

Wessex Archaeology Stonehenge databases

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by English Heritage to produce a comprehensive report on the twentieth-century excavations at Stonehenge, as a result of which the Wessex Archaeology Stonehenge Archive was compiled. The archive contains written material (primary, secondary, original, and copied), drawings, photographs, and some finds. These relate to a large number of excavations and non-archaeological interventions undertaken in and around the Stonehenge Triangle between 1901 and 1994. The results of the project were published as *Stonehenge in its landscape: twentieth century excavations*, Cleal RMJ, Walker KE and Montague R, 1995 English Heritage Archaeological Report 10. The archive, including copies of the databases (on paper and CD), is held at Salisbury Museum, which also holds the majority of the finds and some original archive material.

Fourteen databases were compiled during the course of the project as aids to the analysis and correlation of a large body of data. More detailed information relating to the CORREL database, which gives phasing for all contexts, can be found below (Appendix 5). The contents of the databases can be summarised thus:

Name	Subject
ARCHIVE	Location of wider Stonehenge Archive material
ATPHOTO	Index and catalogue of Atkinson <i>et al.</i> photographic archive
CORRELL	Summary context record, correlation with Berridge numbers and phasing information
DIARY	Total finds noted in Hawley Diaries (i.e. including those not kept)
SHENPOT	Earlier prehistoric pottery
ELMPOT	Later prehistoric pottery
LATE_POT	Late Iron Age/Romano-British and later pottery
FINDS	'Other finds' (non-ceramic/flint/faunal) in Salisbury Museum examined during the course of the project
FLINT	Flint
GRAPHICS	Graphics register
HAWLEY	Hawley finds (Newall catalogue) with Berridge numbers and location within Salisbury Museum (<i>c.</i> 1989)
SHENGE	Card catalogue of Atkinson <i>et al.</i> finds index
STONANT	Antler (Southampton Faunal Remains Unit)
STONBONE	Animal bone (Southampton Faunal Remains Unit)

NB. Since the databases were compiled between 1989 and 1994, some information, particularly with regard to the location of items, is no longer correct.

Appendix 5* Phasing and site database

The phasing used in the database in the present study is distinguished by arabic numerals, sub-divided alphabetically. The details of all contexts are held in the file CORREL in the site database, held with the archive.

The phasing for each context comprises four elements, in the following order, and with the field names given in brackets:

PERIOD [FPI]
PHASE [FPII]
GROUP [FPIII]
UNIT [FPIV]

PERIOD: this was not used

PHASE: for the main phases of the monument the alphanumeric phase codes used in the text are the same as those in the database field FPII, i.e. 1,2,3 with sub-divisions. Plus and minus signs are used in the database to indicate 'or later' and 'or earlier' respectively.

For the post-monument activity, which it did not prove possible to divide into meaningful phases, and for un-phasable activity, codes have been assigned to non-phased categories of related Groups, and are numbered in the Phase field (FPII). These codes are also used for very general categories of contexts which are not assigned to group (e.g. turf and topsoil, excavation backfill).

The codes are distinguished by the first digit of the 2-digit number, as follows:

- 6 Post-monument destruction of monument
- (7 not used)
- 8 Recent disturbance, not obviously connected with destruction of the monument (but does include excavation backfills)
- 9 Unphasable features

These codes are given below in table 66 against group number, where applicable, and descriptions are given for those codes which have no Groups within them in Table 67.

GROUPS: these comprise related groups of contexts, one or more of which may constitute a phase. Group numbers are unique, and therefore form the easiest access to different types of context, e.g. all the original fills of the Bluestone Circle stoneholes have the group number 5. FPIII is a field for 3 digits

The Groups are described and phased in Table 66.

UNITS: these are more or less equivalent to fields asking for 'component of' and the unit is normally the cut number for a feature or for a section of the ditch.

* Appendix 5 in *Stonehenge 20th century excavations archive: an introduction and user's guide*, taken from Appendix 8, Cleal, Walker and Montague, 1995 *Stonehenge in its landscape: twentieth-century excavations*.

