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And now further worked on towards a publishable text 16. i. 96. pjf
edited to end (where alot of checking is reqd) 18.i.96pjf

This, 5EDFYF3.DOC, is now the THIRD PC FILE in the sequence of files making up the draft text of CHAP 5. It follows 5edfyf2a and is followed by two further files, one (5edfyf4) on ODXI/B, the other (5edfyf5) a DISCUSSION of the whole site in the light of its excavation

FILE 5edfyf3.doc, printed out 24. ii. 96.
now file 5edfyf3c pjf 30/3/96

ODXI/South 1

Introduction

The (1967) excavation identified as South 1 was undertaken in search of additional 'Beaker' burials, beginning with a small trench across a resistivity anomaly. Another intention was to pick up the line of the southern part of the enclosure ditch, as late as then thought on sub-terrestrial detecting data to be E-W across the site in the area of South 1. When such a ditch failed to materialise, a narrow extension S was cut (South 2). By then, however, it was becoming clear that the enclosure ditch was elsewhere (*above* p.00). The anomaly proved to be a small curving ditch or gully (see **GF377**), as of a round structure, an observation similar in itself and in its consequences to the location of the building defined by G1 in East 1 in 1963 (*above* p. 00). Here, the consequential area excavation of a 50 ft. square, embracing the 1967 trench, was undertaken in August 1968, but it was not a particularly well-executed excavation.

For present purposes the main points to emerge were that here were:

- i. no further Beaker burials
- ii. no southern ditch to the settlement enclosure
- iii. another round structure defined by a circular gully (Gully 1) with its entrance again to the SE
- iv. good stratification, with clear evidence of considerable activity both earlier (`working hollows`) and later (ard-marks) than the `round house`
- v. good absolute dating evidence across a range from LBA to Roman

Layers over the site are noted as ①, ② & ③. All other layer numbers i.e. not circled, refer to the layers of the features.

Descriptions of features are as follows:

a) Feature

b) General Find (GF) number

c) description of finds

d) description of layer

e) depth

f) other information

g) relationship with other features

h) Small Find (SF) number & description, including exact position.

The Layering (figs. 00, 00, 00)

Layer ①, turf and humus (of Roman and later date)

Layer ②, initially assumed to be the familiar `site layer 2` of the worm-sorted flint residue from layer ①, proved to be complex, with the tops of numerous features surfacing at or immediately below the flints of this level (fig. 5.00). The principal feature was a ring-ditch or circular gully 5.70 m in radius. The SW corner of the area, where the chalk surface was markedly lower, contained a 'multiplicity of features' among much larger flints, excavated to a depth of 30 cms. but not fully or satisfactorily investigated.

Layer 2 immediately below the turf: GF430 included RB sherds (as did GF433) and a chisel fragment as well as typical EIA occupation debris; **SF48, 50**: RB iron nails; **SF51**: iron rod; **SF44**: half a human long bone and other bone frags, again hinting at the possibility of other ?Beaker burials in the area. A Beaker sherd was found in topsoil just to the S on OD XI/B (*above p. 00*)

Layer 3: **SF47**: a piece of bone embedded in the chalk, the first indication that the `natural chalk` was not undisturbed.

SF49 LBA socketed axe fragment from layer 2 (or 3?) (**CHECK EXACT POSITION ON ORIG. FIELD PLAN FROM FINDS REGISTER DATA: IT IS RECORDED AS LAYER 2 BUT `IN FLINTS` I.E. POSSIBLY IN FILLING OF G1; SO ITS EXACT POSITION MAY WELL SHOW THAT IT WAS ACTUALLY IN G1 EVEN THOUGH ONLY 28 CMS DEEP FROM TURF**)

Gully 1

The gully was c 11.50 m in diameter. Its width varied from 45-75 cms and its depth from 30-53 cms (fig. 00), in general deeper than anywhere else on site. This was almost certainly the result of post-depositional factors, for both width and depth varied according to location. In general, as found G1 was shallower and narrower around the arc from NW-SE, where it had been affected by later ploughing, and deeper and broader to S and W where, as the ground dropped away anyway, it had not been so affected at the edge of a `Celtic` field (fig. 00). There too it had in any case been covered by an accumulation of ploughsoil, certainly by and within the Roman period (layer 2 and at least some of layer 1, fig. 00) if not earlier. Its slightly greater depth below the ground surface of Roman and indeed medieval times meant it was somewhat protected from the post-settlement ploughing which had clearly sliced off the top of similar features in Areas East 1-3 (*above p. 00*)

The top of the gully was filled with flints, along with bones, teeth and some pottery. On the W, where it was sealed by the tail of the lynchet (fig. 00), it first appeared as a line of large flints and

sarsens in a clayey/decomposed chalk layer containing burning debris - charcoal and pieces of quick lime (grey chalk) and decomposed pottery. In the area of Pits 5, 6 and 7, G1 contained no flints or sarsens but a fine loamy fill. In contrast, it contained flints and sarsens in its SW arc passing through working hollow(s). Lower, its chalk fill was 'greatly interspersed with brown soil' (**GF377**). Both replacement material and packing stones (flint and sarsen lumps) formed 'pipes' in section in places, presenting the best evidence on the site that posts had actually stood in the 'gully' (figs. 00 and 00 drawing and photo). No eaves-drip gully or structural gullies for annexes were located. The entrance was in SSE again (see **South 2**) with a post-hole socket on its E (**PH5?**).

