

**YCCCART 2010 /12
North Somerset HER 47522**

Mr Tutton Field 4

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

General Editor: Vince Russett



Grad 601 team setting up

Page	Contents
3	Abstract Acknowledgments Introduction
4	Site location Land use and geology
5	Historical & archaeological context
6	Survey Objectives Methodology
7	Results
8	Recommendations References
9	Appendix – Site Record

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.

A circular feature has been identified within the field by a survey with the Bartington Gradiometer 601. It is intended to carry out a resistivity survey on the site and / or produce a pseudosection of the targeted feature to determine if it is a circular ditch full of Romano – British waster sherds, similar to features recorded on other kiln sites.

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

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.

Site Location



Figure 1, Site location

The site lies in the south east of the village of Congresbury, in the District of North Somerset. The start point of the survey lies at ST 4451E 6254N, some 12 miles south of Bristol

The field is privately owned but can be viewed from a public footpath.

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.

Historical & archaeological context

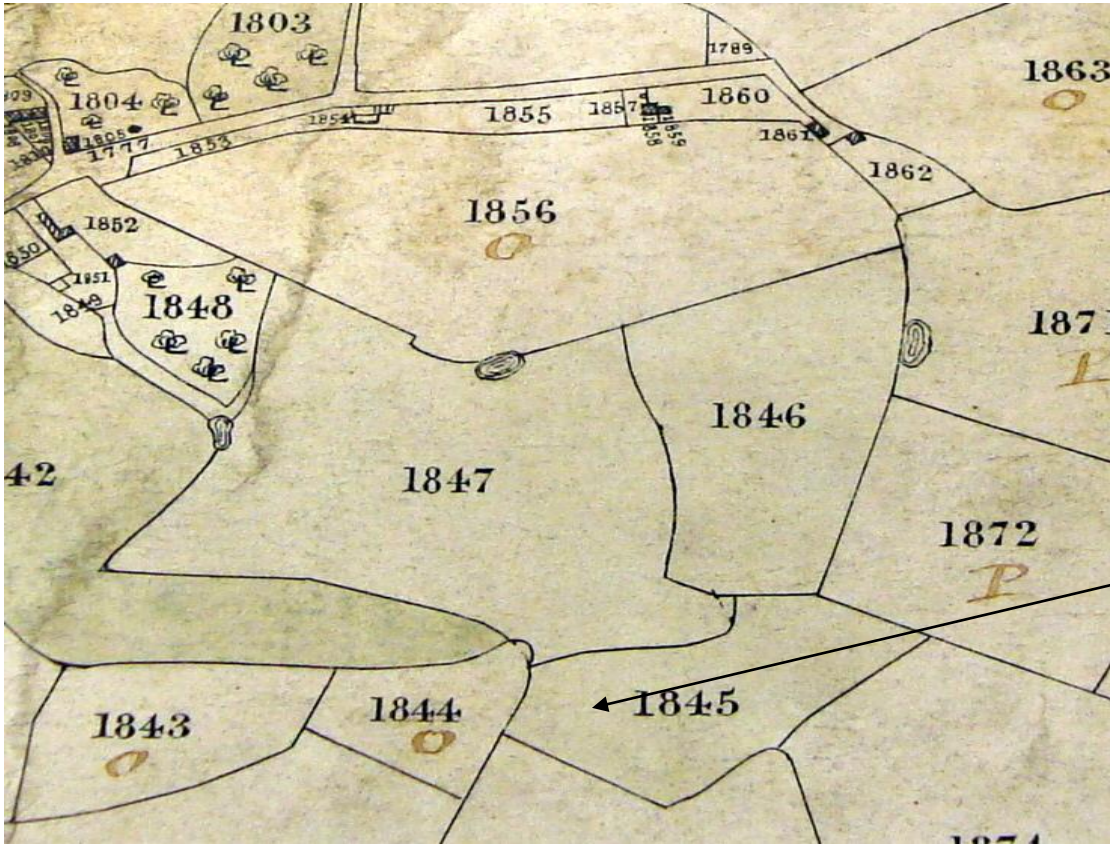


Figure 2, 1839 Map. Courtesy of Bristol Record Office BRO 37959/9

The field is centred on reference 1845 on the 1839 Congresbury map. It is described in the 1840 Tithe apportionment as pasture land, called The Two Acres, owned by John Hugh Smyth Pigott Esq and occupied by George Cavit.

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.

Methodology

The survey was undertaken during March 2010 by teams from YCCCART using a Bartington Gradiometer 601, with settings as per the site record in Appendix 1.

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
- 6) Clip SD2

The report was written in Microsoft Word 2003.

