SERY19



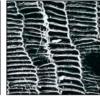














LAND SOUTH OF CHURCH FARM, CHURCH LANE, SKERNE, EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

commissioned by Warrendale Farms Ltd

October 2019





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PROJECT INFO:

HA Project Code SERY19 / NGR TA 0489 5432 / Parish Skerne and Wansford / Local Authority East Riding of Yorkshire / OASIS Ref. headland5-368950

PROJECT TEAM:

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PROJECT SUMMARY

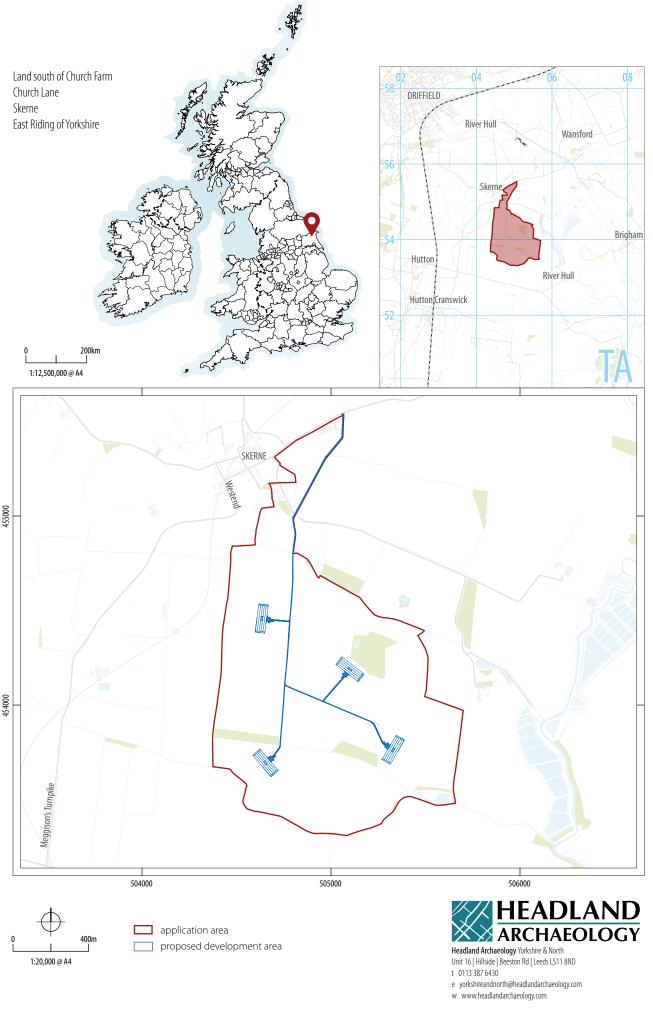
Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd undertook a geophysical (magnetometer) survey ofver 20 hectares on Land South of Church Farm, Church Lane, Skerne, where it is proposed to construct four new poultry units and an access track. The survey covered the development footprint of each unit as well as a larger area beyond in order to assess a wider area should micro-siting be required. The route of the new access track was also surveyed. Throughout the survey areas (SA's) anomalies caused by agricultural activity (drainage, cultivation and former land division) have been identified. Two localised areas of magnetic disturbance which correlate with former buildings recorded on historic mapping are also noted. The survey has also identified a pentagonal enclosure of likely Iron Age/Romano-British date with internal divisions and discrete features in SAC. However, it should be noted that only a very small part of the northern apex of the enclosure falls within the footprint of the new poultry unit. The archaeological potential here is assessed as moderate to high. No anomalies of likely archaeological potential have been identified at the sites of any of the other three poultry units or along the route of the access track and at these locations the archaeological potential is assessed as very low.

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LAND SOUTH OF CHURCH FARM, CHURCH LANE, SKERNE, EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

1 INTRODUCTION

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd was commissioned by Warrendale Farms Ltd (the Client), to undertake a geophysical (magnetometer) survey on land south-east of Skerne, East Riding of Yorkshire, where four new poultry units and an access track are proposed. The results of the survey will inform future archaeological strategy at the site.

The work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Harrison 2019), with guidance within the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG 2019) and in line with current best practice (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014; Europae Archaeologia Consilium 2016).

The survey was carried out on 19th July and 9th and 10th of September 2019.

1.1 SITE LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND LAND-USE

The application area (AA) is located south-east of Skerne, East Riding of Yorkshire, centred on TA 0489 5432 (Illus 1). The AA comprises an irregularly shaped block of arable land which is bound to the north by Main Street, to the south by Skerne Beck, and to the east and west by field boundaries with arable farmland extending beyond. Within the AA survey areas (SA's), each covering the footprint of one of the four new poultry units (SAA to SAD inclusive), were surveyed as was the route of a new access track.

At the time of survey, the route of the access track and SAD were under flailed wheat/oil seed rape crop (Illus 2 and Illus 3), and SAA, SAB and SAC had been ploughed and disc harrowed.

1.2 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

The bedrock geology comprises Flamborough Chalk Formation – Chalk, across the whole of the AA, largely overlain with Devensian Till – Diamicton. A band of Alluvium (clay, silt, sand and gravel) is recorded along Skerne Beck in the south of the AA. Several discrete glaciofluvial deposits comprising of sand and gravel are recorded in the north and centre-north of the AA (NERC 2019).

The soils are classified in the Soilscape 5 and Soilscape 18 Associations, characterised as freely draining lime-rich loams and slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loams and clays respectively (Cranfield University 2019).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

A desk-based assessment of the AA has identified cropmarks (Illus 4 - 22241) interpreted as enclosures and linear features of likely late prehistoric and Roman date in the west of the AA (lan Pick Associates 2018). An archaeological investigation in the 1980s identified Roman ditches and pottery 250m to the east of the AA near Cleves Farm (9789). Earlier features have also been identified;



ILLUS 2 Access track, looking south-west

on the southern bank of Skerne Beck a plough damaged Bronze Age round barrow has been identified as a cropmark (19336), in addition to the findspot of a prehistoric polished flint axe (8431) in a field adjacent to the north-east of the AA.

3 AIMS, METHODOLOGY AND PRESENTATION

The general aim of the geophysical survey was to provide enough information to establish the presence/absence, character and extent of any archaeological remains within the development footprint and the immediate environs. This will therefore enable an assessment to be made of the impact of the proposed development on any subsurface archaeological remains, if present, and potentially enable micro-siting to avoid any significant archaeological remains.

The specific archaeological objectives of the geophysical survey were:

- > to provide information about the nature and possible interpretation of any magnetic anomalies identified;
- to therefore model the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological features; and
- > to prepare a report summarising the results of the survey.

3.1 MAGNETOMETER SURVEY

Magnetic survey methods rely on the ability of a variety of instruments to measure very small magnetic fields associated with buried archaeological remains. A feature such as a ditch, pit or kiln can act like a small magnet, or series of magnets, that produce

distortions (anomalies) in the earth's magnetic field. In mapping these slight variations, detailed plans of sites can be obtained as buried features often produce reasonably characteristic anomaly shapes and strengths (Gaffney & Gater 2003). Further information on soil magnetism and the interpretation of magnetic anomalies is provided in Appendix 1.

The survey was undertaken using four Bartington Grad601 sensors mounted at 1m intervals (1m traverse interval) onto a rigid carrying frame. The system was programmed to take readings at a frequency of 10Hz (allowing for a 10–15cm sample interval) on roaming traverses (swaths) 4m apart (Illus 5). These readings were stored on an external weatherproof laptop and later downloaded for processing and interpretation. The system was linked to a Trimble R8s Real Time Kinetic (RTK) differential Global Positioning System (dGPS) outputting in NMEA mode to ensure a high positional accuracy for each data point.

