

VOLUME 8i FIELD REPORT FOR THE FAR EAST SECTOR INT 52

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1. SUMMARY (A.Copp)

The excavation of Int. 52 succeeded in mapping the Horizon 2 features. The crucial western edge of the Group 1 cemetery was unequivocally defined together with a curious palisade setting which might also be Early Medieval. Within the fill of the palisade was a single organic stain: such stains are common elements within the Early Medieval graves and quarry pits and moreover the character of the backfill in the palisade could also be matched more closely with the backfill observed in the graves rather than any prehistoric feature.

The focus of the prehistoric map moved away from the small of the Early Medieval period toward the north end of the trench where a series of ditches ran into and through the intervention. The definition of these features was generally adequate in order to map their alignment but ambiguity exists along F58. Generally the identity of the features could have been improved by greater attention. For example, an experienced excavator may have been able to identify the features which are likely to be 'natural'.

2. STRATEGY (A. Copp)

2.1 Aims and Objectives.

The excavation of Int. 52 was undertaken during a short season of work, incorporating a training excavation, between mid March and mid April 1991. The three weeks of the training excavation were supervised by MRH, AJC and LAP, with a small group of students from York providing the manpower. After the end of the training session, AJC and LAP remained on site a further three weeks to complete the excavation of the Early Medieval features and backfill the trench with a JCB.

Int. 52 was a continuation of the eastern arm of Int. 50 beyond the inner scheduled area of Zone A, across the modern farm track and into Zone F (N558/5). The trench was positioned along the N-S axis of the farm track and was adjacent, although slightly staggered against two large areas that had already been stripped, mapped and excavated at the start of the project (Int. 32 and Int. 38). The trench covered an area 8 x 32m. Before the excavation the farm track was re-routed to the east over the extant turf crop.

The track surface was composed of a grading of loose pebbles previously collected off the fields during harvesting and periodically relaid along the farm tracks infilling the shallow ruts. Beneath the graded material lay a compact deposit of ploughsoil, slightly shallower in depth than the soil out in the field and under the soil lay a familiar sandy subsoil surface, named Horizon 2, which provided the canvas for the feature definition. On either side of the track surface lay stretches of turf cultivated from seed which, on the eastern side, had been husbanded and manicured into a cash crop.

Int. 52 was joined to the area excavations of Int. 50 and Int. 32/38/39 and therefore completed the eastern side of the proposed cruciform transect set out in the Research Design (Carver 1989, fig 11). This small area of 256m² was however central in mapping the boundary of the Early Medieval burials uncovered in Int. 32, since no graves had been discovered on the eastern side of Int. 50 to match the scatter of graves on the corresponding western side of Int. 32. From a prehistoric research standpoint, it was also important to complete the mapping of the linear features that were converging from Int. 32 and Int. 50, and in general to characterise the feature population. Finally, with the sections cut back against the trench edge, it would be possible to complete the major east-west section line which ran across Zone A from Top Hat Wood on the western margins across into the field on the east side. From a management perspective the excavation also provided an opportunity to measure the impact of the current farm operations on the archaeological deposits. This excavation was the first investigation of any archaeological deposits at Sutton Hoo lying beneath a graded farm track.

2.2 Operations Undertaken and 2.3 Data Acquisition Levels

Prior to stripping there were no evaluation surveys conducted specifically over the surface of Int. 52, although various bites of survey work did coincidentally fall within the area (metal detector survey [Int. 27]: fieldwalking [Int. 19]: vegetation survey [Int. 18]: contour survey [Int. 30]). None of the results from this work is presented in this report.

The area of the track was marked with traffic cones and an alternative route signalled across part of the turf, as agreed with the farmer (Mr Waring).

The track make-up was removed by machine (level A) shovel scraped (level B), cleaned by trowel (Level D) and recorded in a single horizon, Horizon 2. Graves and other suspected EM features were dug at Level E.

2.4 *Modifications to Strategy.*

None

2.5 **Analyses Undertaken**

[by reference to paragraph number]

2.1 Location of Int 52

3.3 Quadrants

3.5 Map of Horizon 2, all features

3.6.1 Grave depth and body height within the burials

4 Model of the sequence

7.1 Plan of burials 35-39 [NB: same scale as Int 32]

7.1.1 - 7.1.5 Burials 35-39: plans and sections

7.2 Post-in-trench foundation F27, F79-83. Plan and sections

3. **DATA ACQUIRED** (A.Copp)

3.1 *Procedures*

Normal

3.2 *Pre-excavation surface and sub-surface surveys*

None (see 2.2)

3.3 *Horizon Definition and Recording* Pre-Horizon 2

Stripping the farm track down to Horizon 2 was carried out mechanically using a JCB under close supervision. In the first sweep the layer of pebbles (Context 1000) which had formed the core of the graded track were removed (**N560/13A**), then the ploughsoil (1001) was removed to a depth just above the subsoil (**N560/14A**). In the final operation the JCB employed the flat and shallow ditching bucket on the back-actor to clean back the disturbed surface (**N560/17A**). During the mechanical operations the site was separated east-west into two halves and the spoil from each end was taken and dumped c 10.00m beyond the excavation on the surface of the redundant track. Once the machine had finished the southern side of the excavation was subject to two coarse trowellings which removed any surviving ploughsoil and provided a 'soft landing' onto the subsoil surface of Horizon 2 (**N566/5**). On the northern side only one coarse trowelling was required.

The Horizon 2 surface was generally flat, and against the yellow orange subsoil the feature fills were generally well defined. The actual depth of soil removed varied between each side of the trench. Along the eastern edge only 0.22m of ploughsoil had been removed but on the opposite side this increased to 0.40m. At the site co-ordinate 199/175, on the western side the turf surface reached a maximum height of 33.50m AOD (values for depth are taken from the drawn section, see D81 and D82). During the stripping and preliminary trowelling a total of only 24 finds were recovered and all were from the ploughsoil (1001). The Horizon 2 surface was subdivided into a number of quadrants in order to control the recording procedure. The quadrants were labelled A-H with each quadrant covering an area of 4x8m (*Atlas*). Supervision of the recording operations (quadrant clearing, photography, mapping) was initially controlled by AJC but passed to MRH after Quadrant B was complete and AJC switched over to feature excavation.

3.4 -

3.5 *Definition and recording at Horizon 2*

The details of the recording procedures for each quadrant have been outlined elsewhere (Copp in section 3 of Vol. 4). The only slight amendment actually followed the current fashion on Int. 50 where the quadrants were photographed in pairs rather than individually. All the shots were taken from the tower sitting at the northern side of each quadrant (Table 1). Only selected features were excavated - those with a potential Early Medieval date - which limited the choice in practice to the subrectangular features that were potential graves. Thus the remainder of the population of features were just mapped and given a generic identity. In a few instances it was possible to observe the stratigraphic ordering of overlapping features. Bearing this in mind, it is obvious that the written/drawn archive for this intervention is rather bare since only a minority of the features were investigated, but the minimum record for each observed entity, whether it is a feature or context, is a plan (1:10), a photograph (A4 quadrant) and an identity. One aspect of the recording worth noting is the labelling of features across quadrant boundaries. At the time Int. 52 was dug long linear features were allocated only single feature numbers irrespective of whether they crossed quadrant boundaries (cf Int. 41 where each stretch of a linear feature was described by a new feature number in each quadrant). Indeed, the long sinuous ploughmarks F1, 2 and 3 running down the east side of Int. 52 kept their original feature number even though they were interrupted by stretches of barren subsoil. In each quadrant the subsoil surface was allocated a new context number.

The normal routine of cleaning and recording the horizon surface in each quadrant was interrupted by difficult working conditions prevailing in early spring - rain, wind and a low sun. The effect on Quadrants E and F was not insignificant where the horizon surface was cleared twice, causing vertical and horizontal truncation which altered the shape of some features. For example, the width of the shallow ditches F28 and F38 was reduced by the second cleaning. Quadrants G and H were also cleaned a second time for their definition, although here the second cleaning was required to clarify the stratigraphic order of a busy area covered by a palimpsest of linear features.

