South Cadbury Environs Project (SCEP) Appendix 3

A3.1.0 Introduction

The South Cadbury Environs Project (SCEP) main survey methodology relied on large scale gradiometer survey, supported by ploughzone sampling and, in particular, regularly spaced 1m square test pits every 100m on the same grid as the geophysical survey. This identified large areas of prehistoric land division and a number of defined sites. A considerable number of these have been excavated since 1996 to a greater or lesser extent, mainly to provide dating and functional information on the formation and utilisation of the prehistoric landscape. The sites covered here are those which were large enough to produce both landscape data and animal bone. Many test pits of a variety of dates produced small amounts of animal bone, but these have not been considered here due to the small numbers of fragments involved. They will in due course however provide a map of the likely preservation of bone across the study area. None of the SCEP excavation discussed here is fully published. Some have received some treatment in interim reports (Tabor 2002;2004), whilst others have only been considered in brief (Tabor 2008). Therefore an introduction to each site is provided at the beginning of each report.

A3.2.0 Methods

Each site excavated as part of the South Cadbury Environs Project has been dealt with as a unit. Many of them have material from more than one, and in several cases, several major phases. Each phase is dealt with separately within each site. The zooarchaeological methods used in the analysis of these assemblages were the same as those utilised for Cadbury Castle and are detailed in Appendix 1.

A3.3.0 General Observations

Despite large excavated volumes of soil in many cases, most of the assemblages presented here are small. This is unlikely to be related to recovery rates, as considerable numbers of bulk samples have been taken on all sites since 1996, and systematically across all contexts on all sites excavated since 2005, following a regime designed by the author. This was also checked at Sigwells in 2005 by passing all sediment excavated from sealed contexts through a 10mm sieve. This did not significantly alter the representation of elements or species (Randall 2006). In all cases it is unlikely that very much domestic mammal bone identifiable to species was missed. Separate assemblages recovered from the wet sieving process were retained and are dealt with elsewhere. They mainly comprise very small unidentifiable fragments of bone, small mammals and amphibians.

The low fragment counts at most of the sites described below and the degree to which the assemblages have been fragmented is interesting. Even where bone condition itself is relatively good (and it is variable across the study zone dependent on the prevailing soil type), fragments are usually small, and the identifiable portion of the assemblage in the minority. It

seems that heavy processing and utilisation was typical in all of the sites surrounding Cadbury Castle in all periods. Although much of the unidentifiable material from the hillfort assemblage may have been disposed of after excavation, it appears to have yielded a considerably larger number of more complete bones; the general surface bone condition is consistently much better in the material from the hillfort than in other local assemblages, even the ones on similar soil types and geologies.

A3.4.0 Milsom's Corner

Milsom's Corner is a multi-period site on the western flanks of Cadbury Castle, on the slope below the south west gate. The main area occupied a slight rise that became, over time, effectively a westerly facing terrace, but which is now being heavily damaged by deep ploughing. The land falls away gently to the west and north to low lying land and overlooks the Somerset Levels. Activity commenced in the early Neolithic, represented by an important linear arrangement of pits, seemingly orientated towards the top of the hill. This was succeeded by an Early Bronze Age human burial, truncated later in the Middle Bronze Age. The Middle Bronze Age settlement comprised buildings and enclosures which link with further boundaries identified by geophysical survey. A cattle mandible in the upper middle fills of the Milsom's Corner spur enclosure ditch provided a date of 1380-1210 cal BC. Later in the Bronze Age, a bronze shield, already old at the time, was ceremonially deposited in the corner of the silted settlement enclosure ditch. This was succeeded by less well defined Early, Middle and Late Iron Age occupation that ceased in the 1st Century AD. Features include ditches, pits, postholes and horizontal deposits including probable floor levels.

The assemblage consists of 2398 fragments from phase-able contexts, with 448 identified to species. It is therefore a very small assemblage considering the span of time represented, and in some cases the long phases to which material can be safely attributed. As such, the degree of analysis possible is limited. However, this is an important group of material given the paucity of data for southern Somerset and north Dorset for the Neolithic and Bronze Age in particular. Whilst the material may not contribute enormously to economic understanding, it is useful in considering depositional practices. Examination of this material also aims to inform on future recovery strategies for material on this site. Metrical data is limited and will be presented but not discussed. A piece of red deer bone is referred to in publication of the Milsom's Corner shield (Coles *et al* 1999), but is not present in the assemblage.

A3.4.1 General Observations

In general terms this is a relatively poorly preserved assemblage, as indicated by the high proportion of unidentified material (See Table 3.1), which remains at a fairly constant level through the various periods, and condition scores allotted to fragments; very few fragments scored in the best category, with the majority scoring poor-average or poor. This is probably at least in part attributable to the types of features from which fragments were recovered. Bones from the habitation layers have a slightly worse condition, and there have to be concerns on the level of resolution possible in the later periods due to the high probability of residuality. Recovery is presumed not to be a contributory factor due to the consistent recovery of small and unidentifiable material. In some contexts, condition relates to a specific practice, such as the high proportion of burned bone in the Early Neolithic pits (discussed below). Evidence for pathology is almost non-existent, and this is probably due to the fragmentation and generally poor preservation of the bone.

Table 3.1 : Animal bone preservation for all periods Milsom's Corner. Loose Teeth percentage is of fragments identified to element

Period	Identified		Unidentified		Loose teeth	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Neolithic	5	2.05%	239	97.95%	6	32%
Early Bronze Age	1	33%	2	66%	0	0
Middle Bronze Age	29	22%	105	78%	13	45%
Late Bronze Age	63	19	266	81%	23	37%
Early Iron Age	69	18%	316	82%	31	45%
Middle Iron Age	269	22%	965	78%	109	41%
Late Iron Age	7	20	28	80	4	57%

One notable fact that holds true for all periods of the site's utilisation is the lack of representation of wild species. These only include an unidentifiable bird bone from the Middle Bronze Age ditch and the fragment of cat tibia from a Middle Iron Age debris layer, which may or may not be wild. Where identification between sheep and goat was possible, all cases represented sheep.

A3.4.2 The Early Neolithic

This is an unfortunately small assemblage. The vast majority of the material is of poor or poor-average condition; species counts are given in Table 3.2, but percentages not calculated due to the very small numbers involved.

Table 3.2 : Species representation Early Neolithic, Milsom's Corner.

Species	Early Neolithic	
	NISP	MNI
Cattle	1	1
Pig	3	1
S/G	1	1
Large mammal	5	
Medium mammal	14	
Unidentified	220	
Total	244	

There are a total of 244 fragments from the Early Neolithic phase, but it is predominantly unidentifiable and very fragmented. The vast majority of the material comes from the series of pits, although there are small quantities of unidentifiable material from postholes and the general layer 1731. Of this material, the bulk (212 fragments) is burned, both unidentifiable fragments and those of medium-sized mammals. Of these 161 (76%) fragments were completely calcined, with 9 classed as grey, indicating a very thorough and deliberate combustion. 41 fragments were buff in colour and 1 brown, indicating a lower temperature/duration of burn in the presence of oxygen. A large proportion of the material is concentrated in three contexts 1886, 1888 and 1899, with all the material in the former two being heavily burned and over 80% of the latter context. This type of treatment may have been directly related to the act of pit deposition, although small amounts of burned material occurs in the limited assemblage not derived from pit fills.

The appearance of pig in the Early Neolithic deposits is not unexpected, and it is assumed that the Large Mammal category bone would have been cattle, which is also represented. There is no evidence for wild species in this assemblage. There is too little material identified to species to indicate any preference over deposition. Neither are there any mandibles, suitable surviving teeth or sufficient fusion data to offer information on age profiles. There is no porous juvenile bone represented, although this may be entirely taphonomic in explanation given the degree of burning and the general condition of the assemblage.

A3.4.3 The Bronze Age

The material that can be firmly attributed to the Early Bronze Age phase is very limited. Only three pieces of bone were noted, including a pig mandible fragment. It is entirely possible that this material is residual from the earlier phase of site use.

Although the assemblages are small, the activity on the site in the Middle and Late Bronze Age is of a different order to the earlier phases (Table 3.3). Although tentative, given the sample sizes, the even representation between cattle and sheep (also reflected in the Large and Medium Mammal categories) in the Middle Bronze Age is notable.

Table 3.3 : Species representation Bronze Age, Milsom's Corner.

Species	**EBA**		**MBA**		**LBA**	
	NISP	**MNI**	**NISP**	**MNI**	**NISP**	**MNI**
Cattle			10	2	14	2
Pig	1	1	2	1	14	1
S/G			14	1	33	2
Dog			2	1		
Horse					1	1
Large mammal			10		30	
Medium mammal			10		55	
Unidentified	2		86		181	
Total Main	**3**		**134**		**328**	
Bird			1	1		
Weasel					1	1
Total	**3**		**135**		**329**	

There is a division in the distribution across features in the Middle Bronze Age material. Most of the sheep/goat and much of the unidentified material comes from the general layers, whilst all of the cattle bone, a dog maxilla fragment, the single bird bone and more unidentifiable material came from the ditch fills. The general condition of the material is better in the ditch contexts than in the general layer which is unsurprising. For Iron Age contexts Maltby (1985:101,105) has postulated that the size of the animal leads to a dichotomy in deposition with larger mammals butchered away from living areas and disposed of in larger features such as boundary ditches, whilst sheep and pigs, being jointed differently and cooked in a different way are disposed of closer to home. This needs to be considered in relation the site layout. Whilst this is a small sample, there is a division between the deposition of the species. This is however frequently the case with small samples.

Two of the cattle fragments are the central portions of two left side cattle mandibles from contexts 1075 and 1349. Both of these animals fall into the sub-adult category (with Grant

toothwear scores of 17 and 23 respectively), that is between 18 and 40 months at death, probably falling at the younger end of this range. These could be regarded as prime meat animals. Both of these mandibles demonstrate a degree of minimal or moderate weathering, and they are fragmentary and in poor condition. As the general level of weathering is low for the Middle Bronze Age (apart from two severely weathered medium mammal long bones which may be residual), the weathering of the mandibles may be significant. It is possible that they were exposed for some time before deposition or covering. Element representation is difficult to assess, but both cranial and post-cranial elements are present. The few burned fragments are evenly spread across the ditch and general layer contexts. Apart from the cattle mandibles there are no other Middle Bronze Age mandibles to provide ageing information. The limited fusion data implies all of the animals are fully adult and no porous bone was recorded for this phase. This may, as mentioned above, relate to taphonomic factors biasing against juvenile bone.

Cattle and pig appear to remain important into the Late Bronze Age, although there is a slight increase in the representation of sheep and medium-sized mammals. This supports the idea that sheep were not achieving a major economic importance until the end of the Bronze Age. Horse makes its first appearance in the assemblage at this point. For the Late Bronze Age, material occurs across a range of features. As represented in Figure 3.1, species are represented in all types of feature; however, there is a slight indication of a preference for deposition of cattle and large mammal bone in the ditches, and less sheep in comparison to that occurring in the other types of feature.

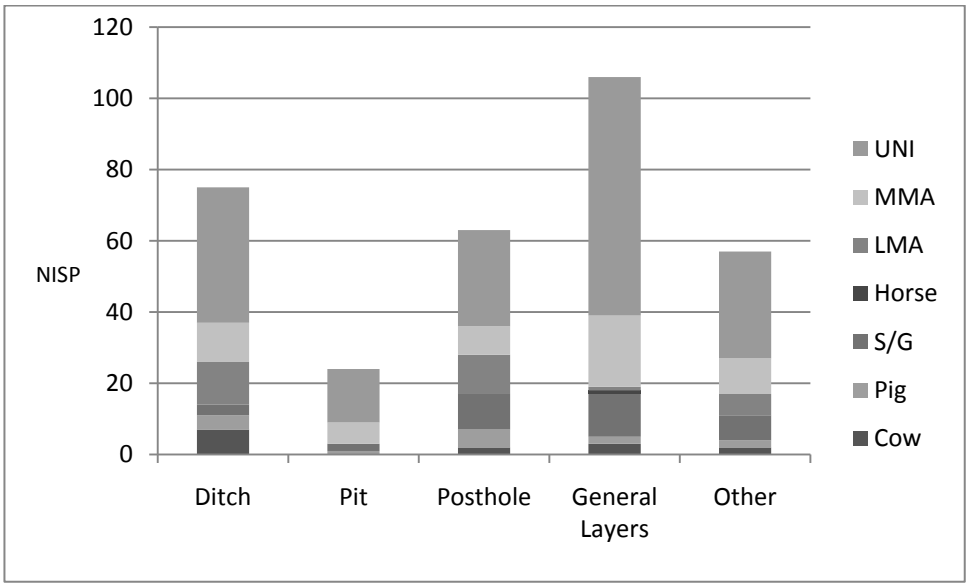

Figure 3.1 : Species representation by feature type, Milsom's Corner, Late Bronze Age. N = 328

There is only a small amount of weathered and burned material, and a range of elements are present. The fusion data indicates a majority of adult animals, but there are a few examples of porous sheep and medium mammal bones, indicating the presence of younger animals. Two cattle mandibles occur in contexts 1068 (right) and 1024 (left). These are definitely from two different animals given that the first has a Grant MWS of 41 (upper end of the young adult category, >40 months) and the second MWS 6 (lower end of the juvenile category, 1-18

months). A third cattle jaw was recovered from context 1500, listed as a stakehole. This was in very poor condition and had lost all of the teeth post-mortem. This small amount of ageing information implies that cattle breeding may have occurred on or near the site. The first examples of butchery on this site occur in the Late Bronze Age. All four examples are light cuts, and could relate to either disarticulation or skinning.

A3.4.4 The Iron Age

For the Early Iron Age the composition of the animal population is little different from the Late Bronze Age (Table 3.4). The possibility of a gradual increase in the importance of sheep husbandry from the Late Bronze Age onward can be seen in this material. Very little material displayed signs of weathering or was burned. Whilst very few fragments in the whole assemblage show signs of being gnawed, the earliest ones represented are two from this phase. Butchery evidence is restricted to light cuts on a pig astragalus which relate to disarticulation or skinning, and a heavier cut on the neck of what is probably a sheep rib, evidently relating to portioning the carcase.

Table 3.4 : Species representation Iron Age, Milsom's Corner.

Species	**Early Iron Age**		**Middle Iron Age**		**Late IA**	
	NISP	**MNI**	**NISP**	**MNI**	**NISP**	**MNI**
Cattle	24	1	54	1	4	1
Pig	17	1	46	1		
S/G	35	2	146	4	1	1
Dog	1	1			2	1
Horse	1	1	3	1		
Large mammal	17		56		3	
Medium mammal	69		202		8	
Unidentified	230		671		17	
Total Main	**394**		**1178**		**35**	
Cat			1	1		
Mole			1	1		
Amphibian			1	1		
Bird			1	1		
Total	**394**		**1182**		**35**	

Again most areas of the skeleton are represented for each species, and spread across the feature types (mostly potholes and general layers). Figure 3.2 shows that within a more limited selection of context types, the distribution of species is fairly similar.

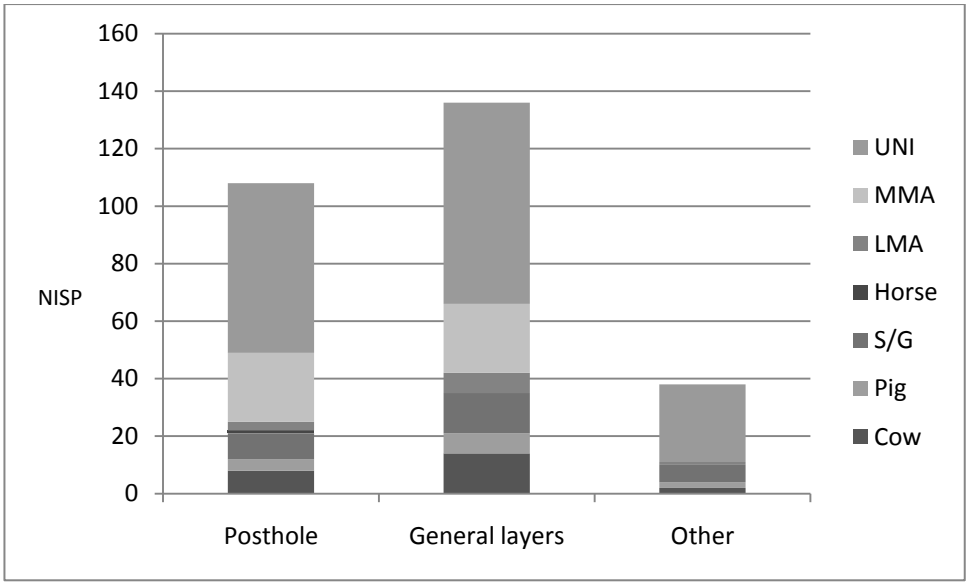

Figure 3.2: Species representation by feature type for the Early Iron Age, Milsom's Corner. N = 394

A few porous and unfused elements are present for sheep and medium sized mammals. A sheep mandible from context 2341 was aged at Grant MWS 34/Payne Stage F, that is, a young adult (2-4 years), whilst one from 1069 was slightly younger. A fragmentary cattle mandible from 1043 had the first molar visible but not yet erupting.

There is an appreciable change the intensity of activity in the Middle Iron Age, and there is at this point an obvious predominance of sheep, which is reflected in the counts for medium mammals. Cattle and pigs remain a significant proportion of the assemblage in roughly equal numbers; there is also a single representative of a fragmentary cat tibia, which may, or may not, be domestic. A mole bone is probably intrusive. The vast majority of material is from general and debris layers (Figure 3.3), which has contributed to its generally poor condition and high level of fragmentation. There is little difference in the representation of species between types of feature. This therefore seems to represent general occupation debris which was probably redeposited. The six remaining examples of canid gnawing in the assemblage date to this phase.

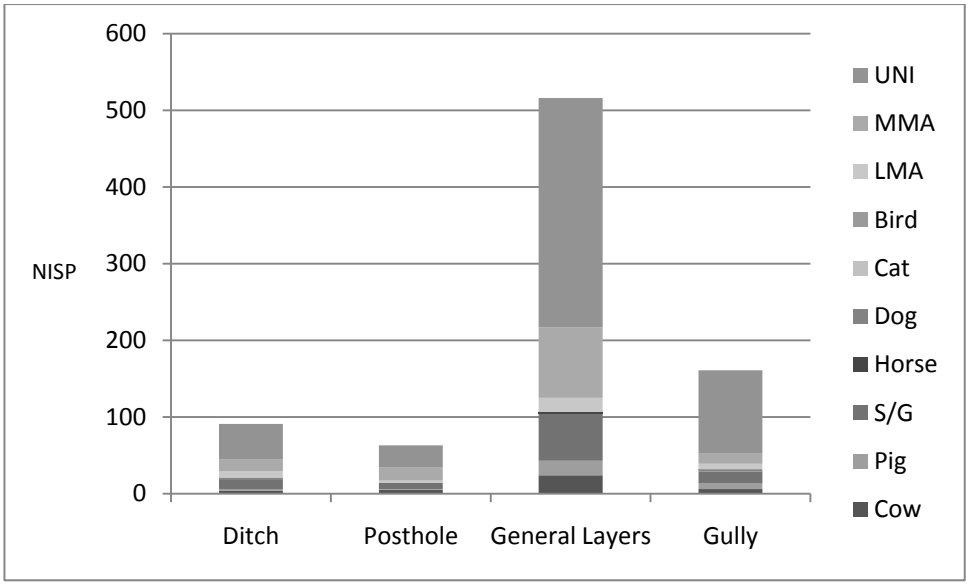

Figure 3.3: Species representation by feature type for the Middle Iron Age, Milsom's Corner. N = 1182

Very small amounts of porous bone of cattle, sheep and pig were present. A cattle mandible from 2281 had a Grant MWS score of 4, a very young juvenile of about a month old. Cattle breeding was evidently occurring nearby. A single sheep humerus was of neonatal size. This seems to represent rearing of the range of domestic livestock on or near the site. Butchery marks occur on a number of elements, all but one of them fine cuts, with a single heavier cut mark on an unidentified fragment. Most cuts seem to relate to disarticulation, with a couple possibly indicative of skinning.

The Late Iron Age assemblage is extremely small, and seems to represent a dramatic reduction in activity involving livestock this close to the hillfort. Butchery is indicated by a single light cut on a cattle metapodial.

A3.4.5 Metrical data

A number of metrics were taken and are presented here (Table 3.5) but not analysed. All measurements are in mm after von den Driesch (1976).

Table 3.5: Metrics, Milsom's Corner.

Context	Date	Species and Element			
1499	LBA	Cattle Astragalus	Bd 39.5	GLl 63.1	GLm 57.7
1819	EIA	Dog Max 1st molar	L 19.6	B 14.2	
1005	EIA	S/G Metacarpal	Bd 23.3	Bdf 22.5	Ddf 11.3
1004	MIA	S/G Tibia	Bd 22.9	Dd 18.8	
1004	MIA	S/G Humerus	Bd 25.9	BT 25.5	HT 17
1012	MIA	Pig Mandibular M3	L 33.1	B 16.6	
1016	MIA	Pig Mandibular M3	L 34.1	B 15.5	
1393	MIA	Dog Metatarsal	GL 42.6		

A3.4.6 Discussion of the Milsom's Corner assemblage

Whilst this is a small assemblage, especially once phasing is applied, there are some important observations and trends that inform a broader understanding of change in relations to animals over the longue durée. One of the major observations is the apparent late take up of sheep as the major component of the domestic animal population. On the evidence of Milsom's Corner, sheep are not a dominant domesticate, and certainly not when body mass is taken into account, until the Middle Iron Age. This may partly be due to the relatively low-lying position of the site and its aspect over the lowland, but should be considered in relation to the other SCEP sites. The domination of cattle and pig in the Neolithic contexts is entirely to be expected. The predominance of burned material in the pits is a common feature of these types of deposit across southern Britain. However, it seems to be at odds with the evidence of material from Neolithic pits on the hill, recorded, but not reported here. In those cases the material is largely unburned, so it is interesting that there appear to be two different practices occurring within such as short distance of one another, presumably reasonably closely related in time.

The lack of wild species throughout the use of the site is also unsurprising. There is a lack of associated bone groups on the site that have been recognised elsewhere in the study area, but this may well relate to the types of feature excavated, given that there is a bias to deposition of ABGs in pits at Sigwells Iron Age pit scatter. However, there are hints of a differential in the species representation in different features in the Middle and Late Bronze Age. Whilst structured deposition may not be as obvious as on other sites, there is a degree of depositional choice evident.

This assemblage is small but valuable, and any additional material that could be recovered from the site would enhance its value immeasurably. Given the increased quality, identifiability and reduced possibility of residuality that seems to occur in negative features such as pits and ditches, these features should be targeted in future excavation to maximise the data return. Additionally, targeting Neolithic features is a high priority due to the general scarcity of excavated examples of this type of non funerary or monumental site, especially in the southwest of Britain.

A3.4.7 Structural evidence

The area around the excavated portion of Milsom's Corner has been indicated by gradiometer survey and test pits to have been divided into land parcels several times. Fragmentary Early Bronze Age linears were cut through by a new Middle Bronze Age arrangement (Chapter 4 Figure 25) (Tabor 2008:58), indicating that the earlier alignments had fallen into disuse. A series of enclosures, drove ways and stock handling features, covering at least 12ha, were arranged around a spinal linear, which apparently acted as a route way for at least part of its length. The area may well have been much more extensive. A short length of ditch in the north eastern end of Milsom's Corner is at 90° to the main spinal linear and is in alignment with ditches in Homeground on the north slope of Cadbury (Figure 3.4). These ditches are fragmentary, but rectilinear in layout, and close together. Their form is obscured in the geophysical plot by the closeness of a sequence of burnt mounds, but date to the same phase. Settlement was dispersed with houses spread within the fields.

The degree to which the layout was the result of a single episode of construction or developed over time in an accretive fashion is not clear, as a limited area has been sampled, and its full extent only established from gradiometer plots. The fragmentary appearance of the system has been suggested by Tabor to be explicable by later destruction or lack of detectably magnetic material in the fills (2008:58). This has proved the case elsewhere in SCEP's survey area, and it seems that 'visible' parts of the system are closer to settlement. The repeated use by, or close confinement of, animals may have filled features with the magnetic residues of human activity and organic animal by-products.

The system is relatively open with no close boundaries around individual buildings. The houses are widely spaced (70-120 meters apart), and the governing principle of their location is proximity to the track. Tabor has suggested that a smaller structure may be ancillary and possibly used as shelter for animals over winter (2008:59). The general layout indicates separation of the enclosed space from the 'outside'. The south eastern end is a long curvilinear boundary that skirts around the base of a natural knoll. This respects the lie of the land, and deliberately 'includes' the knoll. At the western end, this boundary curves around to meet the north-south linear, and forms the eastern side of a broad funnelling entrance to the spinal track from the south. Recent gradiometry in fields to the south of this area (Randall 2009) (Figure 4) have failed to locate any indications of the continuation of an organised landscape on the alignment seen in Milsom's Corner, despite locating numerous features that probably relate to the medieval period and the Late Iron Age. The land is low lying and cut by a stream, the shifting palaeochannels of which are discernable in the gradiometry. Given the alluvial build up, it is likely that this low lying damp land provided productive summer meadowland, probably as unenclosed grazing. The funnel entrance is a commonly recognised method of gathering and droving animals, and it enters the system at a point of complexity.

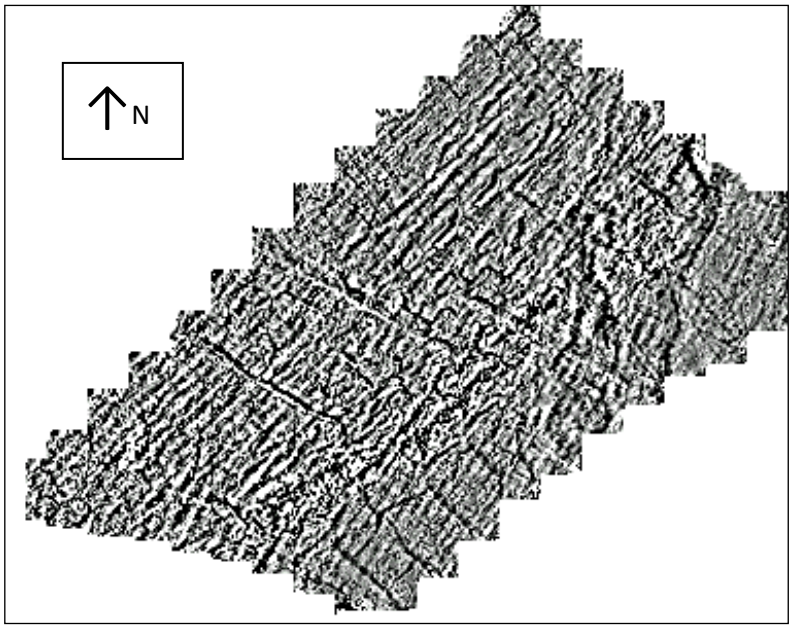

Figure 4.4 : Gradiometry, Great Almshouses, Parsonage Farm, Sutton Montis (after Randall 2009b, prepared by Liz Caldwell). This area directly south of MIlsom's Corner displays the shifting palaeochannels of the stream, than now lies along its southern edge. Other features are related to post-medieval drainage.

The coherence of the layout and apparent lack of intercutting implies that much of the Middle Bronze Age system was in contemporary use. The general layout seems to have major elements of three and possibly four parallel north-south ditches 80-100m apart; the fragmentary possible easterly example lies over the higher knoll area that is being actively destroyed by ploughing. It is possible that it extends further to the west, but the soils are much deeper as the land drops away. The known extent effectively occupies a gentle west facing slope that is bounded on the south, west and north by lower ground. A west-east linear lies across the centre of the known system perpendicular to the central track, and there are slight indications of other parallel west-east divisions. The land parcels would therefore be square or rectangular, roughly 1-2ha in extent. Additional short sections of cut features largely slot into this grid effect, most of them suggesting the handling of animals. The entrance to the system on the south side described above meets a point where several boundaries converge, but do not meet, effectively creating a series of corner gates in land parcels, another recognised feature of animal handling systems that is not required for arable agriculture.

One of these entrances leads into a square parcel of about 1ha on the western side which appears to have been formed by the intersection of several linears, but also contains additional subdivision and has a sharp dog leg entrance on the north western corner. It is suggested that this area may have served specifically as a collection point for animals, having access from both ends of the system and the central track, and being over-looked by all three of the known buildings. The double ditched nature of the central trackway does not appear to continue beyond this point to the north, but continues as a single boundary ditch. At its northern end, opposite the most northerly ring ditch, there is an area of segmented and slightly overlapping ditches that form a short, narrow funnel entrance leading from the western side to the north, into a land parcel to the south of the building on the eastern side of the linear. This is a much narrower entrance than many of the others, and may have been specifically designed for smaller livestock. The land parcel into which this leads also contains within it, aligned on and close to the central trackway a small sub-square enclosure, with no obvious structures within it, c25m x 25m. It has corner entrances on the north-east and south-east corners and half way along its southern side, where it appears to open into a track formed by the side of the enclosure on the north side and a parallel ditch on the south, aligned west-east. The scale of this enclosure and its entrances are more in keeping with handling sheep, and may have facilitated gathering and handling. It is tempting to see these enclosures arranged at the heart of the system as offering specific facilities for cattle on the one hand and sheep on the other, although the inter-changeability of pasturing different animals and utilisation of some areas for arable agriculture is likely.

In the Late Bronze Age, the enclosure on the knoll, created in the Middle Bronze Age, left an open ditch that had partly filled before stabilising. This was subsequently filled to the point that it was less than 30cm deep by a sequence of deliberate fills covered with a slowly accumulating silt (Tabor 2008:84). This seems indicative of a long period of reduced or lack of use in this part of the system. At this point there was however a ‘brief episode of intense activity in and around the enclosure’, which involved a series of complex deposits (Tabor 2008:84-5) which provided a radiocarbon date of 1050-830BC. It is likely that most of the deposits relate to a single event, with the backfilled ditch subsequently covered by the ring ditch of a house that was surrounded by a fence, and a possible additional adjacent house. The

Late Bronze Age structures at Milsom's Corner were replaced in the Early Iron Age by a roundhouse and areas of industrial activity (Chapter 4) (Tabor 2008:110). The line of the earlier enclosure appears to have been reworked with a fence line, attested by postholes and a bedding trench, with two more substantial posts at a gap in the bedding trench probably representing a gate positioned between the house and the slope leading up to the top of Cadbury (Tabor 2008: 111).

Extensive systems were established during the Middle Iron Age on the north-west facing slopes of Cadbury, and stretched to the west with a double ditched droveway leading along the clay ridge at Weston Bampfylde and a small probable settlement attached to the remnants of an earlier linear (Tabor 2008:114). The Milsom's Corner system occupies the slopes of Cadbury with a long boundary defining the south-eastern upslope side, dividing it off from the hill. Part of it is double ditched with corner gaps allowing entry into small rectilinear land parcels. It appears that a track leading up to the hillfort south west gate, which is much clearer in the Late Iron Age, was in use at this time, but enters the system at a 45° angle. The routeway is on the alignment of earlier boundaries and may well have been retained from much earlier periods. The southern end of the system retains the curvilinear funnelling system at the base of the knoll that had formed a major component of the Middle Bronze Age layout, and it seems likely that this continued to allow access from open grazing on the floodplain.

These boundaries continued into and may have been elaborated in the Late Iron Age. The arrangements of converging tracks meeting beneath the knoll before ascending Cadbury to enter the hillfort at the south west gate dominates the south of the system which has a regular and rectilinear arrangement on the north-eastern end in which roundhouses are scattered, and which includes fields with corner gates, possible double ditched tracks or races. The area to the south remained unenclosed. Other areas are irregular or rounded, with one large land parcel opposite the base of the track up the hillfort, with entrances at the corner where it meets the tracks, and possibly complex races and small pens within it, may relate to a stock corral. This would make sense as an area where animals were gathered either for trading between those visiting Cadbury or for consumption on the hill. Houses are placed within the system, in once case apparently attached to a linear. This nucleation, not only indicates a close proximity of people and animals but also opens the possibility that buildings were being used for stock shelter and housing, both components of a heavily integrated or intensive system.

Recent gradiometry on the west facing slopes 300m to the south of Cadbury have also produced anomalies that appear to be buried lynchets of fields with no ditches. An additional possibly Late Iron Age enclosure to the south of Milsom's Corner (Figure 3.5 (Randall 2009b)), is scheduled for limited excavation in April 2010.

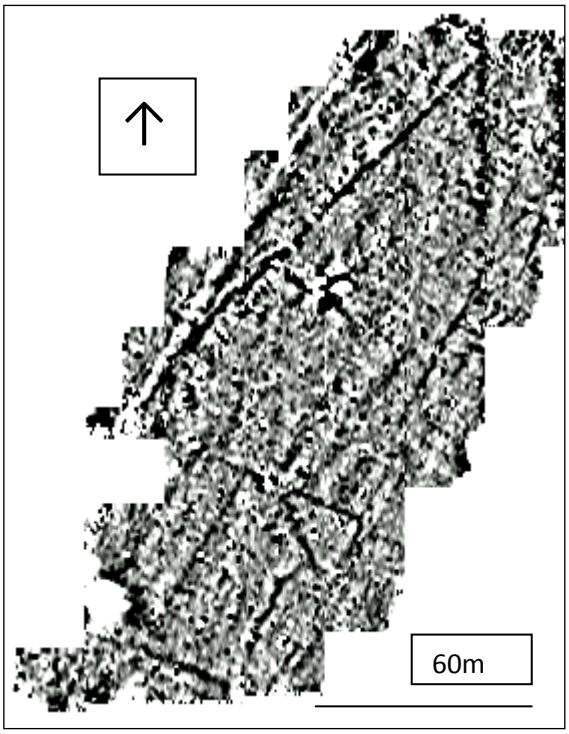

Figure 3.5 : Gradiometer survey, New Mead, Sutton Montis. A number of linear anomalies are present, with a sub-divided square enclosure in the southern part of the plot. This is extremely similar to examples dated to the Late Iron Age at Sigwells (after Randall 2009b, prepared by Liz Caldwell).

