

**Rescue excavations on an early Saxon cemetery site  
and a later (probably late Saxon) execution site at the  
former Goblin Works, Ashted, near Leatherhead**

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### Catalogue of Burials

The following catalogue is largely confined to articulated burials, though one or two examples - especially S16, S31, S32 and S33 - are dubious. They are described as objectively as possible and their classification (see also table 1) attempted and justified as necessary.

A description of the grave fill is not given for each of the burials as it would be tediously repetitive. In every case it could be described as a soft light-brown silty-clay with frequent flint and chalk fragments. This would indicate that only the lowest level of infilling, derived from the contemporary topsoil/subsoil had survived, and that the upper parts of the graves, backfilled with the excavated chalk and flints, had been truncated. How deep the graves originally were can only be estimated; modern topsoil was generally about 40cm higher than the top of surviving grave cuts. On this basis it might be suggested that bodies in well-cut regular graves were originally c 80-90cm below ground, and that many others were covered by as little as 30-50cm of soil.

Other features which contained non-articulated human bone are listed under the catalogue of features below - apart from 103 they are of very little interest or significance.

BURIAL NUMBER: S1GRAVE:

None observed.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT:POSITION OF BODY:

Supine, position of head not determined, hands probably folded over pelvis (metacarpals and phalanges did not survive in situ), legs extended.

ORIENTATION: Head to south-west

PRESERVATION OF BONE: good but  
much fragmented

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: left leg overlay the feet of S2.

DISTURBANCE: (1) By workmen in discovery (2) by policeman investigating the find before archaeologist arrived (3) probably an electricity cable (skull only) at an earlier date.

FINDS:

None.

CLASSIFICATION: Uncertain. No clear sign of execution, but in view of its orientation and shallowness this would seem more likely than that it is a pagan burial.

<u>OD of ground surface:</u>	) depth of burial
<u>OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body:</u>	) about 93.70m
<u>OD of chalk at bottom of grave:</u>	)
<u>OD of skull (top of cranium):</u>	)
<u>OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone):</u>	)
<u>OD of ankle</u>	)

PLATES: 2

FIGS: 2

NOTES: Bones taken to police pathologist (Dr Tay) and not recovered.

BURIAL NUMBER: S2GRAVE:

Oval grave - cut c 1.90m long by c 70m wide (max), with an almost flat bottom 0.25m lower than the observed top.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Feet pressed hard against grave cut, head 13cm from end, body mostly on north side of grave.

POSITION OF BODY:

Body twisted to lie on right side, head on side looking south, right arm flexed so that hand level with shoulder, left arm extended and over pelvis, legs extended with left foot very slightly over right.

ORIENTATION: Head to west

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Good

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Legs slightly below left leg of S1.

DISTURBANCE: None - an electricity cable immediately overlay but had not damaged the pelvic area, though unfortunately damage did occur to this area in excavation.

FINDS: None

CLASSIFICATION: Pagan. No grave goods, but the orientation and careful nature of the burial make this a highly probable interpretation.

OD of ground surface: 94.16

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 93.69

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 93.44

OD of skull (top of cranium): -

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): -

OD of ankle -

PLATES: 3

FIGS: 2

NOTES:

BURIAL NUMBER: S3GRAVE:

Not known.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Not known.POSITION OF BODY:

Not known.

ORIENTATION:? head to westPRESERVATION OF BONE: GoodRELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Not knownDISTURBANCE: Not known - found in very small area of deeper excavation by workmenFINDS: NoneCLASSIFICATION: Uncertain.

OD of ground surface: )  
OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: )  
OD of chalk at bottom of grave: )  
OD of skull (top of cranium): ) None taken  
OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): )  
OD of ankle: )

PLATES:FIGS: 2NOTES:

BURIAL NUMBER: S4GRAVE:

Oval grave cut c 1.85m long by c 0.60m wide, with an almost flat bottom (except for the slots - see notes below), 0.40m lower than the observed top.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Head and feet originally pressed hard against slots for head and tail boards, body mostly on north side of grave.

POSITION OF BODY: Body twisted to lie partially on left side, head on side looking north originally, but fallen forward so that almost face down as discovered, right arm crossed over body with hand on left shoulder, left arm extended along left side of body, legs extended with feet upright against slot for tail board.

ORIENTATION: Head to west

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Variable,  
good to poor.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Grave fill = 108

DISTURBANCE: Most of femurs, pelvis and lower vertebrae removed by bore hole (though later recovered).

FINDS: 14 Bone comb OD 94.07, on top of left ulna and radius  
18 Cowrie shell OD 94.08

CLASSIFICATION: Pagan.

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.45

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 94.05

OD of skull (top of cranium): 94.22

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): -

OD of ankle: 94.15

PLATES: 4

FIGS: 2

NOTES: Slots at either end of the burial pit suggest the original presence of head and tail boards marking the grave at the surface.

BURIAL NUMBER: S5GRAVE:

Not known

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Not knownPOSITION OF BODY:

Not known

ORIENTATION:? head to south (see below) PRESERVATION OF BONE: fragmented,  
but fair.RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS:DISTURBANCE: Discovered by workmen and retrieved under circumstances  
of some difficulty.FINDS: NoneCLASSIFICATION: Uncertain

<u>OD of ground surface:</u>	)
<u>OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body:</u>	)
<u>OD of chalk at bottom of grave:</u>	)
<u>OD of skull (top of cranium):</u>	) Not recorded.
<u>OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone):</u>	)
<u>OD of ankle:</u>	)

PLATES:FIGS: 2NOTES: The bones were retrieved from just east of where S1 had previously  
been excavated. The skull is well represented and the fragments  
seem too far away to be the missing elements of S1's skull.  
This is probably, therefore, a separate burial, whose orientation  
(in view of the excavations and observation to east and west)  
must have been approximately north-south.

BURIAL NUMBER: S6GRAVE:

Very shallow (2-4cm mostly) depression just visible in chalk. Could not be clearly defined for planning.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Bones generally near to limits of depression.

POSITION OF BODY:

Upper body twisted, left hand under pelvis, right arm position uncertain due to damage, legs extended, skull detached and placed between tibiae.

ORIENTATION: Upper body to south.      PRESERVATION OF BONE: Generally good, but much fragmented.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS:

DISTURBANCE: (1) In machine clearance (2) the feet were removed by a pipe trench (3) some other early disturbance may have occurred as the ribs were mostly missing though the grave fill seemed undisturbed.

