

**T H A M E S     V A L L E Y**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL**

**S E R V I C E S**

**Land at Shipton Road,  
Woodstock, Oxfordshire**

**Archaeological Desk-based Assessment**

**by Steve Preston**

**Site Code SWO14/131**

**(SP4570 1630)**

# **Land at Shipton Road, Woodstock, Oxfordshire**

**Archaeological Desk-based Assessment  
for Pye Homes Ltd**

by Steve Preston  
Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code SWO 14/131

**November 2014**

## Summary

**Site name:** Land at Shipton Road, Woodstock, Oxfordshire

**Grid reference:** SP4570 1630

**Site activity:** Archaeological desk-based assessment

**Project manager:** Steve Ford

**Site supervisor:** Steve Preston

**Site code:** SWO14/131

**Area of site:** c. 70 ha

**Summary of results:** The Scheduled Ancient Monument of Blenheim (or Begbroke) Villa is wholly within the proposal area. Discovered from aerial photographs, this site has seen limited excavation which revealed well-preserved walls and other features, set within an enclosure complex, with the potential for floors to be preserved at greater depth than has yet been explored, but in fact relatively little is known for certain about the extent of this complex. Finds of Roman and medieval material are also recorded from this field. The site is also adjacent to Blenheim Park, a registered park, within which is the World Heritage Site, Blenheim Palace. More generally the entire site may have the potential to contain further, as yet unrecorded, remains of almost any period. Given this high archaeological potential, further information will certainly be required on the presence/absence of previously unrecorded heritage assets across the site, to allow an informed decision to be reached on the heritage implications of the proposal; and to permit the development to be designed to minimize its impact on the known or any hitherto unknown heritage assets.

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# Land at Shipton Road, Woodstock, Oxfordshire Archaeological Desk-based Assessment

by Steve Preston

**Report 14/131**

## **Introduction**

This report is an assessment of the archaeological potential of a large parcel of land located off Shipton Road, Woodstock, Oxfordshire, centred on NGR SP 4570 1630 (Fig. 1). The project was commissioned by Mr Steve Pickles of West Waddy ADP LLP, The Malthouse, 60 East St Helen Street, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 5EB on behalf of Pye Homes and comprises the first stage of a process to determine the presence/absence, extent, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains which may be affected by development of the area.

A planning application is being prepared for submission to Cherwell District Council and West Oxfordshire District Council (the site incorporates areas within both) for mixed residential and commercial use. An assessment of the archaeological potential of the land has been requested in order both to inform the planning process and to influence the design of the scheme.

## **Site description, location and geology**

The proposal covers two elements, a main development site and a pipeline route. The main site currently consists wholly of arable land. The proposed development area is centred on NGR, SP457 163 and covers around 70ha. It is bounded by Shipton Road to the north, Upper Campsfield Road to the east, Oxford Road (the A44) to the south and by properties forming the eastern edge of Woodstock to the west. Small occupied areas within the larger area of the overall site are excluded. The majority of the site is located on Cornbrash geology, but the south-western portion is mapped as on Forest marble (clay with limestone) (BGS 1982). It is at a height of approximately 90m above Ordnance Datum, sloping down from west to east.

The site was under a moderately tall crop when visited in June 2014, and thus was viewed only from the perimeter (Pls 1-2) but from this perspective it appeared essentially level with no undulations nor sign of a mound. The crop may, however, have masked minor local variations in the level of the underlying ground.

The pipeline route, to take foul drainage to a sewage treatment works, traverses agricultural land to the north of the main site on its way to the sewage works to the north-west.

## Planning background and development proposals

A planning application is being prepared for submission to Cherwell District Council and West Oxfordshire District Council (the site incorporates areas within both) for mixed residential and commercial use. No details of the proposal had been finalized at time of writing, and the results of the archaeological assessment would be used of influence the design and location of the scheme.

The Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012) sets out the framework within which local planning authorities should consider the importance of conserving, or enhancing, aspects of the historic environment, within the planning process. It requires an applicant for planning consent to provide, as part of any application, sufficient information to enable the local planning authority to assess the significance of any heritage assets that may be affected by the proposal. The Historic Environment is defined (NPPF 2012, 52) as:

‘All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and landscaped and planted or managed flora.’

Paragraphs 128 and 129 state that

‘128. In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets’ importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.

‘129. Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset’s conservation and any aspect of the proposal.’

A ‘heritage asset’ is defined (NPPF 2012, 52) as

‘A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage asset includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).’

‘Designated heritage asset’ includes (NPPF 2012, 51) any

‘World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area designated under the relevant legislation.’

‘Archaeological interest’ is glossed (NPPF 2012, 50) as follows:

‘There will be archaeological interest in a heritage asset if it holds, or potentially may hold, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point. Heritage assets with archaeological interest are the primary source of evidence about the substance and evolution of places, and of the people and cultures that made them.’

Specific guidance on assessing significance and the impact of the proposal is contained in paragraphs 131 to 135:

‘131. In determining planning applications, local planning authorities should take account of:

- the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
- the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and
- the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness.

‘132. When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset’s conservation. The more important the asset, the greater the weight should be. Significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting. As heritage assets are irreplaceable, any harm or loss should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of a grade II listed building, park or garden should be exceptional. Substantial harm to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, battlefields, grade I and II\* listed buildings, grade I and II\* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional.

‘133. Where a proposed development will lead to substantial harm to or total loss of significance of a designated heritage asset, local planning authorities should refuse consent, unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm or loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss, or all of the following apply:

- the nature of the heritage asset prevents all reasonable uses of the site; and
- no viable use of the heritage asset itself can be found in the medium term through appropriate marketing that will enable its conservation; and
- conservation by grant-funding or some form of charitable or public ownership is demonstrably not possible; and
- the harm or loss is outweighed by the benefit of bringing the site back into use.

‘134. Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal, including securing its optimum viable use.

‘135. The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that affect directly or indirectly non designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.

Paragraph 139 recognizes that new archaeological discoveries may reveal hitherto unsuspected and hence non-designated heritage assets

‘139. Non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest that are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments, should be considered subject to the policies for designated heritage assets.’

Paragraph 141 requires local planning authorities to ensure that any loss of heritage assets advances understanding, but stresses that advancing understanding is not by itself sufficient reason to permit the loss of significance:

‘141. Local planning authorities should make information about the significance of the historic environment gathered as part of plan-making or development management publicly accessible. They should also require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. However,

the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted.’

In determining the potential heritage impact of development proposals, ‘significance’ of an asset is defined (NPPF 2012, 56) as:

‘The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset’s physical presence, but also from its setting.’

while ‘setting’ is defined as:

‘The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.’

In the case of Scheduled Ancient Monuments (and their settings), the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979) also apply. Under this legislation, development of any sort on or affecting a Scheduled Monument requires the Secretary of State’s Consent.

The boundary between West Oxfordshire and Cherwell District Councils crosses the site, so policies from both councils are relevant. The West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011 (WODC 2006) has not yet been replaced, so that policies which were ‘saved’ in 2009 continue to apply. This includes policies BE8, BE11, BE12 and BE13 relevant to listed buildings, historic parks and archaeological remains.

‘POLICY BE8 - Development affecting the Setting of a Listed Building

‘Development should not detract from the setting of a listed building.’

‘POLICY BE11 - Historic Parks and Gardens

‘Development will not be permitted that adversely affects the character, setting, amenities, historical context or views within, into or from a Park and Garden of Historic Interest.’

‘POLICY BE12 - Archaeological Monuments

‘Development proposals that adversely affect the site or setting of nationally important archaeological monuments and monuments of local importance, whether scheduled or not, will not be permitted.

‘POLICY BE13 - Archaeological Assessments

‘Prior to determining applications affecting sites and areas of archaeological potential, applicants may be required to provide an archaeological assessment and/or field evaluation to determine:

- a) the significance, character and importance of any archaeological monument or remains and
- b) the likely impact of the proposed development on such features
- c) the level of mitigation required to suitably protect the archaeological resource through preservation in situ or preservation by record including excavation, post excavation analysis and publication.’

The Cherwell District Council Local Plan (CDC 2014) has not yet formally been adopted but it is likely that this will form the planning framework in which any application would be considered. It contains a single overarching policy relating to the Built and Historic environment, among whose provisions are:

‘Policy ESD 16 The Character of the Built and Historic Environment

‘Successful design is founded upon an understanding and respect for an area’s unique built, natural and cultural context. New development will be expected to complement and enhance the character of its context through sensitive siting, layout and high quality design... Where development is in the vicinity of any of the district’s distinctive natural or historic assets, delivering high quality design that complements the asset will be essential.

‘New development proposals should: ...

‘Contribute positively to an area’s character and identity by creating or reinforcing local distinctiveness and respecting local topography and landscape features, including skylines, valley floors, significant trees, historic boundaries, landmarks, features or views, in particular within designated landscapes, within the Cherwell Valley and within conservation areas and their setting

‘Conserve, sustain and enhance designated and non designated ‘heritage assets’ (as defined in the NPPF) including buildings, features, archaeology, conservation areas and their settings, and ensure new development is sensitively sited and integrated in accordance with advice in the NPPF. Proposals for development that affect non-designated heritage assets will be considered taking account of the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset as set out in the NPPF.

‘Regeneration proposals that make sensitive use of heritage assets, particularly where these bring redundant or under used buildings or areas, especially any on English Heritage’s At Risk Register, into appropriate use will be encouraged

‘Include information on heritage assets sufficient to assess the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. Where archaeological potential is identified this should include an appropriate desk based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation.

‘Respect the traditional pattern of routes, spaces, blocks, plots, enclosures and the form, scale and massing of buildings. ...

‘The Council will require design to be addressed in the pre-application process on major developments and in connection with all heritage sites.’

## **Methodology**

The assessment of the site was carried out by the examination of pre-existing information from a number of sources recommended by the Institute *for* Archaeologists paper ‘*Standards in British Archaeology*’ covering desk-based studies. These sources include historic and modern maps, the Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record, geological maps and any relevant publications or reports.

## **Archaeological background**

### *General background*

The confluence of two Thames tributaries (the Evenlode and Glyme), and the proximity of the Cherwell, will have made this area an attractive one for settlement of all periods, so it is perhaps a little surprising that the area around Woodstock is not especially noted for its wealth of prehistoric archaeology. There are some barrows in



the wider area, and the West Oxfordshire Grim's Ditch is to the north of Woodstock. The area comes into more prominence in the Roman period, as the road between the towns of Alchester and Cirencester (Akeman Street) passed not far to the north (just off Figure 1) and its line attracted settlement including several villas to the area. Indeed, a villa within the proposal site itself has been recorded from the air and through limited fieldwork (OAU 1985), and is a Scheduled Monument. A further Roman site, of uncertain character, but perhaps a village, dating perhaps from the late Iron Age and throughout the Roman period, was recorded in work when the Woodstock Road was widened in 1949, at Campsfield, not far south of the proposal site (Hunter and Kirk 1952-3). For later periods, the area is dominated by Blenheim Palace, which is a World Heritage Site as well as a registered park. The ancient route known as the Ridgeway has a branch which passes through the area (indeed through the proposal site itself); it is known from at least late Saxon times and was certainly in use in the medieval period; parts of it at least will have had prehistoric origins though it is doubtful if the entire entity can be attributed such an early start.

