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Must Farm, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire Dendrochronological and radiocarbon dating

Ian Tyers, Peter Marshall, Christopher Bronk Ramsey, Elaine Dunbar, Irka Hajdas, Sanne W. Palstra, Paula Reimer and Lukas Wacker

Discovery, Innovation and Science in the Historic Environment



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Cambridgeshire

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NGR: TL 2356 9687

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ISSN 2059-4453 (Online)

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SUMMARY

The Must Farm pile-dwelling site is an extraordinarily well-preserved Late Bronze Age settlement in Cambridgeshire built over a freshwater palaeochannel that was destroyed by a catastrophic fire shortly after its construction. Predating the settlement was a double-alignment of massive oak piles. This technical archive report on the tree-ring and radiocarbon analysis of samples from the site provides full details of the dendrochronological and radiocarbon dating programmes. The significance of the results is discussed more fully in Tyers *et al* (2024) and Knight *et al* (2024).

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank Rachel Ballantyne, Mark Knight, Iona Robinson Zeki, Michael Bamforth, Cathy Tyers, Vida Rajkovača and Anwen Cooper for providing help and advice. The front cover photo showing excavation of the site was taken by Cathy Tyers on the 26 November 2015.

ARCHIVE LOCATION

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HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

Cambridgeshire HER
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DATE OF INVESTIGATION

2006–2024

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INTRODUCTION

The Must Farm pile-dwelling site is an extraordinarily well-preserved Late Bronze Age settlement in Cambridgeshire (Fig 1) built over a freshwater palaeochannel that was destroyed by a catastrophic fire shortly after its construction. Predating the settlement was a double-alignment of massive oak piles.

The Must Farm excavations revealed 935 structural timbers from the Causeway, the Pile-dwelling Structures and their Palisade. The Causeway material was a conventional assemblage of dendrochronologically datable large oaks and other non-datable material. The Pile-dwelling structural assemblage comprised no long-lived material, instead it comprised mostly 20–60-year-old ash trees, and 20–40-year-old oaks, used in the round, or as split halves. Almost all of this material was intact from pith to bark-edge. Relative dating has been successful within this material, providing evidence for a site-wide single year construction phase, but without identifying a calendar date for this. The longest lived of these timbers has provided the sub-samples for a radiocarbon wiggle matching programme aimed at providing a construction date for the Pile-dwelling.

This document is a technical archive report on the tree-ring and radiocarbon analysis of samples from Must Farm. An accompanying chapter (Tyers *et al* 2024) provides a context for the challenges of working with the Must Farm dendrochronological material, illustrated with other British tree-ring results for late Bronze Age and early Iron Age data sets. It also incorporates the results from this report in a wider discussion of the chronology of the Must Farm Pile-dwelling settlement, Causeway and palaeochannel. Full details on the Must Farm excavations and post-excavation analysis can be found in Knight *et al* (2024).

DENDROCHRONOLOGY

Sampling

There are c. 5500 wood records from the Must Farm site. The bulk of this material comprised wood chips, debris and small roundwood of no dendrochronological potential, but 935 were larger timbers from the Pile-dwelling Structures and Palisade, and the Causeway. Tree-ring dating samples were collected from select groups of structural timbers from the Structures and Palisade during the early stages of the excavations, several further groups were collected as the excavations proceeded, and in the final days the tops of all the uprights were cut down to enable the site to be covered. All this material was visually assessed on site for dendrochronological potential. Around 250 samples were taken from the MUS15 site in total. These were prepared for analysis and re-assessed for potential, 132 of these were subjected to full dendrochronological analysis. Combined with 14 from MUS06 (and a further 5 MUS06 samples duplicated by further samples of the same timber during MUS15), 1 analysed timber from MUS10, 2 from MUS11, and 1 from nearby site MAP08, these provide an assemblage of 150 tree-ring series (Table 1; Appendix 1) that probably include all the suitable material from the Must Farm excavations.

Mike Bamforth and Iona Robinson Zeki reviewed all the timbers on site during excavation and lifting. They became aware early on that there were visually distinctive characteristics in the ash upright cross-sections that enabled them to be confident when material was part of the dominant group of timbers. Assessment of potential on site was undertaken by visually assessing fresh breaks or sections for wood type, and ring counts. Material considered to have some potential was sampled or set aside for sampling. Off-site, cross-sections from these were frozen and a clean-cut surface made through them revealing the rings sequences in sufficient detail for analysis. These sections were then reviewed again for ring counts, with those with more than 30 rings prioritised for analysis. Amongst this material priority was also given to timbers with intact bark-edge and displaying undistorted anatomies.

The initial analytical results identified the presence of a group of oak and ash with a single identical felling date spread across the Pile-dwelling. This early study also identified that this material would probably not prove datable by dendrochronological methods. The assessment methodology was subsequently split into two separate strands; first it was modified to seek out all the longest-lived material from the Palisade and Pile-dwelling structures. This was in order to identify the best possible samples for the radiocarbon wiggle-matching. Second, we sought out all the material that was clearly not part of this dominant group in the hope that these would either provide longer ring series to which the Pile-dwelling sequences could be matched, or that they would themselves be datable.

Analysis

Standard dendrochronological methods, following English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1998), were applied to the Causeway assemblage, and to the material identified from the pile dwelling structures. The Causeway timbers were primarily oaks, derived from divided parts of larger trees, and often missing sapwood and bark. A range of these provide absolute dating evidence for the Causeway. A small number of oaks from the Pile-dwelling also provided some dating evidence.

The much larger Palisade and Pile-dwelling structural assemblage was intrinsically less suitable for dendrochronological analysis. Dendrochronological analysis could only be undertaken here because the assemblage comprised timbers primarily intact to bark surfaces. The Palisade and Pile-dwelling dendrochronological process was reversed from the usual 'what is the date of this timber?' and instead was 'can these bark-edges be proven to be co-eval or not?'. This approach exploited this unique resource to provide scientifically robust information of interpretative archaeological value to the excavation.

RESULTS

Causeway

Dendrochronology

The causeway (Fig 2) comprised an assemblage of large oak posts composed primarily of two distinct styles of pile: converted oak piles and massive ‘in the round’ oak piles with carved lugs (Fig 3). Forty-two samples were selected for analysis from this assemblage (Table 2; Fig 4). The selected samples comprised 41 oaks (*Quercus* spp.) and one ash (*Fraxinus* sp.) timber. These were found to contain between 35 and 174 annual rings. The selected assemblage was relatively short lived for dendrochronological analysis with a median of 56 rings. The unselected timbers had even fewer rings. The selected material included timbers with a wide range of cross-section sizes, from WD7122 which was 105 x 55mm up to WD2933 which was 330 x 285mm. The tree-ring width sequences from ten of these oak timbers were dated by reference to each other and to a small number of contemporaneous reference data sets, principally the Flag Fen/Fengate master sequence that spans 1363–937 BC (Neve 1999; Tables 3–4). The causeway dated timbers produced a composite sequence spanning 1373–1285 BC (Fig 5). Amongst these WD2853 retained bark and was felled in spring 1284 BC. WD6423 had the onset of sapwood at 1307 BC and its interpretation, felled between 1297–61 BC, is broadly compatible either with the felling date of WD2853, or with WD39, which also had sapwood and was potentially felled at the same time or slightly later, 1283–47 BC. The other seven datable sequences retained only oak heartwood, the latest of these, WD5825, ended at 1286 BC and thus likely dates from after 1276 BC.

Radiocarbon dating and wiggle matching

Following the failure of ring-width dendrochronology to provide absolute dating for any of the ‘in-the-round’ piles from the Causeway, two undated short-lived oak timbers from this group were sampled for radiocarbon dating and wiggle-matching (see Appendix 2); WD2944 (53 heartwood rings) and WD3249 (41 rings (?H/S)). In addition, samples were also submitted from the 7.8 m+ long horizontal ‘bridge’ WD6430 (53 heartwood rings) that could also not be dated by dendrochronology.

Twenty-one radiocarbon measurements have been obtained from single annual tree-rings from timbers WD2944, WD3249, and WD6430 (Tables 5–7), including from six rings where replicate samples were dated at two different laboratories (Centre for Isotope Research, University of Groningen (GrM-), the Netherlands and the Laboratory of Ion Beam Physics, ETH Zürich (ETH-), Switzerland; Appendix 2).

Figure 6 illustrates the chronological model for the WD2944 sequence (the CQL2 code is given in Appendix 3). This model incorporates the gaps between each dated annual ring known from tree-ring counting (eg that the carbon in ring 1 of the measured tree-ring series (WD2944_ring_1) was laid down 13 years before the carbon in ring 14 of the series (ETH-106010), with the radiocarbon measurements

(Table 5) calibrated using the internationally agreed radiocarbon calibration data for the northern hemisphere, IntCal20 (Reimer *et al* 2020).

The model has good overall agreement (Acomb: 108.2, An: 31.6, n:5), with all five dates on single rings having good individual agreement ($A > 60$) with their positions in the sequence. It suggests that the final ring of the WD2944 sequence formed in *1470–1420 cal BC (95% probability; ETH-106012; Fig 6)*, probably in *1465–1445 cal BC (68% probability)*.

Figure 7 illustrates the chronological model for the WD3249 sequence (the CQL2 code is given in Appendix 3). This model incorporates the gaps between each dated annual ring known from tree-ring counting (eg that the carbon in ring 1 of the measured tree-ring series (GrM-22282) was laid down ten years before the carbon in ring 11 of the series (ETH-106006)), with the radiocarbon measurements (Table 6) calibrated using the internationally agreed radiocarbon calibration data for the northern hemisphere, IntCal20 (Reimer *et al* 2020).

The model has good overall agreement (Acomb: 160.6, An: 31.6, n:5), with all five dates on single rings having good individual agreement ($A > 60$) with their positions in the sequence. It suggests that the final ring of the WD3249 sequence formed in *1425–1395 cal BC (95% probability; WD3249_ring_41; Fig 7)*, probably in *1420–1400 cal BC (68% probability)*.

Figure 8 illustrates the chronological model for the WD6430 sequence (the CQL2 code is given in Appendix 3). This model incorporates the gaps between each dated annual ring known from tree-ring counting (eg that the carbon in ring 40 of the measured tree-ring series (GrM-22280) was laid down 13 years before the carbon in ring 53 of the series (ETH-106005)), with the radiocarbon measurements (Table 7) calibrated using the internationally agreed radiocarbon calibration data for the northern hemisphere, IntCal20 (Reimer *et al* 2020).

The model, that excludes the clearly anomalously earlier date on ring 1 (ETH-106002) has good overall agreement (Acomb: 56.2, An: 35.4, n:4), with all but one (GrM-22280; $A=31$) of the four dates on single rings having good individual agreement ($A > 60$) with their positions in the sequence. It suggests that the final ring of the WD6430 sequence formed in *1425–1400 cal BC (95% probability; ETH-106005; Fig 8)*, probably in *1420–1400 cal BC (68% probability)*.

Interpretation of Causeway timbers wiggle matching

As the heartwood/sapwood boundary was apparent on timber WD3249 a felling date range of *1410–1360 cal BC (95% probability; WD3249_felling; Fig. 9)* could be estimated by the addition of a sapwood estimate (Arnold *et al* 2019). The other two timbers only retained the oak heartwood and thus the estimates for the date of their final rings; WD2944: *1470–1420 cal BC (95% probability; ETH-106012; Fig 6)* and WD6430: *1425–1395 cal BC (95% probability; ETH-106005; Fig 8)* only provide *terminus post quos* (or dates after) for their felling.

There is clear evidence therefore that the Causeway is a multi-phase group of timbers. The radiocarbon wiggle-matching suggests that some of the material ('in-the-round' piles and the long horizontal timber) in the Causeway dates from the late fifteenth or early fourteenth century cal BC (Fig 9), whilst the dendrochronology

indicates that the Causeway was probably subject to several repair events (using converted piles) during the early half of the thirteenth century BC (Fig 8).

Pile-dwelling settlement

Dendrochronology

Sampling

The pile-dwelling (Fig 10) structural assemblage comprised no long-lived material at all, instead it comprised mostly 20–60-year-old ash trees (*Fraxinus* sp.) and 20–40 year old oaks (*Quercus* spp.), both used mostly either in the round, or as split halves. All 746 timbers from the pile-dwelling were reviewed for their potential usefulness for dendrochronological analysis by Iona Robinson Zeki and Michael Bamforth. The best material was sampled. These samples were then collected, prepared for analysis and re-assessed for potential.

Analysis

In total 86 of these timbers were then subjected to standard dendrochronological analysis, with the palisade contributing 45 ash and one oak (Table 8; Figs 11–12), and Structures 1–5 contributing 30 oaks and six ash (Tables 9–13; Figs 13–15). The latter group can be subdivided into 17 samples from Structure 1 (Table 9), four each from Structures 2 (Table 10) and 3 (Table 11), five from Structure 4 (Table 12), and six from Structure 5 (Table 13). The final component of this assemblage were a group of four oak samples from the pile-dwelling not attributed to specific structures (Table 14). This was an exceptionally uniform group of samples (with the reconstructed median diameters for different structural elements typically falling within 100–150mm). The analysis generally utilised single radii, recorded from single slices per timber, but included some sequences analysed from more than one slice of the same timber, and some sequences recorded along more than one radius of the same slice. The process of reviewing all the timbers on site, and sampling even the borderline material was intended to identify, and then analyse, all the most suitable material that was present within the Must Farm pile-dwelling excavation.

Almost all of the sampled material was intact from pith to bark-edge, some timbers had been crushed, some were charred, but most were intact. Almost all retained clear evidence for their final year of growth and their bark-edge. These timbers could therefore potentially identify the year, or years, that they were cut down.

Using a combination of standard cross-matching algorithms and visual comparisons it was possible to dendrochronologically cross-match 27 oak timbers to form a 43-year oak site chronology (Table 15) and to separately cross-match 46 ash timbers to form a 61-year ash site chronology (Table 16). These two series cross-match with each other, *t*-value 6.16 (Fig 16). This dendrochronological analysis indicates all 73 of these timbers were felled in the precisely same year, referred to as Year Zero, or YZ for the rest of this report (Figs 17–18). The remaining analysed samples from the pile-dwelling contain sequences cannot be matched. Most of these are visually similar material, but some were incomplete to

bark-edge and several were crushed or otherwise distorted. There is no reason to suggest that these represent separate felling events, though undated oak WD5309, attributed to Structure 2, contained 139 rings and is clearly completely different.

Identifying that the final ring present in most of these timbers is precisely co-eval has allowed the relative dating analysis of this large assemblage of timber to provide strong evidence for a single site-wide year of construction. The palisade and Structures 1–5, as well as the group of other pile-dwelling structural material, contained oak felled in this year, whilst the palisade and Structures 1, 3 and 4 also contained ash felled in this year.

Unfortunately, due to the lack of contemporaneous local tree-ring chronologies for this period, dendrochronological methods cannot presently identify the absolute dates for these two site chronologies. We may never identify the actual date of this year since these very short tree-ring sequences will undoubtedly require very local datasets to be successfully cross-matched.

All of the oak and ash timbers from the pile-dwelling were assessed on site to identify the most suitable material for analysis. It was noted that there was a set of typical characteristics regarding the ring directly under the bark-edge, and what appeared to be a visibly common pattern for the last few rings. It was important to test as far as we could whether the shorter-lived oaks and ashes, not selected for analysis, were contemporary with those that had been analysed in a more conventional sense. The correlation algorithm we use does not search using sub-30 year material, but we can visually compare these sequences, and statistically check the correlations at these locations. A group of ten sub-30 ring samples were selected to be recorded in order to test this possibility (Table 17). These samples comprised two ash from the palisade, both with 19 rings, four oaks from Structure 1 with 27 and 28 rings, two ash from Structure 2 with 24 rings and 28 rings, a 28 ring oak from Structure 5, and a 28 ring oak from the other pile-dwelling structural material. It was concluded that both the palisade ashes, three of the Structure 1 oaks, one of the Structure 2 ashes, and the other structural oak appeared to be co-eval with the rest of the material (Figs 19–20; Tables 18–19). The remainder do not appear to be related to the others or anything else, again it is reasonable to assume they are simply further examples of undatable series contemporary with the rest. This is particularly the case given the limited usefulness of such short-lived sequences.

Interpretation

Figure 16 shows that the oak and ash terminal ring for relative year 0 is not significantly larger or smaller than the preceding five years. This suggests that this material was felled either close to the end of the growing season of year 0 or somewhere over the winter of years 0/1 but before the onset of spring growth in year 1 – this period covers approximately September–March inclusive. There were no obvious exceptions to this pattern amongst the entire assemblage of cross-matched material, nor as far as we are aware, was there any amongst the other settlement material assessed but not analysed from the site. The 41 matching palisade ash timbers can all be characterised as containing a complete terminal ring for year 0, the single matched palisade oak was too slow-grown to be certain whether its last ring was complete or not. Timbers from Structures 1–5 have the

additional complexity of some charred surfaces. Sixteen of the 17 matched Structure 1 timbers were identified as having a final ring at the same year 0 as the palisade timbers. Six of the 17 timbers had a charred edge, of which three were definite bark-edge and three have a charred edge that may or may not be bark edge, with one of these latter three having a last complete measured ring ending a year earlier. The remaining 11 timbers from Structure 1 were not charred, or at least were not charred where we sampled them. These all end at the same year, with ten of them recorded as having bark-edge and one with a probable bark edge. Structures 2–5 similarly include a further 12 samples with a final ring for year 0, three of which were also charred, one of these three having bark-edge for the same year but of indeterminate completeness. The two non-structural oaks also have the same complete ring for year 0, one of which was also charred.

There is no doubt from the dendrochronological analysis, therefore, that the excavated part of the settlement used a large group of oak and ash timbers felled in a single campaign, a felling campaign that either lasted just a few weeks somewhere between autumn and spring or perhaps lasted throughout the autumn, winter and nearly through to the following spring. There are no parallels that we are aware of for such a large assemblage of contemporaneously felled timbers from any other excavation. Fiskerton (Field and Parker Pearson 2003) was a similarly well preserved and large assemblage which had a similar number of intact timbers with bark edges, these however comprised a series of discrete repairs to a structure spread across more than a century. A similar group of undated short-lived oaks was recovered from the excavation of a platform and causeway at Shinewater near Eastbourne (Hillam 2003), however their relative tree-ring dating identified a widespread construction event followed by a repair phase a decade later. Chronological modelling of the available radiocarbon dates from Shinewater (Appendix 4) provides an estimate for the construction of the platform of *810–745 cal BC (95% probability)* probably *800–770 cal BC (68% probability)*, around half a century later than the Must Farm pile-dwelling.

Resolving the chronology of the pile-dwelling timbers?

The longest lived of the pile-dwelling timbers, that could be fully resolved, was an ash from the palisade with 61 rings, WD2759. This slice was sub-sampled into five-year blocks and these were used for the radiocarbon wiggle matching programme (*see below*). When combined with the other radiocarbon dates from the pile-dwelling this has provided an estimate for its construction date of *865–840 cal BC (95% probability)*. This dating indicates that the pile-dwelling tree-ring series most probably lie somewhere along the tree-ring sequence in the region between c. 915 BC at their older end and c. 845 BC at their younger end. The causeway discussion (above) illustrated that the chronological and geographical disposition of contemporaneous reference datasets is the key determinant for the likelihood of dating these sequences. Six oak timbers from Must Farm (Table 20; see below), contain a composite sequence that runs from 1065–907 BC. The nearby Flag Fen/Fengate sequence which used to end at 937 BC, now has two further oak timbers that cross-matched to Must Farm and other data such that it now runs through to 918 BC. Clearly neither Flag Fen/Fengate nor the Must Farm datasets can be expected to provide any significant overlap to either of the pile-dwelling oak

and ash sequences. Virtually full overlaps to dated sequences will be required to date these series and the best either might achieve are overlaps of a decade or two to the ash sequence.

At greater distances from Must Farm, there are several more oak sequences that cover the same sort of period: Cambridge, St Clements Garden (1257–948 BC, *c.* 45km away (Tyers 2016)), Caldicot, southern Wales (1131–998 BC, *c.* 205km away (Hillam 1997)), Greylake, Somerset Levels (1108–952 BC, *c.* 245km away (Hillam pers. comm.)) and Skinners Wood, Somerset Levels (1162–983 BC, *c.* 240km away (Hillam 1993)). Each of these ends within the period 998–948 BC, just before the end of the Must Farm and Flag Fen/Fengate assemblages, and, just as with those sequences, they clearly cannot be expected to overlap with the pile-dwelling sequences. There are just three tree-ring series from the British Isles that give complete or almost complete overlaps across the target period. One of these is the Newington Quarry material (Tyers 2003; Tyers 2017), from *c.* 110km away, running to 835 BC, and a further English group is Swan Carr from County Durham, 1155–381 BC, *c.* 245km away (Baillie and Brown pers. comm.). Swan Carr has approximately ten timbers and Newington has approximately five that cover some of our period of interest. Both these sites are almost certainly too distant to be any help with the pile-dwelling. The third site is Ballymacombs More, Northern Ireland, running from 947–633 BC, which as well as being even further away (*c.* 490km), only includes one timber that covers the period of interest to us (Baillie and Brown pers. comm.). At the time of writing that is the entire British Isles data set for the first quarter of the first millennium BC, the weakest point in the 7000-year continuous tree-ring sequence. The Must Farm data has been run past all of this material, singly and in various combinations, and no statistically significant and replicated results have been noted. Various continental European datasets have also been examined with no evidence for the dating of these series.

Can this be resolved reliably? Perhaps not, these series are exceptionally short by normal British tree-ring standards, and it is not clear how nearby we would need to be to find matching data sets for these sequences. We could use short-lived modern oaks to model how close we might need contemporaneous data in order to get sufficiently high correlations to identify the date of the pile-dwelling sequences. That modelling process is not straightforward since the trees may have different sensitivities at different eras and may need to be growing with a similar stand density and soil substrate. The answer is probably not very far at all. There was undoubtedly more timber that was growing at the time that was utilised somewhere, but both its subsequent preservation and subsequent excavation are needed in order to find it. We have exhausted the potential of the Must Farm pile-dwelling site, and the potential of nearby excavations, but timbers excavated in the future that lie within the Late Bronze Age–Early Iron Age period and come from an area up to *c.* 50km from Must Farm could provide our answer. Datable tree-ring sequences of this period are evidently a very small resource. It has taken dendrochronologists 50 years to find just 15 contemporaneous and datable oak sequences, but these are from trees that grew on sites 100–500km away. It is clear that any potentially similar material from nearby sites should be prioritised for analysis.

As part of the process of searching through the timbers from Must Farm for datable sequences, a small group of timbers were identified where it seemed possible, they might have useful dating potential, even though each was of limited direct interpretative value to the excavation project. Simultaneously, a number of timbers from nearby earlier excavations were assessed and, where appropriate, these were analysed. Twelve oak samples containing between 36 and 126 rings were analysed (Table 20). Five of these timbers, derived from Must Farm, were dated by reference to Flag Fen/Fengate and other datasets (four from the pile-dwelling excavation (MUS15) and one from the Must Farm palaeochannel excavation (MUS11; Robinson *et al* 2015)) (Fig 21; Tables 21–22). These series have heartwood end dates of 969 BC, 933 BC, 933 BC, 928 BC and 907 BC. The latest of those may have been intact to heartwood-sapwood edge. WD1769 and WD2711 were derived from palaeochannel deposits outside the perimeter of the pile-dwelling. Their presence is difficult to interpret with any certainty, they perhaps suggest there was activity in the vicinity within the 900–850 BC period. WD7316, WD7324 and WD7325 were derived from the pile-dwelling settlement. None of these were charred and their precise relationship with the construction, occupation and conflagration of the pile-dwelling is unclear. Their recovery suggests we have successfully exploited the excavated assemblage for all its datable timbers. Together, these five timbers provided a composite tree-ring sequence spanning 1065–907 BC. This cross-matched to two hitherto undated timbers from Fengate and extended that sequence from 937–918 BC (Tables 23–24). A further oak heartwood timber from a pile-alignment at Horsey Hill (MAP08) (Gibson and Knight 2009) was found to date to 1004–924 BC (Fig 21).

Radiocarbon

Wiggle-matching the ash master sequence

Following the failure of the ring-width dendrochronology to provide conclusive calendar dating for the Pile-dwelling settlement a series of samples were submitted for radiocarbon wiggle-matching to the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit (ORAU) and Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC) (Appendix 2). The samples derive from two timbers that form part of the undated 61-year ash site chronology and comprised 12 contiguous blocks of five tree-rings from WD2759 (Table 25) and from the final ring (year 0) from WD2882 (Table 26).

Figure 22 illustrates the chronological model for the undated ash site sequence (the CQL2 code is given in Appendix 3). This model incorporates the gaps between the dated samples known from tree-ring counting (eg that the carbon in ring 52 (the middle of the 54–50 block of rings) of the measured tree-ring series (OxA-36040)) was laid down five years before the carbon in ring 47 (the middle of the 49–45 block of rings of the series (SUERC-74906)), with the radiocarbon measurements calibrated using the internationally agreed radiocarbon calibration data for the northern hemisphere, IntCal20 (Reimer *et al.* 2020).

