

**Archaeological Survey  
of  
Sulber pasture**



A Batty  
2013

Front cover. Looking South East across Sulber Pasture

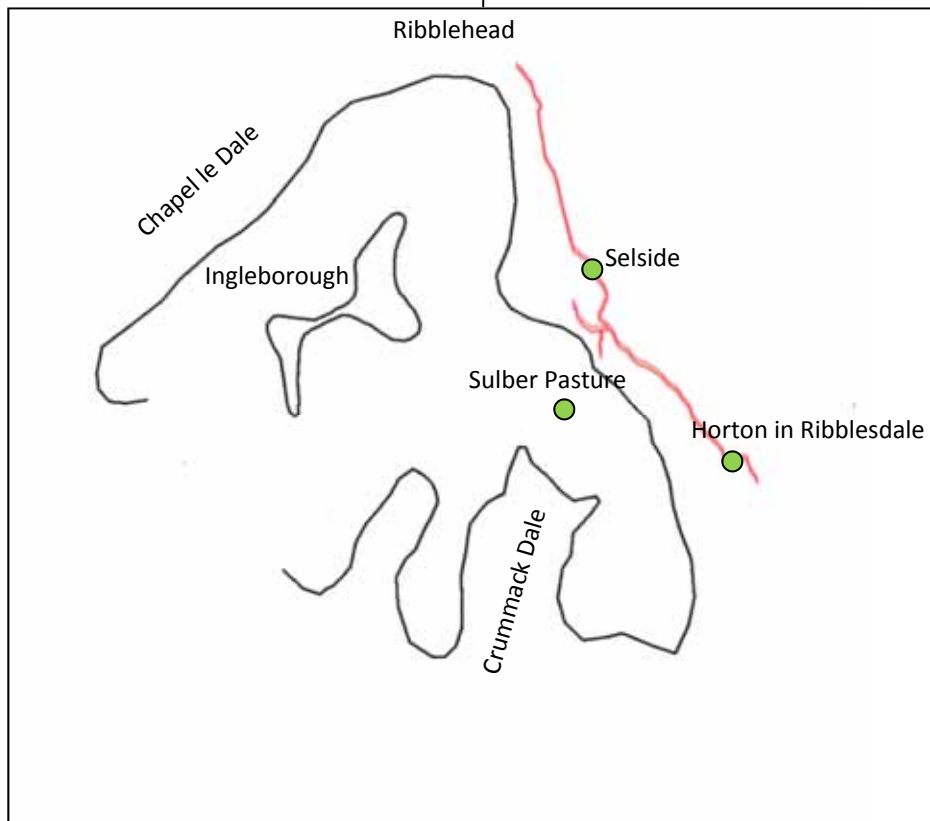
## **Acknowledgements**

The author would like to thank the following people.

Dr. J. Farrer for giving permission to carry out this survey.

Caragh Clayton Chance from Natural England for approving this survey.

Anita Batty for desktop publishing.



Location Map

## Archaeological Survey of Sulber Pasture (SD 780 735)

Sulber Pasture is situated on the western side of Ribblesdale, the pasture is typical limestone grazing land with an area overlaid by peat on the southern side. In 2012 we carried out a GPS survey (Fig 1) and several geophysical surveys, some of the features were photographed using a photographic pole. We have been unable to find any record of archaeological excavation in this pasture but there are sites dated to the Anglo Saxon, Bronze Age and Neolithic periods in adjacent fields.

Several geophysical surveys were undertaken but those in area 3 were found to be affected by the spreading of basic slag. Being an iron foundry by-product basic slag is highly magnetic creating a problem for gradiometry and resulting in a large number of readings which are unrelated to the archaeology. These surveys are impossible to interpret and are not included in this report. Two geophysical surveys in Area 6 (Plates 1 and 2) are not affected by basic slag and are shown.

The survey is divided into 6 main areas. There are many other features that can be identified by the colour key on the survey in Fig 1 and also the DVD accompanying this report.

### **Area 1**

The area is situated in the south-west of Sulber Pasture and comprises the remains of two roundhouses, two cairns and enclosure remains which abut the hut circles.

Structure 1	6.5m in diameter
Structure 2	6.2m in diameter

### **Area 2**

Within this area there are two small rectilinear structures and a rectangular one, all are abutted by enclosure remains. The rectangular structure may have been a dwelling with associated small buildings.

Structure 1	4.70m x 4.05m
Structure 2	5.80m x 4.32m
Structure 3	2.80m x 3.80m

### **Area 3**

In this area there are three hut circles and, unusually, no related enclosure remains are visible. Due to problems with interpretation of the geophysical survey, we are unable to give any meaningful interpretation of the structures, other than to suggest they may have been of transient use.

Structure 1      11.5m in diameter

Structure 2      9.67m in diameter

Structure 3      8.44m in diameter

### **Area 4**

Here we have the remains of a hut circle with abutting enclosure remains. There are also the remains of a rectangular structure, which may be overlying a second hut circle, and represents a later period of settlement.

