



VIBEROPTIX GB

**CLEATER MOOR: PRELIMINARY ARCHAEOLOGY AND HERITAGE CONSTRAINTS
ASSESSMENT**

OLT13

NOVEMBER 2024

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OLT13

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GM13161-OLT13-A-002:	Cable route showing anticipated intrusive works and non-designated heritage assets key sheet	1:50,000
GM13161-OLT13-A-002:	Cable route showing anticipated intrusive works and-designated heritage assets sheets 1-6	1:12,500

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following preliminary high-level desk-based Archaeology and Heritage Constraints Assessment aims to inform on the archaeological potential of areas likely to be affected by groundworks anticipated in pursual of the introduction of fibre optic cables in the vicinity of Cleator Moor, Cumbria - Optical Line Terminal 13 (OLT 13). This OLT covers two authorities with responsibility for heritage assets – Cumberland Local Authority and Lake District National Park Authority (LDNPA). This review verifies and establishes the presence of designated and non-designated assets within the site (OLT 13) based on Historic England datasets, First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping and aerial photography; it shows there is demonstrable evidence for post medieval archaeological activity in the vicinity of the works associated with this phase of the works, however, the assets are largely relating to historic quarrying with the intrusive works .

DRAFT

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 A preliminary high-level desk-based Archaeology and Heritage Constraints Assessment has been undertaken to inform on the archaeological potential of areas likely to be affected by groundworks occurring in association with the introduction of fibre optic cables in the rural vicinity of Cleator Moor (OLT 13). The assessment is informed by the fibre optic infrastructure upgrade proposals in the form of OLT 13 GIS Shapefiles for proposed works received 17th September 2024 (Viberoptix, 2024). It will highlight any likely significant effects of such groundworks on the cultural heritage and archaeological environment (designated heritage, non-designated heritage assets and archaeological potential). The purpose of this review is to identify and characterise any relevant cultural heritage resources and to consider the nature and scale of potential impacts arising from the groundworks to inform a discussion with relevant stakeholders regarding any further mitigation works which may be required because of the groundworks for new fibreoptic cabling at Cleator Moor and its surrounding areas.

2 STUDY AREA

2.1.1 The study area has been taken to include locations where proposed intrusive works will occur for proposed ducting, chambers and poles in furtherance of the overall cable route for OLT 13 in and around Cleator Moor, Cumbria. This work has known designated heritage assets and non-designated heritage assets pertaining to archaeological potential in the immediate vicinity of the anticipated intrusive groundworks of this phase of the scheme. Furthermore, First Edition Ordnance Survey mapping and aerial photography for relevant areas has been assessed. This is anticipated to provide an appropriate baseline to inform on archaeological potential in areas to be directly affected by OLT 13.

2.1.2 There are no scheduled monuments within the area of the OLT.

2.1.3 Within OLT 13 there is one conservation area; Cleator Moor where intrusive works proposed within the Conservation area comprise of a 3m line of ducting in the established walkway.

3 CURRENT BASELINE –

3.1 Cumbria

3.1.1 There are approximately 29 poles, 47 chambers and 2km of ducting associated with the fibre optic scheme OLT 13 in Cumbria.

3.2 Prehistoric

3.2.1 There are no prehistoric assets directly within the areas of intrusive works within this OLT.

3.3 Roman

3.3.1 There are no Roman assets directly within the areas of intrusive works within this OLT.

3.4 Medieval

3.4.1 There are no medieval assets directly within the areas of intrusive works within this OLT.

3.5 Post Medieval

3.5.1 Assets which may be impacted by the works dating to the post medieval period predominantly relate to extraction industries; at the western extent of the scheme two planned poles are within the HER boundary of Bankend Quarry (HER 11562), the poles are to be placed along the road and will not affect the asset. Further east the route intrusive works are proposed near Pallaflat Mine (HER 12918 and 12920) and railway (HER 11994), Sikehouse Mine (HER 11561), Southam Mine railway (HER 11536) and Clints Quarries (HER 12324) but will not affect the below ground remains of settings.

3.5.2 Adjacent to Bigrigg village hall, two poles are proposed south of two Historic Environment Records of a Mansion House (HER 11917) and Parkhouse Pit no 2 (HER 11992), these assets will not be affected as the intrusive works are to be placed within the established carriageway opposite.