FINDS: None

CLASSIFICATION: Execution.

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: c 94.50

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 94.45

OD of skull (top of cranium): 94.54

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): -

OD of ankle:

PLATES: 5

FIGS: 2

NOTES:

BURIAL NUMBER: S7GRAVE:

Irregular oval, c 1.20m long by max 0.70m wide and c 25cm deep, with sloping sides, flat only in immediate area of body.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Head c 0.25 in from end of grave, feet probably near to edge (did not survive), body roughly central to over-large grave.

POSITION OF BODY:

Body turned to lie on left side, head facing south, lower right arm folded straight across lower ribs, upper left arm extended (lower left arm did not survive), legs in 'sleeping' position (though lower legs did not survive).

ORIENTATION: Head to west

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Fair to very poor

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS:

DISTURBANCE: Probably none

FINDS: None

CLASSIFICATION: Pagan - no grave goods but a child oriented east-west and carefully buried.

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.39

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 94.14

OD of skull (top of cranium): 94.23 (highest surviving part)

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone):

OD of ankle: 94.15 (end of surviving femur)

PLATES: 6

FIGS: 2

NOTES: Child aged 4-6 years.

BURIAL NUMBER: S8GRAVE:

Body lay in slight depression (4-10 cm) in chalk but not really definable as a proper grave cut.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Bones generally near to edges of 'grave'.

POSITION OF BODY:

Supine, arms folded with wrists under vertebrae at top of pelvis and hands crossed and partially under the left and right ilium respectively, legs extended with feet presumably originally pointing upwards hard against edge of grave cut (feet mostly lost in machining due to their higher level). NB face down, although only jaw survived due to cranium being at higher level than rest of body.

ORIENTATION: Head to south

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Good

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Cut through and partially removed S21

DISTURBANCE: Machining had removed/damaged skull and feet which lay at a higher level.

FINDS: None

CLASSIFICATION: Execution

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.12

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 94.05

OD of skull (top of cranium): -

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): 94.09

OD of ankle: 94.14

PLATES: 7

FIGS: 2

NOTES:

BURIAL NUMBER: S9GRAVE:

Definitely cut into chalk, but not possible to define a grave cut with any clarity.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Not defined (see also below)

POSITION OF BODY:

Supine, head 'cushioned' above rest of body and slightly tilted to the east, probably post-mortem disturbance but spine also very curved which may suggest the body was carelessly squashed into a too small grave, arms folded and wrists crossed under vertebrae immediately above pelvis, hands just under left and right ilium, legs extended, feet probably originally pointing upwards and pushed against end of grave (feet mostly lost).

ORIENTATION: Head to south-west      PRESERVATION OF BONE: Good

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Overlay 112 and 105 (grave fill of S28)

DISTURBANCE: Skull and feet at higher level damaged/removed by machinery.

FINDS: None

CLASSIFICATION: Execution

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.09

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 93.94

OD of skull (top of cranium): 94.14 (highest surviving part)

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): 94.02

OD of ankle: 94.10

PLATES: 8

FIGS: 2

NOTES: One hand missing, probably post-burial disturbance rather than anything grisly.

BURIAL NUMBER: S10GRAVE:

Oval grave cut c 1.75m long by max 0.45m by up to 0.25 deep, with an irregular bottom and straight sides.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Fairly tight fit all round, head and feet pressed hard against edges of grave.

POSITION OF BODY:

Supine, head 'cushioned' forward above rest of body, arms folded with hands crossed just above top of sacrum, legs extended with lower right leg angled slightly towards left leg so that feet just touch.

ORIENTATION: Head to south west      PRESERVATION OF BONE: Good

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Cuts 112

DISTURBANCE: Top of cranium damaged by machining, and probably feet also.

FINDS: None

CLASSIFICATION: ? Execution - shallow burial, squashed into grave cut with same orientations, and in general area of, most of the certain executions.

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.15

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 93.85

OD of skull (top of cranium): 94.11 (actual top caved in)

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): 93.97

OD of ankle: 94.03

PLATES: 9

FIGS: 2

NOTES: (1) Head probably squashed into grave forcing chin forward into vertebrae

(2) The bottom of the grave was everywhere at least 3 cm below the lowest bone, and in some areas considerably more. This suggests the grave may have been too narrow (NB left shoulder hunched over), keeping the body above the bottom during initial silting/infilling.

BURIAL NUMBER: S11GRAVE:

None visible.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT:POSITION OF BODY:

Prone, face down, right arm folded behind back (ie on top as excavated), no trace of left arm (but also presumably originally behind back otherwise would have been found below ribs etc), legs missing.

ORIENTATION: head to south

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Poor

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Partly overlay S18

DISTURBANCE: (1) fairly badly in machining  
(2) probably also at some earlier date

FINDS: None

CLASSIFICATION: Execution

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.22

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 94.12

OD of skull (top of cranium): 94.33 (back of skull badly damaged)

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): -

OD of ankle:-

PLATES: 10

FIGS: 2

NOTES: Some possible confusion of bones with those of S18.

BURIAL NUMBER: S12GRAVE:

None visible.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT:POSITION OF BODY:

Supine, arms folded and hands crossed over top of sacrum, legs extended. There was a pronounced slope from feet down towards the skull, perhaps due to the upper half of the body subsiding into the earlier grave (111) and also S29.

ORIENTATION: head to south

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Good

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Overlies 111 and S29.

DISTURBANCE: Machine damage to feet

FINDS: None

CLASSIFICATION: ? Execution - shallow burial disturbing an earlier one and with similar orientation/location to certain execution burials.

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.17

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 94.00

OD of skull (top of cranium): 94.14

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): 94.08

OD of ankle: 94.22

PLATES: 11

FIGS: 2

NOTES: Many large flints overlay this grave and partially S11 and S18 and to their north. Perhaps they represent an attempt to metal a path at some later date.

BURIAL NUMBER: S13GRAVE:

Shallow but clear grave cut, oval 1.90m long by 0.50m wide by c 20cm deep, with a flat bottom.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Head pushed forward by edge of grave, gap of c15cm between end of grave and feet, torso quite tightly fitted into grave.

