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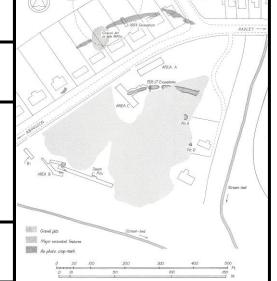
Abingdon Enclosure

Location:

Abingdon Parish Oxfordshire SU 5109 9828

Landscape Position:

Eastern edge of the parish on a slight spur bounded by the valleys of two small streams feeding the River Thames. The spur is on the southern extremity of an expanse of second gravel terrace. 380–400m southwest of Barton Court Farm.



Prehistoric Contexts:

Neolithic Circa 3700–3600 Cal BC, minimal early Bronze Age Interaction and 2 small Iron Age Farmsteads

Period(s) of Interaction:

 $1^{st} - 2^{nd}$ century AD

Excavation(s):

1905, 1926-27, 1954 & 1963

Ecofacts:

Minimal charcoal flecks.

Artefacts:

10 greyware 3 sherds of early samian ware. All pottery forms in use in the 1st and 2nd centuries AD.

Initial Interpretation:

Initial interpretation concentrated on the possible Neolithic pottery industry. Minimal evidence recovered relating to late Iron Age and early Romano-British context led to the conclusion that the site was that the location was a small Iron Age farmstead which probably continued in use until the mid 2nd century AD when the site was abandoned.

Reinterpretation:

All sherds of pottery forms recovered are dated prior to the mid 2nd century AD. Given that some Roman sites can have thousands of sherds present it is a reasonable assumption that this location was not prominent. It is probable that no visible remains of any prehistoric usage were extant during any part of the research period.

Ancillary Information:

Type site for Abingdon ware pottery style. Though there were 500 examples of this pottery form recovered from the site along with sherds 2 pieces of biconical Bronze Age urns, there is no evidence of continued activity on this scale during the research period.

Principal References:

Avery, M. 1982. The Neolithic causewayed enclosure, Abingdon. In: H. J. Case and A. W. R. Whittle (eds.), *Settlement Patterns in the Oxford Region: Excavations at the Abingdon Causewayed Enclosure and other Sites* (Oxford: Department of Antiquities Ashmolean Museum), pp. 10–50.

Ardleigh

Location:

Essex, Village is TM 052 295

Landscape Position:

Located approximately 7km north-east of Colchester on the edge of the Tendring Plateau. The plateau occupies much of the peninsula in Essex between the Stour and Colne estuaries and is dissected by a series of streams, which, in some cases, form steep ravines (ibid.). Ardleigh is situated at the head of a tributary called the Salary Brook.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Neolithic activity found extensive Bronze Age

Period(s) of Interaction:

Continuous and extensive

Excavation(s):

1955 – 60 sporadically for 20 years, CEU excavations post 1976 (652) 1979, 1980

Ecofacts:

Extensive human remains from multiple periods of burials, some of which were compartmentalised, animal bone, charcoal, textiles, plant remains, unstratified cremated human bone and animal bone.

Artefacts:

In excess of 100 burial urns, most datable to the 2nd millennium BC, iron strips, copper bracelets, knives pans hobnails, bodkins, buckles, brooches, 572 flints, combs chalcedony beads(652), querns, glass, glass beads, grooved ware, mortaria, amphorae, 498kg of Roman pottery from the 1st and 2nd centuries in the 1979–80 excavations alone, samian, extensive finds of Bronze Age sherds

Initial Interpretation:

Extensive Bronze Age cemetery area, use of the landscape for both burial and settlement purposes is continuous and extensive, known Roman pottery industry with kilns, no evidence of Roman use of urnfield initially presented. (652) continental burials

Reinterpretation:

Multiple errors in the original excavations, Instances where burial pits in the major urnfield were thought to have cut through each other, on closer examination are actually instances of overcutting during excavation, with little or no thought being given to recording the pit surrounding the urns or anything else they may have contained. The area of the most intensive activity, all showed an unstratified mixture of Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman and modern pottery sherds along with animal and cremated human bone. Artefacts were ignored by the original excavators, then backfilled into Bronze Age contexts. The conjoined ring ditches of feature (652) are located at TM 0550 2933, about 650m north of the main urnfield complex. These features ad one 1st century AD cremation in the periphery and five later Roman graves, running east-west across the feature but not intersecting the ditch, excavators lacked time and resources but indicated additional graves were located in a line across the features. No indication of the origins of individuals buried in the conjoined ditches.

Ancillary Information:

Poor quality initial excavations

Principal References:

Brown, N.R. 1999. The Archaeology of Ardleigh, Essex: Excavations 1955–1980 (Chelmsford: EAA Report No. 90, Heritage

Conservation: Essex County Council).

Ascott-Under Wychwood

Location:

Located at SP 299 195 in the Oxfordshire portion of the Cotswolds

Landscape Position:

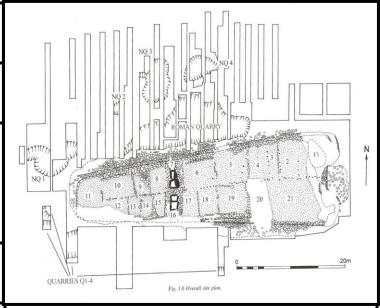
One of a set of two barrows which are located 120m AoD in the valley of the River Evenlode, on opposite sides of a stream called the Coldwell Brook which flows downwards from a small scarp to the west of the barrows, following the line of the B4437. The location is ideal for settlement being well drained with a good water supply.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Mesolithic, Neolithic long barrow (Possibly Iron Age)

Period(s) of Interaction:

2nd – 4th century AD



Excavation(s):

1965-69

Ecofacts:

(In the Roman quarry area) Cattle, sheep/goat, red deer, roe deer and dog bones.

Artefacts:

(In the Roman quarry area) 3 Mesolithic and 39 Neolithic flints, tile fragments, fired clay pieces, loom weights, 307 pottery sherds 67% of which are definitely $2^{nd} - 4^{th}$ century, but the remainder possibly Iron Age. 4 coins all later Roman, dated post AD 330.

Initial Interpretation:

The Roman interaction on this site consisted of a quarry which abutted the northern edge of the barrow. The quarry was not for stone but extracted a band of lime rich clay which could have been used for agricultural purposes to reduce soil acidity. It should be noted that the excavators also uncovered a series of quarry pits dateable to the Neolithic period that could have been used for the same purpose. The barrow itself was respected and not cut by the quarry.

Reinterpretation:

The actual barrow itself was not reused for burial purposes. The supposed quarry activity abutted the monument but did not cut into it. This could be argued to show respect of the feature in the late Roman period. It could be that the material recovered is unrelated to quarrying activity. The explanation of lime stone extraction is perplexing. The upper layers of soil in the local area are covered with limestone nodules known locally as cornbrash. It seems unlikely given this fact that lime rich clay would be useful, as depth of soil coverage is a major problem for agriculture here.

Ancillary Information:

Note this excavation was carried out prior to the introduction of individual context excavation. Part of a large grouping of monuments in the surrounding landscape.

Principal References:

Benson, D & Whittle, A. 2007. *Building Memories: The Neolithic Cotswold Long Barrow at Ascott-Under Wychwood, Oxfordshire* (Oxford: Oxbow Books)

Ashville Trading Estate Abingdon

Location:

Abingdon in Oxfordshire SU 483 973

Landscape Position:

The site is located 1.6km west of the centre of Abingdon. It is less than 400m north of the River Ock and within 1km of its confluence with the River Thames. The site is located on a second gravel terrace 60m AoD, with the Larkhill stream 200m to the east.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Bronze Age and 3 Iron Age phases

Period(s) of Interaction:

 1^{st} – early 2^{nd} century and late 3^{rd} – 4^{th} century



1974-76

Ecofacts:

Charcoal animal bone cattle sheep/goat and domesticated fowl in discrete Roman contexts

Artefacts:

1 coin AD 270–74, quern stone fragment, cobbled flooring and roof tiles. Pottery and contexts were (1047) 1st century (198) late 1st century (30) AD 150–80 and 3rd century (1018) late 1st century early 2nd and late 3rd century forms. None of the features containing this material overlapped the features of the excavated Bronze Age ring ditches.

Initial Interpretation:

This site was interpreted as a burial location in the Bronze Age which was overlain by an Iron Age settlement and a subsequent Roman field system. The excavation report specifically states that the ring ditch features, due to their small diameter may not have been visible when the Iron Age features were constructed.

Reinterpretation:

This site provides an example of why visibility is important in the episodic interaction with prehistoric earthworks or monuments. In the case of Ashville, Iron Age features lay directly over the Bronze Age ring ditches, indicating either the features were not visible or consider to be important.

Ancillary Information:

Roman features were 2 pits 2 areas of cobbles and a ditch system.

Principal References:

Parrington, M. 1978. The Excavation of an Iron Age Settlement, Bronze Age Ring Ditches, and Roman Features at Ashville Trading Estate, Abingdon (Oxfordshire) 1974–76 (Oxford: Oxfordshire Archaeological Unit: CBA Research Report 28).

Avenis Barrow or Solomon's Court

Location:

Gloucestershire, Bisley-With-Lypiatt, SO 9060 0373

Landscape Position:

The monument is located next to a roadside wall, on level ground with steep slopes falling to the south immediately beyond the barrow. The south side of the barrow has a strongly defined slope, but the north side is unsurveyable. The eastern edge is near a declivity a little way down from a spring and a stream.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Neolithic (No date range for construction given)

Period(s) of Interaction:

Unknown



1865–75 (Local Landowner)

Ecofacts:

Human bones, both burnt and unburnt, belonging to three persons one of which is a child. Teeth and bones of ox and sheep

Artefacts:

Fragments of flint, one small quartz pebble, burnt stones, and two small sherds of reddish well baked pottery (noted as being probably Roman)

Initial Interpretation:

No initial interpretation offered.

Reinterpretation:

It should be noted that the minimal evidence was all obtained from a singular trench cut through the feature in an attempt to remove treasure. Minimal evidence only indicates possible Roman period activity at the location but not its extent or context. Further noted that the excavation had been carefully filled in to preserve the pasture.

Ancillary Information:

. Approximately the same distance from the villa at Lilly Bournes Green as the Money Tump round barrow

Principal References:

O'Neil, H. and Grinsell, L.V. 1960. Gloucestershire barrows. Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society,

79 (1): pp. 3–149. Darvill, T. 2004. Long Barrows of the Cotswolds and Surrounding Areas (Stroud: Tempus Publishing).

Barrow Hills

Location:

Centred on SU 5160 9830, 1.8–2km northeast of Abingdon in Oxfordshire

Landscape Position:

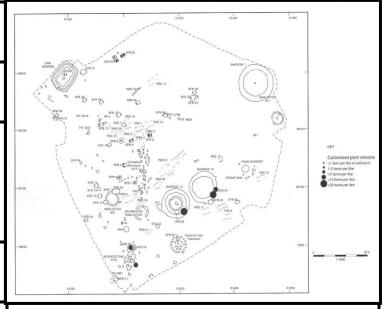
Barrow Hills in located on a second gravel terrace 1.5km north of the River Thames. At its western end in the Abingdon Causewayed enclosure. The barrows were built on a spur of high ground 60m AoD and run parallel with the edge of the gravel terrace.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Bronze Age and Iron Age

Period(s) of Interaction:

Interaction post AD 250–70 onwards



Excavation(s):

1931, 1936–38, 1942, 1944–5, 1974, 1983–85

Ecofacts:

57 inhumations and 12 cremations (6 of which were in a separate enclosure) animal bone and a sea urchin. (1 inhumation in the terminal of a barrow ditch (context 2147)

Artefacts:

Bucket hoops, hobnails glass beads, coinage late Romano-British pottery sherds, bone pins copper alloy bracelet and iron nails. Struck flint only mixed in with later pottery in contexts (907) and (3427).

