

**NORTHERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATES LTD**

*Bonfield Gill, Helmsley*

**NEGATIVE WATCHING BRIEF REPORT**

**Site name:** Bonfield Gill **Grid reference:**

**Parish:** Pockley **District:** Ryedale District **County:** North Yorkshire

**Administrative authority:** North Yorkshire Moors National Park

**Development:** Water main repair

**Client:** Yorkshire Water Services Ltd **Contractor:** Morrison Utility Services Ltd

**Planning application reference:** N/A

**Monitoring Archaeologist:** Kevin Collins **Project Manager:** Oliver Cooper

**Dates:** 17/10/11 to 20/10/11

**NAA Project number:** 1041

**Site code:** N/A

**Reasons for watching brief:** Archaeological monitoring was requested by the North Yorkshire Moors National Park archaeologist, as the route crossed an early 18th century water race (Figure 1), constructed as part of a system to provide drinking water to the local villages, which survives as an earthwork. This is not a very substantial feature (Plate 1), easily overlooked in long heather, and would easily be damaged by being driven over, particularly if the ground is wet. Therefore it was agreed that vehicle movements would be monitored to minimise any damage to the archaeology.

**Results:** Before any movements onto site were carried out, a route was chosen in consultation with the senior contractor on site, which would avoid damage to the archaeology, and was a safe route for the contractor's vehicles to travel. The route was then marked with canes with hazard tape tied to them; this route was adhered to by the contractors (Plate 2). The excavation, repair and the backfilling of the water main was monitored throughout all of its stages, no finds or features were found during these works.