POSITION OF BODY:

Supine, head slightly tilted towards north (perhaps post-burial), arms tightly folded and hands crossed on the left side of the middle of the spine (right arm over left).

ORIENTATION: head to west  
good

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Generally

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS:

DISTURBANCE: (1) Feet removed in machining; (2) right hand missing (perhaps animal disturbance).

FINDS: None

CLASSIFICATION: Pagan - no grave goods but a careful interment with an east-west orientation.

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.39

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 94.16

OD of skull (top of cranium): 94.28

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): 94.20

OD of ankle: 94.25

PLATES: 12

FIGS: 2

NOTES:

BURIAL NUMBER: S14GRAVE:

Oval grave 1.30m long by c 0.55m wide by c 30cm max deep, with sloping sides and a flat bottom.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Most of body lies in the flatter central part of the grave with the head and arms slightly raised on the sloping sides.

POSITION OF BODY:

Supine, head tilted slightly towards left, arms folded and crossed at wrist just above left ilium, legs extended with lower legs flexed slightly towards right.

ORIENTATION: head to west

PRESERVATION OF BONE: average to poor.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Edge of grave cut by concrete base of modern flag pole.

DISTURBANCE: (1) skull damaged in removal of flagpole  
(2) missing bones due to decay rather than other disturbance.

FINDS: 15 Necklace of two amethyst beads  
one translucent green glass bead  
one red 'polka-dot' blue glass bead  
three cowrie shell beads

CLASSIFICATION: Pagan

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.46

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 94.16

OD of skull (top of cranium): 94.27

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): 94.20

OD of ankle: 94.24

PLATES: 13

FIGS: 2, 3

NOTES: See Appendices 1 and 2

BURIAL NUMBER: S15GRAVE:

Oval grave 1.90m long by 0.65m wide (max) and c 0.30m deep, with near vertical sides and flat bottom. Narrow adze or similar marks in the sides indicated the method by which the chalk was removed.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Head c 12cm from end of grave, feet pressed hard against edge.

POSITION OF BODY:

Supine, head tilted to left (? post-burial), right arm extended by side, left arm slightly flexed with hand over left ilium and sacrum, legs slightly flexed towards right side of grave (looks rather as if legs squeezed up to fit into grave).

ORIENTATION: head to west

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Good

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS:

DISTURBANCE: None

FINDS:  
 1 Cu alloy 'clasp' with leather  
 2 Cu alloy 'ring'  
 5 Fe spear head  
 7 Fe knife  
 11 Fe object

CLASSIFICATION: Pagan.

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body:

OD of chalk at bottom of grave:

OD of skull (top of cranium):

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone):

OD of ankle:

PLATES: 14

FIGS: 2,3,4 & 5

NOTES: (1) Right arm looks likely to have originally grasped the spear and has fallen away post-burial; (2) pronounced hole of irregular shape (c 5cm diam) in the skull had no obvious post-burial cause.

BURIAL NUMBER: S16GRAVE:

None observed.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT:POSITION OF BODY: Left leg only foundORIENTATION: north-southPRESERVATION OF BONE: FairRELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS:DISTURBANCE: Burial almost completely destroyed by modern trench, not even certain that bone recovered was in situ.FINDS: NoneCLASSIFICATION: Uncertain.OD of ground surface:OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: -OD of chalk at bottom of grave: -OD of skull (top of cranium): -OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): -OD of ankle: 94.56 (leg)PLATES:FIGS: 2NOTES:

BURIAL NUMBER: S17GRAVE:

Irregular, shallow, sub-oval frame cut, c 1.25m long by c 65 cm wide (max), by 18cm deep (max), with sloping sides and uneven bottom.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: No real evidence

POSITION OF BODY:

Probably supine, head tilted to right. Very little bone survived.

ORIENTATION: Head to west

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Very poor

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS:

DISTURBANCE: Top of skull lost in machine clearance.

FINDS: None

CLASSIFICATION: Pagan - a child burial with similar orientation/location to other pagan burials.

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.48

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 94.30

OD of skull (top of cranium): 94.39 (but top already removed)

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone):

OD of ankle: 94.36 (other surviving bone)

PLATES: 15

FIGS: 2

NOTES: (1) Some of the bone near the skull had a blackened appearance, as though burnt; (2) a child burial, which probably explains the almost complete decay of the bone.

BURIAL NUMBER: S18GRAVE:

None visible

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT:POSITION OF BODY:

Prone, head turned to face east and a clear gap between it and surviving vertebrae with the cervical vertebrae missing, arms folded and in front of body, left hand partly under pelvis, right hand under lower vertebrae, legs extended.

ORIENTATION: head to northPRESERVATION OF BONE: PoorRELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Partially under S11.

DISTURBANCE: (1) Some damage in machine clearance  
(2) Some damage from burial of S11  
(3) Some earlier disturbance may account for the missing cervical vertebrae assuming this is not a decapitated burial.

FINDS: A narrow band of dark soil. (c2-3cm wide) formed an 'L' shape across the waist above the pelvis and extended up the left side of and parallel to the spine. This is just possibly the shadowy remains of a leather belt etc.

CLASSIFICATION: ExecutionOD of ground surface:OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.18OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 94.14OD of skull (top of cranium): 94.31OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): 94.26OD of ankle: 94.23PLATES: 10FIGS: 2NOTES:

BURIAL NUMBER: S19GRAVE:

Large oval grave cut, 2.20m long by 1.00m wide by c 0.30m deep, slightly sloping sides, but wide fairly flat bottom.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Head pushed up against side, feet c 40cm from edge.

POSITION OF BODY:

Turned on right side, facing south, lower left arm at right angle to upper arm, extending to south side of trench, right arm tightly flexed to bring hand level with shoulder on south side of grave, legs flexed so that knees touch south side of grave half way between feet and pelvis. Left side of pelvis had fallen away to north of original position.

ORIENTATION: head to west

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Good

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS:

DISTURBANCE: (1) Edge of grave just cut by modern concrete base, but no damage to skeleton; (2) some loss of bone due to poor excavation.

FINDS: 8 Fe knife (position suggests attached to waist belt)

CLASSIFICATION: Pagan

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.03

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 93.71

OD of skull (top of cranium): 93.90

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): 93.79

OD of ankle: 93.80

PLATES: 16

FIGS: 2

NOTES: Hands both very much as if they held something such as a wooden staff which has completely decayed.

