

FWP19

FYFOD ODXII
FEATURE INVENTORY

MES 5/7/95
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FEATURES COMMON TO SEVERAL AREAS

Ditch

Area 1

The ditch has a V-shaped section. Only 4ft 6ins of its width was excavated. The depth of the cut was 2ft. The section shows that the fill is soil with flecks of chalk and some flints.

Area 2

NE cutting ditch is steep-sided, but with flat bottom. Width 5ft 6ins, depth 2ft 9ins. Section shows thin silt layer at base; main fill (layer 4) of clay and chalk. Layer 3 of clay, chalk and flint above. Layer 2 of humic soil with flints, subsiding into ditch. c9ins of topsoil above.

SE trial cutting shows ditch 5ft 9ins wide, full depth not excavated.

Section I/L to J/K across C-D 9ft line. Ditch is at least 4ft wide. Also steep-sided, but with flat base. Depth 2ft 3ins. Lowest fill of chalk and silt - 3ins depth. Main fill of dark soil with flints and chalk lumps. Overlying that is Layer 3, dark soil with flints. Large sarsen rests in layer 3.

Area 4

Section FE, shows very shallow V-shaped ditch c3ft 9ins wide and 1ft 6ins deep. Lower fill (layer 2B) of stiff yellowish soil with few flints and chalk lumps. Upper fill of brown soil with larger flints.

Ditch also shown on plan, extending 21ft SW of baulk FE, dwindling to a width of only 1ft 9ins at SW extremity.

Fill of ditch

Ditch has been deliberately filled. This was clear from the many sections, and the scarcity of finds in the fill compared with abundance of finds elsewhere 'suggested that the filling occurred before or at an early stage of the settlement' (Interim 3, 29).

The soil layers immediately over the ditch fill were richer in finds. Clear from finds distribution plots, particularly of Areas 2 and 4, but can also be seen in Area 1.

FEATURE INVENTORY BY AREA

AREA 1

Pit

Large oval pit in SE extension of area, long axis NE/SW. Field plan shows dimensions of 2ft 8ins by 2ft 5ins (but section drawing shows length of 3ft 2ins: plan was probably drawn when part of the pit was emptied, it slopes down to the base). Section shows pit is 1ft deep, the base being 2 ft 2ins below ground level. The lower fill is a layer 8ins deep of grey soil with chalk lumps. Overlying that is a 4ins deep layer of earth and large flints. Most finds appear to come from the interface between these two layers. Overlying pit fill is a layer of dark soil with flints, c6ins deep, subsiding into the pit. The maximum depth of topsoil is 1ft. (Information from field plans and sections, finds registers and from description in third interim (1967, 26-30))

Post holes

Of the 10 post holes (4 certain, 6 possible) in this area, 2 seem to pre-date the stone construction phase. The others cannot be linked with either phase, but all are listed together here. (Information mainly from plans, in one case from section, see also Interim 3 (1967,28). Little information from Finds Registers, as few of post holes contain finds. This in itself suggests most may be from a primary timber phase, when there was no great build-up of occupation material from site.). Numbers in bold refer to numbers assigned to post holes in Finds Registers and plans; post holes originally unnumbered have been given a number in brackets here.

The post holes in Area 1 are not on the line of the boundary ditch, so cannot be said to have formed a boundary marker, as might be the case with the post holes in Area 2.

Post hole (1)

Post hole c4ft 6ins to south of west wall of building. Roughly circular, diam c10ins, 4 upright sarsens packing the edges.

Post hole 2

Post hole, circular, diam 9ins, apparently pre-dating the trench (1) in the NE corner of the area (but check, could this possibly have belonged with the wall?). Projected onto section drawing 2, where it is shown as ph 2, lying 6ins NE of the large quern. Surviving depth of 6ins; has been cut by trench. Fill of the post hole (GFNo 136) contains pot and stone.

Post hole 3

Post hole within NE corner of building, just inside N wall. Oval, 8ins by 6ins. GFNo Register identifies this as ph3; GFNo 137 (fill), contains pottery. Plan shows fill contains small fragments of sarsen and flint

Post hole (4)

Post hole at foot of lynchet outside SE corner of building. Circular, diam 7.5ins. 'Some three inches deep' (Typed transcript, August 14th, p1).

Post hole (5)

Post hole in interior of building, south-west of centre. Circular, diam 6ins. Piece of sarsen shown in fill

Post hole (6)

Possible post hole at foot of lynchet to E of building. Pre-dates trench 1, the outer edge of which cuts it. Sub-rectangular, c7.5ins by 9ins.

Post hole (7)

Possible post hole at foot of lynchet outside SE end of building. Circular, diam c8ins. 2 pieces of flint in fill.

Post hole (8)

Possible post hole at foot of lynchet to E of building, just outside the centre of the gap or 'entrance' in that side. Circular, diam 1ft 3ins. Suggested that this 'shallow base of a probable post hole' might indicate some entrance structure (Interim 3, 1967, 28).

Post hole (9)

Westerly of 2 possible post holes just inside eastern wall of building, beside gap or entrance. Oval, 8ins by 5ins. Small flints in fill.

Post hole (10)

Easterly of 2 possible post holes (see above). Circular, diam 7.5ins. Small sarsens and flint in fill

Trench (1)

Shallow trench forming rough right-angle, at north-east of Area 1, cut into lynchet, contains sarsen wall footing (see published plans). Eastern arm c10ft in length, northern arm c9ft. Maximum width c4ft. 'At least 1ft deep, (typed transcript of tape for 10-13th August, p3). Very shallow U-shaped profile (seen in section in field drawing). Published third interim (1967, 26) says outer edge disturbed by rabbits. Section shows grey soil filling the trench and sarsens of wall footings lying above.

Trench (2)

Trench below SE corner of building. Rectangular, 6ft by 2ft 6ins. section shows it is c10ins deep, with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. (Field plans and sections and also published ones. For 'curious juxtaposition of walls and trenches', Interim 3, p28, also typed transcript 2nd tape, p1-2)

BUILDING 1

External measurement 15ft 6ins square. Internally c11ft square. Eastern half better preserved than western.

For walls information mostly from plans and published interim

Footings of N wall

Sarsens. Maximum length 15ft. Average width 2ft 6ins. Eastern half of wall lies on fill of trench 1, and the greatest concentration of sarsens lies there, but some large sarsens extend for 7ft 6ins to west of end of trench. Noted that the sarsens do not fill the whole width of the trench, also probably should be described as wall footing, as it 'was nowhere more than two courses high and the absence of tumble from it on either side suggested that it had never been higher' (Interim 3, 1967, p26)

Footings of E wall

Sarsens. Continuous with N wall footings to form right-angle, but do not extend full length of east side of building. Also resting on trench 1, and ending in line with southern end of this trench. Length 9ft, width 2ft 6ins to 3ft. Includes some flints and fragments of tile of Old Red Sandstone at southern end. Plan shows scatter of flints, sarsen fragments and 1 fragment tile in Old Red Sandstone, scattered across the gap between end of east wall and the southern wall footings. For possibility that this gap might be an entrance onto the lynchet, see Interim 3, p28, and also post hole (8) above.

Footings of S wall

Sarsens. Short length of wall footings at SE corner of building. Resting in trench 2, and co-terminal with it. Length 6ft, width 1ft 9ins. Section shows two courses of stone. Some flint fragments. Rest of S wall just a scatter of flints and sarsen fragments (Interim 3, 28)

Footings of West Wall

Scatter of sarsens and flints to west, for length of 10ft 6ins. Possible entrance in centre, because of two possible post footings (see published plan and Interim 3, p28). Possible post footings described below.

