

Ancient Monuments Laboratory
Report 41/86

CROYLAND ABBEY, Lincs.:
GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY, 1986.

A E U David

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Summary

This report summarises results of a resistivity survey in the Glebe Paddock at Croyland Abbey, Lincs., which extended a previous survey of the adjacent Kissing Ground. No significant anomalies were located.

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In the light of a proposal to extend the cemetery of the Abbey at Crowland, Lincs, always known as Croyland Abbey, into the Glebe Paddock (area B on the plan), a resistivity survey was undertaken in order to test for the presence of medieval remains. As a comparison, a second area (A) was also surveyed in the Kissing Ground where evidence of structural remains had been revealed by an earlier survey in 1973 (D Haddon-Reece, AML Report G 29/73).

In both areas readings were taken with the Geoscan RM4 meter at 1.0m intervals using the Twin Electrode probe configuration with a 0.5m probe spacing. The resulting data is displayed on the enclosed plan as graphical traces and also as contours.

Area A:

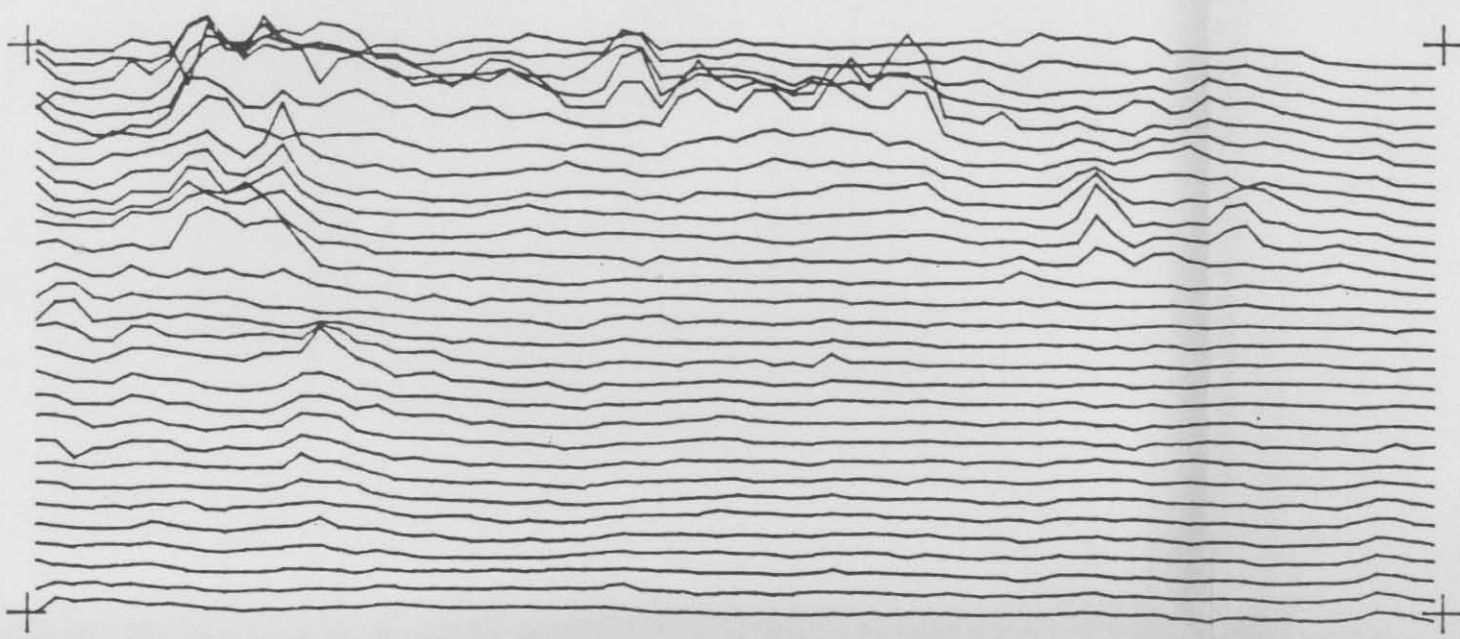
There is clear evidence of disturbance in the northern part of this area close to the present cemetery wall, and alignments of high resistance readings indicated clearly by the contour plot suggest the presence of preserved wall footings. Weaker anomalies elsewhere in the plot may be responses to more poorly preserved features or to background soil variations.

