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Excavation and Analysis

Priddy Circle 1, Somerset
Archaeological Evaluation Report

Jim Leary and Ruth Pelling

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PRIDDY CIRCLE 1 SOMERSET ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

Jim Leary and Ruth Pelling

WITH CONTRIBUTIONS BY

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SUMMARY
This report sets out the work undertaken as an archaeological evaluation at Priddy Circle 1, to help determine the extent of surviving in-situ archaeological deposits and features following landowner damage in parts of the enclosure. The evaluation was intended to assist the design of further mitigation works (Gibson 2015) aimed to offset this damage. The evaluation followed, and was informed by, a geophysical survey of the site undertaken by the English Heritage Geophysical Team in March 2013 (Linford et al 2013).

CONTRIBUTORS
The excacvation was conducted by a team from Historic England directed by Jim Leary. Trenches and features were surveyed by Elaine Jamieson, who also prepared all excavation plots and site survey illustrations for this report. The environmental sampling was overseen by Ruth Pelling. Michael Russell was the ceramic specialist, and Nicola Hembrey the finds officer. This report was written by Jim Leary and Ruth Pelling with specialist reports by Ruth Pelling (archaeobotany), Zoë Hazell (pollen), Matthew Canti (geoarchaeology) and Barry Bishop (lithics).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
A big thank you to all Historic England colleagues involved in the successful completion of this part of the project, and the team from AC Archaeology, led by Adrian Chadwick, who were on site at the same time as we were. We are grateful to Phil McMahon, the Inspector of Ancient Monuments, and Vanessa Straker, the Regional Science Advisor, for their support and advice.

ARCHIVE LOCATION
The project archive is currently held at Fort Cumberland, Portsmouth, and will be transferred to Somerset Heritage in Taunton for curation.

DATE OF EXCAVATION
May 2013

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BACKGROUND

Monument background

Priddy Circle 1 is a circular earthwork enclosure located in the Mendip Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and the most southerly of a series of four such earthworks that extend for 1.2km on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment. All four Circles are scheduled: Circles 1-3 as UID No. 1015498 and Circle 4 as UID No. 1015501. The monuments lie upon the upland Mendip Plateau within a Carboniferous Limestone landscape (Fig 1) that has a high concentration of prehistoric monuments, many of which are upstanding.

Priddy Circle I (Fig 2) measures up to 194m across externally and comprises an enclosing bank with an external ditch surviving up to 6m wide and, where excavated, shown be a maximum of 1.2m deep. There are several gaps in the circuit, but only that to the north-north-east has been shown by excavation to be an original causewayed entrance feature; the others are likely to be the result of modern disturbance (Tratman 1967).

Archaeological background

Excavations were undertaken at Priddy Circle I in 1956–9 by the Taylor brothers and EK Tratman (ibid). This included four cuttings through the bank and ditch showing the bank to be of turf and stone construction with evidence for a line of spaced posts on both sides. A trench c.12m wide extended from the inner edge of the northern bank to the centre of the enclosure (just visible as a slight linear scarp on Fig 2). A series of small sondages were also excavated.

The bank structure, although variable within the separate cuttings, was described as comprising turf and stones, revetted on either side with posts, evidenced by a double ring of postholes c.0.15–0.2m in diameter and 0.2m deep. A series of stakeholes was interpreted as evidence for hurdles between the posts. Dry-stone walls were constructed behind the hurdles. The posts were left to rot *in situ* and all these features were then sealed by further material dug from the surrounding ditch (the latter interpreted as "just a quarry ditch" (ibid, 120)), completing the bank sequence. It was suggested that some of the stones used to construct the bank had been brought from further afield, although not necessarily far. These included blocks possibly originating from the slopes of North Hill, a nearby outcrop of Old Red Sandstone with springs around its base (ibid, 104, Fig 22). Interestingly, some of the turf and soil was also suggested as deriving from North Hill (ibid, 116 and Appendix 1). Tratman suggested that possible stone holes may provide evidence that earlier standing stones or a stone circle stood within the enclosure (ibid, 120).

A re-opening of Cutting II through the bank on the eastern side of the enclosure in 2008 (marked on Fig 2) largely confirmed this earlier evidence, although re-phased the sequence somewhat (Lewis & Mullin 2011). In this new scheme the posts were removed prior to the first phase of the enclosing bank and not left to rot *in situ*. The sequence thus comprises a double ring of posts, the placement of a turf and turf-

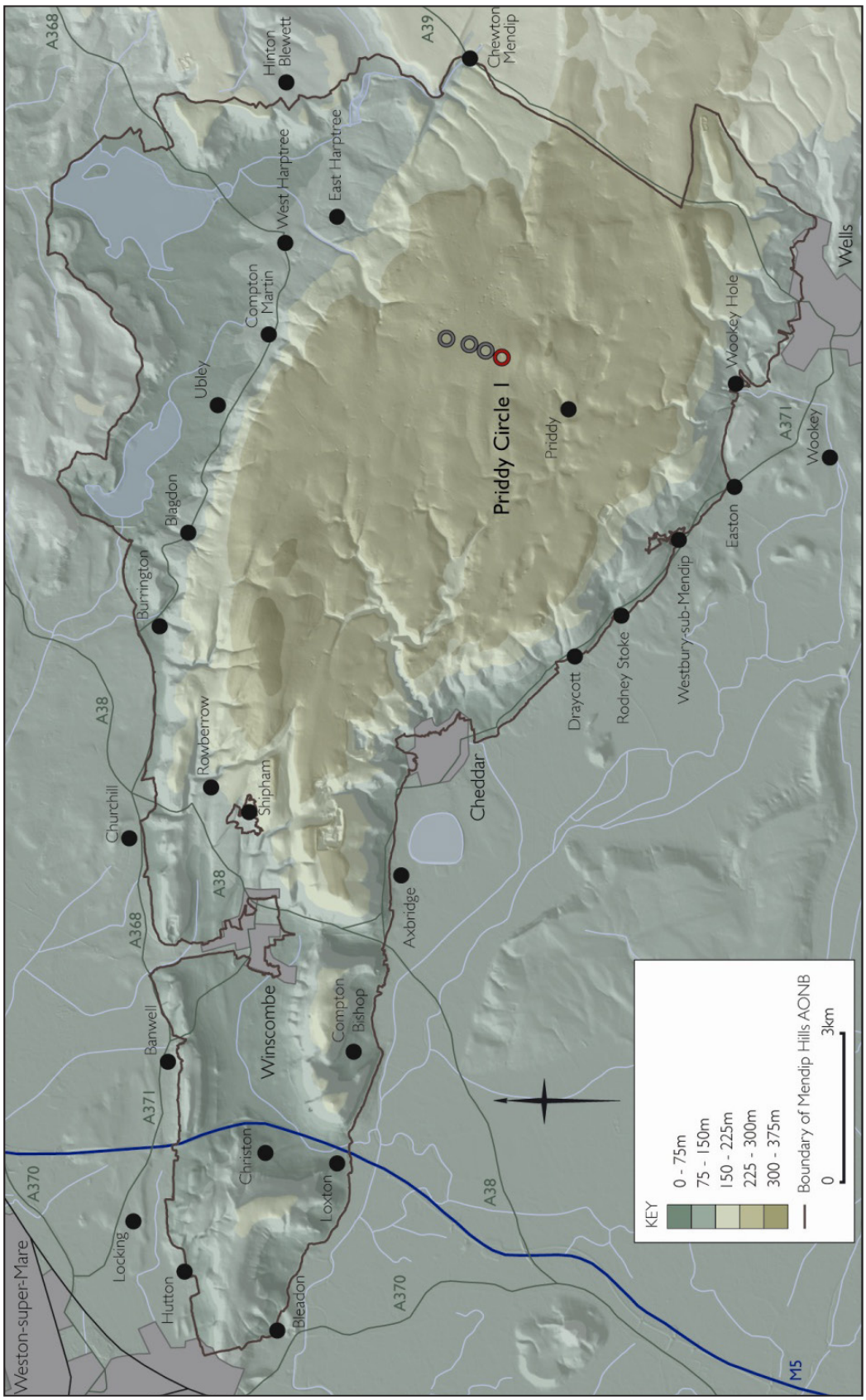

Fig 1: Location and topography of the Priddy Circles. By Elaine Jamieson and Sharon Soutar.

with-stone bank between the posts, the removal of the posts and the construction of a clay bank either side of the turf core. At some stage the ditch was dug although it is uncertain when (ibid, 158). This sequence overlay a buried soil, 0.18m thick, representing a truncated humic rendzina-form soil, and the pollen sequence from this indicated that the enclosure was constructed in an open grassland environment (Tratman 1967, Appendix 1; Allen & Scaife in Lewis & Mullin 2011, 145). It was not clear whether the buried soil was truncated as a result of erosion or deliberate stripping. The 2008 investigations also included a trench through the ditch on the eastern side of the enclosure, showing that it was 2.2m wide and 0.96m deep (Lewis & Mullin 2011, 138).

The 1950s work produced no dating evidence and Tratman noted a total absence of finds "save a few nondescript flint pieces" from the site (Tratman 1967, 110) and that the interior must have been "kept scrupulously clear of domestic debris" (ibid, 118). The 2008 investigations also suggested a general paucity of finds, although recovered 51 worked lithics. These derived mainly from the earlier trench backfill, although a number of small pieces of worked flint were recovered from the ditch excavation, including an oblique arrowhead (Lewis & Mullin 2011, 142–3).

Tratman interpreted the monument as a henge in the same sub-category as Stonehenge (ie with an external ditch and internal bank), and therefore considered the enclosure, by analogy, to be "Secondary Neolithic". Charcoal was recovered from the ditch fill in 2008, and sampled for radiocarbon dating. The resultant dates show that monument construction may have occurred sometime before 2870 cal BC (Marshall in Lewis & Mullin 2011). The site therefore fits into a nascent class of monument recently termed 'formative henges' by Harding (2003) and Burrow (2010). Although the usefulness of the term 'henge', or any derivative thereof, can be questioned (eg Gibson 2012), formative henges do share broadly similar characteristics: they are large and markedly circular, have external ditches and internal banks, and date from the end of the fourth and beginning of the third millennium cal BC. Other similar sites include Flagstones in Dorset, Llandegai A in Gwynedd, and Stonehenge in Wiltshire (note that these three are also associated with burials). The Priddy Circles are, however, larger than other recognised formative henges (Burrow 2010, 188), and remain poorly dated, with only two radiocarbon dates from Circle I and none from the others.

