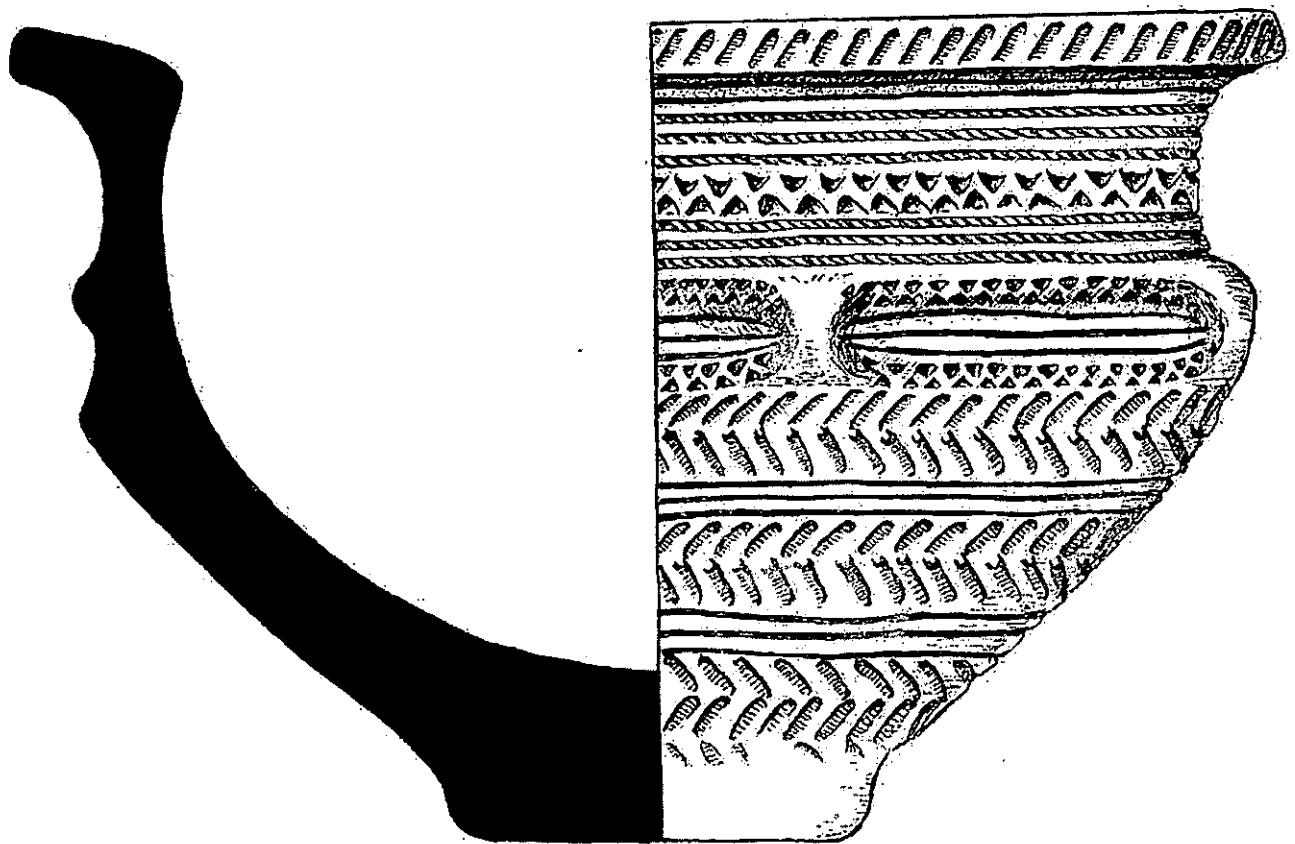


Shaw Cairn, Mellor Moor:

Report on the excavations, 1976-1988



The Greater Manchester Archaeology Unit
University of Manchester
Oxford Road
Manchester
M13 9PL

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Shaw Cairn, Mellor Moor: Report on the excavations, 1976-1988

By Victoria Mellor, under the direction of Norman Redhead

Based on the work of: John Clarke (deceased)
Ruth Collier (deceased)
Kath Lowe

With contributions from: Andrew Myers
Fred Broadhurst
Ruth Collier (deceased)

Cover: original illustration of Food Vessel [53]

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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Excavation at Shaw Cairn (SJ 9870 8725, GMAU SMR no. 421.1.0), located on Cobden Edge, in Stockport Metropolitan Borough, was carried out after identification of the site as a possible cairn by J. Bu'Lock, and a contour survey in 1975 produced inconclusive results. The site was excavated between 1976 and 1988, although no report of the work was produced in this period. The site archive was passed to Greater Manchester Archaeology Unit on its recent re-discovery, following the death of one of the core excavation team. Analysis of the archive was conducted as part of the work placement year of an Archaeology degree at the University of Bradford.

The site itself is a stone-built funerary cairn of the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, enclosed by a stone kerb c. 15m in diameter. 12-15 cremation burials were discovered, some of which were within stone cists or settings. Some of these cremations included finds of pottery and flint, although some of the flintwork seems to have been accidental inclusions of earlier artefacts. Of particular note are the finds of a particularly finely-worked plano-convex knife in association with a cremation, and an almost complete Early Bronze Age Food Vessel. A number of possible pyre sites have been identified at the site. A limited quantity of the lithics from the site are datable to the Earlier Mesolithic, and it is likely that pre-cairn Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age activity is represented, as well as some evidence of various phases in the construction of the cairn.

The site provides a useful addition to previous studies of Peak District barrows, and its position at the interface between the Bronze Age cultures of the Peak District limestone and the Millstone Grit of the lowland Mersey Basin make it of particular interest. The identification of other possible cairn sites close by, the ditch/bank feature of unknown date, which surrounds the site, and the ongoing hillfort excavation c. 1.6 km to the north (GMAU SMR no. 1317.3.0), at Mellor, highlight the importance of the area as a complex prehistoric landscape. This landscape will be the subject of a proposed Mellor Hinterland Survey, allowing Shaw Cairn to be placed within this wider context. Further work at the site itself is recommended, including the analysis of the pottery and cremated bone from the site, and further exploratory excavation. Topographical and geophysical survey should be undertaken.

INTRODUCTION

In 1975, a contour survey was carried out by a small group of local enthusiasts, of a number of Bronze Age and other prehistoric sites in the Pennines, which included Shaw Cairn, Mellor Moor (reproduced here, p. 15). The site was brought to the attention of the group by John Bu'Lock, who identified it as a possible cairn. After the initial survey work failed to confirm the site as a cairn site, a trial excavation was carried out, in 1976 (reproduced here, p. 28). The main excavators at the site were John Clarke, Ruth Collier, and Kath Lowe. The team apparently worked under the auspices of the Extra Mural Department of Manchester University, although the extent to which this institution was involved in the project is unclear. Work continued at the site in every year until 1988, despite the death of John Clarke in 1979. The surviving material presently held at GMAU was discovered, by Mrs A Hurle, following the recent death of Ruth Collier, apparently as it was being deposited in a skip.

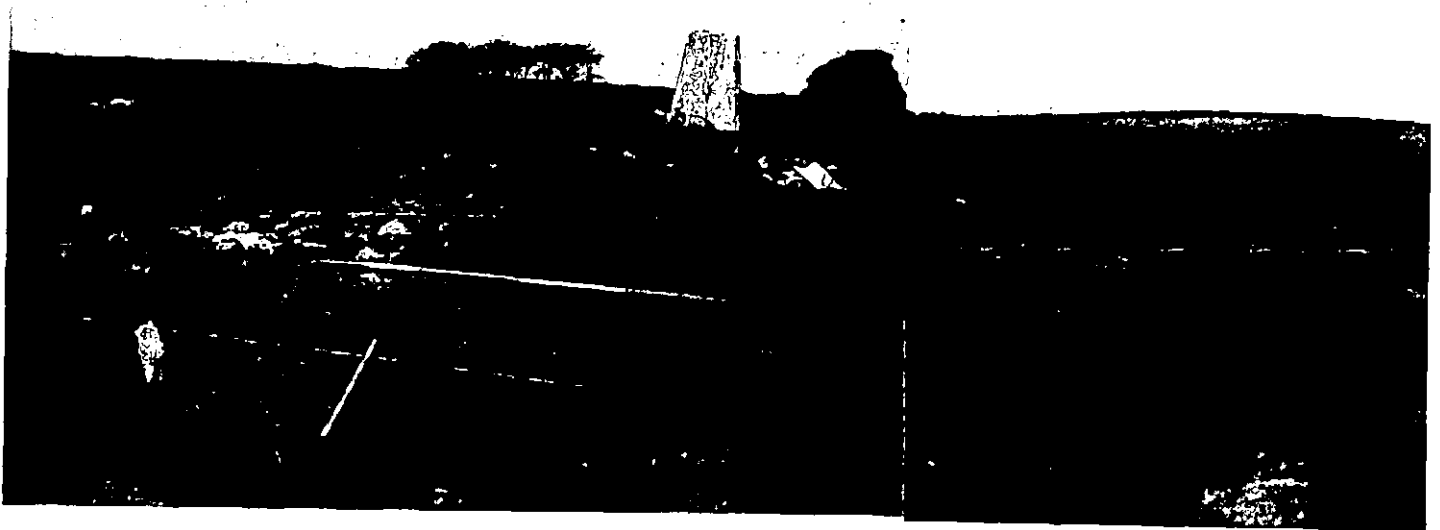


Plate 1: Excavations at the site

(19/5/78 – c. AN/O, looking north, ref: SC1978P4 (a) & (b))

INTRODUCTION

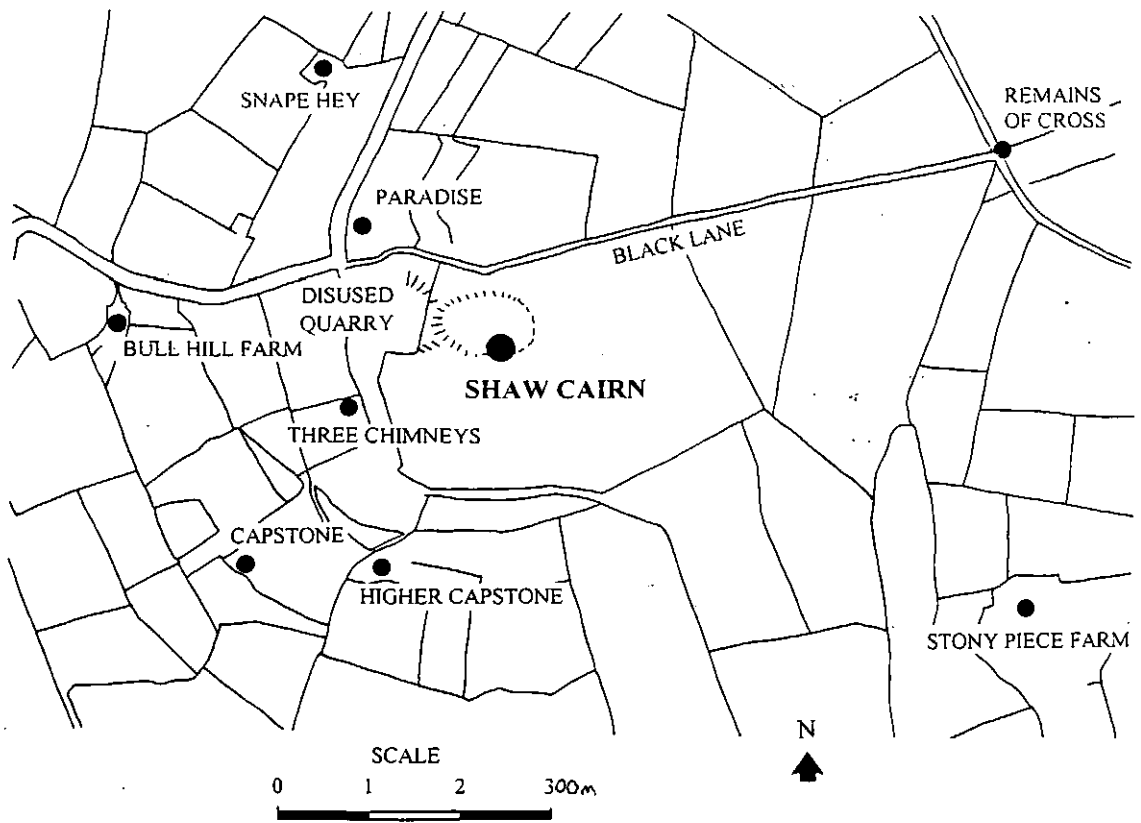
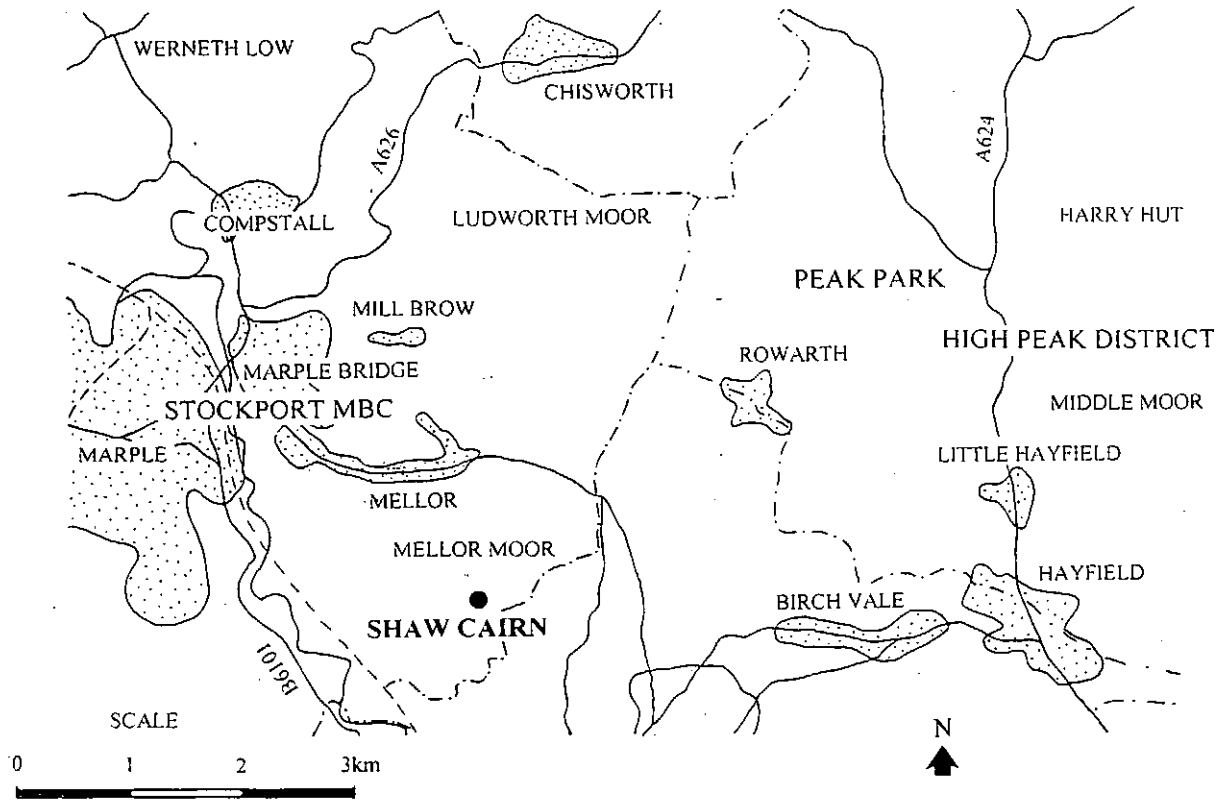


Plate 2: Location of the site

INTRODUCTION

Shaw Cairn is situated at grid reference SJ 9870 8725, approximately 11 miles south east of central Manchester, and approximately 24 miles west of central Sheffield. The site lies just within Greater Manchester County, in Stockport Metropolitan Borough. The cairn has a Trig. Point set into it at 327.97m O.D.

The site is situated on privately owned moorland/farmland, just to the south of the settlement of Mellor.

The site appears to have been known as "Soldier's Tump" circa 1920, and was believed to be Roman. (Communication between excavation team and ex-employee at Three Chimneys Farm, name unknown.) The site was named Shaw Cairn in recognition of the co-operation of the then landowner, Mr W H Burgess of Shaw Farm.

The site itself is a Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age cairn, in the tradition of many similar sites in the Peak District. There is little evidence of activity in later periods, but Mesolithic material was discovered at the site. It is also possible that pre-cairn Neolithic activity is represented. Between 12 and 15 cremation burials are represented at the site, together with numerous flint artefacts. Pottery was also well represented, the most notable example of which being an almost complete Early Bronze Age "Food Vessel". A recent aerial photograph of the site (Plate 2) has shown what appears to be a large ditch encircling the hillock on which it lies, although there is currently no evidence to suggest whether this pre- or post-dates the cairn construction.

INTRODUCTION

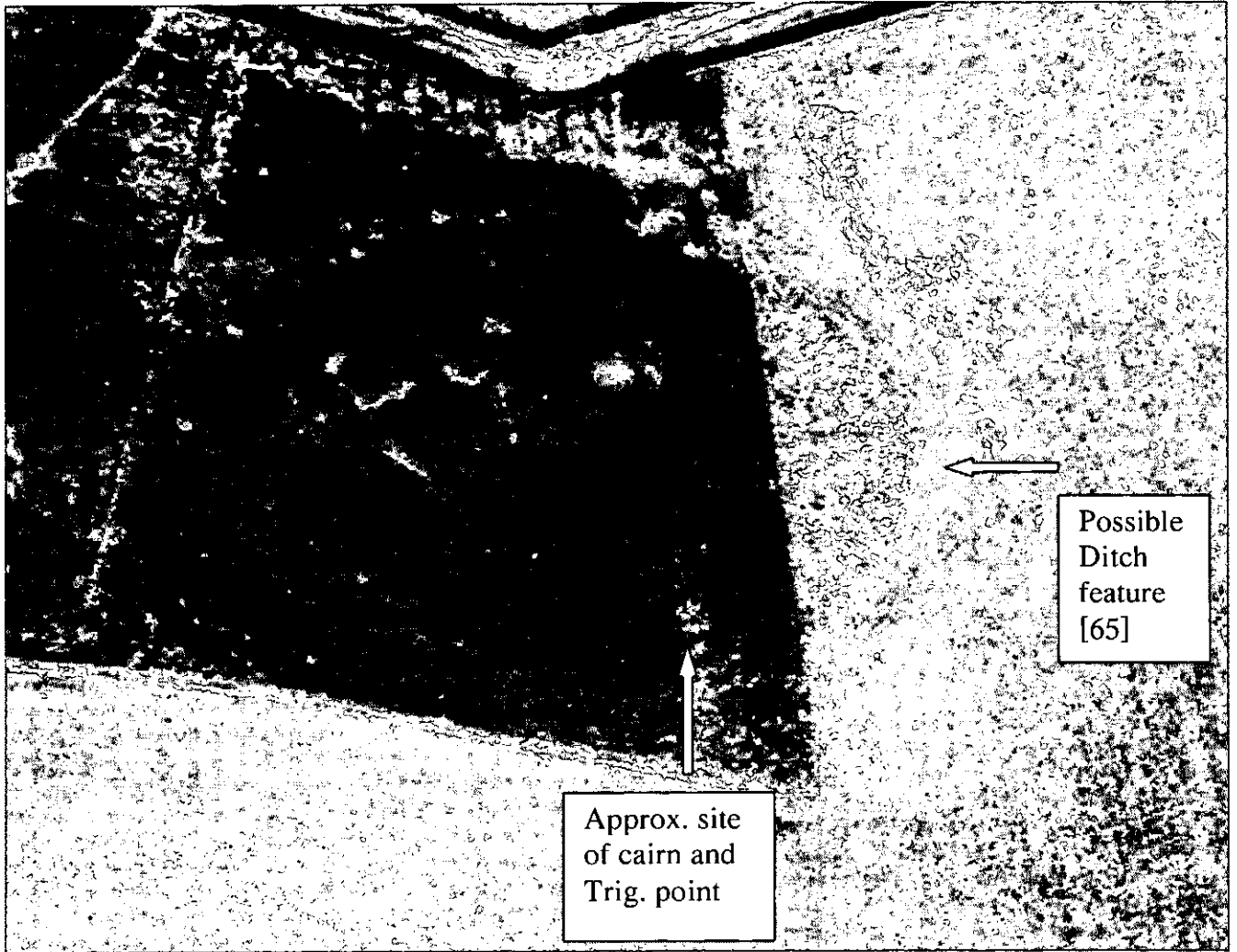


Plate. 3: Aerial photograph of the site, 2000

INTRODUCTION

This project has been carried out, under the guidance of Mr Norman Redhead of GMAU, as part of the work placement element of an undergraduate Archaeology degree, at the University of Bradford. The main purpose of the project has been to create an orderly record of the site, primarily using the excavation diaries to catalogue both the paper archive and finds from the site. In general, the project has focussed on providing a review of work at the site. Unfortunately, due to constraints on time and resources, it has not been possible here to examine the surviving finds from the site in detail, with the exception of a report on the lithics from the site by A. M. Myers. These omissions were also largely due to the need for specialist examination of the finds, which was not available.

Interest in Shaw Cairn has been rekindled through the recent discovery of a hillfort at Mellor Vicarage c. 1 mile to the north. Excavations here, under the direction of Graham Eyre-Morgan of the University of Manchester Archaeological Unit, have revealed finds of Mesolithic, Neolithic, Late Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman date. The tremendous public interest in this site has led to the formation of the Mellor Archaeological Trust. It is clear that the Mellor hillfort and Shaw Cairn form part of a wider and heretofore unrecognised rich prehistoric landscape of considerable archaeological importance.

Overall, this report is intended to provide a review of fieldwork at Shaw Cairn, together with information on the construction and layout of the site. Whilst finds will not be examined here in detail, they will be catalogued, and considered in terms of the site stratigraphy, where this can be determined. The intention is that this report will facilitate a more detailed programme of research, especially in producing useful analysis of the artefacts from the site, and in more general research on the Prehistory of the western fringes of the Peak District, and the development of the landscape of the area surrounding Mellor.

DISCUSSION OF THE SITE ARCHIVE AND ASSOCIATED PROBLEMS

In addition to the finds from the site, the Shaw Cairn archive includes a diary of the excavations, plans of the site, a number of notebooks, and a photographic record. Due to the nature of the discovery of the material, it seems likely that at least some of the original archive has been lost and probably a great deal of it, although there is no record of the original extent of the archive. The problems associated with each element of the archive will be discussed here.

The central component of the archive is the excavation diary, which consists of fifty-one pages of typed text outlining work for the years 1975 to 1988. The diary was typed (and also usually written) by Ruth Collier, and entries for each year range in size from a paragraph to ten or so pages.

This is the primary source of data on the site, and is the central record of where trenches were dug, what was found, where it was found etc. Unfortunately, this was never intended to be a comprehensive record of the excavation, and thus the record contained within it is often very poor.

Often features and finds are described in contradictory ways from page to page, and there is minimal information on where these were located. Mentions of finds are commonly not accompanied by their location, and even when they are, this is usually only to the nearest square metre. Only in a few isolated cases is the vertical position of finds recorded. When this is the case, this is either as a depth below the original ground level (which is not known) or, more usefully, through comments such as "*...on peat, just above stones...*" (find no. 3033), which at least allows some idea to be gained as to the site stratigraphy.

An additional concern is that crucial data may well be omitted from the record. The poor quality of the surviving material would hint that far more information on the site has been destroyed than survives, and this could have serious implications in the interpretation of the site.

In a similar vein to the potential problem of omission, is the concern that data may be incorrect. On several occasions in the diary, it is apparent that items have been wrongly referenced, with for instance, their locations being given as two different points. Where such mistakes can be identified, they can be compensated for either by establishing a true value, where a variety of sources are available, or through including judgements concerning the likely precision of information in the results. An example of the use of the latter method being where an item is described here as being within a general area rather than at a particular point on the site, where it was felt that the location given in the source material was likely to be inaccurate.

It was felt that if absolute certainty were required for the inclusion of data, then a great deal of valuable information would become redundant, and on a site that is already very poorly recorded this could exclude the bulk of the data.

It is also unfortunate that the surviving material is very strongly led by the interpretations of the excavators. The surviving plans, for example, are useful in showing features including the locations of the cremation burials, structures related to these and the cairn kerb. Where this fails is in the fact that *only* these features are shown, and so there is little basis on which any new interpretations on structure could be made. This is equally true of the excavation diary, where it is clear that, often, only those items considered to be significant by the writer are mentioned. Of course the interpretations made during excavation are likely to be correct, but this is an important consideration nonetheless. Comparison of the site plans and photographic record clearly highlights this as a possible source of error, with discrepancies between

DISCUSSION OF THE SITE ARCHIVE AND ASSOCIATED PROBLEMS

the sources demonstrating the problems associated with these interpretation-led illustrations.

DISCUSSION OF THE SITE ARCHIVE AND ASSOCIATED PROBLEMS

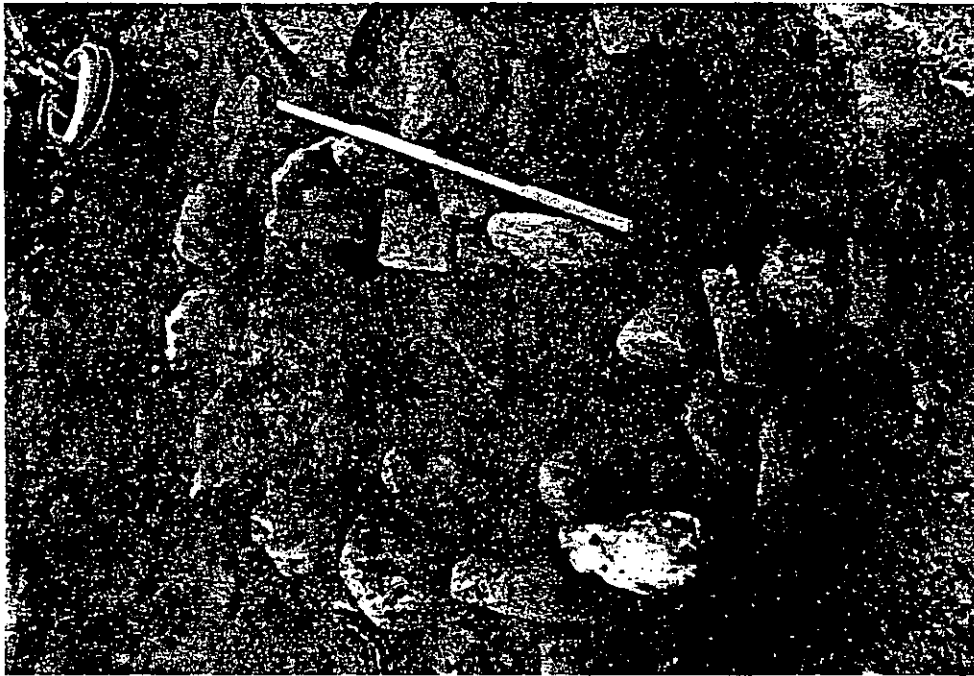
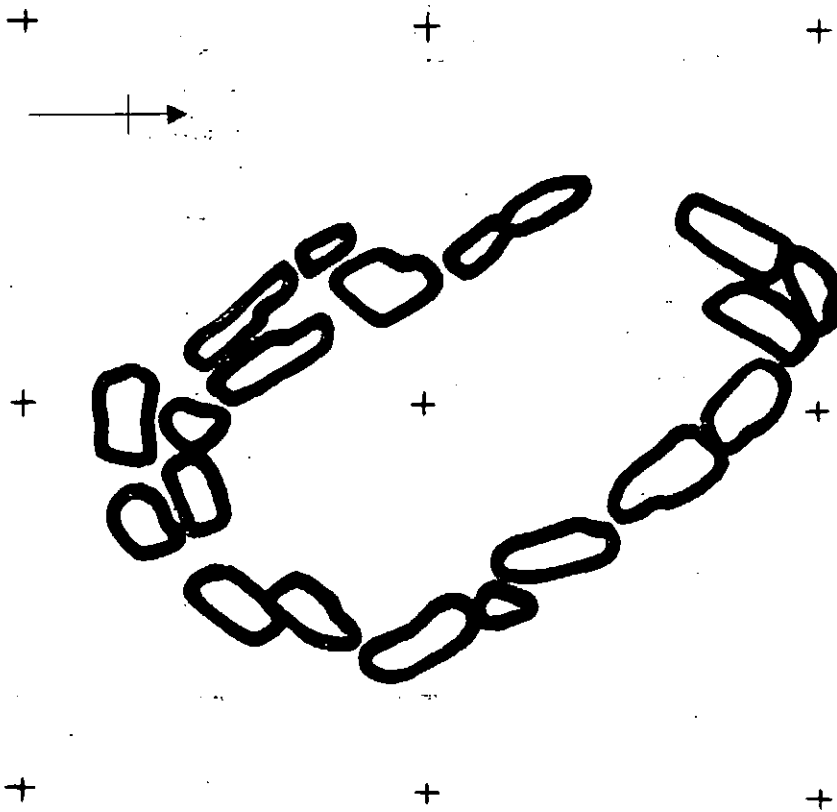


Photo ref: SC1984P6. Facing South.



Scale: 50mm=1m

Plate. 4: Comparison between the photographic and drawn record (feature [14]) (Sketch derived from main plan of site.). Discrepancies are obvious between the two illustrations.

DISCUSSION OF THE SITE ARCHIVE AND ASSOCIATED PROBLEMS

Perhaps the most worrying possible source of error within the source material is those mistakes for which there is no surviving evidence. It is possible that major errors have been made, and one piece of evidence in support of this comes from the documented evidence concerning the site grid. The numbering system for this changed over time – a problem which was later noticed by the excavators – and thus there is confusion over the interpretation of most of the location references due to the inclusion of previously absent reference numbers. This is compounded by the fact that it is unclear whether, when, and how the team rectified these problems. If this problem existed in the data, and was not noticed by the team for a number of years, then it seems highly possible that other similar mistakes have been made, and that these may be impossible to detect.

Lastly, all of the above problems are worsened by the fact that the original excavation team cannot be consulted, there being only one surviving member, and the passing of over twelve years since the close of excavations. Many of the problems arising with the data could probably have easily been solved with a little first hand knowledge of the site, and a recollection of events. It is a great shame that the team was never able to complete the project, and that so much information seems to have been lost.

Despite these problems, the diary has provided most of the information used here. It has been used, amongst other things, in compiling lists of the finds from the site (appendix (d)) and explaining the excavation methodology. A surprisingly large quantity of information has been extracted from this component of the archive in particular, and whilst the points raised above should be carefully considered, they should not invalidate the results and conclusions drawn from them.

The diary contains a large number of photographs of the site, which are especially useful given the dearth of information from other sources. These photographs are complimented by a collection of around one hundred slides, of which there is now a digital copy. Unfortunately, many of these photographs, especially the slides, are accompanied by very little information. A scale is usually included in the photographs, but often there is no labelling as to the year in which the picture was taken, the subject matter or direction. In some cases this is not a great problem, as major features can be identified, and direction etc. deduced in this way. In other cases, however, no such features can be identified, making these images unusable. A full catalogue of the photographic record is included in this report (appendix (b)). The collection of notebooks, which forms part of the site archive, is of limited value. For the most part, the only references to the site which are included in these are diary entries, which were later typed into the main excavation diary. In addition to this, shorthand notes are common, but examination of these, by a shorthand reader, indicates that these are not relevant to the site, and are, in any case, largely indecipherable.

The few plans that survive from the site have been of great use. Despite their failings, which have been touched upon above, they have allowed plans of the site to be made, which would otherwise have been impossible.

Where they fall short is again in their incomplete nature. Basic pieces of information such as scale, direction and date are not included. This becomes particularly important when considering the interpretation of data, following the discovery that the site grid had been confused in the course of the excavations. This point will be considered in more detail in the following section.

DISCUSSION OF THE SITE ARCHIVE AND ASSOCIATED PROBLEMS

An area for concern, which has been mentioned above, is that only major features, as perceived by the excavators, are included. This leaves little room for differing interpretations.

A major problem with the plans of the site has been that no record of the position and size of the trenches dug in each year survives. This matter, again, is discussed in the following section.

Despite the problems outlined here, the paper archive of the site is invaluable. Although the surviving record is of a poor standard, when compared to the great number of similar sites across the Peak District excavated in the nineteenth century, the record is relatively comprehensive. Given that relatively few such sites have been excavated using modern techniques, the record of the excavation at Shaw Cairn becomes all the more valuable.

1975 CONTOUR SURVEY

Reproduction of the contour survey report written by Miss Ruth Collier in 1975

5. Cairn, Mellor Moor, Mellor.
O.S. Grid Reference: SJ 98678725

Present state:

The land is owned by Mr. W.H. Burgess of Shaw Farm, New Mills from whom permission to survey the site was obtained. The cairn is covered by moor grass and heather with many low humps which seemed to show a pattern approximate to a platform or ring-cairn. The Ordnance Survey had erected a Trig. Point in one quarter of the area surveyed.

