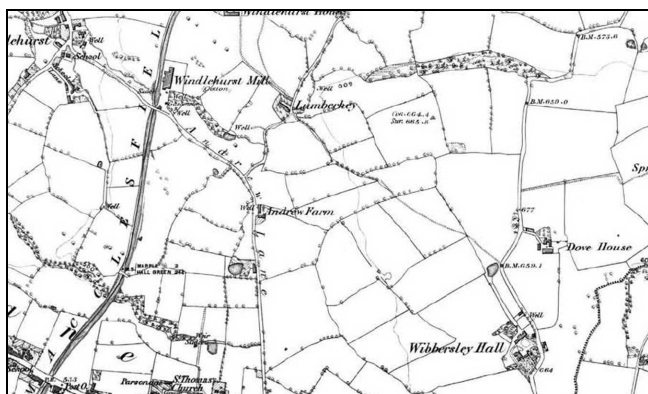


Wybersley Water Treatment Works Pipeline, Greater Manchester



Desk-Based Research and Watching Brief



Oxford Archaeology North

March 2009

United Utilities

Issue No: 2006-7/539

OAN Job No: L9749

NGR: SJ 960 855

Document Title: Wybersley Water Treatment Works Pipeline, Greater Manchester

Document Type: Desk-Based Research and Watching Brief

Client Name: United Utilities

Issue Number: 2006-7/539

OA Job Number: L9749

Site Code: WY06

National Grid Reference: SJ 960 855

Prepared by: Vicky Bullock

Position: Supervisor

Date: March 2009

Checked by: Alison Plummer

Signed.....

Position: Senior Project Manager

Date: March 2009

Approved by:

Alan Lupton

Signed.....

Position: Operations Manager

Date: March 2009

Oxford Archaeology North

Storey Institute
Meeting House Lane
Lancaster
LA1 1TF
t: (0044) 01524 848666
f: (0044) 01524 848606
w: www.oxfordarch.co.uk
e: info@oxfordarch.co.uk

© Oxford Archaeological Unit Ltd (2009)

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

Oxford Archaeological Unit Limited is a Registered Charity No: 285627

Disclaimer:

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees, and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	3
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	4
1. INTRODUCTION	5
1.1 Circumstances of Project.....	5
2. METHODOLOGY	6
2.1 Project Design.....	6
2.2 Rapid Desk-Based Assessment.....	6
2.3 Watching Brief.....	6
2.4 Archive	7
3. BACKGROUND	8
3.1 Location, Topography and Geology	8
3.2 Historical and Archaeological Background.....	8
3.3 Map Regression Analysis	9
3.4 Archaeological Interventions.....	11
4. GAZETTEER OF SITES.....	12
5. WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS.....	15
5.1 Introduction	15
5.2 Results	15
6. DISCUSSION.....	17
6.1 Conclusion.....	17
7. BIBLIOGRAPHY	19
7.1 Primary Sources.....	19
7.2 Secondary Sources.....	19
7.3 Aerial Photographs.....	20

8. ILLUSTRATIONS	21
8.1 List of Figures.....	21
8.2 List of Plates	21
APPENDIX 1: PROJECT DESIGN.....	22

SUMMARY

United Utilities has proposed the construction of a new supply main from Greavefold Service Reservoir to an existing main in Wybersley Road adjacent to Wybersley Water Treatment Works, Greater Manchester (SJ 960 855, Fig 1). As the scheme affects areas of archaeological potential, the Assistant County Archaeologist at Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit Sites and Monuments Record (GMAUSMR) recommended that rapid desk-based research and a permanent presence watching brief should be undertaken for previously undisturbed sections of the pipeline.

The rapid desk-based research was undertaken by OA North in October 2006. A total of 10 sites were identified through inspection of the GMAUSMR and other primary sources. The sites consisted of one findspot (Site **08**), one agricultural boundary (Site **06**), two enclosures (Sites **04** and **09**), two industrial features (Sites **07** and **10**) and four buildings (Sites **01**, **02**, **03** and **09**). Of these, two were medieval in origin (Sites **04** and **06**), six were demonstrably post-medieval (Sites **01-03**, **07**, **09** and **10**) and a further two were of unknown date (Sites **05** and **08**).

There was a great deal of disturbance of the landscape within the study area during the construction of the Disley Tunnel in 1902, and of the Wybersley Water Treatment Works and its associated reservoirs, which were constructed in the later twentieth century. These works may have resulted in the destruction of unknown archaeological deposits or features which were not recorded.

The archaeological watching brief was completed in September of 2007. No deposits of archaeological significance were located during the watching brief, although nineteenth century deposits were identified adjacent to the boundary between Fields 1 and 2 (Fig 2), within Field 1, used to partially backfill a pond located adjacent to the pipe trench.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) would like to thank United Utilities for commissioning the project. Thanks are also due to Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit Sites and Monuments Record (GMAUSMR), and all the staff of Stockport Local Studies Library in Stockport for their assistance with this project.

Vicky Bullock undertook the rapid desk-based research and Andy Bates maintained the archaeological watching. Vicky Bullock and Andy Bates compiled the report, 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 has proposed the construction of a new supply main from Greavefold Service Reservoir to an existing main in Wybersley Road adjacent to Wybersley Water Treatment Works, Greater Manchester (SJ 960 855) (Fig 1). The Greater Manchester Assistant County Archaeologist (GMACA) requested desk-based research to be completed in order to inform the planning process on the potential disturbance of archaeological remains, and an archaeological watching brief on the excavation of the pipe trench. Following the acceptance of a Project Design (*Appendix 1*) devised to meet the GMACA's verbal brief, Oxford Archaeology North were commissioned by United Utilities to undertake the work. The desk-based research was undertaken in October 2006, and the watching brief in September of the same year.
- 1.1.2 This report sets out the results of the rapid desk-based research and watching brief in the form of a short document outlining the findings. The concluding chapter summaries the findings.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 A project design (*Appendix 1*) was submitted by OA North in response to a verbal brief issued by the Assistant County Archaeologist at Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit Sites and Monuments Record. The project design was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 RAPID DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

2.2.1 The desk-based research comprised a search of both published and unpublished records held by the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) in Manchester, the Local Studies Library in Stockport, and the archives and library held at OA North. For this purpose, a study area comprising 0.5km either side of the proposed pipeline route was examined. All known archaeological sites identified have been included in the Site Gazetteer (*Section 4* below; Fig 2) in order to assess the impact of the proposed development.

2.2.2 *Sites and Monuments Record (GMAUSMR)*: the Sites and Monuments Record held in Manchester was consulted to establish the presence of sites of cultural heritage interest already known within a 0.5km radius centred on the proposed pipeline route. Secondary sources for the area were limited but studied when available. A building survey report for Wybersley Hall carried out by Matrix Archaeology in 2004, held at GMAUSMR, was consulted for background information.

2.2.3 *Stockport Local Studies Library, Stockport*: primary documents, principally historic maps of area, were examined in order to identify any sites of archaeological interest that might be affected by the pipeline. These comprised the Marple Tithe Map and Apportionment and nineteenth and twentieth century Ordnance Survey maps. Secondary sources were very limited but, where available, local histories of the area were examined.

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 WATCHING BRIEF

2.3.1 A programme of field observation accurately recorded the location, extent, and character of any surviving archaeological features and/or deposits during the excavation of the pipe trench. This work comprised observation during the excavation, the systematic examination of any horizons or deposits exposed

during the course of the groundworks, the accurate recording of all archaeological features and horizons on OA North *pro-forma* sheets, and the recovery of any artefacts. A photographic record was also compiled on monochrome and colour slide formats.

