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IDENTIFICATIONS OF ANIMAL BONES FROM THE VATCHER EXCAVATIONS OF
AN EARTHWORK NEAR BADBURY RINGS DORSET

Report to the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission

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ANIMAL BONES FROM THE VATCHER EXCAVATIONS OF AN EARTHWORK NEAR
BADBURY RINGS, DORSET

The following identifications were made of animal bones from the excavations. Most of the deposits were early Bronze Age in date but there was also later material incorporated in many of the fills.

a) Palisade Trench

Context

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- 66 1 sheep/goat mandible with deciduous premolars and 1st molar in wear;
 1 sheep/goat lower incisor (in wear);
 1 sheep/goat lower 3rd molar (in wear) - large could be relatively modern;
 1 cattle tooth fragment;
 2 sheep-sized mammal fragments;
 4 unidentified mammal fragments.
- 308 1 sheep/goat upper molar (in wear).
- 398 1 cattle radius - proximal 3/4 - proximal fused.

b) Small Ditch Fill

Context

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- 292 1 cattle mandible fragment;
 1 cattle femur shaft fragment;
 1 sheep/goat ilium + acetabulum fragment.
- 295 1 cattle metatarsus - proximal 3/4 - proximal and distal gnawed;
 1 cattle mandible fragment;
 1 horse metacarpus - proximal anterior 1/4;
 1 large mammal skull fragment;
 1 large mammal vertebra fragment - caudal fused;
 1 unidentified mammal skull fragment.

c) Large Ditch Silting

Context

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- 146 1 large mammal longbone fragment
- 293 1 cattle calcaneus - shaft 1/2 - proximal and distal gnawed;
- 1045 1 cattle mandible - 1/4 - deciduous premolars in heavy wear, 1st molar in wear, 2nd molar in early stage of wear;
 1 horse metatarsus - proximal 3/4;
 1 sheep metatarsus - distal 1/2 - distal fused;
 1 sheep/goat radius - shaft 1/2;
 1 pig astragalus - complete - anterior medial has knife cut running medio-laterally (disarticulation);
 1 large mammal longbone fragment;
 1 large mammal fragment - gnawed;
 2 oyster shells.

d) Assorted Features

Context

-
- 238 1 large mammal longbone fragment.
 - 247 1 cattle upper permanent premolar (in wear).
 - 306 1 unidentified mammal skull fragment.
 - 471 1 large mammal longbone fragment.
 - 1131 1 sheep/goat upper molar (in wear).
 - 1143 1 cattle metatarsus - shaft 1/4 - modern break;
1 large mammal longbone fragment;
1 large mammal unidentified fragment.

e) Old Land Surface beneath Bank (Phase I)

Context

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- 101 1 sheep/goat mandible - anterior 1/2 - 1st molar in early wear.
 - 103 1 sheep-sized mammal longbone fragment.
 - 303 1 large mammal scapula fragment (cattle?).

f) Bank Phase II

Context

-
- 44 1 cattle mandible - ramus <1/4;
1 sheep/goat mandible - anterior 1/4 - deciduous premolars and 1st molar in wear;
1 sheep/goat metacarpus - midshaft 1/4;
3 large mammal unidentified fragments;
2 sheep-sized mammal longbone fragments;
2 unidentified mammal fragments.
 - 46 1 sheep/goat upper molar;
1 sheep/goat tooth fragment;
1 large mammal longbone fragment;
1 sheep-sized mammal longbone fragment;
1 unidentified mammal tooth fragment.
 - 50 1 large mammal longbone fragment.
 - 111 1 large mammal unidentified fragment.
 - 114 1 cattle premaxilla - suture unfused;
1 cattle metacarpus - proximal anterior 1/4;
1 sheep/goat tooth fragment;
3 large mammal longbone fragments;
4 large mammal unidentified fragments;
1 sheep-sized mammal skull fragment;
2 unidentified mammal fragments.

Context

- 119 1 cattle upper molar (just in wear);
1 sheep/goat mandible - ramus <1/4;
3 large mammal longbone fragments;
4 sheep-sized mammal longbone fragments.
- 122 1 large mammal tooth fragment;
3 sheep-sized mammal longbone fragments;
1 unidentified mammal tooth fragment.
- 129 1 large mammal metapodial - distal articulation <1/4.
- 136 1 cattle ilium - acetabulum 1/4 - suture fused.
- 137 1 cattle upper 3rd molar (in wear);
2 large mammal longbone fragments;
1 large mammal unidentified fragment - slightly charred.
- 150 1 short-tailed vole mandible;
1 short-tailed vole maxilla;
1 rodent (short-tailed vole?) tibia;
1 large mammal longbone fragment;
1 large mammal unidentified fragment.
- 156 1 sheep-sized mammal longbone fragment;
1 unidentified mammal longbone fragment - porous;
2 unidentified mammal unidentified fragments.
- 157 1 unidentified mammal unidentified fragment.
- 159 1 cattle lower molar (in wear).
- 162 1 large mammal longbone fragment.
- 164 1 sheep-sized mammal longbone fragment.
- 165 1 sheep/goat tibia - midshaft 1/4 - porous;
1 large mammal longbone fragment;
1 large mammal unidentified fragment;
1 sheep-sized mammal fragment;
1 sheep-sized mammal unidentified fragment;
3 unidentified mammal fragments
- 166 1 sheep/goat upper deciduous 4th premolar (in wear);
1 large mammal thoracic vertebra - dorsal fragment;
1 large mammal longbone fragment;
1 unidentified mammal unidentified fragment.
- 168 1 large mammal skull fragment;
1 sheep-sized mammal fragment.
- 169 1 sheep-sized mammal longbone fragment.
- 231 1 cattle deciduous lower incisor (in wear);
1 unidentified mammal unidentified fragment.
- 310 1 large mammal longbone fragment;
1 sheep-sized mammal unidentified fragment.

Context

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- 357 1 large mammal vertebra fragment;
2 large mammal fragments;
4 sheep-sized mammal longbone fragments.
- 368 1 sheep/goat tibia - midshaft 1/4;
1 sheep/goat upper molar (in wear);
1 large mammal longbone fragment.
- 371 1 cattle upper molar (in wear);
1 cattle tibia - distal lateral <1/4 - distal fused;
1 sheep/goat upper molar (not in wear).
- 379 1 pig lower 2nd molar (in wear).
- 423 1 cattle upper 3rd molar (in wear);
1 pig upper molar (just in wear).
- 468 1 sheep/goat lower deciduous 3rd molar (in wear);
1 dog tooth fragment;
1 large mammal unidentified fragment;
1 sheep-sized mammal longbone fragment.
- 475 18 bones of a dog skeleton comprising:-
left tibia - distal 3/4 - distal fused;
left fibula - distal 3/4 - distal fused;
left astragalus;
3 other left tarsals;
4 left metatarsals - complete - distal fused;
3 1st phalanges - complete - proximal fused;
3 2nd phalanges - complete - proximal fused;
2 3rd phalanges.
- 1032 1 cattle metatarsus - midshaft <1/4.
- 1034 1 sheep/goat carpal;
2 large mammal unidentified fragments;
1 sheep-sized mammal longbone fragment
- 1041 1 cattle metacarpus - midshaft <1/4;
1 large mammal longbone fragment;
1 sheep/sized mammal longbone fragment.
- 1057 1 cattle 2nd phalanx - complete - proximal fused;
1 cattle carpal - 3/4.

g) Pit B13

- 1 pig lower 3rd molar (in wear).