



Impington Geophysics Report

In October 2006 Archaeology RheeSearch Group carried out magnetometry and resistivity surveys to search for evidence of a mill on this site.

Members participating: Pat Davies, Liz Livingstone, Bruce Milner, Ian Sanderson.

Site liaison: Pene Nudds. (Owners: Mr & Mrs Biggs)

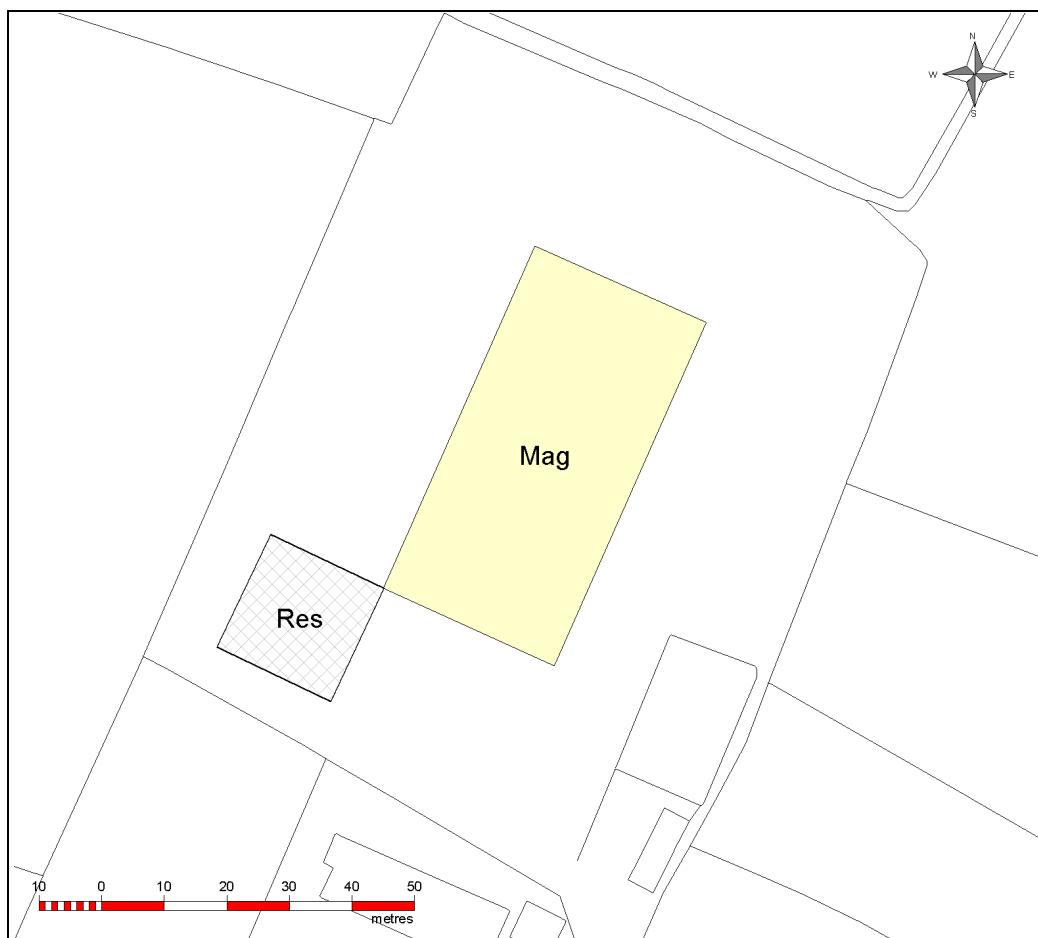
Site conditions: Grass paddock sloping down to NE. Planting of small fruit trees around the perimeter reduced the easily accessible area for surveying.

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

Area covered: Magnetometry two $30\text{ m} \times 30\text{ m}$ grids
Resistivity one $20\text{ m} \times 20\text{ m}$ grid

Location: TL 445 635, Impington.

Images are orientated with north to the top of the page except where indicated otherwise.

