



Proposed Pipeline, Vyrnwy LDTM, Old Marton, Shropshire

Rapid Archaeological Desk- Based Research and Walkover Survey



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Prepared by: Kelly Clapperton
Position: Supervisor
Date: September 2009

David Maron
Assistant Supervisor
September 2009

Checked by: Alison Plummer
Position: Project Manager
Date: September 2009

Signed.....

Approved by: Alan Lupton
Position: Operations Manager
Date: September 2009

Signed.....

Oxford Archaeology North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster
LA1 1GF
t: (0044) 01524 541000
f: (0044) 01524 848606

w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk
e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk

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Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford
OX2 0EA
t: (0044) 01865 263800
f: (0044) 01865 793496

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SUMMARY

United Utilities have proposed to construct a 2km pipeline and three compounds through pastoral fields near the farm of Old Marton Hall, Whittington, Shropshire (NGR SJ 33911 33328 to SJ35439 34575, Fig 1). Both the pipeline and compounds will require extensive groundworks. Following recommendations made by Shropshire County Council Historic Environment Countryside Advisor, United Utilities commissioned Oxford Archaeology North (OANorth) to undertake rapid archaeological desk-based research and a walkover survey of the proposed development.

Aside from two Listed Buildings, the Old Hall and its barn (Sites **21** and **22**) at Old Marton, no sites of archaeological interest were identified after consultation with the Shropshire County Council Historic Environment Record (SCCHER). Four sites were identified during the assessment of historic maps and documents, which were compiled into a Gazetteer (*Section 5*; Fig 2). Two sites in the study area, a pond and a stone (Sites **01** and **03**), were of unknown date. The third site, a nolds and pit, possibly dated to the post-medieval period (Site **02**) and the fourth, a pipeline, to the Industrial Period (Site **04**). Of the four sites, two could be directly affected by the pipeline development. Site **01**, a pond, was identified on the First Edition of the Ordnance Survey (1874) and is still extant, and Site **04**, is the putative line of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct. Its intended route was depicted on the Liverpool Corporation Waterworks map of 1880, and the 1902 and 1929 versions of the Ordnance Survey (Fig 5). Assessment of aerial photography, however, does not reveal any obvious earthworks along the possible route (Plate 1).

The walkover survey carried out in May 2009 aimed to determine the survival of above ground remains of sites recorded during the rapid desk-based assessment and to identify previously unrecorded sites. A further 19 sites were identified during the walkover survey. These comprised a number of ponds (Sites **09**, **16** and **17**), gate posts (Sites **09**, **16** and **17**), metal inspection hatches for the Vyrnwy Aqueduct (Sites **13**, **14** and **15**), a former boundary (Site **08**), a lynchet (Site **07**), two areas of narrow ridge and furrow (Sites **05** and **10**), a building platform (Site **13**) and a possible levelled area for a building or a back-filled pond (Site **06**). The Old Hall and its barn (Sites **21** and **22**) were added to the gazetteer due to their proximity to the proposed pipeline route and the potential for unknown archaeological remains relating to these sites.

Recommendations for a targeted watching brief of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct (Site **04**) and the metal inspection hatch (Site **14**) in the immediate vicinity of Old Hall (Site **21**) were made. Due to the nature of the identified sites, and the potential for unknown archaeological remains, it was also recommended that a watching brief be carried out during all ground disturbing activities should the pipeline extend beyond the limits of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct (Site **04**).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) would like to thank United Utilities for commissioning the project. Thanks are also due to Penny Ward of Shropshire County Council Historic Environment Record (SCCHER), Shrewsbury, and all the staff at Shropshire Archives, also in Shrewsbury, for their assistance in the project.

The rapid desk-based research was undertaken by Kelly Clapperton, David Maron carried out the walkover survey, and Mark Tidmarsh produced the drawings. The project was managed by Alison Plummer, who also edited the report.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

1.1.1 United Utilities have proposed to construct a 2km pipeline between the town of Ellesmere and village of Whittington, running from NGR SJ 33911 33328OD to SJ 35439 34575OD, centred on the area around Old Marton Hall (NGR SJ 35083 34218OD, Fig 1). Three compound areas are to be constructed along the route. At the north-east end (NGR SJ 35362 34504OD) the compound measured 175 m by 50 m, towards the centre of the route, the second compound (SJ 34900 34217OD) measured 135 m by 60 m, while the third compound at the south-western end (NGR SJ 33991 33449OD) measured 130 m by 70 m. The groundworks will comprise a topsoil strip that may impact on any existing archaeological remains. Following recommendations made by Shropshire County Council Historic Environment Countryside Advisor, United Utilities commissioned Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) to undertake rapid archaeological desk-based research and a walkover survey of the proposed pipeline route.

1.1.2 The rapid desk-based research comprised a search of both published and unpublished records held by the Historic Environment Record (HER) in Shrewsbury, the Shropshire Archives, also in Shrewsbury, and the archives and library held at OA North. In addition to this, a walkover survey was carried out across the site of the proposed development, in order to relate the landscape and surroundings to the results of the rapid desk-based research. This report sets out the results in the form of a short document, outlining the results which includes a Gazetteer of sites (Fig 2).

1.2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

1.2.1 The pipeline will be constructed across a mixture of pastoral and arable fields approximately 2km north-east of the village of Whittington, by-passing the farms of Old Hall, Old Marton Hall and Old Marton Farm (Fig 1). The route is located on low, undulating land to the north-east of the Llangollen Canal, rising between 110m and 120m above sea level, and on the boundary of the Shropshire, Cheshire and Staffordshire Plain and the foothills of the Welsh Mountains (Countryside Commission 1998, 145). Immediately to the west is an area known as the 'Shropshire Lakelands', where substantial hummocks of moraine are interspersed with large meres, often linked to salt extraction (*op cit* 1998, 147).

1.2.2 The geology of the area comprises Triassic sandstones and marls, overlain by glacial boulder-clay, with local deposits of silt, sand and gravels, with peat accumulation in wetter areas (*op cit* 1998, 148). The overlying drift geology consists of typical stagnogley soils (Ordnance Survey 1983).

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT BRIEF

2.1.1 A written brief in the form of a letter was issued by Dr Andy Wigley, the Shropshire County Council Historic Environment Countryside Advisor, in response to a planning request by United Utilities for a pipeline and three compounds near Old Marton Hall, Shropshire. The project brief was adhered to in full, and the work consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute of Archaeologists (IFA), and generally accepted best practice (IFA 1999; English Heritage 2006).

2.2 RAPID DESK-BASED RESEARCH

2.2.1 A study area that extended 0.25km to each side of the proposed pipeline and compounds, to form a corridor 0.5km wide, was assessed for sites of archaeological interest.

2.2.2 ***Shropshire County Council Historic Environment Record (SCCHER)***: the SCCHER held in Shrewsbury was consulted to establish the presence of sites of cultural heritage interest already known within the 0.5km study area. Unfortunately, no aerial photographs exist of the study area.

2.2.3 ***Shropshire Archives, Shrewsbury, Shropshire***: the Shropshire Archives holds Ordnance Survey (OS) maps and other cartographic and documentary resources relating to the study area.

2.2.4 ***Oxford Archaeology North***: OA North has an extensive archive of secondary sources relevant to the study area, as well as numerous unpublished client reports on work carried out both as OA North and in its former guise of Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU). These were consulted where necessary.

2.3 WALKOVER SURVEY

2.3.1 Following the rapid desk-based research, a Level I-type walkover survey (*Section 4*) was undertaken to relate the existing landscape to research findings. This encompassed a one hundred meter corridor on either side of the pipeline route, walked in a systematic fashion. Archaeological features identified within the landscape were recorded using the relevant OA North *pro forma*, and the features were located using differential GPS survey, which can achieve accuracy of +/- 5m with respect to the OS national grid. Nineteen sites identified in the walkover survey were added to the gazetteer (Fig 2).