In the vicinity of Priddy Circle I there are a large number of geological sinkholes, known locally as swallets or dolines. Some of these were augered as part of the 2008 investigations and one, near to the bank and ditch excavation, was excavated. These swallets have demonstrated good geoarchaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential with deposits reflecting a long land-use history (Allen & Scaife in Lewis & Mullin 2011), and were clearly of significance to the builders who incorporated some within the enclosure. A number of swallets elsewhere on the Mendips contain what have been interpreted as deliberately placed Neolithic deposits; recent scientific analysis of the partial remains of three individuals (an adult and two young children) from Totty Pot, Cheddar, for example, returned dates of 3355–2930 cal BC (Schulting *et al*. 2010, 81).

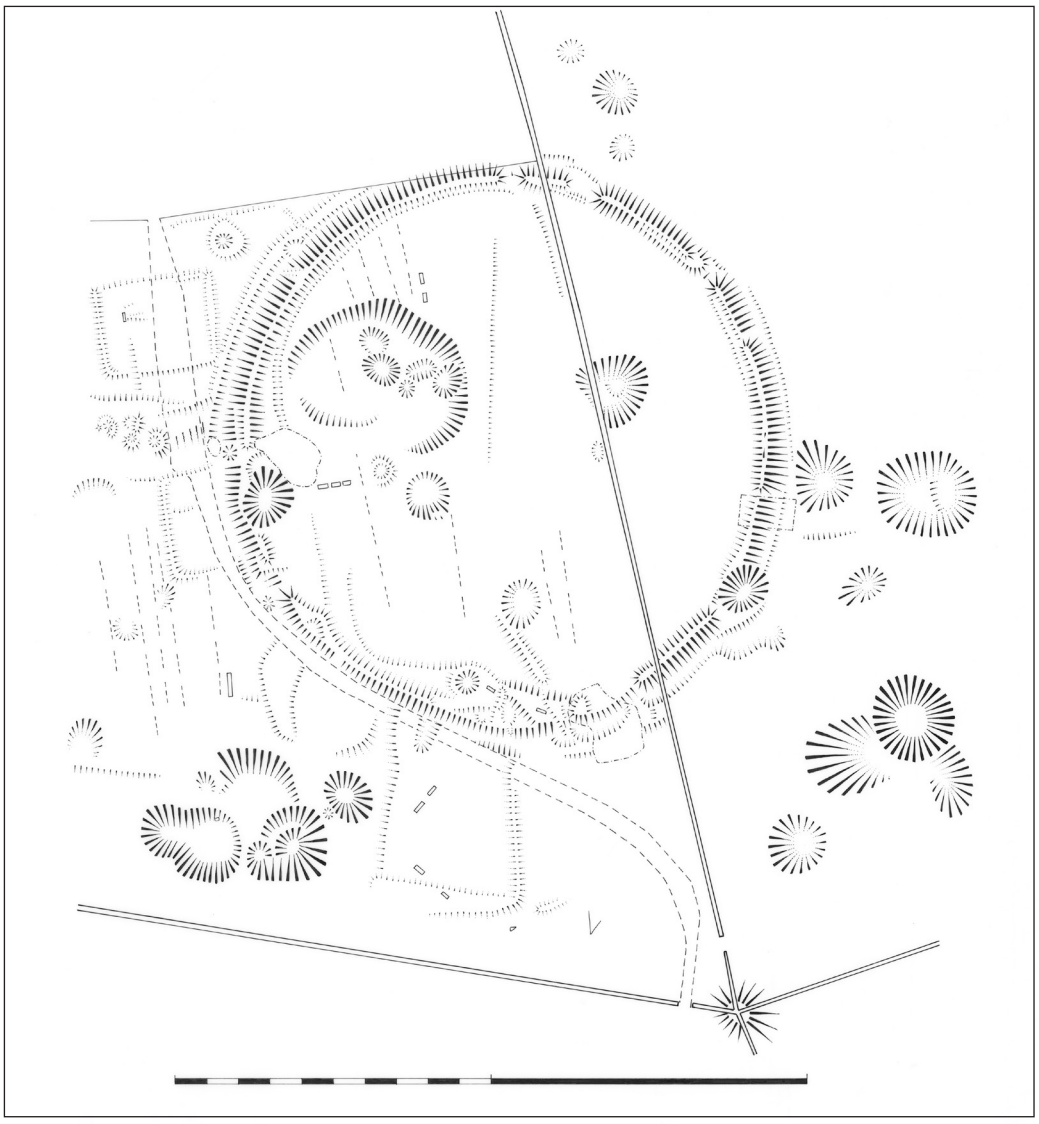

Fig 2: Priddy Circle I prior to damage. Surveyed in 2009 by Elaine Jamieson.

The Circle was surveyed in 2009 as part of a research project on the archaeology of the Mendip Hills (Jamieson 2015), providing what transpired to be a record of the condition of the site shortly before the landowner damage (see Fig 3).

Project background

Following extensive landowner damage to Priddy Circle I (Fig 3), a programme of mitigation work, including limited field investigation of the damaged areas, was set out to recover information and offset the impact of the damage (McMahon 2012). This mitigation work consisted of preliminary evaluation excavation by English Heritage (now Historic England), the subject of this report, and subsequent excavation conducted by AC Archaeology in 2013 (Cox & Chadwick 2013; Gibson 2015). While excavation would not rectify the irreversible and substantial harm

caused to the monument, it partially offset the impact of the damage and will inform the future management of this and other similar monuments.

An initial investigation of the damaged bank was conducted by Alan Graham which included a section drawing of the exposed bank (Graham 2011). Geophysical survey was conducted in advance of evaluation excavations (Linford *et al* 2013).

Designation and Permissions

Priddy Circle 1 is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (UID No. 1015498) and given statutory protection under the Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. Scheduled Monument Consent was required for works within the scheduled area. This was applied for and duly given prior to commencement of work. Consent was issued on behalf of the Secretary of State at the Department of Culture, Media and Sport by Phil McMahon, the Inspector of Ancient Monuments for this area under Class 6 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

The site itself is in multiple ownership; the area in question is owned by Mr Roger Penny. Permission to excavate formed part of the Section 17 Agreement (dated 26th October 2012).

Research aims and Objectives

The aim of this work was to evaluate the nature and extent of the archaeology disturbed by the recent damage in order to help inform the design and specification of full archaeological mitigation to be completed by April 2014.

The project was tightly focused to evaluate the level of preservation of archaeological deposits and features in two 3m x 5m trenches in the damaged southern bank area, as well as one 3m x 3m trench in the central part of the enclosure to evaluate damage caused to archaeological deposits and features by a new trackway.

This evaluation interfaces with the archaeological work undertaken by the landowner's contractor (AC Archaeology) to mitigate damage across the site (Cox & Chadwick 2013; Gibson 2015). It also interfaces with other National Heritage Protection Plan (NHPP) Activities such as 2B2 Heritage Crime and 6A3 Management of Scheduled Monuments.

Relevant priorities outlined in the South West Archaeological Research Framework (SWARF) (Webster 2008) were addressed, in particular Research Aim 17: 'Improve the quality and quantity of environmental data and our understanding of what it represents'; Research Aim 38: 'Widen our understanding of the extraction, processing and transportation of minerals, stone and aggregates'; Research Aim 39: 'Understand better the relationships of Neolithic and Bronze Age people to plants'; Research Aim 49a: 'Improve knowledge of Neolithic and early Bronze Age social life'; and Research Aim 54: 'Widen our understanding of monumentality in the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age'.

Research questions for the broader project included:

- What is the evidence, if any, for the introduction of non-local materials to the monument in the prehistoric period? In particular, can we relate stone and/or soil used in the bank to nearby North Hill? (addresses SWARF Research Aim 18e)

- Is there any evidence that standing stones were once located within the enclosure? (addresses SWARF Research Aims 54a and b)

- Can we improve the dating for the origin and use of this monument? (addresses SWARF Research Aims 16 and 54)

- If present, what can material culture, pottery in particular, and organic remains tell us about the date and nature of the monument? (addresses SWARF Research Aim 49a)

- What is the evidence for pre-enclosure activity? Addresses SWARF Research Aim 54)

- What is the provenance of the flint used at the site? (addresses SWARF Research Aim 38c)

