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An Early Bronze Age Barrow and Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Barrow Clump, Figheldean, Wiltshire

Interim Assessment Report on the 2013
Operation Nightingale Excavation

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March 2014

archaeology

AN EARLY BRONZE AGE BARROW AND ANGLO-SAXON CEMETERY AT BARROW CLUMP, FIGHELDEAN, WILTSHIRE

Interim Assessment Report on the 2013 Operation Nightingale Excavation

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Summary

The Defence Infrastructure Organisation, with the support of Wessex Archaeology, undertook a second, five-week long archaeological excavation on the Scheduled Monument at Barrow Clump, Figheldean, Wiltshire, centred on National Grid reference (NGR) SU 1655 4690. Codenamed 'Exercise Beowulf', the excavation formed part of Operation Nightingale, a project which uses archaeology as a means to aid the recovery of soldiers injured in recent conflicts.

Earlier work at Barrow Clump by English Heritage in 2003 and 2004 revealed that the upstanding barrow mound sealed deposits containing Neolithic worked flint and pottery as well as a Beaker ring-ditch and associated burial. The Beaker monument was subsequently incorporated into a large Early Bronze Age bell barrow. Much later, in the 6th century, the berm and ditch of the Bronze Age barrow were the locations for a series of Anglo-Saxon inhumation burials. The primary aim of the English Heritage investigations was, however, to assess the amount and type of damage caused by burrowing animals, particularly badgers, to the Bronze Age barrow and other archaeological remains.

The principal archaeological aim of the excavations in 2012 and 2013 was to recover additional data from the site in the light of the ongoing disturbance caused by badgers and other burrowing animals and, in particular, to excavate further Anglo-Saxon burials which are most at risk to such damage. Further objectives included clarifying the construction sequence of the Beaker monument and Early Bronze Age barrow and establishing the extent of the Saxon cemetery. Thorough excavation and recording of the site, over the three seasons planned, would also allow the removal of the monument from the Heritage at Risk list.

Both the 2012 and 2013 excavations broadly confirmed the layout and sequence established earlier, and also demonstrated that badgers were continuing to cause considerable disturbance, particularly to the Anglo-Saxon graves. Nine areas have so far been excavated (four in 2012 and five in 2013), mainly in the south and east parts of the monument, linking with those excavated by English Heritage in 2003-4. In 2012 a further part of the Neolithic land surface and an additional short length of the Beaker ring-ditch were investigated, more of the Early Bronze Age barrow ditch was excavated, and an Early Bronze Age cremation burial and 25 Anglo-Saxon graves were recorded.

In 2013 a trench across the north-western part of the barrow revealed a well preserved sequence through the Beaker ring-ditch and mound, as well as across the Early Bronze Age barrow ditch and mound. It also showed that the Neolithic land surface in this area contained fewer artefacts than to the south-east, but a large pit, sealed by a cairn of flint nodules, is the first (probable) Neolithic feature to be identified on the site; it contained antler tools (a pick and a hammer), a flint hammerstone, a sarsen hammerstone and a few pieces of worked flint. Elsewhere, a further 21 Anglo-Saxon graves were excavated, all of probable 6th century date, bringing the overall total from the site to 59. The northern extent of the graves in the eastern half of the monument was

established, and further burials to the south of the monument were revealed, but the extent of the cemetery to the west remains to be determined (further excavation is planned for 2014). The Anglo-Saxon burials from 2013 comprise 17 male and female adults and subadults, approximately one-third accompanied by grave goods including weapons and jewellery, and four juveniles and infants. One possible group, without grave goods, tentatively identified in 2012 was confirmed by excavation in 2013.

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Acknowledgements

As in 2012, we would principally like to thank all the servicemen and servicewomen who have taken part in the Barrow Clump project (Exercise Beowulf) and made it such a success. We again achieved considerably more in archaeological terms than originally envisaged, but in 2013 we had the benefit of knowing what could be achieved given the exceptional results in 2012. As in the first season of the project, the enthusiasm of all who took part and the quality of their work means that the excavation has been carried out to a very high standard.

Some of the military personnel who participated in the exercise are acknowledged below, with others including Tyler Christopher, Jeanette Robb, Emma West, Richard Preece, Stu Gray, Paul Turner, Paul Walters, Kyle Baker and a team from 4 Rifles based at Bulford.

The inspiration for Operation Nightingale came from Richard Osgood (Defence Infrastructure Organisation), Sergeant Diarmaid Walshe and Corporal Steve Winterton, and without their involvement and commitment the Barrow Clump project, initiated by Richard Osgood, could not have happened. Throughout the project there has been support from a variety of organisations and individuals who have contributed in various ways to ensure that the excavation went ahead and achieved a positive result for all concerned.

The Ministry of Defence granted permission for the excavation to take place, improved access to the site and provided various facilities and equipment. The programme of archaeological work in 2013 was generously funded through Defence Training Estates (REES funds) obtained by Richard Osgood, with further support given by Care for Casualties and The Rifles. Funds for the open day and metalwork conservation were provided by Wiltshire Council, and we are very grateful to Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger for arranging this. In addition, Tracey Williams and Terry Crawford gave generous donations to the project and their support is fully acknowledged.

Landmarc administered the funds for the excavation and post-excavation work and Tom Theed helped with several matters in this respect. Tents, tables, beds and canteen/cooking equipment, vital to the welfare of the team, were provided by 6 Rifles (and the excellent catering deserves a mention here), Giles Woodhouse and Amy Stringer from Tedworth House, Frances Fox (World Wide Volunteering) and Mike Smith (The Rifles Casualty Officer at Peninsular Barracks) helped in various ways, and Wessex Archaeology contributed more generally to the running of the project through all its stages.

The fieldwork strategy was developed by Richard Osgood (DIO), who obtained all the necessary consents, and Phil Andrews (Wessex Archaeology), in conjunction with Jonathan Last (English Heritage) who directed the 2003 and 2004 excavations at the site. Scheduled Monument Clearance was arranged by Amanda Chadburn, and the project was monitored for English Heritage by Phil McMahon, whilst Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger monitored the work on behalf of Wiltshire Council.

Initial clearance of scrub covering much of the site was undertaken by Landmarc Support Services, and Landmarc also provided a machine and operators for opening and subsequently backfilling the excavation trenches. An exceptionally neat and tidy job was done by Andy Bray and Kenny Ball within the restricted space available, and we would like to thank Tom Theed for organising this work and various other facilities. David Trump of Natural England monitored the machine excavation to ensure that no badgers were disturbed during the course of this work, and also gave guidance on areas where damage to setts should be avoided.

The excavation was directed by Phil Andrews and Richard Osgood, with invaluable assistance from Dave Murdie, Steve Winterton and Rowan Kendrick (all of Wessex Archaeology). Captain Paul Johnstone-Armstrong helped with logistical support, and a number of others lent their archaeological expertise to help run the fieldwork and pass on their skills. Amongst the latter are Peter Buxton, Tim Elmer and Harry Buxton, all from the military. To these can be added Michael Heaton, Ellie Morris, Kathy Garland, Briony Lalor, Sam Nord, Jayne O'Connell, Renzo Savage, Natasha Brett, Dave Hart, Paul Hemingway, Melissa Conway, Catriona Gibson, Roger Collins, Sue Harrison, Emma Watts-Plumpkin, Pip Meek and Emily Vincent. We are very grateful to Jackie McKinley for her invaluable help with the excavation, recording and lifting of the burials.

Members of the 135 Indep Geo Sqn RE (V) carried out the GPS site survey and Damian Campbell-Bell (Wessex Archaeology) undertook subsequent processing of the data to convert it to Ordnance Survey co-ordinates.

We would also like to thank Rfn Rhys Davies for making a photographic record of the 2013 excavation, Sean Davis and his 'cherry picker' which enabled us to see the site from above, and Briony Lalor who photographed Barrow Clump from a Chipmunk provided and flown by Pete Ritchie.

Katie Marsden looked after the recording and packing of the various objects and materials on site, Richard Henry (Portable Antiquities Scheme, FLO Wiltshire) identified the Roman coins, whilst Kathy Garland and Roger Collins carried out the preliminary sorting of the worked flint. Geoff and Lesley Burr of the West Kent detectorists group undertook metal detecting at various times throughout the course of the fieldwork.

A variety of Wessex Archaeology specialists including Jackie McKinley, Phil Harding and Nicki Mulhall provided advice and training on site. Kirsten Egging Dinwiddy and Lynn Wootten undertook further training sessions during the post-excavation programme.

Checking and completion of the archive was undertaken by Rowan Kendrick. Tony Scothern processed the environmental and artefact samples, and sieving and sorting of the grave samples was carried out by several volunteers, especially Kathy Garland and Roger Collins. The metalwork has been X-rayed, stabilised and subject to preliminary cleaning by Gabrielle Flexer of Wiltshire Council Conservation Service.

The human bone and the finds not processed on site were dealt with subsequently at the offices of Wessex Archaeology by a dedicated team of volunteers and we particularly grateful for all their help in this respect. Laura Joyner (Wessex Archaeology) set up and looked after this part of post-excavation work, as well as co-ordinating various site visits and outreach activities and organising the open day. Sue Nelson provided help with the finds recording database for the project.

This report has been prepared by Phil Andrews, incorporating information provided by Jonathan Last in the introductory section and Nick Stoodley in the discussion. The grave catalogue was compiled by Briony Lalor and Roger Collins. Finds specialists who have contributed to this report are named in the appropriate sections below, and the illustrations are by Liz James.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 The Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) and Wessex Archaeology (WA) undertook further excavations on a scheduled Bronze Age barrow and Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Barrow Clump, near Figheldean, on the Salisbury Plain Training Area (SPTA), Wiltshire. Barrow Clump, also known as Figheldean 25 (Grinsell 1957), is centred on National Grid reference (NGR) SU 1655 4690 (hereafter 'the Site'; **Fig. 1**; **Front Cover**).

1.1.2 The barrow (scheduled as a bowl barrow; no. 1009697) is a heritage asset on the English Heritage 'Heritage at Risk' (HAR) list. It is in poor and declining condition (as shown by the Scheduled Monument Condition Surveys conducted by Wessex Archaeology in 2005 and 2010), threatened by continued and extensive burrowing by badgers.

1.1.3 The barrow and cemetery were investigated in 2003 and 2004 as part of a wider English Heritage (EH) project to examine the nature and extent of the damage caused by burrowing animals (Last 2004 and 2005). This investigation also informed a joint EH and DIO (formerly Defence Estates) project to design methods of protection for archaeological sites against burrowing animals and to monitor the success of implemented regimes. This also formed part of the Ministry of Defence's examination of its obligations under 'Heritage at Risk', and the English Heritage National Heritage Protection Plan (NHPP) 2011 has recently considered the importance of studying the effects of burrowing animals.

1.1.4 From 2003 protection measures were installed on the Site in an attempt to exclude the badgers and improve the condition of the monument. However, badgers subsequently tunnelled beneath the mesh of the chainlink exclusion fence, which was tampered with (and repaired, at considerable cost) on several occasions, and the badger sett grew in area since initial work by EH. Site visits at various times since November 2011 by the DIO and members of the Bulford Conservation Group have resulted in the discovery of an Anglo-Saxon spearhead and disturbed human remains in the spoil cast out from recently dug sett entrances. The chainlink exclusion fence was removed prior to the excavation in 2012, following further tampering and its failure to exclude badgers from the site.

1.1.5 Tampering with the fence, badger gates etc appears not to be associated with any nighthawking activity, though the known presence of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery (see below) renders the Site vulnerable to illicit metal-detecting.

1.1.6 Therefore, given the failure of protection measures at Barrow Clump, it was felt that resources for such measures would be better targeted at sites with a more realistic chance of successful long-term preservation. At Barrow Clump, the rapid and inevitable continuous destruction of the monument has led to the conclusion that excavation was the only viable solution, with the existing form of the barrow being subsequently re-created.

1.1.7 The excavations at Barrow Clump in the summers of 2012 and 2013 provided an ideal subject for Operation Nightingale, a project which has been developed by Sgt Diarmaid Walshe and Richard Osgood (Senior Historic Advisor, DIO) to use archaeology as a means to aid the recovery of troops wounded in Afghanistan and Iraq. In particular, there is a close correlation between some of the skills required by the modern soldier and those of the professional archaeologist, for example surveying, geophysics, ground scrutiny, site and team management, mapping, navigation and the physical ability to cope with hard manual work in often inclement weather conditions. A pilot project in 2011 focussed on the early Iron Age deposits at East Chisenbury on Salisbury Plain, with follow-up work based around placements within the commercial sector of cultural heritage organisations, including Wessex Archaeology (Walshe *et al*. 2012). At Barrow Clump, soldiers form an integral part of the excavation team which is led by professional archaeologists (**Back Cover**).

1.2 The site

1.2.1 The Site is located on the Salisbury Plain Training Area (SPTA), within Figheldean parish, *c*. 6km north-east of Stonehenge (**Fig. 1**). It lies east of the village of Ablington, about 1km from the River Avon and on a slight spur at a height of *c*. 110m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The ground slopes gently down from east to west towards the river, whilst to the north it slopes somewhat more steeply into a small dry valley.

1.2.2 The British Geological Survey map for the area (1:50,000 Solid and Drift Series, sheet 282) indicates that the underlying geology of the Site consists of Upper Chalk.

1.2.3 The surrounding area comprises arable and pasture fields, but Barrow Clump itself is covered by a number of mature beech trees and sycamores, perhaps a remnant of a late 18th century plantation. There are several sycamores on what survives of the barrow mound, though others were felled in 2003 prior to the start of English Heritage fieldwork on the Site.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The 'Barrow Clump group', comprising at least 20 round barrows / ring-ditches (**Front Cover**), is one of a number of (mostly plough-levelled) barrow cemeteries on the slopes above the settlements on the east bank of the River Avon (McComish *et al*. 2002, 46). Only a single earthwork survives of this group, within Barrow Clump itself, and this example (Figheldean 25; F25) (Goddard 1913; Grinsell 1957), was the Site of the 2003-4 and 2012 excavation.

2.1.2 The first record of F25 is on Andrews and Drury's map of 1772 where it is named as the 'Circencutt Barrow', the absence of any others in the vicinity suggesting that they had been levelled by this date.

2.2 Investigations pre-2003 / 2004

2.2.1 At the end of the 19th century, shortly before the land was sold to the War Office, a number of prehistoric barrows on Brigmerston and Syrencot Downs (including F25), along with others near Bulford, were investigated by Lt-Col William Hawley. At F25 he found a flexed inhumation of an old man with a Beaker and flint knife, as well as four secondary burials (three adults and an infant) associated with a Food Vessel (Hawley 1910; Newall 1929). There is little published information about the extent of Hawley's excavation, but the results of the recent investigations (which showed no evidence of previous

investigation in the south-western part of the mound) and the fact that he did not record any Anglo-Saxon graves suggests that Hawley's work focused on a small area within the central (and possibly north-eastern) part of the mound (see below).

2.2.2 Hawley (1910, 623) also notes of F25 that:

'It had been partly destroyed and some of the oldest villagers remember much of the earth being taken from it and spread over the land near by. I should not be surprised if an attempt had been made then to explore it, as it had been much disturbed and rabbits had been at work on it also.'

2.2.3 No further archaeological took place until 2003, but finds brought to the surface as a result of animal activity include a Saxon spearhead found in 1935 (Grinsell 1957, 175) and the human remains and a further spearhead recovered more recently.

2.3 English Heritage investigations 2003 / 2004

2.3.1 Investigations undertaken in 2003-4 by EH comprised an initial geophysical survey, followed by a trial excavation, and then a subsequent phase of topographic survey, further geophysical survey and more extensive excavation (Last 2006).

2.3.2 A fluxgate magnetometer survey was undertaken in August – October 2003 to map the remains of the plough-levelled barrows (previously recorded from aerial photographs) in the vicinity of Barrow Clump. This proved very successful and revealed up to 20 ring-ditches of a variety of forms and sizes, a series of linear boundary ditches and a curving alignment of pits. Two areas were also investigated by magnetometer within Barrow Clump itself, one in 2003 on the north-west side to locate a further plough-flattened barrow prior to trial excavation (see below), and the other in 2004 during excavation in an attempt to locate the ditch of F25 and define the extent of the Anglo-Saxon cemetery. However, geophysical survey of the latter area proved unsuccessful due to the quantity of recently-deposited ferrous material on the Site.

2.3.3 The trial excavation (trench A) in 2003 of the ring-ditch recorded in the magnetometer survey (and on earlier aerial photographs) revealed a section of what was interpreted as the inner ditch of the barrow and several undated (but assumed to be prehistoric) pits.

2.3.4 A topographic survey of the mound of F25 was undertaken prior to excavation commencing in 2003. Although its full extent was difficult to define, particularly around the southern and eastern sides, it was thought to have had a diameter of 40 - 45m and a surviving height of 1.3m. No trace of a surrounding ditch survived, but an arc of trees on the west side and a concentration of animal burrows some 20-25m from the centre of the mound hinted at its location, confirming the estimated diameter of 40-50m (**Fig. 1**).

2.3.5 Excavations on F25 began in 2003 and continued in 2004, following the removal of some of the trees on the mound and the monitoring of badger activity. Four trenches (B-E) were laid out in radial fashion around the south-western half of F25 (**Fig. 1**), with the aim of eventually excavating the whole of the southern half of the mound. However, the complexity of the site and the better than expected preservation of surviving deposits meant that excavation was confined to these four trenches, anticipating that the remainder of the mound would be subject to protection measures that would prevent further damage by burrowing animals. Altogether, the four trenches totalled approximately 400m² in area, though less than 350m² were fully excavated.

2.3.6 Sealed beneath the surviving mound material was an earlier, Neolithic occupation site, represented by large numbers of struck and burnt flints and a few sherds of Middle Neolithic Peterborough ware, which dates the activity to the centuries around 3000BC. This horizon had generally suffered quite badly from animal disturbance, no doubt infiltrating the softer ground of the turf and soil core of the overlying mound.

2.3.7 A Beaker burial (in trench B) on the edge of the mound marked the earliest Bronze Age activity (see **Fig. 2**), and comprised a child surrounded by flint nodules and accompanied by a Beaker. A small ring-ditch at the centre of but pre-dating the mound may have surrounded another burial, probably that excavated by Hawley in the late 19th century (see above).

