Name of database	The prehistory of northwest Europe

Name of table	**main**	
Purpose of table	Contains information on the location and circumstances of investigation of each site, and bibliographic references	
Number of rows	5754	
Primary Key	site_id	
Foreign Key		
Name of field	**Full description of field and codes or terminology used**	**Data type and field length**
site_id	A five-figure number that is the unique identifier for each site record	number
name_site	Site name. This is often hyphenated, with the first part typically being the commune (France), municipality (Belgium and Netherlands), Gemeinde (Germany) or parish (Denmark), and the second part being the actual locality	text
region	French région, German Land, Dutch and Belgian province, Luxembourg district. The region for all Danish sites has been recorded as 'Jylland', though this is a geographical rather than administrative area	text
longitude	Decimal longitude, recorded to two decimal places (i.e. a precision of around +/- 1km). In cases where the actual site location was not known, the co-ordinates have been centred on the relevant town/parish	number
latitude	Decimal latitude, recorded to two decimal places (i.e. a precision of around +/- 1km). In cases where the actual site location was not known, the co-ordinates have been centred on the relevant town/parish	number
type_investigation	Recorded as excavation, evaluation (i.e. trial trenching or test pitting), watching brief or coring survey. Where an evaluation followed by an excavation was carried out at a single site, this was recorded simply as 'excavation'	text
reason_investigation	The type of development that led to the investigation. Recorded as housing/estate (construction for housing, commercial, industrial and mixed use developments), road/railway, quarry/mine, pipeline/cable, airport, forestry/agriculture, miscellaneous development, archaeologically-led (i.e. non-development-led) or unknown	text
organisation	The body responsible for carrying out the fieldwork	text
date_start_investigation	The year that fieldwork began. In some cases this will simply be the earliest stage of reported fieldwork within the period of data collection	number
date_end_investigation	The year that fieldwork ended. In some cases this will simply be the latest stage of reported fieldwork within the period of data collection	number
unpublished_reference	Reference for any unpublished 'grey literature' fieldwork report, or equivalent	text
published_reference	Reference for any published monograph, article or note	text
repository_archive	Name of the archive where the unpublished report(s)	text

	were consulted, where applicable	
repository_web	Web address of any internet repositories holding the unpublished report(s)	text

Name of table	features_by_phase	
Purpose of table	Contains information on the prehistoric archaeology encountered by each investigation. A separate record has been created for each phase of activity encountered in each investigation	
Number of rows	8966	
Primary Key	ID	
Foreign Key		
Name of field	**Full description of field and codes or terminology used**	**Data type and field length**
id	A number that is the unique identifier for each record	number
site_id	Corresponds with the site records in the 'main' table	number
period	The archaeological period that the phase of activity falls within, in the local terminology. Note that varying chronological schemes are used across northwest Europe, so that a term such as 'late Neolithic' can relate to different periods of time in different regions. The abbreviations used are: MESO Mesolithic NEO Neolithic EN Early Neolithic MN Middle Neolithic LN Younger/Late/Final Neolithic BA Bronze Age EBA Early Bronze Age MBA Middle Bronze Age LBA Late Bronze Age IA (Pre-Roman) Iron Age EIA Early pre-Roman Iron Age MIA Middle pre-Roman Iron Age LIA Late pre-Roman Iron Age ROM Roman period/Roman Iron Age	text
phase_start	The approximate earliest possible start date for the phase of activity. Normally this corresponds to the conventional date range for the archaeological period (as recorded in the field 'period') under the local chronological system. A minus symbol is used to denote years BC , so '-3000' means 3000BC	number
phase_end	The approximate latest possible end date for the phase of activity. Normally this corresponds to the conventional date range for the archaeological period (as recorded in the field 'period') under the local chronological system. A minus symbol is used to denote years BC , so '-3000' means 3000BC	number
settlement	Records presence/absence of settlement features	text
flat_grave	Records presence/absence of human remains or funerary features not associated with a recognisable monument	text
burial_monument	Records presence/absence of a funerary monument (regardless of whether human remains were recovered)	text
field_system	Records presence/absence of field system features	text

enclosure	Records presence/absence of an enclosure	text
linear	Records presence/absence of a linear boundary feature	text
hoard_deposit	Records presence/absence of an artefact hoard	text
stray_find	Records presence/absence of one or more stray finds lacking associated features	text
other	Records presence/absence of features not falling into any of the above categories	text

Name of table	**radiocarbon**	
Purpose of table	Contains information on radiocarbon determinations obtained on prehistoric material from sites recorded in the 'main' table	
Number of rows	1421	
Primary Key	lab_code	
Foreign Key		
Name of field	**Full description of field and codes or terminology used**	**Data type and field length**
site_id	Corresponds with the site records in the 'main' table	number
lab_code	The official laboratory code for the determination. In cases where this has not been reported, the site name and identifying number within square brackets has been used, e.g. [Hasselt 1]	text
date_BP	The uncalibrated determination in years BP	number
standard_deviation	The standard deviation of the uncalibrated determination, e.g. '35' means +/- 35 years	number
type_sample	The material sampled, e.g charcoal	text
delta_13C	The $\delta 13C$ value	number
comments	Further information about the sample or its context	text