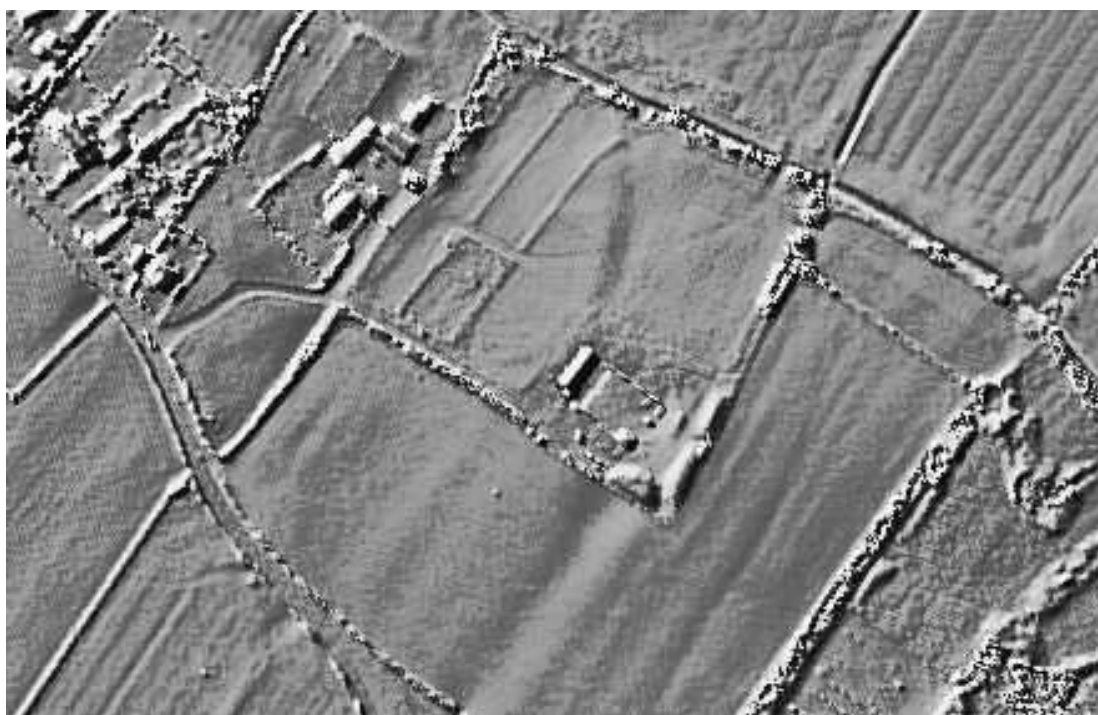


YCCART 2020/Y5

Geophysical survey at Burnt House Field, Northend, Yatton

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

General Editor: Vince Russett



Unusually, lidar was of little help here: the area has been ploughed for centuries

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Abstract

Geophysical survey at Burnt House Ground showed no significant archaeology. The cartographic history of the site over the past 200 years is complex.

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 G Burdge, and his agent, Mr F Malton.

The authors are grateful for the hard work by the members of YCCCART in performing the surveys 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 northern Somerset, formerly supported by the North Somerset Council Development Management Team.

Our objective is to undertake archaeological fieldwork to enable a better understanding and management of the heritage of the area while recording and publishing the activities and locations of the research carried out.

Site location



Fig 1: Location of survey

The site lies at ST 42216687, west of Chestnut Farm, in Northend, NW of Yatton. There are no recorded archaeological sites in the survey area and no statutory protections. The north-west end of the property is crossed by a major gas pipeline.

Land use and geology

The site lies on the north side of the 'Yatton ridge', which is primarily of Mercia Mudstones, overlain by periglacial Head deposits. At the north corner of the field, there is a small patch of alluvial deposits.

The north-east side of the field is marked by the Stowey Rhyne.

The current land use is as pasture: there is no public access to the site.

Historical & archaeological context

Bronze Age and later prehistoric material was found a few hundred metres west of the site, along with a large Roman and post-Roman cemetery in 2018-19 by Wessex Archaeology (as yet unpublished). Otherwise, there is no known prehistoric, Roman or early medieval activity within 300m of the survey site.

Chestnut Farm (immediately adjacent to the site) has a common right, and is therefore likely to be medieval in origin.