A total of 83 features and just under 100 contexts were used to describe the archaeological deposits of Int. 52 (Tables 2-4). Apart from one exception, all the features describe shapes seen either on the Horizon 2 surface or later during the selective excavation. Seventy-one of the features (85.5% total population) were on the horizon surface and 12 were (14.5%) 'beneath' the surface (Table 5). Only in one instance were feature numbers employed to describe an operation during excavation, in this case during the excavation of a short palisade trench, F27, Features 76 and 78 were given to various recording stages of the trench. Including these features a total of only twenty-one were excavated (25.3%), therefore the majority - 62 - were left unexcavated (74.7%). The identities of these unexcavated features remains equivocal. In Table 6 the structure of the feature population has been grouped by type. One anomalous feature is F40 a ?Posthole; this feature does not appear on any of the drawn plans and the only record of its shape is a sketch in the supervisor's notebook for Quadrant F. This feature was recognised after the first horizon cleaning of Quadrants E and F but did not survive the second cleaning.

In order to discuss the character of the archaeological deposits the features have been classified according to a crude chronological framework - Post-Medieval, Early Medieval and Prehistoric. Conveniently, this framework also separates those features that were dug from the majority that were left unexcavated. Division of features into this broad framework was achieved through stratigraphic observation and excavation. Unfortunately, again the majority of features were both isolated and unexcavated and in these cases the features have been placed under a prehistoric 'catch-all' category which also includes any features suspected of a 'natural' identity (eg F26). The correspondence between different feature numbers describing the same feature within different interventions is tabulated (Table 7).

3.6.1 *Definition and Recording of Early Medieval Burials and other features*

A total of 22 features (26.5%) was eventually recognised as belonging to the Early Medieval period (Table 9), and included suspected postholes and trenches as well as burials containing body stains. Initially, nine features were identified as potential graves (F4, 23, 25, 26, 27, 35, 36, 37 and 66), seven of these were investigated since they lay completely within the intervention. Five genuine graves were

discovered. F26 and 27 were found not to be graves, once fully excavated. F26 was identified as a feature of 'natural' origin (see 5.1), but F27 was a rather unusual feature - a short palisade slot belonging to this period.

F27 (see Table 17 for a complete photographic list): this was the last feature to be investigated. Both the shape of the feature and the character of the backfill, which contained a predominant red-brown sandy fill with lumps of concreted subsoil and dumps of clean sand, strongly suggested the presence of a 'long' rather unusual grave and, even at Stage 2, this identification seemed to be confirmed by the discovery of a lump of organic matter sitting within the fill (F77, Find 157), (**N590/15A**). However, after Stage 2 the cut of the feature extended further east and the full extension was described as F76. The new elongated shape of the feature was drawn and then annotated onto the horizon map. Cutting into this slot at Stage 3 were a series of 5 postholes (F79-83) variously separated by berms of subsoil or backfill (the dimensions of each posthole are given in Table 10, (**N590/19A**). None of the postholes contained evidence of a post pipe and only F82 1097 contained charcoal flecks, (these flecks were retrieved as potential candidates for a C14 assay). F27 is also known as Structure 6, since it contained a batch of features, F76-83 (**N593/10**).

Out of the reduced list of seven potential graves, two remain unexcavated - F23 and F66. These features continued beyond the edge of the trench and in both cases only the extreme north-western ends were exposed in plan. Identification of these features as graves was based solely on the shape and projected orientation of the stain. The lack of a corresponding stain on the western side of Int. 38 corresponding to F66 does not invalidate this proposal since Int. 38 has suffered from inconsistent mapping/recording.

Five genuine graves were excavated (see Table 11). These were given structure numbers during the excavation and subsequently they have also been allocated a unique Burial Number. All the graves were excavated and recorded according to procedures developed and adapted from Int. 32 and 41 (see Vols. 4 and 8ii, section 3). The written and drawn records of the Burials have been tabulated (Tables 12 and 13), together with a list of the attributes and dimensions of each Burial (Tables 14 and 15 respectively), the sampling targets (Table 16) and the photographic records (Table 17).

The five Burials are not a large population, and therefore any similarities which can be drawn between them must be treated with a degree of caution but, allowing for this, certain physical patterns were discerned. On practical grounds there is a direct correlation between the body posture and the portion of the body that is initially contacted during the excavation. Where the body lies in an extended or slightly flexed position on its back (Burials 35 and 37) the initial body contact is with the head. If the body posture is more eccentric, for example in the crouched or kneeling burials (Burials 36, 38 and 39), then the feet or arms were the first contact item. In the rather extreme example of Burial 38, the body lay in a 'dead fly' position and the head was the last item of the body to be discovered.

These eccentric burials varied widely in depth but if the body was either flexed or extended the graves were comparable in depth and the bodies were also covered by a similar height of backfill down to the first contact point on the body (Burial 35: 0.28m, Burial 37: 0.25m) In contrast, in the eccentric burials the bodies were not buried as deeply (Burials 38 and 39 only 0.20m) and in the extreme case of Burial 37, the body was actually visible on the Horizon 2 surface. A similar division was noticed in the shape of the cut of the grave where the eccentric Burials were shorter and contained irregular/sloping floors, compared to the regular proportioned graves of the flexed/extended Burials.

Few patterns can be drawn from the physical attributes of the body stains. The presence or absence of bonemeal within the body stain, whether visible on the surface or during dismantling, seems to vary locally within each grave. Generally, depending on the size and robustness of the bone, bone survival is potentially best against the floor of a grave. Tiny rootlets penetrating the fabric of the body stain were also reported and it may be no coincidence that the only body where these rootlets were recorded, Burial 35, lay in the grave furthest west and just on the edge of Zone A. The other graves lay beneath the track/modern ploughsoil zone and none of these bodies was skewered with rootlets. Moreover, in Burial 35 it was only the western side of the body that contained these rootlets and this Burial may actually cut across an environmental/chemical boundary that is currently affecting the preservation and presentation of the bodystain.

Two of the Early Medieval burials (Burial 37; Burial 38) and the palisade slot F27/76 contained 'extra' organic stains. Within Burial 37 and the palisade gully F27/76 these stains were described separately on their own feature card, F73 and 77 respectively, but the additional stain from Burial 38 was not given a separate identity or description, and indeed the only record of its existence is on the colour coded plan D62.

All of these 'extra' stains are small, isolated and unarticulated. Two of the stains were dark red brown in colour - F73 and 77 (Find 59 and 157 respectively) and were lifted complete. These were recognised by the excavators as body remains, although this does not necessarily imply they are of human origin. In contrast, the long linear stain from Burial 38 (F35) discovered at spit 3, (0.50 x 0.30m), was a distinct grey/black colour with a loose texture (**N590/5A**). This object could not be retrieved as a separate entity and consequently it was destroyed as the fill was excavated onto the deck of the next spit; this object could be a piece of wood.

Another characteristic of all these stains is that they all occur within the middle of the backfill and regularly lie on the south side of the cut irrespective of whether it is a grave or a palisade. The long wooden object from Burial 38 lay immediately above the left arm and was aligned along the same axis as the body; F73 lay right up against the edge of the grave; although there was no articulated body in the palisade gully F27, the excavator suggested the stain was not dissimilar in shape and size from a human knee bone (patella).

The evidence demonstrating trauma in the ritual of the burial does not come directly from marks or objects on or around the bodies themselves, indeed, apart from one exception, there is no sign of restriction or torture. Even the body which had been decapitated (Burial 35) does not necessarily fit into the category of execution, since the head may have been removed after death. Rather, if we look at all the burials in this small sample, it is the character of the small population which implies ritual trauma. Within the group all the burial postures are unique. Perhaps the three most unusual burials were the group of bodies lying in a crouched position - Burials 36, 38 and 39. Here the burial posture was extreme with the body not filling the available space in the grave. In these burials, the body had either been jammed into the grave very tightly (Burial 36) or the body gave the appearance of being 'dumped' at the western end of a larger grave (Burial 38 and 39). In the case of Burial 39 it almost appeared as if the incumbent had been dispatched by a blow on the head and was then pitched backward into the rough grave.

