

8. Cultural Heritage

8.1 Introduction

This assessment for the proposed M54 to M6/M6(Toll) Link Road scheme has been undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Field Archaeologist (IFA) Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments (2001). It does not, however, represent the results of a full desk-based assessment (see section 8.2). The assessment also draws on guidance in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) (DoT 2007, issued as an Interim Advice Note) and the Transport Assessment Guidance (TAG), Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning (DOE, 1990) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment (DOE/DNH, 1994).

For the purposes of this assessment cultural heritage is defined as:

Buried archaeological remains, including palaeo-environmental remains;

The built heritage; and

The historic landscape (not only designed landscapes);

The objective of the assessment has been to identify the known elements of the cultural heritage resource that may be affected by the proposed development and to determine the importance of those resources so that the significance of the likely effects of the development can be established. The scope of the resource considered by the assessment has therefore included all known archaeological sites, areas of archaeological potential, World Heritage Sites, Listed Buildings and non-listed buildings of particular value, Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas, National Trust Properties including inalienable land, the Historic Landscape, English Heritage Registered Parks and Gardens Special Historic Interest, and English Heritage Registered Historic Battlefields.

The aims of the assessment were to:

Identify the known cultural heritage assets that may be affected by the proposed scheme options; and also areas where as yet unknown buried archaeological remains could be affected;

Assess the potential impact of the proposed scheme options on the local historic landscape and built heritage resource;

Determine the importance of the known assets and the potential importance of as yet undiscovered archaeological remains;

Assess the impacts of the proposed scheme options on those assets;

To describe outline mitigation measures;

Make recommendations for any further investigation which may be required in order to be able to comment robustly on the effects of the options and to determine appropriate mitigation measures.

It should be noted that this assessment was carried out before the noise assessment was completed, and thus noise mitigation had not yet been designed for each of the scheme options. This assessment does not, therefore, include the impacts of noise bunding and barriers to cultural heritage

8.2 Methods of Assessment

This report does not represent the results of a full desk-based assessment as outlined in the Institute for Field Archaeologist (IFA) Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments (2001), but identifies the key issues in relation to the heritage of historic resources. It draws on guidance in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) (DoT 2007, issued as an Interim Advice Note) and the Transport Assessment Guidance (TAG), Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning (DOE, 1990) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment (DOE/DNH, 1994).

The following sources were consulted:

The Historic Environment Record held by Staffordshire County Council, for details of the known archaeological and built heritage in the study area, as well as other designations relating to the historic environment including historic landscape characterisation, August 2006 and April 2007;

English Heritage's National Monuments Record (EH NMR), for details of the built heritage (including Listed Buildings) in the study area, August 2006 and April 2007;

English Heritage's Landscape Architect, West Territory, for information on the registered parks and gardens in the region and the retention of Hilton Park on their Register Review list, November 2006. No details of the proposed scheme options and the potential effects of these options were discussed;

Details on known cultural heritage assets referred to in published and unpublished sources;

Staffordshire Gardens and Parks Trust for background on the design and history of Hilton Park, November 2006. No details of the proposed scheme options and the potential effects of these options were discussed;

The Multi-Agency Geographical Information Centre (MAGIC) website for data on World Heritage sites, Scheduled Monuments, English Heritage Registered Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest; and English Heritage Registered Battlefields, August 2006 and April 2007;

Information from the local planning authority within the study area and their Local Plan for details of Conservation Areas and areas of archaeological importance / interest, August and October 2006.

A study area of approximately 1km either side of the footprints of the scheme options was adopted for this assessment. This is sufficient at this stage of assessment to allow for the physical impacts and the wider impacts on the context and setting of elements of the built heritage and historic landscape to be identified.

Site visits were undertaken in October and November 2006 to assess any potential changes to the context and setting of cultural heritage assets. At the time of the site visits, the definitive visual envelope was in development and not available for use; therefore, the sites which were visited comprised upstanding heritage features of medium or high importance, such as Listed Buildings and designed/ formal historic landscapes. The development during later stages of assessment of a definitive visual envelope may necessitate the need for a wider study area. Any new cultural heritage assets identified whilst on site were also noted and included within this assessment. These site visits were also used to check the presence and condition of previously recorded sites of Medium and High importance. The initial site visit was restricted to public rights of way and the immediate surroundings of Hilton Hall; therefore the assessment should not be seen as constituting a detailed walkover survey. The second site visit was undertaken with the permission of the owners of Hilton Hall and the surrounding park. This provided an opportunity to make a more detailed walkover of the immediate surroundings of the Hall.

A gazetteer of known archaeological, built heritage and historic landscape assets has been compiled. All assets have been given a specific (ATK) number for the purposes of this report, which is discussed in the baseline information section (section 8.3). The specific number and SMR title of each of these assets can be found in appendix O. In addition, the location of these assets can be seen on drawings 5049906/EN/HE/001 to 005 in appendix A.

8.2.1 Magnitude and Significance of the Effect

The assessment for determining the significance of the environmental effect with regard to cultural heritage assets will draw on guidance outlined in DMRB and TAG. These approaches are founded on the principle that the significance of environmental effect is determined by assessing the magnitude of change (or impact) and the importance of the affected asset or resource. In this way, a Minor negative impact on an asset of High

importance may result in the same effect as a Major negative impact on an asset of Low importance.

8.2.2 Importance of the affected resource

The assessment of the importance (or value) of each element of the heritage resource is based on the advice given in DMRB (2007). The table below is an amalgamation and summary of three tables (tables 5.1, 6.1 & 7.1) which can be found in the annexes of DMRB Volume 11, Section 3, Part 2, Cultural Heritage (2007)

Table 8.1 - Importance of the affected resource.