Post footings

Three possible post footings - probably relate to stone building (Interim 3, p28)

Post footing (1)

Northerly of 2 post footings in west wall. Arrangement of flints, leaving roughly circular void c6ins diam

Post footing (2)

Southerly of 2 post footings in centre of west wall, arrangement as above

Post footing (3)

Arrangement of sarsens in interior of building, forming 3 sides of a square, NW of centre, to west of quern (see below). Space post 1ft by 9ins.

Quern

Quern of sarsen stone in situ adjacent to E wall of house. Could the 2 large sarsens to the SE of it and the single sarsen to the NW be a 'work bench' or other feature related to the quern, or are they just part of the wall?

Occupation material

See finds in GFNos 22, 39, 43; also GFNo 123

?Tumble and material overlying occupation

Finds in GFNos 10, 11, 12, 30, 37, 60, 65, 80. Also finds in GFNo 8 (topsoil).

AREA 2

Finds and pottery recovered from layer 3 outside building

Post holes

Within the building there is one certain and 3 possible post holes.

There is also a line of 6 post holes to east, 2 certain, 4 possible. These lie between the east wall of the building and the boundary ditch.

Interpretation - Could they have served as a marker for the laying out of the building?

Numbers in brackets refer to numbering given on site plans.

Fills of the line of post holes to east of the building given in transcript of tape for 22nd August, as follows: 'The filling of the definite post hole (? post hole 2) was soil, and of the two probable post holes (? post holes 3 and 4), soil and chalk. The others were largely indicated by semi-circular cuts into the chalk where it was sloping down into the house interior.' The features had been disturbed by rabbits.

Post hole 1 (ph 2)

In small room of Building 2, close to S wall. Circular 1ft 6ins diam. Shown on section. Depth 1ft 2ins. Fill of brown soil with chalk lumps, also contains 1 large piece limestone, sarsens, flint and 1 fragment tile and 1 oyster shell.

The following is the line of post holes, outside the eastern wall of the building, running South to North.

Post hole 2 (ph 8)

Southerly of line of post holes to east of building. Close to ditch, plan shows some of line of sarsens over ditch fill also overlying fill of post hole. Post hole sub-rectangular, 1ft 6ins by 1ft, complicated by solution hollow (shown in section). Depth 1ft 8ins. Fill of brown clayey soil with flints. Section also shows large flints 'set in side' of ph.

Post hole 3

Circular, c10ins diam.

Post hole 4

Circular, c10 ins diam, partially overlain by large sarsen which has tipped to the west, from position on line of ditch.

The above 2 post holes are probably phs 9 and 10 shown on section drawings. Both about 8ins deep, sharply V-sectioned profiles, lower fills of dark soil, overlain by a layer of chalk with flints.

Post hole 5

Possible ph. Circular, c9ins diam.

Post hole 6

As above, but appears to be cut by trench underlying east wall.

Post hole 7

Possible ph, circular, c10ins diam.

The remainder of the post holes are within the building.

Post hole 8

Possible ph. In small room of building, close to post hole 1. Circular, c9ins diam, small packing stones round edge.

Post hole 9

Possible ph in centre of small room of building. Circular, diam c10ins, packing of small stones round edge.

Post hole 10

Possible ph in NE corner of large room. Circular, diam c1ft, packing of small sarsens and flints round edge.

Trench under E wall

Trench under northern part of E wall, running NE/SW.

Length 10ft, max. width 2ft 6ins, section drawing (SE/NW) shows irregular profile with uneven base, sarsens tumbling into it from wall footings. Max. depth 1ft 3ins.

'... the 'wall' was partly above a short length of chalk-cut trench, but, despite the rabbit disturbance, there could be little doubt that the two were not contemporary in this instance.' (Interim 3, 1967, 28).

Fill of disturbed dark soil shown on section.

Possible gully under SE end of E wall

'The eastern end of the building is of some complexity and three phases are clearly visible. The earliest is a gully running south-west/north-east which is outside the eastern corner of the structure, this has not yet been excavated This gully is cut immediately outside the south eastern corner of the structure by a wider and probably deeper gulley running north-south under the outer line of sarsen stones forming the east wall of the structure (i.e cut by the ditch)..'. (transcript of second tape, p3). Also mentioned on tape for August 14th, p2.

This must be different from the trench under the north-east corner of the wall, which was obviously not cut by the ditch. It is presumably the oval feature, roughly N/S, measuring roughly 3ft 3ins by 2ft 6ins, seen on plan.

Interpretation - ? gulley or just solution hollow.

BUILDING 2

Externally 34ft by 30ft. Internally 26ft by 20ft. Divided into 2 rooms. Larger to the west, roughly 20ft by 18ft; smaller room to the east, roughly 20ft by 6ft. Distance from centre of boundary ditch to outer edge of W wall is 40ft (see also Building 4A).

'The north side of the structure is set partly into and partly on the Celtic field lynchet running east-west..' (transcript of tape 2, p3).

As with building 1, sarsen wall footings better preserved to east. See Interim 3, p28-9 for description of walls, also transcript of tape 2, p4, 'The wall stones are simply standing on the flints as far as can be seen at the moment for most on the way round, but at the north east corner they have been set in a cut made into the from of the lynchet cut into the solid chalk beneath.'

Notable absence of finds from small room (see distribution plot).

East wall

See Interim 3, 28-9. Note NE corner is only place where 2 courses survive, also note feature with sarsen chips at the centre of this wall (see below). This is not sealed by any large wall footing stones, is it possible that there was an entrance here? Were the sarsen chips worn? Is it feasible to have an entrance out onto the lynchet?

South wall

'..the southern 'wall' appeared to be represented by two roughly parallel lines of sarsens which became larger towards the south-eastern corner, culminating in a long triangular sarsen which had fallen over westwards.' (Interim 3, p29).

The finds distribution plot shows a curious concentration of finds associated with the western corner of the southern wall, and immediately outside the gap in the walls at the south-western corner. Most of these finds are from topsoil or higher layers - possibly, then, they are related to robbing?

North wall

'Scatter of smallish sarsens lying unconvincingly on the slope of the lynchet' (Interim 3, 28).

'The northern wall seems to consist of one line of stones all of them sitting on flints on the forward face of what appears to be a lynchet' (transcript of tape of August 14th, p3). The thickness of these flints is four to six inches' (transcript of 2nd tape, p3).

West wall

'... the western 'wall' contained some larger stones which had been placed, and remained, in position, amongst them being an inverted lower stone of a worn rotary quern, again of sarsen; the south-western corner did not exist ... (Interim 3, 1967, 29)

Partition wall

'... Inside the building an irregular line of sarsens across the width towards the eastern end might indicate the line of a partition, particularly as the stones did not occur in the centre, thus leaving a marked gap.' (Interim 3, 1967, 29).

Larger stones in southern half of partition. Central opening.

Pit with sarsen chips

Possible votive deposit. Roughly oval patch of sarsen chips, measuring approx. 3ft 6ins by 2ft, in centre of east wall, but not sealed by large sarsens. Shown on plan and section. The chippings seem to be the upper fill of a shallow scoop. Section IL-JK shows layer 3 (dark soil with flints) to the east of the building, cut by shallow scoop, which also cuts into layer 4 (rotten chalk). Max

depth of cut is c8ins.

Fill of cut is layer 3, dark soil with flints and chalk lumps (also add SFs). There is a plan of the location of these finds and bone under sarsen chippings.