Gully 1: the layers (fig. 5.00):

Layers ①-④ Site Layers (see above)

Layer 5: gully filling divided into:

Layer 3: brown humus with flint & sarsens at c 23 cms depth into gully

Layer 4: brown silt (CHECK this 'silt': I don't believe it!)

Layer 5: decomposed chalk, humus & large flints

Layer 6: dark brown silt & charcoal

Layer 7: orangey decomposed chalk

Layer 8: white decomposed chalk

Layer 9: light brown humus, occupation layer of Working Hollow

Layer 10: brown loam and sarsens c 55 cms deep into gully

Gully 1: a selection of the layers and material contexts:

Layer 3/5 (Layer 5 of Gully 1 is part of Gully Filling 3: see above) included: **GF479** included **SF61**, at side of G1, part of a (human?) skull; **GF504** included ox skull and **SF70** La Tène I/II brooch c 17.5 cms into G1

Layer 6: no recorded finds

Layer 7: **GF484, 487**, standard EIA material at bottom of G1

Layer 8: **GF490** typical EIA material at very bottom of G1

GF516, 526 typical EIA material at bottom of G1 cutting through 'working hollow'

Layer 10 (of the area, not Gully1): **GF527** chalky rubble & flints beneath decomposed chalk filling of 'working hollow'

The Hearth (Pit 2), Pit 19 & Pit 15 (fig. 5.00)

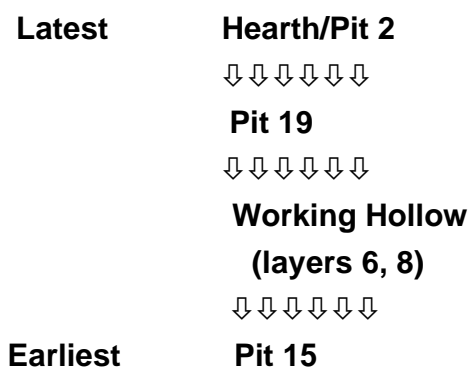
The hearth was mistakenly labelled as a pit (**Pit 2**). It was c 1.5 m in diameter, lay over the working hollow and cut Pit 19. It was covered by much bone in an area with a considerable

amount of burnt sarsen, although no charcoal; at c 25 cms, layer 3 (**GF 481**) was a heavy packing of large burnt sarsens and flint. Layer 4 was brown humus in the hearth pit.

Pit 19 also contained a brown humus fill. It was cut into the working hollow N of Pit 2 and was cut by P2. Both the hearth and P19 cut into P15.

Pit 15 was sealed by white decomposed chalk, layer 6 in the working hollow, interpreted as a floor level *sensu* a layer of deposited material on which activity occurred. It lay beneath the hearth. Layer 8, apparently a filling at the bottom of the working hollow c 58 cms below the Chalk surface, consisted rather surprisingly of light brown loose humus (**GF519**).

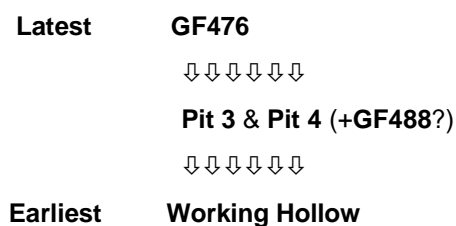
Sequence:



Pits 3 & 4

In a disturbed area. Layer 4 included haematite sherds (**GF488**). About 30 cms below the Chalk surface was layer 6 in the working hollow (see sequence *above*, and *below* for working hollow, p. 00).

Sequence:



Pits 5, 6, 7 and 14, PHs 12 & 28 (fig. 5.00)

GF465 overlay **Pits 5, 6** and **7** and **Gully 1**. **Pit 5** cut **G1**.

P5 was bell-shaped and 97 cms deep. Its top was defined by flints and sarsens (**GF465**). Layer 3 in it contained a pile of sarsens and cut the filling of **Gully 1** (**GF468**). Layer 4, an homogenous material, was a soft, loose loamy (humic) fill with chalk grains and lumps of redeposited

(decomposed) chalk which contained (GF482) EIA pottery, bone, a hammer stone and worked sarsen.

Pit 6, in fact a post-hole with a clear socket in the weathered chalk bottom, **cut Pits 7 and 14**.

GF467 was of a typical EIA assemblage

Pit 7, the earliest feature in the P5/6/7 complex, was a shallow pit cut into a worn chalk surface. It was itself **cut by Gully 1, Pits 6 and 14, and PH28**.