MLGrad601 and MultiGrad601 (Geomar Software Inc.) software was used to collect and export the data. Terrasurveyor V3.0.32.4 (DWConsulting) software was used to process and present the data.

3.2 REPORTING

A general site location plan is shown in Illus 1 at a scale of 1:20,000. Illus 2 and 3 are site condition photographs. Illus 4 is a 1:7,500 survey location plan showing the direction of survey as GPS swaths and the proposed development footprint, alongside cropmark data. Illus 5 and Illus 6 present the overall greyscale and interpretative plot at a scale of 1:7,500. Large-scale, fully processed (greyscale) data, minimally processed data (XY traceplot) and accompanying interpretative plots are presented at a scale of 1:1,500 in Illus 7–9 inclusive, 1:1,250 scale in Illus 10–18 inclusive and a scale 1:2,000 in Illus 19–21 inclusive.



ILLUS 3 Survey Area D, looking south-east

Technical information on the equipment used, data processing and magnetic survey methodology is given in Appendix 1. Appendix 2 details the survey location information and Appendix 3 describes the composition and location of the site archive. Data processing details are presented in Appendix 4. A copy of the OASIS entry (Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations) is reproduced in Appendix 5.

The survey methodology, report and any recommendations comply with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Harrison 2019), guidelines outlined by Europae Archaeologia Consilium (EAC 2016) and by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA 2016). All illustrations from Ordnance Survey mapping are reproduced with the permission of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office (© Crown copyright).

The illustrations in this report have been produced following analysis of the data in 'raw' and processed formats and over a range of different display levels. All illustrations are presented to most suitably display and interpret the data from this site based on the experience and knowledge of management and reporting staff.

4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Ground conditions were good across the survey area (Illus 2 and Illus 3) leading to a high standard of data throughout.

The survey has detected a relatively homogenous magnetic background. Against this background, anomalies of archaeological, geological and agricultural nature have been identified and these are discussed below and cross-referenced to specific examples on the interpretive figures, where appropriate.

4.1 FERROUS ANOMALIES

Ferrous anomalies, characterised as individual 'spikes', are typically caused by ferrous (magnetic) material, either on the ground surface or in the plough-soil. Little importance is normally given to such anomalies, unless there is any supporting evidence for an archaeological interpretation, as modern ferrous debris is common on most sites, often being present as a result of manuring over a period of time or tipping/infilling. There is no obvious clustering to these ferrous anomalies which might indicate an archaeological origin. Far more probable is that the 'spike' responses are likely caused by the random distribution of ferrous debris in the upper soil horizons.

In SAC, on the western side of the access track there is a cluster (B1) of high magnitude 'spike' responses. Similar highly magnetic responses (B2) are detected in the south-eastern corner of SAB (Illus 13–18 inclusive). These anomalies correlate to now demolished farm buildings recorded on the 1970s Ordnance Survey (OS) maps. In both instances the disturbance is likely caused by demolition material from the buildings within the topsoil.

Magnetic disturbance along the survey boundaries is caused by ferrous material within, or adjacent to, the field boundaries and is of no archaeological interest.

4.2 AGRICULTURAL ANOMALIES

Analysis of historical (OS) maps indicates that more than a dozen boundaries have been removed from within the AA since the publication of the first edition OS map in 1885 although only four (FB1 to FB4 inclusive; Illus 6) are identified either as high magnitude linear anomalies (possibly due to a pipe buried along the boundary) or inferred by a line of 'spikes' along the line of the former boundary.

Broadly spaced parallel linear anomalies have been detected throughout the four survey areas. These anomalies are characteristic of modern field drains.

Parallel linear trend anomalies on differing alignments, but mostly parallel or orthogonal to the current field boundaries, have been identified in SAB, SAC and SAD. These anomalies are indicative of modern ploughing.

4.3 GEOLOGICAL ANOMALIES

Numerous discrete low-magnitude anomalies have been identified throughout the survey area. The frequency and distribution of these anomalies precludes an archaeological interpretation and the anomalies are thought to be caused by localised variation in the depth and composition of the superficial deposits and the topsoil.

Broad high magnitude anomalies have been detected within the SA's. These anomalies are interpreted as possible solution hollows within the chalk bedrock.

4.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ANOMALIES

In the south of SAC, a pentagonal enclosure (E1) with two internal (D1 and D2) divisions has been identified. The south-western corner of the enclosure lies outside the survey area and a short ditch type anomaly (D3) suggests the enclosure complex may extend to the west. Low magnitude linear and discrete anomalies largely inside the enclosure have also been interpreted as possibly archaeological.

5 CONCLUSION

The geophysical survey has successfully evaluated the locations of the four new poultry units and the route of the access track. The only archaeological feature identified by the survey is a pentagonal enclosure in SAC which is likely of Iron Age/ Romano British date. Linear anomalies and discrete anomalies hint at sub-division and possible settlement activity within the enclosure. The archaeological potential here is assessed as moderate to high although only a very

small part of the northern apex of the enclosure falls within the footprint of the new poultry unit.

Elsewhere, the other three SA's are largely dominated by linear anomalies consistent with recent agricultural activity including former field boundaries, drainage and ploughing. Two localised clusters of high magnitude discrete anomalies correlate with former buildings recorded on historic mapping. The archaeological potential of these three areas and the access track is assessed as low.

6 REFERENCES

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Cranfield University 2018 *Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute Soilscapes*http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/ accessed 16 September 2019

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7 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 MAGNETOMETER SURVEY

Magnetic susceptibility and soil magnetism

Iron makes up about 6% of the earth's crust and is mostly present in soils and rocks as minerals such as maghaemite and haematite. These minerals have a weak, measurable magnetic property termed magnetic susceptibility. Human activities can redistribute these minerals and change (enhance) others into more magnetic forms so that by measuring the magnetic susceptibility of the topsoil, areas where human occupation or settlement has occurred can be identified by virtue of the attendant increase (enhancement) in magnetic susceptibility. If the enhanced material subsequently comes to fill features, such as ditches or pits, localised isolated and linear magnetic anomalies can result whose presence can be detected by a magnetometer (fluxgate gradiometer).

In general, it is the contrast between the magnetic susceptibility of deposits filling cut features, such as ditches or pits, and the magnetic susceptibility of topsoils, subsoils and rocks into which these features have been cut, which causes the most recognisable responses. This is primarily because there is a tendency for magnetic ferrous compounds to become concentrated in the topsoil, thereby making it more magnetic than the subsoil or the bedrock. Linear features cut into the subsoil or geology, such as ditches, that have been silted up or have been backfilled with topsoil will therefore usually produce a positive magnetic response relative to the background soil levels. Discrete feature, such as pits, can also be detected.

The magnetic susceptibility of a soil can also be enhanced by the application of heat. This effect can lead to the detection of features such as hearths, kilns or areas of burning.

Types of magnetic anomaly

In the majority of instances anomalies are termed 'positive'. This means that they have a positive magnetic value relative to the magnetic background on any given site. However some features can manifest themselves as 'negative' anomalies that, conversely, means that the response is negative relative to the mean magnetic background.

Where it is not possible to give a probable cause of an observed anomaly a '?' is appended.

It should be noted that anomalies interpreted as modern in origin might be caused by features that are present in the topsoil or upper layers of the subsoil. Removal of soil to an archaeological or natural layer can therefore remove the feature causing the anomaly.

