Bronze Age Burials

Grave 137. (210N/447E)

Notebook 50.37-39 Grave pit: Oval. Pit fill: Yellow/orange gravel, random pebbles, many worm holes filled with humus and many roots. Grave furniture: No data. Grave goods: 137.1 Beaker, c.7" long with plain corded decoration. 137.2 5 barbed and tanged arrowheads of honey-coloured flint (4 were lying in an overlapping row over the 5th). Thought to have been made especially for burial due to stress cracks on the primary flaking.

137.3 Flint blade.

Body: Silhouette only. Body appears to have been flexed and on its left side.

Remarks: A possible post hole (thought to be for a marker post for the grave) cuts the grave pit.

Grave 786. (1151N/192E)

Notebook 180.58-63

Grave pit: Roughly square with very rounded corners.

Pit fill: No data.

Finds in fill: 1 possibly utilised flint flake.

Grave furniture: Wooden coffin preserved as a partly humified plank (4'6"long x 10" wide x c.1" thick, identified as oak), soil stain and loose charcoal in bottom of grave pit.

Grave goods:

786.1 2 barbed and tanged arrowheads of pale grey flint, one found near the head.

786.2 1 bow-like pebble (thought to perhaps be symbolic of a bow).

Body: Only a body stain. Appears to be a flexed burial, with the body lying on its left side. Excavator had the impression that the body had been wrapped in organic material (trussed) and then placed centrally in the coffin.

Remarks: A radiocarbon date was obtained from the partially humified oak of the coffin BP 3580±90, 1630bc. Also down as Anglo-Saxon due to duplication of numbers.

Cremation 1041. (1872N/701E) Adult (Maturus)

Notebook 273.40

Grave pit: Roughly '8' shaped, and initially mistaken for a double post hole. 12"-13" deep.

Pit fill: Very pebbly dark brown loam containing charcoal and powder of burnt bone. This fill is over a lighter more gravelly loam without charcoal which lies in the bottom of the pit where it diverges into two smaller pits.

Finds in fill: 1 flint flake, lots of fired flints, charcoal powder, burnt bones (powder or slightly larger pieces), 7 black flint gritted sherds and 1 'brownish' flint gritted sherd. Also 'some AB'.

Grave furniture: No data.

Grave goods: No data.

Body: Only bone powder in the upper levels of the pit; total bone weight 41g, max L 9mm (completely burnt, white, poor condition).

Remarks: Located inside Barrow 2. The excavator seems to suggest that this is not a cremation, but instead two post holes in the centre of the barrow, possibly acting as a central support to a structure. The bone powder is suggested to have entered the feature by sweeping when the post in the left hole was replaced by that in the right.

Grave 1042. (1960N/1055E)

Notebook 260.83; 311.55 Grave pit: Oval. Pit fill: No data. Finds in fill: Flints and a small pot sherd. Grave furniture: No data.

Grave goods: None.

Bone: Some fragments of skull, femoral and spine bone remained, along with body silhouette which suggests a flexed burial lying on its right side.

Remarks: Located inside Barrow 3, which has a radiocarbon date of 3100±90, or 1150bc.

1043. (2281N/1346E)

No data in notebooks, microfiche or folders. Not on base plan. Not known whether an inhumation or a cremation.

Cremation 1045. (2281N/1033E) Adult (Maturus)

Notebook 326.49

Grave pit: Roughly circular, lying almost in the centre of Barrow 5.

Pit fill: Outer charcoal layer with reddened gravel (suggestive of burning). Medium sandy fill with random pebbles. Charcoally fill with cremated bone and reddened or calcined flints as well as medium pebbles.

Finds in fill: Bone button or toggle with three perforations.

Grave furniture: No data.

Grave goods: None.

Bone: 364g, max L 49mm (completely burnt, white, poor condition).

Remarks: Located inside Barrow 5. Between this pit and a modern plough mark is an area of possible cremation fill containing cremated bone. This is either part of Cremation 1045 and has been created by plough disturbance, or is the remains of a secondary burial.

Grave 1063. (2371N/622E)

Notebook 335.74-77; 345.52 *Grave pit*: Oval, and just off-centre within Barrow 6. *Pit fill*: Dark loam and charcoal. *Finds in fill*: Scrap of red pottery and 4 flint flakes. *Grave furniture*: No data *Grave goods*: None. *Body*: Survives only as a soil mark of compact silt within a more pebbly fill. The silt appears to have preserved the overall shape of the head, backbone and flexed legs. The body appears to have been curled around an area rich in charcoal and bone fragments; this suggests that the inhumation may have disturbed an earlier cremation.

Remarks: Located inside Barrow 6.

Cremation 1064. (2465N/549E)

Notebook 326.95 *Grave pit*: Roughly circular. 51Lx30Wx23D (presumed to be in inches). *Pit fill*: Black charcoally pebbly fill with bones. *Finds in fill*: 1 flint blade. *Grave furniture*: No data. *Grave goods*: No data. *Bone*: No data. *Remarks*: Located just inside the ring-ditch of Barrow 7. Since this cremation only just cuts the ringditch it may be much later in date and possibly belong to the group of 10-12 undated cremations nearby. The charcoal was identified as holly.

Cremation 1065. (2341N/454E) Child (Infans II)

Notebook 326.94 *Grave pit*: Roughly circular. *Pit fill*: Black, charcoally, compact and pebble-free with bones. Western edge of pit was lined with a clayish grey fill with a few pebbles. *Grave furniture*: No data. *Grave goods*: No data. *Bone*: Traces only. *Remarks*: Apparently some gazetteer entry elsewhere.

Grave 1066. (2472N/550E)

Grave pit: Roughly oval, 107Lx66Wx46D (presumed to be in inches), and located within the ring-ditch of Barrow 7.
Pit fill: Medium brown pebbly sandy fill.
Grave furniture: No data.
Grave goods: No data.
Body: Survives only as body stain, which suggests a flexed burial on its right side.
Remarks: There is a radiocarbon date associated with Barrow 7 (3580±90 1630BC)