

Great Cobbes Field, Wimpole, Cambridgeshire Report

On 17 April 2011 Archaeology RheeSearch Group carried out a magnetometry survey on this site.

Members participating: Brian Bridgland, Ian Sanderson, Maureen Storey and Tony Storey.

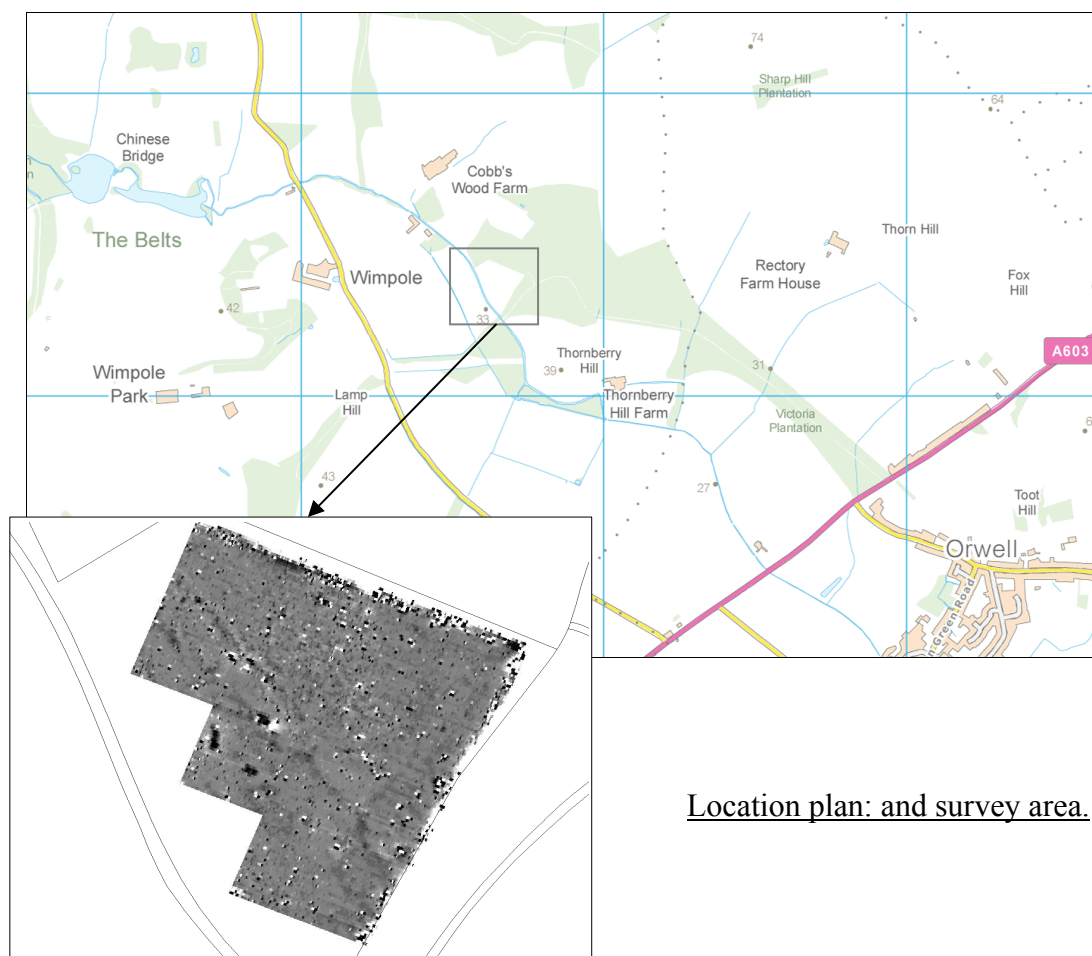
Site liaison: Simon Damant.

Site conditions: Pasture with short grass.

Equipment: Bartington 601 gradiometer.

Area covered: thirteen 30 m × 30 m grids.

Location: TL347514, Wimpole Estate, Cambs.

