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SNY	356
ENY	359
CNY	1816
Parish	3078
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**BP CHEMICALS TEESIDE TO SALTEND ETHYLENE  
PIPELINE: SITE 169.**

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**METHODOLOGY FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
SITE 169. LOW LILLING LANE**

National Grid Reference: 640 644

January 1999

**OSA**

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**ON SITE ARCHÆOLOGY**

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## **1.0 Site Description**

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The site lies close to the village of West Lilling in the County of North Yorkshire. It is located to the north of Lilling Low Lane, at National Grid Reference SE 640 644. The area is currently arable land. The site is located on river alluvium.

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## **2.0 Archaeological Background**

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The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance. An RCHME sketch plot of the area indicates the presence of a rectilinear enclosure spanning the junction of Lilling Low Lane and the minor road between Sheriff Hutton and Strensall (NGR SE 6345 6480). The same plot also records a Roman road running north – south, to the south of the current investigation (approx. NGR SE 6375 6415). Further to the south is Lilling Green Romano-British farmstead with associated fields and trackways (Swan, Jones & Grady: 1993).

Aerial photographs of the area studied as part of the BP pipeline project have also revealed a number of cropmarks in the immediate vicinity.

A fluxgate gradiometer survey has been undertaken of the current investigation area as part of the BP pipeline works. This revealed a number of anomalies, mainly concentrated at the western end of the survey area. These included ditch and pit type anomalies (see figure 1). These results bear no obvious correlation with cropmarks on the site, they are in a similar location and may therefore be associated.

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## **3.0 The Evaluation Programme**

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It is proposed that approximately 2% of the fluxgate gradiometer survey area shall be examined by machine stripped trial trenches. Initially five trenches, each measuring 30 metres by 1.80 metres, will be excavated. These shall be positioned to investigate a number of the anomalies, and also over two areas in which the geophysical survey produced no evidence other than occasional ferrous interference (see figure 1 for the exact trench positions). Provision shall be made for the extension of the trenches, or the excavation of further trenches if required by the County Archaeologist, subject to discussion between A.C Archaeology and the County Archaeologist or their representative.

All work shall be undertaken in accordance with the IFA standards and guidance for archaeological field evaluations.

~~Five trenches measuring 30 metres by 1.80 metres will be excavated, each~~

### **3.1 Excavation**

The entire site will be visually inspected before the commencement of any machine excavation. This will include the examination of any available exposures (e.g. recently cut ditches and geotechnical test pits).



Trench positions will be accurately surveyed prior to excavation and related to the National Grid. It may be necessary to survey the positions after excavation in some instances.

All machining will be carried out using a JCB 3CX or similar fitted with a 1.80m wide toothless bucket.

All machining will be carried out under direct control of an experienced archaeologist.

Undifferentiated topsoil or overburden of recent origin will be removed in successive level spits down to the first significant archaeological horizon.

Machine excavated material will be examined in order to retrieve artefacts to assist in the analysis of the spatial distribution of artefacts.

On completion of machine excavation, the exposed surface shall be subject to a metal detecting sweep, as will the machine removed topsoil/overburden. All metal detected finds shall be recovered according to the Code of Practice laid down by the 1996 Treasure Act.

All faces of the trench that require examination or recording will be cleaned using appropriate hand tools.

All investigation of archaeological horizons will be by hand, with cleaning, inspection, and recording both in plan and section.

A minimum number of features, within each significant archaeological horizon, required to meet the aims will be sampled by half-sectioning although some features may require complete excavation. Linear features will be sectioned as appropriate. Features not suited to excavation within the confines of narrow trenches will not be sampled. No deposits will be entirely removed unless this is unavoidable. As the objective is to define remains it will not necessarily be the intention that all trenches will be fully excavated to natural stratigraphy. However the full depth of archaeological deposits across the entire site will be assessed. Even in the case where no remains have been located the stratigraphy of all evaluation trenches will be recorded.

Any excavation, whether by machine or by hand, will be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features or deposits which appear to be demonstrably worthy of preservation *in situ*.

For palaeo-environmental research different sampling strategies will be employed according to established research targets and the perceived importance of the strata under investigation. For carbonised remains, bulk samples of a minimum of 10 litres (but up to 30 litres for early prehistoric features) will be collected. Bulk samples of 10-30 litres will be taken from waterlogged deposits for analysis of macroscopic plant remains. Columns for pollen analysis will be taken where appropriate. Mollusc samples will be gathered when required. Other bulk samples for small animal bones and other small artefacts may be taken from appropriate deposits depending on the aims of the project.

Any finds of human remains will be cleaned and recorded, but left *in situ*, covered and protected. Human remains will only be removed if this is absolutely necessary, and then under conditions approved by issue of a Home Office Licence.

All finds of gold and silver will be moved to a safe place and reported to the coroner's office according to the procedures relating to Treasure Trove. Where removal cannot be effected on

the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the artefacts from theft or damage.

After recording, the trenches will be backfilled with excavated material.

### 3.2 *Recording*

For each trench, a block of numbers in a continuous sequence will be allocated.

Written descriptions, comprising both factual data and interpretative elements, will be recorded on standardised sheets.

Where stratified deposits are encountered a 'Harris'-type matrix will be compiled during the course of the excavation.

