

An Interim Report on Test Excavations at Dorstone Hill, Herefordshire in 2011

Report prepared by
Julian Thomas & Ellen McInnes,
The University of Manchester

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Herefordshire Archaeology
Conservation and Environmental Planning
Planning Services
Regeneration Directorate
Herefordshire Council

The University of Manchester
Oxford Rd,
Manchester
M13 9PL

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NGR: SO 3260 4230

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Herefordshire Archaeology is Herefordshire Council's county archaeology service. It advises upon the conservation of archaeological and historic landscapes, maintains the county Sites and Monument Record, and carries out conservation and investigative field projects. The County Archaeologist is Dr. Keith Ray.

***Herefordshire Archaeology
PO Box 230
Blueschool House
Blueschool Street
Hereford HR1 2ZB***

i. Summary

This report discusses the results of trial excavation led by the University of Manchester, supported by Herefordshire Council's archaeological service, at the hilltop site of Dorstone Hill, Herefordshire; SO 3260 4230.

The project forms part of an ongoing joint partnership in the investigation of prehistoric settlement within the southwest of Herefordshire. The investigations aim to improve the general knowledge of early Neolithic settlement in this area of western Britain. The investigations of Dorstone Hill form one aspect, of the second year of investigations into this period of activity. Previous to this year's study (2011) investigations were centred on the English/Welsh border within the Olchon Valley where the Herefordshire Council/University of Manchester partnership identified and investigated an early Bronze Age cairn and its associated cemetery at Olchon Court.

Following the discovery of Neolithic worked flint and pottery, and potentially associated works including an earthwork bank during excavations in the 1960s at the hilltop site of Dorstone Hill, and a survey of the site by an English Heritage measured survey team in the 1990s, the site was targeted for trial excavation as part of the present project. Over the course of July 2011 a long exploratory trench measuring 30m x 2m was opened across the still-visible bank and the location of a possible associated ditch. Both artefacts and features were identified that indicate Neolithic activity at the site. A further trench located close to where a concentration of flints was recovered during field-walking in the 1960s failed to recover any finds or features.

1.1 Introduction

Excavations were carried out at Dorstone Hill in 2011 to begin to investigate the extent and character of Neolithic activity at the site. A broad bank cutting off the hilltop from the rest of the ridge had been the subject of small-scale investigations in the 1960s (SMR 1551), but this work remains unpublished. A range of isolated finds dating from the Mesolithic to the Roman periods indicate the possibility for archaeological remains related to a number of periods. At the south-eastern end of the site an Iron Age promontory fort has been identified.

Since investigations in the 1960s much of the site has been damaged by intensive arable cultivation that in some places has substantially lowered the ground levels. The aims and objectives of this excavation are outlined more fully below but investigation of the site both to identify archaeological remains and to evaluate their character principally involved the opening of a 30m long trench in July 2011. The trench was oriented north-west to south-east and was sited to transect the visible earthwork and the course of a surface hollow that was thought might represent an associated ditch. A 4m² extension south at the western end of the trench was opened to further investigate this feature.

The results of the evaluation trench are described below but include the identification of a number of features thought to be Neolithic in date and a glimpse of the complex make up of the visible earthwork. The only prehistoric finds recovered date to the Neolithic and suggest that the activity identified is also Neolithic.

1.2 Aims and Objectives

The aims of the investigation were to identify any above and below ground archaeological features and associated artefacts to ensure their full recording and interpretation in order to further understand Neolithic society within the southwest of Herefordshire. The investigation consisted of the excavation of principally a large exploratory trench, the purpose of which was twofold; uncovering our prehistoric past and as a training exercise for students of The University of Manchester and the public local to the villages of Dorstone and Bredwardine. These objectives were accomplished by the excavation of a large evaluation trench measuring 30m x 2m. Training was provided by Site Supervisors from The University of Manchester and excavation and recording of the site included the following procedures.

- Each deposit encountered was recorded in full through a paper record using context sheets of a professional archaeological standard. This data was then imported onto an Excel spread sheet and used to update and provide data for Herefordshire's SMR/HER.
- Both characteristic, individual artefacts and group assemblages were recorded in 3 dimensions providing an x and y axis within the associated deposit as well as a height above sea level. The artefacts were catalogued onsite and entered into a database by The University of Manchester where the artefacts were identified and processed.
- Each archaeological deposit/feature was recorded and drawn to a scale of 1:20. Trench section-plans were drawn to a scale of 1:10. These accompany the report and database into the archive.

