

Pre-history North of Biggar

Fieldwalking and Excavation at Carwood Farm 2007 - 2009

Interim Report

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Abstract

Surface artefacts found by arable fieldwalking included Early Neolithic pottery, hazel nutshell charcoal and lithics. Subsequent excavation revealed charcoal enriched pits lying below the plough soil with some pits containing Early Neolithic, Late Neolithic and Bronze Age pottery. A stone axe of Group VI Langdale Pike was also recovered. Some pits contained a variety of carbonised cereals and hazel nut shell. Radiocarbon dates for two features, both containing pottery were circa 3013 and 3563 cal BC.

Introduction

Fieldwalking as part the Pre-History North of Biggar Project is carried out annually on available fields to determine the true nature of pre-historic activity in the district around the town of Biggar. The working hypothesis is that there appears to be more evidence for the Neolithic period to the north of the town of Biggar than there is to the south. Although the theory seems to be holding with increasing evidence, there is a bias factor of more ploughed fields being available north of the town.

However, since the project was begun, Neolithic sites have been discovered by Biggar Archaeology Group (BAG) and to the south of Biggar, they are at Hangingshaw Farm (Ward et al 2005) and at Daer (Ward 2013). Other locations where limited work has produced evidence of Neolithic activity are at Robertson (Armit 1994).

The value of fieldwalking is demonstrated in this report, and indeed, repeat visits to fields which have already produced some results, often pays further dividends when fresh material is found. The particular field in question was inspected in 2007 when a scatter of chert and flint items was located at the site; pottery and charcoal were not seen on that occasion. The rest of the field during both 2007 and 2008 produced only a 'background' scatter of items, despite thorough searches.

When the field was visited after ploughing in 2008, hazel nut shells and other carbonised material was noted on the plough furrows, a problem was immediately recognised as some charcoal was combined with semi carbonised wood and which was obviously modern. Occasional old tree stumps indicated that a shelter belt of probably pine trees had once adorned the field boundary, and it was apparent that some burning of these trees had taken place. However, the nutshell could really only have been interpreted as being of pre-historic origin and the presence of occasional Early Neolithic pot sherds on the surface of the ground, taken along with a chunk of an Group VI (Langdale Pike) stone axe and other flint and chert lithic, including pieces of Arran pitchstone, clearly indicated that fresh archaeological deposits had been disturbed during the course of the latest ploughing.

Considerable care was taken later during excavations to ensure no modern charcoal contaminated samples retrieved from the site.

It is well attested through the work of the BAG on various sites where similar evidence has been found, that pre-historic pottery will not survive in plough soil for very long, after being disturbed from its compacted situation and which has been secure from previous ploughing. Destruction of the sherds occurs through crushing and disintegration by the cultivation equipment and also by the weathering effects of frost and rain after ploughing.

Therefore it becomes imperative that any pottery is recovered from the plough soil before cultivation continues to the planting stage, when the tractors with power harrows and heavy rollers complete the annihilation of the pottery. It is this knowledge which prompted the Group to organise an emergency dig with the permission of the farmer, Mr Colin Wight.

Site Location Plates 1 & 2

The site (Fig 1) lies at NT 03075 40116, OS 1:10,000 Map Sheet NT 04 SE and at the elevation of 265m OD. The location of the trench was immediately north of the field boundary which is now a post and wire fence but formerly was a dry stone dyke, now ruinous. The excavation was set back to the west and slightly below the summit of a round topped ridge of ground running on a NW/SE alignment. The ground falls a few metres downhill to the west into a gully before rising towards the elevated area of Carwood Hill. The ground drops from the ridge to the east towards the B7016 road between Biggar and Carnwath, and the location lies on Carwood Farm which is 1 mile north of the town of Biggar. The site is only 150m NE of a previous excavation by BAG and which is known as Biggar Common East or Carwood Hill (PI 1) (Ward 2013).

Excavation methodology

The Group have now carried out this type of operation on numerous occasions and the best way to proceed has been the result of experience in the past. A base line was set parallel to the straight fence and the first area to be opened was the location of hazel nut shell on the surface, this soon proved to be the location of Feature 1. The plough soil is hand trowelled for objects; the buried turf is then removed and checked for finds and then the ground is trowelled clean to determine if any in situ finds are left and if any sub surface features exist. The plough soil finds in this case were not plotted and the in situ finds were plotted in plan only and to the base line at 10cm accuracy.

The cut features were half sectioned and recorded photographically and by drawing to plan and section. Feature No 6, 7 and 8; pits containing a relatively high proportions of pottery were totally excavated. The sectioned halves of the other pits were date tagged with copper plates and backfilled with clean sharp sand for future identification (PI 8).

Residual areas of charcoal enriched soil (not recorded), an old ground surface (ogs) were located over the western half of the trench, these varied from a few millimetres to c 100mm deep.

The entire area of the trench was trowelled down to the natural which was a thin layer of orange/brown till derived from the underlying solid geology of andesite, a volcanic rock of Lower Old Red Sandstone age, bedrock lay near to the surface.

Unfortunately some parts of the ground below the plough soil had been disturbed by tree roots, and by both rabbit and mole burrowing, some of these later intrusions affected pre historic features. The latter day disturbance was however easily detectable, often burrows were still open, indicating their recent origin.

The entire area below the plough soil horizon was biologically active with rootlets from field crops and from numerous worms which burrowed well into the sub surface, often adopting tree root cavities.

The photographic record shows only parts of the site, as backfilling was necessary during the excavation in order not to have huge spoil heaps.

Soil and finds processing

Soil samples were taken from the sectioned halves of, or from complete features in arbitrary spits to separate upper and lower layers and hopefully avoid contamination between ancient and modern charcoal. Samples were wet sieved for flotation of charcoal which was gathered in 1mm and 0.3mm sieves. The charcoal was dried at room temperature and modern root fibre and occasional worm eggs were removed as much as was possible by hand picking. The larger pieces of charcoal from the 1mm> sieves were hand picked and separated from the smaller charcoal which also has some grit with it. All of the 1mm> samples have been subject to analyses for species typing and scanning for seed types (Appendices II & III). Hazel nut shell and grain was noted during excavation. The 0.3mm samples have been dried but will not be processed further at this stage.

Pottery was dried at room temperature and lightly brushed to remove most of the adhering soil. Reconstruction of some sherds was done using UHU glue used as sparingly as possible to allow for dismantling if necessary.

Lithics have been lightly washed in water only.

The work was recorded using digital stills and 35mm colour slide film.

Note regarding illustrations of pottery; with the exception of rim sherds, illustrations given here are not necessarily the correct way up.

Excavation results. 2008 & 2009

In the spring of 2008 and in a first phase of work, a total area of circa 42 square metres was excavated and this revealed Features F1 – F5 from a staggered trench measuring 9.5m by 6.5m in total (PI 3). During winter of 2008/2009 the final trench measured a total of c18m by 14m and in total the trench area was c 206 square metres (which included the first area excavated). The long axis of the excavation was approximately E/W aligned with the boundary fence.

The excavation was discontinued when both finds and features appeared to cease, although this may illusory rather than real, but the need for cultivation also figured in what was achievable.

The modern plough furrows were occasional seen cutting into the sub surface; these ran parallel with the fence but were not recorded. Similarly, occasional patches of darker soil (ogs) were not recorded; these generally were the locations of the in situ pottery and lithic finds, although where the ogs was deepest at 100mm deep in the SW corner of the trench very few finds were made. The total depth of soil on the lower west side of the trench reached 0.5m deep, nearer to the summit of the ridge, the sub surface had been completely truncated by ploughing, this was where the soil was only about 0.25m deep and few finds were made.