Further to the north-west, but relevant to the pipeline route, is another Scheduled Monument at Hensington, consisting of a cropmark complex most likely to be Iron Age or Roman enclosures. The pipeline route would pass well to the south of this.

### *Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record*

A search was made on the Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER) on 24th October 2014 for a radius of 1.2km around the proposal site. This revealed 124 entries (including duplicates) within the search radius, mostly for Listed Buildings but including entries for previous archaeological field investigation in the area. These are summarized as Appendix 1 and their locations are plotted on Figure 1, excluding those for desk-based assessment and those for listed buildings within the heart of Woodstock and well screened from the proposal area.

#### Prehistoric

Records for the prehistoric period within the search radius include four small flint scatters found by fieldwalking, one for unspecified flints [Fig. 1: 1] from within the site boundaries, and others consisting of four, eight and nine flints respectively from a systematic survey just to the north [2, 3, 4]. For an area that has been systematically fieldwalked (even allowing that this was along a road corridor), this is a surprisingly low number of finds. The pipeline route would pass close to one of these scatters, but it was not considered that any of the scatters was necessarily indicative of settlement sites. Just outside the area depicted on Figure 1 (to the north) what may be a

Neolithic long barrow has been noted in aerial photographs, but this interpretation has not been confirmed. Also doubtful is a possible round barrow to the south of the site [5], which may equally be post-medieval ornamental landscaping.

### Roman

The most relevant record for the proposal site is a known Roman complex within it [6]. First seen from the air, this consists of a series of ditched enclosure within which are stone-footed rectangular buildings, which has been known as Blenheim villa or Begbroke villa. Limited trenching across the site revealed surprisingly well preserved walls, with wall plaster, below which could well be preserved floors (the excavations did not penetrate to this depth). Geophysical survey also seemed to confirm and add to (Roberts 1993) the boundary ditches and fieldwalking recovered a substantial assemblage of 3rd and 4th century Roman pottery (although containing rather few imported wares). The site is now a Scheduled Ancient Monument (no. 35545; see below for more details). The main building appears to have been of rather simple form but nonetheless includes a corridor and an apsidal room. It is not clear if any ancillary structures also exist.

The Roman period is also well represented elsewhere in the search radius. At the extreme north of the area searched, at Hensington, is another Scheduled Monument, another enclosure complex first seen from the air and interpreted as a Roman farm [7]. Finds from this area have included Roman pottery, coins and brooches both within the Monument and nearby. Akeman Street Roman road passes just north of the area shown in Figure 1. South-east of the site, another Roman settlement has been partially excavated at Campsfield Farm [8], and although extensive remains were found, details of this site remain sketchy. A small quantity of Roman pottery was also located in fieldwalking to the north [4].

### Saxon

The only entry for the Saxon period is for the reference in a charter of AD1005 to 'Heh Straet' which is thought to refer to a branch of the Ridgeway [9].

### Medieval

The medieval period is also only sparsely represented in the study radius. A chapel of St John is believed to have existed in the vicinity though its exact location is unknown [10]. An iron arrowhead has been found in a garden to the north-west of the proposal site [11] and an unspecified amount of medieval pottery was recovered from within the site in the 1970s [12]. There is a documentary reference to a cross in Hensington [13] from the very early post-medieval period, which presumably refers to a medieval cross; an association with the Templars seems to be speculation. Ponds just north of Hensington could conceivably be medieval fishponds but there is no specific evidence for this [14]. They are divided by a hollow way that might also be of this period.

### Post-medieval

Evaluation trenching not far to the north of the proposal site and in an area that the pipeline route would have to cross, [15] revealed only ridge and furrow earthworks, and a 19th-century boundary ditch. Several records relate to elements within the Blenheim World Heritage site which is more fully discussed elsewhere. There is a record of the building of an icehouse [16] in Blenheim Park in 1707, which was certainly still in existence in 1979 but now appears to be represented only as an earth mound. Further 18th-century elements in the Blenheim grounds include the Kitchen garden, Middle Lodge and a sun dial [22, 23, 25]. The Oxford Road, the modern A44, was a turnpike in the 18th century and a milestone from this period still stands to the west of the site [17], while the location of a toll house is known from cartographic sources to the south [18]. Various buildings in the mainly 19th-century farm complex of Cowyards [19], also to the south of the site, are Listed Buildings. north of the main site but close to the likely pipeline route, is the findspot of a post-medieval lead token, likely to be a casual loss and of little significance. At the extreme south of the search area [24], a brickyard is noted on the tithe map but not on the First Edition Ordnance Survey. Similarly, a quarry shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey to the north-west is now infilled [26].

### Modern, Negative, Undated

Two small pieces of fieldwork within the proposal site discovered nothing of archaeological interest: one was a watching brief during the digging of a pipeline around the north and west sides of the field in 1981; and the other was a single trench opened by the landowner on the location where the Ordnance Survey shows the villa. It was suggested that the site may have been quarried close to the roadside. Nothing of archaeological interest was located in small investigations in Woodstock, at The Punchbowl Inn [20] and Young's Garage [27]. Undated human remains and a coffin (probably of no great antiquity) were recorded within Woodstock [20] and there is a record for the discovery of an undated well [27].

## **Scheduled Ancient Monuments**

A small area within the site itself is Scheduled. The Scheduling description is therefore worth quoting in full (text from <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/>):

‘The monument includes the buried remains of a Roman villa and associated fields and paddocks, located south east of Woodstock. It was built on the low lying land between the Thames tributaries, the Rivers Glyme and Cherwell, about 2km from both, and about 6km north of the Thames.

‘The site of the villa can be seen from a distance as a low mound outlined against the northern boundary of the field. It was first identified by aerial photography in the summer of 1971, when the buried stone walls and surrounding enclosure ditches showed clearly as cropmarks. The outline and internal arrangement of rooms were clearly visible, and the plan and dimensions were subsequently confirmed by limited excavation in 1985, when the walls were traced by trial

trenching. Pottery found in the course of excavation, and in the following year, when the field surface was systematically fieldwalked, was dated to the third and fourth centuries AD. All the pottery was of local manufacture, except for one sherd of imported Samian ware.

‘The house is a simple cottage form, aligned north east-south west, measuring 41.5m long by 10.8m wide. Its single range is made up of six rooms, with a corridor 2.7m wide on the south east side. The corridor runs for about two thirds of the length of the villa, ending at a point where a larger room, of about 10 sq m, forms a slight wing off the main range, with an adjoining semicircular room creating an apsidal finish to the south west end. The trial trenching undertaken in 1985 showed the building to be surprisingly well-preserved. Some plough damage to the apse wall was evident where it projected into the plough soil; however, the mortared foundations, about 0.70m wide, were still intact, and a layer of plaster, decorated in white, yellow, green, blue and red, lay face down where it had fallen from the wall. Floors will probably remain intact below this, but the excavators made no attempt to reach these lower levels. In the central part of the building the walls of the corridor survived to three courses of stonework, a height of 0.35m. More wall plaster was found here.

‘The villa building lies within a ditched enclosure three sides of which can be seen on aerial photographs. Ditches also define a further six or seven fields and paddocks of varying size on the same alignment, which lie to the north of the villa building. The villa enclosure and its associated field system are visible over an area about 180m by 100m. Although the main concentration of tile, stone and pottery found in the course of fieldwalking lay over the area of the building, there was a thinner spread of pottery and some tile over the fields to the north: this was not of sufficient quantity to suggest the presence of further buildings, but is more likely to be the result of manuring from the villa's middens. The villa and its estate were well placed for access to river and road transport to major centres of the region. Akeman Street, the road between the Roman towns of Cirencester and Alchester, lay only 3km to the north, with Alchester itself only 12km to the north east. It formed one of a number of villa estates extending along the tributaries of the Thames from the Windrush to the Cherwell, a pattern of Romanised settlement in contrast to the lower gravels of the Upper Thames Valley, an area of native villages and small farms. The third century saw a growth in numbers and an increase in size of some existing villas, and an apparent expansion of the villa estate economy.

‘Although relatively small, particularly in comparison to some of the larger villas of the Cotswolds, it is comparable in size to the earlier phases of, for instance, Ditchley villa at Enstone.’

The approximate area covered by the scheduled monument is shown in green on Figure 1. This representation, however, should not be taken as being definitive.

Well to the north of the main proposal area is another Scheduled Monument at Hensington, of another Roman farm with associated enclosures. The main development will have no impact on this monument or its setting; the pipeline route approaches within about 0.5km but will also have no impact.

## **World Heritage Site; Registered Parks and Gardens**

The site lies adjacent to the eastern extent of Blenheim Park. Henry I appears to have created the park out of the royal forest, and centred on a hunting lodge (Woodstock palace). John Churchill, 1st Duke of Marlborough, was granted the Manor of Woodstock by Queen Anne in 1705, and a house to be called Blenheim (after his victory at the battle of Blindheim). The remains of Woodstock Palace were pulled down (over Sir John Vanbrugh's objection).

The new palace, built 1705-22, was designed by Vanbrugh (assisted by Nicholas Hawksmoor), and was set within a great formal garden designed by Henry Wise (1653-1738), Queen Anne's Royal Gardener. In 1764

Lancelot Brown was called in to landscape the central core of the park which included flooding the river valley to produce a large lake, and landscaping the surrounds. In the late 19th and early 20th century the 9th Duke carried out much restoration and replanting within the park, and created formal gardens to the west and east of the house.

Blenheim Palace was inscribed as a World Heritage Site in 1987 for its architectural importance, as an outstanding example of the work of two of England's most notable architects, its historical association with Marlborough and later Sir Winston Churchill, as well as for its landscaped park.

Development on the site would need to be designed so as not to detract from the setting in which these internationally significant heritage assets are appreciated and understood. Almost the whole of the northern boundary of the Park is faced by the built-up area of Woodstock; assuming comparable density and compatible design within the site would add another *c.* 350m to this frontage, most of which currently fronts a caravan site.

### **Cartographic and documentary sources**

The site lies in an area where several parishes have historically existed, and where the boundaries of those parishes have changed several times, and several times been in dispute (VCH 1990, *passim*). The whole of the site was part of Bladon in 1880 (Fig. 7) but the north part of the site belonged for a while to Hensington Without (formed in 1894) until transferred to Bladon in 1954-5. Bladon had originally included all of Hensington and Woodstock, and part of what became Woodstock Park, later Blenheim Park, originally extending north to Akeman Street. The western part of the site is within the modern civil parish of Woodstock (taken from Bladon in 1886 to form Hensington Without, and transferred to Woodstock in 1985). Further to complicate the issue, Hensington and Woodstock were part of Bladon for ecclesiastical purposes but separate for civil purposes (VCH 1990, 14). Just to the north of the site is the modern parish of Shipton-on-Cherwell and Thrupp, which was formed in 1955 from the merger of the two parishes of Thrupp and Shipton-on-Cherwell. Thrupp parish included the field south of Shipton Road (only) from 1898 to the 1950s. The Ordnance Survey map of this date appears to show the field south of that in Kidlington during this time. From the 13th until 19th the century, perhaps around 1818, Thrupp was included in Kidlington.

