

INVESTIGATION REPORT – Team 1



Investigation Site	Nettleden
Investigation Date	18 th March 2011
Report By	Bill King
Team Members	Bill, Andy F, Elaine, Nathan

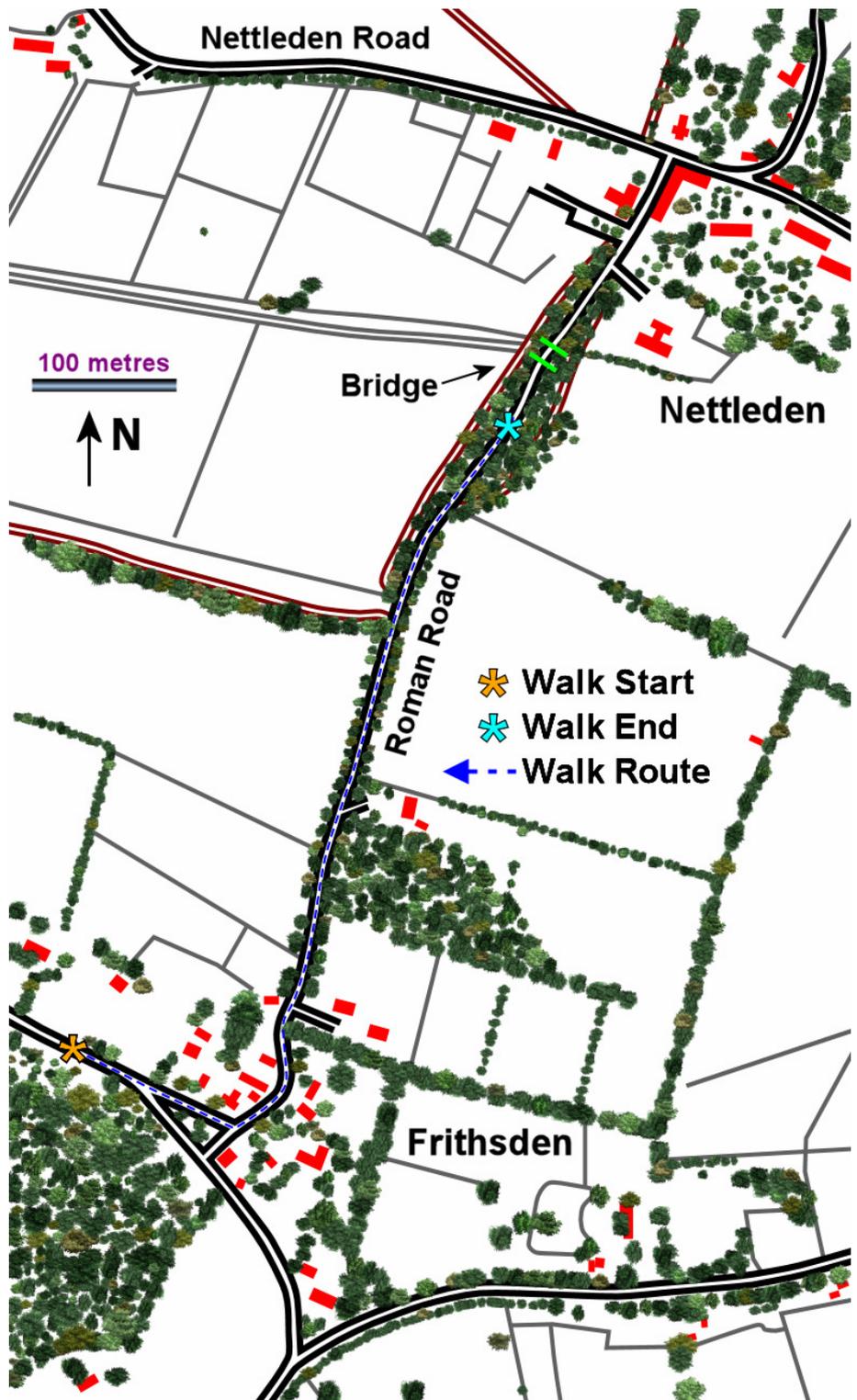
Initial Walk

For this investigation the team met up in the west of Frithsden to the north of Little Frithsden Copse as shown on the plan on the right. From there the team walked towards the centre of Frithsden then turned north to follow Roman Road towards Devil's Bridge. As Roman Road is said to be haunted members were asked to note anything they felt or experienced during the walk.

Fifty metres south-southwest of the bridge and deep in the cutting the team stopped so that an experiment could be undertaken at the Devil's Bridge. This experiment is detailed in a separate report. Once the experiment was complete a couple of vigils were undertaken which are detailed below.