A3.5.0 Sigwells Bronze Age enclosure (Sigwells Trenches 8-10, 19)

The Middle/Late Bronze Age enclosure at Sigwells was excavated as two trial trenches and two more major excavations between 2001 and 2005. The area is on limestone on the ridge to the south of Cadbury Castle, about 1km distant, at c200m OD. The site consists of a rectangular enclosure with at least one recutting of the perimeter ditch which enclosed contemporary metalworking structures, features and debris. The main period of use of the site appears to be very short lived, with deliberate deconstruction and backfilling. Dating is currently reliant on pottery and metalwork typologies (extrapolated from weapon mould fragments). The pottery is of a Middle Bronze Age type, whilst the metal objects produced at the site were of Wilburton phase, so a date around 1150BC has been suggested. The majority of the animal bone from the site relates to three phases of activity (MBA I-III) identified by Richard Tabor. Features included scoops, postholes, the enclosure ditch and a large bath-shaped pit, dubbed the 'cooking pit' due to the relative amount of bone that it contained and the presence of large fragments of pots that had apparently been broken in situ. A consideration of the use of the enclosure and detailed examination of the structured deposition of a range of materials is included in Randall (forthcoming).

The Middle Bronze Age enclosure was aligned upon and re-cut an Early Bronze Age linear boundary that forms part of a large system of landscape division along the limestone ridge. The site also included a Middle Iron Age double ditched trackway that cut through the Bronze Age enclosure (it has evidently long disappeared from view). One of the ditches was then used in the Late Iron Age and Romano-British period. An additional Romano-British field ditch cut through the enclosure and the LIA ditches on a different alignment. All of these additional phases yielded small assemblages of animal bone which are also dealt with in this report.

A3.5.1 The Early Bronze Age

A very small amount of bone (Table 3.6) was recovered from undisturbed contexts within the Early Bronze Age linear ditch. This is not surprising given that there is no evidence for settlement nearby that is contemporary with the boundary system.

Table 3.6: Species representation, Early Bronze Age, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19.

Species	NISP	MNI
Cow	5	1
Sheep	3	1
Pig	2	1
Horse	1	1
Dog	1	1
Large mammal	4	
Medium mammal	2	
Unidentified	18	
Total Main	**36**	

This small group of material is difficult to interpret, but it is notable that 45% of the fragments identified to species are teeth. The vast majority of the bone is in poor-average condition, and

generally badly fragmented. Two bones stand out for their completeness and better condition are a cattle mandible and dog ulna. The cattle mandible was porous and had a MWS of 17 (a sub-adult, 18-37 months). It had been butchered, with a light cut laterally on the ascending ramus and two heavier converging cuts on the medial margin of the coronoid. This mandible had also been severely gnawed by dogs around the gonial angle, but was unweathered. It seems to represent discarded butchery waste. The dog ulna had also been gnawed on the proximal. None of the bone apart from the cattle jaw was porous and there was no information from fusion. The single pig lower canine indicates a male animal.

A3.5.2 The Middle/Late Bronze Age enclosure

A3.5.2.1 Species representation

Whilst there are indications of more than one phase in the cutting of the enclosure ditch, the material is considered in Table 3.7 as a whole, before being shown, broken down into the three 're-cut' phases in Table 3.8.

Table 3.7: Species representation and fragmentation and loose teeth for the entire Middle Bronze Age, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19.

Species	NISP	MNI	% of identified mammals	% loose teeth	% Main Species
Cow	55	4	26.44%	27%	27.36
Pig	27	3	12.98%	22%	13.43
Sheep	119	5	57.21%	17%	59.20
Dog	5	1	2.40%	40%	
Red deer	2	1	0.96%		
Large mammal	104				
Medium mammal	183				
Unidentified	504				
Total main	**999**				
Small mammals	2				
Bird	6				
Amphibians	3				
Total	**1010**				

Table 3.8 : Species representation for the three Middle Bronze Age phases and the total MBA, which includes Middle Bronze Age contexts that cannot be more closely assigned, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19.

Species	MBA1		MBA2		MBA3		Total MBA	
	NISP	MNI	NISP	MNI	NISP	MNI	NISP	MNI
Cow	4	1	43	4	6	1	55	4
Pig			25	2	2	1	27	3
Sheep	8	2	100	5	9	1	119	5
Dog			4	1			5	1
Red deer			2	1			2	1
Large mammal	8		80		16		104	
Medium mammal	11		149		21		183	
Unidentified	7		456		30		504	
Total Main	**38**		**859**		**84**		**999**	
Small mammals			2				2	
Bird			6				6	
Amphibians			3				3	
Total	38		870		84		1010	

Only 22% of the assemblage could be identified to species, a small total identifiable assemblage of 219. The proportions of loose teeth seem to indicate similar treatment between species.

A3.5.2.2 Element representation

All regions of the body are represented for the three main species as shown in Figure 3.6. A lack of speciated ribs and skull fragments accounts for the large proportion of these elements that have been assigned to the large and medium mammal categories. In general terms the representation of sheep and cattle is similar.

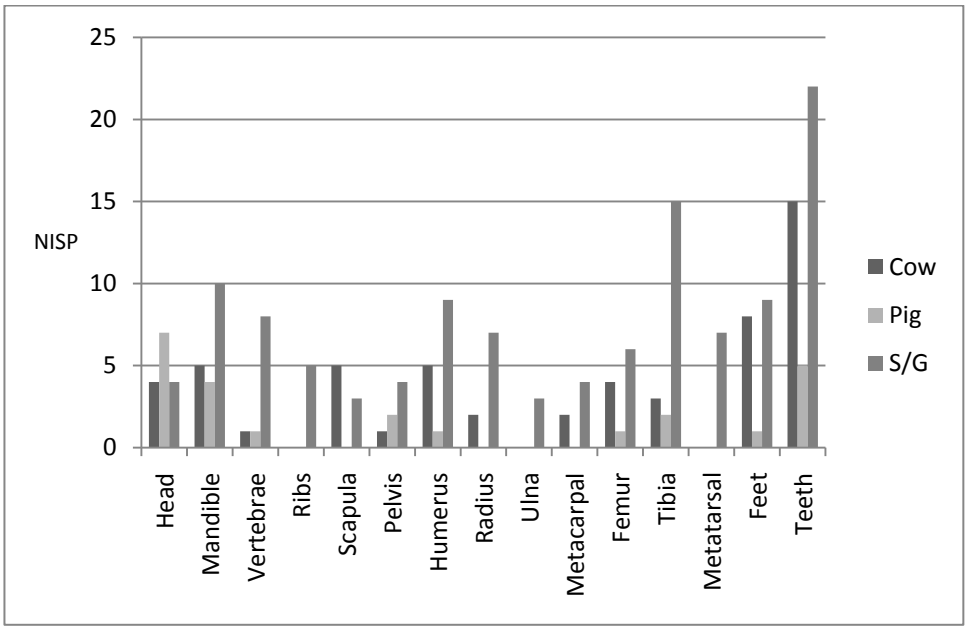

Figure 3.6 : Element representation for the main three domestic species Sigwells Trench 8,9,19, . N = 201

The proportion of loose teeth for all three species is indicative of the general brokenness of the assemblage. Although the assemblage is small, pig seems to be mainly represented by limb bones and the head, with a lack of axial elements and bones from the lower part of front and back limbs. This might imply that pig meat had been portioned before arrival on site, although the numbers are very low and many of these elements are more prone to fragmentation.

A3.5.2.3 Element and species distribution

The distribution of material was examined between features. This was divided between material from the enclosure ditch, the 'cooking pit' feature, postholes and other cuts and scoops within the interior of the enclosure. Figure 3.7 shows that there is a considerable skew of distribution against excavated volume. The assemblage from the 'cooking pit' dominates, producing more material than all of the other features of the interior combined and the enclosure ditch, the excavated volume of which was many times that of the pit. The amount of material from the postholes is very slight given their number.

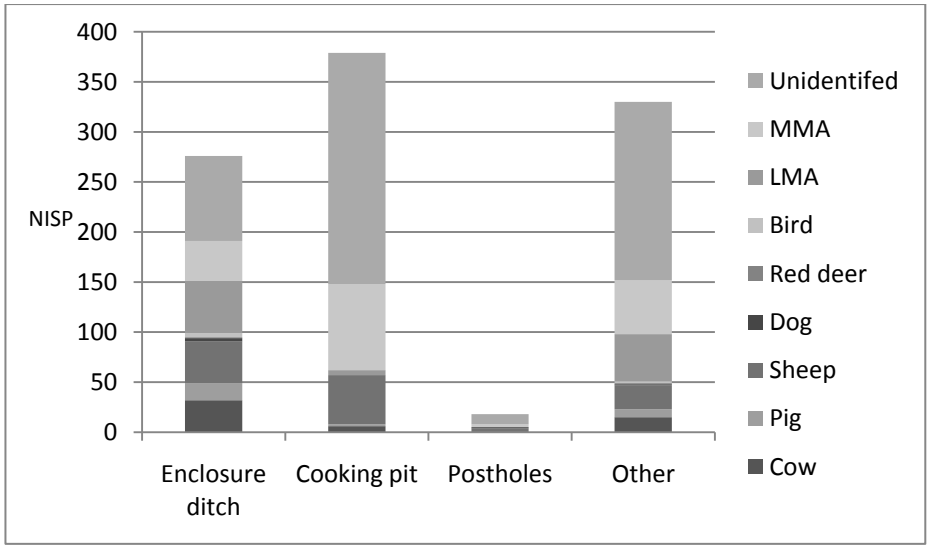

Figure 3.7 : Species representation within the enclosure ditch, cooking pit, postholes and other features within the interior (mainly scoops), Sigwells Trench 8,9,19. N = 1005

Whilst there are similarities in the distribution of species between the enclosure ditch and the other interior features, excepting a slight increase in cattle and large mammal fragments in the ditch (possibly a function of their size), the 'cooking pit' stands out as having different content than both. Whilst the proportion of unidentified material is elevated, it is noticeable that there is very little cattle and a very high proportion of sheep/goat and medium mammal fragments (mainly vertebra and ribs). Cattle are only represented by loose teeth in the upper fill. The lack of pig in this feature is also notable.

Figure 3.8 shows the proportion of identified elements compared to unidentified long bones and unidentified material. There is a slightly higher proportion of identifiable material in the ditch whilst the degree of unidentifiable material in the interior features, in particular the cooking pit may attest to greater degrees of processing.

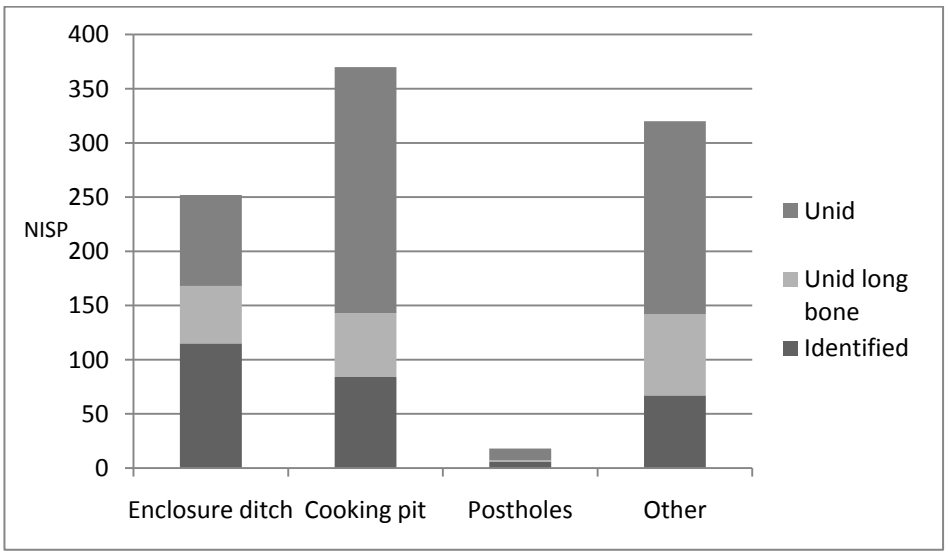

Figure 3.8 : Element representation within the enclosure ditch, cooking pit, postholes and other features within the interior, showing identified elements, long bone fragments unidentified to species and unidentified fragments, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19. N = 1005

When considering the distribution of elements across features (Figure 3.9), there is a noticeable elevation of loose teeth in the interior features, and smaller numbers of a variety of other identifiable elements. This implies that the material entering the scoops and cuts that comprise this group of features may have been subject to greater amounts of trampling or re-deposition. The material in the enclosure ditch seems to represent most areas of the body fairly evenly, and as such may represent a general selection of rubbish. In the 'cooking pit', a large proportion of the material is accounted for by vertebrae and ribs with a lack of distal limb bones, although most parts of the skeleton are represented. This may support the idea that the 'cooking pit' was associated with a single event of consumption.

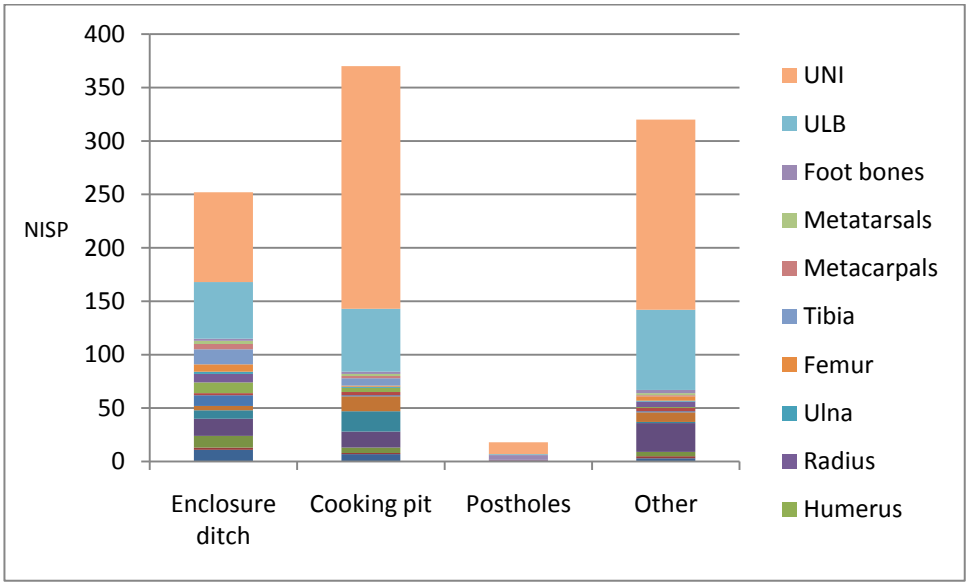

Figure 3.9 : Element representation within the enclosure ditch, cooking pit, postholes and other features within the interior, for identified elements, by element group, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19. N = 1005

A3.5.2.4 Sheep/goat

Age and population structure

Where it could be determined between sheep and goat, in all cases the element belonged to sheep. Only a single sheep mandible could be aged, MWS 36 (young adult 2-4 years). Only four sheep fragments were porous, and fusion is shown in Table 3.9.

Table 3.9 : Fusion Data **sheep/goat Middle Bronze Age, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19.**

Fusion date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing: 6-10 months	Acetabulum	4	0
6-8 months	Glenoid	2	0
10 months	Humerus distal	3	1
10 months	Radius Proximal	1	0
Later fusing: 18-24 months	Tibia distal	3	1
18-24 months	Metacarpal distal	1	1
20-28 months	Metatarsal distal	2	1
Late Fusing: 36-42 months	Femur Distal	2	1
36 months	Radius distal	1	0
36-42months	Tibia proximal	0	1

Whilst a number of animals under the age of two years are represented, it appears that most of the animals in the assemblage are older. There is no evidence for the youngest animals or production of sheep on or near the site.

Butchery

Only three fragments of sheep bone had cut marks, all of thm light cuts. The glenoid of a scapula and an ulna had single cuts, while a pelvic fragment had four parallel cuts across the auricular surface. It is assumed that all of these are related to dismemberment of the carcase.

Metrics

A number of measurements could be taken. These are presented here in Table 3.10 but not analysed.

Table 3.10 : Metrical data, sheep/goat, Middle Bronze Age, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19.

Context	Element	Side							
TR10 061	Astragalus	left	Bd 17.4	GLl 26.1	GLm 25.7				
TR10 061	Astragalus	right	Bd 17.6	GLl 26.3	GLm 25.5				
TR 9 011	Humerus	left	Bd 27.4	BT 25.8					
TR10 054	Humerus	left	Bd 27.5	BT 26.6	HT 17.4				
TR10 048	Humerus	left	Bd 25.2	BT 25.1	HT 16.1				
TR10 054	Metacarpal	right	Bd 22	Bdf 22	Bp 19.2	Ddf 12.2	Dp 14.2	GL 117.7	SD 11.3
TR10 054	Metatarsal	right	Bd 21.8	Bdf 20.8	Bp 18	Ddf 12.7	Dp 14.7	GL 129.4	SD 10.2
TR19 078	Metatarsal	left	Bd 21.19	Bdf 21	Bp 18.23	Ddf 11.85	GL 131	SD 9.97	
TR10 054	Scapula	right	BG 19.4	GLP 28.9	LG 22.6				

A3.5.2.5 Cattle

Age and population structure

One metacarpal assessed by Howard's Index (metrics below) was assessed as coming from a female. Ageing information for cattle is extremely limited. An extremely well preserved cattle jaw from context TR8 025 in the enclosure ditch had all its teeth erupted but they had been lost post mortem. Two other fragmentary mandibles, also from the ditch fill (TR8 019 and TR9 011) both have estimated MWS of around 44-46, placing them both in the old adult category (>40 months). A single porous cattle fragment was recorded, and as Table 3.11 shows there is no evidence for unfused early fusing elements. This implies that it is unlikely that cattle were being raised on the site, with mature cattle being exploited for meat.

Table 3.11: Fusion Data, pig, Middle Bronze Age, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19.

Fusion date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing: 7-10 months	Acetabulum	1	0
7-10 months	Glenoid	2	0
12-18 months	Humerus distal	1	0
12-18 months	Radius Proximal	1	0
Later fusing: 24-30 months	Metacarpal distal	1	**0**

Butchery

Butchery was noted on six cattle elements. The majority of cuts were very light, with the exception of a chop through the transverse process of a thoracic vertebra. Two scapulae had light cuts, one with two cuts across the blade and another three cuts on the glenoid. A radius had a light cut on the proximal end, and a mandible four parallel transverse cuts below the mandibular condyle. All of these seem to relate to disarticulation. One femur had 18 parallel transverse cuts across the shaft. It is assumed that this related to removal of meat from the bone.

Metrics

A number of measurements could be taken. These are presented here in Table 3.12 but not analysed.

Table 3.12 : Metrical data for cattle, Middle Bronze Age, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19.

Context	Element	Side							
TR19 080	Astragalus	right	Bd 35.4	GLl 56.0	GLm 52.2				
TR19 080	Metacarpal	right	Bd 52.9	Bdf 49.1	Bp 52.3	Ddf 25.1	Dp 33.2	GL 190	SD 27.3
TR19 082	Scapula	right	BG 42.3	GLP 57.6	LG 50.4				

A3.5.2.6 Pig

Age and population structure

No sexing information is available for pigs. A single pig mandible could be aged and presented a MWS of 1, that is, a neonate of a maximum of a few weeks of age. Several mandibles, skull and a single vertebra fragment were porous. The limited data given in Table 3.13 seems to indicate that there are no animals present over the age of 42 months.

Table 3.13 : Fusion Data, cattle, Middle Bronze Age, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19.

Fusion date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing: 12 months	Acetabulum	1	0
12 months	Humerus distal	1	0
Late Fusing: 42 months	Femur Distal	0	1
42 months	Femur Proximal	0	1
24-30 months	Calcaneus	0	1

Butchery

Two examples of butchery were noted on pig bone. Both were heavy cuts at an oblique angle to the bone on a tibia and a pelvis and relate to portioning the carcase.

Metrics

There were no measurable elements of pig.

A3.5.2.7 Other species

No horse bones were identified in the Middle Bronze Age assemblage. Five dog fragments were recovered, three from the enclosure ditch. There was no porous bone and all epyphyses present were fused. Condition was recorded as average-good or good for all fragments.

One measurement was possible for dog and is given in Table 3.14.

Table 3.14: Metrics for dog, Middle Iron Age, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19.

Context	Element	
TR19 090	Metacarpal	GL 31.42

Two elements from red deer were noted, one a pelvis fragment with eburnation and ostephytes at the acetabulum from the enclosure ditch, and an antler fragment from a feature in the interior. This low representation of wild species is entirely in keeping with other prehistoric sites in the Cadbury area.

A number of bird bones were identified, most from the enclosure ditch, and fragmentary in nature. One ulna could be identified as similar to sparrow. Most of this bone was probably accidental inclusion. Three amphibian bones were recorded, one probably toad. Two small mammal bones were also recorded, one mandible identified as field vole (*Microtus agrestis*).

A3.5.2.8 Taphonomic observations

Figure 3.10 shows the differences in general condition scores between features. The enclosure ditch has material in a range of conditions. The cooking pit appears to have more material that is of average or better condition; this may support rapid incorporation. However, the other interior features have a much higher proportion of poor and poor-average material, and agrees with other information on fragmentation in these features mentioned above.

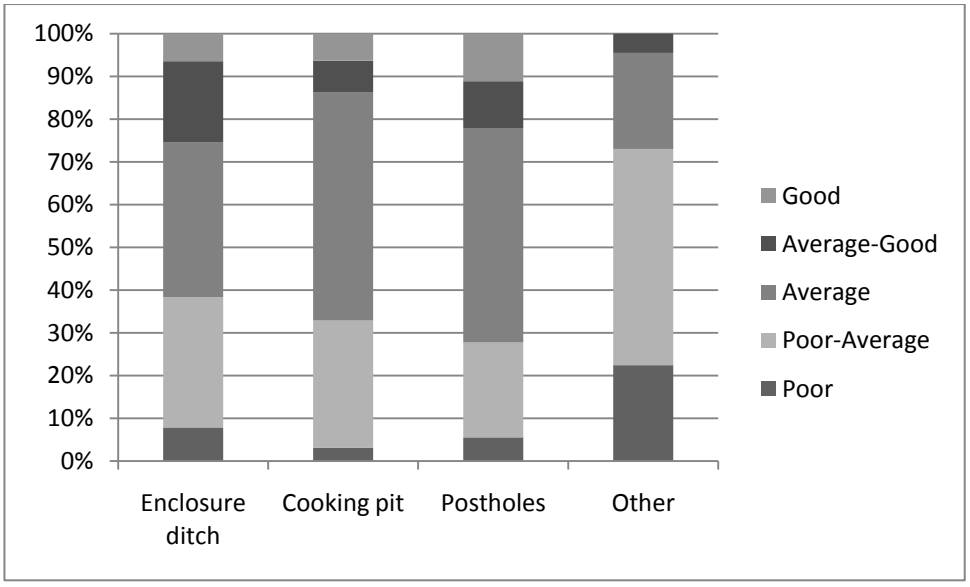

Figure 3.10 : The condition of material by depositional feature, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19. N = 1011

Figure 3.11 shows the greater percentage of poor and poor-average fragments in the phase MBA3 deposits. It is assumed that this is material that was exposed for longer and redeposited. The generally better condition of the MBA2 material seems to indicate reasonably rapid deposition.

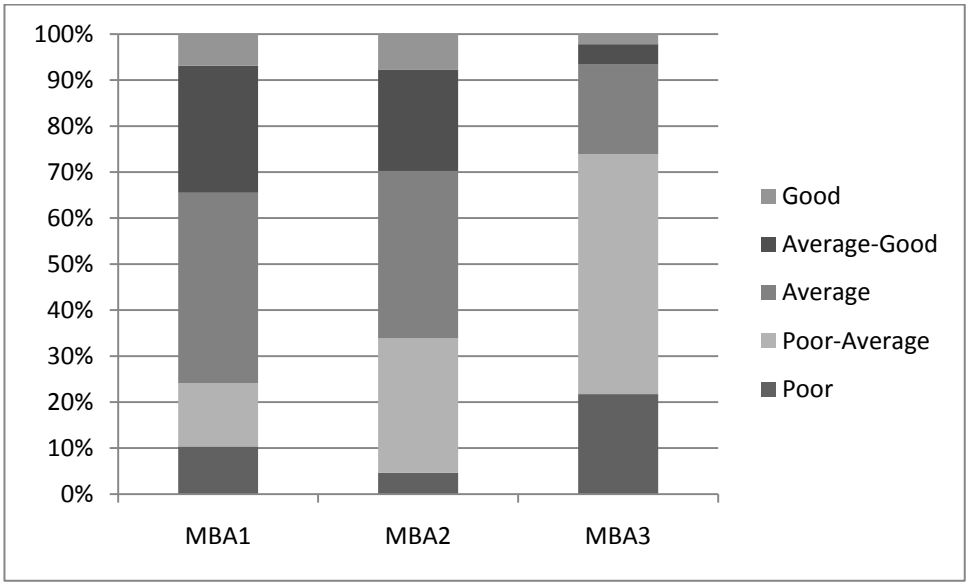

Figure 3.11 : The condition of animal bone deposited in the enclosure ditch, divided by phase, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19. N = 270

Figure 3.12 gives the relative proportions of burned, weathered and gnawed materials in the enclosure ditch divided into the three phases of its use and filling. The proportion of weathered material in phases MBA1 and MBA3 might indicate that these are slower accumulating silts, or material that has spent more time on the surface prior to incorporation. The considerable quantity of burnt material in the second phase, could support the idea that this major episode of filling was associated with the active occupation of the site.

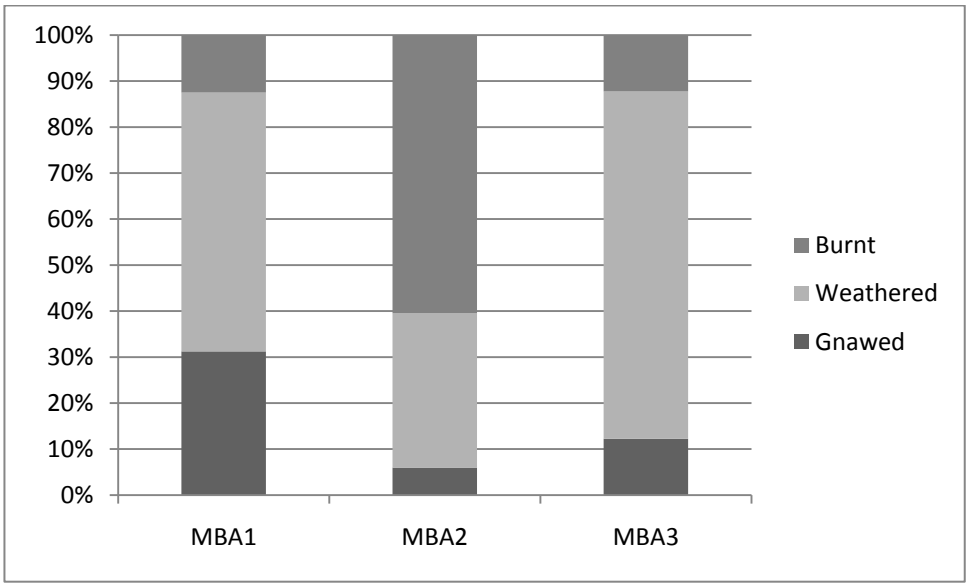

Figure 3.12 : Proportion of burnt weathered and gnawed material divided by phase, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19. N = 581

However, in general terms (see Figure 3.13 and Table 3.15) there is less burned material in the enclosure ditch when compared to the cooking pit and the interior features. The small amount of gnawed material and reduced amount of weathered material supports rapid incorporation in this feature. The increase in gnawed material in the ditch may indicate material that was available for longer, or might relate to disposal of larger species there which were not completely destroyed by dogs.

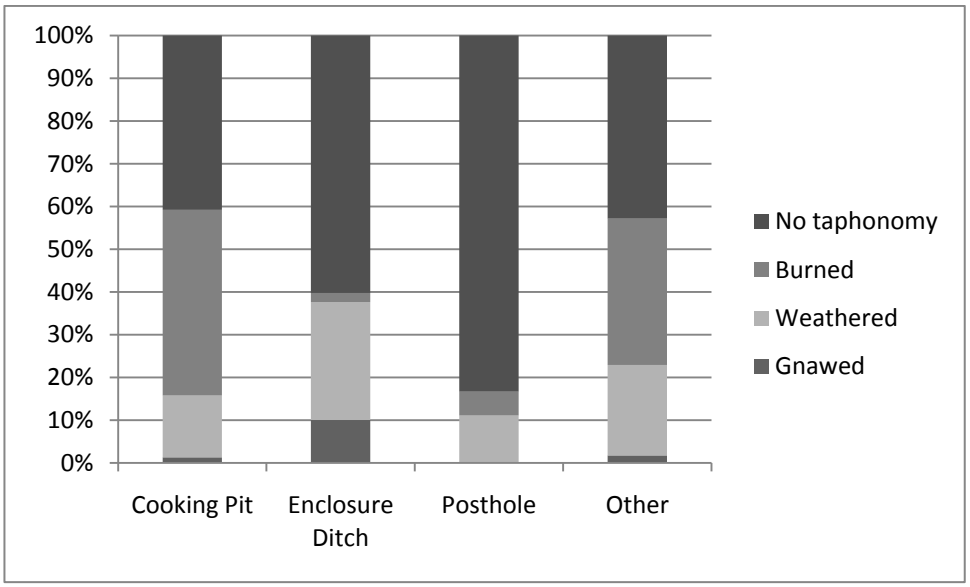

Figure 3.13 : Proportions of burned weathered and gnawed material, and that showing no taphonomic indicators divided by feature type, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19. N = 1013

Table 3.15 : Numbers and percentages of gnawed, weathered and burned fragments divided by feature type.

Feature	Gnawed		Weathered		Burned		Total fragments
Cooking pit	5	1.3%	55	14.5%	165	43.4%	380
Enclosure ditch	28	10%	77	27.6%	6	2.2%	279
Posthole	0	0	2	11.1%	1	5.6%	18
Other	6	1.8%	71	21.1%	115	34.2%	336

A3.5.2.9 General observations on the Bronze Age assemblage

This is a small assemblage, but there are distinct patterns in the deposition of material between features, particularly in the case of the 'cooking pit' material which could represent the results of a single episode involving the consumption of sheep meat. There is nothing to indicate that animals were being produced on or near the site (apart from a neonatal pig), so it is possible that adult animals came to the site on the hoof, or in the case of pigs, possibly as joints, although the sample is extremely small. The predominance of sheep is not surprising, but the proportion of cattle seems low compared with other Bronze Age sites. Sheep have, however, not apparently reached the predominance that we see in this area in the Iron Age, and taking into account the relative size of carcases, cow may still have been most economically important. This lends interest to the choice of sheep meat for the 'cooking pit' deposit. As is normally the case in this area, there is very low representation of wild species; further consideration needs to be given to other finds that came from the same contexts.

A3.5.3 The Iron Age

The small amounts of material assigned to the Middle and Late Iron Age are shown in Table 3.16. There is little that can be drawn from the species representation, but it should be noted the very high proportion, especially of the Middle Iron Age material, of loose teeth. This material is evidently re-deposited from elsewhere, unsurprising given that it all came from boundary ditches. This could derive from the Bronze Age phase, or may have been spread during manuring, given the distance from contemporary settlement. Four fragments were gnawed, six weathered, but none burnt. No material was measureable.

Table 3.16 : Species representation for the Middle and Late Iron Age, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19. Loose teeth are indicated in brackets.

	MIA		LIA	
Species	**NISP**	**MNI**	**NISP**	**MNI**
Cow	7 (3)	1	2	1
Pig	1 (1)	1	2	1
S/G	10 (10)	1	3 (2)	1
Horse	2 (1)	1		
Large mammal	3		1	
Medium mammal	12			
Unidentified	73		20	
Total Main	**108**		**28**	
Bird	1	1		
Total	**109**		**28**	

A3.5.4 The Romano-British material

Table 3.17 gives species representation for the Romano-British period and from deposits dating either to the Iron Age or Romano-British period.

Table 3.17: Species representation for the Iron Age/Romano-British and Romano-British periods, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19.

	IA/RB		RB	
Species	**NISP**	**MNI**	**NISP**	**MNI**
Cow	12 (5)	1	18 (16)	1
S/G	17 (13)	1	28 (15)	1
Pig	4 (3)	1	13 (3)	2
Horse	4 (4)	1		
Dog	3	1		
Large mammal	55		20	
Medium mammal	16		40	
Unidentified	114		163	
Total main	**225**		**282**	
Bird	1	1		
Water Vole			1	1
Total	226		283	

Again, a very high proportion of the identified material is accounted for by loose teeth, and there are a number of tooth fragments among the unidentified material. This material is also likely to contain some redeposited bone. The proportions of elements displaying taphonomic

markers are shown in Table 3.18. Several pig bones from the Romano-British deposits seem to form an associated bone group. A pig mandible was the only one that could be aged and gave a MWS of 23, that is a sub-adult (1-2 years).

Table 3.18 : Taphonomic information for the IA/RB and Romano-British periods. Sigwells Trench 8,9,19 Percentage in brackets.

	Gnawing	Weathering	Burning
IARB	8 (3.5%)	7 (3.1%)	5 (2.2%)
RB	8 (2.8%)	2 (0.7%)	18 (6.4%)

Two fragments from the Iron Age/Romano-British deposits were measured and are given in Table 19.

