
BPTSEP 169: WEST LILLING

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION & EXCAVATION
ASSESSMENT REPORT**

OSA REPORT No. 99EV02/99EX03

National Grid Reference: SE 640 644

December 2000

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ENY	14
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OSA

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Report Details

REPORT NO: OSA99EV02/99EX03 ~ Assessment Report
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COUNTY: North Yorkshire
PARISH: Lillings Ambo 3078
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: SE 640 644
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TIMING: Excavation
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PERIODS REPRESENTED: Prehistoric, Roman, Anglo-Saxon, Medieval.
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1.0 Abstract

An archaeological excavation was carried out by On-Site Archaeology on behalf of BP Chemicals Ltd between November 1999 and March 2000, prior to the insertion of an ethylene carrying pipeline which extends from Teesside to Saltend near Hull (the BPTSEP project).

Initially BP Chemicals Limited commissioned a desktop assessment for the entire route, which was undertaken by AC Archaeology. This identified many areas of archaeological potential along the route, one of which was a crop mark allocated the code BPTSEP 169. There followed a program of geophysical survey, undertaken by GSP Prospection, which brought to light a number of anomalies in the vicinity of the cropmark, after which On-Site Archaeology were commissioned to carry out an archaeological evaluation of the site.

The evaluation comprised the excavation of five trenches, each measuring c.30 metres by 1.80 metres, which were positioned to investigate various anomalies indicated by the fluxgate gradiometer survey. The evaluation demonstrated that the geophysical survey provided a good, but not full, indication of the archaeological features across the site.

Part of a Romano-British villa, provisionally dated to the 4th century AD, and a system of probable field boundary ditches were revealed. One of the ditches predated the villa. A post-Roman ridge and furrow system trending approximately north - south was evident in all trenches. Finds recovered include pottery, tile, painted plaster, fragments of opus signinum, a few sherds of possible window glass, iron nails and a pair of bronze shears or clippers.

After further geophysical survey demonstrated that the extent of features was far greater than had initially been thought, On Site Archaeology were commissioned to undertake an excavation of the pipe cut trench.

The excavation comprised the hand examination of a single trench, measuring 1.80 metres by c. 400 metres. This revealed a continuation of many of the features, such as field boundaries, encountered during the evaluation phase.

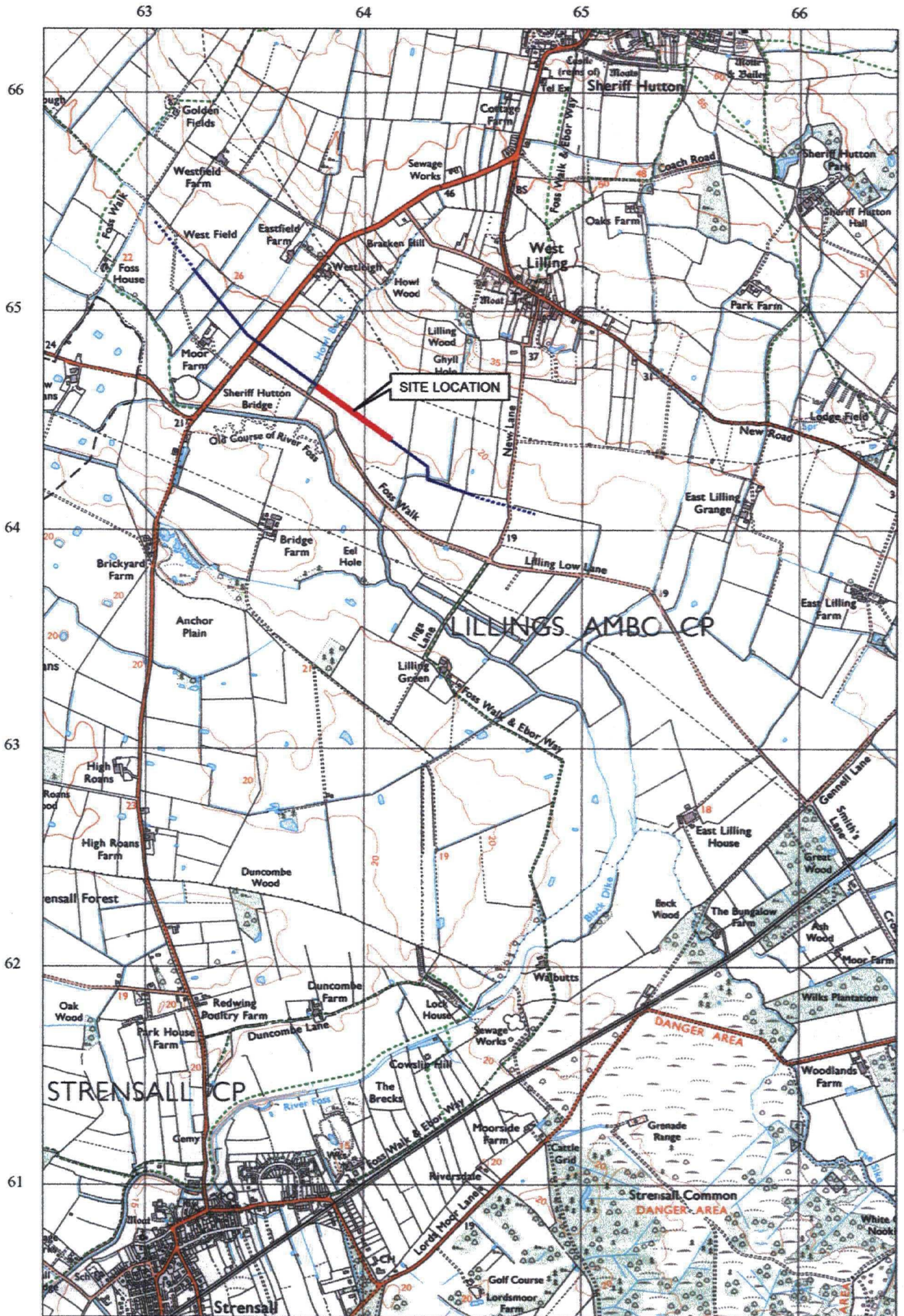


Figure 1. Site Location (NGR SE 640 644), red, and approximate pipeline route, blue. Scale 1:25,000.
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2.0 Introduction

This Assessment Report and Updated Project Design concerns the evaluation and excavation at West Lilling (BPTSEP 169) which were carried out by On-Site Archaeology on behalf of BP Chemicals Ltd. The evaluation was undertaken between 1st and 22nd February 1999, the excavation between 25th November 1999 and 3rd March 2000. The format of the report is intended to satisfy the requirements laid down by English Heritage in '*Management of Archaeological Projects*' (MAP2), 1991. MAP2 outlines a model for the management of archaeological projects by defining a series of stages through which a project should progress to reach publication. This includes a core stage, that of *assessment of potential for analysis*. The intention of this is that those involved with the further analysis of a project should outline its significance, quantify the resource and justify the programme, and ultimately the costs, of the post-excavation work. By the use of this model it is hoped that finite resources will not be wasted on those aspects of a project which have no contribution to make in furthering the understanding of our heritage.

The structure of this report will include;

- an outline of the methodology of the various stages of fieldwork.
- quantification and description of the fieldwork results, including an initial assessment of potential and recommendations for further action.
- an overview of the implications of the archaeology from the site, and research design to address potential themes for further analysis.
- resources and programming - timetable for the work to be completed, the allocation of resources in terms of time, staff and equipment, and an initial assessment of the budgetary implications.