# The St Algar's Project Continued

**Further geophysics for an ongoing member's research project**

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In the 2011 edition of Camertonia I wrote about my research project based at and around St Algar's Farm, West Woodlands. Further geophysics and three weeks of excavation took place at the site in 2011; this article focuses on a geophysical survey that took place in October 2011 to the north of the main villa site.

The landowner had reported that building material had been ploughed up in the area many years previously, so it warranted some further investigation. Keegan Armstrong, one of the many volunteers on the project, was keen to learn how to use the magnetometer, being already proficient with the resistivity meter. John Oswin was equally keen for someone else to learn how to do the surveys.

Seventeen 20m x 20m grids were laid out and excellently surveyed by Keegan (*see Figure 1*). The field had been split into two in the 1980s so it was pot luck as to whether any potential archaeological feature relating to the building material was on our side of the hedge or not. I was in luck; the magnetometry survey revealed a distinct anomaly, a feature of high magnetism in approximately the right area (*see Figure 2*).



The following day the two grids of interest were surveyed with the resistivity meter and the results revealed an area of high resistance, looking suspiciously structure-like and adjacent areas of low resistance, matching the magnetometer survey (*see Figure 3*). This area of interest will hopefully be explored by excavation later in the project.

Thanks to Keegan Armstrong, John Oswin and Owen Dicker for helping with the surveys and of course to BACAS for the use of the geophysics equipment. Thanks also to the landowner and tenant farmer for their kind permission and support.

**Figure 1
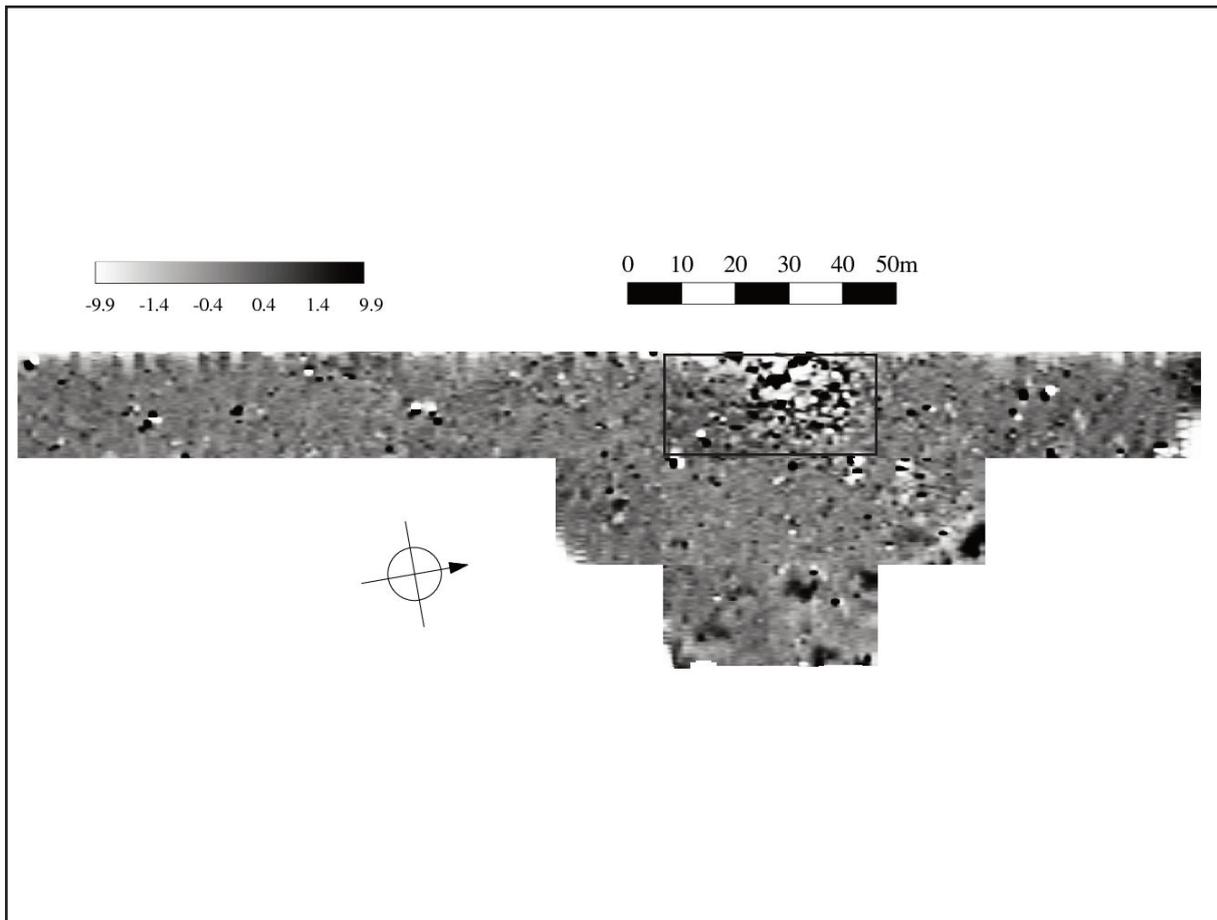Keegan Armstrong surveying with the Bartington magnetometer.**

**Figure 2**
**The magnetometry survey results showing the anomaly in the 2 marked grids.**

**Figure 3**
**The resistivity survey results from the 2 grids showing a possible structure.**



Scale: 40m across x 20m down