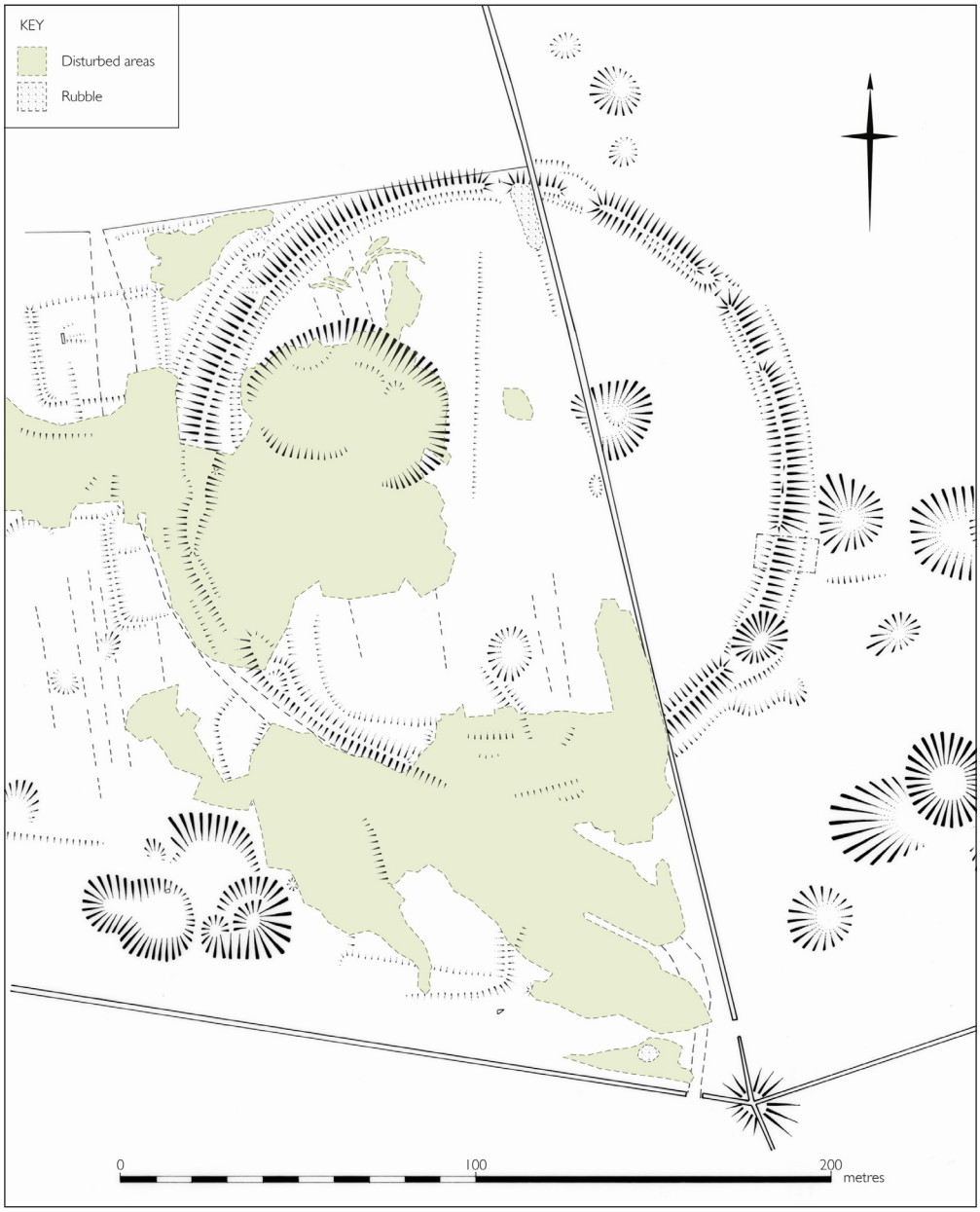

Fig 3: Priddy Circle I showing damaged areas. Survey of monument and damaged areas by Elaine Jamieson

METHODOLOGY

The main fieldwork phase of the project ran from Monday 22nd April 2013 for 2 weeks. The method statement was set out in the Project Design (Leary 2013). Work followed the MoRPHE model. Excavation was in accordance with English Heritage (now Historic England) standards and procedures as set down in the 2010 version of the *English Heritage Recording Manual* (hereafter referred to as the '*Recording Manual*').

Three trenches were hand-excavated as part of the evaluation works (Fig 4). Trench

and feature positions were plotted using differential GPS (Global Positioning System) equipment used to locate the survey data to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The GPS data was processed using Trimble's Geomatics Office software and located to the National Grid using Trimble's OSTN02 transformation.

Trenches A and B both measured 5m x 3m and were located within the footprint of the removed bank in the southern part of Priddy Circle 1. The full extent of the damage in this area was unknown, and therefore these two trenches evaluated the presence or absence of buried soils or any deposits associated with the bank, as well as any cut features, such as the postholes recorded below the bank on the eastern side (Tratman 1967; Lewis & Mullin 2011). The exposed damaged bank section was cut back and cleaned by trowel. The section had previously been provisionally cleaned and recorded (Graham 2011) immediately following the damage to the site. Contexts identified during the 2013 field work were related to those recorded by Graham (ibid; Appendix 1).

The enclosure ditch survived within the damaged area and although it was not exposed within the evaluation trenches it was augered in order to determine its depth and levels of preservation in this area. A single auger core was taken through the ditch deposits to the south of Trench A (Fig 4) in order to provide a sediment profile and depth of re-deposited bank material. The core was taken using a power auger. Sediment descriptions are given below (Coring the Ditch, p 16).

Trench C measured 3m x 3m and was located in the centre of the enclosure. This trench evaluated whether the recent movement of heavy plant across the monument had caused compaction damage to underlying archaeological features, and provided the opportunity to assess the archaeology within the circle itself. This trench was one of a planned transect of ten 3m x 3m trenches along the course of the unauthorised, rutted trackway across the circle. The other nine trenches in this transect were excavated as part of the later mitigation works (Gibson 2015).

Environmental sampling

Sampling followed English Heritage guidelines (Campbell *et al* 2011). Sample details are shown in Tables 1 and 2. Large (up to 50 litres) and small (2 litres) flotation samples were taken. Large flotation samples were taken from the buried turf and remnant bank where they were exposed in plan in Trench A. Small flotation samples (2 litres) were taken from the section face for the recovery of any organic material including charcoal and other potential datable material. The position of the monoliths and small flotation samples were recorded on section drawings (Fig 5). No mollusc or bone remains were encountered due to the acidity of the soil. A proportion of each context encountered was also dry sieved on site over a 10mm mesh for the recovery of artefacts and environmental material, particularly animal bone.

Flotation samples were processed at Fort Cumberland. Two large flotation samples, each of 50 litres in volume, were processed by standard methodology. Due to the heavy clay content samples were pre-treated with 200ml anhydrous sodium carbonate (Na_2CO_3) per 10 litres of sediment in order to desegregate the clay and

Table 1: Samples taken from Trench A and the exposed bank section during the evaluation.

Sample	Context	Vol (l)	Context description	Sample type
501	003	100	remnant bank excavated in plan	Flotation/coarse sieve
502	003	-	remnant bank excavated in plan	Charcoal/radiocarbon dating - discarded
503	018	20	buried soil/turf layer	Flotation
504	020	50	buried soil/turf mound	Flotation/coarse sieve
505	009, 008, 022	-	bank section	Monolith tin - pollen/ micromorph
506	008, 009, 016, 012	-	bank section	Monolith tin - pollen/ micromorph
507	005	5	bank make up	Bucket flotation
508	022	2	bank make up	Bucket flotation
509	008	1	turf layer	Bucket flotation

facilitate flotation. Flots were collected on 0.25mm mesh while residues were retained on 1mm mesh. Flots and residues were air dried. Residues were sieved and all material greater than 2mm was visually scanned by eye for small finds. Following assessment all residues were discarded.

Monolith tin samples (Table 2) were taken from clean, exposed sections using small (25x10x10cm) stainless steel tins, for the recovery of pollen and potentially micromorphology slides. Monolith samples were wrapped in clingfilm and parcel tape and were returned to Fort Cumberland and temporarily stored in cold storage.

Table 2 : Monolith tin descriptions taken from the exposed bank section.

Trench	Monolith tin	mOD	Monolith description	Tin size (m)
Trench A	<505>	282.97-282.77	Lower part of bank exposed in west facing section. Through buried turf layer (008) and (009) (buried sub-soil?), plus bank make up (022) including upturned turves.	0.20x 0.065x 0.05
Trench A	<506>	282.95-282.75	Lower part of bank exposed in west facing section. Through buried turf layer (008) and (009) (buried sub-soil?), plus bank make up (016) and (012). Contained up-turned turf in upper part of monolith.	0.20x 0.065x 0.05

Finds methodology

All finds work was carried out in line with the principles and techniques outlined in the *Recording Manual*, Module 5: The Care and Recording of Finds (2006, revised 2009) and under the guidance of the Project Finds Supervisor (Michael Russell) and

the Project Finds Officer (Nicola Hembrey).

A total finds retrieval and retention policy was adopted. The sieving of spoil over a 10mm mesh during the excavation (see Environmental sampling, p 8) maximised the potential recovery of finds.

Initial care of finds was in line with the principles and techniques outlined in the *Recording Manual* and in *First Aid for Finds* (2001). Initial finds processing was undertaken on site during the excavation. All finds to be retained were washed, marked, bagged by context, boxed by material in context order, and quantified by context and entered onto bulk finds sheets.

All finds were individually recorded by the Project Finds Supervisor onto small finds sheets. Digital record photographs of individually recorded objects were undertaken on site. Objects and items defined as Small Finds (SF) were placed within the appropriate number blocks. Storage is in line with the principles and techniques outlined in the *Recording Manual*.

A total of seven small finds was collected. SF (small find) numbers 301, 302, 303, 304, and 307 were lithics and are described in Section 6. SF 305 was a small flake of chert from context [102]. SF306 was a 1971 two-penny piece, also from context 102. This was retained as potentially providing a *terminus post quem* for earlier disturbance, and also for demonstrating the effects of acid erosion: the surfaces of the coin are deeply pitted even after only a few decades of burial.

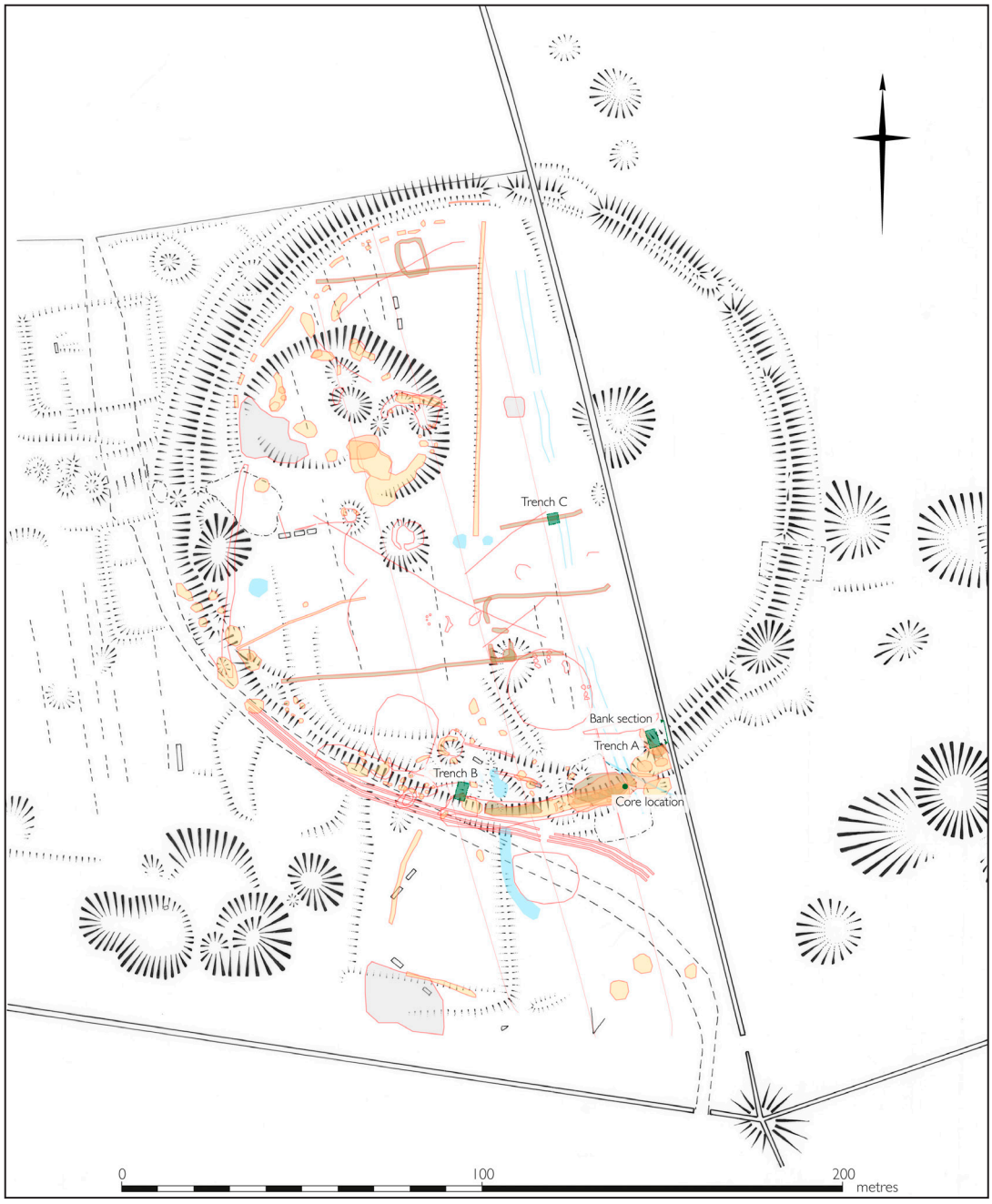

Fig 4: Priddy Circle 1 trench locations and geophysical features.