The field boundaries have had a complex history over the past 200 years.



Fig 2: Survey site in 1799 (SHC DD\SAS\C212\MAP\167)

The Stowey Rhyne (see Fig 2), which forms the north boundary of the site, is clearly an early feature in this landscape (all the other boundaries in the area respect it and use it as a terminal and are therefore later). It probably formed the edge of an earlier and larger Kenn Moor, with later enclosures moving further out into the lower ground.

An earthwork surveyed by YCCCART (this site, YCCCART 2017/Y4 see Fig 6: Inclosure succession) was probably a traditional milking area and / or flood refuge at this stage of enclosure.

Stowey Rhyne probably also functioned as a catchwater drain for the Yatton 'peninsula'.

In 1821, the fields were laid out thus (Fig 3 below)

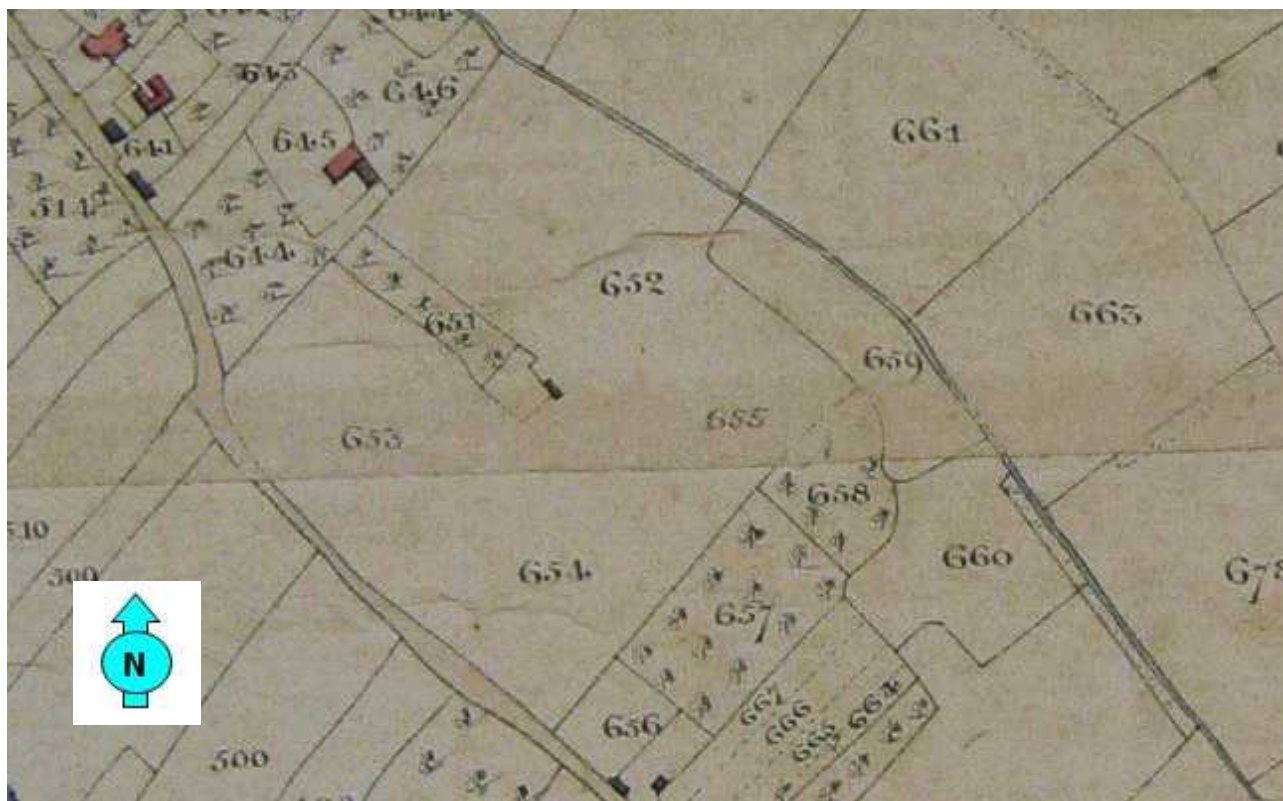


Fig 3: The area in 1821 (SHC D/P/yat/13/1/3)

and the key reads:

