Early Neolithic Pits at Cadbury Castle and an adjoining temporary occupation site at Milsom's Corner, South Cadbury

Richard Tabor and Clare Randall

Extracted from the Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society for 2017.

Volume 161, 1-48.

Produced in Great Britain by Short Run Press, Exeter.

1SSN 0081-2056

EARLY NEOLITHIC PITS AT CADBURY CASTLE AND AN ADJOINING TEMPORARY OCCUPATION SITE AT MILSOMS CORNER, SOUTH CADBURY

RICHARD TABOR AND CLARE RANDALL

with contributions from Danielle De Carle, Susan Jones, Fiona Roe and David Williams. Illustrations of Finds by Amanda Tabor

ABSTRACT

During five seasons of excavations directed by Leslie Alcock from 1966 to 1970 on the multiperiod hillfort at South Cadbury Castle proven and possible Early Neolithic postholes and pits were identified in several trenches on the plateau, under the southern inner bank, and bisected by the Iron Age South West gate passage. A discrete assemblage of Late Neolithic material was discovered under the north bank. The evidence has been treated only cursorily in a popular account of the excavations and in the final reports which focused on the periods following 1000 BC (Alcock 1972, 1995; Barrett et al. 2000). Subsequent excavations from 1995 to 1999 by the South Cadbury Environs Project on a spur outside the western ramparts exposed an Early Neolithic occupation hollow and four contemporary pits. There were notable differences in the pottery, bone and worked stone assemblages between the hilltop and on the spur.

This paper presents fully for the first time the evidence from the two South Cadbury sites. It considers their place in the Early Neolithic with respect to the better known sites of the period in Wessex and the south west peninsula. The well-dated palimpsest from Milsoms Corner is an important contribution to our understanding of day-to-day life at a temporary occupation site and to the topical debate concerning deposit formation in Neolithic pits.

INTRODUCTION

From 1966–70 the excavations on the multiperiod hillfort sheltering from the west of the Somerset village of South Cadbury in south-west England (Fig. 1A and B, 1; Fig. 2A) were a centre of international media attention which reached beyond the confines of an archaeological audience. A speculative association with 'Arthur' was given tenuous substance with the discovery of Post Roman defences and a hall (Alcock 1995). A remarkable sequence of occupation over the 1st millennium BC through to the 1st century AD excited much interest for students of the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age but this abated with deferral of publication for three decades during which research into hillforts was dominated by Danebury, Hampshire. When the Cadbury report finally appeared presentation of data concerning the Early and Late Neolithic was confined largely to its situation as the precursor of the later sequence of defences (Barrett et al. 2000, 53-4 and 86-8). Summary descriptive accounts of the Neolithic phases had appeared in Alcock's annual summaries and in a popular account of his investigations (Alcock 1968; 1969; 1970; 1971; 1972) but they have not received the academic attention they deserve.

Twenty-five years after the close of Alcock's programme five seasons of excavation began at Milsoms Corner, a low spur projecting from the hillfort's lower western slope (Figs. 2A). In a trench with maximum dimensions of 30m by 21m a remarkable prehistoric sequence was sealed beneath sterile colluvium which had formed during the later Iron Age. Earlier Iron Age and Late Bronze Age deposits sealed a Middle Bronze Age ditch which had cut a Beaker burial pit. The cutting of the pit represented an episode during the formation of a soil which covered the site and sealed a group of Early Neolithic features, arising from a probably single brief phase of occupation (Figs. 2B). The discovery, and in particular a study of the entire South Cadbury bone assemblage (Randall 2010), has prompted a review of the evidence from the hilltop.

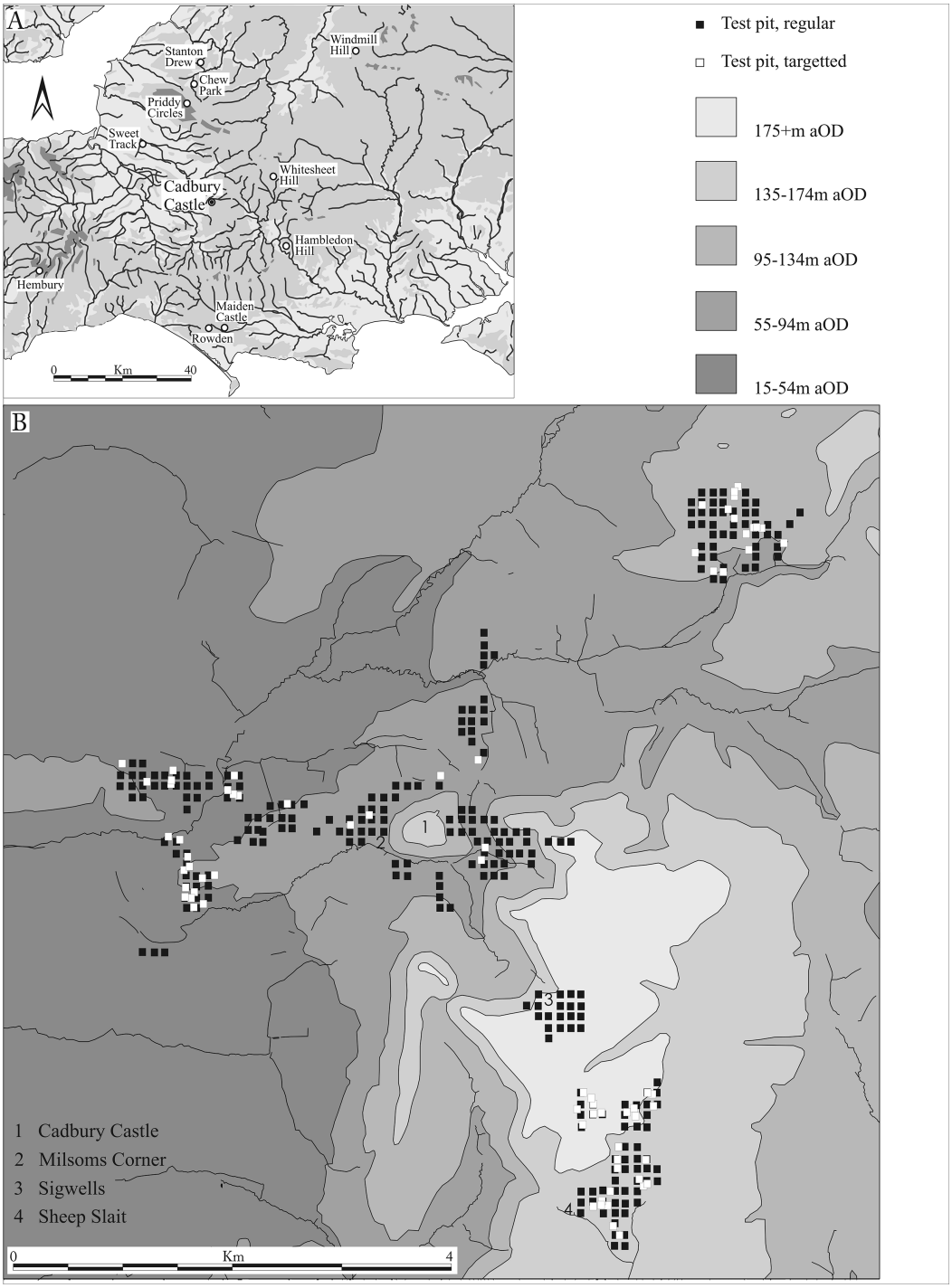

Fig. 1 (A) Location of South Cadbury Castle; (B) SCEP study area showing locations of test pits and sites with evidence for Neolithic occupation

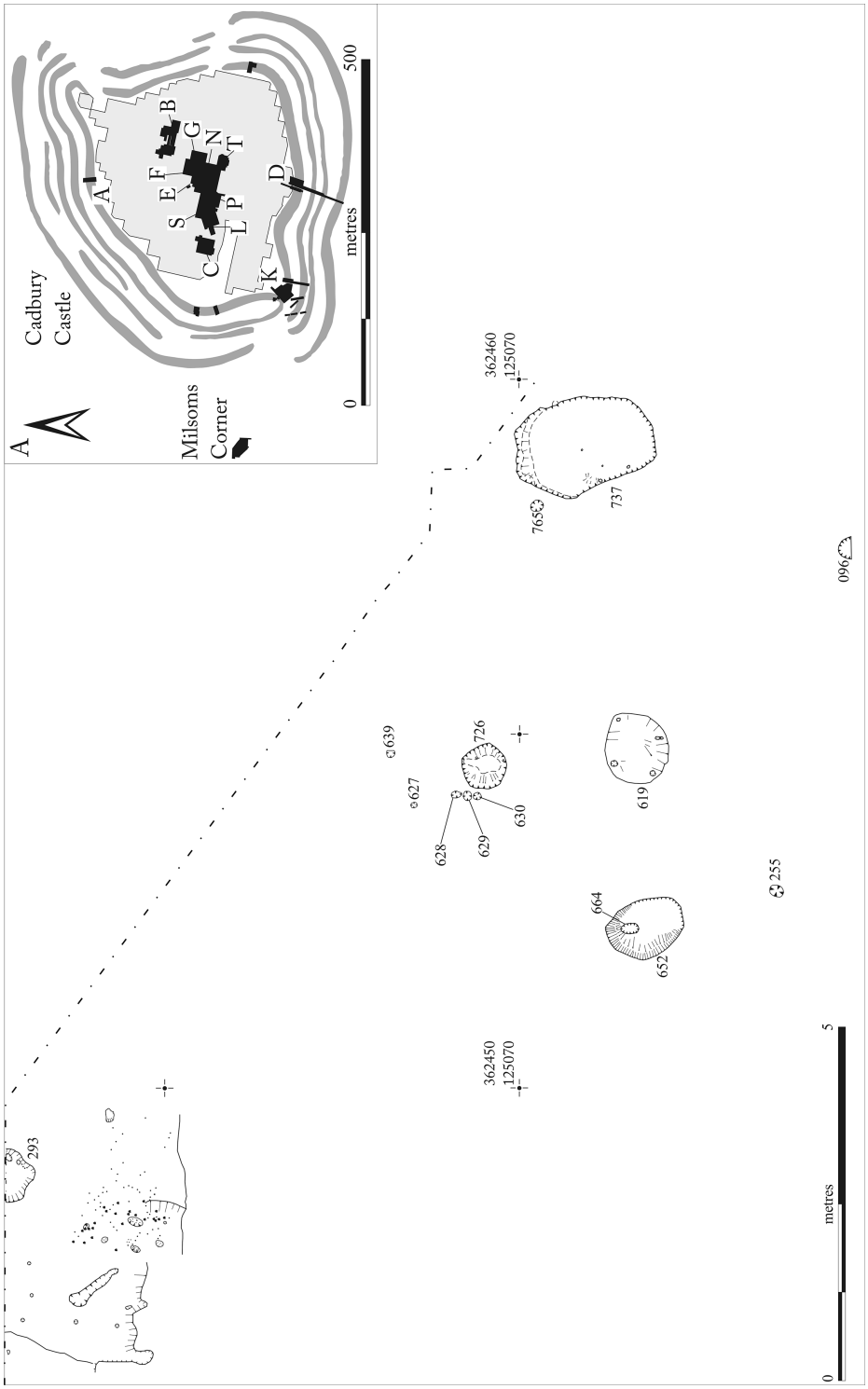

Fig. 2 (A) South Cadbury Castle and Milsoms Corner trenches; (B) Milsoms corner Early Neolithic features

The return to the South Cadbury archive (SCCA) has been an iterative process. In the first place finds from well established Neolithic contexts were recorded in full for the first time. There followed a trawl through the written and drawn records from all sites (trenches). It was noted that a significant number of features from which finds had not been described or were lacking had been assigned a Neolithic date in site notebooks and context sheets based on fills coloured varying shades of red. The distinction was less clear cut away from the plateau but it was sufficient to generate a more extensive list of possible Neolithic features. The finds from these features were also recorded where present.

The Early Neolithic features on the hilltop should probably be regarded as the residues of several occupation episodes, possibly discrete both in time and space. Two radiocarbon assays from a single feature offer the only absolute chronological references and their dates proved to be of a broad span and probably derived from material related to different episodes. At Milsoms Corner six dates derived from three features are sufficiently close to imply a single episode of occupation or, at the very least, the return of a particular group of people to the same place over the span of just a few years.

Features on South Cadbury hilltop were cut into Upper Inferior Oolite which capped the Yeovil Sand into which off summit features were cut, including those in sites A and D. Milsoms Corner spur was also made up of Yeovil Sand although early colluviation had caused a mixed natural surface. The figures below relating to individual features from the two sites include generous selections of their finds.

THE MILSOMS CORNER OCCUPATION

The Early Neolithic pits had significantly different characteristics from each other with respect to shape, size, fills and finds. On the other hand, the lack of weathering of their sides suggests that each had been cut then infilled over a period of no more than a few months. One pit had cut through an early soil horizon but the other feature had been cut directly into natural of slightly reddish yellow sandy clay in an area with maximum extents of 15m by 17m in the north-eastern part of the site (Fig. 2B). They were sealed by red sandy clay soil (1065) which formed over a long period during which a Beaker burial pit was cut. Consequently, there is no evidence to suggest that the pits and much of the occupation hollow had been truncated, in contrast to features of the period in many other parts of central and southern Britain (Loveday with Beamish 2012, 100). The fills and finds from the floor area and each pit are summarized in Table 1.

Floor 1469/1779 and its associated features

On the north lip of the spur a well-defined hollow or terrace into natural, 551, was exposed over an area of 3.5m by 2.5m midway along the north baulk of the trench (Fig. 3A). The longer measurement was from west to east, following that of the spur. Towards the western end it had been truncated by ploughing but over 2m of its central and western areas reached a depth of 0.15m. The full extent of the east end was not exposed nor was the area under the baulk. A pit, 293, which appears to have been cut into a fairly central area within the hollow also continued under the trench's northern baulk, suggesting that it may have been located on the long axis. The exposed outline of the hollow suggests that the feature was broadly rectangular or square with a putative full extent of approximately 4.7m by 5m.

The red fill (1097/1731) of the hollow was indistinguishable from soil (1065) which sealed the other Early Neolithic features. It had accumulated gradually over a floor (1469/1779) and the fills of features cut into it, including pit 293. The floor was between 0.03 and 0.06m higher in the area surrounding the pit. A very thin layer of ashy charcoal (1736) was distributed over a slight depression between the pit and the southern edge of the hollow. The ashy spread had a full extent of 1.9m by 1.4m but was more concentrated over an area of 0.8m by 1.30m.

At the baulk the pit was 0.76m wide and 0.16m deep with sharply defined near vertical western and southern edges and a slope of 45 degrees on the east side. The lowest fill (1706) of red sandy clay including abundant charred remains was distinguishable from the upper fill by the greater density of inclusions excepting on the east edge. There, larger charcoal inclusions were at first interpreted as the remains of two stakes burnt in situ in cuts 504 and 505 but may have been the remains of wood left smouldering in the pit. The upper fill (1486) comprised yellowish red, gritty to gravelly, clay with relatively sparse inclusions of charcoal flecks and small lumps. Neither fill displayed clear signs of rapid formation and the upper fill seems more likely to have been formed by gradual silting up of the feature. Given the sharpness of the pit's edges the process cannot have

TABLE 1 – MILSOMS CORNER: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS AND FINDS SUMMARIES BY CONTEXT

Cut no.	Deposit no.	Description	Finds
551, hollow	1097, 1731	Reddish brown silt	8 sherds (23.5g), 319 flints (44 burnt; 1 core, 4 rejuvenation flakes, 4 bladelets, 31 piercers, 6 scrapers, 1 arrowhead), 4 bones.
293, pit	1703	Orangey red grainy silt including sparse grits and small lumps and flecks of charcoal	No finds.
	1705	Orangey red grainy silt including sparse grits and small lumps and flecks of charcoal	No finds.
	1486	Greenish grey clay mottled with red silt, flecked with manganese and including grits, some burnt and sparse charcoal flecks	8 flints, 1 bone.
	1706	Clayey grey silt including frequent small lumps and flecks of charcoal	1 flint (1 bladelet), 2 bones (1 cow).
542, gully	1781	Orangey red grainy silt including sparse grits	2 sherds (12.5g), 1 flint.
551, floor	1469	Light yellow brown grainy silt f;ecked with manganese	19 flints (4 burnt; 1 bladelet, 1 piercer)
	1736	Yellow brown clayey silt including frequent smears, small lumps and flecks of charcoal	No finds.
	1779	Mottled reddish yellow sandy silt including flecks and small lumps of charcoal and grits some burnt to red or blue hue	1 flint (bladelet)
619, pit	1839	Red sandy silt including sparse charcoal becoming more frequent in lower part	7 sherds (52.5g), 30 flints (3 burnt; 4 bladelets, 4 piercers, 1 scraper), 6 bones.
	1830	Reddish brown silty clay including sparse burnt red stones and flecks and lumps of charcoal	14 sherds (42g), 25 flints (2 burnt; 4 piercers), 1 rubber stone.
652, pit	1885	Yellow brown sandy silt streaked with manganese and incorporating patches of clay and fire reddened soil. Includes flecks and small lumps of charcoal	2 sherds (9.5g), 36 flints (8 burnt; 4 piercers), 5 bones.
	1887	Yellow, soft, slightly silty clay sparsely flecked with charcoal	1 sherd (4g), 5 flints (2 burnt; 1 piercer).
	1898	Local deposit of orangey red clay	No finds.
	1886	Dark brown to grey silt including frequent charcoal flecks and sparse burnt grits	8 sherds (71g), 58 flints (49 burnt; 1 core, 1 bladelet, 3 piercers), 37 bones (3 medium mammal).
	1899	Orangey red clay	7 sherds (172.5g), 85 flints (70 burnt; 10 piercers, 1 knife), 1 stone axe, 56 bones (4 large mammal, 1 sheep/ goat, 1 medium mammal).
	1888	Mottled reddish, yellowish brown silty clay including flecks and small to medium lumps of burnt clay and small lumps of charcoal.	6 sherds (85g), 58 flints (56 burnt; 1 piercer, 1 scraper), 55 bones (7 medium mammal).
	1900	Medium brown loam including sparse small stones and carbonised wood and hazelnut shell	10 flints (9 burnt).
	1889	Brown to black loam including abundant carbonised material including wood and hazel nut	11 sherds (97.5g), 67 flints (46 burnt; 1 bladelet, 7 piercers, 1 scraper), 1 bone.
	2008		1 flint (rejuvenation flake).
	2209	Buff yellow silty clay flecked frequently with charcoal including grits and small fragments of baked clay	1 flint (burnt).

Cut no.	Deposit no.	Description	Finds
726, pit	2280	Very coarse, dark red manganese-flecked silt including sparse flecks and small lumps of charcoal	13 flints (2 burnt; 1 bladelet, 1 piercer, 1 rejuvenation flake), 8 bones.
	2284	Coarse, granular reddish brown manganese-flecked silt mottled with yellowish blue clay flecked sparsely with charcoal	7 flints (3 burnt; 2 rejuvenation flakes), 1 sandstone bead, 5 bones.
	2285	Yellowish red sandy silt mottled with clay and including small limestone and charcoal	2 sherds (16.5g), 11 flints (2 burnt; 2 rejuvenation flakes), 10 bones.
	2294	Coarse dark grey silt flecked frequently with charcoal and including sparse baked clay set on top of quern	4 sherds (11g), 8 flints (1 burnt), 1 bones.
	2326	Pale, slightly yellowish grey clay sealing charcoal sticks in 2327	No finds.
	SF138	Saddle quern, face down	
	2347	Soft, pink clayey silt including frequent small to medium lumps of charcoal	3 flints (1 piercer).
	2327	Lumps and sticks of charcoal intermingled with sparse burnt red stone	3 flints (1 burnt; 1 bladelet).
737, pit	2295	Red brown silty clay including patchy gritty to small stones, flecks of baked clay and frequent flecks and lumps of charcoal, including hazelnut shell	4 sherds (8g), 98 flints (10 burnt; 3 bladelets, 1 rejuvenation flake, 7 piercers, 2 scrapers, 2 knives, 2 leaf-shaped arrowheads), 13 bones (3 medium mammal), 1 quartz fragment.
	2364	Linear deposit of gritty clay burnt to a red hue	6 sherds (48g), 31 flints (8 burnt; 2 bladelets, 3 piercers, 3 scrapers), 1 bone (1 pig).
	2362	Dark bluish grey clayey silt including a large proportion of charcoal and carbonised hazelnut shells	11 sherds (264.5g), 78 flints (12 burnt; 2 cores, 1 rejuvenation flake, 1 bladelet, 1 piercer, 3 knives), 17 bones, 6 probable quern fragments.
	2365	Dark grey brown coarse clayey loam including frequent small and medium lumps of charcoal and small to large medium lumps half baked clay	54 flints (14 burnt; 1 core, 9 piercers), 5 bones (2 pig), 2 probable quern fragments.
	2366	Re-deposited pale yellow natural clay, including burnt red gravelly stones, frequent small lumps of charcoal and sparse small to medium lumps of clay baked to orange and bright red hues	4 sherds (118g), 2 flints, 8 bones.
	2367	Interspersed films of red and carbonised black silt visible in plan at plain of cleavage between the base of the pit and 2366. Unclear whether it continued under 2365	No finds.

been of long duration. All of the finds could have been part of the incidental accumulation of material following abandonment.

The remaining features sealed by (1097/1731) and cutting the floor included at least 7 stake holes in a roughly rectilinear arrangement south-west of pit 293 and around a splayed V-profiled, 0.06m to 0.08m deep, gully, 542, with a bulbous northern end, which produced two small pottery sherds and a single flint. It was not possible to determine whether or not slight depressions in the floor below (1736) and a single depression to its east were deliberately cut features. Despite the lack of clear evidence for in situ burning pit 293 is probably best interpreted as a hearth. Finds from the floor surface and features cutting it were very sparse compared with the sealing layer implying that it had been kept clean prior to abandonment.

