

A Bronze Age occupation site at Frog Hall Farm, Fingringhoe, Essex: 1975-76 excavations

Archive report

by Howard Brooks

*with contributions by
Stephen Benfield, Nigel Brown, Tania Dickinson,
Margaret Guido, Peter Murphy, Jennifer Price,
Susan Tyler, and John Wymer*



Colchester Archaeological Trust
12 Lexden Road,
Colchester,
Essex CO3 3NF

tel.: (01206) 541051
tel./fax: (01206) 500124

email: archaeologists@colchester-arch-trust.co.uk

CAT Report 123

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1 Summary

Excavations in 1975-76 revealed the site of a structure defined by an oval setting of posts, lying slightly off-centre within an irregular ring-ditch which is part of a wider network of undated but probably associated cropmarks. Pottery from the post-holes, ditch and associated pits is of a flint-gritted, Late Bronze Age type. A sample of Vicia faba (horsebean) gave a radiocarbon estimation of 2760 ± 80 bp (uncalibrated), a dating which is broadly in line with the ceramic evidence. Other contemporary finds included spindle-whorls and struck flints. There was a residual Neolithic sherd among the Bronze Age material, and Roman, Saxon and medieval pottery and a Saxon bead in the ploughsoil; whether this is derived from ploughed-out features is unknown.

2 Introduction

An aerial photograph taken for the Potato Marketing Board in 1974 revealed a cropmark complex south of the village of Fingringhoe, Essex (6km SSE of Colchester). As the area was scheduled for gravel-extraction, the Essex County Archaeological Officer ¹ asked the Colchester Excavation Committee (CEC) ² to excavate what appeared to be the focus of the cropmark complex, a ring-ditch at TM 0347 1965. This lay in the field immediately north of 'Jaggers', on land formerly owned by Frog Hall Farm (500m NE of the site) but at that time worked out of Homewood Farm (300m NNE). The site was excavated from September 1975 to February 1976 under the supervision of the writer, using CEC labour and assisted by occasional volunteers. Funding was provided by Colchester Borough Council, the Department of the Environment and Essex County Council.

3 The cropmarks (Fig 1)

The aerial photograph revealed cropmarks in field nos OS TM 0219 8000, and TM 0319 0005, 2500 and 6500. Features of particular interest in the cropmark system are the oval enclosure in field 8000 (cropmark A), the double-ditched 'trackways' in fields 0005 (B) and 2500 (C), and the large possibly tripartite rectangular enclosure (D)(E)(F) in field 6500 with a smaller enclosure containing a broken circle (G) in its own enclosure on its western side (the latter being the site of the 1975 excavation).

Those cropmarks which corresponded convincingly with field boundaries shown on the 1881 OS 6 inch series (sheet XXXVII) and on the 1842 Tithe Map ³ have been omitted from Figure 1. The group of short cropmark lines around the north and east sides of enclosure E may also be of recent origin.

¹ then John Hedges
² now the Colchester Archaeological Trust

4 Aim

The excavation was targeted on the comprehensive examination of cropmark G (Figs 1-3), the logical focus of the enclosure D/E/F. There was no brief to investigate any other of the cropmark areas.

5 A description of the excavation

5.1 Ploughsoil and subsoil

The 280mm depth of modern ploughsoil (Layer 1 or L1: Section or Sx 19, Sx 20; Fig 5) was removed using a JCB digger with a flat-edged bucket. There were a great number of post-medieval and modern finds from L1 (listed in section 6.9 below).

The removal of L1 exposed L2, in which were visible cultivation marks running parallel with the modern crop rows. L2 was therefore clearly a plough-disturbed horizon. Although no features were visible in L2, a great many prehistoric sherds were visible in its surface (in fact, most of the prehistoric finds from the site were found in L2). The whole site was gridded out and finds were individually recorded in 1m squares and also by spits as L2 was worked down (by hand) to the level of the undisturbed natural subsoil. Thus a finds bag may be labelled, for instance, '105w 99n, 6cm deep in L2'. The distribution of this material in L2 finds is shown on Figure 3.

After the removal of L2, a number of archaeological and geological features were exposed, cutting into the natural subsoil - a mixture of glacial till and gravel (Fig 2).

The great concentration of prehistoric postsherds and other material found in L2 indicates that the original ground-level of the site must have been somewhere in the 250-450mm thickness of L2, and that subsequent ploughing had destroyed it. As a consequence, the tops of the excavated features have been truncated by ploughing.

5.2 The natural ice crack (Fig 2)

A ditch running WNW-ESE just south of cropmark G was sectioned in three places. Its sides were of gravel, and its fill consisted of clean layers of sand and till quite different in nature to the fill of cropmark G (excavated Feature 1 or F1). The profile of the feature was that of a smooth funnel, and the sides were still dropping down steeply at a depth of 2m below cleared site level. It was quite clearly a natural crack, probably a periglacial ice wedge crack.

5.3 The ring-ditch – F1 (Figs 2-4)

This was an irregular penannular ditch with a narrow causeway on its eastern side. Approximately 65% of the fill was excavated, in separate lengths labelled A-K (eg F1/K) which are shown on Figure 2. Finds from the ditch are identified by this letter reference, and also by a Layer Number ⁴. Due to more work being carried out than was originally intended, some of the ditch lengths were subdivided (F1/J2, J2, J3). Hence a find reference can be, for instance, 'F1/J3 Layer 16'.

The average internal diameter of F1 was 11.2m and the average distance from ditch centre to ditch centre was 12.8m. The irregular size and shape of the ditch may have been deliberate, and specifically to facilitate drainage. The 0.35m difference in the height between the bottom of F1 at Sx 27 and at Sx 24 would mean that water running into F1 would flow around into the freer-draining gravel subsoil on the eastern side of the site.

The ditch fills can be split into a number of distinct types:

1. rapid silts
2. primary silts
3. wash-down layers
4. other fill layers

After the digging of the ditch, *rapid silts* L23 and L28 (Sx 25, Sx 24) accumulated on both the south and north sides of the open ditch. This was followed in some instances by a definable layer of *primary silting* (L22, and perhaps L14; Sx 25, Sx 20). There is no reason to suppose that a long time elapsed between the opening of the ditch and the accumulation of this primary silt. There were no finds from any of these silt deposits.

Subsequently, the next fill layer in some of the ditch sections - primarily the larger ditch sections on the north and south sides (Sx 19, Sx 20, Sx 22, Sx 25, Sx 26) - had curious stripes of cleanish sand mixed in with the otherwise dark yellowish or dark brown loam fills. The most obvious explanation of these stripes is that they derive from material washing down off a bank, and the sand fraction settling separately from the other material. The division into waterborne and non-waterborne fills is not clear-cut - in the two adjacent sections Sx 24 and Sx 25, the stripes were visible in one but not in the other. This washing down of material, therefore, did not happen in a uniform or regular fashion. There is a slight bias in the angle of these sand layers which might suggest an internal bank (see Sx 22), but not overwhelmingly so; Sx 19 might suggest material washing in from both sides.

Apart from the fills above, the rest of the ditch was filled in with a fairly uniform deposit of dark brown sandy loam (L3, L13). Where there was no difference in the visible fills

⁴ In the CAT recording system, layers can be feature fills

(eg Sx 21), no attempt was made to split the fills into contexts corresponding with the wash-down deposits.

The finds recovered from F1 are as follows:

Section	Sx reference	Layer	Pottery nos	Flint nos
F1/J2/J3	27	L16	1204	24
F1/A	25	L3	1179	21-22
F1/D	22	L7	1173	
F1/K	26	L11	1180	23

5.4 Internal features (Figs 3, 5)

Within the area enclosed by the ditch F1 were features F2-F8 and F13-F18. The shallow nature of these features reflects the truncation by ploughing inherent in the overlying, finds-rich L2 - more markedly so in those on the west side of the site (F14-F16). Stratified finds from these features were as follows:

Feature no	Pot no	Finds illustration
F2	1171	
F3	1172	
F4	1174, 1176	
F4	1178	Fig 7.5

Features F2-F4 also contained comminuted and unidentifiable charcoal fragments.

Features F4, F6, F7, F14-F16 and F18 fall on an ellipse whose diameter is 6.4m NW-SE and 4.8m NE-SW. This arrangement is best interpreted as the remains of the post footings of a timber structure. The larger size of F4, F5 and F15 may be due to later disturbance of the post-holes (during demolition?).

A crushed pot F13 (pot 1232; Fig 7.4) was found within the line of the elliptical post-setting. The presence of so much pottery within the overlying L2, and the shallow nature of some of the features, had led us to conjecture plough disturbance on this site. If so, how did we recover the complete profile of this pot? If the pot was originally set at floor level within the floor of the structure, then the rim would have been ploughed off. It must have been set in a cut so that the rim was below floor-level, although no such cut was seen on site - the pot was resting virtually on the cleared site level. No finds were recovered from the interior of the pot; there was certainly no cremated bone.

