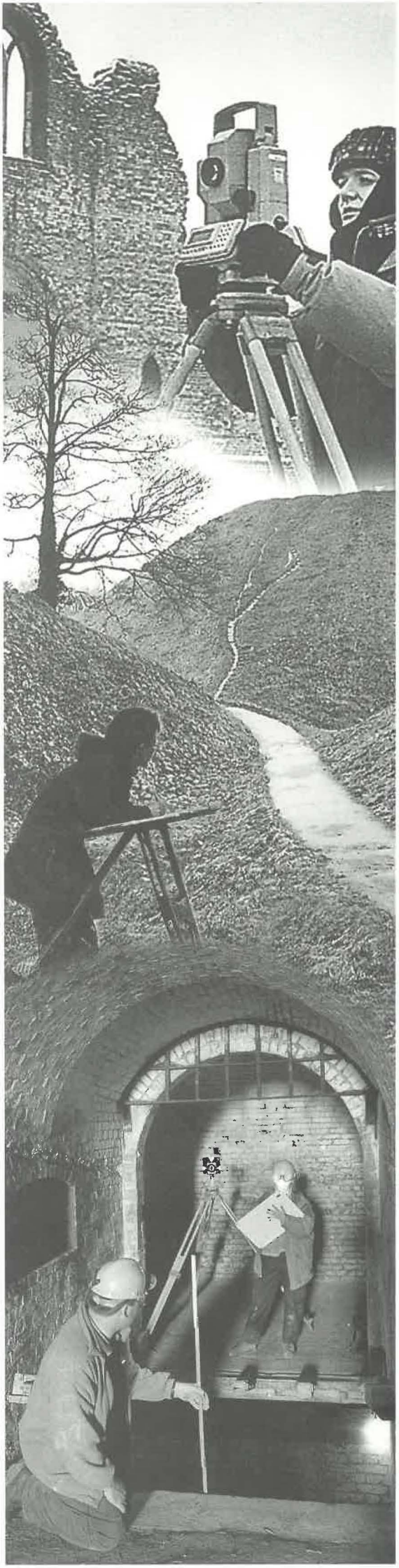

ENGLISH HERITAGE

MIDSUMMER HILL CAMP

SURVEY REPORT

MIDSUMMER HILL CAMP

A survey of the earthworks on Midsummer and Hollybush Hills, Eastnor, Hereford & Worcs

County: Herefordshire Unitary Authority & Worcestershire

District: Malvern Hills

Parish: Eastnor

NGR: SO 761 374

NMR: SO 73 NE 11

Surveyed by: D Field & G Brown

Report and drawings: D Field

2000

English Heritage, National Monuments Record Centre, Kemble Drive, Swindon, SN2 2GZ Tel: 01793-414700

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

Location

Midsummer Hill Camp is situated within the parish of Eastnor, in the administrative county of Hereford but on the border with Worcestershire. Centred at NGR SO 761 374, it lies 8km south of Great Malvern, while the market towns of Ledbury and Tewkesbury lie 5km and 13km to the west and south-east respectively. It is listed in the National Monuments Record (NMR) as SO 73 NE 11, is Scheduled Monument No Hereford/Worcs 4a, and lies within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), the Malvern Hills themselves. Within the interior of the camp are a number of earthworks, traces of settlement, a pillow mound at NGR SO 7618 3740 separately recorded as NMR No SO NE 10, as well as other features of a more uncertain nature. These were incorporated as part of a survey by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME), now English Heritage, in spring 1999 as part of the Malvern Hills Archaeological Survey Project. In addition to providing an analysis of the earthworks the investigation also aimed to provide a large-scale plan for management purposes both for the National Trust, the owners of the site, and the Malvern Hills Conservators.

Topography, Geography, Geology and Landscape History

The site encloses two adjacent summits situated towards the southern end of the Malvern range of hills. At 284m Midsummer Hill, the westernmost, is the higher of the two but a geological fault has displaced it from the axis of the main line of hills. Its eastern neighbour, Hollybush Hill, is less imposing but still reaches 242m and even now its steep slopes ensure difficulty of access. The ravine-like valley between them provides the easiest gradient and it is here that the main entrance into the camp appears to have been placed. This too is the position for a spring that may have contributed to shaping this part of the natural landscape. Today it flows south as a trickle, but formerly may have been much more imposing.

The underlying structure on both Midsummer and Hollybush Hills comprises complex arrangements of gneiss and schist, the metamorphic and volcanic rocks here being some of the earliest in the country. Rock indigenous to the site is unlikely to make useful building stone and quarries to the north of the site in the Gullet Pass and to the south in the Hollybush Pass were mainly for the provision of roadstone. According to the Eastnor Inclosure map (Hereford Record Office Q/21/17) no quarry existed at Hollybush in 1816, but extraction here had certainly commenced prior to 1886 as the OS 1st edition 25" depicts a quarry close to the Hollybush Pass at that time, and a quarry in this position was visited by the Woolhope Club in 1877 (Anon 1877). Dreghorn (1967, 169) recorded the presence of many outcrops of quartz, and veins were depicted to the north of Midsummer and in the valley separating Midsummer and Hollybush Hills by Groom (1899 quoted by BGS 1982); indeed a number of such outcrops were observed during the present survey. While there is no evidence that this was quarried, elsewhere in Britain and Europe this material has been used in the construction of monuments and in burial practices in prehistory and is of special interest (e.g. O'Kelly 1982, 68-9: Briard 1991, 54-7: Burl 1976, 218). Similarly deposits of May Hill Sandstone, a stone used for both Neolithic and Iron Age quernstones (F Roe pers comm) occur around the slopes of the site.

For centuries during the historic period the site formed part of the Bishop of Hereford's Chase, the area finally being disforested by Charles I (Hereford Record Office K13/20) during the 17th century, and this may have restricted land use to activities allowed by forest law. The steep slopes and relative inaccessibility will have helped enforce this and only the spring and the natural shelter provided by the narrow ravine may have encouraged small-scale settlement or assarting. Unfortunately an Indenture of 1793 (Hereford Record Office K13/20) of land on Midsummer Hill makes no mention of land use, and neither does an outline *Map of the Parish of Eastnor in the County of Hereford* surveyed in 1816 attached to the Eastnor Inclosure (Hereford Record Office Q/21/17). The latter shows both Midsummer and Hollybush Hills as separate holdings, divided by a low bank to one side of the valley floor (recorded during the present survey). Both were held by Sawbridge Bright while a third holding positioned within the lower part of the ravine was held in the same family, by Richard Bright (see below). An undated Tithe map and Schedule of Eastnor (Hereford Record Office) attributable to the late 19th century depicts both Midsummer and Hollybush Hills as being under grass. Only low in the ravine, now within the area of Hollybush quarry, the former holding of Richard Bright, is there 'garden'.

The 1st edition 25" OS map surveyed in 1886 shows the site as rough grassland with tree cover on both the Midsummer Hill slopes above the south entrance, and within the ramparts in the north opposite their junction with the Shire Ditch. Trees are set around the eastern rampart on Hollybush Hill and along the Red Earl's Dyke that runs south from the Hollybush rampart, perhaps planted to emphasise the county boundary. Most of the ravine, the area where a *'British Town'* and *'British reservoir'* are shown, is depicted as being in light woodland. Today, part of each summit is open and grassed over, but considerable portions of each are covered by bracken and woodland, particularly the ravine slopes and the ramparts on Hollybush Hill.

Unusually amongst the Malverns summits, both Midsummer Hill and Hollybush Hill have acquired place-names that might be described as having some symbolic significance, at least perhaps in the eyes of the post-medieval countryfolk who ensured that such names passed into the record. Midsummer Hill is first recorded in 1793 (Hereford Record Office Q/21/17). Maddens (n.d.) writing of the earlier part of the 20th century reported that `traces of Beacon fires' had been found there and that such fires may have been lit on Midsummer Eve as they still were in Ireland. However, if the deposits were indeed those of such a beacon there remains the possibility that it was for purely practical purposes as much as some vaguely recalled Celtic rite. The name does nevertheless indicate an association of the hill with some activity at Midsummer. Although there is reference to Hollybush Hill apparently formerly having '.... a thick growth of oak and holly' (Anon 1927-8, 44), not a trace of holly now appears to be present. The earliest reference appears to be in Gough's edition of Camden's *Britannia*, which refers to the Pass through the hills as Holy Bank (Gough 1806), although exactly which bank the name refers to is unknown.