Pit 14 was **cut by Pit 6**, and contained brown loam with chalk flecks and flints, over a layer of humus/brown silt, sandwiched between two layers of weathered chalk.

PH28: a narrow post-hole socket **cut by PH28**.

Sequence: CHECK IT

Latest	GF465
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
	Pit 5 (?)
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
	Pit 6/PH28(?)
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
	Pit 14
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
	Gully 1
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
Earliest	Pit 7

Pits 8 & 9, PHs 7, 24 & 25

Over Pits 8 and 9, not differentiated at these levels, was layer 2 with RB pot; and layer 3, a loamy soil with small chalk lumps & flints, cut by **PH 7** to the S and containing (GF471) unspecified flint, bone and burnt bone, and pottery including a BA body sherd with applied horizontal cordon, plain in fabric S 34, and two EIA decorated body sherds in TWA fabric Q2 & Q7 (*below p.00*).

Pit 8 contained layer 4 (**GF477**), a yellowy-brown soil with chalk, **cut by layer 5 of Pit 9** and **PH 24**.

Pit 9, cut by PH25, contained layer 5, which cut Pit 8, and layer 6, a yellowy clay with redeposited chalk containing haematite bowl fragments (GF491).

PH24, with a clear post-pipe of charcoal-filled soil, **cut W edge of Pit 8**.

PH25 cut N face of **Pit 9**.

Possible Sequence:

Latest	GF466
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
	GF471
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
	(PH24) + (PH?) + (PH7) + PH25 } CHECK for contemporaneity/association
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
	Pit 9
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
Earliest	Pit 8

Pit 1 & PH37 (or PH3 or PH36)

PIT 1

Marked by sarsens on surface and with layer 3 at c 25 cms (**GF523**), it was possibly a PH 40 cms deep. **Cut W edge of working hollow and PH37 (or was it PH 36 as per JW?)**.

Sequence:

Latest	Pit 1
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
	PH37
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
Earliest	Working Hollow

PH11 & PH36

PH11, 15 cms deep, was exactly parallel to PH36 **THE PROFUNDITY OF THIS GEOMETRY ESCAPES ME!: PLEASE EXPLAIN**

PH36, covered by a large sarsen, was 45 cms deep.

Pits 12, 13 & 18

Layer 4, a brown loam with flint and decomposed chalk 37 cms below ground surface, was a disturbed area covering the `working hollow` N of hearth/ Pit 2, **over Pits 12 & 13 (GF507)**.

PIT 12

A very small pit E of P18 covered by a layer of orange clay.

Pit 13, cut by Pit 18, contained layer 3 (**GF 521**) 42-57 cms deep and **cut working hollow**.

Pit 18 contained a packing of exceptionally large flints and burnt sarsens set in rotten chalk. It was **dug into working hollow and cut Pits 12 and 13**.

Possible sequence:

Latest	GF507	
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓	
	Pit 18	
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓	
	Pit 13 (& Pit 12?)	} Gully 1 to be fitted in somewhere
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓	
Earliest	Working Hollow	

Pits 10 & 11, PHs 23 & 26

Pit 10

Cut by Gully 1 and Pit 11, its top layer (3) of dark brown fill included (GF489) haematite sherds and Coombe rock

Pit 11 cut Pit 10 & PH23, and was cut by Gully 1. Layer 4 was a brown loam with large flints to c 23 cms over **Pit 11 and PH23**. It was cut by layer 5 of Gully 1, a brown loam with flints, small chalk lumps, charcoal flecks and sarsens 53 cms deep and clearly distinguishable from the stone-free brown layer 4. Layer 6, a dark brown loam with very large sarsens and a sling-stone (SF62) was c 65-84 cms below turf, surrounded and underlain by layer 7 in which was the base of an LBA/EIA jar in fabric M30 (see **GF499**) and frog bones. Layer 8, very similar to layer 6, contained burnt sarsens and frog bones c 99 cms below present ground level.

PH23, overlain by layer 4, was 32 cms deep and probably cut Pit 11

PH26 was cut by Pit 11 and Gully 1.

Sequence:

Latest	Gully 1	
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓	
	?PH23	
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓	
	Pit 11	
	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓	
	Pit 10/PH26	} Not necessarily contemporary

PIT 16

Cut the N part of Gully 1 at section H-I.

Pit 17 & PH35

Cut working hollow; cut by PH35 which cut by Gully 1.

Working Hollows

Initially, the existence of a **working hollow** or **hollows** was indicated by an area of thick flint in the south-western corner of the excavated area after removal of layer 1. The deposit of flints was much thicker towards the S edge of the square. The hollows were subsequently partly defined by `steps` with quite irregular edges cut into Chalk to a depth of c 60-90 m. Excavation was incomplete but eventually it indicated overall the existence of an irregular shallow scoop generally c 60 cms deep and filled with chalk and dirty soils.

