



## **N25 Road Realignment Scheme, Kilmacthomas, Co. Waterford.**

Final report on the archaeological excavation of a burnt mound at Graigueshoneen, Kilmacthomas, Co. Waterford

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### **Client**

Waterford County Council,  
Tramore House,  
Tramore,  
Co Waterford.

### **Excavation Licence No.:**

00E0199

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## **1 Summary**

As part of the extensive investigations ahead of the N25 road realignment in the vicinity of Kilmacthomas, Co. Waterford, a burnt mound was intercepted by test trenching and cleared of topsoil on the side of a wide shallow valley south of Kilmacthomas. This report deals with the excavation of the site, which contained a large homogenous mound of heat-shattered stone, nine boiling troughs and was dated to the Bronze Age.

## **2 Introduction**

Archaeological involvement in the realignment of a 10 km section of the N25 road at Kilmacthomas commenced in 1997 with a walkover study of the proposed route (Tierney 1997). This study identified the known archaeological heritage of the proposed route and suggested a number of areas with a high potential for producing more archaeological remains.

Following on from the walkover study, Waterford County Council commissioned EAP to conduct a programme of test excavations at the high potential areas along the proposed route. Testing commenced in November 1998 at Scrahane, Graigueshoneen and Ahanaglogh townlands under licence numbers 98E564 & 98E575. The testing at Ahanaglogh (focusing on the rising ground above a known archaeological site [RMP WA015-048]) produced a range of archaeological features, which were further investigated into January 1999. These investigations resulted in a recommendation from Dúchas, the Heritage Service, for total excavation of that area within the proposed road corridor, immediately adjacent to the archaeological monument. The excavations in Ahanaglogh uncovered extensive archaeological remains apparently ranging from the Bronze Age to the Medieval period, and taking up almost 1 km of the proposed realigned road.

All of these archaeological excavations were taking place in advance of the commencement of construction works and both WCC and the principal contractors (Bec Priority Ltd. – a French-Irish consortium) were concerned that should similar, previously unknown, archaeological features be encountered along the scheme, there would be serious implications for projects costs and schedules. A programme of centre-line, continuous linear test trenching was devised by BPL, WCC & EAP with the primary intention of determining the location, density and complexity of any subsurface archaeological features within the corridor of the proposed road realignment. The general testing strategy was agreed by Dúchas and implemented from November 1999 to January 2000. As construction works commenced in October 1999 this general testing strategy was conducted in

tandem with the archaeological monitoring of all groundworks. The five, significant archaeological sites which were discovered using the general testing strategy were then excavated by teams under the direction of four different licensed archaeologists.

This report outlines the results of the excavation of a fulacht fiadh site found in the townland of Graigueshoneen and excavated under licence no. 00E0199 by Michael Tierney.

### **3 Description of excavated remains**

The site consists of nine cooking troughs and deposits of waste material from these troughs that form a low mound measuring 15 m north to south and 13 m east to west. In addition there was a concentration of stakeholes associated with a structure on the north of the site, and another to the west of the trough **162** that may be directly associated with cooking activities. Human activity continued to the north of the site beyond the limit of excavation defined by the road development. The mound was disturbed by modern drainage and farming activity.

#### **3.1 Modern activity**

The southern section of the mound was partly disturbed by the centre-line test trench. The burnt mound remains extended into this trench by an average of 1 m. The only negative impact on the archaeological layers was the truncation of the relationships between the peaty clay layers like **38** that were found along the southern extent.

The top of the mound and its immediate environs were cut by a series of drains and plough marks like contexts **21** and **3**. These may be of interest in themselves in terms of recent farming practices in the area, but have very little impact on the core of this site as defined by the prehistoric activity, except in two negative ways.

Firstly, the evidence of ploughing and furrow activity has led to the disturbance and contamination of the upper levels of the burnt mound. This is defined by Context 16, which spread across most of the burnt mound deposits, a layer of mixed topsoil and burnt mound material. A sampling strategy designed to retrieve archaeological finds from this layer produced a negative result. 25% of context 16 was sieved using 10 mm sieves.

Secondly the drain **21** cut the arc of stakes centring on contexts **239** and **252**, that has been interpreted as the remains of the wall of a structure, possibly a house.

### **3.2 Mound**

The main mound deposits were defined by a series of deposits with an average volume of 0.1m<sup>3</sup>. They were excavated looking for stratigraphic relationships and meaningful distributions of degraded stone and charcoal concentrations. A basic premise of the excavation strategy was an expectation of structured deposition representing meaningful and intentional human agency (Dobres and Robb, 2000) at the site. The size of the deposits may reflect the actual size of layers of material scooped out or troughs after each boiling episode.

More significantly is the degraded nature of the stone in these contexts. The stone size distribution across these mound deposits fell broadly within the same range from frequent medium pebble to small stones. The mound material averages 0.1m to 0.2 m in depth, being deeper in the centre and thinning out at the periphery. Deposition of the boiling episode debris appears to have been to the west of the troughs. Some deposits were left over five metres from the nearest trough, along the western side of the mound. There were no finds and archaeobotanical analysis of samples produced a negative result.

At the northwestern end of the site a series of layers (including context **202**) comprised of heat shattered stone filled a natural hollow that showed evidence of peat formation at its upper levels. These layers of heat-shattered stone appear to have been heavily trampled and were interpreted as forming a pathway leading northwards away from the boiling troughs. This draws attention to the fact that the northern extent of the excavation is not the actual limit of the archaeological remains and prehistoric human activity at this location.

The primary mound deposits, comprising redeposited burnt stone from the cooking troughs were overlain to the south and east by a series of bluish grey silty and peaty clay deposits. These were the remains of depositional processes caused by standing water of some substance around the mound. The flat open ground to the south has evidence of being drained indicating it was quite wet in the recent past. It is likely that these wetland conditions extended back to the time the site was being used, or that the site was wet when in use.

### **3.3 Troughs**

Nine cut features that have been interpreted as boiling/cooking troughs were excavated. All but eight are located under the southeastern part of the mound lying in a cluster within 5 m of each other. Another, context **244** is located at the northern end of the site. All were cut into the natural subsoil.

These features can be grouped by the dimensions of the troughs.

	Context	Length	Breadth	Depth (m)	Volume(m <sup>3</sup> )
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	No.	(m)	(m)		
Smaller troughs	242	0.90	0.70	0.30	0.13
	190	1.18	0.90	0.30	0.30
	107	0.90	0.70	0.30	0.13
	207	1.26	1.20	0.30	0.40
	244	1.30	1.10	0.45	0.64
Larger troughs	248	1.83	1.37	0.46	1.15
	176	2.12	1.70	0.34	1.27
	247	1.86	1.57	0.60	1.71
	162	1.54	1.40	0.60	1.3

**Table 1** 00E0199 Trough dimensions and volume

Another interpretative division of the troughs comes out of the nature of the deposits within them. Seven of the troughs were interpreted as being deliberately backfilled with one event of backfilling being recorded in each of them (Contexts 244, 248, 176, 107, 242, 190, 207). The filling deposits were very hard to indurated in their compaction, and made up of redeposited burnt mound material. They were defined by a clear stratigraphic break with the overlying burnt mound deposits.

All but context **207** had a side that was more gently sloping with gradual breaks of slope, top and bottom, that were interpreted as being used as the area of raking out the remains of the last boiling episode prior to sealing.

Two of these deliberately backfilled features (**244**, **248**) had the remains of possible clay or wood lining materials left behind. Alternatively, these were the remains of primary fills from cooking that were not fully cleaned out.

There was a single stakehole **204** at the base of trough **176**. It was oval shaped with dimensions of 0.12 m x 0.06 m and a depth of 0.07 m.

Troughs 247 and 162 were different from the others. They lay within the larger range of cut sizes, but more significantly broke the pattern of cleaning out and deliberate backfilling or sealing. Context 246 had a possible clay lining (**192**) and the remains of two deposits noted during excavation as primary deposits (**193** and **191**). These fills contained large stones, one of the few contexts in which large stones was found. This suggests they were near the start of their cycle of use and reuse as trough heating material, and adds to the interpretation of the feature as being left open after an episode of use. These fills were subsequently cut by trough 190.

Context 162 showed a similar pattern of deposition, including the presence of large stones in its two primary fills Contexts **145** and **151**.

Trough 162 was also notable for the presence of four stakeholes cut into its base. Three of them (**178**, **171** and **180**) had a depth of 0.14-0.15 m with a diameter of 0.7 m to 0.11 m. Stakehole **182** was slightly larger with an oval shape and dimensions of 0.28 m x 0.1 m and a depth of 0.2. This suggests a larger stake was used or the replacing of stakes in the same location. The stakes had a rough rectangular relationship to each other, but no clear indication of providing support for a superstructure of any kind. They may have provided supports for suspending foodstuffs in the water.

### **3.4 Stakes**

Three concentrations of stakeholes were excavated. The stakes represented by cut numbers 188, 185, 197, 200, 206, 209, 237, 239, 240, 250, 252 and 254 were in the northeast corner of the site. They were between 0.07 and 0.38 m in diameter and varied in depth from 0.07 to 0.23 m deep, with most falling into the small end of the range with an average depth of around 0.15 m. They were aligned in an arc of two rows, spaced 0.3 to 0.4 apart, with the rows separated by a gap of 0.2 to 0.3 m. The integrity of the arc was broken by the modern feature Context 21. If one continues the line of the arc, assuming a degree of uniformity to it, one ends with a circle of five to six metres in diameter. The lines of stakes may be the remains the wall of a structure constructed with two parallel lines of stakes, or may represent two different phases of human activity, with one single lined building replacing another.

Contexts 227, 221, 215, 135, 131, 120, 116, 126, 122, 133, 138, 143, 213, 217, 219, 229, 141, 223, 225, were found to the west of the main concentration of troughs, about two metres northwest of trough 176. The fills of eleven of the stakeholes (227,221,215,131,143,213,217,229,223,225, 124) led to the conclusion that they had been removed in antiquity, allowing them to fill with burnt mound material. The remaining stakes were interpreted as having rotted *in situ*, because of their high silty clay content and the lack of burnt mound material falling or slumping into them. No clear patterns were noticed during excavation. Plans do show them concentrating in a 4 m<sup>2</sup> rectangular space. There is a possibility that this is a small shelter or screen of some kind, maybe even just to give shelter to a couple of people from inclement weather. There is no clear stratigraphic link to any of the troughs and it lies no further than five metres from all of them. Most of the stakes were around 0.14 m deep with an average diameter of 0.8m and were driven vertically into the ground.

There were other stakeholes scattered across the site. Contexts **148** and **172** were located in the northwest part of the site and were sitting in relative isolation with context **202** and related deposits being the nearest burnt mound material. They were oval shaped, with diameters of 0.11 x 0.9 m and 0.13 x 0.07 m respectively, and depths of 0.09 and 0.2 m respectively.

Contexts 231, 233, and 235 were scattered in and around the troughs. They varied in diameter from 0.8 m to 0.18 m and in depth from 0.05 m to 0.12 m.

### **3.5 Date**

Carbon 14 dating of charred material from Context 153 the fill of trough 176 returned a date of 3260 +/- 140 BP with a calibrated BC date of 1890-1210 and a calibrated BP date of 3840-3160. This lies within the range of dates published by Brindley and Lanting (1990, 56). This places them firmly within the Irish Bronze Age.

## **5. Discussion**

In a paper given at a recent conference, O'Neill (2002) noted that the components that generally make up prehistoric burnt mounds are comprised of pits (troughs), firing debris (burnt mound material) and structures (stakehole concentrations) (see also Waddell 1998, 177). This site can be broken down into these elements. These basic components have been divided into twelve mound types found in northwestern Europe by O'Neill (2002) varying from a single pit with burnt mound to firing debris associated with burial deposits. This burnt mound falls within his categories of multiple pits with firing debris and firing debris associated with settlement evidence. The evidence for multiple pits is conclusive while the interpretation of the arc of stakeholes in the northwest of the site being part of a structure must remain debateable.

The site was excavated using single context recording (Roskams, 2001) to maximise the possibility of unpicking the development of the site and the efficiency of excavation. Corlett (2002) has identified the expectation that burnt mound have no stratigraphy as one of the problems leading to their dismissal by archaeologists, and decision makers in the construction industry in general, as being just another burnt mound and therefore not needing detailed analysis. The level of interpretation offered from this site is only possible because it was excavated with the expectation of stratigraphic complexity.

Stratigraphic excavation is as important in shallow rural sites as in deeper urban sites. This meant that we excavated the mound layer by layer paying



attention to the make-up of the mound material, the distribution of concentration of charcoal, stone and soil types.

The approach to excavation was not simply informed by methodological habit or conformity, or even to produce as good a record as possible, but also by an understanding that the prehistoric past is open to interpretation on the grounds that the traces we excavate are produced as a result of intentional human activity in the past. The categories that we use to organise and label the past are important in managing large amounts of data, but they are only part of the story, and not the full story as more traditional culture historical approaches to archaeology only allow (Gamble 2001, 22 and Shanks and Tilley 1987, 10). The excavation was informed by the argument that if 'archaeological deposits are generated in accordance with cultural rules rather than natural laws, one must acknowledge that these rules are arbitrary and conventional, and are open to being manipulated and reinterpreted as time goes on. Hence, the study of the way in which particular materials were being deposited, or how deposits were formed, through time, has the potential to inform us of shifts in such cultural rules and norms' (Thomas, 1999). We were looking to record the site as accurately and quickly as possible, and to see what we could learn about the nature of prehistoric Ireland, from the moments of human action frozen and slowly decaying in the burnt mound.

The sequence of development at the site is that found in many other sites once one goes beneath the large interface layer between the topsoil and the mound proper. Heated stones are put into pits to boil water. The waste from this process was discarded in the immediate environs of the trough. People constructed shelters and may have been living at or near the site. The site was located on the edge of a shallow open valley looking to the south with strong evidence for the mound being used in very wet conditions, with clayey peaty layers developing along its southern edge, and even at the centre of the site in two large depressions.

Nine cut features were interpreted as cooking troughs or pits. The waste debris from the troughs was thrown to the west and north of the trough concentration. It was possible to identify discreet dumps of material in the mound. Many of these were located over five metres from the nearest trough. This suggested that the mound was being managed in some way, in the sense that cooking debris was not just being raked or dug out of pits and being left adjacent to the troughs, but was being taken and dumped away from the cooking area.

We excavated bearing in mind that the materials at the site may have been being used and reused over a period of time. We did identify layers that could be interpreted as dumps it may be best to describe the mound material as homogenous in terms of its actual use. Most of the stone in the mound was in the same state of decay or fracture. This was taken to mean that it was removed from circulation and became debris after a similar period of use. It is possible to talk of a cycle of use because there was some evidence of large stones recovered from earlier in their lifecycle as boiling instruments, being deposited in primary fills of two troughs (247 and 162). No evidence was found of keeping charcoal in one part of the site, and stones of a certain kind in another part. Nor were any hearths identified.

The stratigraphic sequence saw the troughs being placed firmly under the burnt mound material, especially in the case of the troughs that were deliberately backfilled. This stratigraphic differentiation may be significant in understanding how the mound developed. There was no evidence of mound material slipping or slumping into any of the troughs, yet all were covered in mound material. This is strikingly dissimilar to other troughs encountered in other excavations conducted as part of this scheme. This may be partly accounted for by disturbance by ploughing or other agricultural activities pulling/pushing mounds deposits over the troughs. Yet the mound had the appearance of being relatively intact **and in situ** with most agricultural disturbance aside from drainage features being confined to the area of interface with the topsoil (Context 16). It is more likely that the mound started with contexts 176 and 162 and migrated eastwards with a zone of deposition of cooking debris being located within a five-metre radius to the west and east. This would lead to the gradual covering of the westernmost troughs after they were decommissioned/sealed or went out of use. The homogeneity of the mound material indicates that the boiling episode waste was mixed and resorted during the lifetime of the troughs in order to recycle larger stones. The later mixing, diffusion and dispersion caused by modern agricultural activity was differentiable from the prehistoric mixing.

Whatever about the exact explanation for the nature of the relationship between the use of troughs and the development of the mounds, once we get into the archaeological traces below the mound a stronger picture of what people were doing at the site starts to emerge. At this stage, we are working on the presumption that all the pits at the site were used for cooking. Alternative explanations for burnt mounds as bathing places (Ó Drisceóil, 1980 and 1988) can be excluded because of the lack of evidence for suitable superstructures and their small size.

All but two of the boiling pits or troughs were deliberately backfilled. In most cases there was good evidence for the pits having been cleaned out prior to backfilling. It was even possible to identify the likely part of the trough from which the boiling debris was raked or shovelled out for re-deposition, and to allow backfilling to occur into a clean hole. This evidence of raking out in the unsealed troughs may suggest that the pits were cleaned out in this manner during their use and not just before they were taken out of use. This may explain the variation in the size of the troughs. Maybe some of them started out small like Contexts 107 and 242 and gradually got bigger through reuse. It is as likely that the different sizes reflected different kinds of functional needs. All troughs would be described as shallow, having depths of between 0.35 and 0.46 m. This would only affect the size of the foodstuff that could be cooked, and not the possibility of cooking itself.

It is the moments of backfilling that are the most significant actions found on the site in relation to understanding what people were doing on burnt mounds generally in the Bronze Age. Even without evidence of cooking like bone and other remains, we know that the site in general has all the components of a burnt mound, and can be safely taken to be a cooking site, or more correctly as part of a site where cooking was taking place. It must be remembered that what is represented on this site is only part of a larger site that appears to continue to the north of the limit of excavation. There were tantalising suggestions that this may be the cooking area of a settlement. The excavation showed that seven of the troughs were backfilled, or as they have been described in the appendix descriptions, sealed. We see here the intentional cleaning out of pits used for cooking and their deliberate backfilling, and possible compaction, with burnt mound material.

The relatively small size of the features brings us very close to these activities. It was possible during excavation to note the actions of raking out, of backfilling and of abandonment while open (in the case of the two troughs that were not cleaned and backfilled). It is times like this that archaeologists come close to the presence of people in the past in the most mundane actions of digging. This intimacy is increased by the way that we are almost mimicking past action by digging over past diggings.

This almost ghostly conjuring of people can be elaborated on at a societal or community level. Gabriel Cooney (2002) has made a strong argument for the association of burnt mounds with prehistoric ideas of the sacred, of death, of cooking taboos, of the series of cultural associations that go into the construction of social identities. People were mostly cooking at burnt mounds but they were

never just cooking. The people at this site were living in a very different world from our own. It was a world that was also actively constructed and understood by people. People were active agents in the construction of their own societies. Everything that they did had meaning, or contributed in some way to the constitution of their social relations.

Cooney argued that it is possible to see *fulachta fiadh* or burnt mounds as being central to the construction of knowledge and the cultural landscape in the Bronze Age. Two associations he makes are of particular relevance here. He notes the similarity in size between troughs and cist graves (see also Waddell 1998, 142), and the sacred connotations of water in prehistory. Comparisons were made between cooking pits and holy wells, with the significance of springs and wells in many cosmologies being noted. He spoke of the control of water and the transformative power of heating water, and noted the importance of votive deposits in other watery contexts in the Bronze Age. The comparison with the size and location of cist burials may also lie in ideas of transformation. Both cooking and death involve transformations from one state of being to another, and both usually have some level of ritual associated with them in most societies.

It may be in this kind of cultural context that the backfilling or sealing of the troughs becomes significant in terms of wider understanding of prehistoric life. We can see indications of cycles of use and reuse of materials at the site. Most of the troughs show a moment of closure, of being decommissioned or taken out of circulation. They were intentionally removed from everyday activity. This final act of closure needn't involve elaborate ritual of any kind, and may not even have been particularly noticed by the people doing the cooking. It may have just been what you do when you were finished boiling after a period of time at this site.

## **6. Conclusions**

Whatever about the specifics of this interpretation our method of digging revealed a flurry of human activity at the site. There was the making of the mound with the materials in it all being worked to a similar level of fragmentation. Some of the stakeholes to the northwest of the troughs showed good evidence of being removed after a period of use. That is to say they were not allowed to decay in situ. They were also possibly used as the supports for some kind of shelter. The stakes in the northeast of the site hint strongly of being part of a larger structure, and possibly of two structures. The troughs were excavated, lined with clay in some cases, cleaned out, used again, deliberately sealed, and in one case opened again. A wet area in the north west of the site was filled in with burnt mound material to allow access northward. Altogether it was a busy site. People were

cooking here and this cooking involved some form of ritual activity that may tell us more about the nature of Bronze Age society when compared in detail with other sites. For now it is enough to show that the excavation showed patterns of structured deposition at the site, related to the production and preparation of food that are highly indicative of ritual meaning being associated with this activity.

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## 5 Glossary

**Excavation licence;** The provisions of Section 26 of the National Monuments Act 1930 relating to the control of excavation for archaeological purposes are a key element in the general framework of protection for the archaeological heritage. Section 26 allows both for the prevention of excavation for archaeological purposes by unqualified persons and also the regulation and control of excavations undertaken by qualified archaeologists. As a result of this legislation a licensing procedure was introduced, which means that anyone wishing to undertake an archaeological excavation must obtain a license from Dúchas, the Heritage Service (Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht & the Islands, 1999).

**Fulacht fiadh/Burnt mound;** This is a type of archaeological site which consists of a mound of heat-shattered stone usually with associated pits or troughs and hearths. The sites are usually dated to the Bronze Age. The sites are commonly interpreted as being formed by roasting stones over an open fire, rolling the heated stones into a pit filled with water resulting in the boiling of the water.

**RMP/Record of Monuments and Places;** The Sites and Monuments constraint documents have been re-issued in recent times as the Record of Monuments and Places in order to fulfil the terms of Section 12 of the 1994 Amendment to the *National Monuments Acts*. The constraint maps are best understood as baseline documents which catalogue readily identifiable sites, while the list which accompanies the documents, provides a basic classification for each site (Buttimer *et. al.*, 2000).

**Test excavations;** Following a walkover study or monitoring of topsoil stripping, new or potential archaeological sites can be identified. In order to determine whether the features are archaeological in origin or to determine the complexity of the archaeological sediments it is sometimes necessary to conduct test excavations. These usually consist of excavating a representative sample of the sediments and can result in a conclusion that the sediments are not archaeological in nature or an assessment of their complexity allowing an estimate of expected duration of excavation. Alternatively, avoidance of archaeological features or material may be recommended as a result of testing.

**Walkover study;** A walkover study is a form of environmental impact assessment. It involves historical research and fieldwork with the aim of determining impacts of the proposed scheme on the known and potential archaeological and architectural heritage elements.

## **Appendices**

### **Appendix 1 Context Descriptions**

The following text represents the second phase of interpretation of the archaeological remains encountered at this site. The first stage of interpretation occurred during the excavation and the third phase during the writing of this report.

#### **Group I Description**

Topsoil

Context 1

Description

Midbrown sandy silt with frequent medium pebbles.

Interpretation

Topsoil beneath sod.

#### **Group II**

##### **Group II Description**

Remains of ploughing activity represented by 12 linear cuts crossing Context 16.

Context 3

Description

These were thirteen parallel linear cuts running ENE to WSW across the surface of Context 16 that covered most of the site. They were regularly spaced. They were V-shaped in profile, measuring 0.02 m at the base and approximately 0.1 m at the top. They were 0.02 m deep and the length of the largest one was 10.8 m. The sides were gentle, smooth and convex. They were truncated by the machine that removed the

topsoil. The grooves were filled with Context 1 (topsoil). They ran across the site in Grid Squares 2, 3 and 5 to 12.

Interpretation

Either the remains of machine ploughing or eroded lazy beds.

#### **Group III**

##### **Group III Description**

This group consisted of a spread of light, greyish brown, silty clay and dark brown, sandy silt that contained frequent burnt stones and frequent charcoal flecks. The layer covered most of the burnt mound and was situated in Grid Squares 1 to 3 and 5 to 16. Context 16 contained a number of finds (see appendix). Context 16 lay above drains Contexts 4 and 5, 6 and 7, and 8 and 9. It had a maximum depth of 0.22 m but it varied across the site. In the centre of Context 165 the spread dipped into a hollow that contained an organic soil, not dissimilar to peat.

A quarter of each grid square within the perimeter of the edge of Context 16 was sieved, namely the southeast corner of Grid Squares 2, 3, 6, 7, and 10, as an experiment. The intention was see if there any finds or environmental remains that would be missed by the hand excavation of a large layer.

Contexts 16.

Description

This was a dark brown, soft sandy silt that contained frequent burnt stones and frequent charcoal flecks.. It was 14.65 m long (north to south) (but was truncated at both ends), 13.95 m wide and had a maximum depth of 0.22 m. It covered most of the burnt mound. It was situated in Grid Squares 1 to 3 and 5 to 16. It contained two post-medieval ceramic sherds (Find 1), a possible quartz flake with re-touch (Find 2), a sherd of post-medieval glass or ceramic (Find 3), a possible quern stone fragment in two pieces, which was burnt (Find 4) and iron ore (Find 10).

#### Interpretation

This was a layer of topsoil that was mixed with the upper portion of the burnt mound material by agricultural activity.

#### Group III Interpretation

This was a layer of topsoil that was mixed with the upper portion of burnt mound material by agricultural activity. The topsoil/burnt mound interface contained various finds; these were two post-medieval ceramic sherds, a possible quartz flake with re-touch, a sherd of post-medieval glass or ceramic, a possible burnt quern stone in two fragments and some iron ore. A sampling strategy involving the systematic sieving of parts of the context found no additional information.

#### Group IV

#### Group IV Description

This group consisted of a series of linear cuts and fills (all running approximately parallel with a NNW-SSE orientation), and an irregular shaped fill and cut (Context 15 and 17). The two larger linear fills, Contexts 18 and 20, were very mixed. They were wider than the other linear features in this group and Context 20 had stones at its base. These two cuts, Context 21 and Context 19, were U-shaped and wide V-shaped in profile respectively. Contexts 8 and 9 were similar to drains Contexts 6 and 7 and Contexts 4 and 5. The fills of these were mid brownish yellow silty clays containing frequent small stones. The cuts of these were not as wide as Contexts 19 and 21, and they lay beneath Context 16. The two wider cuts were situated to the east side of the burnt mound and the smaller narrower cuts were more evenly spread across the site, but not cutting deeply into the burnt mound. There were no finds in any of these fills.

Contexts 14, 12, 13, 20, 21, 15, 17, 10, 11, 18, 19, 8, 9, 6, 7, 4 and 5.

#### Contexts

##### Context 14

##### Description

Dark brown sandy silty clay with frequent coarse pebbles. L linear feature that ran NNW-SSE across the east side of the site and was situated



in Grid Squares 4 and 8. It was 9.2 m long and between 0.3 m and 0.65 m wide with a depth of 0.1m. It was beneath the topsoil Context 1.

#### Interpretation

A furrow.

#### Context 20

##### Description

The upper most layer was a light greyish brown clay, which lay above a yellow and white redeposited layer of clay. This in turn lay above a mixed bluish grey, redeposited natural that was above a redeposited gravely yellow natural. The very base layer was of black stones. It was 18.4 m long, *circa* 1 m wide and had a depth of 0.42 m. It was orientated NNW-SSE and was situated on the east side of the site in Grid Squares 4, 8, 22, 23 and 24.

##### Interpretation

The fill of a modern drain cut, Context 21.

#### Context 21

##### Description

This was a linear cut. It was 18.4 m long, *circa* 1 m wide and 0.42 m deep. The sides were steep and smooth and it was U-shaped in profile. It was orientated NNE-SSW. It was situated on the east side of the site in Grid Squares 4, 8, 22, 23 and 24. It lay parallel to the cut Context 19, *circa* 2 m to the west.

##### Interpretation

Cut of a modern drain.

#### Context 17

##### Description

A mid greyish brown, soft, silty clay, situated in the northeast quadrant of Grid Square 4. It was 1.2 m long, 0.6 m wide and 0.2 m deep. It lay below topsoil Context 1 and above Context 15.

##### Interpretation

Fill of 15

#### Context 15

##### Description

An irregular cut that was 0.78 m long and 0.4 m wide with a depth of 0.2 m. It was irregular in shape with the break of slope at the top of the cut varying from gradual to sharp. The northwest side was gentle in slope and undercut, the southeast side was steep and undercut, the south side was gently sloped and smooth and the north side was steep and stepped. The base, in profile, was a tapered rounded point. It was situated in the northeast quadrant of Grid Square 4. It was filled by Context 17.

##### Interpretation

Natural root hole.

#### Context 8

##### Description

The context sheet for this is missing but it was recorded in the context book as 'a drain fill with yellow stone

inclusions on the west side of the mound'. It was situated in Grid Squares 9 and 13. It lies below Context 2a (16). No plan exists either.

