DALLADIES, SCOTLAND

MAGNETOMETER SURVEY, 1973

Nature of the Site

The site forms part of a raised river terrace from which gravel is presently being extracted. It is bounded by a low escarpment which falls away to the N and at the time of the survey was enclosed by spoil heaps from previous gravel diggings to the SE and SW.

Excavations 5 of the present site have indicated a complex system of intersecting ditches of varying size. There were remains of fires but no clear signs of occupation.

Object of the Survey

This was to detect whether any possibly similar archaeological remains extend over the remainder of the site. The readings were taken with the fluxgate gradiometer and automatic plotting system. The results are presented as a computer produced dot-density plot.

Results

A number of magnetic anomalies of possible archaeological significance were found. The major ones are outlined in red on one copy of the plot.

A number of the anomalies probably indicate ditches. They include the substantial linear features 1-3 and the curved one, 4 , which may represent ditches 1-2 metres wide. There is also the long curving feature 5. This is less distinct but follows the line of the escarpment and may mark a boundary ditch enclosing the site. The anomaly becomes weaker as it is followed to the E but possibly continues at 6.

Anomalies 7-10 are less extensive and show more intense magnetic disturbance. They could be locations where there has been burning.

In addition to those marked in red a series of parallel linear anomalies numbered 11-14 cross the site. Their straightness and regularity suggests that they are of recent origin and may be land drains. No. 12 corresponds particularly clearly with ridges visible on the ground.

A number of other anomalies which are likely to represent pits or similar features are also marked.

Conclusions

The area of archaeological interest appears to be bounded by the curved feature 5-6. Within this area is a concentration of probable pits and ditches, some perhaps containing burnt remains.

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The ditches which were located may form a true pattern but it is possible that, because this site gives only rather weak magnetic contrasts, smaller features were not detectable.

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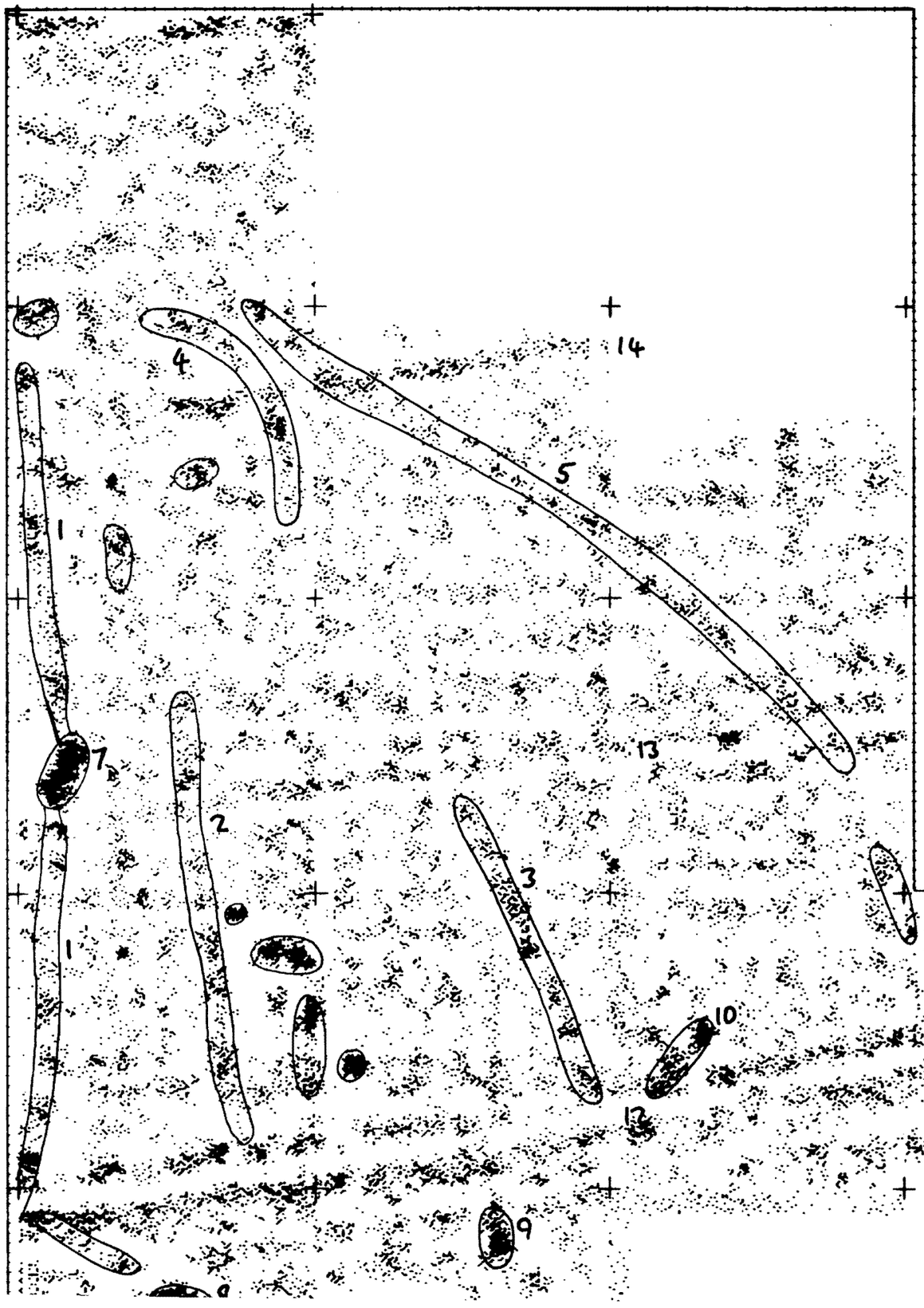
Magnetometer Survey