BURIAL NUMBER: S20GRAVE:

Oval grave cut, though only the west end could be defined. Max width c 50cm, by 30cm deep.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Body tightly fitted to narrow grave, head pushed against end of grave and higher than rest of body.

POSITION OF BODY:

Supine, head facing upwards, upper arms by side, lower arms turned slightly inwards so that hands meet over lower pelvis, legs extended with feet touching and fallen inwards (and therefore not possible to distinguish bones).

ORIENTATION: head to west

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Good

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Overlies and partially cut through S22.

DISTURBANCE: Some damage to head in excavation.

FINDS: None

CLASSIFICATION: Uncertain - pagan orientation, reasonably careful burial, but cut through an earlier one and in same general area as most executions.

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 93.98

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 93.69

OD of skull (top of cranium): -

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): -

OD of ankle: 93.76

PLATES: 17

FIGS: 2

NOTES:

BURIAL NUMBER: S21GRAVE:

Body lay in slight depression (5-10cm) in chalk but not really definable as a proper grave cut.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Bones generally near to edges of grave.

POSITION OF BODY:

Supine, head probably 'cushioned' above level of rest of body but much damaged, arms folded with wrists under vertebrae at top of pelvis, legs probably extended but mostly removed when S8 buried.

ORIENTATION: head to south

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Good

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Cut by S8

DISTURBANCE: Machining had removed much of skull.

FINDS: None

CLASSIFICATION: Execution

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.10

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 94.00

OD of skull (top of cranium): 94.12 (highest surviving part)

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): 94.07

OD of ankle: -

PLATES: 7

FIGS: 2

NOTES:

BURIAL NUMBER: S22GRAVE:

Oval grave cut whose exact dimensions could not be determined due to later damage (see below), but c 2.05m long by 1.00m wide, by max 0.40m deep.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Body largely on south side of grave, feet and head both missing so relationship of these not determined.

POSITION OF BODY:

Supine, head not in situ, arms extended by side, left hand just over left ilium, legs extended.

ORIENTATION: head to west

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Generally good

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Overlain and partially removed by S20, may itself have broken up an earlier burial (see 100)

DISTURBANCE: (1) by S20  
(2) Feet missing, no obvious sign of cause.

FINDS: None

CLASSIFICATION: Uncertain - pagan orientation and apparently good grave cut but damage/location/lack of grave goods make classification difficult.

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 93.98

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 93.60

OD of skull (top of cranium):

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): 93.69

OD of ankle: 93.67

PLATES: 17

FIGS: 2

NOTES: Skull probably amongst bone found in 100.

BURIAL NUMBER: S23GRAVE:

Oval grave cut 1.80m long by 0.65m wide, by 0.30m deep, with generally near vertical sides and flat bottom.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Grave smaller than occupant, head pushed up against end and feet touching end.

POSITION OF BODY:

Turned partly onto right side, head turned to face south and nearly upright against edges of grave, upper vertebrae curved probably as a result of skull being pushed into grave, upper left arm straight with lower left at right angle, right arm flexed so that it crosses over left at wrist, femurs slightly angled towards south side of grave, lower legs parallel with grave.

ORIENTATION: head to west

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Generally good (see disturbance)

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS:DISTURBANCE:

No obvious disturbance but lower part of vertebrae, ribs, right hand and pelvis missing, presumably due to early post-burial disturbance.

FINDS:

9. Fe knife (perhaps attached to waist belt originally).

CLASSIFICATION: Pagan

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.27

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 93.97

OD of skull (top of cranium): 94.22

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): 94.03 (surviving part)

OD of ankle: 94.12

PLATES: 18

FIGS: 2

NOTES:

Knife may not have been in situ as a little higher in grave fill than would be expected. Perhaps disturbed when other bones (see above) lost.

BURIAL NUMBER: S24GRAVE:

Oval grave cut, length not determined, 0.65m wide by max 0.40m deep, flat bottom and near vertical sides.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Feet just against edge, body slightly towards north side.

POSITION OF BODY:

Probably supine (but upper part not properly in situ), upper right leg very slightly angled towards south, lower right leg angled back to north, upper left leg angled slightly more to north than upper right, lower left leg almost parallel to grave and crosses over lower right just above angle.

ORIENTATION: head to west                      PRESERVATION OF BONE: Good

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS:

See below.

DISTURBANCE: (1) Bomb crater had fragmented whole of upper half of body, but this remained in approximately the correct position though at a lower level; (2) some small bones (feet especially) lost due to careless excavation.

FINDS:

3 Cu alloy buckle  
6 Fe spearhead  
10 Fe knife

CLASSIFICATION: Pagan.

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.26

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 93.89

OD of skull (top of cranium): -

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): 93.94 (body crushed)

OD of ankle: 94.01 (left (upper) ankle).

PLATES: 19

FIGS: 2

NOTES: Spearhead found at 93.50; Lowest level of recovered bone at 93.24.

BURIAL NUMBER: S25GRAVE:

Oval grave cut, length not determined, 0.60m wide, max 0.40m deep, near vertical sides and flat bottom.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Head pushed hard against end, right arm against side.

POSITION OF BODY:

Turned onto right side, head facing south and pushed up higher than rest of body against end of grave, right arm flexed so that lower arm is parallel with grave and hand at level of shoulder, left arm angled across body and flexed so that it crosses the upper right arm with the hand (not surviving) presumably just over the lower right arm, legs and pelvis did not survive.

ORIENTATION: head to west.

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Fair to poor.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Cut by 102

DISTURBANCE: (1) Lower portion removed by 102  
(2) Head damaged in excavation  
(3) Some smaller bones lost/damaged in excavation.

FINDS: None but see 102.

CLASSIFICATION: Pagan.

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.18

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 93.74

OD of skull (top of cranium): 94.14

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): 93.99 (lowest surviving vertebrae)

OD of ankle: 93.99 (surviving position of femur)

PLATES: 20

FIGS: 2

NOTES: (1) Very difficult to excavate due to unexpected position of arms, later losses and sticky grave fill with large flints.

(2) Perhaps buried in sleeping position.

BURIAL NUMBER: S26GRAVE:

Oval grave cut, 1.20m long by 0.50m wide by 0.40m deep, with vertical sides and flat bottom.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Head pushed up against end

POSITION OF BODY:

Insufficient survived - perhaps 'sleeping' position.