650	Geo. Penrose Seymour	Richard Bishop	Eight Acres	6.3.9	9.0.4
651	Ditto	Ditto	Orchard	0.2.33	1.7.2
652}	Ditto	Ditto}			
653}	Ditto	Ditto}	Burnt House Field	12.2.37	22.5.7
654}	Ditto	Ditto}			
655}	Ditto	Ditto}			
656	Chris. Young leasehold Under Governors of Queen Eliz. Hospital	Himself	Oxhouse, garden etc}	2.1.13	6.1.3
657	Ditto	Ditto	Clover Orchard }		
658	Ditto	Ditto	Lower Orchard	0.3.10	1.12.3
659	Geo. Penrose Seymour	Richard Bishop	Long Two Acres	1.2.5	2.6.8

The building in the centre of the fields is shown in grey, on this map, indicating it is an agricultural building, not a dwelling. In 1821, the name Burnt House seems to be only applied to the roadside field 653, and clearly predates 1821.

By the time of the Tithe Map (1840: Fig 4 below), fences and names have altered.

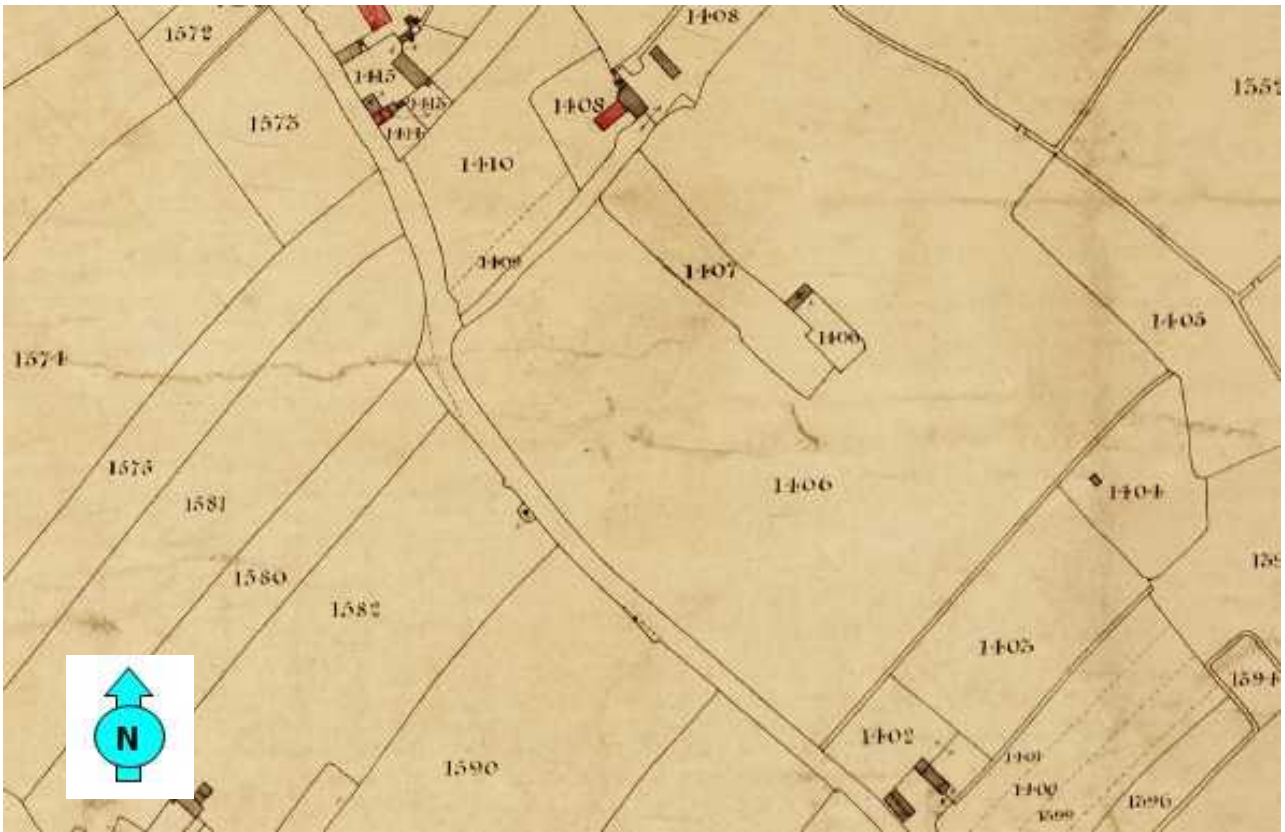


Fig 4: Fields in 1840 (Tithe Map SHC D/P/yat/3/2/9)