The model, has good overall agreement (Acomb: 66.5, An: 19.6, n: 13), with all but two (rings 24–20; A=50 and OxA-36041; A=51) of the 13 dates having good

individual agreement ($A > 60$) with their positions in the sequence. It suggests that the final ring of the ash site chronology formed in 865–840 cal BC (95% probability; *ash_ring_0*; Fig 22), probably in 860–845 cal BC (68% probability).

Radiocarbon dates from the 2005–6 evaluation

Seven radiocarbon determinations were obtained following the 2005–6 evaluation from Beta Analytic (Table 27; Appendix 2). At the beginning of 2005, samples from two submerged posts were dated (Beta-201982–3). They both came from ‘grab’ samples retrieved from submerged timbers at the edge of the quarry pit and represented ‘blind’ tests of what was then an ambiguous feature. These samples have very limited contextual detail due to the circumstances of their retrieval (i.e. the samples were collected by scrabbling about underwater). In addition, the samples came from uprights that had intermittently been exposed to air with only their core or heartwood surviving; thus, they only provide *termini post quos* for the timbers felling.

Following the subsequent opening of two small machine-excavated trenches later in 2005 and the exposure of a short row of small-diameter timber posts in Trench 82 additional material for radiocarbon dating was taken from these newly revealed uprights. The samples came from identifiable structures: Palisade (Beta-202663) and internal uprights (Beta-202662 and Beta-202664) The dated material comprised sections of sapwood taken from small-medium diameter oak or ash uprights that were not more than 30 years old.

Finally, in 2006 an intensive site-specific evaluation revealed the discrete cultural horizon related to the Pile-dwelling settlement built over a partially choked water course. The bulk of the material encountered was fire-damaged and appeared to be the vestiges of a major conflagration event which destroyed the settlement. The carbonised food remains from the interior of a whole but burnt pottery vessel, Pot M, from the ‘cultural horizon’ was dated (Beta-243230) along with a piece of a large oak pile that had been stripped of its bark and sapwood (Beta-227132).

All six waterlogged wood samples dated from the 2005–6 evaluation were measured by conventional radiometric methods and lack precise information about the relationship of the dated material to the target event (in this case the felling of the timbers). Hence, although at the time of their submission they provided reliable samples to determine the age of the structures (Fig 23) they have been excluded from the analysis undertaken below due to the availability of the estimate derived from the wiggle-match of the ash master sequence.

The whole fire-damaged pottery vessel that contained carbonised food remains does, however, provides an important constraint on the date of construction of the Pile-dwelling settlement as it must post-date its building (see below).

Non-waterlogged wood samples from the 2015–6 excavations

Within the Pile-dwelling settlement the semi-articulated remains of a number, 15, of young lambs between the age of 3 and 6 months (Rajkovača 2024), were found within the footprints of the structures (Fig 24). The partial articulation is thought to be a product of the structure’s collapse as in most cases all skeletal elements were present. The lambs provided the opportunity to date samples that must post-date

the construction of the site and are therefore important for two reasons, firstly they provide an independent check on the accuracy of the estimate for year 0 obtained from the wiggle-match of the ash site sequence and secondly they allow us to determine how long the settlement might have been in use. Although a number of lines of evidence suggest the conflagration event happened very quickly following construction (Knight and Ballantyne 2024) independent scientific evidence to support this, even at the relatively ‘coarse’ resolution achievable by radiocarbon dating, is important.

Samples from three lambs were dated (Table 28; Appendix 2) and given the clear evidence that they all died at the same time the measurements have been combined using the OxCal function `Combine` (Fig 25) in the model described below.

Use

The model for the use of the Pile-dwelling settlement is shown in Figure 26. It has good overall agreement ($A_{\text{model}}: 123$). The difference between the latest dated material (*last_pile_dwelling_settlement*; Fig 26) and the estimate for construction (*ash_year_0*; Fig 22) of the Pile-dwelling settlement suggest it was only in use was a couple of decades (median 10 years).

Curation of human remains

Recent research (Booth and Brück 2020, 15) has suggested that a high proportion of unburnt disarticulated human remains from British Bronze Age contexts were probably already ‘old’ when they were deposited, providing the first clear evidence for the systematic curation of human bones in this period. The recovery of human skull fragments from two different individuals from the Pile-dwelling settlement has allowed us to ascertain whether a similar practice was also taking place at Must Farm (Fig 27). The radiocarbon results (Table 28; Appendix 2) do not provide a conclusive answer to how much older than the settlement the human remains are (Fig 28); although they would not have been more than more than c. 100 years old when deposited.

The palaeochannel

In order to help understand the setting into which the Causeway and Pile-dwelling settlement were built an attempt was made to date the sequence of deposits found within the palaeochannel (Fig 29). Given the wealth of evidence for the local environment both within the channel and in its immediate vicinity understanding the chronology of the deposits it contained was a key aim of the radiocarbon dating programme. But understanding when different deposits formed within features such as the palaeochannel is far from straightforward. Although the palaeochannel contained a wealth of organic material suitable for radiocarbon dating evaluating its relationship to the formation of a deposit is far from straightforward. An active freshwater channel such as that at Must Farm is by its very nature a dynamic environment with material continually being washed in, transported, deposited, eroded, and redeposited. Thus, identifying suitable material that is close in age to when a deposit formed for radiocarbon dating requires a degree of trial and error.

Initially we obtained twelve radiocarbon determinations from six pairs of samples comprising waterlogged plant material and single twigs from six horizons (Table 29; Appendix 2). By dating two different types of material we hoped to evaluate whether they could be of the same actual age or not. We had hypothesised based on work in similar environments (Chiverrell *et al* 2009) that it was more likely that the fragile waterlogged plant material should be closer in age to the date when the deposit they were contained in formed than the more robust twigs that could have been eroded from further upstream and redeposited (and hence be older than the deposit they were recovered finally recovered from).

Three of the pairs of measurements are statistically consistent at the 5% significance level (Table 30) and thus the waterlogged plant material and twigs from these deposits could be of the same actual age, but for the other three pairs of measurements the twigs are considerably older (Fig 30). The fact that the twigs are in three cases many 100s of years older than the waterlogged plant remains suggests that our original hypothesis that due to their more robust nature they are more prone to being residual in the deposit they are recovered from has some basis.

Additional information on the chronology of the palaeochannel is also provided by a radiocarbon date on the 'disarticulated' remains of a large dog found immediately below the shell influx layer [367]. Although the dog was not found in articulation the skeletal elements recovered, seven ribs, two mandibles, tibia and femur) suggest it has not moved far from where it was originally buried. Finally, the estimated date for the construction of the pile-dwelling settlement (*ash_year_0*) can provide a constraint for the age of deposits above and below it.

The model for the chronology of the palaeochannel is shown in Figure 31 (the CQL2 code is given in Appendix 3) and has good overall agreement (Amodel=102). Apart from the two radiocarbon dates from the base of the freshwater water sequence (SUERC-76191 and OxA-36403; sample 2, context [378]) that have been combined using the OxCal function *Combine*, the dates on waterlogged plant material and single twigs from the remaining five dated horizons have been treated as only providing maximum ages for their contexts (OxCal function *After*).

The earliest dated sedimentary unit [378] in the palaeochannel is estimated to have been deposited in *1615–1505 cal BC (95% probability; 2 [-3.25 to -3.26m OD]; Fig 31)* and probably *1610–1575 cal BC (34% probability)* or *1560–1515 cal BC (34% probability)*.

The shell influx layer [367] was deposited sometime after *1290–1125 cal BC (95% probability; ETH-96047; Fig 31)* and probably *1265–1200 cal BC (63% probability)* or *1140–1130 cal BC (5% probability)*. The estimated date for the construction of the pile-dwelling settlement — *865–835 cal BC (95% probability; ash_year_zero; Fig 31)* and probably *860–845 cal BC (68% probability)* — provides a *terminus post quem* for the sediments deposited after its destruction.

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TABLES

Table 1. Dendrochronology analysis summary

Group	Total ≥30yr analysed	≥30yr oak	dated	YZ	≥30yr ash	YZ	
causeway	42	41	10	-	1	-	Table 2
palisade	46	1	-	1	45	41	Table 8
str1	17	16	-	16	1	1	Table 9
str2	4	4	-	2	-	-	Table 10
str3	4	2	-	1	2	1	Table 11
str4	5	2	-	2	3	3	Table 12
str5	6	6	-	3	-	-	Table 13
other p-d	4	4	-	2	-	-	Table 14
other	12	12	6	-	-	-	Table 20
Total ≥30yr	140	88	16	27	52	46	

Short series	Total <30yr analysed	<30yr oak	YZ	<30yr ash	YZ	
Total <30yr	10	6	4	4	3	Table 17

YZ, relatively dated series, each of these timbers was found to be felled in the precisely same year. This year is currently unidentified by dendrochronological methods.

Table 2. Causeway dendrochronology samples

Wood Number	Dimensions mm	Wood type	Rings	Sap/Bark	Result
20	180 x 100	Oak	52+30	-	1370–1319 BC
37/362	230 x 230	Oak	57	H/S?	undated
38	270 x 270	Oak	36	H/S?	undated
39	310 x 160	Oak	68	5	1355–1288 BC
42	290 x 105	Oak	74	-	1373–1300 BC
55	220 x 180	Oak	41	H/S?	undated
163	200 x 140	Oak	56	H/S?	undated
180	230 x 220	Oak	46	H/S?	undated
181	225 x 155	Oak	115	H/S?	undated
186	210 x 170	Oak	50	H/S?	undated
369	190 x 100	Oak	102	-	undated
2713	150 x 130	Oak	36	-	undated
2809	300 x 260	Oak	60	-	undated
2853	170 x 150	Oak	87	22+sB	1371–1285 BC
2933	330 x 285	Oak	42	-	undated
2935	185 x 160	Oak	43	-	1358–1316 BC
2936	210 x 170	Oak	48	-	1364–1317 BC
2940	275 x 260	Oak	60	H/S?	undated
2944	325 x 280	Oak	53	-	undated
2946	210 x 115	Oak	69	-	undated
2956	270 x 240	Oak	35	-	undated

Wood Number	Dimensions mm	Wood type	Rings	Sap/Bark	Result
2957	230 x 135	Oak	82	-	undated
3249	270 x 250	Oak	41	H/S?	undated
3250	215 x 175	Oak	174	15	undated
3251	145 x 140	Oak	88	-	undated
4225	225 x 145	Oak	42	18	undated
4227	250 x 195	Oak	36	-	undated
4231	160 x 105	Oak	68	-	undated
4233	220 x 200	Ash	36	-	undated
4242	250 x 130	Oak	50	16+sB	undated
5602	165 x 50	Oak	40	-	undated
5825	120 x 110	Oak	75	-	1360–1286 BC
6420	230 x 120	Oak	55	-	1365–1311 BC
6422	245 x 240	Oak	64	-	undated
6423	230 x 90	Oak	59	H/S	1365–1307 BC
6424	280 x 220	Oak	52	-	undated
6427	165 x 80	Oak	49	-	1351–1303 BC
6430	250 x 100	Oak	53	-	undated
6645	130 x 100	Oak	30+51	-	undated
6860/7490	165 x 160	Oak	65	-	undated
7122	105 x 55	Oak	62	-	undated
7360	140 x 115	Oak	80	22	undated

Key for Tables 2, 8-14, 17, 20: **Num** wood number. **Dimensions** to nearest 5mm on major and minor axes. **Wood**, oak is *Quercus robur* or *Q. petraea* which cannot be differentiated, ash is *Fraxinus excelsior*. **Ring** counts in italics, are unmeasurable bands, these are estimated additional rings, **Sap/Bark** H/S? onset of sapwood (not for ash), +sB additional partial spring growth ring under bark, +Bw apparently full years growth, probably autumn/winter felled, +B ring too narrow to determine season of felling, +?B possible bark, ch charred outer. Note ash does not normally have differentiated heartwood/sapwood and only one sample was observed amongst the ash samples here, this was undated ash MUS06 127, part of the Palisade. **Result**, BC absolute dates where given are for the dendrochronologically dated sequences, using a calendar scale where 1 BC immediately precedes AD 1, i.e. there is no 0 BC or AD 0. YZ, relatively dated series, each of these timbers was found to be felled in the precisely same year, given a datum Year Zero for the felling year. This year is currently unidentified by dendrochronological methods. Undated, series which were not matched to either the YZ sequences, or the absolute tree-ring chronologies.

Table 3. Causeway intra-t values

	39	42	2853	2935	2936	5825	6420	6423	6427
20	4.03	3.24	4.82	-	-	-	3.66	-	3.13
39		6.95	5.61	5.71	5.69	8.50	5.54	4.87	5.83
42			4.99	7.16	4.16	6.38	6.34	5.75	4.26
2853				4.69	3.46	5.17	5.95	5.77	10.07
2935					4.28	5.07	4.81	4.05	3.70
2936						4.46	3.57	-	6.59
5825							7.25	8.62	5.04
6420								9.86	7.23
6423									6.52

Table 4. Causeway inter-t values, in distance order

	20	39	42	2853	2935	2936	5825	6420	6423	6427
Cambs FF88T JN	5.72	10.07	7.23	8.74	5.03	3.96	6.81	6.36	5.10	5.92
Cambs FG137T	5.31	11.89	8.69	7.76	6.75	5.62	11.74	8.27	6.02	6.63
Notts NQ ALL	3.10	-	3.89	4.55	-	4.36	3.59	3.07	-	4.37
Yorks HAS_BOG	4.31	4.01	4.66	5.10	3.05	-	4.81	4.87	4.26	3.89
Kent SWALCLF	3.91	4.95	5.71	3.95	4.80	3.84	3.81	3.09	-	3.35

Table 5: Must Farm causeway ‘in-the-round’ pile timber WD2944 radiocarbon and stable isotope results. Replicate measurements have been tested for statistical consistency and combined by taking a weighted mean before calibration as described by Ward and Wilson (1978; $T'(5\%)=3.8$, $v=1$ for all).

Laboratory reference	Sample ID, material & context	Radiocarbon Age (BP)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{IRMS}}$ (‰)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{AMS}}$ (‰)
ETH-106009	2944.1.1 Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp. heartwood ring 1, causeway ‘in-the-round’ pile timber 2944	3252±16		-23.5
GrM-22053	2944.1.2 Replicate of ETH-106009	3215±18	-23.5±0.15	
2944.1	^{14}C : 3236±12 BP, $T'=2.4$			
ETH-106010	2944.14 Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp. heartwood ring 14, causeway ‘in-the-round’ pile timber 2944	3214±16		-21.3
GrM-22054	2944.27 Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp. heartwood ring 27, causeway ‘in-the-round’ pile timber 2944	3190±18	-24.2±0.15	
ETH-106011	2944.40.1 Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp. heartwood ring 40, causeway ‘in-the-round’ pile timber 2944	3195±16		-23.9
GrM-22055	2944.40.2 Replicate of ETH-106011	3200±30	-27.1±0.15	
2944.40	^{14}C : 3196±15 BP, $T'=0.0$			
ETH-106012	2944.53 Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp. heartwood ring 53, causeway ‘in-the-round’ pile timber 2944	3210±26		-20.1

Table 6: Must Farm causeway ‘in-the-round’ pile timber 3249 radiocarbon and stable isotope results. Replicate measurements have been tested for statistical consistency and combined by taking a weighted mean before calibration as described by Ward and Wilson (1978; $T'(5\%)=3.8$, $v=1$ for all).

Laboratory reference	Sample ID, material & context	Radiocarbon Age (BP)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{IRMS}}$ (‰)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{AMS}}$ (‰)
GrM-22282	3249.1 Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp. heartwood ring 1, causeway ‘in-the-round’ pile timber 3249	3201±24	-26.2±0.15	
ETH-106006	3249.11 Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp. heartwood ring 11, causeway ‘in-the-round’ pile timber 3249	3173±16		-23.8
GrM-22051	3249.21 Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp. heartwood ring 21, causeway ‘in-the-round’ pile timber 3249	3154±18	-27.7±0.15	
GrM-22283	3249.31.1 Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp. heartwood ring 31, causeway ‘in-the-round’ pile timber 3249	3086±24	-28.8±0.15	
ETH-106007	3249.31.2 Replicate of GrM-22283	3163±26		-22.1
3249.31	^{14}C : 3122±18 BP, $T'=4.7$			
GrM-22052	3249.41.1 Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp. heartwood ring 41, causeway ‘in-the-round’ pile timber 3249	3147±18	-26.5±0.15	
ETH-106008	3249.41.2 Replicate of GrM-22052	3122±16		-26.6
3249.41	^{14}C : 3133±11 BP, $T'=1.1$			

Table 7: Must Farm causeway horizontal timber 6430 radiocarbon and stable isotope results. Replicate measurements have been tested for statistical consistency and combined by taking a weighted mean before calibration as described by Ward and Wilson (1978; $T'(5\%)=3.8$, $v=1$ for all).

Laboratory reference	Sample ID, material & context	Radiocarbon Age (BP)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{IRMS}}$ (‰)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{AMS}}$ (‰)
ETH-106002	6430.1 Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp. heartwood ring 1, from causeway horizontal timber 6430	3288±26	-	-20.2
ETH-106003	6430.14.1 Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp. heartwood ring 14, from causeway horizontal timber 6430	3206±16	-	-24.3
GrM-22048	6430.14.2 Replicate of ETH-106003	3190±20	-26.6±0.15	
6430.14	^{14}C : 3197±13 BP, $T'=0.2$			
ETH-106004	6430.27.1 Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp. heartwood ring 27, from causeway horizontal timber 6430	3182±16		-25.7
GrM-22281	6430.27.2 Replicate of ETH-106004	3070±45	-28.5±0.15	
6430.27	^{14}C : 3170±16 BP, $T'=5.4$			
GrM-22280	6430.40 Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp. heartwood ring 40, from causeway horizontal timber 6430	3088±23	-28.2±0.15	
ETH-106005	6430.53 Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp. heartwood ring 53, from causeway horizontal timber 6430	3143±16		-26.4

Table 8: Pile-dwelling Palisade dendrochronological samples

Num	Dimensions	Wood	Rings	Sap/Bark	Result
127	105 x 105	Ash	51	-	undated
128	90 x 90	Ash	37	-	undated
2717	105 x 105	Ash	40	+Bw	YZ
2719	120 x 120	Ash	47	+Bw	YZ
2731	90 x 90	Ash	43	+Bw	YZ
2735	125 x 125	Ash	20+55	+Bw	YZ
2737	95 x 85	Ash	45	+Bw	YZ
2738	115 x 110	Ash	48	+Bw	YZ
2743	125 x 125	Ash	49	+Bw	YZ
2748	115 x 115	Ash	42	+Bw	YZ
2753	115 x 115	Ash	43	+Bw	YZ
2755	110 x 110	Ash	46	+Bw	YZ
2759	120 x 120	Ash	61	+Bw	YZ
2760	100 x 95	Ash	44	+Bw	YZ
2762	95 x 90	Ash	49	+Bw	YZ
2770	145 x 135	Ash	45	+Bw	YZ
2774	140 x 135	Ash	46	+Bw	YZ
2777	135 x 120	Ash	43	+Bw	YZ
2781	125 x 120	Ash	50	+Bw	YZ
2806	145 x 135	Ash	40	+Bw	YZ
2815	130 x 130	Ash	42	+Bw	YZ
2819	115 x 110	Ash	46	+Bw	YZ
2820	110 x 110	Ash	43	+Bw	YZ
2821	115 x 105	Oak	33	13+B	YZ
2822	115 x 115	Ash	39	+Bw	YZ
2824	115 x 115	Ash	43	+Bw	YZ
2830	115 x 115	Ash	40	+Bw	YZ
2834	110 x 110	Ash	43	+Bw	YZ
2840	140 x 130	Ash	42	+Bw	YZ
2845	120 x 120	Ash	45	+Bw	YZ
2848	135 x 130	Ash	44	+Bw	YZ
2849	140 x 140	Ash	12+47	+Bw	YZ
2869	110 x 110	Ash	45	+Bw	YZ
2881	125 x 120	Ash	39	+Bw	YZ
2882	125 x 125	Ash	45	+Bw	YZ
2913	135 x 135	Ash	43	+Bw	YZ
2914	90 x 90	Ash	43	+Bw	YZ
2915	100 x 100	Ash	56	+Bw	YZ
2916	105 x 105	Ash	44	+Bw	YZ
2917	105 x 105	Ash	17+30	+Bw	undated
2918	115 x 115	Ash	44	+Bw	YZ
2921	115 x 115	Ash	41	+Bw	YZ
3008	140 x 140	Ash	47	+Bw	YZ
3020	150 x 145	Ash	45	+Bw	undated
6038	115 x 115	Ash	46	+Bw	YZ
6501	115 x 110	Ash	42	+Bw	YZ

2882 = MUS06 638, 2916 = MUS06 136, 2918 = MUS06 134

Table 9: Pile-dwelling Structure 1 dendrochronological samples

Num	Dimensions	Wood	Rings	Sap/Bark	Result
2772	145 x 145	Oak	30	10+Bw	YZ
2775	160 x 155	Oak	31	13+Bw	YZ
2780	160 x 155	Oak	40	14+Bw	YZ
2784	160 x 160	Oak	36	13+Bw	YZ
2785	160 x 150	Oak	36	18+Bw	YZ
2787	160 x 155	Oak	33	11+?B	YZ?
2803	155 x 155	Oak	32	14+Bw	YZ
3505	195 x 155	Oak	36	13 ch	YZ?
3526	130 x 70	Oak	33	14 ch	YZ?
3542	145 x 145	Ash	36	+Bw ch	YZ
3565	155 x 70	Oak	33	13+Bw	YZ
3600	140 x 80	Oak	40	21+Bw ch	YZ
3601	150 x 75	Oak	34	13+Bw	YZ
3626	145 x 70	Oak	33	17+Bw ch	YZ
3747	170 x 80	Oak	30	10+Bw	YZ
3916	190 x 105	Oak	35	12 ch	YZ?
3936	135 x 80	Oak	31	19+Bw	YZ

Table 10: Pile-dwelling Structure 2 dendrochronological samples

Num	Dimensions	Wood	Rings	Sap/Bark	Result
4777	195 x 90	Oak	43	17+Bw	YZ
5054	100 x 95	Oak	31	14+Bw	YZ
5309	160 x 45	Oak	139	7	Undated
5319	195 x 55	Oak	31	-	Undated

Table 11. Pile-dwelling Structure 3 dendrochronological samples

Num	Dimensions	Wood	Rings	Sap/Bark	Result
2804	160 x 155	Oak	30	12+Bw	YZ
3021	140 x 135	Ash	44	+Bw	undated
3022	170 x 145	Ash	40	+Bw	YZ
5679	160 x 80	Oak	33	15+Bw ch	undated

Table 12: Pile-dwelling Structure 4 dendrochronological samples

Num	Dimensions	Wood	Rings	Sap/Bark	Result
5148	115 x 60	Ash	34	+Bw ch	YZ
5243	170 x 80	Oak	33	14+Bw	YZ
5262	190 x 105	Oak	31	12+Bw	YZ
5272	145 x 50	Ash	39	+Bw	YZ
5702	165 x 75	Ash	33	+B ch	YZ

Table 13: Pile-dwelling Structure 5 dendrochronological samples

Num	Dimensions	Wood	Rings	Sap/Bark	Result
663	145 x 130	Oak	40	17+Bw	YZ
2945	150 x 140	Oak	39	14+Bw	YZ
2955	125 x 125	Oak	37	15+Bs	undated
4261	155 x 140	Oak	33	13+Bw ch	YZ

4266	170 x 145	Oak	31	9+Bw	undated
4278	120 x 70	Oak	61	H/S	undated

4261 = MUS06 151

Table 14: Other Pile-dwelling structural timbers, dendrochronological samples

Num	Dimensions	Wood	Rings	Sap/Bark	Result
3341	160 x 100	Oak	41	22+Bw ch	YZ
5201	155 x 85	Oak	39	12+Bw	YZ
5837	175 x 70	Oak	51	-	undated
7060	55 x 40	Oak	43	-	undated

