
Barby Hill Archaeological Project: Project Report, Year 1, 2011/12

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Abstract

The discovery of Iron Age round-house circles on top of Barby Hill during repairs to a water reservoir suggested that this hilltop once housed what may have been a sizeable community. A major aim of this project was therefore to continue the initial work already done at Barby Hill, to assess and map the full extent of the archaeology on and around the hilltop. A further aim of the project was to involve the local community wherever possible, to encourage local involvement in the work and promote local interest in the community's heritage.

Initial funding was obtained from county level and from the local parish, and a local committee was formed to oversee the work under the direction of a locally-based project manager. Liaisons were set up with Natural England, Northamptonshire HER, Northamptonshire Archaeology and other relevant bodies, and with local landowners. Work carried out in the initial period covered by this report (May 2011 to end of March 2012) included field-walking, metal detection and geophysics surveys, using volunteers from the local community assisted by experienced volunteers from the organisations CLASP and NARC.

The first stage of work has realised all its preliminary aims. Initial results have established that the Iron Age settlement spread over at least 4 hectares, with no signs yet detected of the limits of occupation, and further evidence has been gathered of ongoing activity on the hill during the Roman period. Information has also been gained on the later development and usage of the hilltop in the early post-medieval period. In terms of local involvement, the project has provided training in all the techniques involved (including formal training in operation of a magnetometer), and has produced an efficient team with rapidly increasing competence. A formal structure has been put in place for continued management and fiscal control of the project. Detailed records and a managed project archive have been created, based on approved archaeological standards, and these will be extended as the work proceeds. Finally, members of the local community are taking a direct and prominent role in "owning" the project, and general interest within the wider local community is being fostered by regular reports and talks.

1. Introduction

- a) The main site of interest is the flat top of Barby Hill, Northamptonshire, lying within an area centred at SP 52820 52420 and extending between SP528706 (N), SP527699 (S), SP524704 (W) and SP523702 (E), as shown in the green area outlined in red in Fig.1. All work in this initial year was within this main site.
- b) A later stage in the project will examine sections of a near-linear long-distance alignment of old roads and tracks (referred to in this report as "King Street") that may relate to the site in (a). The dotted green line in Fig.1 shows part of this alignment.

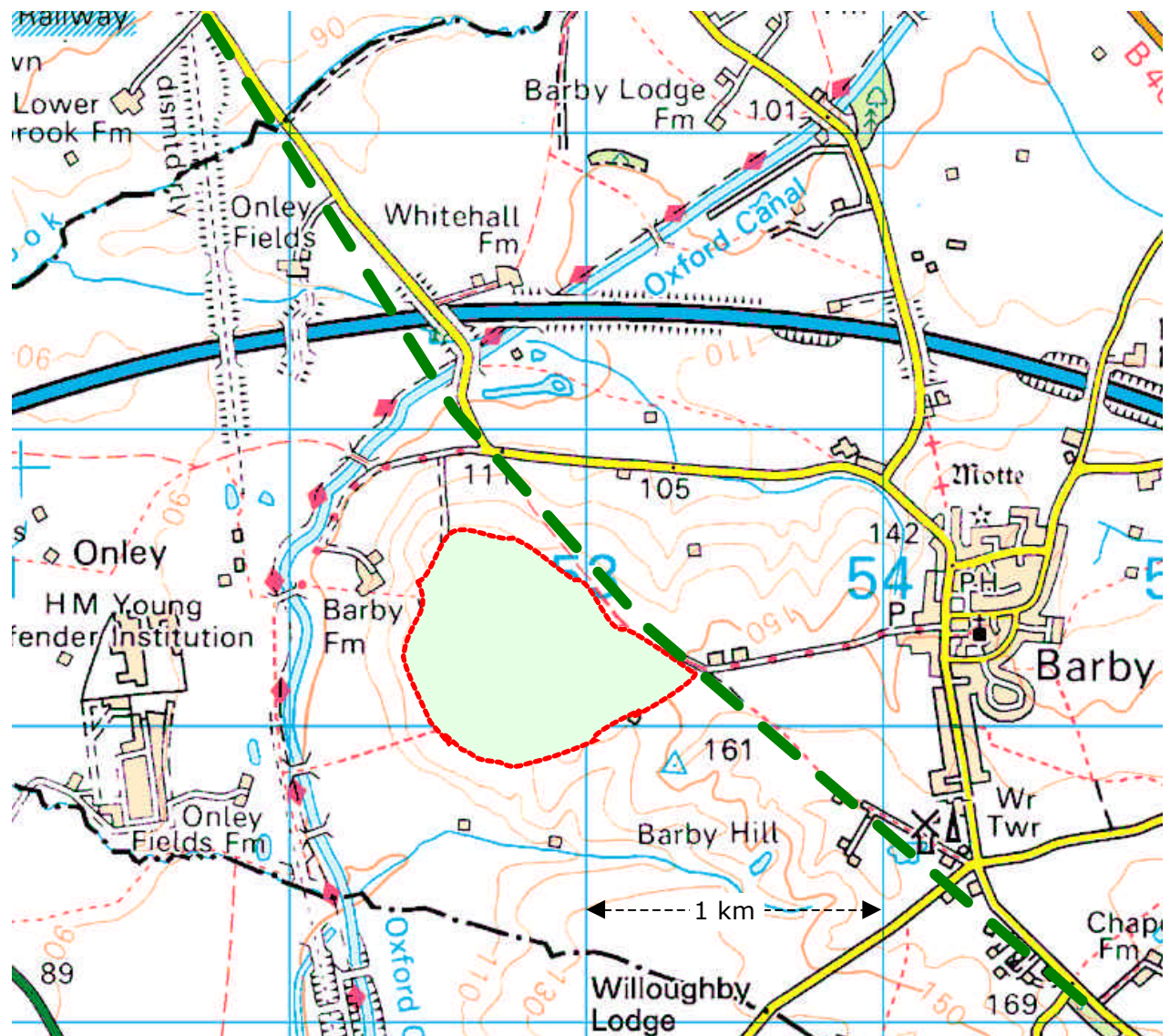


Fig.1: Investigation areas

Topology and Nature of the Site:

The main site indicated in (a) above lies on the tip of the summit of Barby Hill, which forms a broad flat plateau varying between 144m and 147m asl. The land falls away steeply to the north, west and south, and there are excellent long-distance views in all these directions, making the site very attractive as a potential settlement. To the east, the land slopes gently upward and is less easily defensible, eventually reaching a natural crest at Barby Mill and Water Tower.

Barby hilltop and the slightly lower opposite escarpment at Hillmorton and Rugby (approx. 120m asl) both consist of deposits of Dunsmore sand and gravel, the intervening valley floor being mainly composed of mid-Pleistocene glacial deposits of sand and gravel overlaid with glacial clay.

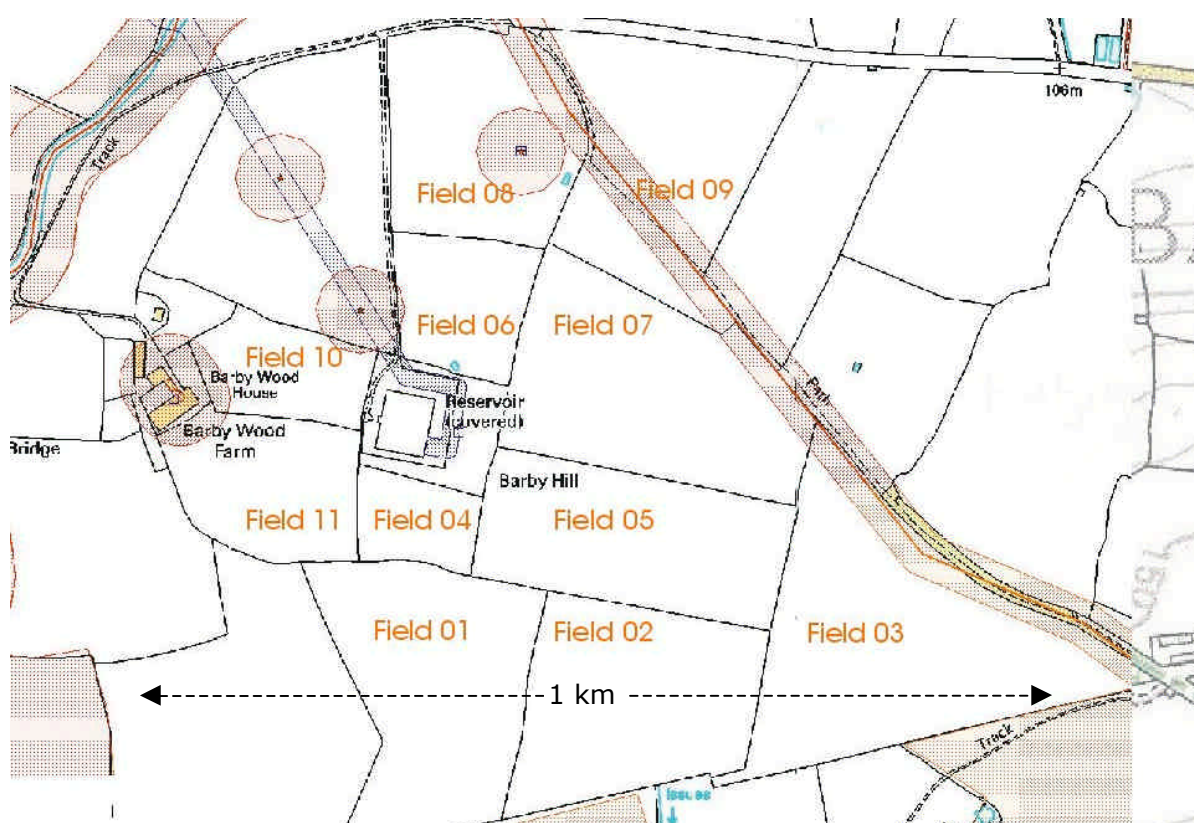


Fig. 2: Layout and numbering of fields on the main site

NB: The above simplified numbering system was adopted for convenience when working on site. Correlation with the Rural Land Register (RLR) field numbers is as follows:

Short No.	Field 01	Field 02	Field 03	Field 04	Field 05	Field 06
RLR No.	SP5370 6015	SP5270 8216	SP5370 1223	SP5270 5737	SP5270 8234	SP5270 6261

Short No.	Field 07	Field 08	Field 09	Field 10	Field 11	
RLR No.	SP5270 8550	SP5270 6480	SP5270 8677	SP5270 4254	SP5270 4041	

2. Summary of area under investigation

2.1 Derogation areas and non-derogation areas

Part of the land within the investigation site (Fields 1,2,3,4,5,7,10,11, see diagram in Fig.2 above) is located in Barby Wood Farm, which is covered by a UK government Entry Level Stewardship scheme. Therefore, in addition to obtaining permission from the landowner and farmer, formal permission was also sought from Natural England to conduct archaeological investigation on this land. Natural England granted initial derogation (application ref. AG00307690) for an initial year's investigation (01-Sep-2011 to 31-Aug-2012), essentially comprising field-walking and metal-detection in arable areas and non-intrusive geophysics (magnetometry) in pasture areas.

