

ANCIENT MONUMENTS LABORATORY GEOPHYSICS SECTION

REPORT ON MAGNETOMETER SURVEY

**SURVEY:** CLEAVEL POINT (2)

**DATE:** 1 - 23.5.79

**Report no.** 6/79

**1. SITE**

**OS grid reference:** SY 996 860

**Field no.** 0519

**Location:** the northern side of an headland area between estuarine marsh-flats on the south side of Poole harbour.

**Geology:** Eocene Sands

**Archaeological evidence:** expected continuation of spread of archaeological features detected during magnetometer survey in 1978 - report G 27/78.

**2. SURVEY**

**Object:** to plan the location of archaeological features in this field.

**(a) Magnetic survey**

**Type of survey:** automatic

**Magnetometer:** fluxgate **Range:** 100 **y**

**Initial chart recorder settings - Y:** 16 **y/cm**  
**X:** 1:200 **scale**

**Logged for computing:** yes/no

**(b) Other tests**

**(i) Magnetic susceptibility:**

**topsoil:** 51.4-119.2 **subsoil:** 218.6 **fill:** 1000+ **x10<sup>-6</sup> emu/gm**  
field 8891 field 0797 burnt soil - **(ac bridge readings)**

**(ii)** F178 in field 0797.

results from detailed sampling traverse: to follow.

**Survey grid measured to:** field boundaries, and archaeologist's baseline.

**Plans/charts enclosed:**

- 1 - location plan
- 2 - magnetometer traces
- 3 - location of magnetic features detected so far, (1:2500)

### 3. RESULTS

The survey coverage of 1978 was further extended in March this year to cover the greater part of field no. 8509. As expected, buried features are extensive, and these are outlined on the magnetometer traces reproduced on plan 2. Plan 3 illustrates on the 25" OS map the major anomalies recorded to date at Cleavel Point.

As noted elsewhere, the magnetic response of the soils here is very strong, and this has resulted in the clear identification of a system of ditched enclosures and trackways in field no. 8509. This archaeological activity is clearly confined to the southern and eastern half of the field. There is an alignment of very weak anomalies running through sqs. 57, 58 and 59 which may tentatively suggest an outlying enclosure, but apart from this and slight disturbance in the southern part of sq. 55 which may be no more than fortuitous soil noise, the northern half of the field is undisturbed.

The arrangement of ditches suggests a series of semi-enclosed or partially defined rectangular areas separated or approached by narrower 'trackways' or entrances. The pattern appears to be adjoining and rectilinear with a ditch running east-west and detected at the very southern edge of the survey area. It is tempting to believe that this is part of a substantial road or trackway running approximately along the line of the present hedge and along which the enclosures and subsidiary ditches are set.

Apart from the main ditch system, portions of less substantial linear anomalies have been detected along with a large number of anomalies varying from discrete features such as pits and kilns to more amorphous areas of general magnetic disturbance. The latter areas, such as in sqs. 68, 76 and 84, are difficult, if not impossible, to resolve into a pattern and may contain any of the elements of localized industrial and/or occupational activity. Over much of the area in and around the enclosures there is a spread of slight and apparently incoherent archaeological 'noise' which defies accurate discrimination.

In contrast to this are the very strong and clearly defined anomalies which almost certainly result from industrial activity to the site. Three such anomalies in sq. 82 were tested by augering and all produced burnt soil (including variously burnt, clay, sand and charcoal) at depths below 35 cms. These at least, then, are likely to be kilns or similar structures (indicated by K on plan 2) and the same interpretation is probable for similar anomalies elsewhere on the site. This activity seems to be generally focussed on the four sqs. 75, 76, 82 and 83, and is no doubt responsible for the strong magnetic enhancement of the ditches here. It is worth noting that one of the kilns in sq. 82 lies right in the middle of the access to the double-ditched central enclosure, suggesting separate periods of activity.

### 4. CONCLUSIONS

The survey in this field has defined a clear boundary to the archaeological activity to the north-west of the site. The arrangement of the anomalies has much in common with the layout of ditches and enclosures detected last year and further evidence for widespread industrial activity has been found. It is becoming increasingly probable that the entire site has grown more or less systematically around a pattern of 'arterial' ditches producing a very substantial complex of 'village-like' proportions.

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S. Dunmore.