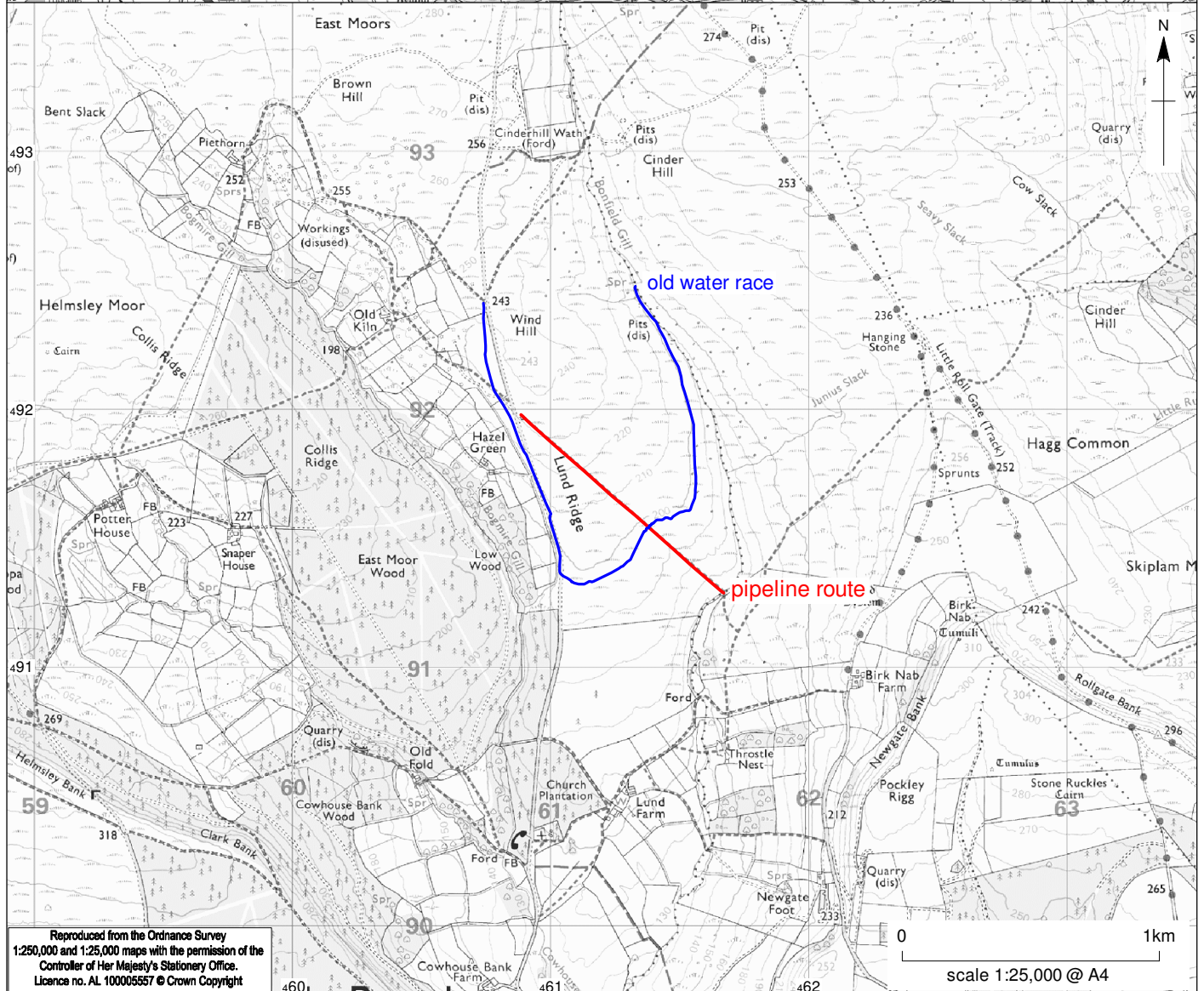
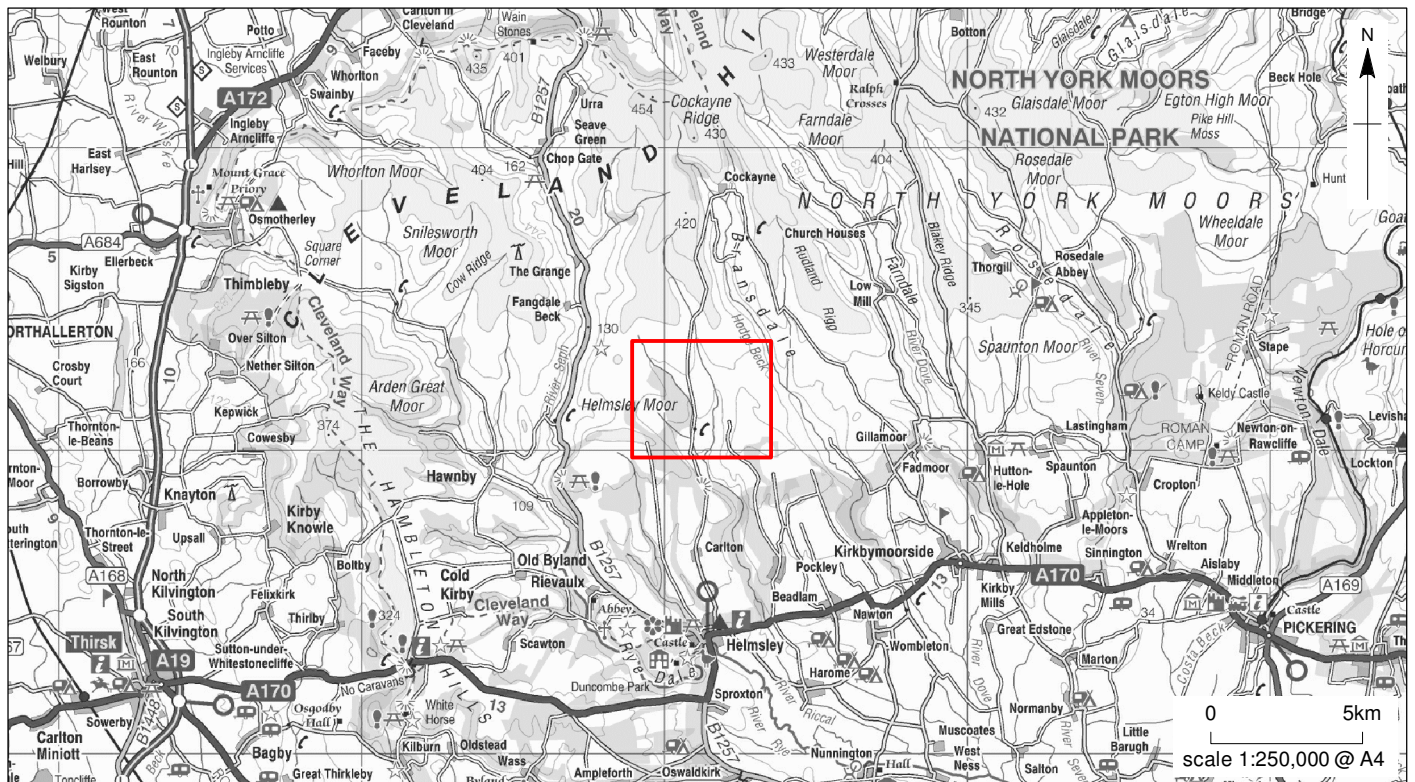
**Finds:** n/a

**Documentation:** Digital photographs.

**Report number:** NAA11/97

**Archive Deposition:** Internal archive.

**Report date:** 26/10/11



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Bonfield Gill: location of pipeline route and old water race

Figure 1



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*Bonfield Gill: view of old water race*

*Plate 1*



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*Bonfield Gill: north side of water race showing minimal surface damage*

*Plate 2*