

Interpretation and comments on British Gas Corporation Magnetometer survey, 1981.

This survey, undertaken by the BGC in May 1981, covers an area of proposed installations associated with the Corporation's well-drilling operations. The site lies on sands of the Eocene Bagshot Beds on the east side of a small peninsula on the southern edge of Poole Harbour.

The area was surveyed with a fluxgate magnetometer and automatic recording system on a 25 x 30 metre grid as shown on the accompanying 1:2500 plan. Also included are copies of the magnetometer traces, plotted at 1:200 with a vertical scale of 10 gammas/cm. The latter were submitted to this laboratory for independent assessment, and accordingly some of the main archaeological features have been outlined on these in red.

Archaeological activity seems to be confined to the northern edge of the survey with a marked concentration in areas 20, 24, 28, 30, and 32, 27, 29 and 31. Weak features appear to be present in 4, 8, 12, and 16, but the bulk of the remainder of the survey apparently contains no significant anomalies. The outlines indicated on the traces are not meant to be exhaustive - only the main structure of the site is shown and the more isolated features within and separate from the main concentration.

Most apparent is part of what may be an oval-shaped enclosure in the NE part of the survey (28, 30, 32, 27, 29 and 31). This seems fairly clearly delineated by one or more encompassing ditches with the suggestion of an entrance and approach from the west. All the ground within this enclosure is likely to contain archaeological features although only the most distinct of these have been indicated. The strongest owe their intensity to the presence of past industrial activity and almost certainly include kilns (K on plan), and pits with accumulations of burnt soil, briquetage and/or wasters. These cluster in areas 28, 30 and 32 where the size and overlap of the anomalies is too great to allow an exact pattern to be recognized. Within the remainder of the enclosure, anomalies are more subdued and could belong to related features or settlement. Soil susceptibility in this area is very high (117×10^{-6} emu/gm.) and consequently soil noise is also exaggerated, again obscuring patterns. Settlement features may exist, although features such as middens, masonry and post-holes cannot be resolved.

Areas 4, 8, 12 and 16 show much less intense activity, but faint features, including portions of ditch, are visible. The sharp positive and negative peaks are reactions to pieces of iron the distribution of which may be related to the archaeological remains.

CONCLUSIONS

The site closely resembles in nature parts of the large complex of industrial and related remains located by this laboratory's surveys at the adjacent site at Cleavel Point.

Archaeological features of one or more periods would appear to have a focus within an enclosure at the eastern extremity of the site, where ancient industrial activity has given the soil exaggerated magnetic values. Soil magnetic susceptibility falls off from this area becoming negligible to the SW

cont/

where the greater part of the survey is very quiet. Although it is very improbable that features exist in these quiet areas it is possible that a lack of enhancement from burning processes makes magnetic detection here unsatisfactory.

A. David.

1st. June. 1981.

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Magnetic susceptibility values for samples taken at:

SW corner of area 2	-	0	X 10 ⁻⁶ emu/gm.
" " " " 10	-	0	"
" " " " 18	-	1	"
" " " " 26	-	2	"
" " " " 8	-	4	"
" " " " 16	-	26	"
" " " " 24	-	23	"
" " " " 30	-	117	"
SE " " " 32	-	88	"