The types of response mentioned above can be divided into five main categories that are used in the graphical interpretation of the magnetic data:

Isolated dipolar anomalies (iron spikes) These responses are typically caused by ferrous material either on the surface or in the topsoil. They cause a rapid variation in the magnetic response giving a characteristic 'spiky' trace. Although ferrous archaeological artefacts could produce this type of response, unless there is supporting evidence for an archaeological interpretation, little emphasis is normally given to such anomalies, as modern ferrous objects are common on rural sites, often being present as a consequence of manuring.

Areas of magnetic disturbance These responses can have several causes often being associated with burnt material, such as slag waste or brick rubble or other strongly magnetised/fired material. Ferrous structures such as pylons, mesh or barbed wire fencing and buried pipes can also cause the same disturbed response. A modern origin is usually assumed unless there is other supporting information.

Linear trend This is usually a weak or broad linear anomaly of unknown cause or date. These anomalies are often caused by agricultural activity, either ploughing or land drains being a common cause.

Areas of magnetic enhancement/positive isolated anomalies Areas of enhanced response are characterised by a general increase in the magnetic background over a localised area whilst discrete anomalies are manifest by an increased response (sometimes only visible on an XY trace plot) on two or three successive traverses. In neither instance is there the intense dipolar response characteristic exhibited by an area of magnetic disturbance or of an 'iron spike' anomaly (see above). These anomalies can be caused by infilled discrete archaeological features such as pits or post-holes or by kilns. They can also be caused by pedological variations or by natural infilled features on certain geologies. Ferrous material in the subsoil can also give a similar response. It can often therefore be very difficult to establish an anthropogenic origin without intrusive investigation or other supporting information.

Linear and curvilinear anomalies Such anomalies have a variety of origins. They may be caused by agricultural practice (recent ploughing trends, earlier ridge and furrow regimes or land drains), natural geomorphological features such as palaeochannels or by infilled archaeological ditches.

APPENDIX 2 SURVEY LOCATION INFORMATION

An initial survey base station was established using a Trimble VRS differential Global Positioning System (dGPS). The magnetometer data was georeferenced using a Trimble RTK differential Global Positioning System (Trimble R8s model).

Temporary sight markers were laid out using a Trimble VRS differential Global Positioning System (Trimble R8s model) to guide the operator and ensure full coverage. The accuracy of this dGPS equipment is better than 0.01m.

The survey data were then super-imposed onto a base map provided by the client to produce the displayed block locations. However, it should be noted that Ordnance Survey positional accuracy for digital map data has an error of 0.5m for urban and floodplain areas, 1.0m for rural areas and 2.5m for mountain and moorland areas. This potential error must be considered if coordinates are measured off hard copies of the mapping rather than using the digital coordinates.

Headland Archaeology cannot accept responsibility for errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by a third party.

APPENDIX 3 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY ARCHIVE

The geophysical archive comprises an archive disk containing the raw data in XYZ format, a raster image of each greyscale plot with associate world file, and a PDF of the report.

The project will be archived in-house in accordance with recent good practice guidelines (http://guides.archaeologydataservice, ac.uk/g2gp/Geophysics 3). The data will be stored in an indexed archive and migrated to new formats when necessary.