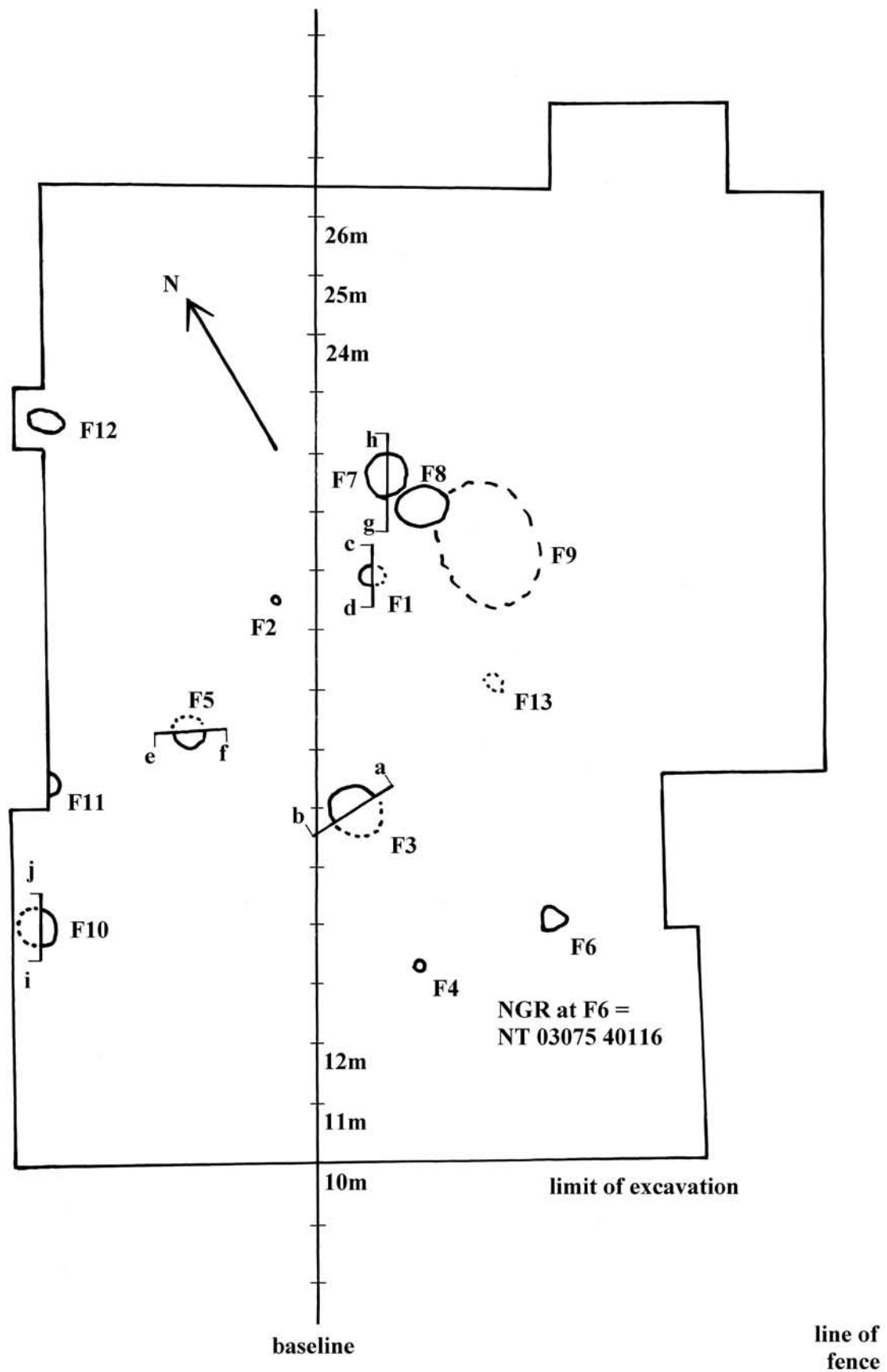


Fig 2 Trench showing features

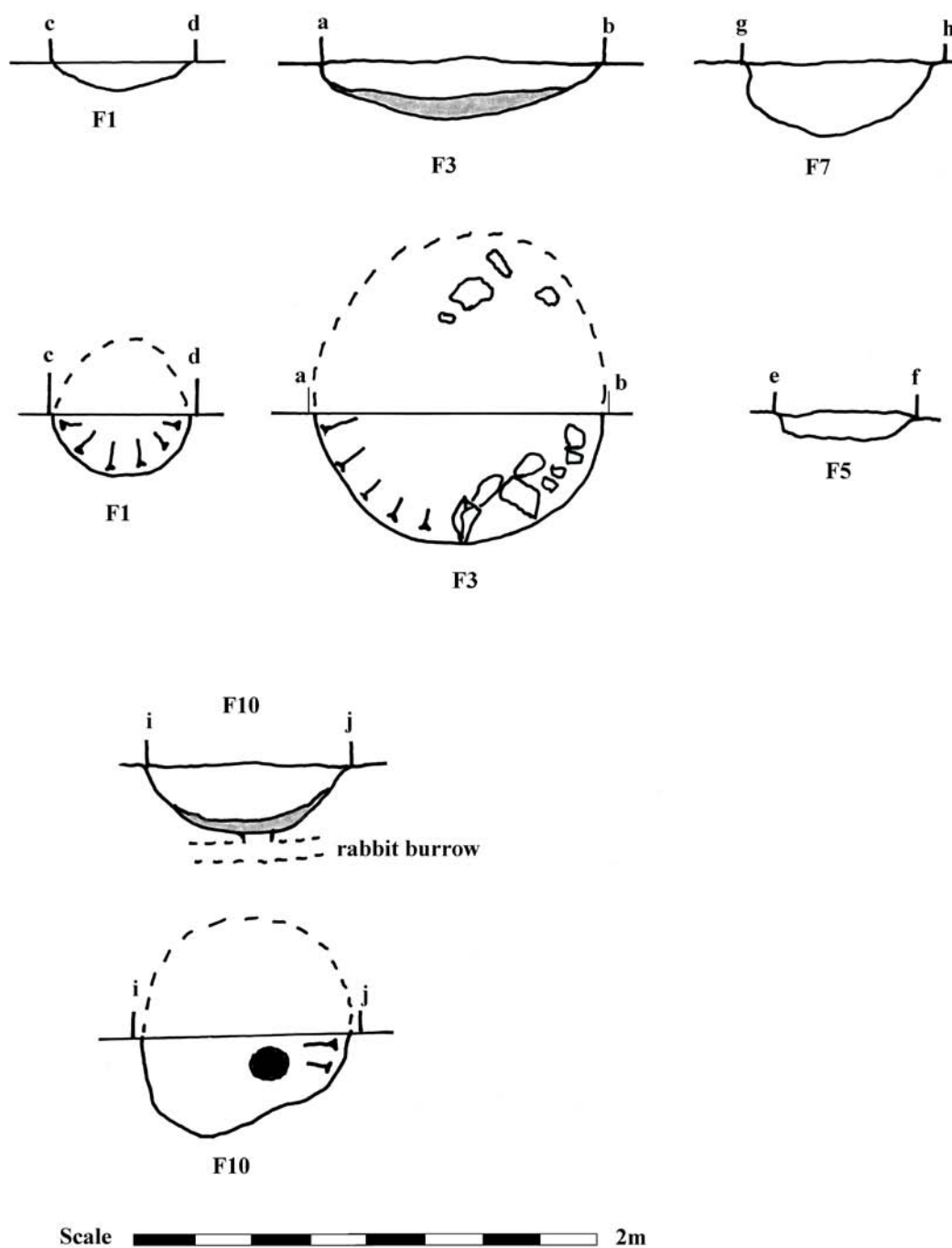


Fig 3 Feature sections

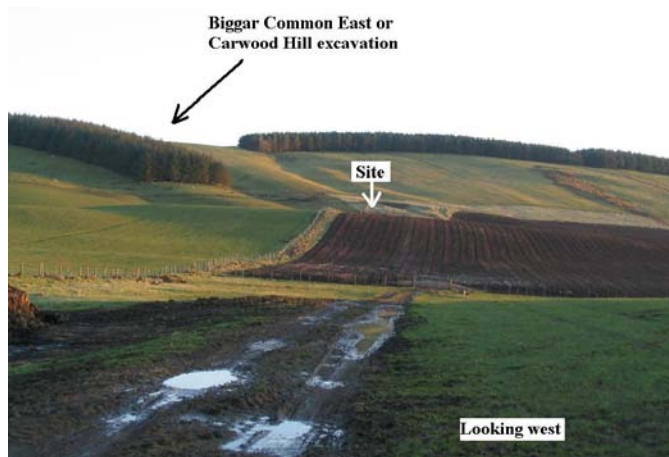


Plate 1 The site looking west

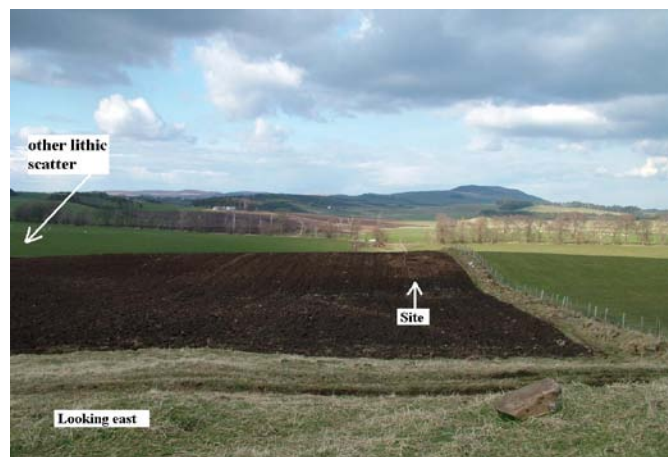


Plate 2 The site looking east



Plate 3 F1 showing as charcoal patch looking NW



Plate 4 F1 showing as charcoal patch



Plate 5 F1 sectioned looking south



Plate 6 F3 looking NW



Plate 7 F3 sectioned looking south



Plate 8 Showing F1 and F3 looking north



Plate 9 F3 section backfilled with sand, looking south



Plate 10 F5 sectioned looking NE



Plate 11 F6 pit showing pottery in fill, looking NW



Plate 12 CE/1 from F6 showing external side



Plate 12a CE/1 from F6 showing internal side



Plate 13 Parts of CE/2 in F6 pit



Plate 14 Young archaeologist Elliot Vietch with part of CE/2



Plate 15 CE/2 from F6 showing rim



Plate 16 Probable sherds from CE/2 from F6



Plate 17 F6 pit excavated showing stone in the fill

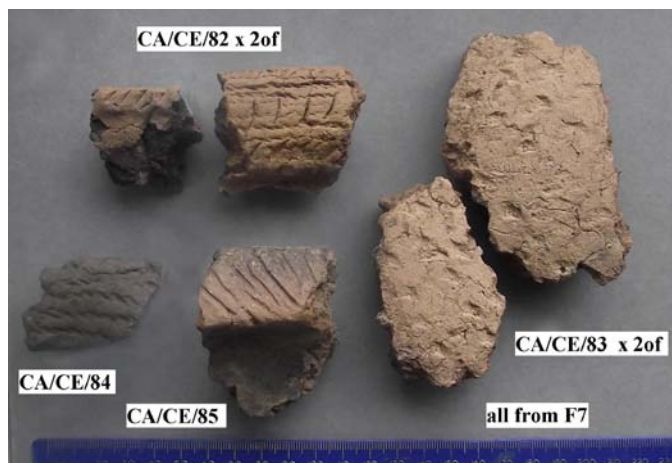


Plate 18 Selection of sherds from F7 pit



Plate 19 Type VI stone axe and chunk, and hammer stone



Plate 20 Rabbit and mole disturbance near F7 and F8



Plate 21 Rabbit and mole disturbance near F7 and F8



Plate 22 Beakers sherds from in and around F8 pit

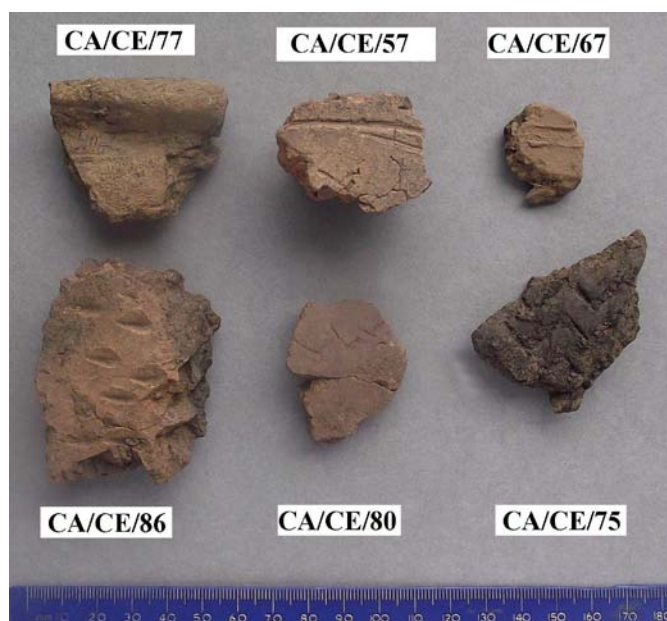


Plate 23 Selection of Impressed and Grooved Ware pottery

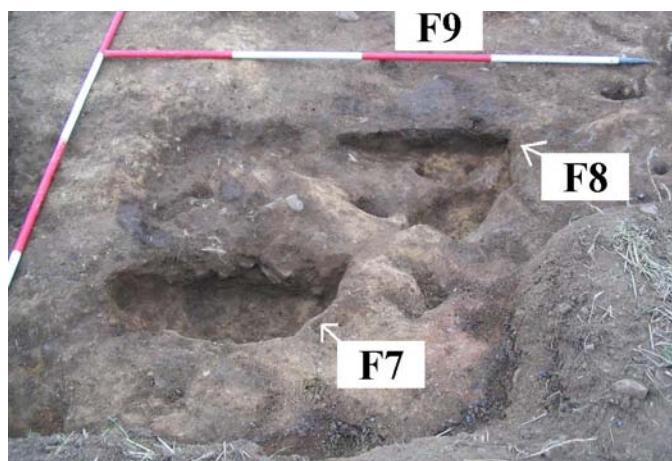


Plate 24 Pits F7 and F8 showing rabbit disturbance



Plate 25 F10 pit sectioned looking west, note the rabbit burrow



Plate 26 F11 pit excavated looking west

Features

The features described below are pits cut into the sub surface and which varied in size, shape and depth. Their contents also varied considerably, possibly indicating different functions when in use.

