Community Landscape Landscape Archaeology

Geophysical Survey of the Roman Posting Station of Bannaventa and its hinterland adjacent to Watling Street in Fields East of the A5.

OS SP6095064960

CLASP Geophysical Report No. 18/2

OASIS No. clasp1-336159

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CONTENTS

OAS.	IS form	3			
Abst	ract	4			
		_			
1.0	Introduction	6			
2.0	Site Location and description	7			
3.0	Archaeological and historical background	9			
4.0	Field Methodology	10			
5.0	Field data analysis and interpretation of results 1:				
6.0	Conclusions	29			
Ackr	nowledgements	36			
Bibliography					
Appe	endix HER records	40			
Figu	res				
	Fig. 1 Site location plan		7		
	Fig. 2 Survey areas		8		
	Fig. 3 Area A. Greyscale plot of geophysics		12		
	Fig. 4 Area A interpretation		13		
	Fig. 5 Area B. Greyscale plot of geophysics		15		
	Fig. 6 Area B interpretation		16		
	Fig. 7 Area B interpretation (detail)		17		
	Fig. 8 Areas C & D. Greyscale plot of geophysics		18		
	Fig. 9 Areas C & D. Interpretation		18		
	Fig. 10 Areas E & F Greyscale plot of geophysics		19		

Fig. 11 Areas E & F. Interpretation	19			
Fig. 12Area E Greyscale plot of geophysics (detail)	21			
Fig. 13 Area E interpretation (detail)	21			
Fig 14 Area G Greyscale plot of geophysics	22			
Fig. 15 Area G interpretation	22			
Fig. 16 Area H Greyscale plot of geophysics	23			
Fig. 17 Area H Interpretation	24			
Fig. 18Area J Greyscale plot of geophysics	25			
Fig. 19 Area J Interpretation	26			
Fig. 20 Area K Greyscale plot of geophysics	27			
Fig. 21 Phase 1 tracks	31			
Fig. 22 Total geophysics	31			
Fig. 23 Limit of Romano-British features	32			
Fig. 24 Bannaventa Perimeter Boundary Ditches Phase 1	34			
and Phase 2				
Fig 25 HER/SMR within 0.5 km map	40			

Appendix: HER/SMR records

Acknowledgements

Bibliography

REPORT FORM PROJECT DETAILS		OASIS No: clasp1-336159		
Project name		Geophysical Survey of the Roman Posting Station at Bannaventa and its hinterland adjacent to Watling Street in Fields East of the A5		
Short description (250 words maximum)		A Geophysical investigation of the SE quadrant of the Roman Posting station of Bannaventa (Whilton Lodge) & its adjacent NE hinterland. Extensive features located including a larger outer ditch and bank enclosing a settlement approx. 10ha in extent and road way alignments indicating changes in the routing of Watling St. through the station during the occupation		
Project type		research		
(eg DBA, evaluation etc) Site status (none, NT, SAM etc)		sam1003879		
Previous work				
(SMR numbers etc) Current Land use		nacturo		
Future work		pasture unknown		
(yes, no, unknown)		untiown		
Monument type/ period		Romano-British Posting station		
Significant finds (artefact type and period)		Enclosures, track and road alignments, enclosures, paddocks and settlement boundaries		
PROJECT LOCATION				
County		Northamptonshire		
Site address (including postcode)		Whilton Lodge Watling St. Norton NN11 3EH		
Study area (sq. m or ha)		45 ha		
OS Easting & Northing (use grid sq. letter code)		Centred on SP6095064960		
Height OD		C. OD 126m		
Solid Geology		Upper lias		
Drift Geology		Glacial gravels		
PROJECT CREATORS				
Organisation		CLASP		
Project brief originator		Stephen young		
Project Design originator				
Director/Supervisor		Stephen young		
Project Manager Sponsor or funding body		Fred kay CLASP		
PROJECT DATE				
Start date/End date jan 2016		Nov 2017		
ARCHIVES	Location (Accession no.)		Content (eg pottery, animal bone etc)	
Physical CLASP Archive: none				

ABSTRACT

CLASP conducted a large scale geophysical (fluxgate gradiometer) survey of five fields of pasture, covering a total of 19ha, to the East of the A5 (Romano-British Watling Street) in Norton Parish, Northamptonshire. The area includes the S.E. quadrant of the scheduled Roman Posting Station of Bannaventa (Whilton Lodge) and the immediate hinterland to the N..W of the site. The fields comprising a strip of pasture land to the North, East and South of the focal part of the settlement. This geophysical survey covers the area from the known alignment of the Roman road eastwards towards the Grand Union canal and the embankment of the main railway line between London and Birmingham. All of the field work was undertaken during 2016 & 2017 by volunteers of the CLASP Geophysical Team.

The area also includes part of the N.E. quadrant of the late 3rd/4th century AD Posting Station previously surveyed by CLASP in 2011.¹ This earlier geophysical survey revealed a palimpsest of features including the NE part of the double-ditch defences and also some indistinct internal features of the settlement. Further fieldwork, the subject of this report (centred OS SP64102340) was therefore organized to observe the extent of any residual remains in the wider locality connected to the site. The archaeological rationale of the survey was. to help establish the extent and characterize the nature of any remaining archaeology associated with the Posting Station, identify any extra mural development and examine the wider immediate hinterland for Roman activity on the eastern side of the site.

Extensive spreads of discrete geophysical anomalies were observed, indicating a range of perio- based features and the existence of a widespread Roman landscape. A previously unrecognized substantial bank and ditch boundary was discovered, enclosing 10ha and, covering an area twice the size of the late Posting Station defensive perimeter. The defensive alignment of the wall and ditches as well as the unregulated internal layout of the scheduled SE quadrant can also be clearly recognised. The bank and ditch

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¹ CLASP Geophysical report No. 16/4 (2016) Young & Kay

anomaly indicated a more extensive (probably earlier) larger settlement or limit of a 'small town' at Bannaventa that would have pre-dated its later manifestation as a walled and defended compound for a Posting Station.

The fieldwork also highlighted a potential change in the alignment of Watling Street connected to the original plan conceived for the site before the t reduction in scale and changing social and political rationale for the Posting Station. Geophysical anomalies associated with road alignments and newly identified entrance ways have important implications for the interpretation of the original route of Watling Street through the site and a subsequent realignment in the later Roman period associated with the construction of a smaller defended focal area.

