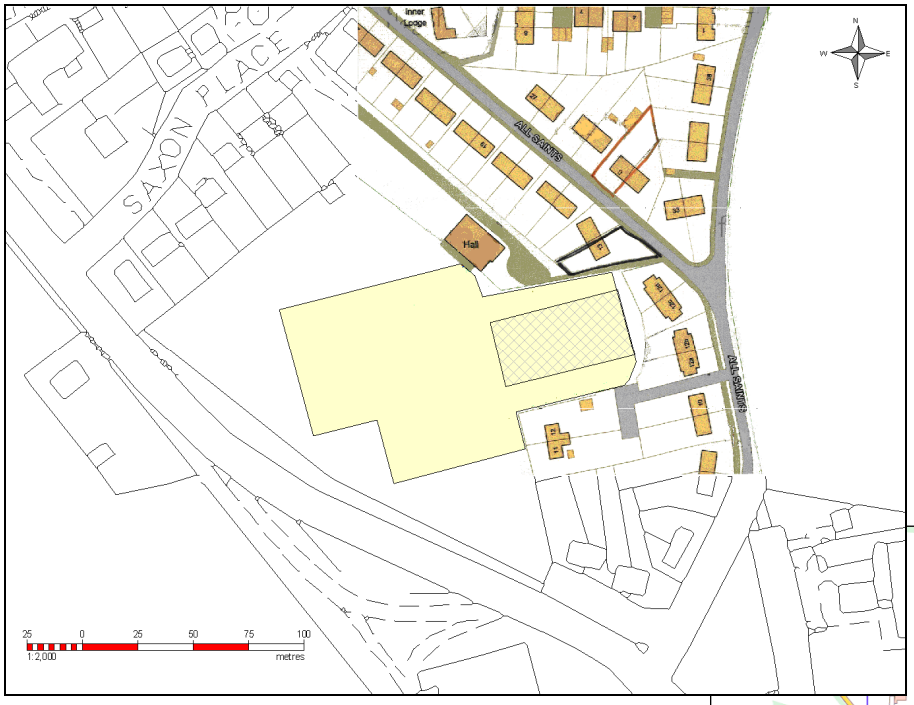
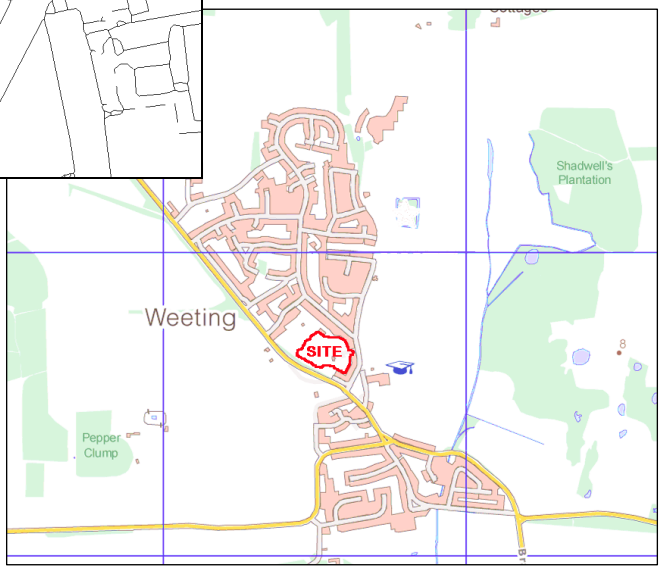
Weeting Village Hall Report

On 5 June 2011 Archaeology RheeSearch Group carried out magnetometry and resistivity surveys on this site.
Members participating: Pat Davies, Brian Bridgland, Bruce Milner, Liz Livingstone, Ian Sanderson, Gill Shapland, Maureen Storey and Tony Storey.
Site liaison:. Tim Bridges of the Weeting History Group.
Site conditions: Recreation ground with mound to E all with mown grass.
Weather hot and dry. Soil parched.
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: TL775887, Village Hall, Weeting, Norfolk.



