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Northern Archaeological Associates

A65 HELLIFIELD AND LONG PRESTON BY-PASS

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

for

THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

NAA 92/03

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NORTHERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATES

A65 HELLIFIELD AND LONG PRESTON BYPASS

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION
FOR
THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT**

RICHARD FRASER AND GREG SPEED

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SUMMARY

The results of the evaluation indicate that a number of archaeological "sites" exist on the route of the proposed bypass. Most are landscape features apparently of medieval or post-medieval date, whilst the features at Borks Hill in OS field nos 8343, 7132 and 9028 are part of a pre-enclosure field system. A number of recommendations are proposed to deal with the actual and potential archaeological remains which are affected by the route. These include additional aerial photography, the survey of standing earthworks, the surveying and trial trenching of the field system on Borks Hill, and the monitoring of topsoil removal during construction.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report consists of the results of both a desk top assessment and a rapid field survey of the proposed route for the A65 Hellifield and Long Preston bypass. The evaluation has been carried out by Northern Archaeological Associates as part of an environmental assessment undertaken by The Department of Transport. The study was carried out over a period of four weeks in January and February 1992.

The report contains detailed information concerning the extent and nature of known archaeological remains within the area affected by the proposed road and associated landscaping, and makes recommendations for archaeological works considered necessary prior to the road construction.

2.0 THE PROPOSED ROUTE

The proposed A65 Hellifield and Long Preston bypass lies between Skipton and Settle, and measures approximately 6.5 km in length. The route lies to the south of the current A65 and lies largely on the northern edge of the flood plain of the River Ribble. It crosses a total of seventy-eight fields (see Figs 1 and 2).

At the west end the proposed route begins to the south-east of Skir Beck Farm. The corridor then crosses Bigholmes Lane and the Leeds-Settle railway line, to run south-east, roughly parallel to the railway line, diverging slightly from it to the south-east to avoid the Ribblesdale housing estate and to pass between Mill House and a group of houses to the north. To the east of Mill House the corridor bends slightly more to the east, following the curve in the railway line, and crosses the A682 road to the north-west of Bend Gate.

At this point a junction is proposed, linking the bypass to the A682 and to Mill Lane (B6478) at the point where it joins Flat Lane, immediately to the north-east of Cow Bridge.

To the south-east of the junction, the proposed route runs parallel to, and north-east of, the A682, diverging slightly to the north-east around Bend Gate Farm. Immediately to the west of the Hellifield-Blackburn railway line, south of The Grange, the junction with the B6253 road lies in a cutting, with a re-modelled junction between the B6253 and the A682 immediately to the south-west. To the east of this, the proposed route passes in a cutting beneath the Hellifield-Blackburn railway line and passes to the south of The Green Farm at Hellifield Green. It then turns slightly northwards to skirt the northern edge of Tenley Plantation. The proposed route then runs roughly east to converge with the existing A65 road 300m to the north west of Switchers Farm, to the east of Hellifield.

3.0 INFORMATION SOURCES

This section summarises the main sources of information researched during the course of the evaluation, and outlines the limitations encountered with respect to some of these sources.

3.1 Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)

The county SMR held by the Archaeology Section of the North Yorkshire County Planning Department was consulted, although the computerised database was found to contain no information on archaeological remains for the parishes of Long Preston and Hellifield. Parish files held at the SMR were also checked, though nothing relevant to the route was found. Several Ordnance Survey (OS) record cards relating to the parishes were found to exist, together with plots of possible archaeological sites known from aerial photographs (APs). At the time of this study most of the oblique aerial photographic coverage was temporarily held by the Royal Commission for Historic Monuments for England (RCHME) in York as part of the Yorkshire Dales Project. Although the RCHME records were consulted, it is not certain that all of the information held there was viewed since it was being worked on at the time. Additional OS record cards and information held by the National Archaeological Record (NAR) were also researched.

Both the West Yorkshire Archaeological Service and the Greater Manchester Archaeology Unit were consulted over previous work in the area, but neither of these organisations held any relevant information.

3.2 Aerial photographic sources

All relevant vertical and oblique aerial photographs held by the North Yorkshire SMR and the RCHME Yorkshire Dales Project (see 3.1) were studied. The vertical photographs were derived from two main sources, Meridian Airmaps Ltd and Hunting Surveys Ltd. Several RAF vertical APs also cover the area, but were generally too poor in quality or at too high an altitude to add any useful information. Very few oblique photographs exist for this area.