Nathan's Notes: This was a mild evening with little to no wind at about +2°C when we first started with very clear sky and a super moon in view, when the moon was at its closest point with the Earth.

There was a small amount of local activity of villagers near the meeting point and nearby public house.



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Devil's Bridge

Background

Just outside Nettleden there is a bridge which crosses a deep cutting, over a track called Roman Road. This bridge was part of a long track which ran from Water End up the valley past the village of Nettleden and Nettleden Lodge until it reached Little Gaddesden and Ringshall. It is reported that very few people can walk through Devil's Bridge in the dark or even over it when alone without a deep feeling of unease. It seems the area has a reputation for evil. A local legend claims the bridge was built as a way out of a dispute between rival landowners about land access.

General

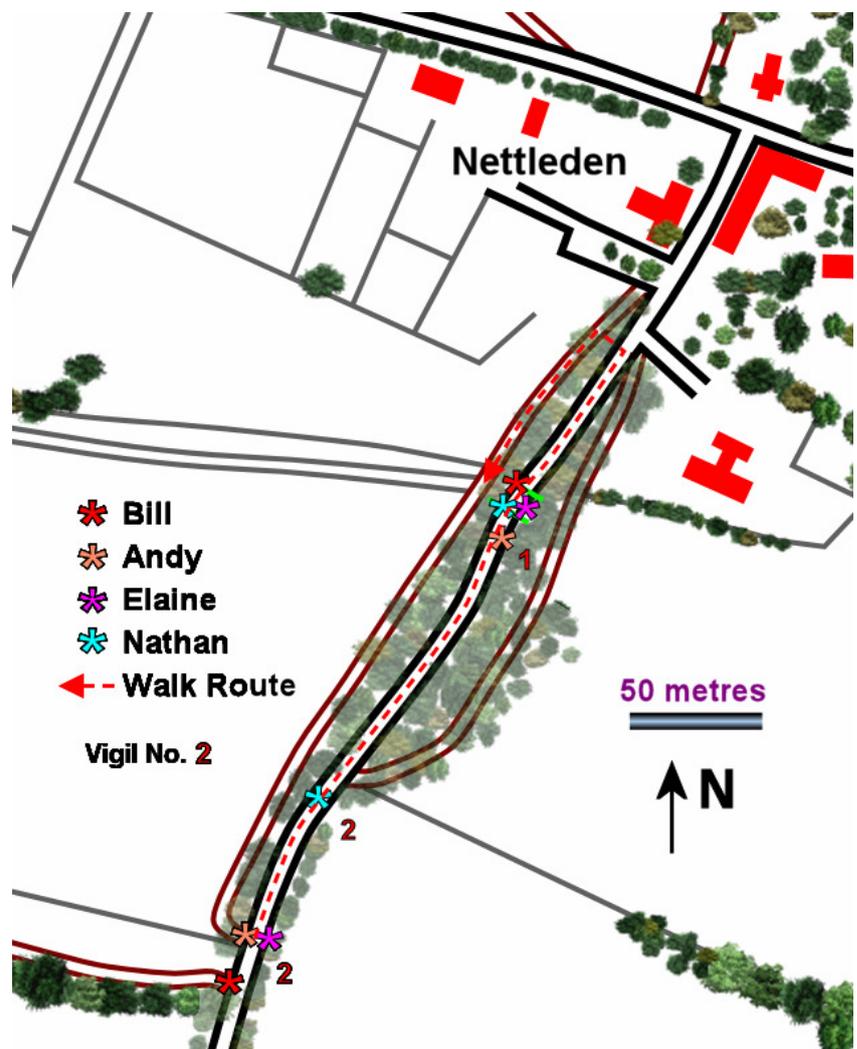
It was a cold night with a clear sky and a full moon. The air was damp with virtually no wind. There was a low constant traffic noise coming from beyond Nettleden (the A4146). This area is generally a dark one as there are no street lights or habitation nearby (the only artificial light was at the end of Roman Road where it met the Nettleden Road in Nettleden). Most of the illumination in the area was coming from the full moon.

Vigil: Bridge 21:52 to 22:25

For this vigil Bill sat underneath the bridge in the northwest corner, Elaine sat underneath the bridge on the east side and in the middle of the bridge whilst Nathan sat in the southwest corner under the bridge. Elaine and Nathan sat with their backs to the nearest wall and facing the opposite wall whilst Bill sat facing northeast, diagonally across the path. Andy sat about five metres south of the bridge and on the east side of the track and filmed the team under the bridge. For the positions of the team members see the plan on the right.

Bill notes that there is a gentle but very cold wind blowing through the tunnel from the direction of Frithsden (the south-southwest).

21:54 Nathan smells what seems to be onions and herbs for a brief moment of time which was not detected prior to setting up in this location.



