



Figure 2: Sites mentioned in section 5.0 against the pipeline route

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## 5.0 Archaeological sites in the immediate vicinity

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The following section lists the sites and artefacts of archaeological or historical interest found within the study area that have been recorded in the various sources consulted. They are listed according to the map number which identifies them on figure 2. The relevant SMR or NMR identifier number is also given as is their OS grid reference (centre of site). The list of sites has been organised generally by period so that those earliest in date will be found at the top of the list and the latest at the foot. It should be remembered however that there are a number of sites whose period is unknown.

### 5.1 *How Hill Hillfort (NMR no. 50957) SE 1080 9795*

The remains of a large univallate hillfort survive as earthworks on How Hill to the east of Downholme village. This is one of the largest such enclosures in Swaledale but has been severely damaged by Medieval ploughing which is evident here as strip lynchets. The rampart and ditch of the enclosure now only survives on the western and northern side. Although it has not been excavated it is likely to date from the Iron Age and occupies a strategic position overlooking the River Swale. The map of 1730 held in the NYCRO records that this site was at that time under pasture.

Scheduled Ancient Monument: RSM no. 24500

(references: NMR, SMR, Fleming 1998)

### 5.2 *Downholme Hall (remains of) (NMR no. 50951) SE 1125 9792*

The remains of Downholme Hall comprise vaulted cellars and storehouses. According to field observation recorded by the NMR there are traces of walls and buildings in the surrounding field. There is documentary record of the Hall from the 16<sup>th</sup> century but the remains could be earlier than that. The NMR notes that no plan of the building could be recovered from the surviving traces.

(references: NMR)

### 5.3 *Downholme village (NMR no. 563064) SE 114 979 (area)*

Downholme is a small nucleated village with an isolated church to the north. Fleming argues that it lay on the main Medieval road between Richmond and Reeth, which later moved northwards closer to the river. He suggests that the village built up around a central green alongside this road and that the public space of the green was gradually infilled with encroaching plots and buildings. According to a plan held in the NYCRO this process was well advanced by 1778. The boundaries of tofts and crofts running back from the road and green suggest that the village was initially a planned layout. A further green may be present on the western edge of the village where an open space is recorded in 1778 where the main road meets another heading south to Walburn, now the A6108.



Downholme is recorded in Domesday Book of 1086 and may have been an important settlement in this area at that time as it stands at the heart of a large parish. The origins of the settlement are unknown but the name derives from the Old English for ‘at the hills’. Fleming has suggested that an earlier site for the village may be found closer to the church to the north. There are traces of earthworks to the south of the church which may relate to this Medieval settlement.

(references: NMR, Fleming 1998, Smith 1969)

#### **5.4 *St. Michael and All Angels Church, Downholme (NMR no. 50959) SE 1107 9834***

The parish church of Downholme lies at a distance of 300m north of the village. At some point during the Medieval period the settlement is likely to have moved from the vicinity of the church southwards to its present location. The church building was constructed initially in the 12<sup>th</sup> century but added to subsequently throughout the next 300 years. There may of course have been an earlier (pre 12<sup>th</sup> century) church on this site whose remains have not yet been identified. The existing building was restored to some extent in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It is a grade 2\* listed building.

(references: NMR)

#### **5.5 *Hudswell village (NMR no. 579799) NZ 143 002 (area)***

The village of Hudswell is a linear settlement strung out along the road between Downholme and Richmond. This road has been identified by Fleming as a major Medieval routeway between Swaledale and Richmond. The village has a regular layout with fossilised boundaries of tofts and crofts running at right angles back from the road on both sides. For this reason it would appear to have been planned at some stage in its history (probably between 9<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> century). The survival of the strips of the open field surrounding the village in the pattern of modern field boundaries is also very marked. As with Downholme the church can be found away from the village 200m to the west. Again this is testament to the shifting of settlement and probable shrinking of the village here during the Middle Ages. The settlement is mentioned in Domesday Book (1086) and the place-name derives from Old English for ‘Hudel’s well’.

(references: NMR, Smith 1969)

#### **5.6 *Thorpe under Stone (NMR no. 579797) NZ 1233 0067***

A small group of buildings is recorded on the 1857 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map on steep slopes overlooking the River Swale, only one of which remains standing. There are several place-names in the immediate vicinity in Thorpe and this may indicate the presence of a hamlet here during the Medieval period.

(references: NMR, Smith 1969)

### **5.7 Downholme Park (NMR 563049) SE 1133 9998 (centre) (figure 3)**

A licence was granted for the creation of a Deer Park in the late 14<sup>th</sup> century alongside the River Swale, 2km north of Downholme. An area of roughly 36 hectares was enclosed from land in the north-eastern corner of the township (probably former common). This park began life as a Deer Park to manufacture the hunting experience for wealthy landowners. By 1730 when it appears on a map its area has been divided into closes for coppicing and cow pasture but there is also an area of open lawn. In some places the large stools of the old coppiced oak trees still survive. By 1857 a large house had been built here by the side of the main road which now runs through its western parts.

