

'The 'oven', the midden & the pit', featuring WC Cuttings 6di, 6j, 6k & 6L

The 'Oven', the Midden & the Pit - Cuttings 6k, 6L & 6j.

14.08.61 onwards and 29.07.62 onwards. See Fig. XXX. Mainly Cutting 6k. Layer 1, immed. below the turf, is a black soil, over 2' in depth in places.

The following GFs which concern the features have not always specifically had 'pit' or 'midden' noted alongside the GFs in the FR. However, careful analysis has shown which GFs appear to be associated in some way with these two features.

GFs 580-84, all to 2', were unstratified and may be over the pit (and thus in the midden). NB. **GFs 580 & 584** are cross-fits. **GFs 602-05** were from the centre and N. end of the cutting from 1'6"-2' and are thus likely to be from the topsoil and layer 1 (dark brown soil with flints & chalk lumps) over the pit, *i.e.* from the midden.

GFs & sequence

Under circular structure - The Oven

These GFs specifically mention the 'circular structure'.

A large quernstone appeared bedded in black soil beneath 'oven' wall, but no GF found for it yet (19.6.95).

GFs 448 & 449 ('cob'), **?GF469**, **GF470**, **?GF471**, **?GF476**, **?GF479**, **?GF480**, **GF577**, 'Sherd'. 'Kiln'; embedded in wall footing stones. 15"., are probably part of oven construction phase.

GF572, **GF650**, **GF654**, **GF661**, **GF664**, **GF666**, **GF669**, **GF672**, **?GF682**, **GF700**, **GF741** & **GF754** are all from the filling inside the circular feature, part of it or seemingly tumble from it.

GF558, 'Sherds'. Brown soil beneath lowest layer of flints & on top of orange layer. At bottom of base structure. c. 25" in depth. 6NWdi.

GF576, 'Sherd'. 'Kiln'; ginger clay above chalk. 25" in depth. 6NWdi.

GF557, 'Sherds. Teeth'. S. end of 6k. Under wall. Dark brown soil. To 4'. 6k.

GF699, 'Sherds. Bone'. Top of pit filling all under wall of circular structure. 6j/k

GF723, 'Sherds. Bone'. Fill in pit. S. end, under circular structure. To 4'. 6j/k

GF729, 'Glazed sherd'. S. end. Black midden material beneath wall of 'oven'. Shown on Section along S. side of 6k. Initial dating from RT; early C13th ?

GF751, 'Soil Sample 7'. W. face of 6k. Black soil beneath wall of 'oven' & above lens of white burnt chalk.

GF752, 'Sherd'. Black soil beneath wall of 'oven' & above lens of white burnt chalk. Sherd from immed. below tilting stone beneath lowest stone of wall.

GF753, 'Soil Sample 8'. W. face of 6k. Dark soil beneath N. wall of 'oven' and between bottom of balck layer & top of upper layer of real chalk.

(See also GF754)

Midden over pit. Under circular feature.

GF513, 'Sherds. Bone. Flint'. Top of midden, 2"-4", mainly 0"-2". N. of House IV, N. of circular structure. 6k.

GF527, 'Nails. Iron objects. Bones. Sherds. Shell'. N. end 9'. Covering site of supposed midden. Black earth and nettle roots. To 6". 6k.

GF565, 'Sherds. Bone'. In centre of 6k; black soil & nettles. Top 12".

GF573, 'Sherd. Bone'. Black earth, E. of circular structure. 3"-12". 6j.

GF524, 'Sherds. Teeth. Bone. Nail. 2 undiagnostic/undateable horseshoes. Strike-a-light'. S. end of 6k. Stony soil from edge of wallstones 4' N to supposed edge of midden, c. 4' out from edge of wall. From 8"-3'8" in depth.

GF547, 'Sherds. Norman horseshoe. Iron sheet? vessel fragments'. N. end sondage. Black midden soil. 6"-16". 6k

?**GF574**, 'Bone. Sherds. Charcoal'. N. end of 6k. Flint with chalk, down to clay. 1'10"-2'6".

GF543, '203 sherds. Teeth. Bone. Iron'. N. end of 6k, very dark soil. 2'

?**GF575**, 'Ox? skull'. N. end of 6k. Flint with chalk, down to clay. Skull from 2'2"-2'7" in depth. End of jaw 1'3" from N. end, against E. baulk.

?**GF754**, 'Soil Sample 9'. W. face of 6k. 'Cob-like' material (solufluction) in spill N. of N. wall of 'oven'. c. 2' in depth. Oven construction?

GF758, 'Sherd. 'Kick-out' base'. Balck soil at bottom of dump. Probably from top 2' of 1961 cutting.

GF755, 'Soil Sample 10'. W. face of 6k. Soil layer (OGS?) immed. beneath 'cob' material in spill N. of 'oven' (see GF754). 2'3" from turf.

