Old Oak Farm, Back Lane, Curry Rivel, Somerset.

An Archaeological Evaluation – Assessment Report

context one
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES LTD

Old Oak Farm, Back Lane, Curry Rivel, Somerset.

An Archaeological Evaluation – Assessment Report

for

Mr and Mrs A Jones

by

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COAS reference: C1/EVA/14/OCR
South Somerset District Council planning reference: 14/00274/FUL
National Grid Reference: centred on NGR ST 39681 24840
Somerset Historic Environment Record PRN no: 32495
Somerset County Museums Service Accession Number: TTNCM 45/2014

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Front cover image: Tr2 looking across central & eastern areas of Site, from the north-west.

Contents

Non-technical summary

Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out a programme of archaeological works on an area of land at Old Oak Farm, Back Lane, Curry Rivel, Somerset (the 'Site'). This comprised a geophysical survey (Stratascan 2014) followed by an enhanced field evaluation carried out over 8 days between 14 October and 20 November 2014. The project was commissioned and funded by the Site owners, Mr and Mrs A Jones.

The archaeological work was requested by Mr and Mrs A Jones and the programme agreed between COAS and Mr Hugh Beamish (Assistant Inspector of Ancient Monuments, English Heritage) in support of a planning application for the 'Erection of dwelling house as replacement for approved mobile home'. The Site of the proposed dwelling lies wholly within the constraint area of the Scheduled Monument known as 'Roman house S of Fair View House, Curry Rivel, Somerset' (Scheduled Monument 1006185; PRN 53850). Given the paucity of archaeological evidence relating to this Scheduled Monument, a geophysical was carried out in April 2014. This was followed by a targeted field evaluation in order to determine whether the proposed new build and all the associated elements (services, access etc.) would have any impact to the significance of the Scheduled Monument.

The findings of the archaeological works do not support the presence of a Roman villa on the Site or for that matter a significant presence in the Roman period, with evidence limited to pastoral activity, possibly small-scale industry and some burial practice (indicated by one cremation) between the late Iron Age and early Romano-British periods. Overall, the pottery, daub, CBM and animal bone assemblages are indicative of a nearby settlement of a domestic nature concentrated within the Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British periods and extending into the Romano-British period.

The area encompassed by the proposed development did not produce any evidence for archaeological activity. Although the geophysical survey could not extend into this area, aerial photographs reveal it suffered from being repeatedly scoured by agricultural machinery accessing the Site from the road. The results of the geophysical survey and field evaluation fit broadly with the pre-existing evidence, which was confined to the retrieval of a small quantity of Roman artefacts. Therefore, while it is possible that some remains may survive in the development area and across any areas where services may need to be installed, the balance of probability suggests that any such remains would be similar in nature and therefore of low significance.

1. Introduction

1.1 Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out a programme of archaeological works on an area of land at Old Oak Farm, Back Lane, Curry Rivel, Somerset (the 'Site'). This comprised a geophysical survey (Stratascan 2014) followed by an enhanced field evaluation carried out over 7 days between 14 and 23 October 2014 with a further day on 20 November 2014. The project was commissioned and funded by the Site owners, Mr and Mrs A Jones.

1.2 The Site was subject to a recent application to South Somerset District Council for planning permission for the 'Erection of dwelling house as replacement for approved mobile home' (application ref. 14/00274/FUL). The Site of the proposed dwelling lies wholly within the constraint area of the Scheduled Monument known as 'Roman house S of Fair View House, Curry Rivel, Somerset' (Scheduled Monument 1006185; PRN 53850) and is located 250m west of Drayton Roman Villa (Scheduled Monument 1006184; PRN 53902) (**Figure 1**). On this basis, Mr Hugh Beamish (Assistant Inspector of Ancient Monuments, English Heritage) recommended that the application be refused due to the harm which would be caused to the Scheduled Monument. As a consequence, the application was withdrawn.

1.3 Subsequently, COAS were asked by Mr and Mrs Jones to carry out a review of accessible archaeological information in consultation with Mr Beamish. The Scheduled Monument is an early designation and appears to be based on very slender evidence that might now be considered incompatible with the current criteria for Scheduling (see **Section 3**). Following on from this, a programme of archaeological works was agreed between COAS and Mr Beamish that would determine whether the proposed new build and all the associated elements (services, access etc.) would have any impact to the significance of the Scheduled Monument. The geophysical survey revealed anomalies of probable and possible archaeological origin that subsequently required investigation through targeted evaluation trenching.

1.4 Scheduled Monuments are archaeological sites and remains that are regarded as nationally important and which merit protection by statute (*The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 as Amended* (1983)). Guidance notes concerning Scheduled Monument Consent (EH 2012) state that:

> *'Written consent must always be obtained before any work on a scheduled monument can begin. Some developments may also need planning permission, which will need to be obtained from the Local Planning Authority.'*

And that:

> *'A monument which has been scheduled is protected against disturbance or unlicensed metal detecting. Application for Scheduled Monument Consent must be made to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport before any work can be carried out which might affect a monument either above or below ground level.'*

Scheduled Monument consent for the targeted field evaluation through trial trenching was granted on 31 July 2014 (Ref: S00090047):

> *'…with the aim of characterising the archaeological resource so that an informed decision can be made as to the impact on the monument should a planning application for development be re-submitted' (extract from Condition 1).*

1.5 The request for archaeological work follows advice given by Central Government as set out in paragraph 128 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012) and in *Policy EQ 3* of the *Proposed Submission South Somerset Local Plan 2006 – 2028* (June 2012).

1.6 The evaluation comprised five elements. The geophysical survey was carried out in April 2014 (Stratascan 2014). This was followed by the production of a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which set out the evaluation strategy and incorporated a Heritage Statement comprising archaeological and historic background, summary of the geophysical survey results and consideration of potential comparative Sites in Somerset (COAS July 2014). Condition 3g of the

Scheduled Monument consent stated that the field evaluation was to be undertaken in accordance with the WSI and was approved by Mr Beamish prior to the commencement of any Site works. This was followed by field evaluation through trial trenching; post-excavation and report production; and archive deposition. This document is intended to help determine the Scheduled Monument designation and support the planning application.

2. Site location and topography

2.1 The Site (centred on NGR ST 39644 24832) covers *c.* 15,500 square metres and is located between the villages of Curry Rivel to the north and Drayton to the east. Occupying part of an arable field and a small rectangular plot to the west, the Site is located to the east of Back Lane with a large residential property to the north (Fair View House), a sewage works to the south, and open fields to the west and to the east (**Figure 1**). The Site is largely situated on level ground at an average height of *c.* 25m (aOD). The proposed new dwelling house would occupy a very small area (162.3 square metres) within the north-west of the Site, with a parking area (48.3 square metres) extending south-westwards into the small rectangular plot, terminating adjacent to a modern building.

2.2 According to the British Geological Survey (BGS 2015), the solid geology is predominantly recorded as Jurassic and Triassic Blue Lias Formation and Charmouth Mudstone Formation (undifferentiated) of the Langport Member. No superficial (drift) geology is recorded. The soils are characterised as lime-rich loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage (http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes).

3. Historical and archaeological background

Archaeological background

3.1 The archaeological background for the Site and environs has been drawn from the English Heritage List Entry and from the Somerset Historic Environment Record (HER). The Site is located on a Scheduled Monument (SM 1006185) known as 'Roman house south of Fair View House', named on the Somerset Historic Environment Record as a 'Supposed Roman villa' (PRN 53850) (**Figure 1**). A small quantity of Roman artefacts is listed on the 1965 Ordnance Survey Archaeology Division record card resulting from a mention in the Victoria County History series. These were later deposited with Taunton Museum and are listed as samian pottery, probably 2nd century imitation samian, coarse 4th century sherds, a shard of dark glass, a bronze toilet appliance and a 1st or 2nd century strip bow fibula. A Somerset HET site visit in 1999 reported that field walking carried out following fresh ploughing identified post-medieval pottery sherds and part of a Neolithic polished axe (PRN 35973). Drayton Roman Villa (Scheduled Monument 1006184; PRN 53902) is located 250m west of the Site, and was the subject of a watching brief in 1978 (PRN 15120) and an evaluation in 2002 (PRN 15444).

Historical background

3.2 The historical background has been drawn from documentary and literary sources held at the Somerset Heritage Centre and English Heritage Archive, Swindon. The primary and secondary records include estate, tithe and ordnance survey maps, and aerial photographs (**Appendix 1**).

3.3 A series of historic maps were viewed dating from 1819 to the present day (**Figure 2**). These demonstrate that the Site has undergone very little change over the last 200 years, and appear to show the Site within the static boundaries of a rectangular field. The earliest map shows the south boundary of the field running slightly northwards of the south boundary of the Site (**a** on **Figure 2**), however the 1840 tithe map shows the south boundary along the present line (**b** on **Figure 2**). Subsequent maps show no further alterations to the field boundaries (**c, d, e** & **f** on **Figure 2**). The 1841 tithe apportionment lists the landowners as Robert and Charles Bagehot, the occupier as William Langdon, the plot (871) as Drayton Field Close and the State of Cultivation as arable. The first edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map shows a find spot labelled as '*Roman Coins & c. Found AD 1861*'. The same label is shown on all subsequent OS map editions. It has not been possible to determine the accuracy of the find spot and the fate of the coins. By 1973, three small properties are shown within the small rectangular field forming the western part of the Site (**f** on **Figure 2**).

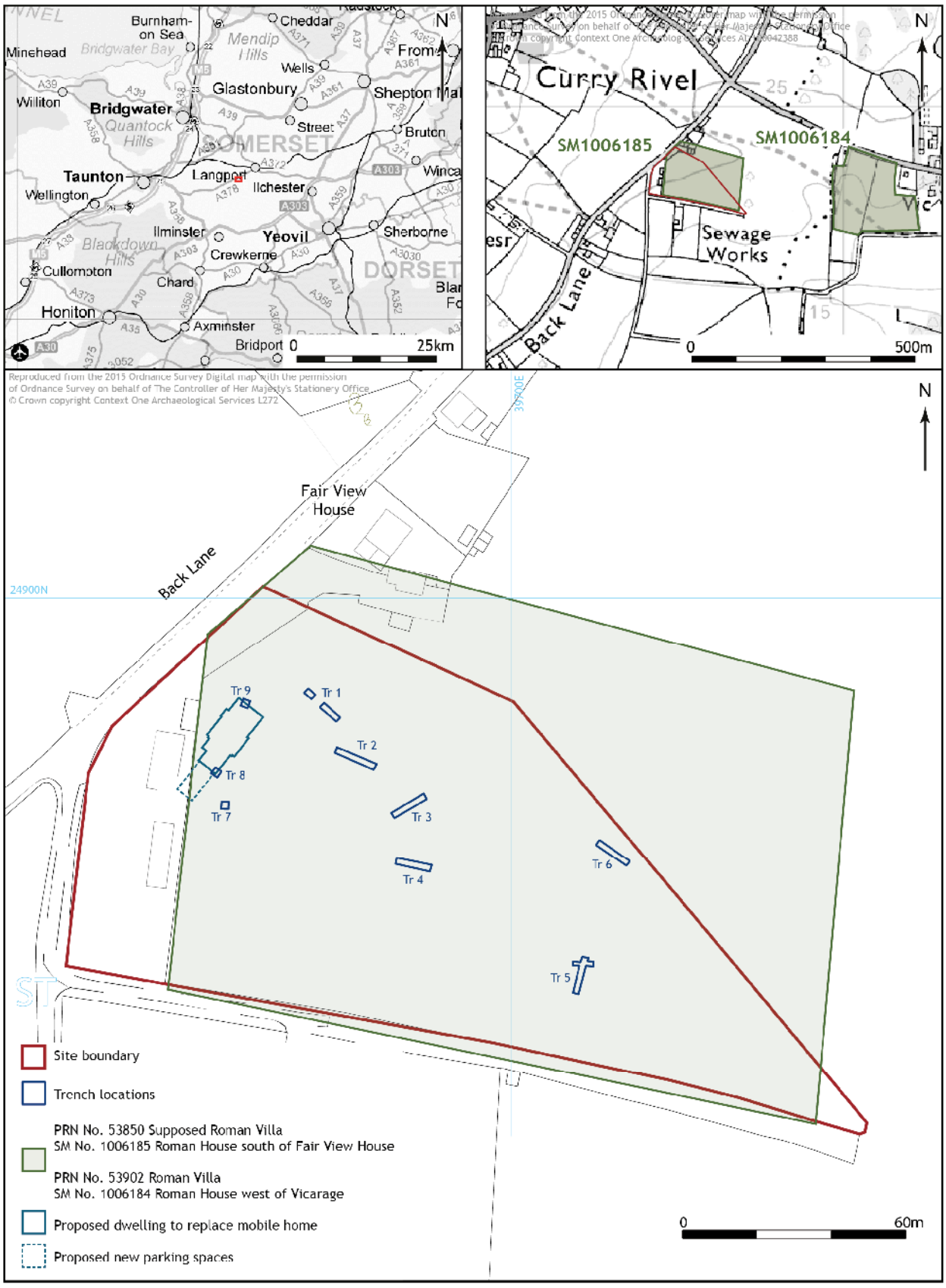
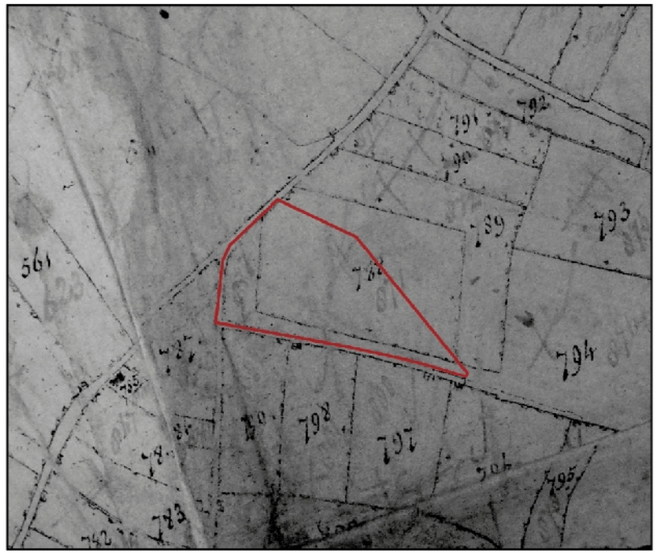
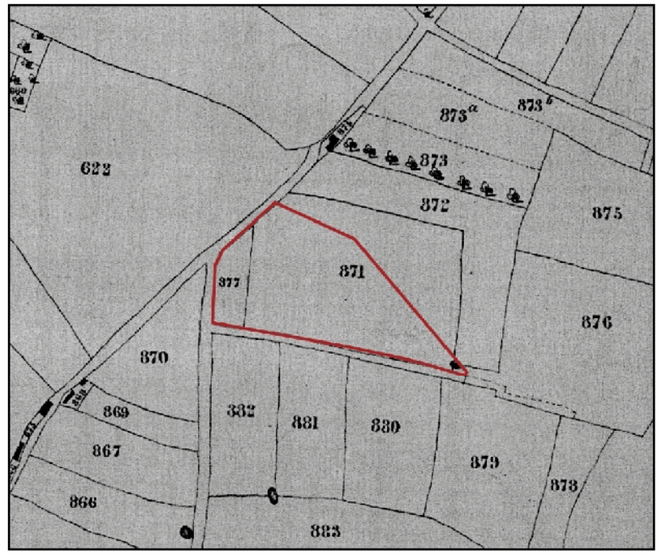


