

Excavations at Ham Hill, Somerset (2011)



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with Christopher Evans & Niall Sharples

CAMBRIDGE ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE



Excavations at
HAM HILL, SOMERSET
2011

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Cambridge Archaeological Unit
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
Event Number: TTNCM57/2011
July 2012/CAU Report No. 1101

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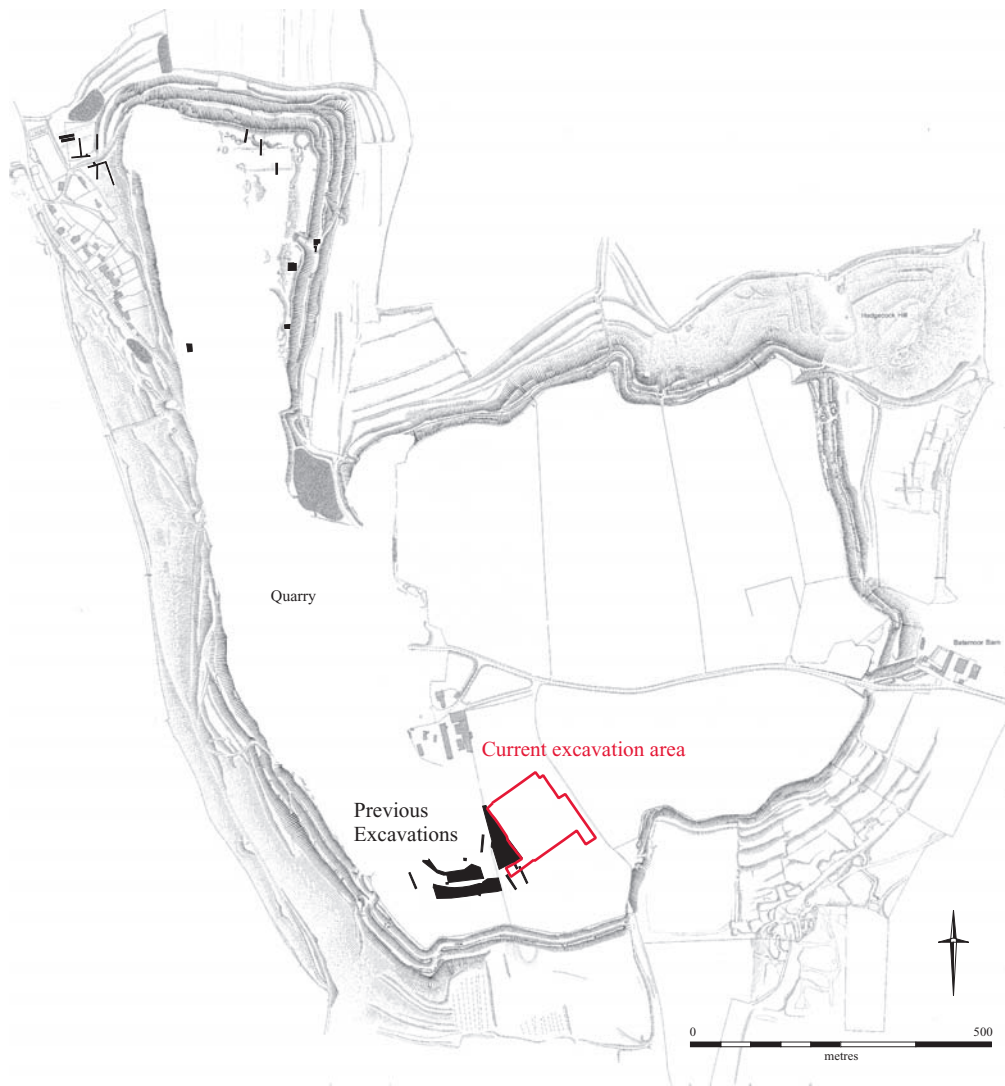
INTRODUCTION

In advance of long-term stone quarry-extraction, between late July and September of 2011 fieldwork commenced on a c. 1.3ha site within the southwestern sector of Ham Hill hillfort (NGR 48402 16085; SAM 100; Fig. 1). Jointly undertaken by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) of the University of Cambridge and the University of Cardiff's Dept. of Archaeology, this was the first of three consecutive summer field seasons. As detailed below, this first involved machine-stripping down to the sub-soil horizon across the entire area, when various surface-collection sampling procedures were implemented. Thereafter, this horizon was again machine-reduced and excavation was conducted along separate swathes along its southwestern and northeastern sides (4200 & 1140sqm respectively). Of these, relating to the progress of the Hamstone Quarry, the work across the western part – Area 1 – was completed by the end of the season; the eastern zone (Area 4), where bund construction will eventually occur, proved complicated and its excavation was not then finished and will only be completed during the 2012 season (as will Area 2, with Area 3 being tackled in year-three/2013; Fig. 2). Accordingly, while the results from Area 4 will be outlined, this report will largely concentrate upon the Area 1 work wherein the sequence was fully excavated.¹

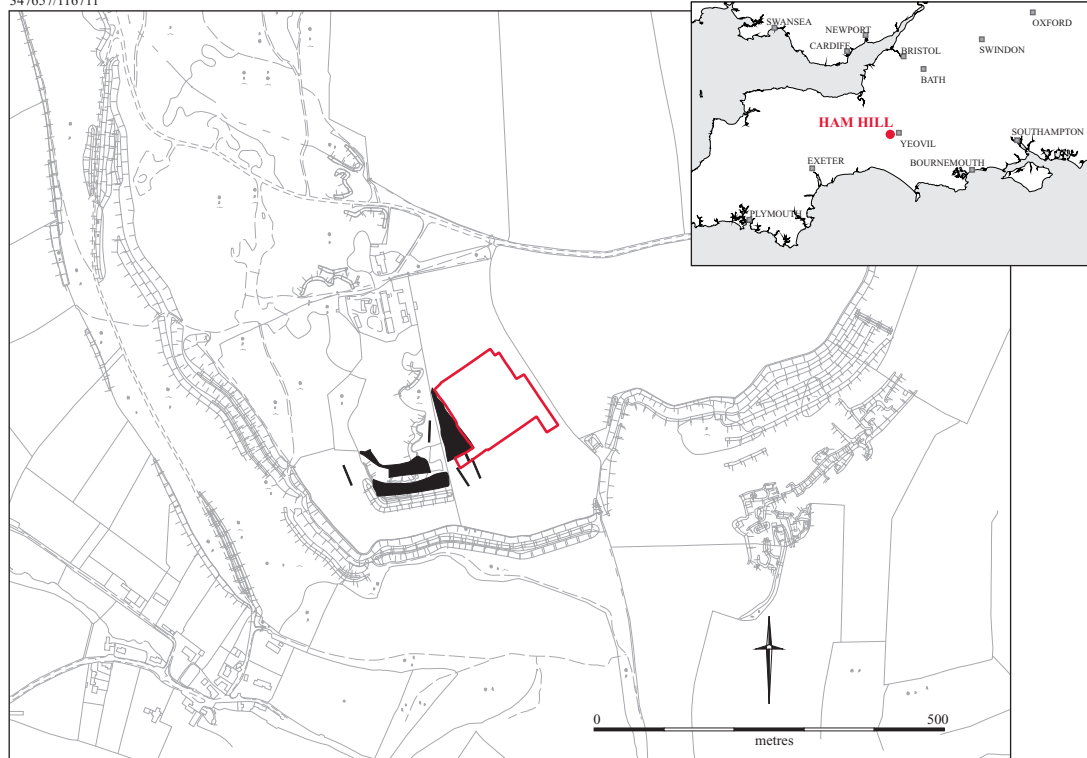
The results of the previous investigations within the hillfort – in the early decades of the last century, Gray within its northwestern spur (1924, 1925 and 1926) and Walker on its probably Roman villa (1907), and, later, the adjacent areas excavated by Central Unit and Wessex Archaeology immediately west of the current site-area (Smith 1991; McKinley 1999; Leivers *et al.* 2006) – have been outlined within the site's Project Design and need not be further described here (the latter's results will, though, be incorporated within this report's discussion section). What does, however, warrant mention is that over the course of the year the English Heritage's Remote Sensing team completed the geophysical survey across the northeastern third of the hillfort's surviving interior (Figs. 3 & 4; Payne *et al.* 2012). The quality of the imagery is extraordinary, detailing its sequence of paddocks, fieldsystems and even individual roundhouses, with the result that, when combined with the earlier survey results, the picture now obtained of the hillfort's interior is unparalleled amongst such monuments; as is also the way that it seems to have been laid out, with regular large paddock-enclosures and roads/routeways.

In the second- and third-year seasons it is expected that targeted trenching will first occur along the rampart's circuit and, then, to investigate interior-system features. The thrust, though, of the main programme is the excavation – almost in its entirety – of one of hillfort's paddock-enclosures and other adjacent features; the latter including what the geophysical surveys show to be an underlying fieldsystem. As related below, because of the rarity of being able to excavate such a large coherent area of a hillfort (and a Scheduled Ancient Monument), the excavation strategy was appropriately intense.

¹ Given the interim/on-going nature of the fieldwork programme, specialist recommendations concerning the further analysis/study of this year's findings have been duly archived and will be incorporated into the final Assessment Report following the 2013 season. Similarly, any such recommendations concerning changes to the current methodologies, *etc.* will be presented in a separate document.



347657/116711



349087/115640

Figure 1. Site location



Figure 2. Site Area, contours and geophysical survey plot (see Fig. 3)

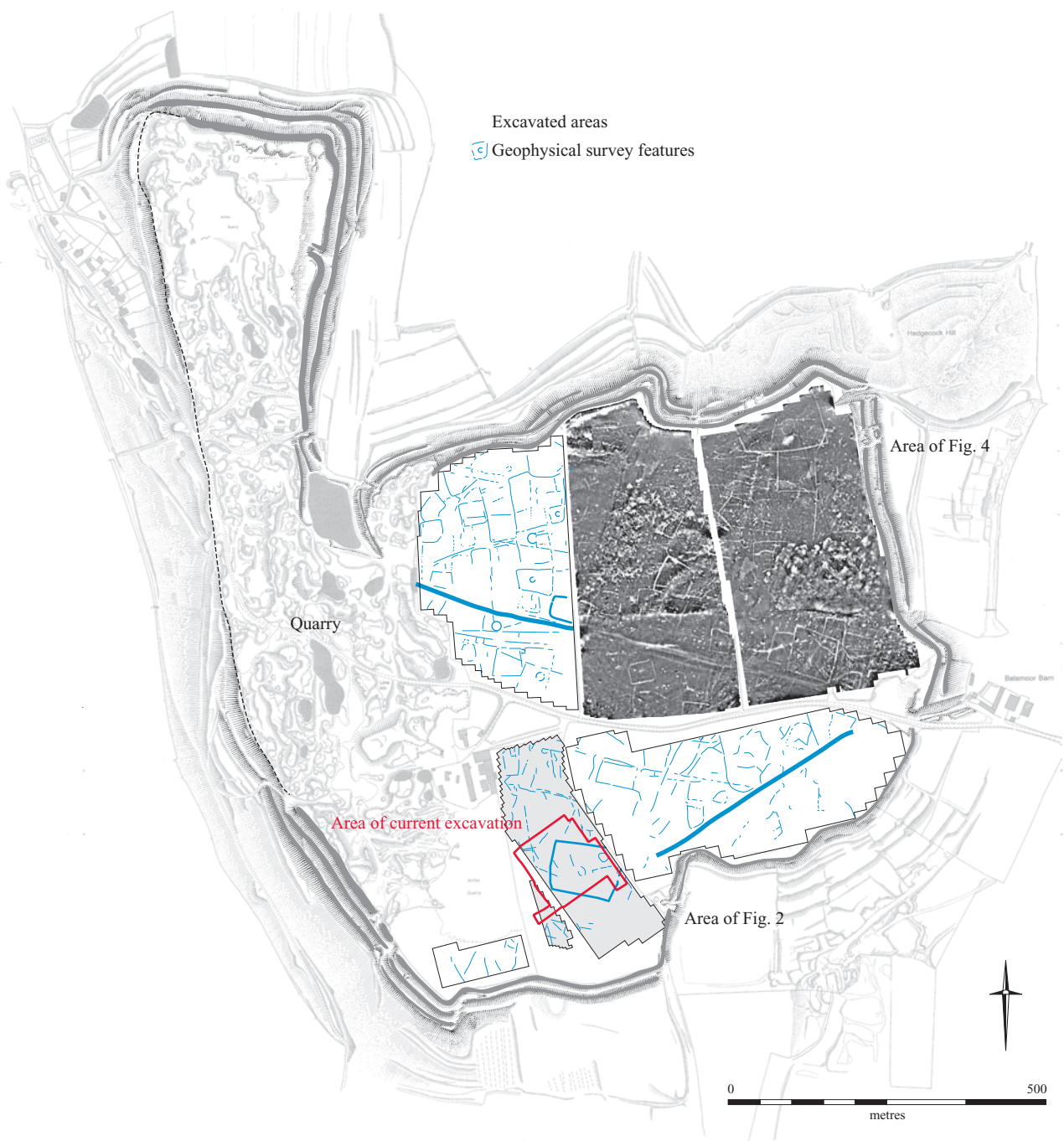


Figure 3. Plan of the hillfort showing the latest English Heritage geophysical survey results

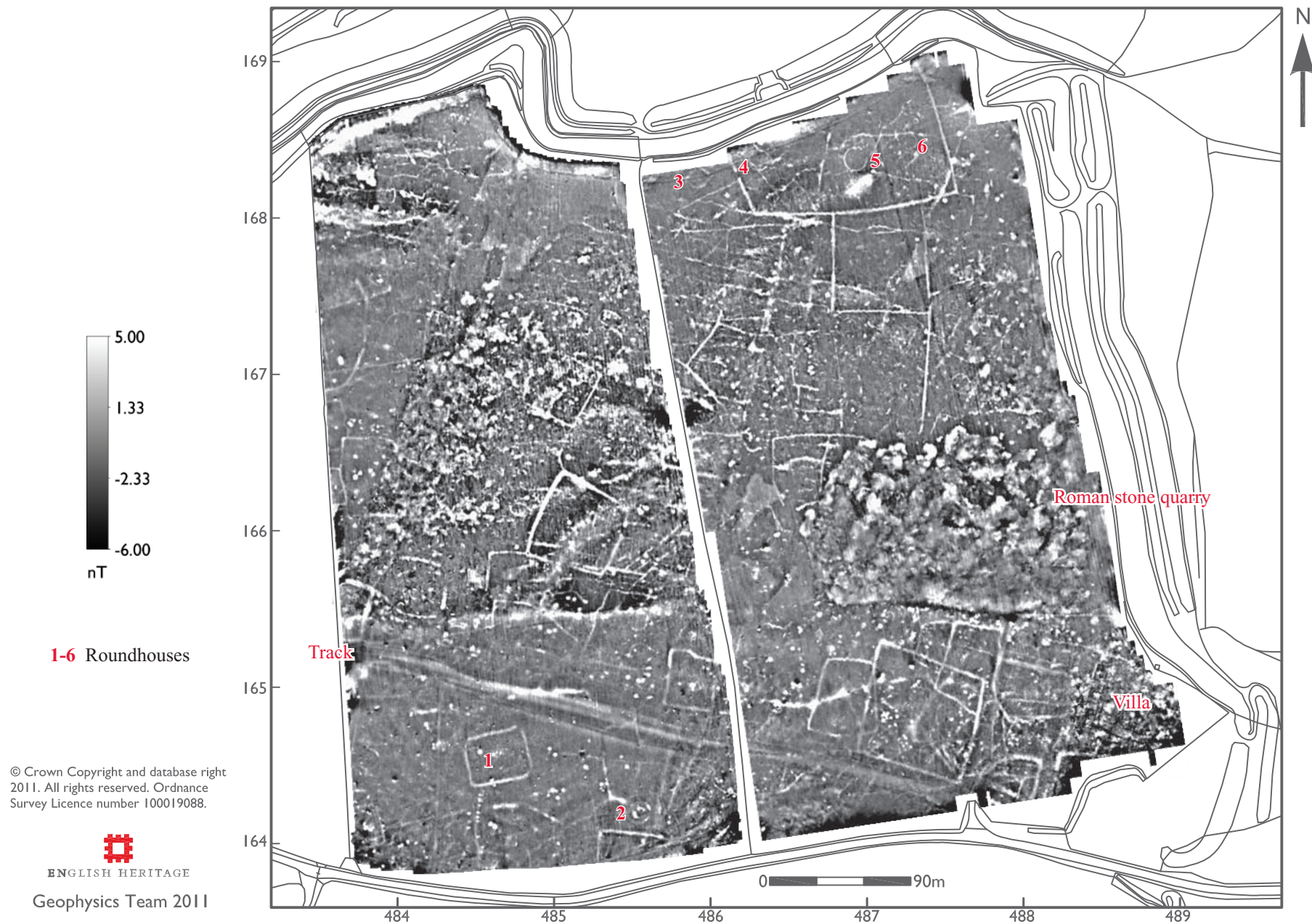


Figure 4. Northeast quarter geophysical plot

Geology and Topography

The excavation-area lies, at c. 120m OD, within the base of a shallow topographic bowl crowned by a gradual north-to-east landfall with a slight ridge elevated in the southeast, and a further landfall crested by the present quarry workings in the southwest (Fig. 2). Variation in the geological strata was observed across the excavation-area in both Areas 1 and 4, that are characterised by raised ridges of fractured Liassic Hamstone, as well as large areas of largely compacted Yeovil Sands concentrated within the south of Area 1. These are overlain by sub-soil that varies in depth and thickness throughout the excavation-area, and the probable presence of a localised lower sub-soil was identified during the 2009 evaluation phase (Slater 2009). The site's buried soils were fully sampled both during the evaluation and, again, in 2011, and are duly reported upon below. The previous soil examinations highlighted the importance of the topography of the excavated area of the hillfort (Allen & French, in Slater 2009), accentuating the basin-like hollow and the predominance of a darker, possible lower sub-soil horizon within the topographically lower areas, as well as at the bases of slopes, particularly in the most easterly and southern stretches of Areas 1 and 4.

Surface Investigation Methodology

A comprehensive metal-detector survey was carried out prior to the removal of top-soil, but the reliability of this was hindered by significant feedback from modern metallic debris, both agricultural and industrial, along with general waste consumables. A full metal-detector survey of the top-soil spoil heaps was undertaken following its removal, but with a similar paucity of metalwork being recovered.

A primary phase of mechanical stripping restricted to top-soil removal was undertaken between the 18th and 25th of July. This was carried out under archaeological supervision using a 2.5m wide toothless ditching bucket, exposing the upper horizon of sub-soil and later-period archaeological features. The exposure of such an extensive area of sub-soil was also to facilitate further investigation of the those deposits themselves and to hopefully allow Prof. Charles French and Dr Mike Allen to expand upon the evaluation studies (see below).

After removal, the top-soil was used to create a bund acting as a safety barrier between the southern extent of the excavation-area and the quarry edge. A purpose-built earthen viewing platform was also constructed during this process.

Following the initial stripping of top-soil [2501] and exposure of the uniform upper horizon of sub-soil [2500], walkover and metal-detector surveys, and subsequent test pit sampling, was implemented with the aim to appraise the finds density and chronological sequence of the sub-soil deposits, as well as to determine the extent, date and character of any lower 'buried' sub-soil horizons. During this process a total of 1657 artefacts were recovered (Table 1).

		Walkover	Test Pits		Deposit Area 4 (during excavation)
Material Type		Sub-soil [2500]	Sub-soil [2500]	Lower Sub- soil [2502]/ [2503]	Lower Sub-soil [2840]
Pot		350	101	15	62
Brick/ Tile		43	0	0	0
Glass		4	0	0	0
Flint		262	113	5	47
Worked Stone		9	1	0	0
Animal Bone		20	17	1	55
Burnt Clay		47	5	2	0
Burnt Flint		27	18	0	0
Burnt Stone		151	41	19	5
Slag		41	3	2	1
'Slingstones'		32	9	7	0
Metal	Ferrous	52	0	0	0
	Copper alloy	2	0	0	0
	Lead	3	0	0	0
	Silver	1	0	0	0
	Gold	1	0	0	0
Coal/ Cinder		62	20	1	0
Total:		1107	328	52	165

Table 1: Finds quantities from Walkover and Test Pit survey.

Heavy rain followed the initial stripping of the top-soil and exposure of the sub-soil, thereby 'weathering out' artefacts that might otherwise have remained sealed within the upper stratum. The position of each was three-dimensionally recorded using a Total Station, and then allocated a unique 'Small Find Number' (SF). In total 1107 finds were recovered during this exercise (Table 1). The distribution of these plots is described and discussed below, along with results from the test pit survey.

A series of thirty 1x1m test pits were opened at the intersection points of a 20m grid (Fig. 5). Each was dug in 10cm spits, and contextual horizons were numbered individually. One hundred percent of each context was sieved using a 5mm mesh in order to maximise the retrieval of smaller artefacts and ecofacts; a minimum of one section-profile was drawn for each test pit. Partially exposed archaeological features were numbered and recorded in plan, but not excavated; fully exposed discrete features, such as small pits or postholes, were excavated and recorded using the recording system outlined below.

Five of the proposed test-pits were not excavated owing to their position on the 20m grid: TP13 was located within the backfill of one of the 2009 evaluation trenches; TPs 28-31 were located immediately adjacent to the southern baulk that was avoided due to unstable geology and related quarry works (spoil heaps and an active haul-road). It is, though, hoped to be able to excavate these in 2012.

Within each of the excavated test pits the upper sub-soil horizon [2500] was a light yellowy-brown, moderately compact sandy clay, varying in thickness from 0.09m (TP2) to 0.4m (TP11). This contained Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age flint, with Iron Age and later period pottery, as well as occasional 'slingstones'. A small quantity of slag and burnt clay was present, as well as occasional cinder and coal (Table 1).

A lower sub-soil horizon [2502] was identified within 12 of the 30 excavated pits, located within the eastern half of the excavation-area. This was a mid to dark grey-brown, moderately compacted sandy silt, varying in thickness between 0.06-0.35m, with very infrequent charcoal flecking and occasional sandy clay mottling. Finds included flint, pottery and occasional burnt clay (albeit in lower densities than from the upper sub-soil horizon [2500]); a single Early Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead was present within [2502] from TP15.

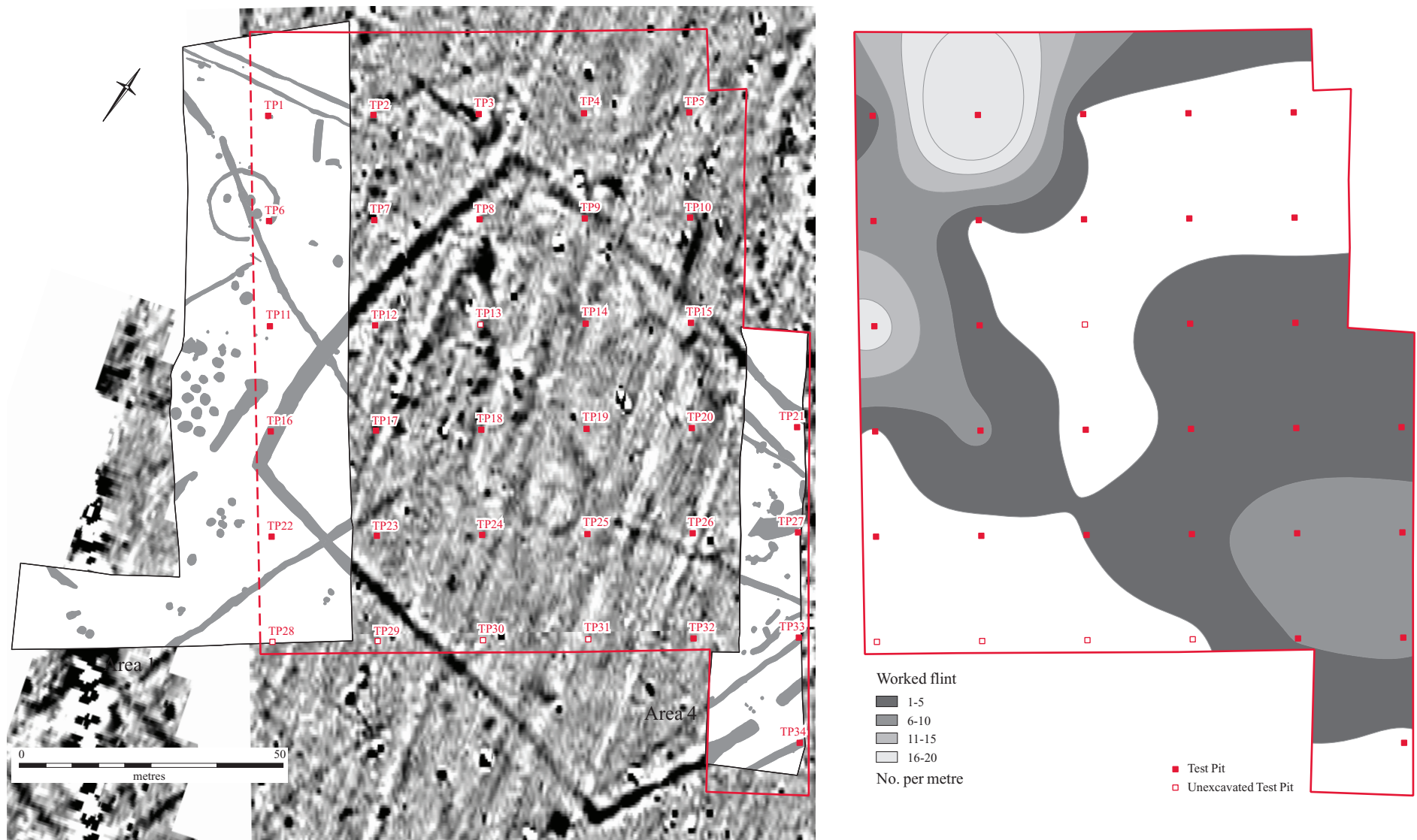


Figure 5. Test Pit locations and flint distribution

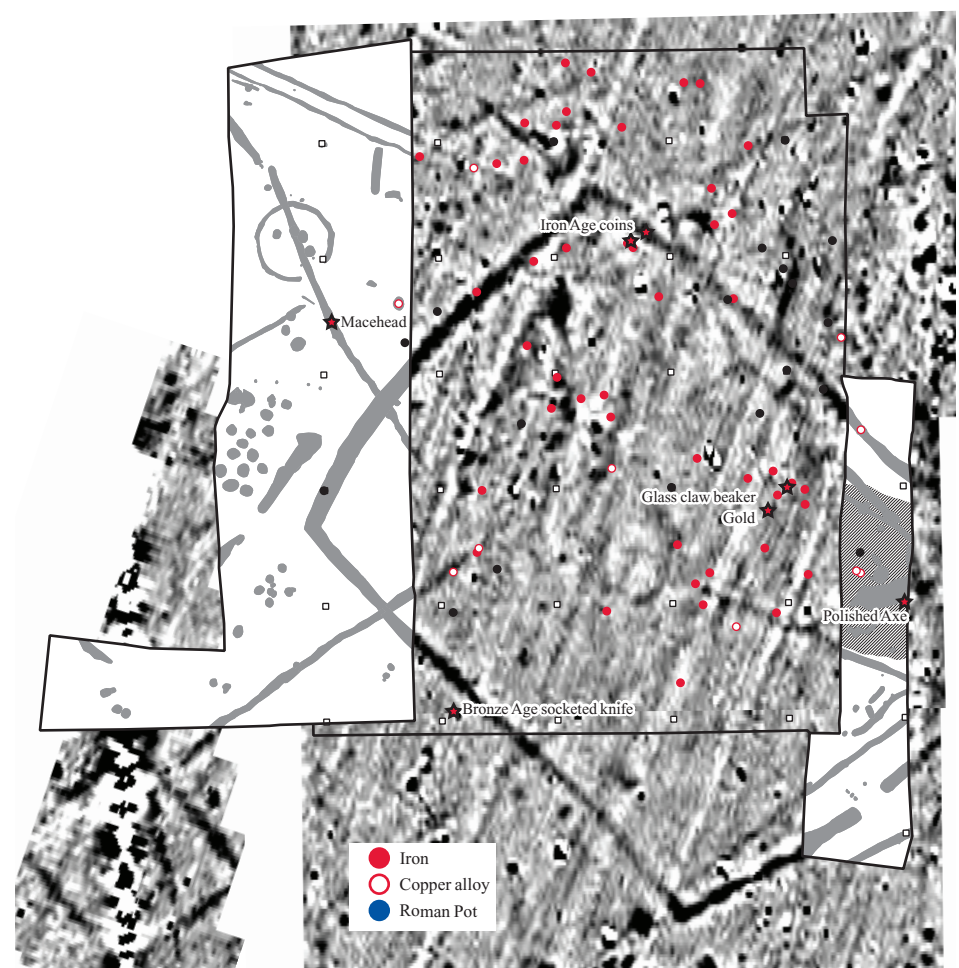
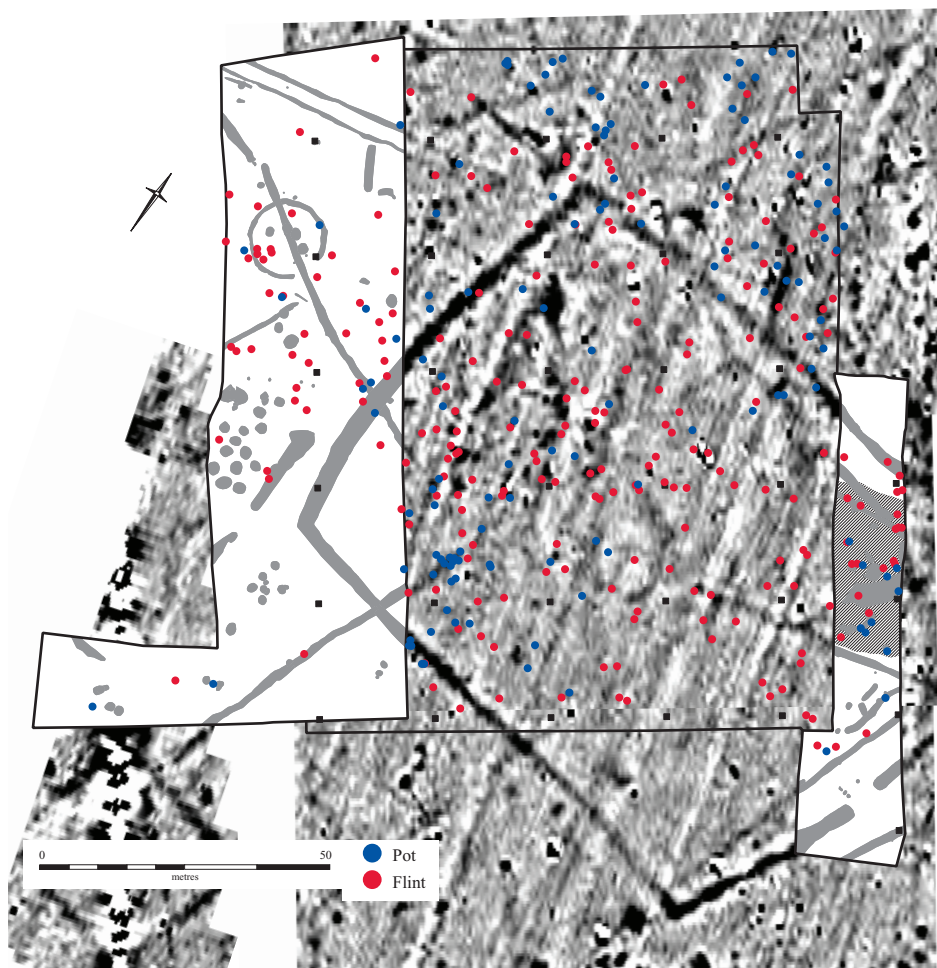


Figure 6. Sub-soil surface finds distributions

The relationship between archaeological cut features and deposit [2502] clearly demonstrated its place within the stratigraphic development of the overall site. For example, [2506] was truncated by cut features in a number of the test pits, including a large, irregular pit in TP10 (not excavated, upper fill [2506]), and three small pits or postholes in TP20 (F.1668, F.1669 & F.1670; where [2502] was recorded as [2840]). Elsewhere, this lower sub-soil horizon [2502] was found to seal archaeological features (TP5, TP9, TP15, TP21 & TP24).

Variation in the strata was identified in TP19 where a deposit of dark grey-brown moderately compacted silty clay with frequent sandy mottling [2524] was found to underlie lower sub-soil horizon [2502], and also contained occasional flint, pottery and slag inclusions. During the 2009 evaluation deposits similar to [2524] were noted with an absence of defining edges, suggesting that it may be part of a large feature or more widespread deposit, although further investigation was not then possible (Slater 2009). However, an irregular 'pit feature' identified within TP24 may represent the limit of [2524].

Test Pit	Deposit	Thickness	Relevant Material Culture	Features
TP1	[2500]	0-.2m	Flint flake, burnt flint	None
	[2503]	0.2-.4m	Flint Flake	
TP2	[2500]	0-.38m	Flint, Pottery, burnt flint, 'Slingstones', burnt stone, coal	None
TP3	[2500]	0.0-.9m	None	None
TP4	[2500]	0-.23m	None	None
TP5	[2500]	0-.2m	Pottery, Coal	[2513] upper fill of NE-SW ditch; no finds. [2512] upper fill of NE-SW gully; no finds.
	[2502]	0.2-.55m	Pottery	
TP6	[2500]	0-.2m	Pottery, Coal	[2504] Upper fill of rounded gully terminus. Finds Pot, flint, animal bone.
TP7	[2500]	0-.2m	None	None
TP8	[2500]	0-.4m	None	None
TP9	[2500]	0-.15m	Pottery, cinder	[2505] upper fill of NW-SE ditch; finds: flint, burnt stone.
	[2502]	0.15-.27m	None	
TP10	[2500]	0-.34m	None	None
	[2502]	0.28-.45m	Pottery, burnt stone	[2506] upper fill of sub-circular pit, truncating [2502]; finds of Pottery.
TP11	[2500]	0-.4m	Pottery, flint, animal bone, cinders	None
TP12	[2500]	0-.17m	Pottery, flint	None
TP13	Not Excavated			
TP14	[2500]	0-.13m	Pottery, flint	None
TP15	[2500]	0-.1m	None	[2507] upper fill of NW-SE ditch. [2508] upper fill of NW-SE ditch.
	[2502]	0.07-.26m	Pottery, flint, burnt stone, slag	
TP16	[2500]	0-.25m	Pottery	[2515] upper fill of NE-SW ditch; finds: animal bone, burnt stone, flint.
TP17	[2500]	0-.22m	Flint	[2511] upper fill of NW-SE ditch; finds: pottery, flint, burnt flint.
TP18	[2500]	0-.32m	Pottery, burnt stone	None
TP19	[2500]	0-.28m	Pottery, flint	
	[2502]	0.2-.38m	Flint, slag, burnt clay	
	[2524]	0.36-.6m+	Pottery, flint, slag	
TP20	[2500]	0-.18m	Pottery, Flint	Truncating [2840], small pits/postholes F.1668, F.1669 & F.1670; finds of burnt stone.
	[2840]	0.12-.18m+	Burnt Stone, Glass	
TP21	[2500]	0-.1m	Pottery, flint, burnt stone	[2522] upper fill of NW-SE ditch' finds burnt stone.
	[2502]	0.1-.2m	None	
TP22	[2500]	0-.14m	None	None

TP23	[2500]	0-.11m	None	None
TP24	[2500]	0-.17m	None	[2523] upper fill of possible pit-like feature; no finds.
	[2502]	0.12-.32m	Flint	
TP25	[2500]	0-.23m	Pottery, flint, burnt stone	None
	[2502]	0.14-.34m	Pottery, flint	
TP26	[2500]	0-.3m	Pottery, slag, burnt clay	None
	[2502]	0.3-.32m	None	
TP27	[2500]	0-.18m	Pottery, flint, burnt flint, burnt stone, animal bone, Neolithic ground stone axe.	None
	[2502] / [2840]	0.16-.3m	None	
TP28	Not Excavated			
TP29	Not Excavated			
TP30	Not Excavated			
TP31	Not Excavated			
TP32	[2500]	0-.34m	Pottery, flint, burnt flint, animal bone	None
TP33	[2500]	0-.18m	Flint, burnt stone, burnt clay	None
TP34	[2500]	0-.2m	Burnt stone	None

Table 2: Summary of Test Pit survey results.

Excavation Methodology

Upon the completion of the walkover and test pit survey, and using a machine with a lighter and narrower ditching bucket than that used to strip the top-soil (1.5m wide), the removal of sub-soil deposit [2500] from Areas 1 and 4 was undertaken. This was carried out under constant archaeological supervision, until archaeological deposits were encountered or underlying archaeological substrata was exposed.

A 10m grid, aligned to the site boundaries (site north) was laid out using a mobile GPS system. All exposed archaeological deposits and features were hand-cleaned and photographed, and each 10 x 10m grid-square was planned by hand to a scale of 1:50, with detailed plans of particular features drawn at a higher resolution of 1:20 or 1:10 where appropriate. All metal finds, discrete human bone, notable ceramic and worked bone identified within excavated features and deposits were three-dimensionally located using a Total Station.

The recording of excavated features and deposits followed a CAU methodology, a modified version of the MoLAS recording system (Spence 1990). Cut and fill numbers were assigned to individual contexts ([No.]); feature numbers (F. no.) were allotted to interrelated contexts (e.g. a ditch and its fills). All work was carried out in strict accordance with statutory health and safety legislation and with recommendations of SCAUM (Allen & Holt 2002). The site is archived under the code: TTNCM57-2011.

The basic excavation sample was a minimum of 50% of all linear features, including the longitudinal half-section excavation of all terminals (Fig. 7). Smaller linears, including structural gullies, were excavated by 1m length slots at 1m intervals; for safety during deep excavation and improved access for recording, linear features with larger sections, such as the rectilinear enclosure ditch F.1531, were excavated by 2m length slots at 2m intervals.

100% of the excavated deposits removed from alternate-excavated slots were sieved using a 5mm mesh, thereby maximising the retrieval of smaller artefacts and ecofacts; excavated deposits from the other alternating slots were bulk sampled for wet sieving and heavy residue analysis.



Figure 7. Views of the site at working-quarry edge

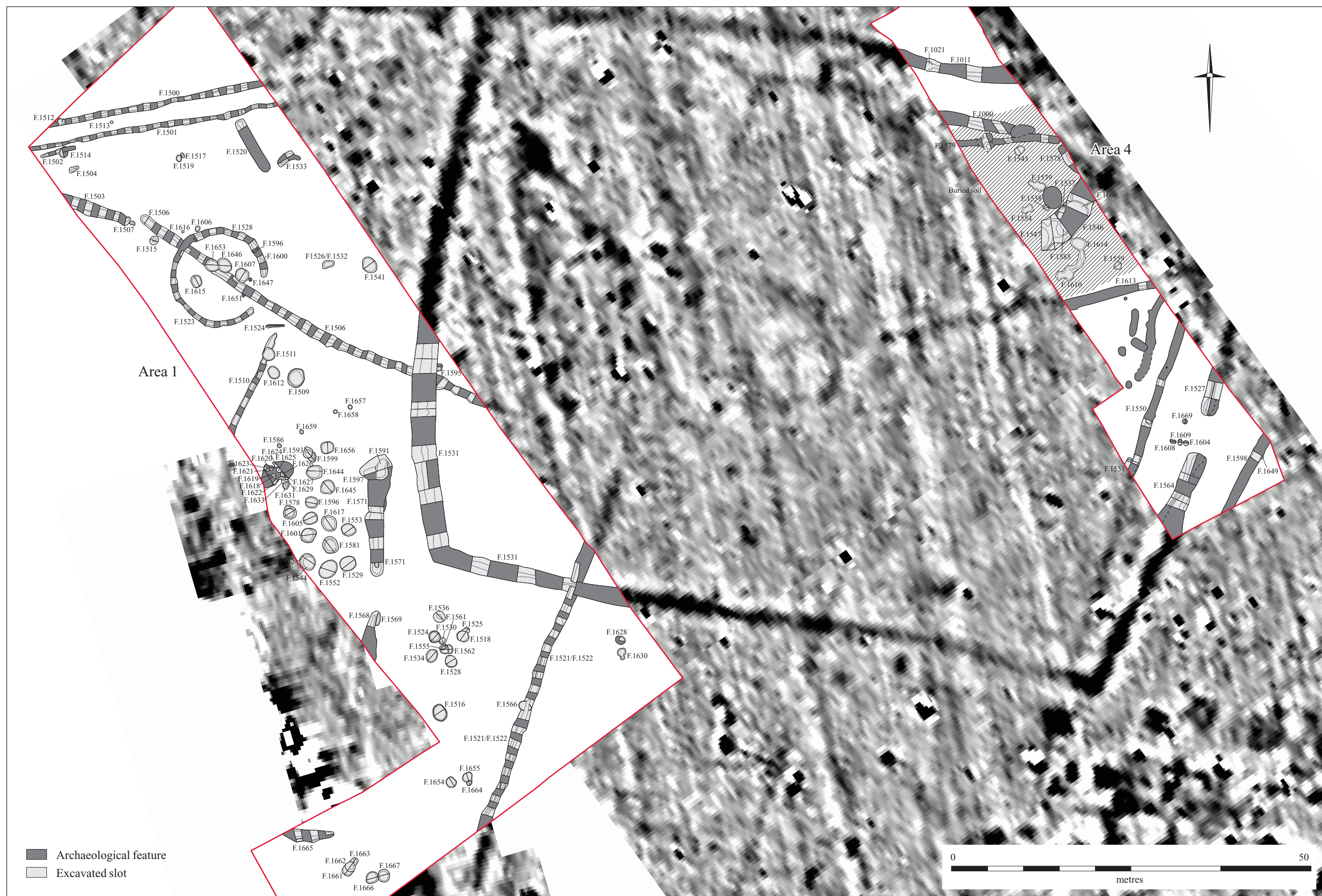


Figure 8. Areas 1 and 4 base plan showing excavation interventions

Pits and discrete features were 100% excavated. These were dug by half-section with all deposits from the first half of individual features being sieved. In the case of pits and other discrete features, after recording of the exposed sections the second 50% was bulk sampled at the director's discretion. Small features such as postholes were excavated to 100%, with the entire deposit sieved and a bulk sample also collected at the director's discretion.

Wherever possible, bulk environmental samples were a minimum of 40 litres in volume. A total of 212 bulk environmental samples were collected from a broad spectrum of feature and deposit types during the 2011 season from Areas 1 and 4. Of these, 148 were processed and prepared for assessment either on site or at the CAU (see Fig. 22), with the results presented below (see Stevens). The remaining 64 samples (largely from Area 4 features) were safely stored at Ham Hill. The principle aim of this strategy was to determine the value of processing the remaining samples from the 2011 excavation, and to inform the strategy for environmental sampling for future seasons' investigation.

The 2011 season was seen as an opportunity to test sieved-recovery. Careful attention was given to the quantities of small ecofacts and artefacts recovered from sieved contexts as compared to those dug by hand. Six major features representing the main feature types and phases within Area 1 serve as test cases, with the quantities of retrieval from each sampling method being recorded (Table 3).