Changes under the Divided Parishes Act of 1882 detached part of Kidlington to Thrupp but the Oxfordshire Review Order of 1932 removed the detached area back to Kidlington civil parish. In 1948 Kidlington lost land to Begbroke parish, and in 1955 Thrupp was united with Shipton-on-Cherwell. To the south-east, Campsfield Road forms part of the modern boundary of Kidlington parish, while the area of Blenheim Park to the south-west

belongs to the parish of Blenheim. The boundary between Hensington and Thrupp crossed the site until quite recently; the northern edge of the site was for a time along the boundary between Bladon and Shipton-on-Cherwell. Fortunately for the bewildered researcher, none of these places has much history other than that relating to the royal park and later Blenheim Palace and Park.

At the time of Domesday Book (AD 1086) Woodstock (*Wodestoch*) was part of the large royal forest that extended through Stowford, Shotover, Cornbury and Wychwood, so no details are recorded for it as a separate estate. The placename first appears around AD1000 as *Wudestoc* and derives from the Old English (Anglo-Saxon) meaning simply 'settlement in the wood' (Mills 1998). The royal park at Woodstock (now Blenheim Park) was created in the late 11th century or early 12th, from land carved out of several local parishes/manors. The town or Borough of New Woodstock is said to have been deliberately created by Henry II but it may in fact have its origins shortly after his death in 1189 (VCH 1990, 326). The original town would have housed those required to serve the royal park and hunting lodge, as the 18th-century town provided labour for the support of Blenheim Palace. Woodstock Park was a Royalist stronghold during the civil wars of the 17th century, but otherwise the town has little history beyond that of the lodge and later palace. The Park later became a parish in itself.

Bladon is not certainly attested before AD1086. It seems to derive from an old name for the river Evenlode, *Blade*, itself of uncertain origin (Mills 1998, 41). At the time of Domesday book, Bladon (still known as *Blade*) was in the lands of the Bishop of Bayeux (Williams and Martin 2002, 427) and held by Adam, son of Hubert de Rys. It had enough arable land for seven ploughs though the villagers only had five plough teams. There were 26 villagers (heads of households) and 2 slaves, and the manor possessed 14 acres of meadow, a large area of woodland, two mills, and an eel fishery. Unusually, Domesday Book records a pottery worth 10 shillings, whose products are not archaeologically known, and to which there is no known later reference (VCH 1990). The value of the estate was £6 and it was assessed at five hides. The population of the manor does not seem to have increased much until as late as the late 18th century, when it was still almost entirely agricultural, and even by the 20th century it was still a very small community. Apart from the ever-changing definition of the parish, it had little history of note until the burial in 1965 of Sir Winston Churchill in the village (John Winston Spencer Churchill, marquess of Blandford, also having lived for some time in Hensington House before succeeding to the Dukedom).

There were three estates in Hensington in 1086 (Williams and Martin 2002, 427; 436; 443). The largest, of some 2 ½ hides, belonged to Roger l'Ivry and was held from him by William. It consisted of arable for 2 ½

ploughs, 5 acres of scrub and a large meadow. The four tenants had half a plough and the lord two more, there were 2 slaves and it was valued at £2. Five virgates (1 ¼ hides) belonged to Earl William, held from him by one Robert who had several manors in the area. It boasted land for one plough with just three tenants and a slave, a mill, 3 acres of meadow and 5 of woodland; it was valued at 25 shillings. The last was a part of the Bishop of Bayeux's lands in 1086, another small estate of 5 virgates held by Ansgar, but with only land for one plough, 3 acres of meadow and 6 acres of scrub; no tenants are mentioned at it was valued at 12 shillings. The name of Hensington appears to be a Saxon place name, and the 'Hens' part probably does refer simply to domestic fowl, or perhaps wild fowl living in the scrubland (VCH 1990, 15). While the suffix *-tun* means simply a 'farm' (or 'estate', 'village' or even simply 'place'), the addition of *-ing* is a simple conjunction which can be read as 'named for' but would normally be applied to a man's name or geographical feature rather than livestock. The descent of the three Hensington manors is somewhat involved (Ansgar's portion in particular), but at least part(s) passed to the Templars around the middle of the 12th century and from them to the Hospitallers, and on to the Crown at the Dissolution. Merton College owned part of the land for a time. Eventually it all ended up as part of the lands of the Duke of Marlborough. Hensington grew rather faster than Bladon presumably from counting the population of Woodstock within it. There was little industry, though the local Forest Marble stone was quarried in Hensington and Bladon (eg for use in Merton College in the 14th century).

Thrupp (Old English *throp*, cognate with *thorp* which is its Scandinavian equivalent and is the more common form in northern and eastern England) means an outlying farm or hamlet. The Domesday entry for Thrupp (then appearing as *trop*) lists it in the extensive lands of Roger d'Ivry and it was held from him by 'the son of Wadard' (Williams and Martin 2002, 436). It was assessed at three hides and had arable land for six ploughs, although only two plough teams were available. The manor also included thirty acres of meadow and the same of pasture. The population is not listed apart from one slave. A mill was worth 6 shillings, the fisheries produced 125 eels and the whole manor was valued at £6. Thrupp is recorded as providing cheese and eels to the Abbey in the 12th century but otherwise has little separate history (VCH 1924, 414).

Shipton-on-Cherwell was listed in Domesday Book in the lands of the Bishop of Bayeux and held by Ilbert (Williams and Martin 2002, 428), assessed at 2½ hides, with arable land for three ploughs. The population amounted to just six families and four slaves and the small manor (with 2 acres of meadow and 3 of pasture) was worth £4, compared to half that before the Conquest. The place name Shipton is a common one and often has a suffix, as here, to distinguish it from the others. It derives from the Old English (Anglo-Saxon) *sciep* or *sceap*



and *tun* and means simply ‘sheep farm’ (Mills 1998). As with Thrupp, it had little history of note even before being merged.

Kidlington was one of Robert d’Oilly’s many estates in 1086, and assessed at 14 hides. There was arable for 12 ploughs (a very large area in this region), large expanses of woodland, meadow and pasture, and a mill. The population numbered 40 tenant families and three slaves, but only seven plough-teams seem to have been available. the manor was worth £14, a considerable increase on the £8 it had been worth in 1066. As with much land in this area, the lordship eventually passed to the Duke of Marlborough.

In 1935 Oxford City Council bought land at Campsfield for a civil airport which opened in 1938. The airport was requisitioned by the Air Ministry in 1939 and 1940, and a flying school established. Civil aviation began again in 1946 and a pilot training school was established in 1960; by 1969 it housed the largest civil pilot school in Europe.

A range of Ordnance Survey and other historical maps of the area were consulted at the Centre for Oxfordshire Studies and online in order to ascertain what activity had been taking place throughout the site’s later history and whether this may have affected any possible archaeological deposits within the proposal area (see Appendix 2).

The earliest map available of the area is Saxton’s map of three counties, of 1574 (Fig. 2). New Woodstock (Wodstok nova) is depicted as quite a large town, along with the enclosed parkland. Shipton-on-Cherwell (or ‘in Cherwel’) is also named although it appears to be somewhat too far to the north-east and may have been placed simply to fit it in. Bladon is depicted as negligibly small compared to Kidlington. No detail of the proposal area is depicted at this scale of mapping. Speed’s map of 1611 (not illustrated) is similar. Neither of these cartographers has had much success with the rivers in the area. Plot’s 1677 map (Fig. 3) provides a more accurate depiction, bringing Shipton closer to its true relative position, showing Bladen substantially larger, adding Hensington and Thrupp, and even ‘Akemanstreet way’. He has differentiated between the park and town at Woodstock. There is still no detail for the area of the proposal site which can only be vaguely located relative to the various small settlements around Woodstock.

The site’s location can be more accurately shown on the map by Morden of 1695 which is the first to show the road network (Fig. 4) and is somewhat more successful in charting the rivers. The site still appears to be in an open area but can probably be located relative to the cross-roads to the south. The ‘new’ park and palace at Blenheim first appear on Davis’s map of 1794 (Fig. 5). The site can again be approximately located with



reference to features to its west and south: the edge of the parkland, and the turnpike road with its milestone (still present on modern maps). The eastern and northern limits of the site can only be estimated, however. Much of the site appears to lie within ‘camps field’, which appears to be open ground, perhaps heath or waste based on the texturing. The western portion of the site consists of smaller fields, in one of which is a large rectangular building, on the site which is later to be used for a pest house: it is unclear if it is the same building. The place name Campsfield might suggest some use for the eastern part of the site in a military capacity, such as militia training, with the 1790s being a likely date for such activity, and indeed the criss-crossing of regularly-laid out paths across the ‘camps field’ might support this notion, but no other evidence has been found for this and it must in any case pre-date the earliest mention of this name in the mid 17th-century: as a simpler alternative, the Old English *camp* simply means ‘field’. The layout of the formal gardens and less formal (but almost entirely artificial) landscape around Blenheim is also depicted in some detail on this map, including the artificial lake.

The Bladon tithe map of 1818 (Fig. 6) shows only a part of the site as several fields which are arable in the accompanying apportionment. There is one building within the site (latterly known as the Pest House but excluded from the development proposal) accessed via a track from the north. Shipton Road is shown to the north. No other tithe or enclosure map for any of the other parishes could be found which extended into the site.

By the time of the First Edition Ordnance Survey of 1880 (Fig. 7) the site is more or less in its current configuration. The Pest House (i.e., hospital) is now named with its own well, and, it appears, set in a substantial enclosure. This enclosed area is within Thrupp parish at this point though the building is not. The pest house building itself is within a thin strip of land excluded from the proposal. According to the VCH (1990) a building stood on this site since at least 1750 (which may therefore be the one on Davis’s map of 1794) and there is still a building on this footprint in this location. The milestone and toll (Bladon Check) noted by the HER are shown just beyond the site’s southern boundary. A small area just off the south-eastern corner of the site, close to the road is hachured as if it may have been quarried. Such small-scale quarrying can often go unmapped, so the possibility of more such localized areas nearby should be borne in mind. Except for the addition of a tree belt along both Shipton and Campsfield Roads (which might be a matter of cartographic style) and a single small building, perhaps a stable, close to Shipton Road, the Second Edition is identical (Fig. 8). This map also shows the parish boundaries in the area more clearly.

By the 1919/1923 Revision, an Isolation Hospital has been added close to the Pest House along the north edge of the site, and the north-west corner of the site has been turned over to allotments (Fig. 9). Only partial coverage of the site is available for the 1938 Ordnance Survey but this shows a small chapel at the south end of

the site and no other change in the area available (not illustrated). By 1954 (Fig. 10) this chapel has either become, or has been replaced by a building named Littlecote. The Isolation Hospital has been removed, though the small building that may have been a stable seems to be in place still, as does the pest house, though it is no longer named, and presumably no longer functioned, as such. The land to the east of the site has become Oxford (Kidlington) Aerodrome. By 1978 (Fig. 11) the site has assumed its current layout, and the parish boundaries have been reorganized.

### **Listed buildings**

There is only one listed building complex in the immediate vicinity of the site and is the group belonging to the 19th-century farm complex at The Cowyards (formerly Home Farm) to the south. Numerous Listed Buildings within Woodstock are all screened from the site by modern development. Many buildings within Blenheim park are also listed, besides their status as a World Heritage Site, but these are not visible from the site. Development would need to be designed so as not to detract from the setting of The Cowyards.