The position of features F2 and F3 suggests that they may be unconnected with the ellipse of posts. Perhaps they are part of a screen closing off part of the site. The position of F2 particularly causes problems with any hypothetical internal bank here, unless the bank were discontinuous.

5.5 External features (Fig 2)

In the area outside F1 were a shallow feature F11, a pit F9, and a gully F10. F11 produced several sherds of LBA pottery (pot 1177, 1233) and a deposit of horsebean (*Vicia faba* L. var. minor), a report on which is given below (see section 6.7). A radiocarbon determination of 810 bc (uncalibrated: Harwell reference 2502) was obtained from half of the carbonised beans (the other half of the sample, which had been wrapped in paper towel and was possibly unsuitable for dating, is retained with the finds).

Pit F9 contained several sherds of pottery (1175, 1216) and one abraded fragment of baked clay - possibly a weight fragment similar to those from L2 (see section 6 below).

Gully F10 is more of a problem. It was very nebulous and difficult to excavate, and there was no clear division between it and the overlying L2. It is impossible to solve the problem of F10, ie that it cannot be the ditch which produced the cropmark - it is much too far south. In fact, the cropmark must be the geological feature (Fig 2). The line of the F10 ditch is shown as **A-A** on the Figure 1 inset.

The pits F9 and F11 containing the carbonised horsebeans and the crushed pot F13 are the only features on the site for which a non-structural function might be suggested. Current thinking on prehistoric features would suggest that some of what used to be considered simply as 'rubbish-pits' may be deliberately placed deposits. Crushed pot F13 could easily be interpreted as a pot set into the ground within the oval post-setting, presumably for storage. As for the other two features, there seems no strong evidence either way; F11 contained beans and two potsherds, and F9 contained a two sherds and a weight fragment - disposal of rubbish may be an equally valid interpretation as deliberately placed deposits in these cases.

6 Finds

6.1 The small finds

The small finds consisted of a number of fired clay objects, a Saxon bead, and a Roman pottery counter. The bead is reported on separately below (see section 6.6).

Small finds

- 1 *Figure 7.1.* Simple biconical spindle-whorl in very gritty dark brown fabric identical to some of the LBA pottery. Rounded edges and straight 6mm-diameter perforation with very slightly splayed ends. Slightly abraded on one surface, otherwise intact. Miscellaneous find 38. L2 (61.09/10.05). Weight 25g. Maximum diameter 33mm, maximum thickness 21mm.
- 2 *Figure 7.2.* Biconical spindle-whorl in gritty dark grey fabric identical to some of the LBA pottery. Larger than 1, and with more angled edges. Depression in one surface. Perforation 6mm in diameter. Small chip, otherwise intact. Miscellaneous find 39. L2 (53.20/08.46). Weight 35g. Maximum diameter 40mm, maximum thickness 20mm.
- 3 *Figure 7.3.* Fragment of a biconical spindle-whorl in gritty dark brown fabric. Perforation missing. Found in two pieces in L2 - pot 403 (44.98/06.38), pot 405 (45.12/06.59). Combined weight 15g, size 33mm+ x 15mm+.
- 4 *Figure 7.4.* Fragment of a vertically perforated baked clay object. Chaff or grass impressions on surface. Fabric is orange/brown. One surface and the perforation are reduced grey. The perforation implies that it is a weight. Vertically perforated weights (rounded and slack in profile) are known in MBA or LBA contexts at Itford Hill⁵ and Shearplace Hill⁶. Found in two pieces in L2 - pot 777 (47.62/03.96), pot 1060 (52.49/04.52). Weight 40g, size 38 x 44mm+, 24mm thick. Perforation 5.5mm across.
- 5 *Figure 7.6.* Saxon marvered bead. 6th-7th century. L1. (See section 6.6.)
- 6 Fragment, as 4 above. Pot 564 (58.28/03.84). Weight 2g, 17x 9mm.
- 7 Pottery counter cut from Roman grey ware sherd. L2. Weight 2g, maximum diameter 21mm.
- 8 Baked clay lump, similar shape to 4 above but in a more porous, orangey brown fabric with rough grey surfaces. Uncertain traces of a perforation on rear side. Presumably a weight. Pot 1175, from fill of F9 pit. Weight 60g. Size 50mm wide, 22mm thick.

⁵ Burstow & Holleyman 1957, 200-201
⁶ Rahtz & ApSimon 1962, 321-2

11.1 Prehistoric pottery

by Nigel Brown (Essex County Archaeology Section)⁷

The excavations produced a total of 1183 sherds weighing 6.25kg. The material has been recorded using a system devised for prehistoric pottery in Essex (Brown 1988; details in archive). The great majority of the pottery (930 sherds weighing 4.671kg) was recovered from L2, which clearly incorporated material which had once been on the prehistoric ground-surface. The pottery is of a Late Bronze Age date, with the exception of one small rim sherd (P364) which might be part of a rolled rim of an early Neolithic bowl.

Catalogue of illustrated sherds

At an early stage in the post-excavation programme, all the rim sherds and most of the base sherds were drawn; these drawings are held in the site archive.

Fig no	Context no	Description	Fabric
7.1	L2 (P545)	Upright flat-topped rim of round shouldered jar; smoothed surfaces.	B
7.2	L2 (P455)	Slightly everted rounded rim of ?round-shouldered jar. Burnt.	C
7.3	L2 (P340)	Rounded rim with slight internal bevel. Smoothed surfaces. Fine bowl.	A
7.4	F13 (P1232)	Upright flat-topped rim of slack shouldered jar, roughly wiped exterior.	C
7.5	F4 (P1178)	Upright flat-topped rim of plain bowl with slight rounded shoulder. Smoothed surfaces.	B
7.6	L2 (P1181)	Slightly everted rounded rim of round-shouldered bowl, with smoothed and burnished surfaces.	B

The pottery is typical of Late Bronze Age (LBA) assemblages. However, the full range of vessel types are not present. The Frog Hall Farm pottery is characterised by small jars, both coarse and fine, together with coarse and fine bowls and cups, some with burnished surfaces. Very large storage jars, which are a characteristic part of most large LBA assemblages, are not represented. The very coarse flint-tempered sherds derived from such jars, which usually form a high proportion of LBA pottery assemblages, are virtually absent at Frog Hall Farm. It seems likely that the restricted nature of the excavation⁸ has resulted in ceramic refuse relating particularly to cooking and eating being recovered. Variable distribution of ceramic refuse on LBA sites is a well-known phenomenon (eg Bradley *et al* 1980; Brown 1988). It seems reasonable to suggest that the restricted nature of the ceramic assemblage is an indication of the activities carried out in and around the circular structure at Frog Hall Farm.

⁷ also thanks to Dr John Barrett for his early work on the pottery

⁸ I assume that Nigel Brown means the area dug, since we emptied virtually all the features and over half of the ring-ditch

The characteristic features of the assemblage, such as predominance of flint tempered fabrics, finger wiping/smearing on coarse pots, traces of finger impressions where bases are joined to bodies, dense flint temper on the bottom of bases, and smoothed and burnished surfaces of fine pots, are all typical of LBA assemblages (eg Adkins & Needham 1985; Brown 1988). The fabrics and forms present, together with a general lack of decoration (only one jar rimsherd has traces of finger impressions giving a cabled effect), would indicate a fairly early date within the LBA. A date within the first half of the 9th century BC may be suggested, and this accords with the radiocarbon date.

A particularly striking feature of the assemblage is the quantity of burnt sherds, many of which have been reduced to a pumice-like consistency. Occasional burnt sherds occur in any large assemblage, but at Frog Hall Farm over 10% of the sherds have been burnt, this indicates intense and/or frequent burning activity in the vicinity.

6.3 The Roman pottery ⁹

Twenty-three sherds of Roman or probable Roman pottery weighing 422g were recovered from the site (see list below). None of the material was stratified in features; it was all derived from the plough-disturbed horizon L2. In most cases, the sherds were general grey ware body sherds. There was also, however, a sherd of samian, a probable Dressel 20 amphora sherd, and a storage-jar rim. Because of the general unstratified nature of the material, no further work is thought necessary.

Bag no	Context	Qty	Wt (g)	Fabric code	Comments
0022	L2	1	5	Roman	
0045	L2	1	2	Samian rim	
0058	L2	1	22	Roman	
0069	L2	1	35	Storage-jar rim	Roman
0079	L2	1	55	Roman	
0110	L2	1	15	Roman?	
0172	L2	1	1	Roman	
0178	L2	1	33	Roman	
0224	L2	1	4	Roman	
0236	L2	1	5	Roman	
0412	L2	1	25	Amphora	Dressel 20 probably
0426	L2	1	2	Roman	
0641	L2	1	22	Roman	
0725	L2	1	10	Pot or daub?	Looks Roman
0756	L2	1	10	Roman	
0836	L2	1	2	Pot or daub?	Looks Roman
0867	L2	1	1	Roman	
0904	L2	1	2	Roman	
0954	L2	1	88	Roman	
1018	L2	1	8	Roman, probably	
1147	L2	1	10	Roman?	
1222	L2	1	10	Roman	
1244	L2	1	55	Roman	
Totals		23	422		

Note: small find 7 is cut from a Roman sherd (see section 6.1 above).