Very High	<p>World Heritage Sites</p> <p>Assets of acknowledged international importance</p> <p>Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged international research objectives</p> <p>Buildings of recognised international importance</p> <p>Historic Landscapes of international sensitivity, whether designated or not</p> <p>Extremely well preserved historic landscapes with exceptional coherence, time-depth, or other critical factor(s)</p>
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<p>High</p>	<p>Scheduled Monuments (buried or with standing remains)</p> <p>Undesignated buried archaeological remains of schedulable quality and importance</p> <p>Buried archaeological remains that can contribute significantly to acknowledged national research objectives</p> <p>Grade I and II* (Scotland: Category A and B) Listed Buildings</p> <p>Other Listed Buildings that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical association not adequately reflected in the listing grade</p> <p>Conservation Areas containing very important buildings</p> <p>Undesignated structures of clear national importance</p> <p>Designated or undesignated historic landscapes of outstanding interest</p> <p>Undesignated landscapes of high quality and importance, and of demonstrable national sensitivity</p> <p>Well preserved historic landscapes, exhibiting considerable coherence, time-depth or other critical factor(s)</p>
<p>Medium</p>	<p>Designated or undesignated buried archaeological remains that contribute to regional research objectives</p> <p>Grade II (Scotland: Category C) Listed Buildings</p> <p>Historic (unlisted) buildings that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical association</p> <p>Conservation Areas containing important buildings</p> <p>Historic Townscape or built-up-areas with historic integrity in their buildings, or built settings (e.g. including street furniture and other structures)</p> <p>Designated special historic landscapes</p> <p>Undesignated historic landscapes that would justify special historic landscape designation, landscapes of regional sensitivity</p> <p>Averagely well-preserved historic landscapes with reasonable coherence, time-depth or other critical factor(s)</p>

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8.2.1 Magnitude and Significance of the Effect

The assessment for determining the significance of the environmental effect with regard to cultural heritage assets will draw on guidance outlined in DMRB and TAG. These approaches are founded on the principle that the significance of environmental effect is determined by assessing the magnitude of change (or impact) and the importance of the affected asset or resource. In this way, a Minor negative impact on an asset of High

importance may result in the same effect as a Major negative impact on an asset of Low importance

8.2.2 Importance of the affected resource

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<p>Medium</p>	<p>Designated or undesignated buried archaeological remains that contribute to regional research objectives</p> <p>Grade II (Scotland: Category C) Listed Buildings</p> <p>Historic (unlisted) buildings that can be shown to have exceptional qualities in their fabric or historical association</p> <p>Conservation Areas containing important buildings</p> <p>Historic Townscape or built-up-areas with historic integrity in their buildings, or built settings (e.g including street furniture and other structures)</p> <p>Designated special historic landscapes</p> <p>Undesignated historic landscapes that would justify special historic landscape designation, landscapes of regional sensitivity</p> <p>Averagely well-preserved historic landscapes with reasonable coherence, time-depth or other critical factor(s)</p>

<p>Low</p>	<p>Undesignated buried archaeological remains of local importance</p> <p>Buried archaeological remains compromised by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations</p> <p>Buried archaeological remains of limited value, but with potential to contribute to local research objectives</p> <p>'Locally Listed' Buildings</p> <p>Historic (unlisted) buildings of modest quality in their fabric or historical association</p> <p>Historic Townscape or built-up-areas of limited historic integrity in their buildings or built settings (e.g including street furniture and other structures)</p> <p>Robust undesignated historic landscapes</p> <p>Historic landscapes with specific and substantial importance to local interest groups, but with limited sensitivity</p> <p>Historic landscapes whose sensitivity is limited by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations</p>
<p>Negligible</p>	<p>Buried archaeological remains with very little or no surviving archaeological interest</p> <p>Buildings of no archaeological or historical note; buildings of an intrusive character</p> <p>Landscapes with little or no significant historical interest</p>
<p>Unknown</p>	<p>The importance of the resource cannot be ascertained</p> <p>Buildings with some hidden (i.e. inaccessible) potential for historic significance</p>

8.2.3 Magnitude of change

In order to assess the magnitude of change brought about by the proposed development on the identified cultural heritage assets the following grading system has been used. This nine-point scale has been developed from the guidance given in DMRB:

Major negative impact: the proposed development would result in the complete destruction / demolition of an element of the built heritage or the entire removal of a component of the historic landscape; be highly visually intrusive and would seriously damage the setting of a cultural heritage asset or assets, such that their integrity is compromised and appreciation

and understanding of them is greatly diminished; and / or the proposed development would disturb more than 75% of the area of known or estimated buried archaeological features / deposits

Moderate negative impact: the proposed development would result the partial destruction / demolition of an element of the built heritage; the proposed development would be intrusive in the setting, and would negatively impose on the appreciation and understanding of the characteristic heritage resource; and / or the proposed development would disturb between 25% and 75% of the area of known or estimated buried archaeological features / deposits

Minor negative impact: the proposed development would change the existing setting of the cultural heritage resource but would not result in the severance or loss of integrity, appreciation or understanding of the resource; and / or the proposed development would disturb less than 25% of the area of known or estimated buried archaeological features / deposits

Negligible negative impact: the proposed development, although causing a negative change would not result in a perceivable impact on the cultural heritage resource.

No change: the proposed development would not result in the destruction / demolition of any element of the built heritage; the proposed development would not alter the integrity or setting of the cultural heritage resource and would therefore maintain the existing historic character; and / or the proposed development would not disturb buried archaeological features / deposits.

Negligible positive impact: the proposed development, although causing a positive change would not result in a perceivable impact on the cultural heritage resource.

Minor positive impact: the proposed development would re-introduce accessibility to visible archaeological remains or an element of the built heritage resource; and / or the proposed development would improve the setting of a cultural heritage asset.

Moderate positive impact: the proposed development would retard any further natural or accelerated degradation of buried archaeological remains by improving the existing situation (such as the cessation of ploughing); the proposed development would provide accessibility to visible archaeological remains or a component of the built heritage or historic landscape such that the understanding and appreciation of the asset is improved; and / or the proposed

development would greatly improve the setting of a cultural heritage asset or remove existing intrusive elements such that the integrity and setting of the asset would be enhanced

Major positive impact: the proposed development would prevent any further natural or accelerated degradation of buried archaeological remains and potentially ensure their long-term in situ preservation; the proposed development would provide increased accessibility to visible archaeological remains or a component of the of the built heritage or historic landscape; and / or through the restoration of lost or damaged elements enhance the understanding and appreciation of the asset.

