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Rec'd	27/03/2001

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**BP CHEMICALS LIMITED  
TEESSIDE TO SALTEND ETHYLENE PIPELINE  
RYEDALE & YORK CITY AREAS**

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**SURFACE ARTEFACT COLLECTION  
OSA REPORT No 99FW01**

February 2001

**OSA**

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S 717  
E-VARIOUS

Recd 27/03/01

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**Report Summary**

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**REPORT NO** OSA99FW01 ~ Fieldwalking Report  
**SITE NAME** various  
**COUNTY** North Yorkshire  
**PARISH** various  
**NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE** various  
**ON BEHALF OF** BP Chemicals Limited  
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**PERIODS REPRESENTED** Prehistoric, Roman, Medieval, Modern  
**MUSEUM ACCESSION NO** not yet known

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**10 Summary**

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*An intensive fieldwalking survey, to recover surface artefacts, was undertaken by On-Site Archaeology on behalf of BP Chemicals Ltd in arable plots at various locations along the proposed route of the BP Chemicals Teesside to Saltend Ethylene Pipeline within Ryedale District, North Yorkshire*

*No significant distributions of artefacts were found and the bulk of the sample consisted of modern ceramic land drain fragments*

*The illustrations for this report, unless indicated otherwise, were prepared by Guy Hopkinson. The text was prepared by David Tyler and Guy Hopkinson of On-Site Archaeology with specialist contributions from Alan Vince and Jenny Mann. The surface artefact collection was undertaken by Susan Diamond, Caroline Emery, Guy Hopkinson, Lee Hunwicks, Faye Palmer and David Tyler*

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## 2 0 Methodology

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### 2 1 *Selection of Plots*

The areas selected for intensive fieldwalking were drawn from three categories

- 1 Areas where there is existing evidence from databases for the presence of archaeological sites or finds
- 2 Areas of specific archaeological potential revealed by other sources, such as walkover survey information soibnarks shown on BP air photos, or historic field names etc
- 3 Sample areas of non-specific archaeological potential, where there are adjacent sites of interest, topographic aspects favourable to settlement etc

### 2 2 *Fieldwalking Methodology*

The fieldwalking was conducted within a 40m-wide survey area centred on the pipe centre line. Collection was undertaken from a single transect within 20m-square collection units based on this centre line (i.e. 3 transects per 20m linear distance). A scaming width of c 2m along each transect provided a 10% sample of the pipeline working width. Provision was made to utilise a 10-metre square grid should significant concentrations of artefacts have been present.

All artefacts considered to pre-date c 1900 were collected. Representative samples were collected of bulk ceramic or stone building material.

Due to adverse weather conditions and the constraints of tuning the fieldwork to tie in with the agricultural timetable, a number of the fields designated for fieldwalking were either not walked or only partially walked. All the fields designated for fieldwork are listed in this report, and those not walked or only partially walked are noted as such.