The remaining parts of the investigation site (Fields 6,8,9) are part of an adjacent farm which is not covered by a Stewardship scheme. Permission was obtained from the landowner and farmer, for a similar range of activities, plus an option for limited excavation in specific agreed areas (as defined below in Section 6.3).

2.2 Arable areas and pasture areas

Arable areas: Fields 1/2/3/6/8/9

Pasture areas: Fields 4/5/7/10/11

The nature of the arable fields is such that field-walking and metal-detection work could only be carried out between harvest time and the first few weeks after the next crop was sowed. No such constraints apply to the pasture areas, and non-intrusive magnetometer survey work was carried out through the year at times when manpower resources were not required in the arable fields.

3. General methodology

The general methodology employed in this initial phase was to gather as much background data as possible, from a variety of different sources, before carrying out any new fieldwork; then to plan and carry out new fieldwork so as to obtain a general overall grasp of the nature and extent of any archaeology on Barby Hill.

In more detail, this included the following phases of work:

3.1 Aerial photography and map studies

Digital copies of the RAF 1945 overhead photographs were examined, for the area of Barby Hill and the surroundings, especially to the west in the Rainsbrook Valley and on the opposing slopes leading up to the Ashlawn Road. A full list of the available historical overhead images was also obtained from the National Monuments Record.

The OS 25,000:1 map (showing field boundaries) was used as the basis for all general studies and for plotting wide-area data. For more concentrated and focused work in specific areas of the site, high-definition screen-grabs were captured from the Northamptonshire HER MapInfo database and overlaid on the OS 25,000:1 map.

This is reported more fully in Section 4 below.

3.2 Previous investigations in adjacent areas (inc SMR surveys)

The databases of the Leicestershire, Warwickshire and Northamptonshire HERs (formerly SMRs) were examined, and general listings were extracted for all Iron Age and Romano-British site/monument records within 8km and 11km respectively of Barby Hill.

The summary maps of these locations were plotted in a wide-area map, using CorelDraw® software, to act as a general reference throughout the project.

Some of the most relevant previous investigations are summarised in Section 5 below. The details from these summaries are later used as reference points when analysing results of fieldwork on the present site.

3.3 New fieldwork

New fieldwork was planned and carried out, involving field-walking (on 10% sample transects) and metal-detection (also on 10% sample transects) in arable areas, and 100% geophysics (gradiometer) surveys in selected pasture areas. The aim was to cover as much as possible of the hilltop and hillsides in a preliminary level of detail, in order to obtain an overall feel for the site and also to identify specific areas requiring more detailed investigation. This work is described in more detail in Section 6 below.

3.4 Funding obtained

Initial matched funding was granted by local and county councils, consisting of:

- a) A first-year grant of £750 by NCC via the Regional Councillor's discretionary fund.
- b) A matched grant of £750 from Barby Parish's available funding sources.

This £1500 was sufficient to cover the activities listed above in 3.3, which included purchase/manufacture of basic surveying equipment, storage media etc., and the hire of a magnetometer and trainer/operator for preliminary survey work.

3.5 Co-ordinating committee

A committee was appointed to oversee and be accountable for financial and technical aspects, approve expenditure, manage bank accounts, plan forward expenditure, obtain new funding etc. Members of this committee were drawn from the organisations (Barby Local History Group, NARC and CLASP) whose members provide the volunteer workforce on the project, together with the Project Director. Barby Parish Council, as one of the funding agencies, also has a place reserved on this committee.

4. Aerial photography and map studies

4.1 Aerial photographs

The surviving stock of historical aerial photographs available via English Heritage gives only limited coverage of the areas under investigation, with very little relevant material available between 1947 and the 1990s. In addition, significant scoring of the microfilmed 1945 images has left horizontal traces across some of the most relevant images, which may all too easily be misinterpreted as landscape features.

4.2 Interpretation

The images for Barby Hill itself are particularly badly marked by horizontal scoring. However, some relevant and significant details may still be distinguished – and some better-quality images for locations a short distance to the north of Barby Hill also reveal information of possible relevance to the present investigation:

- a) A large pond is clearly shown in the 1945 image for Field 03, in a location close to the meeting point of what were probably two drove routes from Elkington Lane to the pastures at Onley (i.e. a first route to "Rawdykes" [c.1570- AD] and a subsequent second route to the heart of the deserted settlement [c.1605- AD], see also Section 5.3 below).
- b) A series of marks in Field 01 may be no more than scratches on the image, but may perhaps indicate the remains of a series of roughly rectangular paddock-like enclosures; this may perhaps be worthy of further investigation by magnetometer in a later stage of work.
- c) There is no evidence of ploughing in any of the present pasture areas at any dates covered by the images, suggesting that the land has probably remained relatively undisturbed since the 1940s.
- d) In a nearby area about 2km due north of Barby Hill, on the Rugby side of the Rainsbrook valley (approx. SP5279 7292), the 1945 aerial images clearly reveal a group of at least 4 (and possibly 5 or 6) large oval double-outlined enclosures in the arable fields, each measuring 60-80m along their major axis, together with possible traces of what might be two sides of a much larger rectangular outer enclosing ditch. Two further similar but smaller double-outlined enclosures measuring 40-60m along their major axes are visible in a field about 500m west-north-west of this group (approx. SP5208 7322. NB: this location is now converted into a sports field). The size, shape and double outline of all these oval features suggests that they may have been ditched farmstead enclosures of a type typical in the middle Iron Age. There is no trace of the features in later aerial photographs from about 1990 onward, and it is likely that those features on the land that is still arable were deliberately ploughed out at some time since the 1940s. Ground-level examination of the relevant fields will be scheduled for a later stage of work.

5. Summary of previous relevant investigations

Reports were studied from five specific relevant local investigations:

- 5.1. Severn Trent Water: Draycote-Barby pipeline
- 5.2. Severn Trent Water: Barby Hill reservoir
- 5.3. Documentary and fieldwork research on the desertion of Onley
- 5.4. DIRFT development, Crick and Barby Nortoft
- 5.5. Borough Hill, Daventry

5.1 Severn Trent Water: Draycote-Barby Pipeline 1995-6 ENN17571, Northants HER Ref. 8086/0/0 - MNN34067

This site is located within 100m of the site of the present project.

No archaeology was revealed as part of the Stage 1 works. However the Stage 2 works recovered unstratified Romano-British and other finds dating from c. 2000 BC until the present century, all of which were plotted. The plot indicates that Romano-British remains may lie in the vicinity of Barby Hill. In brief, the finds comprised:

- a) A gilded copper alloy brooch, dated to the C3rd/C4th AD and of a type considered native to Britain.
- b) Eight Roman coins, five of which were catalogued: a copper alloy sesterius of Trajan (103-11 AD), two sestertii of Marcus Aurelius (171-72 AD and 176-77 AD respectively), a coin of Maximus I (235-36 AD), a coin of Magnentius (353 AD).

The concentration of Roman coins of the period 103-353 AD may indicate that a site of the C2nd to C4th AD lies in the vicinity of Barby Hill. Alternatively they may derive from a scattered coin hoard.

These finds will be considered in context with the Romano-British finds made during the present project, see Sections 6 and 7.

Sources:

- (1) SMR Report: Soden, 1997. SMR Report Form.
- (2) Report: Soden, 1995. An Archaeological Watching Brief on the Draycote-Barby Pipeline, Barby, Northants. Northamptonshire Archaeology Fieldwork Reports. pp.6-7.

5.2 Severn Trent Water: Barby Hill Reservoir, 2008-9, SP5262 7046 Watching brief by Cotswold Archaeology, unpublished

Replacement of the existing water reservoir (due to a single coliform failure in 2006 and subsequent problems with the structural integrity of the reservoir) was under way, when routine excavation by the contractor's workforce revealed traces of archaeology. Construction work was temporarily suspended, and a brief investigation was carried out by Cotswold Archaeology. This investigation has not yet been written up formally; but with permission from Severn Trent Water, Cotswold Archaeology made available a brief summary of their findings, along with an accurately plotted layout plan showing the extent and precise location of their investigation (which included a total of 20 small excavations in the area exposed by the reservoir contractor). This site lies within the site presently under investigation.

Cotswold Archaeology reported "in an area approximately 25m by 30m, at least six inter-cutting ring ditches, gullies and pits dating to late Iron Age and likely to represent walling trenches and drip gullies from roundhouses. Several of these features were cut by two later large and well-maintained boundary ditches of a similar date", and concluded that "the site would appear to represent part of a settlement extending beyond the limits of the excavation in all directions".

Cotswold's layout plan and comments will be considered in context with the magnetometer surveys made during the present project, see Sections 6 and 7.