Initial Interpretation:

The excavated area contained 7 major prehistoric barrow features. These were thought to be still extant in the 16th century when the first available records mention the location. The barrow grouping was only intersected at one point by a later Roman inhumation. The extensive Roman cemetery was thought to be aligned on a track way from north to south which led up to the area of the highest point of the ridge. The burials are thought to be associated with the settlement evidence at the nearby Barton Court Farm

Reinterpretation:

Features ascribed to the later Roman period display a high degree of spatial to the extant barrows on the ridge line. In this instance the fact that they are not overlapped by later features is an indicator of correlation between them. Most of the burial evidence dates from AD 250–70 onwards which ties in with the first of several overt manifestations of regional separatism under the Gallic Empire, culturally centred on Britain and Gaul. It is probable that the spatial arrangement between barrows and burials is an attempt to connect with or make use of with important visible makers in the surrounding landscape.

Ancillary Information:

Note later cremations are often also associated with the survival of older burial rites within rural populations.

Principal References:

Chambers, R & McAdam, E. 2007. Excavations at Barrow Hills Radley, Oxfordshire 1983–85: Volume 2: The Romano-British Cemetery and Anglo Saxon Settlement (Oxford: Oxford Archaeological Unit)

Barton Court Farm

Location:

1.5km northeast of Abingdon in Oxfordshire, less than 300m south of the Barrow Hills complex.

Landscape Position:

Near the Radley road in a large U shaped area between Radley and the River Thames. The site lies on the edge of a second gravel terrace common to the area and is a classic scarp environment rising from 60m AoD up to the Bagley Wood.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Neolithic 3400-2500 BC and Iron Age

Period(s) of Interaction:

1st to mid 2nd Century AD then late 3rd century onwards

Excavation(s):

1972-77

Ecofacts:

Carbonised grain pits animal bones and evidence for wetland cultivation in the later Romano-British period, charcoal layer overlying the early Romano-British evidence and animal bones late Roman infant burials.

Artefacts:

Flint, Grooved Ware and Peterborough Wares, lions head in bronze, bone toggle, bronze brooches, iron nails, keys chisels. 146 coins post AD 270, early Romano-British pottery forms until the middle 2nd century A.D then a gap in occupation to later 3rd century pottery forms in context with the coinage. Quern stones, wall plaster, roof tiles, shoes, rings, bracelets, buckles, oyster shell and materials associate with woolgathering and processing.

Initial Interpretation:

The site at Barton Court farm grew from a small farmstead in the early Roman period to a fully fledged productive villa complex after the mid 3rd century A.D. Many of the later finds are associated with the rearing of sheep, wool production and leather working. The site also contained 26 examples of graves for newborns and infants, several of which cut into earlier contexts with Neolithic origins. Adult burials associated with the complex are thought to have taken place at the nearby Barrow Hills cemetery. The site went out of use from AD 160–250.

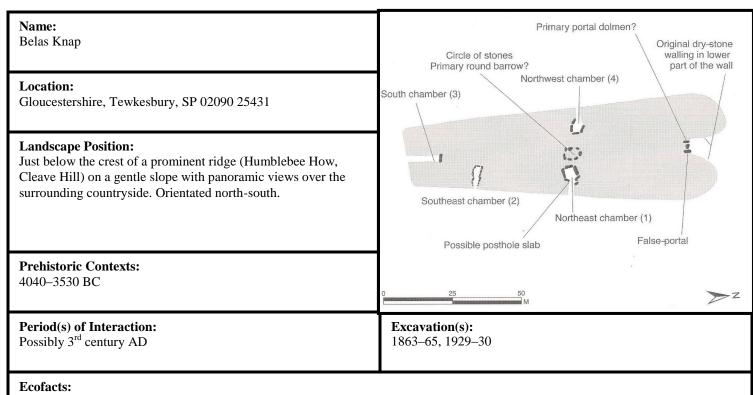
Reinterpretation:

Given that there is such a large gap in occupation evidence between the Neolithic and Iron Age an dearly Roman period it is unlikely that any memory of Neolithic activity memory remained. The spatial correlation between the Roman infant burials and Neolithic pits is probably coincidental.

Ancillary Information: None

Principal References:

Miles, D. 1986. Archaeology at Barton Court Farm Abingdon, Oxon (Oxford: Oxford Archaeological Unit Report 3: CBA Research Report 50).



Five infants (False entrerence) southeast, two male and two female skeletons, animal bone, northeast, 12 inhumations, west 14 inhumations, south one inhumation, ash, charcoal

Artefacts:

Pottery sherds (Roman) near the false entrance, two, small Roman bronze coins of late 3rd century AD, southeast, flint artefacts

Initial Interpretation:

Neolithic long barrow, ashes along with circle of stones (druid ritual centre)

Reinterpretation:

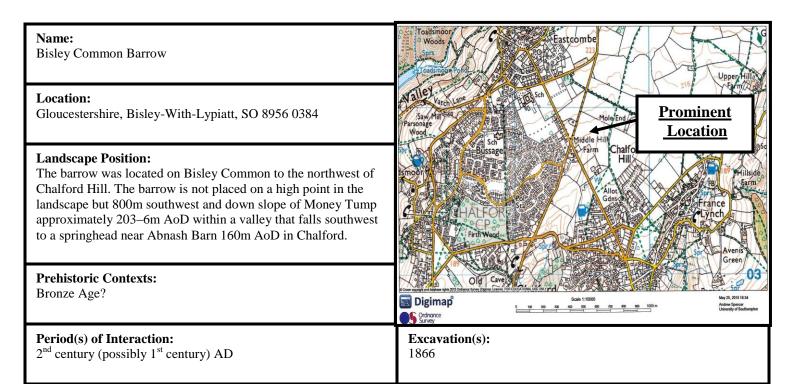
Later material noted as coming from revetment, in the later excavations, roman finds confined to the false entrerence, may have been minor votive offerings or the remains of more substantial offerings left at the site. Unsure if stones and burning relates to earlier or later activity

Ancillary Information:

Circle of stones and ashes interpreted as a druid ritual centre

Principal References:

Darvill, T. 2004. Long Barrows of the Cotswolds and Surrounding Areas (Stroud: Tempus Publishing).



Ecofacts:

Animal bones (not specified)

Artefacts:

Coin of Faustina (note: others may have been removed by the foreman of the labourers levelling the monument), pottery (unspecified Roman), six alters, three dedicated to mars one to Minerva and two unspecified or with no inscription.

Initial Interpretation:

Bronze Age barrow (subsequently reinterpreted as a Roman feature) online sources currently note a Bronze Age interpretation.

Reinterpretation:

The lack of prominent position for the feature is interesting. It lies part of the way up a valley within sight of a suspiciously straight road. It could have been a Roman construction, but it also could have been originally a Bronze Age feature. Only further investigation could prove its actual derivation. There is something about the landscape positioning where it would have been visible to anyone living in the valley but and for some distance to either side of the slope that suggests it may have initially been constructed with a purely localised prominence in mind rather than a sense of display to a transient audience.

Ancillary Information:

Bronze Age or Roman.

Principal References:

Clifford, E.M. 1938. Roman alters in Gloucestershire. *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society*, **60**, pp. 297–307.

The Big Enclosure Cassington

Location:

Cassington Oxon SP 450 100

Landscape Position:

The enclosure lies 80m AoD on a slightly rising second gravel terrace. It has a 920m circuit which slopes southwards from the crest of the terrace toward the River Evenlode. This area is not located on the floodplain of the Thames and therefore could have been used year round giving the site great potential for economic and defensive dominance.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Late Neolithic settlement and burial, Bronze Age burial, Iron Age settlement and fortification. (Nearby Bronze Age Settlement).

Period(s) of Interaction:

100 BC-AD 150, then AD 250-60 - 4th Century AD.

Excavation(s):

1930-31, 1941, 1943, 1945, 1950-52.

Ecofacts:

Late Romano-British graves. Animal bone fragments from all contexts with 2881 belonging to the Romano-British contexts alone. Oyster shells and daub. Distinct layers of charcoal from mid 2^{nd} century contexts, with lesser quantities recovered from both earlier and later contexts. The Romano-British burials in the interior of the enclosure are placed within and respecting contexts with Bronze Age connections (namely ring ditches 5 and 6)

Artefacts:

Early and late Romano-British pottery from distinct contexts recovered from the outer ditch of the enclosure. Pottery and Late Romano-British coinage, recovered from the interior of the enclosure both in distinctly separate contexts and within earlier features with Bronze Age or Iron Age connections. Scraps of sheet bronze associated with a coin of Constantine in RD6, shale ring, early Romano-British pottery forms recovered along with late Iron Age forms from hut structures within the enclosure

Initial Interpretation:

Neolithic settlement evidence from 7 pits, Bronze Age ring ditch in the southern portion of the enclosure. The location was used for settlement purposes into the late Iron Age and excavated evidence also suggests that the site was the location of extensive fortification in the Iron Age. Occupation continued without pause into the early Romano-British period until the middle of the second century. Original interpretation was concerned with settlement contraction after AD 150. The site becomes an active settlement again around AD 250, with renewed occupation evidence in the enclosure, evidence for separate kiln structures and a late Roman cemetery abutting the northern extent. Extensive compartmentalised Roman cemetery to the immediate north.

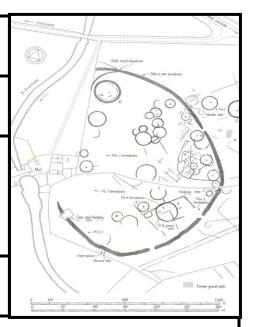
Reinterpretation:

It is not possible to state with and degree of certainty that the split periods of Romano-British activity here had any connection with usage of the site prior to the Bronze Age. It is more probable that the Bronze Age / Iron Age connections are the most significant. Arguments supporting this interpretation are the way in which the late Iron Age Ditch is laid out and the interior late Romano-British graves which respect the location of ring ditch 5 and the pottery used to fill the exterior ditch which was part of the Iron Age defences. The evidence does suggest that there are two distinctive phases or views of this location during the research period. The first being a period of continued usage from the later Iron Age where the defences were destroyed, the huts went out of use and the land was given over to agricultural production and a second period from AD 260 onwards, where greater efforts to connect with the origins of the site are made, especially within a funerary context.

Ancillary Information:

The Neolithic occupation evidence is contained within distinct and separate contexts and therefore is excluded from the above interpretation. The only possible Neolithic / Bronze age overlap is pit 6 which is contained within ring ditch 5. Extensive evidence of a cemetery outside of the enclosure

Principal References: Case, H. J. 1982a. Cassington: 1950–52 Late Neolithic pits and the big enclosure. In: H. J. Case and A. W. R. Whittle (eds.), *Settlement Patterns in the Oxford Region: Excavations at the Abingdon Causewayed Enclosure and other Sites* (Oxford: Department of Antiquities Ashmolean Museum), pp. 118–57.