Archaeological history

Camden mentions the presence of a hillfort at Herefordshire Beacon as part of a list of fortifications forming a line of defence along this part of the County, but despite providing some of the earliest hachured plans in the country of other Herefordshire hillforts, makes no mention at all of Midsummer Hill. This almost certainly implies that its true nature was not recognised at that time and then as now it lay overshadowed by its dramatic neighbour a little

to the north. While early records are few, the site has nevertheless seen a considerable amount of archaeological work during the last 130 years. The earliest record is a result of the work of H H Lines who appears to have spent a considerable part of 1870 making measured plans and sketches of both Herefordshire Beacon and Midsummer Hill Camp. The current location of his large scale plan is unknown, but a reduced and simplified version based on his survey of 1870 was prepared for his posthumously published report on the two hillforts (Lines nd) while Stanford (1981, fig 1) produced a stylised tracing of the original. Lines described in detail the hillfort defences, identifying three entrances, as well as an annex or 'adjunct' to the south. Against the west arm of the latter were a string of hut hollows, while the position of over 200 further huts were identified within the hillfort itself. A great number of these were set on terraces constructed along the hillside. In terms of date he concluded that these were pre-Roman and indeed earlier than the settlement at Herefordshire Beacon. While he observed that ancient tracks lead to both north and south entrances, no access ways could be traced within the interior. He also identified a number of tanks or ponds in the valley floor that he believed had provided water for the settlement. On Hollybush Hill, he identified one long and several round mounds, as well as a series of banks in the quarry ditch set at right angles to the rampart forming compartments that he felt must have held stores or provisions. At the north end of Hollybush Hill he located a series of trenches that he considered may be sheepfolds of a later period.

The recently formed Woolhope Naturalists Field Club visited the site in May 1877. With no made track from the Hollybush Pass to the modern cottages on the western slopes, access was via a winding path through the bracken. Their guide, the Rev W S Symonds, was evidently a geologist for while he mentioned curiously little of the earthworks on Midsummer Hill itself, he evidently used his reversed hammer as a pointer to describe the geology and topography of the area, before descending to a quarry (precursor to the large quarry visible today) with its revealing sections and thence to a field where 'an abundance of substantial fare' was laid out for the party (Anon 1877). That early investigation of the site appears to have such a geological emphasis is of interest and will be returned to below.

A few years later, in May 1880, a further visit was arranged and some 60 enthusiasts complete with a 'sprinkling of adventurous ladies' met in the southern Malverns. After discussing the nature of the earthworks on Herefordshire Beacon the party ascended Hollybush Hill where ideas about earthwork defences already seem to have been exhausted.

However, G H Piper, a local geologist, echoing the views expressed by Lines in his report, felt that the Midsummer/Hollybush Hill earthworks were earlier than those on Herefordshire Beacon (Anon 1880). This lack of enthusiasm is perhaps curious as only the previous autumn F G Hilton Price, a Fellow of the Geological Society from London, had excavated a number of archaeological features on Hollybush and Midsummer Hills.

Price's (1880) paper 'Camps on the Malvern Hills' described the hillfort defences and some of the investigations made into them. Importantly, following Lines' example, it provided the first indication of the presence of settlement in the declivity between the two hills outside the hillfort defences. This *'British town'* was said to extend for some 330m into an area since largely quarried away, and which lay adjacent to four large cisterns comprising 'ancient dams' that lay along the floor of the ravine. Price quoted local antiquary H H Lines as claiming that a series of ten or eleven terraces on the eastern slopes of Midsummer Hill supported some 244 hut hollows, many of which were obscured by vegetation (Hilton Price 1880, 217). Price himself could therefore confirm neither the number of hut sites nor the extent of such settlement. He was, however, able to excavate five of them (one of which was said to produce a piece of brick, fragments of charcoal and a quartz pebble), together with an unquantified number of 'hut hollows' situated on Hollybush Hill, all without apparent result or record.

The long mound situated in a col central to Hollybush Hill was also investigated. Locally, this was thought to be a long barrow, but a series of five narrow trenches cut through it demonstrated that it was of a more recent though still unknown origin. After discussion with General Pitt-Rivers during the excavation of a similar mound to the south of Herefordshire Beacon, Price acceded to the view that the Hollybush example was in fact a recent rabbit mound (Price 1880, 220).

During a further field visit by members of the Woolhope Naturalists Field Club on August 22, 1889, Mr G H Piper read a paper describing the hut depressions on Midsummer Hill, and the site of a *'British'* village and its water supply in the valley between Midsummer and Hollybush Hills (Anon 1889). A plan by R Clarke annexed to the report of the visit depicts the overall shape of the hillfort and shows the position of a series of hut depressions on the eastern slopes of Midsummer Hill which were described as *'excavations'*, though it added little to Lines' effort. One long and two round mounds are shown on Hollybush Hill. The

former was still described as a *'Barrow'* despite the work carried out by Price (loc cit supra) that demonstrated otherwise. To the south of the hillfort two linear earthworks, one of which was thought to represent the Red Earl's Dyke, forms an apparent annex, on the west side of which lies the *'Foundations of dwellings'* of the *'ancient British Town'*. In addition to the spring within the hillfort's southern entrance two further ponds or reservoirs are depicted to the south.

G H Piper, who had financially supported the 1879 excavations, finally published his views concerning the site in 1898. This was essentially the paper read on site in 1889 to the members of the Woolhope Naturalists Field Club. Little further useful data can be gleaned from this, but it confirmed previously published reports of ten or eleven terraces containing 244 hut hollows on the slopes of Midsummer Hill, and suggested that these were part of the 'old British town' that extended further down the ravine and had been 'overlapped' by the camp. Piper speculated that the hillfort itself was a place of refuge rather than a military camp. He claimed that the earthworks had been strengthened by a timber stockade and indicated that traces of the postholes, together with others around the entrances, could still be traced, presumably on the strength of the 1879 excavations (Piper 1898, 70). He returned to the excavations of the mound on Hollybush Hill, dismissed the view of Pitt-Rivers and Hilton Price that it represented a rabbit warren and suggested that on the basis of the artefacts from the excavation it may be Roman boundary mark or perhaps of the post-Roman period (ibid, 71). Clarke's plan previously published was also annexed.

In 1898 the Woolhope Naturalists Field Club again visited Midsummer Hill. G H Piper had recently passed away and the old guard, Lines and Hilton Price, were notably absent from the attendance list. Present however, was one A Watkins. This time the party ascended the hill via the ravine, 'over the site of the British town, the ancient reservoirs of which were defined' (Anon 1898, 59). Again the emphasis returned to geology and the party was more interested in the quarries in the Hollybush and Gullet Passes.

A further 25 years elapsed before further investigation took place when the Woolhope Naturalists Club visited excavations being carried out by the Malvern Geographical Society in June 1924 (Anon 1924). After visiting Herefordshire Beacon, A Watkins read a paper on *'The alignment of the Giants Cave and the Sacrificial Stone'* before passing on to Midsummer

Hill where excavated trenches at the northern entrance and within a number of hut circles were viewed.

On this occasion the investigations were conducted by I T Hughes who appears to have published the results as the excavations were concluded (excavations commenced in May 1924; the field meeting took place on June 3rd and the paper was contributed on the same day). These were evidently preceded by some otherwise unrecorded digging by the Rev Somers Cox who opened a hut site adjacent to the north entrance during February of that year (Watkins 1924, 80-1). Hughes' plan of the site usefully incorporated contours and illustrated the general form of the hillfort in relation to the topography. The linear ditch to the south-west, the western arm of the 'annex', is shown with hut circles alongside, while a number of hut circles on both Midsummer and Hollybush summits are depicted, as is the *'barrow'* together with the unexplained trenches at the northern end of Hollybush Hill originally identified by Lines. Most usefully, however, it provided significant detail of the ramparts at the southern end of Hollybush, an area since removed by quarrying and obscured by damage on Stanford's published version of Lines' plan (Stanford 1981, fig 1: see below).
Hughes investigated seven parts of the site by cutting a number of trenches.

1. A hut hollow situated in the valley between the two hills. This formed a platform cut into the Malvernian Rock but paved with Llandovery Sandstone, the nearest source of which is a little over 1km to the north-west (Hughes 1924). Building stone recovered from excavations at the south entrance was traced to two sources - the Bronsil area over 1km to the north-east and to exposures at a similar distance to the west of the Malvern Hills (Stanford 1981, 20). From the plan the paving appears to be more regular around the circumference of the feature and less so in the central area. No walling or postholes were recorded and Hughes believed that the size of the platform, less than 2m in diameter, indicated that that it's purpose was more likely for storage than habitation (Hughes 1924, 19).

2. A circular mound situated on the western slopes of Hollybush Hill a little to the southeast of 1. The mound was described as being surrounded by a shallow ditch with external bank and a long trench was dug through to the underlying rock. A series of objects - two flints, a whetstone, an iron nail, and an unidentified fragment of iron - were all recovered from a position central to the mound and lying on the subsoil.

3. A hut site situated on a raised platform (though according to the section drawing at a depth of about 1 metre) within the inner rampart west of the north entrance. It evidently lay over soil that had eroded from the rampart. Overall about 3m in diameter though with one face flattened, the actual floor area, covered by two separate layers of charcoal was recorded as 2m across. Around the south side was a paved ledge or bench of Llandovery sandstone situated some half metre above the base of the lower charcoal deposit (there must be some uncertainty about the true level of the base of the feature), which is echoed in the regular paving of the hut site noted above (1). No diagnostic finds were recorded but the lower charcoal deposit contained burnt clay, two boar tusks and other unquantified bones (ibid, 20). The position of this feature adjacent to the entrance (perhaps hut emplacement no100 - see appendix) encouraged Hughes to suggest that it represented a guard hut.