2.4 ARCHIVE

- 2.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design (*Appendix 1*), and in accordance with current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive will be prepared following guidelines defined by the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology, and will be submitted to the Stockport Local Studies Library. An entry will also be submitted to the The Arts and Humanities Data Service (AHDS) online database, *Online Access index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS).

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

3.1.1 Wybersley is located to the east of the village of High Lane, north of the A6 between Stockport and Buxton overlooking the river Goyt to the east and the Manchester embayment to the west (Fig 1). The study area is located on the Manchester Pennine Fringe, which occupies the transitional zone between the open moorlands of the Dark Peak and Southern Pennines, and the densely populated urban conurbation of Manchester. During the Ice Age the Fringe area was carved '*partly from Millstone Grit and partly from the overlying Coal Measures. Glacial drift cover is extensive only on the lower ground*' (Countryside Commission 1998, 122–3). The area ranges between 100-300m metres and largely comprises ridges and steep-sided valleys with fast-flowing rivers. Predominantly, the land is used for agriculture, with stock rearing and rough grazing on improved grassland between urban areas. Field boundaries include dry 'gritstone' walls and hedgerows. Woodland cover is sparse, and is concentrated in the river valleys (*ibid*).

3.2 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.2.1 The earliest clear evidence for human activity in the area dates to the Mesolithic period, although this often takes the form of lithic scatters, particularly on parts of the Pennines (Hodgson and Brennand 2005, 4). Structural evidence in the form of shelters and cave sites have also been identified (Morgan and Morgan 2004, 19-21), but these are comparatively rare. More recently sites of this period have also been found in lower-lying areas (Hodgson and Brennand 2005, 4), but there is nothing known from the study area or its immediate environs. Sites belonging to the Neolithic period, which saw the introduction of farming and monumental structures, are also quite rare. Although there a number of burial and settlement sites known across the county (Morgan and Morgan 2004, 25), stray finds continue to be the dominant type of evidence for this period. No sites of this date were within the study area.

3.2.2 During the Bronze Age there is an increase in the number of presumed mortuary sites, in particular burial mounds or barrows. Settlement sites have recently been identified at Manchester Airport, Mellor and Tatton (Hodgson and Brennand 2005, 4), although stray finds and the occasional burial mound represent the most common type of evidence for the period. No sites of Bronze Age date are known in the immediate vicinity of the study area.

3.2.3 Subsequent to the Bronze Age archaeological evidence becomes relatively scarce across the north of Britain. One of the defining types of site of the Iron Age is the hillfort, the closest of which is Mellor (Crosby 1996, 20). No sites of conclusively Iron Age date are known within the study area, however the stone heads on the gateposts at Andrews Farm (Site 08) could possible date from this period.

- 3.2.4 The Roman Road (71b) (Margary 1973, 365) from Buxton to Manchester is believed to follow the course of the alignment of High Lane before it is engulfed in the urban area of Stockport. While there are no Roman remains in the immediate vicinity of the study area the fort of Melandra (Ardotalia), near Glossop, was not far away and several transport routes are believed to have passed nearby (Marple Local History Society 1993, 7–12).
- 3.2.5 Wybersley Hall (Site **01**) is believed to have been originally constructed in the early sixteenth century, a single surviving cruck forming the basis for this assessment. There is also some evidence of ridge and furrow potentially dating to the medieval period (Site **04**) to the west of the hall, as well as more definite medieval ridge-and-furrow (Site **06**) to the east of Dove House (Site **03**). “Wibbersley” is believed to be a corruption of *Wigbeort’s leah*. Historically, the area was included in the manor of Marple, located in the northern part of Macclesfield Forest, which was a hunting reserve established by the Earls of Chester around 1160 AD (Arrowsmith 1997). The suffix *-leah* refers to a wood, or a clearing within a wood (Dodgson 1970, 282).
- 3.2.6 Expansion and industrialisation during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries necessitated improved transport systems. The road from Macclesfield to Stockport was turnpiked in 1762 (Calladine and Fricker 1993), and the canal network encircling Cheshire was completed in 1831 with the opening of the Macclesfield Canal providing a link between the Trent and Mersey Canal, opened in 1777, and the Peak Forest Canal, opened in 1800. From the mid-eighteenth to the mid-twentieth century industry in east Cheshire was dominated by textiles, in particular silk, although cotton spinning was established as an alternative during the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries (Calladine and Fricker 1993). The first railway in east Cheshire was built in 1845 when the Manchester and Birmingham Railway reached Macclesfield. Increasing industrialisation transformed the landscape from one of marginal agricultural subsistence to one of industrial prosperity. This is reflected by the appearance of a new eighteenth century farm complex represented by the buildings at Dove House (Site **03**), and by expansion of Wybersley Hall (Site **01**) to include a carriage house and stable (Site **02**). Andrew Farm (Site **09**) is undated, but has also been ascribed a post-medieval origin. Industrialisation is also reflected in the study area at Sawpit Field (Site **07**), while the canal network is in close proximity to, but not within, the study area. The Disley rail Tunnel, built by the Midland Railway in 1902 between New Mills South Junction and Manchester Central, bores through the hill beneath the route of the proposed pipeline. It was the most expensive work on that line, and at 3,535m is the second longest on the Midland system, and is now part of the Hope Valley (Cheshire Archives and Local Studies Service Township Pack 1991) The Wybersley Road reservoir (Site **10**) represents late nineteenth century attempts to provide for the requirements of the population of Marple.

3.3 MAP REGRESSION ANALYSIS

- 3.3.1 *Burdetts Map of Cheshire 1777*: this shows settlements and buildings in the area (Plate 1), and appears to show Wybersley Hall (Site **01**) as a single

unnamed building on the west side of Wybersley Road. 'Ridge End', a small yeoman farmhouse, is shown *c* 1km to the north of this building.

3.3.2 ***Tithe Map of Marple, 1850 (L/842)***: this map (Fig 3) shows a largely rural landscape dominated by scattered farmsteads. Dove House Farm (Site **03**) and Andrew Farm (Site **09**) are now shown, besides Wybersley (Wibbersley) Hall (Site **01**) and its additional outbuildings (Site **02**). Although the information from the accompanying Tithe Apportionment document of 1849 could not be reproduced due to copyright restrictions, field names suggest that the majority of the area was arable, pasture and meadow-land (Table 1). These appear to have been under the ownership of Thomas Bradshaw-Isherwood Esq, and occupied by a Joseph Cooper. As detailed in the gazetteer (*Section 4*), the Tithe Map shows the existence of a medieval ring-fence (part of Site **01**) extending to the north and west of the Hall, which closely coincides with the landholding associated with the building.

Field Number	Field-Name	Field-Use
1113	Plumley	Arable
1114	Old Meadow	Meadow
1115	Marl Field	Arable
1116	Well Field	Pasture
1117	Middle Field	Pasture
1118	Horse Pasture	Pasture
1175	Croft and road to pit	Pasture
1176	Top part of sawpit field (Site 07)	Pasture
1177	Bottom part of sawpit field (Site 07)	Arable
1178	Wibbersley Hall (Site 01) and outbuildings (Site 02), yard, garden and plantation	n/a
1182	Part of hill	Arable
1183	Part of hill	Meadow

Table 1: Field-names and usage *c* 1850

3.3.3 ***Ordnance Survey Map, 1872, 1:2500***: this shows a largely unchanged landscape from the previous map, although a footpath is now shown traversing the study area from Wybersley Lane in a north-westerly direction, and the field-boundaries in the field to the east of Wybersley Hall have been removed to create a single large field. No additional sites of archaeological interest were identified through reference to this map.

