

Section 3.4.20 Trenches 20A-20J physical description by context

The series of trenches known as 20A-20J were excavated in 2000. The primary aim of this group was to investigate a large, inverted V-shaped ditch which defined an enclosure that extended northwards from the hillfort ramparts. As the trenches were physically independent of each other and each trench had a unique context number series, they will be discussed separately below. However, where a single phase of the ditch could be traced through multiple trenches, these relationships have been defined by group context numbers as shown in the tables below.

A single number sequence of field drawings was maintained for trenches 20A-J. Not all trenches were drawn. Field drawings within the site archive:

Plan 2000, Trench 20B: [20507] and (20508)
Plan 2001, Trench 20B: [20502], [20513], [20518], [20520] and [20598]
Plan 2002, Trench 20B: (20501), [20505], (20506), [20507], [20509], [20511], [20522], [20524], [20526], [20528], [20530], [20532], [20534], [20536], [20540], [20542], [20544], [20546], [20548], [20550], [20552], [20554], (20555), [20556], [20560], [20562], [20564], [20566], [20568], [20570], [20572], [20574], [20576], [20578], [20582], [20584], [20588], [20590], [20592], [20596] and [20600]
Plan 2003, Trench 20D: (20801), [20803], (20805) and (20806)
Plan 2004, Trench 20F: (20841), [20842] and [20844]
Plan 2005, Trench 20A: [20001], [20003], (20007), (20008) and [20012]
Plan 2006, Trench 20D: (20801), [20802], [20803] and [20807]
Plan 2007, Trench 20G: (20861), [20862], [20866] and (20867)
Plan 2008, Trench 20I: (20901), (20903), [20908] and [20912]
Plan 2009, Trench 20C: (20751), [20752], [20753], [20754], [20760], [20762] and [20766]
Plan 2010, Trench 20C: (20772)

Section 20.01, Trench 20B: [20511], (20512) and (20517)
Section 20.02, Trench 20B: (20501), [20507] and (20508)
Section 20.03, Trench 20B: [20509], (20510) and (20516)
Section 20.04, Trench 20B: [20513] and (20514)
Section 20.05, Trench 20B: [20520] and (20521)
Section 20.06, Trench 20B: [20518] and (20519)
Section 20.07, Trench 20B: (20500), (20501), [20502], (20503) and (20515)
Section 20.08, Trench 20B: [20502]
Section 20.09, Trench 20B: [20502]
Section 20.10, Trench 20A: (20000), [20003], (20004), (20008), (20011), [20012], (20013), (20014), (20015), (20016) and [20025]
Section 20.11, Trench 20A: (20000), (20001), (20002), [20003], (20004), (20008), (20009), (20011), [20012], (20013), (20014) and (20015)
Section 20.12, Trench 20C: (20751), [20754], (20755) and (20757)
Section 20.13, Trench 20G: (20860), [20862], (20863) and (20868)
Section 20.14: drawing not in archive, presumed lost
Section 20.15, Trench 20F: (20840), (20841), [20842], (20843), [20844], (20845) and (20846)
Section 20.16: drawing not in archive, presumed lost
Section 20.17, Trench 20D: (20800), [20803], (20805), (20806) and (20809)
Section 20.18, Trench 20G: (20860), [20864] and (20865)

Section 20.19, Trench 20E: (20820), (20821), [20822], [20823], (20824), (20825), [20826] and (20827)

Section 20.20, Trench 20E: (20820), (20821), [20822], [20823], (20824), (20825), [20826] and (20827)

Section 20.21, Trench 20D: (20800), (20801), [20802], [20803], (20804), (20805), [20807], and (20808) and (20810)

Section 20.22, Trench 20G: (20861), [20862], [20866] and (20867)

Section 20.23, Trench 20C: (20750), [20753], (20758), (20759), [20760], (20761), (20765), [20766], (20767), (20768), [20769] and (20770)

Section 20.24, Trench 20D: (20800), (20801), [20802], [20803], (20804), (20805), [20807], and (20808) and (20810)

Section 20.25, Trench 20H: (20880), (20881), [20882] and (20883)

Section 20.26, Trench 20C: (20750), [20772], [20773], [20774], [20775], (20776), (20777), (20778) and (20779)

Section 20.27, Trench 20I: (20900), (20901), [20908] and (20909)

Section 20.27B, Trench 20I: (20900), [20902], (20903), [20912], (20913), [20914], (20915) and (20916)

Section 20.28, Trench 20C: [20752], [20754], [20762], (20764), (20771), (20780), (20781), (20782), (20783), (20784) and (20785)

Section 20.29, Trench 20B: (20504), [20505] and (20506)

Trench 20A

Context Number	Type	Description	Fill of	Phase	Group
20000	layer	topsoil		MODERN	
20001	cut	enclosure ditch		MIA	20951
20002	fill		20001	MIA	
20003	cut	?barrow ditch		?LBA	
20004	fill		20003	?LBA	
20005	fill		20001	MIA	
20006	fill		20001	MIA	
20007	layer			?LBA	
20008	layer	natural		UN	
20009	fill		20001	MIA	
20010	fill		20003	?LBA	
20011	fill		20012	MIA	
20012	cut	ditch		MIA	20952
20013	fill		20003	?LBA	
20014	fill		20003	?LBA	
20015	fill		20025	MIA	
20016	layer			UN	
20017	cut	?posthole		UN	
20018	fill		20017	UN	
20019	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20020	fill		20019	UN	
20021	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20022	fill		20021	UN	
20023	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20024	fill		20023	UN	
20025	cut	ditch		MIA	

TOPSOIL

Layer (20000) was the topsoil layer comprising a loose brown soil with small chalk inclusions.