4. & 5. A trench 1.2m wide was excavated across the main ditch west of the northern entrance, and another less than 30m from it, nearer to the ditch terminal. These indicated that the ditch, originally about 1.2m deep and partly cut into the Malvernian rock, circumnavigated the junction of the Malvernian Rock with its weathered subsoil. The cut rock formed the inner face of the ditch while the outer was faced with Llandovery Sandstone backed by Malvernian rubble. Paving was also laid on the base of the ditch where devoid of the natural Malvernian Rock. Rubble and soil from the ditch appears to have been dumped inside the ditch and formed an early rampart which had partly eroded back into the ditch before two further phases of paving of the ditch took place (ibid, 20-23).

6. Hughes cut a further trench 'through the middle' of the long mound on Hollybush Hill but did not resolve the question of date or purpose. Three pieces of struck flint were recovered, two of them including a scraper from the outer bank, but the head of an iron nail was also recovered from the mound and it seems that the earlier artefacts may have been residual.

7. A hut hollow to the south-west of the long mound was investigated. This revealed a horizontal rock cut floor some 3.5m wide backed by an angled, presumably natural rock slope. At the western extremity a number of Llandovery flagstones were

arranged in a circular fashion enclosing a small area of just under 0.5m with a second example at an unrecorded distance south of this. Within the latter were sherds of pottery and burnt clay, which might now be interpreted as packing for postholes perhaps at the entrance. Most finds – pottery, pieces of iron, sling stones - were found a little above the floor and need not date the structure itself. Those illustrated would appear to date to the Middle/ Late Iron Age.

It was probably these investigations above others that confirmed the local view of the site as a massive prehistoric settlement. In his undated reminiscences on Eastnor and its surroundings S T Middens wrote that 'On the Hollybush Hill is an emmence British Camp and the site of an ancient British City. Some hundreds of hollows, the remains of the rounded huts in which the people dwelled can be seen' (Hereford Record Office AM55/175). Very soon the *'City'* had acquired a name (Somers-Cocks 1923, 23). Placing great emphasis on the settlement, the official Malverns guide (Anon 1927-8, 44) went on '.... The glen at the base of the hill is the site of the ancient city of Dyn Mawr, which was protected on the north and east by wings of the fortress, while a low wall of earth and stones guarded its western side.'

The Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England visited and surveyed the site some time before 1932. Their plan added little to that of H H Lines but depicted the Shire Ditch approaching the northern ramparts and re-emerging as the Red Earl's Dyke from the southern end of Hollybush Hill. The south-western linear traced southwards for 54 metres is shown as of different stature being much slighter than the Red Earl's Dyke and the Commission were unsure whether the respective earthworks had originally formed an annex or enclosure but avoided controversy by simply noting that in 1875, 40 hut sites could be traced (RCHM 1932, 72-3).

Sponsored by the Malvern Hills Conservators, S C Stanford turned to the site and between 1965 and 1970 conducted six seasons of work there. His first stated objectives were to provide a detailed contour survey, gradiometer and resistivity surveys of Hollybush Hill with small scale test excavations. In the event his plan provided only limited contours; it excluded the area to the south-west, now firmly referred to as an annex, but fortunately included the earthworks at the southern tip of Hollybush Hill which by that date were being rapidly destroyed by quarrying (Stanford 1966). The survey, however, was at large scale, 1:120, and many hut hollows were recorded by noting the breaks in slope. Stanford divided these into

'scoops' and 'hollows', there being 233 scoops and eighteen hollows, all of which where subdivided by size (Stanford 1966, 2). Stanford at this time was cautious about interpreting all of these as hut sites and acknowledged that some might even be the result of uprooted trees.

The gradiometer survey took place along the length of Hollybush Hill and results were considered poor but six trenches were cut to test some of the anomalies. The interim report noted that the archaeological features revealed bore 'little relationship to the anomalies' Stanford 1966, 4). Resistivity was apparently more successful and it was noted that earthworks and other surface features could be recorded in this way although it is not clear how extensively this method was carried out (ibid 5).

Excavations concentrated on three areas; the southern entrance, a series of terraces on the slopes of Hollybush Hill above the southern entrance and on the floor of a col between local summits on Hollybush Hill.

Excavation at the southern entrance revealed seventeen successive phases of activity during which time post-hole features interpreted as guardrooms were replaced by other post constructions thought to represent a footbridge across the gateway. Trenches on the terraces revealed that ledges had been cut into the Malvernian bedrock and hut stances set within them. Even the steepest slopes had been terraced. Huts utilised posts in their construction but stratigraphy was invariably unclear, large areas evidently having been previously investigated by persons unknown and the whole area turned over (Stanford 1981, 74, 81-2).

On the Hollybush col, trenches revealed a series of post-holes forming rectangular arrangements that Stanford felt were arranged in rows north to south. Each hut, with maximum measurements of 2.4 to 3.7m, was thought to comprise four post-holes, which in turn had been repeatedly replaced, and which for the most part were considered to represent domestic units.

THE EARTHWORKS

The hillfort defences

The hillfort defences comprise a univallate bank with external ditch and small counterscarp that follow the contour around Midsummer and Hollybush hills respectively, only departing from this where the earthworks link the two hills (Fig 1). In this case the defences are carried up a tortuous gradient in order to complete the circuit. The bank, between 11 and 13m in width, when measured internally is invariably little more than 3m in height at most, more often less than a metre, but its position on the false crest of a steeply sloping hillside gives it an added height advantage and the ditch is constructed up to 11m below the crest of the rampart. Like the bank the ditch varies considerably in size, but is usually less than 5m in width, the difference probably according to the nature of the underlying bedrock and the difficulty encountered in excavating it.

An internal quarry ditch can be traced around much of the site. This is most prominent on Hollybush Hill where it is 10m, and in places up to 15m, in width, sometimes cutting through hard rock leaving the face exposed.

The entrances

Two entrances appear to be original. At the northern end of Midsummer Hill the eastern rampart terminal turns inwards, forcing passage obliquely through a rather narrow, 2m wide passage. To the rear of the west rampart terminal a small depression was recorded situated in a position traditionally referred to as a guard chamber (Fig 2: 100). An engraved track, evidently of some antiquity, forms a terrace and curves downhill from the entrance but can be traced for little distance and in any case is obscured by the modern track. H H Lines referred to this as the *'Chariot Road'* (Stanford 1981, fig 1), although whether it is contemporary with the hillfort is open to question. The major, and certainly the easier, approach appears to have been by way of the ravine from the Hollybush Pass. Here, both rampart terminals are inturned for at least 10 m, access between them being obtained through a narrow corridor. There is

evidence of some later modification. The counterscarp appears to have once mirrored the line of the main rampart but like many of the entrance features has been 'destroyed' by the construction of a series of ponds. An additional outwork once closed off the whole entrance area.

Other breaks through the ramparts appear to be later in date. At the northern end of the ravine, a break through the defences has been cut where the Shire Ditch approaches the fort. Similarly a track approaches the ramparts on the south-east side of Hollybush Hill but clearly cuts through the defences, while a little further south a trackway provides access to an early phase of quarrying.

There are some indications of the presence of a line of defence pre-dating the hillfort. At the northern entrance part of what appears to be an earlier phase of rampart is revealed (Fig 2: 484). Traced as a ledge c 1m in height this curves inside the rampart to the west of the north entrance and appears to underlie it. The 'guard chamber' (Fig 2: 100) appears to have cut into it. Around much of the circuit on Hollybush Hill are remnants of a similar ledge that may mark the line of the same feature (Fig 2: 485). In places on the steep eastern slopes it is missing but may have eroded downslope. In the south the scarp becomes stronger and appears to curve uphill around the southern end of the hillfort but is obscured by a track cutting through the ramparts and leading to a small quarry. Despite some obscurity at the northern end the feature almost certainly originates from under the ramparts. Importantly, where the Shire Ditch approaches the hillfort in the north, one element lies over both the ledge and the hillfort counterscarp (Fig 2: 486). H H Lines appears to have observed part of this feature in 1869, notably in the north-east of Hollybush Hill where the ramparts change direction. While on Stanford's version of the plan this area is missing due to damage, the version published by Lines (nd) makes it clear that after rounding the southern end of Hollybush the feature disappeared beneath the counterscarp bank.

Hut stances

Some 483 platforms were recorded (Appendix 1), most of which are noticeable as stances cut into the hillside rather than hollows, depressions or scoops. Most are circular or nearly so,

although others are sub-rectangular. In size they vary enormously from 4m to 10m in diameter. Where shelved into the slope of the hillside, the negative back scarp is more prominent than the front. They can be found on both hills, often arranged in rows along the contours. This is particularly so of the examples arranged along the eastern slopes of Midsummer Hill leading down to the ravine, where hut stances are arranged on at least 10 terraces that roughly follow the contours of the hillside. In part, these terraces may reflect the underlying geology, but they have been considerably enhanced by human agency and not only provide level positions for huts but also yards or gardens.