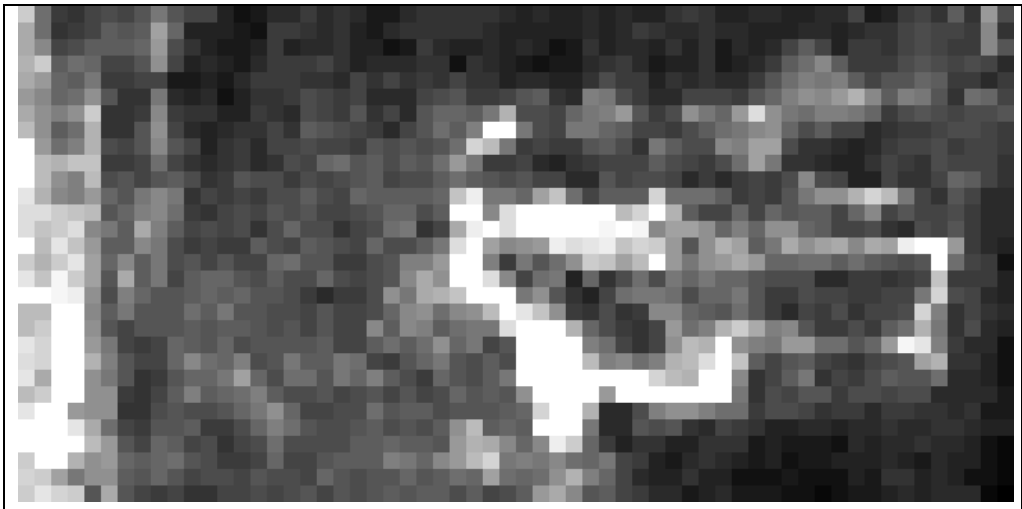


Location plan: Survey areas
(resistivity survey area hatched, magnetometry area solid)

Purpose of survey: The purpose of this survey was to determine if any subsurface features could be detected locating the position of a demolished church on the site and to determine whether other subsurface structures might be nearby.

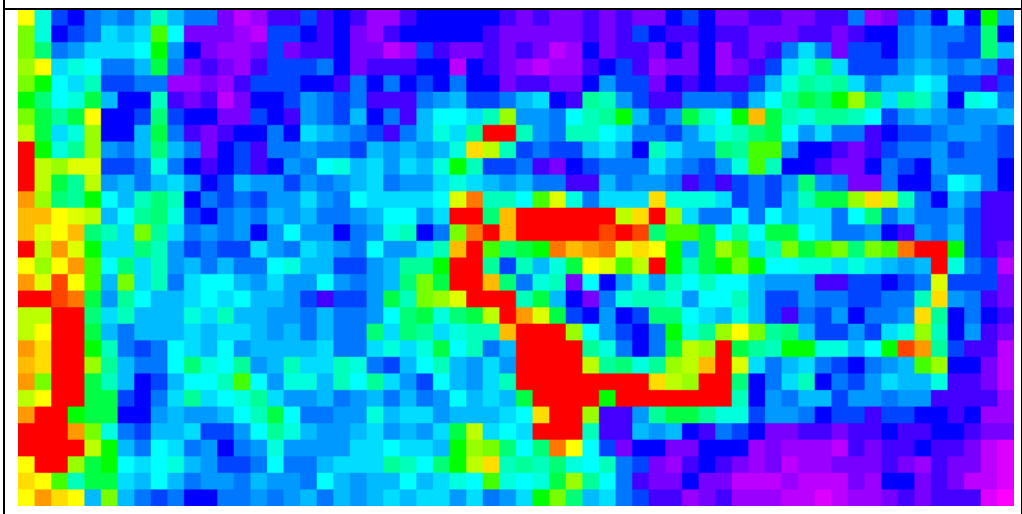
Results:

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



(black - low, white - high)