#### Interpretation

Fill of drain cut Context 9.

#### Context 9

##### Description

The context sheet for this is missing but it was recorded in the context book as 'a drain cut on the west side of the mound.' It was situated in Grid Squares 9 and 13. It lies below Context 8 and above 2b (Context 31). No plan exists.

##### Interpretation

Cut of field drain.

#### Context 6

##### Description

A mid brownish yellow, firm, silty clay. It contained frequent small, sub-angular stones. It was 8.2 m long, 0.31 m wide and 0.43 m deep. The base of the drain had small stones as a lining. It was situated in Grid Squares 14 and 18 and was orientated NNW-SSE. It lay below 16 and filled Context 7.

##### Interpretation

Fill of Context 7.

#### Context 7

##### Description

A linear cut that was 8.2 m long, 0.31 m wide and 0.43 m deep. It had

a sharp break of slope at the top and base and the sides were vertical and smooth. The base was flat and gradually sloped from north to south. It was orientated NNW-SSE. It contained Context 6 and lay above Context 31(2b). It was situated in Grid Squares 14 and 18. It terminated at the north end at the edge of the burnt mound.

##### Interpretation

Cut of field drain.

#### Context 18

##### Description

This deposit was very mixed, being yellow, orange, white, grey and black. It was a firm, silty clay and contained sub-angular pebbles and stones and frequent charcoal flecks. It was 17.77 m long, *circa* 1 m wide and 0.46 m deep. It was situated in Grid Squares 3, 4, 8, 12 and 16 on the east side of the site and is the same as Context 10. It ran parallel to Context 20. It lay beneath Context 1; topsoil.

##### Interpretation

Fill of Context 19

#### Context 19

##### Description

A linear cut, which was 17.77 m long, *circa* 1 m wide and 0.46 m deep. It was orientated NNW-SSE and was situated on the east side of the site in Grid Squares 3, 4, 8, 12

and 16. It is the same as Context 11. The break of slope at the top was gradual at east and sharp at west. The sides were smooth and steep. The break of slope at the base was gradual at east and sharp at west. It ran parallel to Context 21, approximately 2 m to the east. It lay above Context 27.

#### Interpretation

Cut of modern field drain.

#### Context 4

##### Description

A mid brownish yellow, firm, silty clay, that contained frequent small sub-angular stones. It was 7.2 m long, 0.3 m wide and the depth was not recorded. It was situated in Grid Squares 11, 15, 19 and 20 and seemed to curve around a large stone at the southeast corner of Grid Square 15. The stones were all concentrated in the base of the drain. It lay below Context 16.

##### Interpretation

Fill of Context 5

#### Context 5

##### Description

A linear cut that was 7.2 m long and 0.3 m wide. It was situated in Grid Squares 11, 15, 19 and 20 and seemed to curve around a large stone at the southeast corner of Grid Square 15. The break of slope at the top of the cut was sharp.. The sides were vertical. The break of slope at

the base was sharp and the base was flat. It was orientated NE-SE. It ran right up to the edge of the burnt mound and cut only a part of it (Context 38). It ran parallel to large drains Contexts 19 and 21 and similar sized drains Context 9 and 7.

##### Interpretation

The cut of a modern field drain.

#### Group IV Interpretation

Contexts 15 and 17 represent root activity. The rest of this group represented the remains of field drains. The wider drains, Contexts 18 and 19 and Contexts 20 and 21 lie under topsoil, Context 1, and may be levelled field boundaries that run parallel with each other. One of these had stones at its base that would be indicative of a drainage function. These two drains did not cut the burnt mound and whoever dug them may have been aware of its presence. Context 20 does cut the stakehole groups XV and XV1. The other drains are narrower and smaller in size, Contexts 6 and 7, Context 4 and 5 and possibly Contexts 8 and 9, also ran in the same parallel lines, are evenly spaced and are below Context 16. They run right up to the burnt mound and just cut it just slightly, possibly indicating that whoever made the drains was aware of the presence of the burnt mound. Context 14 was recorded as a furrow.

## Group V

### Group V Description

This group consists of bluish grey peaty clays and silty clays that were situated on the eastern side of the burnt mound spread and above it. Context 19 and Context 5 cut the deposits. The deposits varied in size from 1.2 m long and 0.2 m wide to 9.2 m long and 3.8 m wide, and varied in depth from 0.04 m to 0.16 m deep. The main and largest deposit was Context 38. Contexts 27, 32, 37, 39 and 40 were very similar to this and may be part of it. Pottery (Find 9) was found at the interface between Context 38 and the natural. Context 38 also contained possible pottery (Find 8) and a possible paring stone (Find 6). Contexts 27, 32, 37, 38, 39 and 40.

### Context 27

#### Description

A dark greyish brown, soft, peaty clay. It contained frequent fine, sub-angular pebbles and occasional sub-angular coarse pebbles, with occasional charcoal flecks. It was 1.9 m long (north to south), 0.82 m wide and 0.04 m deep. It was situated between Grid Squares 7 and 8 on the east side of the burnt mound spread. It was cut by Context 19. It also lay under Context 16 and above Context 32.

#### Interpretation

A peaty build up above peaty clay spreads that covered the burnt mound. Possibly a natural deposit that developed after the burnt mound went out of use.

### Context 32

#### Description

A mid bluish grey, soft, peaty clay that contained frequent charcoal flecks. It was 2.56 m long (north to south), 0.73 m wide and 0.16 m deep. It was situated in the northwest corner of Grid Square 8, on the eastern side of the burnt mound spread. It lay under Context 27 and above the spread of burnt material that made up the mound.

#### Interpretation

A natural build up of clay that probably formed after the burnt mound ceased to be used and when the water levels may have risen, depositing the clay particles and creating boggy conditions resulting in the peatiness of the deposit. It was cut by a linear feature.

### Context 37

#### Description

A mid bluish grey peaty clay that was soft and contained frequent charcoal flecks. It was 0.58 m long (north to south), 0.29 m wide and 0.05 m deep. It was situated in the southwest corner of Grid Square 8 on the eastern side of the burnt mound spread. It was cut by Context 19 and

lay under Context 16 and over the burnt mound.

#### Interpretation

A natural build up of clay that probably formed after the burnt mound ceased to be used and when the water levels may have risen, depositing the clay particles and creating boggy conditions resulting in the peatiness of the deposit.

#### Context 38

##### Description

A dark, bluish to greyish black, soft, peaty clay. It contained occasional charcoal flecks. It was 9.2 m long (northeast to southwest) and 3.8 m wide. It was situated in Grid Squares 11, 12, 14, 15 and 16 and was cut by field drains Contexts 5 and 19. It lay above the burnt mound material Context 58 and 62. Pottery (Find 9) was found at the interface between this deposit and the natural. Possible pottery (Find 18) was also found in this context as well as a possible hone stone (Find 6).

##### Interpretation

A build up of peaty clay that formed naturally above the burnt mound spread once it had ceased to be used and when the surrounding water levels may have risen resulting in boggy conditions (creating peaty deposits) and possibly settling water that would result in the clay. It was cut by later linear features Contexts 5 and 19.

#### Context 39

##### Description

A firm, mid blue grey, clayey silt that was firm and contained occasional sub-angular burnt pebbles of fine to medium size and occasional sub-angular small burnt stones. It also contained occasional flecks of charcoal. It was 1.2 m long, 0.2 m wide and 0.09 m deep. It was situated between Grid Squares 8 and 12 on the eastern side of the burnt mound spread. It lay above the burnt material in a depression and under Context 16.

##### Interpretation

A small build up of clayey silt that probably accumulated naturally once the burnt mound was not in use.

#### Context 40

##### Description

A mid bluish grey, firm, silty clay. It contained occasional sub-angular small stones and pebbles and occasional flecks of charcoal. It was 0.5 m by 0.5 m and was between 0.05 m-0.08 m deep. It was situated in the northwest corner of Grid Square 12 and lay above the burnt mound spread of material.

##### Interpretation

A small spread that probably accumulated naturally once the burnt mound was not in use, when the surrounding water levels may have risen, resulting in boggy conditions

and an increase in water, which contained silt that deposited on top of the burnt mound.

#### Group V Interpretation

These are peaty silty clays that built up naturally on the eastern side of the burnt mound once it ceased to be used. This may have been at a time when the surrounding water levels rose, creating boggy conditions resulting in the peatiness of the deposits and of water sitting around and clay particles settling out. When post excavation analysis is complete, the pottery found in Context 38 will help to date it this phase of the site. It may also indicate that the site was located on the edge of wetlands or a prehistoric lake, with the inhabitants using this proximity to water for cooking purposes.

#### Group VI

##### Group VI Description

This group consisted of a variety of 71 deposits of burnt stone and soil that formed the burnt mound spread. Overall the area covered by the deposits was approximately 13 m wide and 15 m long (north to south). The deposits varied greatly in size from approximately 6 m wide and 10 m long (east to west) to less than a metre in diameter.

The majority of the stones in these deposits were pebbles or and small to medium sized stones. There were

very few large stones. The stones were predominantly burnt and shattered, which made the fragments angular to sub-angular in shape. This is an indicator that they had been used a number of times for cooking purposes and were greatly reduced from their original size by heat shattering processes. Most of the deposits also contained charcoal flecks in varying degrees of frequency and some deposits contained a few large pieces of charcoal. The different deposits were distinguished from each other by the size and density of the stones and the type, colour and amount of sediment. The mound was dug stratigraphically in a search for meaningful patterns of deposition in relation to the expected troughs that did turn up later.

Note that the 'trough' area mentioned in the text was the area of the site in Grid Squares 7, 11 and 12 where there was a concentration of trough cuts (Context 176, 162, 248, 247, 207 and 107). There were some deposits and spreads of clay, such as Contexts 88 and 58, around the edges of the burnt mound spread and some mostly sandy contexts like Context 150.

Two of the contexts in this group contained finds. These were Context 191, which contained a possible scraping tool (Find 15) and Context

259, which contained abraded pot sherds of a mid brown fabric, which was fine tempered (quartz grains) and had combed decoration (Finds 40, 41 and 42).

Contexts 22, 25, 28, 29, 30, 31, 35, 40, 41, 43, 44, 47, 48, 49, 50, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 65, 66, 67, 68, 71, 72, 73, 76, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 98, 100, 101, 102, 103, 105, 106, 111, 114, 125, 127, 129, 136, 144, 150, 154, 211 and 255.

Contexts

Context 25

Description

A rust coloured firm sandy clay and stony deposit that comprised 50% angular pebbles and 20% small to medium sized stones. It also contained charcoal mixed throughout the deposit. It was 3.5 m long (southwest to northeast) and 1.4 m wide and 0.1 m deep. It was situated mostly in Grid Squares 6 and 7 but also in 2 and 3. It lay under Context 16 (Group III) and over Context 72.

Interpretation

A dump of burnt stones. The predominant small size of the stones indicates that they may have been used several times in the burning-boiling process.

Context 22

Description

A dark, greyish black, stony deposit that contained some peaty clay. It comprised *circa* 10% pebbles and 80% small, angular to sub-angular stones. It contained small pieces of charcoal. It was 1.8 m wide and 1.9 m long (east to west) and 0.1 m deep. It was situated between Grid Squares 6 and 10 to the west of the trough area. It lay under Context 16 (Group III) and above Context 30.

Interpretation

A dump of burnt stones.

Context 28

Description

A dark, greyish brown deposit of burnt stones. The stones were mostly pebble sized and angular with occasional small, angular to sub-angular stones. The deposit was soft and contained charcoal flecks. It was 1.05 m long and 0.75 m wide and 0.08 m deep. It lay under Context 16 (Group III) in Grid Square 3.

Interpretation

A dump of burnt stones, the small size of which may indicate frequent use in the burning-boiling process.

Context 29

Description

A light, greyish brown stony deposit. The soil content was a soft, sandy clay. The stone content was 30% pebbles and 50% small to medium sized stones. It contained moderate charcoal flecks and pieces. It was 2

m long (east to west), 1 m wide and 0.2 m deep. It lay under Context 16 (Group III) and above Context 49. It was situated in Grid Square 7 to the north of the trough 'recut' Context 64 (Group X).

#### Interpretation

A dump of burnt stones possibly associated with a recut of a trough (Group X).

#### Context 30

##### Description

A mid greyish brown, stony deposit with some peat and clay. The stones were moderate amounts of angular pebbles and frequent small stones. There was less than 10% of clay in the top level of this context. It was 2.2 m N-S and 1.7m E-W and 0.12m deep. There was also some orangish iron staining. It was situated in Grid Squares 6 and 10, below Context 22 and above Contexts 56, 86 and 76.

##### Interpretation

A dump of burnt stones with post-depositional iron staining to the west of the trough area.

#### Context 31

##### Description

A dark, greyish black, stony deposit, which contained occasional charcoal flecks. The stones were pebbles and small stones and were from angular to sub-rounded in shape. It was 3.5 m N-S, 1.5 m E-W and had an average depth of 0.15 m. It was

situated in Grid Squares 9, 10 and 14 but mostly on the west side of Grid Square 10, to the southwest of the trough area. It was cut by modern drain Context 7. It is equivalent to Context 2b.

#### Interpretation

A linear dump of burnt stones towards the outside of the burnt mound.

#### Context 35

##### Description

A light greyish brown, soft silty clay with stones, which contained moderate amounts of charcoal flecks. The stones were angular pebbles to small stones. It was 2.8 m long (north to south), 1.5 m wide and 0.5 m deep. It was situated in the northeast corner of Grid Square 7 to the north of the trough area. It lay under Context 16 (Group III) and above Context 44.

##### Interpretation

A layer of burnt stones with a probable mixing of topsoil in its upper portion.

#### Context 41

##### Description

A dark, brownish black, charcoal deposit with occasional peat and stones. The stones were coarse sized pebbles and were angular to sub-angular. It also contained frequent charcoal flecks. It was 0.42 m long (east to west), 0.3 m wide and 0.05



m deep. It was situated on the west side of Grid Square 10 on the western edge of the burnt mound. It lay under Context 31 and above Context 105.

#### Interpretation

A very small dump of charcoal on the west edge of the burnt mound.

#### Context 43

##### Description

A mid greyish black stony deposit with a frequent component. The stones were medium to coarse pebbles and small stones of angular to sub-rounded shape. The deposit also contained occasional charcoal flecks. It was 2.6 m long (northwest to southeast) 1.14 m wide and 0.13 m deep. It lay under Context 31 and above Context 50. It was situated in the southwest corner of Grid Square 10 on the western edge of the burnt mound.

#### Interpretation

A layer of burnt stones.

#### Context 44

##### Description

A dark, greyish brown, stony deposit silty clay. The stones were sub-angular medium sized pebbles and sub-angular medium sized stones. It contained moderate charcoal flecks. It was 2.8 m long (northeast to southwest), 0.8 m wide and 0.2 m deep. It was situated in Grid Square 3 on the northeast edge of the burnt

mound. It lay under Context 35 and above Contexts 52 and 57.

#### Interpretation

A dump of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 47

##### Description

A light greyish brown stony deposit that also had soft clay. It was 1.69 m long (northeast to southwest), 0.31 m wide and 0.09 m deep. The stones were most frequently pebble sized, with some small stones. In the southwest corner of the deposit some charcoal was found that had an orange coating of clay. The deposit was situated on the west side of Grid Square 6 on the western edge of the burnt mound. It was similar to Contexts 45, 46 and 48. It lay below Context 16 and above Context 68.

#### Interpretation

A layer of heat shattered stones on the western edge of the burnt mound. The stones may have been used several times in the burning-boiling process, as they are fairly small in size. The soil content may be topsoil mixed into the upper portion of the deposit.

#### Context 48

##### Description

A light greyish brown, stony deposit with soft clay. It was 0.95 m long (northeast to southwest), 0.41 m wide and 0.12 m deep. The stones were fine to medium-sized angular

and rounded pebbles, and less frequently, small to medium sized angular stones. The deposit also contained occasional charcoal flecks and pieces. It was similar to Context 47. It lay under Context 16 and above Context 68 and was situated on the west side of Grid Square 6 on the western edge of the burnt mound.

#### Interpretation

A dump of burnt stones on the western edge of the burnt mound. The soil content may be topsoil mixed into the upper portion of the deposit.

#### Context 49

##### Description

A dark, greyish black, stony deposit that had a loose silty sand component. It was composed of approximately 80% coarse sub-angular pebbles and it also contained occasional charcoal flecks. It was 2 m long (NNE-SSW), 0.8 m wide and between 0.08 m and 0.1 m deep. It was situated in the western side of Grid Square 7 to the immediate north of trough 'recut' Context 64. It lay below Context 29 and above Context 106.

#### Interpretation

A dump of burnt stones.

#### Context 50

##### Description

A deposit of burnt stones mixed with a dark black peaty soil. It was 3 m long (northwest to southeast), 0.8 m wide and 0.18 m deep. The stones were mainly small in size but ranged in size from fine pebbles to small stones. The deposit also contained occasional very tiny charcoal flecks. It was situated near the southwest corner of Grid Square 10 and at the north of Grid Square 14.

#### Interpretation

A layer of heat shattered stones on the southwest side of the burnt mound with charcoal throughout. Whether this charcoal was *in situ* or post-depositional is hard to tell.

#### Context 52

##### Description

A mid greyish brown, charcoal-rich spread of stony, silty clay. The stone content was 15% medium sized, sub-angular pebbles and 40% small sub-angular stones. It contained less than 10% charcoal flecks and pieces and moderate flecks of whitish grey ashy material. It was 2.15 m long (north to south), 1 m wide and 0.12 m deep. It lay under Context 44 and Context 57 in the centre of Grid Square 3 on the northeast side of the burnt mound.

#### Interpretation

A layer of heat shattered stones. The size and shape of the stones may indicate their use in the heating-

boiling process on successive occasions.

#### Context 53

##### Description

A dark greyish brownish black, stony deposit with sandy silt and charcoal flecks. The stones varied in size from fine pebbles up to large stones. It was 1.2 m long (north to south), 1 m wide and 0.16 m deep. It was situated on the south side of Grid Square 10 on the south side of the burnt mound. It lay below Context 16 and above Context 54.

##### Interpretation

A layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 54

##### Description

A dark greyish brown stony deposit with sandy silt and occasional charcoal flecks. The stones varied in size from fine pebbles to medium sized stones and were angular and sub-angular in shape. The deposit was 0.8 m long, 0.6 m wide and 0.08 m deep. It was situated at the north of Grid Square 14 on the south side of the burnt mound.

##### Interpretation

A layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 55

##### Description

A mid greyish brown soft silty clay, containing occasional charcoal and frequent stones, which were medium

and coarse sized angular to sub-angular pebbles and small angular to sub-angular stones. It was 1.3 m long (north to south), 0.08 m wide and 0.1 m deep. It was situated on the south side of Grid Square 10 on the southwest side of the burnt mound. It lay under Context 60 and above Context 89.

##### Interpretation

A dump of shattered stone.

#### Context 56

##### Description

A dark, brownish black, compact peaty sandy stony layer. It contained 70% fine to coarse sized pebbles and small to medium sized stones. All stones were angular to sub-angular. It contained occasional small charcoal pieces and occasional flecks of orange staining. It was 1.8 m long (east to west), 1.5 m wide and 0.3 m deep. It was situated between Grid Squares 6 and 10 and lay under Context 30 and above Contexts 68 and 88. It was situated to the west of the trough area.

##### Interpretation

A dump of shattered stones on the west side of the burnt mound.

#### Context 57

##### Description

A dark, greyish brown, stony deposit with silty clay and frequent charcoal flecks. The stone content was 15% medium sized sub-angular pebbles

and 30% medium sized sub-angular stones. The deposit was 2.3 m long (northwest to southeast) 1.28m wide and 0.12 m deep. It was situated in the centre of Grid Square 3 on the northeast side of the mound. It lay under Context 52 and was similar to it.

#### Interpretation

A dump of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 58

##### Description

A spread of clay that varied in colour from dark bluish grey to light grey. The light grey layers had small flecks of charcoal. It contained frequent stones, which were sub-angular and small to medium in size. It also contained one large stone that was 0.36 m long, 0.25 m wide and 0.05 m deep. It was situated mostly in Grid Square 16, in the south side of Grid Square 12 and spread west into Grid Square 15. It was on the southeast side of the burnt mound spread. It lay under Context 38 and over Context 78. The majority of the stones were burnt with occasional pieces of quartz.

##### Interpretation

A clay spread around the edge of the burnt mound spread that is both under and over other dumps of heat shattered stones. It may represent a period when the water level rose and the clay was deposited around the edges of the burnt mound when the

water receded. Probable indicator that the burnt mound was located on the edge of wetland or open water that varied with the seasons. Seasonal use may be significant given the interpretation of most of the stakehole features on site as having been dismantled in antiquity (*eg.* Group XV11).

#### Context 59

##### Description

A dark greyish black, stony weakly cemented deposit with peaty sand, and frequent charcoal. The stones were 60% angular pebbles and 20% angular to sub-angular, small to large sized stones. The large ones were only an occasional constituent of the deposit. It was 1.7 m long (east to west), 1.4 m wide and 0.2 m deep. It was situated on the west side of Grid Square 10, on the southwest side of the burnt mound spread. It lay under Context 50 and above Contexts 67 and 66.

##### Interpretation

A dump of heat shattered stone with mostly smaller fragments of stone, possibly indicated several uses of the same rocks in the heating-boiling process.

#### Context 60

##### Description

A mid greyish black stony deposit with silty clay. It consisted of medium sized angular to sub-angular

pebbles and small angular to sub-angular stones. It also contained frequent charcoal flecks. It was 1.1 m (north to south) by 1.1 m (east to west) and 0.7 m deep. It was below Context 50 and above Context 55 and similar to Context 59 and Context 55. It was situated in the south of Grid Square 10 on the southwest side of the burnt mound spread.

#### Interpretation

A dump of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 61

##### Description

A dark greyish black stony deposit with a soft sandy silt. The stones were mostly coarse, sub-angular pebbles with occasional sub-angular small stones. The stones were burnt and constituted 50% of the deposit, which was 0.4 m long (north to south), 0.3 m wide and between 0.1 m and 0.12 m. It was situated on the east side of Grid Square 6, approximately 0.6 m northwest of trough cut Context 64 (Group X). It lay under Context 25 and above Context 106.

#### Interpretation

A very small dump of well fragmented burnt stone.

#### Context 62

##### Description

A dark greyish black loose, stony deposit with a sandy silt. The stone

component comprised angular to sub-angular small and medium sized stones. The deposit also contained frequent charcoal flecks. It was 1.2 m long, 0.85 m wide and between 0.08 and 0.1 m deep. It was situated on the south of Grid Square 12 on the east side of the burnt mound and the east of the trough area. It was to the south of pit Context 107 (Group XI). It lay below clay Context 38 (Group V) and above Context 71.

#### Interpretation

A dump of heat fractured stones.

#### Context 65

##### Description

A dark brown to greyish black, firm, stony deposit with a silty clay component. The stones were mostly pebble sized and angular to sub-angular, with some small stones. There was a moderate amount of charcoal flecks and small pieces. It was 1.9 m long, 1.26 m wide and 0.08 m deep. It was situated in Grid Square 10 to the southwest of the trough area. It lay below Context 31 and above Context 66.

#### Interpretation

A dump of fractured stones to the north of the trough recut Context 64.

#### Context 66

##### Description

A dark greyish black, stony deposit with a sandy peat. The deposit consisted of 60% angular pebbles

and 30% angular to sub-angular small stones occasional medium and large sized stones. It also contained frequent charcoal flecks. It was 1.7 m long, 1.4 m wide and 0.15 m deep. It was situated in Grid Square 10. It lay below Contexts 67, 30 and 63 and above Context 87.

#### Interpretation

A dump of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 67

##### Description

A mid greyish black deposit of stones with sandy peat. The stones were mostly medium-sized and coarse pebbles and small angular to sub-angular stones. It contained moderate charcoal flecks. The deposit was 0.8 m long (north to south) 0.5 m wide and 0.05 m deep. It was situated in the north of Grid Square 10. It lay below Context 57 and above Context 66.

#### Interpretation

A dump of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 68

##### Description

A mid brownish black stony deposit with a soft clay that contained charcoal flecks. The stones were mostly pebble sized and sub-angular in shape. It was 1.04 m long (northeast to southwest), 0.68 m wide and 0.04 m deep. It was situated on the west side of Grid Square 6, on the west side of the

burnt mound. It lay below Context 47 and above Context 93.

#### Interpretation

A layer of shattered stones.

#### Context 71

##### Description

A mid brown deposit of burnt stone and compact silty sand, 1.2 m long (east to west) 0.9 m wide and 0.1 m deep. The stones were sub-rounded pebbles. The deposit also included occasional large burnt stones. It lay under Context 62 and above Context 79. It was situated in the south of Grid Squares 11 and 12 on the east side of the burnt mound spread.

#### Interpretation

A layer of shattered stones that were probably used and reused a few times before being dumped. The soil content is probably post-depositional.

#### Context 72

##### Description

A mid brownish black clayey stony deposit, 0.73 m long and 0.55 m wide and 0.05 m deep. The stones were 80% of the deposit. They comprised angular to sub-angular pebbles sized and small stones. The deposit also contained a moderate amount of charcoal flecks. It was situated in the southwest corner of Grid Square 3 on the northeast side of the burnt mound. It lay below Context 25 and above Context 84.

#### Interpretation

A layer of heat fractured stones.

#### Context 73

##### Description

A mid greyish black, stony deposit in a loose peaty sand matrix. It contained frequent charcoal flecks. The stones were mainly pebbles with occasional small sized angular stones. The deposit was 1.91 m long (north to south), 1.02 m wide and 0.25 m deep. It lay under Context 16 (Group III) and above Context 114 and Context 53. It was situated between Grid Squares 7 and 8 to the immediate east of the trough area and directly above pit cut Context 248 (Group IX).

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stone.

#### Context 76

##### Description

A dark grey stony sandy silt. The stone consisted of mostly sub-angular coarse pebbles and more moderate amounts of small sized stones. The deposit also contained occasional charcoal flecks. It was 0.8 m long (northwest to southeast), 0.4 m wide and 0.05 m deep. It was situated in the south of Grid Square 6, approximately 1 m to the west of the trough recut Context 64. It lay below Context 30 and above Context 83.

##### Interpretation

A layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 78

##### Description

A black, loose, stony silt. The stones consisted of coarse sized, sub-angular pebbles and small to medium sized, sub-angular stones. The deposit also contained occasional charcoal flecks. It was 1.8 m long (east to west), 1.2 m wide and 0.05 m deep. It was situated in Grid Square 12. It lay below Context 58, above Context 91 and is the same as Context 79.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 79

##### Description

A firm mid brownish black, stony silty clay. The stone component was burnt, mostly sub-rounded, pebbles with two medium sized stones (0.2 m by 0.15 m and 0.12 m by 0.1 m). It contained occasional flecks and large pieces of charcoal. It also contained frequent roots. It was 1.35 m long (north to south), 0.95 m wide and 0.1 m deep. It was situated between Grid Squares 12 and 16 on the southeast side of the burnt mound. It lay under Context 71, 79 and 58 and above Context 91 and 92. Similar to Context 78.

##### Interpretation

Layer of shattered stones.

#### Context 80

#### Description

A mid reddish grey stony silty clay. The stone comprised mainly angular pebbles and small stones with occasional medium sized stones. The deposit also contained a moderate amount of charcoal flecks. It was 0.9 m long (north to south) 0.64 m wide and 0.05 m deep. It was situated at the north of Grid Square 14 on the south side of the burnt mound.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 81

##### Description

A dark brownish black stony deposit in a firm, silty clay matrix. The stones varied in size but were predominantly sub-angular small to medium sized stones, with occasional medium to coarse sub-angular pebbles. It was 0.8 m long (east to west), 0.5 m wide and 0.07 m deep. The deposit contained frequent charcoal. It was under Context 16 (Group III) and over Context 91. It was situated in Grid Square 12 to the east of the trough area and approximately 0.2 m southwest of pit cut Context 107 (Group XI).

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 82

##### Description

A dark greyish black, stony deposit in a sandy peaty matrix. 70% of the

deposit was angular to sub-angular fine, medium and coarse pebbles and 20% of the deposit was angular to sub-angular small to medium sized stones. The deposit also contained frequent very tiny charcoal flecks. It was 1.4 m long (east to west), 0.9 m wide and 0.17 m deep. It lay below topsoil Context 16 (Group III). It was situated in the northeast corner of Grid Square 15 on the south side of the burnt mound.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones. Their fragmented nature suggests that they were possibly been used and reused a few times.