Sources:

- (1) Report
- (2) Meeting with Cotswold Archaeology (Hatton/Coleman), 16-Dec-2011, and associated correspondence

5.3 Documentary and fieldwork research on the desertion of Onley

A detailed documentary study was carried out by G.W. Hatton in 2003-5, together with fieldwork at the site of Onley DMV, and a visit to Onley Prison to examine the results of a small dig supervised by Warwick University Archaeology Dept in 2003. This research, which was written up in detail (see "Sources" below), produced among its data the following findings relating specifically to the present project on Barby Hill:

- a) Rawdykes: An area named "Rawdykes", of 42 acres (approx 17 hectares), was cleared for pasture south of the Onley DMV site in about 1550-1570. Fieldname maps show that this area lies directly adjacent to "Roddicks Bridge" over the canal, and directly in line with an extension of Elkington Lane in Barby, which is thus seen to be a purpose-built 16th century drove route from Barby to Rawdykes.
- b) Barby Great Wood: The wood probably covered the entire top of Barby Hill and its steep sides, extending over about 150-200 acres (64-85 hectares). It was probably planted post-Conquest (perhaps in the 1100s or 1200s, since it appears to have been mature by the 1500s. An area of 76 acres (approx 31 hectares) was cleared for sheep pasture on the top of Barby Hill and down the north-east face; this clearance, referred to as "Burnthill", probably took place around 1590-1600.
- c) Abandonment of the settlement at Onley: The settlement was still thriving in the 1570s, but was abandoned and converted to sheep pasture by 1610. The excavation at Onley Prison revealed traces of a lane 12-13m wide leading directly to Barby Hill – the extension of this route intersects the route from Barby to Rawdykes at roughly the point where present-day Elkington Lane ends; it seems likely that this was a second drove route from Barby to the pastures at Onley, probably formed at the same time as the clearance of "Burnthill".
- d) King Street: 16th century documentary evidence, allied to the present-day fieldname map, names present-day Onley Lane as "King Street". Topographical examination suggests that it forms part of what may be a very ancient straight-line ridgeway route leading directly from the centre of present-day Rugby to Borough Hill at Daventry (Borough Hill contains evidence of a Bronze Age hillfort, a subsequent late Iron Age hillfort, and a subsequent Romano-British dwelling). Northamptonshire HER archive records "King Street" as a possible Romano-British communication route (SMR refs. 406/MNN344, ENN3618).

The findings of this report, which chiefly relate in detail to developments during the period 1500-1620 AD and in more general terms to the broader period from about 1250 AD up to Parliamentary Inclosure of Barby's open fields in 1778 AD, will be considered in context with the field-walking and metal-detector surveys in the arable areas and the magnetometer surveys in the pasture areas, see Sections 6 and 7.

Sources:

- (1) Unpublished report, "The Medieval Settlement at Onley, Northamptonshire: An evaluation of the process of formation and desertion of the medieval settlement, with special reference to its significance within the larger community during the 16th and 17th centuries", G.W. Hatton, 2005. Presented at the CRASSH historical seminar, Cambridge University, 2005.
- (2) Northamptonshire HER archive, 406/MNN344, ENN3618

5.4 DIRFT development, (I) M1 Crick Interchange and (II) Barby Nortoft

Archaeological excavations at the sites of the DIRFT I and DIRFT II developments (respectively at the M1 J18 Crick interchange, and at Barby Nortoft north-west of Kilsby village) revealed evidence of substantial occupation during the late Iron Age and into the Romano-British period. The archaeology and subsequent analysis is partially documented (DIRFT I: various reports by Birmingham and Leicester Universities; DIRFT II - Cotswold Archaeology, report 06126), showing evidence of:

- a) DIRFT I: In total 5 sites were examined. Crick Covert (80-90 IA roundhouses and some enclosures); Long Dole (30-35 IA roundhouses, and rectangular and square enclosures); The Lodge (20-25 IA roundhouses with much intersection, but no enclosures, partly overlaid by a RB field system); Crick Hotel (10-12 simple IA roundhouses, all short-lived).

- b) DIRFT II: the main findings were from the mid/late Iron Age – a settlement of 50-60 roundhouse circles (suggesting a community of up to 300 individuals) including several large rectangular enclosures similar to those found at Long Dole. The DIRFT II site appears to have been abandoned in an orderly fashion around the time of or shortly after the Roman occupation, the eastern part of the site being later overlaid by a late Romano-British field system, which may perhaps be associated with the RB site at DIRFT I (The Lodge).

The DIRFT sites are all located within 5km (3 miles) north-east of the Barby Hill site covered by the present project.

Note: A further late Iron Age settlement of about 25-30 roundhouses was excavated at Brownsover (7.2km [4.5 miles] north of the Barby Hill site) as part of a 1980s housing development. This appears to have been abandoned in an orderly fashion around the time of the Roman occupation, i.e. similar to the DIRFT II site at Barby Nortoft.

Sources:

- (1) Warwickshire and Northamptonshire HER archives
- (2) Discussions and meetings with Cotswold Archaeology

5.5 Borough Hill, Daventry, Northants National Monument No.17145

Borough Hill is located 9.6km (5.8 miles) south-east of the western tip of Barby Hill. The ancient "King Street" ridgeway route identified in Section 5.3 above appears to form a direct straight-line route from Rugby to the northern end of Borough Hill, and its course runs over Barby Hill, passing directly adjacent to the site of the current project; this apparent link via "King Street" is the main reason for including Borough Hill in this initial short-list of relevant local sites.

Borough Hill, a flat-topped hill rising to 200m OD, is occupied by the largest hillfort in Northamptonshire, part of a network of fairly evenly-spaced forts on high ground in the west of the county (others being at Rainsborough, Chipping Warden, Guilsborough, Arbury Banks, Whittlebury, Hartwell and Hunsbury). It is unclear exactly when the Borough Hill fort was constructed – features located on the hill show evidence of late BA and early IA dates, but no significant excavations have been conducted on the actual defences.

Two distinct phases have been observed; originally it was a multivallate contour fort enclosing 54 hectares, probably constructed during the early Iron Age. Subsequently a smaller fort enclosing about 5 hectares was constructed at the northern tip, probably dating from the middle to late Iron Age.

Within this smaller fort a subsequent Romano-British building was located; a Romano-British ditch located nearby suggests that the fort was converted into agricultural land at this time, and the political/religious/trade functions probably carried out here were shifted to the Romano-British town of Bannaventa at Whilton, 2km to the east (NB: Bannaventa itself is now understood to have had a prior Iron Age existence).

These findings will be considered in more detail as part of the overall evaluation of the Barby Hill site within the wider landscape, in later issues of this report.

Note: Further small settlements of late Iron Age date have also been investigated in the neighbourhood of Borough Hill Daventry, at Monksmoor, Middlemoor and Churchfields, and these should also be considered (along with the Bannaventa site) as part of the wide-area

Sources:

- (1) Northamptonshire HER archive, Borough Hill Daventry, evaluation, Harvey 2004
- (2) Northamptonshire HER archive, scheduled monument description, revised 1994
- (3) Northamptonshire HER archive, Borough Hill Daventry, evaluation, Jackson 1991
- (4) Northamptonshire HER archive, various individual reports on Monksmoor, Middlemoor and Churchfields.

6. New fieldwork in 2011/2012

The work carried out in this initial year was essentially intended to explore as much of the site as possible in sufficient detail to highlight any areas deserving of more detailed study, and to gain an overall feeling for the nature and extent of archaeology on the site.

Three different and complementary types of work were carried out – field-walking in arable areas; metal-detection in arable areas; and magnetometer surveys in pasture areas.

The fields around the site were first allocated individual reference numbers, as shown in the map in Fig.2, in Section 1 above.

6.1 Arable areas: Initial 10% transect surveys

The collection strategy was based upon a number of stages of increasing detail, which balanced the quantity and quality of information with the available resources.

An initial reconnaissance of the main areas of arable land in the area (Fields 01, 02, 05, 06) was carried out using traverses (or transects) at 20m spacing across each field, irrespective of geology and topography. Each transect was divided into 20m lengths (or spits), in order to locate artefacts close to their initial find-spots. The collection unit thus comprised a rectangle 20m long and approximately 2m wide, i.e. allowing detailed survey of 10% of the total available area of each arable field.

(NB: The basic 20m x 20m grid was adopted as a standard across this entire site, both for field-walking, metal-detection and magnetometry, allowing data from all three types of survey to be quickly and easily integrated – particularly useful where follow-up magnetometry is planned in arable areas previously field-walked).

The reason for carrying out this initial survey was to identify any concentrations of finds, as a basis for further possible detailed grid-surveys. The 20m transects and spits were labelled using alternate double letters (for the transects, AA/AC/AE/etc) and double numbers (for the spits, 00/02/04/etc), as indicated in the diagram below.

	AA	AC	AE	AG	AI	etc
00						
02						
04						
06						
08						
etc						

Fig.3: 20m x 20m site standard grid system

This system enables a subsequent 10m x 10m grid system to be employed for more detailed follow-up grid-walking, whilst retaining the same overall alpha-numeric identification system (ie by adding the missing letters and numbers, thus – AA/AB/AC/etc, 00/01/02/etc – to achieve a series of 10x10m grids).

The individual transects were laid in the fields by tape measurement along a base line (most fields had at least one sufficiently long and straight hedge-line to serve as a baseline reference), and a parallel forward line together with intermediate lines were established by optical square, and marked by white-tipped canes pushed in at 20m intervals.

Due to topographical constraints, including thick hawthorn hedges as established at Inclosure and hillside contours, no attempt was made to align the transects to the

National Grid. Instead, the surveyed lines at the corners of each field were carefully measured and recorded, with reference to semi-permanent landmarks (eg a clear mark on a specified tree, a marked and durable fence-post, etc), to ensure that the grid could be re-established accurately at a later date.

Consideration was given to referring all base-lines accurately to a nearby trig point using an absolute station; this was not done at this stage, as it seemed overly precise and resource-intensive for the immediate task in hand – but with the method actually adopted, this additional level of detail could be added as a later refinement should the initial results warrant it.

Each transect was walked both by a team of field-walkers and by a separate team of metal-detectorists. Two field-walkers walked each transect. Each find was individually bagged and labelled with field number, transect and spit numbers, thus:

Example: 02/AC/06/9 = Field 02, transect AC, spit 06, 9m from start of spit

The recovery of all pottery and metal artefacts was an essential requirement. No pre-Roman pottery or metal artefacts were recovered, however, and only a very small amount of Romano-British material, the vast majority of finds being of late medieval or early modern date. Post-industrial and modern finds were not retained.

Once collected, all finds were carefully cleaned in clean water, using a soft brush where necessary, and preliminary identification was carried out by a small group of experienced volunteers; items requiring second opinion were referred to the Finds Liaison Officer, or to one or other of the archaeological specialists acting as advisors to the project.

The categorised finds were logged in an MS Excel® spreadsheet (see example in Fig.4 below), including for each item the field number and grid reference plus a National Grid SP reference derived from the electronic map used to record the project, and other relevant data. Although these surface finds were all unstratified, provision was included in the pro-forma spreadsheet for adding a context sheet (stratigraphy) reference for any finds recovered during controlled excavation work in later phases of the project.