Table 3.19: Metrical data, Iron Age/Romano-British, Sigwells Trench 8,9,19.

Context	Species	Element		
TR19 074	Dog	1st Molar	GL 21.84	
TR19 074	Pig	1st molar	GL 17.6	Breadth 13.9

A3.5.5 Structural evidence

At Sigwells, a number of long, parallel earlier Bronze Age linear ditches, have been identified. In Sigwells Trench 16 the northernmost parallel was cut by the Sigwells North barrow. Three of the parallel sections of boundary have been excavated (Sigwells Trenches 10, 12, 16, 17, 19) indicating that they were broad and relatively shallow (Figure 3.14). The area that is most clearly understood is on the level ground of the escarpment, but the land drops away to the north-west and south-east, and it appears that the boundaries continue into these areas. Neither are they aligned along the edge of the escarpment.

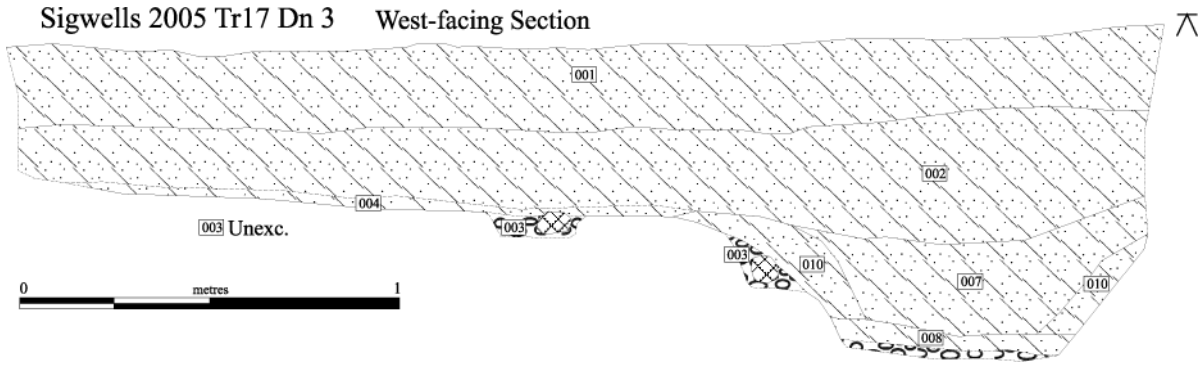

Figure 3.14 : Section drawing, Sigwells Trench 17 linear (After SCEP archive prepared by Peter Wright).

Figure 3.15 shows one of the linears as a faint extension on the northern edge of the later Bronze Age enclosure in Sigwells trenches 8-10 and 19 . This enclosure was aligned on the earlier ditch. Where the main linear continues it is continuous, but is paralleled for a distance of around 20m by a second more segmented linear, which could allow passage from one side of the linear to the other, and in the parallel section, being separated by about 2m, could

facilitate the handling of animals. The Middle Bronze Age enclosure appears to have existed in a largely unenclosed landscape.

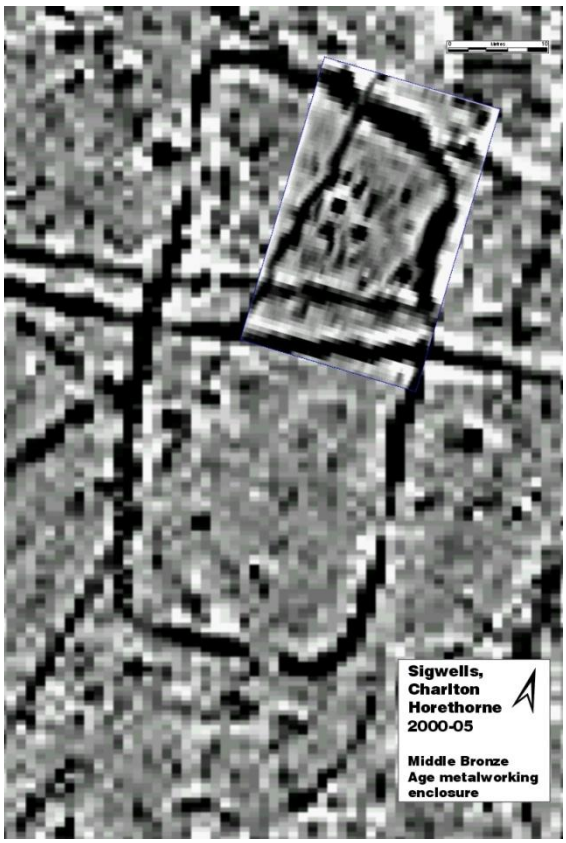

Figure 3.15 : Rectilinear Middle Bronze Age enclosure eastern Sigwells, gradiometry (SCEP Archive).

A3.6.0 Crissell's Green

The site at Crissell's Green is in the base of the South Cadbury Valley, at the bottom of Littleton Hill on the opposite side of the valley to the hillfort and south east of its eastern entrance. It was on a very slightly raised terrace above the original valley floor. Identified by geophysical survey, it comprised a ring ditch c20m in diameter. Excavated in 2002 it failed to provide suitably diagnostic material to categorically identify the period it belonged to and its purpose, with dates suggested for the limited pottery varying from the earlier Neolithic to the Iron Age. An additional trench was therefore excavated by the author in the autumn of 2008. This established that the feature was the ring ditch of a Bronze Age barrow (with some scraps of pottery identifiable as Middle Bronze Age), that had seen some reuse in the Iron Age (probably including a fragmentary crouched human burial in the ditch), that resulted in the levelling of the barrow and the infilling of the ditch. A series of ashy scoops were then created across the area, before a ploughsoil containing Romano-British pottery was established. A series of samples is currently undergoing radiocarbon dating to provide a more exact phasing scheme.

This is an extremely small assemblage given the span of time that it covers. It is presented here for the sake of completeness and to demonstrate the very limited involvement of animal remains in the activities that occurred at this site, either in its primary phase of use or when reused. It is worth noting that all classes of finds were scarce, with very little badly eroded pottery, and few diagnostic flints.

A3.6.1 Species Representation

The small number of animal bones are given in Table 3.20.

Table 3.20 : Fragment counts, all periods Crissells Green.

	Bronze Age		**Iron Age**		**Romano-British**	
Species	**NISP**	**MNI**	**NISP**	**MNI**	**NISP**	**MNI**
Cow	3		11	1	9	1
Pig			1	1	2	1
Sheep/Goat	1		1	1	3	1
Dog			1			
Large mammal	1		7		3	
Medium mammal	2		2		4	
Unidentified	36		97		65	
Total	**43**		120		86	

A3.6.2 Bronze Age

Very few fragments were recovered from the basal silts and lower fills of the barrow ditch. Whilst condition was not good, neither was it as poor as in subsequent periods, which may indicate more rapid incorporation. The cattle humerus and pelvic fragments from context 021 were accompanied by fragments of a human mandible (see Randall 2004:24) which as similarly fragmentary. Given the small amount of material, it is suspected that whilst the material was

grouped together, and immediately interesting as it was obviously more complete and in larger fragments that all of the other bone from the site, it may not represent a deliberate deposit. It may well be material that was disturbed and made its way into the ditch. This, however may indicate that cattle were in some way related to funerary ritual in the area in the Bronze Age. There was no porous bone present; a single cattle maxillary molar was deciduous and unworn, whilst a sheep/goat maxillary permanent molar was worn.

A3.6.3 Iron Age

This small and largely unidentifiable collection of material came from the upper fills of the barrow ditch and a series of scoops cut into them. The upper fills of the ditch are rapid high volume deposits that are considered to represent deliberately re-deposited material, some of it possibly from the original barrow mound or material that accumulated on and around it. The fragmentary nature of the bone and the poor condition of most of it is probably a result of the local soil type (a human burial that marks the boundary between the lower and upper ditch fills was badly degraded with most of it only present as a stain), but also mechanical breakage from having been moved. Seven of the fourteen fragments identifiable to species were loose teeth. The higher proportion of cattle and large mammal elements may be due to this, although if it were Bronze Age in origin, cattle would be more expected. If this is the case, this material may represent Bronze Age bone that has been re-deposited in the Iron Age. A single cattle scapula was fused at the glenoid, whilst several cattle maxillary molars were either worn or very worn. There was no porous bone.

A3.6.4 Romano-British

This is an extremely small assemblage about which little can be said. It is telling however, how few fragments could be identified to species (14) and of those, the number of loose teeth (10). Even the teeth were largely fragmentary, and much of the assemblage was scored as 'poor' for bone condition. The apparently larger number of cattle elements is probably entirely related to relative robustness. It is possible that this material, in actuality from what was assumed to be a Romano-British plough horizon, and supporting its identification, may have been redeposited Iron Age material. Very little information is available about the animals themselves, but a single cattle tibia was fused distally. A fragmentary sheep/goat Dp4 was worn. There was no porous bone.

One measurement was possible and this is supplied in Table 3.21.

Table 3.21: Metrics, Crissell's Green

Species	Element		
Cattle	Tibia	Bd 63.6	Dd42.4

A3.6.5 Structural Information

A very early ditch underlay the ring ditch at Crissells Green and may be Early Bronze Age in origin. Resurvey by gradiometer of the area prior to the 2008 excavation shows the underlying

ditch (Figure 3.16). The fills were lacking in organic material and similar to other very early ditches excavated by SCEP. The areas is low lying and streams occur within 100m. Tabor identified a hollow way that may commence in this period in the South Cadbury Valley, leading across Crissell's Green and Littleton, between the stream in the valley, up onto the hilltop to the east (2008:54).

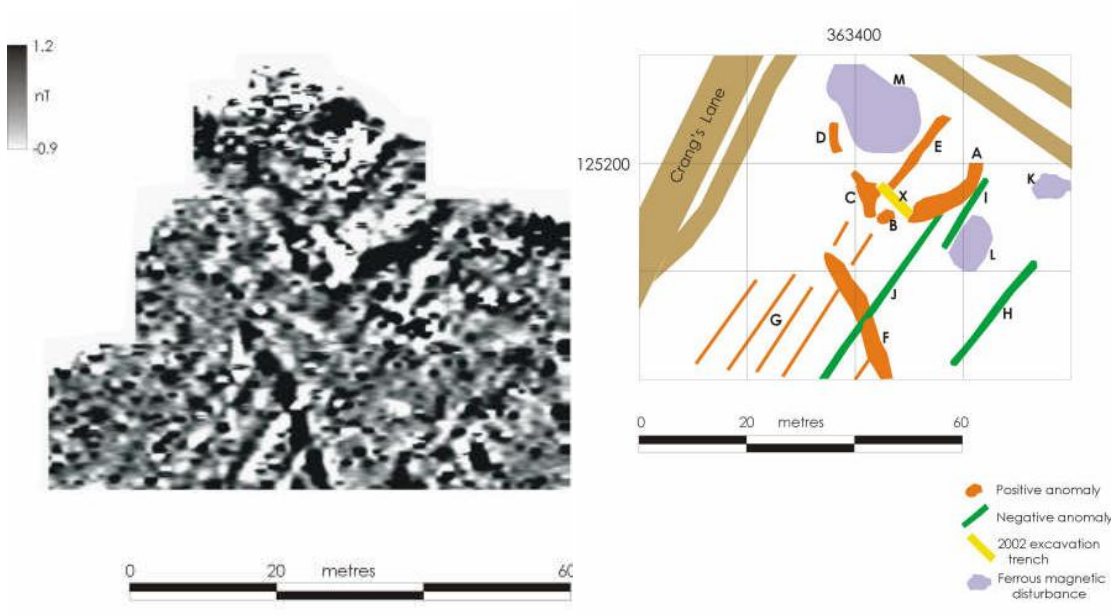

Figure 3.16 : Crissell's Green gradiometry. The early ditch is point E on the interpretation (From Caldwell 2008).

A3.7.0 Sheep Slait

The site at Sheep Slait, Poyntington Down, Dorset comprises a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age ringwork on a limestone ridge 4km south of Cadbury Castle. It is on the false crest of a spur above two steep dry valleys to the east and west and a spring that is the source of the River Yeo to the south. Parts of the interior and sections across both terminals of the enclosure ditch were sectioned in 2006. Small test pits had been dug in the autumn of 2005 and the results are combined here with the main assemblage, as one in particular had begun to sample the upper layers of the enclosure ditch. The fills of features relating to the original phase of the site use contained pottery identical to that seen on the hillfort and referred to there as Cadbury 4 and 5-6, Late Bronze Age, and Early Iron Age. The enclosure had fallen out of use, but been reused in the Middle Iron Age with the erection of a round house in the centre of the probably barely visible enclosure, immediately overlying earlier buildings and pits.

A3.7.1 General observations

Despite the excavated area and volume this was not a large assemblage. Numerically the material from the easterly ditch terminal was dominant, and there are reasons to believe that this was a particular deposit that may not have been replicated in other areas of the ditch circuit. Not only was the animal bone accompanied by considerable quantities of decorated pottery, but also particular items such as quern fragments, oddly shaped stone, worked bone objects, a bronze ring and a quartz crystal that must have been imported from some distance away. Although the other terminal was not bottomed during excavation, it did not contain anything akin to the eastern one at a similar depth, and the fills were of an entirely different character. It is possible therefore that the assemblage has been skewed by the nature of the deposit that produced the majority of the bone.

The bone was, although scarce and heavily fragmented, in relatively good condition. Given the number of small unidentified fragments recorded and the extensive wet sieving regime carried out on this site, it is thought that the rate of recovery was good and this is a reasonable reflection of the original assemblage.

A3.7.2 Early Iron Age

A3.7.2.1 Species Representation

The representation of species in the Early Iron Age assemblage is given in Table 3.22. A large proportion could not be identified to species, but the numbers of the main domestic species are large enough to be relatively reliable.

Table 3.22: Species counts, Early Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Species	NISP	MNI	% of identified mammals	% loose teeth	% Main Species
Cow	85	3	5.64	21.18	25.60
Pig	132	9	8.76	37.12	39.76
Sheep	115	7	7.64	11.30	34.64
Dog	3	2	0.20		
Horse	6	2	0.40		
Large mammal	175		11.62		
Medium mammal	306		20.32		
Unidentified	684		45.42		
Total main	**1507**				
Red Deer	1				
Small mammals	6				
Bird	2				
Total	**1515**				

A3.7.2.2 Element Representation

The distribution of elements of the three main species throughout the body is shown in Figure 3.17. Whilst cattle and sheep/goat have a reasonably evenly distributed selection of elements, pig is dominated by head elements and teeth, indicating the degree of fragmentation that they have suffered compared to the other two species. The percentage of loose teeth given above is considerably elevated for pig.

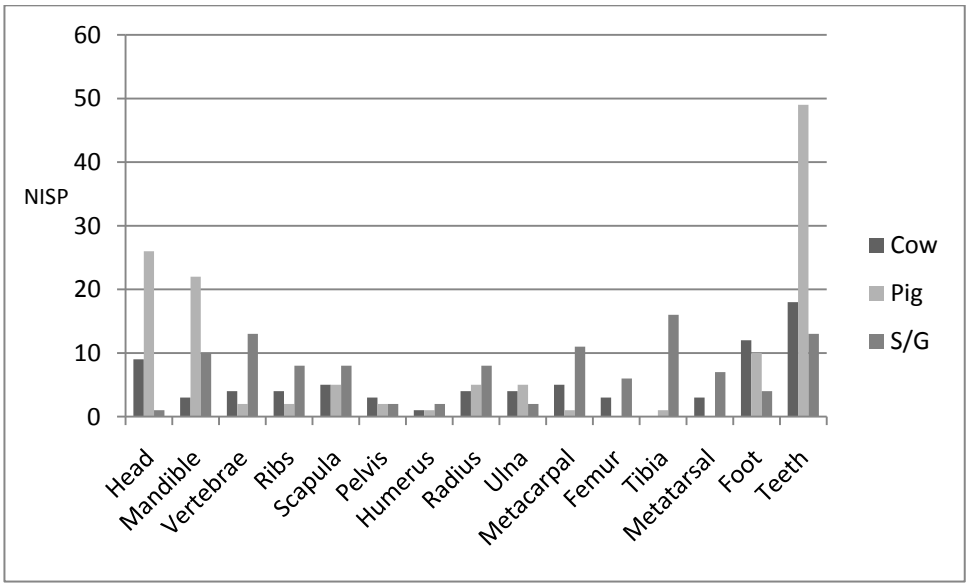

Figure 3.17: Distribution of elements for cattle, pig, sheep/goat, Early Iron Age, Sheep Slait. N =332

A3.7.2.3 Element and Species Distribution

Virtually all of the Early Iron Age material came from the deposits in the eastern terminal of the enclosure ditch. Nine fragments came from a pit, eight from other features such as a posthole and the palisade trench, whilst 1498 fragments came from the ditch. As mentioned

above, there are reasons to believe that the deposit in the ditch terminal was structured and its representativeness cannot be ascertained due to the lack of excavation of other areas of the ditch.

A3.7.2.4 Sheep/Goat

Age and Population structure

Two elements were available to consider the presence of sheep and goats and provided one example of each. This is not representative by indicates the presence of both species. A single mandible could be assigned to MWS 9/Payne Stage C, whilst a second one is estimated to belong to Payne Stage D. 19 porous fragments were recorded and the MNI calculated from three individuals exhibiting non-porous bone and four juvenile individuals. Fusion information is given in Table 3.23. Whilst all age groups appear to be represented, there are a considerable number of individuals that are unlikely to be older than two years.

Table 3.23: Fusion data, sheep/goat, Early Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Fusion Date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing: 6-10 months	Acetabulum	1	0
6-8 months	Glenoid	1	0
10 months	Humerus distal	1	0
10 months	Radius Proximal	1	0
Later fusing: 18-24 months	Tibia distal	0	5
18-24 months	Metacarpal distal	0	0
20-28 months	Metatarsal distal	0	0
Late Fusing: 36-42 months	Femur Distal	0	2
30-36 months	Femur proximal	1	0
36 months	Radius distal	0	0
36-42months	Tibia proximal	0	2
30-36 months	Calcaneus	0	0
36-42 months	Humerus proximal	0	0
30 months	Ulna	0	1

Butchery

A single element was recorded as having cut marks and is given in Table 3.24.

Table 3.24: Butchery, sheep/goat, Early Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Element	Zone	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpretation
Thoracic Vertebra	3	Ventral	Across body	CHP	2	\	Parallel	Disarticulation

Metrics

A number of elements were measureable and this information is provided in Table 3.25.

Table 3.25: Metrical information, sheep/goat, Early Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Element				
Scapula	BG 18.6	GLP 30.2	LG 23.2	
Metacarpal	Bp 20.4	Dp 14.2		
Metacarpal	Bp 20.2	Dp 14.5		
Radius	Bp 28.7	Dp 14.8		

Pathology

Several pathological elements were noted which are given in Table 3.26.

Table 3.26: Pathological elements, sheep/goat, Early Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Element	Part	Type	Comment
Tibia	Posterior shaft	Exostosis	
Metacarpal	lateral proximal margin	Small exostosis	
Maxilla	Tooth Row	Caculus	Moderate

7.2.5 Cattle

Age and Population structure

A single mandible provided a MWS of 46. Two fragments were porous indicating the presence of much younger animals. The fusion information available is provided in Table 3.27. The majority of individuals appear to be skeletal mature with the a couple of exceptions.

Table 3.27: Fusion data, cattle, Early Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Fusion date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing: 7-10 months	Acetabulum	0	0
7-10 months	Glenoid	2	0
12-18 months	Humerus distal	0	0
12-18 months	Radius Proximal	1	0
Later fusing: 24-30 months	Metacarpal distal	2	1
24-30 months	Metatarsal distal	1	0
Latest fusing: 42 months	Femur proximal	0	1
42-48 months	Femur distal	1	**0**

Butchery

A number of elements displayed cut marks, and these are shown in Table 3.28. The majority are light cuts, with no chop marks present.

Table 3.28: Butchery data, cattle, Early Iron Age.

Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpretation
Metatarsal	Ant/med	Around shaft	LC	4	---	Parallel and in line	Disarticulation /skin
Metacarpal	Post/lat	Margin of articulation	HC	1	---	Above artic for LMP	Disarticulation
Same Metacarpal	Distal	Across articulation	LC	7	---	Parallel on across joint	Disarticulation
Rib	Anterior	Across border	HC	1	/		Disarticulation
Astragalus	Posterior	Across med/lat borders	LC	8	---	Parallel, mostly on medial	Disarticulation /skin
Pelvis	Lateral	Across margin of acetabulum	LC	2	/	Parallel	Disarticulation
Lumbar vertebra	Ventral	Medial end trans proc	LC	4	\	Parallel	Disarticulation

Metrics

A number of elements were measureable. These data are given in Table 3.29.

Table 3.29: Metrical information, cattle, Early Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Element							
Astragalus	Bd 36.8	GLl 60.1	GLm 54.2				
Horn core	LOC 76.6						
Horn core	Bd 51.9	Dd 35.8					
Metacarpal	Bd 46.2	Bdf 47.6	Ddf 27.9				
Metacarpal	Bd 50.1	Bdf 44.7	Bp 49.1	Ddf 24.8	Dp 27.9	GL 173	SD 26.7

Pathology

A number of elements displayed pathological change and these are listed in Table 3.30. Apart from evidence of calculus development and periodontal disease, the post-cranial cases all relate to degenerative change of the joints. This may reflect the age of the general population.

Table 3.30: Pathological information, cattle, Early Iron Age.

Element	Part	Type	Comment
Pelvis	Acetabulum	Change in joint architecture	Almost closed across 'notch'
Metcarpal	Anterior-medial surface of shaft. Distal articulation	Periostitis on shaft and change in joint architecture	
Metacarpal	Centre of medial proximal articulation	Degenerative change	
Astragalus	Proximal anterior articulation	Degenerative change	
Maxillary molar		Calculus	Moderate
Mandible	M2-3	Periodontal disease	

A3.7.2.6 Pig

Age and Population structure

A number of mandibles were suitable for estimation of mandible wear stages. Grant stages were determined of 9, 26,27,30 and 37, but Halstead stages could be assigned to slightly more mandibles as is shown in Figure 3.18.

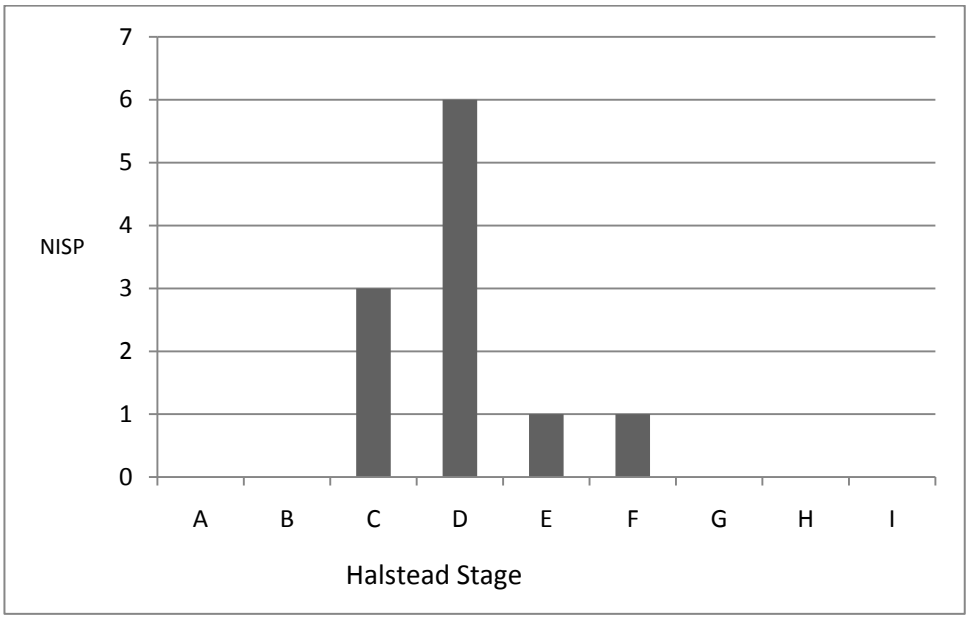

Figure 3.18: Incidence of toothwear, Halstead stages, pig, Early Iron Age, Sheep Slait. Expressed as histograpm due to small numbers. N = 11

These mandibles all indicate older juveniles, sub-adults and a single young adult. In addition, 19 fragments were porous, in addition to the juvenile bones comprising the associated bone group discussed below. Fusion information is shown in Table 3.31. This confirms the predominance of younger individuals.

Table 3.31: Fusion data, pig, Early Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Fusion date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early fusing: 12 months	Pelvis - acetabulum	1	1
12 months	Radius - proximal	1	0
Later fusing: 24 months	Metacarpal - distal	0	1
Latest fusing: 24-30months	Calcaneus	0	1
36-42 months	Ulna	0	2

Three male and two female canines were identified.

Butchery

A single element was recorded as having cut marks, and this is given in Table 3.32.

Table 3.32: Butchery, pig, Early Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Element	Zone	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpretation
Skull	5	Ant/lat	Across process	HC	3	I	Parallel	Disarticulation - removing mandible?

Metrics

A number of elements could be measured and these are given in Table 3.33.

Table 3.33: Metrical data, pig, Early Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Element		
Radius	Bp 29.2	Dp 19
Mandibular M3	Breadth 14.3	Length 32.5
Mandibular M3	Breadth 19.2	Length 13.9
Mandibular M3	Breadth 15.3	

Pathology

No pathological elements were identified.

Associated Bone Group

A group of porous pig bones were recovered from one of the main fills of the ditch terminal that were immediately identified as being associated. They comprised sixteen bones, the unfused distal epiphysis of the right radius, four carpals from both right and left, the third and fourth metacarpals from right and left and three lateral metapodials. All were porous and unfused distally. No butchery was noted, but these appear to be a collection of butchery waste representing portions of the front feet of the same animal.

A3.7.2.7 Dog

The dog remains comprised three fragments, including one porous tibia,unfused both proximally and distally. There was no indication of butchery, no measurable elements and no pathological change noted.

A3.7.2.8 Horse

Of six horse fragments, five were loose teeth. The single post-cranial element was a fragment of porous scapula. There was no indication of butchery, no measurable elements and no pathological change noted.

A3.7.2.9 Wild Species

A total of nine fragments were identified as wild, including six consistent with a rodent the size of a water vole and two bird bone fragments, one identified as a duck, probably of pintail type.

The remaining fragment was a large piece of red deer antler, from the base, which although it was fragile and eroded, showed signs of having been cut. A total of fifteen heavy cuts circled the broken end having removed a tine, whilst a further ten heavy cuts lay across the main branch. It was also measurable and the measurements are given in Table 3.34]. It was not however possible to determine whether it was shed. It was recovered from immediately adjacent to a piece of oddly shaped local limestone that replicated its branching form. In view of the other objects in the same deposit that were not run of the mill, it was probably deposited deliberately.

Table 3.34: Metrical information, Red deer, Early Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Element		
Antler	Bd 55.6	Dd 52.6

A3.7.3 Middle Iron Age

The Middle Iron Age material came from a number of floor layers and gullies associated with the roundhouse that re-occupied the enclosure, as well as a number of pits.

A3.7.3.1 Species Representation

The Middle Iron Age assemblage is small, comprising 707 fragments of which 185 could be identified to species (Table 3.35).

Table 3.35: Species representation, Middle Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Species	**NISP**	**MNI**	**% of identified mammals**	**% loose teeth**	**% Main Species**
Cow	23	1	3.36	78.26	13.37
Pig	21	2	3.07	47.62	12.21
Sheep	128	6	18.71	14.06	74.42
Horse	13	2	1.90	0	
Large mammal	54		7.89		
Medium mammal	194		28.36		
Unidentified	251		36.70		
Total Main	**684**				
Small mammals	17				
Amphibians	6				
Total	**707**				

A very high proportion of this assemblage could not be identified to species due to the degree of fragmentation. This appears to have differentially affected pig and especially cattle bone and may have contributed to the low levels of representation in this assemblage. However, sheep/goat are mammal-sized as opposed to large mammal. As such the general proportions between the main livestock species may not be unrepresentative. No birds or larger wild mammals were identified in this assemblage.

A3.7.3.2 Element Representation

Because the assemblages for cattle, pig and horse a so limited, little can be inferred from the distribution of elements of the body shown in Figure 3.19, apart from the degree of fragmentation of cattle and pig bone indicated from the loose teeth proportions. The small collection of horse bones are however interesting as apart from a single femur fragment they entirely comprise of metapodials and foot bones. The majority are from two pits and are, with a single exception, entire. The majority were recorded in the 'good' category of preservation, so it appears that they were subject to a different taphonomic and depositional history to cattle in particular.

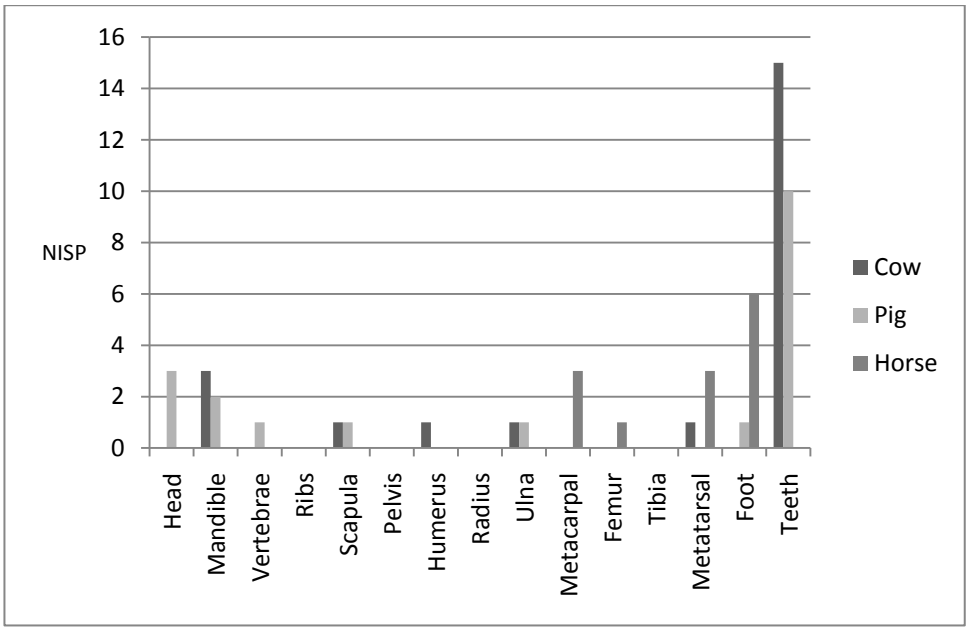

Figure 3.19: Element representation for cattle, pig and horse, Middle Iron Age Sheep Slait. N = 45

The distribution of sheep/goat elements is shown in Figure 3.20. In such small numbers inference is difficult to draw, but there are a couple of notable trends. The fragmentation of this material is less than the other main species, with fewer loose teeth. Whilst mandibles are well represented there is a lack of skull elements, although it is assumed that some of this has been included in the medium mammal assemblage. Ribs and other more delicate axial elements are relatively well represented, whilst the long bones are not dominated by the more robust radius and tibia. The suggestion may therefore be that the low numbers are not entirely due to fragmentation and taphonomic issues, but was genuinely small, whilst most body areas of sheep/goat are present, representing the consumption and disposal of whole animals.

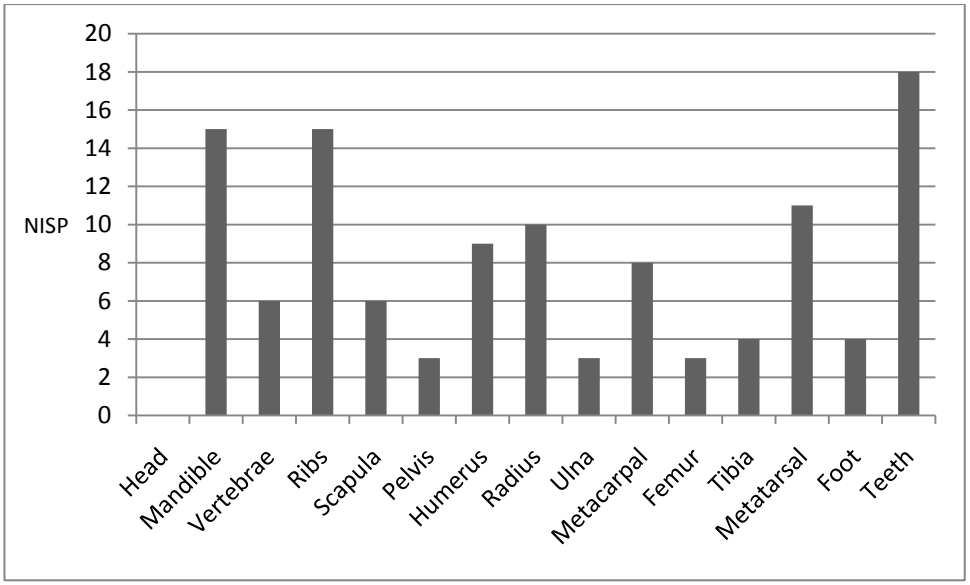

Figure 3.20: Element representation for sheep/goat, Middle Iron Age, Sheep Slait. N = 128

A3.7.3.3 Element and Species Distribution

Figure 3.21 shows the distribution of fragments by feature type. The obvious thing is that smaller features contributed little to the assemblage; the majority of material was recovered from pits. However, the greater proportion of unidentified material compared to the total fragments in the floor layers confirms that some of these are likely to have been in situ and trampled. Almost all of the horse bone derived from pits, and the greater completeness and good general condition have been commented on above. All of the small mammals and amphibians were recovered from pits and probably reflects pit falls that were then unable to escape.

