

INDEX DATA	RPS INFORMATION
Scheme Title A650 Bingley Relief Road	Details Archaeological Evaluations - Earthwork survey Report
Road Number A650	Date March 2000
Contractor Babbie	
County West Yorkshire	
OS Reference SE13	
Single sided ✓ Double sided A3 3 Colour 3(A3)	

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A650 Bingley Relief Road

Archaeological Evaluations - Earthwork Survey Report

BWA 04383 March 2000

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Highways Agency Bingley Relief Road

Archaeological Evaluations - Earthwork Survey Report

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Introduction

- 1.1 In 1996, Babbie Group carried out a DMRB Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment in respect of the proposed A650 Bingley Relief Road. This assessment, comprising a desk top and walkover survey, identified 48 sites of archaeological significance. A further five sites were added after additional consultation with West Yorkshire Archaeology Service (WYAS). Several of these sites required further evaluation work to determine whether there would be a significant archaeological impact as a result of construction, and Babbie was commissioned by the Highways Agency to undertake these evaluations in 1999.
- 1.2 As part of the evaluations Babbie Group carried out an archaeological field survey of four sites affected by the proposed road. The survey took place between the 2nd and the 6th of August 1999.
- 1.3 The aims of the survey were to accurately identify, locate, describe and survey all features of archaeological interest visible on the surface at each of the above sites.
- 1.4 The proposed route of the A650 Bingley Relief Road extends for approximately 4.2kms starting at the present A650 junction at Crossflatts, north west of Bingley. From here it follows the Airedale railway line to Bingley Station before diverging from the railway north towards the east side of Leeds and Liverpool canal. The proposed route then loops south to pass under the railway line at Dowley Gap before crossing the River Aire and terminating on the present line of the A650 close to the Bankfield Hotel, Cottingley (Figures 1 and 2).

Methodology

- 2.1 A detailed measured survey of the above features was completed using a Leica T600 total station. The survey was related to the National Grid and to Ordnance Datum. Written and photographic records of the individual elements of each site were also completed.
- 2.2 The site survey data was augmented by additional data digitised from Ordnance Survey maps and from aerial photographs rectified using AutoCAD.
- 2.3 Interpretative site plans were produced using AutoCAD to present the combined data from all three sources.

Archaeological Background

- 3.1** Site 38 (SE10703990; Figure 3) was identified during the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment (Babtie 1996). It consists of an area of dry-stone walled field boundaries and earthworks north-west of Bingley North Bog. One area of walling is associated with mature trees and includes boulder walling which was tentatively interpreted in the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment as the possible remnants of Iron Age or Romano-British field systems or enclosures. A number of the boundaries are also marked on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 6" map.
- 3.1.1** Site 49 (SE 121 376; Figure 4) was identified by West Yorkshire Archaeological Service, and consists of a lynchet on a field boundary to the west of the Bankfield Hotel, Bingley. This runs along a major natural break of slope. While the field to the south has been ploughed and is flat, earthworks are visible in the field to the north, which is pasture land on a very steep slope. A vestige of a possible terraced trackway was identified to the north of the lynchet.
- 3.1.2** Site 50 (SE121 376; Figure 4) was tentatively identified by West Yorkshire Archaeological Service as an area of terraces, stone wall footings and scattered rubble on a steep slope north of Site 49. These terraces are not marked on the OS first or second editions.
- 3.1.3** Site 51 (SE 119 376; Figure 4) also identified by West Yorkshire Archaeological Service, consists of the remnants of a water channel. It is located on the south side of River Aire, north east of Cottingley Beck, and on the northern edge of Site 50. The general form of the riverbank and the possible presence of the channels in the general area indicated the possible remains of a water-control or water-power site here.

Survey Results - Site 38

4.1 Description

- 4.1.1** Site 38 is situated on sloping ground to the north-west of Bingley North Bog, between approximately 80m and 100m OD. The ground slopes from north to south, and natural scarps and hollows result in an uneven ground surface. A number of the archaeological features follow the top edges of these natural scarps. The land-use is rough pasture. Derelict buildings visible to the east of the site, including Five Rise Farm, are shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 6" map of 1852.

