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A65 HELLIFIELD AND LONG PRESTON BYPASS NORTH YORKSHIRE

SUPPLEMENTARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY MARCH 1994

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A65 HELLIFIELD AND LONG PRESTON BYPASS NORTH YORKSHIRE

SUPPLEMENTARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In February 1992 the Department of Transport commissioned an archaeological evaluation (desk-top survey) of the proposed route for the A65 Hellifield and Long Preston bypass. This work was carried out by Northern Archaeological Associates subsequently produced two further reports detailing an aerial photographic survey and a survey of two specific earthwork sites².
- 1.2 In January 1994 Anthony Walker and Partners were commissioned by Pell Frischmann Consultants, the engineers for the scheme, to carry out a supplementary archaeological survey, based in part on recommendations made by Northern Archaeological Associates and Anthony Walker and Partners. In detail, this supplementary work involved:
 - an examination of the available borehole data, with a view to identifying additional areas of archaeological interest;
 - an additional desk-top survey, including a preliminary walk-over survey, of any areas not already assessed in which additional works such as balancing ponds, access roads and landscaping proposals might take place;
 - iii) a review and assessment of any archaeological information held at Craven Museum;
 - iv) the accurate location of an earthwork feature identified by Northern Archaeological Associates at Tenley Farm and an assessment of the impact of the scheme on the site;
 - a review of any additional aerial photographs that might have become available since the 1992 study and an assessment of the impact of the scheme on any identified archaeological features;
 - vi) an earthwork survey of eight specific locations, including the site at Tenley Farm.

2 EXAMINATION OF BOREHOLE INFORMATION

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 In their archaeological evaluation report, Northern Archaeological Associates recommended that the borehole data for the route should be examined to identify possible areas where buried ground surfaces might be masked by alluvial deposits or hillwash.
- 2.1.2 Three geotechnical investigations were carried out by Terresearch Limited, Geotechnical and Testing Services, and Structural Soils Limited between 1989 and 1993, involving the excavation of a total of 143 boreholes and 38 trial pits³. All the borehole and trial pit logs have been examined for the compilation of this report.
- 2.1.3 The identification of alluvial and colluvial deposits was hindered by the fact that only the additional survey carried out in 1993, comprising 11 boreholes, identified the possible origins of some deposits by interpretative terms such as "alluvium" or "till". In addition, where potentially alluvial or colluvial deposits were identified from the deposit descriptions in the logs, the sites were only considered to be of interest if they overlay deposits which could be partly of anthropogenic origin or which could have been anthropogenically altered. Other deposits considered potentially to be of interest included peat, any thin layers within the top 2m of the borehole which appeared out of character with other deposits in the same borehole, and "made ground" layers where these did not clearly represent recent developments.
- 2.1.4 Deposits whose description or stratigraphic arrangement can be interpreted as being of potential archaeological interest were identified in 10 borehole logs and 5 trial pit logs. The locations of these boreholes and trial pits, which all lie within the proposed road construction corridor, are shown on figures 1A and 1B.

2.2 Peat and other organic deposits

2.2.1 Three boreholes (68a, 69b and 137) (NGRs SD82685843, SD82665844 and SD82825836 respectively) and four trial pits (23, 24, 106 and 107) (NGRs SD82845829, SD82685846, SD82855835 and SD82835838 respectively), grouped to the east of Borks Hill or around Sour Dale Lane, immediately to the north-east of Borks Hill (see figures 1A and 1B), contained peat deposits of varying thickness, sometimes with records of preserved wood or other organic materials. The stratigraphic sequences suggest the presence of a shallow post-glacial lake in this area, which subsequently developed into a peat bog. The area around Sour Dale Lane continued to be subject to flooding after peat deposition ceased, as

the peat is covered by clay/silt layers. The name "Sour Dale Lane" itself is indicative of a boggy, acid-soiled area.

- 2.2.2 A separate, much thinner, peat deposit was recorded in borehole 118, located to the north-east of Bend Gate Farm (NGR SD84205714), while trial pit 18, to the north-west of Bend Gate Farm (NGR SD83855696), contained a clay layer with wet black organic pockets. These deposits probably represent the former edge of a bog which is marked on modern maps further to the north-east of the farm. A third, relatively thick peat deposit was recorded in borehole 32, near Back Lane to the south-west of Hellifield (NGR SD85065618).
- 2.2.3 The edges of lakes and bogs can sometimes be foci for prehistoric activity or settlement. Very rarely, peat bogs contain important preserved organic finds, such as log boats or human remains. Peat deposits such as those near Borks Hill and Back Lane are often useful repositories of evidence for the environmental history of the area. The importance of an individual bog in this context is, however, relative; a larger, deeper and/or better preserved bog in the vicinity will usually be a better source of much the same evidence. Consultation with a palynological specialist has indicated that sequences in which peat is sealed by alluvial or other natural deposits, such as those around Borks Hill, can be of particular significance.

2.3 Other deposits

- 2.3.1 Borehole 130, at the south-west corner of Peel Green (NGR SD85655591), contained two "made ground" layers under the present topsoil and over a sandy layer. Peel Green represents the southern portion of a lane, originally leading from Hellifield Peel to the church, which may be the original main street of Hellifield. The made ground layers are most likely to represent make-up for the lane, but they could represent archaeological deposits relating to areas of possible medieval settlement around the green.
- 2.3.2 A layer of cobbles in a clay matrix was observed in borehole 39, immediately under the topsoil and overlying clay deposits. This borehole was located on the north side of the A682, immediately east of the point where it crosses the Gallaber Syke (NGR SD84765637). The cobble layer could represent an old road surface, possibly leading to a previous bridge or a ford.
- 2.3.3 Boreholes 50 and 52b, west of Bend Gate Farm either side of Flat Lane (NGRs SD83855696 and SD83785708), contained relatively complex stratigraphy in the top 1.5m, including thin layers of varying

- consistency. These layers are most likely to have a natural origin, but they could represent archaeological deposits.
- 2.3.4 Borehole 60, near Mill House (NGR SD83295766), contained three layers described as "made ground", totalling 2.35m in depth. These deposits predominantly consisted of clay, but contained brick fragments and other inclusions. The location and topography suggest that these deposits might relate to earthworks connected with a post-medieval water mill.

2.4 Conclusions

- 2.4.1 The borehole information did not provide any conclusive evidence for definite archaeological sites, although several areas of possible potential were identified. These include a possible post-glacial take in the Borks Hill/Sour Dale Lane area, the edge of a bog near Bend Gate Farm and another peat deposit near Back Lane. In addition, deposits which could potentially be of archaeological significance were identified in five different borehole locations (boreholes 130, 39, 50, 52b and 60), although their archaeological potential could not be confirmed from the borehole logs.
- 2.4.2 The three areas of peat deposits are likely to be of palaeoenvironmental importance. In this context, it should be noted that any alterations to local drainage patterns could affect parts of bogs which are not directly affected by the proposed scheme. An assessment of any damage or disturbance to these sites could be accommodated by undertaking a two-stage investigative study. This is discussed in Section 5 below.
- 2.4.3 An assessment of the possible archaeological deposits identified at the five borehole locations could be accommodated by a limited trial trenching or test pitting programme.

3 ADDITIONAL DESK-TOP SURVEY

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 Northern Archaeological Associates recommended that Craven Museum in Skipton should be visited to gather any information on archaeological finds relating to the study area. Access to this data source was denied to them for the purposes of their archaeological evaluation report.
- 3.1.2 Further desk-top survey was also recommended for those areas outside the proposed construction corridor which might be disturbed through the construction of access routes, contractors compounds or used for topsoil storage.
- 3.1.3 Additional work recommended by Anthony Walker and Partners included an examination of the available printed and manuscript maps to provide information on the earthwork feature identified near Tenley Farm and the examination of any aerial photographs taken since the initial archaeological evaluation report.

3.2 Archaeological data from Craven Museum

- 3.2.1 A search of the archaeological records at Craven Museum was carried out by museum staff for Anthony Walker and Partners. This revealed that there were only two recorded finds in the parishes of Long Preston and Hellifield, neither of which is recorded on the County Sites and Monuments Record,
- 3.2.2 A Romano-British (AD 43-450) intaglio (a decorated semi-precious stone) was found in 1885 on Lingber Hill, near Wenningber Farm, while in 1989 an early Bronze Age (2,000-700 BC) axe head was also found near Wenningber Farm. This area lies well to the north of the study corridor and these finds do not significantly add to the initial archaeological evaluation report.

3.3 Areas of additional construction works

3.3.1 The scheme as presently designed does not includes balancing ponds and the development of the landscaping proposals since the initial 1992 archaeological evaluation report are minimal. The locations of any contractors' access roads and site compounds are not yet determined and will be dealt with through a separate planning process. No additional archaeological assessment work was therefore required at this stage.

3.4 Additional information on earthwork feature identified at Tenley Farm

- 3.4.1 The aerial photographic survey report produced by Northern Archaeological Associates had identified a small rectangular ditched earthwork enclosure to the east of Tenley Plantation; this feature had not been identified during the walk-over survey which accompanied the initial evaluation report. It was subsequently surveyed by Northern Archaeological Associates and was considered to represent the site of a small agricultural building. There were also extensive earthworks of ridge-and-furrow cultivation and trackways within the same field.
- 3.4.2 The precise location of this feature within a large field was unclear from the earthwork survey and there was no information as to whether it was shown on any of the early maps of the area. Accordingly, the site was re-surveyed (see earthwork survey below) and some limited cartographic research was undertaken at the North Yorkshire County Archives and Records Office in Northallerton.
- 3.4.3 An examination of Ordnance Survey maps dating to 1909, 1893, and 1852 (surveyed 1847) revealed nothing which could relate to the earthwork feature. The tithe map for Hellifield (sealed 1841, surveyed in the late 1830s) also showed no relevant features, although two wells were shown in the adjacent field to the northwest. The field (enclosure 227) was then called "Tenley Pasture" and was occupied by William Blackwell and used for pasture. The 1848 Hellifield enclosure map does not cover this area.
- 3.4.4 As no features likely to account for the earthwork are depicted on maps dating from the mid-19th century to the 20th century, it is probable that it dates to an earlier period. It is on approximately the same alignment as the adjacent ridge and furrow (see earthwork survey below) and so it is likely to be roughly contemporary. The ridge and furrow is relatively broad, but irregularly spaced and curving, and so is likely to be of a medieval or early post-medieval date.

3.5 Additional aerial photographs

3.5.1 An aerial photographic survey carried out by New Dimension Photography in Spring 1987, and held on file by Anthony Walker and Partners, was consulted for any additional information on the archaeology of the study corridor. However, these high level oblique colour photographs did not reveal any further significant details.

4 EARTHWORK SURVEYS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 In their archaeological evaluation report, Northern Archaeological Associates recommended that the earthworks forming a preenclosure field system on and to the north and east of Borks Hill (OS field numbers 8343, 7132 and 9028) should be archaeologically surveyed. They further recommended that various minor earthworks noted in eight other fields (OS field numbers 2800, 3584, 3478, 8651, 1200, 3300, 2000 and 6600) within the road construction corridor should also be surveyed.
- 4.1.2 The Borks Hill complex was surveyed by Northern Archaeological Associates in 1992 and the resulting plan and description formed the bulk of their Earthwork Survey Report. The other areas were divided into six survey areas which were surveyed by Anthony Walker and Partners in January and February 1994.

4.2 Methodology

- 4.2.1 The six surveys were all undertaken using 5 second EDM total station optical equipment with data being processed on CivilCad and AutoCad software. Appropriate field boundaries and other distinguishing features such as wall junctions, footpaths, tracks and other topographical features were surveyed to allow the survey area to be readily located. The data was tied into the Ordnance Survey national grid and the engineer's survey stations. Once plotted, the survey data was checked in the field under low light and snow conditions.
- 4.2.2 Plans of the processed data at 1:500 scale appear at the back of this report as figures 2 to 7b. Reduced hachured interpretative plans are also included as figures 8 to 14 and these indicate the proposed road construction corridor as shown on plans provided by the engineers, dated February 1992.

4.3 Survey area 1 (see figures 2 and 8)

- 4.3.1 Survey area 1 equates with OS field number 2800 and is centred on NGR SD82255905. The field lies to the north-west of Long Preston between the railway line and the present A65 (see figure 1A). The initial archaeological evaluation report noted that this field contained the earthwork remains of two hollow-ways (site 1).
- 4.3.2 The field has a south-facing slope which rises from 139m AOD in the south to 151m AOD in the north, adjacent to the A65. A well-built and roofed stone barn lies near the eastern boundary of the field and

there is a spring to its west, marked by short sections of collapsed dry-stone walls. The construction of a recent gas pipeline has destroyed all archaeological features and earthworks within a c. 8m wide corridor along the south-western field boundary. At the time of the survey the field contained improved short cropped grass but the earthworks were all somewhat rounded, suggesting that the field had been ploughed in the past.

- 4.3.3 A hollow-way with a northwest-southeast alignment runs through the northern part of the field (a-a). The north-western half is the better preserved and is defined by two banks which effectively form a sunken terrace between 3m and 5m wide. The northern bank is c. 1.2m high. The central section of the hollow-way appears to peter out although its extension to the south-east is probably represented by a slight bank and a lynchet which forms a narrow terrace to the north of the barn.
- 4.3.4 Two lynchets c. 0.5m high define a second terrace in the southern part of the field (b-b). This runs eastwards from a point near the south-west corner of the field to bend around the north side of the stone barn. The terrace produced by the banks is c. 12m wide although only the northern 3m or 4m is actually level, the rest having a gradual southern slope. The spring and associated stonework is cut into the south bank of this terrace. A third bank, shallower than the rest but following the same alignment, lies to the south.
- 4.3.5 Any earthworks marking the point at which the terrace enters the south-western corner of the field have been destroyed by the construction of the gas pipeline, while to the east the terrace is overlain by a slight embankment which carries the present Bigholmes Lane north to the A65; the terrace is likely to represent an earlier course of Bigholmes Lane. An Ordnance Survey 6" map of 1852 (sheet 149) shows that at this time the track had a more southerly alignment, parallel to the southern field boundary and passing to the south of the barn. This route was then diverted to its present southern course when the railway was constructed.
- 4.3.6 A series of other earthworks in the south-west corner of the field are rather amorphous and difficult to define. The most prominent is a c. 1m deep rectangular depression (c) which might represent the site of a former spring. An almost level platform 25m by 3m lies to the east (d) but it does not appear to represent any significant archaeological feature.
- 4.3.7 The current proposals would involve the construction of a roundabout in the north-west corner of the field while a new carriageway would extend south-east to pass through the south-eastern boundary between the present A65 and the stone barn (see figure 8). The

stone barn lies outside the construction corridor but most of the northern hollow-way and a section of the main terrace would be destroyed.

