

WHAT A RELIEF!

LOUTH's long-awaited A16 bypass is open at last.

Transport Minister Patrick McLoughlin this afternoon cut the ribbon to open the new £5-million route, which was finished six months ahead of schedule.

He ended 30 years of campaigning to relieve the historic market town of heavy goods traffic and congestion from holidaymakers en route to the coast.

To herald the new era of freedom from rumbling traffic, Mr McLoughlin joined members of the district's WI, planting 400 wildflowers along the new road.

A 1925 Bullnose Morris Cowley took the Minister on a tour of the 3.4-mile bypass and then into Louth. He was able to see for himself the effect heavy traffic had, shaking Louth to its foundations.

He was welcomed to the town, along with other guests and officials, by the chairman of East Lindsey District Council, Coun. Geoff Gil-

By
PETER CRAIG

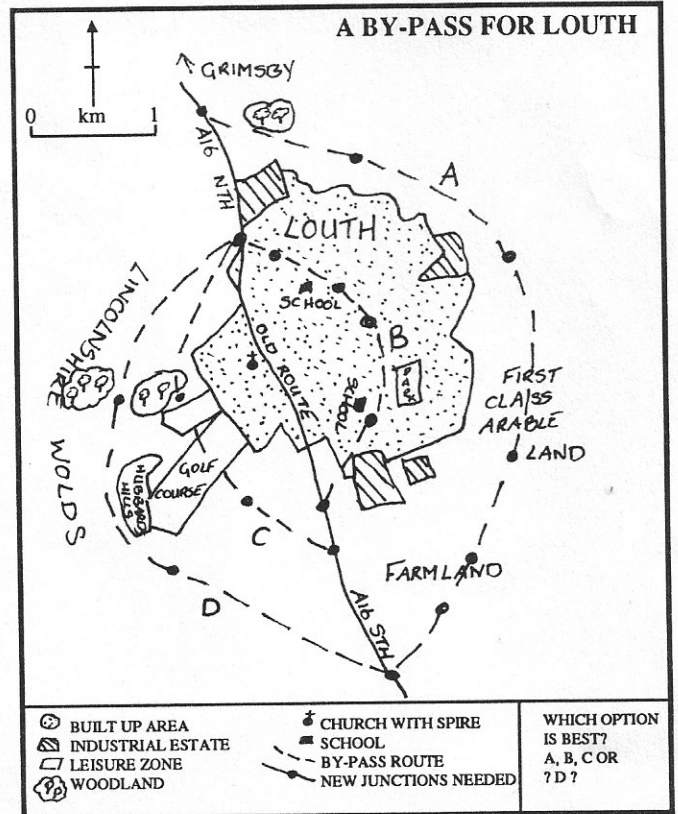
lett, who said the bypass was a relief to East Lindsey and especially Louth, sorely effected by holiday traffic queues.

He added it would benefit tourism, agriculture and give a welcome boost to industry, possibly attracting more firms to the area and easing unemployment.

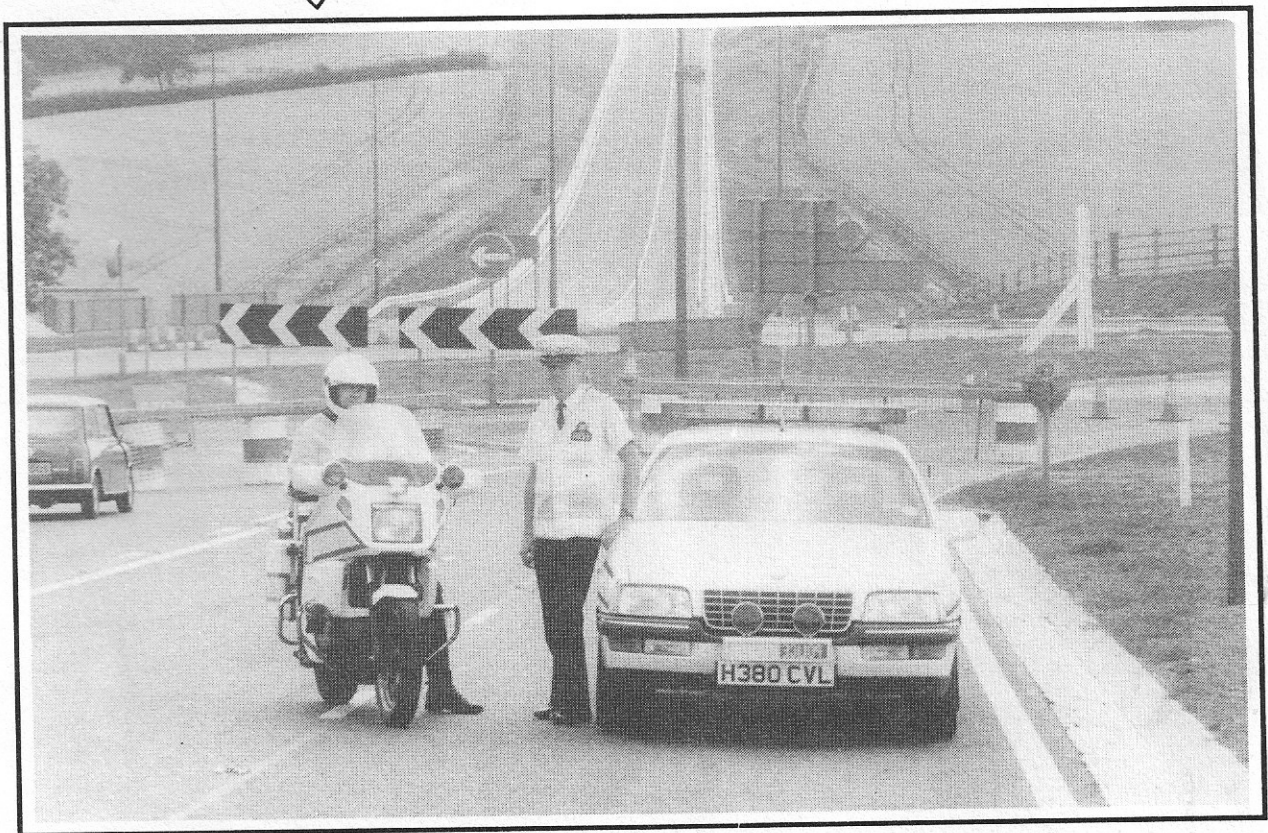
Police chiefs, joined guests at the ceremony to highlight the need for safety on the new road and promised extra checks to stamp out speeding.