The Devils Quoits

Location:

750m south of the village of Stanton Harcourt in Oxfordshire at SP 411 047 between Stanton Harcourt and Linch Hill

Landscape Position:

The remains of this henge monument stand on the second gravel terrace in the Thames valley. The monument is 71m AoD at its northern extent and 70m AoD in the southern area. The southern portion is bounded by a large lake which was cut for gravel extraction. The site lies on the west side of the road to Standlakes

Prehistoric Contexts:

Late Neolithic, middle to late Bronze Age and Iron Age

Period(s) of Interaction:

Up to mid 2^{nd} century AD and limited evidence of late 3^{rd} century activity.

Excavation(s):

1972-73, 1988, 1940

Ecofacts:

Red deer antler, quantity of charcoal, animal bone, and ash.

Artefacts:

186 flint pieces (only 1 in the lowest layers) Bronze Age beaker sherds bucket urns, 172 Romano-British sherds most being earlier than the mid 2nd century AD, 1 early Iron Age sherd, early Roman brooch pin and iron catch plates.

Initial Interpretation:

The excavation report noted that there were 11 distinctive layers which ran through all the areas of the ditch surrounding the stone settings. These were given the notations A - L to denote the similarity of the layers of the deposits in all the separate areas excavated. Deposits of Romano-British pottery in the ditches of the henge monument due to their size scatter and abrasion were assumed to indicate that the area was used for agricultural purposes until the mid 2^{nd} century.

Reinterpretation:

Visibility is the major factor in later interaction here. The portions of the monument ditch that were filled with Romano-British material are probably those that were exposed at the time the area was given over to farmland. There is an absence of later Iron Age pottery which suggests that the area was reserved or respected at this time. The sparse findings for the late Romano-British period are probably attributable to the fact that the ditches had already been infilled and thus any later debris would have only accumulated on the surface and been subjected more transient.

Ancillary Information:

Part of a much wider monumental complex near the village of Stanton Harcourt.

Principal References:

Barclay, A, Gray M & Lambrick G. 1995. *Excavations at the Devils Quoits, Stanton Harcourt, Oxfordshire, 1972–3 and 1988* (Oxford: Oxford Archaeological Unit).

Drayton Highways Depot

Location:

Near Abingdon in Oxfordshire SU 4892 9397

Landscape Position:

On the current floodplain of the River Thames the highways depot is 55m to the east of the southern portion of the Drayton Cursus monument. It lies on the second gravel terrace of the floodplain on its northern edge. The site is 55m AoD and overlooks the floodplain to the east.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Neolithic 3500 BC, early and middle Bronze Age.

Period(s) of Interaction:

2nd – 4th Century AD.

Excavation(s): 1994–95

Ecofacts:

(126) charcoal hazelnuts (113, 122) 20 fragments of animal bone both in the main ditch feature.

Artefacts:

(126) 25 pieces of flint (1 burnt) (102) 1 early Bronze Age sherd, 1 sherd 2nd – 4th century greyware (113, 122) tile and 19 early Bronze Age and middle Bronze Age sherds (122, 123) 16 early Bronze Age and middle Bronze Age sherds, 2 sherds 2nd – 4th century greyware. Roof tile.

Initial Interpretation:

No interpretation of later interaction was offered. It was assumed that the site was used for agricultural purposes in the early Roman period (though the dateable pottery finds do not suggest this), and that the site was a later adjunct to the villa complex.

Reinterpretation:

A site with such a close relationship to a villa complex normally has a greater amount of discarded material, but this particular plot of land may have been neglected. Alternately this material was recycled by the nearby Saxon settlement (recovered sherds used as loom weights stoppers etc). The finds used to infill the ditches suggests a nearby Bronze Age settlement and agricultural use in the Roman period.

Ancillary Information:

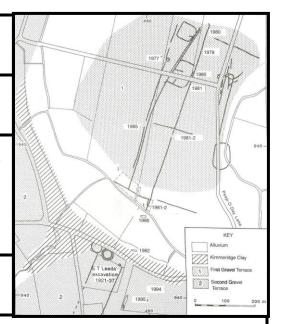
Drop Short Roman Villa, Saxon palace complex to the south (Leeds, E.T. 1923. A Saxon village near Sutton Courtney, Berkshire)

Principal References:

Barclay, A., Bell, C. and Moore, J. 2003a. Excavations at the Drayton Highways Depot: 1994. In: A. Barclay, G. H. Lambrick, J.

Moore and M. Robinson (eds.), Lines in the landscape: Cursus Monuments in the Upper Thames Valley (Oxford: Oxford

Archaeology. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph 15), pp. 23–30.



Drayton Cursus North

Location:

Near Abingdon in Oxfordshire SU 490 941

Landscape Position:

Situated in the present floodplain of the River Thames this portion of the cursus is on the outer ring of a meander in the River Thames approximately 1.5km from its confluence with the River Ock. The monument extends over both first and second gravel terraces.

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Prehistoric Contexts:

Neolithic 3600-3300 BC, early Bronze Age, late Bronze Age and early Iron Age

Period(s) of Interaction:

No later than AD 150–60 limited late 3rd century activity

Excavation(s):

1979-82, 1985-86.

Ecofacts:

Charcoal (510) Animal Bones (1004, 208)

Artefacts:

930 Romano-British sherds, 95% local wares the majority are 1st - middle 2nd century. 28 pieces of flint from parallel Roman ditches and associated contexts with (507) containing 13 pieces of flint along with 6 Peterborough ware sherds (508) 4 pieces of Peterborough ware (503) 1 piece of Peterborough ware (1004) in the main enclosure feature has mixed early Bronze Age pottery and Peterborough ware deposits. Other artefacts included a lead seal, burnt stone and tile fragments.

Initial Interpretation:

This site is 500m away from a Romano-British villa complex (Drop Short) and the initial interpretation stated that it was used for agricultural purposes with a parallel field system until the mid 2^{nd} century AD The site was then abandoned to grassland and pasture.

Reinterpretation:

The later field system imposed upon this monument follows the same line as the southern portion. The system follows the line of the older monument ditches in perfect parallel for most of its length deviating inwards only in the last 33%, but still not cutting the ditches. The evidence suggests that whilst there is a degree of respect and correlation between prehistoric and Roman activity it is only functional in that the ditches and banks of the cursus were probably an extant feature used to align later boundaries.

Ancillary Information:

Roman period marked by relatively high levels of alluvation and reversion to grassland.

Principal References:

Barclay, A., Lambrick, G.H., and Moore, J. 2003d. The excavations of the Drayton North Cursus: Iron Age, Roman, Saxon and later evidence. In: A. Barclay, G. Lambrick, J. Moore and M. Robinson (eds.), *Lines in the Landscape: Cursus Monuments in the Upper Thames Valley* (Oxford: Oxford Archaeology. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph 15), pp. 103–25.



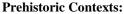
Drayton Cursus South

Location:

Near Abingdon in Oxfordshire SU 490 941

Landscape Position:

Situated in the present floodplain of the River Thames. Located on the outer ring of a meander in the river approximately 1.5km north of the confluence between the River Thames and the River Ock. The two sections of the monument are split in two by the course of a stream feeding into the river.



Neolithic 3600–3300 BC, early Bronze Age (Barrows) with reduced activity in the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age.

Period(s) of Interaction:

 $1^{st} - 2^{nd}$ century AD

Excavation(s):

1921-37

Ecofacts:

28 pits with charcoal and animal bones.

Artefacts:

 $1^{st} - 2^{nd}$ century AD pottery sherds, clay tile and a spindelwhorl, along with earlier flint artefacts (pits L & M).

Initial Interpretation:

The ditches were assumed to be of Roman date as they followed the same alignment as the more substantial ditches dated to the Roman period in the northern portion of the monument. Overall the recovered data was thought to be indicative of agricultural use of the monument and its environs in the $1^{st} - 2^{nd}$ century AD.

Reinterpretation:

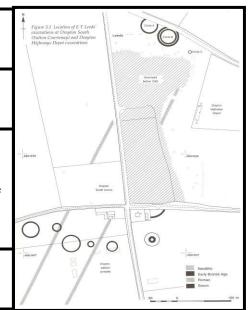
The majority of Romano-British material was contained in later early medieval contexts. It is possible that this reused and redeposited material would have been scattered around the immediate area, but the Saxon settlement has destroyed any relevant evidence.

Ancillary Information:

What were assumed to be Roman ditches in the east of the excavated area contained no securely dateable deposits but were truncated by early medieval features containing redeposited Roman material.

Principal References:

Barclay, A., and Loveday, R. 2003. A review of E T Leeds excavations, 1921–37. In: A. Barclay, G. Lambrick, J. Moore and M. Robinson (eds.), *Lines in the Landscape: Cursus Monuments in the Upper Thames Valley* (Oxford: Oxford Archaeology. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph 15), pp. 15–23.



Name: The Giants Stone	
Location: Gloucestershire, Bisley-With Lypiatt, SO 9177 0611	
Landscape Position: The barrow is located on the north side of a trackway bounded on the north and south sides by a dry stone wall. The modern day field boundary rises slightly towards the north. The location of the stones is covered with nettles, ivy and scrub.	
Prehistoric Contexts: Neolithic (presumed to have been a chambered long barrow)	
Period(s) of Interaction: None	Excavation(s): No recorded excavations
Ecofacts: None	
Artefacts: None	
Initial Interpretation: None	
Reinterpretation: None	
Ancillary Information: Not excavated, but has been mostly destroyed (by 1883). The remains of the monument consist of two vertical overgrown stones approximately 15cm apart.	
Principal References: Crawford, O.G.S. 1925. The Long Barrows of the Cotswolds (Gloucester: John Bellows).	

Name: The Golden Coffin Barrow		
Location: Gloucestershire, Bisley-With-Lypiatt, SO 9262 0388		
Landscape Position: The barrow is visible as a very slight earthwork mound located in a pasture field situated on the false crest of a gentle southeast facing slope.		
Prehistoric Contexts: Bronze Age		
Period(s) of Interaction: None	Excavation(s): None recorded	
Ecofacts: None		
Artefacts: None		
Initial Interpretation: None		
Reinterpretation: None		
Ancillary Information: No recorded excavation but monument is slightly concave on the southern side suggesting that it has been cut into from this direction		
Principal References: O'Neil, H. and Grinsell, L.V. 1960. Gloucestershire barrows. <i>Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society</i> , 79 (1): pp. 104.		

Name: Gravelly Guy

Location:

SP 403 053 near Stanton Harcourt

Landscape Position:

The site lies at 70m AoD in a large, flat arable field on the second gravel terrace near Stanton Harcourt. To the southwest is the edge of the gravel terrace which dips away to the main channel of the River Windrush. It is bordered in the north by the course of the B4449 Blackditch Bypass.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Neolithic, timber circle, Bronze Age barrows and settlement. Extensive settlement throughout the Iron Age.

Period(s) of Interaction:

Up to 2nd century AD then 2 late Roman burials

Excavation(s):

1981-86

Ecofacts:

Charcoal plant and cereal remains, hazelnuts 78 burials in total with 2 attributable to the 3rd and 4th century and 9 late Iron Age and 6 early Roman burials. Cattle, sheep/goat, pig, dog and horse bones. (Deliberate dog burials)

Artefacts:

26 Neolithic and early Bronze Age pits total with 10 associated with two settlement groupings, and 4 with a pennanular post ring (See context Numbers in ancillary information) (A) Beaker pottery, Grooved ware, flint flakes (B) flint knives and arrowheads beaker and early Bronze Age sherds (C) Grooved ware, early Bronze Age pottery, flint, fired clay. Total of 1357 flints from Iron Age and Roman contexts. 2180 examples of $1^{st} - 2^{nd}$ century pottery discovered in early Roman enclosures in conjunction with the other material mentioned in the above contexts.