2.3.8 Excavation of the mound and surrounding ring-ditch indicated a date of construction in the first half of the second millennium BC, and also showed that the monument was a bell barrow rather than a bowl barrow as had previously been thought. A berm approximately 7m wide separated the mound (which had subsequently spread) from the ring-ditch which was *c*. 50m in diameter, 3 – 4m wide and 1m deep. No burials were found that were contemporary with the construction of the bell barrow.

2.3.9 A small quantity of Late Iron Age / Romano-British pottery came from the upper fills of the ring-ditch and there is sufficient to suggest the possibility of occupation in the vicinity at this time.

2.3.10 Around AD 500 the Bronze Age barrow became the focus for Anglo-Saxon burial with graves, on various alignments, cut into the ditch fills and berm area. The soft grave fills had proved particularly attractive to burrowing animals which had disturbed or damaged a number of the burials. A total of 12 inhumation graves (containing 13 individuals) was excavated (see **Figs 2** and **3**), and most contained grave-goods, many of copper alloy or iron, but glass, amber and a single coral bead were also present. The copper alloy objects include a range of brooches (12 in all, including two pairs of saucer brooches, a great square-headed brooch and three Romano-British examples), two cosmetic brushes, several other personal or toilet items, and the bindings for possibly one or more small cups, whilst the ironwork includes knives, buckles, two spearheads, a shield boss and a rare horse-bit. The range of artefacts is generally typical of an assemblage from an Early Saxon cemetery in central southern England, in this case with fairly limited connections beyond the local area (though a silver alloy spoon hints at wider links). However, a variety of wealth is represented, reflected in the varying quantity and quality of grave goods deposited in individual graves. One grave in particular, that of a woman containing the square-headed brooch, one of the pairs of saucer brooches, a necklace, the spoon and the horse-bit, indicate an individual of relatively high status.

2.3.11 The analysis of the 2003-2004 work has been undertaken, though not yet published, but a detailed interim report has been prepared which includes finds and environmental data (Last 2006) and investigative conservation of the Anglo-Saxon metalwork has been completed (Peacock 2007).

2.4 Operation Nightingale investigation 2012

2.4.1 The Operation Nightingale excavations at Barrow Clump commenced with a six-week long excavation in June and July 2012. Four areas were excavated (trenches 1-4), mainly in the south-eastern part of the monument, linking with those excavated in 2003-4. The 2012 excavations broadly confirmed the layout and sequence established earlier, and also demonstrated that badgers were continuing to cause considerable disturbance, particularly to the Anglo-Saxon graves.

2.4.2 A further part of the Neolithic land surface was investigated and this produced a small assemblage of Early Neolithic pottery and worked flint. An additional short length of the Beaker ring-ditch was excavated, and cut into the upper fills were several stake-holes forming part of a hitherto unrecognised stake circle. More of the Early Bronze Age barrow ditch was excavated and this showed further evidence of having been recut, while inserted into into the chalk-capped turf mound was a cremation burial, comprising two individuals, accompanied by a bone pin, a bone bead, and possibly part of a Beaker wristguard re-used as a pendant and/or whetstone.

2.4.3 Twenty-five Anglo-Saxon graves were excavated in 2012, all of probable 6th century date, bringing the overall total of burials to 37. The graves appeared to be mainly confined to the southern half of the barrow, and comprised male and female adults and subadults, many accompanied by weapons or jewellery, as well as juveniles and infants. Of particular note was one of the male burials which was accompanied by a spearhead and a very well preserved bucket. Several possible groupings were tentatively identified within the cemetery, including one cluster of burials without grave goods.

2.4.4 A detailed interim summary of the results of the 2012 excavation was published in early 2013 (Wessex Archaeology 2013).

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 General aims and objectives

3.1.1 The 2012 and 2013 archaeological excavations addressed a number of the Archaeological Research Strategies identified in the South West Archaeological Research Framework (Webster 2008) and, although it lies outside the Stonehenge World Heritage Site, the Barrow Clump site is relevant to a number of research issues identified for the Stonehenge landscape (Darvill 2005, section 3).

3.1.2 The general aims of the excavation were to:

- Recover additional archaeological data from the Site prior to further disturbance by badgers and other burrowing animals;
- Remove the monument from the EH HAR list;
- Recover more data about the nature of damage to archaeological monuments by burrowing animals;
- Determine whether specific predictions can be made on the patterning, density and disturbance of deposits and burials across the entire Site based on the evidence from the trenches excavated in 2003-4;
- Restore the mound to a more recognisable shape following the completion of excavations;
- Provide a suitable project for ‘Operation Nightingale’, in that the technical and social skills involved in field archaeology are similar in various ways to those required by the modern service person, and involvement in the Barrow Clump project can help in the recovery and skill development of service personel participating.

3.2 Specific aims and objectives

3.2.1 The more specific aims of the archaeological investigation were to:

- Establish the extent and survival of the pre-mound Neolithic horizon and recover further finds and environmental data which will help date and characterise this activity;
- Identify and recover any further Beaker as well as Bronze Age burials;

- Clarify the construction sequence of the Beaker monument site and barrow;
- Establish the extent of the Saxon cemetery. For example, does it extend to the northern half of the barrow, or is it restricted to the ditch and berm on the southern side? Is there any indication that it might extend further away from the barrow to the south and south-west?
- Recover further data from the Saxon cemetery, specifically from the human remains, the associated grave goods, and the extent, arrangement and nature of the graves. This data will contribute to our understanding of the use of earlier monuments for Saxon burial (eg Williams 1997; Osgood 1999); the age, sex, health and social structure of the people who were buried there; and allow comparison with other Wiltshire cemeteries, where the burial rite is fairly regular and structured in the 6th century;
- Clarify the location and extent of the excavations undertaken by Hawley at the end of the 19th century.

3.3 Legislative and related background

3.3.1 The site of Barrow Clump is a Scheduled Monument (1009697) and although Ministry of Defence (Crown) land is still currently exempt from SM legislation, it continues to follow a parallel process (circular 02/06). As such, Crown obtained Scheduled Monument Clearance for the archaeological excavation. The monument, being Scheduled, is also denoted as being a 'sensitive' area on the Historic Environment Team sensitivity layers of the GIS system developed between the Ministry of Defence, EH and Wiltshire County Council over many years. Barrow Clump does not lie within the Stonehenge World Heritage Site.

3.3.2 As with any digging on the SPTA, the proposals had to pass through an internal consent process (a TAEM 100/1 form) to avoid conflict with other site aspirations which encompass military, farming, forestry and nature conservation matters. Barrow Clump does not lie within the Salisbury Plain Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI) boundary.

3.4 Excavation strategy

3.4.1 Archaeological excavations focussed on the known area of Saxon burials within the southern half of the Site and, in particular, the berm and ditch areas of the mound where the 2003, 2004 and 2012 excavations had shown graves to be concentrated. It is clear from the earlier work that the Saxon burials are suffering particularly badly from animal disturbance, and because of this and the quality of some of the grave goods these burials were treated as a priority for recording and recovery. However, other aspects of the Site, in particular the Neolithic horizon, the Beaker ring-ditch and the ditch and mound of the Early Bronze Age barrow, were also excavated and recorded as appropriate where they were subject to or threatened by animal disturbance. The project intends to excavate approximately two-thirds of the Site over a period of three years, with one summer excavation season in each year. This will include all the readily available areas of Anglo-Saxon burials suffering from badger disturbance (ie excluding those areas with mature trees, principally the beech trees along the west side).

3.4.2 In 2013 five areas were excavated with a total area of approximately 345m²; by way of comparison, approximately 350m² were excavated in 2003-4 and 330m² in 2012. Three of the 2013 areas (trenches 5, 7 and 8) lay between the previously excavated trenches (**Fig. 2**), and together these cover approximately 260m². A radial trench approximately 27m long and 2m wide (55m²) was also excavated (trench 6), going from the centre and across the north-west side of the mound, in an area not previously investigated, in order to help

confirm the apparent absence of Saxon burials in this part of the mound, provide a further section through the mound (when added to the 2003-4 and 2012 sections) and record the extent and degree of animal disturbance in this area. A further area (trench 9), covering approximately 30m² was excavated to the south of the monument in order to establish the presence or otherwise of Saxon burials in this area, where discoveries in 2012 had suggested they might be found.

3.4.3 Natural England was contacted in order to obtain a badger licence and was consulted regarding badger exclusion issues. In 2004 exclusion from the excavation area was not required as badgers were also occupying the undisturbed northern half of the Site, and this proved to be the case in 2012 and 2013. In addition, a Ministry of Justice Licence for the removal of human remains was obtained prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

3.5 Fieldwork methodology

3.5.1 All work was undertaken in broad accordance with the methods set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (DIO/WA 2013), except where highlighted below. Fuller details of the various methodologies, including Health and Safety issues, are contained in the WSI.

3.5.2 Initial site clearance of scrub was undertaken by Landmarc Support Services. The Site was walked over prior to machine stripping but not scanned with a metal detector as in 2012. This had produced many items of modern debris (including blank rounds) but nothing of traditional archaeological interest.

3.5.3 The 2013 excavation (Phase 2 of the project) comprised a single phase of fieldwork, which commenced in late June and lasted for a period of five weeks until the end of July, with work taking place six and sometimes seven days a week.

3.5.4 Excavations were supervised by professional archaeologists and undertaken by a team comprising soldiers as well as members of the local community. Teaching sessions on Site for the team were arranged, involving staff from Wessex Archaeology and the DIO. These included the recognition of human bone, worked flint and other finds.

3.5.5 The soldiers and other staff and participants camped adjacent to the Site during the course of the excavation, which prevented nighthawking and the looting of either artefacts or human remains.

3.5.6 Topsoil and subsoil was excavated by a wheeled excavator in 0.1m spits to a depth at which the top of archaeological levels were exposed. Previous work in 2003-4 and 2012 had indicated that no significant archaeological information would be lost through machining because of the very disturbed nature of the topsoil and subsoil.

3.5.7 Machine excavation was monitored at all times by a representative from Natural England to ensure that no active badger setts were unduly disturbed or badgers trapped within the setts. In the event, no badgers were seen during the course of the fieldwork.

3.5.8 The exposed surface of each machine or hand-excavated spit and all spoil was scanned with a metal detector for archaeological finds and any fragments of ordnance etc. All spoil, which was stored adjacent to the excavation areas, was visually inspected for the recovery of disturbed human bone and other finds. Two pieces of live ordnance were found in 2013 and both were dealt with by the Army disposal unit in accordance with the procedures outlined in the project Health and Safety risk assessment. A WW II grenade

came from a badger burrow within the Early Bronze Age barrow ditch in trench 6, and a later (1950s) mortar shell came from spoil from the same trench.

3.5.9 Some variations in the proposed layout and extent of the excavation areas were necessitated by various constraints on site, principally tree canopies and badger setts. The extent of trench 5 to the west was restricted by the presence of two sycamore trees that could not be removed; trench 6 was extended to the north-west to expose the full width of the barrow ditch; trenches 7 and 8, either side of 2012 trench 3, were re-arranged, with a larger area excavated to the north and less to the west to fit in with the disposition of trees and badger setts; and trench 9 was made slightly larger and located closer to the southern edge of 2012 trench 2.

3.5.10 Once the level of archaeological deposits had been exposed, cleaning of the excavation areas was undertaken by hand. Appropriate excavation of all archaeological features identified was carried out by hand.

3.5.11 The excavation areas had trench specific grids, but these were subsequently tied in to the Ordnance Survey national grid (and absolute heights established) by the 135 Geo Sqn RE survey team using GPS.

3.5.12 All graves were fully excavated, and the trench edges extended where necessary to enable the recovery of burials only partly exposed within the excavation areas. This was not achieved with one, partly exposed burial in trench 7, which was left *in situ*, as an extension of the trench (by hand) to expose the remainder of the grave would not have been achievable within the timescale of the excavation. The volume of other features and deposits (including animal burrows) excavated was undertaken on a pragmatic basis, largely depending on their date, nature, significance and threat from burrowing animals. Precise strategies were developed or modified in consultation with English Heritage and the Wiltshire County Archaeologist.

3.5.13 Animal burrows were recorded in plan and section where they impacted on archaeological features, but for pragmatic reasons and because of time constraints they were not recorded to the same level of detail as they were in the English Heritage excavations of 2003-4.

3.5.14 Backfilling of the excavation trenches was undertaken using a wheeled excavator and the barrow mound re-profiled to its pre-excavation form with the excavated spoil.

3.6 Recording

3.6.1 All exposed archaeological deposits were recorded according to the WSI (DIO/WA 2013) using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system. Number allocations for contexts etc were issued which continued from the numbers used for the Site in 2012 and 2003-4 by English Heritage, thereby avoiding duplication.

3.6.2 As noted above, animal burrows were not recorded in the same detail as in 2003-4. Furthermore, photogrammetric recording of *in-situ* grave assemblages was not undertaken as all of this information has been included on the drawn grave plans and accompanying photographs. Digital photography forms the primary photographic archive.

3.7 Artefact recovery

3.7.1 Appropriate strategies for the recovery of artefacts and environmental samples were devised and implemented by Wessex Archaeology's Finds and Environmental Specialists

and the appropriate English Heritage specialists and Scientific Advisor. Fuller details are contained in the WSI (DIO/WA 2013).

3.7.2 All retained artefacts have been, as a minimum, washed, weighed, counted, marked (as necessary), identified, and bagged or boxed in suitable containers. Initial processing and packing was undertaken on Site by members of the team, but all subsequent work has been carried out in the Wessex Archaeology Office by volunteers, assisted by relevant specialists where required.

3.7.3 Any artefacts requiring conservation or specific storage conditions were dealt with immediately and as far as possible on Site by members of the team involving, where necessary, Wessex Archaeology's conservator. Delicate items or groups of items were further dealt with following the advice of Wessex Archaeology's conservator.

3.7.4 Metalwork from stratified contexts, or demonstrably historic pieces found in disturbed contexts, has been X-rayed by Wiltshire Council Conservation Service and stored in a stable environment along with other fragile and delicate material tomorrow .

3.7.5 All artefacts recovered during the excavations on the Site are the property of the DIO and, on completion of the archaeological post-excavation programme, will be deposited with the Wiltshire Heritage Museum, Devizes.

3.8 Environmental sampling

3.8.1 Wessex Archaeology's Guidelines for Environmental Sampling were used for the sampling of archaeological and environmental deposits, with advice sought from EH specialists on strategies and methodologies. Fuller details are contained in the WSI (DIO/WA 2013)

3.8.2 Bulk environmental soil samples for plant macrofossils, small animal bones and other small artefacts are routinely taken from what are considered to be appropriate well sealed and dated/datable archaeological contexts. However, in 2012 it had become clear during excavation, and borne out by the results from sample processing, that none of the deposits sampled had escaped mixing as a result of extensive animal burrowing and tree root disturbance. Therefore, in 2013, bulk sampling was limited to the bottom fill of a large, probable Neolithic pit and deposits sealed beneath the Beaker and Early Bronze Age barrow mounds, where it was considered that there was a possibility of deposits of potential interest remaining undisturbed.

3.8.3 Soil micromorphology and snail samples were also taken from appropriate prehistoric sequences.

3.9 Human remains

3.9.1 All remains were fully recorded, excavated and removed from the Site in compliance with the relevant Ministry of Justice Licence.

3.9.2 All excavation and post-excavation followed the standards set out in IFA Technical Paper *13 Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed remains*. Appropriate specialist guidance/site visits were undertaken by Jacqueline McKinley of Wessex Archaeology. The final placing of human remains following analysis will be in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Justice Licence.

3.10 Publicity

3.10.1 No mass media publicity was issued during the course of the fieldwork, in order to discourage the attention of nighthawks and other unwanted visitors. However, visits were arranged for groups from Figheldean school, the Young Archaeologists Club, Hampshire Field Club and a number of other local groups. An Open Day, supported by Wiltshire Council, was held towards the end of the excavation and, in addition, a variety of presentations, school visits and workshops have been undertaken during the course of and in the months following the completion of the fieldwork.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Trench 5 lay between and overlapped with two of the areas (Trenches 1 and 4) excavated in 2012, and was specifically aimed to excavate and record Anglo-Saxon burials in this area and determine, if possible, the extent of the Anglo-Saxon cemetery to the north in this (eastern) part of the Site.

4.1.2 Trench 6 extended to the north-west, from the centre across the previously un-investigated north-west part of the barrow, between trench 4 and English Heritage trench B. It was aimed at establishing whether or not there were any Anglo-Saxon graves in this area, as well as providing a transect across the Beaker and subsequent Early Bronze Age barrow mound and ditch.

4.1.3 Trenches 7 and 8 lay between and overlapped with two of the areas (trenches B and E) excavated by English Heritage in 2003-4 and two of the areas (trenches 2 and 3) excavated in 2012 (**Fig. 2**). The aim was to excavate and record all Anglo-Saxon burials and, as far as possible, all earlier features, specifically those relating to the Early Bronze Age barrow which lay in these areas. The excavation of the Anglo-Saxon graves was viewed as a priority as these relatively shallow features were vulnerable to disturbance and were clearly suffering most from animal burrowing.

4.1.4 Trench 9 lay immediately to the south of the scheduled area. Its aim was to establish the presence or absence of Anglo-Saxon burials beyond the limit of of the Early Bronze Age barrow ditch, as was demonstrated in 2012 in trench 2 a short distance to the north.

4.1.5 Summary details of all contexts recorded in 2013 are included in **Appendix 1**.

4.2 Neolithic

4.2.1 A substantial pit was recorded at the south end of trench 5 where it overlapped with English Heritage trench D. Pit **[2925]** lay on the inside of the Early Bronze Age barrow ditch (within the berm area) (**Plate 1**), and though not yet securely dated (radiocarbon dating is required) it is almost certainly of Neolithic, perhaps Late Neolithic date. It was oval in plan, measuring 1.95m by 1.6m, and 0.65m deep, with near vertical sides and a flat base. On the base was a thin layer of dark clayey silt **(2927)** associated with which were parts of two antler tools (a pick and a hammer), a flint hammerstone, a large sarsen hammer and one smaller piece of sarsen, and a few pieces of worked flint. Most of the remainder of the pit fill comprised backfilled chalk in a compact silty clay matrix **(2932)**, and this was capped with a 'central core' of flint nodules **(2926)**.