#### Context 83

##### Description

A dark greyish black, stony deposit in a loose, silty sand matrix. The stones varied in size from fine pebbles to medium sized stones and were angular and sub-angular. The deposit also contained frequent charcoal flecks. It was 1.7 m long (north to south) 1.6 m wide and 0.01 m deep. It was situated in the centre of Grid Square 6 to the northeast of the trough area and above several of the stakeholes in Group XVIII. It lay below Context 76 and above Context 123, 93 and 96.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 84



#### Description

A mid brownish black, firm, charcoal rich, silty clay. It contained occasional sub-angular stones and frequent charcoal pieces. It was 2.2 m long (northwest to southeast), 1.1 m wide and 0.04 m deep. It was situated in the southern half of Grid Square 3, on the north side of the site, to the southeast of the trough cut Context 244 (Group VII). It was similar to Context 38 (Group V) in colour and texture but had a very high charcoal content. It lay under Context 72.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones. Possibly associated with trough cut Context 244 rather than the other trough cuts further south.

#### Context 85

##### Description

A firm dark greyish black, stony silty clay. The stones varied in size from fine pebbles to medium sized stones and were sub-angular. The deposit was 0.94 m long (north to south), 0.76 m wide and 0.06 m deep. It was situated in Grid Square 12 directly above pit cut Context 107 (Group XI).

##### Interpretation

A dump of heat shattered stones that was later than trough cut Context 107 but may be a fill of the trough.

#### Context 86

#### Description

A mid reddish grey, stony deposit that was weakly cemented. It had frequent angular to sub-angular, coarse sized pebbles and occasional angular, small sized stones. It contained moderate amounts of charcoal flecks and pieces. It was 0.27 m long, 0.2 m wide and 0.05 m deep. It was situated on the south side of Grid Square 10. It lay below Context 30 and above Context 98.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 87

##### Description

A dark greyish black, stony deposit in a weakly cemented peaty sand, which contained charcoal flecks. The stones were 50% of the context and varied in size from fine pebbles to medium sized stones. They were angular to sub-angular. The deposit was 5.7 m long, 3.8 m wide and between 0.1 m and 0.15 m deep. It was situated between Grid Squares 10 and 11. It lay below Contexts 66 and 94 and above Context 101. Occasional iron staining formed reddish brown patches within the context.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stone.

#### Context 88

##### Description

A light to mid grey, stony clay. The stones were burnt and comprised 50% of the deposit. They ranged in size from fine pebbles to medium-sized stones. The deposit was 3.1 m long (northwest to southeast), 1 m wide and 0.12 m deep. It was situated between Grid Squares 6 and 10 on the west side of the trough area. It lay below Context 56 and Context 95.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stone.

#### Context 89

##### Description

A charcoal rich deposit in a firm, silty clay with burnt stones. The stones varied in size from fine pebbles to medium stones. They were sub-angular in shape. The charcoal content consisted of both flecks and large pieces. The deposit was 1.18 m long, 0.98 m wide and 0.08 m deep. It was situated on the west side of Grid Square 12 on the east side of the site. It was above the pit cut Context 107 (Group XI). It lay below Context 85 and above Contexts 94 and 91.

#### Interpretation

Charcoal rich layer of heat shattered stone.

#### Context 91

##### Description

A compact dark black, stony silty sand. The stones ranged in size from

fine pebbles to medium stones. They were sub-angular in shape. The charcoal consisted of mostly flecks and small pieces, with occasional medium-sized pieces. The deposit contained a possible scraping tool - Find 15. It was 3.4 m long (north to south), 2.3 m wide and 0.2 to 0.25 m deep. It lay under Contexts 89, 81 and 79 and above Contexts 101, 104 (Group XI) and Context 102. It was situated in Grid Square 12.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stone possible from the troughs to the west.

#### Context 92

##### Description

A dark, brownish black, stony silty clay. The stones were burnt and were mostly medium sized with moderate small, and occasional large stones and occasional burnt quartz. The deposit was 0.8 m long (east to west), 0.34 m wide and 0.04 m deep. The deposit sloped down on the north side of trough cut Context 64 (Group X) on the west side of Grid Square 7. It lay below Context 79 and above Context 100.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shatter stone

#### Context 93

##### Description

A dark greyish brown, stony silty clay. The stone content was

predominantly sub-angular pebbles of a coarse size with occasional small stones. The deposit also contained occasional large pieces of charcoal. It was 3.09 m long (northeast to southwest), 0.82 m wide and 0.2 m deep. It was situated in the northwest corner of Grid Square 6 on the west side of the burnt mound spread. It lay below Contexts 83, 74 and 68 and above Context 98 and Context 147.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 94

##### Description

A dark greyish black, stony deposit in a firm sandy silt matrix. The stones varied in shape from rounded to angular and in size from medium pebbles to medium stones. The deposit was 1.3 m long (east to west), 1.13 m wide and 0.18 m deep. It was situated at the junction of Grid Squares 10, 11, 14 and 15 near the centre of the site. It lay below Context 89, above Context 105.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones

#### Context 95

##### Description

A light brownish grey, soft, sandy clay. It contained *circa* 20% burnt stones that were mostly medium sub-angular pebbles and occasional

sub-rounded coarse pebbles and small stones. It was 1.48 m long (east to west), 1 m wide and 0.15 m deep. It was situated between Grid Squares 6 and 10 to the west of the trough area. It lay below Context 88 and above Context 98.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 96

##### Description

A mid yellowish, brownish, orangish white, stony, sandy clay. The deposit was firm and compact. The stones were occasional and varied in size from fine pebbles to medium stones. They were angular and sub-angular in shape. The deposit was 1.92 m long (north to south) 0.9 m wide and 0.12 m deep. It was situated in Grid Square 6, approximately 0.8 m west of the trough cut Context 176 (Group X). It lay below Context 83 and above Context 98. It also contained occasional charcoal flecks and staining.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stone.

#### Context 98

##### Description

A black stony sandy silt, which contained frequent flecks and occasional small pieces of charcoal. The stone content was mostly sub-angular pebbles and occasional small to medium sized sub-angular stones.

It was 1.02 m long (north to south) and 0.8 m wide and 0.1 m deep. It was situated between Grid Squares 6 and 10 on the west side of the trough and pits. It lay below Contexts 86, 95, 96, 93 and 87 and above Contexts 106 and 105.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones. The small size of the stones would indicate that the stones were used a few times in the heating-boiling process.

#### Context 100

##### Description

A mid greyish black, stony deposit in a soft silty clay matrix. The stone content was *circa* 25% of the deposit and comprised fine to coarse pebbles with occasional small stones. The deposit also contained occasional to moderate charcoal flecks. It was 0.95 m long, 0.5 m wide and 0.05 m deep. It was situated on the west side of Grid Square 7 under Context 92 and above Context 106. It lay to the immediate north of Context 176 (Group X). It contained occasional quartz fragments.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones possibly associated with trough cut Context 176 (Group X).

#### Context 101

##### Description

A large deposit of mostly burnt stone mixed with charcoal and a brownish black sandy silt. The stones ranged in size from fine pebbles (frequent) to large stones (occasional). It consisted of 30-40% small to medium stones, 20-30% pebbles and 20-30% soil. It contained frequent charcoal. It was 4.4 m long (north to south), 2.12 m wide and 0.08 m deep. It was situated on the east side of Grid Square 11 and covered pit/trough cut Context 247 (Group XIII) and pit cut Context 207 (Group XII). It lay directly under Contexts 87 and 91 and above Contexts 105 and 164.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones

#### Context 102

##### Description

A mid brownish grey, stony deposit in a stiff, sandy clay. The stone content consisted of occasional fine to coarse sub-rounded pebbles and small stones with one or two medium sized stones. The deposit also contained frequent large pieces of charcoal. It was 0.67 m long (north to south), 0.49 m wide and 0.05 m deep. It was situated on the west of Grid Square 12 to the immediate south of Context 107 (Group XI) on the east side of the site. It lay below Context 91 and above Context 105.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones

### Context 103

#### Description

A mid brownish black, stony, soft, silty clay. The stone comprised moderate amounts of medium sized sub-angular pebbles and frequent small sub-angular stones. The deposit also contained occasional charcoal flecks. It was 2.05 m long (north to south), 0.5 m wide and 0.1 m deep. It lay below Context 73 and above Context 150. It was situated in the southwest corner of Grid Square 8 on the east side of the site.

#### Interpretation

A dump of burnt stones with possible post-depositional soil accumulation.

### Context 105

#### Description

A dark greyish black, stony silty clay. The stone content was 40% angular to sub-angular pebbles and 45% small to medium sized angular to sub-angular stones. It contained frequent charcoal flecks. It was situated over most of Grid Squares 10, 11 and 12 and some of Grid Square 6. It was 10.2 m long (east to west) 6.4 m wide and 0.15 m deep. It covered the trough and fills of Groups XIV, XIII and XII. It lay under Context 136 and Context 87. An concerted attempt to break this layer down into smaller, meaningful units led to the conclusion that it could not be done given the mixed

nature of the deposits. This blending meant that strong relationships between layers of heat shattered stone and individual troughs could not be established.

#### Interpretation

A series of layers of shattered stones spread across a large area to the southwest of the site.

### Context 106

#### Description

A dark brownish black, stony sandy clay. The stone content was 30% and consisted of angular to sub-angular pebbles and small to medium sized stones. It also contained a moderate amount of charcoal flecks. It was approximately 5 m (east to west) and 5 m (north to south) and 0.15 m deep. It was cut by trough cut of Group X. It lay below Context 111 and Context 77 and above Context 136. Similar to 105 in the sense that this large layer could not be broken into smaller stratigraphic units.

#### Interpretation

A series of layers of burnt stones and charcoal immediately around trough Group X.

### Context 111

#### Description

A dark, brownish black, burnt stony deposit with a firm, silty clay. The stone content was 30% and consisted of sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles and small to

medium sized stones. The deposit also contained frequent charcoal flecks. It was 3 m long (east to west), 0.8 m wide and 0.06 m deep. It was situated in Grid Square 11, directly south of the trough recut Context 64 and possibly cut by it. It lay under Context 106 and above Context 145 (Group XIV).

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 114

##### Description

A mid brownish grey, weakly cemented, silty sand that contained frequent sub-angular pebbles and small stones. It also contained occasional charcoal flecks. It was 2 m long (north to south), 0.6 m wide and 0.05 m deep. It lay below Context 73 and above Contexts 146 198. It was situated on the eastern side of Grid Square 7 to the immediate north of Group IX.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 127

##### Description

A dark grey, clayey silt with burnt stones and moderate amounts of charcoal flecks and pieces. The stone content was sub-angular pebbles and sub-angular small and medium sized stones. The deposit was 1.2 m long, 0.7 m wide and 0.02 m deep. It lay

above Context 129. It was situated in Grid Square 2.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 129

##### Description

A dark grey, stony deposit in a clayey silt. It was firm. The stone consisted of moderate amounts of sub-angular fine and medium sized pebbles and sub-angular small to medium sized stones. The deposit also contained moderate amounts of charcoal, both flecks and small pieces. It was 0.9 m long, 0.64 m wide and 0.12 m deep. It lay below Context 127 in Grid Square 2.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones

#### Context 136

##### Description

A dark greyish black, stony deposit in a soft, sandy clay. The stone content was 40% of the deposit and predominantly consisted of angular to sub-angular coarse sized pebbles (nearly all of them being 0.05 m in diameter). There were also moderate amounts of fine and medium sized angular and sub-angular pebbles, occasional to moderate amounts of small stones, and occasional large stones, which were *circa* 0.35 m by 0.2 m. the deposit also contained frequent small charcoal pieces and moderate amounts of wood in small

pieces. It lay below Context 106 and above Contexts 150, 144 and 153 (Group X) and stakeholes Contexts 222 and 223 and Contexts 224 and 225 (Group XVIII). It surrounded the trough recut Context 64 as a ring of black pebbly material in the centre of the burnt mound. It was situated in Grid Squares 6, 7 and 11. It was 8 m long (east to west) 6 m wide and had an average depth of 0.15 m. It was over Groups IX, XIV, and XIII. Similar to Context 105 and 106 in that it is a large layer comprised of a series of deposits from troughs that could not be further divided up stratigraphically.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 144

##### Description

A mid brownish black, rusty, stony, sandy silt. The stones comprised 50% of the deposit and were predominantly sub-angular pebbles with a moderate amount of sub-angular small stones. It also contained a moderate amount of charcoal flecks. It was 2.33 m long (east to west), 1.41 m wide and 0.08 m deep. It was situated in Grid Square 6 on the eastern side.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 150

##### Description

A soft, sandy clay with sub-angular pebbles and frequent sub-angular small sized stones. It also contained occasional charcoal flecks. It was 4.69 m (northwest to southeast), 1.94 m wide and 0.1 m deep. It was situated in the northeast corner of Grid Square 11, the southwest corner of Grid Square 8 and the southeast corner of Grid Square 7.

##### Interpretation

A uniformly sandy deposit with less soil content than other burnt mound deposits.

#### Context 154

##### Description

A brownish black stony silty clay The deposit comprised 40-50% of burnt shattered stone, the rest being soil. 80% of the stones were sub-angular. They ranged in size from fine, medium and coarse pebbles to small stones. The deposit also contained frequent flecks and small to medium pieces of charcoal and occasional medium and large pieces of wood. It was 2.1 m long (east to west), 1.95 m wide and 0.07 m deep. It was situated in Grid Square 7 to the north of the trough area.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 255

##### Description

A mid to dark greyish brown, friable, silty clay. It contained an occasional

to moderate amount of burnt sub-angular to sub-rounded pebbles, occasional burnt sub-angular stones and occasional charcoal flecks. It was 1.2 m (north to south) and 0.7 m (east to west) and 0.08 m deep. It also contained abraded pot sherds with a mid brown fabric and fine tempered (quartz sands) and combed decoration (Finds 40, 41 and 42).

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Group VI Interpretation

The layers heat shattered stone in this group comprise the bulk of the waste material from the troughs on the site. Attention was paid during excavation to stratigraphic relationships in an attempt to tease out the relationship between the troughs and the mound deposits, and spatial distribution of concentrations of charcoal and stones to see if there was any indication of the management and re-use of stone and other resources at the site. The stratigraphic imprint of the series of depositions that make up the mound was too either too degraded so that any such patterns had dissolved, or no such patterns existed in the first place. The most significant thing about the mound was the relatively homogenous nature of the soil and stone matrix within it. Most of the stone, in most of the deposits was

the same in terms of size and shape. This suggests that they had been degraded to a similar level in antiquity, leading to the conclusion that regardless of variations in trough sizes the actual outcome in terms of waste was similar. This further suggests that the same kind of cooking was going on at the site over a period of time.

Maybe add more or leave for general discussion section in main text

#### Group VII Description

This group consists of a sub-circular cut to the north of the site, between Grid Squares 2 and 3 that contained a number of fills. Its lowest fills, together with a clay side packing, form Subgroup VIIe. The main fill of the cut (Subgroup VIId) consisted mostly of small, sub-angular stones that were unburnt. Above the fills of the cut were several spreads and dumps of burnt stone that had collected and/or formed in the shallow depression that had occurred naturally above the cut Context 244. Subgroup VIIc lay directly above Context 160 (the last fill of the cut), and consisted of a spread of peaty, silty clay with two further deposits of sandy silt above it. Above this was another peaty spread (Subgroup VIIb), which covered the hollow. Above this was a deposit of burnt stone fragments in a dark, greyish black peaty clay, (Subgroup VIIa).



This group is situated 2 m to the east of Group VIII.

Contexts 24, 34, 149, 152, 160, 168, 177, 181, 189 and 244.

#### Subgroup VIIa

##### Subgroup VIIa Description

A deposit of burnt stone fragments and dark, greyish black, peaty clay in a shallow hollow on the north side of the site between Grid Squares 2 and 3.

Context 24.

Contexts

Context 24

Description

A deposit of burnt stone fragments and dark, greyish black peaty clay. The stones were angular in shape as a result of them being shattered and were small to medium in size, *circa* 0.2 m in diameter. Most of the stone fragments were between 0.01 m and 0.06 m long. The deposit also contained a moderate amount of charcoal flecks. It was 1.82 m long (east to west) 1.57 m wide and 0.15 m deep. It filled a depression (above trough cut Context 244) between Grid Squares 2 and 3.

Interpretation

This was a deliberate dump of burnt stones that were deposited into a hollow on the burnt mound, which was created by material slumping into the trough cut Context 244. The small size of the stones would suggest that they were too small to be reused to heat water in the trough

and therefore this deposit was a waste dump from the use of a different trough. Otherwise, it is material that has collected in the hollow by natural means once this trough cut Context 244 went out of use.

##### Subgroup VIIa Interpretation

This was either a waste dump of burnt stones into the hollow that had been used in a trough nearby or else it is material that had slumped into the hollow by natural means from the surrounding burnt material.

#### Subgroup VIIb

##### Subgroup VIIb Description

A mid brown, peaty, silty clay, similar in colour and texture to Contexts 26 and 33 (Group XVI). It was situated in a shallow hollow on the north side of the site between Grid Squares 2 and 3.

Contexts

Context 34

Description

A mid brown, soft peaty, silty clay that contained occasional small sub-angular stones, fine sub-angular pebbles and moderate amounts of charcoal flecks. It was 1.9 m long (east to west) 1.2 m wide and 0.2 m deep. It lay between Grid Squares 2 and 3 and under Context 24. It was similar in texture and colour to Contexts 26 and 33 (Group XVI) in Grid Square 7. Below Context 24.

Interpretation

A build up of peaty clay in a hollow above trough cut Context 244.

#### Subgroup VII b Interpretation

A natural build up of peaty clay in the hollow above the trough cut Context 244. It represents a certain amount of water-logging occurring on the site, possibly localised within the hollow and maybe during the lifetime of the mound. Although there does appear to be a peaty build up in Grid Square 7 also (Group XVI).

#### Subgroup VIIc

##### Subgroup VIIc Description

This subgroup consisted of a small deposit of sandy silt (Context 149) on the north side of a hollow, which lay above a small deposit of heat shattered stones and sandy silt (Context 152). Context 152 lay above a larger spread of greyish brown, soft, peaty, silty clay that also filled the hollow. All the deposits contained charcoal flecks.

Contexts 149, 152 and 157.

#### Contexts

##### Context 149

##### Description

A small deposit of dark, grey brown, sandy silt on the north side of a hollow (*i.e.* above trough cut Context 244). It contained occasional, sub-angular pebbles and moderate charcoal flecks. It was 0.4 m long (north to south), 0.3 m wide and 0.07 m deep. It was situated in Grid

Square 2 below a peaty deposit (Context 34).

##### Interpretation

A small deposit of sandy silt that may have been deposited naturally by water collecting in the hollow before the peaty layer formed above it.

#### Context 152

##### Description

A dark, greyish brown, soft, sandy silt. It contained frequent sub-angular, coarse pebbles and moderate sub-angular small stones. It also contained frequent charcoal flecks. It was 1.9 m long, 0.7 m wide and 0.13 m deep. It was situated on the northwest side of the hollow above trough cut Context 244 on the east side of Grid Square 2. It partially covered a peaty deposit Context 157 that filled the hollow.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 157

##### Description

A mid greyish brown, soft, peaty, silty clay. It contained occasional sub-angular coarse pebbles and medium sized stones. It also contained moderate amounts of charcoal flecks. It was 2 m long (east to west), 1.3 m wide and 0.1 m deep. It filled the shallow basin-like depression (above trough cut Context 244) and was situated between Grid Squares 2 and 3.

### Interpretation

This was possibly the remains of an overlying peaty horizon that filled the shallow basin-like depression.

### Subgroup VIIc Interpretation

It is likely that this subgroup represents a build up of peaty silty clay that collected naturally within the basin-like depression above the trough cut Context 244. This either then had a dump of heat shattered stones thrown onto it (which had been used to heat water in a different trough) or else surrounding material from the burnt mound fell into the hollow. This then had a small build up of sandy silt occur above it, which may have been deposited naturally by water collecting in the hollow before the peaty layer (Context 34) formed above it. This subgroup also appears to indicate of localised water logging occurring on site in antiquity and possibly during its lifetime.

### Subgroup VIId

#### Subgroup VIId Description

A deposit of unburnt stones within the cut Context 244. It consisted mostly of small, sub-angular stones, some medium sized stones and four large stones that were 0.25 m to 0.3 m in diameter. It also contained charcoal flecks and some soil.

### Context 160

### Description

A deposit of very stony, light greyish brown, sandy clay that filled Context 244. It contained frequent charcoal flecks. The stones were mostly sub-angular and small in size, but a moderate amount were medium sized and there were four large sized stones that was between 0.25 m and 0.3 m in diameter. The stones were unburnt. The deposit was 1.2 m long (east to west), 1 m wide and 0.2 m deep. It is situated between Grid Squares 2 and 3 within Context 244.

### Interpretation

This fill of trough cut Context 244 is unusual in that the stones were not burnt. Therefore, this was not a typical fill of a trough. It may represent the abandonment of the cut as a trough, and its secondary use as a hole to store stones or as a hole to throw stones that were not suitable for use. It is more likely that this is a deliberate deposition of material intended to close the trough down after a period of use. Could be indicative of religious or ritual connotations associated with the production of food at the site. This becomes more likely given the fact that deliberate backfilling of a number of the other troughs is evident.

### Subgroup VIId Interpretation

Structured deposition non heat shattered stone intended to

symbolically close the site after a period of use.

#### Subgroup VIIe

##### Subgroup VIIe Description

This was a sub-circular cut (Context 244), which contained four fills (Contexts 168, 177, 181, 189 and also Context 160 of Subgroup VIId). Contexts 189, 181, 177, 168 and 244.

##### Contexts

##### Context 189

##### Description

A soft pebbly sandy clay that was mid greyish brown in colour. It also contained moderate amounts of charcoal flecks. It was situated against the western side of trough cut Context 244. It was 1.2 m long (north to south), 0.3 m wide and 0.2 m deep.

##### Interpretation

Remains of clay lining at base of trough

##### Context 181

##### Description

A light, yellowish white, firm clay with occasional pieces of charcoal. It was 0.6 m long (east to west) and 0.5 m wide. It was situated towards the base of the cut Context 244 on the southwest corner and lay under Context 189.

##### Interpretation

Clay lining of trough

##### Context 177

##### Description

A dark, greyish brown sandy clay with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional sub-angular coarse pebbles. It was 0.8 m long (east to west) and 0.68 m wide. It was situated in the southwest corner of the cut Context 244 and lay under Context 181.

##### Interpretation

*Clay lining of trough.*

##### Context 244

##### Description

This was a sub-circular cut with rounded corners. It was 1.3 m long (east to west), 1.1 m wide and 0.45 m deep. The break of slope at the top of the cut was gradual. The sides were steep and concave. The break of slope at the base of the cut was sharp at north and east and gradual at south and west. The base was flat and sub-circular in plan. It was situated between Grid Squares 2 and 3, approximately 2 m to the east of another cut, Context 202. It contained fills Contexts 168, 177, 181, 189 and 160. It was situated to the north of the site. It was cut into the natural.

##### Interpretation

Cut of trough.

##### Subgroup VIIe Interpretation

Clay lined cooking trough that was cleaned out and deliberately

backfilled by non-burnt mound material at the end of its period of use. This is a form of structured deposition and intentional activity that points the overall interpretation of the site in the direction of some kind of structured ritual activity taking place in relation to the decommissioning of trough at the end of a season or visit.

#### Group VII Interpretation

Clay lined cooking trough that was cleaned out and deliberately backfilled by non-burnt mound material at the end of its period of use. This is a form of structured deposition and intentional activity that points the overall interpretation of the site in the direction of some kind of structured ritual activity taking place in relation to the decommissioning of trough at the end of a season or visit. This activity is partly sealed by a peaty build up that may indicate an extended period. The trough is overlain by a mixture of peat and burnt mound deposits that suggest the site was originally in a very wet environment.

#### Group VIII

##### Group VIII Description

This group was a series of various stony deposits with peaty silty clays. They were situated in Grid Square 2

at the southern side and were 2 m west of pit or trough cut Context 244 (Group VII). A number of them contained flecks of charcoal. There were no finds. The deposits were not very large, the largest being 3.3 m long and 1.2 m wide, and the smallest being 0.25 m long and 0.2 m wide. They were not very deep, measuring between 0.03 m and 0.2 m thick. The deposits were all in and/or surrounding a natural hollow. Contexts 45, 46, 69, 74, 75, 97, 99, 112, 129, 139, 155, 146, 159, 165, 175, 202 and 23.

##### Contexts

##### Context 45

##### Description

A black stony deposit in a spongy, peaty clay. The stones were sub-angular and small in size and constituted 30% of the deposit. The deposit contained moderate amounts of small pieces of wood (between 6 mm and 0.02 m in diameter). It was 1.45 m long (east to west) 1.01 m wide and 0.2 m deep. It was situated in Grid Square 2.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

##### Context 46

##### Description

A black stony, peaty clay. The stones were sub-angular and small in size and constituted 30% of the deposit. It was 0.35 m north to south, 0.25 m wide and 0.1m deep. It was very

similar to Context 45. It was situated between Grid Squares 2 and 6 on the north of the site.

Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

Context 23

Description

Black stony peaty clay with frequent small sub-angular stones. This context was 0.25 m long by 0.2 m wide and 0.06 m deep. It was situated in Grid Square 2 between Context 244, Group VII and Group VIII.

Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

Context 69

Description

A light greyish black, soft stony clay. It contained frequent angular pebbles and moderate angular stones varying from small to large in size. It contained frequent charcoal flecks and pieces. It was 1.7 m long (northeast to southwest), 1.12 m wide and 0.2 m deep. It was situated at the south side of Grid Square 2.

Layer of heat shattered stones

Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

Context 74

Description

A mid greyish black, stony clay. It was 1.88 m long by 1.32 m wide. The stones were angular and sub-

rounded and of all sizes. The deposit was situated between Grid Squares 2 and 6. It also contained frequent charcoal flecks and pieces in small to large sizes.

Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

Context 75

Description

A dark, brownish black, soft, pebbly clay. The stones were mostly fine sized pebbles with some coarse sized and occasional small stones. They were all sub-angular in shape. The deposit was 2.13 m long, 1.07 m wide and 0.07 m deep. It also contained frequent flecks of charcoal.

Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

Context 97

Description

A dark brown, firm, clayey silt. It was 0.43 m long, 0.28 m wide and 0.03 m deep. It was situated on the east side of Grid Square 2 and was recorded as an organic deposit in a small, shallow pocket. It contained no inclusions.

Interpretation

A small organic build up in a shallow pocket. No clear interpretation.

Context 99

Description

A dark greyish brown, stiff, clayey silt with occasional small sub-angular

burnt stones and pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks. It was situated on the east side of Grid Square 2. It was 0.6 m long (east to west) 0.16 m wide and 0.22 m deep.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 112

##### Description

A dark brown, firm, clayey silt, which contained charcoal flecks and sub-angular pebbles and small stones in moderate amounts. The stones were burnt. It was 2.06 m long, 1.3 m wide and 0.08 m deep. It was situated in Grid Square 2. It was very similar to Contexts 129 and 127.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 127

##### Description

A dark grey, firm, clayey silt that contained charcoal flecks, angular pebbles and small to medium sized burnt stones. It was 1.2 m long, 0.7 m wide and 0.02 m deep. It was situated in Grid Square 2 and was similar to Contexts 112 and 129.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 129

##### Description

A dark grey, firm, clayey silt that contained occasional charcoal flecks,

moderate amounts of pebbles, and small to medium sized, sub-angular to angular stones. The stones were burnt. It was 0.9 m long, 0.64 m wide and 0.12 m deep. It was situated in Grid Square 2 and was similar to Contexts 127 and 112.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 139

##### Description

A light white, stiff stony clay. It contained occasional sub-angular to angular pebbles and stones. It also contained moderate amounts of charcoal flecks. It was 1.9 m long, 0.9 m wide and 0.03 m deep. It was situated in Grid Square 2.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones in clay.

#### Context 155

##### Description

A dark grey, silty clay, which contained fine, medium and coarse, sub-angular and angular pebbles, small stones and occasional flecks of charcoal. It was 1.8 m long, 0.9 m wide and 0.05 m deep. It was situated at the south of Grid Square 2.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 146

##### Description

A dark brownish black, stony deposit with soft clayey silt. The stones consisted of medium sized sub-rounded pebbles and frequent amounts of small to medium sized angular to sub-angular stones. It also contained frequent charcoal flecks. It was 3.3 m long (southwest to northeast), 1.2 m wide and 0.08 m deep. It was situated in Grid Squares 2, 5 and 6 but mostly in the north west quadrant of Grid Square 5.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 159

##### Description

A mid to dark brown, silty clay that contained fine, medium and coarse angular to sub-angular pebbles, small stones and occasional flecks of charcoal. It was 2.2 m long (northeast to southwest), 0.72 m wide and between 0.06 m and 0.08 m deep. It was situated in Grid Squares 2 and 6.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 158

##### Description

A dark brown sandy clay. It was 1.2 m in length and width and 0.2 m deep. Below Context 155 and above Context 159.

