

**YCCART 2010 / Y24
North Somerset HER 2010/133**

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

General Editor: Vince Russett



The Grad 601 being handed over by the supplier. April 2009

Page	Contents
3	Abstract Acknowledgements Introduction
4	Site location Land use and geology
5	Historical & archaeological context
6	Survey objectives Methodology
7	Results
9	Recommendations for further work References
10	Appendix - Site record

Abstract

YCCCART has agreed with the Heritage Lottery Fund to undertake a project over two years commencing May 2009 to investigate the archaeology of Cadbury Hill Fort and its environs. As part of this project a section of a field in Silver Street drove was surveyed in advance of an agricultural barn being erected. No obvious feature were revealed but a Roman pottery kiln has been identified as a scatter of pottery wasters in an adjoining field (North Somerset HER 00383) and so it is recommended a full survey of the field is undertaken

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 landowners Mr David Edwards and Mrs Delia Edwards

The author is grateful for the hard work by the members of YCCCART in performing the survey and Vince Russett for editing this report.

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.

For further information on CANS, see <http://cansnetwork.co.uk>

Site location



Figure1: Site location

The site lies in the south east of the village of Congresbury, in North Somerset, some 12 miles south of Bristol, at ST 4340362872

The field is privately owned but can be viewed from the adjacent drove road.

Land use and geology

The geology is Carboniferous limestone, Keuper Marl and estuarine alluvium

The field is used for grazing.

Historical & archaeological context

The field is at the corner on field reference 707 on the 1839 Congresbury map. It is described in the 1840 Tithe apportionment as pasture called "Part of Moor Hill" owned by Sir Abraham Elton Bart and occupied by Thomas Wall



Fig 2: 1839 Map. Courtesy of Bristol Record Office BRO [37959/9](#). The line of the Wrington Vale railway (opened 1901) has been added at a later date.

To the north, in the field marked 580 on the plan, many sherds of recognisable Roman pottery wasters were discovered by Marie Clarke in the late 1970s, indicating that there is very likely the site of at least one pottery kiln in the field (North Somerset HER 00383).

Survey objectives

The survey had the following objectives.

- 1) To identify any archaeological features.
- 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 on 6th September 2010 by a YCCCART team 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

```
Processes:      4
1  Base Layer
2  Clip at 2.00 SD
3  Despike Threshold: 1 Window size: 3x3
4  DeStripe Median Traverse: Grids: All
```

The base layer adjustments were Band Weight Equaliser and Grad Shade

The report was written in Microsoft Word 2003.

