

Mr Tutton's Field #1,  
Venus St, Congresbury.  
Gradiometry Survey 2010

**YCCCART 2010 / 6**

**North Somerset HER 47513**

**YATTON, CONGRESBURY, CLAVERHAM AND CLEEVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
RESEARCH TEAM (YCCCART)**

*General editor: Vince Russett*



*Members of the Grad 601 team in Mr Tutton's field on 21 December 2009*

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## **1. Abstract**

*YCCCART has agreed with the Heritage Lottery Fund to undertake a project over two years commencing May 2009 to establish the extent of the Congresbury Roman kiln sites. Although two potential new kilns have been identified, further action on this field is not recommended.*

## **2. Acknowledgements**

A Heritage Lottery Grant enabled the purchase, by YCCCART, of a Bartington Gradiometer 601 without which this survey could not have been undertaken.

This survey would also not have been carried out without the willing permission of the landowner, Mr K Tutton.

The author is grateful for the hard work by the members of YCCCART in performing the survey and Geoff Pearson for proof reading.

## **3. Introduction**

Yatton, Congresbury, Claverham and Cleeve Archaeological Research Team (YCCCART) is one of a number of Community Archaeology teams across North Somerset, supported by the North Somerset Council Development Management Team.

The objective of the Community Archaeology in North Somerset (CANS) teams is to carry out archaeological fieldwork, for the purpose of recording, and better understanding of, the heritage of North Somerset.

#### 4. Site Location



*Fig 1 Site location*

The site lies in the south east of the village of Congresbury, in the District of North Somerset. The centre of the upper field lies at ST46 4435E 6280, some 12 miles south of Bristol

The field is privately owned but can be viewed from Venus Street.

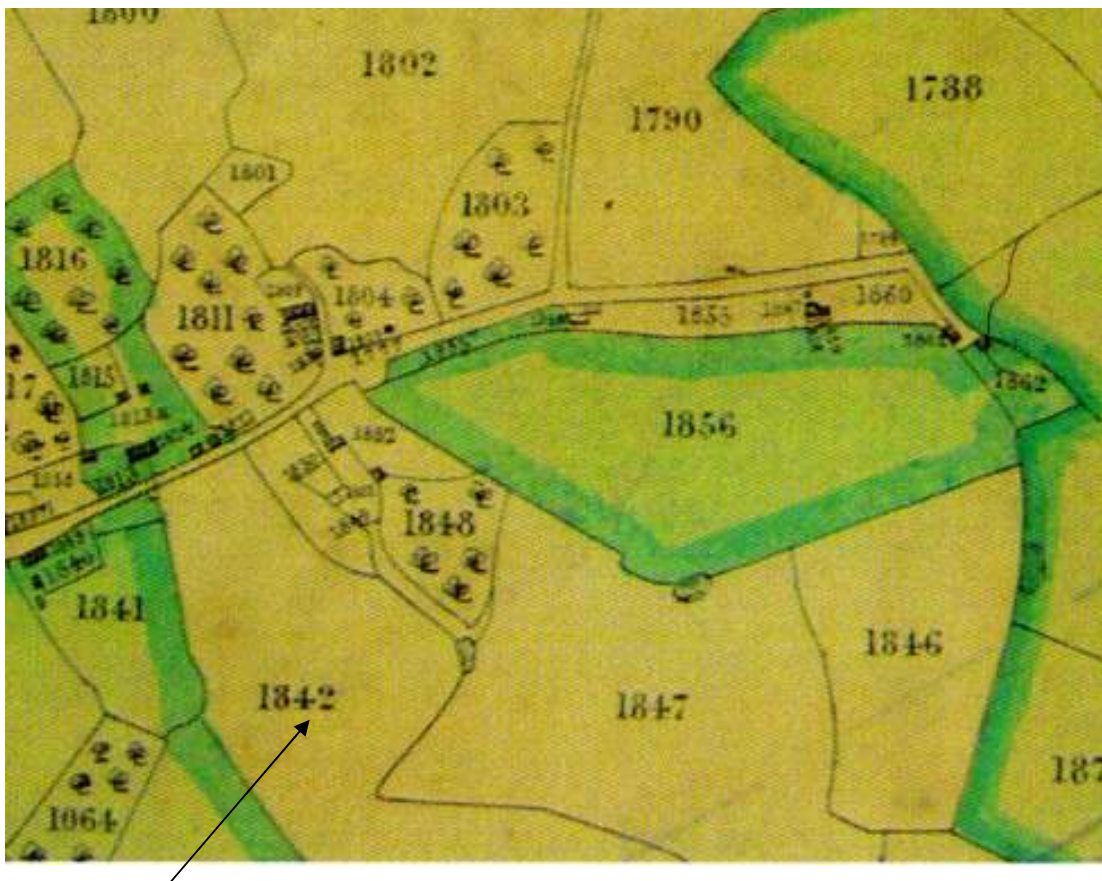
#### 5. Land use and geology

The site lies immediately to the south of the flood plain of the natural course of the Congresbury Yeo. The geology is Carboniferous limestone, Keuper Marl and estuarine alluvium

The field was used in 2009 for grazing sheep.

