

A Resistivity Survey At Whitehawk Neolithic Causewayed Enclosure

During February of 1996 the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society conducted a resistivity survey at the Whitehawk Neolithic Causewayed Enclosure. Permission had been granted by English Heritage to allow examination of an area not included in their own survey of the previous year. The Society also conducted a training exercise in the use of surveying with a dumpy level, utilising the contours of the enclosure. However, no records were kept of this limited exercise.

The datum location point was the south east side of the junction of Manor Road with the race course track side, (TQ33000481) The area surveyed encompassed 400 square metres, or two, twenty metre square grided layouts. (Fig 1.) The readings were taken at one metre intervals and the equipment used was an RM4. The measurements were recorded in ohms. The weather had been predominantly dry with a few showers earlier the previous week. The results were examined by, colour differentiation, recording variants using PC Spreadsheet format and using Geophysical software.

Conclusions

The resistivity survey conducted by the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society at Whitehawk in 1996, lies within the area of the inner circle of the Neolithic Causewayed Enclosure.

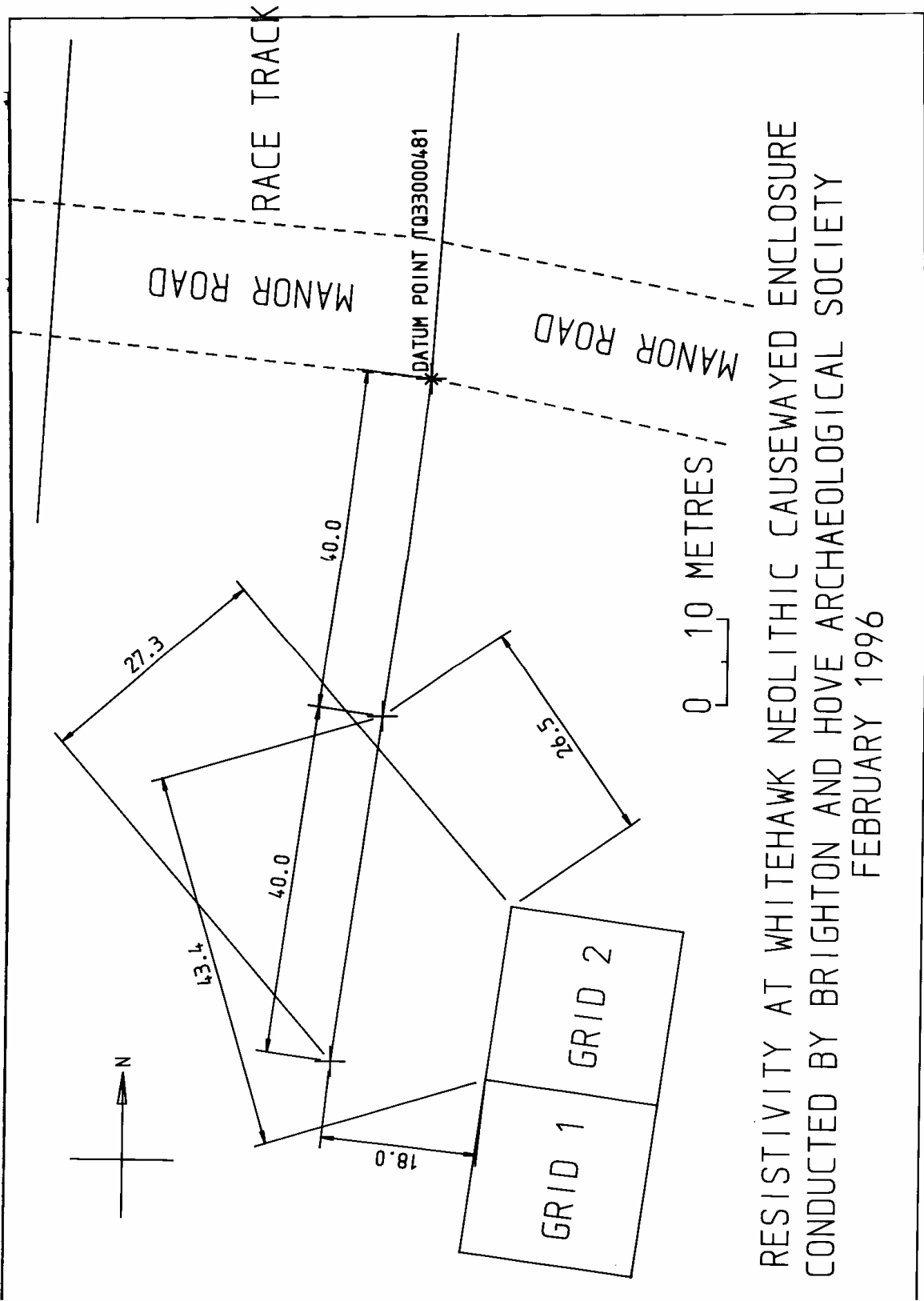
It is known from documentation that the two inner circles of this enclosure have produced the earlier phase for the monument (Russell& Rudling 1996) . The majority of the finds have also been retrieved from these same inner ditches (Curwen 1938) . The land has been subject to neglect and ill-usage over the past years. It has been a coach park, used by “ modern day travelers” and even been a fair-ground. (Curwen 1933) .

