

### *Figure Captions*

- Fig. 1 General location plan of the excavations
- Fig. 2 The Wreake–Soar confluence zone showing the location of Barrows 1-3, the palaeochannels and other nearby monuments
- Fig. 3 Aerial photograph of Barrows 1 and 2. J. Pickering © NMR
- Fig. 4 Aerial photograph of Barrow 3 and its environs. J. Pickering 01/07/76, Ref. SF 1336/20, © NMR
- Fig. 5 The local archaeological setting: Neolithic and Bronze Age
- Fig. 6 Comparative plans of local barrows and related monuments
- Fig. 7 The local archaeological setting: Iron Age and Romano-British
- Fig. 8 The local archaeological setting: Anglo-Saxon
- Fig. 9 Aerial photograph of Barrows 1 and 2 under excavation. © CUCAP
- Fig. 10 Barrow 1 during excavation
- Fig. 11 Detail of the Barrow 1 ditches; the figure is working in [F1], the earliest phase
- Fig. 12 Barrow 1: Plan of all excavated features; the charcoal deposits are shown as cross-hatched areas within F1
- Fig. 13 Barrow 1: Section drawings
- Fig. 14 Barrow 1: Detail of the cremation cemetery showing recorded burials, locations of scattered pottery sherds and burnt bone
- Fig. 15 Cremation burial F3 during excavation; plough disturbance is evident
- Fig. 16 Cremation burial F6 during excavation; the uppermost parts of the inverted pot have been destroyed by ploughing
- Fig. 17 Cremation burial F9 during excavation; heavily disturbed by ploughing
- Fig. 18 Cremation burial F22 during excavation; note the visible burnt bone and disturbed pottery sherds from the disturbed cremation vessel
- Fig. 19 Cremation burial F24 during excavation; this had been buried in a deeper pit and was the best surviving cremation burial from the group
- Fig. 20 Cremation burial F25 during excavation; cremated remains lying on a flat limestone slab, possibly the remains of a cist
- Fig. 21 Barrow 2: Plan of all excavated features; note the precise angularity of both ditches
- Fig. 22 Barrow 2: Ditch F12 section drawings
- Fig. 23 Barrow 2: Ditch F13 section drawings
- Fig. 24 Cremation burial F17 during excavation; the regular shape of the area containing the cremated remains suggests burial in an organic container within the pit, perhaps held in place by the surrounding pebbles
- Fig. 25 Cremation burial F17: Plan and section drawing
- Fig. 26 Inhumation F15 during excavation showing the deep burial pit
- Fig. 27 Inhumation F15: Plan and section drawing showing the precise location and position of the burial; the acid soils had almost completely destroyed the bones
- Fig. 28 Inhumation F15: Detail of the burial and associated grave goods
- Fig. 29 F16: Plan and section drawing showing the location of the Food Vessel
- Fig. 30 F14: Plan and section drawing; note the location of the Collared Urn, apparently placed on a ledge above the cremation burial
- Fig. 31 F14 during excavation showing the toppled Collared Urn above the cremated remains on the left
- Fig. 32 Early Bronze Age pottery and stone bowl; note the similar decoration between the stone bowl (5) and the Food Vessel (6)
- Fig. 33 Early Bronze Age pottery
- Fig. 34 Early Bronze Age pottery
- Fig. 35 Barrow 3 and its environs: Plan of all excavated areas
- Fig. 36 Barrow 3: Pre-barrow features; the possible pit circle lies on the western side of Barrow 3 and the pit cluster within the barrow ditch
- Fig. 37 Barrow 3: Pre-barrow features – Section drawings
- Fig. 38 Barrow 3 during excavation; note the unexcavated baulks in the centre of the photograph, providing an indication of the depth of surviving mound material
- Fig. 39 Barrow 3 plan showing location of illustrated sections

Fig. 40 Barrow 3: Section drawings

Fig. 41 Barrow 3: Location of Bronze Age features indicated by distinct clusters of stones within the clean, sandy mound soils

Fig. 42 Barrow 3: Inhumation F58: Remains of associated stone cist

Fig. 43 Barrow 3: Inhumation F58: The grave fully excavated

Fig. 44 Barrow 3: Inhumation F58: Detail of *in situ* Bronze Age beads

Fig. 45 Barrow 3: Iron Age features to the west of the monument

Fig. 46 Barrow 3: Iron Age and Romano-British pottery deposits within the mound

Fig. 47 Barrow 3: Detail of complete Romano-British pottery vessel from within the mound

Fig. 48 Barrow 3: Location of Anglo-Saxon graves and associated artefacts

Fig. 49 Barrow 3: Anglo-Saxon Grave 1 [F345] and associated finds

Fig. 50 Barrow 3: Anglo Saxon Grave 2 [F85] and associated finds

Fig. 51 Barrow 3: Anglo-Saxon Grave 2 during excavation; the location and orientation of the grave was only identifiable due to the position of the metalwork

Fig. 52 Barrow 3: Anglo-Saxon Grave 3 finds

Fig. 53 Barrow 3: Anglo-Saxon Grave 4 finds

Fig. 54 Barrow 3: Miscellaneous Anglo-Saxon finds

Fig. 55 Barrow 3: Possible Anglo-Saxon finds

Fig. 56 Barrow 3: Anglo-Saxon fire pit F31 during excavation

Fig. 57 Barrow 3: Anglo-Saxon fire pit F35 during excavation

Fig. 58 Barrow 3: Anglo-Saxon fire pit F35 fully excavated; note the large concentration of burnt stones, accounting for the major proportion of the pits contents

Fig. 59 Barrow 3: Anglo-Saxon fire pit F35: Plan and section

Fig. 60 Overall plan of Areas B and C showing all features revealed in relation to Barrow 3