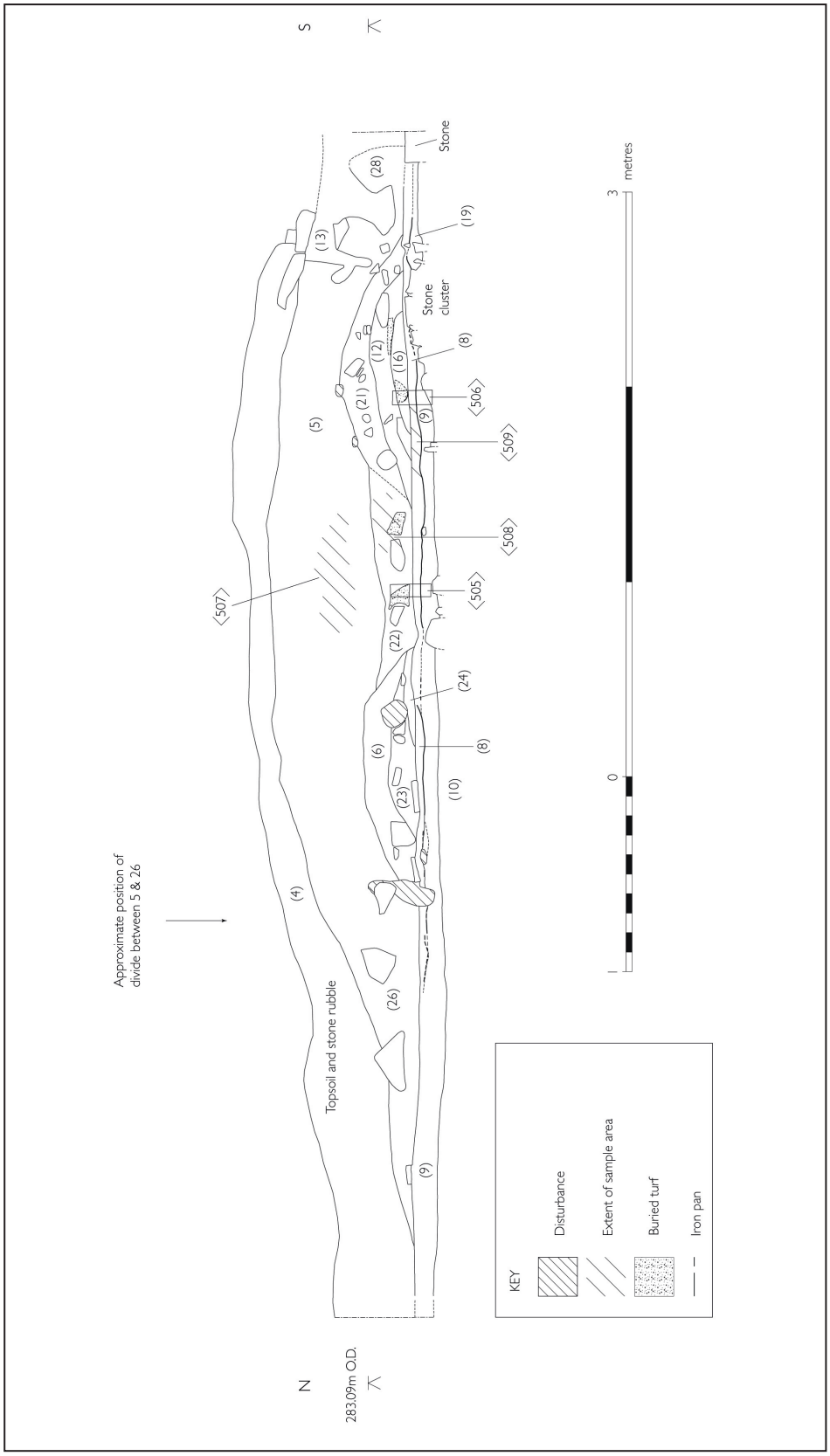

Fig 5: The section through the bank in Trench A.

EVALUATION RESULTS

The following section summarises the results of the archaeological investigations. Where possible, contexts visible in the bank section have been correlated with those identified by Graham (2011) during his initial recording of the section immediately following the landowner damage (see also Appendix 1).

Phase 1: Natural geology

Priddy Circle 1 is located on the junction of three geologies: the majority of the site lies on Dolomitic Conglomerate, although the northern limit (including the entrance) is on Harptree Beds, while its western side is on Black Rock limestone (British

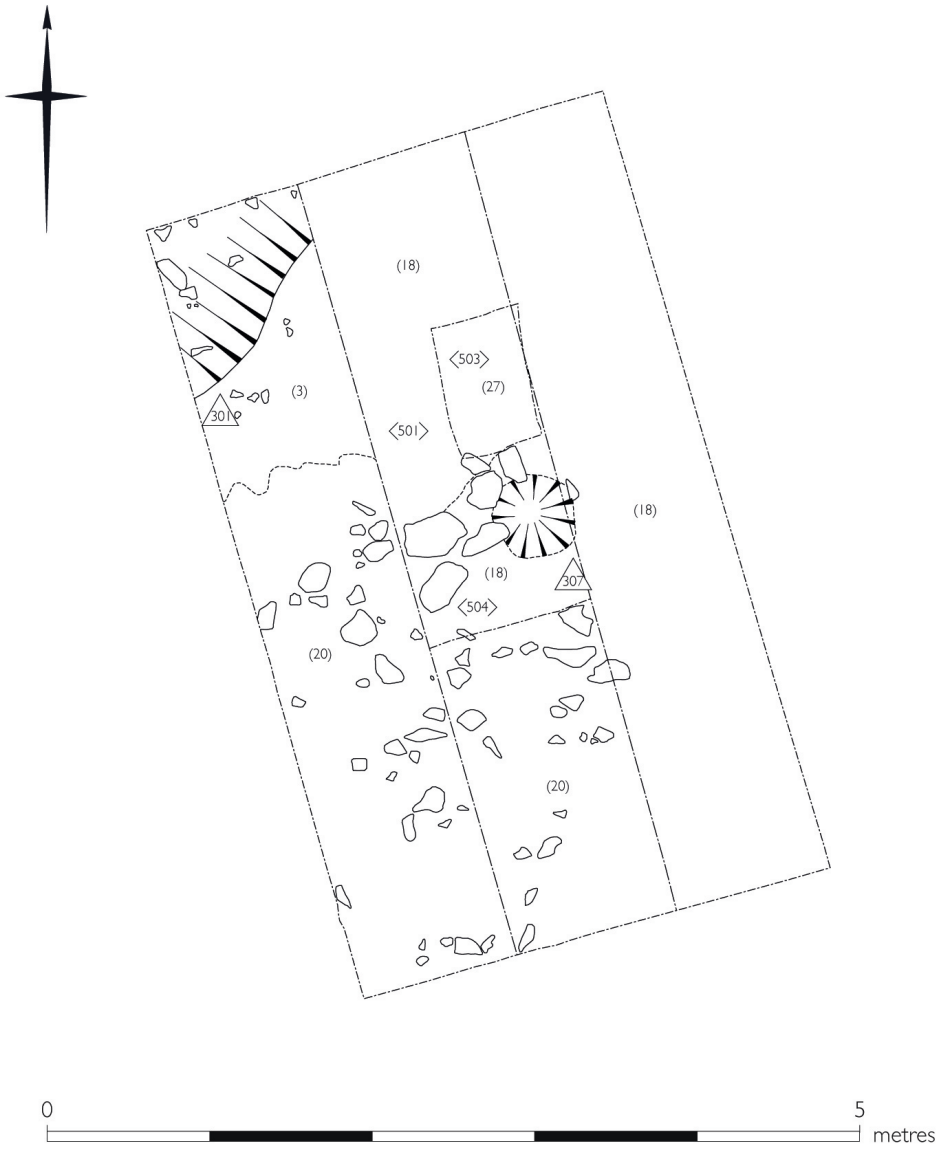

Fig 6: Plan of Trench A, showing sondages, contexts 020, 018 and 027, and small find locations. The depression representing a possible feature is visible as a sub-circular feature within context 018.

Geological Survey, sheet 280, Wells; Allen & Scaife in Lewis & Mullin 2011).

Natural was recorded in all three trenches during the excavation (contexts 010, 104 and 204). This was recorded as firm yellowish brown clay, varying in height from

Fig 7: Section through the bank in Trench A, facing east.

Fig 8: A sondage through the primary bank and Old Ground Surface in Trench A. A depression in the Old Ground Surface may represent the location of a post hole underlying the enclosure bank, facing west.

282.96m OD in Trench B, to 282.74m OD in the section in Trench A, and to 281.94m OD in Trench C.

Phase 2: Buried soil

A buried soil (old ground surface) was evident underlying the enclosure bank in both the damaged bank section (Fig 5) and in a sondage in Trench A. This was recorded in plan as context 018 and in the section as context 008 (equivalent to 013 on the section recorded by Graham 2011). It comprised compact greyish brown, slightly silty, loamy clay 0.05m thick with an underlying subsoil (contexts 027, 009, 019), which also incorporated clusters of stones (014 and 015) (correlating with contexts 009 and possibly 010 in Graham 2011). A band of iron pan was visible immediately below the turf layer in the bank section. Context 018 was recorded at a maximum level (top of context) of 282.9m OD and similarly 008 as 282.85m OD. Disturbance of the ground surface in antiquity was evident by unevenness of and breaks in the buried soil layer 008 and corresponding iron pan. Upturned sections of buried turf with iron pan above are consistent with trampling.

