

ANCIENT MONUMENTS LABORATORY GEOPHYSICS SECTION

REPORT ON MAGNETOMETER SURVEY

SURVEY: Shortlanesend, Kenwyn, nr Truro

DATE: 14th March, 1978

Report no. 14/78

1. SITE

OS grid reference: SW 805475

Field no. -

Location: A small earthwork on the W side of Shortlanesend village.

Geology: Devonian sandstone

Archaeological evidence: An irregular enclosure is formed by the field boundaries with a bank across the field on the S side.

2. SURVEY

Object: To locate any archaeological features within the enclosure and to test for a ditch next to the bank on the S side.

(a) Magnetic survey

Type of survey: automatic plotting with chart recorder.

Magnetometer: Ilessey fluxgate Range: 0-300 γ

Initial chart recorder settings - Y: 40 γ/cm
X: 1:200 scale

Logged for computing: ~~yes~~/no

(b) Other tests

(i) Magnetic susceptibility:

topsoil: 401 subsoil: -- fill: - $\times 10^{-6}$ emu/gm
(ac bridge readings)

(ii) -

Survey grid measured to: field boundaries and trees. See plan 1.

Plans/charts enclosed:

1. Location of survey, 1:500
2. Chart showing magnetometer traces, 1:200, with interpretation.

3. RESULTS

The plot of the magnetometer traverses (plan 2) shows strong magnetic disturbance with a number of features of probable archaeological significance.

The surviving bank enclosing the site on the S corresponds to a pronounced depression across the chart (labelled A) with positive magnetic anomalies to each side of it (B and C). A comparatively non-magnetic bank of stone with a silted ditch to its S might give this response. The anomaly to the N (B) is weaker and may be caused simply by earth silted against the side of the bank.

Some of the more significant of the remaining anomalies are indicated on the chart. They include features which may be ditches or depressions, which are marked by dotted lines and labelled (D-K), and more distinct local anomalies (solid outlines). The bank and outer ditch form a boundary to the visible magnetic activity and these features all lie inside the enclosure.

The most conspicuous of the ditches outlined is D, which curves across the survey in an E-W direction and may also form part of an enclosure. Within this ditch are four anomalies lying roughly parallel to the traverses in a N-S direction (E-H on chart) at a spacing of 5-5½ metres. This has the appearance of a cultivation pattern. Such slight features are not always visible in a magnetic survey but in this case the very high susceptibility value of the topsoil means that even very shallow depressions with an earth fill might be detectable. None of these features extends S of the bank but they may be enclosed by the ditch D. Anomalies J and K between the inner ditch D and the bank could be extensions of F and G but continuity is uncertain.

The other magnetic anomalies circled on the chart might represent occupation features such as pits but they do not in themselves form any clearly recognisable plan which could be identified as a settlement.

Surveyed and reported by: A. Bartlett

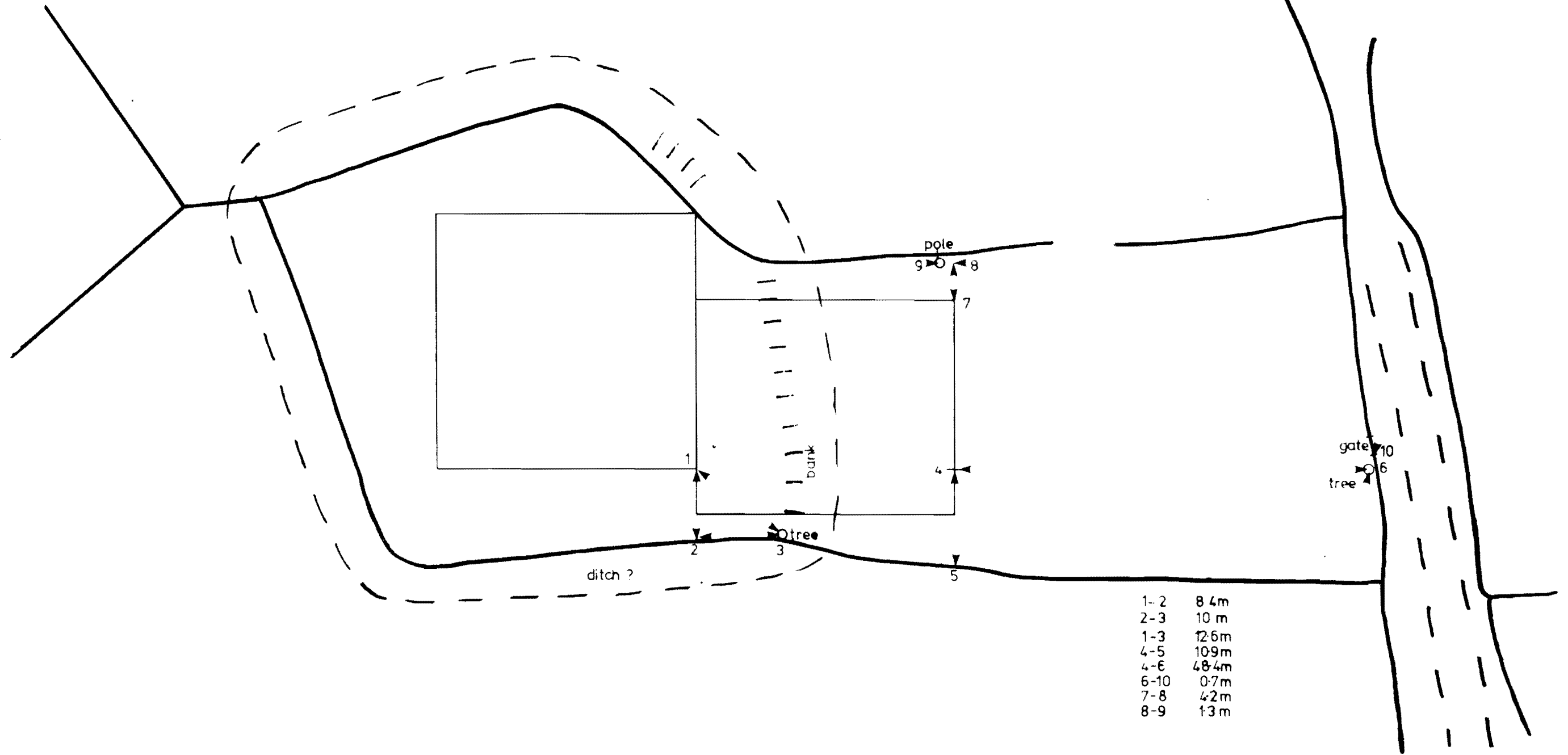
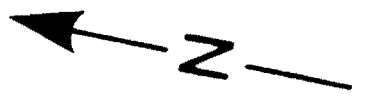
with: G. McDonnell