8.2.4 Significance of the effect

By combining the magnitude of the impact of the potential development and the importance of each element of the resource, an assessment can then be made of the significance of the effect, defined as being very large beneficial, large beneficial, moderate beneficial, slight beneficial, neutral, slight adverse, moderate adverse, large adverse or very large adverse.

Table 8.2 - Matrix for scale of the significance of the effect

Value	Very High	Neutral	Slight	Moderate/ Large	Large/ Very Large	Very Large
	High	Neutral	Slight	Moderate/ Slight	Moderate/ Large	Large/ Very Large
	Medium	Neutral	Neutral/ Slight	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate/ Large
	Low	Neutral	Neutral/ Slight	Neutral/ Slight	Slight	Moderate/ Slight
	Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral/ Slight	Neutral/ Slight	Very Large
	No change	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major	
	Magnitude of Impact					

This matrix is not intended to be a formulaic judgement, and there should also be an element of professional judgement, especially when considering the percentages of disturbance to archaeological deposits or features. This professional judgement will determine which of the two options available in some of the boxes to be selected.

8.3 Baseline Conditions

8.3.1 Geological and Topographic background:

In summary, the solid geology of the eastern part of the area comprises a range of Warwickshire Group Upper Coal Measures including the Etruria and Salop Formations. The western regions of the study area mainly comprise formations of the Sherwood Sandstone Group, such as the Kidderminster Formation, the Wildmoor Sandstone Formation and the Bromsgrove Sandstone Formation. The drift geology comprises variable thicknesses of Boulder Clay and Glacial Sands and Gravels covering most of the central area of the site and a band of alluvium, associated with a tributary of the River Penk, cuts across the eastern part of the site.

8.3.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

A full archaeological and historical background to the study area and wider environs can be found in appendix P of this report; the following is a summary:

The results of planned excavation, of chance finds and the evidence of aerial reconnaissance have served to highlight Staffordshire's prehistoric heritage, though to date much of this, and especially that of the earlier periods is poorly understood. This is due to a combination of factors, which include the limited coverage of various surveys across the county and the often poor survival of features and artefacts. Finds dating to the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic are primarily limited to chance finds of stone artefacts such as hand axes and flint scatters. Whilst such artefacts have been discovered elsewhere in the county, no evidence has yet come to light within the boundaries of the study area. Limited evidence of later prehistory does, however, survive. This is confined to the area around Saredon parish where the earthwork remains of two undated burnt mounds are located (ATK 1 and ATK 2). The majority of the 21 known burnt mounds in the county lie in the vicinity of Cannock Chase and as a monument type the majority of these are likely to date between the later Neolithic period right through to the later Bronze Age.

The Roman period is not represented within the study area by any currently known sites. The wider area is crossed by well known Roman roads such as Watling Street, orientated east – west slightly to the north of the study area, the line of which is now followed by the A5. Such roads had initially been built to serve the army but also provided links for commerce and communication and so served a hierarchy of civilian settlements and agricultural communities around the region.

With the exception of the excavations at Catholme near the River Tame – Trent confluence, some 30km to the northeast, Anglo-Saxon settlement is not well represented in the region and not at all within the boundaries of the study area. Though it is clear larger settlements were established along the river valleys in the early Anglo-Saxon period evidence is largely limited to what can be inferred from burial sites and isolated finds.

By the end of the 10th century, a pattern of nucleated settlements surrounded by fields had appeared across the region. The characteristic 'ridge and furrow' earthworks relating to the agriculture of the period still survive in a number of areas and are evident around the parishes of Saredon and Shareshill (ATK 26 - 29). These assets reflect the continuity of agricultural practices, which still dominate the landscape in the area today

Also characteristic of the medieval period are examples of shrunken or deserted village sites, of which three are located within the study area at Saredon, Hilton and Essington (ATK 13, 17 and 39). These are a sample of the 110 sites of deserted or shrunken settlement that are recorded around the county. In addition, the Staffordshire HER records at least 189 moated sites, many of which are related to the deserted and shrunken settlements. Within the study area a number of such sites survive (though to varying degrees) at Shareshill (ATK 22, 23 and 24), Saredon (ATK 19 and 21), Essington (ATK 20) and at Hilton (ATK 25).

Hilton moated site lies within Hilton Park (ATK 43) and along with Hilton Hall (ATK 67) provides the primary focus of the 18th century landscape park. Hilton Hall was built partially across the moat and stands on the site of the Swinnerton's medieval manor house. The site has been occupied continuously from at least the 14th century, first by the Swinnerton family and then through marriage in the 16th century, by the Vernon family. It remained in their ownership for the next four centuries in which time, mainly during the early 18th century and onwards into the 19th century, much of the designed landscape and associated structures that currently survive were created (ATK 64, 71, 72 and 73). The hall, moat and a number of the associated buildings and structures are Listed and although the park, which may have associations with Humphrey Repton, is itself not registered by English Heritage as a Park and Garden of Special Historic Interest, it has, however, been defined in the South Staffordshire Local Plan as one of 12 notable Historic Landscape Areas (South Staffordshire Council 1996).

Hilton Park comprises multiple landscape components of ornamental gardens and lakes surrounding the principle residence (Hilton Hall), with associated outbuildings in close

proximity (the conservatory and stables) and wider afield within a mixed arable and woodland landscape (the Portobello tower)

Elsewhere in the area the post-medieval landscape is fairly typical and portrays the growth in importance of industry in the region. However, significant examples of this development such as Hilton Main Colliery (ATK 49) and the Wyrley Bank Branch of Wyrley and Essington Canal (ATK 42) remained in a predominantly rural landscape and despite industrial development the area has remained a primarily arable farming area throughout the 19th and 20th century.

A total of 80 cultural heritage assets or sites were identified within the defined study area (see gazetteer, appendix O). The identified assets, including those which have been destroyed or are of limited archaeological importance (No Grade Importance), are shown on drawings 5049906/EN/HE/001 to 005 in appendix A. Those sites which straddle the boundary of the study area have been included in the assessment for completeness. For ease of description, all sites are prefixed with the letters "ATK". It should be noted that not all the spatial extents of individual assets or sites have been determined at this stage of the assessment.