NATURAL

Layer (20008) was the chalk bedrock underlying the trench.

CUTS

Cut [20001] (plan 2005, sections 20.10 and 20.11) was a ditch found to have a shallow V-shaped profile c. 40cm deep and c. 0.4-0.7m wide. It had three **fills (20002), (20006), and (20009)**. **(20002)** was the latest fill of **[20001]** and comprised a deposit of friable light brown loam 30-40cm thick with occasional chalk inclusions c.1cm in size. Within this context was a lens of finer material, **(20006)**. Primary **fill (20009)** was a pale light brown loam 20cm thick and similar to **(20002)** with 10-20% chalk inclusions up to 2cm in size. **Ditch [20001]** was cut by **ditch [20012]** which is discussed below.

Cut [20003] (plan 2005, sections 20.10 and 20.11) was a possible barrow ditch seen to run north-south across the trench for approximately 2.5m. The ditch was c. 0.7m wide, c.85cm deep and was overlain by **topsoil (20000)**. This ditch was cut by **ditch [20012]**. The ditch was originally thought to have four **fills: (20004), (20010), (20013)** and **(20014)**. **(20004)** was the latest fill comprising a brown loam with numerous chalk inclusions c.1-2 cm in size. After excavation, what had been thought the second fill, **(20010)**, was reinterpreted as probably being part of fill **(20004)**. **Fill (20004) = (20010)** overlay the secondary fill of the ditch, **(20013)**, while **(20013)** overlay primary fill **(20014)**. **(20013)** was described as being composed of mid-brown loam with up to 15% small chalk inclusions up to 2cm in size. **Fill (20014)** was made up of highly compacted chalk rubble 5-10cm in size which had occasional sarsen inclusions.

Cut [20012] (plan 2005, section 20.11) was c.20cm wide and c.40cm deep. A 1.3m length was investigated and the ditch was seen to continue into the baulk in the north of the trench. It cuts both the enclosure ditch **[20001]** and the possible barrow **ditch [20003]**. The ditch had one fill, **(20011)**, comprised of light brown clayey loam. This fill was cut by **ditch [20025]** which is discussed below.

Cut [20017] (no drawing) was described as a possible posthole which was overlain by **topsoil (20000)** and had a single **fill (20018)**. No physical description of this fill was recorded.

Cut [20019] (no drawing) was described as a possible stakehole which had a single **fill (20020)**. No physical description of this fill was recorded.

Cut [20021] (no drawing) was described as a possible stakehole which had a single **fill (20022)**. No physical description of this fill was recorded.

Cut [20023] (no drawing) was described as a possible stakehole which had a single **fill (20024)**. No physical description of this fill was recorded.

Cut [20025] (no plan, sections 20.10 and 20.11) was a v-shaped recut of **ditch [20012]** within **fill (20011)** that was only identified from the section drawings during the post-excavation process. Its single **fill (20015)**, which was initially

described in the field as a fill of ditch [20012], was friable mid-brown loam with occasional small chalk inclusions.

LAYERS

Layer (20007) (plan 2005) was made up of brown loam which was interpreted as possibly representing the centre of the possible barrow which had been surrounded by **ditch [20003]**.

Layer (20016) (section 20.10) was a layer of frost shattered chalk between the **topsoil (20000)** and the **natural (20008)**.

Trench 20B

Context Number	Type	Description	Fill of	Phase	Group
20500	layer	topsoil		MODERN	
20501	layer	natural		UN	
20502	cut	ditch		MIA	20952
20503	fill		20502	MIA	20952
20504	fill		20505	MIA	
20505	cut	ditch		MIA	
20506	fill		20505	MIA	
20507	cut	posthole		UN	
20508	fill		20507	UN	
20509	cut	posthole		?MIA	
20510	fill		20509	?MIA	
20511	cut	posthole		MIA	
20512	fill		20511	?MIA	
20513	cut	posthole		UN	
20514	fill		20513	UN	
20515	fill		20502	UN	
20516	fill		20509	UN	
20517	fill		20511	UN	
20518	cut	posthole		UN	
20519	fill		20518	UN	
20520	cut	posthole		UN	
20521	fill		20520	UN	
20522	cut	?stakehole		UN	20952
20523	fill		20522	UN	
20524	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20525	fill		20524	UN	
20526	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20527	fill		20526	UN	
20528	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20529	fill		20528	UN	
20530	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20531	fill		20530	UN	
20532	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20533	fill		20532	UN	
20534	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20535	fill		20534	UN	
20536	cut	?stakehole		UN	