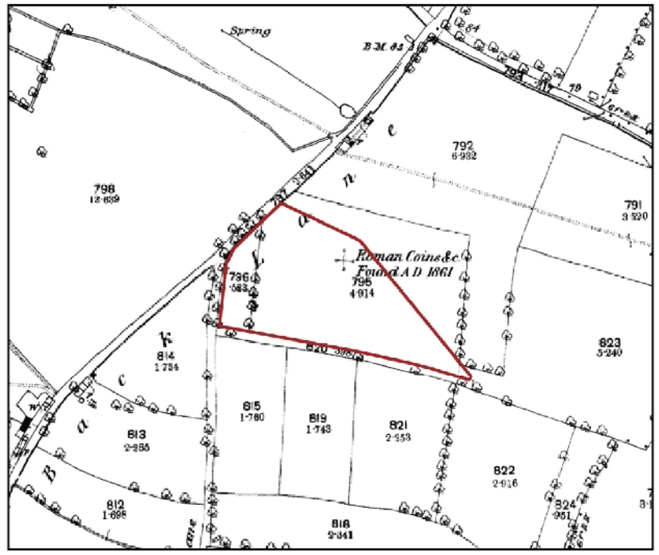
Figure 1. Site setting, proposed dwelling & locations of evaluation trenches



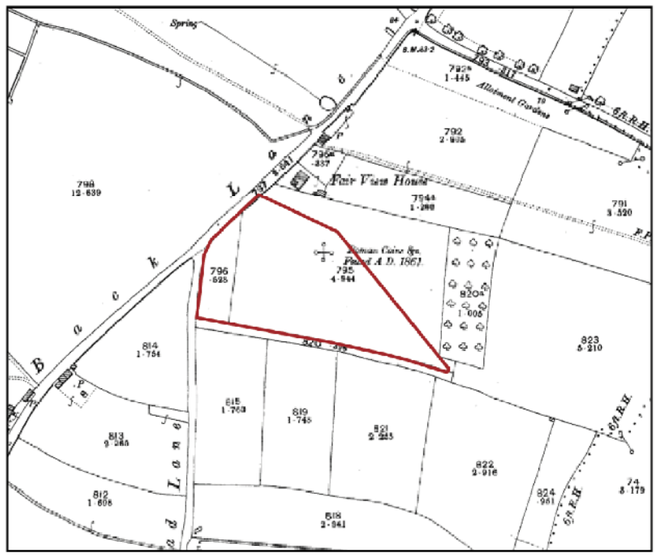
a) Extract of 1820 Parish Map



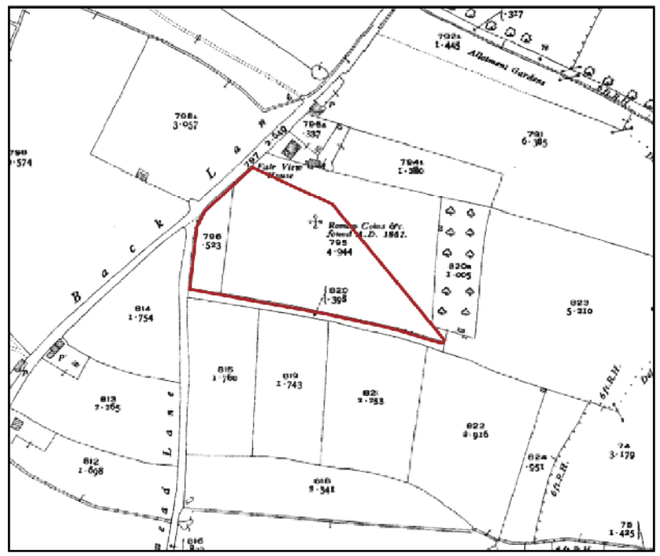
b) Extract of 1841 Tithe Map



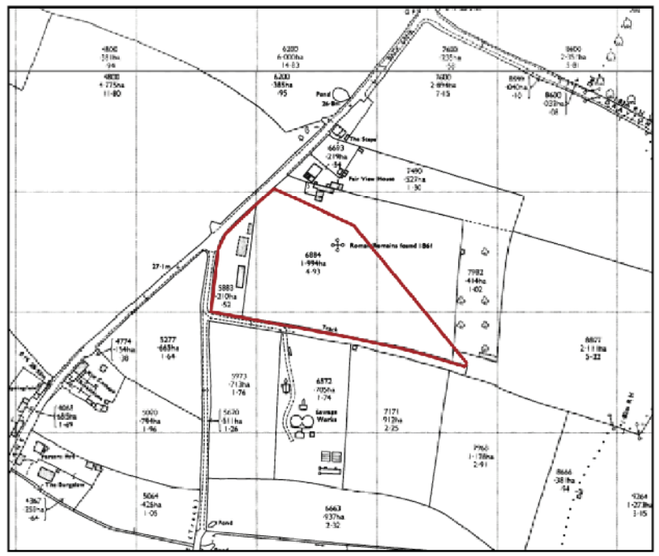
c) Ordnance Survey 25" map transcription, 1887



d) Ordnance Survey 25" map transcription, 1903



e) Ordnance Survey 25" map transcription, 1930



f) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map transcription, 1973

Site boundary

N

0 250m

PROJECT TITLE
Old Oak Farm, Back Lane, Curry Rivel, Somerset

FIGURE TITLE
Historic map regression

SCALE	PROJECT CODE	FIGURE NO.
as shown	C1/EVA/14/OCR	2

Figure 2. Historic map regression

Aerial photographs

3.4 Aerial photographs dating to 1947 appear to show cropmarks in the north-western and southern areas of the Site (**Plate 1**), broadly corresponding with areas of probable and possible archaeological origin identified on the geophysical survey (see **1 & 3** on **Figure 3**). However, the cropmarks in the north-western area correspond with access to the field from the road (Back Lane) and therefore relate to surface scouring by agricultural machinery. This is exemplified in the 1970s photograph (**Plate 2**).

Plate 1. 1947 aerial photograph (RAF/CPE/UK/1924, frame number 3182. Scale 1:10,000. English Heritage Archive, Swindon)

Plate 2. 1970 aerial photograph (OS/70432, frame number 305. Scale 1:7,500. English Heritage Archive, Swindon).

3.5 The remaining geophysical anomalies are less obvious on the aerial photographs but are just discernible. The photos also appear to show a rectangular area along the south side of the Site, encompassing the possible linears identified by the geophysical survey (**3** on **Figure 3**). While it is possible that this is archaeological, the shared orientation with the southern field boundary indicates an agricultural origin. Indeed, it may even relate to the original course of the southern field boundary, as shown on the 1820 map (**a** on **Figure 2**). In the 1960's photographs, the Site is either under cloud cover or does not show any features. The 1970 photographs are very clear, (**Plate 2**) however only the possible east-west linears are visible (**3** on **Figure 3**).

Geophysical survey

3.6 A detailed gradiometry survey was undertaken by Stratascan on 11 April 2014 to assess the potential for archaeological features or deposits and to aid with the location of evaluation trenches across the Site. An area located towards the west of site was excluded from the survey due to the limited availability of open space (**Figure 3**). The survey grids were set out using a Leica 705auto Total Station and referenced to suitable topographic features around the perimeter of the site or a Leica Smart Rover RTK GPS which uses Ordnance Survey's network of fixed base stations and gives an accuracy of *c*. 0.01m. The magnetic survey was carried out with a Bartington Grad601-2 Magnetic Gradiometer with a penetration depth of 0.5m to 1m.

3.7 The following discussion is based on the results of the gradiometer survey carried out by Stratascan (**Figure 3;** see **Appendix 4** for full report). A number of linear and rectilinear anomalies in the west of the Site were thought to be indicative of former cut features of probable archaeological origin (**1** & **2** on **Figure 3**). Possible archaeology may have been represented by positive linear anomalies across the Site, indicative of former cut features (**3** on **Figure 3**), and small discrete positive anomalies (**4** on **Figure 3**) indicative of small former cut features such as backfilled pits. It has been suggested by Mr Beamish that while the cut features denoted as 1-4 could be interpreted in a number of ways, they most likely represent settlement or paddock enclosures of Iron Age or Romano-British origin.

3.8 The remaining anomalies relate to areas of magnetic disturbance (**5** on **Figure 3**) as a result of substantial nearby ferrous metal objects such as fences or underground services, and magnetic 'spikes' (**6** on **Figure 3**) indicating ferrous metal objects likely to be modern refuse.

3.9 An HER request for comparable geophysical surveys in Somerset produced two possible sites for contrast; these included Lufton Roman villa (2009, HER ref. 20377) and Queen Camel Roman villa (2013, HER ref. 37874). The presence of both villa sites is well known but in both instances, geophysical surveys were commissioned to provide an understanding of the wider villa complex. Linear anomalies were identified at both sites slightly away from the main buildings but at best these were identified as probably being part of the villa enclosure. As such, no meaningful comparative data can be drawn to assess the form and extant of the enclosure complex here.

4. Methodology

4.1 The programme of archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the *Heritage Service Archaeological Handbook* issued by Somerset County Council in 2011, and the codes, standards and guidelines set out by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 1985, rev. 2012; 1990, rev. 2008; 1994, rev. 2008). Current Health and Safety legislation and guidelines were followed on site.

4.2 The archaeological evaluation comprised *c*. 63.5m of open cut trenching across nine trenches, consisting of two trenches of *c*. 10m x *c*. 1.6m, one trench of *c*. 9.5m x *c*. 1.6m, one trench of *c*. 8.3m x *c*. 1.6m and three trenches of *c*. 2m x *c*. 2m (**Figure 1**). The basis for the locations of Trenches 1-6 was dictated by the results of the geophysical survey while Trenches 7-9 were located in an area of limited access with Trenches 8 and 9 on the footprint of the proposed new dwelling.

4.3 All trenches were laid out using a TopCon GRS-1 Global Positioning System pre-loaded with Ordnance Survey grid co-ordinates derived from the WSI trench plan. Trench 1 was split into two parts due to the location of an electric cable running across the middle of the trench and Trench

5 was extended at its northern end, producing a cruciform shape, in order to further clarify the archaeology present (**Figure 1**).

4.4 A 360 degree tracked or JCB-type machine equipped with a 1.6m wide toothless (grading) bucket was used to remove topsoil/overburden under the supervision of COAS archaeological staff. Machine excavation continued until archaeological features or natural geology were encountered, whichever was the first.

4.5 One long face of each trench was cleaned by hand to define the sequence of deposits. All deposits were recorded as individual contexts and ascribed a unique number. A representative section was then recorded using COAS *pro forma* evaluation trench sheets. A digital photograph was also taken of each section as well as the long axis of each trench. All photographs included an appropriate scale.

