

## **Foxton Bottom Report**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2013 Archaeology RheeSearch Group carried out magnetometry and resistivity surveys on this site to try to locate any sub surface features.

**Members participating:** Pat Davies, Brian Bridgland, Liz Livingstone, Ian Sanderson, Gill Shapland, Maureen Storey and Tony Storey.

**Site owner:** Dominic Mahony.

**Site conditions:** Rough grass.

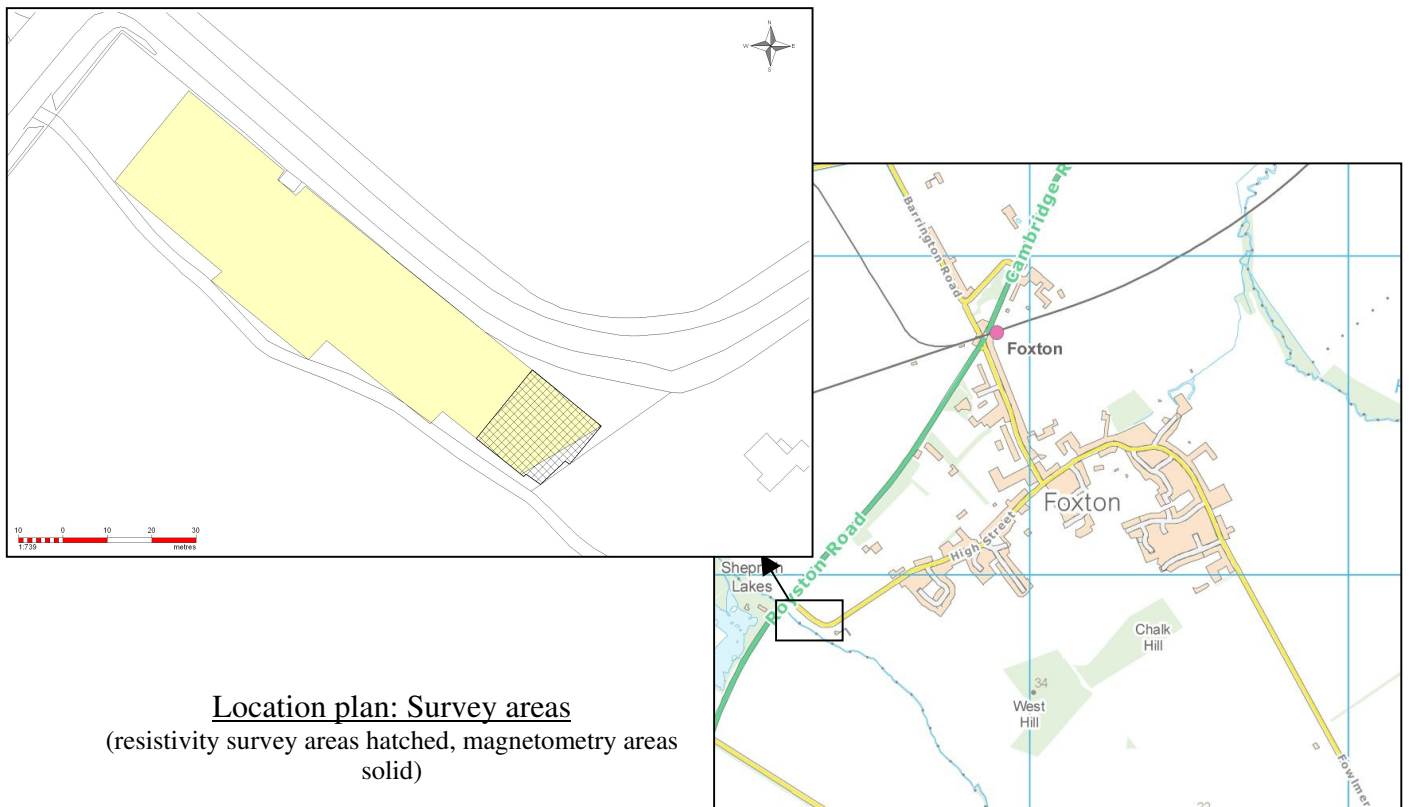
**Equipment:** Bartington 601 gradiometer; TRCIA 50 cm twin probe.

Magnetometry readings: 8/m, 1 m separation.

Resistivity readings: 1 m interval, 1 m separation.

Raw data available as separate appendices.