Extensive ribbon development along Watling Street was detected, with enclosures and trackways keeping to the higher contours of the promontory underlying the site. Interpretation of the hinterland features offers widespread evidence of the agricultural practices across the landscape beyond the settlement. All of the features noted enhance our understanding and interpretation of the complexity of the rational development, and layout of the settlement during the Roman period.

Introduction

- 1.1 A geophysical survey was conducted by the Community Landscape and Archaeology Survey Project (CLASP), a community-based archaeological charity, between 2016 and 2017. The investigative work was undertaken on five long term pasture fields surrounding Whilton Lodge on the north, east and south sides which all lie to the East of Watling Street.
- Included in the survey is the South East quadrant of the 1.2 Scheduled Ancient Monument of the Posting Station at Bannaventa (list number 1003879). The present fieldwork is the first large scale geophysical survey of the area to the east of Watling Street in the vicinity of the Posting Station. The survey confirms the extent and character of remains, archaeological enabling informed а more interpretation of the site, and will assist Historic England in forming future conservation policy regarding the Posting Station of Bannaventa.
- 1.3 The survey covered a total area of 19 ha spread over 5 fields. At the time of survey (January 2016 to December 2017) the fields were all sheep pasture. The Magnetometer survey was employed because potentially it offered the most effective and appropriate methodological approach for obtaining reasonable quality data from the existing circumstances and conditions.
- 1.4 The survey methodology described in this report was based upon guidelines set out in the English Heritage document Geophysical Survey in Archaeological Field Evaluation (David et al 2008).
- 1.5 Various magnetic anomalies were revealed, including, importantly, a substantial bank and ditch system that form a complete enclosing circuit around the later Posting Station defenses. Unfortunately a small section of this ditch now lies beneath the large buildings and garden of Whilton Lodge and could not be surveyed. Two alignments of Watling Street through the site are evident as are the alignment of other local road and track ways and a series of enclosures combining together to show several phases of field systems. The positioning of the geophysical anomalies within the area of the Posting Station implies an irregular interior layout and

lack of large scale civic structures often associated with an urban centre. Evidence of extra mural activity confirms the interdependence of the local agricultural regime with the range of activities undertaken focused in the settlement.

2.0 Site Location and description

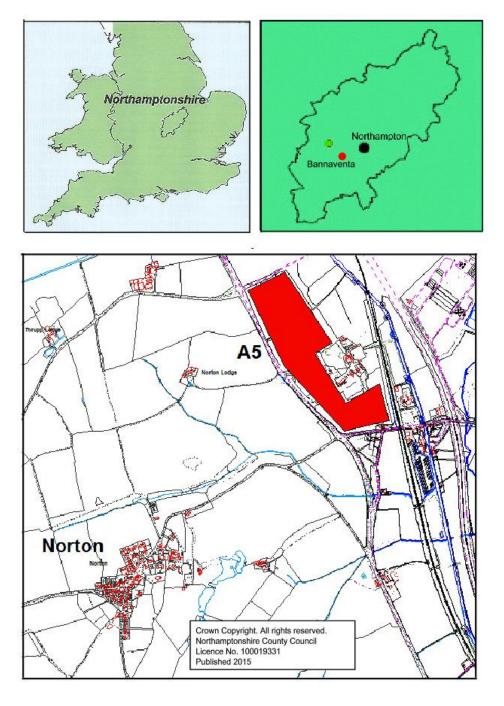


Fig. 1 Site Location

- 2.1 Situated on level ground the site lies on the east side of the A5 (Watling St) where the road bisects the Roman settlement of Bannaventa. The overall alignment of the fieldwork is North-South and stretches over a distance of 500m between the Norton and Long Buckby crossroads.
- 2.2 The survey area is situated on substantially level ground of a promontory at an average of 120m OD (fig.2). The geology of the site consists of glacial sands and gravel deposits. (British Geological Survey sheet 185, published in 1980).

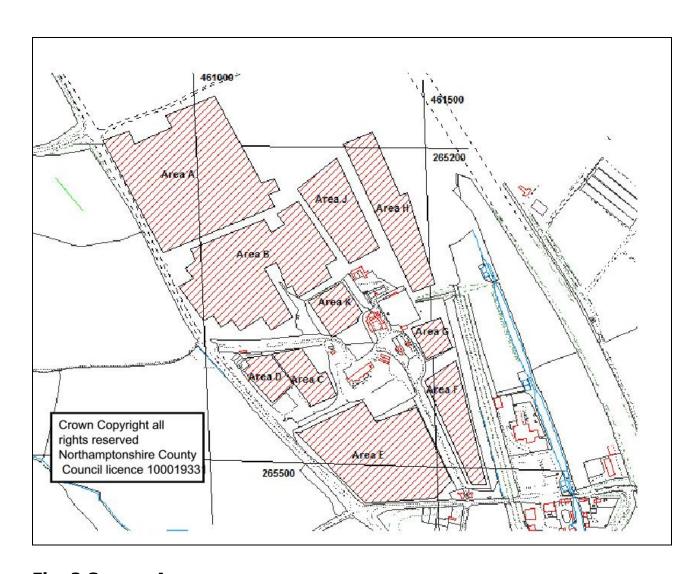


Fig. 2 Survey Areas

3.0 Archaeological and historical background

3.1 The main archaeological feature of the area is the scheduled Roman Posting Station of Bannnaventa. Overall the walled defensive perimeter covers about 5 ha. The survey includes the SE quadrant of the Late Roman Posting Station, which has not been subjected to any detailed previous fieldwork. Bannnaventa itself is an integral part of a larger scheme of systematically placed settlements that comprise a series of sites situated at regular intervals along Watling Street between Londinium (London) and Viroconium Cornoviorum (Wroxeter). Ancient itineraries note that Bannaventa was situated between the neighbouring posting stations at Lactodorum (Towcester) to the South and Tripontem (Cave's Inn) to the North.

In the wider landscape Bannaventa's strategic importance is reflected in its location on the main arterial road from the South-east to the North-west of the province whilst locally it occupies a key position on the watershed of the River Nene dominating the local villa-based economy. The settlement acted as a market centre and focal point with semi 'urban' attributes for the densely inhabited surrounding area of rural settlement.