⁹

I am obliged to Stephen Benfield for his assistance in identifying the Roman pottery

6.4 The Saxon pottery *by Susan Tyler*

Catalogue

Pot no	Comment	Weight (g)
140	Body sherd. Soft black fabric with common small to medium quartz-sand, sparse organic temper.	2
270	Body sherd. Soft black fabric with common organic temper and small to medium quartz-sand.	4
476	Base sherd. Medium hard fabric with abundant organic temper, common small quartz-sand and sparse large quartz inclusions. Outer reddish brown, inner and core grey.	11
570	Very abraded sherd, possibly from a base. Soft dark grey fabric with sparse organic temper.	2
631	Very abraded sherd. Medium soft black fabric with common organic temper.	1
649	Very abraded sherd. Medium soft dark grey fabric with sparse organic temper and common small to medium quartz-sand.	1
854	Very abraded sherd, possibly part of a base. Medium soft fabric with common small quartz-sand and sparse iron oxide.	13
889	Body sherd. Medium soft fabric with common organic temper and abundant quartz-sand. Surfaces reddish brown. Core black.	10
962	Body sherd. Medium soft black fabric with common organic temper. Inner surface smoothed.	2
1010	Base sherd. Medium hard fabric with sparse organic temper and common small to medium quartz-sand. Outer dark reddish-brown.	3
1014	Body sherd. Medium soft black fabric with common organic temper.	3
1015	Very abraded sherd. Medium soft black fabric with sparse large organic temper.	1
1017	Base sherd. Fabric same as pot 1010 (do not join but may be from same vessel).	4
1020	Thick sherd probably from a base. Very abraded. Soft dark grey fabric with sparse organic temper, common small quartz-sand.	2
1047	Two body sherds in the same fabric which do not join. Medium soft fabric with abundant organic temper. Outer reddish buff. Inner and core black.	9

Discussion

A total of sixteen sherds weighing 68g (representing between 10 and 15 vessels) was recovered from a layer of medieval or later ploughsoil over a prehistoric site. Only one fabric type is present, characterised by an organic temper with varying amounts of small to medium quartz-sand with occasional inclusions of other minerals such as iron oxide. The mineral inclusions and varying amounts of quartz-sand are most likely the result of natural variations in the raw clay as collected from local sources rather than a deliberate act to vary the temper.

The precise dating of this small assemblage is difficult given the lack of diagnostic forms. The only feature of the assemblage that gives any indication of date is the fabric which, being exclusively organic tempered, suggests a 6th- to 7th-century date (see Hamerow 1993, 28-31).

6.5 The medieval and post-medieval pottery

Thirty-two sherds of medieval and later pottery weighing a total of 311g were recovered from the ploughsoil (L1) and the lower ploughsoil (L2). None of it was stratified in features. The pottery types are classified after Cunningham (1985) and Cotter (2000), and are listed below.

Bag types are either P (pottery), or M (miscellaneous).

Bag no	Bag type	Context	Qty	Wt (g)	Fabric code	Fabric name	Comments	Date
0001	M	L1	1	5	48d	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0001	M	L1	2	15	48	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0002	M	L1	2	15	48d	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0002	M	L1	2	15	40	Post-Medieval Red Earthenware (PMRE)	glazed	post-med
0002	M	L1	1	10	51a	Late slipped kitchen		19th-20th
0003	M	L1	1	1	48d	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0003	M	L1	1	1	48e	Yellow ware		19th-20th
0005	M	L1	1	1	48d	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0006	M	L1	2	5	48d	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0006	M	L1	2	10	40	PMRE		post-med
0008	M	L1	2	2	48d	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0009	M	L1	4	5	48d	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0011	M	L1	2	3	48d	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0012	M	L1	5	10	48d	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0012	M	L1	1	2	48e	Yellow ware		19th-20th
0013	M	L1	1	1	48d	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0015	M	L1	2	5	48d	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0016	M	L1	2	10	48d	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0017	M	L1	2	2	48d	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0020	M	L1	1	2	48 type	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0021	M	L1	1	1	48d	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0043	M	L1	1	15	51a	Late slipped kitchen		19th-20th
0043	M	L1	2	2	48 type	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0051	M	L1	2	2	48d	Modern ironstone		19th-20th
0003	P	L2	1	2	40 glazed	PMRE		post-med
0010	M	L1	1	5	40 or 51B	PMRE or flowerpot		post-med
0013	M	L2	1	3	20	Med coarse ware		12th-14th
0051	M	L1	1	10	40 or 51B	PMRE or flowerpot	v abraded	post-med
0143	P	L2	1	3	20D	Hedingham coarse ware		12th-13th
0328	P	L2	1	2	21	Sandy orange ware		13th-16th
0404	P	L2	1	33	21	Sandy orange ware		13th-16th
0563	P	L2	1	2	20, prob	Med coarse ware		12th-14th
0638	P	L2	1	1	40	PMRE		post-med
0909	P	L2	1	8	35	Mill Green ware		13th-14th
0916	P	L2	1	2	13	Early med sandy ware		11th-12th
0959	P	L2	1	25	13T	Transitional sandy ware		11th-12th
1006	P	L2	1	10	20	Med coarse ware		12th-14th
1009	P	L2	1	20	20	Med coarse ware		12th-14th
1016	P	L2	2	5	20	Med coarse ware		12th-14th
1092	P	L2	1	5	12A	Early med shelly ware		11th-12th
1120	P	L2	1	25	13	Early med sandy ware		11th-12th
1209	P	L2	1	10	21	Sandy orange ware		13th-16th
Totals			62	311				

Comment

The pottery shows a broad date range, from 11th century through to modern. Sherds of the 13th-16th century are less common than other dates, as shown here:

<i>11th-14th</i>	<i>13th to 16th</i>	<i>16th to 19th</i>	<i>19th to 20th century</i>
12 sherds, 108g	3 sherds, 45g	8 sherds, 43g	39 sherds, 115g

Since there are no contemporary features, we must assume that the potsherds have been carted out from local farms along with the farmyard manure and dumped on the fields by accident. Taking the pottery dates at face value, this would indicate strong arable activity in the early medieval period, a drop-off of arable in late medieval and post-medieval times, and a strong 19th- to 20th-century arable revival.

6.6 The Saxon bead

We are grateful to Jennifer Price, Tania Dickinson and Margaret Guido for their comments on the bead (from ploughsoil L1). The bead (Fig 7.6) is cylindrical and made in light blue glass, with a trail of white glass marvered into its surface. Beads of this type are matched on the Continent by 6th- and 7th-century examples (Koch 1977).

Although there are no Saxon deposits or features on site, one must assume that there was Saxon occupation here since Saxon pottery has been identified among the material from L2.

6.7 Carbonised beans from F11

by Peter Murphy (Centre of East Anglian Studies, University of East Anglia)

A sample of approximately 90ml of charred plant material, with traces of a matrix of yellowish-brown silty clay and a few small pebbles, was received for examination. The sample arrived in two portions, one of which was ultimately intended for radiocarbon dating. To avoid the risk of contamination, this portion was only quickly looked through, but it appeared to be very similar in nature to the second portion. This included 191 seeds of the horsebean, *Vicia faba* L. var. minor, together with 110 isolated cotyledons and large fragments. Something over 500 beans were represented in the deposit. No charred weed seeds or pod fragments were observed.

The beans were oblong in their lateral view and almost circular in cross-section. Only one seed retained its hilum intact. More often there was a furrow between the two cotyledons in the former position of the hilum.

The dimensions of 30 seeds are given in Table 1 (below).

Table 1: dimension of 30 seeds of *Vicia faba* L. var. minor.

	Length (mm)	Breadth of cotyledon (mm)	Thickness across cotyledons (mm)
minimum	4.4	3.40	3.00
mean	6.23	4.22	4.60
maximum	8.10	5.60	6.60

Although they are sometimes known as 'Celtic' beans, seeds of *Vicia faba* L. var. minor are not common in prehistoric contexts in this country, and at sites where they have been reported the crop is usually represented only sporadically by small numbers of seeds. This does not necessarily reflect the true importance of beans and other legumes in prehistoric agricultural systems. Although beans are nowadays often dried to improve storage qualities (MAFF 1970), drying - which involves a risk of charring - is not an essential stage in processing, as it is with some cereals. Consequently, pulse crops are less likely to have been preserved by charring.

It is now clear that the crop had been introduced to Eastern England by the Later Bronze Age: there are records, for example, from Lofts Farm, Heybridge and Springfield Lyons, Chelmsford, which are both in Essex (Murphy 1988; Murphy 1990). The seeds from Fingringhoe are dated to 1130-790 cal BC (two sigma: 2760 + 80 BP, HAR-2502: Bronk Ramsey 2000).