4.6 All archaeological remains were sampled by manual excavation to establish stratigraphic relationships, recover sufficient artefacts to establish 'absolute' dates, determine feature/deposit morphology and character, and to recover any palaeoenvironmental indicators. Features and deposits were drawn on dimensionally stable media at scales of 1:20 (plans) and 1:10 (sections). All features/deposits were recorded using standard COAS *pro forma* sheets, indicating stratigraphic relationships on a 'Harris-Winchester matrix' diagram. Soil colours were recorded using a Munsell soil colour chart.

4.7 A single human cremation was initially left *in situ*, covered and protected. Prior to excavation and removal an appropriate Ministry of Justice licence was obtained (Licence Number: 14-0255) and any conditions attached complied with.

4.8 A photographic record of the fieldwork comprised digital images in .jpg format. This included shots of the excavated area, individual trenches, individual features with suitable scales and working shots to illustrate the nature of the archaeological operation mounted.

4.9 The location, extent and altitude of archaeological features and deposits were mapped relative to the National Grid and Ordnance Datum using a TopCon GRS-1 Global Positioning System receiving real-time calibrations to produce accuracies of 1-2cm.

4.10 Artefacts collected from archaeological features/deposits were bagged using a combination of site code and context numbers. All finds from the Site were retained for processing in preparation for further analysis and archiving.

4.11 Somerset County Historic Environment Service (HES) and EH were kept informed of progress. In the event of significant discoveries, meetings were held on Site to discuss further mitigation.

4.12 Upon completion of the evaluation, all trenches were backfilled by machine and compacted.

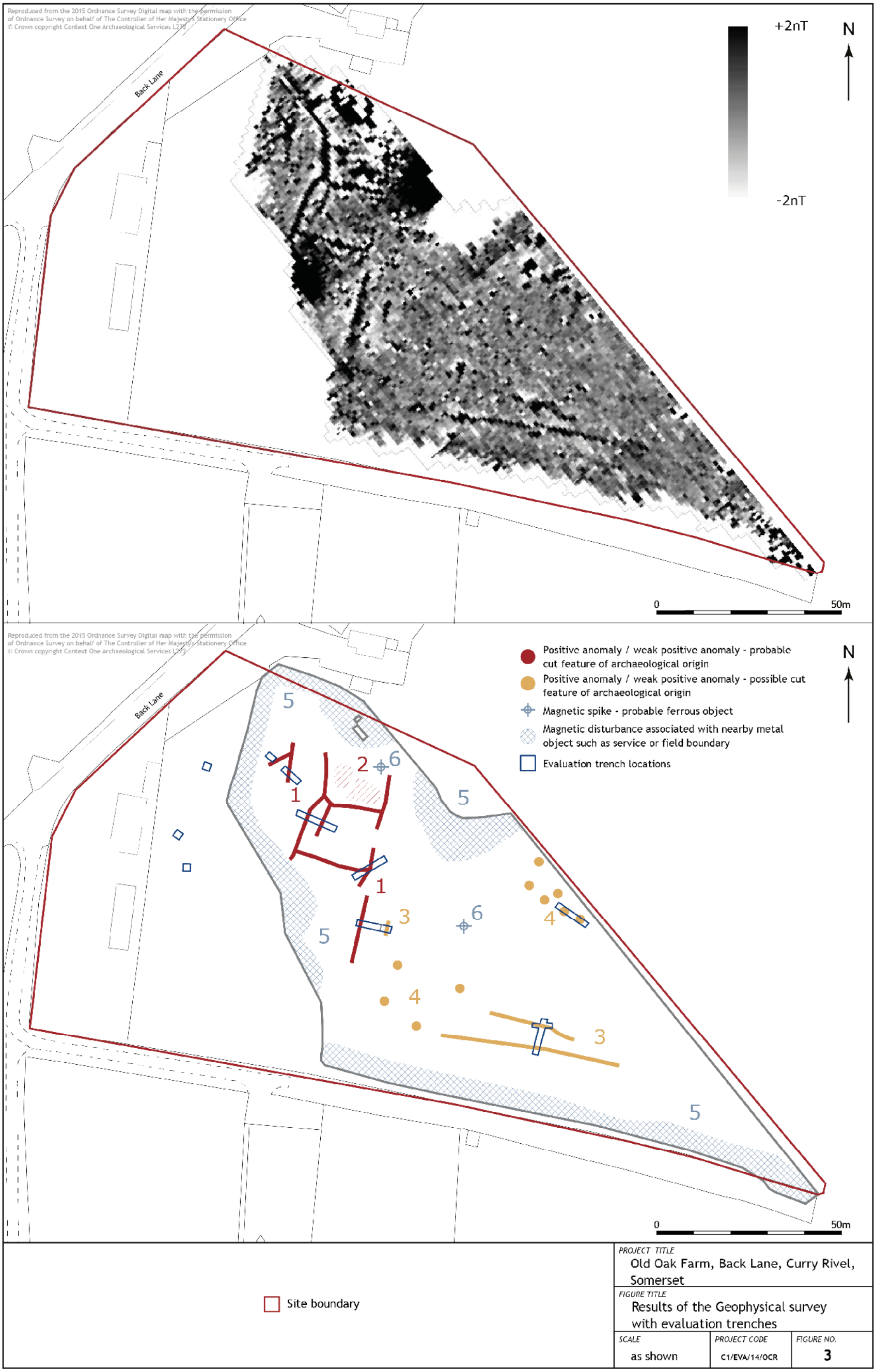


Figure 3. Results of the Geophysical survey with evaluation trenches

4.13 All recovered finds, excluding metalwork, were first washed, air-dried and re-bagged. None of the finds required specialist treatment by a conservator. The finds were then separated into artefact types and quantified by context number, quantity and weight in grams. The ferrous objects were subject to X-radiography at Wessex Archaeology. Specialist reports of the artefact assemblages were compiled using both descriptive and tabular formats (see **section 6**).

4.14 The finds will be retained by COAS until the programme of archaeological work has been completed. The Site landowner will then be contacted with a request to transfer the title of all retained finds to Somerset County Museums Service with the option of returning them to him/her as legal owners of the assemblage.

4.15 Should the Site landowner wish to donate the finds to Somerset County Museums Service and pay for their deposition, a request will be made to the Museum to issue a discard policy on the retained finds. Once a retention strategy has been agreed, all remaining finds will be marked with an accession number (TTNCM 45/2014) in preparation for deposition with the museum according to their prevailing Deposit Guidelines.

5. Results

5.1 The deposits and features encountered during fieldwork are listed and described in **Appendix 2**. In the text, context numbers for cuts appear in square brackets, e.g. [1004]; layer, fill and structure numbers appear in standard brackets, e.g. (1002). The last two digits refer to a particular context and are prefixed by the number of the trench. Where a feature is discussed, it is referenced with its cut and associated fill numbers. Trench numbers are prefixed by the letters 'Tr'.

Soil Sequence and Geology

5.2 The stratigraphic sequence across the Site was broadly similar, with very shallow topsoil/ subsoil deposits overlying the natural (**Plate 3**). In Trenches 1, 3 and 4 this comprised a mid-grey brown compacted to soft silt clay topsoil (00); above a mid-grey compacted silt clay subsoil (01) with occasional brash stones; above natural deposits of mid-yellow brown grey compacted clay with very frequent sub-rectangular brash stones (02) (**Plate 4**). In Tr5, the subsoil was recorded as (508) and the natural as (501). In T6, the topsoil was recorded as (601), the subsoil as (602) and the natural as (603). In Trenches 2 and 7, the topsoil (00) directly overlay the clay natural (01), the archaeological features sealed beneath the topsoil and cut into the clay natural. In Trenches 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 the archaeological features were sealed beneath the subsoil and cut the clay natural (**Plate 5**).

Plate 3. Tr2 illustrating shallow topsoil & subsoil (from NNW; 2 x 1m scales)

Plate 4. Natural brash (1m scales)

Plate 5. Tr4 illustrating deposit sequence & linears [403] & [405] (from N; 1m scales)

Archaeological features/ deposits

5.3 A total of twenty-four archaeological features were recorded across the Site within Trenches 1 to 7 (see (**Figure 4**).

Linears

5.4 In Tr1, a single linear [103] was aligned north-east to south-west with concave sides and a flat base. It measured 1.2m wide and 0.3m deep, extending across the full width of the trench, and had a single fill (104) comprising firm loamy clay with lias components and yielding pottery and animal bone. In Tr2, a ditch [209] was aligned north to south with steep concave sides and a flat base, measuring 1.6m long, 1.2m wide and 0.48m deep. The single fill comprised dark grey brown clay (210) with lias components, yielding pottery, animal bone and CBM.

5.5 Two linears were located towards the centre of Tr3 with a further ditch near the western end. Ditch [307] was aligned north-west to south-east with steep concave sides and a concave base, measuring >1.0m long, 0.7m wide and 0.3m deep. It contained a single fill (308) of dark greyish brown firm sandy clay with frequent small stones and was cut by pit [305] (see below) (**Plate 6**). The opposite side of the same ditch was recorded in a different slot as cut [309] with concave sides and a concave base, measuring >2.0 long, 1.0m wide and 0.4m deep. The fill (310) consisted of dark brown compacted sandy clay with frequent small stones and was cut by pit [313] (see below) (**Plate 7**). Ditch [311] was also cut by pit [313] and extended from north to south across the trench with concave sides and a concave base, measuring >2.0m long, 1.0m wide and <0.35m deep. The single fill (312) consisted of dark brown compacted sandy clay with frequent small stones and contained pottery. The relationship between the two ditches ([311] and [307]/[309]) was not established. A further ditch [303] excavated against the baulk appeared to be aligned east to west, although there is some suggestion it may have been curvilinear, with concave sides and a concave base, measuring >0.6m long, 0.6m wide and <0.19m deep (**Plate 8**). This was filled by dark brown firm sandy clay (304) with frequent small stones, yielding pottery and animal bone.

5.6 In Tr4 were two linears, dominating the western and central parts of the trench and both aligned approximately north to south with concave sides and flat base. Linear [403] measured 3.3m wide and 0.15m deep and was backfilled with dark grey brown sandy clay (404) with frequent large stones, yielding pottery, animal bone, flint, an Fe nail and fired clay/ daub. This feature cut linear [405] immediately to the east, measuring >1.3m wide and 0.05m deep and with a single fill (406) of dark brown sandy clay with occasional small stones and yielding pottery.

Plate 6. Tr3, ditch [307]/[309] cut by pit [305] (from SSW; 1m scales)

Plate 7. Tr3, intersecting ditches [307]/[309], [311] & pit [313] (from NW; 0.5m & 1m scales)

Plate 8. Tr3, ditch [303] (from N; 0.2m & 1m scales)

Plate 9. Tr5, kiln/oven [502] with ditches [509] on far side and ?flue [513] in foreground (from W; 1m scales)

Plate 10. Tr6, ditch [608] (from N; 0.2m & 1m scales)

Plate 11. Tr7, pre-excavation ditch [702] (from E; 1m scales)

5.7 Near the southern end of Tr5, a ditch [506] was aligned north-east to south-west measuring *c.* 0.5m wide, the single fill (507) yielding pottery, animal bone, CBM and flint. Near the northern end of the trench, a linear [509] appeared to run east from the kiln/ oven [502] (see below) with a single fill of dark grey brown firm silty clay (510) with common brashy and sub-angular stones (**Plate 9**). Nearby in Tr6, a ditch [608] was aligned north to south with concave sides and a flat base, measuring 1.9m long, 1.8m wide and 0.25m deep (**Plate 10**). The primary fill (610) of firm clay measured 0.03m deep and the upper fill (609) measured 0.22m deep and consisted of firm and compacted silty clay with lias, yielding pottery and animal bone. In Tr7, a ditch [702] was aligned north to south with straight sides and a concave base, measuring >2.0m long, 0.6m wide and 0.13m deep (**Plate 11**). It contained a single fill of mid-grey clay (703) and a small amount of silt with occasional small brashy stones, yielding pottery.

Pits/ post-holes

5.8 In Tr2, a pit/ post-hole [202] was sub-rectangular in plan with straight steep sides and a sloping base, measuring 0.35m by 0.6m and <0.25m deep. It contained a single fill of mid-dark grey brown friable slightly silty clay (203) with occasional sub-angular stones, small stones and rare charcoal. This was cut by pit/ post-hole [204] which was also sub-rectangular in plan with straight, steep sides and a flat base, measuring <0.45m by 0.6m and <0.25m deep (**Plate 12**). The primary fill (206) comprised mid-yellow brown compacted clay with occasional brashy stones while the upper fill (205) consisted of dark grey brown slightly silty clay with occasional sub-angular stones and rare charcoal, yielding pottery, animal bone and burnt clay/daub. Post-hole [207] was sub-circular in plan with gently sloping concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.37m in diameter and <0.15m deep (**Plate 13**). The single fill (208) comprised dark grey slightly silty clay with common charcoal, occasional burnt clay and occasional small stones, yielding pottery.