4.4 Survey area 2 (see figures 3 and 9)

- 4.4.1 This area, which comprises two adjoining fields, equates with OS field numbers 3584 (to the north) and 3474 (to the south) and is centred on NGR SD82335883. Both fields lie to the north-west of Long Preston to the south of the railway line and south-east of survey area 1 (see figure 1A). The initial archaeological evaluation report noted that the northern field contained a lynchet, a possible relict trackway and some degraded ridge and furrow (site 2) while the southern field contained a lynchet and another probable relict trackway (site 3).
- 4.4.2 As with survey area 1, the two fields making up this survey area have a general south-facing slope which rises from 124m AOD in the south to 142m AOD in the north, adjacent to the top of the railway cutting. The construction of a recent gas pipeline has destroyed all archaeological features and earthworks within a c. 4m wide corridor along the north-eastern boundary of the northern field. At the time of the survey the northern field contained short cropped grass but the earthworks were all somewhat rounded and denuded, suggesting that they had been ploughed. In the southern field, the grass was unimproved and more tussocky, making the identification of minor earthworks more difficult.
- 4.4.3 The northern field is dominated by an earthwork ramp in the northwest corner which rises to a height of 4m (a). This was created during the construction of the railway and allows access from the field to Bigholmes I are and the bridge over the railway. Along most of the southern boundary, two slight banks or lynchets form a 3m wide level terrace (b-b) although this is terminated towards the east end; this feature might represent a former access track or the movement of the field boundary.
- 4.4.4 Between this and the boundary to the north are a series of ridge and furrow earthworks which are no more 0.2m in height. These linear features have a northeast-southwest alignment which respects, or is respected by, the adjacent field boundaries. As might be expected, the ridges lie at right angles to the overall contours. Their north ends are clearly overlain by the spoil resulting from the construction of the gas pipeline. Although the ridges are difficult to identify, there appears to be a genuine gap in the centre of the block. Other linear depressions to the north-west appear to represent drains.

- 4.4.5 The field to the south has a levelled terrace 10m wide running along the south side of the northern field boundary (c-c). This is respected by a short section of field wall to the south-east and it is likely to represent a former course of Litter Lane which now has a more southern alignment. To the south of this terrace, there is a steep well-defined lynchet which results in a fall of some 2 or 3m. The north-west end of the field contains a variety of disturbed earthworks, possibly caused by slumping and perhaps associated with a spring. Apart from a slight linear feature and a curving bank, no obvious archaeological earthworks are visible.
- 4.4.6 The current proposals would involve the extension of Bigholmes Lane to the north-east along the northern boundary of the northern field. It would then swing south-east, passing through the south-east part of the southern field (see figure 9).
- 4.5 Survey area 3 (see figures 4 and 10)
 - 4.5.1 Survey area 3 equates with OS field number 8651and is centred on NGR SD83855752. The field lies to the south-east of Long Preston between the railway line and the present A682 (see figure 1A). The initial archaeological evaluation report noted that this field contained a small section of ridge and furrow earthworks (site 7).
 - 4.5.2 The field is generally flat, having an approximate height of 148m AOD. A wooden chicken shed within a wooden fence lies adjacent to the south-west field boundary and a broken concrete base to its north-east probably marks the site of an earlier similar structure. At the time of the survey the field contained improved short cropped grass.
 - 4.5.3 The field contains a number of northeast-southwest linear banks which are respected by the adjacent field boundaries. They are best preserved in the south-west half of the field where they are up to 0.5m high, their height decreasing north-eastwards. A bank which runs down the centre of the field (a-a) is the most substantial although it is never more than 0.2m high. This probably represents a former field boundary while the other slight earthworks are likely to be small lynchets or strip divisions. A small number of ridge and furrow earthworks lie in the northern part of the field of the field while the small rectangular depressions immediately adjacent to some of the linear banks may mark the former positions of feeding troughs or animal shelters.
 - 4.5.4 The current proposals would involve the disturbance of a c. 40m wide corridor along the south-west boundary of the field (see figure 10).

4.6 Survey area 4 (see figures 5 and 11)

- 4.6.1 This area, which comprises two adjacent fields, equates with OS field numbers 1200 (to the west) and 3300 (to the cast) and is centred on NGR SD84255715. The fields lie to the south-east of Long Preston between the present A682 and the A65, to the east of Bend Gate (see figure 1A). The initial archaeological evaluation report noted that the western field contained two relict field boundaries (site 8) while the eastern field contained several areas of ridge and furrow and a relict field boundary (site 9).
- 4.6.2 The two fields are divided by a now culverted stream which forms the parish boundary between Long Preston and Hellifield. The western field is generally flat, lying at a height of 140m AOD, while the north part of the eastern field has a slight rise to c. 145m AOD away from the stream course. The southern boundary of the eastern field also marks the top of a slight rise. The Ordnance Survey 6" map of 1852 (sheet 149) shows that the boundaries associated with the narrow southern extension of the eastern field continued in a northerly direction to form two separate narrow rectangular fields; these boundaries have since been removed. At the time of the survey the fields contained improved short cropped grass but the earthworks are slight and difficult to identify.
- 4.6.3 The western field contains a prominent linear ditch, c. 5m wide and 0.3m deep, which has a northeast-southwest alignment and runs 10m to the north of the present field boundary (a-a). This has a definite curve at its north-eastern end. The top of this bank is likely to represent the course of a former field boundary while a series of small ditches running at right angles might be other sections of field boundaries and/or drains.
- 4.6.4 A large irregularly shaped raised area lies in the centre of this field, between 0.5m and 1m high (b). A pronounced bank c. 2m high also runs around the farm buildings in the north-west part of the field (c). Elsewhere, there are low, vague and unsurveyable earthworks, never more than 0.3m high, in the areas adjacent to the now culverted stream; these might represent former stream courses or be caused by dumped material resulting from earlier dredging operations.
- 4.6.5 In the eastern field, the former field boundaries mostly survive as earthworks (d-d and e-e), still containing sections of stone wall, although the central one is rather spread towards the south. To the west of this dividing line is a block of ridge and furrow earthworks, c. 0.2m high and 5m wide, while to the east is another block of similar height but slightly wider. In both areas, the ridge and furrow respects the alignment of the former field boundaries.

- 4.6.6 The northern part of this field also contains ridge and furrow earthworks, again c. 0.3m high and 5m wide, with a northeast-southwest alignment. Their south-west ends coincide with a slight rise in elevation, beyond which is further disturbed ground. The slope in the southern part of this area is marked by a series of prominent lynchets which create a number of level terraces c. 5m wide. The banks are between 0.3m and 0.5m high but one peters out mid-way along the system and another is split into two sections. Traces of very denuded ridge and furrow can be seen along the top of the slope while linear depressions below the slope might represent further ridges.
- 4.6.7 The current proposals would involve the construction of a 60m wide carriageway through the central part of the western field which would continue southwards along the line of the culverted stream (see figure 11).

4.7 Survey area 5 (see figures 6 and 12)

- 4.7.1 This area equates with OS field number 2000 and is centred on NGR SD86155605. The field lies to the east of Hellifield Green and to the north of Tenley Plantation (see figure 1B). The initial archaeological evaluation report noted that this field contained a number of possible man-made hollows (site 10).
- 4.7.2 The Ordnance Survey 6" map of 1852 (sheet 149) and the current 25" maps depict a tree-lined field boundary running in a northeast-southwest direction 150m from the northern side of Tenley Plantation. This field boundary has since been removed but the survey was concentrated in what was the southern field. The field has a pronounced west-facing slope which rises from 160m AOD in the west to 173m AOD in the east. A spring lies to the north of the survey area, surrounded by sections of walling. The southern boundary, which forms the north side of Tenley Wood, is marked by a c. 1.5m high bank with a c. 0.5m deep internal ditch. At the time of the survey, the field contained improved short cropped grass but the earthworks were all considerably rounded and denuded, suggesting that they had been ploughed several times in the past.
- 4.7.3 The earthworks within the field were rather nebulous, rounded and difficult to survey and interpret. However, a number of linear ridge and furrow earthworks are apparent in the western part of the field. These have an east-west alignment, following the general slope of the field and a rather spread bank (a-a) might represent a former field boundary. Further east, on slightly more level ground, ridge and furrow earthworks run in a north-south direction. Throughout the field, the ridges are nowhere more than 0.2m high. There are other

- rounded features in the field, mostly forming vague terraced areas, but it was considered that these were of little archaeological interest.
- 4.7.4 The current proposals would involve the construction of a carriageway along the southern boundary of the field. The corridor is c. 60m wide at the east boundary reducing to c. 20m wide at the west boundary (see figure 12).

4.8 Survey area 6 (see figures 7A, 7B, 8, 13 and 14)

- 4.8.1 This area equates with OS field number 6600 and is centred on NGR SD86605600. The field lies between the present A65 and Tenley Plantation (see figure 1B). The initial archaeological evaluation report noted that this field contained a relict field boundary in the northwest corner adjacent to Tenley Plantation (site 11). As noted above, the aerial photographic survey identified a small rectangular earthwork near the northern field boundary which was subsequently surveyed by Northern Archaeological Associates.
- 4.8.2 This large field is now divided into two by a post and wire fence which runs south from Tenley House, which Ordnance Survey maps show was built after 1909. To the east of the fence, the earthworks are very degraded although the remains of faint ridge and furrow could be seen running in a north-south direction down the south-facing slope (see figure 7B). Beyond the access track from the A65 to Tenley Farm, the ground is almost flat and the earthworks of more ridge and furrow on a similar alignment could just be identified. No evidence for the line of the Roman road indicated in the initial archaeological evaluation report could be seen although a slight, probably unconnected, 10m wide shelf running along the north side of the field, parallel to the A65 was noted. Given the very eroded state of the earthworks, it was decided to confine the interpretative survey to the area to the west of the fence, where the features were much better preserved (see figure 13).
- 4.8.3 In the survey area, to the west of the fence, the land rises from a height of c. 161m AOD at the cattle grid to c. 167m AOD to the north, and more prominently to the south and west towards Tenley Farm to 172m AOD. At the time of the survey the field contained unimproved short cropped grass and the earthworks survived in an excellent state of preservation.
- 4.8.4 The most prominent feature in the survey area is a large block of ridge and furrow earthworks which, although cut by access tracks, extend across the width of the field. The ridges terminate to the west of the new fence but in some cases continue beyond it, creating a 10m wide former track and/or headland through the system (a-a); the earthworks at the southern end of this (b) might represent a

continuation of this feature. From a point now marked by a cattle grid, the track might have continued north-west along the base of a steep slope (c-c). In the central section, the ridges are c. 0.5m high and between 5m and 10m wide with a characteristic reverse S curve. Further to the south, nearer the new farm buildings, the ridges are less prominent.

- 4.8.5 Another block of ridge and furrow lies in the south-west corner of the site. This has a different alignment to that seen elsewhere and is separated from other blocks by a prominent and flat-topped 8m wide and 0.7m high right-angled bank (d-d). This presumably represents a former field boundary although it is rather substantial. A slight terraced earthwork cuts through this area of ridge and furrow (e-e); this is depicted on the modern Ordnance Survey maps as being a track, now abandoned.
- 4.8.6 In the northern part of the field, beyond the main block of ridge and furrow and the possible trackway, lies the rectangular earthwork identified through aerial survey and subsequently surveyed by Northern Archaeological Associates (f). Figure 14 shows this in detail. It measures 17m by 12m externally and has its long axis aligned east-west. It is formed by regular banks measuring c. 3m wide and 0.5m high and there is a possible indication of an entrance in the centre of the north side. A slight north-south central dividing bank can also be seen.
- 4.8.7 This rectangular feature is surrounded by ditches which were presumably used for drainage. In the north-east corner, this ditch clearly runs around and is at a lower level than the adjoining ditch which comes in from the north; although possibly of a different date, it is not possible to suggest a definite stratigraphic sequence from this evidence. On the west side of the earthwork, the east bank is formed by one of the adjacent ridges which lie to the west and east. This feature, which is very well preserved, is likely to represent a small field barn although as noted above, it is not depicted on mid-19th century maps. Given its alignment and association with the medieval or early post-medieval ridge and furrow, it is probably connected to it although it should be noted that no firm conclusions can be made without some form of intrusive archaeological investigation.
- 4.8.8 Beyond a stone trough, a linear depression continues to the southwest along the northern boundary of the field. This is too narrow to represent a continuation of the track but a well is marked on the Ordnance Survey 6" map of 1852 at "g"; this point is presently marked by a scatter of stone and wood pieces. To the south-west, in the corner of the field, is a length of earthwork bank which turns through a right angle (h-h). Although this feature is broken through

in several places, it is likely to represent the line of a former field boundary.

4.8.9 The current proposals would involve the construction of a carriageway, access track and farm underpass, involving the disturbance of a c. 60m wide corridor through the northern part of the survey area (see figure 13). This would result in the destruction of some ridge and furrow earthworks, the rectangular structure and the possible trackway. The main and better preserved area of ridge and furrow would remain undisturbed, apart from a c. 6m wide access track.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The following recommendations have been produced by Anthony Walker and Partners based on currently available evidence. It should be noted that the following have not been discussed with other organisations charged with the curation of the archaeological resource, such as English Heritage and the County Archaeologist for North Yorkshire. Their comments might result in the following recommendations being amended or even upgraded.