Hearth

Roughly oval pit at south-eastern corner of larger, western room, dimensions roughly 3ft by 2ft. Finds Register occasionally refers to this as post hole 1 rather than firepit.

On plan and also on section. Base uneven, maximum depth 1ft. Fill of dark brown soil chalk lumps, large sarsen resting on the top of the fill.

Floor

The floor level is 'marked by tiles both baked and of sandstone ..' (Typed transcript for August 14th, p3); this was completely removed and some three inches of the chalk beneath was trowelled without any other definite post holes being found; rabbit burrows had caused much damage.

See also ' a haphazard scatter of broken stone and baked clay roofing tiles and of large coarse potsherds laid horizontally, perhaps in imitation of a real floor' (Interim 3, 1967, 29)

Line of sarsens to east

The line of the ditch is marked by a line of sarsens 31ft in length, immediately outside the east wall of Building 2, and co-terminal with it, no stones at all in the ditch to the north-east and the stones in the ditch to the south-west (see below) were different in character (Interim 3, 29).

'The stratification shows, however, that the stones are not connected with this second gully (i.e. the ditch) because the gully is sealed with a layer of cow soil from the lynchet on top of which are placed a layer of [.....] on top of which again the large sarsen stones are sitting. many of the sarsen stones along this eastern wall appear to have been upright originally, from the present position they are looking very much as if they have fallen backwards or forwards ...' (Transcript of 2nd tape, p3-4).

Also another description of the layer overlying the ditch fill from taped transcript for August 14th, 'Above the ditch is a thin red soil on top of which is a layer 2 or 3ins thick of flints, on top of which fit these large sarsen stones'.

'The large sarsens at the eastern end must have looked very impressive when standing upright when the building was in use (ibid, p5).

Interpretation - i. boundary marker used in laying out building, cf suggestion above that line of post holes may have had similar function,

or

ii. the building was originally larger, its eastern wall overlying the ditch fill, causing subsidence, and therefore the eastern wall rebuilt. Possible, because some subsidence seen on ditch sections.

Stony layer over ditch fill to SE

Should be contexted separately from the line of sarsens, because it is different in character. '... immediately south of Building 2 excavation showed that the top of the ditch was packed with flattish and relatively small sarsens' (Interim 3, 29). Also shown on plan.

Occupation material in house

'Inside the structure the whole area has been trowelled down to remove all the topsoil and the soil thrown up and disturbed by rabbits. beneath the topsoil is a layer of flints on which are lying animal bones, mainly long bones, some 8 or 9 bits of Roman tiles and a number of sarsen stones. This row of flints seems to dip towards the centre of the structure, underneath out base line B, C, D. There can be little doubt that the material on the stone is an occupation level of the 4th century,. (transcript of 2nd tape, p4).

Interim 3, published plan shows position of animal bones, mainly around hearth. 'The animal bones around the firepit were part of a mostly undisturbed occupation layer which covered the greater part of the interior.. This was only an inch or so thick but was marked by a much deeper soil coloration (and the tiles and pottery forming the floor mentioned above) (Interim p29).

Finds distribution plot (amended version completed on 9/5/95) shows finds are all concentrated in the larger room or associated with the walls of the structure.

Layer 2

Occupation material. Finds in GFNos 2, 38, 74, 79, 89, 93, 98, 125.

Layer 1A, etc

Many finds in Layers 2, 1A and topsoil over house. Also finds in Layer 2 and topsoil outside house (see list of finds with finds distribution plot).

AREA 3

?Finds and pot only known from Layer 3 outside building.

BUILDING 3 - two phases

Clear from site notebook and plans that there are at least two phases, but difficult to sort these out.

Relevant pages in site notebook are:

p52, note of space between walls and floor, suggesting robber trench, concludes 'possibility of 2 structures apart from any post holes underneath'

p60, 'At S end clear space between edge of flooring and stones and flints of 'wall' - turf wall?

p63 overleaf, sketch

p67-9 'some tentative concluding remarks'

Important questions: How many phases? To which phase or phases do the two hearths or kilns belong - could either have been used at same time as stone floor or walls? How much can be explained by robbing?

Evidence can be set out in a separate Working Paper. In this inventory I have tried to just describe features without assuming too much about their phasing, but have sometimes needed to make some comments about interpretation.

Post holes

8 certain, 3 possible

All post holes numbered on plan.

(See notes on post holes from site notebook for 1968, p65)

The following post holes are roughly in an arc along the east side. From S to N:-

Post hole 9

Circular, diam 4ins. Overlain by wall stones. Site notebook says this is similar to ph 8, but no sarsens or obvious flints.

Post hole 10

Circular diam 4ins. On line of wall, but not sealed by it. Site notebook says this is on the flint 'bed' for the wall; also says this is same as post holes found in 1967 (see post hole 1 below),

also 'Flints - slight fill'.

Post hole 11

Circular, diam 4ins. On line of wall. Overlain by sarsens not identified on plan as wall stone. Site notebook says this has flint setting, and similar to 1967 post holes.

Post hole 11A

Possible post hole shown on plan to SE of ph 11. Circular, diam 4ins; amongst flints on line of wall, but not apparently sealed. Not mentioned in site notebook.

Post hole 12

Circular, diam 4ins, on line of wall but not sealed. Site notebook describes it as beside wall stones, and having large flint, small sarsens and sarsen chips and same as 1967 post holes.

The above mentioned post holes were close together (at intervals of 3ft to 4ft), but there is an interval of 6ft before the following:

Post hole 1

Circular, diam 6ins, stone packing at sides. Very few stones of 'wall' in this area, so cannot judge relationships. Site notebook says this is the same as the 1967 post holes, ie packing of 3 sarsens and 1 flint upright, flint bottom.

Post hole 2

At 3ft 6ins N of ph 1. Circular, diam 3ins. 'Larger sarsens set upright, one flint' (site notebook)

Post hole 3

At NE corner of building, 10ft 6ins N of ph 2. On line of wall, but not sealed. Oval 7ins by 4ins. Section drawn. Depth 6ins. '1967 style - 1 sarsen, 2 flints, fill between and below' (site notebook)

The following on the line of the N wall:

Post hole 4

Possible post hole (or post extraction pit?). Irregular, oval 1ft 4ins by 10ins. On line of wall (at inner edge). Partially overlain by sarsen stones of floor. Section drawn. Depth 9ins. Site notebook says 'Doubtful - hole in flint layer with soil fill, bottom like egg box (solution hollows?)'. The uneven base can be seen in plan and section.

To west of building:

Post hole 7A

Isolated post hole west of hearth 1. Circular, diam 5ins. Site

notebook, 'Doubtful - upright small sarsens in rotten chalk and flints, no sign of any fill'.

Post hole 8

Beneath sarsens of floor in SW corner of building. Circular, diam 5ins. Site notebook, 'Clear - 6ins soil fill in rotten and solid chalk - small sarsens and large flints round edge (under flooring stones)'.

Hearth 1 (at west of building)

Max length 11ft. Max width 3ft. Southern half has lining of upright sarsens, forming rectangular lined pit c5ft by 2ft. Northern half unlined, with slightly sloping sides. Appears from main plan that wall stones just overlay the eastern edge of the stone lining.

Main plan shows pit with lining in situ, and some of sarsens which have tumbled into fill. Also plan with sarsen fill removed, and only main stones of lining in situ.

Also 2 sections with fills in situ. E/W section across northern half shows clayey brown soil at base, then grey soil with small flints, and upper layer of brown soil with large flints. Interestingly there is a layer of flints above the fill. If this is the same flint bedding for walls noted elsewhere it is more evidence that this hearth was post dated by a second building phase.