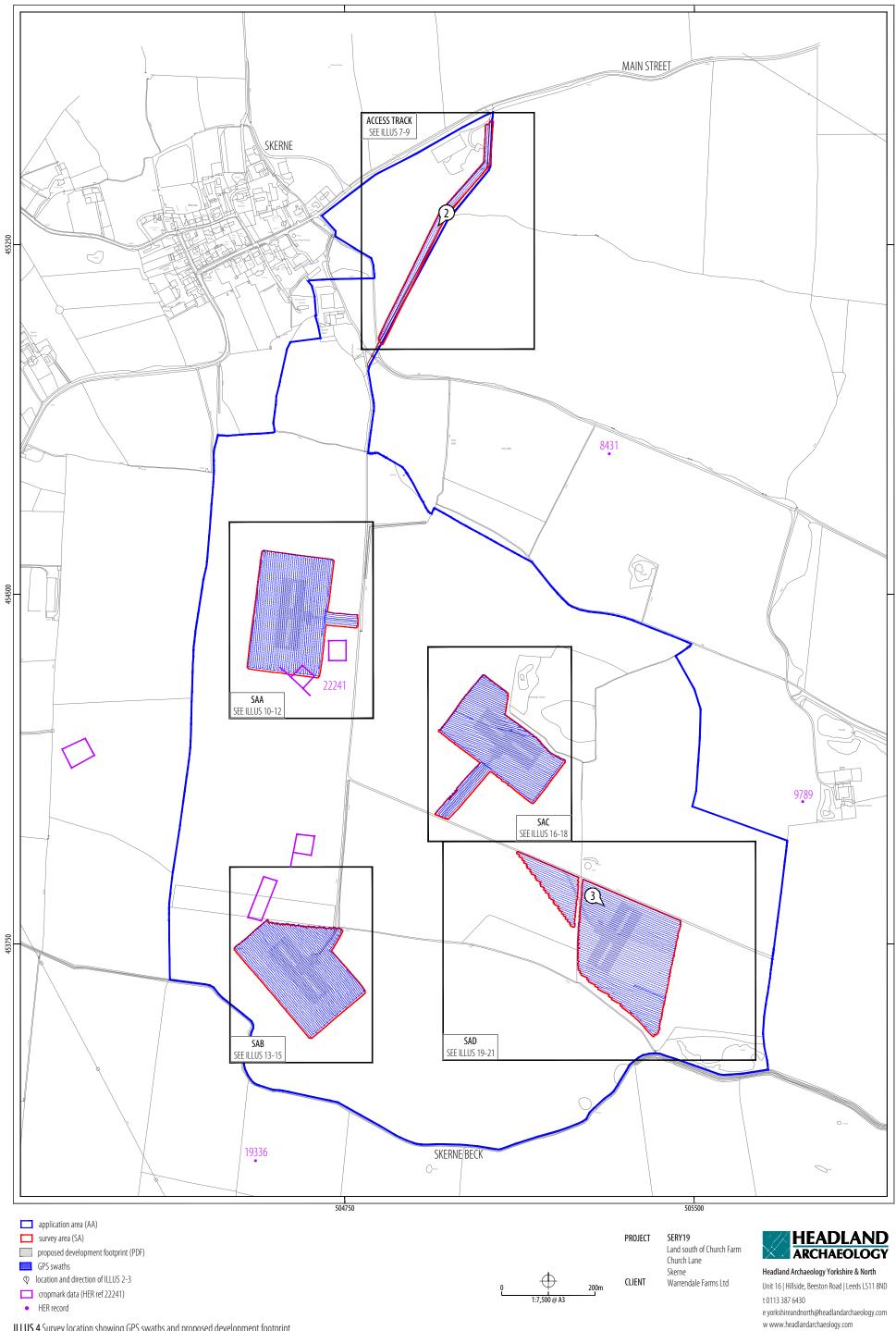
APPENDIX 4 DATA PROCESSING

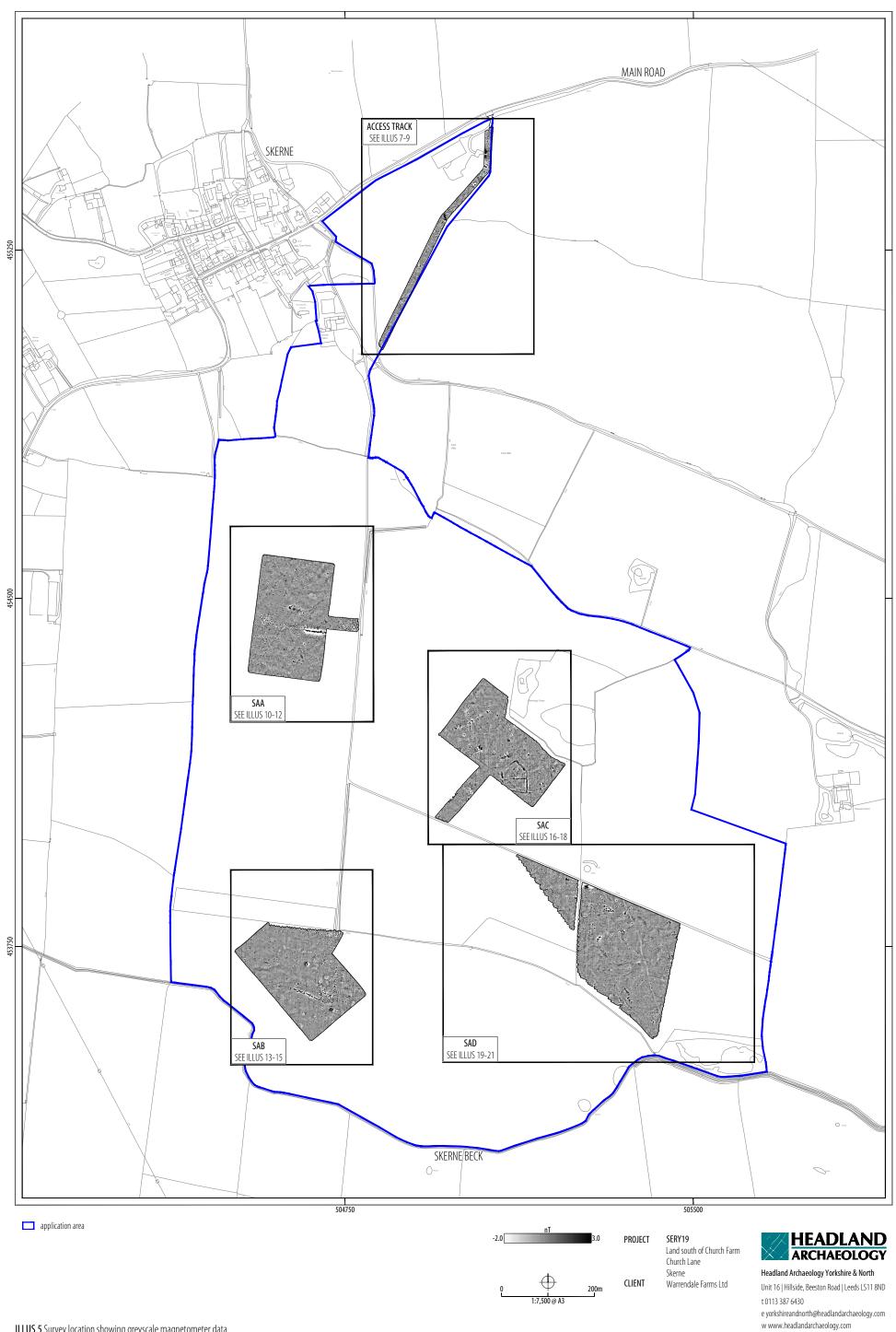
The gradiometer data has been presented in this report in processed greyscale and minimally processed XY trace plot format.

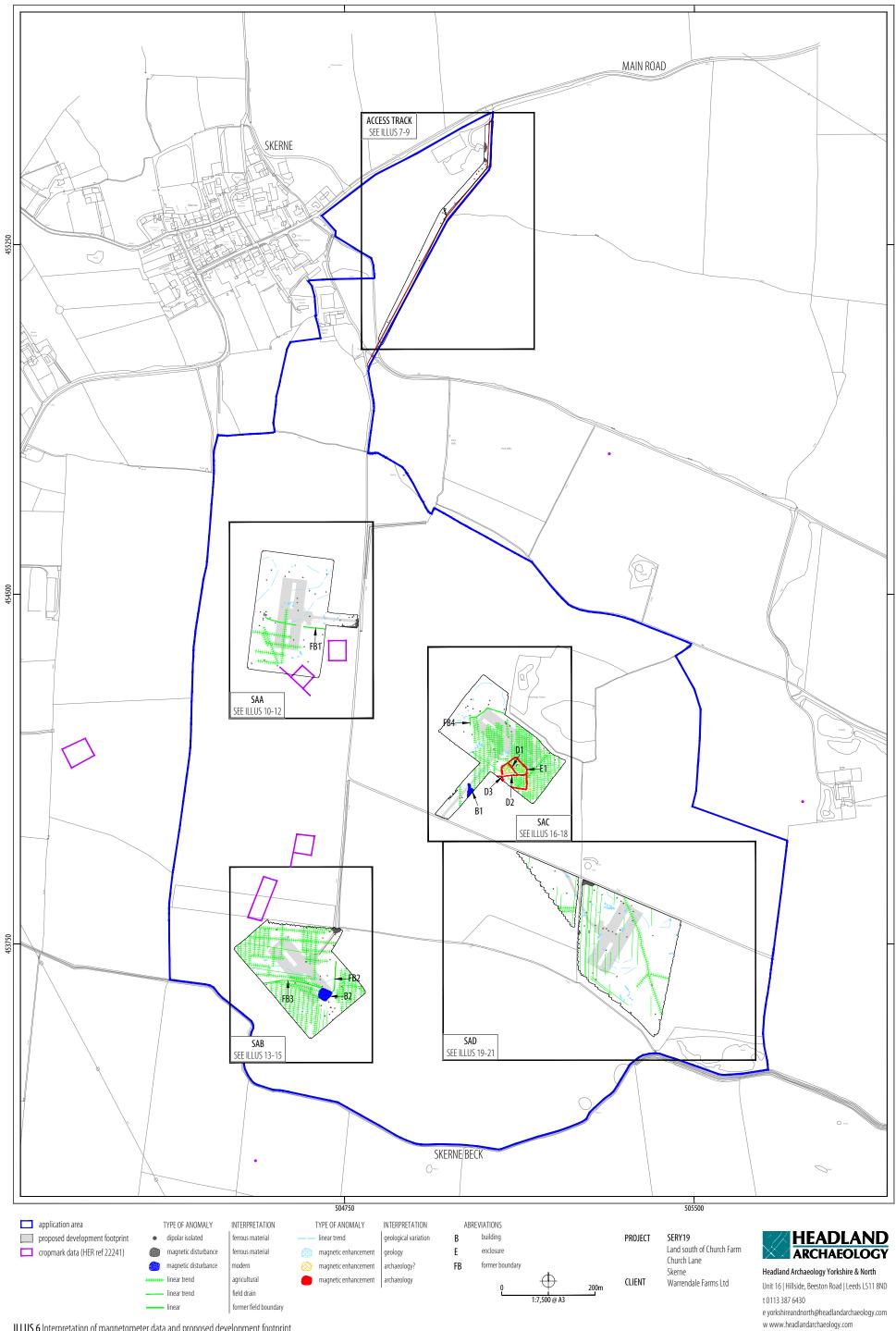
Data collected using RTK GPS-based methods cannot be produced without minimal processing of the data. The minimally processed data has been interpolated to project the data onto a regular grid and de-striped to correct for slight variations in instrument calibration drift and any other artificial data.

