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# Northern Archaeological Associates

## LINTON TO KILNSEY WITH CONISTONE WATER PIPELINE

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING

#### FOR

### BABCOCK WATER ENGINEERING LTD

NAA 97/19

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# LINTON TO KILNSEY WITH CONISTONE WATER PIPELINE

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING

### Summary

*This report presents the results of archaeological monitoring undertaken during the construction of a water pipeline corridor running from Linton to Kilnsey with Conistone in Wharfedale in the Yorkshire Dales National Park. For much of its route the pipeline was laid in a road cut. Elsewhere it ran through pasture fields where potential archaeological sites had been identified at the assessment phase of the project. In some areas the pipeline route was amended to avoid these sites, and in others a watching brief was conducted. Where the corridor crossed a series of earthwork enclosures of probable Iron Age or Romano-British date immediately to the south of the Long Ashes Caravan Park several field boundaries and an undated cairn were recorded. To the north of Chapel House Lodge several field boundaries associated with areas of ridge and furrow agriculture known from aerial photographs were examined. At the northern end of the pipeline corridor adjacent to Bow Bridge a large cobble bank descended the hillslope towards the river and possibly represented the access to a medieval river crossing.*

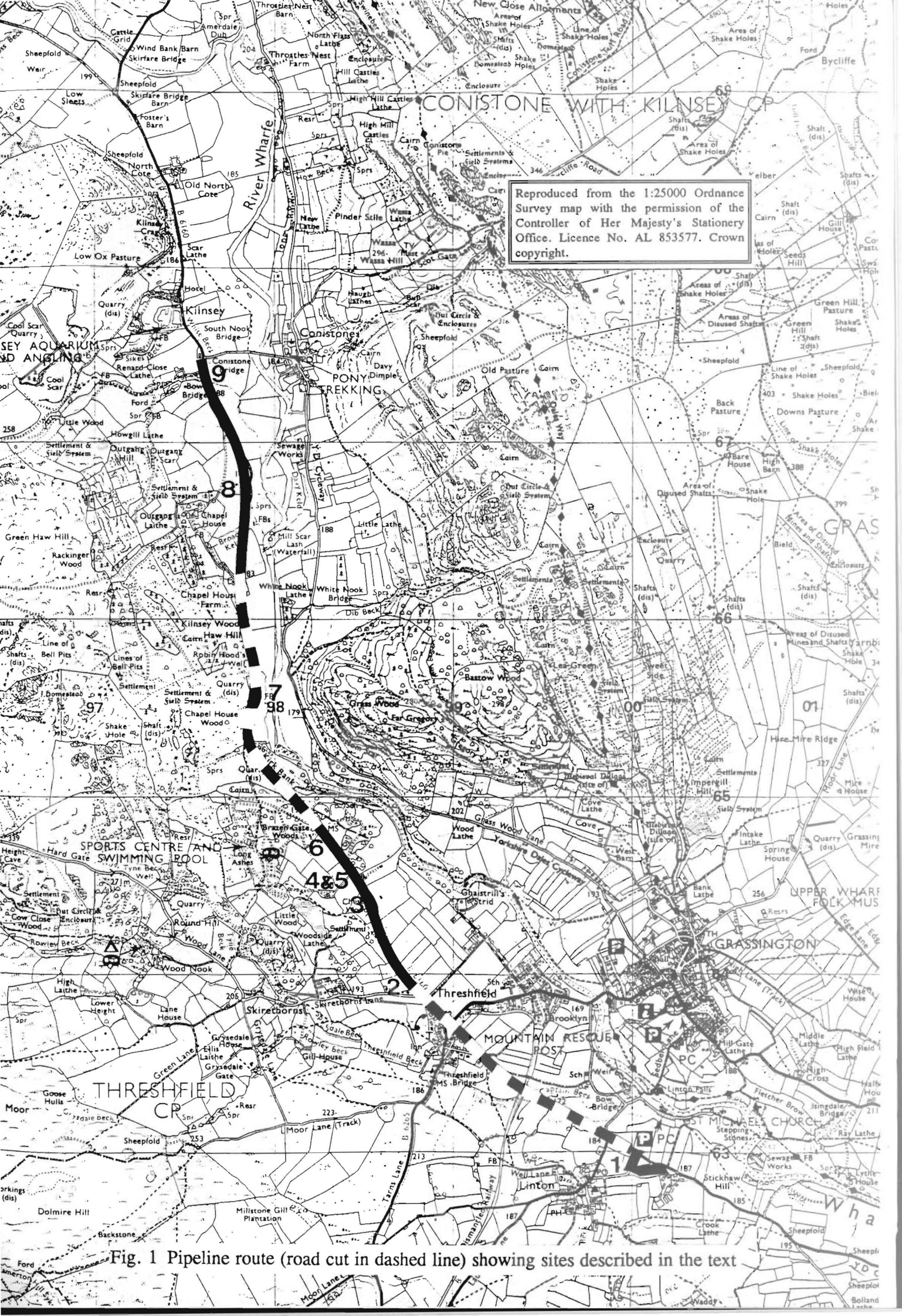
### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief conducted by Northern Archaeological Associates on behalf of Yorkshire Pipeline Services during the construction of a water pipeline corridor running from Linton to Kilnsey with Conistone in Wharfedale, for a distance of c.5km. For its entire length the pipeline lay within the Yorkshire Dales National Park and consultation was taken at an early stage of the planning of the route with the appropriate National Park personnel. As a result of a pre-construction archaeological desktop assessment and field reconnaissance a number of potential archaeological sites were identified (Abramson 1996). Route amendments, a watching brief and earthwork survey were recommended as mitigation measures to reduce the impact of the pipeline in these areas.

The watching brief work was carried out during January and February 1997.

### 2.0 PIPELINE ROUTE

At its south end the corridor started in OS Field 0087 adjacent to Linton Camp at SE 003629 (Fig. 1). It crossed into the adjacent roadway and continued as a road cut into Threshfield. To the north of Threshfield it cut through fields alternating between the western and eastern sides of the B6160 Threshfield to Kilnsey road up to the driveway to Long Ashes Caravan Park. From there it ran in a road cut to Chapel House Lodge, north of which it ran in fields along the eastern side of the B6160 before crossing to the eastern side of the road and running through the northern half of OS Field 8200 to



its end at Middle Bridge. The fenced corridor was generally c.15m wide with an off-centre stripped corridor c.8m wide.