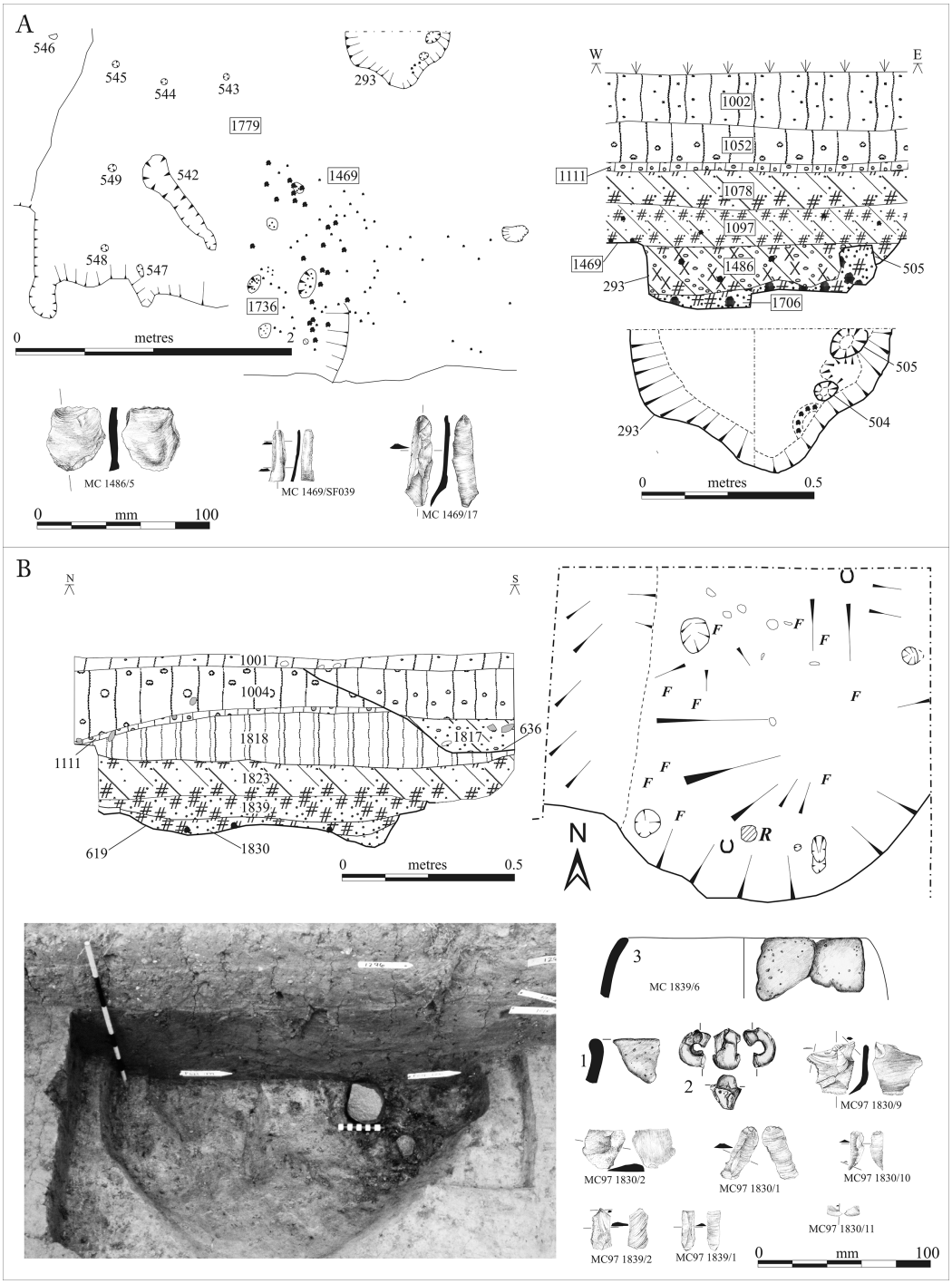

Fig. 3 (A) Occupation hollow, pit 293; (B) pit 619 and selected associated finds with rubber stone above 0.1m scale in plate

The pits and their associated features

Pit 619, c. 8m south east of the floor, was also interpreted as a hearth. It was a roughly circular, steeply sloping cut of 0.90m diameter (Fig. 3B). On the northern side the base was a maximum of 0.11m below the old natural surface, but towards the centre the depth was only 0.09m. A stone rubber (Fig. 3B plate) was set in a shallow lens of sandy silt at the base of (1830), a more clayey deposit including sparse lumps of charcoal sealing the whole of the pit base. That in turn was sealed by an upper fill (1839) of similar material but lacking charcoal.

Four stakeholes, varying in diameter from 0.04m to 0.11m, penetrated the base of the pit. All the cuts into the ground slanted away from the centre of the pit suggesting that the tops of the stakes may have converged over it. The initial filling of the pit was probably fairly rapid but there was no evidence that it had been deliberate. The character of the upper fill was consistent with natural silting. No evidence of in situ burning was noted.

A second roughly circular pit, 726, was situated 1.30m north of pit 619 (Fig. 4A). The steeply sloping-sided, truncated, conical cut had been dug to an almost level base at a depth of 0.37m below the natural surface. Thin primary silt (2347) including sparse lumps and flecks of charcoal was sealed beneath a complete saddle quern which had been laid face downwards, oriented from south-west to north-east. A lens of charcoal-rich sandy silt (2327) butting onto the long north-western edge of the quern was sealed partly by a small deposit of charcoal-free clay (2326). A deposit of sandy clay (2284) with moderate charcoal inclusions covered (2326) and the edge of the quern. The remainder of the quern was covered by similar soil (2294) with a higher concentration of carbonised material which had built up against the southern side of the quern. Charcoal was rare in sealing silty clay (2280) which had been cut by a Bronze Age posthole, 633.

The deposit below the quern had the appearance of basal silt which would have formed fairly rapidly from the natural and any covering soil after rainfall. The laying of the quern itself was clearly deliberate as was the covering of it with a charcoal-rich deposit. Thereafter, the pit appears to have silted up naturally.

Three closely spaced stake or small postholes, 628-30, forming a north to south-oriented 0.40m long line close to the north-west edge of the pit and two similar cuts, 627 and 628, within 1.25m of the pit's northern edge (Fig. 2B) may have supported a windbreak.

Pit 652 was a roughly oval, steep-sided cut of 1.09m from NNW to SSE and 0.80m from WSW to ENE (Fig. 4B). It was generally flat-bottomed at 0.29m below the level of natural, excepting an oval cut, 664, towards the north end of the pit of 0.14m by 0.25m which was 0.02m deeper. It cut through the pit's thin layer of sandy clayey basal silt (2209) which included only rare lumps of charcoal. 664 also cut a build up of sandy clay (1889) which included sparse to moderate amounts of carbonized material and lumps of soft, oxidized semi-baked clay. The cut itself was filled with loam-like soil (1900) with sparse inclusions of soft local sandstone and lumps of charcoal. It was sealed by a deposit of sandy clay (1888) including abundant carbonised hazel shell and a moderate number of pieces of partially baked clay. Around the sides of the pit (1888) was covered by orangey-red clay including only very sparse carbonized material. A 0.07m deep deposit of silty clay (1886) lying directly over (1888) and butting (1899) may have been cut towards its southern end. A substantial proportion of the site's heavily burnt bone was recovered from these three contexts. A possible re-cut was filled with similar material (1887) which covered the entire surface of (1886). Both (1886) and (1887) contained very few charred remains. All of the middle and lower fills, with the exception of (2209) appeared to have been rapid deliberate deposits. In contrast, the upper fill of red sandy silt (1885) may have formed by slower, natural processes.

The distribution of the full range of finds by context in 652 is biased strongly towards the middle fills (Table 1) and the mean weight of pottery sherds in 1899 was at least twice that of those from other contexts and two of them appeared to be deliberately associated with a stone axe (Figs 4, plate; Fig. 5, 5). Finds were sparse in the primary and tertiary silts.

Pit 737 was similar in shape and orientation to pit 652 but much larger. It measured 1.83m from NNW to SSE and 1.30m from WSW to ENE (Fig. 6). It was generally flat bottomed at 0.38m below the surface of an early soil (2308), which it cut, but dipped to up to 0.10m deeper at the southern end. There appeared to have been narrow horizontal cuts into the pit wall in two places low and one higher on the east side and in one place towards the south end of the west side. Pit 737 was the only Early Neolithic feature which demonstrably cut a soil horizon overlying natural. The entire northern and central pit floor was covered by a very thin film of red silty clay mottled with black carbon stains. It was sealed by 0.05m deep basal in-wash of silty

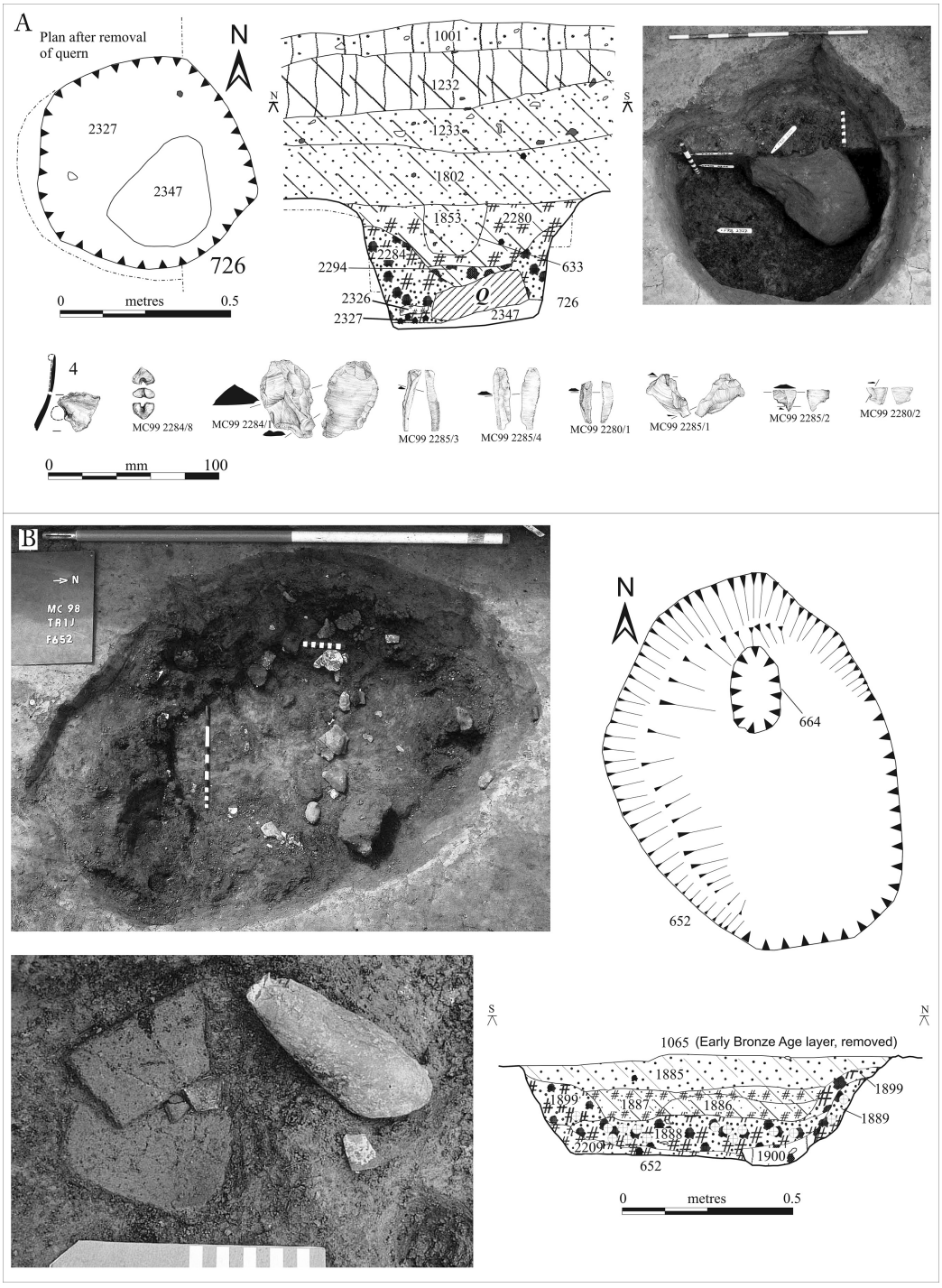

Fig. 4 (A) Pit 726, selected associated finds and plate showing quern in situ; (B) pit 652, plate showing context 1886 during excavation and, in situ, vessel 5 in two pieces with Cornish axe

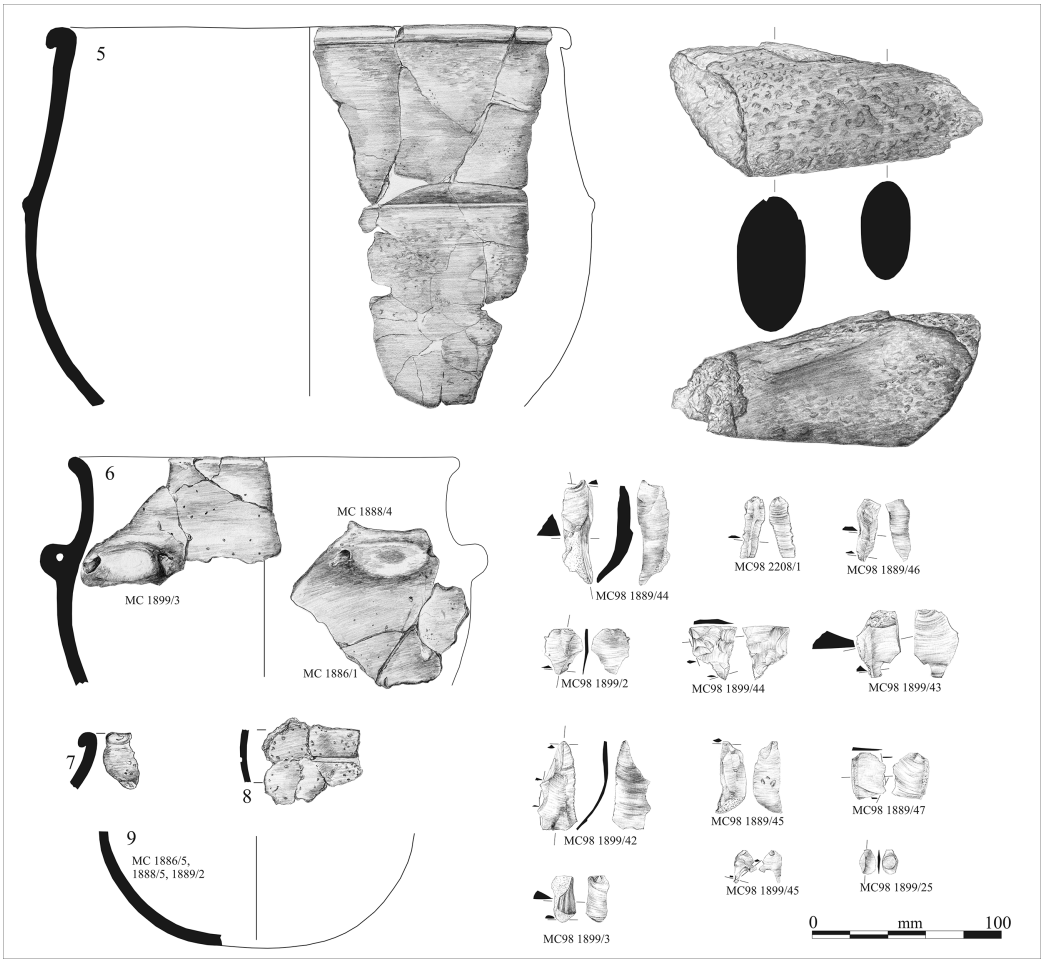

Fig. 5 Selected finds from pit 652

clay (2366) incorporating frequent small lumps of charcoal and some soft, fire-reddened, lumps of clay. The depression at the southern end may have been a cut through the pit floor made after the formation of (2366). It was filled with dark grey brown clayey loam (2365) with a much greater concentration of charcoal and fire-reddened clay than (2366). It had formed to a thickness which raised it slightly above the latter. Clayey silt (2362) spread over and entirely sealed (2366). On the west side of the pit a 0.87m long and 0.10m to 0.24m wide bank of gritty partially baked red clay (2364) lay over the central and southern areas of (2362) and the north of (2365). All the deposits were sealed by a middle and upper fill of red brown silty clay (2295) which included patchily frequent flecks and lumps of charcoal and rare flecks of baked clay. The lack of weathering of the pit sides implies that (2295) formed or was deposited over a fairly short period. The pit and fills were sealed by the slowly formed red silt (1065) which had been penetrated by a posthole 785 which cut through all the pit fills as far as the base.

The distinction in the volume of finds between the middle and other fills was less clear cut than in pit 652 but the overall proportion of complete flaked flints was greater (Fig. 7). However, there was a similarly strong bias of sherd size and number towards the middle fills and quern fragments were exclusive to them.

Fig. 6 Pit 737 in plan with deposit 2362 and clay ridge 2364 exposed and after their removal

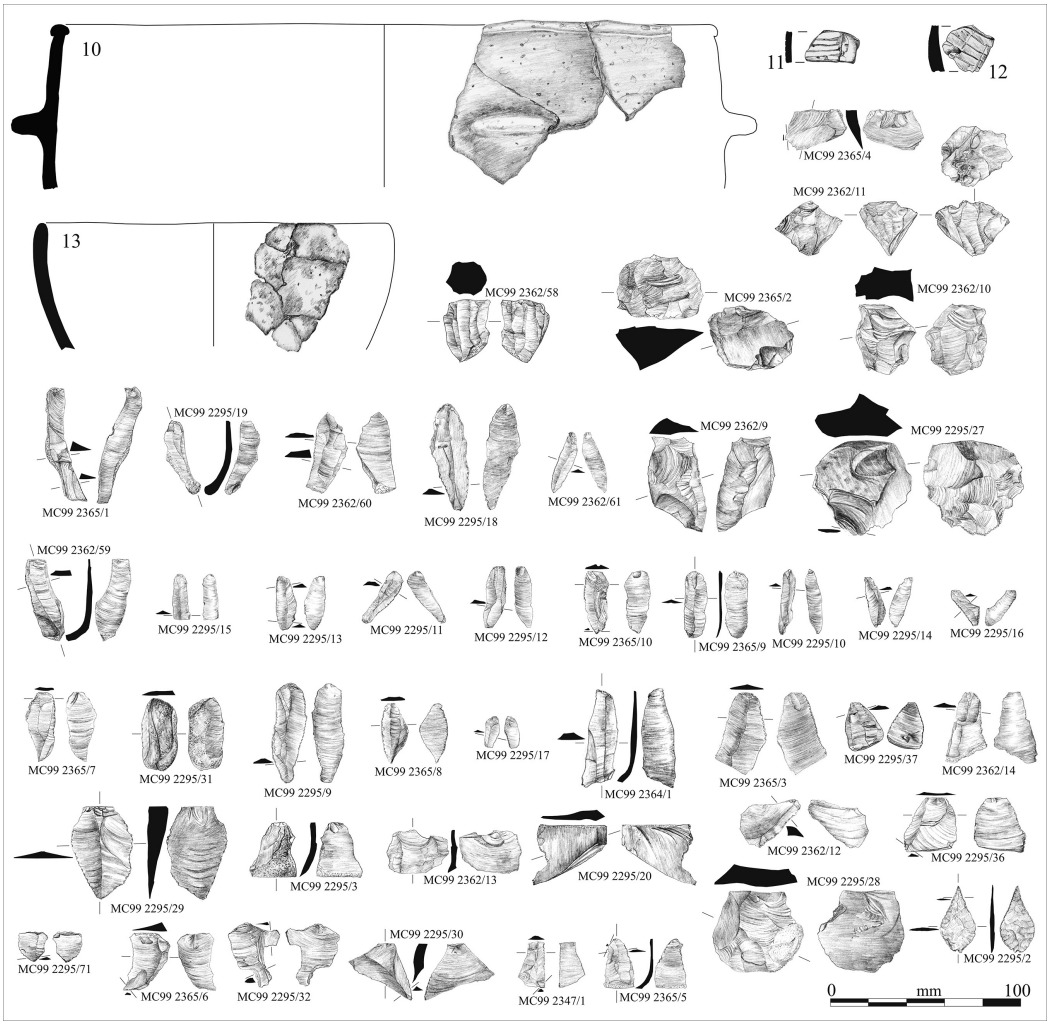

Fig. 7 Selected finds from pit 737

SOUTH CADBURY HILLTOP

The review of the Cadbury archive supports the Early Neolithic dating of 12 cut features within the area enclosed by (Fig. 8) and under (Fig. 9A) the inner bank of the hillfort. Further cuts had previously been allocated to the period based on red soil fills, offering the possibility of distinct feature clusters. However, some of these can be placed confidently within the Middle Bronze Age (Fig. 8). In general the cut feature together with its fills was the smallest unit of analysis during the excavations. In some instances individual fills were given complex descriptions but these were not sufficient to represent formation processes. Only the Early Neolithic features have been tabulated (Table 2) and only those with fuller records are described below.

