



Northamptonshire Archaeology

Additional Archaeological Geophysical survey on Land north of Hetherset, Norfolk



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Northamptonshire
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Report 11/184

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QUALITY CONTROL

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Verified & Approved by	Andy Chapman	<i>AC</i>	09/09/11

OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	Additional archaeological geophysical survey on land north of Hetherset, Norfolk	
Short description (250 words maximum)	Northamptonshire Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Hetherset Land to conduct further magnetometer survey on land north of Hetherset, in addition to that carried out in March 2011. This was carried out on the western extremity of the development area. Little of note was detected in Fields 1A and 14 other than a possible pit in the former. Field 15 was found to contain an extensive group of features indicating part of a Roman villa complex.	
Project type	Geophysical survey	
Site status	None	
Previous work (SMR numbers etc)	Wolframme-Murray & Walford 2011/109 NHER: MFN9270	
Current Land use	Arable	
Future work	Unknown	
Monument type/ period	Roman villa complex	
Significant finds (artefact type and period)		
PROJECT LOCATION		
County	Norfolk	
Site address (including postcode)	Land north of Hetherset	
Study area (sq.m or ha)	12ha	
OS Easting & Northing (use grid sq. letter code)	TG 15570 05623	
Height OD	47m OD	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Organisation	Northamptonshire Archaeology	
Project brief originator		
Project Design originator	CgMs Consulting	
Director/Supervisor	Adrian Butler	
Project Manager	Adrian Butler (NA), Duncan Hawkins (CgMs)	
Sponsor or funding body	Hetherset Land	
PROJECT DATE		
Start date		
End date		
ARCHIVES	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg pottery, animal bone etc)
Physical		
Paper	NA Archive	Site records and reports
Digital	NA Archive	GPS and gradiometer survey data
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
	Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report (NA report)	
Title	Additional archaeological geophysical survey on land north of Hetherset, Norfolk	
Serial title & volume	2011/184	
Author(s)	Adrian Butler	
Page numbers	12	
Date	09/11/2011	

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ADDITIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY ON LAND NORTH OF HETHERSETT, NORFOLK

ADDENDUM

August 2011

Abstract

Northamptonshire Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting on behalf of Hethersett Land to conduct further magnetometer survey on land north of Hethersett, in addition to that carried out in March 2011. This was carried out on the western extremity of the development area. Little of note was detected in Fields 1A and 14 other than a possible pit in the former. Field 15 was found to contain an extensive group of features indicating part of a Roman villa complex.

1 INTRODUCTION

Northamptonshire Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, on behalf of Hethersett Land, to conduct further magnetometer survey on land north of Hethersett, in addition to that carried out in March 2011 (Wolframm-Murray & Walford 2011). Prospection was carried out on the western extremity of the development area. Survey of the northern half of Field 1 was completed as Field 1A, and Fields 14 and 15 to the west and south-west were surveyed in total (Fig 1). This addendum refers directly to the former report (*ibid*). The survey methodology was continued as from the previous fieldwork, following the earlier Method Statement (NA 2011).

2 RESULTS

2.1 Field 1A (Figs 28 & 29)

The weak parallel linear anomalies, aligned from south-west to north-east, reflect the modern direction of ploughing. The large magnetic halo near the south-eastern corner of the field arises from the adjacent building. Three large, positive, ovoid anomalies were detected in the centre of the survey area. These probably indicate geological features such as a sub-surface topographic hollow or localised variation in sediment type or mineralogy. In the northern half of the field, the overall background reading were found to vary slightly over a large area, again probably reflecting macro-scale geological variations.

Four intense positive magnetic anomalies arranged in a rough square were detected adjacent to the north-east boundary of Field 1A. It is probable that these represent the stanchions of a vertical steel structure, such as a pylon or wind-pump.

A dense band of dipolar magnetic (intense paired positive/negative) anomalies was detected approximately 20m wide, parallel with the northern field boundary. Such dipolar anomalies usually represent ferrous or ceramic debris contained in the ploughsoil and an increased concentration of dipoles in a south-east to north-west alignment probably indicates a removed boundary. This was the southern extent of a former field (Tithe map, NCC 2011). A large, circular, strongly positive anomaly (+46nT max) was located in the north-west of Field 1A. The shape of the anomaly suggests that this may reflect a large pit (c5m diameter) containing highly magnetised material such as ceramics and other fired remains.