Initial Interpretation:

The site at Gravelly Guy has been used for multiple purposes over an extended period. The excavated area contained Neolithic and Bronze Age pits, barrows, a timber post ring, the remains of a small hengiform monument and extensive Iron Age and early Roman occupation evidence. The Iron Age and Roman settlements were confined to a comparatively narrow strip of land with evidence of definitive settlement shift northwards in the early Roman period. The relevant portion of the interpretation stated that this was an early Romano-British settlement based on Iron Age foundations.

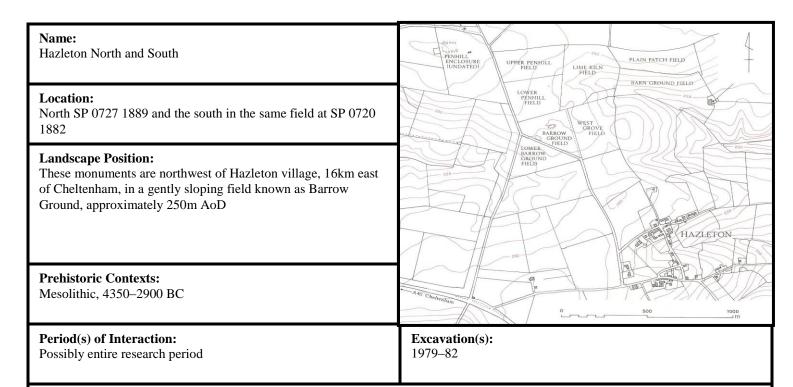
Reinterpretation:

The late Iron Age and early Roman settlement has no verifiable relationship with the ring ditches or hengiform monument. They seem to have been disregarded by later interaction and it can only be assumed that whatever residual form they existed in during these periods was not either no visible or remained respected and unused. The timber circle however, is a little harder to interpret. It lies within the confines of the Iron Age settlement and despite the density of later interaction, only one of the post holes which constituted its circumference was destroyed by a later ditch feature. Like the Spring Road Cemetery, where another timer circle seems to have been shown spatial respect there must have been some, more permanent component of the feature which survived for an extended period.

Ancillary Information:

Artefact contexts: (A) 618, 619, 620, 628, 630,673 (B) 2706, 3037, 3038, 2961 (C) 1900, 1908, 2001, 2376 Other related contexts with multiperiod material: (206 and 207) (403, 404 and 405) (444 and 446) (466 and 468) (1500 -1506 and 1513) (2702 and 2706) (2808 and 2809) (2816 and 2817)

Principal References: Lambrick, G. H. and Allen, T. 2004. *Gravelly Guy, Stanton Harcourt, Oxfordshire: The Development of a Prehistoric and Romano-British Community* (Oxford: Oxford Archaeology. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph 21).



Ecofacts:

Burning on stones, (268, 287, 412, 323, 209, 322, 326, 193) secondary contexts, 81 adult and 27 infant bone, charcoal (representing 14 or 15 adult and six pre-adults)

Artefacts:

North: Roman Pottery found in context (563) and above in the southern quarries (Saville, 1990, 26). The western trench of the north quarry had only a single Roman sherd, but in (48) a much deeper deposit than (563). One un-abraded sherd of Severn Valley ware in chamber (287), along with a large number of rabbit bone. South: Two fragments of Iron Age pottery in upper contexts (3) and (566) (scattering of pottery and coins in auger transects), flint, stones, Neolithic pottery, bone and stone beads

Initial Interpretation:

Agricultural spreads, scattering of pottery and coins in auger and pit surveys carried out in the fields around the monuments, hollows defined as quarry pits as with Ascott. Offerings to the dead or the equivalent of a Roman 18th century grand tour were also offered as potential explanations

Reinterpretation:

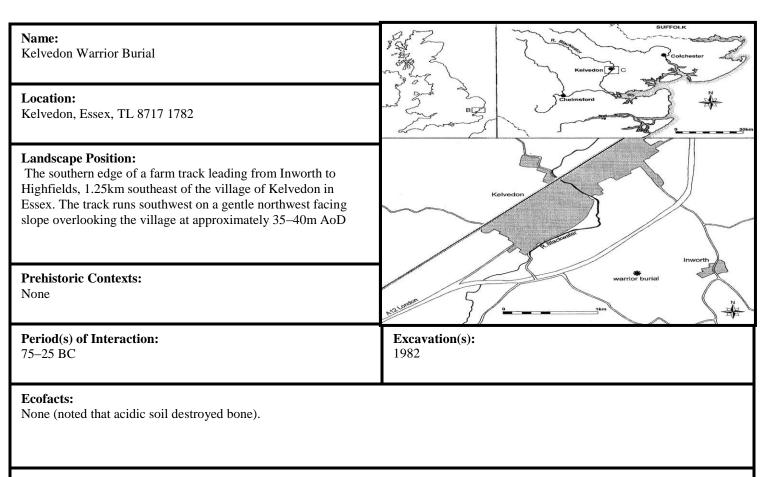
The sections of the northern and southern quarries, and the locations of the deposits above context (563) in the south quarry, do not seem to be deliberate intrusions related to the veneration of the monument; rather, they appear to have occurred as a result of levelling the landscape. The single sherd buried deeply in the northern quarry, in context (48), can easily be explained by natural processes rather than a deliberate deposition. Note that this needs to be looked at from the point of view of Pena and the recent observations. Although they do not seem to be deliberate deposits but spreads, the fact that they may be secondary or tertiary use discards needs to be addressed rather than primary.

Ancillary Information:

Closely related monuments, excavations on the south example not as much information retrieved

Principal References:

Saville, A. 1990. *Hazleton North: The Excavation of a Neolithic Long Cairn of the Cotswold-Severn group* (London: English Heritage, HBMCE, Archaeological Report 13).



Artefacts:

Sword, scabbard and chape, dagger, socketed spear blade, ferrule, shield boss, tankard fittings, bronze bowl, iron fittings, pedestal urns, satellite pot.

Initial Interpretation:

Iron Age warrior burial

Reinterpretation:

Some controversy over the location of the satellite pot, those notes that are available state only that it was recovered from the excavation, verbal interrogation of those present found that they could not remember a secondary find spot, but those pictures available do not show the pot in the water filled trench. Sealy (2007) it was possibly a burial, but there is no note of burning or residue only soil (acidic Soil).

Ancillary Information:

Amateur excavation, finds dispersed, excavator deceased 1994.

Principal References:

Sealy, P.R. 2007. A Late Iron Age Warrior Burial from Kelvedon, Essex (Colchester: Colchester Museums: EAA Report No. 118).

Kelvedon (Village)

Location:

Essex, TL 861 184

Landscape Position:

Kelvedon, which means place on 'the reedy river' is a linear settlement, located on the course of the A12 London to Colchester road, approximately half way between Chelmsford and Colchester, at a crossing of the River Blackwater The village is bounded by the River Blackwater and its floodplain to the south, and a railway line constructed around 1840 to the north

Prehistoric Contexts:

Iron Age only from town (disputed)

Period(s) of Interaction:

Entire research period

Excavation(s):

Main: 1968-73, 2004, 2009

Ecofacts:

Human skeletons in cemeteries almost completely dissolved, graves, 3, 15, 38, 67, and 74 were the only examples with more than a few fragments, 900 animal bones 747 of which identified.

Artefacts:

Paeloithic hand axe, 2 fragment Neolithic wide-mouthed bowl, 1 comb beaker, 25 flint gritted fragments, copper alloy, jet and shale bracelets, Iron Age and Roman coinage, flint, coarse ware and samian ware examples, briquetage spindle whorls, pipe clay figurines, glass vessels, mirror frame, silver pin, gold wire loop earrings, bone handle, spoon, spatula, jewellery, querns

Initial Interpretation:

None offered obscured by Roman activity, hand axe not local curated example, circular temple structure, like Witham examples nearby Jupiter's Thunderbolt.

Reinterpretation:

The prehistoric evidence from the environs of the village is limited to artefact scatters or domestic waste pits. Excavations in area B, two small pits (F55 and F68), with a few abraded pieces of flint debitage and sherds of Beaker pottery. Area 'J' (Fig. 4.37 and Fig. 4.39) produced a series of tree throws or periglacial features containing examples of Neolithic pottery, and over 800 flint flakes and tools. Iron Age Interaction is less limited, but there is much more evidence from the south of the River Blackwater more recently discovered than came from the village itself. However, Kelvedon, largely due to the almost complete absence of earlier prehistoric activity, has no basis to make any interpretation of relevant interactions

Ancillary Information:

Much greater evidence of Iron Age activity south of the River Blackwater, Recent excavations display the same lack of material as the earlier ones to the east of the village

Principal References:

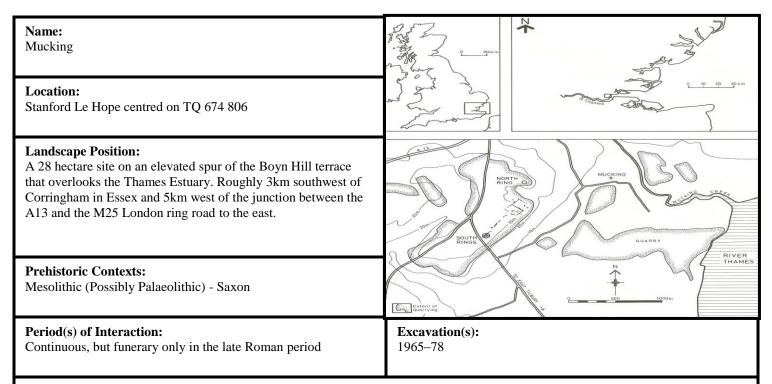
Rodwell, K.A. 1988. *The Prehistoric and Roman Settlement at Kelvedon, Essex* (London: Chelmsford Archaeological Trust Report 6: CBA Research Report 63).

Name: Martells Quarry Location: Ardleigh, Essex, TM 061 276	Post Control of Contro	
Landscape Position: Located to the east of Slough Lane. The excavation area comprised of 8.4ha in a singular, broadly rectangular field. The landscape to the north is obscured by industrial activity and to the south is open level farmland, approximately 36–37m AoD	Park George Hall d Martells Pit Chancery Farm Chancery Farm ARBELET C Burnt Heath	
Prehistoric Contexts: Minimal undefined evidence	Gravel Pit Commence of the Co	
Period(s) of Interaction: 2 nd and middle of the 3 rd century AD	Excavation(s): 2007	
Ecofacts: Single fragment of cattle bone (111), human cremation inside a greyware pot of unspecified date (TR25), charcoal		
Artefacts: 433 sherd of pottery including 11 post-roman, three imported samian sherds, majority local greyware, three flint flakes, six nails, fired clay		
Initial Interpretation: Despite the quantity of prehistoric activity in the urnfield to the north, it seems that activity here is restricted to be confined to the 2 nd and middle of the 3 rd century AD.		
Reinterpretation: None		
Ancillary Information: Excavation in advance of gravel extraction		
Principal References: Fallon, D. 2007. An Archaeological Evaluation at Martell's Quarry, Ardleigh, Essex (Portslade: ASE: Archaeology South East Project Number 3005).		