Plateau

The plateau of Cadbury Castle comprises a ridge extending for c. 170m from west to east, scarped on the southern side and dipping more gently to the north. The trenches excavated from 1966-70 were described as 'sites' and labeled from 'A' to 'W'. Well-attested Early Neolithic features were identified in the western- and eastern-most

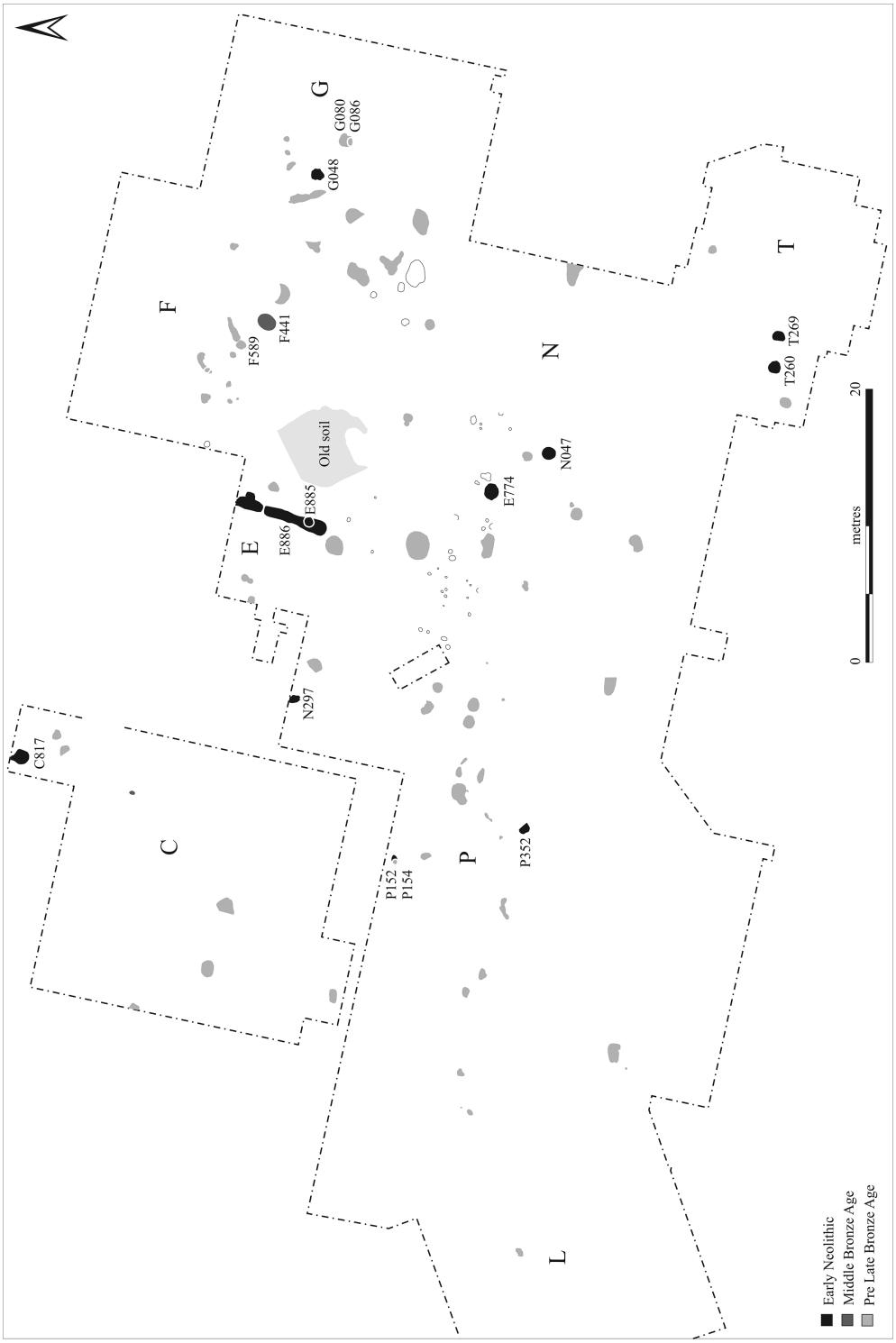

Fig. 8 Location within sites/trenches of pre Late Bronze Age features on the plateau of South Cadbury Castle

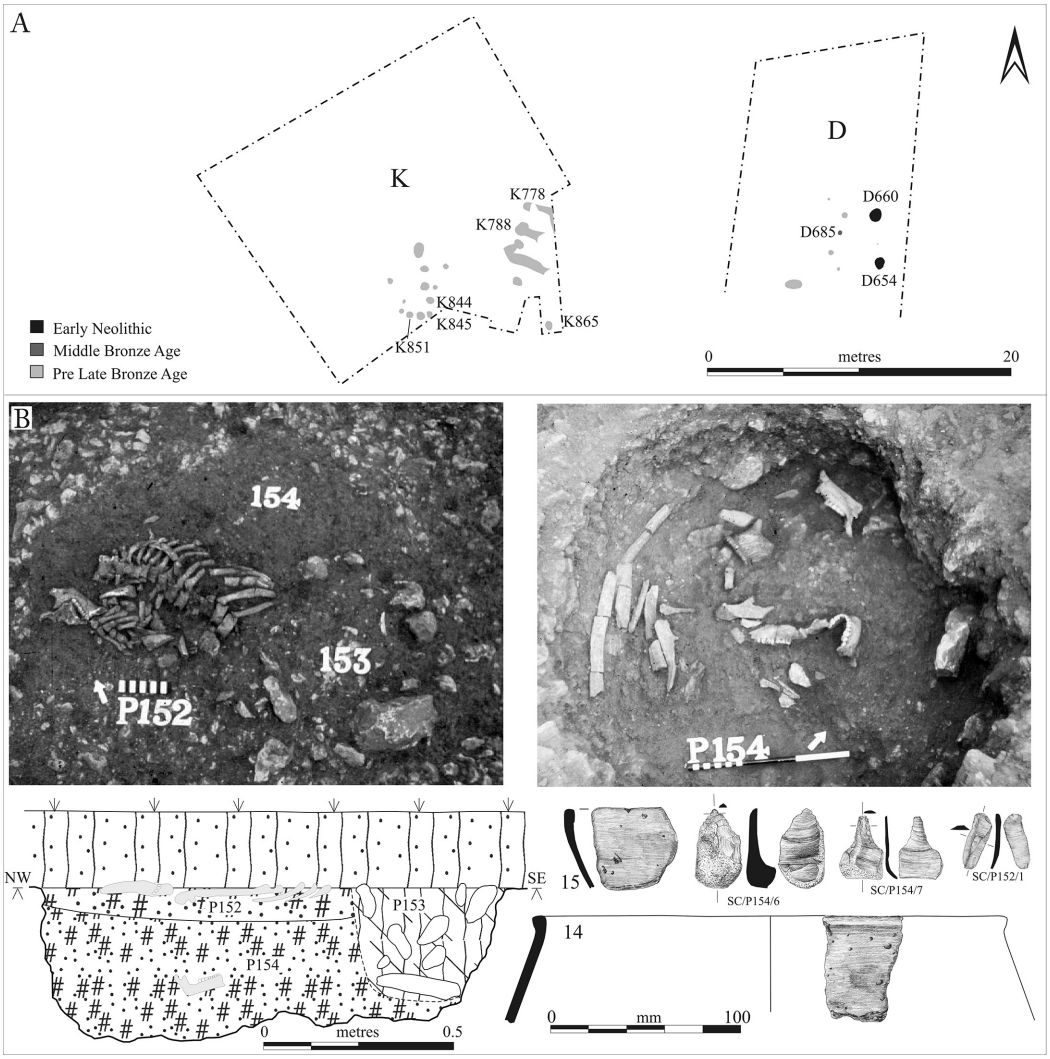

Fig. 9 (A) Location within sites/trenches of pre Late Bronze Age features below the inner bank of South Cadbury Castle; (B) pits 152 and 154 with selected associated finds

trenches and were most frequent towards the centre and at the eastern end. All were pits, excepting an apparently linear cut on Site E (Fig. 8, E886).

A pit P152 cutting into the upper fill of pit P154 and including a truncated human burial was filled with red clay which included some charred material within which hazel shell was noted (SCCA). Although probably Neolithic, it is likely to be of significantly later date than the lower pit. The fill of P154 was distinguishable from that of P152 by the relatively darker red clay. Charred material including hazel shell was present again (SCCA). The pit sides were nearly vertical and the base roughly level, extending below the deepest cut of the intrusive posthole P153 to give a length of 1.10m. It was 0.31m deep (Fig. 9B). The photographic record shows that a range of bone including cattle, pig, deer antler and a human mandible was discovered in mid fill during excavation in plan. Pit C817 also included human bone and the section drawing implies at least two different fills (Fig. 10A).

Pit P352 was truncated by an Iron Age roundhouse

TABLE 2 – SOUTH CADBURY CASTLE: CUT AND FILL DESCRIPTIONS AND FINDS SUMMARIES BY CUT

Cut no/ type	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds
C817, pit	1.80		0.35	Concave-sided and based pit filled with very red soil, including burnt stone and charcoal	29 sherds (431g), 27 flints (14 burnt), human bone
D645, surface				Possible buried soil lying over disturbed natural which initially had been interpreted as a Neolithic bank.	27 flints (9 burnt: 1 core, 1 piercer, 2 scrapers)
D654, hearth				Recorded as area of dense charcoal and small burnt stones partially enclosed by an arc of small unburnt stones 'in' Neolithic occupation layer. Neolithic pottery was recorded as present but has not been found	
D655, surface				Occurring at same level as D654 but distinguished by higher incidence of charcoal.	1 sherd (8g),125 flints (53 burnt: 4 cores, 1 rejuvenation flake, 16 piercers, 2 scrapers, 1 knife, 1 arrowhead
D660, pit	0.90	0.70	0.38	Appeared to comprise two cuts, the lower and earlier of 0.70mm, diameter with initial fill separated from the upper by two flat stones and by a 'bright red layer'.	10 sherds (252g), 10 flints (1 core, 1 piercer, 1 scraper, 1 knife)
E774, pit	1.28	1.08	0.34	Concave-sided and based oval pit filled with purple red clay including stony patches and localised sparse charcoal	13 sherds (58g), 69 flints (21 burnt; 1 core, 1 rejuvenation flake, 3 piercers)
E885, pit/gully			0.68	Either at the terminal end of gully E886 or simply the terminus of the latter. Filled with purple clay	27 sherds (49.5g), 119 flints (8 burnt; 3 cores, 1 rejuvenation flake, 3 bladelets, 12 piercers, 2 scrapers, 1 knife, 1 arrowhead)
E886 gully	10.00+		0.68	U-shaped ditch oriented south to north of which over 6m length was exposed. Filled with purple red clay including some lumps of charcoal	1 sherd (5g), 3 flints (3 burnt; 1 core, **others missing**)
G048, pit	1.05	0.80	0.20	Dish-shaped cut. The upper fill on the west side of pit comprised 'black humus' whilst the soil on the east side was described as loamy. The section shows what was interpreted as a post pipe between the two. The upper fills overlay 'red earth' which included frequent lime stones near the base of the feature	53 sherds (358g), 4 flints (1 piercer, 1 knife, **others missing?**)
N047, pit	0.95	1.00	0.25	Basin shaped cut filled with varied reddish/purple clay including significant amount of charcoal, including hazel shell, and **burnt bone**	10 sherds (7.5g), 1 flint (1 piercer; others missing)
N235, hollow			0.25	Irregular cut or hollow	12 sherds (13.5g), **flint missing**

Cut no/ type	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Finds
N297, pit			0.37	Irregularly cut sides and base. Upper 0.20m fill of reddish brown clay including stones, some burnt and charcoal. Lower fill of reddish/ yellow sand including stones, some burnt and charcoal. South to south-west side truncated.	29 sherds (221g), 19 flints (1 burnt; 3 piercers)
P152, pit	0.80		0.09	Bright red clay including charcoal with hazel shell. Darker red around human burial. Pit and burial truncated by post hole and by ploughing	5 sherds (22.5g), 1 chert, 1 flint (1 burnt)
P154, pit	1.10		0.31	Near vertical-sided uneven-based pit filled with red clay darker than that of P152 including charcoal with hazel shell	7 sherds (151g), 8 flints (1 burnt; 2 piercers, 1 knife)
P352, pit	0.80+	0.50	0.30	Steeply sloping sided oval pit with fairly flat base filled with dark red sandy soil including burnt stone. Cut by an Iron Age roundhouse ditch	146 sherds (845.5g), 1 flint (1 core; **others missing**), 1 quern fragment
T260, pit	0.85		0.29	Filled with red soil including several large flat stones just above base (**most flint missing**)	27 sherds (495g), 1 flint (1 scraper; **others missing**), 1 quern fragments
T269, pit	0.70		0.30	Filled with darkish red soil including several large stones. Cut by later gully and post hole.	21 flints (2 burnt; 3 piercers)

gully, hence its full extent was not determined. It appeared to have been oval in plan and survived with extents of 0.80m by 0.50m to a depth of 0.30m (Fig. 10B). The single fill was noted to be dark red soil with inclusions of burnt rock (SCCA).

E885 was described as a pit forming part of the southern end of an at least 6m long and up to 0.22m deep south to north oriented U-shaped gully, E886. The section drawing suggests that it may have been cut by the gully and that the latter was approximately 1m wide (Fig. 10C). E886 resembles linear cuts which have formed parts of early 4th millennium rectangular structures. However, associated features of comparable depth would have survived below the level of plough truncation on site E so that it is unlikely that there were any. The cuts and fills of the remaining plateau pits are summarized in Table 2 (Figs. 10D, 11 and 12A and B).

Below the inner bank

The inner bank on the south side of the hill sealed several features which were identified as Neolithic during the excavations. An area of disturbed natural interpreted as an old ground surface (D645) with sporadic inclusions of charcoal (D655) suggesting occupation was sealed beneath a deposit including Late Bronze Age pottery, D636 (Barrett et al. 2000, 54). During its formation 'at least a semicircle of small unburnt stones' was laid out, partially enclosing a dense charcoal deposit and 'many small burnt stones' (D654) (SCCA). The feature was interpreted as a hearth and records show that Neolithic pottery was present, although it has not been found during the present research. Large sherds of pottery from a pit, D660, 2.6m north of D654, were exclusively Early Neolithic. The section drawing of the pit shows that the fill rose well above the level of the cut, forming a mound which survived presumably because it had been protected by later earthworks (Fig. 12C). The circular upper part of the pit was 0.80m in diameter and appeared to cut the fill of the lower part which had a smaller oval plan. Two large, flat stones appeared to have been laid in the middle of the lower cut fill.

The only other authenticated Neolithic context was a soil, A127, exposed under the north inner bank. This was dated by substantial sherds from a

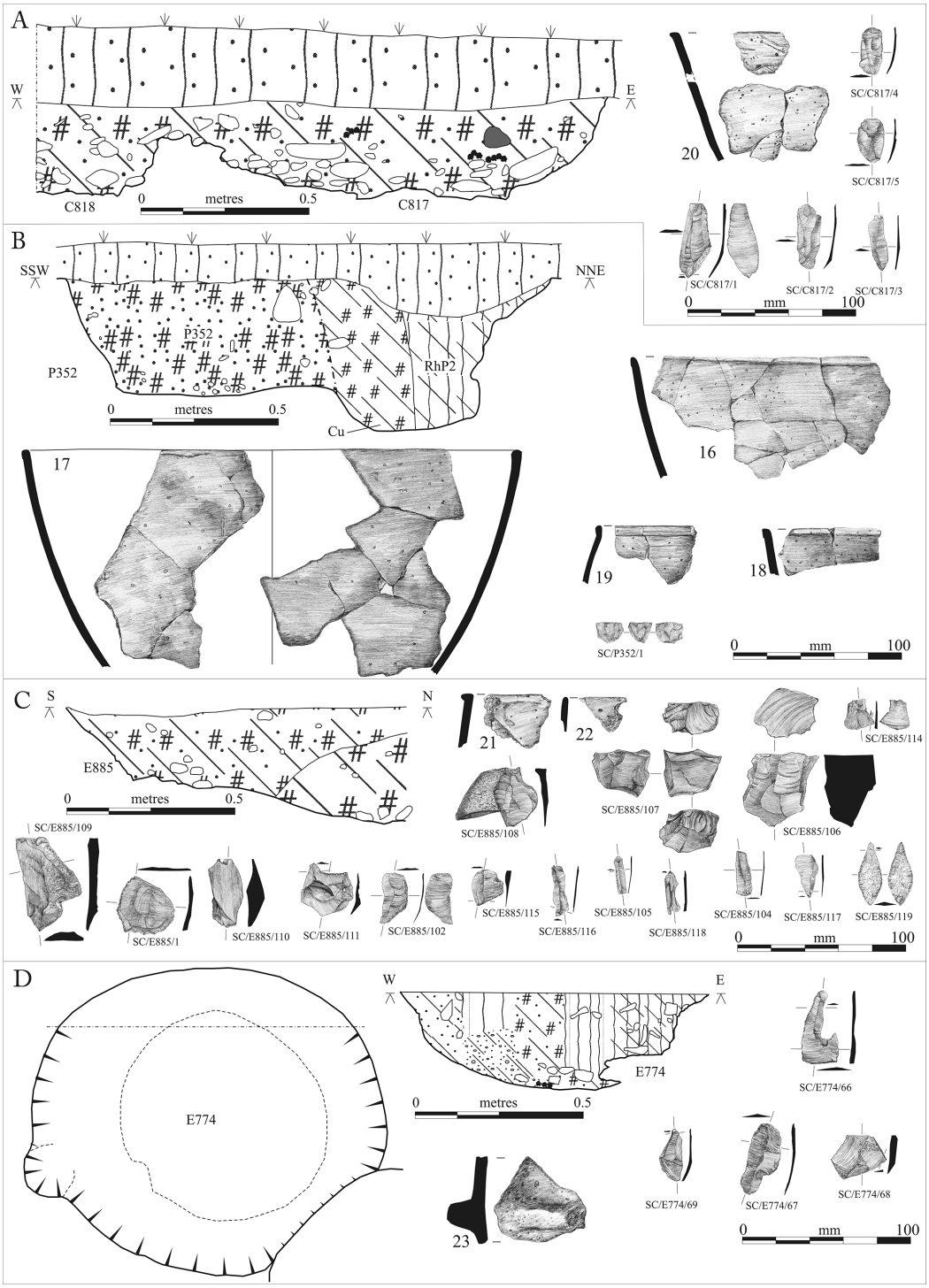

Fig. 10 (A) Pit C817; (B) pit P352; (C) pit E885; (D) pit E774 and selected associated finds

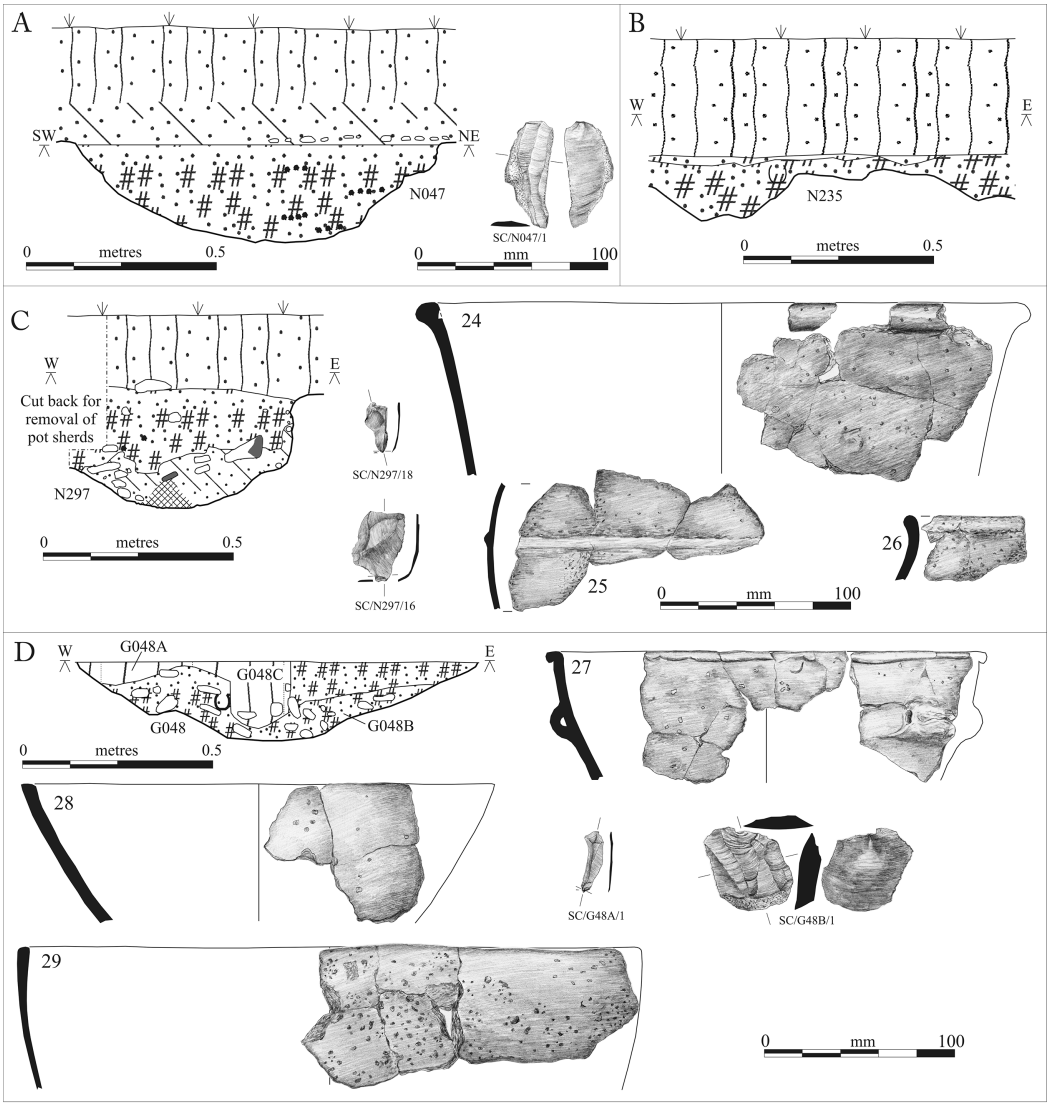

Fig. 11 (A) Pit N047; (B) pit N235; (C) pit N297; (D) pit G048 and selected associated finds

Grooved Ware vessel. A stake hole (Alcock 1970, 16, plate VIIa; 1972, 113, plates 21-2) found close to the sherds had been inserted into the soil during its formation and was presumed contemporary with the vessel. Unfortunately conflation of two unrelated contexts, A027 and A127, led to errors in the attribution of finds. It is likely that most, if not all, of 126 flint pieces allocated to the Iron Age ditch A027 were from A127. Some, possibly all, of 16 sherds allocated to A027 are likely to be Neolithic and one, at least, predates the Grooved Ware vessel.

The most expansive and densest area of potentially Neolithic features on the hilltop was identified on either side of the gate passage at site K. The features have been interpreted as components of two rectangular structures, K4 and K6 (Woodward and James 2000, 86-8; fig. 41). The features cut a 'frost-fractured or relaid' reddish gravelly layer (SCCA). However, a very few flints, bones and three

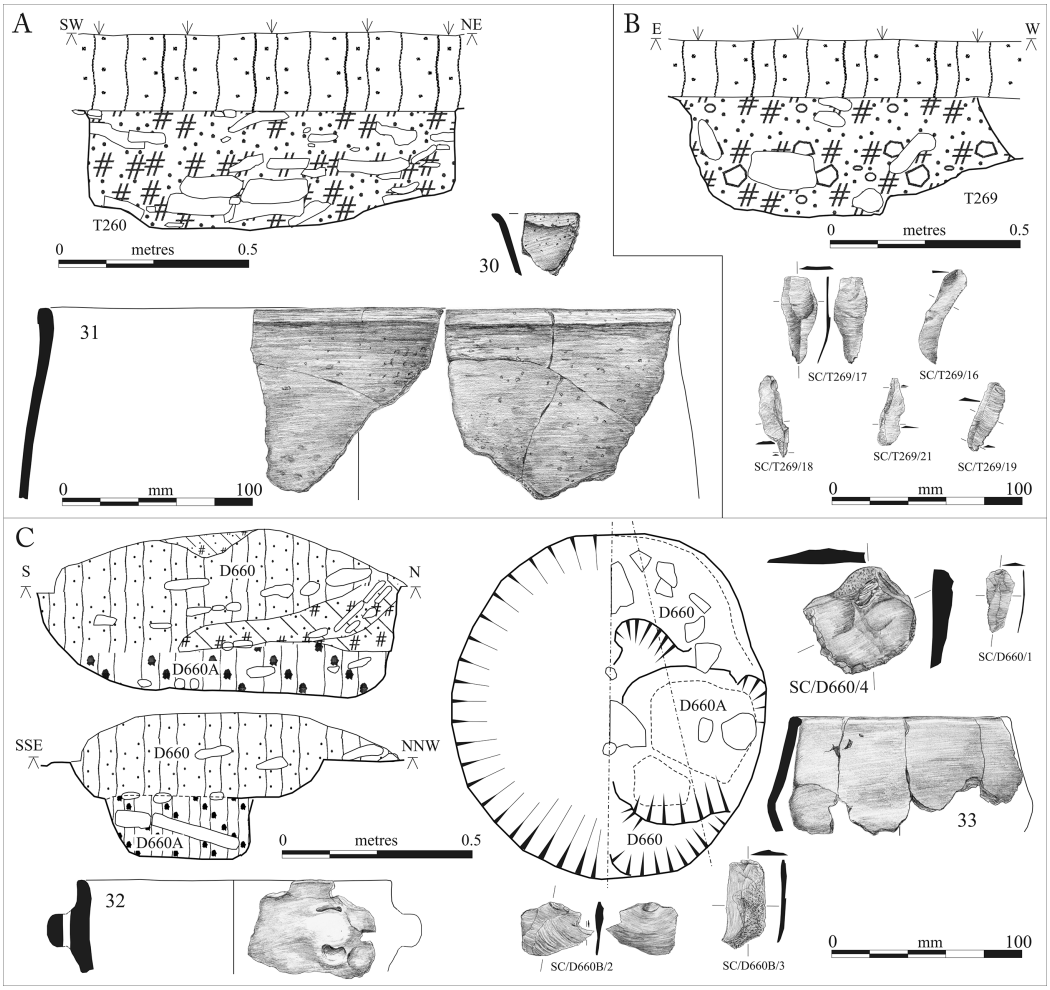

Fig. 12 (A) Pit T260; (B) pit T269; (C) pit D660 and selected associated finds

indeterminate pottery sherds were the only finds from the features. At least three cuts, K845, K851 and K865, had 'reddish' fills but the soil colours for other features ranged from 'dark brown soil' and 'brown' to 'orange brown' (K551, K778, K788, K788, K875; SCCA). The conjoined pit-like linear features on the east side of the passage lacked positive evidence for dating beyond a later Bronze Age TAQ indicated by stratigraphy and radiocarbon dating. The pits and postholes west of the hollow appear to relate to the approach to the interior hence are unlikely to pre-date the later Bronze Age. Results of geophysical survey of the hillfort interior in 1992-3 showed a possible west to east oriented, 120m long hollow way 35m north of the south west gate (Johnson 1993, 4.1, fig. 7; Tabor 2008, 44). It would have been a continuation of the western approach to the hill as it survives between the two outer ramparts and as such suggests that there had been more direct, and much steeper, route predating the ramparts and analogous to the opening on the east side of the hill. A hollow way on such a scale would not have formed prior to the Neolithic and is likely to have been many centuries in forming. Presumably the introduction of wheeled traffic necessitated the change of course to a gentler ascent via what became the south west gate. The lowest features below the inner bank may relate to that change.