A high pass filter has been applied to the greyscale plots to remove low frequency anomalies (relating to survey tracks and modern agricultural features) in order to maximise the clarity and interpretability of the archaeological anomalies.

The data has also been clipped to remove extreme values and to improve data contrast.





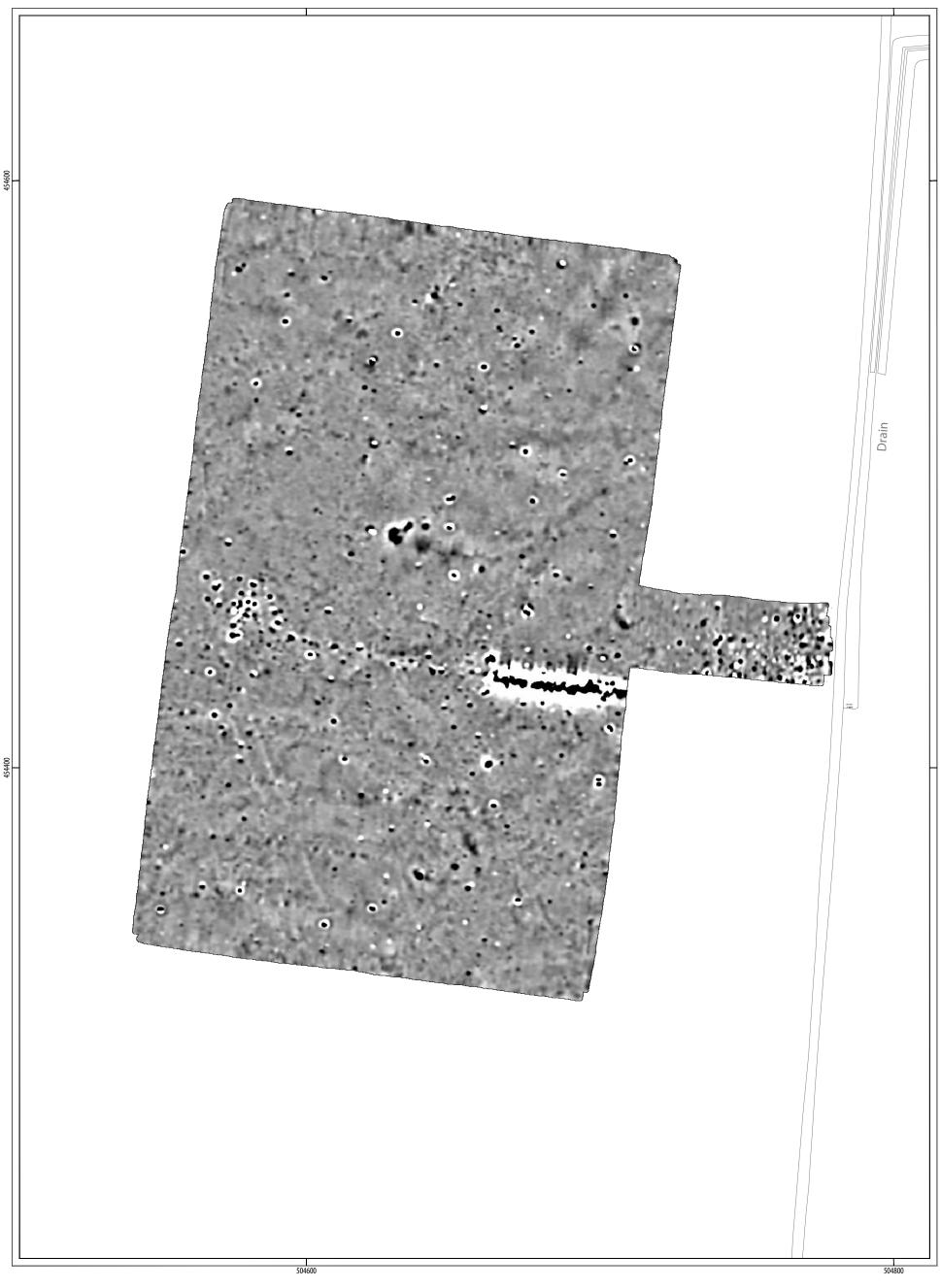








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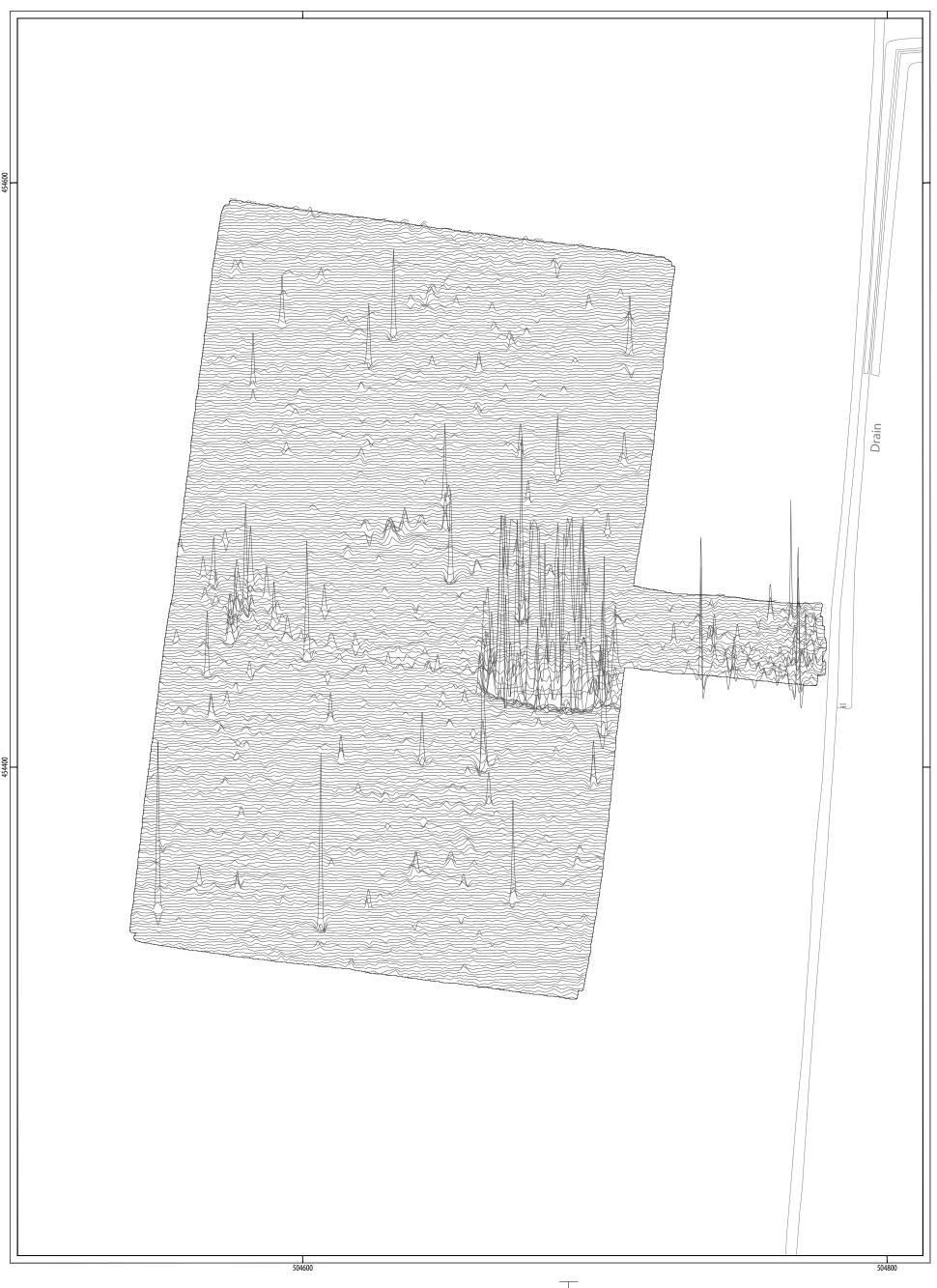