**Location:** TL 403478, Foxton, Cambs.



**Location plan: Survey areas**  
(resistivity survey areas hatched, magnetometry areas solid)

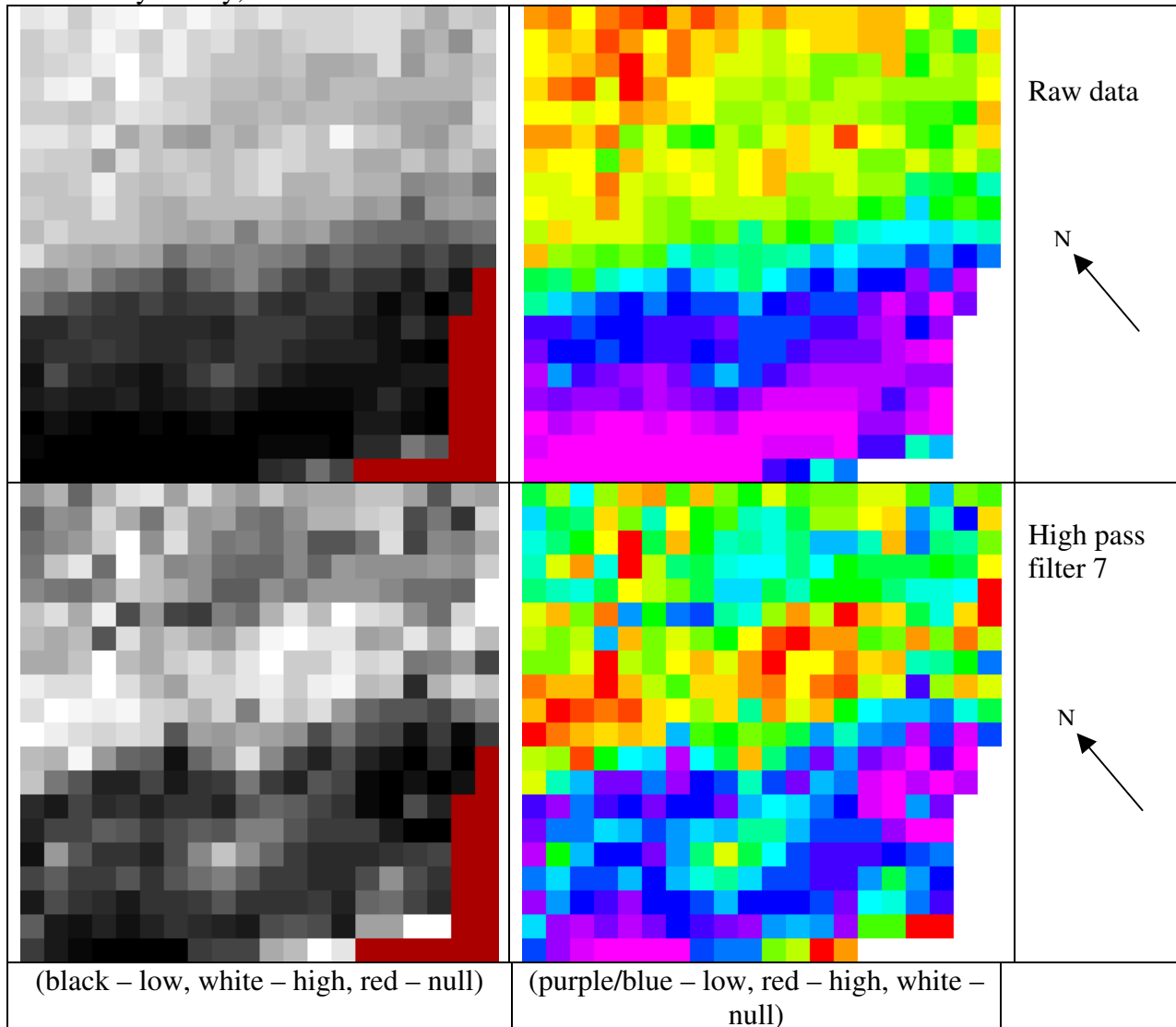
**Purpose of survey:** The purpose of this survey was to see if any features might be present to indicate that the adjacent road continued south west prior to its present course to the north west.

**Site topography:** The site of rough grass was bounded by a road on the north east and a stream on the south west with a slight slope down from the road to the stream. The road side had some scrub with degraded post and wire fencing and a shed part way along. The stream side had similar fencing with no scrub. The south east boundary had dense scrub hedging with wire fencing. The north west boundary comprised dense vegetation on a short steep bank up to metal crash barriers along the main road.

