

SURVEY RESULTS

95 / 33 Cornish Fogous

1. Survey Sites (Figures 1 and 4)

1.1 The locations of the two sites investigated by geophysical techniques are shown in Figures 1 and 4 at a scale of 1:2500. The surveys were undertaken as part of the Time Team television series for Video Text Communications Ltd. Gradiometry and resistance were undertaken at each location as indicated in the location diagrams.

1.2 The surveys at the first site, Boleigh, were undertaken over a possible extension of a known fogou. The survey area was within a small lawned garden, just to the southwest of the structure. Two areas were investigated at the second site at Treveneague, with the aim of locating a 'lost' fogou. An initial survey, Area A, was undertaken over the presumed location of the fogou based on documentary evidence. The second survey, Area B, was carried out over an area which a farmer believed to be the location of the 'lost' fogou. Areas A and B were within a gently sloping field half of which was under stubble and the other half ploughed.

1.3 The survey areas were set out by **Geophysical Surveys of Bradford** and tied-in by the RCHME.

2. Display

2.1 The data from the survey at Boleigh are displayed at a scale of 1:250 in a variety of formats. Interpretation diagrams are also displayed at a scale of 1:250.

2.2 The data from the gradiometer surveys at Treveneague are displayed as X-Y traces, dot density plots and grey scale images at a scale of 1:500, with interpretation diagrams at the same scale. The resistance data are displayed at a scale of 1:250.

2.3 These display formats are discussed in the *Technical Information* section, at the end of the text. A list of figures contained in this report precedes the diagrams.

3. General Considerations - Complicating factors

3.1 The survey at Boleigh was confined to a small lawned area of garden. The limited extent of the survey prevents a full interpretation of the data.

3.2 The two areas investigated at Treveneague were within an arable field. Half of the field was deeply ploughed and this has produced strong magnetic anomalies.

4. Boleigh

4.1 Gradiometer Survey (Figure 2)

4.1.1 The gradiometer data show a strong curvilinear response. Initially it was thought that the anomaly was archaeological indicating a fill with a strong magnetic enhancement or possibly igneous material. However, excavation showed the anomaly to be associated with a small disused iron pipe that follows a curving line under the lawn.

4.1.2 No other anomalies of archaeological interest have been noted within the survey area.

4.2 Resistance Survey (Figure 3)

4.2.1 The resistance data show a clear curving low resistance anomaly which coincides with the anomaly detected by the gradiometer. The response suggests a ditch which could either be archaeological or a service trench associated with a pipe.

4.2.2 No high resistance anomalies suggesting building remains have been noted.

5. Treveneague

5.1 Gradiometer Survey (Figures 5 - 8)

Area A

5.1.1 Gradiometry was initially undertaken in the north of the field based on documentary evidence for the possible location of a fogou. The background level of response is relatively high which is almost certainly due to an igneous rich soil.

5.1.2 A linear anomaly running diagonally across the site has been detected. Whilst this response may be archaeological, it is most likely to indicate a former field division or possibly a land drain.

5.1.3 Parallel linear responses in the southeastern corner of the survey are due to deep ploughing and are not archaeologically significant.

5.1.4 Broad ferrous type responses along the northern limit of the survey are most likely due to ferrous or igneous material in the field boundary adjacent to the survey area.

5.1.5 Isolated pit type responses have been noted on the interpretation diagram. While these may be archaeological it seems more likely that they are natural in origin.

5.1.6 Isolated ferrous responses are apparent in the survey area. These are most likely the product of modern ferrous debris in the topsoil.

Area B

5.1.7 After discussions with a local farmer gradiometry was undertaken in the southwest of the field.

5.1.8 A clear curving ditch type anomaly, suggesting part of an enclosure has been recorded. The disrupted nature of the responses in the south of the survey is due to deep ploughing which has also increased the background level of response.

5.1.9 An unusual anomaly (F) adjoining the main ditch has also been located. The orientation, size and configuration of this correlate well with the documented fogou, although its position is some 160m to the southwest.

5.1.10 Additional weak responses have been highlighted on the interpretation diagram. Although these are likely to be associated with the fogou, a natural origin cannot be ruled out.

5.2 Resistance Survey (Figure 9)

5.2.1 In the restricted time available only a small resistance survey was undertaken over the possible fogou. High resistance anomalies corresponding with the magnetic anomaly have been detected, with a break in the high resistance coinciding with a break in the magnetic response.

6 Conclusions

6.1 The geophysical survey at Boleigh located a ditch type feature which was originally thought to have been of archaeological interest. However, subsequent excavation revealed that the anomalies were associated with an old water pipe. It is interesting to note how similar the responses from the pipe are to those from the definite ditch at Treveneague.

6.2 At Treveneague the initial gradiometry survey, Area A, over the presumed location of the fogou did not detect any responses which one would associated with such a feature. The second survey, Area B, did locate several anomalies suggestive of the fogou and the size and orientation of the responses correlate well with the documentary evidence. However, the fogou is actually 160m to the southwest of its documented location.

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