Item	Context sheet No. (USF = none)	Field No.	Grid ref.	SP Ref.	Material	Category	Sub-category	Period	Approx. date	Description
0										Initial transect walking, Field 01
1	USF	01	AC02a3	SP 52620 70301	lead	weight		medieval		Possibly early modern? Weight or perhaps counter?
2	USF	01	AC02a3	SP 52620 70301	copper alloy	misc. metal		undatable		Concentric patterned disc - FLO to comment.
3	USF	01	AC06a0	SP 52590 70305	copper alloy	buckle		early modern		Fragments of two buckles, possibly post-industrial?
4	USF	01	AC23a0	SP 52400 70325	pottery	pot sherd		medieval		Possible Brill ware (Oxon) (late 15C-17C), late medieval
5	USF	01	AE08a0	SP 52560 70285	pottery	pot sherd		early modern		Midland blackware (1550-1700), internal glazed

Fig. 4: Example of finds list

6.1.1 Mapping

The entire project is mapped using CorelDraw® software, which supports high-precision graphical and text editing, graphic image import, multiple layers, and virtually infinite zoom, allowing both detailed close-up examination of areas a few metres across and also wide-area analysis of features 10-20 kilometres apart. High-resolution bitmaps captured from the OS 25,000:1 map plus ultra-high resolution close-up bitmaps captured from the Northamptonshire HER archive MapInfo® system were imported into the CorelDraw® system, to form an accurate reference basis for subsequent transfer of the project data to the Northamptonshire HER archive.

The field-walking and metal-detection grids for the arable areas are shown in the diagrams on the next page, which are screen-grabs taken direct from the CorelDraw® system.

Fig.5 (right):

20x20m grids for
Fields 06 and 08

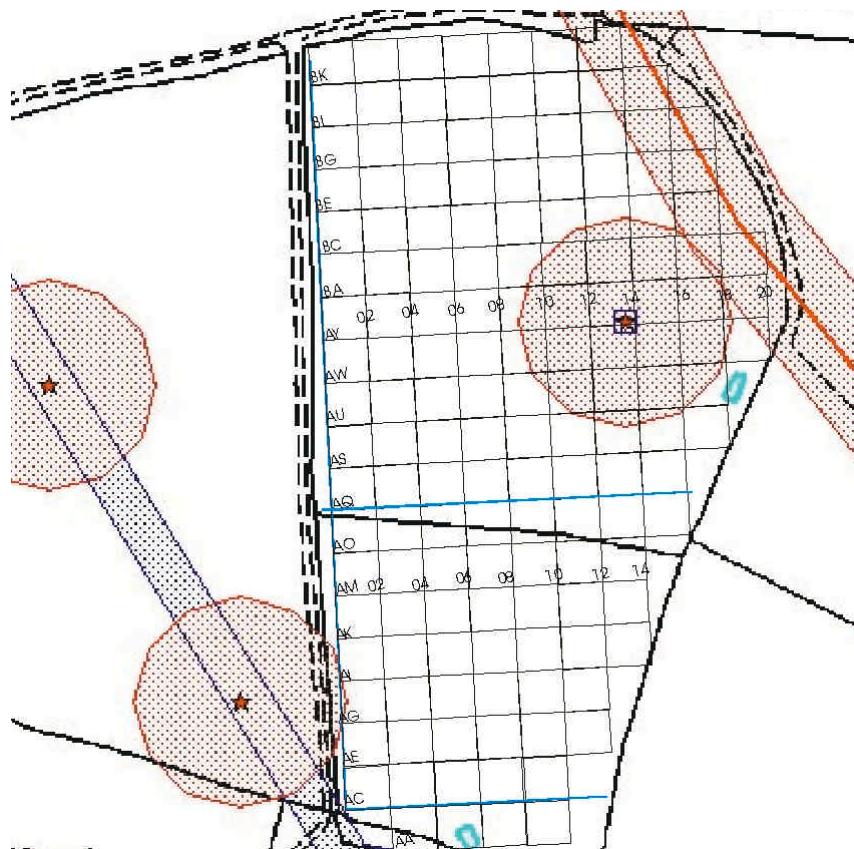
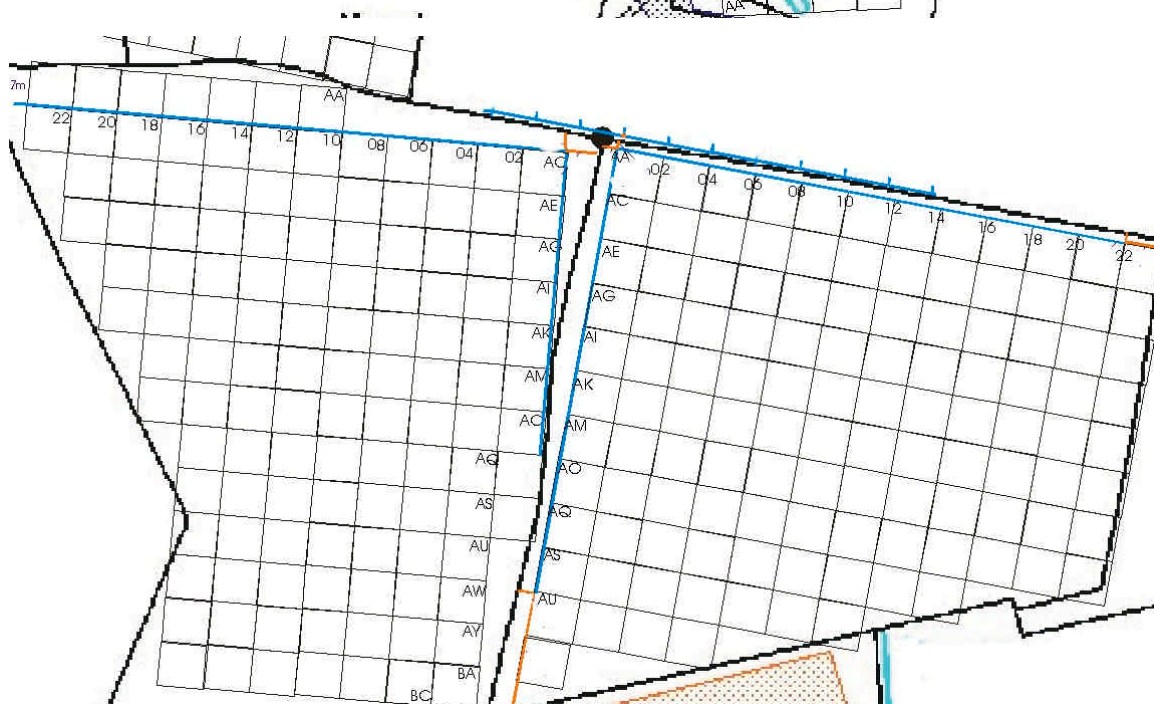


Fig.6 (below):

20x20m grids for
Fields 01 and 02



6.1.2 Summary and evaluation of finds in the arable areas

The current farming practice in this area is not to plough every year before re-sowing these fields (this is partly an economic measure to minimise costs, but also a technical measure to avoid over-ploughing the land and creating a friable topsoil that is easily blown away from this exposed hilltop). The land is currently ploughed intermittently every few years, to maintain its aeration.

One of the apparent consequences of this policy was an extremely low rate of finds from the field-walking exercises to detect surface finds. However, finds from metal-detection were also low, and this may be an indication that the true density of finds in the topsoil in the arable fields really is low.

The combined totals of finds by field-walking and metal-detection, after cleaning and identification, and rejection of spurious objects, are summarised in the table below. Obvious late-19th and 20th century material was discarded, the few "post-industrial" items retained are late Georgian items.

Initial Transect searching						Breakdown of finds by period							
Field	20m squares searched	Total area of squares (sq.m.)	Total transect area (2m strips)	No. of finds	Density (sq.m. per find)	Pre-IA	Iron Age	Romano British	Anglo Saxon	Medieval	Early modern	Post-industrial	Not dateable
01	100	40,000	4,000	19	210	1		1		2	9	1	5
02	116	46,400	4,640	49	95			1		8	31	6	3
06	45	18,000	1,800	32	56			3		1	19	7	2
08	100	40,000	4,000	34	118			1			17	8	8
Tots	361	144,400	14,440	134	av. 108	1		6		11	76	22	18

Table 1: Finds in arable areas from field-walking and metal-detection along 10% transects

Despite the low rate of finds and the low total number of finds, both of which tend to discourage any firm conclusions, some tentative observations may be made:

- The find density in all the arable fields is low, but finds are fairly evenly spread, suggesting that they are the result of manure scatter. The great majority of finds in all fields are from the early modern period, typically 1550-1750.
- Field 02 is the only field to include a significant proportion of late medieval finds, suggesting that this field may have been cleared for agriculture before the other 3 fields that were examined in this part of the survey.
- Field 01 has a significantly lower incidence of all finds than the other 3 arable fields.
- The apparent lack of early medieval finds in any of the fields seems consistent with the knowledge that the entire hilltop and hillsides were covered in mature woodland until the wood was partially cleared in the late 1500s (see Section 5.3 above). A light post-medieval manure-scatter in the hilltop fields would be consistent with the dates established for clearance of the woodland. See also the comments on post-medieval ridge and furrow ploughing on the hilltop in Section 6.2 below.
- Field 06 contains the only significant small cluster of Romano-British finds, all provisionally dated to the late Roman period. When these finds are considered together with the scattered group of 8 late Romano-British coins discovered in Stage 2 of the Draycote-Barby pipeline works (see Section 5.1 above), only 30-40m from the edge of Field 06, it suggests that they were probably all deposited as part of the same activity. This, in turn, may indicate that the coins found in the pipeline investigation are less likely to be an isolated hoard and more likely to be associated with occupation of the hilltop over a period of time.
- Field 06 contains the highest density of finds (though in absolute terms the density is still quite low).
- A few sheep-bones were found in Fields 01 and 02, suggesting that these fields had been let to pasture for at least part of the post-medieval period.

All finds were plotted electronically on the digital project map-file in CorelDraw®. The detailed distribution maps are not reproduced in this short interim report, but will form part of the detailed project documentation.

In view of observations (e) and (f) above, it is proposed to survey Field 06 in greater detail, i.e. by a process of grid-walking on 10x10m grids, to cover the entire field. This will form part of the work scheduled for the 2012/2013 season.