20537	fill		20536	UN	
20538	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20539	fill		20538	UN	
20540	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20541	fill		20540	UN	
20542	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20543	fill		20542	UN	
20544	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20545	fill		20544	UN	
20546	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20547	fill		20546	UN	
20548	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20549	fill		20548	UN	
20550	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20551	fill		20550	UN	
20552	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20553	fill		20552	UN	
20554	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20555	fill		20554	UN	
20556	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20557	fill		20556	UN	
20558	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20559	fill		20558	UN	
20560	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20561	fill		20560	UN	
20562	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20563	fill		20562	UN	
20564	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20565	fill		20564	UN	
20566	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20567	fill		20566	UN	
20568	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20569	fill		20568	UN	
20570	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20571	fill		20570	UN	
20572	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20573	fill		20572	UN	
20574	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20575	fill		20574	UN	
20576	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20577	fill		20576	UN	
20578	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20579	fill		20578	UN	
20580	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20581	fill		20580	UN	
20582	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20583	fill		20582	UN	
20584	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20585	fill		20584	UN	
20586	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20587	fill		20586	UN	
20588	cut	?stakehole		UN	

20589	fill		20588	UN	
20590	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20591	fill		20590	UN	
20592	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20593	fill		20592	UN	
20594	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20595	fill		20594	UN	
20596	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20597	fill		20596	UN	
20598	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20599	fill		20598	UN	
20600	cut	?stakehole		UN	
20601	fill		20600	UN	

TOPSOIL

Layer (20500) was the topsoil.

NATURAL

Layer (20501) was the natural chalk bedrock.

CUTS

Other than the large enclosure ditch, the remainder of the features investigated in this trench were post or stakeholes.

Cut [20502] (plan 2001, sections 20.07, 20.08 and 20.09) was the south end of the enclosure ditch cut visible in this trench, where the ditch was found to be c. 0.6-1.10m wide and c. 30cm deep. It was cut into the **natural (20501)**. Ditch [20502] lay slightly to the east of ditch [20505] discussed below. Ditch [20502] contained two **fills, (20503)** and **(20515)**. Fill (20503) was the upper fill; there is no record of the composition of this fill. The earlier fill (20515) comprised dense chalk inclusions within a pale orange-brown clay matrix.

Cut [20505] (plan 2002, section 20.29) was the north end of the enclosure ditch visible of this trench which had a width c. 0.80-1.34m and was c. 20cm deep and cut into **natural (20501)**. Ditch [20505] had two **fills (20504)** and **(20506)**. Fill (20504) was the lower fill of the ditch and was composed of chalky rubble in a soil matrix with many smaller chalk inclusions. The upper fill, (20506) was overlain by **topsoil (20500)**.

NB: All trench 20B cuts listed below were either definite or possible post- or stakeholes; all 46 of these features were cut into **natural (20501)** and had been overlain by the **topsoil (20500)**.

Cut [20507] (plans 2000 and 2002, section 20.02) was a circular posthole, sheer-sided and flat- bottomed, with a diameter of c. 32cm and a depth of c. 33cm. Possible rope marks were recorded on the sides of the posthole. It contained a single **fill (20508)** which was a lightly compacted grey-brown silty soil with numerous chalk inclusions and a small number of charcoal flecks. Sarsen was recovered from the posthole which had presumably been used as a packing material. The excavator speculated that **postholes [20507], [20509], [20511]** and **[20513]** may have formed a group, but did not assign a group context number.

Cut [20509] (plan 2002, section 20.03) formed an irregular feature with a maximum diameter of 20cm and a maximum depth of 17cm; the sketch on the context sheet by the excavator and the presence of two fills suggests a possible double posthole. The earliest **fill (20516)** was a very compact chalk deposit very similar to the natural. The upper **fill (20510)** was a slightly compact grey-brown silty soil, 10cm deep with chalk inclusions.

Cut [20511] (plan 2002, section 20.01) was a sheer sided posthole with an irregular outline 40cm east to west and c. 30cm north to south. It was flat bottomed and was cut to a depth of c. 38cm. It had two **fills (20512)** and **(20517)**. **Fill (20512)** was a grey-brown friable silt with chalky inclusions which contained a large fragment of (?MIA) pot and some sarsen, possibly representing packing material. In the south side at the base of the posthole, **fill (20517)** comprised a deposit of tightly-packed chalk rubble within a grey-brown silt matrix.

Cut [20513] (plan 2001, section 20.04) was shallow c. 15cm and sub-circular in plan c. 22cm E-W and c. 24cm N-S, with flat sides on the south and sloping on the north. The bottom of the cut was curved and uneven. It was filled by **(20514)**, loose grey-brown clayey soil with chalk inclusions.

NB: The physical descriptions of all the trench 20B cuts listed below are based on measurements from drawings rather than comments on context sheets. They were not excavated. Possible stakeholes **[20566]**, **[20572]**, **[20574]**, **[20576]**, **[20578]**, **[20582]** and **[20584]** appeared to form a linear arrangement in the east of the trench, while the remainder seemed to have a random distribution, and were mostly located in the north-east of the trench.