8.3.3 Scheduled Monuments

There are no Scheduled Monuments within the study area

8.3.4 English Heritage registered Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest

There are no English Heritage registered Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in the study area.

The Local Plan for South Staffordshire designates Hilton Park (ATK 43) as a Historic Landscape Area (see below)

8.3.5 English Heritage registered Battlefields

There are no English Heritage registered Battlefields in the study area

8.3.6 Conservation Areas

There are no Conservation Areas in the study area.

8.3.7 Listed Buildings

There are nineteen Listed Buildings within the study area; two Grade I (Hilton Hall and Hilton Hall Conservatory: ATK 67 and 72, respectively), one Grade II* (the Church of St. Mary and St. Luke: ATK 60) and sixteen Grade II (mostly comprising other structures and buildings associated with Hilton Hall such as the Portobello Tower (ATK 64) and post-medieval farmhouses and agricultural buildings located within the rural environs of the study area such as Saredon Hall Farmhouse (ATK 66)).

8.3.8 Non-statutory designated assets

The Local Plan for South Staffordshire identifies Hilton Park (ATK 43) as a Historic Landscape Area. A summary description of the Park can be found above, in section 8.3.2. The designation in the Local Plan is accompanied with the following policy:

Policy LS11 – Historic Landscape – Protection of Character and Setting

In considering development proposals within the Historic Landscape Areas defined on the proposals map, the District Council will have special regard to the desirability of conserving the historic landscape character and setting of the HLA and of protecting it from unsympathetic sub-division. Development proposals should aim to conserve the landscape character of historic landscapes.

8.3.9 Non-designated assets

Evidence from documentary and cartographic sources plus photographed cropmarks indicates that buried archaeological remains are present within the study area. These sites have been tentatively described as possible former settlement remains relating to occupation during the prehistoric period (amongst others, ATK 38), medieval period (the possible deserted medieval settlement at Hilton, ATK 17) and others of unknown date (amongst others, ATK 31 & 32). These buried remains are likely to take the form of infilled cut features of ditches and pits, but may also included buried stone building materials

A remnant of medieval and post-medieval agricultural activity in the study area is evident from the surviving ridge and furrow earthworks (ATK 26 – 29). Other surviving earthworks included partially infilled perimeters of several moated sites in Essington, Saredon and Shareshill (ATK 20, 21, 19 & 22).

The historic landscape of the study area is dominated by the parkland of Hilton Hall (described in further detail above and in appendix P) and by the formal late 20th century communications landscape of two motorways, the M54 and the M6, and their associated paraphernalia.

8.4 Site Investigations and Further Mitigation

Archaeological remains survive as both upstanding earthworks or as buried deposits. All types of remains are susceptible to damage and/or destruction as a result of ground disturbance within the construction footprint of highway construction works and any other ground disturbing ancillary works such as landscaping. There may also be a number of less quantifiable effects outside the immediate footprint of construction works brought about by changes to the prevailing drainage regime and water tables.

The removal of topsoil and subsoil is likely to destroy most archaeological deposits and, even where embankments and other construction methods are used to raise the overall ground level, preparatory works can result in the destruction of archaeological deposits which lie at shallow depths. However, careful design and the implementation of that design means that the burying of archaeological features beneath a development is now an accepted form of preservation in situ, but care must be taken to ensure that any significant deposits are not subject to undue compaction and shrinkage.

Possible mitigation measures for archaeological sites are described in the DMRB Volume 10 (DOT 1994, 7/1) as:

Locate the route away from archaeological remains and their settings

Design the scheme's vertical alignment and associated earthworks so that archaeological remains are not disturbed.

Provide for an excavation and recording of remains before the start of earth-moving

Provide for an archaeologist to be "on call" so that any finds during construction can be recorded.

In practice, a combination of these measures is often used.

Listed Buildings and other elements of the built environment are, by definition, upstanding structures. In addition to demolition, they are particularly susceptible to increased visual intrusion, noise, vibration, and disturbance and severance from other linked and associated features. Conservation Areas, English Heritage registered Battlefields and Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest are also areas designated as being worthy of special protection, and these are also susceptible to increased visual intrusion, noise, vibration, severance from original features, changes to original landscape setting, and loss of amenity.

Possible mitigation measures for the built environment have been described in the DMRB Volume 10 (DOT 1994, 12/1) as:

Locate the route away from historic buildings or sites. Demolition of these features should be avoided wherever possible.

Keep a route low within the natural topography to exploit any natural screening and enhance this by the use of cuttings and, in exceptional circumstances, tunnels. These measures will also help to reduce noise and vibration.

Use other landscaping techniques to integrate a scheme into its setting.

Once again, a combination of these measures is often used.

At this early stage of scheme design landscaping proposals or possible screen planting have not been formulated. However, it should be noted that although the creation of new elements of landscaping could go some way to screening an unsympathetic intrusion (such as a lit dual-carriageway or motorway) from a Listed Building, these 'green' elements could be a counter-productive mitigation measure and be more intrusive than the scheme itself on a wider historic designed landscape (such as Hilton Park).

It is considered that five separate phases of work are required to ensure that the cultural heritage resource of any proposed construction corridor is considered to an appropriate standard. The results of each phase will influence and set the parameters for the next. Phases 1 and 2 deal with assessment and pre-construction works, Phase 3 deals with the recording of archaeological deposits while construction is in progress and the implementation of landscaping works, and Phases 4 and 5 deal with the assimilation, publication and deposition of any results resulting from the previous phases.

In detail, these phases comprise:

Phase 1: Detailed evaluation of archaeological sites: further and desk-based assessment, fieldwalking, geophysical survey, earthwork survey, trial trenching; leading to the detailed assessment of effects and recommendations for mitigation (DMRB Stage 3) Detailed assessment of the historic landscape, built heritage and other areas of cultural heritage importance such as designed landscapes, leading to the detailed assessment of effects and recommendations for mitigation (DMRB Stage 3).

Phase 2: Pre-construction investigation: detailed excavation and architectural recording in advance of construction of those assets identified during the previous phase to be of cultural heritage importance and for which no appropriate protection measures can be sought.