Plate 12. Tr2, pit/post-hole [202] (from S; 1m scales)

Plate 13. Tr7, post-hole [207] (from N; 0.5m scales)

N

PROJECT TITLE
Old Oak Farm, Back Lane, Curry Rivel, Somerset

FIGURE TITLE
Trench plan and location of archaeology

SCALE	PROJECT CODE	FIGURE NO.
as shown	C1/EVA/14/OCR	4

- Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - probable cut feature of archaeological origin
- Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - possible cut feature of archaeological origin
- Magnetic spike - probable ferrous object
- Magnetic disturbance associated with nearby metal object such as service or field boundary
- Site boundary
- Locations of trenches and archaeology

Tr 1
[103]
Tr 2
[204]
[209]
[202]
[207]
Tr 3
[309]
[305]
[315]
[311]
[313]
[307]
[303]
Tr 4
[407]
[403]
[405]
Tr 5
[509]
[511]
[513]
[502]
[506]
Tr 6
[604]
[606]
[608]
Tr 7
[702]
Tr 8
Tr 9

0 20m

Figure 4. Trench plan and location of archaeology

Plate 14. Tr6, pit [604] (from NE; 1m scales)

Plate 15. Tr4, cremation [407] (from N; 0.2m scales)

5.9 Three pits were recorded in Tr3. One pit [315] was circular in plan with concave sides and a flat base measuring 0.8m in diameter and 0.12m deep filled by dark grey brown compacted loamy clay (316) with pottery. Two further pits ([305] & [313]) were also circular in plan but with concave sides and concave bases, the former measuring 0.55m in diameter and 0.25m deep while the latter measured 0.96m by 0.9m and 0.2m deep. The respective fills comprise dark black brown firm sandy clay (306) with small stones (containing pottery) and dark brown compacted sandy clay [313] with frequent small stones, yielding pottery and animal bone. Pit [305] cut ditch fill (308) (**Plate 6**) while pit [313] cut ditch fills (310) and (312) (**Plate 7**).

5.10 Two pits were recorded in Tr6. Pit [604] was sub-rectangular in plan and aligned north-west to south-east with concave sides and a flat base, measuring 2.2m long, 1.2m wide and 0.25m deep. The single fill (605) contained pottery, animal bone, flint and fired clay/ daub (**Plate 14**). Pit [606] was excavated against the baulk and had straight sides and a flat base, measuring 0.1m deep. The single fill of firm clay (607) contained animal bone and fired clay/ daub.

Cremation

5.11 A single cremation was found in Tr4, sub-circular in plan [407] with concave sides and an irregular base, measuring 0.4m by 0.3m and 0.05m deep (**Plate 15**). The contents of the cremation (408) were sieved to retrieve the bone and pottery sherds from the cremation vessel; it is likely that the bone was human given that it was contained within a vessel, however the degraded nature of the fragments mean that this might only be proven by microscopic analysis.

Kiln/oven features

5.12 A linear feature [502] thought to represent the remains of a kiln or oven was present in Tr5 (**Plate 15**). This was aligned east to west with steep, straight sides and a flat base measuring *c.* 3.0m long, *c.* 1.0m wide and *c.* 0.25m deep. The cut [502] was lined with a layer of clay (504) mid-pinkish red in colour with occasional brashy stones, itself lined with sub-angular stones (503) (**Plate 16**). This was backfilled with dark brown black compacted silty clay (505) with common sub-angular brashy stones and yielding a single Fe nail. Running west from linear [502] was a further linear [513] with evidence of burning, suggesting that this may represent the flue of the kiln or oven (**Plate 15**). With straight sides and a flat base, the linear measured 0.7m wide and 0.2m deep. The fill consisted of firm loamy clay (514) with burnt clay, yielding an Fe nail.

Plate 15. Tr5, kiln/oven feature (from E; 1m scales)

Plate 16. Tr5, kiln/oven feature (from S; 1m scales)

Other features

5.13 In addition, in Tr5 a further feature [511] was recorded possibly representing a pit or ditch. Aligned north to south with straight sides and a sloping base, the feature measured 1.2m long, 0.6m wide and 0.3m deep. The fill consisted of firm and compacted loamy clay (512) with lias and charcoal, yielding pottery and bone.

6. The finds

6.1 A modest assemblage of finds was recovered during the archaeological programme of works and comprised pottery, ceramic building material (CBM) and fired clay; animal bone; metal small finds and flints. Each element of the assemblage is discussed separately below and presented, where appropriate, presented as tabular data.

POTTERY, BY RACHEL HALL

6.2 A total of 154 sherds weighing 1472g, were recovered from seventeen contexts from the evaluation (see **Table 1**). The assemblage date from the Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British, with small amount of Post-medieval sherds. The assemblage is in a fair condition with an average sherd size of 9.55g.

Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British

6.3 With the exception of two post-medieval sherds the entire assemblage can be dated to the broad Late Iron Age/ Early Romano-British period, based on both form and fabric. Both calcareous and sandy-tempered sherds were recovered from the evaluation. Diagnostic sherds include bead rim, necked and flanged rim and body sherds with cordoned and burnished decoration.

Early Romano-British

6.4 A small amount of Black Burnished ware was recovered from linears [103], [403], [405], [507], pit [604] and ditch [608]. A significant amount was recovered from Cremation burial [407]. A minimum of three vessels were identified from base sherds. The small assemblage can be dated to the early part of the Romano-British period up until 2nd century AD, due to the diagnostic sherds identified including bead rim, flanged and necked jar rims along with other diagnostic sherds featuring burnished and incised lattice decoration.

Coarsewares

6.5 The remaining assemblage comprises coarse, locally made calcareous, grey and oxidised sandy wares. The sherds are generally body and base sherds with a single bead rim sherd recovered from ditch [209]. The body sherds are generally plain, thick walled, domestic vessels with sandwich firing, diagnostic of this transitional period.

6.6 The entire assemblage was recovered from within features in a fair condition with fresh breaks. This suggests a settlement in the near vicinity of a domestic nature due to the local vessels form and fabric types. No further work is required on this assemblage.

Post-medieval

6.7 Two glazed body sherds were recovered from ditch [210] and pit [313]. These are undiagnostic sandy coarsewares and are not dealt with further in this report.

Context	Fabric	Date	Number	Weight (g)
104	BBW	ERB	4	19
104	sandy	LIRB	2	21
205	sandy	LIRB	2	12
205	calcareous	LIRB	2	21
208	calcareous	LIRB	5	35
210	sandy	LIRB	39	431

210	calcareous	LIRB	4	23
210	sandy	PMED	1	7
304	sandy	LIRB	1	8
306	sandy	LIRB	1	2
306	greyware	LIRB	1	5
312	calcareous	LIRB	1	14
314	sandy	LIRB	9	98
314	sandy	PMED	1	6
316	sandy	LIRB	1	15
404	sandy	LIRB	10	67
404	BBW	ERB	1	10
404	oxidised	RB	1	3
406	sandy	LIRB	1	26
406	BBW	ERB	1	15
408	BBW	ERB	51	534
408	greyware	RB	1	3
507	BBW	ERB	2	10
512	calcareous	LIRB	1	33
605	BBW	ERB	4	15
605	sandy	LIRB	1	9
609	BBW	ERB	3	17
609	sandy	LIRB	2	11
703	sandy	LIRB	1	2
TOTAL			**154**	**1472**

Table 1: Pottery by Context, Fabric, Date, Number and Weight (g).

FIRED CLAY AND CBM (CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL), BY RACHEL HALL

6.8 A small amount of other material was also recovered from the above evaluation (see **Table 2**).

6.9 Two small, undiagnostic fragments of CBM were recovered from ditch [210] and linear [507]. These are sandy and oxidised with no further information possible.

6.10 A slightly larger amount of Fired Clay was recovered from five features and comprises sandy oxidised fragments with a reduced core for some larger fragments. From pit [205] a possible object was recovered, which has surfaces and a possible corner. This may have formed part of a Loomweight or other object. No perforation was present however to confirm this. The remaining fragments all have surfaces and are possibly daub. These were recovered from ditch [210], linear [404], pits [605] and [606]. No further work is required on this assemblage.

Context	Type	Form	Number	Weight (g)
205	Fired Clay	unidentified	6	149
	CBM	Tile	1	1
210	Fired Clay	unidentified	1	13
404	Fired Clay	undiagnostic	2	7
507	CBM	unidentified	1	6
605	Fired Clay	daub	1	3
607	Fired Clay	daub	1	8
TOTAL			**13**	**187**

Table 2: Fired Clay and CBM by Context, Type, Number and Weight (g).

FAUNAL REMAINS, BY CLARE RANDALL

6.11 This is a small collection of hand collected material, comprising a total of 62 animal bone fragments, and all of the material was examined. The material comes from a total of 11 contexts, comprising pits, ditches and other cut features of Late Iron Age- Early Romano-British date.

Assessment methods

6.12 The material has been examined and recorded at context level to determine the numbers which could be considered countable. This was recorded on an Excel spreadsheet, and is reproduced in **Appendix 4**.

6.13 Fragments were regarded as countable if they could be identified to species. Lose teeth were included. Material which could potentially be identified as cattle or sheep sized was recorded as unidentified. Fragments were regarded as measureable where at least a single measurement could be taken in accordance with von den Driesch (1976). Mandibles and loose teeth were assessed for whether they could provide eruption and wear data as described in Grant (1982), Payne (1973;1982), Halstead 1985) and Hambleton (1999). Bone fragments were considered for provision of ageing information if they demonstrated porosity and on evidence of epiphyseal fusion, particularly where it would contribute to an assessment of age in accordance with Silver (1969). Material was also examined to determine if it could provide information on sex, non-metric traits and pathology. The presence of taphonomic markers was noted and quantified. Preservation of the assemblage was considered on a context basis on a five-point scale through poor (P), poor-average (PA), average (A), average-good (AG) and good (G).

Consideration of potential and significance

6.14 The entire assemblage was examined and a total of 62 fragments were counted. Data is given in Tables 1-3 (see **Appendix 4**). The majority of the contexts displayed average preservation.

6.15 The material is all comingled and disarticulated. No associated bone groups were noted. A third of the material (19 fragments, including three loose teeth) could be identified to species, which is fairly typical of material of this period in this region. Cattle, sheep/goat, and dog were identified. The majority of later Iron Age and Romano British assemblages in this area are dominated by domestic livestock species. There were no bird, fish or small vertebrate fragments noted. This is not however surprising in a hand collected assemblage of this size.

6.16 Ageing data were limited to two loose teeth and four fragments which could be assessed for epiphyseal fusion. However this is unsurprising in a small collection of material. Likewise, only three fragments were assessed as measurable. No fragments were identified which could provide information on sex, butchery, pathology or non-metric traits. However the general preservation is such that taphonomic markers could be identified, with weathered fragments and a single example of canid gnawing identified.

Recommendations

6.17 This is a small assemblage of material, which demonstrates the utilisation of domestic species. This is in keeping with contemporary sites in the region. It is of limited potential for further analysis due to the limited number of identifiable fragments (under 100 identified to species), and limited ageing, sexing, pathological, processing and other data. However, should there be further excavation of the location, the frequency of bone recovered from relatively small areas of features implies that an assemblage of suitable size may be recovered. Furthermore, the bone condition, preservation of taphonomic markers and the proportion of the material providing age and metric information indicates that further material may be informative with respect to the animal economy of the site and consumption and deposition practice.

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OTHER FINDS, BY COAS

6.18 Three large Fe nails were recovered from the ?droveway/ holloway (404), the backfill (505) of the kiln/ oven and the burnt fill (514) of a linear adjacent to the kiln/ oven. It is possible that the nails were associated with the kiln/ oven, perhaps indicating low-key industrial activity, however they may simply be residual. Two pieces of flint and one piece of chert were collected; the flint was from the ?droveway/ holloway (404) and ditch (507) while the chert was from pit (605). Although all three objects had been struck they are not considered to be particularly diagnostic. Nevertheless, specialist assessments of the nails, flints and chert will be included within the final analytical report.

ARCHAEOBOTANICAL

6.19 Three environmental samples were taken during the field evaluation, including the contents of the cremation [407]. It was not possible to process these samples prior to the delivery of this report however the results of any palaeoenvironmental data will be included within the project archive and will be added to the final analytical report.

7. Discussion and Conclusions

7.1 The archaeological evaluation has recorded a modest presence of archaeological remains in the central and eastern areas of the Site, with twenty-three archaeological features spread across all trenches located here and a further feature in the western part of the Site (see **Figure 4**). These comprised twelve ditches or linears (including a possible curvilinear), two pits/ post-holes and a further post-hole, five pits, a kiln/ oven, a ?flue (probably associated with the kiln/oven), an urned cremation burial (probably human) and a possible pit or ditch. Only two trenches had no archaeological remains and these were both positioned above the proposed building footprint.