5837 = MUS06 630/376

Table 15: Year zero oak intra t-values in numerical order not structural order

	2772	2775	2780	2784	2785	2787	2803	2804	2821	2945	3341	3505	3526	3565	3600	3601	3626	3747	3916	3936	4261	4777	5054	5201	5243	5262
0663	-	3.90	-	-	3.16	-	-	3.13	-	-	4.62	4.67	-	4.73	4.53	3.38	4.31	-	-	-	3.21	-	3.25	4.14	-	-
2772		3.88	5.08	5.07	6.00	5.38	5.96	5.32	3.87	3.59	-	3.94	5.40	3.85	3.89	-	5.26	3.72	7.38	-	4.74	3.59	3.85	8.83	4.77	3.92
2775			4.09	-	3.09	4.37	4.67	5.69	3.80	3.81	4.20	4.28	3.51	5.77	4.80	4.52	4.21	4.86	3.02	5.55	4.40	4.62	3.67	4.29	4.16	-
2780				4.45	6.65	6.80	5.97	5.69	4.68	4.58	4.01	4.91	6.04	3.27	4.73	3.61	6.48	5.09	5.78	3.80	4.69	3.94	-	5.23	4.64	-
2784					3.95	4.41	3.51	3.49	4.39	3.16	3.13	3.84	-	-	4.82	-	-	3.64	5.95	-	3.08	3.94	-	3.79	5.39	-
2785						4.82	5.99	5.67	3.80	4.21	3.29	5.44	7.77	3.30	4.80	-	5.36	3.97	6.66	4.24	3.04	4.00	3.24	8.17	5.02	-
2787							4.98	4.60	6.57	3.59	4.29	4.34	7.02	-	4.52	-	4.15	6.90	6.62	5.51	3.51	5.09	-	4.53	5.43	-
2803								5.99	4.16	4.14	3.99	3.32	5.46	4.26	4.64	3.38	4.88	4.87	6.19	4.40	4.44	5.54	3.02	5.59	5.51	3.42
2804									5.37	4.42	3.54	5.06	4.27	4.35	4.45	-	5.45	6.69	5.14	4.28	3.57	3.11	3.85	5.01	4.65	-
2821										4.27	-	3.92	5.77	-	-	-	3.17	6.79	6.72	3.22	3.92	4.58	-	-	4.28	-
2945											-	3.90	4.10	3.53	-	4.41	6.44	3.34	4.42	-	3.83	6.00	3.67	3.33	-	-
3341												4.58	-	-	11.57	-	-	4.49	3.82	4.62	-	3.23	-	4.58	3.49	-
3505													4.36	3.26	5.86	-	5.01	-	5.18	3.63	-	4.14	-	6.59	3.32	-
3526														-	-	-	4.89	5.23	6.92	4.06	3.27	3.96	-	5.48	4.78	3.10
3565															-	5.81	5.47	-	-	3.49	3.95	3.03	6.40	5.03	-	-
3600																-	3.08	4.29	4.40	4.59	-	4.09	-	6.32	4.56	-
3601																										
3626																										
3747																										
3916																										
3936																										
4261																										
4777																										
5054																										
5201																										
5243																										

Table 17: Pile-dwelling Sub-30 ring test data

Num	Dimensions	Wood	Rings	Sap/Bark	Result	Structure
2718	80 x 80	Ash	19	+Bw	YZ	Palisade
2720	80 x 80	Ash	19	+Bw	YZ	Palisade
2778	140 x 125	Oak	28	14+Bw	YZ	Str 1
2792	160 x 155	Oak	27	12+Bw	YZ	Str 1
3684	120 x 110	Oak	27	17+Bw	YZ	Str 1
3776	85 x 85	Oak	27	12	undated	Str 1
4722	150 x 130	Ash	28	+Bw	YZ	Str 2
4894	140 x 60	Ash	24	+Bw	undated	Str 2
4320	70 x 70	Oak	28	8+ch	undated	Str 5
3153	125 x 60	Oak	28	11+Bw	YZ	Other structural

Table 18: t-values between the Year Zero oak composite sequence, and 4 of the sub-30 year oaks. 2778, 2792 and 3684 are from Structure 2, 3153 is an unattributed Structural timber

	2778	2792	3684	3153
YZ oak composite	6.47	3.57	4.06	5.15

Table 19. t-values between the Year Zero ash composite sequence, and 3 of the sub-30 year ash. 2718 & 2720 are from the Palisade, 4722 is from Structure 2

	2718	2720	4722
YZ ash composite	5.69	3.49	4.63

Table 20: Other timbers unattributed to Pile-dwelling structures, dendrochronological samples

Num	Site	Dimensions	Wood	Rings	Sap/Bark	Result
1475	MUS10	80 x 45	Oak	82	H/S?	undated
1550	MUS11	160 x 75	Oak	36	14+sB	undated
1769	MUS11	150 x 75	Oak	58	-	990–933 BC
2700	MUS15	125 x 60	Oak	63	-	undated
2709	MUS15	290 x 220	Oak	57	7	undated
2711	MUS15	150 x 55	Oak	119	-	1046–928 BC
2970	MUS15	120 x 90	Oak	60	-	undated
5812	MUS15	280 x 35	Oak	91	-	undated
7316	MUS15	145 x 50	Oak	76	-	1008–933 BC
7324	MUS15	205 x 55	Oak	97	-	1065–969 BC
7325	MUS15	180 x 50	Oak	126	H/S?	1032–907 BC
100	MAP08	220 x 105	Oak	81	-	1004–924 BC

Table 21. Non-pile-dwelling intra-t-values

	2711	7316	7324	7325	MAP100
1769	7.48	5.31	-	6.51	9.13
2711		3.82	5.11	8.28	9.79
7316			3.67	4.33	5.86
7324				3.81	-
7325					6.39

Table 22. Non-pile dwelling inter t-values, in distance order

	1769	2711	7316	7324	7325	MAP100
Cambs FF88 JN	5.40	9.79	5.53	5.08	7.92	8.23
Cambs FG137 JN	-	6.08	3.60	6.25	3.69	3.27
Notts NQ02 NQ06 NQBM IT	3.48	4.26	3.09	3.03	4.64	4.73
Wales Caldicot Castle JH	\	4.67	\	-	3.97	\
Somerset Skinners (Hillam 1993)	\	3.67	-	-	-	-
Somerset Greylake JH	4.61	4.57	-	3.38	5.72	3.75
Co Durham Swan Carr QUB	-	-	-	-	-	3.70

Table 23. The dating of 2 late timbers from Fengate. It was previously known that these cross-matched each other; Y1121/Y1338 t-value 14.23, and that they, or at least Y1338 which is the longer sequence, matched a handful of other series from the Flag Fen/Fengate sites (Neve and Hillam pers comm)

	Y1121	Y1338	Y1121+Y1338
Fengate Y92	-	5.52	5.63
Flag Fen A1895	\	5.85	6.00
Flag Fen A8044	\	5.26	5.25
Flag Fen B61+B1721+B63+B190	\	10.20	10.20

Table 24. All six later Must Farm and Magna Park series replicate this result

	1769	2711	7316	7324	7325	MAP100
Y1121	5.03	3.03	-	\	4.29	6.34
Y1338	4.99	6.65	4.49	4.62	5.12	8.14
Y1121+Y1338	5.66	6.62	4.60	5.01	5.98	8.93

Table 25: Must Farm timber WD2759 radiocarbon and stable isotope results. Replicate measurements have been tested for statistical consistency and combined by taking a weighted mean before calibration as described by Ward and Wilson (1978; $T'(5\%)=3.8$, $\nu=1$ for all).

Laboratory reference	Material & context	Radiocarbon Age (BP)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{IRMS}}$ (‰)
SUERC-74902	Waterlogged wood, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L., rings -59 to -55, from wooden pile WD2759, part of a palisade of ash and oak piles (F.900)	2766±33	-26.7±0.2
OxA-36039	Replicate of SUERC-74902	2745±25	-28.4±0.2
Rings 59 to 55	^{14}C : 2753±20 BP, $T'=0.3$; $\delta^{13}\text{C}$: -27.6±0.15‰, $T''=36.1$;		
OxA-36040	Waterlogged wood, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L., rings -54 to -50, as SUERC-74902	2731±25	-28.7±0.2
SUERC-74906	Waterlogged wood, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L., rings -49 to -45, as SUERC-74902	2744±33	-26.4±0.2
OxA-36203	Waterlogged wood, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L., rings -44 to -40, as SUERC-74902	2712±30	-25.9±0.2
SUERC-74907	Waterlogged wood, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L., rings -39 to -35, as SUERC-74902	2683±33	-23.6±0.2
OxA-36041	Waterlogged wood, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L., rings -34 to -30, as SUERC-74902	2675±24	-24.2±0.2
SUERC-74908	Waterlogged wood, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L., rings -29 to -25, as SUERC-74902	2669±33	-24.0±0.2
OxA-36042	Replicate of SUERC-74908	2728±24	-26.0±0.2
Rings 29 to 25	^{14}C : 2708±20 BP, $T'=2.1$; $\delta^{13}\text{C}$: -25.0±0.15‰, $T''=50.0$;		
OxA-36043	Waterlogged wood, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L., rings -24 to -20, as SUERC-74902	2719±24	-24.5±0.2
OxA-36044	Replicate of OxA-36043	2670±24	-25.2±0.2
Rings 24 to 20	^{14}C : 2695±17 BP, $T'=2.1$; $\delta^{13}\text{C}$: -24.9±0.15‰, $T''=6.1$;		
SUERC-74909	Waterlogged wood, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L., rings -19 to -15, as SUERC-74902	2771±33	-23.4±0.2
OxA-36045	Waterlogged wood, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L., rings -14 to -10, as SUERC-74902	2707±24	-24.1±0.2
SUERC-74910	Waterlogged wood, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L., rings -9 to -5, as SUERC-74902	2694±33	-22.8±0.2
SUERC-74911	Waterlogged wood, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L., rings -4 to 0, as SUERC-74902	2797±33	-26.5±0.2
OxA-36075	Replicate of SUERC-74911	2744±28	-25.3±0.2
Rings 4 to 0	^{14}C : 2723±22 BP, $T'=1.3$; $\delta^{13}\text{C}$: -25.9±0.15‰, $T''=18.0$;		

Table 26: Must Farm timber WD2882 radiocarbon and stable isotope results. The replicate measurements have been tested for statistical consistency and combined by taking a weighted mean before calibration as described by Ward and Wilson (1978; $T^*(5\%)=7.8$, $v=3$).

Laboratory reference	Sample ID, material & context	Radiocarbon Age (BP)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{IRMS}}$ (‰)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{AMS}}$ (‰)
ETH-106013	Waterlogged wood, <i>Fraxinus excelsior L.</i> , ring 0 from wooden pile 2882, part of a palisade of ash and oak piles (F.900)	2775±26		-21.7
ETH-106014	Replicate of ETH-106013	2739±16		-24.5
GrM-22056	Replicate of ETH-106013	2731±24	-27.1±0.15	
GrM-22056	Replicate of ETH-106013	2750±25	-27.4±0.15	
Ring 0	^{14}C : 2746±11 BP, $T^*=1.9$			

Table 27: Must Farm 2005–6 evaluation: radiocarbon and stable isotope results

Laboratory reference	Material & context	Radiocarbon Age (BP)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{IRMS}}$ (‰)
Beta-227132	Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp., ?heartwood (stripped of its bark and sapwood) causeway pile, post 40	2920±60	-25.3
Beta-202662	Waterlogged wood, <i>Fraxinus</i> sp., sapwood from palisaded settlement pile post 1, <30 years	2810±40	-26.7
Beta-202663	Waterlogged wood, <i>Fraxinus</i> sp., sapwood from palisaded settlement pile, post 7, <30 years	2760±40	-25.9
Beta-202664	Waterlogged wood, <i>Quercus</i> sp., sapwood palisaded settlement pile, post 14, <30 years	2750±40	-28.7
Beta-201982	Waterlogged wood, unidentified ?heartwood, grab sample of submerged timbers<8>	2790±70	-25.0*
Beta-201983	Waterlogged wood, unidentified ?heartwood, grab sample of submerged timber<10>	2480±60	-25.0*
Beta-243230	Carbonised residue adhering to the interior of ceramic vessel, Pot M, from the 'cultural horizon'	2700±40	-23.1

* assume value

Table 28: Must Farm animal and human bone radiocarbon and stable isotope results. Replicate measurements have been tested for statistical consistency and combined by taking a weighted mean before calibration as described by Ward and Wilson (1978; $T'(5\%)=3.8$, $v=1$).

Laboratory code	Sample ID, material & context	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{IRMS}}$ (‰)	$\delta^{15}\text{N}_{\text{IRMS}}$ (‰)	C:N	Radiocarbon age (BP)
ETH-96049	<4089> [3211]A Animal bone, sheep/goat, right mandible (V Rajkovaca) from a semi-articulated lamb skeleton <4089>	-23.5±0.1	10.7±0.1	3.6	2763±22
GrM-17691	<4089> [3211]B Replicate of ETH-96049	-23.3±0.15	10.7±0.3	3.4	2776±24
^{14}C : 2747±17 BP, $T'=0.9$; $\delta^{13}\text{C}$: -23.3±0.1‰, $T'=0.0$; $\delta^{15}\text{N}$: 3.8±0.7‰, $T'=6.4$					
ETH-96048	SF4718 Animal bone, sheep/goat, right mandible (V Rajkovaca) <2818> SF4718 [3211] from part of a group of semi-articulated lamb skeletons (3–6 months) within the footprint of collapsed Structure 1 [3211]	-23.4±0.1	10.0±0.1	3.5	2787±22
GrM-17690	SF4118 Animal bone, sheep/goat, right mandible (V Rajkovaca) <2189> SF4118 [3231] part of a semi-articulated lamb skeleton (3–6 months) within the footprint of collapsed Structure 4 [3231]	-23.2±0.15	9.9±0.3	3.5	2776±24
GrM-17689	SF4504 Human skull fragment, left parietal (N Dodwell), <2600> SF4504 [3208] from the formative midden deposit located immediately outside (west) of the footprint of Structure 2.	2750±25	-20.5±0.1 5	10.3± 0.3	3.2
ETH-96046	SF3167 Human skull fragment (no mandible and left temporal bone missing) (N Dodwell), <1171> SF3167 [3207] from formative midden deposit [3208] between Structure 1 and 2	2769±23	-20.5±0.1	10.7± 0.1	3.5

Table 29: Must Farm palaeochannel (MU06) radiocarbon and stable isotope results

Laboratory number	Sample ID, material & context	Radiocarbon Age (BP)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{IRMS}}$ (‰)	$\delta^{15}\text{C}_{\text{IRMS}}$ (‰)	C:N ratio
UBA-35750	26a [-1.615 to -1.625m OD] Waterlogged plant remains, 2 <i>Ranunculus acris/bulbosus/repens</i> achene +4 <i>Rumex</i> sp. small achene + 1 <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> cone + 4 <i>Oenanthe aquatica</i> mericarp + 5 <i>Rumex maritimus</i> fruit + 13 <i>Schoenoplectus lacustris</i> nut + 1 <i>Rumex</i> sp. large achene + 2 <i>Carex</i> sp. trigonous nut, from context (356), 0.465–0.457m down core; a silt with rare shell or wood fragments that formed in the palaeochannel long after the conflagration of the platform.	2698±30	-27.3±0.22		
SUERC-76592	26b [-1.615 to -1.625m OD] Waterlogged unidentified twig fragment, from the same context as 26a	2661±30	-28.0±0.2		
OxA-36406	24a [-1.905 to -1.915m OD] 1 <i>Ranunculus acris/bulbosus/repens</i> achene + 4+1 frag <i>Rumex</i> sp. small achene + 2 frag <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> cone + 2 <i>Rubus</i> subgen. <i>Rubus</i> seed + 1 <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> seed + 5 <i>Oenanthe aquatica</i> mericarp + 2 <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. seed + 1 <i>Sambucus</i> sp. seed + 1 <i>Rumex maritimus</i> fruit +30 <i>Schoenoplectus lacustris</i> nut + 2 <i>Rumex</i> sp. large fruit +6 <i>Carex</i> sp. trigonous nut + 5 <i>Rumex</i> sp. large achene, from context (357), 0.755–0.765m down core; a shelly/woody silt that formed in the palaeochannel after the conflagration of the platform	2911±28	-26.8±0.2		
UBA-35749	24b [-1.905 to -1.915m OD] Waterlogged unidentified twig fragment, from the same context as 24b	3430±30	-27.5±0.22		
UBA-35748	19a [-2.205 to -2.215m OD] Waterlogged plant remains, 2 <i>Ranunculus acris/bulbosus/repens</i> achene +8 <i>Rumex</i> sp. small achene + 1 frag <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> cone + 1 <i>Oenanthe aquatica</i> mericarp+ 1 <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> seed + 1 <i>Oenanthe</i> sp. mericarp + 1 frag <i>Atriplex patula/prostrata</i> seed + 1 <i>Solanum dulcamara</i> seed + 2 <i>Persicaria</i> sp. achene + 29 <i>Schoenoplectus lacustris</i> nut + 2 <i>Rumex maritimus</i> fruit +2 <i>Carex</i> sp. trigonous nut +2+1 frag <i>Rumex</i> sp. large achene, from context (367c); 1.055–1.065m down core, a major shell-rich silt that formed in the palaeochannel prior to construction of the platform.	2958±30	-26.5±0.22		
OxA-36405	19b [-2.205 to -2.215m OD]	3494±28	-28.2±0.2		

Laboratory number	Sample ID, material & context	Radiocarbon Age (BP)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{IRMS}}$ (‰)	$\delta^{15}\text{C}_{\text{IRMS}}$ (‰)	C:N ratio
	Waterlogged unidentified twig fragment, from the same context as 19a				
ETH-96047	<1349> [390] Animal bone, <i>Canis</i> , right rib (V Rajkovaca) from the 'disarticulated' remains (7 ribs, 2 mandibles, 1 tibia & 2 femurs) of a large dog found close together on the surface of river silt [368] and immediately below the shell influx layer [367]	3006±23	-20.3±0.1	7.6±0.1	3.5
OxA-36404	15a [-2.39 to -2.4m OD] Waterlogged plant remains, 1 <i>Ranunculus acris/bulbosus/repens</i> achene + 4 <i>Rumex</i> sp. small achene + 1 small <i>Ranunculus</i> sp. achene + 1 <i>Rubus</i> subgen. <i>Rubus</i> seed + 1 frag <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> cone + 1 <i>Ilex aquifolium</i> seed + 1 <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> seed + 3 <i>Oenanthe</i> sp. mericarp + 1 <i>Chenopodium</i> sp. seed + 18 <i>Schoenoplectus lacustris</i> nut + 1 <i>Atriplex patula/prostrata</i> seed, from context (367a), 1.24–1.25m down core; a major shell-rich silt that formed in the palaeochannel prior to construction of the platform.	3000±29	-26.4±0.2		
SUERC-76591	15b [-2.39 to -2.4m OD] Waterlogged unidentified twig fragment, from the same context as 15a	3349±30	-27.7±0.2		
UBA-35747	10a[-2.76 to -2.77m OD] Waterlogged plant remains, 2+1 frag <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> cone + 3 <i>Oenanthe aquatica</i> mericarp + 5 <i>Rumex</i> sp. large fruit + <i>Sambucus</i> sp. seed + 1 <i>Rumex</i> sp. small achene + 7 <i>Schoenoplectus lacustris</i> nuts + 1 <i>Rubus</i> subgen <i>Rubus</i> seed + <i>Carex</i> sp. <i>trigonous</i> nut, from context (380); 1.61–1.62m down core; a shell-rich silt lens within [381], a major deposit of freshwater silts laminated with thin bands of sand.	3267±34	-27.2±0.22		
SUERC-76192	10b[-2.76 to -2.77m OD] Waterlogged unidentified twig fragment, from the same context as 10a	3324±26	-27.0±0.2		
OxA-36403	2a[-3.25 to -3.26m OD] Waterlogged plant remains, <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> 8x cones + 7x cone fragments, from context (378), 2.1–2.11m down profile; a woody silt forming the first freshwater sediment in the palaeochannel underneath the platform	3301±27	-26.2±0.2		
SUERC-76191	2b[-3.25 to -3.26m OD] Waterlogged unidentified twig fragment, from the same context as 2a	3282±29	-27.3±0.2		

Table 30: Must Farm: MUS06 palaeochannel statistical consistency of radiocarbon determinations for duplicate samples from 10mm sediment samples

Sample ref.	Depth down profile	Laboratory Code	Radiocarbon Age (BP)	Statistical consistency (Ward and Wilson 1978; T'(5%)=3.8, v=1;)
26 [-1.615 to -1.625m OD]	0.465–0.457m	UBA-35750	2698±30	T'=0.8
		SUERC-76592	2661±30	
24 [-1.905 to -1.915m OD]	0.755–0.765m	OxA-36406	2911±28	T'=160.4
		UBA-35749	3430±30	
19 [-2.205 to -2.215m OD]	1.055–1.065m	UBA-35748	2958±30	T'=169.5
		OxA-36405	3494±28	
15 [-2.39 to -2.4m OD]	1.24–1.25m	OxA-36404	3000±29	T'=70.0
		SUERC-76591	3349±30	
10 [-2.76 to -2.77m OD]	1.61–1.62m	UBA-35747	3267±34	T'=1.6
		SUERC-76192	3324±27	
2 [-3.25 to -3.26m OD]	2.1–2.11m	OxA-36403	3301±27	T'=0.2

FIGURES

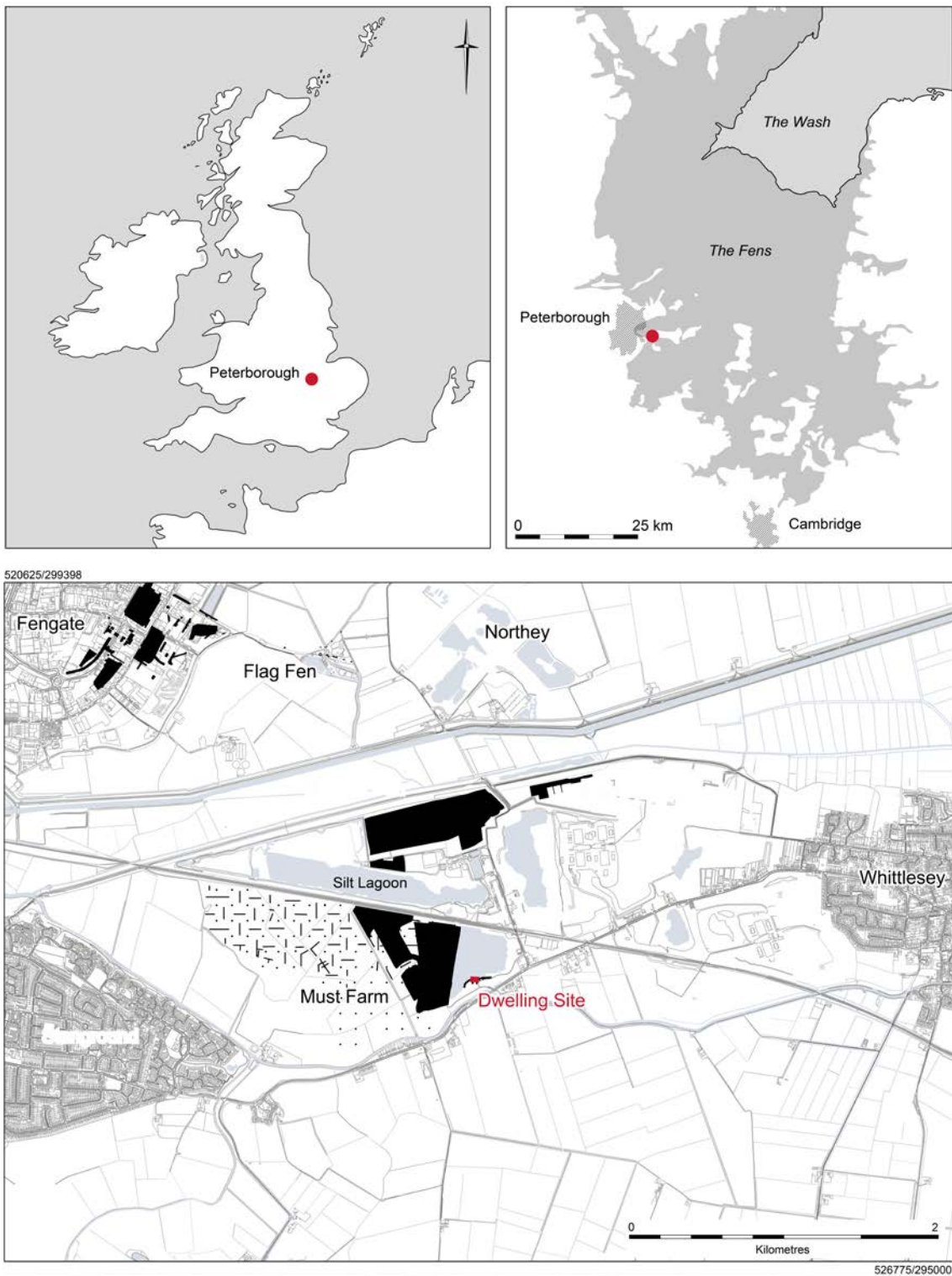


Figure 1: Site location (© Cambridge Archaeological Unit)