ORIENTATION: head to west

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Poor

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS:

DISTURBANCE: None visible.

FINDS: None

CLASSIFICATION: Pagan

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.53

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 94.13

OD of skull (top of cranium): 94.27

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone):

OD of ankle: 94.17 (surviving position of leg)

PLATES: 21

FIGS: 2

NOTES:

BURIAL NUMBER: S27GRAVE:

Slight depression in chalk, but no grave cut could be defined satisfactorily.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT:POSITION OF BODY:

Legs extended - rest of body not excavated.

ORIENTATION: head to south

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Fair

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS:

DISTURBANCE: Feet probably damaged/partially destroyed by bad excavation.

FINDS: None

CLASSIFICATION: ? execution - similar location/orientation/shallowness of grave to more certain executions but insufficient excavated.

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.02

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 93.92

OD of skull (top of cranium): -

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): -

OD of ankle 94.00

PLATES:

FIGS: 2

NOTES:

BURIAL NUMBER: S28GRAVE:

Large oval grave cut 2.40m long by 1.20m by 0.45m deep, with vertical side and flat bottom.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT:

Body very much smaller than grave, and on east side.

POSITION OF BODY:

Laid on right side in 'sleeping' position, head facing east, right arm flexed with hand near chin, left arm flexed with hand against east side of grave, spine curved (? post-burial effect), legs flexed with knees against east side of grave, left leg more tightly flexed than right.

ORIENTATION: head to south

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Fair

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Cuts 112, overlain by S9.

DISTURBANCE: None, though some bones were missing, presumably decayed.

FINDS: 13 Fe object from grave fill (105), perhaps the ferrule of a wooden staff.

CLASSIFICATION: Pagan - careful burial and good deep grave cut make alternative interpretation highly unlikely despite the lack of grave-goods and north-south orientation.

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body:

OD of chalk at bottom of grave:

OD of skull (top of cranium):

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone):

OD of ankle

PLATES: 22

FIGS: 2

NOTES: Hands possibly as if holding something, presumably the staff implied by find no 13.

BURIAL NUMBER: S29GRAVE:

Oval grave cut, length not determined, 0.40m wide and c 0.50m deep, near vertical sides and flat bottom.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT: Feet clear of edge of grave.

POSITION OF BODY:

Legs extended, rest of body not excavated.

ORIENTATION: head to south

PRESERVATION OF BONE: Good

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Overlain S12, cut through 111 which had contained another body, portions of which were in the grave fill of S29.

DISTURBANCE: None.

FINDS: None.

CLASSIFICATION: ?Execution - similar orientation/location to certain executions but a better grave cut than usual and insufficient excavated.

OD of ground surface:

OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: 94.18

OD of chalk at bottom of grave: 93.73

OD of skull (top of cranium): -

OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): -

OD of ankle: 93.78

PLATES:

FIGS:

NOTES:

BURIAL NUMBER: S30GRAVE:

None visible.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT:POSITION OF BODY: ? extended.ORIENTATION: ?head to westPRESERVATION OF BONE: Good to poor.RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: Possible that S31 or S32 derive from this burial.DISTURBANCE: Revealed by modern cable trench.FINDS: NoneCLASSIFICATION: Uncertain - insufficient excavated

<u>OD of ground surface:</u>	)	
<u>OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body:</u>	)	
<u>OD of chalk at bottom of grave:</u>	)	Not taken
<u>OD of skull (top of cranium):</u>	)	
<u>OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone):</u>	)	
<u>OD of ankle</u>	)	

PLATES:FIGS: 2NOTES: Skeletal material recovered from inspection of cable trench excavation. Hands and vertebrae appeared to be in situ and suggested a burial with head to west. Other material recovered from adjacent spoil heap.

BURIAL NUMBER: S31, S32 and S33GRAVE:

None observed.

RELATIONSHIP OF GRAVE AND OCCUPANT:POSITION OF BODY: Skeletal material not in situ.ORIENTATION: Unknown.PRESERVATION OF BONE: Fair.RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FEATURES/BURIALS: S31 and S32 could be derived from S30.DISTURBANCE: Discovered loose in cable trench or on adjacent spoil heap.FINDS: None.CLASSIFICATION: Insufficient excavated.

OD of ground surface: )  
OD of chalk around top of grave cut/articulated body: )  
OD of chalk at bottom of grave: ) Not taken.  
OD of skull (top of cranium): )  
OD of pelvis (junction of sacrum and backbone): )  
OD of ankle: )

PLATES:FIGS: 2NOTES:

### Catalogue of features

Due to limitations of time numbers were only given to features other than graves where it seemed unavoidable. In the lists below numbers given to grave fills are only listed where information additional to that in the 'Catalogue of burials' needs to be presented.

### Clearance features

A number of irregular hollows were excavated, cut into chalk to depths not greater than c 60cm. They seem most likely to represent hollows created by grubbing out shrubs or tree stumps. One such was cut by S22 and was probably therefore of Saxon or earlier date. The others are undateable.

### Features containing human bone

- 100 Number given to light brown silty clay with chalk frags and flints above and around S20 and S22. It contained large quantities of human bone, some of which must belong to a skeleton other than S20 and S22. It seems likely that the fills of three grave cuts were excavated under this number, though no distinctions were observed in excavation.
- 101 Number given to area of light-brown silty clay with chalk and flint fragments in area of S9 and S10. The bone of 101 included 1 human molar, not from S9 or S10, and two sheep teeth.
- 102 Pit, undoubtedly of modern origin but containing some human bone (derived from S25 presumably) and a Cu alloy buckle (4) which proved to be modern.
- 104 Human bone in soil (grave fill, presumably, though no grave cut could be defined) above S12. See 110.
- 110 Grave fill of burial S29, containing human bone derived from an earlier burial, whose grave cut may be represented by 111. The bones in 104 are probably derived from 110, and ultimately from 111.

Other features

- 103 Sub-circular pit c 1.00m diameter and max 0.5 m deep, with a fill of soft light-brown silty-clay with flint of chalk fragments. It contained very small sherds of abraded Roman pottery. Its function can only be guessed at, but an apt surmise would be an emplacement for a wooden gallows tree.
- 105 Fill of grave pit for S29, which contained an Fe object (13), and a pot sherd.
- 106 Grave fill of S23 which contained a pot sherd.
- 111 Probably a grave cut for a burial completely removed by S29.
- 112 Steep sided, flat bottomed cut with a fill of whitish-brown chalky silt with occasional flints. It looked like a grave cut but there was no evidence of a body. It was earlier than all the other features in this area.