5.2 Palaeoenvironmental sites

- 5.2.1 As noted in Section 2, an assessment of any damage or disturbance resulting from the scheme to those sites identified as being of possible palaeoenvironmental importance could be accommodated by undertaking a two-stage investigative study. These sites are the possible post-glacial lake in the Borks Hill/Sour Dale Lane area, a possible bog near Bend Gate Farm, and a peat deposit near Back Lane.
- 5.2.2 Stage 1 of the investigative work would assess the damage to those sites in the light of previous work and the existence of other possibly similar sites in the vicinity. This would be a largely desk-based operation, but would include a visit to each site. If this work suggested that a significant loss of palaeoenvironmental evidence would occur, a second stage involving the collection of peat core samples and their subsequent analysis could be undertaken in advance of road construction. The analysis at this stage would involve obtaining radiocarbon dates from the core samples to determine the age of the base of the deposit and, if appropriate, the age of the top of the deposit. If the combined results of Stages 1 and 2 warrant further work, pollen analysis would be undertaken.

5.3 Earthwork sites

- 5.3.1 The earthwork surveys have shown that the majority of the features lying within the road construction corridor are of minor archaeological significance. As such, it is considered that they are not worthy of physical or in situ preservation and that the recording programme undertaken as part of this report is sufficient to allow their future disturbance.
- 5.3.2 However, in survey area 1 (near Bigholmes Lane, OS field 2800, see figures 2 and 8) and survey area 6 (east of Tenley Plantation, OS field 6600, see figures 7a, 7b, 13 and 14), the proposals would involve the destruction of a hollow-way and a well-preserved rectangular

earthwork. These features are of considerable local interest and it is recommended that a programme of limited intrusive archaeological investigation be undertaken in advance of construction to obtain further information on the extent, condition, nature and date of the underlying archaeological deposits. This programme could be accommodated through the excavation of two trenches and the results could be used to formulate an appropriate mitigation strategy.

5.4 Borehole sites

5.4.1 Possible archaeological deposits were identified at five specific borehole locations (BH 130, the south-west corner of Peel Green; BH 39, Gallaber Syke; BHs 50 and 52b, Flat Lane; BH 60, Mill House). It is recommended that a programme of limited intrusive archaeological investigation be undertaken in advance of construction to obtain further information on the extent, condition, nature and date of any underlying archaeological deposits. This programme could be actioned through the excavation of a number of small trenches or test pits and the results could be used to formulate an appropriate mitigation strategy.

5.5 Other archaeological sites

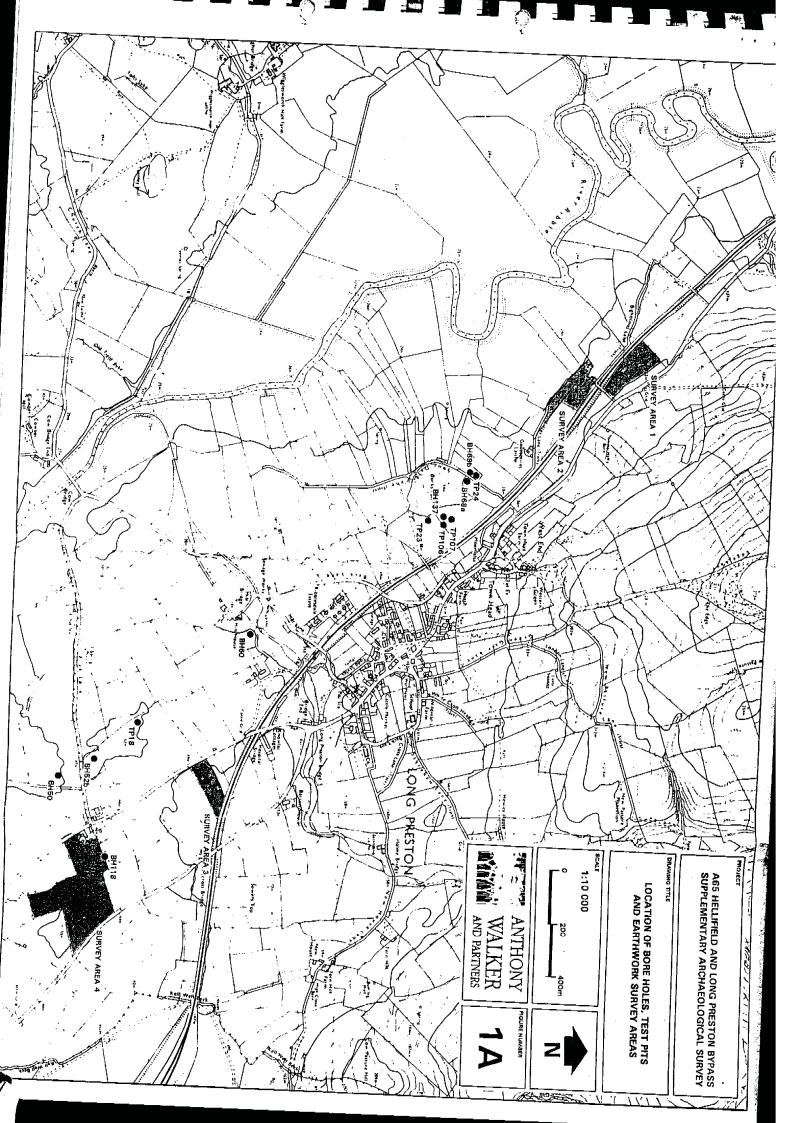
5.5.1 Whilst the various non-destructive archaeological surveys attempt to locate archaeological sites and deposits in advance of construction, the possibility of uncovering as yet unidentified areas of interest during construction should not be ruled out. Accordingly, it is recommended that a programme of observation and recording is carried out during the initial construction phases (watching brief).

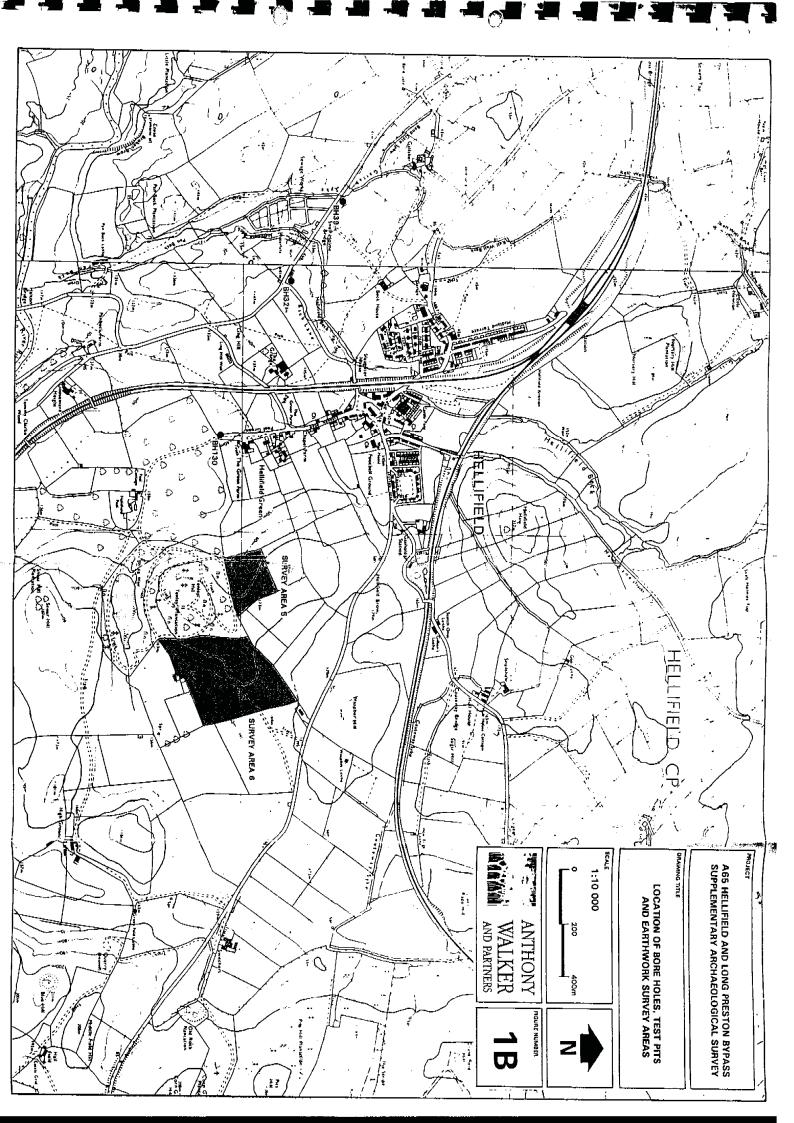
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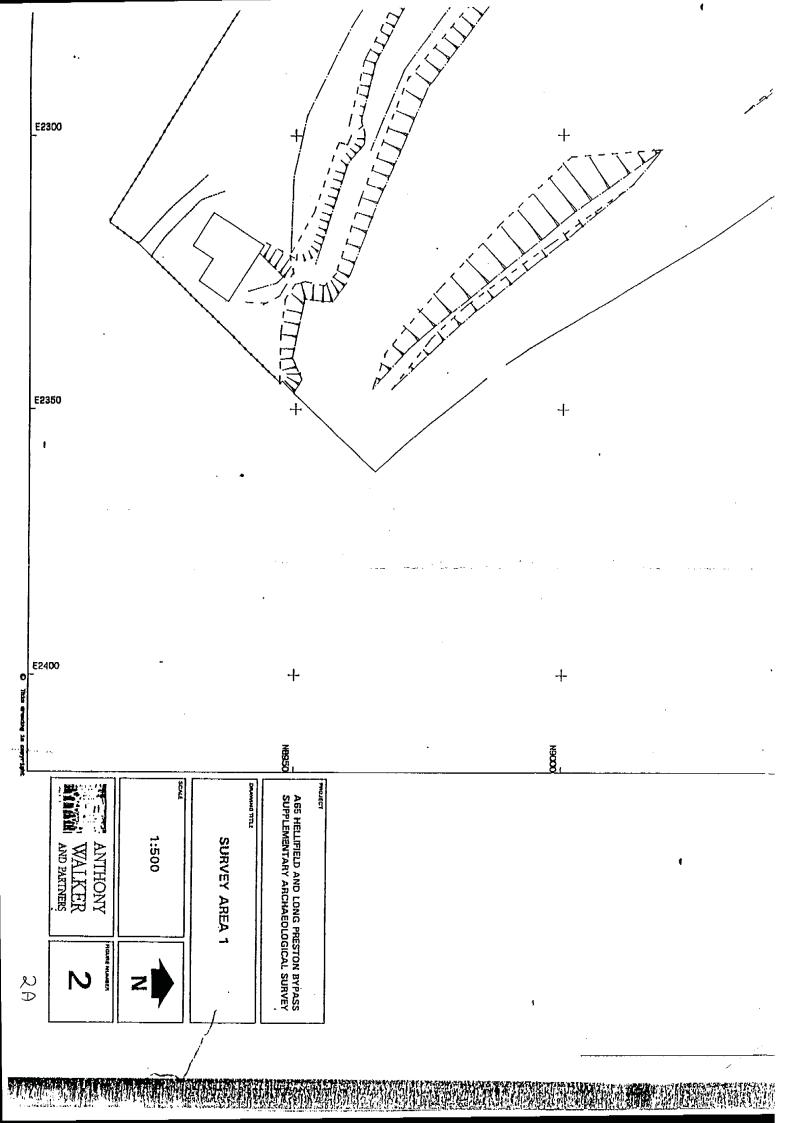
- Fraser, R & Speed, G 1992 <u>A65 Hellifield and Long Preston Bypass: an Archaeological Evaluation for the Department of Transport</u> (Northern Archaeological Associates Report 92/3)
- 2. Fraser, R 1992 A65 Hellifield and Long Preston Bypass: Aerial Photographic Survey for the Department of Transport
 - Fraser R & Simpson, R 1992 <u>Hellifield and Long Preston Bypass</u>: <u>Earthwork Survey</u> <u>for the Department of Transport</u> (Northern Archaeological Associates Report 92/9)
- 3. Terresearch Foundation Engineers 1989 <u>Ground Investigation for A65 Hellifield and Long Preston Bypass</u> (Report S.39/967)

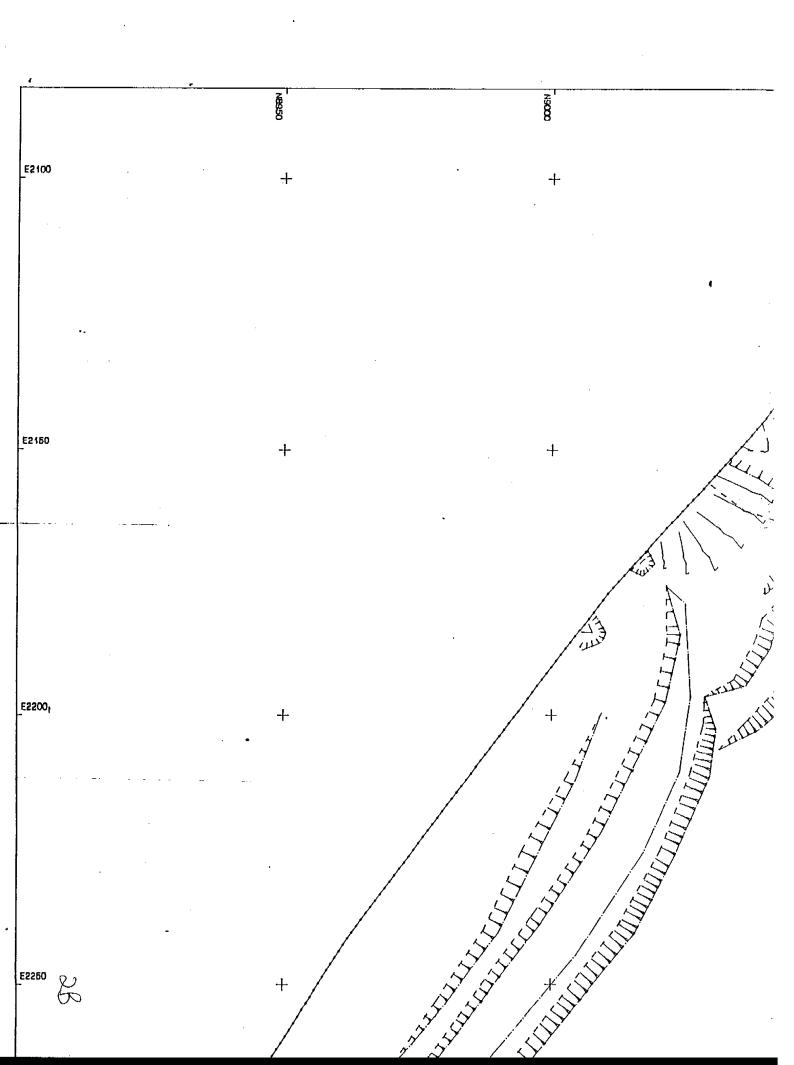
Geotechnical and Testing Services 1991 <u>A65 Trunk Road, Hellifield and Long Preston Bypass, Report on Supplementary Ground Investigations</u> (Report 006/701/1213)