##### Interpretation

Clay layer.

#### Context 165

##### Description

A brown and white marbled clay, which was fairly plastic in places. It had some black veins in it, which were possibly charcoal. It was 3 m long (north to south) 1.8 m wide and 0.05 m deep. It extended down and around the sides of the hollow.

##### Interpretation

Interface between burnt mound deposits and natural subsoil.

#### Context 175

##### Description

A dark, brownish black, stony deposit of soft clayey silt. The stones constituted 50% of the deposit. They were fine and medium sub-rounded pebbles in moderate amounts and more frequent small angular and sub-angular stones. It also contained occasional charcoal flecks. It was 1.15 m long (northeast to southwest), 0.58 m wide and 0.1 m deep. It was situated at the south of Grid Square 2.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stones.

#### Context 202

##### Description

A very mixed yellow soil at the base of the trough. It lay above Context 165. It was 1.26 m long (east to west) and 0.94 m wide.

##### Interpretation



Interface of heat shattered stone layers

#### Context 158

##### Description

A dark brownish black, soft, peaty clay deposit. It contained occasional charcoal flecks. It was 1.14 m long (northwest to southeast), 0.74 m wide and 0.14 m deep. It was situated in Grid Square 2 in a possible pit cut on the northwest side of the site.

##### Interpretation

A peaty layer that formed in a hollow or pit where water collected and plants grew rotted and degraded in waterlogged conditions.

#### Group VIII Interpretation

Series of deposits of heat shattered stone in a natural hollow. May be filling in the hollow for access to the troughs from the north east. This serves as a useful reminder that we are excavating only part of a bigger site. This is also indicated by Group XV the double row of stakes feature, for instance.

#### Group IX

##### Group IX Description

This group consisted of a sub-circular cut and its fills (Contexts 161, 166, 210, 198 and 243). The cut was 1.83 m long (east to west), 1.37 m wide and 0.36 m deep. Context 243 was a black, soft clay charcoal deposit that

seemed to line the northern and eastern sides of the cut with a small spread of it on the southern side. This deposit contained possible pottery (Find 34). Beside Context 243 and in the base of this cut was Context 198, a mid yellowish brown, soft, silty clay that contained stones and charcoal flecks. Beside this lay Context 210, which was a dark, yellowish orange sandy clay that was indurated or very hard. It also contained stones and occasional charcoal. Above this lay Context 166, which was a stony charcoal spread in the centre of the cut. Above this lay Context 161, a deposit of stones in a mid brownish black, sandy clay. This deposit contained a quartz hammerstone type find (no. 31). This group was situated in the southeast quadrant of Grid Square 7 approximately 1.8 m east of cut Context 176 (Group X) and 0.9 m north of cut Context 247 (Group XIII).

Contexts 161, 166, 210, 198, 243 and 248.

##### Contexts

##### Context 161

##### Description

A deposit of stones with a mid brownish black, hard sandy clay. The stones varied in size from fine pebbles to medium sized stones. They were sub-angular and burnt. The deposit was 2.18 m long (east to west), 1.43 m wide and 0.15 m

deep. It was situated in the southeast quadrant of Grid Square 7. It lay under Context 105. It contained a quartz hammerstone (Find 32). It lay above Context 166.

Interpretation

Trough backfill

Context 166

Description

A dark black stony, peaty clay. The stones varied in size from fine pebbles to medium sized stones. They were sub-angular. The charcoal content consisted of occasional charcoal flecks and moderate amounts of charcoal pieces. The deposit was 1.22 m long (east to west), 0.8 m wide and 0.21 m deep. It was situated at the base of cut Context 248 in the centre. It lay under Context 166 and over Context 120.

Interpretation

Trough backfill

Context 210

Description

A dark yellowish orange, indurated sandy clay. It contained frequent sub-angular fine pebbles, occasional medium and coarse sized sub-angular pebbles and small sub-angular stones. It also contained occasional charcoal. It was 1.06 m long (northwest to southeast), 0.66 m wide and 0.02 m deep. It lay under Context 166 and next to

Context 198 on the west side of the cut Context 248.

Interpretation

Trough backfill

Context 198

Description

A mid yellowish brown, soft, silty clay that contained occasional medium and coarse sized sub-angular pebbles and frequent small sub-angular stones. It also contained occasional flecks of charcoal. It was 1 m long (north to south), 0.55 m wide and 0.11 m deep. It was situated in the centre of the base of Context 248.

Interpretation

A dump of stones in the base of the pit with possible post-depositional soil accumulation.

Context 243

Description

A black, soft, clay charcoal deposit. It was divided into three different patches but were all given the same context number. One patch on the north side was 0.44 m by 0.42 m, the one on the east side was 1.19 m by 0.36 m and the one on the south was 0.5 m by 0.29 m. The maximum depth was 0.35 m. The context was situated on the sides of the trough cut Context 248. It contained possible pottery (Find number 34).

Interpretation

Remains of trough lining.

## Context 248

### Description

This was a sub-circular cut, 1.83 m long (east to west), 1.37 m wide and 0.46 m deep. The break of slope at the top of the cut was sharp on the north, south and east sides and gradual on the west. The north and east sides were steeply sloping and concave, the west side was gently sloping and concave and the south side was vertical and concave. The break of slope at the base was sharp on the north, south and east sides and gradual on the west. The base was sub-circular. It was situated in the southeast quadrant of Grid Square 7, approximately 1.8 m east of cut Context 176 (Group X) and 0.9 m north of cut Context 247 (Group XIII).

### Interpretation

Trough cut.

### Group IX Interpretation

Trough overlain by burnt mound material. The top fills 161, 166 and 210 represent the deliberate backfilling of the feature at the end of its use as a cooking trough. Context 243 looks like the remains of a decayed wood lining. The gently sloping western side is suggestive of the side that was used for clearing out the feature prior to its decommissioning. This feeds into the developing interpretation of the site as a burnt mound or fulacht fiadh

with structured deposition relating to food related rituals, as evidenced in cut 244 Group VII.

### Group X

#### Group X Description

This group consisted primarily of an irregular, oval-shaped cut, Context 176. It was 2.12 m long (east to west), 1.7 m wide and 0.3 m deep. The deposit Context 153, which was a very mixed deposit of stony, sandy clay, filled this cut. There was also a possible stakehole, Context 204 on the west side of the cut. The cut was surrounded by Context 136, a dark greyish black stony sandy clay, which was 8 m long (east to west) and 6 m wide. The stone content was 40%. It was situated in Grid Squares 6, 7, 8, and 11. Another spread of stony material, Context 106, lay above this and also seemed to encircle the trough cut. It was a dark brownish black sandy clay with 30% stone content. It was approximately 6 m wide by 9 m long (north to south) and was situated in Grid Squares 6, 7, 8 and 11. Above this spread lay Context 77, which was dark brownish black, stony, sandy clay, containing 30% stones. It was situated along the north edge of the trough cut. This was cut by another irregular oval-shaped cut that was approximately 3.2 m long (northwest to southeast) and 2 m wide. It lay directly above the earlier cut Context 176. It contained the deposits

Context 51, 36, 33 and 26, which together form Subgroup Xa. The lowest deposit was Context 51, which was dark, bluish black, peaty clay. Above this lay three peaty layers that contained small amounts of angular burnt stone. One layer, Context 36, contained a piece of possible worked rhyolite (Find 7). This deposit also contained more grit and small stones than the more peaty layers above it. These layers varied in size from 1.9 m long and 0.9 m wide to 2.18 m long and 1.08 m wide.

This group was situated mostly in the southwest corner of Grid Square 7, which was in the centre of the burnt mound. It was approximately 0.4 m north of cut Context 162 (Group XIV) and 1.4 m west of cut Context 248 (Group IX).

Subgroups Xa and Xb, Contexts 26, 33, 36, 51, 64, 77, 106, 136, 105, 153, 203, 204 and 176.

#### Subgroup Xa

##### Subgroup Xa Description

This subgroup consisted of three peaty layers (Contexts 26, 33 and 36) and one peaty clay layer (Context 51) within a cut (Context 64). They were situated in the centre of the burnt mound, in the southwest corner of Grid Square 7. The cut, or depression, was approximately 3.2 m long (northwest to southeast) and 2 m wide. Context 51 was dark bluish black peaty clay that contained some significantly large Above this lay

three peaty layers that contained small amounts of angular stone. One layer, Context 36, contained a piece of possible worked rhyolite (Find 7). Context 36 contained more grit and small stones than the layers above it. These layers varied in size from 1.9 m long and 0.9 m wide to 2.18 m long and 1.08 m wide. The recut Context 64 seems to cut Context 136 and Context 136 covers the cuts Context 176 (Group X) and Context 248 (Group IX).

Contexts 26, 33, 36, 51 and 64.

#### Contexts

##### Context 26

##### Description

A peaty layer in a depression in the burnt mound material. It had a pale 'crust' (a light orange brown) due to drying. Below the crust the peat was a dark reddish brown colour, but when it was wet it was almost black. It contained moderate amounts of sub-angular pebbles and small to medium sized sub-angular stones. It also contained occasional small charcoal pieces. It was 1.9 m long (northwest to southeast), 0.9 m wide and 0.1 m deep. It lay below Context 16 (Group III) and above Context 33, which was similar. It was situated mostly in the southwest corner of Grid Square 7.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stone

##### Context 33

#### Description

This was a dark reddish black, peaty layer. Along the northern edge of the context the colour faded to mid to light orangish brown. The deposit was soft and contained occasional sub-angular stones that varied in size from medium and coarse sized pebbles to small and medium stones. It was 2.09 m long (east to west), 0.96 m wide and 0.12m deep.

#### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stone.

#### Context 36

##### Description

A soft gritty dark brownish black peat layer. It contained frequent fine to coarse sized pebbles and occasional small to medium sized, sub-angular stones, some of which were quartz. It also contained occasional charcoal pieces. It was 2.18 m long (east to west) 1.08 m wide and 0.1 m deep. It contained a possible piece of worked rhyolite (Find 7). It lay below Context 33 and above Context 51.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stone.

#### Context 51

##### Description

A soft dark bluish black, peaty layer, which contained frequent fine to coarse sized sub-angular pebbles and small to large sub-angular stones in moderate amounts. Some of the stones were very large and there was

a charcoal concentration in pieces on the east side. It was 2.2 m long (east to west) by 0.78 m wide and 0.1 m deep. It lay below Context 33 and above Context 64.

##### Interpretation

Layer of heat shattered stone.

#### Context 64

##### Description

An irregular shaped oval feature, 3.2 m long (northwest to southeast) and 2 m wide. It had gradual breaks of slope on the north, south and east sides and a sharp break on the west side. The north side was moderately sloping and irregular in shape, the south side was moderately sloping, smooth and stepped, the west side was smooth and steep to vertical, and the east side was smooth, moderately sloping and convex. The break of slope at the base was gradual at north, south and east and sharp at west. The base was concave in profile. The cut was mostly situated in the southwest corner of Grid Square 7. It contained Contexts 51, 36, 33 and 26.

##### Interpretation

Series of burnt mound layers filling hollow caused by trough Context 176 that was exploiting a natural hollow similar to Group VIII.

#### Subgroup Xa Interpretation

A depression in the centre of the burnt mound material, which lay

directly above the cut of a trough and its possible recut, and that naturally retained water. As a result, plants and vegetation grew, rotted, decomposed and formed peat over time, possibly in four separate phases. If the find is a worked piece of rhyolite, it may suggest that although peat was forming the area was still in use.

#### Subgroup Xb

##### Subgroup Xb Description

This subgroup comprises an irregular oval-shaped cut, its fill, a stakehole in its side and some layers that surrounded the cut. The cut, Context 176, was 2.12 m long (east to west), 1.7 m wide and 0.3 m deep. It was filled by Context 153, which was a very mixed deposit of stony, sandy clay. There was a possible stakehole, Context 204, in the west side of the cut. Context 176 appeared to cut Context 136, a dark greyish black, stony, sandy clay and Context 106, a dark brownish black, stony, sandy clay. Context 77, a dark brownish black, stony sandy clay lay above Context 106. This subgroup was situated mostly in the southwest corner of Grid Square 7, which was in the centre of the burnt mound. It was approximately 0.4 m north of cut Context 162 (Group XIV) and 1.4 m west of Context 248 (Group IX).

Contexts 77, 106, 105, 153, 203, 204 and 176.

#### Contexts

#### Context 77

##### Description

This was a dark brownish black, stony, soft sandy clay. It contained approximately 30% stones. These were mainly fine and coarse sub-angular pebbles, with moderate amounts of small to large sub-angular stones mixed through. The large stones were 0.3 m by 0.35 m. The deposit also contained occasional charcoal flecks. It was approximately 3.4 m long (northwest to southeast), 1 m wide and 0.25 m deep. Cut by Context 176.

##### Interpretation

Layer cut by trough.

#### Context 106

##### Description

This was a dark brownish black, stony, soft sandy clay. It contained 30% stones that varied in size from fine and coarse sized pebbles to small and medium sized stones. The pebbles and stones were all either sub-angular or angular. The deposit also contained moderate charcoal flecks. It appeared to circle the trough depression. It was approximately 6 m wide by 9 m long (north to south) and was situated in Grid Squares 6, 7, 10 and 11.

##### Interpretation

A series of layers or dumps of heat shattered stone that were cut by the trough.

#### Context 136

##### Description

A dark greyish black, stony, soft sandy clay. It contained 40% stones, which were mostly angular to sub-angular pebbles, and occasional sub-angular small stones. It also included some large stones that were sub-angular and measured 0.35 m by 0.2 m. The deposit also contained frequent small pieces of charcoal and also of wood. It was 8 m long (east to west) and 6 m wide with an average depth of 0.15 m. It was situated in Grid Squares 6, 7, 8 and 11. It seemed to circle Context 64, the trough depression.

##### Interpretation

Large layer of heat shattered stone cut by trough. Similar to large layers like context 58.

#### Context 153

##### Description

A deposit of stony, sandy clay. It was very mixed and the colours varied from light yellowish white to dark greyish brown and black. The stones were sub-angular to sub-rounded and varied in size from pebbles to small, medium and large sized stones (0.2 m by 0.3 m). The deposit also contained moderate flecks and small pieces (6 mm –0.02 m) of charcoal. It was 2.52 m long, 1.34 m wide and 0.32 m deep. It was situated in trough cut Context 176.

##### Interpretation

Represent event of deliberately backfilling the trough.

#### Context 203

##### Description

A greyish black, soft to firm sandy clay, which contained frequent charcoal. It was 0.12 m long, 0.06 m wide and 0.07m deep.

##### Interpretation

Fill of Context 204.

#### Context 204

##### Description

An oval shaped cut, 0.12 m long, 0.06 m wide and 0.7 m deep. It had smooth sides and a tapered point at the base. The top of the cut was slightly west of the base and there was a stone on the western edge. It was situated on the east side of the trough cut Context 176. It was filled by Context 203.

##### Interpretation

Stakehole cut at base of trough. No other stakes found associated with it. Maybe used to suspend foodstuff in boiling water for cooking.

#### Context 176

##### Description

An irregular, oval shaped cut that was 2.12 m long (east to west), 1.7 m wide and 0.34 m deep. It had a sharp to gradual break of slope at the top of the cut and a gradual break of slope at the base. The north side was steep to vertical and

concave, the south side was moderately sloped and smooth and the east side was irregular and steep. The west side was moderately sloped. The base was flat and oval in shape. It contained fill Context 153 and it was situated in Grid Squares 6 and 7, approximately 0.4 m to the north of cut Context 162 (Group XIV) and 1.4 m west of Context 248 (Group IX).

#### Interpretation

Trough cut.

#### Subgroup Xb Interpretation

Cooking trough with a stakehole at the base for suspending foodstuff in the boiling water. The feature was cleaned out and deliberately backfilled like trough Context 244 and Context 248. The feature may have been raked out from both the north and side for this final cleaning before sealing. The food related ritual motif continues.

#### Group X Interpretation

The trough Context 176 was overlain by a series of layers of heat shattered stone that accumulated in the hollow caused by the excavation of 176, which was itself cut into a natural hollow similar to that described as Group VIII. The trough had a stake in it that may have been used to suspend food for cooking in the boiling water. The feature was cleaned out, possibly by raking heat

shattered stones out to the north and south, and then filled in, or sealed if one goes with the ritual motif by Context 153.

#### Group XI

##### Group XI Description

A sub-circular cut that was 0.9 m long (north to south) by 0.62 m wide and 0.2 m deep. It is significantly smaller than the other pits and trough cuts to the west (Contexts 176, 248, 162, 247 and 207). It contained Context 104, a black stony, clayey silt. It was situated on the west side of Grid Square 12 approximately 2 m east of cut Context 247 (Group XIII).

Contexts 104 and 107.

#### Contexts

##### Context 104

##### Description

A black, stony, hard clayey silt. The stones were frequent, sub-angular pebbles and small to medium sized stones. It contained moderate amounts of charcoal flecks and occasional charcoal pieces (0.02 m to 0.06 m in size). It was 0.83 m long (north to south), 0.57 m wide and 0.2 m deep. It lay below Context 91. It was situated on the west side of Grid Square 12, within cut Context 107.

#### Interpretation

Trough backfill.

##### Context 107

##### Description



A sub-circular cut that was 0.9 m long (north to south), 0.62 m wide and 0.25 m deep. Its north corner was sharp and the rest were rounded. The break of slope at the top of the cut was sharp at north and west and gradual at south and east. The north, east and west sides were smooth and moderately to gently sloping, whereas the south side sloped gently but was stepped. The break of slope at the base was sharp at north and gradual elsewhere. The base was flat and sub-rectangular in shape. The cut was orientated northwest to southeast. But length is given as N-S. It was cut into the natural subsoil. It was situated on the west side of Grid Square 12, approximately 2 m east of cut Context 247 (Group XIII).

#### Interpretation

Trough cut with possible rake out area in the south.

#### Group XI Interpretation

Small cooking trough that was deliberately backfilled or sealed. Like Contexts 176, 248 and 244, it was cleaned out prior to this backfilling episode. This is the smallest of the troughs on site. During excavation it was noted that we may see an evolutionary sequence of trough development represented at this site with Context 107 being early in the sequence. The development may be a purely practical one involving reuse

of a pit for cooking, such that it simply gets bigger overtime through cleaning and re-setting for cooking. It is also possible that it was just a small cooking trough- a prehistoric microwave for a quick meal.

#### Group XII

##### Group XII Description

This group consisted of two cuts, Context 207 and Context 242, and their two fills. Context 207 was sub-circular and was 1.26 m long (north to south), 1.2 m wide and 0.3 m deep. Context 207 was filled by Context 201, which was a deposit of angular burnt stones and charcoal flecks with orangish yellow sandy clay as the soil content.

Context 242 was 0.9 m long, 0.7 m wide and 0.3 m deep and was sub-rectangular in shape. It was situated on the south side of Context 207. Context 242 was filled by Context 164, which was a blackish grey, sandy silt that contained burnt stones. It also contained charcoal flecks. It was situated under Context 105.

This group was situated roughly in the centre of Grid Square 11, 0.3 m south of Context 247 (Group XIII) and 1.3 m southeast of Context 162 (Group XIV). This group may also be associated with the other pit and trough cuts Context 176 (Group X) and Context 248 (Group XIV). Context 242 cut the fill of Context 207.

Subgroups XIIa and XIIb. Contexts 164, 201, 27 and 242.

Subgroup XIIa

Subgroup XIIa Description

A shallow sub-rectangular cut that was 0.9 m long, 0.7 m wide and 0.3 m deep and its fill of blackish grey, sandy silt and stones. They were situated on the south side of pit cut Context 207, roughly in the centre of Grid Square 11. Context 164 lay below Context 105.

Contexts 164 and 242.

Contexts

Context 164

Description

Blackish grey, soft, sandy silt (20%) that contained burnt stones. 20% were fine angular pebbles and 60% were angular small to medium sized pebbles. The deposit also contained frequent charcoal flecks and occasional charcoal pieces. It was 0.9 m long (northeast to southwest), 0.7 m wide and 0.3 m deep. It was situated under Context 105 on the south side of the pit Context 207.

Interpretation

Trough backfill.

Context 242

Description

A sub-rectangular cut that was 0.9 m long, (northwest to southeast), 0.7 m wide and 0.3 m deep. It had rounded corners. The break of the slope at the top of the cut was gradual at south and east and sharp

at north and west. The east, west and south sides were gentle and concave and the north side was irregular and vertical. Cut into Context 201.

Interpretation

Trough cut.

Subgroup XIIa Interpretation

Small cooking trough, very like Context 107. Like the other troughs described so far, it seems to have been cleared out (to the south and east in this case) and backfilled in one event. It is cut into Context 201, the fill of another trough 207. Again ritual sealing of pits used for processing food seems to be as good explanation for its final composition.

Subgroup XII b

Subgroup XIIb Description

This subgroup consisted of a sub-circular pit cut Context 207 that was 1.26 m long (north to south), 1.12 m wide and 0.3 m deep. It also has three small depressions at the base of the cut. Its fill, Context 201, was a light, orangish yellow, sandy clay, stone deposit. It also contained frequent charcoal flecks.

Contexts 201 and 207.

Contexts

Context 201

Description

A light orangish yellow, indurated, sandy clay (25%) and stone deposit. 25% of the stones were angular fine

pebbles and 50% were small to medium sized angular stones. It contained frequent charcoal flecks and occasional charcoal pieces. It was 1.26 m long (north to south), 1.2 m wide and 0.3 m deep. The stones were burnt.

#### Interpretation

Pit fill. Fill of Context 207.

#### Context 207

##### Description

A sub-circular cut that was 1.26 m long (north to south), 1.2 m wide and 0.3 m deep. The sides were gentle and concave. It was situated in the centre of Grid Square 11. It was 0.3 m to the south of Context 247 (Group XIII).

##### Interpretation

Trough cut.

#### Subgroup XIIf Interpretation

The pattern of deliberate cleaning and backfilling of cooking troughs continues with this feature. The level of hardness or induration is significant because it marks the radical difference of the fill from the surrounding burnt mound layers. These layers do not slump into this or any of the troughs. All troughs are demarcated by definite stratigraphic breaks between their fills and adjacent mound material. This adds to the arguments in favour of deliberate backfilling, possibly for religious or symbolic purposes.

#### Group XII Interpretation

Two cooking troughs with Context 242 cutting into the fill of Context 207. This suggests that the process of sealing the troughs was not intended to be permanent. Both troughs again had the appearance of having been cleaned out and then deliberately backfilled. The compositional difference between the trough fills and the surrounding layers of burnt mound waste material is noted as an argument in favour of intentional or structured deposition within troughs across the site.

#### Group XIII

##### Group XIII Description

This group consisted mainly of a cut, Context 247, and its fills. The cut was irregular in shape and was 1.86 m long (north to south), 1.54 m wide and 0.3 m deep. It was cut into the natural. It contained four deposits, which form Subgroup XIIIb. These were Contexts 245, 193, 192 and 191. Context 245 was a mixed sandy soil that contained burnt stones. The burnt stones were also embedded in the very base of the cut. This base fill also contained frequent charcoal flecks and pieces. Above this lay Context 192, which was a ridge of grey clay containing frequent small fragments of charcoal and some burnt stones. This deposit ran across the centre of the pit. Context 193, a small deposit of burnt stones and

sandy silt, lay above this clay on the north side of the pit. On the south side of the arc lay Context 191, which was a similar deposit of burnt stone and sandy silt.

Subgroup XIIIa consisted of a small irregular shaped cut, Context 190, and its fill, Context 163. Context 190 was 1.18 m long and 0.9 m wide. It was situated within Context 247 on the northwest side of the cut. Context 163 was a deposit of brownish black, sandy silt and fragments of burnt stone (70%). This deposit also contained three or four large stones that were not burnt. It is possible that Context 190 truncated Contexts 191, 192 and 193.

This group was situated in the northeast quadrant of Grid Square 11. It was 0.3 m north of cut Context 207 (Group XII) approximately 0.8 m east of Context 162 (Group XIV) and 0.8 m south of Context 248 (Group IX). It lay under Context 105.

Subgroups XIIIa and XIIIb; Contexts 163, 190, 191, 192, 193, 245 and 247.

#### Subgroup XIIIa

##### Subgroup XIIIa Description

This subgroup comprises an irregular cut (Context 190), which was 1.18 m long, 0.9 m wide and 0.3 m deep, and a stony deposit in a brownish black sandy silt that was 1.8 m long and 1.3 m wide.. The stones were

mostly shattered fragments that were small to medium in size, but there were also 4 large stones that were not burnt. The deposit also contained occasional charcoal flecks. Both of these contexts were situated within pit cut Context 247, which was in the northeast quadrant of Grid Square 11. There was a reddish orange ring at the northwest of the top of Context 190.

Contexts 163 and 190.

#### Contexts

##### Context 163

##### Description

A deposit of brownish black, sandy silt and fragments of burnt small to medium sized pebbles (70%). It also contained four large stones that were not burnt. The deposit also contained occasional charcoal flecks. It lay under Context 105 and within cuts Contexts 190 and 247. It was situated in the northeast quadrant of Grid Square 11. It was 1.8 m long (north to south), 1.3 m wide and 0.3 m deep.

##### Interpretation

Trough backfill.

##### Context 190

##### Description

A rectangular shaped cut that was 1.18 m long (north to south), 0.9 m wide and 0.3 m deep. The break of slope at the top of the cut was sharp. The northwest side was gentle and concave and all the others were

steep and irregular. This suggests that this side was used to clean the feature out prior to sealing with Contwct163. The break of slope at the base was imperceptible. The base in plan was sub-circular.

Interpretation

Trough cut.

Subgroup XIIIa Interpretation

Cooking trough cut into fills of Context 247. It was cleaned out and sealed in one backfilling event Context 163.

Subgroup XIIIb

Subgroup XIIIb Description

This subgroup consisted of an rectangular shaped cut and its fills. The cut was 1.86 m long (north to south) by 1.54 m wide and 0.55 m deep. It contained deposits Contexts 245, 193, 192, and 191. Context 245 was a mixed sandy soil that contained burnt stones. These were embedded in the deposit. It covered the base of the pit and although mixed, had a patch of distinct bright orange soil on the west side. Above this lay Context 192, which was an arc-shaped ridge of grey clay with occasional burnt stones and charcoal. Context 193 was a small deposit of burnt stone and sandy silt that lay above Context 192 on the north side of the pit. Context 191 was a similar small deposit of burnt stone and sandy silt on the south side of the pit.

Contexts 191, 192, 193, 245 and 247.

Contexts

Context 193

Description

A small deposit of 80 to 90% small to medium size burnt stones, mixed within a yellowish brown sandy silt. The deposit also contained one large stone that measured 0.3 m by 0.22 m. The deposit itself was 0.32 m long (north to south), 0.22 m wide and 0.08 m deep.

Interpretation

Primary fill of trough.

Context 191

Description

A small deposit of 80 to 90% sub-angular burnt stones (of small to medium size), mixed with yellowish brown sandy silt. It was 0.56 m long (east to west), 0.4 m wide and 0.14 m deep. It was similar to Context 193 and lay above Context 192.

Interpretation

Primary fill of trough.

Context 192

Description

A deposit of light to mid grey clay with frequent small fragments of charcoal and *circa* 10% medium sized sub-angular burnt stones. It was approximately 1.2 m long (north to south), 0.4 m wide and 0.09 m deep. Runs across the base of the pit and is under Context 191.

## Interpretation

### Clay lining of pit.

#### Context 245

##### Description

A large, shallow deposit across the base of pit cut Context 247. It comprised a loose sandy soil of varying colours from light brownish yellow, mid to dark grey to reddish brown and orange. They were all mixed together and were not definable as separate contexts. It contained frequent sub-rounded to sub-angular burnt stones of varying sizes, from fine pebbles to medium sized stones. It also contained frequent charcoal flecks and pieces. It was 1.36 m long (north to south), 1.19 m wide and 0.05 m deep.

##### Interpretation

May indicate first use of the pit for cooking prior to it being sealed with Context 192 the clay lining.

#### Context 247

##### Description

An irregular shaped cut that was 1.86 m long (north to south), 1.54 m wide and 0.6 m deep. It had rounded corners. The break of slope at the top of the cut was sharp at north, west and southwest and gradual at south and east. The south and east sides were gently sloping and concave. The break of slope at the base was gradual at north and west and imperceptible at south and east.