3.7-3.9 -

3.10 *Assemblage* (M. Hummler)

The majority of the finds (216 records in total listed in the Finds' Index, summarised in Table 18) derive from the dismantling of Early Medieval burials: indeed, 176 finds records stem from Burial features F4, F25, F34-37, F71-75. They consist mostly of organic remains of human bodies (75 finds), human bone (47 finds), soil and charcoal samples (9 records). Redeposited in these burials were also 24 fragments of flint waste, 18 burnt flints and 3 sherds of pottery (2 unidentified and 1 Bronze Age sherd from F37).

The palisade trench F27 and associated postholes F76-83 yielded no actual finds, apart from organic matter and 7 soil samples.

Since none of the prehistoric features were excavated, the prehistoric finds' yield is poor: the clearing of topsoil 1001 over the whole intervention produced only 24 finds (11 flint waste and 1 flint scraper, 5 fragments of burnt flint, 5 sherds of pottery (1 tile, 1 unidentified, 3 in Bronze Age fabric), a rabbit bone and a fragment of daub).

The excavation of the bush-pit F26 produced 4 fragments of burnt flint, 2 flint flakes and a soil sample.

Finally, F59 - a "hearth" defined on the Horizon 2 surface cut by ditch F63 and in line with the NE-SW ditch F58 - was sampled for charcoal with a view to submit the sample for C14 analysis. This

sample was not selected for dating.

4. MODELLING THE SEQUENCE (M. Hummler)

83 features were defined on the surface of Int. 52. As only Early Medieval graves or features suspected to be graves were excavated, the phasing of Int. 52 relies heavily on geometric associations with adjacent interventions, Int.50 to the West (Vol. 7) and Int. 20/32 and 38 to the East (Vol. 8ii).

Earliest in the sequence are two sets of two parallel ditches: F57 and F58 on the one hand, F28 and F38 on the other. In both cases they can be shown to belong to the same system of double ditches encountered in Interventions 32 and 50. F57 and F58, 2.50 - 3m apart, run NE-SW and are equated with F182 and F155 of Int. 50. The latter was excavated at its south-western end in the South of Int. 50, at its junction with the main Early Bronze Age W-E ditch F62. The parallel ditches were shown to have been laid out at the same time, in phase 2, still within the Early Bronze Age (see Vol. 7, section 5.2). Ditches F28 and F38, 2.50m apart, run NW-SE and are equated with F133 and F135 of Int. 32, thought to belong to the Early Bronze Age and cut by all later boundaries (see Vol. 8ii, section 5.2). Int. 52 transects the junction of the two sets of parallel ditches: there is a gap of 3.50m in the angle formed by the two sets, possibly deliberate as there is a concentration of 19 postholes in that zone, parallel to F57 (postholes F42, F45-47, F50-54, F56, F60-62, F67-70). The 3.50m gap would be sufficient for a passage or entrance structure between two sets of banks assumed to have stood in the interval between the "palisade" trenches or ditches. But the sets of parallel ditches may have once been joined, the gap being caused by attrition of the subsoil and by our Second Definition trowelling of Quadrants E-F, which nearly obliterated feature definition (compare the horizon photographs **N573/1-2** after first definition with horizon photograph **N573/9-10** after second definition).

Next in stratigraphic order comes a short stretch of WNW-ESE ditch, F63, cutting the earlier double ditch system and cut by the anti-glider ditch F64 (=F220 of Int. 32). This ditch may continue eastwards in Int. 38, where it meets ditch F130 at right angles. By extension, it is possible that ditch F63 belongs to the "Iron Age" system of boundaries.

The 5 burials encountered in Int. 52 (Burials 35-39), all more or less oriented W-E, form the western limits of the group 1 cemetery which contains a further 18 burials further East in Int. 32 (Burials 17-34). For Int. 52, Burial 35 provided a C14 date between 650 and 995 AD (see section 7, this vol. and vol.8ii by Martin Carver). The Early Medieval date assigned to the "palisade" slot F27 seems more doubtful (see below).

Finally, modern features are confined to N-S ploughmarks along the line of the track and the NW-SE anti-glider ditch traced over Interventions 52, 38, 32 and 39 (see section 8, this vol.).

5. SELECTED STUDIES: The Prehistoric Period (A.Copp, M. Hummler)

No feature or feature set in Int. 52 warrants specialist study, as the double ditch boundaries F57/58 and F28/38 are the subject of specialist studies in Vol. 7 (section 5.2, Int. 50) and Vol. 8ii (section 5.2, Int. 20/32).

This section contains a few notes and observations on miscellaneous features, possibly prehistoric, excavated within Int. 52, namely *bush-pit F26* and the "*palisade*" slot F27/76-83.

Bush-pit F26 (N573/5, 6 : N574/1, 3, 7, 9): the subrectangular shape, size and orientation of this feature on the Horizon 2 surface raised a strong suspicion that this was a 'short' grave, similar in size to the graves around the central area of the trench. Unfortunately, it was clear at the end of the second spit when only 0.20m of backfill had been removed that the feature had been completed. Clean, in situ, subsoil could be followed across the floor of the feature which was 1.00m long and 0.4m wide. The fill had contained no recognisable organic residue and the description of the fill ('grey silt') and the presence of burrows suggests it is a feature of 'natural' origin, possibly a bush pit.

The palisade slot F27 is described by AJ Copp in section 7.2 of this volume, as he believes it to be of Early Medieval rather than of prehistoric date; the grounds for doing so are its position and orientation as well as the fact that a small piece of organic matter, possibly belonging to a human body (F77, see section 3.6, this vol.) was found within it. It is certainly possible that this short slot is Early Medieval, but it is equally possible that it is prehistoric. If the latter, then an Iron Age position in the sequence might be possible, as it is parallel to F63 and at right angles to ditch F130 of Int. 32.

6.SELECTED STUDIES: The Roman Period

[None]

7.SELECTED STUDIES: The Early Medieval Period (M. Carver)

7.1 Burials

Burials 35-39, summarised below, are part of the group 1 cemetery, consisting in total of 23 burials, 18 of which were found within Int. 32 (see Vol. 8ii). All group 1 burials, including those of Int. 52, are reported upon and commented in Vol. 8ii, section 7. The entries below are an extract from the Vol 8ii report, summarising those burials and other Early Medieval features relevant to Int. 52.

7.2 Burials in Int. 52 [Group 1]

| | | | |
|-------------------|---|--------------|--------------------|
| 7.2.1 | | BURIAL 35 | |
| Int 52 | | 1991 | A J Copp |
| Grid: | 200 144 | | |
| GRAVE: | F4 | Fill: 1005 | Orientation: W-E |
| High point: | 32.72m AOD | Max. length: | 1.77m |
| Low point: | 32.19m AOD | Max. width: | 0.77m |
| Min. depth: | 0.53m | Area: | 1.36m ² |
| BODY: | F34 (1039) | | |
| Length: | 1.87m, restoring head. 1.62m without head | | |
| Posture: | Extended, lying on back, decapitated, head placed on right arm. | | |
| Identified Bones: | | | |
| 87 | L. temporal bone | | |
| 88 | Fragment of mandible | | |
| 70 | L. humerus | | |
| 71 | R. innominate | | |
| 96 | R. Femur | | |
| 97 | R. tibia | | |
| 72 | L. tibia | | |
| 83 | L. tibia | | |
| 73 | R. cuboid | | |
| 75 | R. calcaneum | | |
| 74 | R. talus | | |
| 81 | L. talus | | |
| 82 | L. calcaneum | | |

C 14 - Doubtful if there is sufficient material [650-955 AD]

Anatomy: Young adult (robust) 18-21 years old.

Excavation

The grave shape was reasonably well defined after the preparation of Horizon 2 [N568/14], although the eastern end was not clear at spit 1 or spit 2 [N560/22a]. A standard cumulative section was used [N560/23a]. Although traces of body were contacted at spit 3, the definition of the body (F4) began at spit 4 [N574/2].