The Chalk subsoil as found was badly decomposed - `rotten`, having suffered from a great deal of disturbance over, on and in it, most recently by rabbits. Its particular quality which made much of it like soft, structureless yellow 'cheese' may well have resulted, however, from prolonged soakings in ponded water - on the face of it, an improbable suggestion for an isolated spot on an arid downland slope. We can merely record that such was the effect during the month of August, 1968 when, for much of the time, the joke about not being able to tell the difference between chalk and `cheese` did not seem very funny. Given that the hollows were in large part filled with such `rotten` chalk, it was rather difficult, especially in what amounted to chalk slurry, to be certain both about whether a context was within or without a `hollow` and about the total area that had been dug out and infilled c 800 BC (for dating, see *below* p. 00). The whole `hollowed` area, however, certainly occupied more than the area partly excavated: apparent edges to N and E were located but the infill extended out of the cutting to W and S.

Within the hollowed area, layers of redeposited destructured chalk were interleaved with humic layers throughout the fillings (see details of fillings, layers etc. given selectively in notes on Pits and PHs *above*). As low as c 30 cms below the Chalk surface, for example, layer 6 in the working hollow was a sticky light yellow clay with clods of redeposited chalk (**GF 494**). In the filling itself, to take another example, S of Pit 13 were two clearly defined chalk floor levels with a humic layer between them. These continued on the other side of the natural baulk which divided the working hollow into two halves (North & South). **Gully 1** cut through the S end of the working hollow, cutting the four layers. These layers probably represented working and temporary floor levels, deliberate in-filling, and possibly occupation levels.

Throughout this working hollow area a considerable number of pits and post-holes had been cut. Gully 1 cut into the filling and often through it into the 'cheese' below. The filling did not contain much pottery, but quite a lot of animal bone.

The uppermost layer in the hollows was layer 4 (to indicate its position in the stratigraphy of the whole area), a brown humus/loamy clay with small flints and chalk lumps below flint cover (layer 2) in SW corner, either side of and under **Gully 1** 35 cms below turf. It was more clayey at 30 cms depth in or by the entrance; and where it was sealed by the inserted hearth (pit 2), it was a heavy loam with redeposited chalk and flint. Layer 6, on the floor of the hollows 45 cms below ground level, was a greeny/grey clay silt plus very decomposed chalk, with some grey quick-lime-type material plus flints and sarsens.

GF449, 492, layer 4, typical EIA material with **SF56**, fired clay sling stone.

GF472, layer 6, typical EIA material

PH12a and Pit 15

PH12a was underneath the working hollow N of **hearth** (Pit 2). **CHECK what this means**

GF508, layer 3, EIA sherd and bone

PH 15, 58 cms deep into Chalk, was sealed by decomposed chalk floor, level 6, of **a working hollow**, beneath the **hearth**.

GF519, layer 8, EIA sherds, bone

Sequence:

Latest **Hearth (Pit 2)**

↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

Working Hollow

↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

PH12a

↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

Earliest

Pit 15

Post-Holes (fig. 5. 00)

Details of the post-holes are not given here but are held in the Archive:

ODXI/A/South 2

South 2 was theoretically the next 50 ft. square on the S side of South 1. Only two parts of that square were actually excavated and both, logically if confusingly, were identified as South 2 at the time.

One (henceforth called S2/SE here) was a 2 ft. wide `pipe-trench` from 3 ft SE of the SE corner of ODXI/A/South 1, excavated for 50 ft (15 m) to intersect the southern length of the settlement enclosure ditch. This it failed to do (not surprisingly as it subsequently turned out: see *above* p.00). It was only 23 cms deep, to the surface of the Chalk, removing layers 1 (topsoil) and 2 (flinty soil) and finding only two features and no material.

One feature was actually in the 3 ft. between the trench and South 1 cutting: a post-hole with an upright sarsen 23 cms. deep **(Could this be in the line of a fence coming from area B/N&M? - TO CHECK).**

The other, a pit 1 m in diameter, was 10.65 m south along the trench - away from the three structural complexes and a rare hint that features other than those excavated may well have existed with the ditched enclosure. A silty layer (3) filled with burnt sarsens and a few small flints occurred above a very silty layer (5) with a large amount of soot spread evenly throughout. Chalk weathering (4) lay against the sides of the pit. Material has not been individually identified from the single GF number, 530, recorded as containing (unidentified) charcoal, bone, and (?EIA) pottery.

The other extension (here S2/N) examined the entrance area of Gully 1. In it, six (? - **only 5 are enumerated**) postholes (**PHs 16, 17, 18, 19, 29**) and a patch of ard-marks (*below* p.00) were noted:

GF445, topsoil, included RB sherds

**NB none of the following PHs except 29 are on SR`s plan
CHECK THEM OUT AS FAR AS POSSIBLE on the orig. field plan, decide whether to add them to the plan for publication. Once sorted, this text can be adjusted so that PHs are briefly noted under either S2/SE or S2/N**

PH16 just to the E of this Gully 2 (*see below*) extension, about a 1/3 of the way along; *i.e.* in the ENE area of South 2 (*sensu* S2/S?).