(references: NMR, Fleming 1998)

### **5.8 Downholme Bridge (NMR no. 50958) SE 1135 9917**

A three span stone bridge stands across the Swale 1km north of the village of Downholme. It was designed by John Carr and built in 1773 by King and Peacock.

(references: NMR)

### **5.9 Lownethwaite Farm (NMR no. 579801) NZ 1490 0085**

A small roofed farmstead consisting of two buildings stands to the north of Hudswell village on the other side of the River Swale. It was probably built in the post-Medieval period and is marked on the 1857 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map. There may have been earlier buildings here which do not survive above ground.

(references: NMR)

### **5.10 Lownethwaite Bridge (NMR no. 579888) NZ 1463 0071**

This stone bridge carries the modern road from Richmond to Swaledale across the river. It is marked on the 1857 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map and was probably constructed in the mid or late 18<sup>th</sup> century, around the same time as Downholme Bridge.

(reference: NMR)

### **5.11 Possible Roman and Medieval Road from Marrick to Ulshaw Bridge SE 1010 9715 (part)**

Fleming has argued that the main Medieval road into Swaledale ran a little to the southwest of Downholme, between it and the neighbouring village of Stainton. It is fossilised for much of its course in modern lanes and field boundaries and can be traced on modern maps for some distance to the south passing through the now deserted village of Walburn. It eventually reaches Ulshaw Bridge in Wensleydale. The origins of this route may lie in the Romano-British period when it would have given access between the lead mining sites on Marrick moor and the Roman political and economic centre of *Isurium Brigantium* at Aldborough.



(references: Fleming 1998)

### **5.12 Medieval landscape of Downholme SE 11 98 (centre)**

A map of 1730 records the pattern of newly enclosed fields and closes surrounding the village of Downholme and gives some clues as to the layout of the former Medieval open field. The strips of the open field are visible in one part of the map in a field known as Church Fields. Other field names suggest former agricultural practice such as *Wandills* meaning ‘strips in the open field divided by poles’. Some patches of woodland are marked which were probably used as managed wood pasture. Other areas of pasture are recorded around How Hill and to the south of the village. To the east of the village the wide expanse of Downholme Moor would have provided a large area of upland common pasture. In many places the cultivation terraces and ridge and furrow of the open field survive as earthworks and these are clearly visible on the RCHME aerial photograph plots. The terraces are perhaps best visible on How Hill (see above) but also strip lynchets are well preserved on the slopes to the east of Downholme church.

(references: Fleming 1998, NYCRO ZBO, RCHME Dales survey)

### **5.13 Road from Downholme to Hudswell SE 120 993 (centre)**

The Medieval road from Richmond to Swaledale ran through Hudswell and Downholme (along which both villages were aligned). Its course can be followed west of Downholme as Stop Bridge Lane but between the two villages its former course is more uncertain. The existing road is likely to be a post-Medieval construction but may in part follow the original course across the high moor. There are signs of holloways at SE 1147 9800 and SE 1240 9955 which may have formed part of this earlier roadway (fig 3). According to the tithe map of 1846 and enclosure map of 1812 the existing road was laid out at the time of Enclosure and it is this road that the pipeline is intended to follow.

(references: Fleming 1998)

### **5.14 Starkhill Well (NMR no. 579890) NZ 1386 0066**

A well is recorded on the 1857 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map. The date of its construction is uncertain.

(references: NMR)

### **5.15 Well (NMR no. 579891) NZ 1207 0072**

A well is recorded on the 1857 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map although its name and date are unknown.

(references: NMR)

**5.16 Earthwork (NMR no. 563084) SE 1131 9765, SE 1132 9761**

An earthwork is recorded on the 1857 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map immediately south of the village of Downholme. Its date is uncertain but it probably relates to the Medieval settlement or open field.

(references: NMR)

**5.17 Toll House and Toll Gate (NMR no. 579889) NZ 1478 0076**

These buildings are no longer standing but were recorded on the 1857 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map. They were probably constructed in the later 18<sup>th</sup> century at the same time as the main road and bridges of Downholme and Lownethwaite.

(references: NMR)

**5.18 Downholme village pinfold (NMR no. 563080) SE 1141 9796****5.19 Downholme Park pinfold (NMR no. 563055) SE 1149 9950)****5.20 Hudswell pinfold (NMR no. 579882) NZ 1435 0028**

Three pounds or pinfolds have been noted on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition 1857 OS map. Two of these are found in the villages of Downholme and Hudswell whilst the third lies alongside Downholme Park. Such enclosures were used throughout the Medieval and post-Medieval period as a means of corralling stray animals that had been allowed to graze on lands where their owners had no rights of pasture.