The same sequence of fills can also be seen in the N/S section. The lowest layer in the lined end is described as black and sticky. Site notebook, p61, mentions 3ins deep black layer, containing iron objects; p63, 'I. N pit cut into S, 2. black layer in S pit and charcoal between sarsens ... indicate use of S for fire ... heavy carbon deposit'. Depth of lined pit is 2ft, becoming shallower at unlined end.

'Clearly used for furnace/kiln of some nature. Considerable soot on floor and upright sarsens, one of which split with light blow from other falling against it. Fracture showed effects of heat on sarsen structure' (site notebook, p66).

(Site notes, p68) 'With regard to the 'pit' (ie.this hearth at the west side) the S end, with heavy carbon deposits, does not seem to have been filled deliberately. A no. of sarsens had tipped in, the topsoil had silted in to some depth, and there were few finds.' (Discussion here suggests it was doubtful that this feature had been in use at the same time as the stone phase). The N end, poss a separate pit, had a different fill and much pottery, v.p.63.

Unfortunately the E/W baulk ran across the centre of this feature,

just at junction of the lined and unlined parts (its always the way isn't it?). This meant that initially the feature was contexted as 2 separate pits - references in notes etc to N pit or S pit. However, there is no reason to suppose that this led to any confusion or that the two halves were treated differently. On the contrary, the northern and southern halves seem to have been discovered on the same day, 13th August (site notes, pp55-56), and plans and notes show it was immediately recognised there could either be 2 separate features or continuation of same one (p56).

Problem of relationship between 2 halves recognised on 21st August (sketch in site notes, p63), resolved 22nd August.

Hearth 2 (beside centre of N wall)

Originally contexted as phs 5, 6 and 7, but found to be one feature. Appears on main plan and also separate plan to larger scale. Two roughly circular pits joined by central channel. Total length 5ft. Annotation on detailed plan says that sarsens below floor level showed signs of burning and the whole area was scattered with fragments of charcoal, coal and burnt clay, the extent of this area shown on the main plan. There was also an auxiliary flue running in from the NE.

Sections:

3 sections drawn before sarsens removed and auxiliary flue uncovered; these run E/W across each of the two pits, and across junction of northern pit and the connecting channel, 2 sections were drawn after fills removed, but showing remains of burnt clay superstructure in situ; one section N/S, one E/W.

The larger, northern pit appears to be the one which had a clay superstructure for the oven itself, while the smaller, southern pit appears to have been the fire pit, judging from the amount of charcoal in its fill, and the fact that it was joined by an auxiliary flue. The details are as follows:

Larger, northern pit ('ph 5'), diam c18ins. Covered by sarsens and patch of burnt clay. Section drawing shows it was steep-sided, U-shaped, depth 1ft 3ins, fill of loose fine brown soil with some charcoal near the top.

Central channel ('ph 6'), 2ft long, 8ins wide. Site notebook, p68 notes 'Two large sherds, undamaged substantial parts of pots, had been carefully stowed in the central part of the 'kiln' ('ph 6'). (Not datable - Wessex). Channel sectioned at junction with N pit, through packing of flint and burnt clay, depth of channel 9ins.

Southern pit ('ph 7'), just over 1ft diam. Section shows shallow U-shaped profile, depth 9ins, fill of dark material containing much

charcoal and coal.

The auxiliary flue is an irregularly-shaped channel, 6ft 6ins long and 9ins wide, runs into the southern pit from the NE. 'Gradually becoming shallower (to the NE), but charcoal found in fill until near end' (site notebook, p66). An E/W section drawn after all fills were removed shows the auxiliary flue had a U-shaped section and a depth of nearly 6ins.

Site notebook, p69 'one could imagine the 'kiln' in use in 'floor' days, if the laid sarsens never extended over the whole area'.

Hearths - summary

The western feature should be called a hearth; it had a flue or stokehole coming from the north to lined rectangular fire pit.

The northern structure also had a flue coming from the NE, leading to smaller, unlined firepit, the heat from which seems to have gone to an oven with clay superstructure. This suggests they had slightly different functions. Both firepits seem to have had a covering of sarsens, and so both features could have been in use at the same time as a stone floor, but it does appear that the western oven was superseded by a wall.

BUILDING 3

Size 35ft by at least 24ft, but exact size and form difficult to determine because of robbing. NB Site notebook, p62 suggests slightly apsidal NE end. Possible for at least one phase; there are parallels for apsidal farm buildings (see final working paper).

Stone wall, possible phase 1

On the plan a line of 4 stones in the centre of the northern wall and another line of 4 at the southern end of the western wall are suggested to come from a possible phase 1 wall. Otherwise most sarsens said to come from phase 2 wall.

Stone wall phase 2

Plan shows phase 2 walls which are more substantial than those of phase 1, but still fragmentary. Most sarsens are along southern wall, which is roughly 19ft long and 4ft wide, and set on a bedding of flints. There are similar remains for a length of 7ft at the southern end of the east wall, then a gap of 6ft at the centre of the wall before a scatter of 3 smallish sarsens at the northern end. The northern wall consists of an arc of sarsens 14ft; the possible phase 1 wall lies 2ft to the north, with a gap between. In the central part of the western side there is a single line of smallish sarsens 12ft in length; the southernmost of these appear to overlie the eastern edge of hearth 1 and are abutted by the western edge of the sarsen floor (see below).

Flint bedding for walls

Plan shows remains of flint bed, particularly in NW and SE corners. Site notebook, p60, says these flints are larger than those normally in layer 2.

Flints in SE corner and at centre of S wall are overlain by stones said to be of phase 2 wall. Flints in centre of N wall overlain by stones of possible phase 1 wall. Flints at NW corner not overlain by any stones, in fact they lie 6ft west of any wall stones. Site notebook p67, on problem of defining west side of structure, '... flint bedding ... vestigial and almost entirely lacking on W side - no trace whatsoever on expected line from NW corner'.

However, the absence of a western wall could be explained by robbing and clearance which was thorough enough to remove even most of the flint bedding, leaving only the flints which had subsided into the fill of the western hearth, and those in the NW corner.

Floor

Sarsens laid horizontally. Two separate spreads. The larger, an L-shaped area, comprising a strip roughly 4ft wide adjacent to the southern wall for its full length, and a sparser distribution of sarsens running northwards for a further 6ft, but not joining the smaller spread. Clear that these post-date hearth 1, '... occupation of site associated with pit in SW quadrant earlier than sarsen flooring, as some of the stones of the latter had partially tipped over the subsidence' (site notebook, p60).

The smaller spread is a rectangular area, 5ft 6ins by 2ft 9ins, between the northern wall and hearth 2.

Site notebook, p56 notes that there were small stones in the interstices of the larger sarsens.

Plan also shows many fragments of quern, (presumably sarsen like whole querns found elsewhere?) presumably re-used in flooring.

Votive deposits

Three ox skulls were found. One (SFNo 313) in the gap between the two different phases of the north wall. Other two (no SFNos) were found at the east side; one on line of outer edge of east wall, immediately north of ph 2, the other 7ft to the south-east, just inside the building.

Occupation material

'None of the coins or sherds were under floor stones and it was noticeable when every remaining stone was moved in the last stages how few finds of any kind were made' (site notebook, p69)

Site notes (p52), finds were more common in the soil between wall

stones and outside on baulks than in the centre of the structure.