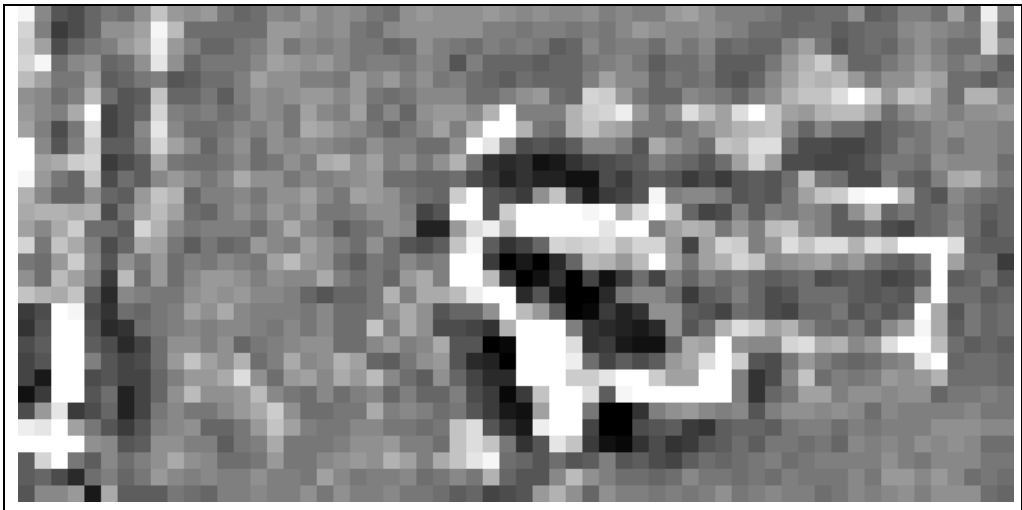
N



(purple/blue - low, red - high)

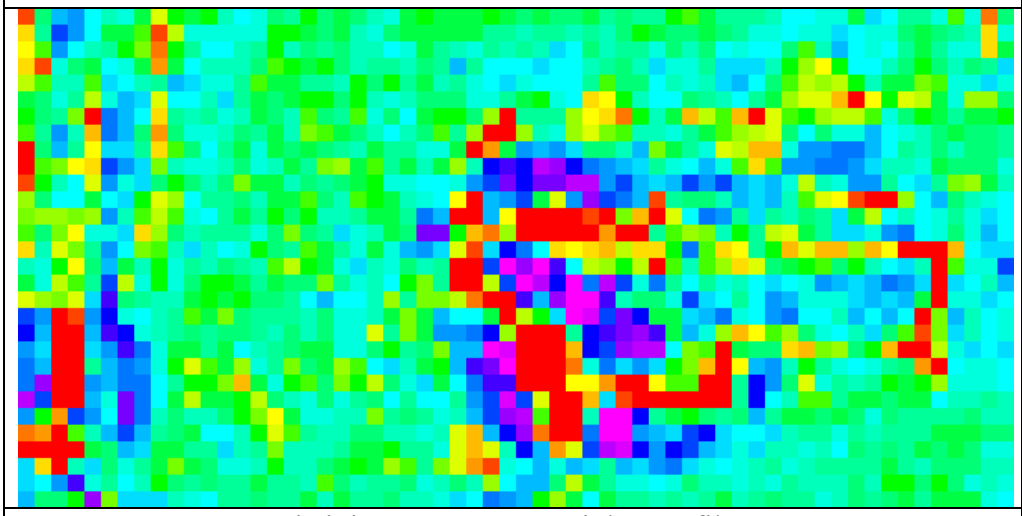
N

Resistivity 60 m x 30 m Raw data



(black - low, white - high)