- 3.2 Various archaeological discoveries were made during the early twentieth century implying the existence of a significant settlement in the wider area. In 1970 air photographs revealed the outline of the western part of the posting station alongside the modern A5. These photographs, allied to the rescue excavations undertaken on the site in 1970-72, revealed the existence of a roadside station of irregular quadrilateral shape with rounded corners, bounded by ditches, with gates in the north and south of the defensive perimeter to allow the passage of Watling Street through the town (RCHME, 1981, 151-2).
- 3.3 It is likely that the Posting Station became a local market centre, owing its prosperity to its location on Watling Street,

one of the region's arterial roads, and give access to the relative wealth of its agricultural hinterland. Previous fieldwork has demonstrated that the site's origins lie in the pre-conquest period with major development commencing in the late $1^{\rm st}$ to early $2^{\rm nd}$ century, defensive additions in the $3^{\rm rd}$ and $4^{\rm th}$ and with occupation continuing into the early $5^{\rm th}$ century AD.²

3.4 Excavation has demonstrated that buildings were constructed during the mid-second and third centuries, the majority being timber, of rectangular sill beam construction, although the remains of stone buildings are also noted. A defensive ditch and rampart circuit enclosed about 5 ha of the town's core during the second or early third century, which was updated by a double ditch and wall in the later third or fourth century AD. Bannaventa was occupied up to at least the early 5th century AD but it is not known to have survived in any recognizable form into the later Saxon period (SMR 895).³

4.0 Field Methodology

- 4.1 The aim of the geophysical survey was two-fold: to establish accurately the extent and presence of archaeological remains and the character of any geophysical anomalies within the survey area.
- 4.2 The gradiometer is a non-intrusive scientific inspecting instrument technique used to determine the presence or absence of some types of subsurface archaeological features (e.g. ditches, trackways, field systems, enclosures and building foundations). By scanning the soil surface geophysics can identify areas of varying magnetic susceptibility the data from which can be displayed in a variety of graphical formats from which archaeological features can be identified. In this case magnetic survey was employed because it offered the

³ Reference excavation reports Jeremy Taylor

Young & Kay forthcoming

- best chance of locating the wider extent and structural detail of the surviving archaeology. (Clark 1990)
- 4.3 The area gradiometer survey was conducted using a Bartington gradiometer type 601, dual flux gate, with the 601 data logger set to make four readings per metre (Sample interval of 0.25m). The zigzag traversed method of survey was used with 1m wide traverses on an approximate North South line across the fields based on 30x30m grid squares. The sensitivity of the machine was set to detect and record variation in the order of 0.1 nanoTesla. Metal contamination along some field boundaries and landscape trees with metal cattle protection slightly restricted the survey area
- 4.4 The data was processed using Snuffler Version 1.3 and filtered to reduce geomagnetic striping (ZMT) and operator error due to ground irregularities etc. The gradiometer data is displayed as a series of greyscale maps and an interpretation of the possible archaeological anomalies is shown in a series of interpretational figures on a field by field basis.

5.0 Field data analysis and interpretation of results

5.1 To assist in a logical and more accessible way, presentation of the findings from the geophysical survey anomalies are reviewed by individual field, and in an alphabetical order starting with Area A and finishing with the Area K. The Area C & D have been reviewed in a previous report 4 and their findings will only be included in the overall discussion and conclusion for the area surveyed to the east of the A5 to help with the overall interpretation of all the geophysical anomalies for these elements of the Posting Station.

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⁴ Geophysical survey of the North-East corner of the walled Roman posting station of Bannaventa (Whilton Lodge) Norton Northamptonshire Young & Kay 2017 (OASIS clasp1-244911)

5.2

Area A

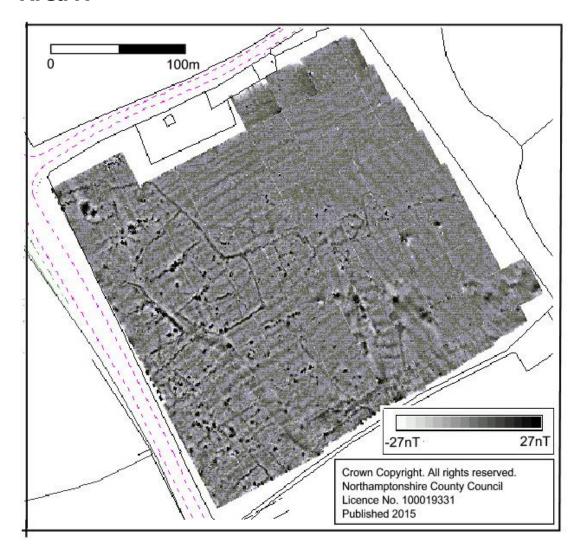


Fig 3 Area A Greyscale plot of geophysics

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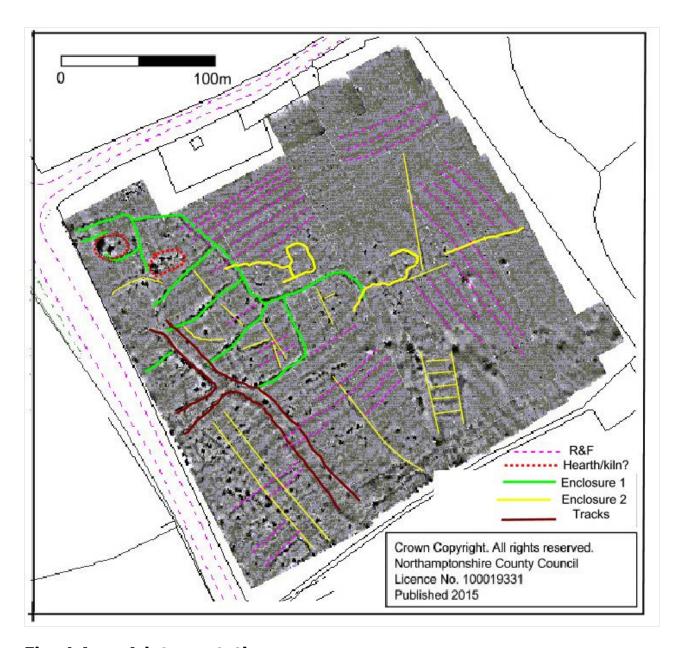


Fig. 4 Area A interpretation

The field containing Area A lies immediately SE of the Long Buckby cross roads immediately adjacent to the modern A5 carriageway. There are five distinct categories of geophysical anomalies the majority of which lie in the western half of the field. This is of interest because it affirms our previous understanding of the overall layout and feature distribution of anomalies observed to the west of the A5 in the wider site and immediate hinterland. The position of the archaeological anomalies is mainly determined by the contour relief of the promontory upon which Bannaventa stands. The higher elevations would have been more accessible and less prone to flooding, making them prime real estate for agricultural and

settlement purposes for earlier pre industrial societies like the Roman to develop.