Structure 1      5.8m x 4.0m

Structure 2      5.2m in diameter

### **Area 5**

This site is located adjacent to the wall on the northern side of Sulber Pasture and here there is one hut circle, and two smaller circular features. The hut circle is cut by a modern wall and it is worth noting that there are several very large stones in the foundation of the wall, where it crosses the hut circle. These may have been removed from the hut circle and re-positioned in the modern wall foundation. The two smaller circular features probably represent ancillary structures associated with the hut circle.

Structure 1      5.54m in diameter

Structure 2      2.20m in diameter

Structure 3      2.86m in diameter

## Area 6

This area is located at the eastern end of the north side of the pasture. A geophysical scan of the area found that no basic slag was present. A detailed survey was carried out over Structure 1 (Plate1) and Structure 5 (Plate2). The first shows a small number of high readings within Structure 1 suggesting possible occupation. Structure 5 had a large number of high readings, some within the wall remains, and a large number on the outside. The presence of burnt stone within the hut circle indicates a possible hearth of an occupied building. There is also another round house not surveyed (Structure 3) and two small rectilinear Structures (4 & 6 ) which probably represent a more recent period.

Structure 1	6.8m in diameter
Structure 2	2.6m in diameter
Structure 3	5.8m in diameter
Structure 4	2.3 x 2.3m
Structure 5	4.0m in diameter
Structure 6	3.0m x 2.8m

## Conclusions

There appears to have been large areas of limestone removed from Sulber pasture, how much archaeology this has destroyed will never be known. The spreading of basic slag around Area 3 has made it impossible to interpret the geophysical surveys, but those carried out in Area 6 (Plates 1 and 2) suggest there is potential for further information to be obtained regarding dating and the use of these structures.

No samples have been taken for radio carbon dating in Sulber pasture, making it impossible to fit the archaeological features into any chronological sequence built around previous research in Crummack Dale. (Batty A. 2012) Clapham Bottoms (Batty A. 2010) or Long Scar (Batty A. 2010).

## **Bibliography**

Batty A. (2010) *Archaeological remains in Clapham Bottoms.*

[www.ingleborougharchaeology.org.uk](http://www.ingleborougharchaeology.org.uk)

Batty A. (2010) *Long Scar.*

[www.ingleborougharchaeology.org.uk](http://www.ingleborougharchaeology.org.uk)

Batty A. (2012) *Archaeological Research in Crummack Dale.*

[www.ingleborougharchaeology.org.uk](http://www.ingleborougharchaeology.org.uk)

## **Photography**

All photographs taken by A Batty.

## **DVD**

Interactive survey, and hyperlinked photographs.