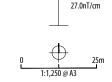
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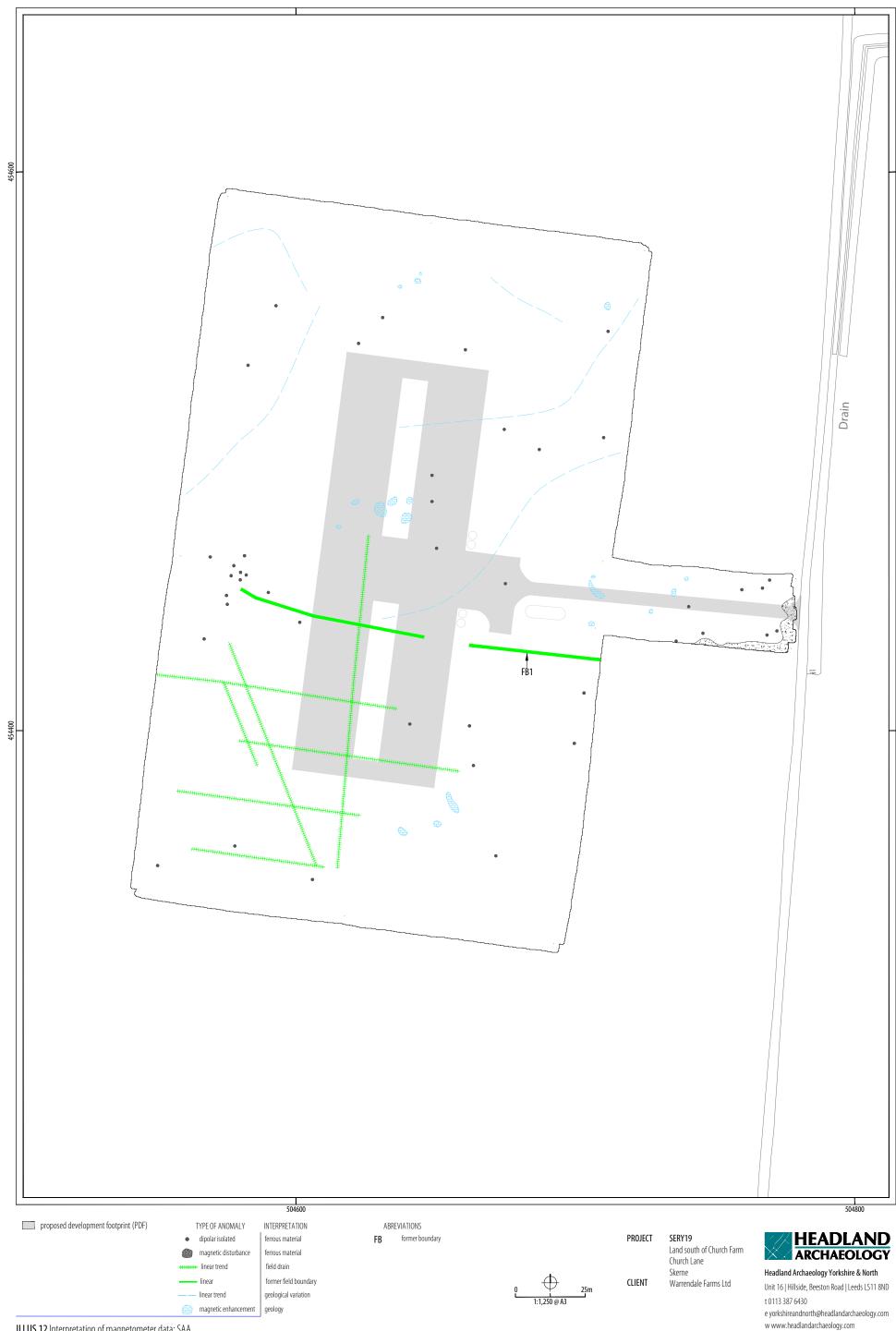
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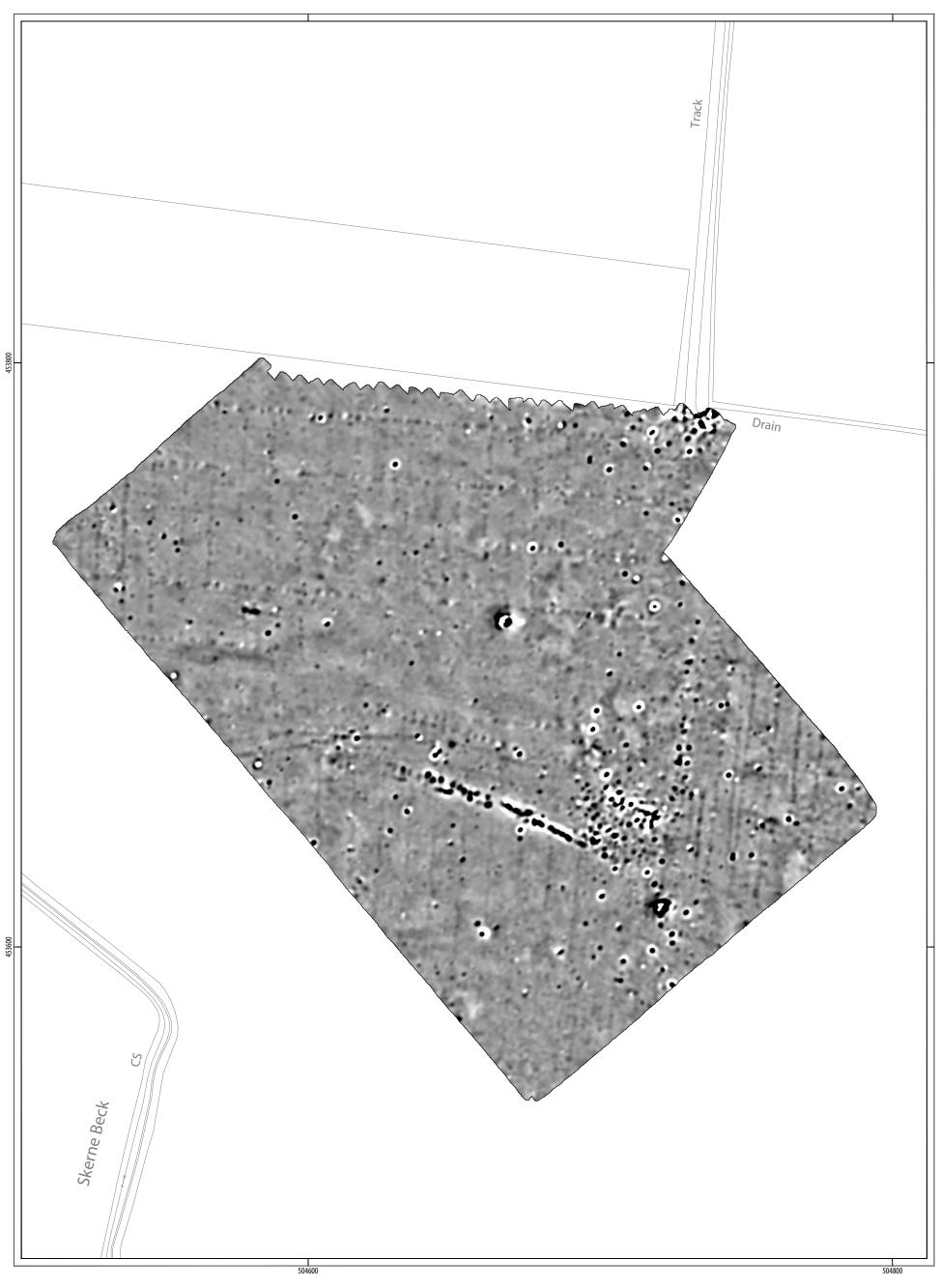
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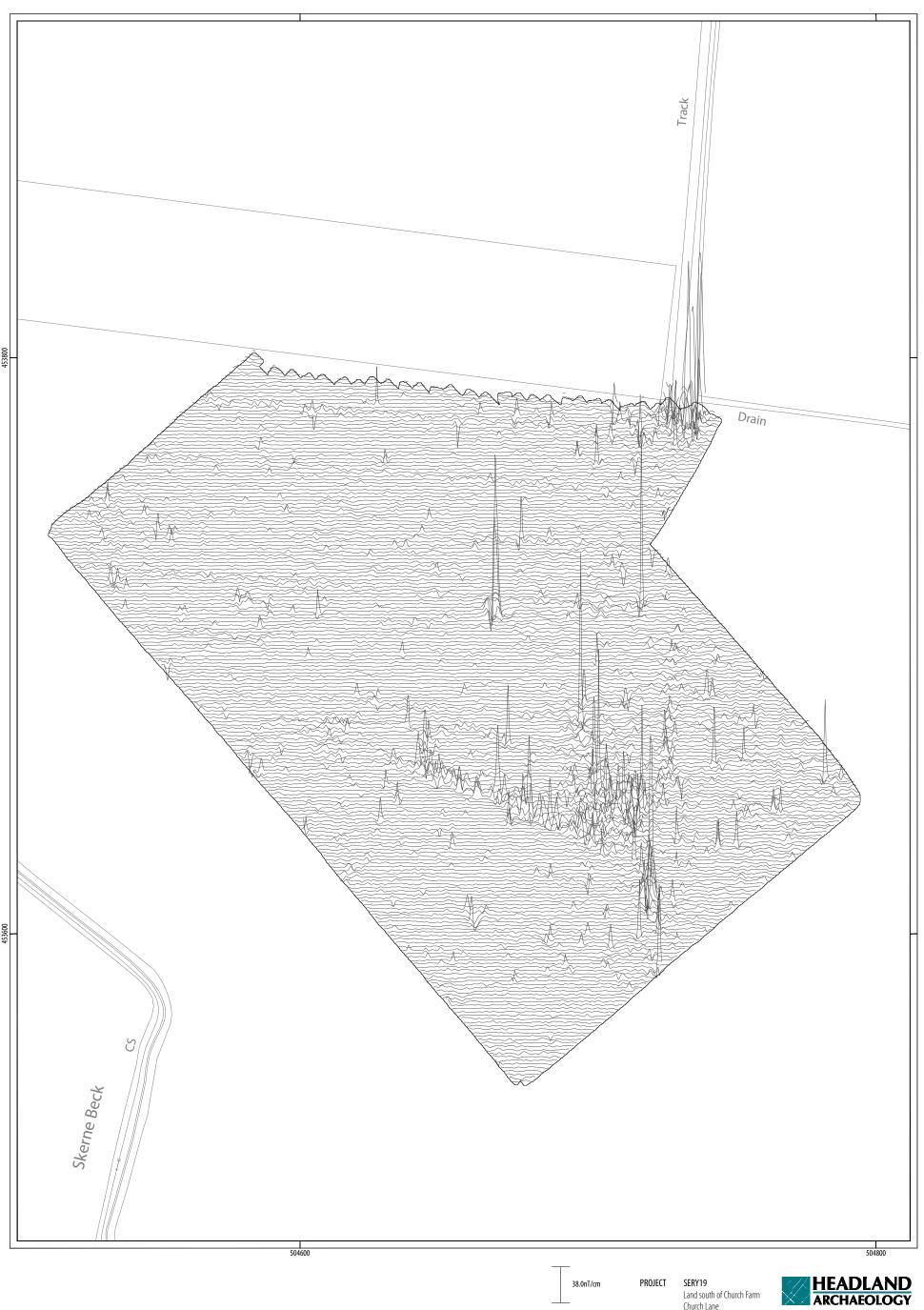


