NAME Braishfield
PARISH Braishfield
HUNDRED Buddlesgate
DISTRICT Test Valley
NGR SU 375235
GEOLOGY Upper chalk and Reading Beds

SITE CONTEXT The village is positioned at 40-50m OD and lies over the junction between the Upper chalk to the N and the Reading Beds to the S. To the N and NE the land rises quickly to reach a height of 100m OD. The village is protected on the W by a spur of the chalk which rises to 60m OD maximum. The land to the S is gently undulating and reaches 50m OD some 1.5km away. There are no watercourses marked on the OS map but on the clay there are four ponds in and around the village.

## PLAN TYPE & DESCRIPTION Irregular agglomeration.

The village is loosely clustered around a trianglar area bounded by Church Lane on two sides and a N-S road towards Romsey. To the N of Braishfield the road appears to become a narrow lane leading in part towards Farley Chamberlayne. The main concentration of houses is along this N-S road and along the N side of the triangle which may have been as a green.

The general area seems to be one of smaller settlements and within the parish there is also the hamlet of Pucknall and several isolated farms. Braishfield itself was within the parish of Michelmersh.

## AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

Braishfield is a difficult settlement in which to define an AHAP or AAP. At present a line encompassing the whole of the settlement grouped around the 'island' on which the church stands and also along Newport Lane to the SW to include the apparently later development there provides a limit to an AAP. Unfortunately there are few earthworks in or around the settlement but the possibility that there has been some shrinkage or, perhaps more likely, movement cannot be ruled out. Opportunities to investigate any area within this settlement will add to the knowledge of how and when a settlement plan such as this developed.

## CHURCH & CHURCHYARD All Saints 1855

## BUILDINGS (Listed)

Pitt Fmhse C17 core encased and extended C18 II Nos 1-4 Pond Cottages C18 and early C19 II Church of All Saints 1855 II Elmgrove Fmhse, Dummers Rd Late C18 II Barn 25m S of Elmgrove Fmhse C18 II Hunters Lodge and Cromwell Cottage, Dores Lane Once 1 C17 encased C18 II

Pucknall Cottage C17 encased C18 II

Wellbrook Late med timber frame with insertion of 1st floor and fire places c. 1600 C17 extension II

Pucknalls Fmhse C16 core rebuilt C18 remodelled C19 II

Stables 10m NW (C18) and barn (Early C18 with C19 addition) 20m S of Pucknalls Fmhse II

Churchers Barn C16 encased and extended c. 1800 II

Hawkes Fmhse Early C18 II

Hall Place C16 core encased C18 II

Stables 10m SW of Hall Place C18 II

Hall Place Cottage C18 possibly earlier core II

Broom Hill Cottage, Lower Street C16 with later hip bay II

Sharpe's Fmhse C16 extended C18 II

Granary S of Sharpe's Fmhse C18 II

Barn 10m S of Sharpe's Fmhse Early C18 II

Sharpe's Cottage C16 altered C18 II

Nos 1, 2 and 3 Newport Lane Late C18 altered C20 II

The Red Cottage, Paynes Hay Rd C17 II

Paynes Hay Fmhse Early C18 extended C19 and C20 II

Braishfield Lodge and E and W Braishfield Lodge Once 1 C18 core main front C19 II

The Gatehouse C18 or early C19 II

Braishfield Manor House Mid C18 with C20 wings II\*

Fairbourne's Fmhse Poss of med origins but earliest parts of *c.* 1680 and early C18 II

Barn 30m N of Fairbourne's Fmhse  $\,$  C18 incorporating med timbers  $\,$  II

Granary 8m NE of Fairbourne's Fmhse C18 II

Stables 8m NW of Fairbourne's Fmhse C18 II

#### SMR DATA

29	38402652	Roman bath house SAM 522
30	38232650	Roman villa
34	36702500	Med tile find (4)
35	36702500	Roman building material
39	38202630	Roman tile (3)
40	37502600	Prehist flint tool Neo?
50	37852608	Neo flint tool
59	37302615	Roman pot
79	37402560	Saxon bead - flint
80	37402560	Roman coin
81	37002500	Meso tranchet axe reputedly found

## ADDITIONAL SITES/FEATURES

- 1 37682543 Site of cottage shown on 1774 map. Building demolished by 1841.
- 2 37402543 ditto

3	37362541	Site of cottage shown on Tithe map		
4	37422533	ditto		
5	37432532	ditto		
6	37462529	ditto		
7	37712541	Site of buildings Probably a cottage and outbuildings		
shown on Tithe map				
8	37622527	Earthworks Undefined humps and bumps		
9	37902548	A series of slight parallel linear depressions running		
approximately at right angles to Fern Hill Lane across				
pasture. Approximately 20m between each linear				
feature.				
10	37842557	Slight scarp slope Possibly the remains of a lynchet or field boundary		

CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES 1:2,500 SU 3625-3725, 3624-3726; Tithe map 21M65/F7/157/2 (Michelmersh, 1841); 63M48/6 (1774).

#### **AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS**

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

# PRIMARY HISTORIC SOURCES **Domesday** Not mentioned.

**Subsidy Rolls** Not recorded. Probably included in the returns for Michelmersh.

**Manorial Documents** Part of the manor of Michelmersh for which there are extensive records held at Winchester Cathedral Library.

#### **Hearth Tax**

Not recorded seperately, probably included with Michelmersh

PLACE NAME *c.* 1235 *Braisfelde*. Possibly OE 'undergrowth covered open (relatively treeless) land'. Area of regenerating woodland? Hants dialect word *brashy* 'full of small stones' may be an alternative.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**

## OTHER PROJECT ARCHIVE ELEMENTS

Much of the land around the settlement was owned by an Oxford college, probably Magdalen, as some records exist in the college library there. One grant of *c*. 1270 mentions la Reggelescroft, la Mereslonde and Niwelonde near the way leading from Karesbrook towards the wood of Rumsie. This may suggest that there had been some inclosure of common land around this time.