Apart from their use as a protein-rich foodstuff for human consumption, beans and straw make a high-quality livestock feed, and the crop also improves soil nitrogen levels by the action of symbiotic nitrogen-fixing bacteria in root nodules. It is, of course, impossible to determine the precise use of beans in prehistoric farming systems, but cultivation of the crop would at least have allowed the possibility of legume-cereal rotations.

6.8 The flints *by J J Wymer*

Mr J J Wymer has very kindly examined the flints, and the main points of his letter are given here. The Fingringhoe flints are not distinctive. They could range in date from Neolithic to Bronze Age or even Iron Age. There are no signs of the methodical micro-blade production which characterises all Mesolithic industries.

Flint contexts summary

Context		Quantity
Layer 1	(ploughsoil)	5
Layer 2	(lower ploughsoil)	19
Ditch F1		4
Burnt flin	(all L1)	2

Flint contexts detail

Bag no	Bag type	Context	Qty	Wt	Description
001	F	L2	1	2	Flake
002	F	L2	1	2	Flake
003	F	L1	1	3	Flake
004	F	L2	1	5	Flake
005	F	L2	1	2	Flake
006	F	L2	1	5	Flake
007	F	L2	1	3	Flake
008	F	L2	1	3	Flake
009	F	L2	1	5	Flake
010	F	L2	1	3	Flake
011	F	L2	1	10	Flake
012	F	L2	1	2	Flake
013	F	L2	1	10	Flake
014	F	L2	1	3	Flake
015	F	L2	1	1	Flake
016	F	L2	1	5	Flake
017	F	L2	1	5	Flake
018	F	L2	1	10	Flake
019	F	L2	1	8	Flake
020	F	L2	1	15	Flake
021	F	F1 cut A	1	3	Flake
022	F	F1 cut A	1	2	Flake
023	F	F1 cut K	1	3	Flake
024	F	F1 cut J/3	1	5	Flake
006	M	L1	1	75	Large burnt flint
009	M	L1	1	2	Flint flake
010	M	L1	1	10	Burnt flint
011	M	L1	1	2	Flint flake
033	M	L1	1	75	Burnt flint

6.9 A list of the miscellaneous finds

This list contains all the material not reported on separately above (pottery, flint, etc).

Note: this also includes pieces originally classified as pot.

Bag no	Bag type	Context	Qty	Wt	Description	Date	Discarded = √
0001	M	L1	7	125	peg-tiles		√
0001	M	L1	1	25	bricky dauby lump		
0001	M	L1	1	10	slate		
0001	M	L1	1	75	Fe bolt	modern	√
0002	M	L1	1	5	Fe nail		√
0002	M	L1	8	90	peg-tile	post-med	√
0002	M	L1	3	5	indeterminate tile scraps		√
0003	M	L1	10	105	peg-tiles	post-med	√
0003	M	L1	3	25	brick	post-med	√
0003	M	L1	1	1	oyster shell		√
0003	M	L1	1	2	non flint		√
0003	M	L1	1	2	post-med glass	post-med	√
0003	M	L1	1	2	clay pipe	post-med	
0004	M	L1	1	2	oyster shell		√
0005	M	L1	3	1	tiny chalk bits (agricultural)		√
0005	M	L1	4	25	peg-tile	post-med	√
0005	M	L1	2	20	non flints		√
0006	M	L1	1	10	peg-tile	post-med	√
0006	M	L1	1	10	post-med/indet brick scraps	post-med	√
0007	M	L1	1	50	crystal rock		
0007	M	L1	3	45	peg-tiles		√
0007	M	L1	4	20	indeterminate brick/tile lump	post-med	√
0008	M	L1	2	25	post-med glass frags	post-med	√
0008	M	L1	6	35	post-med brick scraps	post-med	√
0009	M	L1	3	45	peg-tiles	post-med	√
0009	M	L1	6	20	indeterminate brick/tile bits	post-med	√
0009	M	L1	1	2	tiny mortar lump		√
0009	M	L1	1	20	crystal stone		
0009	M	L1	1	2	charcoal		√
0010	M	L1	5	100	peg-tiles	post-med	√
0010	M	L1	5	10	brick/tile scraps	post-med	√
0010	M	L1	1	10	non flint		√
0010	M	L1	1	4	medieval sherd	med	
0011	M	L1	9	145	peg-tile	post-med	√
0011	M	L1	2	10	post-med glass bits	post-med	√
0011	M	L1	5	20	indet post-med tile scraps	post-med	√
0011	M	L1	1	5	charcoal		√
0011	M	L1	1	2	flint flake		
0012	M	L1	6	125	peg-tiles	post-med	√
0012	M	L1	4	5	brick/tile scraps	post-med	√
0012	M	L1	1	2	Fe nail		√
0012	M	L1	1	2	non flint		√
0012	M	L1	2	1	post-med glass	post-med	√
0012	M	L1	1	10	sandstone? piece.		
0013	M	L1	1	45	tile, med or Roman	med/Roman	
0013	M	L1	5	45	peg-tiles	post-med	√
0014	M	L1	1	100	bone		√
0014	M	L1	1	25	post-med glass stopper		√
0015	M	L1	2	20	peg-tiles		√
0015	M	L1	1	25	thick brick, Roman or med		
0016	M	L1	7	80	peg-tiles	post-med	√
0016	M	L1	3	5	brick/tile scraps	post-med	√
0017	M	L1	1	50	thick tile, med or Roman		√
0017	M	L1	6	80	peg-tile	post-med	√
0017	M	L1	9	15	brick/tile scraps	post-med	√
0017	M	L1	1	2	post-med glass	post-med	√
0017	M	L1	1	1	clay pipe	post-med	
0018	M	L1	1	60	slag		√
0019	M	L1	1	35	bit of a tractor		√
0020	M	L1	1	5	Fe nail?		√
0020	M	L1	4	55	peg-tiles		√

Bag no	Bag type	Context	Qty	Wt	Description	Date	Discarded = √
0020	M	L1	1	40	crystal stone		
0021	M	L1	1	5	indeterminate brick bit		√
0021	M	L1	3	70	burnt flints	prehist?	
0022	M	L1	4	45	peg-tiles	post-med	√
0023	M	L2	1	2	charcoal		√
0024	M	L2	1	10	charcoal		√
0025	M	L1	1	5	worked stone?		
0026	M	L2	1	5	disintegrated Fe nail		√
0027	M	L2	1	20	Fe object	modern	√
0028	M	L2	1	2	tiny Fe fragment		√
0029	M	L2	1	1	charcoal		√
0030	M	L2	1	15	wood bits		
0031	M	L2	1	7	charcoal		√
0032	M	L2	1	10	Fe fragment	modern	√
0034	M	L2	1	2	tiny Fe fragment		√
0035	M	L2	1	40	new red sandstone fragment		
0040	M	F2	1	20	charcoal		
0041	M	L6 (=F3)	1	20	charcoal		
0043	M	L1	1	10	peg-tiles		√
0043	M	L1	1	80	Fe object		
0043	M	L1	2	15	post-med glass		√
0045	M	F11	1	?	14th-century sample (destroyed)		
0046	M	L2	1	340	slag lump		√
0047	M	L2	2	60	sandstone fragments		
0048	M	L2	1	2	wood charcoal		√
0049	M	L15 (=F1J/3)	1	2	charcoal		
0050	M	F2	1	12	wood charcoal		
0051	M	L1	1	150	Roman brick	Roman	
0051	M	L1	6	140	peg-tiles	post-med	√
0051	M	L1	1	45	thick tile	med/Roman	√
0051	M	L1	1	10	non flint		√
0052	M	L5=F2	1	25	charcoal		
0054	M	L1/2	1	2	burnt bone		
0005	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0009	P	L1	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0011	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0015	P	L2	1	10	peg-tile		√
0030	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0049	P	L2	1	5	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0051	P	L2	2	1	indeterminate tile scraps		√
0064	P	L2	1	2	peg-tile		√
0066	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0073	P	L2	1	10	peg-tile		√
0074	P	L2	1	1	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0095	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0108	P	L2	1	1	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0109	P	L2	1	1	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0117	P	L2	1	1	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0137	P	L2	1	15	peg-tile		√
0152	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0173	P	L2	1	1	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0176	P	L2	1	5	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0187	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0191	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0194	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0209	P	L2	1	1	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0299	P	L2	1	2	peg-tile		√
0308	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0332	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0355	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0360	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0388	P	L2	1	1	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0401	P	L2	1	5	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0416	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0423	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0424	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√

