

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY REPORT

sumo

Survey

GEOPHYSICS FOR
ARCHAEOLOGY &
ENGINEERING

Kenilworth School, Kenilworth, Warwickshire

Client
Arup

Survey Report
13031

Date
July 2018

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GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY REPORT

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**Kenilworth School, Kenilworth,
Warwickshire**

SUMO Job reference:
13031

Client:
Arup

Survey date:
4-10 July 2018

Report date:
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	SUMMARY OF RESULTS	1
2	INTRODUCTION	1
3	METHODS, PROCESSING & PRESENTATION	2
4	RESULTS	3
5	DATA APPRAISAL & CONFIDENCE ASSESSMENT	4
6	CONCLUSION	4
7	REFERENCES	4
	Appendix A Technical Information: Magnetometer Survey Method	
	Appendix B Technical Information: Magnetic Theory	

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 01	1:25 000	Site Location Diagram
Figure 02	1:2000	Location of Survey Area
Figure 03	1:2000	Magnetometer Survey - Greyscale Plot
Figure 04	1:2000	Magnetometer Survey - Interpretation
Figure 05	1:2000	Minimally Processed Data – Greyscale Plot

1 SUMMARY OF RESULTS

A detailed magnetometer survey was conducted over approximately 13 ha of pasture at Kenilworth. No definite archaeological responses have been identified. A number of former field boundaries, a track, land drains and evidence of ploughing are suggestive of an agricultural past. The remaining anomalies relate to underground services such as pipes, an infilled pond and nearby ferrous objects.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background synopsis

SUMO Geophysics Ltd were commissioned to undertake a geophysical survey of an area outlined for development. This survey forms part of an archaeological investigation being undertaken by **Arup**.

2.2 Site details

NGR / Postcode	SP 304 725 / CV8 2DF
Location	The site is located to the east of Kenilworth, Warwickshire on land at Southcrest Farm. Crewe Lane borders the site to the north with Leyes Lane running from east-west in the centre of the area.
HER/SMR	Warwickshire
District	Warwick
Parish	Kenilworth CP
Topography	Mostly level
Current Land Use	Grassland / pasture
Geology	Solid: Ashow Formation - mudstone and sandstone. Superficial: none recorded (BGS 2018).
Soils	Whimble 2 Association (572e) - reddish fine loamy over clayey soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging (SSEW 1983).
Archaeology	A search of Warwickshire HER (WCC 2018) within a 500m radius of the site identifies the remains of a possible Roman building (MWA4532) to the north of the site, approximately 500m east of Knowle Hill. In the same location, various finds dating to the Roman period (MWA291) have been discovered. The site of a Royal Observer Corps Post (MWA9628) is also recorded on land immediately to the north of the site, and was established during the Second World War to monitor and track enemy aircraft. No heritage assets are recorded within the site itself.
Survey Methods	Magnetometer survey (fluxgate gradiometer)
Study Area	13 ha

2.3 Aims and Objectives

To locate and characterise any anomalies of possible archaeological interest within the study area.

3 METHODS, PROCESSING & PRESENTATION

3.1 Standards & Guidance

This report and all fieldwork have been conducted in accordance with the latest guidance documents issued by Historic England (EH 2008) (then English Heritage), the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014) and the European Archaeological Council (EAC 2016).

3.2 Survey methods

Detailed magnetic survey was chosen as an efficient and effective method of locating archaeological anomalies.

Technique	Instrument	Traverse Interval	Sample Interval
Magnetometer	Bartington Grad 601-2	1.0m	0.25m

More information regarding this technique is included in Appendices A and B.

3.3 Data Processing

The following basic processing steps have been carried out on the data used in this report:

De-stripe; de-stagger; interpolate

3.4 Presentation of results and interpretation

The presentation of the results includes a 'minimally processed data' and a 'processed data' greyscale plot. Magnetic anomalies are identified, interpreted and plotted onto the 'Interpretation' drawings.

When interpreting the results, several factors are taken into consideration, including the nature of archaeological features being investigated and the local conditions at the site (geology, pedology, topography etc.). Anomalies are categorised by their potential origin. Where responses can be related to other existing evidence, the anomalies will be given specific categories, such as: *Abbey Wall* or *Roman Road*. Where the interpretation is based largely on the geophysical data, levels of confidence are implied, for example: *Probable*, or *Possible Archaeology*. The former is used for a confident interpretation, based on anomaly definition and/or other corroborative data such as cropmarks. Poor anomaly definition, a lack of clear patterns to the responses and an absence of other supporting data reduces confidence, hence the classification *Possible*.