Work done:

Contour survey by dumpy level; reading at 1m intervals.

Conclusions:

The contours did not reveal any real pattern due to the slightness of the variations and the general slope of the land to the south. It was decided to check the nature of the site by partial excavation and a separate excavation report had been prepared and is included after this Field Survey report.

Further information:

During the course of the excavation references in Wainwright to a site "on the hill above Cobden Edge Farm" were followed up by field walking. The site of another possible cairn was located and the position is marked on the map attached.

Plans appended:

- i Location – based on O.S. 1:2500 map.
- ii Location of area surveyed: Scale 1:250
- iii Contour survey, scale 1:100

Note:

The Trig. Point appears to contain a magnetic substance. Three compasses were tested and were severely deflected when placed on top of the column. It proved impossible to stabilise a trough compass on a theodolite. It is possible that there is also a local variation affecting magnetic north.

1975 CONTOUR SURVEY

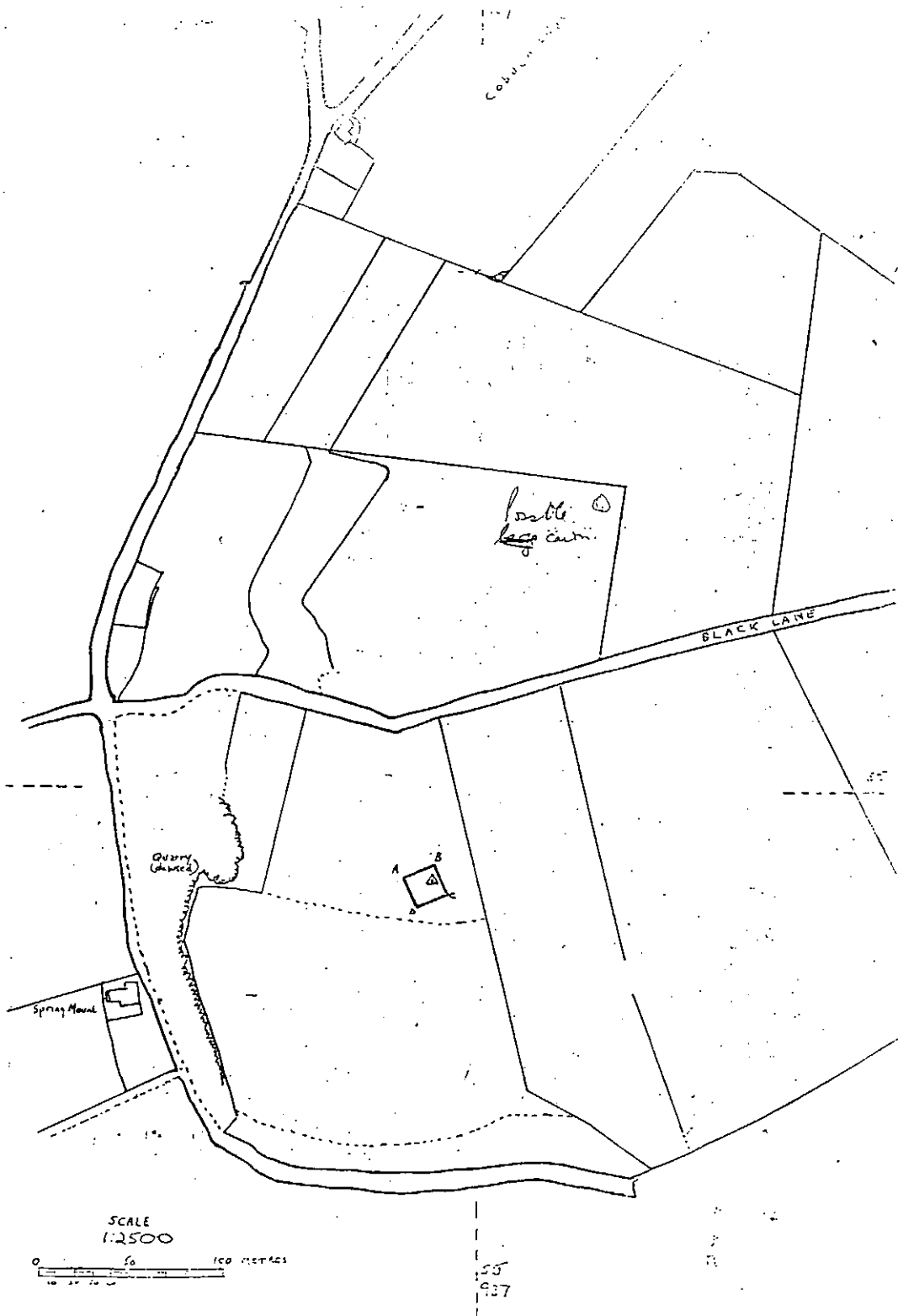


Plate. 5: Original 1975 survey plan, 1:2500 (slightly reduced here), showing location of survey area.

1975 CONTOUR SURVEY

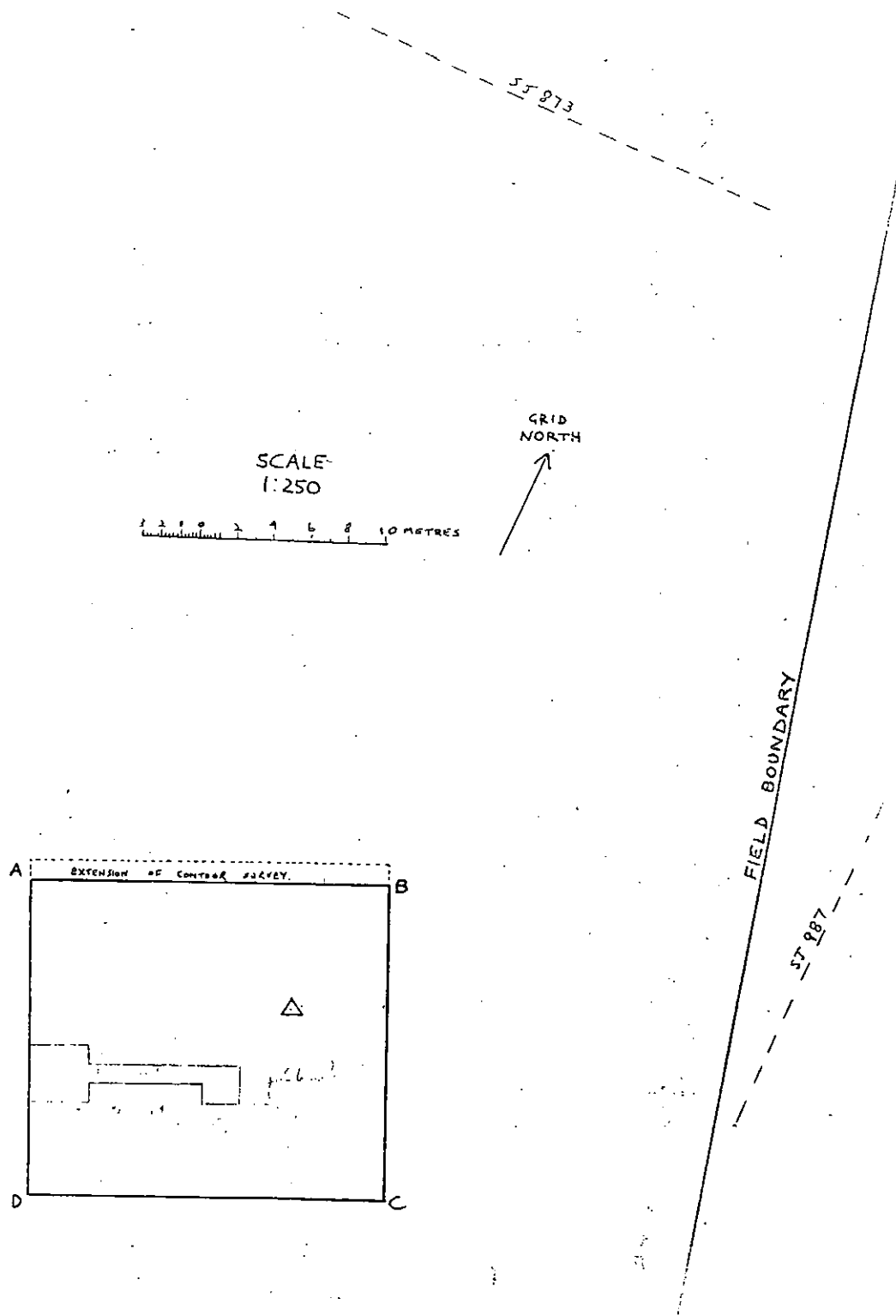


Plate. 6: Original 1975 survey plan, 1:250 (slightly reduced here), showing location of survey area. (Also showing (approx.?) position of 1976 trial excavation trench.)

1975 CONTOUR SURVEY

SCALE

1:100

0 1 2 3 4 5 METRES

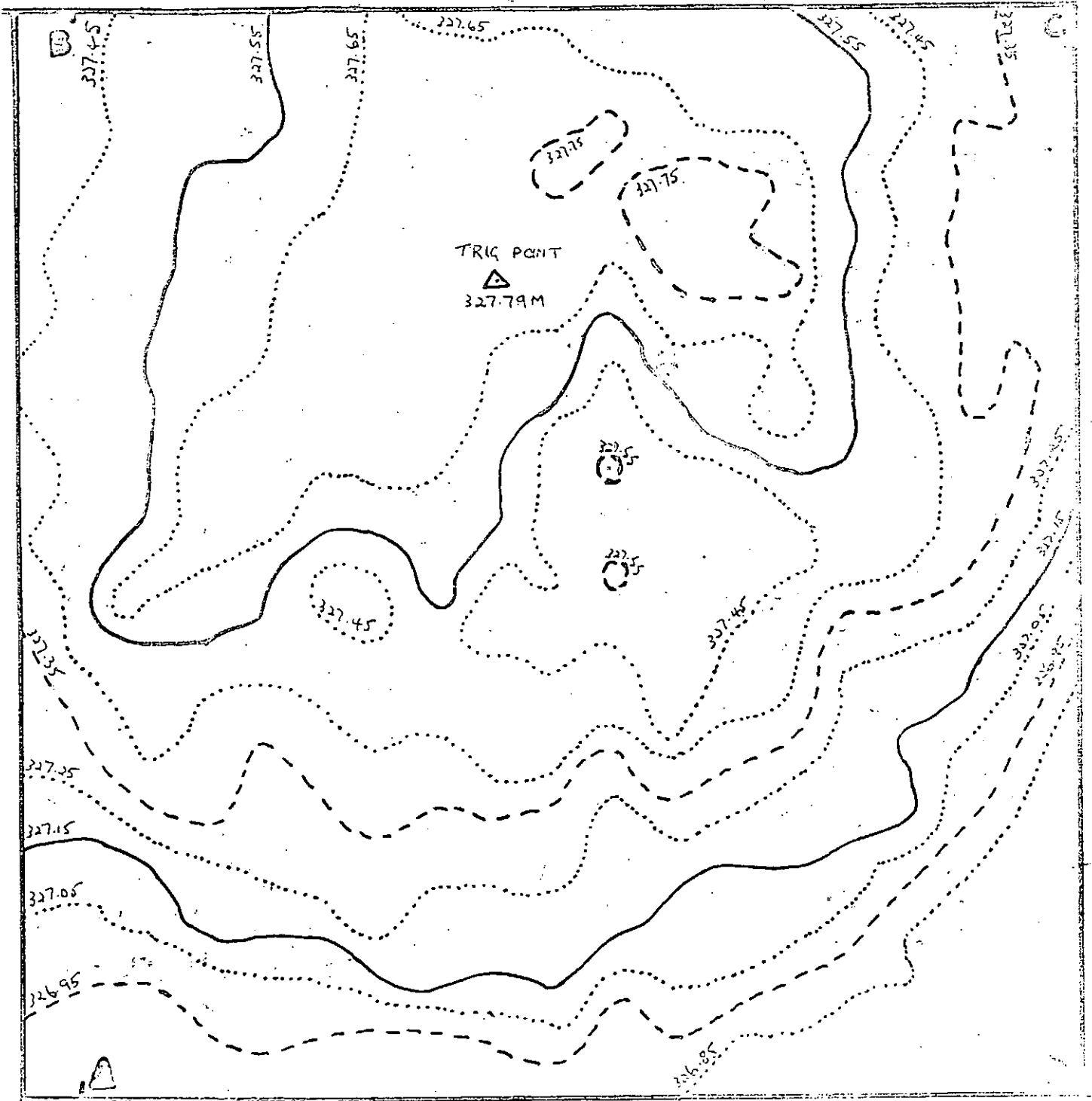


Plate. 7: Original 1975 survey plan, 1:100, showing survey results.

1975 CONTOUR SURVEY

Shaw Cairn. contour survey. 27/7/75

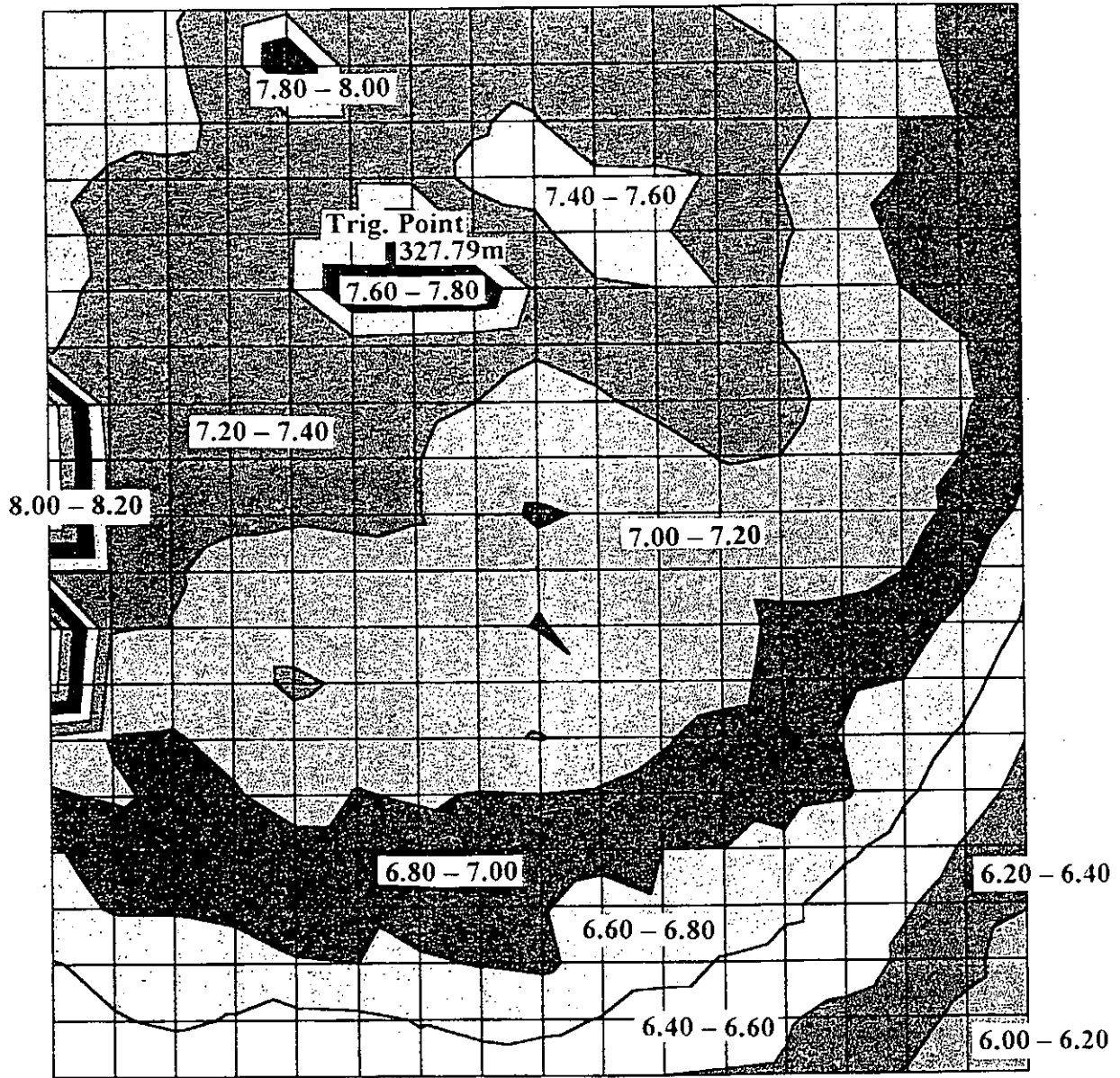


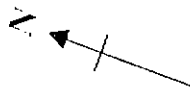
Plate. 8: Reworking of original survey data, Microsoft Excel plot. Heights given in metres, add 320m for true heights. Grid lines at 1m intervals.

Shaw Cairn, contour survey, 27/7/75

Plate 9: Reworking of original survey data, Microsoft Excel plot. Heights given in metres, add 320m for true heights. Grid lines at 1m intervals. Representational illustration only.

Trig. Point
327.79m

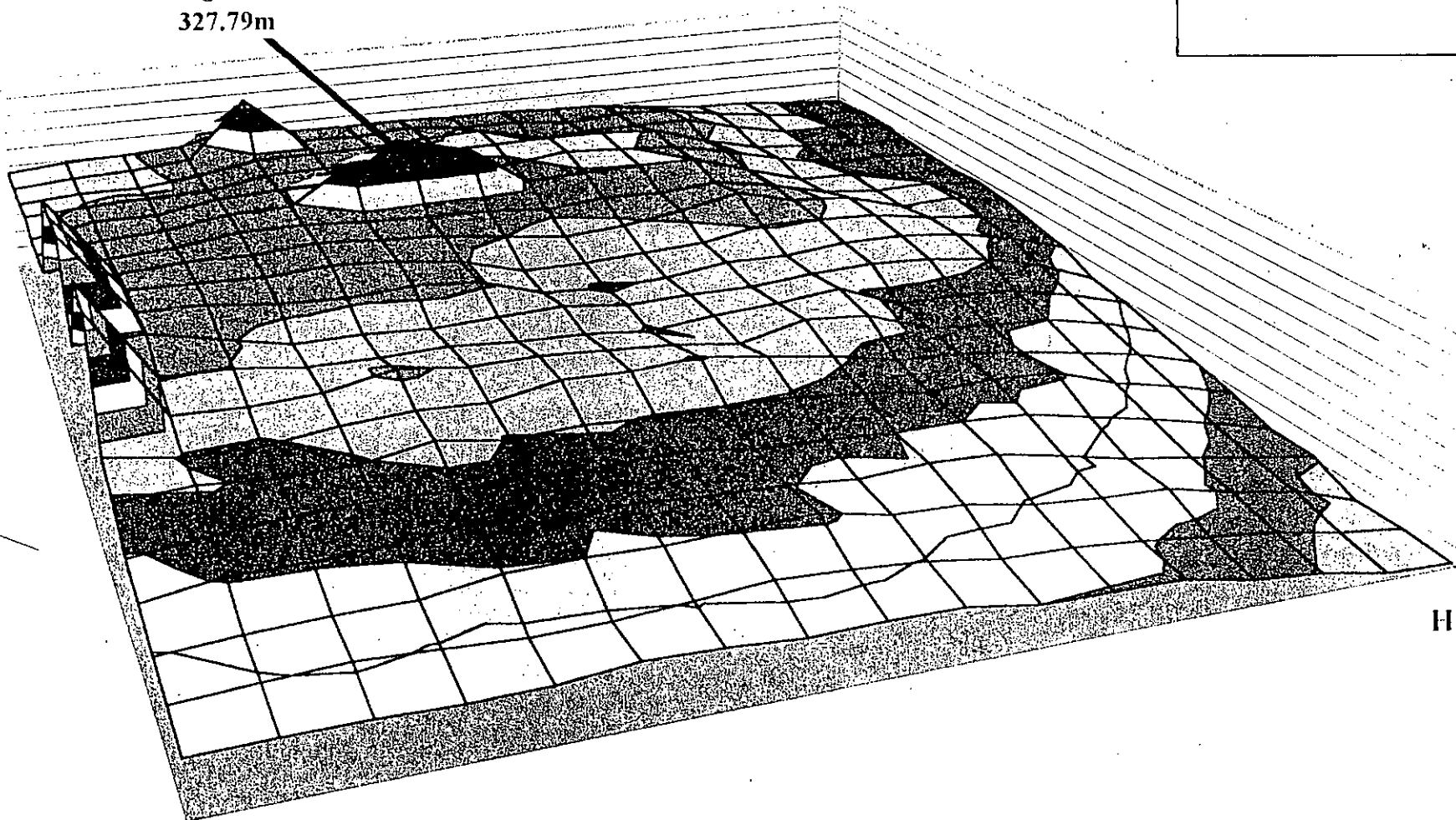
20



- 8.20
- 8.00
- 7.80
- 7.60
- 7.40
- 7.20
- 7.00
- 6.80
- 6.60
- 6.40
- 6.20
- 6.00

Height in m

1975 CONTOUR SURVEY



1975 CONTOUR SURVEY

What seems to be the original data from the 1975 contour survey of the site survives within the archive. This consists of an A2 sheet on which are recorded a series of figures, and the date 27/7/75. The general location of the Trig. Point is also marked on this plan. No values are shown in the position of the Trig. Point, however, values in the surrounding area range from 6.05 to 8.19. From the sketchy notes, which accompany the plan, it was assumed that these figures were abbreviations of the true height in metres. The Trig. is recorded on the contour survey as being positioned at 327.79m, and so it is assumed that the addition of 320m to the values shown on the plan would generate the true values, although it is possible that this may be incorrect. It has been assumed though, for the purposes of creating new charts from the original data, that the addition of 320 to the figures listed in the data will give a true height value. Comparison between this original data, and the 1:100, 1975 contour survey plot broadly supports this, although the exact method by which the contour plot was created is unclear. There seems to be some discrepancy between the two sources, and whilst a similar pattern is seen in each, the specific height values seem slightly different. (See plates.7 & 8)

In addition, the survey is recorded as being conducted over an area of 19 x 17m. This description tallies with the 1975 contour survey plans, which show an area of this size, with an additional metre strip on the western edge, this making the area 19 x 18m. This extension does not seem to have been included on the surviving original data, and so these results only include the original 17m E/W. The values in the N/S direction are somewhat more confusing. Here, 20, rather than 19, readings are recorded. No explanation has been found for this anomaly. Due to these problems, and the lack of information from the original excavation, it has proved impossible to accurately tie the survey results to the site grid on which the subsequent excavation was based, although an idea of this relationship can be seen through the presence of the Trig. Point in both systems.

The results of the survey clearly show the gradual drop of slope towards the south, east and west. When this data is compared to the post-excavation site plans, it can be seen that the steepest drop in the slope appears to occur a few metres beyond the position of the retaining kerb of the cairn, and continues for several metres.

EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

Problems associated with the excavation methodology

Understanding the excavation methodology has been one of the more difficult tasks in the analysis of the archive material. There are no plans of where trenches were positioned in each year apart from one or two sketches made during the first years of excavation. Because of this, the references made in the text of the excavation diary to particular points on the site have been the source of a plan of the location of trenches. As only those areas that are specifically mentioned in the diary can be included in this, plans of the location of trenches over the thirteen-year period of the excavation should be viewed as showing a likely minimum extent. It is entirely possible that other excavated areas receive no mention in the diary, and it is probable that excavations were more extensive than shown here.

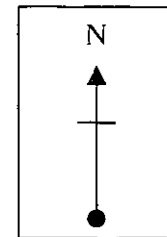
The major problem in calculating the extent of the excavations lies in the frequent incidences of items being wrongly referenced in the text. In some cases this problem has been noted, and can be compensated for, but it may well be that many further mistakes have been made which are impossible to detect. This has been exacerbated by a problem that occurred with the site grid, whereby two extra row reference numbers were inserted across the centre of the grid at an unknown point in time. The excavation team noticed this problem, but since they were unaware at what point it occurred, they seem to have been unable to compensate for it. This means that even given correct grid references, any point mentioned is potentially out by 2.0m in the north/south direction. A passing reference is also made within the archive to the positioning of the Trig. Point on site plans being 0.5m out in the east/west direction. Again, it is not known at what date this error occurred (although the problem was noted in 1986), whether compensation was made for this, or whether this error was in a westerly or easterly direction.

Whilst any results must be treated with caution due to the potential for missing or incorrect data, the present understanding of the excavations should be generally correct. This interpretation of the excavation methodology then, is intended to provide a general sketch of, rather than definitive guide to the excavations.

EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

The site grid

																			BY?
																			BX?
																			BZ?
																			AA
																			AB
																			AC
																			AD
																			AE
																			AF
																			AG
																			AH
																			AK
																			AL
																			AM
																			AN
																			AO
																			AP
																			AO
																			AR
																			AS
																			AT
																			AU
																			AV
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		



Location of Triangulation Pillar



Plate. 10: Position of the site grid

After survey work in 1975 (see plates. 5 - 9), the site was excavated between 1976 and 1988. A site datum was established (although it is not clear where this was located) and a site grid devised. It has not been possible to accurately relate the points used in the 1975 survey to fixed points used in later years. This grid was composed of metre squares with numbers along the (roughly) east-west axis, and letters along the (roughly) north-south axis. The numbers increase from west to east and the letters from north to south. These letters run in a sequence AE, AF, AG, AH...etc, with the

EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

northernmost squares being BY, BX and BZ, although the reason for this is not clear (plate. 10). The problems with the site grid which have been mentioned above stem from the inclusion in some years of the rows AI and AJ, and their absence in other years. These rows almost bisect the cairn.

The excavators and periods of excavation

Between 1976 and 1988, in excess of fifty volunteers helped with the excavation. Work took place on the site for over one hundred and seventy days, and the total volunteer working time exceeded five hundred days. The greatest number of volunteers was in 1977, when nineteen volunteers contributed, and the lowest number was in 1988 when only two volunteers worked at the site.

The average number of volunteers per day was three. One of the main contributors to the early work was John Clark, who worked on the site from 1976 to 1979, when he died, and who worked for a total of forty-four days at the site.

Kath Lowe and Ruth Collier worked at the site from 1976 to 1988, Kath totalling one hundred and fifty eight working days, and Ruth one hundred and fifty six.

A volunteer, "Paul", worked on the site from 1982, 1983, 1984, 1986 and 1987 to a total of forty-five days.

In 1981, students from Marple High School assisted for over twenty-four working days.

All other volunteers worked for between one and four days each, these including Gordon Rowley and John Bu'Lock (both of whom had previously worked on projects relating to the region in this period, and acted rather as expert advisors).

On average, there were over thirteen days of excavation each year, and working days averaged nearly forty per year.

Excavation was usually carried out in blocks of consecutive days, with odd days being missed to accommodate other commitments (such as "housewifely duties") and changeable weather ("rain stopped play"). Most commonly, the bulk of the excavation was carried out in May and June, but work was occasionally done anywhere between March and October. 1982 had the most disordered excavation timetable, with work done in blocks of no more than four days, and the total of 19 days of excavation being spread between May and October.

These figures are derived from analysis of the excavation diary, and so should be treated as minimum values, as it is likely that not all of the volunteers on the site or days of excavation were mentioned.

Extent of the excavations

Producing a plan of the extent of the excavations carried out at the site has proved to be extremely complicated. It was hoped that accurate plans of the trenches dug for each individual year of excavation could be made, but, for a number of reasons, this was not possible. A single plan of the excavated area has been derived from the original plans of the site, together with the other items of original material, especially the excavation diary.

Within the diary, references are commonly made concerning both the positioning of trenches and the reasons behind their positioning. Usually though, it is not possible to use these references as they cannot be translated onto the site grid. These problems

EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

partly arise from the lack of information in the archive on the positioning of benchmarks within the grid. Although there is evidence that markers were used at the site, their locations are not given in the diary. Whilst a general idea of the areas excavated in each year can be gained from the archive, it was not thought that this information was accurate or comprehensive enough to warrant the inclusion here of a separate plan for each year. Instead, a more general, descriptive account of the positioning of trenches, and the reasons behind decisions concerning this, will be given here. This is accompanied by a plan of the site grid, which is intended to show the likely extent of the excavation over the span of the dig. (plate. 11)

The plan showing the total extent of excavations at the site has been derived from analysis of the entire site archive. Wherever a specific reference to a square within the grid has been made, this has been included. An important point concerning the plan is that it does not include the grid references "AI" or "AJ", as mentioned earlier. These references were never originally included in the site plan, and are not included on the main surviving illustrations of the site, hence their omission. Whilst this seemed to be appropriate treatment of the data, the confusion of the excavation team concerning the inclusion of these references has not been resolved. This means that any point could potentially be 2.0m out in a northerly or southerly direction, and by 0.5m in a westerly or easterly direction. An additional concern is that there may well be no record concerning the excavation of some grid squares which are classed here as "unexcavated". Neither was it possible to qualify the depth of excavations. In some areas, excavation included all strata down to natural, whilst in others, it may have been little more than de-turfing. No attempt has been made here to differentiate between these areas, as their extent is unknown.

Because of this, the plan should be viewed as showing the likely minimum extent of excavations, and it should be remembered that there are likely to be a number of errors within it.

Account of the reasoning for the positioning of trenches in each year

The trial excavation in 1976 was intended to identify just what the site was. It had been identified within the contour survey of the previous year as a prehistoric feature, but the exact nature of the site was not known. The main trench in this year was a 1m wide trench stretching along AM, which included the south west edge of the cairn kerbing. This trench also included a wider section at its westerly end. (See plate. 12) The site was backfilled and re-turfed at the close of the excavation.

In 1977, the 1976 trench was re-opened, and extended eastwards in an attempt to find the exact location of the eastern edge of the site. A further extension, at right angles to the original trench, along 11 was opened up, with the intention of locating the southern edge of the site. These two extensions were also intended to indicate where the centre of the site was located. Excavations were extended to include the area which was thought to be at the centre of the cairn. Suggestions were made by John Bu'Lock on a visit to the site that a new trench be excavated to reveal the type of cairn. At the close of excavation, the site was backfilled with stones, sand-filled plastic bottles inserted as markers, and the site was re-turfed.

The area of excavation was generally widened in 1978, both to the south and east of the "AM trench". There is little comment as to any specific questions which the team hoped to answer in this year. It was decided in this year that no backfilling would

EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

take place. The farmer agreed to this, and spoil was simply placed around the site to "deter visitors and cows". It was intended to work on the site on odd days in the autumn of that year, but this does not seem to have occurred. There was practically no backfilling at the site from this point onwards.

From around 1979, it becomes difficult to find specific reasons for the excavation of certain areas. It seems that the eventual excavation of the entire site was the intention, and so the team added a little more excavated area in each year.

Some exceptions to this general scheme were a sondage dug in 1980 by John Bu'Lock in AQ18 "to describe the basic material", and attempts to see whether kerbing continued c. AH/K3/4 in 1982.

It seems that the extent of excavations in subsequent years was largely dependent on the number of volunteers at the site, and the de-turfing of new areas was somewhat determined by how keen volunteers were on doing this.

By 1982 the team were excavating a "rather uninteresting" section of the site and were keen to move on to an area where they might be likely to find something.

In 1987, excavations towards the far north of the site are recorded. Presumably these were intended to locate the northerly extent of the site, though this reason is not cited within the diary.

Overview of physical excavation methods employed

The site was excavated by hand, using standard tools such as mattocks, trowels etc. When delicate finds, such as burial deposits, were excavated, smaller tools were occasionally used. There is no record of any sieving of material from the site, either dry or wet. A number of soil samples are recorded as having been collected, although these do not survive. There is no surviving record of the results of any analysis of these samples which may have been conducted.

EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

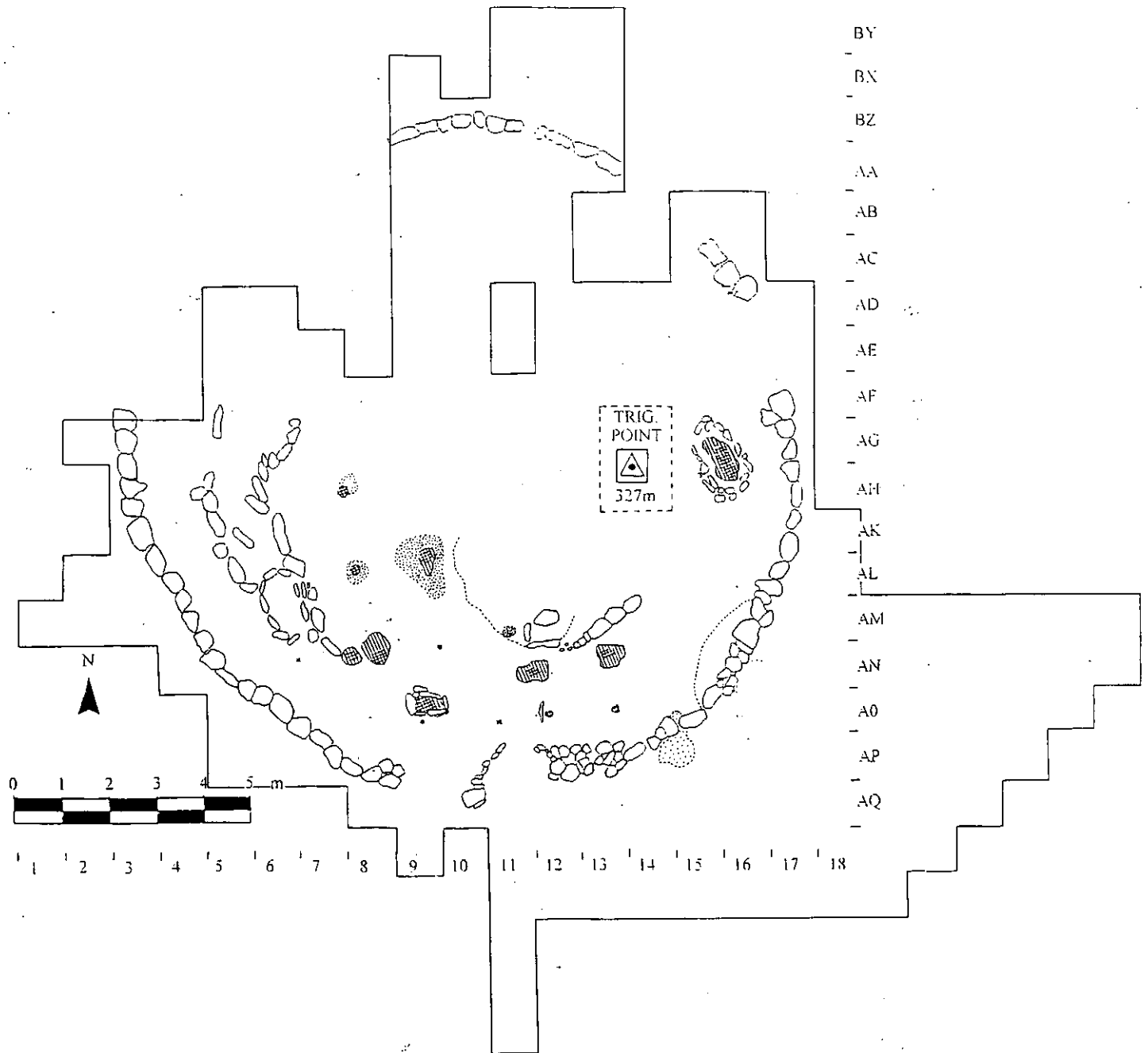


Plate. 11: Total extent of excavations at the site (shows areas as excavated only where this is specifically recorded – excavations were probably more extensive).

1976 TRIAL EXCAVATION

Reproduction of the trial excavation report written by Miss Ruth Collier in 1976

SHAW CAIRN, MELLOR MOOR

EXCAVATION REPORT

Introduction:

Mellor Moor, typically for the western foothills of the Pennines, is a gritstone moorland sloping gently up from the east and dropping more steeply down on the west. It is some 2.500m long north to south and at its widest extremity, the same measurement east to west. Just short of the summit on the north west of the Moor is Cobden Edge, exposed gritstone, beneath which lie Cobden Edge Farm and Cobden Edge House.

Writing in 1899, Joel Wainwright quotes an earlier reference (unspecified) relating an anecdote from the mid nineteenth century. The then tenant of the farm, Joab Brierley, is reputed to have delivered many sacks of human bones to the local bone mill and on being asked where he obtained his supplies, said that "they had come from a large heap on top of the hill". The site indicated was later visited and described as being a "circular sunk plain about 20ft in diameter (it had been a raised mound until they excavated it) with red burnt clay all about".

Without more detailed directions to the site, it seems likely that this refers to the more northerly section of the Moor than the Shaw Cairn. Certainly this Cairn shows no sign of having been previously dug into in any way and further field work is necessary to ascertain the site of the possible barrow dug into by old Joab Brierley in 1847.

Excavation:

In July of 1975, a contour survey was undertaken to ascertain if possible the extent of the very slight mound and also to see whether some coherence of plan could not be established. An area 19m by 17m was surveyed with the result which can be seen in the contour plan shown in our Field Survey.

As will be seen, the plan was not sufficiently clear to enable a definite decision to be reached as to the exact nature of the site. It was decided therefore to undertake a trial excavation for this purpose. It was realised that to excavate a quadrant of the site would be desirable but in view of the short amount of time at the disposal of the three-man team and uncertainty as to the amount of volunteer labour which would be available, it was decided instead to uncover a trench which it was believed would give enough information to enable us to identify the type of site with which we were dealing.

1976 TRIAL EXCAVATION

An area 2m wide by 13.5m long was selected from line B-C and the entire length was uncovered for 1m width, this being expanded at the extremities of the trench to 2m or 3m as the work progressed.

The covering of the cairn was not sufficiently deep to give a section. Towards the centre, the covering was so shallow that as the first turves were removed, the cairn material was immediately visible. At the outer edge of the cairn where the covering was greatest, the natural was slightly less than 28cm from the surface. The cairn covering was peat with heather and cotton grass and the natural soil was the usual millstone grit soil – a donkey-brown coloured breaking down of grit- and sand-stone.

The cairn seems to consist of laid cobbles of some 70mm to 80mm each across. The cobbles were mainly gritstone but a few water-worn pebbles were also present. They crossed the open trench in an arc indicating that they could possibly form a circle around the presumed centre of the site.

Moving towards the western edge of the site, the cobbles continued for some 1.5m where there is a distinct edge beyond which the "cobble"-sized stone become intermingled with much larger ones. From the short length of "edge" which was visible, it is impossible to be dogmatic but it gave a distinct impression of having been carefully laid to retain the smaller cobbles.

The mix of cobbles and larger stones continued towards the outer edge of the site for a further 3.5m, the incidence of larger stones increasing until at some 9.5m from the inner (eastern) edge of the trench, the packed stones gave way to a scatter of very large ones which appeared to have tumbled from the body of the cairn.

From the innermost part of the site to the feature referred to as "a distinct edge", the cairn slopes downward slightly. From the "edge" to the scatter of large stones, the angle of slope increases. This is clearly shown in fig.

There were no finds of any kind except a badly defaced and clipped early Victorian "bun" penny and the acidity of the soil was indicated by a total absence of worms. Indeed the only animal life found below soil level was a millipede and a beetle. A soil sample was obtained for testing.

We appear from the evidence uncovered to be confronted by a variant of the northern "platform" or westerly "ring" cairn. That the site is a cairn is undoubted; that it dates from the Bronze Age is conjectural but is supported by (a) evidence from similar sites elsewhere and (b) by the date of other sites in the vicinity, many of which are visible from Mellor Moor.

1976 TRIAL EXCAVATION

Acknowledgements:

We would like to thank Dr. J.D. Bu'Lock who first discovered the site for drawing it to our attention and relinquishing his interest in it.

We are very grateful indeed to the owner of the land, Mr. W.H. Burgess of Shaw Farm for so readily agreeing to our surveying the cairn and then undertaking the trial excavation.

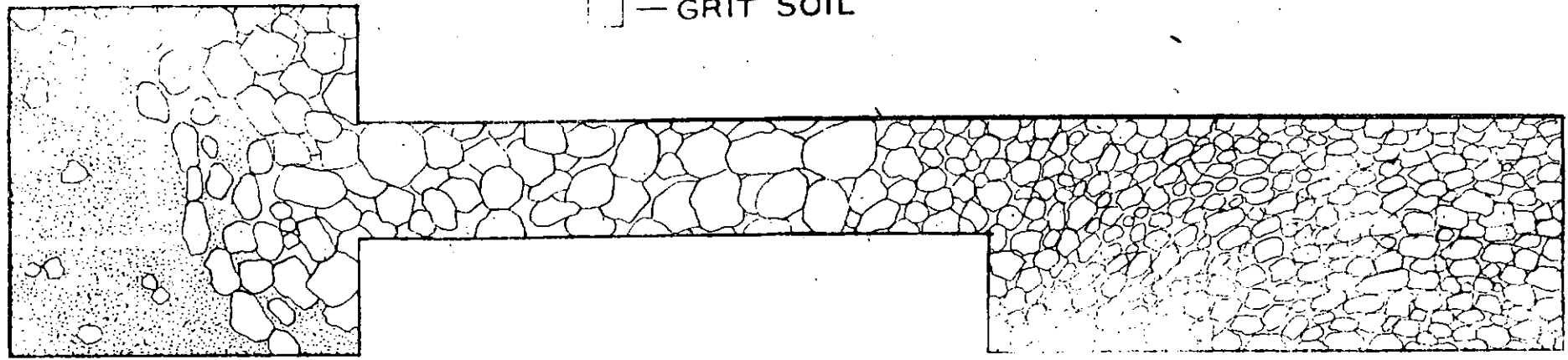
We acknowledge also the assistance we received from the following volunteer helpers: Paul and Jill Cronin and Stuart Speirs (two days each) and Anne Cookson and Mildrid Moores. Although the weather was kind in suspending heavy rain for the four days of the excavation, we had to fight against gale force winds for most of the time. We were grateful to our volunteers for working so hard under very trying weather conditions.

Kath Lowe directed the excavation and has produced the drawings: John Clarke acted as surveyor-in-chief and Ruth Collier wrote this report.

Ref: Wainwright, J., Memories of Marple. 1899.



■ — PEAT
□ — GRIT SOIL



31

GRID NORTH



SHAW CAIRN MELLOR MOOR

SCALE = 2.5 CM TO 1 METRE



Plate 12: Original illustration accompanying 1976 trial excavation report. (Reduced size: Scale shows 5 metres in total).

SITE DESCRIPTION

As has been discussed, the surviving record of the stratigraphy of the site is particularly poor. As few levels or descriptive accounts of the structure survive, this description is based on the surviving plans of the site, coupled with references made within the excavation diary to various strata. In the majority of cases, this lack of information has meant that the nature of relationships between contexts cannot be confirmed.

It has, on the whole, only been possible to include here those features identified by the original excavation team. With the exception of the 1976 trial excavation illustration, the surviving plans of the site only include stones considered to be parts of features by the group, rather than all stones across the site, which has important implications with regards to interpretation.

Despite these problems, it has been possible to gain an understanding of the major elements of the site stratigraphy which is in any case relatively uncomplicated.

Site Geology

A geological report of the site was compiled, in 1979, by F. M. Broadhurst of Manchester University, and is included in full overleaf. This compared the underlying geology of the site to a sample of the rocks used in the cairn construction. To summarise the findings of this report, the underlying geology consists of a thin layer of glacial Boulder Clay and soil, which overlies sandstones, clay rocks and coal seams. The samples taken from the cairn itself, at this time, were all of rock types that could have been found locally.

SITE DESCRIPTION

Reproduction of the geological report by F. M. Broadhurst, dated January 16th, 1979:

Geological Report on Excavation Site at Mellor Moor adjacent to triangulation point at Grid Reference SJ 9866 8724

Fred Broadhurst, Department of Geology, University of Manchester M13 9PL

1. The excavation site rests on a thin layer of soil and Boulder Clay (of Glacial origin). This layer is missing in many places nearby so that there are numerous outcrops of the underlying rocks of the area. These rocks comprise sandstones of various types, clay rocks and coal seams. They are of Millstone Grit and Coal Measures (Namurian and Westphalian A, respectively) age in the Upper Carboniferous. The rocks immediately beneath the site consist of a sandstone (quarried in workings just over 100 metres to the west) which contains relatively thin interbedded clay rocks and also a coal seam, the Yard Coal, which has been worked in the area. An abandoned adit exists some 300 metres north of the site; Mellor Colliery lay rather more than a kilometre to the north east of the site.

2. Samples of rock supplied for identification from the excavation site include a number of sandstones very similar in type to those which occur in the local Coal Measures or Millstone grit successions. Subsequent investigation (see section 4 below) revealed that these rock types also occur in the Boulder Clay. Nine specimens, however, are quite dissimilar to those of the local Upper Carboniferous. They are identified as:

a) Volcanic rocks, fine-grained, of a type very similar if not identical with material in the Borrowdale Volcanic Series (Ordovician) in the Lake District. These rocks are generally very dark, often green and weather to produce a white surface 'skin' or 'patina'. Of the three specimens one carried garnet and is probably a lava: two are crystal tuffs (ashes) or lavas.

3 specimens

b) A granite. Coarse-grained. The specimen is weathered but is of a type very similar if not identical with the Eskdale Granite in the Lake District.

1 specimen

c) A granite. Fine-grained. Altered. Small aggregates of a green mineral.

1 specimen

d) Vein quartz.

3 specimens

e) Quartzite, pink. The colour is distinctive and is very similar to the colour of many of the so-called 'liver-coloured' quartzites found as pebbles within the Bunter Pebble Beds (Triassic) of the Cheshire Plain and elsewhere.

1 specimen

SITE DESCRIPTION

3. The Boulder Clay of the vicinity has been investigated at a disused quarry one kilometre east of the site (Grid Ref. SJ 997 873). Here the Boulder Clay contains an abundance of blocks and pebbles comprised of rock types found in the local Millstone Grit and Coal Measures. These rock types range from clay rocks to coarse-grained sandstones. In addition there are numerous erratics (i.e. blocks and pebbles of rock types foreign to the district, but presumed to have been brought in by ice transportation during the course of the Pleistocene glaciations). The erratics were sampled and identified as:

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| a) Volcanic rocks, fine grained, of a type very similar if not identical with the Borrowdale Volcanic Series of the Lake District. | 32 specimens |
| b) Granite, fine-grained, small aggregates of a green mineral. | 11 specimens |
| c) Quartzite, saccharoidal, white or grey. | 10 specimens |
| d) Vein quartz. | 4 specimens |
| e) Silicified limestone with fossils. | 2 specimens |

4. By comparing the sample of specimens from the excavation (section 2) with material now locally available it can be concluded that much if not all of the sample could have been derived locally by man; there was no need for transport over any great distance. The only apparent difficulties lie with two specimens, the coarse-grained granite and pink quartzite, respectively. However the granite in question resembles the Eskdale Granite which is well-known as a component of the Boulder Clay elsewhere in the area (Stevenson and Gaunt, 1971, p. 331). Provided the provenance of the volcanic rocks and granites is correctly identified as the Lake District then the presence of pebbles of Triassic rock-type (pink quartzites) presents no problem since they could be derived from many areas occupied by the Trias lying between the Lake District and the southern Pennines.

Reference

Stevenson, I. P., and Gaunt, G. D. 1971. Geology of the country around Chapel-en-le-Frith. Mem. Geol. Surv. Gt. Br.

Soils

The record of the soils underlying the site is extremely poor. As these strata do not appear on any plans of the site, the only evidence concerning them has been derived from comments within the excavation diary. Unfortunately, these comments do not form accurate descriptions of soils, and much important information is omitted. These descriptions are neither detailed nor consistent, and do not include information such as the depth of each stratum, or its composition. There appear to be a number of different soil types across the site, but the lack of information concerning the relationships between them makes an accurate understanding of these layers impossible.

At one point the excavators suggest that there may have been an outcropping of stone prior to the building of the cairn (context [1]). The geology of the area would mean this is entirely possible, although there is no mention of finding such a feature. The only evidence in direct support of this, is the record that the original Triangulation Point [55] would have been placed directly on bedrock.

Across much of the site, the natural material seems to have been a 'soft', white or cream sand [2], which was occasionally described as being yellow in other areas of the site. This material had very little inclusion of stone, and any stones which were found were small. This sand seems to have formed something of a mound around AF 13/14 and the area of the trig point, being higher at this point. The excavators refer to this feature as "the sand dune".

Towards the western side of the cairn, the natural sand is occasionally described as being "donkey brown" [3]. This sand seems to have been described as being "Millstone Gritty soil" at one point, and was thought to be formed from the breakdown of sandstones and gritstones, which are locally common.

The soil infill of the cairn structure [43], in the most disturbed areas of the cairn is described similarly, although it does not seem likely that these strata were related. There is no evidence to suggest a relationship between these two 'natural' layers, [2] & [3], in terms of which, if either, overlay the other, or whether they might perhaps represent a wide variation within the same strata.

The upper layers of the natural sand, certainly of the white sand, had some inclusions of charcoal, and 'charcoal' formed a distinct layer [4] across much of the site, above the sand. One interpretation of this layer offered by the excavation team was that it represented the burning off of surface scrub before the construction of the cairn.

At higher levels than this, the stratigraphy of the soils becomes very confusing. The lack of information within the diary, and differences across the site make this extremely complicated. Typically, a distinct soil type may be mentioned once in the excavation diary with no details of its composition or extent. Exceptions to this are as follows;

A fine-grained red sand is noted [5], which also seems to cover much of the site, lying on both the white sand and charcoal layer. This seems to be the same layer which, on occasion, is referred to as "iron-pan", and which had charcoal inclusions.

"Gritty grey sand" [6] is also mentioned lying directly on top of the white sand [2], with "clay-like peat" or a "black layer" above this [7]. A number of finds were made

SITE DESCRIPTION

between layers [6] and [7], and these have been described as inclusions in context [51].

The context number [52] has been adopted to refer to the area directly above the natural sand ([2] and [3]). This is to allow a context no. to be related to finds recorded as being at this level, but which are not described as being inclusions in any other context. This context number is applied only to isolated finds at this level, and not other items lying on the basic sand (namely spreads of charcoal), which represent distinct contexts.

A particularly interesting feature is a black "greasy" layer, [8] which appears across the site. This layer is recorded as being only a few mm thick, and at a uniform depth of 0.45 m across the site. This layer appears under, around and above stones of the cairn structure, but occurs exclusively at this depth.

A layer of "humus" is recorded [9], possibly lying on top of the fine-grained red sand. This could be the same layer as the black greasy layer [8], although there is no evidence to support this. The relationship between this layer and charcoal layer [4] is not known. Again, these may represent the same layer, but evidence is lacking.

What is known is that this humus layer [9], was overlain by a layer of charcoal [10], and that it was in the junction between the two that the majority of the lithic material was found [11]. Whilst the location of this lithic material within the grid system is roughly known (under feature [26], at the south east edge of the cairn), there are two possible areas marked on the site plan, either, or both of which, could represent this area. Because of this, each of these areas has been allocated a context number, despite the fact that this may be a duplication of the above context [11].

The first area appears in AO/AP14/15 and is described on the site plan as an "area of charcoal with many flint flakes and few worked flints, many calcined, which extended under kerb" [47]. The second area is shown within the kerb stones in AM-AO15/16. The annotation on the site plan reads: "many flint flakes, some implements and some very coarse potsherds from this area" [48].

The main plan of the site shows three features labelled "charcoal plugs" in AO9, AO10 and AM9/10, although a record of the nature of these features has not been found within the diary. One of these "plugs" [46] appears underneath the stones of the cist feature [15]. A second "plug" [44] appears c. 0.6m away from this feature, and the third [45] is c. 1m from the feature.

A "charcoally area" is identified c. AT/AV11 [49], although the nature and extent of this area is unclear.

All of these layers (excepting [49] and [43]) appear underneath the structure of the cairn itself, at least in some areas. With the exception of natural sand of some description ([2] & [3]), and the "charcoal layer" [4], none of these layers seem to entirely cover the site, although it is impossible to accurately determine their extent. It is also difficult to determine how these layers relate to finds across the site, despite an attempt here to do so. This results from the stratigraphic position of finds rarely being recorded, making dating of these layers difficult at best. A further complication arises from the potential for the migration of finds between contexts over time, caused by a variety of processes. Such assortment appears to have been problematic in the study of Wigber Low, a Bronze Age and multi-period site in Derbyshire. Here, for example, a context thought to represent a late Neolithic occupation site included finds of Bronze Age jet beads. In this case, the discrepancy

SITE DESCRIPTION

was thought to result from the downwards migration of beads from later burials. (J. Collis, 1983, p.)

Cairn construction

The height of the cairn prior to excavation is unclear. Whilst the original data from the 1975 contour survey survives, it is impossible to determine from this which areas are natural, and which are built. (plates. 5-9)

At some points within the excavation diary the present ground surface of the cairn (prior to excavation) is given as c. 0.6m above the natural, although it is unclear to what extent this was uniform across the site. In the area c. AM4, the height of the surface material above natural was 0.28m. This matter is further complicated by the siting of the cairn on a mound

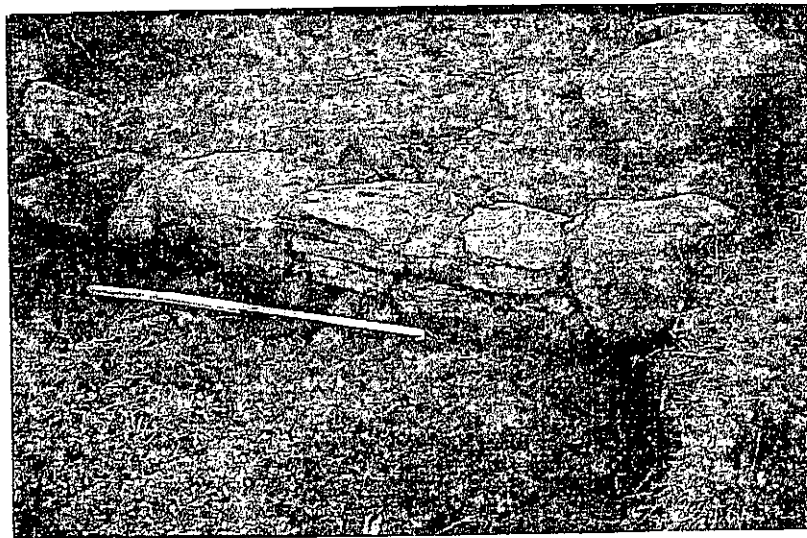
The cairn itself was circular and approximately 15m in diameter. The edges of the cairn were largely formed from a single thickness "kerb" [12] (see plate 19) of sandstone blocks, which were missing in confined areas to the east and south of the site [22]-[26].

SITE DESCRIPTION



Plates. 13 & 14: Showing kerb [12]. Plate. 13, ref: SC1980P11, unknown part of site. Plate. 14, ref: SC1984P4, AG/H 15-17, looking south.

SITE DESCRIPTION



Plates. 15 & 16: Showing kerb [12]. Plate. 15, ref. SC1986P2, AH/G 3&2, looking south. Plate 16, ref. SC1987S3, presumed to show BZ 9-11, facing south.

SITE DESCRIPTION

Kerbstones seem to have typically measured 0.5m or less in diameter (evidence derived solely from the surviving plan and photos of the site), and were of irregular shape. Within the diary, references are made to stones that seem to have been of a substantially larger size than this, although, in some cases, this could be explained by errors made in recording. As can be seen in plate. 16, the kerb was very well constructed, and seems to have been of consistent build around most of the monument.

The mound within the kerb seems to also have been composed largely of sandstone, with some variation in some areas of the site, where "mudstone" and "pudding-stone" appear. Accounts of these stones within the excavation diary use terms such as "men's heads", "grapefruits" and "apples and oranges" to describe their size. Within the 1976 trial excavation report, the infill is described to be composed of 'laid cobbles' [13], and to the western part of the trench, 'larger cobbles, to retain smaller ones?' It seems that this change in size may indicate a separate phase of construction of the cairn [64], and it is possible that where these two areas of cobbling meet relates to the position of feature [28].

In some areas, where the cairn was said not to have been disturbed [13], stones seem to have shown some ordering by size. In these areas "men's heads" appear lower down in the cairn, with the smaller sized stones above them. In these areas, it was common to find "holes" appearing between the stones: i.e. there is very little soil between the stones.

In the 1976 trial excavation report illustration (plate. 12), a marked decrease in stone size can be seen towards the eastern end of the trench, when compared with the western end. This may, however, be the result of excavation to different depths, although this would not seem to be the case.

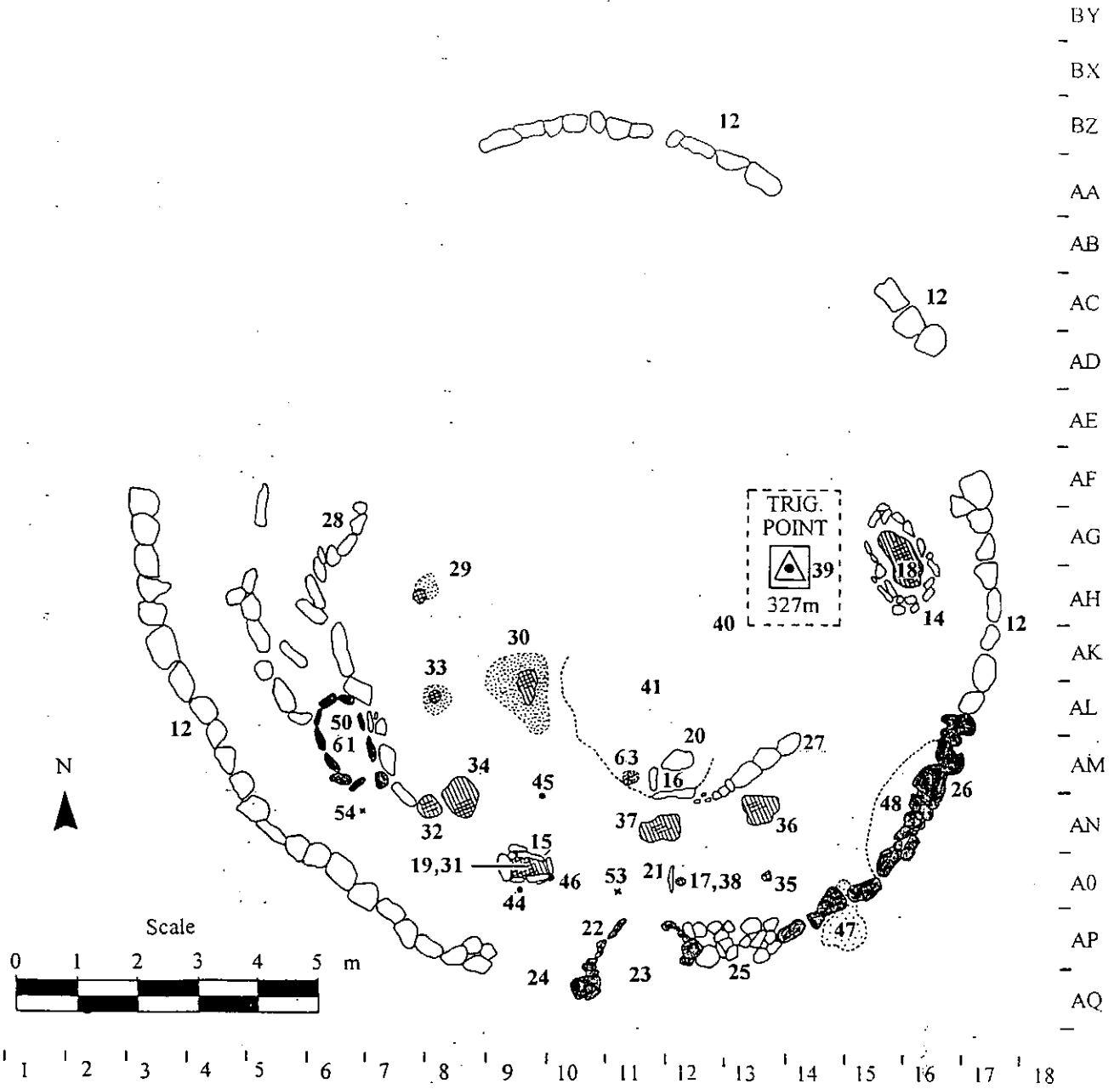
No photographs or illustrations survive which specifically show the 'usual' construction [13] described in the diaries. However, plates. 17 & 18 seem to show part of the cairn infill which matches this description.

SITE DESCRIPTION



Plates. 17 & 18: Stone infill of cairn [13]. Plate. 17, ref. SC1977P6, looking north, presumably from c. AO14. Plate. 18, ref. SC1981P2, from AP8, facing north, what is presumably a section of the kerb [12] is shown in the foreground, with infill towards the centre of the photograph.

SITE DESCRIPTION



Key:

-High bone concentration			Stones interpreted by excavators as features
-Concentration of bone			Denotes change of context only
-Total extent of bone scatter			

Numbers in bold refer to context numbers
 n.b. contexts [47] and [63] shown here do not denote finds of bone, despite being similarly illustrated.

Plate. 19: Plan of site showing major features and context number allocation

SITE DESCRIPTION

Internal features

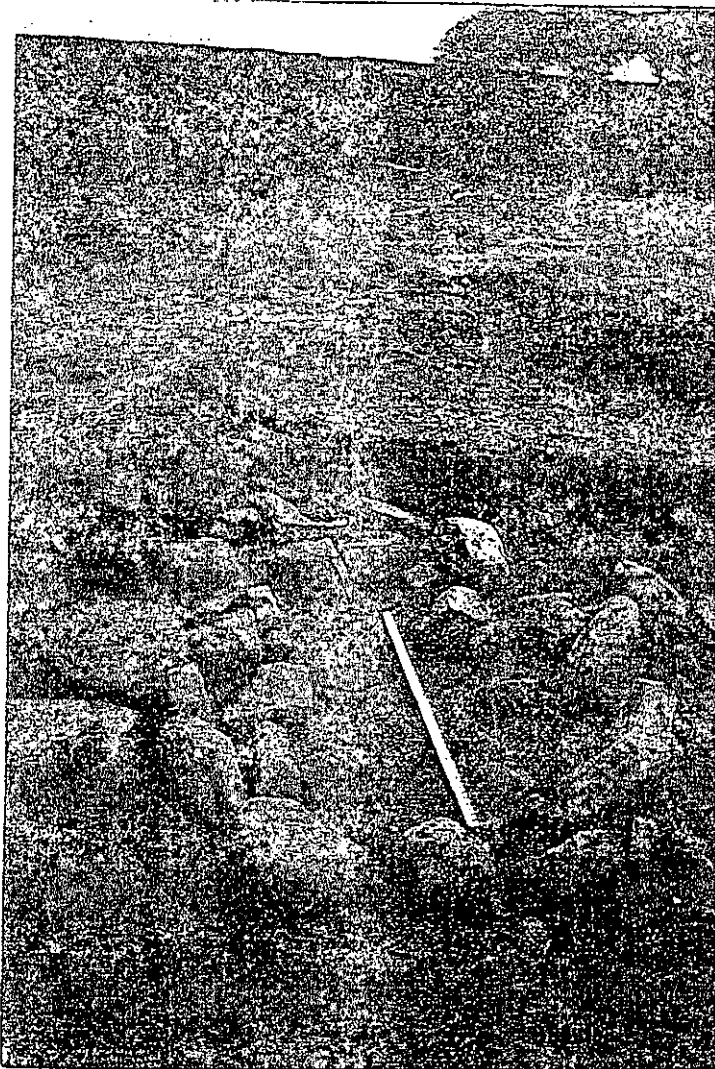
Within the cairn structure, a number of additional features have been identified. These are formed from larger stones, and are of somewhat similar construction to that of the kerb.

A roughly oval feature, [14], in AG/AH 15/16 is clearly associated with cremation burial [18], which lay inside it. This feature is quite 'grave-like' in appearance, consisting of a surround of stone enclosing an area c. 1.5m in length, and c. 0.75m in width.



Plate. 20: Showing feature [14]. Ref. SC1984S12, facing south.

SITE DESCRIPTION



Plates. 21 & 22: Stone-built feature [14] surrounding cremation [18]. Plate. 21, ref. SC1984S15, facing north. Plate. 22, ref. SC1984S9, facing north, scale cm.

SITE DESCRIPTION

Feature [15], in AN/AO 9/10, is a cist associated with [19] (and also a second deposit, [31], under the base stone of the cist). A description of this feature, together with measurements, is given later in this report.



Plates. 23 & 24: Showing cist [15], associated with cremation [19]. Plate. 23, ref. SC19..S20, facing east, scale cm. Plate. 24, ref. SC1977P21, facing west.

SITE DESCRIPTION



Plate. 25: Showing cist [15], associated with cremation [19]. Ref. SC1978P8, facing north, scale 1m/cm.



Plate. 26: Showing cremation discovered beneath the stone base of cist feature [15], which contained cremation [19]. Ref. SC1978P17.

SITE DESCRIPTION

A second cist [20] in AM 11/12 seems to be associated with [16], although this feature seems to have been disturbed [41], with part of its structure apparently being absent, and part collapsed. A more detailed account of the excavation of this feature, together with measurements of it is included later in this report.



Plate. 27: Disturbed cist [20], possibly associated with cremation [16]. Ref. SC1979S1, facing south west. Large slab (marked here with triangle) visible at bottom right of photograph may be fallen side slab noted on site plan and in diary, under which [16] was discovered.

Plates. 28 & 29: Disturbed cist [20], possibly associated with cremation [16].
Plate. 28, ref. SC1977P15, annotation reads 'facing west'; actually, facing
south, scale cm. Plate. 29, ref. SC1977P17, facing SE.