2.2 Field 14 (Figs 28 & 29)

Survey of the most north-westerly field indicated the south-west to north-east aligned modern ploughing pattern common with Field 1A to the east. Again, subtle changes in the magnetic background indicate large-scale geological changes. Four intense positive anomalies were detected approximately centrally along the eastern boundary, likely to represent earth-fast iron structures similar to those in Field 1A.

2.3 Field 15 (Figs 30 & 31)

The data collected from Field 15 revealed a rectilinear pattern of positive linear anomalies, apparently reflecting a large C-shaped structure. Two 'wings' were defined following an approximately north-west to south-east orientation for 160m to 180m (Fig 31; A & B), from the north-west field boundary. The width of A was c 30m and B approximately 25m and the anomalies most likely indicate ditches rather than walls.

A 0.25ha area of noisy magnetic data was identified adjacent to the north-western boundary of the field, such as may be created by a spread of thermoremanently magnetised material (ceramics, brick) in the ploughsoil. This was at the northern end of a rectilinear arrangement of positive magnetic anomalies (C) approximately 140m long on a north-east to south-west orientation, at an angle towards the boundary. Finds of Roman tegulae and tesserae were made on the surface of the field by the survey team (J Walford pers comm). Several more discrete positive anomalies were detected towards the southern end of C, probably indicating pits.

The linear magnetic anomalies of feature A and B do not appear to have any characteristics that would suggest masonry foundations. More likely they are cut-and-backfilled ditches, and in the case of C, filled with some highly magnetically susceptible material. It is probable, however, given the presence of the spread of building material over the north end of C, that a built villa structure exists, either masked by the thermoremanent anomalies or partially beyond the hedge to the west.

3 CONCLUSION

Additional magnetometer survey on the west of the North Hethersett development area detected little of archaeological note in Fields 1A and 14 other than a possible pit in the former. Field 15 however, was found to contain a large C-shaped structure, spanning the field and apparently part of an extensive Roman villa complex already suspected through cropmarks, occasional surface material and excavated evidence (NHER: MNF9270).

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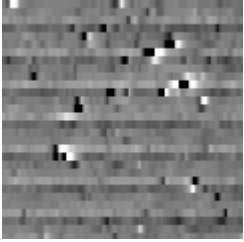
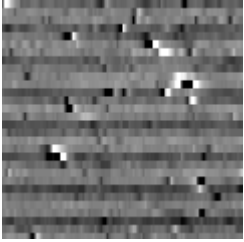