Name: Money Tump	
Location: Gloucestershire, Bisley-With-Lypiatt, SO 9030 0478	
Landscape Position: The barrow is located to the south of the village of Bisley, directly on the route between the villa at Bournes Green and the village of Bisley. The barrow is sighted in a prominent and visible position in an otherwise generally flat landscape approximately 234m AoD.	
Prehistoric Contexts: Bronze Age	
Period(s) of Interaction: None	Excavation(s): None
Ecofacts: None	
Artefacts: No artefacts known to have been recovered from the monument. A from the vicinity of the mound.	large number of flints (no available typology) have been recovered
Initial Interpretation: Bronze Age bowl barrow	
Reinterpretation: None	
Ancillary Information: None	
Principal References: O'Neil, H. and Grinsell, L.V. 1960. Gloucestershire barrows. <i>Trans</i> 79 (1): pp. 140.	sactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society,

Name: Mucking (North Ring) Period 1 Location: Boyn Hill Terrace TQ 6755 8112 **Landscape Position:** The north ring is located on the Boyn Hill terrace to the north (Hence the name) of the main settlement excavations. The A13 London road follows the ridgeway created by the outlier on which the north ring stands. There is an inlet of the River Thames immediately to the south of the site. Period **Prehistoric Contexts:** Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age evidence. Figure 12 Phase plans, periods 1 and 2 **Period**(s) of Interaction: **Excavation(s):** 1977-78 No evidence **Ecofacts:** 3 cremations, charcoal. **Artefacts:** Gold rings, clay moulds, socketed axe, bronze bars, copper spots, quern stones, perforated clay slabs, pottery (late Bronze and early Iron Age) 51 sherds of Saxon pottery in GH 209 and 210. **Initial Interpretation:** No initial interpretation offered in use around 830-570 BC then no evidence of interaction until GH 209 and 210 are constructed **Reinterpretation:** Not applicable. **Ancillary Information:** Site probably relates to inlet or landing spot, evidence of salt production. **Principal References:** Bond, D. 1988. Excavation at the North Ring, Mucking, Essex: A Late Bronze Age Enclosure (Chelmsford:

Essex County Council Archaeology Section: EAA Report Number 43).



Ecofacts:

174 Roman burials, 50 late Iron Age burials; ecofacts at Mucking are too innumerable to list but the barrows contained charcoal, bone powder cremated remains, possibly holly charcoal, contemporary with their construction.

Artefacts:

The scale of excavation was phenomenal. There were 145,000 LIA and RB pottery sherds alone including 2700 samian sherds and 1130 amphorae recovered from Mucking, 7000 tile fragments and 400 fragments of glass, lead worked stone iron and copper artefacts, coinage with a marked absence of 3rd and 4th century denominations. The barrows contained mixed pottery prehistoric and Roman in upper fills fragments and worked flint flakes and arrowheads substantial Bronze Age pottery deposits flint gritted pottery, sarsen, tile fragment, clay pipe.

Initial Interpretation:

Minimal Mesolithic evidence, Neolithic pits with typical domestic assemblages, metalworking and settlement in addition to burial activity in the Bronze Age, three small Iron Age concentrations of activity. Extensive early Roman settlement, later activity confined to burial, extensive Saxon site. No interpretation regarding presence of Bronze Age activity and its effect on the Roman landscape presented.

Reinterpretation:

Given the sheer amount of material recovered from the excavations here there is a surprising lack of deposition in the barrow features. It is almost as if they were somehow kept separate from the others in the surrounding landscape. Perhaps there is an element of spatial respect here. Looking at the accompanying maps in Clark (1993) and tying them into the online resources it appears that the barrows apart from one close to the edge of the area of main Roman activity appear to have been left inviolate. (This seems to be the case both for those examples in the southern sector and the northern sector where the Roman settlement does not seem to extend). Curiously some of the Roman cemeteries seem to be placed along a base sighting line between two of the barrows.

Ancillary Information:

Eight Bronze Age barrows remains of the field system, southern ring; Roman Mucking 23 kilns, three corn-driers eight wells, 15 separate structures and field systems, four cemeteries.

Principal References:

http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/mucking_eh_2008/downloads.cfm. Clark, A.J. 1993. *Excavations at Mucking: Volume 1: The Site Atlas, Excavations by Margaret and Tom Jones* (London: English Heritage Archaeological Report No 20).

Name:	Primary round barrow / rotunda grave	
Notgrove	? Standing stone	
Location: Gloucestershire, SP 09576 21203		
Landscape Position: Situated on the crest of a ridge in the Cotswolds, that slopes from 242–234m AoD over a distance of 100m next to the A436, approximately 6km west of Burton-on-the-Water, to the northwest of Notgrove village	Forecourt	
Prehistoric Contexts: Neolithic	0 10 20 M	
Period(s) of Interaction: None but see interpretation and ancillary comments	Excavation(s): 1881, 1934–5	
Ecofacts: Male crouched burial under you female, complete calf skeleton		
Artefacts: Neolithic pottery, flint		
Initial Interpretation: Neolithic long barrow		
Reinterpretation: No evidence of later material, noted as being robbed probably from Roman period onwards, however there is no evidence of when destruction/ treasure hunting took place. Does indicate that there could possibly be multiple periods of interaction at may of these sites that have gone as unrecorded.		
Ancillary Information: Assumption of disturbance since Iron Age/Roman periods – probable but lack of physical evidence		
Principal References: Darvill, T. 1982. The Megalithic Chambered Tombs of the Cotswold-Severn Region (Highworth: Vorda Research Series 5).		

Darvill, T. 2004. Long Barrows of the Cotswolds and Surrounding Areas (Stroud: Tempus Publishing).

Rams Hill

Location:

On the Berkshire Downs at SU 315 864, between Swindon and Wantage.

Landscape Position:

The site is located on a low crest of an escarpment it rises at its maximum to 238m AoD and commands an expansive view of the Lambourne Valley to the south; below the scarp it overlooks the valley of the White Horse.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Bronze Age, Iron Age, possible Late Neolithic activity.

Period(s) of Interaction:

1st century AD and mid 3rd century onwards

Pron Age fort 1973 Roman Enclosure 1972 750' 1938-9 trenches

Excavation(s):

1938-39, 1972-73

Ecofacts:

2 later Roman burials cut into earlier Bronze Age features on the eastern side of the hill. (not in context but a total of 239 animal bones on site which is important for interpretation purposes).

Artefacts:

18 later Roman coins in two separate scatters from AD 268 onwards copper brooch and chalk figurine. Very shallow features due to exposed position and weathering containing 2830 a mixture of Iron Age Romano-British sherds, 99% of which are 1st century or earlier with almost no later examples. These overlay scatters of flint and sherds of collared urns.

Initial Interpretation:

The main activity on the site began in the Bronze Age when the site was used as a hilltop enclosure. The site was then used for a short period in the late Iron Age as a hilltop settlement. The site has been interpreted as a domestic enclosure which was sufficiently sustainable over time that it continued in use until the early Roman period. The nature of the site then changed to a scared area with a possible shrine (just outside the area of excavation) and burial site in the later Roman period.

Reinterpretation:

Whilst the site was originally a settlement location it does not seem from the amount of animal bones recovered that it would have been in continuous and extended use. Given the nature of its location it may have been a meeting place or defensive structure which the population of the surrounding area used in times of peril. In the later Roman period the site possibly becomes a focus for burial and ritual observance. Perhaps the local populace are using this location as a stabilising influence in an increasing unstable era or as means of connecting with a visible remainder of an unremembered past.

Ancillary Information:

Piggott's earlier excavations covered only one quarter of the potential enclosure or shrine

Principal References:

Bradley, R. and Ellison A. 1975. *Rams Hill: A Bronze Age Defended Enclosure and its Landscape* (Oxford: British Archaeological Reports: 19).

Name: Randwick Long Barrow Location: Gloucestershire, Stroud, SO 8249 0690 Landscape Position: The Barrow is located at the southern end of Standish wood

Forecourt

Chamber

The Barrow is located at the southern end of Standish wood approximately 224m AoD, 300m to the northwest of the centre of Randwick in Gloucestershire. The Barrow is in a hilltop location and surrounded by evidence of quarrying and pits on the hillside.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Neolithic

Period(s) of Interaction:

Uncertain, minimal evidence

Excavation(s):

1883

Ecofacts:

Evidence of the remains of seven individuals, several being found crouched against the southern revetment wall.

Artefacts:

Two pieces of pottery (Roman), Neolithic pottery, horseshoe

Initial Interpretation:

Neolithic barrow (late), no interpretation of Roman artefacts offered.

Reinterpretation:

Minimal finds on which to make an interpretation, possibility that the location was largely ignored though its prominent location suggests it would have been useful if fortified (there is evidence of ditches cutting across the neck of the hilltop). Also possible given all the evidence of mutilation and that a substantial portion was quarried away prior to excavation, that these are the remnants of much more extensive activity.

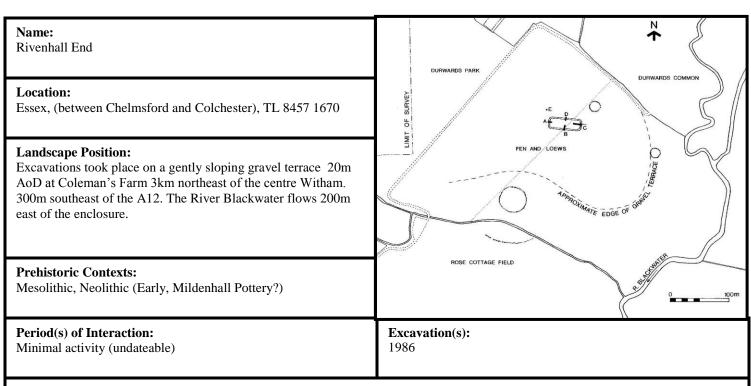
Ancillary Information:

Excellent defensive location, two unexcavated round barrows in the immediate vicinity.

Principal References:

Crawford, O.G.S. 1925. The Long Barrows of the Cotswolds (Gloucester: John Bellows). O'Neil, H. and Grinsell, L.V. 1960.

Gloucestershire barrows. Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society, 79 (1): pp. 87.



Ecofacts:

None noted

Artefacts:

Flints, 173 via excavation 1055 field walking, flakes, blades, cores, scrapers, Microliths, retouched, 11 sherds of prehistoric pottery, one rim possibly Mildenhall style, 5 sherds Roman pottery (not datable)

Initial Interpretation:

Neolithic enclosure, none of the Roman period sherds are closely datable

Reinterpretation:

None (minimal evidence of activity). It is however, curious to note that this feature is sighted on an elevated location along the main London to Colchester road. If the complex is as extensive as is posited it could indicate that either all features had disappeared from the landscape prior to the late Iron Age or those that remained were too remote from any settlement to be significant.

Ancillary Information:

Within sight of the main London to Colchester road

Principal References:

Buckley, D.G., Major, H. and Milton, B. 1998. Excavation of a possible Neolithic long barrow or mortuary enclosure at Rivenhall, Essex, 1986. *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society*, **54**, pp. 77–91.

