

**YCCART 2014 / Y 4
North Somerset HER 2014/120**

Survey at land north west of Congresbury Bridge

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RESEARCH TEAM (YCCART)**

General Editor: Vince Russett



The site

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Abstract

YCCCART undertook a resistivity survey of a small grass area to the north west of Congresbury bridge in advance of its possible future development for a skate board park. The survey has revealed a circular high resistance anomaly worthy of future investigation.

Acknowledgements

A Heritage Lottery Grant enabled the purchase, by YCCCART, of a Geoscan RM15 Resistivity Meter without which this survey could not have been undertaken.

This survey would also not have been carried out without the willing permission of the Congresbury Parish Council.

The authors are grateful for the hard work by the members of YCCCART in performing the survey and Vince Russett for editing the report.

Introduction

YCCCART is one of a number of Community Archaeology teams across North Somerset, supported by the North Somerset Development Management Team.

The objective of the Community Archaeology in North Somerset (CANS) project is to undertake archaeological fieldwork to enable a better understanding and management of the heritage of the area while recording the activities and locations of the research carried out.

Site Location



Fig 1: Site location indicated by red arrow.

Land use and geology

The solid geology is a low knoll of Mercia Mudstone, surrounded on all sides by the alluvium of the North Marsh.

The area is open to public access and contains benches and a shelter.

Historical & archaeological context

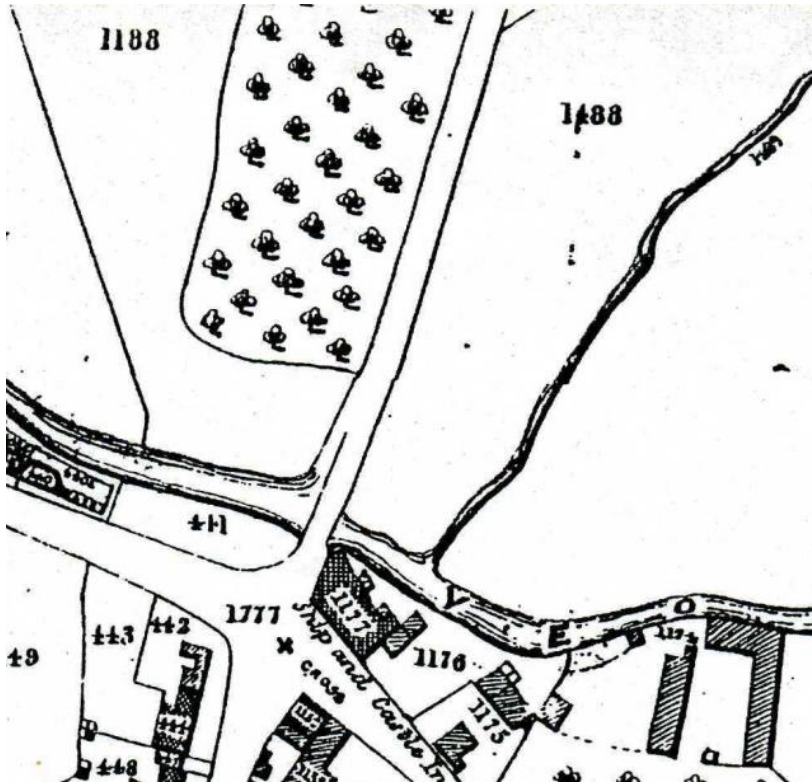


Fig 2 : 1839 Map. Courtesy of Bristol Record Office BRO 37959/9. The surveyed field is number 1488 on the map.

The Tithe apportionment record, relating to the 1839 map above, shows field number 1488 as pasture land called Goose Ham owned by The Trustees of Queen Elizabeth's Hospital and occupied by Hester Wookey.

Survey objectives

The survey was undertaken in order to establish if any structures existed close to the bridge in advance of a possible skate park being constructed on the site.

Methodology

The survey of field was undertaken during March 2014 by a team from YCCART, using Geoscan RM15 Resistivity Meter.

The completed survey was downloaded to a TerraSurveyor program.

TerraSurveyor composites were adjusted using the following filters:

- Band weight equaliser
- Grad shade
- Clip SD2
- Despike
- High pass Gaussian filter

The report was written in Microsoft Word 2007.

Photographs were taken by members of YCCART, and remain the copyright of YCCART.