It may be taken for granted that the upper surfaces of the features were truncated to some extent during ploughing, displacing both finds and materials, certainly in the second ploughing of 2008, when the plough probably reached further down because of the more openness of the plough soil, after the 2007 cultivation.

See charcoal summary below Appendix III for details of species.

F1 Pit Plates 3 – 5 & 8 Figs 2 - 3

A shallow bowl shaped pit measuring 0.5m in diameter by 100mm deep. The pit was obvious by the dense charcoal in its fill and which was homogenous throughout. The fill included a quantity and variety of cereal and also hazel nut shells but also found were three sherds of pottery (No's 55 – 57); two rim pieces and a possible Grooved Ware sherd. Because of the quantity and variety of grain species found in F1 this feature was chosen for dating, and the results are as follows:

Radiocarbon Age BP 4416 ± 26

3106 (89.9%) 2921 cal BC {average = circa cal 3013 BC}

Full details are given in Appendix II.

F2 Pit

A small pit? or deposit of dark coloured soil measuring c 0.2m diameter by 0.1m deep. No charcoal was retrieved from the fill but a sherd fragment (No 59) was found.

F3 Pit Plates 6 – 9 Figs 2 -3

A pit which measured 1m in diameter by 0.2m deep, it had gradual sides which tapered to a hollow base. The fill was a dark charcoal enriched basal layer over 50mm deep in the centre and extending up the sides of the pit. From plough displacement (of a stone?) in the unexcavated half, the charcoal was evident on the pit edges. A few angular stones up to 150mm in size lay in the fill and certainly were incorporated in the lower fill of charcoal. Above the layer of charcoal was soil of similar appearance to the plough soil. Only two small sherds (CE/59 – 60), some chert (LI /18 – 19) and tiny fragments of burnt bone were retrieved from the sectioned half, however the charcoal from the base contained many hazel nut shells and hazel charcoal.

F4 Pit

A pit measuring 0.3m in diameter by 75mm deep. A small sherd (CE/61) was found in the fill and which contained hazel roundwood and nut shell.

F5 Pit Plate 10 Figs 2 – 3

A pit which measured 0.5m in diameter by 100mm deep. It had gradual sides and a flat base. Two chert flakes (LI/17) and a sherd of EN pottery (CE/62) came from the sectioned half, however both hazel and willow roundwood were found in the charcoal sample.

F6 Pit Plates 11 – 16 Figs 2 - 3

An amorphous pit, roughly triangular in shape, and measuring 0.7m in size and 100mm deep. The pit appeared as a simple scoop in the till and may not have been of particular interest had it not been for the fact that it was crammed with pottery from at least two vessels. The pottery is described in the catalogue below but it all appears to date to the EN being a plain burnished ware (CE/1) (PI's 11, 12, 12a & Fig 4) and a courser pot (CE/2) (PI's 13 – 15 & Fig 5) therefore at least two vessels are represented. Rim sherds and body fragments of varying texture and thickness (PI 16) are probably parts of pot CE2 as is CE16 (Fig14 & PI 15).

For the most part the sherds, with fresh breaks, were deposited in the pit lying on their sides and around a stone which occupied the central area (PI's 13 & 16), and which must have been in the pit before the pottery got there. Several other smaller stones (PI 11) appeared to have been deposited along with sherds, being intermixed with them.

The pottery appears to have been deposited rather quickly and may have been trampled, causing some crushing, before the pit was finally filled.

Eight pieces of chert (LI/13 & 18) and a pitchstone flake (LI/21) were also recovered.

The charcoal did not appear to be concentrated, rather it was found as part of the overall fill of the pit. It included bread wheat, nutshell, and charcoal of oak, alder and hazel.

Because of the pottery, which appears to be from a single period (unlike other pits) this feature was C14 dated with the following result:

Radiocarbon Age BP 4792 ± 26

3604 (79.3%) 3523 cal BC {average = circa cal 3563 BC}

Full details are given in Appendix II.

F7 Pit Figs 2 & 3 Plate's 18, 19, 20, 21 & 24

A bowl shaped pit with steep and gradual sides measured 0.7m in diameter by 0.15m deep. The soil fill was enriched with charcoal and the charcoal retrieved included naked barley and indeterminate cereals, nutshell and oak, hazel and willow charcoal.

A Type VI axe fragment (Langdale Pike) (LI/24) (PI 19), four chert flakes (LI/26 & 50), two flints (LI/49 & 51) and a broken quartzite pebble (LI/25) were recovered from the fill, along with a quantity of pottery, both Grooved and Impressed Wares (CE/82 -89) (Figs 6 – 9) (PI 18).

F8 Pit Figs 2, 3, 11 Plates 19, 20, 21, 22 & 24

An indeterminate pit because of rabbit burrowing through and around it, however, some of the original feature was discernable and in situ deposits were retrieved including a soil sample which produced charcoal of the following types; cereals, nutshell and charcoal of hazel, birch and alder, and also two fragments of burnt bone (BO/5). A Type VI axe (LI/23) (PI 19) was recovered along with a variety of pottery but which included beaker sherds (CE/73, 74)(PI 22 & Fig 11), indeterminate fragments (CE106 – 110) and other sherds lying in situ at the edge of the pit (CE/77 (PI 23), 78 & 79), some of which appear to be EN & LN. It is possible that sherd no's 71 and 72 (beaker) (PI 22 & Figs 10 & 11) were displaced from this pit? Sherd CE/75 (PI 23) was found in situ between F7 and F8.

It was unfortunate that this pit was damaged by rabbits since it contained the beaker sherds, at least two beakers are represented by the sherds from within and around F8, but there is no strong evidence for BA burial other than the sherds themselves. The fact that these comb decorated beakers are seemingly intermixed with Late and Early Neolithic pottery is confusing, however the association with early beaker pottery and Late Neolithic pottery types such as Grooved and Impressed Wares was also found at Melbourne, being 6.5km to the NE (Ward forthcoming 2013), and which site is visible from Carwood.

F9 Disturbance by rabbits and moles Plates 20, 21 & 24

The irregular area of about 2m in diameter around F8 was severely disturbed by both rabbit and mole burrowing, F8 was affected but F7 was missed by the activity which penetrated down into the clayey till (see F10 below). This activity, which was fairly recent judging by open burrows, must have caused displacement of objects, most especially pottery and may explain at least some of the sherds found in the plough soil of the field. It is unknown if any features were entirely destroyed by this activity although it is possible. It simply demonstrated the need for vigilance in monitoring all aspects of disturbance in areas where archaeological significance are known. A Quartsite hammer stone (LI/27) some chert and a burnt flint were found in the disturbed deposit.

F10 Pit Figs 2 & 3 Plate 25

A bowl shaped pit with steep and gradual sides and measuring 0.7m in diameter by 0.2m deep. The pit fill was nearly all a stone free sandy soil with tiny charcoal throughout, however at the base there was a thin layer of charcoal enriched soil which produced alder charcoal from large trunk-wood & hazel round-wood from sizeable branches. No finds were made.

A rabbit burrow was dug under the base of the pit (Fig 3 and PI 25) and may have disturbed the lower layer somewhat, but this was not evident.

F11 Pit Fig 2 Plate 26

A bowl shaped pit measuring 0.7m diameter by 0.3m deep. The soil contained charcoal flecks throughout, however it was not sampled and no finds were made.

F12 Pit Fig 2

An oval shaped pit which measured 0.8m by 0.5m and 0.2m deep. The slightly charcoal enriched soil in the fill produced hazel charcoal, pottery CE/100 – 102 was retrieved from this pit.

In situ deposits remain in each half of Features 1, 3, 5 and 10 for future reference.

Other finds from the site

It is clear that considerable disturbance of the archaeological deposits was made by the plough, especially in the second year. It is a pity for example that the four pitchstone finds LI 1 – 4 were not found in context. Similarly a considerable amount of pottery was disturbed (CE 22 – 54), and taken with the charcoal in the plough soil, a lot of archaeology was sliced off by the plough.

Several other sherds not given in the general text are illustrated to additionally demonstrate some of the variety of decorative styles, which include both Grooved and Impressed Wares, the pottery assemblage will doubtless prove rewarding to have a professional study of it made. The sherds are:

CA/CE/67	PI 23
68	PI 27 & Fig 12
69	PI 27 & Fig 7
77	PI 23 & Fig 13
80	PI 23 & Fig 9
86	PI 23 & Fig 9
91	PI 28 & Fig 14
95	PI 29
96	PI 29

Around the site several interesting items were recovered by the fieldwalking (PI 30) and these were all lithic, no pottery was found other than the site location. Random objects were found sparsely on other parts of the field, but the main scatter of the site showed that, as far as this operation was concerned, the site appears to have been the only location in the field where intense activity took place, although one can never be certain.

Of particular note were fragments of jet/cannal coal and which clearly were fragments of napkin ring/s (PNB/16/9 & 10) (PI 30a), two were found just off site and one was located in the excavation, and by the proximity of these items they could easily be associated with the beaker sherds, all pointing to a Bronze Age presence. Napkin ring fragments are being found repeatedly in BAG Projects and perhaps the two best examples from Britain, certainly Scotland were found by them at Camps Reservoir (Ward forthcoming 2013) given here for illustrative purposes (PI 31). It is becoming clear from BAG projects that such items were a fairly common object used in Upper Clydesdale, they are assumed to be cloak fasteners.

The pitchstone finds are merely yet another example in Upper Clydesdale where the volcanic rock from Arran has been brought to a site and used in association with Early Neolithic pottery (Ballin 2008). The use of this black glassy lithic remains unresolved for Clydesdale, although pieces have been found to be adapted to tool types (Ballin *ibid*), although none of the classic types such as arrow heads as found on Arran itself, have been discovered among the over seven hundred pieces now retrieved from various BAG sites in Upper Clydesdale. Mesolithic use of pitchstone in Clydesdale may yet be proved from the recent work at Daer Reservoir (Ward, 2013), however, the evidence from all other BAG projects is convincing for pitchstone being an EN artefact type.

The fields in the surrounding area produce attractive objects such as arrow heads, knives and scrapers on an annual basis, for example in Plate 32, the B&T arrow and the leaf next to it were found in the adjoining farm of Biggarshields, the small leaf, the scraper and knife were all found in the field below this site and the transverse arrow was found beside the site.