Table 66: Groups

<i>Group</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Revised phase (form on database)</i>	<i>Non-phased grouping (form on database)</i>
01	Ditch cut & primary fill: mainly chalk rubble, but may also include trampled clay etc. on bottom (as included in classic descriptions of ditch profiles in chalk)	1	
02	Bank	1	
03	Aubrey Holes: cut & primary fill	1	
04	Post-holes on causeway	2	

05	Sarsen circle	3ii	
06	Sarsen Trilithons	3ii	
07	Bluestone Circle	3iv	
08	Bluestone Horseshoe	3iv	
09	Q & R Holes	3I	
10	Stoneholes earlier than final Bluestone Horseshoe	3iii	
11	Stoneholes earlier than final Bluestone Circle	3iii	
12	Other non-posthole features earlier than Bluestone Horseshoe	3-	
13	Postholes (noted by excavator) not definitely later than	2-	
14	Postholes (assumed) not definitely later than	2-	
15	Y Holes: cut & primary	3vi	
16	Z Holes: cut & primary	3vi	
17	Natural secondary fill of Ditch	2a	
18	Aubrey holes: secondary fill	2-	
19	Fills of empty Bluestone Circle holes (exc. any remaining original fill)		60
20	Fills of empty Bluestone Horseshoe holes (exc. any original fill)		60
21	Unphasable, not stonehole or posthole & with no known relationships, i.e. there obviously were relationships but they have been destroyed unrecorded)		91 or phased individually
22	Features noted as IIIc stoneholes by Atkinson	3-	
23	Counterscarp Bank	1	
24	Features cutting secondary fill of Ditch	2b	
25	As 21 but interpreted as natural by excavator, i.e. bushholes		91
26	Features cutting edge of Ditch/Bank	3-	
27	Non-posthole, non-stonehole features	3-	
28	Probable robber trenches		60
29	Cremations with no known relationships		91
30	Non-posthole features earlier than Q & R Holes with no bluestone	2-	
31	Post-Bluestone Circle features, not postholes or stoneholes		91
32	Fills of empty Sarsen Circle holes		60
33	Unphasable, postholes not or unlikely to be early		91
34	Aubrey Hole: cut through secondary fill, no ash/cremations/bluestone	2-	
35	Aubrey Hole: secondary fill ashy layer with/without cremations	2-	
36	Aubrey Hole: secondary fill post-ashy layer, no bluestone	2-	
37	Aubrey Holes: secondary fills, bluestone layer	3+	
38	Stoneholes earlier than 39/10 or 39/11	3iii	
39	Stoneholes not assignable to phase	3-	
40	Y Holes: fill, no RB material present	3vi+	
41	Z Holes: fill, no RB material present	3vi+	
42	Y Holes: fill, RB present		60
43	Z Holes: fill, RB present		60
44	South Barrow: ditch & fills	3b	
45	South Stones: holes & ?fills	3b	
46	North Barrow: ditch and fills	3b	
47	Avenue ditch: cut & fills where not differentiated	3c	
48	Avenue ditch: secondary fills where differentiated	3c	
49	Avenue ditch: cut & primary fill & bank	3c	
50	Heelstone Ditch: cut & fill	3b	
51	Heelstone & hole	3a	
52	North Barrow bank	3b	
53	Stone 97 hole	3a	

54	Post-Sarsen but not certainly modern		91
55	As 29/ but layers	(3-)	
56	Layers earlier than Q/R Holes without bluestone	(2-)	