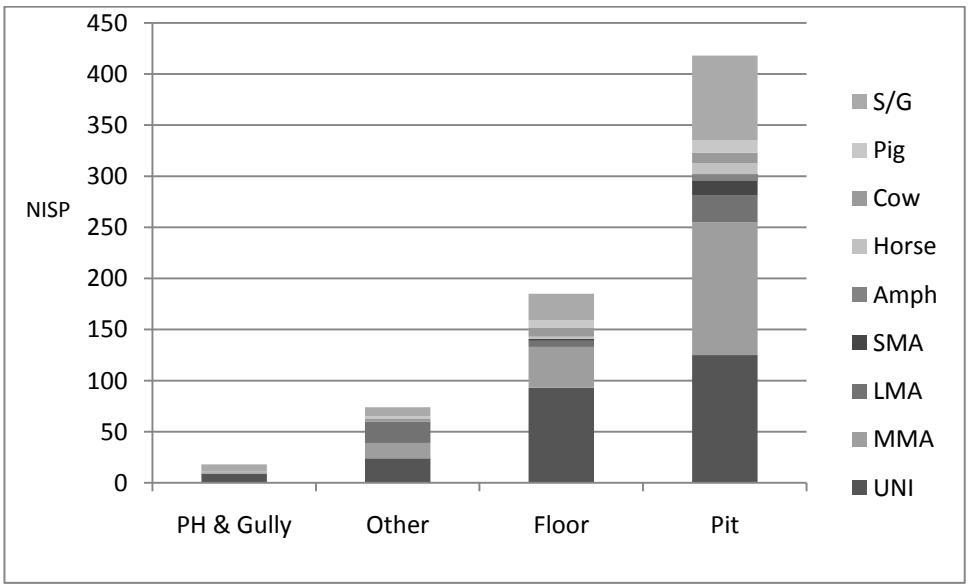

Figure 3.21: Distribution of fragments by feature or context type, Middle Iron Age, Sheep Slait. N = 707

A3.7.3.4 Sheep/Goat

Age and Population structure

It was not possible to use any fragments to determine whether sheep or goats were present. A limited number of mandibles are available from the Middle Iron Age assemblage, and these are shown in Figure 3.22. This indicates the presence of very young animals and there is a concentration on individuals in Stages A-C and F-H. The higher representation of older individuals may be taphonomic but although the curve is disjointed, it may reflect an organised culling and herd management strategy.

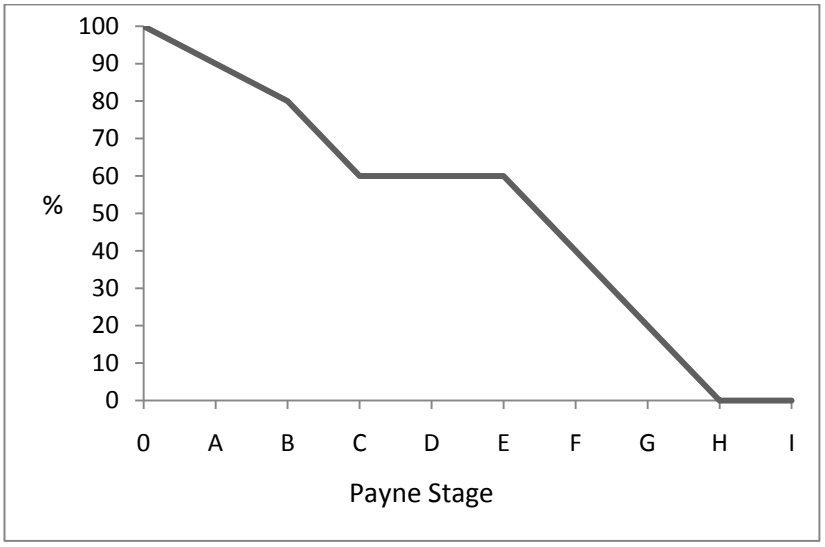

Figure 3.22: Payne curve for sheep/goat, Middle Iron Age, Sheep Slait. N = 9

Fusion information for sheep/goat is shown in Table 3.36. This indicates that a range of a ages were present in the assemblage; this is supported by the presence of a number of porous fragments.

Table 3.36: Fusion data for sheep/goat, Middle Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Fusion date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing: 6-10 months	Acetabulum	1	0
6-8 months	Glenoid	1	0
10 months	Humerus distal	2	1
10 months	Radius Proximal	1	0
Later fusing: 18-24 months	Tibia distal	1	**0**
18-24 months	Metacarpal distal	0	2
20-28 months	Metatarsal distal	1	2
Late Fusing: 36-42 months	Femur Distal	0	2
30-36 months	Femur proximal	1	0
36 months	Radius distal	0	0
36-42months	Tibia proximal	0	0
30-36 months	Calcaneus	0	1
36-42 months	Humerus proximal	1	0
30 months	Ulna	0	0

Butchery

The butchery for the Middle Iron Age phase (Table 3.37), shows little pattern apart from to say that it is largely comprised of light cuts, generally repeated in a location.

Table 3.37: Butchery for sheep/goat, Middle Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpretation
Atlas	Dorsal	Across body	LC	4	---		Disarticulation
Pelvis	Anterior	Mid shaft	HC	2	---	Parallel across shaft	Disarticulation /skin
Pelvis	Ventral	Superior margin	HC CHP	3	I	Parallel through ramus	Disarticulation
Rib	Medial	Across neck	CHP	2	/	Parallel -broad blade?	Disarticulation
Rib	Lateral	Margin of articulation	LC	2	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Rib	Anterior	Across shaft	LC	4	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Tibia	Medial	Across neck	LC	1	I		Disarticulation

Metrics

Four elements provided metrical information and this is given in Table 3.38.

Table3. 38: Sheep/goat metrical information, Middle Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Element				
Scapula	BG 19.8	GLP 30.8	LG 24.5	
Metatarsal	Bp17.9	Dp 17.8		
Humerus	Bd 23.4	BT 23.8	HT 15.4	SD 12.2
Tibia	Bd 22.9	Dd 17.4		

Pathology

A number of pathological elements were noted in sheep/goat and these are listed in Table 3.39.

Table 3.39: Pathological elements of sheep/goat, Middle Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Element	Part	Type	Comment
Tibia	Anterior ridge of distal.	NSI	Healed?
Mandible	Tooth row	Periodontal disease	
Mandible	M1-2	Periodontal disease	
Humerus	Lateral of distal articulation	Penning elbow	
First phalanx	Lateral aspects of shaft.	Periostitis	

A3.7.3.5 Cattle

Age and Population structure

There were no mandibles for which a wear stage could be estimated. Neither was any information on fusion available. There were no porous fragments.

Butchery

No cut marks were noted on cattle elements, although one humerus had a helical fracture to the shaft which may relate to the extraction of marrow.

Metrical data

The single measureable element is given in Table 3.40. As the horn base is flattened, this may relate to a female animal.

Table 3.40: Cattle metrics, Middle Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Element			
Horn core	Bd 46.8	Dd 33.1	LOC 112.5

Pathology

No pathological cattle elements were noted.

A3.7.3.6 Pig

Age and Population structure

The only information on age was a single partial mandible with the third mandibular molar at wear stage f. There was no fusion data, but there were two porous fragments.

Butchery

No cut marks were recorded.

Metrical data

No elements were suitable for measurement.

Pathology

A single pathological pig bone was noted and this is given in Table 3.41.

Table 3.41: Pathological elements, pig, Middle Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Element	Part	Type	Comment
Lateral metapodial	Shaft	Fracture	Not united, proliferation of spongy bone

A3.7.3.7 Horse

Age and Population structure

Fusion information for horse is given in Table 3.42. There were no porous elements. All of the elements present appear to indicate skeletally mature adult animals.

Table 3.42: Fusion data, horse, Middle Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Fusion date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Later Fusing: 15-18 months	Metacarpal - distal	3	0
16-20 months	Metatarsal - distal	2	0
Latest Fusing: 36-42 months	Femur- proximal	1	0

Butchery

Several horse bones showed signs of butchery and these are given in Table 3.43. Whilst the elements had cut marks, they were amongst the most complete elements of any species from the site, although there was one concerted attempt to fracture a metacarpal, presumably for marrow extraction.

Table 3.43: Butchery, horse, Middle Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpret-ation
Metatarsal	Ant/ Medial	Mid shaft	LC	12	/	Parallel and in line	Skin
Metacarpal	Lateral	Prox shaft	CHP	6	/	Parallel, repeated hacking at same location	Marrow extraction
Same Metacarpal	Ant/Lat /Med	Mid & Dist shaft	LC	36	---	Parallel and in line around shaft in 3 main groups	Skinning?

Metrics

A number of measurements could be taken and these are presented in Table 3.44.

Table 3.44: Metrical data, horse, Middle Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Element							
Metacarpal	Bd 45.2	Bdf 45.1	Bp 45.9	Ddf 30.8	Dp 29.7	GL 225	SD 28.4
Metacarpal	Bd 42.7	Bdf 39.5	Bp 41.7	Ddf 28.4	Dp 26.2	GL 197	SD 28.8
Metatarsal		Bdf 43.7	Bp 43.7		Dp 37.3	GL 262	SD 29.2

Pathology

A single pathological horse element was noted and this is given in Table 3.45.

Table 3.45: Pathological elements, horse, Middle Iron Age, Sheep Slait.

Element	Part	Type	Comment
Metatarsal	Proximal articulation	Degenerative change	Fairly severe

A3.7.4 Discussion of the Sheep Slait assemblage

The material that dates to the Late Bronze Age/Iron Age transition is an important counterpoint to the contemporary material from Cadbury Castle. It is apparent that most of the assemblage was deposited in a very specific fashion with other notable objects in the enclosure ditch terminal. The high proportion of pig fragments and a group of neonatal pig foot bones in this context appears to be indicative of a specific consumption practice, rather than being a reflection of the site economy.

The Middle Iron Age assemblage provides useful information. Sheep/goat do appear to form a significant majority of the livestock, and the flock appears to have been actively managed with the removal of younger stock, and a gradual progression through other age groups indicative of a culling policy. The data from the few horse bones is interesting given the apparently different treatment that they received indicated by their completeness and condition. They were however actively butchered. The metrical data that they provide will form a useful addition to that from other sites in the area.

A3.7.5 Structural information

Some fragmentary linear boundaries features existed in close proximity to funerary monuments on Seven Wells and Poyntington Down, and have been considered by Richard Tabor to be likely to date to the earlier Bronze Age. Heavy ploughing has removed most of the archaeological features on the top of the hill so dating is more tenuous. However, one ring ditch on Seven Wells Down produced scraps of Beaker pottery and the other ephemeral ring ditches probably all date to the same period. The linears are equally fragmentary, but the excavation of one confirmed its Bronze Age origins. There are short sections of linear, on a largely north-south alignment which run across the ridge of a high tongue of land over the source of the river Yeo. A series of three lengths of ditch are only 30m and 10m apart, and may relate to tracks or stock handling features. These linears are on the more level ground but at the point that it slopes, and are almost in parallel with a trackway identified in Milborne Valley, leading down the steep slope from the high ground of Seven Wells Down to the area of the spring in the base of the valley.

The 50m diameter round ditched enclosure dating to the Bronze Age-Iron Age transition was excavated in 2006, including parts of the interior and sections across both terminals of the enclosure ditch. The ringwork eastern entrance was apparently aligned on the same axis as a fragmentary field system that spread to the north and east over the upland promontory and onto adjacent hills and valleys at Milborne. This system is extremely fragmentary, having been overlaid first by medieval ridge and furrow, and subsequently degraded by modern ploughing (Tabor 2008:94). The ploughing in this area has been so damaging that some features have been entirely ploughed away, leaving a 'ghost' of a magnetic signature in the ploughzone. However, what can be said is that the system is rectilinear spreading over an area of at least 600m x 600m on a northeast-southwest, northwest-south east alignment. One junction immediately to the north of the ringwork seems to show narrow gaps where a cross ditch meets the primary linear, leaving an effective corner entrance between two land parcels. In some places spaces may have been were divided into as little as 50m wide strips. The linears

cross the contours of the hills, enclosing slopes and low lying areas around the water source. What is lacking, however, is any indication of drove ways or tracks. Although there is a fragmentary hint of additional boundaries to the south of the ringwork, on the edge of the valley slope, the ringwork itself occupies the false crest of the hill at the edge of a steep drop to the dry valley to the west, and it seems isolated from the main series of boundaries. As noted above however, its alignment is the same as the boundaries, and this is emphasised in the earliest phase by the construction of a fence line through the entrance. This also indicates the likelihood of further landscape division and subdivision in this area that has been completely lost.

A3.8.0 West Sigwells Iron Age enclosure and pit scatter (Sigwells Trenches 12-15)

An area of the western side of Sigwells, on the limestone ridge, directly overlooking Cadbury Castle to the north, was excavated between 2003 and 2005 in four trenches. The trenches were targeted on a square enclosure of c20x20m, but revealed a complex relationship with what transpired to be a large densely intercutting mass of straight sided pits 200m x 20-30m in extent, aligned on the northern side of a double ditched track way. The enclosure and pits cut a hollow way that probably dated to the later Bronze Age or earlier Iron Age. Many pits were dug in the Middle Iron Age before the construction of the square enclosure. This was succeeded by more pits in the Late Iron Age, and the re-cutting of the enclosure ditch and realigning of the entrance into a more elaborate form. The enclosure contained at least one round structure and other post built structures in this late phase that probably continued after AD43, but is entirely defined by indigenous material culture, and is therefore considered as continuous with the Late Iron Age. The double ditched track originated in the Iron Age, but developed banks instead of side ditches in the Romano-British period. Several other contexts overlying the site were evidently formed at the same time. The excavated area also incorporated an Early Bronze Age linear.

A3.8.1 The Early Bronze Age

The small collection of Bronze Age material from the site came from the fill of one of a sequence of linear ditches a portion of which was investigated at the other end of the field as part of the excavation of the Middle Bronze Age enclosure, and discussed in more detail above. It is an extremely limited collection of material as can be seen in Table 3.45. This is not necessarily surprising if settlement was not close by; it may even represent the remains of fallen stock.

Table 3.45: Species representation, Early Bronze Age, West Sigwells.

Species	NISP	MNI	% loose teeth
Sheep	1	1	100
Unidentified	11		
Total	**12**		

The single identified element was a worn permanent maxillary tooth.

A3.8.2 The Early Iron Age

The material that has been allotted to this phase came from a hollow way underlying the Middle and Late Iron Age pits and enclosure. The species represented are given in Table 3.46. Much of the material was in poor condition.

Table 3.46: Species representation, Early Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Species	NISP	MNI	% loose teeth
Cow	1	1	0
Sheep	4	1	25
Dog	1	1	0
Large mammal	1		
Medium mammal	4		
Unidentified	10		
Total	**21**		

No ageing information is available, with no porous bone recorded and all of the identified long bones too fragmentary, with no epiphyses available. No butchery, metrical information or pathology was noted in this material.

A3.8.3 The Middle Iron Age

The Middle Iron Age material came principally from pits and the ditch of the enclosure. As such, they are representative of at least two sub-phases, but have been treated together here, due to the fact that only the handful of truncated pits that have been cut by the enclosure ditch can be confidently assigned to the earlier Middle Iron Age phase due to the lack of direct relationships between the 'ditch phase' and pits with similar ceramic assemblages within the enclosure and outside it.

A3.8.3.1 Species Representation

The species represented are shown in Table 3.47. Animal bone groups have been removed from these calculations, and are dealt with separately below.

Table 3.47: Species representation, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Species	NISP	MNI	% of identified mammals	% loose teeth	% Main Species
Cow	82	4	11.23	34.14	11.42
Pig	92	5	12.60	30.43	12.81
Sheep	544	17	74.52	30.51	75.77
Horse	12	1	1.64		
Large mammal	83				
Medium mammal	577				
Unidentified	1334				
Total Main	**2726**				
Small mammals	99				
Amphibians	6				
Total	**2831**				

A3.8.3.2 Species Distribution

The distribution of species between feature types (Figure 3.23) appears to be relatively even with slightly more identifiable material in the pits and other small features compared with the

ditch. Considering the identified domestic species fragments (Figure 3.24), there is greater representation of sheep/goat in the pits.

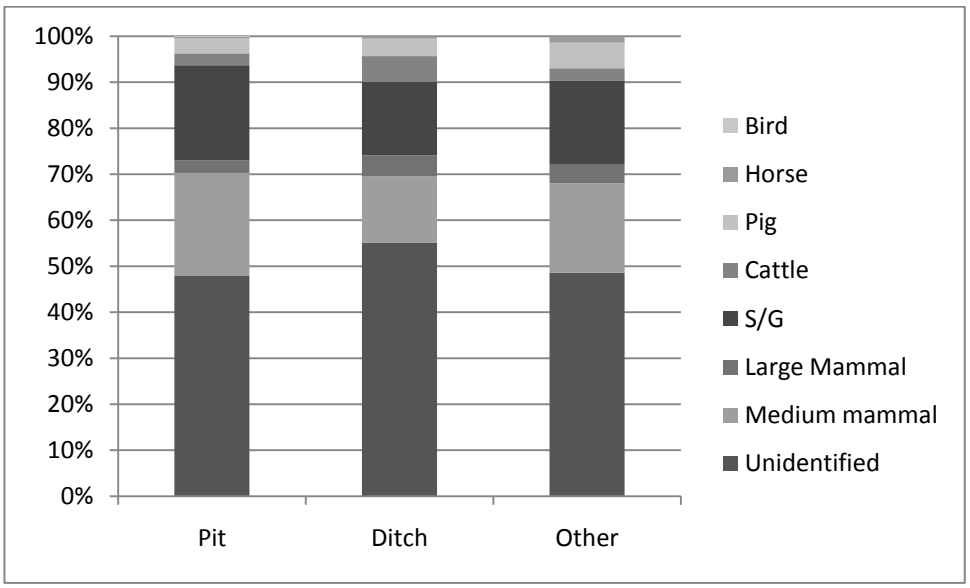

Figure 3.23: Species distribution between feature types, Middle Iron Age West Sigwells. (Pit N=2260, Ditch N=394, Other N=72).

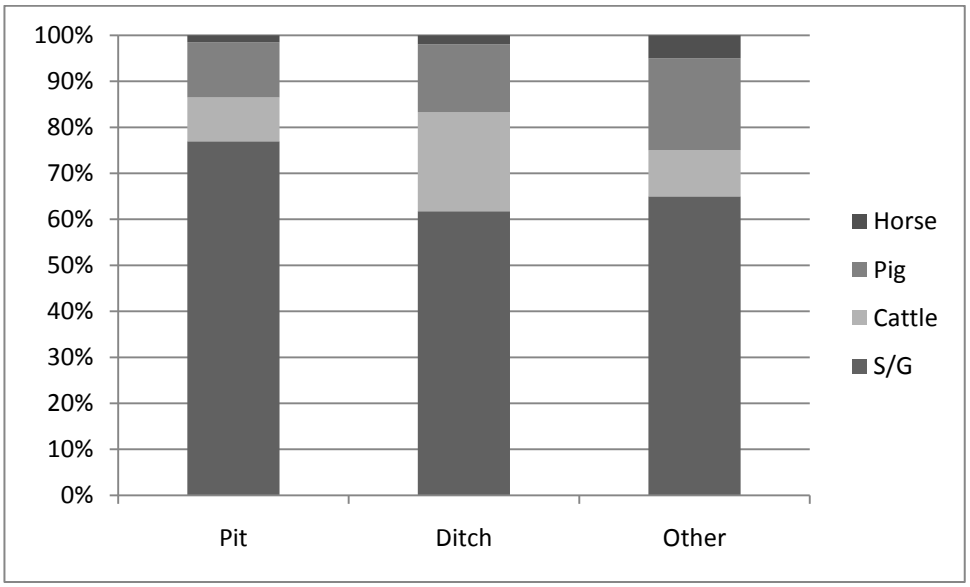

Figure 3.24: Distribution of domestic mammals between feature types, Middle Iron Age West Sigwells, (Pit N=608, Ditch N=102, Other N=20).

A3.8.3.3 Sheep/Goat

Element Representation

Although there are a large number of loose teeth in this assemblage, the distribution of sheep/goat elements (Figure 3.25) is relatively even and covers all regions of the body.

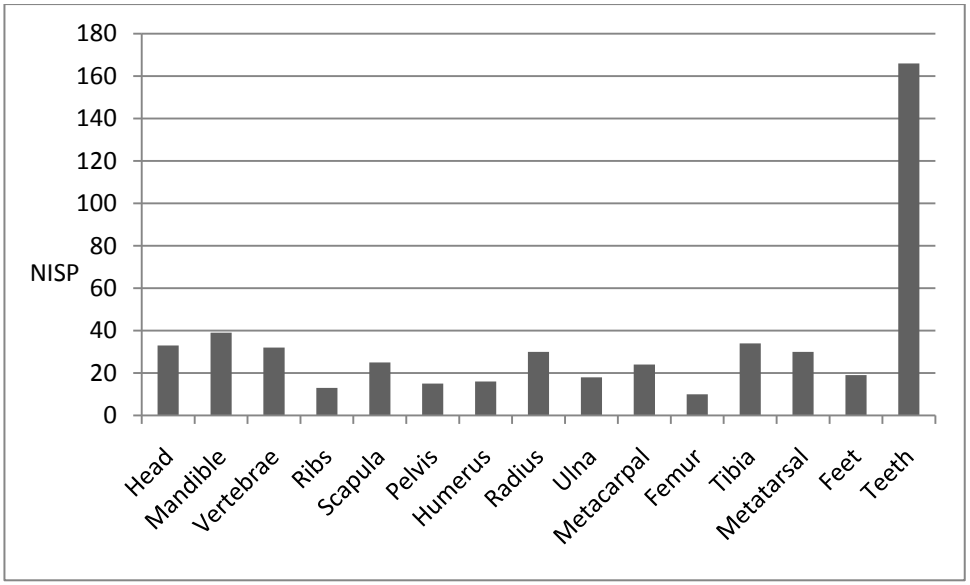

Figure 3.25: Distribution of elements, sheep/goat West Sigwells. N = 544

Age and Population structure

There were only six fragments which could be assessed as to the presence of sheep or goats. In all cases these were sheep, but it does not preclude the presence of goats. The mandibles that could be aged are shown as Grant wear stages and Payne stages in Figures 3.26 and 3.27. These indicate a range of age groups present, but with a marked emphasis on deaths in younger sheep/goat. The fusion data in Table 3.48 and Figure 3.28 indicates that whilst some animals were dying in the first year, there was also a considerable number in the second and third year being culled.

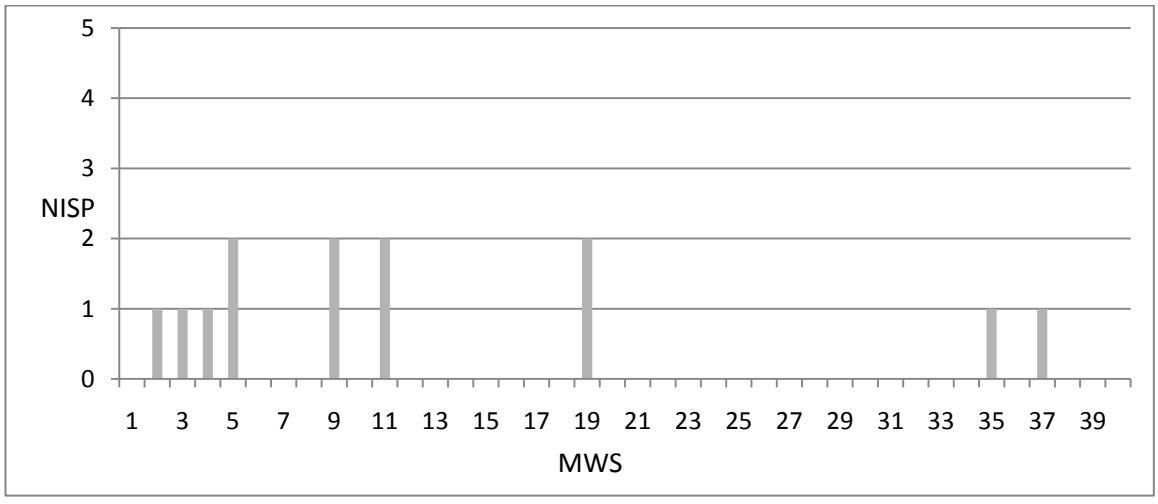

Figure 3.26: Grant wear stages, sheep/goat, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells N = 13

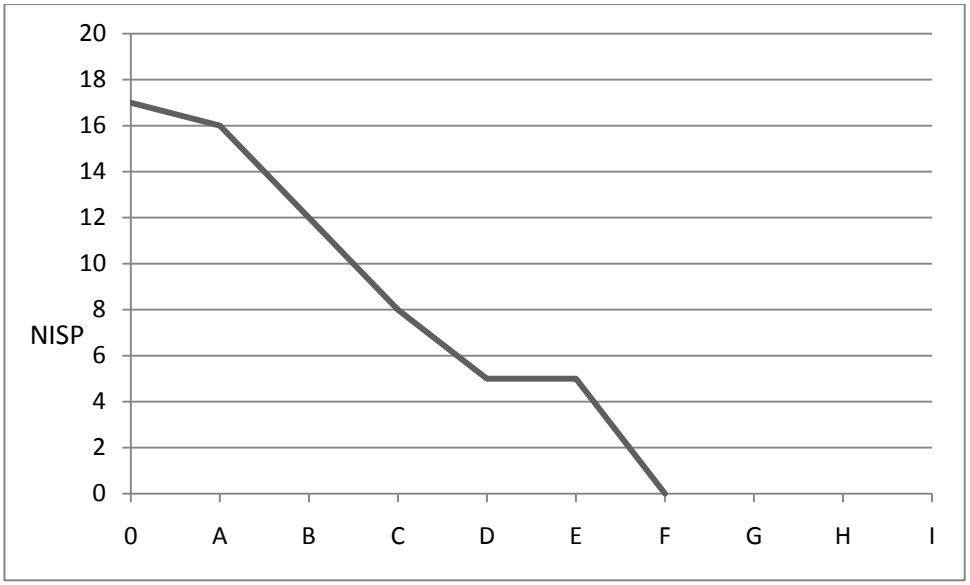

Figure 3.27: Payne kill-off curve, sheep/goat, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells. N = 17

Table 3.48: Fusion data, sheep/goat, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Fusion date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing: 6-10 months	Acetabulum	6	0
6-8 months	Glenoid	1	1
10 months	Humerus distal	4	2
10 months	Radius Proximal	3	4
Later fusing: 18-24 months	Tibia distal	4	9
18-24 months	Metacarpal distal	1	12
20-28 months	Metatarsal distal	1	4
Late Fusing: 36-42 months	Femur Distal	0	2
30-36 months	Femur proximal	3	2
30-36 months	Calcaneus proximal	1	3
36-42 months	Humerus proximal	0	1
36 months	Radius distal	0	7
30 months	Ulna	4	1
36-42months	Tibia proximal	0	5

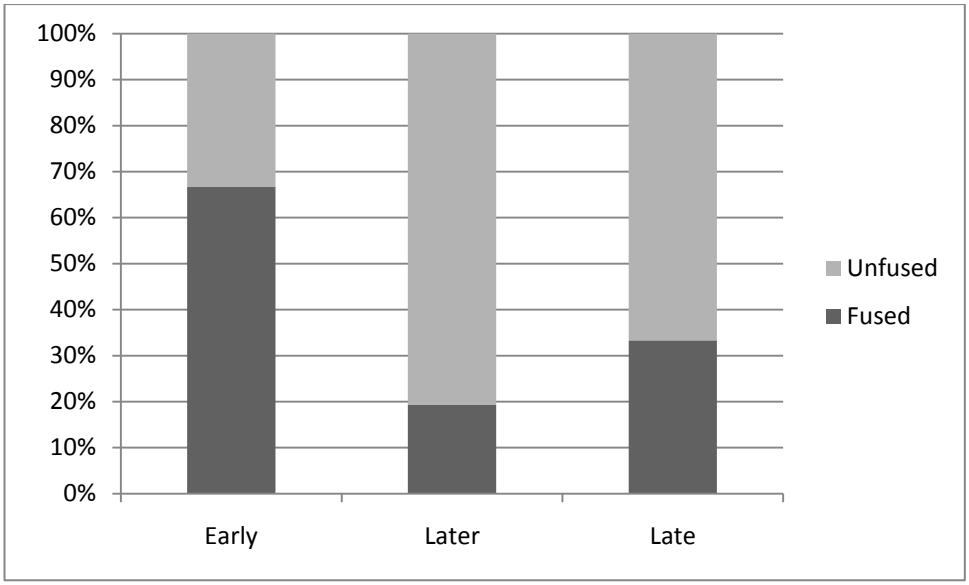

Figure 3.28: Percentages of early, later and late fusing elements fused and unfused., West Sigwells. N = 80

Butchery

A number of elements had cut marks noted (Table 3.49).

Table 3.49: Butchery, sheep/goat, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments
Astragalus	Cranial/ Medial	Across centre	LC	6	---	Parallel
Astragalus	Caud/ Med	Margin	LC	1	---	
Astragalus	Cranial	Lat/Med margin	LC	8	---	Parallel nicks across articulation
Femur	Medial	Mid shaft	LC	1	/	
Femur	Medial/ Caud	Roud neck of caput	LC	3	---	Parallel
Horn core	Ventral	Base of horn, centre of skull	CHP	1	I	Chop into cranial cavity
Mandible	Med/ Prox	Lingual of posterior	LC	2	I	Parallel
Pelvis	Caudal		LC/HC	2	I	Parallel, heavy cuts through
Rib	Ant/ Medial	Margin by neck	LC	1	\	
Scapula	Dorsal	Removal of dorsal spine	CHP	1	---	Complete removal of dorsal spine along length
Ulna	Cranial	Above articulation	LC	2	\	Parallel
Lumbar vertebra	Ventral	Transverse process	LC	2	I	Parallel

Metrics

Metrical information is provided in Table 3.50.

Table 3.50: Metrical information, sheep/goat, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element			
Astragalus	Bd 16.1	GLl 25.5	GLm 23.9
Astragalus	Bd 15.4	GLl 24	GLm 24.2
Astragalus	Bd 15.5	GLl 23.1	GLm 23.4
Horn core	Bd 22.8	Dd 32.7	
Horn core	Bd 16.8	Dd 30.5	LOC 54.8
Horn core	Bd 22	Dd 36.4	
Humerus	Bd 24.5	BT 24.4	HT 15.2
Metatarsal	Bp 17.3	Dp 18.1	SD 9.7
Metatarsal	Bp 17		
Scapula	BG 16.5	GL 27.1	LG 22.6
Tibia	Bd 23	Dd 17.2	SD 12.5

Pathology

Pathology was restricted to a single sheep/goat mandible that indicated slight periodontal disease along the tooth row. In addition, two rib shafts recorded as medium mammal had healed fractures across the shaft.

A3.8.3.4 Cattle

Element Representation

The cattle fragments are dominated by loose teeth, but all areas of the body are represented (Figure 3.29).

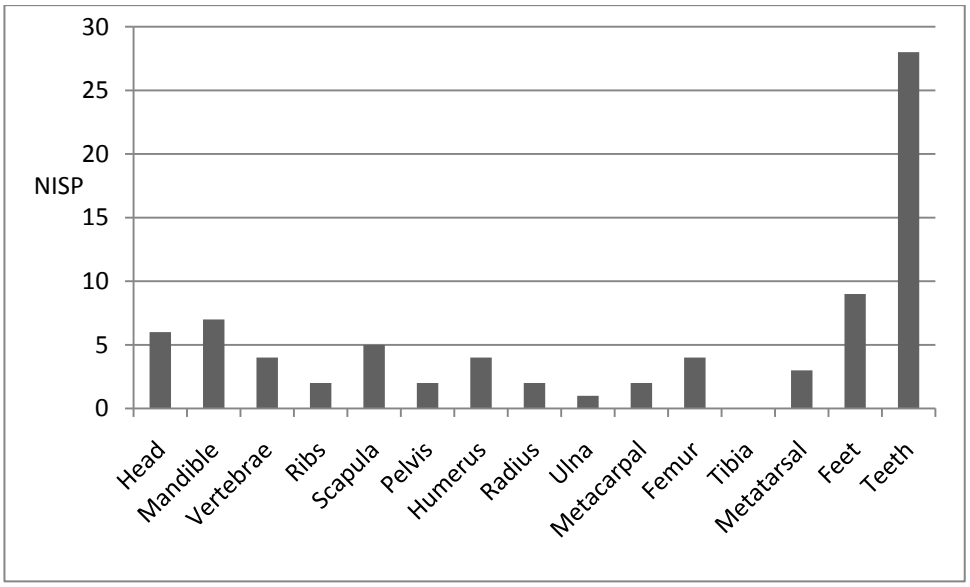

Figure 3.29: Element representation, cattle, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells. N = 82

Age and Population structure

A single mandible was able to be assessed as MWS 18. There were three porous cattle fragments. The fusion information available is shown in Table 3.51. It provides little evidence of young animals.

Table 3.51: Fusion data, cattle, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Fusion date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing: 7-10 months	Acetabulum	2	0
7-10 months	Glenoid	1	0
12-18 months	Humerus distal	1	0
12-18 months	Radius Proximal	1	0
Later fusing: 24-30 months	Metacarpal distal	1	1
Latest fusing: 42-48 months	Femur distal	1	0

Butchery

A single cut mark was noted on cattle (Table 3.52).

Table 3.52: Butchery information, cattle, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells

Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpretation
Mandible	Med/Dist	Lingual	LC	4	I	Parallel but spaced	Disarticulated

Metrics

A single cattle element was measureable, Table 3.53).