## 6. Historical & archaeological context

The field is centred on reference 1842 on the 1839 Congresbury map. This is described in the Tithe apportionment as the Six Acres or Close pasture owned by John Braikenridge and occupied by Ann Crease.





## **7. Survey objectives**

The survey had the following objectives.

- 1) To identify any additional Romano-British kilns.
- 2) To use the survey to further train YCCCART members and members of Community Archaeology in North Somerset (CANS) in the use of the Bartington Gradiometer 601.

## **8 Methodology**

An initial survey was undertaken by teams from YCCCART in May 2009. This was repeated and extended during October 2009 to January 2010. The results of this latter work are the subject of this report. The earlier survey work is not considered reliable enough to publish.

For ease of survey activity, it was decided to split the field survey into two section named Upper and Lower fields.

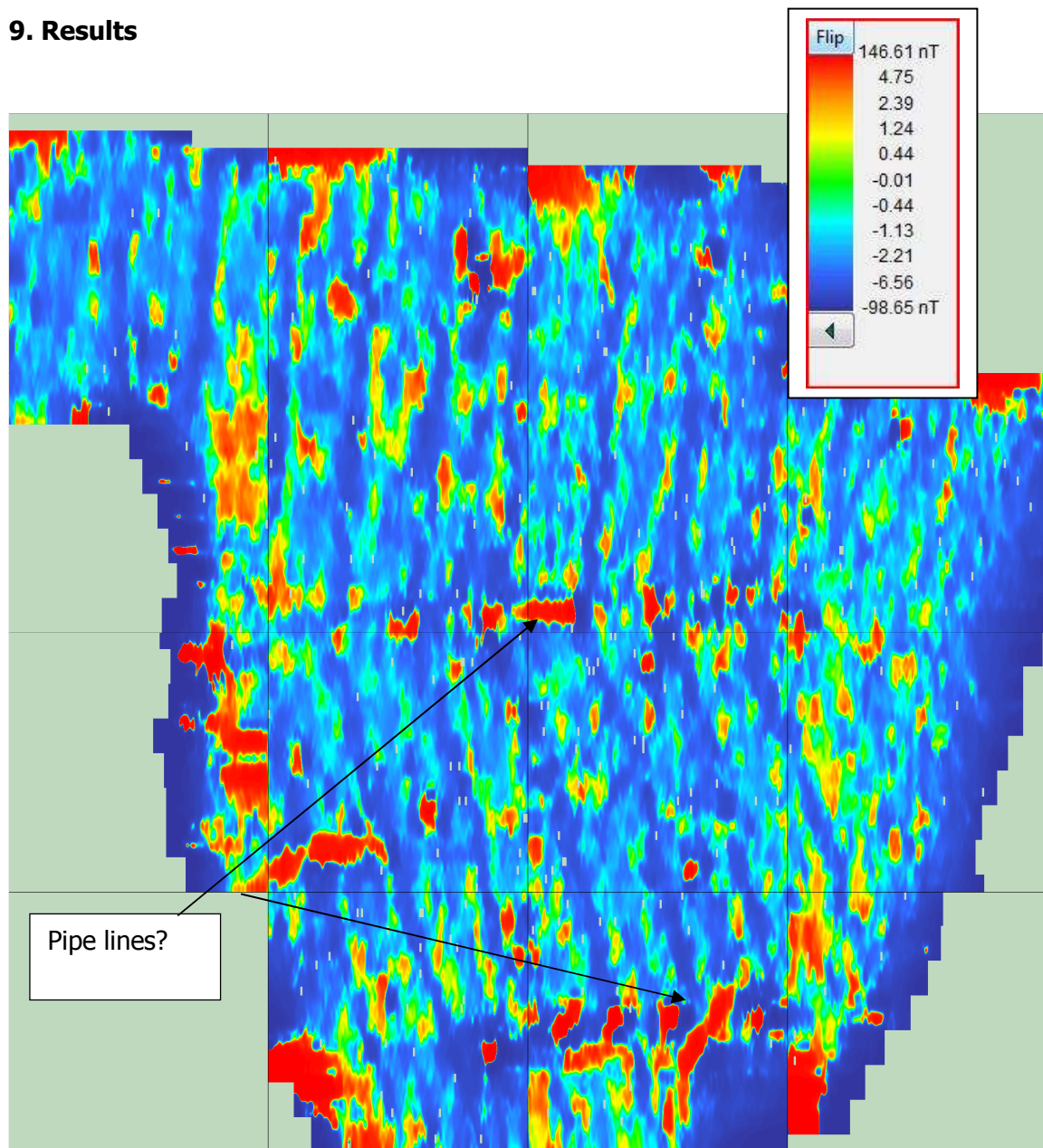
The completed survey was downloaded to the ArcheoSurveyor programme and the resultant composite adjusted using the following filters