Bag no	Bag type	Context	Qty	Wt	Description	Date	Discarded = √
0451	P	L2	1	20	brick/tile scrap		√
0465	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0470	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0482	P	L2	1	10	brick fragment		√
0491	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0543	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0555	P	L2	1	15	brick fragment		√
0600	P	L2	2	2	indeterminate tile scraps		√
0622	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0624	P	L2	1	15	peg-tile		√
0635	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0642	P	L2	1	1	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0653	P	L2	1	1	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0657	P	L2	1	1	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0663	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0668	P	L2	1	1	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0679	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0684	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0691	P	L2	2	10	indeterminate tile scraps		√
0693	P	L2	1	1	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0698	P	L2	1	5	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0702	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0704	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0708	P	L2	1	1	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0712	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0723	P	L2	1	10	peg-tile		√
0742	P	L2	1	20	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0761	P	L2	1	20	peg-tile		√
0771	P	L2	1	20	peg-tile		√
0772	P	L2	1	1	indeterminate tile		√
0773	P	L2	1	15	peg-tile		√
0780	P	L2	3	2	indeterminate tile scraps		√
0787	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0801	P	L2	1	22	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0826	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0846	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile		√
0849	P	L2	2	5	indeterminate tile scraps		√
0853	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0860	P	L2	2	2	indeterminate tile scraps		√
0869	P	L2	1	1	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0871	P	L2	1	1	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0877	P	L2	1	3	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0879	P	L2	1	5	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0883	P	L2	2	1	indeterminate tile scraps		√
0923	P	L2	1	35	peg-tile		√
0926	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0930	P	L2	1	55	brick fragment		√
0932	P	L2	1	15	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0949	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0964	P	L2	1	10	indeterminate tile scrap		√
0966	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
0989	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
1029	P	L2	6	5	indeterminate tile scraps		√
1037	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
1104	P	L2	1	5	indeterminate tile scrap		√
1140	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
1142	P	L2	1	15	brick/tile scrap		√
1149	P	L2	1	20	peg-tile		√
1163	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
1186	P	L2	1	5	indeterminate tile scrap		√
1191	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√
1201	P	L2	1		charcoal		√
1205	P	L2	1	5	peg-tile		√
1240	P	L2	2	2	indeterminate tile scraps		√
1242	P	L2	1	2	indeterminate tile scrap		√

7 Discussion and conclusions

7.1 The cropmarks (Fig 1)

The configuration of the cropmark ditches around the excavated site (G) implies that is part of the same system as the enclosures D and F (and perhaps E), with G being a centre of occupation, and D-F the associated fields. It is difficult to speculate further, except to point out that cropmark B could be a contemporary trackway, because it appears to be heading directly for G.

7.2 The structure

The oval setting of posts is best interpreted as the main post ring of a building measuring approximately 6.4m x 4.8m internally, with a floor space of approximately 31m². Oval-shaped buildings are not uncommon on British Bronze Age sites; a similar structure was excavated by Paul Drury at Rawreth near Chelmsford in 1968 (Drury 1977, 23), and another by Richard Bradley at Belle Tout (structure I; Bradley 1970, 322-3). It is possible that there was an outer ring of posts beyond the main ring (possibly represented by features F5 and F11), but this is speculative. Assuming that the roof-line projected beyond the post ring, water would probably have drained off the roof almost directly into the ditch on the western side of the structure. Figure 3 demonstrates the distribution of pottery in the form of domestic refuse which lies outside and to the south of the structure. This is to be expected, as it is human nature to deposit rubbish outside one's house and not inside it. The tendency for finds to be concentrated outside a building has also been noted at Belle Tout (Bradley 1970, fig 5, 323).

7.3 The ring-ditch

Though there were finds in the upper fills of the ring-ditch (pottery and flints), there were none in the lower fills or primary silts. Was the structure erected inside a natural circular feature? The answer is no, because the ditch profiles are obviously man-made, and contrast strongly with the form of the adjacent natural ice crack. The lack of finds may imply that the ring-ditch was cut before the structure was built (or before there was any rubbish-producing activity on the site), and that natural weathering caused some infilling of the ditch before any noticeable activity took place. The digging of the ditch must have produced spoil, which was presumably banked up somewhere on site. The position of the structure and associated features argues against the existence of an internal bank, but a discontinuous external bank is a possibility.

7.4 The function of the site

The presence of spindle-whorls (and weight fragments?) indicates that spinning and perhaps weaving took place on the site. The wool for spinning was presumably locally produced. Horsebeans were clearly cultivated somewhere in the vicinity. As Peter Murphy points out, the horsebean is not only a human food source but also a livestock feed, and the cultivation of the crop improves soil nitrogen levels. The radiocarbon date from the horsebeans (corrected to 1005-830 BC ¹⁰) is in keeping with the pottery evidence which suggests an occupation date in the 9th century BC. At a simple level, therefore, this is a Late Bronze Age domestic structure associated with a field system where both arable and pastoral farming took place.

The ceramic evidence puts an interesting angle on this picture. Over 10% of the pot sherds are burnt, and the range of vessels present relate particularly to cooking and eating activities (and not to storage - the typical LBA large jars are not represented). The intense burning activity shown by the pottery is strongly suggestive of a kitchen area. Perhaps the excavated site was specifically an area where cooking and eating took place, and normal domestic storage activities (and its attendant rubbish-disposal) must have taken place elsewhere within the cropmark complex.

7.5 The Saxon activity, and later

The Saxon bead and pottery indicate some activity (presumably domestic) in the 6th to 7th centuries. Unfortunately, the material all occurred in residual contexts, and there were no contemporary site features.

The medieval and later material on site is all the result of manuring activity from local farms.

¹⁰ at 1 standard deviation; the 2SD reading is 1125-800 BC

8 References

- | | | |
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Figures 2-3 and 5-7 originally by R H Moyes, with some corrections by HB. Figures 1 and 4 by HB. Figure 7 redrafted to Nigel Brown's instructions by HB from RHM original. Figure 8.5 by Peter Murphy.

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10 Archive deposition

The finds and site records are currently at CAT headquarters at 12 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3NF, but will presently be deposited at Colchester Museum under accession code 1998.270.

11 List of features, layers, and soil descriptions

11.1 Features

No	Description	Associated pot finds numbers	Finds date	Context date
1	ditch	L3: 1179. L7: 1173. L11: 1180. L16: 1204	LBA	LBA
2	pit/post-hole	L5: 1171	LBA	LBA
3	pit/post-hole	L6: 1172	LBA	LBA
4	post-hole	L8: 1174, 1176, 1178	LBA	LBA
5	pit		-	LBA
6	post-hole		-	LBA
7	post-hole		-	LBA
8	cut		-	LBA
9	pit	L9: 1175, 1216	LBA	LBA
10	ditch		-	LBA
11	post-hole	L10: 1177, 1233	LBA	LBA
12	post-hole		-	LBA
13	post-hole		-	LBA
14	post-hole		-	LBA
15	post-hole		-	LBA
16	post-hole		-	LBA
17	unexcavated post-hole		-	?LBA

11.2 Layers

(Note: under the CAT recording system, layers can be feature fills).

No	Description	Pot nos	Flint nos	Misc finds nos	Finds date	Context date
1	Ploughsoil	1-3, 9, 43-4	3	1-22, 25, 43, 51	Modern	Modern
2	Lower ploughsoil	4-8, 10-42, 45-1170, 1181-1203, 1205-1232, 1234-44	1, 2, 4-20	23-4, 26-39, 46-48		Medieval
3	F1/A top fill	1179	21, 22		Prehistoric	LBA
4	F1/A second fill					LBA
5	F2 fill	1171		40, 50, 52		LBA
6	F3 fill	1172		41		LBA
7	F1/C top fill & F1/D fill	1173				LBA
8	F4 fill	1174, 1176, 1178				LBA
9	F9 fill	1175, 1216				LBA
10	F11 fill	1177, 1233		45, 53		LBA
11	F1/K top fill	1180	23		Prehistoric	LBA
12	F1/K second fill					LBA
13	F1/F top fill					LBA
14	F1/F 2nd fill					LBA
15	F8 fill			42		LBA
16	F1/J fills	1204	24	44, 49	Prehistoric	LBA
17	F1/B top fill					LBA
18	F1/B lower fill					LBA
19	F1/E fill					LBA
20	F1/G fill					LBA
21	F1/H fill					LBA
22	F1/A fill					LBA
23	F1/A silt					LBA
24	F10 fill					LBA
25	F5 fill					LBA
26	F6 fill					LBA
27	F7 fill					LBA
28	F1/A rapid silt					LBA
29	F1/C fill					LBA
30	F16 fill					LBA
31	F15 fill					
32	F14 fill					
33	F17 fill					
33	F18 fill					