1.3 Location and Geology

Located within the County Parish of Dorstone, Dorstone Hill itself is a spur at the end of a ridge of land between the rivers Wye and Dore. The site occupies a plateau at highest point of the southern end of this spur and stands 270m above sea level with steep sides falling away to the east, south and west. The ridge of

land continues north-west of the site and further along this ridge is the chambered tomb of Arthurs Stone (SO 3189 4312). To the north-east just beyond a steep-sided valley there is a steep incline to a summit at 288m above sea-level while south-east of the site are views to Windy Ridge (SO 3380 4135) and the long barrow at Cross Lodge (SO33 41).¹ The plateau overlooks the Rover Dore to the south and the village of Dorstone slightly south-west. To the north-east the land falls away to the River Wye. More immediately, an Iron Age promontory fort occupies the south-east tip of the plateau (see Fig. 2).

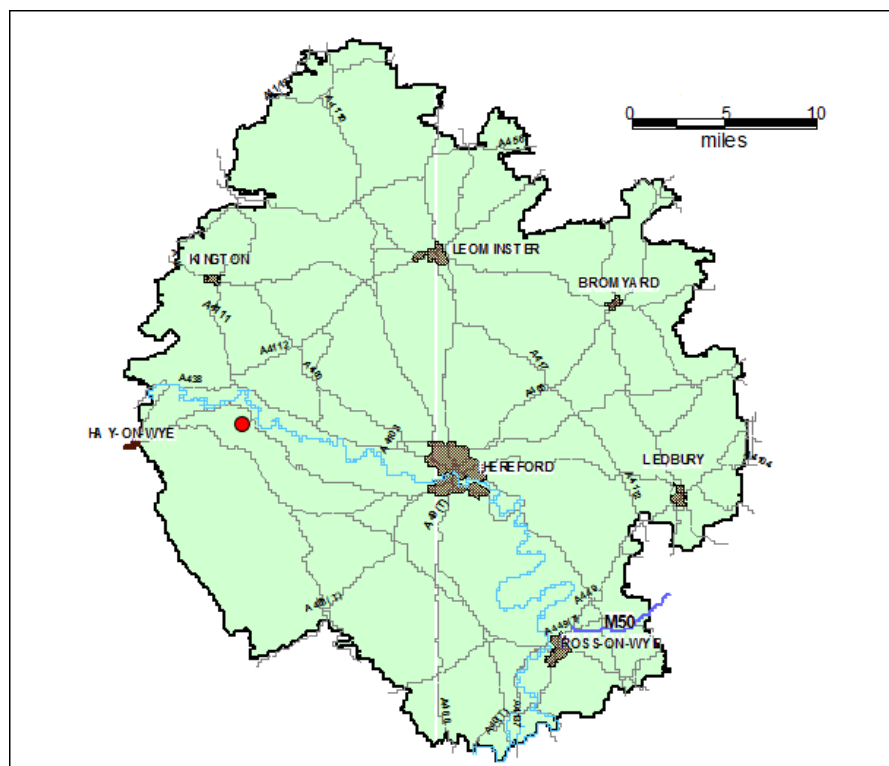


Fig. 1: Location of Dorstone Hill within the context of Herefordshire. © Herefordshire Council

The underlying geology consists primarily of the St Maughans Formation with mudstone, siltstone and sandstone. Approximately 50m below the area of investigation is a seam of Bishops Frome Limestone Member.²

¹ For more information see Garcia Rovira, I. Mizoguchi, K and K. Ray. 2011. *Herefordshire Archaeology Report No. 301. An Interim Report on Test Excavations at Cross Lodge and Windy Ridge, Dorstone in 2011.*

² Geological Map Data © NERC 2011. © Crown copyright database right. An Ordnance Survey/ EDINA Service