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- 4.1.2** Feature 38A (cSE1066139973) is a low earthen bank approximately 0.3m in height situated at the top of a moderate slope. It is orientated east-east-south to south-south-west. This feature becomes ephemeral towards the south-south-west end.
- 4.1.3** Feature 38B (cSE1068939963) is a lynchet partially supported by a stone revetment 5m to the south-east of Feature 38A, located at the top of a steep natural slope in an area of soil erosion. The revetment is built of two to three courses of subangular boulders. A revetment of similar build (Feature 38C) is also visible 130m to the north-east, again revetting a steep slope. Feature 38C is marked as a boundary on the OS 6" map of 1894, while both 38B and 38C appear on the 25" map of 1908 and the 6" map of 1909.
- 4.1.4** Feature 38D (cSE1053940008), a small stone-built sub-rectangular structure 6.3m long and orientated north-north-east to south-south-west is situated 15m to the south-west of Feature 38C. Only the basal course of this feature survives. The structure has square ends, no entrance is discernible and there is a small annex attached to the south end. Feature 38D is marked on the OS 6" map of 1894, but not on the 1852 edition.
- 4.1.5** Feature 38F (SE1073639947 to SE1056239910) is a tumbled stone wall, 1.5 to 2m wide and up to 0.4m high. It is built of rough coursing of subangular boulders. These boulders become more substantial towards the west end of the wall. Boulder facing stones are also visible. This feature is built in an area of very uneven ground at the top of steep natural scarps overlooking Bingley North Bog, and is marked on the OS 1st edition 6" map, which marks trees along its length.
- 4.1.6** Feature 38G (SE1063139944 to SE1060439933) is a substantial lynchet, surviving to a height of 0.75m, and shown on the OS 1st edition 6" map. Substantial boulders are visible along its course. It is orientated from east to west, cutting across the natural contours, and increases in height towards the west.
- 4.1.7** Continuing on the line of Feature 38G is Feature 38H (SE1060439933 to SE1056239910). It consists of a discontinuous tumbled stone wall, partly built on the face of a lynchet and overgrown by a hedge with mature trees. Between them, 38G and 38H define the boundary between the sloping ground to the north and Bingley North Bog. At least two construction techniques can be identified in the stone wall. The eastern part of this wall is built of coursed stone and survives up to two courses in height. To the west, the wall is less well preserved and consists of boulder facings with a stone core, 0.8m wide. Several edge set boulders are also visible. To the west end this feature runs along the base of a natural slope. Feature 38H is shown on the OS 1st edition 6" map.

- 4.1.8** Feature 38I (SE1055340045 to SE1072839989) is a tumbled stone wall, up to 0.5m high and 1m wide. The wall is of drystone construction and at its west end is built on the face of a lynchet (Feature 38E), which is visible from SE1055340045 to SE1059840032. Feature 38I is shown as a boundary on the OS1st edition 6" map.
- 4.1.9** Feature 38J is a lynchet approximately 0.45m high, orientated approximately south-east to north-west (SE1059340139 to SE1072340039). Some stone is visible in the face of the lynchet, which supports large mature trees. This feature is shown as a boundary on the OS 6" map of 1852 and subsequent editions.

Interpretation

- 4.2.1** Site 38 consists of an agricultural landscape divided by drystone walls and lynchets, some of which are supported by revetments, in addition to a low earthen bank and a drystone structure. The majority of the features appear on the 1st edition OS 6" map of 1852, while others appear on later OS maps of late 19th/early 20th century date. Only Feature 38A does not appear on any OS map. There is clear evidence for phased development of the landscape (lynchets replaced by walls, which themselves show more than one phase of construction), suggesting that it had been in place for some time. However, there is no evidence to support any great antiquity for any of the features, with the possible exception of 38A. Functionally, they simply represent a series of agricultural boundaries dividing up an uneven area of pasture and separating it from the broken ground to the south-east and the bog to the south.
- 4.2.2** The date and function of Feature 38A, the earthen bank, is unknown. This feature is not depicted on any Ordnance Survey maps and its earthen construction, degree of preservation and lack of association with other features may indicate an earlier date for this feature.
- 4.2.3** The sub-rectangular structure, Feature 38D, appears to be a short-lived structure, erected after 1852, roofed in 1894 and unroofed by 1909. It may have been a small field barn or some other agricultural building of no archaeological interest.