11.3 Soil descriptions

Layer	Old no	Description
1	1	10 yr 3/3 dk brown sandy clay loam; a few small and medium waterworn pebbles. Modern ploughsoil.
2	24	10 yr 4/4 dark yellowish brown sandy clay loam; more pebbly than L1.
3		10 yr 3/3 dark brown sandy clay loam; small and very small medium waterworn pebbles.
4	25	10 yr 4/4 dark yellowish brown sandy clay loam; waterworn pebbles of all sizes.
5	27	10 yr 4/4 dark yellowish brown clay loam; v small, small and medium waterworn pebbles, rare charcoal fleck.
6	26	10 yr 3/3 dark brown slightly sandy clay loam; a few small waterworn pebbles.
7	15	10 yr 4/3 brown clay loam; quite clean, occasional small waterworn pebbles.
8		10 yr 3/3 dark brown sandy clay loam; very few small and very small waterworn pebbles.
9	8	10 yr 4/4 dk yellowish brown clay loam; large flint lump, v small and small waterworn pebbles, a few pot sherds.
10	6	10 yr 4/4 dark yellowish brown clay loam; very small and small waterworn pebbles, occasional charcoal fleck.
11	5	10 yr 3/3 dark brown clay loam; small and very small waterworn pebbles, charcoal flecks and fragments.
12	30	10 yr 3/4 dark yellowish brown sandy clay loam; occasional small waterworn pebble.
13		10 yr 3/3 dk brown sandy clay loam; one angular, a few small waterworn pebbles, otherwise quite clean fill.
14		10 yr 4/4 dark yellowish brown clay loam with a little sand; a few waterworn pebbles of all sizes.
15	10	10 yr 3/3 dark brown clay loam; occasional small waterworn pebble, charcoal flecks and quantities of burnt <i>Vicia faba</i> seeds.
16	9	10 yr 3/4 dark yellowish brown sandy clay loam; a few waterworn pebbles of all sizes.
17	13, 14	10 yr 4/6 dark yellowish brown sandy clay loam with streaks of 3/6 sandy clay loam, waterworn pebbles throughout but most heavily in lower part of layer.
18	19	10 yr 4/6 dk yellow brown sandy clay loam; quite stony, pebbles heavily concentrated in lower part of layer.
19	7	10 yr 3/6 dark yellowish brown sandy clay loam with streaks of 4/6 clay loam; fairly stony, waterworn pebbles of all sizes.
20	17	10 yr 4/6 dark yellowish brown slightly sandy clay loam with a few pebbles of all sizes. Some charcoal flecks.
21		10 yr 5/8 yellowish brown sandy clay loam; waterworn pebbles of all sizes, mainly large and medium.
22	3	10 yr 4/6 dk yellowish brown slightly sandy clay loam; waterworn pebbles - all sizes, occ charcoal fleck.
23		10 yr 3/3 dark yellowish brown sandy clay loam; a few large and medium waterworn pebbles.
24		10 yr 5/8 yellow brown sandy clay loam; waterworn pebbles, and streaks of 4/6 dk yellow brown clay loam.
25	28	Clean yellow, natural sand forming silting layer on ditch side.
26	3	as 22
27		as 24
28	22	10 yr 5/6 1 yellowish brown clayey sand, occasional small medium waterworn pebbles.
29	23	as 25
30	11, 12	10 yr 5/6 yellowish brown slightly sandy clay loam; with streaks of 4/6 dk yellow brown clay loam. Large and medium pebbles, also a few small and medium waterworn pebbles in upper part of section. V rare charcoal fleck.
31	16	10 yr 4/4 dark yellowish brown clay loam; a few waterworn pebbles of all sizes evenly distributed throughout, one or two charcoal flecks.
32	21	10 yr 4/4 dark yellowish brown slightly sandy clay loam; waterworn pebbles of all sizes.
33	20	10 yr 4/4 dark yellowish brown clay loam with a touch of sand; a few waterworn pebbles of all sizes evenly distributed throughout.