The posture of the body was very clear [N573/12]. It was lying on its back; the patella was still in place over the left knee. Backfill 1005 was completely removed by the excavator, leaving a near perfect account of the body remains as 1039 (F34). However, there was no surface bone encountered, and little more was encountered in the samples into which the sand body was broken (described by F Lee as "poor; fragment of left side of skull and fragments of upper and lower limbs"). Since preservation of skulls is always better for the lowest side, this confirms the excavator's opinion that the head was placed on its left side, teeth facing North.

Two uncertainties in the body-tableau were noted. The stain beneath the skull was thought too robust and prominent to be due to the right ribcage. (This does not however present an anomaly in retrospect). The stain between the legs was unassigned. It was thought perhaps to belong to the right hand (feature card).

However, as the plan [D13] and photograph [N53/12] make plain, the right arm is all accounted for in its position beside the right pelvis, and at 740mm is the same length as the left arm. The stain beneath the legs must remain unassigned: it might be observed, however, that it is a darker colour and may have been wood rather than body matter. The excavator noted that rootlets were more plentiful at the West end (where body matter is also more concentrated) than at the East end.

This fine excavation [N574/12] was used for publicity [N576/1].

Interpretation

This young adult was decapitated at or after death. The length of the grave was sufficient to accommodate the body without its head, but the whole corpse could easily have been placed within it, with a little flexing. This is therefore more probably the burial of a decapitated person, rather than decapitation for burial.

7.2.2

BURIAL 36

Int 52

1991

A J Copp

Grid: 204 164

GRAVE: F37

Fill: 1042

Orientation: SE-NW

High point: 32.83m AOD

Max. length:

1.25m

Low point: 32.47m AOD

Max. width:

0.65m

Min. depth: 0.36m

Area:

0.81m²

The grave is bath-shaped, with a depression at the North-west end.

BODY: F71 (1086)

Length: c. 1.70m

Posture: The body lies on its right side on the uneven floor of the grave. The head lay on its right side, and faced North (towards the feet). The legs were tucked up so that the knees were nearly opposite the chin. The left arm lay over the left leg; the right arm lay in contact with the grave floor beneath the trunk, pelvis and left femur.

Identified Bones:

| | |
|-----|-------------------------|
| 166 | Skull unidentified |
| 167 | Innominate side unknown |
| 168 | L. femur |
| 169 | R. femur |
| 170 | Lower arm |

C 14 - ?? sufficient if use whole body

Anatomy: Adult

Excavation

Identified at Horizon 2 as a possible grave, in spite of its modest size [N577/0], F37 was oval and already showed suspicions of body stain at the North end (the feet).

The backfill (1042) was mixed silt-sand with no marked patches of subsoil.

The body started to appear immediately, so that by spit 2 the head, pelvis, left arm and left leg were visible [N577/2, 5].

After the removal of c. 250mm of backfill to the South, the full upper tableau was visible [N577/12, N583/5]. Since the body lay in a crouching position on its right side, it was necessary to remove the left side limbs to plan the right side [D34].

The position of the body (see *Posture*) was foetal [N583/7]. Occasional white flecks of bone and teeth were seen during dismemberment. The small grave and relative size of the sand-body limbs suggested to the excavator that F71 was the body of a teenager. In fact, the specialist showed that the size and robustness of such bone as survived (lower right arm, upper legs) implied an adult. The empty grave [N577/22] showed that the expected burial would be small (maximum length 1.25m): more nearly a pit than a grave.

Interpretation:

The body was in a position where the knees were tucked up to the chin and the arms were clasped around them; the whole body was then lain on its side. The corpse had been placed in a pit, the limbs being arranged in the position found, or tied.

7.2.3

BURIAL 37

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Int 52 | 1991 | M Hummler, K Lister, A J Copp |
| Grid: | 202 155 | |
| GRAVE: | F25 | Fill: 1028 Orientation: NW-SE |
| High point: | 32.80m AOD | Max. length: 1.62m |
| Low point: | 32.28m AOD | Max. width: 0.65m |
| Min. depth: | 0.52m | Area: 1.05m ² |
| BODY: | F72 (1087) | |
| Length: | 1.55m | |
| Body Stain?: | F73 (1088) | |
| Posture: | Lying on back, face upwards, hands laid across abdomen, the legs - slightly flexed - lie on their left sides. "Cracked skull" observed by excavator. | |
| Extra: | Organic stain within grave fill (F73/1088) probably not human body (to be examined); length 100mm, maximum width 4mm. | |
| Identified Bone: | | |
| 178 | Tibia, probably Right | |
| 180 | Skull | |
| C 14 - probably insufficient material | | |
| Anatomy: | Young adult: 15-25 | |

Excavation

Identified at Horizon 2 as a possible grave [N573/9], the outline of F25 was said to be visible as a faint line of yellow sand. Backfill 1028 was a mixed sand silt with no marked subsoil patterns. The first traces of body stain were contacted at spit 4 [N577/4, 10] in four separate patches [D25]. Three of these probably belonged to the body, although there is some ambiguity over the heights (2 patches at the North-East end apparently lower [32.53m AOD] than the eventual limbs contacted at this point [32.52, 32.58]). Given the eventual form of the body (F72), it was possible that the levels on D25 are wrong and that the easterly patch belongs to the left foot, which had been disturbed by a burrow.

A fourth organic patch on the South side of the grave did not belong to the body and remains unassigned (F73, 1088). There is no report of animal disturbance which might have displaced part of the body F72. It is therefore unlikely that it is a human fragment; it may have been a meat offering or an intrusive rodent (1041).

Interpretation:

The excavator reported a "cracked skull" in the sand form and suggested that both the hands and feet were tied, although the indications are equivocal. The head faced upwards [N587/14].

7.2.4

BURIAL 38

Int 52

1991

A J Copp

Grid: 206 160

GRAVE: F35

Fill: 1040

Orientation: ESE/WNW

High point: 32.75m AOD

Max. length:

1.20m

Low point: 32.11m AOD

Max. width:

0.55m

Min. depth: 0.64m

Area:

0.66m²

BODY: F75 (1090)

Length: c. 1.80m, measuring components on the ground

?Stain of wooden object [no number]

Posture: The body (F75) lay on its back on a slope at the West end of the grave (F35). The head is facing upwards, slightly turned towards the South. Both legs are drawn up, so that the knees rest on the shoulders and the legs hang outwards, displaying the abdominal area. The right foot is turned outwards, the left foot points upwards. The right arm lies beneath the right leg. The left arm lies across the chest.

Identified Bones: None

Anatomy: No evidence

Excavation

F35 was defined at Horizon 2 as a roughly oval feature in difficult terrain [N576/13; D58].

Backfill 1040 was a mixed sand silt with no strongly marked subsoil patches [N590/3a]. At spit 3, there appeared two patches of body and a linear feature seemingly of wood [N590/5a; D62]. The linear feature, which is 420mm long and 10mm wide, receives no mention in the written records. It is taken to be a stick backfilled very soon after the body.

At spit 4, the first recognisable parts of the body to appear are the left and right feet [N590/7a]. The right foot being higher than the left [N590/8a].

The body (F75) appeared in its entirety at the West end of the grave [N590/10a, N588/14]. In the final tableau as photographed, the left tibia and foot are missing following the collapse of the sand tableau. Its position can be seen in N590/7a and 8a.

The body contained no bone and was a fragile stain.

The grave was not exceptionally small, so that the body position was not caused by the grave being too small. [N587/18].

Interpretation on Burial Rite:

The deceased appears to have been buried in a position which resembles squatting, but the body is placed on its back. Such a position is difficult to maintain, leaving the possibility that it had been tied (trussed) or had attained *rigor mortis* to a sufficient degree to maintain the posture during backfilling. In either case, the body position, exceptionally certain, peculiar and disturbing, must represent a posture adopted just before death.