- 3.3.4 **Ordnance Survey Map, 1881, First Edition, 1:10,560:** again little change is evident in either the landscape or the buildings which appear when compared to the earlier Ordnance Survey map. No additional sites of archaeological interest were identified through reference to this map (Fig 4).
- 3.3.5 **Ordnance Survey Map, 1899, Second Edition, 1:10,560:** there are no major changes to the landscape comprising the study area but to the north of Dove House Farm (Site **03**) a small reservoir (Site **10**) (Marple Water Works) has been constructed (Fig 5). To the east of Wybersley Road a golf course has been constructed on the site of an old quarry. To the south of High Lane both the Macclesfield Canal and the Stockport and Buxton Railway have been built.
- 3.3.6 **Ordnance Survey Map, 1909, 1:2500:** the Disley Tunnel (*Section 3.2.6* above) is shown traversing the northern part of the study area on an approximate east/west alignment (Fig 6). Air shafts into the tunnel appear at regular intervals, and three of these, which lie within the study area, are shown as raised earth platforms, presumably formed by the spoil created during their excavation. Several new properties have been constructed along Carr Brow and at the junction with Wybersley Road. Opposite the reservoir, to the north-west of Andrew Lane, Lomber Hey on the 1899 map is now Cawkwell Field's Farm. A cottage has been constructed to the north of Wybersley Hall (Site **01**), just south of Dove House Farm (Site **03**), next to Wybersley Road.
- 3.3.7 **Ordnance Survey, 1997, 1:50,000:** during the twentieth century the landscape was completely altered by the construction of Wybersley Water Treatment Works and the High Lane reservoir (covered). This recent map shows the full extent of the water treatment works and the urbanisation of the area to the south along High Lane and Andrew Lane.

3.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS

- 3.4.1 A building survey of Wybersley Hall (Site **01**) was carried out by Matrix Archaeology in 2004. No other archaeological projects have been undertaken within the study area.

4. GAZETTEER OF SITES

Site number	01
Site name	Wybersley Hall
NGR	SJ 9621 8539
Site type	House, Timber Framed Building, Hall
Period	Medieval/Post-medieval
SMR No	4713.1.0
Sources	GMAU SMR
Description	Extant complex comprising eighteenth century and later buildings. Four phases of building survive from early sixteenth century to modern fabric. Cartographic evidence suggests the existence of a medieval ring-fence extending to the north and west of the Hall, which closely coincided with the landholding associated with the building on the tithe plan of 1850. The House dates from the sixteenth century to the modern period; the timber-framed building exhibits partial survival of sixteenth century to modern period fabric; the Hall building dates from the seventeenth century to the modern period.
Assessment	The site is unlikely to be affected by the proposed development.

Site number	02
Site name	Outbuildings to the north of Wybersley Hall
NGR	SJ 9621 8544
Site type	Carriage House Stable
Period	Post-medieval
SMR No	7413.2.0
Sources	GMAU SMR
Description	Listed carriage house and stable building dating from the eighteenth century with large nineteenth century additions. To the east of this is a detached two-storey stone-built outbuilding with slate stone roof.
Assessment	The site is unlikely to be affected by the proposed development.

Site number	03
Site name	Dove House
NGR	SJ 96290 85654
Site type	Barn Farm Farm Building Farmhouse
Period	Post-medieval
SMR No	13330.1.0
Sources	GMAU SMR
Description	Dove House is named in a document of 1732 and again in a 1742 survey of Marple (Stockport Local Studies Library). The eighteenth century farmhouse occupies the centre of the site. An eighteenth century stone-built barn on the south of the site appears to have been partly rebuilt or enlarged and converted to accommodation. A brick-built barn to the west also converted to accommodation. A smaller detached brick-built outbuilding is also located to the north of the site.
Assessment	The site is unlikely to be affected by the development.

Site number	04
Site Name	none
NGR	SJ 96141 85391
Site type	Rectangular Enclosure and Ridge-and-Furrow cropmarks
Period	Medieval?/Unknown

SMR No	13442.1.0
Sources	GMAU SMR; Aerial Photograph (GMGU 1997, AP38); Aerial Photograph (1946-48 RAF Vertical Aerial Photographs, Flight Path A, RAF AP37)
Description	The 1997-98 photography shows a small rectangular feature (c 12.5m by 21.5m) of unknown date. The 1946-48 photography shows faint ridge-and-furrow which is probably medieval.
Assessment	The site is unlikely to be affected by the proposed development.

Site number	05
Site name	none
NGR	unknown
Site type	Enclosure and pit? cropmarks
Period	Unknown
SMR No	13443.1.0
Sources	GMAU SMR; Aerial Photograph (GMGU 1997, AP38); Aerial Photograph (1971 Huntings Surveys, Vertical Aerial Photographs 1971, AP38)
Description	A sub-rectangular enclosure cropmark and a possible pit feature have been identified from aerial photography. The features are of an unknown date range.
Assessment	The site is unlikely to be affected by the proposed development.

Site number	06
Site name	none
NGR	SJ 96616 85758
Site type	Boundary earthwork; Ridge-and-Furrow earthwork
Period	Medieval
SMR No	13444.1.0
Sources	GMAU SMR; Aerial Photograph (GMGU 1997, AP39)
Description	Wide ridge-and-furrow pattern (5m plus) aligned south-west/north-east in fields to the north-east of Dove House Farm. A field boundary or headland runs north-west to south-east across the western edge of the site.
Assessment	The site is unlikely to be affected by the development.

Site number	07
Site name	Sawpit Field (site of)
NGR	SJ 96078 85454
Site type	Saw Pit
Period	Post-medieval
SMR No	15206.10
Sources	GMAU SMR
Description	Two adjoining fields named 'Top Part of Sawpit Field' and 'Bottom Part of Sawpit Field' on the 1850 tithe award. These have both been either destroyed or built over.
Assessment	The site will not be affected by the development.

Site number	08
Site name	Andrew Lane, High Lane (Stone Head)
NGR	SJ 9558 8587 (approximate)
Site type	Find Spot
Period	unknown
SMR No	9104.1.0
Sources	GMAU SMR
Description	Four heads on two gateposts of the Scotch Produce Centre, which are now whitewashed/painted white and not clearly distinguishable. Owner of "Lomber Hey" nearby recalls features on heads until very recently. Lorries have damaged the two inside heads, one of which has been broken off entirely.
Assessment	The site is unlikely to be affected by the proposed development.

Site number	09
Site name	Andrew Farm
NGR	SJ 95582 85744
Site type	Buildings
Period	Post-medieval
SMR No	13332.1.0
Sources	GMAU SMR
Description	Extant farm building with a barn range on the north side of the site, aligned alongside Andrew Lane. These are stone-built, with a brick elevation on the northern bay. The southern end of the range is lower and narrower, and appears to represent a separate construction phase. At the northern end of the western elevation of the barn, a full height opening has been blocked with concrete, and this carries a cruck truss in relief. Another farmhouse to the south has two storeys and is of irregular build, with a stone-built gabled bay on the west. The exterior of the eastern part of this building is covered with mock timber framing.
Assessment	The site is unlikely to be affected by the proposed development.

Site number	10
Site name	Reservoir
NGR	SJ 9618 8585
Site type	reservoir (covered)
Period	Post-medieval
SMR No	-
Sources	Ordnance Survey 1899
Description	This feature only appears on the Ordnance Survey of 1899 and subsequent mapping, where it is labelled Marple UDCWW, which presumably stands for 'Marple Urban District Council Water Works'.
Assessment	The site is unlikely to be affected by the proposed development.

5. WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

5.1.1 A programme of archaeologically controlled monitoring in the form of a watching brief was conducted in September of 2007, in accordance with the methodology outlined in the project design (*Appendix 1*). The pipe trench was excavated by a 7 ton 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 0.70m wide toothed bucket. The trench measured 0.70m wide and 1.2m deep. The results of the watching brief are presented below in a tabular format (Table 2). The location of each area is identified on Figure 2.

5.2 RESULTS

5.2.1 No finds or features of archaeological significance were observed during the watching brief.

Area	Location	Description
1	Road Section	Excavation proceeded through a maximum of 0.20m of topsoil, <i>1</i> , and 1.0m of hardcore used in the construction of the modern road. Glacial till underlay the hardcore. The area was evidently heavily disturbed during the construction of the modern road, and, as such, was excluded from the watching brief, although sections were examined after the trench was excavated. No archaeologically significant deposits were located.
2	Field 1	<p>A maximum of 0.30m of topsoil, <i>1</i>, was removed. Underlying the topsoil was 0.70m of hardcore overlying terram. It was evident that a haul road had been previously lain within this area, possibly during the construction of the adjacent Untied Utilities facility to the east of Field 1 to maintain access to Wybersley Hall.</p> <p>Adjacent to the boundary between Fields 1 and 2 an area had been in-filled with deposit <i>2</i>, containing nineteenth century ceramics and building material. The excavated trench quickly became waterlogged. It seems likely that part of the pond, located to the south-east of this location had been backfilled. The 1850 tithe map of the area (Fig 3) suggests that the pond was once larger than its current extent.</p> <p>A number of field drains and modern services were also located within the excavation.</p>

3	Field 2	Although a number of field drains and a modern post-hole were present, with remains of part of the post still in-situ, no deposits of an archaeological nature were located.
---	---------	--

Table 2: Results of the Watching Brief

6. DISCUSSION

6.1 CONCLUSION

6.1.1 The rapid desk-based research identified 10 gazetteer sites (*Section 5*) within 0.5km of the proposed pipeline corridor. Of these, nine were already recorded in the SMR, and one was identified through examination of a primary source which comprised nineteenth century cartography.

6.1.2 There are no recorded Scheduled Monuments or other sites with Statutory Designations within the study area, although two of the gazetteer sites are Grade II Listed Buildings; these are Wybersley Hall (Site **01**; LB 441908) and the Outbuildings to the north of Wybersley Hall (Site **02**; LB 441909). The sites are summarised in Table 3 below:

Period	No of sites	Sites
Prehistoric	0	-
Romano-British	0	-
Early Medieval	0	-
Medieval	3	Building (Site 01), enclosure/ridge-and-furrow cropmarks (Site 04) and earthwork/ridge-and-furrow cropmarks (Site 06)
Post-Medieval	5	Buildings (Sites 02 , 03 and 09), sawpit (Site 07) and reservoir (Site 10)
Unknown	2	enclosure and pit? cropmarks (Site 05) and find spot (Site 08)

Table 3: Number of sites by period

6.1.3 The recorded sites within the study area chiefly relate to farms which represent the medieval and post-medieval agricultural regimes in this part of Greater Manchester (Sites **01-03** and **09**). The Wybersley Hall complex (Sites **01** and **02**) is evidently an excellent example of the evolution of post-medieval farmsteads from their medieval precursors, a transition in terms of architectural and socio-economic history that is poorly understood. Two of the cropmark sites within the study area (Sites **04** and **06**) also seem to reflect various aspects of land management, probably dating to the medieval period, for which there is relatively little information available in this area. Since it is possible that Wybersley's origins are medieval there may be more as yet unknown sites from this period in the area. The nineteenth century reservoir (Site **10**) is relatively well-documented, and the sawpit (Site **07**), is of relatively minor significance, although both sites represent increasing diversity in - and new means of exploiting - the landscape as the effects of industrialisation took hold. Although prehistoric sites are not present within the study area, the possibility that the sub-rectangular enclosure earthwork (Site **05**) and the stone heads on Andrew Lane (Site **08**) represent prehistoric activity cannot be completely discounted in the context of other demonstrable

prehistoric activity in this part of Greater Manchester. The existence of hitherto unknown prehistoric archaeological sites cannot, therefore, be discounted.

- 6.1.4 None of the sites identified during the rapid desk-based research were considered likely to be affected by the pipeline development in either the long or the short term.
- 6.1.5 No features or deposits of archaeological significance were located during the watching brief, although there was evidence of the pond adjacent to the pipe trench having been partially backfilled in the nineteenth century.

7. BIBLIOGRAPHY

7.1 PRIMARY SOURCES

Burdetts, P 1777, (L/1626) *A Survey of the County Palatine of Chester, Section 2*

Tithe Map of Marple, 1850 (L/842) (Plan of the Township of Marple in the Parish of Stockport in the County of Cheshire)

Marple Tithe Apportionment, 1849

Ordnance Survey Map, 1872, 1:2500, Cheshire Eastern Division, Sheet XX.10, Stockport Parish

Ordnance Survey Map, 1881, First Edition, 1: 10,560, County Series

Ordnance Survey Map, 1899, Second Edition, 1: 10,560, Cheshire, Derbyshire Sheet XX.10 V.13

Ordnance Survey Map, 1909, Third Edition, 1:2500, Cheshire Sheet XX SW

Ordnance Survey Map, 1997, Landranger Series, 1:50000, Sheet 109, Manchester, Bolton and Warrington

7.2 SECONDARY SOURCES

Arrowsmith, P 1997 *Stockport: A History*, Stockport

Calladine, A, Fricker, J, 1993 *East Cheshire Textile Mills*, RCHME, St Albans

Cheshire Archives and Local Studies Service, 1991 *Township pack No 13, Disley*

Countryside Commission, 1998 *Countryside Character, Volume 2: North West*, Cheltenham

Crosby, A, 1996 *A History of Cheshire*, Chichester

Dodgson, JMcN, 1970 *The Place-Names of Cheshire*, **1**, English Place-Name Soc, **44**, Cambridge

English Heritage, 1991, *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edn, London

Hodgson, J, and Brennand, M, 2005, *The Prehistoric Period Resource Assessment, (draft)*, unpubl rep

Margary, ID, 1973 *Roman Roads in Britain* 3rd edn London

Marple Local History Society, 1993 *The History of Marple & District*, Rapidprint

Matrix Archaeology, 2004 *Wybersley Hall*, unpubl rep

Morgan, V, and Morgan, P, 2004 *Prehistoric Cheshire*, Ashbourne

7.3 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Greater Manchester Geological Unit 1997, AP38-39