Phase 3: Watching brief during construction: investigation and recording of those assets identified during previous work as not warranting prior investigation, as well as the recording of sites which may be discovered during the course of development.

Phase 4: Post-excavation assessment: assessment of the results of the archaeological investigations and the potential of the data for analysis leading to recommendations, timetable and costings for subsequent detailed analysis, publication, storage and deposition.

Phase 5: Post-excavation analysis and publication: data analysis, report preparation and publication followed by deposition of the archive and artefacts and all other materials associated with the investigations with the appropriate institution for long term storage and curation.

All recommended mitigation works should follow existing established guidelines, both national and regional (e.g. English Heritage 1991; IFA 1999; CCC 2003), and all proposals and methodologies should be discussed with English Heritage and the relevant County Archaeologist and Conservation Officers prior to their design and implementation.

8.5 Assessment of Environmental Effects

The proposed route of option A would result in adverse effects on 17 identified assets. Eight of these effects are defined as Slight Adverse, affecting five assets of Low importance, two assets of Medium importance and one asset of High importance. Eight of these effects are defined as Moderate Adverse, affecting one asset of Low importance, five assets of Medium importance and two assets of High importance. There is one Large Adverse effect, which affects an asset of Medium importance. Details of the assets affected are summarised in table 8.3.

The proposed route of options B, B5/D5, B7/D7 and B8/D8 would result in adverse effects on 17 identified assets. Six of these effects are defined as Slight Adverse, affecting four assets of Low importance, one asset of Medium importance and one asset of High importance. Ten of these effects are defined as Moderate Adverse, affecting two assets of Low importance, six assets of medium importance and two assets of High importance. There is one Large Adverse effect, which affects an asset of Medium importance. Details of the assets affected are summarised in table 8.3 and 8.4.

Due to the methodology employed and the baseline information to date, the subtle differences between options B5/D5, B7/D7 and B8/D8 has resulted in six schemes which affect the same assets in a very similar fashion. Therefore for these particular options the summary of the effects, reported below, applies equally to all six options; the one variation to this is also noted below.

It should be noted that effects arising from landscaping works, balancing or attenuation ponds, haul routes and construction compounds have not yet been considered.

8.5.1 Scheduled Monuments; English Heritage registered Battlefields, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest; and Conservation Areas

Other than Listed Buildings (see below) no statutory designated assets lie within the study area; thus none would be affected by the scheme options.

8.5.2 Listed Buildings

Although there are 19 listed buildings within the study area, none of these would be physically affected by the scheme proposals.

However, the settings of two Grade I Listed buildings, Hilton Hall and its Conservatory (ATK 67 and 72), which are of High Importance, would undergo Moderate negative impacts. At this stage of assessment it has been assumed that the settings of these Listed Buildings is not confined to where views to and from the buildings are possible but to their wider setting and contextual curtilage; i.e. the wider parkland. Thus these changes would result in Moderate Adverse effects

The setting of a Grade II* Listed building, the Church of St. Mary and St Luke (ATK 60) would undergo a Minor negative impact, which because of its High Importance would result in a Slight Adverse effect

In addition the settings of four Grade II Listed Buildings, which are of Medium Importance, would experience negative changes; the Portobello Tower, the Saredon Farmhouse, Hilton Hall gate piers and Hilton Hall coach house and stable block (ATK 64, 66, 71, and 73; respectively) This equates to a Moderate Adverse effect on three assets (ATK 64, 71, and 73) and a Slight Adverse effect on one (ATK 66).

Based on current information and using the methodology presented no one option would result in a more adverse impact than any other option.

8.5.3 Non-statutory designated assets (Historic Landscape Areas as defined within the Local Plan)

There will be a Major negative impact in one Historic Landscape Area (Hilton Park, ATK 43), a site of Medium importance, which would be subject to significant new land-take through its western half for the purposes of providing a link between the M54 Junction 1 and M6 Junction 11.

All the proposed options would result in the physical loss of parkland, principally agricultural land forming the 'backdrop' of the ornamental gardens around the main house. All proposed options would also be highly visually intrusive and would seriously damage the form and setting of the designed landscape. Specifically Options A, B and D5/B5 would sever key elements of the designed landscape; the lower pond from the other ponds and the main house. This Major negative impact to Hilton Park could not be fully mitigated and as such would result in a Large Adverse effect. Discussions would need to be held with English Heritage, the Local Authorities and other stakeholders to determine their views on the scheme options as they pass through the parkland.

All proposed options would result in a similar negative change to Hilton Park and thus result in a similar (Large) Adverse effect.

8.5.4 Non-designated sites

For option A there would be adverse effects on nine non-designated sites. These comprise:

A Major negative impact, through the loss of buried archaeological remains of a potential prehistoric settlement site at Little Saredon (ATK 38), which is of Low importance and would result in a Moderate Adverse effect.

A Major negative impact, through the loss of buried archaeological remains, to a former field system in Saredon (ATK 18), which is of Low importance and would result in a Slight Adverse effect.

A Moderate negative impact, through the loss of buried archaeological remains to Hilton deserted medieval settlement (ATK 17), which is of Medium importance and would result in a Moderate Adverse effect.

A Minor negative impact, through the loss of buried archaeological remains to a potential prehistoric settlement site near Laney Green, Saredon (ATK 31), which is of Medium importance and would result in a Slight Adverse effect.

A Minor negative impact, through the loss of buried archaeological remains to a potential prehistoric ditched enclosure in Laney Green, Saredon (ATK 32), which is of Low importance and would result in a Slight Adverse effect.

A Minor negative impact to an earthwork bank near Middle Hill, Saredon (ATK 30), which is of Low importance and would result in a Slight Adverse effect.

A Minor negative impact to the remains of Hilton Main Colliery (ATK 49), which is of Low importance and would result in a Slight Adverse effect.

A Moderate negative impact to Hilton Park moated site (ATK 25), which is of Medium importance and would result in a Moderate Adverse effect.

A Minor negative impact to Middle Hall Farm, farmhouse and outbuildings (ATK 80), which is of Low importance and would result in a Slight Adverse effect.