Cut [20518] (plan 2001, section 20.06) was a shallow posthole, c. 20cm in diameter and c. 17cm deep. It had a single **fill (20519)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20520] (plan 2001, section 20.05) was a posthole, sub-circular in plan c. 20cm E-W, c.18cm N-S and c. 14cm deep. It had a single **fill (20521)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20522] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole with a diameter of c.8cm. It had a single **fill (20523)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20524] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole which had a diameter of c.10cm. It had a single **fill (20525)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20526] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 8cm E-W and c.10cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20527)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20528] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 6cm E-W and c.10cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20529)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20530] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 4cm E-W, c. 8cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20531)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20532] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 4cm E-W, c.8cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20533)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20534] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 4cm E-W, c.10cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20535)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20536] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 6cm E-W, c. 4cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20537)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20538] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 4cm E-W, c.10cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20539)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20540] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 8cm E-W, c.12cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20541)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20542] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole that had a diameter of c. 4cm. It had a single **fill (20543)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20544] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole had a diameter of c. 6cm. It had a single **fill (20545)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20546] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 10cm E-W, c. 8cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20547)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20548] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole sub-circular in plan c. 8cm E-W, c. 6cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20549)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20550] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 10cm E-W, c.6cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20551)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20552] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 7cm E-W, c.5cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20,553)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20554] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 7cm E-W, c.4cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20555)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20556] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 6cm E-W, c.4cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20557)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20558] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 6cm E-W, c. 8cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20559)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20560] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 4cm E-W, c. 8cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20561)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20562] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole that had a diameter of c. 8cm. It had a single **fill (20563)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20564] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole that had a diameter of c. 7cm. It had a single **fill (20565)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20566] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole that had a diameter of c. 4cm. It had a single **fill (20567)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20568] (plan 2002) was possible stakehole that was sub-circular in plan c. 4cm E-W, c. 10cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20569)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20570] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 12cm E-W, c. 10cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20571)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20572] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 7cm E-W, c. 10cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20573)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20574] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 8cm E-W, c. 10cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20575)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20576] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 12cm E-W, c. 6cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20577)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20578] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 6cm E-W, c. 10cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20579)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20580] (no drawing) was a possible stakehole whose dimensions were not recorded. It had a single **fill (20581)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20582] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 8cm E-W, c. 10cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20583)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20584] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 5cm E-W, c. 8cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20585)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20586] was a possible stakehole whose dimensions not recorded. It had a single **fill (20587)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20588] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 8cm E-W, c. 6cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20589)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20590] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 10cm E-W, c. 6cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20591)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20592] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan c. 6cm E-W, c. 8cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20593)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20594] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole that had a diameter of c. 4cm. It had a single **fill (20595)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20596] (plan 2002) was a possible posthole that had a diameter of c. 28cm. It had a single **fill (20597)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20598] (no drawing) was a possible stakehole whose dimensions were not recorded. It had a single **fill (20599)** whose composition was not recorded.

Cut [20600] (plan 2002) was a possible stakehole, sub-circular in plan in plan c. 8cm E-W, c. 6cm N-S. It had a single **fill (20601)** whose composition was not recorded.

TRENCH 20C

Context Number	Type	Description	Fill of	Phase	Group
20750	layer	topsoil		MODERN	
20751	layer	natural		UN	
20752	cut	pit		MIA	
20753	cut	pit		MIA	
20754	cut	pit		MIA	
20755	fill		20754	MIA	
20756	fill		20754	MIA	
20757	fill		20754	MIA	
20758	fill		20753	MIA	
20759	fill		20753	MIA	
20760	cut	posthole		MIA	
20761	fill		20760	MIA	
20762	cut	pit		MIA	
20763	fill		20752	MIA	
20764	fill		20786	MIA	
20765	fill		20760	MIA	
20766	cut	?posthole		MIA	
20767	fill		20766	MIA	
20768	fill		20753	MIA	
20769	cut	stakehole		MIA	
20770	fill		20769	MIA	
20771	fill		20752	MIA	
20772	cut	?ditch		MIA	
20773	cut	pit		?MIA	
20774	cut	irregular hollow hole		?MIA	
20775	cut	?pit		?MIA	
20776	fill		20772	MIA	
20777	fill		20773	?MIA	
20778	fill		20774	?MIA	
20779	fill		20775	?MIA	
20780	fill		20762	MIA	
20781	fill		20762	MIA	
20782	fill		20762	MIA	
20783	fill		20762	MIA	
20784	fill		20752	MIA	
20785	fill		20752	MIA	
20786	cut	?posthole		MIA	

TOPSOIL

Layer (20750) was the topsoil; no physical description was recorded for this context.

NATURAL

Layer (20751) was the natural chalk bedrock.

CUTS

Cut [20752] (no plan, section 20.28) was only partially excavated. It was a pit, circular in plan with straight sides, cut into **natural (20751)**. It cut **pit [20754]**

which is discussed below. A 'chalk cast' within the pit was interpreted as a possible animal burrow, a feature that was photographed for the site records. Three **fills** were excavated: **(20763) = (20784), (20771)** and **(20785)**, although no physical descriptions were recorded for these contexts.

