

Manuden Priors Field Report

In August 2015 Archaeology RheeSearch Group carried out magnetometry and resistivity surveys on this site.

Members participating: Brian Bridgland, John Cameron, Pat Davies, Elizabeth Livingstone, Ian Sanderson, Gill Shapland, Maureen Storey and Tony Storey.

Site liaison: Richard Gibson.

Site conditions: Rough grass.

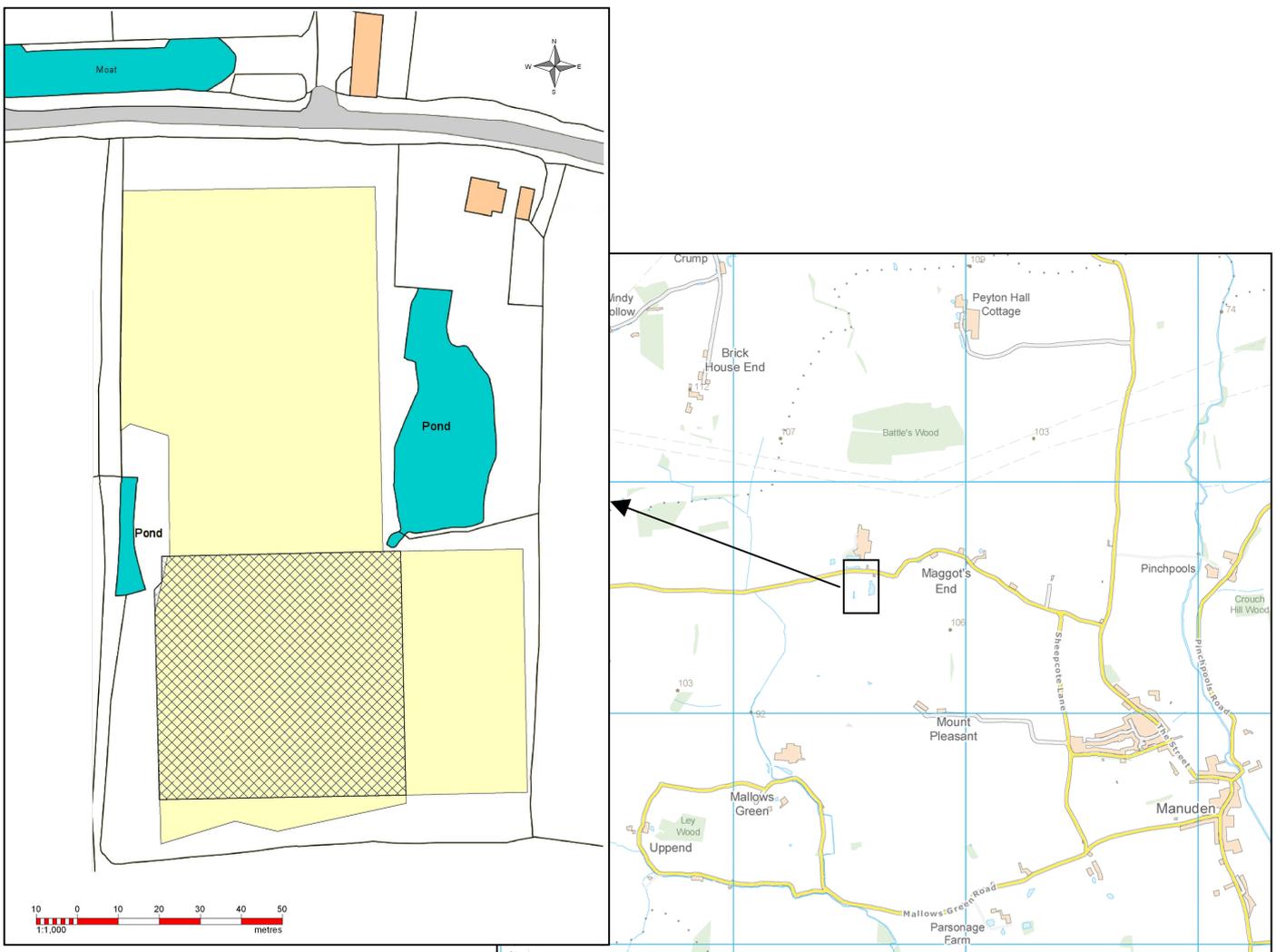
Equipment: Bartington 601 gradiometer; TRCIA 50 cm twin probe.