RAF, 1946-8, Vertical Aerial Photographs, Flight Path A, RAF AP37

Huntings Surveys, Vertical Aerial Photographs 1971, AP38

8. ILLUSTRATIONS

8.1 LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Plan of Gazetteer Sites

Figure 3: Extract from Tithe Map, 1850

Figure 4: Extract from the Ordnance Survey First Edition 1:10,560 map, 1881

Figure 5: Extract from the Ordnance Survey Second Edition 1:10,560 map, 1889

Figure 6: Extract from the Ordnance Survey Third Edition 1:2500 map, 1909

8.2 LIST OF PLATES

Plate 1: Extract from Burdett's *Map of Cheshire 1777*

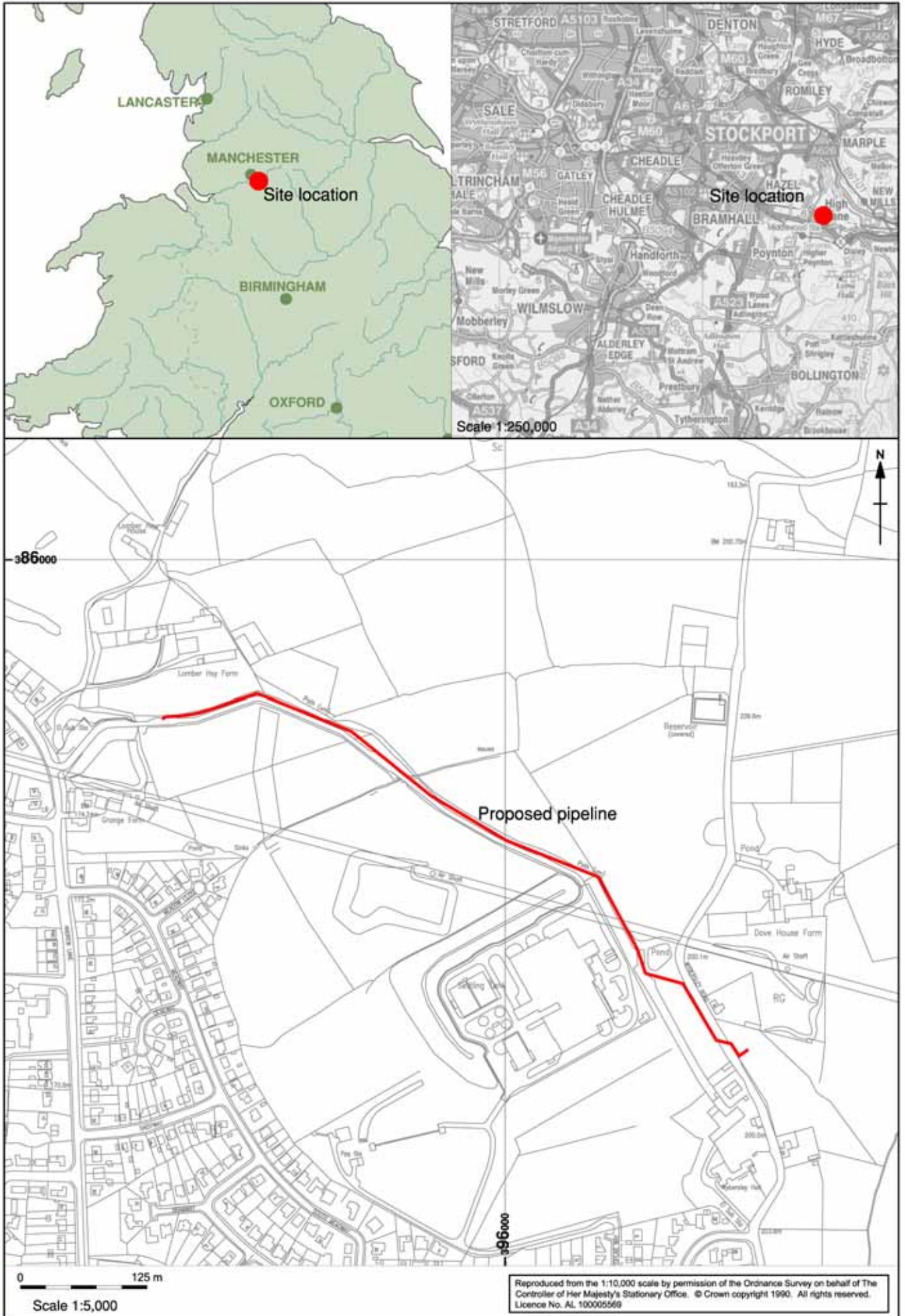


Figure 1: Site Location

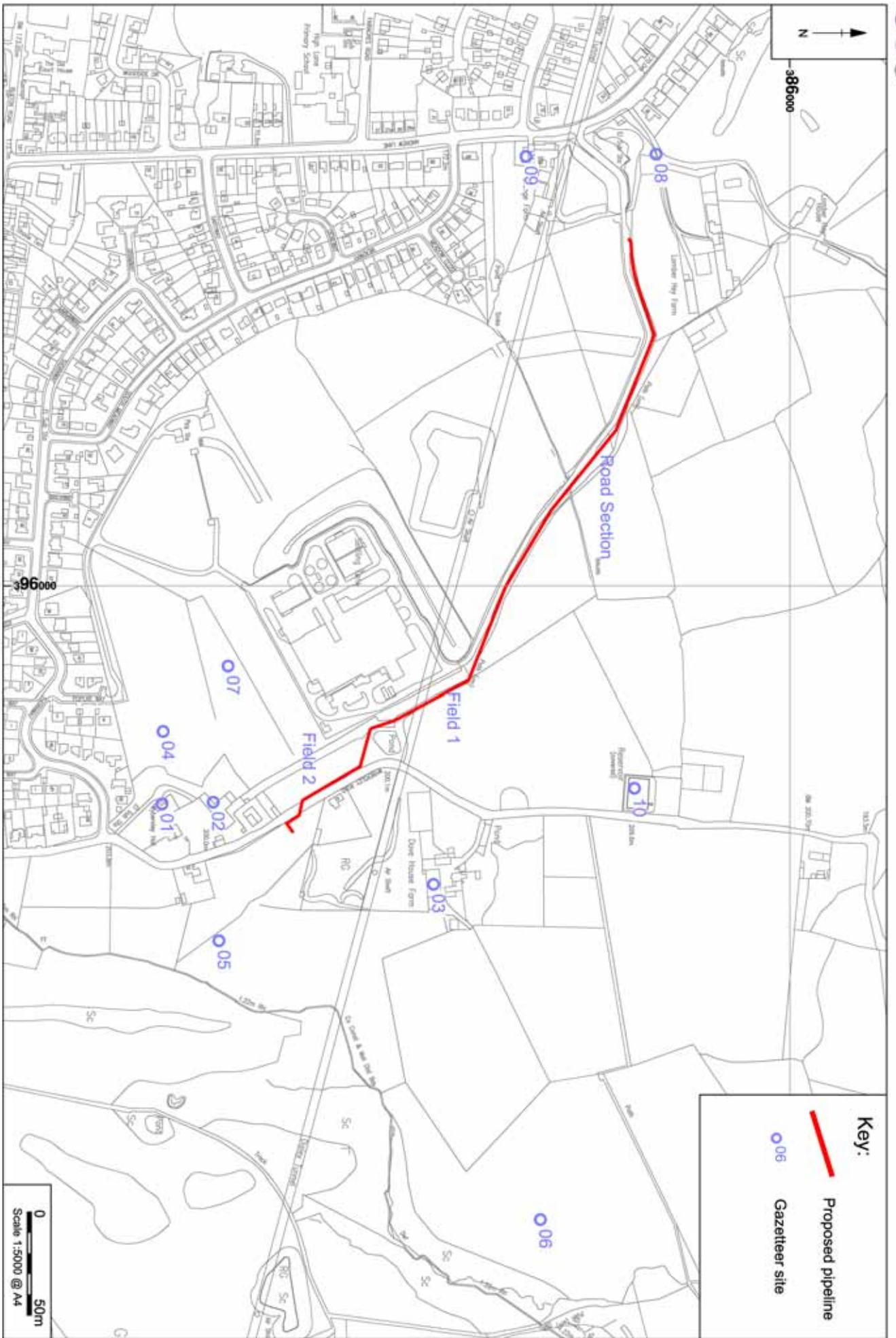


Figure 2: Gazetteer sites plan

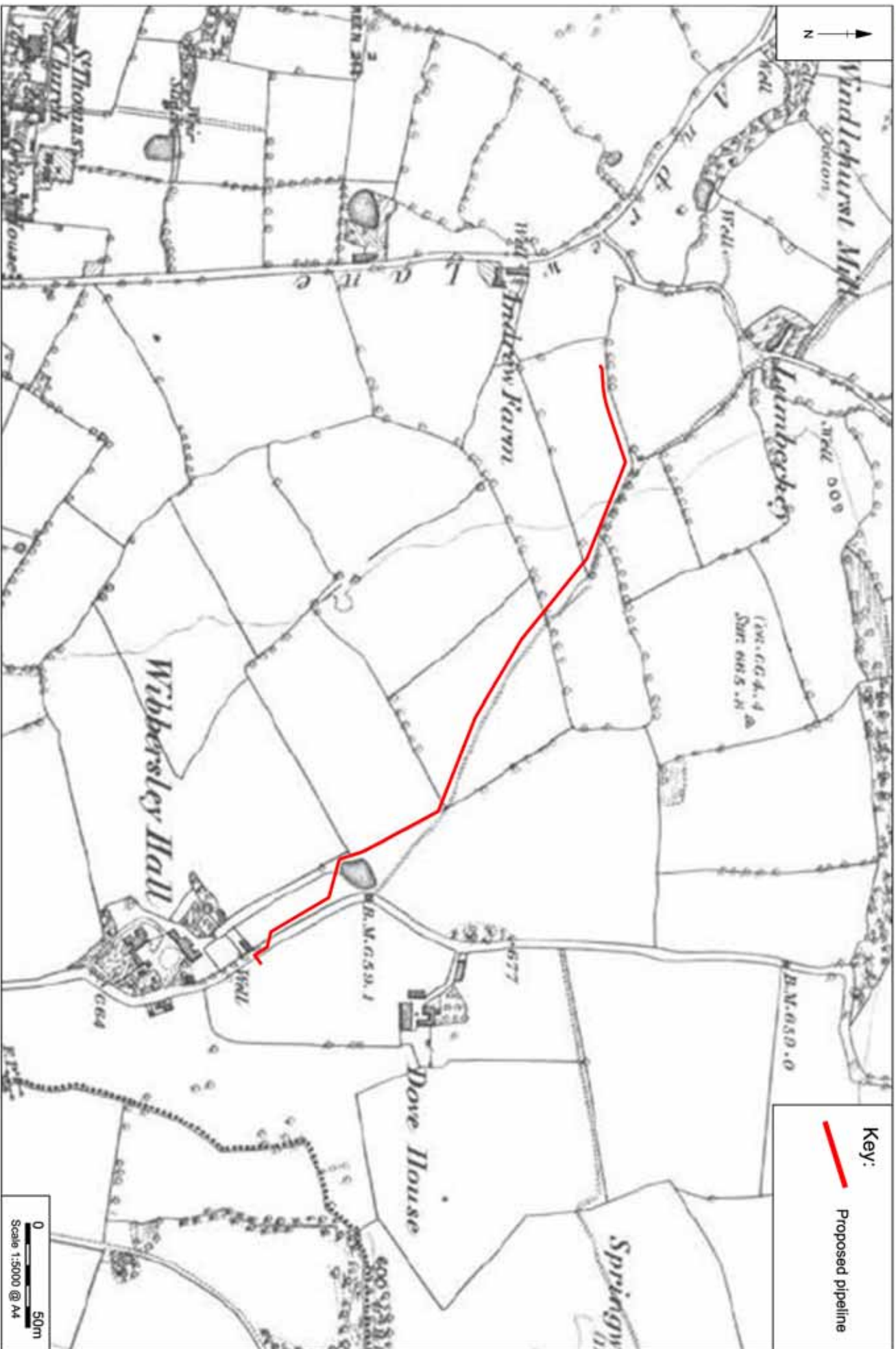


Figure 4: Extract from the Ordnance Survey First Edition 1:10,560 map, 1881

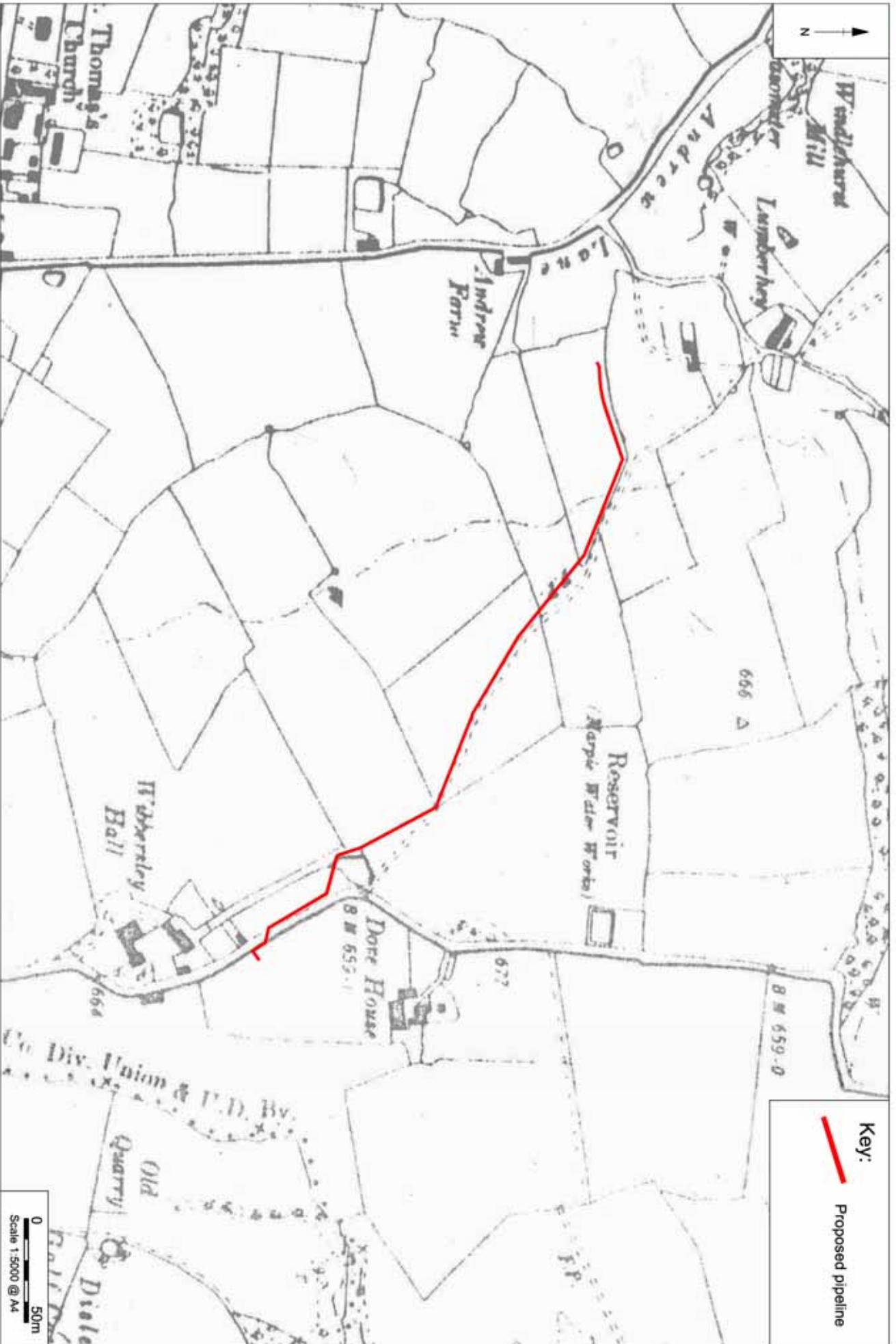


Figure 5: Extract from the Ordnance Survey Second Edition 1:10,560 map, 1899