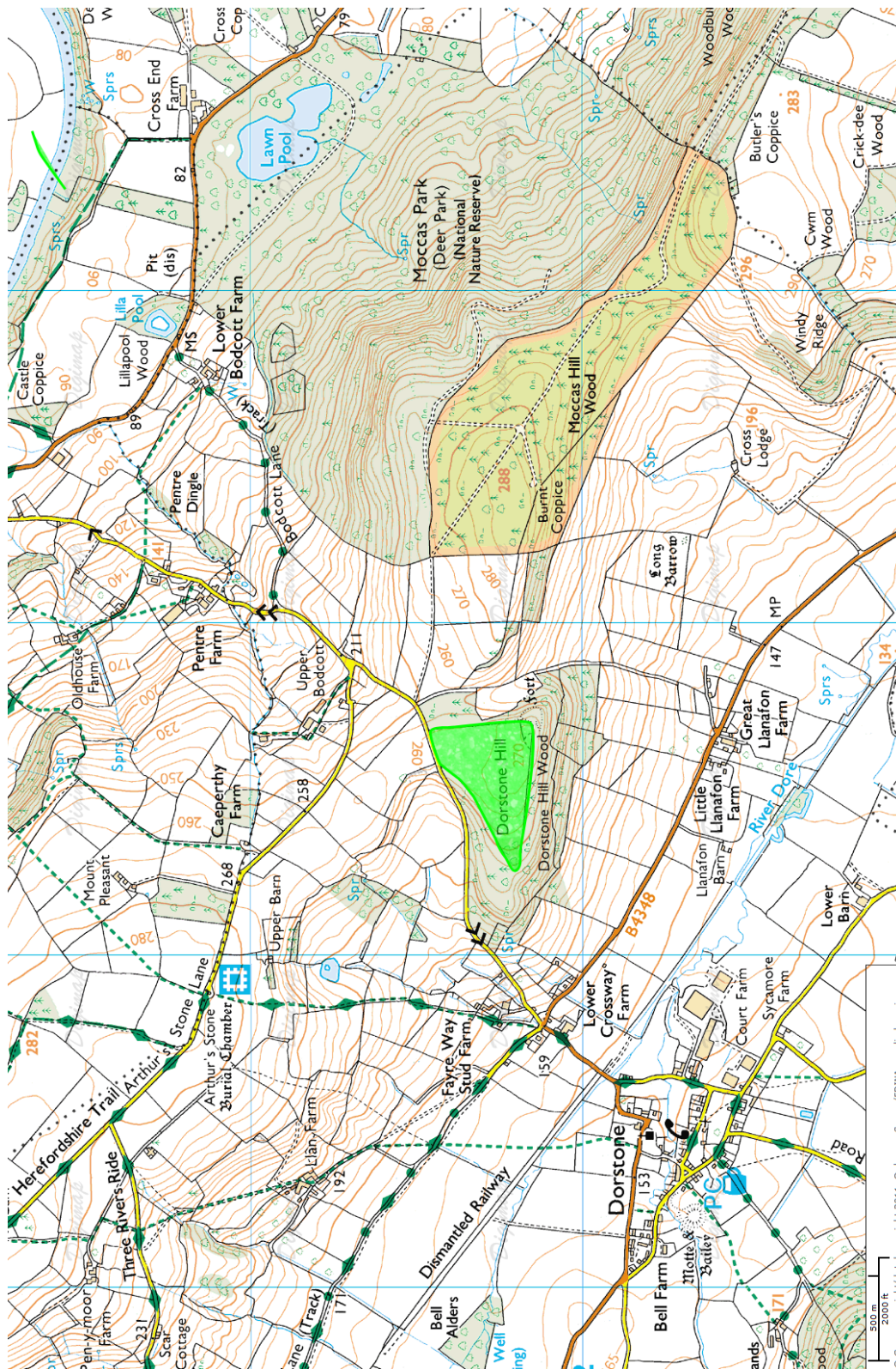


Fig. 2 The location of Dorstone Hill (in green) in relation to other features mentioned in the text.

1.4 Past Fieldwork

A number of entries in the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) relate to the hill top of Dorstone Hill including reports of finds and excavations of features at the site. A list of these records is provided in Table 1 and Appendix 1 includes full detail of all records.

