



Thriplow Inclosure Award plot 111 report

In May and June 2007 Archaeology RheeSearch Group carried out magnetometry and resistivity surveys on this site at the request of the owner.

Members participating: Brian Bridgland, Pat Davies, Liz Livingstone, Bruce Milner, Ian Sanderson, Maureen Storey, Tony Storey Richard Townsend.

Site Liaison: Richard Townsend.

Owner: Owen MacKay

Site conditions: Close cut grass. Moderate slope to the SW.

Access opposite Thriplow school.

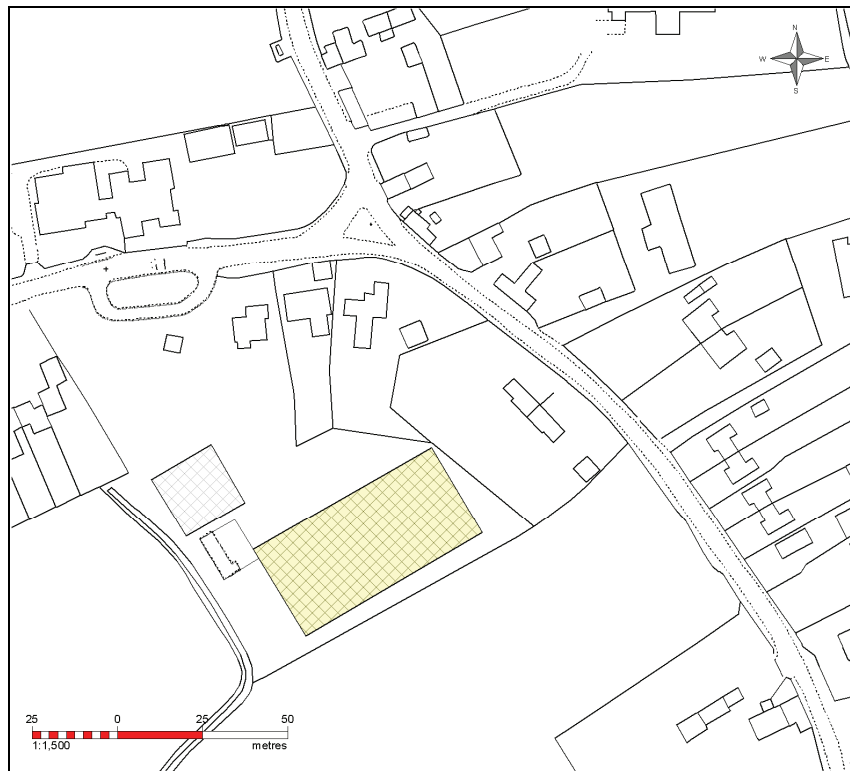
Equipment: Bartington 601 gradiometer; TRCIA 50cm twin probe.

Area covered:

Magnetometry	two 30 m × 30 m grids
Resistivity	two 30 m × 30 m grids, one 20 m × 20 m grid

Location: TL 441 468, 100m south east of Thriplow school, Thriplow.

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



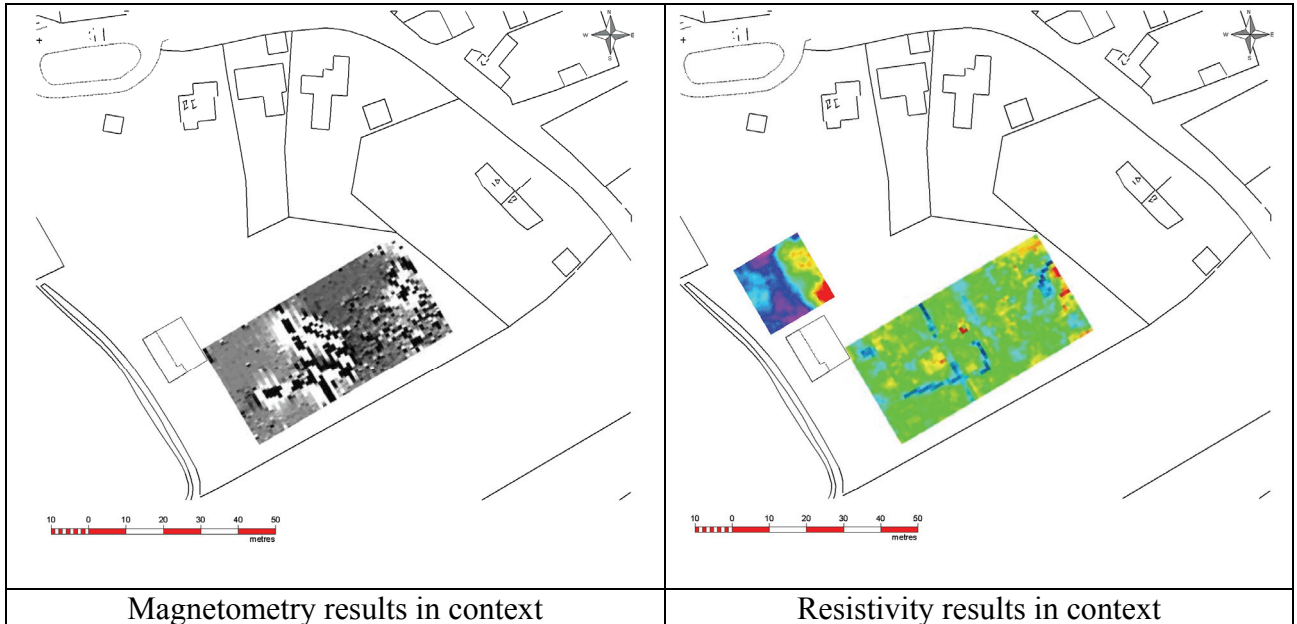
Location plan: Survey areas in Inclosure Award plot 111.

