

Plan enclosed - magnetometer traces (1 : 400) and location (1 : 2500)

Date of survey - 4/8/83

The survey area covers that part of the proposed road route to the south of the present A 413 west of Amersham, closest to a metal detector find of Roman bronze bowls and sceptre head (see location plan). The purpose of the survey was to attempt to locate any archaeological features on the route that might be related to the find. A 30 m grid was laid out and 30 m traverses surveyed over it at 1 m intervals with fluxgate gradiometer and field recording system. The magnetometer traces are reproduced on the plan enclosed.

The soil background is magnetically rather noisy with frequent and often intense interference from modern iron (eg in areas 10 and 11), and it is possible that weakly magnetic or small features have been obscured. Also, remains of buildings or of burials are unlikely to have been detected owing to their poor magnetic properties. However, topsoil magnetic susceptibility, at 46×10^{-8} SI Units/kg., over a chalky subsoil, suggests that conditions for magnetic detection here are good, and consequently the general absence of conspicuous anomalies implies that there has been little or no substantial archaeological disturbance. Possible significant anomalies have been outlined in colour on the plan, but only that in square 1, perhaps a pit, may be of any significance.

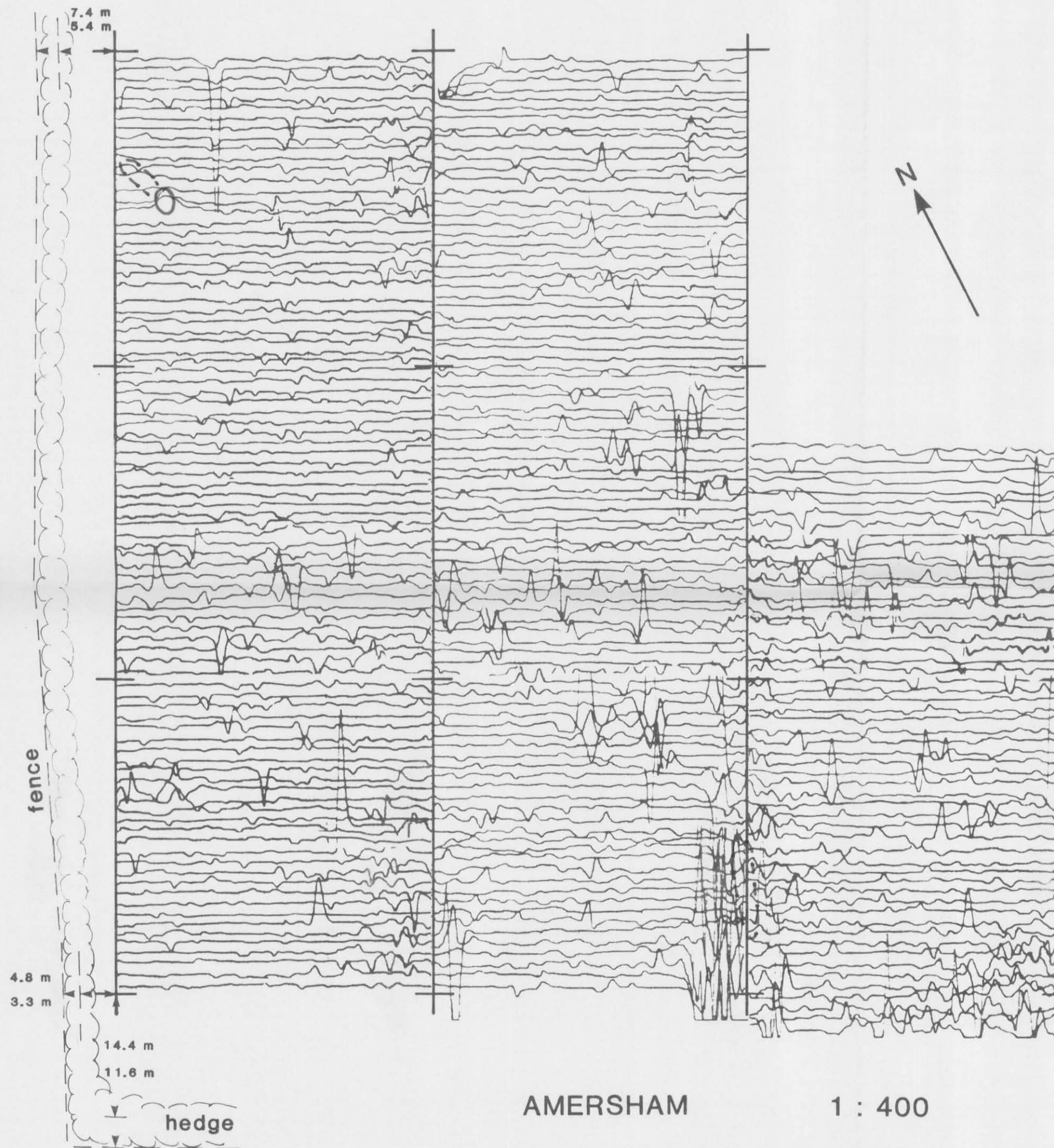
Some confidence is given to this rather negative evidence by its contrast to the more positive results obtained by a similar survey (although over a more alluvial subsoil) some 400 m away to the north of the main road (AML Geophysics report no. G 11/82).