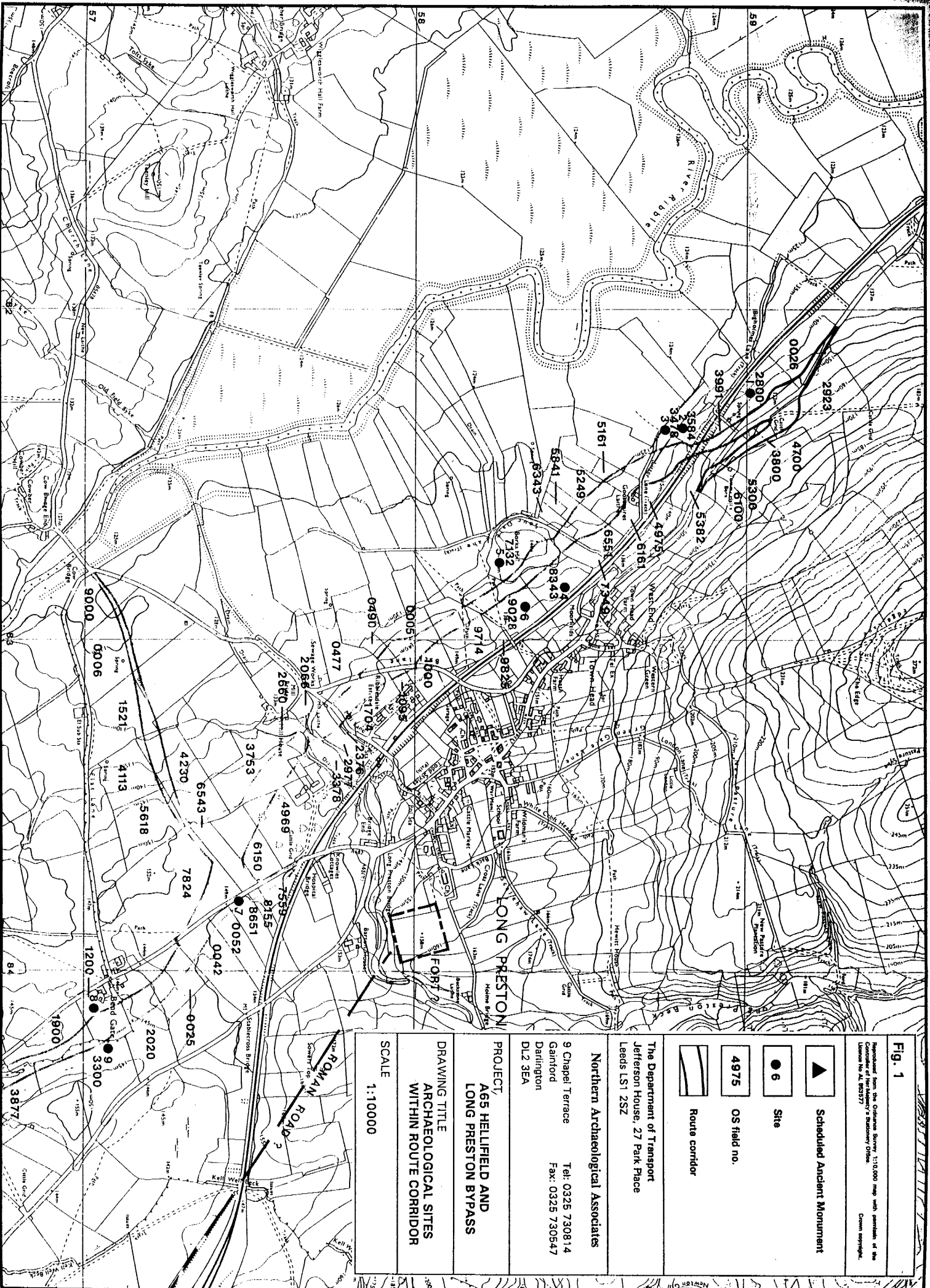
3.3 Published sources

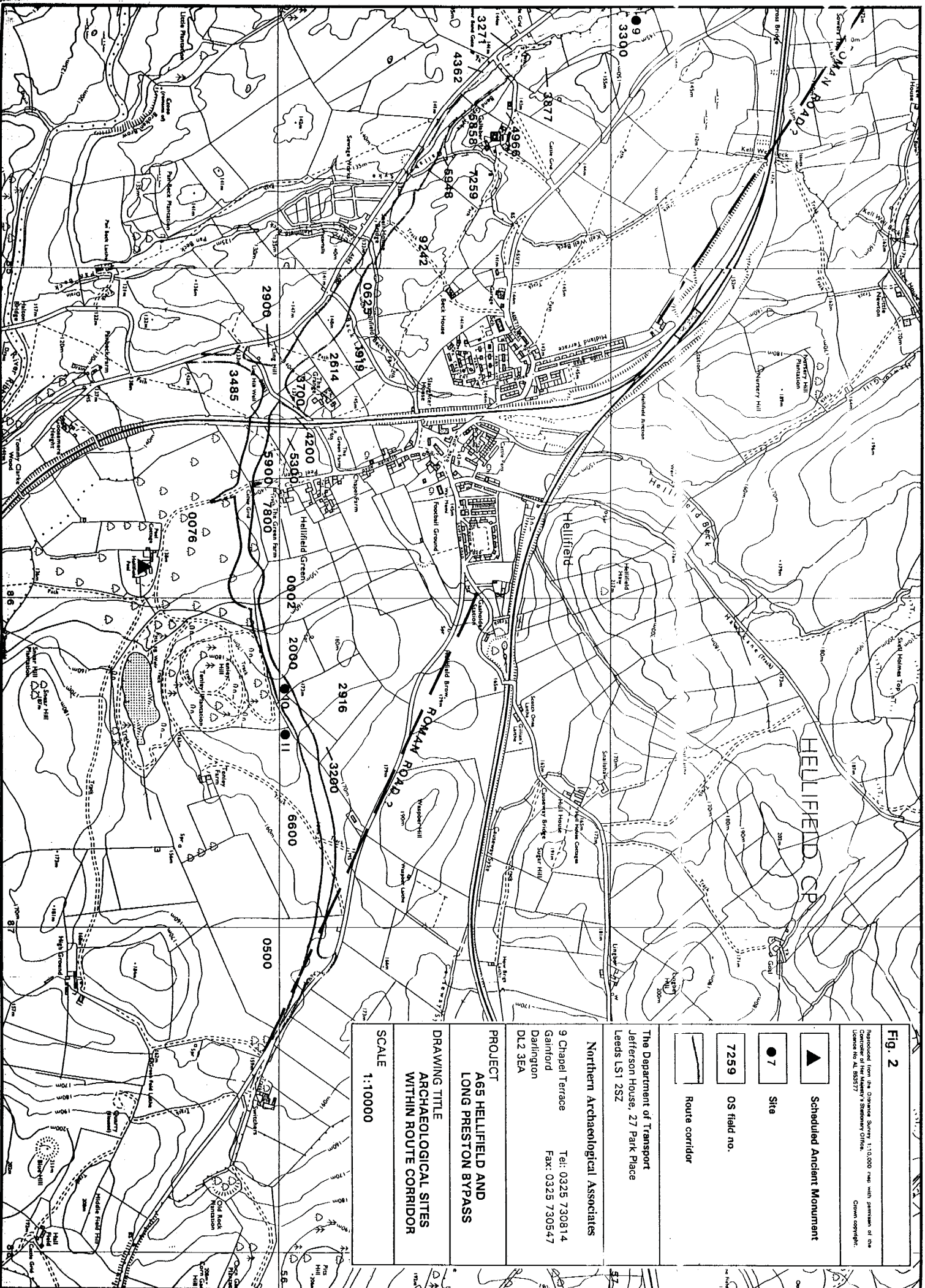
The *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal* and the CBA Group 4 *Forum* were researched for references to finds made or fieldwork undertaken within the area in recent years. No information directly relevant to the proposed route was found.

