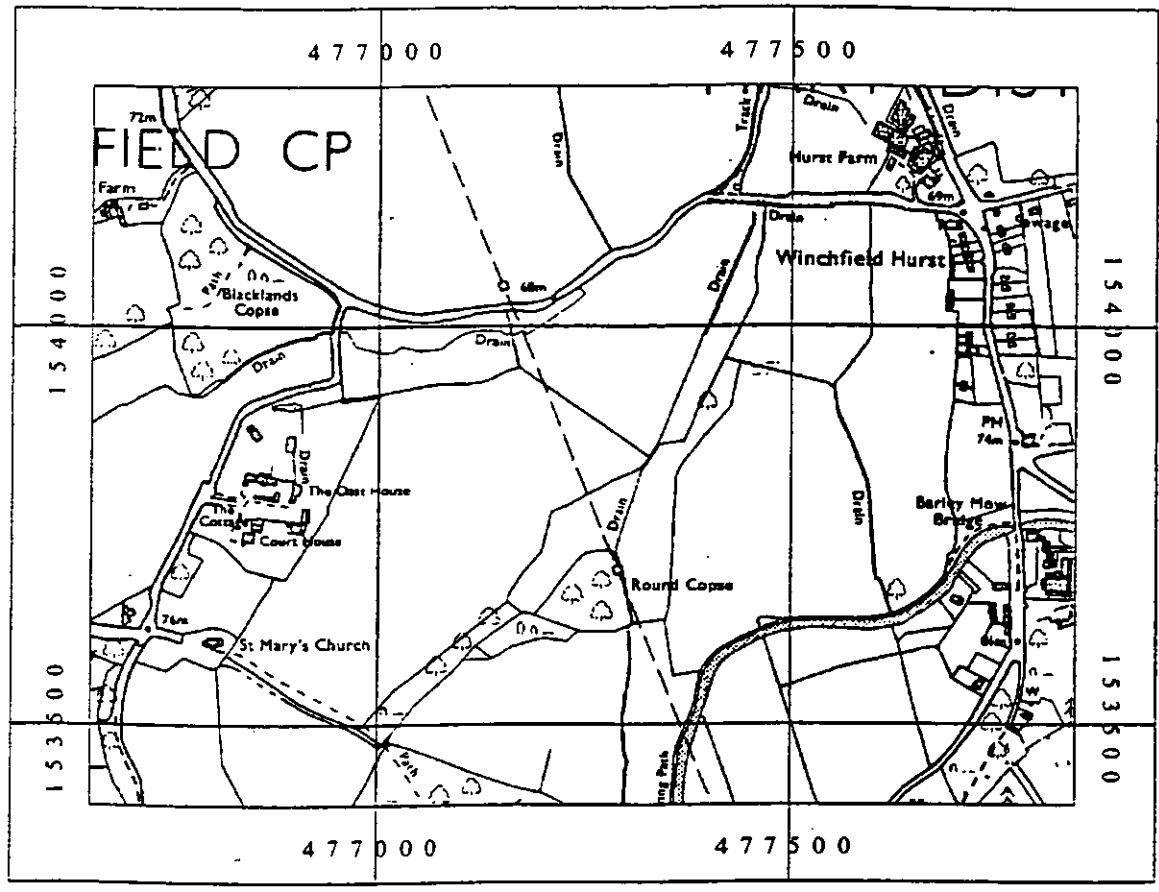


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Map 1

Winchfield
 Location

Map 2



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Scale 1: 10000

Winchfield

Transcribed from the Tithe Map of 1843

Map 3