Examination of the pollen (Hazell, p 26-9) from the buried soil points towards a grassland habitat, with some scrubby vegetation consisting of hazel, some alder, ferns (mostly *Polypodium*), and teasels.

Phase 3: Neolithic enclosure phase

Priddy Circle 1 enclosure bank overlies the old ground surface (OGS). This was evident in plan in Trench A where a thin remnant survived the recent damage, as well as a complete section (Fig 5).

Trench A plan

Overlying the OGS was a remnant of the enclosure bank (018). This comprised a 0.12m thick layer of primary bank make-up (020) formed of compact grey/reddish silty clay loam, and recorded at a maximum level of 283.01m OD. A retouched prismatic blade (SF307) of possible Mesolithic or early Neolithic date was recovered from this layer (Bishop, p 30-3). This artefact was likely to have been present in the ground prior to the soil being incorporated within the bank.

An unexcavated depression of c.0.5–0.6m diameter appeared to have been filled by this layer and may represent a feature such as a posthole.

Overlying this was context 003, a truncated layer (0.1m thick) of hard orange brown slightly silty clay loam representing subsequent bank make up. This deposit had clearly been truncated by the recent damage to the monument. Found on the top of this layer, but recorded as coming from the overlying topsoil (context 001), was a fragment of a possible transverse arrowhead (SF301) (Bishop, p 30-3). This artefact had potentially originated from the bank and been dislodged during the recent damage.

Flotation samples of bank material (samples 501 and 504, 507, 508) produced occasional fragments of charcoal including that of oak (*Quercus* sp.) and hazel/alder (*Corylus avellana/Alnus* sp.) as well as a single rachis of free-threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum* type) and a sedge nutlet (*Carex* sp) (Pelling, p 24-6). It is likely that much of this material is relatively recent in origin although not necessarily 20th century. No artefactual material was recovered.

The bank section

A complete section through the bank make up was afforded by the recent damage (Figs 5 and 7). Overlying the OGS (context 008) were what appeared to be two small parallel primary banks: one to the north and one to the south (an inner and outer). Both primary banks comprised three layers. The inner-most bank consisted of context 024, a friable brown silty clay loam, context 023, a compact dark brown silty clay loam containing some buried turves, and context 006, a friable strong brown silty clay loam. The contexts that form this bank are equivalent to 011 in the section recorded in Graham 2011. The outer bank similarly comprised context 016, a strong brown silt loam, context 012, a friable dark yellowish brown clay loam which included frequent turves, and context 021, a friable strong brown clay loam and some buried turves (all correlating to 012 in the section recorded in Graham 2011). The inner bank was around 0.25m high (top of the bank at 283.10m OD) and the outer 0.35m high (top at 283.20m OD), and both were in the region of 1.3m wide, although the section was at an oblique angle to the bank and therefore this is unlikely to represent the actual width.

Between and partially overlying these primary banks (filling the depression between them) was another layer of friable strong brown clay loam containing frequent upturned buried turves (022), 0.23m thick (not recorded in Graham 2011).

The above sequence was then sealed by context 005 (also recorded as 026 to the north and 028 to the south), a thick (0.5m) layer of compact strong brown silty clay, which formed the secondary bank construction. This was recorded as 006, 003 and 007 by Graham (2011).

Recent damage by small burrowing animals was evident through visible voids in the section and fresh nesting material (moss and grasses). It is not possible to establish whether such activity has increased since the damage to the enclosure, although it is likely that this is a long standing problem. Burrow damage will have had an impact on any interpretation of palaeoenvironmental evidence.

Coring the ditch (Matt Canti)

A single core was taken through the external enclosure ditch deposits to the south of Trench A (see Fig 4 for location). The detailed sediment description is shown in Table 4. All measurements given are depths within the core, expressed as depth below the current ground surface. The top 0.5m of the core consisted of dark yellowish brown silty clay, separated from a very dark brown silty clay by a buried surface at about 0.47m (hidden behind the bridge of the core tube). This 0.5m of deposit appears to

Fig 9: Coring the enclosure ditch

Fig 10: Inspecting the soil core from the enclosure ditch

Table 4: Sediment descriptions of core from the ditch.

Depth within core (m)	Munsell Code	Munsell Colour	Components	Description and notes
0.00–0.14	10 YR 3/3	dark yellowish brown	silty clay	Disturbed, and with an undulating 1 cm boundary with the layer below.
0.14–0.47	10 YR 4/6	dark yellowish brown	silty clay	Boundary not visible (behind the bridge of the core chamber).
0.47–1.00	10 YR 2/2	very dark brown	silty clay	Slowly grading between the two colours.
	10 YR 3/6	dark yellowish brown		
1.00–1.18	-	-	-	Void
1.18–1.21	10 YR 4/6	dark yellowish brown	compact silty clay	Containing plant remains (possibly bracken – Vanessa Straker pers. comm.). A sharp (1cm) boundary with the layer below.
1.21–1.88	10 YR 5/8	yellowish brown	silty clay	Grading between the two colours. A very sharp (2 mm) boundary with the layer below.
	10 YR 6/6	brownish yellow		
1.88–2.00	2.5 YR 3/4	dark reddish brown	silty clay texture with fine grit	Rotted rock.
2.00–2.57	-	-	-	Void
2.57–2.64	10 YR 6/6	brownish yellow	silty clay	A sharp (1 cm) boundary with the layer below.
2.64–3.00	10 YR 4/6	dark yellowish brown	clay	The corer was stopped by rock (probably bedrock).

be the recently spread re-deposited bank material filling the the previous surface expression of the ditch as it existed prior to damage (see Fig 2). The rest of the top metre consisted of silty clay showing a gradual change in colour to dark yellowish brown going down into its subsoil.

A possible second dark layer was visible at the top of the second 1m core with plant remains visible (possibly bracken, Vanessa Straker pers comm), although it was uncertain if this represented a real surface or was an artefact of coring. If the former it could be an earlier stable ditch soil or ditch bottom dark sediment, suggesting the base of the ditch at this point was in the region of 1 to 1.2 m below current ground surface. The base of this core (at about 2m) was rotted rock. The third core (2–3m) consisted of soft brownish yellow silty clay and dark yellowish brown clay but the coring chamber was stopped from penetrating by rock (probably Harptree beds bedrock) resulting in a void of 0.57m.

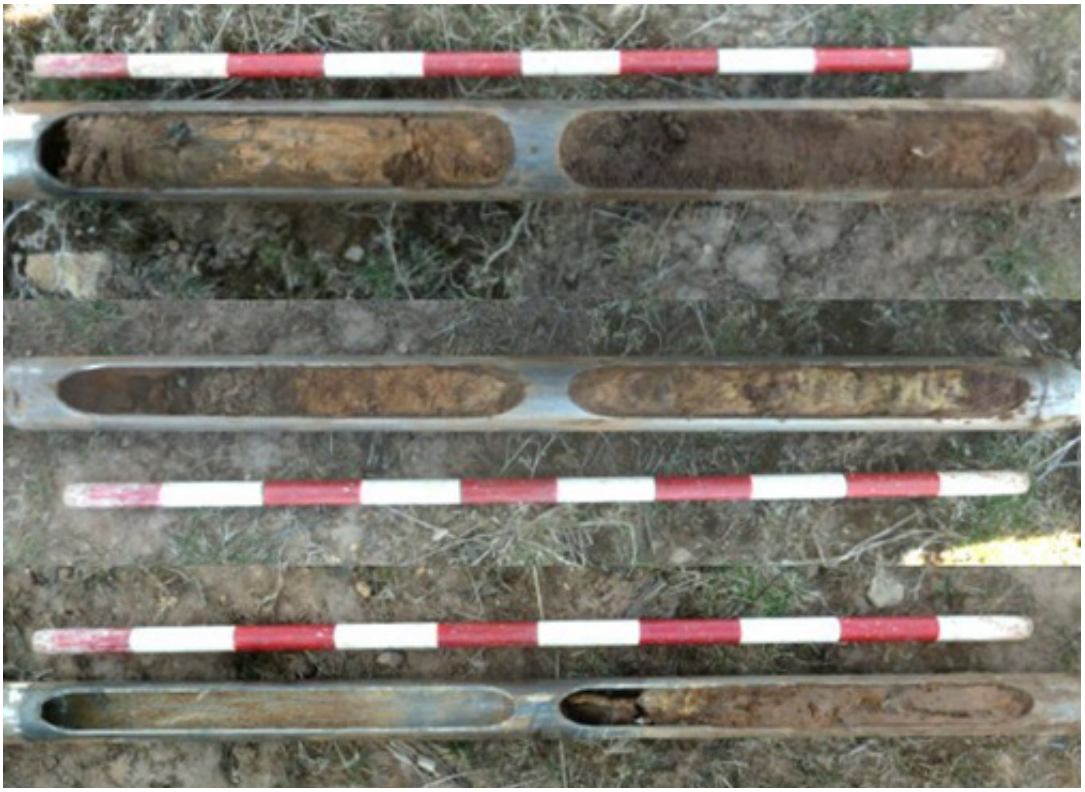

Fig 18: Composite view of the core shown from top to bottom.

Phase 4: 20th century phase

The bank sequence in the section in Trench A was sealed by topsoil and rubble (context 004) over which a dry-stone wall has at some stage been constructed. A thin layer of friable dark brown sandy clay loam lapped up against the inner edge of the enclosure bank in Trench A (context 002) (evident by the hachure lines in the north west corner of the trench plan in Fig 6) and was interpreted as a plough soil, possibly relating to one of two episodes of ploughing within the enclosure during the Second World War (Tratman 1967).