In the SE quadrant 'Good deal of pottery, mostly black. Much of this found upright on edge among topsoil in gaps between sarsens of 'wall'(p53).

'...paucity of finds in interior as floor would be swept to sides' (p56)

This is shown clearly by finds distribution plot.

Finds in GFNos 259, 263, 264, 272, 274, 278, 279, 281, 282, 286, 309.

Overlying layers

Finds in layers 1/2 and topsoil - see list with finds distribution plot. Majority of coins came from layers overlying the building, rather than in occupation material.

Interpretation - dumping over building when building out of use.

AREA 4

BUILDING 4A

Building on same alignment as Building 2, and in a comparable position (from centre of boundary ditch to west wall is 42ft, cf 40ft for Building 2). Similar in size, only slightly longer and narrower. Like Building 2, may have been divided into two rooms (see below). Three phases, one in stone and two in timber. At present it is only possible to say that the small timber building pre-dates the stone phase; the larger timber building may belong to the beginning or the end of the sequence.

- A. Smaller timber building.
- B. Stone phase, cut into lynchet at north side, some flint bedding, a few sarsens present; cut longer than timber phase; only have northern and eastern sides, but have 3 corners.
- C. Larger timber building

Dimensions

- A. 30ft by 17ft, narrowing to 15ft at east
- B. Cut for sarsens extends further to west, 36ft by at least 16ft
- C. West wall on same line as for A, south wall a little further south, but northern and eastern walls further out, 36ft by 21ft.

Small timber building.

Evidence that this pre-dates the stone phase is that three of the post holes of the north wall (20, 34 and 35) are overlain by

sarsens of the wall footings. The post holes along the northern and eastern walls are very small; probably they were originally larger, but were truncated by the cut for the stone wall footings.

The post holes are larger along the western and southern walls, where the two timber buildings shared the same line, with some post holes re-used, so it is more difficult to tell which phase is which (see below).

Stone phase

See description below. Has been robbed

Large timber building

See site notebook p39 and p45 for references for re-use of post holes, also phasing.

POST HOLES

1. Plans and sections

Some are on the plan drawn in pencil on graph paper, but all are shown clearly on pencil plan drawn on film. An ink version of this has also been done.

There is also a schematic version, indicating which are the inner and outer post holes of the smaller and larger building.

Sections have been drawn for most, but not all, of the post holes.

A point to note here is that the post holes were planned while the fill and stone settings were still in situ, and the position of the post hole superimposed. However, the section drawings show that the post holes were constructed with a quite large post pit, in which there was a well-constructed setting of upright sarsens, to hold the central post. It is this central 'post pipe' which is superimposed on the plans, and this is much smaller than the total post pit, shown in the sections.

2. Spacing

The timber buildings were laid out in the following way:

- i. small building - spacing of roughly 5ft between post holes
- ii. larger building - spacing of roughly 7ft
(these spacings in modern feet)

Important for 2 reasons:

- i. shows the regular manner in which buildings were laid out
- ii. helps to distinguish between phases, especially along south and west walls where post holes were re-used.

There are still a few post holes which don't fit neatly into any phase, but in general the effect of this is to put two more post

holes into the southern wall of the smaller building, which previously had only three post holes along a 30ft length.

Small timber building - post holes

Under the suggested new scheme there would be 2 additional post holes in this phase. Some post holes were used in the both this phase and the larger building - this is indicated by (L). Asterisks indicate section drawings.

18 post holes, nos 7*, 8*(L), 9*(L), 14*, 15a*, 16*, 17*(L), 17A*, 33A, 33B, 33, 32, 31, 30, 20, 34, 35, 36, plus two possible stakeholes at SE corner of E wall.

NB post holes of northern wall not a straight line; numbers 7, 36, 35 and 34 are in line, then the line of the wall slants inward a little to numbers 20, 30 and 31.

Post hole 11

GFNo 195, fill of post hole 11, containing pot, in NE quadrant, in building 4A. Not shown on plan, but there is a group of sarsens and flints in NE corner of 4A.

As there are so many post holes in this Area, descriptions of individual post holes are in Appendix 1.

In summary - the resulting plan has additional post holes at the ends of the east wall and possibly an additional post hole in the SW corner. The latter may have been needed because under this scheme the western half of the southern wall appears to bulge outwards.

This half of the wall would then appear to curve inwards between post hole 17 and 17A. However, this need not be too improbable a suggestion, as this corresponds roughly to the point where the northern wall curves inwards, giving the building a broad and narrow section.

On either the original scheme for the post holes or this scheme there was always a gap of 15ft (half the building) without any post holes, between 17A and the SE corner of the building. Possibly this might represent a wide entrance, as for example to allow access for wagons into a barn, or an open fronted building for some working purpose.

But a more likely position for an entrance is in the centre of the west wall, where, in this scheme, there is a 7ft gap between post holes, in contrast to the 5ft gap elsewhere.

Cut into lynchet

Shown on large pencil plan drawn on film, and also on ink version. Cut into lynchet along northern side of area, plan shows cut 36ft in length, curving around NW corner and extending a short distance down west side; cut also continues down east side, not for full length of east wall, but for a distance of 16ft. The cut for the northern wall is not a straight line, but curve of cut follows curve of line of post holes noted above.

The section drawing along line FE shows the cut on the east side as a shallow U-shaped scoop, 6ins deep and roughly 2ft 6ins wide, with a fill of flints. Section FN shows cut 9ins deep.

Wall footings

Mainly flints, but some large sarsens. Shown in detail on pencil and ink plans on film. Extends almost full length of eastern wall, but only for a length of 7ft 6ins at NE end of N wall.

Section FE, flints shown at the bottom of the cut, with an upper fill of layer 2A, light brown soil with few flints. Plan shows flint bedding layer varies in width from 6ins to 3ft 6ins, plan also shows a few large sarsens in situ.

Is it possible that the scatter of sarsens in the western half of the interior of the building represents stones dispersed from the robbing or demolition of the western wall? Possibly these are the stones noted at an early stage in excavation. Site notebook, pp10-12, 'There are a large number of small sarsens scattered over the trench at a depth of c.1ft which apparently make no sense whatsoever unless we assume either

- a) They represent part of a wall, heavily robbed
- b) They may represent post-holes of some sort of timber framed building'.

Also possibly part of the stone phase:

Possible stone feature

Pencil plan shows a right-angled arrangement of sarsens, measuring 5ft by 4ft 6ins, within the building, adjacent to the south wall, half way along, extending north and east from post hole 17A.

The evidence for suggesting this represent a feature is only circumstantial. There is no suggestion from the site notes that these stones were regarded as significant at the time of excavation, and they are marked 'R' on the plan, indicating they were removed, so presumably they had been in an upper layer and not bedded in.

However, they appear to be of the right size and position to be part of some sort of entrance arrangement.

Large timber building - post holes

13 new post holes, plus 3 of post holes of smaller building also used.

(Asterisk indicates section drawn. Full description of post holes in Appendix I)

Post holes 1, 2*, 3*, 4*, 5*, 6*, 10*, 16A*, 18*, 19, 21, 21A*, 21B.

Post holes also used in smaller building - 8*, 9*, 17*

Also possibly in this phase - 15* (an additional post hole in the SW corner, so that the pair of post holes 10 and 15 match the pair in the SE corner, 21 and 21A).

Site notebook for 1967, p34

' At first it seemed that they [the post holes] were of two types - but closer examination would seem to indicate that all were originally similar in construction - 4 sarsens set upright with a packed flint base ...' .