4.2.2 A total of approximately 3m² of the previously recorded Neolithic buried soil was exposed at the south-eastern end of trench 6 where it had been sealed and protected beneath the Beaker and Early Bronze Age barrow mounds (**Fig. 2**; **Plate 2**). The deposit, a very dark

greyish brown silty loam generally less than 0.1m thick, had been extensively disturbed by animal burrowing, but excavation produced a small assemblage. This adds to the larger quantities of worked flint and pottery of mixed Neolithic date recovered from this buried land surface in 2003-4 (mainly Middle Neolithic pottery) and 2012 (mainly Early Neolithic pottery). Possible surviving elements of this buried soil were also noted in the north-east corner of trench 7, but this area had been very heavily disturbed by burrowing animals.

4.3 Beaker ring-ditch

4.3.1 A further short length of the Beaker ring-ditch, estimated to measure approximately 15m in diameter, was excavated in trench 6 in 2013 (**Fig. 2**). The ditch was a maximum of 3m wide and 0.8m deep, but the upper edges sloped very gently and the main part of the ditch was generally 1.8 - 2m wide. The internal mound, which extended to the edge of the ditch, was relatively well preserved though some badger burrows were apparent (**Plate 2**). It survived to a height of 0.8m, including the uppermost layers which had eroded or slumped into the surrounding ditch, and comprised a sequence of chalk-rich and more 'soily' deposits, including what appears to have been at least one stabilisation horizon.

4.3.2 No Beaker burials were found to add to that excavated in 2003-4, and there were no finds other than a few pieces of struck flint. In 2012 part of a possible stake circle was identified, cutting the upper fill of the ring-ditch, and probably of similar diameter, but apparently offset slightly to the circuit of the latter. This stake circle was not identified in the 2003-4 excavations, and the narrow width of trench 6 may have precluded its identification there.

4.4 Early Bronze Age barrow

4.4.1 Four sections of the *c*. 50m diameter barrow ditch were excavated in 2013, these sections having a total length of approximately 12m, adding to the 21m investigated in 2012. Sections **[2851]** and **[2921]** lay 4m apart in trench 5 (**Plates 1** and **3**), section **[2934]** was in trench 8 (see **Plate 5**), and a 2m-wide section **[2814]** was dug in trench 6 (**Fig. 2**). A further 10m of the ditch was exposed in trench 5 (excluding that previously investigated within EH trench trench D), but this was not excavated as it appeared unlikely that any further Anglo-Saxon graves lay within this area and, therefore, further investigation was not warranted (see below).

4.4.2 The profile of the substantial, 4 - 5m wide, 1.30m deep, flat-bottomed barrow ditch showed relatively little variation along its length and matched that recorded in 2003-4 and 2012, and the sequence of fills was also similar (**Plate 4**). The basal fill of the ditch comprised a thin, discontinuous layer of dark brown silty loam (probably eroded topsoil) mixed with some chalk and flints. Sealing the basal fill was a layer of fairly compact silty chalk, likely to represent natural silting, the chalk probably deriving from weathering and erosion of the ditch sides. Above this in the central part of the ditch was a notable concentration of flint nodules (< *c*. 0.1m in size), perhaps coming from erosion of the central mound and surrounding area, but including a significant quantity of worked flint. The lower deposits in the ditch were succeeded by a sequence of secondary and tertiary fills of mostly pale brown silty clay loam containing varying quantities of chalk and flint fragments, the uppermost fills being of Roman or later date (see below). In addition, there was what appears to be a 1m-deep re-cut in the fill sequence, also noted in the 2003-4 and 2012 excavations, which may have continued around the entire circumference of the earlier, partly infilled barrow ditch. The recut was clearest in trench 8 where it was approximately 3m wide, of open V-shaped section, and had been cut into the top of the deposit of flint nodules near the base of the earlier ditch. Although not independently dated, the recutting of the ditch has been assigned on stratigraphic grounds to the Bronze Age, most probably the Early Bronze Age. Throughout most of the excavated sections,

the various fills of the ditch and its recut, and particularly those above the basal fills, had been heavily and extensively disturbed by animal burrowing.

4.4.3 The barrow mound survived to a maximum height of approximately 0.85m, where it overlay the Beaker mound in trench 6 (**Plate 2**). In this trench the individual turves making up the core of the mound were clearly visible in both plan and section, as had been recorded in trenches 1, 2 and 4 in 2012. In trench 7 the turf core had been extensively disturbed by burrowing animals and such detail was not apparent. The mound core was capped by a layer of crushed and rammed chalk, the outer edge of which survived in both trench 6 and trench 7, though it had been subject to some slumping and spreading. Whilst damage from burrowing animals made it difficult to accurately determine the thickness and extent of each layer, the remaining capping **(2857)** was approximately 0.25m thick (in trench 7), and the surviving turf core **(2810)** up to 0.8m thick (in trench 6).

4.4.4 The layout of the later, Anglo-Saxon burials reflects the existence of a berm at least 5.5m (and probably around 7m) wide between the outer edge of the mound (which could not be clearly defined) and the inner edge of the barrow ditch, confirming the bell-barrow form of the monument (**Plate 5**).

4.4.5 In 2013 parts of a probable stake circle were identified, clearly larger (and probably later) than that cutting the upper fill of the Beaker ring-ditch. This postulated later stake circle was not recognised in the 2003-4 or 2012 excavations, perhaps in part because the areas of its projected circuit, corresponding closely with the edge of the barrow mound, had in places been heavily disturbed by animal burrowing. It has an estimated diameter of approximately 30m, and was represented by an arc of six small stake-holes in trench 7 and two in trench 6, all apparently sealed beneath the surviving edge of the chalk capping of the mound. The stake-holes were spaced at intervals of approximately 0.4m, measured *c*. 0.05m in diameter and 0.1m deep.

4.4.6 Probable evidence for the south-east end of Lt-Col. Hawley's early 20th century excavation trench in the centre of the barrow mound was identified in trench 4 in 2012. However, no corresponding evidence was found to the north-west in trench 6 in 2013, suggesting that Hawley's investigation was very limited in extent.

4.5 Roman turf line

4.5.1 Approximately half way up the sequence of barrow ditch fills in trenches 5 and 8 was an indistinct and discontinuous former turf line, comprising a dark brown silty clay loam, up to 0.15m thick (see **Plate 4**). This layer had been identified previously, in trenches 1 and 2, where it was cut through by several Saxon graves. Associated pottery indicates it to be of broad Romano-British date, providing further evidence for continued activity on or in the vicinity of the site during this period.

4.6 Anglo-Saxon cemetery

4.6.1 The 2013 excavations investigated 20 graves, containing 20 burials (**Plate 6**); a further group of semi-disarticulated bone **(2800)** almost certainly represents the remains of a shallow, disturbed burial of a juvenile in or on the edge of the barrow mound. One burial **[2723]** was partly exposed in trench 3 in 2012; although not excavated it was counted in the burial totals (Wessex Archaeology 2013, table 1), but has now been reassigned, following excavation, to the 2013 total. A further burial was partly exposed (the skull only) but not excavated in 2013, in the south-west corner of trench 7 (it will be dealt with in 2014), and is not included in the totals below. The provisional results by trench, age and sex are set out in **Table 1** (no burials were present in trench 6), which also includes the burials recorded in 2003-4 and 2012. A grave catalogue containing details of the graves,

summary osteological data and associated finds is presented in **Appendix 2**, whilst more detailed osteological information is tabulated in **Appendix 4**.

4.6.2 Most graves were sub-rectangular or sub-oval, shallow, with varied orientations, probably largely determined by the location and topography of the extant Early Bronze Age barrow. There were only five examples where graves intercut, but in two cases the graves were adjacent and just clipped the other without disturbing the skeletal remains. These comprised **[2829]** which cut the north edge of **[2922]** in trench 5, and **[2866]** which appeared to cut the north edge of **[2899]** in trench 7, though the relationship here was less clear; there was just one example of such intercutting graves in 2012, in trench 2. In addition, there were two examples with a slightly greater degree of overlap, both in the barrow ditch in trench 8, where all the graves were aligned west-east and the earlier graves are likely to have been less visible. Here, **[2847]** cut/overlay the east end of **[2908]**, and **[2885]** overlay the west end of **[2873]**, though again in both cases without any apparent disturbance to the earlier skeletal remains. Finally, there was one example (in trench 7) where the overlap was greater, and **[2902]** overlay the lower half of **[2915]**, but even here the later burial had not disturbed the earlier one, some of the bones of the upper directly overlaying the bones of the lower.

Table 1: Anglo-Saxon burials ageing and sexing, based on interim assessment, associated grave goods and grave size.

	Adult male	Adult female	Adult?	Subadult male	Subadult female	Juvenile	Infant	?	*Total*
2003-4	4	5	2	-	-	-	2	-	*13*
2012 T1	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	*7*
2012 T2	3	4	-	1	1	3	1	1	*14*
2012 T3	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	-	*4*
2013 T5	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	*3*
2013 T7	3	4	1	-	1	1	1	-	*11*
2013 T8	2	2	1	-	-	2	-	-	*7*
Total	*16*	*21*	*4*	*1*	*2*	*7*	*6*	*2*	***59***

4.6.3 Of the 21 graves, only four had been dug into the barrow ditch, all in trench 8 (in 2012 the figure was 13 / 50%). However, the comparison is somewhat misleading as less of the ditch was exposed in relation to the areas excavated in trenches 7 and 8, where all but three of the graves were found. On the other hand, no graves were found in the ditch in trench 5, on what has been shown to be the edge of the cemetery, with just three graves on the inner, berm area. Overall, the density of graves was greatest in trenches 7 and 8, and here the density generally exceeded that recorded elsewhere in 2003-4 and in much of the 2012 excavation areas.

4.6.4 The graves within the barrow ditch had very indistinct edges, the grave fills blending into that of the ditch. The shape of these graves is, therefore, less well defined compared to

those in the berm, though they were probably of generally similar shapes. The remaining 17 graves were dug into the natural chalk bedrock and all were sub-rectangular or sub-oval and shallow. Of these, 14 were in the berm of the barrow, with three (graves **[2804]**, **[2861]** and **[2905]**) on the edge of or outside the ditch in trench 8, confirming that the cemetery continues an unknown distance to the south-west beyond the limit of the barrow. It can be noted, however, that there were no graves in trench 9, perhaps indicating that they did not extend this far or were more dispersed in this area.

4.6.5 The majority of the burials excavated in 2013 were supine and extended, though several were slightly flexed; none was prone.

4.6.6 Grave **[2723]** in trench 7 contained possible evidence of packing (or perhaps supports for a wooden grave cover), with several medium-large nodules of flint positioned around the edges of the grave. Similar evidence of packing was found in nearby grave **[2674]** in trench 3, and also in grave **[2642]** in trench 1, both excavated in 2012. No evidence was found in 2013 for any plank lining, coffins or boxes, as was recorded in grave **[2699]** in 2012.

4.6.7 Some possible groupings may be discerned in the disposition of graves excavated in 2013, including a group of three juveniles (**[2847]**, **[2873]** and **[2885]**) in the barrow ditch in trench 8, a group of adults around the edge of the barrow mound (**[2832]**, **[2836]**, **[2839]**, **[2842]** and **[2627]**) in trenches 7 and 2, and a further group of adults around the inner edge of the ditch (**[2723]**, **[2807]** and **[2699]**) in trenches 7, 8 and 3. These are in addition to the possible groups noted in 2012, the latter including two juveniles and an infant close together in the barrow ditch in trench 2, two infants and a juvenile in trench 3 (less than 5m to the north of the group in trench 8 – see above), and five adults buried around the barrow ditch in trench 1/D.

4.6.8 Eight (38%) of the 21 burials excavated in 2013 were accompanied by grave-goods, with two (10%) comprising weapons burials. Of the latter, one grave **[2832]** contained a shield boss, spearhead and knife, and the other grave (**[2916]**) a shield boss, spearhead, buckle and knife.

4.6.9 Copper alloy brooches came from one grave, with a pair of saucer brooches, a copper alloy ring and a few glass and amber beads from grave **[2804]** (**Plate 7**). Grave **[2807]** contained tweezers, two finger rings of copper alloy and a small number of glass and amber beads.

4.6.10 One group of three adult graves (**[2818]**, **[2829]** and **[2922]**), all aligned approximately east to west and lying in the south-east part of the berm in trench 5 (see **Plate 1**), were unaccompanied (**Plate 8**), and it is very likely that they form part of the same group of unaccompanied burials recorded in 2003-4 and 2012 (**[2605]**, **[2642]**, **[6001]**, **[6005]** and **[6011]**).

4.6.11 Finds not found in graves but which are likely to derive from disturbed burials comprise a very worn disc brooch from topsoil, two strapends from subsoil, and a pierced Roman coin also from subsoil. All are of copper alloy and all were recovered by metal detector from the general area of trenches 7 and 8.

5 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

5.1 Pottery *by Lorraine Mepham*

5.1.1 The pottery assemblage recovered from the Site in 2013 amounts to 87 sherds (1052g), augmenting that recovered in 2012 (308 sherds (1986g)) and largely replicating the range of types represented (possible early prehistoric, late prehistoric, Romano-British, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval).

5.1.2 For the purposes of this assessment, the pottery has been quantified (sherd count only), using either known ware types (e.g. samian), or broader ware groups linked to probable date range (e.g. Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age flint-tempered wares). Totals by ware type/group are given in **Table 2**.

5.1.3 As in 2012, however, the condition of the assemblage, ranging from fair to poor, has hampered the confident dating of some sherds. Overall mean sherd weight is up on 2012 (12.1g compared with 6.5g), although this varies quite widely between the chronological groups (see below). There is a scarcity of diagnostic sherds amongst the prehistoric material, and some sherds can only be very broadly dated as 'late prehistoric', or just 'prehistoric'.

Table 2: Pottery totals by ware type

Period	Ware type/group	No. Sherds
PREHISTORIC	?Early Neolithic flint-tempered ware	4
	?Beaker sandy ware	1
	Deverel-Rimbury	1
	LBA/EIA flint-tempered wares	9
	?Iron Age sandy ware	13
	sub-total prehistoric	*28*
LIA/ROMANO-BRITISH	Savernake-type ware	36
	Greyware	9
	Sandy ware	3
	New Forest colour coated ware	1
	Samian	1
	sub-total LIA/Romano-British	*50*
SAXON	Organic-tempered ware	1
	sub-total Saxon	*1*
MEDIEVAL/POST-MEDIEVAL	Laverstock-type coarseware	1
	Medieval coarseware	1
	Verwood-type earthenware	4
	Refined whitewares	2
	sub-total medieval/post-medieval	*8*
	OVERALL TOTAL	**87**

Early prehistoric

5.1.4 No sherds were immediately identifiable as early prehistoric by virtue of distinctive fabrics, forms and/or decoration. However, three small abraded body sherds, found respectively in buried soil **2910** below the Early Bronze Age mound, in layer **2811** within the Beaker mound, and in layer **2810** within the Early Bronze Age turf mound, have been tentatively dated as early prehistoric from their provenance. The sherds from **2810** and **2811** are in

coarse flint-tempered fabrics with randomly sorted inclusions, which could be Neolithic, while the sherd from **2910** is in a relatively fine sandy fabric which could belong to the Beaker tradition, although lacking any characteristic decoration.

5.1.5 In the light of known disturbance to the monument, however, it is also possible that these sherds were intrusive in these contexts: the flint-tempered sherds from **2810** and **2811** could equally well be dated as Late Bronze Age on fabric grounds, while the sherd from **2910** could be Iron Age.

5.1.6 Two further flint-tempered sherds, found in pit **[2925]** of suspected Neolithic date (backfill layer **2932**), are of similar appearance to those from layers **2810** and **2811** and would therefore not be out of place in the Neolithic assemblage, although the same *caveat* applies. Another three sherds found in this pit fill are, however, definitely of much later date (Late Iron Age/Romano-British: see below).

Late prehistoric

5.1.7 One undiagnostic body sherd containing abundant, fairly well sorted flint inclusions (ditch fill **2920**) has been dated as Middle Bronze Age (Deverel-Rimbury ceramic tradition).

5.1.8 A further nine sherds are in flint-tempered fabrics, the inclusions varying in frequency and size. These have been broadly dated as late prehistoric; none are diagnostic. The likelihood is that most if not all fall within a Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age date range (although the possibility that some could be Neolithic cannot be entirely ruled out). Thirteen sherds in sandy fabrics are tentatively dated as Iron Age, although these are not really chronologically distinctive.

5.1.9 Flint-tempered and sandy sherds came from similar contexts, mostly from ditch fills (**2828**, **2849**, **2919**, **2920**), others coming from overburden or unstratified contexts. This chronological group is in relatively poor condition, with a mean sherd weight of 6.6g, and sherds should not be regarded as primary refuse, and do not provide firm dating evidence for the contexts in which they were found.

Late Iron Age/Romano-British

5.1.10 Three sherds in a sandy fabric (probably from the same vessel) found in suspected Neolithic pit **[2925]** (backfill **2932**) are definitely not of Neolithic date, and are probably Late Iron Age or early Romano-British. They can be regarded as intrusive here.

5.1.11 The rest of the group is dominated by coarse grog-tempered wares (36 out of 50 sherds) which fall within the local 'Savernake ware' tradition, spanning the conquest period and extending well into the Romano-British period. The sherds found in 2013 have a 'Romanised' feel, hard-fired and some at least wheelthrown. Diagnostic sherds come from bead rim and everted rim jars.

5.1.12 There are nine sherds of greywares of unspecified source, none diagnostic, one sherd from a late Romano-British indented beaker in New Forest colour coated ware, and one sherd of samian tableware (later 1st or 2nd century AD).

5.1.13 As for the late prehistoric sherds, Romano-British sherds derived largely from ditch fills, and mainly from the upper fills (**2817**, **2827**, **2828**, **2919**). Other sherds were unstratified, or were found in the overburden.

Saxon

5.1.14 One sherd in an organic-tempered fabric (unstratified context **2801**) is certainly of early/middle Saxon date (5th to 8th centuries AD). This is a body sherd bearing tooled decoration.