(Resistivity survey area is crosshatched, Magnetometry areas are yellow solid.)

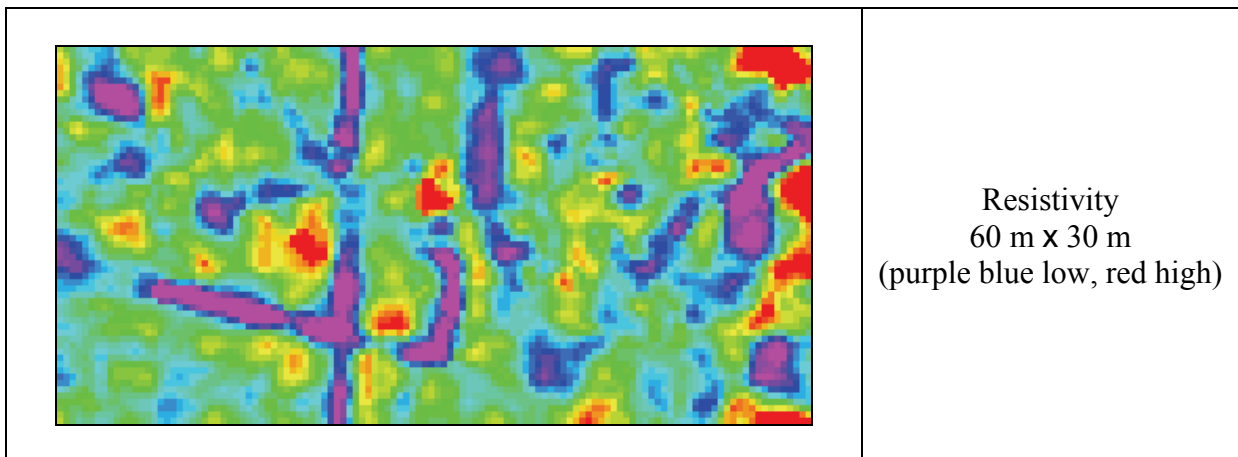
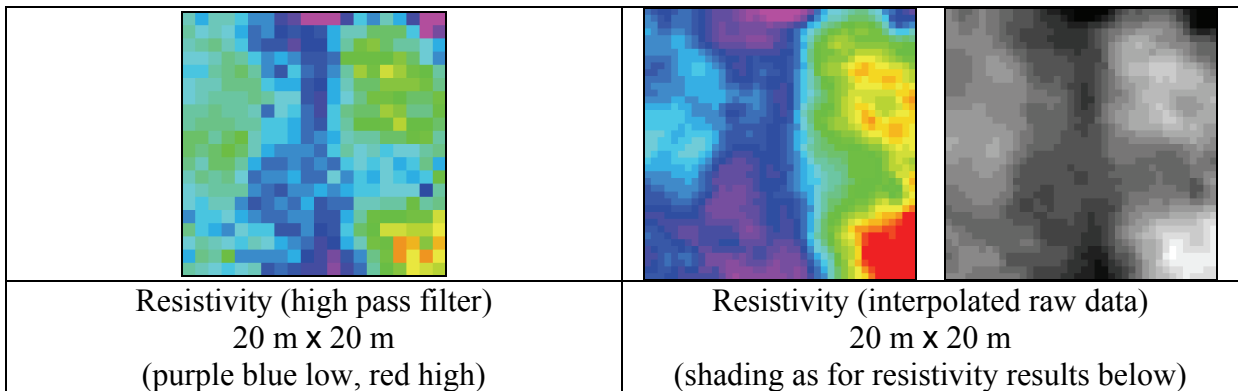
On the ground location points (m) – MAG: E corner 29.65 and 15.4 from E boundary posts Midpoint of NW side 30.7 from N post used for E corner, 19.7 from boundary post to NW. RES E corner 2.0 from stableyard corner, 0.53 from 2nd fence post out from stableyard corner. S corner 2.0 from rear of stable building, 2.85 from stream side fence post behind stable.