A number of general histories and other reference works covering the area were consulted. Those containing relevant information are listed in the Bibliography (7.0). A *Victoria County History* of the West Riding has not, however, been produced.

3.4 Cartographic sources

Both enclosure maps and tithe maps for Long Preston and Hellifield were consulted, together with OS 1st and 2nd Edition maps.





3.5 Craven Museum

It was not possible to arrange access to the Museum records during the study period.

3.6 Rapid field survey

A rapid field survey of the route corridor was undertaken, enabling information gathered from the sources described above to be tested in terms of actual survival on the ground. Where features did survive, additional information relating to form, size and function could often be recorded. The field survey also identified features not located through the other sources already described, although work was hampered by poor light and weather conditions throughout the period of the survey.

3.7 Geology and soils

Solid geology and soil maps were examined for the area and a broad split between the west and east of the route area was identifiable in each instance. In the case of solid geology the area divides along a line just to the east of Long Preston village, with Carboniferous sandstones and shales to the west, and calcareous gravels to the east, south of the A65 road. In the case of the soils, the western part of the area consists predominantly of Rivington 2 series loamy brown earths, while the eastern part consists of Badsey 2 series fine loamy soils. At the southern end of the southern feeder road, in the flood plain of the River Ribble, Conway series deep stoneless fine silty soils are present (Jarvis 1984).

4.0 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Placenames

The names of Long Preston and Hellifield both have religious associations. Long Preston means 'Priest's Farm' (Old English - preost,tun) and 'Long' is a description of the shape of the village. The name of Hellifield probably means 'Holy tract of land' (Old Norse). In Domesday Book it is called Haelgefild, Helgefild, -felt, -flet. Another name on the proposed route and of possible interest is Gallaber, which means 'Gallows Hill' (galga,beorg).

4.2 Prehistoric period

Few recognisable prehistoric remains are known from the parishes of Long Preston and Hellifield. Evidence for the Bronze Age consists of several isolated barrows, all lying well away from the proposed route. One, located at SD 8764 5178, several miles to the south-east, was excavated in 1885 by R.H. Tiddemann (Raistrick 1931). Another survives as a standing earthwork 1.5m high and 730m in diameter at SD 876 572 to the west of Crane Beck.

A flanged axe was found in c.1860 during fence repairs at around SD 80 58 on the road between Rathwell Beck and Hollow Gill, west of Long Preston.

A small circular enclosure, almost certainly prehistoric in date, is visible on APs at SD 839 576 near Knowles Hospital Almshouses.

Evidence for the Iron Age is restricted to a possible trackway and field system, known from APs to the east of Skir Beck Farm, centred on SD 821 596. Adjacent to this to the east, at SD 828 588, is a sub-circular enclosure containing five hut circles, again probably Iron Age.

4.3 Roman period

In 1924, F. Villy excavated parts of a series of earthworks immediately to the south-east of Long Preston church, believing them to be the site of two successive Roman forts, and published a very brief report describing them as such in 1924 (Villy 1924). Re-examination of the evidence since that time has cast considerable doubt on Villy's work and on this interpretation of the site (OS Record card). There appears to be no real evidence for the presence of a fort in this location and no significant features could be distinguished on the aerial photographs.

The line of a Roman road (722) is shown on maps held by the North Yorkshire SMR and by the RCHME in York, taking three different routes, two passing around the west and south sides of Villy's 'fort', and the other passing 2km to the north-east through Otterburn. No physical evidence for any of these routes exists (Margary 1973). The 'Roman road' appears to have been hypothesised to fill the gap in the Roman road system between Queen Street to the east and Craven Way to the west, to incorporate an unsubstantiated fort.

4.4 Anglo-Saxon period

Very little evidence of this period survives in the area of the survey. Both Hellifield and Long Preston are recorded in Domesday Book which suggests pre-Norman settlement. St. Mary's church in Long Preston has a complete, though broken, Saxon tombstone built into the west wall of the porch.

4.5 Medieval period

In Domesday Book, 1086, Long Preston is mentioned as one of the twelve manors forming the honour of Oustewic (Austwick). It contained the only church mentioned between Benthams to the north and Kildwick to the south. From Roger of Poitou and his descendents, the manor of Preston was held for several generations by the Amunderville family before passing by marriage to the Earls of Gloucester. Bolton Priory held an estate and the church at Preston. Fountains Abbey and Salley Abbey also held lands at Preston (Speight 1892).

Lands in Hellifield are mentioned several times in Domesday Book. From the 13th century, Hellifield was divided primarily between the Honour of Skipton, part of which was given to Bolton Priory before 1240, and the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem of the Preceptory at Newland, who in turn held the land from the Percy family. The lands of the Knights were held from them by the de Knoll family until the end of the reign of Edward III, when they were acquired by the Hammerton family, who built the present Hellifield Peel (SD 859 557) in the 14th century, probably replacing an earlier hall on the same site (Ryder 1983).

A large number of possible medieval earthworks are known from APs in the area, mostly ridge and furrow lying to the north and north-east of Long Preston.