Non-monument north of A344

57	Avenue ditch: cut & all fills where not differentiated outside the monument
58	Avenue ditch: cut, bank & primary fill outside the monument
59	Avenue ditch: secondary fill outside the monument
60	Avenue ditch: tertiary fill outside the monument
61	'Oblique' ditch: cut & fills where not differentiated. Post-dates the Avenue according to Atkinson
62	'Gate' ditch: cut & fills where not differentiated
63	'Oblique' ditch: cut, primary fill & bank
64	Postholes post-dating Avenue ditch & fills outside the monument
65	Postholes &/or pits & fills where not differentiated outside the monument, unphaseable
66	Layers cut by or pre-dating the Avenue ditch, fills & bank outside the monument
67	Layers post-dating the Avenue ditch, fills & bank outside the monument
68	Layers outside the monument, unphaseable
69	Linear features & fills where not differentiated outside the monument, unphaseable
70	Curvilinear feature on Vespasians Camp Ridge & fills where not differentiated
71	Features post-dating or probably post-dating curvilinear feature 70
72	Postholes, primary fills & packing material outside the monument
73	Postpipe material within postholes 72
74	Upper posthole fills within 72
75	Palisade Ditch cut, primary fills & packing materials
76	Postpipe material: deliberate backfilling, silting etc. within Palisade Ditch 75
77	Disturbance after filling of postpipes & before turf formation within Palisade Ditch 75; i.e. grave, recuts etc.
78	Upper ditch fills & turflines within Palisade Ditch 75
79	Palisade Ditch cut & fills where not differentiated
80	Features & their fills outside the monument interpreted as natural
81	Avenue ditch: recut & fills outside the monument
82	Stakeholes & very small features & their fills identified from section drawings, pre-dating the Avenue ditch outside the monument
83	Stakeholes & small features & their fills identified from section drawings, relationship with the Avenue ditch unknown, outside monument
84	Stakeholes & fills outside the monument, unphaseable
85	Linear feature cuts & primary fills outside the monument, not the Avenue or the Palisade Ditch
86	Secondary fills within linear features 75
87	Tertiary fills within linear features 85
88	Layers cut by linear features 85
89	Layers cut by postholes 72 outside the monument
90	Features (ambiguity over id) & primary fills outside the monument

- 91 Secondary fills within features 90
- 92 Features (ambiguity over id) pre-dating the Avenue bank outside the monument

monument south of A344

93	Backfill of Stonehole 97	3b	
94	Secondary fill of Heelstone Ditch	3a+	
95	Features sealed by Avenue bank	3-	
96	Layers in Ditch interpreted as deliberate backfill of chalk following primary fill	2	
97	Minor runs of chalk within normal secondary fill which seem too limited to be part of a deliberate backfilling episode & are not considered as such by Hawley; could therefore be due to e.g. animal burrowing at side of ditch, or minor disturbance to chalk of Bank etc.	2a	
98	Humic layer directly above primary chalk rubble fill in Ditch. Precedes the deliberate, where that occurs, & in some places is present below the natural secondary fill. It appears to be a stabilisation horizon. It has been counted as phase 1 on the grounds that where there is backfill it appears to immediately precede it, & the primary filling is likely to have formed & begun to stabilise in a very few seasons.	1	
99	Natural (usually chalk)		9.9 (99)
100	Subsoil		9.8 (98)
101	Non-posthole features earlier than 102	3iii	
102	Stonehole features earlier than those of Group 10 or 11		
103	Unphaseable features: neither stoneholes nor postholes, but prehistoric; i.e. as for group 21, but in this case there were no relationships originally, except with recent layers or features		9.1 (91)
104	Features definable as neither stoneholes nor postholes, & which are later than Q or R holes	3+	
105	Non-posthole features which are earlier than the Sarsen Circle/Trilithons but with no other relationships	3-	
106	Stoneholes D & E	3	
107	Stonehole in side of Ditch near NE causeway	2+	
108	Arc of stoneholes closing Bluestone Horseshoe	3iv	
109	Fills of stoneholes of group 108	3iv+	
110	Stonehole F	2+	
111	Beaker period grave (Evans & Atkinson) in Ditch	3+	

Table 67: Non-phased categories

Non-phased categories (as on database in field FPII)

Description

60	Post-monument destruction of the monument
80	Probably recent use of the monument
81	Certainly modern disturbance: human
82	Rabbit & animal disturbance
83	Disturbance of unknown date
86	Probably modern disturbance but there is an element of doubt as to its date
87	Layers of unknown date, overlain by possibly non-prehistoric features, Stonehenge layer, or turf & topsoil
88	'Stonehenge' layer
89	Turf & topsoil
90	Used for features which cannot be located & about which no other details as to date, relationships etc. known

- 91 Unphaseable features which are neither stoneholes nor postholes, or uncertain features, with no relationships other than with modern layers or features, but which are probably prehistoric themselves
- 94 Cremations or other disturbances in Aubrey Holes, subsequent to the appearance of bluestone
- 98 Subsoil
- 99 Natural (almost always chalk)