In this area the range of observable geophysical features anomalies include enclosures, field systems, road and track way alignments, possible 'kilns' and extensive medieval ridge and furrow. The importance of the enclosures are two-fold, representing a characteristic ribbon development aligned along Watling Street extending some way North of the known Posting Station defenses and secondly demonstrating an agricultural focus underpinning the rationale for the settlements existence here. These enclosures are relatively small in scale and link together in conjoining field systems, judging on their general alignments this probably represents at least two phases of development.

The alignment of track ways in the SW corner of the field are indicative of the local byway infrastructure that serviced the area connecting the Posting Station with the major arterial route way of Roman Watling Street. A portion of that major arterial road was also recorded a little more towards the west of the field as it headed further north away from Bannaventa.

Two other anomalies towards the NE of the field due to their high magnetic readings could indicate the possible existence of kilns or similar such industrial activity but this would require further fieldwork to confirm. The whole field is also covered with ridge and furrow at approximately 9m spacing⁵, suggesting medieval agricultural activity; most implying an east/west field alignment but with a more north/south zone in the SE of the field on lower ground.

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⁵ Partia, Hall & Foard

5.3 Area B

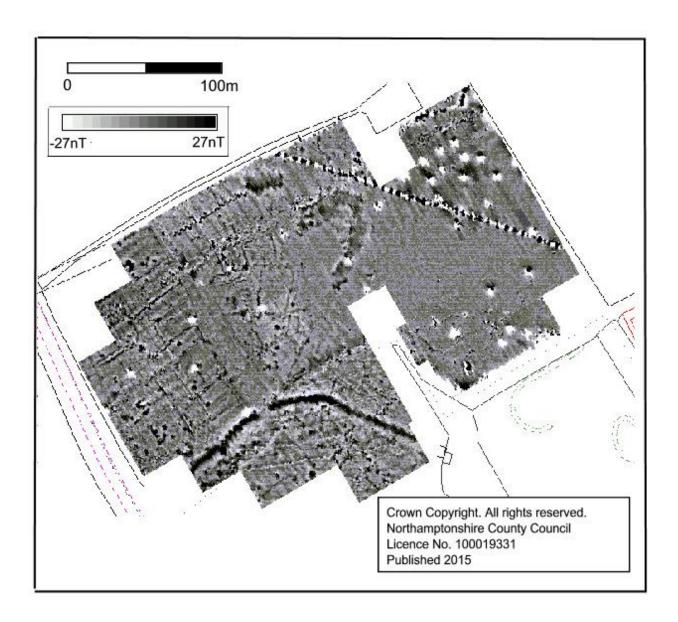


Fig 5 Area B Greyscale plot of geophysics

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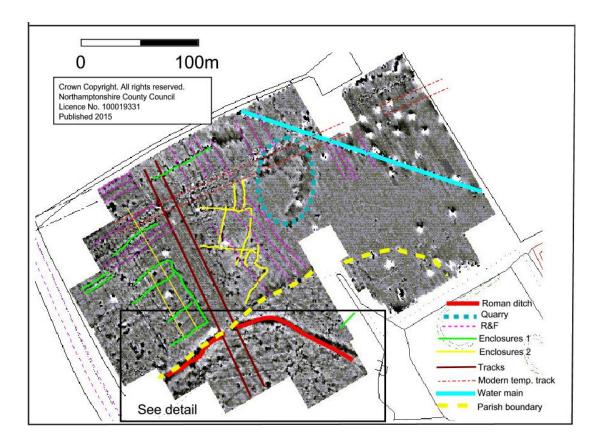


Fig. 6 Area B interpretation

The geophysical survey of Area B is immediately to the South of Area A and is adjacent to the modern A5 carriageway immediately North of the site of the postulated Posting Station. Again there are five distinct categories of geophysical anomalies which mostly lie in the western half of the field on the higher elevations. This affirms that the position and distribution of the archaeological anomalies is determined by the contour relief of the general promontory upon which the site stands.

In Area B the recognizable geophysical anomalies include more enclosures organized into field systems, the alignment of a major Roman road, a large boundary ditch, extensive medieval ridge and furrow and the location of a quarry of indeterminable date. The series of western enclosures is closely aligned with the major Roman carriageway whilst those to the east of it appear to be laid out to a different rationale. All these small fields or paddocks again appear to be characteristic ribbon development forming the landscape approach to the Posting Station defenses from the north.

The overall alignment of the geophysical anomalies could be interpreted as supporting a two phase development of the area.

The major road alignment is also connected to the impressive bank and ditch anomaly located in the south of the field which it appears to pierce as it continues south across the site. Within the boundary ditch appear to be other features whose form and function are difficult to define. Some medieval ridge and furrow is evident particular across the western half of the survey area with different alignments visible depending on which side of the Roman carriageway they lay.

In the NE of the field are the locations of a small quarry and the alignment of a water pipeline.

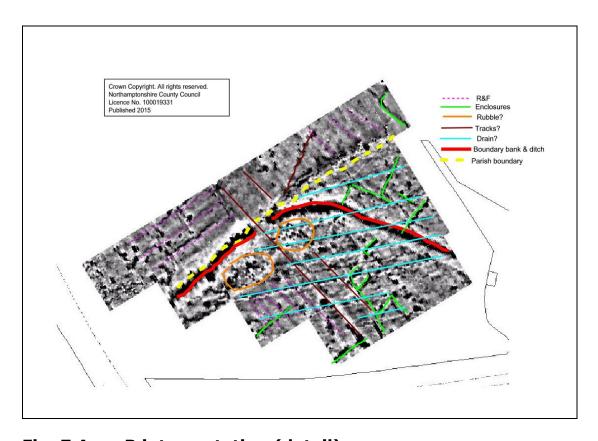


Fig. 7 Area B interpretation (detail)

The substantial filled ditch apparent in the South West corner which is highlighted in the detailed interpretation forms part of the present day parish boundary between Long Buckby and Whilton. Some fine straight lines running approx. East-West to the South of the boundary feature are possibly modern field drains. .