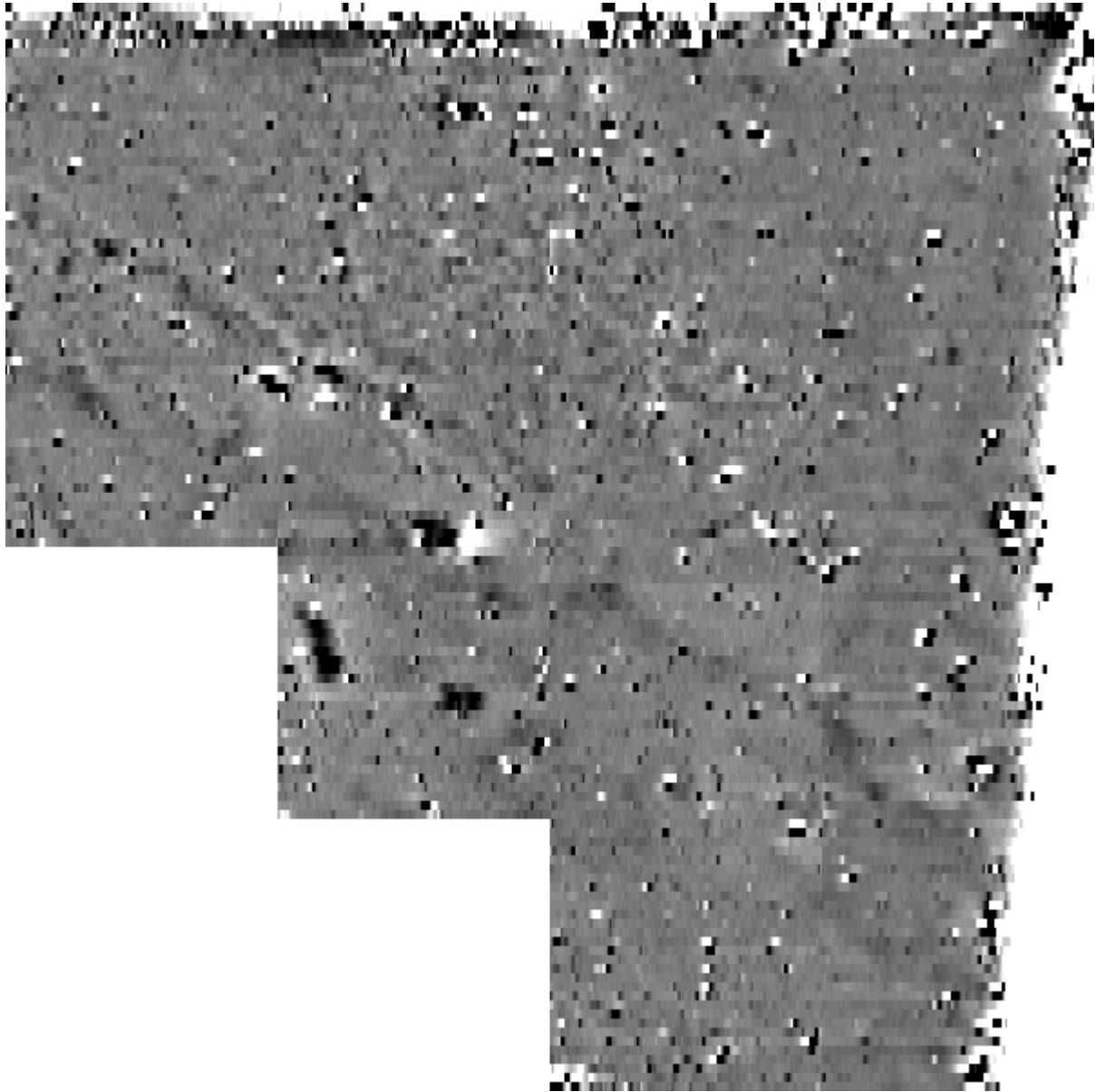


Location plan: and survey area.

Purpose of survey: To determine if any subsurface features could be detected.

Results:

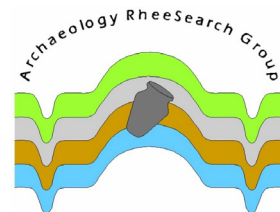
The images in this section are orientated for presentation. They are not to a common scale.



Magnetometry 120 m x 120 m range ± 3 nT
(black - high, white - low)

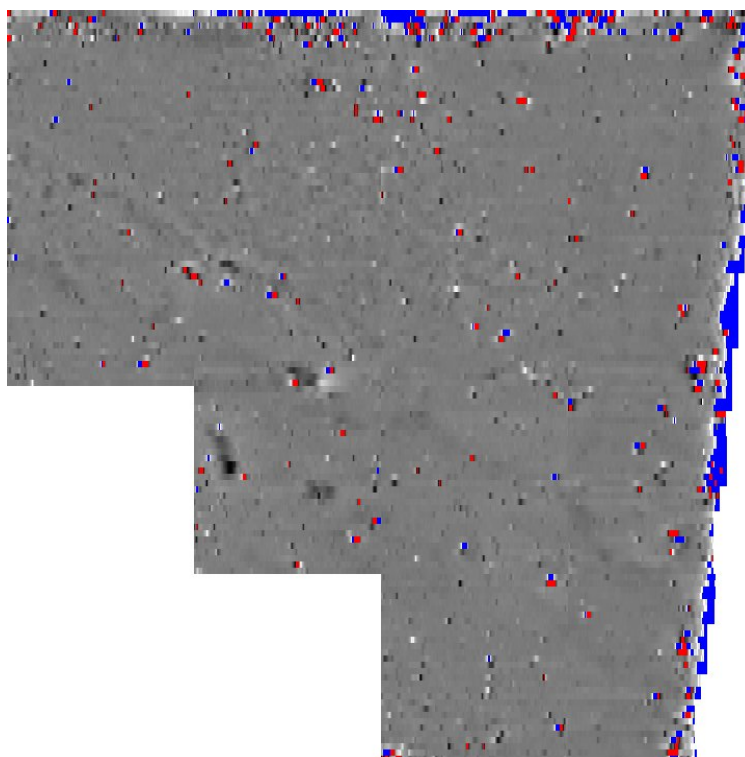
Landscape

The site was a meadow gently sloping down to a stream along the W side and bounded by a steeper rise on the E. A narrow track beside the stream gave access to a field to the N. The site was surrounded by woodland except on the W.



Magnetometry

Segments of ill-defined linear features cross the survey area running to the NNW. These probably reflect a direct path between Thornbury farm to the SSW and the stream side entrance of the field to the N, suggesting that the woodland to the N has been extended. The three stronger signals to the W of the survey area have nothing around them to indicate past activity and may therefore, in the absence of any other evidence, be recent bonfire sites. The overall pattern of strong signals (below), which may be assumed to be ferrous, shows the metal in the fencing and a scatter to be expected with the use of shod horses in the field. This does however show a slight concentration to the N. There is also a small cluster of high intensity responses which align with the linear features just N of the three lower intensity but larger area signals on the W.



Magnetic signals ± 22 nT peaks (red +, blue -)

Raw data are available as separate appendices.
Magnetometry readings: 8/m, 1 m separation.

Report by Dr I Sanderson for Archaeology RheeSearch