Survey Results - Site 49, 50 and 51

5.1 Description

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5.1.1 Sites 49, 50 and 51 are situated between the banks of the River Aire and the Bankfield Hotel.

Site 49 is situated at the top of a steep slope at approximately 90m OD. Site 50 is on the slope and Site 51 is situated at the bottom of the slope, adjacent to the River Aire at a height of approximately 70mOD. The land-use is rough pasture.

5.1.2 Site 49 is a lynchet 1.2m high and 2.7 - 3m wide, orientated approximately east to west with a modern fence and hedge on its top edge and face. This boundary is marked on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition 6" map of 1852. Stone is visible in the face of the lynchet and there is a break of slope on its face. Dumps of dressed stone are visible on this feature, but do not appear to be directly associated with it. The lynchet is separated from the steep hill slope by a narrow, relatively level strip approximately 3m wide (Feature 49A), identified by WYAS-AS as a trackway. It is unclear whether this feature is entirely natural or was partly created by terracing into the slope, as its southern (upslope) edge coincides with the foot of the lynchet. The feature is partially overlain by a modern access ramp into the field.

5.1.3 Site 50 was described by WYAS-AS as an area of terraces, wall footings and a scatter of rubble. The remains of a low grass-covered stone bank (Feature 50A) were identified and surveyed. It is 0.3m high and 1m wide orientated south-west to north-east with stone visible. An oval depression (Feature 50B) is located 8m to the west of this feature. Although individual pieces of large rubble are scattered around the field, with the exception of Feature 50A no terraces, wall footings or other earthworks were present.

5.1.4 Feature 51A is a former water channel, 6m wide, 0.7m deep and approximately 100m long. Orientated east to west, it has a shallow U-shaped profile and has been completely cut away at its western end by Feature 51B, a drain approximately 1m wide and 0.75m deep. To the east the feature becomes wider and shallower and becomes ephemeral to the east edge of the field. Feature 51C is a modern water channel approximately 9m wide with an irregular profile, leading into Feature 51B, taking part of the flow of the Cottingley Beck.

5.2 Interpretation

5.2.1 Site 49 is a lynchet on a field boundary in use since at least 1852. Its age is unknown. Although its size may suggest some antiquity, this could have been enhanced by terracing to create the trackway (49A), if this latter feature is man-made.

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- 5.2.2** The low grass covered stone bank, Site 50A, may represent the vestigial remains of a stone wall. The function and date of this feature are unknown. That this feature is at an angle to the existing to existing field boundaries may indicate an earlier date for this feature. Feature 50B is interpreted as a tree hole.
- 5.2.3** Site 51 was interpreted as a water channel, possibly of natural origins. The feature has been heavily disturbed by trees and has been truncated by erosion at its west end, in the area to be affected by the new road.