Table 3.53: Metrical information, cattle, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element			
Radius	Dp 34.4	Bp 64.8	Bpf 57.6

Pathology

A single cattle element showed pathological change. The proximal radius for which the measurements are given above had slight degenerative change in the surface of the proximal articulation, and there was a slight broadening of the joint surface.

A3.8.3.5 Pig

Element Representation

There are a large number of loose pig teeth and the greater representation of head elements (see Figure 3.30) is consistent with high levels of fragmentation of the assemblage.

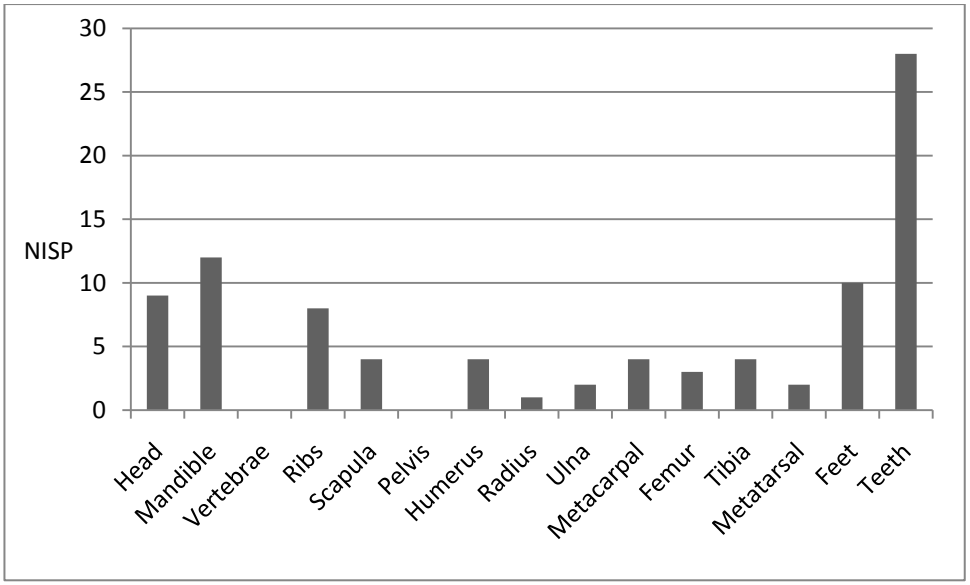

Figure 3.30: Element representation, pig, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Age and Population structure

A single mandible had a full height but unworn second mandibular molar with the perforation of the crypt visible for the third mandibular molar. Eleven fragments of porous pig bone were recorded. Fusion information is included in Table 3.54, and indicates the presence of pigs of a range of age groups.

Table 3.54: Fusion information, pig, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells

Fusion date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing: 12 months	Humerus distal	0	1
Later Fusing: 24-30 months	Tibia distal	2	1
Late Fusing: 42 months	Femur Distal	0	2
36-42 months	Ulna	1	0
24-30 months	Calcaneus	1	0
42 months	Tibia proximal	0	2

Butchery

A number of pig elements had been butchered and these are given in Table 3.55.

Table 3.55: Butchery information, pig, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpretation
Astragalus	Cranial/Lat	Condyle	LC	1	---		Disarticulation
Mandible	Lateral	Across ramus	LC	4	---	Parallel	Skin/Disart
Rib	Medial	Across shaft by neck	LC	3	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Rib	Med/Cran	Margin by neck	HC	1	I		Disarticulation
Rib	Med/Lat	Neck of rib/ distal shaft	HC LC	3	I	Parallel	Skin/Disart
Ulna	Prox/Ant	Above and on articulation	LC	7	--- / ---\	Various directions	Disarticulation

Metrics

Two pig elements were measureable and are given in Table 3.56.

Table 3.56: Metrical data, pig, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element			
Astragalus	Bd 26	GLl 33.6	GLm 37
Tibia	Bd 26.7	Dd 26.1	

Pathology

No pathological elements were noted.

A3.8.3.6 Horse

Element representation

This small collection of material (Figure 3.31) is dominated by teeth, and bones of the lower limb and foot.

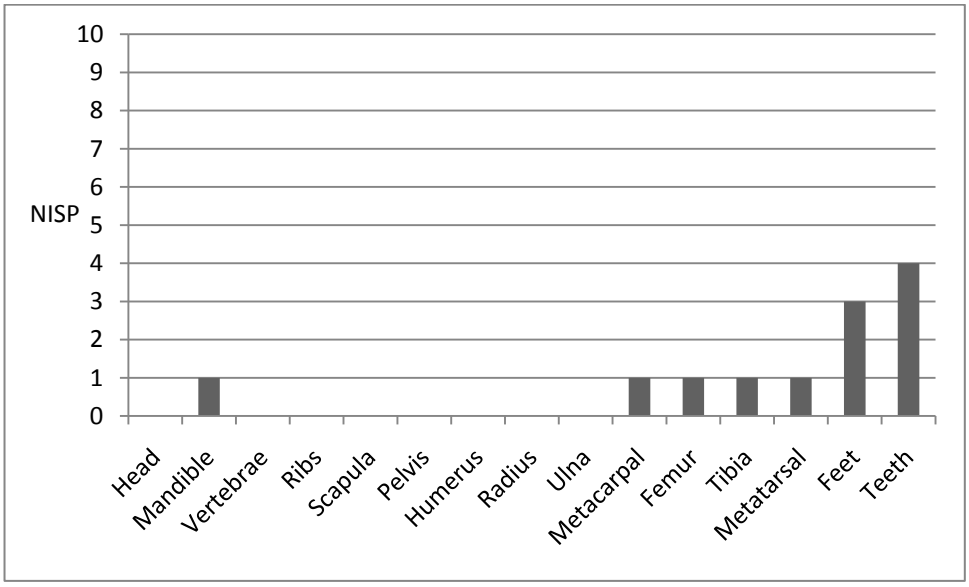

Figure 3.31: Element representation, horse, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells. N = 12

Age and Population structure

No porous elements were recorded. Fusion information is shown in Table 3.57. Animals of different age groups are indicated, including importantly an animal of under 15-18 months of age.

Table 3.57: Fusion information, horse, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Fusion Date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Later Fusing: 20-24 months	Tibia distal	1	0
15-18 months	Metacarpal distal	0	1
16-20 months	Metatarsal distal	1	0
Latest Fusing: 36-42 months	Femur distal	1	0
36-42 months	Tibia proximal	0	1

Butchery

No cut marks were noted on horse fragments.

Metrics

A single horse element was measureable and is presented in Table 3.58.

Table 3.58: Metrical information, horse, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element							
Metatarsal	Bdf 43.3	Bp 45.1	Ddf 31	Dp 38.4	GL 255	GLl 247	SD 26.1

Pathology

The single mandible fragment had indications of slight periodontal disease.

A3.8.3.7 Wild Species

Six amphibian bones all represented frog. A total of 99 small mammal fragments were recovered, mostly post-cranial elements. Identified fragments are shown in Table 3.59.

Table 3.59: Wild species, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Species	NISP
Weasel	2
Wood mouse (*Apodemus*)	3
Field Vole (*Microtus*)	9
Water Vole	1

Two fragments of bird bone were recovered, both from ducks, one probably a pochard, and one a northern pintail.

A3.8.3.8 Associated Bone Groups

Two associated bone groups were noted (Table 3.60).

Table 3.60: Associated Bone Groups, Middle Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Species	Body parts	Feature Type	Comment
Pig	Refitting lumbar vertebrae	Pit	Butchery waste?
Cattle	Pelvis and right leg	Pit	Foot gnawed off, cut marks on calcaneus and femur.

A3.8.4 The Late Iron Age

The late Iron Age assemblage came from a variety of contexts, including the remodelled enclosure ditch, pits, postholes and other layers and elements of structures within the enclosure.

A3.8.4.1 Species Representation

This is a heavily fragmented assemblage in which only 27% of fragments could be identified to species. However, the assemblage is also heavily dominated by the domestic species, particularly sheep/goat (Table3. 61).

Table 3.61: Species representation, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Species	NISP	MNI	% of identified mammals	% loose teeth	% Main Species
Cow	358	9	17.00	30.73	18.04
Pig	276	10	13.11	40.58	13.90
Sheep	1351		64.15	31.75	68.06
Dog	33	4	1.57		
Horse	88	4	4.18		
Large mammal	320				
Medium mammal	1346				
Unidentified	3856				
Total main	**7628**				
Bird	12				
Small mammals	49				
Amphibians	82				
Total	**7771**				

A3.8.4.2 Species Distribution

The distribution of species, and just the identified domestic species between different feature types is shown in Figures 3.32 and 3.33. This seems to indicate a greater amount of identifiable material deposited in the ditch when compared to pits and other features. There also seems to be a slightly greater representation of cattle and large mammal fragments in the ditch contexts compared to pits and other features.

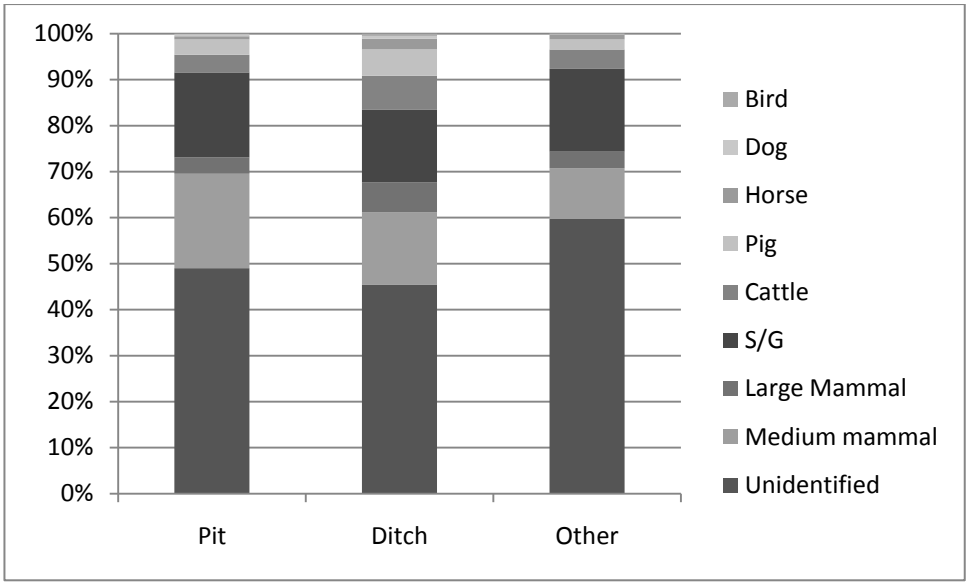

Figure 3.32: Distribution of species between feature types, Late Iron Age West Sigwells, (Pit N=4167, Ditch N=1704, Other N=1738).

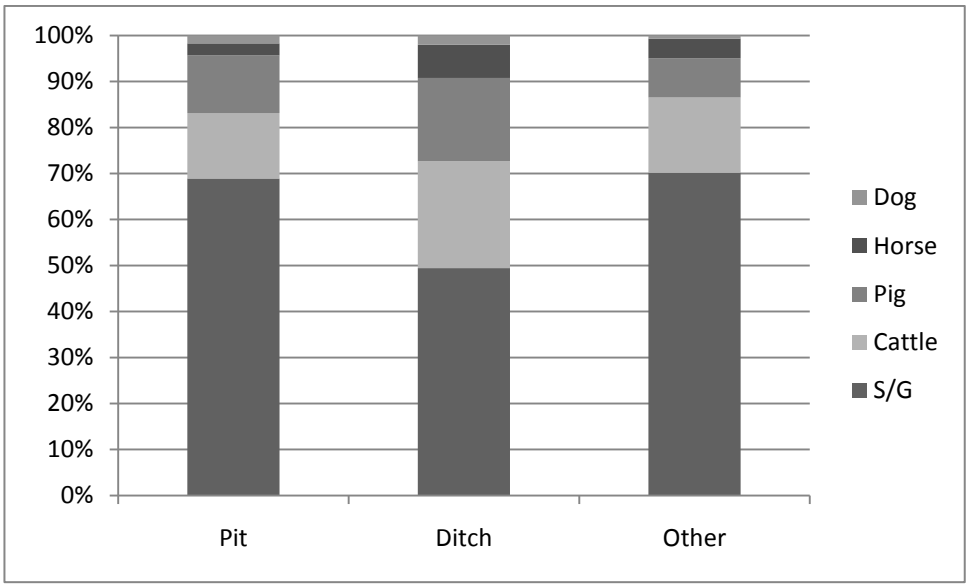

Figure 3.33: Distribution of domestic mammals between feature types, Late Iron Age West Sigwells, (Pit N=1117, Ditch N=542, Other N=446).

8.4.3 Sheep/Goat

Element Representation

The element representation for sheep/goat is shown in Figure 3.34. This indicates that although the assemblage is dominated by loose teeth, all areas of the body are present.

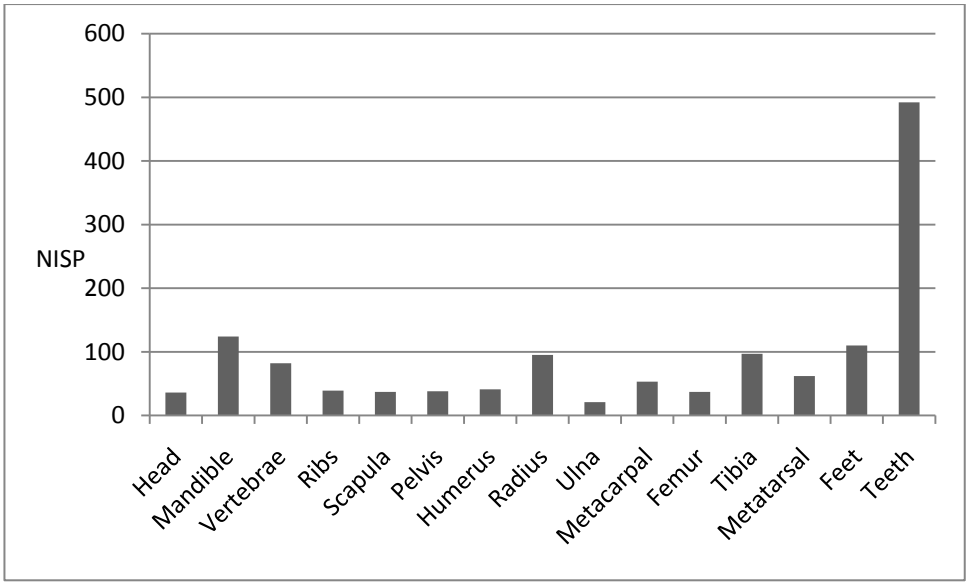

Figure 3.34: Element representation, Sheep/goat, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells N = 1351

Age and Population structure

A reasonable collection of mandibles were available for assessment. The Grant mandible wear stages assigned are shown in Figure 35, and the Payne Stage kill-off curve in Figure 3.36. These both seem to indicate the presence of animals in all age groups, although there is an apparent lack of the youngest individuals that may be as a result of fragmentation or due to lambing not having taken place in the vicinity. There is also an apparent lack of individuals in the sub-adult and early adult age groups by both measures. This might indicate separation of cohorts of sheep and pasturing in different areas, leading to none being disposed of at West Sigwells.

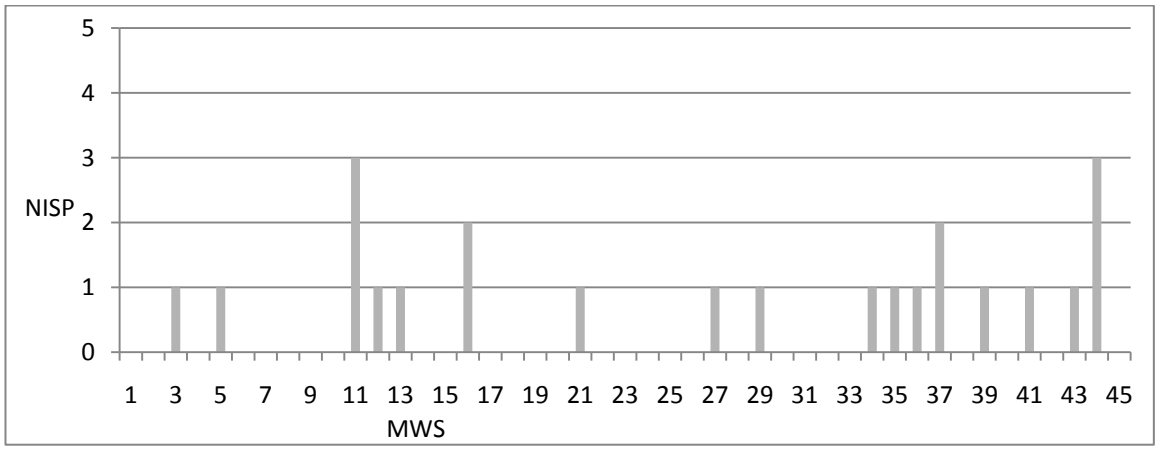

Figure 3.35: Grant mandible wear stages, sheep/goat, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells. N = 23

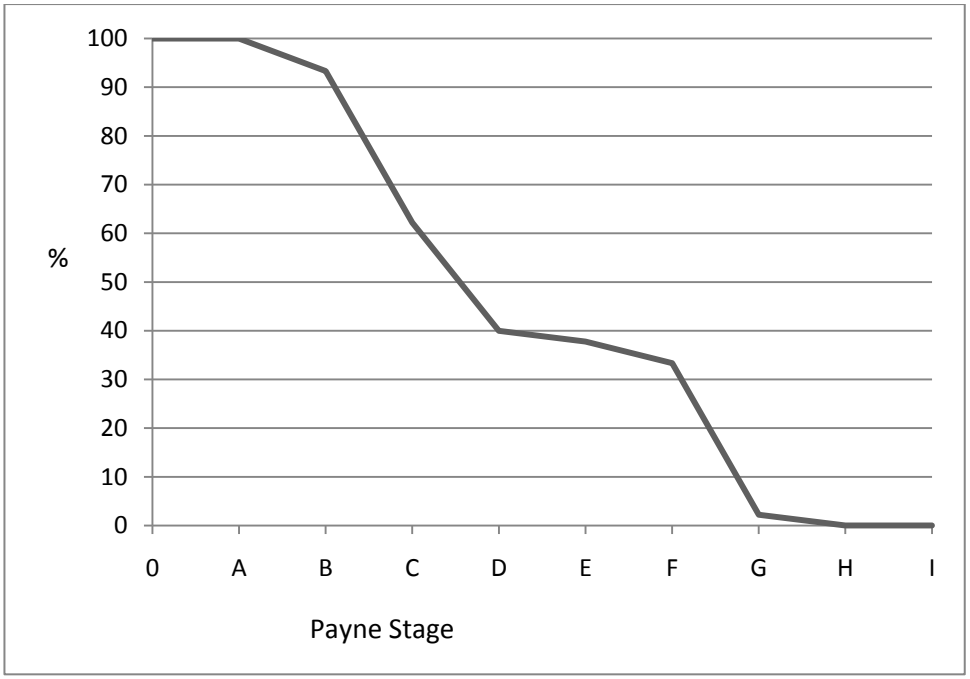

Figure 3.36: Payne kill-off curve, sheep/goat, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells. N = 45

In order to test this, loose teeth are shown in Figure 3.37. If there were larger numbers of very young sheep but mandibles had been fragmented, we might expect larger numbers of unworn or lightly worn Dp4s. This is however not the case and the pattern of wear in these teeth is similar to that in the main curve.

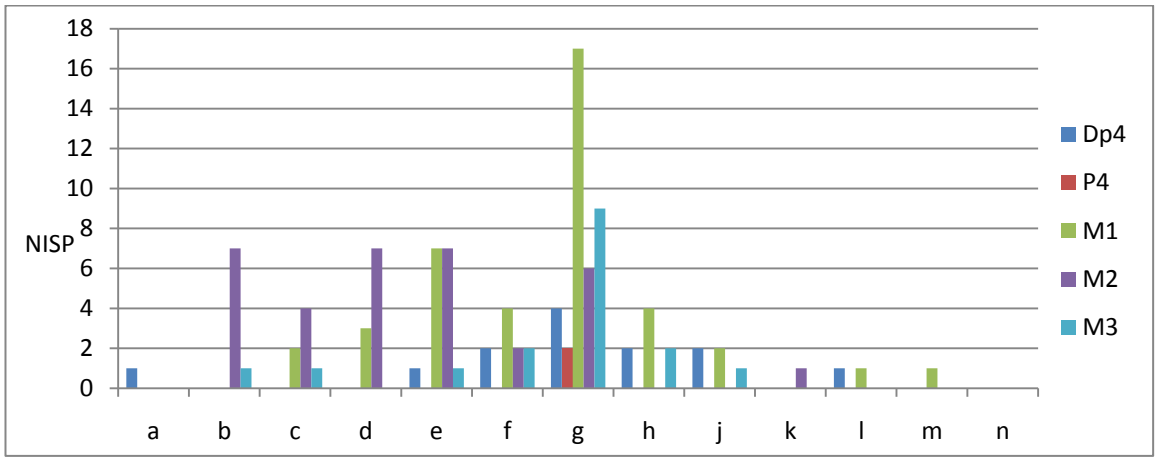

Figure 3.37 : Wear stages for loose teeth, sheep/goat, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells. N = 107

Fusion information for sheep/goat is given in Table 3.62 and Figure 3.38. These indicate that there were few individuals in the youngest category, but also few fully skeletally mature animals.

Table 3.62: Fusion data, sheep/goat, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Fusion date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing: 6-10 months	Acetabulum	20	6
6-8 months	Glenoid	2	0
10 months	Humerus distal	10	5
10 months	Radius Proximal	11	1
Later fusing: 18-24 months	Tibia distal	5	8
18-24 months	Metacarpal distal	4	14
20-28 months	Metatarsal distal	0	5
Late Fusing: 36-42 months	Femur Distal	1	6
30-36 months	Femur proximal	3	14
30-36 months	Calcaneus	3	7
36-42 months	Humerus proximal	2	1
36 months	Radius distal	4	15
30 months	Ulna	3	1
36-42months	Tibia proximal	2	9

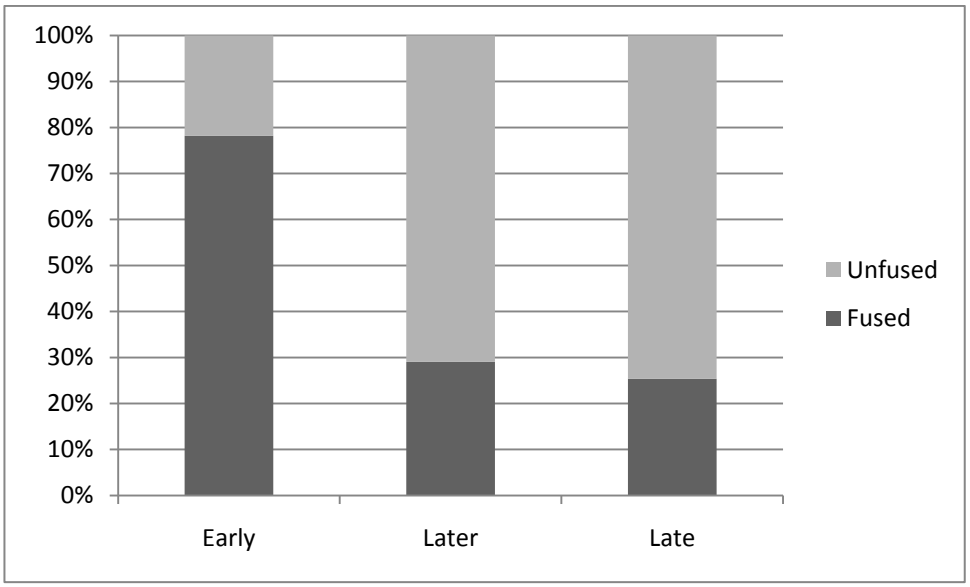

Figure 3.38: Percentages of fused and unfused early, middle and late fusing elements, sheep/goat, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells. N = 161

Butchery

A number of sheep/goat elements displayed cut marks and these are given in Table 3.63.

Table 3.63: Butchery information, sheep/goat, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direc-tion	Comments	Interpretation
Astragalus	Cranial/ Lat	Margin	LC	2	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Astragalus	Caud /Medial	Margin	LC	1	---		Disarticulation
Astragalus	Cranial/ Medial	Margin	HC	1	---		Disarticulation
Astragalus	Ant/Dist	Articulation	LC	1	---		Disarticulation
Astragalus	Cranial	Medial side	HC	1	---		Disarticulation
Femur	Cranial	Across shaft above break	LC	1	---		Skin/Disart
Humerus	Cranial/ Dist	On trochlea	LC	1	I		Disarticulation
Humerus	Cranial/ Medial	Shaft above trochlea	LC	2	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Metacarpal	Caud/ Lat	Proximal shaft	LC	3	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Metacarpal	Post/ Caud	Proximal shaft	LC	2	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Pelvis	Lat/ Medial	Superior to acetabulum	LC	5	I---/	Various	Disarticulation
Pelvis	Cranial/ Lat	Superior to acetabulum	LC	2	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Pelvis	Ant/Lat	Inferior to acetabulum	LC	1	---		Disarticulation
Radius	Caud/ Med	Distal	LC	11	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Rib	Medial	Across shaft at neck	HC	2	/	Parallel	Disarticulation
Scapula	Dorsal	Across shaft	LC	2	\	Parallel	Disarticulation
Tibia	Caudial/ Medial	Across shaft	HC/ CHP	4	/	2 pairs Parallel	Disarticulation
Tibia	Cranial	Across shaft	HC/ LC	2	---	Parallel	Skinning
Ulna	Cranial	On margin above articulation	LC	1	---		Disarticulation
Ulna	Cranial	On articulation	LC	1	/		Disarticulation
Cervical vertabra	Ventral	Across body	HC	4	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Cervical vertebra	Dorsal	On lateral	HC CHP	2	\	Parallel	Disarticulation
Cervical vertabra	Dorsal	Across neural arch	LC	2	/	Parallel	Skin/Disart
Lumbar vertebra	Dorsal	Transverse process	LC	1	I		Disarticulation
Lumbar vertebra	Lateral	Caudal edge of spine	LC	1	I	Adjacent to break	Disarticulation
Lumbar vertebra	Ventral	Transverse process	HC/ LC	2	I/	Various	Disarticulation
Thoracic vertebra		Transverse process	LC	2	I	Parallel	Disarticulation

Metrics

A number of sheep/goat elements were measureable and these are provided in Table 3.64.

Table 3.64: Metrical information, sheep/goat, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element							
Astragalus	Bd 15.2	GLl 23.5	GLm 22.1				
Astragalus	Bd 14.1	GLl 22.6					
Astragalus	Bd 15.7	GLl 25	GLm 23.7				
Femur	Bp 39.2	DC 17.9					
Humerus	Bd 28.5	BT 25.8	HT 17.1				
Humerus	Bd 24	BT 24.1	HT 14.3				
Humerus	Bd 28.5	BT 25	HT 15.8				
Humerus	Bd 25.6	BT 24.5	HT 16.6				
Metacarpal	Bd 21.9	Bdf 20.9	Ddf 11.4				
Metacarpal	Bp 19.5	Dp 14					
Metacarpal	Bd 22.8	Bp 19.8	Ddf 14.4	Dp 14.3	GL 122.2	SD 13	
Metacarpal	Bp 20.3	Dp 14.6					
Metacarpal	Bp 18.5	Dp 12.3					
Metatarsall	Bp 17.3	Dp 16.6					
Metatarsall	Bp 16.8	Dp 16.5					
Metatarsall	Bp 17.2	Dp 17.3	SD 10.9				
Radius	Bd 23.1	Bp 25.2	Bpf 26.8	Dd 17.8	Dp 13.2	GL 132	SD 14.4
Radius	Bd 23.6	Bp 28.7	Bpf 22.8	Dd 14.8	Dp 14.1	SD 15.6	
Radius	Bp 25.7	Bpf 23.8	Dp 13.5				
Radius	Bd 24.9	Bp 27.7	Bpf 24.1	Dd 14.4	Dp 13.7	GL 140.4	SD 13.1
Radius	Bd 23.9	Bp 27.7	Bpf 26.6	Dp 13.9	GL 141.6	SD 14.5	
Scapula	SLC 14.8						
Scapula	BG 17.4	LG 21.9	SLC 16.9				
Tibia	Bd 22.7	Dd 17					
Tibia	Bd 21.6	Dd 16.7					

Pathology

Several sheep/goat elements displayed pathological changes and these are given in Table 3.65. These largely relate to oral disease or degenerative change in joints.

Table 3.65: Pathological information, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element	Area	Condition	Comment
Radius	Proximal articulation	Degenerative change	Slight
Naviculo-cuboid	Proximal articulation	Degenerative change	Slight
Lumbar vertebra	Spine	Fracture?	Healed
Maxilla	Tooth Row	Periodontal disease	Slight
Mandible	Tooth Row	Periodontal disease	Slight
Mandible	Tooth Row	Periodontal disease	Slight
Mandible	Tooth Row	Periodontal disease	Slight
MMA long bone	Shaft	NSI	
MMA Rib	Shaft	Fracture	Healed

A3.8.4.4 Cattle

Element Representation

The representation of cattle elements is shown in Figure 3.39. Again dominated by loose teeth, all areas of the body are present.

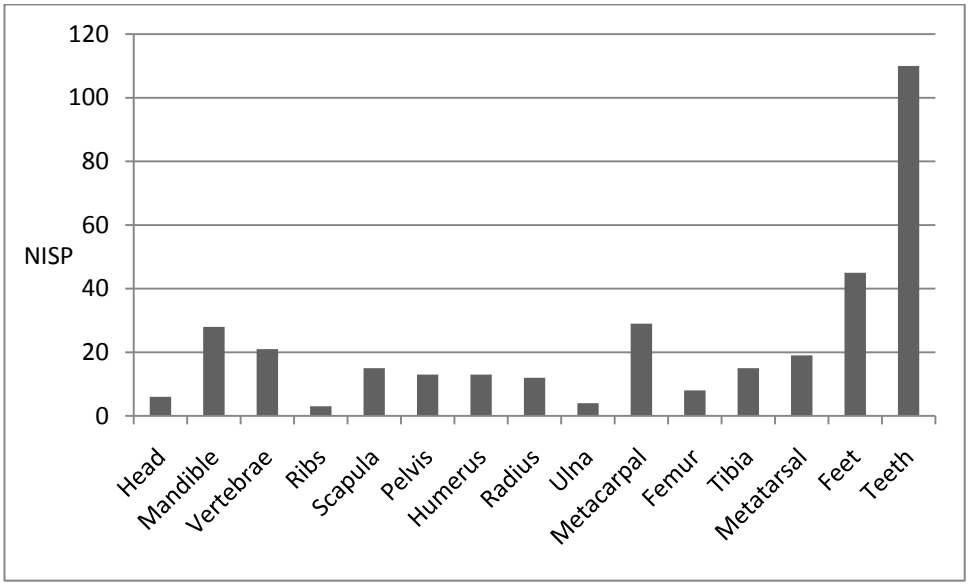

Figure 3.39: Element representation, cattle, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells. N = 358

Age and Population structure

The Howard's Index value could be calculated for a single cattle metacarpal, and this indicated a steer. Only seven fragments of cattle bone were porous. Four mandibles provided mandible wear stages of 4,26,37,and 46. Slightly more mandibles could have the Halstead stages calculated and these are shown in Figures 40 and 41. The ages represented are spread through the possible range, with a slight peak in deaths at Stage B. Consideration of the loose teeth given in Figure 3.42 seems to support the range of ages represented in the mandible wear stage data, although two unworn Dp4s may relate to younger animals. The fusion data in Table 66 gives a similar picture with a lack of very young individuals.

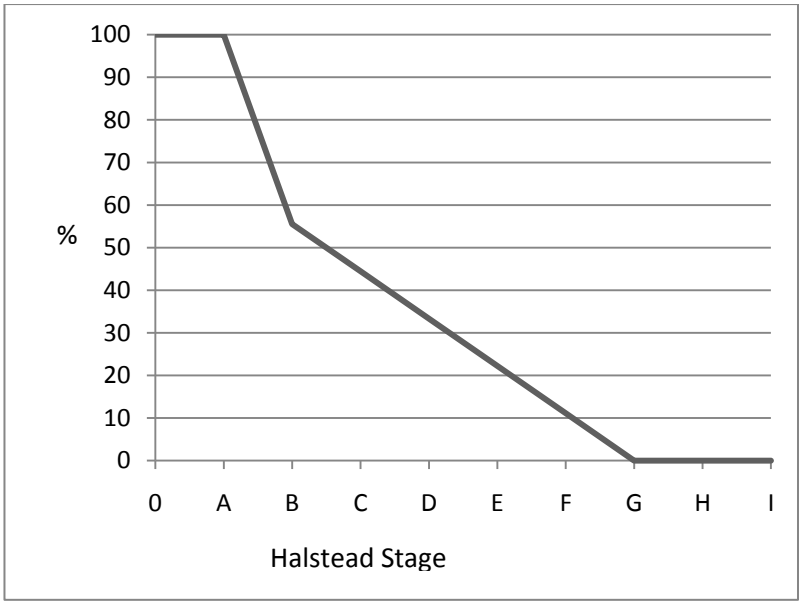

Figure 3.40: Halstead stage kill-off curve, cattle, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells. N = 9

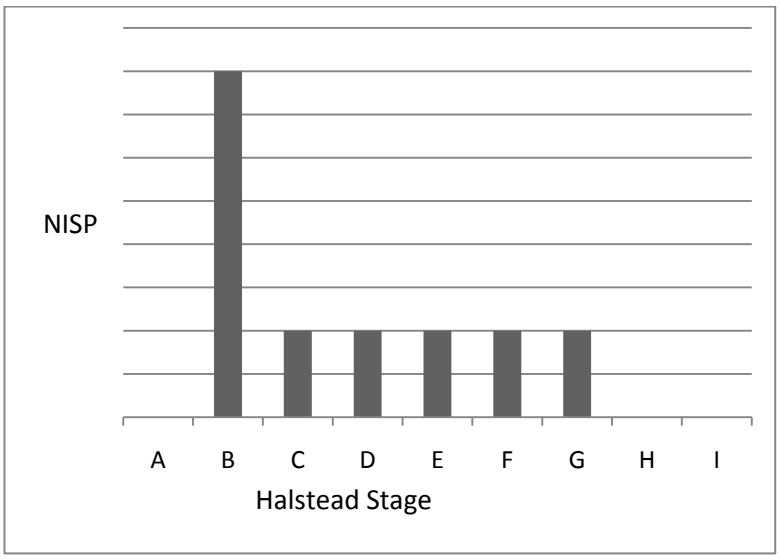

Figure 3.41: Halstead stages as histogram, cattle, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells. N = 9.