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- 21:58 Elaine has the feeling of something being tied around her neck.
- 21:55 The temperature is measured by Bill as being between +0.5 and +1°C under the bridge and -0.5 to 0°C just beyond the bridge.
- 22:00 Bill notes that the clock on the church in Nettleden strikes ten quickly followed by the sound of lambs bleating.
- 22:01 A dog starts barking loudly which is heard by Bill coming from behind the cottages at the Nettleden end of the lane on the east side.
- Andy hears a dog barking whilst Elaine notes that a dog starts to bark, this goes on for 4 minutes.
- 22:02 Bill hears a whistle coming from the direction of Nettleden and from the west side of the track.
- Andy hears a whistle that is coming from further up the embankment behind him. [**Editor's Note:** This is not the direction that Bill thought he heard the whistling coming from]
- 22:03 Elaine hears a whistling to her left. [**Editor's Note:** Again this is not the direction that Bill thought he heard the whistling coming from and is actually in the direction of Andy]
- Nathan takes an EMF reading which does not indicate any lights when used in two relatively close areas of each other. A loud howling and barking of a dog from a nearby residence is evident.
- 22:04 Bill notes that the dog noted barking at 22:01 is continuing to do so.
- While looking towards the road Elaine sees a flash of light.
- 22:05 A voice is heard by Bill coming from the west side of the track towards Nettleden followed by a loud 'crack crack', the dog stops barking. The sound was a bit like someone chopping wood.
- 22:06 Elaine sees another flash of light, this was coming from a road sign.
- 22:08 Bill notes that a car arrives at the end of the track in Nettleden and turns towards the farm on the west of the track. As it turned onto Roman Road its headlights lit up the bridge.
- 22:10 Andy takes an EMF reading but there is no activity.
- 22:13 Bill measures the temperature as between -0.5 and 0°C under the bridge and -1.5 to -1°C just beyond the bridge.
- 22:15 Nathan takes a final EMF reading but does not pick up any detection at this stage. Nathan feels that the temperature has dropped quite a lot in the past five minutes.
- 22:20 Elaine has the impression of someone being buried alive.
- 22:22 Bill notes another car arriving at the end of the track.
- 22:23 Bill measures the temperature as between 0 and +0.5°C under the bridge and -1.5 to -0.5°C just beyond the bridge (the higher temperature is from closer to the bridge).
- 22:24 A flash of light is seen by Bill on the west wall of the cutting towards Nettleden and about fifteen metres away. When he saw it the light was just to the right of his direct vision (not in the periphery). The light was a short streak moving downwards and towards Bill and about one and a half metres off the ground. At the time no team member was using a light.

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Elaine can smell men's aftershave, this smells like Brut.

Post-Vigil

Elaine asks Bill to measure the temperature around her it was 0°C to her right and -1°C to her left.

22:26 Andy can hear someone speaking from under the bridge and presumes this is one of the team.
[Editor's Note: This was coming from Bill and Elaine as she had asked him to check the temperatures around her as detailed above]

Roman Road

Background

The track which runs from Nettleden to Frithsden is variously called Roman Road, Roman Lane and, more interestingly, Spooky Lane. The latter comes about because the lane is said to be haunted by a monk from nearby Ashridge monastery.

General

This was a quiet area with some traffic noise coming from the southeast by east. This would normally be a dark site as there are no artificial lights nearby but on this night there was a full moon and the track is very open so it was well lit.

Vigil: Top of Hill – 22:35 to 23:20

For this vigil Bill sat by the gate to Highridge Farm facing south-southeast across Roman Road. Andy and Elaine sat by the gate which gives access to the west footpath which runs along the edge of the cutting whilst Nathan sat to the north near the gate which gives access to the east footpath. Elaine was going to put her chair against the gate for the vigil, something told her not to. At the end of the vigil Bill told Elaine that there were horses in the field. For the positions of the team members see the plan on page 2 of this report.

22:35 Nathan starts a second vigil at the top of the track where there is a crossing or junction and has a gate either side that allows access to fields, of which one is occupied by animals. The sky is very clear and well lit by the moon, very little wind if any and the temperature feels that it is dropping as time proceeds.

22:37 Nathan is sitting a few yards up hill from the crossing point on the path way and can hear other team members up ahead talking and setting up equipment.

22:45 Nathan tries using dowsing rods at the crossing point where the two gates are and asks for the direction of any spirit or presence to be shown by them. Nathan starts to walk from the gates at one end moving slowly towards the other gate at the opposite end.

22:46 Nathan sees a slight sudden swing movement to the right and receives a slight tingle from the rods just before the path he is walking from meets up with the main path. Nathan stops at this point and then asks that any presence be shown to him again, but there is no further response.