6.2 Pasture areas: Initial magnetometer surveys

The magnetometer grid for the pasture area in Field 04 is shown in the diagram below, which is a screen-grab taken direct from the CorelDraw® system.

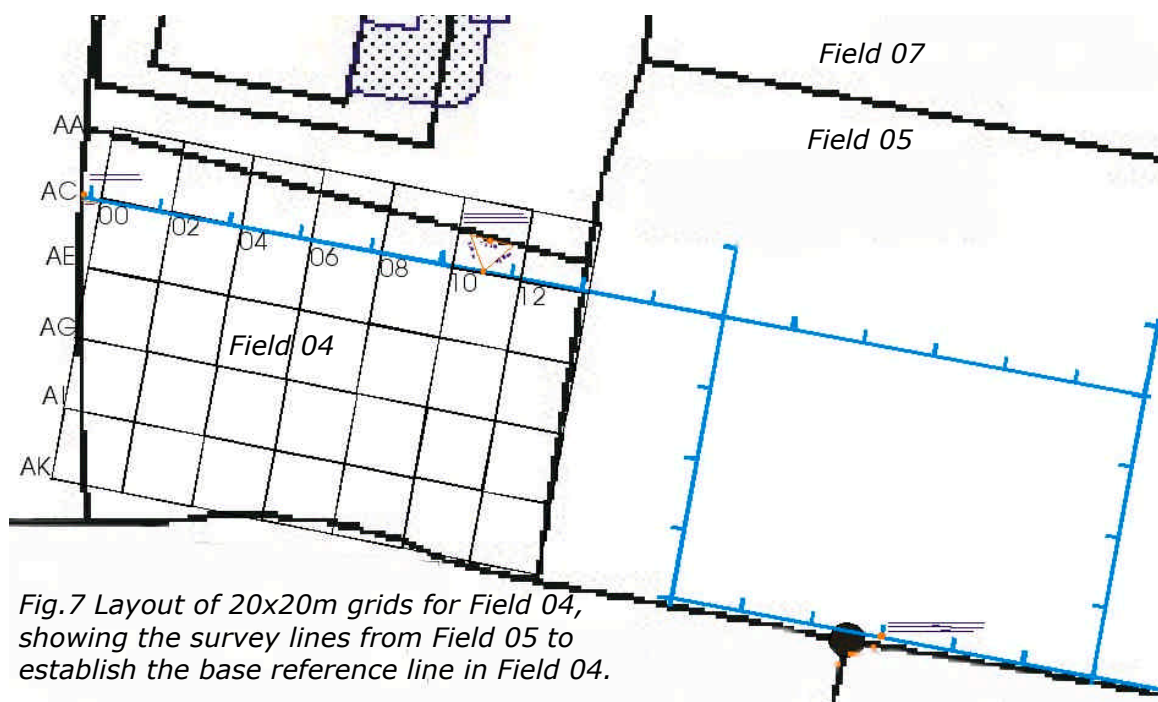
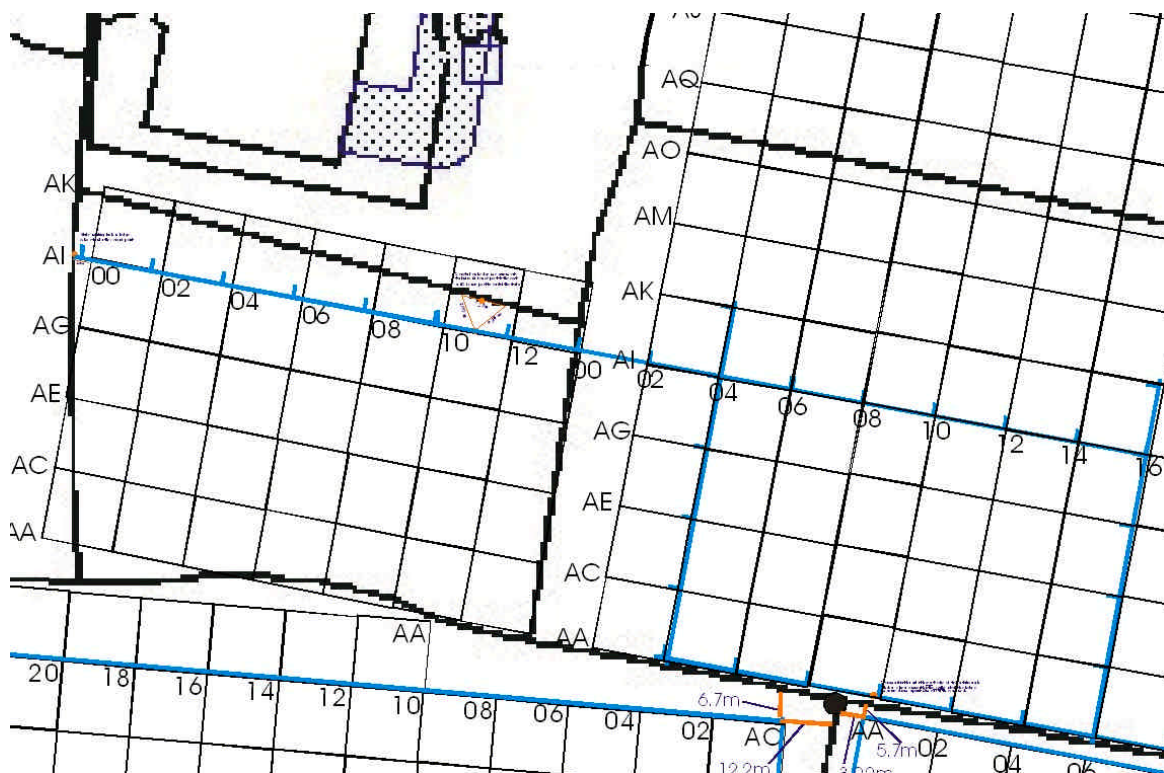


Fig.7 Layout of 20x20m grids for Field 04, showing the survey lines from Field 05 to establish the base reference line in Field 04.

The grid in Field 04 was established by surveying from a known baseline in Field 05 (see above, Fig.7). This method was adopted because Field 04 has irregular hedge lines, whilst Fields 05 and 07 have long straight hedges forming reasonable accurate right-angles, i.e. to create a single continuous grid system for Fields 04/05/07 (see Fig.8 below). The grid in Field 07 was simply extended from the Field 05 baseline.

Fig.8 Grids in Fields 04, 05 and 07



The grids in Fields 04/05/07 were then marked out and surveyed, in a series of 2-day sessions between Nov/2011 and Mar/2012, using a Bartington type 601 dual-fluxgate magnetic gradiometer.

In each survey session, the instrument was first brought to a relatively neutral part of the hilltop, and zeroed to eliminate background noise; the staked-out grids were then surveyed in turn, each grid being walked in zig-zag sequence, normally commencing



from the north-east corner and walking north-south, taking 4 readings per metre. A small team of trained operators took turns to operate the gradiometer, whilst a second team moved marking-tapes from one pre-staked grid to the next; in this way, a total of thirty 20m x 20m grids (1.2 hectares) could be surveyed in under 5 hours.

Careful note was made of the order in which the grids were walked, and a data-map of the grids was recorded along with the data-files, so that the results could be unambiguously assigned to the correct grids. The digital data-files were downloaded from the magnetometer and analysed using the software "Snuffler" (a freeware utility kindly made available by Sussex University). Images of the results for each grid were downloaded from Snuffler, and were imported into the CorelDraw® overall site plan, overlaying each respective grid-image onto the appropriate grid shown in Fig.8.

6.2.1 Mapping of Geophysics Results

The results of these surveys are illustrated below in Fig.10 and Fig.11 below, which are screen-grabs from the CorelDraw® site plans; this figure also shows the results obtained by Cotswold Archaeology from their work in the adjacent reservoir compound (described in section 5.2 above).

