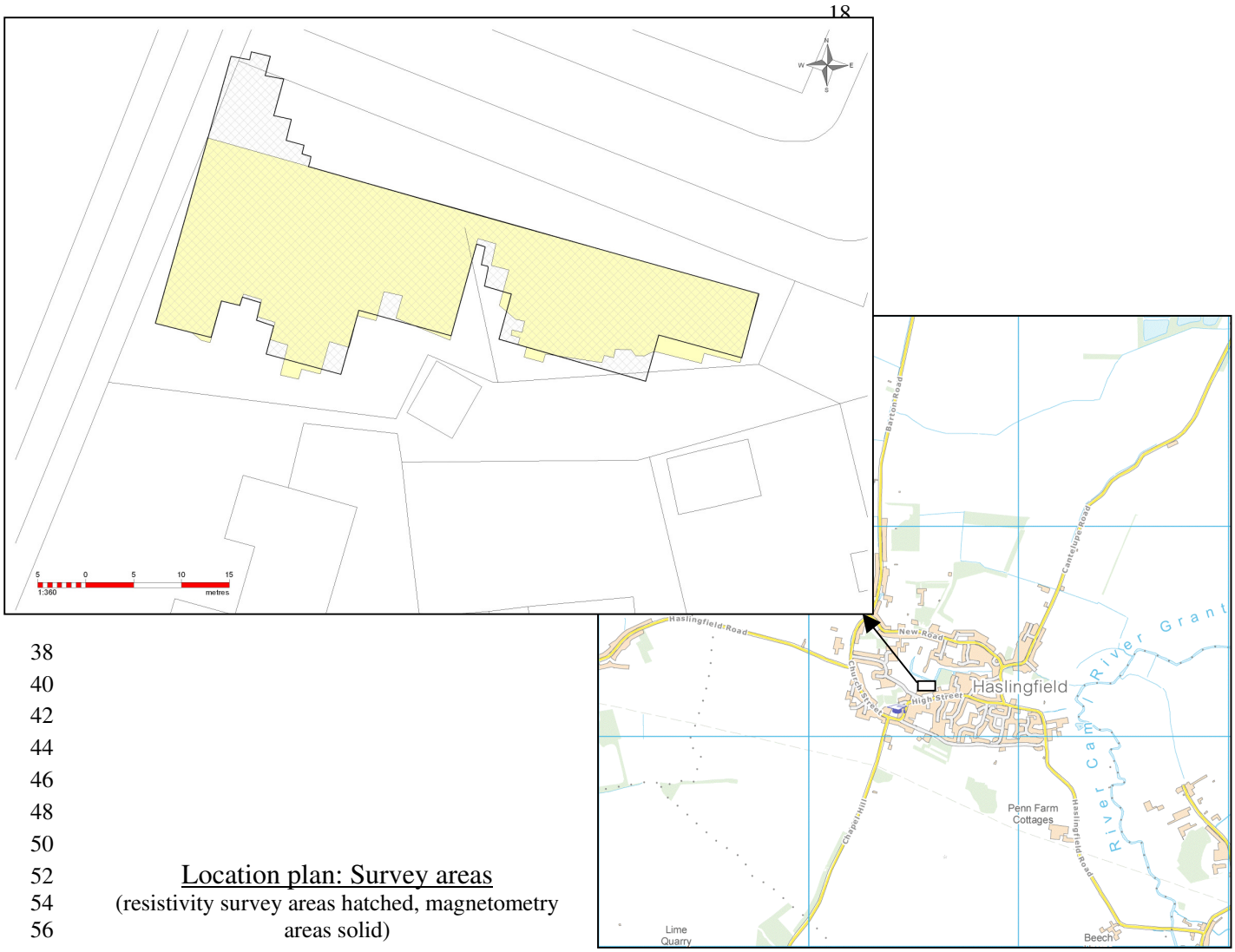
Wimpole Thornberry Report

In July 2016 Archaeology RheeSearch Group carried out magnetometry and resistivity surveys on this site to determine whether any archaeological features were detectable.
Members participating: Pat Davies, Brian Bridgland, Liz Livingstone, Ian Sanderson, Gill Shapland, Maureen Storey and Tony Storey.
Site liaison: Mike Coles.
Site conditions: Grass.
Equipment: Bartington 601 gradiometer; TRCIA 50 cm twin probe.
Magnetometry readings: 8/m, 1 m separation.
Resistivity readings: 1 m interval, 1 m separation.
Raw data available as separate appendices.

Location: TL405522, Haslingfield, Cambs.