7.2 Many of the features correlate with archaeological responses identified during the geophysical survey (**Figure 4**), which crucially provides a wider spatial context beyond the confines of the narrow evaluation trenches. Also, the pottery assemblage provides dating evidence for many of the features, most of which date from the Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British periods with a Romano-British element (up to 2nd century AD). In Tr1, a north to south ditch [103] dated to the Early Romano-British period is coterminous with a short linear present on the geophysics, joining with a further linear to the north. A north to south ditch [209] in Tr2 broadly correlates with the geophysics interpretation as forming part of an enclosure which is dated by pottery to the Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British period, although a single sherd of post-medieval pottery was also present. In Tr3, the juncture between ditches [307]/[309] and [311] is clearly imaged on the geophysics. While the relationship between these ditches could not be established during the field evaluation they were identical in depth and clearly formed the corner of an enclosure (although a further linear is imaged running south perhaps indicating another enclosure). Pottery recovered from ditch [311] indicates a Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British date, while a pit [305] with pottery of the same date cutting ditch [307] suggests either an earlier or a contemporary date. The ditches in this area are of similar dimensions indicating they formed part of the same complex.

7.3 A very wide, shallow ditch [403] in Tr4 correlates with a linear on the geophysics, although the positive anomaly is much narrower. Interpreted as a droveway/ holloway, the pottery spans the Late Iron Age/ Early Romano-British and Romano-British periods, perhaps suggesting a slightly later date than the ditched enclosure to the north. This may represent a re-cut of an earlier droveway/ holloway [405] located slightly eastwards.

7.4 In Tr5 it was confirmed that both the linear anomalies were indeed cut features of archaeological origin, with ditch [506] producing pottery dated as Early Romano-British. The other response related to a series of features around a small kiln/ oven structure [502], aligned east to west, with what appeared to be a flue [513] and two small ditches to the east [509] and west [511] which may also relate to the kiln/oven. Pottery was only recovered from ditch [511], however this indicates a Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British date for the small complex. In Tr6, a discrete anomaly on the geophysical survey was found to be a wide ditch [608] aligned north to south, the upper fill dated Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British. The other discrete anomaly in the same trench correlated with a pit [604] dated to the same period.

7.5 Other features dated to the Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British period comprise ditch [103], ditch [702], linear [303], the upper fill of pit [204], post-hole [207], pits [305] and [315]. Pottery from the cremation vessel is dated as early Romano-British. The pit [313] cutting through the corner of the ditched enclosure (at the juncture of ditches [307]/[309] and [311]) contained a single post-medieval sherd possibly indicating later activity.

Conclusions

7.6 To conclude, the findings of the archaeological works do not support the existence of the purported Roman villa forming the Scheduled Monument on the Site. Neither do the results reveal a very significant presence in the Roman period, with evidence limited to pastoral activity, possible small-scale industry and possible burial practice (indicated by one likey human cremation) between the late Iron Age and 2nd century AD. The pottery, daub, CBM and animal bone assemblages are indicative of a nearby settlement of a domestic nature concentrated within the Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British periods and extending into the Romano-British period. This would mostly pre-date the known Roman villas in the environs indicating an earlier

settlement in the vicinity, although not located on the Site itself which was clearly peripheral to any such settlement. The geophysical survey indicated the presence of paddock enclosures perhaps with pens or yards rather than structural remains. This has been confirmed by the field evaluation which identified ditched field systems, with post-holes and pits possibly representing ancillary features. The function of the kiln/oven has not been established however if it was used for small scale industry an isolated location would be expected due to the risk of fire.

7.7 The area encompassed by the proposed development did not produce any evidence for archaeological activity. While the geophysical survey could not extend into this area, aerial photographs reveal it suffered from being repeatedly scoured by agricultural machinery accessing the Site from the road. The results of the geophysical survey and field evaluation fit broadly with the pre-existing evidence, which was confined to the retrieval of a small quantity of Roman artefacts. Therefore, while it is possible that some remains may survive in the development area and across any areas where services may need to be installed, the balance of probability suggests that any such remains would be similar in nature and therefore of low significance.

Recommendations

7.8 The final analytical report of the evaluation will include specialist analyses of the worked flint, Fe nails and archaeobotanical samples. It may also be possible to refine the dating of the black-burnished ware assemblage to provide a more exact date range for activity on Site within the Early Roman-British period. The analytical report will also incorporate the results of any potential further archaeological fieldwork that may be required in mitigation of the proposed development.

8. Archive

8.1 An ordered and integrated site archive has been prepared to comply with guidelines set out in *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson and Neal 2001) and *Standards in the Museums Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museum and Galleries Commission 1992) / *Management of Archaeological Projects 2* (English Heritage 1991).

8.2 The project archive is currently held by COAS and consists of the following:

Item	Number	Format
Context record sheets	52	Paper
Context summary	2	.JPG
Evaluation trench sheets	9	Paper
Photographic register	3	Paper
Day records	2	.JPG
Graphics register	2	.JPG
Digital images	38	.JPG
A4 permatrace drawing sheets	66	.JPG

8.3 The paper archive has been scanned as a single file in .PDF format and will form part of the physical Site archive to be deposited with Somerset County Museum.

8.4 Copies of this report will be deposited with the client/agent, with English Heritage and with Somerset Historic Environment Service where it will be included as part of the Somerset Historic Environment Record. A digital copy of the report will also be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service, via OASIS (On-line Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations – http://oasis.ac.uk/england/). The OASIS entry will also be completed to include details of the archive contents.

9. COAS acknowledgements

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Steven Membery, Senior Historic Environment Officer, Somerset County Council

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Appendix 1. Historic maps, documents and air photographs

Date	Type	Reference	Comments
1820	Map of Curry Rivel. 13.3 inch to 1 mile.	Somerset Heritage Centre D\P\cur.r/13/1/8	Similar to tithe map south boundary of field further north
1820	Map of Drayton, Curry Rivel and Aller	Somerset Heritage Centre DD\CTV/57	Only the roads are shown and not the fields
1840	Tithe Map of Curry Rivel	Somerset Heritage Centre: Archangel	
1841	Tithe Apportionment of Curry Rivel	Somerset Heritage Centre	
1887-8	Ordnance Survey: 1st edition, 25	Viewed on-line	Roman find spot shown
1903	Ordnance Survey: 2nd edition (revised), 25”	Viewed on-line	Fair View House shown
1929	Ordnance Survey: 25”	Viewed on-line	
1973-74	Ordnance Survey: 1:2500	Viewed on-line	Sewage works shown, but on 1947 air photographs
1947	Air photograph. Camera position: FS	RAF/CPE/UK/1924, frame number 2183 (16 January 1947). Scale 1:10,000. English Heritage Archive, Swindon. Library number 550	Anomaly 1 (probably archaeology) & anomaly 3 (possibly archaeology) clearly visible. The remaining anomalies are less obvious but are discernible. Not copied as frame 3182 is clearer.
1947	Air photograph. Camera position: RP	RAF/CPE/UK/1924, frame number 3182 (16 January 1947). Scale 1:10,000. English Heritage Archive, Swindon. Library number 550	Geophysical anomalies show up very clearly. Distinct large rectangular parchmark/ cropmark running approximately east-west along south boundary. Corresponds with anomaly 3 (possibly archaeology) but indicates block as opposed to two linears. Terminates at west end of anomaly 3. Extends eastwards. Further rectangular area aligned approximately north to south slightly to east of east-west area. Outside of Site area along east boundary of field. Viewed through stereoscope with frame 3183. Photocopied.
1947	Air photograph. Camera position: RP	RAF/CPE/UK/1924, frame number 3183 (16 January 1947). Scale 1:10,000. English Heritage Archive, Swindon. Library number 550	As above. Viewed through stereoscope with frame 3182. Photocopied.

Date	Type	Reference	Comments
1947	Air photograph. Camera position: FP	RAF/CPE/UK/1944, frame number 1400 (23 January 1947). Scale 1:10,000. English Heritage Archive, Swindon. Library number 561	As above. Can also discern regular divisions within the east-west rectangular area. Viewed through stereoscope with frame 1401. Photocopied.
1947	Air photograph. Camera position: FP	RAF/CPE/UK/1944, frame number 1401 (23 January 1947). Scale 1:10,000. English Heritage Archive, Swindon. Library number 561	As above. Viewed through stereoscope with frame 1400. Photocopied.
1947	Air photograph. Camera position: RS	RAF/CPE/UK/1974, frame number 4037 (11 April 1947). Scale 1:9,600. English Heritage Archive, Swindon. Library number 583	Parchmarks/ cropmarks more discrete than for above. Series of east-west linears as opposed to rectangular area. Also discrete anomalies. Viewed through stereoscope with frame 4038. Photocopied.
1947	Air photograph. Camera position: RS	RAF/CPE/UK/1974, frame number 4038 (11 April 1947). Scale 1:9,600. English Heritage Archive, Swindon. Library number 583	As above. Viewed through stereoscope with frame 4038. Photocopied.
1960	Air photographs. Camera position: F21	RAF/58/3881, frame numbers 18-19 (28 October 1960). Scale 1:10,000. English Heritage Archive, Swindon. Library number 1986	Cloud cover
1960	Air photographs. Camera position: F41 & F42	RAF/58/3904 & 3905, frame numbers 124, 138 & 139 (2 November 1960). Scale 1:9,961 & 1:9,900). English Heritage Archive, Swindon. Library number 1991 & 1992	No features visible.
1970	Air photographs. Camera position: V	OS/70432, frame numbers 272, 273, 305 & 306 (21 October 1970). Scale 1:7,500). English Heritage Archive, Swindon. Library number 10079	Viewed through stereoscope. Very clear photograph but no features obvious although possible east-west linears corresponding with geophysical anomaly 3. Frames 305 & 306 photocopied.

Date	Type	Reference	Comments
1970	Air photographs. Camera position: V	OS/70117, frame numbers 169, 170, 198 & 199 (18 May 1970). Scale 1:7,500). English Heritage Archive, Swindon. Library number 10590	Viewed through stereoscope. Very clear photograph but no features obvious, although numerous tracks from agricultural activity on west & north-west sides of Site.
2010	Air photographs	Film 27254, frames 26-30 (5 July 2010). English Heritage Archive, Swindon. Library number ST 4024/ 1 – 5	No features evident

Appendix 2. Context summary

CONTEXT NO.	PERIOD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EARLIER THAN	CONTEMP. WITH	LATER THAN	LENGTH	WIDTH/ DIAMETER	THICKNESS/ DEPTH
103	RB	Cut	Ditch. Linear aligned NE-SW with concave sides and a flat base.	104	-	102	1.7m	1.2m	0.3m
104	RB	Fill	Fill of ditch [103]. Firm loamy clay with lias components. Contains pottery and bone.	101	-	103	1.7m	1.2m	0.3m
202		Cut	Pit/post-hole. Sub-rectangular with straight, steep sides and a sloping base.	203	-	201	0.35m	0.6m	<0.25m
203		Fill	Fill of pit/post-hole [202]. Mid-dark grey brown friable slightly silty clay with occasional sub-angular stones, small stones and rare charcoal. Cut by [204].	204	-	202	0.35m	0.6m	<0.25m
204		Cut	Pit/post-hole. Sub-rectangular with straight, steep sides and a flat base. Cuts (203).	206	-	203	<0.45m	0.6m	<0.25m
205	LIRB	Fill	Upper fill of pit/post-hole [204]. Dark grey brown slightly silty clay with occasional sub-angular stones, rare charcoal. Contains pottery, bone and burnt clay/daub.	200	-	206	<0.45m	0.6m	<0.25m
206		Fill	Primary fill of pit/post-hole [204]. Mid-yellow brown compacted clay with occasional brashy stones.	205	-	204	<0.45m	0.05m	<0.17m
207	LIRB	Cut	Post-hole. Sub-circular with gentle concave sides and a concave base.	208	-	201	-	0.37m	<0.15m
208	LIRB	Fill	Fill of post-hole [207]. Dark grey slightly silty clay with common charcoal, occasional burnt clay and occasional small stones. Contains pottery.	200	-	207	-	0.37m	<0.15m
209	PM	Cut	Ditch. Linear aligned N-S with steep concave sides and a flat base.	210	-	201	1.6m	1.2m	0.48m
210	PM	Fill	Fill of ditch [209]. Dark grey brown clay with lias components. Contains pottery, bone and CBM.	200	-	209	1.6m	1.2m	0.48m
303	LIRB	Cut	Unresolved. Linear aligned E-W with concave sides and a concave base.	304	-	302	<0.6m	0.6m	0.19m
304	LIRB	Fill	Fill of [303]. Dark brown firm sandy clay with frequent small stones. Contains pottery and bone.	301	-	303	<0.6m	0.6m	0.19m
305	LIRB	Cut	Pit. Circular with concave sides and a concave base. Cuts (308).	306	-	308	0.55m	0.55m	0.25m
306	LIRB	Fill	Fill of pit [305]. Dark black brown firm sandy clay with small stones. Contains pottery.	301	-	305	0.55m	0.55m	0.25m
307		Cut	Ditch. Linear aligned NW-SE with steep concave sides and a	308	-	302	>1m	0.7m	0.3m