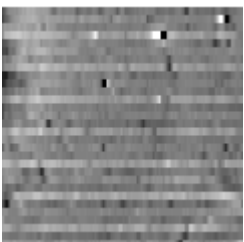
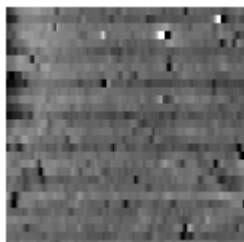
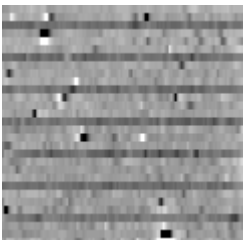
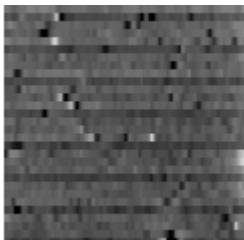
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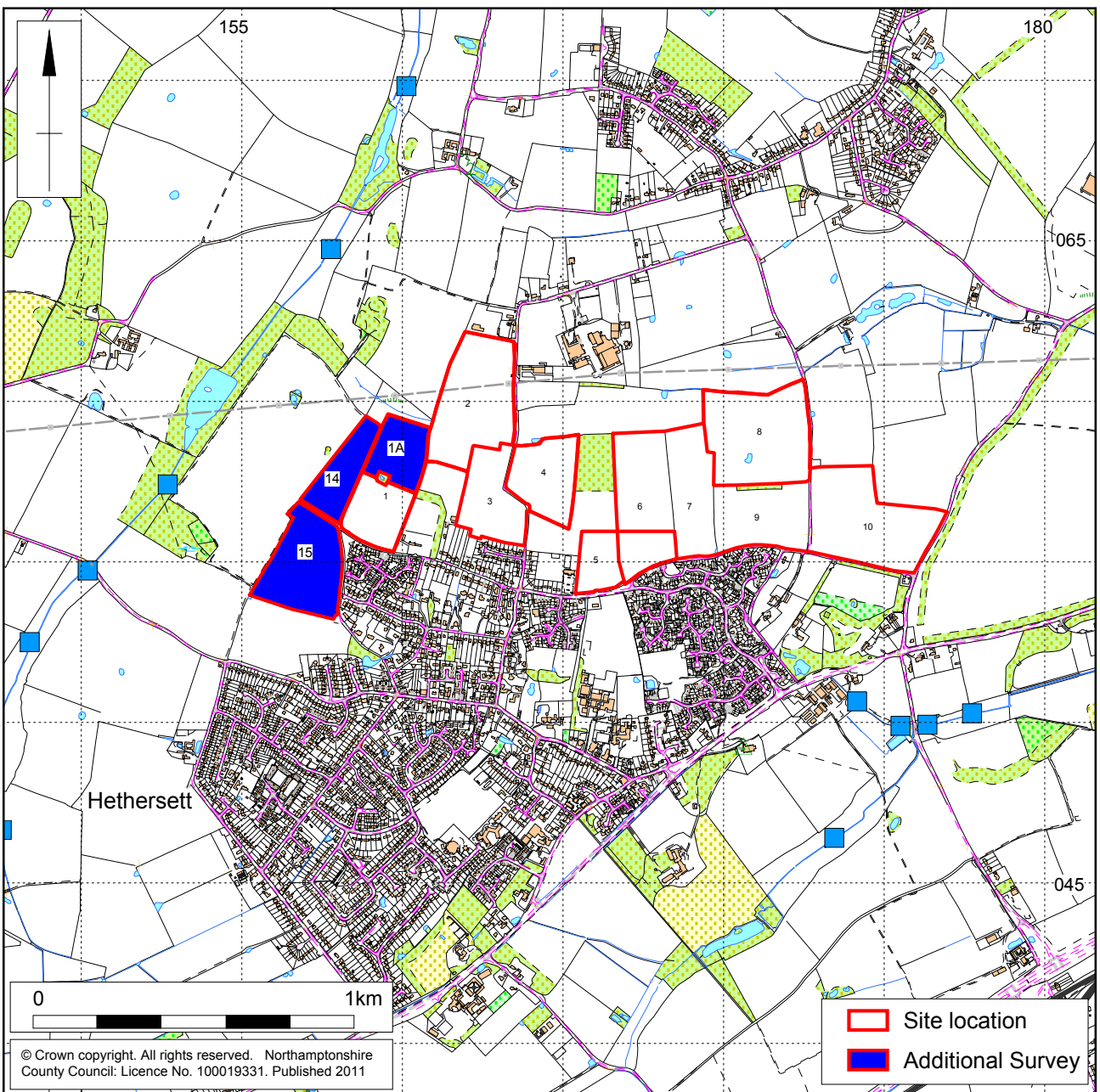
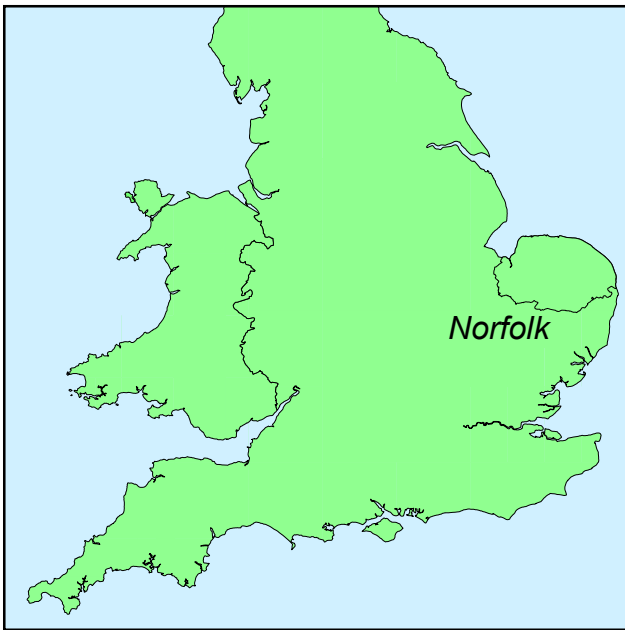
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APPENDIX 1 REPEATED MAGNETOMETER SURVEY GRIDS

No repeat carried out on 18/08/11 due to disruption from harrowing.