Medieval and post-medieval

5.1.15 Two medieval sherds were identified, one in a Laverstock-type coarseware from the Salisbury area (intrusive in the backfill of Anglo-Saxon grave **2905**), and another in a coarseware fabric containing chalk, probably a 'Kennet Valley' type (upper ditch fill **2813**).

5.1.16 Four sherds of post-medieval Verwood-type earthenware from east Dorset were recovered, and two sherds of modern refined whitewares. These sherds came from the overburden in Trench 6 (**2812**), an unstratified context in Trench 7 (**2801**), and a layer in the Early Bronze Age turf mound (**2858**) where they were clearly intrusive.

5.2 Worked flint and sarsen hammerstone *by Phil Harding*

Introduction

5.2.1 The worked flint assemblage from the 2013 season of excavation has been processed, marked, sorted and catalogued on the project data base. A total of 1906 pieces of worked flint was recovered from 41 individual contexts. All groups of material, including both stratified and unstratified material, have been examined. As in previous assessments (Last 2006; Wessex Archaeology 2013) no attempt has been made to examine the distribution of material or to compare it with previous campaigns of excavation. Nevertheless it has been possible to broadly integrate the results of the 2013 season into the overall chronological framework established for the site.

5.2.2 The nature of the monument, which was constructed over a number of separate periods, has resulted in a degree of mixing within individual groups of material; nevertheless it is possible to detect patterns of activity within these groups that reflect the chronological development of the site. Sufficiently distinctive material is present that represents the pre-barrow Neolithic land surface and a probably contemporary pit, the construction of the Beaker monument, the expansion of this mound in the Early Bronze Age, subsequent activity following the primary and secondary silting of the ditch, tertiary ditch fills, material that was reworked into Anglo-Saxon graves and unstratified material. These chronological variations are reflected in the quantities of material, the technology and the composition of the individual components. It is anticipated that these groups of material will in the future be amalgamated with assemblages from previous campaigns of excavation to provide not only a site-wide distribution of activity but also material that can be used to place the site in its wider context with barrow mounds in the area.

Results

5.2.3 The earliest phase is represented by small groups of material related to Neolithic activity on the pre-barrow land surface and the probably associated pit (**2925**). The pit itself contained relatively small quantities of worked flint. However, 21% of the assemblage comprised blades of which one was characterised by edge damage. This component also included material struck by soft hammer percussion. The pit was most notable for the inclusion of a well-worked flint hammerstone, as well as a large hammer of sarsen, which were found on the base of the pit. The deliberate inclusion of hammers of flint, sarsen and antler (also present here) is a recurring feature of many other pits of comparable date in

the area. Neolithic activity was confirmed by the recovery of a blade of similar technology from the chalk capping of the Early Bronze Age mound (context **2857**), which is almost certainly reworked from the old land surface, and from the discovery of a core tool roughout, albeit from an unstratified context.

5.2.4 It is likely that construction of the Beaker mound included material that was incorporated from the Neolithic land surface as well as from flint working contemporary with the construction of the first barrow. However, this chronological event was marked by only relatively small quantities of worked flint. Blades were fairly scarce, which may reflect the anticipated shift from blade to flake manufacture from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age. The material did, however, include small flakes, possibly resulting from controlled core reduction, and a semi-discoidal flake core with a flake that is likely to have been removed from it; apart from this instance of apparently undisturbed flaking no other evidence of potential refitting sequences were noted from any of the other knapping groups.

5.2.5 The construction of the turf mound and chalk capping in the early Bronze Age was marked by increased quantities of worked flints, of which the principal components were associated with material from the turf mound. This may well include accumulated material from earlier episodes of Neolithic or Early Bronze Age/Beaker activity together with material associated with the enlarged barrow mound. In any event this collection included the largest concentration of retouched tools, indicative of domestic, or more probably ritual activity, but excluding industrial flaking.

5.2.6 The largest quantities of material from the site were recovered from the ditch fills of the Bronze Age barrow. Relatively small numbers of pieces were collected from the primary and secondary fills. Some of this material may well have weathered in from the surrounding berm, but very little material was recovered from the base of the ditch, suggesting that no flaking occurred in the bottom of the ditch. In this respect it seems likely that the barrow was afforded a degree of respect during its life as a burial monument. The largest number of pieces was recovered from the weathering cone of the ditch fills, where large quantities of flaking waste had accumulated. This collection comprised mainly flakes with cores, but generally low retouched tool counts. The context of this material is relatively secure and is characterised by its fresh condition, consistent technology and coverings of calcium concretion (race). The technology can be summarised as a flake industry with multi-platform, rotating and biconical flake cores. No microdebitage (chips) was collected although it is highly unlikely that this would have been present in any quantity, the technology not including extensive levels of core preparation. Some groups of material listed from the upper ditch fills are almost certainly largely derived from the lower fills, most probably the flint from the weathering cone as the condition and technology are consistent. Irrespective of the context, this part of the assemblage can be assigned to an industrial origin, not necessarily *in situ* flaking but more probably dumping. Elements of this material were recovered in small quantities from the backfill of Anglo-Saxon graves.

5.2.7 A large fragment of sarsen stone (ON 5434) was recovered from the base (context **2927**) of the probable Neolithic pit **[2925]**. The stone measures approximately 230mm long and 140mm across and has a sub-triangular cross section; it weighs 3559g. The lower surface is heavily encrusted with chalky concretion while the upper surface appears to be represented by the natural surface of the stone. The stone bears clear evidence of human modification, both at the narrow tapering end where two small flakes have been removed and at the broader end where surface traces indicate probable fracture of the stone. However, the clearest evidence of human modification is displayed in a flattened area approximately 90mm long and 40mm wide at the broad end, which is characterised by

heavy pecking. This unmistakable pecked and flattened surface is typical of damage found on hammerstones, irrespective of geology, whether flint or quartzite.

Discussion

5.2.8 The results of this assessment show that, as in the 2012 season, the Neolithic activity is only relatively sparsely represented, but that it nevertheless forms a significant part of the story of the site. The composition of this material, with flakes, blades and retouched material, provides additional material to that collected from the site previously and is of a similar type. It may be desirable in future to separate the Neolithic elements and areas of activity from those of the Early Bronze Age/Beaker landscape. The discovery of a probable Neolithic pit may place greater emphasis on the role of the site during that period than has been recognised previously.

5.2.9 The shift from blade manufacture to flake production is an accepted technological trait of British prehistory that is repeated at the site. The excavation of 2012 produced large quantities of worked flints from the turf core of the barrow mound with relatively low quantities of retouched material, a feature that was not repeated in the 2013 season where retouched tools were more plentiful from this source. No concentrations of undated *in situ* flaking debris of the sort found on the north-eastern berm of the monument in 2012 were encountered in 2013. In contrast, the presence of large quantities of material from the central parts of the ditch is similar to those found in previous seasons of work. This material is undoubtedly of Bronze Age date and is apparently a by-product of later use of the monument, which is otherwise scarce in the lower ditch fills. The opportunity to examine the entire collection from the 2013 excavation season has been beneficial, making it possible to assess the material from the upper ditch fills as well as those from the primary and secondary fills. This has indicated that some of the material listed as from the upper fills is undoubtedly less disturbed than the record might suggest.

5.2.10 The sarsen in pit **[2925]** has undoubtedly served as a hammerstone/maul in the dressing of a large object. It is similar in size and form of wear to the more spherical mauls that are a common feature of stone dressing at Stonehenge, but which may also have resulted from dressing quern stones. Irrespective of detail it seems most probable that the wear on this stone developed from use on another stone. The inclusion of this hammer in the pit is of some interest; the only other significant lithic object from the feature comprised a heavily used flint hammer, whilst two pieces of antler, one apparently used as a hammer and the other as a pick (see below) were also found on the base of the pit. This pattern of including hammers of flint, sarsen or antler, all three represented in probable Neolithic pit **[2925]** at Barrow Clump, is one that recurs; similar trends have been noted in Middle Neolithic pits on the Old Sarum pipeline where flint hammerstones were common, or a Late Neolithic pit at Amesbury where a flint hammerstone was included with one of antler.

5.3 Metalwork *by Nick Stoodley*

Introduction

5.3.1 The assemblage of metal artefacts from the Anglo-Saxon graves excavated in 2013 comprises 28 objects: 15 are iron and 13 copper alloy (**Table 3**). In addition, there are 22 glass and amber beads. A detailed description of each individual artefact is given in **Appendix 3**.

Table 3: Metal objects by material and type

Copper Alloy	Number (total)	Types/description/number	
Brooches	3	2 x saucer	1 x disc
Toilet item	1	Tweezers	
Finger Ring	3		
Strap end	2		
Coin	2		
?Nail	1		
Stud	1		
Iron			
Spearheads	2	2 x Swanton E2	
Shield bosses	2	Dickinson and Härke Group 1.1	Dickinson and Härke Group 6
Knives	3	2 x Böhner Type A	unidentified
Buckles	2	2 x Marzinzik Type I 11a-i.	
Strip	1		
Fragments	3		
Unid. objects	2		

Range, date and condition

5.3.2 The range of artefacts recovered from the 2013 excavation at Barrow Clump is characteristic of an assemblage from an early Anglo-Saxon cemetery from southern England. Moreover, the evidence is generally in keeping with what was discovered in previous years and reinforces the view that this was a settlement with a typically Saxon cultural identity. Only the brooches are culturally diagnostic and they have connections with southern English sites. As in previous years the lack of Anglian and Kentish material demonstrates that this was a community with limited connections.

5.3.3 The assemblage is generally typical of finds from an early Anglo-Saxon Wiltshire cemetery (**Table 4**). They exhibit the usual variations in terms of wealth and their deposition was structured according to the burial's gender and age (Stoodley 1999; 2000). There are several burials that differ in their manner of furnishing, such as grave **[2807]**, which suggest at the very least, local variations in burial rite.

5.3.4 Although a number of the grave goods could have been produced in the 5th century (ON's 5403, 5406 and 5407), it is questionable whether any burial was made before the 6th century. It has not been possible to find a direct parallel for the saucer brooches (ONs 5406 and 5407; grave **[2804]**) but they could be the earliest objects. They are most similar to examples from Dickinson's Group 3 (floriate cross) and in particular Group 3.1 (cross and omega), which are dated to the later 5th century, although this is based on only one other example. The other subtypes are dated to the 6th century and on balance it seems safest to place the manufacture of the Barrow Clump brooches in that century. The weapons concur: there is a Dickinson and Härke Group 1.1 shield boss (ON 5435; grave **[2915]**), a type produced in the 5th century, but which continued to be deposited into the 6th and in this case was combined with a spearhead (E2) (ON 5429) of 6th to 7th century date. Grave **[2832]** also had a Type E2 spearhead (ON 5411) and was combined with a Dickinson and Härke Group 6 shield boss (ON 5412), which dates to the later 6th to earlier 7th century. This could be latest grave and extends the chronology of the cemetery; until 2013 the datable burials could all be accommodated in the first three quarters of the 6th century.

Table 4: Metal objects by grave

Grave	*Sex/age*	*Grave goods*
2818	Ad Fe	
2829	Ad M	
2922	Ad Fe	
2723	Ad Fe	
SK 2800*[1]	Juv 8-12	
2832	Ad M*[2]	Spearhead, shield, knife
2836	Ad Fe	
2839	Ad Fe	
2842	Ad M	
2866	Adol Fe	Iron buckle, iron object
2899	Ad Fe	
2902	Ad M*[3]	
2915	Ad	Spearhead, shield, knife, iron buckle, CU rivet/fitting
2804	Ad Fe	2 x saucer brooch, finger ring, 2 bead groups
2807	Ad Fe*[4]	Tweezers, 2 x finger rings, 2 bead groups
2847	Inf/Juv 3-5	Iron object
2861	Ad M	
2873	Juv 9-10	Knife, 2 x iron objects, CU strap end
2885	Juv 8-10	
2905	Ad M	Iron frags
0000*[5]	Ad	

*[1] no visible grave cut
*[2] includes redeposited bones of unsexed adult
*[3] includes infant/juvenile bones
*[4] includes redeposited adult bones
*[5] no visible grave cut

5.3.5 In 2003-4 a number of the burials had been disturbed by badgers, some quite severely (Last 2005, 20). In some cases this had resulted in the movement and breakage of grave goods making their identification difficult and also possibly resulting in the contamination of other features. The burials from 2012 and 2013 have not been as seriously affected and most of the artefacts have been identified. Grave **[2839]** contained an adult female and is an exception: it was badly disturbed and may have been furnished.

5.3.6 The metalwork assemblage consists of iron (54%) and copper alloy (46%) objects. This is typical of an assemblage from an early Anglo-Saxon cemetery. Some of the ironwork is fragmentary, but many of the grave fills were sieved and it is doubtful whether any artefacts, or fragments, were overlooked. Some of the fragmentary ironwork can only be described in very general terms, e.g. strip (ON 5420) or plate (ON 5415), and it may prove impossible to identify the form of the original artefact. Moreover, objects that had been fashioned from organic materials, such as wooden vessels, will have left little or no trace whatsoever; this is a particular concern for Barrow Clump where disturbance by animals and tree roots may have exacerbated the situation.

5.3.7 On the whole the copper alloy is relatively well preserved and the form of most of the artefacts is recognisable; they can be identified to type and in some cases, e.g. the saucer brooches, subtype. Overall, the potential for the long-term storage of these objects can be described as good. In contrast, the ironwork was more poorly preserved, although most of the larger artefacts can be identified to type and subtype. The long-term storage of the assemblage of iron objects is more problematic and will involve close monitoring.

Discussion and potential

5.3.8 The assessment of the data from 2003-4 demonstrated that badger intrusion had resulted in damage not only to the artefacts but also to the structure of the graves themselves, making the reconstruction of the burial rite problematic. It is notable, however, that the graves excavated in 2012-13 were less seriously affected and this data will provide a more secure basis on which to reconstruct the burial practices of the community.

5.3.9 Taken in conjunction with the information from 2003-4 the evidence from 2012-13 has the potential to answer a number of important questions and to permit both local and regional comparisons of the evidence.

5.3.10 An overall assessment can be made of the nature of the burial rite, followed by a consideration of the community that buried their dead at Barrow Clump. The range of grave goods has been classified by material and then by type and subtype (see **Appendix 3**). Drawing on this knowledge, a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the grave goods will permit a comparison to be made between burials within the site which will inform on other issues.

5.3.11 For example, a distributional analysis of the grave goods can be conducted in order to reconstruct how the original burials were structured and to examine such patterns both spatially and temporally.

5.3.12 An especially important aspect of the analysis of the grave goods focuses upon female costume. Several of the burials (graves **[2804]** and **[2807]**) have produced a range of dress accessories and it should be possible to reconstruct the style(s) of costume being worn at burial. Costume provided an important medium through which individual, local and regional identity was articulated (Brush 1993; Stoodley 2005) and it also has the potential to comment on the range of social identities adopted at both a horizontal and vertical level in this community.

5.3.13 In addition to the grave goods, evidence about other aspects of the burial rite has been collated (**Table 5**), which will allow local and regional analyses to be undertaken. This preliminary study shows that the evidence is consistent with other early Anglo-Saxon cemeteries in Wiltshire (Stoodley 2006 and 2010).

5.3.14 Overall, the evidence from the grave goods and other aspects of the burial rite, plus what can be learnt about the layout of the site, will allow important inferences to be made about the community that used Barrow Clump, with special attention being paid to social structure. In contrast to previous years, the burials do not display a range of wealth, as reflected in the quantity of deposited grave goods. Only six (29%) of the burials had grave goods; compare this to 2012 where 12 (46%) were furnished. The quality of the grave goods also seems poorer, for example there are no vessels and the jewellery is modest. The findings may indicate that this area of the cemetery was used for the interment of more impoverished individuals. Alternatively the difference could be chronological. Grave **[2832]** dates to the later 6th to earlier 7th century, which together with the relatively high proportion of unaccompanied burials may indicate that this area was receiving the latest interments, i.e. the 'final-phase'. However, the presence of several graves firmly dated to the 6th century (e.g. Graves **[2915]** and **[2804]**) in this area demonstrates that there is not a strict chronological spread, with both early and possibly the latest burials taking place on the south-western side of the barrow.

Table 5: Burial practice

Grave	*Disturbance*	*Number of burials*	*Orientation*	*Deposition*	*Grave structure*	*Gender (by grave goods)*
2818	N	1	W-E	Ext supine		
2829	N	1	W-E	Ext supine	?shroud	
2922	N	1	W-E	Ext supine		
2723	N	1	WNW-ESE	Ext supine		
SK 2800	Y	1	?	?		
2832	?	1	NW-SE	Ext supine		Masculine
2836	Y	1	W-E	?on side		
2839	Y	1	W-E	Ext supine		
2842	N	1	WNW-ESE	Ext supine		
2866	N	1	WNW-ESE	Ext supine		
2899	Y	1	WNW-ESE	Ext supine		
2902	N	?2	WNW-ESE	Ext supine		
2915	N	1	WNW-ESE	Ext supine		Masculine
2804	N	1	W-E	Ext supine		Feminine
2807	N	1	W-E	Ext supine		Feminine
2847	Y	1	W-E	Ext supine		
2861	N	1	W-E	Ext supine		
2873	N	1	W-E	Ext supine		
2885	N	1	W-E	Ext supine		
2905	N	1	W-E	Ext supine		
0000	Y	1	W-E	?		

5.3.15 Where possible, individual artefacts have been provenanced in the catalogue and a summary has been given in **Table 3**. The potential exists, however, to extend this study and to identify in greater detail the cultural associations that the artefacts demonstrate. As in previous years, the brooches and weapons offer the greatest potential.

5.3.16 The fragmentary artefacts may require detailed analysis. Because of the nature of this rapid assessment it was not possible to try to reconstruct the form of these artefacts. But progress should be made with the benefit of additional time and information, such as burial plans and photographs. In addition, a much wider corpus of material, i.e. evidence from early Anglo-Saxon cemeteries from throughout the country, will be consulted to further this study.