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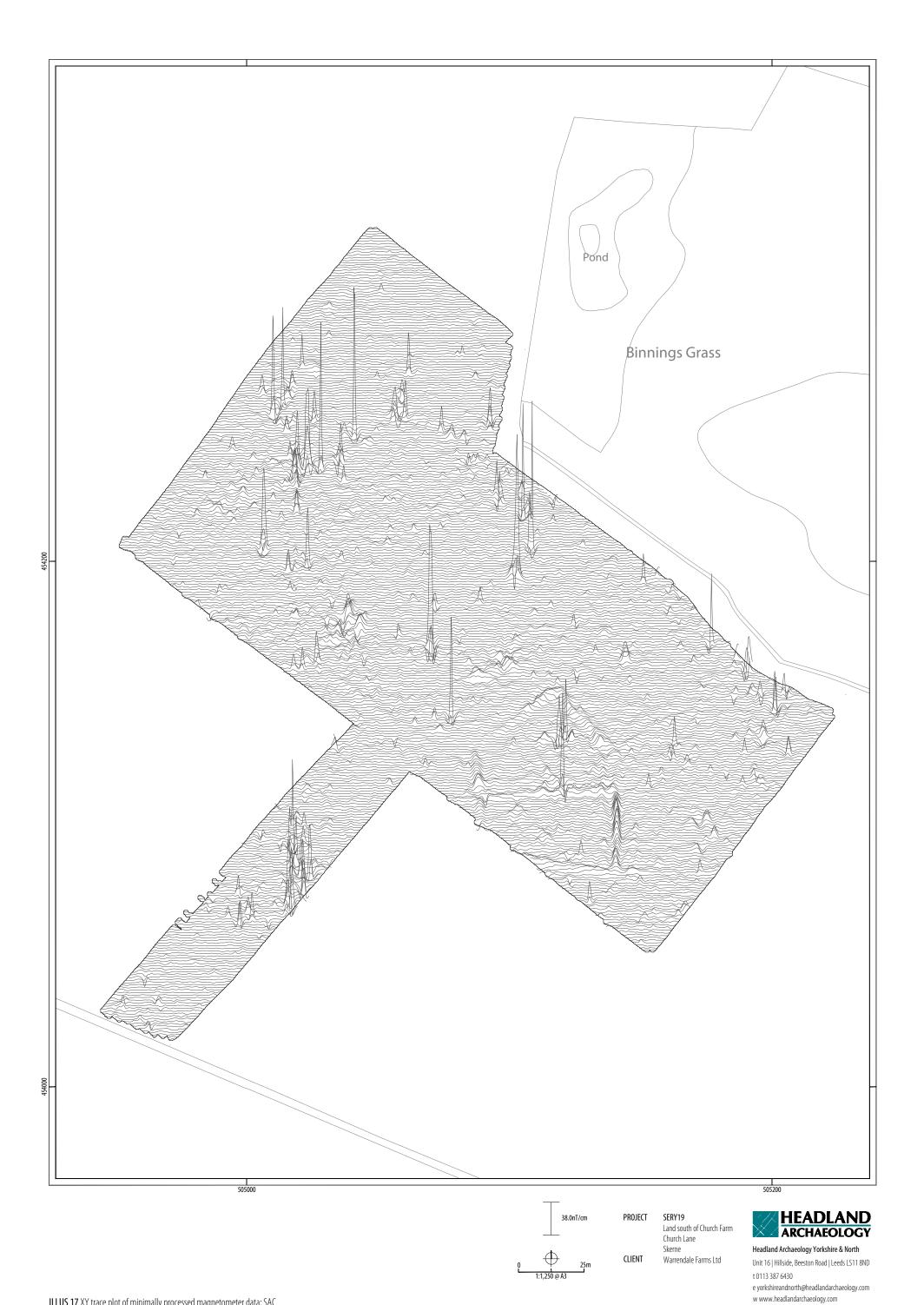
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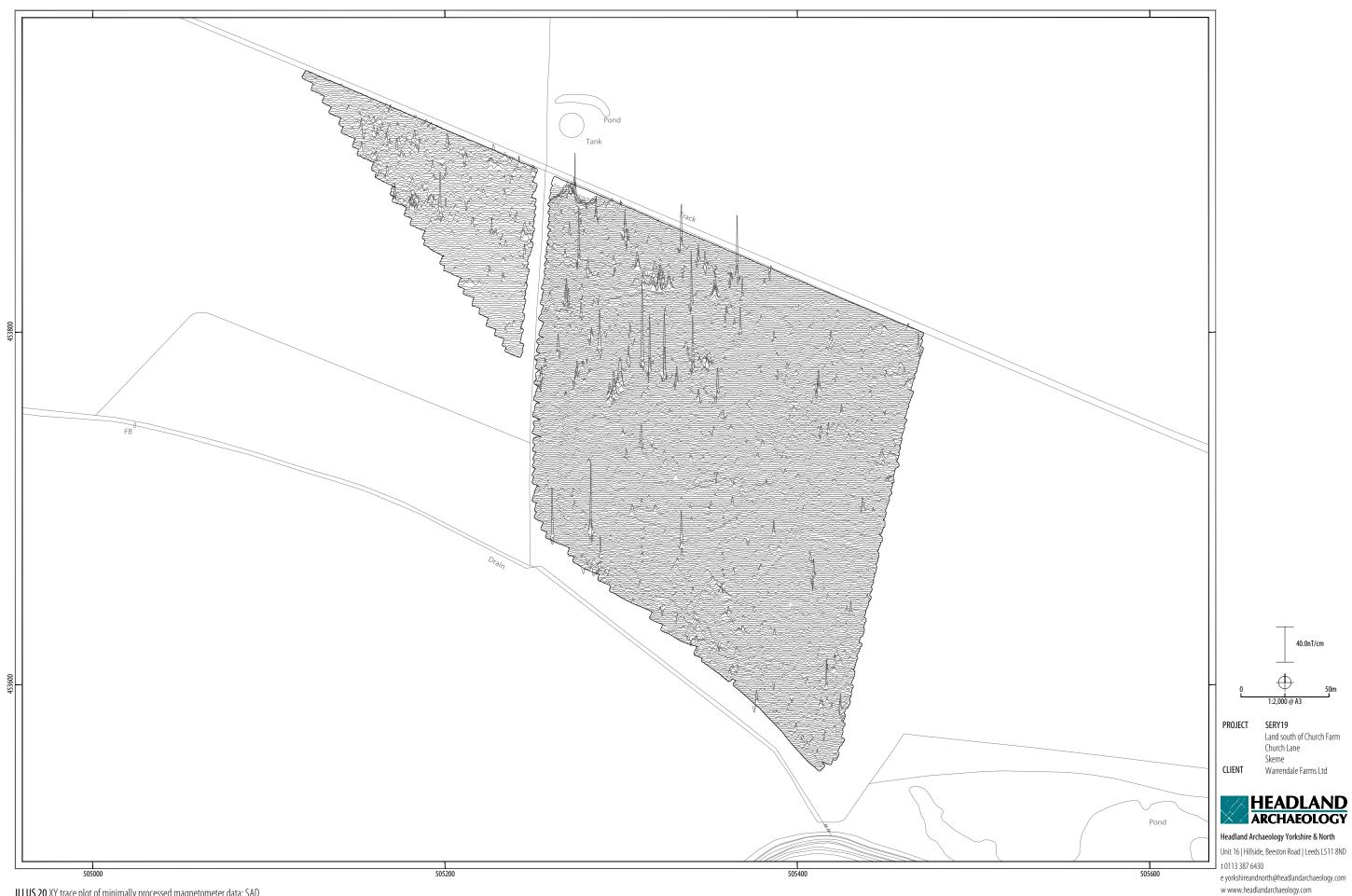
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APPENDIX 5 OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: ENGLAND