SMR No	Title	Type	Grid Ref
1534	Whetstone, Dorstone Hill	Findspot (Prehistoric?)	SO 33 42
1551	Neolithic occupation site, Dorstone Hill	Occupation Site (Neolithic)	SO 326 423
1552	Promontory Fort, Dorstone Hill	Promontory Fort, (Iron Age) Hillfort (Iron Age)	SO 3271 4216
4772	Flint Scraper, Dorstone Hill	Findspot (Bronze Age?)	SO 32 42
7179	Romano British finds, Dorstone Hill	Occupation Site (Roman?)	SO 32 42
7523	Bronze Age occupation site, Dorstone Hill	Occupation Site (Bronze Age) Building (Bronze Age)	SO 326 423
7524	Mesolithic flints, Dorstone Hill	Occupation Site (Mesolithic)	SO 32 42
51971	Multi-period occupation site, Dorstone Hill	Occupation Site (Mesolithic to Roman)	SO 3260 4230
145152	Flint Scatter, Dorstone Hill	Findspot (Prehistoric)	SO 32 42

Table 1. Records in the SMR relating to Dorstone Hill. Further information is available in Appendix 1.

2.0 Results

A 30m x 2m evaluation trench was opened to take in the visible earthwork and explore the linear hollow to its north-west. It was located away from the probable location of previous investigations, with the aim to investigate the earthwork and the possibility of a ditch. The topsoil (001) consisted of a mid-orange brown loam of moderate compaction with inclusions of small angular stones (25mm x 17mm x 9mm ave). It measured between 0.18 and 0.31m in depth and overlay deposit (002). Context (002) was sub-soil layer of mid-grey brown loam of moderate compaction with frequent inclusions of angular stones (47mm x 21mm x 16mm ave). From this layer a piece of flint, a sherd of 20th century pottery and pieces of plastic were recovered. Both these layers were found across the trench. Layer (002) overlay (004) a layer of dark grey brown silt with small stone inclusions. Flint flakes were found within this layer which covered an area 9m x 2m and was 0.28m thick at the western end of the trench. This was interpreted as a layer of plough sorted sub-soil and overlay (003), (009) and (011).



2.1 Trench 1 looking to the east.

At the eastern end of the trench layer (003) lay beneath (004) and covered an area 10.30m x 2m. It ranged from 0.12m to 0.30m thick and consisted of moderately compact, mid yellow/orange sandy loam with inclusions of small

angular stones (0.43m x 0.25m x 0.20m ave). Beneath this layer was deposit (008) which was made up of angular stone slabs (Range of sizes: 0.43m x 0.2m x 0.04m to 0.2m x 0.13m x 0.05m) in a matrix of mid-orange brown silty sand with lenses of clay. No finds were recovered. Deposit (008) filled [021] an irregularly-shaped cut of which only a small part was exposed. The excavated area measured 7m x 3m and varied in depth from 1.04m to 2.30m. The exposed sides of the feature were steep except for 'steps' in the north-west corner. Both the base and sides suggested slabs of the greenish-grey mudstone bedrock (023) had been removed. Evidence of pecking and machine activity further suggested historically-recent quarrying activity. No finds were recovered from this context.



2.2 Western end of Trench 1

In the western half of the trench deposit (009) also lay below (004). It consisted of a deposit of angular stones (60mm x 40mm x 12mm ave.) within a linear cut [016] aligned north-west/south-east. The cut [016] measured 2.71m x 0.46m x 0.28m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. This feature was originally thought to be a field drain but no pieces of drain were found during excavation and it is instead now thought to be the remains of a small field wall. This feature separated this end of the trench into two areas.



2.2.1 East of wall slot [016]

Also lying beneath (004) a deposit of angular slabs of sandstone (011) ranged in size from 0.6m x 0.46m x 0.07m max to 0.11m x 0.08m x 0.03m min. It was suggested that this stone may have been drawn from the potential quarry at the eastern end of the trench (see above). These stones sat within a matrix of moderately compact, mid-orange brown sandy silt. Within this material a flint flake and flint scraper were recovered. This deposit covered an area 2.56m at a thickness of 0.19m and ran across the trench (2m). This spread of stone lay over (007) sloping upwards to the west and was interpreted as having been a stone facing to the bank. Although in some areas it could be shown that this stone facing sat on top of the bedrock it was not fully excavated and the relationship between the underlying deposit (007) and the bedrock (023) could not be fully established.