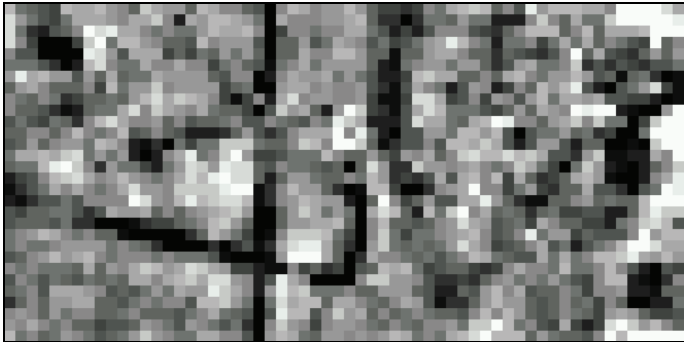
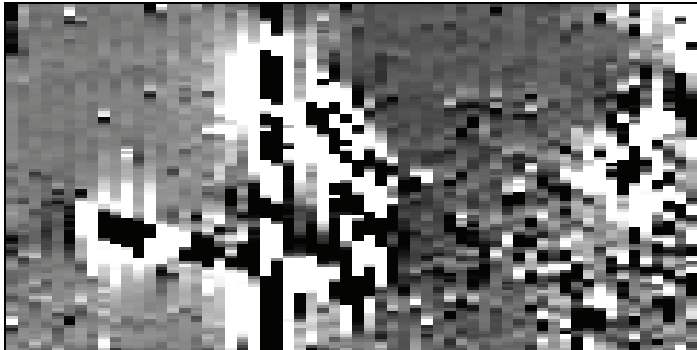
Purpose of survey: To determine if any subsurface structures were detectable.

Results:



Individual survey area results, rotated for presentation.



	<p>Resistivity 60 m x 30 m (black low, white high)</p>
	<p>Magnetometry (black high, white low) 60 m x 30 m</p>

Resistivity

The main survey area shows a two distinct well defined lines of low resistance values. One runs across the survey area parallel to its shorter edge. The other crosses the first line but turns N at an acute angle towards the E end, with the last portion parallel to the first line. Two other well defined but less distinct low resistance lines are apparent in the E half of the survey area. A band of intense low and high resistance areas occurs across the E end of the survey area.

The smaller survey area raw data images show a low resistance area to the W and high resistance to the E. Applying a high pass filter resolves this as a diffuse line of low resistance running across the survey area and parallel to the S part of the ditch to the W. There may be another low resistance line at 90° to the main line.

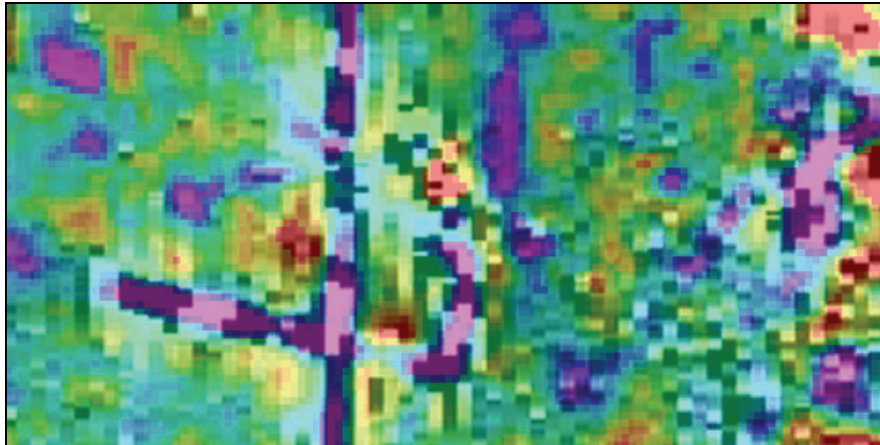
Magnetometry

Two intense lines, with a signal strength above 3000nT in some parts, cross the W half of the survey area. Their form is the same as those first described in the resistivity results. An area of similar intensity occurs towards the E edge.

Correlations

Magnetometry and resistivity detect different aspects of subsurface structures and should not therefore be expected to show the same features. The differences and coincidences in what is detected can sometimes add further information about those structures. In this case the principal lines are coincident. The two less distinct lines in the resistivity results were not

detected by magnetometry. The strong magnetic signal to the E was coincident with a large area of low resistance.



Superimposition of resistivity and magnetometry results

Discussion:

The survey results seem to orientate around drainage. The site itself is either on or very close to the spring line between Melbourne rock and White Chalk.

The two principal lines are almost certainly iron pipes, either leaking or in channels which encourage pooling of water. Given their orientation, the line across the survey area may have been the supply for a water trough to the SE, whilst the line running towards the ditch to the W may have been drainage for a spring. The less distinct resistivity lines probably reflect similar functions but without the iron piping (or where it has been removed).

The low resistance area at the extreme E of the survey area is noticeably higher up the slope than the W end. This could also represent a spring, and given the magnetic signal in the same place, indicate that attempts to utilise the flow have been made using ferrous components. A line of low resistance without any magnetic signal is apparent running S from this point, suggesting channelling of the water flow without metal piping,

Raw data are available as separate appendices.
Magnetometry readings: 4/m, 1 m separation.
Resistivity readings: 1 m interval, 1 m separation.

Report by I Sanderson