This refers to post holes of the inner and outer sets and also to post holes of the 'fence'; and this is also the same construction used in the post holes dug in 1968 in Building 3 (site notebook p66; and see Area 3 above). So even if the outer set of post holes of Building 4A belong to a post-Roman phase, there was no difference in methods of construction, and presumably by implication, no great discontinuity in occupation.

Occupation material

Layer 3 inside building - finds in GFNos 162, 169, 226.

For finds from layer 2 occupation in buildings and finds in topsoil over building, see list with finds distribution plot.

Layers over occ

See list with finds distribution plot.

Possible middens to north, east and south of Building 4A

See finds distribution plot for large spreads of finds in these areas, could represent middens formed during use of building, or material from clearance of the site after one phase has ended and before construction of the next phase.

Large sarsens to SE

The right angle of very large sarsens outside the SE corner of the building may represent clearance at some stage, could be Roman or post-Roman.

Large sarsen to west, beside 'fence'

Large sarsen is on line with southern wall of building 4A, 11 ft

west of the SW corner, and close to the line of the fence. Could possible represent some marking-out arrangement.

The large sarsen was resting on a smaller upright sarsen, set into post hole 37. The arrangement sketched and described in the site notebook, p44, where it was suggested it might have some ritual significance. The only possible support for this is that the unusual copper alloy votive axe (SFNo 179) was found 4ft to the west of the large sarsen.

AREA 4B/C

Possible fence (located in Area 4B/C and in Extension S2)
(Asterisk indicates section drawn)

Line of post holes running N/S, 22*, 23*, 24*, 25*, 26*, 27*, 28*, and additional ph 37 found underneath large sarsen

Site notebook for 1967, p34. asks whether there might be 2 lines of phs, 24-27 are on a straight line, but 22 and 23 to the north are out of line. (And after that was written, ph 28 was found, also on the same line as 24-7.)

All the above post holes drawn on pencil plans, apart from ph 37, which is on ink plan recently found. Also sketch and description of ph 37 in site notebook, p44.

Soil surrounding fence

A few finds on the line of the fence (SFNos 152, 176, 179 (votive axe), 208, 214, 269, 279, 382. See finds distribution plot.

Soil in NW

A scatter of finds in the NW of the area. See finds distribution plot.

POSSIBLE STRUCTURE - Area 4B/C

Concluding remarks on 1967 excavation, site notebook, p46.

'There was certainly a constructed floor and furnace W. of P.H. but no definite limits were discovered. The furnace would certainly be in the open - could the flooring have been a threshing floor, or a footing for temporary storage of corn before threshing or of grain before drying, under a temporary covering - thatching.

The use of this area for agric. operations would account for the absence of coins and the paucity of finds in general.'

Layers in 1967 season

Site notebook, p37, identifies two additional layers in area 4B/C.

- 1 topsoil
- 1A floor level
- 2 flint and soil
- 2A clayey soil above
- 3 chalk [illegible]

NB significant in reference to finds. Probably finds from layer 1A have been classed as being in topsoil, but in fact they belong with the 'floor of rammed chalk' or working area beside the hearth.

Layers - 1968 season

Site notebook, p48

- 1 topsoil
- 2 flints and brown earth
- 2A sometimes occupation layer above chalk
OR
brown ploughsoil with small flints and chalk flecks
- 3 chalk - with rotten chalk on top

Plans

Shown on large pencil plan. Separate plan of hearth E at a larger scale. Various section drawings. Ink plan recently found, of hearths and post holes of fence.

Hearth E

Described in site notebook, p41 as 'keyhole shaped', ie a roughly circular pit with a flue aligned SE/NW. Total length 3ft 9ins, max width 2ft. Flue opened at the east. Elsewhere there was a lining of baked clay and sarsens. The flue was overlain by a row of sarsens aligned NE/SW. At least the 2 most northerly of these were in situ when the hearth was in use, since annotation on detailed plan says that 'these sarsens showed considerable signs of burning on the underside with some charcoal adhering'. The plan also shows a charred area to the east of the flue, approx 2ft by 1ft 6ins, and annotation saying that 'charcoal, burnt clay etc, beneath sarsens'. This is further confirmed in sketch plans and sections in site notebook, p41. These show the pit at the west, labelled fire pit, with a deep U-shaped profile, and the flue a shallower channel. Annotations say that there was a platform of baked clay filling in and over the sarsens which overlay the flue; it is also suggested that there might have been a superstructure for drying over the pit.

Hearths A, B, C and D

Row of possible hearths to east of hearth E; labelled A-D from north to south. On excavation, however, the interpretation as hearths was questioned.

Two points to note:

1) position of hearths B, C and D on ink plan does not correspond with that on pencil plan; however, pencil plan does not show any details, being mainly plan in early stage of excavation before sarsens removed, and position of hearths given only by annotations. Possibly it was only intended to give approximate location.

2) pencil plan suggests hearths are outside the area of chalk floor (see below); ink plans put them within the area, but relationship between them and the floor is not obvious, unless the quote from the site notebook about hearth B below suggests that the hearth or hearth debris overlay the floor.

Hearth A

Scatter of tile shown clearly on plans (pencil and ink versions), lying c8ft NE of hearth E.

'Consisted of a scatter (c.1sq.yd.) of large (6in - 7in sq. irreg. broken, some fitted) and a few small pieces of tile (1 1/2 ins thick) almost on chalk, no more than 1/2 - 1ins soil.

Finds - small piece of glass, small piece of bone, small piece of black pot.

No charcoal - only signs of exposure to heat on some pieces of tile and on a small sarsen stone.

Little claim to be a hearth' (site notes, p43)

Hearth B

Was overlain by large sarsen, 'Several overlying sarsens across N.E. 'side' of structure 4B/C were removed - under one, directly N (1yd) of presumed hearth C there is another (B) or a well preserved small area of chalk floor with trampled down red sherds or tiles and evidence of burning' (site notes p36)

'3-4ins high above chalk - 1in top of broken red baked clay on earth, chalk (upcrop?) and clay; over patch of yellow clay in chalk. Extensive charcoal material and opposite flue of E.

No finds.

2-3 sq. ft.

Some claim to be a hearth but more like heap of debris scraped from furnace.' (site notes p43)

Hearth C

'3-4ins above chalk - 1in top of broken red tile (small pieces) or baked clay - one red sherd - mostly brown earth underneath.

2-3 sq. ft.

Not a hearth probably - furnace debris? remains' (site notes p43)

Hearth D

'3-4ins above chalk - 1in top of distinctly yellowish baked clay,
more brown earth beneath to chalk - one nail
1 sq ft.

Again prob. not a hearth - furnace debris remains?' (site notes
p43)

Chalk floor

An area of rammed chalk, shown on pencil plan on graph paper, and also on ink plan recently found. Located S of hearth E, and irregular oval, aligned roughly E/W; the SE corner runs out of the excavation area, into the southern extension. Annotation on pencil plan describes its composition as mainly chalk slabs, some sarsen chips and tiles'. The floor appears to be bordered on the east by an arc of large sarsens, and the north-eastern corner of it is also overlain by some large sarsens.

Section along southern edge of excavation shows SE corner of floor running into section; it is shown as layer 1A, c2ft wide and a maximum of 6ins deep. It is set into layer 2, flinty soil. The large sarsen to the east of the floor also appears to be set into layer 2.