### 3.0 Plot 50.1.

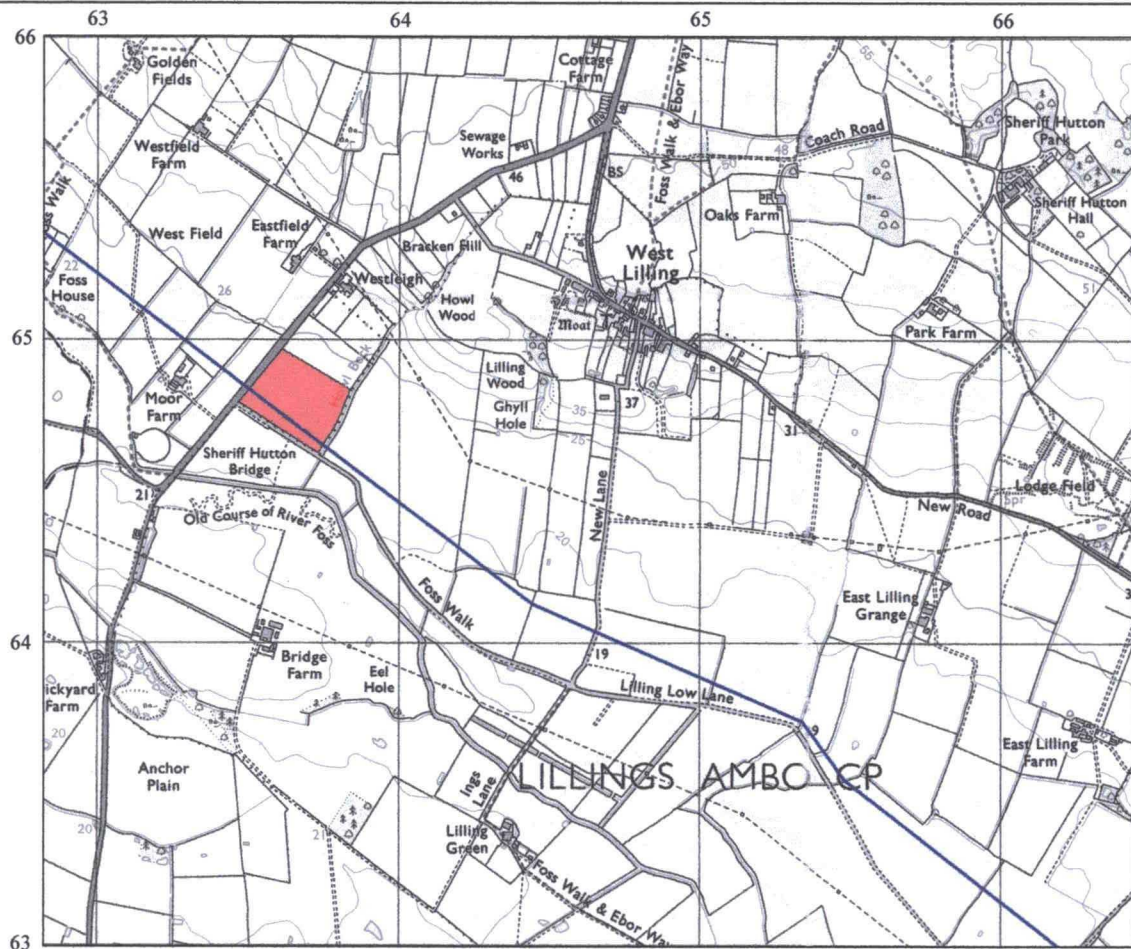


Figure 1. Location of Plot 50.1 (red) in relation to pipeline (blue).

#### 3.1 *Archaeological Background*

The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance. A Royal Commission for the Historic Monuments of England (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). A Romano-British villa/farmstead with an associated field system is situated to the southwest of Plot 50.1 (NGR SE 640 644) (Hopkinson & Tyler, 2000). The RCHME plot also records a Roman road running north – south, to the southeast of the current investigation (approx. NGR SE 6375 6415). Further to the southeast is Lilling Green Romano-British farmstead with associated fields and trackways (Swan, Jones & Grady: 1993).

Aerial photographs studied as part of the BP pipeline project have revealed two possible ring ditches and field boundaries to the southwest of Plot 50.1 on the opposite side of Lilling Low Lane. To the east of the Plot is an area of ridge and furrow trending approximately north-south (centred on NGR SE 646645) (Cox & Cottrell, 1998a).

**3 2 Location and Field Conditions**

Location NGR SE 6350 6484 to SE 6374 6466

Geology Warp and Lacustrine Clay with Sand and Gravel which overlies Bunter and Keuper Sandstone

Topography Level, rising slightly towards the southeast

Field Surface Conditions The field has undergone secondary cultivation

% Vegetation Cover 0%

Surface Visibility of Finds Fair

Light Conditions Good

Weather Conditions Good

Walkers/Date MGH, DT, CPE - 23/03/99

**3 3 Results**

Prior to fieldwalking being undertaken the plot had undergone secondary cultivation which resulted in a slightly reduced area available for surface artefact collection. This is not considered to have adversely biased the quantity or character of the collected sample.

Twelve objects were recovered from Field 50 1, each recorded by a grid square. Of these, only one is definitely pre-modern, a flint arrowhead of prehistoric date. Five are definitely modern and the remainder quite likely to be so. A distribution plot of the artefact locations produced no discernible pattern. The following table lists the artefacts recovered.