Cut [20753] (no plan, section 20.23) was a sub-circular pit, 41cm deep and 79cm across at widest point (east-west), with steep, almost vertical sides cut into **natural (20751)**. As viewed in section the pit appears to either be cut by two probable postholes, **[20760]** and **[20753]** or cuts these features, and a further, possibly double, stakehole **[20769]** cuts the bottom of the pit. Three **fills** were identified within the pit: **(20758), (20759)** and **(20768)**. The upper fill **(20758)** was a friable yellowish brown clay loam, 15cm thick; with chalk inclusions approximately 1-2cm in size which was overlain by **topsoil (20750)** and overlay fill (20759) and was cut by [20760]. **Fill (20759)** was a loose light greyish brown soil, with chalk inclusions 2-5cm in size and 30cm thick, overlain by (20758) and overlying fill (20768). **Fill (20768)** overlay **stakehole [20769]** and was overlain by fill (20759) but its composition was not recorded.

Cut [20754] (no plan, sections 20.12 and 20.28) was an irregularly shaped pit overlain by **topsoil (20750)** and cut into **natural (20751)**, c. 1.2m in diameter and 0.78m deep with a sharp break at the top and bottom. It had a flat bottom and irregular sides. It was cut by **pit [20752]**. The pit had three **fills: (20755), (20756)** and **(20757)**. **(20755)** was the uppermost fill and comprised a friable mid-brown silty loam with an homogenous spread of small chalk inclusions 15-20mm with a few larger pieces, and small pieces of charcoal and unworked flint. Beneath fill (20755) was primary **fill (20757)**, loose dark brownish-black silty loam approximately 15cm thick with some large burnt sarsens and a butchered cattle scapula, among other animal bones and artefacts. Lying centrally within (20755) was a chalk lens, **fill (20756)**, seen only in plan and not excavated.

Cut [20760] (no plan, section 20.23) was a posthole, c. 45cm deep with steep sloping sides and a diameter of at least 25cm. This posthole is cut by **pit [20753]**. It had two **fills (20761)** and **(20765)**. The primary **fill (20765)** was loose, mid-yellowish brown clay with 15% chalk inclusions up to 2.5cm in size and a maximum thickness of 22cm and was overlain by fill (20761). The uppermost **fill (20761)**, which was overlain by **topsoil (20750)**, comprised a loose mid yellowish brown sandy clay with 60% chalk inclusions 1-6cm in size and a maximum thickness of 32 cm.

Cut [20762] (no plan, section 20.28) was a pit c. 20-60cm in diameter and c. 60cm deep, which cut **fills (20763)** and **(20771)** of **pit [20752]**. It had four **fills (20780), (20781), (20782)** and **(20783)**. Overlain by **topsoil (20750)**, upper **fill (20780)** lay above fill (20781); however no physical description was recorded on the context sheet. **Fill (20781)** was overlain by fill (20780) and overlay fill (20783) but was not otherwise described on the context sheet. The primary **fill (20783)** was overlain by fills (20781) and (20782) but not otherwise described on its context sheet.

Cut [20766] (no plan, section 20.23) was a possible posthole in the east side of **pit [20753]**. It was unclear whether the posthole cut this pit or had been cut by the pit. No dimensions were recorded for this ambiguous cut. A single **fill (20767)** was noted in this feature but its physical characteristics were not recorded.

Cut [20769] (no plan, section 20.23) was a possible double stakehole with a maximum diameter of c. 10cm cut into the bottom of **pit [20753]**, cutting the **natural (20751)**. The stakehole had a single **fill (20770)**, which was overlain by **fill (20768) of pit [20753]**, whose physical characteristics were not recorded on the context sheet.

Cut [20772] (plan 2010, section 20.26) was the cut of a possible ditch which was only partially excavated; only the western edge was defined. The explored area was c. 3.5m E-W, c. 10-30cm deep. The sides were gently sloping with a fairly sharp break of slope. The ditch was cut by later intrusions, **possible ditch [20773]**, and **natural feature [20774]** and **possible pit [20775]** which are discussed below. The ditch had a single **fill (20776)**, a deposit of very compacted, light brownish-white chalk.

Cut [20773] (no plan, section 20.26) was a shallow pit with a diameter of c. 48cm and a depth of c. 18 cm. The pit cut possible **ditch [20772]**. It contained a single **fill (20777)**, loose dark blackish-brown silty clay with 60% chalk inclusions 5-7cm in size.

Cut [20774] (no plan, section 20.26) was an irregular hollow hole which had a diameter of c. 1.2m and a maximum depth of c. 18cm. It had a single shallow **fill (20778)** of loose dark blackish-brown silty clay with 50% chalk inclusions 3-5cm in size. This feature cut **possible ditch [20772]**.