The base was sub-circular in plan. It contained fills Contexts 245, 193, 192 and 191. It was situated in the northeast corner of Grid Square 11. It was 0.3 m north of cut Context 207 (Group XII) and approximately 0.8 m to the east of Context 162 (Group XIV) and 0.8 m to the south of Context 248 (Group IX).

##### Interpretation

Trough cut.

#### Subgroup XIIIb Interpretation

Cooking with primary fills from cooking episode still *in situ*, including clay lining (192) and remains of cooking events that was partly cleaned out prior to the clay lining being put in place (245).

#### Group XIII Interpretation

Context 190 follows the pattern of deposition found in the other cooking troughs in that the last event to occur in its lifetime as a pit was its cleaning and sealing. This was cut into the primary fills of a cooking trough that had not been sealed. Within this we find the trough being reworking from an earlier phase when it was partly cleaned out and then sealed with clay. There was even a large stone that was not heat shattered like most of the other stone on the site was, still in place. Post-depositional changes in the soil compacted the remains of the initial cooking events into the natural

subsoil. This is a snapshot of one of the troughs with primary fills in place if disturbed.

#### Group XIV

##### Group XIV Description

This group consisted primarily of a sub-rectangular cut (Context 162) that was 1.54 m long, 1.4 m wide and 0.6 m deep. There was a circular stakehole in 3 of the four corners, and an elongated oval-shaped cut in the fourth corner. It contained three fills. Two of these were blackish peaty sand with a high burnt stone content, Contexts 145 and 151. The third was two large angular flat stones surrounded by grit, Context 156. The cut was situated in the northwest corner of Grid Square 11, to the south of Context 176 (Group X) by 0.5 m, and to the west of Context 247 (Group XIII) by approximately 0.8 m. It was also quite close to, (to the west of) Context 248 (Group IX) and Context 242 (Group XII). Contexts 145, 151, 156, 162, 169, 170, 171, 178, 180, 182, and 183.

##### Contexts

##### Context 145

##### Description

A dark brownish black, stony sandy silt. The stones were burnt and consisted of angular to sub-angular pebbles, frequent small stones, moderate medium sized stones and occasional large stones that

measured 0.4 m by 0.35 m by 0.3 m. The deposit also contained frequent charcoal flecks and occasional small pieces of wood. It was 1.5 m long (northwest to southeast) 1.3 m wide and 0.3 m deep. It had a light orange brown staining throughout.

##### Interpretation

Primary fill of trough.

##### Context 151

##### Description

A dark greyish black, sandy silt with a high stone content. The stone content consisted of *circa* 30% pebbles and 40% angular to sub-angular small, medium and large sized stones. It contained frequent flecks, small and large pieces of charcoal and moderate amounts of orange iron staining. It was 1.5 m long (northwest to southeast) and 1.3 m wide. It was situated below Context 145.

##### Interpretation

Primary fill of trough.

##### Context 156

##### Description

A deposit of two large, angular, flat stones at the base of trough cut Context 162, surrounded by a gritty deposit. The stones had the same dimensions as those in Context 145 only they were only 0.1 m thick.

##### Interpretation

Maybe remains of a stone lining for pit. More likely to be partly heat shattered stones, and a good example of the kind of stones that were eventually broken down into the kind of fragmented detritus found in the mound.

#### Context 169

##### Description

A light yellow brown sandy silt. It was compact and contained frequent small pebbles and occasional medium stones. It was 0.11 m in diameter and 0.15 m deep.

##### Interpretation

Fill of stakehole Context 178.

#### Context 178

##### Description

A circular cut, 0.11 m in diameter and 0.15 m deep. It had vertical sides and a pointed base. It was situated in the southwest corner of the trough cut Context 162.

##### Interpretation

A stake was driven vertically into the base of the trough in one corner as part of a lining. It was later removed and the hole with surrounding sediment, which was the gritty basal fill of the pit. Could also be support for some kind of superstructure.

#### Context 170

##### Description

A black, soft, silty sand that contained frequent charcoal flecks

and occasional small pebbles. It was 0.07 m in diameter and 0.15 m deep.

##### Interpretation

Fill of stakehole Context 171.

#### Context 171

##### Description

A circular shaped cut, 0.07 m in diameter and 0.15 m deep. It had vertical sides and a pointed base. It inclined slightly to the southeast. It was situated in the southeast corner of the trough cut Context 162.

##### Interpretation

A stake was driven into one corner of the base of the trough, at a very slight angle. It was later removed and the hole filled with surrounding sediment. Maybe superstructural support

#### Context 179

##### Description

A dark black, soft, silty clay sand, which contained occasional medium sized stones and small pebbles. It had a high charcoal content. It was 0.07 m in diameter and had a depth of 0.14 m.

##### Interpretation

Fill of stakehole Context 180.

#### Context 180

##### Description

A circular shaped cut that was 0.07 m in diameter and had a depth of 0.14 m. It had almost vertical sides and a pointed base. The hole was



angled slightly towards the northwest. It was situated in the northwest corner of the base of cut Context 162.

#### Interpretation

A stake was driven into the ground at a slight angle, possibly burnt *in situ* or was removed, then the hole filled with surrounding sediment.

#### Context 182

##### Description

This was a black, soft, silty sand that contained occasional small pebbles. The charcoal content was high. It was 0.28 m long by 0.1 m wide and 0.2 m deep.

##### Interpretation

Fill of stakehole Context 183.

#### Context 183

##### Description

An elongated oval-shaped cut that was 0.28 m long and 0.1 m wide and 0.2 m deep. It had slightly rounded corners, steep sides and a rounded, v-shaped base in profile. It was situated in the northeast corner of cut Context 162.

##### Interpretation

Large stake or driven post cut.

#### Context 162

##### Description

This was a sub-rectangular cut that was 1.54 m long (northwest to southeast), 1.4 m wide and 0.6 m deep. The north, west and south

corners were square and the east corner was rounded. The break of slope at the top of the cut was sharp. The sides were smooth and steep. The break of slope at the base was also sharp. The base was sub-rectangular in plan. It was situated in the northwest corner of Grid Square 11, 0.5 m to the south of Context 176 (Group X) and 0.8 m to the west of Context 247 (Group XIII).

##### Interpretation

Trough cut with stakes to support some kind of superstructure.

#### Group XIV Interpretation

A cooking pit was dug into the natural clay. Three stakes and a post were driven into each corner of the base, possibly as some form of superstructure. The fills appear to be primary, and it is interesting to note that it is in this kind of context that the largest and least degraded stones are found on the site. It is tempting to see this as the last cooking trough to be used on the site prior to abandonment, one that was not sealed like most of the others.

#### Group XV

##### Group XV Description

This group consisted of a cluster of stakeholes and postholes situated in Grid Square 3 on the north side of the site. They were roughly 4 m east of pit or trough Context 244 (Group VII). The cuts measured from 0.08 m in diameter up to 0.38 m long and

0.28 m wide and from 0.09 m to 0.66 m in depth. The fills varied but were mainly mid brown, firm silty clays with a few containing infrequent to moderate amounts of small stones and one containing root inclusions (Context 184). Context 185 is the only cut recorded as having been cut into a layer of dark brown peat, the others were cut into natural. They were all covered by topsoil (Context 1). The cuts had smooth sides and pointed or rounded bases.

This group should possibly to be part of Group XVI also, another group of three stakeholes. They are separated by the modern drain Context 20. The stakeholes in this group appear to form a double arc of stakeholes that curved roughly east to west. Contexts 20, 239, 206 and 195 (in a line with Context 250 from Group XVI) form one arc (the interior) and Contexts 209, 197 (and Contexts 254 and 252 from Group XVI) form another arc (the exterior). Context 241 lies to the immediate north of Context 200.

Contexts 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 194, 195, 196, 197, 199, 200, 205, 206, 208, 209, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240 and 241.

Contexts

Context 184

Description

A mid brown, firm silty clay with wood or root inclusions. It was 0.18

m long, 0.12 m wide and 0.66 m deep.

Interpretation

Fill of Context 185. Possible roothole or stakehole.

Context 185

Description

An oval shaped cut, 0.18 m long, 0.12 m wide and 0.66 m deep. The sides were smooth, and tapered towards a pointed base. It was orientated northwest to southeast and cut into the dark brown peaty layer below. It was situated in Grid Square 3 in a cluster of nine other possible stakehole cuts and fills.

Interpretation

Roothole

Context 187

Description

A light greyish brown, loose, clayey coarse sand that contained moderate medium-sized sub-angular pebbles. The top 0.5 m was a yellowish grey coarse clayey sand, suggesting material washed in from immediate environs. It was 0.2 m long (north to south), 0.17 m wide and 0.23 m deep.

Interpretation

Fill of driven post. The remains of the rotted post *in situ*.

Context 188

Description

An oval shaped cut, 0.2 m long (north to south), 0.17 m wide and 0.23 m deep. It had smooth sides and a tapered rounded point and was situated in Grid Square 3, to the south of a cluster of nine other potential stakeholes.

#### Interpretation

A post was driven into the ground, and rotted *in situ* and shrank, with the top of the cut filling with surrounding sediment.

#### Context 194

##### Description

A light brown, firm clayey silt that contained occasional small sub-angular stones. It was 0.16 m in length (east to west), 0.12 m wide and 0.13 m deep.

##### Interpretation

Stakehole fill

#### Context 188

##### Description

An oval shaped cut, 0.16 m long (east to west), 0.12 m wide and 0.13 m deep. The break of slope at the top was sharp, the sides were smooth and the base was rounded. The top of the cut was north of the base. It was situated on the east side of a cluster of eight other potential stakeholes on the east side of Grid Square 3.

##### Interpretation

Stakehole cut

#### Context 196

##### Description

A mid brown, firm, clay silt that contained small stones and charcoal flecks. It was 0.14 m long, 0.09 m wide and 0.17 m deep.

##### Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

#### Context 197

##### Description

An oval shaped cut that was 0.14 m long, 0.09 m wide and 0.17 m deep. It had steep, smooth sides and a pointed base. It was situated in Grid Square 3 within a cluster of eight other potential stakeholes.

##### Interpretation

Stakehole cut

#### Context 199

##### Description

A dark brownish grey, soft, silty clay that contained occasional small pebbles and a square stone (Find 33). It also contained gritty sand. It was 0.13 m long, 0.07 m wide and 0.18 m deep.

##### Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

#### Context 200

##### Description

An oval shaped cut that was 0.13 m long, 0.07 m wide and 0.22 m deep. It had smooth sides and a rounded base. It was orientated northwest to southeast and was situated in Grid Square 3 on the west side of a

cluster of eight other potential stakeholes.

Interpretation

Stakehole cut.

Context 205

Description

A mid brown, firm, clay silt with occasional medium sized sub-angular pebble inclusions. It was 0.1 m long, 0.8 m wide and 0.16 m deep.

Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

Context 206

Description

An oval shaped cut that was 0.1 m long, 0.8 m wide and 0.16 m deep. It had steep, smooth sides and a pointed base. It was orientated northwest to southeast. It was situated in Grid Square 3 in the centre of a cluster of eight other stakeholes.

Interpretation

Stakehole cut.

Context 208

Description

A mid brown, firm, clay silt that was 0.12 m long, 0.1 m wide and 0.14 m deep.

Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

Context 209

Description

An oval shaped cut that was 0.12 m long, 0.1 m wide and 0.14 m deep. It had smooth sides and a rounded base. It was situated in Grid Square 3 within a cluster of eight other potential stakeholes.

Interpretation

Stakehole cut.

Context 236

Description

A mid brown, firm clay silt containing moderate amounts of small fragments of stone. It was 0.38 m long, 0.28 m wide and 0.2 m deep.

Interpretation

Driven post fill.

Context 237

Description

A sub-oval cut that was 0.38 m long, 0.28 m wide and 0.2 m deep. The break of slope at the top of the cut was sharp on the north side and more gradual on the south. The sides were concave and the base was rounded and oval in plan. It was situated in Grid Square 3 within a cluster of eight other potential stakeholes and one possible driven post to the south (Context 188).

Interpretation

Driven post cut.

Context 238

Description

A mid brown, firm, clay silt that contained occasional sub-angular

small stones. It was 0.13 m long, 0.1 m wide and 0.18 m deep.

Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

Context 239

Description

A sub-circular shaped cut that was 0.13 m long, 0.1 m wide and 0.18 m deep. It had smooth sides and a rounded base. It was situated in Grid Square 3 within a cluster of eight other potential stakeholes and driven posts.

Interpretation

Stakehole cut.

Context 240

Description

A reddish brown, firm, clay silt that was 0.08 m in diameter and 0.09 m deep.

Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

Context 240

Description

A round cut that was 0.08 m in diameter and 0.09 m deep. It had smooth sides and a rounded base. It was situated in Grid Square 3 on the west side of a cluster of eight other potential stakeholes and driven posts.

Interpretation

Stakehole cut.

Group XV Interpretation

Double row of stakeholes with associated posthole. Along with stakeholes in Group XVI they have the appearance of being the foundations for the wall of a circular building. The rest of the feature extends north beyond the limits of excavation. This brings the possibility of the burnt mound existing in close proximity to a settlement to the fore. Alternatively, the building may have been used during seasonal or intermittent visits. The traces point in the direction of such a building but are too limited to be definite.

Group XVI

Group XVI Description

This group consisted of three stakeholes. The cuts were between 0.06 m and 0.08 m in diameter and between 0.1 m and 0.13 m deep. The fills were all dark, orange brown, soft, silty clay. They were situated on the north side of the site.

Context 254 was situated in Grid Square 3, to the immediate south of Context 195, a stakehole, and to the east of stakeholes Contexts 209 and 197 (Group XV). It was west of Context 252.

Context 250 and 252 were situated in Grid Square 4. Context 250 was east of stakeholes Context 195, 206, 239 and 200 (Group XV). Context 250 was immediately north of Context 252. Context 252 seemed to form a second rough east to west arc

with Contexts 254, 197 and 209 (the latter being part of Group XV).

Contexts 249, 250, 251, 252, 253 and 254.

Contexts

Context 249

Description

A dark, orange brown, soft, silty clay that contained occasional fine sand. It was 0.08 m in diameter and 0.13 m deep.

Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

Context 250

Description

A circular cut, 0.08 m in diameter and 0.13 m deep. It had smooth, slightly tapering sides and a rounded base. It was situated in the north of Grid Square 4 on the north side of the site. It was situated to the north of cut Context 252 and in a possible arc with Contexts 192, 206, 239 and 200 (Group XV).

Interpretation

Stakehole cut.

Context 251

Description

A dark, orange brown, soft, silty clay. It contained occasional fine sand and occasional fine sub-angular pebbles. It was 0.06 m in diameter and 0.12 m deep.

Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

Context 252

Description

A circular cut, 0.06 m in diameter and 0.12 m deep. It had steep sides that tapered to a blunt point. It contained fill Context 251. It was situated in Grid Square 4, to the immediate south of Context 250, to the east of Context 254 and in an arc of other stakeholes that curved east to west. These were Contexts 197 and 209 (Group XV).

Interpretation

Stakehole cut.

Context 253

Description

A dark, orangish brown, soft, silty clay. It was 0.08 m in diameter and 0.1 m deep.

Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

Context 254

Description

A circular cut, 0.08 m in diameter and 0.1 m deep. It had steep, straight sides. The base was a rounded point. It was situated to the north of the site, in the northeast corner in Grid Square 3, to the immediate south of stakehole cut Context 195 and to the east of the stakeholes Contexts 209 and 197 (Group XV) that seemed to curve in an arc.

Interpretation

Stakehole cut.

#### Group XVI Interpretation

This group is likely to be part of Group XV, another group of stakeholes where stakes were driven into the ground and seem to form a double arc of stakeholes that curved from east to west, in the northeast corner of the site. Including Group XV in the interpretation, it would appear that the stakes were driven into the ground with even spacing, being approximately between 0.3 m to 0.4 m apart, the two rows being approximately between 0.2 m and 0.3 m apart. Likely to be part of the wall of a circular structure.

#### Group XVII

##### Group XVII Description

This group consisted of a pair of sub-circular and circular cuts and their fills. They were situated 0.4 m apart in the northwest corner of Grid Square 2 on the very north side of the site. They are approximately 3 m northwest of Context 202 (Group VIII), 9 m west of the stakeholes in Grid Square 2 (Group XV) and approximately 6 m north of the stakeholes in Grid square 6 (Group XVIII). Contexts 147, 148, 167 and 172

#### Contexts

##### Context 147

##### Description

A mid brown, soft, clay silt, 0.11 m in diameter and 0.09 m deep. It lay below Context 16 (Group III).

##### Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

##### Context 148

##### Description

A circular shaped cut, 0.11 m in diameter and 0.09 m deep. It had a sharp break of slope at the top, smooth tapering sides and a rounded base. It was situated on the very northern edge of Grid Square 2 in the northwest corner, 0.4 m northwest of Context 172.

##### Interpretation

Stakehole cut.

##### Context 167

##### Description

A dark brown, firm, silty clay, 0.13 m long, 0.07 m wide and 0.2 m deep. It lay below Context 16 (Group III).

##### Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

##### Context 172

##### Description

A sub-circular cut, 0.13 m long, 0.07 m wide and 0.2 m deep. It had a sharp break of slope at the top, smooth tapering sides and a pointed base. It was situated 0.4 m to the southeast of Context 148.

##### Interpretation

Stakehole cut.

### Group XVII Interpretation

Two stakeholes of unknown function or meaning. Suggestive of more human activity to the north of the limit of excavation.

### Group XVIII

#### Group XVIII Description

This group consists of twenty stakehole cuts and fills, two of which may be driven posts. The cuts were circular to oval in shape and had dimensions of between 0.04 m by 0.05 m and 0.13 m by 0.14 m, and were from 0.06 m to 0.26 m in depth. They were mostly vertical cuts with rounded and pointed bases. The fills were mostly dark greyish brown and black clayey silts and silty clays but there were some peaty clays. Most of the fills were soft and contained small pebbles, some of which were burnt. A few fills contained charcoal flecks (Contexts 224, 222, 228, 212, 121 and 220). They were all cut into the whitish clay natural except Contexts 118 and 124, which were cut into Context 106, which was a black stony deposit around trough cut Context 176. They are overlain by Contexts 98 and 136. Contexts 115, 116, 119, 120, 121, 122, 126, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 137, 138, 140, 141, 142, 143, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 117, 118, 123 and 124.

#### Contexts

### Context 226

#### Description

A mid greyish black, silty clay. It was very soft and contained frequent fine and medium sized sub-angular pebbles that accounted for 20% of the deposit. It was 0.11 m long, 0.085 m wide and 0.16 m deep. It lay under Context 98.

#### Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

### Context 227

#### Description

An oval cut. It was 0.11 m long, 0.085 m wide and 0.16 m deep. It had smooth vertical sides that tapered to an oval point at the base. It was cut into whitish clay natural. It was situated in Grid Square 6 amongst numerous other stakeholes.

#### Interpretation

A stake was driven into the ground, removed and the hole filled up with surrounding sediment.

### Context 220

#### Description

A mid greyish brown, very soft peaty clay that contained frequent charcoal flecks, and occasional fine, medium, and coarse sized pebbles. It was 0.09 m long, 0.08 m wide and 0.13 m deep. It lay under Context 98.

#### Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

### Context 221



#### Description

An oval cut measuring 0.09 m long, 0.08 m wide and 0.13 m deep. It had smooth vertical sides and an oval tapered point at the base. It was cut into white clay natural. It was situated in Grid Square 6.

#### Interpretation

A stake was driven into the ground, removed and the hole filled up with surrounding sediment.

#### Context 214

##### Description

A greyish brown, peaty clay that was very soft and contained occasional fine to medium sized sub-angular pebbles. It was 0.07 m in diameter and 0.09 m deep. It lay under Context 98.

##### Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

#### Context 215

##### Description

A sub-circular cut that was 0.07 m in diameter and 0.09 m deep. It had near vertical, smooth sides which tapered to a point at its base. It was cut into the white clay natural. It was situated in Grid Square 6.

##### Interpretation

A stake was driven into the ground, removed and the hole filled up with surrounding sediment.

#### Context 134

##### Description

*Mid blackish brown clayey silt. It was 0.08 m in diameter and 0.175 m deep. It lay under Context 98.*

##### Interpretation

Fill of Context 135.

#### Context 135

##### Description

A circular shaped cut, 0.08 m in diameter and 0.175 m deep. It had vertical sides and ended in a tapered rounded point. It was slightly orientated from northwest (at the top) to southeast (at the base) It was situated in Grid Square 6 on a white clayey ridge.

##### Interpretation

There is no burnt mound material in this suggesting it rotted *in situ*.

#### Context 130

##### Description

A mid blackish brown, changing to light greyish white, soft, clayey silt. It contained occasional medium-sized sub-angular pebbles. It was 0.09 m long, 0.06 m wide and 0.14 m deep. It lay under Context 98.

##### Interpretation

Fill of Context 131.

#### Context 131

##### Description

A sub-circular cut that was 0.09 m long, 0.06 m wide and 0.14 m deep. It had vertical sides which tapered to a rounded point at the base. It was

cut into a white clay ridge, in Grid Square 6.

#### Interpretation

A stake was driven into the ground vertically, removed and the hole filled up with surrounding sediment.

#### Context 119

##### Description

A dark, greyish black, clayey silt that contained occasional small pebbles. It measured 0.04 m by 0.045 m and 0.09 m deep. It lay below Context 98.

##### Interpretation

Fill of Context 120.

#### Context 120

##### Description

An oval shaped cut that was 0.09 m long, 0.06 m wide and 0.14 m deep. It had smooth, tapering sides and a point at the base. It was situated in Grid Square 6 above stakehole fill Context 115.

##### Interpretation

Cut of stake that decayed *in situ*.

#### Context 115

##### Description

A dark, greyish black, clayey silt that contained occasional fine pebbles. It was 0.13 m long, 0.11 m wide and 0.15 m deep. There were two large pebbles stuck on its southeast side. It was cut by Context 120, a stakehole, on its southwest side.

##### Interpretation

Fill of Context 116.

#### Context 116

##### Description

An oval shaped cut that was 0.13 m long, 0.11 m wide and 0.15 m deep. It had smooth, tapering sides and a flat base.

##### Interpretation

Cut of stake decayed *in situ*.

#### Context 121

##### Description

A dark brown, clayey silt that contained moderate medium sized pebbles, occasional coarse pebbles and moderate charcoal flecks and fine sand. It lay under Context 98.. It was 0.14 m in diameter and 0.1m deep.

##### Interpretation

Uppermost fill of stakehole Context 122.

#### Context 126

##### Description

A mid brown, clayey silt that contained occasional fine sand and fine pebbles. It was 0.14 m in diameter and 0.16 m deep.

##### Interpretation

Primary fill of cut stakehole 122.

#### Context 122

##### Description

A circular cut, 0.14 m in diameter and 0.26 m deep. It had smooth, vertical sides, and a tapered pointed

base. It was situated in Grid Square 6.

#### Interpretation

A post or large stake was driven into the ground, where it rotted *in situ*, the fill shrinking and the top of the cut filling with surrounding material.

#### Context 132

##### Description

A dark, greyish black, clayey silt that contained moderate fine and medium sized pebbles. It was 0.07 m in diameter and 0.11 m deep. It lay under Context 98.

##### Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

#### Context 133

##### Description

A circular cut, 0.07 m in diameter and 0.11 m deep. It had smooth sides and a flat base. It was cut into the white clay natural. It was situated in Grid Square 6.

##### Interpretation

Stake that decayed *in situ*.

#### Context 137

##### Description

A dark, brownish black, clayey silt that contained occasional fine sand and fine pebbles. It was 0.09 m in diameter and 0.19 m deep. It lay under Context 98.

##### Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

#### Context 138

##### Description

A circular cut that was 0.09 m in diameter and 0.19 m deep. It had smooth sides and rounded base. It was cut into the white clay natural. It was situated in Grid Square 6.

##### Interpretation

Stake that decayed *in situ*.

#### Context 142

##### Description

A dark, greyish black, clayey silt that contained occasional small sub-angular stones and occasional fine sand. It was 0.1 m long, 0.09 m wide and 0.15 m deep. It lay under Context 98.

##### Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

#### Context 143

##### Description

An oval shaped cut, 0.1 m long, 0.09 m wide and 0.15 m deep. It was cut into the white clay natural. It was situated in Grid Square 6.

##### Interpretation

A stake was driven into the ground, removed and the hole filled up with surrounding sediment.

#### Context 212

##### Description

A mid greyish brown, sandy peaty clay. It contained occasional fine to medium sized, sub-angular pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks. It was

0.06 m in diameter and 0.14 m deep.

It lay under Context 98.

Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

Context 213

Description

An oval shaped cut, 0.06 m in diameter and 0.14 m deep. It had smooth, vertical sides and an oval tapered point at its base. It was cut into the white clay natural. It was situated in Grid Square 6.

Interpretation

A stake was driven vertically into the ground, removed and the hole filled up with surrounding sediment.

Context 216

Description

A mid greyish brown, peaty clay. It contained occasional fine to medium sized sub-angular pebbles. It was 0.09 m long, 0.07 m wide and 0.15 m deep. It lay under Context 98.

Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

Context 217

Description

An oval-shaped cut with smooth vertical sides that tapered to an oval-shaped blunt point. It was cut into the white clay natural. It was 0.09 m long, 0.07 m wide and 0.15 m deep.

Interpretation

Stake that decayed *in situ*.

Context 218

Description

A mid greyish brown, peaty clay. It was 0.09 m in diameter and 0.12 m deep. It lay under Context 98.

Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

Context 219

Description

A circular-shaped cut that was 0.09 m in diameter and 0.12 m deep. It had smooth vertical sides tapering to an oval-shaped blunt point. It was cut into the white clay natural in Grid Square 6.

Interpretation

A stake was driven vertically into the ground and removed. The hole filled up with surrounding sediment.

Context 228

Description

A mid greyish black, very soft silty clay that contained 30% charcoal flecks and frequent fine to medium sized sub-angular pebbles. It was 0.05 m in diameter and 0.06 m deep.

Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

Context 229

Description

An oval-shaped cut 0.05 m in diameter and 0.06 m deep. It had smooth vertical sides that tapered to a rounded point. It was cut into the white clay natural in Grid Square 6.

#### Interpretation

A stake was driven vertically into the ground and removed. The hole filled up with surrounding sediment.

#### Context 140

##### Description

A mid brown, soft, clayey silt. It was 0.1 m long, 0.06 m wide and 0.1 m deep. It lay under Context 47.

##### Interpretation

Fill of stakehole Context 141.

#### Context 141

##### Description

An oval cut with rounded corners. It was 0.1 m long, 0.06 m wide and 0.1 m deep. The sides were convex at north, concave at west, and vertical at east and south. It had a rounded base.

##### Interpretation

Stake that decayed *in situ*.

#### Context 222

##### Description

A mid greyish black, sandy silt clay. It contained frequent charcoal flecks (30%) and moderate fine, medium and coarse sub-angular pebbles. It was 0.07 m in diameter and 0.09 m deep.

##### Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

#### Context 223

##### Description

A sub-circular shaped cut with smooth, vertical sides tapering to an oval shaped point at the base. It was 0.07 m in diameter and 0.09 m deep. It was cut into the white clay natural in Grid Square 6 and lay under Context 136.

##### Interpretation

A stake was driven vertically into the ground and removed. The hole filled up with surrounding sediment.

#### Context 224

##### Description

A greyish black, silty clay that contained 30% charcoal flecks and frequent fine to medium sized sub-angular pebbles. It was 0.06 m in diameter and 0.07 m deep. It lay below Context 136.

##### Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

#### Context 225

##### Description

A sub-circular cut, 0.06 m in diameter and 0.07 m deep. It had smooth, vertical sides that tapered to an oval-shaped point at the base. It was cut into the white clay natural in Grid Square 6.

##### Interpretation

A stake was driven into the ground and removed. The hole filled up with surrounding sediment.

#### Context 123

##### Description

A dark brown clayey silt. It was 0.14 m long, 0.13 m wide and 0.25 m deep. It contained frequent burnt stone fragments (6 mm to 0.02 m in size) and moderate medium sized angular burnt stone fragments. It lay below Context 83.

#### Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

#### Context 124

##### Description

A sub-circular cut that was 0.14 m long, 0.13 m wide and 0.25 m deep. It had almost vertical sides and a rounded base. It was cut into Context 106 in Grid Square 6.

##### Interpretation

A stake was driven into the ground and removed. The hole filled up with surrounding sediment.

#### Context 117

##### Description

A dark brown clayey silt. It contained frequent small to medium, sub-angular and sub-rounded brown stones. It was 0.12 m in diameter.