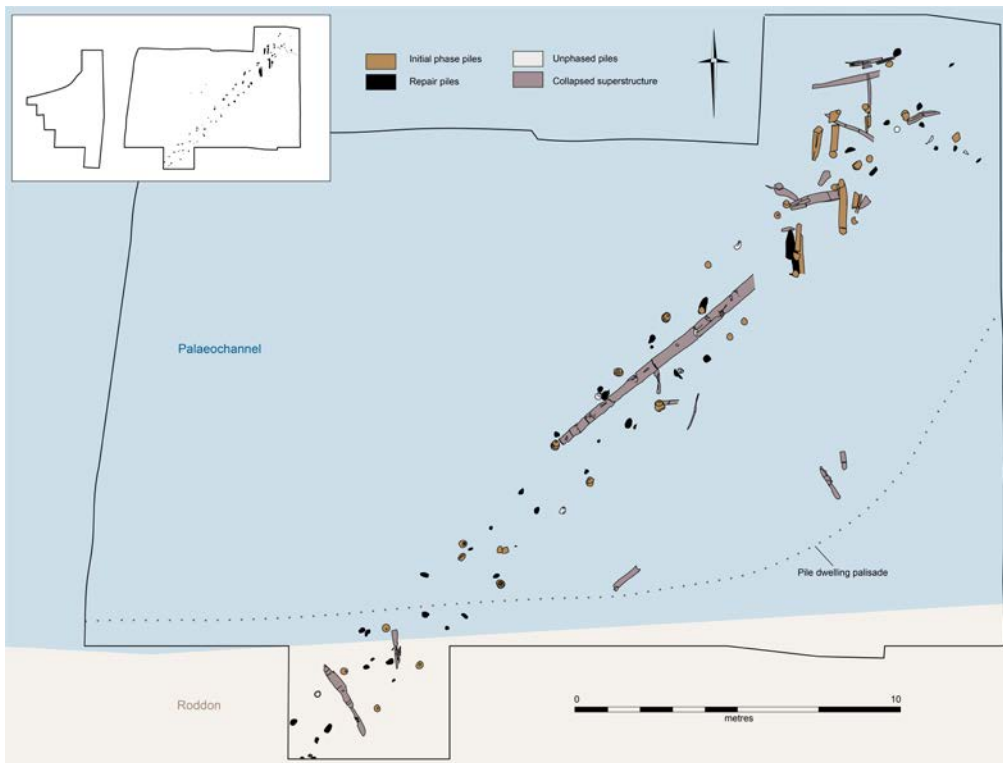


Figure 2: Plan of the Must Farm causeway (© Cambridge Archaeological Unit)



Figure 3: Causeway piles from initial phase: (a) deep-set bridge pile; (b) detail of 'carved lugs' (© Cambridge Archaeological Unit)

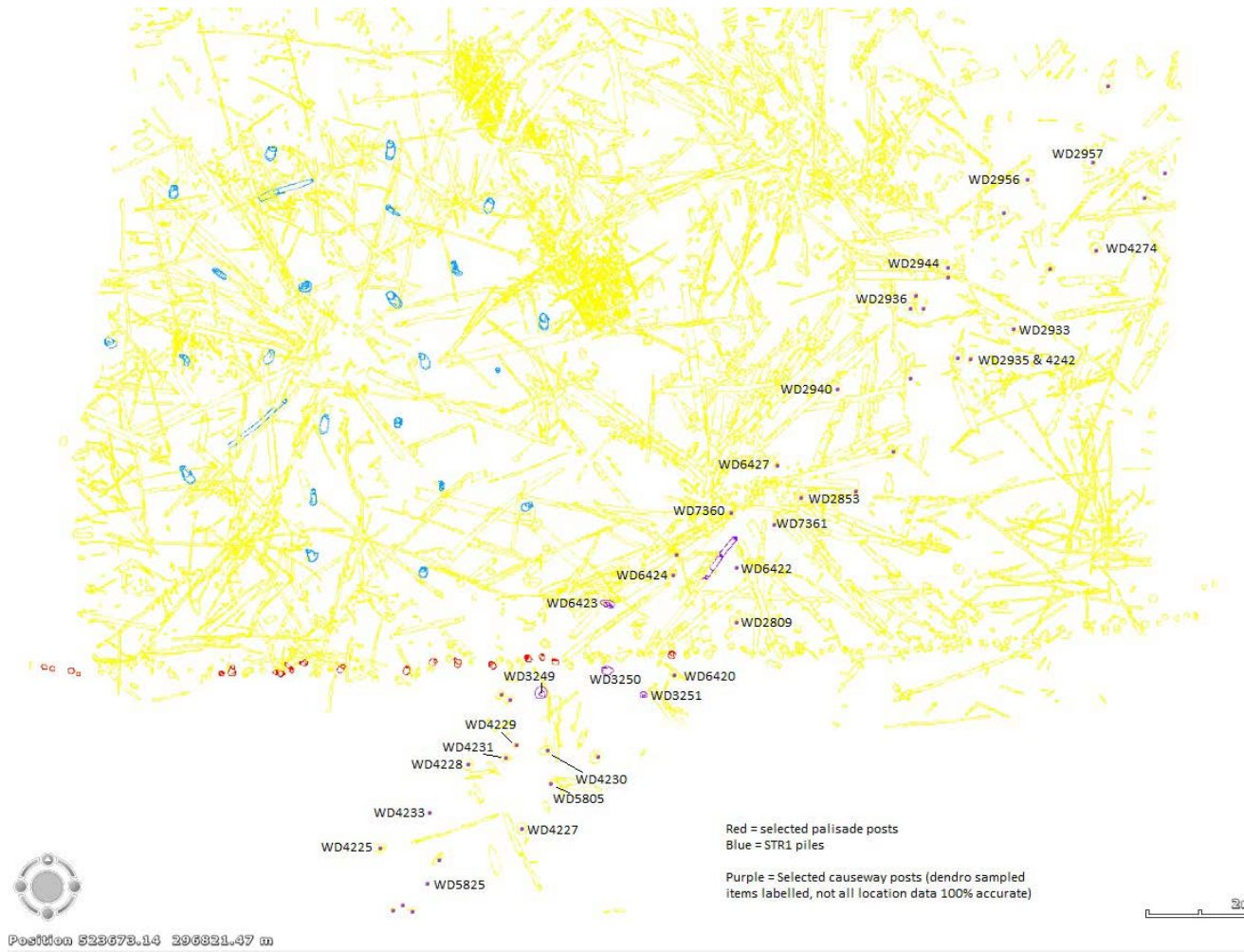


Figure 4: Causeway posts sampled for dendrochronological analysis, WD2809, WD2853, WD2933, WD2935, WD2936. (© Cambridge Archaeological Unit)

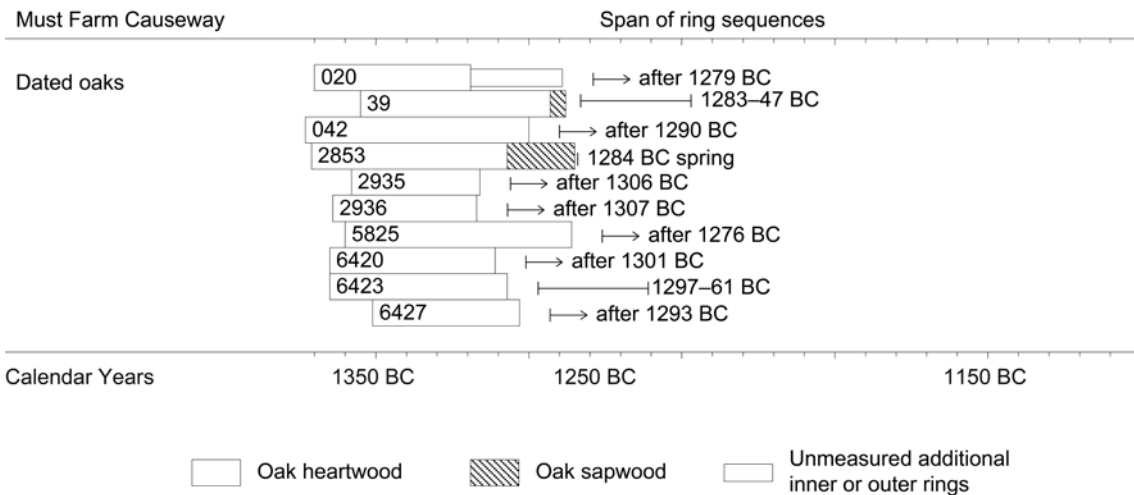


Figure 5: Bar diagram showing dated oak tree-ring sequences from the Must Farm causeway. Interpretations using a 10–46 year sapwood estimate

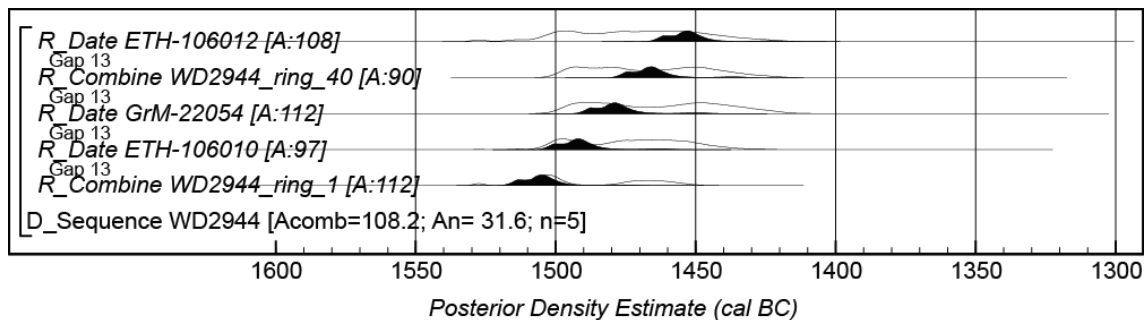


Figure 6. Probability distributions of dates from WD2944. Each distribution represents the relative probability that an event occurs at a particular time. For each of the dates two distributions have been plotted: one in outline, which is the simple radiocarbon calibration, and a solid one, based on the wiggle-match sequence. The large square brackets down the left-hand side along with the OxCal keywords define the overall model exactly

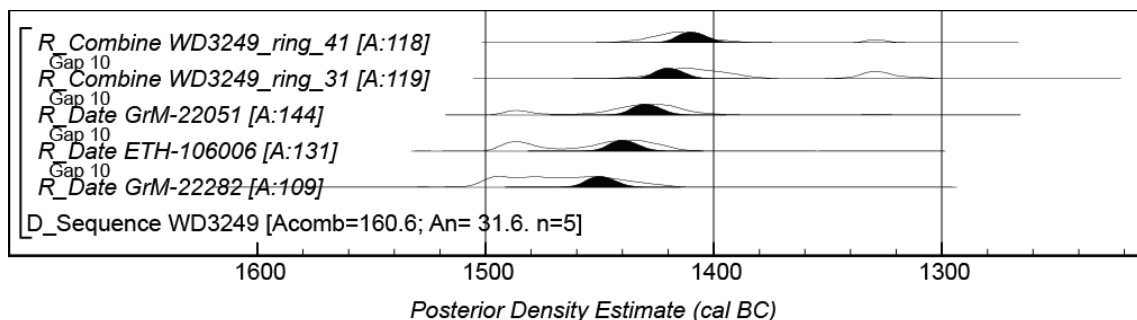


Figure 7. Probability distributions of dates from WD3249. The format is identical to that of Figure 6. The large square brackets down the left-hand side along with the OxCal keywords define the overall model exactly

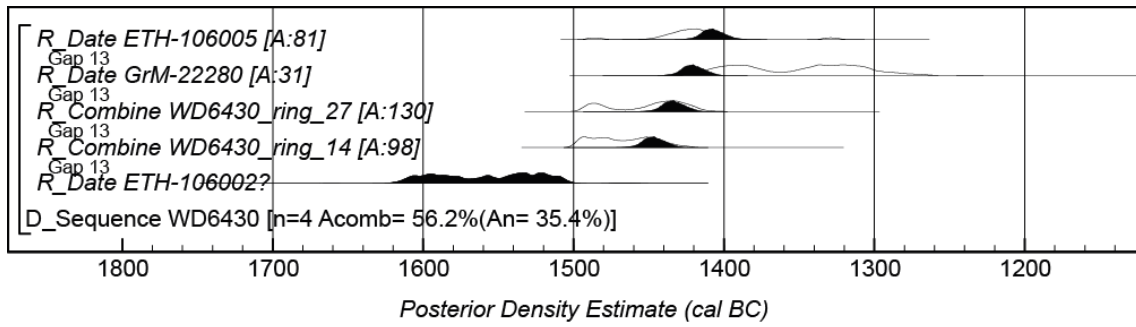


Figure 8. Probability distributions of dates from WD6430. The format is identical to that of Figure 6. The large square brackets down the left-hand side along with the OxCal keywords define the overall model exactly

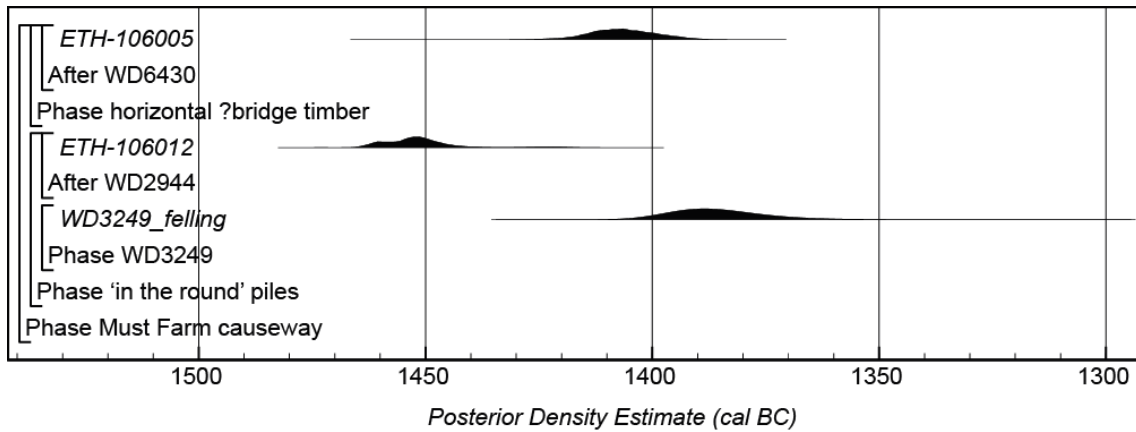


Figure 9. Probability distributions of dates from timbers WD3249, WD2944, and WD6430. The distributions are derived from the models shown in Figures 6–8

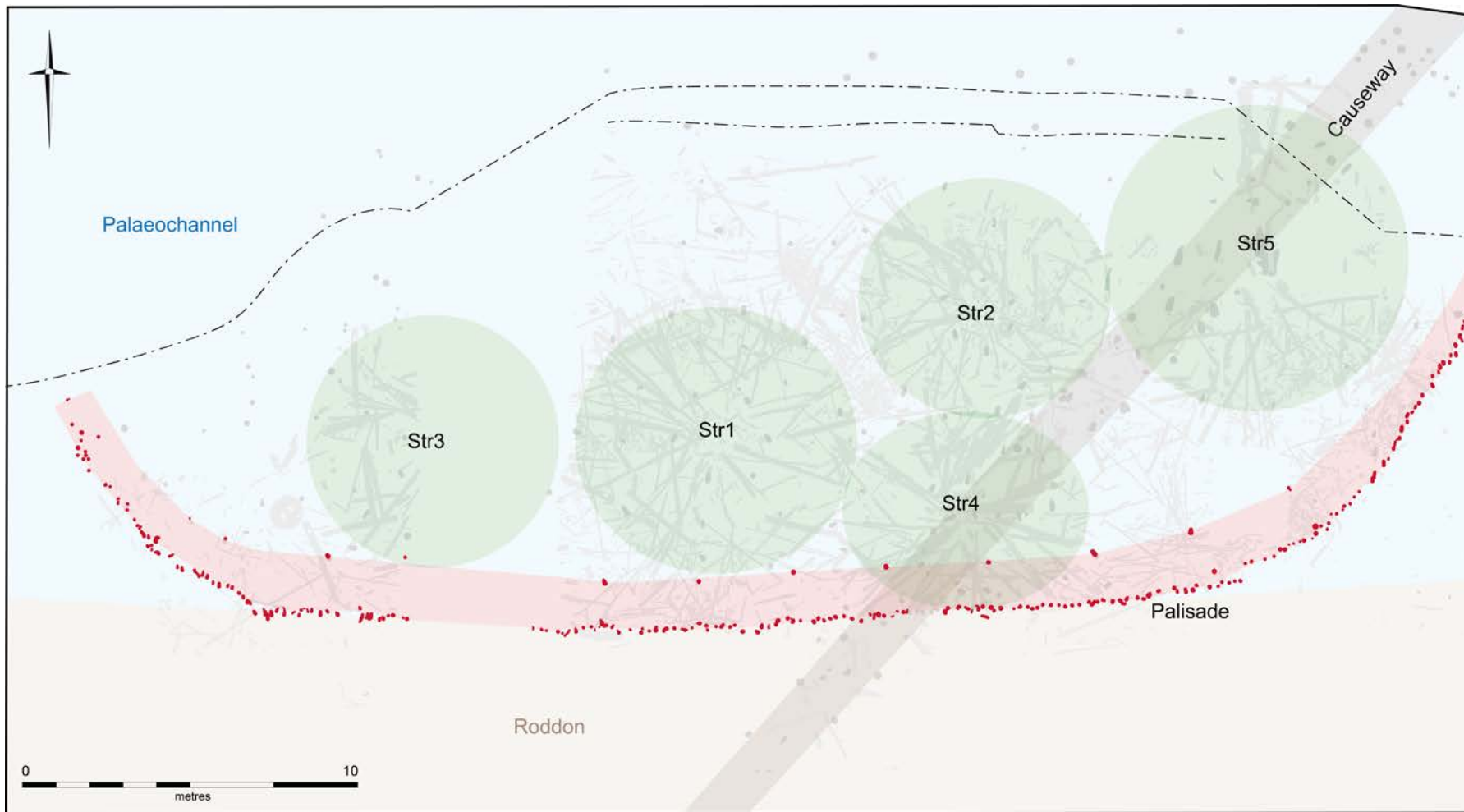


Figure 10: The pile-dwelling settlement and palisade. (© Cambridge Archaeological Unit)

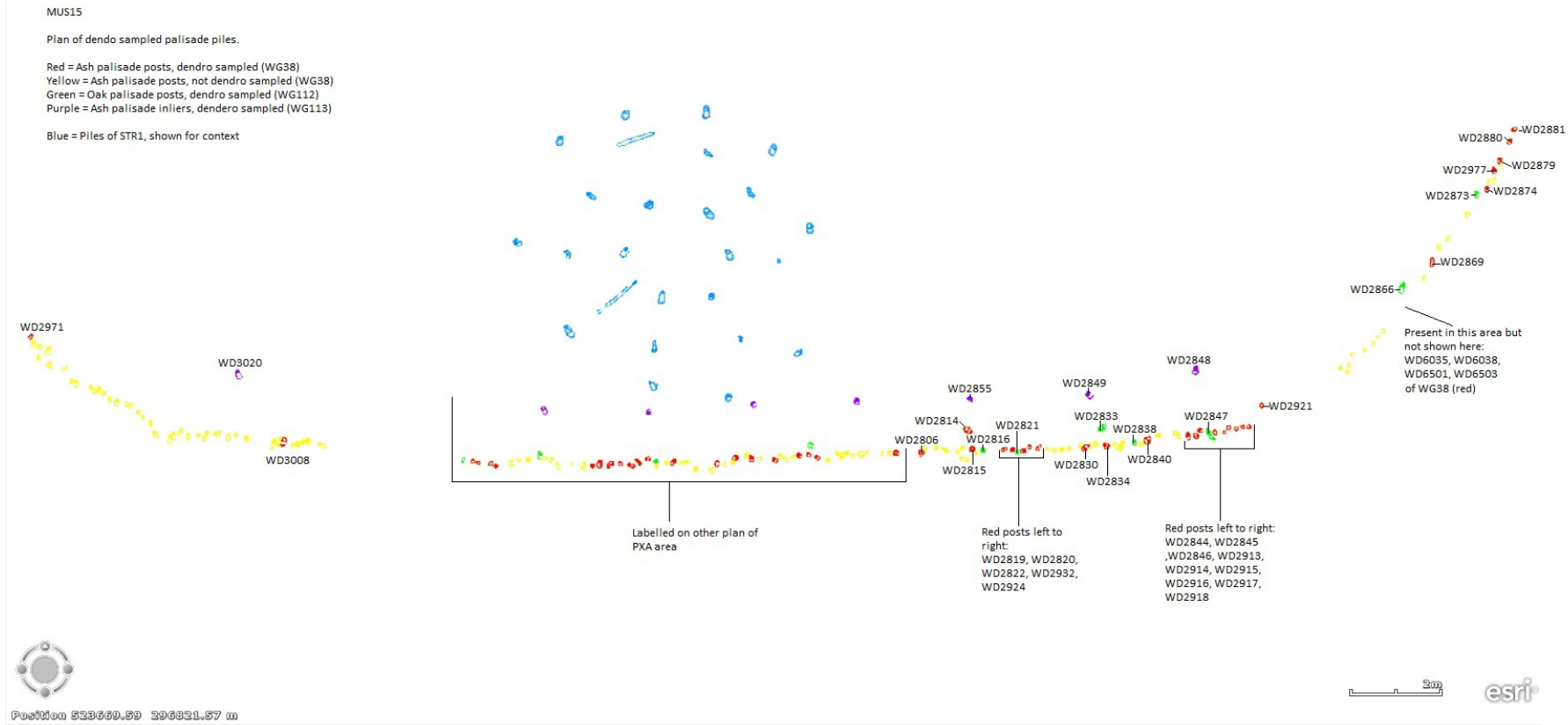


Figure 11: Palisade piles sampled for dendrochronology, WD2806, WD2815, WD2819, WD2820, WD2830, WD2834, WD2840, WD2845, WD2848, WD2849, WD2822, WD2881, WD2913, WD2914, WD2915, WD2916, WD2917, WD2918, WD2921, WD2869, WD2932, WD2924, WD3008, WD3020, WD6038, WF6501. (© Cambridge Archaeological Unit)



Figure 12: Palisade piles sampled for dendrochronology, WD2717, WD2718, WD2719, WD2731, WD2735, WD2737, WD2738, WD2743, WD2748, WD2753, WD2755, WD2759, WD2762, WD2770, WD2774, WD2777, and WD2781. (© Cambridge Archaeological Unit)

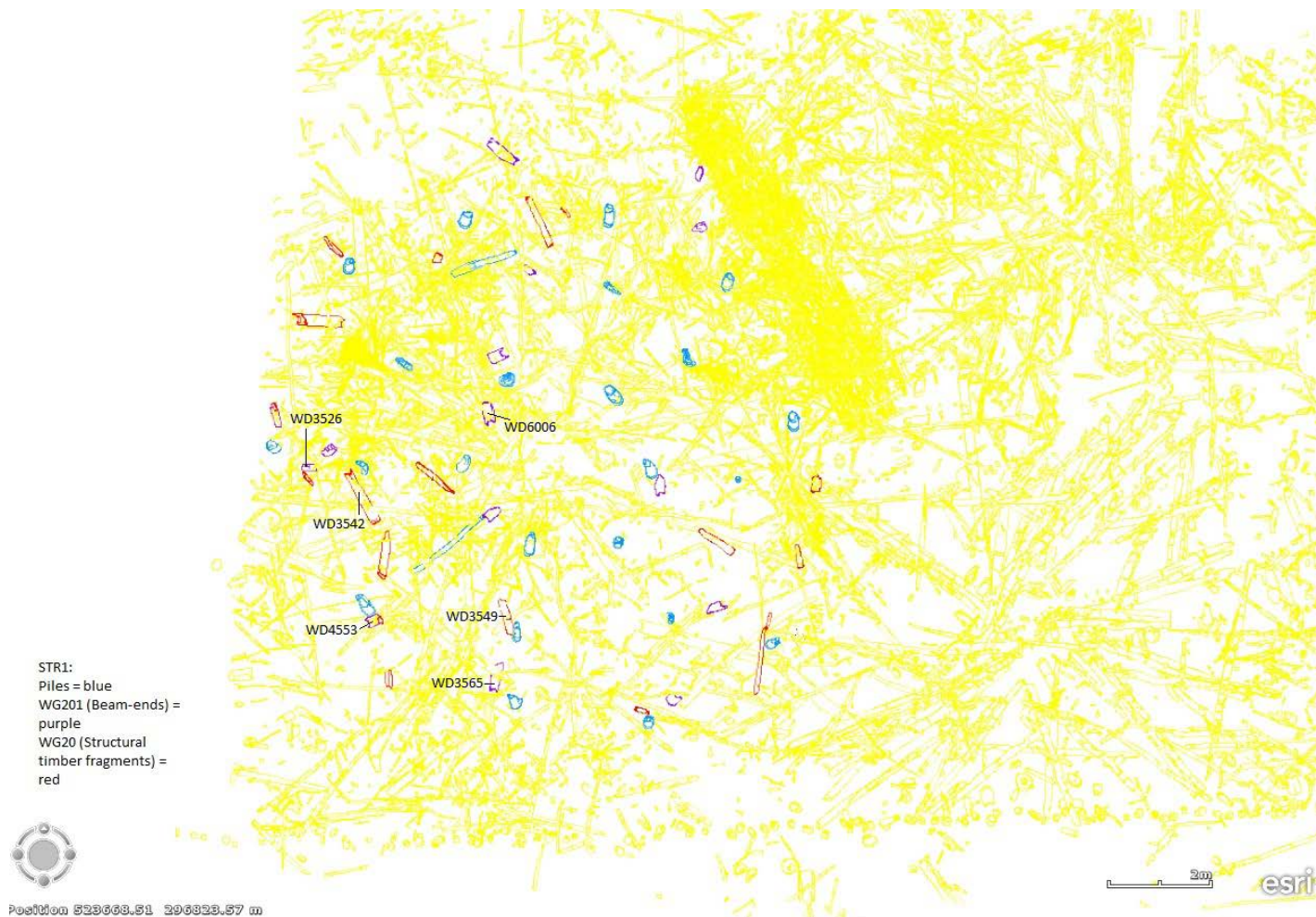


Figure 13: Structure 1 timbers sampled for dendrochronology, WD3256, WD3542, and WD3565. (© Cambridge Archaeological Unit)