Pottery

There was extremely little pottery from the site. The four sherds recovered (two from context 103, one each from contexts 105 and 106) were all very small and abraded, making identification difficult. They are all, however, very probably of Roman date (pers comm P Jones), and none, as previously suggested (Poulton 1987b, 317), of Saxo-Norman date.

Other finds

The find number is given first, followed by a burial or context number, a description, and appropriate figure and plate numbers and other cross-references.

- 1 S15. Two copper alloy objects of identical type. Each consists of a thin plate, gently curved, less than 0.5mm thick, 22mm long, with the upper surface decorated with fine cross-hatched lines, pierced by holes containing two copper alloy rivets with some leather attached. Found together towards the mid-point of the left ulna. Strap fittings. Fig 3.

- 2 S15. Copper alloy strip, 6mm wide and 0.5mm thick, bent into an irregular oval and joined across the ends by an iron rivet. From its position, under the left ilium, it seems likely to be a belt fitment, exact purpose uncertain, but perhaps related to the attachment of items 7 & 11 (found nearby) to the belt. Fig 3.
- 3 S24. Copper alloy belt buckle, consisting of a flattened oval ring with two tongues, attached to a strap end which was secured to the belt by three rivets, around one of which some leather survived. Fig 3.
- 4 102. Copper alloy belt buckle, found on cleaning to be of 19th century manufacture.
- 5 S15. Iron spearhead with cleft socket containing traces of wood. No decoration visible on X-ray or to the eye. Total length 607mm, including the socket, the cleft length of which is 76mm. Swanton (1974) type E4 is nearest in form, but the present example is longer and more tapering than his examples, which are mostly of probable 7th century date. Fig 4, pl 14.
- 6 S24. Iron spearhead with cleft socket containing traces of wood. Thin lentoid blade, widening to rounded socket. Total length 494mm, including the socket, the cleft length of which was 76mm. Two pairs of incised lines round socket, but otherwise undecorated, although the differential corrosion, regularly arranged on the blade may suggest the original presence of a scabbard with more substantial bindings at intervals. Swanton (1974) type C3, the examples of which are mostly 7th century. Fig 4, pl 19.
- 7 S15. Iron knife, a small example but with the typical Saxon form (not closely dateable). The tip is missing. Fig 5, pl 14.

- 8 S19. Iron knife, with remnants of the ?horn grip surviving on the tang and leather or textile scabbard remnants on the blade. Typical Saxon form (not closely dateable). Fig 5.
- 9 S23. Iron knife, with remnants of the horn or wood grip surviving on the tang. Typical Saxon form (not closely dateable). Fig 5.
- 10 S24. Iron knife, with remnants of the ?horn grip on the tang, and remnants of the ? leather scabbard on the blade. Typical Saxon form (not closely dateable). Fig 5.
- 11 S15. Iron object consisting of two thin pieces, joined at one end and each tapering towards the other end. Traces of wood, some threads and possibly some leather were present. Perhaps attached to a belt (see item 2) but purpose unknown. Fig 5.
- 12 S15. Iron pin, length 23mm (in two pieces), diameter less than 1mm. Purpose unknown. Fig 5.
- 13 105. Iron object, consisting of a square-sectioned rod tapering at both ends to a point, and attached to an iron collar near its mid-point. A thin sheet of copper alloy is plated to the iron collar. The end of the rod enclosed by the collar has wood still attached to it, and was presumably a tang attached to a wooden shaft, the whole forming, perhaps, a type of ferrule. The suggestion has been made above that the arms of S28 are arranged as if to grasp a wooden shaft, but if this is the ferrule to that, then it had become displaced as it was found in the grave fill 15-20cm above S28. Fig 5.
- 14 S4. Double sided comb, perhaps made from antler and consisting of three pieces - a flat central piece, out of which the teeth were cut, and two D-sectioned pieces secured either side of the

central piece by iron rivets. A line of dot-in-circle motifs was present, though rather eroded, on one of the side plates. The minimum length of the comb was 145mm. Fig 3.

- 15 S14. Bead necklace, see APPENDIX 1.
- 16 S15. Supposed glass fragment, subsequent examination suggested it was a flake of varnish, perhaps from a trowel handle.
- 17 S19. Fragment of clear, very pale green glass approx. 1mm thick and quite flat. Undateable.
- 18 Panther cowrie shell, see APPENDIX 2. Pl 23.
- 19 1974 find. Iron spearhead with thin lentoid blade widening to a rounded cleft socket. Total length 415mm, including the socket, the cleft length of which is 66mm. No decoration visible. Swanton (1974) type C3, examples of which are mostly of 7th century date. Fig 5.

Catalogue of human remains

by Tony Waldron

This catalogue indicates the state of preservation of each inhumation and gives an estimation of the total amount of the skeleton present. The age, sex and height of each skeleton are given where these could be determined; the method used in each case is shown in parentheses. Each estimate of height is accompanied by its standard error.

1. Bones not examined (retained by Police pathologist).

2. Substantially intact skeleton but with a considerable amount of post-mortem damage. Contains part of intrusive adult mandible and maxilla (age 25-35 from dental wear) which could perhaps be derived from inhumation 3.

Female (pelvis, skull)

25-35 (dental wear)

1.72 +/- 0.0373 (right femur)

4. Largely intact but lacks both clavicles, sternum, lower cervical vertebrae, sacrum, both patellae and many small bones of hands and feet;  $\approx$  75%.

Male (pelvis, skull)

15-25 (epiphyseal fusion, dental wear)

5. Partial and damaged skeleton represented by skull and mandibular fragments, parts of both clavicles, fragment of left scapula, some rib fragments, mid-shaft fragment of left humerus, part of left pelvis, distal end of left radius, head and mid-shaft fragment of right femur and some small bones of the hands.

Probably male (femoral head diameter)

25-35 (dental wear)

6. Incomplete skeleton represented by skull fragments and most of mandible, distal part of left humerus, proximal part of left ulna, mid-shaft fragments of right ulna and both radii, fragments of both clavicles, fragments of lower lumbar vertebrae, parts of pelvis, proximal fragments of both femora and mid-shaft fragments of both tibiae.