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Sources

6.1 Bibliography

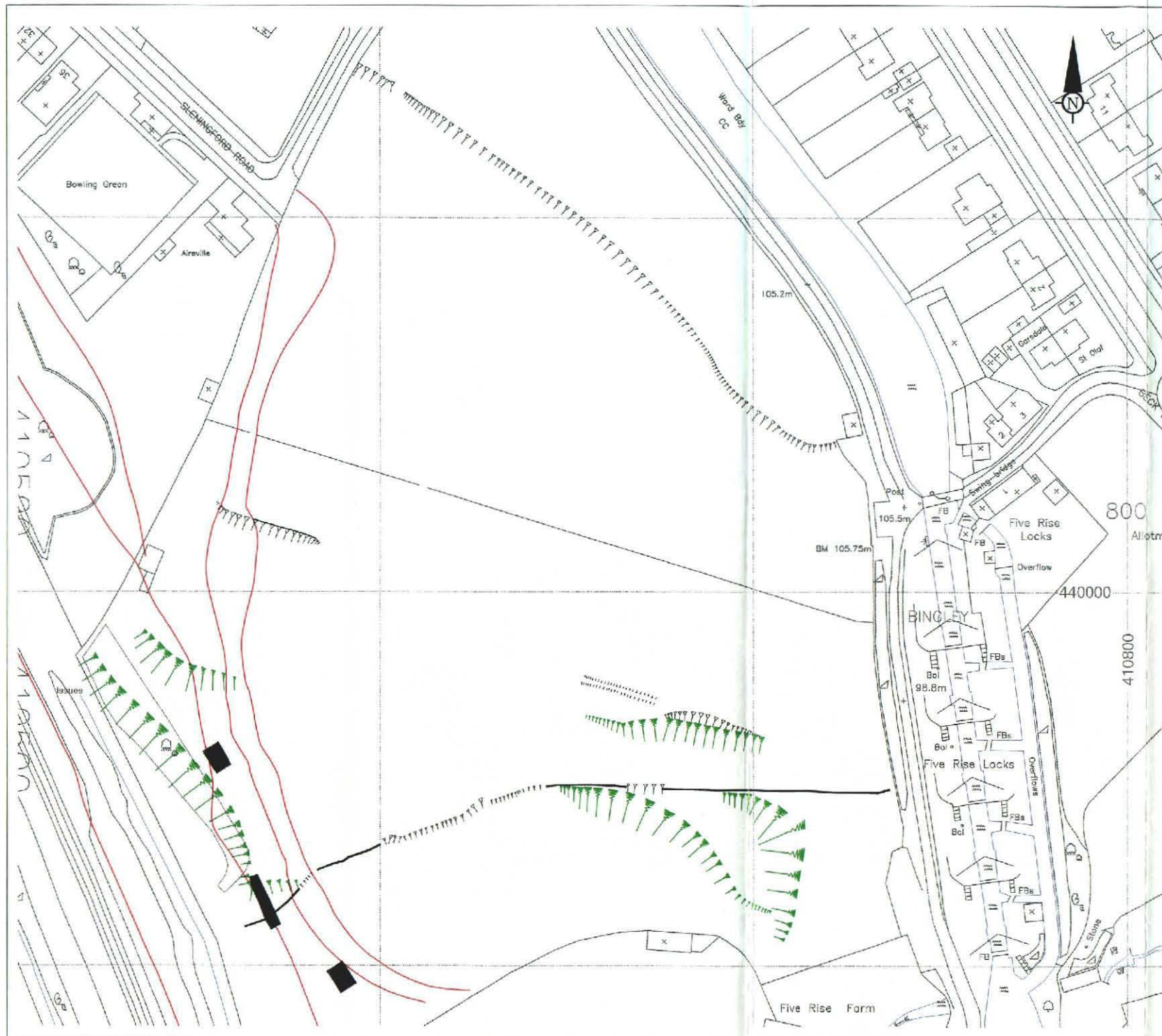
Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England, 1999, **Recording Archaeological Field Monuments** - A Descriptive Specification

6.2 Cartographic Sources

1852 Ordnance Survey 6" map 1st Edition Sheet 201
1894 Ordnance Survey 6" map 1894 Edition Sheets 201NW and 201SW
1908 Ordnance Survey 25" map 1908 Edition Yorkshire (West Riding) Sheet 201.2
1909 Ordnance Survey 6" map 2nd Edition 1909, Sheets 201 NW and 201SW
1934 Ordnance Survey 25" map 1934 revision Yorkshire (West Riding) Sheet
201.10

6.3 Aerial Photographs

BKS Surveys LTD 18.03.75 2524060
BKS Surveys LTD 18.03.75 2524062
BKS Surveys LTD 18.03.75 2524063
BKS Surveys LTD 02.11.75 2562213
BKS Surveys LTD 02.11.75 2562214