3.5.3 A single pole and line of ducting deviates from the road and lies adjacent to the extent of Croft Pit Iron Mine (HER 11996) and New Chintz Pit Railway (HER 12895), the assets are unlikely to be affected.

3.5.4 Further east at L & NW & Furness Joint railway (HER 12710) Cleator and Egremont branch, a line of ducting is proposed to the south and is currently not proposed to cross the trajectory of the disused railway.

- 3.5.5 Adjacent to ducting to the west of river Ehen, Woodend millrace (HER 12892) runs north to east with proposed poles to the immediate west. The asset will not be affected as there are substantial trees surrounding the area.
- 3.5.6 To the west of Longland's Lake two lines of ducting are proposed within the walkway of a residential area, which lies over the known extent of Woodend Mill pit no 9 (HER 41797), the asset will not be affected at a standard maximum dig depth of 0.4m.
- 3.5.7 To the east of Cleator Moor, ducting and poles are proposed adjacent to Frizington Parks Quarry (HER 12376), further east on Red Beck Road three poles are proposed c. 20m from Millgill Bridge (HER 12375) neither asset will be directly or indirectly affected by the works.
- 3.5.8 To the south, ducting is proposed on the access road to Scalelands Farm (HER 40889), the asset will not be affected, poles are over 50m to the south in a line of established poles and trees.
- 3.5.9 A line of ducting is proposed on the verge of the A595 south of Bigrigg, a Grade II Listed Milestone (NHLE 1137121) lies on the opposite side of the road, it will not be affected if the proposed works do not deviate from the design.
- 3.5.10 To the north of Bigrigg Village lies the Grade II Listed high Victorian Church of St John (NHLE 1392613), a line of ducting is proposed to the north and will not affect the asset as the works are below ground, outside of the boundary of the church.
- 3.6 **Modern**
- 3.6.1 There are no modern assets within the area of the cable route works within this OLT.
- 3.7 **Lake District National Park**
- 3.7.1 There are 9 poles, 10 chambers and approximately 2km of planned ducting proposed for the works within the LDNPA to the east of Cleator Moor within the vicinity of High Merebeck.
- 3.8 **Prehistoric**
- 3.8.1 There are no designated or non-designated heritage assets dating to the prehistoric period within the OLT in the LDNPA.
- 3.9 **Roman**
- 3.9.1 There are no designated or non-designated heritage assets dating to the Roman period within the OLT in the LDNPA.

3.9.2 Medieval

3.9.3 There are no designated or non-designated heritage assets dating to the medieval period within the OLT in the LDNPA.

3.10 Post Medieval

3.10.1 The majority of known heritage assets within the vicinity of the fibre optic cable route OLT 13 date to the post medieval period and later periods. The assets are all related to quarrying; ducting to the southeast of the route leaves the carriageway and crosses a field within the boundary of Muncaster Limestone Quarry (HER 12286), it is unlikely that the asset will be affected due to the narrow trenching at a maximum shallow depth of 0.4m. A further asset lies to the north, of Kinniside Leadmine (HER 16825) which remained active until the 1860s, this asset will not be affected by the works. Three poles are planned to connect this area of the scheme, they are proposed to lie within established trees and hedge rows and have been judged will not affect the wider setting of the assets.

3.11 Unknown

3.11.1 The site of a fulling mill at High Waterside (HER 30467) at the very northeastern extent of the proposed scheme has an uncertain date recorded in the historic environment record, ducting and chambers are proposed within the highway to the north of the asset and the proposed works are unlikely to impact on the asset. A further asset of uncertain date lie at Hazelholme Farm is the site of a mill (HER 30468), poles are proposed to the south of the asset, however the poles are to be placed in an area with substantial trees and therefore, have been judged to have no impact on the asset.

3.12 First Edition Ordnance Survey and Aerial Photography

3.12.1 In addition to known heritage assets identified from Historic England datasets and the HER dataset described above a comprehensive assessment of the First Edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch scale mapping Cumberland XLV, Surveyed: 1864 to 1865, Published: 1867 and historic aerial imagery was carried out and identified two benchmarks on the roadsides (WA-13-003,004) a guide post (WA-13-001) lies within an area of proposed ducting on the grass verge near High Merebeck. Farm buildings at Spring Field Farm (WA-13-005) lie within the line of proposed ducting and a proposed pole. Further structures at Hazelholme farm (WA-13-002) are annotated to the south of the present standings buildings and likely represent earlier agricultural buildings, however, the proposed works lie within the grass verge of the carriageway

and there are established trees and hedgerows, therefore it is judged the assets will not be harmed. Ridge and furrow were identified by aerial photography to the south and west outside of the proposed scheme.