OASIS ID: headland5-368950

PROJECT DETAILS

Project nameLand south of Chruch Farm, Church Lane, Skerne

Short description of the project

Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd undertook a geophysical (magnetometer) survey on Land South of Church Farm, Church Lane, Skerne, where it is proposed to construct four new poultry units and an access track. The survey covered the development footprint of each unit as well as a larger area beyond in order to assess a wider area should micro-siting be required. The route of the new access track was also surveyed. Throughout the survey areas (SA's) anomalies caused by agricultural activity (drainage, cultivation and former land division) have been identified. Two localised areas of magnetic disturbance which correlate with former buildings recorded on historic mapping are also noted. The survey has also identified a pentagonal enclosure of likely Iron Age/Romano-British date with internal divisions and discrete features in SAC. However, it should be noted that only a very small part of the northern apex of the enclosure falls within the footprint of the new poultry unit. The archaeological potential here is assessed as moderate to high. No anomalies of likely archaeological potential have been identified at the sites of any of the other three poultry units or along the route of the access track and at these locations the archaeological potential is assessed as very low.

Project dates Start: 19-07-2019 End: 10-09-2019

Previous/future work No / Yes

Any associated project reference codes SERY19 - Contracting Unit No.

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined

Monument type None

Monument type None

Significant Finds None

Significant Finds None

Methods & techniques "Geophysical Survey"

Development type Farm infrastructure (e.g. barns, grain stores, equipment stores, etc.)

Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Position in the planning process Not known / Not recorded

Solid geology Chalk (including red chalk)

Drift geology Alluvium

Techniques Magnetometry

Country England

 Site location
 East Riding of Yorkshire East Riding of Yorkshire Skerne and Wansford Land south of Church Farm, Church Lane, Skerne

Study area 20 Hectares

Site coordinates TA 0489 4532 53.89322018556 -0.403700548277 53 53 35 N 000 24 13 W Point

PROJECT CREATORS

 Name of Organisation
 Headland Archaeology

 Project brief originator
 Ian Pick and Associates

 Project design originator
 Headland Archaeology

LAND SOUTH OF CHURCH FARM, CHURCH LANE, SKERNE, EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE SERY19

 Project director/manager
 Harrison, D

 Project supervisor
 Dyulgerski, K.

 Type of sponsor/funding body
 Developer

PROJECT ARCHIVES

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient In house

Digital Contents "Survey"

Digital Media available "Geophysics"

Paper Archive Exists?

PROJECT BIBLIOGRAPHY 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Land south of Church Farm, Church Lane, Skerne, East Riding of Yorkshire; Geophysical Survey

Author(s)/Editor(s) Dyulgerski, K.

Date 2019

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