No	Gnd	Description
SF144	B 5	IRON NAIL
SF234	C 11	STONE ROOF THIN SHEET OF LIMESTONE POSSIBLE ROOFER
SF236	B 4	STONE WASTE EITHER COAL OR JET FRAG
SF237	B 15	STONE WASTE EITHER COAL OR JET FRAG
SF238	B 3	STONE WASTE EITHER COAL OR JET FRAG
SF239	A 2	GLASS WIND MOD CLEAR GLASS
SF240	B 2	GLASS BOT RIM OF CLEAR GLASS BOTTLE/JAR MOLDED MOD?
SF241	B 2	GLASS BOT CYLINDRICAL BOTTLE MOD MILK BOTTLE?
SF242	B 2	GLASS BOT CYLINDRICAL BOTTLE MOD
SF243	A 7	GLASS BOT CYLINDRICAL BOTTLE MOD CLEAR GLASS
SF250	C 10	STONE ARROW FLINT ARROWHEAD DARK BROWN FLINT SOME CORTEX REMAINING
SF32	C 6	IRON SLAG CINDER?

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**4 0 Plot 50 2**

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**4 1 *Archaeological Background***

The site lies in an area of known archaeological significance. Aerial photographs show a large curvilinear cropmark with a contiguous linear feature aligned northeast-southwest on the southern side (Cox & Cottrell 1998a, No 169 NGR SE 640644)

A Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME) sketch plot of the area indicates the presence of a rectangular enclosure spanning the junction of Lilling Low Lane and the minor road between Shenff Hutton and Strensall (NGR SE 63456480)

The same plot also records parts of a double-ditched road or trackway. One fragment runs north-south (NGR SE 63746417-SE 63756395), c 200m long, to the south of the current investigation and the River Foss. The road transects the eastern part of Bulford Tofts Close and has probably forded the river at some point. The pre-1856 course of the River Foss formed a series of meanders, indicative of a sluggish flow, and thus a suitable place for a ford (Swan, Jones & Grady 1993). Further to the south is a longer section, c 700m long, aligned approximately northeast-southwest (NGR 63616336-SE 63356271)

The latter section of the road runs within 300m of Lilling Green Romano-British farmstead. The farmstead comprises a large rectangular enclosure, partitioned internally into various-sized compounds, outside it is a co-axial complex of fields and associated trackways. Limited field-walking has produced a small amount of Roman pottery, including 4<sup>th</sup> century sherds (Swan, Jones & Grady 1993)

To the east of the site is an area of ridge and furrow trending approximately north-south (centred on NGR SE 646645). The medieval background of the area has been comprehensively researched by Swan, Jones & Grady (1993)

Archaeological field evaluation revealed part of a Romano-British villa, provisionally dated to the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD, and a system of probable field boundary ditches. At least one of the ditches predated the villa. A post-Roman ridge and furrow system trending approximately north-south was also evident (Hopkinson & Tyler forthcoming)

Due to crop cover this field was not walked.



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**5 0 Plot 51 5**

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**5 1 *Archaeological Background***

Aerial photographs revealed a number of small rectilinear enclosures associated with a linear trackway within Plot 51 5 and the adjacent plot, on the opposite side of Lilling Low Lane to the proposed pipeline route. The features are of unknown date (Cox & Cottrell 1998a, No 170 NGR SE 6559 6300, No 171 NGR SE 657 629)

