

WC Cutting 11

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03/07/60. Begun in 1960, across the E. side of Enclosure C, to obtain dating evidence from the E. ditch of the triangular enclosure (initially called Cutting 1, Enclosure C). Dimensions: 11' long (EW) by 4' wide (NS). Initially this cutting sectioned the E. ditch only, which was found to be c.1'3" in depth, although excavation seems to have gone to 1'10" at least. The ditch was filled with humus and flints, apart from a small area of chalky humus ('primary silt') at the bottom. A flinty humus was also uncovered beneath and around the E. ditch, possibly disturbed when the area was part of the 'Celtic' field system. It is apparent that the bank was built up from the material dug out during the creation of the ditch. Thus the flints and brown soil of the lowest bank layer were from the flint layer mixed with the OGS, and the red-brown clay with flint which form the bank centre, was mainly a mixture of the OGS with clay and flints subsoil.

Is Enclosure C a penning or even the documented *berceria* for sheep??

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.

The GF numbers and sequence are as follows;

GF733, 'Sherds. Flints'. Turf layer. Depth; 6".

GF730, 'Flints. Iron. Bones. Sherds'. From topsoil to 1'. 2 iron nail shanks.

GFs730 & 743 are cross-fits of a micaceous coarseware, probably with origins to the west (TWA, 19). No other sherds of this type on site.

GF743, 'Sherd'. At bottom of or beneath bank at E. end.

The bank, c. 12" from the red-brown clay with flint subsoil at maximum, consisted of flinty soil over a layer (c. 3" deep) of flints with brown soil. A hole was observable, on both sides, on the top of the bank, suggesting that a hedge or fence had once stood there. A smaller round-bottomed trench filled with brown soil was uncovered on the E. side of the bank containing brown soil, in contrast to the flinty make-up of the bank.