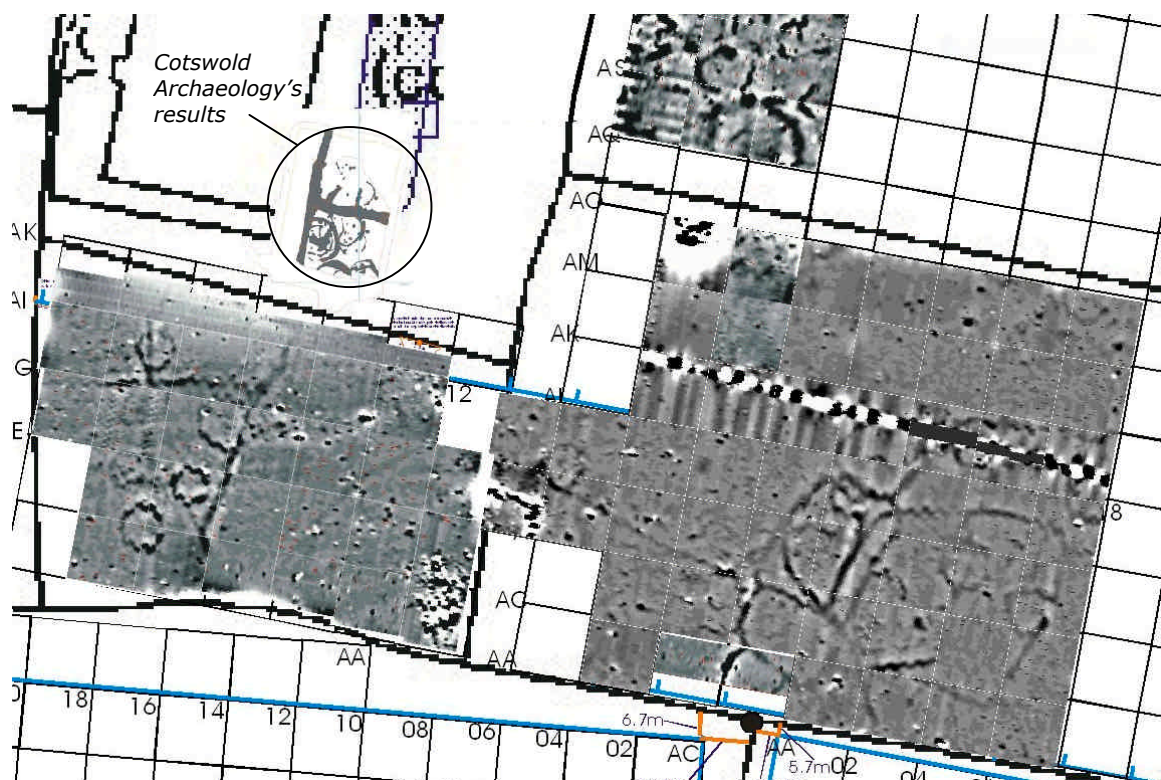


Fig.10: Initial geophysics results in Fields 04/05

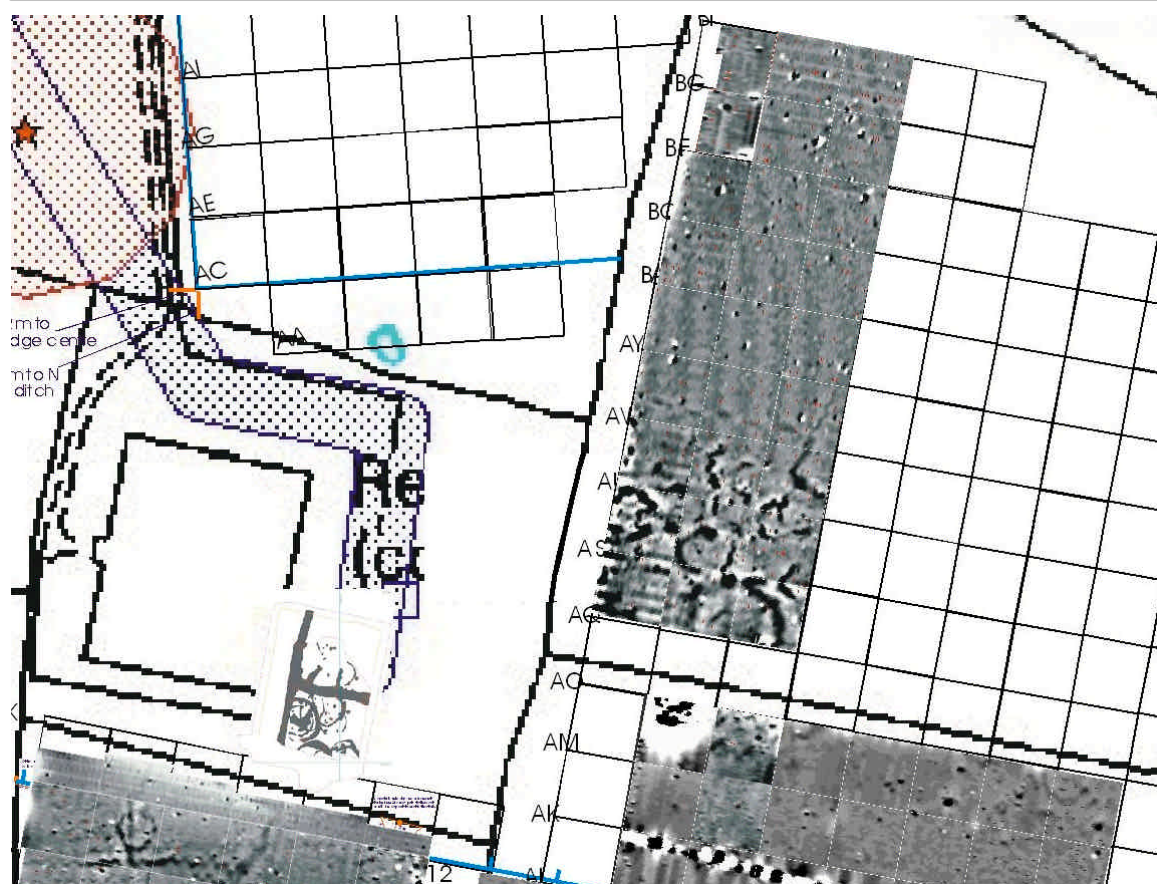


Fig.11: Initial geophysics results in Field 07

6.2.2 Summary and evaluation of geophysics results from the pasture areas

The settlement spreads back from the rim of the hill to a considerable distance on the flat part of the hilltop. The part of the pastures so far surveyed and shown in Fig.10 and Fig.11 above (an irregular area, extending up to 300m along an east-west axis by up to 250m from north to south, and covering about 4.4 hectares in total) shows signs of occupation in all areas, and no limit to the settlement has yet been detected.

A significant number of very distinct circles stand out in the plots, of a range of diameters (about 8-14m) that is consistent with the walls and drip-gullies of late-Iron-Age roundhouses. Several of these circles appear to have gaps on the eastward (sunrise) side, and this is also consistent with Iron Age roundhouse construction. There are also what may be fainter signs of many more hut-circles, and also signs of the intersection of some of the circles, probably indicating erection of a successive series of roundhouses over a period of several generations.

There are a number of linear features extending across several areas of the site. Some of these features join at right angles, others at oblique angles. Several of the linear features appear to transect some of the circular features, indicating that the linear features probably date from a later period than the circular features.

The results obtained in the adjacent reservoir compound, from Cotswold Archaeology's survey and excavations, are strikingly comparable; in particular, the extremely close alignment of the linear features in Cotswold's results with some of the linear features in Field 04 of the present survey indicates that these linear features are almost certainly adjacent parts of the same system of ditches.

The south-west corner of Field 07, directly adjacent to the Severn Trent reservoir compound, contains a particularly dense cluster of roundhouse circles, together with what appear to be two much larger roughly circular features about 30-35m in diameter (which are clearly too large to represent roofed structures).

In addition to the linear features mentioned above, there is a complex arrangement of quite large enclosed features on the south side of Field 05, measuring between 30m and 50m and of squared-oval shape. These enclosed features appear to lie at the midst of a series of longer linear features – so they might, for instance, represent a series of enclosures for penning, sorting and managing livestock at the heart of a surrounding field system, perhaps of Romano-British date – however, this is only one possibility, and it is too early to make any such definitive assessments. This arrangement, which includes several obvious intersecting lines, probably represents a number of successive stages of construction.

A strong and perfectly straight linear feature runs across the whole of Field 05 as far as has yet been surveyed. Documentary evidence from the 1930s shows beyond doubt that this is a mains water pipeline, that was laid from Barby to Barby Wood Farm in 1936 when the farm's pump/well supply became polluted (probably due to gradual seepage of artificial fertilisers into the water table from Victorian times onward). The route of this pipeline is indicated by the dotted blue line in Figs.10/11.

From the evidence so far, it is clear that the geophysics surveys should be continued over the whole of Fields 05/07. Moreover, the proximity of some of the roundhouse circles in Field 04 to the arable land in Field 01 indicates that the geophysics surveys should also be extended into the north areas of Field 01; and the concentration of features on the south side of Field 05 indicates that the geophysics surveys should also be extended into the north side of Field 02. All this work will be scheduled for later in 2012, or early in 2013.

The north part of Field 07 slopes downhill at an angle too steep to accommodate the construction of any dwellings; and the bottom (north) edge of this field approaches within 60-80m of the route of "King Street" (see map, Fig.2 earlier). The survey was extended right down this field in order to establish whether any traces of a defensive fortification would be seen. Interestingly, no sign was found of any linear feature indicative of a defensive ditch, nor was there any apparent sign of any gatehouse or other formal entry point into the hilltop site from the direction of "King Street".

Clear traces were found in the magnetometer results of ridge and furrow cultivation, both at the bottom of Field 07 (Fig.11) and also across Field 04 (Fig.10). This is also reflected in the light indentation in the hedgerow lines (which date from Enclosure in 1778).

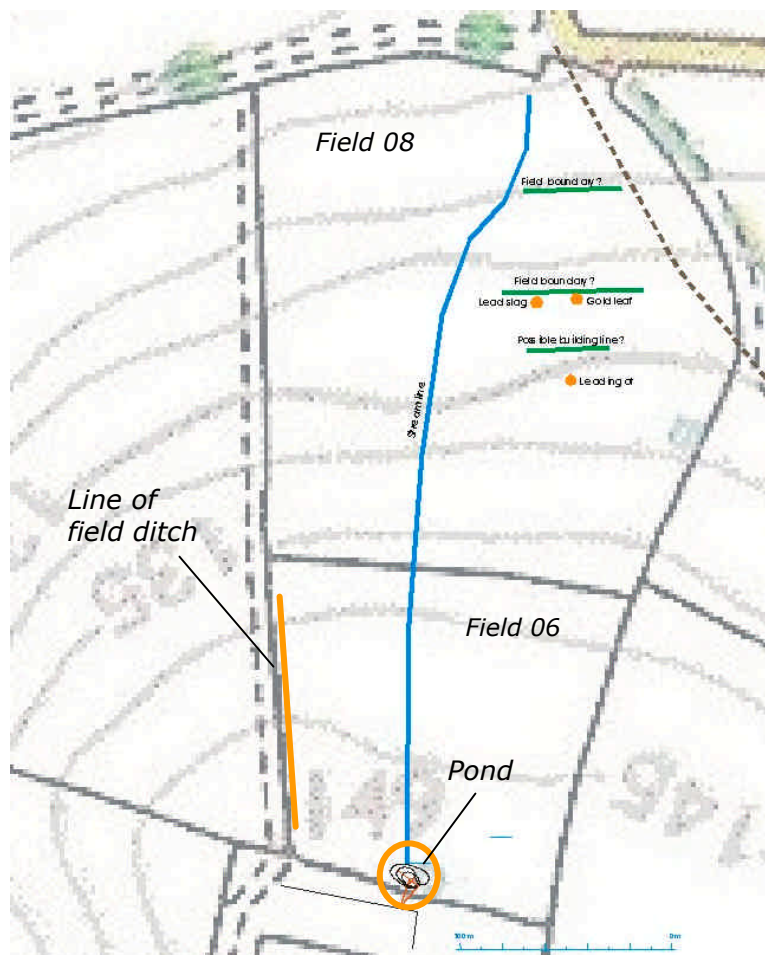
6.3 Other areas of potential longer-term interest

The transect surveys in arable field 06 identified two locations that may perhaps merit closer examination in the longer term – owing both to their proximity to the sites of previous finds (see 5.1 and 5.2 above), and also to the fact that a few Romano-British artefacts were found in this area of the present survey:

- A possible early artificial pond at the top of Field 06
- A field ditch (dating from Parliamentary Inclosure) at the top of Field 06

The approximate locations of these features are indicated in Fig.12 below.