### **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

The corridor runs through an area which has a variety of archaeological sites and monuments. Earthworks of settlement sites and lynchets are visible on the valley sides and are thought to date from the later prehistoric period. Medieval ridge and furrow and post-medieval agricultural practices have also left their mark on the landscape. The settlement site at Little Wood, near Threshfield at SD 98206440 is a scheduled monument (County Number 658) and is located c.500m to the west of the pipeline corridor.

### **4.0 METHODOLOGY**

Areas of visible earthworks were surveyed in advance of fencing of the corridor using a Leica Wild T500 total station linked to a Grid 386 portable computer with PenMap survey software.

A watching brief was conducted during stripping of the corridor in selected areas. Stripping was carried out using a tracked, back-acting excavator equipped with a straight-edged six foot ditching bucket under archaeological supervision. In most areas only topsoil was removed, although in some locations where archaeological features were known to be present, subsoil was also removed.

Several other areas of corridor were intermittently monitored during stripping, with examination of the stripped surface before trafficking and scanning of the spoil heaps for artefacts. Intermittent monitoring of pipe-trench cutting was also undertaken in specific areas.

Where archaeology was identified, limited excavation was undertaken where necessary. Features were photographed, drawn in plan and section at appropriate scales and located accurately in relation to known landscape features. A written record was made on pre-printed sheets in accordance with the NAA standard methods.

Where drystone field walls were demolished to provide access for the pipeline corridor, a photographic record was kept of the end elevation and a written record of the construction was made.

### **5.0 SURVEY RESULTS**

An earthwork survey was undertaken in two areas of the corridor route prior to the construction of the pipeline. At site 6 close to Long Ashes Caravan Park a group of low earthworks had been recorded from aerial photographs by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME) and was also visible at ground



level. Further to the north at site 8 occasional field boundaries and low ridge and furrow were also identified.

### **5.1 Site 6 (Figs. 2 and 4)**

A group of earthworks comprising several rectilinear enclosures, probable hut circles, a cairn and wall lines was visible in a pasture field to the west of a young plantation and east of Long Ashes Caravan Park. At the north-east corner of the site a prominent limestone outcrop formed a raised terrace, the upper lip of which was surmounted by a low linear earthwork ('A'). This ran from the northern field wall around the curve of the terrace and then north-eastwards across the northern end of the roadside plantation to the B6160. On the other side of the road its line could be observed extending north-eastwards in a line across the football pitches.

In the north-western corner of the field, a field barn converted into a house (Woodside Lathe), stands within a walled garden upon another terrace of probable natural origin. On the north-eastern part of the terrace, outside the garden, were two low circular earthworks and possibly part of a third (earthworks H). One of the rings was bisected by the north-western field boundary and clearly predated the modern field layout, already in place by 1848 (1st Edition 6" OS map, 1853).

To the south of Woodside Lathe, a raised terrace ('F') was located below the south-western field boundary. From its eastern corner a slight bank or terrace ('B') ran north-eastwards to form the north-western side of a line of small embanked enclosures extending from near the centre of the field north-eastwards. One full enclosure, the south-eastern side of which was formed by bank 'C', lay within the field, with part of another to the north-east which continued into the roadside plantation, where part of a third was also observed.

Near the southern end of the field were the north-eastern and part of the north-western sides of a large embanked enclosure ('G') which could be observed continuing as a badly plough-degraded, but still substantial, earthwork in the field to the west.

An isolated small low mound ('D') was identified on the lower level ground near the centre of the field. A probable small quarry hollow ('E') was located at the south-eastern corner of the field, extending into the plantation to the north-east but not observed to the south-east of the field wall, probably as a result of deliberate infilling (the field to the south-east having clearly been extensively improved).

### **5.2 Site 8 (Fig. 3)**

Survey work was undertaken of faint earthworks in OS Fields 7757, 7300 and 6100 to the north of Chapel House Lodge in order to record a system of ridge and furrow agriculture and associated field systems recorded from aerial photography. No survey was undertaken in the field immediately to the north of Chapel House Lodge, which appeared to have undergone modern ploughing and where no visible earthworks survived in the eastern half of the field adjacent to the pipeline corridor.



Fig. 2 Site 6 earthwork survey location





## ROUTE PLAN

SCALE 1:2500

Fig. 3 Sites 8 & 9 feature locations



In OS Field 7757 no earthworks were noted to the south of the Broad Keld stream (culverted at its eastern end in the area of the survey). To the north of the stream a series of parallel undulations were present orientated roughly east to west and probably representing the remnant of ridge and furrow agriculture corresponding to the aerial photographic record. Several slightly more substantial, and possibly infilled, ditches were observed extending to the west up the hillside across the field.

To the north, in OS Field 7300 a possible quarry hollow was recorded against the eastern field boundary. This was subsequently avoided by the stripped pipeline corridor. Further north, three widely separated, small linear earthworks were recorded crossing the corridor aligned roughly from east to west. The northern feature had several large stones projecting through the turf to the west of the pipeline corridor. No evidence for ridge and furrow agriculture recorded from aerial photographs could be identified on the ground.

In OS Field 6100 four small parallel linear banks crossed the pipeline corridor running from south-west to north-east roughly at right angles to the north-eastern field boundary. One bank had a slight possible ditch at its southern side. No evidence was visible on the surface for the more extensive ridge and furrow agriculture recorded from aerial photographs.

## **6.0 WATCHING BRIEF AND TRIAL TRENCH RESULTS**

The following site descriptions start at the southern end of the corridor and progress northwards.

### **6.1 Site 1**

The archaeological assessment of the pipeline corridor noted the presence of a lynchet of probable Iron Age or medieval date and other possible faint earthworks immediately east of Linton Camp at the south-eastern end of the proposed pipeline route. OS Field 0087 was monitored after topsoil stripping and up to 0.3m of reddish brown subsoil overlay degraded limestone. No archaeological features were noted.