Due to crop cover this field was not walked

## 6.0 Plot 51.6

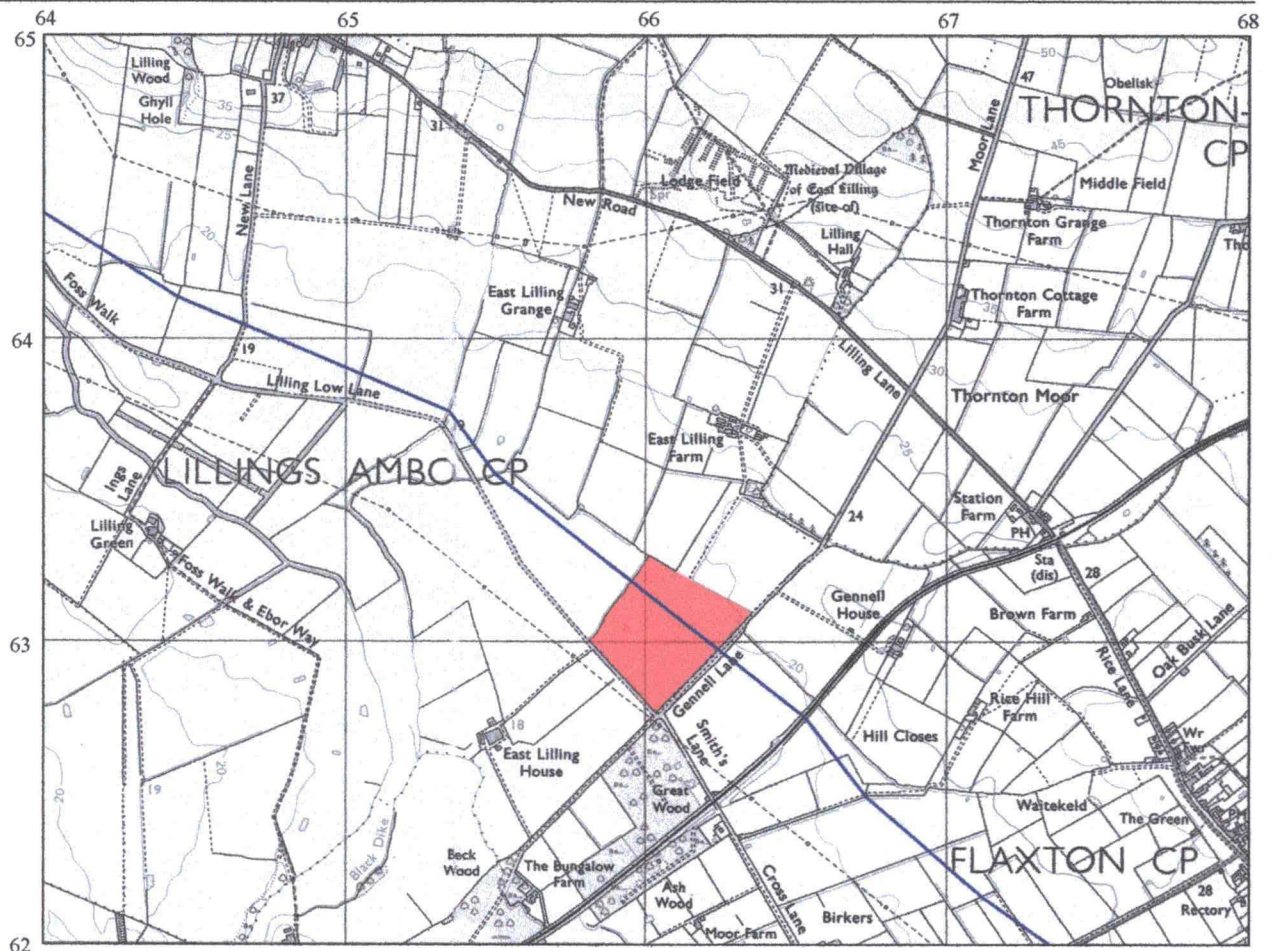


Figure 2. Location of Plot 51.6 (red) in relation to pipeline (blue).

### 6.1 *Archaeological Background*

Aerial photographs revealed a number of small rectilinear enclosures associated with a linear trackway (Cox & Cottrell 1998a, No: 170 NGR SE 6559 6300, No: 171 NGR SE 657 629) to the south and southwest of Plot 51.6, on the opposite side of Lilling Low Lane. The features are of unknown date.

### 6.2 *Location and Field Conditions*

Location: NGR SE 6593 6319 to SE 6622 6294

Topography: Flat

Field Surface Conditions: The eastern half of the survey area was under standing cereal crop *c.*50-100mm high. Approximately 30% of the area was under standing water. The western half of the survey area was ploughed

% Vegetation Cover: 20% over the eastern half of the survey area  
0% over the western half of the survey area

Surface Visibility of Fnds Poor over the eastern half of the survey area  
Bad over the western half of the survey area the finds were  
obscured by topsoil redistributed by recent heavy ram

Light Conditions Moderate

Weather Conditions Fair

Walkers/Date MGH, LMH, CPE - 29/10/98

### 6.3 *Results*

Two objects were recovered from this field, these being SF254, modern? slag fragment, and SF252, which proved to be an unworked pebble. No conclusions can be drawn from this assemblage.