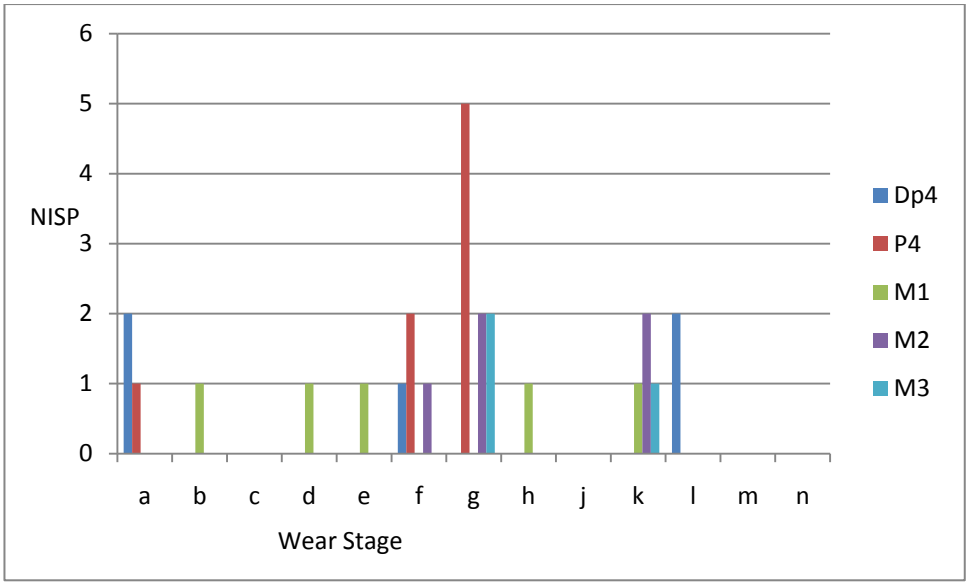

Figure 3.42: Wear stages in loose cattle teeth, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells. N = 26

Table 3.66: Fusion information, cattle, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Fusion Date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing: 7-10 months	Acetabulum	6	0
7-10 months	Glenoid	1	0
12-18 months	Humerus distal	2	3
12-18 months	Radius Proximal	8	0
Later fusing: 24-30 months	Metacarpal distal	5	5
27-36 months	Metatarsal distal	4	1
24-30 months	Tibia distal	4	1
Latest fusing: 42-48 months	Femur distal	0	1
42 months	Femur proximal	1	2
36-42 months	Calcaneus	0	2
42-48 months	Humerus proximal	0	1
42-48 months	Radius distal	0	1
42-48 months	Tibia proximal	0	1

Butchery

A number of cattle elements displayed cut marks and these are given in Table 3.67.

Table 3.67: Butchery information, cattle, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpretation
Metatarsal	Med/Cran/ Caud	Distal fusion point	HC	7	---	Parallel around three sides	Disarticulation
Humerus	Cran/Med	Margin above articulation	LC	3	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Mandible	Cranial	Across jaw behind teeth	LC	6	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Metacarpal	Distal	Lat and medial condyle	LC	3	I /	Med 2x Parallel I Lat 1x /	Disarticulation
Humerus	Caudal	Mid shaft	LC	10	----	Parallel	Skin/Disart?
Humerus	Anterior	Above condyle	LC	5	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Humerus	Midshaft	Lateral	LC	4	/	2 groups parallel	Disarticualtion
Mandible	Lat/Caud	Margin below mandibular condyle	LC	12	---	2 Parallel groups 9 and 3	Skin/Disart
2nd Phalanx	Ventral	Across shaft	LC	2	---	Parallel. V light	Skin
Mandible	Medial	Below mandibular condyle	LC	2	I	Parallel	Disarticulation
Mandible	Dorsal	Below mandibular condyle	LC	3	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Humerus	Lateral	Shaft	LC	1	\		Skin
Pelvis	Medial	Margin below acetabulum	LC	3	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Pelvis	Lateral	Across ischium below acetabulum	LC	2	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Pelvis	Medial	On surface of ischium	LC	3	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Radius	Medial	Border to proximal	HC	1	/		Disarticulation
Axis	Lat/Med	By broken edge	LC	2	---	Parallel	Disarticulation

Metrics

A number of measurements for cattle elements are given in Table 3.68.

Table 3.68: Metrical data, cattle, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element						
Astragalus	Bd 38.5	GLl 62.7	GLm 56.7			
Astragalus	Bd 35.9	GLl 59.1	GLm 51.9			
Horn	Bd 45.5	Dd 29.7	LOC 69.9			
Metacarpal	Bp 46.8	Dp 30.6				
Metacarpal	Bp 57.1	Dp 32.2				
Metacarpal	Bd 45.9	Bdf 42	Ddf 23.7			
Metacarpal	Bd 51.8	Bdf 46.8	Bp 47.8	Ddf 25	GL 171	SD 28.8
Metatarsal	Bp 40.9	Dp 39.8				
Metatarsal	Dp 44.8	SD 26.1				
Tibia	Bd 53.9					

Pathology

Several pathological elements were noted and these are given in Table 3.69. It is notable that tow involve degenerative joint change.

Table 3.69 : Pathological elements, cattle, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element	Area	Condition	Comment
Calcaneus	Articulation	Osteoarthritis	Severe
Radius	Proximal articulation	Degenerative change	Moderate
Metacarpal	Mid shaft	Non-specific infection	Osteitis
LMA Rib	Mid shaft	Fracture	Healed

A3.8.4.5 Pig

Element Representation

The pig elements represented in the assemblage are given in Figure 3.43.

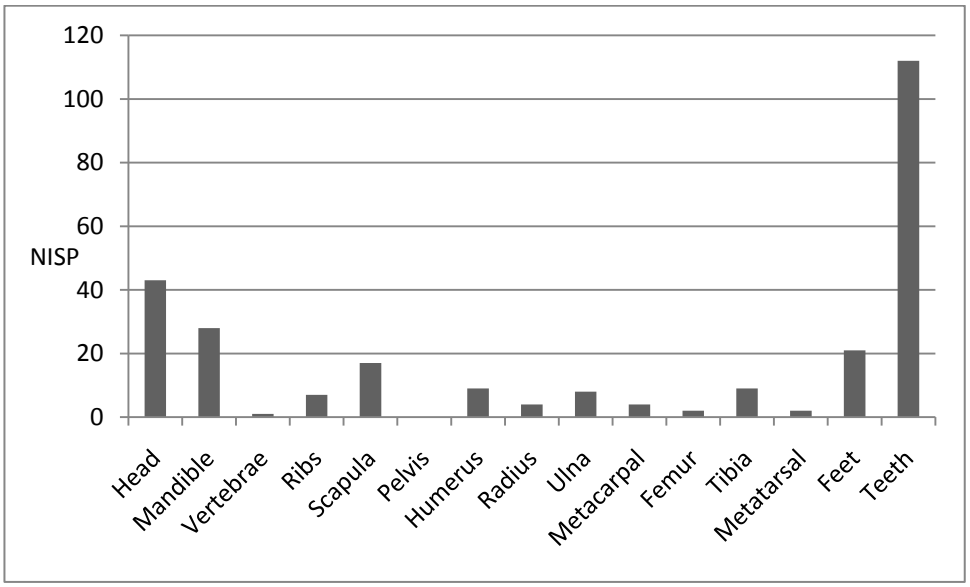

Figure 3.43: Element representation, pig, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells. N = 276

Age and Population structure

Four mandibles gave Grant mandible wear stages of 4,10,23 and 29. Hambleton stages are shown in Figure3. 44 and indicate a spread of age groups with a slight peak in the animals at full meat weight. There do not appear to be any neonatal or very old individuals. This is replicated in the loose teeth which are considered in Figure 3.45. 25 porous fragments were recorded, but the fusion data given in Table 3.70 also indicates a general lack of very young individuals.

Figure 3.44: Hambleton stages, pig, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells. N = 10

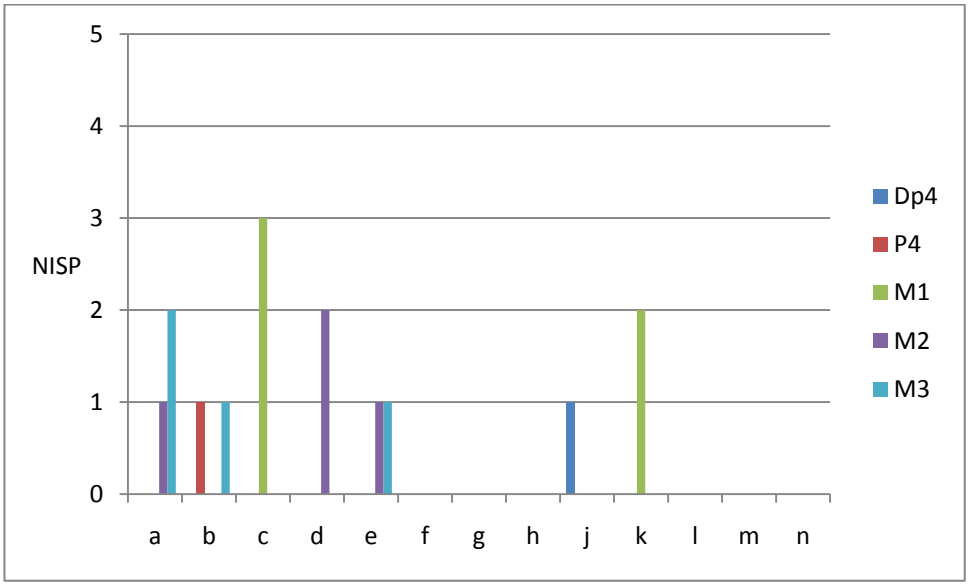

Figure 3.45: Grant wear stages for loose teeth, pig, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells. N = 15

Table 3.70: Fusion information, pig, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Fusion Date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing: 12 months	Humerus distal	1	0
12 months	Radius Proximal	3	0
Later Fusing: 24-30 months	Tibia distal	2	2
24 months	Metacarpal distal	1	0
27 months	Metatarsal distal	0	1
Late Fusing: 42 months	Femur Proximal	0	1
36-42 months	Ulna	0	4
24-30 months	Calcaneus	0	2

Butchery

Several cut marks were noted on pig bone and these are detailed in Table 3.71.

Table 3.71: Butchery information, pig, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpretation
Humerus	Caud/ Med	Across distal shaft	LC	1	---		Disarticulation
Radius	Lat/ Caudal	Margin	HC	8	---	Small, on edge and parallel	Disarticulation
Rib	Medial	Neck	HC	1	I		Disarticulation
Sacrum	Dorsal	Body	HC/ CHP	4	I ---	I X 3 parallel, one removing left ala + --- X 1	Disarticulation
Scapula	Medial	On margin	LC	2	\	Parallel	Disarticulation
Scapula	Medial	Blade by glenoid	LC	5	\	Parallel, converging	Disarticulation
Scapula	Distal	Margin of spine	LC	1	---		Disarticulation
Scapula	Ventral	Margin of spine	LC	2	---	Parallel	Disarticulation

Metrics

A small number of measurements were taken that are presented in Table 3.72.

Table 3.72: Metrical information, pig, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element				
3rd mandibular molar	B 14.8	L 35.2		
Scapula	BG 22	GLP 34.9	SLC 26.5	LG 27
Tibia	Bd 29.9	Dd 26.8		
Radius	Bp 29.1	Bpf 26.8	Dp 18.8	

Pathology

Several elements had indications of pathological change and these are given in Table 3.73. Most of these are related to trauma and infection and contrast with the pathologies shown in the other domesticates which are more related to advancing age.

Table 3.73: Pathological information, pig, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element	Area	Condition	Comment
Scapula	Spine	Non-specific infection	
Scapula	Blade	Non-specific infection	
Scapula	Neck	Trauma?	Exostosis
Radius	Proximal articulation	Degenerative change	Slight
Tibia	Shaft	Fracture	Healed

A3.8.4.6 Dog

Element Representation

There are few dog elements to consider but the representation of elements is given in Figure 3.46. Teeth, head and vertebral fragments dominate, probably due to fragmentation of these elements.

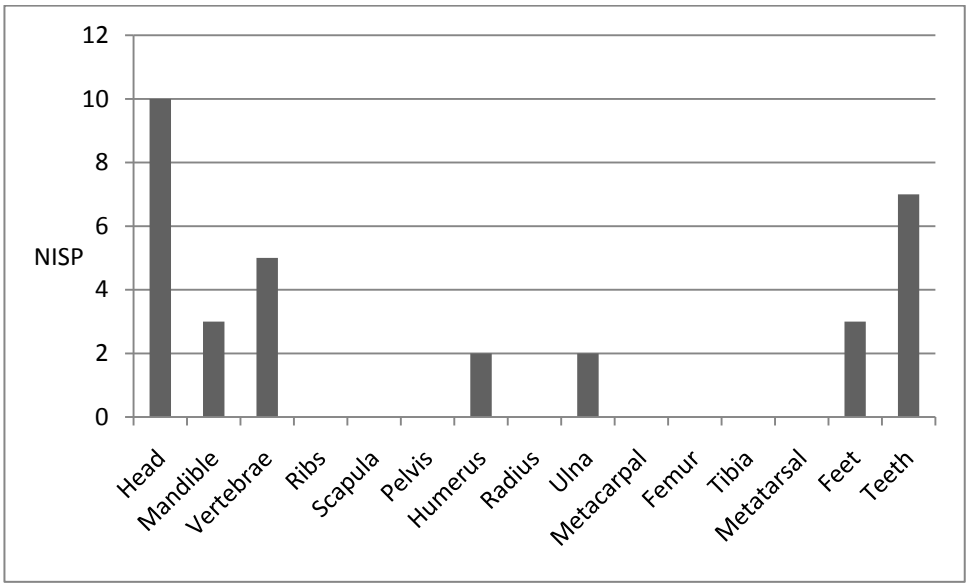

Figure 3.46: Element representation, dog, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells. N = 33

Age and Population structure

No ageing information could be recorded.

Butchery

No cut marks were noted on dog bone.

Metrics

A single dog element was measurable and is given in Table 3.74.

Table 3.74: Metrical information, dog, Late Iron Age West Sigwells.,

Element		
Femur	Bp 37.5	DC 18.8

Pathology

No pathological elements were recorded.

A3.8.4.7 Horse

Element Representation

Although this assemblage is dominated by teeth, most of the rest of the body is represented (Figure 3.47). Missing axial elements are prone to fragmentation and may be incorporated with fragments recorded as large mammal.

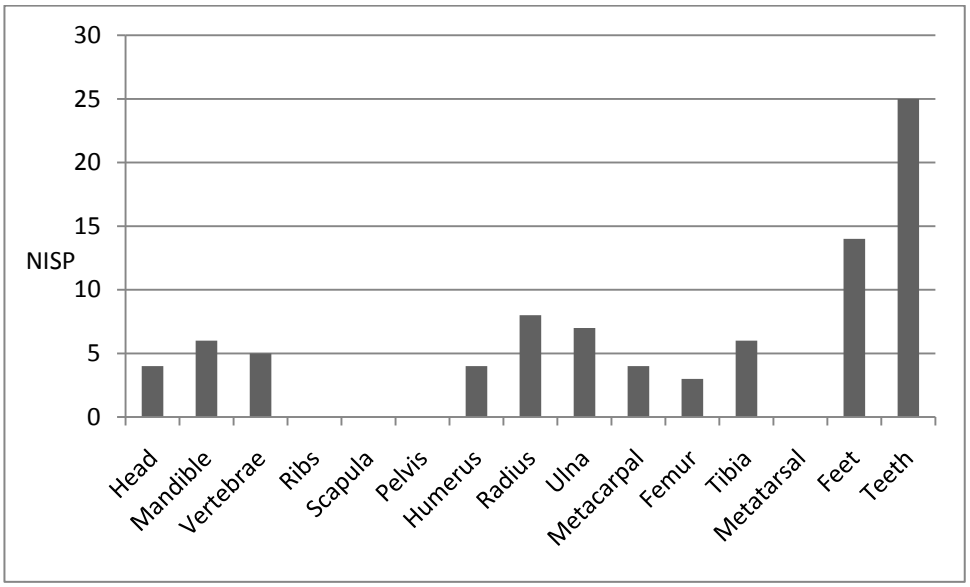

Figure 3.47: Element representation, horse, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells. N = 88

Age and Population structure

No information on age was available.

Butchery

Several horse bones showed cut marks and these are given in Table 3.75. It is notable that these are mainly around the lower limb.

Table 3.75: Butchery information, horse, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpretation
Calcaneus	Cranial	Margin above sustentaculum tali	LC	3	---	Parallel	Disarticulation
Calcaneus	Lateral	On process at anterior	CHP	1	I	Heavy oblique blow	Disarticulation
Humerus	Cranial	Mid shaft	LC	1	\		Disarticulation
Metacarpal	Medial	Midshaft medial margin	LC	11	--- \	4 + 4+ 3 All groups parallel	Skin
Metacarpal	Caud/ Distal	Distal margin	HC/CHP	1	---		Disarticulation

Metrics

A number of metrics were recorded and these are given in Table 3.76.

Table 3.76: Metrical information, horse, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element								
Humerus	Bd 61.8							
Metacarpal	Bd 42.2	Bdf 41.6	Bp39.2	Ddf 25	Dp 23.6	GL203.5	GLl 199	SD 24.8
Metacarpal	Bp41.5	Dp 27.8	SD 28.4					
Radius	Bp 70.6	Bpf 64.2	Dp 34.4					
Radius	Bp 62.6	Dp 33.3						
Radius	Bd 62.9	Bp 65.7	Bpf 68.8	Dd 32.4	Dp 33.7	GL 294	GLl 280	SD 30.1
Radius	Bp 66.7	Bpf 70.5	Dp 35.5					
Tibia	Bd 48.4	Bp 65.1	Dd 28.7	GL 262.7	GLl 234.9	SD 22.3		
Tibia	Bd 58	Dd 36.5						

Pathology

Several pathological changes were noted in horse bone (Table 3.77). The two cases of degenerative joint disease and the case of periodontal disease could be age related.

Table 3.77: Pathological information, horse, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Element	**Area**	**Condition**	**Comment**
Astragalus	Proximal articulation	Osteoarthritis	Severe
Femur	Anterior shaft	Degenerative change	Enthesophytes
Mandible	Tooth row	Calculus and Periodontal disease	

A3.8.4.8 Wild Species

All of the amphibian bones identified to species were frogs. Most of the small mammal fragments were the size of field voles, with two identified to that species. The birds from the Late Iron Age assemblage are given in Table 3.78. Buzzard were most frequently identified in this small collection. This is unsurprising as there is a modern buzzard population in the area.

Table 3.78 : Bird species represented, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Species	**NISP**
Raven	1
Buzzard	5
Domestic Fowl	1
Unidentified	4
Total	**11**

A3.8.4.9 Associated Bone Groups

A number of associated bone groups were recorded for the Late Iron Age. Details of these are given in Table 3.79. There appears, excepting butchery waste, to be a greater proportion of species that are less common in the main assemblage. The ABGs are generally different from

those from the site dating to the Middle Iron Age, because there is a greater representation of partial or entire carcases. In all cases they come from pits rather than the enclosure ditch.

Table 3.79: Associated bone groups, Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Species	Body part	Feature	Comment
Cow	Skull	Pit	Stones placed in eye sockets
Dog	Entire animal	Pit	Posthole in pit
Dog	Entire animal	Pit	Very young juvenile
Dog	Skull	Pit	Posthole in pit
Raven	Entire bird	Pit	Posthole in pit
S/G	Whole animal	Pit	Juvenile + part of second
S/G	Skull	Pit	Adult Butchery waste?
S/G	Group of ribs	Pit	Juvenile Butchery waste?
S/G	Part of thoracic spine	Pit	Butchery waste?
S/G	Part of thoracic spine	Floor	Butchery waste?
Horse	Skull and mandibles	Pit	Separated by layer of stones, daub tongue
Horse	Skull and premaxilla,	Pit	Top layer of pit with entire dog - disturbed

NB the two horse skulls are not included in the database for this site, as they appear to have been separated from the main bone assemblage. Photographs are shown in the interim site report (Tabor 2003:50-51). The entire sheep burial included a mandible assigned to MWS 20, Payne stage D.

A3.8.5 The Romano-British period

Most of the material dated to the Romano-British period comes from the make-up of two parallel banks that defined a route way on the alignment of the Iron Age track. The type of deposit and the likely way in which it accumulated may explain the condition of some of the material. It is probable that much of the material is re-deposited Late Iron Age material.

A3.8.5.1 Species Representation

Fragments identified to species represent only 30.48% of this small assemblage. The full breakdown is given in Table 3.80.

Table 3.80: Representation of species Romano-British, West Sigwells.

Species	NISP	MNI	% of identified mammals	% loose teeth	% Main Species
Cow	38	2	21.35	55.26	21.97
Pig	28	2	15.73	42.86	16.18
Sheep/Goat	107	5	60.11	52.35	61.85
Dog	1	1	0.56		
Horse	4	1	2.25		
Large mammal	58				
Medium mammal	89				
Unidentified	254				
Total main	**579**				
Small mammals	1				
Bird	4				
Total	**584**				

Whilst this is a small group of material, sheep/goat, reflected in the proportion of medium mammal fragments, is evidently the largest component.

A3.8.5.2 Element Representation

The distribution of elements for the three main species is shown in Figure 3.48. The proportions of loose teeth are very high for all species, and other elements are represented in low numbers but generally scattered through the areas of the body. In the case of sheep, some of the more robust areas of limb bones are better represented. This supports the interpretation of this as a generally heavily fragmented assemblage.

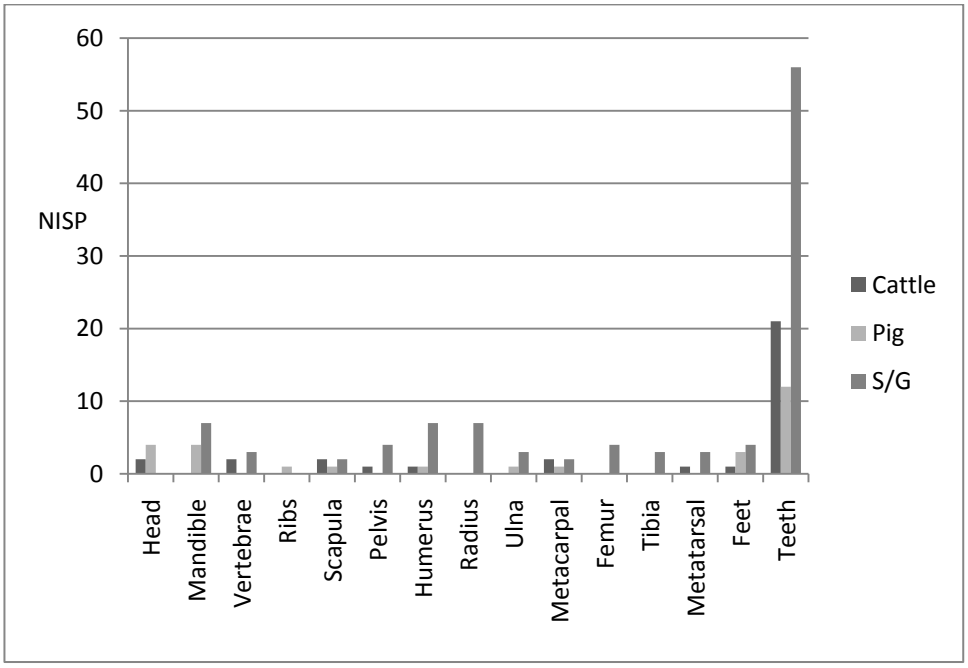

Figure 3.48: Element representation, Romano-British period, West Sigwells. N = 173

A3.8.5.3 Sheep/Goat

No elements were identified as relating to goat, and although this does not preclude their presence, it is likely that they only formed a small minority, and the greatest number of animals were sheep.

Age and Population structure

A single mandible could be aged to MWS 35, Payne Stage F. Several loose teeth might relate to individuals at similar stages. Ten fragments were recorded as being porous, indicating that young individuals are probably badly under-represented. Table 3.81 gives the available fusion information and this demonstrates that there were a variety of ages present.

Table 3.81: Fusion information for sheep/goat, Romano-British, West Sigwells.

Fusion date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing: 6-10 months	Acetabulum	2	0
10 months	Humerus distal	0	1
10 months	Radius Proximal	1	0
Later fusing: 20-28 months	Metatarsal distal	1	1
Late Fusing: 36-42 months	Femur Distal	0	0
30-36 months	Femur proximal	0	1
36 months	Radius distal	0	1

Butchery

A single element showed signs of butchery and this is shown in Table 3.82.

Table 3.82: Butchery, sheep/goat, Romano-British, West Sigwells.

Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpretation
Scapula	Medial	Neck of glenoid	LC	6	---	Parallel	Disarticulation

Metrics

Two measureable elements were recorded and are shown in Table 3.83.

Table 3.83: Metrical data, sheep/goat, Romano-British, West Sigwells.

Element							
Metatarsal	Bd 24.3	Bp 26.5	Bpf 24.1	Dd 17.1	Dp 13.4	GL 141.1	SD 13.4
Radius	Bd 20.6	Bdf 20.2	Bp 18	Ddf 11.9	Dp 18.1	GL 121.5	SD 9.5

Pathology

No pathology was noted for sheep/goat.

A3.8.5.4 Cattle

Age and Population structure

There were no cattle mandibles which could be assessed for wear. A few mandiblular teeth were recorded and include a partly worn Dp4 and worn permanent molars. A single fragment of cattle metapodial was porous. The only fusion information relates to a single fused acetabulum. The likelihood is that there were both younger and older cattle present, but the information is too scant to say more.

Butchery

No cut marks were recorded for cattle.

Metrics

A single cattle element provided measurements, these are given in Table 3.84.

Table 3.84: Metrical information, cattle, Romano-British, West Sigwells.

Element		
Metacarpal	Bp 55.8	Dp 33.1

Pathology

No pathology was noted for cattle.

A3.8.5.5 Pig

Age and Population structure

There were no mandibles or loose teeth that could be assigned to a mandible wear stage. There were two fragments of porous bone. Very little fusion information was available and this is given in Table 3.85.

Table 3.85: Fusion information, pig, Romano-British, West Sigwells.

Fusion Date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Later fusing: 24 months	Metacarpal - distal	1	0
Latest fusing: 24-30months	Calcaneus	0	1

Two lower canines could be assessed for sex and were both male.

Butchery

No cut marks were recorded on pig elements.

Metrics

A single pig element was measurable and the measurements are given in Table 3.86.

Table 3.86: Metrical information, pig, Romano-British, West Sigwells.

Element			
Astragalus	Bd 23.6	GLl 37.9	GLm 35.2

Pathology

No pathological pig elements were noted.

A3.8.5.6 Dog

A single element of dog was identified, a third phalanx.

A3.8.5.7 Horse

Four horse elements were present, three worn mandibular teeth and an astragalus.

A3.8.5.8 Wild Species

Wild species were represented by a single lower incisor from a rodent of water vole-size, and four bird bones, all too fragmentary to be identified to species.

A3.8.6 Discussion of the West Sigwells assemblage

The proportion of species represented at West Sigwells does not appear to have changed to any great extent from the Middle to the Late Iron Age. In both periods sheep/goat are overwhelmingly dominant, as can be seen in Figure 3.49. Cattle and pigs are both minor elements of roughly equal proportions.

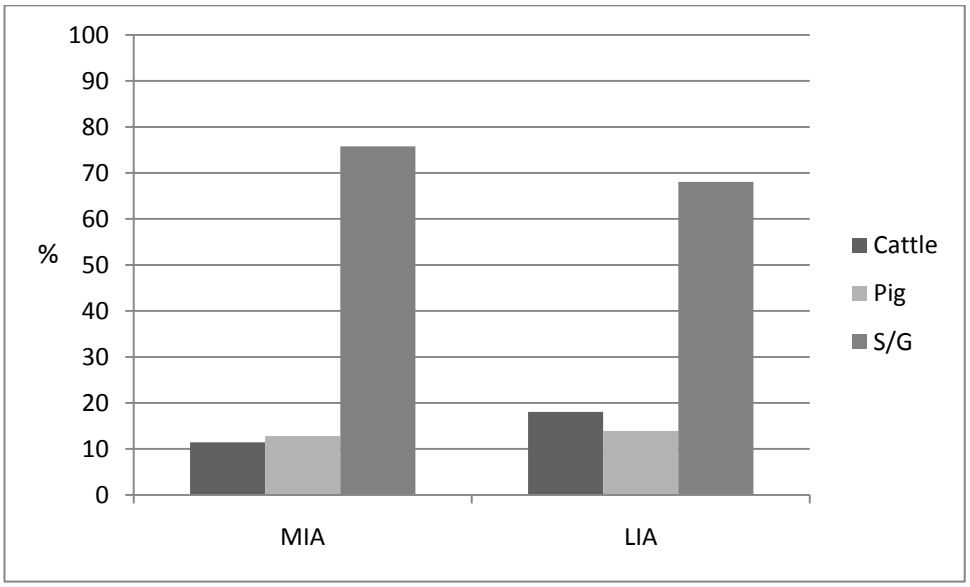

Figure 3.49: Representation of the main species (NISP), Middle and Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

The kill-off curves for sheep/goat in the Middle and Late Iron Age and percentage of unfused elements in the three main age categories are shown in Figures 3.50 and 3.51. There is a fair degree of similarity between them, the only difference being in the kill-off curves that small number of neonates occurred in the Middle Iron Age and not the Late Iron Age. It is likely that these curves represent broadly the same situation throughout the later Iron Age. This is similar in the fusion data, although there are some very slight differences. These may not however be significant.

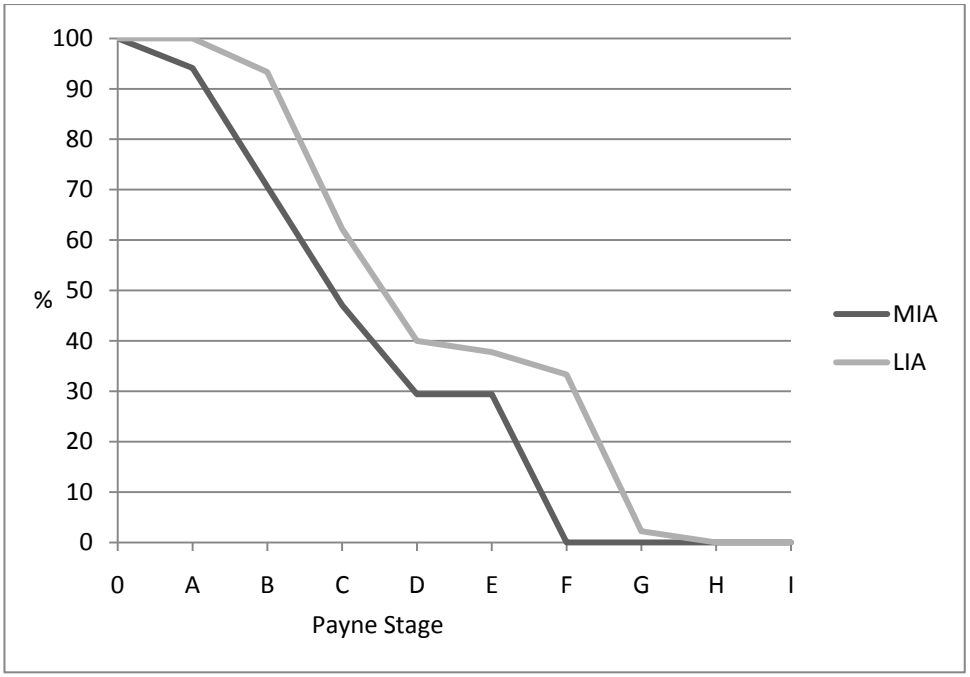

Figure 3.50: Payne curves for sheep/goat, Middle and Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

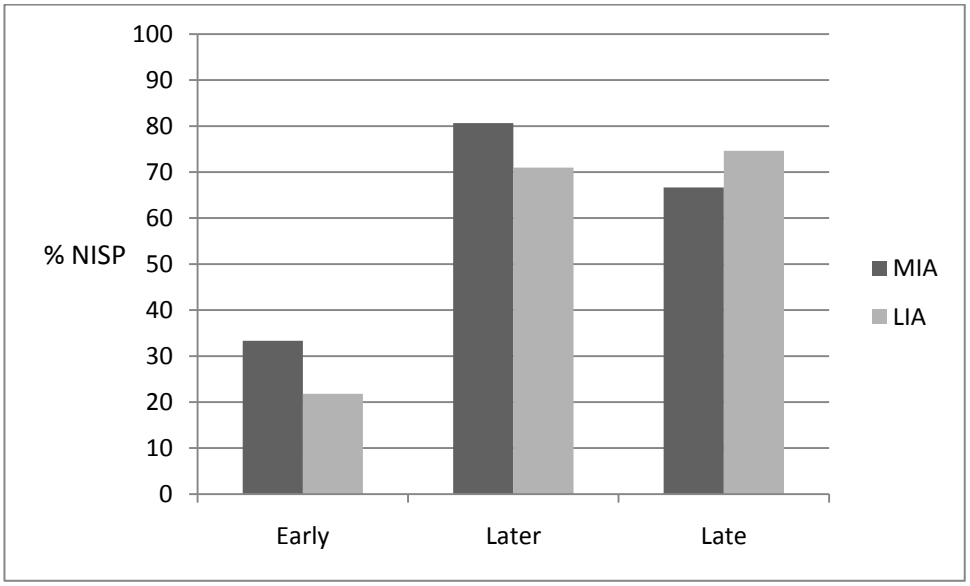

Figure 3.51: Percentage of unfused elements divided by early, later and late fusing, Middle and Late Iron Age, West Sigwells.