The pipeline route was amended to avoid OS Field 0095 by running the pipe in a road cut along the adjacent Threshfield to Burnsall road, thus avoiding the prominent lynchet.

### **6.2 Site 2**

The possible site of a medieval cross recorded close to the crossroads at Threshfield at approximately at SD 98806395 was investigated. The stripped corridor immediately north of Threshfield was observed but no features of archaeological significance were identified.

### 6.3 Sites 3 and 4

In order to avoid sites 3 and 4, identified in the assessment report as being of possible archaeological significance, the pipeline route was amended so that it crossed over to the eastern side of the B6160 Threshfield to Kilnsey road. As a precautionary measure a detailed walkover of the stripped corridor in three fields opposite the sites (OS numbers 7418, 6627 and 6445) was undertaken immediately after topsoil stripping, and the topsoil heaps scanned for artefacts. Intermittent monitoring of the pipe trench cutting was also undertaken. There was evidence for post-medieval rubbish disposal throughout OS Field 7418 in the form of areas of coal fragments, burnt stone, potsherds and iron nails resting on top of the subsoil. No archaeological features were identified.

### 6.4 Site 5

It has been postulated (Villy), that the B6160 follows the line of a possible Roman road running from Bainbridge to Ilkley. An embankment which may have been associated with the road was observed on the western side of OS field 5138 during the assessment. Accordingly, the pipeline route in the area of site 5 was amended so that only the northern end of the field was within the pipeline corridor.

As a result of the watching brief within OS Field 5138 it was established that a cobble and gravel terrace which formed the eastern side of a shallow dry valley was almost certainly natural in origin. No evidence was recognised for the *agger* of a Roman road and no Roman finds were recovered from the stripped topsoil.

### 6.5 Site 6 (Figs. 2, 4 and 5)

Located immediately to the south of Long Ashes Caravan Park, the field in which site 6 was located was separated from the B6160 to the east by a narrow band of modern tree plantation. The field was under pasture and sloped generally down to the south, with pronounced raised terraces at the north-eastern and north-western corners. Low earthworks were visible in the field and were surveyed before topsoil stripping (see section 5.1).

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The pipeline route within this field was amended to minimise the impact on the earthworks. The original proposed route ran along the eastern field boundary. Movement westwards was constrained by the presence of overhead power lines crossing the field from north to south, and the final agreed route still had to bisect several standing earthworks identified during the survey. The amended route bisected the earthworks at their lowest point and at right angles in order to minimise disturbance.

Six trenches were machine and hand excavated in advance of topsoil stripping in order to examine several of the earthworks; the topsoil stripping was continuously monitored with scanning of the spoil heaps for finds, and parts of the pipe-trench cutting were monitored.

### ***Trench 1***

Trench 1, measuring 22m long by 2m wide and orientated north to south, was excavated by machine across the top of the northern terrace, across earthwork A and down the south-facing slope of the terrace (Fig. 5, Section 4). The terrace was shown to be an outcrop of greyish white limestone with an apparently naturally weathered surface. Earthwork bank 'A' running around the upper margin of the terrace was shown to be a tumbled bank [32] of weathered limestone blocks measuring up to 0.25m. It was 1.25m wide and up to 0.45m high, and stood on the limestone bedrock. It was covered by 0.15m of topsoil, and up to 0.25m of subsoil or colluvium had collected against its upslope side. Immediately downslope of this feature to the south was a parallel drystone wall footing [31], 1.6m wide and formed of two faces of limestone blocks measuring up to 0.4m with a smaller rubble infill. It survived to a height of 0.5m, constructed on the bedrock, with some tumbled stones running downhill to the south. No stratigraphic relationship between the walls survived and no dating evidence was recovered.

### ***Trench 2***

Trench 2, measuring 15.5m by 1.5m, was positioned to cross earthwork 'C' from northwest to southeast. The earthwork consisted of a bank of limestone rubble [34] 2.1m wide and 0.3m high, and stood upon degraded limestone bedrock (Fig. 5, Section 5). It was almost entirely buried by a 0.2m thick deposit of probably colluviated reddish brown subsoil and 0.15m of topsoil. A solution hollow cutting into the top of the bedrock was also recorded.

### ***Trenches 3-6***

Trench 3, measuring 7m by 1m, was machine excavated southwards from the centre of small earthwork mound 'D'. This showed that the mound incorporated a stone cairn sealed by a soil deposit. Three further small trenches, 4, 5 and 6, were hand excavated in order to further define the form and nature of this feature (Fig. 5, Plan 1).

The earthwork mound 'D' was very slight, measuring c.6.5m in diameter but only c.0.2m high, and was formed of a reddish brown slightly sandy silt [25] identical to the surrounding subsoil which was up to 0.4m thick and buried the stone cairn (Fig. 5, Sections 2 and 3). The cairn was roughly oval in plan, orientated from east to west, and measured c.5m by c.3.5m by c.0.5m high. It was displaced rather towards the southern side of the overlying earthwork mound (see discussion below). The core of the cairn consisted of a low mound up to 0.25m thick of reddish brown sandy silt [22], rather darker in colour and stonier than the subsoil. This was covered by a convex layer of rounded limestone fragments [23] measuring up to 0.4m. The stone deposit was up to 0.35m thick and around its edge it extended down to the weathered limestone bedrock [26]. Towards the centre of the cairn the stones projected through the overlying mound make-up and were only covered by c.0.1m of topsoil [24]. The cairn material exposed within the trenches was excavated but no features other than a solution hollow (Fig. 5, Section 1) were recorded.