### **Historic Hedgerows**

The south eastern edge of the site is along a parish boundary and the central portion of the northern edge was formerly so, as was the internal north–south boundary between the eastern and western fields. Hedgerows on these boundaries could therefore require consideration to determine whether they might qualify as ‘important’ as defined by Schedule 1 of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997, and so require permission to remove or breach. As noted above, the parish boundaries in this area have been subject to continual movement. The boundary along the south eastern edge is not depicted as a hedge on the 1880 map (where other hedges are clearly indicated) and so therefore probably does not qualify. It was also occupied by a belt of trees as it still is. The former parish boundary along Shipton Road, forming the north edge of the site, although it is shown as a hedge by the First Edition Ordnance Survey, is clearly shown along the north (far) edge of that road, rather than along the edge of the site and is in any case not the boundary of a pre-1850 parish. It was also marked as a belt of trees within the site as it is now. This leaves only the internal hedge on the site as potentially ‘important’ under the Regulations. This is a hedge in the 1880 map, and is a parish boundary on the 1818 map (Fig. 6). It is also along the line of a probable heritage asset. This hedge therefore may be classed as ‘important’ under the Hedgerows Regulations. It may be advisable to design the development, if practicable, to retain or even enhance this feature.

## **Aerial Photographs**

The photographic collections of the National Monuments Record, Swindon were consulted on 30th June 2014 for a radius of 1km around the proposal site. There were 59 vertical prints from 24 sorties taken between 1947 and 1998, and just 13 specialist oblique shots from 5 sorties, as detailed in Appendix 3. These photographs were viewed on 9th July 2014 and on 28th October 2014, although several were not available on the latter date. Further oblique photographs were viewed at the Oxfordshire HER.

The line of the boundary across the eastern part of the site, removed between 1880 and 1898, could be seen in several views. The stone footings of the Roman villa were only very faintly detectable in one view from 1990 (Pl. 3) and not at all in other photographs held by the NMR, but were more clearly visible on those held by Oxfordshire HER. While it is possible that plough damage subsequent to the investigations noted above may have reduced the visibility of the villa remains in more recent photographs, it is difficult to explain how it was not visible in the photographs from earlier years, including those from 1971. It is also a little surprising that no archaeological sorties had been flown specifically to photograph this area until the most recent flight in 2009.

The photographs from which the site was originally scheduled are at such a low oblique angle, and lacking in locatable landmarks, that the accuracy of attempts to plot the precise site of the villa would be questionable.

No other cropmarks of likely archaeological origin were visible across the main development area or the line of the pipeline, but several photographs appear to show more cropmarks than have previously been recorded, extending south-west from the Scheduled Area at Hensington, very similar to the enclosure system on the current proposal site (but without any hint of a stone villa). These cannot be reproduced for copyright reasons. The likely pipeline route approaches these cropmarks but does not reach them. There is also an indication that the pipeline crosses (and in places perhaps runs along) a palaeochannel (Pl. 4), which might have the potential to contain palaeoenvironmental evidence.

## **Discussion**

There are known heritage assets both on the site and beyond it but in a position to be affected by its development. Within the site itself is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. This consists of cropmarks showing ditched enclosures and regular rectangular buildings, which limited investigation has shown to be a Roman villa, reportedly very well preserved. The full extent of the features associated with this complex, however, is unclear (for example, it is unknown if it relates directly to further Roman remains recorded in very limited observations around 0.6km to the south-east). Assuming the preservation of this site remains as it was reported (since when

plough damage may have occurred) the Scheduled area of this Monument (in the region of 4% of the overall proposal site area) would need to be designed out of any development proposal. Information on the current state of preservation of the remains could be provided by non-intrusive or minimally intrusive investigations. the pipeline route will have no direct or indirect effect on the Scheduled Monument to the north at Hensington.

The site also partly faces the World Heritage Site of Blenheim Palace and its park. Development would need to be so designed as not to have an adverse effect on viewsapes to and from this heritage asset; and similarly in respect to the Listed 19th-century farm buildings at The Cowyards. The line of an earthwork recorded as a branch of the Ridgeway also crosses the site. This line could be maintained as public open space and its traditional use as a footpath retained and even enhanced.

A small area in the north formerly housed a cottage hospital, and a second area was a 'pest house' (hospital for infectious diseases). The current buildings in the location of the pest house (not included within the proposal site) probably include this building at the core, but the isolation hospital has gone. Any surviving below ground remains associated with this would be of local historical interest: archaeological recording of this type of structure is not yet common. The possibility may also exist that these institutions had their own graveyards, though it would be expected that these would have been mapped (a large enclosure mapped as attached to the pest house is not named as a burial ground).

Apart from these known heritage assets, it remains also to establish if there may be potential for previously unknown heritage assets, that is, below-ground archaeological remains, across the rest of the site. In this regard the information available is somewhat sparse. Investigations beyond the Scheduled Area have produced a very small amount of material from fieldwalking, but no features in other, very limited, observations. The wider area has seen very little modern archaeological investigation, but finds and sites from the Roman period are generally moderately well represented in the area. Given the size of the proposal site, and its location close to three rivers, it may be suggested that the generalized potential for archaeological remains of all periods is high.

Cartographic evidence for previous land-use on the site indicates that most of it has remained undeveloped farmland since mapping began. The small area in the north which formerly housed the hospitals, may have been disturbed to some extent but these represent tiny proportions of the area; and the north-western extreme of the site was under allotments for some time. Overall, any archaeological deposits which ever existed on the site could be expected to have survived reasonably intact, subject only to plough damage. In this topographic setting, there is no reason to expect exceptional preservation conditions, such as by waterlogging, which would raise the

significance of any archaeological site above the norm for this region. The exception to this might be the pipeline which may intersect a palaeochannel, with potential for palaeoenvironmental evidence (Pl. 4).

It will be necessary to provide further information about the potential of the site from field observations in order to draw up a scheme to mitigate the impact of development on any below-ground archaeological deposits if necessary. This mitigation may take several forms, including design of the layout of the proposal to avoid the most significant and/or sensitive remains. A scheme for this evaluation will need to be drawn up and approved by the archaeological advisers to the two Districts (and if appropriate English Heritage, although it is expected that the Scheduled Area would be avoided by any intrusive investigation and removed from the development area) and implemented by a competent archaeological contractor. It should be designed to test the preservation of the known heritage assets as well as to determine the presence or absence, extent, preservation and significance of nature of any further, unknown heritage assets that might be potentially be present on the site, and would probably include a mixture of intrusive and non-intrusive techniques.

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**APPENDIX 1: Historic Environment Records within a 1km search radius of the development site**

No	HER Ref	Grid Ref (SP)	Type	Period	Comment
1	MOX3845	4552 1618	Fieldwalking	Prehistoric	Unspecified flint scatter found in 1973.
2	MOX1722	4580 1669	Fieldwalking	Prehistoric	Three flint flakes and a scraper from systematic survey. May not be <i>in situ</i> .
3	MOX1721	4578 1700	Fieldwalking	Prehistoric	Eight flints including 5 cores systematic survey, not indicative of settlement. Reported location in doubt.
4	MOX3878 MOX1724	4573 1742 4571 1746	Fieldwalking	Prehistoric Roman	Dispersed group of 8 flakes and 1 possible microlith from systematic field walking; also Roman pottery.
-	MOX3872	4676 1800	Photographic	Neolithic	Possible long barrow; off map to north
5	MOX3797	4557 1578	Earthwork	Bronze Age?	Possible barrow but might be ornamental landscaping
-	EOX1391 EOX1390	4612 1598 446 178	Survey	Prehistoric Roman Saxon Undated Negative	Fieldwalking survey along proposed bypass route: four lithic scatters and three pottery scatters (two Roman, one Saxon). Geophysical survey in 1992 revealed nothing in one field (SP446 178) and a few anomalies near the villa. (Plotted individually on Fig. 1)
6	MOX3849 EOX5640	456 161	Photographic Earthworks Evaluation Fieldwalking Geophysical survey Scheduled Monument  Watching brief	Roman      Negative	Cropmarks for an enclosure complex and stone buildings, known as Blenheim Villa or Begbroke Villa. Also visible as a low mound. Limited trenching in 1985 revealed well-preserved walls with painted plaster. Fieldwalking recovered pottery from the 3rd and 4th centuries. Geophysical survey located three probable ditches. Scheduled Monument 35545  Nothing of archaeological interest was noted when a pipeline was but in around the edge of the field in 1981; nor in a trench excavated across the mapped villa site in 1986.
7	MOX35 MOX24087	4532 1803 4531 1813	Scheduled Monument Fieldwalking	Roman	Farmstead at Hensington interpreted from cropmarks of enclosure seen in aerial photographs. Roman coins, brooches and pottery found nearby and over the site itself
-	MOX1703	[3923 1441]	Various sources	Roman	Akeman Street. Off Figure 1 to the north.
8	MOX3801	4614 1538	Excavation Photographic	Roman	Campsfield farm, Roman settlement site partially excavated 1949 with stone and wooden buildings, ditches, pits etc and numerous finds, but details are scant. enclosures also visible on aerial photographs.
9	MOX3846 MOX809	4123 1488	Documentary Cartographic	Saxon	A branch of the ridgeway, part of which is referred to as 'Heh Straet' in 11th-century charter.
10	MOX1488	449 169	Documentary	Medieval	Conjectural location of Chapel of St John
11	MOX3851	4520 1654	Findspot	Medieval	Barbed and socketed iron arrowhead found in garden
12	MOX12171	4551 1621	Findspot	Medieval	Pottery found in the 1970s; details lacking.
13	MOX3825	4513 1695	Documentary	Medieval? Post-medieval	Reference to a cross from 1545 and presumed earlier, possibly associated with Knights Templars.
14	MOX3847 MOX3848	451 172	Earthwork Photographic	Medieval? Post-medieval	Possible fishponds still in use as watering ponds in 1974. Aerial photos show a hollow way
15	EOX2156	4568 1694	Evaluation	Post-medieval	Twelve trenches revealed only ridge and furrow and a 19th-century boundary ditch
16	MOX3785	4505 1633	Documentary	Post-medieval	Icehouse in Blenheim Park, built 1707, still extant in 1979 but only its mound survives.
17	MOX3853	4518 1626	Structure	Post-medieval	Milestone, illegible
18	MOX3856	4546 1596	Cartographic	Post-medieval	Site of toll house on 1880 map.
19	MOX20549	45229 16028	Listed building	Post-medieval	Cowyards Cottage and associated structures, 19th century Grade II Listed.
20	EOX1431 MOX1428 MOX1529	44680 16714 4465 1669 4463 1669	Watching brief Listed Building Report	Post-medieval Negative Undated	Punchbowl Inn, Oxford Road, nothing of archaeological interest. The building is Listed, originally 16th century. Human remains and coffin found in trenches in 1949
21	MOX3861	4533 1755	Findspot	Post-medieval	Lead token found in non-systematic survey.
22	MOX1491 MOX21043	4477 1563 4460915623	Registered Garden Listed building	Post-medieval	Blenheim kitchen garden, c. 1712, Grade I. walls listed.
23	MOX1564	4493 1552	Building	Post-medieval	Middle Lodge at Blenheim,
24	MOX3863	4505 1515	Cartographic	Post-medieval	Brickyard shown on title map but gone by 1880.
25	MOX21865	44649 15700	Listed Building	Post-medieval	Sundial by Hawksmoor, c. 1710
26	MOX3793	4472 1697	Cartographic	Victorian	Quarry noted from 1880 map, now infilled
27	EOX3200 MOX1528	44715 16688 4468 1677	Evaluation Structure	Negative Undated	Nothing of archaeological interest at Young's Garage. Well found in trench digging. No details