SITE DESCRIPTION

SITE DESCRIPTION

The two cists ([20] and [15]) are clearly similar in size (c. >0.75m x > 0.5m), east-west orientation and rectangular shape.

The feature [21] surrounding [17] (and possibly also a second deposit, [38]) is the only other feature which can be directly related to a funerary deposit.

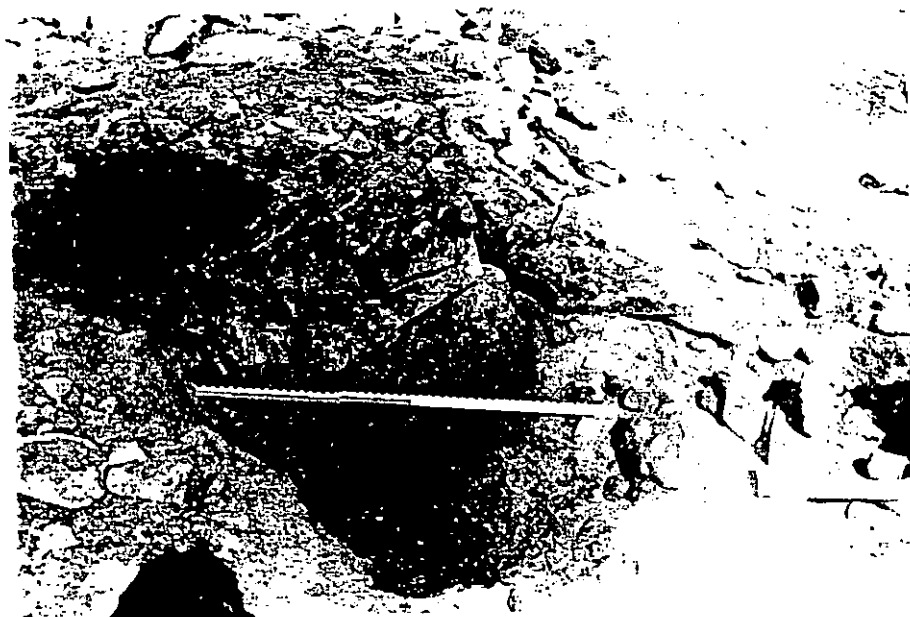
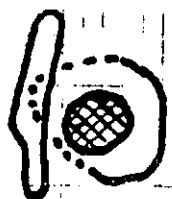


Plate. 30: Feature [21] – stone slab with cremation set at its base, with second slab placed on top of deposit (second slab seen here removed from this position). Ref. SC1977P25, facing north west (?), AO12, scale 1m/cm's. (There is some confusion as to which stones are visible in this photograph – refer to description of the excavation of this deposit.)



Scale: 50mm=1m

Plate. 31: Detail from site plan showing relationship between upright stone of feature [21] and covering slab.

SITE DESCRIPTION

There is no evidence to suggest whether these features were contemporary with the cairn construction or were later insertions.

Other features within the site are far less readily understood.

A sub-oval, and apparently incomplete, feature [22] to the south of the cairn, in AP/AQ 9/10, may relate to a 1.3m gap [23] in the kerb at AQ/AP 11/12.

To the west of this is a further gap [24] in the kerb, of similar size, at AP/AO 9/10 and to the east (AP 12-14), the kerb is of less distinctive construction as in other areas of the site [25]. The kerb seems of different construction again between AP14 and AL17 [26].

n.b. The identification of features [25] & [26] as distinct events is based solely on the surviving plan of the site and not on the observations of the excavators.



Plate. 32: Presumed to show part of kerb [12] (large stones visible towards centre of picture – see triangle) at south of site (c. AP9-AN6), discontinuing to form feature [24] in background, in AP9/10 (extreme top of photograph). Ref: SC 1981P8.

SITE DESCRIPTION

Immediately to the east of cist [16] is a line of pink sandstone [27], of similar appearance to the outer kerb, which measures over 2m in length.



Plates. 33 & 34: Showing stone alignment [27]. Plate. 33, ref. SC1978P15, showing 'line of pink sandstone in AM13/14, facing east'. Actually seems to be facing west. Scale cm's/10cm's. Plate. 34, ref. SC1979P2, showing 'pink sandstone alignment from AM13-AN11'.

Although plates 33 and 34, above, seem to show stone alignment [27], which appears on the site plan, it is possible that these relate to a different feature. Comparison of the photographs and the site plan shows discrepancies between the two alignments, although this does not necessarily mean that different features are represented. A passing reference exists within the diary to a find of bone within feature [50], this possible cremation being numbered [61].

Some rather confusing features [28] appear towards the west of the cairn, and what is perhaps a distinct element of these features appears in AM/AL 6/7 [50].

n.b. This feature [50] (as illustrated here) was not interpreted as a distinct element of the features in this area by the excavation team, but rather from recent analysis of the

SITE DESCRIPTION

site plans, although the stone alignment forming it's northern edge was noted as a distinct feature.

A passing reference exists within the diary to a find of bone with in feature [50], this possible cremation being numbered [61].

Other features in this area of the cairn are less easily discernible, but it is possible that a larger, but broadly similar, feature (to [50]) joins this at its northern edge (part of [28]).

Plate 35: Showing features [28], especially feature [50]. Ref. SC1982S2, facing north west.



SITE DESCRIPTION

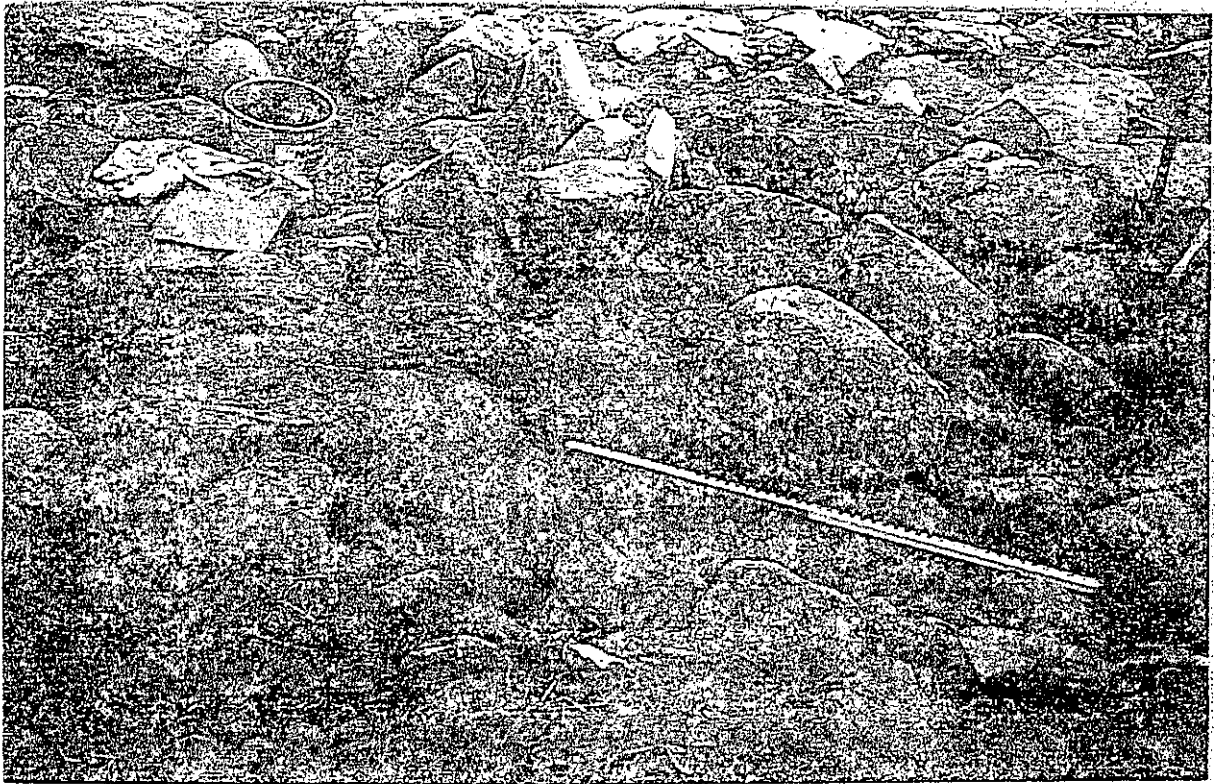


Fig. 36

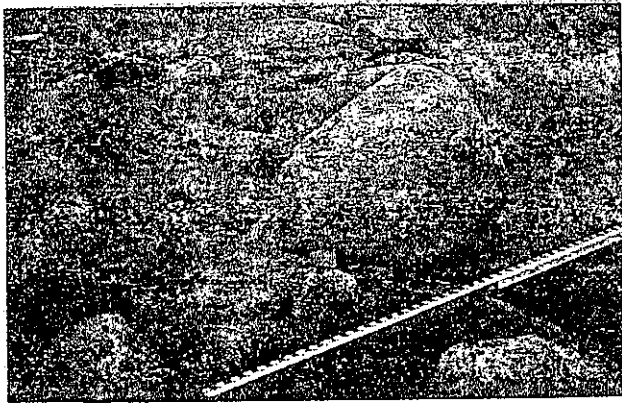


Fig. 38



Fig. 37

Plates. 36, 37 & 38: Showing features [28], surrounding 'sail stone' including feature [50]. Plate 36, ref. SC1982S11, facing south west, feature [28] visible at top of picture, around, and to the right of, bucket. [50] visible towards centre & right of picture, surrounding 'sail stone' and cm scale. Plate. 37, ref. SC1982S10, showing 'sail stone' and 'Oxo Cube stones' from south east, within more northerly section of features [28]. Scale cm. Plate. 38, ref. SC1982S1 showing same as plate. 37, from west. Scale cm.

SITE DESCRIPTION



Plate. 39: Showing tilting towards east of stones at north of features [28], thought by the excavators to indicate their function as revetment to the cairn. Ref. SC1986P4, AG 5/6, facing north.

Plate 39, above, shows the tilt of a number of stones which form part of feature [28]. This tilting, described by the excavators as being a 45° list, 'against the thrust of the cairn'. What is not commented on within the excavation diaries, but which is clearly visible here, is the notable rise in the ground surface visible directly over this feature (note turf line towards centre of photograph).

Areas of disturbance

The immediately obvious incident of disturbance is that concerning the erection of the Triangulation Pillar [39] within the cairn, in 1940, and this is also associated with a find of an area of "spar for cement" [40] nearby. Prior to the erection of the present Trig. Point, a station existed [55]. The only information available concerning this relates to the fact that it would have been a slab of rock, with a central hole, buried beneath a cairn of stones, and resting on bedrock. The old Trig. was not found during the construction of the present one in 1940, and neither in the excavation of the site. A further area of disturbance is noted by the excavation team, to the west of the pillar [41]. The extent of this region of disturbance is unclear, although it seems reasonably large, perhaps with a spread of around 5m Ø (speculation). The reasons for the

SITE DESCRIPTION

identification of this area as having been disturbed include the thickness of topsoil [42] in the area. The team describe de-turfing of this area as being like removing "carpet tiles", indicating that an incident of disturbance had prevented the formation of topsoil to a depth comparable to that on the rest of the site. In many parts of this area, only small stones had survived, indicating to the excavation team that stone robbing took place at some time. In addition to these differences in the character of the cairn at this point, there seems to have been far more soil between the stones. In some areas, the natural sands ([2] & [3]), gritty sands ([43]? [6]? [3]?) and peat layers [42] were found to be completely mixed.

Soil infill

There appears to have been a deposit of soils between the stones of the cairn [43]. This soil seems to have been formed largely from the breakdown of gritstones, and was present to some degree at all points in the cairn structure. This soil was far more predominant in areas where the cairn had suffered disturbance i.e. [41].

Topsoil and vegetation layers

The topsoil across the site [42] seems to be composed of a peaty soil typical of the region. The present vegetation of the site is reviewed in the account of the recent site visit.

Other contexts

All features shown on the main plan of the site, on which the reworked plans within this report are based, have been included above. Aside from these however, there are a number of references to other features at the site. A number of sketch plans of smaller areas of the site exist within the record, some of which show features which are not recorded on the main site plan. The additional information contained within these plans has not been incorporated into the plan used here because of discrepancies as to the location and form of features as shown on the various plans.

An area within AT/AV11 is recorded on one such plan as an area of charcoal and possible burning [49]. From the plan, it appears that this feature was roughly circular, with a diameter of c. 0.4m. This feature also appears on plate. 41, although here, it is marked in a slightly different position, c. 0.2m further north and solely within AT11. Two sketch plans from the site (plates. 40 & 41) show three stone alignments in the region to the east and south of feature [27], partly within, and partly outside the line of kerbing ([12] and [26]). These features have been numbered [56] (c. AM16), [57] (c. AM17) and [58] (c. AL16).

Whilst the same features are clearly shown on both plans, there is some variation in the number and size of stones shown. In addition, plan (plate. 40) appears to have been wrongly numbered, as many features of this appear 1m further east, with regards to the site grid, when compared to other plans. This plan is further confused by the addition, at a later date, of comments as to the position of various finds, such as a

SITE DESCRIPTION

number of cremations. These have been marked on correctly, with regards to the grid numbering, but are therefore 1m too far west with regards to the original plan annotation.

Also noted on plate. 41, is an area of 'tumble' [62], extending a considerable way beyond the position of the kerb [12]. This material was thought by the excavators to represent material which had rolled off the cairn over time. This will be discussed further, later in this report.

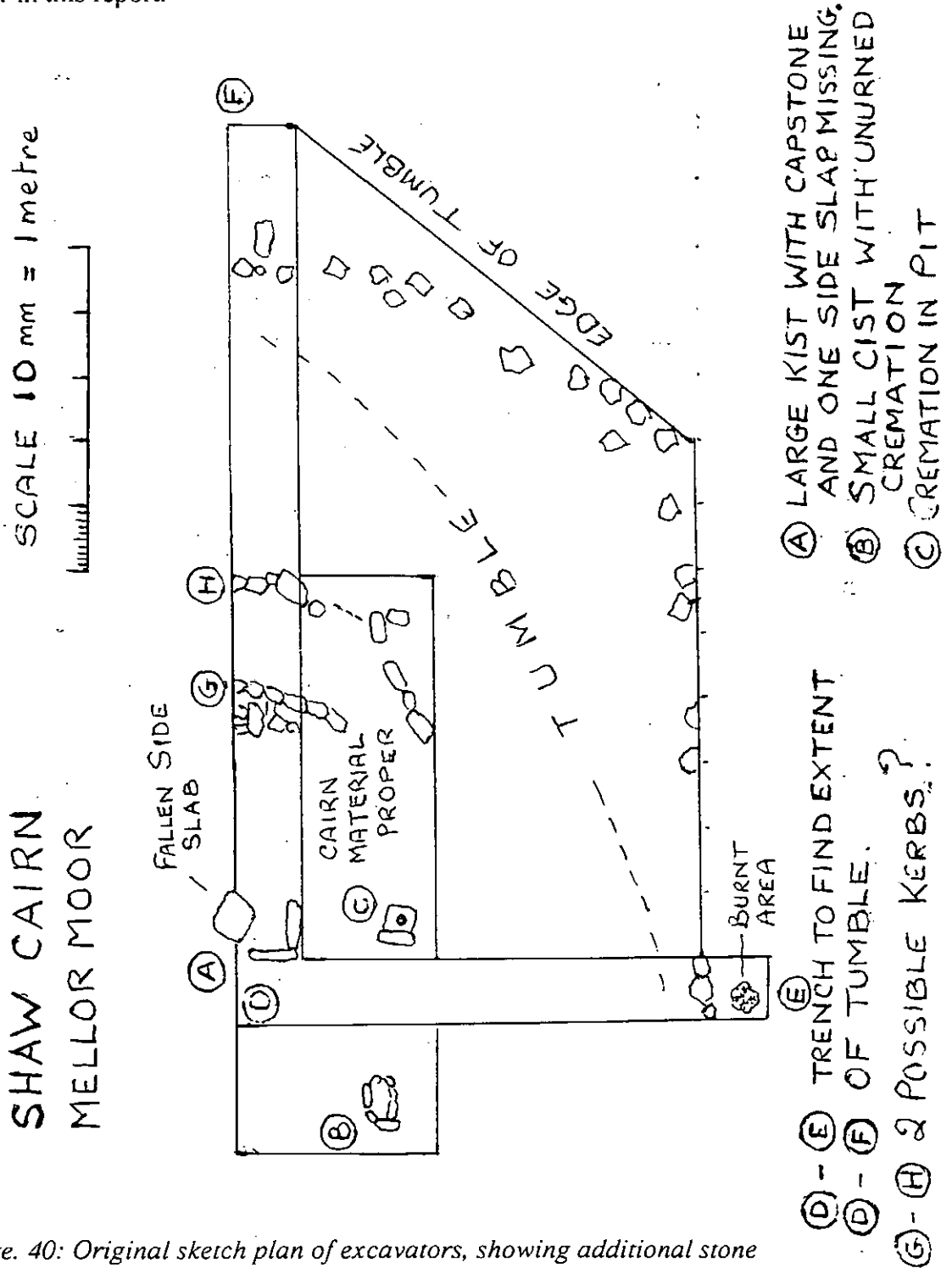


Plate. 40: Original sketch plan of excavators, showing additional stone alignments [56], [57], [58].

SITE DESCRIPTION

1977

AN 10
 0 feet center
 of cist

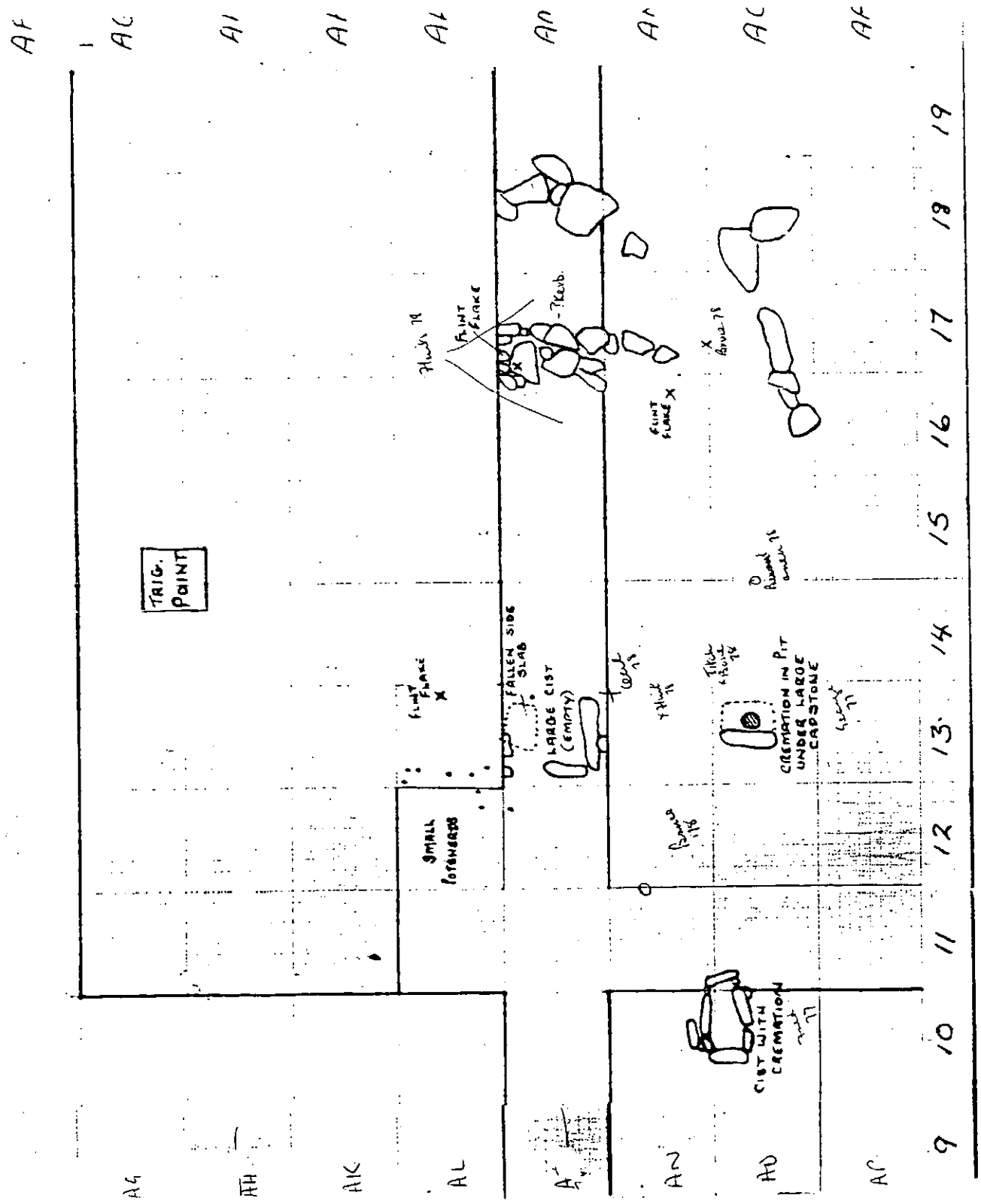


Plate. 41: Original sketch plan of excavators, showing additional stone alignments [56], [57], [58].

SITE DESCRIPTION



Plates. 42 & 43: Showing additional stone alignments, [56] and [57]. Plate. 42, ref. SC1977P16, showing both [56] (denoted by triangle) and [57] (denoted by square). Facing west, AM16/17, scale cm. Plate. 43, ref. SC1977P20, showing [56] (line denoted by triangle, continues to centre of photograph), facing south west.

Context number	Brief description	Notes	Dating
1	Possible natural stone outcrop		Natural
2	White sand with inclusions of charcoal in upper layer		Natural
3	Donkey-brown sand		Natural
4	Charcoal layer on natural sand	Pre-cairn scrub burning?	Pre-cairn
5	Fine-grained red sand – iron pan. Some inclusion of charcoal.		Pre-cairn
6	Gritty grey sand		Pre-[51], Pre-cairn
7	Clay-like peat/black layer		Post [51]
8	Black greasy layer, few mm thick at uniform .45m depth across site.	Confusing stratigraphic position – found a uniform depth under, above & around stones.	?
9	Layer of humus		Pre-[10], Pre-[11], Pre-cairn?
10	Layer of charcoal		Post-[9], Post-[11], Pre-cairn?
11	Flint finds from "burnt area"		Pre-cairn?, Mesolithic-Early Bronze Age
12	Kerb of cairn	Contemporary with [13]	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
13	Stone infill of cairn	Contemporary with [12]	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
14	Stone feature surrounding "Willie" cremation [18]	Contemporary with [18]	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
15	Cist containing "Fred" cremation [19] & [31?]	Contemporary with [19] & [31?]	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
16	Cremation found in cist [20] in AM trench	Contemporary with [20]	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age

Context number	Brief description	Notes	Dating
17	"George" cremation found in feature [21]	Contemporary with [21]	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
18	"Willie" cremation found in feature [14]	Contemporary with,[14]	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
19	"Fred" cremation found in cist [15]	Contemporary with [15]	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
20	Cist in AM	Contemporary with [16]	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
21	Feature surrounding "George" cremation [17]	Contemporary with [17] & [38]?	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
22	Sub-oval feature at south of cairn	Possibly contemporary with [23]	Contemporary with or post-cairn ([12] & [13])
23	Gap in kerb (SE)	Possibly contemporary with [22]	Contemporary with or post-cairn ([12] & [13])
24	Gap in kerb (S)		Contemporary with or post-cairn ([12] & [13])
25	Different construction of kerb		Contemporary with or post-cairn ([12] & [13])
26	Possible different construction of kerb		Contemporary with or post-cairn ([12] & [13])
27	Pink sandstone line		?
28	Features within cairn in western section		Possibly earlier, smaller cairn Possibly revetment feature, and so contemporary
29	"Marcus" cremation		Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age

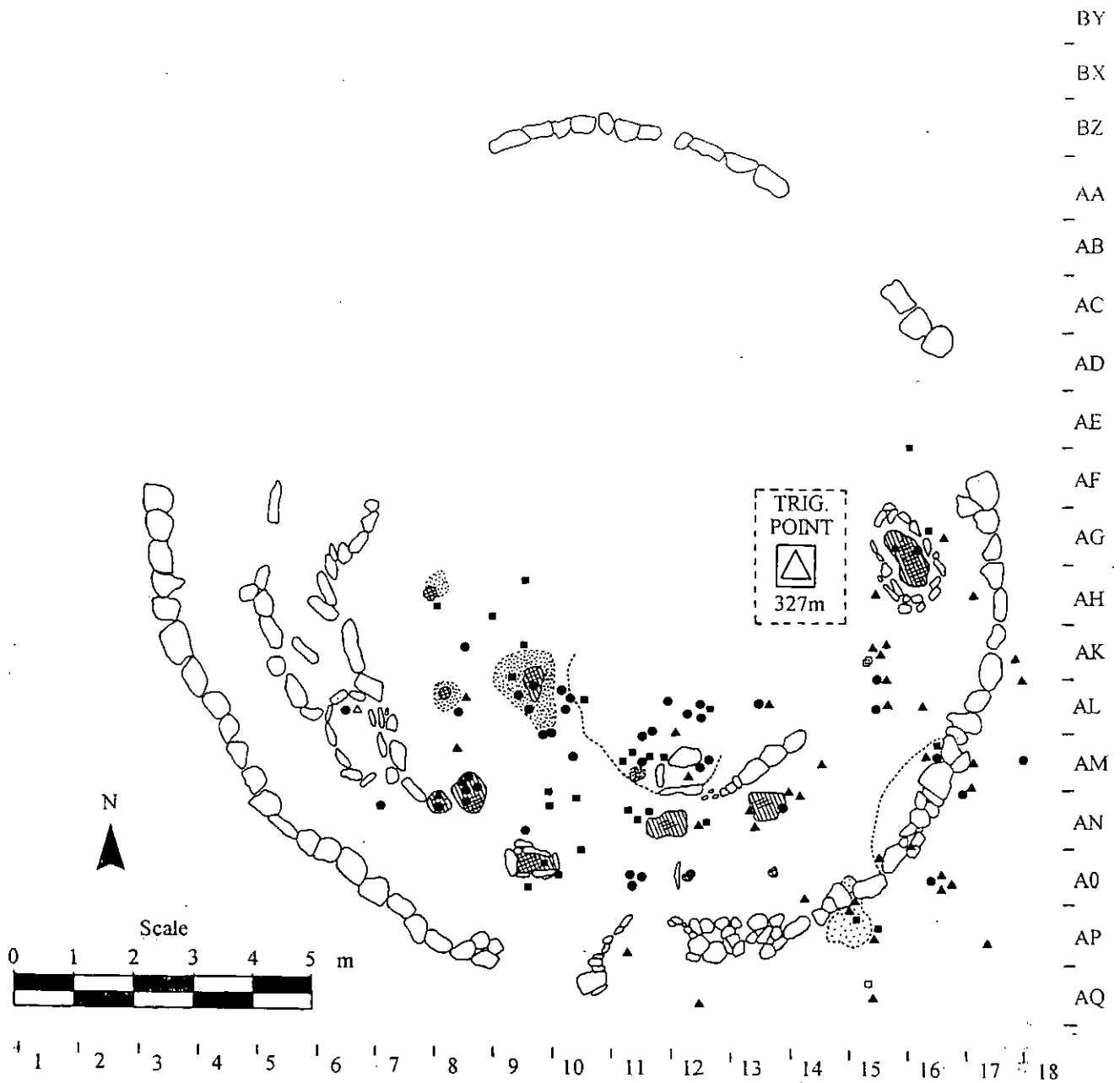
Context number	Brief description	Notes	Dating
30	"Joe" cremation		Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
31	"Fred II"?	Contemporary with [15]? Contemporary with [19]?	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
32	"Pericles" cremation		Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
33	"Atlas" cremation		Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
34	"Hector" cremation		Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
35	"Titch" cremation		Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
36	"Cecil" cremation		Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
37	"Bruce" cremation		Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
38	"George II"?	Contemporary with [21]? Contemporary with [17]?	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
39	Triangulation Pillar		1940 AD
40	Spar for cement		1940 AD
41	"Disturbed area"		Post-cairn [13]
42	Topsoil - peaty		Post-cairn [13]
43	Gritty infill between stones in disturbed area		Post-cairn [13]
44	"Charcoal plug"		Pre-cist [15]? - from association with [46]
45	"Charcoal plug"		Pre-cist [15]? - from association with [46]

Context number	Brief description	Notes	Dating
46	"Charcoal plug"		Pre-cist [15]
47	AO/AP 14/15 – area of charcoal with many flint flakes and few worked flints, many calcined.		Pre-cairn? – Pre-[26]
48	AM-AO 15/16 – many flint flakes, some implements & coarse potsherds.		Pre-cairn – Pre-[13] & [26]
49	"Charcoally area" AT/AV11		? – outside cairn boundary, so no relative stratigraphy
50	Element of features to west of cairn – "grave-like" feature	Very similar in size, shape and orientation to [14] suggesting possible contemporary date	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
51	Finds made between contexts [6] and [7] – applies to isolated finds only		Pre-cairn, Post-[6], Pre-[7]
52	Finds made in area directly above natural sand ([2] & [3]) – applies to isolated finds only		Pre-cairn, Post-[2] and [3]
53	Food Vessel found in AO11		Early Bronze Age
54	Pieces of Food Vessel		Early Bronze Age
55	Original Trig. point	Stone slab with central hole, buried underneath a cairn of rocks.	Pre-1940
56	Stone alignment?	Possible phase of cairn kerbing?	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
57	Stone alignment?	Possible phase of cairn kerbing?	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
58	Stone alignment?	Possible phase of cairn kerbing?	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
59	Charcoal arc in AN10		

Context number	Brief description	Notes	Dating
60	Linear feature visible across cairn	Possible stone wall	Post-cairn
61	Possible cremation deposit	Reference in site record to small quantity of bone and pot found in feature [50]. Feature [50] is also very similar to 'grave-like' feature [14].	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age
62	'Tumble' at edges of cairn	Believed by the excavators to be material which had fallen from the cairn.	Post-cairn? Post-ditch [65]?
63	Small patch of reddened sand AM11	Associated with cist [20]?	Late Neolithic /Early Bronze Age?
64	Possible phase of cairn infill towards west of cairn signified by larger stone size	Possibly representing pre-[13] ring cairn, or post-[13] cairn expansion.	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age. Post- or Pre-[12] and [13].
65	Large bank/ditch feature visible on aerial photograph		Neolithic -Iron Age?

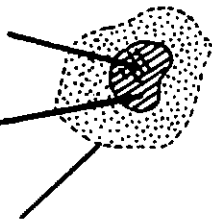
Table 1: Description of contexts with number allocation.

FINDS



Key:

-High bone concentration
 -Concentration of bone
 -Total extent of bone scatter



● -Pottery
 ■ -Charcoal
 ▲ -Flint
 □ -Other
 △ -Isolated bone

nb.Contexts [63] & [47] shown here do not refer to finds of bone despite being similarly illustrated (see plate 19)

Plate. 44: Showing location of finds of various types across site. (Representational only – not intended to indicate number of finds. Many items positioned only to nearest metre.)

FINDS

The Human Remains

In the absence of detailed analysis of the material, the 12-15 deposits of cremated bone found on the site have been assumed to be human, with any possible animal bones being pyre goods. Obviously, this lack of analysis means that very little can be said about the remains themselves, and no information is available concerning the age, sex, pathology etc. of the bones. Rather, a description of these remains here must concentrate on the relationships between the various deposits and the structure of the cairn, and also with any associated finds.

The plan of the site (see plate 19) includes the location of 11 of the 12-15 cremations at the site. In addition, cist feature [20], variously described within the record as 'disturbed', 'empty cist' etc, shows no indication, on the main plan of the site, of having included finds of bone. However, evidence from the excavation diary suggests that bone, [16], was discovered within this feature. Lastly, the possible deposit [61] may have been within feature [50], within AL/M 6/7.

Most of the deposits of bone from the site survive within the collection currently held at GMAU, with 11 deposits being accounted for. There are 4 exceptions to this, with the absence of deposits [18], [16], [38] and [61]. It is unclear whether deposits [38] and [61] existed, with the only indication of their presence being passing references within the excavation diary. These deposits, [38] and [61], were never allocated individual names, nor directly referred to, supporting the argument that there may have been no such deposits found.

Whilst the bone from the site has yet to be examined, it does appear that all of the material is cremated. due to the buff white colour, noted by Barnatt/Robinson (1998, p. 43) as indicative of full oxidisation. The deposits are extremely variable in quantity, and whilst no measurements of this have yet been undertaken, it may be useful to note that variation between deposits spans from small, part-filled jam jars, to filled c. 200 x 150 x 100 mm boxes.

This variation is apparent on the site plan, where it can be seen that the lateral spread of cremations is shown to vary between c. 0.2m x 0.2m and c. 1.0m x 0.5m. (These figures refer to the range between the smallest and largest spreads of the main concentration of each cremation on the site, and not to spreads of deposits beyond these areas of concentration.)