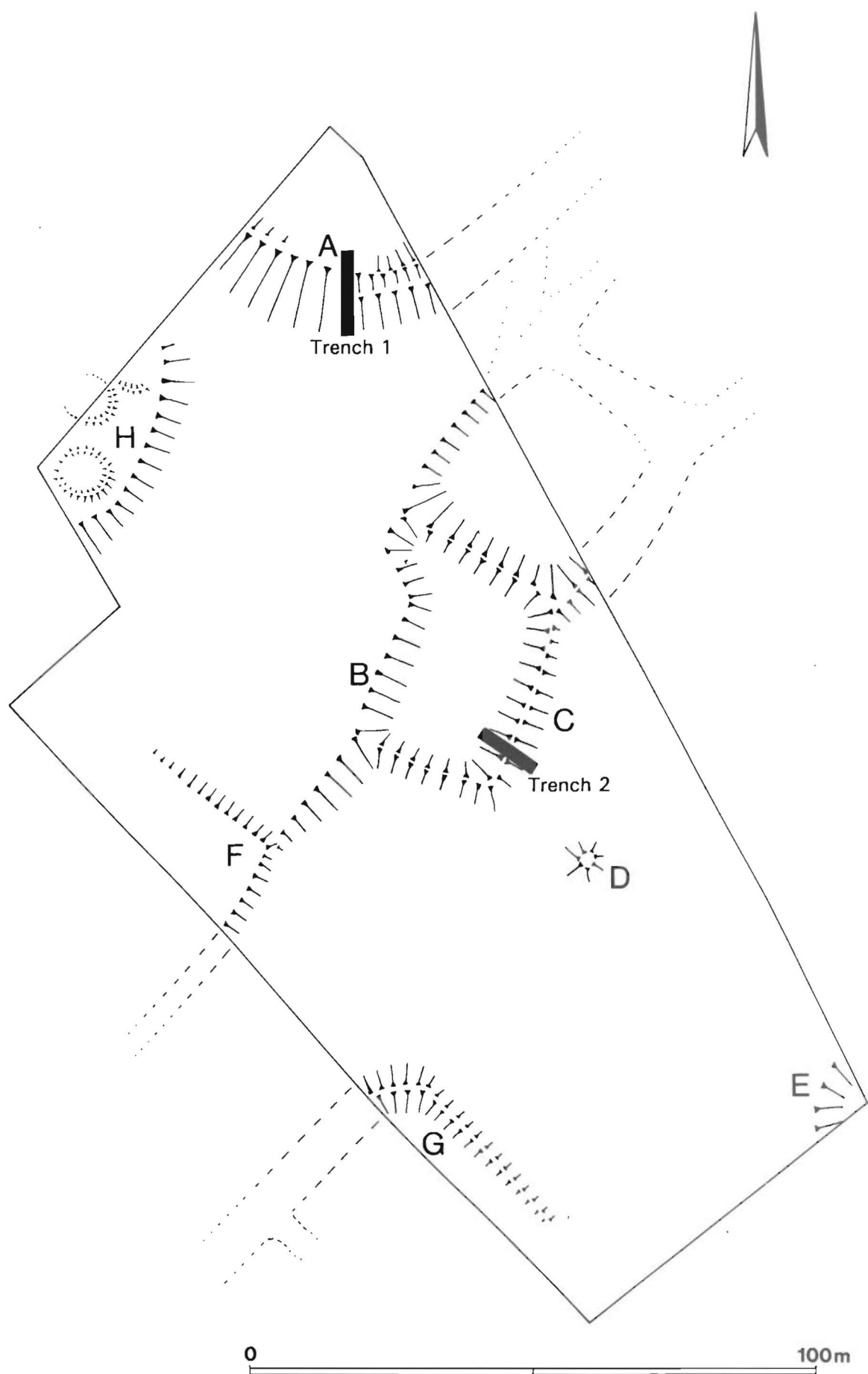


Fig. 4 Site 6 feature and trench locations



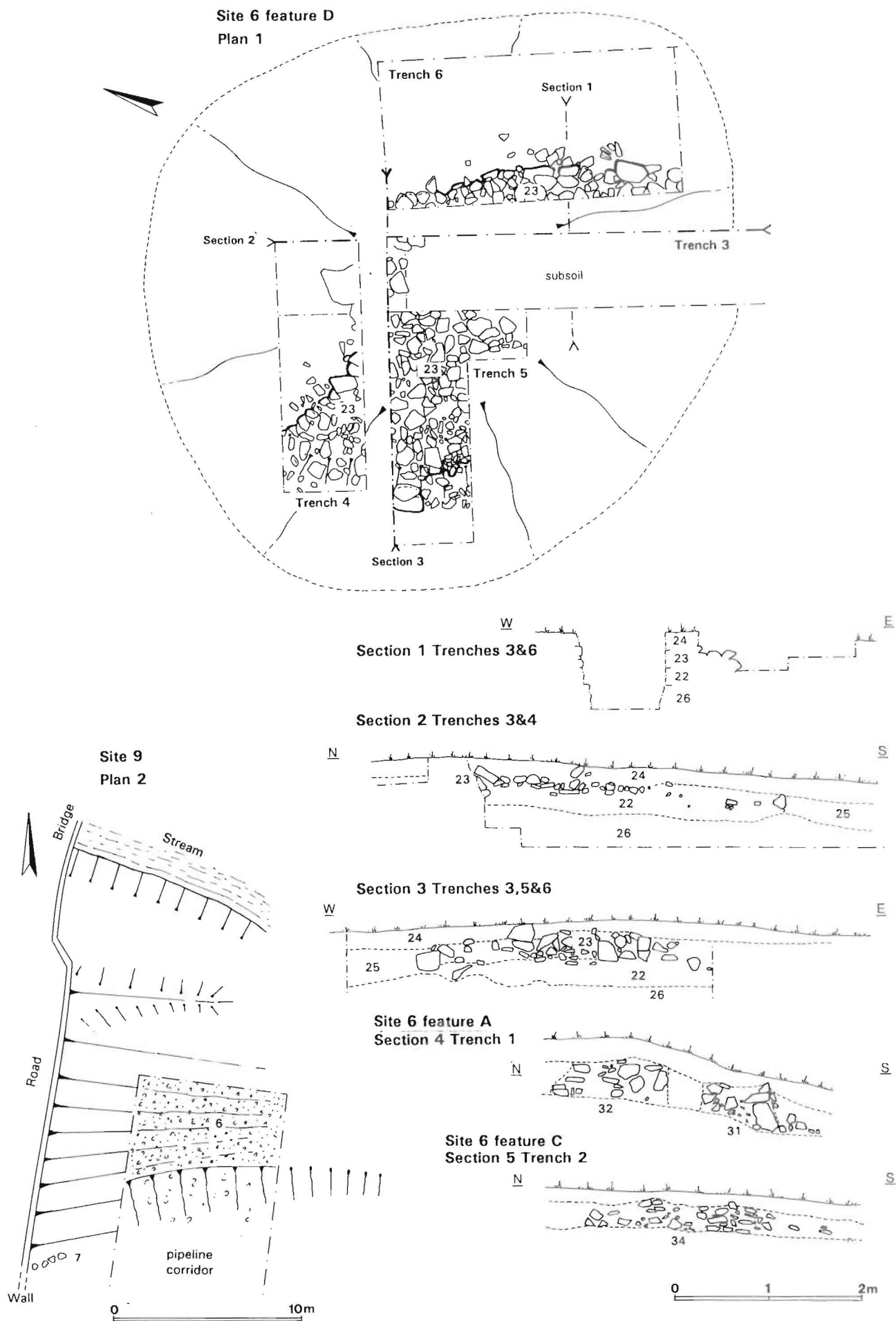


Fig. 5 Plan and sections for Site 6 and feature locations for Site 9

The section across the bank at 'C' (Fig. 5, Section 5) revealed that it was constructed of limestone rubble (034) with no obvious structural features such as faced stones or foundations. This was confirmed for the bank at 'B' where electrical cable laying showed that it was constructed of limestone blocks, although no wall structure could be identified. No internal features were identified within the enclosure.

No further features were identified during topsoil stripping, although an extensive cover of colluviated subsoil throughout the lower southern part of the field was not stripped.

## **6.6 Site 7**

The pipe trench cut through the existing road surface of the B6160 adjacent to a settlement site and field system at Chapel House Wood. Most of the earthworks visible at ground level to the west of the road disappeared before reaching the road, and the road foundation was likely to have destroyed smaller features.

## **6.7 Site 8 (Fig. 3)**

Site 8 consisted of OS Fields 7757, 7300 and 6100 on the western side of the B6160 to the north of Chapel House Lodge. Slight earthworks, probably relating to ridge and furrow agriculture and former field systems, had previously been detected in these fields from aerial photographs. A survey of those earthworks visible on the ground in the immediate vicinity of the pipeline corridor was undertaken prior to topsoil stripping (see section 5.2), and topsoil stripping was continuously monitored. Intermittent monitoring of the pipe trench excavation also took place.

### ***OS Field 7757***

The field sloped down from west to east with a relatively level strip at the eastern side adjacent to the B6160 where the pipeline corridor was located. The Broad Keld stream ran from west to east across the field near its southern end, crossing the area of the pipeline within a stone culvert (although a proportion of the flow ran in a slight channel on the surface over the culvert). The ground rose gradually to the north in the northern half of the field, which was under unimproved pasture. Numerous slight linear earthworks were visible running from west to east into the pipeline corridor. Topsoil stripping in this field was continuously monitored and the spoil heaps and stripped surface scanned for finds.

A stone wall footing [3] was recorded crossing the corridor 73m from the southern end of the field. It consisted of unshaped rounded limestone boulders and cobbles, measuring up to 0.5m, in a matrix of dark brown sandy silt. It was up to 2.0m wide and 0.3m high. Although rather machine-disturbed it appeared that the northern 1.0m of the stone spread consisted of two lines of larger facing stones with a smaller stone infill, forming the wall footing, with the southern 1.0m comprising more random stone tumble. The footing had been cut through a subsoil layer down to gravel. A quantity of animal bone fragments were recovered from over and between the stones, but no dating evidence was recovered. The feature was observed for a length of 9m crossing