Area B:

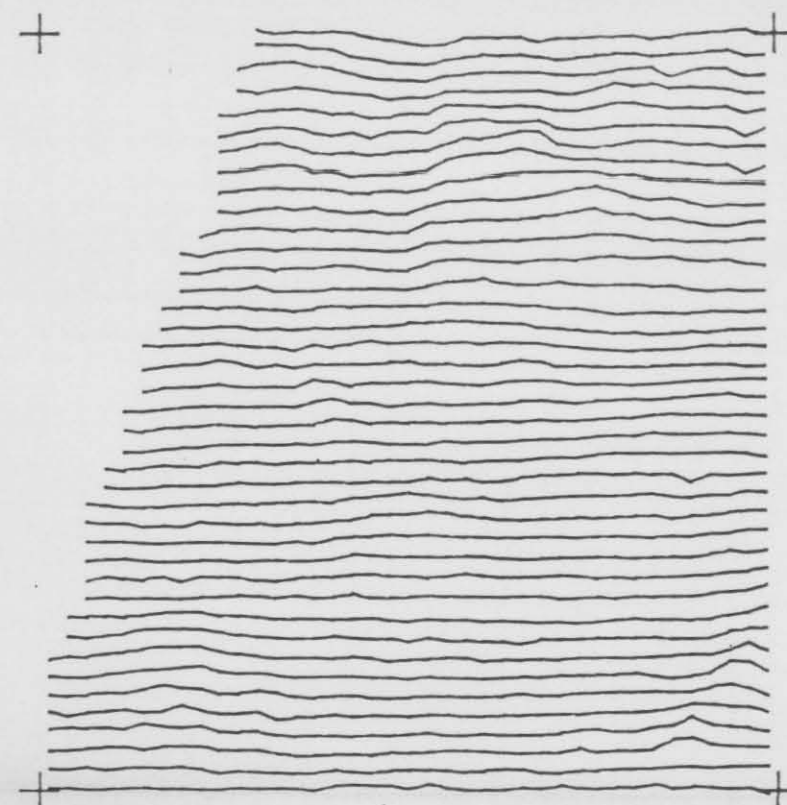
Unlike the Kissing Ground, the Glebe Paddock shows no striking disturbance positively attributable to buried masonry. Anomalies are subdued and gentle, providing no clear pattern or contrasts.

In conclusion, therefore, the evidence for medieval remains in the Glebe Paddock compares poorly with that found in the Kissing Ground and it is unlikely that there are substantial buried features here. However, slight or badly preserved features cannot be expected to be detectable in these circumstances and may yet only be visible on excavation.