- 1) Colour - Red Blue Green 2
- 2) Band weight equaliser
- 3) Grad shade
- 4) Destriped
- 5) Despiked

The report was written in Microsoft Word 2003.

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

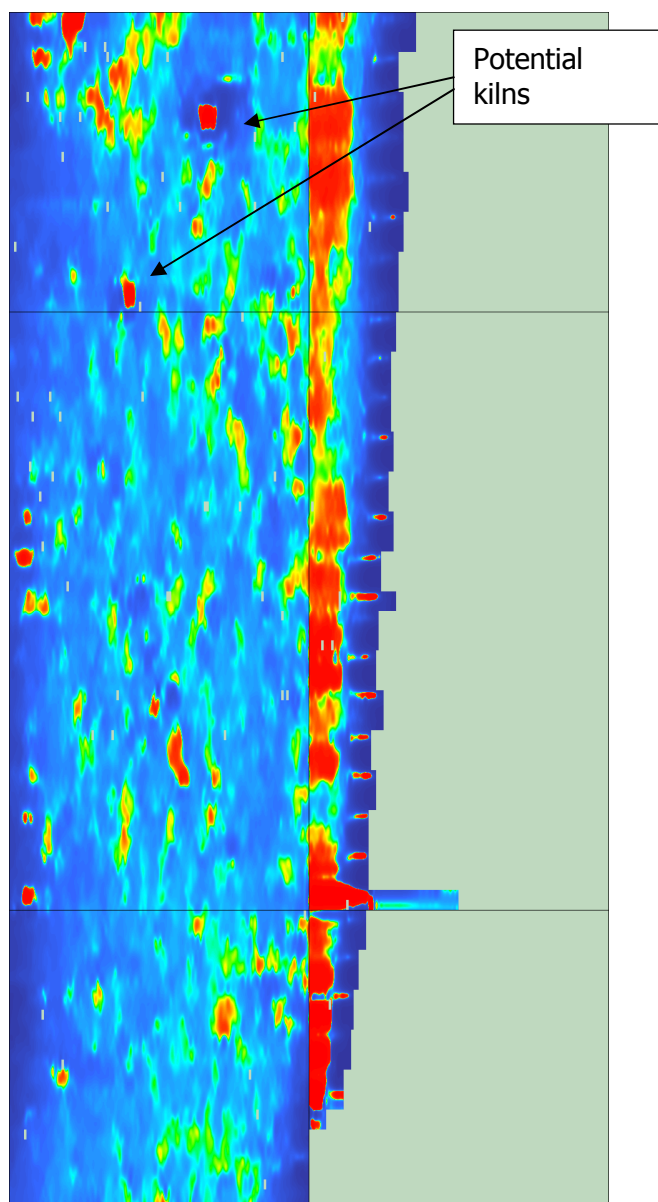
## 9. Results



*Fig 3. Upper field shade view*

Roman pottery kiln sites are generally indicated in gradiometry surveys by strong negative and positive peaks immediately adjacent to each other. In the lower field (See fig 4 below) two areas show as high positive (in this case, coloured red), and adjacent or surrounding negative peaks (coloured blue). Two lines of high responses indicated in Fig 3 above are possible pipe lines, probably due to the laying of pipe drains in earlier gripes. Other, linear features in dark blue in Fig 3 above represent the magnetic signature of the drainage gripes in the field. Other high positive responses around the edges of the both fields (Fig 3 and 4) are due to interference from items such as barbed wire and metal waste.

## Lower field



*Fig 4 Lower field shade view*

NB. For orientation of the above results see the summary of weekly site records at Appendix 1.



### **Recommendations for further work**

No further gradiometer survey work is recommended. The potential kiln sites will be added to the list of potential sites identified in this project as being worthy of excavation.