4 GROUNDWORK PROPOSALS

- 4.1.1 It is assumed at this stage that groundworks required in association with the fibre optic cable route at Cleator Moor may be required at the stated locations along the route, and that these are anticipated to occur as the result of the installation of new ducts, poles or chambers. Such ground disturbance has the potential to remove/truncate remains of archaeological and historic interest. The baseline, as discussed above, has confirmed that there is evidence for archaeological activity in the immediate vicinity of the cable route.

5 SUMMARY

- 5.1.1 The cable route, as well as the planned ducts, poles and chambers where intrusive groundworks are confirmed and shown in the figure below, along with the locations of known heritage assets/archaeological features identified by this high-level desk-based review. The figure is preceded by a gazetteer summarising these features. This information can be used to inform discussions on the requirement for further archaeological mitigation works.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1.1 There are no recommendations to be made following the preliminary archaeology and heritage constraints assessment for Cleator Moor (OLT 13).

GAZETTEER

Known heritage assets from Historic England and HER datasets.

Listed Buildings

NHLE	Description	Grade	Eastings	Northings
1137121	Milestone	II	300410	512816
1086703	Croft End house	II	301080	512966
1392612	Church of St John	II	299786	513813

Cumbria HER

HER	Description	Eastings	Northings
41791	Peel Pit no2	300188	513440
11562	Bankend Quarries	299375	512501
12918	Pallaflat Mine PIT No2	299687	512453
11996	Croft Pit Iron Mine	299985	512546
41797	Woodend Mine Pit no 2	300914	512721
12324	Clints Quarries	300798	512401
40889	Scalelands Farm	303897	515147
11994	Pallaflat Railway	299720	512450
12895	New Clintz Pit	300231	512326
12710	Bigrigg Branch railway	300386	512845
11536	Southern Mine	299571	512279
11917	Park House	299843	513212
11992	Park House No Pit 2	299951	513255
12375	Millgill Bridge	304600	515789

Lake District National Park HER

HER	Description	Eastings	Northings
12286	Muncaster Quarry	304292	514631
30468	Hazelholme Mill	303570	514716
16825	Kinniside Lead Mine	304300	514650
30467	Fulling Mill	304989	515652

Assets identified from 1st Edition Mapping

UID	Description	Eastings	Northings
WA-13-001	Guide Post	303647	514662
WA-13-002	Unnamed structure	303793	514473
WA-13-003	Bench Mark	304019	514448
WA-13-004	Bench Mark	299210	512179
WA-13-005	Spring Field Farm Buildings	299620	513616

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APPENDICES

APPENDICES

DRAWINGS

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APPENDICES

DRAWINGS

STOKE-ON-TRENT

Sir Henry Doulton House
Forge Lane
Etruria
Stoke-on-Trent
ST1 5BD
Tel: +44 (0)1782 276 700