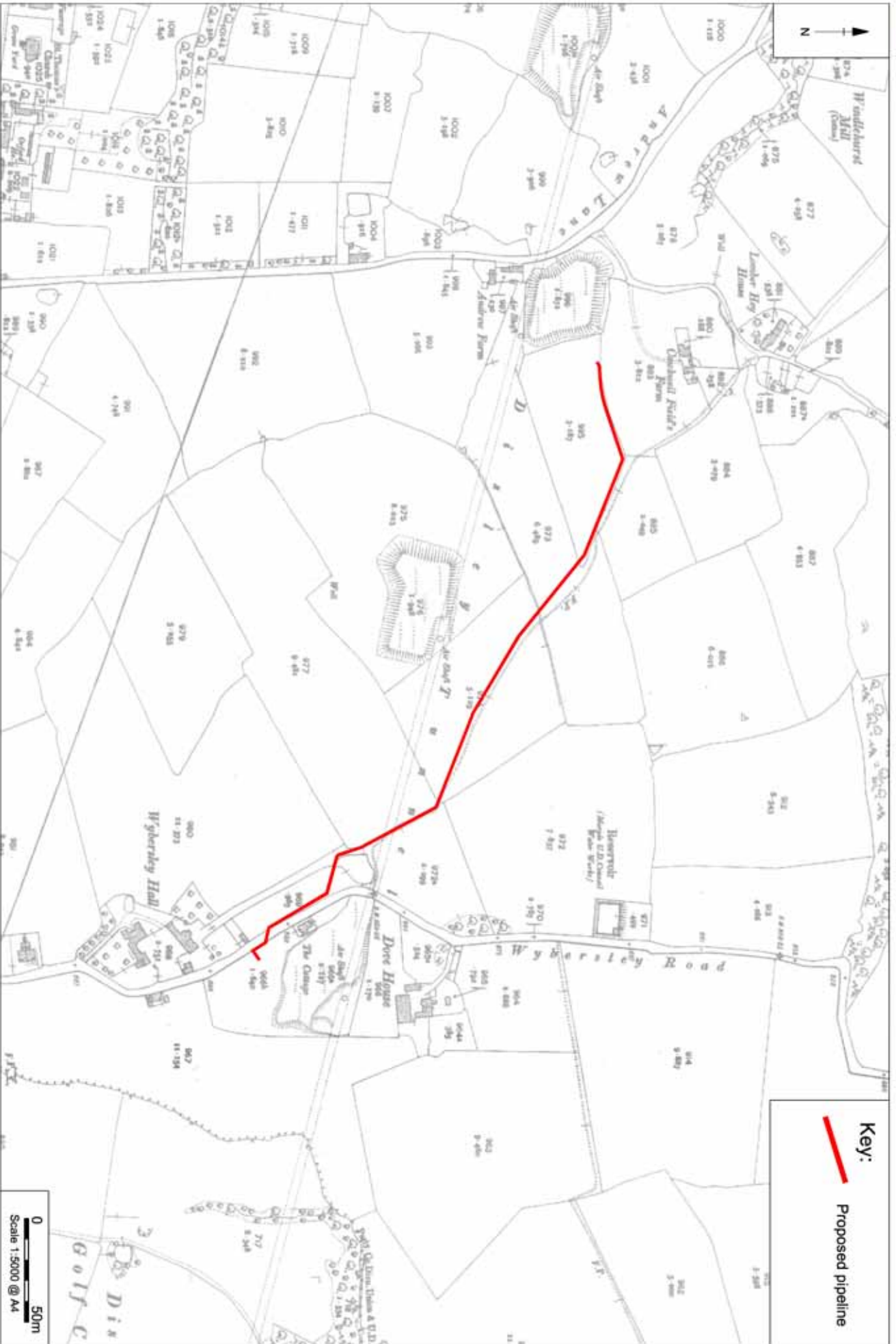


Figure 6: Extract from the Ordnance Survey Third Edition 1:2500 map, 1909

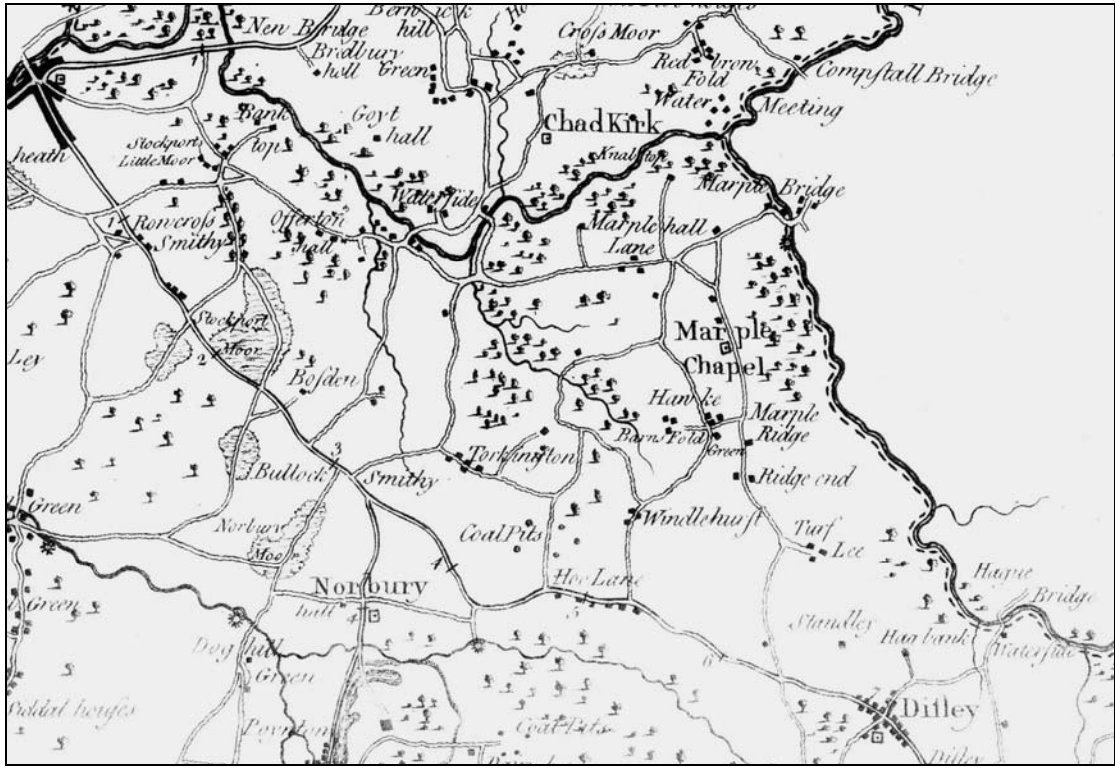


Plate 1: Extract from Burdett's Map of Cheshire 1777

APPENDIX 1: PROJECT DESIGN

WYBERSLEY WATER TREATMENT WORKS PIPELINE, GREATER MANCHESTER

Archaeological Watching Brief Project Design

Oxford Archaeology North

August 2006

United Utilities

OA North Tender No. t2836
NGR SJ 9585 9685

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 United Utilities (hereafter the client) have proposed the construction of a new supply main from Greavefold Service Reservoir to an existing main in Wybersley Road adjacent to Wybersley Water Treatment Works, Greater Manchester (SJ 9585 9685). As the scheme affects areas of archaeological potential the Planning Archaeologist at Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit Sites and Monuments Record (GMAUSMR) has recommended that a formal watching brief should be undertaken for previously undisturbed sections of the pipeline.
- 1.2 Wybersley Hall, which has 16th century fabric, lies near to the route and at Wybersley settlement is attested in the later medieval period with potentially Anglo-Saxon origins (GMAUSMR).
- 1.3 OA North has considerable experience of the assessment, evaluation and excavation of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large-scale projects during the past 20 years. Watching briefs, evaluations and excavations have taken place within the planning process, to fulfil the requirements of clients and planning authorities, to very rigorous timetables.
- 1.4 OA North has the professional expertise and resources to undertake the project detailed below to a high level of quality and efficiency. OA North is an Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) registered organisation, registration number 17, and all its members of staff operate subject to the IFA Code of Conduct.