Cut [20775] (no plan, section 20.26) was interpreted as being a possible pit cut into **fill (20776)** of **possible ditch [20772]**. It extended under the eastern trench edge but where visible was recorded as having a possible diameter of c. 75cm and a depth of c. 2-25cm. Its single **fill (20779)** was loose, dark blackish-brown silty clay with 40% chalk inclusions 5-7cm in size.

Cut [20786] (no plan, section 20.28) was a possible posthole which cut **possible ditch [20762]**. It had a single **fill (20764)** that was overlain by **topsoil (20750)** and overlay **fill (20782)** of possible ditch **[20762]**. Fill (20764) was composed of light brown compacted clay with chalk inclusions 4-5cm in size.

TRENCH 20D

Context Number	Type	Description	Fill of	Phase	Group
20800	layer	topsoil		MODERN	
20801	layer	natural		UN	
20802	cut	ditch		MIA	20953
20803	cut	ditch		MIA	20951
20804	fill		20802	MIA	
20805	fill		20803	MIA	
20806	fill		20803	MIA	
20807	cut	ditch		MIA	20952
20808	fill		20807	MIA	
20809	fill		20803	MIA	
20810	layer			UN	

TOPSOIL

Layer (20800) was the overlying topsoil whose characteristics were not recorded.

NATURAL

Layer (20801) was the natural chalk bedrock.

CUTS

Three cuts were investigated in Trench 20D: **[20802]**, **[20803]** and **[20807]**. All ran parallel to each other, and cut the **natural (20801)**; their upper fills were overlain by **topsoil (20800)**.

Cut [20802] (plan 2006, sections 20.21 and 20.24) was a flat-bottomed ditch with sides sloping at 40° with the width of the cut varying from c. 20-36cm E-W. It had a single fill **(20804)** which comprised a firm mid-yellowish brown silty clay with 20% chalk inclusions 1-5cm in size. This ditch was cut by ditch **[20807]**. This feature was interpreted as a section of the inner enclosure ditch cut. It was part of **group [20953]**.

Cut [20803] (plans 2003 and 2006, sections 20.17, 20.21 and 20.24) appears to run for c. 7.1m N-S as interpreted from its probable alignment in two trench segments. It was flat-bottomed with sloping sides estimated at 60°, and varied in width from between 40-70cm with a depth ranging from c.11-34cm. The ditch had three **fills (20805), (20806)** and **(20809)**. The latest **fill (20805)** was a firm, mid-yellowish brown silty clay with 20% chalk inclusions, 5-15 cm in size. This was overlaid **fill (20806)** a lens of mortar, possibly dumped or mixed there. The earliest fill was **(20809)**, overlain by both **(20805)** and **(20806)**, was not otherwise described. This ditch was cut by **ditch [20807]**.

Cut [20807] (plan 2006, section 20.21 and 20.24) was a flat-bottomed ditch with gently sloping sides (40°). The width of the ditch cut averaged between 43-53cm E-W but varied from 10cm to 1.85m at its narrowest and widest points. It had a single **fill (20808)** which was firm, mid-yellowish brown silty clay with 20% chalk inclusions up to 2 cm in size and small flecks of charcoal. This ditch cut **[20802]** and **[20803]**.

LAYER

Layer [20810] (no plan, sections 20.21 and 20.24) although the composition of this layer was not recorded, stratigraphically it was overlain by **topsoil (20800)**, overlay the **natural (20801)** and was cut by ditches **[20802]**, **[20803]** and **[20807]**.

TRENCH 20E

Context Number	Type	Description	Fill of	Phase	Group
20820	layer	topsoil		MODERN	
20821	layer	natural		UN	
20822	cut	ditch		MIA	20951
20823	cut	ditch		MIA	20952
20824	fill		20822	MIA	
20825	fill		20823	MIA	
20826	cut	ditch		MIA	20953
20827	fill		20826	MIA	

TOPSOIL

Layer (20820) was a loose dark blackish brown silty loam, with 20% angular chalk inclusions up to 4 cm in size.

NATURAL

Layer (20821) was the natural chalk bedrock.

CUTS

Three cuts were investigated in Trench 20E: **[20822]**, **[20,823]** and **[20,826]**. All cut the **natural (20821)**; their upper fills were overlain by **topsoil (20820)**.

Cut [20822] (no plan, sections 20.19 and 20.20) was a ditch c. 60cm wide and c. 20cm deep with a rectangular base and gently sloping sides (30°). It had a single fill **(20824)** which was a firm, mid-yellowish brown, silty clay with 30% chalk inclusions up to 4cm in size. It was cut by **[20823]** and **[20826]**. It was interpreted as being a segment of the inner ditch.

Cut [20823] (no plan, sections 20.19 and 20.20) was a ditch c. 1.1m wide with a depth c. 30cm, having a rectangular profile with a flat base and gently sloping sides (30°). Its single **fill (20825)** comprised a firm, mid-yellowish brown, silty clay with 25% chalk inclusions up to 4cm in size. **Ditch [20823]** cuts ditches **[20822]** and **[20826]**. This was interpreted as a segment of the outer ditch.

Cut [20826] (no plan, sections 20.19 and 20.20) was a flat based ditch, shallower than **ditch [20823]** which cut it. This feature was not seen in plan and was not described on its context sheet. It had a single **fill (20827)** which was firm, mid-yellowish brown silty clay with 30% chalk inclusions.