Howard Brooks, January 2001

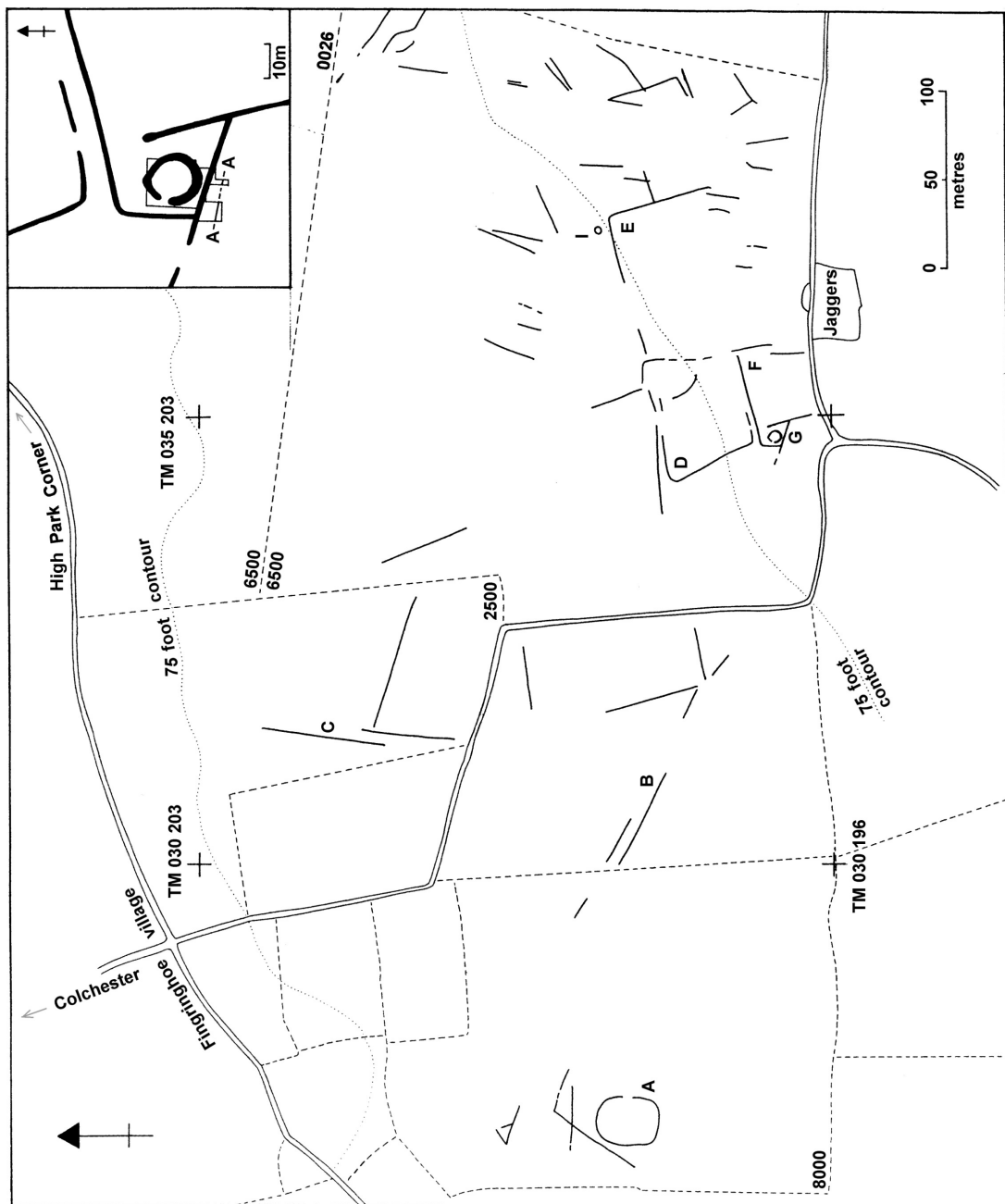
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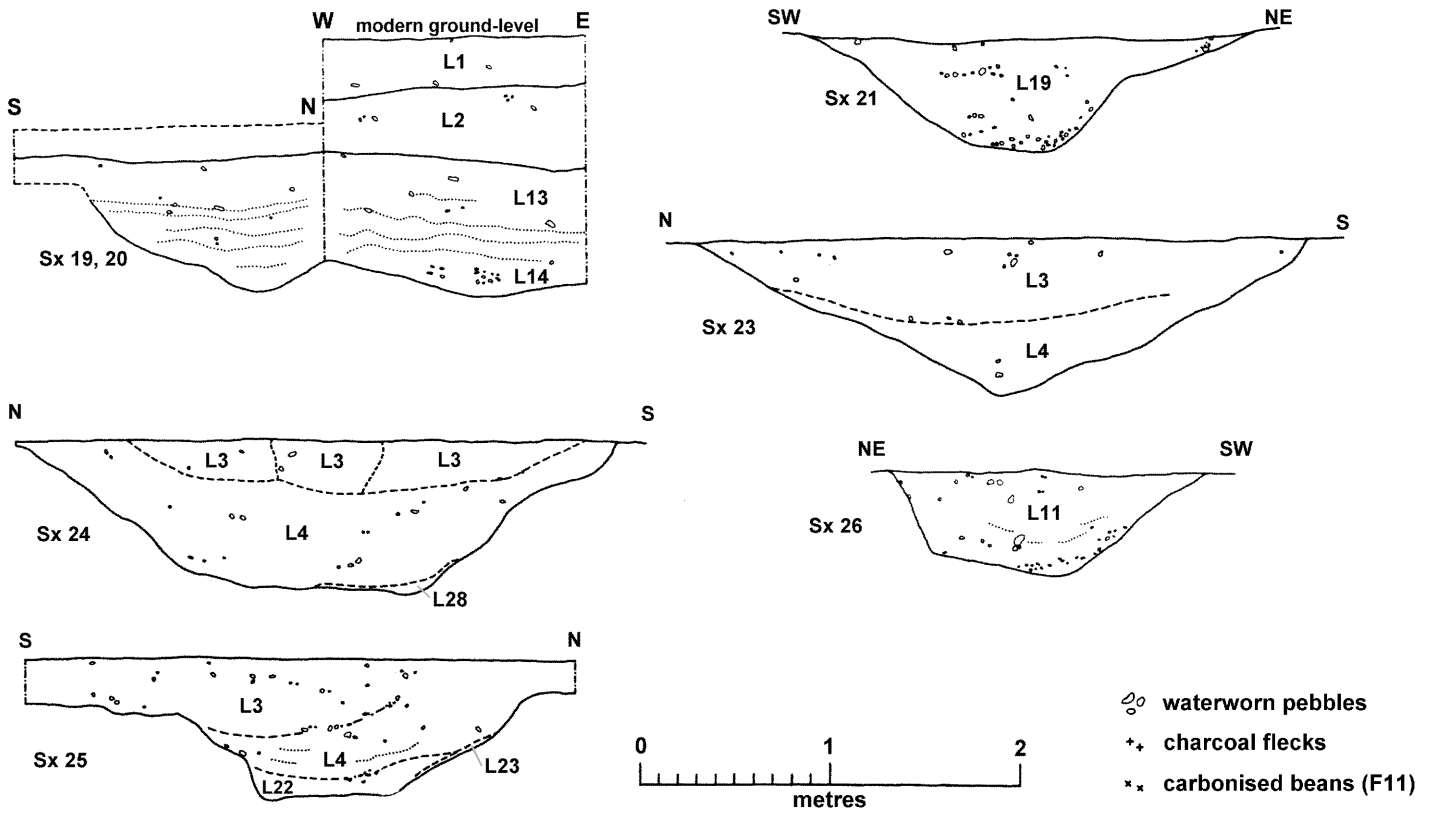
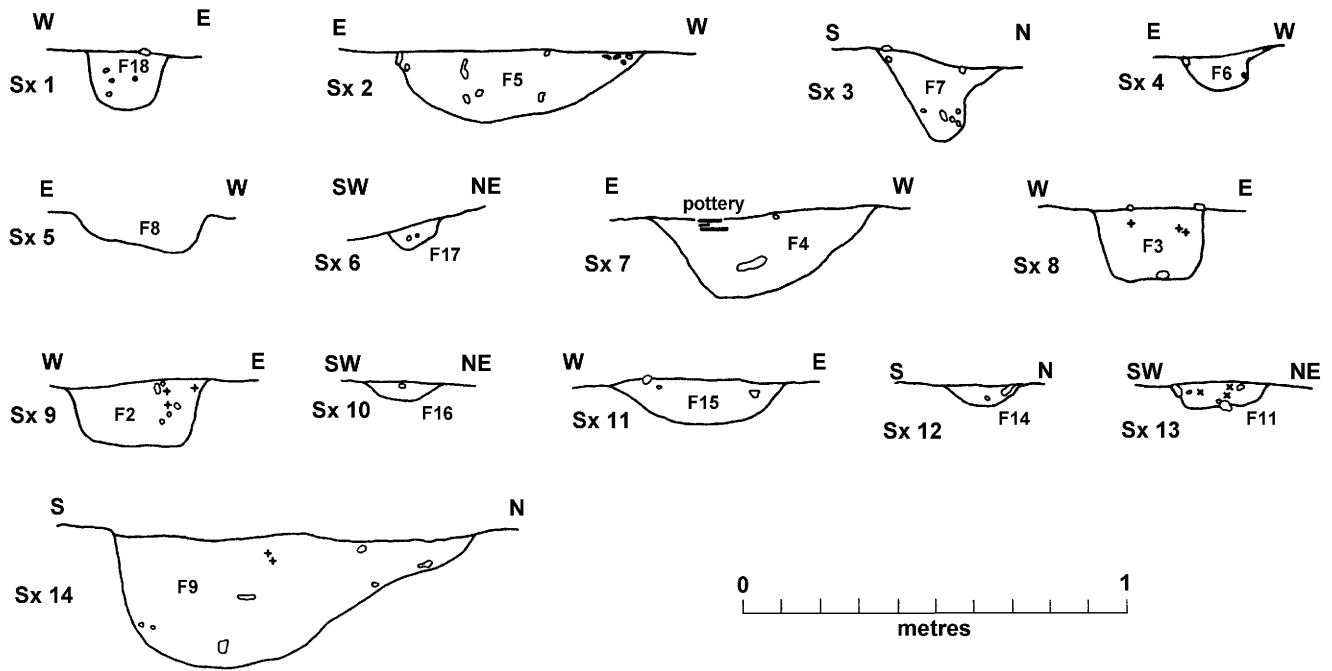
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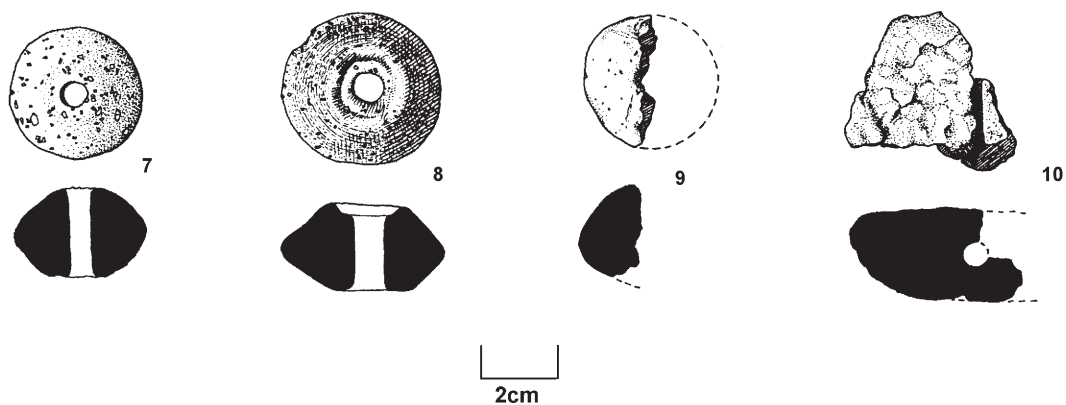
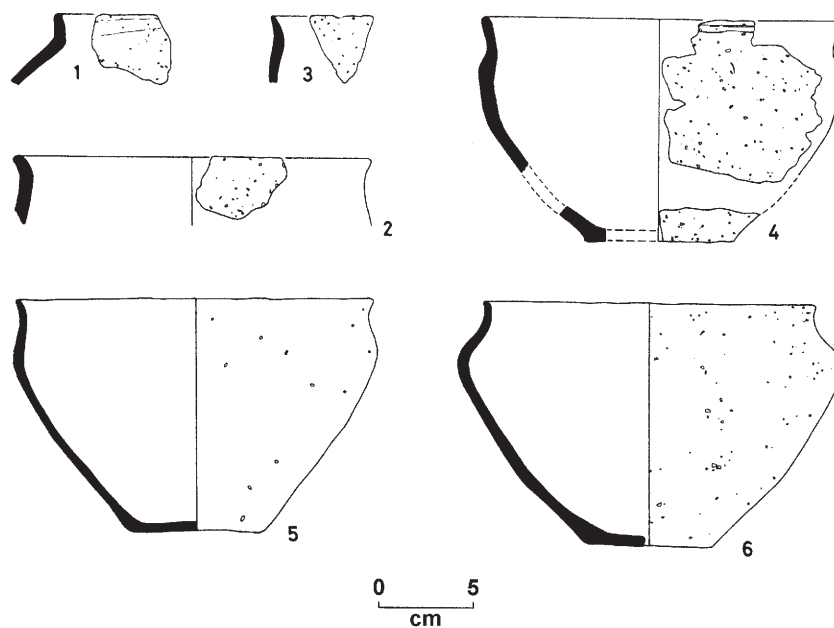
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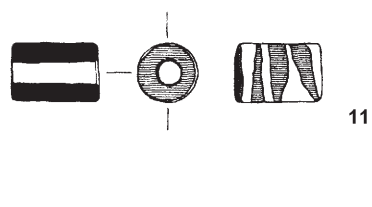
Fingringhoe Fig 1

