

NORTHERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATES

Askrigg to Bowbridge Hill

NEGATIVE WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

Site name: Askrigg

Grid reference: NGR 393710, 490985

Parish: Low Abbotside

District: Wensleydale

County: North Yorkshire

Administrative authority: Yorkshire Dales National Park

Development: Water Main Renewal

Client: Yorkshire Water Services

Contractor: Morrison Utilities Services

Planning application reference: N/A

Site supervisor: Alistair Zochowski

Project manager: Olly Cooper

Date(s): 24/05/2016

NAA project number: 1297

Site code: N/A

Reasons for watching brief:

A watching brief was undertaken on three inspection trenches excavated over the existing water main to establish the location and condition of the water main, prior to its replacement.

Northern Archaeological Associates (NAA) conducted an archaeological appraisal of the area that was to be impacted by the proposed inspection trenches. This appraisal highlighted a number of heritage assets that could be disturbed by the proposed works (NAA 2016).

Results:

On the 24 May 2016, NAA monitored the excavation of three inspection trenches located over an existing water main and situated to the west of the village of Askrigg, North Yorkshire (Figs 1 and 2).

Inspection trench 1 was located in the verge to the north of the road running towards Askrigg. The trench measured 0.70m in length, 0.40m in width and had a maximum excavated depth of 0.70m, at which depth the water main was encountered.

A layer of mixed stones and dark brown silty loam soil, with an average thickness of 0.40m overlay the pipe and this was subsequently overlain by the current topsoil. This consisted of a mid to dark brown silty loam and had an average thickness of 0.30m.

No archaeological features were encountered within trench 1 (plate 1).



Plate 1: Inspection trench 1 looking Northwest

Inspection trench 2 was located in the corner of a field, just to the east of Skellgill Lane and to the south of Gill Gate Farm. The trench measured 1.10m in length, 0.60m in width and had a maximum excavated depth of 1.20m, at which depth the water main was encountered.

A layer of mixed stones and dark brown silty loam, with an average thickness of 0.90m overlay the pipe. This was subsequently overlain by the current topsoil. This consisted of a mid to dark brown silty loam and had an average thickness of 0.30m.

A concrete valve cover measuring 0.40m square with a depth of 1.20m was encountered directly under the topsoil and this related to the existing water main. No archaeological features were encountered within trench 2 (Plate 2).



Plate 2: Inspection trench 2 looking Northwest

Inspection trench 3 was located in a field 240m to the west of trench 2. The trench measured 1.10m in length, 1.10m in width and had a maximum excavated depth of 1.00m at which depth the water main was encountered.

A layer of mixed stones and dark brown silty loam, with an average thickness of 0.70m overlay the pipe. This was subsequently overlain by the current topsoil. This consisted of a mid to dark brown silty loam and had an average thickness of 0.30m.

No archaeological features were encountered within trench 3 (Plate 3).