Drawing Number

BTI 4383/125/15

Proposed Relief Road

Water Course

Stone Wall

Evaluation Trench

Man-Made Slope

Natural Slope

0m 40m 80m

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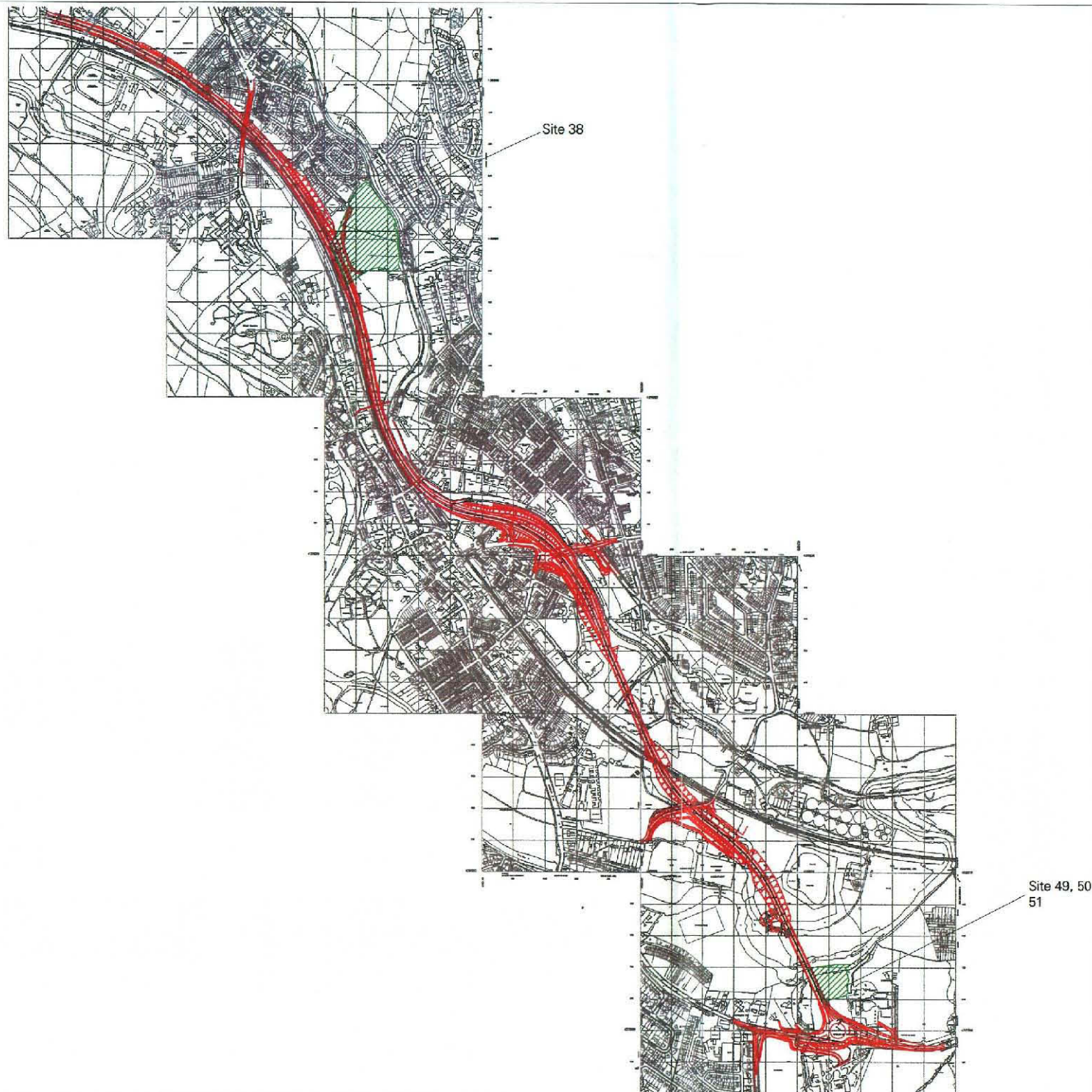
Client Highways Agency

Project A650 Bingley Relief Road

Title Figure 3 - Site 38 : Trench Location and Earthwork Survey


Drawing No.	BTI 04383/125/15	Date	Dec 99
Scale	1:1000	Drawn	JD
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		Approved	DAJ