989

991

992

993

994

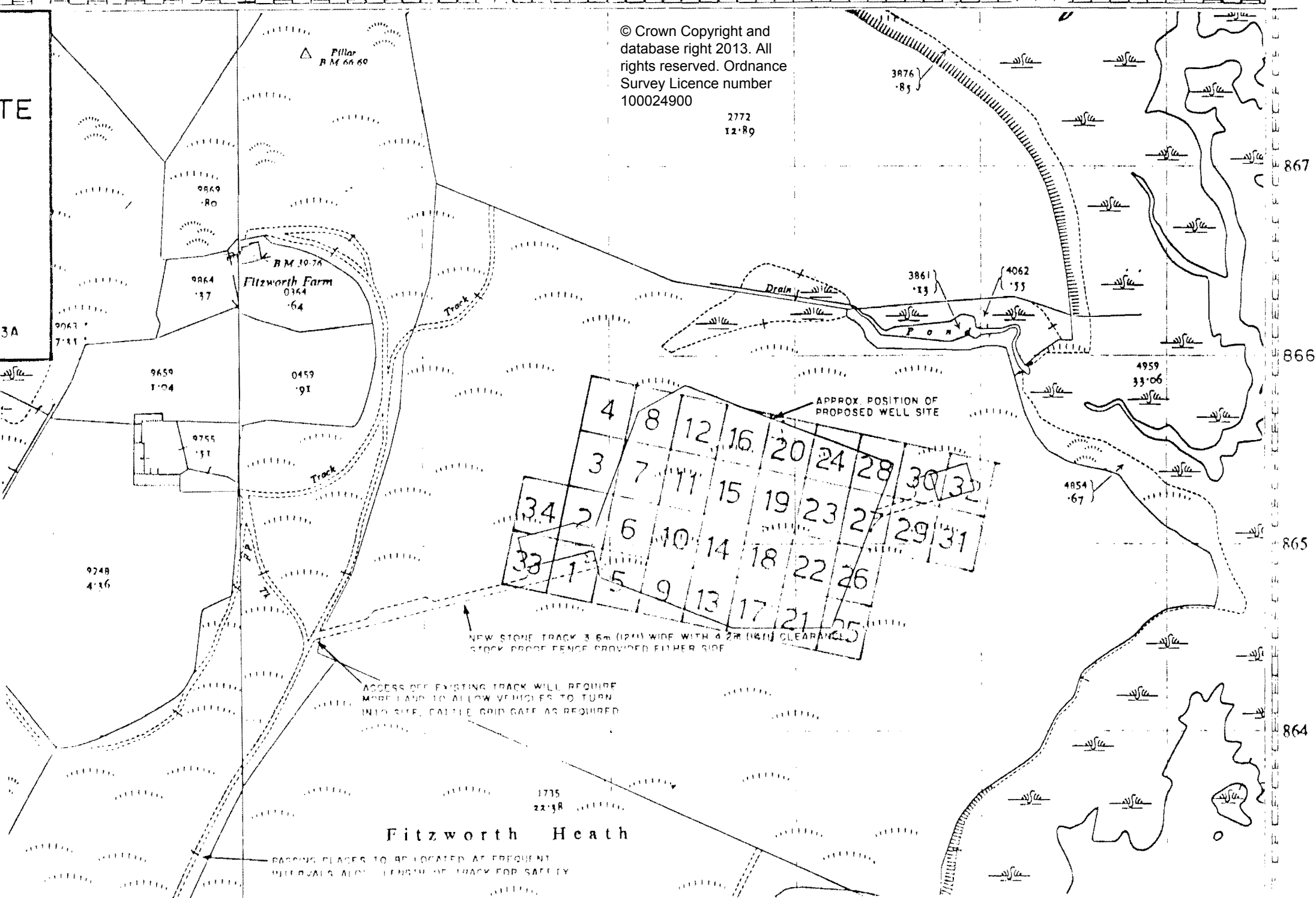
995

TE

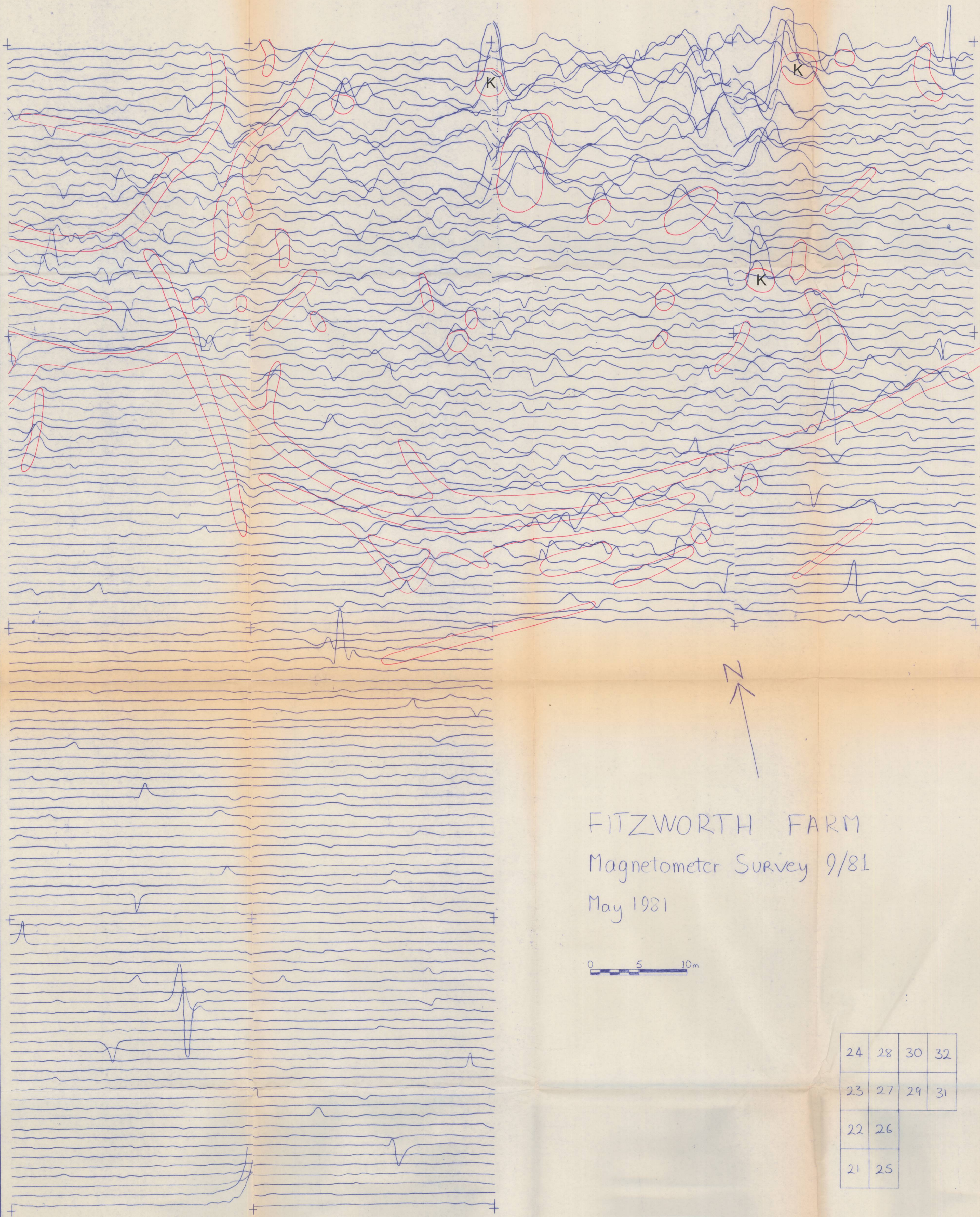
3A

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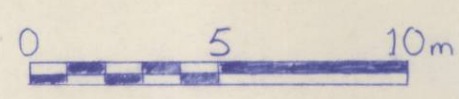
2772
12.89



DRG N°



FITZWORTH FARM
Magnetometer Survey 9/81
May 1981



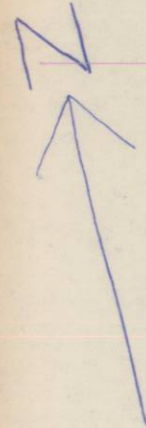
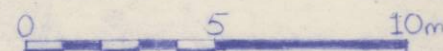
24	28	30	32
23	27	29	31
22	26		
21	25		