Rivenhall

Location:

Essex, St Marys TL 82807 17795

Landscape Position:

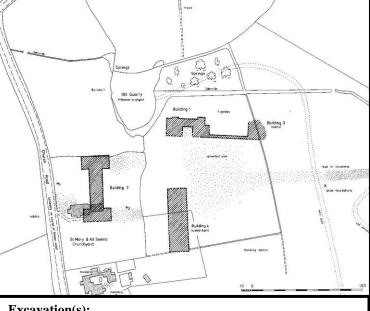
Rivenhall is a small village, situated 18km southwest of Colchester in Essex, approximately 3km west of Kelvedon. The parish of Rivenhall is a narrow strip of land which is steeper toward the northwest at 60m AoD, flowing down in the valley of the Blackwater River toward the southeast, the lowest point of which is approximately 15m AoD.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Minor Beaker, then settlement Activity late Bronze Age in Churchyard

Period(s) of Interaction:

Continuous through research period



Excavation(s):

1950-77

Ecofacts:

46 animal bones relevant periods, multiple instances of skeletal material, much related to the churchyard, charcoal

Artefacts:

Brick, tile, decorative stonework, roof tile, floor tile, metalworking (Bronze Age), wall plaster, mosaic fragments, window glass, window lead, pewter bowl, coins Claudius - Constantine, Celtic mirrors, glass vessels, jet shale, fired clay, whorls, counters, pendants, tweezers, stamps, keys locks knives scissors, bells, whistles, pins studs Bronze Age and Iron Age pottery sherds.

Initial Interpretation:

The villa complex at Rivenhall has been noted by the Rodwells as having a peculiar layout. Many elements of the complex are similar to 1st century AD Gallic villas, but the main villa and the outer buildings are placed within what the Rodwells argued appears to be an isosceles triangle, in a precinct-like arrangement. All barrows are Roman

Reinterpretation:

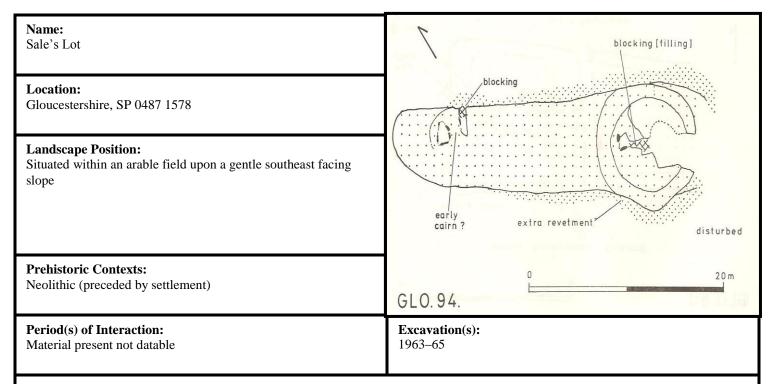
Looking at a modern topographical map it does not appear that there are any convenient sighting points on which to base the outer limits of this supposed precinct arrangement. Are these the actual barrow and/or sighting points? Is the unusual angle of the precinct related to the course of the stream and the Cressing Brook rather than a complicated angular measurement? What about the possible barrow 20m to the north of the main villa building how does this figure into the sighting arrangement? Does this define the outer limits of the precinct? If the villa is built on the location of the Bronze Age, and latterly Iron Age, settlement is this arrangement a peripheral consideration? Why not just place it where the settlement was? Was there any real need for such an overly complex mathematical process? Note no barrows excavated derivation is speculation

Ancillary Information:

Lack of excavation at potential barrow sites

Principal References:

Rodwell, W.J. and Rodwell, K.A. 1986. Rivenhall: Investigations of a Villa, Church and Village 1950-1977 (London: Chelmsford Archaeological Trust Report 4: CBA Research Report 55). Rodwell, W.J. and Rodwell, K.A. 1993. Rivenhall: Investigations of a Villa, Church and Village 1950-1977: Volume 2 - Specialist Studies and Index to Volumes 1 and 2 (London: Chelmsford Archaeological Trust report 4: CBA Research Report 80).



Ecofacts:

Remains of 18 individuals interred in the barrow including beaker burial

Artefacts:

Innumerable flint flakes and chips, two scrapers one leaf shaped arrowhead. Sherds of Roman pottery and 12 sherds and two fragments of tegulae stamped VLA from beneath the turf covering of the barrow. Roman pottery just below the surface of the grass of the mound and one, Bronze Age and two, Iron Age pottery fragments at the outer edges of the barrow. Called (western) Neolithic ware outer face west revetment wall, Peterborough Ware

Initial Interpretation:

Hearth and thatch dwelling with Peterborough Ware fragments on the floor signs of flint knapping precedes the construction of the barrow.

Reinterpretation:

Does not seem likely that tile fragments are the remains of votive offerings, perhaps they represent the remains of a small shrine erected here) or more likely the typical remains of agricultural spreads.

Ancillary Information:

A multi-phase construction, where an area of domestic occupation, a rotunda grave and simple passage grave were joined (VLA cannot reference legion as that is Macedonia station along the Danube and Egypt, Dacia)

Principal References:

O'Neil H.E. 1966. Sale's Lot long barrow, Withington, Gloucestershire. *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society*, **85**, pp. 5–35.

Cotswold Community School

Location:

SU 031 960 5km south of Cirencester near the villages of Shorncote and South Cerney

Landscape Position:

The site is on a stretch of arable land on the border of Gloucestershire and Wiltshire. It lies in the Area of the Cotswold Water Park halfway between the course of the River Thames and the River Chrun close to the direct route between Cirencester and Swindon. It is relatively flat and between 90m - 91.5m AoD along its whole extent

Prehistoric Contexts:

Neolithic 3400 BC onwards, Bronze Age and Iron Age

Period(s) of Interaction:

Continuous covering all the research period.

Excavation(s):

1999–2005, 2008 (1999 and 2000 field walking only)

Ecofacts:

(16702) Bronze Age ring ditch with 1 child and 15 adult burials, (3239) Neolithic and Bronze Age scared enclosure with hazelnuts, charcoal and 1 later burial, pit alignment dated to Bronze Age/ Iron Age with 7 Roman burials at its terminus.

Artefacts:

(Enclosure) worked flint, bucket urn, Neolithic axe, quartzite hammerstones, late Neolithic and early Bronze Age sherds, late Roman pottery (16702) Hobnails, nails, late Roman pottery, early Bronze Age sherds (pit Alignment) Hobnails brackets early Bronze Age, and Iron Age sherds

Initial Interpretation:

The excavation recovered extensive evidence indicating reuse and respect of prehistoric features. The excavations also uncovered evidence of disregard and neglect of other features on the site. There were for example two ring ditches excavated but only one of these was used for later burial purposes. The site also revealed enclosure where a polished axe was deliberately ritually deposited, this enclosure was only used for one subsequent burial episode and was not cut but any of the later settlement features. The large pit alignment had a burial cluster and multiple period pottery at its terminus. All these examples were taken to indicate that some memories of special meaning were retained by these features.

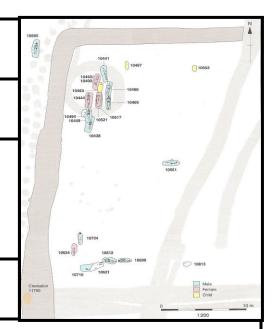
Reinterpretation:

Whilst there is a great deal of evidence of the respect and symbolic reuse of some prehistoric features on this site it is not universal. Why for example is one Bronze Age Barrow extensively used for burial purposes in the late Roman period and the other ignored? This is either an example of selective memory applied to the features or visibility is again a factor, with one barrow remaining extant whilst the unused one was levelled and forgotten. In the case of the enclosure and pit alignment this argument is less cut and dried. The pit alignment remains uncut by Roman field system and as stated the terminus is used for burial purposes. The enclosure is the most interesting feature cut by the pit alignment but otherwise displaying a great deal of respect for a previously scared area. There is a possibility that those features which are referenced by later activity were not considered as separate but part of a conglomerated boundary.

Ancillary Information:

Extensive reuse of a single area for settlement purposes a large surrounding field system. Several instances of disregard for some prehistoric features that were probably not visible.

Principal References: Powell, K., Smith, A. and Laws, G. 2010. Evolution of a Farming Community in the Upper Thames Valley: Excavation of a Prehistoric, Roman and Post-Roman Landscape at Cotswold Community, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire: Volume 1: Site Narrative and Overview (Oxford: Oxford Archaeology. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph 31).



Spring Road Municipal Cemetery

Location:

Abingdon, Oxfordshire SU 4875 9755

Landscape Position:

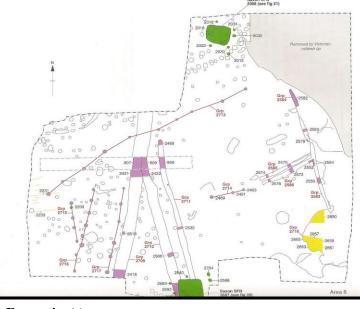
Located northwest of Abingdon town centre on a second gravel terrace. The site is bounded on the north and west by the valley of the Larkhill Stream whilst to the south it dips gradually towards the River Ock some 400m away. The site is surrounded by pre and post war housing development and school playing fields

Prehistoric Contexts:

Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age features.

Period(s) of Interaction:

2nd century AD with limited 3rd – 4th century activity



Excavation(s):

1994–5, 2000

Ecofacts:

Oak and beech charcoal, charred spelt wheat, sheep/goat and cattle bones, horse (2299), dog (2650, 1627) in Roman features

Artefacts:

Fired clay, 3 coins AD 353–378, 647 Roman pottery sherds most 2nd century AD with limited 3rd - 4th century forms. Area of the timber circle not cut by any excavated Roman features contained animal bone and pottery in primary fills dateable to 1690–1510 BC in the inner circle and 1520–1310 BC in the outer circle.

Initial Interpretation:

Excavation report noted that the timber circle was of later date than most other examples found in the upper Thames Valley. And that the hiatus of settlement around Abingdon could be due to the rise of Markham as a local trade centre. The report noted that the Romano-British evidence indicated agricultural use of the location in this period but did not explain the relationship between the field system and the timber circle.

Reinterpretation:

Less than 25% of the timber circle was excavated due to practical constraints therefore observations are based on an incomplete picture. The Bronze Age and early Roman features have no overlap. The lines of the early Roman ditches either stop short of or appear, if extrapolated, to be bypassing the area of the circle. If extended northwards it is likely that the 3rd century features would have interconnected the circle area. No Roman pottery forms were recovered from the excavated circle area even though the closet potion of the field system is less than 5m to the south. Given that timber circles would have a relatively short life span, it is possible that this structure was later replaced by stone or had a more permanent element to it.

Ancillary Information:

Note that the Timber circle is of later construction (being middle Bronze Age) than other earlier examples in the Thames valley area.

Principal References:

Allen, T.G, & Kamash, Z. 2008. Saved From the Grave: Neolithic to Saxon Discoveries at Spring Road Municipal Cemetery, Abingdon, Oxfordshire (Oxford: Oxford Archaeology).