Int 52

1991

A J Copp

GRAVE: F36

Fill: 1041

Orientation: NW-SE

High point: 32.83m AOD

Max. length:

1.58m

Low point: 32.31m AOD

Max. width:

0.70m

Min. depth: 0.52m

Area:

1.11m²

BODY: F74 (1089)

Length: c. 1.60m

Posture: Kneeling, face to floor, knees apart, toes dug in, left arm over back, with hand on base of spine, right arm over right thigh and under trunk.

Identified Bone:

209 R. humerus

210 L. humerus

211 R. radius

207 L. radius

208 L. phalanges (hand)

184 R. femur

183 L. femur

L. tibia

L. fibula

206 L. calcaneum & talus

C14 - R. tibia & femur would provide sufficient material

Anatomy: Adult mature (male?) with healed right leg

The excavator suggests that the body would attain the position it was found in if it had been sitting (kneeling?) at the edge of the grave, been hit from behind and pushed in. However, the specialist reported no trauma to the well-preserved skull.

Excavation

Identified at Horizon 2 as a possible grave [N577/1], F36 contained a mixed, very stony backfill (1041).

At spit 3 [N587/17], two lengths of body F74 appeared, corresponding to the left and right arms [D43].

The body position was recognised at spit 4, kneeling at the West end of the grave. The East end was blank. In order to confirm the vertebrae, the right arm and left femur and part of the right chest area was removed by excavation [N587/21]. The femurs proved to be exceptionally well preserved.

The excavator's case for the face-down posture [N587/24] was (1) the high position of the pelvis in the grave, with the legs tightly flexed; (2) the stain of the right thigh above the pelvis; (3) the discovery of the ribcage and spine at an early stage (ie high up); (4) the shape of the head, small; and round, suggesting the back of the head. There were no traces of teeth.

Both arms were higher (at 32.62, 32.59) than the backbone (32.40) or skull (32.51), suggesting they were behind the back. The head proved to have been in good condition, with a good set of teeth, confirming the excavator's opinion. Furthermore, the jaws were seen during the removal of the body samples, and the mouth recorded as facing the floor of the grave.

The body was buried kneeling, with the face against the grave floor, and the hands behind the back. This position must have been taken up by a live body, or supported by trussing or *rigor mortis*.

7.3.1 Post-in-trench foundation F27 (M. Carver, A. Copp)

| | | |
|--------|------|----------|
| Int 52 | 1991 | A J Copp |
|--------|------|----------|

F27/76

Fill: 1030, 1091

Linear slot (F27/76/77/78) had five postholes (F79-83) along its base.

F27 was a feature defined at Horizon 2, and initially identified as a grave [N590/12a]. It was excavated in spits in the normal manner [N590/14a], 5 postholes being counted at spit 3 [N590/17a, 18a]. The whole feature at this point was redefined as F78 [D74]. One small lump of organic stain was located at spit 2 inside F78, F77/1092, recovered as find 157. It was a disc, 50mm in diameter and 20mm thick. "There is no doubt this was a piece of body stain - the colour and texture were typical, but no actual bone survived. The identity of such a small piece must be problematic, but my superficial impression is that it could be a kneecap (patella)". This was the only stain discovered within the fill.

F79: diameter 0.55m NW: Lowest point - 32.28m AOD: diameter 0.80m EW: no post pipe:
rounded base: no traces of wood

F80: diameter 0.44m: lowest point - 32.39m AOD: no post pipe

F81: diameter 0.60m: lowest point - 32.29m AOD: no post pipe: fill included lumps of [N593/4] bedded subsoil

F82: diameter 0.45m: lowest point - 32.33m AOD: no post pipe

F83: diameter 0.40m: lowest point - 32.32m AOD: no post pipe: very loose fill

Together these are thought to have formed a fragment of palisade [N593/12].

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in character from the earlier prehistoric linear features which run out across the landscape and which, at best, only contain the most ephemeral and ambiguous traces of posts against the shallow floors.

It is possible that the position of the slot is crucial, lying on the extreme western edge of the Group 1 cemetery, here it is at least 2.00m away from the nearest burial (Burial 38, F35) and equidistant from Burial 37 (F25) and Burial 39 (F36) respectively. The clear evidence of relatively large post pits within the body of the slot suggest the vertical timbers were substantial. A tentative pattern appears if we consider the size and location of each posthole. From the west side the two larger post holes are the first and third pit, F79 and F81 respectively. Behind both lie smaller posts F80 and F82 respectively; F82 was later replaced by another post F83 cut even further back along the slot.. It should be noted that there is no stratigraphic evidence for such a succession of post holes but the series of pits does imply this site was an important position to mark and if we accept an Early Medieval date for this structure it is not too fanciful to suggest this was a totem marking the cemetery or even the site of a gibbet"

The excavator observed that the most westerly post (F79) and the next but one (F81) are the largest. He supposed that F79 and its smaller companion F80 formed a pair, which were replaced by the pair F81 and F82. F83 was a final replacement for the small F82. (He notes, however, that there was no stratigraphic indication for this sequence). Thus, the feature can be seen as one large post, a "support", which was replaced at least once.

He further supposes that this feature should not be prehistoric, owing to its different, sharper character, from the prehistoric norm. He therefore suggests it to be Early Medieval and, in that context, supposes it to be a "gibbet". "Gibbet" seems too strong: the deepest post here would have been less than half a metre deep, and would have received very little support from a post immediately behind it. A raking shore would have been needed to support a vertical post, which must act as a gibbet. None of the post-impressions, however, showed any signs of an angled position or force.

Nevertheless, the location of this group of posts is suggestive, as the excavator remarks, and they have been studied with others in Interventions 32 and 39 which are possibly Early Medieval.

Interpretation

The identification of this feature is controversial. It was excavated by AJC, but not seen by MOHC. The shape of the final feature is convincing, and given the shape at Horizon 2 which pre-echoes it exactly, it is hard to see why it was dug as a grave. It might, however, have suggested an animal run. Although the general configuration (dished impressions in a slot) suggests a fragment of palisade, the shape and fill are unsatisfactory.

The "banana" shape would be more acceptable if the "palisade" had companion slots. As an isolated slot, its use would be more imaginable if it had been straight. None of the impressions, individually, offered evidence for a post setting. Their fill was the subsoil that had been excavated from them.

There is also no evidence for dating this feature to the Early Medieval period, apart from a fragment of supposed body stain, the presence of which would be hard to explain.

Such other posts as have been recognised at Sutton Hoo as candidates for Early Medieval structures have contained post-pipes (see below, 7.3.2).

The evidence is not in favour of F27 being an Early Medieval structure. If it is Early6 Medieval, it is more likely (in view of the absence of post-pipes) to represent a single post, removed and replaced several times, than an array of posts.

Its position, relative to the graves, is not particularly suggestive, unless it can be contrived to represent some symbol or advertisement appropriate to the point at which a trackway entered, or passed near to, an execution area.

8. SELECTED STUDIES: The Medieval Period and Later (A.Copp)

Only four features, or 4.8% of the total population, were securely dated to this period (see Table 7). These features are located on the eastern edge and northern end of the trench.

8.1 *Recent Ploughing*

On the eastern edge a set of sinuous ploughmarks run north-south roughly parallel with the edge of the trench and they cut across both the sterile subsoil and the earlier feature fills including the modern anti-glider ditch. They do not continue beneath the projected line of the modern farm track but they do mark the western perimeter of ploughing/subsoiling around the headland of the field (Zone F). These ploughmarks are parallel to the track but are on a different axis to the marks further east, recorded within Int. 20/32/38/39, which run predominantly northwest-southeast up to the headland.

8.2 *Anti-Glider Ditch*

At the north end of the trench is the modern anti-glider ditch F64, dug in c 1942 as part of a comprehensive network of defence against German airborne landings. Stretches of the anti-glider ditch excavated in Zone A and Zone F suggest it was a regular flat-bottomed ditch sandwiched between two rows of adjacent spoilheaps, and was probably mechanically dug by a dragline. The anti-glider ditch is the latest in a series of superimposed linear features which congregate at the northern end of the trench.