5.3.17 To support the archaeological data, a full osteological analysis of the skeletal remains will be undertaken in order to provide demographic information (sex and age), in addition to observations on general health and wellbeing. This data is important for the interpretation of the archaeology: studies have shown that certain aspects of burial practice were constrained by both the sex and age of the individual (Stoodley 1999, 2000). The skeletal remains might also be studied for non-metrical traits that might disclose biological relationships, which could help understand the principles on which the cemetery was organised, i.e. the use of family burial plots (Sherlock and Welch 1992). It is notable, therefore, that an examination of the cemetery plan (**Fig. 3**, with graves from 2003-4 and 2012-13 plotted) reveals several clusters of graves that contained men, women and subadults, and within several clusters there is subtle patterning with infants and juveniles being placed close together.

5.3.18 Analysis should be carried out on fragments of textile preserved on artefacts, especially the saucer brooches (ONs 5406 and 5407). When integrated with the evidence from

previous years this will contribute to our understanding of the character of the costume. It may also provide insights into textile manufacture and technology.

5.3.19 Artefacts such as the spearheads and shield bosses will require analysing for traces of wood from the haft and board respectively in order to facilitate identification of species.

5.3.20 Evidence for other organic material, such as leather which may have covered the shield board, and other soft furnishings should also be considered.

5.3.21 The potential of the dataset from Barrow Clump in terms of research priorities is mainly centred on the grave goods and the assemblage from 2013 will need to be considered alongside the evidence from previous years (plus the evidence from the final season of work). The assemblage contains several objects that are of regional significance: saucer brooches (ONs 5406 and 5407) from grave **[2804]** are of a type that is unique in the county and the Dickinson and Härke Group 6 shield boss (ON 5412) is also very poorly represented in Wiltshire.

5.4 Beads *by Phil Andrews*

5.4.1 A total of 23 glass (all monochrome) and amber beads wase recovered from three Anglo-Saxon graves. The largest groups came from female burials **[2803]** and **[2806]** (both in trench 8), with each grave producing 11 beads, comprising eight beads of glass and three of amber. A single glass bead came from male burial **[2903]** (in trench 7).

5.5 Coins

5.5.1 Two coins were recovered, both small copper alloy coins struck in the Late Roman period. The earlier of the two (ON 5400), from topsoil, is a radiate of Carausius (issued AD 286-8). The second (ON 5401), a subsoil find from trench 8, is a radiate, possibly of Allectus (AD 293-6), which has been pierced around the edge and is likely, therefore, to derive from an Anglo-Saxon grave, perhaps from a necklace.

5.6 Unburnt human bone *by Kirsten Egging Dinwiddy*

5.6.1 The unburnt human bone from the Anglo-Saxon graves has been subject to basic assessment, with the results summarised in **Table 1** (see above) and tabulated (by trench and skeleton/grave number) in more detail in **Appendix 4**. In addition, disarticulated, redeposited human bone from other contexts has been assessed and the results are also included in **Appendix 4**. The latter includes a small amount of material recovered from the surface of the monument more than 10 years ago and recently added to the assemblage, probably all which is likely to derive from Anglo-Saxon graves which have been subject to animal disturbance.

5.7 Animal bone *by Lorrain Higbee*

5.7.1 Animal bone was recovered from 17 separate contexts including a probable Neolithic pit, Beaker ring-ditch, Early Bronze Age barrow, and Romano-British turf line. An additional small quantity of bone was also recovered from overburden deposits. A total of 143 bone fragments were recovered from these features and deposits. The contextual security of the assemblage has been compromised by the burrowing activity of badgers, rabbits, foxes and rodents, the partial remains of which were also recovered.

5.7.2 A little over 40% of fragments are identifiable to species and skeletal element. Intrusive bones from burrowing animals form *c.* 8% of identified specimens, the majority of the rest comprise of bones from livestock species, horse, dog and red deer.

5.7.3 Bone was recovered from two probable Neolithic contexts, buried soil **2910** and pit **[2925]**. The identified fragments include two sheep/goat teeth from the buried soil, and three pieces of red deer antler from the pit. Two of the pieces refit (ON 5440 and ON 5433), to form the base and brow tine from a left-sided antler. The base has a battered appearance and two distinct wear facets from being used as hammer. Similar tools have been recovered from a number of contemporary sites including, for example, the Neolithic flint mines at Grimes Graves in Norfolk where they have been interpreted as hammers used to drive wedges into the chalk during flint extraction; however these tools are likely to have been more widely used as soft hammers during flint tool production. The third antler piece (ON 5432) also comprises the base and brow tine, but in this instance there are signs of use wear at the tip of the brow tine, which has a rounded, battered appearance. This type of use wear is generally seen on antler picks, and it is not uncommon to find worn or broken examples of these tools from the base of features that these were used to excavate.

5.7.4 A small number of sheep/goat and cattle teeth were recovered from Beaker ring-ditch **2825**. These are robust elements that generally survive well in poor soil conditions.

5.7.5 A relatively large number of bone fragments were recovered from the Early Bronze Age barrow ditch. Unfortunately only *c.* 35% of fragments can be identified to species and skeletal element. Most of the identified bones are from cattle and include both loose teeth and post-cranial elements. One of the cattle bones, a first phalanx from turf core **2812** of the barrow, is quite large and could potential be from an aurochs, the wild ancestor of domestic cattle. Other identified species include sheep/goat, pig, horse, dog and red deer. Horse bones were identified from contexts **2849** and **2920**; they include a first phalanx, a metacarpal and a fragment of mandible.

5.7.6 A small number of cattle bones, including teeth, long bones from the forequarter and the mandible from an adult animal, were recovered from Romano-British deposits infilling the top of the barrow ditch.

5.7.7 The most significant aspect of the animal bone assemblage from the 2013 phase of excavation is the presence of horse bones of possibly Early Bronze Age date. Several bones from this species were recovered from the 2012 phase of fieldwork at Barrow Clump, and their rarity in the archaeological record for this period was highlighted at the time. Despite the lack of contextual security due to extensive burrowing it may be worthwhile to obtain radiocarbon dates for these remains, since this is the only way to confirm whether or not they are contemporary with the barrow.

6 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 A total of 76 individual or groups of soil samples was taken during the course of the 2013 excavation, 62 of them from graves, for the recovery of human bone and small artefacts, specifically beads.

6.1.2 Two bulk environmental samples were also taken, one from the base of probable Neolithic pit **[2925]** for the recovery of plant macrofossils, charcoal and small animal bones. This sample was taken from what was considered to be the only appropriate well sealed and dated/datable archaeological context. Work in 2012 had shown that none of the deposits sampled then had escaped mixing as a result of extensive animal burrowing and tree root disturbance. The second sample taken in 2013 comprised the entire excavated volume

(approximately 40 litres) of Neolithic buried soil preserved beneath the Beaker mound in trench 6, bulk sampled for artefact recovery.

6.1.3 Sequences of mollusc samples and kubiena tins (soil micromorphology) were also taken through the Neolithic soil and Beaker mound and ditch in trench 6, for possible future analysis should this be required.

6.2 Charred plant remains, charcoal and molluscs

6.2.1 The bulk sample from probable Neolithic pit [**2925**] was processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 4 mm, 2 mm and 1 mm fractions and dried. The flot was scanned under a x10 – x40 stereo-binocular microscope and the preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains recorded in **Table 6**. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997).

Table 6: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Samples				Flot							
Feature	Context	Sample	Vol. Ltrs	Flot (ml)	% roots	Charred Plant Remains				Charcoal >4/2mm	Other
						Grain	Chaff	Other	Comments		
? Neolithic pit											
2925	2927	3514	10	100	70	C	-	B	Indet. grain frags, *Corylus avellana* shell frags	3/3 ml	Moll-t (A*)

Key: A*** = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5; Moll-t = terrestrial

6.2.2 There were a high number of roots and modern seeds within the sample. A moderate quantity of hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell fragments and a few indeterminate grain fragments were also present.

6.2.3 Charred plant assemblages dominated by wild food remains, particularly hazelnut shell, are typical of those assemblages generally recovered from Neolithic deposits. This may be indicative of the exploitation and general reliance on these wild food resources during this period (Moffett *et al* 1989; Stevens 2007; Robinson 2000).

6.2.4 Molluscs were observed within the flot and were rapidly assessed to provide some information about shell preservation and species representation. Nomenclature is according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999).

6.2.5 The mollusc assemblage included shells of the shade-loving species *Oxychilus cellarius, Aegopinella nitidula, Discus rotundatus, Clausilia bidentata* and *Vitrea* sp., and of the intermediate species *Trochulus hispidus, Vitrina pellucida, Cochlicopa* sp. and *Pomatias elegans*. The absence of open country species within this assemblage may be indicative of a woodland environment in the vicinity of the pit.

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 As in 2012, the excavation undertaken in 2013 has proved very successful. The archaeological aims and objectives have largely been achieved with, in particular, a significant amount of further data gathered from the Anglo-Saxon cemetery.

7.1.2 The excavation has continued to be an excellent project for Operation Nightingale, with the military personnel involved benefiting from the experience, both in terms of gaining archaeological knowledge and in terms of recovery.

7.1.3 Along with the military personnel, the excavation again attracted a number of volunteers with a wide range of archaeological experience and skills. The volunteers have taken part in both the excavation and post-excavation stages of the project, and have proved a valuable asset to the team.

7.1.4 Disturbance caused by badgers, in particular, and other burrowing animals to the archaeological deposits and human remains has been demonstrated to be continuing unabated. Whilst animal burrows were not individually recorded in the same detail as in the English Heritage excavations of 2003-4, they have been recorded where they impacted on archaeological features, particularly graves.

7.1.5 Further areas of the barrow and surrounding area will be targeted for investigation in 2014, principally in order to clarify the extent, layout and density of Anglo-Saxon graves revealed in 2003–4 and 2012–3, and particularly to define the extent of Anglo-Saxon burials on the south-west side of the Early Bronze Age barrow.

7.2 Prehistoric sequence

7.2.1 A further, small area of the buried Neolithic land surface sealed beneath the Bronze Age (and Beaker) barrow mound was excavated. However, no certain Neolithic pottery and only a relatively small quantity of worked flint was recovered, contrasting with the Early Neolithic pot recovered in 2012, whilst Middle and Late Neolithic sherds were also recovered during the 2003-4 excavations. This suggests activity, possibly settlement, focussed on the southern part of the site at various times throughout the Neolithic period. This is further supported by the presence of what, although currently not firmly dated, is likely to be a Neolithic pit, the first feature (excluding the buried soil) of this date to be found on the site. The finds (antler, hammerstone, worked flint and sarsen) represent a ‘placed deposit’ in the base of the pit. It is likely that there were once other, organic materials present that have not survived but, despite the presence of a flint cairn ‘sealing’ the pit, there was no evidence that the pit had ever contained a burial.

7.2.2 The projected circuit of the Beaker ring-ditch was confirmed by the excavations in 2012 and 2013, indicating it to have been approximately 15m in diameter. No further graves have been found (to add to the two or more recorded prior to 2012), and in 2013 no additional stake-holes forming part of what was interpreted as a stake-circle in 2012 were identified. This is probably because of the narrow width of trench 6, which crossed its projected line, and the extent of animal disturbance in this area. The Beaker mound and ditch fills, however, comprised a well-preserved sequence of deposits which included at least one stabilisation horizon.

7.2.3 Four further sections were excavated in 2013 through the Early Bronze Age barrow ditch. Trench 6 has helped to clarify the precise course of the northern part of the ditch, confirming the previously estimated diameter of this substantial bell barrow at

approximately 50m, with a berm up to 7m wide. As previously, a fairly consistent profile and fill sequence was revealed, as well as some evidence for a recut which had also been recorded in 2003-4 and 2012, and which may have extended around the circumference of the monument. The presence of such a recut would be unusual, and it needs to be demonstrated that it is not simply a 'feature' resulting from natural erosion of deposits within the partly infilled ditch. The turf line recorded in 2012 approximately half way up the sequence of fills in the barrow ditch, and assigned to the Roman period, was identified in 2013, though it was more clearly apparent in the southern half of the monument than the north.

7.2.4 No Early Bronze Age burials were found beneath the turf core of the surviving mound in either 2012 or 2013, and Hawley's discoveries in the centre of the barrow appear to be the only ones made so far that relate to this phase of use. No further cremation burials were found in 2013, to add to that recorded in 2012, made in a cut in the chalk capping to the turf core of the mound.

7.2.5 Following the discovery in 2012 of what appeared to be the south-east end of Hawley's previously un-located excavation trench of the 1890s, it was anticipated that the north end might be identified at the south end of trench 6. However, it was not found, suggesting that Hawley's trench is smaller than had been envisaged.

7.3 Anglo-Saxon cemetery

7.3.1 The 2013 excavation recorded 20 graves, containing 20 burials, and one further disturbed burial with no recognisable grave cut. When added to those excavated by English Heritage in 2003-4 (12 graves containing 13 burials; one grave with two individuals) and the 2012 Operation Nightingale excavation (26 graves containing 25 burials; one grave with two individuals and two graves with no surviving skeletal remains) this makes a total of 59 Anglo-Saxon graves with, overall, 59 burials.

7.3.2 The grave goods from the 2013 excavation are generally indicative of a 6th century AD date for the cemetery, which supports the date suggested from the grave goods excavated in 2003-4 and 2012. Although a small number of brooches and weapons could have been manufactured as early as the late 5th century (eg saucer brooches ON 5406 and 5407), they were probably deposited in the 6th, while a shield boss (ON 5412) and spearhead (ON 5429) from grave **[2832]** have a currency which extends into the 7th century but were probably manufactured in the late 6th.

7.3.3 The absence of graves in trench 6, or at least within the relatively narrow strip excavated, coupled with their absence in similarly narrow trench 4 excavated in 2012, suggests that burials may have been wholly confined to the southern side of the barrow. Indeed, the northern extent of the cemetery on the east side of the barrow appears to have been exposed within trench 5. Further evidence for this distribution of burials is provided by the lack of any human bone in the numerous badger setts on the north side of the barrow, in contrast to the disturbed and redeposited material which is fairly regularly recovered to the south. A cemetery focussed on the southern side of the barrow was perhaps established in sight of a contemporary (but as yet undiscovered) settlement further to the south in the bottom of Avon valley, most likely in the vicinity of Ablington but possibly to the north of this, nearer Figheldean. The southern extent of the cemetery is yet to be confirmed, though three graves outside the barrow ditch in trench 8 can be added to the two examples on the outer edge of the ditch in trench 2, excavated in 2012. These provide further evidence that the cemetery may extend some distance beyond the Bronze Age monument in this general direction, perhaps principally to the south-west as no graves were located in trench 9 directly to the south of trench 2.

7.3.4 Five examples of intercutting graves were recorded in 2013, whereas only one example was seen in 2012. However, in two cases this was only at their edges, and in another two (both in the barrow ditch in trench 8) the degree of overlap was limited and the earlier burials in each case were not disturbed. Only in one case was the the intercutting more significant (in trench 7), but even here where one grave was dug into the top of another there was no disturbance to the body itself. This may indicate that the graves were marked in some way, even the smallest graves of infants, possibly by wooden markers or mounds of earth. This general lack of significant intercutting also suggests that burial may have taken place over a relatively short period within the 6th century, possibly spanning no more than a few decades.

7.3.5 The extent of the cemetery is now becoming clearer and the final season of excavations planned for 2014 should clarify this further. It would be premature at this point to begin to make comparisons with other Anglo-Saxon cemeteries in Wiltshire and also to look in too much detail at any possible patterning in the layout of the cemetery. Nevertheless, several apparent groupings have been noted previously, in 2012 (Wessex Archaeology 2013), and to these can be added additional information from the work in 2013. This has been outlined above and can be repeated and expanded upon here.

7.3.6 Possibly the most significant group, or at least the group that appears to stand out most clearly in that they were unaccompanied, includes three adult graves (**[2818]**, **[2829]** and **[2922]**), all aligned approximately east - west and lying in the south-east part of the berm in trench 5. It seems very likely that they formed a group with five burials recorded in 2003-4 and 2012 (**[2605]**, **[2642]**, **[6001]**, **[6005]** and **[6011]**), aligned south-east - north-west, all within the barrow berm in trench 1 and the adjacent trenches C and D, whilst two further probable infant or neonate graves (**[2764]** and **[6014]**) lay nearby. None of these five (or possibly seven, including the infants/neonates) burials had grave goods (except for a fragment of bead in **[6011]**), and together these burials, perhaps as many as ten, may represent a relatively impoverished group, or possibly reflect a chronological difference.

7.3.7 A group of three juveniles (**[2847]**, **[2873]** and **[2885]**) in the barrow ditch in trench 8 lay immediately to the south of what appears to be a distinct grouping of two infants (**[2671**] and **[2701]**) and a juvenile (**[2674]**) recorded in 2012 in the barrow berm in trench 3. Also in 2012, further to the east, within the barrow ditch in trench 2, there was a further group of young or relatively young individuals comprising an infant (**[2671]**), the two juveniles in grave **[2727]** and another (female) juvenile (**[2648]**), only the latter with grave goods (beads); grave **[2621]**, which though it has been recently disturbed and contained no human remains, was also of relatively small size.

7.3.8 Finally, a line of five adult graves around the edge of the barrow mound (**[2832]**, **[2836]**, **[2839]**, **[2842]** and **[2627]**) in trenches 7 and 2 can be noted, with a further line of three adult graves around the inner edge of the ditch (**[2723]**, **[2807]** and **[2699]**) in trenches 7, 8 and 3.

7.3.9 The practice of focussing early Anglo-Saxon graves and cemeteries around earlier monuments is a widely attested phenomenon within Wiltshire (Eagles 2001; Meaney 1964, 264-79; Osgood 1999; Semple 2003; Williams 1997) and sufficient comparative data exists for the significance of Barrow Clump to be assessed – certainly within the regional context.

7.4 Current and future work

7.4.1 Post-excavation work continues on the archive and material excavated in 2013, mainly undertaken by a team of trained volunteers at the offices of Wessex Archaeology, with other input from Wessex Archaeology staff. The long-term aim is to bring together and assess the results from 2012, 2013 and one further proposed season of excavation under the aegis of Operation Nightingale and, eventually, to integrate and publish these along with the results from the English Heritage excavations of 2003–4, which have been subject to assessment and analysis (Last 2006).