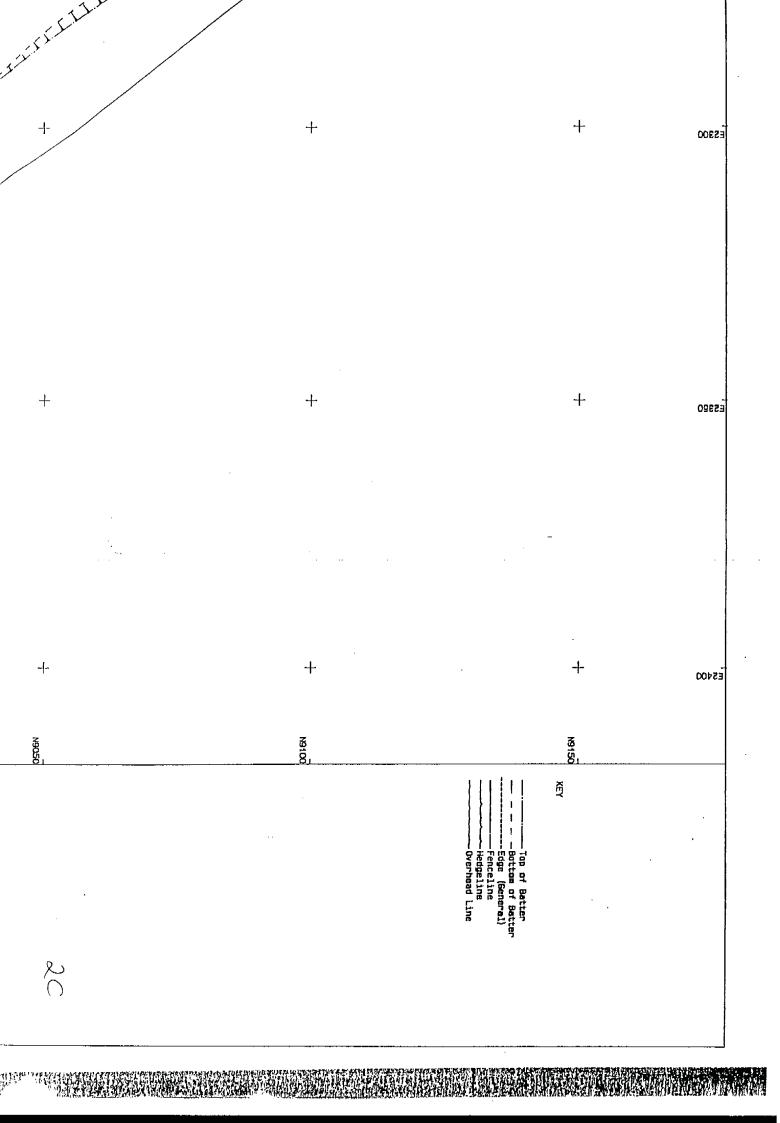
Structural Soils Limited 1993 <u>A65 Hellifield and Long Preston Bypass, Factual Report on Additional Ground Investigations</u> (Report 30756)