Figure 14: Structure 1 timbers sampled for dendrochronology, WD3505, WD3600, WD3601, WD3626, WD3916, and WD3936. (© Cambridge Archaeological Unit)

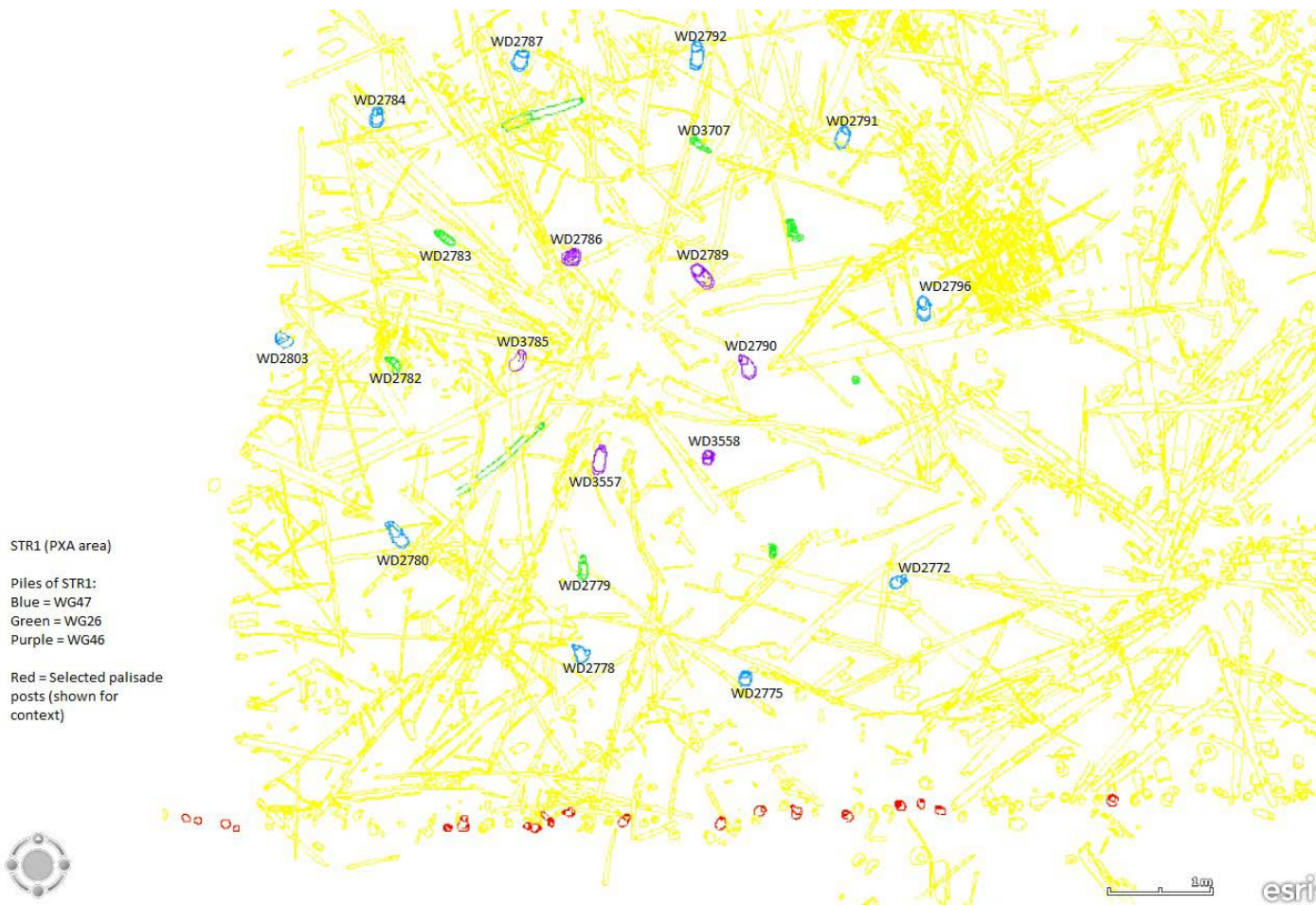


Figure 15: Structure 1 timbers sampled for dendrochronology, WD2772, WD2775, WD2784, WD2787, WD2780 and WD2803. (© Cambridge Archaeological Unit)

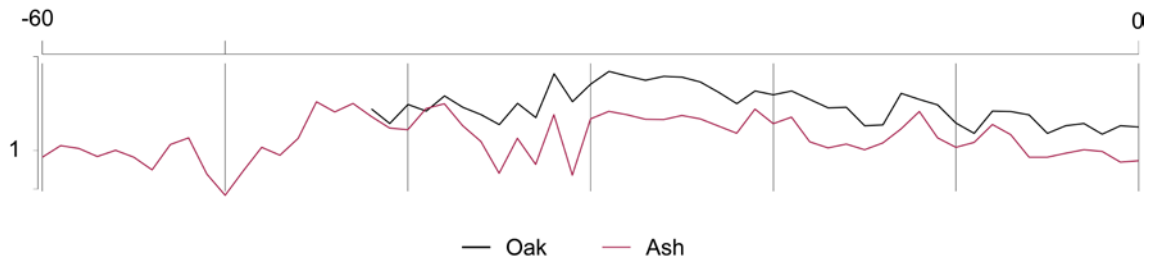


Figure 16: Pile-dwelling settlement composite tree-ring chronologies

Palisade

Span of ring sequences

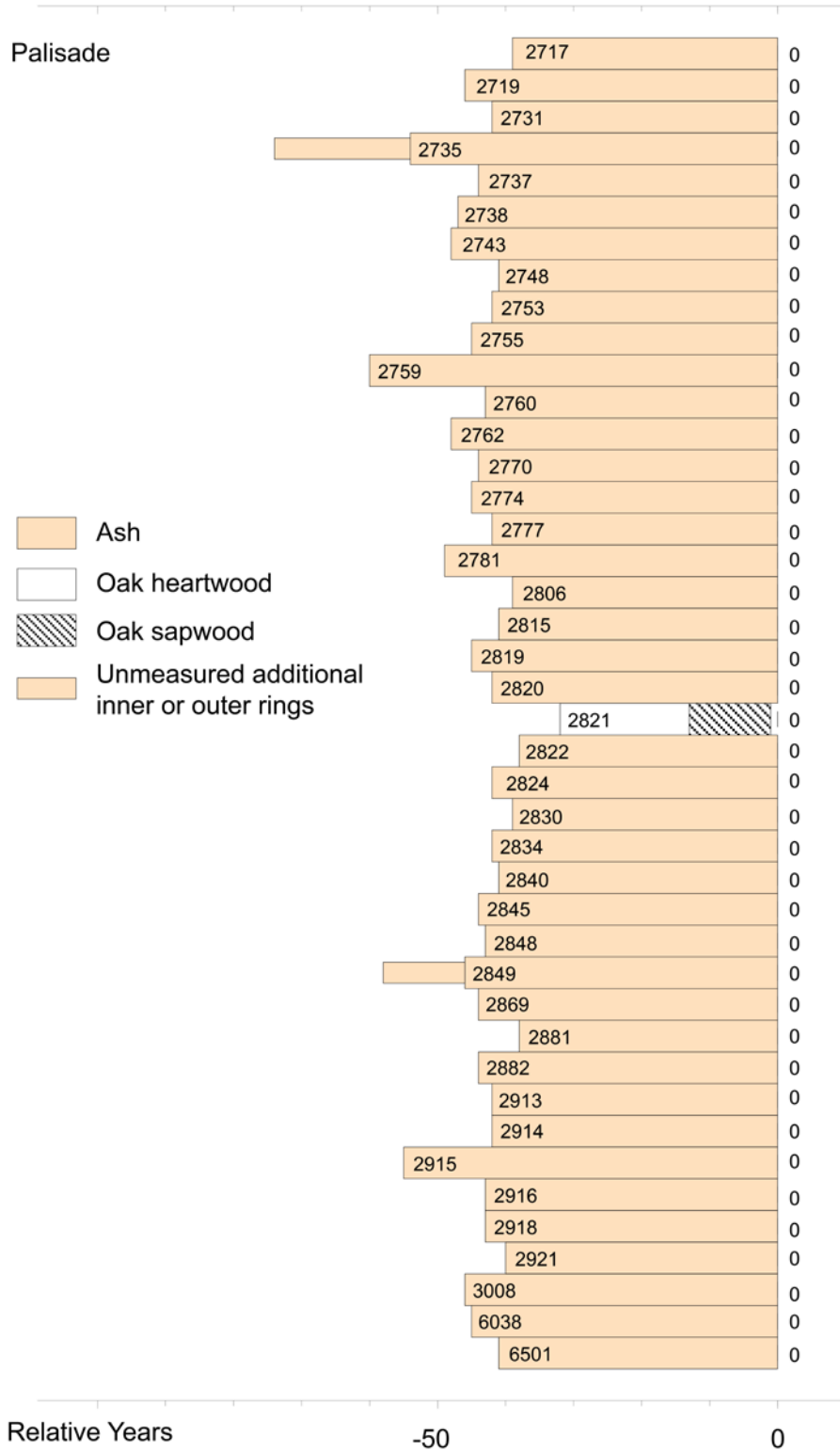


Figure 17: Bar diagram showing relatively dated oak and ash sequences from the pile-dwelling palisade. (Note the arbitrary horizontal scale of this and Figure 18 are the same, and deliberately use a zero-year to distinguish them from the absolute date diagrams.)

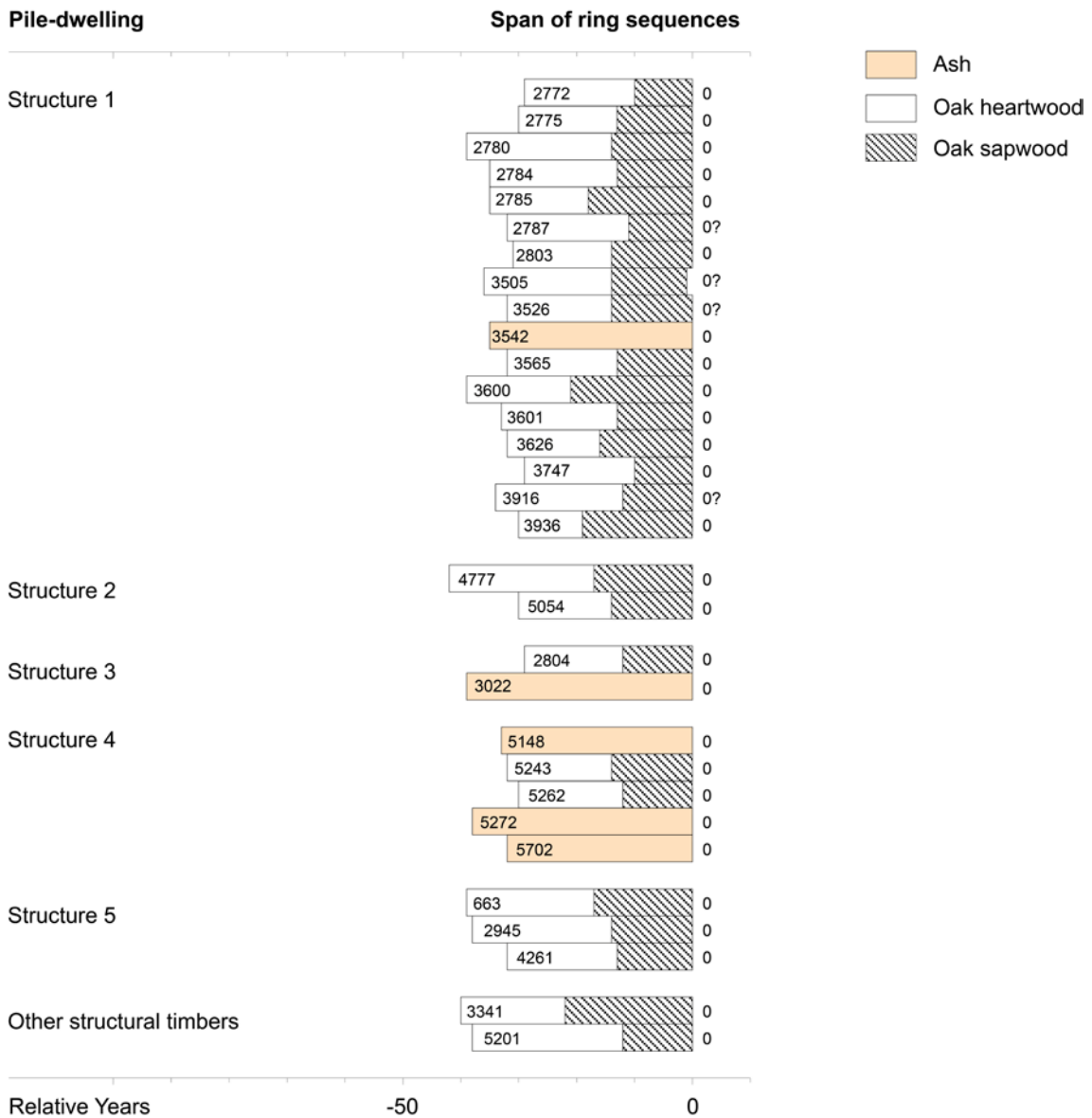


Figure 18: Bar diagram showing relatively dated oak and ash sequences from the pile-dwelling Structures 1–5 and other timbers. (Note the arbitrary horizontal scale of this and Figure 17 are the same, and deliberately use a zero-year to distinguish them from the absolute date diagrams. The heavy charring of several of the Structure 1 timbers has resulted in some potential loss of their outermost ring, these are given 0? Interpretations.)

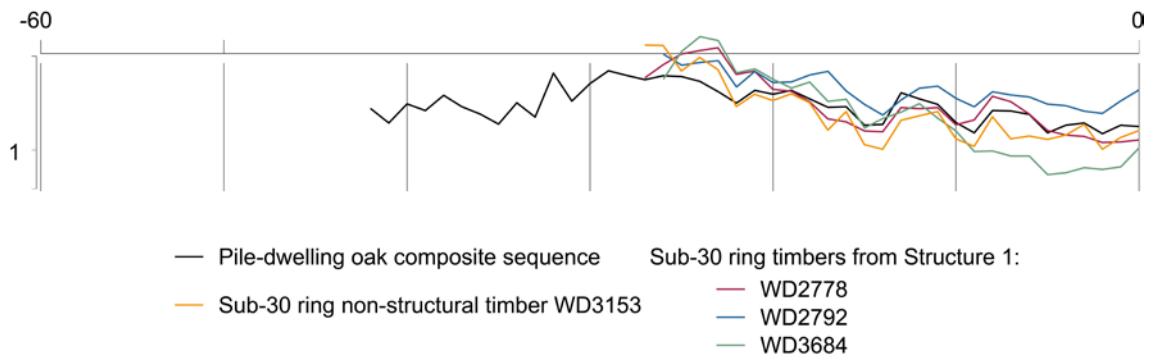


Figure 19: Visual comparison of four sub-30 ring oak series with the oak composite sequence from the pile-dwelling

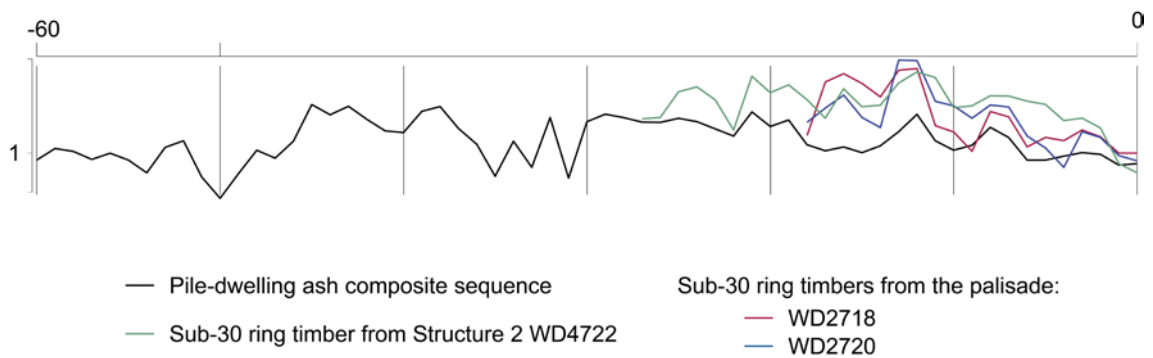


Figure 20: Visual comparison of four sub-30 ring oak series with ash composite sequence from the pile-dwelling

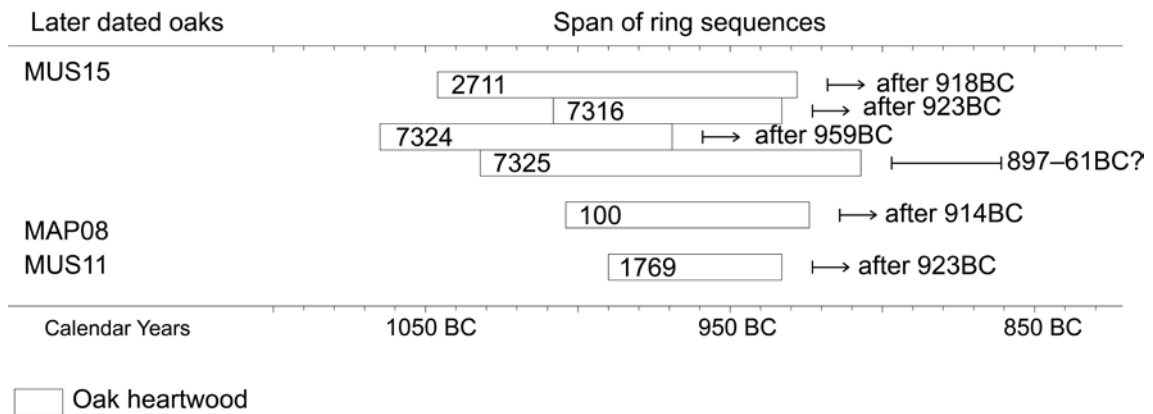


Figure 21: Bar diagram showing dated oak tree-ring sequences dated by reference to Flag Fen/Fengate and other datasets (MUS15=pile-dwelling excavation; MUS11 = palaeochannel excavation and MAP08=Horsey Hill)

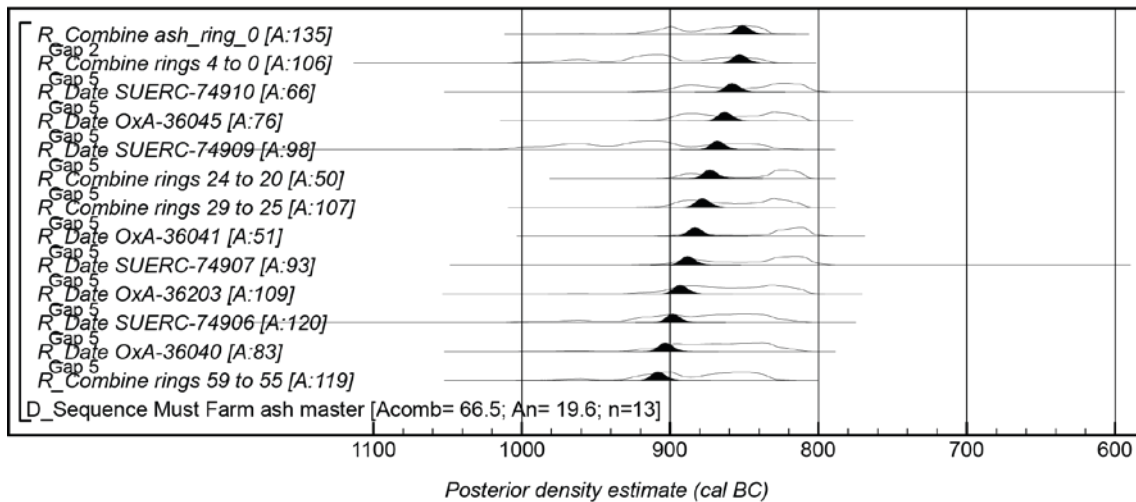


Figure 22: Probability distributions of dates from the ash master sequence (WD2759). The format is identical to that of Figure 6. The large square brackets down the left-hand side along with the OxCal keywords define the overall model exactly

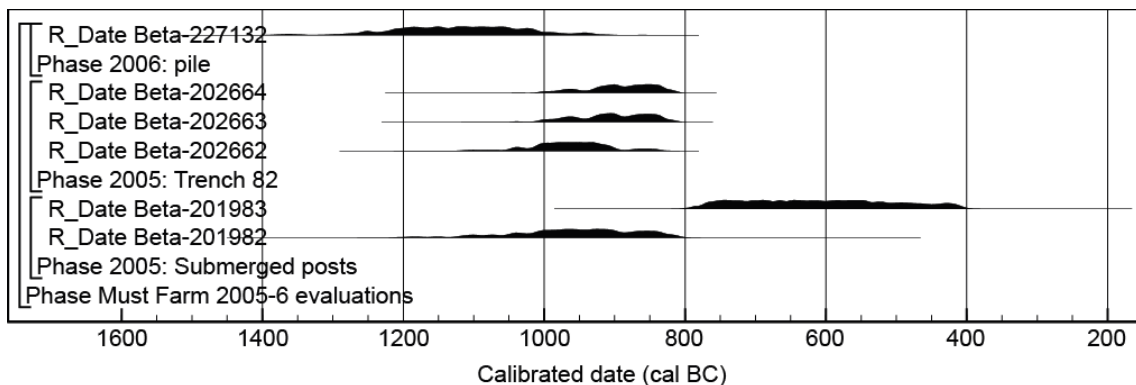


Figure 23: Probability distributions of dates from waterlogged timbers from the 2005–6 evaluation. The distributions are the results of simple calibration (Stuiver and Reimer 1993)



Figure 24: Distribution of associated/ articulated remains of lambs. (© Cambridge Archaeological Unit)

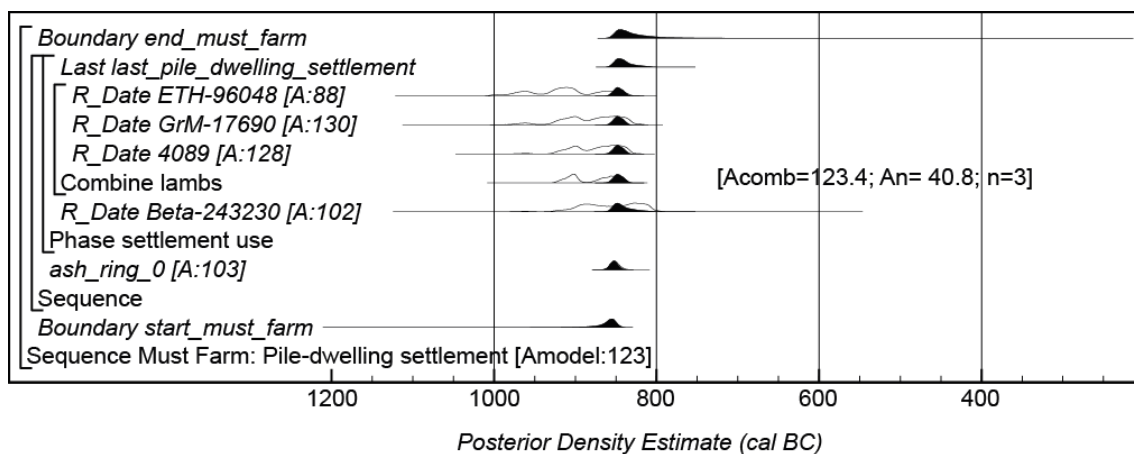


Figure 25: Probability distributions of dates from the Pile-dwelling settlement. Each distribution represents the relative probability that an event occurs at a particular time. For each of the dates two distributions have been plotted: one in outline, which is the result of simple radiocarbon calibration, and a solid one, based on the chronological model used. Other distributions correspond to aspects of the model. For example, the distribution 'last_pile_dwelling_settlement' is the estimated date of the conflagration/abandonment event. The distribution ash_ring_0 is derived from the model shown in Figure 22. The large square brackets down the left-hand side of the diagram, along with the OxCal keywords, define the overall model exactly (<http://c14.arch.ox.ac.uk/>).

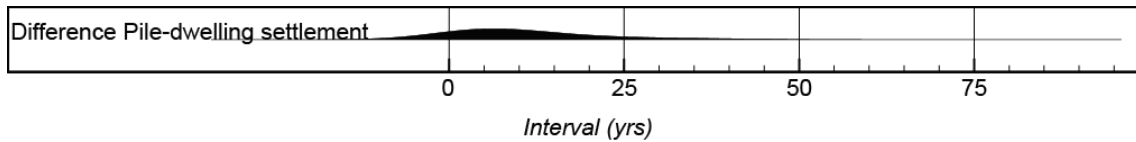


Figure 26: Probability distribution for the number of years during which Pile-dwelling settlement was in use, derived from the model defined in Figure 25.