	<p>16 / 08 / 2011</p> <p>↗ N</p>	
<p>F1_2W5</p>	<p>-4nT  +4nT</p>	<p>F1_2R12R repeat</p>
	<p>17 / 08 / 2011</p>	
<p>F1_2RA1</p>		<p>F1_2SA3 repeat</p>
	<p>19 / 08 / 2011</p>	
<p>F15RC1</p>		<p>F15WD1 repeat</p>



Scale 1:20,000

Site location Fig 1



Magnetic anomaly /nT

-3nT 0 +3nT

0 1:2,500 125m

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Magnetic anomaly /nT

-3nT 0 +3nT

0 1:2,500 125m

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Field 15

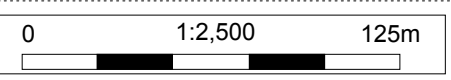
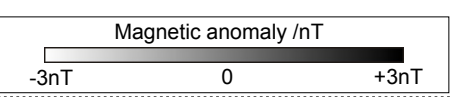
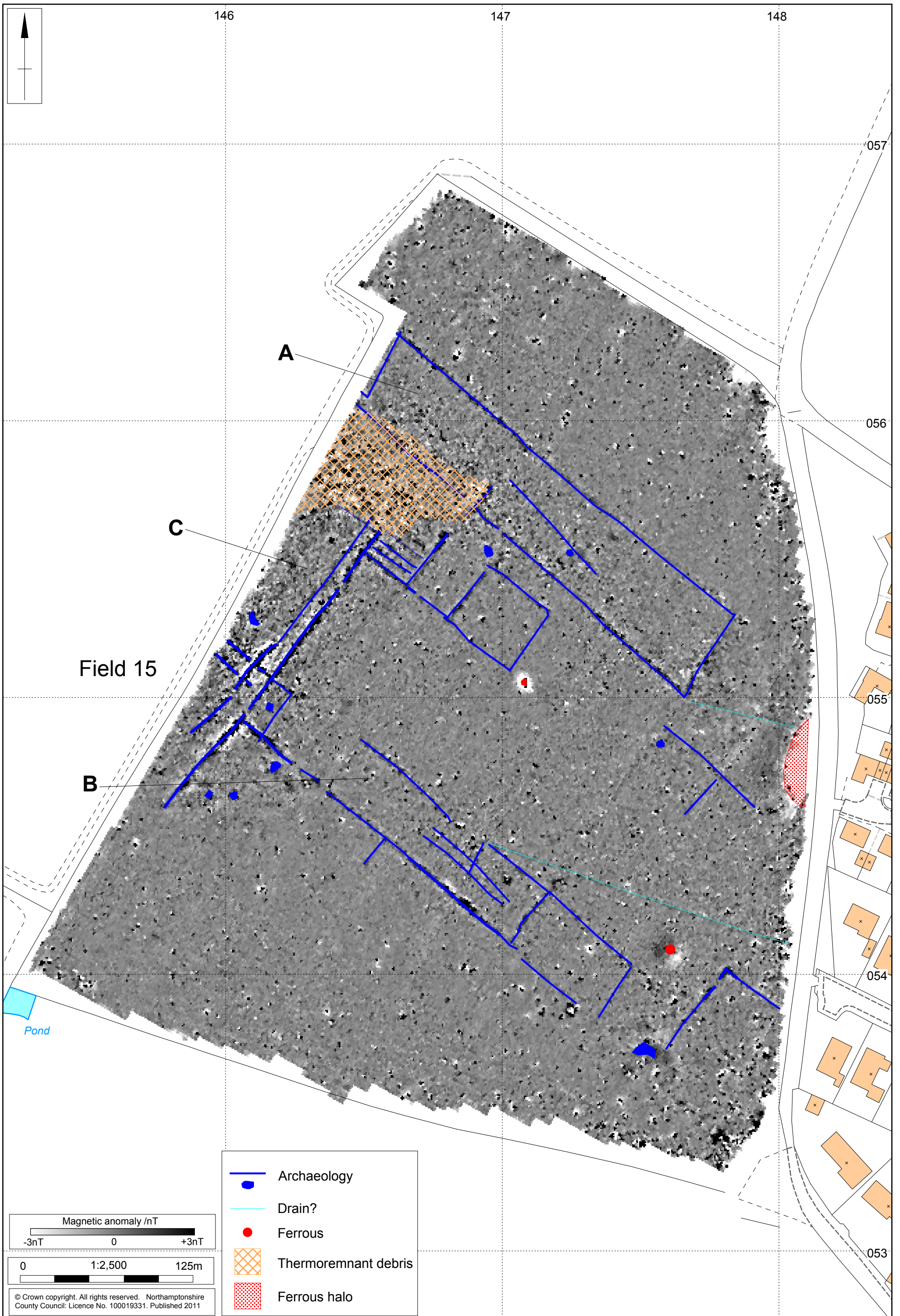
Pond