Data for the other species are too few to make detailed comparisons, but it is likely that there was little difference in the type of husbandry aims and practice between the two periods. However, it is clear that the Late Iron Age assemblage represents an intensification of the activity at West Sigwells in the Late Iron Age. The number and character of the associated bone groups also changed as has been noted above. It has been suggested elsewhere that the highly structured depositional practice extended to a range of materials (Randall 2006) and the use of the pit scatter may have been quite specific.

A3.8.7 Structural information

An extensive rectilinear and agglomerative field system with a degree of infilling came into existence across the Sigwells ridge to the east of the enclosure and pit scatter in the Middle Iron Age and appears to have continued in use to the end of the Iron Age. There was probably some change to it over time but little evidence that most of the components are not generally contemporary. Large double ditched track ways run through the centre of the system from north to south and east to west, turning toward the northwest, and the edge of the escarpment overlooking Cadbury itself. Here it enters a less organised area, that approaches the enclosure and pit scatter on western Sigwells. The pit scatter itself is essentially in an area of unbounded land but is aligned on a trackway that runs from the Early Bronze Age north barrow in a south westerly direction, skirting the edge of the steep north slope, and probably leading down its face into the valley. This track appeared to have superseded an earlier hollow way on a slightly different alignment but heading in a broadly similar direction that was discovered during the excavation of the Sigwells enclosure (Tabor 2004:44), which alerts us again to the numerous landscape components which we remain largely ignorant of due to their slight or diffuse magnetic signatures. This appears to have been a long established major route through the landscape, possibly approaching Cadbury Castle, and certainly offering spectacular views over it.

Houses appear scattered within and around the system, which is serviced by a series of major and minor tracks between rectangular and square fields. Most fields have corner entrances. In several places, boundaries are apparently double ditched, but there is no reason to suspect that this is related to shift over time, and they would enable livestock to be moved around the system effectively. Where these double ditched arrangements are located in the corner of a land parcel, they are likely to be offering the opportunity to move animals within and through the system without damaging crops or grazing. This is likely to occur when the movement is very frequent (i.e. daily movement of animals for milking), or if animals are being moved in large numbers.

At the eastern end of the system, a double ditched track leads into a larger paddock, whilst on its southern side a funnel arrangement enters the system at a corner entrance. The apex of the funnel joins two land parcels at a point where there are entrances to both, and to a lengthy narrow passage along the southern side of the larger one, the north and south ditch of which have several breaks within them. This may hint at further subdivision of the central parcel by boundaries which are not visible in the gradiometry. The funnel itself may lead from an extension of the system, or from open downland, but this information may prove impossible to obtain, due to the construction in this area of World War II airfield buildings. Nevertheless, it appears to represent a substantial animal handling feature, allowing examination and sorting of animals as they moved either from rough common grazing into the system, or between broad areas of the system.

At the north western end of the system, south of the pit scatter, a double ditched track apparently entered the corner of a two ditched boundaries set at right angles to each other. This may be another land parcel, or alternatively another collecting point, funnelling animals from the steep land to the north and west in to the system. The existence of the Sigwells pit

group, would seem to preclude the northernmost part of the escarpment from any form of agricultural activity.

A3.9.0 South Sigwells Late Iron Age enclosure (Sigwells Trenches 21- 23)

An additional square enclosure with an interior subdividing ditch was identified by gradiometer survey to the south of the West Sigwells Iron Age enclosure and pit scatter. This was examined with a number of small trenches in the spring of 2006. It comprised a Late Iron Age enclosure, with most of the pottery indicating a first century AD date, although it may have had an earlier antecedent. It was modified and reused in the Romano-British period, after a break of almost a century. The Late Iron Age phase of the enclosure was subdivided, closing off about a third of the area, with a line of large pits within it, exactly spaced and in parallel with the subdividing ditch and the outer enclosure ditch. Given the experience of the main Sigwells Iron Age enclosure and pit complex described above, about 150m to the north on similar geology and soils, it was expected that the contents of both the ditches and pits would be rich in faunal remains. This was surprisingly not the case; the resulting small assemblage is presented here to provide a counterpoint to the material from this site's adjacent and largely contemporary neighbour.

A3.9.1 Species Representation

Despite the excavation of a substantial ditch section and fair volumes from other features, the animal bone assemblage is small. The fragment counts for both Late Iron Age and the Romano-British material are given in Table 3.87. It is hard to infer too much from such a small body of material, although the MNI counts hint of the possibly greater importance of sheep/goat in the Late Iron Age. Pig is particularly badly represented.

Table 3.87: Fragment counts, all periods, South Sigwells.

	Late Iron Age		**Romano-British**	
Species	**NISP**	**MNI**	**NISP**	**MNI**
Cow	17	1	5	1
Pig	1	1	1	1
Sheep/Goat	17	4	4	1
Large mammal	27		3	
Medium mammal	21		7	
Unidentified	43		38	
Total	126		58	

A3.9.2 Late Iron Age

The majority of the material came from the enclosure ditch. It was not in poor condition, being scored as 'average' or 'average to good'. The relative proportions of species are probably a function of the very small sample size, although the greater number of the MNI of sheep may be indicative of their actual dominance. A cattle metacarpal and cattle radius were fused distally, whilst a horse incisor showed considerable wear. A worn maxillary molar indicated the

presence of older sheep, but a porous maxillary fragment demonstrated that juveniles also formed part of the assemblage.

Metrics were obtained from two fragments which are given in Table 3.88.

Table 3.88: Metrical data, Late Iron Age, South Sigwells.

Species	Element			
Cow	Radius	Bd 60.9	Dd 35.5	
S/G	Astragalus	Bd 15.2	GLl 25	GLm 23.8

Three elements displayed signs of butchery, and are shown in Table 3.89.

Table 3.89: Butchery, Late Iron Age, South Sigwells.

Species	Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpretation
S/G	Humerus	Caudal	Across shaft	LC	1	---		Disarticulation
S/G	Astragalus	Lat/cau	Across lat margin	LC	2	---	Parallel	Dis/skin
S/G	Astragalus	Lat/cau	Across lat margin	LC	2	---	Parallel	Dis/Skin

A3.9.3 Romano-British period

The 58 fragments of animal bone do little more than confirm the presence of the three main domestic species. Preservation was relatively good, but six of the ten fragments identifiable to species were loose teeth, and it seems likely that rather than representing occupation debris localised on the site itself, it represents material that has been brought in or material disturbed from the previous phase. The pottery assemblage is sufficient to provide dating, but is itself not large. Only adult animals are represented with no porous bone. This is assumed to be taphonomic. A cattle pelvis had a fused acetabulum. A cattle calcaneus displayed gnawing and had ten light cuts across the lateral surface adjacent to the articulation.

A3.9.4 Structural Information

This enclosure existed on the edge of the series of field systems described above. It appears to have been a late development, but also lay across an earlier route, suggesting a slight reorientation of the landscape at the very end of the Iron Age.

A3.10.0 The Moor

Three trenches were excavated in 2005 in a field in the base of the South Cadbury Valley, immediately below and to the east of the eastern gateway of Cadbury Castle hillfort. These trenches targeted the crossing points of a number of Middle to Late Iron Age field boundary ditches, with the intention of providing phasing information for the field systems. In the event, most of the deposits, being the fill of the ditches as they went out of use, accumulated during the last part of the Middle and into the Late Iron Age, with Romano-British plough horizons and hillwash above them. The animal bone assemblage consists of 1384 fragments across these three periods. Large dumps of pottery, some broken *in situ*, and a highly unusual 1st Century AD human burial were also recovered from the ditches. In several cases the bottoms of features were not excavated due to meeting the water table. Questions remain as to the alterations in the hydrology in the area since the Iron Age.

Particular research questions with relation to the animal bone include whether there is anything distinctive about the range of species or their treatment and utilisation and deposition that might inform considerations of the degree to which they comprise an element in the structured deposition apparent on the site in the dumps of pots and other material. The animal bone can be assigned to three phases, Middle and Late Iron Age and Romano-British which are dealt with in turn. Material came from a variety of feature types that are commented upon where appropriate below, and was in general in relatively good condition.

A3.10.1 Taphonomy

Numbers of fragments and percentages of gnawed, weathered and burned fragments are given in Table 3.90. All three are present at fairly consistently low levels across all three periods, although there is a concentration of weathered large mammal skull (probably cattle) fragments in the Middle Iron Age contexts. This seems to relate to the cluster of cattle skull elements in the Middle Iron Age ditch, several of which are known to belong to the cattle skulls recorded as ABGs, which may indicate a skull or skulls that were left exposed.

Table 3.90: Gnawing, weathering and burning by species and period, The Moor.

Species	Gnawing			Weathering			Burning		
	MIA	LIA	RB	MIA	LIA	RB	MIA	LIA	RB
S/G	1	9	14	2	7	8	1	4	4
Cow	1	3	3	8	3	4	0	0	1
Pig	0	2	2	1	2	3	0	1	0
Horse	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
LMA	4	0	0	196	1	9	0	0	4
MMA	0	1	3	2	3	21	0	7	6
UNI	1	1	2	2	2	13	1	29	34
Total	**7 (2.3%)**	**16 (5.3%)**	**24 (7.9%)**	**211 (44.5%)**	**18 (3.79%)**	**59 (12.4%)**	**2 (0.4%)**	**41 (8.6%)**	**49 (10.3%)**

A3.10.2 The Middle Iron Age

A3.10.2.1 Species and element representation

Species representation for Middle Iron Age features is shown in Table 3.91. Only 20% of the assemblage was identified to species.

Table 3.91 : Species by NISP and MNI, Middle Iron Age, The Moor.

Species	NISP	MNI	% of domestic species NISP	% loose teeth	% Main Species
Cow	25	1	40.3%	24% (6)	40.32
Pig	4	1	6.5%	0	6.45
Sheep/goat	29	4	46.8%	34.5% (10)	46.77
Horse	2	1	3.2%	0	
Dog	2	1	3.2%	0	
Large mammal	213				
Medium mammal	27				
Unidentified	86				
Total Main	**302**				
Amphibian	2				
Small Mammals	1				
Total	**305**				

Although this is a small collection of only 62 fragments identified to species, some observations are possible. The proportion of sheep appears relatively low and the cattle high, with a very high proportion of large mammal fragments. This may relate to the fact that virtually all of the Middle Iron Age material came from ditch fills. It therefore may reflect differential deposition of cattle in ditches with disposal of sheep and pig remains occurring elsewhere, rather than it directly reflecting husbandry. Nevertheless, an elevated number of cattle might be expected in the valley location. Pigs are particularly poorly represented. Where it has been possible to consider, all sheep/goat elements have been identified as sheep. The material is heavily fragmented with an elevated number of loose teeth and a smattering of other elements, as shown in Figure 3.52.

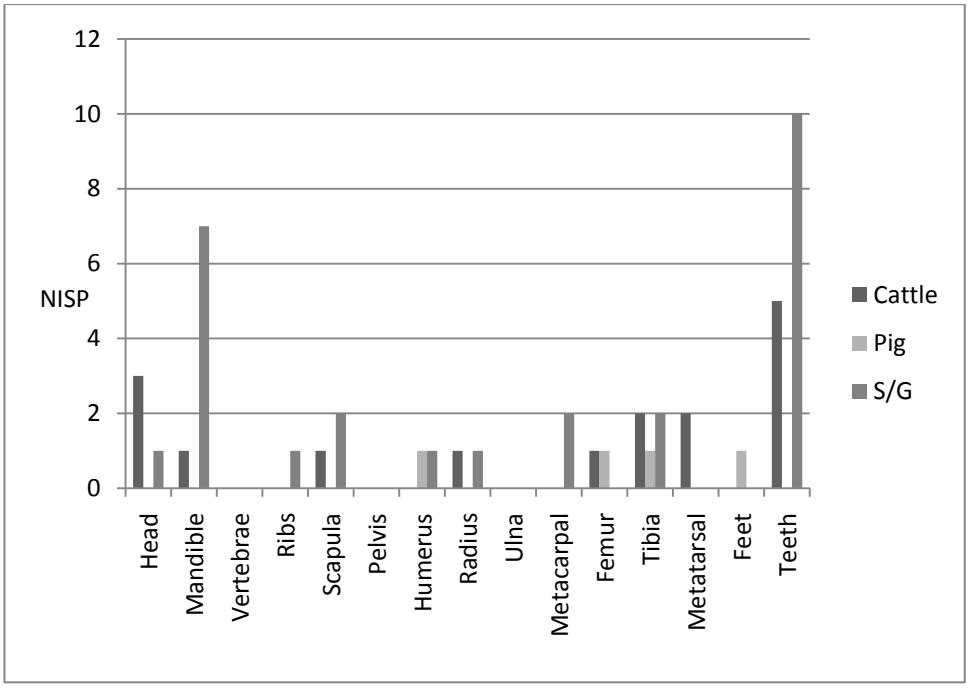

Figure 3.52: Distribution of elements, main domestic species, Middle Iron Age, The Moor. N = 58

A3.10.2.2 Age and herd structure

Ageing data is limited. The five aged sheep/goat mandibles are shown in Figure 3.53. The three individuals at Payne Stage C are juveniles of about 6-8 months. The two older individuals are adults of 4-6 years. The sample is too small to make inferences about husbandry regimes, but the close age groups (the younger individuals had the same mandible wear stages) might suggest a seasonal element in culling. A single cattle mandible had a mandible wear stage of 4, indicating a juvenile animal of a few weeks of age. There is a single porous element. However there is also a fused glenoid (fuses at 7-10 months) and a fused distal radius, which fuses between 42 and 48 months. This indicates cattle of various ages. The few dog and horse elements present were all fused. A pig femur and humerus were both unfused both proximally and distally, fusing at around 42 months for the femur and proximal humerus and 12 months for the distal humerus. That element was porous. The consumption of juvenile pigs is recognised as a widespread practice.

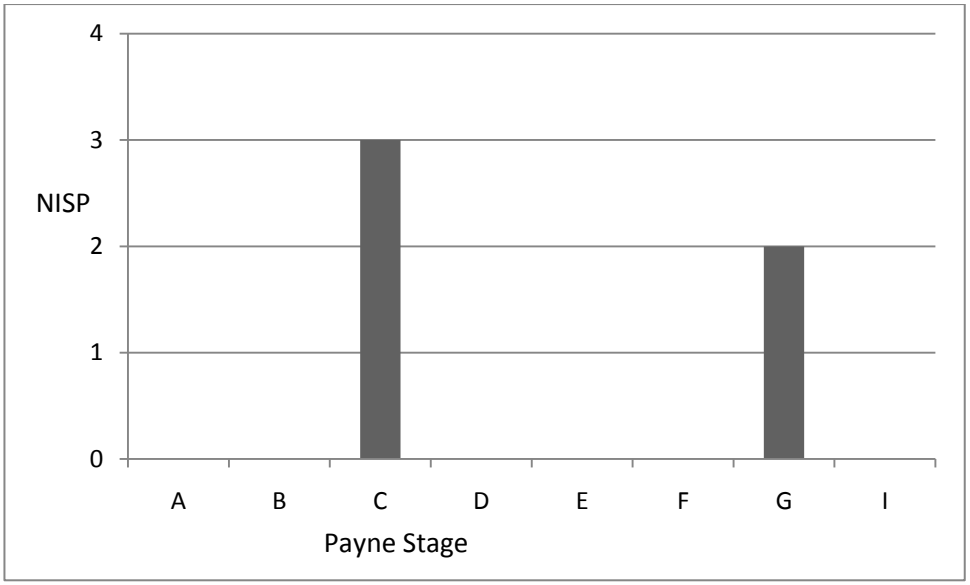

Figure 3.53 : Sheep/Goat mandibles Middle Iron Age, The Moor. N = 5

A3.10.2. 3 Butchery

Two elements displayed cut marks and these are given in Table 3.92.

Table 3.92: Butchery, cattle, Middle Iron Age, The Moor.

Context	Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpretation
TR3 014	Mandible	Lateral	Across ascending ramus	LC	16	--- x 11 / x4 \ x1	Groups	Dis/skin
TR3 028	Skull	Sup/lat	Across vault	LC	7	---	Groups	Skin?

A3.10.2.4 Pathology

Only two elements had indications of pathological change, and these are given in Table 3.93.

Table 3.93: pathological elements, all species, Middle Iron Age, The Moor.

Context	Species	Element	Part	Type	Comment
TR3 014	S/G	Mandible	P4/M1	Mallocclusion	
TR3 021	Horse	Metacarpal	Post/proximal	Degenerative change	Lateral LMP fused to shaft

A3.10.2.5 Animal Bone Groups and complete skulls

Two cattle skulls were found closely adjacent to each other in a ditch fill. These were fully adult and although most of the teeth had been lost post mortem, a single permanent molar was worn, indicating a fully adult animal. No butchery was noted.

A3.10.2.6 Metrics

A number of elements could be measured and these are given in Table 3.94.

Table 3.94: Metrical information, all species, Middle Iron Age, The Moor.

Context	Species	Element	Side					
TR3 014	Sheep/ Goat	Metacarpal	right	Bdf 21.3	Bp 21.2	Ddf 14. 4	Dp 14.8	SD 12.7
				GLdf 103.5				
TR3 014	Cattle	Horn	left	Bd 40.4	Dd 31.7			
TR3 014	Cattle	Horn	right	Bd 40.4	Dd 28.6			
TR3 029	Cattle	Radius	left	Bd 64.7	Dd 36.7			
TR3 014	Dog	Femur	left	DC 18.7				
TR3 021	Horse	Metacarpal	left	Bd 38.1	Bdf 35.8	Bp 37.6	Ddf 23.4	Dp 21.1
				GL186	GLl 181	SD 25.4		
TR3 027	Horse	Metatarsal	right	Bd 39.2	Bdf 36.5	Bp 35.7	Ddf 22.9	Dp 30.9
				GL249	GLl 240	SD 21.4		

A3.10.3 The Late Iron Age

A3.10.3.1 Species representation

Like the Middle Iron Age, most of the material came from ditch contexts. The species representation is shown in Table 3.95. 36% of material was identifiable to species, nearly twice that of the Middle Iron Age. The sheep/goat in particular had a lower percentage of loose teeth, and this may indicate that this was a less fragmented assemblage that was incorporated more rapidly.

Table 3.95 : Species, Late Iron Age by NISP and MNI, The Moor.

Species	NISP	MNI	% of domestic species NISP	% loose teeth	% Main Species
Cow	21	2	12.3%	5 – 23.8%	12.28
Pig	19	2	11.1%	2 – 10.5%	11.11
Sheep/goat	125	7	73.1%	22 – 17.6%	73.09
Horse	6	1	3.5%	1 – 16.7%	
Large mammal	38				
Medium mammal	110				
Unidentified	155				
Total	**474**				

The higher proportion of sheep in this group of material is similar to other nearby contemporary assemblages. However, given what was said above regarding the location of the material in a ditch, it may also reflect change in depositional practice or use of the adjacent area.

A3.10.3.2 Sheep/Goat

All elements that could be determined between sheep and goat were sheep. The representation of sheep/goat are shown in Figure 3.54. There is a quite evident lack of most axial elements. Whilst most limb bones are represented, there are a large number of distal limb bones – radius, tibia and metapodials. There is also a reasonable representation of head bones. Whilst there is a possibility that this represents the disposal of peripheral elements during processing of carcase, the lack of foot bones is problematic, and this probably reflects the fragmentation of the assemblage, with the most robust elements being preserved.

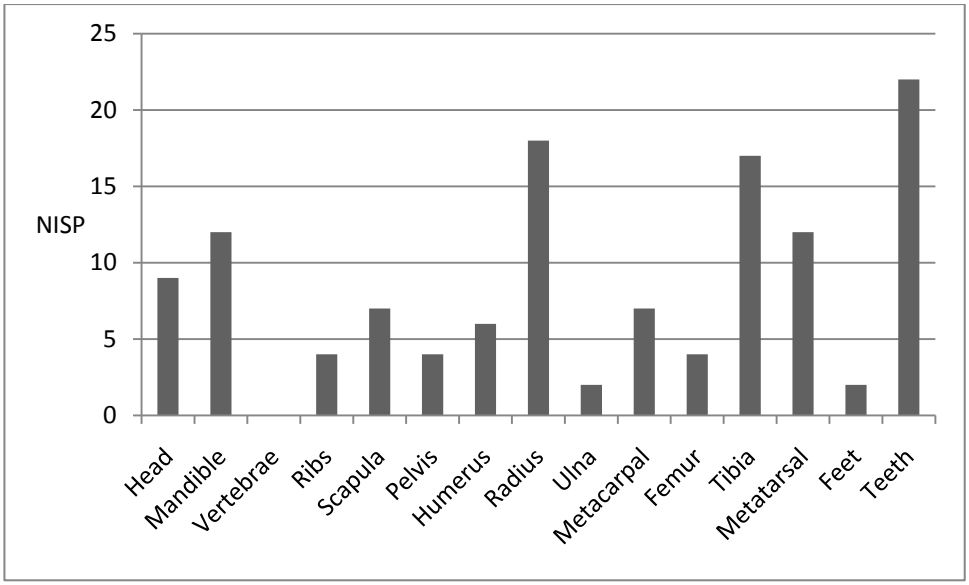

Figure 3.54 : Element representation for sheep/goat for the Late Iron Age, The Moor. N = 125

Age and herd structure

The only two sheep mandibles that could be aged were from older adults, one having a Grant MWS of 39 / Payne stage G, and one MWS 44 / Payne stage H. Other ageing data is limited, with only five porous elements indicating the presence of young animals, although this may relate to the preservation of sheep/goat in this assemblage. Fusion data is given in Table 3.96. It does not seem to indicate the presence of many young individuals. There is no evidence of very young animals or that lambing occurred nearby.

Table 3.96: Fusion information, sheep/goat, Late Iron Age, The Moor.

Fusion date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing: 6-10mnths	Acetabulum	2	0
6-8mnths	Glenoid	1	0
10months	Humerus distal	2	0
10 months	Radius Proximal	0	1
Later fusing: 18-24 months	Tibia distal	2	0
18-24 months	Metacarpal distal	0	0
20-28 months	Metatarsal distal	1	1
Late Fusing: 30-36 months	Femur Proximal	0	3
36-42 months	Femur Distal	1	0
36 months	Radius distal	1	0
36-42months	Tibia proximal	1	0

Metrics

A number of elements could be measured and these are given in Table 3.97.

Table 3.97: Metrical data, sheep/goat, Late Iron Age, The Moor.

Context	Element	Side			
TR1 014	Metacarpal	right	Bp 18.2	Dp 13.6	
TR1 015	Metatarsal	right	Bd 21.5	Bdf 20.9	Ddf 12.1
TR1 014	Horn	right	Bd 34.3	Dd 22.6	
TR1 014	Tibia	left	Bd 21.6	Dd 16.9	
TR1 021	Tibia	right	Bd 21.4	Dd 17.3	
TR2 011	Humerus	left	Bd 25.9	BT 24.9	HT 14.8
TR3 017	Humerus	left	Bd 24.9	BT 23.8	HT 15.2

Pathology

A single pathological element was noted and is given in Table 3.98.

Table 3.98: Pathological data, sheep/goat, Late Iron Age, The Moor.

Context	Element	Part	Type	Comment
TR2 011	Mandible	M1-2	Periodontal disease	Slight

A3.10.3.3 Cattle

Element representation

Whilst this small groups of material is dominated by loose teeth, there are a small number of elements from all areas of the body represented as can be seen in Figure 3.55.

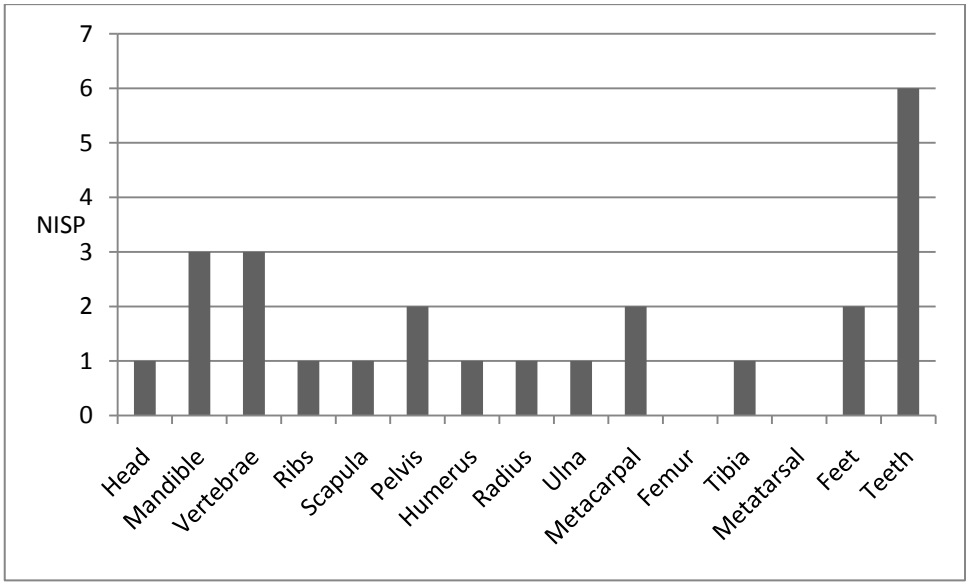

Figure 3.55: Cattle elements, Late Iron Age, The Moor. N = 21

Age and herd structure

The two cattle mandibles that were aged gave MWS of 4 and 16, representing two juveniles between 1 and 18 months, one at the low end of the range, one at the high end. The younger mandible is porous, but represents the only porous cattle element from this phase. There is a

single cattle metacarpal that is fused distally, which occurs between 24-30 months. One cattle tibia was unfused distally which also occurs at around 24-30 months.

Metrics

A single element was measureable and this is given in Table 3.99.

Table 3.99: Metrical data, cattle, Late Iron Age, The Moor.

Context	Element	Side		
TR2 011	Metacarpal	right	Bp 53.7	Dp 30.6

Butchery

Several elements displayed cut marks and these are given in Table 3.100.

Table 3.100: Butchery, Cattle, Late Iron Age

Context	Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpretation
TR1 021	Scapula	Ventral	Around glenoid	LC	2	---	In line	Disarticulation
TR1 021	Scapula	Post/Media	Across edge of glenoid	LC	2	---	Intersecting	Disarticulation
TR1 021	Scapula	Sup/ant	Across/ around spine	LC	3	--- x 1 I	Parallel	Disarticulation
TR2 011	Thoracic vertebra	Lateral	Across process	CHP	4	\	Parallel	Disarticulation
TR1 014	LMA Rib	Lateral	Across shaft	LC HC	4	I	Parallel at edge of break	Disarticulation

Pathology

Three elements had pathological change and these are given in Table 3.101.

Table 3.101: Pathological data, cattle, Late Iron Age, The Moor.

Context	Element	Part	Type	Comment
TR1 021	Ulna	Anterior	Degenerative change	
TR1 021	Radius	Proximal articulation	Degenerative change	
TR2 013	Cervical vertebra	Spine	Periostitis	Secondary to injury

A3.10.3.4 Pig

Element representation

This small selection of material (Figure 3.56) is dominated by head fragments, with a few other elements. This seems to be indicative of a heavily fragmented assemblage.

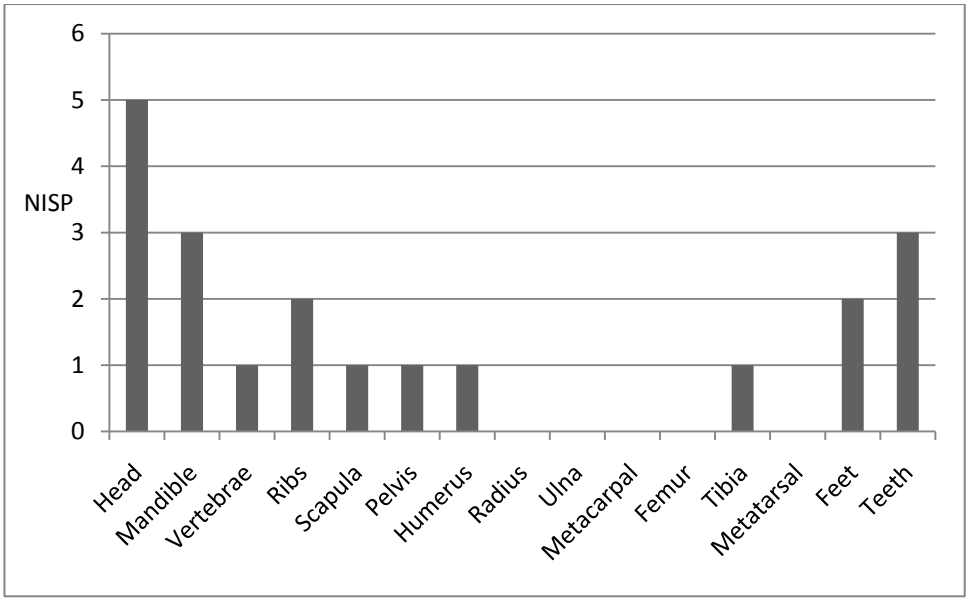

Figure 3.56: Pig elements, Late Iron Age, The Moor. N = 19

Age and herd structure

The single aged pig mandible gave a MWS of 12, representing a juvenile individual of about 12 months. A single distal tibia remained unfused, which normally occurs at 24 months. There is little evidence for pigs older than this represented.

Metrics

There was no metrical data for pig.

Butchery

A single element displayed cuts marks and this is given in Table 3.102.

Table 3.102: Butchery, pig, Late Iron Age, The Moor.

Context	Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpretation
TR1 014	Humerus	Posterior	Mid shaft	LC	1	/	Point of knife	Disarticulation

Pathology

No pathological elements were recorded.

A3.10.3.5 Horse

Six horse elements were present, including one tooth. A radius, metacarpal and two metatarsals were all fused distally indicating animals over 42 months, 15-18 months, and 16-20 months respectively. Due to the limited assemblage of horse bones the relative completeness of elements is notable.

Metrics

A number of elements could be measured and this data is given in Table 3.103.

Table 3.103: Metrical data, horse, Late Iron Age, The Moor.

Context	Element	Side							
TR1 014	Metacarp	right	Bd 45.3	Bdf 44.2	Bp 45.9	Ddf 30.8	Dp 27.7	GL 187.7	SD 29.3
TR2 012	Metatarsa	left	Bd 43.6	Bdf 42.8	Bp 45.5	Ddf 29.3	Dp 37.1	GL 239	SD 29
TR1 015	Radius	left	Bd 67.6	Bdf 56.8	Dd 35.1				

Butchery

A single element displayed cut marks and this is given in Table 3.104.

Table 3.104: Butchery, horse, Late Iron Age, The Moor.

Context	Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpretation
TR2 012	Meta tarsal	Anterior	Mid shaft	HC	1	---	Scrape on bone	Dis/skin

Pathology

Three elements displayed pathological changes and these are detailed in Table 3.105.

Table 3.105: Pathological elements, horse, Late Iron Age, The Moor.

Context	Element	Part	Type	Comment
TR1 014	Metacarpal	Posterior lateral	Degenerative change	LMP united with Metacarpal
TR2 012	Metatarsal	Anterior, mid shaft	Periostitis	Active at death
TR2 011	Metatarsal	Proximal end of anterior shaft	Periostitis	Active at death

A3.10.4 The Romano-British period

A3.10.4.1 Species and element representation

The Romano-British contexts are considerably different from the earlier phases as they comprise mainly abandonment levels, hillwashes and cultivation horizons. The material would therefore be expected to be differently derived from that in the Iron Age. Identifiable fragments comprise 32% of the Romano-British assemblage, slightly lower than in the late Iron Age, whilst the proportion of loose teeth is higher. This might indicate that more material has been redeposited and fragmented in the process. A general lack of porous bone may also be related. The proportion of species is indicated in Table 3.106.

Table 3.106 : Species by NISP and MNI, Romano-British period, The Moor.

Species	NISP	MNI	% of domestic species NISP	% loose teeth	% Main
Cow	29	2	19.1	(17) 58.6	19.86
Pig	20	2	13.2	(3) 15	13.70
Sheep/goat	97	5	63.8	(23) 23.7	66.44
Horse	2	1	1.3	(2) 100	
Dog	4	1	2.6	(1) 25	
Large mammal	33				
Medium mammal	99				
Unidentified	189				
Total Main	**473**				
Small mammal	1				
Bird (Buzzard)	1				
Total	**475**				

There is a slight decrease in the proportion of sheep/goat and concomitant increase in cattle and pig, but this is slight and not reliable in such a small assemblage.

A3.10.4.2 Sheep/goat

Element representation

No elements were identified as goat, although this does not preclude their presence. Sheep/goat element distribution is shown in Figure 3.57. This indicates a relatively even spread of elements through the body despite the elevated number of loose teeth.