PH17 situated in the SE corner of cutting South 2 (as above?).

PH18 situated in the SW corner of cutting South 2(as above?).

PH19 just E of the centre of cutting South 2 (S2/S??).

PH29, layer 3, dark brown loam with charcoal flecks, c 23 cms below the turf and covered by large sarsen with very chalky fill interpreted as post-hole socket. (this must be in S2/S - see next para below)

GF509, 'Bone' from layer ③

The W end of **Gully 1** may have held a post. On its immediate S and just cutting it was **PH29** which held a large burnt post socket. This may be the first post of a porch; if so, the other porch post-holes probably lie to SE and would have been missed by South 2 as excavated.

What is G 2?: this is the first mention of it? Make sure all appear on final plan.

Gully 2 extended from South 1 and continued diagonally across South 2N to a centre point along the southern edge. In addition, the NW corner of South 2N shows the extension of the South 1 **working hollow**.

(**Gully 2**'s extension into South 2N is not on the site plan, but the area of the **working hollow** is shown).

The extended arm of **Gully 1**, three further ?PHs in the south-eastern section of South 2(/N) and one other; **PH18**, in the south-western corner, as well as a '**Pit 1**', may point to a structure, possibly a porch/entrance, associated with the G1 building. Comparisons with the other structures in areas East(1), East 2 and East 3 show various similarities in the positions of these feature. **Gully 2** seems to indicate a drain leading out from the structure of Building East 1 and is thus similar to **Gully 2** of South 1/2.

THE PITS on OD XI/A: an INTERPRETATION

A total of forty pits were excavated from OD XI/A. Their on-site distribution was clearly non-random (fig. 5.00). Essentially they clustered in three groups in and around the three structural complexes ('houses'), though each cluster was different from the other two. That around Gully 1/2 consisted of pits beneath and outside but not inside the building; that related to Gullies 4-8 in East 2/3 were inside, on top of and outside the buildings; that related to South 1/2 contained pits under and in but not outside the building.

The group that particularly stands out distributionally lay in East 2/3. Of the three pits apparently directly related to the structures, two (P13, 19) lay unencumbered

in 'internal space', while the third (P20) lay directly on the line of the W wall of the latest structure in the complex. This pattern left the four pits outside to the E as a distributional oddity - until the time dimension is brought to bear. They were in fact nothing to do with the building complex, P23 being much earlier than it, and P21 and 22 much later. Similarly various components of the sub-cluster E of G1 are much earlier than it and all three pits under its W side also preceded it. Pits 6A and 7 alone are big ones likely to be contemporary. In South 1, Pits 10 and 11 preceded Gully 1, as did some of those 'inside' it; Pit 5 succeeded it. So, although the eye is caught by the graphic correlation between pits and structures, it is not quite so clear-cut as at first appears, especially when time is taken into account. In fact, the 'pits' here range from Beaker graves to Roman holes. Barely more than 50% of them could be called 'typical' Iron Age (storage) pits in terms of time alone. Even less 'typical' do they appear when function is considered too.

At least ten (25%) of the pits appear to contain structured 'votive' deposits of some kind: they are listed *below* p. 00. All EIA unless otherwise stated, they contained decorated artefacts, non-local stone (Coombe rock), domestic artefacts (knives, awls, bone points), and/or the skeletal remains of humans or animals. Four pits contained ox remains. PITS 2, 19 and 20 contained ox skulls; PIT 8 contained articulated ox bones. PIT 2 also contained a horse skull, as did PIT 3. PIT 8 also contained articulated pig bones, and PIT 19 contained the skeletal remains of a small rodent. PIT 21B (RB) contained the upper jaw of a dog while PIT 22 (RB) contained the upper jaw of a cat. PIT 6A contained the skeletal remains of a pig/small mammal foetus, while those in PIT 23 (EBA) were recorded as possibly immature human infant bones. PIT 4, one or two Beaker graves, contained two human burials, one above the other, a child (who's facial bones and vertebrae were missing) associated with a complete Beaker, and an adult male surrounded by large flints. PITS 4, 6, 6B, 7 and 7A were all closely associated, only P7, the last of the holes to be dug, being an 'ordinary' EIA pit. The others may possibly represent a funereal or ritual space, part of a flat cemetery or possibly under a low, long-gone mound.

BA sherds were also recovered from PITS 3, 6, 8/9, and 23. EIA sherds, many decorated, were recorded from most of the pits on ODXI. A decorated antler tine point was recovered from PIT 8. Charcoal was also recorded from many of the pits and from all of the 'votive' pits except PITS 2 and 4. The charcoal in PIT 23 was made from the wood of at least five different trees. Soot and ash was also recorded from many of the pits, including the outlier to the south in South 2.