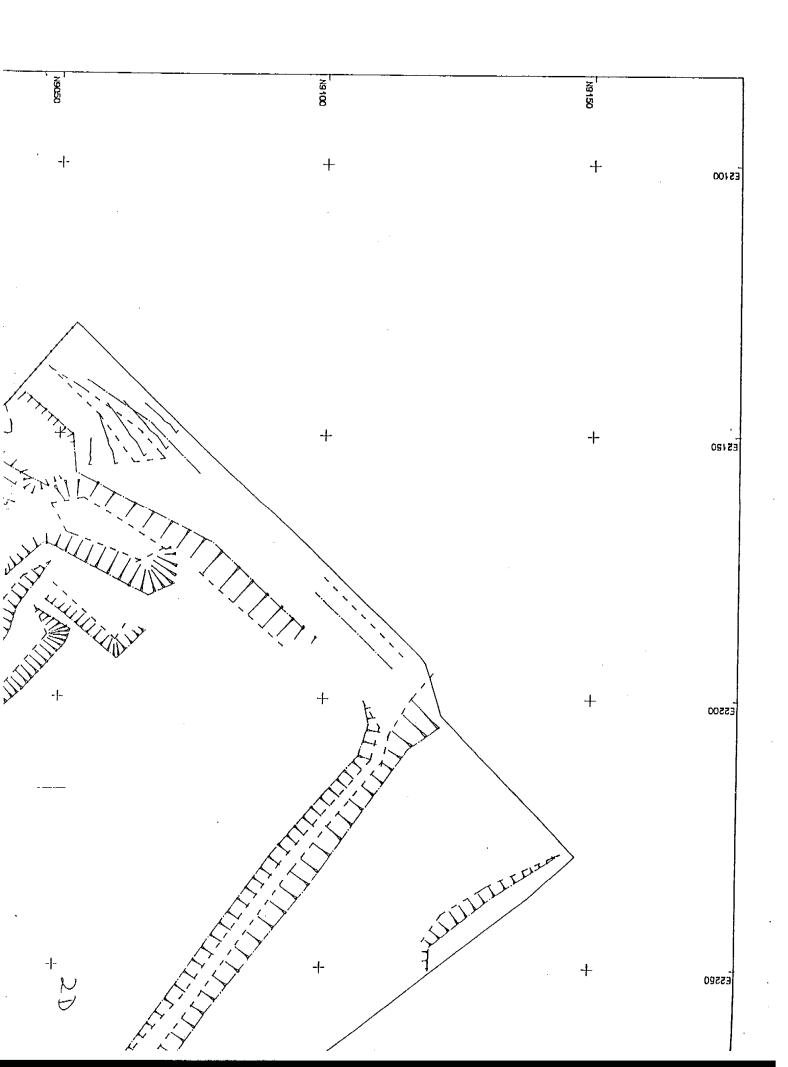


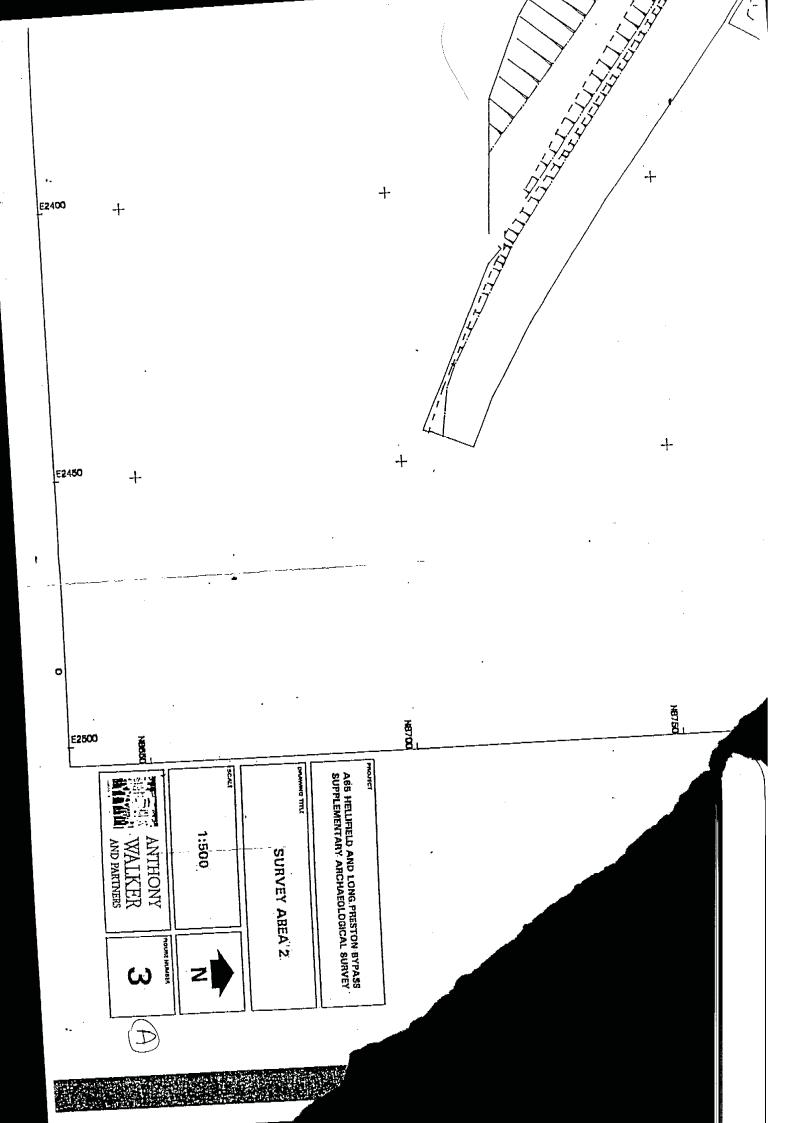


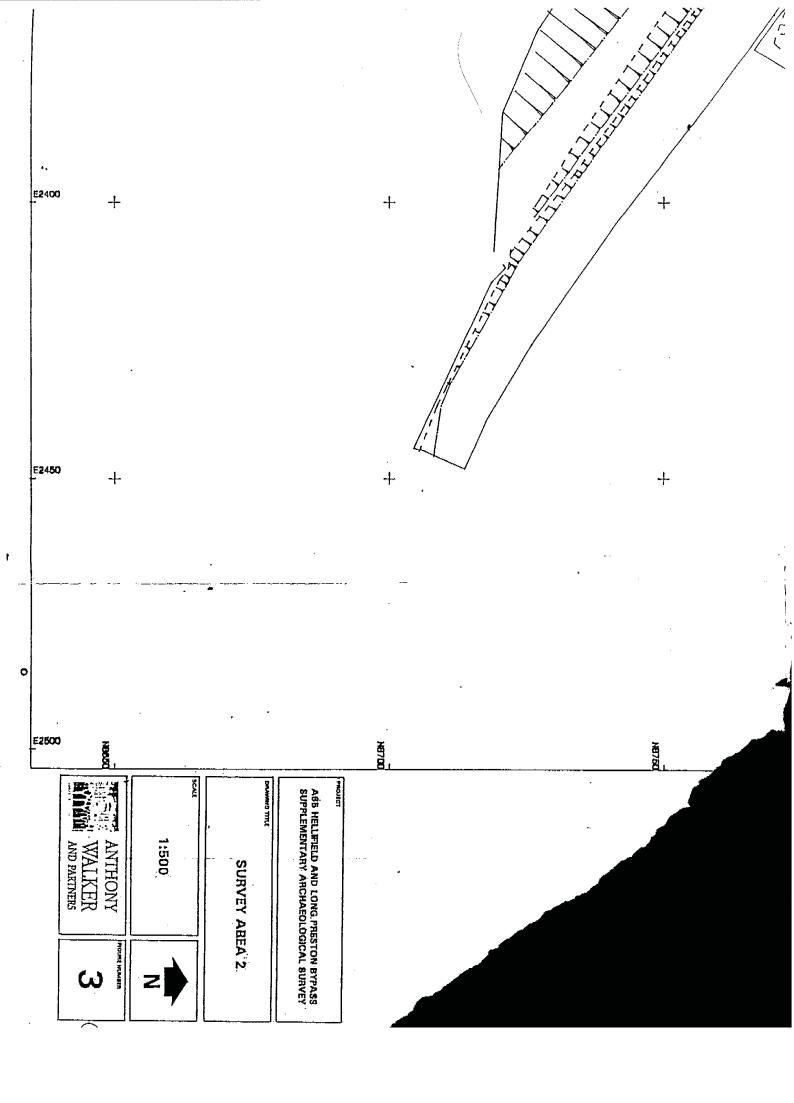


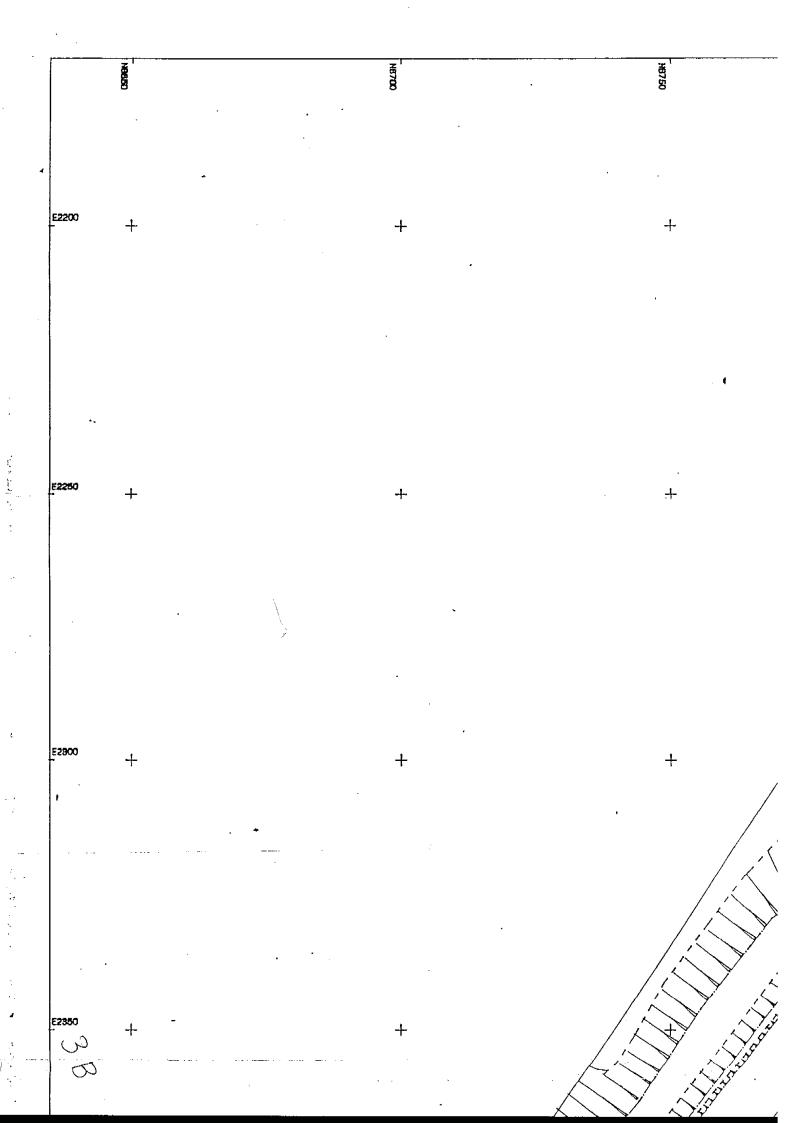


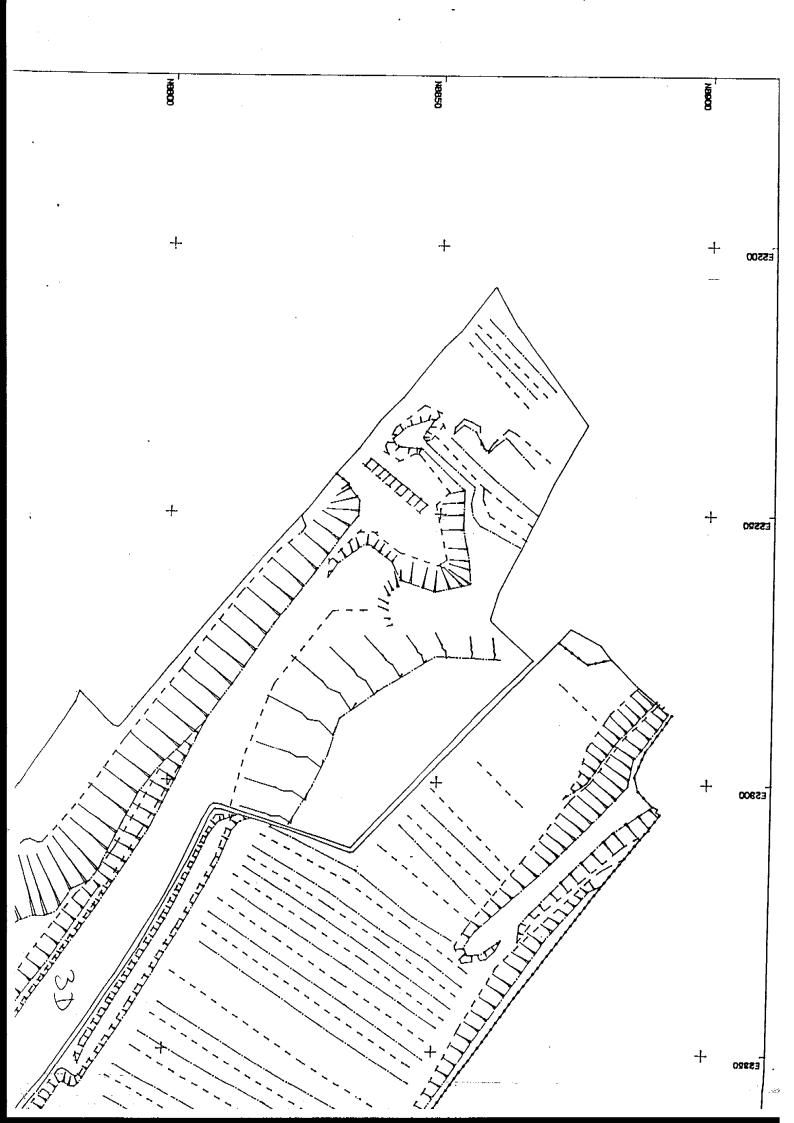


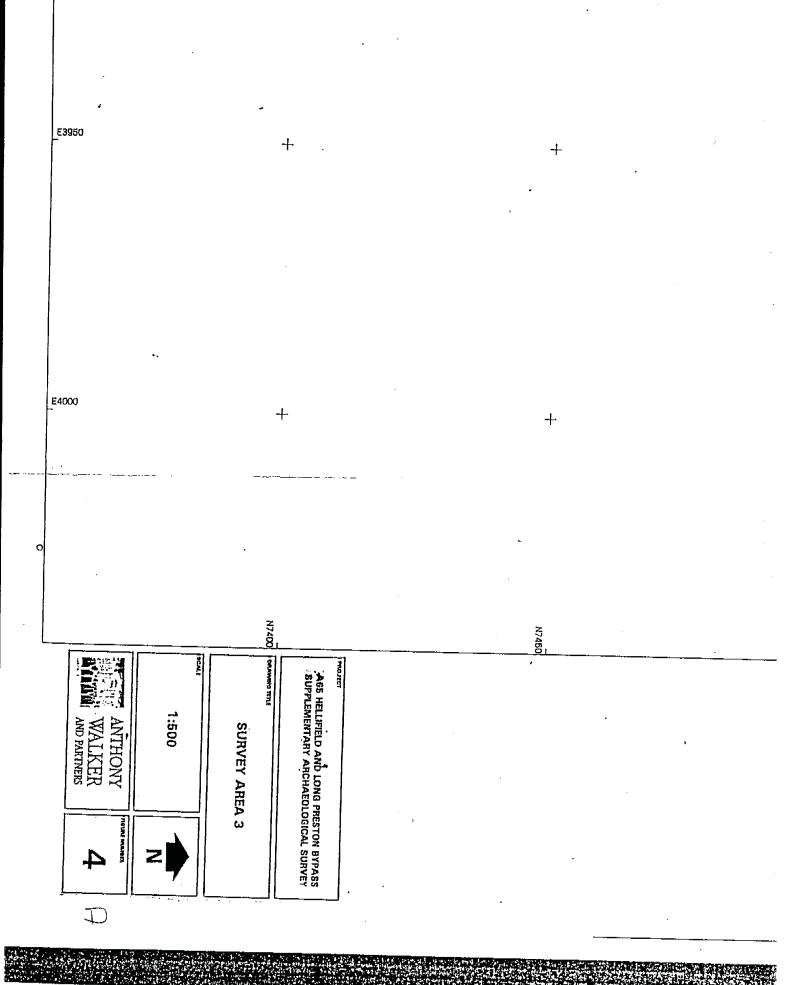


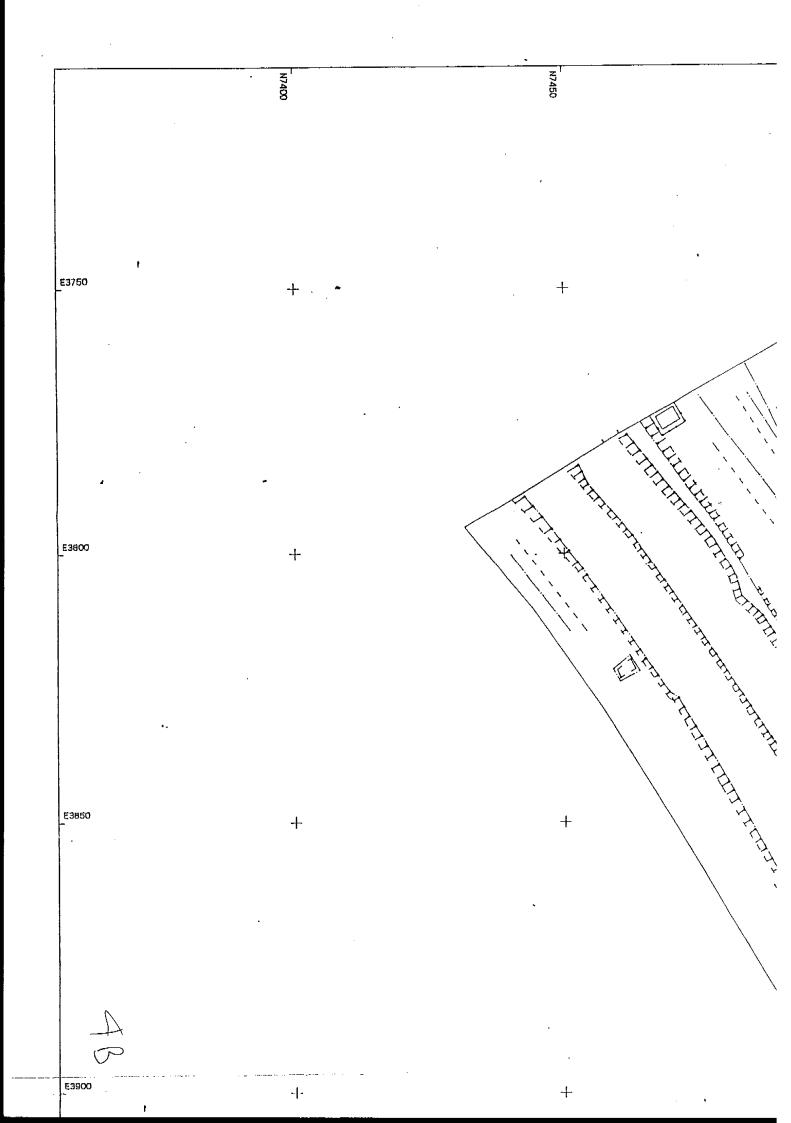


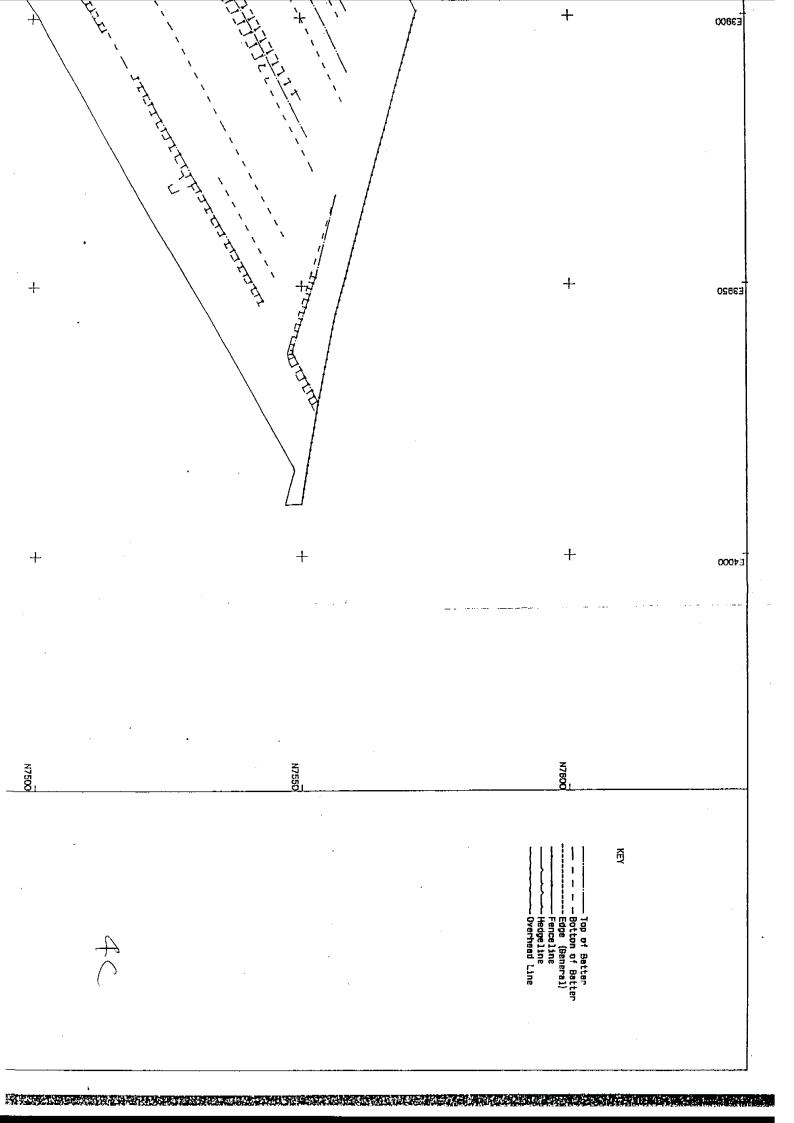