For Options B, D5/B5, D7/B7 and D8/B8 there would be adverse effects on nine non-designated sites. These comprise:

A Major negative impact, through the loss of buried archaeological remains of a potential prehistoric settlement site at Little Saredon (ATK 38), which is of Low importance and would result in a Moderate Adverse effect

A Major negative impact, through the loss of buried archaeological remains, to a former field system in Saredon (ATK 18), which is of Low importance and would result in a Slight Adverse effect

A Moderate negative impact, through the loss of buried archaeological remains to Hilton deserted settlement (ATK 17), which is of Medium importance and would result in a Moderate Adverse effect.

A Major negative impact, through the loss of buried archaeological remains to a potential prehistoric settlement site near Laney Green, Saredon (ATK 31), which is of Medium importance and would result in a Moderate Adverse effect.

A Major negative impact, through the loss of buried archaeological remains to a potential prehistoric ditched enclosure in Laney Green, Saredon (ATK 32), which is of Low importance and would result in a Moderate Adverse effect.

A Major negative impact to an earthwork bank near Middle Hill, Saredon (ATK 30), which is of Low importance and would result in a Slight Adverse effect.

A Minor negative impact to the remains of Hilton Main Colliery (ATK 49), which is of Low importance and would result in a Slight Adverse effect.

A Moderate negative impact to Hilton Park moated site (ATK 25), which is of Medium Importance and would result in a Moderate Adverse effect.

A Minor negative impact to Middle Hall Farm, farmhouse and outbuildings (ATK 80), which is of Low importance and would result in a Slight Adverse effect.

Table 8.3 - Magnitude and Significance of the effects of the schemes -- Option A and B

Site no	Site name and description	Grade of Importance	Change Option A	Overall effect Option A	Change Option B	Overall Effect Option B
ATK 17	Hilton/ Haltone Deserted Settlement (medieval)	Medium	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 18	Possible former field system, Saredon (may prove to be of geological origin)	Low	Major Negative	Slight Adverse	Major Negative	Slight Adverse
ATK 25	Hilton Park Moated Site, Hilton (in Hilton Park Historic Landscape Area)	Medium	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 30	Earthwork Bank identified from aerial photograph, near Middle Hill, Saredon	Low	Minor Negative	Slight Adverse	Major Negative	Slight Adverse
ATK 31	Potential archaeological site identified from cropmark evidence, Near Laney Green, Saredon	Medium	Minor Negative	Slight Adverse	Major Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 32	Potential rectilinear enclosure identified from cropmark evidence, Laney Green	Low	Minor Negative	Slight Adverse	Major Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 38	Potential prehistoric buried archaeological remains (from evidence of cropmarks), Little Saredon	Low	Major Negative	Moderate Adverse	Major Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 43	Hilton Park (South Staffs Local Plan document - designated as Historic Landscape Area)	Medium	Major Negative	Large Adverse	Major Negative	Large Adverse
ATK 49	Hilton Main Colliery, Hilton	Low	Minor Negative	Slight Adverse	Minor Negative	Slight Adverse
ATK 60	Church of St Mary and St Luke - LB II*	High	Minor Negative	Slight Adverse	Minor Negative	Slight Adverse
ATK 64	The Portobello Tower - LB II (in Hilton Park Historic Landscape Area)	Medium	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 66	Saredon Hall and Attached Cowhouse - LB II	Medium	Minor Negative	Slight Adverse	Minor Negative	Slight Adverse

Site no	Site name and description	Grade of Importance	Change Option A	Overall effect Option A	Change Option B	Overall Effect Option B
ATK 67	Hilton Hall – LB I (in Hilton Park Historic Landscape Area)	High	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 71	Pair Of Gatepiers Approximately 200 Yards South West Of Hilton Hall – LB II (in Hilton Park Historic Landscape Area)	Medium	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 72	The Conservatory – LB I (in Hilton Park Historic Landscape Area)	High	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 73	Coach House And Stable Block Approximately 50 Yards North East Of Hilton Hall – LB II (in Hilton Park Historic Landscape Area)	Medium	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 80	Middle Hall Farm (non-listed post-medieval farmhouse and outbuildings)	Low	Minor Negative	Slight Adverse	Minor Negative	Slight Adverse

Table 8.4: Magnitude and Significance of the effects of the schemes – Options D5/B5, D7/B7 and D8/B8

Site no	Site name and description	Grade of Importance	Impact	Overall effect
ATK 17	Hilton/ Haltone Deserted Settlement (medieval)	Medium	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 18	Possible former field system, Saredon (may prove to be of geological origin)	Low	Major Negative	Slight Adverse
ATK 25	Hilton Park Moated Site, Hilton (in Hilton Park Historic Landscape Area)	Medium	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 30	Earthwork Bank identified from aerial photograph, near Middle Hill, Saredon	Low	Major Negative	Slight Adverse
ATK 31	Potential archaeological site identified from cropmark evidence, Near Laney Green, Saredon	Medium	Major Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 32	Potential rectilinear enclosure identified from cropmark evidence, Laney Green	Low	Major Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 38	Potential prehistoric buried archaeological remains (from evidence of cropmarks), Little Saredon	Low	Major Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 43	Hilton Park (South Staffs Local Plan document – designated as Historic Landscape Area)	Medium	Major Negative	Large Adverse
ATK 49	Hilton Main Colliery, Hilton	Low	Minor Negative	Slight Adverse
ATK 60	Church of St Mary and St Luke - LB II*	High	Minor Negative	Slight Adverse
ATK 64	The Portobello Tower – LB II (in Hilton Park Historic Landscape Area)	Medium	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 66	Saredon Hall Farmhouse and Attached Cowhouse – LB II	Medium	Minor Negative	Slight Adverse
ATK 67	Hilton Hall – LB I (in Hilton Park Historic Landscape Area)	High	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 71	Pair Of Gatepiers Approximately 200 Yards South West Of Hilton Hall – LB II (in Hilton Park Historic Landscape Area)	Medium	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 72	The Conservatory – LB I	High	Moderate	Moderate Adverse

Site no	Site name and description	Grade of Importance	Impact	Overall effect
	(in Hilton Park Historic Landscape Area)		Negative	
ATK 73	Coach House And Stable Block Approximately 50 Yards North East Of Hilton Hall – LB II (in Hilton Park Historic Landscape Area)	Medium	Moderate Negative	Moderate Adverse
ATK 80	Middle Hall Farm (non-listed post-medieval farmhouse and outbuildings)	Low	Minor Negative	Slight Adverse

8.6 Key Issues

The scheme would be highly intrusive and would seriously damage the setting of Hilton Park (ATK 43) designed landscape (not an English Heritage registered Park and Garden but recognised within the Staffordshire Local Plan as a 'Historic Landscape Area') and its associated buildings (ATK 64, 67, 71, 72 and 73) (including two Grade I and three Grade II Listed Buildings). This would seriously compromise the designed landscape and the setting of the Listed Buildings to the extent that they could no longer be fully appreciated or understood. These impacts could not be fully mitigated.