Male (pelvis, skull)

45+ (dental wear)

7. Partial juvenile skeleton including almost complete skull and mandible, right scapula, fragments of clavicles, vertebrae, ribs, both humeri and both femora.

6-8 (dental eruption)

8. Substantially complete skeleton but with much post-mortem damage. Most of skull is missing and most of both feet;  $\leq$  85%.

Male (pelvis)

25-35 (pubic symphysis, dental wear)

1.70 +/- 0.0327 (left femur)

9. Much damaged but virtually complete. Lacks sternum, right fibula, both feet and some small bones of the hands;  $\leq$  85%.

Male (pelvis)

35-45 (pubic symphysis, dental wear)

1.73 +/- 0.0432 (left ulna)

10. Virtually intact but with some post-mortem breaks;  $\leq$  95%.

Male (pelvis)

35-45 (dental wear)

1.67 +/- 0.0299 (left femur + tibia)

11. Fragmentary skeleton represented by some skull fragments, mandible, first and second to sixth cervical vertebrae, fragments of lower thoracic and lumbar vertebrae, fragments of clavicles, ribs, right humerus, radius and ulna, four metacarpals, two proximal phalanges of the hand and a capitate.

Probably male (skull)

25-35 (dental wear)

12. Much damaged skeleton lacking most of pelvis, left patella, both fibulae, distal parts of both tibiae, both feet, sacrum, and some bones of the hands;  $\leq$  66%.

Male (pelvis, skull)

25-35 (dental wear)

1.76 +/- 0.0327 (both femora)

13. Incomplete and damaged. Lacks both patellae, sternum and most of the bones of the hands and feet;  $\leq$  75%.

Female (pelvis, skull)

45+ (dental wear)

14. Juvenile skeleton represented by most of the skull (badly damaged) and fragments of left clavicle, both humeri, radii and ulnae, proximal ends of both femora, mid-shaft fragments of both tibiae and fibulae, fragments of vertebrae, ribs and pelvis and by some metacarpals and phalanges of the hands.

6-8 (dental eruption)

15. Virtually intact but badly damaged skeleton lacking sternum and some bones of the hands and feet;  $\leq 90\%$ .

Male (pelvis, skull)

15-25 (dental wear)

1.72 +/- 0.0299 (left femur + tibia)

16. Fragments of adult left femur.

17. Juvenile skeleton represented by skull vault, maxilla and part of mandible with some long bone fragments.

4-6 (dental eruption)

18. Fragmentary and much damaged skeleton represented by fragments of skull, mandible, first cervical and lower lumbar vertebrae with fragments of lower thoracic, fragments of sacrum and pelvis, distal portion of left humerus and mid-shaft fragment of right, proximal portions of left radius and ulna, distal end of right radius, right ulna, proximal portion of right femur, mid-shaft fragments of left femur and both tibiae and some bones of left hand.

Male (pelvis)

45+ (dental wear)

19. Substantial but damaged skeleton lacking sternum, both patellae and some bones of the hands and feet;  $\leq 90\%$ .

Male (pelvis, skull)

35-45 (dental wear)

1.76 +/- 0.0337 (left tibia)

20. Virtually complete skeleton with some post-mortem breaks. Lacks both patellae and some bones of the hands and feet;  $\leq 95\%$ .

Male (pelvis, skull)

15-25 (epiphyseal fusion, pubic symphysis)

1.78 +/- 0.0299 (both femora + tibiae)

21. Incomplete and much damaged skeleton. Lacks sternum, sacrum and all bones below mid femur;  $\leq 50\%$ .

Male (pelvis, skull)

25-35 (dental wear)

1.75 +/- 0.0405 (left humerus)

22. Partial skeleton lacking much of axial skeleton, sternum, both patellae and some bones of the hands and feet. Skull is found in context 100.

Female (pelvis, skull)

35-45 (dental wear)

1.52 +/- 0.0355 (both femora + tibiae)

23. Partial and damaged skeleton lacking right clavicle, upper cervical, lower thoracic and lumbar vertebrae, sacrum, right pelvis, right patella and some bones of the hands and feet; c 66%.

Male (pelvis, skull)

45+ (dental wear)

1.71 +/- 0.0299 (left femur + tibia)

24. Incomplete and badly damaged skeleton; c 85%.

Male (pelvis, skull)

45+ (dental wear)

1.74 +/- 0.0329 (right femur)

25. Partial, damaged skeleton represented by skull and mandibular fragments, first three cervical vertebrae, proximal fragment of left femur, proximal fragment of left clavicle, mid-shaft ulnar fragment and some rib fragments.

Probably female (skull)

25-35 (dental wear)

26. Incomplete juvenile skeleton represented by skull vault, scaphoid, fragments of mandible and fragments of ribs, vertebrae, sacrum and some long bones.

4-6 (dental eruption)

27. Adult leg bones only. Mid-shaft fragment of left femur, proximal portion of left tibia with mid-shaft fragment of left fibula and fragments of left calcaneum and talus. Proximal fragment of right tibia, mid-shaft fragment of right fibula, right patella and right first metatarsal.

28. Incomplete and much damaged skeleton lacking left clavicle, sternum, left pelvis, both patellae and many bones of the hands and feet; c 66%.

Male (skull)

45+ (dental wear)

1.83 +/- 0.0405 (left humerus)

29. Lower legs from an immature individual. Mid-shaft fragments of left tibia and fibula, left talus and calcaneum. Right femur, tibia and calcaneum.

15-25 (epiphyseal fusion)

30. Fragmentary adult skeleton represented by proximal right radius and left ulna, fragments of femur, sacrum, vertebrae, ribs and pelvis.

31. Mid-shaft fragment of adult femur.

32. Proximal ends of adult left radius and ulna and distal end of left humerus.

33. Fragments of adult scapula and femur.

100. At least two individuals including skull and mandible almost certainly belonging to inh 22. Also contains fragment of maxilla, mid-shaft fragments of left and right tibiae, and left and right femora, left and right humeri, right radius and left ulna, rib and vertebral fragments, fragment of pelvis and sacrum, six metacarpals, ten phalanges of the hand, two first metatarsals (not a pair), seven other metatarsals and two phalanges of the foot.