22:49 Elaine hears the bleating of sheep.

22:50 Bill measures the temperature as between -4 and -3°.

Nathan returns back to the seating area originally where this vigil took place.

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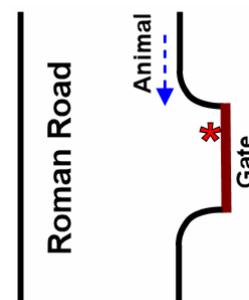
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- 22:54 The tree in front of Elaine lights up, this could have been from car lights.
- 22:55 Andy calls Elaine over as he has trouble with his pen and asks her to note that he heard a heavy sigh near him.
- 22:59 Elaine hears a bang coming from behind when she looked around nothing was seen.
- 23:00 Nathan takes another EMF reading but nothing is registered.
- 23:01 A small animal, about the size of a small cat, is seen by Bill just south of where he was sitting (towards Frithsden). He had been looking over his shoulder to the southwest and as he turned round he saw the black animal come round the corner of the hedgerow (it was following Roman Road and the gate Bill was sitting by was inset from the track by about one and a half metres as shown on the plan on the right). As he turned round it saw him and he had a brief glimpse of it before it ran off, too quickly for him to turn his torch on.
- 23:02 Elaine hears footsteps to her left when looking around it was Bill.
- 23:04 Elaine hears a cracking noise behind her.
- 23:05 Elaine hears someone whistling.
- Nathan hears a distinct cracking sound coming from the area towards one of the gates at the crossing point. No further sounds heard after this time.
- 23:06 Andy hears someone whistling.
- 23:07 Andy and Elaine both hear what sounds like something landing on water.
- 22:08 When Bill had arrived at the site he kept hearing a popping sound generally coming from the southeast. It sounded like something feeding out of a bucket. This was later revealed to be horses that walked up to the east hedgerow of the track making huffing noises.
- 23:12 Elaine hears footsteps again, this time they were coming up the lane.
- 22:13 Bill measures the temperature as between -3.5 and -3°C.
- 23:15 Nathan walks back to the gates and starts taking EMF readings around the gates and close to a pathway entrance that leads back down parallel towards the direction of the bridge. There are no indicator lights for these EMF readings at this stage.
- 23:16 Elaine has the feeling that someone is standing behind her.
- 23:17 Nathan sees a flash coming from down the track leading towards the bridge where he suspects the other team members may be taking camera shots after completing their own vigil.



Post-Vigils

After the vigils the team excluding Elaine headed back down the cutting to the bridge to get a few photographs. After this they headed further down the track towards Nettleden until they reached the entrance to the path which runs along the top west edge of the cutting. They followed this path until it reached the top of the bridge where they joined Team 2. A few minutes were then spent in the area just to the west of the bridge (on the footpath) before taking a team photograph then returning to the cars.

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During the investigation Bill's EMF meter was turned on and in his pocket. At no time did it beep so any detected level did not rise to 2mG or higher.

Post-Investigation

Andy - Sound Recorder: Andy does not have any EVP on his sound recordings.

Andy - Film: Andy has recorded audio on his film footage of a loud thump being heard coming from behind the team. There is also footage of a strange light on the ground in front of the team. However Bills torchlight is observed shortly afterwards beaming down on this location and therefore it must be assumed that Bill was taking a temperature reading and this would also account for two lights seen in the bushes down the lane shortly afterwards that may also have been Bills light. [**Editor's Note:** After examining the recording at one of our regular Investigation Review meetings it was decided that the light seen down the lane was caused by reflections from the eyes of the animal Bill saw at 23:01]. The camcorder has also picked up the sound of someone whistling in the lane nearby, which is strange given that the sound recorder did not pick this up.

Andy - Photographs: Andy did not pick up any paranormal activity on his camera apart from an orb in motion near the bridge.

Equipment List

Andy Digital Camera: Panasonic Lumix DMC-FS15
 Digital Camcorder: Sony DCR-DVD306E
 Digital Voice Recorder: Olympus VN-480PC
 EMF Meter: K-II
 Digital Infrared Thermometer: IR-102
 Notepad & pen, torch and watch

Bill Digital Camera: General Electric E1480W
 EMF Detector: Hutech
 Digital Infrared Thermometer: CHY 110
 Digital Compass/Altimeter/Thermometer: WS110
 Notepad & pen, torch and watch

Elaine Digital Camera: Kodak C913
 Digital Voice Recorder: VN-2100PC
 Digital Compass/Altimeter/Thermometer: WS110
 Notepad & pen, torch and watch

Nathan Digital Camera: HP Photosmart R707
 Dictaphone: Olympus PearlCorder S925
 EMF Detector: ElectroSensor
 Dowsing rods
 Mobile Phone
 Torch