Stone facing (007)

The deposit below the stone facing was (007) a compact, pale pinkish-grey, clay with rare small stone inclusions. The deposit covered an area 1.34m (although wall slot [016] had truncated this deposit) x 2m and the maximum thickness was 0.74m within the limits of excavation. This material was interpreted as re-deposited natural the formed part of the bank and had been exposed to high temperatures.

Beneath (007) were (020) and (022). Deposit (020) formed the upper fill of cut [019] and consisted of a compact, mid-yellowish orange sandy clay with angular stone inclusions (27mm x 19mm x 6mm ave). The colour was suggested to be due to exposure to high temperatures. Below (020) was a lower fill (018) which was a very dark brown grey sandy silt of moderate compaction with a large charcoal component and a concentration of three angular stones at the base. Two were an average of 54mm x 43mm x 22mm whilst the third was 0.23m x 0.15m x 0.04m. This deposit was interpreted as burnt residue possibly related to (024) and (022) thought to be timbers burnt in situ. Both fills sat within cut [019] which was an irregular oval in plan with gradual sides to the north-east becoming steep to the south-west falling to an uneven base. The cut measured 0.46m x 0.36m x 0.115m and was interpreted as a posthole possibly similar to [015].



Burnt deposits (022) and (024)

Deposit (022) was a concentrated deposit of charcoal in a matrix of very dark grey silt. It took the form of a 'U'-shaped seam approximately aligned north/south and measured 0.83m and 0.74m x 0.41m. It was not excavated. This deposit was interpreted as the remains of a timber burnt in situ. It is thought that (022) may relate to a similar deposit (024) which is described below. These two deposits in turn may be related to (014) and (018) which were charcoal rich fills of possible postholes. Both (022) and [019] were above (006) a mid-brown orange sandy silt of moderate compaction with angular stone inclusions (43mm x 38mm x 14mm ave). The deposit extended over an area 2m x 1.83m. Its full thickness was not revealed. The colour is thought to be due to exposure to high temperatures and the deposit has been interpreted as material that formed part of the bank. It may be analogous to (010) which is described below



2.2.2 West of wall slot [016]

Beneath (004) west of wall slot [016] was deposit (005) which consisted of a light brownish yellow sandy silt of moderate compaction with angular stone inclusions (50mm x 40mm x 8mm ave). The deposit measured 2.5m x 2m x 0.1m thick and was interpreted as a mixed horizon of plough soil and degraded natural limestone. This deposit overlay (012), (013) and (024) and a sherd of prehistoric pottery was found.

Revealed by the removal of (005) deposit (013) consisted of a moderately compact, mid grey brown, silt with a clay component and inclusions of angular stones (90mm x 80mm x 30mm ave). This formed the upper fill of feature [015] and lay above deposit (014), possibly forming around it. Forming the lower fill of the feature (014) was very dark brown grey sandy silt with a large charcoal component. This was tentatively suggested to be the remains of a post of stake burnt in situ. Both these deposits filled cut [015] which was an irregular shape in plan with steep sides and a stepped, flat, base. Aligned approximately east-west the feature measured 0.89m x 0.58m and at its maximum was 0.2m deep. No finds were recovered from this feature. Later investigation suggested that (014) may have related to a series of features (described above) that lay within the bank material (006) east of the later wall [016].

Deposit (024) was a concentrated deposit of charcoal in a matrix of very dark grey silt. It was aligned east/west and measured 1.2m x 0.5m. It was not excavated. This deposit was interpreted as the remains of a timber burnt in situ. It is thought that (024) may relate to a similar deposit (022) which lay east of the wall slot [016]. These two deposits in turn may be related to (014) and (018) which were charcoal rich fills of possible postholes. Both (024) and [015] were above (010) a pale yellowish-orange brown sandy silt of moderate compaction with angular stone inclusions. The deposit extended over an area 3.5m x 2m with a thickness of 0.86m. The colour is thought to be due to exposure to high temperatures and degraded limestone and the deposit has been interpreted as material that formed part of the bank. It may be analogous to (006) which is described above.



image of earthwork

West of the visible earthwork, deposit (012) consisted of a dark grey brown sandy silt of moderate compaction with small stone inclusions (24mm x 18mm x 7mm ave) and filled cut [017]. This was oval in plan, aligned approximately north-west/south-east and measured 1.10m x 0.20m with gradual sides to the south-west to a depth of 0.10m becoming steep to the north-west to a depth of 0.21m, giving it a stepped flat base. This was interpreted to be the base of a small pit of posthole and two pieces of prehistoric pottery (possibly Neolithic) were recovered from this feature.