CONTEXT NO.	PERIOD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EARLIER THAN	CONTEMP. WITH	LATER THAN	LENGTH	WIDTH/ DIAMETER	THICKNESS/ DEPTH
			concave base. Same as [309].						
308		Fill	Fill of [307]. Dark greyish brown firm sandy clay with frequent small stones. Cut by [305].	305	-	307	>1m	0.7m	0.3m
309		Cut	Ditch. Linear aligned E-W with concave sides and a concave base. Same as [307].	310	-	302	>2m	1m	0.4m
310		Fill	Fill of ditch [309]. Dark brown compacted sandy clay with frequent small stones. Cut by [313].	313	-	309	>2m	1m	0.4m
311	LIRB	Cut	Ditch. Linear aligned N-S with concave sides and a concave base.	312	-	302	>2m	1m	<0.35m
312	LIRB	Fill	Fill of ditch [311]. Dark brown compacted sandy clay with frequent small stones. Contains pottery. Cut by [313].	313	-	311	>2m	1m	<0.35m
313		Cut	Pit. Circular with concave sides and a concave base. Cuts (310) and (312).	314	-	310, 312	0.96m	0.9m	0.2m
314	PM	Full	Fill of pit [313]. Dark brown compacted sandy clay with frequent small stones. Contains pottery and bone.	301	-	313	-	-	-
315	LIRB	Cut	Pit. Circular with concave sides and a flat base.	316	-	302	0.8m	>0.15m	0.12m
316	LIRB	Fill	Fill of pit [315]. Dark grey brown compacted loamy clay. Contains pottery.	301	-	315	0.8m	>0.15m	0.12m
403	RB	Cut	?Droveway/Holloway. Linear aligned N-S with concave sides and a flat base. Cuts (406).	404	-	406	>1.6	3.3m	0.15m
404	RB	Fill	Fill of ?droveway/holloway [403]. Dark grey brown sandy clay with frequent large stones. Contains pottery, bone, flint, Fe nail and fired clay/daub.	401	-	403	>1.6	3.3m	0.15m
405	RB	Cut	?Droveway/Holloway. Linear aligned N-S with concave sides and a flat base.	406	-	402	>1.6m	>1.3m	0.05m
406	RB	Fill	Fill of ?droveway/holloway [405]. Dark brown sandy clay with occasional small stones. Contains pottery. Cut by [403].	403	-	405	>1.6m	>1.3m	0.05m
407	RB	Cut	Cremation. Sub-circular with concave sides and an irregular base.	408	-	402	0.4m	0.3m	0.05m
408	RB	Fill	Fill of cremation [407].	401	-	407	0.4m	0.3m	0.05m
502		Cut	Kiln/oven. Linear aligned E-W with steep, straight sides and a flat base.	504	-	?501	*c.* 3m	*c.* 1m	*c.* 0.25m
503		Fill	Stone lining of kiln [502]. Slabs of sub-angular shaped stone.	500	-	504	-	*c.* 0.9m	*c.* 0.25m
504		Fill	Fill within [502]. Mid-pinkish red compacted clay with occasional	503	-	502	-	<0.25m	

CONTEXT NO.	PERIOD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	EARLIER THAN	CONTEMP. WITH	LATER THAN	LENGTH	WIDTH/ DIAMETER	THICKNESS/ DEPTH
			small brashy stones.						
505		Fill	Fill of kiln/oven [502]. Dark brown black compacted silty clay with common sub-angular brashy stones. Contains Fe nail.	500	-	503	-	*c.* 1m	0.25m
506	ERB	Cut	Ditch. Linear aligned NE-SW.		-	-	-	*c.* 0.5m	-
507	ERB	Fill	Fill of ditch [506]. Contains pottery, bone, CBM and flint.		-	-	-	*c.* 0.5m	-
508			Context not used.		-	-	-	-	-
509		Cut	Linear containing [502] aligned E-W.	510	-	501	-	*c.* 1m	<0.25m
510		Fill	Dark grey brown firm silty clay with common brashy and sub-angular stones.	?500	-	509	-	*c.* 1m	<0.25m
511	LIRB	Cut	?Pit/ditch. Linear aligned N-S with straight sides and a sloping base.	512	-	514	1.2m	0.6m	0.3m
512	LIRB	Fill	Fill of ?pit/ditch [511]. Firm and compacted loamy clay with lias and charcoal. Contains pottery and bone.	500	-	511	1.2m	0.6m	0.3m
513		Cut	Linear burnt feature of unknown type. Linear aligned E-W with straight sides and a flat base.	514	-	501	5m	0.7m	0.2m
514		Fill	Fill of burnt feature [513]. Firm loamy clay with burnt clay. Contains Fe nail.	511	-	513	5m	0.7m	0.2m
604	LIRB	Cut	Pit. Sub-rectangular aligned NW-SE with concave sides and a flat base.	605	-	603	2.2m	1.2m	0.25m
605	LIRB	Fill	Fill of pit [604]. With lias. Contains pottery, bone, flint and fired clay/daub.	602	-	604	2.2m	1.2m	0.25m
606		Cut	Pit. Sub-rectangular aligned E-W with straight sides and a flat base.	607	-	603	0.8m	0.4m	0.1m
607		Fill	Fill of pit [606]. Firm clay with lias. Contains bone and fired clay/daub.	602	-	606	0.8m	0.4m	0.1m
608		Cut	Ditch. Linear aligned N-S with concave sides and a flat base.	610	-	603	1.9m	1.8m	0.25m
609	LIRB	Fill	Upper fill of ditch [608]. Firm and compacted silty clay with lias. Contains pottery and bone.	602	-	610	1.9m	1.8m	0.22m
610		Fill	Primary fill of ditch [608]. Firm clay.	609	-	608	1.7m	1.2m	0.03m
702	LIRB	Cut	Ditch. Linear aligned N-S with straight sides and a concave base.	703	-	701	>2m	0.6m	0.13m
703	LIRB	Fill	Fill of ditch [702]. Mid-grey clay and a small amount of silt with occasional small brashy stones. Contains pottery.	700	-	702	>2m	0.6m	0.13m

Appendix 3. Faunal remains tables

Old Oak Farm , Back Lane, Curry Rivel				Quantifiable										
				Cattle		Sheep/goat		Pig		Bird	Fish	Other		Unid
Site	Location	Context	Box	Bones	Teeth	Bones	Teeth	Bones	Teeth	Bones	Bones	Bones	Teeth	All
C1/EVA/14/OCR		104										1 x Dog		0
C1/EVA/14/OCR		205				1								2
C1/EVA/14/OCR		210		1			1							4
C1/EVA/14/OCR		304												1
C1/EVA/14/OCR		314		1		4	1							5
C1/EVA/14/OCR		404		2		2								13
C1/EVA/14/OCR		507		1										1
C1/EVA/14/OCR		512		1										0
C1/EVA/14/OCR		605												1
C1/EVA/14/OCR		607			1									0
C1/EVA/14/OCR		609				1	1							16
				6	**1**	**8**	**3**					**1**		**43**

Old Oak Farm , Back Lane, Curry Rivel				Ageable											Measurable				
				Cattle			Sheep/goat			Pig			Horse						
Site	Location	Context	Box	Jaws	LT	Fusion	Jaws	LT	Fusion	Jaws	LT	Fusion	Jaws	LT	Fusion	Cattle	S/G	Pig	Bird	Other
C1/EVA/14/OCR		104																		
C1/EVA/14/OCR		205							1								1			
C1/EVA/14/OCR		210																		
C1/EVA/14/OCR		304																		
C1/EVA/14/OCR		314							1								1			
C1/EVA/14/OCR		404							1								1			
C1/EVA/14/OCR		507																		
C1/EVA/14/OCR		512				1														
C1/EVA/14/OCR		605																		
C1/EVA/14/OCR		607			1															
C1/EVA/14/OCR		609						1												
					1	**1**		**1**	**3**								**3**			

Old Oak Farm , Back Lane, Curry Rivel				Pathology?	Butchery?	Bone condition	Taphonomy	Comments
Site	Location	Context	Box					
C1/EVA/14/OCR		104				A		
C1/EVA/14/OCR		205				A		
C1/EVA/14/OCR		210				A		
C1/EVA/14/OCR		304				A	2	Weathering
C1/EVA/14/OCR		314				PA	4	1x weathered 3x gnawed
C1/EVA/14/OCR		404				A		
C1/EVA/14/OCR		507				A	1	Gnawing and root etched
C1/EVA/14/OCR		512				A	1	Weathering
C1/EVA/14/OCR		605				A		
C1/EVA/14/OCR		607				A		
C1/EVA/14/OCR		609				PA	17	17x weathered

Appendix 4. Geophysical survey report, by Stratascan

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY REPORT

STRATASCAN™

SUMO Survey Services
SUMO Group Member

Project name:

Curry Rivel, Somerset

Client:

Context One Archaeological Services

May 2014

Job ref:
J6660

Report author:
Thomas Richardson MSc AIfA

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY REPORT

Project name:
Curry Rivel, Somerset
Client:
Context One Archaeological Services

Job ref:
J6660

Techniques:
Detailed magnetic survey – Gradiometry

Survey date:
11th April 2014

Site centred at:
ST 369 248

Post code:
TA10 0NY

Field team:
Joshua Jones BSc (Hons) PIfA,
John Little BA (Hons)

Project manager:
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Report written By:
Thomas Richardson MSc AIfA

CAD illustrations by:
Thomas Richardson MSc AIfA

Checked by:
David Elks MSc AIFA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF FIGURES

1 SUMMARY OF RESULTS

A detailed gradiometry survey was conducted over approximately 0.9 hectares of grassland. The site is a scheduled Roman house. The survey has identified wall lines of the Roman house, as well as anomalies relating to activity around the house. A number of possible archaeological anomalies have also been identified; however it is not possible to determine their origin with any degree of confidence. The remaining anomalies are of modern origin, relating to ferrous objects and fencing.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 *Background synopsis*

Stratascan were commissioned to undertake a geophysical survey of an area proposed for development. This survey forms part of an archaeological investigation being undertaken by Context One Archaeological Services.

2.2 *Site location*

The site is located to the east of Taunton at OS ref. ST 369 248.

2.3 *Description of site*

The survey area is approximately 0.9 hectares of grassland. The area is generally flat with a number of obstructions. A large area in the west of the survey area could not be surveyed due to rubble debris (see photo below) and animal enclosures. Another area in the north east could not be surveyed, also due to animal enclosures.

2.4 *Geology and soils*

The underlying geology is Langport Member, Blue Lias Formation and Charmouth Mudstone Formation (undifferentiated) – Mudstone (British Geological Survey website). There is no recorded drift geology (British Geological Survey website).

The overlying soils are known as Evesham 1 which are typical calcareous pelosols. These consist of calcareous clayey soils associated brashy calcareous soils over limestone (Soil Survey of England and Wales, Sheet 5 south West England).

2.5 *Site history and archaeological potential*

The survey covers an area over scheduled monument 1006185 – Roman House South of Fair View House.

A Section 42 licence has been granted by English Heritage to carry out the survey.

2.6 *Survey objectives*

The objective of the survey was to locate any features of possible archaeological origin in order that they may be assessed prior to development.

2.7 *Survey methods*

This report and all fieldwork have been conducted in accordance with both the English Heritage guidelines outlined in the document: *Geophysical Survey in Archaeological Field Evaluation, 2008* and with the Institute for Archaeologists document *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Geophysical Survey.*

Due to the likelihood of Roman structural remains on the site detailed magnetic survey (gradiometry) was used as an efficient and effective method of locating archaeological anomalies. More information regarding this technique is included in Appendix A.

2.8 *Processing, presentation and interpretation of results*

2.8.1 *Processing*

Processing is performed using specialist software. This can emphasise various aspects contained within the data but which are often not easily seen in the raw data. Basic processing of the magnetic data involves 'flattening' the background levels with respect to adjacent traverses and adjacent grids. Once the basic processing has flattened the background it is then possible to carry out further processing which may include low pass filtering to reduce 'noise' in the data and hence emphasise the archaeological or man-made anomalies.

The following schedule shows the basic processing carried out on all minimally processed gradiometer data used in this report:

1. *Destripe* (Removes striping effects caused by zero-point discrepancies between different sensors and walking directions)

2. *Destagger* (Removes zigzag effects caused by inconsistent walking speeds on sloping, uneven or overgrown terrain)

2.8.2 Presentation of results and interpretation

The presentation of the data for each site involves a print-out of the minimally processed data both as a greyscale plot and a colour plot showing extreme magnetic values. Magnetic anomalies have been identified and plotted onto the 'Abstraction and Interpretation of Anomalies' drawing for the site.

3 RESULTS

The detailed magnetic gradiometer survey conducted at Curry Rivel has identified a number of anomalies that have been characterised as being either of a *probable* or *possible* archaeological origin.

The difference between *probable* and *possible* archaeological origin is a confidence rating. Features identified within the dataset that form recognisable archaeological patterns or seem to be related to a deliberate historical act have been interpreted as being of a probable archaeological origin.

Features of possible archaeological origin tend to be more amorphous anomalies which may have similar magnetic attributes in terms of strength or polarity but are difficult to classify as being archaeological or natural.

The following list of numbered anomalies refers to numerical labels on the interpretation plots.

*3.1 **Probable Archaeology***

1 Positive linear and rectilinear anomalies in the west of the site. These are indicative of former cut features and are likely to be related to the scheduled Roman house.

2 Positive area anomalies in the west of the site. These are likely to be related to Anomaly 1.

*3.2 **Possible Archaeology***

3 Positive linear anomalies across the site. These are indicative of former cut features and may be related to the Roman house or modern agricultural activity.

