

CRINGLEFORD, NORWICH

Report of Geophysical Survey.

A geophysical survey was undertaken at Cringleford TG 180064 in order to locate the exact position of the C17 pottery-making site and iny features associated with it.

A grid of 30m. squares was laid out as shown on the enclosed plan and surveyed with the fluxgate gradiometer and automatic plotting system. Squares 1 - 10 seemed to account for the industrial site, and squares 12 - 21 were then covered with the hope of locating any other features spreading eastwards.

Due to the high remanent magnetism of kilns and industrial debris the conditions were ideal for finding the kiln area, but building foundations rarely show as recognizable magnetic anomalies and thus were less likely to show elsewhere. A resistivity survey would probably have shown the latter, if present, but the area concerned was too large to be dealt with in the time available.

The magnetometer traces are not included in the report, but the archaeological anomalies have been transposed on to the enclosed plan at 1 : 500. Archaeological activity seems to be concentrated in squares 2, 4, and 7 where the intensity of some of the anomalies undoubtedly indicates industrial activity. The large anomaly in square 2 is a kiln surrounded by an area of related magnetic disturbance. Augering with a 1" coring auger revealed burnt material, brick and pottery, and a cavity at approximately 100 cms. Augering of the central anomaly in square 4 produced similar kiln evidence, as did the anomaly in the SE corner of square 7. The remaining strong anomalies (10 - 50 gamma) indicate burnt or baked material, although not necessarily kilns. A scatter of weaker anomalies (less than 10 gamma) may be shallow pit or ditch features. There is no evidence for building patterns.

Squares 12 - 21 revealed nothing of archaeological significance, the only magnetic disturbance being natural, or reactions to stray iron.

Although no evidence for buildings was found it seems certain that the potterymaking site with at least one kiln has been found. The activity is concentrated in the NW corner of the field where there is a marked depression in the ground. Scanning with the magnetometer in the adjacent field (0002) revealed little to suggest that the site extends in that direction.

BOWTHORPE, NORWICH

This site (TG 178092) was visited briefly with the intention of investigating the direction and associations of a ditch recently revealed in a pipe-trench. Unfortunately the area was occup ed by several gipsy caravans, severely limiting the possibility of an extensive magnetic survey.

Preliminary scanning with the magnetometer was not particularly promising. General broad anomalies could be detected but could not be traced to a distinctive or continuous pattern. Three 30m. squares were then surveyed in an appropriate piece of open ground between spoil heaps and caravans, and where there seemed a stronglikelihood of the projected ditch showing up. Several broad and rather weak anomalies were located (see enclosed plan) but do not give the impression of distinctive archaeological features. They are trends of relative magnetic enhancement, possibly natural rather than artificial. Magnetic susceptibility tests on topsoil samples support the possibility of a natural cause, as does the nature of the subsoil, apparently sand and clay.

There is very little geophysical evidence for the ditch. Its apparently richlooking fill must have a deceptively low magnetic enhancement, although this is likely to vary along its length. An insubstantial ditch-like feature may be present in one of the squares, and has been marked between dashed lines on the plan.

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