Fig. 12: Fields 06/08, showing pond and ditch, with the estimated route of an inferred underground watercourse, which appears to have its source in or near the pond. The green lines in Field 08 indicate lines of old (field?) boundaries still clearly visible.



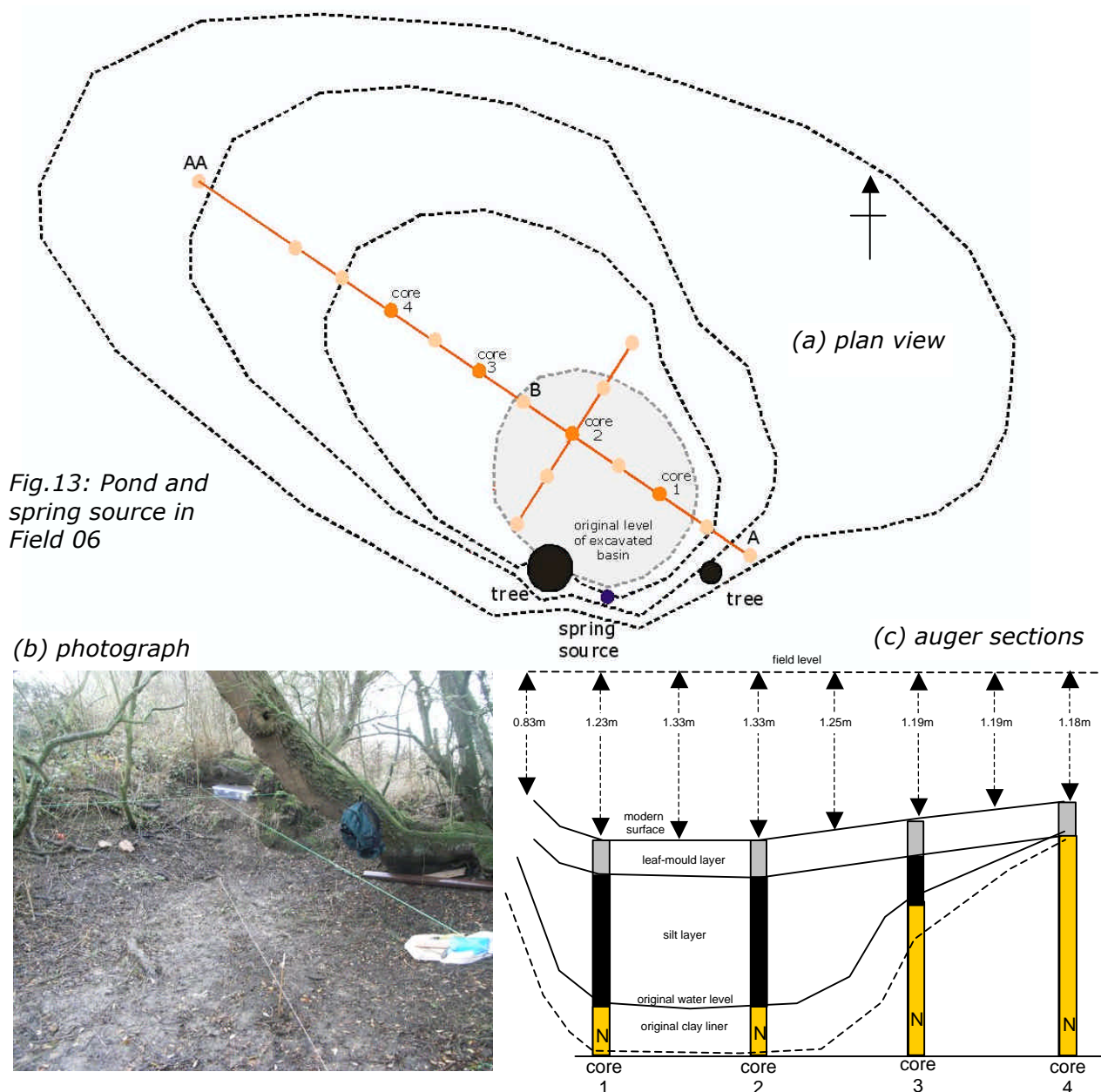
6.3.1 Pond (Field 06) and watercourse (Fields 06/08)

Study of the topography of Field 08 revealed a significant small valley-like depression running down the field, attaining a depth of about 3m towards the bottom of the field, and probably formed by an underground watercourse (whose estimated course is indicated by a blue line in the above diagram); this depression can be traced back towards the pond at the top of the Field 06, which appears to be located at or close to the probable source of the presumed watercourse. It is not possible to estimate whether this watercourse may have been visible on the surface during the Bronze Age or Iron Age periods, though the present-day field topography suggests that its existence would certainly have been known in those periods.

Close examination of the pond during a prolonged dry spell revealed clear traces of a small spring rising at the south side of the pond (ie furthest away from the downhill slope).

The pond area was cleared of surface brushwood, and auger tests were made at 2m intervals across the base of the pond, to determine the sub-surface composition.

The results of this preliminary survey work are shown in Figs.13 a/b/c below.



The auger core samples and measurements indicate that a pit or basin was originally excavated around the spring source at an unknown date, by digging below the modern field level to a depth of about 2m. At its deepest part, the excavated basin appears to measure roughly 4m along axis A-AA, and about 3m along the orthogonal axis, ie sufficient to contain up to about 15 tonnes of water. The base is lined with the dense and impermeable yellow clay that forms the natural layer in these fields, and this would probably also have been applied to the original sides of the basin.

The basin has a pronounced shelved approach towards the north-western edge (as revealed by the subsoil strata in the auger-core diagram above), and this may perhaps indicate that the original basin was normally approached from that side.

This pond lies within 50-60m of the late-Iron-Age roundhouse circles found during excavations carried out by Cotswold Archaeology (see sections 5.2 and 6.3.1 above).

It is proposed to survey and examine this pond in greater detail, including controlled excavation and careful sieving of the excavated silt to recover any small artefacts.

This will form part of work scheduled for seasons subsequent to the 2012/2013 season, as it is likely to require special skills and a relatively long, slow and careful procedure.

6.3.2 Enclosure hedge and associated field ditch, Field 06

Auger samples taken in Field 06 alongside the field drainage ditch (see Fig.12 above) revealed a topsoil depth of about 45cm, below which there is a layer of the dense yellow clay that forms the natural level on this part of the site. Signs of what may be a thin layer of burnt vegetable matter were noted at the interface between the natural and the plough-soil level.

(However, auger samples taken at the same elevation in adjacent pasture Field 07 revealed a shallower level of topsoil, with the natural clay level commencing only about 15cm below the surface, suggesting that the original natural level in Field 06 prior to Enclosure may perhaps have been significantly closer to the surface.)

The field ditch in Field 06 is about 1m deep and 1.5m wide, and is dry along the top section of the field. Careful cleaning and examination of the ditch wall that faces towards the field should therefore expose a vertical surface that passes below the natural level, revealing any latent archaeological data that may have survived below the ploughed surface, with a minimum of effort and expense, and with no disruption to farming operations in the field.

It may therefore be appropriate to clean and expose a short sample length (say 10m) of the ditch wall facing into Field 06, and to examine this for archaeological evidence.

This work will be considered for the 2012/2013 season – however, it will not be undertaken unless the detailed field-walking, metal-detection and magnetometry work proposed in sections 6.1 and 6.2 above for Field 06 in the 2012/2013 season indicates that there is archaeology beneath this field.

7. Summary and analysis of initial results

The initial results provide evidence for two specific periods of activity on and around the hilltop:

- a) During the late Iron Age and through the Roman period (c.100BC-400AD)
- b) During the early modern period (c.1570-1800AD)

These periods are considered below in inverse chronological order.

7.1 Early modern period

Magnetometer surveys revealed light traces of ridge-and-furrow in the pastures in Fields 04 and 07. In addition, Fields 05/07 also show visible surface evidence of shallow ridge-and-furrow indentation, with a peak-trough depth of only about 10-15cm, and there can be no doubt that this post-dates the mature woodland that covered the hilltop until clearance of the wood was commenced in the late 1500s. Further evidence is seen in the hedgerows (which date from just after Enclosure of Barby's open fields in 1778), where the same shallow level of indentation is visible. All these signs point to a period of ridge-and-furrow agriculture between initial clearance of the woodland in or about 1590-1600 and Enclosure in the late 1770s. The hedgerow evidence indicates that little or no attempt has subsequently been made to plough out the slight indentations in the fields.

The findings from field-walking and metal-detection in arable fields 01 and 02 tell a very similar story. The majority of finds are from the same period 1550-1750, and are consistent with manure scatter, suggesting that the present arable fields were previously under the plough for at least part of the period 1600-1778 prior to Enclosure (however, a number of sheep-bones were collected among the field-walking finds, implying that there had also been periods when Fields 01 and 02 were laid to pasture).

The field-walking evidence presented in Section 6.1.2, with a concentration of the earliest (late medieval) potsherds in Field 02, suggests that Field 02 was probably in arable use for 50-100 years before Field 01 came under the plough.

The evidence from previous work at the DMV site in Onley (see section 5.3), together with observations from the 1945 aerial photography (see section 4.2), suggests that the newly-cleared woodland on the hilltop was probably used initially in the late 1500s as sheep pasture, and perhaps to provide a marshalling area for incoming flocks; an initial drove-route leads down Elkington Lane and continues in a straight line to the site of the 42-acre "Rawdykes" pastures at Onley (created c.1550-1570 by an initiative of Lord Zouche, who held the lordship at that time), with a second drove-route subsequently added to lead directly to the centre of the DMV site. This second drove-route was probably created immediately after the desertion of Onley c.1600-1605, as part of the sheep-pasture conversions carried out by Gregory Isham, for which he was prosecuted by the Inquisition of Depopulation in 1607 (see the court's sentence, TNA document ref. E163-17-8). It is likely that at least some of this pasture (notably Field 02) was converted to arable by the mid-1600s, as the English sheep industry continued the long decline that had commenced in the mid-1500s.

The evidence from both field-walking and geophysics in the present survey implies that all these hilltop fields spent some time as arable and some time as pasture during the period 1600-1778; this suggests that the so-called "up and down husbandry" system may have been employed (i.e. a term of perhaps 5 years or more as pasture, followed by a similar term as arable). This method of agriculture was introduced in the early modern period on some of the country's less fertile soils, but was not generally practised in the richer soils of the Midlands – however, in the less nutrient-rich soil of this Northamptonshire hilltop it may have been a necessary

expedient to maintain the soil's fertility – especially since this particular hilltop land had formerly been woodland for at least 300-500 years.