Plate 3: Inspection trench 3 looking North

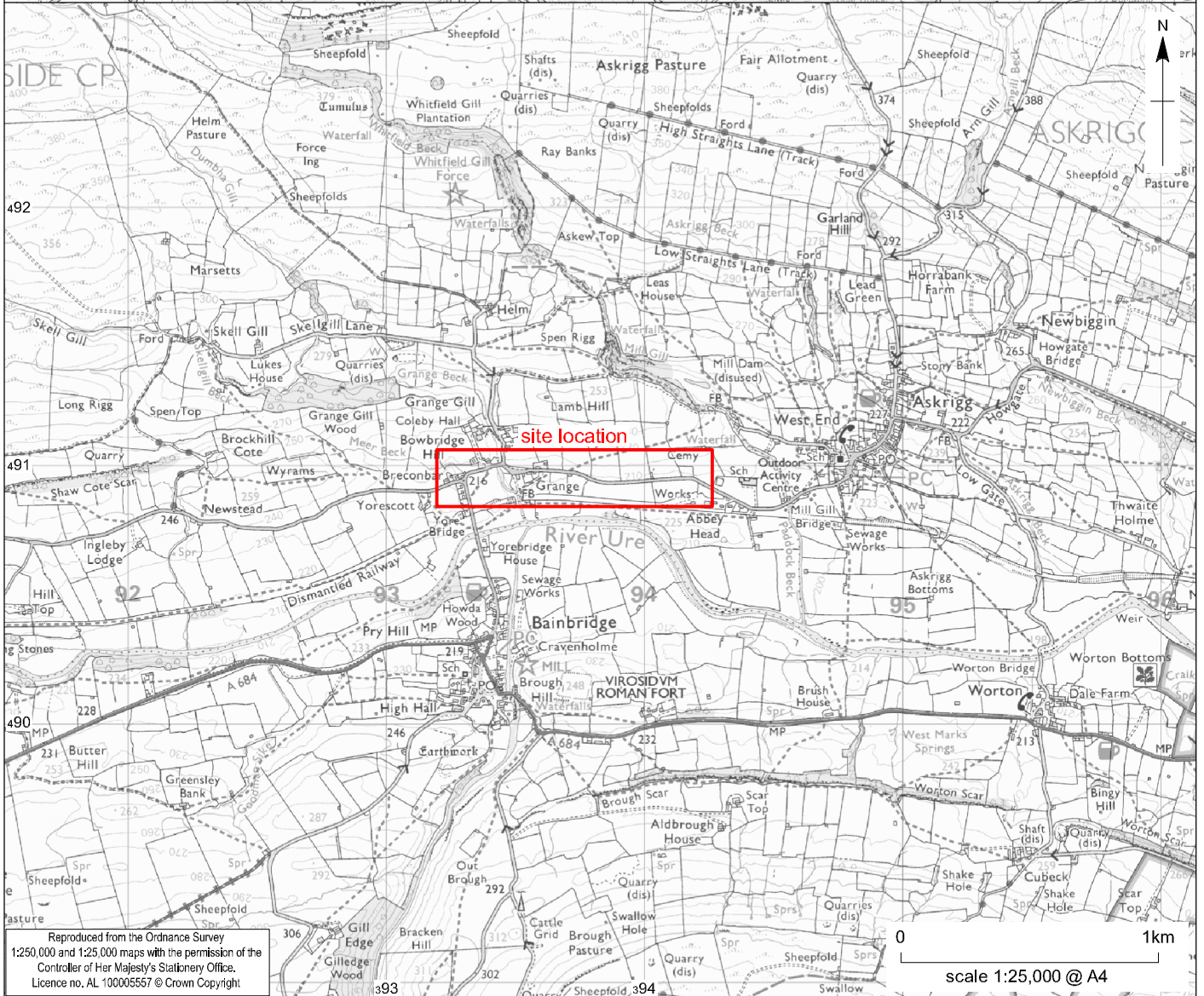
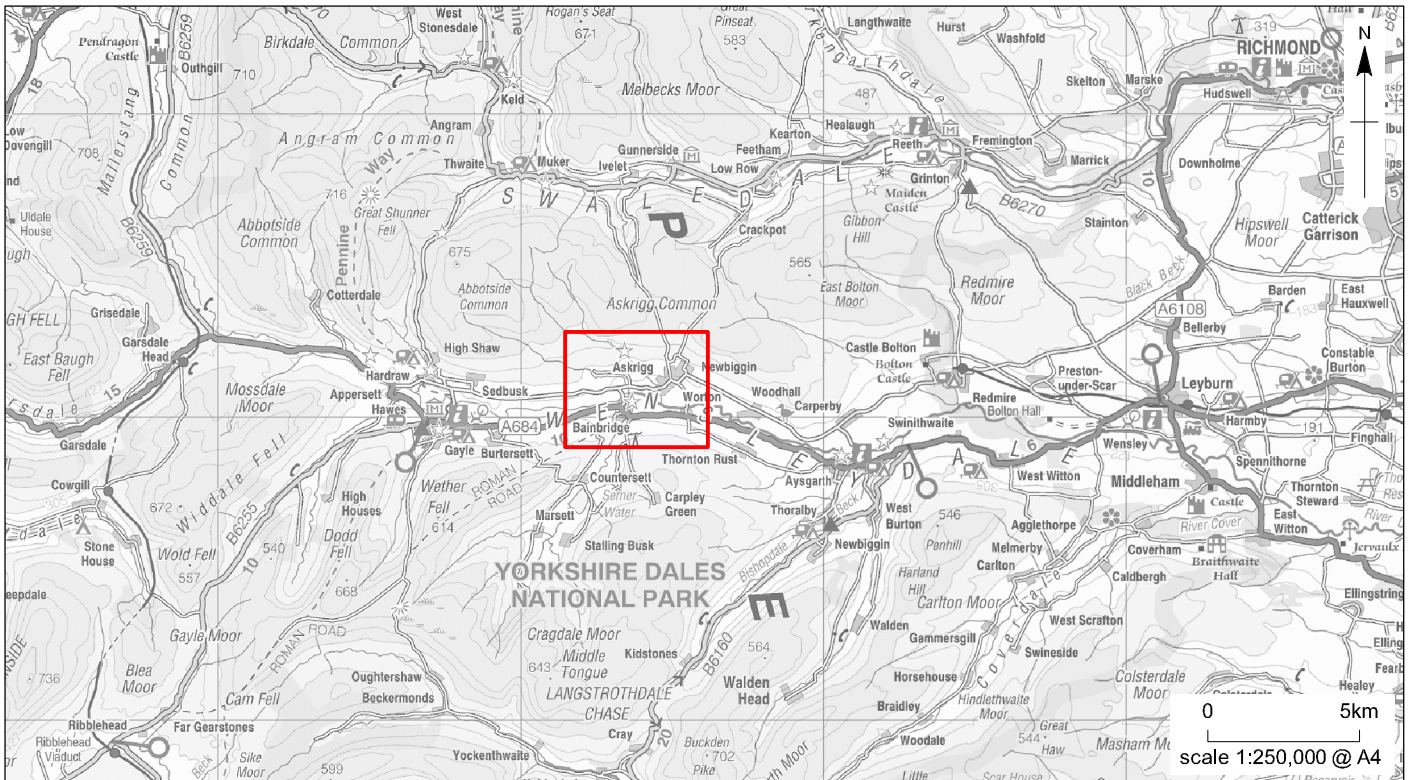
Documentation: The archive consists of 31 digital photographs and three trench sheets.

Archive deposition: Internal archive only.

Reference: NAA (2016) Water Main Renewal, Askrigg to Bowbridge Hill, Wensleydale, North Yorkshire, Archaeological Appraisal. NAA report 16-41

Report number: NAA 2016/64

Report date: May 2016



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Q0378 Yorkshire Appraisals, Askrigg: site location

Figure 1