Feature	Type/Period	Total finds	Hand-collected (%)	Sieve-collected (%)	No. of excavated units
1506	Ditch, Bronze Age	197	186 (94.4%)	11 (5.6%)	24
1503	Ditch, Bronze Age	14	14 (100%)	0	5
1531	Enclosure Ditch, Iron Age	1839	1732 (94.2%)	109 (5.9%)	11
1541	Pit, Iron Age	1228	1123 (91.4%)	105 (8.5%)	2
1524	Pit, Iron Age	398	393 (98.7%)	5 (1.3%)	2
1523	Structural/Eavesgully	430	424 (98.6%)	6 (1.4%)	17

Table 3: Sieve- and hand-collection finds rates.

As shown in Table 4, the site's intensive excavation strategy succeeded in generating substantial finds assemblages, particularly for the pottery and animal bone. As will be detailed below, the vast majority of this material is of Iron Age date. As also indicated within that table, emphasis should be given to the heavy sample-residues finds listings as, because of the volume of deposits processed (see Stevens, below), they have considerable analytical potential as regards the (statistical) identification of middens at a micro-level. Showing marked viability in their quantities, this is especially true of the animal bone and pottery, and the numbers so-recovered respectively represent c. 15% and 18% of the total finds retrieved in those categories (see Table 4). Of the pottery, four contexts yielded more than 25 small sherds; the greatest number being 69 from F.1531 (40gm; [2823]). Bone fragments occurred in even higher numbers, with 18 contexts having more than 25 pieces, and three were in excess of 100 (30-50gm; F.1528, F.1531 & F.1607; see Rajkovača, below for identification of species from this fraction).

Material Type		Surface Finds	Feature Derived	Excavation Total*	Heavy Residues
Pottery		528	2036	2564	562
Brick/ Tile		43	0	43	0
Glass		4	0	4	4
Flint		427	503	930	84
Worked Stone		10	6	16	0
Worked Bone		0	5	5	0
Fish Bone		0	0	0	4
Animal Bone		93	9489	9582	1654
Human Bone		0	844	844	51
Burnt Clay		54	245	299	155
Burnt Flint		45	25	70	22
Burnt Stone		216	1206	1422	723
Slag		47	48	95	6
Utilised Stone		48	303	351	14
Shell		0	103	103	4
Shale		0	1	1	0
Metal	Ferrous	52	40	92	7
	Copper alloy	2	0	2	0
	Lead	3	0	3	0
	Silver	1	0	1	0
	Gold	1	0	1	0
Coal/ Cinder		83	2	85	15
Charcoal		0	141	141	51
Total:		1657	14,997	16,654	3356

Table 4: Differential finds recovery by context/procedure (*excludes heavy residues values).

Acknowledgements

The excavation was undertaken on behalf of Ham Hill Stone Company Ltd, and we are grateful for co-operation and hospitality throughout of Mike Lawrence and Saul Harvey. The work was monitored by Bob Croft and Steve Membrey of Somerset County Council, in addition to Rob Iles and Hugh Beamish of English Heritage; we are also grateful for the advice of Vanessa Stracker of the latter organization.

The CAU excavation team comprised Tony Baker, Dan Britton, Matthew Jones, Emma Rees and Matt Wood, with Hayley Roberts as the project's Outreach Officer. The some forty University of Cardiff archaeology students who participated (c. 20 at any one time) performed sterlingly and were well-supervised by Andrew Seaman of its Dept. of Archaeology. On-site surveying was variously conducted by Donald Horne and Matt Wood; finds were processed and catalogued by Selina Davenport, with Frankie Cox processing the environmental samples. The report's graphics were produced by Vicki Herring, and most of the photography herein is the work of Dave Webb. In conjunction with Niall Sharples, the fieldwork was directed Adam Slater, with Christopher Evans its Project Manager.

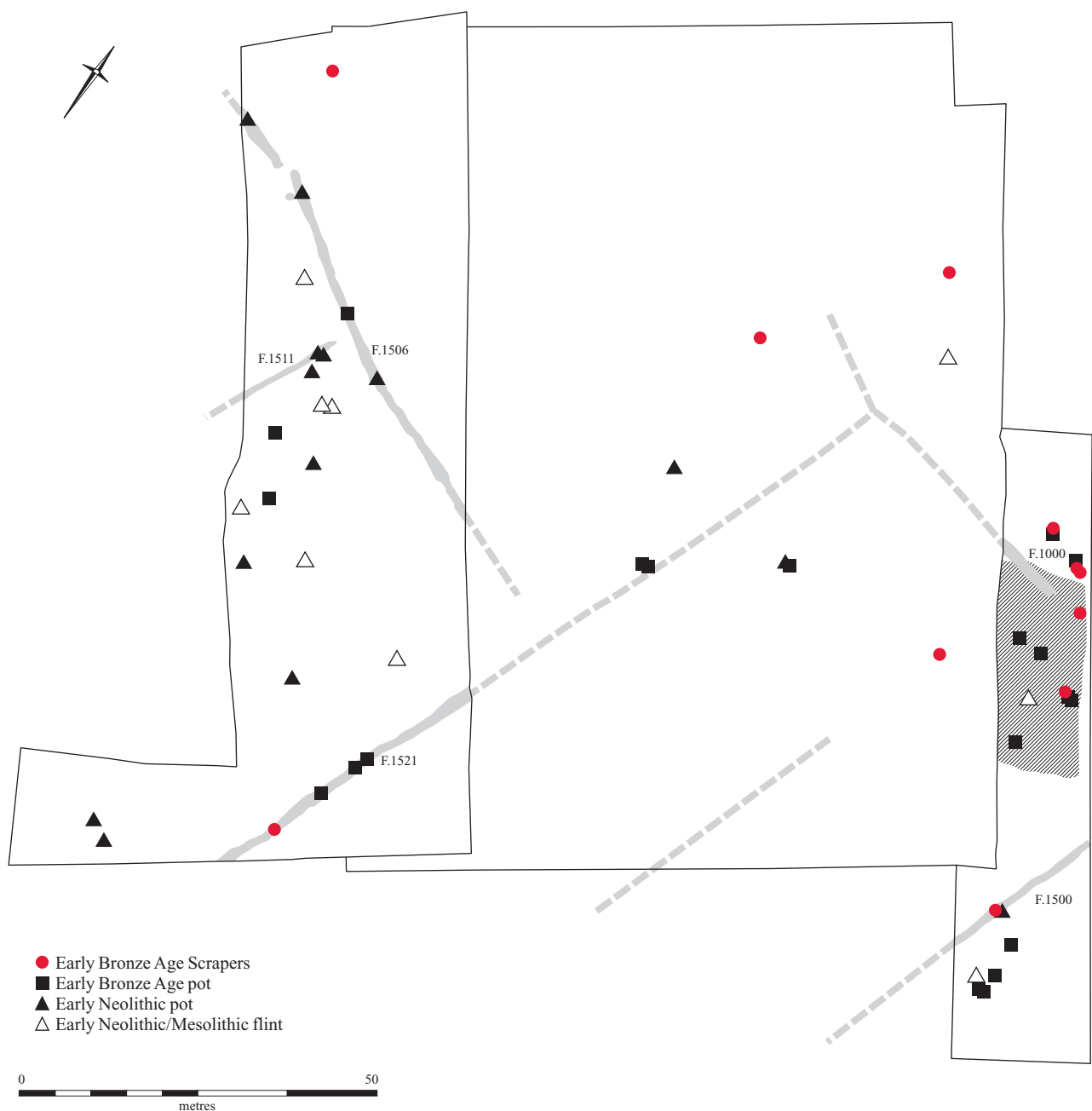


Figure 9. Distribution of Early Neolithic and Early Bronze Age pottery and flintwork shown against Bronze Age features

EXCAVATION RESULTS

Neolithic and Bronze Age

The 130 worked flints recovered from the test pit sampling represents a density of 4.5 pieces per metre; in other words, quite respectable values. However, this material only occurred in 19 of the test pits and, excluding those nil values, indicates a density of 6.8 pieces. In five instances values exceeded this, with greatest numbers – 19 and 38 pieces – fall within the site-area's northwestern quarter (respectively TPs 11 & 2). Indeed, the highest values registered throughout this swathe generally; in the other area where flint occurred – the east-central third – its core densities were in the range of five to eight pieces per metre (Fig. 5).

As discussed by Billington below, a definite Mesolithic presence registered through the recovery of three microliths; though other lithics of this date could otherwise here be subsumed in the Early Neolithic category. Including the recovery of at least some 11 sherds, a leaf-shaped arrowhead and a ground stone axe (Fig. 21.1), apart from the fact the distribution of the Early Neolithic material shows a somewhat higher density along the northwestern side of the site (Fig. 9), little can be said concerning the site-area's usage at that time. No definite features of that attribution were present (though the large hollow within Area 4, F.1660 *et al.*, might eventually prove to be so), the quantities of diagnostic material recovered would not seem such to suggest any kind of substantive presence/occupation, though this picture could change in future seasons.

Recovered during the sub-soils surface collection were examples of pottery and lithics spanning the earlier to latest Bronze Age, with, in addition, a particular emphasis of Early Bronze Age ceramics (Fig. 9). Also occurring residually within the site's predominantly Iron Age features, this largely 'background' frequency has been noted during previous investigations across the interior of the hillfort at Ham Hill. With the exception reported in 1995 of a single pit containing sherds from two Beaker vessels (McKinley 1995), the presence of Bronze Age inhabitation is characterised by its minimal feature-context. This is not altogether uncommon. Indeed, whilst the ramparts of a number of hillforts have clearly elaborated pre-existing bank and ditches of Late Bronze Age enclosures, few of their Iron Age interiors appear to be a remodelling of earlier forms. Nevertheless, there is ground for argument that lowland fieldsystems elsewhere show a remarkable continuity of alignment/elaboration during the Bronze Age (Brück 2000), if not earlier (see Fyfe *et al.* 2008), and into the Iron Age (Cunliffe 2000).

In light of this, a Bronze Age origin, if not a Bronze Age date itself, should not be discounted for a suite of hitherto undated ditches and related features thus far partially exposed in excavation, and further traced by geophysical survey across Ham Hill. Extending across both Areas 1 and 4, some 150m of ditch were excavated that comprise of a regular co-axial distribution broadly aligned northeast-southwest (F.1510, F.1521 & F.1550) and northwest-southeast (F.1000, F.1503 & F.1506). These displayed similar profiles, each measuring between 1.6m and 1.7m in width and between 0.2m and 0.41m deep. Their sides were generally of a steep to moderate slope, although sometimes varying with a slight step, but consistent with an irregular, slightly narrow concaved base. Together these formed a multiple system of rectilinear field enclosure, in excess of twelve identifiable compartments/plots approximately 35-50m across and 55-60m long, with a number of rounded termini

(between F.1503/F.1506 & F.1510/F.1506) forming small 'throughways' nearing 2m across. The former was associated with a sub-circular posthole (F.1507), 0.8m x .6m to a depth of 0.2m. Filled with compact dark red brown sandy clay [2529], this may have supported a modestly sized marker-post or gate structure.

The exact date and sequence of the ditches is currently unclear, although future seasons of excavation will undoubtedly expose points of intersection. Nonetheless, these clearly predate the large later Iron Age rectilinear enclosure, F.1531 (which cut both F.1506 & F.1521), and the similarly dated penannular gully of Structure 1 (F.1528, cutting ditch F.1506). Moreover, distinction in the character of ditch fills may indicate varied sequences for the various segments of the enclosure system. The number of fills varied only between one or two deposits, which was not unique to any particular alignment of ditch, although it may be noted that this was (thus far) confined to a particular enclosure 'compartment' plot in Area 1. Containing a single compact fill of light to mid-brown silty sand were ditches F.1506, F.1510 and F.1521, with a possible remnant of slumped or collapsed hamstone bank deposit also in F.1506. Ditches F.1503 and F.1550 contained an upper fill of orangey-grey compact sandy silts varying in tone, with a basal deposit of similarly compact sandy silt either of light orangey-grey colour (F.1550) or light yellow-brown (F.1503). Whilst this might not appear to represent any significant variation across the ditches as a whole, the presence of a re-cut in F.1521 (by F.1522) represents a general management or re-structuring of the enclosure system that may be further elucidated in future investigations.

Iron Age

The Enclosure

One of the primary aims of the excavation was to characterise/nuance and define the morphology, date and sequence of the large rectilinear enclosure identified by geophysical survey and test dug during the evaluation trenching (Fig. 10). Area 1 of the excavation contained the westernmost corner of the enclosure, truncating two Bronze Age ditches (F.1506 & F.1521), whereas the northern side of the ditch was exposed in Area 4, along with a southeastern entranceway. Within both Areas 1 and 4, a total of sixteen 2m-long slots were excavated through its ditch from which a detailed stratigraphic sequence was recorded. A number of significant environmental deposits and notable 'special' deposits were also recorded.

Area 4

Although the excavations within Area 4 will only be completed in 2012, a number of interim observations may be reported here. A southwestern entranceway 5.8m across was identified between the rounded terminals of ditches F.1527 and F.1564. These had been cut with steep sides and were 2-2.8m wide forming a 'V'-shaped profile to a depth of between 1.1m and 1.7m. The filling sequence demonstrated a phase of primary silting followed by an initial collapse of bank or revetment of hamstone (0.1-0.45m thick; [3632]) in a thin deposit of dark grey compacted silt also containing charcoal and artefactual culture. This was overlain by predominantly sandy fills reflecting a gradual infilling of the ditches. The upper fills had thick deposits of angular hamstone (0.05-0.6m thick), mainly restricted to the very ends of the ditches and suggestive of a stone revetment placed *in situ* to mark out the entranceway. In contrast to the episodes of probable bank-collapse identified within the enclosure ditch slots of Area 1 and the northern stretch of Area 4, the material of the stone revetment did not match the basal geology as observed within the ditch terminals, and whilst still likely to have originated the nearby, this appeared to have been deliberately 'imported' at this point.

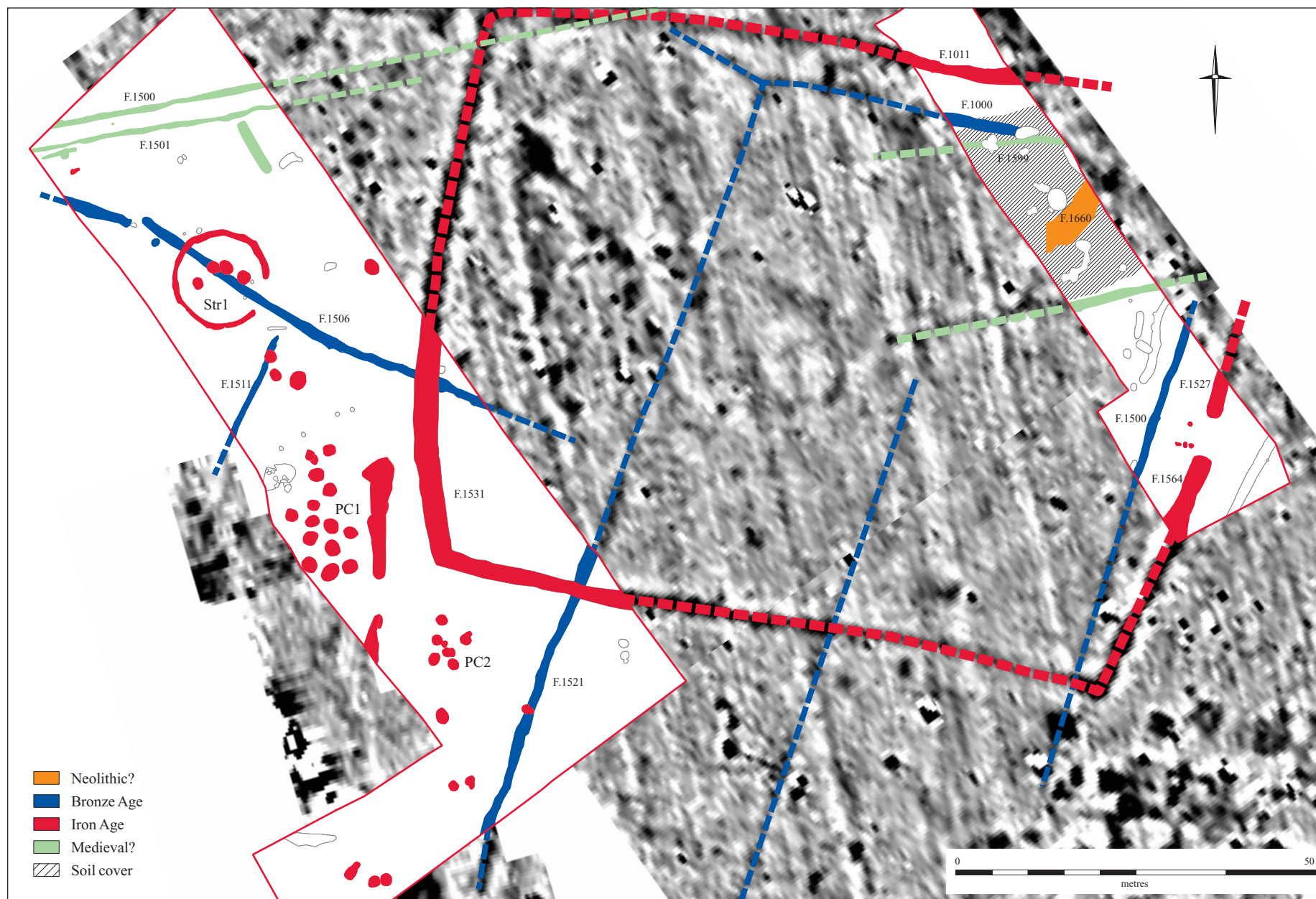
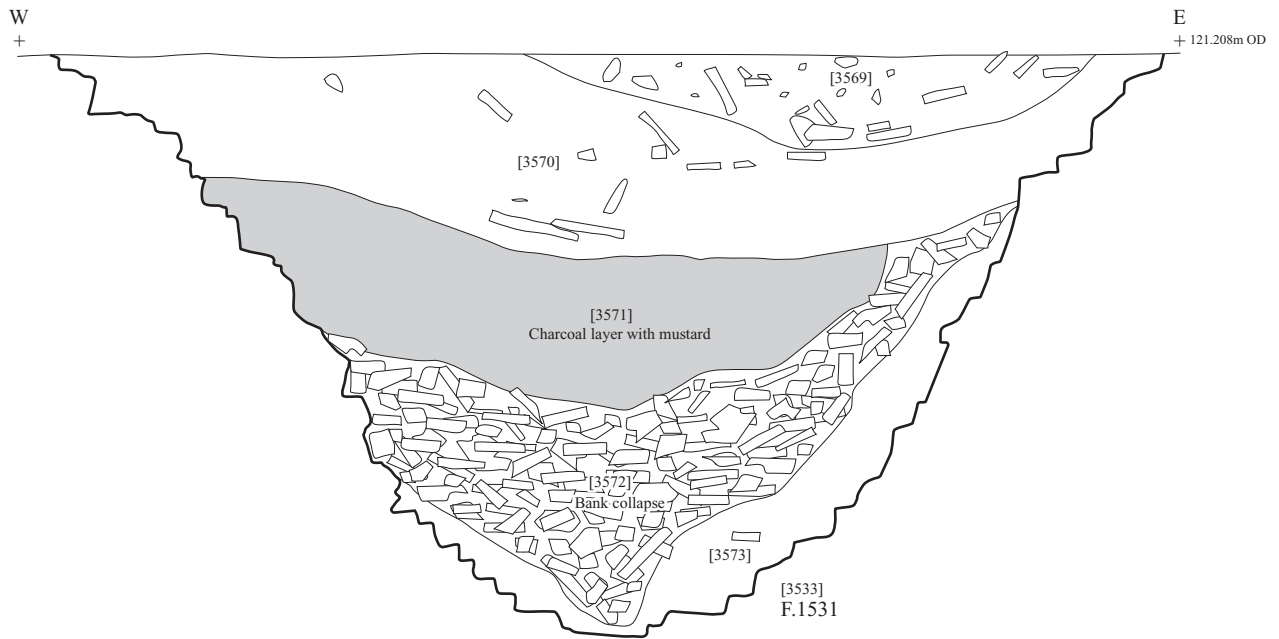


Figure 10. Phase plan

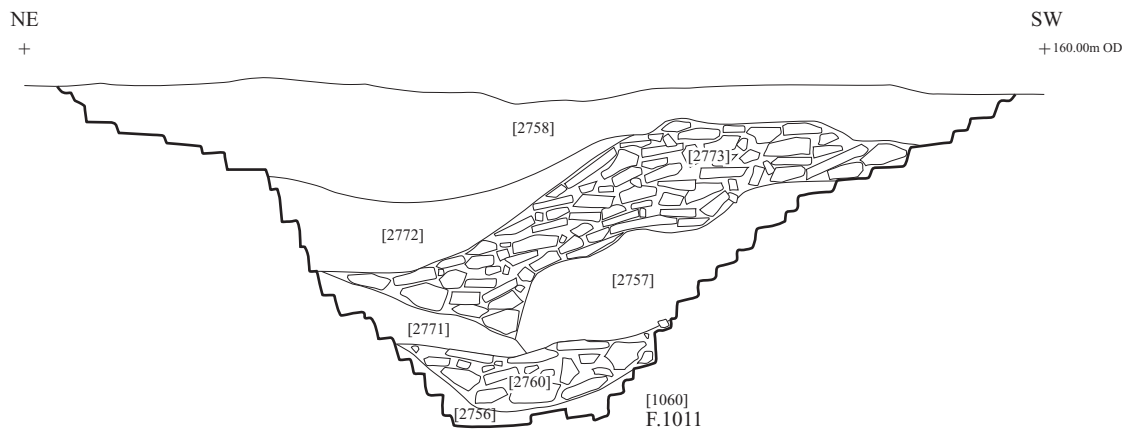


Figure 11. Photographs of main enclosure ditch

Enclosure ditch Area 1



Enclosure ditch Area 4



Enclosure ditch terminus Area 4

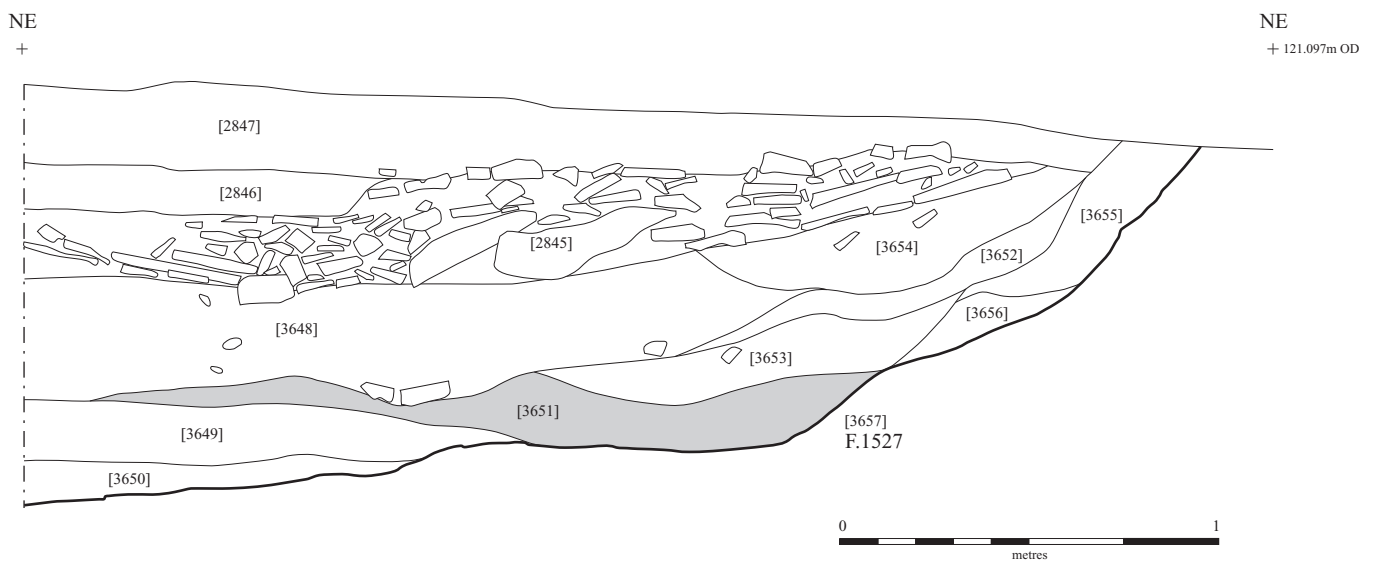


Figure 12. Sections through main enclosure ditch

In association with the entranceway were four postholes (F.1604, F.1608, F.1609 & F.1669), arranged in a slightly offset alignment to the enclosure ditch. These perhaps represent an earlier phase of an inner gateway or other form of entranceway, although the offset alignment may also simply respect the ground surface contours.

Part of the east-west alignment of the enclosure ditch within the northern end of Area 4 was initially exposed during the 2009 evaluation (F.1011). The previously dug slot was re-opened, extended and fully investigated in 2011; it contained a shallow sub-circular grave (F.1021) that cut through both the ditch's basal silts and base. This held the crouched inhumation of an adult female (Fig. 11; see Dodwell, below), and only a partial fill [1062] of compact dark greyish brown sandy silt. The skeleton was overlain, and the grave partially filled, by a thick deposit (c. 0.3m) of angular hamstone fragments ([2773], [2859] & [2954]), representing either the collapse or deliberate backfilling of an upcast bank, suggesting that the grave and final abandonment of the enclosure ditch were contemporary. A second 2m slot excavated through F.1021 also displayed a thin deposit of primary silting followed by horizons of hamstone interspersed with sandy silt, also suggestive of comparatively rapid infilling.

Area 1

Within the completed excavation of Area 1, a total of 65m of the westernmost corner of the enclosure ditch was excavated (F.1531). This displayed a 'V'-shaped profile, varying in depth from 0.9m within the north where it cut through solid hamstone, to 1.47m in its southern arm where the underlying geology was primarily soft sand. Within each slot excavated a deposition sequence similar to that within the slots opened in Area 4 was evident, particularly within the rock-cut sections. A thin primary silting deposit was present in all the excavated slots. Within the northernmost ([3533]), the primary silting deposit contained two complete skeletons, one a neonate and the other a probable foetus (see Fig. 15; Dodwell, below). No grave cuts for these deposits were identified, but their location within the primary silting of the enclosure suggests that they were broadly contemporary with the adult inhumation within the base of enclosure ditch F.1011 in Area 4.

A phase of bank-collapse overlying the primary silting deposit was represented in the western arm of the ditch by a thick deposit of angular hamstone fragments and, along the southern arm, by laminated deposits of silty sand. Together with the deposits exposed in the slots opened in Area 4, this suggests a phase of rapid backfilling or collapse of an internal bank.

Observed throughout the majority of the sections of the enclosure ditch in Area 1 was an accumulative deposit of silty sand overlying the collapsed bank material, indicating that the ditch thereafter remained open, or at least visible as an irregular earthwork hollow, for some time following the probable levelling of the internal bank. However, the northernmost slot ([3533]) differed from this sequence by having a thick deposit of burned stone and charcoal ([2718] & [3571]) that overlay the collapsed bank and appeared to have been tipped from the outer side of the enclosure ditch (Figs 11 & 12). The northern extent of the deposit extends into future excavation areas and will be reported in due course. This deposit contained animal bone and pottery and may have been associated with Structure 1 some 10m to the west; the ditch deposit also contained a significant quantity of black mustard seeds and cereal (Stevens, below) that may, in addition, suggest a degree of linkage with Pit Cluster 2 (10m to the south).

A single semi-articulated sheep skeleton, [3619], was found within the enclosure at a position overlying the stone bank-collapse/backfill and stratigraphically contemporary with deposit [2718/3571] within the western arm of the enclosure ditch; the skeleton had its head removed and placed between its back legs. This was sealed, along with a charcoal-rich deposit ([2718/3571]), by multiple accumulations of silty-sands.

Finally, a single sherd of 1st century Romano-British pottery (Anderson, below) was found within the upper fill of the enclosure ditch (within cut [2714]).



Figure 13. Left, working shot of section through Iron Age ditch F.1531, facing northwest along Bronze Age ditch F.1506; ditch F.1506 and Structure 1, facing north

Structure 1

A single roundhouse dated to the Iron Age was located within Area 1 (Structure 1; Figs. 10 & 13). This comprised of a shallow pennanular eavesgully (F.1523) with an internal diameter of 12.25m, and two rounded terminals in the southeast forming an entrance 4.5m across. A clutch of 52 'slingstones' were found deposited together within the western terminus ([3556]). Two small postholes were located immediately inside the entrance (F.1647 & F.1651), one of which contained a stone post-pad (F.1651) and may have related to a doorway through an internal wall, thereby suggesting a structural building-diameter of approximately 9.25m. Although four grain storage pits of Iron Age date were located within the structure's interior (F.1607, F.1615, F.1646 & F.1653), it is unlikely that they were contemporary with it.

The location of Structure 1 would appear to mirror that of a less well-preserved Middle to Late Iron Age structural gully excavated immediately to the west (Lievers *et al.* 2002) and suggest a building 'pairing'.

A possible second structure may be inferred by a very shallow curvilinear gully (F.1665) extending from beyond the limit of excavation within the south of Area 1. Heavily truncated due to its location at the edge of the quarry-works and the underlying sandy geology, the gully contained a small quantity of Iron Age ceramic, but there is equally a possibility that this was part of the earlier co-axial field allotment and of possible Bronze Age date; no other structural components were present.

Pits

Sixty-seven pits were excavated in Area 1, ranging in width from 0.2m to 3.3m (ave. 1.4m) and to a depth between 0.1m and 1.7m (ave. 0.7m). They have been divided into four categories (A-D) based on size (Fig. 14 and Table 5).

	A	B	C	D
Total number	12	20	26	8
Min width	0.5	0.2	1.4	1.4
Max width	0.9	1.5	2.5	3.3
Average width	0.7	1.1	1.9	2.4
Min depth	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4
Max depth	0.5	1.2	1.3	1.7
Average depth	0.3	0.6	0.9	1.1

Table 5: Pit categories (n=66; one pit's dimension could not be ascertained due to truncation).

Category A pits have a profile that is irregular by comparison to the pits of Categories B-D, and have a notable absence of 'special deposits', including a markedly lower, if any, material culture content. Categories B-D are grouped with a similar morphology displaying steep, generally vertical and occasionally undercutting sides and flat bases; in contrast to Category A, these are more appropriately described as grain storage pits.

Feature Number	Pit Category	Special Deposit	Notable Archaeobotanical Material	Pottery No. / Wt (g)	Animal Bone No. / Wt (g)	Total Finds No.
1512	A			0	0	0
1525	A			1 (33)	40 (30)	1
1620	A			0	0	3
1621	A			9 (36)	30 (22)	189
1622	A			0	0	0
1623	A			0	0	0
1624	A			0	0	0
1626	A			0	0	0
1627	A			0	0	0
1629	A			0	0	0
1633	A			0	0	0
1663	A			10 (5)	0	12
1504	B	Two semi-complete Glastonbury Ware bowls		50 (774)	0	50
1505	B			1 (1)	0	2
1514	B			44 (32)	26 (13)	180
1515	B			0	0	1
1555	B	Horse skull		1 (2)	1257(1080)	1286
1561	B			0	0	0
1562	B			4 (32)	0	5
1566	B	Human skull fragments, burnt daub, broken quernstone, cow leg	Cereal & Celtic Bean	168 (719)	241 (615)	576
1595	B			0	0	0
1599	B			3 (2)	6 (2)	21
1612	B			156 (638)	141 (480)	355
1618	B			11 (96)	10 (31)	62
1625	B			0	0	0
1628	B			1 (2)	0	2
1654	B	Human skull fragment		1 (3)	342 (326)	346
1655	B	Human skull fragments		4 (13)	375 (326)	394
1661	B			9 (4)	0	15
1662	B			8 (5)	5 (2)	17
1664	B			0	94 (218)	100
1667	B			1 (3)	0	1
1511	C			29 (93)	25 (322)	103
1516	C			0	0	4
1524	C	Burnt grain	Cereal, Black Mustard	148 (299)	337 (437)	606

1526	C			0	103 (284)	104
1528	C	Iron object	Cereal	28 (97)	229 (177)	337
1529	C			3 (5)	155 (1297)	168
1534	C		Cereal	71 (113)	114 (374)	328
1542	C			0	14 (25)	16
1544	C			3 (50)	16 (146)	23
1552	C			0	0	3
1553	C			5 (4)	49 (42)	94
1560	C	Latch-lifter		0	46 (148)	47
1576	C	Human teeth & skull fragments		1 (11)	56 (96)	71
1581	C	Skull fragments		1 (10)	115 (396)	147
1593	C	Horse fittings		5 (7)	122 (343)	192
1596	C			1 (3)	9 (45)	41
1601	C			0	7 (1)	8
1605	C			9 (70)	3 (2)	34
1607	C	Human tooth & skull fragment	Cereal, Celtic Bean	123 (544)	914 (978)	2456
1615	C		Cereal	75 (299)	91 (175)	178
1630	C			13 (9)	4 (48)	19
1644	C			1 (26)	16 (4)	39
1645	C			8 (33)	14 (36)	44
1646	C			41 (189)	82 (177)	151
1656	C			1 (3)	35 (217)	47
1666	C			2 (5)	9 (4)	13
1509	D		Cereal	29 (109)	363 (1278)	487
1518	D	Horse leg		37 (90)	725 (357)	832
1533	D			0	0	0
1536	D			1 (4)	10 (46)	13
1541	D	Currency bar, wheel-rim, spearhead, loomweight, pin/nail, dog skeleton	Cereal	373 (1057)	997 (2470)	1551
1591	D	Human skull fragments		33 (118)	556 (994)	670
1617	D			7 (35)	45 (69)	68
1653	D	Burnt grain		61 (381)	43 (127)	120
1619	N/A			4 (9)	9 (50)	58

Table 6: Area 1, pits by category and content (total finds no. excludes human bone).

Special Deposits

As shown in Table 6, 15 pits contained at least one 'special deposit', of which a 'distinguished' faunal remains component was the most prominent within five (see Fig. 15). Four deposits of animal skulls (F.1561, F.1576, F.1581 & F.1607), articulated legs of cow (F.1566) or horse (F.1518), and two articulated or semi-articulated dog

skeletons were present (F.1541 & F.1560). Human skull fragments and loose teeth were recovered from three: F.1576, F.1607 and F.1591.

Two pits had deposits of burnt material bedding at a sharp angle (F.1653 & F.1524), perhaps suggesting them to be the result of a discrete dumping episode. Each of these was sealed by a series of flat, heat-affected hamstones. The deposit from F.1653 was degraded and did not contain recognisable material, whereas that from F.1524 included a significant quantity of black mustard seeds (Stevens, below).

A deposit of 25 fragments of metalwork was found within F.1593 placed around the pit base along the south and southwest edge. This mainly included small iron tools, with horse bridle fittings and a finely worked antler knife handle (Figs. 16 & 21.4). Comparable hoard deposits have been previously recorded from Ham Hill (Manning 1972; see also Appleby, below), and from hillforts at Danebury (Sellwood 1984) and Hod Hill, Dorset (Hencken 1939), as well as from similar Iron Age contexts across the region, including Glastonbury Lake Village (Bulleid & Gray 1911, 1917), Gussage All Saints (Spratling 1979) and Camerton, Somerset (Jackson 1990). The presence of horse fittings is significant in light of the faunal assemblage and the iron wheel-rim found in pit F.1541, and perhaps further highlights the importance of horses at Ham Hill.

Three pits contained mixed deposits and attest to a higher degree of symbolic expression:

F.1560 – This was dug into the top of a larger grain storage pit and contained a heavily disturbed or disarticulated dog skeleton and a large iron latch-lifter. Although the morphology of pit F.1560 match with that of Category C, its location within the upper fills of pit F.1542 suggests that it was dug to facilitate deposition rather than storage.

F.1541 – This held the most obvious ‘special deposit’ found during the 2011 season (Figs. 17 & 18). Within the assemblage of artefacts placed directly onto the base and within the basal silts of the pit was an articulated cow leg, a large clay loomweight, a socketed iron spear or javelin head, an unidentified tapering iron bar length, a fragment of iron wheel-rim and a deliberately bent iron currency bar (Appleby, below). The blade of an iron bill-hook was also set above the primary silting deposits, and the upper fills of F.1541 contained the fully articulated skeleton of a dog. High quantities of cereals found within the pit fills (Stevens, below) suggest that it may have been associated with Structure 1, 15m to the west.

F.1566 – The deposit placed directly onto the base of pit F.1566 (Fig. 17) was identified during excavation to be burnt daub or clay partially overlying fragments of human cranium and an articulated cow leg. This was encircled by large fragments of broken quern stone. No evidence for *in situ* burning was present, but the arrangement of stones around the heat-affected clay gave the deposit the appearance of a reconstructed hearth. A large quantity of Celtic bean seeds were present within the dark basal silting (Stevens, below). Feature 1566 truncated the Bronze Age boundary, F.1521, and its location, along with pits F.1654 and F.1655, was positioned at what seems to be the limits of an ‘activity swathe’.

A further six deposits likely to be of special significance were also present within the rectilinear Iron Age enclosure ditch (F.1531, Area 1 & F.1011, Area 4; see above). The complete inhumation of an adult woman was buried in a shallow circular grave cut (F.1021) truncating the basal silts and base of the enclosure ditch within Area 4 (Fig. 11). The burial was sealed by material from the collapsed or backfilled bank, which is strongly suggestive of a purposive act both in the mortuary process and the deliberate ‘decommissioning’ or slighting of the enclosure. Furthermore, within the collapsed bank material was an additional array of human remains, including a single phalange recovered in 2011, and vertebrae, rib fragments, teeth and a fragment of mandible recovered from the same deposit during the 2009 evaluation (Dodwell in Slater 2009). The implied significance of the basal fills of the enclosure ditch was further demonstrated within Area 1 where complete neonatal and foetal skeletons were found deliberately placed upon the base at the deepest section without a formal grave cut. Fragments of adult skull were also found further south within the

enclosure ditch. The deposition of human skeletal material throughout F.1531 would appear to have been associated with the backfilling or collapse of the interior bank, marking a contemporary phase of abandonment. Similarly, the significance of animal skeletal material associated with this phase of the enclosure's 'decommissioning' is highlighted by the setting of a decapitated sheep or goat with its head between its back legs directly upon the backfilling of the ditch with the dismantled stone bank.

Type of 'Special Deposit'	Details of deposit	Feature Number	Context	Feature Type
Human	Three teeth	F.1503	Mid fills of ditch	Bronze Age ditch
	Neonate (0-2 months)	F.1531	Basal silts	Iron Age Enclosure Ditch
	Foetus (28-34 weeks)		Basal silts	
	16 skull fragments		Lower fills/basal silts	
	Three Teeth		Basal silts	
	Proximal 1 st phalange (adult)	F.1011	Stone bank collapse/ backfill	
	Female skeleton (25-45 years)	F.1011 (Burial F. 1021)	Grave cut into basal silts.	
	Frontal & orbit (Adult)	F.1654	Mid fill of pit	Iron Age Grain Storage Pit
	Parietal (Adult)	F.1655	Mid fill of pit	
	Maxilla (inc 3 teeth), zygomatic & frontal frags.	F.1576	Upper fill pit	Iron Age Grain Storage Pit
	28 refitting fragments of frontal bone inc. orbits. Small area of parietals fused to frontal.	F.1581	Upper fill pit	Iron Age Grain Storage Pit
	One parietal	F.1591	Fill shallow pit	Iron Age
	Three small refitting parietal fragments (adult/ sub adult)	F.1547	Mid ditch fill	Undated Ditch (Roman?)
Mixed	Seven occipital fragments, 39 parietal fragments (adult), burnt daub, broken quern stones, animal leg	F.1566	Base of Iron Age pit truncating Bronze Age ditch F. 1521/ F. 1522	Iron Age grain storage pit
Mixed	Dog skeleton	F.1541	Upper Fills	Iron Age Grain Storage Pit
	Currency bar, wheel-rim, spearhead, loomweight, pin		Basal fill (set on base)	
Mixed	Semi-articulated dog, iron latch-lifter	F.1560	Fill of shallow pit	Iron Age Grain Storage Pit
Animal	Horse skull	F.1528	Upper/ mid pit fill	Iron Age Grain Storage Pit
Animal	Animal leg	F.1518	Mid pit fill	Iron Age Grain Storage Pit
Animal	Decapitated sheep	F.1531	Bank collapse/ backfilling deposit	Iron Age Enclosure Ditch
Organic	Burnt Grain sealed by stones	F.1653	Lower fills of pit	Iron Age Grain Storage Pit
Organic	Burnt Grain/ Mustard sealed by stones	F.1524	Lower fills of pit	Iron Age Grain Storage Pit
Metal	Unidentified ferrous object/ bar	F.1528	Mid fill of pit	Iron Age Grain Storage Pit
Metal	Horse fittings	F.1593	Base of Pit	Iron Age Grain Storage Pit

Table 7: Type, location and contextual details of all ritual deposits.

