

ANCIENT MONUMENTS LABORATORYINTERIM REPORT /A.M. No. 776357

This report is sent to keep excavators informed of the progress of work on their material and is not to be considered as necessarily representing the final conclusions on the work reported. Thus the Chief Laboratory Officer should be informed of any intention to publish information given in an A.M.L. Interim Report so that he may advise as to its suitability for publication.

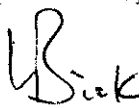
On completion of an investigation, a formal report, correlating the information notified in any Interim Report will be prepared by the Laboratory. This report may include a revision of conclusions previously notified.

SITE BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, Glos.

EXCAVATOR Colin Renfrew

'Contents' of Iron Candle Holder

Infrared analysis suggested the presence of organic residues containing a carbonyl group. Extraction with various solvents and separation by various chromatographic techniques failed to give any definite results. The general indications are of the presence of trace quantities of fatty acids. Beeswax can thus be definitely ruled out. If not soil contamination, the evidence might be taken to indicate that the original 'candle' was of tallow. There was no trace of any 'wick'. Emission spectroscopy yielded no useful data.

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John Evans
NELP