### **References**

Extract from Congresbury Tithe Map - *BRO 37959/9*

**Authors.** Ian Morton & Chris Short.

**Date.** 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010

## Appendix 1

### Summary of weekly site records

YCCCART Site Survey Project – Congresbury Kilns							
Summary report date		Upper field					
Type /Instrument		Grad 601					
		Pace :1.3m/s and 1.5m Lines/m : 1 Range:100nT Volume: High Sensors:2		Grid size: 30m x30m Pattern : Zig Zag Samples/m:4 Audio: On Threshold:1nT Reject:50 Hz			
Location		Venus Street, Congresbury Base line					
		A	N 51° 21' 42"; W 2° 47' 59		D	N 51° 21' 42", W 2° 48 04"	
			ST46 4443E 6278N			ST46 4431E 6281N	
Ref		none					
Site name		Tutton #1					
Landowner		Keith Tutton, Regina, Smallway, Tel 01934 832493					
Tenant		Peter Pike, Barbary Farm, Kenn Moor. Tel 01934 833574					
HER ref		NSHER 47513					
Site type		Open field					
Description		Grass					
Period		Unknown					
Geology		Carboniferous limestone, Keuper Marl and estuarine alluvium					
Land use		None					
Survey team		Peter English, Peter Wright, Chris Short & Ian Morton					
		Upper field					
Survey area		notes			readings		
		Note; magnetometer display has max/min of ±100 but actual readings downloaded may be greater					
		size	walk direction	max	min	mean	
04/01/10	1	30 m base Mirror and return	N	+7.0	-100.0	-11.0	
	2	30 m base Mirror and return	N	+5.9	-54.2	-0.7	
	3	30 x30m	N	+71.3	-26.4	-0.2	
	4	30 x30m	S	+94.2	-100.0	-1.4	
	5	30 x30m	S	+10.5	-13.9	-0.1	
	6	30 x30m	S	+26.2	-12.3	-0.1	

	7	30 m base Mirror and return	S	+56.6	-41.3	-2.3
	8	30 m base Mirror and return	S	+98.7	-100.0	+0.4
18/01/10	9	30 m base Mirror and return	S	+53.7	-11.5	+1.2
	10	30 m base Mirror and return	S	+64.2	-100.0	-11.0
	11	30 x30m	S	+39.8	-89.6	+0.8
	12	30 x30m	S	+17.5	-34.2	+0.2
	13 Repe at of grid 1	30 m base Mirror and return	N	+23.7	-100.0	-8.5
	14 Repe at of grid 2	30 m base Mirror and return	N	+5.5	-93.1	-0.8
21/01/10	15	30 m base Mirror and return	S	+27.9	-100.0	-6.1
	16	incomplete	S	+29.0	-25.4	+0.1
	17	incomplete	S	+100. 0	-100.0	-2.3

YCCCART Site Survey Project – Congresbury Kilns						
Summary report date		Lower field				
Type /Instrument		Grad 601				
		Pace :1.5m/s Lines/m : 1 Range:100nT Volume: High Sensors:2		Grid size: 30m x30m Pattern : Zig Zag Samples/m:4 Audio: On Threshold:1nT Reject:50 Hz		
Location		Venus Street, Congresbury Base line				
		A = N 51 <sup>0</sup> 21' 37"; W 2 <sup>0</sup> 48' 03" ST46 4431E 6268N		D = N 51 <sup>0</sup> 21' 36", W 2 <sup>0</sup> 47 58" ST46 4443E 6262N		
Ref		none				
Site name		Tutton #1				
Landowner		Keith Tutton, Regina, Smallway, Tel 01934 832493				
Tenant		Peter Pike, Barbary Farm, Kenn Moor. Tel 01934 833574				
HER ref						
Site type		Open field				
Description		Grass				
Period		Unknown				
Geology		Limestone				
Land use		None				
Survey team		Peter English, Peter Wright, Susan Dugas, Mike Fox, Unsal Hassan & Ian Morton				
		Lower field				
Survey area		notes		readings		
		Note; magnetometer display has max/min of ±100 but actual readings downloaded may be greater				
		size	walk direction	max	min	mean
Grid ref #	18	30 x 30 m	N	+30.0	-17.4	+0.5
	19	30 m base Mirror and return	N	+3.6	-100.0	-11.0
	20	30 x 30 m	N	+12.6	-27.3	+0.6
	21	30 m base Mirror and return	N	+2.3	-100.0	-9.4
	22	30 x 30 m	N	+7.4	-12.0	+0.7
	23	30 m base Mirror and return	N	+2.4	-100.0	-11.6
	24	30 x 30 m	N	+19.3	-46.8	+0.2
	25	incomplete	E	+9.9	-100.0	-3.7
	26	incomplete	N	+3.5	-100.0	-23.2

# Setting out details





## Appendix 2

### Site photo



*Laying grids. A cold day in December 2009*