2.4 ARCHIVE

2.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 2006). The paper and digital archive will be deposited in the Shropshire Archives in Shrewsbury on

completion of the project. A copy of the report will be deposited with the SCCHER.

3. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 The study area is focused around the post-medieval township of Old Marton within the Parish of Whittington. No prehistoric activity is recorded in the study area, with the majority of known activity focused around the mosses and meres to the south and east, although undated cropmarks are located just outside the assessment area (SMR 2335), and are thought to date to the later prehistoric period. Medieval activity is also rare, and Old Marton was not recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086, although there is a possibility that Old Hall (SMR 12223 ; Site 21), which currently dates to the sixteenth century, may have had earlier foundations. This building, as well as the barn at Old Hall (SMR 19600; Site 22) are the only two Listed Buildings in the area, and have been included in the gazetteer. Post-medieval activity suggests the continuation of a rural, pastoral landscape that had probably existed for centuries. To the south and west is the presence of the now disused Cambrian Railway and the Langollen Canal, while the possible line of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct (Site 04) runs through the study area, indicating that the industrial revolution had some influence on the modern landscape.

3.2 DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH

3.2.1 No known prehistoric sites were identified in the study area, and there is very little evidence for substantial prehistoric activity in the local vicinity. The earliest evidence for human activity relates to the identification of a sparse scatter of lithics, dating to the Mesolithic and Neolithic, around the edge of Baggy Moss, approximately 4km to the south of the pipeline (Leah *et al* 1998, 39). There is a slight intensification of activity during the Bronze Age, with the first concrete evidence of woodland clearance (Countryside Commission 1998, 149), and the deposition of numerous items of Bronze Age metal work within the mosses and meres in the surrounding area. Examples of these include a bronze shield and swords discovered at Tetchill Moor, 4km to the south-east of the study area (Leah *et al* 1998, 36). The boundary between the lower wet and higher dry land was further emphasised during the Bronze Age with the construction of burnt mounds along these margins, several examples of which are located at Hordley and Tetchill (*ibid*, 43).

3.2.2 Later prehistoric activity is equally ephemeral, although several cropmark enclosures, situated on the hummocks and ridges above the mosses and meres, have been tentatively attributed to the Iron Age (Leah *et al* 1998, 26 and 37). Although, without solid dating evidence this is very much supposition. A cropmark enclosure site, SMR 2335, identified just out of the study area, but only 500m from Old Marton Hall, could well be included in this category.

3.2.3 Evidence for Roman activity in the local area is limited, being concentrated further to the south and east of Shropshire. Nevertheless, a hoard of coins in a Black Burnished Ware vessel, dating to the second half of the third century, was discovered at Hordley 4.5km to the south of the study area (Leah *et al*

1998, 37), and a putative Roman marching camp is reputed to be located at Perry Farm, approximately 4km to the south-west of Old Marton Hall (SMR 935).

- 3.2.4 Very little is known about the early medieval period in Shropshire, although the Domesday survey of 1086 indicates that there was generally a growing population, which generated the emergence of nucleated settlements with open fields (Cox *et al* 1989). It was also likely, however, that the area was politically unstable, being at the junction of several powerful kingdoms, Powys, Northumbria and Mercia (OA North 2002), and, certainly, the land around Oswestry at the time of the Conqueror was described as ‘waste’, having been recently regained from the Welsh (Cox *et al* 1989). Raids from over the Welsh border gave rise to numerous defensive settlements (Countryside Commission 1998, 150), including moated manors, the closest example of which is located at Ellesmere. The settlement of Old Marton is not mentioned in the Domesday survey of 1086 (Page 1908).
- 3.2.5 During the earlier medieval period there were quite defined language and cultural boundaries drawn between the English and Welsh lordships of the county, with *Welsheries*, including the lordship of Oswestry, having a bearing on the cultural make-up of the study area (Cox *et al* 1989). Nevertheless, the majority of place names in the area have Old English origins, indicating that by the later medieval period the main cultural influence on the county was English (Bowcock 1923). Certainly, Marton comes from the Old English, ‘settlement by the mere’ (Gelling 1990).
- 3.2.6 The study area has remained largely rural, with the land around the settlement of Old Marton being enclosed during the latter half of the eighteenth century (QE/1/2/2: 1781), and the Tithe map of 1839 indicating a pastoral economy (Section 3.3.8). Nevertheless, some influence of the industrial revolution can be seen in the vicinity, namely the creation of transport and communication networks. During the nineteenth century the Cambrian Railway was constructed to the south of the study area, later known as the Whitchurch and Aberystwyth Railway; and the Llangollen Canal, previously known as the Ellesmere Canal, to the west (Sivewright 1986). The line of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct (Site 04; Fig 3) passed through the study area, and is depicted on the Liverpool Corporation Waterworks map of 1880 and Ordnance Survey maps of 1902 and 1929 (Fig 3).
- 3.2.7 The pipeline passes to the north of three distinct areas of settlement comprising ‘Old Hall’, ‘Old Marton Hall’ and ‘Old Marton Farm’ (Fig 2). Apart from the Vyrnwy Aqueduct, two sites were identified dating to the post-medieval period within the study area, Old Hall (Site 21), which dates to at least the sixteenth century and a barn (Site 22) associated with the hall. Both of the sites are Listed Buildings, and are included in the gazetteer, as their presence may indicate that sub-surface remains dating to the early post-medieval period, and possibly earlier, may be situated in the vicinity.

3.3 HISTORIC MAP REGRESSION

- 3.3.1 ***Saxton's Map of Shropshire, 1577:*** this map is not to scale, and only depicts those settlements of perceived importance, therefore Old Marton is not plotted. To the north New Marton is illustrated, as is Tetchill and Hordley to the south and east. No further information could be gathered from this map.
- 3.3.2 ***Moll's Map of Shopshire, 1724:*** although surveyed, the scale is not depicted. Old Marton is located within the Parish of Ellesmere, and marked as being of equal standing to Halston, to the south, and New Marton to the north-west. Very little detail is given, solely roads, settlements and basic topography.
- 3.3.3 ***Simpson's Map of Shropshire, 1746:*** near identical to Moll's 1724 map.
- 3.3.4 ***Rocque's Map of Shropshire, 1752 (Fig 3):*** a much more detailed map than the previous. The map illustrates the river before it was canalised as part of the Ellesmere Canal (later the Langollen Canal), and depicts a large area of marsh to the west, called Wigg Moor, which must have been drained during the canal's construction. Old Marton Hall is identified as a large farmstead, or small hamlet, and surrounded by open fields.
- 3.3.5 ***Baugh's Map of Shropshire, 1808:*** this map depicts Old Marton Hall and Old Marton Farm as located in the Parish of Ellesmere, while Old Hall is situated in the Parish of Whittington.
- 3.3.6 ***Ordnance Survey Drawing, 1": 1 mile, 1819, Sheet 316:*** a very faint map without detail, similar to Moll's and Baugh's maps (1724 and 1808). The three farms and the main roads are illustrated, as is the basic topography.
- 3.3.7 ***Greenwood's Map of Shropshire, 1827:*** this map suggests that the parish boundaries have been altered and Old Marton Farm and Old Marton Hall are now located within the Parish of Whittingham, not the Parish of Ellesmere (see Section 3.3.5). Much like the Ordnance Survey Drawing (1819) and Baugh's map (1808), the detail is not present, and the township is depicted as a few small buildings. To the west, but outside the study area, an iron mill is plotted across the Ellesmere Canal opposite Hindford.
- 3.3.8 ***Township of Old Marton in the Parish of Whittington, County of Salop, 6": 1 mile, 1839:*** this is the Tithe map of the Township of Old Marton, and depicts a pond (Site 01) to the north of Old Marton Hall. The landscape is very much as it is today. Combined with the field-name map, which was based on the Tithe Apportionment, it suggests that the area was mainly of a pastoral nature; with the majority of fields being termed meadows. The eastern end of the pipeline runs into a field called 'Well Meadow', indicating that a well was once located in the vicinity, and its close proximity to Old Marton Farm could enhance this possibility. To the south-west of Old Marton Hall, orchards are recorded.
- 3.3.9 ***Altered Apportionment 3: Townships of Whittington, Hindford and Old Marton, Parish of Whittington, County of Salop, 1871:*** this is an adjustment to the earlier Tithe Apportionment of 1839. The landscape is still very similar

apart from a long narrow strip of land, cutting the length of the township, which has been allocated to a different owner. This may be the line for the Vyrnwy Aqueduct; however, the act of parliament for its construction was not passed until 1880.