4 RESULTS

Specific anomalies have been given numerical labels [1] [2] which appear in the text below, as well as on the Interpretation Figure(s).

4.1 **Probable / Possible Archaeology**

4.1.1 No magnetic responses have been recorded that could be interpreted as being of archaeological interest.

4.2 **Former Field Boundary**

4.2.1 Several weakly magnetic linear anomalies and alignments of ferrous responses [1-4] have been detected in the south of the site. These all correspond with the locations of former field boundaries, visible in these locations on historic OS mapping dating to 1887.

4.2.2 Additional linear anomalies sharing similar characteristics to those of [1-4] are visible in the south-east of the area. It is likely that these relate to former field boundaries, but the features cannot be corroborated from historic maps.

4.3 **Agricultural – Ploughing / Land Drains / Track**

4.3.1 Evidence of modern ploughing activity can be seen in the data, predominantly across the north of the site. The ploughing is visible in the form of magnetically weak, straight, parallel linear anomalies.

4.3.2 A curving linear anomaly [5] comprising areas of strong magnetic disturbance at its western end is related to the line of a former track, visible on historic OS maps from 1887.

4.3.3 Magnetically weak linear anomalies are likely to be related to land drains of modern origin. The responses in the north appear to drain from the large pond at the centre of the site, while one of the responses could be associated with the former pond [6] (4.4.1 below).

4.4 **Ferrous / Magnetic Disturbance**

4.4.1 A discrete area of strong magnetic disturbance [6] is visible in the north-east of the area. This is typical of the response associated with an infilled pond, comprising ferrous and thermoremanent debris and rubbish. A pond is visible in this location on OS mapping from 1887 to 1955.

4.4.2 Strong bipolar linear anomalies have been detected in the north-west of the area and are indicative of underground services, such as pipes or cables.

4.4.3 Ferrous responses close to boundaries are due to adjacent fences and gates. Smaller scale ferrous anomalies ("iron spikes") are present throughout the data and are characteristic of small pieces of ferrous debris (or brick / tile) in the topsoil; they are commonly assigned a modern origin. Only the most prominent of these are highlighted on the interpretation diagram.

5 DATA APPRAISAL & CONFIDENCE ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 Historic England guidelines (EH 2008) Table 4 states that the average magnetic response on mudstone and sandstone can be variable. The results from this survey indicate the presence of former field boundaries, a track and evidence of ploughing; as a consequence, the technique is likely to have detected any archaeological features, if present.

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The survey at Kenilworth has not revealed any anomalies of definite archaeological origin. Several former field boundaries have been identified, along with evidence of ploughing, a track and land drains, suggesting that the site has had a largely agricultural past. The remaining responses are modern, and include an infilled pond, underground services and disturbance from nearby ferrous metal objects.

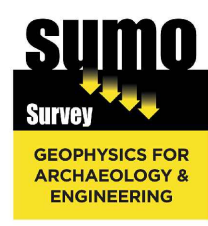
7 REFERENCES

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 Site Location

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Title: Site Location Diagram