Surveyed and reported by: A. David.
with: D. Bolton.

31/8/84

for: Bucks. County Museum
A. Fleming.

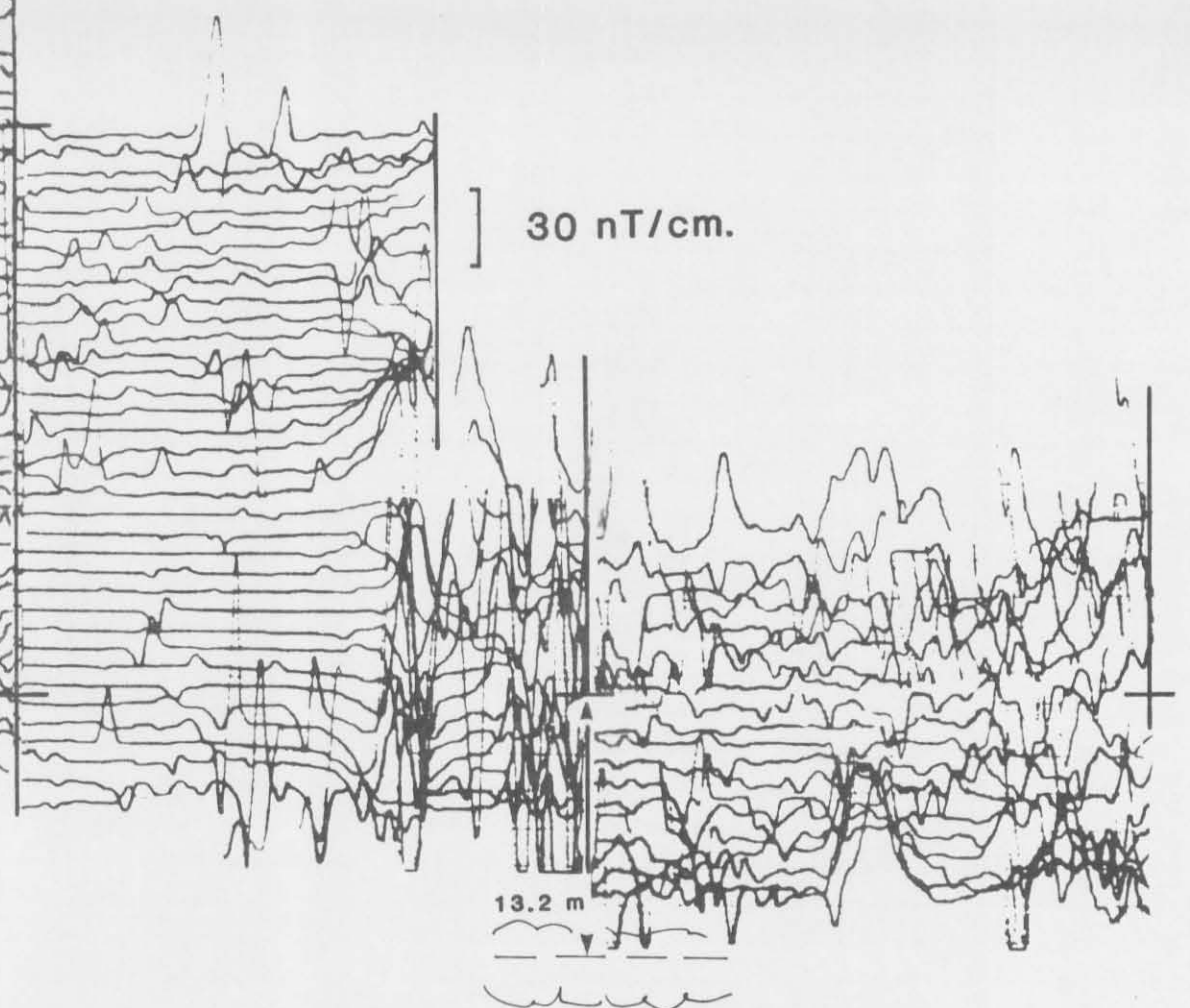
