

## Cutting 11

Excavations across the E side of Enclosure C were begun in early July 1961 to obtain dating evidence from the bank and, subsequently, from the ditch which ran along the E side of the bank. The bank consisted of flinty brown soil, over a thinner layer of flints with brown soil, over Clay-with-Flints. Presumably the bank was built up from the ditch material. The ditch, found to be c.1'3" in depth, was filled with a dark humus with flints and chalk lumps with a small area of chalky humus ('primary silt') at the bottom. A smaller round-bottomed trench, filled with brown soil in contrast to the flinty make-up of the bank, was uncovered on the W side. A depression, observable in section on both sides on the top of the bank, was uncovered below the topsoil.

### Discussion

Pottery evidence from the bank shows it to have been constructed in the 13th century date. GFs730 & 743 were sherds from a 13th century micaceous coarseware vessel, probably with origins to the west (TWA, 19 - no other sherds of this type were found on the site), suggesting Enclosure C was built with the help of workers brought in from further afield. A possible Romano-British or Iron Age sherd (analysed on site) from the Clay-with-Flints, indicates activity, possibly cultivation, in this area at an earlier date.

As the bank and ditch of Enclosure C in the E and S are presumably contemporary, the construction of this enclosure can be dated to the 13th century (see Cutting 10, p. XX). Its shape suggest it was used as a penning for sheep and is possibly the documented *bercaria*.

### GFs & sequence

Although no GFs are recorded for the 1960 excavation, the site book notes that 3 medieval sherds, one from the chalky humus, were found. One probable RB sherd and bones came from the clayey humus and flint subsoil, delineated by a slight change in soil texture and a line of tilted flints. Section drawing and site book show the position of these finds (see Fig. XXX ?Archive):

**Sherd 1**, in flinty layer. Depth; 9".

**Sherd 2**, on top of flinty layer in topsoil. Depth; 8".

**Sherd 3**, in dark humus flecked with chalk ('primary silt'). Depth; 1'2".

**Sherd 4**, in clayey humus with flints of the bank. Depth; 1'3".

Other finds included two stones, presumably sarsens, 4½" and 3" thick, lying in the ditch fill (dark humus with flints and chalk lumps) at c. 9" in depth, three bones; 1'4", 1'7" & 1'10" in depth, teeth at 1'2" and a snail shell, 1'3" in depth. The W. end of this cutting was opened in 1962 in order to investigate the bank.

**GF733**, C13th sherds. Flints. Turf layer. Depth; 6".

**GF730**, Flints. 2 iron nail shanks. Bones. C13th sherds. From topsoil to 1'.

**Xfit 20**; sherds from GFs above formed a C13th coarse-sandy ware bowl

**GF743**, C13th sherd. At bottom of or beneath bank at E. end.