**Results:**

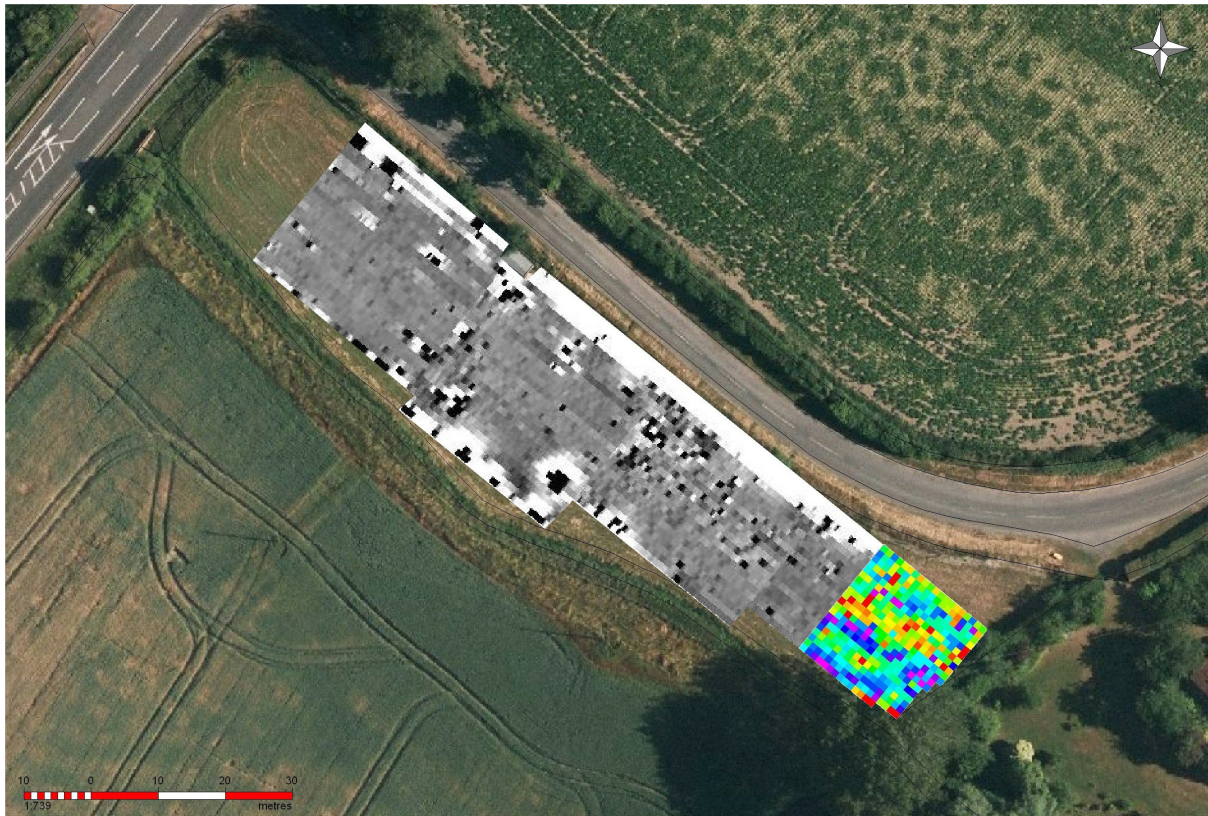
*The images in this section are orientated for presentation. The images are not to a common scale.*

Resistivity survey, 20 m x 20 m



Magnetometry survey 30 m x 120 m range +11 to -10 nT





Survey results on an aerial photograph

**Discussion:**

The resistivity results do not show any indication that the road once continued to the SW rather than its present sharp turn to the NW. A line of high values does however suggest a track running across the survey area to the NW. Although there are almost no magnetic responses in the area of the resistivity survey there are indications of magnetic noise on the same alignment further to the NW. None of the other magnetometry responses can be attributed with any confidence to archaeological features. This was not unexpected as the site is described in the Foxton Inclosure Award of 1830 only as a plot of land, but Baker's map of 1816-20 shows a grove of trees. All of the maps examined up to 1960 show the site with extensive tree cover. There were no trees within the survey areas which suggests that there must have been extensive sub-surface disruption caused by roots and their removal. It was therefore unlikely that a geophysical survey would show archaeological features. The track line shown in the resistivity therefore probably reflects relatively recent metalling of access to the site from the property to the SE.