Fields 06/08 tell a different tale – the Barby Enclosure map shows that these two fields were still covered by the medieval woodland in 1778, and some of this remaining woodland was not finally cleared until the mid-1900s. The scatter of early modern finds in this area thus seems more likely to be associated with forestry management in the 1600s and 1700s. There are signs of what may be two old hedge-lines and a possible house-platform running across the north side of Field 08 near the foot of the hill (see map in section 6.3), with a small concentration of C17/18 potsherd and coinage finds in the area of the possible house-platform that may perhaps support this interpretation (the existence of an old artificial pond directly adjacent to this location, and the fact that it lies directly alongside the route of the "King Street" path, are further persuasive clues that should not be ignored); alternatively the traces of lines in the field at this point may perhaps be associated with a searchlight emplacement known to have been located there during WWII (as part of a decoy airfield, which included various dummy structures and a nearby straight stretch of the Oxford Canal to simulate a runway).

Another old drove route (now forming part of Onley Lane) leads past the bottom of Field 08, heading from Kilsby, bypassing Barby and leading directly into the pastures at the Onley DMV site. This was probably in use chiefly during the later 1500s and through the 1600s.

From previous documentary and fieldwork evidence (see section 5.3 above), it seems clear that the land around Onley in the Rainsbrook valley was developed in stages as sheep pastures between about 1550 and 1610, with two main routes into the pastures via Elkington Lane and over Barby Hill, and a third main inward route via the top section of Onley Lane. Two principal drove routes lead out of the Onley pastures, one towards Dunchurch, the other via Woolscott. Documentary evidence suggests that the Onley land was developed as a major sheep-logistics centre, receiving livestock in transit from the villages to the north and processing the flocks down into the region of north-east Warwickshire that had been extensively enclosed and developed in the late 1400s. The evidence indicates that the pastures in the valley were later extended to include [illegal] enclosures of the commons at neighbouring Hillmorton, which provoked a major disturbance at Hillmorton by huge bands of Levellers in 1607; and the Leveller disturbances of the Midland Uprising at Hillmorton, Cotesbach, Newton-field and elsewhere forced the government, already badly rattled by the anti-enclosure Oxford Rising of 1596, to convene the 1607 Inquisition of Depopulation. It seems very likely that Barby hilltop was developed during the late 1500s and early 1600s as part of this overall pasturage scheme.

7.2 Iron Age/Roman period

The Romano-British finds (3 coins in Field 06, 1 finger ring in Field 08, 1 possible coin in Field 01, 1 potsherd in Field 02) from initial field-walking and metal-detection along 10% transects in this project are not extensive on their own. However, when they are added to the 8 Romano-British coins and the gilded Romano-British brooch found in the field adjacent to Field 06 (all dated to the same overall period, see section 5.1 above), there is increasing evidence for a Romano-British site on the hilltop. When the magnetometer evidence of what appears to be sections of a typical ditched field system is also taken into account (both from the previous project as described in section 5.2 and from the present project as described in section 6.2), it seems logical to conclude that a dwelling with an associated field-cultivation and stock-management system was probably established on the hilltop during the Roman period – though further work would be required to give definitive proof.

The supposed existence of "King Street" as a Romano-British communication route (Northants SMR refs. 406/MNN344, ENN3618, see section 5.3 above) is a further factor to be taken into account in the continued evaluation of this site. An additional relevant factor is a cache of what may turn out to be several hundred Romano-British

potsherds, discovered a few years ago by a local landowner very close to the route of King Street at the foot of Barby Hill (these artefacts are still in private hands, and unrecorded by SMR at the time of writing this report). The aim will be to examine, identify and date these objects as part of the ongoing investigation; work so far has not provided evidence for any direct link between these artefacts and those found further up the hill, but such a potential link remains as a possibility to be borne in mind.

Sufficient evidence has so far been gathered – from the magnetometer surveys in this current project and from the previous work by Cotswold Archaeology beneath the new reservoir – to establish with reasonable certainty that there was a late Iron Age settlement on the flat top of Barby Hill, and that it extended over several hectares. The degree of re-cutting and intersection of the roundhouse circles (both those examined in the excavation by Cotswold Archaeology and those visible in the magnetometer surveys in the present project) suggests that the settlement was probably used over several generations.

The evidence indicates that there may have been at least 10-15 roundhouses standing at any given time, in the areas explored thus far; and it seems likely that further evidence will come to light as the survey is extended into other parts of the hilltop, for no sign has yet been found of the limit of occupation (except perhaps on the northern slope, in Field 07). The likelihood is, then, that this was a sizeable settlement, consistent with others recorded in this area and perhaps involving several kinship groups. The fact that no sign has yet been found of any defensive works or fortification around the settlement may be significant, but it is still too early to draw any firm conclusions from this.

It is not clear at present whether the evidence of an Iron Age settlement and the evidence of a rectilinear system of fields and small enclosures are an indication of separate periods of settlement by different groups, or whether it perhaps represents a continuous development of the hilltop over an extended period. Clarification of this will require trial excavation work in carefully selected areas.

These tentative findings bear a general similarity to those obtained from the sites at Borough Hill (Daventry), at DIRFT II (Barby Norftoft) and at Brownsover (Rugby), as summarised in section 5 above; moreover, similar results were also obtained from sites at Middle Moor and Monksmoor and Churchfields, all in the neighbourhood of Borough Hill Daventry. There appears to be wide-spread and consistent evidence for abandonment of previous late Iron Age sites following the initial Roman penetration of this area – and other archaeologists have suggested that this may reflect a displacement of manufacturing and trading activities to the newly-established Watling Street with its regular fortified way-stations and relatively dense concentration of through traffic. Such a scenario seems in keeping with the initial findings from the Barby Hill site – but it is not the only possible explanation.

In addition to further investigations to clarify the above suggestions, it is also necessary to interpret the earlier pre-Roman phase of this site's existence, and to assess how and why such a settlement may first have come into existence. However, at this initial stage of the project it is clearly impossible to attempt any conclusions about this earlier period, insufficient work has yet been done.

7.3 Conclusion

This first stage of work has fully achieved its initial objectives.

Considerable archaeological evidence has been gathered, with no signs as yet that the limits of the Iron Age settlement have been reached. No evidence has yet been found that the hilltop settlement was ever defended which, if confirmed by future work, would be of interest in terms of interpreting the wider area at this period. Increasing evidence has been found of activity during the Roman period, though it is not yet possible to characterise this. In addition, further clarification has been gained of the development of the hilltop during the early modern period, which complements earlier studies on the history of the adjacent site of Onley deserted settlement.

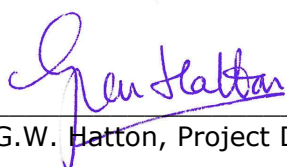
In practical terms, the initial work has provided significant training and experience for a locally-based group of volunteers, and has led to the formation of an efficient team, and the creation of a formal project structure and a project archive and documentation based on good archaeological practice and approved standards.

Working relationships have also been fostered with experienced volunteer groups of archaeological researchers within the county (CLASP and NARC), and also with relevant professional bodies (Northamptonshire Archaeology, Cotswold Archaeology, Northampton University, Northamptonshire HER archive, and Natural England).

At the same time, interest in this significant aspect of heritage has been raised within the wider community, both in Barby and its neighbouring communities, and among local farmers and other landowners.

As a result of this initial work, a programme of work for the next year has been identified and provisionally costed, and applications for further funding are currently being negotiated.

Signed:


G.W. Hatton, Project Director

Date: 26th March, 2012

Circulation: Northants SMR archive
Natural England
Northamptonshire Archaeology (S. Parry)
CLASP
NARC
Barby Local History Group
BHAP Project archive

Appendices:

A. Proposed work in second year, 2012/2013

A.1 Work description and timing

A.1.1 Further magnetometry

The work commenced in Fields 04/05/07 will be continued, to cover the rest of Fields 05 and 07, plus areas of Fields 01 and 02 as identified in Section 6.2, in an attempt to establish the limits of the settlement and create a preliminary map of its layout.

The aim will be to use the magnetometer during the spring and early summer, then again in the early autumn in Field 06 when that field is cleared of crops. This work will involve a cost, see A.2 below. Site insurance will also be required to cover the ongoing work (including Employer's Liability and Third Party Liability for the volunteer team on site), this has been quoted in the range £300-350/ann.

The autumn session will be timed to follow harvest-time, so that the magnetometer survey can be extended into Field 06 whilst the grids are set up there for detailed field-walking and metal-detection (see below).

A.1.2 Detailed grid surveys

Detailed field-walking and metal-detection surveys will be conducted in Field 06 as soon as the harvest is over (Aug/Sept), on 10x10m grids sub-divided into 1m sections. This work will be scheduled to coincide with the last phase of magnetometer survey described above, so that the magnetometer survey can use the same marked-out grid. No significant cost is involved in this exercise.

A.1.3 Trial excavation work

A short section of the ditch in Field 06 may be cleaned and examined as described in section 6.3.2, if the scheduled detailed grid-walking and magnetometer surveys indicate that there is reason to do so. No significant cost is involved in this exercise.

A.2 Provisional schedule of estimated costs

The programme of work proposed above leads to the following initial cost estimates for the year 2012/2013:

Hire of CLASP magnetometer, spring 2012:	(covered by 2011/12 budget)
Hire of magnetometer, spring-autumn 2012 (up to 10 sessions at £160):	£ 1600
Site insurance, for 2 nd derogation year (01-Sep-12 to 31-Aug-13):	£ 350
Storage media, stationery and copying:	£ 100
Misc. purchases (e.g. survey/excavation tools, reference books etc.):	£ 200
Allowance for bought-in on-site archaeological assistance:	£ 250
Allowance for other consultancy services (eg finds identification):	£ 250
Contingency provision:	£ 250
Total:	£ 3000

B. Funding applications

Funding to cover the above proposed programme is being sought as follows (not all of these applications may be successful, hence the larger target total below):

Northamptonshire County Council	£ 750
Barby Parish Council	£ 750
Daventry District Council	£ 1000
Other sources (Maud Elkington Trust, Barby Pools Marina)	£ 2500
Total:	£ 5000