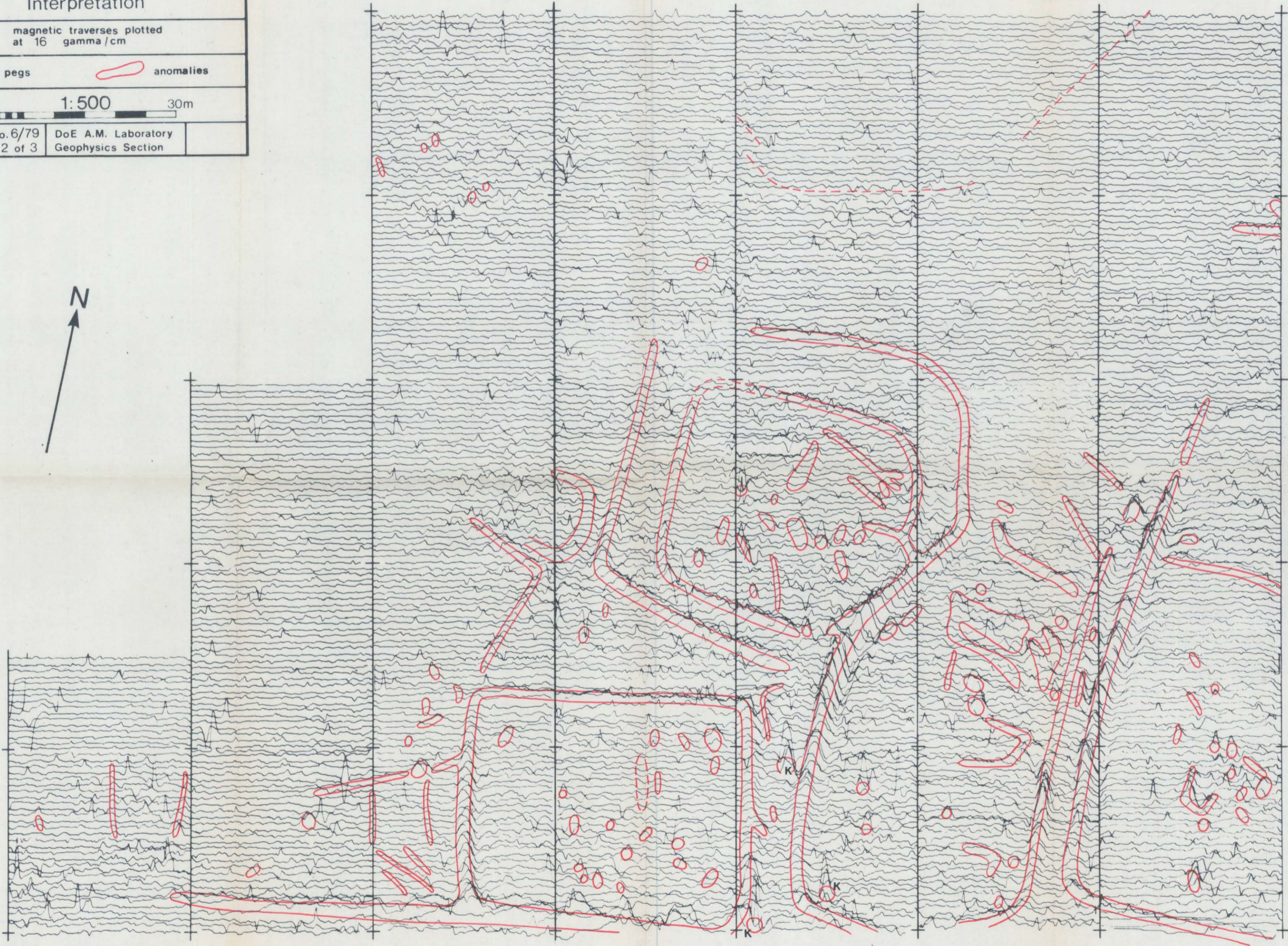
**Date of report:** 11.10.79

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CLEAVEL POINT	
MAGNETOMETER SURVEY	
Interpretation	
magnetic traverses plotted at 16 gamma/cm	
+ grid pegs	○ anomalies
Survey no. 6/79 Plan no. 2 of 3	DoE A.M. Laboratory Geophysics Section