##### Interpretation

Fill of stakehole Context 118.

#### Context 124

##### Description

A circular cut that was 0.12 m in diameter. It had vertical sides that tapered to a rounded point at the base. It was cut into Context 106 in Grid Square 6.

#### Interpretation

A stake was driven vertically into the ground and removed. The hole filled up with surrounding sediment.

#### Group XVIII Interpretation

Concentration of stakeholes of similar size. 11 of them (Contexts 227, 221, 215, 131, 143, 213, 217, 229, 223, 225, 124) were removed in antiquity and 8 (Contexts 135, 120, 116, 122, 133, 138, 219, 141) rotted *in situ*. It is difficult to discern any clear patterns, although overall then may be delineating a vaguely rectangular space when seen in plan. During excavation they were being associated with trough 176.

#### Group XIX

##### Group XIX Description

This group consists of three circular cuts and their fills, which were greyish white, soft sandy clays. The fills all contained fine pebbles. Context 231 was 0.08 m deep and Context 235 was 0.12 m deep. The larger cut, Context 233, was shallower (0.05 m deep). They were situated in Grid Square 7. Context 231 was approximately 0.4 m north of trough cut Context 176 (Group X) and Context 235 lay between Context 176 and cut Context 248 (Group IX). Context 233 was situated approximately 1.4 m northeast of cut Context 176 and 1.2 m northwest of Context 248.

Contexts 232, 233, 234, 235, 230 and 231.

Contexts

Context 230

Description

A mid greyish black, soft, sandy clay that contained fine pebbles. It was 0.9 m long, 0.085 m wide and 0.08 m deep. It lay below Context 106.

Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

Context 231

Description

A circular shaped cut that was 0.09 m long, 0.085 m wide and 0.08 m deep. It had stepped sides that were steeply sloping, which tapered to a square, blunt point. It was situated on the western edge of Grid Square 7, 0.4 m north of trough cut Context 176 (Group X). It was cut into the natural.

Interpretation

A stake with a squared off point was driven into the ground. The stake was then removed and the hole filled with surrounding sediment.

Context 232

Description

A greyish black, sandy clay that contained occasional fine and small pebbles. It was 0.18 m long, 0.14 m wide and 0.05 m deep.

Interpretation

Stakehole fill.

Context 233

Description

A sub-circular shaped cut that was 0.18 m long, 0.14 m wide and 0.05 m deep. It had concave sides with an imperceptible break of slope at the base. It was situated in Grid Square 7, approximately 1.4 m northeast of the cut Context 176 (Group X) and 1.2 m northwest of Context 248 (Group IX).

Interpretation

Shallow driven post or socket for post.

Context 234

Description

A dark, greyish white, soft, sandy clay that contained fine pebbles. It was 0.1 m long, 0.08 m wide and 0.12 m deep. It lay below Context 106.

Interpretation

Stakehole cut

Context 235

Description

An oval-shaped cut, 0.1 m long, 0.08 m wide and 0.12 m deep. It had smooth sides that tapered to a rounded point. The top was southwest of the base. It was situated in Grid Square 7, approximately 0.6 m east of Context 176 (Group X) but between Context 176 and Context 248 (Group IX). It was cut into the natural.

Interpretation

A stake was driven into the ground at a slight angle, it was then removed and the hole filled with surrounding sediment.

#### Group XIX Interpretation

Contexts 230 and 231 and Contexts 234 and 235 are likely to be stakes that were driven into the ground, near the trough cuts, Context 176

and Context 248. The stake represented by Contexts 234 and 235 had been driven in at a slight angle, leaning towards the trough. The stake represented by Contexts 230 and 231 had been driven in vertically. It is difficult to give a good interpretation for the use of these stakes apart from their association with the cooking trough.



## Appendix 2 Catalogue of contexts

Context #	Description	Sample #	Plan #	GS #	Date	Initials	Photo
1	Topsoil				04/04/00	BMD	No
2	Fulacht material	1/2	1-4	14/15/18/19	05/04/00	BMD	No
3	Possible lazybed scars		5	2/3/6/7/10/11	05/04/00	KW/MF	No
4	Drain fill			15/19/20	05/04/00	BMD	No
5	Drain cut		34-36/43	15/19/20/11	05/04/00	BMD	No
6	Drain fill			14/18	05/04/00	BMD	No
7	Drain fill		32/33	14/18	05/04/00	JA	No
8	Drain fill			9/13	05/04/00		No
9	Drain cut			9/13	05/04/00		No
10	Drain fill		6/7/12/13	3/4/8/12/16	05/04/00	KLE	Yes
11	Drain cut			3/4/8/12/16	05/04/00		No
12	Drain fill		6/7/12/13	4/8/22/23/24	05/04/00	KLE	Yes
13	Drain cut			4/8/22/23/24	05/04/00		No
14	Possible furrow	3	8/9	4/8	05/04/00	JK/NOH	Yes
15	Possible roothole cut		24	4	05/04/00	JK	Yes
16	Topsoil	5	11	2	05/04/00	BF	Yes
17	Possible furrow	6	14	4	05/04/00	JK/NOH	Yes
18	Fill of modern drain		25	16	06/04/00	MF	No
19	Cut of modern drain		25	16	06/04/00	MF	No
20	Fill of modern drain		28	22	06/04/00	MF	No
21	Cut of modern drain		28	22	06/04/00	MF	No
22	Stony deposit	11	44/45	6-10	10/04/00	NK/AJ	Yes
23	Void	Void	Void	Void	Void	Void	Void
24	Burnt stone deposit	8/19	39/40	2/3	10/04/00	JA	Yes
25	Rust coloured deposit	22	48-51	2/3/6/7	11/04/00	BMC	Yes
26	Peaty deposit	9	41	7/11	11/04/00	KLE	Yes
27	Dark brown peaty clay	10	46	7/8	11/04/00	MT	Yes
28	Stony spread	13	42	3	11/04/00	PM	Yes
29	Grey stony deposit	12	47	7	11/04/00	NY	Yes
30	Brown stony deposit			4/6/10	11/04/00		No
31	Black stony deposit	16	54	10	12/04/00	AJ	Yes
32	Mid bluish grey deposit	17	55	8	12/04/00	CMD	Yes
33	Dark peaty deposit	18	57	7	12/04/00	KLE	Yes
34	Peaty deposit	20	59/64	2/3	12/04/00	MF	No
35	Stony deposit	21	60	7	12/04/00	PM	Yes
36	Gritty black deposit	23	61/69	6/7	12/04/00	KLE	Yes
37	Mid bluish grey		62	8	12/04/00	CMD	Yes

Context #	Description	Sample #	Plan #	GS #	Date	Initials	Photo
	deposit						
38	Dark bluish grey deposit	24	63	11/12/14-16	13/04/00	KW/NOH	No
39	Dark bluish grey deposit	25	65/67	8/12	13/04/00	CMD	Yes
40	Dark bluish grey deposit	26	66	12	13/04/00	CMD	Yes
41	Charcoal deposit		68	10	13/04/00	NJG	No
42	Brown topsoil		70	14	13/04/00	NJG	Yes
43	Black stony deposit		71		13/04/00	NJG	Yes
44	Stony deposit	30	72	3	13/04/00	PM	Yes
45	Stony deposit	31	73	2	13/04/00	JA	Yes
46	Stony deposit	32	74	2/6	13/04/00	JA	Yes
47	Stony deposit	33	75	6	13/04/00	JA	Yes
48	Stony deposit	34	76	5/6	13/04/00	JA	Yes
49	Stony deposit	35	77	7	13/04/00	TMA	Yes
50	Black stony deposit	36	78	10/14	13/04/00	NJG	Yes
51	Peaty clay deposit	38	79/80	6/7	13/04/00	KLE	Yes
52	Stony deposit	39	81	3	14/04/00	PM	Yes
53	Stony deposit	40	82	14	14/04/00	LW	Yes
54	Stony deposit	41	83	14	14/04/00	LW	Yes
55	Stony deposit	42	88	10	14/04/00	NJG	No
56	Black deposit	44	85/86	6/10	14/04/00	JT	Yes
57	Stony deposit	43	87	3	14/04/00	PM	Yes
58	Blue grey spread	45	89	12/16	14/04/00	EJE/NOH	No
59	Stony deposit	46	90	10	14/04/00	AJ	Yes
60	Stony deposit	47	91	10	14/04/00	NJG	Yes
61	Stony deposit	48	92	6	14/04/00	TMA	Yes
62	Stony deposit	44	93	12	15/04/00	LH	Yes
63	Stony deposit	51	95	10	15/04/00	LW	Yes
64	Possible cut or recut		94/96/97	6/7/11	15/04/00	KLE	Yes
65	Stony deposit	50	98/99	6/7	15/04/00	TMA	No
66	Stony deposit	52			15/04/00		No
67	Stony deposit	53	100	10	15/04/00	NJG	No
68	Mid brownish black deposit	54	101	5/6	15/04/00	CMD	Yes
69	Stony deposit	55	102	2	15/04/00	BNC	Yes
70	Blue grey clay	56	103	12	15/04/00	LH	Yes
71	Stony deposit	57	104	11/12	15/04/00	EE	Yes
72	Stony deposit	62	106		17/04/00	NY	Yes
73	Stony sandy deposit		107	7/8	17/04/00	MF	No
74	Stony deposit	64	109	2/6	17/04/00	BNC	Yes
75	Dark brownish black deposit	65	110	2/6	17/04/00	CMD	Yes
76	Stony deposit	66	111	6	17/04/00	TMA	No
77	Stony deposit	67	112	6/7	17/04/00	KLE	Yes
78	Black burnt stone deposit	71	116	12/16	17/04/00	TJ	Yes
79	Black stony deposit	68	113/118	11/12/16	17/04/00	EJE	Yes
80	Red stony deposit	70	114	14	17/04/00	WSG	Yes
81	Stony deposit	71	115	12	17/04/00	LH/LW	Yes
82	Black stony deposit	72	117	15	17/04/00	AJ	Yes

Context #	Description	Sample #	Plan #	GS #	Date	Initials	Photo
83	Black stony deposit	73	119	6	17/04/00	KW	Yes
84	Brownish black deposit	74/86	121	3	17/04/00	PM	Yes
85	Stony deposit	75	122	12	17/04/00	LW	Yes
86	Stony deposit	76	123	10	17/04/00	NJG	Yes
87	Black stony deposit	77	124/145	10/11	17/04/00	AJ	Yes
88	Grey stony deposit		125/130	6/10	17/04/00	JT	Yes
89	Charcoal deposit	79	126	12	17/04/00	LM	Yes
90	Void	Void	Void	Void	Void	Void	Void
91	Stony deposit	81	128	12	17/04/00	LW	Yes
92	Stony deposit	82	129	7	17/04/00	KM	Yes
93	Dark greyish brown deposit	83	130	6	17/04/00	CMD	Yes
94	Stony deposit	85	132	10/11/14/15	17/04/00	NJG	Yes
95	Grey clay	78		10/6	17/04/00	JT	No
96	Redeposited clay	87	135	6	17/04/00	KW	Yes
97	Organic deposit	88	136	2	17/04/00	TJ	Yes
98	Thin layer of fulacht material	93	137/138	10	17/04/00	JA	Yes
99	Organic deposit	89	141	2	17/04/00	CW	Yes
100	Grey/black stony deposit	90	139	7	17/04/00	KM/KLE	No
101	Black stony deposit	91	140	11	18/04/00	EJE/LW	Yes
102	Black deposit	92	142	12	18/04/00	LH/EJE	No
103	Stony deposit	94	143	8	18/04/00	PM	Yes
104	Black stony deposit	95	144	12	18/04/00	LH/EJE	No
105	Grey/black stony deposit	96-98	146/150/157/161	6/10-12	18/04/00	NY/AJ	Yes
106	Black stony spread		147-149	6/7/11	18/04/00	KM/KLE	Yes
107	Cut of possible trough		141	12	18/04/00	LH	Yes
108	Possible driven post		151	15	18/04/00	CMD	Yes
109	Possible driven post		152	15	18/04/00	MF	Yes
110	Possible driven post		153	15	18/04/00	MF/CMD	Yes
111	Black stony deposit				18/04/00	KM/KLE	No
112	Dark stony deposit		158	2	19/04/00	CW	Yes
113	Redeposited white clay			6	19/04/00	TA/KW	No
114	Washed sandy fulacht material	105	159	7	20/04/00	PM	No
115	Stakehole fill	108/109		6	20/04/00	LC	Yes
116	Stakehole cut	109		6	20/04/00	LC	Yes
117	Stakehole fill	107	147	6	20/04/00	NOH	No
118	Stakehole cut		162	6	20/04/00	NOH	No
119	Stakehole fill			6	20/04/00	LC	Yes
120	Stakehole cut			6	20/04/00	LC	Yes
121	Stakehole fill			6	20/04/00	LC	Yes
122	Stakehole cut			6	20/04/00	LC	Yes
123	Stakehole fill	111	147	6	20/04/00	NOH	No
124	Stakehole cut		162	6	20/04/00	NOH	No
125	Black deposit		163	6	20/04/00	KW/TMA	No

Context #	Description	Sample #	Plan #	GS #	Date	Initials	Photo
126	Stakehole fill	112		6	20/04/00	LVC	No
127	Stony deposit	113	164	2	20/04/00	LW	Yes
128	White clay				20/04/00	TMA	No
129	Stony deposit	114	166	2	24/04/00	LW	Yes
130	Stakehole fill	115		6	25/04/00	NOH	No
131	Stakehole cut			6	25/04/00	NOH	No
132	Stakehole fill			6	25/04/00	LC	No
133	Stakehole cut	116		6	25/04/00	LC	No
134	Stakehole fill	117		6	25/04/00	NOH	No
135	Stakehole cut			6	25/04/00	NOH	No
136	Stony deposit	118	167-170	6/7/8/11	25/04/00		Yes
137	Stakehole fill	119		6	25/04/00	LVC	Yes
138	Stakehole cut			6	25/04/00	LVC	Yes
139	White clay/chalk	120	171	2	25/04/00	LW	Yes
140	Stakehole fill	121		6	25/04/00	NOH	No
141	Stakehole cut			6	25/04/00	NOH	No
142	Stakehole fill	122		6	25/04/00	LVC	Yes
143	Stakehole cut			6	25/04/00	LVC	Yes
144	Black stony/grey clay	123	170	6	25/04/00	EJE	Yes
145	Black stony deposit	124	173	11	25/04/00	AJ	Yes
146	Brownish black deposit	125	174/188	2/5/6	25/04/00	LC	No
147	Stakehole fill	126		2	25/04/00		No
148	Stakehole cut		175	2	25/04/00	LW	Yes
149	Peaty deposit	127	176	2	25/04/00	TMA	Yes
150	Washed sandy fulacht material	129	177/179	7/8/11	25/04/00	CMD	Yes
151	Black stony deposit	130	180	11	25/04/00	AJ	Yes
152	Stony deposit	131	181	2	25/04/00	TMA	Yes
153	Grey clay trough fill	132	182/183	6/7	25/04/00	KLE	No
154	Rusty stony deposit	133/142	184	7	26/04/00	EJE	Yes
155	Grey clay	134	185		26/04/00	KW	Yes
156	Possible hearth stones	138	186	11	26/04/00	AJ	Yes
157	Peaty deposit	139	187/193	2	26/04/00	TMA	Yes
158	Dark brown sandy clay	141	189	2	26/04/00	NOH	No
159	Mid dark brown deposit	143	190	2	26/04/00	KW	No
160	Stony deposit	144	191/192	2/3	26/04/00	TMA	Yes
161	Trough fill	145/149	194/195	7/8	26/04/00	PM/CMD	Yes
162	Cut of trough		196	11	26/04/00	AJ	Yes
163	Trough	147	197	11	26/04/00	EJE	Yes
164	Trough fill	148	198	11	26/04/00	EJE	Yes
165	Whitish brown clay	146	199	2	26/04/00	KW	No
166	Black deposit	150	200	7/8	27/04/00	PM/CMD	No
167	Stakehole fill	153		2	27/04/00	LW	Yes
168	Sandy deposit		203/204	2/3	27/04/00	TMA	Yes
169	Stakehole fill			11	27/04/00	AJ	No
170	Stakehole fill			11	27/04/00	AJ	No

Context #	Description	Sample #	Plan #	GS #	Date	Initials	Photo
171	Stakehole cut			11	27/04/00	AJ	No
172	Stakehole cut		175	2	27/04/00	AJ	No
173	Void	Void	Void	Void	Void	Void	Void
174	Void	Void	Void	Void	Void	Void	Void
175	Stony deposit	157	201	2	27/04/00	NOH	No
176	Central trough cut		202/205	6/7	27/04/00	KLE	No
177	Charcoal deposit	158	206	2	27/04/00	TMA	No
178	Stakehole cut				27/04/00	AJ	No
179	Stakehole fill				27/04/00	AJ	No
180	Stakehole cut				27/04/00	AJ	No
181	White clay	162	207	2	27/04/00	TMA	No
182	Fill of slot				27/04/00	AJ	No
183	Cut of slot				27/04/00	AJ	No
184	Stakehole fill	165		2	27/04/00	LW	No
185	Stakehole cut				27/04/00	LW	Yes
186	Posthole fill	163			27/04/00		No
187	Posthole fill	164			27/04/00		No
188	Posthole cut				27/04/00		No
189	Possible pit lining	166	208/209	2/3	27/04/00	TMA	Yes
190	Recut of Context 163		210	11	27/04/00	EJE	No
191	Fill of pit			11	27/04/00	EJE	No
192	Fill of pit			11	27/04/00	EJE	No
193	Fill of pit			11	27/04/00	EJE	No
194	Stakehole fill	170		3	27/04/00	LW	No
195	Stakehole cut			3	27/04/00	LW	Yes
196	Stakehole fill			3	27/04/00	LW	No
197	Stakehole cut			3	27/04/00	LW	No
198	Trough fill	173	212	7	27/04/00	PM	Yes
199	Stakehole fill			3	27/04/00	PM	No
200	Stakehole cut			3	27/04/00	PM	Yes
201	Trough material	148			27/04/00	MF	No
202	Mixed yellow deposit		213	2	27/04/00	KW	No
203	Stakehole fill	174		7	27/04/00	KLE	Yes
204	Stakehole cut	175		7	27/04/00	KLE	Yes
205	Stakehole fill			3	27/04/00	LW	No
206	Stakehole cut			3	27/04/00	LW	Yes
207	Trough cut	177	214	11	27/04/00	MR	No
208	Stakehole fill	178		3	28/04/00	LW	No
209	Stakehole cut			3	28/04/00	LW	Yes
210	Dark yellowish orange trough material	179	215	7	28/04/00	PM	Yes
211	Greyish white deposit	180	216	7	28/04/00	PM	No
212	Stakehole fill	181		6	28/04/00	BF	?
213	Stakehole cut		225	6	28/04/00	BF	?
214	Stakehole fill	182		6	28/04/00	BF	?
215	Stakehole cut		225	6	28/04/00	BF	?
216	Stakehole fill	183		6	28/04/00	BF	?
217	Stakehole cut		225	6	28/04/00	BF	?

Context #	Description	Sample #	Plan #	GS #	Date	Initials	Photo
218	Stakehole fill	184		6	28/04/00	BF	?
219	Stakehole cut		225	6	28/04/00	BF	?
220	Stakehole fill	185		6	28/04/00	BF	?
221	Stakehole cut		225	6	28/04/00	BF	?
222	Stakehole fill	186		6	28/04/00	BF	?
223	Stakehole cut		225	6	28/04/00	BF	?
224	Stakehole fill	187		6	28/04/00	BF	?
225	Stakehole cut		225	6	28/04/00	BF	?
226	Stakehole fill	188		6	28/04/00	BF	?
227	Stakehole cut		225	6	28/04/00	BF	?
228	Stakehole fill	189		6	28/04/00	BF	?
229	Stakehole cut		225	6	28/04/00	BF	?
230	Stakehole fill	190		7	28/04/00	BF	?
231	Stakehole cut			7	28/04/00	BF	?
232	Stakehole fill	191		7	28/04/00	BF	?
233	Stakehole cut			7	28/04/00	BF	?
234	Stakehole fill	192		7	28/04/00	BF	?
235	Stakehole cut			7	28/04/00	BF	?
236	Stakehole fill	181		3	28/04/00	LW	?
237	Stakehole cut				28/04/00	LW	Yes
238	Stakehole fill	182		3	28/04/00	LW	?
239	Stakehole cut				28/04/00	LW	Yes
240	Stakehole fill	183		3	28/04/00	LW	?
241	Stakehole cut				28/04/00	LW	Yes
242	Pit cut	177	214	11	28/04/00	MF	Yes
243	Charcoal spread	193	218	7	28/04/00	CMD	YN
244	Pit cut		220/221	2/3	29/04/00	TMA	Y
245	Pit fill	194	222	11	29/04/00	EJE	No
246	Peaty layer				29/04/00		No
247	Pit cut		223	11	29/04/00	EJE	No
248	Cut of trough		224	7	29/04/00	CMD	Y
249	Stakehole fill			4			No
250	Stakehole cut		228	4	02/05/00	MT	Y
251	Stakehole fill			4	02/05/00	RBM	No
252	Stakehole cut		228	4	02/05/00	RBM	No
253	Stakehole fill			3	02/05/00	RBM	No
254	Stakehole cut		228	3	02/05/00	RBM	No
255	Stony spread	196	229	15	03/05/00	RBM	No
256	Wood in situ	?	156	9	18/05/00	NY	?

## Appendix 2 Catalogue of Samples

Sample #	Description	Context#	GS #	Date	Initials
1	Topsoil	2	14/15/18/19	05-Apr-00	BNC
2	Topsoil	2	14/15/18/19	05-Apr-00	BNC
3	Possible furrow	14	4	05-Apr-00	JK
4	Topsoil	16	10	07-Apr-00	CP/AJ
5	Topsoil	16	2	05-Apr-00	BF
6	Possible furrow	17	4	05-Apr-00	NOH
<b>7</b>	<b>Void</b>	<b>Void</b>	<b>Void</b>	<b>Void</b>	<b>Void</b>
8	Burnt stone deposit	24	2/3	10-Apr-00	JA
9	Peaty deposit	26	7/11	11-Apr-00	KLE
10	Dark brown peaty clay	27	8	11-Apr-00	MT
11	Stony deposit	22	6/10	11-Apr-00	NJG/AJ
12	Grey stony deposit	29	7	11-Apr-00	NY
13	Stony spread	28	3	11-Apr-00	PM
14	Charcoal	28	3	11-Apr-00	PM
15	Stony deposit	30	6/10	11-Apr-00	NJG/AJ
16	Black stony deposit	31	10	12-Apr-00	NJG/AJ
17	Mid bluish grey deposit	32	8	12-Apr-00	CMD
18	Dark peaty deposit	33	7	12-Apr-00	KLE
19	Charcoal	24	2/3	12-Apr-00	CP
20	Peaty soil deposit	34	2/3	12-Apr-00	MF
21	Stony deposit	35	7	12-Apr-00	PM
22	Rusty coloured deposit	25	2/3/6/7	12-Apr-00	BNC
23	Gritty black deposit	36	6/7	12-Apr-00	KLE
24	Dark bluish grey spread	38	11/12/14-16	13-Apr-00	KW/NOH
25	Dark bluish grey deposit	39	8/12	13-Apr-00	CMD

Sample #	Description	Context#	GS #	Date	Initials
26	Dark bluish grey deposit	40	12	13-Apr-00	CMD
27	Charcoal	41	10	13-Apr-00	NJG
28	Topsoil	42	14	13-Apr-00	NJG
29	Black stony deposit	43	10	13-Apr-00	NJG
30	Stony deposit	44	3	13-Apr-00	PM
31	Stony deposit	45	2	13-Apr-00	CP/JA
32	Stony deposit	46	2	13-Apr-00	JA
33	Stony deposit	47	6	13-Apr-00	JA
34	Stony deposit	48	5/6	14-Apr-00	JA
35	Stony deposit	49	7	13-Apr-00	TMA
36	Black stony deposit	50	10/14	13-Apr-00	NJG
37	Charcoal	36	6/7	13-Apr-00	KLE
38	Peaty clay	51	6/7	13-Apr-00	KLE
39	Stony deposit	52	3	14-Apr-00	PM
40	Stony deposit	53	4	14-Apr-00	AJ
41	Stony deposit	54	10	14-Apr-00	AJ
42	Stony deposit	55	16	14-Apr-00	AJ
43	Stony deposit	57	3	14-Apr-00	PM
44	Black deposit	56	10/6	14-Apr-00	JT
45	Blue grey spread	58	12/16	14-Apr-00	NOH/EJE
46	Stony deposit	59	10	14-Apr-00	AJ
47	Stony deposit	60	10	14-Apr-00	NJG
48	Stony deposit	61	6	14-Apr-00	TMA
49	Stony deposit	62	12	15-Apr-00	LH
50	Stony deposit	65	6/7	15-Apr-00	TMA
51	Stony deposit	63	10	15-Apr-00	WJG
52	Stony deposit	66	10	15-Apr-00	AJ



Sample #	Description	Context#	GS #	Date	Initials
53	Stony deposit	67	10	15-Apr-00	WJG
54	Mid brownish black deposit	68	5/6	15-Apr-00	CMD
55	Stony deposit	69	2	15-Apr-00	BNC
56	Blue grey clay	70	12	15-Apr-00	LH
57	Stony deposit	71	11/12	15-Apr-00	EJE
58	Stone sample	Beneath 16	11	17-Apr-00	RM
59	Stone sample	Beneath 16	11	17-Apr-00	RM
60	Stone sample	Beneath 16	11	17-Apr-00	RM
61	Stone sample	Beneath 16	11	17-Apr-00	RM
62	Black grey deposit	72		17-Apr-00	NY
63	Stony sandy deposit	73	7/8	17-Apr-00	MF
64	Stony deposit	74	6	17-Apr-00	BNC
65	Dark brownish black deposit	75	2/6	17-Apr-00	CMD
66	Stony deposit	76	6	17-Apr-00	TMA
67	Stony deposit	77	6/7	17-Apr-00	KLE
68	Black stony deposit	79	11	17-Apr-00	EJE
<b>69</b>	<b>Void</b>	<b>Void</b>	<b>Void</b>	<b>Void</b>	<b>Void</b>
70	Stony deposit	80	14	17-Apr-00	WJG
71	Burnt stone deposit	78	12	17-Apr-00	TJ
72	Black stony deposit	82	15	17-Apr-00	AJ
73	Black stony deposit	83	6	17-Apr-00	KW
74	Brownish black deposit	84	3	17-Apr-00	PM
75	Black stony deposit	85	12	17-Apr-00	LW
76	Stony	86	10	17-Apr-00	WJG

Sample #	Description	Context#	GS #	Date	Initials
	deposit				
77	Black stony deposit	87	14/15	17-Apr-00	AJ
78	Grey clay	95	6/10	17-Apr-00	JT
79	Charcoal	89	12	17-Apr-00	LW
<b>80</b>	<b>Void</b>	<b>Void</b>	<b>Void</b>	<b>Void</b>	<b>Void</b>
81	Stony deposit	91	12	17-Apr-00	LW
82	Stony deposit	92	7	17-Apr-00	KM
83	Dark greyish brown deposit	93	6	17-Apr-00	CMD
84	Charcoal rich deposit	89	12	17-Apr-00	LW
85	Stony deposit	94	10/11/14/15	17-Apr-00	NJG
86	Charcoal	84	3	17-Apr-00	PM
87	Redeposited clay	96	6	17-Apr-00	KW
88	Organic deposit	97	2	17-Apr-00	TJ
89	Organic deposit	99	2	18-Apr-00	LW
90	Grey black stony deposit	100	7	18-Apr-00	KLE
91	Black stony deposit	101	11	18-Apr-00	CP/LW/EJE
92	Black deposit	102	12	18-Apr-00	LH/EJE
93	Thin layer of fulacht material	98	10/6	18-Apr-00	TMA
94	Stony deposit	103	8	18-Apr-00	PM
95	Black deposit	104	12	18-Apr-00	LH/EJE
96	Black stony deposit	105	10	18-Apr-00	NY
97	Black stony deposit	105	11	18-Apr-00	NY
98	Black stony deposit	105	12	18-Apr-00	NY
99	Black stony spread	106	6/7/11	18-Apr-00	KM/KLE
100	Iron Ore	16	11	06-Apr-00	JA
101	Burnt sandstone	145	11	25-Apr-00	MF