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The following programme has been designed to evaluate the archaeological resource of the proposed development area. The required stages to achieve this are as follows:
- 2.2 **Rapid Desk-Based Assessment:** a brief appraisal of the data held by the Sites and Monuments Record Office (SMR) will be undertaken;
- 2.3 **Permanent Presence Watching Brief:** this will be undertaken during all ground disturbances associated with previously undisturbed sections of the pipeline;
- 2.4 **Report and Archive:** production of a report following the collation of data during *Sections 2.2 and 2.3* above.

3 METHOD STATEMENT

3.1 WATCHING BRIEF

- 3.1.1 **Rapid Desk-Based Assessment:** an examination will be undertaken of SMR data made available to the project in order to place the findings of the watching brief into a local and regional context.
- 3.1.2 A programme of field observation will record accurately the location, extent, and character of any surviving archaeological features and/or deposits within all topsoil stripping activities associated with the development works. This work will comprise observation during the excavation for these works, the systematic examination of any subsoil horizons exposed during the course of the

- groundworks, and the accurate recording of all archaeological features and horizons, and any artefacts, identified during observation.
- 3.1.3 Putative archaeological features and/or deposits identified by the machining process, together with the immediate vicinity of any such features, will be cleaned by hand, using either hoes, shovel scraping, and/or trowels depending on the subsoil conditions, and where appropriate sections will be studied and drawn. Any such features will be sample excavated (ie selected pits and postholes will normally only be half-sectioned, linear features will be subject to no more than a 10% sample, and extensive layers will, where possible, be sampled by partial rather than complete removal).
- 3.1.4 It is assumed that OA North will have the authority to stop the works for a sufficient time period to enable the recording of important deposits. It may also be necessary to call in additional archaeological support if a find of particular importance is identified or a high density of archaeology is discovered. This would only be called into effect in agreement with the Client and the County Archaeology Service and will require a variation to costing.
- 3.1.5 **Written Record:** during this phase of work, recording will comprise a full description and preliminary classification of features or materials revealed. All information identified in the course of the site works will be recorded stratigraphically utilising OA North pro-forma. Areas of excavation will be assigned trench numbers and context numbers will be applied to archaeological features.
- 3.1.6 **Site Drawings:** a large-scale plan (provided by the client) will be produced of the area of the groundworks showing the location and extent of the ground disturbance, appropriately labelled to correspond with the written record. Archaeological features will be recorded accurately (either on plan (1:20) and/or section (1:10), and as grid co-ordinates where appropriate).
- 3.1.7 The site drawings will be manipulated in an industry standard CAD package (AutoCAD release 2000) for the production of final drawings.
- 3.1.8 A photographic record will be undertaken simultaneously. This will utilise a 35mm camera for the production of both colour slides and monochrome contact prints. A photographic scale will appear in all images captured. The photographic index will describe and locate each area/feature photographed.
- 3.1.9 **Human Remains:** any human remains uncovered will be left *in situ*, covered and protected. No further investigation will continue beyond that required to establish the date and character of the burial. The GMAUSMR and the local Coroner will be informed immediately. If removal is essential the exhumation of any funerary remains will require the provision of a Department of Constitutional Affairs license, under section 25 of the Burial Act of 1857. An application will be made by OA North for the study area on discovery of any such remains and the removal will be carried out with due care and sensitivity under the environmental health regulations, and if appropriate, in compliance with the 'Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act, 1981.
- 3.1.10 **Treatment of finds:** no sampling of finds will take place during fieldwork. All finds will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in

accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) *First Aid For Finds*, 1998 (new edition) and the recipient museum's guidelines (Stockport Museums Service).

- 3.1.11 All identified finds and artefacts will be retained, although certain classes of building material can sometimes be discarded after recording if an appropriate sample is retained on advice from the recipient museum's archive curator.
- 3.1.12 **Treasure:** any gold and silver artefacts recovered during the course of the excavations will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act, 1996. Where removal cannot take place on the same working day as discovery, suitable security will be employed to protect the finds from theft.
- 3.1.13 **Environmental Samples:** samples will also be collected for technological, pedological and chronological analysis as appropriate. If necessary, access to conservation advice and facilities can be made available. OA North maintains close relationships with Ancient Monuments Laboratory staff at the Universities of Durham and York and, in addition, employs artefact and palaeozoological specialists with considerable expertise in the investigation, excavation and finds management of sites of all periods and types, who are readily available for consultation.

3.2 REPORT AND ARCHIVE

- 3.2.1 **Interim Statement:** in the event that further work is recommended an interim statement will be issued. In this instance or in the event that the client specifically requests an interim statement it should be noted that all illustrations will be copies of field drawings and not finished CAD drawings.
- 3.2.2 **Final Report:** two copies of the final report will be submitted to the client and a further copy to the GMAUSMR. Both paper and digital copies will be provided on CD-ROM in pdf format. The report will present the following information:
- (i) **Summary:** a summary statement of the findings;
 - (ii) **Introduction:** the background to the project including location details;
 - (iii) **Methodology:** an outline of the methodology of all elements of the programme of work;
 - (iv) **Historical Background:** a brief historical background to the site;
 - (v) **Results:** an account of the past and present land use of the study area;
An account of archaeological features identified during the course of the watching brief;
 - (vi) **Discussion:** a description of the significance of the study area in its local and regional context;
 - (vii) **Recommendations:** the identification of areas where further development will impact upon the archaeological resource in addition to the impacts of the current development;

- (viii) **Illustrations:** maps, plans, sections and copies of the site photographic archive;
 - (ix) **Appendices:** a copy of the brief and this project design;
- 3.2.3 Provision will be made for a summary report to be submitted to a suitable regional or national archaeological journal within one year of completion of fieldwork, if relevant results are obtained.
- 3.2.4 **Confidentiality:** all internal reports to the client are designed as documents for the specific use of the Client, for the particular purpose as defined in the project brief and project design, and should be treated as such. They are not suitable for publication as academic documents or otherwise without amendment or revision.
- 3.2.5 **Archive:** the results of all archaeological work carried out will form the basis for a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (*Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition, 1991). This archive, including a copy of the report, will be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format. In this instance the archive will be submitted to the Stockport Local Studies Library.
- 3.2.6 The Arts and Humanities Data Service (AHDS) online database *Online Access to index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) will be completed as part of the archiving phase of the project.

4 PROJECT MONITORING

- 4.1 Monitoring of this project will be undertaken through the auspices of the GMAUSMR Planning Archaeologist, who will be informed of the start and end dates of the work.

5 WORK TIMETABLE

- 5.1 The rapid desk-based assessment is expected to take in the region of one day to complete.
- 5.2 The duration of the watching brief will be dependent upon the progress of the contractor.
- 5.3 The client report will be completed within eight weeks following completion of the fieldwork.

6 STAFFING

- 6.1 The project will be under the direct management of **Alison Plummer BSc (Hons)** (OA North Senior Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed.
- 6.2 Present timetabling constraints preclude detailing at this stage exactly who will be undertaking the rapid desk-based assessment and watching brief, but both of these elements of the project are likely to be supervised by an OA North project supervisor experienced in these types of project. All OA North project officers and supervisors are experienced field archaeologists capable of carrying out projects of all sizes.

7 INSURANCE

- 7.1 OA North has a professional indemnity cover to a value of £2,000,000; proof of which can be supplied as required.