The main plan of excavations shows that all of the cremations were discovered in the southern half of the cairn. It seems likely that this may be due to less extensive excavation of the northern section of the cairn, rather than the real distribution of cremations. This issue will be discussed later in this report.

It is notable that there appears to have been a complete lack of uncremated bone found at the site, of either human or animal origin. Again, this issue will be discussed in more detail later in this report, but the most likely explanation for this absence seems to be differential preservation resulting from highly acidic soils.

Photographs and partial descriptions of a number of the cremations, along with their associated structures, have previously been included in this report. ([19] -plates. 23,

FINDS

24 & 25, [31] – plate. 26, [16] – plates. 27, 28 & 29, [17] – plate. 30, [18] – plates. 4, 20, 21, & 22 [61] – plates. 35, 36, 37 & 38.)

A number of photographs exist of other cremations at the site, these being [37], [36], [35] & [33], although the deposits do not show up clearly in most of these photographs, and in some cases, it is not clear which part of the photograph represents the deposit. A selection of these photographs have been included here:

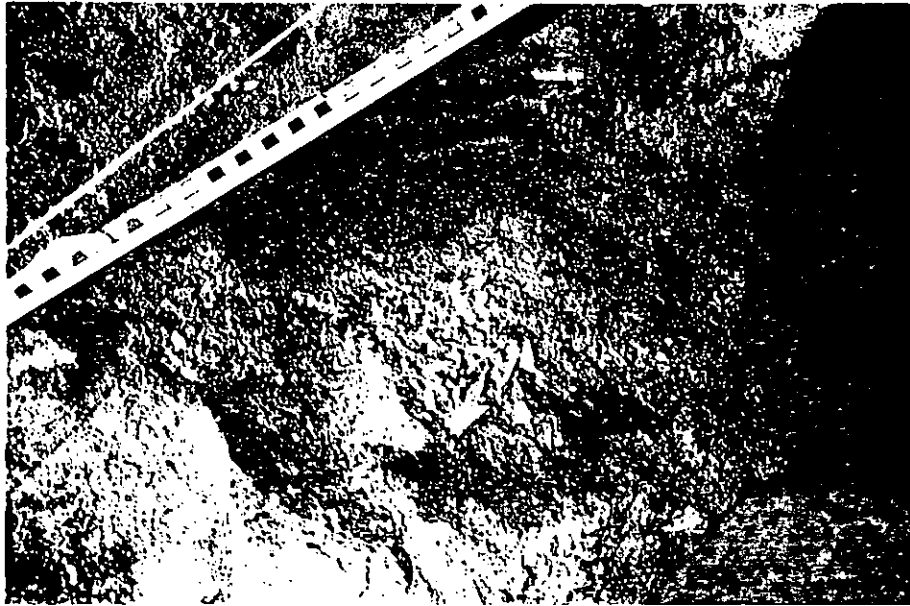


Plate 45

Plate. 45: Showing cremation deposit [36] – fragments of bone visible towards centre of picture. Scale cm. Ref. SC1978P13.



Plate 46

FINDS

Plates. 46 & 47: Cremation deposit [37]. Direction, and position of deposit in photos unknown, but pale patch visible towards centre of both plates seems likely to be fragments of bone. Plate. 46, scale cm, Ref. SC1978P10. Plate 47, scale 0.1m/0.25m, Ref. SC1978P9.



Plate 47



Plate 50



Plate 48

Plates. 48, 49 & 50: Plates. 48 & 49 showing cremation deposit [33]. Plate. 48: light points visible are fragments of bone. Scale inch/cm, ref. SC1981P4. Plate. 50: Cremation deposit [35]. Exact position of deposit on photograph unknown, but light area towards centre of photograph would seem to be the largest bone fragment adhering to a stone. Scale cm? Ref. SC1978P12. Plate. 49, ref. SC1980S7.

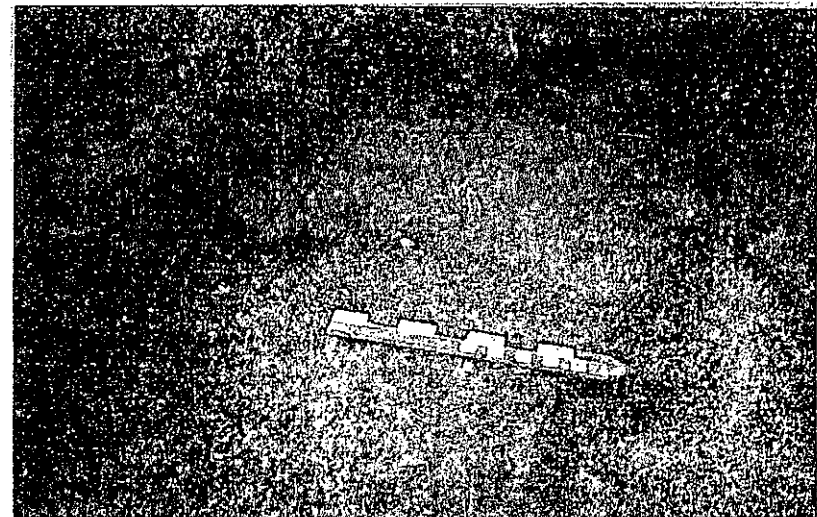


Plate 49

FINDS

Photographs of some sort exist then, for cremations [16], [17], [18], [19], [31], [33], [35], [36] & [37].



*Plate 51, showing cremation [19] after excavation, in box on trench edge.
Ref. SC19789.S2*

FINDS

A description of the main points recorded regarding each cremation on the site is included here:

[29] "Marcus"

This deposit was found not to be associated with any structure, but scattered amongst the stones of the cairn, and lying on the basic sand ([2] or [3]). This deposit had apparently suffered some disturbance as a result of root action. This deposit is recorded as being concentrated in the centre of AH7/8, and 0.5m below the land surface. A layer of charcoal was noted lying on the basic sand in this area ([4]).

No artifacts were recorded.

No photographic record.

[30] "Joe"

This deposit is recorded as being "at foot of standing on edge stone, which seems to have been stood on top of cremation", and 0.35-0.5m deep (presumably measured from land surface). This deposit is recorded as being amongst "cairn material proper" [13], and seems to have been quite scattered. A piece of pottery found with this deposit is recorded as "depth 30cm from original cairn/land surface", although it is not clear how this figure was derived. This deposit was mixed with many pieces of pottery, some "with slash decoration". A quantity of bone and pot was discovered "between 42cm and 35cm below ancient barrow surface". This deposit was assumed to be "Joe", despite being found "at a lower depth". The majority of pottery sherds are recorded as being in the lower levels of the deposit. The soil surrounding "Joe" gave the excavators the impression of having been burnt, being reddish-brown and darker than the surrounding light-coloured sand, and far more compacted. A mention is made of a "charcoal arc" [59], which was found in AN10, which was also referred to as "wooden vessel?". Although this is not in the same location as "Joe", this deposit is sometimes referenced as being in AN10. What was thought to be a canine tooth was discovered. Charcoal was found to be associated with this deposit. The excavators noted that the pottery associated with this deposit was found to consist of extremely small sherds, described as "lenticular". A somewhat bizarre explanation of this phenomenon, offered by the excavators, was that the material was derived from a kiln, in which pots had exploded, and which was later used as a crematorium, the material then being transported to the cairn.

No photographic record.

[31] "Fred II?"

"Fred II?" was discovered beneath the base stone of cist [15], in which deposit [19] was found. It is not clear whether this deposit was a separate burial, or whether this was part of deposit [19], perhaps illustrating some type of multi-phased deposition. "Sand and red sand" are recorded as accompanying this deposit, and it is possible that charcoal was also associated.

See plate. 26.

FINDS

[32] "Pericles"

No reference to this deposit has been found anywhere within the site record other than its inclusion on the main plan of the site. It apparently included potsherds which were similar to those accompanying "Hector" [34].

No photographic record.

[33] "Atlas"

This deposit is recorded as being discovered 0.3m from the ground surface, and as not being accompanied by any pottery or flint. References have been found within the archive to finds of pottery and flint which were found "close to Atlas", although the grid references accompanying these finds do not refer to the location of Atlas, but a location c. 2m south.

See plates. 49 & 50.

[34] "Hector" (and "Sandy")

"Hector" is recorded as being a particularly large deposit, "covering an area almost circular, 90cm in diameter". The deposit identified within the diaries as "Sandy" was thought to be a separate deposit, but was later thought to be part of "Hector". This deposit is recorded as lying "directly on clean sand", presumably [2]. This sand is described as "entirely virgin", with no inclusions whatsoever. It seems that this deposit was discovered underneath a large stone, although this may well refer to a covering of cairn material [13] rather than any associated structure. Pottery was found in association with this deposit, and was found to resemble that accompanying "Joe" [30], in consisting of many tiny fragments and apparently also in type (see above for excavators proposed explanation). Additional comments concerning the pottery from this deposit indicate that "very fine pottery" was mixed with the bones, 0.4m below the ground surface. There is also some indication that some part of what the excavators identified as "Food Vessel" was discovered close to, or within this deposit. Some of the pottery is described as "decorated rim". Calcined flint is also recorded as being associated.

No photographic record.

See plate. 55.

[35] "Titch"

This seems to have been one of the smallest deposits of bone on the site. The largest fragment of bone was found adhering to a stone, 0.46m from "original cairn surface". There is no record of any associated finds.

See plate. 49.

[36] "Cecil"

FINDS

"Cecil" is described as having a spread of 0.8m north to south, and 0.5m east to west, although this is later said to be too conservative an estimate of its size. The deposit is also described variously as being 0.4m and 0.5m from the original cairn surface. No associated charcoal was found. The deposit is described as being "the "meat" between large gunge-stone-slabs of sandwich". It is not clear whether this constituted some kind of structure, or a random infilling of stones. Pottery was found in association with this deposit, along with flint, including a particularly fine flint knife. See plate. 46.

[19] "Fred"

This deposit was discovered within cist [15], a description of which follows:

"Covered by oversailing slabs of sandy gritstone (i.e. not a proper capstone)... Infill - plenty of loose peaty soil and jaffa-sized stones... There is a 6" square x 1" thick sandstone under which cremation and some more soil... east-west inside measurement - almost exactly 66cm, north-south inside measurement - at east end - 15cm. at west end - 24cm. Two side stones: 33cm deep and 37cm (flaggy one) deep. Inside top measurement: minimum 13cm north-south. Base; 51cm below site datum... Fred's cist: Base stone: Max length 53cm. Max width 37cm. At one corner there is a right angle which is 20cm across. Thickness: Max 8.5cm. Side stones: North stone max. length 50cm. Max width 36cm. Relatively thin - 6cm. South side stone: Much more irregular shape; the others have a squareness about them, this is almost oval. Max. length 53cm; max. width 38cm. max. thickness 6.5cm - again there is considerable variation. All flag stones. West stone - gritstone boulder. East stone = flagstone".

The top layers of the deposit of bone were said to be quite loose, and easily lifted out. The remainder, however, were found to be "cemented together with compacted peaty soil", meaning that bone had to be chipped out. Flecks of charcoal were recorded low down in the deposit, but no grave goods were discovered. The cairn infill [13] was said to be of somewhat different character to the north of the cist. See plates. 23, 24 & 25.

[17] "George" and "George II?" [38]

"George" was discovered after steam was noted to be coming from a "hole" in the cairn, c. 0.5m deep. Several "laid stones" were then removed, and the excavators discovered "flagstones on edge".

A "massive capstone" is also recorded, requiring all 3 excavators that day to lift. Underneath this, a cremation was discovered. A large triangular stone, leaning over slightly, stood with the deposit at its foot, to the east. The deposit itself is described as being in a "solid, globular mass as though it had been in an urn which had decayed away (this is pure speculation)". In support of this theory, the deposit is described as being "crushed in a matrix of pot? - i.e. clayey sand and grit, dark brown when wet drying to yellowish-brown. The approximate centre of this deposit was described as at similar depth to that of cist [15]. Yellow sand ([2]?) was discovered c. 0.05m below the deposit.

FINDS

No finds are recorded in association with these deposits, with the exception of the pot-like substance.

The relationship between the two descriptions given above is not known, but it appears that two separate deposits are being discussed. No mention of "George II" exists within the record apart from the discrepancies noted in appendix (c).

See plate. 30 & 31.

[18] "Willie"

This deposit was discovered within structure [14], and was found "gunged together in claylike soil; showed evidence of having been heated". The deposit lay on "basic soil", although it is not known to which context this refers. The deposit had a spread of 1m x 0.45m, and the base of the deposit is recorded at 0.53m below the "undisturbed soil over cairn". Pieces of bone were found to have adhered to stones, and were extremely small. The size of the bones suggested to the excavators that they may have been deliberately smashed before deposition, although it would perhaps seem more likely that this merely reflects a lack of familiarity with cremated bone. A second theory suggested that the "cement" causing the bones to stick together was thought to be the result of "seepage of rainwater mixing with lime (calcium?) in bones". It was also suggested that such a process, coupled with "re-deposition of iron from gritstone" could form a 'hard baked layer', wrongly interpreted by the excavators as a sign of heating.

Finds of charcoal, flint and pottery were made in the vicinity of this deposit, although these seem to have been underneath or nearby, rather than within the deposit, and therefore, not directly associated.

The present location of this deposit is unknown.

See plates. 4, 20, 21, 22.

[37] "Bruce"

This deposit was found amongst "grapefruit-sized cobbles to which bones adhered". The soil around the deposit apparently showed signs of scorching, although these were not described. The base of the "pit" in which the deposit was discovered was described as "43cm below original cairn surface". The area of the scatter was given as 0.7 x 0.4m. A "burnt area" was described, presumably in association with this deposit, this being 0.4 x 0.5m, and 0.5m "below original cairn surface".

The deposit seems to have been associated with a find of charcoal, and a possible find of flint.

See plates. 47 & 48.

[16] Deposit associated with "Disturbed cist [20]"

Description of cist: "large slab c. 8cm thick at middle edge; 43cm long and 60cm deep...on west of cist. South side of cist is large stone...Cist = 57cm north x south...no capstone...found calcined bones under fallen north stone of cist...[also under fallen stone] found 11 fragments of pot...bottom [of cist] covered in creamy

FINDS

white sand [[2]?]...both south and west stones are triangular, their apexes downwards and they are packed into position by packing stones...south stone: Max. depth = 41cm, length 63cm, west stone: Max. depth = 36cm, length 50, length across top = 38cm, thickness = from 6cm to 9.5cm, presumed (and reconstructed [not shown reconstructed in photographs used in this report]) north stone: Max. depth = 38cm, width = 53cm, position of top of cist – 60cm below site datum."

Finds of flint and pottery are recorded from the area within and surrounding the cist, but there is no record of finds of charcoal.

The present location of the deposit from this cist is unknown.

See plates. 27, 28 & 29.

[61] Deposit associated with "cove" [50]

Mention is made within the excavation diary of a find of fragments of pottery "beside centre side stone of "cove""[50]. This find is recorded as being associated with a find of "spelks of bone". This, coupled with the similarities between this feature [50] and feature [14], associated with deposit [18] would suggest that this is a funerary feature. See plates. 35, 36, 37 & 38.

A number of additional, isolated finds of bone were made at the site, although it has not been possible to relate these to any features at the site. Most of these finds were made in close proximity to features or deposits already discussed, so it would seem likely that they are related to these features.

Some analysis has been attempted here of the associations between the various cremations, and structures or finds. Whilst this analysis is useful, it must be remembered that the site record is often poor, and so the accuracy of data derived from it is necessarily questionable.

This problem is highlighted by the high proportion of 'possible associations' shown in the following table and charts. Here, 11 of the possible total of 15 deposits are 'possibly associated' with 1 or more type of find or structure – compared to only 9 of the deposits being classed as known to be associated with 1 or more type of find or structure.

FINDS

Cremations

Associations with funerary deposits: Presence/absence of finds

Associated structure	[Associated find]		[No associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	4	9		
Charcoal	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	3	6		
Flint	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	3	7		
Pot	[Associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	[Possible associated find]	5	10		
Context:	16 (Disturbed cist)	17 (George)	18 (Willie)	19 (Fred)	29 (Marcus)	30 (Joe)	31 (Fred II)	32 (Pericles)	33 (Atlas)	34 (Hector)	35 (Titch)	36 (Cecil)	37 (Bruce)	38 (George II)	61 (Associated with 'cove')	Total Associations (exc. possible)	Total Associations (inc. possible)

Key:

[White box]	No associated find
[Dotted box]	Possible associated find
[Solid black box]	Associated find

Table 2: Associations between funerary deposits, finds and structures.

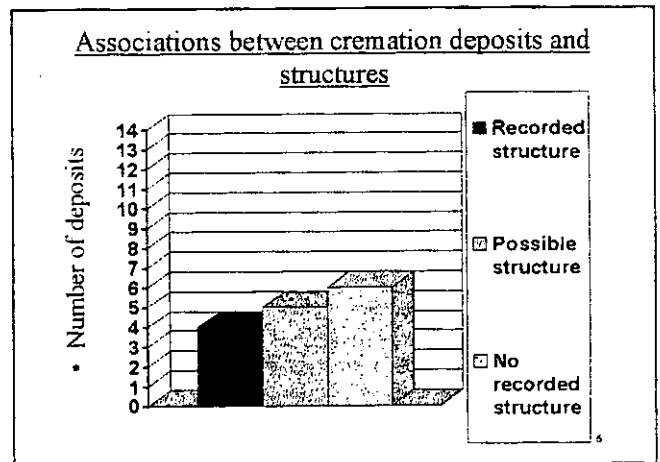
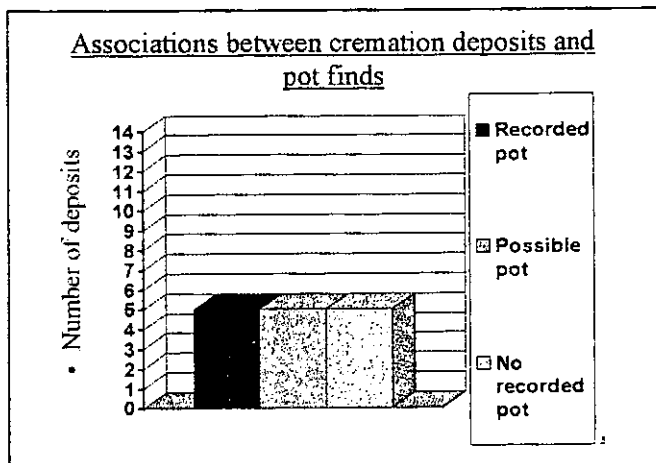
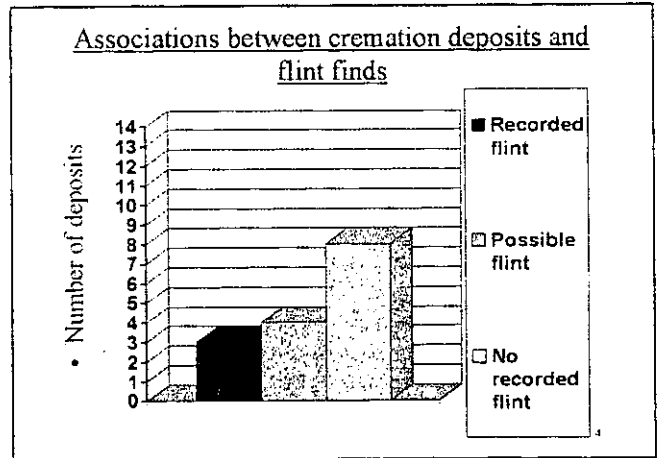
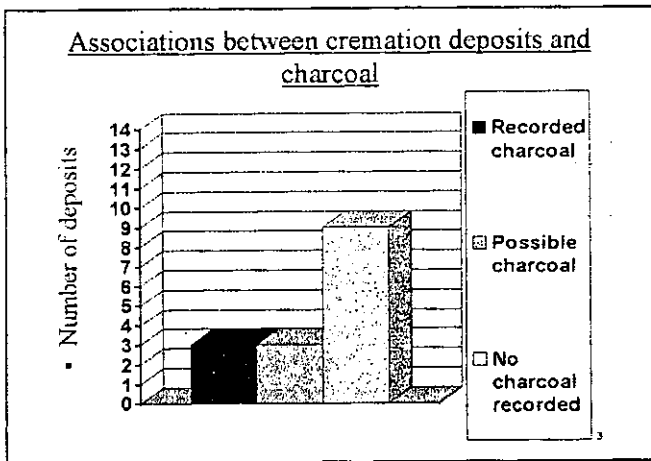
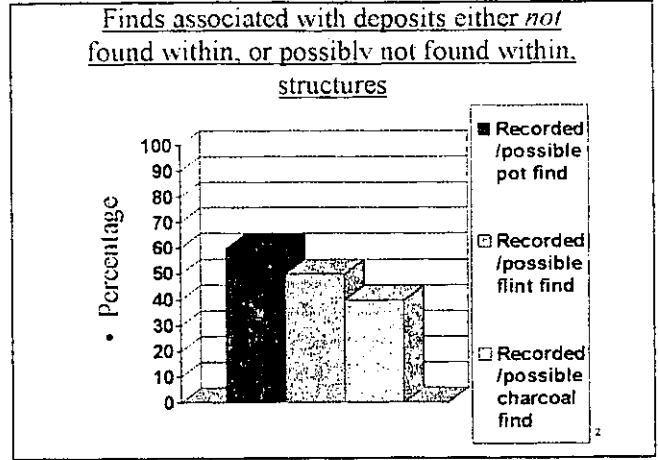
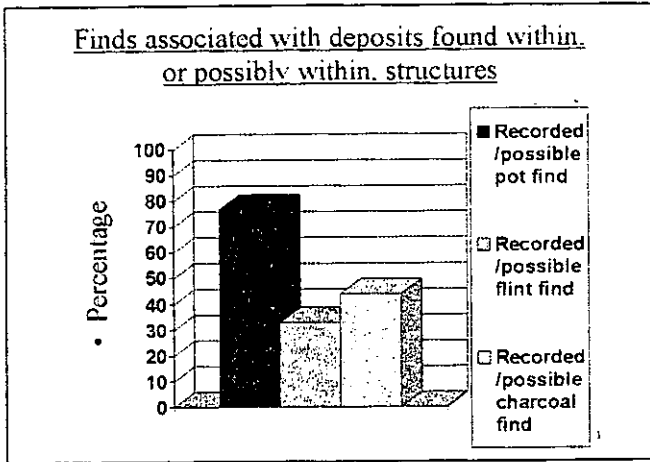
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Note

Table (2) is based on information derived from all elements of the site record. Whilst divisions are made according to the presence, possible presence and absence of finds, there may be considerable variation within these categories as to the reliability of information, and its significance. For example, some statements within the table are based on several convincing parallel sources, whilst others may be based on passing references to finds made within the same grid reference as the deposit, but which are considered likely to be associated in some way. In addition, no attempt has been made here to differentiate between finds likely to be deliberate inclusions within the deposit and accidental inclusions of chronologically remote artefacts and deposits. The decision to treat the data in this way was based on the lack of detailed information, on any finds other than flint, which could be used in dating. It was thought that the omission of flints dated to earlier periods would create bias, in failing to also discount any pottery or charcoal which may be wholly unrelated to the main deposit.

These potential sources of error, and the small number of deposits in this comparison (also concerning graphs 1-6), mean that any trends observed through this analysis must be viewed with caution.

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Graphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6: Associations between funerary deposits, finds and structures.

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Relationships between the association of deposits with structures and the presence or absence of finds, as shown on graphs 1 & 2

In both the case of the presence of an associated structure, and the lack of an associated structure, pottery is the most frequent associated find, with 5 confirmed and a further 5 possible associations overall. 77% of those deposits found within (or possibly within) structures included (or possibly included) finds of pottery, whilst 60% of those deposits not associated (or possibly not associated) with structures included (or possibly included) pottery.

Overall, flint is the next most common associated find, with 3 confirmed associations, and a further 4 possible associations with deposits. 33% of those deposits found within (or possibly within) structures included (or possibly included) finds of flint. A higher instance was recorded in deposits not (or possibly not) found with structures, this being 50%.

In those deposits found within (or possibly within) structures, 44% of deposits included (or possibly included) finds of charcoal, compared with 40% for those not found (or possibly not found) within structures.

Overall then, pottery was the most commonly associated find with both deposits within and without structures. For deposits found within (or possibly within) structures, charcoal was the next most common find, with a lesser frequency of associated flint. For deposits not found within (or possibly not found within) structures however, charcoal was the least common associated find, with a higher frequency of flint finds.

A number of the 'possible associations' with charcoal here, refer to charcoal-bearing strata (such as [4]), cut into by the deposits. The record of excavation is not detailed enough to rule out such cross-context contamination for any finds, including pottery and flint.

On a similar note, flint 3006, found in association with cremation [37] is characteristic of the Earlier Mesolithic, and is thus likely to represent an accidental inclusion in the cremation. (A Myers, this report)

It is important to remember therefore that even assuming the information discussed here is accurate, finds do not necessarily represent deliberately included pyre or grave goods.

In each of graphs 3-6, showing the associations between deposits and charcoal, flint, pot and structures, respectively, the highest values on each graph are always those expressing the absence of any find (with the exception of pottery, where this is equal to the 'recorded' and 'possible' values).

Where only definite associations are considered, the highest instance of associated finds relates to pot, with 5 associations out of 15 deposits. The next most frequent association is that between deposits and structures, this being 4 of the 15 deposits. Charcoal and flint are equally common, both being recorded as 3, of 15 deposits. A similar pattern is observed when a combined total consisting of both definite and possible associations is used. In this case, the highest value remains that associated with pottery, this being 10/15 deposits. Again, association with structures is the

FINDS

second most common feature, with 9/15 deposits. When possible associations are included in this way, flint associations can be seen to be more common than charcoal associations, the values being 7 and 6/15 respectively.

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The Pottery

As with the bone from the site, it has not been possible in this report to include any detailed study of the pottery.

As can be seen in plate. 45, and appendix (d), a large number of pottery finds were made at the site.

47 reference numbers have been allocated to finds of pottery, largely based on descriptions of their discovery within the site archive. This figure though, refers to finds of pot and not fragments of pot, so that when multiple sherds are found together they are allocated only one context number. Only where these references have included the location of the find on the site grid have they been marked on plate. 45, hence the reduced number of finds marked.

All but 8 of the 41 finds of pottery marked on plate 45 are within 1m of a cremation (although many of the finds are marked at the centre of a grid square as this is the most accurate location given in most cases, meaning many otherwise correct references may be 0.5m out from the true find spot).

Of the remaining 8 finds, 1 is in AL6, which is the site of a possible cremation [61]. 1 find is in AL13, and may be associated with disturbed cist [20], less than 2m away. The remaining 6 finds are located within AK-AO 15-17. A number of these finds were either made in associated with flint finds, or at the same grid reference, and at least 1 was found close to [48]. This may mean that these pieces relate to an earlier period of activity at the site, but without examination and dating of these finds, this cannot be established. It is also possible that these finds represent a part of the funerary process other than the burial of burnt bones and goods – these finds may represent the debris of a pyre site or even excarnation platform.

10 finds of pottery from the site survive within the archive collection (see appendix (d)).

These are as follows:

- Pottery from cremation [30] (labelling on cremation indicates inclusion of pottery).
- Pottery from cremation [32].
- Pottery from cremation [30], including the comment "some treated".
- Pottery from cremation [34], some of which is noted to have been drawn.
- Pottery from cremation [34], including the comment "some treated".
- Pieces of Food Vessel.
- Pieces of "Sarah's Food Vessel".
- Food Vessel (almost complete example)
- "Neolithic pottery from burnt area and edge of cairn & pieces found '84".

Clearly, most of the pottery from the site is unaccounted for. For instance, although 5 cremation are recorded as definitely associated with pottery (and a further 4 are possibly associated), only 3 ([30], [32] and [34]) have surviving pottery finds. To

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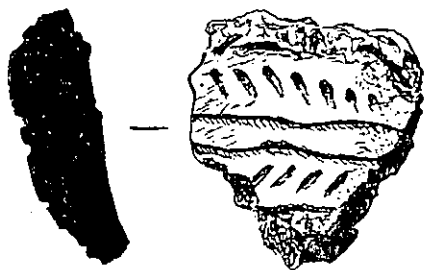
what extent such discrepancies result from problems with the written record, or result from the physical loss of material is open to question.

Despite the lack of detailed examination of the material, it can be said (from very superficial examination of the material only) that there is nothing to suggest that any of the material is inconsistent with a Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date. In addition, the Food Vessel [53] appears to date to the Early Bronze Age. A close parallel for this artefact being a Food Vessel from Tissington (see plate 57).

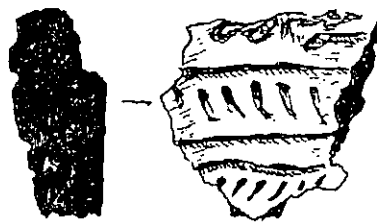
Some of the pottery from the site was illustrated by the excavators, and a number of photographs were taken of the largely complete Food Vessel found in AO11 ([53]), along with an illustration of this find. In addition, several pieces of pottery, which accompanied cremation [34], were illustrated.

Whilst the pottery from the site has not been examined, what appears to be an extremely similar example of a Food Vessel is that from Tissington (Bramwell, p. 50, fig. d). This find is similar to the Mellor vessel in both decoration and dimensions.

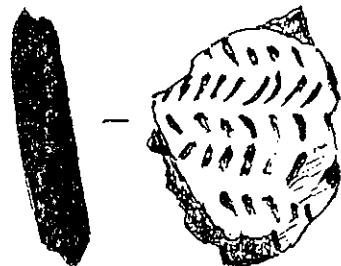
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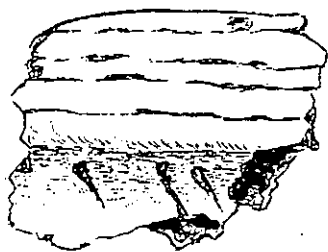
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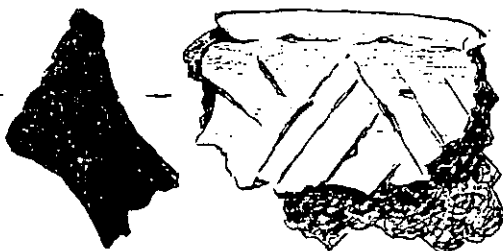
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AN 53



AN 54



AN 55



AN 56



AN 57



AN 58

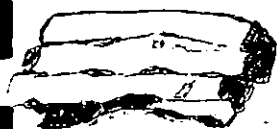
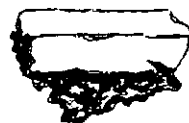


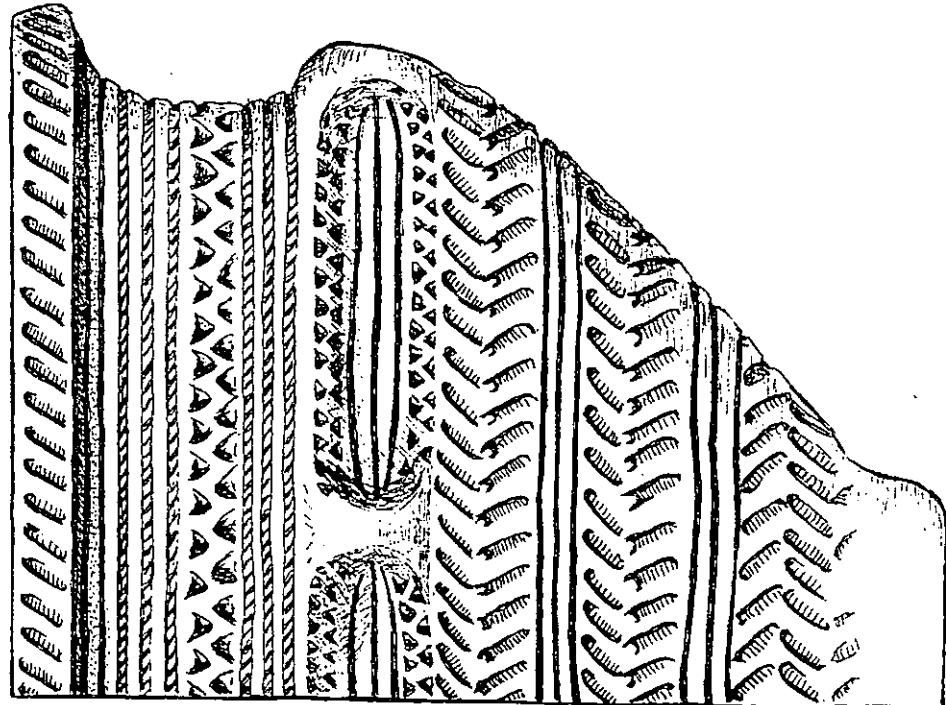
Plate. 52: Original Illustration of selection of pottery from cremation [34].