Fingringhoe Fig 3





 opaque terracotta red
 opaque yellow



Fingringhoe Fig 4

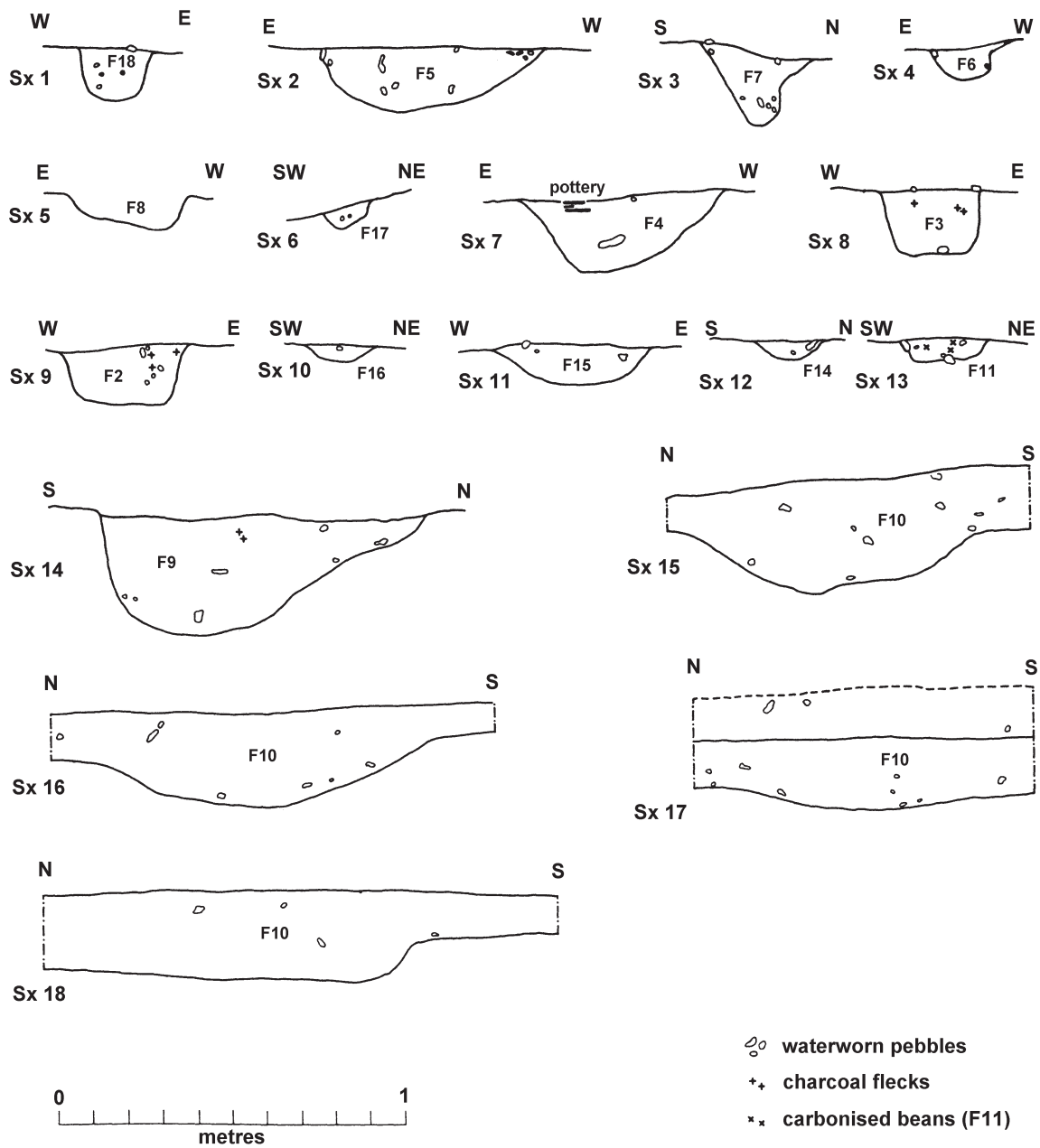


Fig 5 Sections of other features.

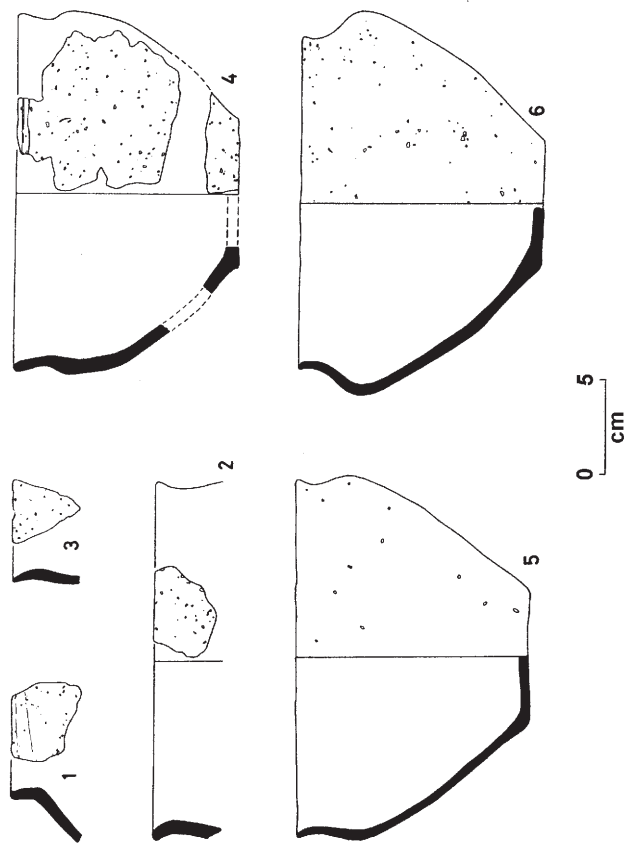


Fig 6 Prehistoric pottery.

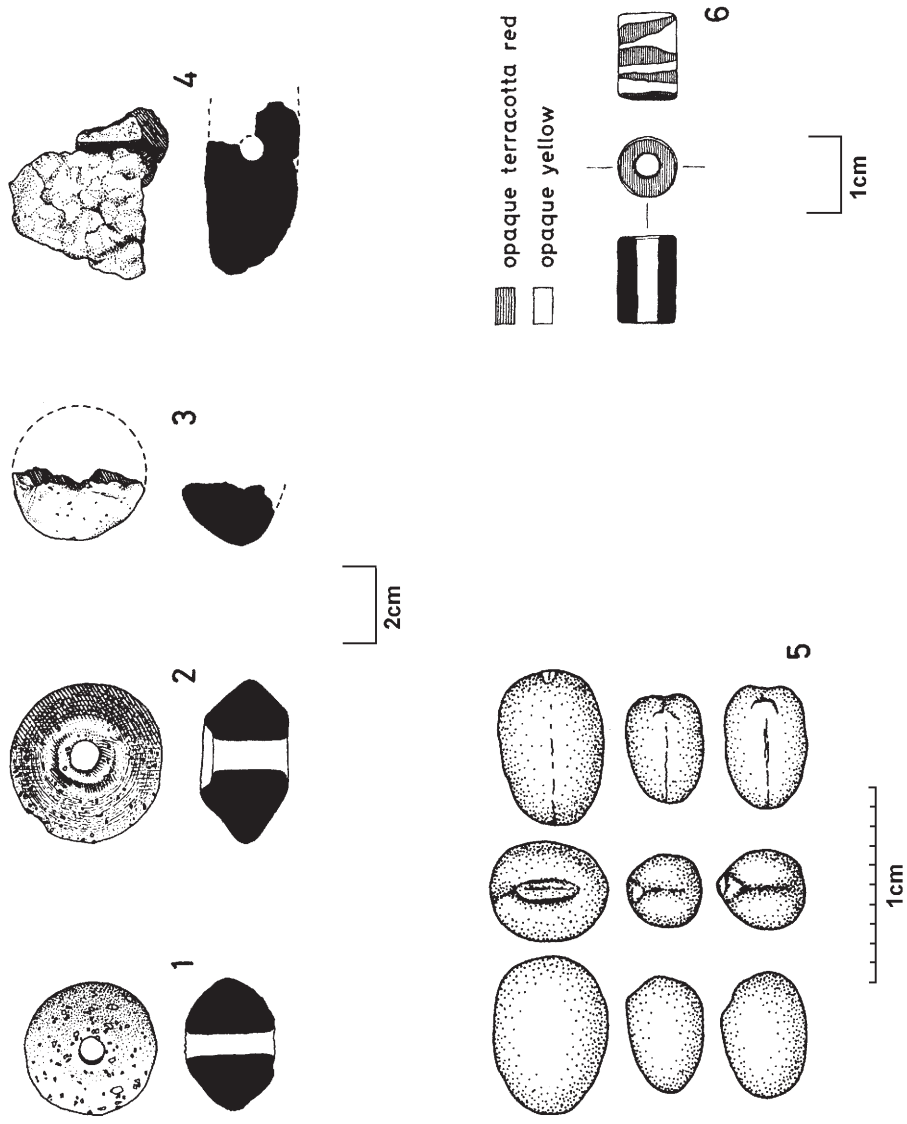


Fig 7 Small finds and carbonised horsebeans.