Magnetic anomaly /nT






-3nT 0 +3nT

0 1:2,500 125m

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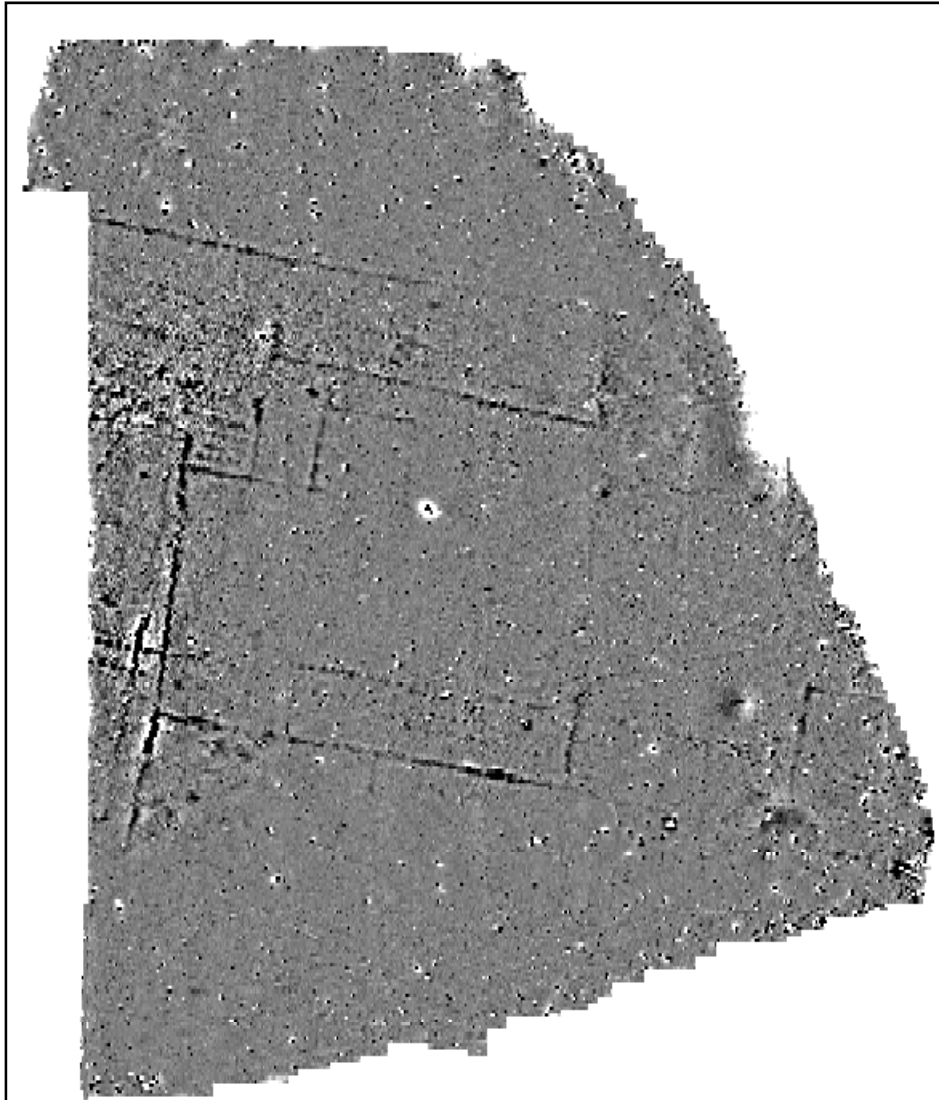
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-  Archaeology
-  Drain?
-  Ferrous
-  Thermoremnant debris
-  Ferrous halo



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