The Apportionment now reads:

No.	Owner	Occupier	Name
1405	G. T. Seymour, Esq.	Richard Bishop	Long 2 acres
1406	G. T. Seymour, Esq.	Richard Bishop	Burnt House Ground, oxhouse and barton
1407	G. T. Seymour, Esq.	Richard Bishop	Burnt House Orchard

Note also that the building seen on the 1821 map has gone, and been replaced by one at right angles to it. This is presumably the oxhouse referred to in the field name.

Successive OS plans show other buildings constructed at the site; by 1999, the roofs were falling in. A set of planning applications in the mid-2000s led to rebuilding into the complex now at the site.

Survey objectives

This survey was part of a large-scale geophysical survey of the landscape to the north of Northend, Yatton and in Kenn Moor.

Methodology

The survey of the fields was undertaken during the period 30 January to 27 February 2020 by teams from YCCCART using a Bartington 601-2 gradiometer.

The completed survey was downloaded to a TerraSurveyor programme and the resultant composite adjusted using the following filters:

Gradiometry

Colour - Red Blue Green 2

Band weight equaliser

Grad shade

Destriped

Despiked

Clip SD2

The report was written in Libre Office 5 Writer.

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

Results

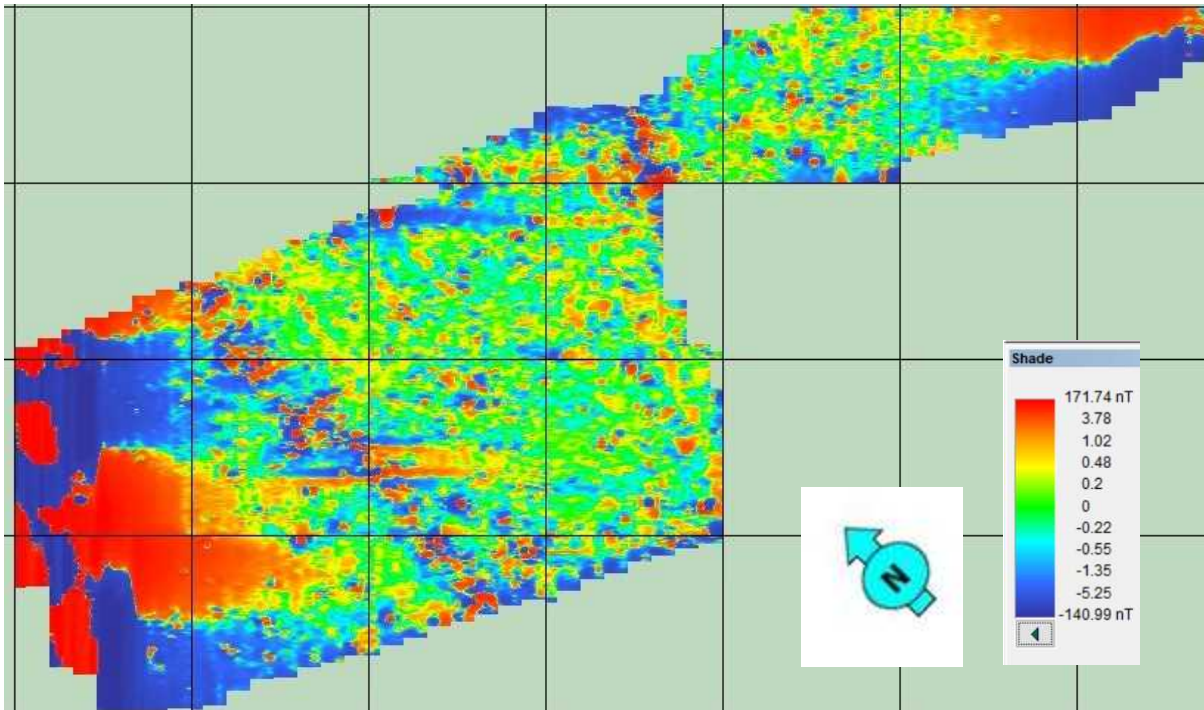


Fig 3: Results (colour)