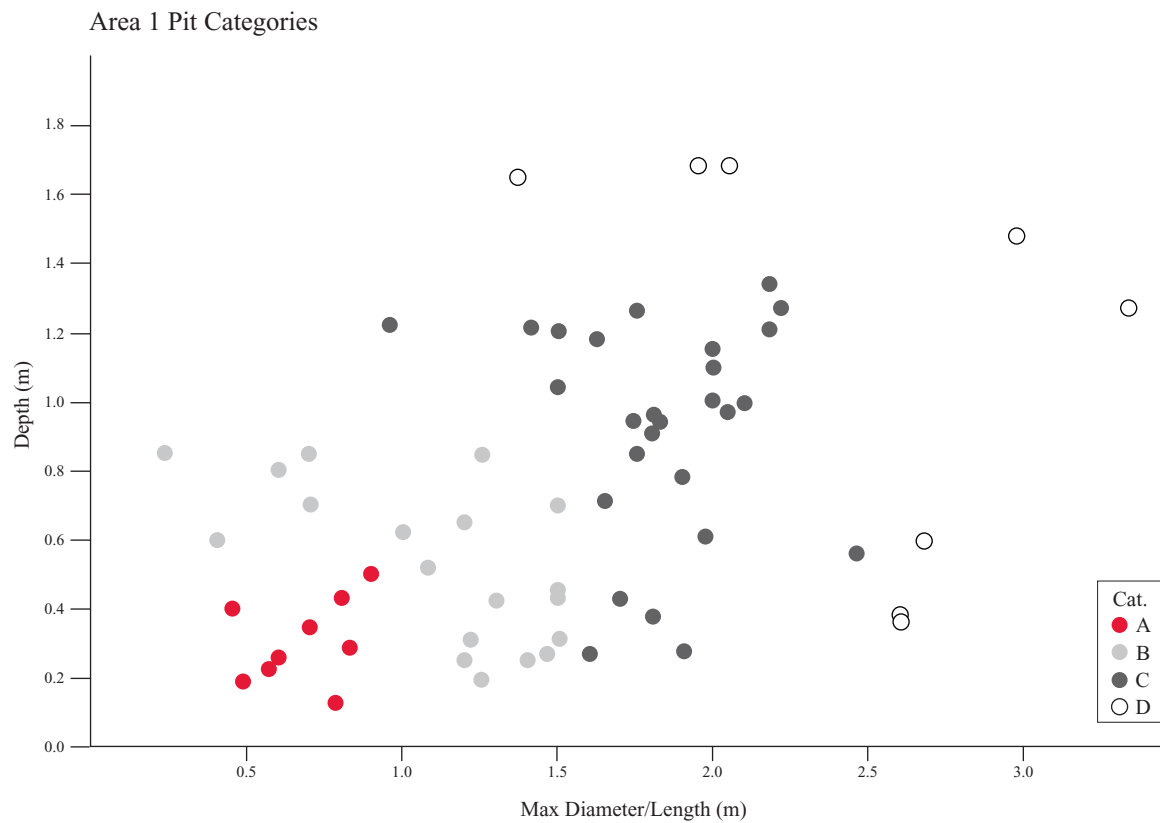
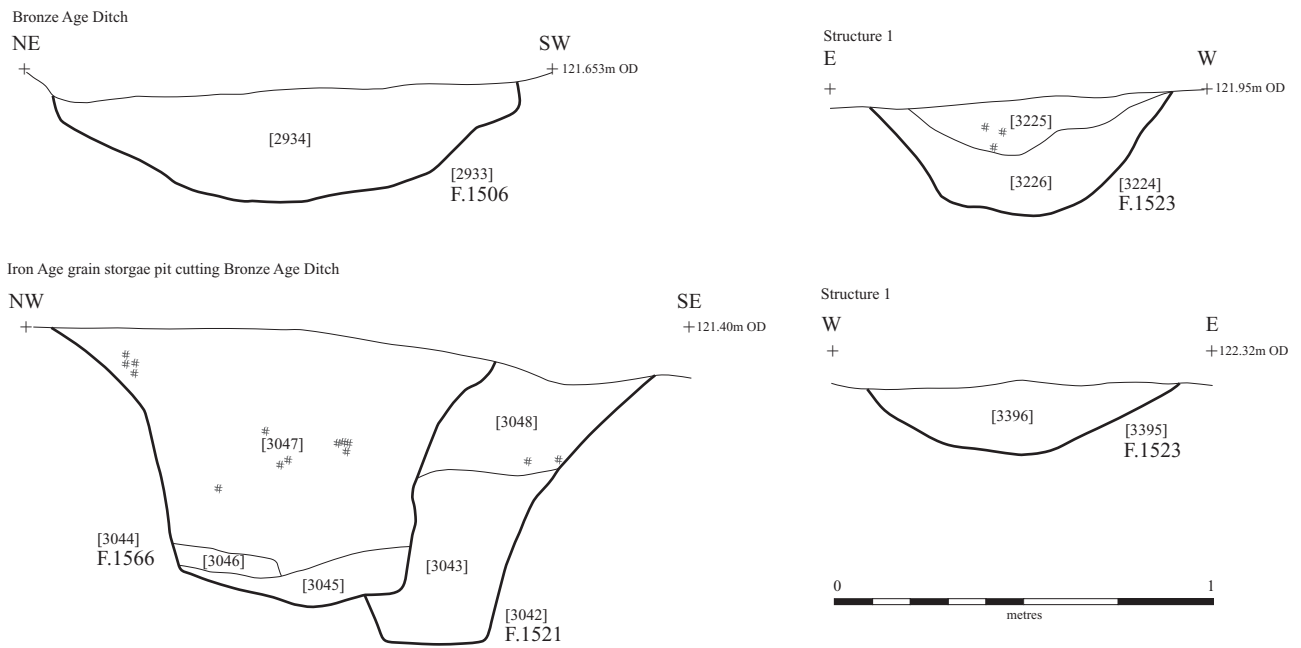


Figure 14. Selected pit sections and pit dimensions/type plot



Figure 16. Photographs of pit F.1593 showing deposit of iron objects and antler knife handle in the base (below)



Figure 17. Photographs of special deposits F.1541 (top) and F.1566 (below)

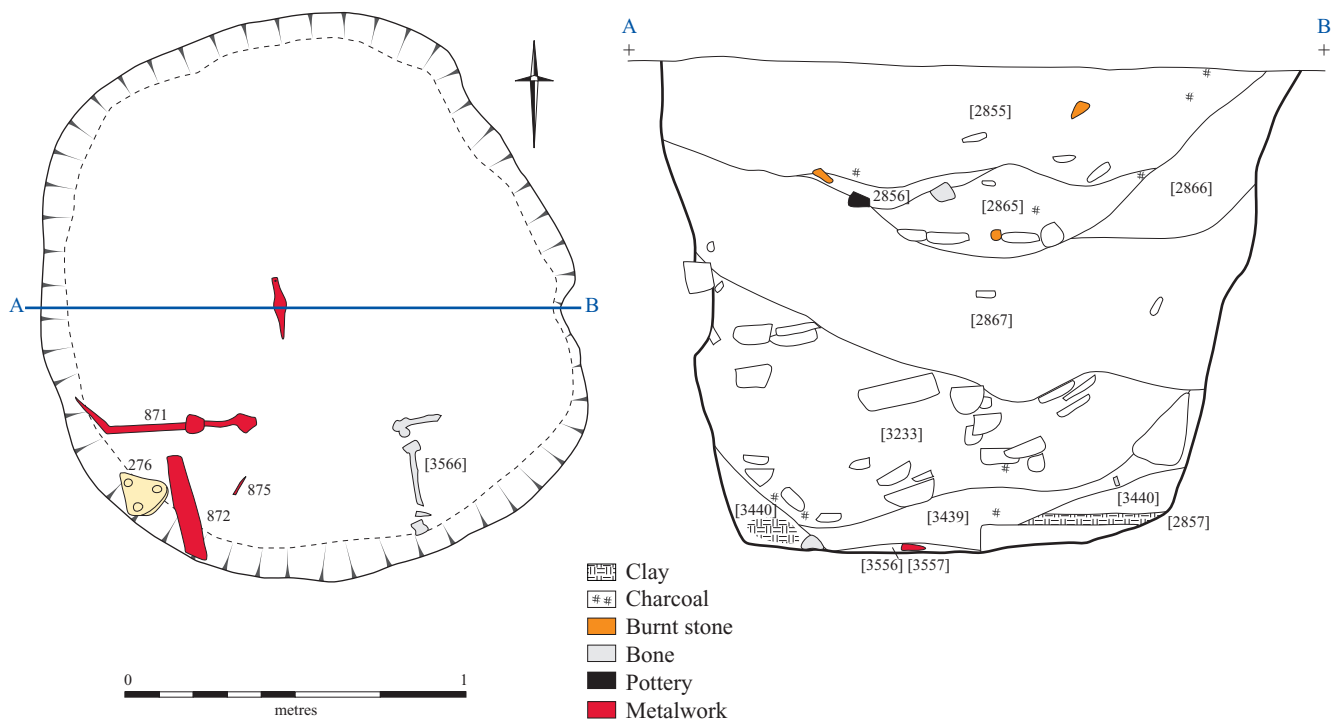


Figure 18. Pit F.1541

Later Features

Within the 2011 excavation areas several features, tentatively dated to the Medieval period, were excavated. No definitively Medieval ceramic was recovered from any and no clear stratigraphic relationships were available between them and other, more firmly dated features. A clearer relative dating sequence for many of the features should, though, be available during subsequent excavation seasons. Within Area 1 two shallow parallel gullies, F.1500 and 1501, aligned roughly east-west and averaging 4m apart were thought to represent a narrow trackway or two sides of a ploughed-out Medieval boundary bank. A small mixed assemblage of ceramic from early prehistoric to Romano-British was recovered from the fills. Adjacent to these was a short, shallow, irregular linear ditch, F.1520, located within a sandy hollow in otherwise stone geology, that appeared to represent the base of a Medieval furrow.

In Area 4 a roughly east-west aligned linear feature, F.1613, of a similar morphology to F.1500 and F.1501, was undated, but thought to be contemporary due to its similar alignment. Also in Area 4, eight shallow, irregular-sided pit, posthole and shallow gully-like features, were recorded as truncating the lower sub-soil horizon ([2840]). These – F.1537, F.1538, F.1539, F.1543, F.1554, F.1559, F.1610 and F.1614 – contained minor quantities of residual Iron Age and Romano-British pottery, as well as a pair of copper alloy studs (F.1554). The excavation of three shallow postholes through the sub-soil [2840] within the adjacent Test Pit 20 (F.1668, F.1669 & F.1670) produced a similar mixed pottery assemblage, as well as a fragment of glass from a ‘claw beaker’, typically assigned to the 5th to 7th centuries AD. Further examination of the lower subsoil adjacent to Area 4 will hopefully allow a more precise and reliable date and function of these ambiguous features.

Human Bone Natasha Dodwell

Disarticulated human bone was identified in 12 features during the excavations (Fig. 15). All but one dates to the Iron Age; the teeth from ditch F.1503 are Bronze Age in date. The majority of the disarticulated elements are skull fragments and most were recovered from pits. In addition to the disarticulated material three articulated skeletons or partial skeletons were identified buried in the main enclosure ditch F.1011/1531; the remains of a foetus and the partial remains of an infant were recovered adjacent to each other from the basal silts/bank-collapse of the enclosure ditch ([3781]), F.1531, and an adult female [1061] buried in a shallow grave (F. 1021; Fig. 11) cut into the basal silts and sealed by bank-collapse. The latter had been found in the 2010 excavations, but had not been lifted.

The bone preservation is generally excellent. The adult skeleton [1061] is almost complete although most of the long bones have suffered post-mortem breaks; some of the facial bones including part of the maxilla are missing as are many of the bones from the extremities. Neither of the immature skeletons were recognised on site; many of the elements from both individuals, particularly from the neonate burial [3572] are missing.

For the articulated adult skeleton age was assessed by the degree of molar wear (Brothwell 1981) and the appearance of the auricular surface (Lovejoy *et al.* 1995) and pubic symphysis (Brooks & Suchey 1990). In both immature individuals the dentition did not survive and so long bone length (Schaefer *et al.* 2009) was used to determine the age of skeletons [3572] and [3718]. Owing to their condition the age of disarticulated elements could only be assessed in broad terms, by their general size, robusticity and, in the case of skull fragments, by the degree (or not) of closure of cranial sutures (Meindl & Lovejoy 1985). Using the stage of dental development and eruption (Ubelaker 1989) a more refined age could be given to the immature maxilla.

The sex of the articulated adult skeleton was determined by sexually dimorphic traits of the skull and pelvis (Buikstra & Ubelaker 1994). The sex of several of the disarticulated skull elements was more tentatively determined as only two or three traits could be recoded. No attempt was made to sex immature remains

A summary of the results is presented in tabular form below. The articulated burials (an adult female, a neonate and a late term foetus) were all found in the basal silts of the enclosure ditch. The disarticulated skeletal elements represent a *minimum* of five individuals (two males or ?males, two females or ?females and an immature individual aged *c.* 10 or 12 years old). Bones of the skull are the most commonly identified disarticulated element from the site, and the majority of disarticulated elements were recovered from pit fills.

Feature	Context	Cut	Element	Age/sex	Location	Comments
F.1011	[2760]	[1060]	Proximal 1 st phalange (foot)	Adult	Enclosure backfill/bank-collapse	Either 1 st from hand or foot. Check true hand, foot
F.1021	[1061]	[1063]	Female skeleton	Adult (25-45yrs)	Enclosure ditch – grave cut into basal silting	Calculus, 1 x caries, degenerative changes in lower spine
F.1503	[2596]	[2595]	Three teeth	Adult	Fill of ?BA ditch	
F.1509	[2808]	[2563]	Skull fragment	Adult (not young)	Pit fill (middle)	
F.1531	[2823]	[2821]	Three teeth (maxillary)	Adult (young /middle)	Enclosure ditch, ? bank-collapse	
	[2837]	[2839]	16 refitting fragments parietal	Subadult/adult	Enclosure ditch, ?bank-collapse	
	[3572]	[3533]	'burial'	Neonate (birth ±2mos)	Enclosure ditch, ?backfill /bank-collapse	
	[3718]	[2714]	'burial'	Foetus (28-34 wks)	Enclosure ditch -basal silts	
F.1566	[3419]	[3044]	Seven occipital fragments	Adult	Pit fill (basal)	Associated with faunal bones, daub, quernstones. Unclear if parietal & occipital refit.
	[3419] SF 850	[3044]	39 parietal fragments	Adult		
F.1576	[3081]	[3089]	Maxilla (inc 3 teeth), zygomatic & frontal frags.	10/12 yrs	Pit fill (upper)	
F.1581	[3142]	[3152]	28 refitting fragments of frontal bone inc. orbits. Small area of parietals fused to frontal [3142]	All adult. (1 ?♀, 1♀, 1 elderly ♂)	Pit fill (upper)	Skull fragments refit between Small Finds numbers; three 3 adults
	[3142] SF.809	[3152]				
	[3142] SF.810	[3152]				
	[3142] SF.813	[3152]				
F.1546	[3110]	[3055]	Three small refitting parietal fragments	Subadult/adult	Ditch, upper fill	
F.1591	[3219]	[3203]	L. parietal	Adult ?female	Shallow pit	Refitting elements
	[3219] SF.808		Occipital			
F.1607	[3372]	[3370]	Incisor	Adult	Pit fill (middle)	calculus
	[3441]		Proximal phalange	Adult		
F.1654	[3695]	[3658]	R. frontal & orbit	Adult ? m	Pit fill	Refitting frags.
F.1655	[3693] SF 878	[3659]	Parietal	Adult	Pit fill	Refitting frags.

Table 8: Summary of human elements.

Material Culture

Flint and Chert Lawrence Billington

A total of 888 pieces of struck flint and chert were recovered from the excavations, together with 74 pieces (417g) of unworked burnt flint (Table 9). The assemblage was derived both from sampling of surface soil deposits by systematic test pitting and surface collection and from the excavation of cut features. Assessment of the excavated material suggests the assemblage is chronologically mixed and testifies to activity from the Mesolithic through to at least the Early Bronze Age. All of the material derived from cut features is thought to be residual, representing earlier prehistoric material inadvertently incorporated into the fills of later features. The composition and character of the assemblages from the surface deposits and features are very closely comparable, effectively comprising a single multi-period assemblage deriving from surface scatter or truncated or disturbed ephemeral features.

Despite the lack of coherent, sealed groups of lithics from the site the assemblage has potential to aid understanding of earlier prehistoric activity at the site, activity poorly represented by other classes of material or archaeological features. This report will consider the condition, raw materials and dating of the assemblage as a whole before briefly discussing the assemblages derived from surface collection and features separately.

	Worked flint/chert no.	Unworked burnt flint no.	Unworked burnt flint weight (g)
Test pits	130	18	19
Surface finds	272	30	108
Features	486	26	290
Total	888	74	417

Table 9: Basic quantification of the lithic assemblage.

Condition

The condition of the assemblage is extremely varied. The majority of the lithics are in poor condition with edge damage and rounding and a very high proportion of individual pieces were broken (61%). Frost damage in the form of small spalls and cracks are also frequent. Nonetheless, a sizeable proportion of the assemblage was in moderate or good condition and appeared very fresh. There was no strong correlation between the condition of the lithics and their depositional context. Although not formally quantified, assessment suggested that lithics of probable Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date were generally in better condition than earlier pieces, although this at least partly reflects the more robust morphology of later lithics. Recortication (patination) was common, varying from a light blue sheen to a heavy white. Again there was no clear correlation between depositional context and surface alteration. The occurrence of recortication on both diagnostically Mesolithic and Early Bronze Age pieces suggests it cannot be taken as a reliable chronological indicator, although earlier pieces were generally more likely to display recortication.

Raw Materials

The assemblage is dominated by flint, with a smaller proportion (approx 5%) of chert. The flint is varied in colour, texture and the character of cortical surfaces. The assemblage includes small quantities of dark grey flint with a thick, relatively unweathered cortex suggestive of an origin direct from the chalk together with flint of varying colours and textures with more abraded cortical surfaces suggestive of a derived source in glacio/fluviol or mass weathering deposits. A single flake from [2840] F.773 was struck from a sub-rounded pebble with extensive chatter marks characteristic of beach pebbles. The chert consists of roughly equal proportions of grey and honey coloured material and is medium to coarse grained. The range of flint raw material appears to be comparable to the

smaller assemblage from Ham Hill described by Smith (1990, 33). Harding (1995, 24) has suggested that most of the flint material at Ham Hill is likely to derive from superficial deposit of clay with flints and gravel within 3km to the south west of the site whilst the majority of the chert is likely to derive from the Greensand which outcrops some 10km to the south. The small amounts of chalk flint suggest longer distances of transportation from the Devon chalk.

Dating

The assemblage consists entirely of material derived as a residual element within later features and from surface soil deposits. As such the dating of the assemblage depends entirely on the technological and typological character of individual pieces (see Table 10 for closely diagnostic forms). Technologically the assemblage can be separated into two distinct elements. The first group is a blade/narrow flake based industry characterised by fine, narrow, soft hammer removals with trimmed/abraded platforms and regular dorsal scar patterns. These are accompanied by narrow flake and blade cores, generally with one or two opposed striking platforms, and core rejuvenation flakes. This group of material can be broadly dated to the Mesolithic and/or earlier Neolithic. The second group consists of flakes of varied morphology, generally relatively broad and thick. Striking platforms show evidence for freehand hard hammer percussion. The cores from which such removals were struck exhibit flake scars and frequently have multiple platforms and a somewhat irregular, unstructured morphology. This group of material is characteristic of flint work of later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date, although some later material may also be present in low numbers. Excluding strictly undiagnostic pieces such as chips and irregular waste, approximately 30% of the assemblage shows traits consistent with a Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic date. This is likely to be an under-estimate as some of the more generalised flake based waste attributed to later activity is likely to be the product of the early stages and less structured elements of Mesolithic/earlier Neolithic core reduction.

F/SF/TP No.	Context	Type	Date
TP 15	2502	leaf arrowhead	Early Neolithic
SF 220	2500	blade core	Early Neolithic/Mesolithic
SF 227	2500	blade core	Early Neolithic/Mesolithic
SF 882	2500	blade core	Early Neolithic/Mesolithic
SF 841	2500	blade core	Early Neolithic/Mesolithic
SF 493	2500	microlith	Mesolithic
SF 799	2500	piercer	Early Neolithic/Mesolithic
cleaning	2840	scraper	Early Neolithic/Mesolithic
F.1564	3243	blade core	Early Neolithic/Mesolithic
F.1531	2717	microlith	Mesolithic
F.1605	3290	microlith	Mesolithic
F.1509	2811	retouched blade	Early Neolithic/Mesolithic
SF. 769	2500	scraper	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age
SF. 532	2500	scraper	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age
SF. 135	2500	retouched flake	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age
SF. 844	2500	retouched flake	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age
SF. 459	2500	scraper	Early Bronze Age
SF. 501	2500	scraper	Early Bronze Age
SF. 743	2500	scraper	Early Bronze Age
SF. 800	2500	scraper	Early Bronze Age
SF. 174	2500	flake knife	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age
F.1535	2787	retouched flake	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age
F.1011	2854	scraper	Early Bronze Age
F.1500	2619	scraper	Early Bronze Age
F.1521	2749	scraper	Early Bronze Age
F.1546	3114	scraper	Early Bronze Age
F.1550	2902	scraper	Early Bronze Age

Table 10: Diagnostic retouched forms.

Retouched tools account for over 6% of the assemblage (excluding chips), a relatively high proportion presumably reflecting the need to transport lithic raw material to the site. Diagnostically 'early' pieces include three microliths, all probably of narrow blade, late Mesolithic type (see below), a single

earlier Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead together with several end scrapers and retouched pieces manufactured on narrow flakes and blades. Later Neolithic /Early Bronze Age pieces include a range of scrapers and informally retouched pieces together with an invasively retouched flake knife. Most interestingly is a group of nine small sub-circular and thumbnail scrapers with fine semi-invasive retouch which can be dated to the Early Bronze Age.

Surface Collection

Test pits - From a total of 30 excavated test pits (Table 11), lithics were recovered from 19, with a total of 130 struck pieces. Numbers varied widely from 1-38 struck pieces per test pit. The majority of the assemblage (112 struck pieces) were derived from upper deposit [2500], with just seven struck pieces recovered from lower deposit [2502]. The remainder of the assemblage (11 struck pieces) derived from other contexts, generally the upper fills of features encountered during test pitting. No difference in condition or character was observed between the lithics from the two soil deposits, and the small size of the assemblage from [2502] prohibits any meaningful comparisons. The distribution of lithics within the test pits appears to represent two relatively discreet scatters, the first in the northeastern area of the site, comprising of TP1, TP2, TP6, TP11, TP12 and TP17 and the second in the southwest, comprising TP14, TP15, TP19, TP20, TP21, TP24, TP25, TP26, TP27, TP32 and TP33. The northeastern scatter includes some high values for individual test pits, 38 struck pieces were recovered from TP 2, and 19 pieces from TP 11. Over half of the assemblage from this scatter was comprised of chips and flake fragments under 10mm in maximum dimensions, these pieces are good evidence for flint working taking place on site. Mesolithic/earlier Neolithic material is represented by several blade based removals but late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flake based material dominates and includes an informally retouched flake. The southwestern scatter has lower individual test pit values and is more spatially diffuse. Chips are less well represented here but still account for more than a third of the struck pieces. Flake based material dominates and Mesolithic/earlier Neolithic pieces are rare in the context of the assemblage as a whole. However, a broken earlier Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead, manufactured on a flake struck from a polished flint implement was recovered from TP 15.

TP No.	Context	chip	flake/flake fragment	narrow/blade like flake	bladelet	blade	retouched flake	rejuvenation flake	unclassified scraper	leaf-shaped arrowhead	TOTALS	unworked burnt flint no.	unworked burnt flint weight (g)
1	2500		1								1	4	5
2	2500	22	6	3	5	1	1				38	7	7
6	2500	4	4								8		
11	2500	11	7			1					19	5	3
12	2500	1	1								2		
14	2500		2				1				3		
17	2500	4	2								6		
19	2500		1								1		
20	2500	1									1		
21	2500	1	1								2		
25	2500	3		1							4		
26	2500	4	2		2						8		
27	2500	3	5								8	1	3
32	2500	4					1				5	1	1
33	2500	3	2						1		6		
15	2502	2								1	3		
19	2502		1								1		
24	2502							1			1		
25	2502		2								2		
1	2503		1								1		
6	2504	1									1		

9	2505		1							1		
17	2511	1			1					2	1	1
16	2515	1		1						2		
20	2520		1							1		
19	2524		2							2		
20	?	1								1		
	TOTALS	69	38	5	8	3	3	1	1	1	130	20

Table 11: Test pit lithics.

Surface Finds - The majority of the surface find assemblage (Table 12) was collected and plotted from the machine-exposed surface of [2500], with much smaller amounts coming from surface collection and cleaning of [2502]. As with the test pit assemblage the small number of pieces from the lower horizon prohibits any meaningful comparisons between the two and they were similar in terms of condition. Chips are less well represented than in the test pit assemblages, presumably reflecting the different collection method rather than any real difference in the composition of the assemblages. Mesolithic/earlier Neolithic material is well represented by blade/narrow flake based products, rejuvenation flakes and cores, comprising approximately 25% of the assemblage and comparable with the proportion from the entire site assemblage. A single, probably later Mesolithic microlith resembling a small obliquely blunted point but manufactured on the distal end of a narrow flake, was recovered from [2500] (SF 493). Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age material dominates with large numbers of flake based removals and flake cores, most of which are small and exhausted. Diagnostic pieces include four small finely retouched Early Bronze Age scrapers and a flake knife (SF 174).

Type	[2500]	[2840]	[2840] cleaning
chip	42	1	3
irregular waste	13		2
flake/ flake fragment	101	6	22
narrow /blade like flake	16		4
bladelet	8		1
blade	5	1	2
rejuvenation flake	1		
irregular/unclassified core	7		2
multiple platform core	3		
single platform blade core	2		
opposed platform blade core	2		
keeled core	1	1	
discoidal core	2		
tested nodule	2		
retouched flake	3		
end scraper	3		1
subcircular scraper	3		
thumbnail scraper	3	1	
unclassified scraper	4		
flake knife	1		
piercer	1		
microlith	1		
bifacially flaked piece	1		
TOTALS	225	10	37
unworked burnt flint no.	30		
unworked burnt flint weight (g)	108		

Table 12: Surface lithics.

Features - The lithic assemblage derived from the cut features (Table 13) is similar in composition and character to the material from surface collection, with pieces with technological traits suggestive of a Mesolithic or Earlier Neolithic date accounting for approximately 30% of the assemblage. Two fragmentary Mesolithic microliths, both based on obliquely blunted forms were recovered, one from F.1531 and one from F.1605. Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age material includes flakes, a small number of flake cores and several retouched pieces, including four diagnostically Early Bronze Age scrapers.

feature No.	chip	irregular waste	flake/flake fragment	narrow/blade like flake	bladelet	blade	rejuvenation flake	irregular/unclassified core	multiple platform core	opposed platform blade core	keeled core	retouched flake/blade	end scraper	side scraper	side and end scraper	subcircular scraper	thumbnail scraper	unclassified scraper	microlith	worked total	unworked burnt flint no.	unworked burnt flint weight (g)
1000			1										1		1					3	1	2
1011	1	2	3			1										1				8		
1500	3		2														1			6		
1501	2		3															1		6	1	4
1503		2	1																	3		
1505			1																	1		
1506	6	5	29	13	6	9						1						1		70	3	4
1509		2	3	1								1								7		
1510	1		5	1		1														8	1	3
1511	1		4	1	2	3														11		
1515			1																	1		
1518			1	1																2	1	6
1521	2	2	17	4									1			1				27		
1522	2		8	2														1		13		
1523	1	1	10	2		1														15	2	63
1524	2																			2		
1527		2	3																	5		
1528		1	2	1																4		
1530			2																	2		
1531	10	8	53	15	6	5	2				1	1						1	1	103	3	14
1534			1	1																2	1	1
1535		1	4	1								1								7		
1536			1																	1		
1539			2																	2		
1540	2	1	4	1																8		
1541	2	3	9		2	2														18	2	39
1546	3	1	17	1	1											1				24	5	20
1550	3	1	5			1												1		11		
1552			1																	1		
1553			3	1																4		
1554			1																	1		
1555			1																	1		
1556																				0	1	1
1558			1																	1		
1564			5						1				1					1		8		
1565	1	1	2																	4		
1566	1		4									1								6		
1571				1																1		
1576								1												1		
1578	1		2																	3		
1585				1																1		
1588			2																	2		
1591	1	1	2	3		2														9	1	114
1593			1	1																2		
1596	1		1	2																4		
1599	1		10		2															13		
1605		1	2	3	1														1	8		
1607																				0	2	6
1608	1																			1		

1609	1																			1		
1610		1	9					1				1								12	1	10
1612		1	2																	3		
1615														1						1		
1617		2	3			1														6		
1619			1		1															2		
1621						1														1		
1628		1																		1		
1630			1																	1		
1644			2																	2		
1645	1		2																	3		
1646		1	2		1	1														5		
1653			2																	2	1	3
1655					1															1		
1656			3						1											4		
	50	41	257	57	23	28	2	2	1	1	1	6	3	1	1	3	1	6	2	486	26	290

Table 13: Feature lithics.

The high proportion of blade/narrow flake based material from the site indicates significant activity on the hilltop during the Mesolithic and earlier Neolithic. Strongly diagnostic material for both periods (three microliths and one leaf-shaped arrowhead) but the relatively high proportion of prismatic bladelets and formal blade cores perhaps suggests that Mesolithic activity is somewhat better represented than the earlier Neolithic. A variety of tasks are suggested by the early assemblage, most obviously including the working of lithic materials, but the number of retouched flakes and scrapers attest to activities more associated with episodes of settlement, however fleeting these may have been.

It appears that the bulk of the assemblage derives from somewhat later activity in the later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age. Again a variety of activities is suggested by the range of retouched pieces and working waste. The presence of a relatively large number of Early Bronze Age scrapers suggests a significant episode of activity, perhaps settlement related, in this period.

The lithic assemblage from the first phase of excavations clearly has the potential to allow the earlier prehistory of the hilltop to be investigated. Although the surface collection/sampling phase has been completed it is envisaged that the assemblage will be substantially increased by subsequent seasons' excavations. Aside from the recording of the technological and typological aspects of the assemblage and its distribution, future work would benefit from the detailed and systematic recording of raw material types and reduction stages together with more detailed research into the sources of material suggested by Harding (1995) and Smith (1990) in order to explore changing patterns of raw material acquisition and transport to the hill.

Earlier Prehistoric Pottery Mark Knight

The assemblage included a small quantity (44 sherds) of Neolithic and Early Bronze Age pottery. The majority of the sherds were very small (less than 4cm) and were from residual contexts. Of the 24 features examined, 11 contained Neolithic sherds and 13 contained Early Bronze Age sherds. The following represents a brief assessment.

The Neolithic component comprised mostly plain flint tempered pieces, although a few 'T'-shaped rim fragments replete with incised and impressed decoration were also present. The decoration included herring-bone motifs and probably belonged to Early Neolithic decorated carinated bowls, although at least two pieces might actually be remains of Peterborough Ware forms.

The Early Bronze Age assemblage was characterised by grog-rich soapy fabrics belonging to plain thick-walled vessels. Decoration was absent and two base angle fragments represented the only obvious feature sherds. The majority of these pieces shared the same pale orange/buff oxidised exteriors and dark, often black, un-oxidised interiors.

Later Prehistoric Pottery Matthew Brudenell

The investigations in 2011 yielded a total of 1757 (8373g) sherds of later prehistoric pottery, with a low mean sherd weight (MSW) of 4.8g. The pottery is mainly of later Iron Age origin (second and first centuries BC), although the assemblage includes a small group of possible Late Bronze Age ceramics - most of which were recovered as surface finds. The condition of the pottery is extremely variable, ranging from parts of whole vessels to small and often heavily abraded sherds. The latter dominate, as reflected in the low MSW, and the high percentage of small sized sherds (85% measuring <4cm in size).

This assessment report offers a summary of the character and chronology of the assemblage, highlighting areas for further analysis. All the pottery has been fully recorded following the recommendations laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (2009). After a full inspection of the assemblage, fabric groups were devised on the basis of dominant inclusion types, their density and modal size. Sherds from all contexts were counted, weighed (to the nearest whole gram) and assigned to a fabric group (sherds broken in excavation were refitted and counted as single entities). Sherd type was recorded, along with evidence for surface treatment, decoration, and the presence of carbonized residues. Rim and base forms were described using a codified system recorded in the catalogue, and were assigned vessel numbers. Where appropriate, these were categorised by form (using the Cadbury series (Woodward in Barrett *et al.* 2000, 325-346), based on a slightly modified version of the Danebury series (Cunliffe 1984, 259-307)). Rim and base diameters were also measured, and surviving percentages noted. Sherds less than 4cm in diameter were classified as 'small'; sherds measuring 4-8cm were classified as 'medium', and sherds over 8cm in diameter were classified as 'large'. A programme of refitting was also conducted, and sherd joins were noted within contexts. The quantified data is presented on an Excel data sheet held in the site archive.

Fabrics, Forms, Surface Treatment and Use-evidence

Eleven major fabric groups were identified, and divided into 43 individual types (Table 14). Shell-tempered wares (Group S) dominated, accounting 48.5% of the assemblage by weight, followed by sandy wares (Group Q) with 23.0%. The former were most likely produced from clays found within the immediate landscape, as were wares containing limestone inclusions (Group LS, 1.1% by weight), flint (Group F, 2.1%), shell and sand (Group SQ, 0.1%), calcareous grits (Group CA, 0.1%) and vesicular wares (Group V, 4.8%; most of which are likely to be dissolved shell). Some of the sandy wares may also derive from local clay sources, although those of types Q4-Q6 (11.4% by weight in overall assemblage) are from the Wareham-Poole Harbour region, and belong to the 'Durotrigian' tradition of the later Iron Age in the Somerset-Dorset-West Wiltshire area.

Other non-local fabrics include the Group R (14.5%) and AR wares (3.3%), and calcite sherds of Group C (2.1%). The Group A and AR wares have weathered igneous rock fragments likely to be felspathic tuff from the region of Shepton Mallet in the Mendip Hills (E. Morris *pers. comm.*). Fabric types R2 and R5-6 constitute the finer wares of this group, and include the vast majority of the site's decorated Glastonbury/South-Western style wares. Interestingly, the coarser fabrics of Group R (R1, R3-4) and AR (both types) are almost entirely absent from cut features, except the fills of the rectangular enclosure, ditch F.1546, and four sherds from pits F.1509 and F.1615. Most sherds in these fabrics derive from the sub-soil/buried soil surface, and include several heavily gritted base sherds and rims perhaps better placed in the Late (or *later*) Bronze Age; amongst them was a fragment of an ovoid jar with slightly in-turned lip (form PA1). The sherds in Group F fabrics may also belong to this period, as could the two sherds of fabric A1 – one a pinched-out base with traces of vertical finger-fluting on the body, typical of Late Bronze Age coarsewares.

Flint Group (Group F)

F1: Moderate medium to coarse burnt flint (mainly 2-4mm) in a sandy clay matrix

F2: Sparse to moderate medium flint (1-2mm) in a sandy clay matrix

F3: Sparse to moderate fine flint (mainly <1mm)

Sandy Group

Q1: Sparse to moderate fine quartz sand, slightly micaceous (probably local). Similar to Q8

Q2: Sparse to moderate fine quartz sand, micaceous, powdery texture. Similar to Q1 (probably local)

Q3: Moderate to abundant quartz sand (probably local)

Q4: Common to abundant very coarse quartz sand, moderately sorted. This is an early coarse Durotrigian ware, dated from the Mid to Late Iron Age; source Wareham-Poole Harbour (non-local)

Q5: Common to abundant coarse quartz sand, moderate to well-sorted. Similar to Q4. Durotrigian ware, dated mid to Late Iron Age; source Wareham-Poole Harbour (non-local)

Q6: Common to abundant coarse quartz sand, well-sorted. Common Durotrigian Black Burnished Ware fabric; source Wareham-Poole Harbour (non-local)

Q7: Moderate to common quartz sand with sparse angular grains up to 1.5mm

Q8: Sparse to moderate fine sand

Q9: Common medium and coarse quartz sand with sparse to moderate coarse to very coarse (1-5mm) gravel detritus

Fabric Group	Fabric Type	No./wt. sherds	% of fabric (by wt.)	No./wt. sherds burnished	% of fabric burnished (by wt.)	MNV	MNV burnished
Agrillaceous	A1	2/20	0.2	-	-	1	-
Agrillaceous and igneous rock	AR1	15/102	1.2	-	-	1	-
	AR2	47/175	2.1	-	-	4	-
Calcite	C1	1/16	0.2	1/16	100	1	1
	C2	24/80	1.0	-	-	2	-
	C3	14/68	0.8	9/28	41.2	3	1
	C4	3/10	0.1	-	-	-	-
Calcareous	CA1	1/6	0.1	-	-	1	-
Flint	F	3/2	<0.1	-	-	-	-
	F1	17/123	1.5	-	-	2	-
	F2	19/42	0.5	-	-	-	-
	F3	2/5	0.1	1/4	80	1	1
Fossiliferous limestone	LS1	2/20	0.2	-	-	2	-
	LS2	11/36	0.4	-	-	-	-
	LS3	8/42	0.5	-	-	-	-
Sand	Q	7/6	0.1	-	-	-	-
	Q1	24/203	2.4	6/19	9.4	4	1
	Q2	33/56	0.7	-	-	-	-
	Q3	57/470	5.6	11/137	29.1	4	2
	Q4	102/630	7.5	7/76	12.1	9	-
	Q5	69/298	3.6	8/52	17.4	4	2
	Q6	9/26	0.3	4/11	42.3	-	-
	Q7	9/57	0.7	-	-	1	-
	Q8	15/101	1.2	5/39	38.6	4	2
Igneous rock	Q9	8/77	0.9	-	-	1	-
	R1	36/160	1.9	-	-	3	-
	R2	65/724	8.6	22/631	87.2	5	3
	R3	7/44	0.5	-	-	1	-
	R4	11/28	0.3	-	-	2	-
	R5	29/202	2.4	17/117	57.9	5	4
Shell	R6	9/63	0.8	5/16	25.4	2	1
	S	40/42	0.5	-	-	-	-
	S1	6673411	40.7	50/281	8.2	32	2
	S2	178/614	7.3	4/22	3.6	12	2

Shell and sand	SQ1	1/6	0.1	-	-	-	-
Vesicular	V	8/7	0.1	-	-	1	-
	V1	24/41	0.5	-	-	1	-
	V2	78/104	1.2	12/24	23.1	3	-
	V3	81/216	2.6	-	-	4	-
	V4	19/34	0.4	-	-	1	-
Unclassified	?	2/6	0.1	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	1757/8373	99.9	162/1473	17.6	117	22

Table 14: Quantified pottery. MNV = minimum number of vessels calculated as the total number of different rims and bases identified.

Igneous Rock Group (Group R)

R1: Common coarse to very coarse (1-7mm), angular, weathered igneous rock fragments, poorly sorted, likely to be felspathic tuff (Morris pers. comm.); source probably in the region of Beacon Hill near Shepton Mallet in the Mendip Hills.

R2: Common medium to coarse (mainly 1-1.5mm, with a few fragments up to 3mm) angular, weathered igneous rock fragments, moderately sorted, likely to be felspathic tuff (Morris pers. comm.); source probably in the region of Beacon Hill near Shepton Mallet in the Mendip Hills.

R3: Common coarse to very coarse (1-7mm), angular, weathered igneous rock fragments, poorly sorted, likely to be felspathic tuff (Morris pers. comm.), and moderate to common coarse voids (1-3mm); source probably in the region of Beacon Hill near Shepton Mallet in the Mendip Hills.

R4: Moderate medium to coarse (mainly 1-1.5mm, with a few fragments up to 3mm), angular, weathered igneous rock fragments, moderately sorted, likely to be felspathic tuff (Morris pers. comm.), and moderate to common coarse voids (1-3mm); source probably in the region of Beacon Hill near Shepton Mallet in the Mendip Hills.

R5: Common fine to medium (mainly <1mm) angular, weathered igneous rock fragments, well sorted, likely to be felspathic tuff (Morris pers. comm.); source probably in the region of Beacon Hill near Shepton Mallet in the Mendip Hills.

R6: Common medium to coarse (mainly 1-1.5mm, with a few fragments up to 3mm), angular, weathered igneous rock fragments, moderate to well sorted, with sparse glistening inclusions (unidentified).

Argillaceous and Igneous Rock Group (Group AR)

AR1: Common to abundant medium to coarse (1-4mm) rounded argillaceous inclusions, and sparse to moderate coarse to very coarse (1-7mm), angular, weathered igneous rock fragments, poorly sorted, likely to be felspathic tuff (Morris pers. comm.); source probably in the region of Beacon Hill near Shepton Mallet in the Mendip Hills.

AR2: Moderate medium to coarse (1-4mm) rounded argillaceous inclusions, poorly sorted, and moderate to common medium to coarse (mainly 1-1.5mm, with a few fragments up to 3mm) angular, weathered igneous rock fragments, poorly sorted, likely to be felspathic tuff (Morris pers. comm.); source probably in the region of Beacon Hill near Shepton Mallet in the Mendip Hills.

Argillaceous Groups (Group A)

A1: Common to abundant coarse to very coarse rounded argillaceous inclusions.

Calcite Group (Group C)

C1: Modern to common medium (up to 1.5mm) calcite, moderately sorted: source possibly Mendip Hills.

C2: Common coarse (mainly 2-4mm) calcite, poorly sorted; source possibly Mendip Hills.

C3: Common to abundant medium to coarse (mainly 1-4mm) 'beef calcite'; source possibly Mendip Hills.

C4: Common coarse to very coarse (2-7mm) 'beef calcite'; source possibly Mendip Hills.

Calcareous Group (Group CA)

CA1: Common fine calcareous inclusions (<1mm)

Fossiliferous Limestone Group (Group LS)

LS1: Common coarse to very coarse (2-7mm) fossiliferous limestone with visible shell inclusions

LS2: Moderate or common Medium to coarse (1-3mm) fossiliferous limestone with visible shell inclusions

LS3: Moderate to common medium limestone (1-2mm) in sub-square chunks, and sparse medium to coarse shell (1-3mm)

Shell Group (Group S)

S1: Moderate coarse shell (mainly 1-4mm)

S2: Moderate to common medium shell (mainly 1-2mm with occasional larger fragments <4mm)

Shell and Sand (Group SQ)

SQ1: Sparse medium shell (1-2mm) in common quartz sand

Vesicular Group (Group V)

V1: Spare to moderate fine to medium voids (1-2mm)

V2: Moderate to common medium and coarse voids (mainly 1-2mm with occasional larger fragments <4mm)

V3: Moderate to common coarse voids (2-4mm+)

V4: Moderate to common fine or medium voids (<2mm) and sparse to moderate quartz sand

Based on the total number of different rims and bases identified, the assemblage is estimated to include fragments of a minimum of 117 vessels (71 different rims; 40 different bases, 6 'complete' profiles). These were assigned to form in instances where parts of both the rim and shoulder of the pot survived intact. In total 35 vessels were assigned to form, including 168 sherds (2255g), representing 10% of the assemblage by sherd count, or 27% by weight (the high weight frequency largely resulting from the recovery of two substantially intact vessels from pit F.1504). The assemblage was dominated by fragments of plain ovoid to slightly globular-bodied jars with either 'proto-bead' rims (JC2, nine examples), or fully beaded rims (JC3, two examples), sometimes defined by a groove immediately below the lip (Table 15). The distinction between the two forms was not always obvious, and none of the JC3 examples were wheel-made (and might therefore be better classed as JC2). These were accompanied by a series of simple plain barrel-shaped jars of form PA1 (eight examples) with sides incurving slightly towards the top, and usually with undifferentiated rims. Two saucepan pots of form PA2 were also recovered; one with the rim defined by a single horizontal groove at the base of the lip; the other with two parallel grooves in the same zone. Other jar forms were also encountered including fragments of two JB2 vessels; single JC1 and JB5 vessels (the latter classified by the Cadbury series, which would otherwise be considered a PA1 vessel), and one JC4 jar.

Fabric/from	JB2	JB5	JC1	JC2	JC3	JC4	PA1	PB1	BC3.3	BD2	BD5	BD6	TOTAL
Q1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Q3	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Q4	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	6
R2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
AR1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
C1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
C2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
C3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
CA1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
LS1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
S1	1	1	-	6	1	-	5	2	-	-	-	-	16
S2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
V3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
V4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
TOTAL	2	1	1	9	2	1	8	2	3	2	2	2	35

Table 15: Correlation between forms and fabrics by vessel count.

Only nine bowl forms were identified, although the distinction between bowls and jars was rarely clear-cut. Three of these vessels were classified as form BC3.3 bowls – plain vessel with rounded profiles and beaded rims (also defined by a groove below the lip); one possibly wheel-finished. Two other bowls were of bipartite form of BD5; one displaying very light fingertip impressions of the neck – possibly from moulding as opposed to decoration. This vessel was found in pit F.1504 alongside a single largely intact Glastonbury ware bowl of form BD6, with rounded shoulder and upright neck (Fig. 19.1; two BD6 vessels in total in the assemblage). The final two bowls were wheel-made vessels of form BD2 displaying developed concave rims, and single cordons at the junction of the neck and shoulder.