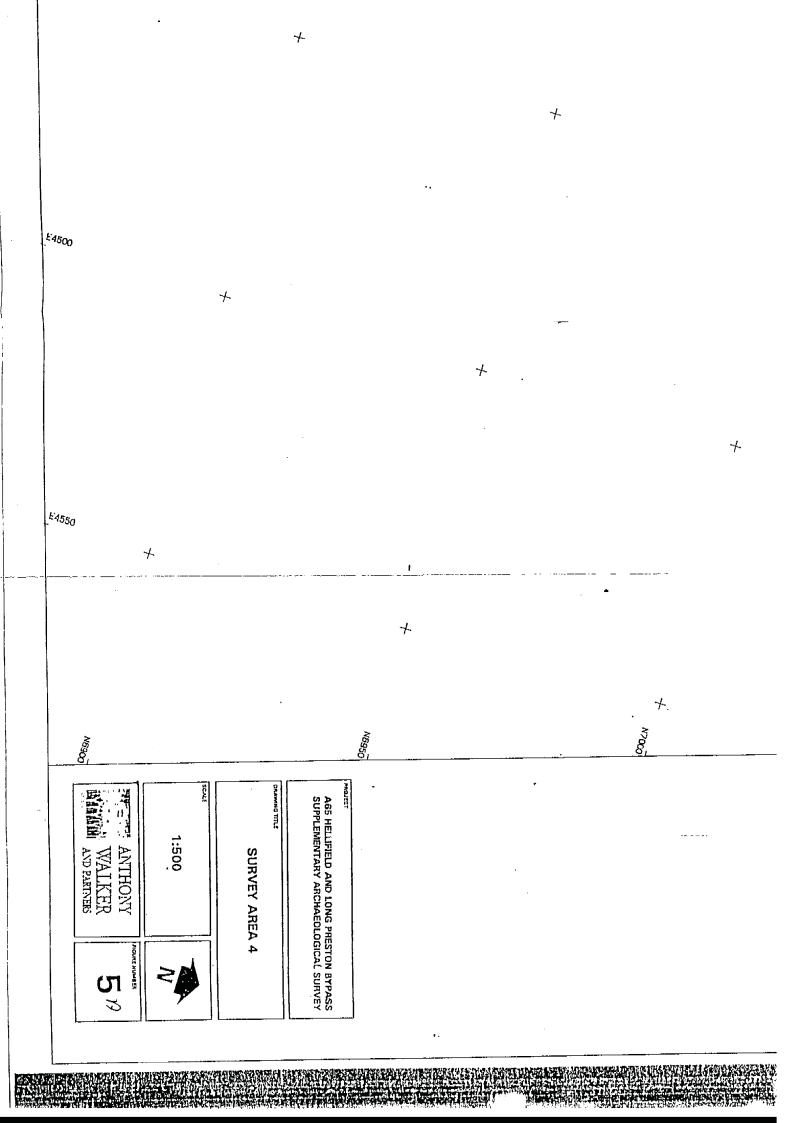








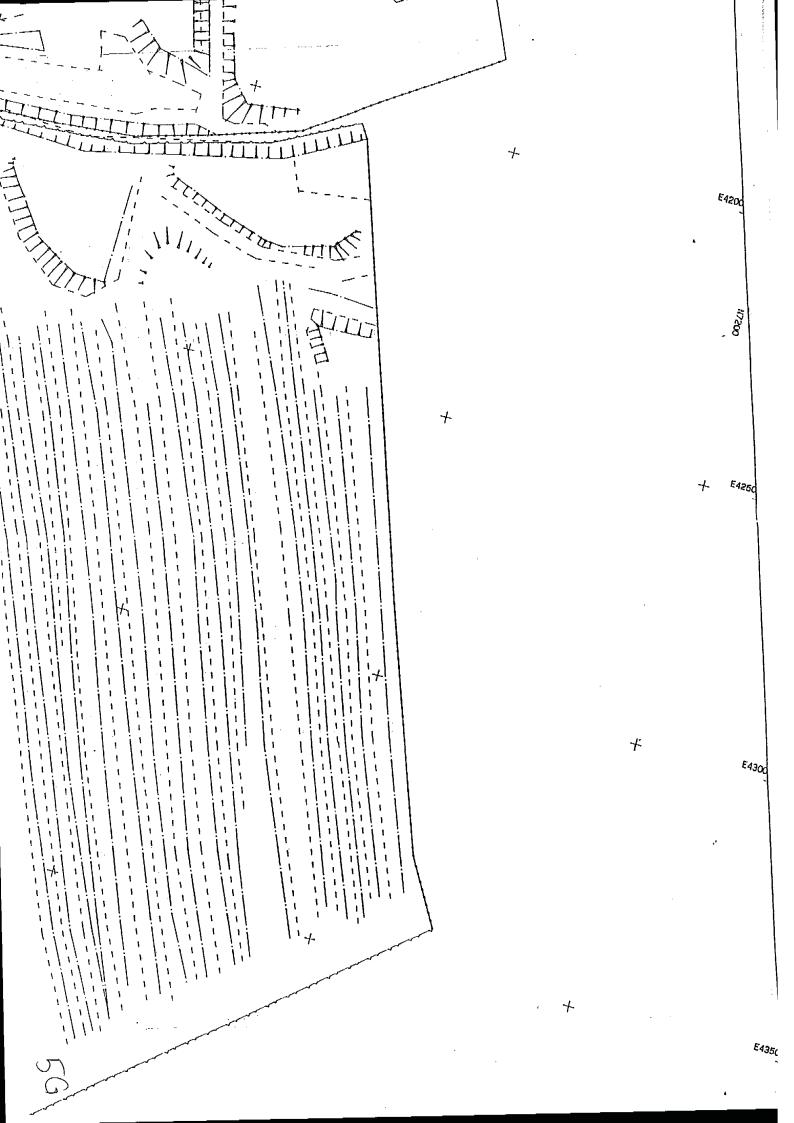
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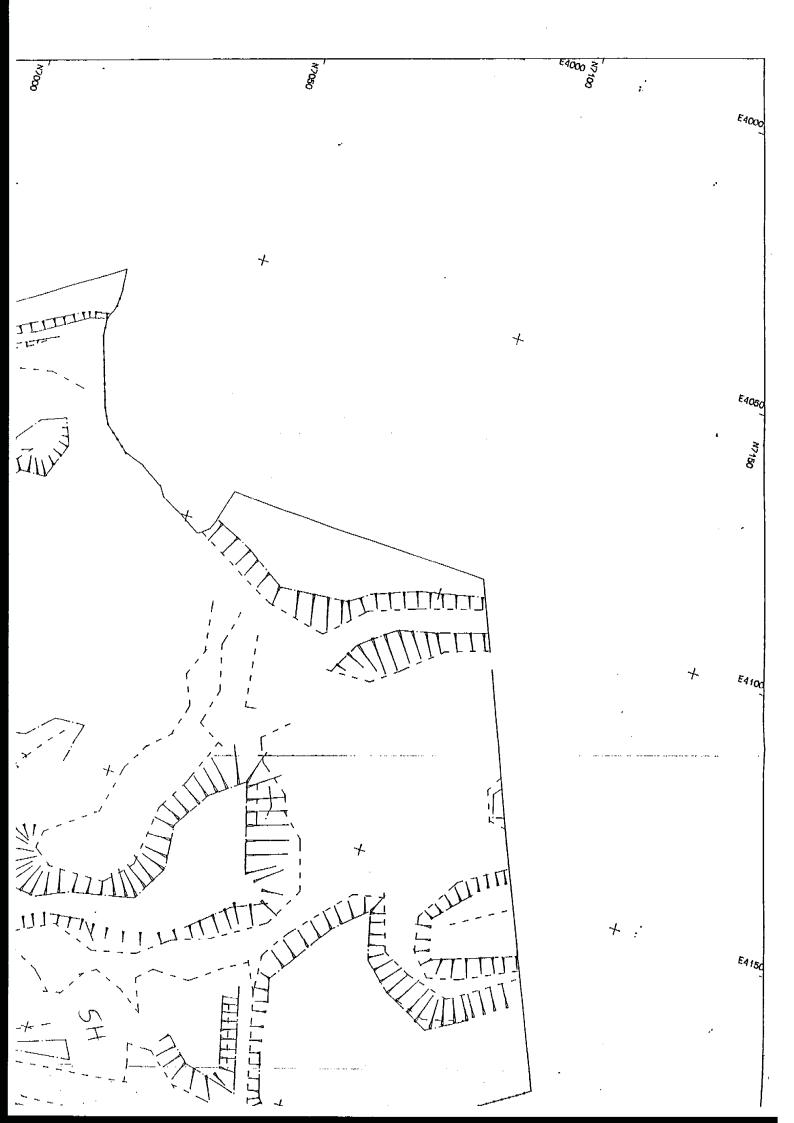


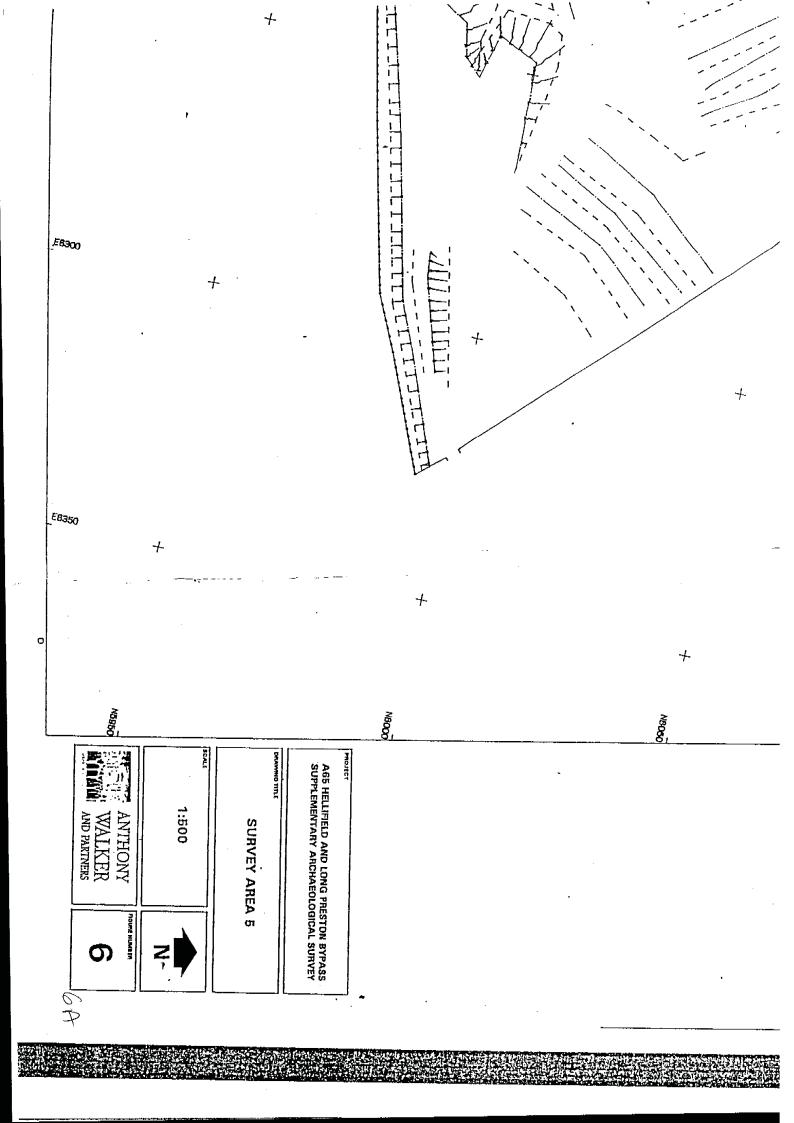
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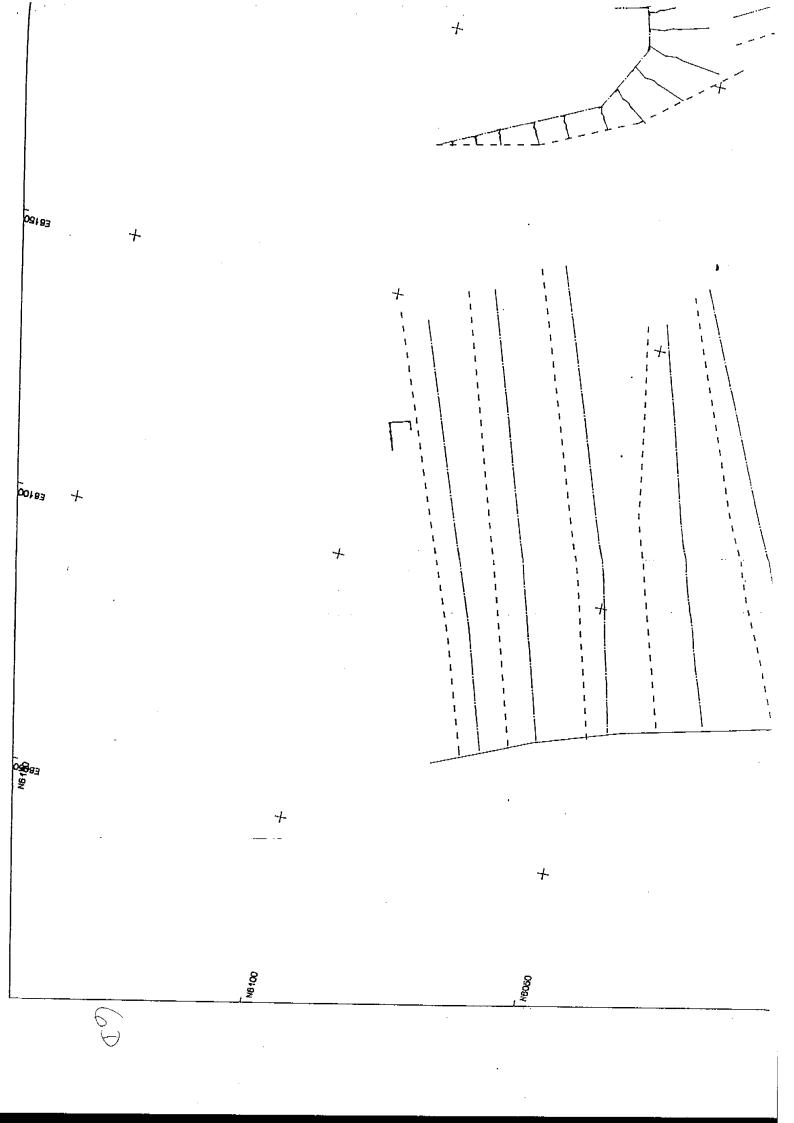