## APPENDIX 2: Historic and modern maps consulted

1574	Saxton: Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire (Fig. 2)
1610	Speed, Oxfordshire
1677	Plot, Oxfordshire (Fig. 3)
1695	Morden, Oxfordshire (Fig. 4)
1715	Van der Aa, Oxfordshire
1794	Davis, Oxfordshire (Fig. 5)
1818	Tithe map, Bladon (Fig. 6)
1880	Ordnance Survey First Edition (Fig. 7)
1898	Ordnance Survey Second Edition (Fig. 8)
1923	Ordnance Survey Revision (Fig. 9)
1938	Ordnance Survey
1947	Ordnance Survey
1950-1954	Ordnance Survey (Fig. 10)
1978	Ordnance Survey (Fig. 11)
2002	Ordnance Survey
2009	Ordnance Survey Explorer sheet 180 (Fig. 1)
2012	Ordnance Survey digital map

### APPENDIX 3: Aerial Photographs consulted

#### A> Vertical

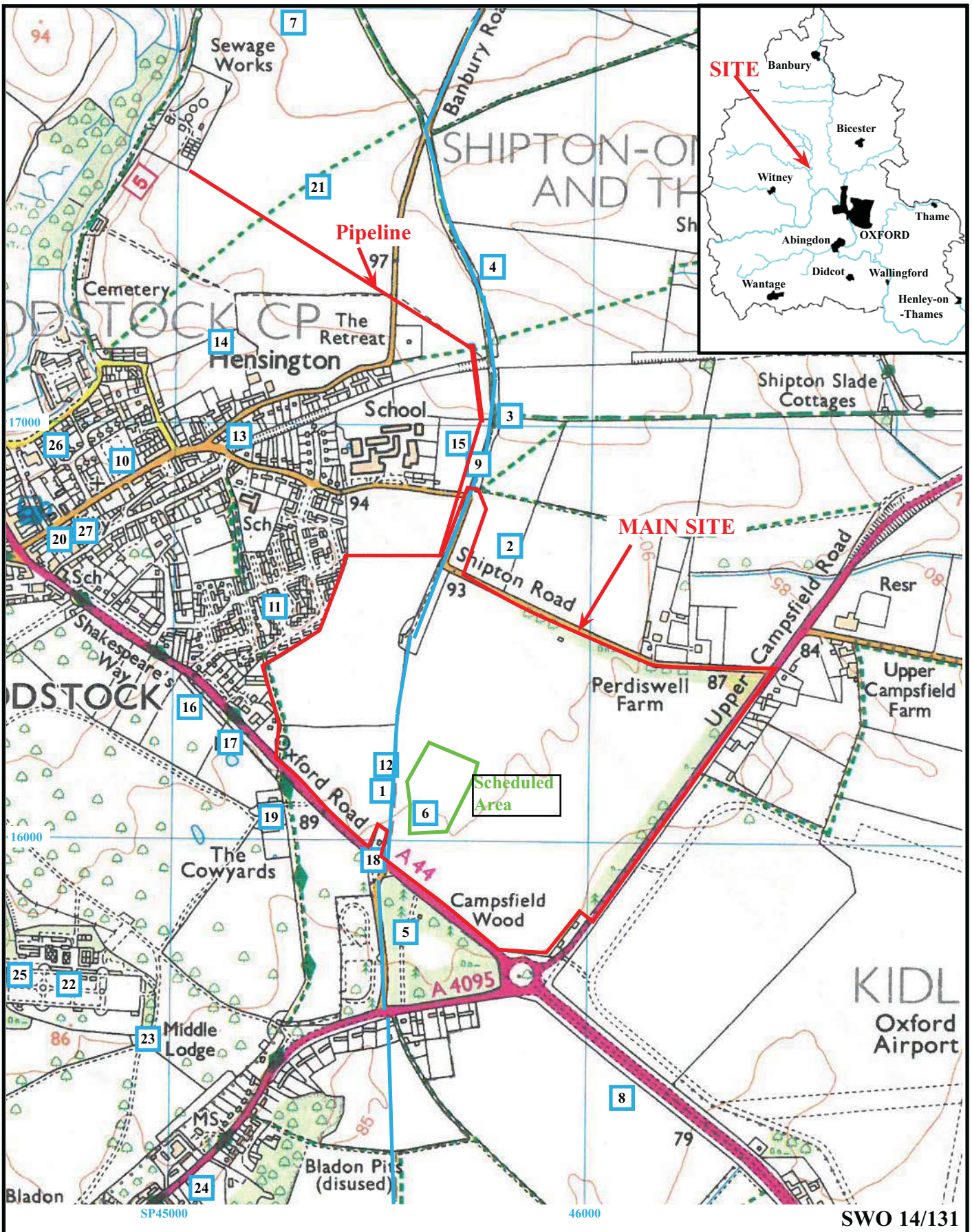
No	Date Flown	Sortie number	Frame number	Grid ref (SP)	Comment
1	14 FEB 1942	RAF/HLA/399	35	466 158	
2	11 APR 1944	US/7PH/GP/LOC268	7011-2	463 162	
3	07 JUN 1946	RAF/106G/UK/1558	3107-8, 3433-7	453 164	
4	12 DEC 1946	RAF/CPE/UK/1897	4345-7	464 158	
5	18 JAN 1947	RAF/CPE/UK/1936	1483-5	460 171	
6	21 JUN 1949	RAF/541/272	4318-9	459 161	
7	26 JUL 1949	RAF/541/340	3047-8, 4047	453 175	
8	04 FEB 1952	RAF/540/666	3123-5	462 170	
9	08 FEB 1952	RAF/540/669	3161-4	461 156	
10	12 FEB 1952	RAF/540/673	3192-5, 4127-9	459 157	
11	31 AUG 1954	RAF/82/1006	297-8	445 169	
12	1961	FSL/6125	8068-9, 9038	462 161	Precise date unclear
13	16 MAY 1966	MAL/66024	11-12	470 155	
14	11 APR 1971	OS/71066	264-6	460 160	
15	05 JUL 1975	OS/75312	142-3	451 176	
16	21 SEP 1975	OS/75391	210-11	451 176	Not available to view
17	17 MAY 1985	ADA/241	15-18	454 173	
18	19 JUN 1988	ADA/391	152-3	453 159	
19	27 MAR 1991	EA/GEO/91018	466-73	461 177	Not all available to view
20	27 MAR 1991	EA/GEO/91019	14-16	465 169	Not available to view
21	30 MAY 1994	ADA/620	248-9	458 154	
22	15 JUN 1994	ADA/617	44-5	452 170	
23	28 JUN 1994	OS/94212	52-3, 102-3	462 167	Not available to view
24	05 AUG 1998	OS/98652	197-8, 221-2	459 174	Not available to view

#### B> Oblique (specialist)

No.	Date Flown	Sortie number	Frame number	Grid ref (SP)	
25	05 JUL 1950	AFL 62028	EAW030808, EAW030814	458 159	
26	16 JUL 1990	NMR 4622	04	456 160	Plate 3.
27	23 JUN 1934	ACA 7203	610	454 180	
28	15 JUL 1997	NMR 15703	4	453 178	
29	01 JUL 2009	NMR 26368	20-32	452 176	

NB : Grid reference given is for start of run; multiple frames may offer wide coverage.





**Land at Shipton Road, Woodstock, Oxfordshire, 2014  
Archaeological Desk-based Assessment**

Figure 1. Location of site within Woodstock and Oxfordshire, showing locations of HER entries and Scheduled Area (approximate). [Pipeline route indicative only.]

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Ordnance Survey Licence 100025880





SWO 14/131

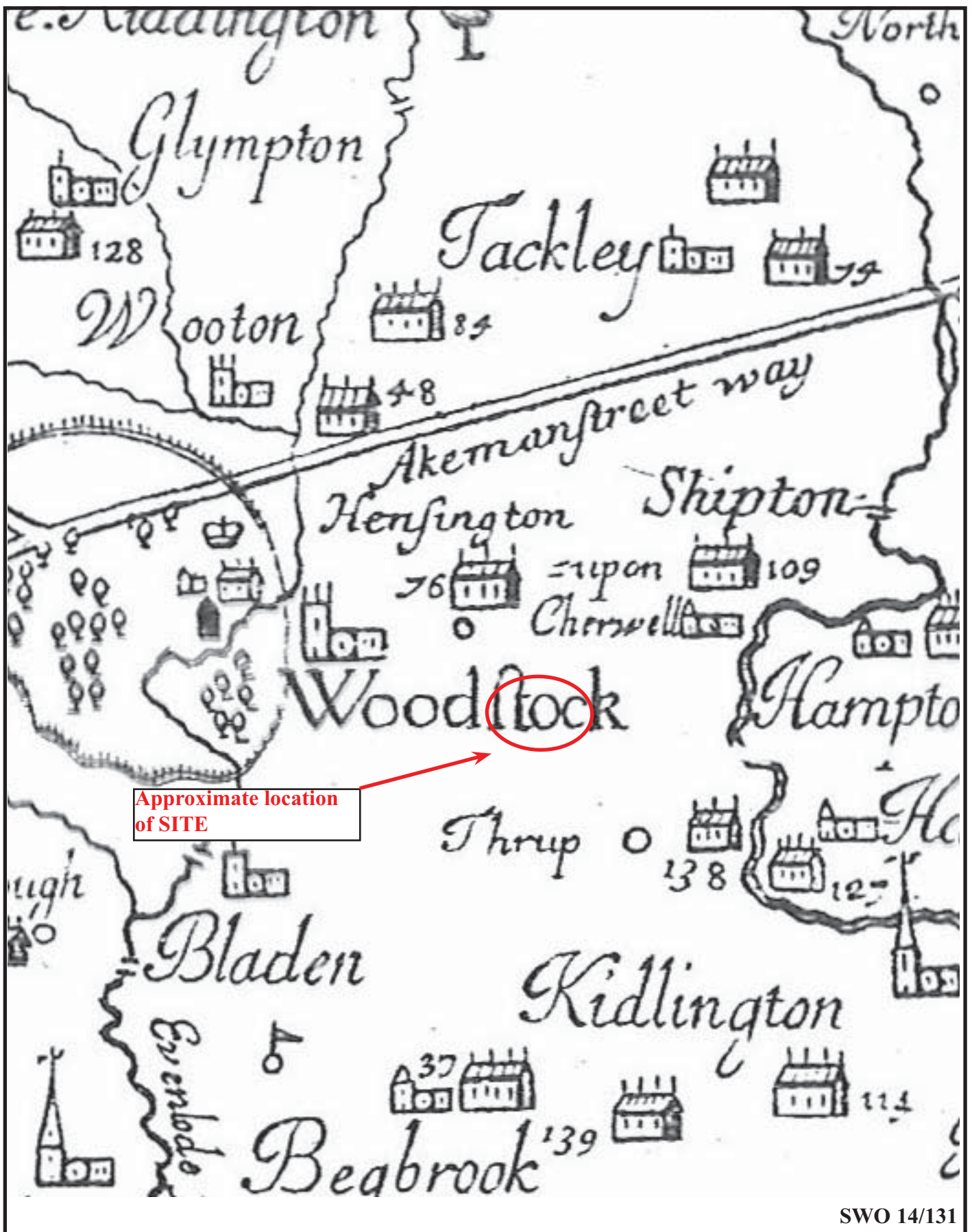
Land at Shipton Road, Woodstock,  
Oxfordshire, 2014

Archaeological Desk-based Assessment

Figure 2. Saxton's map of Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and  
Berkshire, 1574.