Overall there were only 22 sherds (58g) of wheel-made 'Iron Age-type' pottery in the assemblage, with an additional 45 sherds (152g, six different rims and bases) that were *possibly* wheel-made/wheel-finished. Just under half of these (32 sherds, 103g) derived from features, as opposed the sub-soil/buried soil, with only eight (48g) recovered from pits and postholes (four features, F.1524, F.1534, F.1537, F.1621). These included three rippled/cordoned shoulder/neck sherds from pits F.1524 and F.1534 (possibly parts of the same vessel), and a fragment of a BD2 vessels from pit F.1621. There is some confusion over how much of the possible and definite wheel-made pottery from the ditches (the rectangular enclosure (F.1501 & F.1531) and ditches F.1500 and F.1546) is in fact Iron Age, since these features also yielded early Roman ceramics. The same can be said of the wheel-made material in the sub-soil/buried soil. Overall, however, most of the sherds in this category are sandy wares (Q1: three sherds, 9g; Q2: three sherds, 7g; Q3: 12 sherds, 37g; Q4: six sherds, 25g; Q5: 16, 44g; Q6: six sherds, 19g; Q8: five sherds, 39g) - the exceptions being 15 (24g) vesicular sherds, and one (6g) calcareous rim of a BD2 bowl (heavily abraded and possibly burnt). Of note are the sherds in Wareham-Poole Harbour fabrics, especially Q5 and Q6, which could be Black Burnished Ware (BB1).

In terms of surface treatment, 162 sherds (1473g) were carefully smoothed or burnished in the assemblage, accounting for 9% by count or 18% by weight. Decoration consisted of various different

applications ranging from finger-tipping on un-burnished vessels to the fine tooling of geometric and curvilinear motifs on the Glastonbury wares (Tables 16 & 17). Evidence of vessel use was found in the form of carbonized residues (soot and burnt food-crusts) adhering to the surfaces of 233 sherds (2190g). Food-crusts – many of which are suitable for radiocarbon dating – were recorded on 93 sherds (947g), including residue on the interior of the largely intact Glastonbury ware bowl from pit F.1504.

Decoration/location	Immediately below rim	Neck	Neck-shoulder	Shoulder	Body	Uncertain	TOTAL
Cordoned/rippled	-	4/13:2	3/19:2	-	-	-	7/32:4
Scored	-	-	-	-	4/26:3	-	4/26:3
Fingertip impressions	-	7/92:3	-	4/30:1	2/33:2	-	13/155:6
Tooled horizontal line/s	15/155:11	-	-	2/6:2	3/20:3	2/3:2	22/184:18
Dimple	-	-	-	-	1/7:1	-	1/7:1
TOTAL	15/155:11	11/105:5	3/19:2	6/36:3	10/86:9	2/3:2	47/404:32

Table 16: Decoration and surface treatment on non-Glastonbury wares (no sherds/wt.(g); maximum no. vessels bolded).

Decoration/location	Rim exterior	Neck, shoulder, base and underside of base	Neck	Neck and shoulder	Shoulder	Body	Base and underside of base	Underside of base	Uncertain	TOTAL
Tooled horizontal and diagonal lines (IGA)	1/6:1	-	-	-	1/2:1	-	-	-	1/5:1	3/13:3
Tooled horizontal and diagonal lines, and herringbone pattern (IGB)	-	9/524:1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9/524:1
Tooled horizontal lines (IG1)	-	-	2/25:2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2/25:2
Tooled horizontal, diagonal and curvilinear lines (IC)	-	-	-	3/10:1	1/26:1	-	-	-	-	4/36:2
Tooled horizontal and curvilinear lines and cross-hatching (IC)	-	-	-	-	2/5:1	-	-	-	-	2/5:1
Tooled horizontal lines and cross-hatching (IGD)	-	-	-	-	1/2:1	-	-	-	-	1/2:1
Tooled horizontal lines a triangles filled with diagonal strokes (IGE)	-	-	-	-	1/19:1	-	-	-	-	1/19:1
Dimples and tooled cross-hatching (IG)	-	-	-	-	-	1/9:1	-	-	-	1/9:1
Tooled lines and cross-hatching (IG)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1/16:1	3/24:1	-	4/40:2
Tooled lines (IG)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1/11:1	-	1/11:1
Tooled lines and diagonal lines (IG)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1/23:1	-	-	1/23:1
TOTAL	1/6:1	9/524:1	2/25:2	3/10:1	6/54:5	1/9:1	2/39:2	4/35:2	1/5:1	29/707:16

Table 17: Decoration and surface treatment on Glastonbury wares (no sherds/wt.[g]: maximum no. vessels [bold]; codes IG1, IGA, IGB, IGE, IG and IG refer to the type series employed at Cadbury: Woodward in Barrett *et al.* 2000, 346).

Pottery Distribution – Key Groups

In total, 1495 sherds (7274g) were recovered from excavated features (Table 18: 69 features, 159 contexts), with a further 214 (890g) retrieved as spot-finds from the sub-soil/buried soil surface, and 48 (209g) from cleaning. Most features with pottery contained small assemblages weighing under 250g (sherds range: 1-85; mean: 16 sherds; median: five sherds). In fact, only seven were classified as medium or large; all derived from pits (F.1504, F.1541, F.1566, F.1607, F.1615, F.1646 & F.1654). Combined, these yielded a third of the pottery in the excavated assemblage (33% by sherd count; 50% by weight – 486 sherds, 3666g), and included most of the sites form assigned vessels, amongst them, a placed deposits of two largely intact bowls from pit F.1504. Summarised below are assemblages from the sites major feature groups:

Feature type/ deposit size cat.	Small		Medium	Large	Total no. features: no/wt. (g) sherds
	<100g	101-250g	251-500g	501-1000g	
Pit	31	6	3	4	44: 942/5381
Ditch	10	6	-	-	16: 391/1410
Gully	1	1	-	-	2: 63/143
Penannular gully	-	1	-	-	1: 48/159
Pit/posthole	2	-	-	-	2: 7/25
Posthole	2	-	-	-	2: 5/37
Other	1	1	-	-	2: 39/119
TOTAL	47	15	3	4	69: 1495/7274

Table 18: Number of feature deposits by pottery size category (69 features in total).

Roundhouse (Str. 1; penannular gully F.1523) - The gully yielded 48 body sherds (159g) in a range of different fabrics, including a single igneous rock-tempered sherd in fabric R6 (3g) and 11 sherds (7g) in the Wareham-Poole Harbour fabric Q4. Of note is a single sherd displaying a large dimple c. 3cm in diameter (fabric S1, 7g), which may be related to vessels of Cunliffe's Maiden Castle-Marnhull style (Cunliffe 2005, 106, 632, fig. A:21, no. 1). Perhaps more importantly, a sherd of Glastonbury ware (fabric R2, 19g) was recovered from the sub-soil/buried soil surface immediately above the gully of the roundhouse, and presumably derived from its fill (SF 802).

Pits internal to the Roundhouse (F.1607, F.1615, F.1646 & F.1653) - Though it is unlikely that all these pits were contemporary with the structure (if indeed any of them), the pottery they yielded was broadly similar to that from the penannular gully in terms of fabric range. In total, the pits yielded 191 sherds (1395g), including three of the sites largest individual feature assemblages (from F.1607, F.1615 & F.1646). The pottery was dominated by shelly wares, with only 22 sherds (135g) in other fabrics recorded (including two sherds with igneous rock inclusions (R1 & R2, 5g), and one Wareham-Poole Harbour ware (Q4, 14g). The assemblage contained the partial profile of seven vessels (PA1: one vessels; JC1: one vessels; JC2: five vessels), the most intact being a plain PA1 vessel with slightly counter-sunk lug handles – a vessel closely paralleled at Cadbury (Woodward 200, 333, Fig. 153, nos. 11-13). These handles are a common feature of pottery associated with the Maiden Castle-Marnhull style-group (Cunliffe 2005, 106, 632, fig. A:21, no. 3), which is another attribute connecting the pits and roundhouse assemblages.

Parallel Ditches (F.1500 & F.1501) - The ditches yielded 22 small abraded sherds (34g). A range of fabrics were encountered, including four sherds (6g) which may have been wheel-made/finished, and three sherds (3g) with flint-temper that are possibly of Later Bronze Age origin. The assemblage is therefore of mixed date, and all the later prehistoric pottery may be residual.

Fieldsystem Ditches (F.1506, F.1510, F.1521, F.1522 & F.1572) - Ditches belonging to the field boundary system yielded 29 small plain abraded sherds (173g) in arrange of fabrics, dominated by shell and vesicular wares. Only two features sherds were recovered; a vesicular rim (fabric V2) and a sandy ware base (fabric Q8).

Rectangular Enclosure (F.1011, F.1527, F.1531, F.1540 & F.1564) - The ditches making up the rectangular enclosures yielded 244 sherds (921g). The assemblage included 12 different rims (amongst the, single PA1 and JC3 jars), with beaded and rounded lips typical of the broader assemblage from the external pits. Two calcite gritted sherds (32g) of Glastonbury ware were also recovered together with four (23g) possible wheel-made/finished sherds (from contexts [2716] and [2761]). The fabrics from the enclosure reflected the range recovered from the external pits.

Pit Cluster 1 (F.1529, F.1544, F.1553, F.1576, F.1581, F.1593, F.1596, F.1599, F.1605, F.1617, F.1644 & F.1645) - The main pit group yielded only 31 sherds (234g) of pottery, including just two rims – one belonging to a PA1 jar. The assemblage was dominated by shelly wares, but like all the sites major feature groups contained some pottery with igneous rocks inclusions – in this instance a Glastonbury ware sherd (26g) from F.1644 - and a few sherds in Wareham-Poole Harbour fabrics Q4 and Q5 (5 sherds, 69g).

Pit Cluster 2 (F.1518, F.1524, F.1525, F.1528, F.1534, F.1536, F.1555 & F.1562) - The southern pits group yielded 142 sherds (559g) of pottery in a diverse range of fabrics. As with Pit Cluster 1, rims and bases were relatively rare (only six different rims and four bases), although Glastonbury wares were found in three features – pit F.1518, F.1525 and F.1528 (eight sherds, 72g from a maximum of five vessels). One vessel from F.1528 was a decorated base sherd that has been drilled after firing (three sherds, 24g). Pits F.1524 and F.1534 also yielded three wheel-made cordoned/rippled sherds in fabric Q8 (19g, probably from the same vessel), together with further three plain possible wheel-made sherds (21g, also fabric Q8).

Aside from a small collection of possible Late Bronze Age ceramics, found as residual sherds in Iron Age features, or recovered from the sub-soil/buried soil (in fabrics F1-3, AR1-2, and R1, 3-4), all the pottery may be assigned to the *later* Iron Age, broadly the second and first centuries BC. The assemblage is characterised by the presence of plain ovoid jars with beaded rims, fragments of South Western/Glastonbury-style

vessels (in non-local fabrics, principally Group R fabrics, and a few sherds with calcite and vesicular fabrics), and sherds with Wareham-Pool Harbour fabrics (non-local, fabrics Q4-6). The pottery also contains some decorative attributes and other features with affinities to ceramics of the Maiden Castle-Marnhull style-group (Cunliffe 2005, 106). Overall, this range of material is in keeping with pottery recovered from adjacent excavations on Ham Hill; most of which has also been dated to the second to first centuries BC (Morris 1999; Leivers 2007). In terms of the three-phase division suggested by Morris (1988, 45-45; 1999, 97-101), this groups falls comfortably within Ceramic Phase 3, broadly contemporary with the Cadbury Assemblage 8 (Woodward 2000, 30-38, 'Middle Cadbury' – or Alcock's Ceramic Phases 8-9A [1980, 694-695]). Though it is possible that some pottery spills into the early first century AD, the proportion of Wareham-Poole Harbour ware is not particularly high – especially in the feature assemblages (total assemblage: 11.4% by weight, 180 sherds, 954g; feature assemblages: 8.9%, 105 sherds, 647g) – and nor are there many definite wheel-made/finished vessels.

Roman Pottery Katie Anderson

A small quantity of Late Iron Age/Romano-British pottery, totalling 66 sherds (180g) was recovered. All of the pottery was analysed and details of fabric, form, use-wear, decoration and date were recorded along with any other information deemed significant.

The assemblage comprised small, generally abraded sherds, which are likely to be residual given the condition of the material. This is supported by the very low mean weight of just 2.7g, with just 10% of the assemblage comprising diagnostic sherds. This included a fine sandy micaceous greyware lid and a fine black-burnished jar. A range of vessel fabrics were identified, with locally made sandy wares being the most commonly occurring fabrics, representing 97% of the assemblage. Two very small sherds of South Gaulish Samian were also recovered ([2500]).

Despite the size and condition of the pottery, the fabrics and few forms identified were all Late Iron Age/early Roman in date, with an apparent hiatus between AD40-70, although this comprises primarily wheelmade vessels, which on the whole can be considered as 'Romanising' or 'Roman'.

As to the context of this material, the majority occurred as sub-soil surface finds ([2500]), with the remainder deriving from the top of feature fills; only one such sherd occurred in the upper fill of the main enclosure ditch (F.1531, [2713/2716]. That said, another sherd reportedly from the mid-profile fills of pit F.1607 ([3370/3372]) must somehow be intrusive.

Metalwork Grahame Appleby

Some 155 pieces of metalwork were found in Area 1 during the 2011 fieldwork programme, the largest group from the sub-soil [2500] (72 pieces; 46%); no metalwork finds are recorded for Area 4, although this area has not yet been fully excavated. Including a lump of gold, two silver coins, copper alloy items and ironwork, these finds span the Middle Bronze Age to post-Medieval periods. The following sections provide descriptions of the significant pieces of unstratified

metalwork by metal type and also the metalwork recovered from archaeological features.

Gold

A single unstratified irregular flat lump of gold, roughly 2cm long and weighing 2g (SF 392), was found within context [2500]. There are no diagnostic features on the surface and its irregular shape suggests it may have been broken down or reduced in size prior to melting.

Silver

Two Iron Age coin silver staters were recovered from [2500] and identified as having been minted in Durotrigan territory, conforming to Van Arsdell's (1989) type 1235.01. These coins are found in southwestern England, principally Dorset and Wilshire, with outliers in the South Midlands, Essex, Kent and Sussex (see also Cunliffe 2005, 181), with a cluster found in Surrey; according to the Oxford Celtic Coin Index² some 1351 examples have been found in southern Britain.

<575> [2500] (SF 306; Fig. 19.3) - Diameter 17.6mm; weight 4g. A good, quality silver stater minted in southwestern England by the Durotrige tribe. Van Arsdell type 1235.01.

<1889> [2500] (SF 762) - Diameter 17.7mm; weight 2g. Decoration on both obverse and reverse are relatively poor, but sufficient is apparent to identify this as a Van Arsdell type 1235.01 and similar to the example described above.

Copper Alloy (with contributions by Andrew Hall)

A small number of copper alloy items were found (13 in total – not including a discarded modern screw), only four of which were recovered from individual features. Of the remaining nine objects recovered from context [2500] and metal-detecting of spoil heaps, these date from the Bronze Age to the modern era. The objects are primarily listed by catalogue number (<no.>).

Context [2500] and Spoil Heaps

<436> [2500] (SF 291; Fig. 19.2) - Well preserved socketed Middle or later Bronze Age two-edged dagger/knife. This is cast as one piece with an integral blade and socket. Half of the socket is missing, with lateral breakage along what is most probably the casting seam. The socket also exhibits some cracking in the 'hilt' area, and area separated from the blade by a distinct transverse ridge or stop-line, and also possesses a single centrally placed perforation, presumably for a rivet (organic or metal). The dagger has been finished to a high standard and, despite some corrosion there is no evidence for flashing or casting sprues. The blade appears to be sharpened and largely intact based on the tapering nature of the bevel and blade edge; however, re-sharpening and reduction of a large dagger cannot be excluded. Length: total length 135mm; blade 96.5mm; hilt area 22.5mm; socket length 30mm, width 19.9mm. Weight 46g. Although somewhat longer (360mm), a socket dagger was found at Thorndon, Suffolk (Hawkes & Smith 1955, GB11), with an example comparable to the one from Ham Hill found at Reach, Cambs (210mm long), with a similar profile, but with two hafting perforations in the socket (Smith 1956, GB17). Five complete or fragmentary socketed daggers were also found during recovery of Bronze and Iron Age material from Netherhampton, Wilts - *The Salisbury Hoard* (D. Webb pers.comm, see discussion below).

<504> [2500] (SF 314) - Fragile and corroded (pale green patina) lanceolate shaped object with a concave 'under' side and convex 'upper' side, with a thin short stem with a wider, rounded end; length 30mm. The underside is relatively rough compared to the upper side and, although possibly part of a brooch or piece of jewellery, it is also possible this is a serendipitously shaped casting spill.

<505> [2500] (SF 315) - Large, distorted and bent lump of copper alloy that tapers from c. 5.5mm to c. 3.5mm. The object narrows from c. 23mm to a narrow strip that has been bent backwards and fused to the main body of the piece; the object has been burnt at a relatively high temperature.

<1886> [2500] (SF 342) - Fragment of cast copper alloy with a smooth outer surface – rough on its inner aspect. The object has a distinct angle and flared foot or flange similar to a Medieval or later cast trivet leg/foot; however, this fragment may also be of prehistoric or Roman attribution and metallurgical analysis is required to determine its composition as it may also be from a socketed implement, for example a Late Bronze Age chisel or hammer. Weight 20g, length 49.7mm.

²www.finds.org.uk/CCI/index.php; accessed June 2012.

<1891> [2500] (SF 513) - Small, plain Hessian button with complete suspension loop, dated to 18th-19th century; possibly tinned. Diameter 16.6mm, weight 2g.

<1893> [2500] (SF 761) - Small, rectangular lump of copper alloy, possibly scrap or casting waste; weight 2g, 7.3mm x 11.2mm.

<1975> (South spoil heap) - Very worn George III half penny; diameter 27.6mm, weight 6g.

<1978> (South top-soil metal-detecting finds) - Two objects: handle and partial stem from a small broken spoon; decorated with three marginal grooves on the upper and lower sides; two-piece small livery button, possibly silvered, convex back and front, decorated with an earl's coronet and lion passant on a chapeau, with maker's name obscured on underside, although the word 'EXTRA' is discernable; diameter 16.35mm, weight 2g.

Objects from Features

<1579> F.1541 [3233] (SF 853) - Two fragments of curved copper alloy strip or band 6mm and 7.1-7.3mm wide and 11.5mm and 17mm long, respectively. The larger piece tapers slightly and has a marginal groove and possible dot impression. Due to its shape and curvature it is tempting to interpret the larger piece as a decorative band that has broken.

<1884> F.1554 [2986] (SF 852) - Corroded small, thin, sub-rectangular (round?) flat-headed stud with round shank; 14.8mm x 15.4mm, shank 10.7mm, weight 1g. Almost identical to <1885> also found in this context.

<1885> F.1554 [2986] (SF 82) - Possessing a pale brown and green mottled surface patina, this stud is almost identical to the example described above from the same context. The head (diam. 17.46mm) is more rounded, probably due to better micro-preservation conditions with a similar length shank; weight 2g. These two studs should be considered a pair and as such qualify as a hoard.

<1890> F.1021 [1062] (SF 779) - Small, sub-spherical object measuring c. 2.5mm x 2.9mm. Further examination reveals this to be a small mineralised seed and attests to the micro-taphonomic conditions within this feature.

Lead

Four pieces of lead were found, all from context [2500] or spoil heaps. These include two lumps of scrap or casting waste recovered from [2500] (<578>; weight 8g) and the South spoil heap (cat. no. 1976; weight 12g); this latter piece possesses a distinct rounded 'internal' corner and indicates it was originally part of a larger piece or object. The remaining two pieces comprise of shot each 10.5mm and 8.6mm in diameter (<671> & <774>). The larger of the two has a flattened aspect, indicating it has struck an object. A casting seam is present on this shot, illustrating the use of a bivalve mould in its manufacture. The smaller piece of shot was similarly manufactured and appears undamaged, although this is not an indicator for non-use. Shot was used in match and flint-lock weapons into the mid 19th century and used in weapons ranging from pistols to hunting guns, although it is more likely these two examples are pistol shot.

Ironwork

In total, 116 pieces of ironwork were recovered with a total weight of 3366g. Of these, 55 pieces (1175g) were retrieved from [2500] and included pieces of agricultural tools, horseshoes (including a Shire horse horseshoe), nails and stud fragments, staples, barbwire, a probable button and unidentified lumps; a further 14 pieces were also recovered from spoil heaps or lack contextual information. Due to their unstratified nature, these pieces are not considered further, but are retained in the archive. The general preservation condition of the ironwork is good or excellent, although several pieces show evidence of degradation or delamination.

Of the remaining 47 pieces, these were recovered from Pit Cluster 2 in the southern area of Area 1 and features within the central and northern parts of Area 1, with significant assemblages from pits F.1541 and F.1593 (the 'finial' like object from F.1543 is a geode made from iron stone and is not included in this report).

Pit F.1541

Four pieces of ironwork were recovered from this later Iron Age pit (dated by pottery to the 2nd – 1st century BC, see Brudenell, this report), located approximately 5m west of a rectangular Iron Age enclosure. Although only a small assemblage, the recovery of one certain 'currency' bar and an iron tyre fragment from the same context constitutes these as a hoard; the spearhead and knife/curved bladed tool fragment were recovered from different contexts.

<1305> [2855] - Fragment of curved knife or tool, such as a billhook; tapering to a rounded tip; the blade has an irregular transverse break. Length 84.5mm, width at break c. 34mm, weight 37g.

<1900> [3439] (SF 870) - Fine example of a small, well preserved leaf-shaped iron spearhead with folded socket for the haft. Total length 104.4mm, blade length 56.5mm, maximum blade width 28mm, socket diameter 20.3mm, weight 44g. The relatively small size of this spearhead places it in the javelin or throwing category with a probable haft length c. 1.5m long.

<1914> [3567] (SF 871; Fig. 20.9) - 'Complete' (re-fitting fragments) sword-shape 'currency' bar (this object is fragile, despite its apparent robustness and has broken into four pieces), deliberately bent 210mm from its tip (see Hingley 2005, 187 for a discussion on currency bar typology). The bar has an estimated length of c. 815mm (bent length 750mm), tapers to a tip and possesses a complete, folded handle. Although heavily corroded, the bar is well preserved with the blade tapering from c. 39mm below the handle to c. 35mm at the mid-point, 31mm where it has been bent, and 15mm at the rounded tip. Handle length 72mm, bar thickness below handle c. 4mm, mid-point and tip c. 5mm.

<1915> [3567] (SF 872; Fig. 20.8) - Straight-sided, parallel edge curved bar, with slightly convex upper surface, c. 4.5mm thick at both ends and mid-point, and c. 38mm wide along its length. The apparent tapering observable along the length of the bar is due to differential corrosion as measurement of the X-ray shows the bar measures between 34mm and 35mm wide along its length. Importantly, the X-ray also reveals 50mm from the transverse break that the bar narrows and thickens, with a transverse join apparent at 73mm. This thickening extends for 127mm and is rounded at both ends, indicative of a hammer welded lap-joint. It is thus highly likely that this item is a section of an iron tyre for a wheel with an estimated diameter of 1.0m.

Pit F.1593

Some 25 pieces of iron metalwork, several refitting, weighing a total of 727g were recovered from this pit located in the northern part of the Pit Cluster 1 of Area 1. As such, this sub-assemblage represents 22% of the site's total ironwork assemblage by number and 33% by weight. Removing the unstratified finds from these figures the ironwork from this pit accounts for 47% of the site's total iron assemblage, and 39% by weight of ironwork from features only.

<1894> [3261] (SF 829) - Two objects: two refitting pieces of a roughly square cross-sectioned bar 158mm long (weight 31g), with a small right-angled projection 20mm from the end (it is unclear from the X-ray whether this is an integral part of the object); the second object is rounded at one end and the X-ray reveals this to be formed of corrosion products. Partially identified from the X-ray and object, this is also a fragment of a rectangular cross-sectioned bar 45mm long (weight 11g).

<1902> [3411] (SF 859; Fig. 20.2) - Thin iron disc (63mm diam; weight 29g) with two crescent shaped inserts (corrosion?), two small perforations (one only visible on the X-ray) and a minimum of one small projecting lug; the location of a second lug is indicated where a piece has broken off the object. A large, bulbous lump is found off-centre on the slightly convex (under?) surface, but it is unclear if this is a stem/shank or simply corrosion products. Identifying a function for this object is challenging.

<1903> [3411] (SF 860; Fig. 20.1) - A curved semi-circular disc 25mm wide with a total width of 63mm. The piece appears complete with a central flanged inset and a wide central notch or groove; an almost identical to this piece is described below (<1906>).

<1904> [3411] (SF 861) - Tanged partially socketed piece or metalwork, slightly triangular in shape measuring 89.3mm long. Heavily corroded, this piece may be a small socketed knife, roughly shaped socketed tool, or tanged knife. This latter interpretation is unlikely as both the object and X-ray show the tang or haft where this transits to the 'blade' forms a slight concavity with the edges of the wider part of the object displaying a distinct curvature and may thus be a small billhook-shaped tool or knife similar to those found at Danebury Hillfort, Wilts., (Sellwood 1984, Figs. 7.8 & 7.10).

<1905a> [3411] (SF 862) - Small tanged curved knife (tang missing), with tip of blade projected or estimated to be higher than the tang; length 75mm, weight 31g, similar to the large knife (<1905b>). A rectangular cross-sectioned bar (two refitting pieces) measuring 83mm long (weight 11g) was also recovered from this context and may form parts of the knife's tang.

<1905b> [3411] (SF 863; Fig. 20.4) - Tanged knife with markedly up-turned tip and curved blade, c. 155mm long (tang 77.6mm long); weight 81g. The tip of the blade is higher than the tang and thus this example is similar to the examples identified by Manning with their origin in the Late Iron Age (Manning 1985, 118, Type 23). A similar example was recovered from Iron Age contexts at Glastonbury Lake Village (Bulleid & Gray 1917, 365) and Danebury Hillfort (Sellwood 1991).

<1906> [3411] (SF 864; Fig. 20.3) - Two objects: two refitting fragments of a slightly probable curved-bladed knife, c. 89mm long with an angular tip and tapering from 25mm to 19mm wide; a piece almost identical to the example described above (<1903>), the disc measuring 59.5mm wide, and possibly forming a pair. A similar shaped object was also recovered from Danebury Hillfort (Sellwood 1984, 370 and Fig. 7.13), although the examples from Ham Hill appear to be complete objects.

<1907> [3411] (SF 865) - Fragment of a rectangular cross-sectioned bar c. 105mm long, 7.7 x 9.4mm thick (weight 17g), tapering to a flatter and wider waisted tip (11.5mm wide), before terminating in a straight edge not dissimilar to a modern flat-headed screw driver. Function unknown, although a use as a possible small-bladed tool cannot be entirely discounted.

<1908> [3411] (SF 866) - Small, heavily (48g) looped and stemmed object measuring 52.4mm in length/height. The stem measures 28.2mm long and oriented 90° to the loop and widens on one side to form a flanged edge c. 24mm long. Looking superficially like a small, transverse socketed axe, a similar example was found at Danebury Hillfort, albeit that example is nearly three times larger (Sellwood 1991, 351 and Fig. 7.12).

<1909> [3411] (SF 867) - Small, irregular shaped curved fragment, weight 7g. Measuring some 4mm thick and c. 32mm long, this fragment is derived from a large piece, possibly a band or socket.

<1910> [3411] (SF 868.1) - Two pieces of metalwork originally fused together by corrosion products. The larger piece is a fragment from a horseshoe-shaped object (weight 87g) with four nails identifiable on the X-ray and the piece itself; one of the nails is sufficiently well preserved to show that it is domed and relatively short (21.5mm long). The second object is a tapering rectangular cross-sectioned bar c. 90mm long (weight 28g). Identification of the horse shoe shaped object is problematic as due to the lack of certainty about horseshoes from Iron Age contexts (Sellwood 1984, 357) and the shape and style of nailing seen on this example argue against it being a horseshoe – the shape being possibly coincidental – and it also bears some similarity to a billhook.

<1911> [3411] (SF 868; Fig. 20.6) - Horse's double-jointed snaffle-bit with one surviving rein ring (see Palk 1984 for a discussion on types and dating of bridle-bit). The links are looped at each end attached by a separate ring. The surviving larger rein ring has an external diameter of 49.3mm and is 10.5mm thick; the links are rounded, c. 10.5mm in diameter and of roughly equal length (c. 75mm) with an overall length of approximately 150mm – average pony size. Bridle bits and other horse equipment from Polden Hill, Somerset. Horse bits have been recovered from numerous Iron Age sites, including Kingsdown Camp, Somerset (Hingley 2006a), Maiden Castle (Laws 1991, 165 and Fig. 137), and further-a-field at Bredon Hill hillfort, Worcestershire (Palk 1984; Hencken 1939) and Gussage All Saints (Spratling 1979).

<1912> [3411] (SF 868.3) - Several fragile fragments of iron sheet (total weight 11g), slightly curved. C. 1.3mm thick, and a fragment of a tapering rectangular cross-sectioned bar c. 49mm long (weight 5g), possibly a fragment of a tang or similar.

<1913> [3411] (SF 869; Fig. 20.5) - Flanged chisel-shaped object or tool 121mm long, blade width 21.6mm, weight 40g. This object is bent approximately one third from the end of the blade, the haft/shank is roughly square in cross-section. Identification of this piece is problematic due to the lack of parallel objects. A similar example object found in a secure Iron Age context is known from Maiden Castle, but as discussed by Laws its identification as a hair pin is uncertain (Laws 1991, 165), and its identification, albeit speculative, as wagon related may merit further consideration.

Pit Cluster 2

F.1518 [2628] <1055> (Fig. 20.7) - Well preserved thin fragment, possibly from a curved knife or razor with an oblique tip; length 42.6mm, triangular cross-section, weight 3g.

F.1524 [2641] <1067> - Small latch-lifter 145mm long, with rectangular cross-section and closed loop (diam. . The blade tapers from 10.7mm wide below the loop to c. 7.3mm; the tip is missing. Weight 31g. Similar to the examples reported from Hod Hill (Manning 1985, 88, O5) and Camerton (Jackson 1990, Plate 29, 282).

F.1528 [2692] (SF 780; <1109> - Two fragments, possibly from an irregular dome-headed stud or similar object; the shank is broken. Rectangular in cross-section, this measures 22.6mm long x 12.55mm wide and 7.9mm thick. One end is slightly bulbous where it was originally connected to the head. The head measures c. 20mm in diameter.

F.1528 [2692] <1918> - Large tapering rectangular cross-sectioned bar or rod with collar or socket. The bar measures c. 230mm long and c. 15mm wide; the piece is broken at the non-tip end and is delaminating; weight 138g. X-ray of the bar reveals the large bulge towards the tip is formed from corrosion products only adhering to the surface. Found with a collar or socket, this has fragmented into several pieces with an estimated length in excess of 50mm. The bar was found inserted into the socket, indicating these were from a composite object, or deliberately associated with each other prior to deposition.

F.1534 [2889] <1342> - This small sub-assemblage of five pieces consists of three fragments from a toothed saw, total length c. 122mm, width 32.8mm; teeth c. 3.9mm apart. The two remaining pieces consist of a narrow flat curved bar c. 104mm long that possesses a triangular cross-section and may taper from one end to the other from a width of 20mm to 14mm; the broader end does appear to be sharpened. Significant concretion and corrosion products adhere to the larger fragment. Iron Age saws remain rare within the metalwork repertoire of the period. Nonetheless, examples, including hafted blades, have been recovered at Glastonbury Lake Village (Bulleid & Gray 1917, 362 Plate LX), with other blade fragments found at Maiden Castle (Laws 164, Fig 137.17) and Danebury Hillfort (Sellwood 1984, 351 and Fig. 7.11).

Miscellaneous Features

<1560> F.1591 [3219] - Two pieces of iron metalwork: small, handmade flat-headed nail 21mm long, head c. 3mm in diameter, shank 16.5mm with a square cross-section; fragment of a large, round cross-sectioned rod 88.5mm long, 8.6mm thick at the mid point, tapering to a point – probable nail. The appearance and possible round cross-section of the rod and flat-headed nature of the smaller nail suggests these may be post-Medieval in date and or intrusive.

<1795> F.1646 [3576] - Broken tapering collar or socket with a basal diameter of c. 31mm; height 38mm; weight 17g. Recovered from a later Iron Age pit, due to the incomplete nature of this piece it is unclear whether it was part of a larger object, for example a socketed tool or ferrule.

<1901> F.1560 [2875] - Large, well preserved latch-lifter with rectangular cross-section; weight 112g, length 280mm with up-turned tip' the handle ending in a tapering tang, similar to an example found at Glastonbury Lake Village (Manning 1985, 88). As reported by Manning, latch-lifters are 'the simplest form of key, and probably the most ancient' (*ibid.*) and are recorded from the Iron Age onwards.

<1977> F.1566 [3047] - Two objects: small, rectangular iron plate 19.8mm x 28.8mm, thickness 2mm, with two equally spaced rivets shown on the X-ray c. 4.8mm in diameter, with a possible third off-set rivet also present. This piece is slightly bowed along its length and suggests this was a decorative plaque or similar; narrow, fragments of a bent bar or rod, triangular in cross-section, 10.6mm wide and 43.4mm long. This piece is most likely a narrow knife blade.

In quantitative and qualitative terms this assemblage provides an important addition to the known metalwork found at Ham Hill. With the majority of the metalwork recovered as unstratified items from the sub-soil and spoil heaps little information beyond identifying and dating these objects can be achieved. Exceptions to this statement include the Middle Bronze Age socketed dagger, the gold lump and Late Iron Age silver staters. With respect to the dagger, although socketed forms are known from British contexts, these types of dagger are rare finds, with only two other reported found in East Anglia (Hawkes & Smith 1955; Smith 1956), three examples from northern England (Burgess 1982), and two from Petters Sports Field, Egham (Needham 1990). Much closer to Ham Hill, are the five unpublished examples found in the Salisbury Hoard (Netherhampton) and recorded on the British Museum's collection database³. Although the dagger is unstratified, the recovery of Bronze Age metalwork from prominent landscape features is a recognised pattern of the period; however, it is as likely that the dagger was an accidental loss. Metallurgical analysis of the dagger may also further narrow the period of manufacture, especially if it has a higher lead content, a compositional attribute of much of the copper alloy metalwork of the later Bronze Age.

³ http://www.britishmuseum.org/research/search_the_collection_database.aspx (accessed June 2012; I am grateful to David Webb for identifying this large hoard to me as a candidate for socketed knives).

The recovery of a gold piece suggest the possible working of precious metal on the site or nearby and it is recommended it undergoes metallurgical analysis to assess its possible geological origin and or whether it is composed of a ternary alloy (gold, silver and copper) or debased gold; however, its clean yellow colour would suggest a very high gold content. Determining a date for this piece is problematic, but it has been remarked elsewhere that gold was a rare commodity until the 1st century BC for Iron Age gold coins and objects, and there is also the distinct possibility that it post-dates prehistoric, if not later, periods.

The two silver staters further attest to the status of the settlement or activities that took place within the hillfort environs. As remarked above, these coins are found primarily distributed in southwest Britain that was controlled by the Durotriges. It is interesting to note that Cunliffe states that the use of silver (and gold) coinage in this area ceased around 30 BC, after which only bronze coinage was issued in an area that was by then economically and culturally isolated (Cunliffe 2005, 181). Allowing for some chronological flexibility for the end of silver coin use in the area, it is nonetheless the case that towards the end of the 1st century BC silver staters were no longer in use. Due to the unstratified nature of these two finds, however, it is unclear whether they are chance losses or, like the piece of gold, potentially scrap precious metal or a disturbed deposit; the fact that they were beside each other would, though, suggest the latter (see Fig. 6).

The recovery of latch-lifters from Iron Age contexts is of note as they not only offer evidence for substantial doors or hatches, but a notional sense of securing property, these being identified as an early form of key (Manning 1985), and date from the later Iron Age through to the early Anglo-Saxon period. Only a single example from Glastonbury Lake Village is reported by Bulleid and Gray (1911, 376), and as remarked by Sellwood (1984, 357) these are relatively rare on Iron Age sites. The recovery of numerous knives, possible billhook and a saw also attests to domestic and craft activity on the site. The small axe and chisel-like objects from pit F.1593 may further attest to woodworking and carpentry on a finer scale.

The recovery of a substantial sub-assembly from pit F.1593, including several knives and probable billhooks, merits further comment beyond catalogue descriptions of individual items. Thirteen pieces of metalwork, including the bridle, the two semi-circular disc-shaped objects, the chisel (?linch pin), the 'horseshoe' shaped object and several knife blades were all found in the same context. As such, these items constitute at face value a significant and probable single deposition event and conform to the general notion of an ironwork hoard. The deposition of ironwork on sites during the Iron Age has received recent attention with papers (e.g. Hingley 2005, 2006a; Haselgrove & Hingley 2006; Dowling 2006) revisiting the themes of W.H. Manning's seminal article on ironwork hoards (1972) and J.D. Hill's discourse on 'structured deposition' (Hill 1995). Hingley's more recent paper is useful in identifying problems that are associated with terms such as 'hoard' and that hoards may have accumulated over time as a result of multiple depositional events and as such may not have been placed as 'closed deposits, left at one particular time in sealed situations' (2006, 215). This assertion is an interesting proposition in that the assemblage from F.1593 shows some distinct characteristics of Late Iron Age closed ironwork hoards from other sites where different objects types are found together, such as the assemblages from Hod Hill, Dorset (Hencken 1939), Danebury Hillfort, Wilts (Sellwood 1984), Glastonbury Lake Village (Bulleid & Gray 1911, 1917), Gussage All Saints (Spratling 1979), Fiskerton, Lincs (Field & Parker Pearson 2003)

Camteron, Somerset (Jackson 1990), and the two hoards reported from Ham Hill itself (Manning 1972), and considered to be largely votive in nature. Nonetheless, the presence of additional metalwork, including the unusual semi-circular disc-shaped objects and perforated discs from different contexts within the pit, certainly suggests one or more deposition events and that the pit may not have been 'closed' after the 'hoard' was deposited. This argues in favour for Hingley's repeated acts of votive deposition and where it is the iron that is valued rather than the specific object types themselves. The location of this pit, within a large pit cluster apparently lacking any other metalwork deposits, is also noteworthy and accounting for this bias in the distribution is hard to account for, unless one considers the possibility that the metalwork from the pit does represent some form of expedient 'tidying up' (see Hill 1995).

The potentially repeated acts of deposition in F.1593 contrast slightly with the deposition of iron in F.1541. Located close to the Iron Age enclosure ditch the pit's position close to a boundary and the metalwork recovered from it highlights the ritual, religious or votive motives behind their deposition. As with F.1593, two or more deposition events may be identified by the recovery of four pieces from different context, albeit the currency bar and iron tyre came from the same basal fill of the pit. The precise form, function and typology of 'currency bars'⁴ has generated much debate (Hingley 2005, 187; Sellwood 184, 357). Whatever the nature and function of these currency bars may have been, it is sufficient to say that they were deliberately selected for deposition in special places, with this example falling into the same category as the 712 currency bars found in hillfort settings of the 1576 whose depositional or finds contexts were assessed by Hingley (2005, 191). Interestingly, the other currency bars reported by Manning (1972) as found by Hoare (1827) are not included in Hingley's later paper on ironwork hoards, where Hoare's finds are described as 'arrowheads/spearheads and cart wheel tyre' (Hingley 2006a, 246); Hoare does, however, describe 'fragments of British chariots' (Hoare 1827, 39). This restatement of Hoare's finds from the hillfort's rampart area is significant as the second piece of ironwork recovered from the basal fill of the pit is demonstrably a section of iron tyre (rim) from a wheel with an estimated diameter of about 1m. Arguably, this section of tyre may have been included in a 'hoard' of currency bars due to its superficial similarity to the general shape of these objects; it is the representation of the form that is important, not the precise type, that is being suggested here. Furthermore, and as discussed in detail by Hingley (2005 and 2006a) and Dowling (2006), the location for these depositional practices highlights the importance of boundary or liminal areas within and adjacent to enclosures or settlements. The possible association of a spear in this feature with the currency bar and tyre fragment also raises the intriguing possibility that these objects represent a repertoire of items traditionally associated with warfare and it would be useful to examine the association between different currency bar types and other objects with which they are found; are plough-shaped currency bars found predominantly with agricultural or domestic tools, and sword-shaped bars with or near to weaponry? However, this possible relationship remains largely hypothetical.

The recovery of this metalwork assemblage, in terms of quantity, quality and composition, from such a small area relative to the size of Ham Hill represents a small insight to the range and type of activities that took place on the site. The presence of Bronze Age metalwork alerts us to the distinct possibility that further

⁴ The term is maintained here for convenience.

metalwork, including hoards and possible metalworking debris (crucibles and mould fragments), may be found during further fieldwork. The discovery of a sword-shaped currency bar, tyre (proxy currency bar) and an ironwork hoard, in addition to pits containing one or two pieces of ironwork further highlights the significant potential for similar deposits and finds being discovered, including further pieces of horse and wagon related material. Finally, the Iron Age silver coins and piece of gold are clear evidence of the significance of Ham Hill within the local and regional landscape and its place within the social and political structures of southwest Britain during the later Iron Age.

Glass Grahame Appleby

A total of six glass fragments (24g) were retrieved from the sub-soil [2500], with another from posthole F.1669. Of the sub-soil pieces, these include a fragment of bottle neck with screw thread (<831>; SF 745), a probable second fragment of bottle or jar neck made from pale blue glass (<559>; SF 375), two pieces of brown/green glass (<364> & <384>/SFs 166 & 186), and two fragments of modern window pane glass (<746> & <783>/SFs 613 & 679). The only such finding of note was a piece from a claw beaker.

<981> F.1669 [2509] (TP20) - Small curved fragment of glass rod measuring 21.3mm long with rounded 'D'-shaped cross-section. This fragment is part of the decorative 'claw' embellishment from an Anglo-Saxon claw beaker; these beakers span the 5th to 7th centuries AD (Price 2009; Evison 1982).

Worked and Utilised Stone Simon Timberlake

Slingstones

This assemblage consists of some 323 confirmed slingstones (15.375 kg) out of a total of 356 possible slingstones collected. This assemblage was similar in most respects to the much smaller one (171) examined from the 2009 Ham Hill excavation.

The slingstones were recognisable as being small round-ovoid pebbles (the majority between 35–50g in weight and 30-40mm wide and 35-45mm long) composed of beach flint (75%), Greensand chert (6%), brown-yellow quartz (8.5%), and some Budleigh Salterton Pebble Bed (Trias) liver-coloured quartzites (4%), the most likely collection sites for these being the Weymouth – Chesil Beach (Chesil Bank) area of the Dorset coast.

Comparing the small collection of well-rounded pebbles recovered from the 2009 ditch fills (see Timberlake in Slater 2009) with the larger assemblage from the 2011 excavated features it was clear that these matched the size/weight/shape range and lithology of pebbles recovered from the excavated pits on Ham Hill during previous excavations, as well as those from the Danebury and Maiden Castle hillforts which have likewise been described as sling stone assemblages (Cunliffe 1984). It would appear that the great majority of these stones utilised as 'sling shot' on Ham Hill consist of small well-rounded waterworn pebbles of flint, with a much smaller percentage of Lower Greensand derived chert amongst it (see Hayward in Leivers *et al.* 2007). In fact the most well-rounded pebbles recovered from the 2009 and 2011 excavations appear to be of flint nodules formed around fossil sponges, yet amongst these were a small number of other well-rounded, smooth pebbles composed of a distinct pinkish-coloured quartzite. The most likely origin for the latter were as re-worked pebbles derived from the Triassic Budleigh Salterton Pebble Bed which outcrops at Budleigh Salterton near Exmouth in Devon (West 2009). Over time vast numbers of these extremely competent quartzite pebbles have been eroded out of these cliffs and carried eastwards along the Devon-Dorset coast by longshore drift. As a result of this, these now form a recognisable component of the make-up of beach cobbles and pebbles present along the coastline of Southern England; one significant concentration being the much-studied graded pebble beach at Chesil in Dorset (West *et al.* 2008). In fact the bulk (98%) of the pebbles on the latter beach consist of flint and chert, including the

grey-brown flint from the Chalk and the grey chert from the Upper Greensand. Whilst it is possible that some of the Ham Hill flint pebbles could have been collected from river gravels, rather than from a beach source, these pebbles are still unlikely to be local. In fact the idea that some of the Ham Hill flint and chert could have been collected from beach material along the south coast, such as between Bridport and Weymouth, was previously suggested by Hayward (in Leivers *et al.* 2007), whilst Jefferson (1992) suggested Chesil Bank.