The site grid will be accurately tied into the National Grid and located on the 1:2500 or 1:1250 map of the area.

Plans will normally be drawn at a scale of 1:50 or 1:20 if necessary. Burials will be drawn at 1:10. Other detailed plans will be drawn at an appropriate scale.

Long sections of trenches showing layers and any cut features will be drawn at 1:50. Sections of features or short lengths of trenches will be drawn at 1:20.

Generally all sections will be accurately related to Ordnance Datum. There may on occasions be instances where this is unnecessary when it will be agreed with the local authority's archaeological representative in advance.

Registers of sections and plans will be kept.

A full colour (35mm transparency) photographic record will be maintained. This will illustrate the principal features and finds both in detail and in a general context. The photographic record will also include working shots to represent more generally the nature of the fieldwork.

A register of all photographs taken will be kept on standardised forms.

All recording will be in accordance with the standards and requirements of the *Archaeological Field Manual* (Museum of London Archaeology Service 3rd edition 1994).

### 3.3 *Finds*

All identified finds and artefacts will be collected and retained. Certain classes of material i.e. post-medieval pottery and building material may on occasion be discarded after recording if a representative sample is kept. No finds will be discarded without the prior approval of the archaeological representative of the local authority and the receiving museum.

Finds will be examined to assess the date range of the assemblage with particular reference to pottery. In addition the artefacts will be used to characterise the site, and to establish the potential for all categories of finds should further archaeological work be necessary.

All finds and samples will be treated in a proper manner and to standards agreed in advance with the recipient museum. Finds will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the guidelines set out in United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's *Conservation Guidelines No. 2*.



Ownership of artefacts and deposition of the archive are to be determined by A.C. Archaeology, the appointed consultant for the pipeline project.

### 3.4 *Reporting*

An Interim report will be available one week after the completion of fieldwork. This shall be prepared in accordance with the guidelines laid down in MAP 2.

The style and format of the evaluation report will be determined by *On-Site Archaeology*. The report will include as a minimum the following:

A location plan of the site.

A location plan of the trenches and/or other type of fieldwork strategy employed.

Plans and sections of features and/or extent of archaeology located. These will be at an appropriate scale.

A summary statement of the results.

A table summarising per trench the deposits, features, classes and numbers of artefacts encountered and spot dating of significant finds.

Consideration to the methodology will be given along with a confidence rating for the results.

### 4.0 *Personnel*

All work will be under the overall supervision of Mr. N Pearson MIFA (Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists). Other project staff include:

<i>Project Officer</i>	Guy Hopkinson
<i>Palaeo-environmental advisor</i>	Environmental Archaeology Unit, York University
<i>Finds Analysis</i>	Dr Alan Vince
	Barbara Precious
	Jane Cowgill
	Sandra Garside-Neville
<i>Conservation</i>	Sonia O'Connor, Bradford University

### 5.0 *Health and Safety*

#### *Introduction*

The Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) is designed to promote, stimulate and encourage high standards of health and safety at work. It does this by ensuring safety awareness and an effective safety organisation within all areas of employment according to the particular dangers, risks and needs associated with that employment.

#### *Summary of Policy*

It is the policy of *On-Site Archaeology* to comply with the requirements of the Health and

Safety at Work Act 1974; the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992; the Factories Act 1961; the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963; and all Regulations and Codes of Practice made under the Acts which affect *On-Site Archaeology* operations.

*On-Site Archaeology* undertakes to safeguard, as far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of its staff and of others who may be affected by its work. This applies in particular to providing and maintaining suitable premises, ensuring the safety of all equipment supplied by the Company, providing all reasonable safeguards and precautions against accidents, and promoting and ensuring safe practices on fieldwork sites.

The responsibilities of staff, employees and volunteers in maintaining high standards of care and safety are set out below.

The policy will be reviewed from time to time as our activities develop. Review of the safety performance of *On-Site Archaeology* and the functioning of the Policy is the task of the Director and *On-Site Archaeology* Health and Safety Committee. At yearly intervals or sooner where circumstances require, they will review the contents of this document and indicate how performance can be improved.

The attention of all *On-Site Archaeology* staff, and any others who may be engaged on *On-Site Archaeology* projects, is directed to this Health and Safety Policy Statement.

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## 6.0 Project Timing

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Fieldwork shall begin on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1999, and is anticipated to be complete by Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 1999.

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## 7.0 Bibliography

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- Swan, V.G., Jones, B.E.A. & Grady, D. 1993. Bolesford, North Riding of Yorkshire: a Lost Wapentake Centre and its Landscape. *Landscape History* 15. RCHME.
- Ovenden-Wilson, S. 1998. Teeside to Saltend Ethylene Pipeline. BP Site 169. GSB Prospection Report No. 98/125.
- Cox, P.W. & Cottrell, T.L. 1998. BP Chemicals Limited – Teeside to Saltend Ethylene Pipeline: preliminary Archaeological Assessment of Archaeology and Culture Heritage. A.C. Archaeology Report No. 5297/1/0
- MAP II. 1991. Management of Archaeological Projects. English Heritage

Figure 1. Proposed Trench Locations

Purple = ?archaeology  
Green = Ferrous