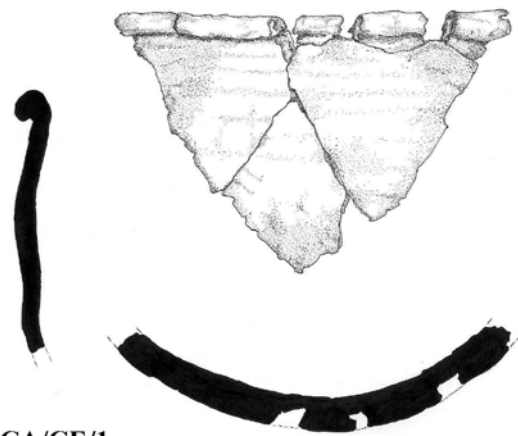


Fig 4 Early Neolithic pottery from F6

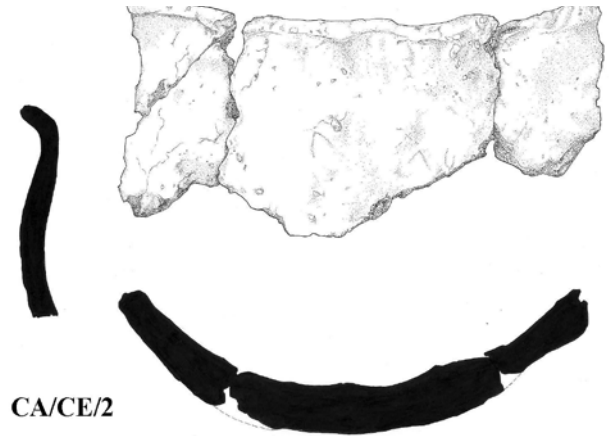


Fig 5 Early Neolithic pottery from F6



Fig 6 Late Neolithic pottery

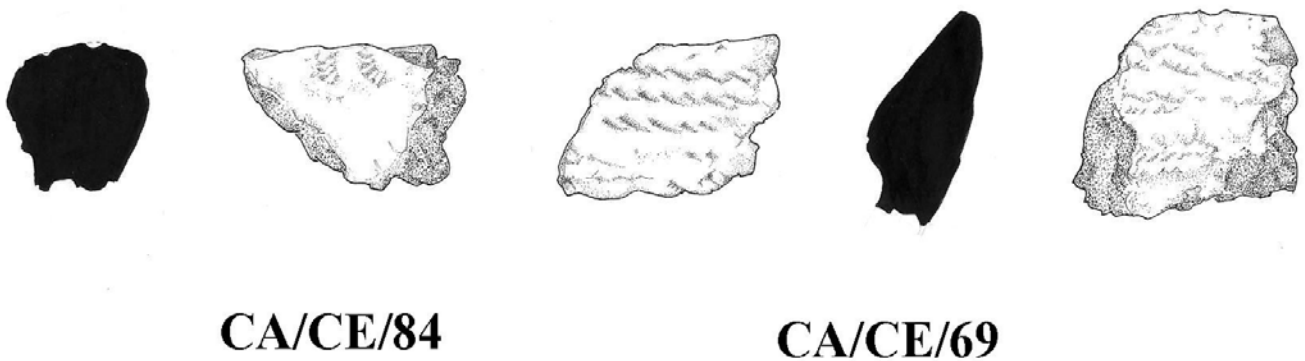


Fig 7 Late Neolithic pottery



CA/CE/85

Fig 8 Late Neolithic pottery



CA/CE/67

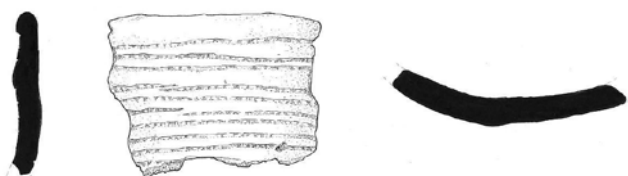
CA/CE/57

CA/CE/75

CA/CE/86

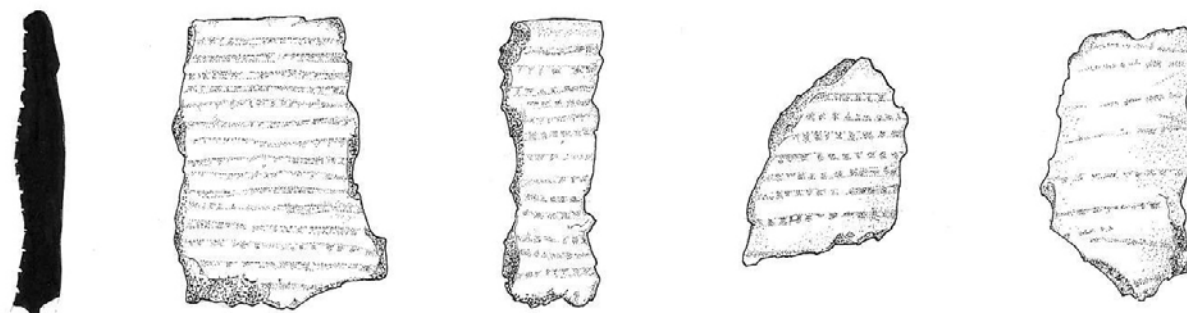
CA/CE/80

Fig 9 Late Neolithic pottery



CA/CE/71

Fig 10 Beaker pottery



CA/CE/73 x 2of

CA/CE/72 CA/CE/74

Fig 11 Beaker pottery

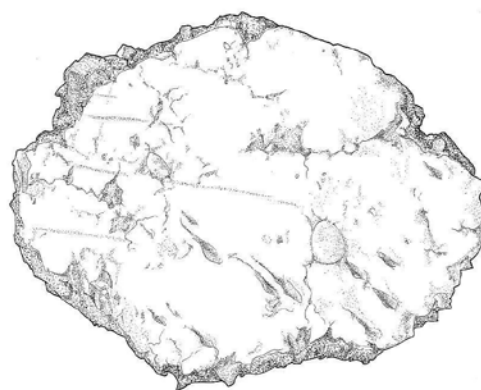


CA/CE/68

CA/CE/77

Fig 12 Late Neolithic pottery

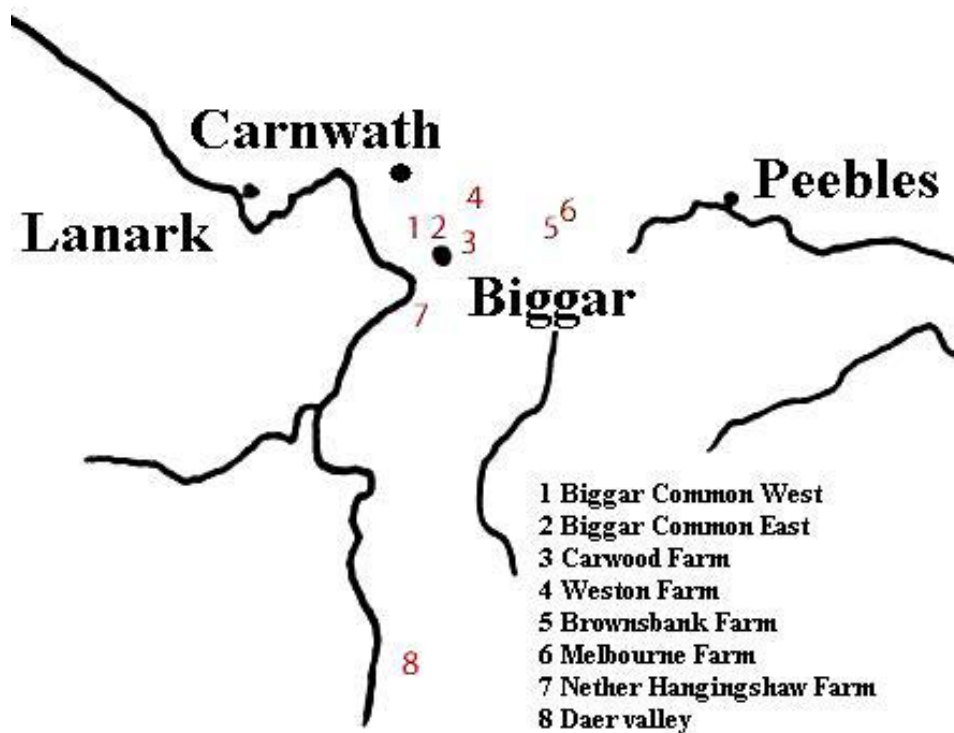
Fig 13 Late Neolithic pottery



CA/CE/16

CA/CE/91

Fig 14 Late Neolithic pottery



BAG sites with Early Neolithic pottery

Fig 15 Distribution of BAG Neolithic sites



Plate 27 Impressed ware rim sherds



Plate 28 Impressed Ware sherd

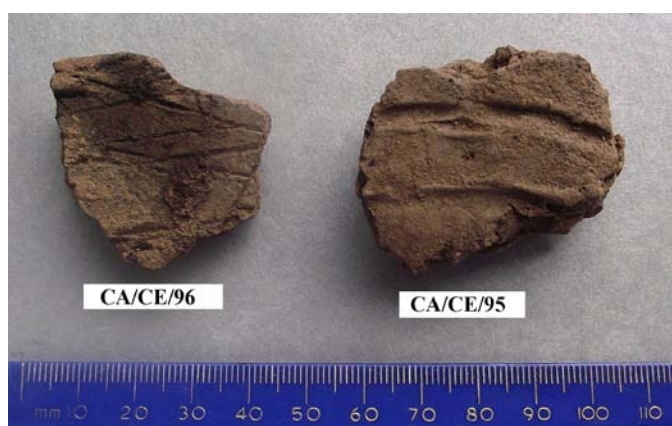


Plate 29 Grooved ware sherds



Plate 30 Fieldwalking with tractor



Plate 30a Napkin rings fragments found at Carwood



Plate 31 Camps reservoir napkin rings



Plate 32 Selection of fieldwalking objects



Plate 33 Replica Early Neolithic pots based on Biggar Common West

Other finds from the immediate locality

Several fields have been walked in the vicinity of the site under consideration here. Only one (PI 2); lying immediately down slope and to the east of the field containing this site has produced significant finds, and these are concentrated in a particular area, centred around NT 405 030 and being on the western side of the field adjacent the southern end of plantation there. A quantity of chert, flint and pitchstone have been recovered clearly indicating a pre historic activity, and likely to be Early Neolithic at least judging by the pitchstone finds. A single chert scalene triangle microlith was found in the centre of the field and merely indicates that Mesolithic finds can be made anywhere.

Fields on the other side of the B7016 road and those around Muirlea Farm to the north have produced very little, only occasional objects. Concentrations of finds, like the excavation site, are clearly the best indicators of pre historic activity in fields.

Discussion and conclusion

The first indication that there was significant evidence of pre history in the area was the discovery and excavation of Biggar Common East (or Carwood Hill) just over the horizon from this site (PI 1) (Ward forthcoming 2013). A large collection of Early Neolithic pottery and lithic was found and dated in association with pits and features in two main trenches, a third trial trench produced the first Grooved Ware to be found in the area.

With that knowledge, fieldwalking was commenced around Carwood Farm whenever possible and the results bode well for the effort.

The site here also indicates another locality type, a low ridge and nearer to the valley floor, but nevertheless, maintaining an elevated position with good views to the north, east and south, but whether that was considered by the occupants is unknown. What appears to be a domestic Early to Late Neolithic site with additional Early Bronze Age activity is however quite clear by the artefacts, especially the pottery types.