Representatives of Clugston Construction, of Scunthorpe, who built the bypass, added their delight, along with Department of Transport officials and Louth, East Lindsey and county councillors.

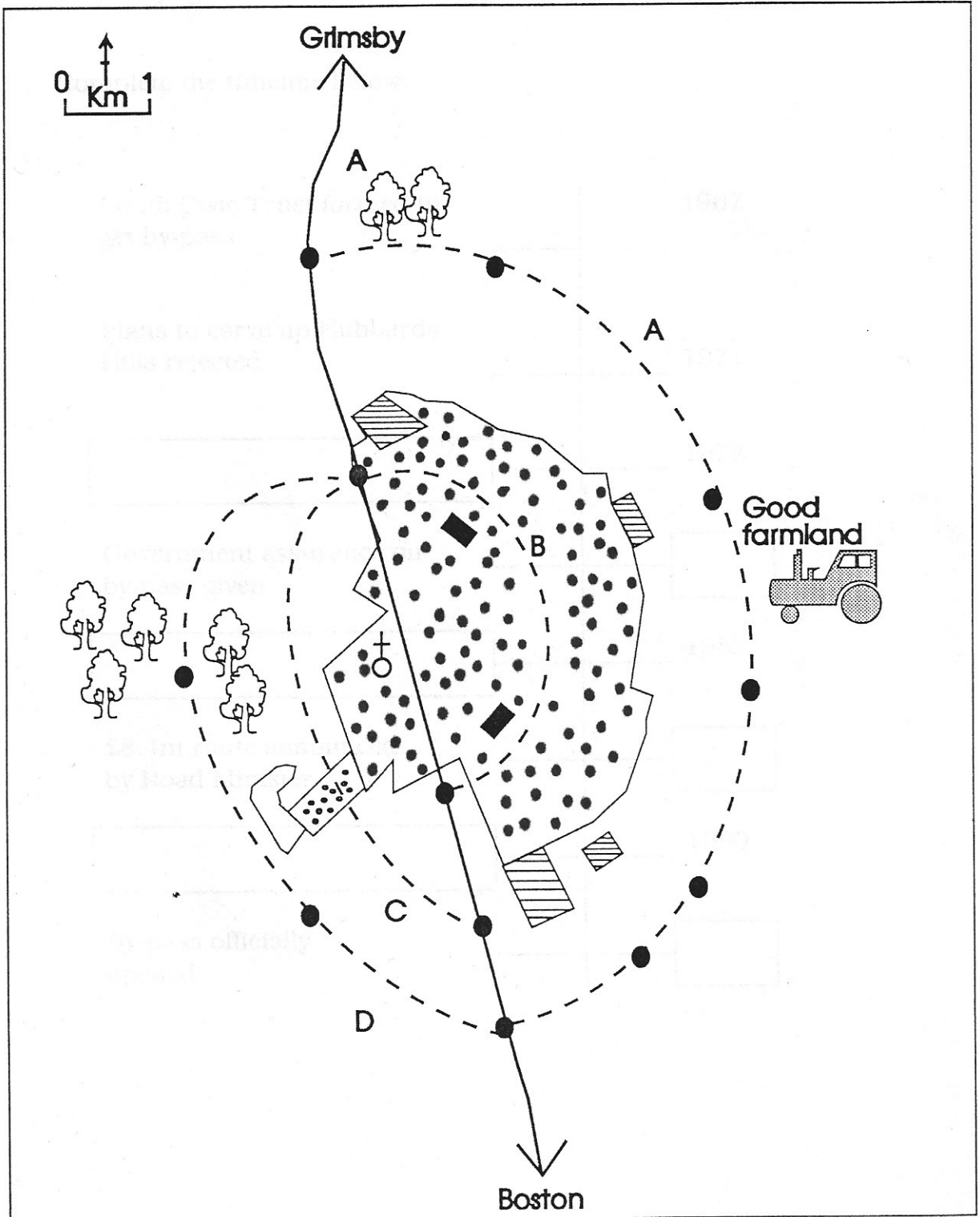
Louth Mayor Coun Dorothy Grant said there would be rejoicing in the streets.



▽ The bypass on the day of official opening.



WHAT A RELIEF - LARGE MAP



Built up area	St. James Church	By-pass routes
Industrial area	School	New Junction
Leisure zone	Woodland	Golf course