Feature (017) post-hole or pit base.

3.0 Discussion

The aims of the investigation outlined above were to identify any above and below ground archaeological features and associated artefacts to further understand activity at the site. The visible earthwork was targeted to allow investigation of Neolithic activity at the site specifically. An evaluation trench across the earthwork and possible ditch feature revealed features thought to be Neolithic in date.

The bank itself although excavated to bedrock, was shown to be made up of layers of re-deposited natural clay over deposits of silty material with a large component of small stones. The latter deposits appeared to have been exposed to high temperatures and concentrated deposits of charcoal may represent the remains of timbers burnt in situ on top of the bank. Two possible postholes were also identified as cut into the layers of bank material and may have been related to the burnt timbers. West of the bank the bottom of a small pit containing sherds of Neolithic pottery was found suggesting activity within the enclosure formed by the bank.

On the east facing slope of the bank a layer of slabs of bedrock appeared to form a front over the deposits of bank material and may have sat directly on the bedrock in front of the bank. A flint scraper was recovered from the horizon between this layer and the bedrock below it. The bank may have been constructed from a timber-framework with stony deposits with natural clay like material covering at least part of it and a stone face on the eastern slope. The stone used on this front may have been drawn from a quarry found at the eastern end of the trench where a ditch had been suggested. No finds were recovered from the quarry so the possibility remains that it relates to construction activity at the site.

Acknowledgments

The University of Manchester and Herefordshire Council would like to convey their gratitude to the landowners of Dorstone Hill for their permission and support of the investigation upon their land.

A special thank you is to all of the students and volunteers who took part in the investigations, without their help the investigations would not have been a success.

Appendix 1. Entries from the Sites and Monuments Record relating to Dorstone Hill.

Whetstone, Dorstone Hill

SMR Number: 1534

Grid Reference: SO 33 42

Parish: Dorstone, Herefordshire

Whetstone (Hereford Mus Acc 7451). Given by Philip Hughes, Pentre Farm, Bredwardine. Length 90mm x w 33mm thickness 24mm. Ground rectangular sandstone bar, perhaps longer originally with almost cylindrical perforation. Whetstones of similar form were in use until middle ages, but from BA and IA associations elsewhere and proximity to other prehistoric finds on this ridge it is reasonable to infer that this example is prehistoric. (1)

Monument Type(s)

FINDSPOT (Prehistoric - 500000 BC? to 42 AD?)

Sources and Further Reading

<1> [SHE10573 - Bibliographic reference: Norwood, J F. 1961. Accessions. Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club. 37,103](#)

Associated Finds

FHE359 - WHETSTONE (Prehistoric - 500000 BC to 42 AD)

Neolithic occupation site, Dorstone Hill, Dorstone

SMR Number: 1551

Grid Reference: SO 326 423

Parish: Dorstone, Herefordshire

Discovery of 4000 flints & surface finds ranging Mesolithic-Roman (in extreme S of field) led to series of exploratory excavations which began 1965. Surface finds included c. 30 fragments of arrowheads & 60 fragments of polished flint or stone axes. Settlement is extensive, perhaps up to 18 acres, could be enclosed. 6 cuttings so far made. Cutting I (1965) showed that a much flattened bank at neck of spur which is Dorstone Hill, was dilapidations of wall, c 2'6" wide & probably not more than 2' high originally, built to consolidate a line of stakes some 5" in diameter. Wall debris contained fragment of polished stone axe. Undisturbed occupation soil behind wall contained waste flint, polished stone axe fragment.... & Western Neolithic pottery'.