<b>Sample #</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Context#</b>	<b>GS #</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Initials</b>
102	Burnt stone/clay	161	7e8	26-Apr-00	PM
103	Dark clay/stone deposit	112	2	20-Apr-00	LW
104	Black stony spread	106	7	20-Apr-00	MF
105	Washed sandy fulacht material	114	11	20-Apr-00	PM
106	Black stony deposit	111	6	20-Apr-00	KM
107	Stakehole fill	117	6	20-Apr-00	NOH
108	Stakehole fill	115	6	20-Apr-00	LVC
109	Stakehole fill	119	6	20-Apr-00	LVC
110	Stakehole fill	121	6	20-Apr-00	LVC
111	Stakehole fill	123	6	20-Apr-00	NOH
112	Stakehole fill	126	6	20-Apr-00	LVC
113	Stony deposit	127	2	20-Apr-00	LW
114	Stony deposit	129	2	25-Apr-00	LW
115	Stakehole fill	130	6	25-Apr-00	NOH
116	Stakehole fill	132		25-Apr-00	LVC
117	Stakehole fill	134	6	25-Apr-00	NOH
118	Stony fulacht deposit	136	6/7/11	25-Apr-00	
119	Stakehole fill	137	6	25-Apr-00	LVC
120	White clay/chalk	139	2	25-Apr-00	LW
121	Stakehole fill	140	6	25-Apr-00	NOH
122	Stakehole fill	142	6	25-Apr-00	LVC
123	Black stony deposit	144	6	25-Apr-00	EJE
124	Black stony deposit	145	11	25-Apr-00	AJ/MF

<b>Sample #</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Context#</b>	<b>GS #</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Initials</b>
125	Dark brown stony deposit	146	2/5/6	25-Apr-00	LVC
126	Stakehole fill	147	2	25-Apr-00	LW
127	Peaty deposit	149	2	25-Apr-00	TMA
128	Charcoal	136	6	25-Apr-00	KLE
129	Washed sandy fulacht material	150	7/8	25-Apr-00	PM/CMD
130	Black stony deposit	151	11	25-Apr-00	AJ/MF
131	Stony deposit	152	2	25-Apr-00	TMA
132	Grey clay trough fill	153	6/7	25-Apr-00	KLE
133	Rusty stony deposit	154	7	26-Apr-00	EJE
134	Grey deposit	155		26-Apr-00	KW
135	Large stones from trough	77	7	26-Apr-00	KLE
136	Large stones from trough	153	7	26-Apr-00	KLE
137	Wood sample	153	7	26-Apr-00	KLE
138	Stone sample	156	11	26-Apr-00	AJ
139	Peaty deposit	157	2/3	26-Apr-00	TMA
140	Charcoal sample	153	7	26-Apr-00	KLE
141	Dark brown sandy clay	158	2	26-Apr-00	NOH
142	Wood sample	154	7	26-Apr-00	EJE
143	Brown silty clay	159	2	26-Apr-00	KW
144	Stony deposit	160	2/3	26-Apr-00	TMA
145	Trough fill	161	7/8	26-Apr-00	CMD
146	Whitish brown clay			26-Apr-00	
147	Trough	163	11	26-Apr-00	EJE
148	Trough	164	11	26-Apr-00	EJE
149	Charcoal sample	160	7	27-Apr-00	PM

Sample #	Description	Context#	GS #	Date	Initials
150	Black deposit	166	7	27-Apr-00	PM
151	Large stones from trough	156	11	26-Apr-00	AJ/MF
152	Large stones from trough	151	11	27-Apr-00	AJ/MF
153	Stakehole fill	167	2	28-Apr-00	LW
154	Void	Void	Void	Void	Void
155	Stakehole fill	170	11	27-Apr-00	AJ
156	Void	Void	Void	Void	Void
157	Stony deposit	175	2	27-Apr-00	NOH
158	Charcoal deposit	177	2	27-Apr-00	TMA
159	Charcoal deposit	169		27-Apr-00	AJ
160	Charcoal deposit	179		27-Apr-00	AJ
161	Large stones from trough	163	11	27-Apr-00	EJE
162	White clay	181	2	27-Apr-00	TMA
163	Driven post fill			27-Apr-00	LVC
164	Driven post fill			27-Apr-00	LVC
165	Stakehole fill	184	2	27-Apr-00	LW
166	Possible pit lining	189	2/13	27-Apr-00	TMA
167	Pit fill	191	11	27-Apr-00	EJE
168	Pit fill	192	11	27-Apr-00	EJE
169	Pit fill	193	11	27-Apr-00	EJE
170	Stakehole fill	194	3	27-Apr-00	LW
171	Stakehole fill	196	3	27-Apr-00	LW
172	Stakehole fill	199	3	27-Apr-00	LW
173	Stony deposit	198	7	27-Apr-00	PM
174	Mixed yellow deposit	202	2	27-Apr-00	KW
175	Stakehole fill	203	7	27-Apr-00	KLE

Sample #	Description	Context#	GS #	Date	Initials
176	Stakehole fill	205	3	27-Apr-00	LW
177	Trough fill		11	27-Apr-00	MF
178	Stakehole fill	208	3	28-Apr-00	LW
179	Dark yellowish orange deposit	210	7	28-Apr-00	PM
180	Greyish white deposit	211	7	28-Apr-00	PM
181	Stakehole fill	236	3	28-Apr-00	LW
182	Stakehole fill	238	3	28-Apr-00	LW
183	Stakehole fill	240	3	28-Apr-00	LW
184	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used
185	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used
186	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used
187	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used
188	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used
189	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used
190	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used
191	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used
192	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used
193	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used	Number not used
194	Pit fill	245	11	29-Apr-00	EJE
195	Void	Void	Void	Void	Void
196	Stony spread	255	15	03-May-00	KBM
197	Column		14	07-May-00	RBM
198	Column		2	07-May-00	RBM
199	Stakehole Fill	115	6	27-Apr-00	LC
200	Anthracite	16	6	06-Apr-00	NY
201	Large quartz	105	10	18-Apr-99	NJG
202	Large stones from	51	7	15-Apr-00	KLE

<b>Sample #</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Context#</b>	<b>GS #</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Initials</b>
	trough				
203	Large quartz stone	105	10	18-Apr-00	NJG

### Appendix 3 Catalogue of Samples Sieved

Site name	Site code	Flot Number s	Sample	Context	Excavated	Initials	Sample Vol.	Subsample Vol.	Colour Desc.	Colour #	Texture
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1264	5	16	06-Apr-00	KW	10	5	Black	5 Y R 2.5/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1269	23	36	13-Apr-00	KLE	3	3	Black	5 Y R 2.5/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1274	24	38	13-Apr-00	NOH	10	5	Black	5 Y R 2.5/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1279	77	87	17-Apr-00	AJ	13	5	Black	5 Y R 2.5/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1284	81	91	08-Apr-00	LH/ EJE	10	5	Dark grey	10 Y R 4/1	Silty clay
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1289	96	105	18-Apr-00	NY	10	5	Very dark grey	2.5 Y R 3/1	Silty clay
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1294	145	161	26-Apr-00	PM/CMD	10	5	Dark grey	10 Y R 4/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1299	193	243	29-Apr-00	CMD	10	5	Grey	10 Y R 6/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1308	196	255	03-May-00	RBM	10	5	Very dark grey	2.5 Y R 3/1	Clay
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1309	162	181	27-Apr-00	TMA	3	3	Grey	10 Y R 6/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1318	158	177	27-Apr-00	TMA	1	1	Black	5 Y R 2.5/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1319	139	157	26-Apr-00	TMA	9	5	Dark grey	10 Y 4/1	Clayey silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1328	131	152	25-Apr-00	TMA	5	5	Very dark grey		Clay
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1329	127	149	25-Apr-00	TMA	10	5	Dark brown	10 Y R 3/3	Silty clay
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1339	8	24	11-Apr-00	CP	5	5	Black	5 Y R 2.5/1	Sandy silt



Site name	Site code	Flot Number	Sample	Context	Excavated	Initials	Sample Vol.	Subsample Vol.	Colour Desc.	Colour #	Texture
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1348	10	27	11-Apr-00	CMD	15	5	Very dark grey	2.5 Y 3/1	Silty clay
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1349	17	32	12-Apr-00	CMD	12	5	Dark grey	2.5 Y 4/1	Sandy clay
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1358	25	39	17-Apr-00	CMD	0.5	0.5	Black	5 Y R 2.5/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1359	65	75	17-Apr-00	CMD	13	5	Black	5 Y R 2.5/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1368	9	26	11-Apr-00	KLE	10	5	Black	5 Y R 2.5/1	Silty clay
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1369	26	40	15-Apr-00	LH	1	1	Dark grey	10 Y R 4/1	Clayey silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1369	31	45	14-Apr-00	CP	10	5	Black	5 Y R 2.5/1	Silty clay
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1374	125	146	25-Apr-00	LVC	13	5	Very dark grey	2.5 Y 3/1	Silty clay
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1383	88	97	18-Apr-00	LW	1	1	Very dark grey	2.5 Y 3/1	Silty clay
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1384	174	202	27-Apr-00	NOH	7	5	Greyish brown	10 Y R 5/2	Clay
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1393	157	175	27-Apr-00	NOH	9	5	Grey	10 Y R 5/1	Clay
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1394	134	155	26-Apr-00	KW	10	5	Very dark grey	2.5 Y 3/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1408	24	38	13-Apr-00	NOH	10	5	Very dark grey	2.5 Y 3/1	
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1414	124	145	25-Apr-00	MF/AJ	10	5	Black	10 Y R 2/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1423	130	151	25-Apr-00	MF/AJ	5	5	Very dark grey	10 Y R 3/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1424	138	156	26-Apr-00	AJ	2	2	Grey	10 Y R 6/1	Sandy silt

Site name	Site code	Flot Number	Sample	Context	Excavated	Initials	Sample Vol.	Subsample Vol.	Colour Desc.	Colour #	Texture
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1463	173	178	27-Apr-00	PM	10	5	Very dark grey	10 Y R 3/1	Silty clay
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1469	179	210	28-Apr-00	PM	3	3	Light yellowish brown	10 Y R 6/4	Clayey silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1568	38	51	14-Apr-00	KLE	5	5	Black	75 Y R 25/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1569	99	106	20-Apr-00	KM/KLE	5	5	Black	75 Y R 25/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1578	118	136	25-Apr-00	MF	5	5	Black	75 Y R 25/1	Sandy clay
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1579	132	153	27-Apr-00	KLE	5	5	Dark grey	10 Y R 4/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1588	114	129	25-Apr-00	LW	4	4	Dark grey	10 Y R 4/1	Clayey silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1589	95	104	18-Apr-00	EJE/LH	3	3	Black	75 Y R 25/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1598	18	33	28-Apr-00	KLE	10	5	Black	75 Y R 25/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1604	52	66	14-Apr-00	AJ	10	5	Dark grey	10 Y R 4/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1638	106	111	20-Apr-00	KM	2	2	Black	10 Y R 2/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1639	123	144	25-Apr-00	EJE	10	5	Dark grey	10 Y R 4/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1648	129	150	26-Apr-00	CMD	10	5	Light grey	7.5 Y R 4/1	Clayey silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1649	133	154	26-Apr-00	EJE	10	5	Dark brown	7.5 Y R 3/3	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1668	22	25	12-Apr-00	BNC	3	3	Dark brown	10 Y R 3/3	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1669	74	84	17-Apr-00	AM	12	5	Grey	7.5 Y R 5/1	Sandy clay

Site name	Site code	Flot Number	Sample	Context	Excavated	Initials	Sample Vol.	Subsample Vol.	Colour Desc.	Colour #	Texture
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1678	87	96	17-Apr-00	KW	5	5	Dark grey	10 Y R 4/1	Sandy clay
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1679	113	127	20-Apr-00	LW	2	2	Dark grey	10 Y R 4/1	Sandy silt
Graigueshoneen	00 E 0199	1688	141	158	26-Apr-00	KLE	5	5	Dark brown	7.5 Y 3/3	Silty clay

## Appendix 5 Catalogue of Finds

NMI Accession Number	Material	Description	Context	Area
00E199:1	Ceramic	Sherd white post-medieval pottery	16	2
00E199:2	Ceramic	Sherd white post-medieval pottery	16	2
00E199:3	Ceramic	Sherd white post-medieval pottery	16	2
00E199:4	Ceramic	Fragment of clay pipe bowl	16	6
00E199:5	Ceramic	Fragment of clay pipe stem	16	6
00E199:6	Ceramic	Fragment of clay pipe stem	16	6
00E199:7	Ceramic	Sherd white post-med pottery	16	6
00E199:8	Ceramic	Sherd white post-med pottery	16	6
00E199:9	Ceramic	Sherd white and blue post-med pottery	16	6
00E199:10	Ceramic	Sherd white and blue post-med pottery	16	6
00E199:11	Ceramic	Sherd white and blue post-med pottery	16	6
00E199:12	Ceramic	Sherd white and blue post-med pottery	16	6
00E199:13	Ceramic	Sherd white and blue post-med pottery	16	6
00E199:14	Ceramic	Sherd white and blue post-med pottery	16	6
00E199:15	Ceramic	Sherd of patterned post-med pottery	16	6
00E199:16	Ceramic	Sherd of patterned post-med pottery	16	6
00E199:17	Ceramic	Sherd of patterned post-med pottery	16	6
00E199:18	Ceramic	Sherd of patterned post-med pottery	16	6
00E199:19	Ceramic	Sherd of patterned post-med pottery	16	6
00E199:20	Ceramic	Sherd of patterned post-med pottery	16	6
00E199:21	Ceramic	Fragment of red brick	16	6
00E199:22	Ceramic	Fragment of red brick	16	6
00E199:23	Glass	Top of clear glass post-med bottle	16	6
00E199:24	Glass	Top of clear glass post-med bottle	16	6
00E199:25	Glass	Fragment of clear glass post-med bottle	16	6
00E199:26	Glass	Fragment of clear glass post-med bottle	16	6
00E199:27	Glass	Fragment of clear glass post-med bottle	16	6
00E199:28	Glass	Fragment of blue opaque post-med glass	16	6
00E199:29	Glass	Fragment of blue opaque post-med glass	16	6
00E199:30	Glass	Fragment of blue opaque post-med glass	16	6
00E199:31	Glass	Fragment of blue opaque post-med glass	16	6
00E199:32	Glass	Fragment of blue opaque post-med glass	16	6
00E199:33	Glass	Fragment of blue opaque post-med glass	16	6
00E199:34	Glass	Fragment of blue opaque post-med glass, rim piece	16	6
00E199:35	Glass	Piece of clear blue post-med glass	16	6
00E199:36	Glass	Piece of post-med green glass top of bottle	16	6
00E199:37	Glass	Piece of post-med green glass	16	6
00E199:38	Metal	Piece of very corroded nail	16	6
00E199:39	Metal	Piece of very corroded nail	16	6
00E199:40	Metal	Piece of curved corroded iron, square cross-section	16	6
00E199:41	Metal	Corroded iron nail	16	6
00E199:42	Metal	Iron washer with square hole through centre	16	6
00E199:43	Metal	Corroded iron harness link	16	6
00E199:44	Metal	Fragment of corroded iron door latch	16	6

NMI Accession Number	Material	Description	Context	Area
00E199:45	Stone	heat fractured quern stone fragment ?	16	7
00E199:46	Stone	heat fractured quern stone fragment ?	16	7
00E199:47	Stone	Possible paving stone	38	
00E199:48	Rhyolite	1 piece of poss. Worked Rhyolite	36	7
00E199:49	Ceramic	Fragment similar to Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions. Too small or indistinct to be assigned with certainty.	38	15
00E199:50	Ceramic	Fragment similar to Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions. Too small or indistinct to be assigned with certainty.	38	15
00E199:51	Ceramic	Crumb similar to Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions. Too small or indistinct to be assigned with certainty.	Under 38	15
00E199:52	Ceramic	Under sherd similar to Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions. Too small or indistinct to be assigned with certainty.	Under 39	15
00E199:53	Chert	Possibly Worked Chert	Surface find	1
00E199:54	Quartz	Worked quartz scraper	87	10
00E199:55	Stone	Large piece of possibly worked stone with notch	91	12
00E199:56	Ceramic	Fragment similar to Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions. Too small or indistinct to be assigned with certainty.	108	16
00E199:57	Ceramic	Associated with metal working or furnace structure	Surface find	15
00E199:58	Ceramic	Under sherd similar to Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions. Too small or indistinct to be assigned with certainty.	110	18
00E199:59	Stone	Possibly heat fractured hammerstone	101	11
00E199:60	Wood	Piece of waterlogged wood	?	9
00E199:61	Stone	Hammerstone	105	10
00E199:62	Flint	Worked & retouched flint flake	128	10
00E199:63	Ceramic	Fragment of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions.	105	15
00E199:64	Ceramic	Bodysherd, with a false rim, of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions.	105	15
00E199:65	Ceramic	Fragment of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions.	105	15
00E199:66	Ceramic	Fragment of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions.	105	15
00E199:67	Ceramic	Fragment of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions.	105	15

NMI Accession Number	Material	Description	Context	Area
00E199:68	Ceramic	Fragment of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions.	105	15
00E199:69	Ceramic	Possible crude pottery or part of furnace structure	105	15
00E199:70	Ceramic	Possible crude pottery or part of furnace structure	105	15
00E199:71	Ceramic	Possible crude pottery or part of furnace structure	105	15
00E199:72	Ceramic	Fragment of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions.	105	15
00E199:73	Ceramic	Bodysherd of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions. Irregular impressed horizontal line on exterior.	105	15
00E199:74	Quartz	1 piece of milk quartz, possibly shaped	105	8
00E199:75	Stone	Conglomerate hammerstone	161	7e8
00E199:76	Ceramic	Fragment similar to Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions. Too small or indistinct to be assigned with certainty.	243	7
00E199:77	Ceramic	Fragment similar to Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions. Too small or indistinct to be assigned with certainty.	243	7
00E199:78	Ceramic	Bodysherd of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions.	105	15
00E199:79	Ceramic	Possible crude pottery or part of furnace structure	105	15
00E199:80	Ceramic	Fragment of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions.	105	15
00E199:81	Ceramic	Fragment of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions.	105	15
00E199:82	Ceramic	Fragment of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions.	105	15
00E199:83	Ceramic	Associated with metal working or furnace structure	105	15
00E199:84	Ceramic	Fragment of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions.	105	15
00E199:85	Ceramic	Associated with metal working or furnace structure	105	15
00E199:86	Ceramic	Associated with metal working or furnace structure	255	15
00E199:87	Ceramic	Body sherd similar to Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions. Too small or indistinct to be assigned with certainty.	255	15

NMI Accession Number	Material	Description	Context	Area
00E199:88	Ceramic	Crumb similar to Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions. Too small or indistinct to be assigned with certainty.	255	15
00E199:89	Flint	Fragments of burnt flint	87	14,15
00E199:90	Stone	Grinding or polishing stone	129	2
00E199:92	Ceramic	Fragment of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions.	105	15
00E199:93	Ceramic	Fragment of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions.	105	15
00E199:94	Ceramic	Fragment of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions.	105	15
00E199:95	Ceramic	Bodysherd, with a false rim, of Vessel 1, a Domestic Beaker Vessel. Hard compact fabric with a moderate content of inclusions.	105	15





## CALIBRATION OF RADIOCARBON AGE TO CALENDAR YEARS

(Variables: est. C13/C12=-25;lab. mult=1)

Laboratory number: **Beta-170030**

Conventional radiocarbon age<sup>1</sup>: **3260±140 BP**

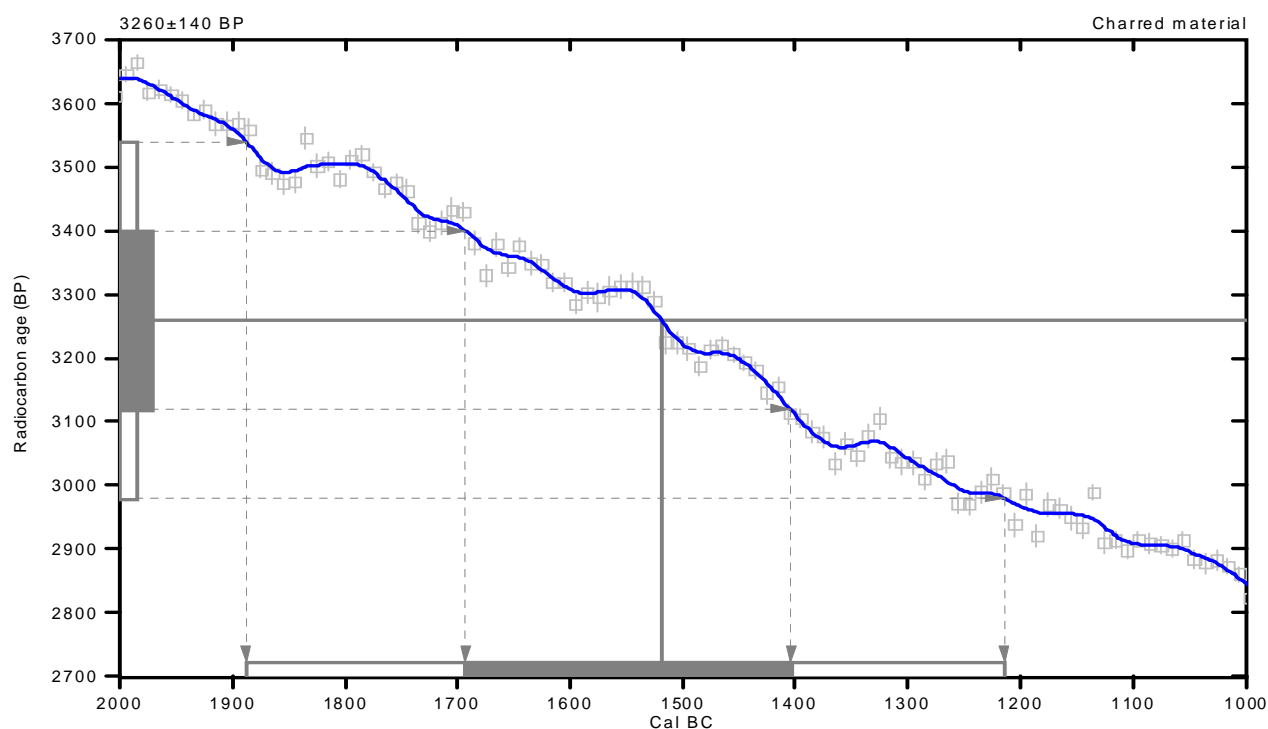
**2 Sigma calibrated result: Cal BC 1890 to 1210 (Cal BP 3840 to 3160)**  
(95% probability)

<sup>1</sup> C13/C12 ratio estimated

### Intercept data

Intercept of radiocarbon age  
with calibration curve: **Cal BC 1520 (Cal BP 3470)**

**1 Sigma calibrated result: Cal BC 1690 to 1400 (Cal BP 3640 to 3350)**  
(68% probability)



### References:

#### Database used

#### Calibration Database

#### Editorial Comment

Stuiver, M., van der Plicht, H., 1998, *Radiocarbon* 40(3), pxi-xiii

#### INTCAL98 Radiocarbon Age Calibration

Stuiver, M., et al., 1998, *Radiocarbon* 40(3), p1041-1083

#### Mathematics

#### A Simplified Approach to Calibrating C14 Dates

Talma, A. S., Vogel, J. C., 1993, *Radiocarbon* 35(2), p317-322

## Beta Analytic Inc.

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## Appendix 7 Lithics Report for 00E0199, Graigueshoneen, Co. Waterford

### Lithics Specialist Dr Sarah Milliken

Feature #	Find #	Material	Colour	Technology	Description
-	48	Chert	n/a	n/a	Unworked fragment
-	53	Chert	n/a	n/a	Unworked fragment
-	54	Quartz	n/a	n/a	Possibly worked flake, 43x38x20
-	62	Flint	Pale yellowish brown 10YR 6/2	Bipolar	Scraper on a flake, 34x16x6
-	74	Quartz	n/a	n/a	Worked fragment, 50x13x11
-	87	?	n/a	n/a	Burnt unworked fragments

Dr. Sarah Milliken, Department of Archaeology, National University of Ireland, Cork.

## 5.1 Plant Remains from Graigueshoneen, (00E0199) Kilmacthomas

### Introduction

Sixteen samples were examined for plant remains from the site at Graigueshoneen. The samples were processed using sieves of 1mm, 500µm and 250µm. The 1mm flotts were scanned with a binocular microscope at x10 magnification. The relative frequency of charcoal, modern plant material and other remains were recorded as \*, \*\*, \*\*\*, \*\*\*\*, \*\*\*\*\* for occasional, moderate, frequent, abundant and very abundant remains. None of the samples were waterlogged and only one produced any charred seeds.

### The Samples

Samples were taken from the fills of the nine pits or troughs that were uncovered beneath the mound. Context 189 was a clay fill of trough cut 244. It contained lots of charcoal fragments but no charred seeds. Contexts 191, 193 and 245 were dumps of burnt stones and charcoal in pit 247. No plant remains were recovered from these fills. Context 166 was also a fill of a trough, cut 248. It also produced no plant remains. A sample from a possible pit fill, context 164, similarly produced no remains. Context 243 was a pit fill that may have represented the remains of a wooden lining of the pit. It contained abundant charcoal but no other plant remains. Context 177 was a charcoal deposit at the base of a trough. All of these contexts contained abundant or super abundant charcoal but no other plant remains.

Context 211 and context 192 were both clay deposits. Neither contained any charred seeds. Context 45, a dump of stones, also did not produce any plant remains. Context 155 was a spread of clay with stones and it contained one unidentifiable charred seed fragment.

A peat layer, Context 26, had built up in a depression at the centre of the mound. It contained a small amount of charcoal but no other remains. A sample taken from the fill of a stakehole, Context 214, also produced no plant remains.

## Discussion

Recent excavations of *fulachta fiadh* conducted by Eachtra have produced little or no plant material, apart from charcoal, despite intensive sampling. For instance, several *fulachta fiadh* excavated at Ballydowney, Killarney, Co. Kerry (02E0055) produced no plant material from contexts that were directly related to the *fulacht fiadh*. A stakehole near one of the burnt mounds contained emmer wheat and crop processing waste but it was an isolated feature and so its relationship to the *fulacht fiadh* was not clear. Another excavation at Cappamore (00E0595) produced a single grain of barley and a few fragments of cereal grains that were not identifiable to species. Other *fulachta fiadh* excavated in advance of the Kilmacthomas bypass such as at Carraiganonshagh (00E0197 and 00E0198) and Scrahane (00E0293) also contained little evidence of plant use.

*Fulachta fiadh* are commonly interpreted as cooking sites, however the absence of charred cereals from this site does not support this theory.

The scarcity of plant remains at this site, and other *fulacht fiadh*, may be due to taphonomic factors. Some plant remains are more likely to be preserved than others. For instance, charred remains are biased towards species that are exposed to heat during their processing or use. Cereal grains and arable weeds often become burnt either accidentally or deliberately during crop and food processing and therefore are found more frequently than other remains. Charring is also biased towards woody plant remains such as cereal grain and hazelnut shells and biased against plants that may have been used for their vegetative parts, such as roots and leaves. If the temperature is too high however, plant remains may just burn rather than char. This may occur at sites where fires of very high temperatures have been used and could be part of the reason for the scarcity of plant remains at 00E0199.

## Conclusion

The lack of plant remains from the *fulacht fiadh* at 00E0199 is similar to other *fulacht fiadh* such as those excavated both in Kerry and sites closer to 00E0199 such as those at Carraiganonshagh and Scrahane. This lack of evidence may be due to taphonomic factors or it may indicate that plant foods were not processed for consumption at *fulachta fiadh*.