A few hut stances are situated outside the hillfort entrance in the ravine, three of which overlie the counterscarp bank (Fig 2: 279-281). The extent of these, however, is not great and the *'British Town'* marked on plans as being located in this area was not traced. If it existed at all it may have succumbed to quarrying. A few large depressions in this area appear to represent precursors of the Hollybush quarry, and it seems likely that they may have been the features noted by earlier investigators.

Pillow mound

The pillow mound is situated almost centrally to the Hollybush summit, lying north to south. It is very slightly trapezoidal, 48m in length, 11m wide at the north end tapering to 10m, and stands to a maximum height of 1m. Some of the trenches depicted by Hilton-Price (1880, 218) can still be traced on the ground though are not shown here for purposes of clarity. Beyond the northern end lies a shallow circular mound 7m in diameter and set on an oval platform. A second, more amorphous, mound lies to the south. This is cut by one hut stance and has the appearance of a round barrow. A depression in the summit may be an excavation trench.

Trenches on Hollybush Hill

A series of four narrow linear trenches with traces of a fifth are arranged over the northern part of Hollybush Hill oriented slightly east of north (Fig 2: 490). These are quite uniform, invariably 1.5m wide with the spoil placed alongside, usually to the west, and their sharp

profile hints that they are not ancient. They can be traced for distances of 30m, or in one case 55m where the trench extends across the quarry ditch and up onto the bank. Spaced some 5 to 7m apart, they appear intended to run straight but there is some irregularity and they were not laid out in a formal manner. They were present in 1870 being depicted on Lines' plan. Two similar ditches run at right angles to the south of these. Drainage here is not a problem, and explanation of them as post-medieval sheep pens (Lines nd, 5) or other such agricultural enclosures are less than convincing. The ditches appear to have been the important feature as the spoil has not been backfilled as it might have been if creating a fenceline, for example. Crossing the topography in parallel linear fashion, the trenches appear to sample the landform and it may be this that led Stanford (1981, 9) to suggest that they represent early unrecorded archaeological investigations. However, it has already been noted how early interest in the site focussed on geology rather than archaeology and there were certainly early quarries elsewhere in the Malverns. In this respect the trenches bear comparison with the early geological prospection trenches at Hartshill Hayes (Brown 1999, 7), and here their slight nature might be a result of the shallow depth of the solid rock. Even so, why such sampling should incorporate the quarry ditch and rampart remains unexplained.

Ponds

Four cisterns, part of a series that descends the ravine towards the Hollybush Pass, were recorded (Fig 2: 495-498). These are placed at the southern entrance of the hillfort and in part utilise the rampart terminal to pond back water. The first and uppermost is partly demarcated on three sides by a bank 3m wide with external ditch. The bank and inward curving entrance terminal provides a dam to a second pond, while the former line of the counterscarp has been adapted to dam a third, with the counterscarp forming a fourth.

Linear earthworks

Having traversed the summit of the Malvern Hills, the Shire Ditch, approaches from the north, less than 100m to the east of the northern hillfort entrance (Fig 2: 486, 488). There are evidently two phases of construction: a prominent but narrow ditch c 3m wide with a corresponding bank to the east; and mirroring this a bank and ditch of shallow profile parallel

immediately adjacent to the west, this time with ditch to the west. These may form one feature, but the difference in profile of the two ditches appears to indicate that the westernmost is earlier in date than that in the east. This relationship is confirmed at the junction with the hillfort earthworks, where the westernmost ditch, the shallow one, terminates and apparently underlies the earliest hillfort scarp. In contrast the eastern ditch cuts across both the early ledge and the hillfort counterscarp and is clearly later than it. The linear appears to incorporate the course of the hillfort defences around Hollybush and then departs from the contour and descends southwards towards the Hollybush Pass. Today most of this segment, formerly referred to as the Red Earl's Dyke, has been destroyed by the quarry, but in 1886 is depicted on the 1st edition OS 25" as extending for some 100m downhill of the hillfort.

A second linear runs along the narrow ridge to the south of Midsummer Hill (Fig 2: 500). and together with the linear noted above was once thought to form an outer enclosure to the hillfort. It is clearly later in date than the hillfort defences for it overlies the ditch. In places it is rock cut, and on its east side a number of hollows appear in the rock adjacent to the ditch. These are probably those depicted by Lines and referred to subsequently as hut dwellings. Investigation here, however, suggests that they represent no more than localised quarries, perhaps in part for the linear, but more probably of a later period.

A bank, a property boundary 4m wide, separates Midsummer and Hollybush Hills, being placed just above the ravine floor and can be traced for over 150m (Fig 2: 489). A series of shallow banks placed at right angles to the hillfort rampart lie within the quarry ditch around Hollybush Hill (Fig 2: 501). Separated by little distance, c 10m, they form small units. They are clearly later than the hillfort, invariably surmounting the rampart and they appear to represent Medieval or post-Medieval land-use of the interior.

Other features

Foundations of a stone wall forming a rectangular structure measuring some 7 by 3.5m were recorded on the summit of Midsummer Hill. This was not mentioned in the early accounts of the Woolhope Club visits, but is almost certainly the hollow mentioned by Watkins (1924, 81), who reported that digging on the summit unearthed rectilinear walling enclosing a

hearth. Far from representing an early beacon structure in support of Maddens (above) this is more likely to represent an early viewing position and rest place, associated with Bronsil Castle, Castle Ditches or Eastnor Castle. A brick, reportedly of Tudor date, was found in association.

DISCUSSION

The earliest find from the site is a reused Neolithic stone axe (Stanford 1968, 4) but excavations by Hughes (1924, fig 9) as well as Stanford produced evidence of other prehistoric flint work (Saville in Stanford 1981, 118). Although much of this was made on flint pebbles it's presence is nevertheless quite significant in view of the distance from flint gravel sources. Stanford's excavations on the Hollybush col revealed some of the rare pre-hillfort deposits to have escaped later prehistoric disturbance. These contained twelve Beaker sherds all possibly associated with small hollows and therefore felt to represent domestic rather than burial activity (Stanford 1981, 137-8). No evidence of the presence of prehistoric barrows was encountered during the present survey, and suggestions that mounds to the north and south of the pillow mound are barrows could not be confirmed. That to the south has the best surface evidence. It may be that it was the spring that provided the focus of this early attention, particularly positioned as it is amongst dramatic hills.

Given this activity, the likelihood of pre-hillfort earthworks and indeed earlier enclosures existing might be considered high. Unfortunately aside from the damage to the natural contours done by the extensive terracing, the steep slopes ensure that erosion and hillwash here must have been considerable. Nevertheless, many of the isolated depressions could be of an earlier period, and any one of the terraces, particularly the higher ones, may represent the line of a former enclosure around Midsummer Hill.

Certainly a former line of the hillfort enclosure itself can be traced on the surface (Fig 2: 484, 485). Not only does this underlie the main hillfort defences in a number of places, but chronology is assisted by the presence of the Shire Ditch (Fig 2: 486, 488), one element of which appears to underlie and the other overlie the hillfort defences. Assuming the element that underlies the hillfort to be Late Bronze Age, analogous to linear ditches in Wessex, the earliest phase of hillfort enclosure might have been constructed as early as the Late Bronze Age. However, while Stanford's excavations at the south entrance revealed seventeen distinct phases (1981, 58), none produced pottery or other artefact evidence of such an early build.

Neither ditch nor bank is of great proportions, although the manner in which the slope has been utilised gives the impression of a construction of more massive bulk. Although Cunliffe

(1991) prefers to see a single event, the excavations by Hughes (1926) indicates that construction of the Midsummer Hill counterscarp at least was of two phases or more. The paving revealed within the ditch by Hughes is intriguing. If not the result of tumbled bank revetment (and the order revealed in the published plans would suggest that is not the case), there would appear to be some unexplained use of the ditch. Hughes suggested that the ditch was periodically used as a trackway. This might be thought to negate use of the ditch for defence, but the point has been made elsewhere that many such hillfort defences were more likely to be symbolic than practical (Bowden and McOmish 1987; 1989).

With one rampart terminal inturned, the northernmost entrance has been made difficult to access, while the southern has been provided with an additional breastwork (now partly obscured by ponds Fig 2:496-7). While this might be seen as providing added protection for the more vulnerable gate, it is nevertheless overlooked from the valley sides and its elaboration might be considered to be for display as much as for defence (Collis 1996, 90-1). The refined approach channels activity and enables a desired processional route to be observed, in a similar manner to the entrances to banjo enclosures (see Hill 1996, 110). As noted above Stanford claimed some seventeen phases of activity at the south entrance, although how much these phases reflect general reconstruction or overhaul of the defences as a whole and how much they reflect changes at the entrance is not clear. Early plans of the hillfort (Lines nd: Hughes 1928, fp18)) indicate that there may have been a third entrance at the southernmost tip of the Hollybush Hill ramparts. Hughes depicts the rampart terminals here as slightly offset and with a simple gap in the counterscarp, although Lines' illustrates the entrance apparently cutting through the ramparts suggesting that it might be a later addition. Unfortunately, as this area has now been completely quarried away, these early plans are all that we have to go on.