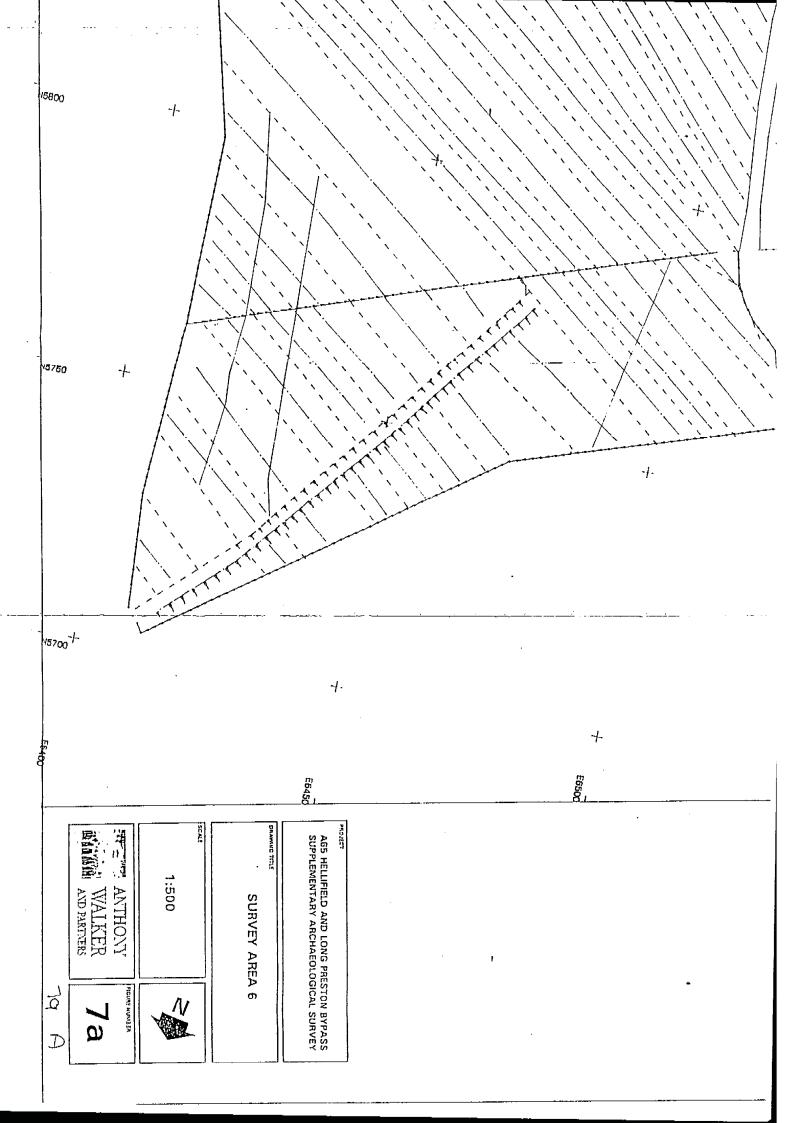


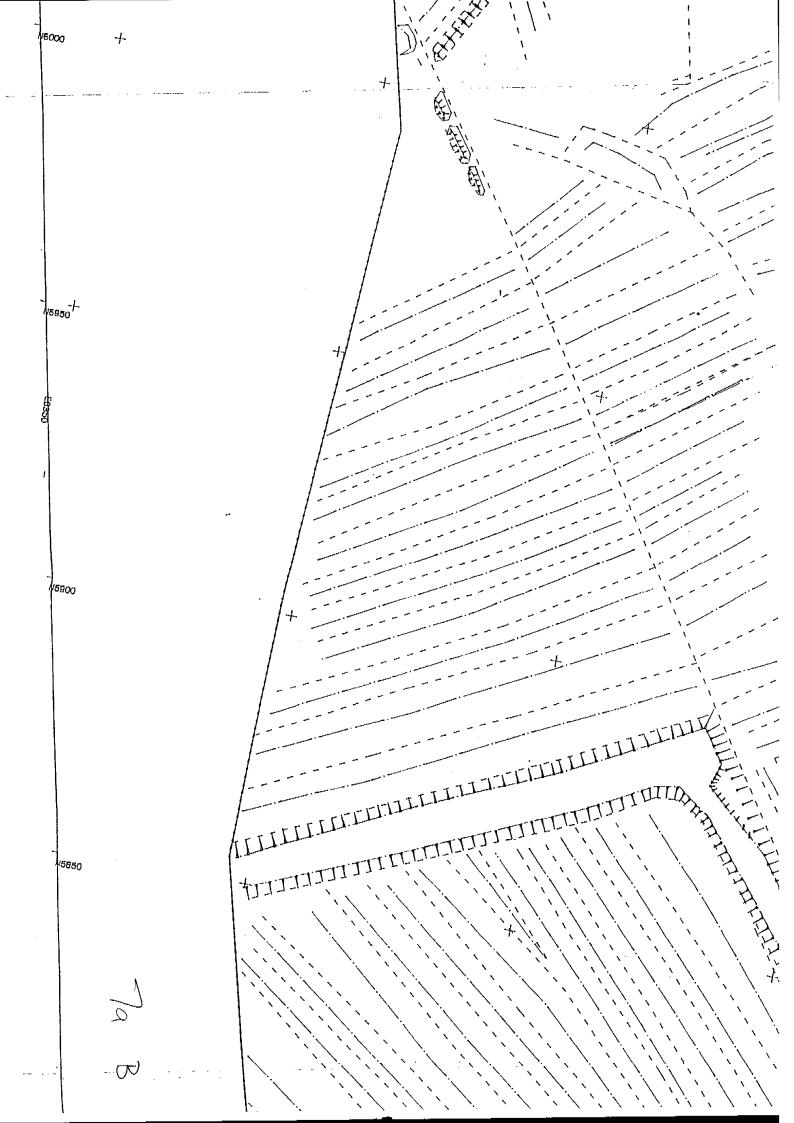


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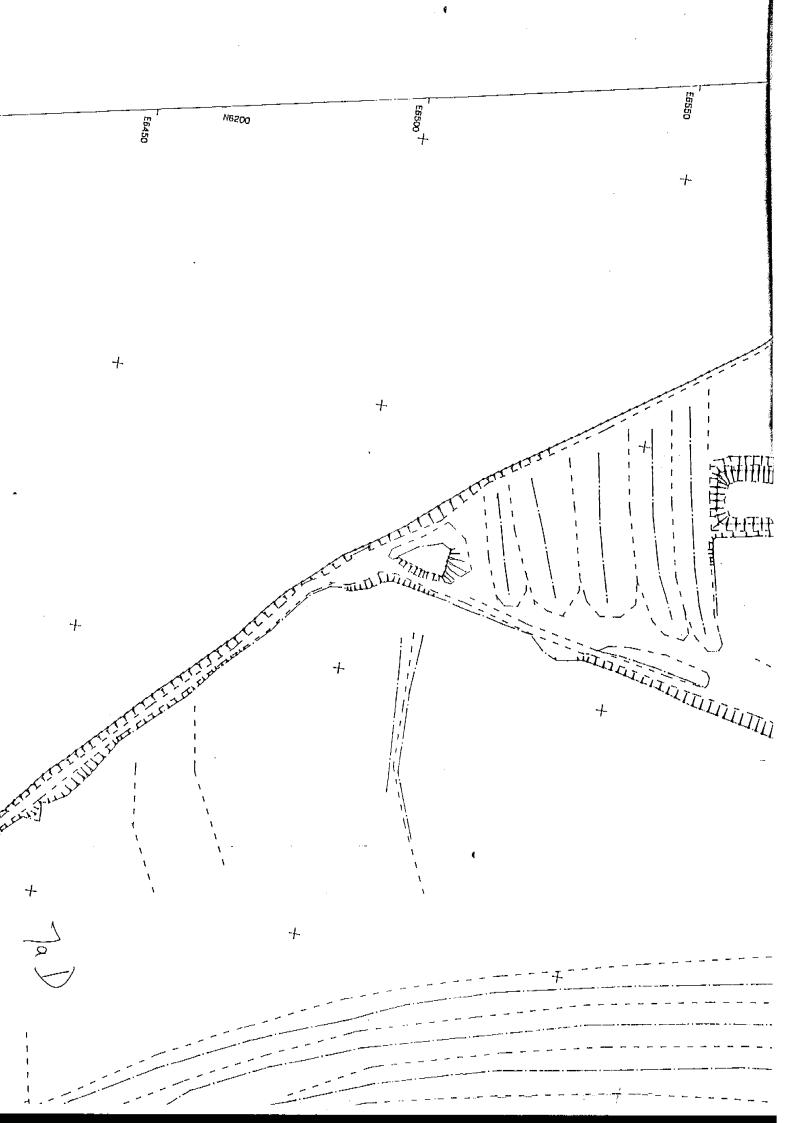
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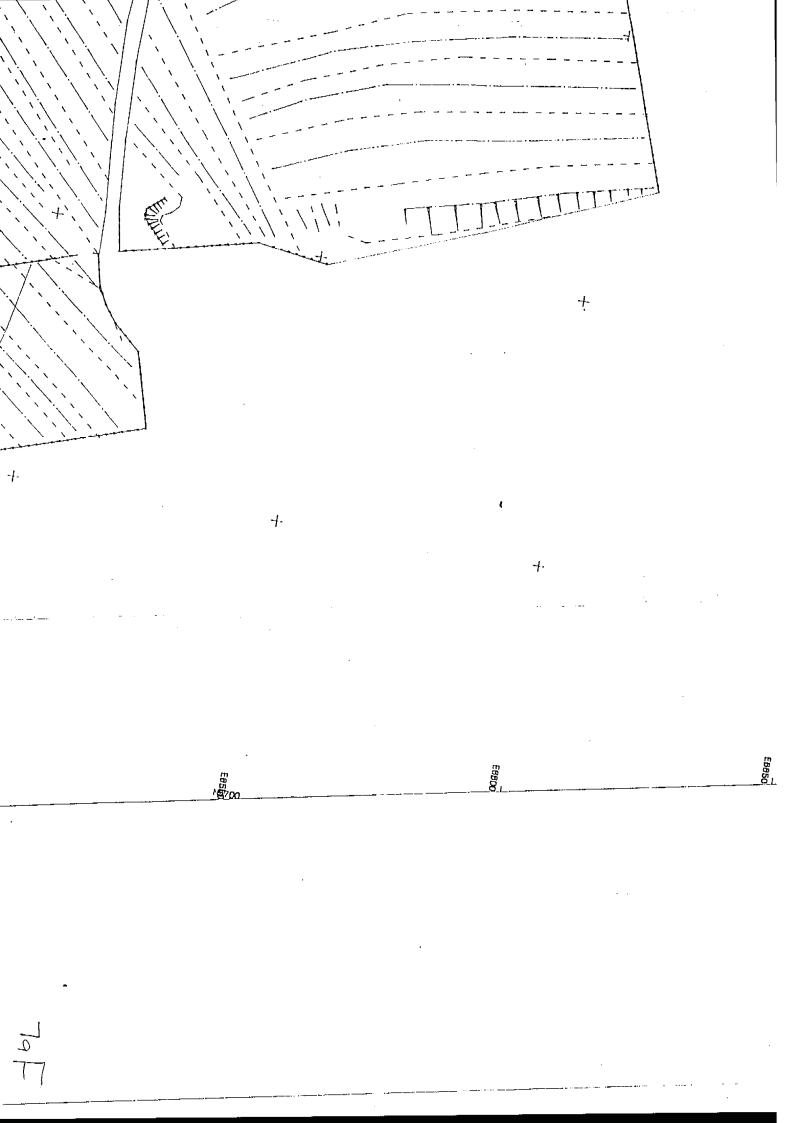


