

**Barton, Longmeads ST 3900 5723N.Somerset HER 4632**

The site was identified from aerial photographs in 1946. It is on low lying esturine alluvium at an elevation between 7m and 8m above sea level. It is a rectilinear enclosure with rounded corners approximately 35m by 45m comprising broad banks and a surrounding ditch (Fig.1). Few traces of these features are visible on the surface. A geophysical survey was undertaken by ALERT in August 2010.



Fig.1

*A lidar image of the enclosure in Longmeads. It can be seen that the enclosure lies on an old boundary. The area surveyed is indicated in the right hand image.*

The area surveyed was 60m by 100m using ground resistance (TR/CIA meter) and gradiometer (Bartington 601 single pole) (Fig.2).

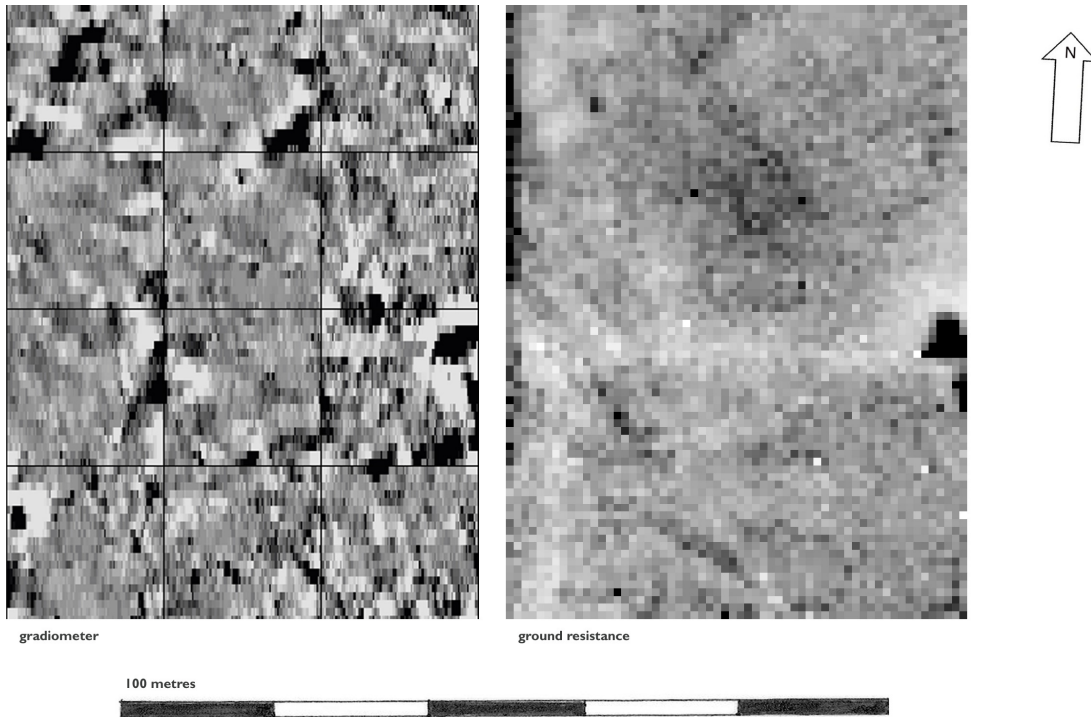


Fig.2

*A comparison between the magnetometer and ground resistance surveys.*

The survey showed that the banks were about 4m wide. Within the enclosure a circular feature was identified, but this was quite possibly associated with a curvilinear enclosure partly overlapping the rectangular enclosure. It was not possible to determine which of these features was the earlier, but as the banks appear to be unbroken in the lidar image, it is likely that the rectangular enclosure was the later. To the south of the area surveyed a second circular feature was identified (Fig.3).

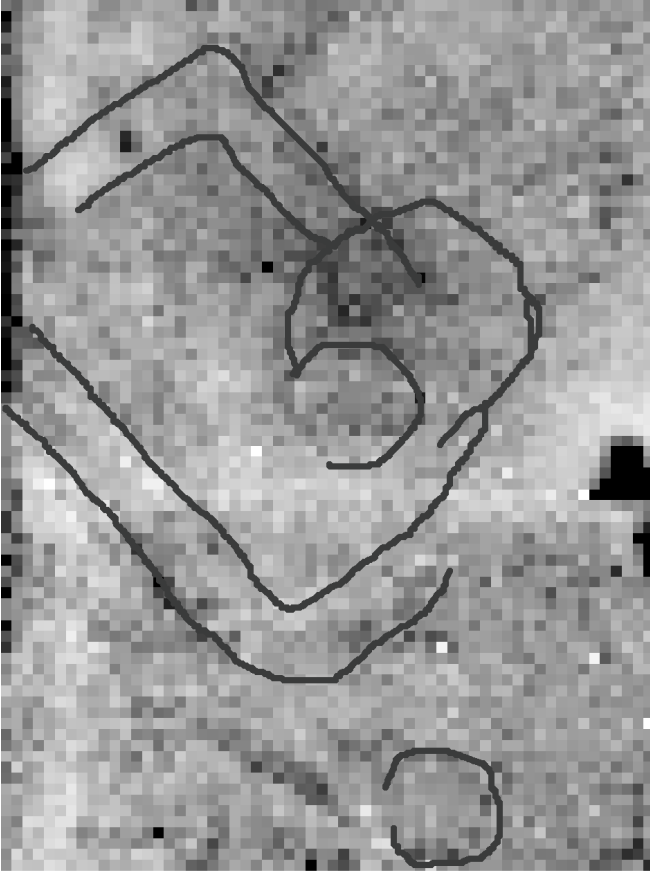


Fig. 3.  
*An interpretation of the results showing overlapping enclosures and circular features.*

There was no dating evidence to be seen on the surface but this enclosure is very similar in shape, although rather smaller, to the enclosure surveyed by ALERT in Thornbridge a few hundred metres to the north. The enclosure in Thornbridge also seemed to be associated with an earlier, possibly Iron Age, settlement.