the stripped corridor, and could be seen to the west as a linear earthwork crossing the full width of the field.

To the south of [3], and apparently bounded by it, was a system of land drains either side of the Broad Keld beck and converging with it to the east. These were not excavated, but had been backfilled with limestone rubble and contained post-medieval pottery. To the south of the beck these cut across a sequence of ridges of natural gravel averaging *c.*4m apart with a reddish brown subsoil between, orientated roughly from east to west. This probably represented the levelled remnant of ridge and furrow agriculture.

To the north of feature [3], only one feature within the stripped corridor could be associated with the surveyed standing earthworks. Feature [19] was located 78m from the northern end of the field, and showed before stripping as a slight bank running upslope to the west and petering out to the east before reaching the eastern field boundary. After topsoil stripping it showed as a slight hump up to 0.1m high of slightly cleaner, stonier subsoil extending *c.*2m into the stripped corridor. It was interpreted as a natural deposit protected beneath an agricultural ridge or extinct field boundary.

### ***OS Field 7300***

The southern of the linear features recorded during earthwork survey was shown by topsoil stripping to be a shallow ditch [17] cutting into the subsoil. It was up to 2.2m wide but only 0.2m deep, and was filled with a mid brownish grey sandy silt [18]. No dating evidence was recovered. Immediately to the south was a more modern stone-built drain which was not investigated as it was active with flowing water.

The middle linear feature identified during earthwork survey, *c.*160m from the northern end of the field, proved upon topsoil stripping to be a very small step down to the south in the subsoil, probably representing a very slight negative lynchet.

At the northern end of the field a series of five parallel ridges of rounded cobbles in a sandy silt subsoil matrix [13] were observed crossing the stripped corridor at right angles from southwest to northeast. They were located 2.6m, 14.7m, 20.1m, 28.4m and 45.5m from the northern end of the western side of the corridor, and were generally *c.*1m wide and *c.*0.2m high. Brief investigation showed them to be continuous with underlying natural gravels, which between the ridges were overlain by a thin horizon of a less stony subsoil. The ridges probably represented the remnants of agricultural ridges, with less stony infilled furrows between.