'... among the rammed chalk E of hearth B is a bucketful of broken tile' (site notebook, p39)

Interpretation. The recently found ink plan shows a line of sarsens running roughly E/W a little to the west of the chalk floor. This conforms with a sketch on p36 of the site notebook, although notes about possible alignments of sarsens are unclear. Obviously walls were looked for, but no conclusive evidence found. The best interpretation is the agricultural working area referred to in the site notes, a sub-rectangular area with a slightly round NE end. The total area involved being possibly roughly 18ft by 10ft, with the chalk floor taking up an area of 14ft by 10ft in the NE part, and the hearth adjacent to the NW corner.

Possible votive deposit

Work in the vicinity of the hearth on 17th August noted that finds were meagre, but recorded '... the crushed skull of a large (horse-sized?) animal ..' (site notebook, p36).

Other finds in area of hearth - SFNos 200, 204, 234, 271, 274, 275, 276, 284, 285 (242 is a quern fragment used in the floor).

SOUTH EXTENSION TO AREA 4 B/C

2 lines of sarsens

Parallel, running NW/SE. Stones are bedded into trenches. Most northerly row was tested by three box trenches, 4a, 4b, 4c. These

show the sarsens bedded in a trench, 4ft wide and 1ft deep.

The southerly row was similarly tested with boxes 1a, 1b, and 1c. These are less conclusive, but the section drawing for 1a indicates a slight hollow in the clay-with-flints layer, into which the sarsens are bedded.

Finds from Box 4c were the large whole pot and the cauldron base, but the most notable thing is the distribution of the finds along these two rows of stones, with a complete absence of finds between.

Concluding remarks in site notebook for 1968, p69, suggests that northern row is the southern boundary of the working area 4B/C and that the southern one is '.. the N. 'wall' of another narrow structure, against the lynchet, the bulk of which remains unexcavated. This would account for the almost complete lack of finds between these 'trenches', and the relative richness on their lines.'

However, there is another possible interpretation, given below in section relating to East Annexe.

Isolated post hole

Post hole 4S/1 in SE corner of this extension, to east of southerly line of sarsens. Full description in Appendix I. Contains SFNo 327.

EAST ANNEXE TO AREA 4B/C

Nothing very conclusive was found in this area. There is an arc of sarsens, the NW and SW ends of which align roughly with the two lines of sarsens in the South Extension.

These were investigated with 2 box trenches, and Box 1 in the north shows a shallow trench c.1ft 6ins wide and 6ins deep into which a single sarsen is tilted.

More interesting is the distribution of finds, aligned roughly along the arc of stones, of the finds in the South Extension. The whole suggests a horseshoe-shaped arrangement of bedded sarsens. They could have surrounded a working area, 20ft by 8-10ft, possibly a threshing floor or similar, which was swept, resulting in finds being at the edges, as in Building 3. This would add to the threshing floor or working area around hearth E.

TEST PITS - AREA 4

Site notebook p63 shows five test pits, each 4 ft by 4 ft. East 1 is 50 ft east of north/south baseline. Four pits are shown to the west.

P64 - 'East I opened and closed - few sherds and bones - one rabbit hole - cleared down to chalk. Therefore beyond settlement.'

P64 'Test pits

West I. Deep plough soil

West II - alongside nettles - pit

West III - shallow to chalk

west IV - " " " '

Section drawing shows pit in West II.

P70.

'The ditch which runs E. of buildings 1, 2 and 4 would seem to be the E. limit of the settlement and, at least on the line explored, the W. limit is apparently between cuttings West II and III. Surface indications, however, suggest a S.W. extension from this, and a considerable area of settlement N. of all cuttings made.'

FYFOD ODXII INVENTORY - ADDITION TO WORKING PAPER 19
APPENDIX I - POST HOLES IN AREA 4 5/7/95

BUILDING 4A

SMALLER BUILDING (INNER POST HOLES)

North wall

The following post holes are spaced at 5ft intervals.

Post hole 7: At NW corner of building. Shallow, circular, diam (from section) 1 ft 6ins, but NB plan only shows dotted outline c9ins diam. Depth 6ins. Section shows lower fill of flinty soil, upper of light brown clay silt, small sarsens on top.

Post hole 36: Oval, 9ins by 5ins.

Post hole 35: Circular, diam 3ins. Annotation on pencil plan says 'below depression in which sarsens embedded'. Plan shows large sarsen overlying ph.

Post hole 34: Circular. Section drawing shows top is broad and shallow, c1ft diam, but centre deepens to sharply pointed hollow, 3ins diam. Total depth 10ins. Main fill is soft chalky soil, overlain by flints, 3ins deep. Two sarsens lie on top. NB small circular ph shown on plan does not co-incide with large dotted circle.

Post hole 20: Oval, 6ins by 4ins. Covered by large sarsen. At point where building narrows.

Post hole 30: Circular, diam 3ins, covered by flint bedding.

Post hole 31: At NE corner. Circular, diam (from section) 1ft. V-shaped profile, depth 9ins. Chalky fill. Overlain by flints.

There was probably also a post hole just within the NE corner of this building. GFNo 195 refers to sherds found in post hole 11 in the NE quadrant. The pencil plan shows a collection of small sarsens and flints in the NE corner, centred 3ft 6ins from ph 31 and 2ft from ph 32.

East wall

The following is only c2ft from ph31.

Post hole 32: Irregular, oval, 9ins by 6ins. Overlain by flints.

Post hole 33: This is 3ft from ph32; i.e., the spacing between 31 and 33 conforms to the 5ft seen along the N wall. Circular, 3ins diam.

Post hole 33A: 5ft SSE of ph33; i.e., same spacing, but slightly off alignment. Circular, diam 3ins, overlain by flints.

Possible stakehole (or bottom of very truncated post hole?): 1ft 6ins SSW of ph33A. Overlain by flints. There is a large sarsen filling the space between ph33A and stakehole.

Post hole 33B: 2ft to SW. On line of rest of wall. Circular, 3ins diam. Not overlain by flints.

Possible stakehole (or bottom of very truncated post hole): At SE corner of building. On alignment of wall, 1ft 6ins S of 33B, or 5ft S of ph33A, therefore conforming to spacing. Overlain by flints.

Therefore, the spacing of post holes along this wall is a little more regular than it seemed at first sight - 4 post holes at 5ft intervals, with one or two intermediate post holes at the ends.

South wall

Post hole 17A: Circular, diam 1ft, V-shaped profile. Fill of soft silt, with lumps of chalk, flint and sarsen. Plan shows it is partially overlain by large sarsen. Annotation on plan, 'very well constructed - if out of place!')

The following two post holes (17, 16) are set outwards by c2ft from the presumed line of the wall. These, and post holes 15 and 15A, were not originally part of the scheme of inner post holes, but are included here because their spacing suggests they belong to this phase.

Post hole 17: Oval, 1ft by 1ft 6ins. Maximum depth 6ins. Profile shows it has been re-used. It has a flat base for the most part, with a deeper V-shaped cut at the southern end. The lower fill is of rotten chalk with some large flints (probable remains of post setting). The upper fill is of silt.

Post hole 16: Plan and section indicate this has been re-used. Plan shows oval depression, 3ft 3ins by 2ft with central post pipe shown as an oval, 1ft by 9ins, with its post setting intact. This is also shown on section, the fill of the central part being rotten chalk; to the north there appears to be a packing of chalk lumps, to the south there is silt and rotten chalk. The depth of this broad shallow scoop is 6ins.

The following is inset from 16 and 17, and it is suggested that the wall curved inwards towards the corner.

Post hole 15A: Oval, 1ft 9ins by 1ft 3ins, tapering to north. Profile is V-shaped, deepest at south, also tapering to north. Maximum depth 8ins. Lower fill of chalk lumps, upper fill of silt with some flints.