4.6 Post-medieval period

The Manor of Preston was given to Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland, in 1536 by Henry VIII (Speight 1892). At the Dissolution Hellifield was held by the Hammerton family from the Preceptory at Newland. The lands were forfeited to the crown in 1537 after the execution of Sir Stephen Hammerton. In 1545/6 the manor was granted to be held from the king by George Browne and his heirs, but by 1602/3 it was back in the hands of the Hammertons, along with parts of Long Preston. Since then the lands have changed hands a number of times and become dispersed. In 1965 the estate consisted of Goosemere Height Farm, Tenley Farm, and Peel Homestead, wood and lake (Ryder 1983).

The remains of Hellifield Peel, mostly of post-medieval date, are now roofless and in an advanced state of decay. The building had been partially demolished by 1959 (Ryder 1983). The site is now a scheduled ancient monument.

A large number of field boundary features and a major drainage dyke system known from APs in Long Preston Ings (SD 820 589 - SD 825 575) are likely to be post-medieval in date, and most of them can be demonstrated from cartographic evidence to have gone out of use during the 19th century.

4.7 Undated evidence

A note in the Clifford household accounts during the 17th century states, "Given to T.Preston, Bayliffe of Long Preston, a reward for discovery of gold found there, two trees, value 10s." Unfortunately, there are no further details of what this, probably archaeological, discovery might have been.

A very complex group of earthworks can be seen on APs in the field centred on SD 832 575, including probable field boundaries, possible rectangular enclosures and possible circular structures. A complex group of earthworks centred at SD 828 574, whilst consisting mainly of probably post-medieval field boundaries, includes a small oval feature and a small rectangular enclosure on a completely different orientation to the surrounding and fairly regular field pattern, and presumably pre-dates it.

5.0 DISTRIBUTION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

5.1 Introduction

All of the information retrieved during this survey relates to specific archaeological features identified from APs, cartographic evidence and rapid field survey. No information was derived from records of excavations or chance finds in the area. This lack of material does not necessarily indicate the absence of archaeological sites in the area, but rather it may reflect a lack of past field work. The nature of the land use, predominantly unimproved Grassland, in many areas reduces the chance of finds being revealed through ploughing. Natural agents may also play a part, with build-up of alluvium in several areas bordering the river and streams possibly masking archaeological remains, as might hill-wash and soil creep in a number of locations.

5.2 Desk-top assessment and rapid field survey results

This section presents a summary of the archaeological features recorded over the proposed route as background to the route impact assessment and to the recommendations made in Section 6 of this report. (A more detailed account of the archaeological features observed may be found in the Appendix). A total of 78 fields were examined in the assessment, of which 11 fields were identified as containing probable or definite archaeological features likely to be affected by the proposed route of the bypass. The field numbers used are the OS field numbers. The archaeological sites and features are numbered sequentially from west to east along the bypass route, and may be located on Figures 1 and 2.

Field 2800(LP). Site 1

Two hollow ways, surviving as earthworks, could be seen in this field. One, running north-west to south-east near the northern side of the field, is possibly a relict hollow way. The other feature, similarly aligned, and adjacent to the railway line at the southern edge of the field, appears to be part of Bigholmes Lane, and pre-dates the cutting of the railway. It passes immediately to the north of the field barn and continues in field 3991 to the east.

The proposed route of the bypass would largely destroy the northern hollow way, while the other relict trackway would be affected only at the eastern side of field 2800 and at the western side of field 3991.

Field 3584. Site 2

A lynchet and possible relict trackway run across the southern side of this field. Some areas of very degraded ridge and furrow may survive to the north of this.

The proposed route of the bypass would affect the area of ridge and furrow and possibly the extreme east end of the lynchet.

Field 3478. Site 3

A lynchet and probable relict trackway run across the south side of this field. The trackway possibly represents a continuation of Litter Lane westwards.

The proposed route of the bypass lies immediately to the east of these features, but affects Litter Lane to the east.

Field 8343. Site 4 (see Fig. 3).

The SMR aerial photographic plot records a three-sided rectangular enclosure within this field partly destroyed by the railway to the north-east. This feature could not be substantiated during ground survey or through re-examination of the aerial photographs. The field contains two substantial field banks (a & b), aligned north-east to south-west, which are truncated to the north by the railway. Traces of ridge and furrow aligned in the same direction and respecting these features were also observed. To the south this pattern was interrupted by an irregular break of slope surrounding a flat area of ground. This area appeared to be divided by a low field bank (c) also aligned north-east to south-west. These features appear to be part of an