TRENCH 20F

Context Number	Type	Description	Fill of	Phase	Group
20840	layer	topsoil		MODERN	
20841	layer	natural		UN	
20842	cut	ditch		MIA	20952
20843	fill		20842	MIA	
20844	cut	ditch		MIA	20951
20845	fill		20844	MIA	
20846	fill		20842	MIA	

TOPSOIL

Layer (20840) was the topsoil whose composition was unreported.

NATURAL

Layer (20841) was the natural chalk bedrock.

CUTS

Two ditches were investigated in Trench 20F: **[20842]** and **[20844]** which both cut bedrock.

Cut [20842] (plan 2004, section 20.15 and 20.16) was a ditch c. 50cm deep and c. 82-92cm wide with a U-shaped cut with sloping sides (70°). It had two **fills**

(20843) and **(20846)**. Overlain by **topsoil (20840)** and overlying **fill (20846)**, upper **fill (20843)** was very firm, mid-blue-grey clay. **Fill (20846)** comprised firm mid-yellowish brown clayey silt with inclusions of chalk 5-40mm in size, sarsen of 2-30cm and occasional flint up to 2cm in size. Ditch [20842] appears to cut by **ditch [20844]** on its north side. This cut was a section of the outer enclosure ditch.

Cut [20844] (plan 2004, section 20.15) was a c. 36-40cm wide ditch with a flat base, sloping sides (70°) and a depth of c. 25cm. It had a single **fill (20845)** a firm, mid-yellowish brown silty clay with 40% sub-angular chalk inclusions 5-40mm in size. This ditch appears to be cut by **[20842]**.

TRENCH 20G

Context Number	Type	Description	Fill of	Phase	Group
20860	layer	topsoil		MODERN	
20861	layer	natural		UN	
20862	cut	ditch		MIA	20952
20863	fill		20862	MIA	
20864	cut	ditch		MIA	
20865	fill		20864	MIA	
20866	cut	pit		MIA	
20867	fill		20866	MIA	
20868	fill		20862	MIA	
20869	fill		20866	MIA	

TOPSOIL

Layer (20860) was the topsoil context whose physical description was not recorded.

NATURAL

Layer (20861) was the natural chalk bedrock.

CUTS

Two ditches were excavated in Trench 20G: **[20862]** and **[20864]**, both whose top fills were overlain by **topsoil (20860)** and both of which cut into the **natural (20861)**.

Cut [20862] (plan 2007, sections 20.13 and 20.22) was a ditch c. 50-55cm wide and c. 42cm deep. It was rectangular in profile, with a flat base and sloping sides (45-50°). The ditch had two fills **(20863)** and **(20868)**. Upper **fill (20863)** was firm, mid-yellowish brown silty clay with 5% chalk inclusions up to 5cm in size and occasional sarsen up to 1.5cm. **Fill (20868)** was the primary ditch fill. It comprised very compact mid-grey-brown clay with occasional chalk inclusions. This ditch was cut by **posthole [20866]**. This feature was the cut of the large enclosure ditch.

Cut [20864] (no plan, section 20.18) was a ditch c. 1.10m wide and 27cm deep. It had a flat base with a 70° slope on the north side and 80° slope on the south. It had a single **fill (20865)** which comprised friable mid-yellowish brown silty clay with 20% chalk inclusions. This appeared to be a ditch separate from **ditch [20862]** which ran diagonally across the trench.

Cut [20866] (plan 2007, section 20.22) was a 56cm in diameter pit, c. 31cm deep with straight sides and a flat base. The pit cuts into the side of, and therefore postdates, **ditch [20862]**. It was filled by **(20867)** firm mid-yellowish brown silty clay with 2% small chalk inclusions up to 0.5cm in size.

TRENCH 20H

Context Number	Type	Description	Fill of	Phase	Group
20880	layer	topsoil		MODERN	
20881	layer	natural		UN	
20882	cut	ditch		MIA	20951
20883	fill		20882	MIA	
20884	cut	stakehole		UN	
20885	fill		20884	UN	
20886	cut	stakehole		UN	
20887	fill		20886	UN	
20888	cut	?posthole		UN	
20889	fill		20889	UN	

TOPSOIL

Layer (20880) was the topsoil in the trench; its composition was not recorded.

NATURAL

Layer (20881) was the natural chalk bedrock.

CUTS

Cut [20882] (no plan, section 20.25) was a ditch with V-shaped, sloping sides (80°), cut into **natural (20881)**, 79cm wide at top and 42cm deep. Weathering was visible on the south side on the break of slope. It had a single **fill, (20883)**, friable, mid-yellowish-brown silty clay with occasional chalk inclusions. This feature was interpreted as being a section of the large enclosure ditch.

Cut [20884] (no drawing) was a circular stakehole, with a diameter of c. 6cm and 8 cm deep, with straight sides and a pointed base. It had a single **fill (20885)**, friable mid-yellowish brown silty clay with occasional chalk inclusions.