The features found here were all lying on the gentle back slope of the ridge, and doubtless for the most part, survived earlier ploughing by non mechanised means (i.e. Clydesdale horse drawn ploughs and equipment which do not penetrate the ground as deeply as modern tractors and ploughs). Erosion was more severe on the ridge summit as is usually found, but artefact locations do imply that little activity had taken place on the ridge, even allowing for cultivation scatter.

Such features as pits of varying size and shape and of apparent scatters of charcoal enriched soils in the old ground surfaces seem to indicate domestic activity, and one immediately thinks of a house site. However, none of the features could be attributable to being post holes or other constructional features, and indeed the same was true for the site over the hill where numerous pits and spreads were also found.

Perhaps the pottery, of which there is a good variety, and needs to be expertly examined, shows that domestic activity took place here. In this site the charcoal work has been invaluable since the presence of several cereal types and hazel nut shell (and possibly the burnt bone) indicates food preparation and consumption on the site, although this does not singularly prove a house existed here, it is nevertheless tempting to suggest it. The evidence of hazel and willow roundwood charcoal may also suggest coppicing for wattle and daub walls, although that is speculative.

The pit fills with pottery and some lithics are fairly typical of what has been found by BAG on several other locations, for example at Biggar Common West and East (Johnston 1997 and Ward 2013 forthcoming), Melbourne and Brownsbank (Ward forthcoming 2013) and at Hangingshaw Farm (www.biggararchaeology.org.uk). Plate No 33 shows replicas made from the range of Early Neolithic pottery from Biggar Common West (Johnston *ibid*) and the range of styles and sizes is comparable from all the BAG sites where early Neolithic pottery has been recovered.

Often archaeologists struggle with a reason for the deposition of pot sherds and other objects in such pits, however, this writer believes that the reason behind such deposition lies simply in sweepings from floor surfaces, being shoved down available holes or depressions in the floor, either deliberately or accidentally by the site occupants. A complicated 'ritual' explanation seems quite unnecessary, especially when the numbers of objects are high as is the case of most BAG projects. If this explanation is correct then a domestic scene may be acceptable for the activity on the site.

Beaker sherds and other Bronze Age types of objects such as the napkin ring fragments show there was a presence on the site at that time, assumed at this stage to be the Early Bronze Age on the stylistics of the pottery. The beaker pottery is normally associated with funerary practice but that cannot be implied here on the basis of any other evidence, but certainly the Camps napkin rings were found in a Bronze Age cemetery burial. It is possible that burial/s did exist on the ridge, but the sherds from at least two beakers were found in close proximity and perhaps in context, therefore might two burials be represented?

The apparent palimpsest of three distinct pottery types from three periods is also awkward for the purposes of interpretation, although a similar situation was found at Melbourne to the NE, albeit the beaker did come from a discrete burial pit there. Some of the beaker sherds at Carwood were moved by the ploughing and the others were unfortunately found in the pit F8 which had been affected by rabbit burrows, but it seems reasonable to suggest (by their closeness) that the beaker sherds were all together before the recent disturbances took place.

The two radiocarbon dates fit reasonably well with their contexts; especially F6 where distinctive Early Neolithic sherds were found, this date is comparable to those from Biggar Common West but is much younger than those from Biggar Common East, just up the hill. The two dates from this site span about 550 years and this could be seen as problematic without considering the evidence of the three distinct periods of pottery from the site; Early Neolithic, Late Neolithic and Bronze Age.

It is difficult to explain why such a long period of time is represented on such an apparently small site, however, such evidence is repeatedly found elsewhere in the BAG area of work, most especially at Melbourne where the same occurrence was found. Such palimpsests of finds must simply be accepted if not necessarily understood.

Future work

Some of the pottery from the site has good carbonised encrustation adhering to the pot surfaces, this may prove invaluable to future research for dating and analytical purposes, but is beyond the means of BAG, as indeed much of the post excavation work is. None of the finds have been professionally analysed and considerably more would be forthcoming if that work were done. Nevertheless the charcoal work achieved points to an opportunity for more work in that area and the C14 dates already obtained could also be improved on by further dating.

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Fieldwalking in 2007 and in excavations 2008/2009, the latter under awful weather conditions were done by; Fiona Christison, Brenda Dreghorn, Jacquie Dryden, Denise Dudds, Joyce Durham, Richard Gillanders, Sandra Kelly, Jim Ness, Ian Paterson, Alison Whyte. Young archaeologists and parents Findlay Morrison and Stewart (dad), Gavin Nichol and Alison (mum), Elliot Vietch and Duncan (dad), Molly and Archie Simpson and dad also worked on the project.

Steven and Stewart Ward and Duncan Vietch assisted with backfilling the second excavations.

Sandra Kelly illustrated the finds given in this report and Jacquie Dryden manages the BAG website.

The entire project was funded by BAG; the writer was responsible for all management and processing of finds and samples.

Dr Jennifer Miller (below) identified the charcoal species from contexts and prepared samples for AMS dating.

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Appendix I

Carwood Farm List of finds

Fieldwalking finds,

All PNB catalogue numbers {Pre History North of Biggar}

Carwood fields

PNB/7/	Assorted Lithics	40	Carwood	NT02954035	1999
7.1	Flint leaf arrow		"	NT 0295 4035	1999
7.2	Chert scraper		"	NT 0295 4035	1999
7.3	Flint knife		"	NT 0315 4037	
7.4	Chert scraper + pitchstone			similar location	1999
8/1	Chert (Worked?)	3	"	"	"
8/2	Chert Core		"	"	"
9/	Assorted Lithics	67	Carwood	NT030404	1999
10/	Assorted Lithics	10	Carwood	NT031405	1999
11/1	Cannal Coal	8	Carwood	NT030391	1999
11/2	Chert	10	Carwood	NT030391	1999

For same field as above see also 2010

11/3	Quern rubber		Carwood	NT 03104040	2000
16/1	Chert scraper		Carwood	NT 02847 40179	2007
16/2	Flint		"	NT 02772 40164	"
16/3	Flint scraper		"	NT 02746 40161	"
16/4	Flint		"	NT 02670 40183	"
16/5	Flint		"	NT 02867 40170	"
16/6	Chert scraper		"	NT 02837 40142	"
16/7	Chert 25 of		"	random to field centred NT 028 401	
16/8	Pitchstone		"	NT 02979 40073	2007
16/9	Cannal coal napkin ring frag'			NT 03102 40168	"
16/10	Cannal coal napkin ring frag' (Note drilled hole on inside surface on 16/10)			NT 03040 40124	"
16/11	Chert large micro frag' "			NT 02991 40135	"
16/12	Cannal coal		"	cNT03050 40143 c 50m scatter	
16/13	Flint burnt 4 of		"	ditto	2007

16/14	Chert 16 of		ditto
16/15	Axe frag' greywacke		cNT03055 40127 c 50m scatter
16/16	Flint scraper	"	ditto
16/17	Flint knife	"	ditto
16/18	Flint 3 of	"	ditto
16/19	Quartz flake	"	ditto
16/20	Chert 18 of	"	ditto
16/21	Flint scraper	"	random not plotted field centred NT 030 401
16/22	Flint 2 of	"	ditto
16/23	Chert 15 of	"	ditto

Follows material as a c 30m diameter scatter over excavation site Carwood 2008

17/24	Greywacke discoidal knife?		cNT 0307 4011
17/25	Pitchstone		ditto
17/26	Pitchstone		ditto
17/27	Type VI Axe Chunk		ditto
17/28	Quartz Crystal		ditto
17/29	Axe Flake		ditto
17/30	Ce Sherds 7 of		ditto
17/31	Flint flake 15 of		ditto
17/32	Chert 54 of		ditto
17/33	Hammer stone		cNT 02715 40147
17/34	Pitchstone		ditto
17/35	Chert end scraper		ditto
17/36	Flint flake		ditto
17/37	Quartz Hammer Stone Broken		not plotted, same field as excavation
17/38	Hammer Stone		not plotted, same field as excavation

Follows further material as a c 30m diameter scatter over excavation site Carwood 2008

17/39	Pitchstone		
17/40	Flint end scraper		
17/41	Flint knife		
17/42	Flint transverse arrowhead		NT 03071 40134

Follows field at Carwood centred NT 031 405 (lower field)

Note all of the following material was collected in an area c 100m by 50m on the east side of the plantation and the lower half of it. This area is proving to be a Mesolithic and Neolithic scatter. See also 1999 above.

21/1	Chert 115 of includes cores +retouched	from above area. Not plotted
21/2	Flint	ditto
21/3	Cannal coal 2 of	ditto
21/4	Pitchstone	NT 02969 40363
21/5	Pitchstone	NT 02960 40376
21/6	Flint	NT 03022 40424
21/7	Flint	NT 02990 40410
21/8	Flint	NT 03017 40407
21/9	Flint	NT 02968 40365
21/10	Flint	NT 02977 40409
21/11	Agate flake (natural?)	NT 02995 40418
21/12	Chert core	NT 03035 40438
21/13	Chert end scraper	NT 03008 40388
21/14	Chert end scraper	NT 03002 40401

Excavation finds 2008

The following lithic finds came from the site plough soil, they are not plotted

CA/LI/01	Pitchstone
02	Pitchstone
03	Pitchstone
04	Pitchstone
05	Axe Flakes 2of
06	Quartz Flake
07	Flint 10of
08	Chert 46 of

The following lithic finds were either in situ or from Features Baseline /offset

CA/LI/09	Pitchstone	12.8B 5.4E
CA/LI/10	Pitchstone	11.3B 4.3E
CA/LI/11	Chert scraper	15.2B 4.1E
CA/LI/12	Chert flake	15.2B 4.1E
CA/LI/13	Chert flakes 2 of, F6, over large rim	
CA/LI/14	Chert flake, F6, upper loose	
CA/LI/15	Chert flakes 2 of, F1	
CA/LI/16	Chert flake	6.7B 2.0E
CA/LI/17	Chert flakes 2 of, F5	
CA/LI/18	Chert flake, F3 (E half), middle	
CA/LI/19	Chert flakes 6 of, F3 (E half), upper	
CA/LI/20	Chert flakes 5 of, F6	
CA/LI/21	Pitchstone, F6	
CA/LI/22	Chert flakes 4 of, F1 (N half), upper	

The following lithic finds came from the 2008/2009 excavation

Plough soil finds are not plotted

Follows lithic finds in situ and from features

CA/LI/23 F8 upper surface Plate 19

Tuff, Type VI axe / fragment? 105x65x35mm total sizes. One side retains the original polished surface while the other is roughened, but not freshly so. It would appear that the axe was originally much larger and has been reduced in size either by downsizing or being used as a hammer stone.

CA/LI/24 F7 upper surface Plate 19

Tuff, Type VI axe fragment 60x60x26mm overall. Polished surfaces on both sides and fractures fresh excepting for one area used for rubbing.

CA/LI/25 F7 within the pit

Quartzite broken pebble with small area used for percussion. 65x45x30mm overall.