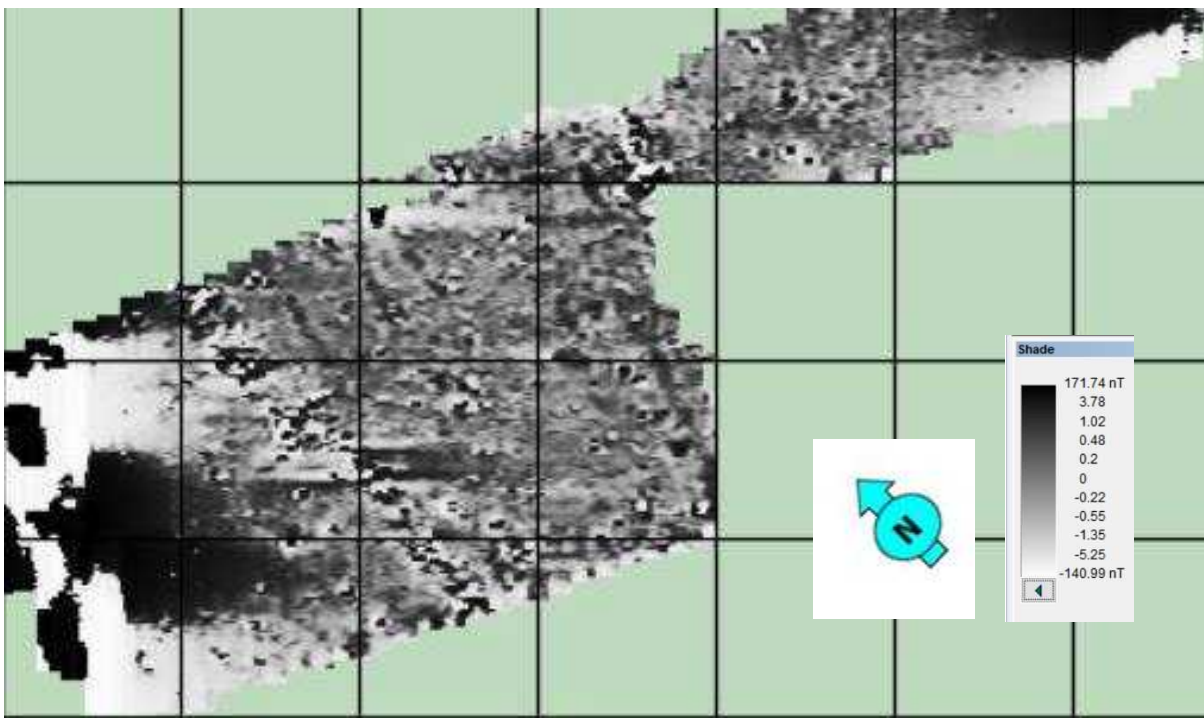


Fig 4: Results (monochrome)