Why the hillfort should be placed in such close proximity to that on Herefordshire Beacon (there is less than 2km between them) is equally unclear. Location on the summit of the Malvern chain might be considered of strategic advantage, particularly where it is possible to control routes through the hills. Herefordshire Beacon controls the Wynds Point pass, and Midsummer Hill the Gullet and Hollybush passes. However, such close proximity is thought unlikely to be purely for reasons of regional defence (Collis 1996, 89) and there are other hillforts nearby, Kilbury Camp, Wall Hills Camp, Haffield Camp and possibly Eastnor, that will have influenced the situation. Like Midsummer Hill Camp, the British Camp on

Herefordshire Beacon developed in a series of phases (Bowden 2000), each of which may have overlapped with contemporary activity at Midsummer Hill Camp, and as likely to be complementary of it as antagonistic. Midsummer Hill Camp itself is quite unusual in not only encompassing two prominent hilltops but also the dramatic ravine between them. Whereas the British Camp sits proud on the skyline and boasts status, Midsummer Hill Camp is more ephemeral, and despite comprising highly visible ramparts, is nevertheless inward looking, its focal attraction being the internal sheltered valley and the spring that it harbours.

The extent to which settlement survived independently of the hillfort is unclear, as is the thorny question of which came first. Terraces and huts cannot be traced elsewhere on the hilltops, and while many of the unexcavated stances, particularly those unaffected by terracing on the summit of Midsummer Hill, could be of earlier date, the earthworks suggest that for the most part settlement developed within the confines of the hillfort. In terms of the *'British Town'* little confirmation could be added to indications that the lower part of the ravine held settlement. This is not to say that it didn't exist, for situated at the foot of steep slopes the area is likely to have received much colluviation and it corresponds with the area demarcated as 'garden' on the Eastnor Tithe map. In addition, most of the area has been affected by quarrying activities during the last century. A few ephemeral platforms were traced outside the hillfort defences during the present survey and as noted above, these appear to be later than the hillfort ramparts, but they are seen as extra-mural from the hillfort rather than as part of a major external settlement. The earthwork evidence indicates that, in general, settlement was indeed constrained by the hillfort defences, and at no point can settlement, terraces, or lines of platforms, be seen to underlie the defences.

The interior of the hillfort is densely packed with hut stances, most of which are placed in a regular manner along the contours, Relatively few are situated within the internal quarry ditch, which may indicate that it was used for rampart repair, or was kept clear for other purposes. Alternatively, silting from the interior may have obscured features here, and it is worth noting, for example, the presence of four-post structures set just inside the rampart at Grimethorpe (Stead 1968). Many huts at Midsummer Hill Camp are set along the lip of the internal quarry ditch and from here extend across the interior. Rarely is there surface evidence to suggest that they overlap or were chronologically distinct although a few at the south end of Midsummer Hill may come into this category. Equally the terraces upon which many structures were built are aligned along contours. On the north-east slopes of

Midsummer Hill the terraces observe a slightly different course, the two alignments abutting at the point where the modern footpath between the entrances traverses the site. The footpath is partly terraced and may reflect the 'ghost' of a convenient route across property units, which were then reorganised in response.

Finds of iron nails and a few potsherds by Stanford (1981, 129) suggest the presence of small scale Romano-British or later activity within the hillfort, and indeed the rectangular stances set on terraces appear strikingly similar to the stances in Romano-British villages on Salisbury Plain (McOmish *et al* in press). There, domestic units invariably comprising a rectangular stance, a circular one together with an open or raised area have been recognised, and similar groupings may be present here.

Why the settlement is positioned in such a marginal location is unclear. The site is extremely exposed and at certain times of year it is difficult to stand against the prevailing south-westerlies, and yet the location of many hut stances means that they receive this head on. If we take the surface evidence at face value as others have done and assume that the gridiron plan revealed by Stanford, and the construction of terraces for hut stances, implies an intensively utilised environment, it might be worth enquiring about the lack of internal route ways. This lack of access ways was observed by H H Lines in 1870. Despite preservation of the slightest hut depression, not a single original hollowed trackway remains (although the 'ghost' of one between the entrances may be traceable – see below). This is true for the external slopes too. Assuming constant movement to and from the valleys below the hills, whether to tend fields on the lower ground around the base of the Malvern Hills and along the Avon terraces, or to graze stock, or quarry stone, the surrounding slopes might be expected to be heavily engraved with trackways. Equally there is no indication internally of stockyards or areas where stock can be kept, or milked. Within the hillfort, paraphernalia usually associated with the farmyard is missing and for an intensively settled interior, there is little indication of the wear and tear of everyday activity.

Although cautious, to Stanford most building stances represented domestic huts, and from the total of 244 huts, half of which were considered dwellings, he was able to suggest that between 1500 and 2200 people lived within the fort (Stanford 1988, 26-8). Almost 480 stances were recorded during the present survey, and if we allow for structures not revealed by surface traces, such as those excavated on the Hollybush col, the kind of population

envisaged by Stanford can only be confirmed rather than reduced. Certainly there is a good case for *some* of the stances being domestic, particularly those on the terraces where it is possible to envisage domestic units. However, many are much too small for domestic occupation, and those cut into hard, impervious, natural rock can hardly have been for subterranean storage. Similarly, Stanford interpreted the four-post structures arranged in grid-iron fashion on the Hollybush col as a mixture of domestic buildings and storehouses (Stanford 1981; 1988, 26-8). Thirty years on, there might be a tendency to assume that all were granaries (see e.g. Gent 1983). However, nine contained potsherds and three hearths, and of thirty-one structures there considered to represent four phases of activity, only seven produced any evidence of grain. Within the sixteen structures burnt down, where according to Gent (ibid) optimum survival conditions might apply, grain was only found in five. Divorced spatially from circular hut stances, in a similar manner to some other hillforts, there is some implication that if used for storage these four-post structures are likely to be communal in nature, and if so, larger buildings could easily have been used to save overall space. Although some were quite large (up to 4.6 by 3.4m) none remotely resemble even small tithe barns of the medieval period for example. While there may have been some symbolic or social importance attached to the storage of grain above tools or other commodities, there remains the probability that soils and climate around the Malverns was more receptive to root crops and to pastoral farming, and if indeed storehouses, the four-post structures may well have held chickens, cheese or other produce.

Other interpretations can be placed on both stances and the excavated four-post structures and Stanford himself recognised that some depressions may even be tree throw holes. Found singly elsewhere in the Malverns, small depressions or scoops are often considered to be early quarries (Brown 2000), and scoops or levelled areas for modern seats, benches and similar features are often indistinguishable from individual hut stances. Here, however, the sheer number, the organised arrangements, and associations indicate that almost all are archaeologically significant. Where such stances have been excavated elsewhere e.g. Eildon Hill North, Roxburgh (Owen 1992), little structural evidence appears to be present to supplement the investment of cutting the platform in solid rock. The lack of drainage channels, in particular, might be of concern. Equally, while associated, domestic detritus is not present in great quantities and the evidence for hearths, though again present, is particularly slight given such an inhospitable environment. The evidence encourages an impression of single events rather than permanent occupation.

How such stances are interpreted, however, remains of importance. At Midsummer Hill Camp their closely packed nature does suggest intense activity, or at least competition for space, and many must have been contemporary or near contemporary. Stanford's excavations on the Hollybush col indicate that most of the four-post structures were continually replaced in the same position rather than reconstructed on fresh sites elsewhere within the hillfort and as one of the rock cut stances at Eidin Hill North was recut (Owen 1992, 65), the possibility that some of the examples here may have been treated in similar fashion cannot be ignored. The plan so engraved is of a well-established blueprint – the construction of the terraces has determined the form and nature of settlement within the fort. No mean effort has been invested in providing areas to construct buildings upon, although why this should be and whether this concentration within the defences was for protection is less than clear. The slopes around many structures, particularly on Midsummer Hill are so steep that they would be almost unusable in an everyday domestic or agricultural context. Similar observations can be made for platforms within other widely dispersed hillforts from, for example, Scratchbury, Wiltshire (McOmish et al forthcoming), to the Dunion, Roxburgh (Rideout et al 1992, 112). Even so, domestic functions are generally envisaged for such stances (e.g. Rideout et al 1992, 67) and the explanation, at least in part, put down to transhumance. At Midsummer Hill Camp, this would probably rule the site out as an agricultural base, as investment in crops is likely to discourage absence. Equally, if we were to accept that the large number of buildings reflects the size of the population, then enormous numbers must have been moving around the countryside.