## 1 Figures

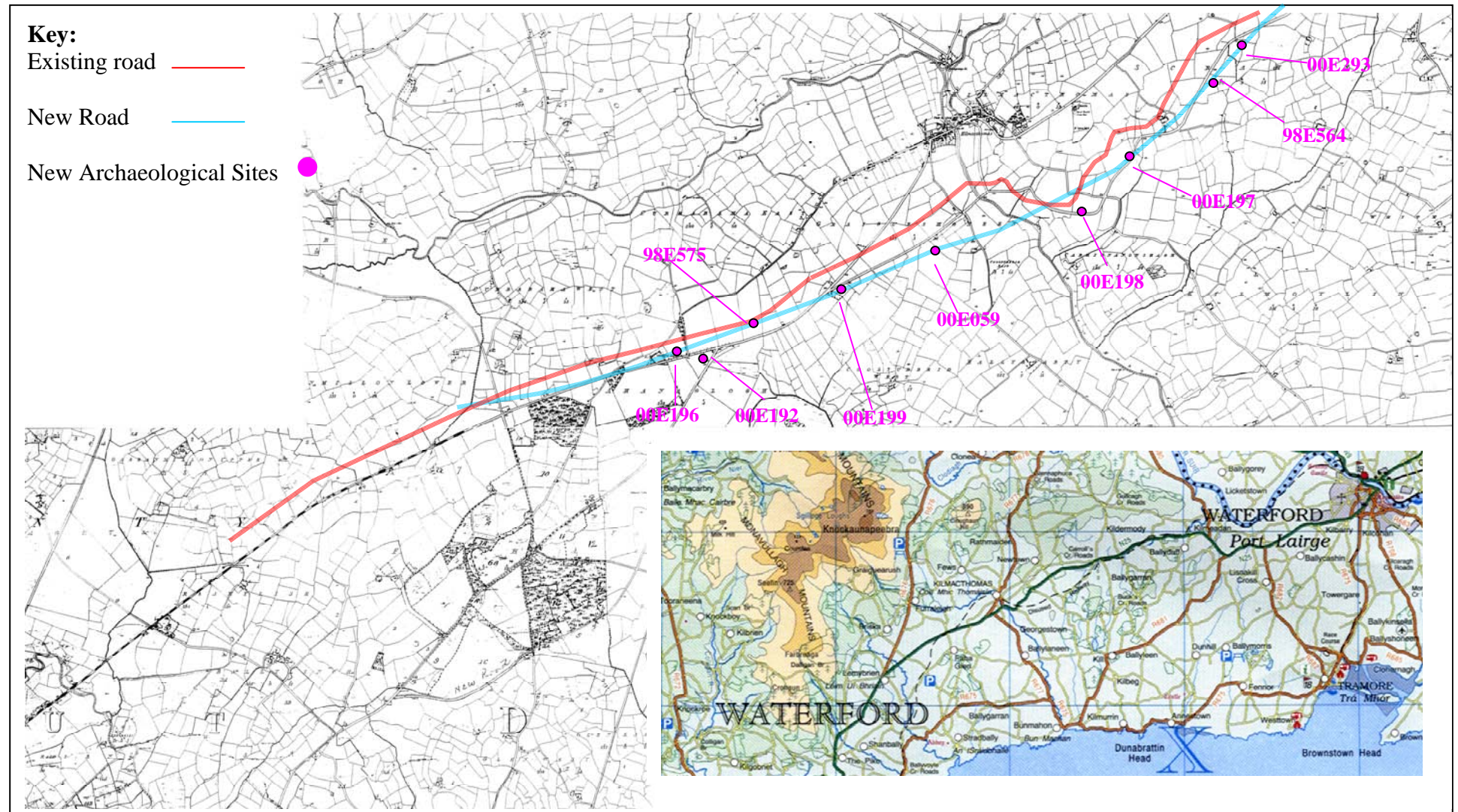


Figure 1 Extract from 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey Map Sheet 15



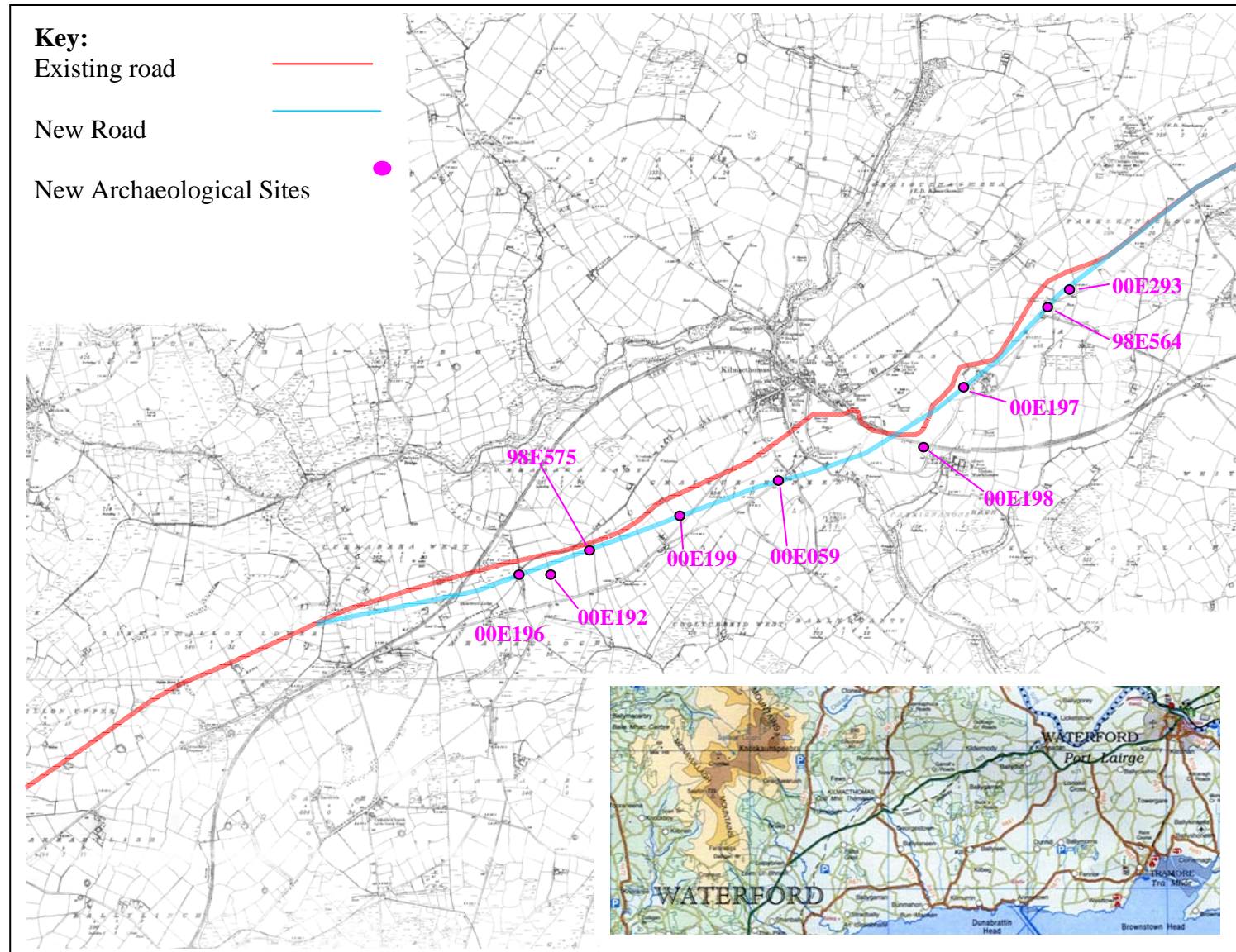


Figure 2 Extract from 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map Sheet 16

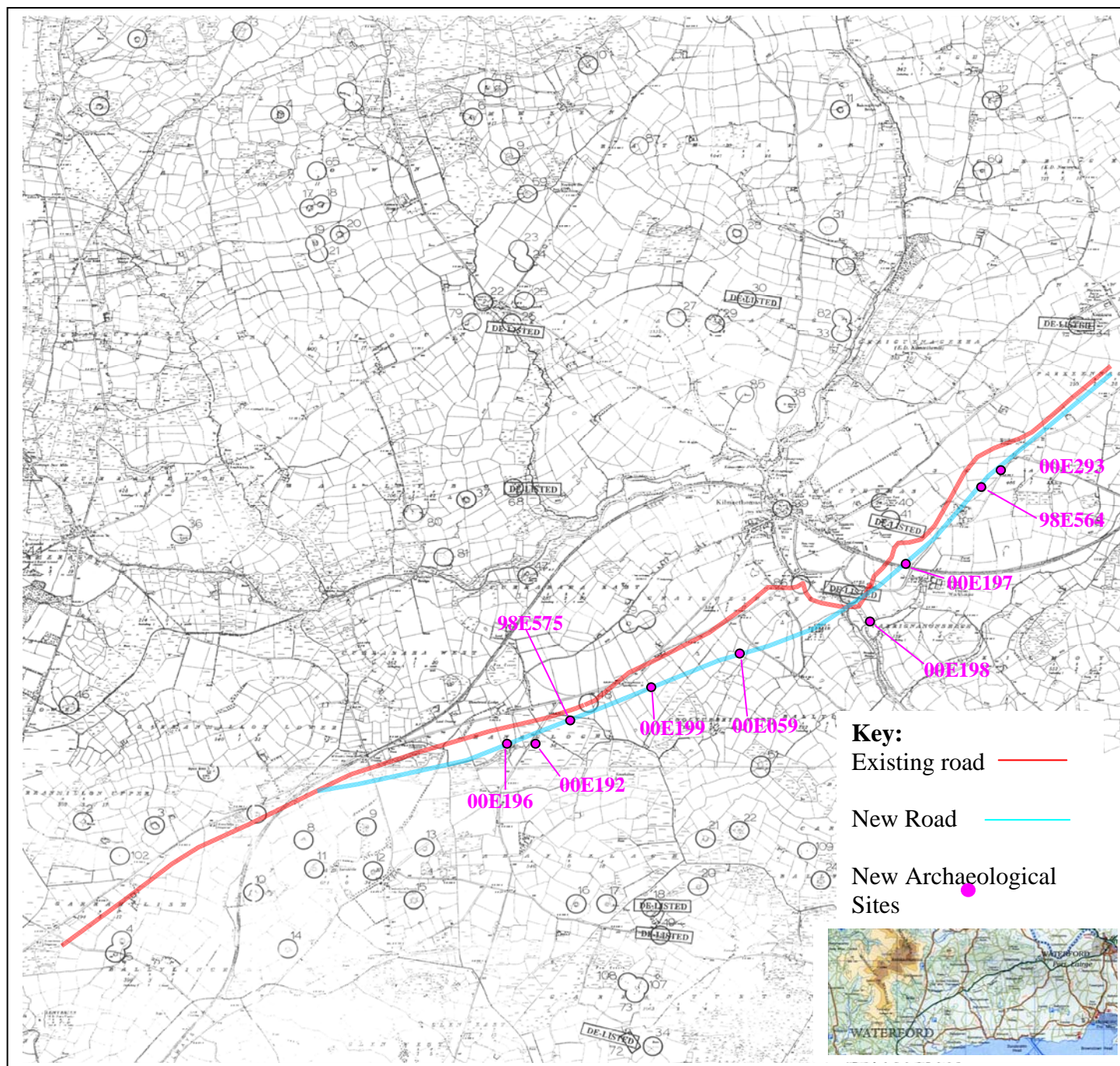
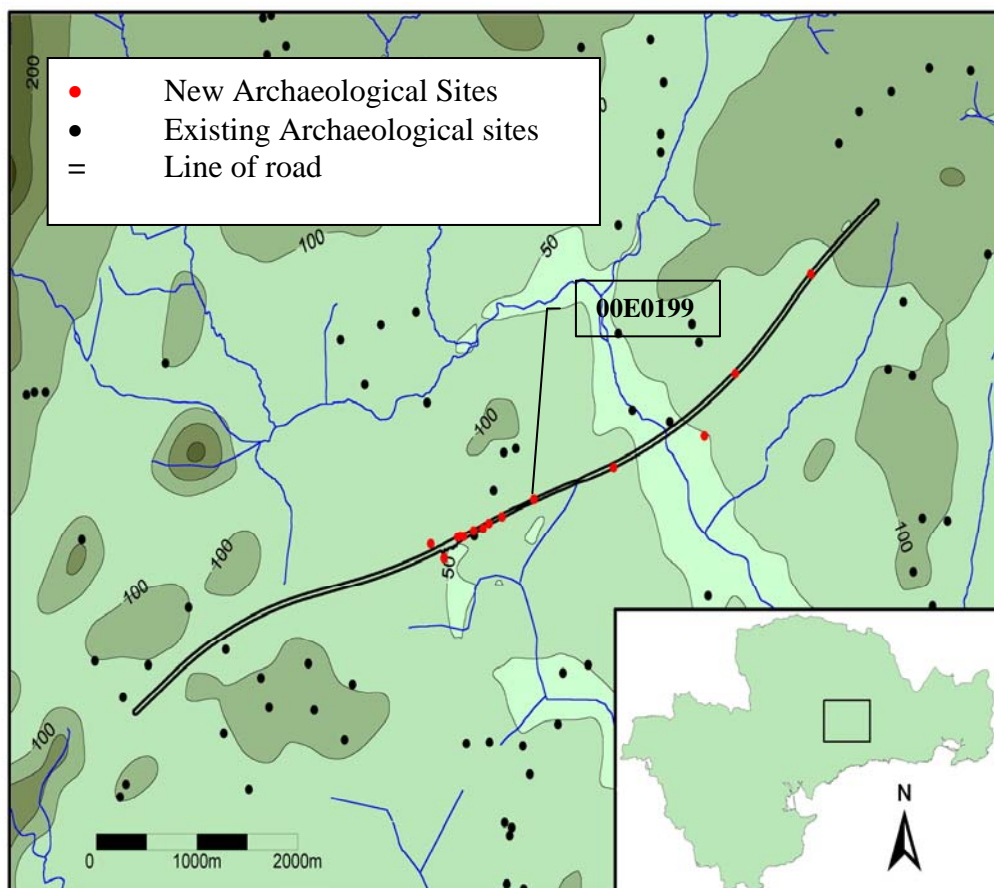


Figure 3 Extract from RMP based on the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey Sheet 15





**Figure 4 Topographical map of N25 Realignment showing location of site**

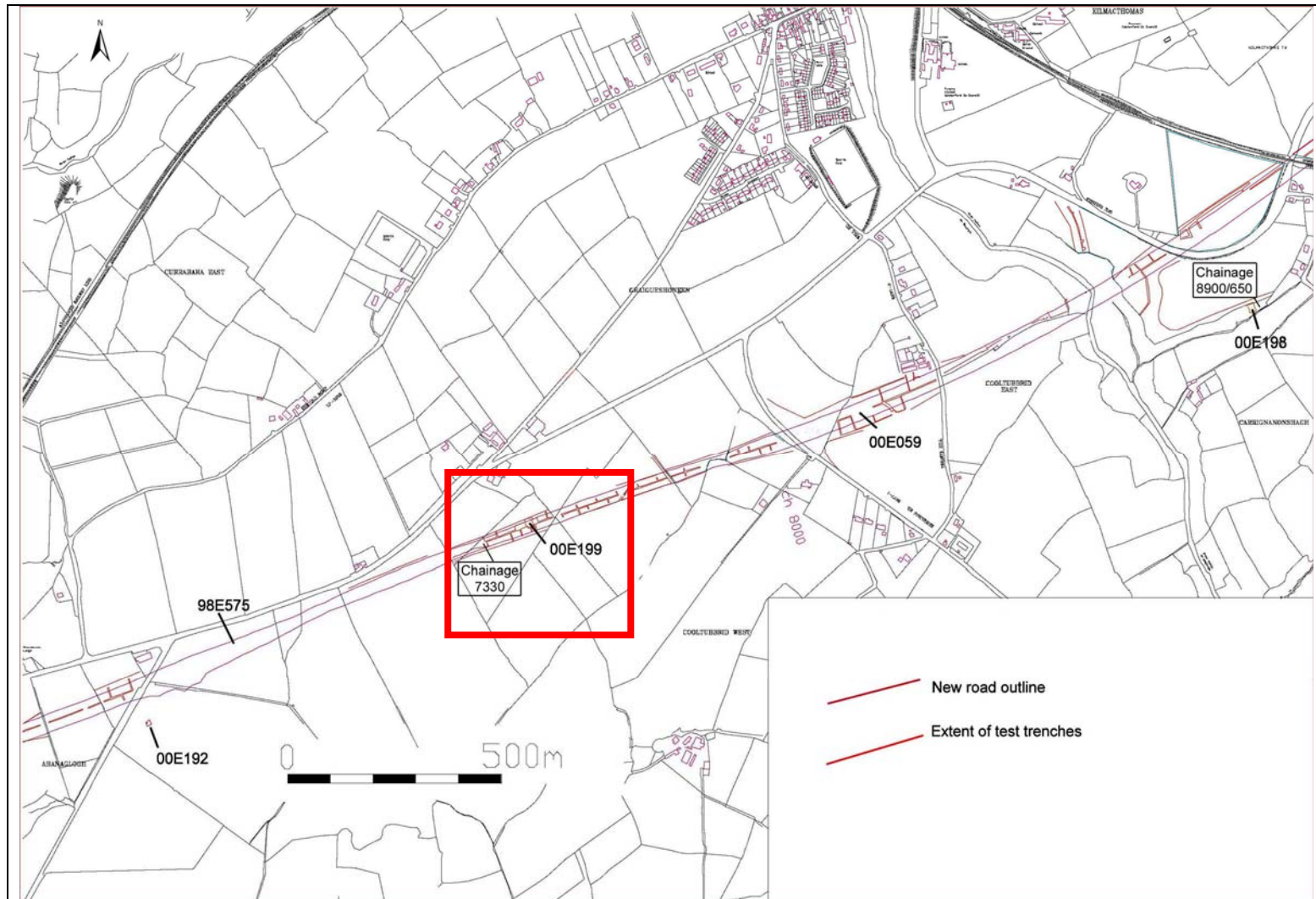


Figure 5 Detailed location map of 00E199



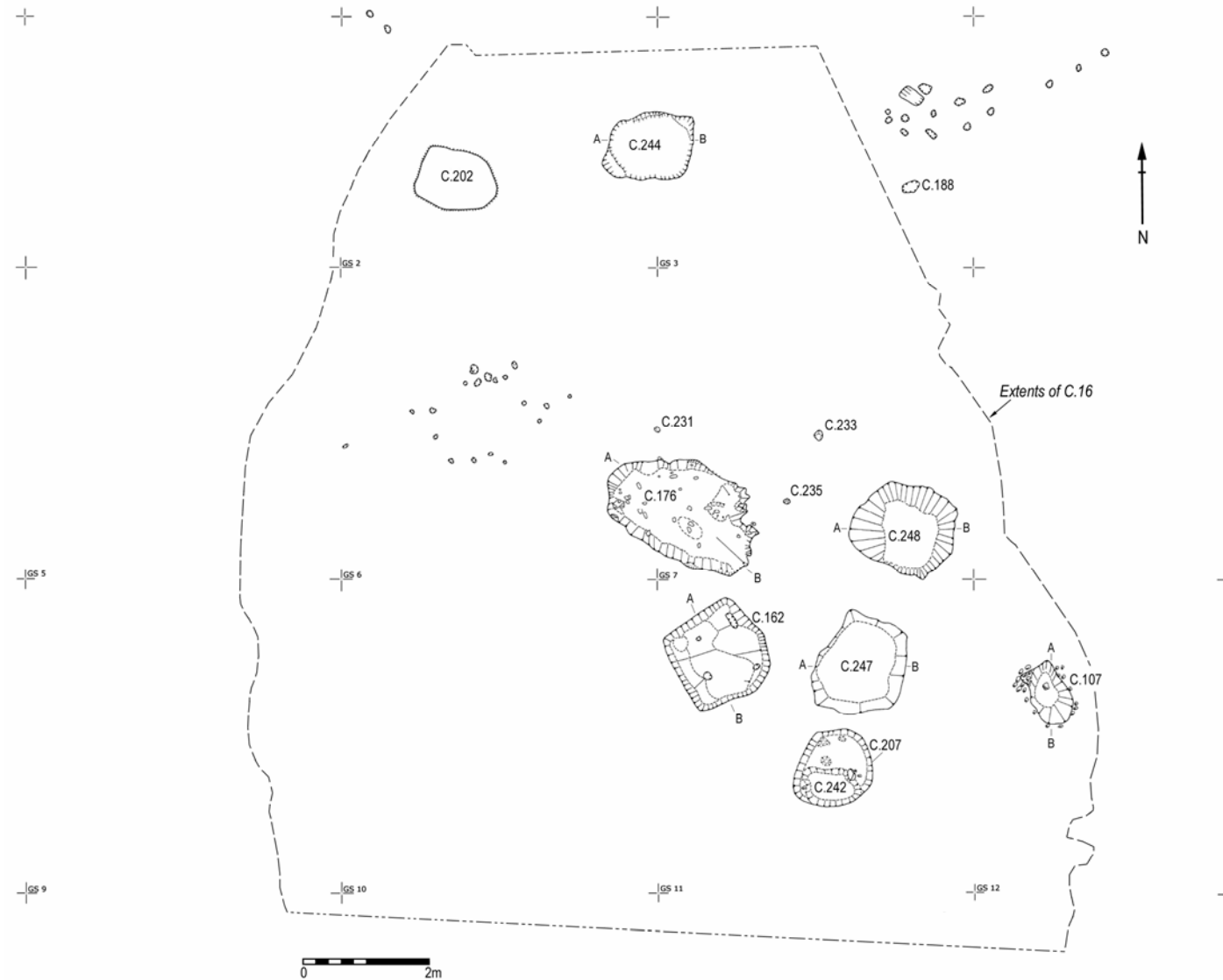


Figure 6 Composite plan of 00E0199

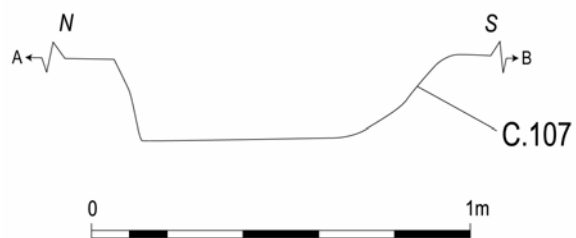


Figure 7 C.107 in profile

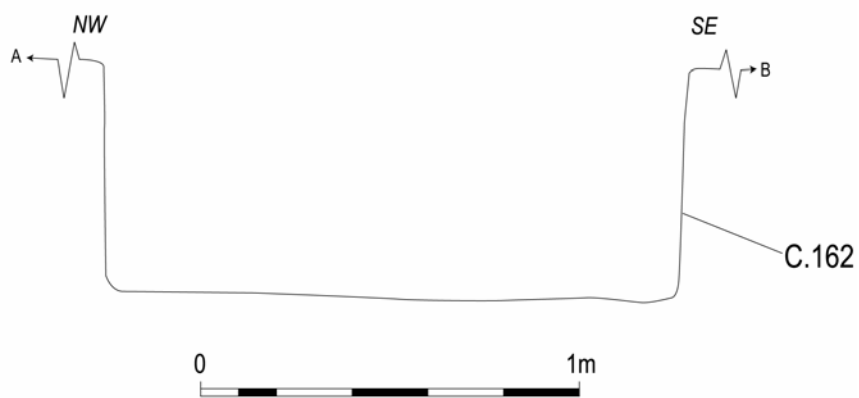


Figure 8 C.162 in profile

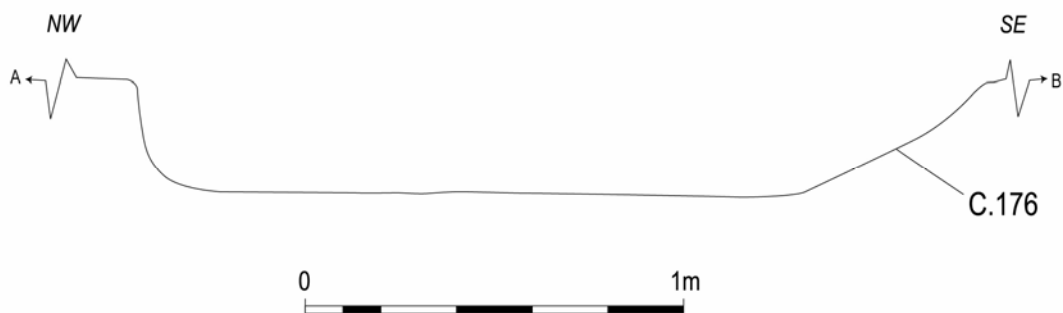


Figure 9 C.176 in profile

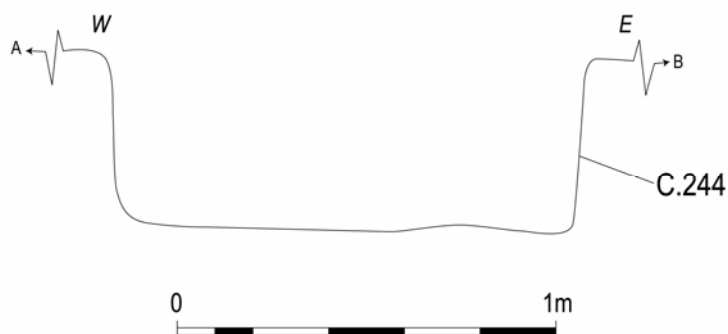


Figure 10 C.244 in profile

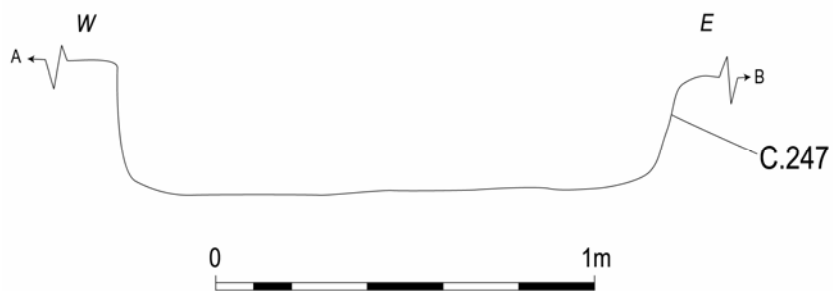


Figure 11 C. 247 in profile

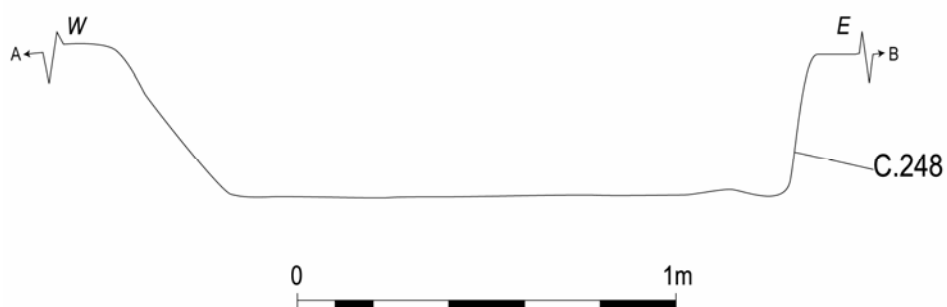


Figure 12 C.248 in profile



Figure 13 Find 62

## 2 Plates



**Plate 1 00E0199 Pit and trough cuts viewed from the northeast**

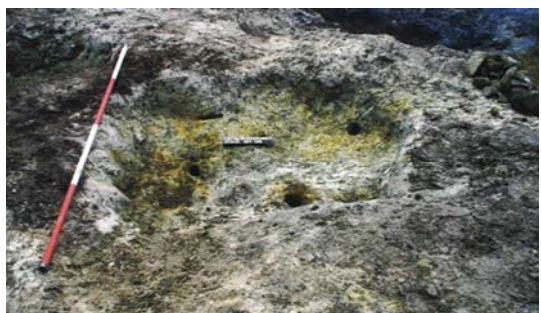




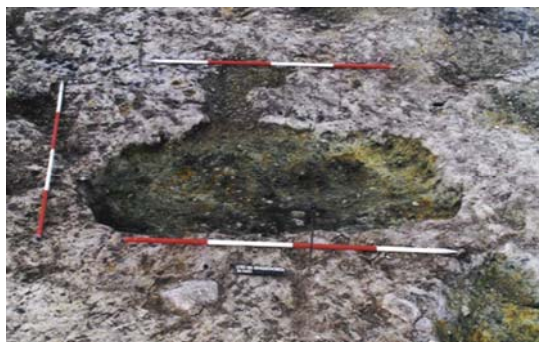
**Plate 2 00E0199 Context 16**



**Plate 3 Context 107**



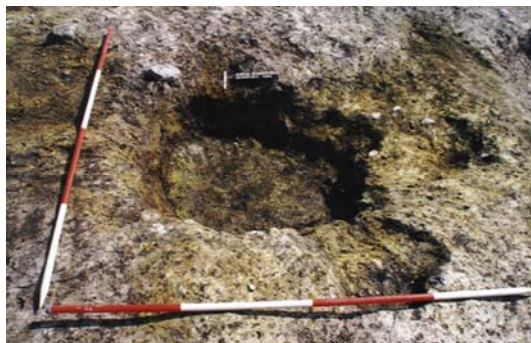
**Plate 4 Context 162, Trough cut**



**Plate 5 Context 176, Trough cut**



**Plate 6 Context 207, Pit cut**



**Plate 7 Context 244, Trough cut**



**Plate 8 Stakeholes to east of Grid Square 3**



**Plate 9 Stakeholes within Grid Square 6**



**Plate 10 Context 190, Recut**



**Plate 11 Context 248, Pit cut**