Of the 'votive' pits only 3, 11, 19 and 20 contained sarsen; the sarsen in PIT 11 was burnt. A large sarsen marked the central cut made in early Roman times into Pit 22. PIT 5, which cut Beaker burial II, contained six large sarsens, possibly originally marking the pit (acknowledging that, surely accidentally, a grave had been disturbed and, possibly, that spirits had to be appeased?). Pit 20 was almost certainly also marked by a visible sarsen stone originally.

Pit 20 lay on the W side of G8. Is it just co-incidence that, despite different relationships in time to the buildings, a pit or pits occur at about '9 o'clock' on the circuits of all three building complexes? (Pits 1-3 beneath G1, East; P20 on top of G8, East 3; P10-11 beneath G1, South 1). The horse skull in PIT 3 echoed the probably earlier votive deposit in PIT 2, suggesting the continuity of some particular ritual or practice. PITS 10/11 on South 1 appeared to mirror not only the spacial arrangement but also the sequence of PITS 2/3 East NW, that is a pit containing a votive deposit was cut by a later pit containing a votive deposit, which was cut by the gully of a structure.

Although PIT 20 was in a similar position on G8, something very different was happening there as this pit is clearly of a much later date than the gully. PIT 20 contained the most clearly structured deposit on the site. A layer of flints were placed on top of the fill of Gully 8; above this was buried a complete iron knife including the wooden handle, and a bone point. The skull of a nearly fully grown (4-5 year old) ox was placed over the artefacts, and was associated with a small polished sarsen stone. Five fragments of worked or butchered bone were also deposited, along with a sherd of decorated EIA pottery. The careful assemblage and placement of this superficially eclectic but doubtless deeply meaningful deposit tempts the imagination to think, for example, in terms of a ritual 'killing' of the building represented by G8. Especially is this so if it is accepted as almost certain that the pit was almost certainly marked by a sarsen stone sticking up through the ground above its 'votive' deposit.

A very large sarsen occurred in Pit 22 and it is possible that this also was once a marker stone. PIT 22 was a pit within a pit and contained a large amount of animal bones (mostly head and leg bones) from very young animals. A large sarsen lay at the bottom of the secondary, inner pit. Pits 10 and 19 were also redug.

Special functions might include PIT 13 which appears to represent a cess pit within the G4 annexe of Gully 5. PIT 19 was perhaps initially created and used before the Gully 5 structure was built, possibly as 'the pit' of 'house' G6. Then the large post-hole might have been cut into Pit 19, possibly once the G5 structure had been built. BA and EIA sherds were found in the layers above PITS 8/9 South 1, and these two pits were again much earlier than the structure.

The pits alone clearly demonstrate that the site was in use from the EBA onwards, principally at Beaker, EIA and early RB phases. Pits 21-22 were almost certainly in use in the C1 BC/AD if not specifically later C1 AD, and several pits contained RB material in their topfill, showing that they were slight hollows collecting debris, notably segs, at a time of Roman cultivation.

STRUCTURED : POSSIBLY 'VOTIVE' DEPOSITS

A EAST NW QUADRANT

1: PIT 2.

EAI sherds. Horse skull. Ox skulls and pelvis.

2: PIT 3. EIA sherds. Possibly a BA sherd. Horse skull, possibly on top of a layer of ash, burnt chalk & ash. Sarsen & flint in soil with charcoal.

EAST 1

3: PIT 4. Human burials. One child with beaker, face bones & vertebrae missing.
One complete adult male, surrounded by large flints.

4: PIT 6A. IA sherds. Base of unknown vessel type.

Incised rib bone, possibly butchery marks (cf PIT 20)

Foetus of pig/small mammal

Coombe rock

Charcoal on bottom of pit.

5: PIT 7. IA Rim/shoulder & base sherds

Large fragment ovoid jar

Jaw with teeth (possibly horse)

Rodent?

6: PIT 8: Decorated IA sherd.

2 bone awls (horse)

Decorated antler tine point

Articulated Ox and pig bones

EAST 2

7: PIT 19. 1 poss 3 IA sherds

2 frags Iron knife (top layer) - not associated with the skulls.

ox skulls, scapula, long bones, possibly below a layer of sarsens

Small rodent (or human foetus? as in PIT 23)

Flint scraper, not mentioned by AE.

Charcoal & ash

Coombe rock

8: PIT 20. 1 large sarsen. 1 small polished sarsen

Ox skull

Iron knife (complete)

Bone point

Decorated sherd

Frag bone (butchered)

All lying on a layer of flints on top of fill of G8.

EAST 3

9: PIT 23. EBA sherds.