# Sulber Pasture

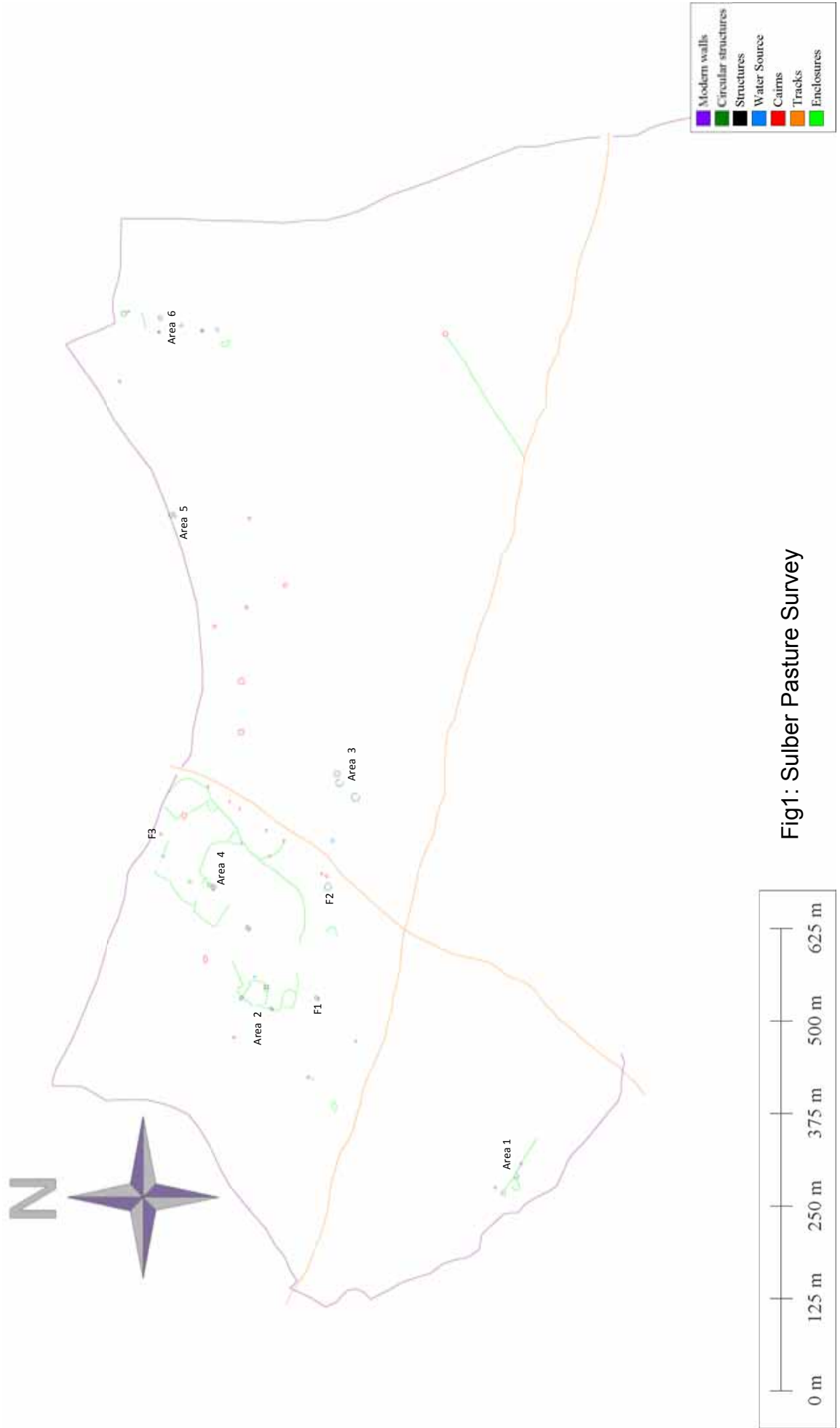
