



NEGATIVE WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

RYECROFT ROAD HAINWORTH WEST YORKSHIRE

prepared for Morrisons Utilities Service on behalf of Yorkshire Water

> NAA 20-100 November 2020

NAA

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QUALITY ASSURANCE		
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Client Morrisons Utilities Service Ltd on behalf of Yorkshire Water Ltd

Location Ryecroft Road, Hainworth, West Yorkshire, BD21 5QP

District City of Bradford

Parish Keighley

Grid Ref SE 06516 38659 to SE 06670 38634

Site Supervisor Kev Collins

Fieldwork dates 27-30 October 2020

Development type Two sections of new water pipeline

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RYECROFT ROAD, HAINWORTH, WEST YORKSHIRE

Negative Watching Brief Report

Reasons for watching brief

As part of the Pitts-Hainworth SRE Dedicated Inlet Main Project, a new section of water main

was laid along Ryecroft Road and into an existing pumping station (SE 06653 38626; Fig. 1). The

pipeline route crossed one of two alternative projected routes of a Roman road between

Littleborough and Ilkley (W. Yorks. HER PRN 579; Margary 1973, road 720a; Haken 2018). David

Hunter of West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service therefore recommended archaeological

monitoring of groundworks on this part of the route, with recording of any archaeological

features encountered and recovery of any finds.

Results

Excavation of a trench 2m wide by 1.2m deep along Ryecroft Road, crossing the projected line

of a Roman road at right angles, revealed that the area had been disturbed by the construction

of the modern road and various modern utilities trenches (Plate 1). At the southern end of the

road trench the pipeline route turned to the north-east into a field adjacent to the pumping

station. This part of the route approximately followed the suggested line of the Roman road. Dark

brown silty sand topsoil was stripped over an area of 15m x 5m to a depth of 0.20m (Plate 2).

This revealed undisturbed natural sandstone and sand. Subsequent monitoring of 24m of 0.07m

wide by 1.2m-deep pipe trench across this area also recorded only undisturbed natural geology

(Plate 3), with no archaeological features or artefacts identified.

No archaeological features were identified and no finds were recovered. However, due to the

level of disturbance observed within the road trench, this negative result should not be taken as

proof that Roman Road 720a does not pass through this area.

Archive deposition: Internal at NAA

References

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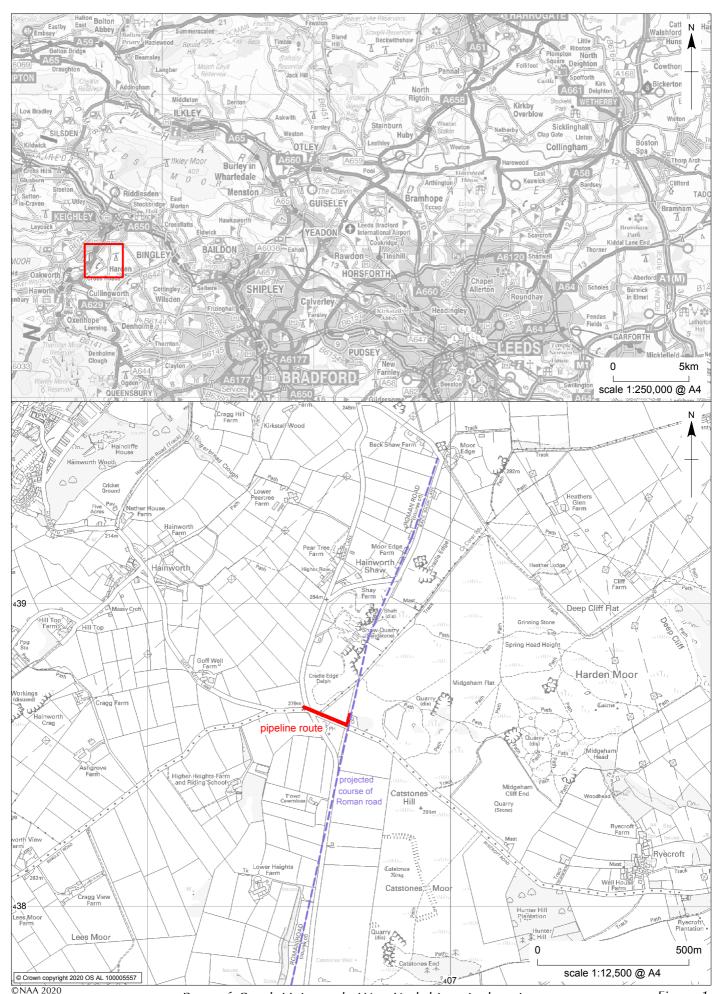
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Margary, I. D. (1973) *The Roman Roads of Britain*. London: John Baker.

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for Yorkshire Water



Ryecroft Road, Hainworth, West Yorkshire: site location



Plate 1: sample section of road trench showing depth of disturbance



Plate 2: area in field during stripping, facing NE



Plate 3: pipe trench in field showing topsoil over natural Ryecroft Road, Hainworth, West Yorkshire: plates