5.4 Areas C & D

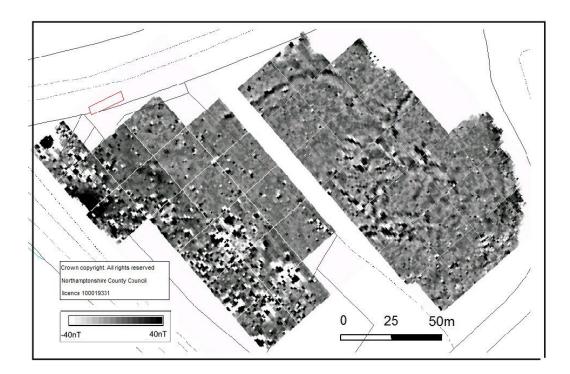


Fig. 8 Areas C&D Greyscale plot of geophysics

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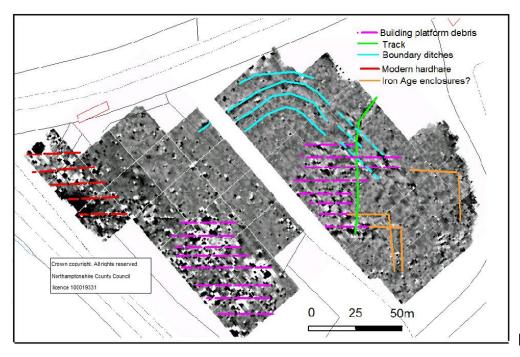


Fig.

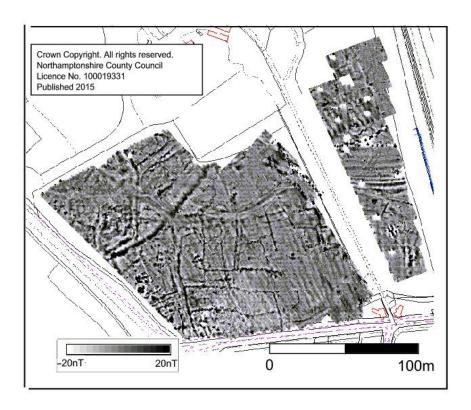
9 Areas C&D Interpretation

In areas C & D several anomalies were observable from the data obtained and although the features they represent presumably are much abraded and eroded because of the top soil removal they were still remarkably clear. However many of the surviving features had enough depth, because they were cut into the underlying natural, to enable some interpretation of their purpose.

The most obvious and conspicuous archaeological features were a series of boundary ditches forming the north-eastern corner of the defensive circuit which had surrounded the late Roman posting station. The anomalies suggest a circuit of two ditches with an internal bank which presumably was faced by a stone wall noted elsewhere on the defensive circuit. Immediately south of the eastern extent of these ditches a road crosses these ditches exiting by a possible postern gate through the defensive wall.

The anomalies recorded within the internal area encapsulated by the defensive ditches are less clear, lacking the clarity of those features, but they do indicate the position of building plots and associated structures. At present these appear to be irregular in their layout and could be interpreted as reflecting an unplanned development of the internal space. Several ditches are also observable which do not relate directly to the late Roman posting station but probably could be associated with an earlier phase of development for Bannaventa

5.5 Area E & F



Fig, 10 Areas E & F Greyscale plot of geophysics

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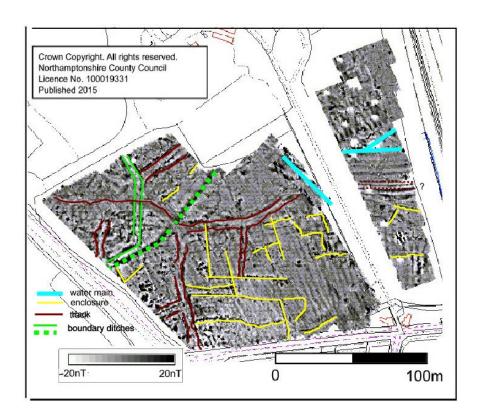


Fig. 11. Areas E & F interpretation

The field containing Areas E & F lie immediately NE of the Norton cross roads iand adjacent to the modern A5 carriageway. Survey Area E is to the West of the drive to Whilton Lodge from the South and constitutes part of the Bannaventa scheduled area whilst Area F lies to the East. The fields displayed significant archaeological activity and a range of distinctive geophysical anomalies.

In Area E the recognizable geophysical anomalies included a series of enclosures arranged into a field system; various road and track ways and a large boundary ditch. Medieval ridge and furrow is also evident particularly across the southern half of the associated field. Meanwhile Area F to the east of Whilton Lodge drive contains elements of a field system, trackways and possibly a much eroded alignment of the initial element of a Roman road leading to the Roman small town at Duston further down the River Nene.

An impressive bank and ditch anomaly similar to that in found in Area B dominates the NE part of the field containing Area E and appears to demarcate the southern edge of the Posting Station and part of a far larger boundary bank and ditch surrounding the core element of the earlier Roman settlement. Again within and

immediately to the north of the boundary ditch appear to be other features whose form and function are difficult to define but possibly indicate the presence of internal structures. The area also contains several anomalies implying a network of track ways servicing the site and the local area.

In Area F the geophysical survey revealed a continuation of the field system towards the East and a much eroded alignment of a significant roadway probably constituting ribbon development on this side of the settlement.

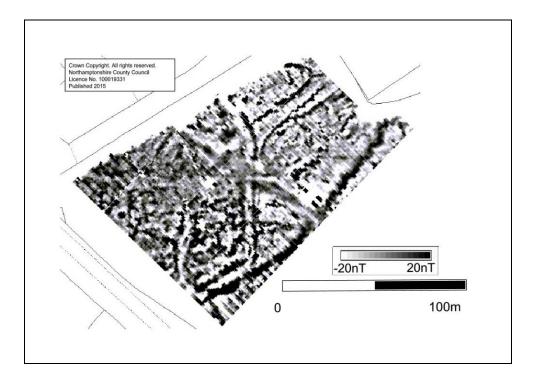


Fig. 12 Area E Greyscale plot of geophysics (detail)