Recent interpretations of prehistoric landscape lead us to question whether such remains indeed represent settlement. Where hillforts developed in response to social and ritual requirements of the Late Bronze Age, use might be more akin to the various functions formerly fulfilled by Neolithic causewayed enclosures: meeting places, fairs, markets, etc, all carried out with ceremonial rather than defensive overtones (e.g. Hill 1996, 108-9). Given such a role, the building stances might be considered in a different light, performing a variety of transient, but traditional, social, agricultural exchange, ceremonial, and ritual functions (e.g. Collis 1996, 91). Given problems of identification of Iron Age burial practices, some of the stances and even some of the four-post structures (Carr & Knusel 1997: Ellison & Drewett 1971) could be excarnation platforms. Similarly, the ludicrously small 'guard chamber', in the north positioned behind the rampart, is badly sited as a lookout post or

gatekeeper lodge, but would be fine for the positioning of an icon, idol or statue. This must be close to Hughes site no 3 (possibly Fig 2: 100) which is depicted on his plan as being some feet west of the north entrance, but which he felt represented a guard chamber. A depression in the east rampart terminal might be a similar feature. Those at the southern entrance, revealed by excavations, were situated in the rampart terminals either side of the entrance corridor, and while well placed for a gatekeeper are less so for a guard or lookout post. Judgement here is reserved on these issues.

Although the hillfort defences encompass the summits, the focus of activity appears to have been in the valley between the two hills. This is not surprising, for not only is it sheltered from the biting winds, but there is a superb source of water. The water in the Malverns has certainly been respected as particularly pure during historical and recent times and some springs particularly revered and given names, such as St Annes Well. The position of the Hollybush spring, hidden in the declivity of two striking hills, might only add to its importance and enhance its position as a site of some symbolic value. The Malvern summits themselves can be seen from 20km or more, and provide a dramatic contrast to the surrounding low ground, particularly of the Severn valley. The symbolic importance of such natural places (Tilley 1994), particularly of dramatic hills on the one hand and springs on the other, as providing interfaces with the spirit worlds, is widely known from ethnographical writing (e.g. essays in Hirsh and O'Hanlon 1995), and their role within social and ritual landscapes now discussed quite extensively within archaeology (e.g. essays in Ashmore & Knapp 1999: Bradley 2000).

The ponds in the valley, variously referred to as cisterns or tanks of British or Romano-British date that serviced the 'Town', utilise and adapt the hillfort defences in a manner that would render the latter unusable (Fig 2: 495-8). This and their sharp profile encourage the view that they are much later in date than the settlement. They may have been for the use of stock, but the flight of at least six examples (in addition to the four bays recorded here, two others are depicted downstream on the 1st edition 25" map of 1886) indicates that they may have served an industrial purpose, or perhaps even have been part of the 'garden' mentioned on the Eastnor Tithe Apportionment. A series of bays across a similar small stream at Bronsil Castle nearby is of unknown purpose, but at least one was used to drive a mill wheel (Smith 2000).

The nature of medieval and later activity is elusive. Finds of medieval iron knives and potsherds by Stanford (1981, 126, 149) from around the southern entrance indicate that the springs were still an attraction. Some of the terraces, particularly the lower examples in the north of the Midsummer Hill slopes which are almost devoid of building traces appear to have been cultivated and excavations on the Hollybush col revealed striations in the soil interpreted by Stanford as ploughmarks (Stanford 1981, 74, 86-88). Although slender there is perhaps enough evidence to suggest that a smallholding occupied the area behind the south entrance or the nearby slopes, which may have been responsible for the medieval finds as well as the soil disturbance that Stanford encountered on the Hollybush terraces. It may also have been responsible for some of the cross divisions placed within the Hollybush quarry ditch (Fig 2: 491), though these are equally difficult to explain. They appear to provide stall-like units though perhaps there are too many to suggest that they form the cattle or sheep pens of a small farm. The use of hills (e.g. Tan Hill, Wilts: Weyhill, Hants) and of hillforts (e.g. Yarnbury, Wilts) for medieval fairs readily springs to mind and the place-names here might support suggestion of such an event on certain holy days.

The origin of the land division separating the two hills is unclear. Certainly it was still in use during the 19th century (above), but the bank itself is relatively weathered and rounded in profile and would appear to be of earlier date. It divides the hills themselves rather than the hillfort, as it can be traced across the hillfort defences and towards the Hollybush Pass. Whatever its genesis, it may have encouraged different land-use of the hillfort interior at least for a period.

There is little doubt that the long mound (Fig 2: 499) placed centrally on Hollybush Hill was for the propagation of rabbits, as both surface and excavated evidence points to that. If the hilltop were so used the ramparts would demarcate a ready-made conygar. The Hollybush ramparts are very denuded but traces of a surmounting bank are visible in places. If hedged it may have been this as much as the existence of a county boundary that was responsible for the line of trees that remains today. Only the position of the warrener's dwelling is unknown.

MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The earthworks of Midsummer Hill camp and its enclosed features are in relatively good condition. Some of the hut stances exceptionally so, but there are areas of the site where vegetation has caused damage.

Visitor pressure

Visitor pressure is relatively low when compared to Herefordshire Beacon, but nevertheless the pull-in car park at the Hollybush Pass encourages a steady flow of dog walkers and other visitors. Many of these, like the groups of ramblers walking the Malvern ridge, keep to the high ground and follow the summit of Midsummer Hill where they are attracted by the magnificent views and the concrete shelter (Fig 2: 502). Others follow well-established footpaths between the north and south entrances or across the ramparts on Hollybush Hill. All of these routes cut through sensitive archaeology, but with its weathered outcropping rock it is probably the summit path that is most fragile. The routes across the ramparts have been deepened by horse traffic in recent times, and such traffic might be discouraged from climbing the bank; alternatively if erosion is to continue here it may be worth considering small-scale excavation before formalising the tracks. Use of the established route between the entrances might be encouraged as it has the merit of focusing, channelling, and thereby controlling activity.

Vegetation

In general, the vegetation appears to have changed little during the last century. H H Lines noted areas of bramble and trees on the slopes of Midsummer Hill that obscured archaeological features, while the early editions of the OS and the Royal Commission plan of 1932 depicted trees in the some position. The bluebells that carpet this area during May are a major attraction. Much of the rest of the area is now bracken covered, which, while obscuring important earthworks from view, also protects them from attention. Of more concern,

however, are the (perhaps planted) trees that surmount the ramparts in places, particularly on Hollybush Hill. Where these have decayed or fallen, roots have caused gashes in the earthworks and while the process itself need be no problem as it can be seen as part of the ongoing earthwork formation process, the potential loss of archaeological information needs to be regularly monitored.

In some parts of Hollybush Hill there is scrub invasion where root systems are likely to develop and disturb archaeological deposits if not checked, notably around the quarry ditch and in the southwest.

Animal burrowing

Although there are some areas of rabbit burrows they do not appear to have become dominant.

METHOD AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The survey was carried out by David Field and Graham Brown during four weeks in the spring of 1999. Major features were recorded directly by Wild 1610 co-axial EDM, and Key Terra Firma software. A control framework was established by the same method, and further measurements taken manually by offset to record detail points. The resulting plot has been penned at 1:1000 scale and archived in the National Monuments Record under the reference number SO 73 NE 11.

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APPENDIX 1

Details of hut emplacements

Most features are emplacements, simple stances or platforms rather than true hollows, depressions or clear hut remains. They cut into the hillslope to form a level surface on which a construction could be placed. Erosion has further ensured that many now miss their front portion and equally the back edge is often obscured by hillwash. Thus what were evidently once circular examples often in fact appear crescentic. In one or two cases elongation of a stance cannot easily be explained by such circumstances and it is assumed that they were designed as, or meant to hold, oval features.

Horizontal measurements (H) are taken to the nearest half metre, and vertical (V) to the nearest five centimetres. Refer to Fig 2 (red) for location.