The settings of two other Listed Buildings (ATK 60 and 66) outside Hilton Park would also be compromised. Earthworks and potentially important buried archaeological remains (prehistoric settlement and deserted medieval settlement) could also be disturbed; however, adequate mitigation (in the form of advanced archaeological excavation and recording) could be specified. The scheme would be in conflict with local, regional and national policy for the protection of the heritage

In summary, the scheme would result in adverse effects on 17 identified sites. For option A this would result in one Large Adverse effect, eight Moderate Adverse effects and eight Slight Adverse effects. For options B, B5/D5, B7/D7 and B8/D8 this would constitute one Large Adverse effect, ten Moderate Adverse effects and six Slight Adverse effects.

Based on our current understanding of the cultural heritage resource and adopting the methodologies as set out in the section 8.2, which have been developed from TAG (DfT

2004, unit 3.3.9, table 1), all the proposed options would constitute a Large Adverse (negative) overall effect

Further assessment of the importance of the heritage resource (both the built heritage and buried archaeological heritage) and the magnitude of the changes brought about by either of the scheme options needs to be determined before a robust statement on the significance of the effects of the scheme can be made.

Further discussions would need to be held with English Heritage, Staffordshire Gardens and Parks Trust, the Gardens History Society and the Local Authority Historic Environment teams to determine their views on the appropriateness of the assessment undertaken to date; the likely scope of further assessment and potential mitigation proposals.

8.7 Sources of Information

A number of guidance documents have informed the methodology of assessment for this report. These included:

DfT (Department for Transport) December 2004 Transport Analysis Guidance (TAG); The Environment Objective, TAG Unit 3.3.1 www.webtag.org.uk

DETR (Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions) 2000
Guidance on the Methodology for Multi-Modal Studies

DOE (Department of the Environment) 1994 Planning Policy Guidance:
Planning and The Historic Environment (PPG 15)

DOE (Department of the Environment) 1990 Planning Policy Guidance:
Archaeology and Planning Note 16 (PPG16)

DOT (Department of Transport) 1994 Design Manual for Roads and Bridges
Volume 11 Section 3, Part 2 Cultural Heritage

DOT (Department of Transport) 2007 Design Manual for Roads and Bridges
(DMRB), Volume 11 Section 3, Part 2 Cultural Heritage (issued as an
Interim Advice Note)