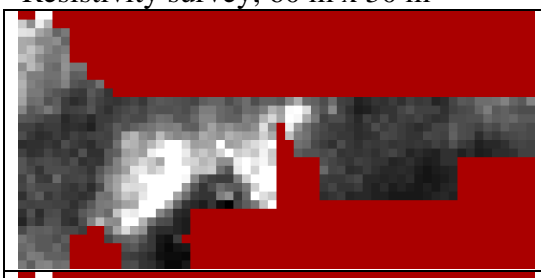
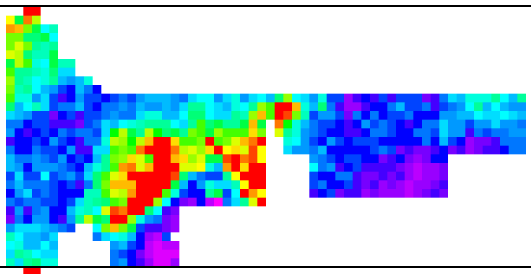
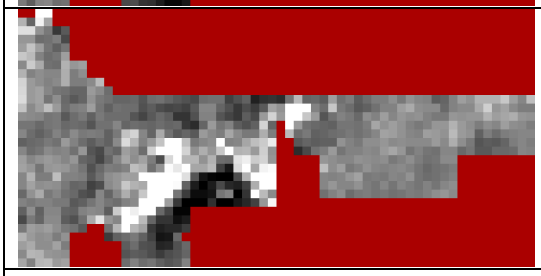
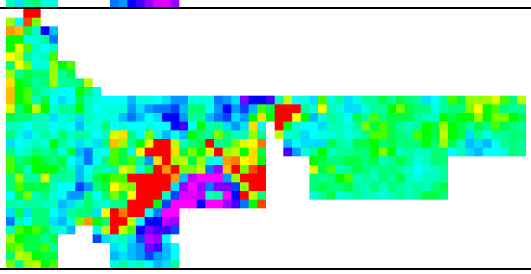
Location plan: Survey areas
(resistivity survey areas hatched, magnetometry areas solid)

Purpose of survey: The purpose of this survey was to determine if any subsurface features could be detected to identify buildings remains adjacent to a moated site.
Site topography:
Almost level short grass paddock with post & rail fencing to the west and south and, with small trees, partially across the middle of the survey area. A moat with scrub along most of the north side. Small clunch built building next to the entrance on the south side.

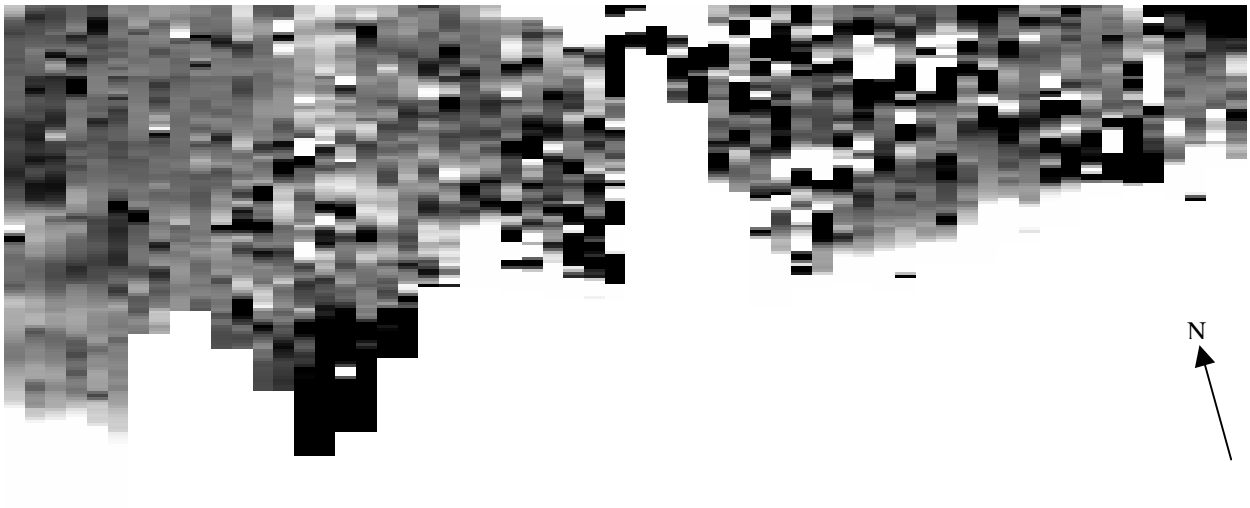
Results:

The images in this section are orientated for presentation. The images are not to a common scale.