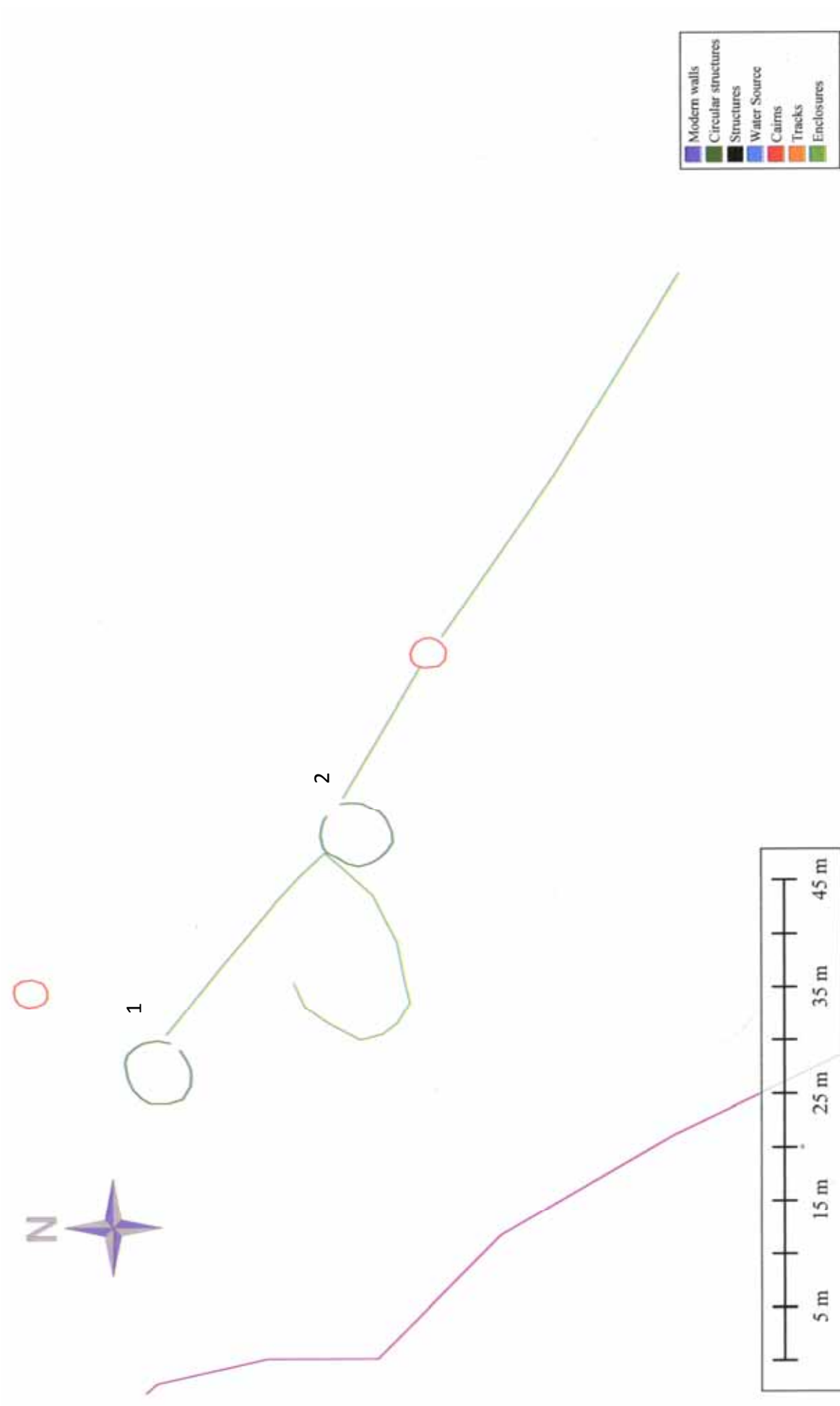
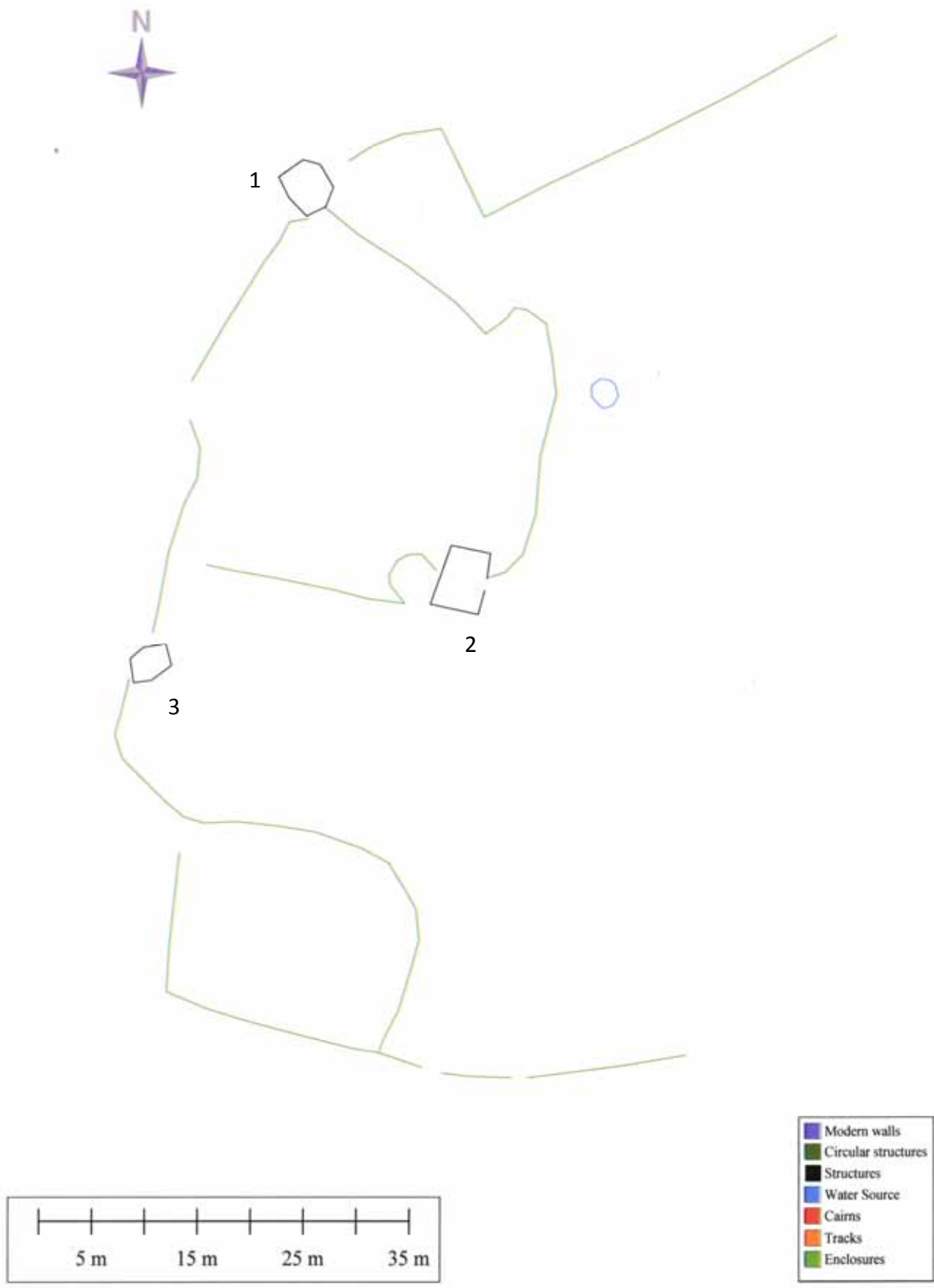