(references: NMR)

**5.21 Boundary Stone (NMR no. 579844) NZ 1214 0016****5.22 Boundary Stone (NMR no. 563057) SE 1243 9977**

Two boundary stones are recorded on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map of 1857. They are both found on the parish boundary between Hudswell and Downholme, one at the northeast corner of Downholme Park and the other at the point where the road from Downholme to Hudswell crosses the boundary. Their date is unknown but it seems likely that they are post-Medieval.

(references: NMR)

**5.23 Barn (NMR no. 563083) SE 1138 9773****5.24 Barn (NMR no. 563058) SE 1291 9975****5.25 Barn (NMR no. 563073) SE 1103 9847****5.26 Barn (NMR no. 563067) SE 1102 9889**



- 5.27 ***Barn (NMR no. 563068) SE 1100 9886***
- 5.28 ***Barn (NMR no. 563155) SE 1152 9951***
- 5.29 ***Barn (NMR no. 563122) SE 1296 9914***
- 5.30 ***Remains of Barn (NMR no. 579878) NZ 1384 0079***

Eight stone barns are recorded on the 1857 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS maps in locations throughout the townships of Downholme and Hudswell. Some were already in a ruinous state in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and others are no longer upstanding today. Without detailed fieldwork it is not possible to offer a date of construction. Whilst some of the barns may have origins in the Medieval period most are likely to be post-Medieval. These simple stone structures are ubiquitous features of the Yorkshire Dales landscape and characteristic parts of the traditional agriculture of this area. They were built in hay meadows and used both for storing hay and for stalling cattle throughout the winter months. Animals usually moved into the barns between the months of October and May where they were milked throughout the winter. Their dung could be used to manure the surrounding meadow which when left ungrazed through the summer provided a crop of hay in July or August. The field barns have been falling out of use since the Second World War as the agricultural system they were part of has declined. Most were probably built in 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century.

(reference: NMR, *Walls and Field Barns* (Yorkshire Dales National Park conservation series))

- 5.31 ***Limekiln (NMR no. 579887) NZ 1468 0052***
- 5.32 ***Limekiln (NMR no. 579886) NZ 1462 0049***
- 5.33 ***Limekiln (NMR no. 579883) NZ 1450 0030***
- 5.34 ***Limekiln (NMR no. 579800) NZ 1435 0038***
- 5.35 ***Limekiln (NMR no. 579879) NZ 1429 0060***
- 5.36 ***Limekiln (NMR no. 579849) NZ 1261 0062***
- 5.37 ***Limekiln (NMR no. 579851) NZ 1258 0088***
- 5.38 ***Limekiln (NMR no. 563078) NZ 1126 9814***

Eight limekilns are recorded on the 1857 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map. Most are found on the steep slopes overlooking the Swale, north of the village of Hudswell, but there are others in similar topographic locations at Thorpe under Stone and Downholme. Limekilns are largely a product of post-Medieval agricultural improvement which required a large amount of lime to be spread over arable land to increase productivity. In areas like Swaledale where the raw material, limestone was readily available, the production of lime became a significant source of revenue.

(references: NMR)

- 5.39 *Limestone Quarry (NMR no. 563074) SE 11329856*
- 5.40 *Limestone Quarry (NMR no. 563075) SE 1131 9845*
- 5.41 *Limestone Quarry (NMR no. 563077) SE 1149 9835*
- 5.42 *Limestone Quarry (NMR no. 563079) SE 1128 9812*
- 5.43 *Limestone Quarry (NMR no. 563056) SE 1138 9958*
- 5.44 *Limestone Quarry (NMR no. 579852) NZ 1260 0092*
- 5.45 *Limestone Quarry (NMR no. 579847) NZ 1259 0061*
- 5.46 *Limestone Quarry (NMR no. 579884) NZ 1445 0033*
- 5.47 *Limestone Quarry (NMR no. 579885) NZ 1472 0043*
- 5.48 *Limestone Quarry (NMR no. 579881) NZ 1437 0037*

Ten limestone quarries have been noted on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map of 1857, some of which were already disused at this time. They are found in the same three areas as the limekilns (north of Hudswell, Thorpe under stone and Downholme) and would appear to have been created to service the requirements of the limekilns. Most are therefore likely to be post-Medieval in date.

(references: NMR)

- 5.49 *Lead Workings/Shafts (NMR no. 579850) NZ 1264 0066*
- 5.50 *Lead Workings/Mines (NMR no. 579846) NZ 1253 0060*

The remains of workings for lead mining are recorded on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map of 1857. They are found on the high moorland overlooking Thorpe under stone and would appear to have already been disused by the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. Lead mining was a thriving industry in Swaledale until the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and many people were employed here in the mines that were spread throughout the valley.

(references: NMR)

- 5.51 *Coal mines/pits (NMR no. 579845) NZ 1260 0024*
- 5.52 *Coal mines/pits (NMR no. 563081) SE 1153 9798*