- 3.3.10 **Ordnance Survey 1:2500 First Edition map, 1874-1877 (Fig 4):** the pipeline runs through several agricultural fields just to the north of Old Hall, Old Marton Hall and Old Marton Farm, and clips the very southern edge of Site **01**, a pond located to the north-west of Old Marton Hall. To the north-east of the pond were sand pits (Site **02**) and, given the proximity of these sites to the hall, they may relate to activities associated with it. To the north of the western end of the pipeline route a 'stone' is marked on the map (Site **03**). The latter site has not been identified on the maps as ancient, however, its date and function is unknown and it is included in the gazetteer. Outside the study area lies the Cambrian Railway to the south; and to the west, the Llangollen Canal. No further features of archaeological interest could be identified.
- 3.3.11 **Liverpool Corporation Waterworks, Session 1880. Plans and Sections of Intended New Works for obtaining a supply of water from the Rivers Vyrnwy, Marchant and Afon Cowny:** this map depicts the intended line of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct (Site **04**) and possible areas of 'deviation', approximately five chains either side of the route. It passes Old Hall and Old Marton Hall immediately to the north, with the possibility that the southern limit of 'deviation' may abut Old Marton Hall. The eastern end of the pipeline passes to the north of Old Marton Farm. The line of the intended Vyrnwy Aqueduct is near identical to the proposed pipeline route.
- 3.3.12 **Ordnance Survey 1: 10560 Second Edition 1889- 1891:** this map is near identical to the First Edition, with no alterations observed within the study area.
- 3.3.13 **Ordnance Survey 1: 10560 Third Edition 1902 (Fig 5):** the line of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct (Site **04**) is shown on this map and it follows almost precisely the proposed pipeline route. Beyond this, the sand pit (Site **02**) has gone out of use, described as the *Old Sand Pit*, while all three of the farms, Old Hall, Old Marton Hall and Old Marton Farm, have been extended since the 1891 Ordnance Survey map. Site **03**, the 'stone' is no longer illustrated, suggesting that it has been removed. An area of trees to the north of Old Hall is no longer present on the map.
- 3.3.14 **Ordnance Survey 1:10560 Third Edition 1929:** little has changed from the earlier Ordnance Survey 1902 map, with the exception of Site **02**, where the earthwork is still present, but its former function is no longer identified. The line of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct (Site **04**) is still present. No further alteration to the landscape can be identified.
- 3.3.15 **Ordnance Survey 1:2500 Third Edition 1959 (Fig 6):** the line for the Vyrnwy Aqueduct is no longer present in the 1959 map suggesting that it was either deemed no longer worthy of depiction or its line was not marked by evidence of earthworks. The sand pit (Site **02**) is no longer plotted at all and its absence, along with the aqueduct, reflect the updating of the Ordnance Survey

mapping. All the farms show signs of expansion but there has been little alteration in the rural landscape depicted.

- 3.3.16 **Ordnance Survey 1:10000 1979-1985:** very little has altered in the study area between 1959 and 1979. To the south the railway has been dismantled, the only significant change in the vicinity. The pond (Site 01) has not altered since the Ordnance Survey First Edition.

3.4 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK

- 3.4.1 An archaeological desk-based assessment was carried out in 2005, by Dr David Gwyn of Govannon Consultancy (Gwyn 2007), of the area surrounding the proposed World Heritage Site of the Pontcysyllte and Chirk aqueducts, and the length of the Langollen Canal. This survey concluded that the area around Oswestry and Whittington was rich in well-preserved industrial heritage sites, including transport networks. The assessment, however, would have had little bearing on the present study area, which mostly comprised a rural landscape, as it only just clipped it to the west.

4. WALKOVER SURVEY RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

- 4.1.1 The walkover survey aimed to determine both the survival of above ground remains of sites recorded during the rapid desk-based assessment and also to identify previously unrecorded sites along the pipeline route.
- 4.1.2 The majority of the fields adjacent to the proposed pipeline route were walked systematically and the ground conditions were generally good for identifying sites by walkover survey. The vast majority of fields inspected were under pasture and had a covering of short grass or were newly planted with crop. The majority of field boundaries in the area are hawthorn hedges with some fence posts and barbed wire having replaced these. A small number of fields were not entered due to the presence of livestock and these were viewed from adjacent fields and trackways. The surveyor was accompanied by the landowner of a number of fields, at his insistence, and the walkover was restricted in these fields. Due to the landowner's reluctance the number of photographs taken of these fields and farm buildings was few.

4.2 RESULTS

- 4.2.1 In total, 19 sites were identified during the walkover survey and these were mainly topographical features forming part of the agricultural landscape and industrial period to modern agrarian features associated with ploughing and field boundaries.
- 4.2.2 The most common feature-type encountered during the walkover survey was ponds. A pond (Site **01**) was identified in the desk top assessment and there were a number (Sites **01, 11, 18, 19, 20** and **23**) in the vicinity of Old Hall, Old Marton Hall and Old Marton Farm. These ponds are natural features but have been modified in some cases. One pond (Site **18**) formed part of a boundary (Site **8**), another pond (Site **11**) had a modern water outlet pipe draining into it from farm buildings, and two ponds (Sites **19** and **20**) at Old Marton Hall were maintained as parkland features. A large, irregularly-shaped pond (Site **23**), not marked on historical or current mapping, had formed in fields to the south-west of Old Hall. The fields are gently undulating with a number of damp hollows that allow ponds to form and these provide watering places for livestock. An old sand extraction pit (**02**) was located close to the ponds at Old Marton Hall.
- 4.2.3 Another common feature was gateposts (Sites **9, 16** and **17**). These were of the same design and were probably linked with a farm estate to which Marton Old Farm and Old Marton Hall belonged. It is possible they could be a local style of gatepost but this was not evident in the gateways in the south-western section of the survey area. A former field boundary (Site **8**) was identified in the field to the north-east of Old Marton Hall that incorporated a pair of gateposts (Site **9**)

- 4.2.4 There were two areas of narrow ridge and furrow (Sites **05** and **10**) and a lynchet (Site **07**), which lay just outside the survey area.
- 4.2.5 A building platform (Site **13**) was identified at Old Marton Hall. The possible site of a building was investigated in a field to the south-west of Old Hall, to which a path marked on Ordnance Survey mapping led. The field is known locally as Windmill Field and old maps appear to indicate a building in this field although it could be a pond that is depicted. A possible levelled area (Site **06**) was identified in the location indicated on the map but no earthworks or evidence of a building platform were evident and the levelled area could be a backfilled pond.
- 4.2.6 The sites identified in the desk top survey were inspected during the walkover survey. The pond (Site **01**) and the old sand pit (Site **02**) were located and are referred to above. The stone feature (Site **03**) was not located although it would have been on the parish boundary and there is a mature marker tree in the approximate location. The route of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct (Site **04**) is marked by a series of inspection covers (Sites **13**, **14** and **15**) that date from the modern period.
- 4.2.7 Old Hall (Site **21**) is a post-medieval Grade 2* listed building dating from at least the early sixteenth century. The garden wall incorporates worked stone that is probably from another, and possibly, earlier building. There is no trace of an earlier building around the hall or visible in its exterior construction but there could possibly be the remnants of an earlier structure within the interior fabric of the present hall. The barn (Site **22**) immediately to the north-east is a Grade 2 listed building dating from the Industrial Period.