4 Small discrete positive anomalies. These are indicative of small former cut features, such as backfilled pits, these may be of archaeological origin.

3.3 Other Anomalies

5 Areas of magnetic disturbance are the result of substantial nearby ferrous metal objects such as fences and underground services. These effects can mask weaker archaeological anomalies.

6 A number of magnetic 'spikes' (strong focussed values with associated antipolar response) indicate ferrous metal objects. These are likely to be modern rubbish.

4 CONCLUSION

The survey at Curry Rivel has identified a number of anomalies relating to the scheduled Roman house. Cut features, probably relating to the former walls of the house, can be seen as well as a number of pit-like area anomalies. A number of possible archaeological anomalies have also been identified; however it is not possible to determine their origin with any degree of confidence. The remaining anomalies are of modern origin, relating to ferrous objects and fencing. It is possible that the magnetic disturbance from the fencing is obscuring weaker archaeological features.

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British Geological Survey, n.d., *website*: (http://www.bgs.ac.uk/opengeoscience/home.html?Accordion1=1#maps) Geology of Britain viewer.

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APPENDIX A – METHODOLOGY & SURVEY EQUIPMENT

Grid locations

The location of the survey grids has been plotted together with the referencing information. Grids were set out using a Leica 705auto Total Station and referenced to suitable topographic features around the perimeter of the site or a Leica Smart Rover RTK GPS.

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. A SmartNet RTK GPS uses Ordnance Survey's network of over 100 fixed base stations to give an accuracy of around 0.01m.

Survey equipment and gradiometer configuration

Although the changes in the magnetic field resulting from differing features in the soil are usually weak, changes as small as 0.2 nanoTeslas (nT) in an overall field strength of 48,000nT, can be accurately detected using an appropriate instrument.

The mapping of the anomaly in a systematic manner will allow an estimate of the type of material present beneath the surface. Strong magnetic anomalies will be generated by buried iron-based objects or by kilns or hearths. More subtle anomalies such as pits and ditches can be seen if they contain more humic material which is normally rich in magnetic iron oxides when compared with the subsoil.

To illustrate this point, the cutting and subsequent silting or backfilling of a ditch may result in a larger volume of weakly magnetic material being accumulated in the trench compared to the undisturbed subsoil. A weak magnetic anomaly should therefore appear in plan along the line of the ditch.

The magnetic survey was carried out using a dual sensor Grad601-2 Magnetic Gradiometer manufactured by Bartington Instruments Ltd. The instrument consists of two fluxgates very accurately aligned to nullify the effects of the Earth's magnetic field. Readings relate to the difference in localised magnetic anomalies compared with the general magnetic background. The Grad601-2 consists of two high stability fluxgate gradiometers suspended on a single frame. Each gradiometer has a 1m separation between the sensing elements so enhancing the response to weak anomalies.

Sampling interval

Readings were taken at 0.25m centres along traverses 1m apart. This equates to 3600 sampling points in a full 30m x 30m grid.

Depth of scan and resolution

The Grad 601-2 has a typical depth of penetration of 0.5m to 1.0m, though strongly magnetic objects may be visible at greater depths. The collection of data at 0.25m centres provides an optimum methodology for the task balancing cost and time with resolution.

Data capture

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.

APPENDIX B – BASIC PRINCIPLES OF MAGNETIC SURVEY

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.

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 and material such as brick and tile may be magnetised through the same process.

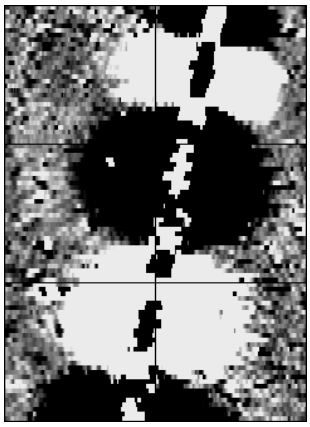
Silting and deliberate infilling of ditches and pits with magnetically enhanced soil creates a relative contrast against the much lower levels of magnetism within the subsoil into which the feature is cut. Systematic mapping of magnetic anomalies will produce linear and discrete areas of enhancement 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 field. The difference between the two sensors will relate to the strength of a magnetic field created by a buried 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, disturbance from modern services etc.

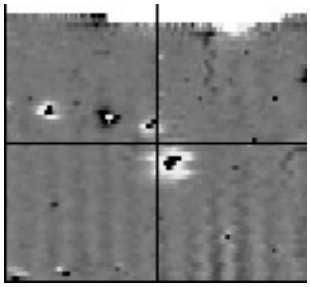
APPENDIX C – GLOSSARY OF MAGNETIC ANOMALIES

Bipolar



A bipolar anomaly is one that is composed of both a positive response and a negative response. It can be made up of any number of positive responses and negative responses. For example a pipeline consisting of alternating positive and negative anomalies is said to be bipolar. See also dipolar which has only one area of each polarity. The interpretation of the anomaly will depend on the magnitude of the magnetic field strength. A weak response may be caused by a clay field drain while a strong response will probably be caused by a metallic service.

Dipolar

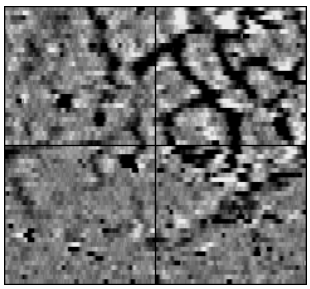


This consists of a single positive anomaly with an associated negative response. There should be no separation between the two polarities of response. These responses will be created by a single feature. The interpretation of the anomaly will depend on the magnitude of the magnetic measurements. A very strong anomaly is likely to be caused by a ferrous object.

Positive anomaly with associated negative response

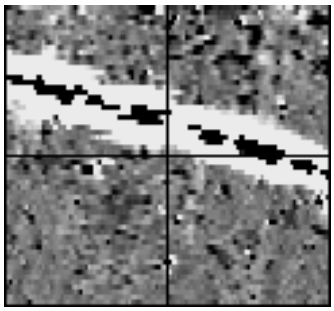
See bipolar and dipolar.

Positive linear



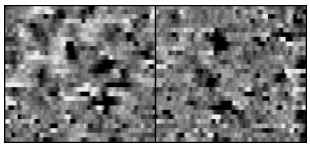
A linear response which is entirely positive in polarity. These are usually related to in-filled cut features where the fill material is magnetically enhanced compared to the surrounding matrix. They can be caused by ditches of an archaeological origin, but also former field boundaries, ploughing activity and some may even have a natural origin.

Positive linear anomaly with associated negative response



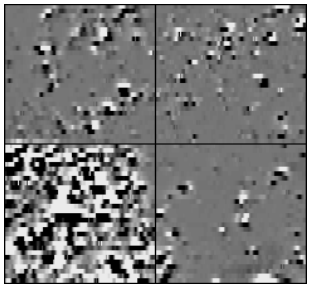
A positive linear anomaly which has a negative anomaly located adjacently. This will be caused by a single feature. In the example shown this is likely to be a single length of wire/cable probably relating to a modern service. Magnetically weaker responses may relate to earthwork style features and field boundaries.

Positive point/area



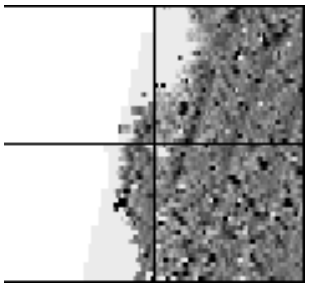
These are generally spatially small responses, perhaps covering just 3 or 4 reading nodes. They are entirely positive in polarity. Similar to positive linear anomalies they are generally caused by in-filled cut features. These include pits of an archaeological origin, possible tree bowls or other naturally occurring depressions in the ground.

Magnetic debris



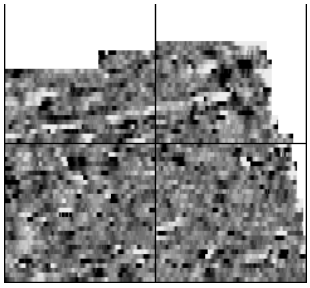
Magnetic debris consists of numerous dipolar responses spread over an area. If the amplitude of response is low (+/-3nT) then the origin is likely to represent general ground disturbance with no clear cause, it may be related to something as simple as an area of dug or mixed earth. A stronger anomaly (+/-250nT) is more indicative of a spread of ferrous debris. Moderately strong anomalies may be the result of a spread of thermoremanent material such as bricks or ash.

Magnetic disturbance



Magnetic disturbance is high amplitude and can be composed of either a bipolar anomaly, or a single polarity response. It is essentially associated with magnetic interference from modern ferrous structures such as fencing, vehicles or buildings, and as a result is commonly found around the perimeter of a site near to boundary fences.

Negative linear

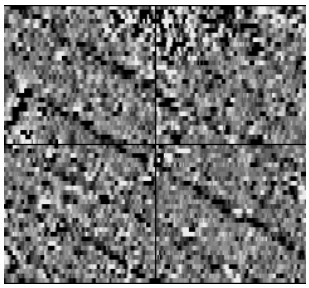


A linear response which is entirely negative in polarity. These are generally caused by earthen banks where material with a lower magnetic magnitude relative to the background top soil is built up. See also ploughing activity.

Negative point/area

Opposite to positive point anomalies these responses may be caused by raised areas or earthen banks. These could be of an archaeological origin or may have a natural origin.

Ploughing activity



Ploughing activity can often be visualised by a series of parallel linear anomalies. These can be of either positive polarity or negative polarity depending on site specifics. It can be difficult to distinguish between ancient ploughing and more modern ploughing. Clues such as the separation of each linear, straightness, strength of response and cross cutting relationships can be used to aid this, although none of these can be guaranteed to differentiate between different phases of activity.

Polarity

Term used to describe the measurement of the magnetic response. An anomaly can have a positive polarity (values above 0nT) and/or a negative polarity (values below 0nT).

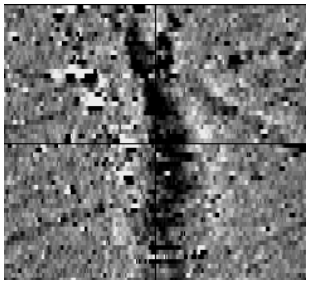
Strength of response

The amplitude of a magnetic response is an important factor in assigning an interpretation to a particular anomaly. For example a positive anomaly covering a 10m^2 area may have values up to around 3000nT, in which case it is likely to be caused by modern magnetic interference. However, the same size and shaped anomaly but with values up to only 4nT may have a natural origin. Colour plots are used to show the amplitude of response.

Thermoremanent response

A feature which has been subject to heat may result in it acquiring a magnetic field. This can be anything up to approximately +/-100 nT in value. These features include clay fired drains, brick, bonfires, kilns, hearths and even pottery. If the heat application has occurred in situ (e.g. a kiln) then the response is likely to be bipolar compared to if the heated objects have been disturbed and moved relative to each other, in which case they are more likely to take an irregular form and may display a debris style response (e.g. ash).

Weak background variations



Weakly magnetic wide scale variations within the data can sometimes be seen within sites. These usually have no specific structure but can often appear curvy and sinuous in form. They are likely to be the result of natural features, such as soil creep, dried up (or seasonal) streams. They can also be caused by changes in the underlying geology or soil type which may contain unpredictable distributions of magnetic minerals, and are usually apparent in several locations across a site.