For: N. Johnson

Date of report: 16th June, 1978

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1-2	8.4m
2-3	10 m
1-3	12.6m
4-5	10.9m
4-6	48.4m
6-10	0.7m
7-8	4.2m
8-9	1.3 m

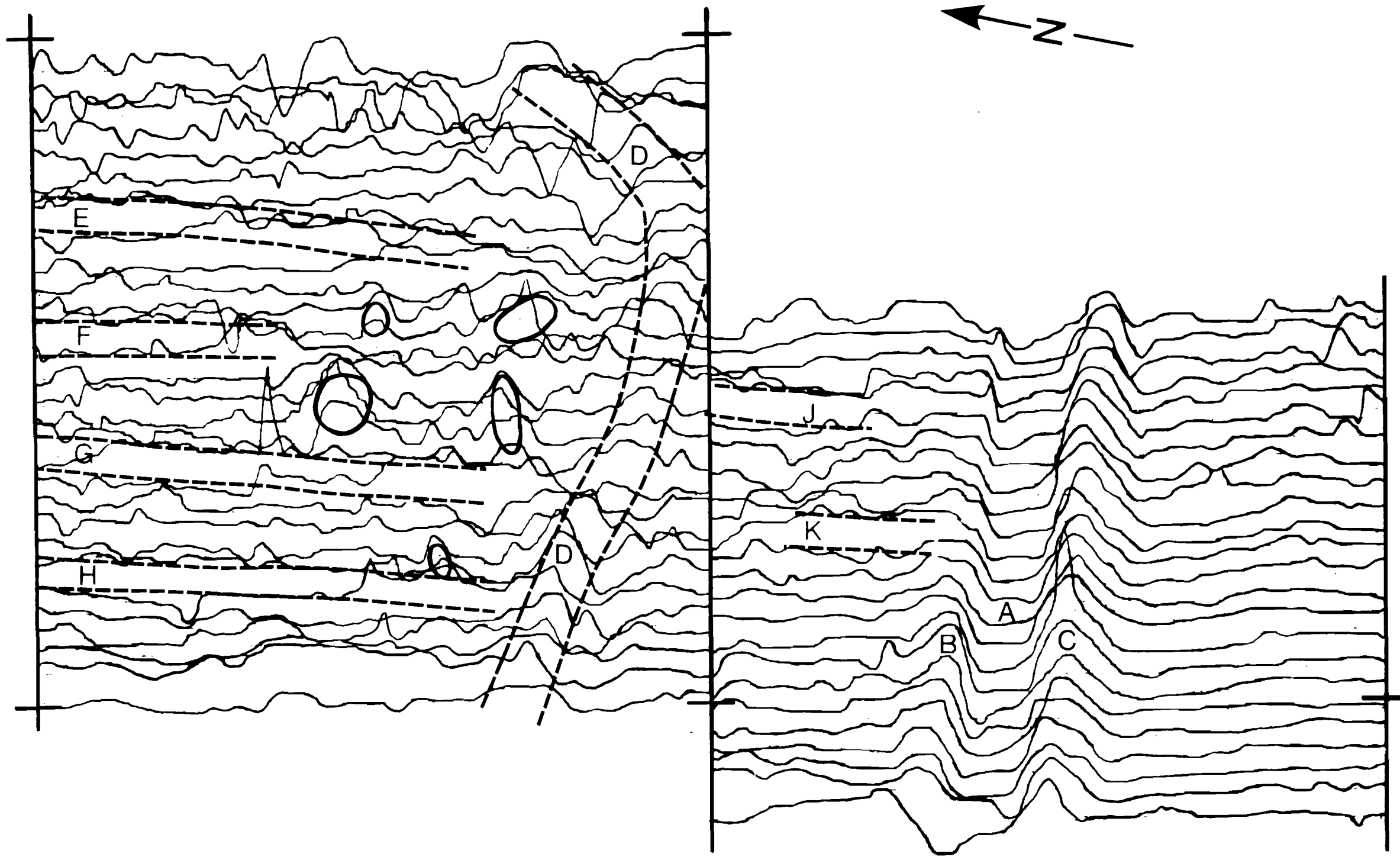
SHORTLANEEND

MAGNETOMETER SURVEY
Location

Survey no. 14/78



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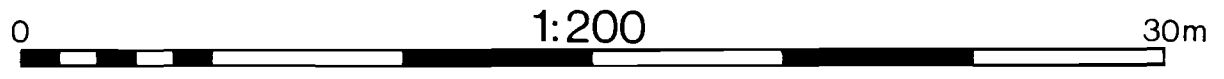


SHORTLANESEND

MAGNETOMETER SURVEY

+ grid pegs

--- magnetic anomalies
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