5. GAZETTEER OF SITES

Site number	01
Site name	Pond, Old Marton Hall, Old Marton
NGR	SJ 34939 34240
HER No	None
Statutory Designation	None
Site Type	Pond
Period	Uncertain
Sources	Ordnance Survey 1874-1877; Ordnance Survey 1889-1891; Ordnance Survey 1902; Ordnance Survey 1929; Ordnance Survey 1959; Ordnance Survey 1979-1985; Walkover Survey.
Description	A pond to the north-west of Old Marton Hall. The pond is similar to others in the vicinity of Old Hall, Old Marton Hall and Old Marton Farm. The ponds are a natural feature and are the result of glaciation with pockets of clay affecting the natural drainage.
Assessment	The site is within the study area and may be affected by the development.

Site number	02
Site name	Old Sand Pit, Old Marton Hall, Old Marton
NGR	SJ 34897 34433
HER No	None
Statutory Designation	None
Site Type	Sand extraction pit
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Ordnance Survey 1874-1877; Ordnance Survey 1889-1891; Ordnance Survey 1902; Walkover Survey.
Description	Sand extraction pit to the north-west of Old Marton Hall, pre-dates the First Edition of the Ordnance Survey. The sand pit is approximately 20m long by 10m wide and up to 1m maximum depth. It is a sub-semi-circular shape with a straight edge provided by the field boundary. A mound of sand 3m long by 2m wide by 0.3m high remains in the centre of the sand extraction pit.
Assessment	The site is within the study area but out with the pipeline route and is unlikely to be affected.

Site number	03
Site name	Stone feature, Old Hall, Old Marton
NGR	SJ 34101 33740
HER No	None
Statutory Designation	None
Site Type	Stone
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Ordnance Survey 1874-1877; Ordnance Survey 1889-1891; Walkover Survey.
Description	Stone identified beside a small drainage channel on the First and Second Editions of the Ordnance Survey mapping but was gone by the Third Edition. The stone feature was not located during the walkover survey. However, it would have been located on the parish boundary and there is a mature boundary marker tree located at the point shown on the mapping.
Assessment	The site is within the study area but out with the pipeline route and is unlikely to be affected.

Site number	04
Site name	Vyrnwy Aqueduct, Old Marton
NGR	SJ 34530 33864
HER No	None
Statutory Designation	None
Site Type	Possible line of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct
Period	Industrial Period
Sources	Ordnance Survey 1902; Ordnance Survey 1929; Liverpool Corporation Waterworks 1880; Sivewright 1986: 32-34; Walkover Survey.
Description	Illustrated on the Liverpool Corporation Waterworks map of 1880 as the intended route of the aqueduct, and the line of it is plotted on both Ordnance Survey maps of 1902 and 1929. Sivewright (1986, 33-34) describes the aqueduct as being 68 miles long, and comprising three, 42 inch diameter pipes. The route follows the Dee/Severn watershed, and maintains high ground until reaching the basins of the Mersey and Weaver. Work began on the dam and aqueduct in 1881, and water from Lake Vyrnwy first reached Liverpool in 1891. The third pipe was laid between 1926 and 1938 (<i>ibid</i>). By the Ordnance Survey of 1959 there is no depiction of the aqueduct, and a assessment of available aerial photography shows no obvious ground disturbance but modern water pipe inspection hatches marked L.C.W.W. (Liverpool Corporation Water Works) and Vyrnwy are located along the route of the aqueduct (Sites 13,14,15).
Assessment	The site is within the study area following the line of the proposed development, it will be affected.

Site number	05
Site name	Narrow Ridge and Furrow, Old Hall
NGR	SJ 33907 33416
HER No	None
Statutory Designation	None
Site Type	Narrow ridge and furrow
Period	Modern
Sources	Walkover Survey
Description	An area of narrow ridge and furrow earthworks survive in an 'L' shaped lane between three fields. The ridge and furrow is in two sections and is aligned north-west to south-east and north-east to south-west. At the junction of the two arms of the 'L' shaped lane there is no ridge and furrow. The ridges are 0.8m wide and up to 0.2m high. The lane is up to 8m wide in places with sections of ridge and furrow up to 7.5m long.
Assessment	The site lies outside of the proposed pipeline route and will not be affected by the works.

Site number	06
Site name	Possible site of a building, Old Hall
NGR	SJ 34177 33664
HER No	None
Statutory Designation	None
Site Type	Possible site of a building
Period	Post-medieval/Industrial Period
Sources	Ordnance Survey 1874-1877; Ordnance Survey 1889-1891; Ordnance Survey 1902; Ordnance Survey 1929; Walkover Survey.
Description	A possible building identified on the above Ordnance Survey maps. The field is known locally as 'Windmill Field'. The walkover survey identified a possible levelled area approximately 12m wide by 14m long that may have been a platform for a building at the location marked on the map. It is

possible that the marking on the map that has been interpreted as a structure is, in fact, one of the natural ponds in the area and has been filled in. This would explain the possible levelled area located during the walkover survey.

Assessment The site lies outside of the proposed pipeline route and will not be affected by the proposed works.

Site number 07
Site name Lynchet, Old Hall
NGR SJ 34506 33650
HER No None
Statutory Designation None
Site Type Lynchet
Period Post-medieval/Industrial Period
Sources Ordnance Survey 1874-1877; Ordnance Survey 1889-1891; Ordnance Survey 1902; Ordnance Survey 1929; Ordnance Survey 1959; Ordnance Survey 1979-1985; Walkover Survey.
Description A lynchet that is approximately 75m long and approximately 1.25m high is located at the northern end of a field boundary that is shown on OS mapping. The lynchet is aligned south-west to north-east.
Assessment The site lies outside of the proposed pipeline route and will not be affected by the proposed works.

Site number 08
Site name Boundary, Old Marton Hall
NGR SJ 34996 34430
HER No None
Statutory Designation None
Site Type Boundary line of trees
Period Industrial Period
Sources Walkover Survey
Description A line of three mature oak trees mark the course of a former boundary. The boundary is 50m in length and is aligned in a north-east to south-west direction. At the north east end is a redundant gateway with two gate posts (Site 09). The gateway gave access to the Hindford/Perthy road. At the south-western end of the boundary is a pond that is marked on Ordnance Survey First edition and current mapping.
Assessment The site lies outside of the proposed pipeline route and will not be affected by the proposed works.

Site number 09
Site name Gateposts, Old Marton Hall
NGR SJ 35006 34447
HER No None
Statutory Designation None
Site Type Gate posts
Period Industrial Period
Sources Walkover Survey
Description A pair of gate posts that mark the location of a redundant gateway that gave access to the Hindford/Perthy road from the field to the north-east of Old Marton Hall. The posts are set within a hawthorn hedge and bank that is 0.5m above the level of the road. There is no evidence of a former track way in the field but a boundary line of oak trees remains (Site 08). The gate posts are 1.3m high with sides 0.3m wide. The tops of the gate posts are

Assessment square pyramidal shape. The posts are the same design as those located at two other sites (16, 17) and may mark land belonging to a former estate. The site lies outside of the proposed pipeline route and will not be affected by the proposed works.