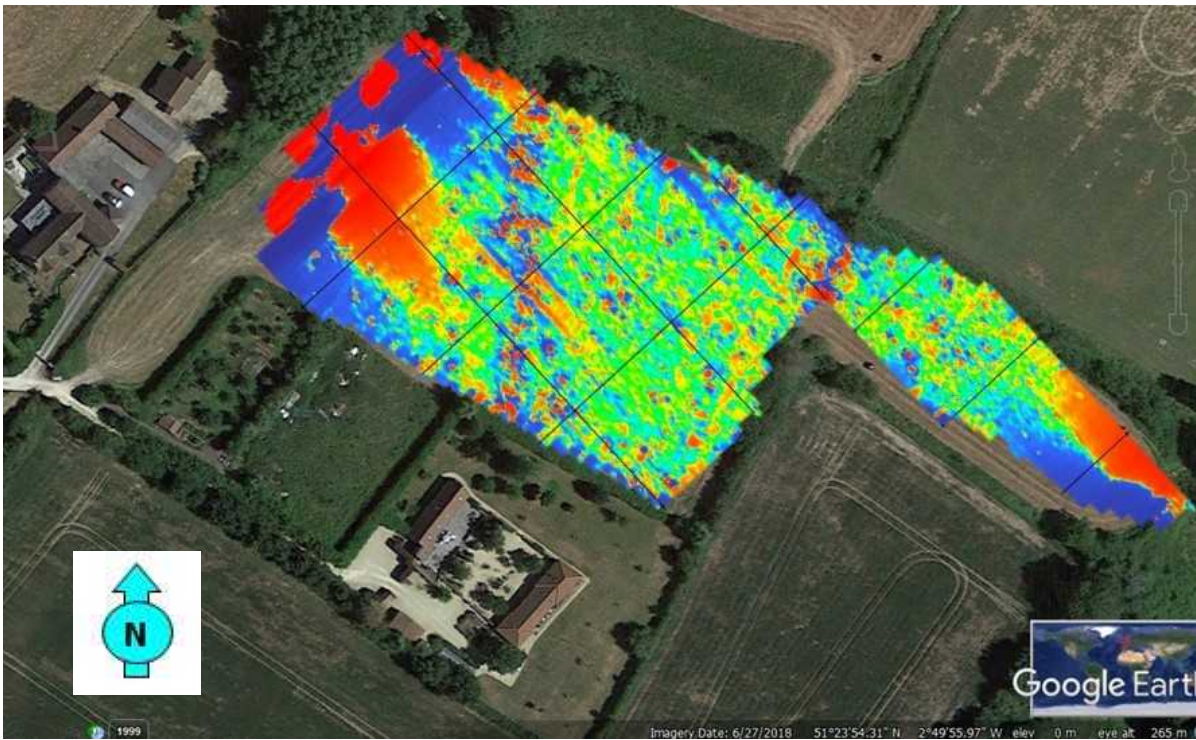


Fig 5: Results with Google Earth



Fig 6: Results with Google Earth

Unfortunately, the results here are a little unspectacular.

Huge readings at both north-west and south-east ends of the survey are due to the presence of gas pipes, dating to c 1984 and c 2000.

The promising linear feature running north-south across the large field is a former field boundary recorded on the 1799 map (Fig 2 above) which was removed before 1821 (Fig 3 above). The same applies to the linear result at the north-east corner of the larger field.

The parallel features running in the same direction as the old field boundary (best seen in the monochrome results) are almost certainly of agricultural origin, perhaps ploughing marks or old orchard furrows.

The 'Burnt House' name remains an enigma. It had obviously happened before 1821 (hence the name was known then). It MAY be the building shown on the 1799 map, but this cannot currently be known without further work.