### ***OS Field 6100***

The field sloped generally down towards the east-northeast, with a more gently sloping strip along its eastern side sloping generally down to the north, along which the pipeline corridor ran. After topsoil stripping the four parallel linear earthworks previously surveyed were revealed as low stone banks [9], [10], [11] and [12], *c.*1.5m wide and projecting up to 0.3m above the surrounding subsoil. Each was formed from rounded cobbles in a matrix of dark brown clayey sandy silt. The features rested on top of reddish brown stony sandy silt subsoil and probably represented field divisions

within the ridge and furrow field system. A band of stonier subsoil c.5m to the north of bank [9] possibly represented the location of a denuded ridge.

## **6.8 Site 9 (Figs. 3 and Fig. 5, Plan 2)**

Site 9, was situated within OS Field 8200 to the east of the B6160 immediately south of Middle Bridge. The area was identified as being in the vicinity of a postulated roadway leading to a medieval bridged crossing of the River Wharfe. In addition, a prominent gravel knoll adjacent to the B6160 overlooking the river and flood plain was considered to be of potential significance, with particular respect to Mesolithic occupation. A watching brief was therefore conducted throughout topsoil stripping in this part of the corridor.

Immediately to the east of the point where the pipeline crossed the B6160 a wall footing [8] consisting of a 3m wide spread of rounded cobbles up to 0.2m in size in a matrix of mid brown sandy silt, up to 0.2m thick was recorded (Fig. 3). The stones rested in a shallow, flat-bottomed 'U'-shaped cut which extended south-east from the present day roadside wall.

Immediately to the south of Bow Bridge, on the north-facing side of the gravel knoll, was a substantial cobble bank [6] up to c.10m wide and c.0.6m high. It ran downslope eastwards from the roadside wall levelling out slightly before being cut by the stream, beyond which the line was continued by a low embanked terrace to the western bank of the White Beck. The bank was formed of cobbles, generally measuring c.150mm, in a matrix of brown silty sand. A line of larger boulders measuring c.0.5m were dislodged from the southern edge of the bank during stripping.

At the western end of the bank, adjacent to the roadside wall and outside the stripped corridor, a line of four earthfast boulders [7] measuring up to 0.5m ran along the southern edge of the feature and possibly represented part of the same line of stones. The western stone was sealed beneath the roadside wall.

## **7.0 DISCUSSION**

As a result of the preconstruction archaeological assessment it was possible to initiate a strategy which mitigated the impact of the corridor on the sites of potential archaeological significance.

At the northern end of the corridor the features observed after topsoil stripping in OS Fields 7757, 7300 and 6100 corresponded with faint earthworks recorded previously by survey. However, most of the surveyed earthworks were not reflected by underlying archaeological features, and were probably the denuded remnants of ridge and furrow agriculture. Where stone wall boundaries were recorded in between the ridge and furrows field systems it was not possible to establish whether such boundaries were earlier than, or contemporary with, the medieval ploughing.

Similarly, as a result of the preconstruction earthwork survey and the field excavation it was established that the earthworks at site 6 formed part of a coherent group of



enclosures of probable Iron Age or Romano-British date. The most complete enclosure measured 35m by 25m but comprised the least prominent earthworks. No evidence for faced stones within the bank was present nor were any internal features identified. It remains possible that the enclosures were for stock penning whilst occupation was situated on the platforms at the north-west and possibly the north-east corners of the present day field.

The cairn at D was likely to have been built as a result of field clearance rather than burial activity. It was buried by a significant depth of colluviated subsoil, which had apparently collected against its upslope (northern) side, resulting in the asymmetry of the mound. Its date was not ascertained but it was probably contemporary with the nearby enclosures.

The stone bank which ran towards the stream at site 9 may have been a causeway and the possible kerbing [7] at its upper end was certainly a constructed feature. No dating evidence was associated with the feature but it remains possible that it formed part of an earlier route across the valley.

No evidence was found for the postulated Mesolithic site upon the gravel knoll adjacent to, and east of, the B6160. The wall footing which extended from the present day road wall probably related to roadway realignment of unknown date, with a possible earlier route running from the existing line downslope to the southeast into the valley bottom.

Due to route amendments to the south of site 6 the corridor did not have an impact on sites of potential archaeological significance.

## **8.0 DRYSTONE FIELD WALL RECORDING**

Eighteen wall records were made in accordance with the methodology described in section 4.0 above. Written descriptions, wall locations and photographed wall sections are included within the site archive.

## **9.0 CONCLUSION**

The archaeological work on the pipeline corridor confirmed the presence of archaeological features previously known from aerial photographs and existing records. Of additional importance however, is the recognition that the earthworks previously recorded by rapid survey to the east of Long Ashes Caravan Park form a coherent group and are indicative of settlement-related activity of probable later prehistoric/Romano-British date. It was established that the earth-covered embankments consisted of a rubble core and that the interior of the enclosure appeared to be devoid of features.

At the northern end of the corridor, boundaries associated with a relict field system were surveyed and sample excavated, but no artefacts were found in association with them.

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Report: NAA 97/19

Date: March 1997

Text: G. Speed

Illustrations: D. Ronan



Plate 1: Enclosure earthworks at site 6. Platforms at the north-west and north-east corner of the field visible in the far distance



Plate 2: Section across Bank 'C' of the enclosure at site 6





Plate 3: The cairn at site 6



Plate 4: Wall footing 03 at site 8





Plate 5: 'Causeway' 06 at site 9

## APPENDIX

### Context Descriptions

#### **03 ?Wall Footing (Site 8, OS Field 7757)**

Observed before topsoil stripping as a slight earthwork aligned east-west and running right across the field. Within the stripped corridor it was 9m long, and where cleaned was 2.0m wide and 0.30m high. It consisted of unshaped limestone boulders and cobbles, both angular and rounded, measuring up to 0.50m, mostly 0.25m. A 1m segment was hand-excavated against the eastern edge of the stripped corridor, and showed that the feature, although very denuded and machine-disturbed, probably consisted of a wall footing, with two lines of facing stones and smaller rubble infill, forming the northern c.1m of the feature, with tumble to the south. No evidence survived for a construction cut, although the distribution of tumbled stones over the subsoil suggested that the footing had been cut through it. A quantity of animal bone fragments was recovered from between and immediately over the stones of this feature.