Springfield Lyons

Location:

Essex, approximately TL 7351 0818

Landscape Position:

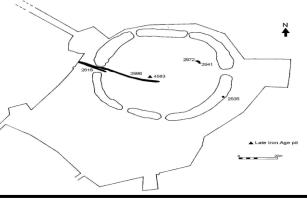
The original focus of the fieldwork was a circular enclosure, 60m in diameter, located on a spur of land in the Chelmer Valley. The spur was relatively steep, shallowing out towards the valley floor and defined by the course of two small streams which were, at the time of excavation, little more than spring-fed ditches.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Neolithic and Bronze Age

Period(s) of Interaction:

Late Iron Age and 1st then 3rd and 4th century AD evidence



Excavation(s):

1981 – 83, 1986 – 87, sporadically through to 1991

Ecofacts:

Large deposits of clay moulds for swords, charcoal, burnt timber, horn, teeth and jaw bones animal, Roman period charcoal deposit with charred seeds

Artefacts:

Bow brooch in copper, Iron Age sword and scabbard, flint tools (3982 total flints), 2601 sherds Neolithic pottery, late Bronze Age pottery approximately 1210–980 BC

Initial Interpretation:

Excavations centred on the Bronze Age enclosure initially, parameters altered when Saxon cemetery discovered, then again when moulds for swords were found but no evidence of metalworking, in the search for the location where this may have taken place a large area of Neolithic activity was discovered to the east of the original enclosure. Sadly no evidence of metalworking activity was found

Reinterpretation:

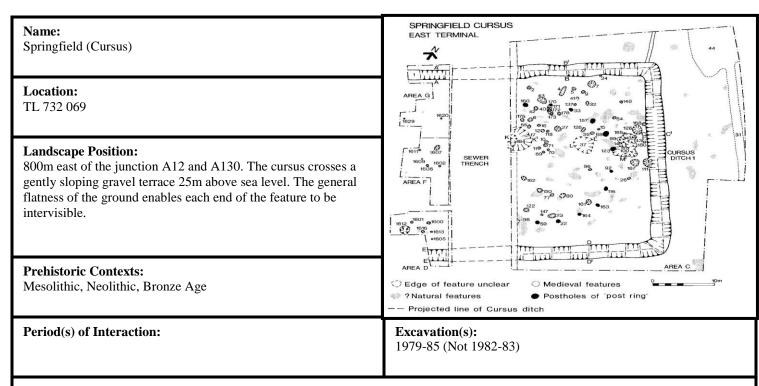
Ditch was 0.75-0.8m in other areas, well into the 1st and 2nd centuries AD, with the additional remains of a mounded rampart in proximity to the ditch. This, relatively speaking, greater visible presence of the Bronze Age Lyons enclosure, over and above the other nearby examples of prehistoric features, could explain why this feature is singled out to ritually deposit the broken sword or place a later burial, simply because it had a more substantial visible presence. The enclosure had no evidence for earlier ritual activity revealed by the excavations but this has been translated into a place of symbolic significance by those persons within whose visual frame of reference it fell. If any sense of ancestral connection exists at all, it is somehow being skewed, or morphed. Roman field system seems to have respected the lines.

Ancillary Information:

Enclosure formed part of Saxon cemetery (continuity?)

Principal References:

Brown, N. and Medlycott, M. 2013. *The Neolithic and Bronze Age Enclosures at Springfield Lyons, Essex: Excavations 1981–1991*. (Chelmsford: Essex County Council Archaeology Section: EAA Report Number 149).



Ecofacts:

Charcoal, animal bone fragments (cattle, sheep/goat)

Artefacts:

Palaeolithic hand axe on the field surface, Roman pottery, middle iron Age pottery, Peterborough Ware, Groove Ware, One Beaker sherd, flints, remains of querns stones, fired clay, loom weight

Initial Interpretation:

Agricultural landfill, Eastern terminal Neolithic and latterly Bronze Age settlement, post ring, interestingly the animal bone and remnants of saddle quern stone recovered together

Reinterpretation:

Roman material recovered is minimal and only from the upper 0.2m of the ditches, initial interpretation that this was an agricultural spread is probably correct.

Ancillary Information:

Alters course due to placement of large tree throw, multiple instances of modern military defences in the nearby landscape.

Principal References: Buckley, D.G., Hedges, J.D. and Brown, N. 2001. Excavations at a Neolithic Cursus, Springfield, Essex, 1979–85. *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society*, **67**, pp 101–62.

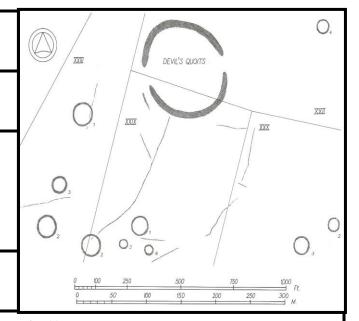
Stanton Harcourt Ring Ditches.

Location:

South of the Village of Stanton Harcourt in Oxfordshire and to the north of Linch Hill. SP 4129 0489.

Landscape Position:

Situated on a level second gravel terrace the 4 ditches excavated are between 100–200m southwest of the Devils Quoits Henge monument



Prehistoric Contexts:

Late Neolithic associated with the nearby henge. Bronze Age Burials. Early Iron Age Activity.

Period(s) of Interaction:

Early $1^{st} - 2^{nd}$ Century AD.

Excavation(s): 1940 and 1959

Ecofacts:

(RD 1) Animal bone in L3, cremation burial in L3 charcoal flecks in L5 (RD 1) Iron Age possibly Romano-British or Saxon cremation Burial. (RD 3) Animal bone and charcoal from L3 (RD 4) Animal bone and charcoal in L3.

Artefacts:

(RD 1) Early Romano-British pottery L1 – 3 fragments of Bronze in L3 (in context with the burial) (RD 2) Romano-British pottery in L3 hollow based flint arrow heads and 36 sherds of a biconical urn (RD 3) Early Romano British Pottery in L3 (RD 4) Early Romano-British sherds in L3 (Layers 1 and 2 destroyed by gravel extraction)

Initial Interpretation:

The available reports for the excavations of these ditches did not give any indication as to there possible usage during the late Iron Age or early Romano-British periods. The excavation report briefly mentions that the Bronze Age features were probably extant into at least the late Iron Age. Excavated features suggest that until the late Iron Age the prehistoric features remained respected and not recut.

Reinterpretation:

There is no evidence to link early prehistoric activity to the use of the landscape in the Roman period. The evidence does suggest that visibility of a feature is the major factor in later interaction. The memory of and respect of any ancestral landmark could be inversely proportional to its visibility. The earlier interaction is almost ignored or a least far outweighed by more recent memory associations. The evidence suggesting that continued usage from the Bronze Age onwards being the more important factor. The usage of the land here from the spread of features does suggest that until the Roman period any visible prehistoric feature remained respected and used only for the grazing of animals. In the early Roman period these features are filled and used for agricultural purposes. The site is unusual in that no evidence of later Roman interaction or re-occupation of the area was recovered.

Ancillary Information:

Fills in section suggest that these ditches were visible landscape features until the late Iron Age.

Principal References:

Linington, R. E. 1982. Four ring ditches at Stanton Harcourt. In: H J Case and A. W. R. Whittle (eds.), *Settlement Patterns in the Oxford Region: Excavations at the Abingdon Causewayed Enclosure and other Sites* (Oxford: Department of antiquities Ashmolean Museum), pp. 80–87.

Name: The Hoar Stone, Duntisbourne Abbots Location: Gloucestershire, SO 9650 0659 Landscape Position: Oriented east-west in an arable field below the crest of a wide	
spur at approximately 213m above sea level (see photograph) Prehistoric Contexts:	
Neolithic Neolithic	
Period(s) of Interaction: None	Excavation(s): 1806
Ecofacts: Eight (possibly nine accounts differ) human skeletons	
Artefacts: None	
Initial Interpretation: Neolithic long barrow	
Reinterpretation: No evidence of later interaction found	
Ancillary Information: Destroyed	
Principal References: Darvill, T. 2004. Long Barrows of the Cotswolds and Surrounding Areas (Stroud: Tempus Publishing). O'Neil, H. and Grinsell, L.V. 1960. Gloucestershire barrows. Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society, 79 (1): pp. 3–149.	

Througham Field Long Barrow

Location:

Gloucestershire, Bisley-With Lypiatt, SO 9108 0742

Landscape Position:

The north side of the mound is located in a pasture field abutting the walls of farm buildings to the north of Througham Field Farm. The southern portion has been destroyed by the farm buildings.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Neolithic

Period(s) of Interaction:

None

Excavation(s):

None (partially destroyed by building work 1783 and 1833)

Ecofacts:

No ecofacts recorded

Artefacts:

None recorded (A singular flint flake 40m north of the barrow)

Initial Interpretation:

Neolithic long barrow (there is also a record stating that this feature may have been a quarry dump)

Reinterpretation:

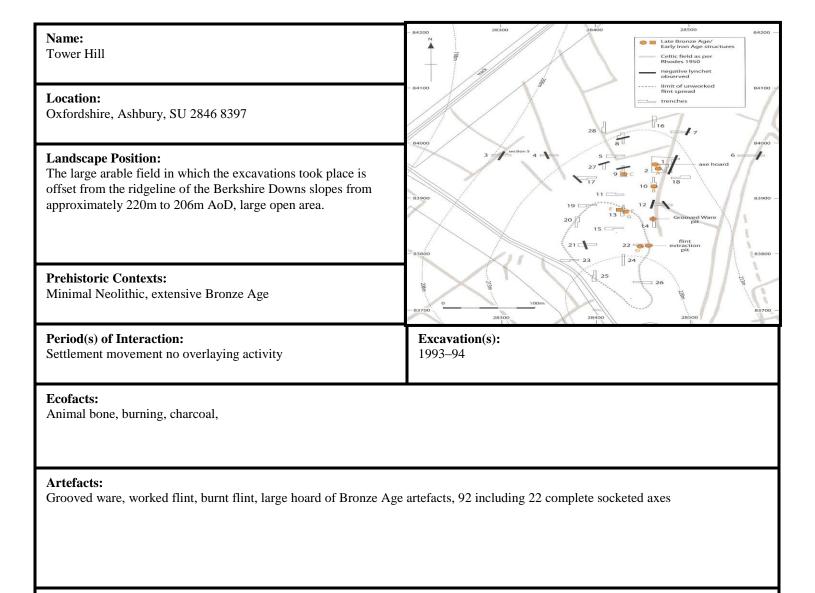
In all probability a burial mound rather than a quarry dump. However, there is no evidence or late Iron Age or Roman activity here.

Ancillary Information:

Poor preservation. Note that the Gloustershire County Council records state that a trephined skull has been recovered from this barrow. They are incorrect and confusing this location with artefacts recovered from the Bisley barrow or Twizzle Stone (actually located at SO 9140 0505). Crawford seems to have also noted Lysons tells us it was Solomon's Court (actually located at SO 9060 0373)

Principal References:

Heritage Gateway [online] Gloucestershire County Council records: Monument Number 3700; Througham Field long Barrow. Available from: http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results_Single.aspx?uid=2335&resourceID=108 [Accessed on 10th January 2015]. Darvill, T. 2004. *Long Barrows of the Cotswolds and Surrounding Areas* (Stroud: Tempus Publishing).



Initial Interpretation:

Axe manufacturing location. Iron Age and Roman settlement, to the north of prehistoric activity

Reinterpretation:

Unsure if the movement of the settlement is evidence of deliberate spatial separation of the differing periods of activity. Could just be settlement shift and not related to any reverence in which the Bronze Age landscape was held.