7.4.2 The focus of fieldwork in 2014 will be on the area between trench 6 and English Heritage trench B to the south, on the west side of the barrow. This will include re-investigating the western end of English Heritage trench B, thereby joining the proposed excavation area with the west side of trench 7. Excavation in this area will, in particular, provide more information on the extent, layout and density of Anglo-Saxon burials within the limits of the barrow monument and, it is anticipated, define the northern extent of graves on the west side of the barrow, perhaps corresponding with that found to the east in 2013. The proposed excavation will also expose more of the core of the barrow, including the Neolithic buried soil, Beaker ring-ditch and mound, as well as the Early Bronze Age barrow mound. It should also confirm the location and extent of Hawley's excavation trench, and establish whether any prehistoric burials remain in the central part of the monument.

7.4.3 Also in 2014, a further radial trench is proposed to cross the northern half of the barrow, between trenches 4 and 6, to confirm the apparent absence of Anglo-Saxon burials in this part of the barrow, as well as providing further information on the prehistoric sequence. Two small trenches are also proposed outside and to the south and west of the barrow, to establish whether the Anglo-Saxon cemetery extended very far in these directions as part of a much larger burial ground that surrounds the Scheduled Monument. Interestingly, an unstratified Anglo-Saxon spearhead was discovered on the western edge of the barrow in 2011, which hints at the presence of graves in this area, though investigations here will be restricted by the presence of mature trees. Finally, a small extension to the south-west of trench 7 is proposed, to recover a burial in the barrow ditch, the skull of which was exposed in 2013, but trees will again be a limiting factor.

7.4.4 Future, distributional analysis of the graves can be undertaken to inform on the layout and structure of the excavated part of the cemetery. It should aim to determine why certain individuals were interred here by considering evidence for zoning of graves based on archaeological and skeletal data. This was attempted for 2003-4 (Stoodley 2007), but with the larger sample of graves that will be available following the final season of work in 2014, a much clearer picture will emerge. The proposed analysis will also will also assess the relationship of the group of early Anglo-Saxon graves to the Bronze Age barrow to try to discover the reasons why the cemetery site was sited here. A particularly interesting question is the relationship, both spatially and chronologically, of the graves within the berm to those in the barrow ditch – some differ not only in terms of their location, but also in their burial rite. It is possible that these might belong to an earlier period of usage, such as the Roman era (Williams 1998), though this is considered very unlikely, or alternatively date to the final-phase - a period when the practice of placing grave goods was in decline. With regard to the former suggestion, the intermittent use of the site over many centuries, whether for burial or some other purpose, may have played an important decision in determining the location of the early Anglo-Saxon cemetery (Williams 1997) – were the Anglo-Saxons following an established tradition of use? If so, this raises important issues concerning the integration of earlier landscapes into the early medieval world.

7.4.5 A comparison of the Barrow Clump data to other Wiltshire cemeteries is proposed. An important research priority will be to integrate the data regionally to compare and contrast the site and its burial practices, thus leading to a clearer understanding of Barrow Clump's place within the county. Wiltshire does have a fairly regular and structured burial rite in the 6th century (Stoodley 2006; 2010) and it will be of interest to learn whether Barrow Clump confirms or modifies this understanding.

7.4.6 The small sample of graves excavated in 2003-4 limited what could be said about the importance of the site. With the addition of the 2012-13 data it is clear that the cemetery's value lies in terms of regional and local research priorities. The county of Wiltshire boasts a relatively high number of early Anglo-Saxon cemeteries that span the later 5th to 7th century AD and which encompass a range of different sites: community burial grounds of the 5th and 6th century to high-status burials, often reusing earlier monuments, of the 7th (Eagles 2001). Thus the regional context of the Barrow Clump site can be reconstructed with a certain degree of certainty. But what these studies have shown is that the practice of siting an early Anglo-Saxon cemetery around a prehistoric monument is more commonly encountered in the 7th century. Barrow Clump is thus an earlier example and is of important academic value especially considering the recent interest that there has been in this topic (Williams 1997; Thate 2005).

7.4.7 Finally, the site is also important in terms of the recent interest in the early medieval landscape and especially how cemeteries may have been used to demarcate boundaries and territories in Wiltshire (Bonney 1966; Semple 2003). The potential certainly exists for Barrow Clump to be integrated into such studies.

8 STORAGE AND CURATION

8.1 Museum

8.1.1 The Site falls within the collecting area of the Wiltshire Heritage Museum, Devizes. It is proposed, therefore, that all finds and the accompanying records be deposited there following the completion of assessment and analysis, subject to the museum accepting archaeological archives.

8.2 Archive

8.2.1 The complete site archive from the 2013 excavation, which includes paper and digital records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts and ecofacts (**Table 7**), will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Wiltshire Heritage Museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (Walker 1990; SMA 1995; Richards and Robinson 2000; Brown 2011). It will eventually form part of the consolidated archive for the Barrow Clump project which is proposed to be deposited at Wiltshire Heritage Museum.

8.2.2 The archive is currently held at the Wessex Archaeology offices in Salisbury under the project code 85371.

8.3 Conservation

8.3.1 Immediate conservation requirements were dealt with in the field. Finds which were subsequently identified as of unstable condition and therefore potentially in need of conservation treatment have been subject to limited cleaning and stabilisation, and packed appropriately.

Table 7: Site archive

WA Project Code	File No.	Details	No of sheets	Format
85371	1	Index to archive	1	A4
85371	1	Interim report	62	A4
85371	1	Day book	6	A4
85371	1	Number record	1	A4
85371	1	Graphics register	3	A4
85371	1	Photo register	13	A4
85371	1	Survey records	17	A4
85371	1	Context index	5	A4
85371	1	Context records	142	A4
85371	1	Finds records	5	A4
85371	1	Environmental register	5	A4
85371	1	Environmental records	6 (21 skeleton)	A4
85371	1	Graphics	15	A4
85371	2	Graphics	23	A3
85371	Roll	Graphics	10	A1
85371	-	B & W photographs	182	-
85371	-	Digital photographs	233	CD
85371	-	Finds boxes	TBC	Boxes

8.4 Storage

8.4.1 The bulk of the material archive is currently stored by material and context in cardboard boxes, with metalwork and other small finds kept in individual plastic containers, sealed and with silica gel added where necessary.

8.5 Discard policy

8.5.1 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in *Selection, Retention and Dispersal* (Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. In this instance, no discard policy has been implemented at this stage.

8.6 Copyright

8.6.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the Site will be retained by Wessex Archaeology Ltd under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. The recipient museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profitmaking, and conforms with the Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003.

8.6.2 This report, and the archive generally, may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which we are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. You are reminded that you remain bound by the conditions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

8.7 Security Copy

8.7.1 In line with current best practice, on completion of the project a security copy of the paper records will be prepared in electronic form (PDF file).

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10 APPENDICES

10.1 Appendix 1: Excavation context summary

Context	Description		Site Sub Div.
2800	*Skeleton*	Disturbed (juvenile) inhumation	7
2801	*Topsoil*	Trench 7 topsoil/disturbed/unstrat material	7
2802	*Topsoil*	Trench 8 topsoil/disturbed/unstrat material	8
2803	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2804)	8
2804	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2803, 2805)	8
2805	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2804))	8
2806	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2807)	8
2807	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2806, 2808)	8
2808	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2807)	8
2809	*Not used*	-	-
2810	*Layer*	Turf core of Bronze Age barrow	6
2811	*Layer*	Beaker mound material	6
2812	*Layer*	Subsoil/ploughed surface of turf core	6
2813	*Fill*	Upper fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	6
2814	*Cut*	Bronze Age barrow ditch	6
2815	*Fill*	Upper fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	8
2816	*Fill*	Flint layer/fill within Bronze Age barrow ditch	6
2817	*Fill*	Upper fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2818	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2819, 2820)	5
2819	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2818)	5
2820	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2818)	5
2821	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2847]	8
2822	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2847)	8
2823	*Fill*	Fill of Beaker ditch	6
2824	*Layer*	Turf /stabilisation horizon over Beaker ditch and mound	6
2825	*Cut*	Beaker ring-ditch	6
2826	*Fill*	Lower fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	6
2827	*Fill*	Upper fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2828	*Fill*	Upper fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2829	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2830, 2831, 2898)	5
2830	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2829)	5
2831	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2829)	5
2832	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2633, 2634)	7

2833	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2832)	7
2834	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2832)	7
2835	*Fill*	Bottom fill of Beaker ring-ditch	4
2836	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2837, 2838)	7
2837	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2836)	7
2838	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2836)	7
2839	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2840, 2841)	7
2840	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2839)	7
2841	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2839)	7
2842	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2843, 2844)	7
2843	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2842)	7
2844	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2842)	7
2845	*Natural*	Natural chalk	7
2846	*Natural*	Natural chalk	6
2847	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2821, 2822)	8
2848	*Not used*	-	-
2849	*Fill*	Flint layer/fill within Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2850	*Fill*	Upper fill (RB turf horizon) of Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2851	*Cut*	Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2852	*Fill*	Flint layer/fill within Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2853	*Cut*	Grave cut = [see 2723]	3/7
2854	*Layer*	Neolithic land surface	6
2855	*Layer*	Middle/lower fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2856	*Fill*	Lower fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2857	*Layer*	Chalk capping of Bronze Age barrow	7
2858	*Layer*	Turf core of Bronze Age barrow	7
2859	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2873)	8
2860	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2861)	8
2861	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2860, 2862)	8
2862	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2861)	8
2863	*Fill*	Lower fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2864	*Cut*	Bronze Age barrow ditch (see [2934]	8
2865	*Fill*	Middle fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2866	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2867, 2868)	7
2867	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2866)	7
2868	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2866)	7
2869	*Fill*	Bottom fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	5

2870	*Fill*	Bottom fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2871	*Cut*	Modern fire trench (fw 2872)	5
2872	*Fill*	Fill of fire modern (fo 2871, 2875)	5
2873	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2859, 2874)	8
2874	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2873)	8
2875	*Cut*	Modern fire trench (fw 2872)	5
2876	*Cut*	Stake-hole (fw 2877)	7
2877	*Fill*	Stake-hole fill (fo 2876)	7
2878	*Cut*	Stake-hole (fw 2879)	7
2879	*Fill*	Stake-hole fill (fo 2878)	7
2880	*Cut*	Stake-hole (fw 2881)	7
2881	*Fill*	Stake-hole fill (fo 2880)	7
2882	*Cut*	Stake-hole (fw 2883)	7
2883	*Fill*	Stake-hole fill (fo 2882)	7
2884	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2885)	8
2885	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2884, 2886)	8
2886	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2885)	8
2887	*Layer*	Beaker mound/ditch fill	6
2888	*Layer*	Beaker ditch fill/stabilisation layer	6
2889	*Layer*	Beaker mound/ditch fill	6
2890	*Fill*	Fill of Beaker ditch	6
2891	*Fill*	Fill of Beaker ditch	6
2892	*Layer*	Beaker mound	6
2893	*Layer*	Beaker mound	6
2894	*Layer*	Beaker mound	6
2895	*Layer*	Beaker mound	6
2896	*Layer*	Pre-Beaker mound	6
2897	*Layer*	Pre-Neolithic land surface	6
2898	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2829)	5
2899	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2900, 2901)	7
2900	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2899)	7
2701	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2899)	7
2902	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2903, 2904)	7
2903	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2902)	7
2904	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2902)	7
2905	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2906, 2907)	8
2906	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2905)	8

2907	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2905)	8
2908	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo ?/cut not visible)	8
2909	*Fill*	Middle fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	8
2910	*Layer*	Neolithic buried soil	7
2911	*Cut*	Stake-hole (fw 2912)	7
2912	*Fill*	Stake-hole fill (fo 2911)	7
2913	*Cut*	Stake-hole (fw 2914)	7
2914	*Fill*	Stake-hole fill (fo 2913)	7
2915	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2916, 2917)	7
2916	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2915)	7
2917	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2915)	7
2918	*Fill*	Upper fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2919	*Fill*	Middle fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2920	*Fill*	Lower fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2921	*Cut*	Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2922	*Cut*	Grave cut (fw 2923, 2924)	5
2923	*Fill*	Grave fill (fo 2922)	5
2924	*Skeleton*	Inhumation (fo 2922)	5
2925	*Cut*	Pit (fw 2926, 2927, 2932)	5
2926	*Fill*	Pit fill (fo 2725)	5
2927	*Fill*	Pit fill (fo 2725)	5
2928	*Not used*	-	-
2929	*Not used*	-	-
2930	*Deposit*	Animal bone deposit in ditch fill (2815)	8
2931	*Fnds*	No allocated to unstratified finds	5
2932	*Fill*	Pit fill (fo 2725)	5
2933	*Fill*	Lower fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	8
2934	*Cut*	Bronze Age barrow ditch	8
2935	*Fill*	Middle/upper fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	5
2936	*Cut*	Stake-hole (fw 2937)	7
2937	*Fill*	Stake-hole fill (fo 2936)	7
2938	*Cut*	Stake-hole (fw 2939)	7
2939	*Fill*	Stake-hole fill (fo 2938)	7
2940	*Fill*	Lower fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	8
2941	*Fill*	Bottom fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	8
2942	*Fill*	Bottom fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch	8

10.2 Appendix 2: Grave catalogue

Trench 5

GRAVE 2618 (SK 2820)
Figure #: N/A
West - east, sub-rectangular cut with rounded corners, regular straight, vertical sides and a flat base - 2.00m x 0.90m, 0.73m deep. Light greyish brown silty loam with moderate chalk and occasional flint inclusions.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial with right hand across pelvis, *c*. 65% skeletal recovery. Adult female, *c*. 35-45 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: No.
Grave Goods: N/A

GRAVE 2829 (SK 2831)
Figure #: N/A
West - east, sub-rectangular cut with rounded corners (north edge cut by adjacent grave), straight vertical sides to a flat base sloping east to west - 2.10m x 0.60m, 0.27m deep. Greyish brown loam with small chalk fragments and occasional medium flint inclusions.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial with tight positioning possibly indicating the body was wrapped in a shroud, *c*. 90% skeletal recovery. Adult male, *c*. 30-45 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: Yes.
Grave Goods: N/A

GRAVE 2922 (SK 2924)
Figure #: N/A
West - east, sub-rectangular cut with rounded corners, regular straight, vertical sides to a flat base – 2.32m x 0.80m, 0.60m deep. Light greyish brown silty clay with moderate angular chalk and occasional flint inclusions.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial, *c*. 60% skeletal recovery. Adult female *c*. 30-40 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: No.
Grave Goods: N/A

Trench 7

GRAVE 2723 (SK2722)
Figure #: N/A
West-north-west – east-south-east, sub-rectangular cut with rounded corners, steep to vertical sides down to a flat base with slight slope running east to west – 2.33m x 0.88m, 0.40m deep. Light greyish brown loam with common chalk inclusions and occasional large flints (‘lining’).
Human Remains: Extended supine burial with right arm across abdomen, *c*. 75% skeletal recovery. Adult female, *c*. 20-30 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: Yes.
Grave Goods: N/A

GRAVE / SK2800
Figure #: N/A
No discernible grave cut – truncated horizontally.
Human Remains: Disturbed, *c*. 25% skeletal recovery. Juvenile, *c*. 8-12 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: No.
Grave Goods: N/A

GRAVE 2832 (SK 2834)
Figure #: N/A
North-west – south-east, sub-rectangular cut with irregular sides and an irregular base - 2.57m x 1.04m, 0.55m deep. Light to mid brown sandy silt with some chalk and flint inclusions.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial, *c*. 85% skeletal recovery. Adult male, *c*. 35-45 years of age. Redeposited bones from fill 2833, *c*. 15% skeletal recovery. Adult over 35 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: Yes.
Grave Goods:
ON 5411: Iron spearhead on right side above skull.
ON 5412: Iron shield boss on right side of chest.
ON 5413: Iron knife on left pelvic bone.

GRAVE 2836 (SK 2838)
Figure #: N/A
West - east, sub-rectangular cut with rounded corners, and straight, steep sides to a flat base - 2.16m x 0.66m, 0.50m deep. Light greyish brown silty loam with moderate small chalk and sparse angular chalk inclusions.
Human Remains: Badly disturbed by badgers; leg bones bent at knee as if lying on left side, *c*. 35% skeletal recovery. Adult female, >35 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: No.
Grave Goods: N/A

GRAVE 2839 (SK 2841)
Figure #: N/A
West - east, sub-rectangular cut with very irregular north edge due to badger damage, straight vertical sides to the south and a flat base – 1.90m x *c*. 0.80m, 0.55m deep. Light greyish brown loam with common, angular chalk inclusions.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial with most bones displaced by badger disturbance, *c*. 30% skeletal recovery. Adult female *c*. 18-35 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: No.
Grave Goods: N/A

GRAVE 2842 (SK 2844)
Figure #: N/A
West-north-west – east-south-east, sub-rectangular cut with rounded ends, irregular sloping sides and a flat base sloping to the west – 1.96m x 0.48m, 0.15m deep. Light brown sandy loam with abundant chalk and sparse flint inclusions.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial, *c*. 90% skeletal recovery. Adult male *c*. 35-45 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: Yes.
Grave Goods: N/A

GRAVE 2866 (SK 2868)
Figure #: N/A
West-north-west – east-south-east, sub-rectangular cut with irregular, shallow sloping sides and an irregular base – 2.07m x 0.75m, 0.30m deep. Mid brown silty loam with some chalk and rare flint inclusions.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial, *c*. 50% skeletal recovery. Adult female *c*. 15-17 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: No.
Grave Goods:
ON 5418: Iron buckle on right side of pelvis.
ON 5420: Iron object above left shoulder.