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

Results

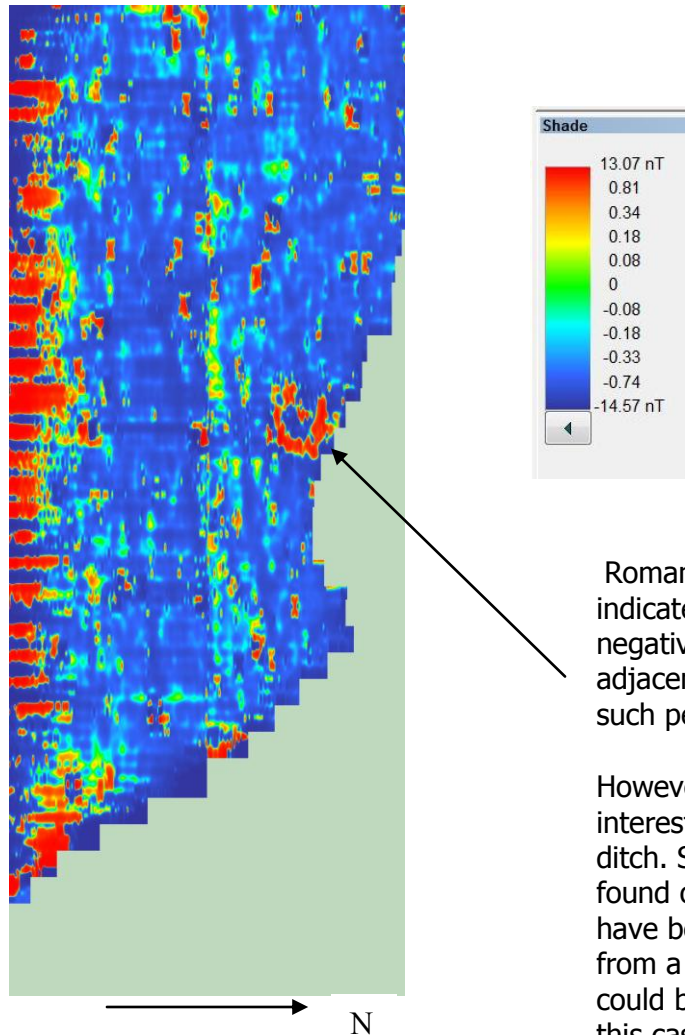


Figure 3. Shade view

Roman pottery kiln sites are generally indicated in gradiometry surveys by strong negative and positive peaks immediately adjacent to each other. This field has no such peaks.

However, this unusual circular feature is of interest and could potentially be a circular ditch. Such magnetic responses have been found on other kiln sites, and on excavation have been shown to be full of waster sherds from a kiln at the centre of the ditch, which could be responsible for the central peak in this case.

Other strong linear negative responses are the signature of deep drainage gries.

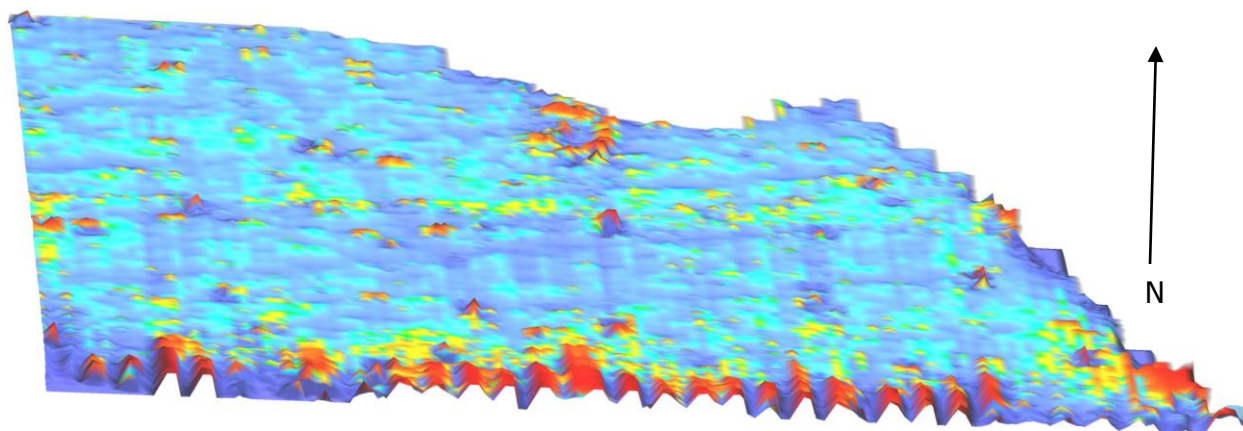


Figure 4. Axonometric view

This again shows the circular feature with central peak. There are no other strong positive or negative peaks characteristic of kilns in the rest of the field. Again, the linear negative responses from the drainage gripes are very evident

Recommendations

The circular feature is not present on any other survey to date. Further geophysical techniques can be used to try and establish the nature of this feature and so it is considered

- 1) A pseudosection survey is required of the targeted feature.
- 2) A resistivity survey is undertaken of the grid containing the feature.

References

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

Authors. Ian Morton & Chris Short.

Date. June 2010

Appendix

Site record

YCCART Site Survey Project – Congresbury Kilns						
Survey date		29 nd April 2010				
Report date		29 nd April 2010				
Type /Instrument		Grad 601				
		Pace :1.5m/s Start: ?? 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				
		A = ST 4451E 6254N N 51°21'33" W 2°47'54"		D = ST E 4461 N 6254 N51°21'33" W 2°47'49"		
Ref		Y12				
Site name		Tutton #4				
Landowner		Keith Tutton, Regina, Smallway Tel 01934 832493				
Tenant		Peter Pike, Barbary Farm, Kenn Moor. Tel 01934 833574				
HER ref		47522				
Site type		Open field				
Description		Grass				
Period		Unknown				
Geology		Limestone				
Land use		None				
Survey team		Peter Wright, Unsal Hassan, Susan Dugas, Judy Sack, & Ian Morton				
Survey area		notes		readings		
		size	walk direction	max	min	mean
Grid ref #	16	30 x 30 m	N	+17.0	-100.0	-1.3
	17	30 x 30 m	N	+21.9	-16.9	+0.1
	18	30 x 30 m	N	+36.3	-14.0	+0.2
	19	30 x 30 m	N	+79.0	-100.0	-1.5
	20	Mirror & return Abandon grid	N	+9.9	-100.0	-11.9
	21	30 x 30 m	N	+3.5	-5.2	-0.5
	22	Mirror & return	N	+40.8	-6.7	-0.5
	23	Mirror & return	N	+7.3	-43.6	-0.8
	24	Mirror & return	N	+3.3	-100.0	-2.1
Summary		9 # grids completed Weather: light drizzle Survey completed				
Ian Morton 29/04/2010		Version 1				