Presence of wall was confirmed in cutting IV (1966). Sealed pit, 2'6" deep from its contemporary surface, approx 3' wide & estimated length of 10'6" found in cutting V (1966-7) under a 2" layer containing 125 flints, 2 leaf shaped arrowheads & a piece of Western Neolithic pottery. A 6'6" length of pit was excavated & infill contained frags of Western Neolithic pottery & flint implements. Cutting VI (1968, in progress) a depression, shown to be Bronze Age by radiocarbon dating was found, '...on silting of which had been built a large fire. Above this was a floor level from which a post hole descended into the fire'. A hut floor, bounded by stones set in a shallow foundation trench was found in another part of the cutting. (1)(2)(3)

Monument Type(s)

OCCUPATION SITE (Neolithic - 4000 BC to 2401 BC)

Sources and Further Reading

<1>[SHE11296 - Bibliographic reference: Pye, W. 1967. Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club. 39,157](#)

<2>[SHE11281 - Bibliographic reference: Pye, W. 08/1969. Here News Sheet. 14](#)

<3>[SHE16398 - Bibliographic reference: Anon. Woolhope, various articles.. Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.](#)

Associated Finds

FHE1077 - ASSEMBLAGE (Large quantity) (Neolithic - 4000 BC to 2401 BC)

FHE1127 - SHERD (>1) (Neolithic - 4000 BC to 2401 BC)

FHE3228 - SHERD (>1) (Early Neolithic - 4000 BC to 3301 BC)

FHE3229 - BLADE (1) (Neolithic - 4000 BC to 2401 BC)

Promontory Fort, Dorstone Hill

SMR Number: 1552

Grid Reference: SO 3271 4216

Parish: Dorstone, Herefordshire

SE tip of spur, forming highest portion of Dorstone Hill, divided from remainder of plateau by rampart & fosse constructed in almost straight length 180' long. Width at base of rampart approx 20' & rises to max height of 7'6" above present bottom of fosse & 2' above area within. Average 20' width of fosse up to 4.5' deep. No trace of counterscarp bank. Area cut off triangular in plan 180' x 250' & reasonably level. On S side of enclosure steep slope considered sufficient defence but on N traces of scarping with faint berm below..... (1) The hillfort occupies the spur of land just below the summit of Dorstone Hill. The fort is roughly triangular in plan. The north-east side has been artificially steepened to enhance the

defences. The third side is formed by an earthen bank and external ditch which extends for c. 55m forming an enclosure of c. 0.2ha. The bank is c. 5m wide at the base and varies in height, rising to a maximum of c. 2m above the bottom of the ditch. The ditch itself averages a width of 2.5m and although partly infilled, remains to a depth of 0.5m in some areas. (2) Report by RE Kay. Mention is made of a tentative excavation in 1965 in a field to the NW of the site, which revealed flint artefacts and pottery from the Neolithic to Roman times. A description of the site is given with dimensions. (3) Defensive ditch aligned approx N-S with possible trace of outer bank to W (not shown on OS). Remainder of enclosure in OS field 4913. Only surveyed W edge of the enclosure, as no permission for Dorstone Hill Wood. (4)

Monument Type(s)

PROMONTORY FORT (Iron Age - 800 BC to 42 AD)

HILLFORT (Iron Age - 800 BC to 42 AD)

Sources and Further Reading

<1>[SHE9603 - Bibliographic reference: Kay, R. 1967. Three unrecorded earthworks from S W Herefordshire. Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club. 39,40 plan](#)

<2>[SHE3490 - Scheduling record: English Heritage. 1996. Schedule Entry. English Heritage.](#)

<3>[SHE15757 - Serial: Shoesmith, Ron \(ed\). 1968. Herefordshire Archaeological News No 10. Woolhope Club Archaeological Research Section. 4. Pages 6](#)

<4>[SHE14977 - Unpublished Report: Edwards, R E. 01/01/1995. Marches Uplands Survey: Dorstone Transect.. HWCC Archaeological Service. 146.](#)

Flint scraper, Dorstone Hill

SMR Number: 4772

Grid Reference: SO 32 42

Parish: Dorstone, Herefordshire

Late prehistoric (?Bronze Age) flint tool - end scraper. One face worked and retouched. Flake struck, worked and subsequently burnt by accidental fire. Thermal scars and cracking evident on both faces. Discovered on approach to HWCM 1552 promontory fort which forms SE tip of Dorstone Hill Wood. Lying on surface of woodland track. (1)

Monument Type(s)

FINDSPOT (Bronze Age - 2400 BC? to 801 BC?)