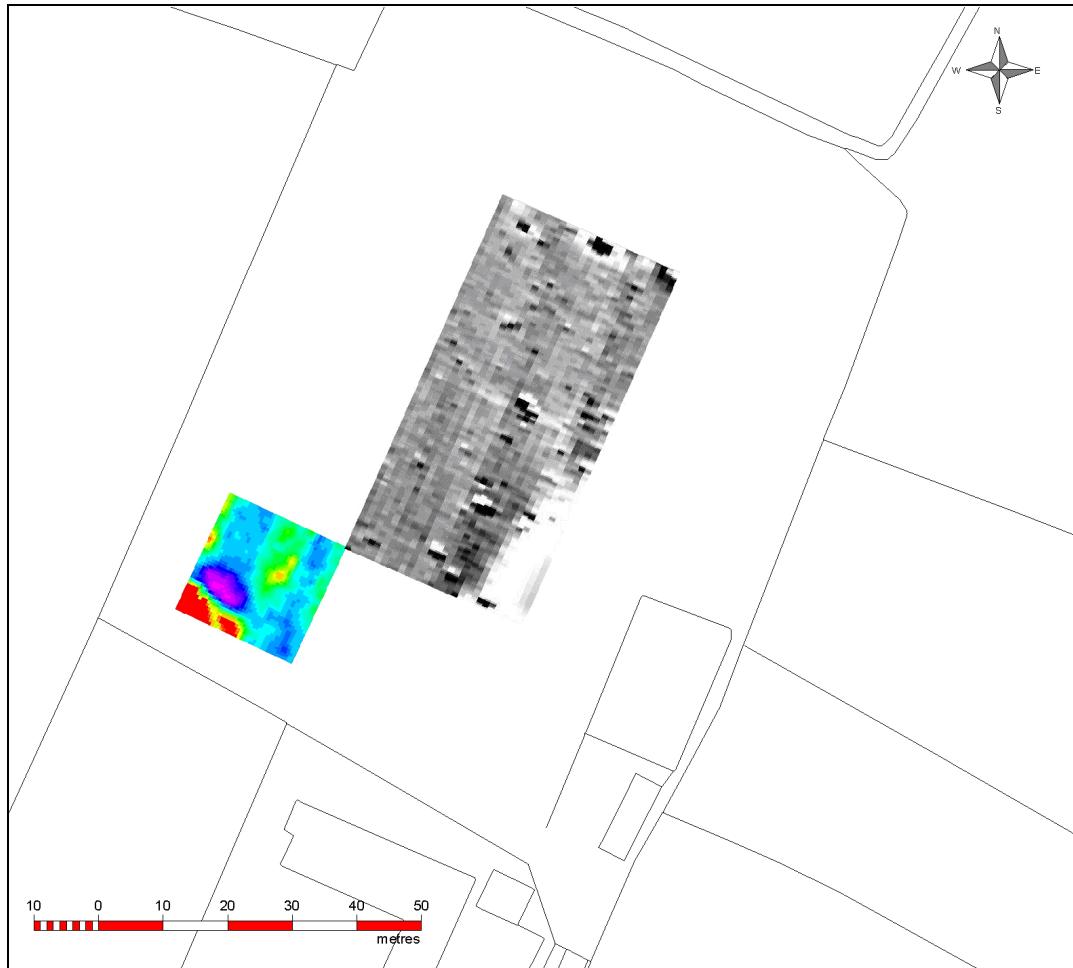


Location plan: Survey areas.
(Resistivity area crosshatched, magnetometry area solid.)



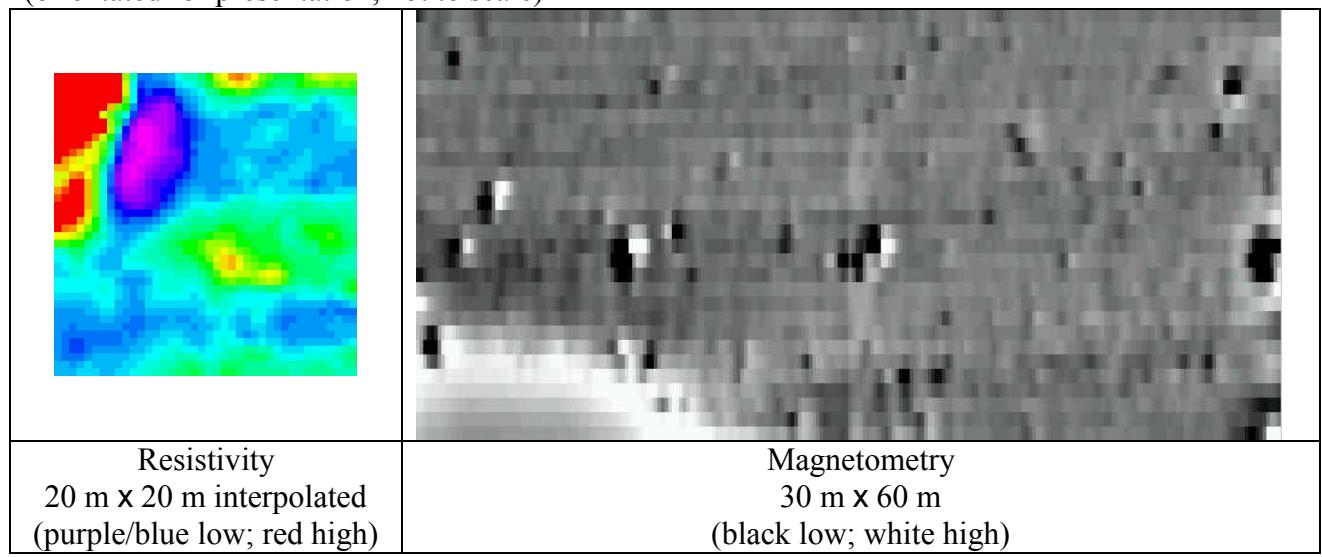
Purpose of survey: To determine if any subsurface structures were detectable which might relate to a mill on the site.

Results in context:



Results detail:

(orientated for presentation, not to scale)





Discussion:

Magnetometry

The corner of the magnetometry survey area was affected by the barn in the adjacent field to the E. Some point source strong signals were detected within the survey area which are probably the result of ferrous debris from farming activities. There was a subtle variation in magnetic response running almost NS which could be due to ridge and furrow cultivation. No evidence of ditches or structures was discovered.

Resistivity

Two bands of low resistance are noticeable in the resistivity survey. These run in a similar direction to the subtle magnetic responses and have a similar spacing. The high resistance area to the S is probably a result of soil moisture depletion by the shrubs on the S and SW field boundary, although the area of low resistance immediately to the N may have an effect. The area of particularly low response suggests a sump effect pulling soil moisture from the area of high resistance and to a lesser extent from the low resistance band to the E. This effect could arise from a pit that has been filled with peaty or moisture retentive soil. There is no evidence within the resistivity survey area for residual building foundations.

Conclusion:

No evidence for any building foundations were found within the areas surveyed. Subtle traces of ridge and furrow cultivation were noted.

Raw data are appended.

Magnetometry readings: 4/m, 1 m separation.

Resistivity readings: 1 m interval, 1 m separation.

Report by Dr I Sanderson, February 2008