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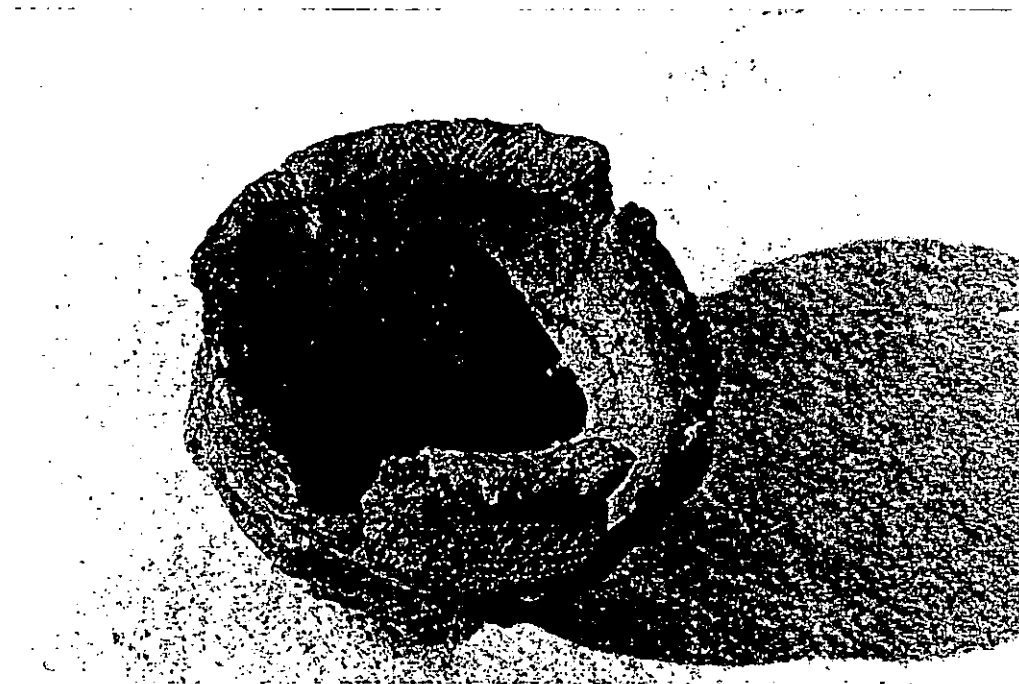
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FOOD VESSEL
SHAW CAIRN
MELLOR MOOR.

Plate. 53: Original illustration of Food Vessel [53].

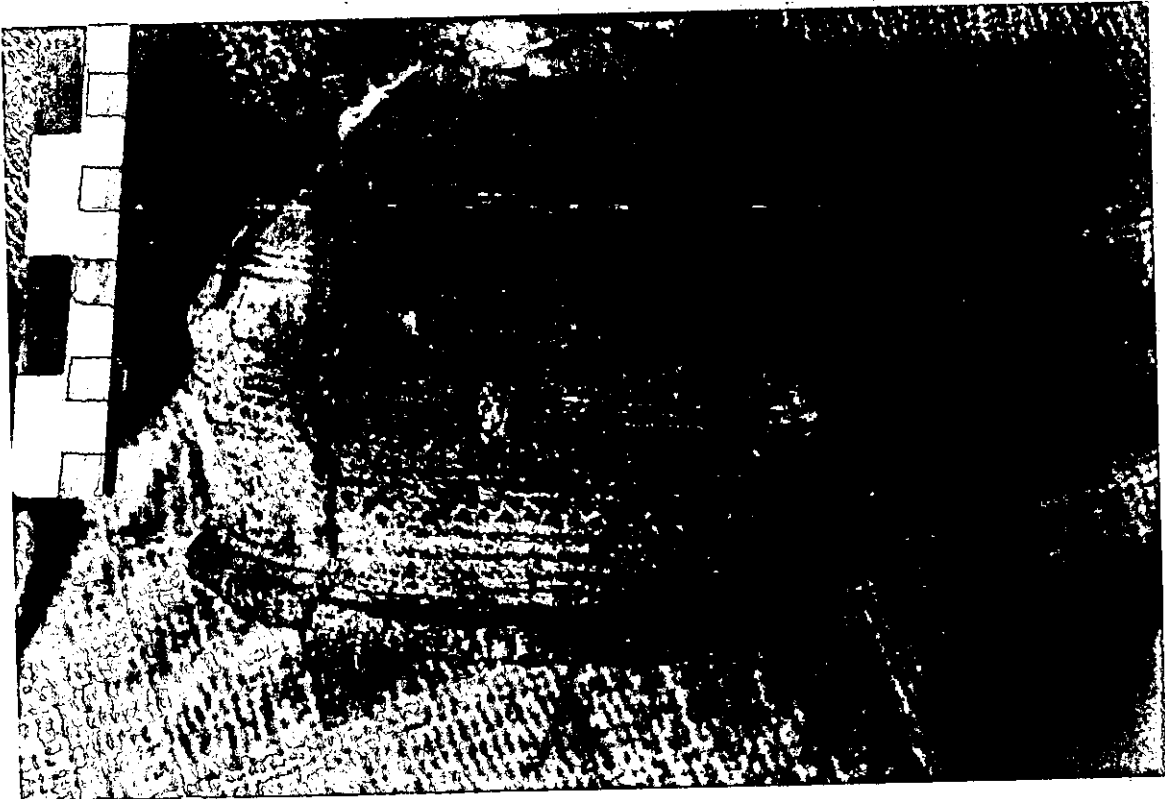
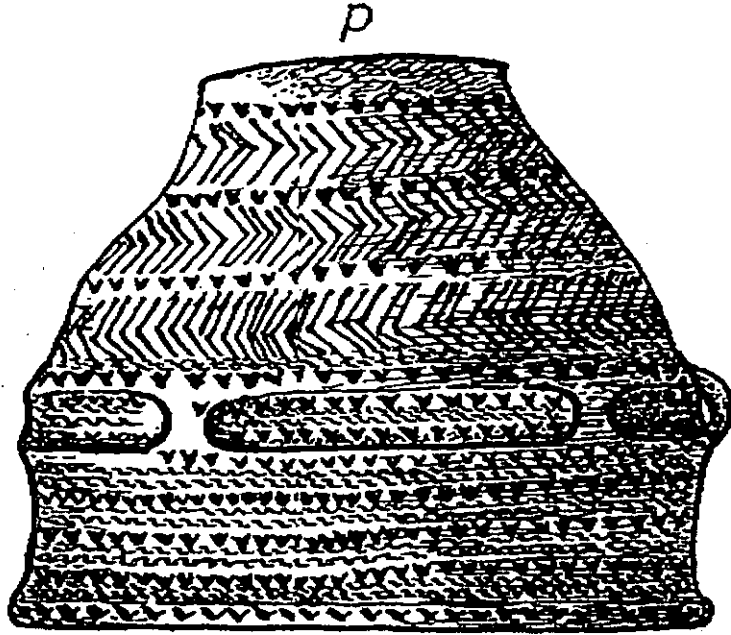
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Plates. 54 & 55: Showing Food Vessel [53]. Plate. 54 ref. SC1980P4, plate. 55, ref. SC1980P3

Plate 57: Showing Tissington Food Vessel (Bramwell, 1973, p 50)

Plate 56: Showing Food Vessel [53], ref. SC19..P2.



FINDS

The lithics

The lithic material from the site is the only material for which a detailed report has been compiled. The study was kindly funded by the Mellor Archaeological Trust, at the instigation of Graham Eyre-Morgan of UMAU. The 567 surviving worked lithic artefacts from the site were examined by A.M. Myers, whose report is included here in full.

**Shaw Cairn, Mellor Moor:
Excavations**

Report on the Lithic Assemblage

June 2000

A.M. Myers

Submitted to University of Manchester Archaeological Unit

FINDS

Report on the Lithic Assemblage from Shaw Cairn, Mellor Moor

Introduction

A total of 576 worked lithic artefacts were examined from the excavations at Shaw Cairn. The material was supplied in a series of bags/ containers with a variety of notes relating to their respective contexts. A basic typological classification of the lithic assemblage broken down by these various contexts is presented in table 1. A more detailed discussion of the assemblages from these contexts is given below.

Raw Materials (all contexts)

The identification of raw materials used is based purely on visual inspection and provides a general overview. Within the assemblage c.129 (22%) showed signs of exposure to heat. Of these a significant proportion were so severely calcined that the certain identification of raw material is not possible. However, the unburnt assemblage consists entirely of varieties of flint, with no chert or other lithic material being recognised. It seems reasonable to assume that the observations for the unburnt assemblage will apply to the burnt component.

The flint consists almost entirely (>99%) of varieties of good quality translucent or semi-translucent brown, or grey-brown flint showing gradations between levels of translucency. The cortex varies in thickness but tends to show a sharp transition to the non-cortical material. Sources of translucent and semi-translucent material of this kind exist both to the west and east of the Pennines within boulder clay deposits. The analysis also identified a very low representation (<1%) of Wolds flint. This material is greyish white with mottled inclusions, and is opaque. It originates from the Cretaceous limestone of Lincolnshire and East Yorkshire but is present as large, workable nodules in boulder clay deposits along the Trent Valley in Nottinghamshire.

Typology

1) AM/AN 15/16, Context [47] or [48]

Relates to finds SC3007, 3008(?), 3013, 3014, 3015, 3016 & 3018 noted in excavation diary?

A total of 486 artefacts were identified (excluding those separately stored in a bag within the jar). A significant proportion of the assemblage (c. 18.5%) has been exposed to heating, and this accords with the additional context note on the jar containing the finds which states "includes burnt area flints".

FINDS

Unretouched flakes/ blades

The assemblage is dominated by a large number of short, squat flakes. Only 13 blades or blade-like pieces were identified amongst 373 unretouched flakes/ blades, a ratio of 28.7 flakes for every blade. Approximately 70% of the unretouched flakes/ blades have a maximum dimension of 1cm or less, emphasising the very small size of many of the pieces. Amongst these small, struck flakes are a high proportion (>40%) of flakes characteristic of secondary retouch or thinning of tools or larger blanks. They tend to exhibit a strong curvature in profile, and their dorsal faces have intersecting flake scars.

The strong representation of flakes/ blades produced through the thinning/ retouching of tools or larger blanks is reinforced by the stage analysis. There are very few primary (>50% corticated) flakes in the assemblage, and the assemblage is dominated by flakes with little or no cortex.

	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary
Number	7	87	279
Percent	1.9	23.3	74.8

Table 2: stage analysis for unretouched flakes/ blades

Core rejuvenation flakes

Only two core rejuvenation flakes were identified in the assemblage. One of these is made from Wolds flint, and appears to be a core platform edge removal.

Scrapers

Three scrapers were identified. One is a nicely made end-scraper made on a large plunging flake (50 x 30mm) of Wolds flint. The dorsal face bears traces of previous blade removals. A second, also made of Wolds flint, appears to be a small side scraper (23 x 16mm). The third is a fragment bearing the edge of a scraper made on dark translucent flint.

2) Bag inside jar (see above)

Context [47] or [48]

A total of 8 pieces were identified. Of these, 2 (25%) showed signs of exposure to heat.

Flakes/ blades

Only a single unretouched tertiary blade, made of Wolds flint, was identified. There were no unretouched flakes. However, there were two flakes, each showing signs of retouch through use (utilised) on both margins. A fragment

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of a primary flake in translucent flint showing fine, abrupt retouch along part of one margin was also recognised.

Core rejuvenation flakes

There was a single, possible ridge flake in translucent flint.

Scrapers

The assemblage contains two translucent flint scrapers, one of which is quite heavily burnt and fragmentary. The other appears to be a fragment from a side scraper.

3) 1983 AL/AK 15-16 SC3035-3039?

Context unknown

A total of 63 artefacts were identified. Of these 21 (33%) showed signs of exposure to heat.

Unretouched flakes/ blades

Of 58 unretouched flakes/ blades there was only one possible blade. Approximately half had a maximum dimension of 1cm or less.

	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary
Number	0	4	53
Percent	0	7.0	93.0

Table 3: stage analysis for unretouched flakes / blades

The assemblage has no primary flakes, and is heavily dominated by pieces bearing no cortex.

Core rejuvenation flakes

Only one core rejuvenation flake was identified, an extremely large tertiary flake in grey translucent flint weighing 61.5gms. This must have been struck from a very large core, although the form of the core is not certain. It does not appear to have been a blade core.

Scraper

A single, burnt example of a side scraper on a relatively squat flake (30 x 32mm) was the only retouched artefact in the assemblage. This piece has a retouched scraping edge on the right-hand margin. There may also be signs of some use of the left-hand margin as a knife.

4) Calcined flints from 'Hector' cremation

Context [34]

A small assemblage of 14 pieces was examined. Of these all but 1 (93%) showed signs of exposure to heat, and all of these are heavily calcined. This

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suggests that as a group they have been directly exposed to relatively high temperatures consistent with their association with a cremation deposit.

The assemblage consists of 10 heavily burnt flakes, three scrapers, one of which is unburnt and made of a dark translucent flint, and a knife.

Scrapers

One of the heavily calcined scrapers appears to have been an end-scraper (37.5 x 28.0mm) although it is fragmentary. The scraping edge has been formed by relatively short, abrupt removals. This is in contrast to the other burnt scraper that appears to be more rounded (32.4 x 38.0mm) with a series of quite invasive removals forming the scraping edge. The unburnt scraper measures 37.5 x 31.3mm, and is on a tertiary flake of dark translucent flint. It should be noted that this material is identical to that from which the fragmentary scraper identified under 1) above was manufactured. The scraper edge was formed by moderately invasive removals forming a rounded working edge from the right-hand margin onto the distal end. The distal end is fractured and the scraping edge may have originally continued further onto the distal end.

Knife

This measures 47.5 x 29.7mm and was made on a large tertiary flake that has been unifacially flaked. The right-hand margin has been invasively and regularly retouched to form a shallow angle. Part of the retouch along the upper half of the flake was lost through spalling brought about by burning. The distal end is pointed. The left-hand margin appears to have been partially retouched, either as 'backing' or through the use of the edge for scraping.

5) SC3045 Flints from 'Pericles' cremation

Context [32]

The only finds are two small tertiary flakes, both of which are heavily calcined. This would be consistent with their association with a cremation deposit.

6) Flint from 'Willie' cremation (Context [18])

- found underneath cremation?

Relates to find SC3043 (or SC3041/3042) noted in excavation diary?

The only find is the distal end of a dark translucent flint blade that is not burnt.

7) Triangular flint from 'Bruce' cremation

Context [37]

Relates to find SC3006 noted in excavation diary?

The only find is a single, large (50 x 44mm), unretouched tertiary flake of unburnt Wolds flint.

8) Flint Knife – 'Cecil' cremation

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Context [36]

Relates to find SC3012 noted in excavation diary.

Reconstructed from perhaps a dozen calcined, spalled flakes this plano-convex knife measures 68.5 x 42.2mm. It is a particularly fine example which was thinned by a series of shallow, regular, invasive removals from all three edges of its roughly triangular form. It has a maximum thickness of 5.7mm, remarkably thin for such a large artefact. Such a heavily calcined and fragmented piece is entirely consistent with an association with a cremation deposit.

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Report on the Worked Lithic Assemblage from Shaw Cairn, Mellor Moor

	Context [47] or [48]	Context [47] or [48]	Context unknown, AL/AK 15-16	Context [34], 'Hector' cremation	Context [32], 'Pericles' cremation	Under context [18], 'Willie' cremation	Context [37] 'Bruce' cremation	Context [36], 'Cecil' cremation	TOTAL
<i>Chips/ chunks</i>	108	1	4						113
Flakes	360		56	10	2		1		429
Blades	13	1	1			1			16
Core Rejuvenation	2	1	1						4
Plano-Convex knife								1	1
Knife				1					1
Scraper: large, on distal end	1								1
Scraper: side	1	1	1						3
Scraper: misc.	1	1		3					5
Retouched flake		1							1
Utilised flake		2							2
Total	486	8	63	14	2	1	1	1	576

Table: 1. Lithic assemblage typological analysis

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Discussion

The material from the excavations at Shaw Cairn provide an intriguing collection. The cremations labelled Hector, Pericles and Cecil have been found associated with heavily burnt lithic assemblages possibly indicating that these were burnt at the time of the cremation. The scrapers, knives and especially the plano-convex knife are entirely consistent with the kinds of artefacts found in association with Later Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age cremation burials. Plano-convex knives are occasionally found as grave goods in and around the Peak District. At Green Low (SK 15075541) and Low Bent (SK 09206228) (Bateman 1848, 1861), Ribden Low (SK 07624776) (Carrington nd; see Barnatt 1996), Stanton Moor (SK 24686278) (Heathcote 1930), Roystone Grange 1 (SK 20355710) (Hodges et al., 1989), Roystone Grange 3 (SK 20355650) (Marsden 1982) and Harland Edge (SK 28916876) (Riley 1966) Plano-convex knives have been found in association with Early Bronze Age burials. At Harland Edge three knives were found in a small pit associated with two food vessels. At Roystone 1 the single knife was found in a cist, but a late Beaker sherd found by Bateman at the same site is of uncertain association. At Roystone 3 two knives were found in a cist associated with a crouched inhumation that had been disturbed by the insertion of a collared urn cremation. Marsden considered the original burial group to be 'near contemporary' with another inhumation found close-by associated with a fine handled food vessel. The latter had also been disturbed by a collared urn cremation being inserted into the mound.

However, the example found with the Cecil cremation is an outstanding example. Such carefully flaked, large examples are rare. The best parallel from the region would appear to be with the knives found at Harland Edge. Two of the knives (Riley 1966, fig. 11 no's 1 & 2) are particularly fine examples: no. 1 is of a similar size to the Shaw Cairn knife, while no. 2 is of a similar triangular shape.

In the Peak District it has long been suspected that such fine or elaborate flint artefacts were more closely associated with Beaker or Food Vessel burials on the Carboniferous limestone of the White Peak, and particularly in the area around Arbor Low (Bradley and Hart 1983, 191). There may be a broad association between high quality lithic tools and the landscapes surrounding large ritual monuments such as henges (Bradley 1984, 68-84). Yet the Mellor Moor site provides an interesting example of fine lithic grave goods associated with cremation burials well to the north and west of the Carboniferous limestone, and some 14km from the nearest known henge monument at the Bull Ring, Dove Holes. In this sense the finds associated with the Shaw Cairn cremations are interesting additions to our understanding about Early Bronzed Age burial practices in the region and their material associations.

However, the lithics directly associated with the cremations at Shaw Cairn account for just a small proportion of the total assemblage. Quantitatively the assemblage is dominated by relatively small, squat, tertiary and secondary

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flakes. Many of these would appear to derive from the thinning or retouching of blanks or tools. There are very few examples of blades and of core rejuvenation flakes, and there are no cores.

The presence of a small Wolds flint component, including at least one blade, a core rejuvenation flake, an end scraper made on a plunging flake from a blade core, and a very large flake (from the Bruce cremation but unburnt), is worth considering. Wolds flint is the dominant material for many Earlier Mesolithic assemblages in the central and southern Pennines (Jacobi, 1978; Radley and Mellars 1964; Myers 1989). The material identified at Shaw Cairn includes a small number of Wolds flint artefacts that are, typologically, more suggestive of a core and blade technology. It is possible that the construction of the cairn during the Later Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age has incorporated previously deposited Earlier Mesolithic materials into the fill of the mound. This would not be the first time that such a sequence of activity has been identified in this region (Henderson 1979).

If Mesolithic material was incorporated into the cairn during its construction this would, once again, only appear to account for a small proportion of the total assemblage. The absence of other characteristic Mesolithic artefacts, together with the paucity of evidence for blade cores and the presence of so many squat flakes is more likely to relate to Later Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age activity (Pitts 1978; Pitts and Jacobi 1979). The emphasis on thinning and retouching in the absence of a broader spectrum of lithic activity might suggest that the site was also in use during the Later Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age for some specialised or restricted set of activities prior to the cairn's construction. In this case it would seem likely that the lithics deposited during these pre-cairn activities form the bulk of the assemblage that subsequently became incorporated into the mound. The high proportion of burnt material in the assemblage as a whole also raises the possibility that the cremation pyres were located on or very close to the site of the cairn. Indeed, this may have been what was recognised as the "burnt area" from which so many calcined and heated flints were recovered.

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Charcoal

A number of finds described as charcoal were found at the site, some being isolated concentrations, and others wide spreads. Although a number of samples are recorded as having been collected, only two survive within the site archive. Two samples are stored on a cardboard box, each in a plastic sandwich bag. One of these would seem to be a sample of context [4], this being the blackened layer found across the site above the natural sand. Unfortunately, this bag is open, and a quantity of it seems to have spilt out. It is not known if the loose material relates to this sample, or possibly and entirely different sample. The second sample is more tightly sealed, although it is not completely clear where this sample was collected. A loose label within the box refers to the site grid reference AK9, and the date 11/6/82. This presumably refers to the sealed sample, although this may not be the case. No other finds of charcoal survive.

Other finds

Few other finds were made at the site, none of which survive within the archive. Those finds noted within the diary were:

- George IV penny, clipped and badly corroded, findspot unknown.
- Early Victorian 'bun' penny, clipped, findspot unknown, but possibly in row AM.
- Unidentified find: 'hollow tube, black lined, 3" long with right-angled projection', findspot in AQ15, in bright red sand. (Context [5]?)
- 1872 shilling, blackened by acid, findspot in AK15, in 'old stinking turf', found stuck to 1911 sixpence.
- 1911 sixpence, blackened by acid, findspot in AK15, in 'old stinking turf', found stuck to 1872 sixpence.

DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

Site visit, 15th March 2000

As part of the Shaw Cairn study, the site was visited by the following:

Norman Redhead

Graham Eyre-Morgan

Vic Mellor

Ann Hurle

The site was easily identified using the Triangulation pillar, although without this point of reference it would not have been strikingly obvious due to the extent of the excavations on the site, involving the removal of a large quantity of material, and the dense knee-high heather covering the site. It was impossible to discern the outline of the cairn, although many stones, which were clearly part of the cairn, were visible through the vegetation. The natural mound underlying the cairn, coupled with the remnants of excavation trenches up to c. 0.5m deep, make the topography of the site rather confusing. From analysis of the site record, it seems that the exact shape and extent of the monument were debated even in the later stages of the excavations. Survey of the site would enable any extant features to be identified, and, to some degree, the comparison of the present and pre-excavation topography.

No features, such as the kerb or the other stone structures of the cairn were discernible, and it is evident from the excavation diaries that much of this material was removed.

GE-M was strongly reminded of comparable Mesolithic sites by the contours of the hillock, and considered further investigation of the site as Mesolithic to be well justified. It was evident that the cairn sits on the south-east side of a large oval platform c. 70 x 50 m in diameter. A steep bank defines its edge on the north and west sides, but is less marked on the south side. On the east side is a bank and possible ditch, the latter showing especially clearly on the aerial photo (plate 3). Whilst this platform could be a natural plateau, it is more tempting to interpret it as a possible prehistoric enclosure site. GE-M was particularly reminded of the site of Harry Hut, just over 3 miles to the NE of the site.

A sizeable (c. 1m high) mound was visible just to the south west of the Trig. Point, and this seems to be a spoil heap from the excavations.

The 1975 contour survey identified a further possible cairn site c. 250m NE of the site, in the corner of a neighbouring field. An attempt was made to locate this site, although livestock meant that it was only possible to examine the neighbouring field. A circular feature was identified in the appropriate position, which was something of a sunken pond (used as a livestock watering hole), incorporating reasonably large pieces of stone, which was of broadly similar size to Shaw Cairn. This could relate to Joel Wainwright's 1899 reference. In the neighbouring field, a mound and possible earthworks were noted, forming another possible candidate for an additional site, although it was unclear to what extent these were natural features. It was felt that the mound was likely to be a natural feature, and no large stones were visible on this mound.

It was generally agreed that these features certainly have archaeological potential, and are worthy of further investigation.

DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION

Pre-cairn deposits

Analysis of the lithic material from the site (A. Myers, this report) suggests various periods of activity at the site, prior to the construction of the cairn. A small quantity of material likely to date to the Earlier Mesolithic was identified, at least some of which had been incorporated into the later cairn structure (and possibly also into cremation [37]).

In addition to this material, the bulk of the lithic assemblage from the site may date to a pre-cairn period of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age activity. Again, some of this material seems to have been incorporated into the later cairn structure. A large proportion of this pre-cairn material has been classed here as context [11], lying between a layer of 'humus' [9] and a layer of 'charcoal' [10]. This material was located towards the south east of the cairn, although it is not clear whether this relates to context [47] or [48] (or possibly both). These contexts pre-date the area of kerbing [26], although the chronological relationship between this possible feature and the remainder of the cairn is unclear.

Myers has suggested (this report) that the high proportion of burnt material within the assemblage raises the possibility that cremation pyres were located on or close to the site. Context [47], from which the material may well be derived, is recorded variously as an 'area of charcoal' and 'burnt area', supporting this theory.

However, a point which must be considered is the high concentration of lithic artefacts (both burnt and unburnt) apparently specifically in this 'burnt area'. If this material does represent pre-cairn activity, with lithics later accidentally included within a pyre or related feature, then questions remain as to why there should be such a close spatial relationship between clusters of artefacts from an unrelated period with (cremation?) activity.

Along with flintwork, a quantity of pottery is recorded at the site, and especially in context [48]. This pottery is described as 'very coarse', and, as at other points across the site, 'grotty pot'. Much of this material was thought by the excavators to be Neolithic, and it could be that pre-cairn pottery is represented, in addition to the possible pre-cairn flintwork, although the lack of analysis of the pottery means that its date cannot be proven.

A number of cairn and barrow sites have produced quantities of Neolithic material from the pre-barrow layers. At Wigber Low (Collis, 1983, p. 93) flints, pottery and animal bones below the cairn were attributed to a period of Neolithic occupation. Vine (1982, pp.79-81) notes two further barrow sites which have been interpreted as overlying late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age occupation sites: Barrow 1 at Aston-on-Trent (SK 422 291) is one such example, where the lack of stake or post hole, and the likelihood that the site was flooded, point to the use of the site as a summer camp: A late Neolithic/Beaker settlement is noted below Barrow 4 at Swarkestone (SK 369 295) (*ibid*). Here, numerous post holes were interpreted as domestic structures. Whilst it is not suggested that such a Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age settlement site existed at Mellor, especially considering the limited nature of evidence, the possibility should not be discounted that the site may have seen seasonal occupation during this period, especially given the presence of the quantity of probable pre-cairn lithics and possible pre-cairn pottery. A number of features at the site which represent episodes of burning could potentially represent hearth features e.g. [47] and [63]. In addition, features [44], [45] and [46] seem likely to be stake holes, although whether they pre-

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date the construction of the barrow, or represent some contemporary feature is unknown. Similarly, it is unknown whether stake holes discovered under Liff Low Barrow (Barnatt, 1995, p. 7) represent settlement or ritual features.

A 'layer of burning' or 'charcoal layer' [4] appears across the site, above the natural sand, [2] and [3], and as inclusions within the upper layers of this sand. This was interpreted by the excavators as representative of 'pre-cairn scrub burning' at the site, although a lack of compositional analysis of this material means this cannot be confirmed. If this layer is representative of such an activity, it is possible that this could account for at least some of the burnt lithic material from the site. If this material related to such an event, which could be proven to have occurred (by new excavation of a previously undisturbed portion of the cairn) immediately prior to the cairn construction, then a tantalising opportunity would exist for scientific dating of this event.

Layers [4], [5] and [6] are recorded as being underneath the cairn, although very little information is available concerning these, leaving their likely origin and extent unknown.

A particularly interesting layer [8] is described as a black greasy layer a few mm thick, and at a uniform depth of 0.45m across the site. This layer is recorded as appearing on, under and around cairn stones exclusively at this depth. The origin and relative dating of this layer is unknown, although the site diaries record discussion with the landowner, from which emerged the information that farmers consider heather to be a 'greasy' plant, although no explanation of how this could be related to the formation of the layer was offered.

Cairn construction

The major phase of construction evident on plans of the site seems to be the area demarcated by kerb feature [12]. This feature extends around most of the excavated areas of the cairn, being absent only in a few confined places. The kerb stones can be seen on the site plans to be carefully laid with the 'smooth' edge of the kerb facing outwards. At Wigber Low (Collis, 1983, p. 11) similar construction of the kerb was interpreted as implying that the kerb never formed a free standing monument, enclosing a ritual space. A similar interpretation might be applied here, and thus contexts [12] and [13] would seem to be contemporary. With the exception of disturbed area [41], possibly independent phase of construction [64], and the area around contexts [22] to [26] at the south east of the cairn, the infill [13] is broadly uniform across the site, consisting largely of cobble-sized stones, piled in a random manner.

At Snels Low (Marsden, 1976, p. 5), Wigber Low (Collis, 1983, p. 11) and Roystone Grange (Barnatt, 1996, p. 15) it was suggested that much of the infill material could have been collected from the surrounding land surface. Barnatt (1986, p. 82) highlights the dual functions of cairns as both funerary and aiding ground clearance, smaller cairns often being primarily clearance-related, and larger ones primarily funerary. Barnatt has speculated that these dual functions might be a reflection of beliefs linking soil fertility and the burial of the dead (*ibid*). Marsden (1976, p. 11)

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has suggested that at Lean Low, an element of quarrying took place to provide stone for the cairn structure. It is possible that this is also the case at Mellor, where quarrying is known historically less than 100m west of the site (Broadhurst, this report, O.S. map evidence).

In areas where no disturbance to the cairn material was noted by the excavators ([13]), there was an absence of material between the infill stones. This would imply that the original monument was stone-built, with no use of soil. This would increase the visibility of the cairn by discouraging vegetation across it, which may have been an important factor in its function. The longevity of the monument would also be extended by a lack of vegetation.

In the 'main phase' of its use, the cairn would have consisted of a (presumably raised) circular kerb of white blocks, c. 15m in diameter. This, infilled with small pieces of the same white stone would be highly visible over some distance, especially given the presumed (although unproven) lack of trees (see 'functions of the site'). It is not known whether the monument was flat- or round-topped. The 1975 contour survey shows a noticeable gradient, with the highest points towards the centre of the mound. This could indicate that the mound had a central raised area, although this could relate more closely to the proximity of 'ditch' feature [65] than the shape of the cairn.

A number of features at the site seem to be suggestive of a series of phases in the construction of the monument other than the 'main phase' described previously, and signified by kerb [12] and infill [13].

[56], [57] and [58] were identified by the excavators as possible kerb-like features. Whilst it is entirely possible that these represent such features, it may well be that the alignments of stone noted by the excavators were merely fortuitously-placed. Illustrations of the features do not give the impression of deliberately laid kerbing, certainly not of construction similar to [12], although the features are convincing as seen in the photographs. The features may or may not represent different phases in the cairn construction. Feature [56] would seem to lie almost directly above the section of kerb [26] towards the south east of the cairn. It may be then, that these features in tandem represent an event such as the repair of this section of kerbing (although it is not known whether [26] overlay [56] or vice versa), with a construction of different character to [12]. Contexts [57] and [58] seem particularly amorphous, although the size of a number of stones within these 'features' (c. 0.5 m long) could indicate their deliberate selection for some purpose.

Feature [27] has a more 'deliberately laid' appearance in the site illustration. This clearly has affinities with the outer kerb [12] in its construction. Some doubt remains as to whether this feature is the same as that which appears on site photographs labelled as this feature, with the photographs showing an obviously kerb-like feature of greater length. However, these discrepancies may simply be due to illustration of the feature before its full excavation. It seems entirely possible that this feature relates to an earlier structure at the site, this possibly being a smaller cairn, or even being remnants of the inner-ring of a ring-cairn. This feature runs almost parallel to the outer kerb [12], c. 2m in. When viewed in tandem with part of features [28], towards the west of the cairn, the possibility of an earlier ring-cairn can clearly be

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seen. It must be considered though, that the features illustrated here may be totally misleading, due to the difficulties associated with identifying features and phasing in an entirely stone-built cairn (Barnatt, pers. comm). However, such expansion at the site would not be unusual, as it is common to find cairns to have been built up over a long time span (Barnatt, pers. comm). A peculiar feature of context [28] is the isolated stone in AK 5/6 (see plates. 36, 37 & 38). Whilst this may well be merely fortuitously placed, it does have the appearance of having been deliberately balanced on two small, squared stones (plates. 37 & 38). If this does represent a deliberately-constructed feature, no explanation or parallel has been found, and the function of this feature is unknown. Feature [50] seems to be a distinct element of [28], and is likely to be a 'setting' for a cremation. As such, it will be discussed along with the other cremation-related features. The possible interpretation of features [28] and [27] as contemporary, and representative of an earlier structure may be supported by the evidence from the 1976 trial excavation. The illustration accompanying this clearly shows a marked change in stone size along the trench, and it may be that this occurs where feature [28] crosses the trench. This cannot be proven, as it has not been possible to accurately tie the 1976 trial excavation to the site grid system east-west. Another possible function for features [28], as suggested by the excavators, was their use as revetment to the rest of the cairn. Many of the stones, especially those to the north of the feature, were found to be at 45° angles, some embedded in the natural sand ([2] / [3]) (see plate. 39). At Whitelaw Hill, north of Bury (Tyson, 1994/5, p. 9), a 'terrace' was identified, where overlapping stones were interpreted as providing reinforcement where the ground fell away. In opposition to this suggestion, which was the interpretation favoured by the excavators, is the relatively shallow slope of the hill, which would presumably be the cause of slippage requiring revetment.