GRAVE 2899 (SK 2901)
Figure #: N/A
West-north-west – east-south-east, sub-rectangular cut with irregular vertical sides sloping down to an irregular base which slopes up to the east end – 1.80m x 0.60m, 0.37m deep. Mid greyish brown clayey silt with common sub-rounded chalk and rare sub-angular flint inclusions.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial badly damaged by badgers; left hand over pelvis, *c*. 50% skeletal recovery. Adult female *c*. 30-40 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: No.
Grave Goods: N/A

GRAVE 2902 (SK 2903)
Figure #: N/A
West-north-west – east-south-east, sub-rectangular cut with rounded corners to the south-east, and irregular, steep sides to an irregular base –2.24m x 0.75m, 0.45m deep. Light brown sandy loam with abundant subrounded chalk inclusions.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial, *c*. 90% skeletal recovery. Adult male >45 years of age. Three bones infant/juvenile.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: Yes.
Grave Goods: N/A

GRAVE 2915 (SK 2916)
Figure #: N/A
West-north-west – east-south-east, sub-rectangular cut with rounded ends, and straight, steep sides to a concave base – 2.10m x 0.65m, 0.54m deep. Light greyish brown sandy loam with abundant subangular chalk inclusions and rare flint nodules.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial, *c*. 45% skeletal recovery. Adult >45 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: No.
Grave Goods:
ON 5429: Iron spearhead, at top of skull.
ON 5430: Iron buckle, left of pelvic area.
ON 5431: Copper alloy rivet/fitting, right of pelvic area.
ON 5435: Iron shield boss, between upper leg bones.
ON 5439: Iron knife, by left ribs

Trench 8

GRAVE 2804 (SK 2803)
Figure #: N/A
West - east, sub-rectangular cut with rounded corners, irregular almost vertical sides to a flat base - 2.15m x 0.90m, 0.62m deep. Light greyish brown loam with abundant chalk and some flint inclusions.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial with left hand resting on pelvis, *c*. 75% skeletal recovery. Adult female, > 45 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: Yes.
Grave Goods:
ON 5406: Copper alloy brooch on left clavicle with a small amount of fabric attached.
ON 5407: Copper alloy brooch on right clavicle with small amount of fabric attached.
ON 5410: Copper alloy ring on left hand
ON 5414: Three amber beads right and left of pelvis
ON 5416: Eight amber and glass beads in abdominal area

GRAVE 2807 (SK 2806)
Figure #: N/A
West - east, sub-rectangular cut with rounded corners, steep sides to a flat base - 2.14m x 0.85m, 0.75m deep. Mid greyish brown silty loam with chalk and flint inclusions.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial with legs crossed and arms laid over abdomen, *c*. 65% skeletal recovery. Adult female, *c*. 35-45 years of age. Three redeposited bones of an adult >18 years of age also recovered.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: Yes.
Grave Goods:
ON 5402: Eight glass beads, seven rounded and one scalloped from skull/neck area
ON 5404: Copper alloy tweezers from left side of chest
ON 5408: Three amber beads, two rounded and one prismatic from left clavicle
ON 5409: Two copper alloy spiral finger rings from left hand
ON 5436: Fragment of shaft of copper alloy pin?

GRAVE 2847 (SK 2821)
Figure #: N/A
West - east, grave cut in ditch fill clear on south side but indistinct on north side due to animal burrows. Estimated dimensions 1.07m x 0.30m, no depth. Mid brown silty loam with chalk and flint inclusions.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial disturbed by badgers, *c*. 55% skeletal recovery. Infant/juvenile *c*. 3-5 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: No.
Grave Goods:
ON 5415: Iron rectangular flat object by left pelvic bone.

GRAVE 2861 (SK 2860)
Figure #: N/A
West - east, sub-rectangular cut with straight side to north and irregular side to the south sloping down to a flat base – 2.03m x 0.90m, 0.65m deep. Light brown silty loam with chalk and flint inclusions.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial with right hand resting on right leg and left hand on centre of pelvis, *c*. 80% skeletal recovery. Adult male *c*. 20-25 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: No.
Grave Goods: N/A

GRAVE 2873 (SK2859)
Figure #: N/A
West - east, rectangular cut with steep sides and a flat base. Extent of cut unclear – *c*. 1.15m x *c*. 0.44m, depth uncertain. Light greyish brown silty loam with chalk and flint inclusions.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial with arms crossed over abdomen, *c*. 50% skeletal recovery. Juvenile *c*. 9-10 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: Yes.
Grave Goods:
ON 5419: Iron knife blade on left lower arm.
ON 5421: Small iron object, possibly perforated, on right shoulder
ON 5422: Small iron strip on right shoulder
ON 5423: Small iron ?strip with ON 5419

GRAVE 2885 (SK 2884)
Figure #: N/A
West - east, sub-rectangular cut with rounded corners, steep straight sides to an irregular, flat base – 1.78m x 0.80m, 0.26m deep. Light brown loam with chalk and flint inclusions.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial with head turned to the right and knees bent to right and arms crossed over the chest, *c*. 80% skeletal recovery. Juvenile *c*. 8-10 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: Yes.
Grave Goods: N/A

GRAVE 2905 (SK 2907)
Figure #: N/A
West - east, sub-rectangular cut with rounded corners, and straight vertical sides to a flat base – 2.46m x c0.62m, 0.58m deep. Light greyish brown sandy loam with chalk and flint inclusions.
Human Remains: Extended supine burial, *c*. 35% skeletal recovery. Adult male *c*. 30-40 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: No.
Grave Goods:
ON 5425: Iron fragments, possible a spatula, left pelvic area.

GRAVE 0000 (SK 2908)
Figure #: N/A
West – east, no visible grave cut. Mid brown sandy loam ditch fill with chalk and flint inclusions, badly disturbed by badgers.
Human Remains: c. 10% skeletal recovery. Adult >18 years of age.
Teeth suitable for isotope analysis: No.
Grave Goods: N/A

10.3 Appendix 3: Catalogue of metal objects

The catalogue (prepared by Nick Stoodley) lists and describes the artefacts recovered from the early Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Barrow Clump in 2013. It is structured by material and within each material group it is divided by type of object and then subtype (where applicable). The form of each artefact is described plus any decoration. For each artefact maximum measurements are given, but these may change for objects that undergo cleaning and conservation. Where possible, parallels are cited and a date is given. There are several groups of iron fragments for which only a general identification has been possible.

Copper alloy

Brooches

Saucer brooch (SK 2803; Grave 2804; ON 5406)

The brooch has been cast in one piece out of copper alloy, and is in good condition. The front is gilded. Decorated with geometric pattern: cruciform motif and hearts. Dickinson Group 3; closest to subtype 3.1, but appears unique. The artefact has a diameter of 33 mm.

The pin arrangement is intact: the pin catch and lug are copper alloy being cast in one with the brooch. The iron pin is extant. Organic remains associated with iron pin and on the front and rear of the rim of the artefact.

Saucer brooches are centred predominantly on Saxon areas, especially the Upper Thames Valley, Wessex and Sussex. Group 3 Saucer brooches are distributed throughout the Upper Thames Valley with some in Surrey, Sussex and Kent. Only one example of subtype 3.1 is known and was found at Long Wittenham I (grave 186) in a grave dating to the late 5th century.

Saucer brooch (SK 2803; Grave 2804; ON 5407)

Pair to ON 5406. The brooch has been cast in one piece out of copper alloy, and is in good condition. The front is gilded. The artefact has a diameter of 33 mm.

The pin arrangement is intact: the pin catch and lug are copper alloy being cast in one with the brooch. The iron pin is extant. Organic remains are visible across the front of the brooch and are also associated with iron pin and on the front and rear of the rim of the artefact.

Disc brooch? (Trench 7; context 2801 (topsoil/unstrat); ON 5403)

The brooch has been cast in one piece out of copper alloy, and is in poor condition with wear to the edge of the artefact. No decorative details can be observed either by eye or on the x-ray. The artefact has a diameter of 32 mm. The pin arrangement no longer survives: a fragment of the pin is present.

Distribution of disc brooches centred predominantly on Saxon areas, especially the Upper Thames Valley, Wessex and Sussex. Date: 450-550.

Miscellaneous objects

Tweezers (SK 2806; Grave 2807; ON 5404)

Copper alloy tweezers. Head is formed into a loop; the arms expand slightly towards the bottom where they curve outwards and then turn inwards to form the jaws. Length is 46 mm; maximum width 5 mm. In good overall condition. No decoration.

These toilet items are found throughout early Anglo-Saxon England and in contexts ranging from the 5th to later 7th century.

Strap end (Trench 8; context 2802 (topsoil/unstrat); ON 5405)

Copper alloy tongue-shaped strip originally joined to a back plate by two copper alloy rivets. The front is inscribed with three zones of transverse lines and a rectangular panel that is possibly decorated. Length 44mm; maximum width 12mm.

Strap end (Trench 8; context 2802 (topsoil/unstrat); ON 5424)

Copper alloy tongue-shaped strip. The front (captive end) consists of a raised square decorated by an inscribed cross punctuated in the centre by the remains of a rivet. Length 29mm; maximum width 8mm.

Ring (SK 2803; Grave 2804; ON 5410)

Formed from a copper alloy strip, although not obvious where the ends join so could have been cast. No decoration. Diameter 21 mm; width 3mm.

Two rings (Sk 2806; Grave 2807; ON 5409)

Both rings formed from copper alloy strips.

1) Sub-circular spiral ring with the terminal of each end folded back. No decoration. Diameter 18mm.

2) Sub-circular. No decoration. Diameter 18mm.

Stud (SK 2916; Grave 2915; ON 5431)

Discoid head with fragment of off-centre shank to the rear. Diameter 18mm.

Fragment (SK 2806; Grave 2807; ON 5436)

Fragment of copper alloy, rectangular section possibly tapering to point. Length 35mm; width 3mm.

Coin (Trench 8; context 2802 (topsoil/unstrat); ON 5401)

Pierced coin. RIC Vc page 567, no.108.

Coin (Trench 7; context 2801 (topsoil/unstrat); ON 5400)

Coin. Carausius blundered Adventura.

Iron

Weapons

Spearhead (SK 2834; Grave 2832; ON 5411)

Fragmentary iron spearhead (cleft socket, possible rivet through socket). It has a length of 263mm and a maximum width of 39mm (at the blade angle). It appears to be an angular straight-sided spearhead, which if correct, identifies it as Swanton Type E2; 6th - 7th century with a wide distribution. No decoration visible on the x-ray.

Spearhead (SK 2916; Grave 2915; ON 5429)

Fragmentary iron spearhead (cleft socket, possible rivet through socket), tip missing. It has a length of 216mm and a maximum width of 30mm (at the blade angle). It appears to be an angular straight-sided spearhead, which if correct, identifies it as Swanton Type E2; 6th - 7th century with a wide distribution. No decoration visible on the x-ray.

Shield boss (SK 2834; Grave 2832; ON 5412)

Iron shield boss and fragmentary grip. A low boss with a height from rim to top of apex of 85mm, and a diameter of *c*. 125mm. The cone has a convex profile with slight overhanging carination and the profile of the wall is straight. The apex is of a small button type (diameter *c*. 9 mm). It belongs to Dickinson and Härke Group 6, a late 6th to mid 7th century form with a distribution centred on the south-east; less well represented in other areas (Dickinson and Härke 1992, 12-13). The rim originally had five rivets (one missing). There are fragments of the timber shield board adhering to the underside of the boss. Fragmentary grip with an expanded terminal: length 114mm, width of grip 14mm, width of terminal 20mm. Dickinson and Härke Group Ia 1.

Shield boss (SK 2916; Grave 2915; ON 5435)

Very fragmentary iron shield boss and grip. A low boss with a height from rim to top of apex of *c*. 70mm, and a diameter of *c*. 172mm. The cone has a straight profile with overhanging carination and the profile of the wall is concave. The apex is of a disc-headed type. It belongs to Dickinson and Härke Group 1.1, a mid 5th to mid 6th century form with a distribution centred on the Upper Thames Valley and Wessex; less well represented in other Saxon areas (Dickinson and Härke 1992, 12-13). The rim originally had four rivets (one missing). There are fragments of the timber shield board. The grip probably had expanded terminals, Dickinson and Härke Group Ia 1. X-ray shows three circular objects in earth contained in underside of boss.

Knives

Knife (SK 2916; Grave 2915; ON 5439)

Iron tang and blade. Tang is angled up to back of blade and down to cutting edge. The blade appears to have a curved back and cutting edge which if correct identifies it as a Böhner (1958) Type A or Evison (1987, 113) Type 1. The overall surviving length is 123mm; height 19mm; width of blade 5mm. Widely distributed form, dated later 5th to 7th century.

Knife (SK 2834; Grave 2832; ON 5413)

Tang and fragmentary blade (tip missing). Tang is angled up to back of blade and is possibly in line with cutting edge. The profile of the blade is unknown. Surviving length is 136mm; height 23mm; width 4mm.

Knife (SK 2859; Grave 2873; ON 5419)

Tang and fragmentary blade (tip missing). Tang is angled up to back of blade and slopes down to blade. The back appears to be sloping down to the cutting edge. Possible Böhner (1958) Type A or Evison (1987, 113) Type 1. Surviving length is 133mm; height 18mm; width 5mm. Widely distributed form, dated later 5th to 7th century.

Buckles

Buckle (SK 2868; Grave 2866; ON 5418)

Oval iron buckle loop of oval section. Marzinzik Type I 11a-i. A fragment of pin is wrapped around loop and a fragment also survives fused to the opposite side of the loop. Height 31mm.

Buckle (SK 2916; Grave 2915; ON 5430)

Fragmentary oval iron buckle loop of possibly oval section with possible fragment of iron pin. Marzinzik Type I 11a-i. Height *c*. 32mm.

Miscellaneous objects/fragments

Object (SK 2907; Grave 2905; ON 5425)

Fragmentary iron strip, possible attachment ring and possible pin/rivet. Projections at either side of the narrow end possibly where it would have joined with the ring. Possible spatula. Overall length 151mm; height 14mm.

Object (SK 2868; Grave 2866; ON 5420)

Fragment of iron strip. Overall length 31mm; height 9mm.

Object (SK 2821; Grave 2847; ON 5415)

Rectangular iron plate, perforated towards one end. Overall length 50mm; height 28mm.

Objects (SK 2859; Grave 2873; ON 5421, 5422 and 5423)

Three tiny fragments.

ON 5421: small lump, x-ray shows possible perforation, length 8 mm, width 5mm.
ON 5422: strip with incurving end, length 10 mm, width 5mm.
ON 5423: possible strip, length 12mm, width 8mm.

10.4 Appendix 4: Summary of unburnt human bone

KEY: s, a, u, l – skull, axial, upper & lower limbs (where not all skeletal regions are represented); C, T, L, S – cervical, thoracic, lumbar & sacral vertebrae; af – articular facet; apj – articular process joint; as – articular surface; bsm – body surface margin; tpj – transverse process joint

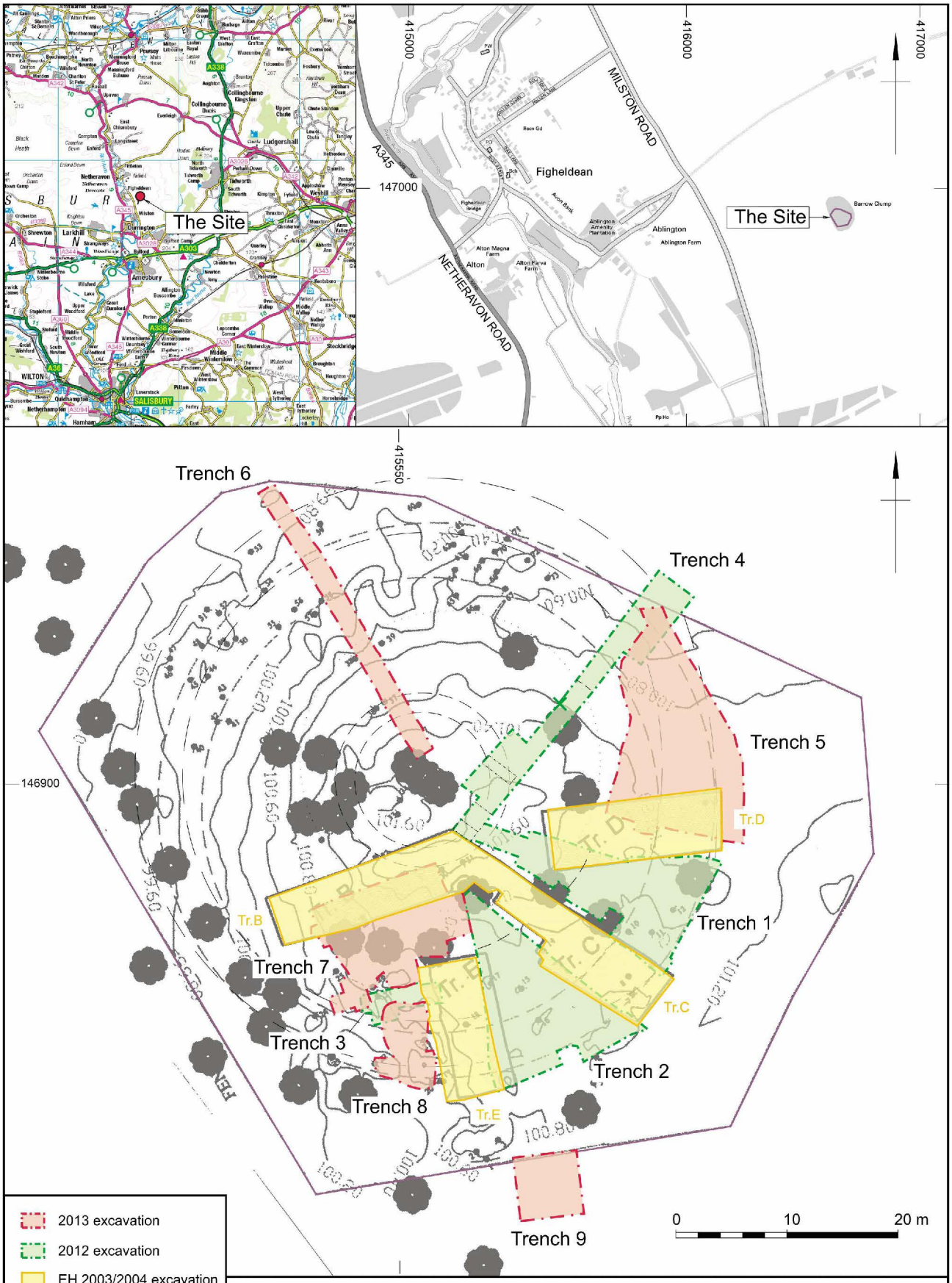
Context (Trench)	cut	deposit type	quantification	age/sex	pathology	comments
2722 (Tr 3/7)	2723	inh. burial	*c.* 75%	adult *c.* 20-30 yr. female	*ante mortem* tooth loss; calculus; maxillary sinusitis; destructive lesion – L5-S1 (?infection); osteophytes – ribs; pitting - ribs; mv – metopic suture, *os acromiale* (right), septal aperture, squatting facets	1-4; localised erosion; moderate fragmentation; skull may reconstruct; some indices (not stature); wash acetabulum; acromion with pelvis; animal bone with misc.; interesting mandibular morphology; pink staining trabecular; black concretions;
2800 (Tr 7)	-	truncated/ disturbed	*c.* 25% a.u.l.	juvenile *c.* 8-12 yr.		1-3; moderate fragmentation; no plan in archive; immature animal bone
2803 (Tr 8)	2804	inh. burial	*c.* 75%	adult >45 yr. female	calculus; dental caries;	3-5; moderate fragmentation; eroded & root etched; badger & roots; few ends; a few post cranial indices (no stature); animal bone with misc.; extensive calcareous concretions; pink staining trabecular; green Cu alloy stain upper ribs, clavicles, left hand; black fungal patches; overwrapped with tissue;
2806 (Tr 8)	2807	a) inh. burial b) redep.	a) *c.* 65% b) 3 bones l.	a) adult *c.* 25-35 yr female b) adult >18 yr.	a) calculus; *cribra orbitalia*; b) ?fracture & osteomyelitis - ?left femur	a) 1-4; axial fragmented; most ends gone; green Cu alloy staining – finger; pink staining – fungal; limited post cranial indices (no stature) b) 3; ?=2808; *cf* 2801; additional tibia – not sure which ones belong – suspect one bagged without femur is the additional one; limited post cranial indices
2820 (Tr 5)	2818	inh. burial	*c.* 40%	adult *c.* 35-45 yr. female	apical void; calculus; dental caries; destructive lesion – endocranial occipital; infection – T/L bsm; osteoarthritis – proximal femora; osteophytes – distal right radius; pitting – right acetabulum; ?rotator cuff – right proximal humerus; exostoses – left MtC	3-5; eroded; old breaks; limited indices (no stature);