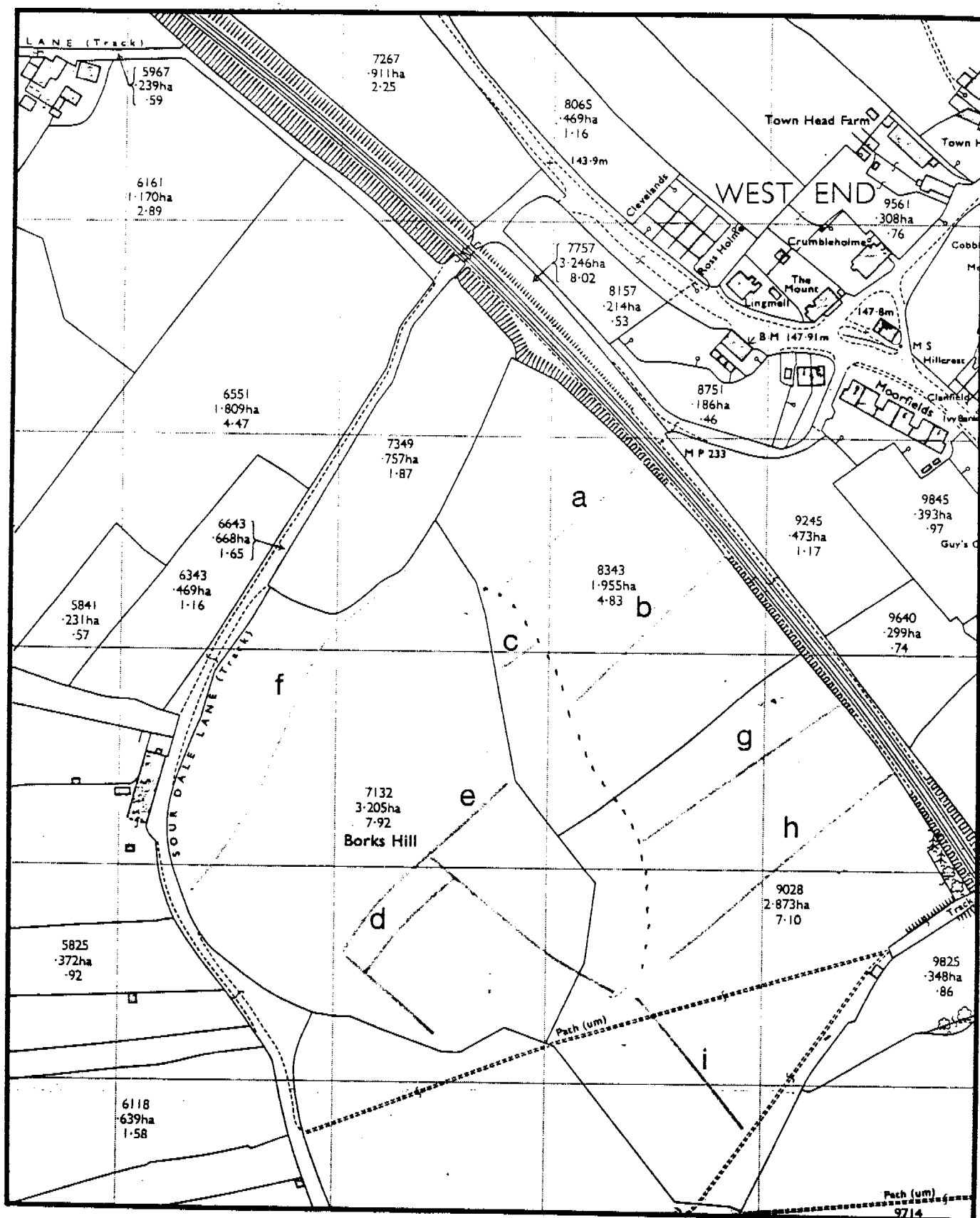


Fig. 3 Earthwork features forming sites 4, 5 and 6 (Borks Hill).

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey's 1:2,500 scale map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.
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extensive pre-enclosure field system including features in fields 7132 and 9028.

The proposed route of the bypass will affect features in the south-east corner of this field.

Field 7132. Site 5 (see Fig. 3).

The SMR aerial photographic plot also records a three-sided rectangular enclosure within this field, although this feature could be substantiated during ground survey. It comprised a long, narrow enclosure (d), set within the western side of a large square field, containing ridge and furrow, which was defined by raised field banks on three sides. From its north-west corner, a field bank (e), aligned south-west to north-east, would appear to be a continuation of the eastern field bank seen in field 8343. A lynchet (f) can be seen on the APs and from the ground, continuing the line of the existing boundary between fields 7349 and 8343 south-westwards across this field. The field contains extensive areas of ridge and furrow and other possible field boundaries. The above features appear to be part of a pre-enclosure field system including features in fields 8343 and 9028.

The proposed route of the bypass crosses the northern end of the lynchet (f) and would affect the north corner of the terrace feature (d) and substantial areas of ridge and furrow as well as a possible relict field boundary (e) near the north side of the field.

Field 9028. Site 6 (see Fig. 3).

Two linear features can be seen in the north-western half of this field on APs. They are both relict field banks (g & h) aligned south-west to north-east, parallel to the existing north-west field boundary. The more easterly of the two (h) continues the line of an existing field boundary to the north of the Leeds-Settle railway line, and is probably a relict field boundary that has gone out of use since the construction of the railway. Additionally, a relict field bank (i) runs south-east at right angles from this boundary towards the current south-east field wall. Faint traces of ridge and furrow survive within the field and appear to respect these features which probably form part of the field system seen in fields 8343 and 7132.

The proposed route of the bypass would damage the south-western ends of field banks g and h, and would destroy the entire length of the third field bank (i) together with some areas of ridge and furrow.

Field 8651. Site 7

A small section of broad ridge and furrow survives at the south-western end of this field, while faint traces of ridge and furrow can be seen in the rest of the field.

The proposed route of the feeder roads for the adjacent new junction will affect the south-western end of the ridge and furrow.

Field 1200. Site 8

Two relict field boundaries survive in this field. One runs parallel and near to the south-east field wall and continues into field 3300 (Site 9) to the north-east. The other consists of a slight ditch running at right angles between this and the farm buildings in the south-west corner of the field, which possibly stand upon an artificial platform.

The proposed route of the bypass would affect the north-east end of the bank and ditch which continues into field 3300.

Field 3300. Site 9

Several areas of ridge and furrow can be seen on APs and on the ground in this field, most notably in the west and north-east corners. Additionally, one of the relict field boundaries seen in field 1200 continues north-eastwards for about 50m into this field as a slight bank and line of trees, before turning south-east and running the length of the field as a wall footing and slight lynchet.

The proposed route of the bypass would affect part of the western block of ridge and furrow and probably the whole length of the relict field boundaries.

Field 2000. Site 10

A number of possibly man-made hollows were observed during field survey in this field. These features may be the result of quarrying, although no clear pattern could be perceived.

The proposed route of the bypass would affect features in the southern half of the field.

Field 6600. Site 11

A relict hedge bank was observed during field survey in the north-west corner of this field adjacent to Tenley Plantation. The feature formed a right angle, the northern side converging with the northern extant field boundary to the east, and the western side of the feature diverged slightly from the eastern side of Tenley Plantation as it ran southwards.

The proposed route of the bypass passes just to the north of this feature, since it is aligned to avoid Tenley Plantation.