END

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Table 1A4 Horizon 2 Photographs Int. 52

| Module | | Neg. Number | |
|-----------|---------|-------------|---|
| Annotated | | | |
| A & B | N558/7 | | 3 |
| C & D | N558/9 | | 3 |
| E & F | N558/12 | | 3 |
| G & H | N558/13 | | 3 |

Table 2

Int. 52 Allocated Contexts

| Context | Identity | Feature |
|---------|------------|---------|
| 1000 | GRADING | 0 |
| 1001 | PLOUGHSOIL | 0 |
| 1002 | FILL | 1 |
| 1003 | FILL | 2 |
| 1004 | FILL | 3 |
| 1005 | FILL | 4 |
| 1006 | FILL | 5 |
| 1007 | FILL | 6 |
| 1008 | FILL | 7 |
| 1009 | FILL | 8 |
| 1010 | FILL | 9 |
| 1011 | FILL | 10 |
| 1012 | FILL | 11 |
| 1013 | FILL | 12 |
| 1014 | FILL | 13 |
| 1015 | FILL | 14 |
| 1016 | FILL | 15 |
| 1017 | FILL | 16 |
| 1018 | FILL | 17 |
| 1019 | FILL | 18 |
| 1020 | FILL | 19 |
| 1021 | FILL | 20 |
| 1022 | FILL | 21 |
| 1023 | FILL | 22 |
| 1024 | FILL | 23 |
| 1025 | SUBSOIL | 0 |
| 1026 | SUBSOIL | 0 |
| 1027 | FILL | 24 |
| 1028 | FILL | 25 |
| 1029 | FILL | 26 |
| 1030 | FILL | 27 |
| 1031 | FILL | 28 |
| 1032 | FILL | 29 |
| 1033 | FILL | 30 |
| 1034 | FILL | 31 |
| 1035 | FILL | 32 |
| 1036 | FILL | 33 |
| 1037 | SUBSOIL | 0 |
| 1038 | SUBSOIL | 0 |
| 1039 | MAKEUP | 34 |
| 1040 | FILL | 35 |
| 1041 | FILL | 36 |
| 1042 | FILL | 37 |
| 1043 | FILL | 38 |
| 1044 | FILL | 39 |
| 1045 | (NOT USED) | 0 |
| 1046 | FILL | 41 |
| Context | Identity | Feature |
| 1047 | FILL | 42 |
| 1048 | FILL | 43 |
| 1049 | FILL | 44 |
| 1050 | FILL | 45 |
| 1051 | FILL | 46 |
| 1052 | FILL | 47 |

| 1053 | FILL | 48 |
|---------|--------------------|---------|
| 1054 | FILL | 49 |
| 1055 | SUBSOIL | 0 |
| 1056 | SUBSOIL | 0 |
| 1057 | FILL | 50 |
| 1058 | FILL | 51 |
| 1059 | FILL | 52 |
| 1060 | FILL | 53 |
| 1061 | FILL | 54 |
| 1062 | FILL | 55 |
| 1063 | TOPSOIL - SECTION | 0 |
| 1064 | PLOUGHSOIL-SECTION | 0 |
| 1065 | FILL | 56 |
| 1066 | FILL | 57 |
| 1067 | (NOT USED) | 0 |
| 1068 | FILL | 58 |
| 1069 | FILL | 63 |
| 1070 | FILL | 64 |
| 1071 | FILL | 59 |
| 1072 | FILL | 59 |
| 1073 | FILL | 59 |
| 1074 | FILL | 59 |
| 1075 | FILL | 68 |
| 1076 | FILL | 67 |
| 1077 | FILL | 69 |
| 1078 | FILL | 70 |
| 1079 | FILL | 62 |
| 1080 | FILL | 61 |
| 1081 | FILL | 60 |
| 1082 | FILL | 65 |
| 1083 | FILL | 66 |
| 1084 | SUBSOIL | 0 |
| 1085 | SUBSOIL | 0 |
| 1086 | MAKEUP | 71 |
| 1087 | MAKEUP | 72 |
| 1088 | MAKEUP | 73 |
| 1089 | MAKEUP | 74 |
| 1090 | MAKEUP | 75 |
| 1091 | FILL | 76 |
| 1092 | MAKEUP | 77 |
| 1093 | FILL | 78 |
| 1094 | FILL | 79 |
| Context | Identity | Feature |
| 1095 | FILL | 80 |
| 1096 | FILL | 81 |
| 1097 | FILL | 82 |
| 1098 | FILL | 83 |

Table 3

Int. 52 Allocated Features

| <u>Feature</u> | <u>Identity</u> |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1 | PLOUGHMARK |
| 2 | PLOUGHMARK |
| 3 | PLOUGHMARK |
| 4 | GRAVE |
| 5 | POSTHOLE |
| 6 | POSTHOLE |
| 7 | POSTHOLE |
| 8 | POSTHOLE |
| 9 | POSTHOLE |
| 10 | POSTHOLE |
| 11 | POSTHOLE |
| 12 | POSTHOLE |
| 13 | POSTHOLE |
| 14 | POSTHOLE |
| 15 | POSTHOLE |
| 16 | ? PIT |
| 17 | POSTHOLE |
| 18 | POSTHOLE |
| 19 | POSTHOLE |
| 20 | POSTHOLE |
| 21 | POSTHOLE |
| 22 | POSTHOLE |
| 23 | ? GRAVE |
| 24 | POSTHOLE |
| 25 | GRAVE |
| 26 | ? BUSH PIT |
| 27 | PALISADE GULLY |
| 28 | GULLY |
| 29 | POSTHOLE |
| 30 | POSTHOLE |
| 31 | POSTHOLE |
| 32 | POSTHOLE |
| 33 | POSTHOLE |
| 34 | BODY STAIN |
| 35 | GRAVE |
| 36 | GRAVE |
| 37 | GRAVE |
| 38 | GULLY |
| 39 | POSTHOLE |
| 40 | ? POSTHOLE |
| 41 | ? PIT |
| 42 | POSTHOLE |
| 43 | POSTHOLE |
| 44 | POSTHOLE |
| 45 | POSTHOLE |
| 46 | POSTHOLE |
| <u>Feature</u> | <u>Identity</u> |
| 47 | POSTHOLE |
| 48 | POSTHOLE |
| 49 | POSTHOLE |
| 50 | POSTHOLE |
| 51 | POSTHOLE |
| 52 | POSTHOLE |

| | |
|----|-------------------|
| 53 | POSTHOLE |
| 54 | POSTHOLE |
| 55 | ? PIT |
| 56 | ? POSTHOLE |
| 57 | GULLY |
| 58 | GULLY |
| 59 | ? HEARTH |
| 60 | POSTHOLE |
| 61 | POSTHOLE |
| 62 | POSTHOLE |
| 63 | GULLY |
| 64 | ANTI-GLIDER DITCH |
| 65 | ? POSTHOLE |
| 66 | ? GRAVE |
| 67 | POSTHOLE |
| 68 | POSTHOLE |
| 69 | POSTHOLE |
| 70 | POSTHOLE |
| 71 | BODY STAIN |
| 72 | BODY STAIN |
| 73 | ? BODY STAIN |
| 74 | BODY STAIN |
| 75 | BODY STAIN |
| 76 | PALISADE GULLY |
| 77 | BODY STAIN |
| 78 | PALISADE GULLY |
| 79 | POSTHOLE |
| 80 | POSTHOLE |
| 81 | POSTHOLE |
| 82 | POSTHOLE |
| 83 | POSTHOLE |