#### **06 Cobble Bank (Site 9, OS Field 8200)**

Located immediately to the south of Bow Bridge, on the north-facing side of the gravel knoll. 06 was a substantial cobble bank up to c.10m wide and where machine-damaged c.0.6m high. It sloped steeply down eastwards from the roadside wall, levelling out slightly before being cut by the stream, beyond which the line was continued by a low embanked terrace to the western bank of the White Beck. The bank was formed of cobbles, generally measuring c.150mm, in a matrix of brown silty sand. A line of larger boulders measuring c.0.5m were dislodged from the southern edge of the bank during stripping. At the western end of the bank, adjacent to the roadside wall and outside the stripped corridor, a line of four earthfast boulders [7] measuring up to 0.5m ran along the southern edge of the feature and possibly represented part of the same line of stones. The western stone was sealed beneath the roadside wall.

#### **07 Line of stones (Site 9, OS Field 8200)**

A single line of 4 earthfast rounded boulders, measuring up to 0.5m, were noted projecting from the turf adjacent to the western field boundary. They were aligned from east to west and located at the top of the southern edge of possible cobble bank 06. The western stone was stratified below the drystone field wall. They possibly represented part of a kerbing along the southern side of bank 06, similar stones having been noted, although machine-disturbed, along the southern margin of 06 further to the east.

#### **08 ?Wall Footing (Site 9, OS Field 8200)**

Located immediately to the east of the road crossing from Site 8. It consisted of a band of rounded cobbles up to 0.2m in size in a matrix of mid brown sandy silt, up to 0.2m thick and up to 3m wide, mostly rather narrower. The stones rested in a shallow flat bottomed 'U'-shaped cut into the top of the natural gravels which diverged to the south from the extant roadside wall. No dating evidence was recovered. On the upslope, western, side of the feature was a thin layer of fine greyish brown sandy silt or colluvial or aeolian origin.

#### **09 Bank (Site 8, OS Field 6100)**

Linear, orientated northeast-southwest. Observed for a length of 9m, 1.5m wide and 0.25m high under 0.10m of topsoil (elsewhere c.0.2m thick). Formed of frequent rounded stones (<200mm) in a dark brown clayey sandy silt matrix. Sat on top of reddish brown sandy silt stony subsoil. Recorded on pre-stripping earthwork survey.

#### **10 Bank (Site 8, OS Field 6100)**

Similar to [09]. 1.5m wide and 0.30m high under 0.1m of topsoil. Recorded during pre-stripping earthwork survey, when it appeared to have a slight ditch on its southern side, not visible after stripping.

**11 Bank (Site 8, OS Field 6100)**

Similar to [09]. 1.4m wide and 0.3m high under 0.1m of topsoil. Recorded during pre-excavation earthwork survey.

**12 Bank (Site 8, OS Field 6100)**

Similar to [09]. 1.6m wide and 0.20m high under 0.1m of topsoil. Recorded during pre-excavation earthwork survey.

**13 ?Ridges (Site 8, OS Field 7300)**

At the northern end of the field a series of five parallel ridges of rounded cobbles in a sandy silt subsoil matrix were observed crossing the stripped corridor at right angles from southwest to northeast. They were located 2.6m, 14.7m, 20.1m, 28.4m and 45.5m from the northern end of the western side of the corridor, and were generally c.1m wide and c.0.2m high. Brief investigation showed them to be continuous with underlying natural gravels, which between the ridges were overlain by a thin horizon of a less stony subsoil. The ridges probably represented the remnants of agricultural ridges, with less stony infilled furrows between.

**17 Ditch (Site 8, OS Field 7300)**

Corresponded to a feature recorded during earthwork survey. Linear feature, orientated roughly east-west, measuring 2.2m wide and 0.2m deep with a broad, flat-based 'U'-profile. Mostly filled by 18, the top filled with dark brownish grey sandy silt topsoil. Cut into a reddish brown sandy silt subsoil containing frequent rounded cobbles. No dating evidence was recovered. Immediately to the south was a more modern stone-built drain which was not investigated as it was active with flowing water.

**18 Ditch Fill (Site 8, OS Field 7300)**

A fairly compact, mid brownish grey sticky sandy silt, with frequent very small gravel and moderate rounded cobbles. No finds were recovered. It filled the lower part of ditch cut 17 to a depth of 0.13m and width of 1.35m, and was sealed by topsoil.

**19 ?Field Boundary (Site 8, OS Field 7757)**

Located 78m from the northern end of the field, this linear feature showed as a slight linear earthwork bank running upslope to the west and petering out at its eastern end before reaching the modern eastern field boundary, where it was crossed by the pipeline corridor. After topsoil stripping it showed as a slight hump of slightly cleaner, stonier subsoil c.1.5m wide and extending c.4m into the western side of the fenced corridor, 2m into the stripped corridor, where it petered out. It was up to 0.1m high compared to the surrounding subsoil. It probably represented a ridge of subsoil protected beneath a former field boundary.

**21 Cairn (Site 6, Trenches 3, 4, 5 and 6)**

A slight mound (Feature D) c.6m in diameter was noted towards the southern end of the corridor in Site 6 during the pre-stripping earthwork survey. In advance of topsoil stripping a machine section, Trench 3, was cut into the southern side of this mound, and revealed the presence of a stone cairn, which was further defined in plan in hand-excavated trenches 4, 5 and 6. The cairn was oval in plan, orientated east-west, and measured more than 6m long, c.6m wide and up to c.0.6m high. It was displaced towards the southern side of the visible earthwork, probably as a result of colluviation against the upslope northern side, and except at the centre was generally buried by colluvial layer 25. The cairn consisted of a low mound of protected subsoil 22 resting on top of the natural limestone 26, capped by a layer of limestone cobbles 23 which extended down to the natural limestone around the edges of the cairn. The central parts of the cairn were excavated down to natural limestone, but no evidence for a burial or other function were recovered. No dating evidence was recovered, although the burial of the feature by subsoil 25, presumably by colluviation, suggests a pre-medieval date since the field has almost certainly been under pasture since at least the medieval period.