Fig1: Sulber Pasture Survey



Area 1



Area 2



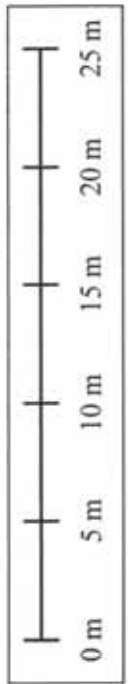
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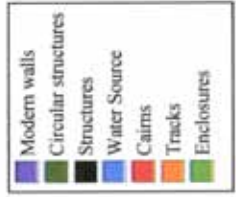
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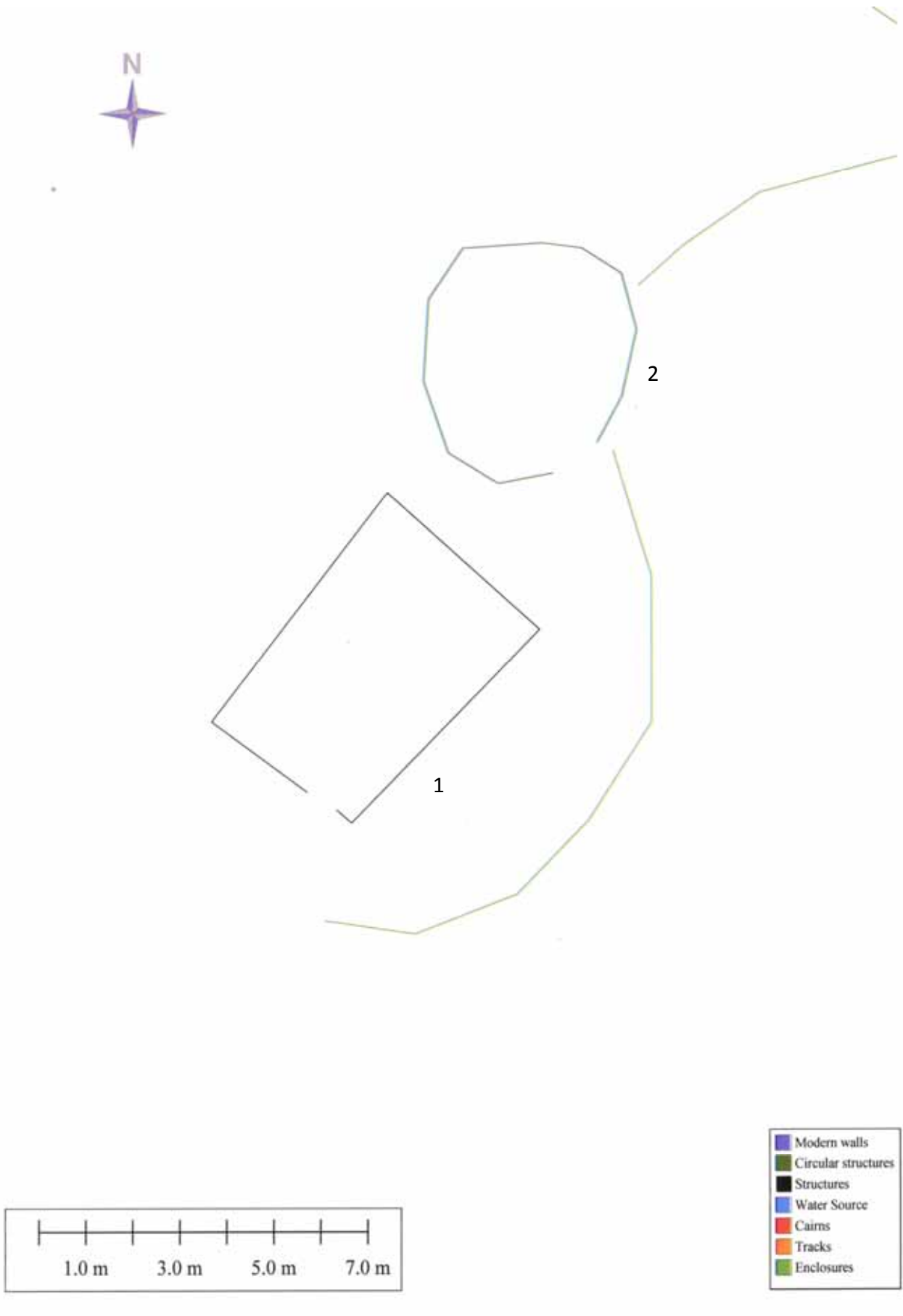