THAMES VALLEY  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
SERVICES





Approximate location  
of SITE

Land at Shipton Road, Woodstock,  
Oxfordshire, 2014  
Archaeological Desk-based Assessment  
Figure 3. Plot's map of Oxfordshire, 1677.





Approximate location of SITE

SWO 14/131

Land at Shipton Road, Woodstock,  
Oxfordshire, 2014

Archaeological Desk-based Assessment  
Figure 4. Morden's map of Oxfordshire, 1695.

THAMES VALLEY  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
SERVICES





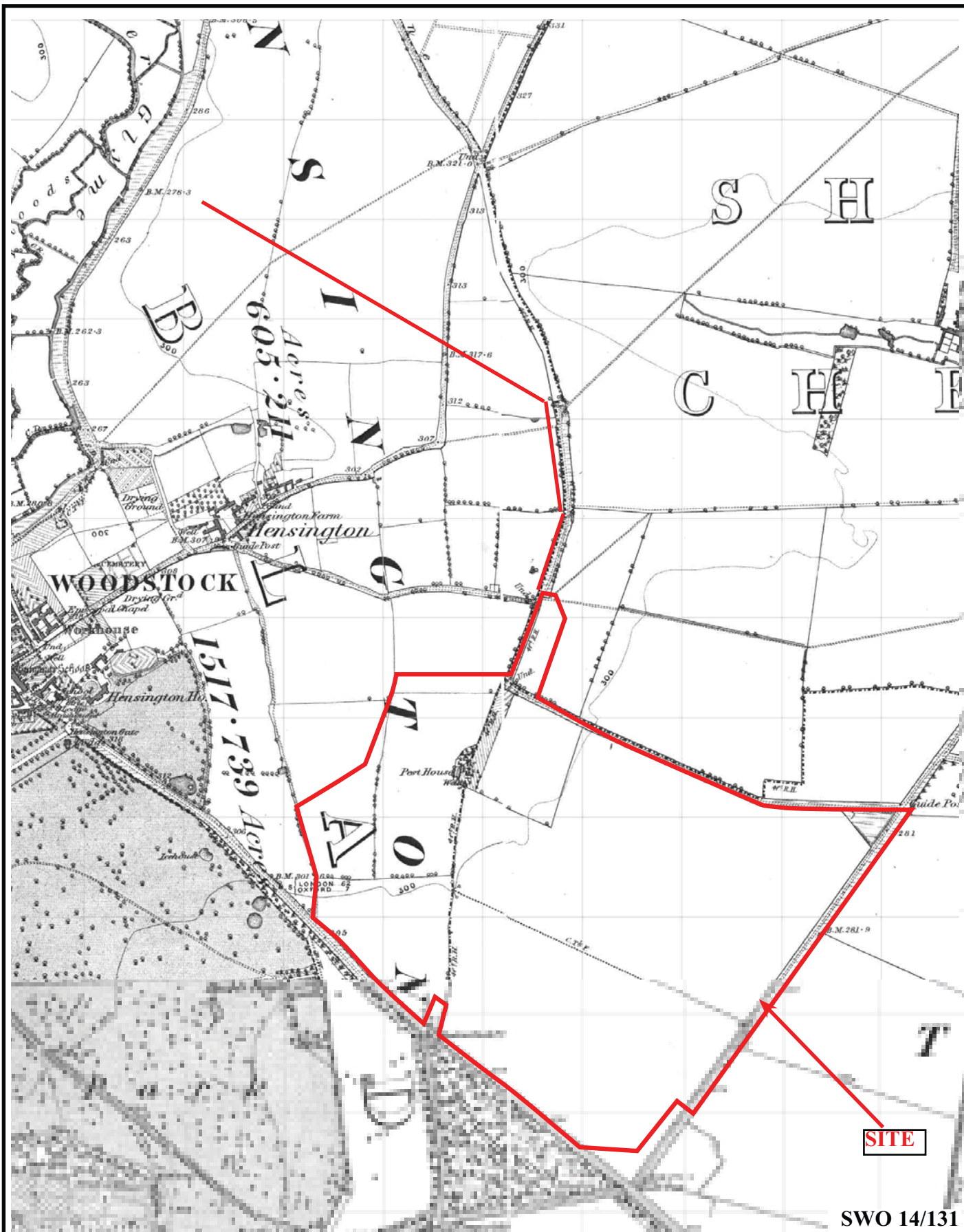
SWO 14/131

**Land at Shipton Road, Woodstock,  
Oxfordshire, 2014**  
Archaeological Desk-based Assessment  
Figure 5. Davis's map of Oxfordshire, 1794.

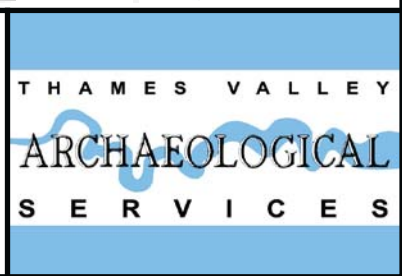


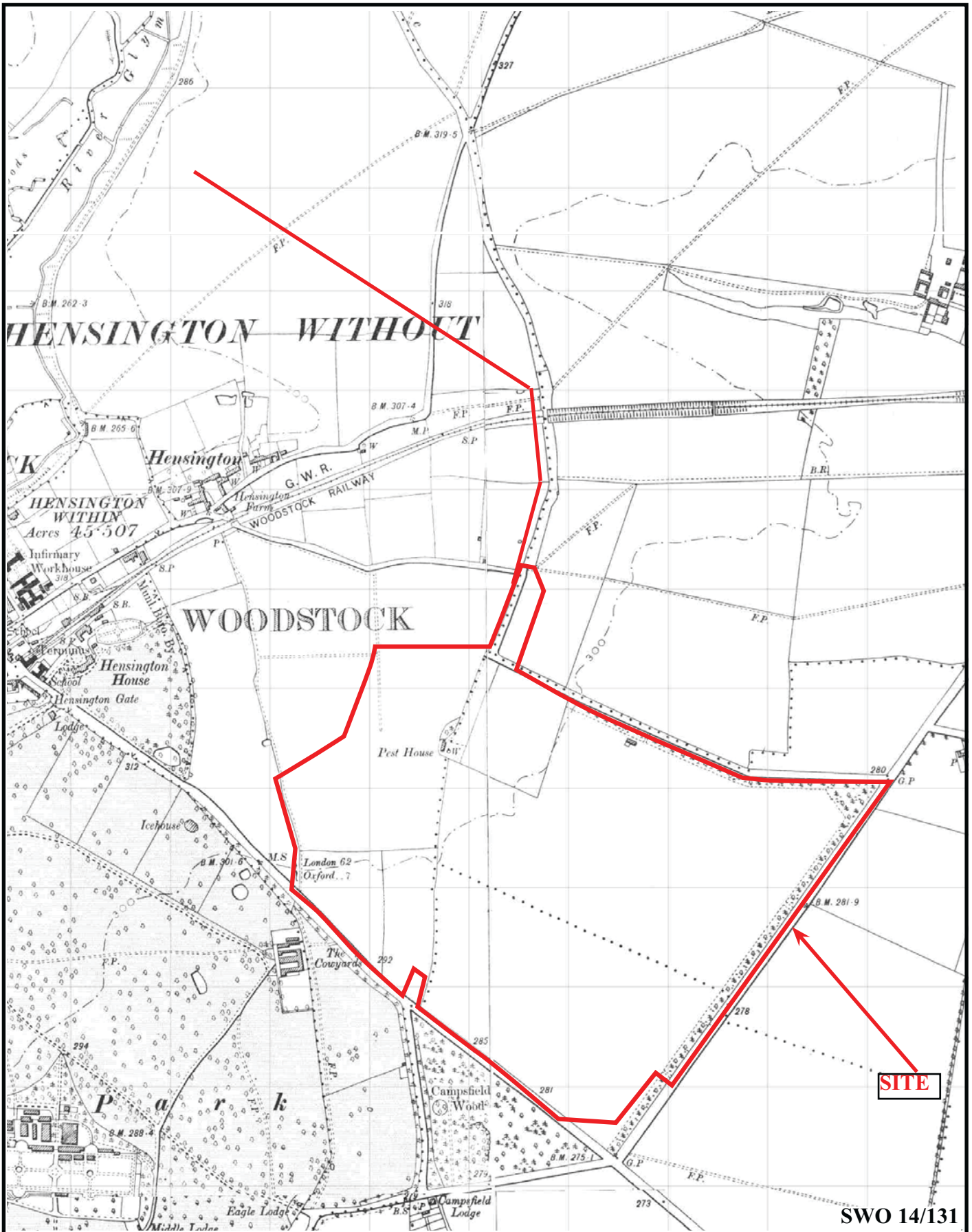






Land at Shipton Road, Woodstock,  
 Oxfordshire, 2014  
 Archaeological Desk-based Assessment  
 Figure 7. First Edition Ordnance Survey, 1880.