Site number 10
Site name **Narrow Ridge and Furrow, Old Marton Hall**
NGR SJ 34800 34332
HER No None
Statutory Designation None
Site Type Narrow ridge and furrow.
Period Modern
Sources Walkover Survey
Description Narrow ridge and furrow that is particularly visible from the lane to Old Marton Hall, looking to the south-west. The ridges are approximately 1 m wide and 0.1 m high.
Assessment The site lies outside of the proposed pipeline route and will not be affected by the proposed works.

Site number 11
Site name **Pond, Old Marton Farm**
NGR SJ 35367 34433
HER No None
Statutory Designation None
Site Type Pond
Period Uncertain
Sources Ordnance Survey 1874-1877; Ordnance Survey 1889-1891; Ordnance Survey 1902; Ordnance Survey 1929; Ordnance Survey 1959; Ordnance Survey 1979-1985; Walkover Survey.
Description A natural pond that is a result of glaciation and is similar to others in the vicinity of Old Hall, Old Marton Hall and Old Marton Farm. An outlet pipe from farm buildings to the south-east enters the pond. The brickwork and pipe are of modern construction.
Assessment The site lies in close proximity to the pipeline route but will not be affected by the works.

Site number 12
Site name **Building Platform, Old Marton Hall**
NGR SJ 35104 34248
HER No None
Statutory Designation None
Site Type Building platform
Period Industrial Period.
Sources Walkover Survey
Description A building platform that is approximately 6 m wide by 18 m long. The platform aligns with an existing building that appears to be contemporary with Old Marton Hall and ancillary buildings.
Assessment The site lies in close proximity to the pipeline route but will not be affected by the works.

Site number	13
Site name	Water Supply, Old Hall
NGR	SJ 34142 33507
HER No	None
Statutory Designation	None
Site Type	Water supply inspection hatches
Period	Modern
Sources	Walkover Survey
Description	Cast iron inspection hatch covers are located at points along the existing water supply pipeline. At this site there are four hatches that are circular and rectangular shaped. One rectangular hatch is marked L.C.W.W. for Liverpool Corporation Water Works and Vrynwy.
Assessment	The site lies on the route of the pipeline and will be affected by it.

Site number	14
Site name	Water Supply, Old Hall
NGR	SJ 34642 33958
HER No	None
Statutory Designation	None
Site Type	Water supply inspection hatches
Period	Modern
Sources	Walkover Survey
Description	Cast iron inspection hatch covers are located at points along the existing water supply pipeline. At this site there is a rectangular hatch marked L.C.W.W. for Liverpool Corporation Water Works and Vrynwy.
Assessment	The site lies on the route of the pipeline and will be affected by it.

Site number	15
Site name	Water Supply, Old Marton Farm
NGR	SJ 35153 34395
HER No	None
Statutory Designation	None
Site Type	Water supply inspection hatches
Period	Modern
Sources	Walkover Survey
Description	Cast iron inspection hatch covers are located at points along the existing water supply pipeline. At this site there is a rectangular hatch marked L.C.W.W. for Liverpool Corporation Water Works and Vrynwy.
Assessment	The site lies on the route of the pipeline and will be affected by it.

Site number	16
Site name	Gate Posts, Old Marton Farm
NGR	SJ 35293 34445
HER No	None
Statutory Designation	None
Site Type	Gate Posts
Period	Industrial Period
Sources	Walkover Survey
Description	A pair of gateposts that are 1.3m high with sides 0.3m wide. The tops of the gateposts are a square pyramidal shape. The posts are the same design as those located at two other sites (9, 17) and may mark land belonging to a former estate.

Assessment The site lies in close proximity to the pipeline route and may be affected by the works.

Site number 17
Site name Gate Posts, Old Marton Farm
NGR SJ 35498 34263
HER No None
Statutory Designation None
Site Type Gate Posts
Period Industrial Period
Sources Walkover Survey
Description A pair of gate posts that are 1.3m high with sides 0.3m wide. The tops of the gateposts are a square pyramidal shape. The posts are the same design as those located at two other sites (9, 16) and may mark land belonging to a former estate.
Assessment The site lies outside of the proposed pipeline route and will not be affected by the proposed works.

Site number 18
Site name Pond, Old Marton Hall
NGR SJ 34999 34402
HER No None
Statutory Designation None
Site Type Pond
Period Uncertain
Sources Ordnance Survey 1874-1877; Ordnance Survey 1889-1891; Ordnance Survey 1902; Ordnance Survey 1929; Ordnance Survey 1959; Ordnance Survey 1979-1985; Walkover Survey.
Description A small, natural pond located at the southern end of a former boundary (Site 08). The pond is a natural feature but is maintained as a parkland feature and, therefore, may have been modified as such.
Assessment The site lies outside of the proposed pipeline route and will not be affected by the proposed works.

Site number 19
Site name Pond, Old Marton Hall
NGR SJ 34968 34392
HER No None
Statutory Designation None
Site Type Pond
Period Uncertain
Sources Ordnance Survey 1874-1877; Ordnance Survey 1889-1891; Ordnance Survey 1902; Ordnance Survey 1929; Ordnance Survey 1959; Ordnance Survey 1979-1985; Walkover Survey.
Description A pond located to the immediate north-east of Old Marton Hall. The pond is a natural feature but is maintained as a parkland feature and, therefore, may have been modified as such.
Assessment The site lies outside of the proposed pipeline route and will not be affected by the proposed works.

Site number	20
Site name	Pond, Old Marton Hall
NGR	SJ 35122 34311
HER No	None
Statutory Designation	None
Site Type	Pond
Period	Uncertain
Sources	Ordnance Survey 1874-1877; Ordnance Survey 1889-1891; Ordnance Survey 1902; Ordnance Survey 1929; Ordnance Survey 1959; Ordnance Survey 1979-1985; Walkover Survey.
Description	A pond located to the immediate north-west of Old Marton Hall. The pond is a natural feature but is maintained as a parkland feature and, therefore, may have been modified as such.
Assessment	The site lies outside of the proposed pipeline route and will not be affected by the proposed works.

Site number	21
Site name	Old Hall, Old Marton.
NGR	SJ 34656 33895
HER No	
Statutory Designation	Grade 2* Listed Building
Site Type	Domestic Building
Period	Post-medieval
Sources	Ordnance Survey 1874-1877; Ordnance Survey 1889-1891; Ordnance Survey 1902; Ordnance Survey 1929; Ordnance Survey 1959; Ordnance Survey 1979-1985; Walkover Survey.
Description	An early post-medieval building.
Assessment	The site lies in close proximity to the pipeline route but will not be affected by the works.

Site number	22
Site name	Barn, Old Hall, Old Marton.
NGR	SJ 34716 33930
HER No	
Statutory Designation	Grade 2 Listed Building
Site Type	Ancillary building, barn
Period	Industrial Period
Sources	Ordnance Survey 1874-1877; Ordnance Survey 1889-1891; Ordnance Survey 1902; Ordnance Survey 1929; Ordnance Survey 1959; Ordnance Survey 1979-1985; Walkover Survey.
Description	An industrial period barn.
Assessment	The site lies in close proximity to the pipeline route but will not be affected by the works.

Site number	23
Site name	Pond, Old Hall
NGR	SJ 34426 33698
HER No	None
Statutory Designation	None
Site Type	Pond
Period	Uncertain
Sources	Walkover Survey

Description	A natural pond that has formed in low lying ground to the south-west of Old Hall. It is approximately 150m long by 60m wide. It appears shallow and is a habitat for wildfowl. It is not marked on historical or current mapping.
Assessment	The site lies in close proximity to the pipeline route but will not be affected by the works.

6. IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 IMPACT

- 6.1.1 In terms of further archaeological investigation and mitigation, it is necessary to consider only those sites that will be affected by the proposed development. Current legislation draws a distinction between archaeological remains of national importance and other remains considered to be of lesser significance. Those perceived to be of national importance may require preservation *in situ*, whilst those of lesser significance may undergo preservation by record, where regional or high local significance can be demonstrated.
- 6.1.2 Rapid research of the available evidence from the Historic Environment Record in Shrewsbury, the Shropshire Archives also in Shrewsbury and the OA North library, as well as a walkover survey, has shown there is some potential for archaeological remains along the proposed route of the pipeline.
- 6.1.3 The proposed pipeline follows the route of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct, illustrated on the Liverpool Corporation Waterworks map of 1880 and plotted on both the Ordnance Survey maps of 1902 and 1929. Work commenced on the dam and aqueduct in 1881 and water first reached Liverpool in 1891. A further pipe was laid between 1926 and 1938 (Sivewright 1986, 33-34). Along the Vyrnwy aqueduct are metal inspection hatches (Sites **13**, **14** and **15**) marked L.C.W.W. (Liverpool Corporation Water Works) and Vyrnwy.
- 6.1.4 The route of the pipeline is in close proximity to Old Hall (Site **21**) a Grade 2* listed building which currently dates to the sixteenth century and may have had earlier foundations.

6.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.2.1 It is recommended that a targeted watching brief be maintained during ground works along the route of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct (Site **04**), including the metal inspection hatch (Site **14**), in the vicinity of Old Hall (Site **21**). This will provide an opportunity to record relevant information regarding the construction of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct and it is possible that currently unknown medieval/post-medieval sites will be encountered that relate to Old Hall (Site **21**). The targeted watching brief should focus on the section of pipeline 50m to the south-west of the track to Old Hall and 100m to the north-east of it.
- 6.2.2 It is likely that the necessary groundworks for the proposed pipeline will lie along the already heavily disturbed route of the Vyrnwy Aqueduct and no further work is necessary to the north-east and south-west of Old Hall (Site **21**). However, it is recommended that a watching brief be undertaken during all ground disturbing activities should the route of the pipeline extend beyond the limits of Vyrnwy Aqueduct.

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8. ILLUSTRATIONS

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8.2 LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1: Aerial photograph, showing the study area

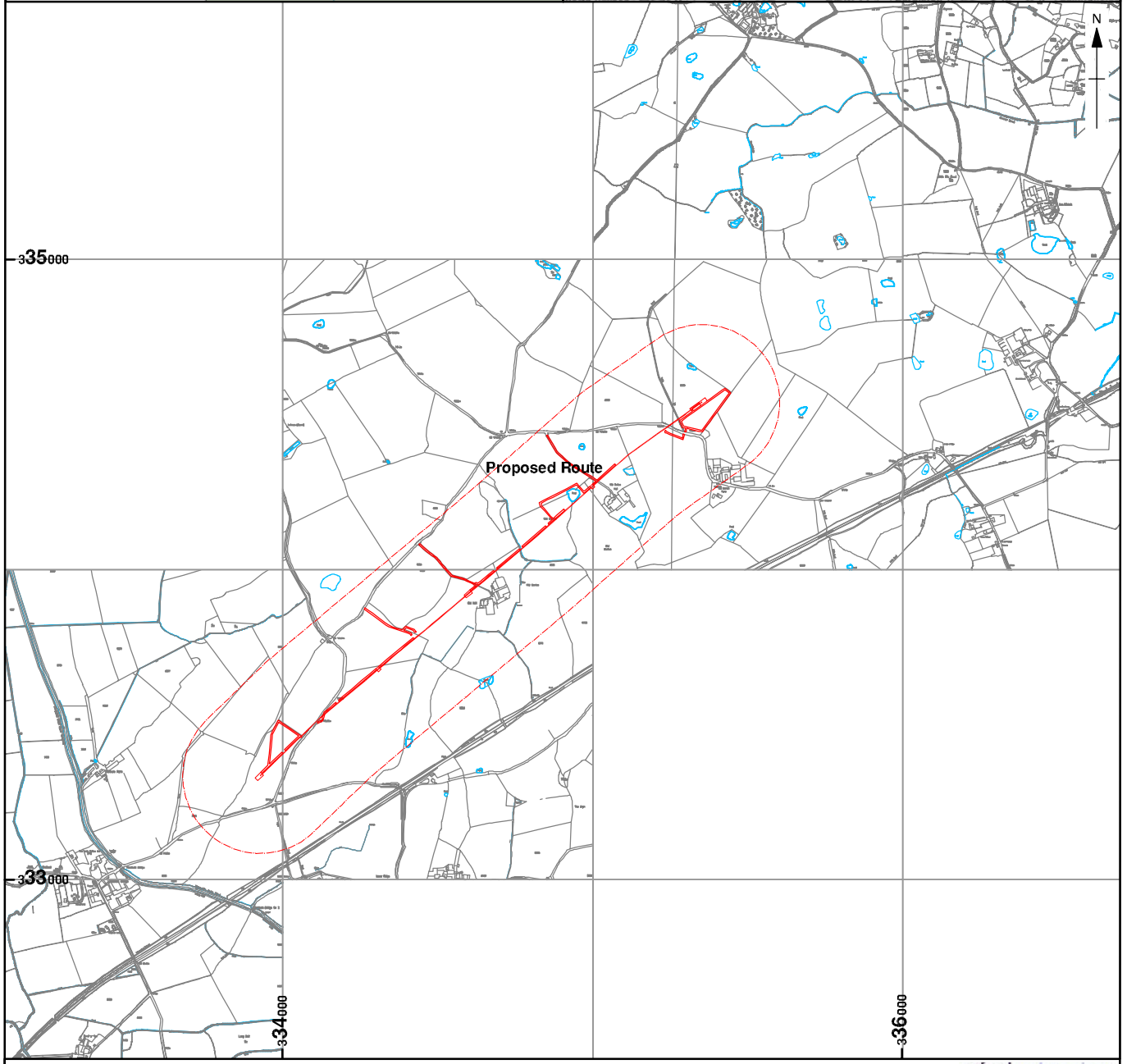
Plate 2: Site **08**, former boundary marked by oak trees and redundant gate way (Site **09**)

Plate 3: Site **11**, drainage pipe discharging into pond

Plate 4: Site **19**, Old Hall at Old Marton

Plate 5: Site **13**, metal inspection cover marked L.C.W.W. (Liverpool Corporation Water Works) and Vrynwy, of the same style as those at sites **14** and **15**

Plate 6: Site **09**, redundant gate post of the same style as those at sites **16** and **17**



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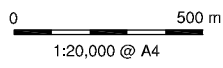