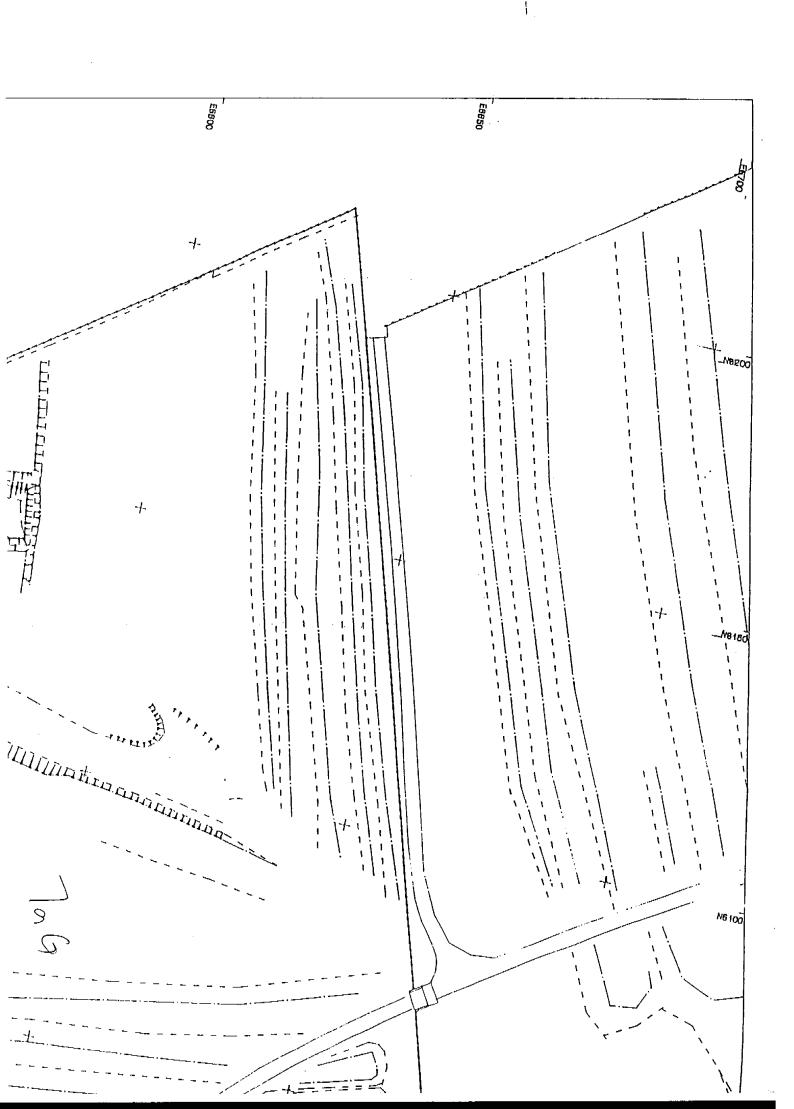


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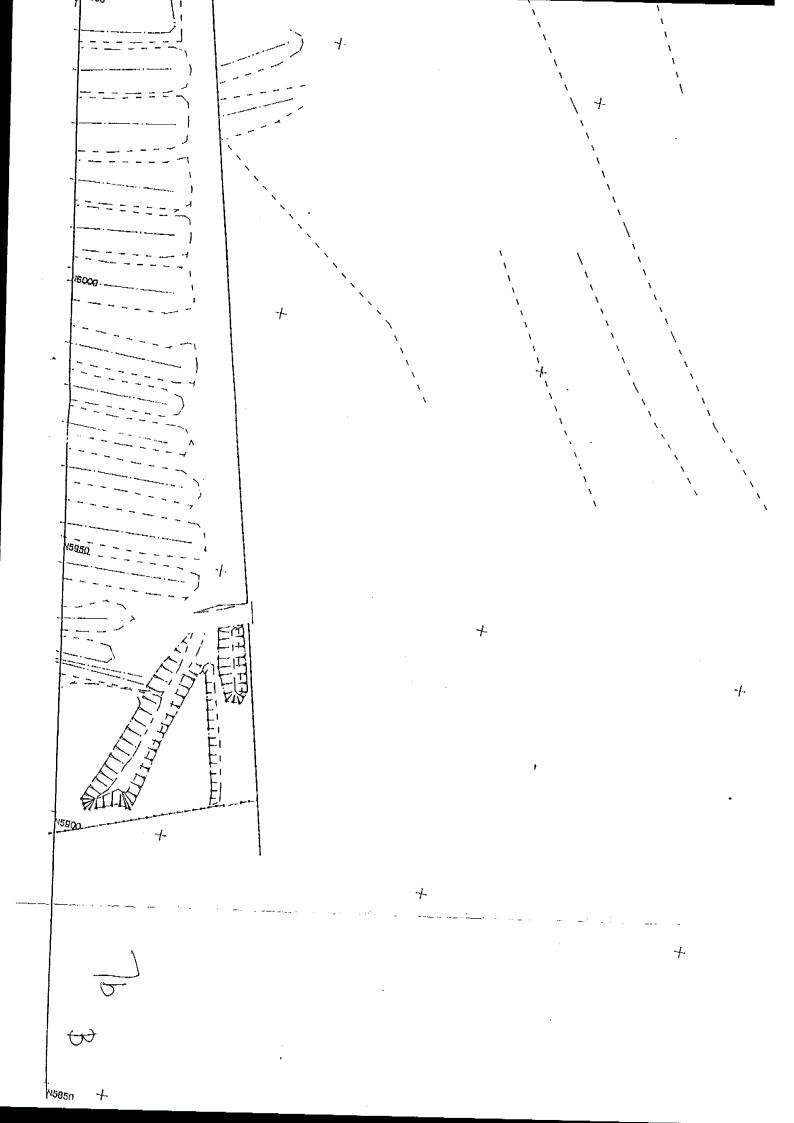
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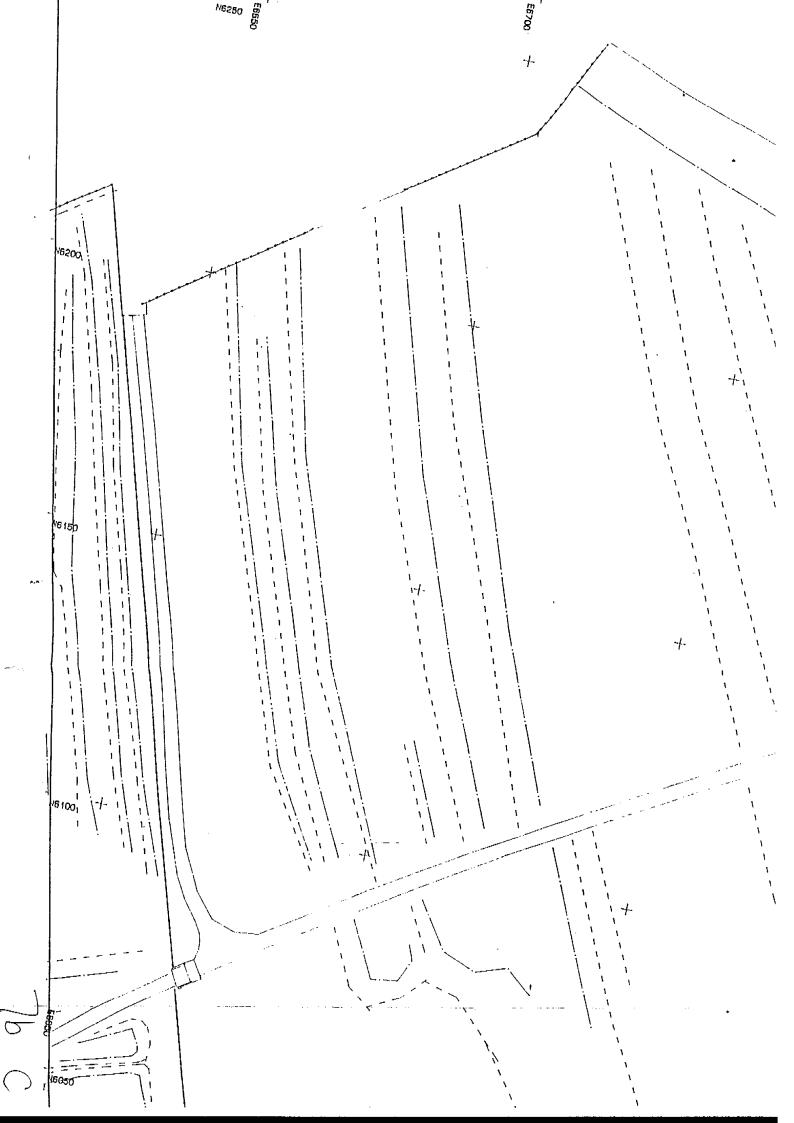
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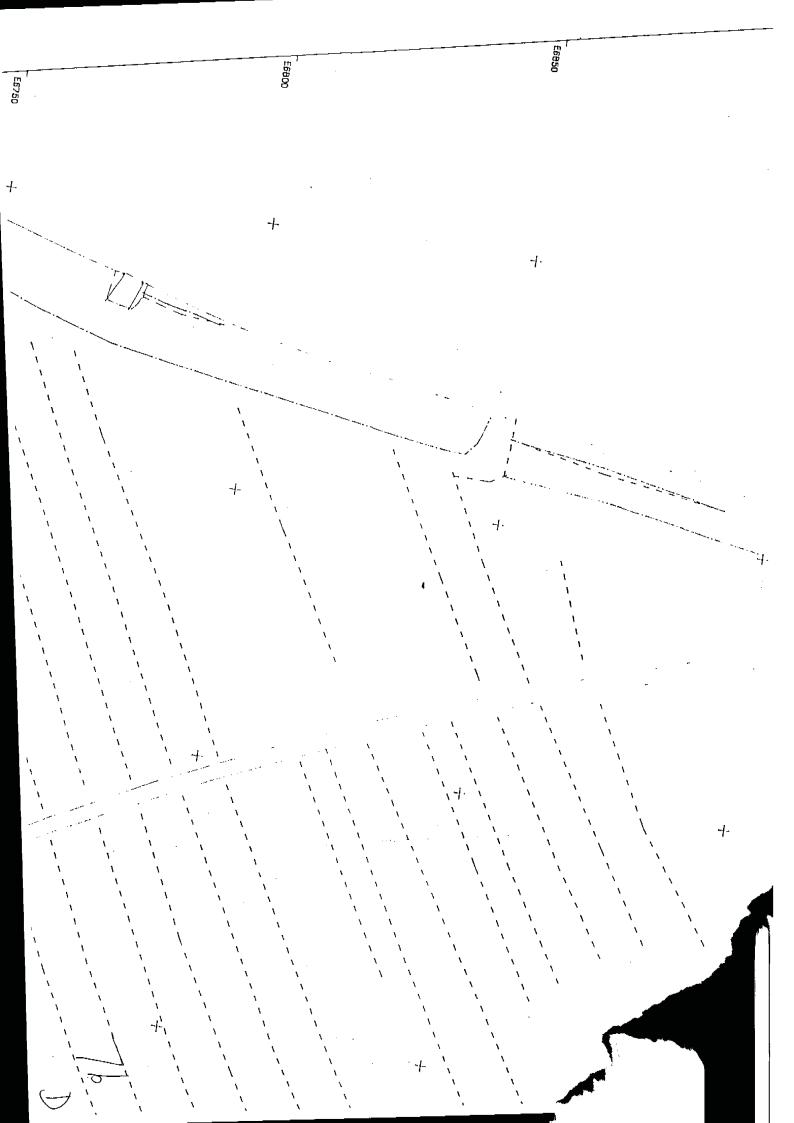
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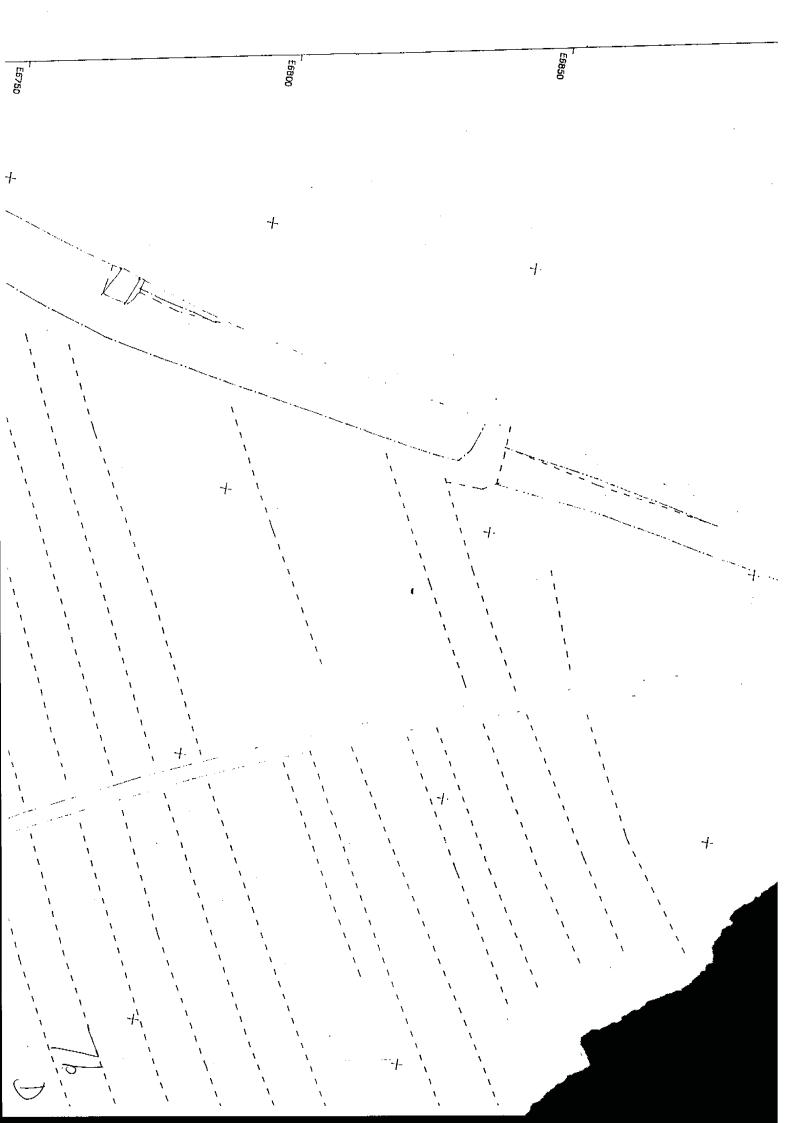
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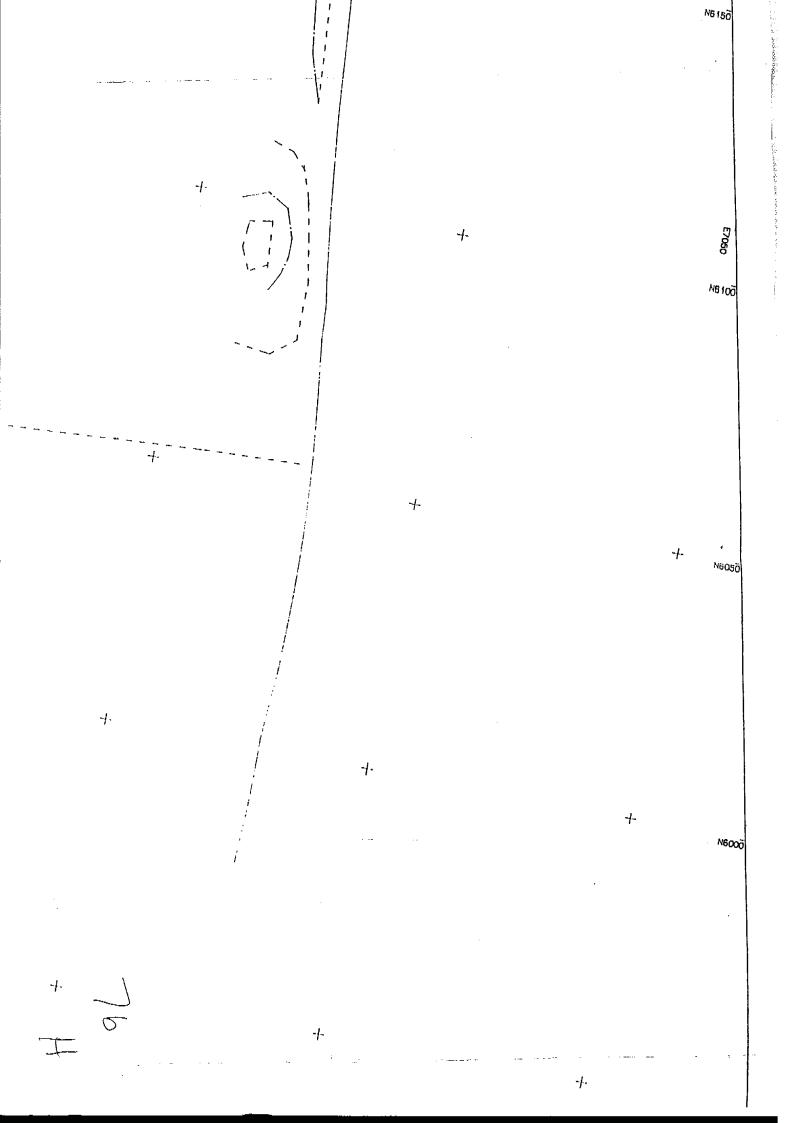
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