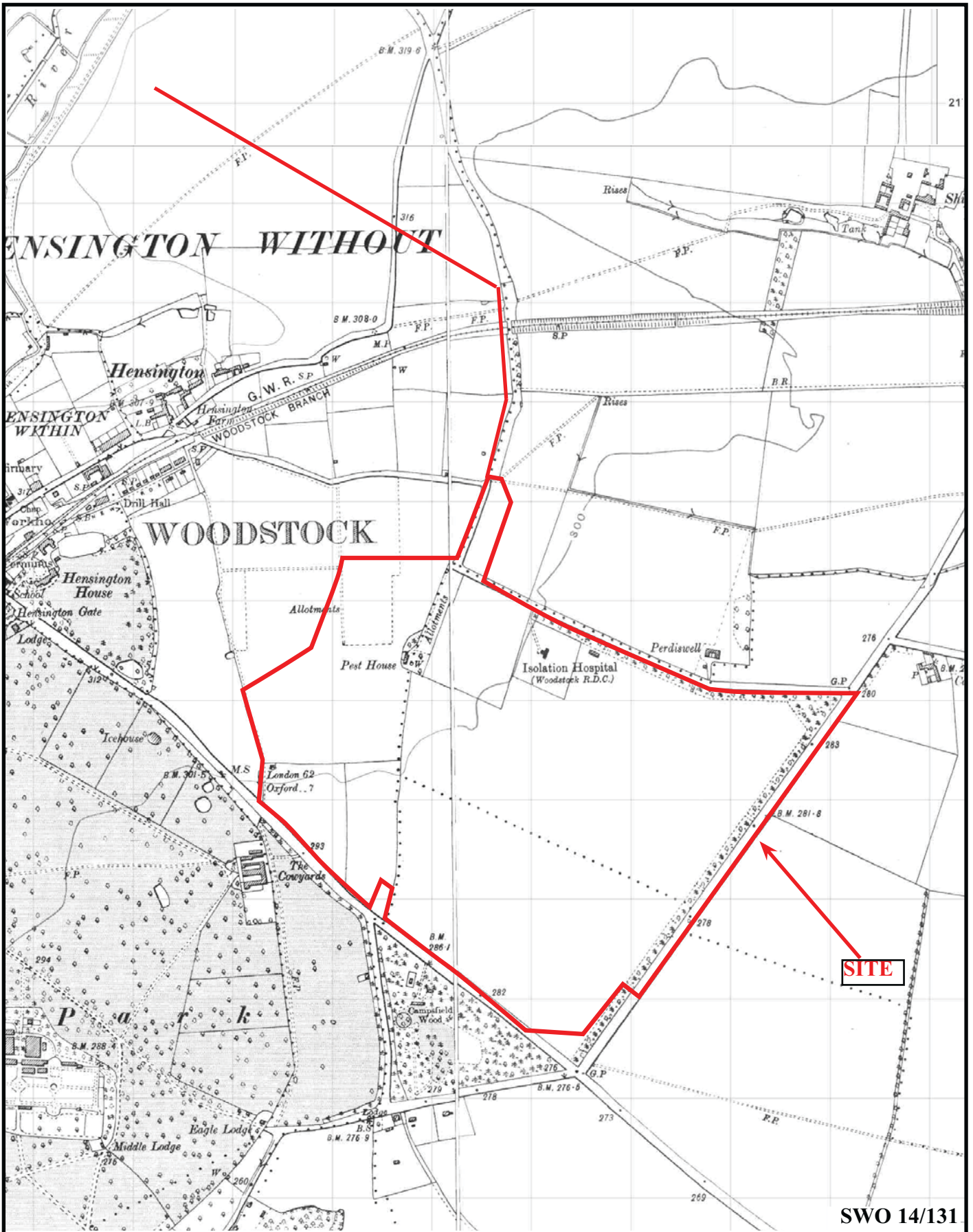
SWO 14/131

**Land at Shipton Road, Woodstock,  
Oxfordshire, 2014**

**Archaeological Desk-based Assessment**  
Figure 8. Second Edition Ordnance Survey, 1898.

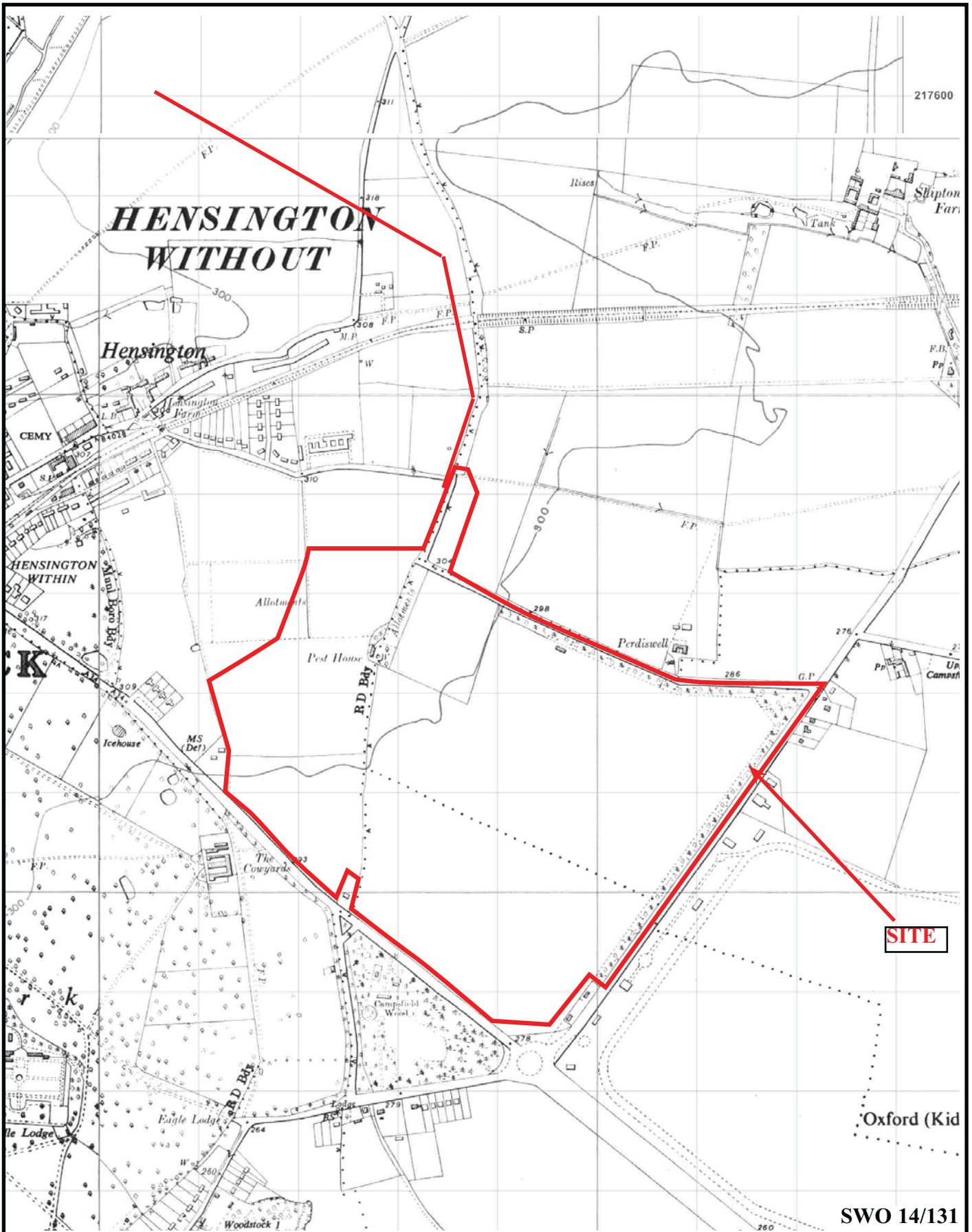
THAMES VALLEY  
  
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
 SERVICES





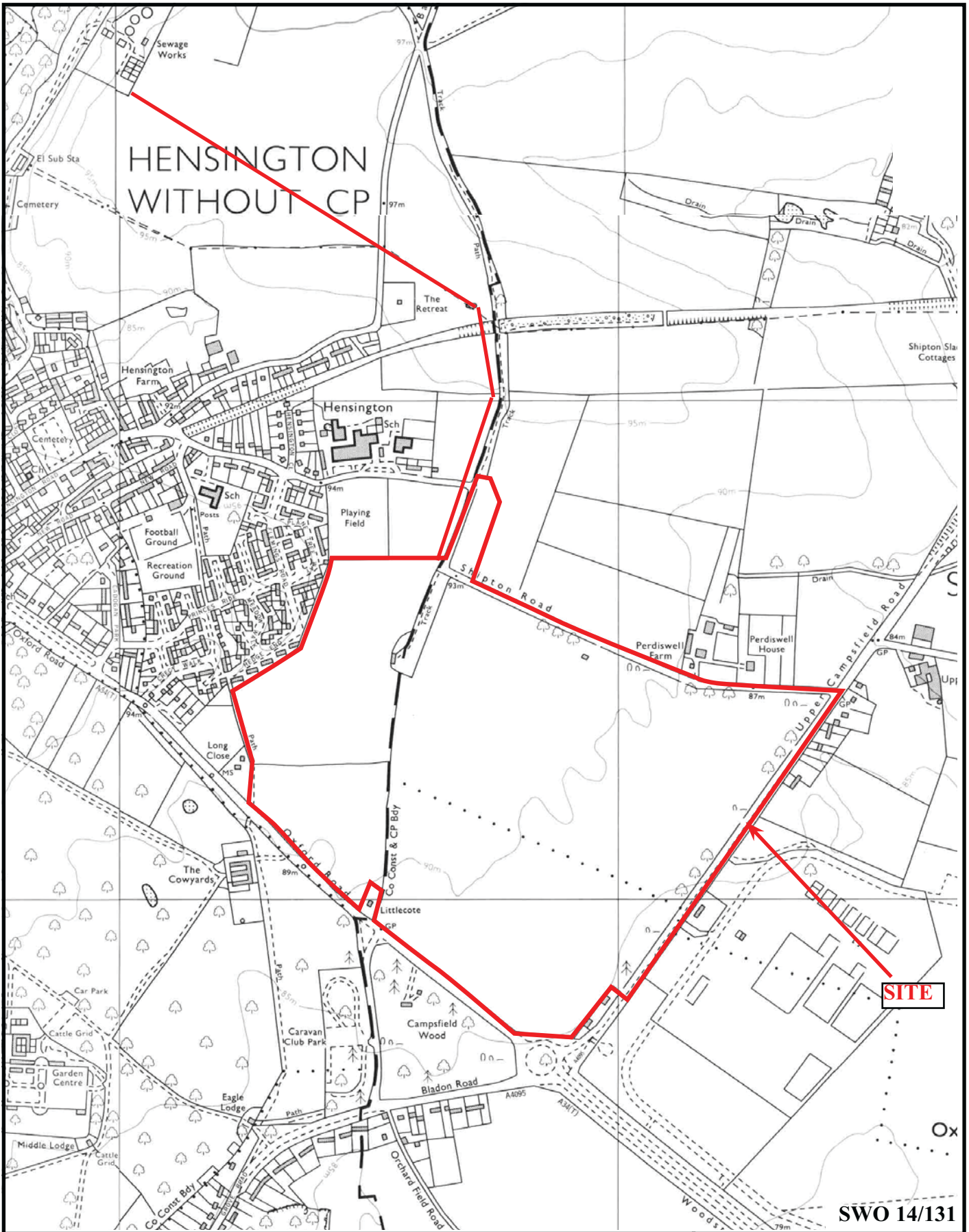
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Land at Shipton Road, Woodstock,  
Oxfordshire, 2014  
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Figure 9. Ordnance Survey Revision, 1919.



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Figure 10. Ordnance Survey, 1950-1954.





**Land at Shipton Road, Woodstock,  
 Oxfordshire, 2014**  
**Archaeological Desk-based Assessment**  
 Figure 11. Ordnance Survey, 1978.