REMARKS ON THE RADIOCARBON DATES

Leslie Alcock targeted radiocarbon dating at several potentially Neolithic contexts. In the event only two from secure contexts proved to be of the period, both from pit P154B, and although they overlapped, subsequent recalibration has broadened their combined time span at 2 sigma to 3780-2780BC (Table 3; Alcock 1980, 708-9; Bayliss et al. 2000, 370-1). Both dates overlap with all the Milsoms corner dates at 2 sigma and all but one of them at 1 sigma. More significantly the Milsoms Corner dates correlate well with each other. If the outlying date from (2362) is excluded a centroid range of the remaining five dates is limited to 3589 to 3579BC at 1 sigma and for all six dates the range extends from 3589 to 3502BC at 2 sigma. The clustering of the dates within a narrow span at 1 Sigma implies that the filling of the pits took place either during a single episode or in several episodes over a short period. The mean of five centroid dates of 3582BC at 1 sigma may be more apposite than that of 3524BC for six dates at 2 sigma.

TABLE 3 – RADIOCARBON DATES FROM THREE MILSOMS CORNER PITS AND SOUTH CADBURY HILLTOP PIT P154

Site	Cut/fill	species	lab ref	date BP	cal BC 1 sig	cal BC 2 sig
SCP	154i	hazel shell	I5972	4705 +/- 115	3640 – 3350	3780 – 3100
SCP	154ii	antler	I5970	4460 +/- 120	3350 – 2920	3510 – 2780
MC	F293/1706	hazel shell	OXA-26984	4773 +/- 30	3635 – 3527	3641 – 3385
MC	F652/1888	hazel shell	OXA-26985	4809 +/- 31	3643 – 3535	3653 – 3524
MC	F652/1889	hazel shell	OXA-26986	4780 +/- 31	3637 – 3529	3643 – 3389
MC	F652/1886	hazel shell	OXA-26987	4762 +/- 30	3634 – 3523	3640 – 3384
MC	F737/2365	hazel shell	OXA-26988	4766 +/- 30	3634 – 3525	3640 – 3384
MC	F737/2362	hazel shell	OXA-26989	4709 +/- 30	3625 – 3379	3631 – 3373

THE FINDS

Most of the finds assessed below are from contexts which either are, or may possibly be, of Early Neolithic date, or which occur in contexts of slow formation sealing deposits of that date or of well-provenanced Late Neolithic date. The dating of all Milsoms Corner Early Neolithic features and the floor is very secure. Grooved ware and other sherds from site A and fragments from Middle Neolithic vessels from Sigwells, a little over 1km to the south east (Fig. 1B), have been described and illustrated below for the sake of completeness. The flints from a soil associated with the Grooved ware have been included as comparanda.

In addition to placing the Cadbury material in a regional context and to the dating of a general phase and of particular features the analyses address evidence for functional variations between the hilltop and the low spur and between individual features. Consideration is given also to whether or not comparable intra site patterns are discernible within Early Neolithic pit groups from much further afield.

The pottery

by Richard Tabor

The pottery comprises all of 161 sherds (1168g) from the securely dated pits at Milsoms Corner and 380 sherds (2949g) from pits judged to be Early Neolithic on the South Cadbury hilltop. Most of the Milsoms Corner sherds had suffered badly from loss of inclusions whereas those from the hilltop had a much better retention rate. Whilst water will have played a part in the dissolving of calcareous inclusions the predominant limestone geology of the hilltop may have been more conducive to survival in contrast to the clayey sand of the spur. Some pits from the hilltop, notably F589, included significant amounts of Early Neolithic pottery but have been excluded as enough later pottery was also present to indicate that the feature was either disturbed or later but with residual material. The mean sherd weights from the two areas are respectively 7.3g and 7.8g but vary considerably from pit to pit. An assessment of the combined forms and fabrics of the two assemblages showed that there were a minimum of 12 vessels from Milsoms Corner and 18 from the hilltop. The Milsoms Corner material was quantified within each fill and within each

pit but on the hilltop most pits were assigned only one fill and where more there was ambiguity of reference. The classification of rim and vessel forms was based on that developed for Windmill Hill and Carn Brea (Smith 1965, 48; 1981) and adjusted for Maiden Castle (Cleal 1991a, 173-9). Bracketed numbers in this section refer to sherds in figures 3-12.

The fabrics

All sherds were examined individually at x8 magnification using a graduated linen tester lens. Three general ware groups were identified based on inclusions of grog or clay pellets, calcite and limestone mixtures, although it was often necessary to rely on the shape and size of voids for the Milsoms Corner assemblage in particular. The groups were subdivided according to the presence of other inclusions.

Grog/clay pellet and mixtures

B Fine fabric including ovoid to multi-lobed iron-rich clay pellets, usually rounded (<1to 3mm) with sparse subangular grains of quartz (<2mm). Red to buff brown exterior surfaces, dark grey interior surfaces. Poorly fired. Often soft.

V Coarse to moderate fabric, including abundant rounded or slitted voids and sparse to moderate clay pellets. The voids may indicate where fine crushed shelly limestone has dissolved. Surfaces are usually buff to grey. Poor to moderate firing. Probably equivalent to Fabric B.

Calcite and mixtures

Q A moderately coarse fabric including calcite rhombs, from <1 to 4mm. Buff brown to dark grey exterior, buff to light grey core and buff to dark grey interior. Moderately well fired.

E A coarse, friable fabric including including calcite rhombs, from <1.0 to 4.0mm and variable proportions of fossil plate and crushed shell. Buff to patchily oxidised red, exterior, buff to light grey core and buff to dark grey interior. Moderately well fired.

Fossiliferous limestone and mixtures

K Coarse to moderate, friable fabric including sparse to moderate plate and/or moderate to abundant crushed fossil shell and sparse grog pellets. Exterior surface colour ranges from buff pink to black. Interior surface ranges from buff, through light grey to dark grey. Moderately well fired.

R Coarse to moderate, friable fabric including sparse to moderate plate and/or moderate to abundant crushed fossiliferous limestone. Exterior surface colour ranges from reddish brown to black. Interior surface ranges from buff, through light grey to dark grey. Moderately fired.

S Fine fabric, including common angular and subangular voids and usually grog as well as sparse to moderate mica and rare to sparse iron. The voids may result from the dissolving of limestone/calcite. Typically, where vessels are thin-walled, the exterior shows traces of burnishing. The fabric is usually grey to black throughout, although occasionally buff. Often poor firing.

T Coarse to moderate fabric, including sparse to moderate crushed fossiliferous limestone and sparse to moderate quartz (up to 1 mm). Surfaces are usually buff to grey. Moderate firing.

Z Coarse to moderate fabric, including abundant rounded or narrow slitted voids. In the main the voids occur fossiliferous limestone has dissolved. Surfaces are usually buff to grey. Moderate firing. Equivalent to Fabric R.

Four Early Neolithic sherds from Milsoms Corner formed part of a sample of 24 spanning the Early Neolithic to Late Bronze Age submitted for petrological analysis by Professor Timothy Darvill, with PXRF chemical analysis by Derek Pitman and Kerry Barrass. The full range of sherds fell within three distinctive chemical groups, A to C. The four Early Neolithic sherds all belonged to group C which included 'High levels of silica and very little calcium' (Pitman & Barrass unpublished). The thin sections suggested that the sherds were distributed across three clay types, two of which, A and C, included at least moderate amounts of quartz. B was iron-rich and included clay pellets which resembled grog. Type A was strongly micaceous but the other two types were only slightly so. Two fabric S sherds, (3) and (10), were found to be respectively of clay types A and C and two sherds in fabrics B and V, (5) and (6), were both of clay type B. Iron rich, fine grained sandstone fragments were observed in (5) and may match a variety of Mendip Old Red Sandstone found in Iron Age Glastonbury Wares. Clay type C was noted to resemble Gault clay from

west Wiltshire, implying a source 10-20km east or north-east of Cadbury (Darvill unpublished).

The silicaceous character of the chemical group C sherds from Milsoms Corner undermines the calcareous interpretation of the voids in macroscopic fabrics S and V. As a consequence there is a considerable disparity between fabrics of sherds from the spur and the hilltop. Macroscopic identification on the hilltop was more reliable due the generally good survival of inclusions. At the very least it would appear that different sources were being used by the potters. It is notable that in many respects sherds in Fabric R have a strong resemblance to fossil shell tempered pottery current during much of the Iron Age which probably derived from very local sources.

Both shelly limestone and calcite mixtures feature in the Early Neolithic assemblage on broadly similar geology at Hazleton North (Smith & Darvill 1990, 141-5),

Decoration and surface treatment

The only unambiguously decorated sherd was from pit 737 (12). Sharply tooled cross-hatching on its exterior, forming oblongs, appears to be of a design unique for the period, although the tooling is comparable with that on the necks of some Mildenhall style vessels at Spong Hill (Healy 1988; fig. 70, P121). It is unclear whether parallel lines are on the inner or outer surface of a thin, very flaky sherd from pit F737 (11). There were similar markings on the inner surface of a thin sherd from Maiden Castle (Cleal 1991a; fig. 142, 19). A sharply incised, apparently horizontal groove on a sherd (8), possibly from bowl (6), is probably an impression left by a piece of organic matter.

The surfaces of Milsoms Corner vessels (1) to (6) were soapy to touch and may all have been burnished or smoothed although this could not be established with certainty due to their condition. No evidence was found for carbon 'painting' which has been posited for sherds from Carn Brea, Hembury, Windmill Hill, and the exceptionally well-preserved examples from the Sweet Track (Kinnes 1979, 52, Coles and Orme 1984, 44). The vulnerability of the surface treatment was noted at Hambledon Hill, where it survived on only a very few sherds from a large assemblage (Smith 2008, 591) and it was not remarked upon at Maiden Castle (Cleal 1991a). However, Timothy Darvill has noted a possible 'pink-red internal coating or slip' on (10) from pit 737 (forthcoming, appendix 1) and a large straight-sided bowl from N297 retained smoothed, black surfaces.

Rim forms

Rims were classed in three tiers according to the dominant aspect of their physical form; the attitude of the rim in relation to vertical; and the finish of the rim. The rim form classes were: A – simple; B – rolled-over; C – outwardly expanded; E – T-shaped; and F – inwardly extended. The attitudes of the rims in relation to vertical were: 1 – out-turned; 2 – upright; 3 – inturned. The finishes of the rims

TABLE 4 – MILSOMS CORNER: RIM FORM, ATTITUDE AND FINISH

Form	A	B	C	E	F
	simple	rolled	ext expanded	T-shaped	int extended
	5	3		1	
%	55.6	33.3		11.1	
Attitude	1	2	3		
	everted	upright	inturned		
	2	3	4		
%	22.2	33.3	44.4		
Finish	a	b	c		
	rounded	tapered	flattened		
	9				
%	100				

TABLE 5 – SOUTH CADBURY HILLTOP: RIM FORM, ATTITUDE AND FINISH

Form	A	B	C	E	F
	simple	rolled	ext expanded	T-shaped	int extended
	9	5	3		1
%	50.0	27.8	16.7		5.6
Attitude	1	2	3		
	everted	upright	inturned		
	6	9	3		
%	33.3	50.0	16.7		
Finish	a	b	c		
	rounded	tapered	flattened		
	12	1	5		
%	66.7	5.6	27.8		

were: a - rounded; b - tapered; c - flattened. All the illustrated rims can be classified according to these criteria, and across the three groups there are one or more examples of every class, although not of every combination of classes. (Tables 4 and 5).

The most frequent variation between the two South Cadbury sites is the occurrence of external expansion of rims on the hilltop and its absence from the spur. Also worthy of note is the type E rim from pit 737 (10) and the type F from D660 (33). Whilst the number of sherds is too small for meaningful statistical analysis it is notable that the latter types are rare elsewhere. No type E rims are recorded from Carn Brea, Maiden Castle and Whitesheet Hill (Smith 1981, 164; Cleal 1991a, 173; Cleal 2004, fig.9) and they formed only 1.1% of the large assemblages from Hambledon Hill (Smith 2008, 589; fig. 9.7, P87, P94). However, they made up 12.7% of the classified rims at Windmill Hill (derived from Smith 1965, fig. 11), although that figure was inflated through the inclusion of Mortlake sherds. Type F rims are rare in Mildenhall assemblages but at Windmill Hill they accounted for 2.9% of the rims (derived from Smith 1965, fig. 11) and for 1.3% and 0.7% of those at Hambledon Hill and Maiden Castle (Smith 2008, 589; Cleal 1991a, table 56). The presence of one of each type from South Cadbury is surprising given the small assemblages. The prevalence of simple rims over rolled and externally expanded rims is typical, although not as pronounced as elsewhere.

Lugs and cordons

Five Early Neolithic lugs were recovered from Milsoms Corner and three from pits on the hilltop. Two horizontally perforated, round or knob-shaped lugs, one from pit 619, and one from a general layer were probably from a single highly burnished black vessel. The tenon survived on one as did a spread of sealing clay around it, strongly suggesting that it become detached from its socket (2). A sherd in pit 726 with an empty fully perforated socket immediately below the neck was from a vessel of similar fabric and finish (4). A larger vertically perforated knob was attached to a neutral bowl in D660 (32). Two horizontally perforated oval lugs were attached high on opposing shoulders of a vessel from pit 652 (6). Both of two horizontal elongated lugs were imperforate in pits 737 (10) and E774 (27). Shallow cordons on sherds from pits 652 and N297, one with a D (5) and one with a V profile (25) appeared to have been moulded just above the line of maximum girth.

All of the lug types are represented elsewhere in South-Western Bowl assemblages although the distribution of types varies considerably. Perforated and imperforate oval lugs were well-represented at Carn Brea, Windmill Hill and Maiden Castle but round knob forms are rare and usually imperforate if they occur (Smith 1981, 168-70; 1965, 50; Cleal 1991a, 179-80). The absence of trumpet lugs in the Cadbury area may be due to the assemblage size, although a smaller group from Whitesheet Hill

includes an example (Cleal 2004, P17). The instance of lugs is generally higher in the south-west than in the east of England. Nine were found at Staines (Robertson-Mackay 1987, 88), only one at Spong Hill (Healey 1988, 65) and two at Kilverstone (Knight 2006, 30-1), all from substantial Early Neolithic assemblages.

Vessel forms

The tripartite classificatory system distinguishes between open bowls for which the maximum outer diameter is at the rim (A), neutral bowls for which the rim diameter is equal to the maximum body diameter (B) and closed bowls for which the maximum diameter occurs on the main body of the vessel (C). The groups were subdivided according to whether they were carinated (1), uncarinated (2), 'S'-profiled (3) or of undetermined carination (0). The S-profiled bowls from Milsoms Corner are distinguished by long necks contrasting with the shorted-necked vessels to which the term was applied at Kilverstone (Knight 2006, 29).

Refitting provided sufficient profiles for classification of eight vessels from Milsoms Corner and 18 from the hilltop (Tables 6 and 7). Open, uncarinated (A2), predominantly large, bowls comprised the greatest part of the hilltop assemblage (16-18, 20, 24, 27, 28, 30) in contrast to the spur where no open bowls were found. Two large closed bowls (C3) were 'S'-profiled (5, 6) but on the hilltop a cup from D660 was sharply carinated (33). The rim diameters of closed uncarinated (C2) bowls were determinable only for a very large bowl from the hilltop (31) and for a small medium (3) and a very large vessel from the spur, the latter having a horizontal elongated oval lug (10). Neutral uncarinated vessels included a plain bowl from pit 737 (13) and a bowl with a vertically perforated lug from D660 (32).

There are marked differences in vessel forms between the South Cadbury hilltop and Milsoms Corner assemblages, although both fit well with variants of the South-Western Bowl style (Cleal 1991b, 134). The Milsoms Corner assemblage includes burnished, 'S'-profiled, bowls, with and without lugs, a slightly closed lugged vessel and simple closed bowls, various rims and at least one, possibly two, decorated sherds, (11) and (12).

TABLE 6 – MILSOMS CORNER: DISTRIBUTION OF VESSELS FORMS BY RIM DIAMETER (IN MM)

Vessel form	**No of Vessels**	**%**	**<?**	**<120**	**<200**	**<300**	**>300**
B2: Neutral, uncarinated	1	12.5			1		
C2: Closed, uncarinated	3	37.5	1		1		1
C3: Closed, 'S' profile	3	37.5	1			2	
C0: Closed, undetermined	1	12.5	1				
Total	8		3		2	2	1
% of measurable rims					40.0	40.0	20.0

TABLE 7 – SOUTH CADBURY HILLTOP: DISTRIBUTION OF VESSELS FORMS BY RIM DIAMETER (IN MM)

Vessel form	**No of Vessels**	**%**	**<?**	**<120**	**<200**	**<300**	**>300**
A2: Open, uncarinated	7	58.3	1		1	4	1
B2: Neutral, uncarinated	3	25.0			1	1	1
C1: Closed, carinated	1	8.3		1			
C2: Closed, uncarinated	2	16.7	1				1
C0: Closed, undetermined	5	41.7	4			1	
Total	18		6	1	2	6	3
% of measurable rims				8.3	16.7	50.0	25.0

TABLE 8 – MILSOMS CORNER: DISTRIBUTION OF FABRICS BY VESSEL FORM AND RIM TYPE

	Vessel form							Rim types				
Fabric	**B2**	**C2**	**C3**	**C0**	**Total**	**%**		**A**	**B**	**E**	**Total**	**%**
B/V			2		2	25.0			2		2	22.2
E					0	0.0		1			1	11.1
S	1	2	1	2	6	75.0		3	2	1	6	66.7

TABLE 9 – SOUTH CADBURY HILLTOP: DISTRIBUTION OF FABRICS BY VESSEL FORM AND RIM TYPE

	Vessel form							Rim types					
Fabric	**A2**	**B2**	**C1**	**C2**	**C0**	**Total**	**%**	**A**	**B**	**C**	**F**	**Total**	**%**
Q	2					2	12.5		1	1		2	12.5
E	2	1				3	18.8	2		1		3	18.8
K						1	6.3	1				1	6.3
R/Z	2	2	1	1	4	10	62.5	5	3	1	1	10	62.5
T				1		1	6.3		1			1	6.3

Although no re-fitting sherds were identified between pits it is very probable that pieces from two vessels were distributed across Milsoms Corner pits 619, 652 and 726. Bowl rim (3) from 619 appears to form the upper part of base (9) and rim sherd (1) was very similar to an unillustrated example from 652. There is also a strong possibility that the lug (2) from 619 had fitted a sherd (4) from 726. The assemblage was derived almost entirely from pits, all of which contained charred hazelnut shell in varying degrees of abundance. This has allowed dating of a small but diagnostically rich assemblage of pottery to within a narrow time span centred on a calibrated centroid date of around 3580BC at 1 sigma.

It would be misleading to regard the Cadbury Castle pottery as a single assemblage, since it may represent several discrete episodes of deposition in widely separated parts of the hilltop. It is also possible that residual sherds of the period are concealed within the Iron Age assemblages. The pottery from the diverse pits beneath the Iron Age inner bank and on the plateau, comprises near straight-sided open bowls, neutral and closed bowls and a carinated cup, and includes vessels with horizontally and vertically perforated lugs.

There is little to suggest that vessel form influenced the choice of clay mixtures of pottery from within each of the two areas (Tables 8 and 9). However, it is noteworthy that Fabric S dominated at Milsoms Corner where the most elaborate forms occurred. It may have been favoured for production of finer bowls.

The wider context

Well-dated Early Neolithic pottery assemblages from Somerset are sparse compared with those of neighbouring counties. Among the most significant remains a small assemblage from beside the Sweet Track, near Glastonbury which included sharply carinated neutral to slightly open bowls, considered to be a rarity in south west Britain at the time of their discovery (Smith 1976). They strongly resemble bowls from the east of England (i.e. Healy 1988, fig. 73, P168 and fig. 74, P170-6) and are now treated as exemplars of Carinated Bowl pottery which at 68% probability had currency within a range of 4080BC to 3595BC (Bayliss et al. 2011, 759, fig. 14.87, 1). They would have been deposited within a very few years following the track's construction, given as 3807-6BC by dendrochronology, over two centuries earlier than the probable date of the Milsoms Corner assemblage. The absence of Carinated Bowls from the hilltop assemblage implies that it is also later and it is notable that they featured only very sparsely at the important South-Western Bowl sites of Hembury and Windmill Hill (examples include Liddell 1931, P144; 1932, P254; and, decorated, Smith & Keiller 1965, fig. 26, P164).