DOT (Department of Transport) 1995 Design Manual for Roads and Bridges

Volume 10 Environmental Design Section 6, Part 1 Trunk Roads and

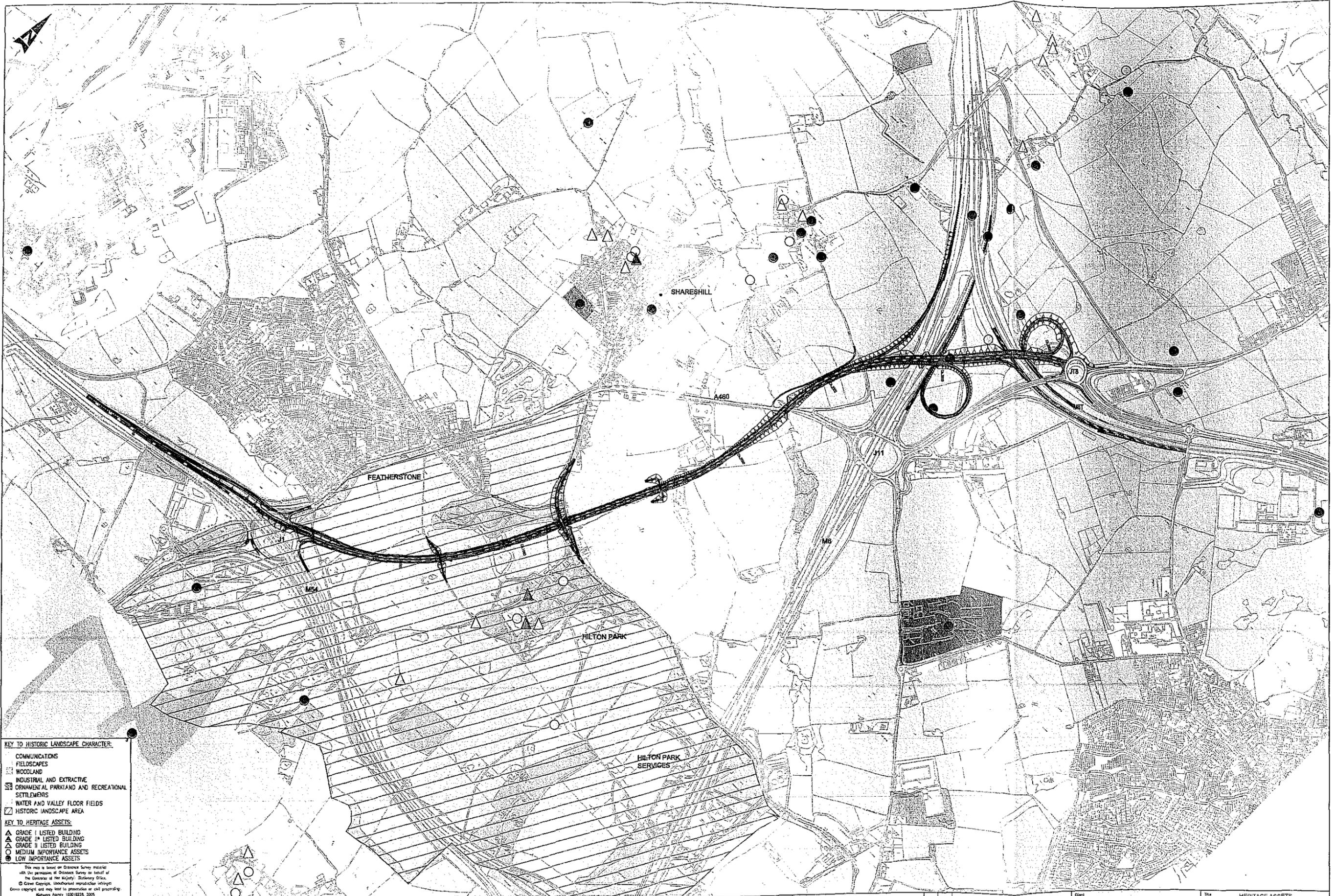
Archaeological Mitigation

English Heritage 1991 The Management of Archaeological Projects

IFA (Institute of Field Archaeologist) 1994 Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations. (Revised 2001)

IFA (Institute of Field Archaeologist) 1994 Standard and Guidance for

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments. (Revised 2001)



KEY TO HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER:

- COMMUNICATIONS
- FIELDSCAPES
- WOODLAND
- INDUSTRIAL AND EXTRACTIVE
- ORNAMENTAL PARKLAND AND RECREATIONAL SETTLEMENTS
- WATER AND VALLEY FLOOR FIELDS
- HISTORIC LANDSCAPE AREA

KEY TO HERITAGE ASSETS:

- ▲ GRADE I LISTED BUILDING
- △ GRADE II* LISTED BUILDING
- △ GRADE II LISTED BUILDING
- MEDIUM IMPORTANCE ASSETS
- LOW IMPORTANCE ASSETS

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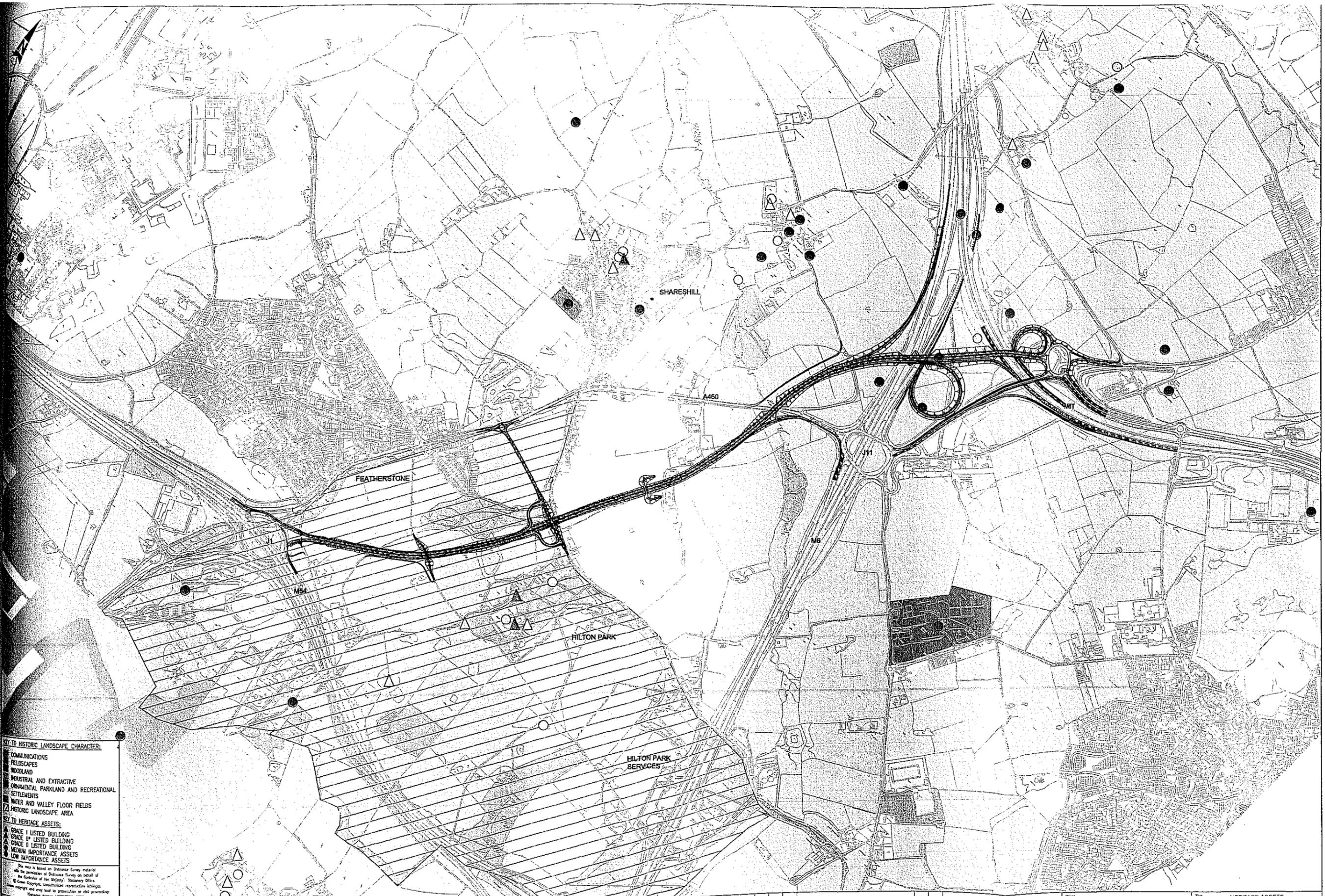
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PROPERTY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

Check the project website for more information on the work of the project and the team. See the following: [www.m54m6.gov.uk](#), [www.m54m6.com](#), [www.m54m6.co.uk](#)

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HERITAGE ASSETS KEY CONSTRAINTS PLAN OPTION B			
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Date	12/05/07	Date	02/05/07
Drawn	P	Rev	A
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