Magnetometry readings: 8/m, 1 m separation.

Resistivity readings: 1 m interval, 1 m separation.

Raw data are available as separate appendices.

Location: TL475 275, Manuden, Essex.



Location plan: Survey areas

(resistivity survey area hatched, magnetometry area solid)

Purpose of survey: The purpose of this survey was to determine if any subsurface features could be detected.

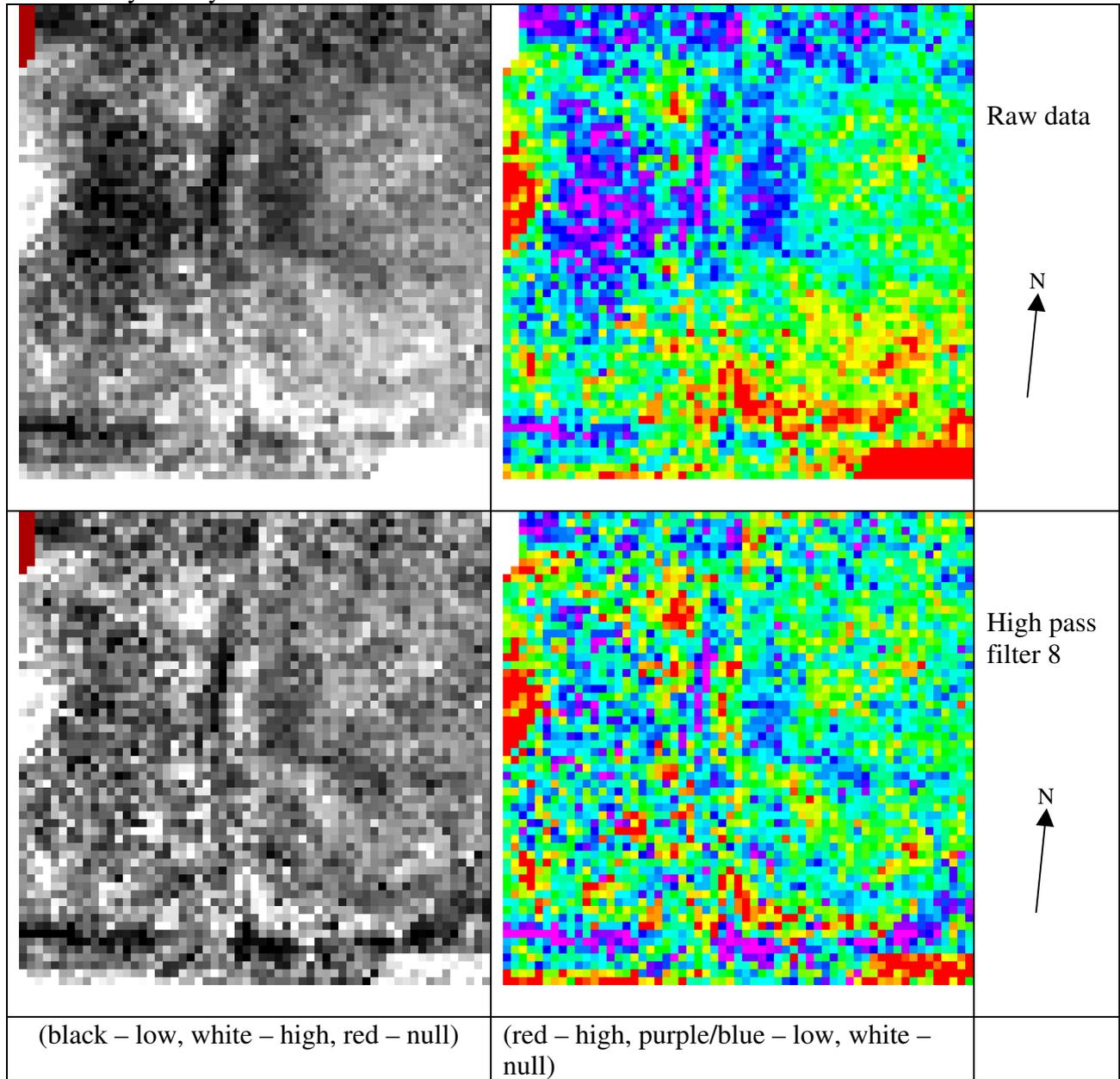
Site topography:

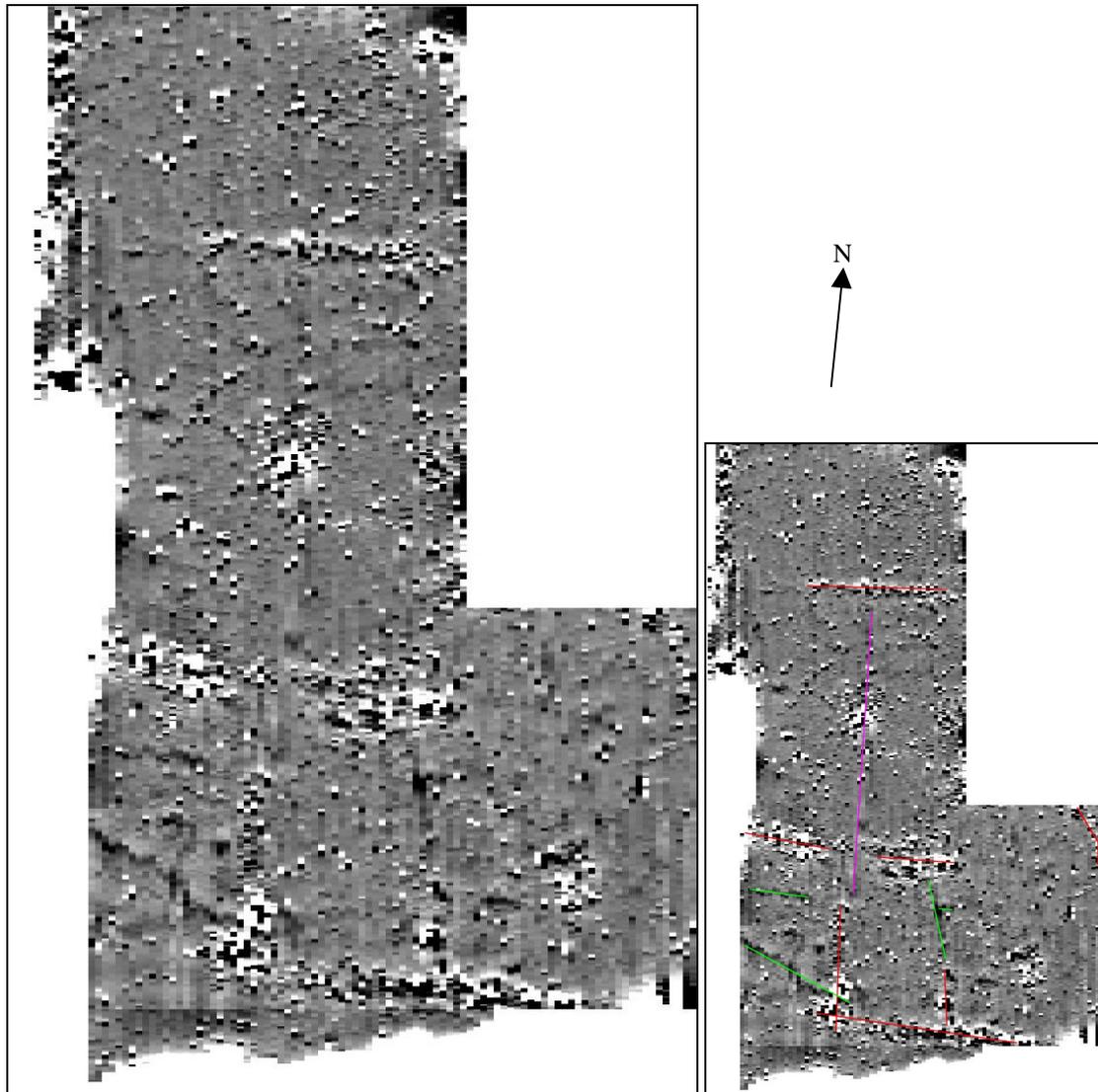
A rough grass field with ponds to the east and west and scrub with wire fencing on all sides. There was a slight bank across the southern end and other low earthworks on the site.