Additional Features

A number of fields contained very faint traces of earthworks and these are listed below. As stated in Section 3.6 above poor visibility and low light levels (caused by mist and rain) during the survey period may have inhibited the identification of some features. Four fields on the route have the same OS field number (0005 and 2800 see plans 1 & 2) and these are identified according to parish: (H) - Hellifield and (LP) - Long Preston.

Field 2800(H)	Possible areas of ridge and furrow
Field 3991	Possible areas of ridge and furrow
Field 4975	Possible areas of ridge and furrow
Field 6551	Possible relict field boundary
Field 9714	Possible areas of ridge and furrow
Field 0005(LP)	Possible areas of ridge and furrow
Field 1704	Possible areas of ridge and furrow

Fields containing no visible archaeology

0002, 0005(H), 0006, 0025, 0026, 0042, 0052, 0076, 0477, 0490, 0625, 1000, 1095, 1521, 1900, 1919, 2020, 2066, 2376, 2614, 2660, 2916, 2923, 2977, 3200, 3271, 3378, 3485, 3700, 3753, 3800, 3877, 4113, 4200, 4230, 4362, 4827, 4966, 4969, 5161, 5249, 5300, 5382, 5618, 5841, 5858, 5900, 5948, 6150, 6161, 6343, 6543, 7259, 7559, 7800, 7824, 8155, 8651, 9000, 9242, 9825.

6.0 THE ROUTE IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

As detailed in the preceeding section, the proposed route transects several fields which contain a number of archaeological features. Without exception, these appear to be medieval or post-medieval in date. No evidence was found to support the existence of Roman Road 722 which it has been suggested might transect the proposed route.

None of the features are of major archaeological significance. As such they do not warrant preservation *in situ* through any alteration to the proposed route alignment. The destruction of these features does, however, constitute a loss to the local archaeological resource, and it is recommended that they are recorded in more detail.

6.1 General recommendations

- 1) Additional oblique aerial photographs should be taken of the proposed corridor in low-angled light conditions (near dusk or dawn) in order to identify and confirm the full extent of the pre-enclosure field systems which are partially visible on the ground.
- 2) The earthworks forming the pre-enclosure field system on, and to the north and east of, Borks Hill (OS field nos. 8343, 7132 and 9028) should be surveyed and planned archaeologically prior to road construction. Trial trenches should be excavated across the major feature elements to establish their precise form and date.
- 3) The hollow-ways and field banks noted within the corridor of the proposed route in OS fields 2800, 3584, 3478, 8651, 1200, 3300, 2000 and 6600 should be surveyed and planned archaeologically prior to construction commencing.
- 4) Borehole data for the route should be examined prior to construction commencing, in order to identify possible areas where buried ground surfaces are masked by alluvial deposits or hillwash.
- 5) Since it is possible that additional archaeological sites may be masked by current landuse, as discussed in Section 5.1 above, it is recommended that a 'watching brief' is carried out during topsoil stripping of the entire route. Provision should be made to allow for the recording of any significant archaeological features and the County Archaeologist should be notified and given the opportunity to inspect such remains.
- 6) Any additional areas outside the proposed route corridor which may be disturbed through the construction of access routes, compounds or topsoil storage should also be assessed and any works preceded by recording of any archaeological features present. The area adjacent to Cow Bridge, where a major dyke system survives, would be particularly vulnerable to damage.
- 7) Craven Museum should be visited for any information relating to this area early in the next stage of this project (see 3.5).

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APPENDIX 1

The following catalogue details the presence or absence of archaeological features within each field along the route of the proposed bypass and records the current state of land use. Four fields on the route have the same OS field number (0005 and 2800 see plans 1 & 2) and these are identified according to parish; (H) - Hellifield and (LP) - Long Preston.

Field 0002

Grassland. No visible archaeological features.

Field 0005(H)

Grassland. This field has a rather undulating surface, though no archaeological features are discernable. Probable land drains can be seen on APs of this field. One possible route for Roman Road 722 runs across the northern edge of this field, although no features could be discerned (see Section 4).

Field 0005(LP)

Grassland. There are possibly faint traces of ridge and furrow surviving in this field.

Field 0006

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 0025

Grassland. This field appears to have had land drains inserted, running north-west to south-east, which may have obliterated any standing earthworks. No other archaeological features are visible.

Field 0026

Grassland. A very recent fenced-off corridor for laying a gas pipeline has totally destroyed all surface features within about 8m of the railway boundary on the south-west side of the field. No objects of archaeological significance were seen in the disturbed area. A possible hollow-way in field 2800 (see below) runs several metres into the south-east side of this field.

Field 0042

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 0052

Under cultivation. This field had recently been ploughed. No archaeological features or finds concentrations were visible.

Field 0076

Grassland/parkland. No archaeological features were visible in the northern half of the field likely to be affected by the proposed route.

Field 0477

Grassland. This field may have been ploughed at some time in the past. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 0490

Grassland. This field may have been ploughed at some time in the past. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 0625

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible. Changes in the course of Hellifield Beck, which runs along the north side of the field, may have obliterated any archaeological deposits.

Field 1000

Grassland. This field appears to have been ploughed and re-seeded. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 1095

Allotments. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 1200. Site 8

Grassland. Two relict field boundaries were visible in this field. One runs north-east to south-west, parallel to the existing south-east field boundary, and about 10m from it. It consists of a ditch on the north, with a slight hedge-bank to the south, running the full length of the field and continuing about 50m into field 3300 to the north-east. The other relict boundary consists of a slight ditch running at right angles, parallel to the south-west field boundary, between the above ditch and the centre of the south-east side of the farmstead platform. The raised farmstead platform in the south-west corner of the field is possibly partly artificial.

Field 1521

Grassland. A relict hedgebank survives within this field, parallel to the southern field boundary, and up to 6m from it. This is marked on OS 1:10000 and 1:2500 maps. The proposed road link between Cow Bridge and the new Bend Gate Junction runs 150m to the north, and should not affect this feature, which was thus not recorded in detail. No other archaeological features were visible.