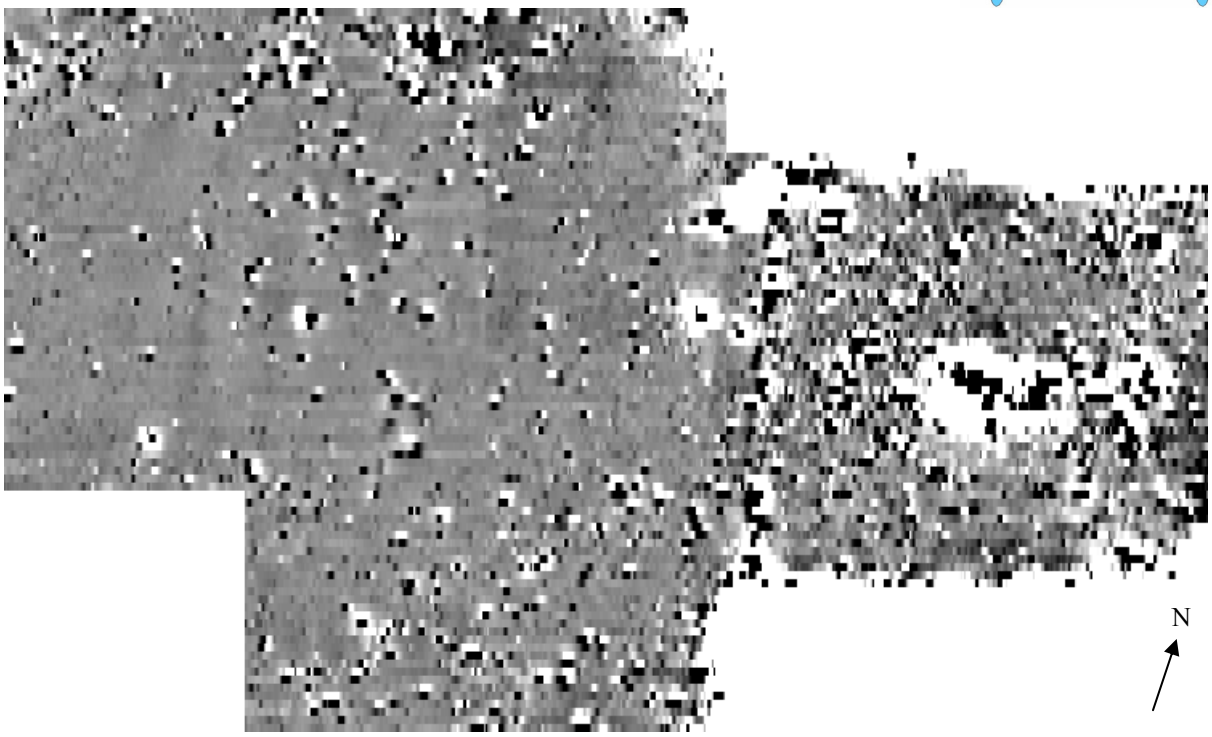
N



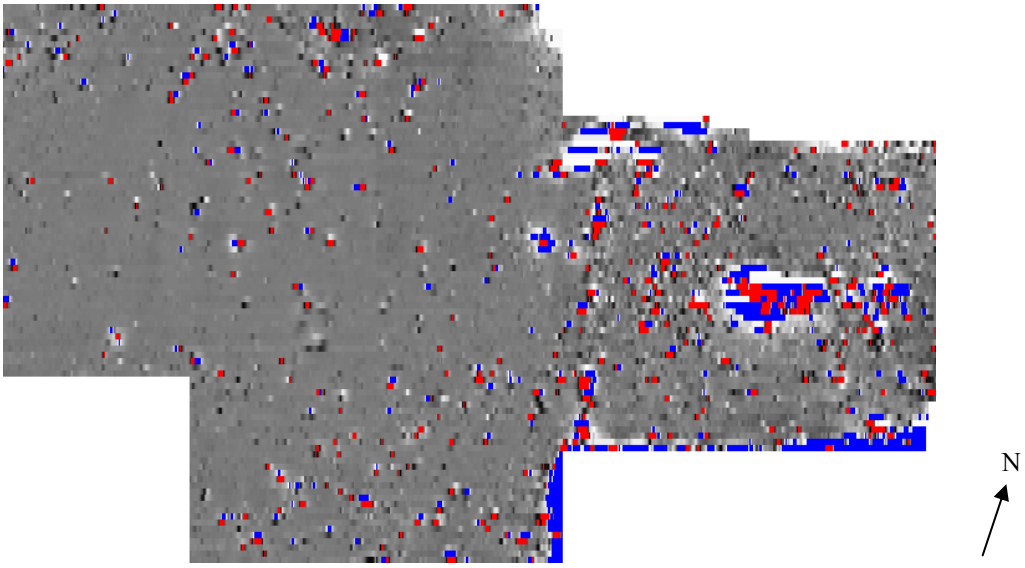
(purple/blue - low, red - high)

N

Resistivity 60 m x 30 m High pass filter 4



Magnetometry 150 m x 90 m range ±14 nT
(black - high, white - low)



Magnetometry with peak values in colour

Resistivity

Despite the very dry conditions and exceptionally high values recorded the resistivity results gave a clear outline of building foundations with some disconnected structures mainly on the N side.

Magnetometry

This site was not particularly suitable for archaeological magnetometry due to the high levels of interference from the scatter of ferrous debris across the site. This is clearly visible in the coloured peak image above and the ±14 nT range of the main image. Archaeological features tend to be most apparent with a range of ±5 nT, and are therefore masked in this survey. Given the history of the site the peak values in the E portion are probably due to a concentration of fired material, either tile flooring or brick demolition debris. The line of strong and peak responses separating the main field from the E area probably represents a ditch where both ferrous and fired material debris has been deposited.

Conclusion:

Resistivity results clearly show that there are foundation remains of a church under the soil within the survey area. Other associated structural remains are located to the N of the church. Magnetometry results suggest that there is an appreciable concentration of brick or tile associated with the foundations, but taking the two sets of results together an area of tiled floor seems unlikely. The poor results from the magnetometry as a result of ferrous scatter may be due to the use of the field, reported by some of the inhabitants, as a tank repair area during WWII. A boundary ditch delineates the church site from the rest of the field.

Report by Dr I Sanderson for Archaeology RheeSearch