Results:

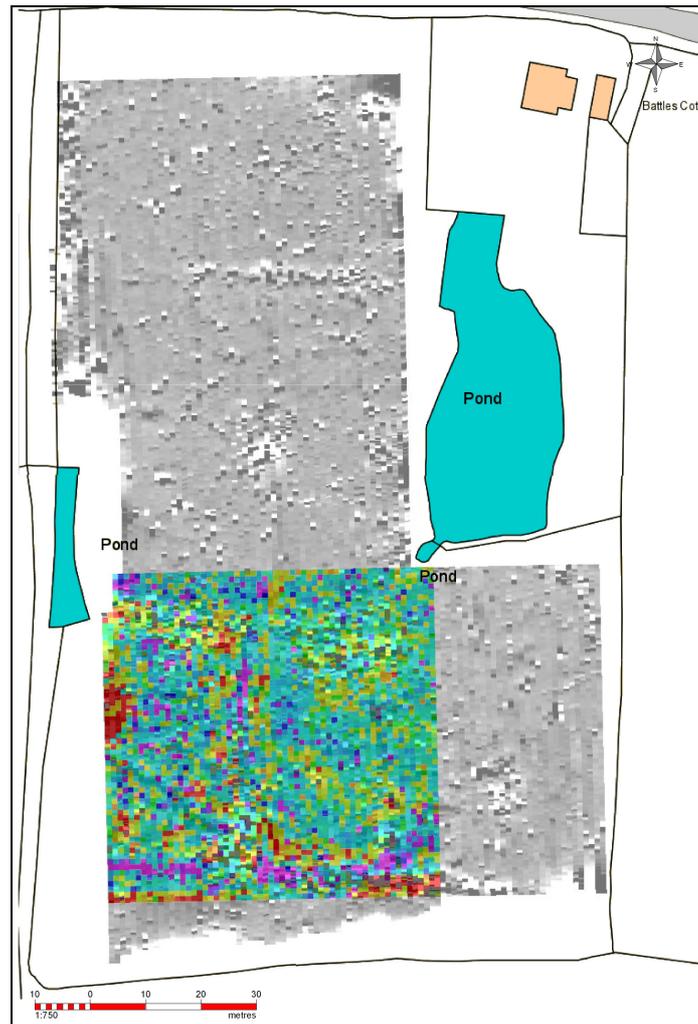
The images in this section are orientated for presentation. The images are not to a common scale.

Resistivity survey 60 m x 60 m





Magnetometry 160 m x 97 m range +7 to -5 nT. Particular features discussed in the text are highlighted in the smaller image



Superimposition of resistivity and magnetometry results

Discussion:

There are a few linear features in the magnetometry survey highlighted in green that usually represent ditch lines. The majority of the linear features highlighted in red usually represent scattered debris. In this case they might be interpreted as ditch lines capped with rubble. The purple line running N—S up the centre of the survey reflected a slight hollowing which also shows in the resistivity results. A low bank across the S end of the survey areas shows as a line of low resistance and, over only part of its length, by a line of magnetic noise. The slight hollowing of the surface identified by the purple line passes through a break in one of the E—W lines in red and a S extension passes adjacent to a line of magnetic noise and close to the termination of the S bank magnetic responses. The overall impression is that the site was once divided into small enclosures. The green highlighted lines may represent an earlier utilisation of the site, particularly the one on a marked different alignment.