Ancillary Information:

None

Principal References:

Miles, D., Palmer, S., Lock, G. and Cromarty, A.M. (eds.), *Uffington White Horse and its Landscape: Investigations at White Horse Hill Uffington 1989–95 and Tower Hill Ashbury, 1993–4* (Oxford: Oxford Archaeology. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph 18)

Name: The Twizzle Stone		
Location: Gloucestershire, Bisley-With-Lypiatt, SO 9142 0505		
Landscape Position: A quarried out horseshoe shape unrecognisable as a long barrow northeast side of limekiln lane in a small spinney.		
Prehistoric Contexts: Neolithic		
Period(s) of Interaction: None	Excavation(s): 1863	
Ecofacts: Trephined skull, child's mandible, part of the mandible of an older subject (male?), cranial fragments and a mixture of human bones		
Artefacts: None		
Initial Interpretation: Neolithic long barrow, no Evidence of later interaction with the monument recovered.		
Reinterpretation: None		
Ancillary Information: None		
Principal References: Crawford, O.G.S. 1925. The Long Barrows of the Cotswolds (Gloucester: John Bellows) Darvill, T. 2004. Long Barrows of the Cotswolds and Surrounding Areas (Stroud: Tempus Publishing)		

White Horse Hill

Location:

Oxfordshire, Approximately, SU 3000 8630 (Hillfort)

Landscape Position:

The White Horse is located on the northern edge of the Berkshire Downs, near to the summit of a steep, north-west facing slope. The figure is approximately is visible from the River Ock and The Vale of the White Horse. The slope on which the figure is located is part of an undulating landscape dissected by dry valleys and the occasional seasonal stream.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age (Hillfort)

Period(s) of Interaction:

Used probably continuous main period for barrows, definitively 4th century AD

Excavation(s):

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WHITE HORSE HILL AND TOWER HILL

Modern excavations commenced: April 1989 – expanded over a period of six years

HITE HORSE HILL Rams Hill

nd's Smithy

OWER HILL

Seven Barrows

Maddle Fari

Ecofacts:

3910 animal bone fragments, 57 inhumations and 12 cremations, charcoal, 3 burials on dragon hill, (speculate it may have been wider funerary use) charred plant remains barley onions included emmer and spelt.

Artefacts:

Roman and 20th century coinage, note alteration of burial rite with coin purse on face of deceased in long barrow, from interior of hillfort and majority AD 388–402, copper alloy sheet, RB brooch fragments, lead strips and discs, 65 sherds of earlier prehistoric pot 20 MBA date, none found in association to funerary deposits from fort and barrows, 34 EBA mostly from barrows, 2644 Roman fragments. Worked flint, bone gouge, clay pipes glass, worked stone, demonology and witchcraft book.

Initial Interpretation:

To the south of The White Horse and approximately 120m from the head of the figure, is a late Neolithic long barrow. The long barrow is part of an extensive, late Roman and latterly, Saxon cemetery, consisting of 57 inhumations and 12 cremations. A round barrow is located 59–60m directly west and upslope of the long barrow. Later interactions with this particular round barrow have been dated as Saxon, due to the presence of a 7th century AD escutcheon backfill deposits, include a 4th century iron cleat. Dragon Hill has three additional burials and a further Roman example is located in an enclosure to the south of Uffington Castle.

Reinterpretation:

There seems to have been a conscious decision to repeatedly reference the barrow by a nearby community, the closest possibility being Woolstone, approximately 650m–800m north-west. The decision to inter the deceased such a distance from any settlement is intriguing. The instances of primary engagement between prehistoric features and later deposits, seen at Uffington are tantalising. Dragon Hill and Rams Hill both have burial evidence. The deposits of late Roman coinage within Uffington Castle may have had a tenuous votive, or devotional, connection to the barrow burials. The singular example of an adult inhumation with Roman period pottery and iron objects in the ring ditch to the west of Uffington Castle suggests the possibility that burials here may have been more extensive. Due to later destruction of the site however, this remains a speculative assumption.

Ancillary Information:

Sites such as the Manger, where the only evidence is hill washed pottery, for example, are ignored, Dragon Hill is joined to the main White Horse Hill by a narrow spur of chalk, One entry due to concentration of activity on barrows, constant resurfacing of the figure

Principal References:

Miles, D., Palmer, S., Lock, G. and Cromarty, A.M. (eds.), *Uffington White Horse and its Landscape: Investigations at White Horse Hill Uffington 1989–95 and Tower Hill Ashbury, 1993–4* (Oxford: Oxford Archaeology. Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph 18)

Uley Barrow (Hetty Pegler's Tump)

Location:

Stroud, Uley, SO 7895 0004

Landscape Position:

The barrow is located at 251m AoD, bordered to the north and west by Coaley Wood, overlooking the Severn Valley at the summit of Crawley Hill. A field in which the feature is situated slopes gently towards the east to the route of the B4066, from which the barrow is visible.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Neolithic 3700–3500 BC (constructed)

Period(s) of Interaction:

Definitive post AD 312, likely to have seen continuous use



Five excavations between 1821 and 1906

Chambers 4 and 5 blocked off

Low lintel stone

Forecourt

Ecofacts:

Human bones (1821 and 1854) including nine skulls recovered in 1854, animal bones and teeth, jaw and tusks of wild boar, single Roman period burial

(Shrine: human remains, timber remains, plant and macrofossils, animal remains)

Artefacts:

Neolithic pottery, Roman coins (Constantinian: AD 312–337) found with the burial in the barrow.

(Shrine: lead tablets, miniature spears, weapons, pendant, chains, mirror, spoons, earrings, buckles, toilet articles, counters, gaming pieces, wall plaster, comb, razors, shoe fittings, knives, needles, tools, flint, votive plaques, figurines, sculpture, glass)

Initial Interpretation:

Multiple deposits of human remains related to the initial phases of use and a singular burial in proximity to the surface with the coin deposit. An extensive Roman period shrine with multiple phases of construction to the south of the long mound which is in place during the majority of the Roman period.

Reinterpretation:

Given the location and the extent of the shrine it is surprising that so few artefacts have been recovered from the mound. This could mean that the individual burial there held some kind of elevated social status or what was recovered from the ground was residual after much of the evidence of further intensive interaction had been removed

Ancillary Information:

Location of the shire related to the location of the barrow. Topographically prominent landscape placement

Principal References:

Clifford, E.M. 1966. Hetty Pegler's Tump. *Antiquity*, **40**, pp. 129–32, Crawford, O.G.S. 1925. *The Long Barrows of the Cotswolds* (Gloucester: John Bellows)

Darvill, T. 2004. Long Barrows of the Cotswolds and Surrounding Areas (Stroud: Tempus Publishing), Woodward, A. and Leach, P. 1993. The Uley Shrines: Excavations of a Ritual Complex on West Hill, Uley, Gloucestershire: 1977–9. (London: English Heritage, HBMCE, Archaeological Report 17).

The Vicarage Field Stanton Harcourt

Location:

North of Stanton Harcourt Oxfordshire SP 401 057

Landscape Position:

This site is approximately triangular in shape. The excavated area totalled 24 acres and lay on an even stretch of second gravel terrace 93m AoD. The site is positioned some 1.5 – 2km north and east of the Devils Quoits henge monument.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Neolithic, Bronze Age Barrows and Iron Age enclosure features.

Period(s) of Interaction:

AD 50-150 and from AD 280-90 onwards

Excavation(s):

1944-45 and 1951-53

Ecofacts:

(RD II 4) Bronze Age cremation burial, charcoal, fragments of pig bone. (RD 2) Human skull sheep mandible. Pig bones and charcoal in Iron Age Layers

Artefacts:

(RD 4) 27 flint flakes 2 quartzite fragments, hearthstone Pin. (RD 2) 6 sherds beaker pottery, 2 sherd early Romano-British greyware, 31 sherds fineware struck flints and flakes 4 late Iron Age sherds. Leaf shaped arrowhead in pit E (Roman Feature). Series of ditches containing $1^{st} - 2^{nd}$ century A.D. pottery sherds. Tertiary silting includes later (3^{rd} Century) pottery forms. Bronze Age pottery types discrete contexts.

Initial Interpretation:

The Bronze Age barrows here were uncultivated during the late Iron Age and early Romano-British period and the report suggested that they were landmarks used by a small farming community. The site was abandoned in the early Bronze Age until the mid – late Iron Age when settlement evidence begins to reappear.

Reinterpretation:

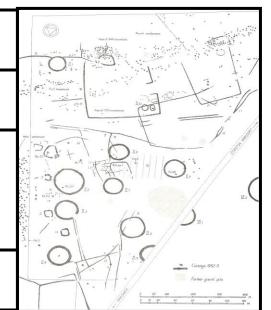
The respect for the Bronze Age monuments here could either be symbolic in nature or functional. Respect in the early part of the study period could be due to either the desire to leave ancestral tombs undisturbed or functional in respect of the practical nature of planting crops on large mounds of earth with the available technology. It is unclear why the site was abandoned but this is probably not due to problems with flooding given its elevation. In the later half of the study period the area was not reoccupied to the extent it was in the earlier period.

Ancillary Information:

Use of the site for burial and settlement purposes continued into the Bronze Age. Excavations uncovered barrows tentatively dated to the early Bronze Age. The Romano-British occupation respected the Iron Age Settlement pattern. The changes of settlement pattern at this site are contemporary with the changes at the Cassington enclosure.

Principal References:

Case, H. J. 1982b.The Vicarage Field Stanton Harcourt. In: H. J. Case and A. W. R. Whittle (eds.), *Settlement Patterns in the Oxford Region: Excavations at the Abingdon Causewayed Enclosure and other Sites* (Oxford: Department of Antiquities Ashmolean Museum), pp. 103–17.



Windmill Tump, Rodmarton

Location:

Gloucestershire, Cotswold, ST 93255 97304

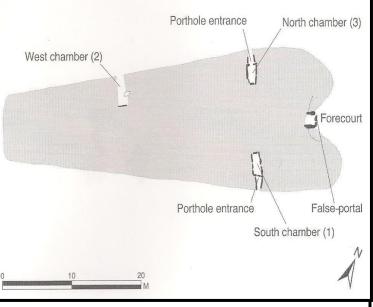
Landscape Position:

The barrow is situated on a west facing gentle slope, to the west of the town of Rodmarton, 150m south of Oathill Lane. The feature is situated at approximately 140m AoD immediately below a crest in the surrounding landscape.

Prehistoric Contexts:

Arrowhead typology suggests possibly 3000-2500 BC

Period(s) of Interaction:



Excavation(s): 1863, 1939

Ecofacts:

13 human skeletons and several other skeletal fragments in the southern chamber, animal bones, charcoal and evidence of burning in the forecourt

Artefacts:

Leaf shaped arrow heads, Roman pottery, and coins of Claudius Gothicus (AD 268–270)

Initial Interpretation:

Neolithic long barrow, evidence of disturbance related to later offerings, possibly votive in nature

Reinterpretation:

Very prominent position for the feature, minimal evidence recovered from inside chambers, rather than dug into suggests what Crawford (1925) called extensive Roman rifling. It is possible that this represents the whole evidence of interaction during the research period, however, once again the feature has been extensively mutilated by later interactions unspecified in date. It is entirely possible that these are the remains of more extensive deposits.

Ancillary Information:

Evidence of disturbance in the burial chambers in the Roman period, including pottery, and coins of Claudius Gothicus (AD 268–270), uncovered by Lysons in 1863 and Clifford in 1939 (Saville, 1989, 189–193). A severely mutilated example S. Lysons; E.M. Clifford, no evidence of windmills.

Principal References:

Saville, A. 1989. Rodmarton long barrow, Gloucestershire, 1988. *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society*, **107**, pp. 189–93.