More conclusive evidence of coastal collection within the presently studied sample was the recognition of small crescentic *chatter marks* (<2mm in diameter) on the surfaces of some of the pebbles. These marks which are made more evident here as a result of the slight iron oxide staining imparted by the limestone soils during burial provide a very good indication of pebbles from a beach source. Where present on pebbles, cobbles or boulders these represent the classic indicators of percussion resulting from the impact of waves hammering large particles one against each other (West & Harvey 2008; Sanjaume & Tolgensbakk 2008). Despite the distance to the coast at Chesil, it is important to remember that the existence here of readily graded source of well-rounded hard and compact pebbles from one area of the bank (with typically 35-50mm diameter clasts) could have made the actual process of collection of material easy, even if the transport of these pebbles to Somerset was problematic. There may well, however, have been 'historical reasons' for this. If for instance such a tradition of sourcing began in the Dorset Iron Age with coastal hillforts such as Maiden Castle, one can see how this might have continued and developed as the influence and territories of hillforts expanded further inland to the east and north. However, one might still expect to see a cut-off point where these distances became too great, particularly at those points where hillforts became established closer to other suitable sources. In fact this may be what we are seeing at Danebury, where the size, weight and lithology of the sling stones clearly indicates yet another distinct source for these pebbles (see Brown in Cunliffe 1984; and Timberlake in Slater 2009, Table 2).

Whilst most of the 2011 excavated features contained just a few stones, indicating a fairly ubiquitous dispersal, a few of these contained much larger numbers of stones; for example F.1523 (50 pebbles or 15.5% of the total). F.1528 (34 pebbles or 10.5%) and F.1524 (16) and F.1541 (17). Interestingly there were a few of these which showed evidence of (impact) fracture from use, and also a number which showed slight evidence of burning. There exists a database for the 2011 excavated assemblage which provides basic details and identifications of the material looked at.

Note that within the course of post-excavation another five small flint and chert slingstones (35–40mm diameter) were recovered from the sieved residues of the environmental samples.

Burnt Stone

Some 2.026 kg of burnt stone was recovered from the environmental sample residues. Most of this was of only slightly burnt material, and all of it consisted of fragments of Ham Hill stone and local Cornbrash limestone. None of it (including the largest pieces up to 100mm diameter) appears to have been worked or otherwise utilised.

Worked Stone

Ground Stone Axe (<485b> [2500]; SF 290; Fig. 21.1) - The broken end of a ground Neolithic stone axe which appears to have been found in a re-deposited context. Axe dimensions: 102mm long and 38mm wide (at narrowest end) + 57mm (at break); 16mm-27mm deep; weight 258g. The axe is very well-rounded and ground, and tapers evenly to a well-rounded 'C'-shaped point at the butt or haft end. In cross-section the axe is slightly more convex on one face than the other. Apart from the mid-line fracture (probably two thirds of the way down) there is very little damage to the surviving half; there are two small areas of pitting/bruising which may be contemporary, one of them close to the break. The fracture might have occurred in antiquity, yet appears to post-date the formation of a very slight iron-stained patina to its surface. The rock appears to be of a fine-grained acid intrusive rock, possibly a microgranite which has been altered through metamorphism, and subsequent visual inspection of this suggests the presence of a very minor hematite-filled joint and some tourmaline (shorl) growth in the groundmass of the rock. Possibly therefore this is of Cornish origin, and is perhaps a hornfelsed elvan.

Stone Macehead (<1368> F.1506, [2934]; Fig. 21.2) - A fragment of a broken stone macehead (approx. 40% of the artefact). Dimensions: 110mm long and 70mm wide and 51.6mm deep (depth in middle at shaft-hole); weight 410g. The distance from centre of shaft hole to the still extant end is c.86mm, whilst the hour-glass shaped perforation is 34.6mm on the exterior and c. 23mm at its mid-point. The implement has a well-developed iron-stained patina covering its original surfaces. This patina covers one area of early contemporary damage (bruising and pounding to one end), whilst there are another two later fractures which resulted in the break-up and discard of the tool, one of which was a major split and fracture which occurred along a silicified joint plane in the rock. A visual examination of the petrology suggests this is of a type of spotted dolerite (basic intrusive igneous rock). This may be of Welsh or Cornish origin, but proper identification will require thin-section analysis in order to determine the exact CBA Implement Petrology Axe Group Type and possible quarry / outcrop source.

Quernstone

Approximately 21.8kg of assorted quernstone was recovered from the 2011 excavations, including saddlequern (approx. 10.1kg) and rotary quernstone (11.4kg).

Saddlequern

<475> [2500] (SF 279) - A small fragment from the upper grinding surface and edge of a saddlequern, perhaps detached as a result of burning and cracking. Dimensions; 80mm x 45mm x 20mm; weight 90g. What survives of the grinding surface is flat and polished from use, suggesting considerable wear. The rock type is a medium-grained micaceous sandstone with a calcareous and slightly quartzitic cement. This may be of greensand, and thus possibly from a bed of the Upper Cretaceous Blackdown Greensand.

<1411> F.1531 [2990] - A very small fragment (40mm x 25mm x 16mm; weight 16g) detached from the surface of a whetstone or well-polished grinding surface of a saddlequern. A dark grey patina on the surface of this suggests sooting, and perhaps therefore the break-up of this through its re-use as burnt stone. The rock is fine grained, and appears to be composed of a sandstone greywacke.

<810> [2500] (SF 721) - A fragment from the edge and surface of saddlequern which has been burnt and broken up (60mm x 55mm x 60mm (deep); weight 284g). The flat grinding surface, which is also quite sooted, shows evidence of considerable polish and wear. The rock appears to be of porphyritic trap lava, and is perhaps from Exeter. This was used during the Roman period for building, but may also have been quarried earlier for the manufacture of quernstone

<857> [2500] (SF 810; Fig. 19.5) - A complete 'slab-type' saddlequern recovered from the sub-soil horizon. Dimensions: 340mm x 220mm x 90mm deep (with a moderately concave asymmetrically-shaped grinding depression on its upper surface 260mm–130mm x 210mm (wide)); weight > 10kg. Composed of a pinkish granodiorite with a weathered and etched surface. The origin of this rock type could be SW England, but equally this might be a far-travelled glacial erratic originating from the Midlands/ Northern England. This requires some further work on provenancing.

Rotary Querns

<428> [2500] (SF 230; Fig. 19.4) - Two different broken rotary quern stones made of limestone: consisting of x2 half slabs plus x2 bags of fragments split off from the tops of these stones. *Quern A*: 300mm x 190mm (original diameter c. 300mm) x 90mm deep; weight 4.096kg. Probably an upper stone, with traces of the top face but not the grinding surface surviving. The edge of the cone-shaped axle/feed hole of c.60mm diameter survives, along with traces of the tooling marks. *Quern B*: 300mm (original diameter) x 230mm x 90mm deep; weight 6.238kg (this includes all the surviving small fragments from the top half). Probably another upper stone. The central axle/feed hole is slightly elongate (80mm x 65mm) in horizontal cross-section, suggesting either wear or modification. The sides of this exhibit well developed tooling marks.

The two querns recovered appear to have been made of Purbeck Limestone (probably Upper Jurassic – Portlandian age), which in all probability was quarried from outcrops within the Isle of Purbeck/Lulworth area of West Dorset (Calkin 1949; Palmer 2011, *Database of Roman Purbeck Limestone* (www.tinkerbell.uktsn.org); Purbeck Mineral and Mining Museum (www.pmmmg.org/purbeck). The discovery of fossil fish scales and fin fragments of the genus *Lepidotes* sp. on the split bedding plane of Quern A, alongside the distinctive lamination present within this chalky limestone suggests a geological horizon within the Middle Purbeck sequence, thus in all probability an indication of the general area of extraction. Whilst the quern could be of Late Iron Age date, it seems that most of the extraction of this early Purbeck industry took place during the Roman period. On the whole querns made of this material appear rare, and probably just had local usage in the South-West. However, the quarrying sites themselves may well be associated with the projecting flat-topped outcrops of ?Middle

Purbeck limestone exposed along the coast between Lulworth and Purbeck. Here the well-bedded laminated nature of this stone would have made it much easier to quarry and work *in situ* (for instance many Roman/RB building and ornamental stone quarry sites are documented; see Palmer 2011), although this particular lithology had the significant disadvantage of being brittle and considerably less abrasive compared to the sandstone querns of the Blackdown Greensand and other SW England contemporary quern rock sources.

Stone

Several finds of un-worked stone from the site may also have been used, or could have been collected with the intention of use. The total weight of this additional material was c. 3 kg. This included a putative sandstone whetstone and three pieces of limestone, the latter consisting of Cornbrash and local Ham Hill stone. These larger pieces may have been utilised in some structural way, although this was impossible to determine from the finds information, or from examination of the stone. The perforation present within the larger fragment of Cornbrash <1827> was natural, and formed by surface weathering.

<591> [2500] (SF 410) - A small slab or slate of flaggy micaceous sandstone (75mm x 70mm x 15mm; weight 146g) which *may* have seen some use as a whetstone. On one side of this small slab there is a suggestion of incipient use or polish. Possibly a Permian or Jurassic sandstone.

Slag Simon Timberlake

Approximately 70% (618g) of the total assemblage collected as 'slag' from the 2011 excavation turned out to be colluvial nodules of iron oxide/hydroxide mineral (i.e. goethite with lesser amounts of hematite), some or all of which may represent natural re-deposited accumulations of iron minerals present within the hillfort subsoil. Given the nature of the local geology it is possible that some of the goethite was weathered-out from altered surface exposures of the iron-rich/iron-stained hamstone; for example, the presence of free iron oxide formed as or else associated with stylolites in this Toarcian limestone was noted by Prudden (1995).

An examination of some of the larger pieces of iron mineral recovered from this excavation (e.g. a single piece weighing up to 134g from the Iron Age pit F. 1535 excavated in Area 1) suggested that this mineral might have been formed as a replacement deposit, perhaps as veins or as joint fills present within a weathered and de-calcified zone of the limestone. Depending upon the scale of this solution activity and residual iron deposition, small nodules of this goethite may have eroded out and then accumulated within the base of the subsoil. This might be borne out by the current pattern of its distribution; for instance, iron mineral in greater or lesser amounts appears to be present throughout the subsoil, as well as in features of Iron Age (F.1535, F.1527 & F.1011), Bronze Age (F.1550), Romano-British (F.1546) and Medieval date (F.1610). This supports the idea that this mineral was possibly naturally occurring and local to the hill.

The more interesting question though is whether this could have been used as an ore, and also whether it was ever present in sufficient quantities to be viable for local iron production. The mineral itself is certainly rich enough to smelt (perhaps 65% Fe), yet the archaeological excavations carried out to date have revealed almost nothing which can be construed of as smelting, or for that matter significant iron smithing. Nevertheless, the discovery of large numbers of currency bars from Ham Hill begs the question of Late Iron Age/Roman iron production here, either primary or secondary in nature, and using ores from nearby to here, or from some of the other

rich North Somerset iron deposits such as those recently identified at Sherracombe and other sites on Exmoor (see Brown *et al.* 2009; Exmoor Iron Project www.ndas.org.uk/sherracombe.html) and in the Blackdown Hills (Griffith & Weddell 1996).

Iron Smithing Slag

Only 230g (26 pieces) of slag or furnace waste were identified within the collected material, with much of it being difficult at this stage to ascribe with any certainty to ironworking, and in particular to Iron Age/Roman metallurgy. In fact the majority of this (220g) came from the sub-soil horizon [2500], parts of which could have been contaminated with post-Medieval/modern smithing debris (with indications for the use of coal), or perhaps even with furnace slag or fuel ash waste, and in the end there was just 80g of material recovered from the subsoil horizon ([2500]) which could confidently be identified as early iron smithing slag, and which on typological grounds was likely to be of Iron Age or Roman date (<675> 14g; x1 piece; <709> 66g; x3 pieces). A single piece of iron smithing slag (of less certain but possibly also early date) was recovered from F.1500 ([2542]). A database for the above slag assemblage was produced.

Copper Slag

From an Iron Age ditch fill (F.1011, [2772]) came a single piece (28g) of what appeared to be copper working slag (<1191>). Visual examination suggests it was a fayalitic slag with a small proportion of iron/iron oxide and just traces of copper (the green coloration on this was a result of surface oxidation). This showed some evidence of having been molten slag, either within a crucible or small hearth bottom, and was distinctly different from the slag lumps and smithing hearth bottoms of iron working. This slag could have been produced by either copper metallurgy or smelting.

Fired Clay Grahame Appleby

This assessment examined 298 pieces of fired clay, weighing 2993g, recovered from 19 features (245 fragments; 2813g), three test pits (13 fragments; 6g) and top and sub-soil contexts ([2500] & [2502]; 53 fragments; 180g).

Identifiable artefacts are described in the selected catalogue below. By weight, the largest assemblage was retrieved from pit F.1541 (Table 19); however, this was due to a complete medium-sized triangular loomweight recovered from the pit weighing 1468g. Also recovered from archaeological features were fragments of a spindle-whorl (fashioned from chalk; F.1523), possible daub (F.1618), a clay pellet (F.1653), burnt material from pit F.1566, and a fragment of Middle Bronze Age cylindrical loomweight from ditch F.1251. Fragments of a possible second triangular loomweight were recovered from the top-soil (SF 139), with a fragment of Medieval or post-Medieval tile also found in the top-soil (SF 747). In terms of numbers, the 90 fragments from F.1610 range from less than 5mm in size up to c. 72mm (weight 71g).

The fired clay fabrics consist primarily of fine sandy clay with occasional very small inclusions and a micaceous sandy fabric. The pieces, even those recovered from a single context vary considerably in colour and degree of firing, including the extent of oxidation or reduction, and range from dark brown to very dark grey and soft, powdery pieces (F.1566) to highly fired fragments, such as the Middle Bronze Age loomweight.

Feature	Quantity	Weight
1011	1	35
1501	2	5
1506	2	2
1523	9	33
1524	1	3
1531	41	209
1534	9	41
1541	2	1470
1546	11	22
1565	1	9

Feature	Quantity	Weight
1566	67	371
1591	3	32
1610	90	333
1618	1	49
1620	1	2
1630	1	1
1653	1	14
1662	1	1
1821	1	181

Table 19: Fired clay quantities from features (weight in grammes).

Selected Catalogue

<1335> F.1521 [2869] - A moderately large abraded fragment of a highly fired Middle Bronze Age cylindrical loomweight (181g) manufactured from fine sandy fabric with partially oxidised surface (buff to orange colour) with a reduced core. The fragment measures c. 93mm across and preserves sufficient of the central, longitudinal perforation to estimate its original diameter (c. 12mm). One external end surface survives, along with the lateral surface and relatively sharply angled corner between these planes. Cylindrical loomweights are found in Middle and Late Bronze Age contexts and precede pyramidal (Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age) and triangular forms (Middle Iron Age to Romano-British); they are distinctly different to annular loomweights dating to the Anglo-Saxon period. Cylindrical loomweights are found distributed on Middle to Late Bronze Age sites throughout central southern England, for example those found at Winnall Down, Hampshire (Bates & Winham 1985, 90).

<1414> F.1531 [2991] - A small assemblage of 12 pieces of fired clay fragments weighing 138g, and presumably from the same object (only partial refitting of the fragments was possible). Manufactured from the same fabric and displaying the same degree of firing (biscuit), the outer surface has been exposed to an oxidising atmosphere, with the extent of oxidation penetrating to a depth of c. 3mm. The largest fragment (weight 61g) preserves lateral and planar surfaces and one right-angled corner; a flat, external surface survives on an additional fragment; further attempts at refitting were unsuccessful for elucidating the profile and potential function of the object.

<1692> F.1566 [3419] (SF 851) - A quantity of clay fragments (62, weight 351g) ranging in size from less than 10mm to 52mm wide/long fired in a reducing atmosphere. The fabric is very soft and friable and very similar to pottery fabric Q2 (Brudenell, this volume). Several of the larger fragments have been smoothed, giving an almost black appearance to these pieces. It is possible these fragments represent the remains of a poorly fired vessel of some form and a cross-comparison of the pottery sherds manufactured from the same fabric is recommended.

<1716> F.1618 [3461] - Highly fired and partially reduced daub (weight 48g). Some 55mm by 32mm, the impressions of two wattles, arranged parallel to each other, are preserved (estimated diam. 12mm & 16mm).

<1761> F.1523 [3542] (SF 873) - Fragmentary, cylindrical chalk loomweight; estimated diameter 41mm, height c. 23mm (weight 33g). The central conical perforation tapers from 9mm to 7mm, indicating this was drilled from one side. This spindlewhorl is similar to Poole's Type 2 from Danebury (1984, 401; see also Brown 1984, 422).

<1778> F.1541 [3567] (SF 876) - This is a well-made and complete medium-sized triangular loomweight measuring 152mm x 150mm x 130mm and c. 80mm thick; weight 1468g. A horizontal perforation is located 37mm from the apex, with a diameter of 17.6mm-20.5mm. A second, angled perforation extends from the base side to one of the longer sides, with a diameter of 16.6mm. Triangular loomweights date from the Iron Age onwards and are found on numerous sites across Britain (Major 1982, 1998; Poole 1984). This example is very similar to the Type 1 from Danebury Hillfort (Poole 1984, 401), conforming in both size and thickness (large loomweights are generally in excess of 200mm long along each side and weigh over 3kg; *ibid.*, 406). The identification of these objects as loomweights has been accepted for a considerable period of time, although alternative uses as thatch-weights and even fire-bricks (Cunliffe and Poole 1991) have also been suggested and problems the size of perforation would create if used to tension the warps on a loom have been highlighted (Poole 1991, 380). As Poole has remarked, the variability in firing temperatures makes it unlikely that such objects were exposed to the elements and an inside use is most likely (Poole 1984, 406). Of interest, is the fact that this object was recovered from the same pit that contained an iron currency bar, tyre fragment and small spearhead (Appleby, this volume).

<1839> F.1653 [3645] - Spheroidal, egg-shaped, pellet measuring 32mm long, 25mm at the widest point and 21mm high; the pellet is flat on one side. Made from a fine sandy fabric with possible grog inclusions; this is a dark grey colour, whilst the upper surface is a pale orange colour. Similar shaped objects were found at Danebury Hillfort and other sites in southern England (Poole 1984, 398 and Fig. 7.44). Poole has described the examples from Danebury as slingshot, and although this example is very similar, the flat base may exclude this function; however, the base may simply be exhibiting a relatively high degree of abrasion as the object has only been baked to a high temperature and not completely fired and thus this may also be a slingshot.



1



2

0 5
centimetres



3

0 2
centimetres



4



5

Figure 19. 1) Glastonbury ware bowl (F.1504); 2) Later Bronze Age knife (<436>); 3) Durotrigan silver stater (<525>); 4) Rotary quern (<428>); 5) Saddlequern (<857>)



Figure 20. Ferrous metal finds from pits F.1543 (nos. 1-6), F.1518 (no. 7) and F.1541 (nos. 8 and 9)



Figure 21. 1) Stone axe (<4856>); 2) Macehead (<1368>); 3) Worked antler implement (<1642>); 4) Antler knife handle (<1899>); 5) Antler cheekpiece (<1062>)

Economic Data

Faunal Remains Vida Rajkovača

The faunal assemblage amounted to 1708 assessable specimens with a total weight of 22116g. The material was recovered through three different procedures: (1) surface collection across the sub-soil, (2) test pitting into the sub-soils and (3) excavation of cut-features ranging in date from the Bronze Age to the Romano-British and early Medieval period. A particular focus was placed upon the Iron Age component of the assemblage which was predominant. This report lists findings from the hand-recovered material. Faunal material from the heavy residues will be subjected to specialist analysis once environmental samples are processed. For the purpose of this assessment, the assemblage was divided into analytical sub-sets (see Table 20).

Phase/Origin of material	NISP
Sub-soil (surface)	10
Sub-soil (test pits)	29
Bronze Age	14
Bronze Age/ Iron Age	129
Iron Age	1480
Romano-British/ Early Medieval	32
Undated	14
Total	1708

Table 20: Number of specimens by phase/ origin of material.

Methods

Identification, Quantification and Ageing - The zooarchaeological investigation followed the system implemented by Bournemouth University with all identifiable elements recorded (NISP: Number of Identifiable Specimens) and diagnostic zoning (amended from Dobney & Reilly 1988) used to calculate MNE (Minimum Number of Elements) from which MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals) was derived. Identification of the assemblage was undertaken with the aid of Schmid (1972), and reference material from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit. Ageing of the assemblage employed both mandibular tooth wear (Grant 1982) and fusion of proximal and distal epiphyses (Silver 1969). Where possible, the measurements have been taken (Von den Driesch 1976). Withers height calculations follow the conversion factors published by Von den Driesch and Boessneck 1974. Taphonomic criteria including indications of butchery, pathology, gnawing activity and surface modifications as a result of weathering were also recorded when evident.

Preservation, Fragmentation and Taphonomy - The assemblage demonstrated overall moderate level of preservation (Table 21) with a small number of specimens showing signs of severe surface exfoliation, erosion and weathering (102 fragments, c.6% of the assemblage). Of the seven sub-sets, the best preservation was noted in the material from cut features. The assemblage was highly fragmented, with only 12 complete specimens (0.7%). A significant portion of the material was only possible to assign to size category, leaving 979 specimens to be assigned to species (57.3%). An insignificant portion of the assemblage was recorded with gnawing marks (21 specimens, 1.2%). All were canine marks and a small percentage implies quick deposition of the material.

Only a small fraction of the assemblage showed butchery marks (65 specimens, 3.8% of the assemblage), of which 59 came from Iron Age features. The remaining six specimens came from ditch F.1510 of a Bronze Age date. Burning was also noted in the assemblage: 163 specimens (9.5%) were recorded as charred and 71 as calcined (4.1%). There were no heat-cracked specimens.

Preservation	Contexts	Fragments
Good	3	7
Quite good	23	327
Moderate	109	1107
Quite poor	34	197
Poor	7	39
Mixed	1	31
Total	177	1708

Table 21: Preservation categories by context and fragment.

Sub-soil

Denser elements such as mandible fragments, loose teeth and teeth fragments made up the majority of what is a small and poorly preserved sub-set. A near complete range of domestic species was recorded and a small portion of cattle-sized and sheep-sized elements (Table 22).

Taxon	[2500] SF	[2500] TP	[2502]	[2504]	[2515]
Cow	2	1	.	4	2
Sheep/ goat	1	.	.	1	.
Pig	.	1	.	.	1
Horse	.	.	.	.	1
Cat	.	1	.	.	.
Sub-total to species	3	3		5	4
Cattle-sized	1	2	.	.	1
Sheep-sized	5	3	.	1	.
Rodent-sized	1	.	.	.	.
Mammal n.f.i.	.	1	1	8	.
Total	10	9	1	14	5

Table 22: Number of Identified Specimens for all species recovered from the surface and test pits.

Cut Features

Bronze Age - This sub-set includes posthole F.1558, ditches F.1000, F.1506, F.1510, F.1521 and F.1522. It stands in contrast to the Iron Age assemblage with substantial quantities of animal bone (Table 23). No gnaw marks were observed, but butchery marks were noted, albeit in small numbers, on examples from F.1506 and F.1510. The character of butchery actions performed is similar to those observed in the Iron Age assemblage. Six specimens were noted, three of which were performed on cattle and three on sheep/goat and sheep-sized specimens. Cow calcaneum, tarsal and 1st phalanx, as well as sheep astragalus all displayed fine knife marks implying skinning. Similarly, a sheep neck first vertebra (atlas) was recorded with a series of fine cut marks indicating preparation for disarticulation.

Taxon	Bronze Age		
	NISP	%NISP	MNI
Cow	33	49.3	2
Sheep/ goat	25	37.3	2
Sheep	1	1.5	1
Pig	7	10.4	2
Horse	1	1.5	1
Sub-total to species	67	100	.
Cattle-sized	54	.	.
Sheep-sized	16	.	.
Mammal n.f.i.	6	.	.
Total	143	.	.

Table 23: Number of Identified Specimens (NISP) and Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI) from Bronze Age features.

Iron Age - A detailed breakdown of the Iron Age bone assemblage by feature type is given in Table 24. Sheep/goat cohort has accounted for more than all other species combined with 598 specimens corresponding to 68.4% of the identified species count, being the dominant species within all feature types. Cattle and pigs were recovered in similar numbers, and dog and horse were comparatively under-represented. Two native cervid species were identified based on one specimen each: a red deer patella and a roe deer antler fragment found in pits F.1555 and F.1591. In addition to deer, a fragmented tarso-metatarsus found in pit F.1646 was assigned to corvid family (raven/crow family). A number of eroded/fragmented bird elements were not possible to further identify to species level.

Taxon	Pits			Postholes			Eavesgully F.1523		
	NISP	%NISP	MNI	NISP	%NISP	MNI	NISP	%NISP	MNI
Cow	79	11.8	4	.	.	.	1	4.8	1
Sheep/ goat	463	69.1	21	10	100	1	14	66.6	1
Sheep	18	2.7	5	.	.	.	.	.	.
Goat	2	0.3	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Pig	65	9.7	3	.	.	.	6	28.6	1
Horse	27	4	2	.	.	.	.	.	.
Dog	13*	1.95	2	.	.	.	.	.	.
Red deer	1	0.15	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Roe deer	1	0.15	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Corvid (crow family)	1	0.15	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Sub-total to species/ family	670	100	.	10	100	.	21	100	.
Cattle-sized	118	.	.	.	.	.	5	.	.
Sheep-sized	293	.	.	10	.	.	21	.	.
Rodent-sized	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Mammal n.f.i.	18	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	.
Bird n.f.i.	8	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total	1108	.	.	20	.	.	50	.	.
Taxon	Enclosure ditches			Ditch/ Bank F.1571			Total Iron Age NISP	%NISP	
	NISP	%NISP	MNI	NISP	%NISP	MNI			
Cow	43	25	3	1	100	1	124	14.2	
Sheep/ goat	84	48.8	4	.	.	.	571	65.3	
Sheep	7*	4.1	2	.	.	.	25	2.9	
Goat	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	0.2	
Pig	26	15.1	2	.	.	.	97	11.1	
Horse	8	4.7	1	.	.	.	35	4	
Dog	4	2.3	1	.	.	.	17	2	
Red deer	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	0.1	
Roe deer	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	0.1	
Corvid (crow family)	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	0.1	
Sub-total to species/ family	172	100	.	1	100	.	874	100	
Cattle-sized	55	.	.	1	.	.	179	.	
Sheep-sized	68	.	.	.	.	.	392	.	
Rodent-sized	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	
Mammal n.f.i.	5	.	.	.	.	.	26	.	
Bird n.f.i.	.	.	.	.	.	.	8	.	
Total	300	.	.	2	.	.	1480	.	

Table 24: Number of Identified Specimens (NISP) and Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI) for all species from Iron Age features given by feature type; the abbreviation n.f.i. denotes that the specimen could not be further identified.

All parts of beef and mutton carcasses were present in the assemblage, with a slight over-representation of mandibular elements and loose teeth. The ratio between loose teeth and mandibles can be used to give a gross indication of the fragmentation state of an assemblage: 337 loose teeth or tooth fragments were identified from all species (c. 20% of the assemblage).

Pits

Pits appeared to have been used as main receptacles for the overwhelming majority of bone waste generated during the Iron Age, as the quantity of faunal material recovered from pits corresponds to 74.8% of the Iron Age sub-set (1108 specimens). A few large bone dumps were identified (Table 25) and these three are one of the largest isolated bone deposits on site.

Taxon	F.1541	F.1591	F.1607
Cow	5	15	3
Sheep/goat	39	30	112
Sheep	2	4	4
Goat	1	.	.
Pig	14	8	4
Horse	1	.	2
Dog	.	9	.
Roe deer	1	.	.
Sub-total to species	63	66	125
Cattle-sized	11	27	8
Sheep-sized	78	22	52
Rodent-sized	.	.	1
Mammal n.f.i.	.	2	1
Total	152	117	187

Table 25: NISP count for the three major bone dumps.

This sub-set was dominated by sheep remains (both within the NISP and MNI count) and produced the widest range of species. A number of 'special bone deposits' (Grant 1984), otherwise known as 'associated bone groups' (Hill 1995) were identified:

F.1541; [2856], dog, complete, appeared to have been thrown in, rather than deposited with care

F.1555; [2965], horse, skull

F.1518; [2628], cow, lower hind leg.

Appraised by Alcock (1972, 33), Grant (1984), Cunliffe (1992), Hill (1995), Morris (2008) and many others, 'associated bone groups' were over the last four decades subject of an intense and ongoing debate.

Ditches

Similar to the pits, bone material generated by a series of enclosure ditches was dominated by sheep, and yet less varied in terms of the range of species. The sub-set includes material from several major enclosure ditches (F.1011, F.1527 & F.1531) and other features (F.1564 & F.1540). Of 300 assessable specimens from this sub-set, 237 came from ditch F.1531 and this is probably one of the largest bone deposits on site, although the deposition could have taken place as a series of episodes, rather than a single event. A single associated bone group was identified:

F.1531 - Sheep, near-complete and articulated, aged to 18-24 months, measuring 58cm shoulder height and displaying a series of fine knife marks on its first cervical vertebra (atlas) implying preparation for disarticulation or skinning. Found in association with another sheep leg from a different animal within the enclosure ditch F.1531.

Structure 1, Eavesgully

Eavesgully F.1523 contained a small quantity of animal bone, of which the overwhelming majority was sheep/goat or sheep-sized. Nearly half of the identified sheep cohort showed signs of burning: certain elements were charred and others were calcined. In addition to the sheep, a pig tibia was chopped midshaft at an oblique angle and showed clear signs of being utilised as a gauge or point. Sheep remains showed the presence of more than one individual: an adult and a possible neonate were recorded from this feature.

Mandibular tooth eruption and wear and fusion of epiphyses were used to assess age at death. Three pig mandibles were aged to 7-14 months, 17-21 months and 21-27 months, indicating that typically pigs were only kept for meat. Sheep/goat mandibles were aged to 18 months; two gave the age of 4-6 and one of 6-8 years at death and this shows some were kept for secondary products such as wool and milk. There were no ageable cattle mandibles. Here, only the kill off profile for sheep cohort is presented, as it is the only species which has produced sufficient data. Age estimations based on epiphyseal fusion indicate that 10% of the sheep were <16 months of age at death; 26% were +16 months-<28 months; 64% were +28 months-<3.5 years and there were no animals aged over 3.5 years. This showed a somewhat different situation to that observed from toothwear where three individuals gave the age at death of between 4 and 8 years.

Biometrical data demonstrated that sheep (six specimens) withers ranged from 50-59cm and, based on two specimens only, two cow elements gave the shoulder height estimate of 105cm.

Looking at the Iron Age faunal record as a whole, of 1480 specimens, butchery marks were observed on a small portion of some 59 elements (c. 4%). Pit material showed the greatest degree of processing with a total 42 specimens, compared to 16 from enclosure ditches and one from a eavesgully F.1523. Sheep/goat and cattle carcasses were equally affected, albeit by butchery actions from different parts of butchery *chaîne opératoire*. Cattle elements were typically crudely split or chopped for marrow extraction and sheep bones mainly displayed marks consistent with preparation for disarticulation or meat removal. Pig elements showed butchery marks similar to those on sheep carcasses and this could be accounted for by the similar size of carcasses or meat portions.

Romano-British and Early Medieval

A few features of later date were also investigated; however, these did not produce significant quantities of faunal material and, beyond stating the presence of different species (Table 26), it is not possible to discuss these any further.

Taxon	Ditch F.1546			Pits/ postholes			Gully F.1610		
	NISP	%NISP	MNI	NISP	%NISP	MNI	NISP	%NISP	MNI
Cow	1	50	1	1	11.1	1	2	40	1
Sheep/ goat	1	50	1	8	88.9	1	3	60	1
Sub-total to species	2	100	.	9	100	.	5	100	.
Sheep-sized	.	.	.	12	.	.	2	.	.
Mammal n.f.i.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.
Total	2	.	.	23	.	.	7	.	.

Table 26: Number of Identified Specimens (NISP) and Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI) for all species from Romano-British and Early Medieval features given by feature type; the abbreviation n.f.i. denotes that the specimen could not be further identified.

Undated Contexts

A small number of features - F.1565, 1572, 1580, 1609 and F.1630 combined - remain undated at this stage and a list of identified species is given in Table 27.

Taxon	Undated		
	NISP	%NISP	MNI
Cow	3	42.9	1
Sheep/ goat	1	14.3	1
Pig	1	14.3	1
Horse	2	28.5	1
Sub-total to species	7	100	.
Cattle-sized	5	.	.
Sheep-sized	2	.	.
Total	14	.	.

Table 27: Number of Identified Specimens (NISP) and Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI) for all species from undated features.

Fauna from Heavy Residues

Additional material was retrieved from bulk soil samples; these were wet-sieved using a 4mm mesh, sorted and scanned. The range of identified species reflects that of the hand-recovered material. A few frog specimens and a short list of small vertebrates were also recorded: shrew, mouse and vole, all part of the background fauna. Although a limited number of bird specimens was recovered by hand, bird and fish remains are absent from the heavy residues.

Sample No.	Feature	Burnt?	Small mammal?	Frog?	Other mammals
1500	1500	one charred			
1507	1500	calcined crumb			
1518	1518	few calcined	mouse?		sheep
1519	1500				
1527	1531				sheep
1528	1524	c. 80% charred and a 10% calcined			sheep
1529	1524	c. 90% charred and 5% calcined			sheep
1530	1524				sheep
1531	1524	cal and charred			juvenile sheep
1533	1531	cal and charred			sheep
1543	1528	cal and charred			sheep
1547	1528	cal and charred			sheep and pig/ ?human tooth?
1558	1501	calcined			sheep
1559	1509	few calcined			sheep
1560	1509	calcined			
1564	1531				pig
1605	1541	cal and charred	mouse ?		foetal pig, sheep
1638	1531	cal and charred			sheep
1639	1523	cal and charred			
1645	1523	one frag calcined			sheep
1646	1591	calcined	rodent		sheep
1649	1523	calcined			
1650	1601		mouse?		
1654	1523				sheep

1657	1586	cal and charred			sheep
1659	1612	calcined	mouse?, shrew		pig, cow
1661	1566	c. 80% charred and a 10% calcined			neonate pig, sheep
1665	1607	cal and charred	mouse? and shrew		foetal and burnt sheep
1671	1576	charred	mouse?	frog	
1672	1581				sheep
1679	1571				sheep
1680	1523	cal and charred	vole? field vole?		sheep
1682	1541	cal and charred	mouse?		pig, sheep
1689	1653	cal and charred			
1705	1665				cow
1706	1655	calcined			sheep

Table 28: Faunal from sample heavy residues.

The animal bone assemblage from the 2011 investigations at Ham Hill has a number of similarities with other Iron Age assemblages across the region (Table 29), but may also be regarded as holding its own individual character.

Taxon	Ham Hill 2011 (874)	Ham Hill 1983-2002 (557)	Cadbury Castle (33,440)	West Sigwells (2842)	Milsom's Corner (335)
Cow	14.2	16.6	22.7	11.3	36.5
Sheep/goat	68.8	60.7	53.9	74.5	39.3
Pig	11	7	21.1	12.6	13.4
Horse	4	14.3	1.5	1.6	0.8
Dog	2	1.4	0.8	0	10
Total %NISP	100	100	100	100	100

Table 29: Comparative %NISP of fauna from Ham Hill and sites investigated during Cadbury Environs Project (data taken from Randall 2010). Given the difference in sample sizes, quantification strategies and variation in species representation, it was necessary to normalise the percentages to make the assemblages comparable. Both the sample sizes given in brackets and the percentages give the identified count only. Having established the Number of Identified Specimens (NISP) for each species, the percentage of the total NISP found at the site for each species was calculated. The most common domesticates (cow, ovicaprid, pig, horse and dog), was then separated from the list of identified species and analysed as a separate sub-group. The percentage of the total NISP for each of these species was then calculated in order to demonstrate which were the most prevalent. Early, Middle and Late Iron Age percentages were calculated separately and the mean value was taken as a figure for comparison.

The animal bones from Ham Hill mostly derived from butchery and food waste, with light cut marks predominantly found on larger bones of cattle. This is consistent with trends across the broader region, along with a heavy bias in the diet towards livestock species, particularly sheep/goats. With few notable exceptions, dominance of sheep is also found in Iron Age contexts at hillforts across the central and southwest of southern England, such as at Danebury (Grant 1984) and Maiden Castle in Wessex (Armour-Chelu 1991), Bury Wood Camp in Wiltshire (Bunting *et al.* 1963), Winklebury in Hampshire (Jones 1977) and at Cadbury Castle (Hamilton-Dyer and Maltby 2000; Randall 2010, Appendix 2). Similarly, over-representation of mandibular elements and loose teeth is found at both Ham Hill and Cadbury Castle, and is characteristic of assemblages throughout the environs (Randall 2010, 624).

Only a few instances of wild resources were recorded, which again mirrors a rarity of non-domesticates in the region during the Iron Age. However, the paucity of bird bones at Ham Hill is perhaps surprising; only a single bone of raven was recovered. This same frequency is represented in previous investigations (Knight 2005), although Gray is reported to have found a complete raven in a pit within Cutting XIX (Randall 2010, 620). At Danebury 12% of the pits contained bird bone forming 1-2% of the faunal assemblage, of which 70% were raven, and for every one in 50 pits there was a complete skeleton or 'burial' (Serjeantson & Morris 2011). A raven 'burial' was also found in a pit at West Sigwells within the Cadbury environs (Randall 2010, 557), and over 90 bird bones were found at Cadbury Castle, of which raven showed a prevalence (Randall 2010, Appendix 2). However, greater representation may be achieved at Ham Hill in future seasons' work.

Perhaps the most significant observation from the 2011 assemblage, and particularly when combined with data from previous investigations, is the number of horse bones from individual contexts. From the middle Bronze Age to the end of the Iron Age across southern England both horse and dog are consistently the least abundant of domesticate species (Hambleton 2008, 39), and this is mirrored by the current assemblage. However, a %NISP of over four for horse is, nevertheless, high for Iron Age contexts across the region (Table 29), and an MNI of three is also generally disproportionate when considering the area excavated to date. This is consistent with the data retrieved from previous investigations at Ham Hill between 1983 and 2002, and is also indicated by specimens housed within the Gray archive (although it appears that Gray only kept complete anatomical examples).

Whilst horse generally account for less than 3% of the domesticate species at other hillfort sites such as Danebury (Grant 1984), at Ham Hill the percentage appears relatively high. Isotope analysis of Middle Iron Age tooth enamel samples by Bendrey *et al.* (2009) have shown a distinction between possible local breeding sites, such as Bury Hill, and the movement or exchange of horses over considerable distances, such as between Wales and Rooksdown in Hampshire. Although breeding is perhaps not currently represented by the assemblage at Ham Hill, there is a distinct emphasis on the deposition in pits of horse body parts, particularly skulls. The horse skull from pit F.1555 illustrates the pattern observed elsewhere in the region, similar to the more remarkable placement of seven horses' heads into pit 136 reported in Lievers *et al.* (2007) to the immediate west. At Sigwells both horse and cattle skulls are given particular emphasis in deposition, although occasionally with somewhat unusual treatment. Yellow sandstones were, for example, positioned within the eye sockets of one ox skull, and in another pit a horse skull was placed on the base with a daub 'tongue' set within the upper palette; limestone was then placed over the skull with the mandibles arranged on top (Tabor 2004, 47, 49-50). Less emphasis appears to have been placed upon horse skulls at Cadbury Castle, where horse skull fragments were noted from two pits (Hamilton-Dyer & Maltby 2000, 283), but the higher ratio of cattle skulls at that site may point to a distinction with Ham Hill in the symbolic importance of horse and cattle.

Pits at Ham Hill were mostly used for bone disposal, either as bone waste dumps or as receptacles for more formalised or 'special' bone deposits (or 'associated bone groups'). The relative completeness of the bones from the special deposits, together with the minimal butchery and the almost total absence of traces of processing for marrow, supports their special nature. The virtual absence of gnawing confirms that these deposits do not comprise normal domestic waste but have been deposited

deliberately and securely. Possible reasons for this are that they have been deposited following episodes of feasting, and/or that their deposition has some symbolic importance. These deposits merit particular detailed recording and analysis, with the aim of identifying their significance; several criteria have rendered these 'special', such as the presence of complete or almost complete skulls, part skeletons (especially lower limb bones), articulated portions/parts of skeletons and, finally, their location within features.

Prevalence of sheep within the gully of Structure 1 is comparable to other Iron Age dwellings across the country (e.g. Serjeantson 2006, 242 & 246). At Ham Hill a sheep vertebra centrum had been split down the sagittal plane thus separating the trunk of the carcass into a left and right side. This butchery technique is rare in prehistoric assemblages and generally only recorded in assemblages of a much later date; however, it has also been noted on Iron Age sites.

In sum, many aspects of the 2011 Ham Hill faunal record conform to established regional and period patterns of animal exploitation and bone disposal, and provide relative consistency with data observed from previous investigations within the hillfort.

Worked Antler and Bone Marcus Brittain and Vida Rajkovača

Three worked antlers and four worked bones were recovered from Iron Age contexts during the 2011 investigations. Condition was varied, with fragmentation or charring/calcinations present four of the items thus hindering detailed analysis; nevertheless, items represented include a decorated antler cheekpiece and an antler knife handle.

<1062> [2641] F.1524 (Fig. 21.5) - Partial red deer antler cheekpiece (dia. 22.6mm), surviving length 48.7mm. Finely polished surface with partial charring, resulting in axial split damage. One of the ends is surviving, and also shows fine polish. A rectangular slot (5.94mm by 19.22mm) has been cut through the entire thickness of short axis; unmodified long axis. Slot displays partial interior polish with polished rounded edges from use-wear. This specimen is decorated with a shallow line around the distal surviving end of the cheekpiece and lattice encased by two parallel shallow lines along the unperforated long axis.

<1642> [3372] F.1607 (SF 857; Fig. 21.3) - Roe deer antler fragment broken into three refitting fragments (length 150mm). A series of shallow chop marks is still visible around the antler base. Slight polish at base and tip, and grooves and pearling is still visible in places. Based on the size of the tine and its appearance, this antler belonged to the individual of three years or older.

<1899> [3411] F.1593 (SF 585; Fig. 21.4) - 'Y'-shaped red deer antler knife handle (dia. approx. 16mm; length 145mm). Finely polished with two tips with rounded points. The proximal end of the fragment is trimmed into a raised semispheric notch with a slit cut into the base to hold a thin flat implement. The morphology indicates that this fragment represents two terminal tines of an adult stag.