Cut [20886] (no drawing) was a circular stakehole, with a diameter of c. 7cm, 9 cm deep with a pointed base. It had a single **fill (20887)**, friable mid-yellowish brown silty clay with occasional chalk inclusions.

Cut [20888] (no drawing) was a sub-rounded possible posthole with a diameter of c. 22cm and depth of c. 18cm which had a pointed base. It had a single **fill (20889)**, friable mid-yellowish brown silty clay with occasional chalk inclusions.

TRENCH 20I

Context Number	Type	Description	Fill of	Phase	Group
20900	layer	topsoil		MODERN	
20901	layer	natural		UN	
20902	cut	ditch		MIA	20953
20903	fill		20902	MIA	
20904	cut	stakehole		UN	
20905	fill		20904	UN	
20906	cut	natural		UN	
20907	fill		20906	UN	
20908	cut	ditch		MIA	20952
20909	fill		20908	MIA	
20910	cut	stakehole		UN	
20911	fill		20910	UN	
20912	cut	pit		MIA	
20913	fill		20912	MIA	
20914	cut	pit		?MIA	
20915	fill		20914	?MIA	
20916	fill		20902	MIA	

TOPSOIL

Layer (20900) was the topsoil in this ditch; its physical makeup was not recorded.

NATURAL

Layer (20901) was the natural chalk bedrock.

CUTS

Cut [20902] (no plan, section 20.27B) was a ditch c. 2.3m wide, (the width of the trench), and appears to have extended under the baulk in the north. The depth varied from c. 10-50cm. The ditch had two **fills (20903)** and **(20916)**. **Fill (20903)** was the upper ditch fill, overlain by **topsoil (20900)**, which was cut by **pits [20912]** and **[20914]**. Its composition was not recorded. **Fill (20916)** was overlain by (20903) but was not otherwise described. This cut was a portion of the inner enclosure ditch.

Cut [20904] (no drawings) was a stakehole 6cm wide and 5cm deep. It had a single **fill (20905)**, pale yellowish brown chalky loam that was overlain by **topsoil (20900)**.

Cut [20906] (no drawings) was originally recorded as a stakehole, though this was reinterpreted after excavation as a natural feature. It had a single **fill (20907)** which was not described although it was overlain by **topsoil (20900)**.

Cut [20908] (plan 2008, section 20.27A) was a U-shaped ditch in profile with steeply sloping sides (80°), c. 1m wide. It was visible across the full 1m width of trench, running NE-SW and appearing to continue under both baulks. It had a single **fill (20909)**, firm mid-yellowish brown loamy clay with 30% chalk inclusions 5-10mm in size, and 5% sarsen inclusions up to 30cm that was overlain by **topsoil (20900)**.

Cut [20010] (no drawings) was a rounded stakehole with straight sides and a flat base 6.5cm wide by 6cm deep. It had a single **fill (20911)**, pale yellowish brown chalky loam that was overlain by **topsoil (20900)**.

Cut [20912] (plan 2008, sections 20.27B) was a cut in the upper **fill (20903)** of **ditch [20902]**. Although there is no written description of this feature, the cut is shown on the plan as an 80-90cm wide N-S feature running under the west edge of the trench. In the section drawing, however, it is shown as being only 10-20cm wide and c. 11cm deep. It had a single **fill (20913)** whose composition was not recorded was overlain by **topsoil (20900)**. The feature was ultimately described as a pit though a different trench shape or location might have yielded an alternate description.

Cut [20914] (no plan, section 20.27B) was a pit found in the in upper **fill (20903)** of **ditch [20902]**. It had a diameter of c. 62cm and was c.16cm deep. It had a single fill **(20915)** was overlain by **topsoil (20900)** but was not otherwise described.

TRENCH 20J

Context Number	Type	Description	Fill of	Phase	Group
20920	layer	topsoil		MODERN	
20921	layer	natural		UN	
20922	cut	ditch		UN	20952
20923	fill	ditch	20922	UN	

TOPSOIL

Layer (20920) was the topsoil in this ditch; its physical makeup was not recorded.

NATURAL

Layer (20921) was the natural chalk bedrock.

CUT

Cut [20922] (no drawings) was the cut of the main enclosure ditch, filled by **(20923)**. These features were not excavated and no physical description was recorded for the cut or its fill. It was included in **group [20952]** based on the orientation of the trench.

TRENCH 20A-J GROUPS

Group [20951] was the v-shaped enclosure ditch, visible in trenches 20A, 20D, 20E, 20F and 20H as contexts **[20001]**, **[20803]**, **[20822]**, **[20844]** and **[20882]**, which are all described above.

Group [20952] was the flat bottomed or U-shaped enclosure ditch visible in trenches 20A, 20B, 20D, 20E, 20F, 20G, 20I and 20J as contexts **[20012]**, **[20502]**, **[20505]**, **[20807]**, **[20823]**, **[20842]**, **[20862]**, **[20908]** and **[20922]**.

Group [20953] was the inner enclosure ditch visible in trenches 20D, 20E and 20I as contexts **[20802]**, **[20826]** and **[20902]**.