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Notes

 Proposed Route of Relief Road

 Area of Earthwork Survey

0m 500m 1000m

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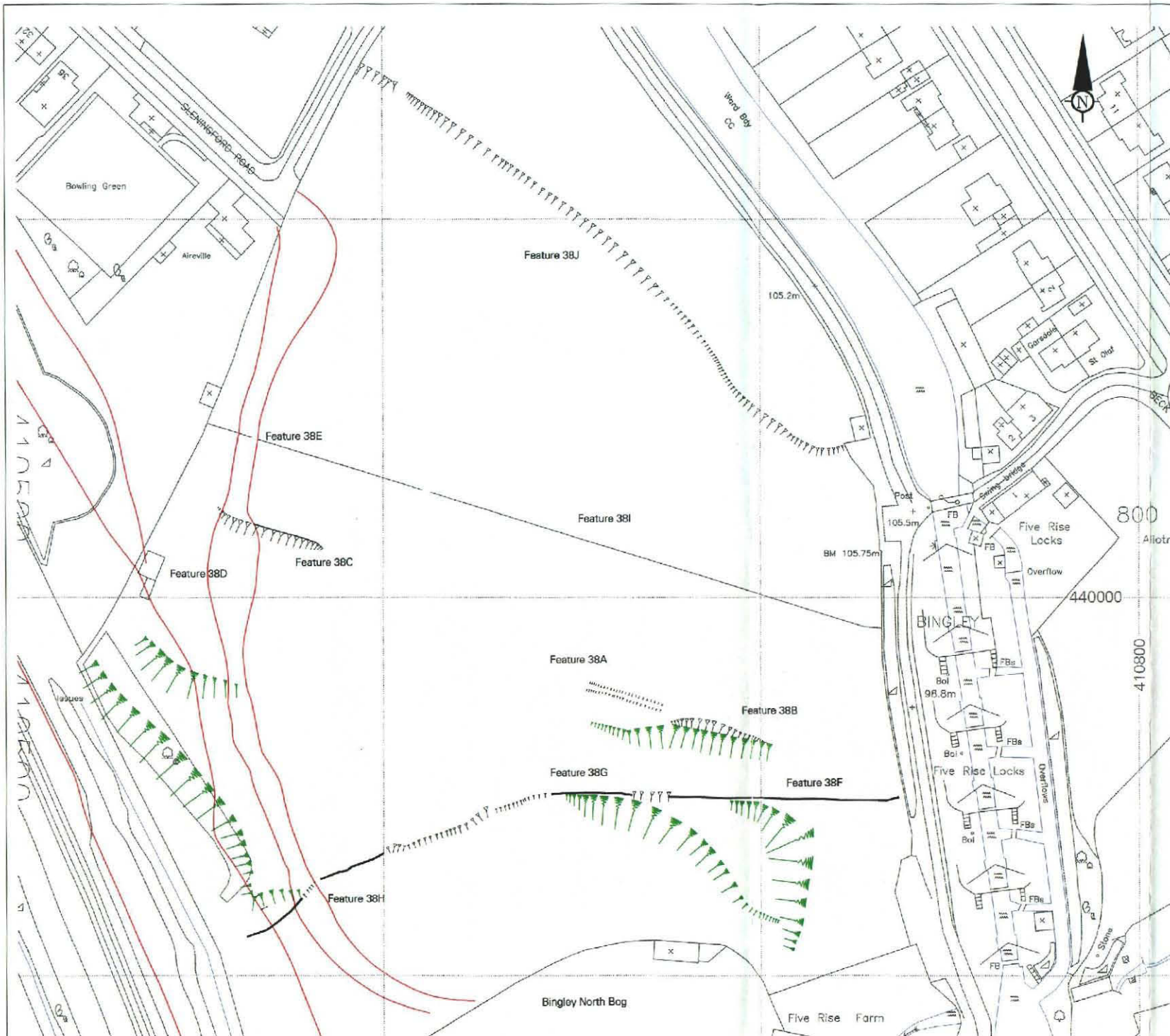
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Title	Figure 1 - Route of Road Scheme
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— Road Scheme Boundary

— Water Course

— Stone Wall

Man-Made Slope

Natural Slope

0m 40m 80m

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Title Figure 2 - Earthwork Survey at Site 38

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