The strong representation of uncarinated open

and neutral bowls in the hilltop assemblage is comparable with the much larger assemblage from Maiden Castle where they accounted respectively for 20.9% and 52.2% of the assemblage. The latter's lack of closed carinated bowls and relative paucity of closed uncarinated bowls (7.5%) (Cleal 1991a, table 57) contrasts sharply with the Milsoms Corner assemblage. However, individually comparable bowls occur at the two sites. The large, closed bowl (5) from pit F652 is of similar profile to a vessel from Maiden Castle (Cleal 1991a, fig. 142, 11). Both have a shallow moulded cordon slightly above the level of maximum girth, although the simple everted rim of the Maiden Castle example contrasts with the pronounced outward roll of that from Milsoms Corner. The outwardly rolled and upright rounded rims from pits 652 (7) and 619 (1) are probably from vessels with broadly similar profiles, examples of which have been found in east Somerset on the site of a chambered tomb at Fromefield (Vatcher and Vatcher 1973, 22; fig. 2), and in Wiltshire at Whitesheet Hill (Cleal 2004, fig. 9, P5) and in a pit below Amesbury barrow G132 (Gingell 1988, 41; fig. 18, 3).

Simple hemispherical bowls with simple rounded or tapered rims such as the closed bowl in pits F619 (3) and F652 (9) and a neutral bowl from pit 737 (13) are a well established element of the South-Western Bowl style and occur amongst other sites at Carn Bea (Smith 1981, fig. 71, P113, P119; P115, P117, P121), Hambledon Hill (Smith 2008, fig. 9.5, P59; P60), Maiden Castle (Cleal 1991a, fig. 145, 16; fig. 142, 7) and Whitesheet Hill, (Cleal 2004, fig. 9, P13-15). A small bowl with a similar inwardly extended rim from Windmill Hill (Smith 1965, fig. 23, P128) is analogous to the carinated cup from D660. The Windmill hill bowl differed in having vertically perforated lugs and fingertip impressions on top of the rim.

Although sherds from only a small number of vessels were recovered from Milsoms Corner and Cadbury Castle the overall assemblage includes a broad range of representative Early Neolithic vessel types recognisable from within the wider region and much further afield. Despite there differences both groups fit well within the South-Western Bowl style.

The Middle and Late Neolithic pottery

by Richard Tabor

Firmly datable Middle and Late Neolithic pottery is restricted to just two locations, respectively Sigwells and Cadbury Castle. A single sherd from a soil horizon associated with substantial fragments from a single Grooved ware vessel has traits suggestive of a 4th millennium BC date but is included here because of the association.

34 C0, V: Rounded, outwardly expanded and tapering rim, with a chevron-like arrangement of slanted incised decoration on top. SC A127.
35 Mortlake sub-style, AB1: Rows of sort twisted cord on upper interior wall of vessel. Moderately hard grey brown fabric including sparse to moderate flint and rare coarse rounded quartz. Sig Tr13 057/175.
36 Mortlake sub-style, AB2: Rows of short twisted cord crescents on wall. Moderately hard, dark brown fabric with pink exterior margin including grog with sparse angular flint (<6mm) and rare red iron oxide. Sig Tr13 254/5.
37 Fengate sub-style, A: Trapezoidal profiled rim with parallel oblique twisted cord impressions on the outer, top and inner surfaces. Corky dark grey fabric with buff brown exterior including moderate dark and pale grey grog. Sig Tr13 166/2.
38 Fengate sub-style, AB2: Slightly stepped, trapezoidal-profiled rim with parallel oblique incisions on rim and stabbed impressions in its overhang. Moderately hard dark grey fabric with buff reddish brown exterior including sparse to moderate calcined flint and sparse grey grog. Sig Tr6 F6504 K/5; north barrow ring ditch.
39 Grooved Ware, V: Neutral bowl with internally thickened rim. Four horizontal incised lines over incised chevrons grouped within triangles alternating with stabbed marks in offset rows.

The rim sherd with earlier traits (Fig. 13, 34) is comparable with incurving bowls which are sparse components of earlier Neolithic Decorated Bowl assemblages (Smith 1965, fig. 27, P182, P195; Kinnes 1998, fig. 182, M93) more generally associated with upright or near upright necked bowls, especially where the incisions are of chevron form (Healey 1988, 93, fig. 92, P193). Although both chevron incisions and outwardly tapering rims feature in Mortlake sub-style the vessel form implies a mid 4th millennium BC date.

The occurrence of three sherds of Mortlake and two of Fengate sub-style pottery on the Sigwells plateau contrasts with the absence of such material from all methods of investigation elsewhere in the

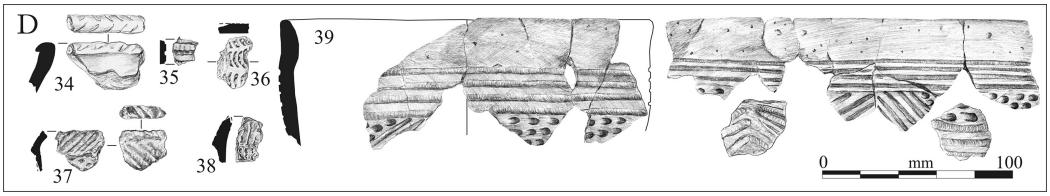

Fig. 13 Middle and Late Neolithic pottery from Sigwells and South Cadbury Castle

study area. The largest Mortlake sherd, mentioned but not described and missing at the time of writing, was from Trench 7 (Leach in Leach and Tabor 1996, 6). The two small Mortlake sherds from the Iron Age north west enclosure (Fig. 13, 35 and 36) are comparable respectively with sherds from much larger assemblages from Cranborne Chase at Handley Hill Barrow 26 (Cleal 1991b, 159; fig. 7.12, P132) and Wor Barrow (Cleal 1991b, 161, P171). One Mortlake sherd was found within 2m of one of the Fengate sherds (Fig. 13, 37), the latter similar to material from Thickthorn Down long barrow, most notably rim P158 (Cleal 1991b, fig. 7.14). The other sherd of the sub-style (Fig. 13, 38), found 200m to the east in the ring ditch of the northern Sigwells round barrow, is broadly similar in profile.

The sherds from a single Grooved Ware bowl (Fig. 13, 39) sealed beneath the north Iron Age inner bank on Cadbury Castle remain the only examples of the style recovered from the study area. The flattened horizontal grooves below the vessel's rim, staggered oval stabs within probably triangular outlines and multiple chevrons are typical of the Clacton sub-style. The curving inward thickening of the rim is similar to rim-type 28 at Durrington Walls although at that site it was associated with a vessel decorated in the Woodlands sub-style (Longworth 1971, 56-7; 139, fig. 58, P462). A similar rim featured on a Clacton sub-style vessel from Firtree Field, Cranborne Chase (Cleal 1991b, fig. 7.5, P26). In southern Britain Grooved Ware remains sparse west of Dorchester.

The flint

by Richard Tabor

Each flint was measured according to specifications set out by Saville (1980, 1981) and inspected individually at x8 magnification using a graduated linen tester lens. For the purpose of comparative analysis the length:breadth and breadth:length ratios of complete flakes and blades were calculated. The former is recommended by Saville but the latter is used here for ease of comparison with a selection of Early Neolithic assemblages (Healey & Robertson-Mackay 1983, 8-12; Edmonds & Bellamy 1991, 215-8; Harding 1991, table 11: Saville 1981, tables 19-22; Beadsmoore table 2.17). Flakes with a length of less than 20mm have been excluded from analysis at most other sites, partly as mitigation for the lower recovery rate of smaller items and partly because the proportions of small preparation flakes show less patterning. At Milsoms Corner all the cut features were excavated by trowel and that is likely to be true of those on the hilltop, hence only pieces of 12mm length or shorter have been excluded to increase the size of the sample. A very detailed tool type classification was applied to all the SCEP assemblages but the sample size for the Early Neolithic alone is too small to warrant its use here.

Milsoms Corner's Early Neolithic flint assemblage is from securely dated contexts, with the exception of soil (1097/1731) which may have formed over a long period covering the floor surface (1469) and hearth pit 293. The pit data have been used in the assessment of the hilltop assemblages for which selection of material has been more problematic because the dating of several contexts is less secure and has been partly determined by analysis of their flint. Metrical data from pits and other horizons have been presented in Table 10 as overall assemblages for pits and for general horizons and for individual pits where the assemblages exceed 100 pieces. An exception was made for pit E774 to allow data to be included from a second hilltop pit. In addition the table includes flint from two contexts from site D associated with a hearth and thought to have constituted an Early Neolithic occupation layer (D645 and D655) and from a thick deposit sealed beneath the inner north bank and apparently dated by substantial fragments from a Grooved Ware vessel. The latter was deemed the only secure Late Neolithic context in the entire South Cadbury study area and the flint from it was intended as a control for variation over time

TABLE 10 – MILSOMS CORNER: SUMMARY OF THE TECHNOLOGICAL ATTRIBUTES OF THE FLINT, OVERALL AND FROM SELECTED CONTEXTS. PERCENTAGES GIVEN IN ITALICS ARE FOR THE WHOLE OF THE EARLY NEOLITHIC OR SELECTED FEATURE OR HORIZON ASSEMBLAGES. OTHER PERCENTAGES ARE OF THE PARTICULAR CLASS WITHIN A SPECIFIC FEATURE OR HORIZON

		1097/1731		**All pits**		**652**		**737**	
		No	**%**	**No**	**%**	**No**	**%**	**No**	**%**
All flints	Total	319		710		322		264	
	Burnt	44	*13.8*	304	*42.8*	242	*75.2*	44	*16.7*
	Retouch	84	*26.3*	183	*25.8*	52	*16.1*	91	*34.5*
Flakes	Total	222	*69.9*	441	*62.1*	202	*62.7*	162	*61.4*
	Retouch	36	16.2	85	19.3	20	30.8	48	29.6
	Complete	74	33.3	178	40.4	62	63.2	79	48.8
	Wear	17	7.7	24	5.4	7	3.5	14	8.6
Blades	Total	31	*9.7*	66	*9.3*	27	*8.4*	31	*11.7*
	Retouch	8	25.8	25	37.9	6	22.2	13	41.9
	Complete	3	9.7	23	34.8	6	22.2	13	41.9
	Wear	10	32.3	14	21.2	7	25.9	6	19.4
Bladelets	Total	4	*1.3*	16	*2.3*	2	*0.6*	6	*2.3*
	Retouch	2	50.0	8	50.0	0	0	4	66.7
	Complete	0	0	4	25.0	0	0	1	16.7
	Wear	0	0	3	18.8	1	50.0	2	33.3
Breadth: Length ratio	<1:5	0	0	1	0.6	0	0	0	0
	>/=1:5	5	8.5	24	13.8	5	9.1	13	15.1
	>/=2:5	16	27.1	51	29.3	13	23.6	27	31.4
	>/=3:5	16	27.1	46	26.4	15	27.3	23	26.7
	>/=4:5	12	20.3	25	14.4	9	16.4	12	14.0
	>/=5:5	2	3.4	10	5.7	5	9.1	4	4.7
	>/=6:5	6	10.2	9	5.2	6	10.9	2	2.3
	>/=7:5	1	1.7	4	2.3	1	1.8	3	3.5
	>/=8:5	1	1.7	4	2.3	1	1.8	2	2.3
Butts	Measured		131		265		94		126
	All abraded	44	29.9	124	42.6	35	34.3	61	47.7
Butt widths	</=1	74	56.5	163	61.5	57	60.6	77	61.6
	>1-3	45	34.4	75	28.3	28	29.8	32	25.6
	>3-5	7	5.3	19	7.2	6	6.4	11	8.8
	=/>6-7	1	0.8	5	1.9	2	2.1	3	2.4
	=/>8-9	1	0.8	2	0.8	0	0	2	1.6
	>10	3	2.3	1	0.4	1	1.1	0	0
Cores	Total	1	*0.3*	8	*1.1*	3	*0.9*	4	*1.5*
Rejuv.	Total	4	*1.3*	8	*1.1*	4	*1.2*	2	*0.8*

(although see above for a *caveat* regarding wrong numbering).

The individual assemblages show considerable variation in treatment. At Milsoms Corner 75% of 322 pieces from pit 652 were heat affected, often calcined, distorting the overall percentage for the pits. None of nine pieces and only 11.6 % of 69 from hearth pits 293 and 619 were burnt. Burnt pieces comprised 13.8% of the material from the layer (1097/1731) sealing 293 and the ashy floor (1469) but 40.8% of the material from the hilltop layer (D645/655). The percentage of retouched material was very high both on the spur and on the hilltop. Comparison of the pit assemblages shows retouching of 19.3% of flakes from the Milsoms Corner pits, rising to 22.6% with the inclusion of blades and bladelets. For the hilltop pits the percentages are respectively 12.1% and 13.0%.

In other respects there are marked differences between the spur and the hilltop. Whilst the number of bladelets from each group is too small for inference, blades (defined as proportionately long flakes with parallel sides and here including broken examples) formed 9.3% of the Milsoms Corner pit assemblage but only 2.1% of the hilltop pit assemblage. There was a similar disparity between the sealing layers.

The summary of all pits shows that 43.7% of flakes from Milsoms Corner pits were of a breadth:length which was less than 3:5 compared with 39.3% for the hilltop (Table 10). However, there was a marked difference in the proportion of breadths of 5:5 or greater which accounted for 15.5% of the flakes from the Milsoms Corner pits and 28% of those on the hilltop. A comparison of the layer sealing the Milsoms Corner floor and occupation layer from Site D shows a nearly 10% difference between the spur and the hilltop for both sets of figures. On this evidence the hilltop soil formations and some features may be later. The same variables would assign the presumed later deposit A127 a later date than that implied by the mean for the hilltop pits and for the occupation layer on Site D. The combined percentages of blades and bladelets show a similar trend. They represent 11.6% of the Milsoms Corner pits assemblage, 3.2% of the hilltop pits assemblage and only 1.5% of the A127 assemblage.

Also of relevance to the Cadbury material are variations in butt width and platform abrasion, both of which were noted as altering over time in a comparison of stratified assemblages from the South Dorset Ridgeway Project (Harding & Bellamy 1991, 87; table 16). The mean width of butts from the hilltop pits was 2.2mm compared with 1.6mm for those from the Milsoms Corner pits. The difference shows more acutely in the percentages of butts which are up to 1mm wide with a nearly 20% difference between the two areas. In fact, both areas have very high percentages in this range compared with an Early Neolithic pit at Rowden so that it would be unwise to conclude that the variation was due to the lapse of time (Harding 1991, table 8). However, the incidence of abrasion of butts from hilltop pits at 13.6% was less than a third of the rate for the Milsoms Corner pits.

Whilst it is reasonable to assume that all the pits at Milsoms Corner were filled over a short period and hence that the proportionately low number of long flakes from 652 is not a function of technological change over time there is no evidence that the hilltop pits were closely contemporary with each other or with those on the spur. As only one pit included more than 100 pieces of flint reliable statistical inferences cannot be made about their sequence in relation to each other. However, seven of 12 complete flakes from T269 (58.4%) had a breadth:length ratio of less than 3:5 and for five of these the ratio was less than 2:5, offering the possibility that this pit may be the earliest identified on the hilltop.

The relative proportions of flint and other stone tools on the hilltop and the spur are remarkably similar (Tables 11 and 12). Piercers are hugely dominant at around 70% followed by scrapers at around 10% and knives as 6-8%. Quern fragments also made up around 8% of all stone tools, although the 1% within the Milsoms Corner assemblage for each of a complete quern and a rubber is probably a better representation of the proportional relationship between milling and other stone tools. No axes were found in the hilltop's Neolithic pits, although at least a dozen were found during Alcock's excavations and another during St George Gray's earlier campaign. It seems likely that one from D646 was in a genuinely Early Neolithic context as that layer was sealed by occupation horizon D645/655. The axe from pit 652 was the sole example from the spur (see Williams, below). Half of a perforated possible sandstone bead was found in a fill butting against the complete quern in pit 726.

In general the variety and number of tools within each pit may relate to pit size. At Milsoms Corner pit 737 had nearly twice the capacity of 652 which in turn was bigger than the other pits. Despite this, the low flint count and the inclusion of only a single

TABLE 11 – SOUTH CADBURY CASTLE: SUMMARY OF THE TECHNOLOGICAL ATTRIBUTES OF THE FLINT, OVERALL AND FROM SELECTED CONTEXTS. PERCENTAGES GIVEN IN ITALICS ARE FOR ALL CONFIRMED NEOLITHIC CONTEXTS OR INDIVIDUAL SELECTED FEATURE OR HORIZON ASSEMBLAGES. OTHER PERCENTAGES ARE OF THE PARTICULAR CLASS WITHIN A SPECIFIC FEATURE OR HORIZON

		D645/655		**All pits**		**E774**		**E885**		**A127**	
		No	**%**	**No**	**%**	**No**	**%**	**No**	**%**	**No**	**%**
All flints	Total	152		282		69		119		133	
	Burnt	62	*40.8*	50	*17.7*	21	*30.4*	8	*6.7*	11	*8.3*
	Retouch	36	*23.7*	65	*23.0*	11	*15.9*	23	*19.3*	33	*24.8*
Flakes	Total	115	*75.7*	215	*76.2*	60	*87.0*	90	*75.6*	106	*79.7*
	Retouch	14	12.2	26	12.1	8	13.3	7	7.8	12	11.3
	Complete	37	32.2	107	49.8	25	41.7	53	58.9	62	58.5
	Wear	18	15.7	23	10.7	5	8.3	10	11.1	13	12.3
Blades	Total	1	*0.7*	6	*2.1*	2	*2.9*	1	*0.8*	2	*1.5*
	Retouch	1	100	1	16.7	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Complete	0	0	4	66.7	1	50.0	1	100	2	100
	Wear	0	0	2	33.3	1	50.0	0	0	2	100
Bladelets	Total	0	*0*	3	*1.1*	0	0	3	*2.5*	0	*0*
	Retouch	0	0	1	33.3	0	0	1	33.3	0	0
	Complete	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Wear	0	0	2	66.7	0	0	2	66.7	0	0
Breadth: Length ratio	<1:5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	>/=1:5	0	0	16	15.0	3	12.5	4	7.8	3	5.6
	>/=2:5	9	25.7	26	24.3	10	41.7	7	13.7	10	18.5
	>/=3:5	11	31.4	27	25.2	3	12.5	17	33.3	11	20.4
	>/=4:5	5	14.3	8	7.5	0	0	6	11.8	13	24.1
	>/=5:5	4	11.4	15	14.0	4	16.7	7	13.7	12	22.2
	>/=6:5	2	5.7	11	10.3	2	8.3	8	15.7	4	7.4
	>/=7:5	3	8.6	3	2.8	1	4.2	2	3.9	0	0
	>/=8:5	1	2.9	1	0.9	1	4.2	0	0	1	1.9
Butts	Measured	82	177	44	76	85					
	All abraded	3	3.6	24	13.6	4	9.1	10	13.2	10	11.5
Butt widths	</=1	14	17.1	74	41.8	21	47.7	27	35.5	26	30.6
	>1-3	34	41.5	73	41.2	15	34.1	35	46.1	39	45.9
	>3-5	19	23.2	17	9.6	4	9.1	8	10.5	15	17.6
	=/>6-7	10	12.2	8	4.5	4	9.1	2	2.6	4	4.7
	=/>8-9	4	4.9	4	2.3	0	0	3	3.9	1	1.2
	>10	1	1.2	1	0.6	0	0	1	1.3	0	0
Cores	Total	5	*3.3*	7	*2.5*	1	*1.4*	3	*2.5*	1	*0.8*
Rejuv.	Total	1	*0.7*	2	*0.7*	1	*1.4*	1	*0.8*	0	*0*

TABLE 12 – MILSOMS CORNER: ALL LITHIC TOOLS FROM EARLY NEOLITHIC FEATURES

	1469/293		619		652		726		737		Total	% all tools
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		
Piercers	1	1.6	9	14.8	26	42.6	5	8.2	20	32.8	61	70.1
Scrapers	0	0	1	12.5	2	25.0	0	0	5	62.5	8	9.2
Knives	0	0	0	0	1	16.7	0	0	5	83.3	6	6.9
Querns (complete)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100	0	0	1	1.1
Querns (fragmentary)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	100	7	8.0
Rubbers	0	0	1	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.1
Axes	0	0	0	0	1	100	0	0	0	0	1	1.1
Arrows (leaf)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	100	2	2.3

TABLE 13 – SOUTH CADBURY CASTLE: ALL LITHIC TOOLS FROM EARLY NEOLITHIC FEATURES (QUERNS DERIVED FROM WATTS 2014, TABLE 6.1)

	C817		D660		E774		E885		N297		P154		T260		T269		Total	% all tools
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		
Piercers	3	12.5	1	4.2	3	12.5	12	50.0	3	12.5	2	8.3	0	0	3	12.5	24	68.6
Scrapers	0	0	1	25.0	0	0	2	50.0	0	0	0	0	1	25.0	0	0	4	11.4
Knives	2	66.7	1	33.3	0	0	1	33.3	0	0	1	33.3	0	0	0	0	3	8.6
Querns (complete)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Querns (fragmentary)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	66.7	1	33.3	3	8.6
Rubbers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Axes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arrows (leaf)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.9

tool from the floor/hearth area 1469/293 is striking and may reflect use of the area as shelter rather than a work space.

The evidence for use of flakes and blades as tools derives either from use-wear or retouch. Wear on flakes from pits on the hilltop at 10.7% was nearly double that on the spur. It has been noted already that the percentage of retouched material was very high in both areas. In contrast, at Maiden Castle retouch was recorded on less than 2.5% of flakes from the Early Neolithic phase (Edmonds & Bellamy 1991, table 75a); at Spong Hill on 5.6% of all struck pieces from feature groups of the period (from Healey 1988, fig. 33); and at Kilverstone all flakes and blades exhibiting retouch or other signs of use amounted to 6% (Beadsmoore 2006, 64). However, those three sites differ from Cadbury in that they all have ready access to flint. It had to be imported to Carn Brea and whilst there was considerable variation within the twelve excavated areas retouched pieces formed 20% of the assemblage in one and exceeded 12% in four (Saville 1981, table 3). The implication is that flint was used much more economically in places where it was not readily available.