Figure 1: Site location

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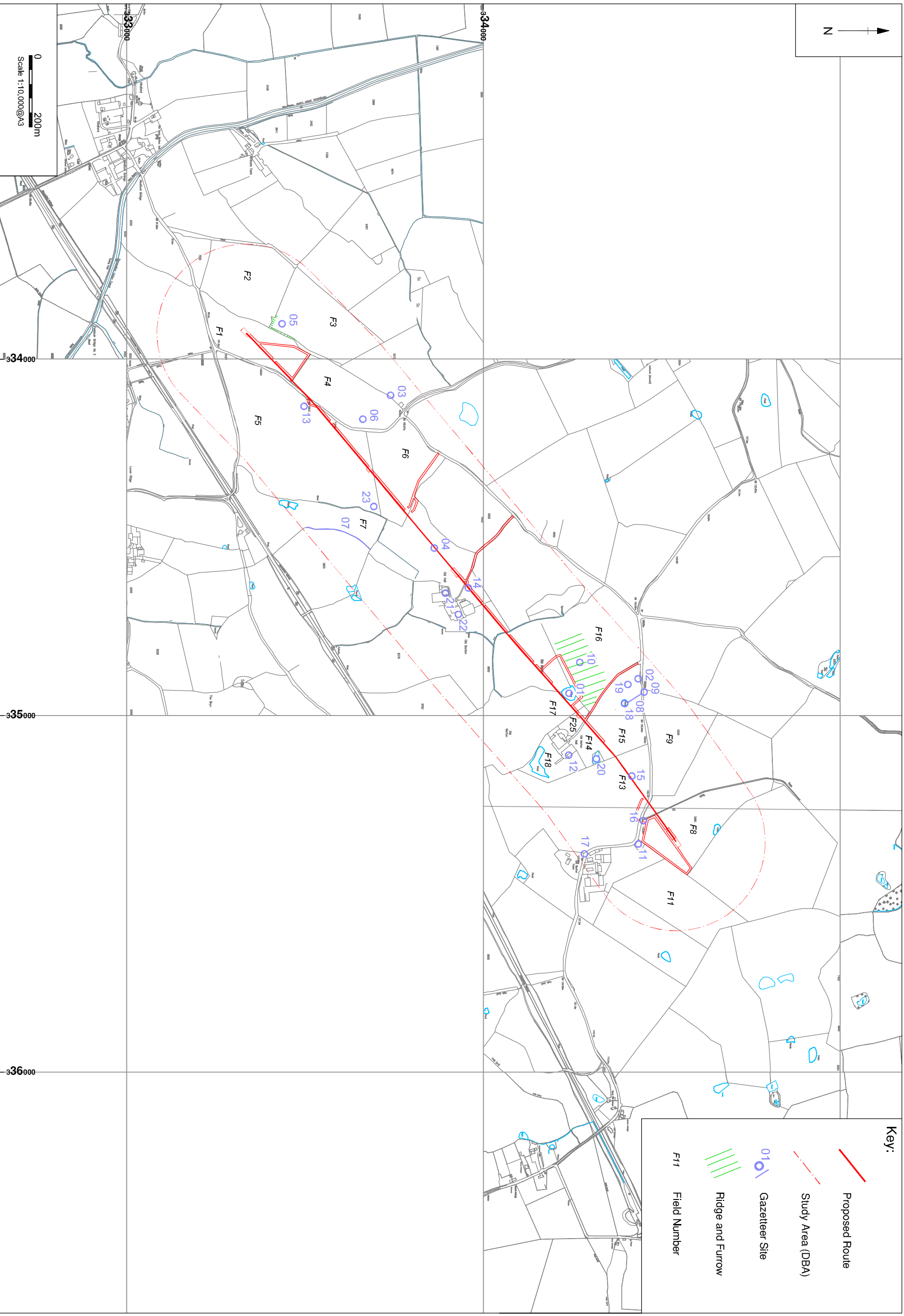


Figure 2: Plan of gazetteer sites



Figure 3: Extract from Rocque's map of Shropshire, 1752, showing general area of proposed route

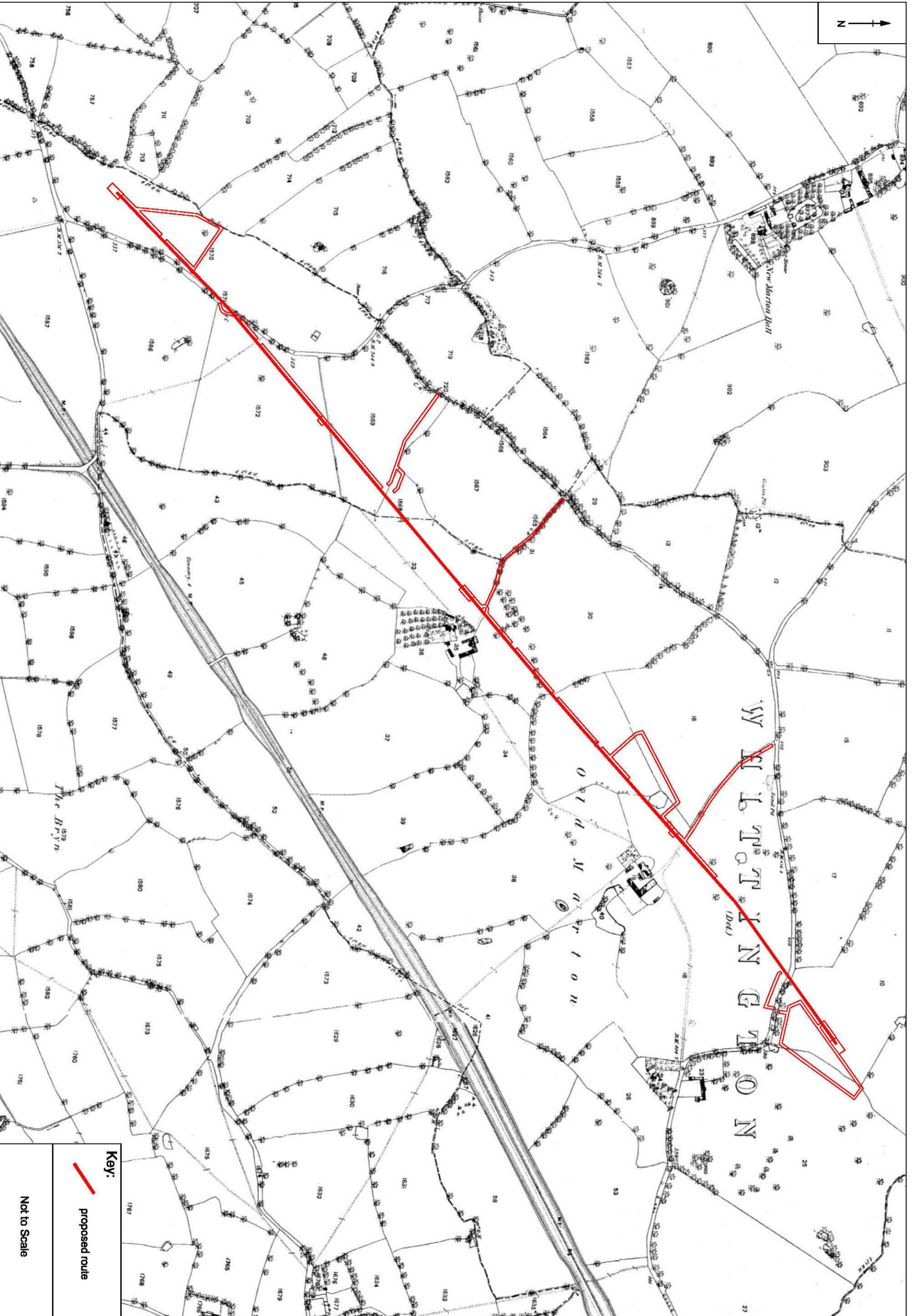


Figure 4: Proposed route superimposed upon the Ordnance Survey First Edition 1-2500 map, 1874