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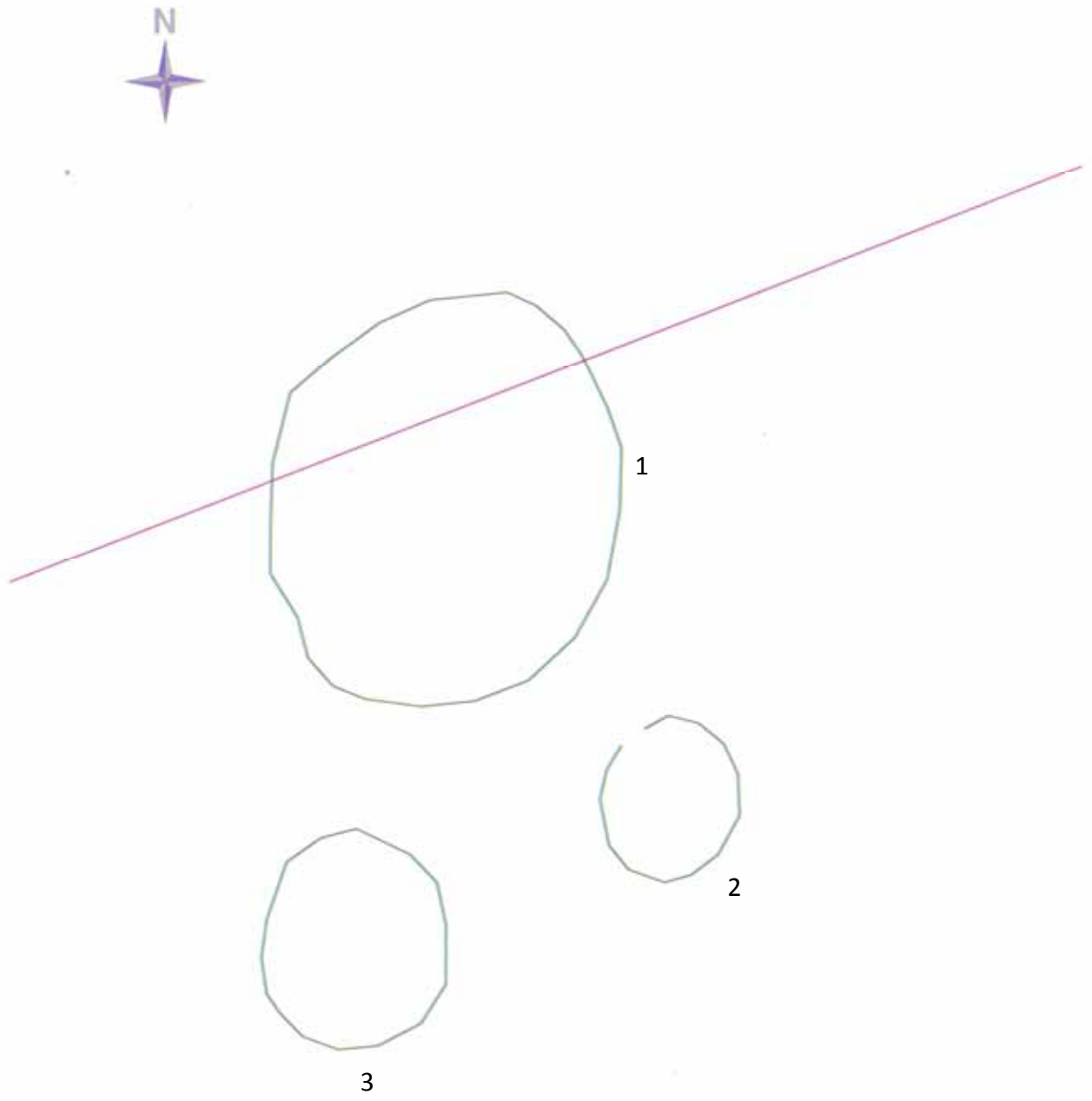