The worked stone

by Fiona Roe

All the Early Neolithic querns were made from Old Red Sandstone (Table 13), brought from the Mendips where there are outcrops some 22.5 –

TABLE 14 – MILSOMS CORNER: PROVISIONAL CATALOGUE OF WORKED STONE

Context	Feature	Description	Stone
1830	F 619	Fragment, slightly burnt, convex grinding surface which has been prepared by pecking and then worn, probable rubber for saddle quern; 91 x 105 x 60 mm, 725 g	Mendip Old Red Sandstone
2284	F 726	Saddle quern, almost complete, slightly burnt. It is made from a boulder (seen on underside), which appears to have had chips knocked off to trim it to shape round the edge. The grinding surface is concave, and has been prepared by pecking and then worn smooth, particularly round the edge; 430 x 265 x 101 mm, 15.750 kg	Mendip Old Red Sandstone
2362	F 737	Unworked fragment, but a quern material, and so probably from a saddle quern or rubber; 190 g	Mendip Old Red Sandstone, banded
2362	F 737	5 fragments, 3 of them burnt, and 3 with worked surfaces which have been pecked and then worn smooth, likely to be from saddle quern and/or rubber; 400 g	Mendip Old Red Sandstone
2365	F 737	2 fragments, unworked but a quern material, similar to unworked fragment from context 2362 above; 290 g	Mendip Old Red Sandstone, banded
1872		Rounded object with a hollowed surface, could be a small mortar; 109 x 90 x 76 mm, 925 g	Yeovil Sands, local Jurassic sandstone
Surface, off site	N/A	Blade fragment from axe with part of polished surface; 77 x 52 x 25 mm, 120 g	Looks like a Cornish greenstone, which could be Group XVII

37km (14–23 miles) distant. There are four main areas of Old Red Sandstone in the Mendips, and further fieldwork might provide pointers to suggest from where the stone utilised at Milsoms Corner may have been collected. This variety of Old Red Sandstone is not the stone from Beacon Hill, which appears to have been used predominantly for rotary querns, but a feldspathic and micaceous sandstone with a tendency to break naturally into flat slabs. A similar variety of Old Red Sandstone was used for Neolithic querns at Hambledon Hill, but these were all fragmentary (Roe 2008, 633-5).

The complete saddle quern from context 2284 is of particular interest as it provides the hitherto missing details of the size and weight of such early querns. At a weight of 15.750 kg the question arises as to how this bulky object may have been transported to the site. The finds from the South Cadbury Environs excavations clearly demonstrate the long use of this micaceous sandstone in the area. It was used for a number of saddle querns from earlier Iron Age contexts at Cadbury Castle (Roe 2000, 263).

The stone axe from F652

by David Williams

The majority of a Neolithic ground and polished hand axe, weathered and decomposed and substantially burnt at some stage. The surface is pitted here and there by weathering and burning but still retains some areas that are smooth and show the original polish The axe is roughly oval in section and tapers from a damaged broad cutting edge, now somewhat truncated, towards a narrow butt end. The dimensions of this broken axe are: Length: 168mm; maximum Width: 56mm tapering to: 25mm; maximum Thickness: 100mm tapering to: 20mm.

A close visual examination with the aid of a hand-lens [x 10] suggested that the axe has been made from a greenstone, a medium- to coarse-grained basic intrusive igneous rock. The axe had previously been drilled into the core of the broken cutting edge. Not all of the cylindrical sample had originally been detached and it was possible to carefully prise away a small section that had remained in the drilled hole. This small circular piece was then made into a thin section and studied

under the petrological microscope. This showed that the rock contains plentiful, medium-grained, dark coloured grains of clinopyroxene and fibrous amphibole, set in a slightly lighter coloured matrix of altered felspar. The composition and texture of the minerals suggests that the rock is an uralitized gabbro and belongs to the Implement Petrology Committee's Group 1, which has a Cornish origin, almost certainly coming from the area of Mount's Bay, near Penzance (McK Clough and Cummings, 1979; 1988; Cummins, 1983). This was one of the main sources for Neolithic polished stone axes and its products have a wide distribution covering much of England.

The human remains

by Susan Jones and Clare Randall

A small group of human remains from Cadbury Castle was examined as part of a separate research project which was focussed on the 'Massacre Deposits' in the south west gateway of the hillfort and dating to the very end of the Iron Age or Romano-British period (Jones 2008; Jones and Randall 2010). As this material was studied with a focus on understanding disarticulated and co-mingled remains, a zoning system was developed, and particular attention paid to taphonomic markers and modification in order to understand the processes involved in the formation of deposits (Jones 2008, 19-23). Remains were identified from all phases of the use of Cadbury Castle, although the vast majority of the material was from contexts which were 1st millennium BC or later.

Human remains occurred in a total of three Neolithic contexts, P154, P152 (Fig. 9, plate), and C817 (Fig. 10B). The remains from P154 were not available for examination but could be seen in photographs in the site archive. The material comprised (according to a report by D. Lunt in the archive) an entire mandible and partial maxilla of an adult individual. Lunt assessed the mandible as having male traits and aged (presumably from dental eruption and wear) 20-25 years of age.

A group of partially articulated remains occurred in P152. This comprised an articulated portion of the rib cage and vertebral column, from the first thoracic vertebra down to the second lumbar vertebra, with the majority of the ribs on the right hand side absent. Associated with this were the disarticulated remains of part of the right radius and ulna, the right hand (including the carpals) and the left hand. A mandible is also shown in the photographs in the site archive, but was not available for examination. Measurements of the glenoid of the scapula, the radial head and the length of the sternum were consistent with the range attributable to a female individual. Some slight degenerative change might indicate an older adult, although this is tentative. It seems that this may have represented a more complete interment which had been disturbed, redeposited or cut through.

A total of 31 skull fragments came from pit C817, and comprised vault fragments, nasal bones and one zygomatic bone, and there were a minimum of three individuals present. The fragments indicated differing degrees of cranial suture closure. Whilst suture closure can be variable, it appears to indicate that the fragments were derived from at least one juvenile, a younger adult and a middle aged adult. These fragments had a more weathered appearance, and may well have already been fragmented and possibly exposed to the elements prior to burial. However, none of the fragments showed any signs of gnawing.

As a small assemblage, it is difficult to draw significant conclusions from this material. However, it appears to indicate that there may have been more than one practice in respect of the manipulation and deposition of human remains being carried out in this period of the use of the hill.

The Faunal Remains

by Clare Randall

Faunal remains were recovered from both Milsoms Corner and Cadbury Castle in the respective excavations of each. The Early Neolithic faunal assemblage from Cadbury Castle is part of a much larger collection which was recovered during excavation between 1966 and 1970 and dates to phases between the Early Neolithic and the medieval period. The material from Milsoms Corner is from a similarly multi-phase assemblage. Both assemblages were recorded by the author between 2007 and 2009 as part of a PhD research project (Randall 2010), but the Neolithic material fell outwith the chronological focus of that project.

Methods

Each bone fragment was identified where possible to element and species, and where this was not possible Large Mammal (e.g. cattle or horse-sized), Medium Mammal (e.g. sheep-sized, but potentially pig) and Unidentified Mammal categories. This included axial elements identifiable to species. Identification was carried out using comparative

collections and standard reference works Zones were recorded where possible for each anatomical element using the Maltby/Hambleton method (n.d.). Species abundance was considered in respect of number of identified specimens (NISP), or number of fragments for material not identified to species, as well as minimum number of individuals (MNI) All data were recorded in an Access relational database, which is included in the project archive.

Data were recorded with respect to bone condition, percentage and zone(s) of the element present, pathological changes, breakage patterns, butchery, sex, gnawing and weathering indicators. Burnt bone was recorded by colour. Where available the eruption and wear of teeth of cattle, sheep/goat, and pig was assessed and assigned categories using Grant (1982), Payne (1973, 1982), Hambleton (1999) and Halstead (1985). Bone porosity was recorded for all fragments, and each fragment examined for fusion information which was assigned to age ranges using Silver (1969). Metrical data were recorded in accordance with von den Driesch (1976). Further detail of both methods and calculations are included in the project archive.

Results

Milsoms Corner

A total of 244 fragments of animal bone were recovered from 20 contexts (Table 14). The vast majority of the material came from the series of pits, although there were small quantities of unidentifiable material from postholes and general layer (1731). The material was predominantly unidentifiable (only 2% identified to species) and very fragmented, with the vast majority of the material of Poor or Poor-Average condition. The bulk of the assemblage (212 fragments) was burned. Of these 161 (76%) fragments were completely calcined, with 9 classed as grey, indicating a very thorough and deliberate combustion. 41 fragments were buff in colour and 1 brown, indicating a lower temperature/duration of burn in the presence of oxygen. A large proportion of the material was concentrated in three contexts (1886), (1888) and (1899), with all the material in the former two being heavily burned and over 80% of the latter context. This type of treatment may have been directly related to the act of pit deposition, although small amounts of burned material also occurred in the limited assemblage which did not originate from pit fills. The species identified were cattle, sheep/goat (single examples of each) and pig (three fragments), and no further information was available.

Cadbury Castle

A total of 698 fragments were recovered from 16 contexts, mainly within pits (676 fragments) but also representing a possible slot trench (22 fragments) (Table 14). 58% of the material could be identified to species. 91% of the material had Average or Average-Good bone condition. The quantity of bone in the different types of context is too small to enable consideration of differentials in preservation. Whilst the material is generally fragmentary, only 14% of identified mammal bone comprised loose teeth. No associated bone groups (ABGs) were noted.

The species identified were cattle, sheep/goat, pig, dog, fox, roe deer and red deer. The majority of the material related to the three main livestock species, with a small number of dog fragments, and a total of three fragments from wild species. Pig were the most numerous species by number of identified specimens (NISP) (59% of the three main livestock species), with a lesser representation of cattle (24%) and sheep/goat in the minority (17%). The larger number of pigs is also reflected in the minimum number of individuals, with pig bone originating from at least seven animals, cattle four, and sheep/goat, five. Whilst cattle and sheep/goat have reversed rank order by minimum number of individuals (MNI), cattle would still have been economically more significant, given their size and increased dairying potential.

Only 16 examples of butchery were noted on cattle, sheep/goat and pig (amounting to 2% of the whole assemblage). Virtually all were fine cuts which can be associated with the skinning or dismemberment of the carcass. Thirteen examples of breakage of the bone when fresh were noted (2% of the total assemblage), with cattle, sheep/goat and pig as well as cattle-sized and sheep-sized animals involved. A total of 75 fragments had taphonomic changes noted (in some cases more than one). Gnawing occurred at a rate of 1% of the assemblage. This is relatively low, and potentially reflects only a small population of dogs indicated by the handful of dog bone, or limitation of access of dogs to the material. Weathering was rare (4%). Both of these measures appear to indicate, alongside the generally good condition of the bone that the material was relatively rapidly incorporated into the fills, and protected from scavenging animals and aerial weathering effects. Burnt fragments accounted for

5% of the assemblage. It does not appear however that there was any concentration in particular features or contexts with weathered, burned and gnawed material spread across the features. Cattle could be argued to have been disproportionately affected by weathering, but the numbers are too small to be definitive. This may be a function of the size of the fragments leading to them remaining exposed to the elements for longer.

Three pits had particularly high concentrations of faunal remains (Table 15). Examination of D660 (including its contexts A and B; total of 131 fragments, E885 (total 132 fragments) and P154 (including its context B; 161 fragments), may indicate that they accumulated from slightly different events than the general accumulation of occupation debris. E885 actually had a far lower proportion of material identified to species (30% in contrast to 58% for the entire Neolithic assemblage). Within the 40 fragments identified, cattle comprised 16 fragments (40%), pig 12 fragments (30%) and sheep/goat two fragments (5%). The majority of the bone scored as Average condition, but notably 12% was weathered (Table 14). This contrasts with D660 in which the majority of the bone was of Average-Good condition, and no weathering was noted. In this case 36 identified fragments (54%) were sheep/goat, with 20 (30%) pig, and 11 fragments of cattle (16%). P154 had a similar profile of bone condition, with 75% of the material scoring Average-Good, and no weathering. Here there were three cattle fragments (3%), two sheep/goat fragments (2%) and 97 fragments (95%) of pig. No butchery was recorded for E885, but there were three examples each in the other two features. Especially in the last case, it seems that we should consider a highly specific consumption event having produced the deposit.

Cattle

Cattle was the second most abundant species (24% of NISP). A total of 98 fragments were identified as cattle, with 109 fragments relating to cattle-sized animals. The minimum number of individuals was four, a minimum of three adult animals and one juvenile animal. Aging information was limited as there were no mandibles or even mandibular loose teeth which could be assigned a wear stage. A deciduous maxillary tooth was unworn, and a permanent maxillary molar worn. There were only five porous fragments. 24 elements gave fusion information. Slightly more than half were fused, with a weighting to early fusing elements. However there were two unfused early fusing elements (<7-10

TABLE 15 – SPECIES ABUNDANCE, NISP AND MNI, SOUTH CADBURY CASTLE AND MILSOMS CORNER

	Cadbury Castle				**Milsoms Corner**	
Species	NISP/No	MNI	% ID	% Main	NISP/No	MNI
Cattle	98	3+1	24%	24%	1	1
Sheep/Goat	67	4+1	16%	17%	1	1
Pig	237	5+2	58%	59%	3	1
Dog	6	1	2%			
Horse	-	-				
Domestic total	*408*				*5*	
Fox	1	1				
Red Deer	1	1				
Roe Deer	1	1				
Wild Total	*3*					
Large mammal	109				5	
Medium mammal	64				14	
Unidentified	114				220	
Unidentified Total	*287*				*239*	
Main total	*698*				*244*	

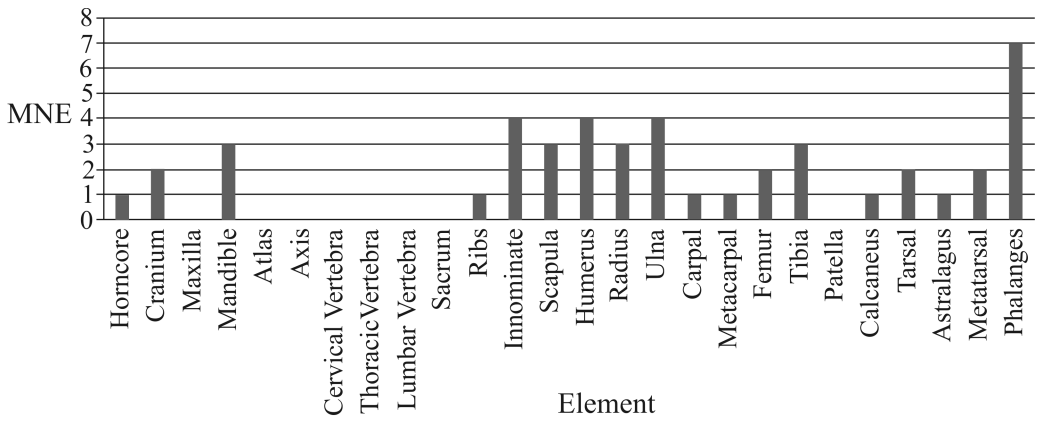

Fig. 14 Element frequency by MNE, cattle, Early Neolithic South Cadbury Castle

months). The presence of older animals is attested by three fused proximal femurs (>42 months). The small amount of porous bone would indicate that younger animals were present and may have been being reared on or near the site. Two measurements for the breadth of the distal humerus (BT = 68.5mm and 77.7mm) fall into the female category of size identified at Windmill Hill, Hambledon Hill, and Durrington Walls (cf. Serjeantson 2011, 21). It is probable that cattle were being kept and utilised for both primary and secondary products.

All areas of the body were represented including the head, axial skeleton (albeit with under representation of the spine), limbs and feet (Fig. 14). Meat bearing elements are well represented, including the innominate, scapula, humerus and femur. However, the presence of peripheral elements including the heads and feet seems to indicate that the whole animal was available and processed on site or close by. There are five examples of butchery on cattle bone, all light cuts associated with disarticulation, skinning or filleting meat. Four fragments had been gnawed by dogs, eleven showed signs of weathering and there were six burned fragments. The number of weathered fragments may be proportionately greater (as is the small number of gnawed fragments) than the other species, implying slightly different disposal, but the evidence is very slight. Two cattle fragments showed the beginning of changes to the articular surfaces of a proximal radius and distal tibia. These may not be truly pathological but relate to changes in the joint with age.

Sheep/goat

Sheep/goat was the least abundant of the livestock species by NISP (17%). 67 fragments of sheep/goat bone were identified, as well as 64 fragments of sheep-sized mammal bone (although some of this at least may relate to pig). This material was contributed by a minimum number of five animals, with at least four adults and at least one juvenile. None was positively identified as sheep or goat, although the likelihood is that all, or nearly all, of the animals were sheep. Goat only occurs in very small numbers in contemporary assemblages, and the number of sites it occurs on is similarly small (Serjeantson 2011, 30). Three elements provided withers heights with a mean of 55.2cm which compares well with other examples of the period (cf Serjeantson 2011, 29). Aging data was limited, but one mandible provided a Grant Mandible Wear Stage and Payne Stage of 30 and E respectively (2-4 years), whilst another gave scores of 1 and A (0-2 months). Four loose deciduous molars were probably from a sub-adult animal. With seven porous fragments of bone (proportionately greater than for cattle), this indicates a spread of livestock age groups, including the youngest, but with no evidence for very old animals. The fusion data, with 34 elements available, also indicates a spread of age groups, with a large number of fused early and later fusing elements. There are only three unfused early fusing elements (in comparison to 12 fused examples), representing animals under 10 months of age at death. This may mean that there was a lesser emphasis on culling younger animals than is seen on the site later in prehistory (Randall

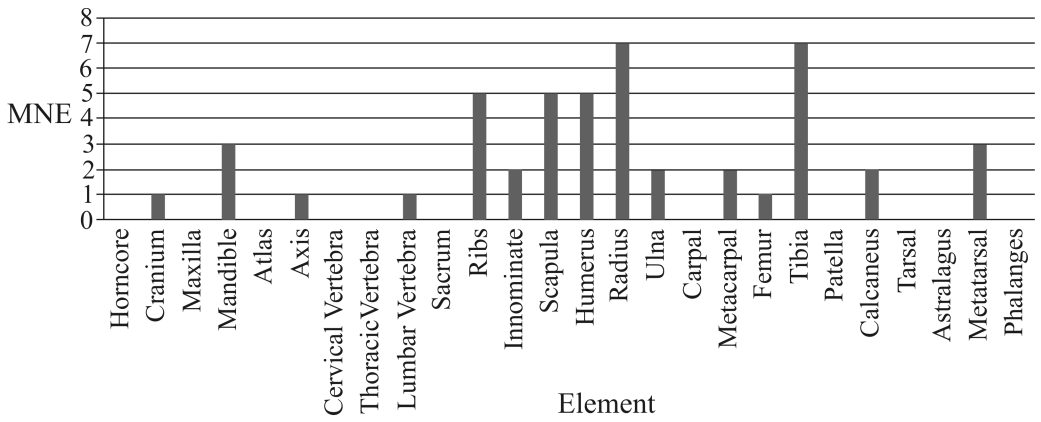

Fig. 15 Element frequency by MNE, sheep/goat, Early Neolithic South Cadbury Castle

2010). Alternatively, animals were not raised near the site, or the site was not used during the early months of the animals' life. The latter is however contradicted by the presence of the mandible from a very young animal.

All parts of the body are represented, including the axial skeleton, limbs and feet, although again there is an under representation of the spine (Fig. 15). There is an apparent emphasis on limb bones and the most well represented elements are the radius, tibia and the scapula, particularly the glenoid. These are recognised as robust elements. It is likely that taphonomic factors have played a part in producing this pattern, although selection of elements/body parts might be possible, as the main meat bearing elements are less well represented. The femur, humerus and innominate are less well represented than in cattle and may hint at differences in preparation for consumption and cooking practice. The presence of head and feet elements indicates that it is likely that animals were culled and consumed close to the point of disposal. Only a single example of butchery was noted on sheep/goat bone, utilising multiple light cuts to fillet or disarticulate a humerus. Potentially deliberate fragmentation appears to have only affected two sheep/goat fragments, and one sheep-sized mammal fragment. Only a single fragment had been gnawed, two weathered and seven burned. Together this may indicate a likely difference in approach to cooking the smaller sheep carcass. Sheep-sized mammal fragments had also been subject to gnawing and burning. No examples of pathological change were noted in sheep/goat, which may be a function of the small numbers, or may relate to the age profile of the flock, pathological change being more common in an older population. Like cattle, the sheep/goat were likely to have provided a range of primary and secondary products.

Pig

Pig contributed 237 fragments to this assemblage, by some margin the most abundant identified species by NISP (59%). This was contributed by a minimum number of seven pigs, at least five adults and two juveniles with most areas of the body well represented. Aging data was limited, but four mandibles provided Grant Mandible Wear Stages of 10, 11, 13 and 25 respectively. The first three can be categorised broadly as 1-14 months (albeit at the old end of this range), and the fourth 15-26 months. A younger animal is attested by a mandible with un-erupted M2 and M3. An older (but not old) individual is represented by a mandible with the second molar at stage m and third molar at g. A loose mandibular first molar and third molar were both unworn. In addition, a single deciduous, and six permanent maxillary, teeth were in wear. There were 18 porous fragments of pig bone, a proportionate increase over the less well represented cattle and sheep/goat. This apparently indicates a spread of age groups, including young animals, although the emphasis was on younger animals of full meat weight. The fusion data, with 44 elements available, had a distinct emphasis on younger animals. However, the majority of early fusing elements (under 12 months of age) were fused (10 out of 14, compared to nine un-fused early fusing elements out of a total

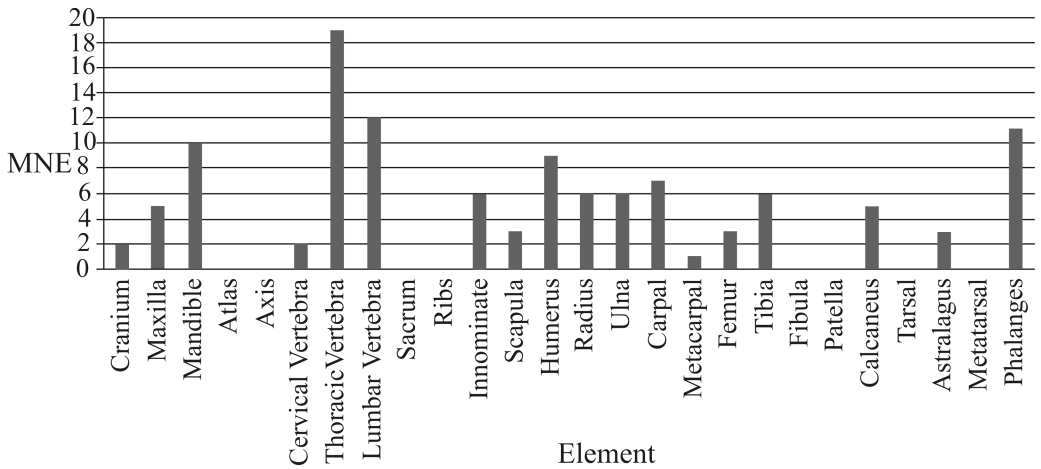

Fig. 16 Element frequency by MNE, pig, Early Neolithic South Cadbury Castle

of 30). There was a spread of un-fused elements through the later and latest fusing categories, whilst there are only two fused examples of latest fusing elements (>42 months). There was scant evidence for raising pigs on the site as the youngest ages are not generally present, and there are few older animals which could represent breeding stock. It is notable that this is an entirely different pattern than for the Later Iron Age, when evidence for the youngest, and much older animals was abundant (Randall 2010, 193). However, the only three canines available which indicate the sex of animals, all related to females. There nevertheless appears to be a relatively narrow representation of animals focussed around the prime meat age.