An area of 'tumble' [62] is recorded, outside the boundary of the cairn, to the south east. This was considered by the excavators to be fall-off from the cairn. Such movement, however, would require either a very steep slope – which there is not – or a very high cairn – for which there is no evidence (Barnatt, pers. comm.). Therefore, an alternative explanation is more likely. It is possible that this 'tumble' relates more to the ditch feature [65], which surrounds the site, perhaps being cairn material which was disturbed during the construction of the ditch (assuming that the ditch feature is later).

It may be that the proximity of the ditch [65] to the cairn meant that a steep enough gradient existed at the south east of the cairn to account for the 'tumble', and that the excavators' interpretation was therefore correct. The original dimensions of the ditch [65] are not known, but, from the aerial photograph, it appears to have been a substantial work.

Funerary-related features

There is little evidence to suggest whether the cremations at the site represent insertions into the cairn or are contemporary with it. It is also possible that some of the features may pre-date the cairn, particularly cist features [15] and [20]. It would seem likely that the majority of these deposits would post-date the cairn, and each represent isolated events.

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None of the deposits would seem to represent a 'primary burial', and there is no reason to expect to find such a deposit, surrounded by lower status satellite burials (Barnatt, pers. comm.).

All of the cremations were found within the southern half of the cairn. At Whitelaw Hill (Tyson, 1994/5, p. 16) a similar southerly distribution was noted, and a comparison was drawn with various Scottish and Irish cairn sites. Barnatt, however, has suggested that the southerly distribution seen at Shaw Cairn would be rather unusual, and that a number of alternative factors might explain this distribution (pers. comm.) Firstly, more extensive excavations seem to have been carried out in the southern half of the cairn, with some areas to the north apparently being completely unexcavated. It may be then, that further cremations still exist in the northern section of the cairn.

In addition to this possible source of bias in the results, differential preservation may be an important factor here. The soil at the site is noted by the excavators to be extremely acidic, so much so as to apparently virtually exclude worms and other forms of wildlife. At Harland Edge (Barnatt, 1999, p. 38), inhumations are noted not to have survived due to acid soil, whereas cremated remains have been found. Indeed, where a large number of burials are found, it is usual to find the majority to be inhumations (Barnatt, pers. comm.) and so inhumations would be expected to have existed at Shaw Cairn. If this is indeed the case, then a number of the artefacts found scattered throughout the cairn, including the lithics, may represent the remnants of burial deposits, rather than the accidental inclusion of pre-cairn material into the mound. The distribution of pottery found at the site largely spatially correlates with the cremations. Exceptions to this include [53] and [54], the former being an isolated find of Food Vessel sherds (excavators' classification), and the latter being the almost complete Food Vessel, which was found in a shallow 'scoop' in the natural sand ([2] or [3]), underneath the stones of the cairn. It has been suggested that such an isolated deposit, with no clear association with a burial, is unusual (Barnatt, pers. comm.), and it is possible that an inhumation deposit once existed in association with this find. Similarly, isolated Food Vessel finds were present at Wigber Low (Collis, 1983, p. 57). Here, it is noted that although it is unclear whether Food Vessels were purely associated with votive, rather than domestic activity, these finds probably originally accompanied burials. It is, however, possible that the finds could represent part of the funerary process whilst not being directly associated with a burial.

In support of the argument for differential preservation at the site, is the apparent total absence of unburnt bone of any kind from the site. At Wigber Low, for example, (lying in the limestone region) numerous rodent bones are recorded (Collis, 1983, p. 11), as is apparently normal in Derbyshire barrows (with bones being deposited by natural, rather than human processes). Whilst it is possible that this absence at Shaw Cairn could be explained by either disregard on the part of the excavators for such remains, or a lack of sieving etc. to collect these, it seems more likely that the high acidity is to blame.

Returning briefly to the question of the origin of the lithics found throughout the cairn, and in concentration as context [11], it is possible that their deposition could be related to some form of ritual activity. Parker-Pearson (1993, p. 78) notes flint artefacts from a barrow context, which have undergone microwear analysis, and have

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shown no signs of having ever been used. This might suggest that these artefacts had been specifically produced for inclusion in the burial, rather than being perhaps possessions of the deceased. It is possible that the domination of the Shaw Cairn assemblage by pieces characteristic of thinning or retouching of blanks or tools, (Myers, this report) could indicate the on-site production of flint artefacts, specifically for inclusion within cremation or inhumation burials. Of course, this could merely indicate a preference for knapping in a quiet spot with an excellent view.

McKinley (1997, p. 137) highlights the ease with which pyre sites, pyre debris and cremations may be confused. Therefore, it is possible that some of the contexts discussed in this report as cremations may not in fact represent such features. Future analysis of the bone from the site may provide some indication as to the likelihood of this, although the poor record of the nature of these deposits as within the cairn may make it impossible to draw such distinctions.

Some indication does exist however, that non-burial cremations may be seen at the site. Firstly, it is possible that pyre sites exist within and nearby the cairn. McKinley notes (*ibid*, p. 132) that of the c. 100 known pyre sites in Great Britain, many are Bronze Age in date, their survival being largely due to their position under barrows. It has been suggested (Barnatt, pers. comm.) that deposit [30] could possibly represent a pyre site, with a pit dug within it after burning for the burial. Context [47] may also represent a pyre site (Myers, this report), being described as an area of charcoal by the excavators, and including many lithic artefacts.

If the opportunity arises for examination of the bone from cremation [30], then it may be possible to speculate on the likelihood of this being both a pyre and burial site.

The excavators noted that the pottery associated with deposit [30] was in extremely small 'lenticular' sherds. They suggested that this could be consistent with the result of a process such as explosion within a kiln, which could broadly support the idea that this deposit may represent a pyre site. In addition, the excavators noted that pottery associated with [34] was remarkably similar to that associated with [30], perhaps suggesting that these deposits may be contemporary.

Analysis of the bones from cist [15] would be particularly useful. Here, in addition to cremation [19] discovered within the cist, cremation [31] was discovered underneath the base stone. Analysis might indicate whether these deposits were different individuals separately buried, or even separate phases in the deposition of the material from a single pyre. McKinley notes that pyre debris may be used in the backfill of Bronze Age graves (1997, p. 137). In addition, pyre debris may be placed in a separate pit or cist (*ibid*, p. 138). Such an interpretation might be applied here. It is possible that any of the deposits of bone at the site may represent such activity, perhaps particularly those which are larger and those which are recorded as associated with charcoal.

The features associated with deposits at the site are of particular interest. Cists [15] and [20] are clearly extremely similar in their size, shape and orientation, suggesting that they may be closely related in terms of dating and tradition. The east-west orientation of these features may be of significance. Dyer (1990, p. 85) cites

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examples of Beaker burials (crouched inhumations including grave goods) in Yorkshire. 83% of the burials were found to be orientated east-west, with males facing east, and females facing west. Dyer's interpretation of this related the sun in the east with males, and the moon in the west with females.

Feature [50] has been identified here as a probable stone setting for a burial. Whilst an extremely small quantity of burnt bone was discovered within this feature [61], it is possible that this is an accidental inclusion, and that an inhumation was associated with this structure. Comparison between features [50] and [14] shows, as with the cists, close similarities. Again, both settings are of similar size, shape and construction, and this may well indicate a link in dating and tradition. It is probable that the orientation of these features too is of some significance.

Despite the present lack of analysis of either the bone or pottery from the site, there is nothing to suggest that any of the deposits represent anything other than Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age cremations.

The fine plano-convex knife, found in deposit [36] is entirely consistent with Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age cremation burials (Myers, this report). Simpson (1968, p. 198) notes that, of tools and weapons, the most common association with Food Vessels is that with plano-convex knives. Food Vessels proper are divided into bowls and vases (Wardle, 1992, p. 43). The Mellor Food Vessel [53] is an example of the vase form. Of the associations between plano-convex knives and Food Vessels, most are associated with the vase form (Simpson, 1968, p. 198). Although there is no association between the Food Vessel and knife from the site, this would suggest that these deposits might be broadly contemporary or representative of a similar set of traditions. Vine suggests a date range for Food Vessels of c. 1800 BC – 1500 BC (1982, p. 94). In addition, Vine notes the find at Harland Edge, Beeley Moor, of two Food Vessels (of similar type to the Mellor Vessel) with two plano-convex knives, burnt bone and charcoal. A radiocarbon date for this charcoal is noted, of 1490+/- 150 bc (c. 1670 BC) (*ibid*, p. 33).

Features [44], [45] and [46] are described by the excavators as 'charcoal plugs'. As they are illustrated on the site plan as being circular, and c. 50mm in diameter (assuming that the illustration is not merely representational), they would appear to be burnt stake holes. Whilst these may refer to pre-cairn activity at the site (see previous discussion), the positioning of [46] at the corner of cist [15] could suggest that these features are related, perhaps with the cist originally being accompanied by a wooden structure of some kind. Dyer (1990, p. 92) suggests that wooden posts over an inhumation might be part of a 'beehive-like' hut, perhaps for offerings to be placed upon. On the Isle of Arran, Bronze Age huts have been found to be lined with wickerwork (Barber, 1982, p. 360), and perhaps these 'charcoal plugs' could be associated with a wickerwork structure. At Wigber Low, evidence has been found for the use of the cairn as an exposure platform, where larger bones were possibly removed after disarticulation had occurred (Collis, 1983, p. 96). It is possible that a wooden structure could be used in such a way, perhaps in deterring scavenging animals through making bodies inaccessible. Alternatively, this may represent part of a pyre structure, perhaps where supporting poles have been driven into the ground. (See McKinley, 1997, plate. 1, p. 131, showing an experimental pyre.)

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Areas of disturbance

The disturbance caused by the erection of the Triangulation pillar in 1940 ([40] and [39]) has already been noted. This event may have been the cause of the 'disturbed area' [41], although it would seem unlikely that this could account for the disturbance of such a large area, extending over 3m away. It is also possible that the disturbance might be due to unrecorded antiquarian investigations. However, it seems unlikely that this reference relates to Shaw Cairn, and rather to the nearby possible cairn site identified by the excavators. An additional possibility, related to this (again, see trial excavation report), is that Joab Brierly, who was found to be removing quantities of human bone from the moor, had discovered this site. The inclusion within the disturbed area [41] of cist [20], within which little bone was found (the only bone being under the 'fallen side slab'), leaves Brierly a suspect, although the account of Brierly's activities is somewhat outlandish. Alternatively, stone robbing may well have occurred at some date. The soil infill [43] in this area would seem to be formed from the mixing of a number of layers of peat, sand and sandy material derived from the stones of the cairn. Any disturbance would be likely to cause such assortment of the various strata.

Features [22] – [26] at the south and south-east of the cairn might merely reflect the incorrect interpretations of the excavators (Barnatt, pers. comm.) Whilst features [22] and [23] may be some type of 'setting', these, together with features [24], [25] and [26] seem more likely to be the result of stone-robbing (*ibid.*). [26] may be contemporary with [12], being just a less well constructed section, although the uniformity of construction of [12] in other areas might argue against this. The area of 'tumble' [62] outside this area of the cairn, and the ditch feature [65] may be related to these features, with the postulated post-cairn construction of the ditch perhaps being responsible for this disturbance. It is possible that these features, if deliberately constructed, might represent some type of 'entrance' to the cairn. Barnatt (1986, p. 78) notes a cairn with diametrically placed entrances north-south, suggesting an earlier stone circle, although this would seem extremely unlikely here.

Functions of the site

Many cairns are positioned where they would be highly visible, and are often constructed in such a way as to maximise this visibility (Ashbee, 1998, p. 6). The site of Wigger Low (Collis, 1983, p. 1) is not positioned on the highest point in the area, but the ridge on which it is built is the most prominent locally. This issue is also raised by Barnatt (2000, p. 65) where the frequent 'directional' siting of monuments indicates the significance of various landscape features, without barrows necessarily being positioned at the highest points.

In addition to prominent positioning, barrows are often constructed of materials which increase this visibility. The material at Shaw Cairn is largely a grit/sandstone which weathers to a very pale and therefore striking colour. This is paralleled at Wigger Low (Collis, 1983, p. 11) where the limestone used in construction weathered white. In both cases, the local stone was utilised, but it may be that factors other than local geology were of importance in the choice of building material. Dyer (1990, p. 65) discusses a monument found to have been coated in gypsum, which had been transported over some distance. This created a white appearance and it was

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postulated that this might represent an attempt to imitate monuments in the southern chalklands.

Dyer (*ibid*, p. 63) has interpreted long barrows by analogy with Mediaeval parish churches, as embodiments of corporate effort, clearly demarcating the extent of influence, and therefore visibility may be an important aspect to the function of the site. Hawke-Smith (1981, p. 66) also suggests the idea of local groups, territorially attached to single burial mounds. An element of the evidence used in support of Hawke-Smith's argument comes from the variability between burial methods which could be seen to represent social distinctions (*ibid*, p. 61). Darvill (1987, p. 103) has suggested that the spacing of barrow clusters in the Thames Valley every 4 km, and in the Ouse Valley, every 10 km indicates the spacing of social groups. Barrows are described by Barnatt, in his discussion on the relationship between Bronze Age monuments and farming areas, as places where communal identity and behaviour can be reaffirmed (2000, p. 45).

The recently discovered defended enclosure c. 1.6 km north of the site, of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date, is interesting in this context. Here, an extensive ditch enclosing an area of c. 5.5 acres and which was partly rock-cut, was found, finds of pottery within this indicating its continual use from the late Iron Age to the late 1st/early 2nd century A.D., with re-occupation during the Roman period. (Eyre-Morgan, 1999, p. 1) Hill forts are positioned on the boundaries of stylistic zones (Parker-Pearson, p. 109) and therefore possibly on boundaries between cultural zones. Whilst it is not argued here that cultural boundaries survived the time-span between the construction of the cairn and enclosure, it would seem reasonable to suggest that boundaries influenced by topographical and geographical considerations may change relatively little over time. However, the case for caution in avoiding topographical determinism to reconstruct past boundaries is argued by Barnatt (2000, p. 65).

In discussing the probably function of the site, an important consideration is that whilst barrows may include pyres and burials, not all barrows include funerary features (McKinley, 1997, p. 129). So, whilst one function of Shaw Cairn is clearly funerary, and therefore probably also ritual or ceremonial, this may not be its primary or sole function. In addition to the possibility of multiple functions of the site, it is possible that the site held different meanings over time. Parker-Pearson (1993, p. 101) has noted that the reuse of Neolithic monuments in the Bronze Age should not be considered to show the inheritance of traditions with unaltered meanings. Many cairns show evidence of use over a wide time period, sometimes from the late Neolithic into the Anglian period (e.g. Wigber Low, Collis, 1983), so this is an important consideration.

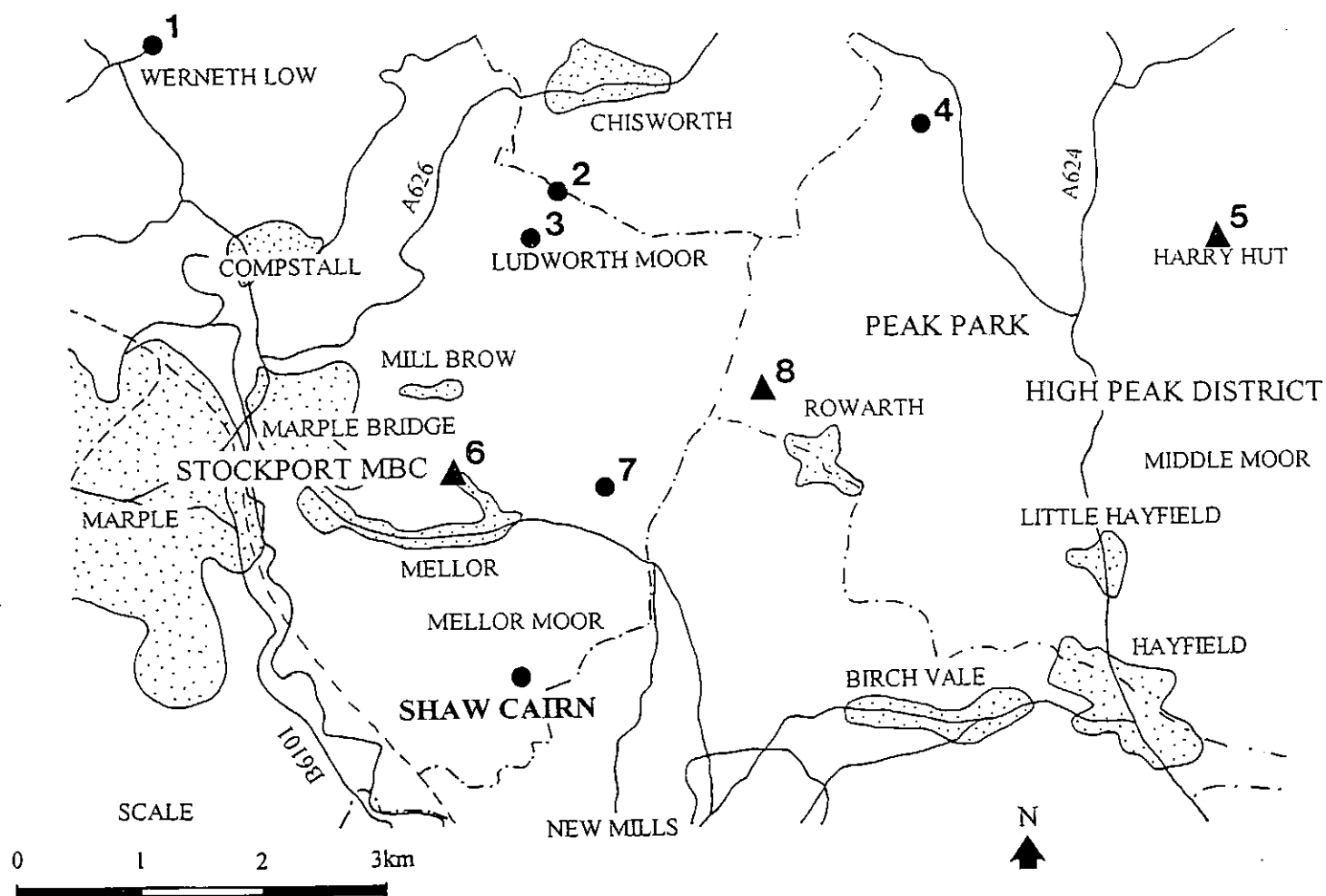
Returning to the issue of the visibility of the monument, the past vegetation of the site is clearly of importance – a monument surrounded by trees for instance would be of little value if long-distance visibility were an important factor. Most of northern England saw only small scale and limited woodland clearance episodes before the Iron Age (Bell/Walker, 1992, p. 166), and this localised pattern is evident in the Peak District (Barnatt, 1995, pp. 14-16). Although the vegetation surrounding Mellor is not known, Hawke-Smith (1981, p. 58) notes that 'at the time of the earliest agricultural colonisation', gritstone uplands in excess of c. 400m were some of the only open areas, where blanket peat had begun to push back forest margins. The position of

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Shaw Cairn at 327m would suggest that it is possible that the area was open land at the time of the cairn's construction, and the absence of any obvious damage to the cairn caused by tree roots would support this idea. Environmental evidence has suggested that blanket peat had spread across much of the Southern Pennines in the third millenium B.C., at the same period as a notable tree pollen decline at altitudes above c. 350m O.D. (Nevell, 1992, p. 45). The usefulness of the site, as a highly visible feature, is therefore feasible.

In relation to the visibility of the monument, an important consideration could be related to lines of sight between monuments. Each of the related sites shown on plate. 58 would seem to be visible from Shaw Cairn, although this conclusion is based on analysis of map contours rather than fieldwork.

DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION



Key:



cairn/barrow



other prehistoric site

1 Werneth Low 2 Ludworth Intakes 3 Brown Low 4 Coombes Edge
 5 Harry Hut 6 Mellor Hill Fort 7 Hill Top 8 Ringstones Farm

Plate 58: Location of similar sites in the area

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The site in its setting

Ringstones Farm, situated at SK 006 896, is the possible site of a stone circle, based on place-name and anecdotal evidence. (Barnatt, 1990, p. 84) Aside from the possible cairn site close to Shaw Cairn, the nearest comparable site is a newly-discovered possible cairn site at Hill Top Farm (SJ 399 388) (N. Redhead, pers. comm). The next closest comparable monument is Brown Low (SJ 9882 9092, GMAU SMR no. 5.1.0). Also round, this bowl barrow is somewhat larger than Shaw Cairn, at c. 20m in diameter. (Barnatt, 1989, recording sheets.) Despite uncertainty as to whether or not this barrow is referred to by Marriott, in an 1809, account of his excavations, it seems that signs of burning and burnt bone, presumed to be a cremation were found. (*ibid.*, Arrowsmith, 1997, p. 13) This site is associated with a second bowl barrow, Ludworth Intakes, slightly to the NNE, at SJ 9897 9131 (GMAU SMR no. 6.1.0). Again, this is round, and slightly larger than Shaw Cairn. Sketchy accounts from Marriott seem to suggest that the site was opened, and bones, ashes and an 'urn' were discovered. This site may also have had three concentric kerbs. (Barnatt, 1989, recording sheets.) Werneth Low is recorded c. 6 km NNW, c. SJ 969 929 (GMAU SMR no. 486.1.0). This cairn is noted by Marriott to have been destroyed in stone-robbing, and again was of c. 20m diameter, possibly with a kerb (*ibid.*) Coombes Edge, c. 6 km NE, at SK 402 392, is c. 13 x 10m, and is also associated with a cairnfield. (Barnatt, 1989, pt. 3, p. 36.) c. 7km SSE of Shaw Cairn is Sponds Hill, SJ 970 803. This is noted to be c. 15m in diameter, and to have contained a human cremation burial. (Packer, 1988, p. 15.) A number of additional barrows may be associated with this (O.S. map evidence, Barnatt, 2000, p. 16).

Most of these sites, in addition to Mellor, are located within the gritstone uplands, in areas classed by Barnatt (2000, p. 16) as potential upland settlement zones. Indeed, the enclosed shelves around Werneth Low, Ludworth Intakes and Mellor Moor are said to be ideally suited to prehistoric sustained settlement (*ibid.* p. 14). The site at Coombes Edge is the exception, being somewhat higher, but here it is suggested that the land may have been farmed, based on the fragmentary cairnfield surrounding it, although it is unclear whether this may be of funerary character.

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Summary

Shaw Cairn fits comfortably with the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age barrows in the Peak District, of which there are well over 500 known examples (Barnatt, 1999, p. 24).

It would also seem to closely related to other sites in the surrounding area, and is similar in terms of its size and location, and the discovery of cremation burials in several of these.

Those finds which have been dated from the cairn would suggest a period of use confined to the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age.

Mesolithic, and possible pre-cairn Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age activity have been noted, but the limitations of the site record leave questions as to the nature of this use unanswered. There seems to be relatively little activity at the site after this period, except episodes of disturbance at some time, at least part of which occurred within the 20th Century.

The excavation of the site represents a useful addition to knowledge concerning the nature of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age culture on the western fringes of the modern Peak District boundary, especially given the limited number of excavations of such sites using modern techniques.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Further post-excavation work on the site archive:
 - a) pottery analysis
 - b) cremated bone analysis
- 2) Archive deposition with Mellor Archaeological Trust
- 3) Trial excavation to determine the level of disturbance in:
 - a) centre of cairn
 - b) northern half of cairn
- 4) Dependent on results of above: a fuller research excavation to complement and build on previous work.
- 5) Investigation of oval earthwork platform on which the cairn sits:
 - a) evaluation using geophysics and trenching to test interpretation of ditch feature
 - b) topographical survey of platform and banks if 5a proves positive.
 - c) geophysical survey (magnetometer?) of platform and trial trenching
- 6) Place Shaw Cairn in its context through Mellor Hinterland Survey
- 7) Publication of results of the current project in relevant journals - CBA Northwest and note in the Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society?

Archive and Deposition

The material is presently held at GMAU, with the cremations from the site being held at the University of Bradford, pending their examination. On completion of this work, the archive will be deposited with the Mellor Archaeological Trust.

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Firstly, of course, John Clarke, Ruth Collier and Kath Lowe, on whose dedicated work this report was based and for braving the elements on Mellor Moor.

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Lastly, Ann Hurle, for saving the archive and finds from re-deposition in a late C20th midden.

In memory of John Clarke and Ruth Collier.

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APPENDICES

PAPER ARCHIVE

Appendix (a)

- Excavation diary in red ring binder includes around 85 photos.
- Field survey and report of trial excavation, written by Kath Lowe, John Clark and Ruth Collier. "*Field survey of the westward-facing slopes of the Pennines*", 1975. This report covers survey work carried out by the team at the following sites:
 - Brownlow, Marple
 - Cown Edge, Charlesworth
 - Hobson Moor, Stalybridge
 - Castle Hill, Maslow, Glossop
 - Mellor Moor, Mellor

A number of other sites are included which were not surveyed.

The section concerning Mellor Moor includes details of its present state, work done and explanation as why the team decided to excavate it. It also includes details concerning how the site was brought to their attention.

This report also includes a number of relevant plans:

- Location plan based on O.S. 1:2500 map.
- Location of area surveyed at a scale of 1:250.
- Contour survey results at a scale of 1:100.

Trial excavation report (1976) written by Ruth Collier.

A second copy of the survey report is within the archive

- Selection of notebooks. These include some hand-written diary entries and some sketch plans.
- 33 loose photographs in wallet. The negatives that accompany these are not connected with the excavation.
- Blue ring binder containing all other paperwork.
 - Registers of photographs, finds, samples and surveys for 1977 and part of 1978.
 - Notes from the contour survey.
 - Various plans of trenches etc. – these poorly annotated.
 - Finds drawings – Food Vessel and "Hector" pottery. Multiple copies of each.
 - Copy of Fred Broadhurst's geological report on the site.
 - Notes on theories about the site.

PAPER ARCHIVE

- Correspondence.
- Photocopies of articles of relevance.
- Information on Woodhouse End site and Arbor Low, much of this being correspondence with Gordon Rowley.
- Personal correspondence.
- Plans:
 - Covers most of site – shows cremations, cists etc. and extent of 1980 excavation.
 - Graph paper with numbers marked on it and trig point shown. This may well be the data from the original contour survey (1975).
 - Shows kerb between AL16 and AP10.
 - AH-AN 4-8 – shows stone features and orientation.
 - "Main working plan".
 - Illustration of trial excavation (1975) pencil original (also multiple copies in blue ring binder of inked-up version).
 - Plan of site – similar to "main working plan".

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Appendix (b)

Archive No.	Description	Date	Photograph / Slide	Colour / B/W	Scale	Direction	Other information
19..S1	?	?	S	C	cm/inch		Box marked 'burnt area and Neo. Flints' Same subject as 19..S3 and 19..S7
19..S10	?	1976?	S	C			
19..S11	?	1976?	S	C			
19..S12	?	1976?	S	C			
19..S13	?	1976?	S	C			
19..S14	?	1976?	S	C			
19..S15	?	1976?	S	C			
19..S16	?	1976?	S	C	cm		
19..S17	?	1976?	S	C	cm		
19..S18	?	1976?	S	C	cm		
19..S19	?	1976?	S	C			
19..S2	?	?	S	C			Box marked 'burnt area and Neo. Flints'
19..S20	'Fred's cist'	?	S	C	cm	E	
19..S21	?	?	S	C			
19..S22	?	?	S	C			
19..S23	'Empty cist'	1978?	S	C	cm	W	
19..S24	?	?	S	C			
19..S25	?	?	S	C			
19..S26	AN/O?	1978	S	C		E	

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Archive No.	Description	Date	Photograph / Slide	Colour / B/W	Scale	Direction	Other information
19..S3	?	?	S	C	cm/inch		Box marked 'burnt area and Neo. Flints' Same subject as 19..S1 and 19..S7
19..S4	?	?	S	C			Box marked 'burnt area and Neo. Flints'
19..S5	?	?	S	C			Box marked 'burnt area and Neo. Flints'
19..S6	?	?	S	C			Some purple discolouration. Box marked 'burnt area and Neo. Flints'
19..S7	?	?	S	C	cm/inch		Box marked 'burnt area and Neo. Flints' Same subject as 19..S1 and 19..S3
19..S8	?	?	S	C	cm/inch		Some green discolouration. Box marked 'burnt area and Neo. Flints'
19..S9	?	1976?	S	C			
1977S1	'Empty cist'	1977	S	C	1m	SE	
1977S2	'AM empty cist' (fallen side slab re-erected)	1977	S	C		SW	
1977S3	'AM - west', includes [56] and [57]?, c. AM 16/17	1977	S	C		W	
1977S4	'Cairn and ?kerb' c. AM16/17? [57] visible	1977	S	C		W	
1977S5	'George's cist'	1977	S	C	1m		
1977S6	'Disturbed cist'	1977	S	C	cm	W	
1978S1	'Cecil in trench wall'	1978	S	C	cm		
1978S10	Fred's cist	1978	S	C	cm	E	
1978S11	Empty cist	1978	S	C	cm	W	

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Archive No.	Description	Date	Photograph / Slide	Colour / B/W	Scale	Direction	Other information
1978S12	AN/O?	1978	S	C		E?	
1978S13	c. AM 16/17?	1978	S	C		SW?	
1978S14	c. AM 16/17, showing features [56] and [57]	1978	S	C		SW	
1978S15	?	1978	S	C	cm		
1978S16	?	1978	S	C	cm		Scanned onto CD upside down
1978S17	'Cecil during excavation'	1978	S	C			Scanned onto CD upside down?
1978S18	'Incline of stones in arc' c. AO11-13	1978	S	C	1m	N	
1978S19	'Titch'	1978	S	C	cm		
1978S2	'Titch'	1978	S	C	cm	E?	
1978S3	'Bruce's pit'	1978	S	C	cm		
1978S4	'Bruce's pit'	1978	S	C	cm		
1978S5	'Bruce'	1978	S	C			
1978S6	'Bones under Fred's cist'	1978	S	C	1m	N?	
1978S7	'Fred's cist', close up of East stones and inside of cist (includes Fred?)	1978	S	C			
1978S8	'Fred's cist, close up'	1978	S	C	1m	E	Scanned onto CD upside down?
1978S9	'Fred's cist, before surround demolished'	1978	S	C	1m	E	
19789.S1	Disturbed cist and stone alignment [27]	1978/9	S	C		W	

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Archive No.	Description	Date	Photograph / Slide	Colour / B/W	Scale	Direction	Other information
19789.S2	'Fred in box'	1978/9	S	C			
19789.S3	'Fred's cist' (close up of pitted boulder)	1978/9	S	C			
19789.S4	'Pink sandstone AM 13-14'	1978/9	S	C			
19789.S5	'AL11-12, spread of colour after clearing'	1978/9	S	C			
19789.S6	'AN/O after trowelling to top layer'	1978/9	S	C			
19789.S7	Spoil on edge of trench	1978/9	S	C			
1979S1	'Empty cist'	1979	S	C		SW	
1979S2	?	1979	S	C	10cm?		
1980S1	'Undisturbed cairn, AP/Q8-11'	1980	S	C		NW?	
1980S10	Possibly Fred II or Atlas cremations?	1980	S	C	inch/cm	SE	Annotation reads: 'Charcoal layer AE14'
1980S2	'Undisturbed cairn'	1980	S	C			
1980S3	'Undisturbed cairn AP/Q 8-11'	1980	S	C			
1980S4	'8/9 boundary AP/Q'	1980	S	C		W	
1980S5	'Undisturbed ciarn, AP/Q 8-11'	1980	S	C			
1980S6	'Kerb in AM/O 15-16'	1980	S	C		W	
1980S7	Possibly Fred II or Atlas cremations?	1980	S	C			Annotation reads: 'Charcoal layer AE14'
1980S8	'Kerb AM/O 15-16'	1980	S	C		E?	
1980S9	'Kerb in AM/O 15-16'	1980	S	C		W?	