Area 3

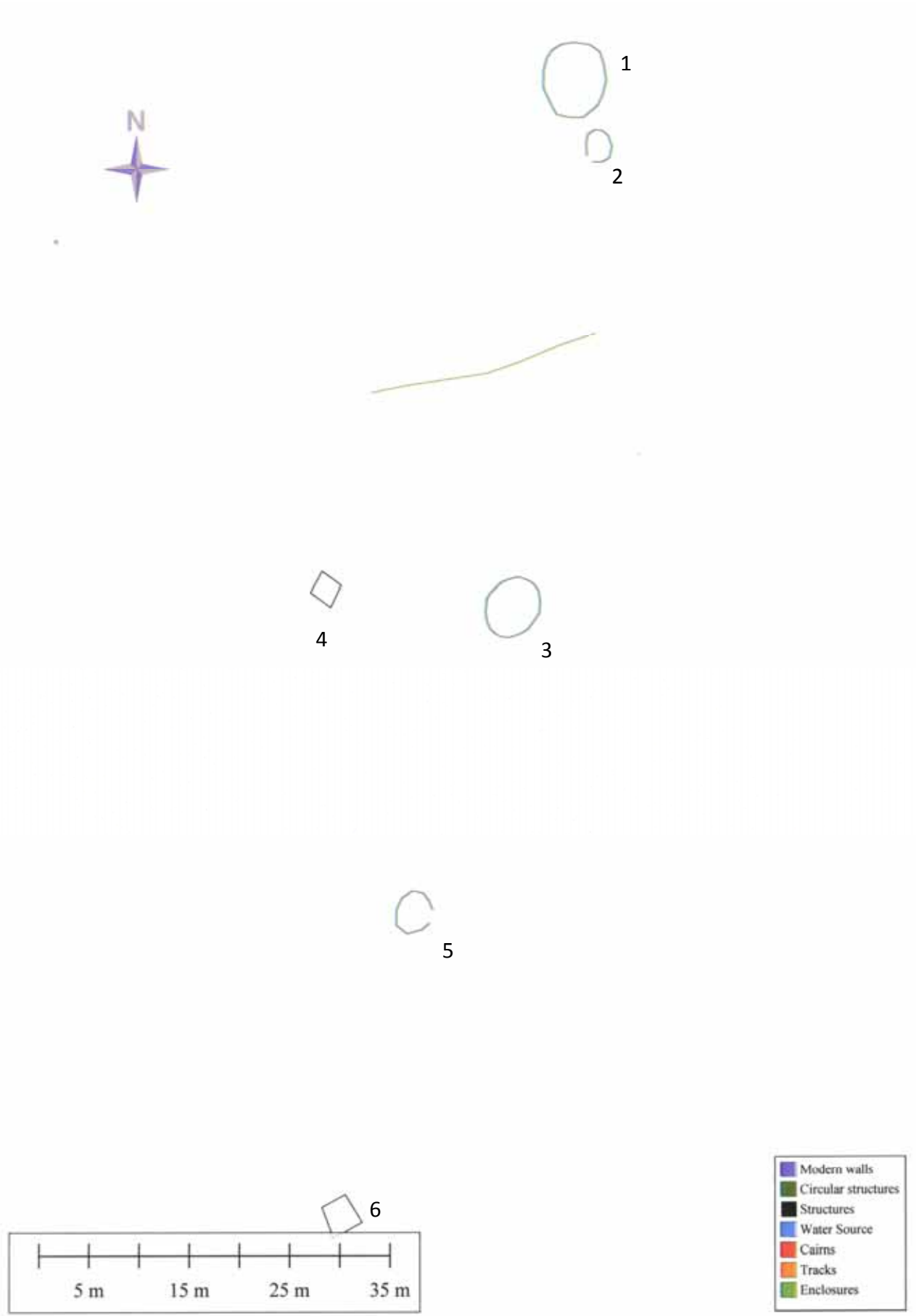




Area 4



Area 5



Area 6

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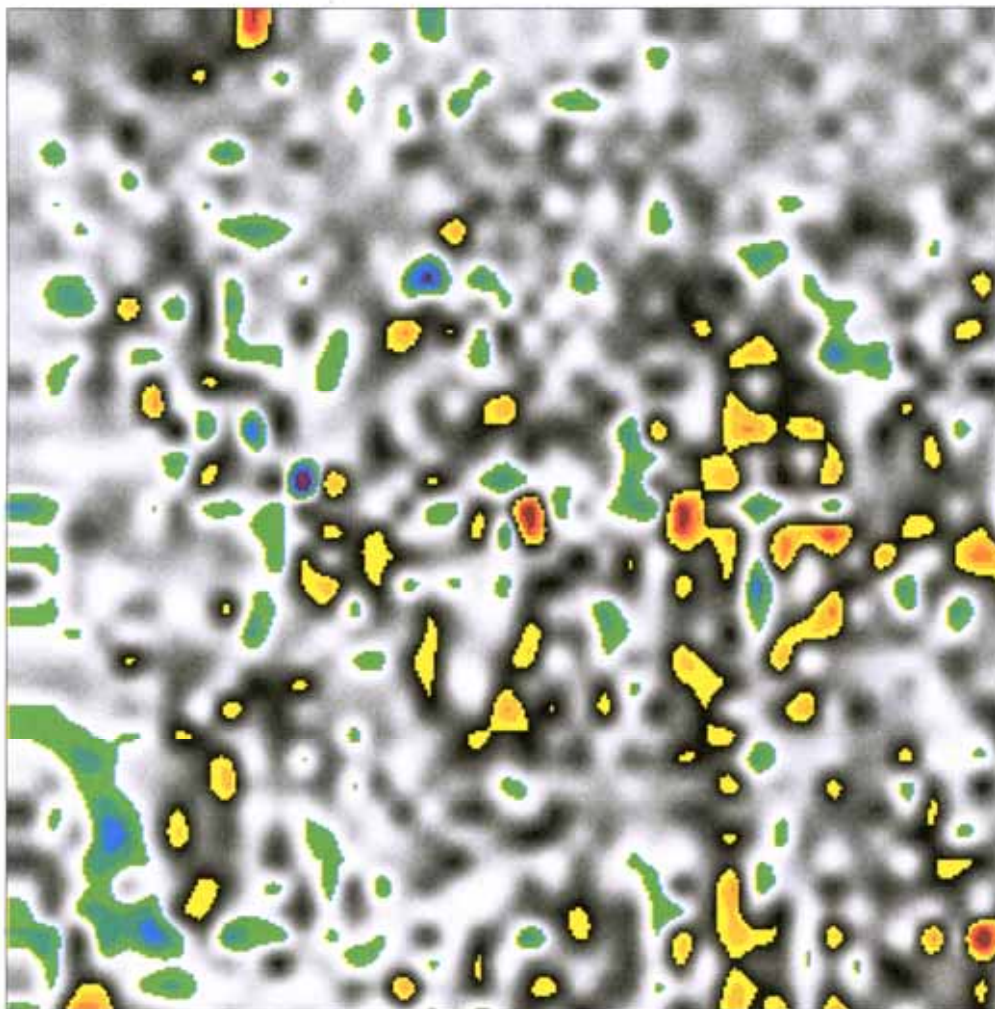
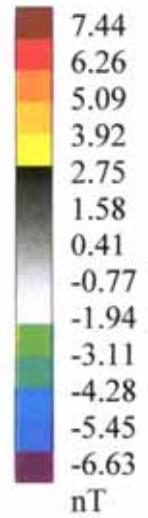