Results

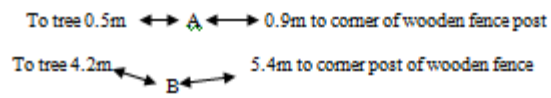
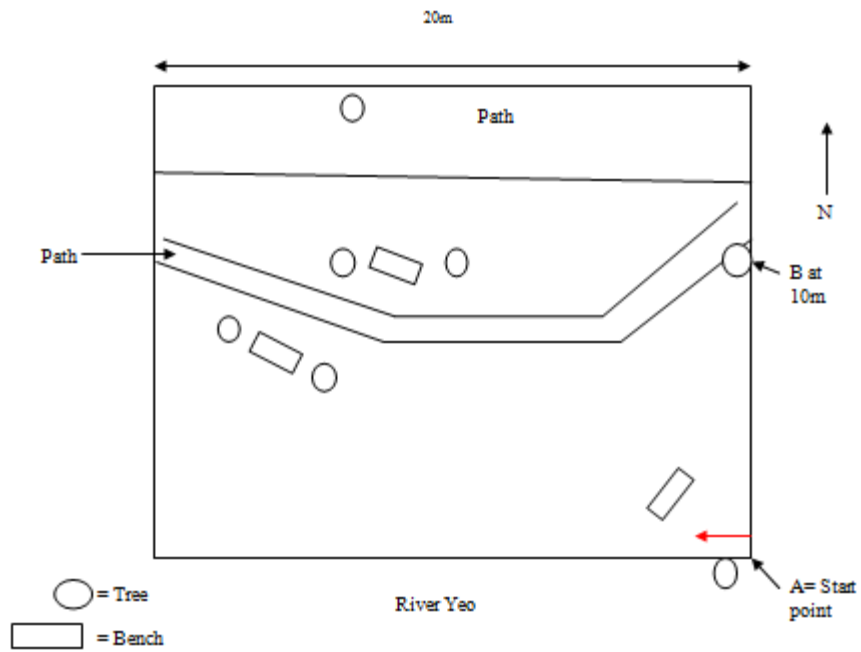


Fig 3: Grid lay out



Fig 4: TerraSurveyor grid.

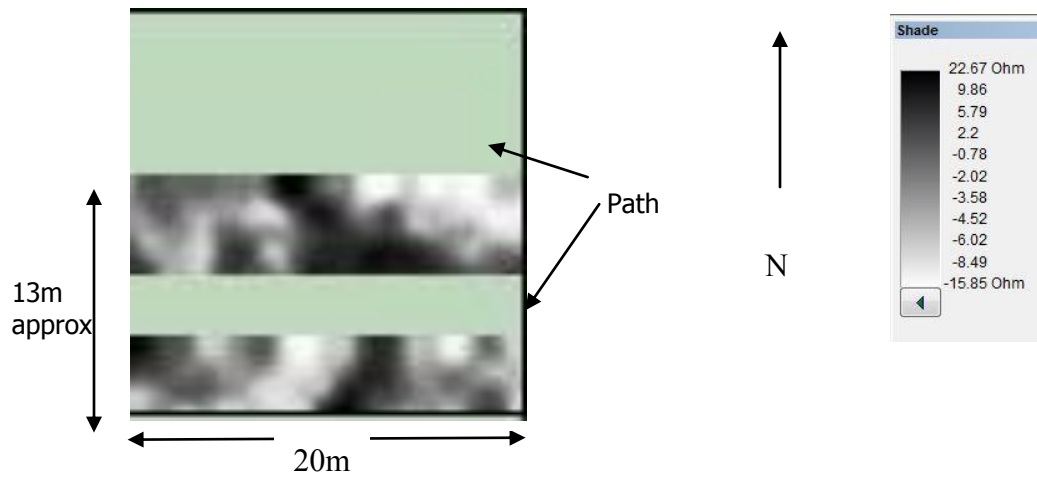


Fig 5: TerraSurveyor shade view black & white image. High readings are black.

The results shown in Fig 5 above reveal some unexpected features. The most striking feature is the half circle in the centre of the image. Could this be the result of a stone lined ditch around a circular structure?

Recommendations

An evaluation trench over the areas of the circular anomaly is the only way of establishing the nature of this anomaly.

References

Congresbury Tithe Map

BRO 37959/9 (Bristol Record Office)

Authors: Chris Short

Date: March 2014

Appendix

Site Record

YCCART Site Survey Project: Congresbury- by bridge			
Survey date		6 March 2014	
Report date		6 March 2014	
Type /Instrument		RM15	
Location		Small area to north east of Congresbury bridge	
Ref			
Site name		Congresbury Bridge	
Landowner		Congresbury Parish Council	
Tenant		None	
HER ref		TBC	
Site type		Grass	
Description		Grass with benches and trees	
Period			
Geology			
Land use		Open public land	
Survey team and conditions			
6 March 2014	Team	Anne Dimmock, Alison Crump, David Long, David Walker & Chris Short . <i>Weather overcast /drizzle. Grass damp.</i>	
Survey area		Notes	
		Size	Walk direction
6 March	Grids 1 & 2 <i>Repeated so 2 grids downloaded. Error on grid 1 – one too many dummy lines inserted to cover path through site. Area covered 20 m west /east and about 13m south /north</i>	20x20m	W

Grid layout- not to scale