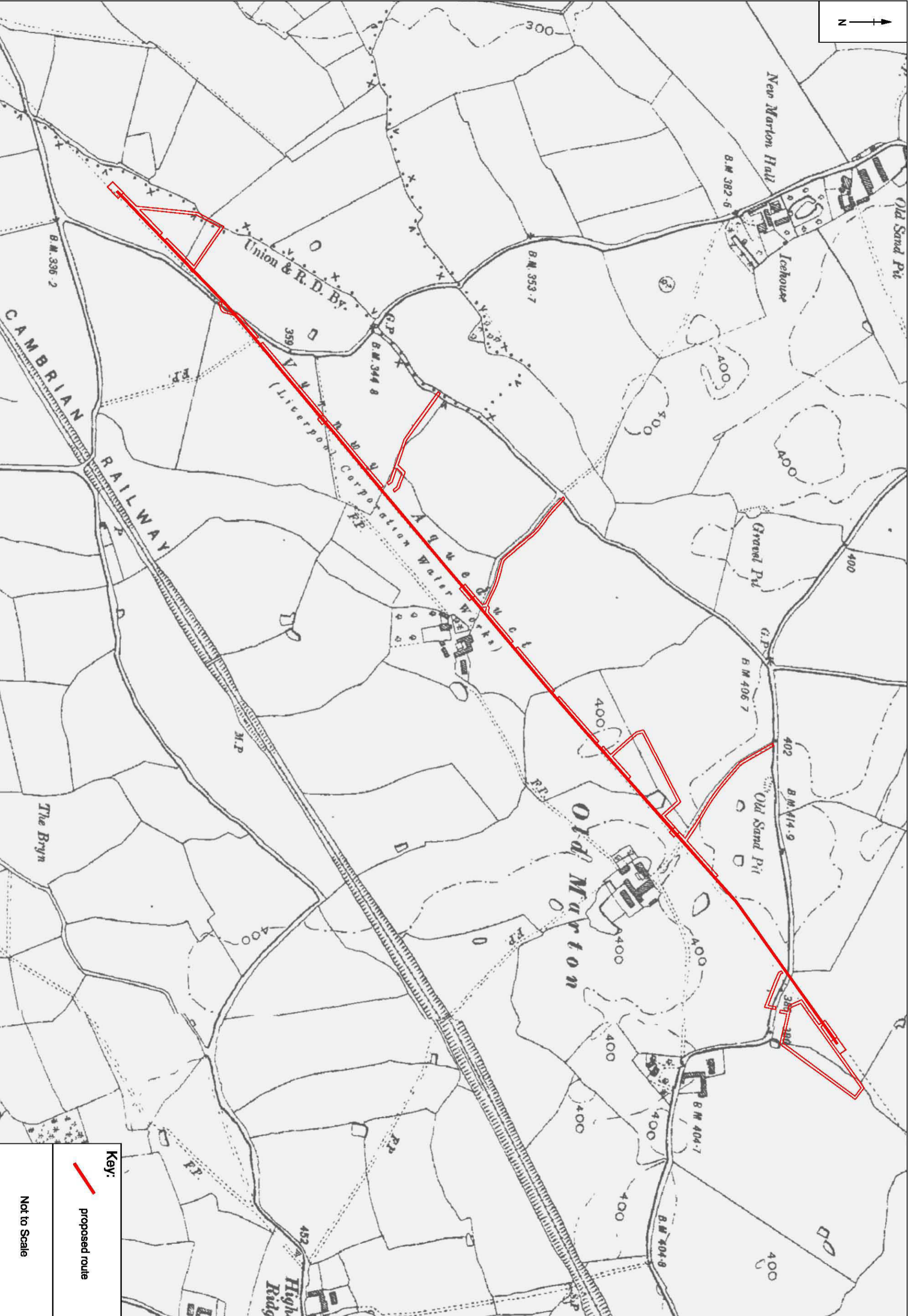


Figure 5: Proposed route superimposed upon the Ordnance Survey Second Edition 1-10560 map, 1902

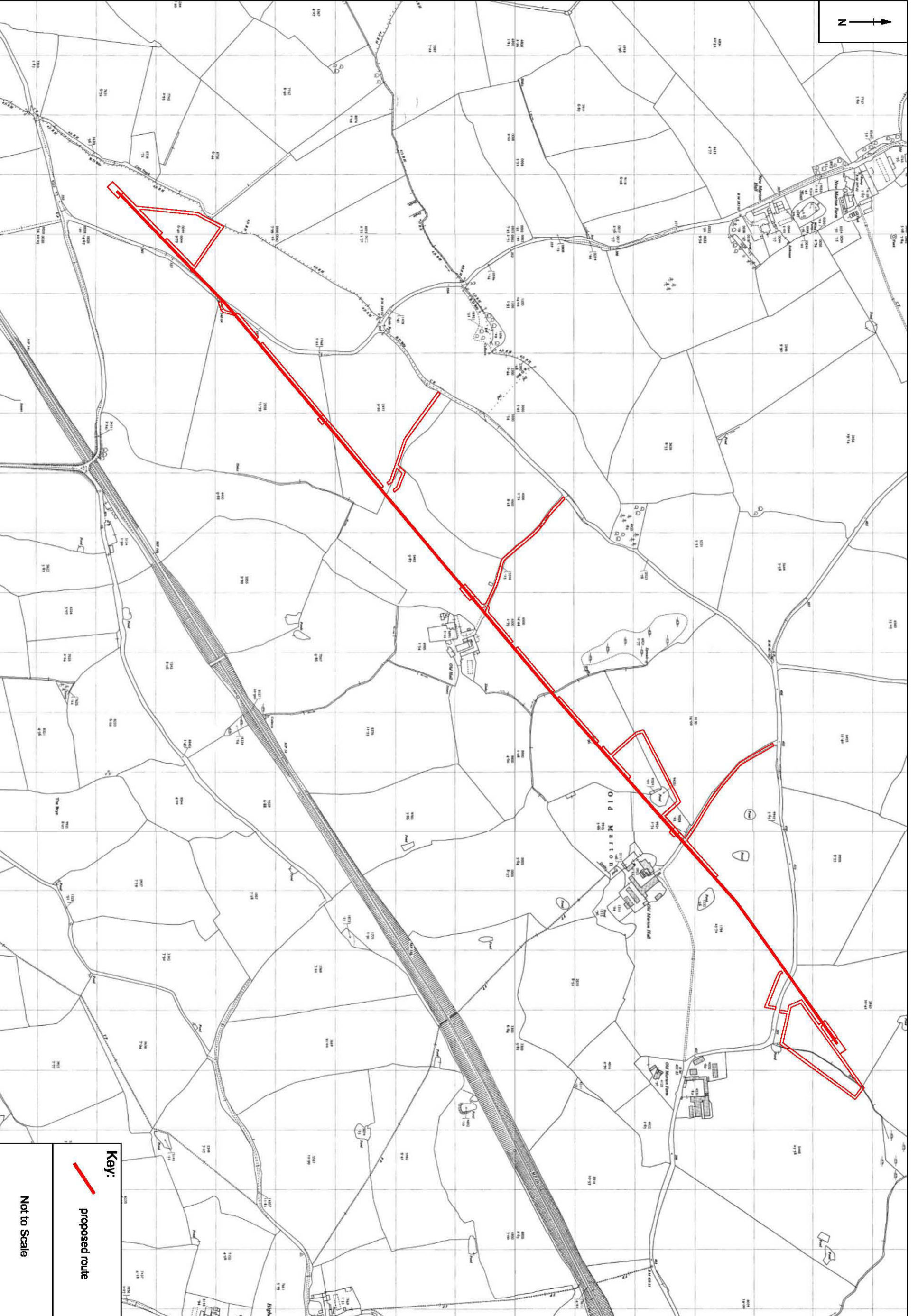


Figure 6: Proposed route superimposed upon the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, 1959



Plate 1: Aerial photograph, showing the study area



Plate 2: Site **08**, former boundary marked by oak trees and redundant gate way (Site **09**).



Plate 3: Site 11, drainage pipe discharging into pond



Plate 4: Site 19, Old Hall at Old Marton



Plate 5: Site **13**, metal inspection cover marked L.C.W.W. and Vyrnwy, of the same style as those at sites **14** and **15**.



Plate 6: Site **09**, redundant gatepost of the same style as those at sites **16** and **17**.