Field 1704

Grassland. Possible faint traces of ridge and furrow were observed in this field.

Field 1900

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 1919

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 2000. Site 10

Grassland. There are several probably artificial hollows on the north-east side of this field, though the form and lay-out of these could not be readily comprehended from ground level. They may be quarry hollows.

Field 2020

Grassland. The field has possibly been ploughed in the past. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 2066

Grassland. Part of the flat terrace adjacent to the Long Preston Beck. Alluvial deposits may possibly mask buried land surfaces. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 2376

Overgrown shrubland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 2614

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 2660

Grassland. The eastern part of the field is a steep slope, largely covered in trees and undergrowth. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 2800(LP) Site 1

Grassland. A very recent gas-pipe corridor has destroyed all surface features within about 8m of the south-western field boundary, including a portion of the relict trackway seen on APs and visible on the ground (see below). No objects of archaeological significance were observed in the disturbed area.

Two archaeological features, visible on APs, but not plotted on the SMR AP-plots, survive as extant linear earthworks in this field. The more northerly of these runs north-west to south-east, roughly straight, from a point several metres into field 0026 to the west, below the centre of the field wall on the north-west side of field 2800, towards a point roughly in the centre of the north-east field wall, though it peters out before reaching it. The feature consisted of a linear hollow, up to 8m wide, and maximum depth about 0.5m. It is probably a hollow-way.

The southern earthwork runs west-east from a point on the south-western field boundary near the western corner, slightly diverging from the boundary, to a point on the south-east field wall approximately one third of its length from the south corner, just to the north of a small stone barn. The earthworks consist of a parallel pair of slight lynchets, about 12m apart, forming a fairly level terrace. Adjacent to the barn it widens slightly, and there is an active spring in the middle of the terrace. The embankment up to the railway bridge on Bigholmes Lane can be clearly seen to be built over the feature. The feature is aligned on Bigholmes Lane to the west of the railway, and presumably represents the original course of it to the east before the construction of the railway line and the re-alignment of the lane to pass over the new bridge. The feature is more extensive to the east than is apparent on the APs, and as noted above has been recently destroyed to the west by pipe-laying. It continues into field 3991 to the east.

In the south-east corner of this field there stands a square, stone field barn, with outshots on the east and south sides, and with a stone tile roof.

Field 2800(E)

Grassland. A small patch of probable ridge and furrow could just be seen under ideal light conditions in the centre of this field.

Field 2916

Grassland. This field has been combined with field 3200 by the removal of its south-east boundary. It has been ploughed and re-seeded. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 2923

Grassland. Some disturbance to parts of this field has been caused by the construction of a trackway running north-south across it. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 2977

Grassland. The lower, eastern side of the field is part of the flood-plain of Long Preston Beck, possibly with alluvial deposits masking buried land surfaces. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 3200

Grassland. This field has been combined with field 2916 by the removal of its north-west boundary. It has been ploughed and re-seeded. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 3271

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 3300. Site 9

Grassland. Traces of ridge and furrow, known from APs, survive in places in the west and east corners of this field. These are rather faint. Additionally, two relict field boundaries survive. One is a continuation of the boundary referred to above in field 1200, and consists of a slight bank and several large trees, running for c.50m roughly north-east to south-west, continuing the line referred to above. The other consists of robbed-out wall footings and a slight lynchet, running south-east at right angles from the north-eastern end of the first boundary, parallel to the south-west field boundary and about 50m from it. This continues to the south-east end of the field, though towards the end it becomes extremely indistinct.

Field 3378

Grassland. Most of this field slopes steeply down to the north-west towards Long Preston Beck, which has possibly suffered erosion in the past, making the survival of archaeological remains less likely. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 3478. Site 3

Grassland. On the south-western side of this field, where the field wall steps southwards, a lynchet continues the line of the western part of the wall within the field most of the way to the east end, though fading out to the east. There was a relatively level area to the south of the lynchet, adjacent to the field wall. It is likely that the lynchet represents the original line of the wall, and that Litter Lane originally extended further to the west. Subsequently, part of the lane has been absorbed into the field. No other archaeological features were visible.

Field 3485

Grassland. This field has been combined with field 4200 by the dereliction and partial removal of the north-east field wall. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 3584. Site 2

Grassland. The northern side of the field has been buried by the raising up of Bigholmes Lane to pass over the railway. Additionally, a strip about 8m wide adjacent to the north-east boundary has very recently been disturbed by gas-pipe laying operations, obliterating any potential surface features. No objects of archaeological significance were observed in the disturbed area. A slight lynchet runs parallel to the eastern half of the southern field wall, about 4m from the wall, forming a fairly level strip. This is either part of an old trackway or represents the movement of the field boundary. There

are possibly faint traces of areas of ridge and furrow.

Field 3700

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 3753

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 3800

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 3877

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 3991

Grassland. This field has been ploughed at some time, possibly masking archaeological features. The line of the relict lane running across field 2800(LP) continues across this field as a slight hollow way, joining the existing A65 road at the existing gateway in the north-east corner of the field.

Field 4113

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 4200

Grassland. This field has been combined with field 3485 by the dereliction and partial removal of the southern field wall. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 4230

Grassland, except for an area at the south-western, downslope end of the field, which was marshy and overgrown due to the presence of at least one spring. This overgrown area possibly masked archaeological features. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 4362

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 4827

Grassland. This field appears to have been ploughed and re-seeded. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 4969

Parkland/Grassland. This field appears to have been either under cultivation or landscaped at some time in the past. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 4975

Grassland. Along the north-eastern side of the field, adjacent to the railway boundary, the recent gas-pipe corridor had obliterated any potential surface features. No objects of archaeological significance were observed in the disturbed area. There are possibly faint traces of a relict field boundary near the

south-west corner of the field, and slight traces of areas of ridge and furrow.