All parts of the body were present, including the head, axial skeleton, limbs and feet (Fig. 16). In contrast to cattle and sheep/goat, the spine was represented. Meat bearing elements and limbs were relatively well represented. The presence of head and foot elements indicated that most animals were probably culled and consumed close to the point of disposal. However, there was a slightly lesser representation of foot elements than for other species. Eight examples of butchery were noted on pig bone, again frequently utilising multiple light cuts to fillet meat from the bone or disarticulate elements. However, only three pig fragments appeared to have been broken when fresh, which could be an under representation in comparison to sheep/goat. Again, this may hint at slightly different processing and consumption practice. Pig fragments had been subjected to gnawing (two fragments) weathering (four fragments) and burning (nine fragments). Slight changes were noted in the distal articulation of a tibia and more considerable ones in a proximal radius which may relate to joint degeneration in an older animal.

Dog

A total of six fragments of dog bone were recorded, all in one context, pit D660, and contributed by a minimum of one adult individual. All of the fragments were fully fused, and consisted of two ribs, a single cervical vertebra, a thoracic vertebra, a large portion of a humerus and a proximal articulation of a tibia. No butchery or deliberate fragmentation was noted and there were no taphonomic changes. No pathological change was noted. It would seem that this material may all relate to the remains of a single animal deposited together once it had become disarticulated. Skeletons or part skeletons as well as isolated elements of dog have been noted on a number of sites (Serjeantson 2011, 31), including at Hambledon Hill (Legge 2008, 538).

Other species

Three fragments of wild species were recorded. A small fragment of red deer antler came from pit context P154B (Fig. 9B, plate). There was no indication of whether it had been worked or was from an animal which had been killed, or was shed antler. The distal half of a roe deer tibia, fused distally, occurred in context D660B. An entire left mandible of a fox occurred in context F589. The latter two were of Average-Good condition. Lack

of wild species in Early Neolithic assemblages is not unusual.

Red Deer (Cervus elaphus)
Having repopulated Britain at the beginning of the Holocene, the red deer is predominantly a woodland animal, which was originally widespread. They generally live in sex differentiated herds and shed antler on an annual basis (Hart-Davis 2002, 68). There is repeated evidence of the exploitation of red deer during the Neolithic across southern Britain, and examples are predominantly the form of antler. It is less clear whether this was from hunted animals or from shed antlers (Yalden 1999, 104).

Roe Deer (Capreolus capreolus)
Roe deer was also a ubiquitous woodland presence from the beginning of the Holocene, living in small family groups (Hart-Davis 2002, 71-2). It is a repeated but generally minor inclusion in Neolithic assemblages (Yalden 1999, 103-4). The best understood example of inclusion in earlier Neolithic features is in the Coneybury Anomaly (Maltby 1990) where the roe deer was present in some quantity and has been suggested as replacing the sheep/goat 'component' of the assemblage, which is not present (Pollard 2006).

Red Fox (Vulpes vulpes)
Red fox is indigenous to Britain. It has a wide diet which includes small and juvenile mammals and birds, insects and amphibians as well as carrion. Its impact on livestock, apart from poultry has probably been historically exaggerated, but they are highly opportunistic (Hart-Davis 2002, 51). Small numbers of fox frgments occur in assemblages throughout later British prehistory (Yalden 1999, 104). It is unclear if this fragment was a deliberate or incidental inclusion.

Discussion
Earlier Neolithic assemblages from Somerset are scant in both number and scale. Most Neolithic animal bone from Somerset comes from cave and swallett sites including Sun Hole and Tom Tivey's Hole. At Sun Hole, Early Neolithic deposits included calcined animal bone (Tratman and Henderson 1927). Tom Tivey's Hole included human remains, Windmill Hill style pottery and flints as well as sheep bone (Barrett 1966), an indication of the early introduction of sheep in the area. The Early Neolithic levels at Charterhouse Warren Farm Swallett (a naturally occurring closed sinkhole) produced juvenile human bone, flint objects, animal bone and other objects, which were interpreted as deliberately deposited (Levitan et al. 1988). The habit of deposition into the Late Neolithic in these features is supported by the presence of grooved ware, human remains, flints and animal bone at Brimble Pit Swallett (Lewis 2005, 128). Similar deposits including both domestic cattle and aurochs occurred at Tyning's Great Swallett (Mullan and Boycott 2004, 135-6), and aurochs at Charterhouse Warren Farm (Everton 1975).

Given the similarities of content, it should be considered that deposition in pits and natural features may be parallel practices. Early Neolithic pits at Chew Valley Lake produced pottery, flint and charred hazelnuts as well as '1/2 oz of calcined bone' , unidentified to species (Rahtz and Greenfield 1977, 26-7). Other pit sites in Somerset and Dorset generally date from the later Neolithic, and either contain no animal bone or small quantities of a limited range of species (e.g. Ben Bridge; Rahtz and Greenfield 1977:28); Abbey Quarry, Doulting (Higbee 2001, 2-3); Fir Tree Field, Down Farm, Dorset (Legg 1991, 58-65) and Flagstones, Dorchester (Bullock and Allen 1997, 191). It is against this limited picture of animal husbandry and exploitation that the Milson's Corner and Cadbury Castle assemblages should be considered.

The small, highly fragmented nature of the material from Milsoms Corner is in many respects more typical of local animal bone assemblages of the period. Heavily burned, it only provides slight indication of the presence of three livestock species, cattle, sheep and pig. The much larger, and significant assemblage from the hill adds dog and a smattering of wild species to this list, and has more potential to enlighten with respect to both subsistence and consumption practice in the area in the Earlier Neolithic. The relative abundance of the species in the Cadbury Castle assemblage with pig being clearly the most abundant differs from other Somerset examples, and contrasts with contemporary assemblages further afield where cattle was generally more abundant; assemblages with a greater abundance of pig are more frequently noted in the later Neolithic, particularly from henges (Serjeantson 2011, 25).

With little evidence for on-site breeding, consideration also needs to be given to whether the pigs were wild or domestic in origin, or a mixture of the two. This is potentially problematic to determine. Pigs were domesticated in Europe and introduced

to Britain at the beginning of the Neolithic along with sheep/goat and cattle, although inter-breeding may have then occurred with native boar (Albarella et al. 2007). Metrical data are the most useful way of exploring the issue, as pigs, when domesticated, became smaller, whilst remaining morphologically very similar to their wild counterparts. However, to complicate matters, British Mesolithic boar appears to have been relatively small in comparison to continental populations (Albarella 2010, 60). In this case, the metrical data are limited to a few measurable fragments. For example, there is only a single mandibular third molar available to provide a length. As a rule of thumb, measurements in excess of 40mm might be regarded as boar (Grigson 1983), which the single example for Cadbury Castle (36.6mm) falls short of. Nevertheless, it compares well with the range for British Mesolithic wild boar (cf Albarella 2010; Albarella et al. 2009). It is larger than four examples recorded from Beaker period deposits at Gorsey Bigbury henge at Cheddar (Van Wijngaarden-Bakker 1976, 166), although the state of wear of these teeth was not noted. The breadth of the trochlea of the two Cadbury Castle humeri similarly fall within the British Mesolithic wild boar metrical distribution (cf Albarella 2010, 61). However, in neither case are the measurements at the upper end of the scale, and so could reasonably represent either wild or domestic pig.

This problem is frequent as biometrical data are in general scant leading to a poor understanding of the wild populations in the Early Neolithic. By the later Neolithic, boar appear to have been rarely represented in assemblages (e.g. Durrington Walls; Albarella and Payne 2005), although they were present as attested by a large scapula and humerus at Mount Pleasant (Harcourt 1979, 215). The latter had a distal breadth of 47mm, in comparison to 39mm for the two Cadbury Castle humeri, although Harcourt notes an example of 39mm in Salisbury Museum, listed as boar. The trochlea breadths of two the Cadbury Castle examples fall well within the range noted for, presumably domestic, pig at Hambledon Hill, Durrington Walls and Mount Pleasant (Legge 2008, 549; 572). Nine Beaker period examples from Mount Pleasant fall into the range of 30-35mm (Harcourt 1979, 217). The Cadbury Castle Neolithic examples are however also large in comparison to Middle and Late Iron Age pig teeth from Cadbury which occupy a range of 29-37mm in length (Randall 2010, 474). However, the widths of mandibular first molars plot at the low end of the range of sizes for those at Durrington Walls, where the majority of the assemblage was believed to be domestic (cf Albarella and Payne 2005, 593). It cannot therefore be demonstrated either way as to the presence or absence of wild pig. The possibility of interbred populations also remains. It seems clear that the animals did not farrow on the site, or at least, their remains were not incorporated in deposits. It seems likely that they were reared elsewhere and brought to the hill for consumption and disposal. A semi-feral style of herding might be suggested for their husbandry.

The rate of butchery in the Cadbury Castle assemblage, at 2% of total fragments, is in line with those noted in other Neolithic assemblages, although the sites from which data are available tend to be later in date. Often multiple short, fine, cuts are typical of the period (Serjeantson 2011, 54-5). The degree to which cuts occur on different species appears to be highly variable, and in the case of the Cadbury material, the numbers are so small as to render any proportions potentially highly misleading. The percentages of burnt bone in Neolithic assemblages are similarly highly variable, so the 5% burnt material at Cadbury Castle is comparable with a number of sites (cf. Serjeantson 2011, 57). The number of earlier Neolithic sites for which this information is available is limited, and where burnt material is extensive, it appears to occur in more ceremonial or funerary contexts. The accumulation of bone in a couple of particular features at Cadbury Castle needs to be considered in relation to the potential involvement of feasting. Most of the Early Neolithic faunal remains come from a number of contexts with relatively small amounts of bone, but three features stand out in having volumes of over 100 fragments. It is likely that these features result from specific events of consumption and deposition. This is further explored elsewhere (Tabor and Randall in prep), as is the very evident differences in the composition, treatment and deposition of the faunal remains at Milsoms Corner.

The botanical remains

by Dani de Carle

Although evidence of cereals in British Neolithic contexts is widespread, cereals tend to be represented by very low quantities of material at each site (Fairbairn 2000, Bogaard and Jones 2007, Jones and Rowley-Conwy 2007) with a few notable exceptions, such as Hambledon Hill, Dorset (Jones and Legge 2008), Windmill Hill, Wiltshire (Whittle et al. 2000) and, further north, Lismore Fields,

TABLE 16 – SOUTH CADBURY CASTLE PITS D660, E885 AND P154 CONDITION AND TAPHONOMY

	D660		E885		P154	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Gnawed	5	4%	2	2%	1	1%
Weathered	-	-	16	12%	-	-
Burned	4	3%	6	5%	6	4%
PA	4	3%	-	-	21	12%
A	38	29%	87	66%	21	12%
AG	82	63%	45	34%	121	75%
G	7	5%	-	-	1	1%

Derbyshire (Jones in press). The plant remains from the Early Neolithic pit contexts at Milsoms Corner are mostly seeds of crop weeds and other wild species.

A total of 135 litres of soil were processed from the ten samples selected for study. Hazel nutshell was abundant but only 28 identifiable seed or chaff items were recorded, including one poorly preserved barley grain, two indeterminate cereal grains, a single glume wheat glume base and a flax seed (Table 16). The few seeds of potential crop weeds include Stellaria cf. media, Vicia/Lathyrus sp. and seeds of Polygonaceae. However, thousands of hazel nutshell fragments were recovered from the samples, particularly MC1889 and MC1839, for which the shell recovered from the flot was weighed rather than counted; further material would probably be recoverable from the heavy residues.

The pre-depositional taphonomy of cereals is very different to that of nutshell. Jones (2000) points out that the nutshell represents the waste from consumption rather than the product which would normally be consumed. The equivalent waste parts for cereals are chaff and straw. Nutshell also has little value beyond its use as kindling or fuel whereas chaff and straw may have other uses such as fodder and building materials. What is more, the dense nutshell survives charring relatively well while lighter material such as chaff and straw tend to survive poorly (Boardman and Jones 1990). There is a suggestion that hazel nutshells within pits could be suggestive of processing of hazelnuts by roasting (Score and Mithen 2000, Mithen et al. 2001), although the Milsoms Corner pits do not match the shape and dimensions of the previously identified Mesolithic examples and the deposits are much smaller. The Milsoms Corner samples are from pits in the wider landscape rather than unambiguously settlement-based contexts. The evidence of relatively rapid intentional filling of the pits is indicated by minimal weathering and the inclusion of artifacts such as 'elegant' pottery associated with sites across the south west, a Cornish polished axe, a complete and fragmentary quern stones from the Mendips and rubbers (Tabor 2008a, 45). These assemblages are similar to those across Neolithic southern Britain where gathered food remains outnumber those of cultivated crops (Robinson 2000) and point towards ceremonial actions. Cereal-based assemblages are perhaps more likely to be associated with areas of settlement, particularly houses. These types of context are well represented at continental Neolithic sites, and in later periods in the SCEP landscape itself. Unfortunately the lack of archaeobotanical sampling during the hillfort excavations means that no material is available from the possible gully and post-built rectangular buildings found on the South Cadbury hilltop. To date, all that can be said about the Early Neolithic crops is that barley and glume wheat, probably emmer (Greig 1991; Campbell and Straker 2003), were available in the SCEP landscape, and that wild resources seem to have played a significant role compared to later periods, especially the Iron Age.

Wood charcoal results from Neolithic Hambledon Hill (Austin et al. 2008, 461) indicated a greater diversity in the wood species than that recorded for later periods. The Early Neolithic SCEP samples show relatively low diversity compared to samples from the following periods (Table 17). The more numerous species represented are deciduous Quercus, Corlyus and Corylus/Alnus, Pomoideae and Prunus spp. The presence of possible scrub or wooodland edge taxa as well as understory

TABLE 17 – MILSOMS CORNER: COUNTS OF THE CROP, WEED AND HERBACEOUS PLANT PARTS BY CONTEXT

	1706	**1839**	**1886**	**1888**	**1889**	**2285**	**2294**	**2347**	**2295**	**2362**
Feature	293	619	652	652	652	726	726	726	737	737
Soil volume (litres)	3	15	/	48	40	1.25	1.2	7.75	/	19
Taxa	Pit fill	Pit fill	Pit fill	Pit fill	Pit fill	Pit fill	Pit fill	Pit fill	Pit fill	Pit fill
Barley grain+							1			
Indet. cereal grain			2							1
Unassigned glume wheat glume bases								1		
Large culm node					4					
Flax					2					
Vicia L./*Lathyrus* L. sp.					2			1		1
Polygonaceae Large indet.					1					
Polygonaceae Small indet			1						1	
Rumex L. sp. (typeA)+					4			3		
Stellaria cf. *media* L. Vill.					2					
Large Grass										1
Potentially identifiable weed/ wild seed			1		2			1		
cf. Fruit					3					1
Small culm node			1							
Culm frag. (thin)					2					
Nutshell frags *(Corylus)*	67	94	2.1g	10.9g	172.7g	45	19	1.5g	1g	5.9g
Tuber frags.									4	
Tuber					7					

species suggests clearings. However, it is unclear how much this slightly restricted range of species results from the samples all coming from tightly clustered contexts of the same type in what may have been a tree rich environment. Other periods are represented by a range of context types widely spaced across sites on a range of substrates. In the later periods people may have had less choice of wood in their immediate surroundings and so had to collect from a wider range of habitats, while Neolithic samples might represent taxa that were immediately to hand without the need to travel further or use other taxa.

EARLY NEOLITHIC STRUCTURES AT SOUTH CADBURY?

The evidence for structures on the hilltop is limited. Trench E886 resembles wall trenches of Neolithic longhouses but it is set in isolation. Red soil filled postholes and a gully close to pit G048

TABLE 18 MILSOMS CORNER: WOOD TAXA IDENTIFIED IN EACH SAMPLE

		Absolute fragment counts									
Sample	Feature	*Quercus* decid.	*Fraxinus*	*Populus/Salix*	*Alnus*	*Corylus/Alnus*	*Corylus*	*Prunus* spp.	Pomoideae	total identified	no. Unidentified
MC1706	293	24			1	39	24	5		93	7
MC1889	652	66				3	1		23	93	6
MC2285	726	60				3	3	1		67	1
MC2294	726	67				7		8	3	85	15
MC2347	726	82				10			3	95	5
MC2362	737	31	1	1		7	17	6	36	99	1

and postholes neighbouring hearth D654 and pit D660 may have supported structural frameworks but the dating of possible wall trenches on site K is far from convincing. On the other hand there is good evidence that the hollow on the north side of Milsoms Corner spur represents a base for a shelter. The claim rests on the preparation of a floor surface, the hearth pit 293, the thin scatter of charcoal across the floor to its south, and a group of stakeholes. A gully and other possible small cut features extending from west to south of the pit are presumed to be associated with them (Fig. 3A). The dearth of finds from the floor and hearth suggest that the surface was kept clean in contrast to the sealing layers and the fills of the other pits. Since much of the floor and, probably, further cut features were not exposed, it would be spurious to attempt a detailed reconstruction of a structure. In general terms it would have been lightweight but given the effort in digging a terrace it is likely to have been more than a tent. The cuts into the floor are almost certainly closely contemporary with each other, apparently ruling out a tepee-like covering, although they might arise from reinstatement of a shelter over a succession of visits.

There is evidence for a characteristic structural sequence during the Early Neolithic in which substantial timber longhouses give way to smaller structures, some still rectangular, after the first quarter of the 4th millennium BC (Last 2013, 274-5). It has been suggested that a few generations after the building and demise of a large rectangular structure at Kingsmead Quarry, Horton, Berkshire, pits in a rectangular arrangement around a 5m by 6m 'empty' space respected a structure which has left no other traces (Chaffey and Brook 2012, 205-8; fig. 14.5). A few of the pit clusters at Kilverstone, Norfolk, have a similar pattern (Garrow et al. 2005, 14-20) but it was considered unlikely that they surrounded a structure as the 2.25m maximum dimension of available space would be very restrictive (Garrow et al. 2005, 76).

Identification of lightweight structures has proved problematic. An up to 0.50m deep Mesolithic sunken floor including a sequence of hearths at Howick, Northumberland, appeared to have been post and stake built over three phases during the first quarter of the 8th millennium BC (Waddington 2003, 3-5). The hollow was approximately 6m in diameter. A gully along its southern boundary is comparable in form to 542, the gully cutting the Milsoms Corner floor. A distinct sandy floor level formed the base of the latest of three successive, stake built, roughly oval, structures at Cowie, Stirlingshire. The orientation of the ovals was described as East to West although the plans shows it as south west to north east. The stake holes were set within continuous fence slots lacking evidence for entrances. The structures ranged in size from 3.7m by 2.1m to 4.7m by 2.9m. The latest of the structures post-dated the first quarter of the 4th millennium. It was assumed that they were broadly contemporary with a nearby line of three pits, two of which included good assemblages of early

Neolithic pottery and produced radiocarbon dates centred on the middle quarters of the 4th millennium BC (Atkinson 2002, 144-5, illus. 5; 182-3).

In Cornwall substantial structures have been proposed at Helman Tor and, more persuasively, at Carn Brea (Mercer 1997, 16-21; 1981, 23-7) but a much lighter structure was posited at St Keverne. A short segment of a curving gully and depressions within it were interpreted as a bedding trench for a south to north oriented 'tent-like structure' with approximate dimensions of 4m by 2.5m. A line of stones continuing northwards from the west side of the gully would have weighed down the fabric of the 'tent' (Smith and Harris 1982, 30-1; fig. 6). Of the several sherds of pottery from the upper fills of three nearby pits one was diagnostically Early Neolithic (Smith and Harris 1982, fig. 18, 83).

The scale of a shelter covering most of the floor at Milsoms Corner would be comparable with the examples at Cowie and St. Keverne but the only other similarity is in the use of stake supports which it shares with Cowie. By its nature evidence for stake-built structures survives only where ground conditions are suitable and where the manner of excavation allows its identification. The latter is an especially acute problem due to the extensive deep stripping applied routinely in development-led archaeology.

CONCLUSION

The environmental evidence suggests the local Early Neolithic human population on, and presumably around South Cadbury Castle, maintained herds of domesticated cattle and sheep/goats and a small number of dogs. Pigs contributing to the diet may have been only semi-domesticated and it is likely that although cereals were circulating locally wild plants, and probably animals, remained important sources of nutrition. Evidence from three of the hilltop pits implies that there were episodes of high meat consumption, possibly feasting. One of the three was associated with human bone and another, D660, was close to a hearth and other features which may have been associated an encampment or dwelling. There is no obvious patterning in association with other finds but it is possible that the deposition of human bone and feasting linked to particular pits were events outside the normal daily routine. However, the hilltop pits cannot be related meaningfully to each other because of their imprecise dating.

In contrast the Milsoms Corner pits are likely to result from a single or a few closely set episodes of occupation. The pits were either open simultaneously or their traces remained as did the memories of the group of people associated with them. The evidence is enough to produce an outline narrative of events. A level terrace was excavated over which a lightweight shelter was erected. Fire in a pit under the shelter provided heat and light whilst outside a fire in another pit was used for cooking and possibly industrial processes associated with heat. These may have included the baking or drying of hazelnuts but it is possible that the nutshells were treated as fuel after the consumption of raw kernels. A wind break was constructed where a quern was used to produce nut or possibly cereal flour, although the evidence for the latter is tenuous. One or more used up querns had a secondary use after crushing as an additive to clay for potting. The clay may have been mixed in one of the pits. Most of the bone was so severely burnt that it is unlikely to be a byproduct of cooking but its properties with respect to exposure to high temperatures may have been exploited in the process of firing pottery. At least two of the pits then had a secondary use for the disposal of the accumulated byproducts of occupation. On occasions some of the deposits were dug into not long after they had been laid, occasionally to receive small meaningful deposits in the two larger pits. Towards the end of the occupation a complete quern was placed in a pit adjacent to the area where it was used, possibly with a view to being used again on a subsequent visit. A rubber may have been placed in the neighbouring hearth which had been used throughout the occupation. The remaining detritus was deposited in the two larger pits and the inhabitants moved on. Natural processes began to fill the remaining hollows and to degrade any remaining surface pottery.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Albarella, U., 2010. 'The wild boar', in T. O'Connor and N. Sykes, (eds), *Extinctions and invasions: A social history of British fauna*. Oxford, 59-67.

Albarella, U. Dobney, K. and Rowley-Conwy, P., 2009. 'Size and shape of the Eurasian wild boar (Sus scrofa) with a view to the reconstruction of its Holocene history', *Environmental Archaeology* 14(2), 103-36.