CA/LI/26 F7 within the pit

Chert flakes 3of.

CA/LI/27 F9 (rabbit burrow)

Quartzite pebble with both ends showing signs of abrasion. 120x100x80mm overall.

CA/LI/28 F9 (rabbit burrow)

Chert flake

CA/LI/29	F9 (rabbit burrow)
Flint, burnt, scraper fragment	
CA/LI/30	21.5base/ 2.5S
Flint, burnt, knife tip?	
CA/LI/32	24.5base/4.0N
Chert 5of	
CA/LI/33	24.5base/4.0N
Flint 2of	
CA/LI/34	24.5base/4.0N
Greywacke, possible hammer stone	
CA/LI/35	22.0base/4.6N south half F12
CA/LI/36	Plough soil 14base/3.0N
Flint tool 51mm long x 18mm at widest end, retouch all round forming double sided end scraper?	

The following finds came from excavated plough soil in 2009, they were not plotted.

CA/LI/37	Flint 41 of
CA/LI/38	Flint, retouch, possibly part of a scraper?
CA/LI/39	Chert 77 of
CA/LI/40	Chert scraper
CA/LI/41	Chert scraper
CA/LI/42	Chert scraper
CA/LI/43	Chert scraper
CA/LI/44	Pitchstone tiny flake
CA/LI/45	Cannal coal/jet part of a bangle?
CA/LI/46	Quartzite, part of a hammer stone
CA/LI/47	Quartzite, hammer stone Plate 19
CA/LI/48	Flint, surface find, 0.0base/0.5S
CA/LI/49	Flint, F7 north side
CA/LI/50	Chert, F7 north side
CA/LI/51	Flint, F7 south side
CA/LI/52	Chert core, no location
CA/LI/53	Cannal coal/jet napkin ring fragment, no location

POTTERY

EN = Early Neolithic. IW = Impressed Ware. GW=Grooved ware. BE= Beaker

CA/CE/1 Context; F6 upper fill Fig 4 & Plates 11, 12 & 12a

EN. Rim sherd comprising nine pieces with an external diameter of 240mm, the body varies in thickness from 5 – 9mm. The round topped rim is everted sharply by rolling the soft clay over; the exterior is black and has been burnished while the interior is smoothed. A carination forms c70mm below the underside of the rim. There is a slight encrustation on the exterior.

Sherds numbers 2 – 20 (excepting No 17) appear to all be from the same pot, there were found crushed into a shallow pit F6 (various photos), mostly lying flat but some on their sides or lying angular in the pit. The sherds have been collected as they lay grouped together to allow for better re-construction. Generally the sherds have fresh breaks, indicating they were not moved around much after deposition and some have been re-built to an extent. Two re-constructed parts (No's 2 & 3) of a bowl make up c 20% of a bulbous shaped pot. Sherd thicknesses vary from 11–15mm.

CA/CE/2 Context; F6 upper fill Fig 5 & Plates 13, 14 & 15

EN. The external rim diameter is c280mm and this part of the bowl comprises of four sherds. The everted rim seems to have been pulled over up to 10mm perhaps rather carelessly in parts; at one point the rim is tightly rolled over and in others it is simply pulled out, there is a finger trail below the rim on one sherd. CA/CE/16 rim sherd almost certainly conjoins with No 2.

CA/CE/3 Context; F6 upper fill

The belly part of the pot is made up from eleven sherds and fragments. Fluting caused by finger trails is evident and helps to indicate the orientation of the piece. The sherds are a brown/orange colour of the exterior and black on the inside with slight encrustation in parts. Pebble inclusions up to 10mm in size may be seen and these with smaller stones protrude from both internal and external surfaces giving a rough appearance. This bowl would have been at least 240mm deep.

CA/CE/4

Six sherds and two fragments found beside No's 2 & 3 above.

CA/CE/5

Two conjoining sherds found beside No's 2 & 3 above

CA/CE/6

Three conjoining sherds found beside No's 2 & 3 above

CA/CE/7

Two conjoining sherds found beside No's 2 & 3 above

CA/CE/8

Sherd found beside No's 2 & 3 above

CA/CE/9

Six conjoining sherds found at the north side of F6

CA/CE/10

Sherd found at the north side of F6

CA/CE/11

Two sherds from west side of F6

CA/CE/12

Sherd from west side of F6

CA/CE/13

Sherd from west side of F6

CA/CE/14

Three conjoining sherds + fragments from west side of F6

CA/CE/15

Two sherds from west lower side of F6

CA/CE/16

Rim sherd (same as No 2 above and probably conjoins) from west lower side of F6

CA/CE/17

EN. Sherd, black smoothed surfaces both sides, 6-8mm thickness. (Not from No's 2- 20)

CA/CE/18

Three conjoining sherds from east upper side of F6

CA/CE/19

Sherd from east upper side of F6

CA/CE/20

Ten sherds + fragments from east lower side of F6

**The following sherds were found on the surface of the plough soil prior to excavation.
Co-ordinates from site base line (see Fig 2)**

CA/CE/21 11.3 base/3.9S

EN. Rim sherd, round to slightly flattened top, buff coloured both sides, 8-9mm thick. Pot rim diameter possibly 90-100mm

CA/CE/22 11.3 base/3.9S

BE? Sherd, orange coloured both sides, 7mm thick = beaker sherd?

CA/CE/23 11.3 base/4.3S

EN. Rim fragment, slightly everted bevel topped.

CA/CE/24 11.3 base/4.3S

EN. Burnished exterior buff coloured both sides, 10mm thick

CA/CE/25 11.3 base/4.3S

EN. Carination, burnished buff/black exterior, soot encrusted interior, 10mm thick

CA/CE/26 11.7 base/4.4S

EN. Black burnished exterior, courser black interior, curved = carination? 8-12mm thick

CA/CE/27 12.0 base/4.5S

EN. Three sherds, black burnished exteriors, encrustation interiors, >10mm thick (one with trowel scrape).

CA/CE/28 12.3 base/4.0S

BE? Rim sherd, round topped, orange coloured both sides, two angled scores on exterior and below the rim may be decoration, 6mm and tapering down to rim top.

CA/CE/29 11.7 base/6.0S

EN. Buff coloured exterior, sooted interior, 10mm thick.

CA/CE/30 13.0 base 4.5S

EN. Rim sherd, everted and rounded, black burnished both sides, 8mm thick.

CA/CE/31 14.2 base/4.5S

EN. Rim sherd, slightly everted, black burnished exterior, course interior, 10mm thick on body and 13mm at rim.

CA/CE/32 14.2 base/4.5S

EN. Curved carination sherd, black burnished both sides, 8-10mm thick.

CA/CE/33 14.7 base/5.3S

Orange coloured on both smoothed sides, 8mm thick.

CA/CE/34 16.7 base/2.0N

EN. Fragment, black encrustation interior.

CA/CE/35 22.0 base/0.3S

IW? Rim sherd? Buff coloured exterior, black interior, body thickness = 15mm.

CA/CE/36 15.0 base/2.0N

EN. Sherd +fragments, black burnished, c 9mm thick.

The following sherds found in the 2008 trench plough soil, they not measured in.

CA/CE/37

EN. Two conjoining sherds one with slightly everted and round topped rim, both curving to carination c40mm below rim, buff/black coloured with both sides burnished, 8mm thick at carination and 6mm thick below rim top.

CA/CE/38

EN? Rim sherd with everted and bevelled top, burnished?

CA/CE/39

EN? Rim sherd slightly everted round top, 7mm thick body.

CA/CE/40

EN. Sherd, black burnished both sides, 10 – 15mm thick.

CA/CE/41

EN. Sherd, buff coloured and burnished exterior, black coloured interior, 10mm thick.

CA/CE/42

EN. Sherd, buff coloured and burnished exterior, black coloured interior, 7mm thick.

CA/CE/43

EN. Sherd, buff coloured and burnished exterior, black coloured interior, 8mm thick.

CA/CE/44

EN. Sherd, buff coloured and burnished exterior, black coloured interior, 10mm thick.

CA/CE/45

EN. Sherd, buff coloured exterior, encrustation interior, 10mm thick.

CA/CE/46

EN. Sherd, curved between rim and carination? Black burnished both sides, 7mm thick.

CA/CE/47

EN. Sherd, buff coloured sides, burnished exterior, 8mm thick.

CA/CE/48

EN. Sherd, buff coloured burnished exterior, back interior, 15mm thick.

CA/CE/49

EN. Sherd, buff coloured burnished exterior, back interior, 12mm thick.

CA/CE/50

EN. Sherd, buff coloured burnished exterior, back interior, 14mm thick.

CA/CE/51

Buff coloured exterior, grey interior, 11mm thick.

CA/CE/52

Buff coloured exterior, grey interior, 15mm thick.

CA/CE/53

BE? Orange coloured both sides, 5mm thick.

CA/CE/54

Nine fragments

The following finds came from features

CA/CE/55 F1 upper, north half

Rim? fragment

CA/CE/56 F1 lower, north half

Rim sherd, round topped, straight external side, buff coloured all over.

CA/CE/57 F1 Fig 9 Plate 23

GW? Sherd + fragment, single groove with two lesser 'scratches' at oblique angles, orange coloured exterior and blackened interior, 25mm thick.

CA/CE/58 F2

EN. Sherd, buff coloured exterior and black interior, burnished both sides, 12mm thick.

CA/CE/59 F2, east basal

Sherd fragment.

CA/CE/60 F3 upper east half.

Two small sherds

CA/CE/61 F4

Small sherd.

CA/CE/62 F5

EN. Buff coloured both sides burnished interior, 9mm thick.

CA/CE/63 F6

Five misc' fragments.

CA/CE/64 F6

Sherd, buff/orange exterior and blackened interior, 11mm thick

The following sherds were found in the 2008/2009 excavation

CA/CE/65 no location

Sherd, buff coloured both sides 18mm thick.

CA/CE/66 no location

Nine sherds and fragments

CA/CE/67 no location Fig 9 Plate 23

GW? Sherd fragment, buff coloured exterior with 4mm wide groove.

CA/CE/68 20.5 base/ 3S in situ Fig 12 Plate 27

IW. Rim sherd, buff coloured all over, steeply bevelled rim top with six lines of cord impression.

CA/CE/69 20.7 base/ 1.9S in situ Fig 7 Plate 27

IW. Rim sherd, Buff coloured very steep bevelled rim top, black exterior, irregular lines, and six? of cord impression.

CA/CE/70 20.7 base/ 1.9S in situ

Sherd + fragment

CA/CE/71 21.0base/ 3.2S in situ (but possibly disturbed by ploughing in recent years? Displaced from F8?)

BE. Rim sherd, very slightly splayed out at semi flat top. Ten lines of comb impression applied as parallel lines, buff/orange all over with some sooting on external side. 8mm thick. External rim diameter c200mm Fig 10 & PI 22

CA/CE/72 21.0base/ 3.2S in situ (but possibly disturbed by ploughing in recent years? Displaced from F8?)