Plate 1: View of site looking north west from west side of site



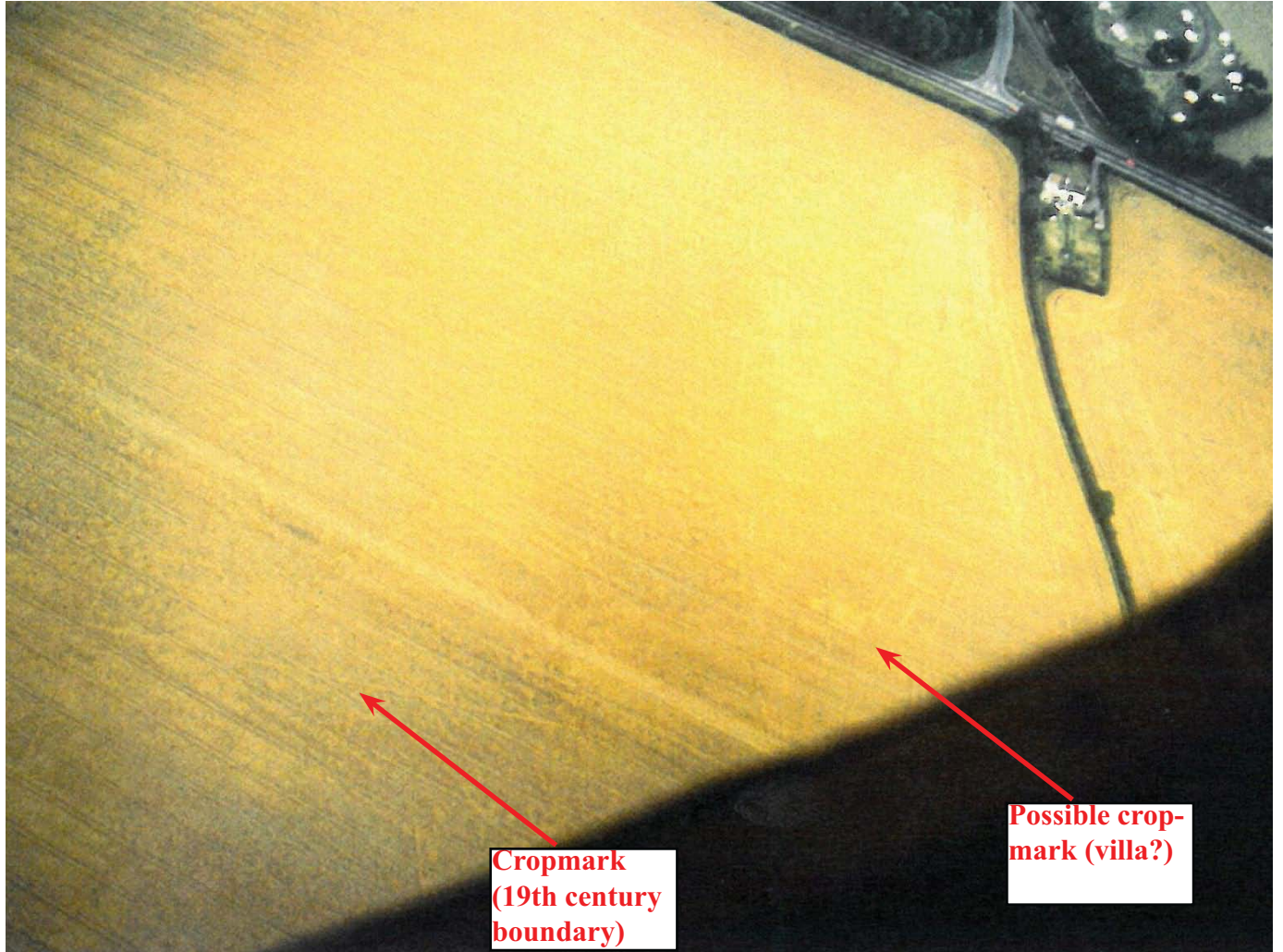
Plate 2: View of site looking east from west side of site

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**Land at Shipton Road, Woodstock,  
Oxfordshire, 2014**  
Archaeological Desk-based Assessment  
Plates 1 and 2.

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**Cropmark  
(19th century  
boundary)**

**Possible crop-  
mark (villa?)**

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**Land at Shipton Road, Woodstock,  
Oxfordshire, 2014**  
**Archaeological Desk-based Assessment**  
Plate 3. Aerial photograph NMR4622/04, 1990,  
south to top.

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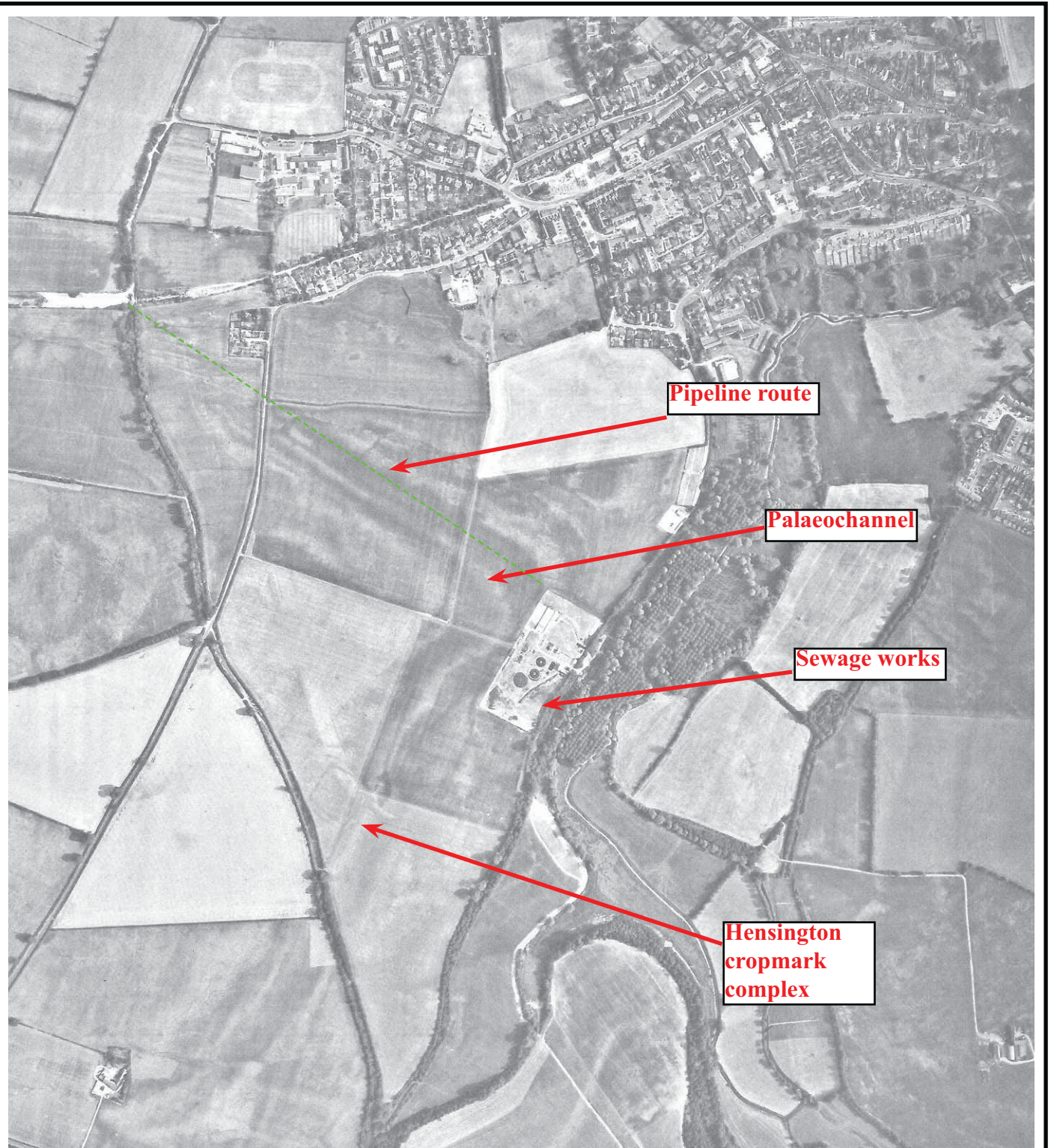


Plate 4. Aerial photograph OS/75312/142, 5th July 1975 (reduced). Woodstock at top right.

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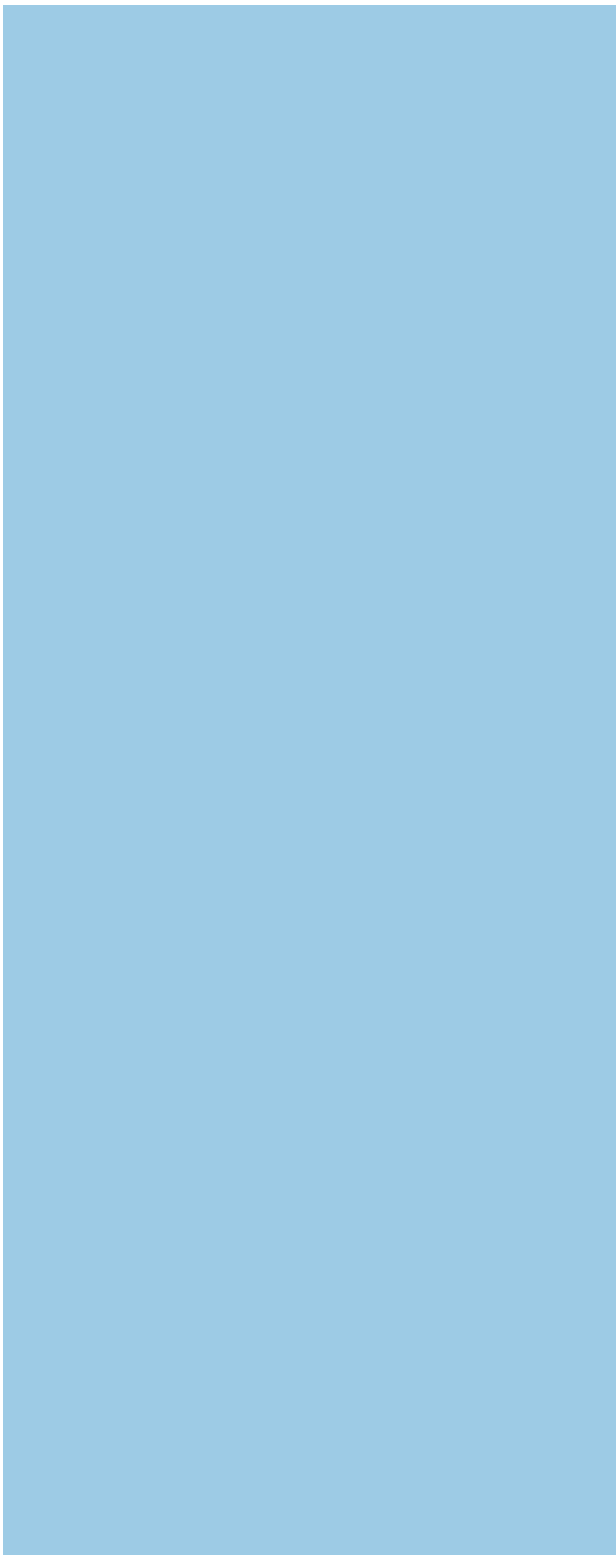
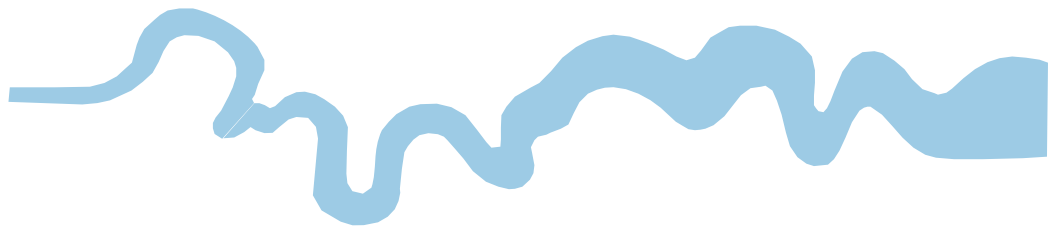
**Land at Shipton Road, Woodstock,  
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Plate 4. Aerial photograph. Pipeline route still open to amend-  
ment if required.

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## TIME CHART

	<b>Calendar Years</b>
Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43
Iron Age _____	BC/AD 750 BC
Bronze Age: Late -----	1300 BC
Bronze Age: Middle -----	1700 BC
Bronze Age: Early -----	2100 BC
Neolithic: Late .....	3300 BC
Neolithic: Early .....	4300 BC
Mesolithic: Late .....	6000 BC
Mesolithic: Early .....	10000 BC
Palaeolithic: Upper .....	30000 BC
Palaeolithic: Middle .....	70000 BC
Palaeolithic: Lower .....	2,000,000 BC
↓	↓



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