**22 Cairn make-up (Site 6, Trenches 3 and 5)**

Fairly compact reddish brown slightly sandy silt, slightly darker in colour than 25, with occasional small limestone fragments (<25mm). It was up to 0.25m thick and measured more than 6m northwest-southeast by c.6m northeast-southwest (note, the sections from which it was measured ran diagonally relative to the cairn. It sealed solution hollow fill 28 and was sealed by mound make-up

layer 23. Not clear whether this was a remnant of pre-cairn ground surface or a deliberate make-up deposit. Generally similar to colluvium 25 but noticeably less sorted, with a limestone component remaining.

**23 Cairn make-up (Site 6, Trenches 3, 4, 5 and 6)**

Layer of rounded weathered limestone fragments measuring up to 400mm, mostly between 100 and 250mm, in a matrix similar to deposit 25 except for the uppermost central stones which lay within topsoil 24. Layer measured c.5m east-west by c.3.5m north-south, and was up to 0.35m thick where sectioned. It had a convex profile and extended down to just above bedrock to the west, east and south, with distinct edges which appeared to have been placed rather than dumped. Stones which had fallen from the sides were generally clearly distinguishable. Layer 23 sealed layer 22, and was below colluvial subsoil 25.

**24 Topsoil (Site 6, Trenches 3, 4, 5 and 6)**

Turf and topsoil over earthwork mound D and cairn 21. A sticky, fairly friable, very dark brown slightly sandy silt. No inclusions were noted other than rounded cobbles derived from cairn make-up layer 23. It was up to 0.2m thick thinning to c.0.1m over the centre of cairn 21. The turf component appeared to be unimproved pasture.

**25 Colluvial Subsoil**

A fairly compact, mid reddish brown slightly sandy silt, with no inclusions except around the margins of cairn 21 where there were a few rounded stones probably derived from it. The deposit was up to 0.4m thick where sectioned, more generally c.0.3m thick. It generally lay above limestone bedrock 26, overlay the margins of cairn make-up layer 23, and was sealed by topsoil 24. It made up the northern half of mound D, and was clearly colluvial in nature from the way it buried the cairn. No dating evidence was recovered (see 21 above).

**26 Natural Limestone (Site 8, Trenches 3, 5 and 6)**

Deposit below cairn 21. Mostly a light grey silty marl containing frequent rounded limestone pebbles and cobbles. Surface was penetrated by numerous solution hollows (e.g. 27) and was very uneven. This deposit contrasted with the bedded angular limestone 33 observed in Trench 1 to the north, and the rounded limestone inclusions suggested redeposition.

**27 ?Solution Hollow (Site 8, Trench 3)**

Subcircular and slightly irregular in shape (SE quadrant not seen) with a flat-based 'u'-profile with flared convex sides towards the top. It measured c.0.8m in diameter and was 0.75m deep. The western half was excavated, mostly by machine. It cut limestone 26 and was filled by fills 30 (primary), 29 and 28. It was totally sealed below cairn 21.

**28 Fill**

Uppermost fill of ?solution hollow 27. It was generally similar to colluvial layer 25, and measured c.0.4m north-south and was 0.3m thick. No finds were recovered. It was above fill 29 and was sealed by cairn make-up layer 22.

**29 Fill**

Middle fill of ?solution hollow 27. A fairly compact, light to mid brown marly silt with frequent very small very degraded limestone fragments. It was 0.6m wide north-south, was up to 0.35m thick and extended over a total vertical depth of 0.65m. It was above fill 30 and below fill 28. It appeared to be re-deposited degraded limestone.

**30 Fill**

Primary fill of ?solution hollow 27. It was generally similar to colluvial deposit 25 by slightly siltier (of organic origin?) and with rare limestone fragments (<200mm) sloping down the edges of cut 27. It measured 0.65m wide overall north-south, was up to 0.20m thick and extended over a total vertical depth of 0.70m, filling the base and extending up the southern side of the cut. It was below fill 29.

**31 Drystone Wall Footing (Site 6, Trench 1)**

Located at the upper lip of the terrace at the northern corner of the field immediately downslope of feature 32, and orientated east-west. It was 1.6m wide and formed of two faces of limestone blocks measuring up to 0.4m with a smaller rubble infill. It survived to a height of 0.5m, constructed on bedrock 33, with some tumbled stones running downhill to the south and sealed by colluvium. No stratigraphic relationship between the walls survived and no dating evidence was recovered.

**32 Stone ?Bank (Site 6, Trench 1)**

Earthwork bank A running around the upper margin of the terrace at the northern corner of the field was shown to be a tumbled bank of weathered limestone blocks measuring up to 0.25m. It was 1.25m wide and up to 0.45m high, and stood on the limestone bedrock. It was covered by 0.15m of topsoil, and up to 0.25m of subsoil or colluvium had collected against its upslope side.

**33 Limestone Bedrock (Site 6, Trench 1)**

Hard, bedded, greyish white limestone forming terrace at northern end of field. The upper surface had weathered to form a distinctive layer of rounded limestone blocks. The bedding planes sloped slightly down to the south. Wall footing 31 and stone ?bank 32 were built directly onto its upper surface.

**34 Stone Bank (Site 6, Trench 2)**

Earthwork C consisted of a bank orientated northeast-southwest of limestone rubble measuring up to 0.2m. The feature was 2.1m wide and 0.3m high, and stood upon degraded limestone bedrock. It was almost entirely buried by a 0.2m thick deposit of probably colluviated reddish brown subsoil and 0.15m of topsoil.

**35 Solution Hollow Fill (Site 6, Trench 2)**

Orange brown silty clay with moderate thin fragments of limestone measuring up to 50mm by 5mm thick. It was the fill of solution hollow 36 and was sealed by colluvium.

**36 Solution Hollow (Site 6, Trench 2)**

Irregularly shaped feature with near vertical sides slightly flared at the top. Base and northeastern extent not seen. It measured more than 0.9m north-south by 0.4m east-west by more than 0.9m deep. It cut limestone bedrock and was filled by 35.