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Archive No.	Description	Date	Photograph / Slide	Colour / B/W	Scale	Direction	Other information
1982S1	'Sail stone with oxo'	1982	S	C	cm	E	
1982S10	'Close up of sail stone'	1982	S	C	cm	NW	
1982S11	'Oxo cube, other side'	1982	S	C	cm	SW	
1982S2	'End of cove, AL 6/7'	1982	S	C		NW	
1982S3	'Cove, AL 6/7'	1982	S	C	cm	NW	
1982S4	'Cove before final excavation'	1982	S	C			
1982S5	'Stone cove before excavation, AL/M 6/7'	1982	S	C		W	
1982S6	'Cove before excavation'	1982	S	C			
1982S7	'Cove'	1982	S	C			
1982S8	?	1982	S	C			
1982S9	'Close up of 'sail stone' including 'oxo cube' stones'	1982	S	C		NW	
1984S1	? (includes Trig. point)	1984	S	C		E?	
1984S2	?	1984	S	C			
1984S3	?	1984	S	C		E?	
1984S4	Feature [27]?	1984	S	C	cm	NE?	
1984S5	?	1984	S	C	cm		
1984S6	? (includes Trig. point)	1984	S	C			
1984S7	'AG/H 15-16'	1984	S	C	cm	N	
1984S8	'AG/H 15-16'	1984	S	C	cm	N	
1984S9	Feature [14]	1984	S	C	cm	?	Orientation unknown as unclear from which side slides should be viewed.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Archive No.	Description	Date	Photograph / Slide	Colour / B/W	Scale	Direction	Other information
							Orientation north or south.
1984S10		1984	S	C	cm	?	Orientation unknown as unclear from which side slides should be viewed. Orientation north or south.
1984S11	Feature [14]	1984	S	C	cm	?	Orientation unknown as unclear from which side slides should be viewed. Orientation north or south.
1984S12	Feature [14]	1984	S	C	cm	?	Orientation unknown as unclear from which side slides should be viewed. Orientation north or south.
1984S13	Feature [14]	1984	S	C		?	Orientation unknown as unclear from which side slides should be viewed. Orientation north or south.
1984S14	Feature [14]	1984	S	C	cm	?	Orientation unknown as unclear from which side slides should be viewed. Orientation north or south.
1984S15	Feature [14]	1984	S	C	cm	?	Orientation unknown as unclear from which side slides should be viewed. Orientation north or south.
1987S1	'Kerb in AA/BZ 9-13'	1987	S	C		E	
1987S2	'Kerb in AA/BZ 9-13'	1987	S	C		E	
1987S3	Kerb in BZ 9-11?	1987	S	C		S?	
1987S4	Kerb in BZ 9-11?	1987	S	C		W?	

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Archive No.	Description	Date	Photograph / Slide	Colour / B/W	Scale	Direction	Other information
1987S5	Kerb in BZ 9-13?	1987	S	C		W?	
1987S6	Kerb in BZ 9-13?	1987	S	C		E?	
SC19..P1		?	P	BW			
SC19..P2		?	P	BW			
SC19..P3		?	P	BW			
SC19..P4		?	P	BW			
SC19..P5		1986?	P	BW			
SC19..P6		1988?	P	C			
SC19..P7		?	P	C			
SC19..P8		?	P	C			
SC19..P9	John?	?	P	C			
SC19..P10	Kath or Ruth?	?	P	C			
SC19..P11	Kath or Ruth?	?	P	C			
SC19..P12		?	P	C			
SC19..P13		?	P	C			
SC19..P14		?	P	C			
SC19..P15		?	P	C			
SC19..P16		?	P	C		W?	Writing on rear: HG38(?)2
SC19..P17		?	P	C			
SC19..P18		?	P	C			
SC19..P19		?	P	C			
SC19..P20		?	P	C			
SC19..P21		?	P	C			

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Archive No.	Description	Date	Photograph / Slide	Colour / B/W	Scale	Direction	Other information
SC19..P22		?	P	C			
SC19..P23	Food Vessel	?	P	C			
SC19..P24	Food Vessel	?	P	C			
SC19..P25	John, Kath, Ruth?	?	P	C			
SC19..P26		?	P	C			
SC19..P27		?	P	C			
SC19..P28		?	P	C			
SC1980P1	Food Vessel	1980?	P	C			
SC1980P2	Food Vessel	1980?	P	C			
SC1980P3	Food Vessel	1980?	P	C			
SC1980P4	Food Vessel	1980?	P	C			
SC19..P29	AP/AQ12? AM10?	1979/80?	P	BW			
SC1977P1	Circle around "putative pot"	16/5/77	P	BW		NE	
SC1977P2	Circle around "putative pot"	16/5/77	P	BW		SW	
SC1977P3	"Compass thing"	23/5/77	P	BW	0.5m	True N	
SC1977P4	9 + 10	23/5/77	P	BW	1m	NE	
SC1977P5	9 + 10	23/5/77	P	BW	1m	NE	
SC1977P6	Cairn	23/5/77	P	BW	1m	N	
SC1977P7	AN/API7 – two large gritstones	23/5/77	P	BW	1m	W + down	
SC1977P8	AM17/18	23/5/77	P	BW	1m	S	
SC1977P9	?kerb	24/5/77	P	BW	1m	SW	
SC1977P10	Up AM trench	24/5/77	P	BW	1m	W	

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Archive No.	Description	Date	Photograph / Slide	Colour / B/W	Scale	Direction	Other information
SC1977P11	AM15/16	24/5/77	P	BW	1m	N	
SC1977P12	AM15/16	24/5/77	P	BW	1m	N	
SC1977P13	AM cist, AM12	24/5/77	P	BW	1m	S	
SC1977P14	AM12	24/5/77	P	BW	0.1m	S	
SC1977P15	AM12	24/5/77	P	BW	0.1m	E	
SC1977P16	?kerb in AM16	25/5/77	P	BW	cm	W	
SC1977P17	Packing of west stone, AM cist	25/5/77	P	BW	1m	SE	
SC1977P18	Cairn material in AM trench	27/5/77	P	BW	1m	NNW	
SC1977P19	Carin material in north wall of AM trench	27/5/77	P	BW	1m	NW	
SC1977P20	2 nd kerb going round to S	27/5/77	P	BW	1m	S	
SC1977P21	2 nd cist with "Fred" in situ, AN/AO9/10	27/5/77	P	BW		W	
SC1977P22	AM trench	27/5/77	P	BW	1m	NE	
SC1977P23	AM cist – packing at foot of s. stone	28/5/77	P	BW	1m	E?	
SC1977P24	AM cist	28/5/77	P	BW	1m	SW	
SC1977P25	"John's Cist" + George in situ, AO12	28/5/77	P	BW	cm		
SC1978P1	AN/AO trench after trowelling top layer	18/5/78	P	BW	1m	W	
SC1978P2	AN/AO trench after trowelling top layer	18/5/78	P	BW	1m		

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Archive No.	Description	Date	Photograph / Slide	Colour / B/W	Scale	Direction	Other information
SC1978P3	AN/AO trench after trowelling top layer	18/5/78	P	BW	1m	E	
SC1978P4 (a) + (b)	AN/AO	19/5/78	P	BW	1m	N	Two photos joined together.
SC1978P5	AN/AO after additional day's trowelling	19/5/78	P	BW	1m	E	
SC1978P6	Fred's cist, AN/AO 9/10	20/5/78	P	BW	1m	S	
SC1978P7	Fred's cist, AN/AO 9/10	20/5/78	P	BW	1m	E	
SC1978P8	Fred's cist, AN/AO 9/10	20/5/78	P	BW	1m	N	
SC1978P9	Bruce's pit, AN12	21/5/78	P	BW	1m	N	
SC1978P10	Bruce's pit, AN12	21/5/78	P	BW	1m	E	
SC1978P11	Burnt area AO15	21/5/78	P	BW	None	E	
SC1978P12	Titch, AO13/14	22/5/78	P	BW	cm	W	
SC1978P13	Looking down on half excavated "Cecil"	25/5/78	P	BW	cm	Down	
SC1978P14	Pink sandstone in line (arc?), AM13/14	27/5/78	P	BW	cm	N	
SC1978P15	Line of pink sandstone in AM13/14	27/5/78	P	BW	?	E	
SC1978P16	Incline of stones in arc around AO11,12,13	27/5/78	P	BW	1m	W	
SC1978P17	Under base stone of Fred's cist AN/AO10	27/5/78	P	BW	None	?	

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Archive No.	Description	Date	Photograph / Slide	Colour / B/W	Scale	Direction	Other information
SC1979P1 (a) + (b)	Cairn in AM trench wall	1979	P	BW		W?	Two photos joined together.
SC1979P2	Pink sandstone alignment from AM13-AN11	26/5/79	P	BW	?	?	
SC1979P3	"Humic layer" defining boundary where cairn removed	5/1979	P	BW			
SC1979P4	Humic layer removed	30/5/79	P	BW	1m	E	
SC1979P5	Humic layer – to show profile	30/5/79	P	BW	10cm	E	
SC1979P6	Charcoal in AN11	3/6/79	P	BW	?		
SC1979P7	Humic layer, AN11, after cleaning removal of pink sandstone	3/6/79	P	BW	?	?	
SC1980P5	(includes trig point and trench wall)	6/1980	P	BW	?	?	Comment on subject matter doesn't make sense.
SC1980P6		6/1980	P	BW	?	?	
SC1980P7	AP/Q	3/6/80	P	BW	?	NNE	
SC1980P8	AP/Q	3/6/80	P	BW	?	N	
SC1980P9	AP/Q – no cairn except bottom layer of stones with lots of peaty soil	3/6/80	P	BW	?	NE	
SC1980P10	Kerb	4/6/80	P	BW	?	NW	
SC1980P11	Kerb	4/6/80	P	BW	?	SE	
SC1981P1	From AL7	28/5/81	P	BW	?	S	

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Archive No.	Description	Date	Photograph / Slide	Colour / B/W	Scale	Direction	Other information
SC1981P2	AP8	28/5/81	P	BW	?	N	
SC1981P3	View from trig point	28/5/81	P	BW	?	SW	
SC1981P4	AL8 cremation "Atlas"	31/5/81	P	BW	?	?	
SC1981P5	Kerb in AP/Q7/8	3/6/81	P	BW	?	E	
SC1981P6	Kerb in AP/Q7/8	3/6/81	P	BW	?	W	
SC1981P7	Kerb in AP7 – tumble on outside	3/6/81	P	BW	?	NW	
SC1981P8	Kerb in AP7 – tumble on outside ???	3/6/81	P	BW	?	?	
SC1982P1	"Sail stone" and "Oxo cubes"?	6/6/82?	P	C	None	?	
SC1982P2	"Sail stone" and "Oxo cubes"?	6/6/82?	P	C	None	?	
SC1982P3	"Sail stone" and "Oxo cubes"?	6/6/82?	P	C	?	?	
SC1984P1	AG/H16-17 (+ 15?)	30/5/84	P	BW	?	?	
SC1984P2	AG/H tumble	30/5/84	P	BW	?	?	
SC1984P3	AG/H15-17	30/5/84	P	BW	?	E	
SC1984P4	AG/H15-17 - kerb	30/5/84	P	BW	?	S	
SC1984P5	"Boat-shaped setting" AG/H15-16	6/6/84	P	BW	?	?	
SC1984P6	"Boat-shaped setting" AG/H15-16	6/6/84	P	BW	?	S	
SC1984P7	Kerb to E of boat-shaped setting AG/H 15/16	6/6/84	P	BW	?	E	
SC1984P8	AE/F17	10/6/84	P	BW	?	(S?)	

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Archive No.	Description	Date	Photograph / Slide	Colour / B/W	Scale	Direction	Other information
SC1984P9	AE/F17, "after "huzziker" where is kerb?"	10/6/84	P	BW	?	(N?)	
SC1986P1	Kerb in AH/G2/3	4/9/86	P	C	?	N	
SC1986P2	Kerb in AH/G2/3	4/9/86	P	C	?	S	
SC1986P3 (a) + (b)	HG3	4/9/86	P	C	?	W	Two photos joined together.
SC1986P4	AG5-6 showing tilting	31/8/86	P	C	?		
SC1986P5	AG5-6	31/8/86	P	C	?	W	
SC1986P6	AG5-6	31/8/86	P	C	?	W	
SC1986P7	AG5-6, facing "cove" and alignment	31/8/86	P	C	?	SW	
SC1987P1	kerb	1987	P	C	?	?	

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Appendix (c)

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
'Putative pot'	15/5/77	2000	Surrounded by circle of flat stones	Somewhere AM: AM17/18?		Later discovered to be natural?	2
'Putative pot' – one piece giving impression of being a rim	15/5/77	2001	Associated with charcoal 4000?	AS11		Could be peat. Found to be a stone?	2
Pieces of pot	22/5/77	2002	Approx. 0.5m west of 4002 - charcoal	AL11/12			5
Pot – 2 pieces	24/5/77	2003	?	15 or 20 cm below surface			6
Pot	24/5/77	2004	Resting on top edge of wedge-shaped stone	AM12, 15 or 20 cm below surface [16]?			6
Pot (one piece broken into two)	24/5/77	2005	In gap prised between 2 bits of flaggy angular sandstone	AM11 – nearly in centre, 15 cm depth			6
Pot (Beaker?)	25/5/77	2006	?	AM/AL11 junction, 15 cm depth		Very fine, thin-walled fabric	7

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
Tiny pieces of pot	26/5/77	2007	Close to flint 3003	AL13			7(a)
11 fragments of pot	27/5/77	2008	Close to fragments of bone	AL12			8(a)
Pot?	28/5/77	2009	Mixed in with George	AO12 [17]			10
Pot	28/5/77	2010	Found stuck to 2011	?			11
Decorated rim	28/5/77	2011	Found stuck to 2010	?			11
Pottery fragments including rim with decoration	14/5/78	2012	?	AL12			12
Potsherd	16/5/78	2013	Possibly bone in same spot	AL12			12
Potsherd	17/5/78	2014	?	AM12			12
3 pieces pot	26/5/78	2015	Cecil. Flints 3009,3010,3011,3012	AN trench [36]			15

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
Pot	27/5/78	2016	65 cm below ground surface (cairn 45 cm deep at this point). Found with flint 3014	AM/AN16/17			16
Food Vessel	14/5/79	2017	Depth from basic c. 30cm including 10 cm undercutting. Same as 2020?	AO/AM9		Tilted 45° towards east	17
Pottery rim	21/5/79	2018	Under and amongst stones in basic 30cm down from present surface Pot 2019? Is this the same item as pot 2020?	AO11 [2], [3]?			18
Decorated (?) pot and other pieces	22/5/79	2019	Pot 2018?	AO11? [2], [3]?			19
Food Vessel	22/5/79	2020	Is this the same item as pots 2018 or 2017? Pot 2019? Surrounded by sand, at least partly Contained charcoal	Base of pot 55 cm from surface AO11? [2], [3]?		Two thirds intact with decoration. Found in shallow pit scooped out of basic sand, loosely packed with sandstones.	19
Pot	23/5/79	2021	Flints 3018 and charcoal 4010	AM16/17, just inside kerb [11]? [48]?			19

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
Pot	24/5/79	2022	Joe 30 cm from original land surface	AL9, 8.7 m from AD boundary, 50cm from AL/AM boundary [30]			20
Pot – some with slash decoration	24/5/79	2023	Joe	AL9? [30]			20
Pot	1/6/79	2024	This is suggested to be associated with Joe but the given location is at least 2 metres away	AL13 [30]?			21
Pots – 30 pieces	1/6/79	2025	Joe?	AL10, 42-35 cm below surface, and "depth 30 – 40 cm in from AL/AK boundary" [30]?			21
Pots	3/6/79	2026	Joe?	AM10 [30]?			21
2 pieces pot	3/6/79	2027	Joe?	AM/AL9/10 [30]?			21
Pot	18/5/80	2028	Joe	c. AL10 [30]			22

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
Pot	26/5/80	2029	Joe, under turf	AL10, 25 cm from surface [30]			22
Pot	26/5/80	2030	Joe, under turf	AL/M9/10, 25 cm from surface [30]			22
"Grotty pot"	7/6/80	2031	Flint – 3029	AO16			26
Pot – decorated rim and other pieces	31/5/81	2032	Close to cremation Atlas. Possibly related to flints 3027, 3029 and 3030.	AM/N 8/9 boundary [33]? [30]?			29
Pieces of decorated rim	1/6/81	2033	Cremation Sandy (later included in Hector). Mixed in with bones. Also pot 2034 and flint 3031.	AL/AM boundary, mostly M in 8 [34]			29
Pot – decorated rim but mostly lenticular shapes 2cm long	6/6/81	2034	Cremation Sandy (later included in Hector). Mixed in with bones. Also pot 2033 and flint 3031.	Mainly AM8 [34]		Similar type to that with Joe [30]	30
Pots	30/8/81	2035	Mixed in with bones of Hector. Also associated with pots 2033 and 2034 and flint 3031.	AM8/7 boundary [34]			31
Food Vessel	30/8/81	2036	Hector and near a big stone	AM8 towards boundary with 9 [34]		40 cm below ground level	31

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
Pot	23/5/82	2037	?	On surface of open trenches			32
Pot – some decorated	7/6/82	2038	Where cairn material lies on basic	AK8 [52]			34
Pieces of Food Vessel	4/7/82	2039	Found between stones	Junction of AN/AM6/7 [13]		Seems to be marked on site plan	34
Pot – minute bits, inner face	11/7/82	2040	Beside centre side stone of "cove". Also associated with spelks of bone.	AM6 Beside [29]			34/35
Small decorated pot sherd	2/7/83	2041	?	Spoil heap			39
5 potsherds ("grotty pot")	20/7/83	2042	On basic sand	AL15 [52]			41
Food Vessel	22/7/83	2043	Under or in stones	AL/K15 [13]?	GMAU?	Many small bits, some decorated and including base	41
"Grotty pot"	7/6/84	2044	Throughout basic Charcoal 4026 Underneath Willie	AG16 [2] or [3] and under [18]			43

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
Pottery from "Pericles"	?	2045	Flints 3045	AN/AM7/8	GMAU		-
Pots	19/5/79	2046	In "disturbed area"?	AL/AM11 [41]?			18
Flint flake	14/5/77	3000	Lying on top of one of stones Possibly associated with empty cist.	AM12, 15mm below ground surface Associated with [20]?			2
Flint flake	21/5/77	3001	Between stones Kerb in AP15	AP15 [26]?		Small	5
Flint cortex	25/5/77	3002	?	AM/AL11/12		Tiny, with outer chalk cover	7
Flint cortex and flake from it	26/5/77	3003	Close to pot 2007	AL13			7(a)
Pointed grey flint	21/5/78	3004	Lying on grey soil (black layer on top of grey) 0.55m from turf level covered in stones. 10 cm away from 3005 at same level.	AO16 [51]			13
Flint	21/5/78	3005	Lying on grey soil (black layer on top of grey) 0.55m from turf level covered in stones. 10 cm away from 3004 at same level.	AO16? [51]			13
Triangular flint	21/5/78	3006	From soil Bruce?	AN12 [37]	GMAU		13

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
Flints	21/5/78	3007	Burnt area? 3008	? [11]? [47]?			14
Chert	21/5/78	3008	Burnt area? 3007	? [11]? [47]?			14
1 burnt triangular flint	25/5/78	3009	Cecil Pot 2015, flints 3010, 3011, 3012	AM/AN13/14 [36]			15
Flint	26/5/78	3010	Cecil Pot 2015, flints 3009, 3011, 3012	AN trench [36]			15
Flint	26/5/78	3011	Cecil Pot 2015, flints 3009, 3010, 3012	AN13 [36]			15
Large calcined flint	26/5/78	3012	Edge of Cecil Pot 2015, flints 3009, 3010, 3011	AN13? AM? [36]	GMAU		15
Flints	27/5/78	3013	?	AM16/17			16
Flint	27/5/78	3014	65 cm below ground surface (cairn 45 cm deep at this point). Found with pot 2016	AM/AN16/17			16
Flints	19/5/79	3014	?	Open trenches from last year – on surface			18
Flints	19/5/79	3015	Found on surface	AO/AN15/16			18

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
Flints	19/5/79	3016	Flints 0.3 cm from present land surface at junction between AL/AM 10.2m from AD boundary	AL/AM			18
Unworked flint	21/5/79	3017	In 'old soil line'	AM14 Poss [9] or [10] but not verified			18
Flints	23/5/79	3018	Pot 2021 and charcoal 4010	AM16/17, just inside kerb [11]? [48]?			19
Flint	24/5/79	3019	40 cm below present surface	AO14, near AO/AP boundary [11]? [47]?			19
Flint	27/5/79	3020	?	?			20
Flint – pressure flake?	1/6/80	3021	At junction of sand and gritty soil	AP17 [57]			24
Flint	4/6/80	3022	Charcoal 4018	AP15			25
Flints – flakes and cores	4/6/80 (?)	3023	Under ?kerb	c. AO/AP 15/14 under [26]?			25

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
Flints	5/6/80	3024	Junction of sand layer under gritty soil Charcoal 4019 (fewer flints at this level)	AO16, 15, 14, 13 [52]			25/26
Flint	7/6/80	3025	At mid-height level where cairn undisturbed	AP11.4 "i.e. 4/10 ths into 12" (?) [13]?		Found standing on edge. Possibly saw?	26
Flint core	7/6/80	3026		AQ15			26
Flint core	7/6/80	3027	Pot - 2032 Poss. Flints 3029 and 3033. Close to Atlas.	AO16 Close to [33] [30]?		Reference given is not close to position of Atlas	26
Flint flake	29/5/81	3028		c. 9?			28
Flint "knife"	31/5/81	3029	25 cm from present land surface. Close to cremation Atlas. Possibly related to pot 2032 and flints 3030 & 3027	AN8/9 boundary Close to [33]		Reference given is not close to position of Atlas	29
Calcined flint	31/5/81	3030	Close to cremation Atlas. Possibly related to flint 3029 and pot 2032.	AM8 Close to [33]		Reference given is not close to position of Atlas	29
Calcined flint	3/6/81	3031	Cremation Sandy (later included in Hector). Mixed in with bones. Also pots 2033 and 2034.	Mainly AM8 [34]	GMAU?		30

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
Flint	29/8/82	3032	"From last years cremations"?	? - Spoil heap			36
Flint flakes	26/6/83	3033	On peat, just above stones - brought up by root and insect action? Kerb.	AK17			39
Flint flakes	2/7/83	3034	?	Spoil heap			39
Chert?	18/7/83	3035	Beside a pudding stone	AK15	GMAU?		40
Flints - 5 pieces of flint-like shale	19/7/83	3036	?	AL15 (some in boundary with 14)	GMAU?		41
Flint	20/7/83	3037	Flint 3048	AK15	GMAU?	Worked? - roughly round with flatted top	41
5 pieces of flint - 3 worked	20/7/83	3038	Under flat stone lying on side	AK/AL boundary at 15	GMAU?		41
2 flints (tiny)	20/7/83	3039	On gritty soil just above basic sand	AL16 On [3] or [43] above [2] or [3]			41
Flints (tiny)	24/7/83	3040	Kerb - inside and outside (mostly outside)	AK/L18/17			41

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
Flint flake	31/5/84	3041	Willie?	AH15 [18]?			43
Flint flake	31/5/84	3042	Just inside kerb Willie?	AG16 [18]?			43
Flint flake	6/6/84	3043	Beneath cremation Willie	c. AG/H15/16 beneath [18]			43
Minute calcined flint	7/6/84	3044	Outside Willie's stones	AH17 Outside [18] and [14]			43
Flint from Pericles	?	3045	Pericles, pot 2045	AN/AM7/8 [32]	GMAU	Referred to as 3 pieces – only two pieces	-
Flint	26/5/80	3046	Junction of gritty soil and black peaty clay	AQ12 [51]			22
Microliths	25/5/79	3047	Just inside outer kerb Within humus and charcoal layer	AO [11]. [47]/[48]?	GMAU?		20
Flint knife?	20/7/83	3048	Flint 3037	AK15		Possibly a knife, roughly ovoid with working	41

Finds included below, with reference numbers 4000 – 4027, are finds of charcoal. In some cases, these finds represent distinct contexts, which have also been allocated context numbers. Others are isolated finds of charcoal, or represent inclusions in other strata. It has often been difficult to distinguish between these types of deposits from the diary entries alone, and it was therefore considered appropriate to include most finds of charcoal here.

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
Charcoal fragments	15/5/77	4000	Associated with pot 2001? Same as 4001?	From 'charcoally area' AT/AV11? [49]			2
Clayey/charcoally area?	16/5/77	4001	Same as 4000?	AT/AV11 [49]			3
Charcoal	22/5/77	4002	Approx. 0.5m east of 2002 – pot. From area of disturbance?	AL11/12 [41]?			5
Charcoal	27/5/77	4003	Under kerb stone	AM		5 cm x 10 cm area less than 1mm thick	9
Charcoal	28/5/77	4004	Found amongst Fred	AN/AO9/10 [37]			9
Charcoal	17/5/78	4005	?	AM11			12
Layer of burnt material containing charcoal	17/5/78	4006	On top of (natural?) sand	c. AM11 This layer = [4], [8], [9] or [10]?			13
2 flecks charcoal	21/5/78	4007	Bruce cremation	AN12 [37]			13

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
Charcoal	19/5/79	4008	0.4 m below present day surface	AN11			18
Charcoal	21/5/79	4009	Contained within basic?	All over site in white sand. Within [2]			18
Charcoal	23/5/79	4010	Pot 2021 and flints 3018	AM16/17, just inside kerb [48]?			19
Charcoal	24/5/79	4011	10.7 [cm?] beneath stones, lying on white sand	AM11, centre of patch 78 cm from AL/AM boundary [52], [4], [8], [9], [10]?			19
Circular charcoal deposit	24/5/79 (23/5/79?)	4012	On line of stone setting, 55 cm below cairn surface Possibly the same as sample 4013 Possibly associated with Bruce cremation and therefore charcoal 4007 and flint 3006?	AN11 Poss. associated with [37]?			20
Charcoally-woody sample	26/5/79	4013	Possibly the same as sample 4012 Possibly associated with Bruce cremation and therefore charcoal 4007 and flint 3006?	Poss. associated with [37]? AN11?			20

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
Charcoal arc 10 cm across	3/6/79	4014	In stones? Is this the same as find 4015? Associated with Joe?	AN10, appeared again 15 cm lower and 10 cm to the west [30]?		Reference given is not close to position of Joe	21
Charcoal "wooden vessel"	3/6/79	4015	Is this the same as find 4014? Associated with Joe?	AN9/10 boundary 22cm from AM [30]?		Reference given is not close to position of Joe	21
Charcoal	26/5/80	4016	Joe, under turf	AL/M9/10, 25 cm from surface [30]?			22
Charcoal	27/5/80	4017	Below white sand, and below sand line on adjoining stone	AN/AO at junction in 10? 9 cm below white sand, 4cm below sand line on adjoining stone [2]			22
Charcoal	4/6/80	4018	Flint 3022	AP15			25
Charcoal	5/6/80	4019	Flints 3024 (fewer found at this level). Junction of sand layer under gritty soil.	AO/AP15/14 [52], [4], [8], [9], [10]?		Charcoal layer 4cm thick in AO14. Photo taken facing south east.	25
Charcoal (sample taken)	11/6/82	4020	Lying on sand layer	AK9 [52], [4], [8], [9], [10]?			34

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
Charcoal	29/8/82	4021	In sand at old ground surface. In and on sand and between kerbs. Same as 4022, 4023, 4025, 4026?	AH/K 8/9 In and on [2] and/or [3]. Possibly [8] or [9] but not verified.		Small flecks and twig-like bits	36
Charcoal	29/8/82	4022	Specks of charcoal on basic sand. Same as 4021, 4023, 4025, 4026?	AG/AK line in AH 8,9,10 On [2] and/or [3] Possibly [8] or [9] but not verified.			36
Charcoal – collected	25/10/82	4023	On basic sand. Basic all over site, even between kerb and revetment. Under Marcus. Same as 4021, 4022, 4025, 4026?	Across site. AH7/8 On [2] and/or [3]. Under [29]. Possibly [8] or [9] but not verified.		Burning off of surface scrub rather than fire? 1 cm thick with wood chips.	37
Charcoal (sample)	25/6/83	4024	?	AL10			39
Charcoal	25/6/83	4025	On basic sand	AM11/12 Possibly [8] or [9] but not verified.			39

FINDS NOTED WITHIN THE PAPER ARCHIVE

Description	Date	Ref. No. SC...	Associations	Location of findspot: grid ref. & context	Present location	Other notes	Diary page ref.
Charcoal	7/6/84	4026	Pot 2044. Under Willie? Throughout basic? Same as 4021, 4022, 4023, 4025?	c. AG16? Under [18]? Throughout [2] and/or [3]?			43
Charcoal	10/6/84	4027	"ironpan on top of sand which had usual flecks of charcoal"	AE/F15/16 Inclusion of [5]?			44
George IV penny	17/5/77	5000	?	?		Clipped and badly corroded. Reverse gone.	3
Early Victorian 'Bun' penny	76	5001	?	AM?		Clipped	3
Unidentified find	5/6/80	5002	In bright red sand	AQ15		Hollow tube, black lined, 3" long with a right-angled projection	25
1872 shilling	2/7/83	5003	Found stuck to 5004 in 'old stinking turf'	AK15		Blackened by acid	39
1911 sixpence	2/7/83	5004	Found stuck to 5003 in 'old stinking turf'	AK15		Blackened by acid	39

NON-LITHIC FINDS FROM SHAW CAIRN

Appendix (d)

"Fred" cremation (context [19]) in large cardboard box.

Food vessel (ref. SC2017?). In several pieces, partially [badly] reassembled and glued in some way.

"Marcus" cremation (context [29]) in glass jar.

"Cecil" cremation (context [36]) in glass jar.

"Titch" cremation (context [35]) in glass jar.

"Atlas" cremation (context [33]) in glass jar.

"Hector" cremation (context [34]) in glass jar.

"Pericles" cremation (context [32]) in glass jar.

Pot from "Pericles" (ref. SC2045).

"Joe" cremation (context [30]) in glass jar. Labelling indicated inclusion of pottery.

"Fred II" cremation (context [31]) in glass jar.

"Bruce" cremation (context [37]) in glass jar.

Pieces of Sarah's food vessel. (Corresponds to ref. SC2043?)

Pottery from "Joe" cremation. Some treated. Corresponds to refs. SC2022 – 2030 inclusive?

Pieces from Food Vessel. (could relate to SC2017 – 2020 inclusive, 2036, 2039 or 2043)

"Neolithic pottery from burnt area and edge of cairn and pieces found '84". (ref. SC2044?)

Soil/charcoal sample (from sand AJ/K7/8). Labelled "from burning off". Context [4]? (Refs. SC4021 – 4023 inclusive, 4025, 4026?) Mixed with second charcoal sample.

Soil/charcoal sample. Labelled AK9, 11/6/82. (Refs. SC4021 – 4023 inclusive?, 4025, 4026?) Mixed with second charcoal sample.

Potsherds from "Hector" cremation. These pieces were drawn. Could relate to finds refs. SC2033-2036.

Small plastic case labelled "AM/9 15/16" containing two pieces of charcoal and one piece of pot.

NON-LITHIC FINDS FROM SHAW CAIRN

Pottery from cremation "Hector". Some treated. Could relate to finds refs. SC2033-2036.

"George" cremation (context [17])

LITHIC FINDS FROM SHAW CAIRN

Appendix (e)

Flint from "Willie" [18].
Found beneath "Willie", c. AG/H15/16.
Could be find ref. SC3043.

3 pieces of flint from "Pericles" [32].
This is actually 2 pieces.
Could be find ref. SC3045.
AN7/8

1983 flints from AL/AK 15-16.
c. 67 pieces.
Some of these may be related to find refs. SC3035, 3036, 3037, 3038, 3039. (These finds should add up to c. 12 pieces in total.)
Some of these finds mentioned in the diary came from either within the structure of the cairn, or were found lying on top of the natural. The location of others is not known.

Calcined flints from AN8 "Hector" cremation [34].
14 pieces.
Could be find ref. SC3031

Large calcined flint "knife" or "spearhead" from "Cecil" [36].
1978.
AN/AM13

AM/AN 15/16 "including burnt area flints".
8 pieces.
With sample below, but separated: in glass jar, in plastic bag.

Could relate to find refs. 3013, 3014, 3015, 3016, 3018, 3007, 3008.
3014: 65cm below ground surface (cairn 45cm deep at this point) found with pot (2016).
3016: 0.3cm [m?] from present land surface.
3018: found with pot (2021) and charcoal (4010) "just inside kerb".

LITHIC FINDS FROM SHAW CAIRN

3007, 3008: "burnt area".

On the plan of the site it appears that the area from which these find came lies underneath the kerb of the cairn, which would support the Mesolithic (?) dating of these flints. Possible associations with "coarse" pot (EBA or Neo?) could be explained by these dropping down through the gaps in the kerb stones at a later date.

Finds of charcoal appear in what the excavators refer to as the "basic" sand across the site, although there may have been more localised burning in this area.

AM/AN 15/16 "including burnt area flints".

Over 400 pieces.

With sample above, but separated: in glass jar.

Overall, there are seven samples contained within 6 bags and 1 glass jar.

In addition to these finds, more may be mixed in with bones in jam jars. On "Hector" cremation [34], labelling indicates that flints are included within the sample. This may prove to be the case with some of the other cremations.

Due to the quantity of cremated bone, it was not possible to find time to check this thoroughly, so more flints associated with cremations may be present.