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

Results

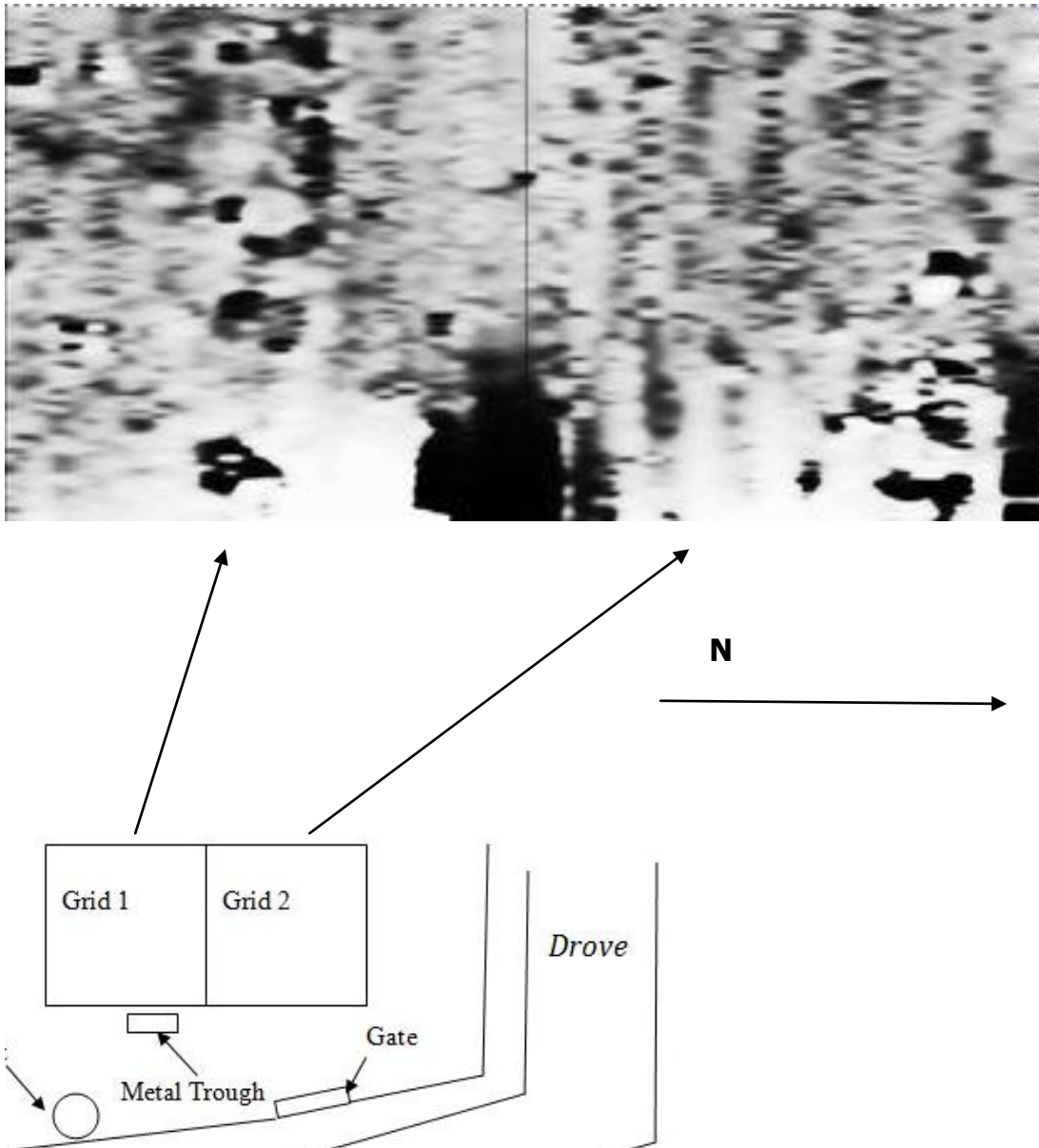


Fig 3: Shade view & plan

No obvious features are evident above. The bottom of the grids have been affected by the trough (lower centre) and gate (lower right).