Sources and Further Reading

<1>[SHE9492 - Verbal communication: JPH. 05/1989. SMR card.](#)

Associated Finds

FHE1826 - SCRAPER (TOOL) (Late Neolithic to Early Iron Age - 2600 BC? to 701 BC?)

RB Finds, Dorstone Hill

SMR Number: 7179
Grid Reference: SO 32 42
Parish: Dorstone, Herefordshire

Dorstone hill, examination of Neolithic site, produced finds of Mesolithic to Roman periods.....(1)

Monument Type(s)

OCCUPATION SITE (Roman - 43 AD to 409 AD)

Sources and Further Reading

<1>[SHE11296 - Bibliographic reference: Pye, W. 1967. Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club. 39, 157](#)

<2>[SHE650 - Bibliographic reference: 08/1969. Here News Sheet. 14](#)

Associated Finds

FHE1871 - ASSEMBLAGE (Roman - 43 AD to 409 AD)

Bronze Age occupation site, Dorstone Hill, Dorstone

SMR Number: 7523
Grid Reference: SO 326 423
Parish: Dorstone, Herefordshire

Neolithic site on Dorstone Hill. Excavations began 1965: Depression, BA by radiocarbon was found 'on silting of which had been built a large fire. Above this was a floor level from which a post hole descended into fire'. (1) (2)

Monument Type(s)

OCCUPATION SITE (Bronze Age - 2400 BC to 801 BC)
BUILDING (Bronze Age - 2400 BC to 801 BC)

Sources and Further Reading

<1>[SHE11285 - Bibliographic reference: Pye, R. 1967. Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club. 39, 157](#)

<2>[SHE11283 - Bibliographic reference: Pye, W. 08/1969. Hereford New Sheet. 14](#)

Mesolithic flints, Dorstone Hill

SMR Number: 7524
Grid Reference: SO 32 42
Parish: Dorstone, Herefordshire

Neolithic settlement on Dorstone Hill: surface finds range from mesolithic to Roman (1)

Monument Type(s)

OCCUPATION SITE (Mesolithic - 10000 BC to 4001 BC)

Associated Files

Sources and Further Reading

<1>[SHE11296 - Bibliographic reference: Pye, W. 1967. Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club. 39, 157](#)

<2>[SHE11281 - Bibliographic reference: Pye, W. 08/1969. Here News Sheet. 14](#)

Associated Finds

FHE1875 - ASSEMBLAGE (Mesolithic - 10000 BC to 4001 BC)

Multi-period Occupation Site, Dorstone Hill, Dorstone

SMR Number: 51971

Grid Reference: SO 3260 4230

Parish: Dorstone, Herefordshire

Overall record for multi-period occupation site on Dorstone Hill. The discovery of very large quantities (>4000) of surface finds, mainly flints, ranging from the Mesolithic to the Roman period, led to a series of exploratory excavations which began in 1965. See related records for period-specific details. (1) (2)

Monument Type(s)

OCCUPATION SITE (Early Mesolithic to Roman - 10000 BC to 409 AD)

Sources and Further Reading

<1>[SHE11296 - Bibliographic reference: Pye, W. 1967. Transactions of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club.](#)

<2>[SHE11281 - Bibliographic reference: Pye, W. 08/1969. Here News Sheet.](#)

Flint scatter, Dorstone Hill

SMR Number: 145152

Grid Reference: SO 32 42

Parish: Dorstone, Herefordshire

Surface scatter of flint flake/burnt flint. Not recovered. Adjacent to OS marked site of settlement.

Monument Type(s)

FINDSPOT (Prehistoric - 500000 BC to 42 AD)

Sources and Further Reading

<1>[SHE14977 - Unpublished Report: Edwards, R E. 01/01/1995. Marches Uplands Survey: Dorstone Transect.. HWCC Archaeological Service. 146.](#)

Associated Finds

FHE835 - LITHIC IMPLEMENT (Prehistoric - 500000 BC to 42 AD)

Associated events

[EHE1640 - Marches Uplands Survey \(Ref: SMR Event: 45162\)](#)