NEO-BA flint scraper

Bone point

Poss immature human infant bones, in layer of charcoal. (5 types of wood)

SOUTH 1

10: PIT 11. Burnt sarsen

Base of jar, Large sarsen, Flint knife,

Burnt bone, small flints, charcoal flecks.
 PIT 11 cut PIT 10 which held sarsen, Hematite, flint, Coombe rock,
 (cf. PIT3 cut PIT2. Similar spacial arrangement and both PIT3 &
 PIT11 cut by a Gully

TABLE OF PITS IN AREA A									
Area	N	Dep	Dia	GF	Finds	SF	Finds	Fill	Relationship. Interp. Other notes.
NW	1		127	255	P.B.			CL CHK	G1 cuts PIT1 1 sherd at BTM of PIT.
NW	2		127	239 240 242- 3 246	B FGS Ox SK Horse SK.			DTY SL	PIT2 contains PH43. 2 Ox SK's & many B's possibly a votive deposit.
NW	3	150	97	131- 2 247- 8 257 269	P.B. Horse SK.			DK SL & SM CHK LPS OV FTY SL OV LGE F+SA.	Top layer disturbed by rabbits. Horse skull, EIA & poss BA sherds, poss a votive deposit.
E1	4					10	whole Beaker		Burial Ia & Burial Ib
E1	5	79	79	238 243	P.B. CH.S T			CHK SL F & SA (packin g?)	PIT5 cuts BURIALII
E1	6			237	P.B.S T.SS				Filling of PIT6 against S baulk in E.

E1	6 A			337 386 360 394 403	P.B.F . ST.C H BSA. MIN.	612	B.	CHK OV DK FILL+ F+BSA some CH in S half. OV CL LSE CHK to BTM. CL CHK RB.	This context contained IA pottery & some coomb rock. A small amount of CH & SM Mammal B's at BTM of PIT.
E1	6 B								Between PIT7 & PIT6A. May be cut by PIT6A fill.
E1	7	198	279	325 328 331- 2 334 336 338 344 366 424	P.B.F . SS.IR . ST. Fossil urchi n.	11	P.B.S T	DK SL OV CHK fill .OV CHK LPS OV DK SL+ CH FL. OV CHK LPS CHK+ BR fill at BTM.	Bones incl those of a frog, a ? rodent skull, & a jaw with teeth (horse?). The iron nail is 'Manning Type 1b'.
E1	7 A			342	P.B.			CHK LPS +SL.	Adjacent to N side of PIT7.B's included frog.
E1	8	45	80	330 340 616	P.B.F . CH	13	ART leg B+ VERT of an Ox. + Pig B. B point er+a wl.	MXD GR SL. F chips +CHK LPS. F+SA at BTM.	Decorated IA body sherd, 2 bone awls, a decorated Antler tine point, ox & pig bones, poss a votive deposit.

N1	9	50	81	326 329 343	P.B.			ETHY layer OV YEL/G R COMP CHK fill	2 SA ontop of PIT9 & some in the fill. Decorated IA sherds PIT9 cut by G3 which is prob a natural feature.
N1	10	55	75	341	FG BR sheet . ST			GR/BR SL F + CHK LPS PST	SA ontop. PST in situ incl 1 broken saddle quern or rubber appear to have held a post c30cm diam. 'BR' sheet in top fill. IA sherds. Redug as a PH.
E2	13	127	175- 132	353 372 376 390	P.DP. B.SS. CH.S A			PLSL OV SL+CH K OV DB HMC+ OR FL+A+ soot.	PIT13 within annexe to G5. The presence of cess & ash suggest it may have been a cess pit. 2 sherds decorated sherds prob'IA', & an RB sherd.
E2	19	91	150- 90	346 358 373- 4 368 380 391	P.B.F . CH.H . .	15 21 22 . . 23 25 27 614	CH. SLSP Ox SK SC 2LB OxSK SC FGS IR knife. B.	CHK SL F+B OV DK SL F+CH OV cone of DK HMC fill within layer of fresh CHK LPS + silt OV HMC+ P.B.	Large PH cut into centre of PIT19. Selwood Class III bone awl. IA sherd, frags of iron knife, ox bones, Coombe rock. Poss votive deposit.

E2	20	70	105-90	347 346 379	P.B.F . ST. ?CH	18 19 20 607-9 617-8	2 FG Ox SK. IR knife B needl e B. B.	SL+CH K LPS+F. OV COMP F nodules in fine CLY SL.OV CHK packing OV CHK SIL+CH K LPS.	PIT 20 appears to contain a votive deposit. The knife was complete & appears to have had its handle when burried,in close proximity to Ox SK suggesting a structured or intentionally meaningful burial, over the fill of G8.
E3	21								Appeared at as a figure -of- eight shaped area of soil at the surface of the chalk subsoil & proved to be 2 intersecting PITS, 21A(West) 21B(East).
E3	21	33	84	443	P.B.F .	54 55	B point G bead	DK BR SL SM CHK LPS F	PIT21A shallower than & cut by PIT21B. 21A filled in before 21B dug.
E3	21	38	122	447 450	P.B.			DK GR/BR SL SM CHK LPS F chips.	Layer 5 showed poss tip lines of pit fill. Contained the upper jaw of a dog.
E3	22	64	183	435 436 454	P.B.F . SA. FG SK huma n	60	P.T. FG SK huma n	HMS OV DK HMC SL SM F CHK RB OV DK SL CHK +F OV CHK RB	The soft dark soil with F & CHK of layer 4 appears to fill a void left by layer 5, a CHK RB mixed with greyish sticky material round side of PIT. LGE SA IN E half 126cm deep.