Client: Arup

Project: 13031 - Kenilworth School, Kenilworth, Warwickshire

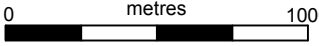
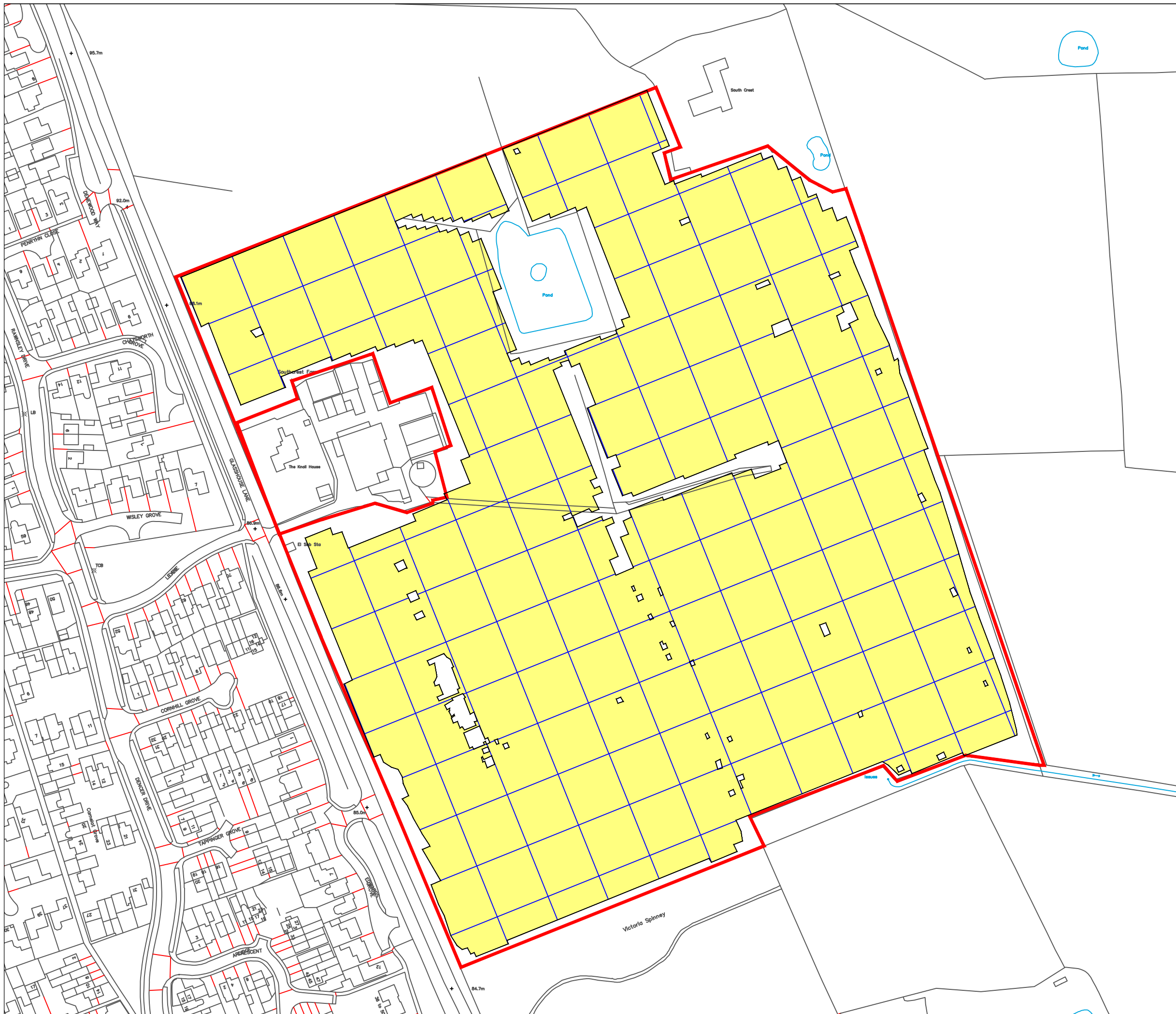

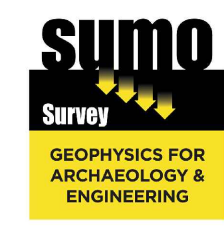
Scale: 
1:25000 @ A3

Fig No: 01



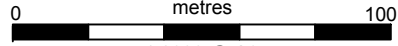
 Survey Area - showing 30m grid

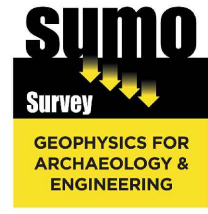
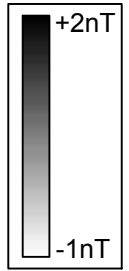


Title: Location of Survey Area

Client: Arup

Project: 13031 - Kenilworth School, Kenilworth, Warwickshire

Scale:  1:2000 @ A3 Fig No: 02



Title: Magnetometer Survey - Greyscale Plot

Client: Arup

Project: 13031 - Kenilworth School, Kenilworth, Warwickshire

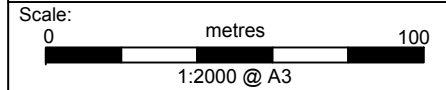









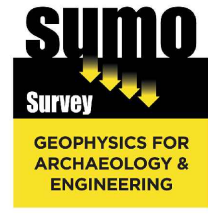


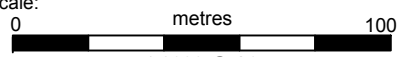
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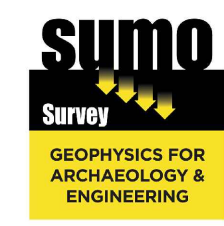
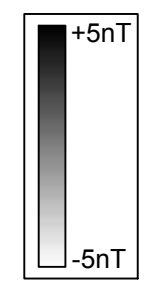