GF580, 'Black soil sample'. S. end of 6k, beneath outer wall face of House IV. 2'3"-2'6" in depth.

GF689, 'Sherds. Bone'. E. section. Black soil above yellow clay layer. 2'4" in depth. 6k

GF481, 'Sherds. Charcoal'. Over & in trench of pit in NW corner of NE quad. c. 3'6" in depth.

Unstratified - probably midden material

GF745, 'Sherds'. From 'dump', probably midden black soil material. Part of dump from 1961 cutting? - see GF758. 6k

GF571, 'Small bearded axe'. In black earth, E. of circular feature. No depth, 1'1" from baulk. 6j.

Pit filling

Although not always specifically noted as coming from the pit, these GFs are reasonably likely to be from it. The depth indicates this.

GF616, 'Sherds. Metal objects; Barrel padlock (TWA)'. Pit filling. 2'6"-3'2". Padlock 12" in depth in edge, 5'3" from NW peg. 6k

GF636, 'Sherds. Bones'. Black soil in top of pit. 1'10"-2'2" in depth. 6NEh.

GF715, 'Sherd'. Pit filling, probably from 2'6"-3'. 6k

GF621, 'Sherds. Bones. Shell. Charcoal'. Pit filling becoming clayey below. 2'6"-3'2". 6k

GF757, 'Soil Sample 12'. W. face, S. end of 6k. Thin red layer at bottom of very black material & immed. beneath thin concentrated layer of burnt chalk. Not clear on section, but c. 3', I think.

GF716, 'Sherd'. Probably 'X'-marked coarse red sherd on section drawing. In Brown soil with charcoal. c. 3'5" in depth. 6k

GF662, 'Clay sample 2'. Pit filling. Against W. side of cutting. 3'5" in depth. 6k

GF615, 'Bones'. Pit filling, becoming clayey. Below 3'6". 6k

?GF637, 'Sherds with soot'. Dark, black soil with charcoal, clay & chalk. No depth. 6k

GF748, 'Soil Sample 4'. N. end. Grey soil immediately above top of weathered chalk silt in pit. NE corner of cutting. 3'6" below turf. 6k

?GF638, 'Bone. Charcoal. Teeth. Iron spike with perforated head (TWA, not FR)'. Dark, burnt soil with clay & chalk. 3'6"-4' in depth. From 'ditch' (pit?). Oven use?. 6k

?GF663, 'Sherds. Bone'. E. side of cutting, straightening up & clearing down in centre. 3'4"-4'4" in depth. 6k

GF648 & 649, 'Bones'. Pit filling. Clayey. 4'-4'4". 6k

?GF656, 'Iron knife'. Clay & chalk. 7' S. of NE corner. 1'9" from E. side. 4'4" in depth. 6k

GF657, 'Sherds'. Pit filling; clayey. 4'-4'4" in depth. 6k

?GF675, 'Iron Awl'. Brown clay, chalk, charcoal. 7'8" from NE corner, 1'2" from W. edge of cutting, 4'5" in depth. 6k

?GF668, 'Sherds'. Ditch?. Clay & chalk. 4'4"-4'8" in depth. 6k. Is ditch the pit?

?GF684, '5 bags of bones'. Brown clayey layer on sarsen, but beneath general layer on top of sarsens. 4'3"-4'8" in depth. 6k

?GF685, 'Sherds'. In clay & chalk. 4'3"-4'8" in depth. 6k

GF697, 'Dog skull'. N. end of 6k from weathered chalk 'silt'. 5'6". (See 6m above). 6k

GF705, 'Sherd'. N. end of 6k. Weathered chalk 'silt' to 6'6" in depth.

GF720, 'Tooth'. N. end. 2' S from NE corner, 4'5" from S edge. Same layer as GF717. 6'10" in depth.

GF718, '(Imitation) Samian sherds'. N. end of 6k. In NE corner. Same layer as GF717. 7' in depth.

GF717, '(imitation) Samian sherds'. N. end of 6k. In NE corner. Dark brown clay with sarsens, flint, chalk & charcoal. 7'2" in depth.

GF719, 'Sherd'. N. end. 3' from NW corner. Same layer as GF717. 7'6" in depth.

GF747, 'Soil Sample 4'. Brown soil above red clay, containing lower sarsens in pit. 6k

GF746, 'Soil Sample 3'. N. end of 6k. Red clay near bottom of pit, above chalk 'silt'.

GF749, 'Soil Sample 6'. N. end. Thin soil layer immediately above soil chalk at bottom of pit.

GF756, 'Soil Sample 11'. W. face, S. end of 6k. Clay from pit bottom immed. above chalk. Contains apparent remains of thin humus layer, not visible in section, probably similar to that at bottom of pit in N. end of 6k (GF749?).