No	Form	H	V	No	Form	H	V	No	Form	H	V
1	Circular	9	0.5	162	Rect	7.5x5	0.6	323	Circular	4	0.2
2	Circular	5x4	0.6	163	Circular	6	0.5	324	Circular	4x3.5	0.2
3	Circular	?4	0.6	164	Rect	8x5	0.5	325	Sem-circ	4x3	0.2
4	Circular	5	0.6	165	Rect	10x7	1.0	326	Circular	5	0.2
5	Circular	5x4.5	0.3	166	Rect	7x5	0.6	327	Circular	5x4	0.2
6	Circular	6.5x6	0.5	167	Rect	6x5.5	0.5	328	Circular	3	0.2
7	Circular	7	0.7	168	Rect	6x5.5	0.5	329	Circular	4.5	0.2
8	Circular	7x6	0.6	169	Rect	9x6	0.4	330	Circular	4x3.5	0.2
9	Circular	5	0.3	170	Circular	5	0.4	331	Circular	4	0.2
10	Circular	7x6	0.5	171	Plat	10x5	1.0	332	Circular	6x5.5	0.2
11	Circular	5x3	0.3	172	Plat	15x11	0.5	333	Sem-circ	3x3.5	0.1
12	Circular	5.5x4	0.4	173	Rect	7x5	0.5	334	Sem-circ	7x4	1.1
13	Circular	7x6	0.5	174	Circular	3	0.4	335	Circular	5x4	0.2
14	Circular	5.5x5	0.4	175	Circular	6.5x6	0.5	336	Circular	5.5x5	0.2
15	Circular	5.5x5	0.5	176	Plat	10x5	0.5	337	Circular	4x3.5	0.3
16	Circular	4.5x4	0.4	177	Circular	4	0.4	338	Circular	4	0.6
17	Circular	5.5x5	0.4	178	Circular	5	0.3	339	Oval	7x5	0.2
18	Circular	5x4.5	0.4	179	Circular	3.5	0.3	340	Circular	6x5	0.2
19	Circular	5.5x5	0.3	180	Circular	6.5	0.5	341	Sem-circ	4x4	0.6
20	Oval	8x4	0.5	181	Rect	12x6	0.6	342	Sem-circ	6x5.5	0.5
21	Circular	6.5x5	0.7	182	Rect	6x5	0.4	343	Sem-circ	2x2	

22	Circular	8x7	1.0	183	Circular	6.5x6	0.4	344	Circular	5	0.3
23	Circular	6.5x5	0.5	184	Circular	4.5	0.4	345	Sem-circ	7x4	0.3
24	Circular	4.5x4	0.4	185	Circular	5.5x5	0.5	346	Circular	6x5.5	0.3
25	Circular	3	0.4	186	Circular	6	0.3	347	Oval	7x5	0.2
26	Sub-rect	8x6	0.6	187	Circular	4.5	0.4	348	Circular	2	0.3
27	Circular	3.5x3	0.5	188	Oval	7x5	0.5	349	Circular	3	0.3
28	Oval	8x5	0.5	189	Circular	6x5	0.4	350	Circular	3.5	0.3
29	Circular	3.5x3	0.2	190	Circular	4	0.4	351	Circular	4	0.8
30	Sub-rect	10.5x5	0.9	191	Circular	5x4.5	0.4	352	Circular	4x3.5	1.0
31	Circular	5	0.5	192	Circular	5	0.4	353	Circular	3	1.0
32	Circular	5.5x4	0.6	193	Circular	5x4.5	0.4	354	Circular	4	0.6
33	Sub-rect	10x5	0.9	194	Circular	4	0.4	355	Sem-circ	2.5x2.5	0.4
34	Sub-rect	7x4.5	0.9	195	Circular	5x4.5	0.4	356	Circular	5.5x5	0.8
35	Circular	6x5	1.0	196	Circular	4	0.4	357	Circular	4x3.5	0.5
36	Circular	3.5x3	0.5	197	Circular	6	0.4	358	Circular	4	0.2
37	Circular	5x4	0.5	198	Circular	5	0.4	359	Sem-circ	3.5x2	0.5
38	Circular	4	0.5	199	Circular	6x5	0.4	360	Circular	4	0.4
39	Oval	5x2	0.5	200	Circular	5	0.3	361	Circular	7	1.6
40	Circular	4	0.5	201	Oval	7x5	0.5	362	Plat	9x4	0.5
41	Circular	5x3	0.6	202	Sub-rect	7x6	0.5	363	Circular	3.5x3	0.5
42	Circular	4.5x4	1.6	203	Sub-rect	6x5	0.5	364	Sub-rect	7x4.5	1.0
43	Circular	4x3	0.4	204	Circular	5x4	0.4	365	Sub-rect	6x5	0.5
44	Circular	4x3	0.4	205	Irreg	19x14	1.4	366	Circular	4	0.2
45	Oval	6x4	1.2	206	Circular	5	0.4	367	Circular	6x5.5	0.2
46	Circular	6x5	1.2	207	Oval	10x7	0.3	368	Circular	6	0.2
47	Circular	5	0.5	208	Sub rect	10x6	0.5	369	Circular	7x6	0.8
48	Circular	4x3	0.3	209	Circular	7x6	0.5	370	Square	6x6	0.7
49	Circular	4.5x4	0.5	210	Circular	6	0.4	371	Circular	4	0.5
50	Circular	6x5	1.0	211	Sem-circ	4x2	0.4	372	Sem-circ	5x5	0.5
51	Circular	5x3	0.4	212	Sem-circ	5x3	0.4	373	Circular	5	0.5
52	Circular	3.5x3	0.5	213	Circular	5.5	0.3	374	Circular	4x3	0.6
53	Circular	2.5	0.5	214	Circular	8	0.3	375	Circular	5	0.7
54	Circular	3.5x3	0.5	215	Circular	6	0.2	376	Oval	10x8	1.0
55	Circular	4.5x3	0.5	216	Sub-rect	7.5x6	0.5	377	Sem-circ	4.5x4	0.3
56	Circular	4	0.4	217	Oval	6x4	0.5	378	Circular	3.5	0.15
57	Circular	5x4	0.4	218	Circular	10x9	2.0	379	Sem-circ	5x4	0.3
58	Circular	3	0.4	219	Circular	3	0.2	380	Oval	9x8	0.2
59	Circular	3.5x2	0.5	220	Sem-circ	5x3	0.2	381	Circular	7	0.9

60	Circular	4x4	0.4	221	Oval	8x6	0.4	382	Circular	4	0.1
61	Circular	4	0.5	222	Plat	6x6	1.5	383	Circular	5	0.1
62	Circular	4	0.6	223	Plat	7x5	1.5	384	Circular	4.5	0.1
63	Circular	4.5x4	0.5	224	Rect	12x11	3.0	385	Circular	5	0.2
64	Circular	3.5x2	0.5	225	Irreg	10x6	0.4	386	Circular	3	0.2
65	Circular	4x3.5	0.5	226	Circular	4.5x4	0.3	387	Circular	4	0.1
66	Semi-circ	7x3	0.2	227	Circular	8x7	0.4	388	Sem-circ	5x3	0.2
67	Circular	4.5x3	0.2	228	Circular	6	0.5	389	Circular	5	0.2
68	Circular	4x3.5	0.2	229	Circular	8x7	0.5	390	Sem-circ	5x5	0.2
69	Semi-circ	9x6.5	2.0	230	Circular	10x8	0.5	391	Rect	10x7	0.5
70	Semi-circ	6x3	0.2	231	Square	7x7	0.5	392	Sub-rect	5x4.5	0.1
71	Circular	4	0.2	232	Sub-rect	11x5	0.5	393	Circular	5x4.5	0.1
72	Circular	4.5x4	0.3	233	Circular	9x8	0.8	394	Circular	5x4.5	0.1
73	Circular	4	0.3	234	Circular	10x9	0.8	395	Oval	8x6	0.4
74	Circular	4	0.4	235	Circular	4.5	0.3	396	Sem-circ	6x3	0.2
75	Semi-circ	7x5	0.5	236	Oval	7.5x4	0.4	397	Sem-circ	5x4	0.3
76	Semi-circ	6.5x5	0.5	237	Sem-circ	8x6	0.4	398	Circular	4x3	0.5
77	Circular	6.5	0.3	238	Circular	6x5	0.3	399	Oval	4x3	0.2
78	Oval	8x7.5	1.0	239	Oval	7x6	0.4	400	Sem-circ	4x3.5	0.2
79	Oval	8x7.5	1.2	240	Circular	9x8	0.4	401	Circular	4	0.2
80	Plat	14x9	1.0	241	Circular	11x10	0.7	402	Sem-circ	3x3	0.1
81	Circular	5	0.3	242	Sem-circ	10x8	0.7	403	Sub-rect	6.5x5	0.1
82	Circular	4.5x4	0.5	243	Circular	4x3	0.2	404	Sem-circ	4.5x3	0.1
83	Circular	5	0.3	244	Rect	9x6	0.4	405	Circular	4	0.1
84	Circular	3.5x3	0.2	245	Sub-rect	9x6	0.4	406	Circular	4	0.1
85	Circular	4.5x4	0.2	246	Rect	9x5	0.6	407	Sem-circ	5x3	0.1
86	Oval	5x4	0.4	247	Rect	10x7	1.0	408	Sub-rect	5.5x5	0.1
87	Circular	5x3.5	0.4	248	Rect	11x7	0.6	409	Circular	4.5	0.1
88	Circular	6x5	0.4	249	Circular	6x5	0.3.	410	Sem-circ	3x2.5	0.1
89	Oval	8x7	0.5	250	Rect	11x8	1.6	411	Sem-circ	4x3	0.2
90	Circular	3	0.2	251	Sem-circ	7x6	0.6	412	Circular	4	0.2
91	Circular	6x5	0.2	252	Circular	5	0.5	413	Sem-circ	5x4	0.2
92	Semi-circ	8x5	1.0	253	Circular	6	1.0	414	Sem-circ	8x4	1.0
93	Rect	8x7	0.6	254	Circular	7x6	0.3	415	Circular	7	0.3
94	Irreg	10x7	0.6	255	Circular	4	0.2	416	Sem-circ	8x8	1.0
95	Circular	4	0.5	256	Oval	8x7	0.3	417	Sub-rect	8.5x8	0.7
96	Circular	4	0.5	257	Sub-rect	6x4	0.4	418	Plat	8x5	0.2
97	Circular	4	0.5	258	Circular	7	0.5	419	Sem-circ	6x6	0.5