Trench B was initially thought to provide evidence for the enclosure bank; however it became clear during excavation that it was much disturbed. Indeed, this whole area had, at some stage, been truncated down to the natural ground (removing any evidence for the OGS). A line of disturbed natural clay material and stone rubble (context 102) had then been piled back up, approximately following the line of the enclosure bank. It was clear that this damage had occurred at some stage in the recent past – a 1971 two penny piece (SF306) may date this episode of bank damage (although not necessarily very accurately). It seems likely, given the way the material has settled, that this had occurred prior to the most recent damage. A small flint flake was recovered from the disturbed bank material (SF304), providing some limited evidence for prehistoric activity in the vicinity (Bishop, p 30-3). A chert flake (SF305) was also recovered from this context but was later determined to be un-worked. An interface layer was recorded above this as context 103 and subsequently

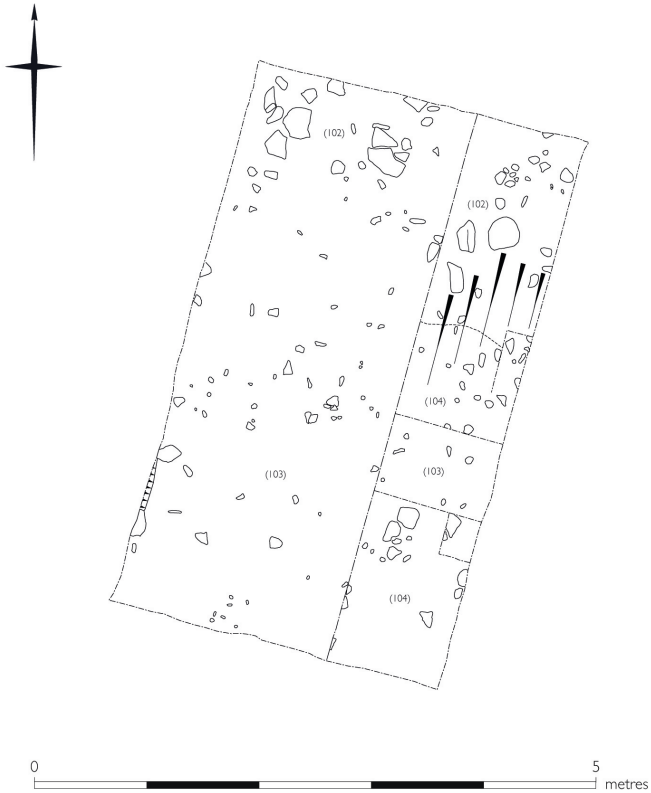

Fig 11: Plan of Trench B, showing sondages and contexts 102, 103 and 104.

Fig 12: Trench B showing a sondage through the disturbed bank (evident along the bottom of the photograph) down to the orange natural, looking south.

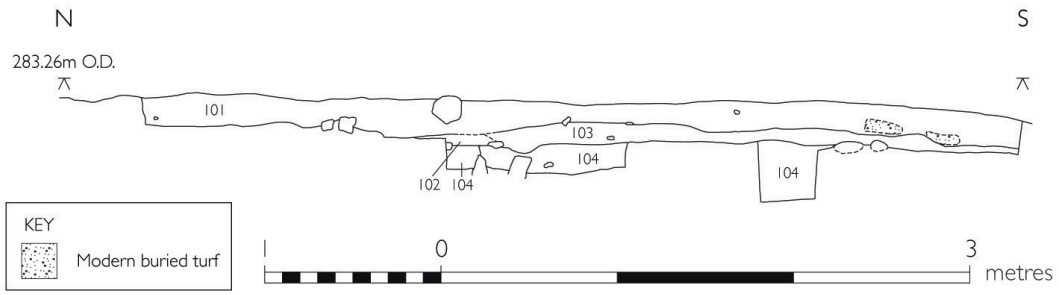

Fig 13: Section of the eastern side of Trench B.

the topsoil had formed (context 101), which contained two very small flint flakes (SF302 and SF303).

Phase 5: Recent activity

Recent wheel rutting across the centre of the enclosure was evident in Trench C by clear parallel marks (cut 202 and fill 203) penetrating through the topsoil (context 201) and into the natural ground (context 204) (Figs 14 and 15).

Fig 15: Recent wheel rutting in Trench C. The wheel marks left by recent activity across the centre of the enclosure can clearly be seen penetrating through the topsoil and subsoil and well into natural ground, fooking south.

Fig 14: Plan of Trench C showing wheel rutting.

CONCLUSION

It is clear that the southern bank area of Priddy Circle 1 has been subjected to several phases of damage. The results from Trench B demonstrate that the bank had been entirely removed at some stage in the past with no *in situ* bank material or old ground surface remaining. It is suggested that this is likely to be the case across much of the southern bank area.

Trench A was located over the footprint of a stub of remaining bank that was removed during the recent episode of damage. The excavation results indicate that the landowner damage had not removed the bank material completely as remnants remained. The old ground surface was also evident in this area. It is likely that the footprint of the stub of bank is the only remaining *in situ* prehistoric archaeology in the immediate area of this trench.

Trench C did not reveal any prehistoric archaeological features or deposits (in keeping with the evidence from other excavations within the circle, eg Tratman 1967). However, it did show that the unauthorised trackway across the monument has intruded deep into natural deposits and, therefore, if archaeology does exist elsewhere along this line, it will have been damaged.

ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

Introduction

Previous investigations of organic and geoarchaeological evidence at Priddy have provided a useful indication of the vegetation background of the site and evidence for site formation (Tratman 1967; Allen & Scaife 2011). In both previous investigations a buried soil was identified, sealed beneath the bank, representing a truncated humic rendzina-form soil. Pollen was recovered during both projects, although not in large quantities compared to fern spores. This was interpreted as indicative of considerable biological activity and only moderate acidity by Dimbleby (1967, 121). Pollen sequences from the buried soil were dominated by Poaceae (grasses) and *Plantago lanceolata* (plantain), indicative of open grassland, probably pasture, with little tree growth other than some possible local hazel scrub woodland (Allen & Scaife in Lewis & Mullin 2011; Dimbleby in Tratman 1967). Pollen declined markedly in terms of absolute numbers downwards through the profile, while the more robust spores of *Dryopteris* type, *Polypodium* and *Pteridium* (bracken) ferns increased. Dimbleby interpreted greater representation of oak in the bank deposits, along with *Calluna* (ling) and *Betula* (birch) as indicative of the presence of an acidophilous vegetation, perhaps heathy woodland. He suggested this may in part be related to the use of soil from the more acidic Old Red Sandstone outcrops in North Hill as well as deriving from material excavated from the ditch. Some minor vegetational differences between the two previous studies are likely to reflect differences in pollen input from plants growing immediately on the land surface at the point of sampling, although generally both studies produced a similar sequence.

Sampling during Historic England's 2013 evaluation excavation was designed to

Fig 16: The section through the enclosure bank in Trench A, facing east.

assess the degree of preservation of the buried soil and any incorporated biological material (including pollen and plant macrofossils) following the recent damage. Additionally, sampling was designed to recover biological material to further inform on aspects of the character of the site, particularly past vegetation and plant use, as well as for the recovery of dating evidence.

Two small monolith tin samples were taken through the buried land surface from the exposed bank section soil (see Fig 5 and Table 3) as well as a sequence of small flotation samples, primarily designed to recover dating material. Large bulk samples (of up to 100 litres) were taken from deposits within Trench A to recover biological material including charred plant remains, potential dating material and for small finds retrieval. Up to 50 litres of each bulk sample was processed by flotation (see methodology above, Section 3) while the remaining deposit was wet sieved over 4mm mesh. The samples taken are detailed in Table 1. No faunal, human remains or molluscs were recovered, despite the sieving regime, due to the unfavourable preservation conditions of the soil.

Archaeobotanical assessment

Ruth Pelling

Introduction

Three large flotation samples (of 20 to 50 litres) were processed from contexts in Trench A by standard mechanical flotation methods following soaking in sodium carbonate (for sample processing methods see Methodology, Section 3). All three contexts sampled are thought to comprise remnant bank material (for sample locations see Table 1). Three small flotation samples taken from the exposed bank section were processed manually by bucket flotation (volumes processed ranged from 1 to 4 litres). All flots were collected onto 250 micron mesh.

Assessment Methodology

Dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at x10 to x40 magnification. The percentage of roots present was noted and any other indication of intrusive contamination. Charred charcoal and seeds present were provisionally identified and quantified. Items noted in the assessment are given in Table 5. The volume of charcoal present in the 2mm and 4mm mesh sieves was estimated and randomly selected samples were examined under the microscope in tangential section (TS) for ring porosity. One larger sized fragment of charcoal (>4mm) was examined in radial and tangential section in order to confirm the identification.

Results

All flotation samples produced flots dominated by modern roots and rootlets (c.90% of total flot volume). Recent seeds and cereal culm (straw) segments were also noted. It is likely that some of the intrusive material derives from contamination since the removal of the bank. Any interpretation or dating of charred material from

the buried soil or remnant bank where it has been disturbed must be treated with caution as a consequence. Botanical nomenclature follows Stace (1997) for wild plants and Zohary and Hopf (2010) for cereals.

Small quantities of charcoal were present in all samples taken from bank make-up deposits, mostly identified as *Quercus* sp. (oak) heartwood, as well as occasional other charred macrofossils. A single charred rachis of free-threshing wheat, tentatively identified as the hexaploid *Triticum aestivum* (bread wheat) type, was present in sample 501 from context 003. The rachis was particularly well preserved and is likely to be of relatively recent origin. This deposit also produced a fragment of *Corylus/Alnus* (hazel/alder) type charcoal and one piece of unidentified round-wood. A small fragment of possible charcoal recovered by hand during the excavation of this deposit (hand collected sample 502), was found to consist of modern root material, recent weed seeds and worm cocoons, and charcoal flecks, when examined under the microscope and was consequently discarded.

Corylus/Alnus charcoal was also recovered from remnant bank deposits 020 (sample 504) along with a charred nutlet of *Carex* sp. (sedge). The presence of *Corylus avellena* (hazel) was confirmed by one good sized piece of charcoal recovered from the exposed section of the bank context 005 (sample 507); the bar thickness and spacing within the scalariform perforation plates was more typical of *Corylus* than *Alnus* (alder), and spiral thickenings (which do not appear in alder) were present. Further indication of the presence of this species was provided by possible *Corylus avellana* nut shell, recovered from bank section deposit 022 (sample 508).

Table 5: Detail of contents of flotation samples (+ = 1-5; ++ = 6-25 items).