Field 5161

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 5249

Grassland. The southern end of the field towards the river is low-lying, marshy and overgrown, possibly masking archaeological features. No such features were visible.

Field 5300

Grassland. This field has been combined with field 5900 by the removal of the south-east boundary. It appears to have been ploughed in the past. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 5382

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 5618

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 5841

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 5858

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 5900

Grassland. This field has been combined with Field 5300 by the removal of the north-west boundary. It appears to have been ploughed in the past, possibly masking any archaeology present.

Field 5948

Grassland. Slopes steeply down to the Gallaber Syke to the north, with extensive evidence of soil creep downslope. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 6150

Grassland. This field has been ploughed in the past. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 6161

Grassland. The recent gas-pipe corridor had obliterated any potential surface features within about 8m of the northern field boundary. No objects of archaeological significance were seen in the disturbed area. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 6343

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 6543

Grassland. This field has been ploughed in the past. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 6551

Grassland. This field appears to have been ploughed and re-seeded at some time in the past. There is possibly a relict field boundary running up the middle of the field from north-east to south-west.

Field 6600. Site 11

Grassland. A relict field boundary survives as a small bank in the north-east corner of this field. It runs from the slight corner in the northern field wall c.50m east of Tenley plantation, continuing the line of the eastern part of that boundary, towards the Plantation boundary fence. A few metres short of this it turns a right angle and runs south-east in the general direction of Tenley Farm.

Field 7132. Site 5 (see Fig 3).

Grassland. Several archaeological features were known from APs in this field, including a lynchet (f) and a rectangular 'enclosure' (d). The lynchet (f) lies near to the western field boundary, roughly parallel to Sour Dale Lane, and roughly continuing the line of the field boundary between fields 7349 and 8343 southwards.

The 'enclosure' (d) consists of a narrow rectangular strip at the western end of a large pre-enclosure field which contains ridge and furrow. The field is surrounded by raised field banks on three sides. Areas of faint ridge and furrow and a possible relict field boundary were observed on the north-facing hillslope (e). All of these features are probably part of a pre-enclosure field system, extending into fields 8343 and 9028.

Field 7259

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible. The flat floodplain of Gallaber Syke, which runs along the north and west sides of the field, may hold archaeological and waterlogged deposits.

Field 7559

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 7800

Grassland. No visible archaeological features. The field appears to be fairly wet and intensively used by cattle, which may have eroded any upstanding archaeology.

Field 7824

Grassland. A dry dew pond occupies the western corner of this field, and extends beyond the field boundary into field 4230. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 8155

Grassland. This field had been ploughed in the past. No archaeological features were visible.

Field 8343. Site 4 (see Fig. 3)

Grassland. The gas-pipe construction corridor has damaged surface features within about 8m of the northern field boundary. The field lies on slightly sloping ground to the north of Borks Hill, and contains two low field banks (a & b) aligned south-west - north-east. A third field bank (c) on the same alignment was visible lying within a flat irregular area at the southern end of the field. The inter-

relationship and the full extent of the earthworks could not be fully ascertained during field survey as many of the features were partially indistinct. Traces of ridge and furrow could be seen within the field banks. The site is probably part of a pre-enclosure field system, and is likely to be medieval in date.

Field 8651. Site 7

Grassland. A small, heavily damaged stub of ridge and furrow survives adjacent to the field wall at the south-west end of the field, and extending up to about 10m into the field. The ridges appear to have run lengthways along the field, north-east to south-west. The rest of the field has apparently been ploughed at some time, largely obliterating the rest of the ridge and furrow, and any other features which may have been present.

Field 9000

Grassland. The field lies within the flood-plain of the River Ribble, and may have been ploughed in the past. No archaeological features are visible.

Field 9028. Site 6 (see Fig. 3)

Grassland. The gas-pipe corridor has damaged any potential surface features within about 8m of the north-west field boundary adjacent to the field boundary. Two parallel field banks (g & h) were known in this field from APs, running north-east to south-west in the western half of the field, roughly parallel to the north-western field wall. The western of these two features (g) is a very faint earthwork, and peters out at both ends before reaching the existing field boundaries. The other bank (h) survives as a much more prominent feature. A third bank (i) was observed from the ground, running south-east for about 100m before petering out. There are very faint areas of ridge and furrow in the northern half of the field.

Field 9242

Grassland. No archaeological features were visible. Changes in the course of Hellifield Beck, which runs along the south-east side of the field, may have obliterated any archaeological deposits at that end of the field. Part of the western end of the field is occupied by the flat floodplain of Gallaber Syke, which may hold archaeological and waterlogged deposits.

Field 9714

Grassland. The gas-pipe corridor has destroyed any potential surface features within about 8m of the north-western field boundary. There are possibly faint traces of areas of ridge and furrow surviving in this field.

Field 9825

Grassland. The gas-pipe laying corridor has destroyed any potential surface features within about 8m of the north-western field boundary. No archaeological features were visible.

No number

The OS field number for this field has been obscured on the 1:2500 plans provided. The OS 1:2500 sheet for this part of the route is not included in the set of maps to this scale held at County Hall in Northallerton. It lies to the south of Litter Lane, immediately to the west of field 5161, centre SD 824 586.

Grassland. The southern end of the field is marshy and overgrown, masking at least one archaeological feature known from APs, cartographic and possibly documentary evidence, namely part of a long drainage dyke running from SD 8155 5920 to SD 8288 5685 with several bends, roughly paralleling the river to the south. This is possibly the drainage works planned in Long Preston Ings, which was

certainly extant in 1815, when it is shown on the enclosure map as "Back Cut". The 1842 Long Preston tithe map shows it as running water. It is called "The Cut" on the OS 1847 6" map but had disappeared by 1896, except for a stretch at the east end near Cow Bridge, which is still a large extant earthwork and is shown in Fig. 1. The whole length of the dyke is clearly visible on a number of APs.