<1964> [3261] F.1593 - Medium-sized mammal limb bone fragment fashioned into a point by an axial split (length 98.7mm). Polishing over the point. The specimen is eroded, gnawed and in four fragments, thus making further assessment difficult.

<1965> [3276] F.1523 - Pig left distal tibia chopped at an oblique angle, polished and used as a gauge (length 113mm).

<1966> [3441] F.1607 - Fragment of an ovicaprid metatarsus shaft split axially, polished and calcined (length 35.1mm). This specimen represents only a fragment of a bone object and it is not possible to establish its use.

<1967> [3464] F.1621 - Much like the specimen <1966>, this is a charred cattle-sized vertically split limb bone fragment (length 39.9mm) with a fine polish along one of the shaft sides.

The assemblage is comparable to other worked antler and bone assemblages recorded from Iron Age contexts across the region. The most notable assemblage for comparison is that from Glastonbury Lake Village where preservation was of a very high quality and the quantity of the assemblage is unusually abundant. The corpus at the Lake Village includes a number of knife handles similar to

those described here (Bullied & Gray 1917, 455-6, pl. LXV & LXVI), and one of the largest collections of antler cheekpieces found in the United Kingdom. Originally used in pairs, cheekpieces are generally identified as a part of the bridle equipment used for the direction of horses. The partial preservation of the item from Ham Hill does not allow for a detailed sub-classification, although the lattice decoration is somewhat rare for these items. A single example of a cheekpiece with lattice decoration was recorded at the Glastonbury Lake Village (Bullied & Gray 1917, 449, Plate LXIV, item H210) and compared with another example from Cheddar. Elsewhere, at Cadbury Castle, lattice decoration was found on a worked bone tube or knife handle, but this was associated with 2nd or 3rd century metalwork (Britnell 2000, 255). The other items, in varied condition, represent general bone working and multi-purpose pointed tool items.

Archaeobotany Chris Stevens

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) to carry out analysis and reporting of the archaeobotanical assemblage recovered from archaeological excavations at Ham Hill, Somerset. 148 bulk samples were taken from features within the excavation and processed by CAU for the recovery of charred plant remains and wood charcoal (Fig. 22), as well as molluscs and small animal bone where present. Flots were collected using a 300µm mesh.

The samples were taken from features predominately of Iron Age date, with seventeen from ditches of possible Bronze Age date and one from ditch F.1546 of possible Romano-British date. Phase groups of the bulk samples are presented in Table 30. The samples were sorted under a low-powered stereo binocular microscope at Wessex Archaeology. Charred plant remains were extracted, identified and recorded in Table 30, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild species and the traditional nomenclature as provided by Zohary and Hopf (2000, 28, Tables 3 and 65), for cereals.

Phase	No of samples	Volume (litres)	Feature types
Bronze Age	16	570	co-axial ditch
?Bronze Age	1	8	co-axial ditch
Iron Age	107	2727	ditches, pits
?Roman	1	20	ditch
Unphased	23	690+?	gully, postholes, pits
Totals	148	4015	

Table 30: Sample provenance summary.

The flots were in most cases dominated by modern roots, as well as uncharred seeds of ivy-leaved speedwell (*Veronica hederifolia*), fumitory (*Fumaria* sp.) and dock (*Rumex* sp.) and frequent worm cocoons. Taken together these are indicative of potential stratigraphic movement and also possible contamination by later intrusive material. The effect of modern rooting is also likely to be a contributory factor within the poor preservation of charred plant remains in some instances and the general low survival rate of wood charcoal. For example, in many cases the pit deposits had higher amounts of charred material than the gullies and ditches, and also fewer roots.

Plant Remains

Bronze Age - Charred plant remains were very poorly preserved within the potential Bronze Age ditches. F.1506, that runs southeast from the end of F.1507, had only a few cereal grains and a single fragment of hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell. Ditch F.1510, which ran at right angles from F.1506, also contained relatively few cereal grains. A single find of a charred seed of possible stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*) in the sample from F.1510 ([2960]) is of some interest as this species is generally both seen as characteristic of the cultivation of heavier clay soils and absent prior to the Romano-British period. Given its poor condition the seed might be of corn-marigold (*Chrysanthemum segetum*), a species of lighter, sandier soils, although still uncommon prior to the Romano-British period. However, given the amount of modern roots in the sample such a seed may be intrusive.

A further potential earlier ditch from the south of the site, F.1521, had several fragments of cereal, including barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and hulled wheat, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*), but generally little material.

Iron Age - A number of the Iron Age samples were much richer in cereal and other remains, but these samples were comparatively rare and concentrated predominately within the pit samples. The main remains represented were those of cereals, in particular hulled wheat, from which identifiable glumes and spikelet forks indicated that both emmer wheat (*Triticum dicoccum*) and spelt (*Triticum spelta*) were present, often in broadly equal quantities. In general grains were better represented than chaff, although this may be a product of preservation. Grains of hulled barley were also well represented in a number of features, although no barley chaff was recovered.

Remains of cereals were recovered from a number of features in reasonable quantity; these were mainly located in Area 1, bar those samples in ditch F.1011 in Area 4. The cereal rich deposits in Area 1, predominately came from samples recovered from pits, including F.1509, F.1566 and F.1541, three closely situated pits mid-way north in the area; F.1518, F.1524, and F.1528 (with smaller quantities in F.1534 and F.1555), as well as two pits located within the roundhouse, pits F.1607 and F.1615. The final set of relatively cereal rich deposits came from enclosure ditch F.1531, although not all the samples from this ditch had cereal remains. The richer deposits came from two locations cut [2714] ([2718] & [3165]) and cut [2932] ([2938]).

Other crops were represented in some of the samples. Although the grains of oats, recovered, in particular in quantity from enclosure ditch F.1011 ([2771]), cut [1060] ([2771]), may be from cultivated varieties (*Avena sativa*), such finds are rare until the Romano-British period. Unfortunately, such a distinction is reliant on the presence of floret bases which were not observed within the samples.

Three samples contained remains of celtic bean (*Vicia faba* subsp. *minor*), with a single example recovered from the terminal of the roundhouse eavesgully F.1523 ([3221]), and six from the base of pit F.1607, lying in close proximity to the gully's terminal. A further three seeds of celtic bean were recovered in pit F.1566 ([3047]) in the south of Area 1.

The remaining likely cultigen is black mustard (*Brassica nigra*). Of the samples examined one, pit F.1524, was very rich in charred remains of black mustard, while a further two features, enclosure ditch F.1531 (cut [2714]) and ditch F.1021 ([1062]) had some 30 and 100+ seeds respectively. While all these features had some remains of hulled wheat, these were not recovered in great quantities and cereal chaff was largely absent within these features. A few other features had less than 20 black mustard seeds.

Large quantities of seeds of this species have been recovered within previous excavations from pits on this site; for example, pits F.47, F.73, F.115 and pit F.16 within the 1994 excavations (Ede 1999) and three closely situated pits, F.119, F.108 and F.149 from the 2002 excavations (Leivers 2002). The latter pits are located some 40m to the northwest of pit F.1524, while the former pits, which are again closely situated to each other, were located some 140m to the east of the present excavations. Where phased it should be noted that all these pits were of a possible later Middle to Late Iron Age date, e.g. 200-0 BC, and, given the distance between the features, it is likely they relate to a number of events in which large deposits of mustard seed became charred. It might be noted that, unlike the deposits from the 2011 excavation, on the whole cereal remains were very well represented within almost all of these features with black mustard seeds.

Seeds of wild, probable weed species harvested, stored and processed with the crop were relatively sporadic in the samples. As might be expected such seeds are most frequent in samples with cereal grains. They include grains of oat (*Avena* sp.) that are in many cases likely to be of wild weed species rather than the cultivated variety, along with those of brome grass (*Bromus* sp.). Other species represented include several seeds of black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), dock (*Rumex* sp.), vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.); and, represented by fewer specimens, meadow grass (*Poa* sp.), fat-hen (*Chenopodium album*), redshank/pale persicaria (*Persicaria maculosa/lapathifolium*), and clover (*Trifolium* sp.).

Of some interest were frequent charred rootlets and stems of monocots within the samples, in most cases probably of Poaceae (grasses). These were never present in great number but occurred regularly through the features. It is possible such remains represent the use of grasses for tinder and that they have survived better than wood charcoal (see below). It is, however, also possible that these remains

are not of great antiquity and, given the higher presence of rootlets, are intrusive elements from natural burning episodes or the deliberate clearance of vegetation.
Undated

Of the samples from undated features a number came from two parallel gullies in the northwest of the site F.1500 and F.1501 (of probable Medieval origin), and a shorter gully F.1507. The samples from these features were all very poor in plant remains other than occasional charred rootlets and Poaceae (grass) stems. Only a few cereal remains were recovered from the gullies and, given the general shallowness of the features, there is a possibility that such material could be intrusive or reworked.

A single undated posthole F.1657 from the centre of Area 1 contained several grains of hulled wheat and barley, although the quantity was still not sufficient to provide any confidence that they were securely associated with the feature.

Discussion

The range of crops seen in the features is similar to that recovered previously at Ham Hill (Ede 1999; Stevens 2006), with emmer and spelt wheat, including both grains and chaff, along with grains of hulled barley dominant. Celtic bean was also identifiable and has been noted previously as being quite common on the site. The presence of emmer, albeit it in similar quantities to spelt, is of some interest given that it is generally absent from sites further to the east e.g. Thames Valley (Robinson and Wilson 1987). However, the crop is recorded from the Iron Age settlement at the nearby site of Lyde Road (Wessex Archaeology 2010), and the site at Huntworth, Somerset, also produced a similar picture, although the samples were much poorer (Stevens 2008).

As seen in previous archaeobotanical work, a few features contained charred seeds of black mustard (*Brassica nigra*) in high enough quantities to suggest their deliberate cultivation, harvesting and processing. The exact reason for the presence of such species has yet to be elucidated. While such seeds can produce oils, these are generally not suitable for cooking, but might be suited to lamps. Historically, the use of black mustard has been more confined to its use in mustard, particularly with respect to the preservation and digestion of meat. However, it has been said to have been eaten also by the Romans as a green vegetable (Grieve 1932).

As with previous excavations, charred plant remains are often recorded only in low quantities or absent within many features, which may be a product of the depth of the individual features and poor survival in shallower contexts.

Wood Charcoal

Very few of the samples contained wood charcoal, and it is probable that such material was broken down into very fine particles that were not recovered during flotation. As such, features that were noted as charcoal rich in the field in several cases produced little to no charcoal. Only a single sample obtained from pit F.1593 ([3261]) produced over 10ml of charcoal that, where identifiable, was predominately of oak (*Quercus* sp.). Smaller amounts of charcoal came from pit F.1607 ([3370]) and pit F.1541 ([2857]). Previous work has been conducted on samples from nine individual features in which a relatively wide range of species was recovered (Gale 1999; Chisham 2006).

Land and Fresh/brackish water Molluscs

Mollusc survival was sporadic within the features with shells of *Vallonia* sp, *Helicella itala* and *Vitrea* sp., along with a few of *Pupilla muscorum* and *Aegopinella* sp. Given the number of roots in the samples, along with shells of the Medieval-introduced burrowing snail *Cecilioides acicula*, such molluscs are likely to be intrusive.

Small Animal Bones

Small animal bones were recovered in only two samples, from pits F.1576 and F.1524, that in both cases were of anuran species (e.g. frog or toad).

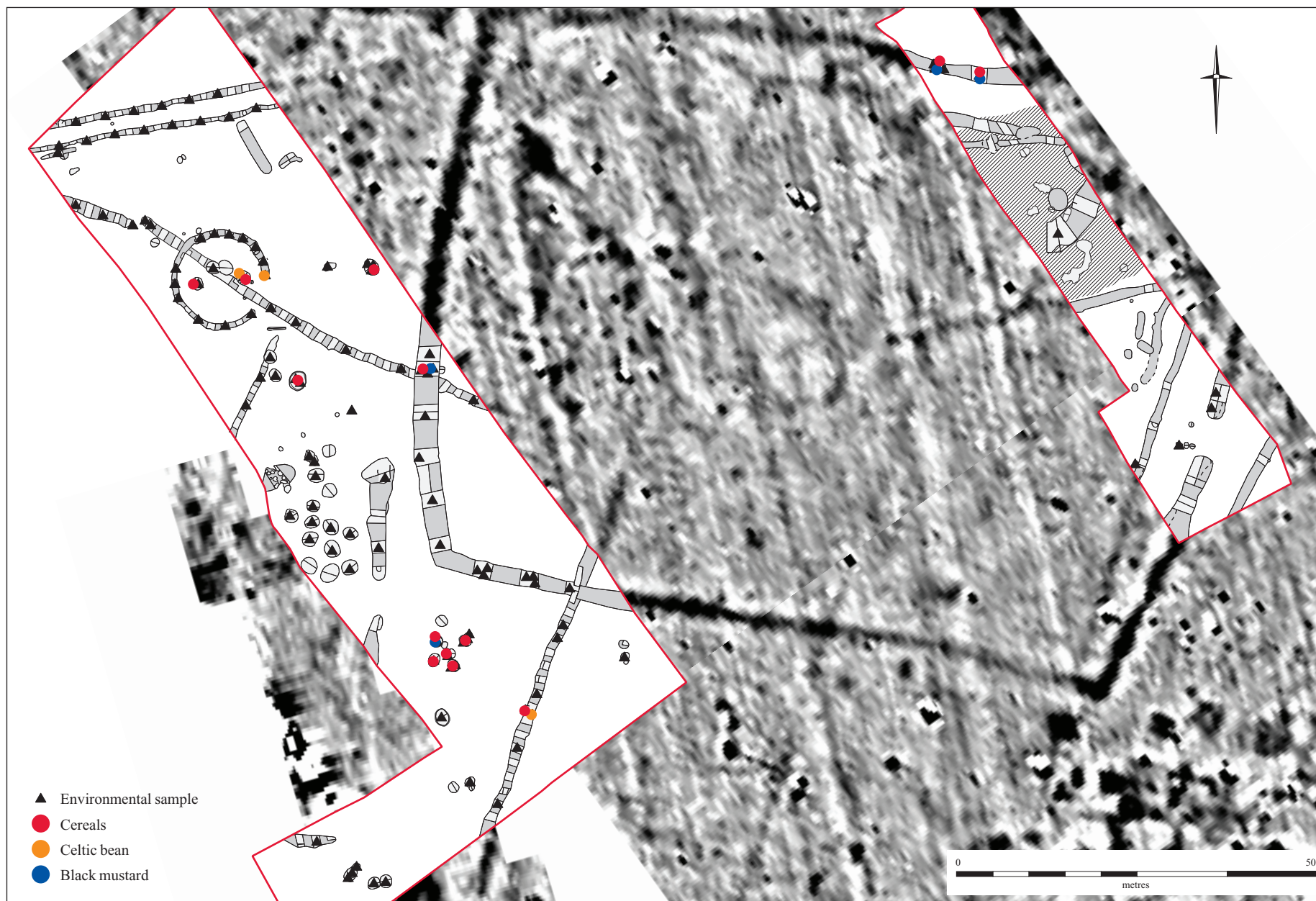


Figure 22. Location of significantly high palaeoenvironmental material and processed samples

Table 31: Sample Summary.

Feature	Feature/ context description	Assoc Cut.	Context No.	Phase	Sample No.	Ltrs	Flot size	Roots	Grain	Chaff	Seeds etc.	Cereal Notes	Other cpr notes	Charcoal		Other	Anal -ysis
														>2ml	>4ml		
1011	Enclosure ditch fill	1060	2756	IA	1552	22L	20	95	C	-	C	Grain frags. Hulled wheat,	Small Urtica type/Avena sp.			moll-C	no
1011	Enclosure ditch fill	1060	2756	IA	1553	20L	10	95	C	-	C	1x Hulled wheat 3x indet.	3x Brassica	-	-	moll-C	no
1011	Enclosure ditch fill	1060	2760	IA	1555	12L	10	95	C	-	B	Cereal frag.	Vicia, Brassica, Odontites	1ml	1ml	moll-C	no
1011	Enclosure ditch fill	1060	2760	IA	1556	20L	10	95	-	-	C	-	2x Avena	-	-	moll-C	no
1011	Enclosure ditch fill	1060	2771	IA	1554	10L	15	10	A*	B	A**	Hulled wheat, Barley, spelt glume, emmer spikelet fork	Avena+++, Bromus, Brassica x1, Vicia, Rumex poa	1ml	-	moll-B	P
1011	Enclosure ditch fill	2862	2859	IA	1571	15L	10	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	moll-C	no
1021	Enclosure ditch fill	1063	1062	IA	1521	½L	2	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	moll-C	no
1021	Burial in base of ditch	1063	1062	IA	1522	¼L	1	50	C	-	-	1x Hulled wheat grain	-	-	-	-	no
1021	Burial in base of ditch	1063	1062	IA	1523	10L	5	50	C	-	C	2x Hulled wheat	1x Avena sp.	1ml	-	moll-C	no
1021	Burial in base of ditch	1063	1062	IA	1524	1L	4	80	-	C	-	1x glume base	-	-	-	moll-C	no
1021	Burial in base of ditch	1063	1062	IA	1525	½L	2	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	moll-C	no
1021	Burial in base of ditch	1063	1062	IA	1544	45L	25	60	-	-	A*	-	Brassica x 100. Nothing else	-	-	moll-C	?P
1021	Fill of burial in base of ditch	1063	1062	IA	1545	x	5	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	moll-C	no
1500	Fill gully	2533	2532	?	1500	34L	20	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1500	Fill gully	2543	2342	?	1507	40L	40	95	-	-	C	-	Poaceae culm nodes x2.	-	-	-	no
1500	Fill gully	2618	2619	?	1513	37L	60	95	C	-	-	hulled wheat x1	-	-	-	-	no
1500	Fill gully	2632	2633	?	1516	40L	80	95	-	-	C	-	Fragment of hazelnut. Charred rootlets	-	1ml	-	no
1500	Fill gully	2699	2700	?	1519	x	40	90	-	-	C	-	charred rootlets x1	-	-	-	no
1500	Fill gully	2702	2701	?	1520	40L	70	95	C	-	C	?prob grain fragment	charred rootlet x1	1ml	1ml	-	no

Feature	Feature/ context description	Assoc Cut.	Context No.	Phase	Sample No.	Ltrs	Flot size	Roots	Grain	Chaff	Seeds etc.	Cereal Notes	Other cpr notes	Charcoal		Other	Anal -ysis
1501	Fill gully	2535	2534	?	1502	37L	25	80	-	-	C	-	2x Avena	-	-	-	no
1501	Fill gully	2541	2540	?	1501	50L	30	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1501	Fill gully	2545	2544	?	1504	33L	20	95	-	-	C	-	1? Parenchma/seed	-	-	-	no
1501	Fill gully	2552	2753	?	1546	38L	80	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1501	Fill gully	2574	2572	?	1508	40L	50	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1501	Fill gully	2766	2767	?	1548	40L	50	95	-	-	C	-	Rootlets x1	-	-	-	no
1501	Fill gully	2786	2785	?	1558	x	50	95	-	-	-	1x cf. Barley frg.	stem/twig x1. 1x Rootlet frg.	-	-	moll-C	no
1501	Fill gully	2827	2826	?	1562	17L	50	95	-	-	-	-	Charred rootlet x1.	-	-	-	no
1501	Fill gully	2978	2977	?	1598	36L	50	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1502	Fill gully	2565	2564	?	1514	45L	20	90	C	-	C	cereal grain indet. hulled wheat x1	1 rootlet	-	-	-	no
1503	Fill gully	2550	2549	?	1505	x	40	95	-	-	C	-	1x Trifolium, frg hawthorn type stone	-	-	-	no
1503	Co-axial ditch	2595	2596	BA	1511	40L	10	80	-	-	C	-	charred rootlets x3	-	-	-	no
1506	Co-axial ditch	2023	2020	BA	1673	35L	10	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1506	Co-axial ditch	2553	2552	BA	1506	35L	10	95	C	-	C	cereal grain indet.	Poaceae culm node	-	-	-	no
1506	Co-axial ditch	2590	2591	BA	1510	40L	15	95	-	-	C	-	Galeopsis??. Charred rootlet	-	-	-	no
1506	Co-axial ditch	2874	2873	BA	1587	40L	50	95	C	-	-	1x Barley grain, 2x grain frgs.	1x hazelnut fragment	-	-	-	no
1506	Co-axial ditch	2933	2934	BA	1590	42L	40	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1506	Co-axial ditch	3133	3104	BA	1632	41L	50	95	C	-	-	1 indet grain frag.	-	-	-	-	no
1506	Co-axial ditch	3536	3537	BA	1674	24L	30	95	C	-	C	1x hulled barley	1x Poaceae stem	-	-	-	no
1506	Co-axial ditch	2602 (plan: 1602)	2601	BA	1512	40L	10	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1507	posthole	2529	2530	?	1509	43L	20	95	-	-	-	-	Poaceae culm nodes x1	-	-	-	no
1509	Upper fill pit	2563	2802	IA	1559	30L	40	95	A	B	B	Hulled wheat, Barley. Emmer glumes x5	Fallopia, rootlet, Rumex, Poa, Avena/Bromus	-	-	-	P

Feature	Feature/ context description	Assoc Cut.	Context No.	Phase	Sample No.	Ltrs	Flot size	Roots	Grain	Chaff	Seeds etc.	Cereal Notes	Other cpr notes	Charcoal		Other	Anal -ysis
1509	lower fill pit	2563	2811	IA	1560	20L	10	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	moll-B	no
1510	Co-axial ditch	2959	2960	BA	1597	30L	15	95	-	-	C	-	Anthemis cotula?, Persicaria, tuber, Poaceae stem/rootlet	-	-	-	no
1510	Co-axial ditch	3436	3437	BA	1664	34L	30	95	C	-	-	? Free-threshing wheat grain x1	-	-	-	-	no
1511	lower fill pit	2657	2744	IA	1551	34L	25	80	C	-	C	Barley x1.	rootlet x1 cf. Arrhenatherum. Poaceae indet. x1	-	-	-	no
1516	mid fill pit	2617	2607	IA	1515	40L	20	80	B	-	B	6+c hulled wheat	2 Poaceae culm nodes. Rumex sp. Avena sp. Persicaria sp.	-	-		no
1518	mid fill pit	2622	2628	IA	1517	14L	10	50	A	C	B	3-4 Hordeum, hulled wheat x2-3 emmer glume 2-3	Fallopia, 4-5 Avena, Persicaria, Rumex sp.	-	-	-	P
1518	mid fill pit	2622	2628	IA	1518	14L	11	50	A	C	A	15x Hulled wheat, spelt glume	Fallopia. 10+ Avena /Bromus, Rumex, Vicia/Lathyrus	-	-	-	P
1521	co-axial ditch (basal fill)	2642	2643	BA	1622	35L	10	80	-	-	C	-	Hawthorn thorn, Persicaria	-	-	-	no
1521	co-axial ditch (basal fill)	2911	2912	BA	1624	38L	3	80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1521	co-axial ditch (basal fill)	2932	2749	BA	1623	40L	8	30	B	-	C	3x Barley, 1x Hulled wheat. Indet grain x2	1x Vicia, tuber/hazelnut x1, indet. x1. Avena	1ml	1ml	-	no
1521	co-axial ditch (basal fill)	3443	3445	BA	1625	30L	7	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1521	co-axial ditch (charcoal rich lens)	3480	3474	BA	1667	26L	15	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1523	Structural 'drip' gully	2646	2638	IA	1669	30L	15	95	C	-	C	?grain frgs	1x Avena/Bromus	-	-	-	?P
1523	Structural 'drip' gully	3223	3221	IA	1639	40L	40	95	B	-	C	5x Cereal indet. 1x hulled wheat	4x rootlets, Avena x1, Vicia faba x1				?P
1523	Structural 'drip' gully	3224	3225	IA	1640	30L	30	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1523	Structural 'drip' gully	3254	3253	IA	1641	40L	15	95	C	-	-	hulled wheat x1	-	-	-	-	no
1523	Structural 'drip' gully	3268	3265	IA	1642	20L	40	95	B	C	B	8x hulled wheat, 1x spelt glume	6x Bromus/Avena, 1x Avena	-	-	-	?P

Feature	Feature/ context description	Assoc Cut.	Context No.	Phase	Sample No.	Ltrs	Flot size	Roots	Grain	Chaff	Seeds etc.	Cereal Notes	Other cpr notes	Charcoal		Other	Anal -ysis
														>2ml	>4ml		
1523	Structural 'drip' gully	3272	3273	IA	1643	20L	40	95	C	-	-	cereal x2	-	-	-	-	no
1523	Structural 'drip' gully	3275	3276	IA	1644	15L	25	95	C	C	C	Cereal x5	1x Poaceae rootlet. 1x Rumex.	-	-	-	?P
1523	Structural 'drip' gully	3281	3280	IA	1645	40L	15	95	C	-	C	3x Cereal frg.	1x Rootlet, 2x Avena,	-	-	-	no
1523	Structural 'drip' gully	3307	3306	IA	1649	40L	5	40	-	-	C	-	4x Poaceae stems/rootlets	-	-	-	no
1523	Structural 'drip' gully	3381	3380	IA	1654	30L	10	10	-	-	C	1x Barley grain, 1x Cereal indet.	2x rootlet, 3x poa stems, 1x Avena/Bromus	-	-	-	?P
1523	Structural 'drip' gully	3391	3396	IA	1653	15L	10	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1523	Structural 'drip' gully	3395	3396	IA	1652	30L	10	50	C	-	-	1x hulled wheat grain	-	-	-	-	no
1523	Structural 'drip' gully	3432	3431	IA	1668	35L	20	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1523	Structural 'drip' gully	3543	3545	IA	1678	12L	5	95	-	-	C	-	1x Poaceae rootlet	-	-	-	no
1523	Structural 'drip' gully	3556	3554	IA	1680	16L	15	90	B	C	B	4x Hulled wheat 5x Cereal grains. Emmer glume bases	Avena sp. x5, Fallopia sp. 1x cf. hawthorn	-	-	-	?P
1524	Upper fill pit	2640	2641	IA	1528	25L	60	2	A	-	A***	Hulled wheat cf. emmer + Hulled barley	Brassica x1000s., Fallopia, Bromus, Avena, Galeopsis	-	-	-	P
1524	pit 2nd to upper fill	2640	2709	IA	1529	25L	30	2	A	-	A***	Hulled wheat cf. emmer + Hulled barley	Brassica x1000s., Fallopia, Bromus, Avena, Galeopsis	-	-	anuran	P
1524	pit main fill	2640	2710	IA	1530	23L	10	40	C	-	A*	a few hulled wheat and barley	Brassica x100+, Fallopia, Bromus, Avena	-	-	-	no
1524	pit, carbonised horizon	2640	2712	IA	1531	15L	4	40	C	-	A	cf. Hulled wheat frag,	Brassica x 20	-	-	-	no
1526	shallow pit	2654	2655	IA	1526	40L	60	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1527	basal fill enclosure terminus	2681	2682	IA	1542	5L	3	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1527	lower fill enclosure terminus	2681	2683	IA	1539	5L	1	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no

Feature	Feature/ context description	Assoc Cut.	Context No.	Phase	Sample No.	Ltrs	Flot size	Roots	Grain	Chaff	Seeds etc.	Cereal Notes	Other cpr notes	Charcoal		Other	Anal -ysis
														>2ml	>4ml		
1527	basal pill enclosure terminus	2681	2684	IA	1537	3L	1	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1527	slump deposit enclosure terminus	2681	2686	IA	1540	10L	15	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1527	mid fill enclosure terminus	2681	2688	IA	1541	12L	30	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1527	upper fill enclosure terminus	2681	2689	IA	1538	14L	50	95	-	-	-	-	-	1ml	-	-	no
1527	stone collapse/ backfill encl. terminus	3657	2845	IA	1614	15L	50	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	moll-C	no
1528	carbon rich deposit associated with metal deposit in pit	2697	2692	IA	1543	40L	40	75	A*	-	A	Hulled wheat cf. emmer + Hulled barley	Fallopia, Avena, Bromus, Vicia/Lathyrus, Chenopodium, Rumex sp., Stellaria sp.,	1ml	-	-	P
1528	basal fill pit	2697	2746	IA	1547	16L	10	10	A	-	B	Hulled wheat cf. emmer + Hulled barley	Fallopia, Persicaria	-	-		P
1529	mid fill pit	2698	2730	IA	1557	39L	10	50	C	-	C	2x hulled wheat	1x Avena/Bromus , charred Poaceae rootlet,	-	-	moll-C	no
1531	upper fill enclosure ditch	2714	2716	IA	1527	40L	60	90	C	C	B	1x hulled wheat grain, 1x glume base	1x rootlets, 7x Brassica nigra., 1 indet.?	-	-	-	?P
1531	upper fill enclosure ditch	2714	2717	IA	1532	40L	40	95	C	-	A	hulled wheat x1	culm node x1. Brassica x20	-	-	-	?P
1531	upper fill enclosure	2714	2717	IA	1638A	18L	1	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1531	upper fill enclosure ditch	2714	2718	IA	1533	42L	30	40	A	A	A	hulled wheat incl. emmer grain, emmer glume bases	Fallopia, Galium, Trifolium, Vicia/Lathyrus,	2ml	3ml	-	P
1531	basal fill enclosure	2714	2720	IA	1534	40L	5	50	-	-	C	-	Avena, charred rootlets	1ml	-	moll-A	no
1531	Enclosure ditch fill	2714	3165	IA	1638B	40L	50	30	A*	A	A*	30+ Cereal grains, mainly hulled wheat, some barley. Spelt glumes and emmer	Rumex, Fallopia, Polygonum, Persicaria, Avena/Bromus, Vicia/Lathyrus,	3ml	1ml	-	P

Feature	Feature/ context description	Assoc Cut.	Context No.	Phase	Sample No.	Ltrs	Flot size	Roots	Grain	Chaff	Seeds etc.	Cereal Notes	Other cpr notes	Charcoal		Other	Anal -ysis
														>2ml	>4ml		
												glumes 20+	Chenopodium sp.				
1531	fill enclosure ditch	2765	2761	IA	1549	18L	5	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1531	slump fill/ collapsed bank enclosure	2765	2763	IA	1550	20L	40	95	C	C	C	2x glumes bases. 1x emmer, 1cf. Spelt, ?grain frags	?Poaceae indet.	-	-		no
1531	basal fill enclosure	2821	2822	IA	1565	40L	15	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1531	bank-collapse enclosure ditch	2821	2823	IA	1564	40L	10	75	C	-	-	3x grain frags	-	1ml	1ml	-	no
1531	upper fill enclosure	2821	2825	IA	1563	40L	40	95	-	-	-	1x cf. Wheat grain	-	1.5ml	-	-	no
1531	upper fill enclosure	2839	2836	IA	1567	40L	30	80	-	-	-	-	Rootlet x1.	-	-	-	no
1531	mid fill/ bank- collapse enclosure	2839	2837	IA	1568	40L	10	70	C	-	-	1x Hordeum vulgare	-	-	-	-	no
1531	basal fill enclosure	2839	2838	IA	1569	38L	10	70	C	-	C	3x Hordeum vulgare	Chenopodium x1. Hazelnut frg x1.	1ml	1ml	-	no
1531	basal fill enclosure	2932	2935	IA	1591	40L	6	60	C	-	-	1x Barley grain	-	1ml	1ml	-	no
1531	thick burnt lense upper enclosure	2932	2938	IA	1592	38L	20	25	A	A	A	10+x hulled wheat grain, 2x Emmer type, 2+ Barley. Spelt +emmer glume bases, 10x glume bases	Fallopia, Avena/Bromus x10, nut/tuber parenchyma, Poa, Tripleurospermum	2ml	2ml	-	P
1531	upper fill enclosure	2932	2949	IA	1588	30L	8	95	C	-	-	1x Barley grain.	1x small Poa type	-	-	-	no
1531	basal fill enclosure	2943	2942	IA	1589	40L	5	20	B	C	C	2x hulled wheat grain, 2x glume bases, 3x grain indet.	1x seed small indet.	1ml	-	-	no
1531	slump deposit enclosure	2992	2991	IA	1711	15L	4	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	moll-B	no
1531	basal slump enclosure	3032	3033	IA	1626	39L	8	30	C	-	-	4x Barley, 1x Emmer wheat. 2x indet.	-	-	-	-	no

Feature	Feature/ context description	Assoc Cut.	Context No.	Phase	Sample No.	Ltrs	Flot size	Roots	Grain	Chaff	Seeds etc.	Cereal Notes	Other cpr notes	Charcoal		Other	Anal -ysis
														>2ml	>4ml		
1531	collapse deposit enclosure	3032	3034	IA	1627	40L	10	90	B	-	C	Wheat grain indet. 2x Hulled wheat, 1x indet.	Rootlets x1, Poaceae stems x2.	-	-	moll-C	no
1531	upper fill enclosure	3032	3035	IA	1628	40L	7	90	A	-	-	13+ grains mainly barley. ?1x hulled wheat. Poorly preserved	Poaceae rootlet/stem x1.	1ml	-	-	no
1531	thick burnt lense upper enclosure	3553	3571	IA	1684	32L	25	95	B	C	C	5x hulled wheat grain. 1x cereal grain 2x emmer glume bases	Fallopia x1	-	-	-	no
1534	burnt lense pit	2848	2780	IA	1609	15L	4	40	B	-	C	4x Barley, 1x hulled wheat, no glumes	1x Chenopodium, 1x Rumex, 1x Brassica,	-	-	-	no
1534	burnt basal fill pit	2848	2783	IA	1608	15L	4	50	A	-	B	3x Hulled Wheat, 6x Barley + frgs.	Persicaria x1, Fallopia x1, Avena x1, Bromus xf. 2	-	-	-	no
1540	collapsed bank enclosure terminus	3657	3074	IA	1615	15L	50	95	C	-	-	1x hulled wheat	vitrified charcoal	-	-	moll-C	no
1541	upper fill pit	2857	2855	IA	1574	35L	70	80	A	A*	B	Hulled wheat grains, spelt glumes, emmer spikelet fork	Vicia faba/Pisum sativum, occasional rootlets	1ml	1ml	-	P
1541	upper lense pit	2857	2865	IA	1605	40L	20	40	A	A	A	20+ grains hulled wheat,?barley. Spelt & emmer glumes 20+	20+ Avena/Bromus, 1x Rumex sp	3ml	4ml	-	P
1541	mid fill pit	2857	2867	IA	1681	39L	12	95	B	C	C	4x hulled wheat, 2x barley, 1x glume base	1x Avena sp.	1ml	1ml	-	no
1541	basal fill pit	2857	3439	IA	1682	45L	20	50	A**	-	A*	75+ hulled wheat, 20+ barley,	50+Avena sp.	-	-	moll-B	P
1546	fill ditch	3016	3015	RB?	1712	20L	5	75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1551	Gully/ Co-axial ditch	2909	2908	BA?	1586	8L	5	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	moll-C	no
1553	Lower fill pit	2918	2930	IA	1595	25L	15	90	C	-	-	1x Barley, 1x Emmer grian	-	-	-	-	no
1555	Charcoal rich fill pit	2931	2983	IA	1607	10L	5	50	B	C	A	5x Hulled wheat (cf. emmer), 2x Barley. 1 poor glume base	3-4 Rumex sp., 3-4 Avena/Bromus, Chenopodium sp. Polygonum x1	1ml	-	-	no

Feature	Feature/ context description	Assoc Cut.	Context No.	Phase	Sample No.	Ltrs	Flot size	Roots	Grain	Chaff	Seeds etc.	Cereal Notes	Other cpr notes	Charcoal		Other	Anal -ysis
														>2ml	>4ml		
1566	main fill pit	3714	3047	IA	1661	45L	50	15	A*	B	A*	20+ hulled wheat (1x germinated), 5+barley, 2-3 spelt glumes, 5-6 glumes	Vicia faba x3, Fallopia, Avena/Bromus, Persicaria, Rumex, Raphanus capsule, Vicia/Lathyrus	1ml	0.5ml	-	P
1571	shallow ditch/ base of bank	3077	3076	IA	1679	32L	10	95	-	-	C	-	1x Poaceae culm node/rootlet, Polygonum sp.	-	-	-	no
1576	charcoal rich slump in pit	3089	3083	IA	1671	32L	30	10	C	-	-	?grain frgs	very little charcoal.	-	-	anuran	no
1581	lower fill pit	3152	3148	IA	1672	22L	5	80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1591	charcoal rich shallow pit	3203	3219	IA	1646	55L	30	95	B	B	B	9x spelt & emmer glumes. 6x hulled wheat grains + 3-4 frgs.	1x Poa, 1x Rumex, 1x Avena., 1x Vicia, 1x Fallopia?, 1x Chenopodium	-	-	-	no
1593	basal fill pit	3247	3261	IA	1657	20L	40	5	-	-	-	-	oak charcoal present. No obvious round wood	10ml	5ml	-	C
1593	basal fill pit	3247	3261	IA	1657	35L	15	5	-	-	C	-	4x Avena/ 4x Poa/rootlets	-	-	moll-c	no
1596	main fill pit	3235	3207	IA	1670	38L	20	80	-	-	C	-	2x Avena/Bromus	2ml	-	-	no
1599	basal fill pit	3251	3264	IA	1658	20L	15	95	C	C	C	1x grain indet. 1x spelt glume	1x Avena/Bromus 1x Rootlets, 1x Rumex	-	-	moll-C	no
1601	lower fill pit	3271	3300	IA	1650	20L	7	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1605	mid fill pit	3287	3290	IA	1656	22L	5	30	C	C	C	1x Hulled wheat, 1x cf. emmer glume base	Avena/Bromus x1	1ml	-	moll-c	no
1607	basal slump pit	3370	3442	IA	1665	47L	80	25	A*	A*	A*	50+x Hulled wheat, 10+x Barley, 100+x spelt & emmer glumes	20+ Avena/Bromus, Persicaria, Rumex, sp. 6x Vicia faba, Fallopia,	3ml	4ml	-	P
1608	posthole	3375	3376	?	1693	23L	20	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1608	posthole	3375	3376	?	1694	20L	30	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1612	upper fill pit	3394	3414	IA	1659	30L	20	95	-	-	C	-	1x Rootlet, 1x cereal frag.	-	-	-	no
1612	lower fill pit	3394	3416	IA	1660	25L	15	95	-	-	-	-	1x Rumex sp.	-	-	-	no

Feature	Feature/ context description	Assoc Cut.	Context No.	Phase	Sample No.	Ltrs	Flot size	Roots	Grain	Chaff	Seeds etc.	Cereal Notes	Other cpr notes	Charcoal		Other	Anal -ysis
1615	lower fill pit	3399	3403	IA	1655	2L	10	25	A*	C	A	20+ hulled wheat 5+ barley, cereal culm node, a few glumes	Avena/Bromus, Fallopia, Rumex sp.	-	-	-	P
1617	mid fill pit	3451	3495	IA	1685	30L	10	30	-	-	-	-	-	1ml	-	-	no
1630	fill small pit	3527	3529	?	1675	40L	10	95	-	-	-	-	-	1ml	-	-	no
1630	lens in small pit	3527	3530	?	1676	20L	5	95	-	-	C	-	1x Poaceae rootlet, 1x Avena,	-	-	-	no
1644	lower fill pit	3551	3591	IA	1683	34L	8	95	-	-	-	-	charred rootlet	-	-	moll-C	no
1653	burnt lens in pit	3636	3639	IA	1689	10L	3	10	-	-	-	1x hulled wheat, 1x barley	1x Avena/Bromus	-	-	-	no
1655	fill pit	3659	3693	IA	1706	22L	5	50	C	-	-	2x hulled wheat	-	1ml	-	-	no
1657	posthole	3668	3669	?	1696	17L	20	95	B	-	-	4x hulled wheat, 4x hulled barley	-	-	-	-	no
1661	fill pit	3678	3677	IA	1698	23L	5	80	C	-	-	1 barley 2 hulled wheat	-	-	-	-	no
1662	fill pit	3681	3679	IA	1699	23L	5	50	-	C	C	spelt glume	Avena x1	-	-	-	no
1662	fill pit	3681	3680	IA	1700	18L	1	5	-	-	C	-	Poa x1	-	-	-	no
1663	fill pit	3683	3682	IA	1701	18L	4	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	no
1665	fill pit	3689	3688	IA	1705	16L	4	75	-	-	-	-	-	1ml	-	-	no
1666	fill pit	3698	3696	IA	1709	14L	3	50	C	-	-	1x hulled wheat, 1x barley, 2x cereal	-	-	-	-	no
1667	fill pit	3701	3699	IA	1710	18L	4	10	C	-	-	2x hulled wheat	-	-	-	-	no

Environmental Data

Soil Profiles Charles French

As part of the open-area excavation exercise, a site visit was made on August 2nd to appraise the soil cover and overburden of Ham Hill, as well as the presence/absence of any buried soils. The appraisal has essentially confirmed the work done on the Trenches 6 and 9 profiles in 2009.

The present day soil profile exhibits considerable variation in thickness from about 45cm to as much as 90cm. Beneath the homogeneous, fine sandy loam top-soil, or former ploughsoil, is a pale yellowish brown horizon of fine sandy/silty loam which appears bleached, no doubt as a result of leaching. Beneath this lies a variable expression of reddish brown fine sandy loam, much affected by amorphous iron formation derived from the underlying weathered/*in situ* limestone bedrock. This Ap, eluvial B, Bw and B/C horizon sequence is typical of a thick brown earth soil developed on a limestone bedrock.

The variable thickness of the soil profile is due to a number of factors. These include slight undulations in the surface of the limestone, possibly some localised hillwash accumulation, and the strong probability of some spreading of soil material as a result of adjacent quarry operations. The remarkable homogeneity of the profile and poor horizon definition is a result of a combination of earthworm mixing, rooting and more recent arable agriculture, possibly compounded by the down-profile within-soil movement of fine material (mainly silt-sized material) associated with bare soil surfaces above and localised colluviation.

All of the test pit profiles have been recorded. In addition, two of the best exposures of the upper and lower B horizons in two test pit profiles (TP 5 & 16) were sampled for micromorphological analysis. In combination with the profiles examined in Trenches 6 and 9 in 2009, these will be sufficient to characterise the soil development of this site. If during the remainder of the excavation phase any buried soil contexts were observed, say for example beneath any upcast bank remnants, these should be opportunistically sampled for soil micromorphological analysis.

This largely undifferentiated and homogeneous soil appears to be a product of the weathering of the fine sand/silt/iron-rich limestone substrate beneath, although there may have been some localised within-soil illuviation, leading to the creation of a weakly developed textural B horizon (Bw). The only part of the soil profile that is undisturbed appears to be the basal c. 10-25cm thick B horizon; most of the profile above has been much mixed. Consequently cut archaeological features define best at the surface of this basal B horizon.

Geoarchaeology, Pollen and Land Snails Michael J. Allen (with a contribution by Rob Scaife)

The excavations and environmental processing were visited on 6th September, 2011 and apart from providing on site advice about sampling and assessment, *etc.*, two profiles were described and sampled. These were a simple shallow ditch and a putative Palaeolithic 'buried soil' cut by that ditch. The ditch was sub-sampled for pollen and assessed. The processing of the bulk samples produced some land snails which were provided for assessment.

Geoarchaeology

The Bridport Sand Formation (sandstone) forms the parent material for the Ham Hill limestone member (Hamstone). Deeply weathered profiles of the Bridport Sand Formation have lead to sandy colluvium and a weathered and eroded 'cover sand' over the Bridport Sand Formation.