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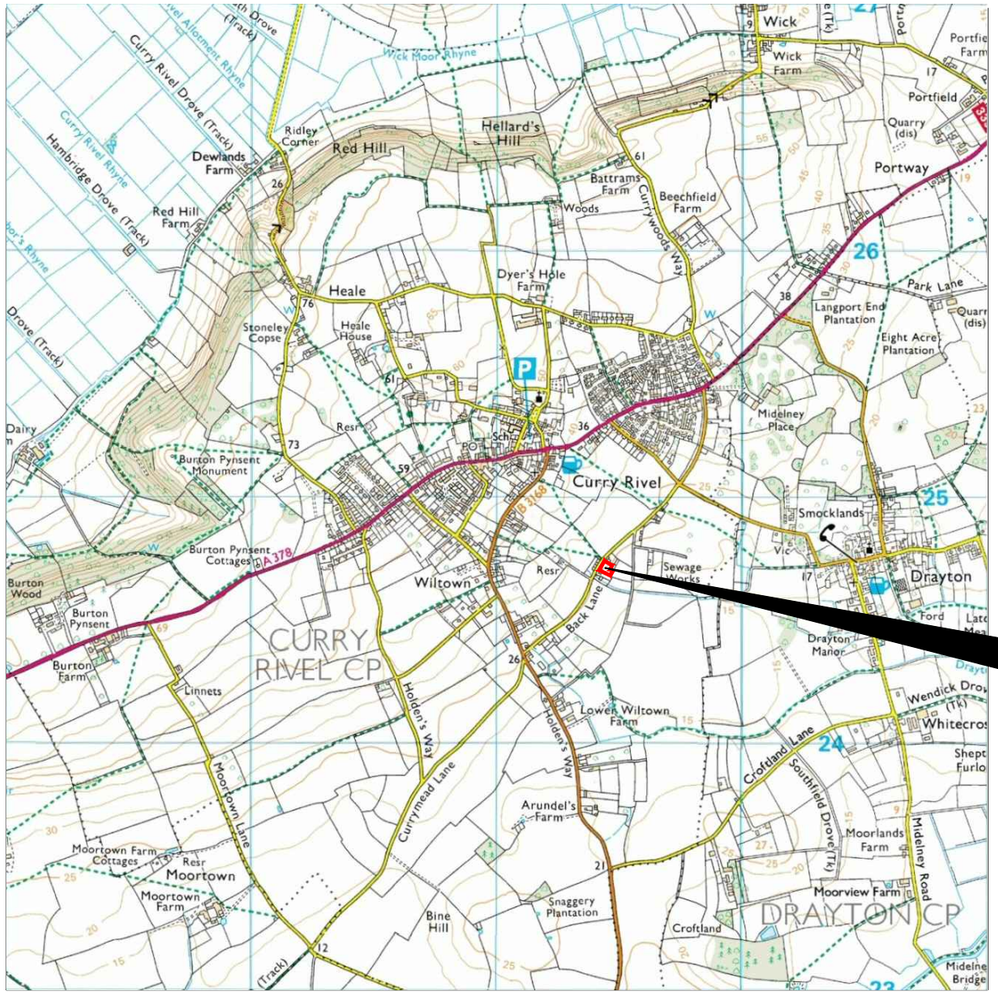
OS 100km square = ST

27
26
25
24
23

37 38 39 40 41



Amendments

Issue No.	Date	Description
-	-	-
-	-	-

Site centred on NGR: ST 396 248

Client: CONTEXT ONE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Project Title: CURRY RIVEL, SOMERSET

Job No. J6660

Subject: LOCATION PLAN OF SURVEY AREA

STRATASCAN™
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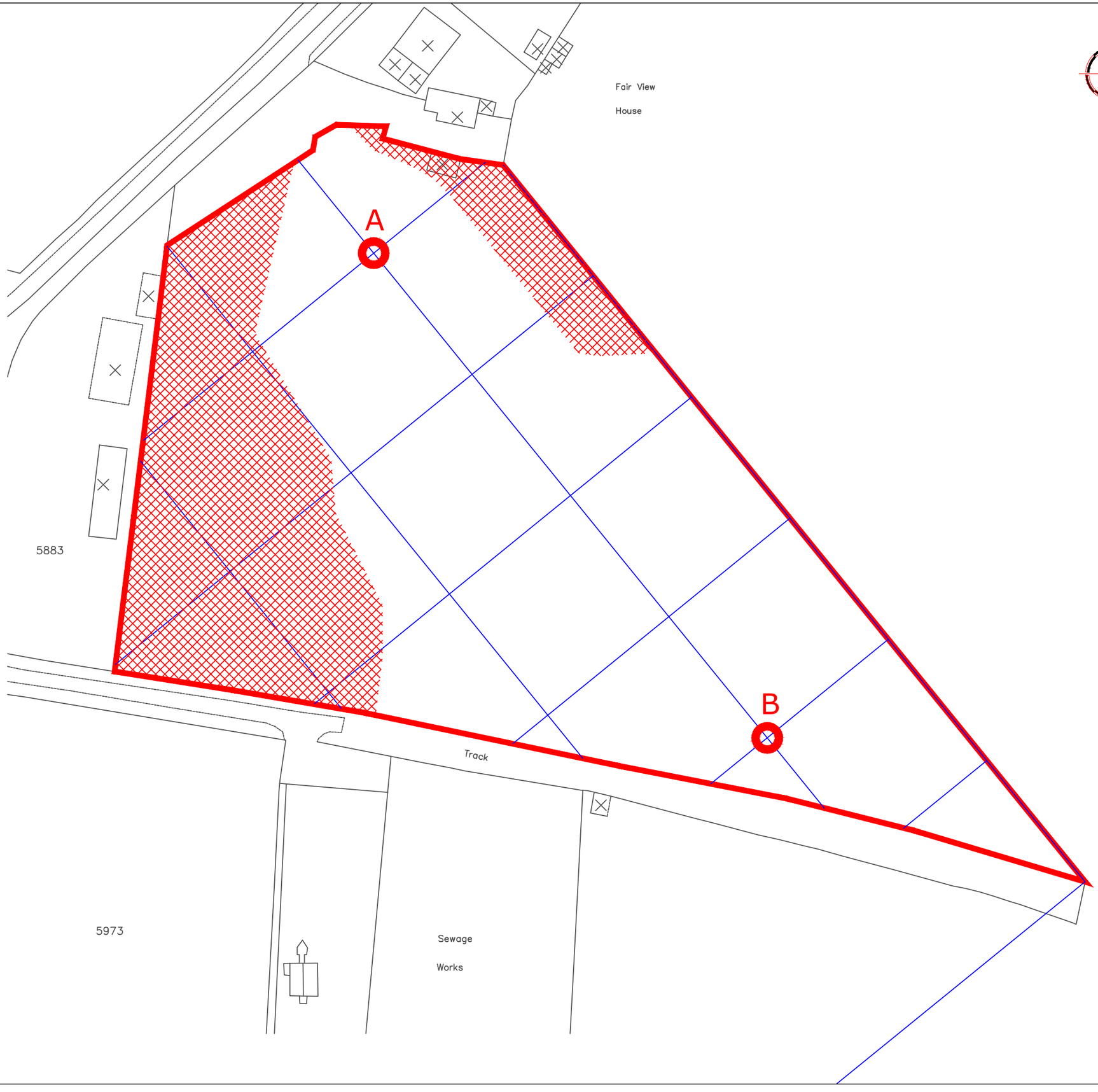
SUMO GROUP MEMBER

Scale: 1:25000 (0m 500 1000m)

Plot	Checked by	Issue No.
A3	DGE	01
Survey date	Drawn by	Figure No.
APR 14	TR	01



Amendments

Issue No.	Date	Description
-	-	-
-	-	-

KEY

Area unsurveyable - rubble debris and animal enclosures

OS GRID REFERENCES

A	339637.90, 124877.27
B	339713.58, 124784.14

Client
CONTEXT ONE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Project Title — Job No. J6660
CURRY RIVEL, SOMERSET

Subject
LOCATION OF SURVEY GRIDS AND REFERENCING

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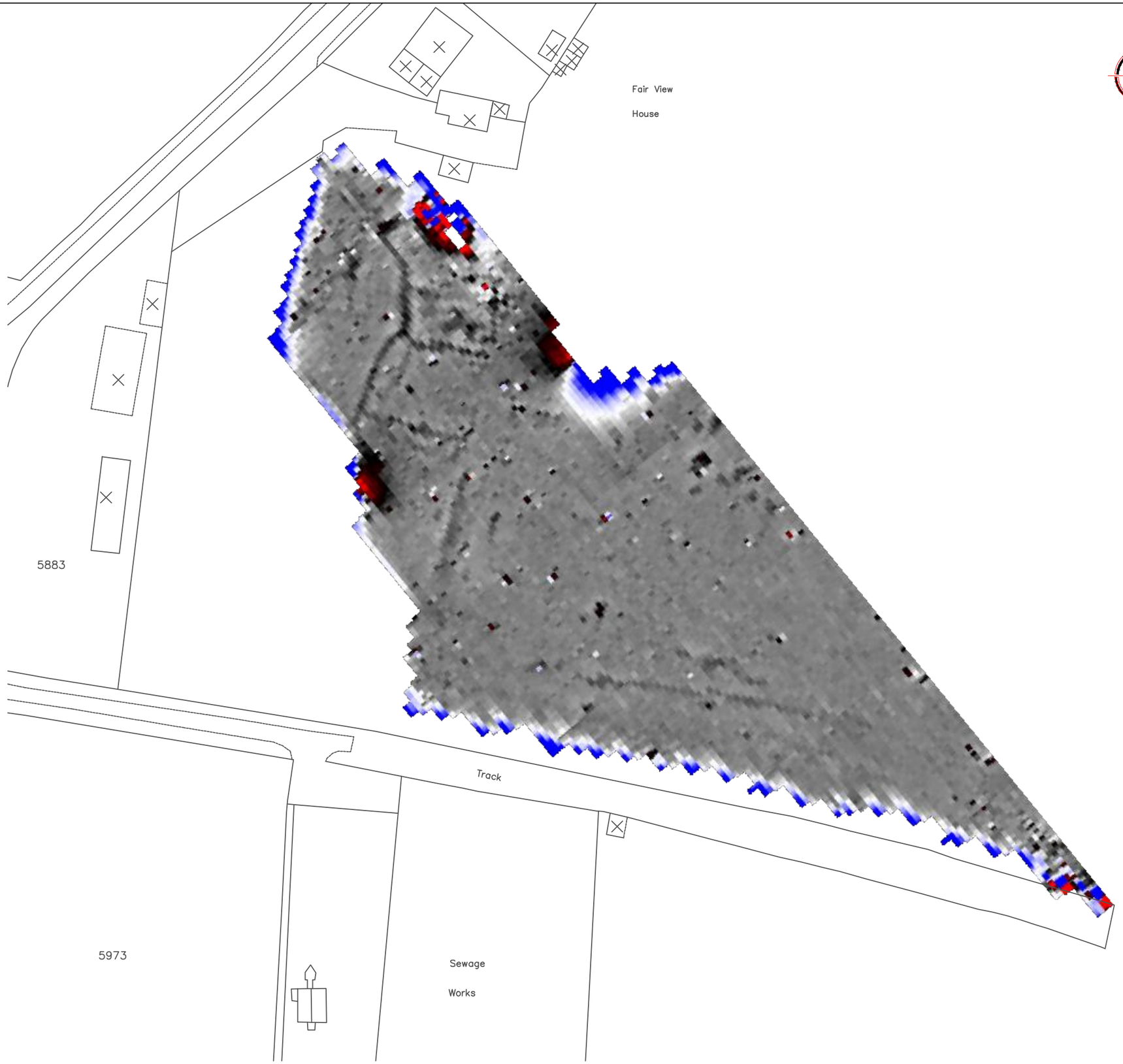
Scale 1:750 (0m 5 15 30m)

Plot	Checked by	Issue No.
A3	DGE	01
Survey date	Drawn by	Figure No.
APR 14	TR	02



Amendments

Issue No.	Date	Description
-	-	-
-	-	-

Plotting parameters

Maximum +100nT (red)
Minimum -100nT (blue)

+100nT
+10nT
-10nT
-100nT

Client
CONTEXT ONE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Project Title — Job No. J6660
CURRY RIVEL, SOMERSET

Subject
COLOUR PLOT OF GRADIOMETER DATA SHOWING EXTREME VALUES

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Scale 1:750 — 0m 5 15 30m

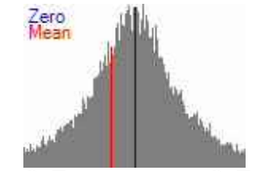
Plot	Checked by	Issue No.
A3	DGE	01
Survey date	Drawn by	Figure No.
APR 14	TR	03

Amendments

Issue No.	Date	Description
-	-	-
-	-	-

Plotting parameters

Maximum +2nT (black)
Minimum -2nT (white)



Client
CONTEXT ONE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Project Title — Job No. J6660
CURRY RIVEL, SOMERSET

Subject
PLOT OF MINIMALLY PROCESSED GRADIOMETER DATA

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Scale 1:750 (0m 5 15 30m)

Plot	Checked by	Issue No.
A3	DGE	01
Survey date	Drawn by	Figure No.
APR 14	TR	04

Amendments

Issue No.	Date	Description
-	-	-
-	-	-

KEY

PROBABLE ARCHAEOLOGY

- Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - probable cut feature of archaeological origin
- Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - probable bank or earthwork of archaeological origin
- Moderate strength discrete anomaly - probable thermoremanent feature
- Widely spaced curving parallel linear anomalies - probably related to ridge-and-furrow

POSSIBLE ARCHAEOLOGY

- Positive anomaly / weak positive anomaly - possible cut feature of archaeological origin
- Negative anomaly / weak negative anomaly - possible bank or earthwork of archaeological origin
- Moderate strength discrete anomaly - possible thermoremanent feature

OTHER ANOMALIES

- Closely spaced parallel linear anomalies - probably related to agricultural activity such as ploughing
- Linear anomaly - probably related to pipe, cable or other modern service
- Linear anomaly - possibly related to land drain
- Magnetic disturbance associated with nearby metal object such as service or field boundary
- Strong magnetic debris - possible disturbed or made ground
- Scattered magnetic debris
- Area of amorphous magnetic variation - probable natural (e.g. geological or pedological) origin
- Magnetic spike - probable ferrous object

Client
CONTEXT ONE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Project Title — Job No. J6660
CURRY RIVEL, SOMERSET

Subject
ABSTRACTION AND INTERPRETATION OF GRADIOMETER ANOMALIES

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Scale 1:750 — 0m 5 15 30m

Plot	Checked by	Issue No.
A3	DGE	01
Survey date	Drawn by	Figure No.
APR 14	TR	05