KEY

	Former field boundary (corroborated)
	Former field boundary (conjectural)
	Agriculture (plough)
	Former track (corroborated)
	Land drain
	Magnetic disturbance
	Magnetic disturbance - former pond
	Service
	Ferrous



Title:	Magnetometer Survey - Interpretation	
Client:	Arup	
Project:	13031 - Kenilworth School, Kenilworth, Warwickshire	
Scale:	 0 metres 100 1:2000 @ A3	Fig No: 04



Title: Minimally Processed Data - Greyscale Plot

Client: Arup

Project: 13031 - Kenilworth School, Kenilworth, Warwickshire

Scale: 0 metres 100
1:2000 @ A3

Fig No: 05

Appendix A - Technical Information: Magnetometer Survey Method

Grid Positioning

For hand held gradiometers the location of the survey grids has been plotted together with the referencing information. Grids were set out using a Trimble R8 Real Time Kinematic (RTK) VRS Now GNSS GPS system.

An RTK GPS (Real-time Kinematic Global Positioning System) can locate a point on the ground to a far greater accuracy than a standard GPS unit. A standard GPS suffers from errors created by satellite orbit errors, clock errors and atmospheric interference, resulting in an accuracy of 5m-10m. An RTK system uses a single base station receiver and a number of mobile units. The base station re-broadcasts the phase of the carrier it measured, and the mobile units compare their own phase measurements with those they received from the base station. This results in an accuracy of around 0.01m.

Technique	Instrument	Traverse Interval	Sample Interval
Magnetometer	Bartington Grad 601-2	1m	0.25m

Instrumentation: **Bartington Grad 601-2**

Bartington instruments operate in a gradiometer configuration which comprises fluxgate sensors mounted vertically, set 1.0m apart. The fluxgate gradiometer suppresses any diurnal or regional effects. The instruments are carried, or cart mounted, with the bottom sensor approximately 0.1-0.3m from the ground surface. At each survey station, the difference in the magnetic field between the two fluxgates is measured in nanoTesla (nT). The sensitivity of the instrument can be adjusted; for most archaeological surveys the most sensitive range (0.1nT) is used. Generally, features up to 1m deep may be detected by this method, though strongly magnetic objects may be visible at greater depths. The Bartington instrument can collect two lines of data per traverse with gradiometer units mounted laterally with a separation of 1.0m. The readings are logged consecutively into the data logger which in turn is daily down-loaded into a portable computer whilst on site. At the end of each site survey, data is transferred to the office for processing and presentation.

Data Processing

Zero Mean Traverse	This process sets the background mean of each traverse within each grid to zero. The operation removes striping effects and edge discontinuities over the whole of the data set.
Step Correction (De-stagger)	When gradiometer data are collected in 'zig-zag' fashion, stepping errors can sometimes arise. These occur because of a slight difference in the speed of walking on the forward and reverse traverses. The result is a staggered effect in the data, which is particularly noticeable on linear anomalies. This process corrects these errors.

Display

Greyscale/ Colourscale Plot	This format divides a given range of readings into a set number of classes. Each class is represented by a specific shade of grey, the intensity increasing with value. All values above the given range are allocated the same shade (maximum intensity); similarly, all values below the given range are represented by the minimum intensity shade. Similar plots can be produced in colour, either using a wide range of colours or by selecting two or three colours to represent positive and negative values. The assigned range (plotting levels) can be adjusted to emphasise different anomalies in the data-set.
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Interpretation Categories

In certain circumstances (usually when there is corroborative evidence from desk-based or excavation data) very specific interpretations can be assigned to magnetic anomalies (for example, *Roman Road, Wall, etc.*) and where appropriate, such interpretations will be applied. The list below outlines the generic categories commonly used in the interpretation of the results.