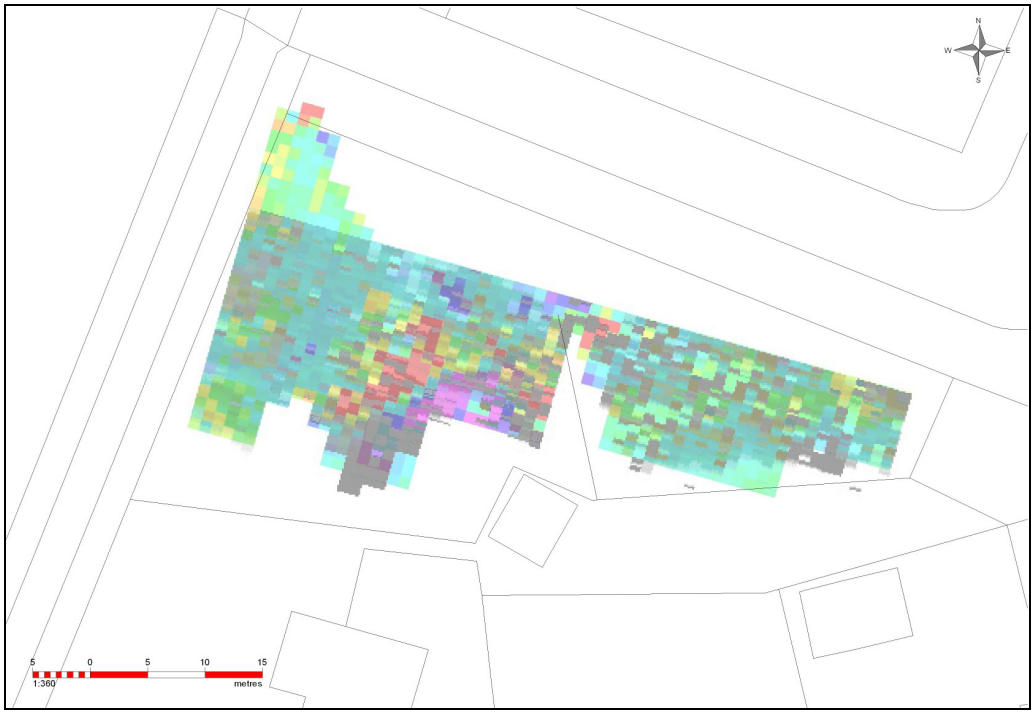
Resistivity survey, 60 m x 30 m

		Resistivity Raw data N
		High pass filter 5 N
(black – low, white – high, red – null)	(purple/blue – low, red – high, white – null)	

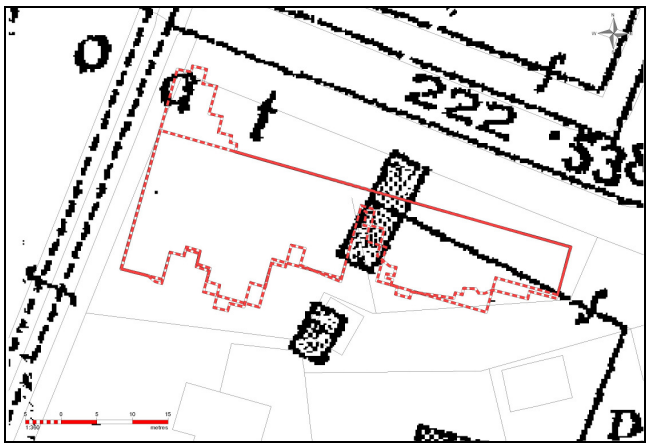
Magnetometry survey 60 m x 21 m range +12 to -14 nT



Superimposed magnetometry and resistivity results



Superimposed survey outlines in red on OS map of 1903



Discussion:
The magnetometry results were not much use on this site, suffering from a moderately high background noise and too small an area to be able to identify patterns. A diffuse band, slightly lighter coloured in the images above, running N—S across half of the W part of the survey area may indicate a small difference in usage. The resistivity results in the area of the band shown in the magnetometry results have nothing to distinguish them from the adjacent parts of the paddock. However the main feature in the resistivity results, a large area of high values in the W part of the survey, bounds that band on the E and S sides. This could indicate wall foundations on two sides of a yard which predates the mapping of 1903. The buildings shown on the 1903 map are largely within the unsurveyable portion across the middle of the paddock.

Report by Dr I Sanderson for Archaeology RheeSearch