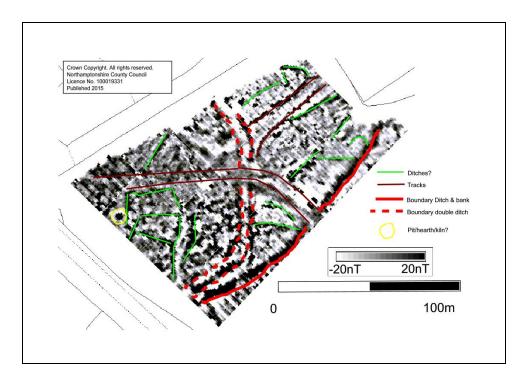


Fig. 13 Area E interpretation (detail)

5.6 Area G

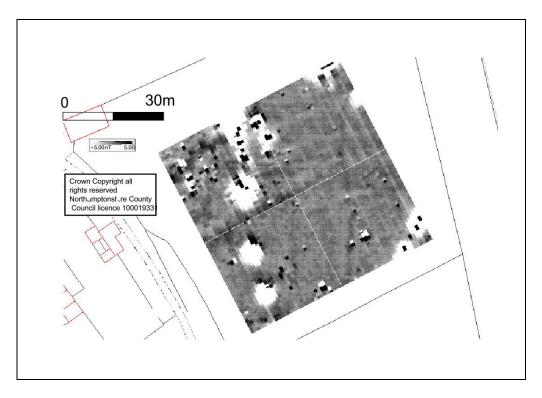


Fig 14 Area G Greyscale plot of geophysics

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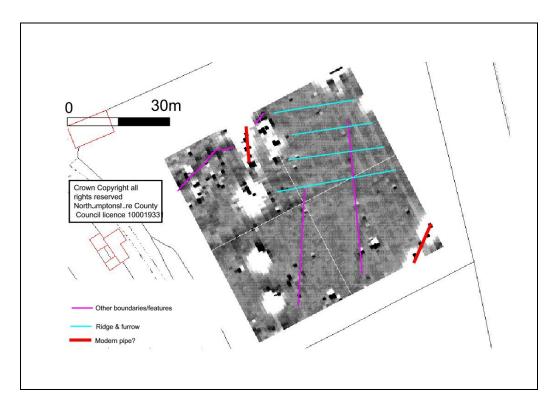


Fig. 15.Area G interpretation

Area G is located to the north of survey Field F and to the south of Field H and is immediately east of farm buildings associated with Whilton Lodge on the extreme eastern edge of Bannaventa. The area lies on the lower level of an eastern facing slope running towards the Grand Union Cannal and the main railway line between Birmingham and London. The field has evidence of W/E medieval ridge and furrow and two faint features aligned North-South which may be ploughed out ditches. In the North-West corner, visible on the ground, is a ridge which may be geological or the remains of gravel extraction but there are no other archaeological or geophysical anomalies. Absence of recognisable archaeological features in the field this far east of Waling Street is again important indication of the extent of Roman activity linked to the settlement.

5.7 Area H

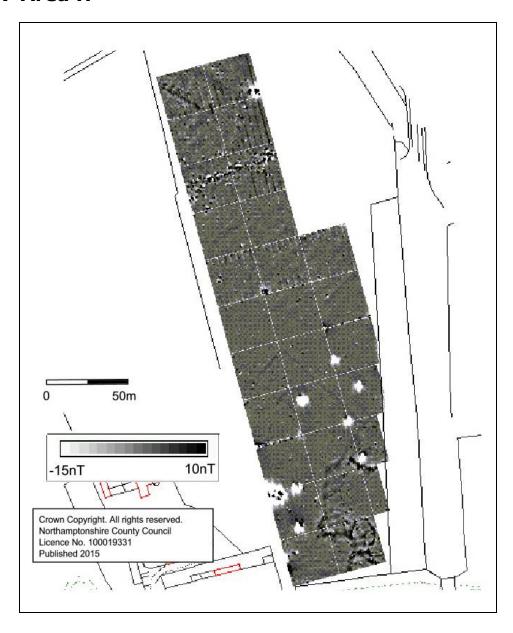


Fig. 16 Area H Greyscale plot of geophysics

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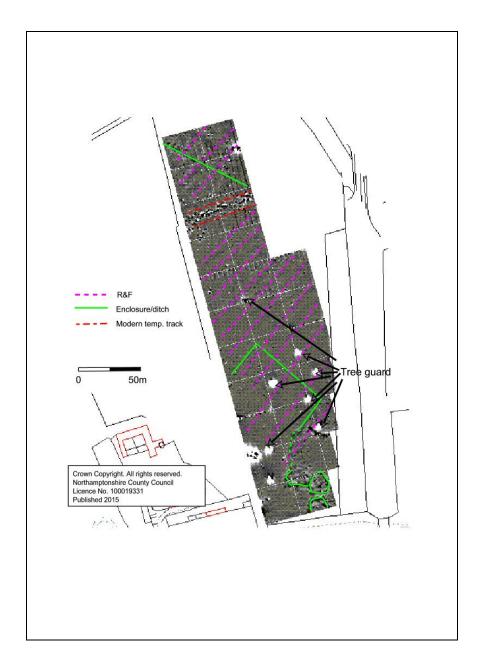


Fig.17 Area H Interpretation

Situated immediately to the North-east of the position of old home farm buildings at Whilton Lodge and adjacent to the Grand Union Canal most of this area only reveals the ridge and furrow common across large sections of the site. There are however, at the South end, two small circular enclosures or paddocks, probably too large in dimension to be round-houses and a scatter of ill-defined ditches. The northern part of the field has been disturbed by the construction of a temporary and now disused trackway connecting the A5 with the main Birmingham/London railway line to facilitate bridge repair work.

There is also a faint large rectangular boundary ditch with a North-East edge 60m long observable towards the centre of Field H.