E3	23	41	56	363 460- 1 474	P.B.F .GR. CH.S S	604 58	F. of NEO or BA type. B point	F+ DK BR SL OV DB SL SM CHK LPS Fchips. OV LG/LB SL SM CH flecks SM LPS CH. FTY SL	Fragments of human B from a very immature human recovered from layer 4 2 BA sherds & a NEO-BA flint scrapper, & a bone point suggest that PIT23 was originally dug to hold a Beaker/EBA cremation/ burial.
E2	35			356 413	P.B.				PIT35 was not recorded on the plan, but recorded twice, more than 2 weeks apart in the site notebook. GF356=PIT35 cut by G5. GF413 on inside edge of SW corner G5. May be assoc with PIT 21.
S1	1	41	30	523	P.B.	71	ST	SA OV CHK+F packing OV LB HMC+F	PIT 1 cuts W edge of working hollow & PH3 on site plan. PIT 1 is poss a large PH. SF71 Hammer stone from surface PIT1
S1	2		152 ?43 0	481	B.BS A	44	poss huma n bone	Heavy packing of LGE BSA & F OV BR HMS of HEART H pit.	PIT2 lies just inside the HUT circle & appears to represent the HEARTH. BSA & F at 25cm layer 3. PIT2 covered by B some thought to be human, & BSA. PIT2 cuts PIT15

S1	3			476 488	P.B. P.B.D HAM					Eastern section of disturbed area around PITS 3/4 F+ CHK BR LSE loam. East section of working hollow layer 6=sticky light YEL CLY+ rediposited CHK.	PITS 3& 4 are roughly drawn on the plan in the silver series notebook & noted on the unfinished August 68 site-plan. PIT 3 is roughly centre of the S1 building. GF476 from FTY layer over & around PITS 3 & 4 ' large area of disturbance abutting onto N. of working hollow & HEARTH.	
				494								
S1	4											
S1	5	99	106-144	465 469 482	P.B.F .ST					BR SL F+ SA OV soft LSE HMS CHK grains LPS DECO M CHK	PIT4 just touches (possibly cuts) PIT3 Bell shaped PIT, roughly circular covered by F+ SA.Layer 3 cuts G1. The stone incl a hammer stone & some worked sarsen.	
S1	6			467	P.B.					BR HMS+ F WETH CHK at BTM.	PIT6 cuts PIT7 & PIT14 PIT6 has a clear socket in the CHK BTM & is probably a PH	

S1	7		468	P.B.F .			BR HMS+F . CHK tip lines	PIT7 was a shallow PIT with a ledge 23cm from worn CHK surface.PIT7 cut bt PIT6,PIT14,PH28,G 1
S1	8		477 466	P.B. CH			Light YEL/BR SL SM CHK LPS CHK Packing	Cut by HMC FTY layer 5 of PIT9.
S1	9		485 491	P.B.F . HAM		HMC DB LSE		PIT9 became distinct from PIT8 23cm from CHK. GF491 HAM bowl frags.
S1	10	28	489 495	HAM. P.B. P.B.F . CHK. SH.C H			DK BR SL F SA OV LB HMS SM CH+SM F	PIT10 appears to be cut by PIT11, but they have a homogenous fill & tip lines
S1	11	122	496- 9 501	P.B.F .SA.B B BSA.	62	Sling ST	BR HMS LGE F OV DK BR HMS SM CHK LPS SM F CH FL OV DK SL+CH OV DK BR HMS LGE SA OV CHKY CLY	G1 cuts PIT11, which cuts PIT10 . Bone, burnt bone & frog bone.The fill contained 1 LGE SA & 1 sling ST. The base of a jar and a poss flint knife. Poss votive deposit.

S1	12	43			2 CHK floor levels with HMC layers between	SM PIT to E PIT18 & S PIT13. May be cut by PIT18. Orange clay on top.
S1	13		521	P.B.	DK HMS LGE F packing at BTM	PIT13 is NW of PIT2, it is cut at its N end by PIT18. PIT13 cuts working hollow. Orange clay on bottom PIT6 cuts PIT14
S1	14				BR HMS CHK F OV WETH CHK OV HMS OV WETH CHK	
S1	15		519	P.B.	White DECO M CHK OV LB LSE HMC CLAY LOAM CHK LPS F	PIT15 lies beneath the HEARTH . Disturbed by moles.
S1	16					Cuts G1. N half contains orange clay & flints
S1	17					PIT17 cuts working hollow & is cut by PH35
S1	18				PST LGE F+ BSA set in rotten CHK BR HMC	N end cuts working hollow. PIT18 poss cuts PIT12
S1	19					

S 2 1

530 P.B.
CH.
BSA.
F

There are 5 layers in this pit, and layer 5 contains a large amount of soot.