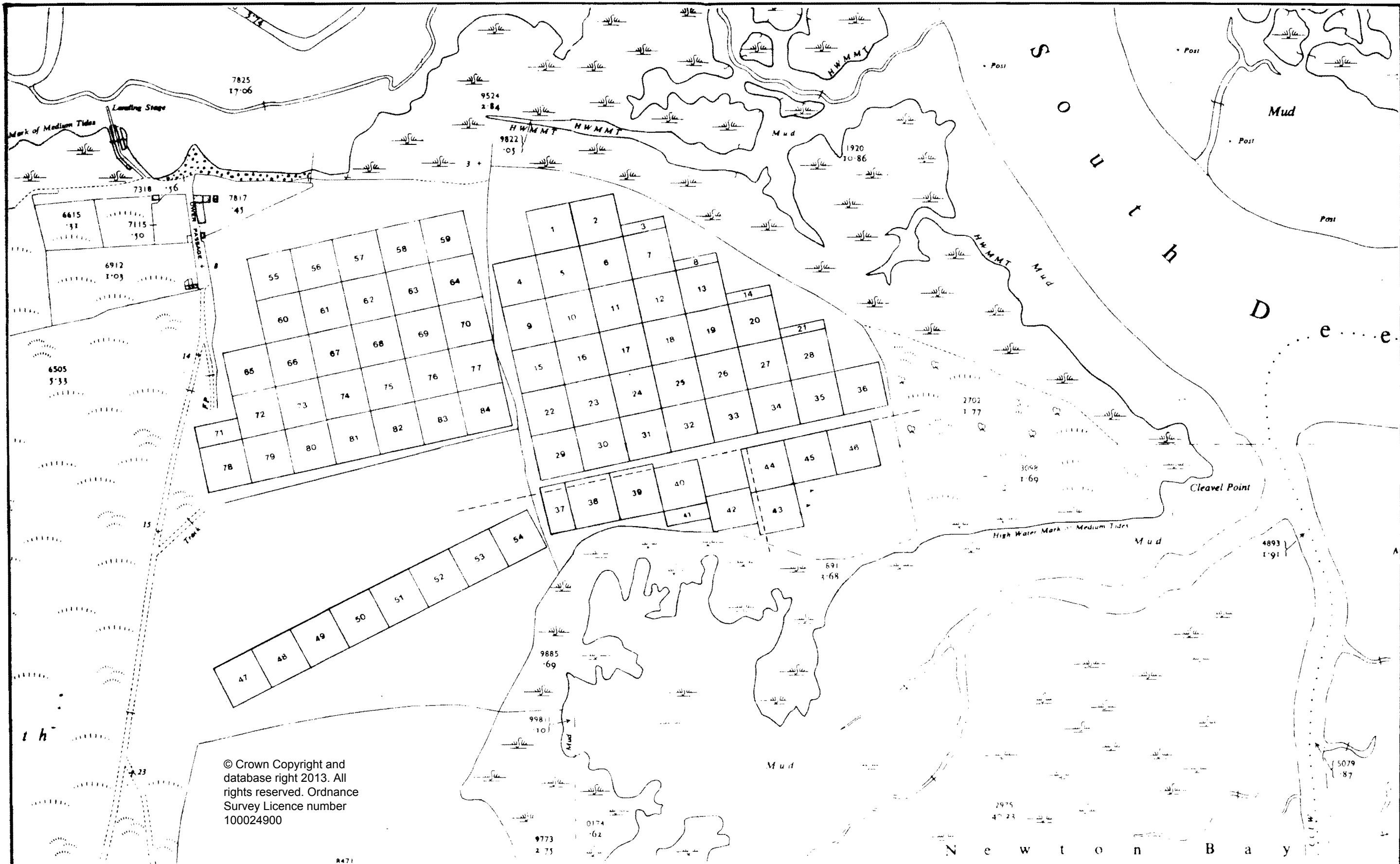






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<p>Survey no. 6 79 Plan no. 3 of 3</p>	<p>CLEAVEL POINT</p>	<p>NG ref. SZ 002 860</p>
<p>1:2500 OS sheets</p> <p>SY 9986 SY 9985 SZ 0085 SZ 0086</p>	<p>MAGNETOMETER SURVEY</p>	 <p>anomalies</p>
<p>0 1:2500 200m</p> 		<p>DoE Ancient Monuments Laboratory Geophysics Section</p>



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Survey no. 6 79  
Plan no. 1 of 3

Survey no. SY 9986  
1:2500 OS sheets SY 9985  
SZ 0085  
SZ 0086

CLEAVEL POINT

MAGNETOMETER SURVEY  
Location

NG ref. SZ 002 860

1 magnetometer squares



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Geophysics Section