Fig. 61 Area B: Small oval enclosure F275: Plan and section

Fig. 62 Area B: Small oval enclosure F275 during excavation

Fig. 63 Area D: Environmental sampling of the palaeochannel

Fig. 64 Area E: General photograph of excavation showing the distinctly 'island-like' nature of this part of the site

Fig. 65 Area E: Plan showing all archaeological features

Fig. 66 Area E: Iron Age enclosure ditch F49 during excavation

Fig. 67 Area E: Sunken-featured building F79 – plan and section drawings

Fig. 68 The worked flint: length:breadth ratios of flakes

Fig. 69 The worked flint: breakdown of tools by type

Fig. 70. Selected lithics.  
*1. Backed blade (SF1361); 2. Microlith, obliquely truncated point (SF856); 3. Microlith, obliquely truncated point (SF3); 4. Truncated blade (SF655); 5. Retouched blade (SF229); 6. Laurel leaf? (SF1363); 7. Knife (SF187); 8. Arrowhead (SF362); 9. Knife (SF1357); 10. Scraper (SF450); 11. Serrated blade (SF648).*

Fig. 71: Selected lithics.  
*12. Concave scraper (SF64); 13. Denticulate (SF97); 14. Discoidal scraper (SF321); 15. Scale-flaked knife (Area E, SF5); 16. Scale-flaked knife (Barrow 2, inhumation F15); 17. Scale-flaked knife (Barrow 2, inhumation F15); 18. Plano-convex knife (Barrow 2, inhumation F15).*

Fig. 72 Distribution of worked flint from the Barrow 3 area showing a marked concentration on the barrow mound

Fig. 73 The Cossington composite necklace and its component beads

Fig. 74 Grave F58 showing position of *in situ* beads

Fig. 75 Iron Age pottery from Areas A and E

Fig. 76 Romano-British pottery from Area A

Fig. 77 The Anglo-Saxon pottery

Fig. 78 Probability distributions of dates from Barrow 1 (Site area 1)

Fig. 79 Probability distribution of number of years the cremation cemetery was in use

Fig. 80 Probability distribution of dates from Barrow 2 (Site area 2)

Fig. 81 Probability distribution of dates from Area D palaeochannel (Site area 3)

- Fig. 82 Probability distribution of dates from Area D palaeochannel (Site area 4)  
Fig. 83 Probability distributions of dates from Area D palaeochannel (Site areas 3 and 4)  
Fig. 84 Probability distributions of dates from Barrow 3 (Site area 5)  
Fig. 85 Pathology noted on metatarsal of *Cervus elaphus*  
Fig. 86 Detail of pathology  
Fig. 87 Pollen diagram – Area D  
Fig. 88 Pollen diagram – Area C  
Fig. 89 Proportions of ecological groups of insects recovered from the palaeochannel  
Fig. 90 Barrow 3 with surrounding Iron Age remains  
Fig. 91 Barrow 3 with surrounding Anglo-Saxon remains

## Colour Plates

### *Plate*

- 1 The burial of the young child at Barrow 2. This reconstruction shows the burial ceremony taking place, with the mourners surrounding the grave. Some of the grave goods have been placed near to the crouched burial. The figure on the left is holding the Food Vessel and the kneeling figure is placing one of the flint knives in the grave.
- 2 The Barrow 1 cremation cemetery. These two cremation burials reflect the variety of practices evident from the surviving evidence. In the background the small stone cairns act as markers for earlier burials, behind which are the overgrown remains of Barrow 1.
- 3 The Barrow 3 burial. In the background the burial ceremony of a woman is taking place. She has been placed in a crouched position on the edge of the monument and is surrounded by mourners as more make their way to the graveside. In the foreground a relative is busy making the composite bead necklace that will accompany her deceased kin to the afterlife.
- 4 Anglo-Saxon re-use of Barrow 3 as a burial ground. Mourners look on as this man is buried on the edge of the surviving barrow mound. He is buried in a wooden coffin with his knife and spear. Remains of an earlier burial can be seen behind the figure on the left and feasting preparations to honour the dead are underway in the background.
- 5 The Soar/Wreake confluence zone: Landscape visualisation using OS spot height data in ArcScene
- 6 The faience bead from Cossington. Photo: National Museums Scotland.
- 7 SEM microphotograph of the smoother side of the faience bead, showing areas where the constituent sand grains have fused to create the smooth, thin glaze surface, and rougher areas of unfused and semi-fused sand grains. Photo: National Museums Scotland.
- 8 The Composite Bead Necklace from the Barrow 3 inhumation: the faience bead is central, to its left is the jet bead and to its right the bead made of shale. The remaining components are of amber.
- 9 The Barrow 2 inhumation grave group: Food Vessel, small accessory vessel, three flint knives and a carved sandstone bowl.
- 10 The Food Vessel and accessory vessel from the Barrow 2 inhumation
- 11 Detail of the accessory vessel from the Barrow 2 inhumation: note the impressed decoration and trailing lines created during the piercing of the lugs
- 12 The three knives from the Barrow 2 inhumation: the central piece has been created on an earlier, possibly Mesolithic blade
- 13 Collared Urns from Barrow 2
- 14 Spearheads from the Barrow 3 Anglo Saxon cemetery
- 15 Leather scabbard impression preserved on an Anglo Saxon knife from the cemetery
- 16 Herringbone weave textile impression preserved on large spearhead in Plate 14
- 17 Herringbone weave textile impression preserved on large spearhead in Plate 14
- 18 Copper alloy annular brooch from the cemetery
- 19 Z-spun linen preserved on the annular brooch