BIRMINGHAM

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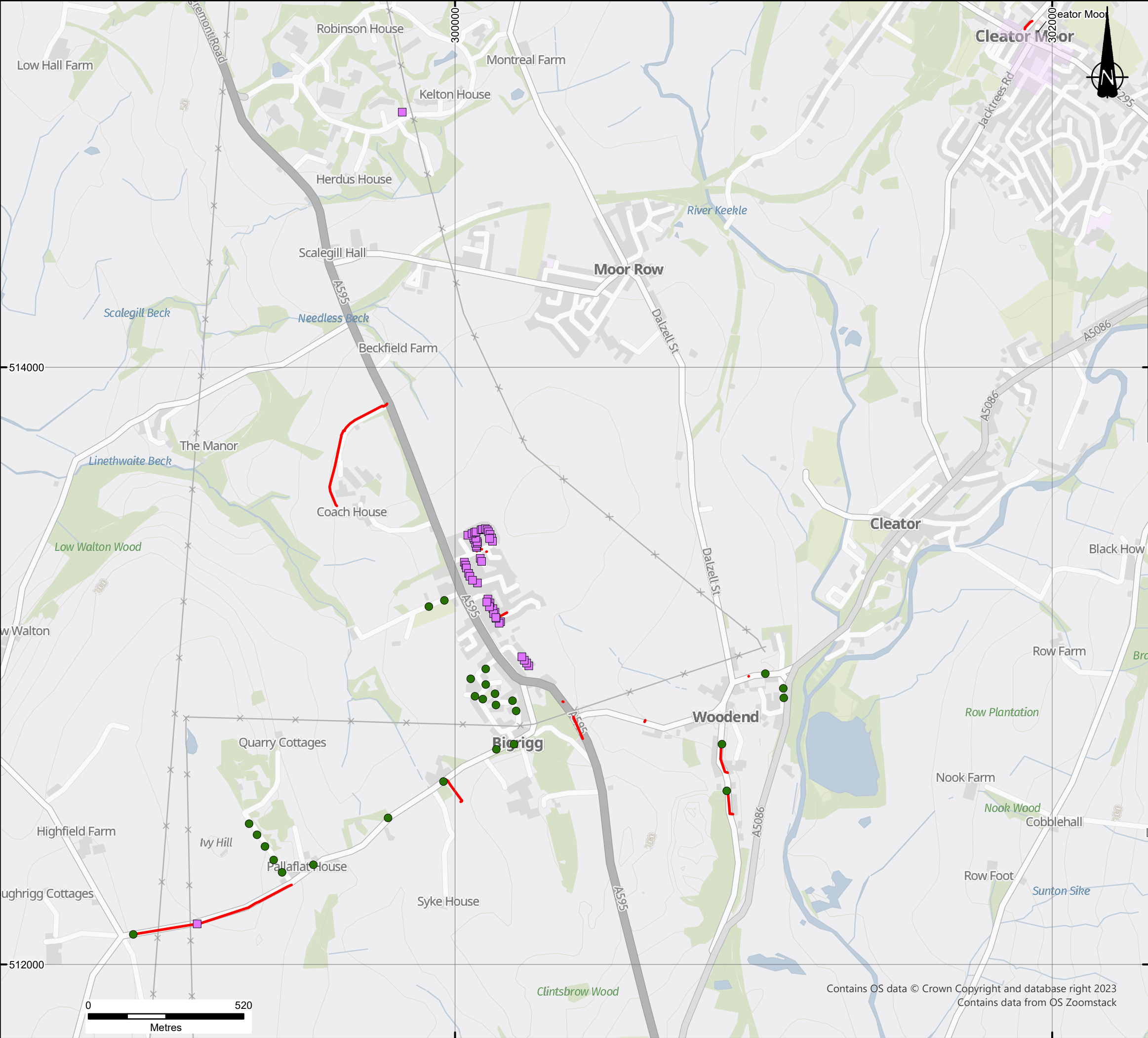
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Almaty
Kazakhstan
050040
Tel: +7(727) 334 1310



KEY

- Conservation Areas
- Planned Duct
- Planned Chambers
- Planned Poles

Notes:

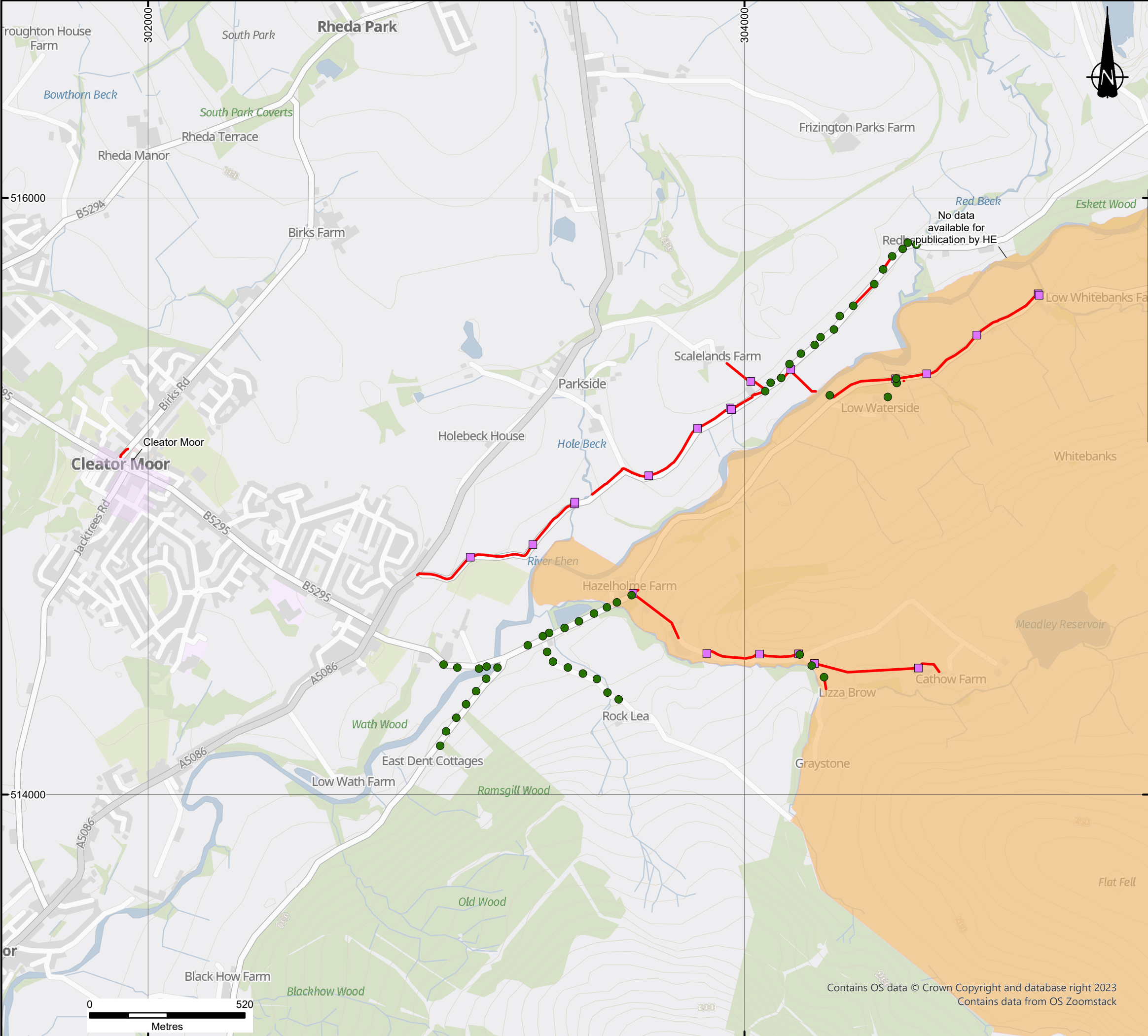
Boundaries are indicative. Aerial imagery shown for context purposes only.

REVISION	DETAILS	DATE	DRAWN	CHKD	APPD
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VIBEROPTIX GB					
PROJECT					
CUMBRIA FIBRE OPTIC CABLE ROUTE HERITAGE WORKS					
DRAWING TITLE					
OLT13 CABLE ROUTE SHOWING ANTICIPATED INTRUSIVE WORKS AND DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS SHEET 1 OF 2					
DRG No.		REV	SUIT. CODE		
GM13161-OLT13-A-001		P0.01	---		
DRG SIZE		SCALE	DATE		
A3		1:12,500	12/11/2024		
DRAWN BY		CHECKED BY	APPROVED BY		
EK		--	--		

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PART OF SLR

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KEY

- Core Area
- Conservation Areas
- Planned Duct
- Planned Chambers
- Planned Poles