<i>Archaeology / Probable Archaeology</i>	This term is used when the form, nature and pattern of the responses are clearly or very probably archaeological and /or if corroborative evidence is available. These anomalies, whilst considered anthropogenic, could be of any age.
<i>Possible Archaeology</i>	These anomalies exhibit either weak signal strength and / or poor definition, or form incomplete archaeological patterns, thereby reducing the level of confidence in the interpretation. Although the archaeological interpretation is favoured, they may be the result of variable soil depth, plough damage or even aliasing as a result of data collection orientation.
<i>Industrial / Burnt-Fired</i>	Strong magnetic anomalies that, due to their shape and form or the context in which they are found, suggest the presence of kilns, ovens, corn dryers, metal-working areas or hearths. It should be noted that in many instances modern ferrous material can produce similar magnetic anomalies.
<i>Former Field Boundary (probable & possible)</i>	Anomalies that correspond to former boundaries indicated on historic mapping, or which are clearly a continuation of existing land divisions. Possible denotes less confidence where the anomaly may not be shown on historic mapping but nevertheless the anomaly displays all the characteristics of a field boundary.
<i>Ridge & Furrow</i>	Parallel linear anomalies whose broad spacing suggests ridge and furrow cultivation. In some cases, the response may be the result of more recent agricultural activity.
<i>Agriculture (ploughing)</i>	Parallel linear anomalies or trends with a narrower spacing, sometimes aligned with existing boundaries, indicating more recent cultivation regimes.
<i>Land Drain</i>	Weakly magnetic linear anomalies, quite often appearing in series forming parallel and herringbone patterns. Smaller drains may lead and empty into larger diameter pipes, which in turn usually lead to local streams and ponds. These are indicative of clay fired land drains.
<i>Natural</i>	These responses form clear patterns in geographical zones where natural variations are known to produce significant magnetic distortions.
<i>Magnetic Disturbance</i>	Broad zones of strong dipolar anomalies, commonly found in places where modern ferrous or fired materials (e.g. brick rubble) are present. They are presumed to be modern.
<i>Service</i>	Magnetically strong anomalies, usually forming linear features are indicative of ferrous pipes/cables. Sometimes other materials (e.g. pvc) or the fill of the trench can cause weaker magnetic responses which can be identified from their uniform linearity.
<i>Ferrous</i>	This type of response is associated with ferrous material and may result from small items in the topsoil, larger buried objects such as pipes, or above ground features such as fence lines or pylons. Ferrous responses are usually regarded as modern. Individual burnt stones, fired bricks or igneous rocks can produce responses similar to ferrous material.
<i>Uncertain Origin</i>	Anomalies which stand out from the background magnetic variation, yet whose form and lack of patterning gives little clue as to their origin. Often the characteristics and distribution of the responses straddle the categories of <i>Possible Archaeology / Natural</i> or (in the case of linear responses) <i>Possible Archaeology / Agriculture</i> ; occasionally they are simply of an unusual form.

Where appropriate some anomalies will be further classified according to their form (positive or negative) and relative strength and coherence (trend: weak and poorly defined).

Appendix B - Technical Information: Magnetic Theory

Detailed magnetic survey can be used to effectively define areas of past human activity by mapping spatial variation and contrast in the magnetic properties of soil, subsoil and bedrock. Although the changes in the magnetic field resulting from differing features in the soil are usually weak, changes as small as 0.1 nanoTeslas (nT) in an overall field strength of 48,000 (nT), can be accurately detected.

Weakly magnetic iron minerals are always present within the soil and areas of enhancement relate to increases in *magnetic susceptibility* and permanently magnetised *thermoremanent* material.

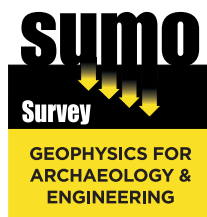
Magnetic susceptibility relates to the induced magnetism of a material when in the presence of a magnetic field. This magnetism can be considered as effectively permanent as it exists within the Earth's magnetic field. Magnetic susceptibility can become enhanced due to burning and complex biological or fermentation processes.

Thermoremanence is a permanent magnetism acquired by iron minerals that, after heating to a specific temperature known as the Curie Point, are effectively demagnetised followed by re-magnetisation by the Earth's magnetic field on cooling. Thermoremanent archaeological features can include hearths and kilns; material such as brick and tile may be magnetised through the same process.

Silting and deliberate infilling of ditches and pits with magnetically enhanced soil creates a relative contrast against the much lower levels of magnetism within the subsoil into which the feature is cut. Systematic mapping of magnetic anomalies will produce linear and discrete areas of enhancement allowing assessment and characterisation of subsurface features. Material such as subsoil and non-magnetic bedrock used to create former earthworks and walls may be mapped as areas of lower enhancement compared to surrounding soils.

Magnetic survey is carried out using a fluxgate gradiometer which is a passive instrument consisting of two sensors mounted vertically 1m apart. The instrument is carried about 30cm above the ground surface and the top sensor measures the Earth's magnetic field whilst the lower sensor measures the same field but is also more affected by any localised buried feature. The difference between the two sensors will relate to the strength of a magnetic field created by this feature, if no field is present the difference will be close to zero as the magnetic field measured by both sensors will be the same.

Factors affecting the magnetic survey may include soil type, local geology, previous human activity and disturbance from modern services.



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- Geophysical
- Laser Scanning
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