West wall

Post hole 14: At corner. Oval, 1ft by 9ins. Sharply V-shaped profile. Lower fill of silt, with chalk specks, upright sarsen probable remains of post packing. Upper fill of brown soil with flints.

Post hole 9: Oval, 1ft 6ins by 9ins, suggesting re-use; section apparently drawn through one end, does not show this. Shows only U-shaped profile. Lower fill of rotten chalk and light brown soil, upper fill of soil with chalk nodules.

Post hole 8: Spacing between this and post hole 9 is 7ft, suggesting a wide doorway in the centre of this end wall. Post hole circular, 9ins diam. U-shaped profile, depth 6ins. Fill of silt, section shows sarsens overlying fill, but no trace of setting.

LARGER BUILDING (OUTER POST HOLES)

North wall

2ft to the north of wall of smaller buildings. Post settings preserved around all. Spacing between post holes is 7ft.

Post hole 6: Circular, 9ins diam. U-shaped profile, max. depth 9ins. Main fill of light brown clay, upper fill of flint and soil. Some sarsens of setting still in position, other sarsens overlying fill. Sarsen setting is around this central post pipe, as with the other examples along this wall.

Post hole 5: Plan shows circular post pipe surrounded by packing stones, c9ins in diam, but section shows total pit diam 1ft. U-shaped profile, max depth 6ins. Shallow flinty layer at base, light brown silt above, sarsens overlying, and sarsen setting around.

Site notebook p35

'P.H. 1-5, 21A, in which flints are rammed to form a base, c6-9" diam. between 4 small sarsen slabs set upright in a shallow scoop in the chalk. 21A (shown as 21B on plan) is the best example, with 3 sarsens in situ. These occur on the northern higher side of the area, where the chalk is nearer the surface.'

It was later noted in the site book, that other post holes seemed to have been originally of the same construction.

Post hole 4: As with post hole 5, the small circular post pipe c6-8ins diam shown on plan, but section shows larger post pit with remains of setting. This has a more irregular profile than ph 5, and is c1ft 6ins in diam. As with ph 5, the lower fill is of rammed flints, with light brown silt above. Setting of 2 upright flints and 2 sarsens still in situ. Max depth 6ins.

Post hole 3: Circular post pipe, 6ins diam. Section shows post pit of broad U-shaped profile, 1ft 3ins diam. Fill as above. Plan indicates that stones of setting are slightly displaced and overlying fill.

Post hole 2: Circular post pipe, c10ins diam. Section shows broad U-shaped pit c1ft 6ins across, remains of sarsen setting. Main fill of flints and soil, thin layer of soil above.

Post hole 1: Circular post pipe, c9ins diam with sarsen setting.

East wall

Post hole 21B: (this seems to be the post hole described as 21A in the site Notebook). Oval post pipe, 1ft by 6ins, surrounded by setting. Section shows pit with broad U-shaped profile c1ft 8ins across, max depth 6ins. Main fill of clay and flints; thin upper layer of packed flints. The spacing between this and the post hole on the corner, ph 1, is only 5ft 3ins, in contrast to the spacing for the rest of the large building.

No other post holes along this wall. A cutting was made through the central baulk to look for a post hole between the known ones. There was no trace, but it was recorded that the soil had been disturbed by rabbits (site notebook, p35).

Post hole 21: At southern corner. Oval, 9ins by 6ins. Overlain by sarsens.

Post hole 21A: Closely adjacent to ph 21. (This seems to have been referred to as 21 alpha in the site notes, but changed to 21A on plan. Hence confusion with post hole to the north, which seems to have been the original 21A of the notes, but was changed to 21b on plan.) Circular, diam 6ins.

South wall

Post hole 19: Spacing of 9ft between ph 21 and ph19 suggests a missing post hole. Post hole 19 is circular, c1ft diam. Spacing of c7ft between post holes then resumes along the rest of this wall.

Post hole 18: Circular, c1ft diam. Steep U-shaped profile, 1ft deep. Fill of chalk lumps at sides and base. Silty fill in central post pipe. As with ph 19, small sarsens at sides and top of fill.

It is assumed on this scheme that post hole 17 was used for both larger and smaller houses.

Post hole 16A: At a distance of 7ft from post hole 17. Oval, 1ft 3ins by 9ins. Fill not specified, but has large flints in the upper layers.

Post hole 10: At the corner. Circular, 8ins diam. Small sarsens over and around. There are 2 section drawings labelled post hole 10, but neither resembles this post hole.

Post hole 15 may have been used to provide additional strengthening at the corner, cf 21 and 21A at opposite corner.

Post hole 15: Adjacent to west side of 15A. Does not appear to have been re-used. Oval, 1ft by 9ins. V-shaped profile. Fill of silt with some chalk lumps, overlain by sarsens.

West wall

It is assumed that post holes 9 and 8 were re-used, giving a spacing of 7ft between all four post holes along this side.

POST HOLES OF FENCE

(From the north.)

Post hole 22: Irregular oval, 2ft by 9ins, many small flints around southern and eastern side. Section shows broad scoop; max depth 9ins. Lower fill of chalk and flints, upper fill of light brown soil with flints.

Post hole 23: Circular, 7ft 6ins from ph 22; plan shows diam of 6ins, but section shows pit of 1ft diam with upright sarsen setting still in position. U-shaped profile. Depth 9ins. Lower fill of packed flints, upper fill of light soil and silt.

The following 5 post holes are in line, but not on the same alignment as 22 and these have different fills from 23 and 22.

Post hole 24: distance of 3ft from ph 23. Circular, plan shows diam of only 6ins, but section shows max diam is 1ft. U-shaped profile. Depth 1ft 3ins. Lower fill of packed flints, upright setting of sarsens still in position. Upper fill of light brown clay.

Post hole 25: Distance from ph 24 is 4ft 6ins (centre to centre). Rectangular; plan shows dimensions of 2ft 3ins by 9ins, but section suggests it was only 1ft 6ins long. Broad shallow scoop, c8ins deep. Fill of flints and clay. No setting. Probably this is a post extraction pit.

Post hole 26: Distance from ph 25 is 5ft 6ins (centre to centre). Plan shows circular ph, 9ins in diam. Section indicates diam of 1ft 6ins. U-shaped profile, depth 8ins, sarsen setting still in position, fill of flints and clay.

Post hole 27: Distance from ph 26 is 9ft 6ins. Section shows diam of 1ft 3ins; irregular shallow U-shaped profile, max depth 8ins. Fill of packed flints and clay. Sarsen setting in position and also overlain by sarsens.

Post hole 28: Distance from ph 27 is 13ft. Plan shows oval 1ft by 9ins. Section shows same dimensions. U-shaped profile, depth 9ins. Plan says fill of soft brown soil, almost stoneless.

Annotation on plan refers to large flints, but these are perhaps the flints shown on plan overlying the fill. Also shown are 2 pieces of Combe Rock, ?part of post setting.

Post hole 37: Overlain by large sarsen to the east of ph 23. Oval, 1ft 9ins by 10ins.

Site notebook p44 notes that this ph is on line of southern wall of structure 4A, 11ft from SW corner. No section drawing, but section sketched on p44 of notebook. Small upright sarsen in post hole.

POST HOLE IN SOUTHERN EXTENSION

Post hole 4S/1: in Box 3 of South extension. Oval, setting of sarsens and Combe rock around it. Section drawing shows it with a diam of 1ft 6ins, depth c8ins, with a base of packed flints and larger upright sarsen packing stones.