

## WA Description of Geophysical Interpretation Layers in AutoCAD

The interpretation methodology used by Wessex Archaeology separates the anomalies into four main categories: archaeological, modern, agricultural and uncertain origin/geological.

The archaeological category is used for features when the form, nature and pattern of the anomaly are indicative of archaeological material. Further sources of information such as aerial photographs may also have been incorporated in providing the final interpretation. This category is further subdivided into three groups, implying a decreasing level of confidence:

- G\_Interp\_Archaeology – used when there is a clear geophysical response and anthropogenic pattern.
- G\_Interp\_Arch\_Possible – used for features which give a response but which form no discernible pattern or trend.

The modern category is used for anomalies that are presumed to be relatively modern in date:

- G\_Interp\_Ferrous – used for responses caused by ferrous material. These anomalies are likely to be of modern origin.
- G\_Interp\_Modern service – used for responses considered relating to cables and pipes; most are composed of ferrous/ceramic material although services made from non-magnetic material can sometimes be observed.

The agricultural category is used for the following:

- G\_Interp\_Former\_Boundary – used for ditch sections that correspond to the position of boundaries marked on earlier mapping.
- G\_Interp\_Ridge\_and\_Furrow – used for broad and diffuse linear anomalies that are considered to indicate areas of former ridge and furrow.
- G\_Interp\_Ploughing – used for well-defined narrow linear responses, usually aligned parallel to existing field boundaries.
- G\_Interp\_Drain – used to define the course of ceramic field drains that are visible in the data as a series of repeating bipolar (black and white) responses.

The uncertain origin/geological category is used for features when the form, nature and pattern of the anomaly is not sufficient to warrant a classification as an archaeological feature. This category is further sub-divided into:

- G\_Interp\_IncreasedMagneticResponse – used for areas dominated by indistinct anomalies which may have some archaeological potential.
- G\_Interp\_Trend – used for low amplitude or indistinct linear anomalies.
- G\_Interp\_Superficial\_Geology – used for diffuse edged spreads considered to relate to shallow geological deposits. They can be distinguished as areas of positive, negative or broad bipolar (positive and negative) anomalies.

Further layers are used to store polylines associated with the survey background:

- G\_Detail\_Survey\_Extents – extents of surveyed dataset
- G\_Images\_XY – XY trace of dataset
- G\_Interp\_Text\_Anomaly – numbered anomalies discussed in report text