ALL DIMENSIONS IN MILLIMETRES
UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED
DO NOT SCALE
IF IN DOUBT ASK

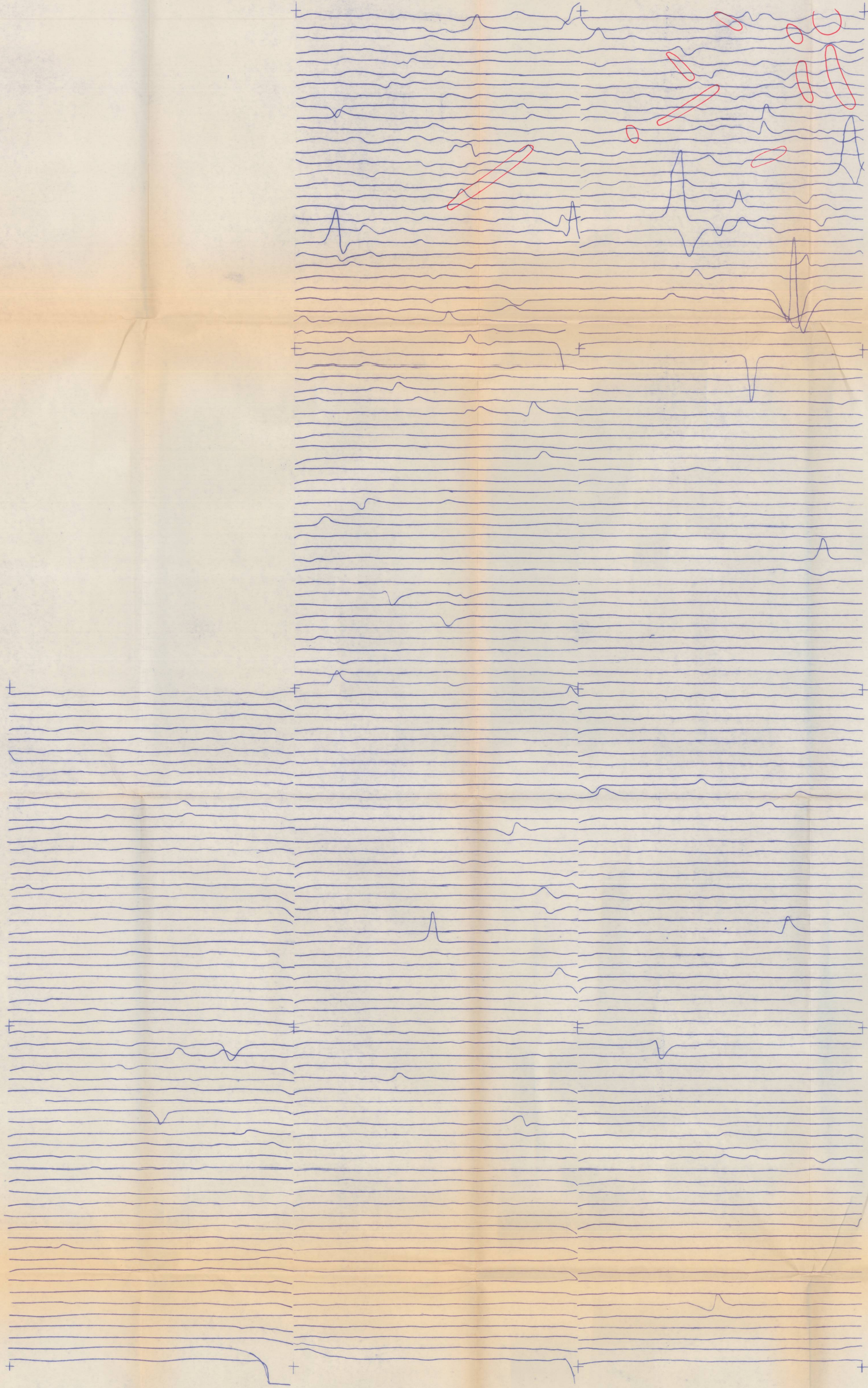
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FITZWORTH. FARM
Magnetometer Survey 9/81
May 1981



	4	8
	3	7
34	2	6
33	1	5



ALL DIMENSIONS IN MILLIMETRES
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