98	Oval	11x5.5	0.5	259	Oval	5x3	0.4	420	Circular	4x3.5	0.1
99	Semi-circ	6x4	0.5	260	Circular	8x6	0.7	421	Circular	5.5x5	0.3
100	Circular	4	0.2	261	Oval	10x7	2.7	422	Sem-circ	6x5	0.5
101	Circular	3x2.5	0.3	262	Plat	8x4	0.5	423	Sem-circ	9x6	0.9
102	Circular	5	0.3	263	Circular	5x4	0.5	424	Sem-circ	8x7	1.0
103	Circular	5x4	0.4	264	Plat	6x5	0.8	425	Sub-rect	7x7	1.2
104	Circular	4x3.5	0.4	265	Plat	8x2	0.8	426	Oval	7x5	1.2
105	Circular	3x2.5	0.4	266	Sub-rect	8x4	0.7	427	Circular	5x4.5	0.1
106	Circular	3	0.3	267	Oval	9x5	0.7	428	Sem-circ	3x3	0.1
107	Semi-circ	7x6	0.6	268	Sem-circ	7x5	1.0	429	Circular	3.5	0.2
108	Circular	3	0.6	269	Circular	7x6.5	1.0	430	Sem-circ	5x5	0.3
109	Circular	4x3	1.0	270	Sub-rect	9x6	1.0	431	Circular	5	0.3
110	Circular	4x3	1.0	271	Sem-circ	4x4	0.3	432	Sem-circ	5x5	0.2
111	Circular	4.5	0.8	272	Circular	8x7	0.5	433	Circular	5x4	0.2
112	Circular	4	0.6	273	Circular	10x9	1.0	434	Sem-circ	9x8	0.2
113	Circular	4	0.5	274	Sem-circ	7x4	0.5	435	Sem-circ	7.5x6	0.2
114	Semi-circ	5.5x3	0.5	275	Sem-circ	5x4	0.5	436	Sub-rect	5x4.5	0.2
115	Semi-circ	4x2	0.4	276	Sub-rect	8x5	0.6	437	Circular	9	0.75
116	Circular	4	0.6	277	Sub-rect	6x4	0.5	438	Oval	7x5	0.3
117	Circular	5.5x4	0.6	278	Sem-circ	7x5	0.3	439	Sem-circ	5x5	0.3
118	Rect	13.5x5	0.4	279	Plat	10x5	0.6	440	Sem-circ	5x5	0.8
119	Rect	12x5	0.4	280	Plat	9x5	0.5	441	Sem-circ	11x10	0.7
120	Circular	3x2	0.3	281	Sub-rect	8x5	0.75	442	Sem-circ	4x4	0.3
121	Circular	5.5x4	o.8	282	Circular	6x5	1.0	443	Sem-circ	6x4	0.4
122	Circular	5	0.4	283	Circular	7	1.2	444	Sem-circ	6x5	0.5
123	Circular	5x4.5	1.0	284	Circular	5	0.2	445	Sem-circ	6x5	0.5
124	Rect	7x4.5	0.7	285	Circular	5x4	0.2	446	Oval	5x3.5	0.2
125	Semi-circ	4x2	0.4	286	Circular	7	0.5	447	Sem-circ	7x7	0.3
126	Oval	7x5	1.0	287	Circular	6x5	0.5	448	Sem-circ	7x5	0.2
127	Rect	10x5.5	1.2	288	Sem-circ	4x3	0.5	449	Sub-rect	7x5	0.2
128	Circular	4	0.5	289	Circular	6x5	0.5	450	Circular	6.5x6	0.2
129	Circular	6x5	0.4	290	Sem-circ	8x5	0.2	451	Sem-circ	10x8	0.2
130	Circular	5.5	0.4	291	Circular	4.5x4	0.2	452	Circular	8x7	0.5
131	Circular	6	0.5	292	Circular	4	0.2	453	Circular	4	0.3
132	Rect	12x5	0.5	293	Circular	4	0.2	454	Circular	4	0.3
133	Rect	8x5	0.5	294	Circular	6	0.7	455	Circular	6	0.3
134	Circular	2	0.4	295	Circular	6x5	0.6	456	Oval	9x7	1.3
135	Rect	6.5x5	0.5	296	Sem-circ	4x3	0.2	457	Circular	9x8	1.0

136	Rect	9.5x6	0.5	297	Sem-circ	8x3	0.2	458	Circular	10x9	2.0
137	Rect	7x4	0.5	298	Circular	4	0.1	459	Oval	4.5x3	0.2
138	Rect	7x5	0.5	299	Circular	5x4	0.2	460	Sub-rect	9x6	1.0
139	Plat	7x6	0.6	300	Circular	6x5	0.2	461	Circular	4x3	0.6
140	Triang	7x4	0.2	301	Circular	3	0.2	462	Circular	4	0.3
141	Circular	4	1.0	302	Sem-circ	7x3	1.0	463	Circular	7	0.7
142	Circular	4.5	1.5	303	Circular	7x6	1.0	464	Sem-circ	4x4	0.3
143	Circular	8x7.5	1.2	304	Circular	4	0.8	465	Sem-circ	7.5x4	0.3
144	Circular	6	1.0	305	Circular	4	0.2	466	Oval	6.5x4	0.3
145	Circular	6	1.0	306	Circular	4	0.2	467	Circular	4	0.2
146	Rect	9x3	0.4	307	Circular	4	0.2	468	Circular	5x4	0.2
147	Plat	8x7	0.6	308	Circular	3.5x3	0.2	469	Sem-circ	5x4	0.2
148	Circular	8x7	1.	309	Circular	6	0.2	470	Circular	3	0.3
149	Circular	7	0.7	310	Circular	8	0.1	471	Circular	5.5	0.5
150	Rect	14x8	0.7	311	Sem-circ	5x3	0.2	472	Circular	5	0.6
151	Rect	11x8	0.7	312	Sem-circ	3x2.5	0.2	473	Sem-circ	5x4.5	0.8
152	Circular	5	0.4	313	Circular	8x7	0.25	474	Circular	5	0.8
153	Rect	8x4	0.4	314	Circular	2	0.3	475	Circular	6.5x6	1.0
154	Oval	5x4	0.4	315	Circular	3	0.3	476	Sem-circ	6x5	0.8
155	Oval	4x3	0.4	316	Circular	5	0.3	477	Circular	7	0.1
156	Rect	8x5	0.5	317	Circular	4x3.5	0.2	478	Circular	5x4	0.1
157	Rect	7x5	0.5	318	Circular	4.5x4	0.2	479	Circular	4	0.1
158	Plat	8x5	0.7	319	Circular	3.5x3	0.2	480	Semi-cir	5x4	0.15
159	Plat	8x9	0.6	320	Sub-rect	9x8	0.5	481	Circular	5	0.15
160	Circular	7	0.5	321	Circular	6	0.1	482	Sub-circ	9x9	0.5
161	Rect	7x5	0.6	322	Circular	2.5x2	0.4	483	Circular	7.6	0.2

APPENDIX 2

Features earlier than the hillfort

Refer to Fig 2 (Blue) for location.

484	Ledge 0.7m high. Probably bank underlying hillfort
485	Ledge up to 1.7m high. Probably bank underlying hillfort
486	Linear ditch 0.3m deep

APPENDIX 3

Features later than the hillfort (other than huts)

Refer to Fig 2 (Green) for location.

487	Bank and ditch. Bank 0.6m high from bottom of ditch. Present on Lines map 1870
488	Shire Ditch. Ditch 0.4m deep with bank 0.8m high. Probably Medieval
489	Bank 0.7m high dividing Midsummer and Hollybush Hills. Probably Medieval.
490	Banks 0.15 high with corresponding ditches alongside. Probably post-Medieval
491	Series of short banks up to 0.2m in height. Probably medieval.
492	Bank 0.2m in height with corresponding ditch. Probably post-Medieval
493	Trackway to quarry. Probably post-medieval.
494	Right angled bank 0.4m high together with other evidently recent disturbance.
495	Shallow bank 0.15 in height with ditch evidently demarcating pond.
496	Pond
497	Pond
498	Pond

499	Pillow Mound 1m in height with 0.15 deep surrounding ditch & counterscarp
500	Linear Ditch, 0.7m above land surface in E, 1.5m in W.
501	Stone foundation of rectangular structure. Probably post-Medieval.