Table 4 List of Contents Within Features

| Context | Identity | Feature |
|---------|----------------------|---------|
| 1000 | GRADING | 0 |
| 1001 | PLOUGHSOIL | 0 |
| 1025 | SUBSOIL | 0 |
| 1026 | SUBSOIL | 0 |
| 1037 | SUBSOIL | 0 |
| 1038 | SUBSOIL | 0 |
| 1045 | (NOT USED) | 0 |
| 1055 | SUBSOIL | 0 |
| 1056 | SUBSOIL | 0 |
| 1063 | TOPSOIL - SECTION | 0 |
| 1064 | PLOUGHSOIL - SECTION | 0 |
| 1067 | (NOT USED) | 0 |
| 1084 | SUBSOIL | 0 |
| 1085 | SUBSOIL | 0 |
| 1002 | FILL | 1 |
| 1003 | FILL | 2 |
| 1004 | FILL | 3 |
| 1005 | FILL | 4 |
| 1006 | FILL | 5 |
| 1007 | FILL | 6 |
| 1008 | FILL | 7 |
| 1009 | FILL | 8 |
| 1010 | FILL | 9 |
| 1011 | FILL | 10 |
| 1012 | FILL | 11 |
| 1013 | FILL | 12 |
| 1014 | FILL | 13 |
| 1015 | FILL | 14 |
| 1016 | FILL | 15 |
| 1017 | FILL | 16 |
| 1018 | FILL | 17 |
| 1019 | FILL | 18 |
| 1020 | FILL | 19 |
| 1021 | FILL | 20 |
| 1022 | FILL | 21 |
| 1023 | FILL | 22 |
| 1024 | FILL | 23 |
| 1027 | FILL | 24 |
| 1028 | FILL | 25 |
| 1029 | FILL | 26 |
| 1030 | FILL | 27 |
| 1031 | FILL | 28 |
| 1032 | FILL | 29 |
| 1033 | FILL | 30 |
| 1034 | FILL | 31 |
| 1035 | FILL | 32 |
| Context | Identity | Feature |
| 1036 | FILL | 33 |
| 1039 | MAKEUP | 34 |
| 1040 | FILL | 35 |
| 1041 | FILL | 36 |
| 1042 | FILL | 37 |
| 1043 | FILL | 38 |

| 1044 | FILL | 39 |
|---------|----------|---------|
| 1046 | FILL | 41 |
| 1047 | FILL | 42 |
| 1048 | FILL | 43 |
| 1049 | FILL | 44 |
| 1050 | FILL | 45 |
| 1051 | FILL | 46 |
| 1052 | FILL | 47 |
| 1053 | FILL | 48 |
| 1054 | FILL | 49 |
| 1057 | FILL | 50 |
| 1058 | FILL | 51 |
| 1059 | FILL | 52 |
| 1060 | FILL | 53 |
| 1061 | FILL | 54 |
| 1062 | FILL | 55 |
| 1065 | FILL | 56 |
| 1066 | FILL | 57 |
| 1068 | FILL | 58 |
| 1071 | FILL | 59 |
| 1072 | FILL | 59 |
| 1073 | FILL | 59 |
| 1074 | FILL | 59 |
| 1081 | FILL | 60 |
| 1080 | FILL | 61 |
| 1079 | FILL | 62 |
| 1069 | FILL | 63 |
| 1070 | FILL | 64 |
| | | |
| 1082 | FILL | 65 |
| 1083 | FILL | 66 |
| 1076 | FILL | 67 |
| 1075 | FILL | 68 |
| 1077 | FILL | 69 |
| 1078 | FILL | 70 |
| 1086 | MAKEUP | 71 |
| 1087 | MAKEUP | 72 |
| 1088 | MAKEUP | 73 |
| 1089 | MAKEUP | 74 |
| 1090 | MAKEUP | 75 |
| 1091 | FILL | 76 |
| 1092 | MAKEUP | 77 |
| 1093 | FILL | 78 |
| Context | Identity | Feature |
| | | |
| 1094 | FILL | 79 |
| 1095 | FILL | 80 |
| 1096 | FILL | 81 |
| 1097 | FILL | 82 |
| 1098 | FILL | 83 |

Table 5 List of Features 'seen' Beneath Horizon 2

| <u>Feature</u> | <u>Identity</u> |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 34 | BODY STAIN |
| 72 | BODY STAIN |
| 73 | ? BODY STAIN |
| 74 | BODY STAIN |
| 75 | BODY STAIN |
| 77 | BODY STAIN |
| 78 | PALISADE GULLY |
| 79 | POSTHOLE |
| 80 | POSTHOLE |
| 81 | POSTHOLE |
| 82 | POSTHOLE |
| 83 | POSTHOLE |

Table 6

Count of the Different Identities for the Feature Population

| <u>Identity</u> | <u>Count</u> |
|-------------------|--------------|
| PLOUGHMARK | 3 |
| GRAVE | 5 |
| ?GRAVE | 2 |
| BODY STAIN | 6 |
| ?BODY STAIN | 1 |
| POSTHOLE | 49 |
| ?POSTHOLE | 3 |
| ?PIT | 3 |
| ?BUSH PIT | 1 |
| ANTI-GLIDER DITCH | 1 |
| GULLY | 5 |
| PALISADE GULLY | 3 |
| ?HEARTH | 1 |
| | --- |
| TOTAL | 83 |

Table 7

| Feature Number correspondence between adjacent Interventions | | | |
|--|----------|------------------------|---------|
| Int. 50 (Presence/Absence) | Int. 52 | Int. 32 | Int. 38 |
| na P | 64 ----- | 220 anti-glider ditch | |
| 324 ----- P | 63 | na Iron Age ? Ditch | |
| na na | 38 ----- | 158 double-ditch NW-SE | |
| na na | 28 ----- | 133 double-ditch NW-SE | |
| 182----- na | 57 | na double-ditch NE-SW | |
| 155 + 328----- na | 58 | na double-ditch NE-SW | |
| 329 ----- na | ? | na | |
| 330 ----- na | ? | na | |
| 313 ----- na | ? | na | |
| ? ----- na | 55 | na | |
| ? ----- na | 41 | na | |
| na ? | 66 ----- | na ----- | |
| | ----- | | |

Table 8

Feature Identities for the Post-Medieval Period

| <u>Identity</u> | <u>Cont.</u> |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Ploughmark | 3 |
| Anti-glider ditch | 1 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total | 4 |

Table 9

Feature Identities for the Early Medieval Period

| <u>Identity</u> | <u>Cont.</u> |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Grave | 5 |
| ?Grave | 2 |
| Body Stain | 6 |
| ?Body Stain | 1 |
| Postholes | 5 |
| Palisade trench | 3 |
| | --- |
| Total | 22 |

Table 10

| Dimensions of Postholes F79-83 with Palisade trench F27/76 | | |
|--|--------------|---------------------|
| Feature | Diameter (m) | Excavated Depth (m) |
| 79 | 0.55 | 0.26 |
| 80 | 0.44 | 0.12 |
| 81 | 0.60 | 0.21 |
| 82 | 0.45 | 0.16 |
| 83 | 0.40 | 0.16 |

Table 11 INT52 List of Excavated Burials

| | | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---|---------------|
| BURIAL | 35 | 36 | 37 | 38 | 39 |
| STRUCTURE | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| GRAVE (F) | 4 | 37 | 25 | 35 | 36 |
| BODY (F) | 34 | 71 | 72 | 75 | 74 |
| OTHER (F) | | | 73 ?body stain | un-named stain of ? wooden object | |
| ASSOCS. | | | | | |
| KNOWN AS | | | | | |
| DATE EXCAV. | March 1991 | April 1991 | April 1991 | April 1991 | April 1991 |

Table 12

INT 52: PRINCIPAL WRITTEN RECORDS OF THE BURIALS

| | | | | | | | | | | NOTES |
|----|---|----|----|------|------------|---|------|---|---|---|
| 35 | 1 | 4 | 34 | 1039 | body stain | Y | Y(b) | N | N | Clean stain but little bone meal - localised to rt. arm & ribcage, underneath head & at E. end in ankles. Root cover over body surface on W. but not E. end |
| 36 | 5 | 37 | 71 | 1086 | body stain | Y | Y(b) | N | N | Clean stain, no rootlets anywhere. Bonemeal localised - Rt. leg, pelvis & frags. of teeth |
| 37 | 2 | 25 | 72 | 1087 | body stain | Y | N | N | N | 'Flat stain', no rootlets anywhere. No bonemeal visible even during dismantling |
| 38 | 3 | 35 | 75 | 1090 | body stain | Y | N | N | N | Clean stain, no rootlets, evocative 3-D posture. No bonemeal |
| 39 | 4 | 36 | 74 | 1089 | body stain | Y | Y(a) | N | N | Clean stain, no rootlets, evocative 3-D posture. Visible bonemeal |