5.8 Area J

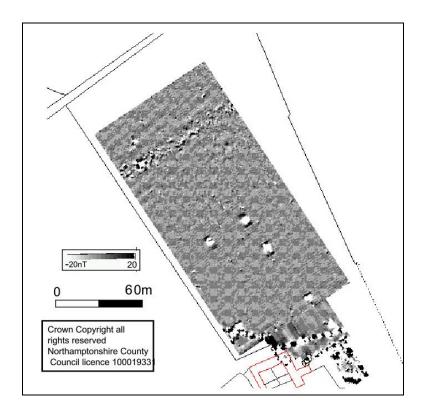


Fig. 18 Area J Greyscale plot of geophysics

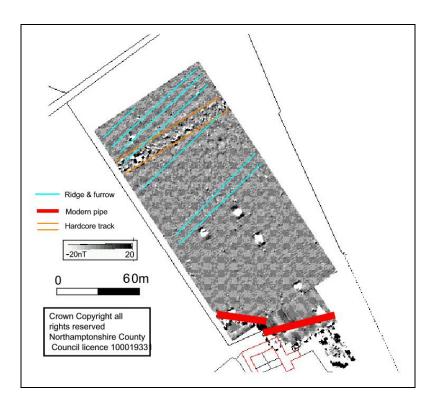


Fig. 19 Area J Interpretation

Area J located to the immediate north of farm buildings associated with Whilton Lodge on the lower level of an eastern facing slope running towards the Grand Union Canal and the main railway line between Birmingham and London. The field appeared to contain no archaeological geophysical anomalies apart from a modern pipe line near the farm buildings and a hardcore track across the Northern end of the field. Nethertheless the absence of features in the field this far east of Watling Street does indicate the limit of Roman activity linked to settlement in this area.

5.9 Area K



Fig. 20 Area K Greyscale plot of geophysics

Surveying this area presented problems. There are several large trees with very low branches and iron cattle guards and the site has probably been excavated for gravel leaving a very uneven surface. The very noisy area in the South East is probably fill of modern hard core to stabilize what would otherwise be a shallow pond.

No archaeological features were identified.

6.0 Conclusions

A central outcome of the geophysical survey is that we can now accurately establish the overall extent of the focal area of the

settlement itself as it evolved through the Roman period. It enables us to make more informed judgments concerning the size and scale of the adjoining landscape attached to the site and enhances our ability to produce a cogent cartographic image of the entire eastern half of the Bannaventa environs. We also have improved our understanding of the nature and character of the 'urban' and 'agricultural' aspects of the site through anaylsing the range of anomalies identified and recorded.

Several individual anomalies have fundamentally changed our perceptions and understanding of certain aspects of the layout and the nature of the archaeological landscape attached to the site east of Watling Street. Comparative analyses of the data with findings from other areas located to the west of Watling Street reveal some implications for any general interpretation of the settlement completely altering our understanding of the entire development and nature of the site.

Crucially the geophysical anomalies observed imply the survival and existence of an integrated landscape of archaeological features far beyond the currently scheduled area associated with the Posting Station. The data also enhances our ability in particular to interpret the evolution of the site within its immediate hinterland and understand more clearly the context of the settlement.

It is now beyond doubt that the full extent and character of settlement was determined jointly by the site's strategic connection with the main arterial route way of Watling Street and the nature of the geological morphology underpinning the shape and elevation of the promontory upon which the settlement was located. The importance of Watling Street as an avenue of communication allied to a requirement to maintain the settlement on good agricultural land above 126m OD which would not be flooded by the headwaters of the River Nene is quite apparent. These factors are demonstrated by the linear distribution of the geophysical anomalies in relation to the Roman Road and the curt cessation of anomalies representing archaeological features as the contours descend into the eroded slopes of the headwater valley channels.

The most imposing feature to be identified is an impressive bank and ditched perimeter boundary with entrances or gateways to the north and south of an outer defensive circuit which encircles and encloses the known area of the late Roman Posting Station on the east side of Watling Street. The existence of this impressive feature has forced a reinterpretation of geophysical field data from an earlier survey for the fields to the West of the site which has enabled us to see that these features had original formed part of a perimeter boundary for Bannaventa that approximately 10 ha (see fig. 24). This more extensive boundary implies that the site may well have originally been envisaged as a much larger settlement which later contracted to the smaller 5 ha area enclosed by the defenses of the Posting Station. Interestingly, the alignment of the two perimeters ditches corresponds closely in the SE section allowing us to determine more correctly the layout and number of defensive ditches for the entire site, which clarifies and explains the confusion previously encountered over the layout and frequency of these defensive features.

The area enclosed by the bank and ditch also indicates major alignment changes in the placement of Watling Street on its passage through the settlement during the Roman occupation. One alignment appears associated with servicing the enlarged perimeter area, taking a more Easterly configuration, as can be seen very clearly as it emerges through the northern gap in the perimeter boundary. Interestingly the placement aligns well with a minor kink in the modern A5 carriageway less than a kilometer North of the Long Buckby crossroads whose existence otherwise is difficult to explain. Meanwhile another more westerly alignment appears to be specifically dedicated to the layout requirements of the smaller Posting Station (see fig. 21). Acceptance of this interpretation highlights the evolving political/social rationale and changing role of the settlement during the Roman period, pointing out the probable complexity of the site's development.

It is also worth noting that the alignment of the defensive perimeter in the SE of the site cuts across the quadrilateral rectangular plan of the Post Station defenses to allow for the entry of another important road way. This road may-well be the western terminal of a significant alignment of a road known to exist between Whilton Lodge and the extensive Roman at Duston near Northampton.

A series of geophysical anomalies observed across the SE quadrant of the scheduled area of the Posting Station crucially display an irregular interior street pattern implying the absence of a planned layout of organized and consistent 'insula' within the defensive

perimeter. None of the features recorded appear to suggest the construction of significant buildings typical of the type of civic infrastructure found in the 'Civitas' capitols for example Forum and Basilica complexities, although it does not preclude the existence of state sponsored facilities such as a 'mansio' somewhere else in the environs of Bannaventa. The irregular internal layout of the urban focal point of the settlement accords well with other similar sites located along the River Nene, as can be seen at Irchester near Wellingborough and Ashton near Oundle and reflects a common approach to site planning in our wider locality. Unfortunately the lack of clarity available for the geophysical anomalies associated with the larger area encompassed by the single bank and ditch does not allow us to postulate whether the site as originally conceived would have been any different.

The linear alignment along Watling Street of the field and enclosure systems show the relationship between the settlement and the immediate hinterland and will help us to clarify our understanding of the local agricultural regime and the connection between the two aspects of the site. All the geophysical anomalies linked to the existence of field systems and enclosures suggest several different phases of landscape development and the application of specific agricultural regimes to meet the diverse and changing agricultural needs of Bannaventa as a community. They conceivably could be taken as emphasizing stock management of sheep, cattle or horses. Different alignments within the field system and the presence of a range of characteristic features are evidence of the chronological complexity of the landscape adjoining the Posting Station.