45+ (dental wear on maxillary teeth)

101. One lower molar which does not belong to inh 9 or inh 10. Two sheep teeth.

102. Fragments of pelvis. Could belong to inh 25.

104. Fragments of right ulna, scapular fragment, distal end of left femur and both tibiae, proximal ends of two metatarsals and one middle phalanx of the hand.

105. Proximal portion of right femur (diameter of head = 47 mm; probably male), left patella, proximal ends of both clavicles and distal end of left, first and fifth and sixth cervical vertebrae, fragment of scapula, navicular, one metatarsal, two metacarpals, one proximal phalanx of hand and foot, rib, vertebral and long bone fragments.

110. Proximal portion of left femur (diameter of head = 47 mm; probably male), fragment of canine tooth and rib and long bone fragments. Possibly bones from same individual as in 105.

Catalogue of pathological changes in the skeletons

by Tony Waldron

This catalogue should be read in conjunction with M39-M43 which shows the extent of the skeleton and its condition.

6. Osteophytes (grade 2) on fourth lumbar vertebra and new bone around the margin of the sacro-iliac joints.

8. Degenerative disc disease between third and fourth cervical vertebrae and between fifth lumbar vertebra and first sacral segment.

9. Lamina of fifth lumbar vertebra unfused. Although the sacrum was damaged and only the first two segments were present, there was evidence that these were also unfused and the skeleton therefore shows a spina bifida.

10. 1. Ante-mortem tooth loss and dental caries. 2. Heterotopic maxillary canine teeth. 3. Right tibia about 20 mm shorter than the left and rather more slender. The talus is fused to the tibia and the superior joint surface of the calcaneum is abnormal. The precise explanation for these changes is unclear but the shortening of the tibia may have been due to poliomyelitis; the fusion of the tibio-talar joint may be secondary to trauma or to infection.

12. Some new bone on the pelvic surface of the right sacro-iliac joint.

13. 1. Ante-mortem tooth loss. 2. Osteoarthritis of the spine affecting both facet joints between the second and third, third and fourth and fifth and sixth cervical vertebrae. 3. Degenerative disc disease between the fourth, fifth and sixth cervical vertebrae.

18. Spondylolysis of the fifth lumbar vertebra.

20. 1. Spondylolysis of fifth lumbar vertebra on left hand side only. There is also some evidence of degenerative disc disease between the fifth lumbar vertebra and the first sacral segment. 2. Schmorl's nodes on the seventh thoracic to fourth lumbar vertebrae. 3. Osteochondritis dissecans on superior joint surfaces of both calcanea.

21. Fracture of left clavicle in mid-shaft. The fracture is well healed with some

forward displacement of the proximal fragment and some shortening.

23. Ante-mortem tooth loss.

28. 1. Fracture of right clavicle in lateral quarter. Well healed with some angulation. 2. Degenerative disc disease between fifth and sixth cervical vertebrae. 3. Osteophytes on eight to eleventh thoracic vertebrae. 4. Schmorl's nodes on tenth and eleventh thoracic and third lumbar vertebrae.

100. Ante-mortem tooth loss.

105. Osteoarthritis of spine, sterno-clavicular and acromio-clavicular joints. Proliferation of new bone on odontoid peg and pitting and new bone formation around left hand facet joint between second and third cervical vertebrae. Left hand facet joint between fifth and sixth cervical vertebrae is also affected and the bodies of these two vertebrae are fused. Proximal ends of both clavicles and distal end of left also show arthritic change.

Table 2

Age and sex of skeletons from the Goblin Works, Ashteada: Pagan burials

	Male	Female	Unknown
4-6			2
6-8			2
15-25	2		
25-35		2	
35-45	1		
45+	3	1	

b: Uncertain provenance

15-25	1		
25-35		1	1
35-45		1	
Unknown		1	8

c: Executed

25-35	3		
35-45	1		
45+	2		

d: Probably executed

15-25	1		
25-35	1		
35-45	1		
Unknown	1		

Table 3

Heights of skeletons from Goblin Works, Ashteada: Pagan burials

Male

Female

1.71

1.72

1.74

1.76

1.83

1.72

b: Uncertain provenance

1.78

1.52

c: Executed

1.70

1.73

1.75

d: Probably executed

1.67

1.76

IDENTIFICATION OF BEADS FROM S14 AND A SHELL FROM S4  
by M E Hutchinson

Seven beads were submitted. They were examined under low power microscope and were so characteristic of their materials that no further tests were really needed. However, the identification of the amethyst beads was confirmed by a hardness test, to demonstrate that they were not fluorite. Amethyst is a mauve to purple variety of crystalline quartz found in many places, including Britain. The shell beads were taken to the British Museum (Natural History) to have their identification checked as it had been called in question. A cowrie shell from another grave was also identified there.

The Beads

Stone Bead no 1. GW 85 S14. K 860159.  
Maximum length: 22.9mm (broken at the pointed end)  
Maximum width: 13.6mm  
Weight: 2.87g  
Material: amethyst.

Stone Bead no 2. GW 85 S14. K860159  
Maximum length: 21.8mm  
Maximum width: 12.2mm  
Weight: 3.92g  
Material: amethyst.

Glass Bead no 3. GW 85 S14. K860159  
Maximum length: 4.9mm  
Maximum width: 13.3mm  
Weight: 1.14g  
Material: glass, pale green.

Glass Bead no 4. GW 85 S14. K860159  
Maximum length: 14.3mm  
Maximum width: 16.3mm  
Weight: 4.69g  
Material: glass, blue with red spots, one spot missing.

Bead no 5. GW 85 S14. K860159  
Maximum length: 13.0mm  
Maximum width: 11.0mm  
Weight: 1.30g  
Material: shell, probably cowrie. \*

Bead no 6. GW 85 S14. K860159  
Maximum length: 8.4mm  
Maximum width: 7.7mm  
Weight: 1.01g  
Material: shell, probably cowrie. \*

Maximum length: 5.8mm  
Maximum width: 9.7mm  
Weight: 0.49g  
Material: shell, probably cowrie. \*

\* Identification confirmed by Dr J D Taylor, Dept of Zoology, British Museum (Natural History).

Acknowledgments. I wish to acknowledge assistance from Martin Read (HBMC funded conservator), Robert Poulton (excavator) and John Taylor (BM (Nat Hist)) in writing this report.