BE. Sherd (same pot as No 71?) with seven lines of impression Fig 11 & PI 22

CA/CE/73 F8 north half upper fill Fig 11 & PI 22

BE. Two conjoining rim sherds. Fairly straight sided exterior to round topped rim, which on the inside bevels slightly inwards for c 25mm. Fifteen lines of comb impression in parallel lines. Dark buff coloured exterior with soot? encrustation on the inside. Body thickness is 8mm, increasing to 9mm at bevel base and then thinning to 5mm at the round topped rim. External rim diameter c 140 – 180mm.

CA/CE/74 F8 south side middle fill Fig 11 & PI 22

BE. Sherd, with > eight irregular lines of comb impression, buff coloured exterior and black inside, 7mm thick. (CE 73 and Ce 74 may be the same pot) judging by the black interior surface)

CA/CE/75 21.2base/ 1.5S in situ between F7 and F8 Fig 9 Plate 23

GW/IW? Sherd with >three lines of zig zag impression with chevrons c8mm long. Dark buff interior with heavy black encrustation in decoration impressions. 10mm thick.

CA/CE/76 21.2base/ 1.5S in situ between F7 and F8

Rim sherd, irregular formed flattened/round top, slightly everted, light buff coloured with some soot on inside. Body thickness is 11mm.

CA/CE/77 21.2base/ 2.5S in situ at edge of F8 Fig 13 Plate 23

IW? Rim sherd, flat top 20mm wide, everted by c8mm out from body which has grass? impression similar to that on rim top. Buff to black colour with body thickness 13mm.

CA/CE/78 21.5base/ 1.75 S in situ at F8 edge

BE? Sherd with tiny cuneiform marks and zig zag line of 3-5mm amplitude. Buff coloured all over. 5-8mm thick.

CA/CE/79 21.5base/ 1.75 S in situ at F8 edge

Sherd fragment, buff exterior, black encrustation interior. 13mm thick.

CA/CE/80 21.5base/ 2.5S in situ Fig 9 Plate 23

Two conjoining sherds, with three lines zig zag impression on exterior, buff coloured and burnished surfaces both sides. 7mm thick.

CA/CE/81 23.7base/ 1.6S in situ? may have been displaced.

Sherd, buff coloured exterior with black concretion on inside. 25mm thick.

Sherd No's 82 to 89 were found in F7, a pit containing crushed pottery.

CA/CE/82 Fig 6

IW. Two nearly conjoining rim sherds. Curved bevelled rim with finger nail and cord impression, external side has finger (thumb?) nail impression, Light buff colour overall.

CA/CE/83

IW? Two conjoining sherds may be part of No 82. Light buff colour on external side with black encrustation on inside. Faintly impressed triangular shaped marks about 20mm apart and in lines. 21mm thick.

CA/CE/84 Fig 7

IW. Rim sherd, slightly bevelled 'flattish' top, decorated with four lines of cord impression, the external upper edge of the rim has 'maggot' impression aligned at a slight angle from the top. Rim top width is 30mm.

CA/CE/85 Fig 8

IW/GW? Rim sherds with flat bevelled top decorated with carelessly applied angled slash or groove marks, rim top width 28mm. The internal face of pot curves back from the rim and then expands in body thickness further down. The external side of the pot is straight and is decorated overall with irregular sized slashes. Dark to light buff coloured overall with possible soot on interior. 17mm thick below rim.

CA/CE/86**Fig 9****Plate 23**

IW. Sherd (may be part of No 85) with finger nail? 'push down' impressions overall on external side which is buff coloured. Internal side is blackened by heavy encrustation. 18mm thick.

CA/CE/87

IW. Sherd with two 'maggot' impressions on buff coloured exterior, interior is blackened by heavy encrustation. 18mm thick. A loose pebble inclusion is present.

CA/CE/88

Two adjoining + two other possible sherds from same vessel. Dark buff coloured exterior is coarsely finished and black sooted interior. 18mm thick.

CA/CE/89

GW? Twelve assorted sherds and twenty two assorted fragments. Three plain sherds conjoin and eight sherds/fragments have groove impression. Light buff coloured exterior and black and or sooted interior sides. Thicknesses range from 16 to 22mm.

CA/CE/90**20.7base/ 2.1S in situ**

IW. Large sherd, with brush or wipe striae covering half of the external face, slash marks at right angles to striae on other half. Buff coloured external side internal side badly eroded due to lying on the ground with that face uppermost, stone inclusions >10mm showing in the body which is 20mm thick.

CA/CE/91**20.7base/ 2.1S in situ.****Fig 14 Plate 28**

Note; CA/CE/91 is shown in alternative positions in Fig 14 and PI 28

IW/ GW? Large sherd, with scores/grooves, and slash marks on external surface which is dark buff in colour. Internal side is same colour and is roughly finished, stone inclusions > 10mm in size showing in body which is 25mm thick.

CA/CE/92**20.7base/ 2.1S in situ.**

GW? Sherd with single groove on external surface, light buff in colour and blackened interior. 22mm thick.

CA/CE/93**No location**

EN. Rim sherd fragment

CA/CE/94**No location**

Rim sherd fragment

CA/CE/95**24.5base/4.0N in situ****Plate 29**

GW. Sherd with two sets of broad grooves slightly curved and 3mm wide and 1mm deep. Buff coloured both sides, sherd thickness is 16mm.

CA/CE/96 24.5base/4.0N in situ Plate 29

GW. Diagonal lines within a 10mm wide band made by two incised lines, grooves finely cut. Sooty concretion on external surface, sherd is 11mm thick.

CA/CE/97 24.5base/4.0N in situ

Sherd 16mm thick, buff coloured both sides.

CA/CE/98a&b 24.5base/4.0N in situ

Two conjoining sherds, 16mm thick, buff coloured both sides.

CA/CE/99 24.5base/4.0N in situ

Fragment 16mm thick.

CA/CE/100 22.0base/4.6N in situ in pit F12 south half

Sherd 11mm thick, buff coloured exterior and black interior.

CA/CE/101 22.0base/4.6N in situ in pit F12 south half

2 of sherds 9mm thick, buff coloured exterior and black interior.

CA/CE/102 22.0base/4.6N in situ in pit F12 south half

Rim sherd, nearly flat top rim 13mm wide, slightly rounded at rim edges, everted lip tightly rolled under forming overhang of c3mm. Dark buff body 9mm thick extends from under side of rim at sharp angle indicating a rounded bowl. External rim diameter c200mm.

CA/CE/103 Spoil heap!

IW. Rim sherd with bird bone? or slash marks c8mm long. Light buff coloured both sides, rounded rim top extends to maximum thickness of 22mm.

CA/CE/104 Spoil heap!

Sherd, buff coloured exterior, sooted interior, 15mm thick.

CA/CE/105 Spoil heap!

2 of fragments

CA/CE/106 Context F8 north side

BE. Sherd buff coloured exterior and black interior. Seven lines comb decoration. 6mm thick.

CA/CE/107 Context F8 south base

BE? Two fragments.

CA/CE/108 Context F8 south upper

BE? Fragment

CA/CE/109 Context F8 south base

BE? Rim? Fragment

CA/CE/110 Context F8 north side

BE? Two fragments

CA/CE/111 no location

BE? Sherd

CA/CE/112 Context F7 south side

IW Sherd buff exterior and black sooted interior. 23mm thick, and sharp angular inclusions up to 10mm. Faint 'scuff' or drag marks up to 10mm long by 3mm wide. Also seven fragments, not necessarily from CE/112.

CA/CE/113 Context F7 north side

IW? Quantity of fragments buff exterior and sooty interior.

CA/CE/114 Context F7 north side (with CE/113)

EN?/IW? Two of rim sherd fragments

CA/CE/115 10B/3.5N lying in a depression 75mm deep and 0.2m diameter

EN Two conjoining sherds being a rim sherd of a 'pinch' pot, c100mm diameter at rim exterior side and with sharply curving sides. Buff coloured both sides and possibly with burnished surfaces. 8mm thick with a simple round topped rim.

CA/CE/116 10B/3.5N lying in a depression 75mm deep and 0.2m diameter

EN Rim sherd plus conjoining fragment, 6mm thick, buff coloured, possibly burnished. Simple round topped and almost straight.

CA/CE/117 10B/3.5N lying in a depression 75mm deep and 0.2m diameter

EN? Quantity of poorly preserved fragments including a possible rim sherd.

**CA/CE/118 F6 Rim sherd fragment found in wet sieved charcoal sample.
(Part of CA/CE/1)**

Burnt Bone fragments

CA/BO/1 20.7base/ 2.1S

CA/BO/2 F2 base

CA/BO/3 F3 upper fill

CA/BO/4 24.5base/4.0N

CA/BO/5 F8 north side

CA/BO/6 F7

Appendix II Charcoal samples retrieved

Where weights are given as (total) this includes a quantity of grit.

Location	Charcoal 1mm>Wt gms	Other	
F1 upper north half	169 (total)	with nutshell and grit	
F1 lower north	4	with nutshell & grain	
F3 east upper half	13	with nutshell	1 of 2
F3 east upper half	73 (total)	with grit	2 of 2
F3 east middle half	22	with nutshell	1 of 2
F3 east middle half	35 (total)	with grit	2 of 2
F3 east base	22	with nutshell	1 of 4
F3 east base	35	with nutshell	2 of 4
F3 east base	25	with nutshell	3 of 4
F3 east base	49	with nutshell	4 of 4
F3 east base	70 (total)	with nutshell & grit	1 of 4
F3 east base	40 (total)	with grit	2 of 4
F3 east base	60 (total)	with grit	3 of 4
F3 east base	86 (total)	with grit	4 of 4
F4	4	with nutshell	1 of 3
F4	16 (total)	with grit	2 of 3
F4	10	with nutshell	3 of 3
F5	5	with nutshell	1 of 2
F5	7 (total)	with grit	2 of 2
F6	14	with nutshell & grain	
F7 north half	--	single piece charcoal	
F7 north half base	12	with grain?	
F7 north half	11		
F7 south half	8.5	with nutshell	1 of 2
F7 south half	10.5	with grain	2 of 2
F8 north half	5	with nutshell, grain & roundwood	
F8 south upper	2	with grain	
F8 south base	4.5	with grain	
F9	>1	with grain 20.7B/4.3S pit	
F10 upper south	2.5		

F10 middle south	7	
F10 base	22	
F12 south half	4	
F13	3.5	with grain
F14	6	15B/5.5N
F15	>1	19.5B/3.4N

Charcoal samples taken at 0.3mm size flots all contain considerable quantities of root fibre. These are retained for possible study, but no further work is intended for these in the foreseeable future.