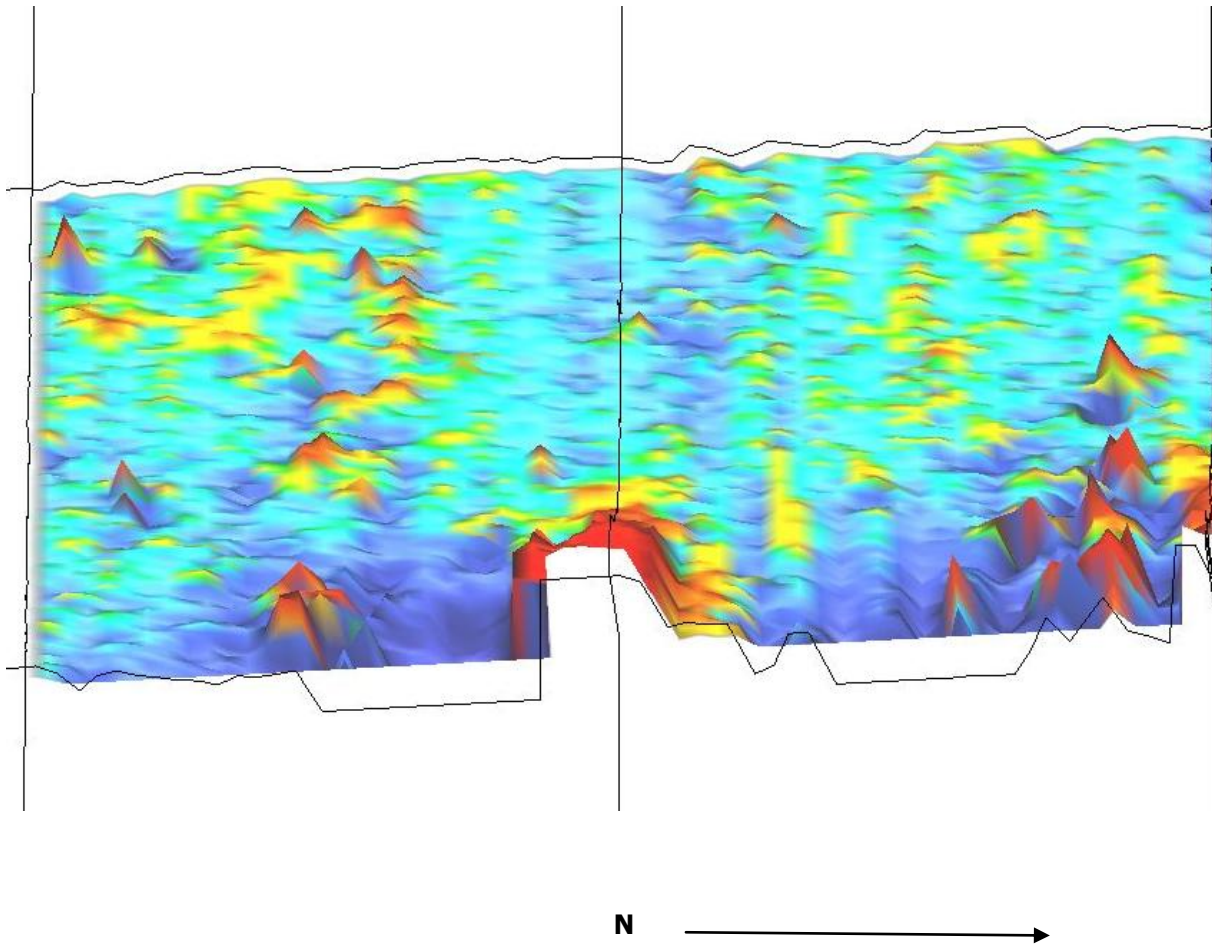


Fig 4: Axonometric view grids 2 & 4

Again no obvious features are evident above. The picture emphasises that the bottom of the grids have been affected by the trough (lower centre) and gate (lower right) .

Recommendations for further work

Although the current survey did not identify any significant archaeological features at the proposed site for the agricultural barn, the proximity in the next field of what is likely to be the site of a Roman pottery kiln suggests there is a high potential for other kilns in the current field.

It is therefore recommended that a gradiometry survey is undertaken of the rest of the current field.

References

Extract from Congresbury Tithe Map *BRO* [37959/9](#)

Author. Chris Short.

Date. September 2010

Appendix

Site record

YCCART Site Survey		Project – Congresbury Kilns				
Survey date		6 September 2010				
Report date		13 September 2010				
Type /Instrument		Grad 601				
		Pace : 1.5m/s Lines/m : 1 Range: 100nT Volume: High Sensors: 2		Grid size: 30m x 30m Pattern : Zig Zag Samples/m: 4 Audio: On Threshold: 1nT Reject: 50 Hz		
Location		Silver Street Drove, Congresbury				
		A = See below			B = See below	
Weather		Sunny and dry				
Ref						
Site name		Delia Edwards I				
Landowner		Mr David Edwards and Mrs Delia Edwards –				
Tenant		None				
HER ref						
Site type		Open field				
Description		Grass				
Period		Unknown				
Geology		Limestone				
Land use		grazing				
Survey team		Pete Wright, Pete English & Colin Campbell				
Survey area		notes		readings		
		size	walk direction	max	min	mean
Grids	1	30 x 30 m	W	+98.3	-100.0	+0.4
	2	30 x 30 m	W	+91.1	-46.5	+1.0
Summary		Survey completed NB Survey undertaken in advance of barn being constructed				
Pete English 13/09/2010		Version 1.0				

Setting out details



Location