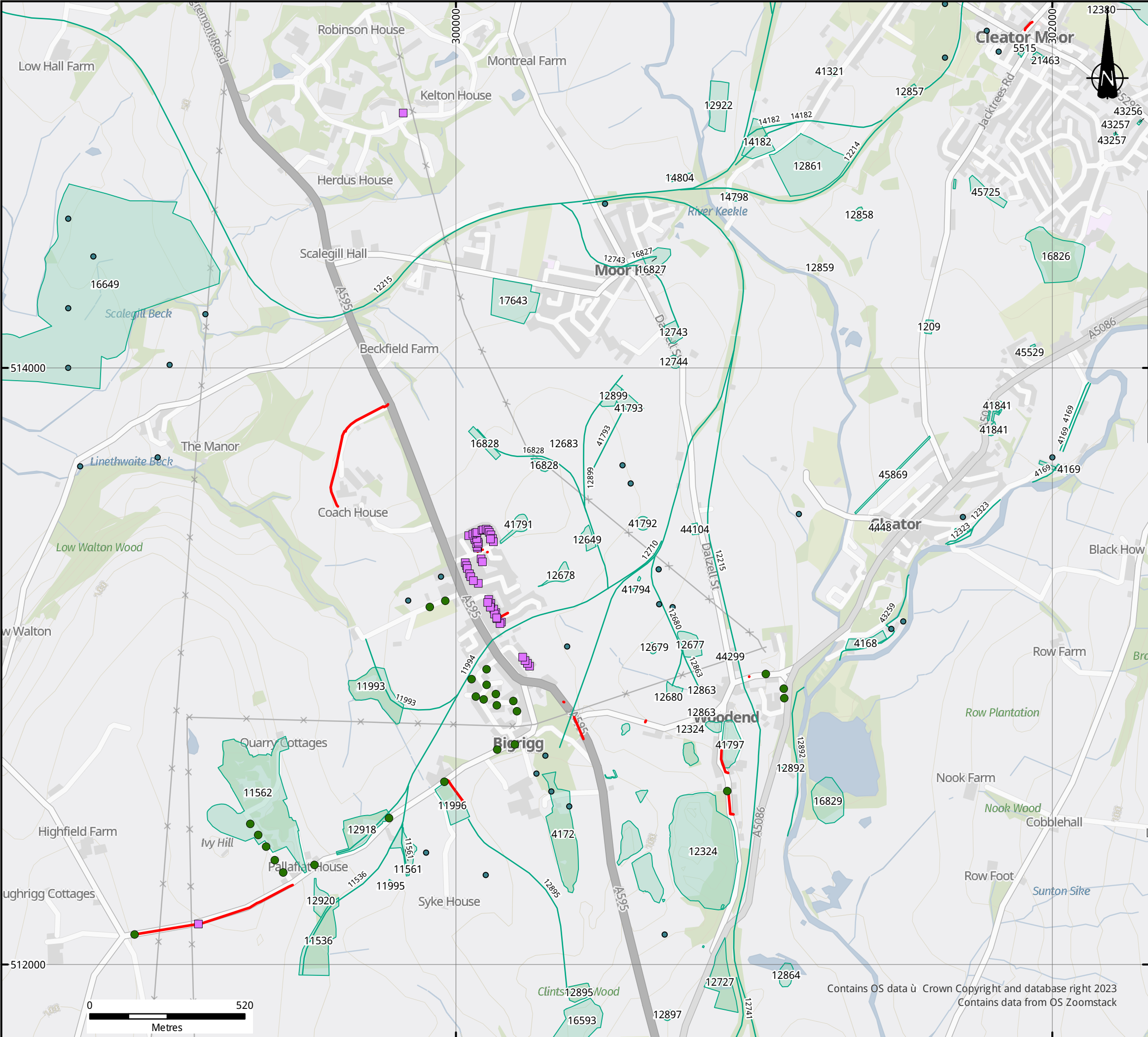
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Boundaries are indicative. Aerial imagery shown for context purposes only.

REVISION	DETAILS	DATE	DRAWN	CHKD	APPD
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PROJECT					
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DRAWING TITLE					
OLT13 CABLE ROUTE SHOWING ANTICIPATED INTRUSIVE WORKS AND DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS SHEET 2 OF 2					
DRG No.		REV		SUIT. CODE	
GM13161-OLT13-A-001		P0.01		---	
DRG SIZE		SCALE		DATE	
A3		1:12,500		12/11/2024	
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PART OF SLR



KEY

Non Designated Assets

Non Designated Assets

Non Designated Assets

Planned Duct

Planned Chambers

Planned Poles

Whitehaven

Cleator Moor

Egremont

A595

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REVISION	DETAILS	DATE	DRAWN	CHKD	APPD
CLIENT					
VIBEROPTIX GB					
PROJECT					
CUMBRIA FIBRE OPTIC CABLE ROUTE HERITAGE WORKS					
DRAWING TITLE					
OLT13 CABLE ROUTE SHOWING ANTICIPATED INTRUSIVE WORKS AND NON-DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS SHEET 1 OF 2					
DRG No.		REV		SUIT. CODE	
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DRG SIZE		SCALE		DATE	
A3		1:12,500		12/11/2024	
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EK		--		--	

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