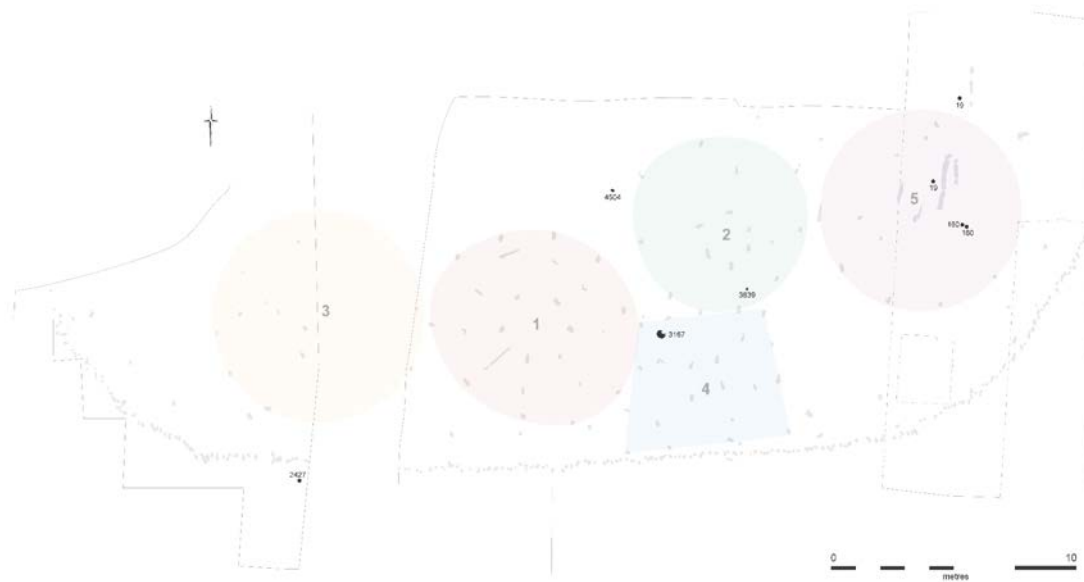


Figure 27: Location of human bone fragments. (© Cambridge Archaeological Unit)

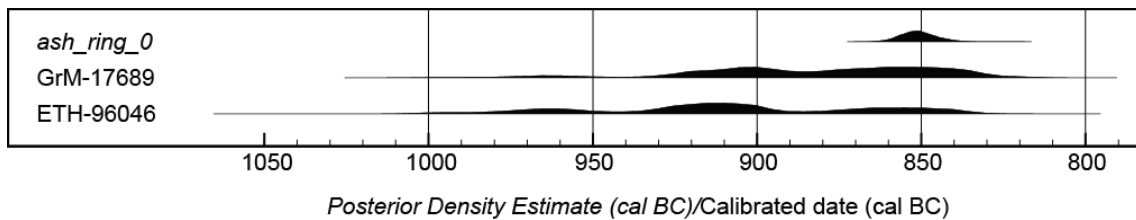


Figure 28. Probability distributions of dates for the human skull fragments and construction of the Pile-dwelling settlement (*ash_ring_0*; derived from the model shown in Fig 22)

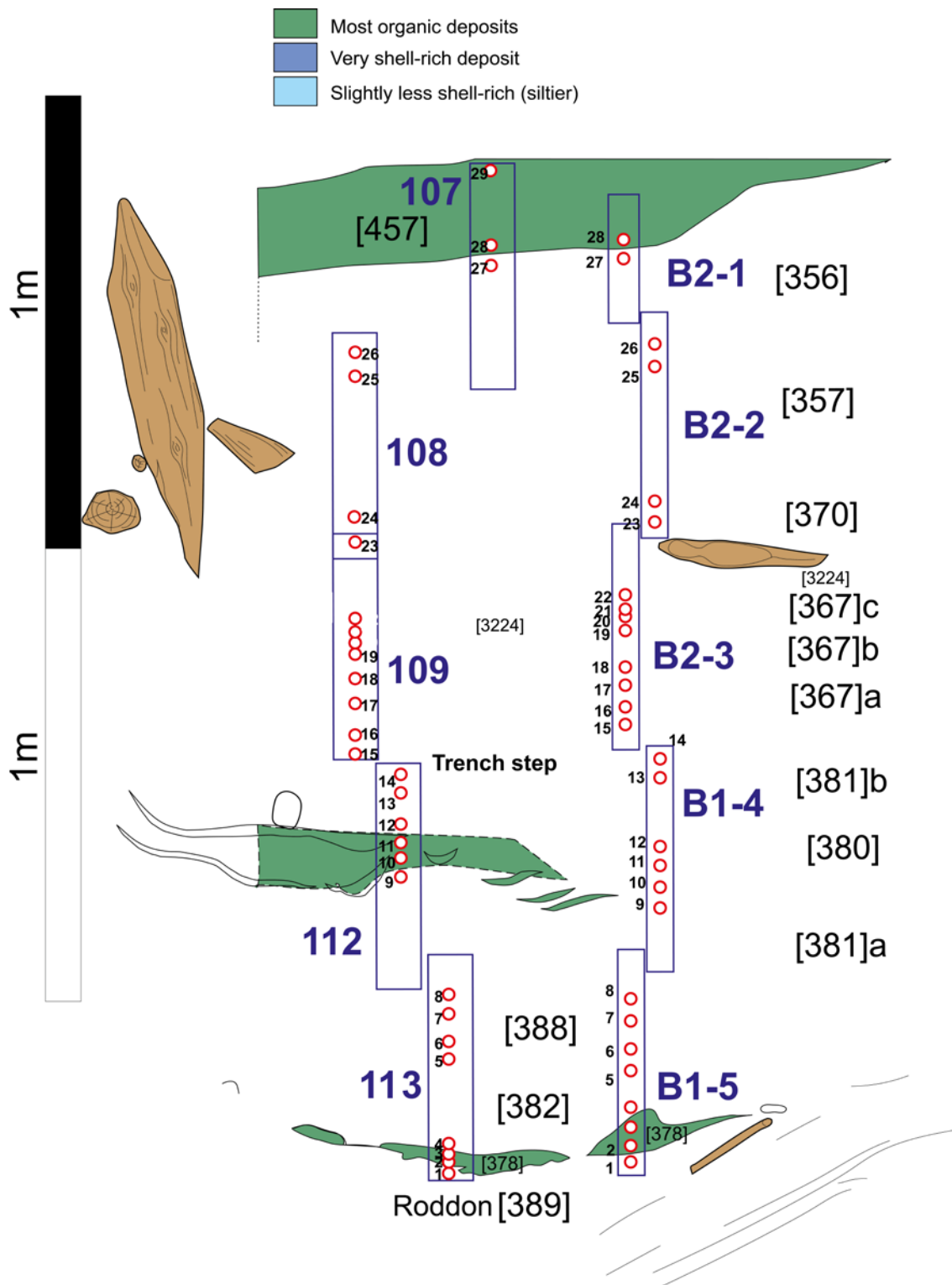


Figure 29: The palaeochannel (MUS06). (© Cambridge Archaeological Unit)

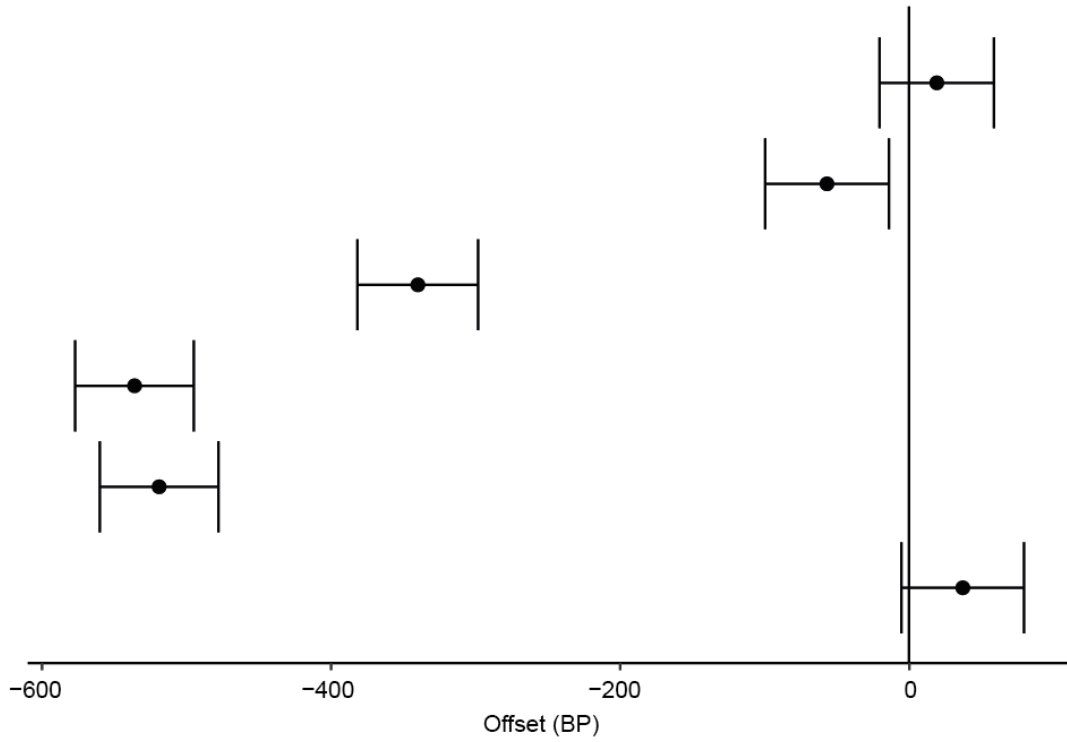


Figure 30. Offsets between pairs of radiocarbon measurements (bulked waterlogged plant remains and single twigs) from the sample 10mm palaeochannel horizon

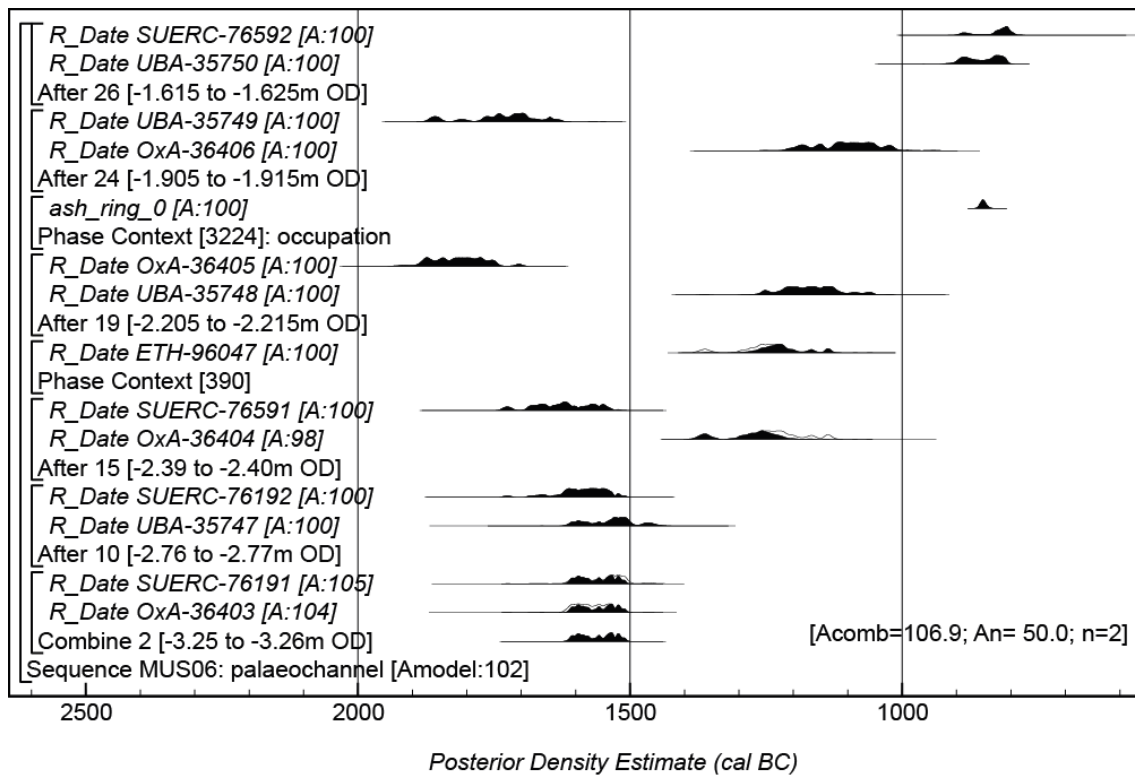


Figure 31. Probability distributions of dates from the palaeochannel (MUS06). The distribution ash_ring_0 is derived from the model shown in Figure 22. The large square brackets down the left-hand side of the diagram, along with the OxCal keywords, define the overall model exactly (<http://c14.arch.ox.ac.uk/>).

APPENDIX 1: TREE-RING DATA

100=1mm

MAP08 100

203	238	200	157	117	97	176	96	81	77
145	141	144	97	162	153	110	154	189	153
166	229	114	85	130	80	100	128	169	120
79	84	111	150	91	100	112	206	218	120
128	143	103	85	92	57	81	81	160	122
168	138	101	114	148	107	107	129	185	104
150	150	116	84	102	109	67	99	158	113
162	184	143	138	151	158	131	129	153	107
135									

MUS06 20

285	413	316	159	191	276	281	195	191	230
149	216	112	211	254	417	270	140	123	128
67	68	39	51	105	139	109	87	61	51
52	83	44	93	86	48	47	77	57	45
38	48	37	42	41	52	48	46	51	60
47	38								

MUS06 38

428	279	398	409	413	566	481	423	455	514
465	442	454	386	402	356	397	372	333	423
397	375	402	351	258	279	350	458	527	331
292	191	211	181	399	336				

MUS06 39

254	650	394	375	598	342	398	150	215	288
293	257	191	168	212	329	314	132	224	223
155	209	259	171	148	224	278	83	132	315
220	156	137	168	191	221	183	156	181	162
186	81	78	85	89	132	142	110	67	72
121	78	77	117	126	87	97	89	110	140
122	128	112	116	144	110	149	139		

MUS06 42

445	383	403	536	479	484	397	541	664	474
438	338	378	259	397	192	346	358	416	409
236	185	194	167	144	181	230	258	331	339
193	167	172	262	248	236	301	296	163	268
177	130	105	156	182	78	232	267	168	94
128	166	166	175	100	82	104	93	111	74
73	129	126	146	191	126	89	102	106	80
88	82	109	91						

MUS06 55

288 250 228 328 341 274 345 396 380 279
400 424 313 261 220 313 334 331 191 359
305 221 233 126 250 213 256 243 203 198
231 127 147 159 238 229 206 186 159 143
145

MUS06 127

260 123 145 100 57 56 60 51 64 95
225 266 228 160 138 175 166 196 166 153
85 115 80 136 86 117 146 151 127 92
108 93 85 82 99 85 91 68 63 50
54 49 32 45 59 42 45 53 44 43
40

MUS06 128

247 265 106 130 149 59 47 40 35 111
91 169 55 226 372 307 166 116 176 129
144 95 144 155 130 68 41 44 61 72
140 216 88 116 128 149 203

MUS06 163

361 387 373 420 353 511 146 192 261 366
413 325 111 105 152 158 80 78 91 69
78 151 167 245 99 98 110 149 188 261
227 121 101 131 252 105 132 97 84 57
88 59 74 102 176 66 84 104 95 270
252 227 444 465 458 424

MUS06 180

578 581 487 467 557 569 499 717 332 370
264 301 345 421 502 533 292 347 249 346
272 391 410 606 536 307 182 290 287 321
383 332 366 189 223 254 83 66 71 107
127 106 114 140 144 238

MUS06 181

193 186 115 277 274 195 258 303 250 311
214 175 120 60 83 67 131 237 89 119
163 95 72 108 68 75 116 102 128 140
175 140 122 83 87 139 154 74 82 74
110 117 73 60 62 71 95 61 69 72
90 85 86 110 66 49 125 77 74 71
132 104 163 163 133 108 128 153 136 176
314 349 218 179 191 170 172 228 252 204
153 188 263 230 74 63 68 82 60 92
200 225 72 67 100 161 140 309 317 89
80 81 118 276 166 214 221 102 133 137
96 130 251 324 304

MUS06 186

365	328	209	443	325	240	313	344	255	200
196	280	240	293	259	224	241	324	259	278
251	161	128	209	252	275	260	357	320	336
347	289	173	233	152	201	237	151	137	116
155	109	198	139	219	177	242	151	206	169

MUS06 362

157	190	140	144	97	195	125	184	200	136
224	187	165	109	144	183	245	372	510	395
51	56	64	42	65	70	116	150	214	212
365	372	413	355	339	391	85	115	104	249
297	359	555	260	244	408	378	524	124	103
245	226	218	151	156	186	319			

MUS06 369

74	64	74	72	125	135	159	197	111	108
116	75	74	152	175	142	182	105	55	75
76	90	64	76	134	167	284	228	208	145
115	195	182	129	145	292	282	310	232	121
137	184	387	504	488	257	271	200	231	233
290	206	292	343	191	72	181	326	243	257
395	443	554	402	133	86	225	348	350	193
103	81	100	191	208	311	313	309	261	225
241	157	159	119	126	194	256	264	91	69
82	106	135	59	56	47	90	129	167	93
92	100								

MUS06 663

218	228	238	252	250	381	289	474	318	368
345	303	179	157	145	95	84	104	112	77
78	41	31	36	49	49	92	104	109	74
52	92	98	62	63	56	55	45	62	64

MUS10 1475

78	45	51	60	88	72	60	82	111	102
81	93	76	80	70	61	69	85	102	110
81	87	132	75	44	49	50	60	113	72
85	83	145	127	110	102	120	91	70	115
104	103	93	140	96	125	101	170	190	118
116	86	79	70	104	159	128	119	91	98
99	109	76	110	122	124	139	148	88	135
166	118	93	111	123	100	102	88	117	99
113	103								

MUS11 1550

569	468	328	262	211	275	366	357	237	221
338	255	144	177	299	300	274	252	330	243
170	178	139	160	189	177	172	122	112	92
88	125	202	112	107	76				

MUS11 1769

243	244	144	185	220	171	168	195	132	116
192	163	191	160	201	186	93	126	194	207
154	203	250	234	319	144	158	208	156	125
161	83	111	143	203	171	162	116	103	131
143	103	126	143	157	123	157	185	151	111
89	128	71	87	131	127	180	169		

MUS15 2700

189	167	250	344	198	235	212	212	263	206
187	214	239	120	183	234	181	110	71	121
207	158	172	186	127	189	258	192	245	244
164	171	182	139	221	142	184	156	229	174
260	213	274	184	106	178	228	148	96	100
85	97	103	120	140	164	225	218	200	169
214	143	160							

MUS15 2709

118	81	88	98	89	50	43	54	74	88
68	130	120	174	170	129	110	261	274	269
514	389	335	465	447	433	105	43	70	86
119	245	280	257	265	257	451	380	843	571
633	520	585	680	694	777	667	653	788	628
521	601	628	550	581	379	576			

MUS15 2711

194	181	180	193	177	192	173	211	107	118
128	154	210	242	190	197	170	123	147	106
169	192	247	121	110	156	180	107	128	228
221	177	250	142	105	82	100	98	137	131
105	165	190	235	129	112	99	90	147	107
67	65	86	107	104	98	251	160	102	115
146	141	170	230	103	81	148	110	162	119
165	160	74	83	84	165	111	87	103	164
183	102	122	145	106	109	113	64	102	84
176	148	231	173	111	94	85	83	180	141
151	118	125	184	125	90	73	132	72	87
144	102	120	148	133	89	83	85	64	

MUS15 2713

349	233	148	145	180	151	250	265	344	260
153	296	288	247	554	541	469	582	561	404
424	467	474	411	326	347	259	290	120	68
70	154	234	206	245	230				

MUS15 2717

304	151	84	61	50	78	84	120	46	95
127	126	99	40	159	72	65	61	119	83
56	53	60	79	148	141	195	351	177	124
83	239	232	124	134	187	193	101	126	114

MUS15 2718

134 328 376 319 255 399 409 158 142 103
200 183 111 130 123 147 131 100 100

MUS15 2719

269 399 192 264 168 175 205 237 277 227
210 80 111 89 129 43 102 128 143 133
161 140 130 60 67 61 69 69 44 65
56 59 74 70 127 69 67 115 141 83
85 81 112 98 136 93 98

MUS15 2720

167 212 263 181 153 472 467 237 220 179
223 216 133 109 79 143 130 96 88

MUS15 2731

373 162 116 172 138 108 81 79 87 44
72 29 104 81 97 71 54 78 62 64
58 66 62 107 101 77 80 90 106 147
205 88 94 145 246 288 187 135 155 66
70 43 45

MUS15 2735

68 158 155 66 65 78 124 134 50 277
147 136 50 45 24 52 45 46 41 50
138 69 277 138 271 338 258 216 173 71
63 59 50 41 31 68 41 56 50 60
83 176 170 88 90 58 146 111 56 85
53 51 52 39 32

MUS15 2737

127 237 105 79 100 176 192 140 72 42
65 62 104 30 108 157 233 199 183 99
84 30 30 30 134 168 32 29 90 197
239 395 360 182 184 98 97 99 64 74
77 75 99 80 77

MUS15 2738

113 156 36 61 108 61 90 74 88 109
55 42 34 74 46 140 35 142 180 185
134 119 162 123 120 94 94 50 71 34
31 36 33 49 77 149 106 69 123 192
219 142 169 221 252 209 160 204

MUS15 2743

99 33 32 89 228 255 146 107 154 214
260 162 161 65 172 104 392 118 406 405
471 287 329 319 282 230 279 327 292 211
70 82 92 79 104 114 213 88 85 104
160 135 77 91 42 40 53 44 57

MUS15 2748

257 241 302 308 183 140 85 123 70 144
51 137 125 108 107 76 95 68 68 47
65 58 72 51 68 93 72 78 106 135
133 134 124 133 122 127 126 98 113 125
94 93

MUS15 2753

208 290 180 128 229 160 141 56 193 72
237 61 212 126 57 47 68 87 90 56
35 62 53 54 45 93 147 182 219 409
478 174 183 180 251 198 128 149 185 97
126 81 87

MUS15 2755

180 149 172 109 121 182 226 250 141 81
55 90 69 122 57 140 152 178 194 199
180 186 175 171 249 158 206 77 63 57
62 81 79 138 132 85 84 145 122 76
47 81 104 118 106 117

MUS15 2759

89 108 103 90 100 110 64 66 115 78
47 56 68 63 59 189 160 148 104 74
85 124 181 88 133 60 130 90 175 46
140 148 142 133 144 138 137 70 108 176
128 113 113 89 94 61 56 35 39 56
39 46 64 45 37 38 29 30 40 41
38

MUS15 2760

374 280 120 63 157 67 102 94 45 96
66 207 89 173 141 147 147 123 103 127
129 90 76 96 119 63 60 49 45 53
62 87 46 47 49 64 44 32 36 39
29 39 28 27

MUS15 2762

91 79 166 213 188 177 129 116 93 183
190 91 41 37 101 74 119 52 116 165
143 89 89 105 79 103 59 143 84 118
96 107 118 106 84 122 207 152 139 170
196 135 134 157 203 141 124 77 58

MUS15 2770

174 158 111 126 149 213 208 232 224 97
161 131 252 91 248 271 247 194 303 308
188 181 151 315 201 251 160 141 131 104
89 106 131 110 78 105 136 100 63 40
44 61 90 81 80

MUS15 2772

642 664 592 611 652 420 284 263 379 302
314 281 240 242 123 126 279 213 192 115
104 203 207 270 167 181 242 197 186 168

MUS15 2774

576 309 293 273 236 228 175 191 143 91
56 100 58 53 38 92 102 105 117 110
109 114 82 79 145 131 118 100 83 85
74 60 68 75 80 90 106 122 119 81
98 105 92 130 114 116

MUS15 2775

292 316 432 468 566 506 508 378 314 311
315 309 227 197 223 184 162 262 227 219
165 108 184 151 159 126 143 106 94 121
131

MUS15 2777

260 172 136 150 141 128 79 53 94 48
62 24 74 141 142 159 198 255 306 316
148 381 294 367 68 109 122 78 103 99
161 164 181 161 217 160 156 180 166 154
165 116 184

MUS15 2778

334 416 499 528 553 354 374 276 267 224
168 160 137 135 203 199 203 152 165 245
224 182 138 128 125 113 114 118

MUS15 2780

249 303 159 230 97 230 144 316 216 242
315 235 261 222 219 275 217 190 220 220
225 194 160 148 89 112 162 156 154 109
99 127 178 154 127 127 132 112 122 135

MUS15 2781

114 191 141 103 150 197 404 249 133 95
135 145 115 107 61 103 73 164 95 248
270 283 255 189 200 182 137 145 196 163
119 69 63 58 53 55 56 62 39 24
33 34 34 31 31 30 27 23 28 24

MUS15 2784

182 114 110 394 277 387 401 333 383 466
504 425 369 260 352 310 343 268 239 209
147 157 172 178 169 145 139 236 143 179
126 140 165 155 138 122

MUS15 2785

162 203 136 271 145 191 301 342 278 324
306 312 268 224 283 214 289 231 175 157
107 129 264 158 172 136 116 167 176 138
86 91 136 97 86 139

MUS15 2787

456 244 357 460 369 358 327 287 311 264
173 303 283 312 248 226 235 179 184 305
269 227 149 150 168 160 161 124 119 139
109 149 127

MUS15 2792

498 414 433 446 287 373 309 313 351 373
268 214 179 231 281 291 237 206 265 251
243 215 210 191 184 227 273