Context (Trench)	cut	deposit type	quantification	age/sex	pathology	comments
2821 (Tr 8)	2847	inh. burial	*c.* 55% a.u.l.	infant/juvenile *c.* 3-5 yr.		1-4; root etched & eroded; badger; grave cuts Bronze Age ditch; femur 205mm no ends; stained pink - fungal
2831 (Tr 5)	2829	inh. burial	*c.* 90%	adult *c.* 30-45 yr. male	calculus; dental caries; ?trauma – parietal; osteoarthritis – ribs; osteophytes – C1-2; right proximal femur; enthesophytes – patellae;	1-3; skull partly smashed; some reconstruction; several indices (incl. stature); foot & hand bones mixed; animal bone with 'feet'; rewash right elbow;
2833 (Tr 7)	2832	redep.	*c.* 15%	min. 1 adult >35 yr. ??male	*ante mortem* tooth loss; apical void; calculus; dental caries; osteophytes – T apj;	1-4; various colours, old breaks and erosion; ?some = 2834? definitely an additional individual (repeated elements); a few metrics possible; animal bone
2834 (Tr 7)	2832	inh. burial	*c.* 85%	adult *c.* 35-45 yr. male	calculus; dental caries; *cribra orbitalia*; ?destructive lesion – frontal; C1, T & S1 bsm, left acetabulum; osteoarthritis – S1 apj, ribs; osteophytes – Cs as, af, Ts apj, tpj; pitting – ribs; cortical defect – right clavicle, left ischium leprosy? mv – metopic suture, wormian bones, odd T tpj	1-3; old breaks; some reconstruction; several indices (?stature); badger; far too many bags! animal gnawing pelvis, humerus, femur; pink staining – trabecular; rewash sockets
2838 (Tr 7)	2836	inh. burial	*c.* 35%	adult >35 yr. female	*ante mortem* tooth loss; apical void; calculus; dental caries; ??destructive lesion - frontal osteophytes – C2 af, as; pitting – right temporomandibular;	2-4; old breaks, ends gone; some very localised erosion; limited metrics (no stature);
2841 (Tr 7)	2839	inh. burial	*c.* 30%	adult *c.* 18-25 yr. female	?trauma – right occipital; plastic change – right femur bowed; destructive lesion – L, S1 bsm;	2-4; old & new breaks; limited indices; pink staining – fungal;

Context (Trench)	cut	deposit type	quantification	age/sex	pathology	comments
2844 (Tr 7)	2842	inh. burial .	*c.* 90%	adult *c.* 35-45 yr. male	apical voids; calculus; dental caries; periodontal disease; fracture – left clavicle, right distal ulna; *cribra orbitalia*; ?destructive lesion – endocranial occipital, L5/S1 bsm; Schmorl's node – L; degenerative disc disease – Ls; osteophytes – right glenoid, left elbow; right proximal ulna, femora,; pitting – left temporomandibular, left proximal humerus; cortical defect – left clavicle; ossified cartilage – rib, thyroid; mv – wormian bones; os acromiale right	1-3; some longitudinal fissuring; old breaks; rodent & larger gnawing; skull should reconstruct; most indices incl. stature; XRAY; pink staining trabecular; rewash mandible & right pelvis
2859 (Tr 8)	2873	inh. burial	*c.* 50%	juvenile *c.* 9-10 yr.		2-5; most 3-5; longitudinal fissuring; parts of skull best but warped; moderate fragmentation; skull ON 5419; pink staining – fungal; ?animal bone – pathology; femur 280mm no ends
2860 (Tr 8)	2861	inh. burial	*c.* 80%	adult *c.* 20-25 yr. male	calculus; enamel hypoplasia; *cribra orbitalia*;	1-4; much of skull & foot bagged as misc.; some post cranial indices (no stature); pink staining - teeth (iron), fungal –; calcareous concretions;
2868 (Tr 7)	2866	inh. burial	*c.* 50%	subadult *c.* 15-17 yr. female	infection & ankylosis – L5-S1;	2-4; eroded, root etching; some metrics; iron residue – left femur; pink staining – fungal; animal gnawing;
2884 (Tr 8)	2885	inh. burial	*c.* 80%	juvenile *c.* 8-10 yr.	enamel hypoplasia; mv – wormian bones	3-4; eroded; skull warped; some suspiciously straight 'breaks' on skull - ??cut??; pink staining – fungal; calcareous precipitate;

Context (Trench)	cut	deposit type	quantification	age/sex	pathology	comments
2901 (Tr 7)	2899	inh. burial	*c.* 50%	adult *c.* 30-40 yr. female	*ante mortem* tooth loss; apical void; calculus; dental caries; enamel hypoplasia; destructive lesion – left acetabulum; infection – T/L; osteoarthritis – C af, apj; osteophytes – L apj, distal humerus, distal left femur; pitting - scaphoid	1-3; skull smashed; old & new breaks; some post cranial indices (incl. stature);
2903 (Tr 7)	2902	inh. burial	a) *c.* 90 % b) 3 bones a.l.	a) adult >45 yr. male b) infant/juvenile	a) *ante mortem* tooth loss; apical voids; calculus; dental caries; fracture – left orbit/frontal, right rib, left humerus (or exostoses), left ulna (osteomyelitis), left proximal femur shaft; solitary bone cysts – left carpals; degenerative disc disease – Ls; osteoarthritis – Cs apj, right rib, right hip; osteophytes – Cs & Ls apj, left glenoid, left proximal humerus, left hip, left tarsal; pitting – temporo-mandibulars, right acromio-clavicular; enthesophytes – left hip; mv – occipital bun;	a) 1-3; some fragmentation, especially axial; old & new breaks; reconstruct skull; many indices (possibly stature); XRAYS b) 1;
2907 (Tr 8)	2905	inh. burial	*c.* 35%	adult *c.* 30-40 yr male	calculus; osteoarthritis – C apj; osteophytes – T apj, left glenoid, ; pitting – C1 as, T apj; mv – acetabular crease	1-3; some root etching & erosion; moderate fragmentation skull & some upper limb; several post-cranial indices (no stature); rodent gnawing – mandible, left femur, right tibia
2908 (Tr 8)	must have been in a grave	inh. burial	*c.* 10% l.	adult >18 yr.		2; ends & trabecular gone; badger; no indices; animal bone
2916 (Tr 7)	2915	inh. burial	*c.* 45%	adult >45 yr.		3-5; eroded, trabecular bone gone; some indices (no stature); mandible bagged as clavicle; feet boxed with 2722 & 2803

Context (Trench)	cut	deposit type	quantification	age/sex	pathology	comments
2924 (Tr 5)	2922	inh. burial	*c.* 60%	adult *c.* 30-40 yr. female	fracture – right 5th MtC, ?right acetabulum; periosteal new bone – tibiae, fibulae; ?destructive lesion – right trapezium degenerative disc disease – L5 bsm; osteoarthritis - ; osteophytes – L5 apj, distal ulna, carpals; enthesophytes – left patella; mv – sacralising L5, septal aperture	2-4; some abraded pieces ?this individual?; erosion, root etching; some indices (?stature) animal gnawing; odd regular spotted brown staining endocranial; both arms labelled left
Disarticulated / redeposited human bone (not from graves)						
2801 (Tr 7)	-	redep.	4 bones s.u.l.	adult >18 yr.	fracture & osteomyelitis – right distal femur	1-3; no indices; XRAY;



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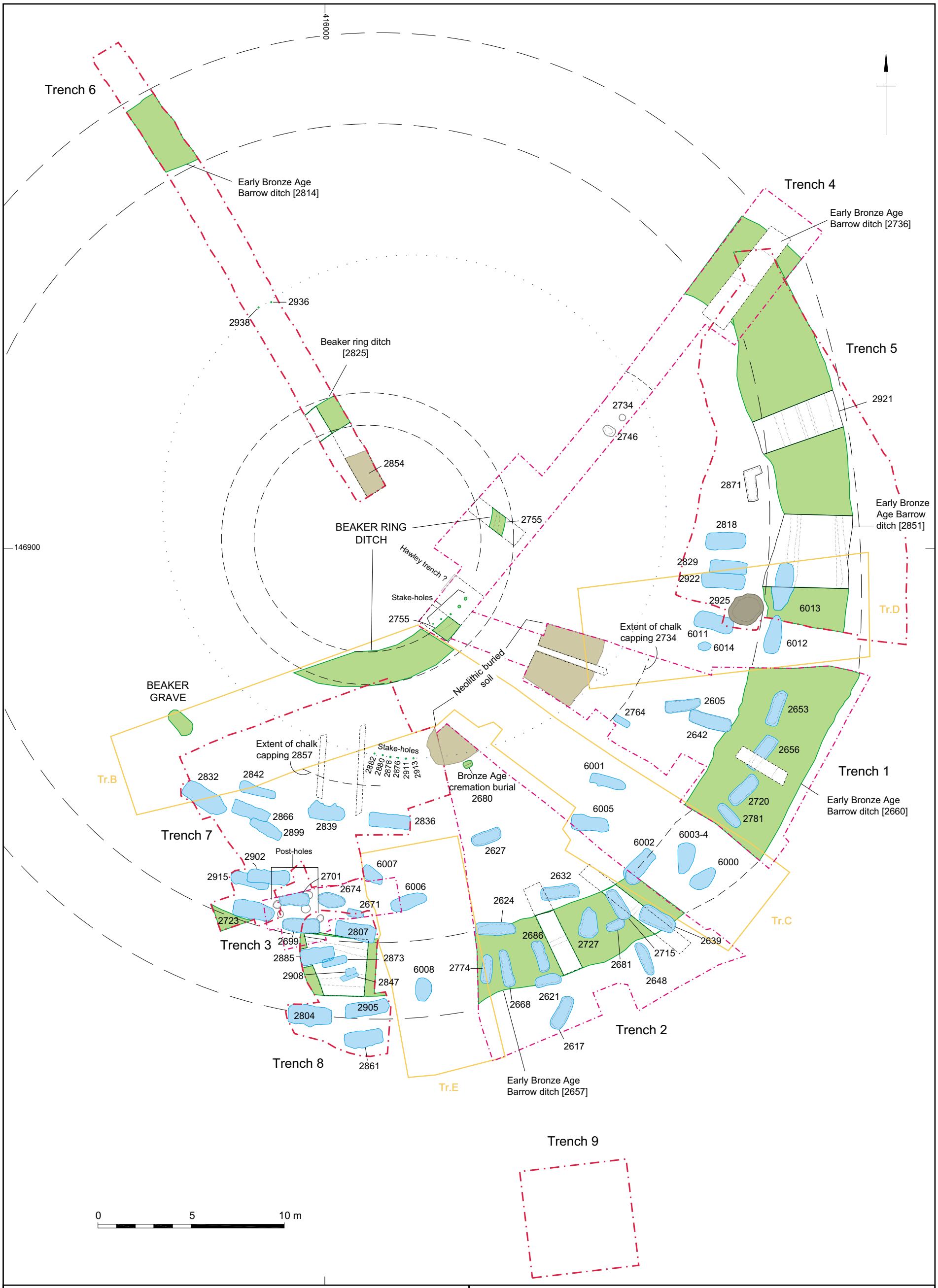
Location of Site and excavation areas

Figure 1



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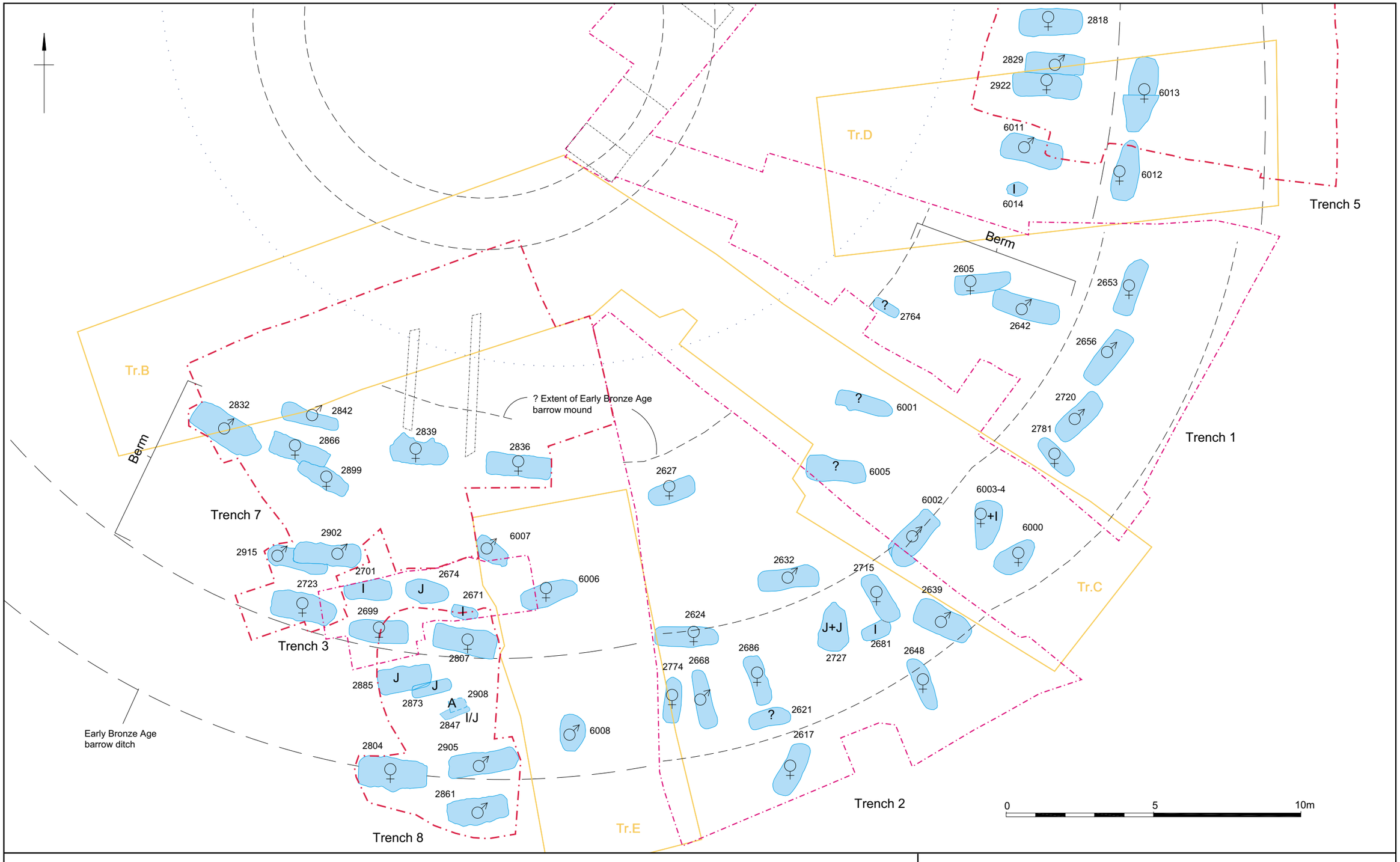
Trench plan showing archaeological features

Figure 2



2013 excavation
2012 excavation trench
EH 2003/2004 excavation

Anglo-Saxon grave
Earlier features

Male adult/subadult inhumation
Female adult/subadult inhumation

A Adult
SA Sub adult
J Juvenile
I Infant

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Anglo-Saxon graves

Figure 3

Plate 1: Trench 5 during excavation – probable Neolithic pit left, Early Bronze Age barrow ditch right, Anglo-Saxon graves upper left, and military practice trench at top (view from south-east)

Plate 2: Trench 6 - section through Neolithic buried soil, Beaker ditch and mound, overlain by turf core of Early Bronze Age barrow (scales = 1m + 2m; view from west)

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Plate 3: Trench 5 - Early Bronze Age barrow ditch under excavation (view from south-east)

Plate 4: Trench 5 - Early Bronze Age barrow ditch (scales = 1m + 2m; view from north)

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Plate 5: Trenches 7 and 8 during excavation - Early Bronze Age barrow ditch left and remains of mound right, with Anglo-Saxon graves occupying berm between (view from east)

Plate 6: Trench 5 - grave [**2818**] under excavation (view from east)

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Plate 7: Trench 8 - grave [**2804**], upper half of skeleton with pair of saucer brooches at shoulders and beads at waist (scale = 0.2m view from east)

Plate 8: Trench 5 – unaccompanied grave [**2829**] (no scale; view from east)

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