Seen only_____

a: surface

b: subsurface

Table 13

INT52: Principal Drawn Records of the Burials

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|-----------|----|--------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 35 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 9 | 0.10m spits | context | SL(11) FL(18) FT(19,20) | B | 30g/ context | 17 | 34 | 9 | 13 | 14 | 16 | 15 | |
| 36 | 5 | 37 | 21 | - | directly onto body | context | SL(22) FL(36) FT(37,38) | B | 30g/ context | 35 | 71 | 21 | 32 | 31 | 34 | 33 | Body stain partially visible on the surface |
| 37 | 2 | 25 | 24 | 25 | 0.10m spits | context | SL(26) FL(45) FT(46,47) | B | 30g/ context | 48 | 72 | 25 | 40 | 41 | 44 | 39 | |
| 38 | 3 | 35 | 58,5 9 | 62 | 0.10m spits | context | SL(61) FL(68) FT(69,70) | B | 30g/ context | 67 | 75 | 62 | 63 | 64 | 66 | 65 | |
| 39 | 4 | 36 | 42 | 43 | 0.10m spits | context | SL(50) FL(55) FT(56,57) | B | 30g/ context | 54 | 74 | 43 | 49 | 51 | 53 | 52 | |

L - Longitudinal F - to floor

Table 14

INT 52: Attributes of the Burials

| BURIAL | STRUCT. | BODY (F) | GRAVE (F) | ORIENTATION | BODY POSTURE | ARCTI C. | GRAVE GOODS | RITUAL |
|--------|---------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--|-------------|----------------|---|
| 35 | 1 | 34 | 4 | E-W | Extended, lying on back | N | N | Decapitated. Head placed on Rt. arm |
| 36 | 5 | 71 | 37 | SE-NW | Crouched, lying on the right side | Y | N | Tightly crouched against W. side of crude grave |
| 37 | 2 | 72 | 25 | NW-SE | Flexed at knees, lying on back | Y | N | Extra body stain within grave fill |
| 38 | 3 | 75 | 35 | NW-SE | Crouched, lying on back, knees bent back to shoulder | Y | N | Tightly crouched against W side of grave. Extreme posture, possibly missing lower Rt. arm. ?wooden object in grave fill |
| 39 | 4 | 74 | 36 | NW-SE | Kneeling, face down | Y | N | Body position, left arm bent back behind bottom. Central location of body stain |

Table 15

INT 52: Dimensions of Each Burial

| | | | | | TOP | | FLOOR | | | BODY | | |
|--------|---------|----------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------|
| BURIAL | FEATURE | HIGH POINT AOD | LOW POINT AOD | MAX. DEPTH (m) | MAX. LENGTH (m) | MAX. WIDTH (m) | MAX. LENGTH (m) | MAX. WIDTH (m) | PROFILE SHAPE - LONGITUDINAL | LENGTH (m) | CONTACT HEIGHT | |
| 35 | 4 | 32.72 | 32.19 | 0.53 | 1.77 | 0.77 | 1.60 | 0.54 | floor flat | 1.62 without head: 1.90 with head | 32.44 | head |
| 36 | 37 | 32.84 | 32.47 | 0.37 | 1.25 | 0.64 | 0.90 | 0.50 | irregular floor stepped | c.1.70 | 32.84 | Lt. foot |
| 37 | 25 | 32.79 | 32.28 | 0.51 | 1.60 | 0.65 | 1.45 | 0.40 | floor flat | 1.55 | 32.54 | head |
| 38 | 35 | 32.75 | 32.11 | 0.64 | 1.48 | 0.74 | 1.20 | 0.52 | floor sloping | c.1.70 | 32.55 | Rt. foot |
| 39 | 36 | 32.84 | 32.31 | 0.53 | 1.58 | 0.70 | 1.35 | 0.47 | floor flat | c.1.60 | 32.64 | Lt. arm |

Table 16

INT 52 Sample Targets Within the Grave Fill

| <u>Feature</u> | <u>Context</u> | <u>Target</u> | <u>Notes</u> |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| 4 | 1005 | Pollen 30g | |
| 37 | 1042 | Pollen 30g | |
| 25 | 1028 | Pollen 30g | |
| 35 | 1040 | Pollen 30g | |
| 36 | 1041 | Pollen 30g | |

T - Transverse B - to body

Table 17

INT 52 - Photographic Records of Burials

| Burial No. | Structure | <u>Excavation (Plan & Section)</u> | | | Body Tableau | <u>Excavated</u> |
|----------------|-----------|---|---|--|--|----------------------------|
| 35 | 1 | F4 560/20A, 21A, 22A, 23A 568/14, 15 574/0, 2, 6 | | | F34 573/14, 15, 13, 12, 11 574/11, 12 576/1, 4, 5, 6 | F4 574/22 |
| 36 | 5 | F37 576/10 577/0, 2, 5, 6 | | | F71 577/11, 12 583/1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 | F37 577/22 |
| 37 | 2 | F25 573/7, 8 574/18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 4, 8 577/3, 4, 10, 13 | | | F72 585/11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 587/14 | |
| 38 | 3 | F35 576/13 577/7 590/2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A, 7A, 8A | | | F75 588/9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 590/9A, 10A | F35 587/18 590/11A |
| 39 | 4 | F36 576/11 577/1 587/13, 15, 16, 17, 19 | | | F74 587/21, 22, (24 imitation), 23 588/3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 | F36 590/1A |
| Palisade Gully | 6 | 27 588/15 590/12A, 14A | 76 590/13A, 17A, 18A | 78 posthole tableau 590/19A | F77 stain 590/15A, 16A | 27/76/78 593/10, 11, 12 |
| | | <u>Postholes</u> F79 F80 F81 F82 F83 | <u>Section</u> 590/20A 590/22A 590/24A 593/5 593/7 | <u>Excavation</u> 590/21A 590/23A 593/4 593/6 593/9 | | |

Table 18

Finds Count by Material

| <u>Material</u> | <u>Count</u> |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Flint | 38 |
| BFlint | 27 |
| Ceramic | 8 |
| Matrix | 17 |
| Bone | 48 |
| Organic | 76 |
| Daub | 1 |
| Wood | 1 |
| (Blank) | 3 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total | 219 |

Note: Bone (H) = 47; Bone (A) = 1 (from 1001)
 All organic finds belong to bodies
 15 soil samples; 2 C14 samples (F59 and 82)

Detail breakdown

Flint: 12 from 1001 incl. 1 scraper; 1 flake from F4; 9 flakes from F25; 2 flakes from F26; 6 flakes from F36; 8 flakes from F37
 Bflint: 5 from 1001; 11 from F4; 2 from F25; 4 from F26; 5 from F37
 Ceramic: 5 from 1001 incl. 3 BAUN, 1 unid., 1 tile; 1 unid. From F25; 1 unid. From F36; 1 BAUN from F37
 Matrix: 1 each from F4, f25, F26, F35, F36, F37, F59, F71, F72, F75, F76, F79, F80, F81, F82 (2x), F83
 Bone: 28 from F34; 5 from F71; 1 from F72; 12 from F74; 1 animal from 1001
 Organic: 19 from F34; 14 from F71; 14 from F72; 1 from F73; 15 from F74; 12 from F75; 1 from F77
 Daub: 1 from 1001
 Wood: 1 from F25

Table 19 Feature identities for the Prehistoric Period

| <u>Identity</u> | <u>Count</u> |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Posthole | 44 |
| ?Posthole | 3 |
| ?Pit | 3 |
| Ditch | 5 |
| ?Hearth | 1 |
| ?Bush pit | 1 |
| | --- |
| Total | 57 |