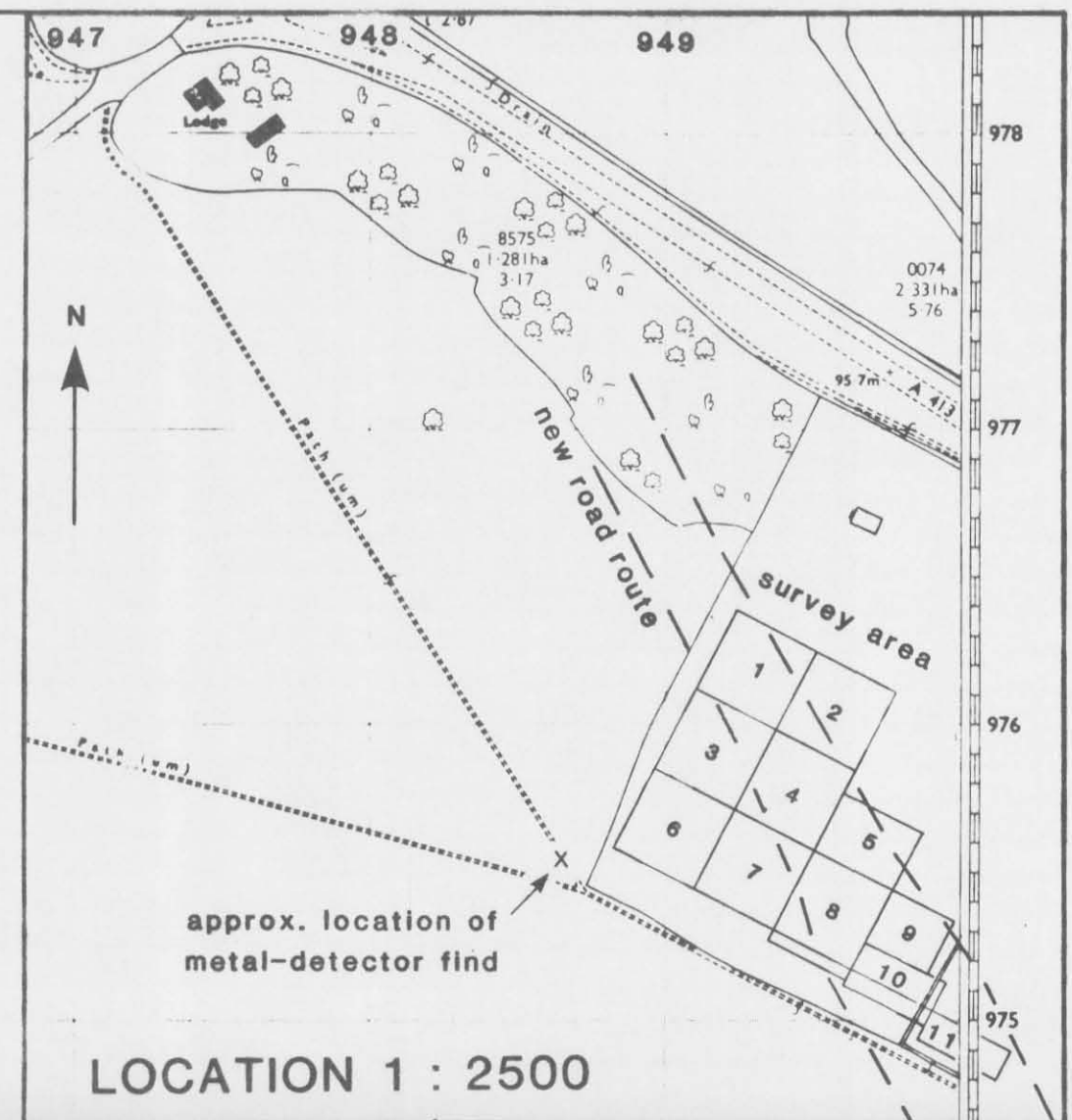
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AMERSHAM

1 : 400

Magnetometer survey, 1983



anomalies outlined in red

A. M. LAB.