MUS15 2803

137 229 301 351 333 383 500 427 335 257
264 277 301 297 230 215 144 153 262 244
244 153 143 196 212 182 92 105 105 101
176 133

MUS15 2804

448 446 477 578 460 398 333 270 272 254
295 236 204 179 118 138 228 196 175 135
136 225 248 186 171 179 178 165 231 189

MUS15 2806

295 298 183 166 71 127 96 204 49 169
169 170 177 165 188 195 145 133 117 127
99 49 33 49 47 85 113 183 142 115
179 218 188 133 143 176 167 133 145 138

MUS15 2809

334 177 298 326 401 385 274 334 342 293
372 229 313 317 236 372 348 313 449 581
586 252 229 213 315 412 127 158 73 80
50 52 93 111 221 238 484 304 243 245
452 391 514 632 386 158 119 100 107 149
189 257 364 248 173 222 199 231 265 449

MUS15 2815

145 104 162 208 157 84 60 91 67 151
119 309 323 290 359 338 346 317 185 215
334 204 258 121 125 106 92 89 69 118
77 71 96 127 99 99 88 76 110 105
83 69

MUS15 2819

102 125 105 85 140 143 178 230 127 59
66 72 58 95 42 136 108 130 109 116
175 193 135 159 168 166 139 226 108 113
105 79 64 59 99 69 74 104 95 70
49 76 102 76 87 85

MUS15 2820

140 129 111 146 185 169 131 69 131 85
217 58 235 289 204 194 188 138 161 116
97 84 55 34 30 22 27 25 85 161
182 175 201 149 214 172 149 105 99 193
169 140 97

MUS15 2821

216 152 210 262 198 233 271 232 288 270
204 241 212 243 191 170 136 115 105 204
217 174 159 156 193 156 151 103 122 110
101 104

MUS15 2822

319 291 224 141 133 176 185 59 155 214
232 197 189 177 222 175 160 201 184 196
259 187 154 125 128 74 69 80 89 107
119 78 71 51 58 47 59 59 57

MUS15 2824

279 190 149 161 166 102 93 57 120 80
134 46 88 70 65 84 78 72 88 107
84 172 132 225 167 118 118 105 111 161
237 225 167 191 249 158 97 117 133 138
130 102 114

MUS15 2830

520 379 134 127 39 101 98 262 89 178
259 199 198 153 197 158 246 146 219 152
209 70 95 109 104 117 162 224 81 76
84 124 180 58 55 42 31 16 18 28

MUS15 2834

116 136 113 162 137 163 88 51 108 54
168 40 113 119 120 161 199 193 161 217
184 234 180 182 216 204 235 194 188 173
148 123 124 150 155 145 77 84 99 99
131 110 88

MUS15 2840

106 210 298 197 77 100 155 293 116 340
178 295 368 357 208 249 291 211 157 180
234 208 256 81 67 73 88 104 105 218
75 101 97 129 153 80 79 60 58 60
57 36

MUS15 2845

261 180 93 104 104 80 108 149 93 44
93 51 124 30 174 178 163 138 137 161
164 139 109 193 143 215 104 94 115 82
135 132 201 122 102 130 185 112 103 147
146 142 140 112 102

MUS15 2848

297 274 151 172 228 355 188 164 58 109
89 198 45 141 246 231 216 178 298 277
282 257 280 203 237 122 136 163 98 129
130 162 107 79 143 140 90 71 51 67
111 105 76 91

MUS15 2849

148 234 159 328 236 213 197 208 279 223
188 114 136 126 294 104 160 151 178 169
217 209 228 177 143 169 125 98 60 62
58 42 45 50 102 103 77 77 83 82
73 74 57 78 117 89 78

MUS15 2853

370 429 444 279 223 253 386 167 249 274
307 182 295 177 336 338 319 304 165 187
147 112 104 82 233 379 352 282 197 133
75 176 210 211 206 234 104 185 189 163
108 144 192 91 111 219 181 231 110 175
189 196 148 146 195 109 130 157 87 103
115 159 148 123 102 120 236 130 229 147
176 149 159 133 125 165 83 94 156 125
122 112 115 103 130 109 97

MUS15 2869

133 195 68 56 55 178 212 107 54 54
177 70 227 171 254 259 234 210 174 140
93 57 46 70 54 76 58 76 90 105
123 111 106 60 81 75 97 107 45 56
36 33 46 30 35

MUS15 2881

433 452 244 77 154 67 226 65 229 263
235 244 232 307 224 233 184 340 222 197
113 112 141 132 147 141 199 140 108 111
174 103 97 79 64 77 75 85 80

MUS15 2882 = MUS06 638

214 118 218 237 202 245 237 171 103 90
142 76 113 57 114 130 159 144 171 177
138 147 138 218 147 122 77 66 73 78
116 108 177 133 118 169 178 160 121 112
115 141 152 129 129

MUS15 2913

185	202	143	234	452	219	185	134	214	141
258	81	224	294	266	246	233	227	218	187
186	248	166	112	59	56	52	53	59	72
152	114	85	118	154	113	80	53	59	44
51	57	76							

MUS15 2914

87	101	118	166	142	96	130	60	111	98
220	78	189	205	161	180	174	227	119	132
105	194	141	125	61	47	47	33	64	97
219	51	49	34	24	32	23	27	31	22
21	19	24							

MUS15 2915

68	84	108	99	59	30	36	61	84	64
149	179	178	119	91	91	146	166	94	100
60	78	52	93	32	86	95	99	110	142
131	135	156	134	240	159	178	60	50	40
36	42	45	55	37	37	78	102	85	41
33	25	21	22	28	30				

MUS15 2916 = MUS06 136

246	253	151	155	240	262	170	63	63	128
73	206	81	218	201	170	177	200	154	177
156	131	219	144	189	83	91	86	56	63
51	91	63	44	54	68	56	35	50	49
55	63	60	60						

MUS15 2917

115	157	114	140	116	130	122	198	215	115
59	51	48	52	32	34	39	48	69	94
114	146	142	115	107	151	127	109	71	84

MUS15 2918 = MUS06 134

130	82	41	179	238	119	72	107	81	125
96	186	67	146	184	106	129	133	112	112
120	91	123	118	216	85	91	98	95	129
178	271	134	103	126	176	140	81	107	91
67	65	51	67						

MUS15 2921

121	190	135	79	74	37	106	91	132	65
165	175	168	191	213	233	184	181	141	348
283	314	227	129	117	115	117	104	108	81
64	75	104	91	76	71	101	132	128	120
126									

MUS15 2933

181 113 126 209 182 203 270 173 194 235
270 394 362 380 302 186 314 361 228 406
370 358 375 335 193 320 358 461 671 477
430 254 330 335 484 527 591 681 524 468
387 326

MUS15 2935

286 646 506 666 503 464 477 638 426 339
473 516 588 523 475 334 396 350 450 513
453 581 409 350 445 398 282 228 455 546
228 386 532 408 389 316 397 396 368 293
223 285 231

MUS15 2936

116 78 103 162 210 166 290 225 440 389
451 345 331 324 537 363 346 389 434 462
471 450 340 398 369 553 347 552 532 336
408 274 280 214 290 417 239 337 587 452
390 330 410 564 477 327 240 371

MUS15 2940

263 326 381 192 322 286 200 140 360 388
507 459 410 490 467 434 463 465 466 360
230 219 351 307 92 117 164 284 101 115
154 104 93 77 59 96 145 180 173 297
309 358 348 280 82 97 78 71 123 108
168 155 118 150 91 98 73 75 96 97

MUS15 2944

301 307 265 182 263 438 404 361 336 263
242 165 151 287 413 481 491 475 398 507
500 518 547 480 292 230 238 235 218 358
453 425 399 335 229 197 163 298 380 296
289 146 210 156 244 280 274 252 182 157
165 163 162

MUS15 2945

381 193 126 131 180 147 323 215 351 349
264 341 242 222 245 244 198 190 198 156
192 218 254 182 208 377 349 263 216 134
202 223 169 102 144 122 106 98 144

MUS15 2946

529 440 334 356 384 351 353 332 285 203
160 150 193 273 431 354 228 275 98 54
88 105 118 99 108 154 153 65 178 127
95 80 65 97 85 125 60 99 86 139
187 200 133 165 241 180 184 181 164 274
264 194 143 156 267 214 96 171 225 132
246 200 234 236 237 217 87 163 159

MUS15 2955

252 234 147 238 131 255 250 314 336 310
290 262 283 193 169 192 128 108 113 80
106 97 70 74 95 93 95 59 48 66
82 72 66 57 54 44 49

MUS15 2956

357 334 317 272 281 606 730 605 528 435
549 138 147 408 513 369 364 164 254 486
251 246 375 541 672 783 829 146 148 214
297 436 517 327 481

MUS15 2957

181 144 308 319 355 552 561 399 267 394
361 367 299 343 357 268 196 209 256 373
520 379 297 345 114 59 112 82 84 74
73 73 65 36 86 80 50 44 42 47
46 83 34 63 52 107 144 193 105 152
160 122 130 93 96 143 169 130 96 91
155 189 121 169 223 134 249 236 232 197
187 231 68 187 240 150 131 100 172 205
253 212

MUS15 2970

300 305 421 334 369 580 360 432 326 301
350 326 242 313 181 119 186 205 157 120
81 101 152 203 151 162 128 164 187 205
420 263 213 139 125 103 129 102 106 85
164 125 173 142 148 123 123 131 161 143
124 102 98 101 99 118 220 195 165 156

MUS15 3008

177 307 231 258 354 256 300 320 393 277
188 97 180 74 108 48 118 146 128 107
89 106 100 91 78 177 151 130 140 149
155 162 139 165 241 220 133 123 158 149
116 98 109 174 158 107 80

MUS15 3020

320 237 114 133 160 167 153 140 142 126
156 134 149 95 163 158 176 180 176 191
196 162 116 174 146 150 264 179 158 188
150 123 196 172 157 177 129 113 98 102
99 110 139 100 88

MUS15 3021

195 286 219 154 43 50 40 51 86 44
60 67 40 81 87 154 179 193 194 236
175 181 233 189 211 209 218 275 185 213
183 234 210 215 208 220 230 136 83 120
131 97 87 75

MUS15 3022

179	288	159	87	82	136	81	159	70	145
213	191	256	318	393	382	371	269	551	432
453	374	265	302	233	243	351	341	334	248
215	292	230	86	76	95	121	177	136	137

MUS15 3153

581	577	376	471	384	207	254	229	256	221
139	190	109	101	164	177	190	120	106	174
120	126	119	128	153	101	123	138		

MUS15 3249

250	297	173	342	320	223	235	254	205	179
241	235	353	418	394	279	402	417	424	385
418	289	272	257	259	223	201	245	222	272
277	324	402	184	104	113	168	223	254	197
222									

MUS15 3250

132	201	118	103	121	129	195	184	168	216
110	103	77	111	172	135	165	144	98	144
85	79	94	121	74	79	84	54	51	50
47	40	54	49	44	71	108	58	105	60
50	34	44	73	65	93	105	98	106	73
85	111	139	67	75	94	128	113	98	68
83	58	72	136	236	272	97	64	109	152
169	73	80	81	107	100	112	30	47	55
100	160	168	97	226	207	119	64	53	75
63	55	66	70	102	242	143	108	158	149
93	70	81	117	140	62	57	86	89	83
102	106	80	111	56	37	46	53	69	58
64	58	40	54	70	75	75	75	88	129
158	67	58	92	95	53	81	88	87	33
80	78	48	55	98	88	111	138	157	94
94	156	208	336	210	240	260	221	69	62
66	60	58	50	91	89	107	102	95	87
119	135	141	129						

MUS15 3251

148	157	191	209	179	210	156	212	282	260
260	188	150	86	203	180	213	258	212	171
204	134	83	102	116	88	179	92	98	114
96	94	122	172	191	119	158	203	201	231
152	107	145	196	267	236	196	188	289	162
176	149	184	221	261	286	253	279	252	288
205	252	204	82	98	214	188	296	225	225
246	203	110	112	87	100	118	87	101	99
105	76	85	67	74	74	66	61		

MUS15 3341

179 183 182 183 182 176 296 246 395 268
390 465 398 408 441 459 323 225 158 214
246 295 185 132 179 134 128 123 126 104
67 64 79 106 76 69 69 74 72 79
131

MUS15 3505

126 115 240 225 483 293 377 458 353 294
376 365 381 318 330 428 384 416 327 302
333 250 197 322 219 182 151 123 155 157
98 110 97 102 95 117

MUS15 3526

242 208 219 320 308 294 313 337 374 334
230 259 244 254 216 191 181 137 121 230
196 152 147 115 140 148 138 100 92 117
85 80 68

MUS15 3542

38 35 19 60 18 78 117 128 155 107
204 277 245 290 410 347 544 401 401 387
335 316 489 566 203 232 229 302 166 117
147 158 164 95 66 51

MUS15 3565

456 290 334 339 481 352 336 306 237 198
196 222 216 174 184 146 160 124 112 181
173 184 145 89 133 147 118 113 152 133
116 177 172

MUS15 3600

141 213 210 193 157 235 202 437 270 353
432 344 353 372 370 280 168 127 152 149
194 136 93 114 91 96 104 83 79 51
50 75 90 78 67 68 69 68 83 92

MUS15 3601

157 348 223 340 385 407 358 321 302 344
264 231 268 242 138 150 121 149 142 114
179 194 223 170 107 170 193 179 125 145
100 112 133 111

MUS15 3626

267 265 335 442 381 319 328 281 281 273
290 347 289 229 200 186 194 120 144 221
207 167 141 85 146 197 135 103 93 111
82 108 126

MUS15 3684

326 521 668 624 364 389 326 282 311 225
233 144 169 188 217 170 137 97 98 90
90 66 68 74 72 75 103

MUS15 3747

139 122 186 239 187 200 209 118 191 234
380 283 241 229 193 193 385 427 358 220
220 307 353 308 248 264 288 231 284 243

MUS15 3776

168 163 188 149 150 198 154 153 131 155
140 204 211 239 231 190 176 156 139 234
163 143 101 44 103 45 39

MUS15 3916

201 102 427 301 418 491 426 372 504 498
480 405 355 408 413 433 361 329 299 202
198 363 326 253 178 225 274 276 286 168
203 236 157 137 87

MUS15 3936

283 495 436 376 413 392 374 311 144 172
160 192 146 125 159 109 99 145 101 128
88 91 141 136 116 97 110 113 61 87
105

MUS15 4225

797 624 351 517 602 525 456 477 262 345
212 575 529 605 507 480 104 119 118 142
339 371 487 517 163 110 143 209 260 316
102 101 118 170 140 232 528 323 359 345
561 492

MUS15 4227

325 376 363 232 310 481 282 253 317 439
203 190 461 481 369 467 557 540 418 505
471 531 773 572 467 707 918 699 499 561
788 515 524 275 211 191

MUS15 4231

1243 1026 1129 943 1005 815 196 174 231 231
177 179 92 82 63 80 78 87 125 71
48 95 83 78 100 58 80 109 96 75
46 35 39 72 152 129 163 67 99 90
183 209 215 72 56 63 132 84 91 99
166 113 96 121 165 190 284 276 449 364
308 328 351 347 383 256 175 171

MUS15 4233

512	559	677	735	785	672	645	528	588	303
588	385	253	249	117	75	120	120	131	148
109	219	99	134	140	113	144	89	214	200
159	317	311	241	189	184				

MUS15 4242

442	494	481	604	628	637	716	652	62	72
133	144	134	42	48	61	49	47	54	64
115	117	179	269	276	324	208	316	298	425
469	372	327	313	333	343	245	353	309	357
126	80	72	74	91	198	263	239	195	105

MUS15 4261 = MUS06 151

430	216	309	344	283	294	355	340	345	321
295	328	238	244	239	219	180	149	139	228
273	281	165	93	120	105	129	92	106	102
82	104	99							

MUS15 4266

134	139	90	87	112	121	77	208	177	324
334	327	422	380	318	243	237	451	524	485
455	421	401	291	241	216	309	269	252	393
195									

MUS15 4278

103	80	125	107	150	154	149	141	130	111
191	160	124	63	79	59	103	109	66	70
128	130	94	69	73	69	40	49	54	44
50	44	39	36	26	15	22	26	33	49
63	84	74	104	96	66	60	76	131	84
105	115	85	55	101	70	74	86	123	146
93									

MUS15 4320

216	264	280	217	147	202	246	158	94	223
307	238	352	245	245	239	168	193	250	267
362	190	245	250	234	227	245	173		

MUS15 4722

177	181	278	302	243	147	360	274	312	244
179	292	217	222	322	387	353	213	220	260
259	238	225	172	179	152	84	72		

MUS15 4777

200	157	254	178	298	226	115	126	196	191
420	218	407	399	322	275	246	336	439	370
281	315	339	289	288	212	169	137	127	231
219	211	118	79	97	69	80	56	64	55
49	73	53							

MUS15 4894

256 221 208 219 239 248 189 366 290 260
412 383 338 212 275 253 282 217 239 173
137 113 110 100

MUS15 5054

334 509 463 426 371 316 148 209 235 359
365 307 334 349 363 234 251 420 296 302
239 133 242 279 233 190 199 219 116 258
271

MUS15 5148

45 98 43 138 160 192 120 91 147 180
154 216 294 216 217 277 177 185 159 183
223 304 196 127 132 185 136 132 130 145
166 89 85 111

MUS15 5201

138 239 232 149 152 130 330 141 268 439
408 305 358 370 252 211 204 274 215 256
235 171 227 126 131 219 182 155 105 71
113 174 176 154 182 257 186 256 180

MUS15 5243

183 135 233 233 241 183 194 255 268 222
170 240 287 399 285 195 212 136 217 387
316 299 240 217 381 268 326 218 260 238
195 149 153

MUS15 5262

74 142 92 51 46 86 81 89 92 220
175 256 378 409 390 381 355 690 706 603
501 504 649 540 619 416 575 554 552 499
463

MUS15 5272

169 124 85 55 57 53 60 25 98 136
146 216 240 246 286 284 206 341 257 290
244 213 192 143 139 262 327 224 186 181
294 310 214 216 224 277 208 191 200

MUS15 5309

190 190 169 209 138 218 152 127 149 122
 109 157 157 141 178 191 221 191 221 180
 112 110 142 115 132 109 143 131 108 134
 135 118 140 125 102 135 96 104 100 112
 98 89 77 97 104 74 101 95 140 109
 95 123 155 109 75 70 68 76 57 56
 52 64 73 97 81 77 79 75 75 67
 78 98 83 124 88 104 86 62 67 45
 45 40 57 73 68 83 82 104 101 95
 118 122 109 113 80 41 29 36 58 45
 39 62 59 65 67 111 91 52 38 43
 56 65 72 91 137 170 162 242 216 226
 213 277 246 273 296 199 137 139 147 147
 106 120 133 135 104 135 127 124 117

MUS15 5319

248 234 271 172 236 324 352 316 317 426
 492 516 466 592 334 481 442 327 292 282
 368 343 338 181 424 231 562 441 674 712
 412

MUS15 5602

409 234 242 300 263 316 345 365 250 273
 314 266 217 274 295 182 212 220 194 165
 160 176 242 266 195 197 176 182 252 156
 161 196 246 166 225 244 217 193 192 189

MUS15 5679

344 156 199 171 178 184 179 266 269 280
 242 333 282 285 254 247 227 149 161 109
 164 146 131 128 186 235 212 162 146 183
 165 154 171

MUS15 5702

498 104 267 245 192 163 162 203 212 139
 157 188 157 188 199 210 238 184 186 237
 412 270 141 151 214 185 84 64 85 150
 102 84 118

MUS15 5812

393 360 425 348 319 155 160 149 288 299
 274 237 281 249 151 151 173 130 143 115
 233 371 234 136 139 156 136 161 199 218
 278 184 151 91 148 183 241 276 293 245
 232 192 156 254 188 104 183 179 200 200
 166 166 109 318 260 117 146 300 172 265
 153 153 134 135 296 205 222 200 245 152
 94 132 109 93 172 261 346 335 242 219
 147 200 152 174 215 277 307 310 253 272
 201

MUS15 5825

151	145	70	154	175	202	163	136	157	178
169	161	134	149	128	185	260	169	69	130
175	245	101	199	151	209	207	192	154	88
205	224	53	78	131	156	145	143	267	306
236	241	213	255	180	173	106	79	154	143
226	193	130	48	66	69	32	42	70	60
48	40	29	54	55	34	43	66	63	78
51	89	136	173	146					

MUS15 5837 = MUS06 630/376

323	163	154	320	443	669	495	521	496	203
230	289	346	357	341	379	588	249	333	401
114	92	93	102	107	135	158	82	104	130
150	143	149	132	175	182	170	217	263	548
622	628	554	491	525	467	601	358	512	692
718									

MUS15 6038

252	386	296	245	188	210	234	218	154	139
83	144	110	171	80	140	159	148	106	86
75	87	93	97	107	125	105	77	75	74
68	64	66	70	79	58	79	83	74	56
55	73	80	113	67	99				

MUS15 6420

296	215	186	257	279	267	363	141	282	297
434	348	260	203	165	144	136	116	199	300
302	281	296	165	256	361	316	266	354	302
240	343	216	226	188	273	338	98	222	243
318	285	298	328	314	237	176	227	245	146
239	182	104	135	193					

MUS15 6422

439	531	576	455	739	546	511	196	150	359
406	369	390	347	283	319	322	272	233	191
114	174	171	140	114	94	102	113	124	109
151	152	105	73	66	70	71	56	67	89
103	120	114	124	118	153	136	115	108	113
183	224	105	139	172	207	105	150	185	187
244	267	253	180						

MUS15 6423

148	126	157	183	171	108	185	116	267	346
298	276	196	209	103	98	86	86	172	152
194	150	133	66	144	226	221	169	282	264
288	252	254	213	178	302	311	109	201	288
351	283	336	361	322	295	199	234	299	184
223	221	110	179	238	215	224	165	149	

MUS15 6424

322	493	417	413	334	394	215	285	178	100
208	220	200	335	117	284	174	264	212	168
221	165	248	220	289	228	284	273	282	245
231	251	220	287	225	236	280	182	236	243
218	163	263	245	228	101	153	211	199	244
208	214								

MUS15 6427

188	150	165	113	243	324	267	233	216	105
103	128	166	165	164	204	128	144	132	130
100	129	165	97	153	287	258	241	145	236
235	246	172	201	217	151	177	174	94	149
137	168	187	172	127	170	155	205	201	

MUS15 6501

147	85	231	245	172	154	84	162	92	385
68	206	311	216	210	184	126	187	154	131
148	130	115	56	75	83	85	126	182	170
50	52	56	66	69	38	47	37	34	22
33	22								

MUS15 7316

164	191	180	221	216	231	210	176	165	152
159	111	125	96	131	160	167	201	305	219
234	251	338	285	292	312	184	168	282	268
327	297	250	226	194	183	241	251	178	201
250	240	262	141	137	155	200	126	162	151
165	178	234	128	171	148	108	183	209	136
113	111	122	116	150	133	109	160	151	139
116	121	156	154	261	206				

MUS15 7324

98	90	89	89	80	96	136	144	156	119
130	134	121	187	130	201	208	168	241	236
200	287	242	203	253	283	256	177	242	245
331	415	475	433	379	214	133	179	285	342
268	335	224	212	216	173	165	160	269	344
309	417	329	211	197	215	126	202	184	199
299	325	352	235	199	146	150	170	174	113
125	134	165	169	138	209	183	160	187	223
231	213	178	116	115	149	197	248	233	189
203	172	222	230	153	134	142			

MUS15 7325

200 241 190 179 183 245 221 190 261 170
 147 163 215 158 245 302 272 263 378 248
 221 230 164 186 258 245 195 235 246 216
 182 236 204 132 185 124 128 96 110 130
 136 116 203 173 140 155 147 156 154 155
 111 114 128 145 194 115 149 179 102 117
 167 192 149 102 103 157 158 74 87 139
 131 118 141 85 115 124 149 112 116 107
 112 97 94 97 94 119 139 99 112 117
 96 86 98 95 80 71 85 85 106 125
 99 91 74 65 89 91 123 107 117 132
 101 97 119 108 126 110 103 76 86 74
 67 56 47 44 55 63

MUS15 6430

458 506 532 414 506 480 377 529 605 591
 751 632 467 492 555 135 193 315 386 357
 350 406 410 342 435 529 597 573 436 316
 408 475 131 87 144 124 94 133 201 250
 266 122 87 95 103 161 238 204 300 87
 85 133 135

MUS15 6645

187 334 183 55 69 107 159 200 282 325
 246 177 219 168 130 130 86 126 159 107
 108 138 68 77 103 76 59 61 114 152
 94 90 136 53 61 66 69 87 128 228
 181 65 55 79 119 76 105 68 43 63
 76

MUS15 7060

180 149 147 138 138 141 94 139 108 130
 200 157 140 134 114 101 88 113 106 103
 107 103 115 101 101 119 96 94 104 81
 73 90 89 85 83 116 108 83 98 94
 128 99 101

MUS15 7122

460 326 226 253 449 237 170 300 184 305
 306 334 84 156 96 112 173 245 102 77
 91 196 130 84 76 138 147 89 187 157
 116 120 204 93 95 66 79 177 118 132
 151 118 94 53 89 98 61 79 100 97
 75 73 123 169 102 92 119 96 89 157
 88 184

MUS15 7360

295	353	351	109	103	116	137	201	177	105
83	163	249	319	338	110	111	110	110	56
90	94	52	86	53	61	126	157	174	63
101	178	42	54	48	96	168	56	91	134
199	71	44	85	110	126	172	244	160	174
202	245	259	351	321	400	169	113	145	172
147	130	96	191	174	67	55	93	77	123
115	99	70	139	115	82	50	50	45	54

MUS15 7490

113	142	176	192	146	212	138	125	228	278
176	249	277	313	304	277	159	136	196	328
502	541	284	333	232	392	337	293	423	522
331	130	76	73	141	140	159	256	282	385
437	130	107	284	295	361	429	147	97	197
235	259	282	275	409	251	163	130	101	95
93	99	117	211	362					

APPENDIX 2: RADIOCARBON DATING AND CHRONOLOGICAL MODELLING

Methods

Sixty-seven radiocarbon measurements have been obtained from waterlogged wood, waterlogged plant remains, faunal and human remains and a carbonised residue adhering to the interior of a ceramic vessel from excavations at Must Farm. Details of the dated samples, radiocarbon ages, and associated stable isotopic measurements are provided in Tables 5–7 and 25–29. The radiocarbon results are conventional radiocarbon ages (Stuiver and Polach 1977), corrected for fractionation using $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values measured by Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS).