Recommendations for further work

No further work required

Authors

Vince Russett with Chris Short

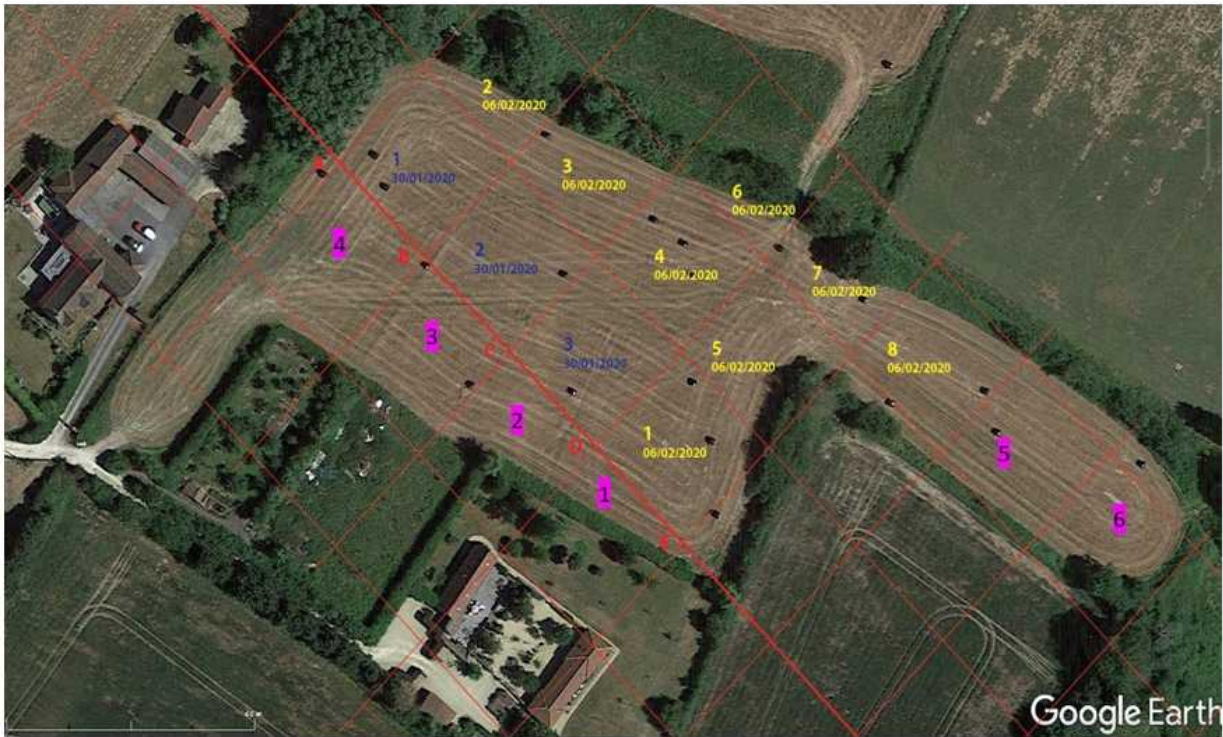
Date

2020-03-16

Appendix 1

YCCART Site Survey						
Project – <u>Burdge 6</u>						
Survey date		27 February 2020				
Report date		27 February 2020				
Type /Instrument		Grad 601				
		Pace :1.4m/s Lines/m: 1 Range:100nT Volume: High Sensors:2	Grid size: 30m x30m Pattern : Zig Zag Samples/m:4 Audio: On Threshold:30nT Reject:50 Hz			
Location		Yatton Moor				
Ref		none				
Site name		<u>Burdge 6</u>				
Landowner		<u>Mr G Burdge</u>				
Tenant						
HER ref						
Site type		Grass				
Description		Open field surrounded by hedges and further open fields				
Period						
Geology						
Land use		Grazing				
Survey team and conditions						
30/01/2020	Team	Janet, Arthur, Pete W, Ferdie, Philippa				
	Weather	Dry, overcast, very wet underfoot				
06/02/2020	Team	Janet, Arthur, Pete W, Ferdie, Philippa, Ian				
	Weather	Sunny, frosty underfoot				
27/02/2020	Team	Pete E, Pete W, <u>Ferdie</u> , Ian				
	Weather	Bright but grass very wet				
Survey area		notes		readings		
Date	Grid number	size	walk direction	max	min	mean
30/01/2020	Setting out base line and 1 row of grids					
	1	30 x 30 Over main gas pipe	NE	+100	-100	-20.4
	2	30 x 30	NE	+75.2	-29.2	+1.0
	3	30 x 30	NE	+5.4	-48.5	+1.4
06/02/2020	1	30 x 30 M & R last 2 <u>tray</u> – wire fence	NE	+24.0	-100	+1.6
	2	Partial M & R Gas pipe!	NE	+100	-100	-1.3
	3	Partial M & R	NE	+51.3	-43.8	+2.1
	4	30 x 30 M & R 1 st <u>tray</u> only	NE	+81.6	-16.0	+1.7
	5	Partial M & R	NE	+72.3	-55.6	+0.8
	6	Partial M & R	NE	+99.3	-76.1	-1.5
	7	Partial M & R	NE	+100	-91.2	-0.1
	8	Partial M & R last few <u>tray</u> full	NE	+88.3	-99.8	-1.0
27/02/2020	1	30 x30m but all 6 grids mirror and return	SW	+17.3	-50.2	-1.5
	2		SW	+45.1	-97.8	+0.4
	3		SW	+80.6	-37.6	-2.4
	4		SW	+100	-100	-18.3
	5		SW	+5.2	-100	-45.4
	6		SW	-0.0	-33.2	-7.7

Burdge 6 Grids



NB. 27 Feb 2020 grids = █

Setting out detail – main grid

Position A - 7.8m to white mark 1 & 9.5m to white mark 2

Position E – 3.5m to white mark 1 & 5.6 to white mark 2

Position of quiet spot

E 342197.64

N 166884.28