	Sample	501	503	504	507	508	509
	Context	003	018	020	005	022	008
	Volume processed (l)	50	20	50	4	2	1
	Flot volume (ml)	400	13	30	25	20	10
	%roots/rootlets	90	90	90	90	90	95
Triticum cf. *aestivum*	Bread wheat type rachis	1	-	-	-	-	-
Carex sp.	Sedge, nutlet	-	-	1	-	-	-
cf. *Corylus avellana* L.	Hazel nut shell frag	-	-	-	-	1	-
Quercus sp.	Oak, charcoal	+	-	+	+	-	-
Corylus avellana L.	Hazel charcoal		-		+	-	-
Corylus/Alnus sp.	Hazel/Alder charcoal	1	-	-	-	-	-
Indet	Charcoal, roundwood	1	+	-	-	+	+
Total charcoal 2/4mm		+/+	-/+	+/-	+/+	+/+	+/+
Modern seeds		++	+	-	+	+	-
Modern chaff		-	-	+	-	-	-
Modern worm capsules		-	-	-	+	-	-
Modern insect frags		-	+	-	+	+	-

Discussion

Given the degree of disturbance to the bank deposits excavated and the small quantity of charred remains, including charcoal, recovered, there is very limited interpretative value in the samples. Dating is likely to be unreliable from the remaining buried turf and remnant bank. However, the presence of *Corylus avellana* and *Quercus* sp. (oak) would be consistent with scrubby vegetation in the area and human use of the woodland resources. The presence of *Corylus avellana* is consistent with pollen analysis of the samples from the old ground surface (see Hazell, section 5.3). The rachis fragment is likely to be of relatively recent origin and there is consequently no evidence for cultivated plant foods associated with the monument. While it is difficult to make any statements based on an absence of evidence, this absence of cultivated food plants is consistent with other Late Neolithic ceremonial monuments in southern Britain including Stonehenge (see Pelling & Campbell 2014).

Pollen

Zoë Hazell

Laboratory methods

Sub-samples were taken from monolith samples for the extraction of pollen in order to examine the sediment profiles of the bank in terms of its palaeoenvironmental potential, with particular relevance to the 'buried soil'/'old ground surface' (see Table 6 for information on the sub-samples). Sub-samples of 1cm^3 of sediment was taken from each level by displacement of water.

Pollen preparations were carried out by QUEST (University of Reading) (see Branch *et al* 2005: 126). An exotic spore marker (*Lycopodium*) was added. The samples then underwent: deflocculation (using Sodium pyrophosphate), microsieving (125 and 10 µm sieves), density separation (using Sodium polytungstate at a specific gravity of 2.0g/cm3) and acetolysis. They were stained with safranin and mounted on slides in glycerol jelly.

Table 6. Pollen sample descriptions.

Monolith tin	Depth within monolith tin (m)	Context number	Context/layer description	Interpretation
505	0.12-0.13	08	From the middle of the buried soil above the iron pan layer.	Buried soil
	0.155-0.165	009	Below iron pan layer	Underlying subsoil
506	0.075-0.085	008	Within buried soil, above iron pan. Grey brown clay.	Buried soil
	0.12-0.13	009	Below the iron pan. Orange brown sediments.	Underlying subsoil

*Table 7. Pollen assessment results. Those in bold are the most abundant within that count. Indet = indeterminate (not readily identifiable), undiff = undifferentiated, cf = possible. The totals presented as 'X per 100 Lycopodium' include fragment counts of Polypodium. The same totals do not include fungal spore counts. * = possible contamination as well preserved grain*

Monolith	Depth within monolith tin (m)	Taxa present for 100 Lycopodium	Concentration	Taxa seen whilst scanning the rest of the slide	Overall condition	Suitable for further analysis?
505	0.12-0.13	Rare indeterminate pollen grains and cf *Corylus* (total = 6)	Low	Frequent cf *Corylus*. Occasional *Polypodium* (complete/fragments) Rare *Alnus*, cf Dipsacaceae and fungal spores undiff.	Mostly degraded or broken	No
	0.155-0.165	Rare *Pteropsida* [Filicales] monolete undiff, cf *Corylus* and cf Dipsacaeae (total = 4).	Low	Rare *Polypodium* (complete/fragments) and indeterminate pollen grains.	Mostly degraded or broken.	No
506	0.075-0.085	Rare cf *Corylus*, *Polypodium* (fragment) and Poaceae (total = 4)	Low	Occasional cf *Corylus* Rare *Alnus* and *Polypodium* (complete)	Mostly degraded.	No
	0.12-0.13	Absent pollen (total = 0).	None	Rare *Polypodium* (complete)	Mostly degraded.	No

Fig 17: Sampling locations from monolith 505 (left) and monolith sample 506 (right).

An assessment of the sub-fossil pollen was undertaken to determine its presence (abundance and diversity) and condition, and whether samples would be suitable for full analysis (see Table 6 for informatgion on the sub-samples). Pollen slides were prepared at QUEST (University of Reading, see section 3.1 for methodology).

Slides were examined at magnifications of x100, x200 and x400. Pollen was counted until 100 *Lycopodium* were reached. After this, the remainder of the slide was scanned at x10 to record the presence of any other pollen types. For the latter, the following categories were used: 0 = absent; <5 = rare; 5-10 = occasional; 11-25 = frequent; 26-50 = common; 50-75 = abundant

Identifications and terminologies follow Bennett *et al* (1994), Moore *et al* (1991) and Stace (1997).

Table 8. Plant types represented in the pollen and spore record, including their Latin and common names, and vegetation type.

Vegetation type	Taxa	Common name
Tree	*Alnus*	Alders
Shrub	*Corylus*	Hazels
Herb	Poaceae	Wild grasses
	Dipsacaceae	Teasels
Ferns	Polypodium	Polypodies
	Pteropsida (monolete)	Fern (monolete spore)
	Pteropsida (trilete)	Fern (trilete spore)

Results

The pollen types seen are listed in Table 7 and their common names explained in Table 8.

Sumary: Buried soil sediments

The samples from tins 505 and 506 were generally similar, both consistently containing pollen/spores of *Corylus*, *Alnus* and *Polypodium*. The upper samples, both from the 'old ground surface' contained mostly *Corylus*, together with fern spores (mostly *Polypodium*) and rare *Alnus*, Poaceae and cf Dipsacaceae. The lower sample from monolith 505 (from the buried sub-soil) contained fewer occurrences of the same taxa, but with *Pteropsida* [Filicales] monolete undiff present and no *Alnus* or Poaceae. The equivalent sample from monolith 506 contained almost no pollen/spores.

Previous pollen studies at Priddy

Dimbleby (1967) and Allen and Scaife (2011) have both analysed pollen from a profile through the bank and buried soil of Circle 1. They had similar findings, supported by the findings of this assessment: i) overall low abundance of pollen, ii) dominance of fern spores, and iii) low taxa diversity. Although the samples here appear to be less diverse, it is likely to result from the difference in methodologies; the previous studies counted more grains per sample.

Conclusions

Pollen and fern spores were recovered from the sediments and the results concur with previous studies at the site. Fern spores, particularly of *Polypodium*, were present in all the samples. In terms of tree/shrub/herb pollen, *Corylus* was the most well-represented overall. Occurrences of the remaining taxa were rare.

Overall, however, pollen preservation was poor; in terms of abundance, diversity and preservation condition – most grains were either: degraded, folded or broken. The consistent presence of the more resistant *Polypodium* spores suggests that differential preservation has occurred at the site.

The poor pollen preservation could result from the shallow nature of the features; undergoing enhanced aeration, microbial activity and washing down through the sediment. The site is also within an area of calcareous geology, typically not conducive to good pollen preservation. There was also evidence of sediment disturbance by animal burrowing. Given the poor preservation no further analysis was carried out.

ASSESSMENT OF LITHICS

Barry Bishop

Introduction

All of the struck flint recovered during the evaluation excavation at Priddy Circle 1 has been fully catalogued including metrical data and details of raw materials and condition (see Table 8). All metrical information follows the methodology established by Saville (1980).

Quantification and Distribution

A total of five pieces of struck flint was recovered during the investigations; two retouched implements from Trench A and a small flake and two flake fragments from Trench B (Tables 9 and 10). Three of the pieces were recovered from topsoil deposits and are unstratified. One of the pieces, a retouched prismatic blade, came from the turf core of the bank and may have been present in the soil horizon prior to it being cut and incorporated in the bank. The remaining piece, a small flake fragment, came from sections of the bank that had seen relatively recent disturbance and its provenance cannot now be accurately determined, although it is perhaps most likely also to have come from the core of the bank.

Description

Both struck pieces from Trench A have been retouched. The earliest of these comprises a prismatic blade made from speckled mid-grey flint. Its distal end has been largely removed by notching retouch executed from its left lateral margin, leaving a thin point-like remnant of its distal end on its right margin. The purposes of this are not entirely clear; the notch is similar to those executed on micro-burins although the surviving part of the distal end demonstrates that it was not undertaken in order to remove this, but merely to refashion it. Its form suggests that it may have been intended as a piercing or graving tool, a probable function of other truncated blades. The point itself, however, shows only very minimal evidence of wear, indicating that either it had not been intensively used or that it was used on soft materials. The technological attributes of the blade indicate a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date, its form and the nature of its retouch being most characteristic of the Mesolithic.

The other struck piece, from topsoil deposits, comprises a fragment of an opaque light-grey flint flake with shallow, multi-directional dorsal flake scars. It appears to have been snapped and the resultant break on the distal portion bifacially worked, with light retouch on the dorsal face and heavier, more invasive retouch on its ventral face. No retouch is present on the flake's surviving original margin. The implement's distal end is missing and it has also snapped longitudinally resulting in only a fraction of the right side of the implement being present. Although other implement types cannot be entirely excluded, the particular nature of its retouch strongly suggests that this is a fragment of a transverse arrowhead. It is also very similar to

Table 9: Quantification of Struck Flint by Context.

Context	SF Number.	Trench	Feature	Flake <10mm	Flake Fragment	Retouched Fragment	Truncated Blade	Estimated Date	Comments
001	301	A	Topsoil			1		Late Neo?	Possibly a fragment of a transverse arrowhead
020	307	A	Turf Bank				1	Mesolithic	Prismatic blade truncated by notch-like retouch
101	302	B	Topsoil	1				Prehistoric	Small platform edge or retouch flake
101	303	B	Topsoil		1			Prehistoric	Small - the medial section of a possible micro-blade
102	304	B	Disturbed Bank		1			Prehistoric	Small piece of knapping shatter

that seen on the classic oblique type transverse arrowhead recovered at the site by Lewis and Mullin (2011; Fig 13), although that example was made from a different type of flint. Further support for such an attribution comes from the implement's dorsal scarring, which would be compatible with the flake having been struck from a Levallois-like core. If this is indeed a transverse arrowhead, it is too fragmentary to determine whether it was a chisel or an oblique type.