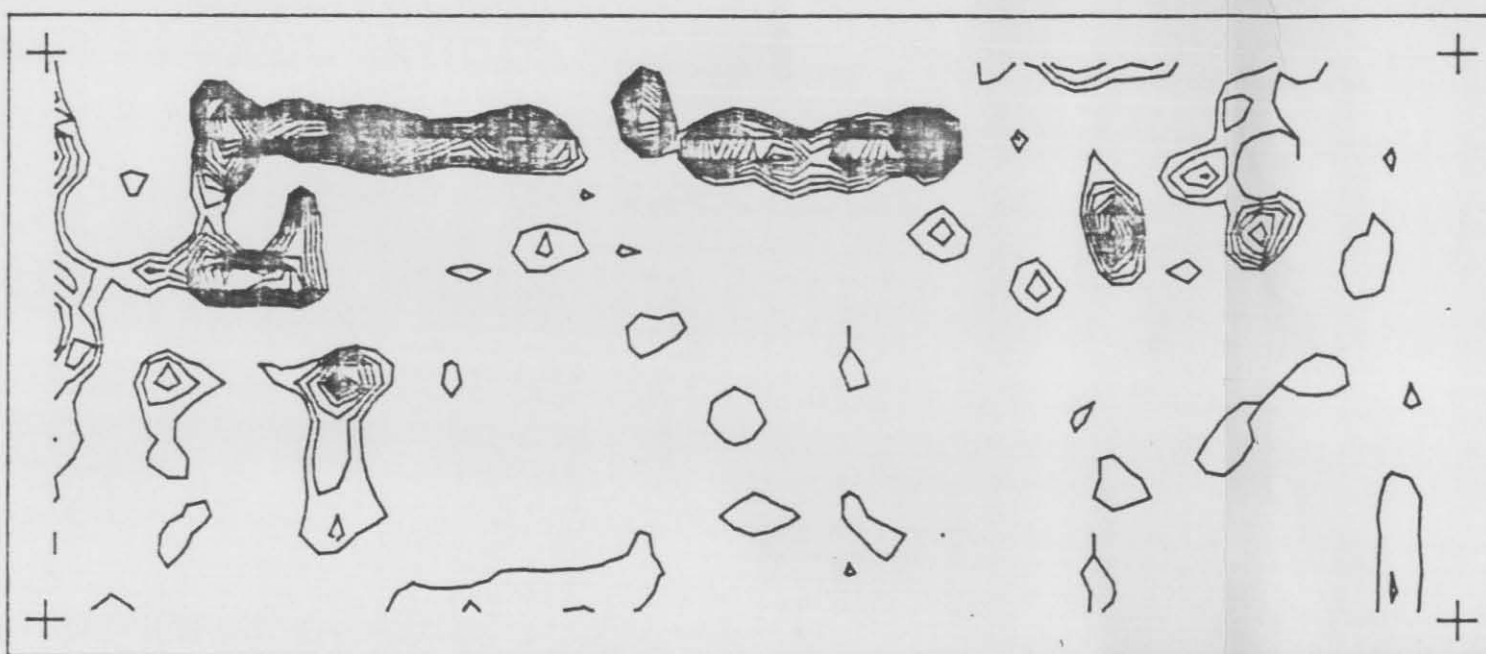
Surveyed by: A. David and A. Bartlett.



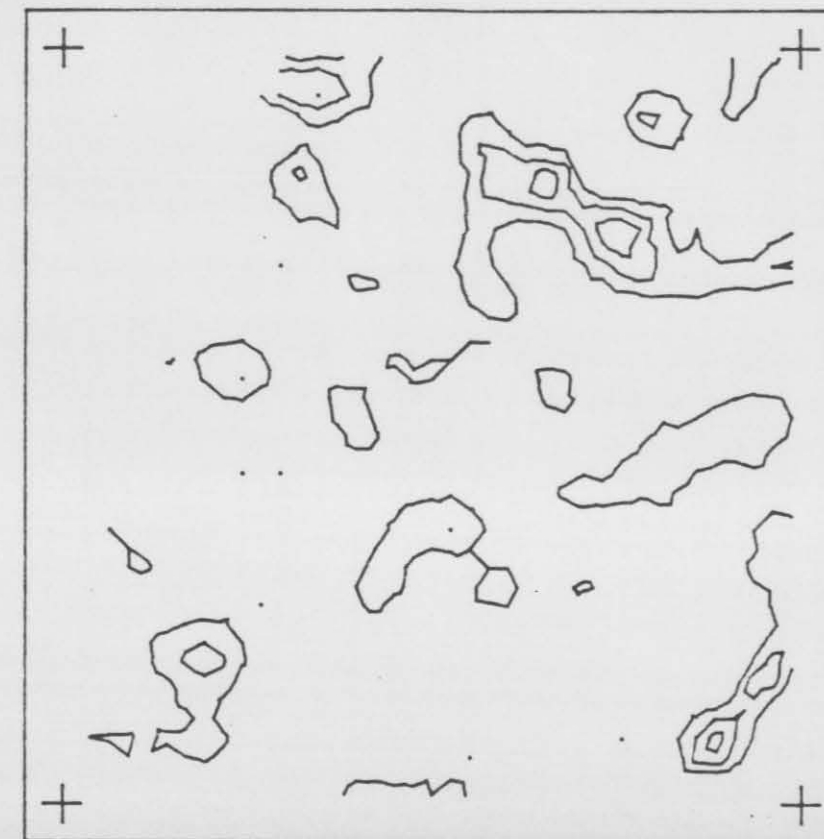
A i)



B i)



A ii)



B ii)

CROWLAND ABBEY, Lincs.

Resistivity survey, 1986

A i) & B i) : trace plots of initial data
vertical scale : 120 ohms/cm

A ii) & B ii) : contour plots of filtered data
contour interval : 10 ohms

1 : 400

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