Radiocarbon dating was undertaken by Beta Analytic following the 2005–6 evaluation, the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit (ORAU) and Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC) in 2017, with further samples being dated at the Centre for Isotope Research, University of Groningen (GrM-), the Netherlands and the Laboratory of Ion Beam Physics, ETH Zürich (ETH-), Switzerland in 2019–20.

Five samples of waterlogged wood and a carbonised residue were dated by Beta Analytic using the methods outlined at <https://www.radiocarbon.com/>. The waterlogged wood was dated using radiometric methods and the carbonised residue by AMS.

Eight blocks of waterlogged wood (all comprising five annual growth rings) and four waterlogged plant macrofossils were dated at the Oxford University Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit. The samples were pretreated using the acid-base-acid protocol, with the waterlogged wood additionally undergoing bleaching with sodium chlorite (Brock *et al* 2010, table 1 (UW)). The samples were then combusted and graphitised as described by Brock *et al* (2010, 110) and Dee and Bronk Ramsey (2000) and dated by AMS (Bronk Ramsey *et al* 2004).

The six blocks of waterlogged wood (all comprising five annual growth rings) and four waterlogged plant macrofossils that were dated at the SUERC were converted to α -cellulose, combusted, graphitised, and dated by AMS as described by Dunbar *et al* (2016).

The Queen's University, Belfast processed four waterlogged plant macrofossil samples using methods described by Reimer *et al* (2015). All samples were graphitised using hydrogen reduction (Vogel *et al* 1984).

Fifteen samples were dated at the Centre for Isotope Research, University of Groningen, the Netherlands in 2019–20. The 12 single ring waterlogged wood samples were converted to α -cellulose using an intensified aqueous pretreatment (Dee *et al* 2019) and the three bone samples were pretreated using an acid-base-acid protocol (4% HCl, 1% NaOH, <1% HCl), gelatinised, and filtered (50 μm) (Dee *et al* 2020). All the samples were combusted in an elemental analyser (IsotopeCube NCS), coupled to an Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometer (Isoprime 100). The resultant CO_2 was graphitised by hydrogen reduction in the presence of an iron

catalyst. The graphite was then pressed into aluminium cathodes and dated by AMS (Synal *et al* 2007; Salehpour *et al* 2016).

Seventeen samples were dated at ETH Zürich, Switzerland in 2019–20. Cellulose was extracted from each of the 13 single ring waterlogged wood sample using the base-acid-base-acid-bleaching (BABAB) method described by Němec *et al* (2010) and the four bone samples underwent ultrasonic cleaning in distilled water before gelatinisation and ultrafiltration as described by Hajdas *et al* (2007; 2009). All the samples were then combusted and graphitised as outlined in Wacker *et al.* (2010a) and dated by AMS (Synal *et al* 2007; Wacker *et al* 2010b). Carbon and nitrogen ratios were obtained on sub-samples of the ultrafiltered gelatin from the bone samples at the Department of Geology, ETH Zürich, using an elemental analyzer (ThermoFisher Flash-EA 1112) coupled through a ConFlo IV interface to an Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometer (ThermoFisher Delta V).

At both the Groningen and Zürich laboratories data reduction was undertaken as described by Wacker *et al* (2010c).

All five facilities maintain continual programmes of quality assurance procedures (Aerts-Bijma *et al* 2020; Sookdeo *et al* 2020), in addition to participation in international inter-comparison exercises (Scott *et al* 2017; Wacker *et al* 2020). Replicate radiocarbon measurements are available on 12 samples, four blocks of waterlogged wood (all comprising five annual rings), seven single rings of waterlogged wood and a single animal bone. Four blocks and five single rings of waterlogged wood are statistically consistent at the 5% significance level along with the single animal bone. Two of the seven single rings of waterlogged wood are statistically significantly different at the 5% significance level but are consistent at the 1% significance level; this is not in line with statistical expectation. The yield of α -cellulose of many of the single ring waterlogged wood samples processed at Groningen was relatively low in comparison to better preserved wood, with the CO₂ yield after combustion of the α -cellulose for some samples also relatively low (%C approximately 40% of that for well-preserved wood). The poor preservation of some of the dated samples probably explains the observed reproducibility (see Bayliss and Marshall 2019, 1152).

Calibration

Radiocarbon ages are not the same as calendar dates because the concentration of ¹⁴C in the atmosphere has fluctuated over time. A radiocarbon measurement has thus to be calibrated against an independent scale to arrive at the corresponding calendar date. That independent scale is the IntCal20 calibration curve (Reimer *et al* 2020). For the period covered by this study, this is constructed from radiocarbon measurements on tree-ring samples dated absolutely by dendrochronology. The probability distributions of the calibrated radiocarbon dates from the dated tree-ring sequences, derived from the probability method (Stuiver and Reimer 1993), and are shown in outline in figures.

Wiggle-matching

Wiggle-matching is the process of matching a series of calibrated radiocarbon dates which are separated by a known number of years to the shape of the radiocarbon calibration curve. At its simplest, this can be done visually, although statistical methods are usually employed. Floating tree-ring sequences are particularly suited to this approach as the calendar age separation of tree-rings submitted for dating is known precisely by counting the rings in the timber. A review of the method is presented by Galimberti *et al* (2004).

The approach to wiggle-matching adopted here employs Bayesian chronological modelling to combine the relative dating information provided by the tree-ring analysis with the calibrated radiocarbon dates (Christen and Litton 1995). It has been implemented using the program OxCal v4.4 (<http://c14.arch.ox.ac.uk/oxcal.html>; Bronk Ramsey *et al* 2001; Bronk Ramsey 2009). The modelled dates are shown in black in Figures 6–8 and 22 and quoted in italics in the text. The Acomb statistic shows how closely the assemblage of calibrated radiocarbon dates as a whole agree with the relative dating provided by the tree-ring analysis that has been incorporated in the model; an acceptable threshold is reached when it is equal to or greater than An (a value based on the number of dates in the model). The A statistic shows how closely an individual calibrated radiocarbon date agrees its position in the sequence (most values in a model should be equal to or greater than 60).

Bayesian chronological modelling

Chronological modelling of radiocarbon dates from the Pile-dwelling and Palaeochannel has been undertaken using OxCal 4.4 (Bronk Ramsey 1995; 2009; 2017), and the internationally agreed calibration curve for terrestrial samples from the northern hemisphere (IntCal20; Reimer *et al* 2020). The models are defined by the OxCal CQL2 keywords and by the brackets on the left-hand side of Figures 21 and 25. In the diagrams, calibrated radiocarbon dates are shown in outline and the posterior density estimates produced by the chronological modelling are shown in solid black. The Highest Posterior Density intervals which describe the posterior distributions are given in italics.

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APPENDIX 3: CQL2 CODE FOR CHRONOLOGICAL MODELS

WD2944 (Fig 6)

```
//WD2944, wigglematch
Options()
{
  Resolution=1;
  kIterations=20000;
};
Plot()
{
  D_Sequence("WD2944")
  {
    R_Combine("WD2944_ring_1")
    {
      R_Date("ETH-106009", 3252, 16);
      R_Date("GrM-22053", 3215, 18);
    };
    Gap(13);
    R_Date("ETH-106010", 3214, 16);
    Gap(13);
    R_Date("GrM-22054", 3190, 18);
    Gap(13);
    R_Combine("WD2944_ring_40")
    {
      R_Date("GrM-22055", 3200, 30);
      R_Date("ETH-106011", 3195, 16);
    };
    Gap(13);
    R_Date("ETH-106012", 3210, 26);
  };
};
```

WD3249 (Fig 7)

```
//WD3249, wigglematch
Options()
{
  Resolution=1;
  kIterations=20000;
};
Plot()
{
  D_Sequence("WD3249")
  {
    R_Date("GrM-22282", 3201, 24);
    Gap(10);
    R_Date("ETH-106006", 3173, 16);
  };
};
```

```

Gap(10);
R_Date("GrM-22051", 3154, 18);
Gap(10);
R_Combine("WD3249_ring_31")
{
  R_Date("ETH-106007", 3163, 26);
  R_Date("GrM-22283", 3086, 24);
};
Gap(10);
R_Combine("WD3249_ring_41")
{
  R_Date("GrM-22052", 3147, 18);
  R_Date("ETH-106008", 3122, 16);
};
};
};
};

```

WD6430 (Fig 8)

```

//WD6430, wigglematch
Options()
{
  Resolution=1;
  kIterations=20000;
};
Plot()
{
  D_Sequence("WD6430")
  {
    R_Date("ETH-106002", 3288, 26)
    {
      Outlier();
    };
    Gap(13);
    R_Combine("WD6430_ring_14")
    {
      R_Date("ETH-106003", 3202, 16);
      R_Date("GrM-22048", 3190, 20);
    };
    Gap(13);
    R_Combine("WD6430_ring_27")
    {
      R_Date("ETH-106004", 3182, 16);
      R_Date("GrM-22281", 3070, 45);
    };
    Gap(13);
    R_Date("GrM-22280", 3088, 23);
    Gap(13);
    R_Date("ETH-106005", 3143, 16);
  };
};
};

```

WD2759 (Fig 22)

```
//WD2759, wigglematch
Options()
{
  Resolution=1;
  kIterations=20000;
};
Plot()
{
  D_Sequence("Must Farm ash master")
  {
    R_Combine("rings 59 to 55")
    {
      R_Date("SUERC-74902", 2766, 33);
      R_Date("OxA-36039", 2745, 25);
    };
    Gap(5);
    R_Date("OxA-36040", 2731, 25);
    Gap(5);
    R_Date("SUERC-74906", 2744, 33);
    Gap(5);
    R_Date("OxA-36203", 2712, 30);
    Gap(5);
    R_Date("SUERC-74907", 2683, 33);
    Gap(5);
    R_Date("OxA-36041", 2675, 24);
    Gap(5);
    R_Combine("rings 29 to 25")
    {
      R_Date("SUERC-74908", 2669, 33);
      R_Date("OxA-36042", 2728, 24);
    };
    Gap(5);
    R_Combine("rings 24 to 20")
    {
      R_Date("OxA-36043", 2719, 24);
      R_Date("OxA-36044", 2670, 24);
    };
    Gap(5);
    R_Date("SUERC-74909", 2771, 33);
    Gap(5);
    R_Date("OxA-36045", 2707, 24);
    Gap(5);
    R_Date("SUERC-74910", 2694, 33);
    Gap(5);
    R_Combine("rings 4 to 0")
    {
      R_Date("SUERC-74911", 2797, 33);
      R_Date("OxA-36075", 2744, 28);
    };
    Gap(2);
    R_Combine("ash_ring_0")
```

```

{
  R_Date("GrM-22056", 2731, 24);
  R_Date("GrM-22057", 2750, 25);
  R_Date("ETH-106013", 2775, 26);
  R_Date("ETH-106014", 2739, 16);
};
};
};

```

Palaeochannel (MUS06) (Fig 31)

```

//Palaeochannel (MUS06)
Options()
{
  Resolution=1;
  kIterations=20000;
};
Plot()
{
  Sequence("MUS06: palaeochannel")
  {
    Combine("2 [-3.25 to -3.26m OD]")
    {
      R_Date("OxA-36403", 3301, 27)
      {
        };
      R_Date("SUERC-76191", 3282, 29)
      {
        };
      };
    After("10 [-2.76 to -2.77m OD]")
    {
      R_Date("UBA-35747", 3267, 34)
      {
        };
      R_Date("SUERC-76192", 3324, 29)
      {
        };
      };
    After("15 [-2.39 to -2.40m OD]")
    {
      R_Date("OxA-36404", 3000, 29)
      {
        };
      R_Date("SUERC-76591", 3349, 30)
      {
        };
      };
    Phase("Context [390]")
    {
      R_Date("ETH-96047", 3006, 23);
    };
  };
};

```


APPENDIX 4: SHINewater PLATFORM: RADIOCARBON DATING AND CHRONOLOGICAL MODELLING

Introduction

Fourteen radiocarbon measurements are available (Table A4.1) on samples associated with the Shinewater platform and trackway (Greatorex 2003; Jennings *et al.* 2003).

The samples

Seven measurements on six samples from the platform are available. Replicate measurements on *Quercus* sp. sapwood from Timber 1291 are statistically consistent [Table A4.1, Ward and Wilson 1978] and a weighted mean has been taken as providing the best estimate for the felling of the timber.

The other five measurements from the platform (BM-3042–3044 and BM-3056-3-57) were produced from *Quercus* sp. timbers that we can assume were relatively short-lived as all those sampled for dendrochronology had 24–55 rings (Hillam 2003, 5). As the dated material was not identified prior to submission for dating these radiocarbon measurements could be older than the date of interest, their felling, and as such they have been modelled using the charcoal outlier model described by Dee and Bronk Ramsey (2014). This is a model-averaging approach. As the model is calculated, a shift is applied to each solution drawn. The shift is always to younger ages (charcoal samples, or in this instance the *Quercus* sp. timbers, are always too old than the event of interest, the question is by how much) and its value is randomly selected from an exponential probability density function (1–60 years) estimated by the model itself. The function automatically scales to fit the spread of dates in the modelled phase. As such the scale of the modelled inbuilt age takes account of the other information in the model. It is not independent of it. In these circumstances, indices of agreement (Bronk Ramsey 1995, 429; Bronk Ramsey 2009, 356–7) cannot be used to assess the compatibility of the prior information and data in the model.

Two stakes from below the platform, and therefore assumed to be stratigraphically earlier, were dated. BM-3127 was a wooden stake recovered in a gouge auger as part of palaeoenvironmental sampling to obtain a core (SW4; Jennings *et al.* 2003, fig 4) through part of the earliest occupation layer of the platform and into the underlying peat/clay below it (Jennings *et al.* 2003, 100). The dated material was identified as young *Quercus* sp. (Ambers and Bowman 2003, 534–5) prior to dating and we have therefore assumed no significant age-at-death offset. The second stake was also obtained as part of coring at SW18 (Jennings *et al.* 2003, fig 1) and as it was not identified prior to dating we have also modelled it with the charcoal outlier model (Dee and Bronk Ramsey 2014).

A further three measurements (Beta-108566–8) were obtained on peat samples from the SW4 pollen site (Jennings *et al.* 2003). We have not included the date, BM-3127, on the wooden stake obtained as part of coring at this location into this

sequence as it must be intrusive, ie driven into the peat and therefore its relationship to the peat samples is unknown. Beta-108566 provides a constraint on the date of construction of the platform as the peat samples was from the “top of the occupation layer” (Jennings *et al* 2003, table 1).

Radiocarbon measurements are also available on two artefacts recovered as part of the archaeological investigations of the platform. A field maple handle from a sickle handle (OxA-6176) was found on the platform and as the artefact could be older than its construction, we have only included it as providing a *terminus post quem* for its context. The context of the worked wooden tube (OxA-7954) appears to have not been recorded and it thus simply provides a date for the object.

Chronological modelling

The chronological modelling presented below has been undertaken using OxCal 4.4 (Bronk Ramsey 2009), and the internationally agreed calibration curve for the northern hemisphere (IntCal20; Reimer *et al.* 2020).

The model is defined by the OxCal CQL2 keywords and by the brackets on the left-hand side of Figure A4.1. On the figure, calibrated radiocarbon dates are shown in outline, and the posterior density estimates produced by the chronological modelling are shown in solid black. The other distributions correspond to aspects of the model. For example, the distribution *BuildPlatform* (Figure A4.1) is the posterior density estimate for the date of construction of the Shinewater platform. In the text highest posterior density intervals, which describe the posterior distributions, are given in italics.

The model shown in Figure A4.1 has good overall agreement ($A_{\text{model}}=84$) and provides an estimate for the construction of the platform of *810–745 cal BC* (*BuildPlatform*; Fig A4.1) and probably *800–770 cal BC* (68% probability).

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Table A4.1: Shinewater radiocarbon and associated stable isotope results. Replicate measurements have been tested for statistical consistency and combined by taking a weighted mean before calibration as described by Ward and Wilson (1978; $T'(5\%)=3.8$, $\nu=1$).

Laboratory reference	Sample ID, material & context	Radiocarbon Age (BP)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{IRMS}}$ (‰)
BM-3127	PE 97, timber 100. Wood, waterlogged: <i>Quercus</i> sp. small wooden stake (young wood), found embedded in the peat below the platform (Ambers and Bowman 2003, 534–5; SW18; Jennings <i>et al</i> 2003, 94)	2650±40	-27.3
BM-2990	SPE95. 1291. Wood, waterlogged: <i>Quercus</i> sp. sapwood (cellulose dated), from horizontal timber within a dense platform associated with wooden piles and overlying a timber deposit (Ambers and Bowman 1998, 424)	2630±70	-26.6
BM-3002	Replicate of BM-2990	2690±35	-25.7
Timber 1291	^{14}C : 2660±50 BP, $T'=0.4$		
OxA-6176	SPE95 (5). Wood, waterlogged: field maple, from sickle handle (Bronk Ramsey <i>et al</i> 1999, 198; Brysbaert 1998)	2655±50	-28.6
OxA-7954	SPE95 (3). Wood, waterlogged: unidentified worked wooden tube (Bronk Ramset <i>et al</i> 1999, 198)	3035±40	-31.0
BM-3042	Wood, waterlogged: unidentified (cellulose dated), from platform timber (Jennings <i>et al</i> 2003, 94)	2730±45	-
BM-3043	Wood, waterlogged: unidentified (cellulose dated), from platform timber (Jennings <i>et al</i> 2003, 94)	2600±45	-
BM-3044	Wood, waterlogged: unidentified (cellulose dated), from platform timber (Jennings <i>et al</i> 2003, 94)	2690±40	-
BM-3056	Wood, waterlogged: unidentified (cellulose dated), from platform timber (Jennings <i>et al</i> 2003, 94)	2680±45	-
BM-3057	Wood, waterlogged: unidentified (cellulose dated), from platform timber (Jennings <i>et al</i> 2003, 94)	2580±35	-
Beta-135994	Wood, waterlogged: unidentified, stake from below trackway (SW18; Jennings <i>et al</i> 2003, 94)	2740±60	-
Beta-105868	Peat: top of peat below platform (SW13 platform pollen site; Jennings <i>et al</i> 2003, 94)	2980±50	-
Beta-105867	Peat: peat lying on wood of platform (SW13 platform pollen site; Jennings <i>et al</i> 2003, 94)	2810±50	-
Beta-105866	Peat: top of occupation layer (SW13 platform pollen site; Jennings <i>et al</i> 2003, 94)	2500±60	-

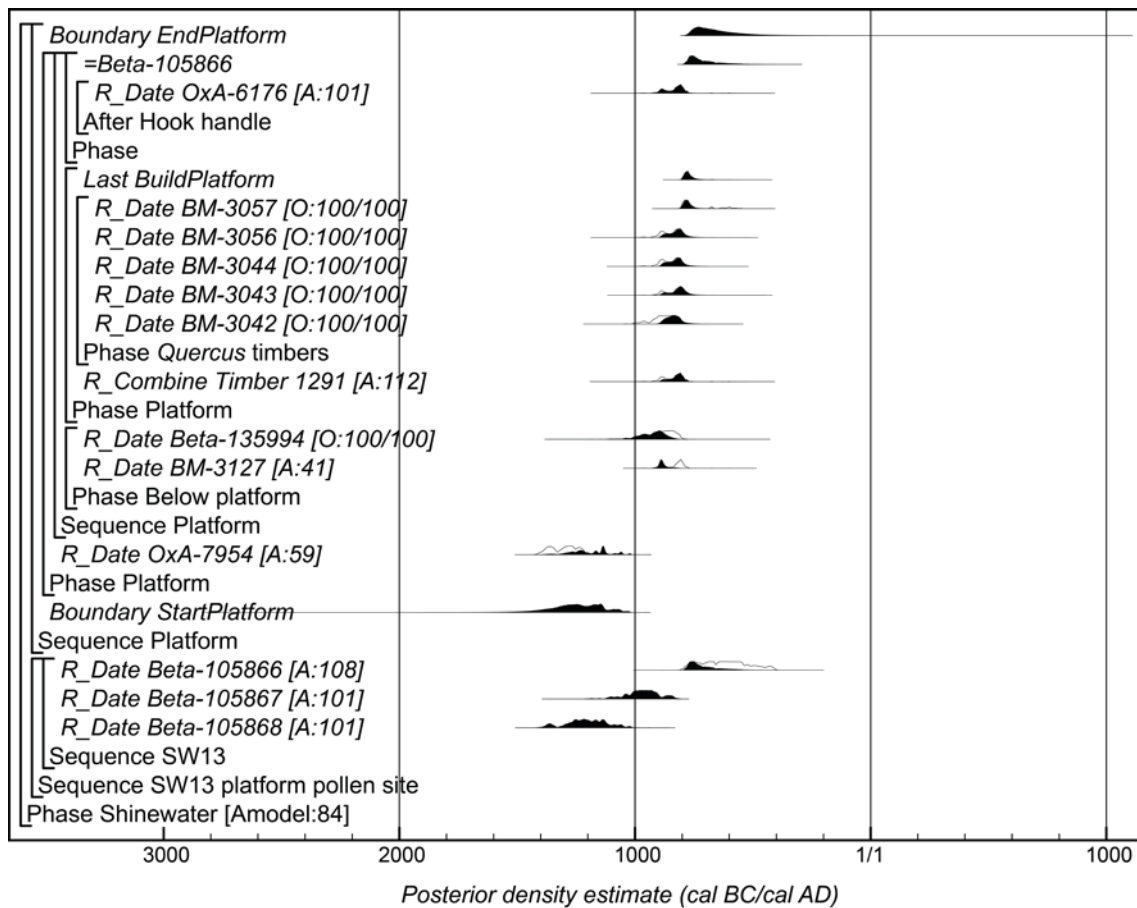


Figure A4.1: Probability distributions of dates from Shinewater Each distribution represents the relative probability that an event occurs at a particular time. For each of the dates two distributions have been plotted: one in outline, which is the simple radiocarbon calibration, and a solid one, based on the wiggle-match sequence. The large square brackets down the left-hand side along with the OxCal keywords define the overall model exactly

CQL2 code for Shinewater (Fig A4.1)

```
//Shinewater
Options()
{
  Resolution=1;
  kIterations=20000;
};
Plot()
{
  Outlier_Model("Oak",Exp(1,-10,0),U(0,1.778),"t");
  Phase("Shinewater")
  {
    Sequence("Shinewater")
    {
      Sequence("Pollen")
      {
        R_Date("Beta-105868", 2980, 50);
        R_Date("Beta-105867", 2810, 50);
        R_Date("Beta-105866", 2500, 60)
        {
          };
        };
      };
    Sequence("Platform & trackway")
    {
      Boundary("StartPlatformTrackway");
      Phase("Platform & trackway")
      {
        R_Date("OxA-7954", 3035, 40);
        Sequence("1")
        {
          Phase("Below platform")
          {
            R_Date("BM-3127", 2650, 40);
            R_Date("Beta-135994", 2740, 60)
            {
              Outlier("Oak", 1);
            };
          };
          Phase("Platform & trackway")
          {
            R_Combine("Timber 1291")
            {
              R_Date("BM-2990", 2630, 70);
              R_Date("BM-3002", 2690, 70);
            };
            Phase("Quercus timbers")
            {
              R_Date("BM-3042", 2730, 45)
              {
                Outlier("Oak", 1);
              };
              R_Date("BM-3043", 2660, 45)
            }
          }
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

```

{
  Outlier("Oak", 1);
};
R_Date("BM-3044", 2690, 40)
{
  Outlier("Oak", 1);
};
R_Date("BM-3056", 2680, 45)
{
  Outlier("Oak", 1);
};
R_Date("BM-3057", 2580, 35)
{
  Outlier("Oak", 1);
};
};
Last("BuildPlatform");
};
Phase()
{
  After("Hook handle")
  {
    R_Date("OxA-6176", 2655, 50);
  };
  Date("=Beta-105866");
};
};
};
Boundary("EndPlatformTrackway");
};
};
};

```



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