Two profiles were cleaned and examined in the field with descriptions following terminology outlined by Hodgson (1976) and Munsell colours recorded moist. Undisturbed samples of sediment were taken in monoliths, and more detailed examination of these under low illuminated magnification enabled field descriptions to be augmented with some further finer detail. Descriptions are given below.

Possible Palaeolithic Buried Soil

The weathered Bridport Sand Formation forms the parent material over most of the excavation and was relatively uniform. Where exposed in section some banding was noted, including in one location a darker band (recorded at 18-28cm in monolith 2) which was examined as this may have been a relict palaeo-sol (i.e. Palaeolithic) in the sand.

The Bridport Sand Formation was examined in one location, where a putative buried soil (darker horizon) was seen next to an exposed Bronze Age ditch section (F.1551/1552; cut [2829]) was broadly banded (see descriptions below). The sequence was examined in the field, and sampled as an undisturbed sample in a 50cm monolith and examined at the Allen Environmental Archaeology (AEA) laboratory. The Bridport Sands examined were clearly broadly weakly banded, but also contained fine laminations.

The broad band (11-28cm in monolith), putatively considered to be a possible buried soils were darker horizons as result of increased silt content and firmer more compact zone within the Bridport sands, and increase mobilised iron redeposition (i.e. incipient iron pan). It is a function of the depositional history, rather than pedological history, of this sedimentary unit. Similarly thin laminations below this (39-46cm in monolith) are the result of fluvial washes, or minor depositional events in the sedimentary formation of the eroded, re-deposited and weathered upper portion of the Bridport Sand Formation.

Depth (cm)	Description
0-28	Yellowish red (7.5YR 6/8) ferruginous massive, fine sandy loam, clear boundary @ 9.5-10.5 a thin band of light yellow coarse silt
18-22	Yellowish red (5YR 5/6) firm fine sand to sandy loam. Abrupt boundary (thought to be buried soil)
11-26/8	Strong brown (7.5YR 4/6) fine sand to sandy loam, abrupt boundary (thought to be buried soil)
26/8-39	Yellowish red (7.5YR 6/8) ferruginous firm massive, fine sand, abrupt to sharp boundary
39-46	Very fine horizontal laminations of yellowish red (7.5YR 6/8) ferruginous fine sand and yellow 2.5Y 7/8) fine sand, and grey (7.5YR 6/1) silt. Laminations dip slightly and broadly parallel and vary from 0.5mm to 1.5mm wide. Sedimentary structures in cover sand
46-50+	Yellowish red (7.5YR 6/8) ferruginous firm massive, fine sand

Table 32: Monolith 2 - Though cover sand and possible palaeosol features.

Ditch Infills

A section of the F.1531 Iron Age ditch (cut [2821]), adjacent to the deposits described, was also examined. The deposits showed relatively uniform sandy infills. Some iron mobilisation was noticed at the junction or just below the junction of the tertiary and secondary fills (*Sensu* Evans 1972: 321-8; Limbrey 1975: 390-300).

This sequence did provide the opportunity for obtaining controlled samples for pollen assessment (see below).

Depth (cm)	Sample	Description
0-23	4cm	Strong brown (7.5YR) massive ferruginous fine sandy loam, rare medium vertical macropores, rare very fine charcoal flecks, abrupt boundary Tertiary infill
	8cm	
	12cm	
	16cm	
	20cm	
23-26	24cm	Yellow (2.5Y 7/8) fine silty sand, loose, abrupt boundary, includes small patches of above
26-36	28cm	Strong brown (7.5YR) massive ferruginous fine sandy loam. Secondary infill with some precipitated iron
	32cm	
36-50+ (80)	36cm	As above, but dense and firm Primary infill
	40cm	
	44cm	
	48cm	

Table 33: Monolith 1 - Though sandy ferruginous ditch silts (samples assessed for pollen in bold).

Pollen Assessment Rob Scaife

A monolith profile taken for pollen analysis was obtained and sub-sampled by Dr M.J Allen of the Iron Age enclosure ditch, F.1531 (cut [2821]). Eight samples (at 12, 16, 24, 32, 36, 40, 44 & 48cm) were selected from throughout the profile in order to establish whether sub-fossil pollen and spores are present in these sediments and if so, to provide a preliminary view of the vegetation and environment pertaining at the time of sedimentation.

The pollen procedure used samples of 3ml volume, typical for minerogenic samples and larger than the 1ml norm for organic sediments. Standard pollen extraction procedures were used (Moore and Webb 1978). That is, deflocculation (NaOH), Hydrofluoric acid digestion of silica (after micromesh sieving) and Erdtmans acetolysis, the latter, in this case, to restore pollen size after HF treatment. Apart from removal of coarse material by sieving at 150µm, micromesh (10µm) and decanting was also used for removal of the clay fraction part of the silt fraction respectively.

Unfortunately, no pollen or spores were recovered. This is attributed to the character of the sediment which is primarily a coarse silt and fine sand. As such this is free draining and, especially in a ditch, passage of water has probably leached the pollen. Pollen was absent in the basal levels also showing destruction. The sediment appears partially oxidised and this would also have been detrimental for pollen preservation. Overall, there is also very little organic matter remaining indicating that the latter may have been a significant active process.

Land Snail Assessment

Due to sand and the acidic and podzolic nature of the soils and sediments at Ham Hill, survival of snail shells was deemed to be poor. Consequently no samples were taken specifically for land snails. However, a large programme of bulk sampling was undertaken for processing by standard flotation methods, during which the processor noticed the presence of rare to occasional snail shells. Those present and sorted from the >4mm residue/flots fraction were sent for identification and assessment. If significant, then the flots and finer residues (0.5mm, 1mm & 2mm) could be sorted for shells. The presence of shells preservation in perhaps isolated contexts or features may also facilitate minor revision to the project research design.

Phase	Feature type	Feature	Context	Sample	Sample vol
BA	Fieldsystem ditch	F.1506	2873	1587	40 litres
IA	pit	F.1509	2811	1560	20 litres
IA	Main enclosure ditch	F.1011	2760	1556	20 litres
IA	Main enclosure ditch	F.1011	2771	1554	10 litres
IA	burial	F.1021	1062	1523	10 litres
IA	ditch	F.1571	3076	1679	32 litres
IA	pit	F.1644	3591	1644	34 litres
IA	pit	F.1528	2962	1543	20 litres

Table 34: List of samples contain shells >4mm.

A series of eight samples from seven features were found to contain shells >4mm (Table 34) and the sorted shells were submitted for identification (Table 35). Only two taxa were noted and shells included some obviously modern specimens retaining their periostricum. These are recorded from two samples (F.1506 & F.1528) and are shown on Table 35 in square parentheses. In both cases these were *Trochulus hispidus*. The only palaeo-environmental subfossil shells present were of the moderately large and robust taxa, *Cepaea* spp.; one of the largest taxa in the British fauna after *Helix pomatia* ('edible' snail) and *Cornu* (*Helix*) *aspersum* (*aspersa*), the common 'garden' snail.

	BA	Iron Age						
Feature type	Ditch	Pit	Main enc ditch		Burial	Ditch	Pit	Pit
Feature	F.1506	F.1509	F.1011	F.1011	F.1021	F.1571	F.1644	F.1528
Context	2873	2811	2760	2771	1062	3076	3591	2962
Sample	1587	1560	1556	1554	1523	1679	1644	1543
Vol in litres	40	20	20	10	10	32	34	20
<i>Trochulus hispidus</i> (Linnaeus)	[2]	-	-	-	-	-	-	[1]
<i>Cepaea</i> cf. <i>hortensis</i> (Müller)	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	-
<i>Cepaea</i> spp.	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-
	[2]	1	+	1	+	+	-	[1]

Table 35: Identified shells from >4mm fractions. Note: numbers in square parentheses [], are those retaining their periostricum and considered modern.

The presence of shells, albeit rare and of large robust taxa, indicates the potential for rare isolated preservation on site, especially where local micro-environments are less acidic, perhaps as a result of bone or marine shells' content or vagaries in the natural geology. However, the palaeo-environmental significance of the shells recovered and reported here is low.

DISCUSSION

Although facets of the fieldwork methodology warrant refinement (these recommendations being separately tendered), with this assessment effectively serving as an exercise in site-feedback control, the first seasons' results bode well for the future campaigns. A sense of the site's basic sequence was achieved; the range and quantity of material recovered – especially the quality of its Iron Age 'special deposits' – indicates that, on completion, the site should significantly contribute to the understanding of the region's hillforts. In short, by practicing such an intense excavation strategy, we will be able to make 'meaningful statements about the past'.

Given the interim status of the results, there is little point in offering an exhaustive discussion at this time. Appropriate to a 'work in progress', we will instead here simply rehearse a few key themes/issues, while fully expecting that any such observations may well be subject to due revision.

From the outset, mention should also be made that while it appears that the site will contribute important insights into Iron Age crop management/diversity (e.g. the utilisation of black mustard seeds; see Stevens, above), based on the results to date there seems little reason to expect much of its environmental potential in terms of landscape setting/sequence (e.g. poor pollen preservation; see Allen & Scaife, above). The quality/quantity and potential of its assemblages can, otherwise, only be counted as high. Equally, as documented by Roberts below (see Appendix 1), the fieldwork's accompanying outreach programme was clearly a great success, and it can only be anticipated that its scale and scope will grow over the next two years.

Neolithic and Bronze Age

As outlined above, occurring against a low density background of Mesolithic flintwork, the quantity of the site's diagnostic Neolithic material is not such to suggest particularly intense utilisation at that time (see Fig. 9). That said, the recovery of large fragments of both a ground stone axe and a macehead/shaft-holed implement is certainly noteworthy, and this appraisal may require revision in the light of next season's results and further determination of the character of Area 4's large F.1660 (*et al.*) 'hollow'.

While by its plan-regularity and dominant northeast-southwest orientation it is likely that the site's pre-later Iron Age fieldsystem is Middle Bronze Age, its dating is far from unequivocal and, in reality, the cylindrical loomweight from it would be the main basis of this attribution. In all honesty, the verdict should be left open as to when in that period it relates to, as based on the distribution of Early Bronze Age pottery and flintwork (see Fig. 9) it is possible that they rather indicate the date of the system's origins.

When compared to the east of the country, within southwestern England such fieldsystems have seen relatively little investigation (Yates 2007) and they cannot as yet be said to constitute a 'horizon' in the same manner. Within the immediate environs-area, below Cadbury hillfort there are a number of parallel ditches of Early Bronze Age attribution at Sigwells (Tabor & Johnson 2000), with only a small-scale rectilinear enclosure system at Milsom's Corner securely dated to the Middle Bronze Age (Tabor 1999). There can, however, be no doubt that the fieldsystem exposed at Ham Hill in 2011 was the same as that distinguished within Wessex's two previous areas of excavation (assigned as 'undated'; Fig. 23). Given the difficult nature of the site's geology/sub-soils – and then uninformed by geophysical results – it is not surprising that, in 1983, the Central Unit failed to identify the system (nor any other features within anything but the extreme western end of their site-area).

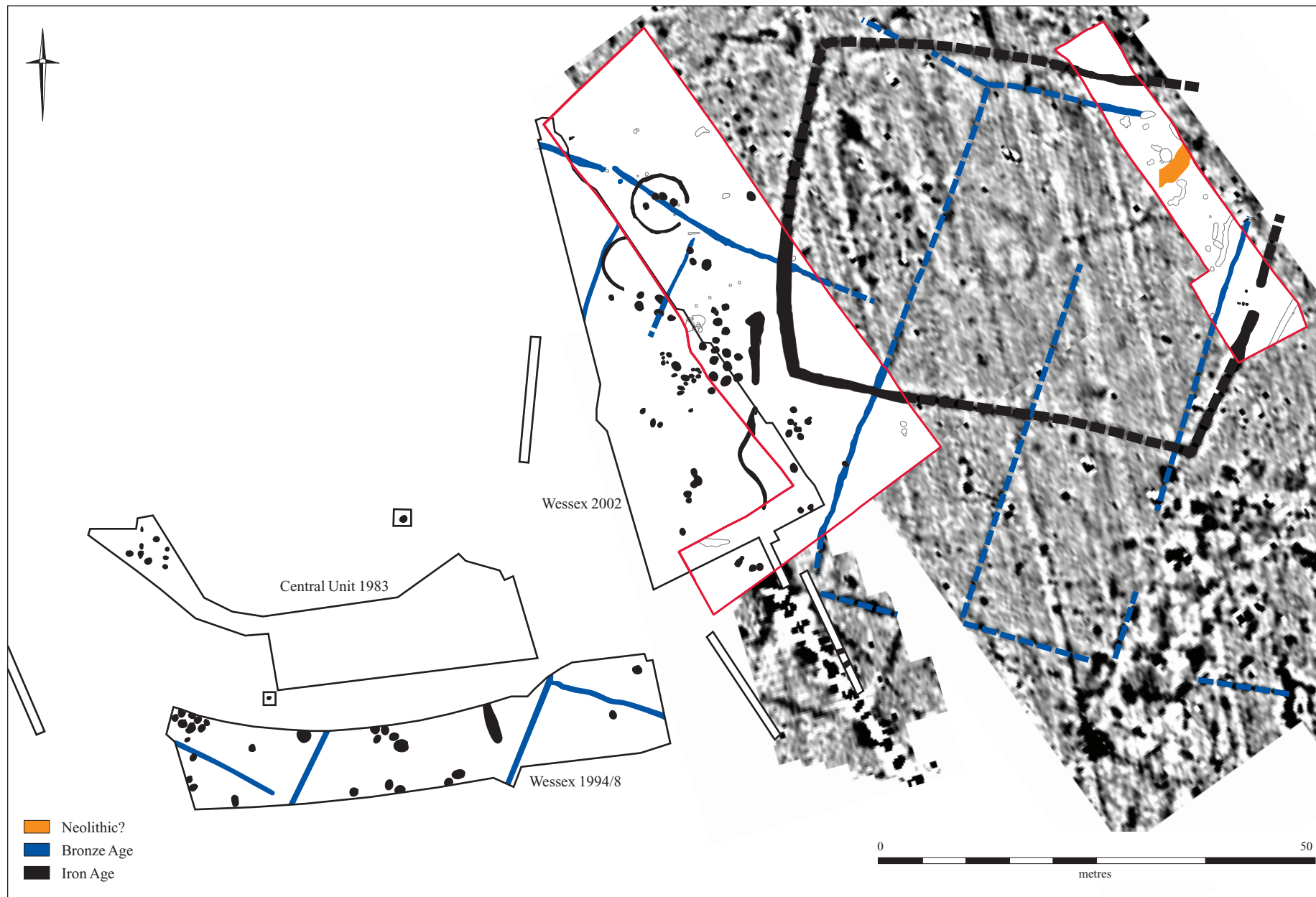


Figure 23. Phase plan including previous excavations

As expected, the 2011 investigations were dominated by Iron Age features, with the pottery (see Brudenell, above) being predominantly that of the second and first centuries BC. A finer detail of resolution for the Iron Age sequence is clearly an aim over the coming two seasons' fieldwork and beyond, but the following discussion is restricted to a generic Iron Age date for the site as a whole with only a basic consideration of sequence for inter-cutting features.

Pits, Structures and Enclosure

Direct occupational evidence was primarily represented by a single penannular gully, interpreted as a roundhouse (Structure 1), with two distinct, and probably associated pit groups. It was apparent that no ephemeral structures (four-posters, fence-lines, *etc.*) were identified; this may not be fully representative of the 'architecture' of the hillfort interior, but rather a consequence of differential survival owing to the sub-soil bioturbation (see French, above). This may also account for the general absence of internal features within Structure 1, such as a central hearth (but which may also have been truncated by later pits); only two postholes were identified either side of the southeast entrance. The orientation and dimensions of the site's roundhouse are paralleled by a second penannular gully found during Wessex's 2002 excavations, and it is of likely significance that the entrance to enclosure F.1531 is oriented in the same direction. An east or southeast orientation is a common feature of Iron Age roundhouse and enclosure entrances, although variation in roundhouse form is also prevalent (Allen *et al.* 1984). In particular, the orientation of houses has been argued to have been informed by cosmological principles (Oswald 1997); however, bias away from an easterly orientation was displayed in the Glastonbury Lake Village, and hence implies additional variation in the general pattern of house construction and complexity within any associated cosmological ordering (Moore 2006; Parker Pearson 1999).

The material assemblage associated with Structure 1 is mainly that of domestic waste, with pottery, animal bone and burnt stones, with a clutch of slingstones and evidence for cereals – particularly wheat, barley and celtic bean – all from within the penannular gully. Textile production is suggested by a loomweight and a spindle whorl found in pit F.1541, approximately 12m to the east of Structure 1. The other 66 pits were found either grouped in two clusters or dispersed/isolated across the site, and also had a varied density of material culture, with distinct similarities to the pits found previously in the excavations to the west.

Direct correlation of pits and individual structures is unclear at this stage. Pits of Types C-D – the deepest of the pit categories – were situated between 20m and 50m to the south of Structure 1, many of which also contained cereals and 'special deposits'. The cereals within them comprised mainly of emmer wheat, spelt and barley, with an under-representation of chaff (Stevens, above). This was mirrored by the enclosure ditch F.1531, although predominantly from within two slots both situated near to Pit Clusters 1 and 2. Black mustard seed was also found within both the pits and enclosure ditch, with pit F.1524 containing a particularly rich deposit; though, the frequency of black mustard was less than that found in excavations to the west (Ede 1999; Leivers 2002). Overall, with the exception of pit F.1524, there was only limited evidence of burnt material in the pits, suggesting that they had not been used for the burning of rubbish (see Rawlings 1991). Neither was there evidence for any clay-lining or -capping, and only two pits – F.1566 and F.1618 – contained small fragments of daub. One of these (F.1566), along with pits F.1654 and F.1656, was situated at the southern boundary of Iron Age activity and all three had fragments of human skull. Although these were peripheral to the main pit clusters, five pits within the clusters also contained human skull fragments, and this frequency will be an important factor in future investigations when taking into account the overall character and context of human burial (see Fig. 15). Whilst the distinction between ritual/rubbish is clearly a complex issue within Iron Age studies, there is further opportunity for analysing differences in the expression and treatment of human and animal bodies at Ham Hill.

Expanded investigation over the following seasons should allow for enhanced spatial analyses of pits and their fills, particularly special deposits, and their relationship to other features (e.g. Hill 1995). It may, furthermore, be beneficial for inter-site comparison in future syntheses to develop a more formal system of classification for the site's Iron Age pits (e.g. Bellavia *et al.* 2000).

Only a portion of the rectilinear enclosure ditch (F.1531 *et al.*), and even less of the interior, has thus far been investigated, but with an internal bank and stone revetment, and having a 'V'-profile between 0.9m and 1.47m deep, the continuity of the ditch fill sequence across Areas 1 and 4 is

significant. Even considering the possibility that its circuit was cleaned out (which would be difficult to show under any excavation conditions) there are still hints of a relationship between it and the aforementioned pits and structure. There appears to have been a north-south 'way' between the western arm of the enclosure and a segmented ditch (F.1568 & F.1571; see Fig. 8) that continued south into the Wessex 2002-area. Whilst this effectively divided Pit Clusters 1 and 2, the northern terminal of F.1571 was cut by a subsequent, Iron Age pit (F.1597), perhaps indicating a fairly short period of use. By contrast, the sequence of partial backfilling of the enclosure bank into the ditch, overlying its primary silting, does not seem to have 'decommissioned' the enclosure, or at least to have erased its landscape presence; a thick deposit of burnt stone and charcoal in one of the slots adjacent to Pit Cluster 1 ([3533]) is possibly associated with the general occupation sequence of the two roundhouse structures to the northwest.

In many respects the partial backfilling of the enclosure may be better thought of as a refashioning of an established space, although investigation of the interior will be informative in this regard. The formality of this 'event' is best represented by the placement of human remains either upon or cutting through the basal silts of the ditch that were then covered by the backfilled stone revetment. Three articulated or partially articulated skeletons have so far been identified: an adult female in a shallow grave, an infant and a foetus, with a number of disarticulated remains also present. The frequency of human remains/interments was a feature of the northern area of the site highlighted during the evaluation (Slater 2010), and undoubtedly further interments should be anticipated.⁵ In addition, two semi-articulated sheep skeletons were associated with the backfilled revetment stone, although these were placed *upon*, rather than *beneath*, this deposit. One of these had clearly been 'prepared' for special treatment, with its head having been removed and set between its hind legs. Surprisingly, 'special deposits' have not as yet been identified within the terminals of the southeast entrance in Area 4 (although the excavation of these will be duly completed in 2012). Boundaries and 'liminal zones' are classic points for formalised deposition, and the current sterility of these terminals requires further resolution.

The motivations behind the digging of large enclosure ditches have, like hillfort rampart-construction itself, been a key source for debate, particularly in light of their variable defensive or enclosing/demarcating properties (e.g. Evans 2003, Chapter 6; Lock 2007; Sharples 2010). In light of this, the notion of the ditched boundary as, in effect, a mechanism for social ordering and categorisation has serious implications for understanding the maintenance of social cohesion, whereby labour is invested not only in construction and maintenance, but also in elaborate and perhaps episodic refashioning of spatial definition. It is hoped that further exposure of the enclosure space in the following seasons will provide opportunity for exploring these issues.

Iron and Ironworking

The importance of the material culture at Ham Hill cannot be overlooked, and already the 2011 excavations have contributed significantly to the hillfort's corpus of finds. The metalwork deserves particular reflection (see also Appleby, above), although the general distribution of metalwork does not thus far appear to conform to any notable pattern, such as the concentration found within the east of the Cadbury Castle plateau (see Barrett *et al.* 2000a, fig. 131), 17km to the northeast of Ham Hill.

Hoardings of iron currency bars are found across Britain, and whilst not abundant in quantity have nevertheless been recorded by Hingley (2006b) within 69 Iron Age sites. Twenty-seven of these are from hillforts, including two of the largest hoards at Meon Hill, Warwickshire (393 currency bars) and Salmonsbury, Gloucestershire (147). Interestingly, some 70 currency bars are tentatively reported as having been found at Ham Hill (Hingley 2006b, 121; Allen 1967, 326-7), which, if correct, would make it the third highest concentration at a single site in Britain. Pit deposition is one of a standard repertoire for hoards of currency bars, including in temples, settlements, burials and 'natural' locations. These are often located upon boundaries of habitation spaces or rampart enclosures; this was the case at Cadbury Castle (Barrett 2000), but does not as yet seem to have been replicated at Ham Hill, although this may become clearer in subsequent investigative seasons. That said, within Wessex's 2002-area an iron sickle and a billhook were separately found in two pits (Nos. 108 & 136; Leivers *et al.* 2002); whereas, in their 1994/8 investigations, a spearhead was recovered from one pit, with another (No. 73) – almost exactly matching our pit F.1541 – had placed within it a currency bar and two iron wheel fittings (Fitzpatrick 1995; McKinley 1999).

⁵ A major disarticulated human bone deposit – all probably from the same young adult female – was forthcoming from pit 16 in Wessex's 1994/8-area (McKinley 1999).

The circumstances of Ham Hill's ironwork has somewhat greater interest by the natural occurrence of iron-mineral either upon or local to the hill. Potentially suitable for smelting iron (see Timberlake, above), it is tempting to consider the possibility that Ham Hill itself may have contributed to iron-mineral procurement. The paucity of slag or other metalworking debris would suggest that iron production was not prevalent, if at all present at Ham Hill during the Iron Age, particularly in light of its comparatively common occurrence on farmsteads and smaller forts that implies fairly widespread low-level metalworking practices (Fitzpatrick 2008, 141). Alternatively, the possibility for at least small-scale mineral extraction at Ham Hill, and its export as a raw material should not be discounted. In any case, it is likely that currency bars and other metal items were imported to Ham Hill from other centres of production at a scale disproportionate to most other sites in the region. For either mineral export or iron import, animal-facilitated transportation is likely to have been important, and both horse- and wagon-related material – respectively, the metal bridle bit, antler cheek piece and iron tyre fragment – were found during the 2011 investigations. Indeed, the number, use and significance of horse at Ham Hill appear to have been generally greater to that found across the region (see Rajkovača, above). In the light of this it is interesting that during the Middle to Late Iron Age at Cadbury Castle there was an extensive spread of small-scale metalworking evidence across the plateau, with hearths, furnaces, furniture, crucible fragments and moulds (one of which was for a bridle bit), the latter of which are rare finds within hillforts (Barrett *et al.* 2000b).

Romano-British and Later Usage

The current programme of excavation lies over 500m southwest of a late Romano-British villa (Walker 1907), and the extraction and transportation of hamstone during the Roman period is well documented; little detailed information pertaining to the Romano-British occupation of the hill is otherwise known. Whilst the potential for Late Romano-British features has been postulated for the north and northeast areas of Ham Hill, none have been documented from excavations to the west of the current area, and none were certifiably dated to this period from the 2011 excavations. However, two unstratified sherds of Romano-British pottery were noted from the Wessex 1994/8 excavations, with an additional residual sherd in an earlier pit (McKinley 1999), and from the 2011 excavations 66 sherds of *Early* Romano-British pottery were found, primarily collected during walkover survey of the upper sub-soil [2500] (Anderson, above). A number of these also derived from the upper deposits of features, mainly that of ditches, including the southern terminus of the main Iron Age rectilinear enclosure. This does not belie the possibility of Romano-British activity intrusive to the interior of the enclosure – which remains to be seen – but is more an indication of the limited activity within the immediate site-area during this period in general.

While the status of glass claw beaker surface find remains an anomaly at this time, there is no doubt that, between the further recovery of the F.1500/1501 driveway and other late-phase boundaries (F.1579 *et al.*), a full picture of the area's Medieval/post-Medieval allotment system will be achieved.

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APPENDICES

1) Public Outreach Hayley Roberts

The excavation at Ham Hill created a real stir amongst locals and visitors alike, with great interest, particularly from the local community, regarding new ideas, findings and general progress. The excavation site is situated within a country park and has a public footpath running alongside the edge of the open area; these factors contributed significantly to the high public interest and involvement in the site. Working with the country park management (District Council) and Somerset County Council Heritage Team, as well as local Parish Councils, allowed for a wide distribution of information and advertising upon the commencement of the excavation. Public engagement is a two-way process and the team experienced the benefits of this first-hand.

Guided Tours

Over the course of the eight weeks the CAU provided guided tours for member of the public, often in groups in excess of 25. This gave 711 members of the public direct access to the site and to see and handle some of the artefacts. Children's activities were also available to take away. Business cards with information about the mailing list and website were handed out, although these will be upgraded to leaflets for the 2012 season. Several members of the public made repeated visits to observe the project's progress. In addition, private tours were booked in advance by twelve groups (Table 36 & Fig. 24).

Public Group	Number of Attendees
Country Park Volunteers	10
SSARG	25
U3A	15
Tintinhull Local History Society	24
Cub scouts	20
Devon Antiquarian Society	35
Beavers	25
Planning Officers	6
District Members	25
A-level School	13
North Chinook School	30
Total	203

Table 36: Organised tours for pre-booked groups.

Visitor feedback was collected in a visitors' book which provides an indication of the positive feedback that was informally received, although it should be noted that visitor books rarely show a true picture of overall visitor satisfaction; no negative comments were received.

Some quotes from the visitor book:

- "As a social historian using paper documents I have often found archaeology difficult to understand. However today the staff and volunteers proved helpful and insightful - particularly with the relationship with the quarry."
- "Very informative tour and invaluable for the local community."
- "Exceptionally interesting - can't wait for the conclusions in three years. Very happy to pot wash soon."

Drop in Visitors

Regular visitors to the site could not always be accommodated with a tour of the excavations without advance notice. For those visitors unable to attend one of the frequent daily guided tours in 2012 a dedicated on-site information display with selected artefacts will be available in the finds washing room.

In addition, an open day was held to coincide with the Country Park's open day that saw 524 visitors visit the excavation.

Lectures and Presentations Off-site

The project has given or has booked lectures to three archaeological societies during the course of the year:

- Devon Archaeology Society
- South Somerset Archaeological Research Group
- Somerset Archaeology and Natural History Society

Volunteers

Throughout the excavation volunteers were able to assist in the archaeological process. A total of 21 volunteers spent 150 days learning archaeological skills and knowledge. They took part in a number of different activities including the excavation and recording processes, guided tours, finds processing and public outreach during open days. A variety of different visitor types of mixed ages and sexes were able to volunteer, with the majority living in the local vicinity. Importantly, the country park wardens familiar with the landscape of the hillfort also spent a day volunteering in the excavations. A mailing list has been created for prospective volunteers for 2012 .

Static Interpretation

An interpretation panel was raised that explained the purpose of the excavation and highlighted some of the research questions. During the 2012 season this will be relocated to a purpose-built viewing platform. Smaller posters were also displayed and regularly updated highlighting interesting finds or offering explanation for features that could be seen from the path.

Web Presence

Website presence was maintained during the excavation season, with written content and images mainly produced on site and uploaded off-site. The dedicated Facebook page received 169 likes, a Twitter account had 102 followers, and an up to date blog was maintained during the excavation.

The website received positive feedback and increased the number of visits to the site. The use of web facilities may be further enhanced for the 2012 season, with greater input direct from site works, particularly students and volunteers, and with a greater frequency of updates with regards to progress. This could also be applicable to developments arising from the post-excavation process, which so far has not been a feature of the project website. Furthermore, an increase in web presence may be enhanced by additional advertising.

Press Coverage

Press coverage was high with articles in the local publication – the *Western Gazette* – and a national broadsheet, *The Guardian*. Coverage of the excavation was broadcast live on local radio during the open day, with a small piece also on Radio 4's *The Today Programme*. A local news program dedicated several minutes to the site, which was also mentioned on several news websites including the BBC and Google news.



Figure 24. Photographs of site outreach events

Newspapers

- *Western Gazette* 18th August 2011
- *The Guardian* 1st September
- *Cambridge News* 1st September

Websites

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-somerset-14735689>
- <http://www.physorg.com/news/2011-09-britain-biggest-iron-age-fortress.html>
- <http://topnews.net.nz/content/218210-ham-hill-fort-excavation-provide-deeper-insight-briton-s-life-2000-years-ago>
- http://www.google.com/hostednews/ukpress/article/ALeqM5gnOub6Xi_Vz0_hivNSfFHzQEqFXg?docId=N0111531314788048291A
- <http://www.megalithic.co.uk/article.php?sid=4956>
- <http://www.newswales.co.uk/?section=Culture&F=1&id=22291>
- <http://www.cam.ac.uk/research/news/inside-britain%E2%80%99s-biggest-iron-age-fortress/>

Radio

- The Today Program, 1st September
- BBC Radio Somerset

Television

- BBC Points West

In total the number of members of public with whom we directly communicated was in excess of 1463. Many others will have had contact with the posters, advertising methods, and the blog that the country park displayed on its own website. This is a positive start that can be built upon in future seasons, with an emphasis towards a strong message about the archaeology of Ham Hill. It is an essential component of the project to maintain engagement with local and broader communities, and to help those who use and love the hill to further appreciate its archaeological value. This will continue to build relations between the community, local heritage authorities, and the quarry.

2) Feature Descriptions

F.1000 Ditch - Cuts [3377], [3612]; linear in plan, aligned northeast to southwest (extending beyond 2011 excavated area). Steeply sloping concaved sides to irregular concaved base. Width 1.64-2.49m, depth 0.41m. Lower fills [3378], [3624], mid to dark orangey-brown, moderately compacted clayey silt. Upper fills [3379], [3623], mid grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted clayey silt.

F.1011 Enclosure Ditch - Cuts [1060], [2862]; linear in plan, aligned southeast to northwest. Steep generally straight sloping sides to narrow flat base. Width 1.9-2.55m, depth 0.88-.94m. Basal fill [2756], [2861], mid orangey-brown, moderately to firmly compacted silty sand; primary slumping deposit [2760], [2860], high concentration of hamstone (max 0.2m) within matrix of mid to dark yellowy brown, moderately compacted silty sand; [2757], mid grey-brown moderately compacted sandy silt; [2771], lense of mid yellowy-brown, moderate to firmly compacted sandy silt; thick slumping/bank-collapse [2773], [2859], [2945], thick deposit of angular hamstone fragments (max 0.3m) within a matrix of mid to light orangey-brown moderately compacted silty sand, suggestive of collapse from southeast; secondary slumping [2772]; [2944], mid to light grey brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand. Upper fill [2758], [2858], mid grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand. Occasional burnt stone, charcoal and pottery.

F.1021 Burial (in base of Enclosure Ditch F.1011) - Grave cut [1063]; oval in plan, steep to moderately sloping sides to generally flat base. Length 1.48m, width 1m, depth 0.38m. Burial [1061]; supine, crouched inhumation, head to west with hands at mouth; grave fill [1062], mid to dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted sandy silt.

F.1500 Gully - East-west aligned, 16m excavated length (extending beyond 2011 excavated area), cut [2533], [2543], [2548], [2569], [2618], [2632], [2651], [2652], [2699], [2702], [2740], [2741]; width 1.12m-.48m, irregular moderate to steeply sloping generally concaved sides to moderately concaved base; depth 0.38m-.08m. Basal fills of firmly compacted silty clay intermittently present throughout length, upper/ main fill moderate to firmly compacted dark grey-brown silty sand.

F.1501 Gully - Cut [2528], [2535], [2539], [2541], [2545], [2561] [2574], [2577], [2584], [2752], [2754], [2766], [2768], [2776], [2786], [2816], [2827], [2851], [2978]; width 1.46-4m, irregular moderate to steeply sloping generally concaved sides to moderately concaved base. East-west aligned, 16m excavated length (extending beyond 2011 excavated area), depth 0.45m-.09m. Basal fills of firmly compacted silty clay intermittently present throughout length, upper/ main fill moderate to firmly compacted dark grey-brown silty sand.

F.1502 Gully - Short, east-west aligned 5.2m in length. Rounded terminals, with moderate to gradually sloping sides to concaved base. Cut [2565], [2567]; width 0.55m-.47m, depth 0.15m-.13m. Fill [2564], [2566], light reddish-brown, moderately compacted sandy clay throughout.

F.1503 Ditch - Northwest to southeast aligned, 10m in excavated length (extending beyond excavated area). Southeastern terminus, cut [2585], width 1.6m, depth 0.2m, rounded in plan, steep to moderately sloping sides to irregular concaved base. Ditch cut [2537], [2550], [2595], [2597]; steeply sloping concaved sides to narrow concaved base. Width 2m-1.65m, depth 0.43m-.2m. Basal fill of light yellowy-brown firmly compacted sandy silt, intermittently present throughout length. Upper/ main fill, mid to dark orangey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand.

F.1504 Pit - Cut [2554]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping irregular sides to irregular generally flat base; Length 0.6m, width 1.4, depth 0.25m. Basal fill [2555], mid brown, moderate to firmly compacted friable sandy silt. Upper fill [2556], mid to light brown, moderately compacted friable sandy silt, high quantity of large pottery sherds.

F.1505 Pit - Cut [2592]; circular in plan, irregular, relatively steeply sloping concaved sides to narrow concaved base. Diameter 1.2m, depth 0.25m.

F.1506 Ditch - Northwest to southeast aligned, 56m in excavated length (extending beyond 2011 excavated area). Northwestern terminus, cut [1602]; width 1.4m, depth 0.32m, rounded in plan, moderately steeply sloping concaved sides to concaved base. Ditch cut [2553], [2560], [2590] [2637], [2874], [2917], [2933], [3012], [3031], [3041], [3057], [3090], [3133], [3135], [3369], [3412], [3536], [3548], [3563], [3608], [3646]; width 1.76m-1m. Basal fill of light yellowy-brown, firmly compacted silty sand intermittently present throughout; [2022], [3030], [3093], [3137], intermittent hamstone slumping/ collapsed bank deposit from the southwest.

F.1507 Pit - Cut [2529]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping sides to uneven concaved base. Length 0.8m, width 0.6m, depth 0.2m. Fill [2529], dark red-brown, firmly compacted friable silty sandy clay. Associated with terminus of ditch F.1503.

F.1509 Pit - Cut [2563]; circular in plan, steep to vertical slightly undercut concaved sides to relatively flat base; width 2.05m, depth 1.68; fill [2812], basal fill mid grey, moderately compacted silty sand. Occasional angular and sub-angular stones and infrequent charcoal mottling; alternating deposits of mid to dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sands [2811], [2809], [2808], [2807], [2805], [2803], and angular hamstone fragments within a matrix of dark grey-brown, loosely compacted silty sand [2810], [2806], [2804]. Upper fill [2802], mid to light grey-brown, firmly compacted sandy silt, Frequent charcoal and burnt clay mottling, occasional burnt stone.

F.1510 Ditch - Northeast to southwest aligned linear ditch, 16m in excavated length (extending beyond excavated area). Northeast terminal, cut [2656]; width 0.9m, depth 0.19m; tapered, sub-rounded in plan, steeply sloping sides to irregular concaved base. Ditch cut [2959], [3105], [3407], [3436]; width 0.65-1m, depth 0.28-.53m, steep to vertically sloping generally straight sides to irregular generally flat base; fill, mid brown, moderate to firmly compacted heavily bioturbated silty sand throughout.

F.1511 Pit - Cut [2657]; circular in plan, steep, generally straight sides to flat base. Diameter 2.05m, depth 0.97m. Fills [2745], [2744], [2743], light to mid grey-brown sandy silts; [2659], thick deposit of angular and sub-angular hamstone (maximum 0.2m) within a matrix of dark grey-brown; [2660], moderately compacted sandy silt.

F.1512 Pit - Cut [2571]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping generally straight sides to concaved base; length 0.65m, width 0.8m, depth 0.43m; fill [2570], mid orangey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand

F.1513 Posthole - Cut [3578]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping generally straight sides to concaved base; length 0.43m, width 0.5m, depth 0.22m; fill [2578], dark brownish-grey, moderate to firmly compacted sandy silt.

F.1514 Pit - Cut [2582]; sub-circular in plan, steep to vertical sides to generally flat base; length 1.08m, width 1.05, depth 0.52; fill [2581], dark grey-brown moderate to loosely compacted sand with frequent charcoal, burnt stone and un-burnt hamstone fragments.

F.1515 Pit - Cut [2588]; circular in plan, moderately steeply sloping sides to irregular base. Length 1.22m, width 1.15m, depth 0.31m. Fill [2589], orangey-brown, firmly compacted silty sand.

F.1516 Pit - Cut [2617]; sub-circular in plan, steep to vertical, undercutting sides to flat base; length 1.97m, width 1.85, depth 0.61; fills [2616], [2615], [2614], [2613], [2612], [2611], [2610], [2609], [2608], mid to light grey brown moderate to firmly compacted silty sands; [2607], mid to dark grey brown, moderately compacted silty sand and frequent hamstone fragments. Upper fill [2606], mid to dark grey-brown moderate to loosely compacted sandy silt with very occasional charcoal flecking.

F.1518 Pit - Cut [2622]; circular in plan; steep to vertical occasional undercut sides to flat base; length 2.26m, width 2.68m, depth 0.6m. Basal fill [2626], dark brown, moderately compacted sandy silt; fill [2627], dark grey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand; [2628], dark brown, moderately compacted silty sand with frequent angular and sub-angular stone inclusions, contained special deposit [2629] - articulated animal leg; [2630], dark brown, compacted silty sand with occasional charcoal flecking. Upper fill [2630], dark brown, compacted silty sand with occasional charcoal flecking.

F.1519 Posthole - Cut [2624]; sub-oval in plan, moderate to steeply sloping concaved sides to narrow concaved base; length 0.76m, width 0.4m, depth 0.12m; fill [2625], light to mid grey-brown, moderately compacted silty clay.

F.1520 Furrow - Cut [2634]; rounded terminal in plan, irregular, moderately steeply sloping sides to concaved basal length 1m+, width 1m, depth 0.11m; fill [2634], mid to dark grey-brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty sand.

F.1521 Ditch - Southwest to northeast aligned, 45m in excavated length (extending beyond 2011 excavated area). Cuts [2642], [2703], [2748], [2829], [2868], [2911], [2993], [3042], [3156], [3210], [3255], [3420], [3443], [3480], [3519]; steeply sloping, generally straight sides to narrow, concaved base. Fills of mid and dark grey-brown, silty sands and light brown, firmly compacted sand, with occasional charcoal flecking throughout.

F.1522 Ditch re-cut - Southwest to northeast aligned re-cut of linear ditch F.1521, 45m in excavated length (extending beyond 2011 excavated area). Cuts [2644], [2705], [2750], [2831], [2870], [2913], [2995], [3711], [3712], [3713], [3714], [3715], [3716]; steeply sloping generally straight sides to narrow concaved base becoming shallower and concaved to the northeast, width 1.7m-1.0m, depth 0.7m-.25m. Fills of mid and dark grey-brown, silty sands and light brown, firmly compacted sand, with occasional charcoal flecking throughout.

F.1523 Curvilinear gully - Cuts [3268], [3275], [3274], [3272], [3281], [3254], [3234], [3307], [3381], [3395], [3406], [3432], [3484], [3543], [3540]; generally parallel in plan, steep to moderately steeply sloping concaved sides to slightly concaved, often irregular base; width 0.3-1.09m, depth 0.09- 0.37m, 12.25m in internal diameter. Terminal cuts [3556], [3223]; rounded, moderately sloping, concaved sides to slightly concaved base, forming southeasterly aligned entrance.

F.1524 Pit - Cut [2640]; circular in plan, steep to vertical and undercut concaved sides to flat base. Basal fill [2713], mid to light grey, moderate to firmly compacted silty clay; possible special deposit [2712], thin lenses of very dark grey to black moderate to firmly compacted silty sand containing very high concentration of charcoal and occasional burnt clay mottling; overlain by [2711], a layer of irregular angular and sub-angular burnt hamstone slabs. Main fill [2710], mid brown, moderately compacted homogenous silty sand; [2709], mid to dark grey, moderately compacted silty sand, frequent tip-lines and charcoal mottling. Upper fill [2641], very dark grey, moderately compacted silty sand with high charcoal, pot and burnt stone content.

F.1525 Pit - Cut [2646]; circular in plan, vertical and largely undercut sides to a very flat base, truncated by pit F.1518; length 0.6+m, width 0.9m, depth 0.5m. Fills [2649], [2648], [2647], light to dark grey-brown, firmly compacted sandy silts.

F.1526 Pit - Cut [2654]; oval in plan, moderately sloping concaved sides to irregular flat base; length 1.6m, width 0.47m, depth 0.27m. Fill [2655], mid to light orangey-brown moderately compacted sandy silt. Truncated by posthole F.1532.

F.1527 Enclosure Ditch - Cut [2681], [2841], [3657]; linear in plan, aligned northeast to southwest, extending beyond limit of excavation; sub-rounded terminus. Moderate to steeply sloping generally straight sides to narrow flat base; length 6.8m, width 2.2m, depth 1.12m. Basal fills [2683], [2684], [2682], [2685], [2842], [2843], [3649], [3650], mid to dark brown, moderately compacted silty sands with frequent orangey clay mottling; notable tip lines and slumping deposits; [2844], [3651], thin horizon of firmly compacted orangey-brown red-yellow sandy clay, frequent charcoal and burnt hamstone inclusions. Main fills [2686], [2687], [2688], [2845], [2846], [3648], [3652], [3653], [3655], [3656], [3654], mid to light brownish grey, moderate to firmly compacted sandy silts with infrequent charcoal and occasional hamstone.