Albarella, U. Manconi, F., Vigne, J-D. and Rowley-Conwy, P., 2007. 'Ethnoarchaeology of pig husbandry

in Sardinia and Corsica', in U. Albarella, K. Dobney, A. Ervynck, and P. Rowley-Conwy (eds), *Pigs and humans: 10,000 years of interaction*, Oxford, 285-307

Albarella, U. and Payne, S., 2005. 'Neolithic pigs from Durrington Walls, Wiltshire, England: a biometrical database', *Journal of Archaeological Science* 32(4), 589-99.

Alcock, L., 1968. 'Excavations at South Cadbury Castle, 1967: A summary report', *Antiquaries Journal* XLVIII, 6-17.

Alcock, L., 1969. 'Excavations at South Cadbury Castle, 1968: A summary report', *Antiquaries Journal* XLIX, 30-40.

Alcock, L., 1970. 'Excavations at South Cadbury Castle, 1969: A summary report', *Antiquaries Journal* L, 14-25.

Alcock, L., 1971. 'Excavations at South Cadbury Castle, 1970: Summary report', *Antiquaries Journal* LI, 1-7.

Alcock, L., 1972. *'By South Cadbury, is that Camelot ...' Excavations at Cadbury Castle 1966–70*, London.

Alcock, L., 1980., 'The Cadbury Castle Sequence in the First Millennium B.C.', *Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies* 28, 656-718.

Alcock, L., 1995. *Cadbury Castle, Somerset: The Early Medieval archaeology*, Cardiff.

Anderson-Whymark, H. and Thomas, J. (eds), 2012. *Regional Perspectives on Neolithic Pit Deposition: Beyond the Mundane*. Oxford.

Atkinson, J., 2002. 'Excavation of a Neolithic occupation site at Chapelfield, Cowie, Stirling', *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland* 132, 139-92.

Austin, P., Barnett, C. and Hather, J. G., 2008. 'Charcoal and charred plant remains' in R. Mercer and F. Healy (eds), *Hambledon Hill, Dorset, England. Excavation and survey of a Neolithic monument complex and its surrounding landscape vol. 2*, London, 454-69.

Barrett, J. C., Freeman, P. and Woodward, A., 2000. *Cadbury Castle Somerset: The later prehistoric and early historic archaeology*, London.

Barrett, J. H., 1966. 'Tom Tivey's Hole Rock Shelter, near Leighton, Somerset', *Proceedings of the Bristol University Speleological Society* 11, 9-23.

Bayliss, A., Freeman, P. and Woodward A., 2000. 'The radiocarbon dates.', in Barrett et al. *Cadbury Castle Somerset: The later prehistoric and early historic archaeology*, London, 370-2.

Beadsmoore, E., 2006. 'Earlier Neolithic flint', in D. Garrow et al. *Excavations at Kilverstone, Norfolk: an Episodic Landscape History. Neolithic pits, later prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon occupation, and later activity*, Cambridge, 53-70.

Boardman, S. and Jones, G., 1990. 'Experiments on the effects of charring on cereal plant components', *Journal of Archaeological Science* 17, 1-11.

Bogaard, A. and Jones, G., 2007. 'Neolithic farming in Britain and central Europe: contrast or continuity?', *Proceedings of the British Academy* 144, 357-75.

Brown, L., Hayden, C. and Score, D., 2014. *'Down to Weymouth town by Ridgeway': Prehistoric, Roman and later sites along the Weymouth Relief Road*, Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society mono 23, Dorchester.

Bullock, A. E. and Allen, M., 1997. 'Animal bones', in R. J. C. Smith, F. Healy, M. J. Allen, E. L. Morris, I. Barnes and P. J. Woodward, *Excavations along the route of the Dorchester bypass Dorset 1986–8*, Wessex Archaeology Report 11, 190-199

Campbell, G. and Straker, V., 2003. 'Prehistoric crop husbandry and plant use in southern England: development and regionality', in K. A. Robson Brown, (ed), Archaeological Sciences 1999: proceedings of the archaeological sciences conference, University of Bristol, BAR IS 1111, Oxford, 14-30.

Chaffey, G. and Brook, E., 2012. 'Domesticity in the Neolithic: excavations at Kingsmead Quarry, Horton, Berkshire', in H. Anderson-Whymark and J. Thomas (eds), *Regional Perspectives on Neolithic Pit Deposition: Beyond the Mundane*, Oxford, 200-15.

Cleal, R., 1991a. 'The earlier prehistoric pottery' in N. Sharples, *Maiden Castle: Excavations and field survey 1985–6*, London, 171-85.

Cleal, R., 1991b. 'Cranborne Chase - The earlier prehistoric pottery', in J. Barrett, R. Bradley and M. Hall, *Papers on the prehistoric archaeology of Cranborne Chase*, Oxbow Monograph 11, Oxford, 134-216.

Cleal, R., 1991c. 'The Neolithic Pottery', in P. Woodward 1991, *The South Dorset Ridgeway: Survey and Excavation 1977–84*, Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society monograph 8, Dorchester, 98-9.

Cleal, R., 2004. 'Pottery', in Rawlings et al. 2004, 155-60.

Cole, D. and Jones, A., 2006. 'Journeys to the Rock: archaeological investigations at Tregarrick Farm, Roche', *Cornish Archaeology* 41-42, 107-43.

Coles, J. and Orme, B., 1976. 'The Sweet track, Railway site', *Somerset Levels Papers* 2, Somerset Levels Project, 34-65.

Coles, J. (ed), 1979. *Somerset Levels Papers 5*, Somerset Levels Project.

Coles, J. and Orme, B., 1984. *Somerset Levels Papers* 10, Somerset Levels Project.

Cummins, W. A.. 1983 'Petrology of stone axes and tools', in D. R. C. Kempe and A. P. Harvey (eds), *The Petrology of Archaeological Artefacts*, Oxford, 171-226.

Darvill, T., unpublished. 'A petrological study of ceramic fabrics relating to the Neolithic, Beaker and early - middle Bronze Age assemblages'.

von den Driesch, A., 1976. *A Guide to the Measurement of Animal Bones Peabody Museum Bulletin 1*, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Duncan, J., 2002. 'The Geoarchaeological investigation', in Atkinson 2002, 178-81.

Edmonds, M. and Bellamy, P., 1991. 'The flaked stone', in N. Sharples, *Maiden Castle: Excavations and field survey 1985–6*, London, 214-29.

Everton, R. F., 1975. 'A Bos primigenius from Charterhouse Warren Farm, Blagdon, Mendip', *Proceedings of the University of Bristol Speleological Society* 14(1), 75-82.

Fairbairn, A. S., 2000. ,On the spread of crops across Neolithic Britain, with special reference to southern England', in A. S. Fairbairn (ed), *Plants in Neolithic Britain and beyond: Neolithic Studies Group Seminar Papers 5*, Oxford, 106-21.

Ford, S., Entwhistle, R. and Taylor K., 2003. *Excavations at Cippenham, Slough, Berkshire, 1995–7.* Thames Valley Archaeological Services monograph 3, Reading.

Garrow, D., 2012a. 'Odd deposits and average practice. A critical history of the concept of structured deposition', *Archaeological Dialogues* 19, 85-115.

Garrow, D., 2012b. 'Concluding discussion: pits and perspective', in H. Anderson-Whymark and J. Thomas (eds), *Regional Perspectives on Neolithic Pit Deposition: Beyond the Mundane*, Oxford, 216-25.

Garrow, D., Beadsmore, E. and Knight, M., 2005. 'Pit Clusters and Temporality of Occupation: an earlier Neolithic site at Kilverstone, Thetford, Norfolk', *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* 71, 139-57.

Garrow, D., Lucy, S. and Gibson, D., 2006. *Excavations at Kilverstone, Norfolk: an Episodic Landscape History. Neolithic pits, later prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon occupation, and later activity*, Cambridge.

Gingell, C., 1988. 'Twelve Wiltshire Round Barrows. Excavations in 1959 and 1961 by F. de M. and H. L. Vatcher', *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine* 82, 19-76.

Grant, A., 1982. 'The use of tooth wear as a guide to the age of domestic ungulates', in B. Wilson, C. Grigson and S. Payne (eds), *Ageing and sexing animal bones from archaeological sites*, BAR 109, Oxford, 91-108.

Greig, J., 1991. 'The British Isles', in Van Zeist, W., Wasylikowa, K., Behre, K.-E. (eds), *Progress in Old World Palaeobotany*, Rotterdam, 299-334.

Grigson, C., 1983. 'Mesolithic and Neolithic animal bone' in J. G. Evans and I. F. Smith, 'Excavations at Cherhill, West Wiltshire, 1967', *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* 49, 43-117.

Halstead, P., 1985. 'A Study of Mandibular Teeth from Romano-British Contexts at Maxey', in F. Pryor , C. French, D. Crowther, D. Gurney, G. Simpson, and M. Taylor, (eds), *Archaeology and Environment in the Lower Welland Valley Volume 1*, East Anglian Archaeology report 27, Cambridge.

Hambleton, E., 1999. *Animal husbandry regimes in Iron Age Britain A comparative study of faunal assemblages from British Iron Age sites*, BAR 282, Oxford.

Harcourt, R.A., 1979. 'The animal bones', in G. Wainwright, *Mount Pleasant, Dorset: Excavations 1970–1971*, London, 214-223

Hart-Davis, D., 2002. *Fauna Britannica*, London.

Harding, P., 1991. 'Stratified groups from Rowden and Cowleaze', in P. Woodward 1991, *The South Dorset Ridgeway: Survey and Excavation 1977–84*, Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society monograph 8, Dorchester, 73-87.

Harding, P. and Bellamy, P., 1991. 'A comparison of the Early Neolithic and Middle-Late Bronze Age industries with application to the Loscombe colluvial deposits (W38)', in P. Woodward 1991, *The South Dorset Ridgeway: Survey and Excavation 1977–84*, Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society monograph 8, Dorchester, 87.

Healey, E. and Robertson Mackay, R., 1983. 'The lithic industries from Staines Causewayed Enclosure and their relationship to other earlier Neolithic industries in southern Britain', *Lithics* 4, 1-27.

Healy, F., 1988. *The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Spong Hill, North Elham, Part VI: Occupation during the Seventh to Second Millennia BC*, East Anglian Archaeology report 39, Norwich.

Higbee, L., 2001. 'Faunal remains from Doulting Abbey Quarry', in C. and N. Hollinrake, *An archaeological excavation of Neolithic Ritual Pits in Northern extension of Abbey Quarry, Doulting*, unpublished report for Ham and Doulting Stone Company Ltd.

Johnson, P., 1993. *Cadbury Castle, Somerset. Geophysical Surveys 1992–1993*, unpublished report, University of Glasgow.

Jones, G., 2000. 'Evaluating the importance of cultivation and collecting in Neolithic Britain', in A. S. Fairbairn (ed), *Plants in Neolithic Britain and beyond: Neolithic Studies Group Seminar Papers 5*, Oxford, 79-84.

Jones, G. In press. 'Crop processing evidence for the role of cereals in the neolithic: the charred plant remains', in D. Garton (ed), *The excavation of a Mesolithic and Neolithic settlement area at Lismore Fields, Buxton, Derbyshire*.

Jones, G. and Legge, A. J., 2008. 'Evaluating the role of cereal cultivation in the Neolithic: charred plant remains from Hambledon Hill', in R. Mercer, R. and F. Healy, *Hambledon Hill, Dorset, England. Excavation and survey of a Neolithic monument complex and its surrounding landscape volume 2*, London, 469-77.

Jones, G. and Rowley-Conwy, P. 2007. 'On the importance of cereal cultivation in the British Neolithic', in S. Colledge and J. Conolly (eds), *Origins and Spread of Domestic Plants in Southwest Asia and Europe*, Walnut Creek, California, 391-419.

Jones, S., 2008. *'Slain at the Gate': A reassessment of the 'massacre' deposits from Cadbury Castle, Somerset*,

unpublished MSc dissertation, Bournemouth University

Jones. S. and Randall C. E., 2010. 'Death, destruction and the end of an era: the end of the Iron Age at Cadbury Castle, Somerset', in M. Sterry, A. Tullett, and N. Ray, *In search of the Iron Age*, Leicester Archaeology Monograph 18, 165-183.

Kinnes, I., 1979. 'Description of the Neolithic bowl', in J. Coles, J., Somerset Levels Papers 5, 52-4.

Knight, M., 2006. 'Mildenhall pottery', in D. Garrow et al. 2006, 29-53.

Last, J., 2013. 'The end of the Longhouse', in D. Hoffman and J. Smyth (eds), *Tracking the Neolithic House in Europe: Sedentism, Architecture, and Practice*, New York, 261-82.

Legge, A. J., 1991. 'The animal remains from six sites at Down Farm, Woodcutts', in J. Barrett, R. Bradley and M. Hall (eds), *Papers on the prehistoric archaeology of Cranborne Chase*, Oxbow Monograph 11, Oxford, 54-100.

Legge, A. J., 2008. 'Livestock and Neolithic Society at Hambledon Hill', in R. Mercer, R. and F. Healy, *Hambledon Hill, Dorset, England. Excavation and survey of a Neolithic monument complex and its surrounding landscape volume 2*, London, 536-576.

Lewis, J., 2005. *Monuments, ritual and regionality: The Neolithic of northern Somerset*, BAR 401 Oxford.

Levitan, B. M. Audsley, A. Hawkes, C. J. Moody, A. Moody, P. Smart, P. L. and Thomas, J. S., 1988. 'Charterhouse Warren Farm Swallet, Mendip, Somerset: Exploration, geomorphology, taphonomy and archaeology', *Proceedings of the University of Bristol Speleological Society* 18 (2), 171-239.

Liddell, D., 1931. 'Report on excavations at Hembury Fort, Devon. Second Season, 1931', *Proceedings of the Devon Archaeological Exploration Society* 1, 90-119.

Liddell, D., 1932. 'Report on excavations at Hembury Fort. Third Season 1932', *Proceedings of the Devon Archaeological Exploration Society* 1, 162-90.

Loveday, R. with Beamish, M. 2012. 'Preservation and the pit problem – some examples from the Middle Trent Valley', in H. Anderson-Whymark and J. Thomas (eds), *Regional Perspectives on Neolithic Pit Deposition: Beyond the Mundane*, Oxford, 100-11.

McK Clough, T. H. and Cummings, W. A. (eds), 1979. *Stone Axe Studies: Archaeological, Petrological, Experimental and Ethnographic*, CBA Res. Rep. No. 23.

McK Clough, T. H. and Cummings, W. A. (eds), 1988. *Stone Axe Studies: The Implements from the British Isles*, CBA Res. Rep. No. 67.

Maltby, M., 1990. 'Animal bones', in J. Richards, *The Stonehenge Environs Project*, London, 150-4.

Mason, C., 2011. 'An Early Neolithic pit group at Knook Reservoir, Wiltshire', *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine* 104, 23-30.

Mercer, R., 1981. 'Excavations at Carn Brea, Illogan, Cornwall, 1970-1973: a Neolithic fortified complex of the third millennium bc', *Cornish Archaeology* 20, 1-204.

Mercer, R. 1997. 'The excavation of a Neolithic enclosure complex at Helman Tor, Lostwithiel, Cornwall', *Cornish Archaeology* 36, 5-63.

Mercer, R. and Healy, F., 2008. *Hambledon Hill, Dorset, England: Excavation and Survey of a Neolithic Monument Complex and its Surrounding Landscape, volumes 1 and 2*, London.

Mithen, S., Finlay, N., Carruthers, W., Carter, S. and Ashmore, P., 2001. 'Plant Use in the Mesolithic: Evidence from Staosnaig, Isle of Colonsay, Scotland', *Journal of Archaeological Science* 28, 223-234.

Mulan, G. J. and Boycott, A., 2004. 'Archaeological note: skeletal material recovered from Tynings Great Swallet, Charterhouse-on-Mendip, Somerset', *Proceedings of the University of Bristol Speleological Society* 23 (2), 135-140.

Pannett, A., 2012. 'Pits, pots and plant remains: trends in Neolithic deposition in Carmarthenshire, South Wales', H. Anderson-Whymark and J. Thomas (eds), *Regional Perspectives on Neolithic Pit Deposition: Beyond the Mundane*, Oxford, 128-43.

Payne, S., 1973. 'Kill-off patterns in sheep and goats: the mandibles from Asvan Kale', *Anatolian Studies* 23, 281-303

Payne, S., 1982. 'Eruption and wear in the mandibular dentition as a guide to ageing Turkish angora goats', in B. Wilson, C. Grigson and S. Payne (eds), *Ageing and sexing animal bones from archaeological sites*, BAR 109, Oxford, 155-206.

Pitman, D. and Barrass, K., unpublished. 'PXRF analysis'.

Pollard, J., 2006. 'A community of beings : animals and people in the Neolithic of southern Britain', in D. Serjeantson and D. Field, *Animals in the Neolithic of Britain and Europe Neolithic Studies Group Seminar Papers 7*, Oxford, 135-148.

Neil, S., Evans, J., Montgomery, J. and Scarre, C., 2016. 'Istopic evidence for residential mobility of farming communities during the transition to agriculture in Britain', Royal Society Open Science 3: 150522. http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rsos.150522 (accessed: 21st January 2016).

Quinnell, H., 2006. 'Early Neolithic pottery', in Cole and Jones 2006, 107-43.

Rahtz, P. and Greenfield, E., 1977. *Excavations at Chew Valley Lake*, London.

Randall, C. E., 2010. *Livestock and landscape: the exploitation of animals in the south west of Britain in later prehistory*, unpublished PhD thesis, Bournemouth University.

Rawlings, M., Allen, M. and Healey, F., 2004. 'Investigation of the Whitesheet Down Environs 1989-90: Neolithic Causewayed Enclosure and Iron Age

Settlement', *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine* 97, 144-96.

Ray, K. and Thomas, J., 2003. 'In the kinship of cows: the social centrality of cattle in the earlier Neolithic of southern Britain', in M. Parker Pearson, *Food Culture and Identity in the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age*, BAR IS 1117, Oxford, 37-44.

Robertson-Mackay, R., 1987. 'The Neolithic Causewayed Enclosure at Staines, Surrey: Excavations 1961–63', *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* 53, 23-128.

Robinson, M., 2000. 'Further considerations of Neolithic charred cereals, fruits and nuts', in A. S. Fairbairn (ed), *Plants in Neolithic Britain and beyond: Neolithic Studies Group Seminar Papers 5*, Oxford, 85-90.

Roe, F., 2000. 'Worked stone', in J. C. Barrett, P. Freeman, and A. Woodward, 2000 *Cadbury Castle Somerset: The later prehistoric and early historic archaeology*, English Heritage report 20, London, 262-9.

Roe, F., 2008. 'Worked stone other than axes and adzes', in R. Mercer, R. and F. Healy, *Hambledon Hill, Dorset, England. Excavation and survey of a Neolithic monument complex and its surrounding landscape volume 2*, London, 632-40.

Saville, A., 1980. 'On the measurement of struck flakes and flake tools', *Lithics* 1, 16-20.

Saville, A., 1981. 'The flint and chert artefacts', in Mercer 1981, 101-52.

Score, D. and Mithen, S., 2001. 'The experimental roasting of hazelnuts', in S. Mithen (ed), *Huntergatherer landscape archaeology: the Southern Hebrides Mesolithic project 1988–1998: Vol 2 Archaeological field work on Colonsay, computer modelling, experimental archaeology and final interpretations*, Cambridge McDonald Institute, 507-512.

Serjeantson, D., 2011. *Review of animal remains from the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age in Southern Britain (4000–1500BC)*, English Heritage Research Department Report 29, London.

Sharples, N., 1991. *Maiden Castle: Excavations and field survey 1985–6*, English Heritage report 19, London.

Silver, I. A., 1969. 'The ageing of domestic Animals', in D. Brothwell and S. Higgs (eds), *Science in Archaeology*, London, 283-302.

Smith, G. and Harris, D., 1982. '*The Excavations of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age Settlements at Poldowrian, St Keverne, 1980*', Cornish Archaeology 21, 23-62.

Smith, I., 1976. 'The Pottery', in Coles and Orme 1976, 63-4.

Smith, I., 1981. 'The Neolithic pottery', in Mercer 1981, 161-85.

Smith, I., 2008. 'The pottery from the hilltop excavations of 1974–82', in R. Mercer, R. and F. Healy, *Hambledon Hill, Dorset, England. Excavation and survey of a Neolithic monument complex and its surrounding landscape volume 2*, London, 587-621. London.

Smith, I. and Keiller, A., 1965. *Windmill Hill and Avebury, excavations by A. Keiller, 1925–1939*, Oxford.

South Cadbury Castle Archive (SCCA), 1966-73.

Tabor, R., 2008. *Cadbury Castle: the hillfort and landscape*, Stroud.

Tratman, E. K. and Henderson, J., 1927. 'First report on the excavations at Sun Hole, Cheddar. Levels from above the Pleistocene', *Proceedings of the University of Bristol Speleological Society* 3 (2), 84-97.

Vatcher, F. and Vatcher, H., 1973. *Trial Excavations on the site of a megalithic tomb at Fromefield*, Somerset, *SANH* 117: 19-32.

Waddington, C., 2003. A *Mesolithic Settlement Site at Howick, Northumberland: A Preliminary Report*, White Rose Research, http://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/1195/ (accessed: 16th January 2016).

Wainwright, G., 1972. 'The excavation of a Neolithic settlement on Broome Heath, Ditchingham, Norfolk, England', *PPS* 38, 1-107.

Watts, S., 2014. *The Life and Death of Querns: The deposition and use-contexts of querns in the south-western England from the Neolithic to the Iron Age*. Southampton monograph series 3.

Webster, C., 2008. *The Archaeology of South West England: South West Archaeological Research Framework Resource and Research Agenda*, Taunton.

Whittle, A., Davies, J. J., Dennis, I., Fairbairn, A. S. and Hamilton, M. A., 2000. 'Neolithic activity and occupation outside Windmill Hill causewayed enclosure, Wiltshire: Survey and excavation 1992-93', *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine* 93, 131-80.

Whittle, A., Healy, F. and Bayliss, A., 2011. *Gathering Time: Dating the Early Neolithic Enclosures of Southern Britain and Ireland, volumes 1 and 2*, Oxford.

van Wijngaarden-Bakker, L. H., 1976. 'The animal bone', in A. M. ApSimon, J. H. Musgrave, J. Sheldon, E. K. Tratman and L. H. Van Wijngaarden-Bakker, 'Gorsey Bigbury, Cheddar, Somerset', *Proceedings of the University of Bristol Spelaeological Society* 14 (2), 155-181.

Woodward, A. and James, H., 2000. 'The south-western gate sequence', in Barrett et al. 2000, 84-102.

Woodward, P., 1991. *The South Dorset Ridgeway: Survey and Excavation 1977–84*, Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society monograph 8, Dorchester.

Yalden, D.W., 1999. *The History of British Mammals*, London.