Plate 1: Gradiometer survey 20m x 20m  
Area 6 Structure1

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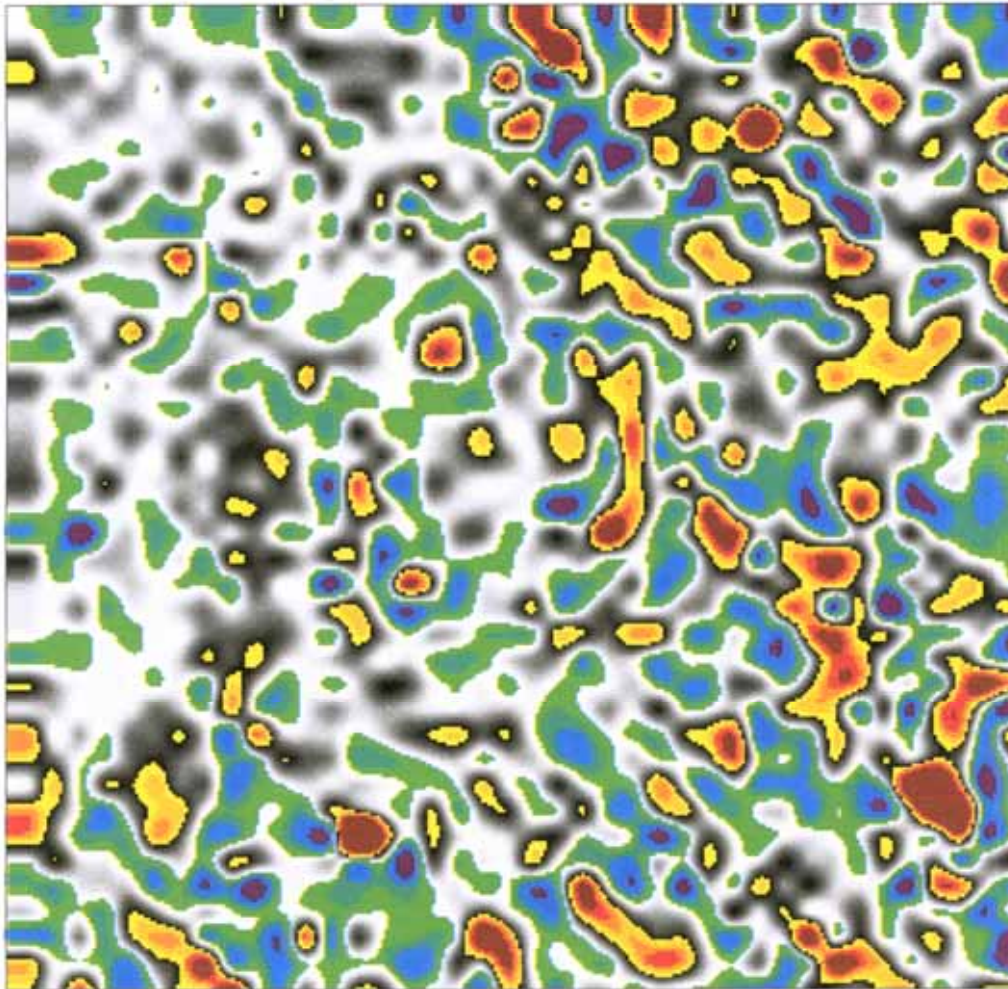
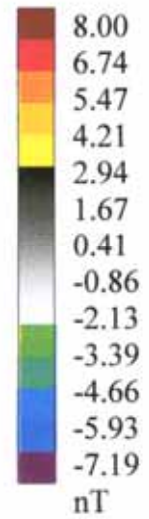


Plate 2: Gradiometer survey 20m x 20m  
Area 6 Structure 5