The remaining pieces consist of a small flake and two flake fragments, all recovered from Trench B and all made from translucent brown flint. They all measure less than 10mm and are likely to result from limited core working or tool manufacture. As pieces of knapping shatter they are essentially undateable, but one of the fragments might be part of a small trimming blade which would indicate a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. There is no other evidence for the on-site preparation of raw materials or for primary core working and none of the struck pieces retain any cortex.

Discussion

Assuming the retouched flake fragment is the remains of a transverse arrowhead the assemblage, despite being very small, indicates two periods of flint use at the site.

The earliest activity at the site can be dated to the Mesolithic period and is represented by the truncated blade and, possibly, the knapping debris. It complements the struck flint assemblage recovered by Lewis and Mullin which also contained narrow blades and a diagnostically Mesolithic backed blade, along with many small chips (Lewis & Mullin 2011, 142–4). Charcoal from within the original soil horizon supplied a radiocarbon determination confirming that the site saw some form of occupation during the Later Mesolithic, and the recovery of a

blade fragment in a near-by solution hollow may suggest that this formed a focus for the encampment. It is interesting that activity at this locality long preceded the construction of the monument, possibly giving it a sense of history and tradition, although it should be remembered that as yet there are no indications of any continuity or persistence in the involvement with this particular site. Although not extensive, there is increasing evidence for Mesolithic occupation in open air sites across the Mendip Hills, complementing the wealth of evidence recorded from the area's many cave sites (e.g. Ellis 1988; Webster 2008, 51). The small collection dominated by retouched implements as found here and during earlier investigations in no way contradicts the general consensus that these uplands were primarily used for hunting and the gathering of resources, rather than for any more intensive or longer-lived settlement.

Only one piece, the fragment of a possible arrowhead, can be dated to the Later Neolithic with any degree of confidence. This is of significance in that it adds further support for attributing a Later Neolithic date to the monument. Perhaps one of the more notable aspects of the lithic material from the excavations is its sheer paucity, despite the immense effort and involvement that must have gone in to the monument's construction. This accords well with earlier findings; Lewis and Mullin only found a small quantity of struck flint and much of that probably dates to the Mesolithic (Lewis & Mullin 2011, 142–4), and during Taylor and Tratman's excavations of 1956 only "a few small fragments of flint" were found (Taylor & Tratman 1957, 13). Taken together, these investigations indicate that the use of worked flint, along with other categories of material culture, was either not a necessity or not deemed an appropriate accompaniment to the activities undertaken during the construction and use of the monument. As Taylor and Tratman (ibid) suggested, the lack of routine flint use is more suggestive of a ceremonial use of the site, with no evidence for more balanced or 'domestic' activities. The few pieces that have been found which may relate to the monument include two transverse arrowheads and two broken knives. There are no indications of any sustained core working and the flintwork appears to relate to tool use rather than production. Additionally, the retouched pieces could be considered as somewhat specialized and perhaps even elaborate, transverse arrowheads in particular are often associated with henge monuments (Green 1980 235–6). They again underpin the idea that this is a focus for ceremonial or ritual activity. Although highly variable, low levels and perhaps even 'clearing out' of flintwork has been noted at a number of Later Neolithic monuments, such as those in the Avebury area (Leary *et al* 2013). A similar situation may have been occurring at contemporary local monuments. Although the excavations at the henge monument at Gorsey Bigbury recovered a substantial collection of pottery, bone and flintwork nearly all of this related to a later, Beaker period, phase of occupation; very few pieces could be ascribed to the Later Neolithic and, like at Priddy Circle 1, nearly all of these consisted of varieties of transverse arrowheads or knives (ApSimon *et al*. 1976, 171).

Table 10: Priddy 6795 lithic catalogue.

Context	Area	SF No.	Feature	Chip	Flake Fragment	Retouched Fragment	Truncated blade	Length (mm)	Breadth (mm)	Width (mm)	Raw Material	Cortex	Condition	Recortication	Estimated Date	Comments
1	A	301	Topsoil			1		>21	>17	4	Opaque light-grey 'glassy' flint	None	Slightly Chipped	None	Late Neo?	Possibly a fragmentof a transverse arrowhead
20	A	307	Turf Bank				1	30	14	3	Speckled semi-translucent mid-grey 'glassy' flint	None	Slightly Chipped	None	Mesolithic	Distal end of prismatic blade truncated by notch-like retouch, possibly a piercer
101	B	302	Topsoil	1				7	9	1	Translucent Brown 'glassy' flint	None	Slightly Chipped	None	Prehistoric	Small platform edgeor retouch flake
101	B	303	Topsoil		1			>7	5	2	Translucent Brown 'glassy' flint	None	Slightly Chipped	None	Prehistoric	Small - the medial sectionof a possible microblade
102	B	304	Disturbed Bank		1			>5	>6	2	Translucent Brown 'glassy' flint	None	Slightly Chipped	None	Prehistoric	Small piece of knapping shatter

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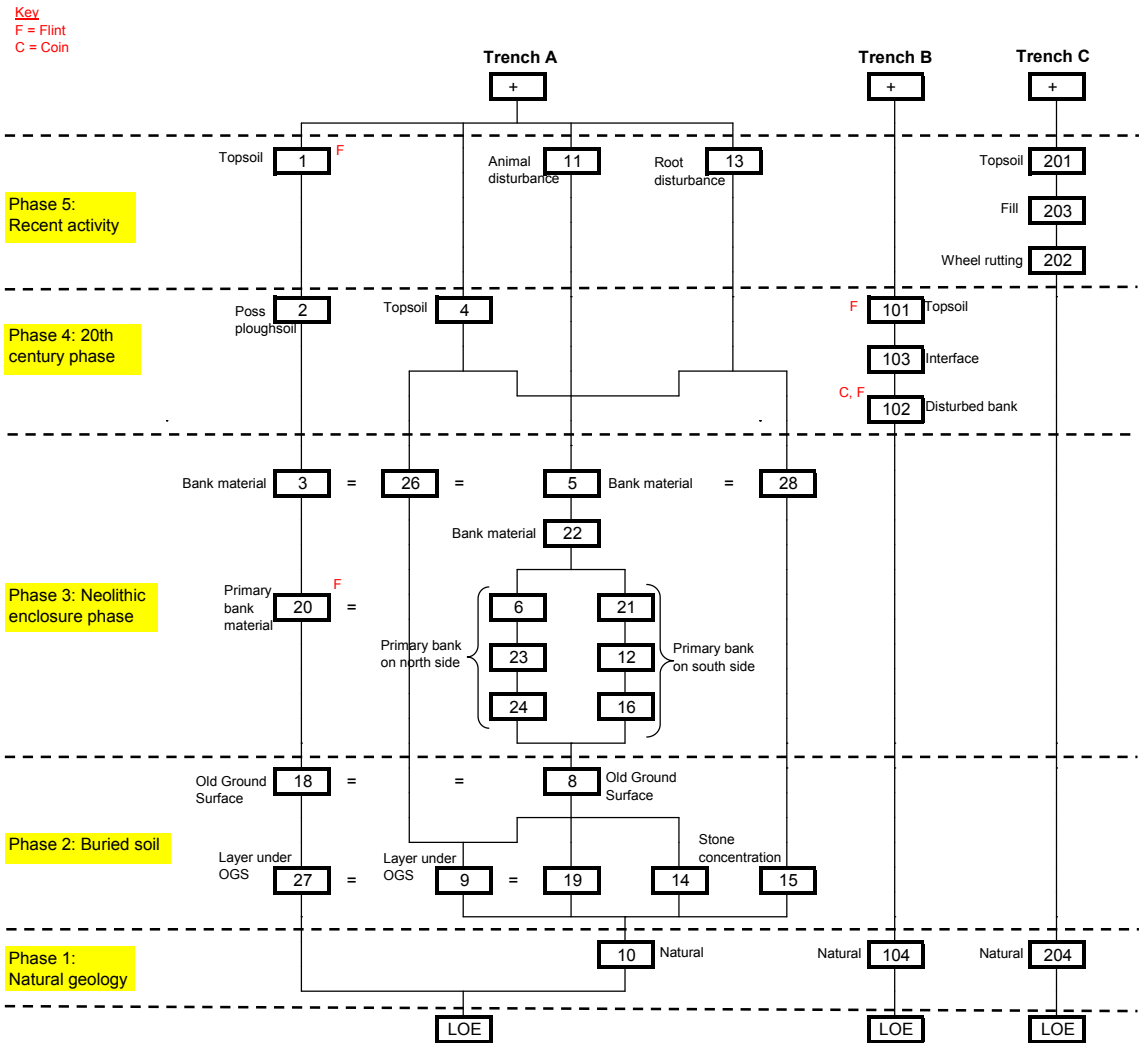
APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS WITH GRAHAM (2011) EQUAVALENT NUMBERING

Context	Type	SSD	Description	Phase	Same as	Graham 2011 nos
001	Layer	A	Topsoil	5	*	*
002	Layer	A	Topsoil over bank	4	*	*
003	Layer	A	Bank remnant	3	005; 026; 028	*
004	Layer	A	Topsoil and rubble	4	*	001
005	Layer	A	Bank material	3	003; 026; 028	002, 006
006	Layer	A	Bank material	3	020	011
008	Layer	A	Old Ground Surface	2	018	013
009	Layer	A	Layer under OGS	2	019; 027	004, 015
010	Natural	A	Natural	1	*	015
011	Layer	A	Animal disturbance	5	*	*
012	Layer	A	Bank material	3	*	012
013	Layer	A	Root disturbance	5	*	*
014	Layer	A	Concentration of stones	2	*	014
015	Layer	A	Stones disturbed by roots	2	*	009
016	Layer	A	Bank material	3	*	012
018	Layer	A	Buried soil	2	008	*
019	Layer	A	Buried soil	2	009; 027	008
020	Layer	A	Turf core of bank	3	006	*
021	Layer	A	Bank material	3	*	012
022	Layer	A	Bank material	3	*	006
023	Layer	A	Bank material	3	*	011
024	Layer	A	Bank material	3	*	011
026	Layer	A	Bank material	3	003; 005; 028	002, 003
027	Natural	A	Buried subsoil	2	009; 019	*
028	Layer	A	Bank material	3	003; 005; 026	007
101	Layer	B	Topsoil	4	*	*
102	Layer	B	Disturbed bank material	4	*	*
103	Layer	B	Interface layer	4	*	*
104	Natural	B	Natural	1	*	*
201	Layer	C	Topsoil	5	*	*
202	Cut	C	Modern wheel ruts	5	*	*
203	Fill	C	Fill of modern wheel ruts	5	*	*
204	Natural	C	Natural	1	*	*

APPENDIX 2: MATRIX



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