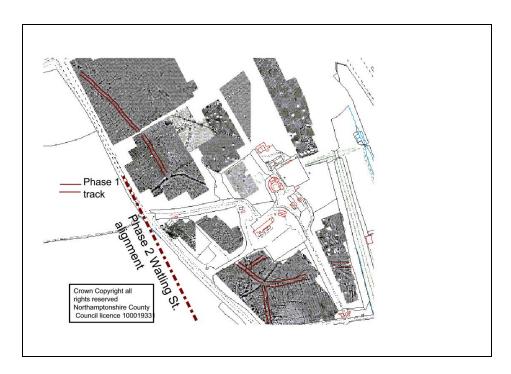


Fig 21. Phase 1 tracks

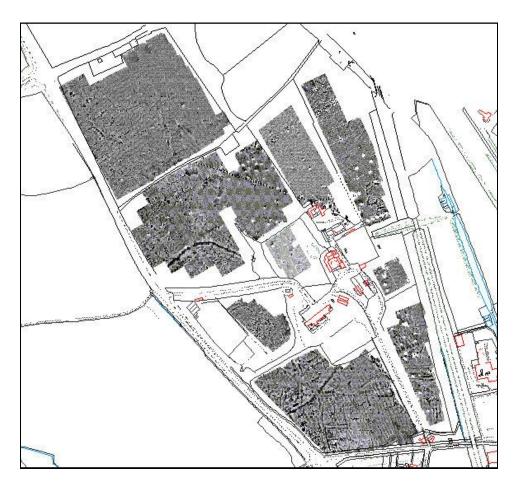


Fig.22 Total geophysics

34

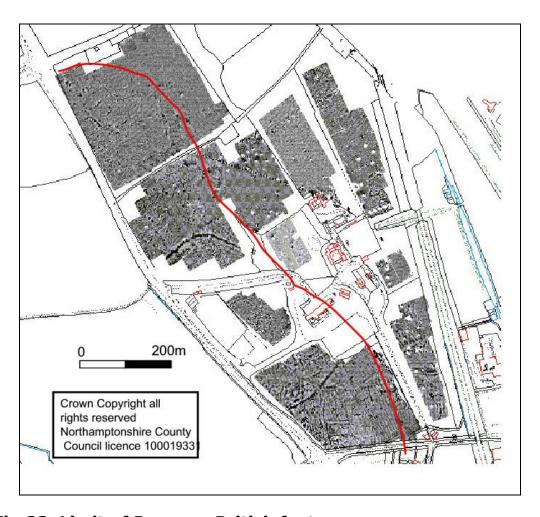


Fig.23 Limit of Romano-British features

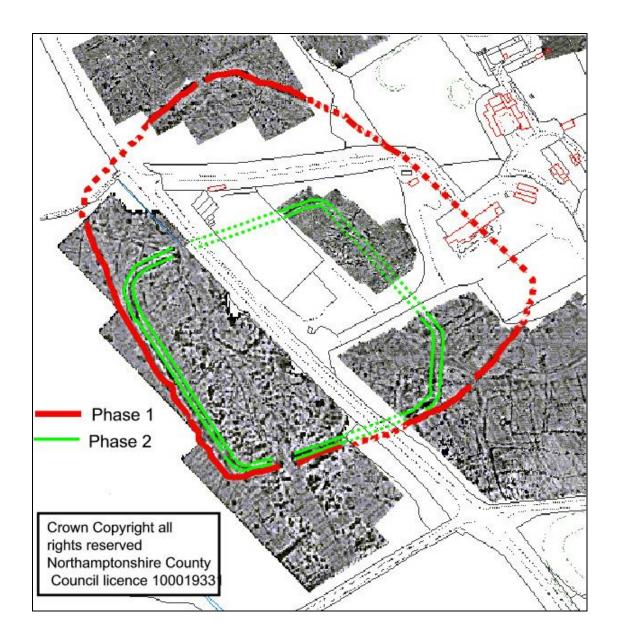


Fig.24 Bannaventa Perimeter

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APPENDIX

HER/SMR records

The County HER records show large numbers of Roman small finds i.e. pot sherds and coins in the fields surrounding Bannaventa, too numerous to list here. Below are other Roman features recorded in the area

	Туре	SMR	OS co-ords	Description
MNN11430	MON	447/1	6076 6521	Watling Street Roman road (Margary Routes 1e & 1f)
MNN11583	MON	894/1	605 649	Possible Roman villa north- eest of Bannaventa
MNN127294	MON	895/1/5	6100 6458	Section of Bannaventa town defences (Morphed aerial archaeology interpretation)
MNN127330	MON	894/1/1	6058 6493	Part of a possible Roman villa
MNN18583	MON	447/1/8	6076 6535	Inhumation from base of Roman ditch
MNN2489	MON	6491	6087 6509	Possible Roman settlement
MNN3773	MON	895	6101 6456	Bannaventa Roman settlement
MNN505	MON	925	6151 6442	Duston-Bannaventa Roman road
MNN498	MON	894	605 649	Possible Roman settlement
MNN19543	MON	895/0/1	6096 6480	Roman rubbish pits
MNN37223	MON	6491/0/1	609650	Roman cobbled surface, nails, brick
		895/3	612 264	Possible Romano/British cemetery south of settlement

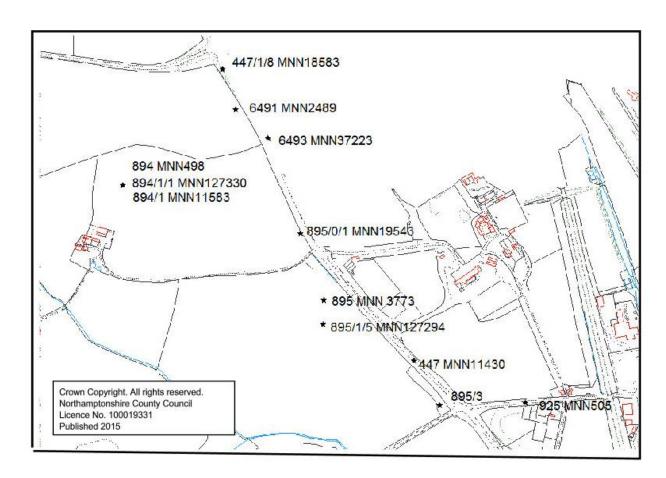


Fig 25 HER/SMR within 0.5 km.