Carwood 2009 soil samples

Location	Feature	Weight soil Kg's	Other
14B/4.5N		5	
10B/3.5N		2	0.25x75mm
14B/4.5N		12	middle south
14B/4.5N		15	upper south
15B/5.5N		0.5	
22B/4.6N		15	south half of pit
		15	Impressed ware pit
		15	Beaker pit north
		12	Beaker pit south upper
19.5B/3.4N		0.5	
		30	Impressed ware pit south
20.7B/4.3S		10	pit
		15	Beaker pit south base
		10	Impressed ware north base

Samples selected for C14 dating (see charcoal report below)

F1 north lower fill Corylus 0.16 grammes

Criteria

This pit contained almost exclusively charcoal and had a large number of mixed cereal types in the fill and also some hazel nut shell, it appears to represent carbonised material derived from food processing, especially grain.

F6 Corylus 0.25 grammes

Criteria

This pit contained a large proportion of Early Neolithic pottery and of different vessels.

Radiocarbon dates obtained

SUERC-45152 (GU29847)

Carwood Farm F1 North Lower

Charcoal: Corylus (hazel)

Radiocarbon Age BP 4416 ± 26 13C relative to VPDB -26.5 ‰

68.2% probability

3095 (59.4%) 3011 cal BC

2978 (6.7%) 2961 cal BC

2949 (2.1%) 2944 cal BC

95.4% probability

3309 (0.5%) 3302 cal BC

3285 (5.0%) 3241 cal BC

3106 (89.9%) 2921 cal BC

SUERC-45151 (GU29846)

Carwood Farm F6

Charcoal: Corylus (hazel)

Radiocarbon Age BP 4792 ± 26 13C relative to VPDB -26.1 ‰

68.2% probability

3638 (8.8%) 3631 cal BC

3579 (59.4%) 3534 cal BC

95.4% probability

3643 (16.1%) 3622 cal BC

3604 (79.3%) 3523 cal BC

Appendix III Charcoal identification

Carwood 2008-9 Brief Interim Report

By Jennifer Miller, Northlight Heritage 28 July 2011

Summary

Eighteen samples of carbonised plant material from excavations at Carwood and one from Calla Farm recovered material for radiocarbon dating and characterisation of deposits. Many of the carbonised assemblages consisted primarily charcoal of hazel round-wood and hazel nutshell, with small volumes of willow round-wood also often recorded from those fills. Such assemblages are highly suggestive of ephemeral occupation and may be of very early prehistoric date. Occasional other features contained cereals including naked barley and various wheats. Those samples were often associated with oak and some alder charcoal from large timbers, the combination of which is suggestive of occupation within the prehistoric, potentially Neolithic period. A brief comment on each feature is presented in Table 1 below. Full results are presented in Table 2.

Wherever possible, two dating options were identified for each context, including one nutshell or cereal option and one round-wood or outer trunk-wood charcoal fragment. For each sample, twenty charcoal fragments were identified at random (wherever possible) to characterise the taxon composition.

Table 1

Feature Observations

F1	Cereals, nutshell & hazel charcoal in upper fill, suggesting domestic activity. Naked barley suggests potentially Neolithic. Lower fill hazel and willow only- fuel/wattle related to early ephemeral campsite, possibly
F3	Lots of hazel, both nutshell and charcoal. Potentially very early, possibly pre agriculture
F4	Nutshell and hazel round wood suggests ephemeral occupation only, potentially v early
F5	Nutshell plus hazel and willow round wood, suggesting wattle or temporary campfire. Possibly pre-agricultural ephemeral camp site
F6	Bread wheat, nutshell, early pot rim-sherd and charcoal of oak, alder and hazel suggests early agriculture, probably Neolithic occupation
F7	Carbonised remains in this impressed ware pit including naked barley and indeterminate cereals, nutshell and oak, hazel and willow charcoal indicate likely Neolithic domestic occupation. Indeterminate grain and cinderised charcoal suggest prolonged burning
F8	Cereals, nutshell and charcoal of hazel, birch and alder with beaker pottery concur with early agricultural activity, probably Neolithic occupation
F9	Two cereal grains and rare hazel charcoal in poor condition may be residual early occupation or reworked
F10	Alder charcoal from large trunk-wood & hazel round-wood from sizeable branches. This may be domestic fuel or waste from structural materials of any date.
F12	The period of use of this hazel charcoal could be defined by AMS
F13	Putative spelt/emmer wheat with hazel and willow charcoal suggests early agriculture
F14	The period of use of this large branch-wood hazel charcoal could be defined by AMS
F15	The period of use of this hazel charcoal could be defined by AMS

BMT Site	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood
Feature	F1	F1	F3	F3	F3	F3	F3	F3	F3	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F7	F7	Carwood
Description	Upper N 1/2	N lower	E Uppr 1/2	E 1/2 mid	E base 1 of 4	E base 1 of 4	E base 2 of 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	N side SF	N impr/ware pit	-	-
Date	2008	2009	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2009	?	?	?	?
AMS opt 1	n/shell 0.23g	Corylus 0.16g	n/shell 0.1g	n/shell 0.09g	n/shell 0.1g	Corylus 0.09g	Corylus 0.09g	n/shell 0.11g	n/shell 0.11g	n/shell 0.11g	Corylus 0.25g	-	-	-	n/shell 0.04g	-	-
AMS opt 2	Corylus 0.23g	-	Corylus 0.36g	Corylus 0.26g	Corylus 0.33g	-	-	Corylus 0.32g	Corylus 0.36g	Corylus 0.32g	Triticum x 37 0.02g	-	-	-	Corylus 0.15g	-	-
Cereal																	
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> v <i>nudum</i>	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> v <i>vulgare</i>	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> <i>sl</i>	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>cf Hordeum</i> sp	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Triticum aestivum</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
<i>Triticum cf spelta</i> / <i>dicoccum</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Triticum</i> sp	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>cf Triticum</i> sp	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
<i>Indet cereal</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	5	-
Corylus avellana nutshell	>>500 (>25g)	1 (0.02g)	3 (0.18g)	5 (0.19g)	7 (0.42g)	2 (0.06g)	8 (0.46g)	38 (0.88g)	1 (0.02g)	-	-	-	-	-	-	>50 (1.08g)	-
Charcoal																	
<i>Alnus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 (0.31g)	-	-	-	-
<i>Betula</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Corylus</i>	18 (1.65g)	15 (0.57g)	20 (5.12g)	21 (7.66g)	20 (7.39g)	23 (1.69g)	20 (2.17g)	15 (1.58g)	13 (2.78g)	-	-	-	-	-	-	6 (0.43g)	-
<i>Quercus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 (0.54g)	-	-	-	-	-	-	11 (1.46g)	-
<i>Salix</i>	2 (0.28g)	5 (0.5g)	-	-	-	-	-	5 (0.2g)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 (0.25g)	-
<i>Indet charcoal</i> <i>cinder</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other																	
<i>Pot</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 x rim sherd 2.65g	-	-	-	-

BMT Site	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood	Carwood
Feature	F7	F7	F7	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8	F8
Description	N Basal	S	S/U bkr pit	S/Base bkr pt	N bkr pit	Pit	S Basal	S Middle	S Upper	S half	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009
Date	?	?	2009	2009	2009	?	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009
AMS opt 1	n/shell 0.04g	n/shell 0.1g	Corylus 0.1g	n/shell 0.06g	n/shell 0.1g	?Corylus 0.02g	Alnus 0.19g	Corylus 0.13g	Corylus 0.12g	Corylus 0.11g	Corylus 0.21g	Corylus 2.07g	Corylus 0.03g											
AMS opt 2	Corylus 0.32g	Corylus 0.13g	-	Corylus 0.06g	Corylus 0.12g	-	Corylus 0.13g	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cereal																								
<i>Hordeum vulgare v nudum</i>	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Hordeum vulgare v vulgare</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Hordeum vulgare sl</i>	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>cf Hordeum sp</i>	-	2	-	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Triticum aestivum</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Triticum cf spetal dicoccum</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Triticum sp</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>cf Triticum sp</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Indet cereal</i>	4	6	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Corylus avellana nutshell	16 (0.38g)	21 (0.68g)	7 (0.07g)	8 (0.23g)	14 (0.27g)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charcoal																								
<i>Alnus</i>	-	-	-	1 (0.04g)	-	-	6 (0.83g)	-	3 (0.19g)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Betula</i>	-	-	-	2 (0.12g)	3 (0.14g)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Corylus</i>	16 (1.43g)	14 (1.03g)	4 (0.31g)	6 (0.22g)	6 (0.32g)	3 (0.06g)	14 (2.57g)	10 (3.05g)	2 (0.21g)	10 (0.61g)	13 (0.88g)	13 (4.05g)	9 (0.2g)											
<i>Quercus</i>	-	4 (0.7g)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Salix</i>	-	2 (0.18g)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Indet charcoal cinder</i>	4 (0.05g)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other																								
<i>Pot</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Appendix IV

Fig and Plate captions for Carwood Report

Fig 1	Location map
Fig 2	Trench showing features
Fig 3	Feature sections
Fig 4	Early Neolithic pottery from F6
Fig 5	Early Neolithic pottery from F6
Fig 6	Late Neolithic pottery
Fig 7	Late Neolithic pottery
Fig 8	Late Neolithic pottery
Fig 9	Late Neolithic pottery
Fig 10	Beaker pottery
Fig 11	Beaker pottery
Fig 12	Late Neolithic pottery
Fig 13	Late Neolithic pottery
Fig 14	Late Neolithic pottery
Fig 15	Distribution of BAG Neolithic sites
Plate 1	The site looking west
Plate 2	The site looking east
Plate 3	F1 showing as charcoal patch looking NW
Plate 4	F1 showing as charcoal patch
Plate 5	F1 sectioned looking south
Plate 6	F3 looking NW
Plate 7	F3 sectioned looking south
Plate 8	Showing F1 and F3 looking north
Plate 9	F3 section backfilled with sand, looking south
Plate 10	F5 sectioned looking NE
Plate 11	F6 pit showing pottery in fill, looking NW
Plate 12	CE/1 from F6 showing external side
Plate 12a	CE/1 from F6 showing internal side

Plate 13	Parts of CE/2 in F6 pit
Plate 14	Young archaeologist Elliot Vietch with part of CE/2
Plate 15	CE/2 from F6 showing rim
Plate 16	Probable sherds from CE/2 from F6
Plate 17	F6 pit excavated showing stone in the fill
Plate 18	Selection of sherds from F7 pit
Plate 19	Type VI stone axe and chunk, and hammer stone
Plate 20	Rabbit and mole disturbance near F7 and F8
Plate 21	Rabbit and mole disturbance near F7 and F8
Plate 22	Beakers sherds from in and around F8 pit
Plate 23	Selection of Impressed and Grooved Ware pottery
Plate 24	Pits F7 and F8 showing rabbit disturbance
Plate 25	F10 pit sectioned looking west, note the rabbit burrow
Plate 26	F11 pit excavated looking west
Plate 27	Impressed ware rim sherds
Plate 28	Impressed Ware sherd
Plate 29	Grooved ware sherds
Plate 30	Fieldwalking with tractor
Plate 30a	Napkin rings fragments found at Carwood
Plate 31	Camps reservoir napkin rings
Plate 32	Selection of fieldwalking objects
Plate 33	Replica Early Neolithic pots based on Biggar Common West