F.1528 Pit - Cut [2697]; circular in plan, steeply sloping, slightly undercut sides to generally flat base, deeper towards the west; length 1.4m, width 1.41m, depth 1.21m. Basal fill [2747], mid to light orangey grey, moderate to firmly compacted friable sandy silty clay; [2746], very dark brown moderate to loosely compacted sandy silt; [2696], mid orangey-brown, moderately compacted sandy silt; [2695], dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand; [2694], dark grey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand with frequent charcoal mottling; [2693], mid grey-brown, moderately compacted sandy silt; [2692], dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted sandy silt, frequent charcoal and burnt clay; containing special deposit [2707], ferrous object/bar. Upper fill [2691], mid grey-brown, moderately compacted sandy silt; [2690], dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted sandy silt with occasional charcoal mottling.

F.1529 Pit - Cut [2698]; circular in plan, steep to vertical sides to flat base; length 2.12m, width 2.18m, depth 1.21m. Basal fill [2738], dark brown, moderately compacted sandy silt; [2737], mid brown moderately compacted sandy silt; [2736], dark brown, moderately compacted sandy silt; [2735], mid to dark brown loosely compacted sandy silt slumping deposit; [2734], mid brown, moderately compacted sandy silt, occasional small hamstone fragments (max 0.05m) and occasional charcoal mottling; [2733], light to mid brown moderately compacted sandy silt; [2732], light to mid brown

moderately compacted sandy silt with frequent hamstone fragments (max. 0.1m); [2731], light yellowy-brown moderately compacted sand, slumping deposit.; [2730], mid to dark orangey-brown moderately compacted sandy silt with frequent large ham-hill stone fragments (max 0.5m) and frequent charcoal flecks; [2729], mid to dark yellowy-brown moderately compacted sandy silt slumping deposit; [2728], mid brown, moderately compacted sandy-silt with occasional charcoal flecking, slumping deposit; [2727], lens of mid to dark grey, moderately compacted silty sand; [2726], mid orangey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand with notable banding, slumping deposit; [2725], mid to dark orangey-brown, moderately compacted sandy-silt; [2724], mid orangey-brown, moderate to loosely compacted sandy silt, frequent hamstone fragments (max 0.1m) and occasional charcoal mottling. Upper fill [2723], mid orangey-brown moderately compacted silty sand, frequent hamstone fragments and frequent charcoal flecking.

F.1530 Posthole - Cut [2708]; sub-circular in plan, slight narrowing at middle suggestive of presence of two adjacent posts. Irregular, very steep to vertical sides to irregular base, disturbed by animal burrow. Length 1.1m, width 0.95m, depth 0.64m; fill [2770], mid to dark grey-brown, moderately to firmly compacted silty sand with very infrequent charcoal. Occasional bioturbation becoming intense towards base with presence of animal burrow. Truncated by pit F.1524.

F.1531 Enclosure Ditch - Northeast to southwest (rock cut) and northwest to southeast (sand cut) aligned with corner (extending beyond 2011 excavation). Cuts [2714], [2765], [2821], [2839], [2932], [2943], [2992], [3032], [3533], [3621], [3706], [3708]; linear in plan, moderately steeply sloping at top, becoming very steep to vertical towards wide concaved base. Length 65m, width 2.1m-3.3m, depth 0.9m-1.47m, shallower towards southeast. Basal silts [2720], [2838], [2941], [2942], [2935], [2936], [2937], [3073], [3184], [3185], [3573], [3620], mid to dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand with occasional charcoal flecking, becoming lighter and sandier to south. Special deposit [3718], an articulated human neonate within [2720]. Collapsed/ backfilled internal bank deposits [2719], [2764], [2823], [2990], [3072], [3572], [3618], [3619], [3705], dense deposit of angular hamstone fragments (max 0.2) within a matrix of light brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand. Special deposit of a semi-articulated animal skeleton, [3606], within upper [3619]. [2718], [3071], [3571], thick deposit/ lens of charcoal rich 'dump' material overlying collapsed/ backfilled bank within northeastern limit of ditch and extending beyond extent of excavated area. Localised similar dump [2938] in south; dark grey brown, moderately compacted silty sand with frequent charcoal and occasional burnt stone. Upper fills of enclosure ditch, [2718], [2717], [2716], [2715], [2837], [2836], [2939], [2940], [2941], [2942], [3070], [3069], [3068], [3569], [3570], [3617]; deposits of mid to dark grey-brown moderate to firmly compacted sandy silts with occasional charcoal mottling, occasional burnt stone, bone and pottery, becoming lighter, sandier and more homogenous to the south.

F.1532 Posthole - Cut [2721]; circular in plan, steep to vertical sides to a concaved base. Length 0.3m, width 0.3m, depth 0.45m; fill [2722], mid to dark grey-brown moderate to firmly compacted silty clay. Truncates pit F.1526.

F.1533 Pit - Cut [2775]; oval in plan, steep to near vertical sides in plan to generally flat base. Length 2.6m, width 1.2m, depth 0.36m; fill [2774], mid to dark reddish-brown, moderate to firmly compacted sterile sandy silt.

F.1534 Pit - Cut [2848]; sub-circular in plan, steeply to vertically sloping sides to flat base. Length 1.9m, width 1.78m, depth 0.78m. Basal fill [2783], mid brown firm to moderately compacted silt with high charcoal content; [2784], dark brown, firmly compacted silty sandy clay with occasional charcoal and degraded hamstone fragments. Main fills [2782], light yellowy-brown, firmly compacted silty sand slumping deposit; [2781], dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand, occasional charcoal flecking; [2780], mid brown, firmly compacted sandy silt, large quantities of charcoal mottling; [2779], mid brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand, infrequent tips of degraded hamstone. Upper fill [2778], mid brown, firmly compacted sandy silt.

F.1536 Pit - Cut [2801]; circular in plan, moderately sloping sides at top, becoming vertical, slight undercutting towards flat base. Length 1.3m, width 1.37, depth 1.21m. Basal fill [2835], mid grey, very moist sticky sandy clay; lower fills [2834], [2800], [2799], [2798], mid to light yellowy-brown moderate to loosely compacted silty sand, occasional charcoal and fragments of hamstone. Main fills [2797], [2796], [2795], [2794], [2793], [2792], mid to light yellowy-brown moderate to loosely compacted silty sand. Upper fills [2791], light yellowy-brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty sand; [2790], mid grey-brown moderately compacted sandy silt with occasional charcoal mottling; [2789], light grey-brown loosely compacted silty sand slumping deposit; [2833], mid grey-brown moderately compacted sandy silt, occasional charcoal mottling.

F.1537 Pit - Cut [2814]; in plan an elongated oval, steeply sloping concaved sides to concaved base. Length 1.28m, width 0.66m, depth 0.2m; fill [2813], dark yellowy-brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty sand with frequent charcoal and burnt hamstone.

F.1538 Posthole - Cut [2818]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping concaved sides leading to generally flat base. Length 0.69m, width 0.24m, depth 0.2m. Lower fill [2817], mid orangey-brown, moderate to loosely compacted clayey silt with occasional charcoal large hamstone post-pad at base. Upper fill [2828], light brown orange loosely compacted sandy, silty clay.

F.1539 Pit - Cut [2820], irregular sub-oval in plan, sharp to steeply sloping at top near vertical sides to rounded base. Lower fill [2819], mid to dark orangey brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty clay with frequent charcoal mottling. Upper fill [2863], light orangey-brown firmly compacted clayey silt with infrequent charcoal mottling.

F.1540 Deposit (of collapsed bank/ revetting material) - Cuts [3074], [3075], [3707]; large angular and sub-angular hamstone (max 0.6m) within matrix of mid to light brown firmly compacted sandy clay with notable silty tip lines [3558]. Upper fills [2689], [2847], light grey-brown, firmly compacted silty clay.

F.1541 Pit - Cut [2857]; circular in plan, steep to vertical at top becoming more undercut towards a flat base. Length 2.89m, width 2.98m, depth 1.48m. Basal clay lining [3440], dark brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty clay, infrequent charcoal flecking. Basal fill [3439], dark grey-brown moderately compacted silty sand, frequent charcoal, bone, pot and bone; overlying special deposits [3566], an articulated leg of large animal and [3567], a currency bar, fragment of a wheel rim, a nail or pin and a small spearhead and a large clay thatch or loomweight. Main fills [3233], mid to dark brown, moderate to firmly compacted sandy clay with high quantities of burnt hamstone, charcoal and pottery; [2867], mid grey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand; [2866], mid yellowy-brown firmly compacted sandy silt with infrequent clay mottling; [2865], very dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sandy-clay, high quantity of charcoal, pottery and bone. Underlay special deposit [2556], an articulated dog skeleton lying on its left side with the head to southwest. Upper fill [2855], light to mid yellowy-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty clay, mottled with yellowy brown sandy clay, occasional pottery and bone.

F.1542 Re-cut (of pit F.1544) - Cut [2849]; circular in plan, steeply sloping slightly concaved sides to concaved base. Length 1.7m, width 1.74m, depth 0.94. Basal fills [2883], [2882], [2881], [2880], mid to light yellow brown moderate to loosely compacted silty sand. Main fill [2878], large deposit of angular hamstone (max 0.3m) within a matrix of mid grey-brown moderately compacted plastic clay silt; [2879], light to mid brown, silty sand with occasional banding of yellow sand, slumping deposit; [2877], mid orange brown, moderately compacted sandy silt with occasional charcoal mottling. Upper fill [2876], mid orangey brown moderately compacted sandy silt, occasional charcoal flecking.

F.1543 Pit - Cut [2854]; sub-circular in plan, gradual to steeply sloping irregular sides to generally flat base Length 1.2m, width 1m, depth 0.32m. Fill [2853], mid to dark mottled, orangey grey-brown silty sandy clay with frequent charcoal and burnt stones.

F.1544 Pit - Cut [2864]; circular in plan, very steeply sloping irregular generally straight sides with undercutting towards flat base. Basal fills [2897], [2896], [2895], [2895], [2894], [2893], [2892], alternating thin lenses of light to mid yellow and orangey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted sandy silt and mid to light yellowy-brown loosely compacted sands. Main fill [2891], mid grey-brown sandy silt with occasional hamstone fragments; [2890], light to mid grey-brown loosely compacted silty sand with occasional charcoal mottling; [2889], mid grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand; [2888], dark grey-brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty clay with frequent charcoal mottling; [2887], mid grey-brown moderately compacted sandy silt; [2886], mid orangey-brown firmly compacted sandy silt; [2885], mid grey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand with occasional small degraded hamstone fragments. Upper fill [2884], mid to dark grey-brown moderately compacted sandy silt.

F.1545 Ditch? - Cut [2956], [3018], [3112]; linear in plan, steep to moderately sloping sides to concaved base. Length 11m+, max width 2.75m, max depth 1.26m. Fills [2954], [3017], [3118], [3123], [3124], [3125], [3126], [3127], lenses and slumping deposits of mid grey, moderately compacted silty clays with light to mid orangey-brown moderately compacted silty sand. Truncated by ditch F.1546?

F.1546 Ditch? - Cut [2958], [3016], [3055], [3175]; linear in plan, steeply to moderately sloping, generally straight sides to wide concaved base. Length 11m+, max width 5.25m, max depth 1.28m. Fills [2950], [2951], [2952], [2953], [3013], [3014], [3015], [3103], [3105], [3113], [3114], [3115], [3116], [3117], [3119], [3120], [3121], [3122], [3134], [3174], multiple slumping deposits of mid to dark orangey-brown, brown and grey, moderate and firmly compacted sandy silty clays. Truncates ditch F.1545?

F.1547 Pit? - Cut [2957]; irregular sub rectangular/ oval in plan, very steeply sloping, vertical and undercutting sides. Length 2m+, width 4.25m, depth 1.7m+ not fully excavated. Fill [2955], dark yellowy brown, firmly compacted sandy clay, large silty clay slumping deposits. Truncated by ditches F.1545 / F.1546

F.1549 Ditch - Cut [2901], [2973], [3717]; ditch terminus, aligned northeast to southwest; linear with sub-rounded terminus in plan, moderately sloping concaved sides to wide shallow concaved base. Fills [2900], [2972], [3005], mid orangey-brown, moderately compacted silt. Re-cuts F.1550.

F.1550 Ditch - Cut [2906], [2976], [3010]; linear in plan, aligned northeast to southwest steeply sloping generally straight sides to generally flat base. Length 22m, extending beyond limit of excavation, max width 1.5m, depth 1.3m. Basal fills [2905], [2904], [2966], [2975], [3007], [3008], [3009], mid to light orangey-grey moderately to firmly compacted silty sands with infrequent charcoal flecking and occasional white calcious mottling. Main/ upper fill [2903], [2902], [2974], [3006], mid to light grey-brown and orangey-grey firmly compacted silty sands. Truncates pit F.1558.

F.1551 Gully terminus - Cut [2909]; rounded terminus of northeast to southwest aligned linear in plan, moderately steeply sloping sides to concaved base. Length 1.45m+ extending beyond limit of excavated area, width 0.85m, depth 0.3m. Basal fill [2908]. mid orangey-brown, moderately compacted silt. Upper fill [2907], mid grey-brown loosely compacted sandy silt.

F.1552 Pit - Cut [2910]; circular in plan, irregular steep to vertical sides to irregular, generally flat base. Length 2.46m, width 2.25m, depth 0.56m. Primary fills [2924], [2923], [2921], [3094], mid to light brown and yellowy-orange loosely compacted silty sand slumping deposits; main fills [2922], [2920], mid to dark grey-brown sandy silt, occasional hamstone fragments. Upper fill [2919], mid grey-brown moderate to firmly compacted sandy silt, occasional charcoal flecking, infrequent small fragments of degraded hamstone.

F.1553 Pit - Cut [2918]; circular in plan, steeply sloping to vertical and slightly undercutting sides to flat base. Length 1.8m, width 2m, depth 1.1m. All fills [2930], [2929], [2928], [2827], [2926], mid to light brown moderate to firmly compacted silty sands.

F.1554. Pit - Cut [2925]; sub-rectangular in plan, sharp break of slope at top to slightly concaved sides and flat base. Length 1.2m, width 1.1m, depth 0.32m. Fill [2986], dark grey-brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty sand, frequent charcoal and burnt stone fragments.

F.1555 Pit - Cut [2931]; circular in plan, steep to vertical sides to generally flat base. Length 1.25m, width 1.25m, depth 0.85. Basal fill [2984], mid grey-brown moderate to loosely compacted silty sand. Main fill [2983], dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand, high levels of charcoal. Overlain with special deposit [2965], a degraded and fragmented horse skull, placed on its right side; [2981], mid grey-brown firmly compacted silty sand with occasional charcoal mottling; [2985], mid to pale grey yellowy-sand. Upper fill [2980], dark grey-brown moderately compacted sandy silt, with frequent charcoal; [2979], mid grey brown, moderately compacted sandy silt frequent charcoal and degraded hamstone fragments. Re-cut of pits F.1561 and F.1562.

F.1559 Pit - Cut [2963]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping sides to generally flat base. Length 1.03m, width 0.9m, depth 0.18m. Fill [2962], mid to dark grey-brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty sand. Large quantity of charcoal and burnt clay throughout.

F.1560 Pit - Cut [2964]; circular in plan, steep concaved sides to concaved base. Length 1.89m, width 1.9m, depth 0.28m. Fill [2875], mid orangey-brown moderately compacted sandy silt, with occasional charcoal mottling. Special deposit [2850], a partially articulated skeleton of small animal (dog?) consisting of vertebrae, 1 leg, 2 scapulae, and smaller disarticulated bones and a ferrous 'latch-lifter'. Re-cut of pit F.1542.

F.1561 Pit - Cut [2998]; circular in plan, very steep to vertical sides to slightly concaved base. Length 0.95m, width 0.88m, depth 1.22m. Basal fills [3019], [2997], mid to light grey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand.

F.1562 Pit - Cut [3004]; circular in plan, steep and vertically sloping occasionally undercut sides to flat base. Length 0.53m, width 0.8m, depth 0.8m. Lower fills [3003], [3002], [3001], light to moderate orangey reddish-brown and grey-brown, moderately to loosely compacted sand. Main fills [3000], [2999], mid to dark grey-brown, moderately compacted sandy silts. Upper fill [2982], mid to dark grey, moderately compacted silty sand with frequent charcoal and burnt clay inclusions.

F.1563 Posthole - Cut [2971]; circular in plan, very steep to vertical sides to sharply concaved base. Basal fill [2970], mid brownish grey, moderately compacted silty clay. Main fill [2969], mid grey-brown firmly compacted silty sand; [2968], mid orangey brown, moderately compacted silty clay with infrequent charcoal mottling; [2967], mid orangey-brown firmly compacted silty sand. In base of ditch F.1550.

F.1564 Enclosure Ditch Entrance Terminus - Cut [3027], [3061], [3611], [3635]; rounded terminus of linear in plan; slightly wider at terminus. Moderate to steeply sloping generally straight sides to narrow flat base. Aligned northeast to southwest (extending beyond excavated area). Length 12.5m+, width 2.75m, depth 1.2m. Basal fills [3065], [3066], [3244], [3286], [3610], [3631], [3633], [3634], dark to mid grey, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand with occasional charcoal flecking, slumping deposits. Primary bank/ revetment collapse [3632], a thin deposit of angular hamstone (0.1-0.45m) within matrix of dark grey-moderate to loosely compacted silt, occasional charcoal, snail shells, bone and pottery; silting deposit [3285], [3630], thin lens of grey, reddish-brown moderately compacted clayey silt with occasional charcoal, pottery and mollusc shell. Main bank/ revetment collapse [3067], [3246], [3629], thick deposit of angular hamstone, (0.05-0.6m) within matrix of dark grey-moderate to loosely compacted silt, occasional charcoal, snail shells, bone and pottery. Upper fills [3062], [3064], [3063], [3242], [3024], [3025] [3628], mid orangey-brown, moderately compacted sandy silt, occasional angular hamstone fragments (max 0.3) and infrequent charcoal mottling.

F.1566 Pit - Cut [3044]; circular in plan, steep to vertical sides to generally flat base. Length; 0.76m, width 0.7m, depth 0.7m. Basal fill [3045], mid to dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand with occasional burnt stone, overlying special deposit [3419], deposit on the base of the pit consisting of large fragment of burnt daub- kiln or oven lining, surrounded by burnt stones and a canine mandible and human cranium with adjacent bovine leg; [3046], mid to dark grey-brown, firmly compacted silty sand with frequent charcoal banding. Main/ upper fill [3047], thick deposit of moderate to dark grey, firmly compacted silty clay with high levels of charcoal mottling throughout. Truncates ditch F.1521/ F.1522.

F.1568 Ditch Terminus - North, northeast to south, southwest aligned. 5.6m in excavated length (extends beyond limit of excavations). Cut [3061]; rounded in plan, irregular concaved sides to irregular flat base: Width 1.1m, depth 0.32m. Fill [3062], mid to dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand.

F.1569 Posthole - Cut [3053]; elongated oval in plan, rounded ends steeply sloping concaved sides to concaved base. Fill [3054], mid to very dark grey-brown moderately compacted silty clay with infrequent charcoal mottling. Truncates ditch F.1568.

F.1571 Ditch - North, northeast to south, southwest aligned. Length 17m. Terminals [3059], [3202]; rounded in plan with moderate to gradually sloping concaved sides to irregular concaved base. Ditch cut, [3077], [3128], [3202], [3204]; moderate to gradually sloping concaved sides to irregular generally flat base; width 1.9-2.3m, depth 0.2-0.5m. Fill mid to dark brown, moderately to firmly compact sandy silts occasional charcoal flecking and small hamstone fragments.

F.1576 Pit - Cut [3089]; circular in plan, very steeply sloping generally straight sides to flat base. Length 1.9m, width 1.73m, depth 0.91m. Fills [3088], mid orangey-brown loosely compacted silty sand, slumping deposit; [3087], light grey-brown moderately compacted silty sand; [3086], light yellowish-brown loosely compacted sand, slumping deposit; [3085], mid to dark orangey grey-brown moderately compacted sandy silt, occasional angular hamstone and infrequent charcoal mottling; [3084], light grey-brown loosely compacted silty sand; [3083], dark grey-brown, moderate to loosely compacted sandy silt, frequent charcoal flecking, occasional degraded and burnt hamstone; [3082], mid grey-brown moderately compacted silty sand; [3081], mid grey-brown moderately compacted

sandy silt. Upper fill [3081], mid grey-brown moderately compacted sandy silt; [3080], mid to light grey-brown moderately compacted sandy silt.

F.1578 Gully - Cut [3109]; irregular linear in plan, aligned north to south. Moderately steeply sloping concaved sides to concaved base. Fill [3108], mid grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty clay.

F.1579 Gully - Cut [3049], [3434]; linear in plan, aligned northwest to southeast. Moderate to steeply sloping slightly concaved sides to concaved base. Fills [3050], [3435], mid to dark brown, moderately compacted silty sand.

F.1581 Pit - Cut [3152]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping sides at top, becoming vertical and undercut towards flat base. Length 2m, width 2.22, depth 1.27m. Basal fill [3179], mid to pale yellowy-brown moderately compacted silt with infrequent hamstone fragments; [3151], [3150], light to mid yellowy orange moderately compacted silty sand slumping deposit; [3049], mid grey-brown, moderately compacted smooth silt, infrequent charcoal and degraded hamstone; [3147], light yellowy-brown, moderately compacted sand slumping deposit; [3148], mid grey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand; [3146], lenses of light yellowy-orange loosely compacted sand, slumping deposit; [3145], mid to light grey-brown moderately compacted silty clay with occasional small fragments degraded hamstone; [3144], mid grey-brown moderate to loosely compacted sandy silt; [3143], mid grey-brown, moderately compacted sandy-silt, occasional hamstone fragments; [3142], mid grey-brown, moderately compacted sandy silt with occasional small hamstone fragments, containing special deposit [3107], two large fragments of human crania. Upper fill [3141], mid orangey-grey brown moderate to loosely compacted sandy silt.

F.1585 Gully - Cut [3237]; sub-rounded in plan, moderate to steep and vertically sloping sides. Length 3m+, width 2.6m, depth 2.55m. Lower fill [3236], mid orangey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sandy clay with frequent clay mottling and slumping deposits. Slumping deposit [3177], thick lens of orangey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sandy clay with frequent clay mottling and slumping deposits. Upper fill [3176], mid orangey-brown, moderately to firmly compacted silty sand. Truncated by ditch F.1545/ F.1546.

F.1586 Posthole - Cut [3191]; circular in plan, steep to vertically sloping sides to generally concaved base, narrow concavity within base. Length 0.5m, width 0.5m, depth 0.2m. Basal fill [3192], mid to dark orangey brown, firmly compacted clay. Upper fill [3193], mid to dark grey, moderate to loosely compacted silty sand, high quantity of charcoal.

F.1589 Posthole - Cut [3198]; circular in plan, steep to vertical sides to flat base. Length 0.68m, width 0.68m, depth 0.28m. Fill of post pipe [3195], dark grey-brown, moderate to loosely compacted sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecking. Basal fill [3197], mid reddish-brown, moderately to firmly compacted sandy silt. Upper fills [3196], mid grey-brown firmly compacted silty sand with occasional charcoal mottling; [3197], mid reddish-brown, moderately to firmly compacted sandy silt.

F.1591 Pit - Cut [3203]; sub-circular in plan, gradual to moderately steeply sloping concaved sides to concaved base. Length 2.7m, width 2.6m, depth 0.38m. Single fill [3219], dark to mid brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand with high quantity of charcoal flecking, bone, burnt stone, iron nails and human cranium fragments. Truncates ditch F.1571.

F.1593 Pit - Cut [3247]; circular in plan, steeply sloping sides to generally flat base. Length 1.65m, width 1.6m, depth 0.71m. Basal fill [3261], mid bluey-grey brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty sand, infrequent charcoal inclusions, overlying special deposit [3411], 11 ferrous objects and a single piece of worked antler placed onto base; [3260], mid to dark yellowy-brown, moderate to loosely compacted sand, slumping deposit; [3250], mid to dark yellowy-brown, loosely compacted sand; [3249], mid orangey-brown, very loosely compacted silty sand. Upper fill [3248], mid orangey-brown, moderately compacted sand, infrequent charcoal flecking. Truncates pit F.1599.

F.1595 Pit - Cut [3215]; circular in plan, moderate to steeply sloping straight sides to concaved base. Length 1.4m, width 1.3m, depth 0.42m Basal fill [3214], mid orangey-grey, moderately compacted silty clay with frequent angular hamstone fragments; [3213], mid brownish-orange, firmly compacted silty clay; [3212], light grey-brown moderately compacted silty clay, slumping deposit. Upper fill [3211], mid orangey-brown moderately compacted clayey silt. Truncated by ditch F.1531.

F.1596. Pit - Cut [3235]; sub-circular in plan, steep to vertically sloping sides to flat base. Length 1.55m, width 1.75m, depth 0.85m. Basal fill [3232], light yellow-brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty sand; [3209], yellowy-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand; [3208], yellowy-brown, firmly compacted silty sand, occasional angular hamstone fragments; [3207], yellow-brown moderate to firmly compacted silty sand; [3206], yellow-brown, firmly compacted silty sand. Upper fill [3205], thick deposit of angular hamstone (max 0.2m) within a matrix of mid to dark grey-brown silty sand.

F.1598 Ditch/ gully - . Cut [3585]; linear in plan aligned northeast to southwest, very steeply sloping slightly concaved sides to irregular flat base. Length 12.75m, width 1.9m, depth 0.28m. Fill [3586], light brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand.

F.1599 Pit - Cut [3251]; circular in plan, very steep to vertically sloping sides to generally flat base. Length 1.25, width 1.2, depth 0.65. Fills [3264], mid bluey-grey brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty sand with infrequent charcoal inclusions; [3263], mid orangey-brown, loosely compacted sand; [3262], mid orangey-brown, moderately compacted sandy silt. Upper fill [3252], mid orangey brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty sand; occasional small degraded hamstone fragments. Truncated by pit F.1593.

F.1600 Posthole - Cut [3270]; circular in plan, vertical sides to concaved base. Length 0.21m, width 0.2m, 0.08m. Fill [3269], mid yellowy-brown, moderately compacted silty sand.

F.1601 Pit - Cut [3271]; circular in plan, steep to vertical, undercutting sides to generally flat base. Length 1.83m, width 1.8m, depth 0.94m. Basal fills [3302], light grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted sandy clay, infrequent hamstone fragments and occasional charcoal mottling, slumping fragment; [3301], light grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted sandy clay, infrequent hamstone fragments and occasional charcoal mottling. Main fills [3300], mid to dark yellowy-brown, moderate to firmly compacted sand; [3299], light yellow-brown, moderately compacted sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecking, slumping deposit; [3298], mid orangey-brown, moderately to loosely compacted sandy silt; [3297], mid to dark orangey-grey moderate to firmly compacted sandy silt, slumping deposit; [3296], mid grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted sandy silt. Upper fills [3094], [3295], mid to light orangey-brown, moderately compacted sandy-silt, infrequent degraded and burnt hamstone.

F.1602 Posthole - Cut [3279]; circular in plan, steeply sloping concaved sides to concaved base. Length 0.46m, width 0.4m, depth 0.21m. Fill [3278], mid to dark orangey-grey, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand. Truncates gully F.1523.

F.1604 Posthole - Cut [3282]; circular in plan, moderately steeply sloping concaved sides to concaved base. Length 0.29m, width 0.30m, depth 0.24m. Fill [3283], mid to dark orangey-brown loosely compacted silty sand.

F.1605 Pit - Cut [3287]; circular in plan, steep to vertically sloping sides to flat base. Length 1.8m, width 1.81m, depth 0.96m. Basal fills [3410], mid to light orange-brown, firmly compacted sandy silt slumping deposit; [3293], light grey brown, moderate to loosely compacted sand; [3409], [3292], light grey brown, moderate to loosely compacted sand, slumping deposits. Main fills [3291], mid grey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand with occasional angular hamstone and charcoal flecks; [3290], mid to dark grey-brown moderately compacted sandy silt, occasional angular hamstone and frequent charcoal mottling; [3289], mid grey brown, moderately compacted silty sand. Upper fill [3288], mid orangey brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand.

F.1606 Posthole - Cut [3305]; sub-circular in plan, steep to vertical sides to flat base. Length 0.75m, width 0.65m, depth 0.28m. Lower fill [3304], mid orangey brown moderate to loosely compacted silty clay. Upper fill [3303], mid grey-orangey brown moderately compacted sandy silt.

F.1607 Pit - Cut [3370]; circular in plan, very steep generally straight sides to a flat base. Length 1.95m, width 2m, depth 1m. Basal fill [3562], dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand; [3442], mid to dark orange, moderately compacted sandy silt with high charcoal content; [3361], dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand; [3441], dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty clay, frequent angular hamstone and high charcoal inclusions; [3372], mid to dark orangey-brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty sand; [3360], mid brown, loosely compacted silt. Large quantities of degraded hamstone fragments. Upper fill [3359], mid orangey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand.

F.1608 Posthole - Cut [3375]; sub-circular in plan, steep to vertical sides to irregular flat base. Length 0.85m, width 0.48m, depth 0.24m. Fill [3376], mid to light grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand, occasional charcoal mottling.

F.1610 Possible Structural Gull - Cut [3382]; curvilinear in plan, moderate to gradually sloping irregular sides to irregular concaved base. Length 5.5m, width 1.5m, depth 0.2m. Fill [3383], mid to dark grey brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty sand with frequent dark grey clay mottling, charcoal, ceramic and burnt clay.

F.1612 Pit - Cut [3394]; circular in plan, steeply sloping, vertical and undercutting sides to flat base. Length 1.5m, width 1.5m, depth 0.7m. Basal fill [3416], light brown, moderate to firmly compacted sandy silt with frequent charcoal and ceramic inclusions. Main fill [3415], light grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand with occasional small degraded hamstone fragments; [3414], light grey-brown moderately compacted silty sand with occasional charcoal flecking.

F.1613 Ditch - Cut [3398]; linear in plan, aligned, moderately steeply sloping generally straight sides to concaved base. Length 12.5m, width 1.05m, depth 0.26m. Fill [3397], mid to dark grey-brown, moderate to loosely compacted sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecking.

F.1614 Pit - Cut [3384]; sub-circular in plan, steep to moderately sloping slightly concaved sides to irregular flat base. Fill [3385], mid to dark grey-brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty clay, frequent charcoal mottling and occasional burnt clay. Associated with F.1510.

F.1615 Pit - Cut [3399]; circular in plan, steep, vertical and occasionally undercutting sides to flat base. Length 1.62m, width 1.42m, depth 1.18m. Basal fills [3404], lenses of mid orangey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand, occasional degraded hamstone, burnt stone fragments and infrequent charcoal flecks; [3403], mid to bright orangey-brown moderately compacted very silty sand with frequent angular hamstone and charcoal; [3402], mid orangey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand with occasional degraded hamstone, burnt stone fragments and infrequent charcoal. Main fill [3401], mid orangey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand, occasional degraded hamstone fragments and burnt clay. Upper fill [3400], mid orangey-brown moderate to firmly compacted silty sand, infrequent charcoal flecking.

F.1616 Posthole - Cut [3418]; circular in plan, moderate to gradually sloping sides to concaved base. Length 0.36m, width 0.36m, depth 0.07m. Fill [3417], mid yellowy-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty, sandy clay.

F.1617 Pit - Cut [3451]; sub-circular in plan, steep, vertical and undercut sloping sides towards flat base. Length 2.4m, width 3.34m, depth 1.27m. Basal fills [3499], mid to pale brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand, slumping deposit; [3498], orangey grey-brown, moderately compacted sandy-silt with occasional large hamstone fragments (max 0.24). Main fills [3497], grey-brown, moderately compacted sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecking; [3496], light yellowy-grey, loosely compacted sand slumping deposit; [3495], orangey grey-brown, moderately compacted sandy-silt. Occasional large hamstone fragments (max 0.24m); [3494], mid grey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand, occasional small degraded hamstone fragments (max 0.17m); [3493], mid to light grey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand with occasional charcoal flecking; [3492], mid grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand. Upper fill [3491], dark grey to black moderately compacted sandy silt with frequent charcoal content.

F.1619 Pit - Cut [3452]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping generally straight sides to flat base. Length 0.45m, width 0.4m, depth 0.25m. Fills [3462], [3465], [3466], mid to dark orangey brown to very dark brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sands.

F.1621 Pit - Cut [3454]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping concaved sides to concaved base. Length 0.57m, width 0.4m, depth 0.23m. Fill [3464], very dark brown, moderately compacted sandy silt with high charcoal and burnt stone content.

F.1622 Pit - Cut [3456]; sub-circular in plan, almost vertical break of slope at surface to uneven concaved base. Basal fill [3500], mid to pale brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand. Upper fill [3501], mid grey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand.

F.1623 Pit - Cut [3397]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping concaved sides to concaved base. Length, 0.48m, width 0.4m, depth 0.19m. Fills [3467], [3468], [3469], [3970], mid to dark orangey brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sands. Upper fill [3503], very dark brown, moderately compacted sandy silt with high charcoal and burnt stone content.

F.1624 Pit - Cut [3518]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping sides to irregular concaved base. Fills [3504], [3505], mid orangey-brown to mid brown, moderate to firmly compacted sandy silt.

F.1625 Pit - Cut [3517]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping sides to irregular concaved base. Lower fill [3506], light brown, moderate to firmly compact silty sand. Upper fill [3507], mid to dark brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand with high quantities of charcoal.

F.1626 Pit - Cut [3516]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping sides to irregular concaved base. Length 0.34m, width 0.6m, depth 0.26m. Lower fill [3508], mid brown, moderately compacted sandy silt. Upper fill [3509], dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty clay with frequent charcoal and burnt clay fragments.

F.1627 Pit - Cut [3515]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping sides to irregular concaved base. Lower fill [3510], mid brown, moderately compacted sandy silt. Upper fill [3511], dark brown, moderately compacted silty sand with very high concentration of charcoal.

F.1628 Pit - Cut [3485]; small and circular in plan, steeply sloping generally concaved sides to irregular flat base. Length 0.97m, width 1m, depth 0.62m. Fills [3486], [3487], [3488], [3489], [3490], mid grey-brown to mid orange and yellowy brown moderately compacted sandy silts and sands.

F.1629 Pit - Cut [3514]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping sides to irregular concaved base. Length 0.34m, width 0.6m, depth 0.26m. Fills [3512], mid orangey-brown, moderately compacted sandy clay; [3513], mid to light brown, moderately compacted sandy silt.

F.1630 Pit - Cut [3527]; sub -oval, periform in plan. Moderate to steeply sloping sides to generally flat base. Primary fill [3531], mid yellowy-brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty sand; [3530], mid grey, moderately compacted silty sand with occasional charcoal mottling, slump deposit; [3528], localised deposit of light pinkish-red moderately compacted burned clay. Main/ Upper fill [3529], mid yellowy-brown, moderately to loosely compacted silty sand.

F.1644 Pit - Cut [3551]; circular in plan, with steeply sloping sides becoming vertical towards flat base. Length 2m, width 2.1, depth 0.99. Basal fill [3593], light yellowy-brown, moderately compacted sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecking; [3592], light yellowy-grey brown, moderately compacted sandy silt; [3591], light yellowy-grey brown, moderately compacted sandy silt; [3590], mid grey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand with frequent charcoal flecking; [3589], mid grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted sandy silt; [3588], mid to light grey-brown moderate to firmly compacted silty sand. Upper fill [3587], mid orangey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand, with occasional charcoal mottling.

F.1645 Pit - Cut [3557]; circular in plan, vertical to undercutting sides to flat base. Length 2m, width 2m, depth 1.15m. Basal fill [3594], reddish-brown, firmly compacted silty sand; [3595], reddish-brown, moderately compacted silty sand; [3596], dark red-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand, occasional burnt stone; [3597], mid to dark red-brown moderate to firmly compacted silty sand. Upper fill [3598], mid orangey-brown very compacted silty sand with occasional charcoal and burnt stones.

F.1646 Pit - Cut [3574]; circular in plan, steeply to near vertical sides to flat base. Length 1.75m, width 1.75m, depth 1.26m. Basal fill [3582], mid orange-brown, firmly compacted silty sand; [3580], light to mid yellow-brown moderately to firmly compacted sandy silt; [3581], mid yellow-brown moderate to firmly compacted silty sand; [3579], light to mid yellowy-brown moderately compacted silty sand, occasional charcoal, ash and burnt stone banding; [3578], mid yellow-brown, mid to firmly compacted silty sand; [3577], light to mid brown, moderately compacted silty sand; [3576], mid to dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand, frequent patches of compacted ash, charcoal and burnt clay. Upper fill [3575], thin lens of mid yellowy-brown, firm to moderately compacted silty sand. Truncates pit F.1653.

F.1647 Posthole - Cut [3583]; steeply sloping, generally straight sides to concaved base. Diameter 0.49m, depth 0.13. Fill [3584], mid orangey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand with large angular hamstone post-packing.

F.1649 Posthole - Cut [3599]; circular in plan, vertical sides to narrow flat base. Length 0.35m, width 0.35m, depth 0.3m. Fill [3600], dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand.

F.1651 Posthole - Cut [3614]; circular in plan, steep to vertically sloping straight sides to flat base. Diameter 0.45m, depth 0.16m. Fill [3616], large angular hamstone post-pad/ packing on base. Fill [3615], mid to dark grey-brown moderate to loosely compacted silty clay with infrequent charcoal mottling.

F.1652 Pit - Cut [3627]; sub-circular in plan, moderate to steeply sloping sides to shallow concaved base. Length 0.95m, width 0.9m, depth 0.25m. Fill [3178], dark grey-brown, moderately to loosely compacted silty clay with frequent charcoal mottling. Truncates terminus F.1564.

F.1653 Pit - Cut [3636]; circular in plan, steep to vertical sides to flat base with slight concavity to centre. Length 1.95m, width 1.8m, depth 1.68m. Primary fill [3637], mid browny-grey, moderately compacted sandy clay; [3638], mid to light brown, moderately compacted silty sand. Special deposit [3639], dark grey, moderately compacted silty clay, frequent charcoal, bone and ceramic, sealed by [3640], a thick deposit of angular hamstone (max 0.3) within matrix of dark grey-brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty sand. Main fill [3641], mid to dark brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand; [3642], mid grey-brown, moderately compacted sandy silt. Upper fills [3643], mid to light orangey-brown firmly compacted sandy clay; [3644], mid to dark grey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand; [3645], mid to dark grey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand with occasional charcoal mottling. Truncated by pit F.1646.

F.1654 Pit - Cut [3658]; circular in plan, steeply to vertical sides to flat base. Length 1.25m, width 1.25m, depth 0.2m. Fill [3695], mid to dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty sandy clay: occasional hamstone fragments (max 0.3m).

F.1655 Pit - Cut [3659]; circular in plan, steeply sloping and vertical sides to flat base. Length 1.8m, width 1.5m, depth 0.45m. Main fill [3693], mid orangey-brown firmly compacted silty sand, occasional charcoal flecks and hamstone (max 0.25m), with a human cranium fragment and loomweight found at the base. Upper fill [3692], light yellowy-brown moderately compacted silty sand. Truncates pit F.1664.

F.1656 Pit - Cut [3660]; circular in plan, vertical sides to flat base. Length 1.35m, width 1.5m, depth 1.04m. Basal fill [3661], mid grey-brown moderate to firmly compacted silty clay; [3662], mid grey, moderately compacted sandy silt; [3663], thin deposit of angular hamstone (max 0.2m) within matrix of loosely compacted silty sand; [3664], thick deposit of homogenous mid grey, moderately compacted silty sand; [3665], thin lens of mid to dark grey, moderate to firmly compacted silty sand slumping deposit; [3666], mid to light grey, moderately compacted silty sandy-clay. Upper fill [3667], angular hamstone fragments (max 0.45m) in a matrix of very dark mid to dark grey, moderately compacted silty sand.

F.1657 Posthole - Cut [3668]; circular in plan, steeply sloping concaved sides to concaved base. Length 0.53m, width 0.50m, depth 0.16m. Fill [3669], mid grey-brown, moderate to loosely compacted silty sand.

F.1658 Posthole - Cut [3670]; circular in plan, steeply sloping sides to concaved base. Length 0.48m, width 0.5m, depth 0.18m. Fill [3671], mid grey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand, infrequent charcoal mottling.

F.1659 Posthole - Cut [3672]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping concaved sides to concaved base. Length 0.53m, width 0.48m, depth 0.13m. Fill [3673]m mid to dark grey-brown moderately compacted silty sand with infrequent charcoal and burnt hamstone.

F.1660 Pit - Cut [3675]; sub-circular in plan, very steeply sloping irregular generally straight sides. Not fully excavated. Excavated length 2m; excavated width 3.6m, excavated depth 1.8m. Fill [3674], mid to light orangey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted silty, sandy clay with frequent sandy and silty clay tips and mottling. Truncated by ditches F.1545 and F.1546.

F.1661 Pit - Cut [3678]; oval in plan, steeply sloping concaved sides to generally flat base. Length 0.9m, width 1.5m, depth 0.31. Fill [3677], mid grey-brown, moderate to loosely compacted sandy silt.

F.1662 Pit - Cut [3681]; sub-circular in plan, steeply concaved sides to concaved base. Length 1.55m, width 1.5m, depth 0.43m. Fills [3680], light grey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand; [3679], dark grey-brown, moderate to firmly compacted sandy silt.

F.1663 Pit - Cut [3683]; sub-circular in plan, steeply concaved sides to concaved base. Length 0.83m, width 0.8m, depth 0.29m. Fill [3682], mid grey-brown, moderate to loosely compacted sandy silt.

F.1664 Pit - Cut [3684]; circular in plan, steeply to vertically sloping sides to sharply concaved base. Length 0.7m, width 0.7m, depth 0.85m. Fill [3694], light brown, loosely compacted silty sand; clay loomweight at base.

F.1665 Ditch - Northwest to southeast aligned. 8m in excavated length (extends beyond limits of excavation). Southeastern terminus [3687]; rounded in plan moderately steeply sloping concaved sides to irregular concaved base. Ditch cut [3689], [3691]; moderately steeply sloping concaved sides to concaved base. Fill mid to light grey, moderate to loosely compacted silty sand with occasional sandy clay mottling.

F.1666 Pit - Cut [3698]; sub-circular in plan, steeply sloping concaved sides to a flat base. Length 1.8m, width 1.55m, depth 0.38m. Primary fill [3697], mid grey-brown, moderately compacted sand, infrequent charcoal. Upper fill [3696], dark-grey fine, loosely compacted sandy silt with mottles of dark brown sand.

F.1667 Pit - Cut [3701]; circular in plan steeply sloping concaved sides to flat base. Length 1.68m, width 1.46m, depth 0.27m. Fills [3699], [3700], mid yellowy and grey-brown, moderately compacted sandy silts.

F.1671 Gully - northwest to southeast aligned. Cut [3547]; linear in plan with rounded terminals. Moderately steeply sloping sides to shallow concaved base. Length 2.6m, width 0.4m, depth 0.17m.

F.1671 Posthole/ post-pad - Cut [3217]; sub-rectangular to sub-oval in plan, moderately sloping generally straight sides to flat, irregular base. Length 0.75m, width 0.85m, depth 0.23m. Fill [3216], thick deposit of broken hamstone fragments, (max 0.08m) within matrix of mid to light orangey-brown, moderately compacted silty sand.