A road cut the monument from north to south, this has subsequently been closed. The recordings taken have produced some areas of low readings. In grid 1 the curvature of low readings would suggest the possible presence in this area of one the ditches of the causeway, similarly the high readings in the immediate adjacent areas would tend to show a matching “bank” ? Grid 2 has produced a circular area of low readings which would be located within the centre circle of the enclosure. It is difficult to determine the nature of the anomalies without further investigation. It should be noted that the area has been abused with the eastern side of the enclosure being used as a tip by the public. However, moves have been made to clear up and remove this rubbish, and the area is at last under a management scheme. A Fiends of Whitehawk Hill group is in the process of being established.

Acknowledgements

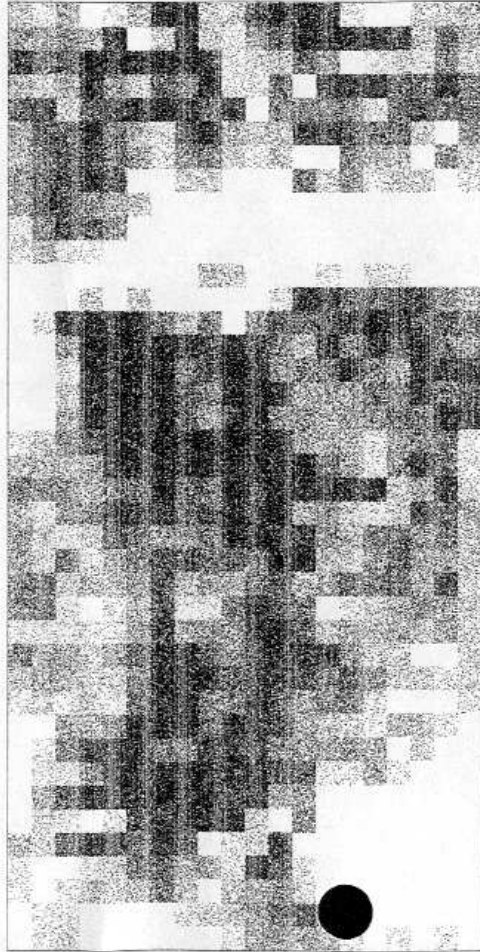
I would like to thank English Heritage for granting permission to conduct the survey, Mr Geoff Bennett of Brighton Environmental Services Department for allowing access to the land, Mr David Rudling of South Eastern Archaeological Services for use of their geophysical equipment and members of the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society for conducting the survey.

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RESISTIVITY AT WHITEHAWK NEOLITHIC CAUSEWAYED ENCLOSURE
 CONDUCTED BY BRIGHTON AND HOVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
 FEBRUARY 1996

Site : whitehaw Mesh : a	Resistivity Survey	Scale	1:369
Dot-Density Plot (Clip)	Size x 2	Block	Off
Minimum Maximum Contrast Units	-1 1 2 Std.Dev.	Black White	High Low



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