N (approx)

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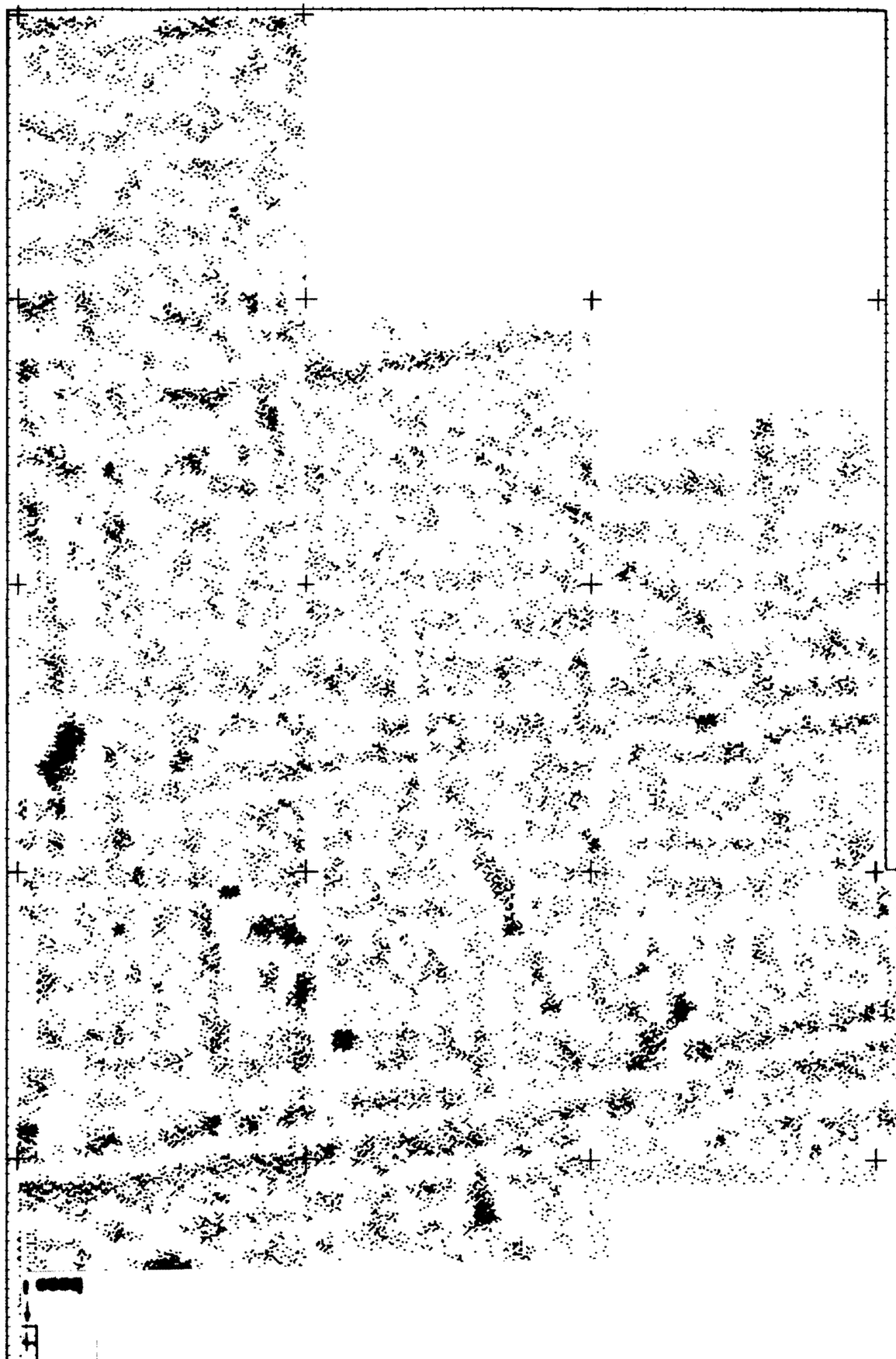
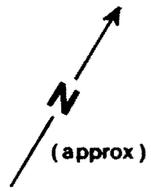
Dalladies

Magnetometer Survey





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