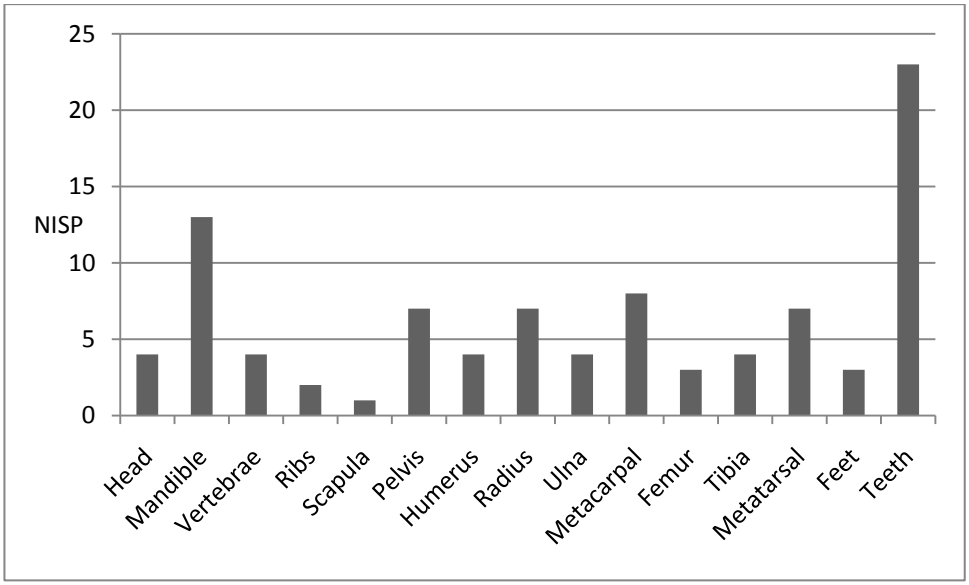

Figure 3.57 : Element representation for sheep/goat, The Moor. N = 97

Age and herd structure

Two sheep mandibles were aged, to MWS 27 / Payne Stage D and MWS 37 / Payne Stage G, a sub-adult (c 2 years) and adult (4-6 years) respectively. Only two porous sheep/goat fragments

were noted and fusion information is given in Table 3.107. This seems to indicate that a range of age groups was present but that there was little evidence for very young animals.

Table 3.107 : Fusion information for sheep/goat in the Romano-British assemblage, The Moor.

Fusion date		Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing:	6-10 months	Acetabulum	6	0
	10 months	Radius Proximal	1	1
Later fusing:	18-24 months	Tibia distal	1	1
	20-28 months	Metatarsal distal	1	0
Late Fusing:	30-36 months	Femur Proximal	1	1
	36-42 months	Femur Distal	1	1
	36 months	Radius distal	0	1

Metrics

A single element could be measured and this is given in Table 3.108.

Table 3.108: Metrical data, sheep/goat, Romano-British period, The Moor.

Context	Element	Side			
TR1 006	Radius	left	Bp 24.8	Bpf 23.2	Dp 12.6

Butchery

A single element displayed cut marks and these are detailed in Table 3.109.

Table 3.109: Butchery, sheep/goat, Romano-British period, The Moor.

Context	Element	Zone	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments
TR3 020	Maxilla	1	Medial	Across ramus	LC	2	/	Parallel

Pathology

Two elements showed pathological change and these are given in Table 3.110.

Table 3.110: Pathological elements, sheep/goat, Romano-British, The Moor.

Context	Element	Part	Type	Comment
TR2 006	Mandible	P4-M2	Periodontal disease and abscess	Severe
TR1 017	Pelvis	Acetabulum	Osteomyelitis	Severe

A3.10.4.3 Cattle

Element representation

This small group of material, shown in Figure 3.58, is dominated by loose teeth, with a few other elements from a variety of parts of the body.

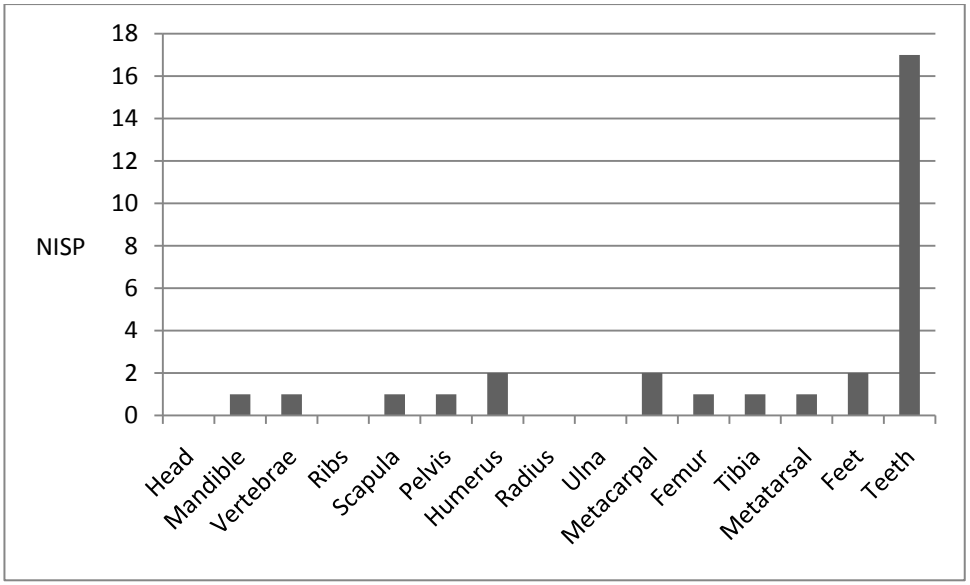

Figure 3.58: Cattle elements, Romano-British period, The Moor. N = 29

Age and herd structure

No cattle mandibles could be aged, and there is only one porous fragment. One fused distal humerus and a fused distal metacarpal, which fuse at 12-18 months and 24-30 months respectively, hint that mainly older animals are represented.

Metrics

A single element could be measured and this is given in Table 3.111.

Table 3.111: Metrical data, cattle, Romano-British, The Moor.

Context	Element	Side		
TR3 006	Astragalus	left	Bd 35.7	GLm 50.4

Butchery

A number of elements displayed cut marks and these are given in Table 3.112.

Table 3.112: Butchery, cattle, Romano-British, The Moor.

Context	Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments
TR2 018	Humerus	Post/ med	Along shaft	CHP	1	I	One very large chop lengthwise into shaft
TR3 019	Humerus	Posterior	Across distal shaft	LC	1	---	
TR1 017	Mandible	Posterior	Articulation	CHP	2	---	Small cut, main chop downward thru artic
TR3 020	Tibia	Posterior	Across shaft	HC	1	---	
TR2 006	LMA Rib	Lateral	Across and along shaft	HC	2	I ---	Intersecting at edge of break in shaft

Pathology

A single pathological element was identified and this is shown in Table 3.113.

Table 3.113: Pathological data, cattle, Romano-British, The Moor.

Context	Element	Part	Type	Comment
TR3 006	Pelvis	Superior to acetabulum	Degenerative change	No involvement of joint surface.

A3.10.4.4 Pig

Element representation

Pig bone was represented by a scattering of elements from across the body.

Age and herd structure

No pig mandibles could be aged, and only one fragment was porous. A fused acetabulum (fuses c 12 months) and fused distal tibia (fuses c 24 months) indicate adult animals. The lack of evidence for young animals may not be an accurate reflection of the animals entering the assemblage but differential lack of survival of more fragile juvenile bone.

Metrics

A single element could be measured and is given in Table 3.114.

Table 3.114: Metrical data, pig, Romano-British, The Moor.

Context	Element	Side		
TR1 017	Tibia	left	Bd 29.9	Dd 24.9

Pathology

No pathological elements were noted.

A3.10.4.5 Dog

Four elements of dog were recorded, a canine, and fragments of rib, tibia and lumbar vertebra. None was porous and there is no other information on age apart from the fact that the canine was very worn. There was no butchery or pathology and no measurements were possible.

A3.10.4.6 Horse

Two fragments of well worn horse teeth were recovered.

10.4.7 Wild Species

A single small mammal bone was recorded from a vole-sized rodent. A single bird bone was from a buzzard.

A3.10.5 Structural information

The excavated features at The Moor consisted of several intersecting field boundaries associated with the Middle and Late Iron Age field systems that spread through the base of the South Cadbury Valley. These fields lay around and across a watercourse , occupying level ground. The ground level has changed considerably since prehistory with at least 0.60m of colluvium as witnessed in the trenches excavated at The Moor in 2005. The water table has also risen, but it seems likely that this land was always damp and needed drainage. The ditches are relatively deep and steep sided as indicated in the section drawing in Figure 3.59. This also demonstrates the high volume fills and some re-cuts that attest to processes of filling, abandonment and re-working in the Late Iron Age. The fields appear to have come into being as a series of individual units. Many of the units created are small in the order of 1-2ha. A particularly clear group at the south eastern end that does not appear to have persisted in to the Late Iron Age provided an interlinking group of paddocks, all apparently with corner gates, and with a possible race on the eastern side, opening onto an area that would allow sorting in two directions. Just to the north of this is a very small enclosure attached to a boundary and apparently an additional subdivision of that land parcel, with a corner entrance. This is of a size that would be particularly useful in the penning of smaller livestock, perhaps for sorting or lambing sheep. It is possible however that it could have provided confinement for pigs or goats.

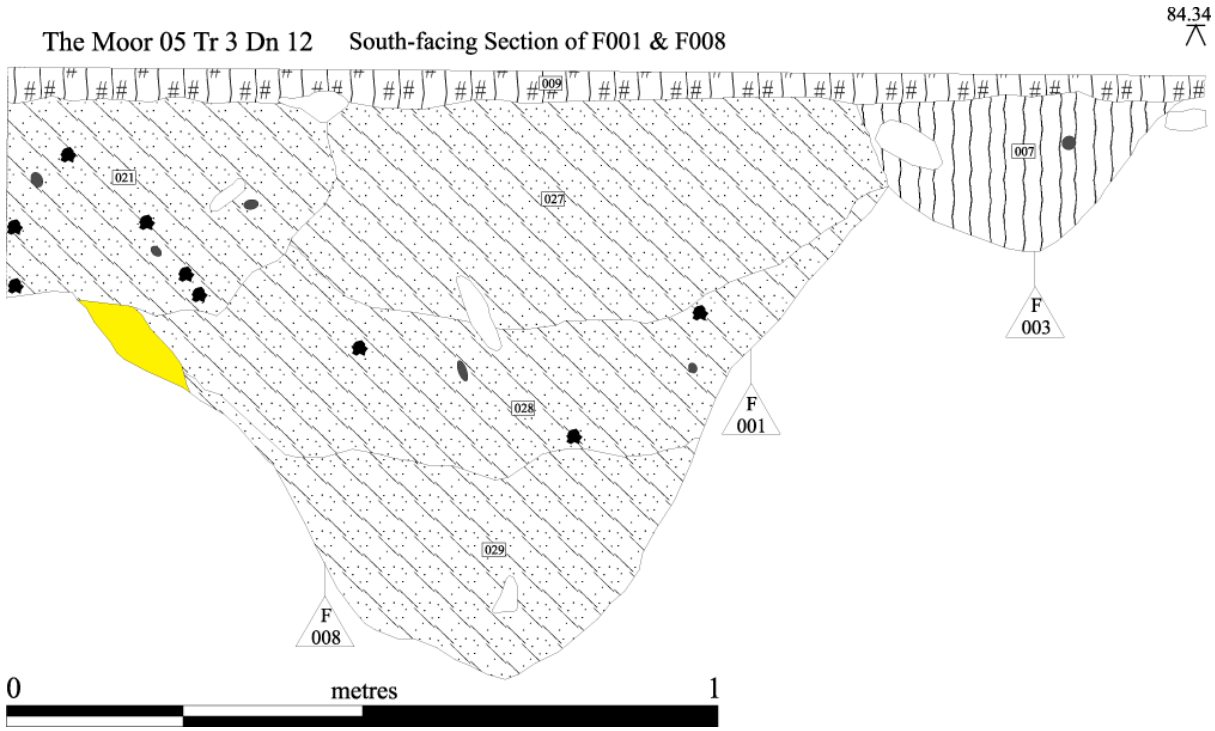

Figure 3.59: Section through one of the field ditches, The Moor Trench 3 (SCEP Archive. Prepared by Peter Wright).

A3.11.0 Homeground

Homeground lies on the northern flank of Cadbury Castle, barely 150m from the eastern entrance. It comprises a small rectilinear ditched enclosure containing a round house dating to the Late Iron Age. The site is overlain by a medieval ditch and a Victorian midden. The floor levels of the house were intact, comprising a 20cm thick layer of charcoal rich highly organic fill that proved hostile in the extreme to bone. Although all care was taken in excavation to attempt to bag each fragment separately to maximise identifiable material and not inflate the fragment count, it was clear that the floor layers had been very rich in bone, but that most of it had completely decayed, leaving pale imprints that were initially mistaken for sandy mottling. Whilst the soils on the north and west slopes of Cadbury Castle are problematic for preservation (i.e. at Milsom's Corner), this was a new order of magnitude on a non-sand soil. The quantities of pottery were also very high, and in poor and abraded condition, and it is therefore suggested that this was not the original floor level, nor was it a normal 'abandonment' layer, but the house may have been reused for stock housing or have become the retaining walls for a manure heap.

The assemblage that resulted from this is limited. Not only is it numerically limited, but it is highly fragmented and suffers from extremely poor bone condition. Therefore, butchery, metrical and pathological information are virtually non-existent.

A3.11.1 Species Representation

The fragments identified are given in Table 3.114. Of a total of 1046 fragments, only 199 (19%) were identified to species. The predominance of sheep/goat in this assemblage is indicated in Figure 3.60, although this is not as clear when the MNI is considered. Pig is as well represented by that measure, and may be under-represented in the NISP.

Table 3.115: Species representation, Late Iron Age, Homeground.

Species	NISP	MNI	% of domestic species NISP	% loose teeth	% Main Species
Cow	47	3	23.62	31.91	25.40
Pig	32	4	16.08	31.25	17.30
Sheep/goat	106	4	53.27	35.85	57.30
Dog	2	1	1.01		
Horse	12	1	6.03		
Large mammal	54				
Medium mammal	83				
Unidentified	709				
Bird	1				
Total	**1046**				

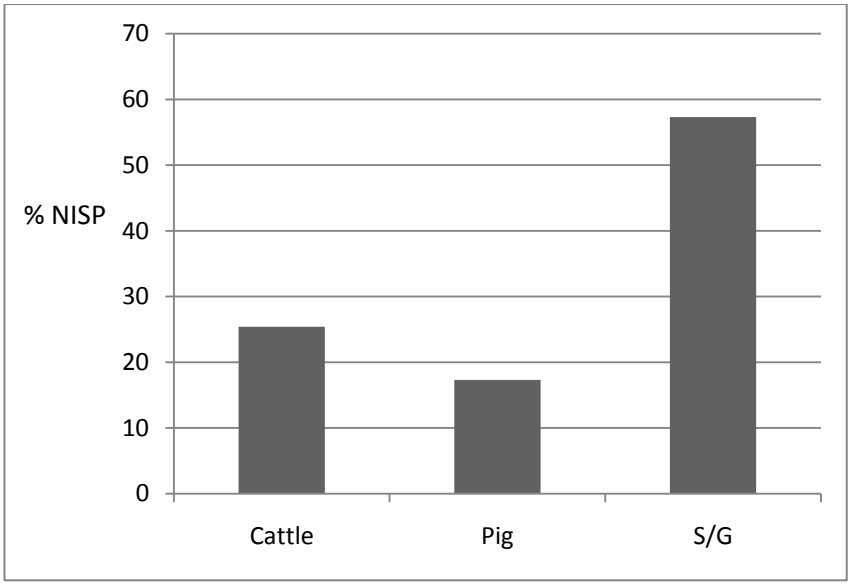

Figure 3.60: Species representation, three main species, Late Iron Age, Homeground. N = 185

A3.11.2 Element Representation

The representation of elements has been seriously affected by preservational issues in this assemblage. The low percentage of identifiable fragments and relatively elevated proportion of loose teeth comprising the identified portion of the assemblage supports this. This also seems to have affected all species equally, as is shown in Figure 61, implying that it is indeed a result of the hostile soil conditions. There are only four porous fragments from the entire site.

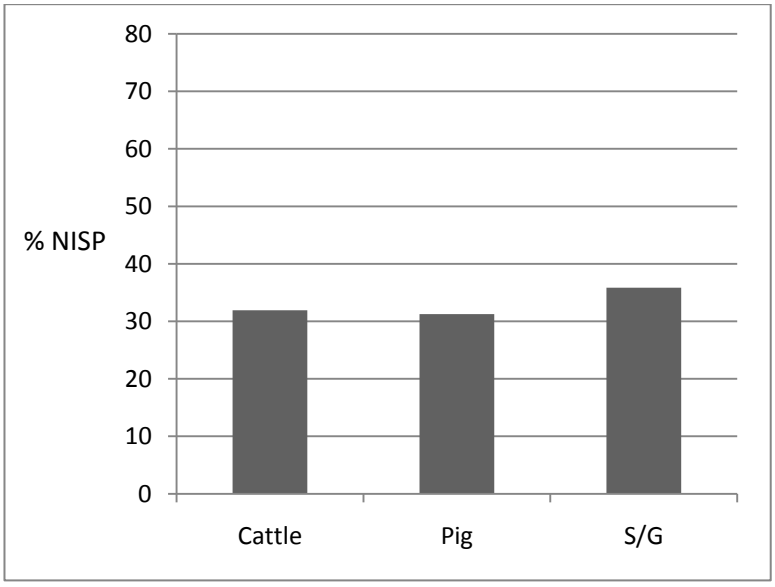

Figure 3.61: Loose teeth percentages by species, Homeground. N = 63

The representation of elements is shown in Figure 3.62 for the three main domestic species. It can be seen that whilst the more robust elements are favoured (e.g. sheep/goat tibia and

radius in contrast to other limb bones) there are elements from all areas of the body represented for all three species.

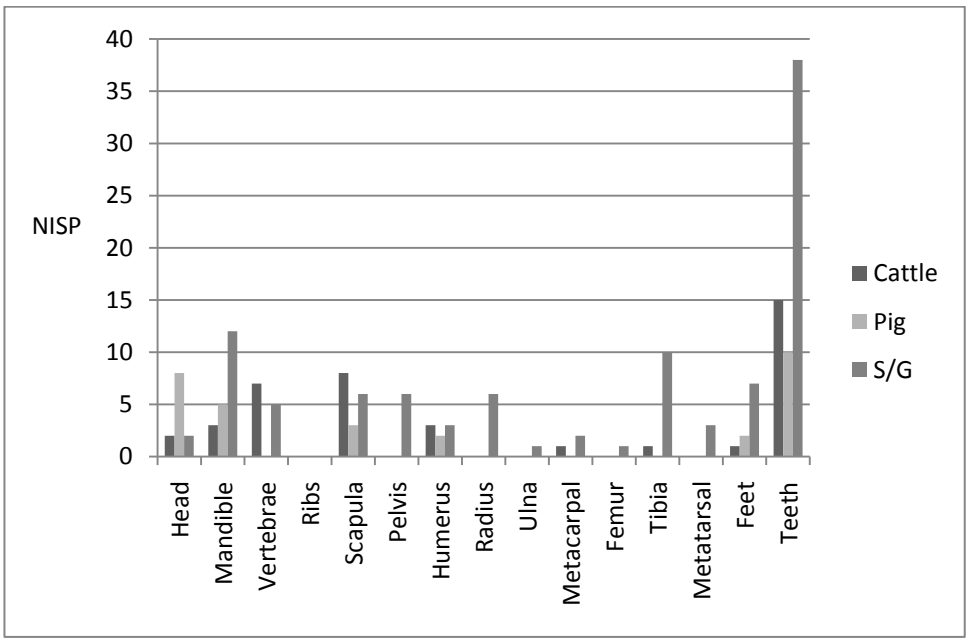

Figure 3.62: Element representation, main domestic species, Homeground. N = 185

A3.11.3 Species Distribution

Despite the fragmentary nature of the assemblage it was possible to carry out some examination of whether there was any pattern as to which species were deposited in different areas. The site divided into the enclosure ditch, the house floor and gully, and a sequence of other features and layers. In Figure 3.63 , it is clear that the majority of material was recovered from the series of floor deposits and over lying abandonment and the gully around the house. Relatively little was recovered from ditch contexts, and this is probably largely indicative of the small volume excavated.

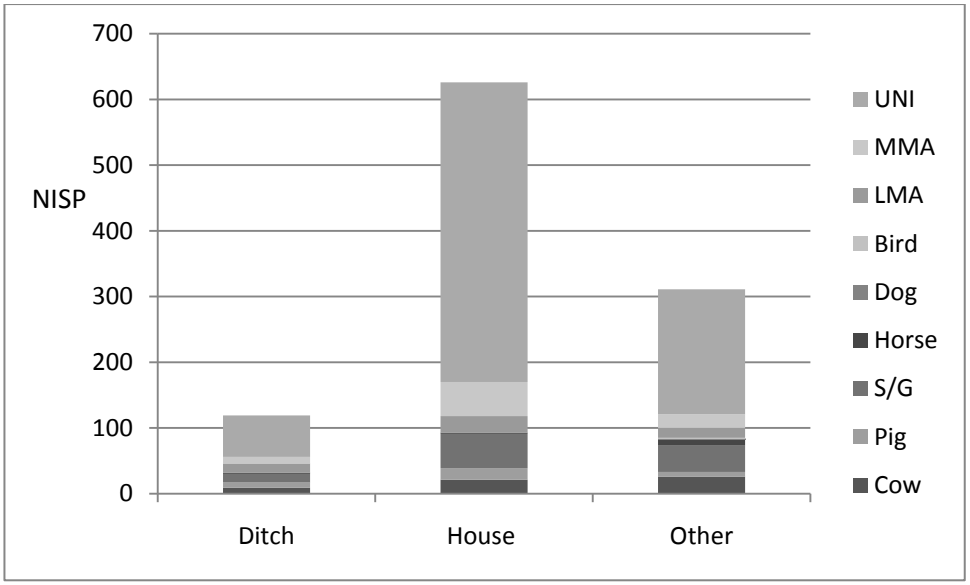

Figure 3.63: Distribution of elements by feature type. 'House' includes floors and gully, Homeground. N = 1056

The percentage proportion of fragments by species is shown in Figure 3.64. This indicates that the house floors contained the lowest proportion of fragments identifiable to species.

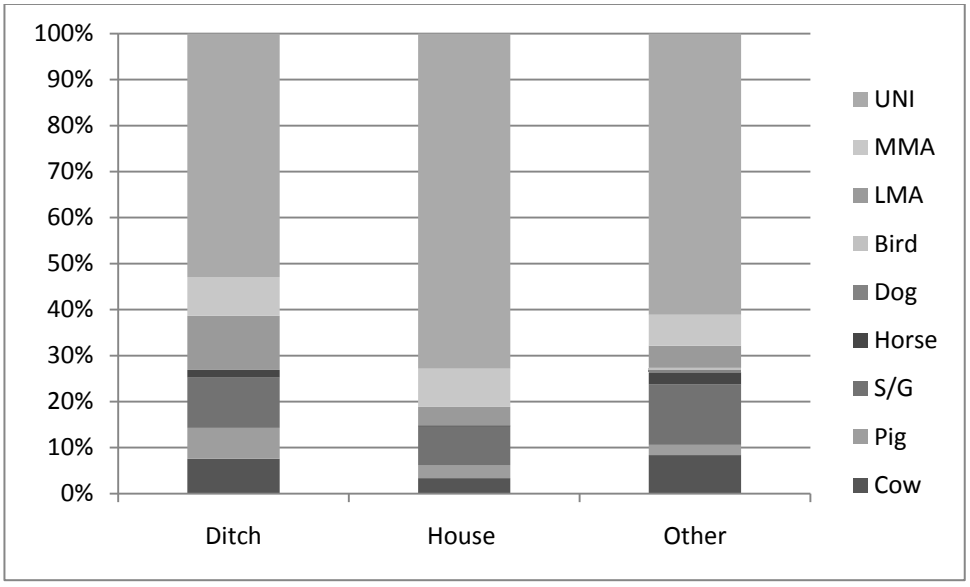

Figure 3.64: Species by Feature type calculated as percentages, Homeground..N = 1056

Figure 3.65 gives the same data with each species displayed by feature type. Pig and sheep seem to be better represented in the 'house' contexts.

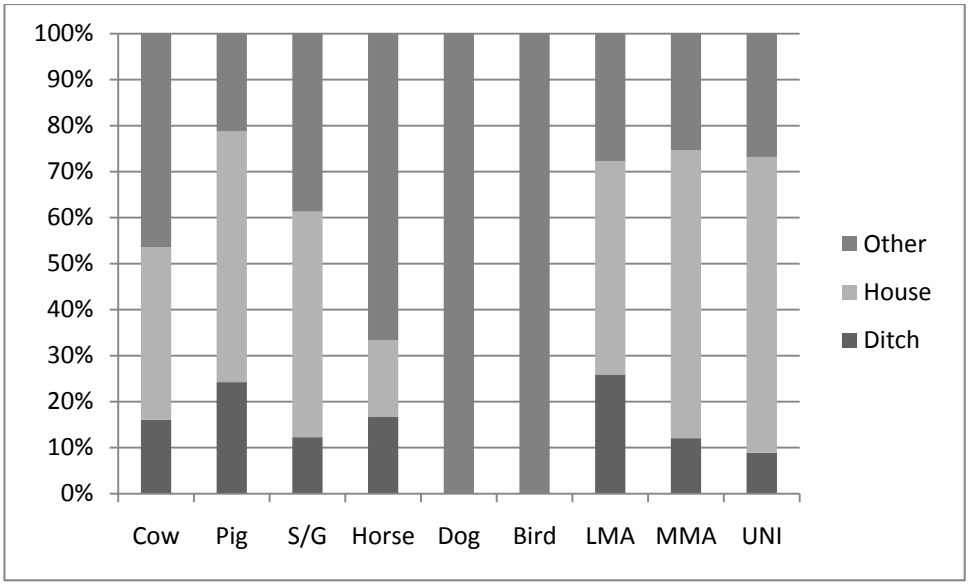

Figure 3.65: Feature type displayed by species, Homeground.. N = 1056

Figure 3.66 shows a comparison in percentage terms between the larger mammals (cattle, horse and fragments only identified as Large Mammal), and medium sized mammals (sheep/goat, pig and fragments only identified as Medium Mammal). This makes it clearer that the smaller livestock are better represented in the 'house' contexts than in the ditch, which marginally has the greatest number of large mammal fragments. This may be a genuine artefact of the distribution of larger species in larger features, or may relate to the smaller sample size for ditch contexts. It may also be an indication of greater fragmentation and attrition of larger species in the floor contexts or possible midden material.

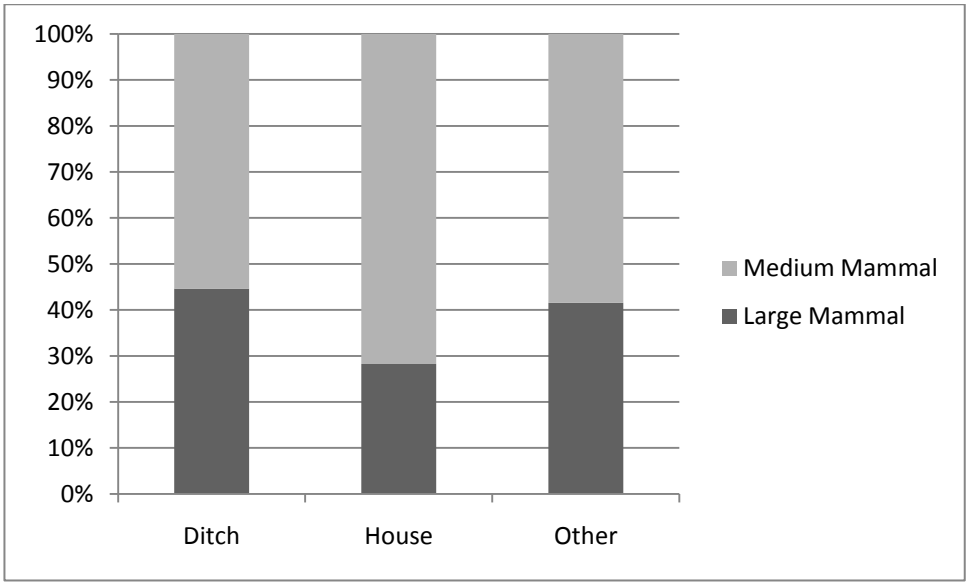

Figure 3.66: Proportions of larger to smaller animals by feature type. Medium mammal includes fragments identified as sheep/goat or pig and medium mammal; large mammal includes cattle, horse and large mammal fragments, Homeground. N = 336

A3.11.4 Sheep/Goat

It was not possible to determine whether there were any goats present, but this is due to the lack of suitably preserved elements, and does not preclude their presence. A minimal amount of ageing information is available. Figure 3.67 provides details of the small number of mandibles, part mandibles and loose third mandibular molars for which a Payne wear stage could be allotted. Individuals in stage D, E, and G are present, but it is highly likely that there is a serious underestimation of younger individuals, caused by differential loss of porous juvenile mandibles. Other information may imply the presence of those younger animals; a single medium mammal fragment was porous.

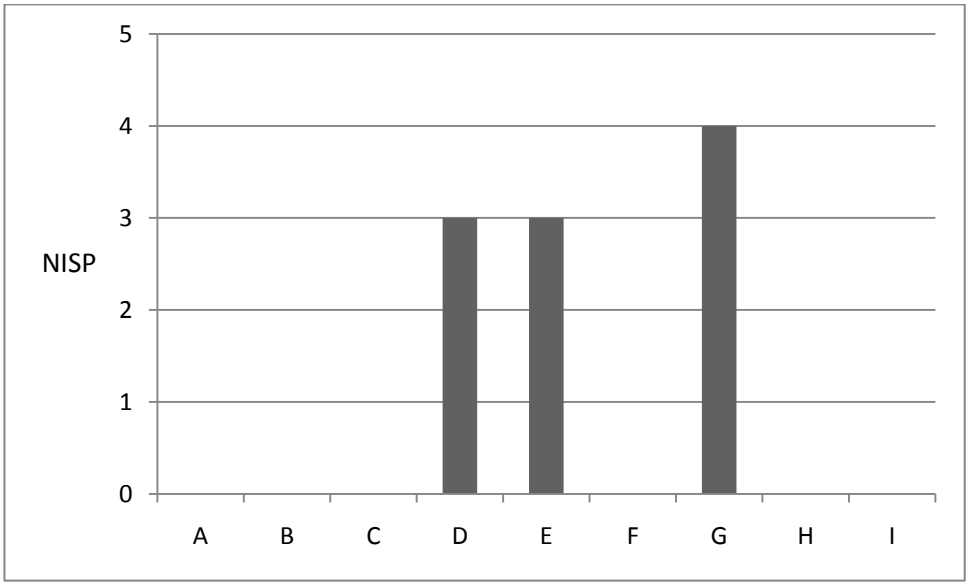

Figure 3.67: Estimated Payne stages for sheep/goat combined mandibles, partial mandibles and loose third molars, Homeground. N = 10

Similar bias in the fusion information is likely to have resulted from the taphonomic loss of porous bone (see Table 3.115). There are no elements that fuse early left unfused; all of the unfused elements are those that fuse late. This demonstrates that there were a range of age groups present.

Table 3.116: Fusion information, sheep/goat, Homeground.

Fusion data	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing: 6-10 months	Acetabulum	4	0
6-8 months	Glenoid	3	0
10 months	Humerus distal	2	0
10 months	Radius Proximal	1	0
Later fusing: 18-24 months	Tibia distal	1	1
Late Fusing: 30-36 months	Femur Proximal	0	3
36 months	Radius distal	0	2

Two elements could be measured and these are included in Table 3.116:

Table 3.117: Metrical data, sheep/goat, Homeground.

Element			
Humerus	Bd 27.7	BT 24.8	HT 16.1
Radius	Bp 30.5	Bpf 26.9	Dp 15.3

There was no pathological or butchery information available.

A3.11.5 Cattle

Ageing information is limited, but two mandibles were estimated to Grant MWS 1 and 38 (Halstead stages A and F respectively). The former represented the only porous fragment of cattle bone. The maxillary loose teeth present were all of the permanent dentition and worn. Fusion information is given in Table 3.117, but provides little information other than there were skeletally mature adults present.

Table 3.118: Fusion data, cattle, Homeground.

Fusion date	Element	Fused	Unfused
Early Fusing: 7-10 months	Glenoid	2	0
12-18 months	Humerus distal	1	0
Later fusing: 24-30 months	Metacarpal distal	1	0

Two elements were recorded as having cut marks and these are given in Table 3.118.

Table 3.119: Butchery information, cattle, Homeground.

Element	Surface	Location	Type	No	Direction	Comments	Interpretation
Humerus	Post lat	Across margin above joint	LC	7	---	Close, parallel	Disarticulation
Tibia	Superior	Medial of lateral condyle	LC	3	I	Close, parallel	Disarticulation

Measurements could be taken from a single cattle element, which is shown in Table 3.119.

Table 3.120: Metrical data, cattle, Homeground.

Element			
Humerus	Bd 85.3	BT 71.8	HT 43.6

A single thoracic vertebra displayed change in the joint architecture of the caudal part of the centrum.

A3.11.6 Pig

Two mandible fragments were assessed as belonging to Halstead stage D, sub-adult. Two fragments were porous, but fusion information was limited to a single fused glenoid of the scapula (fuses at around 12 months). A range of age groups were probably present. No information on butchery, metrics or pathology were recorded for pig.

A3.11.7 Dog

Dog was limited to a fragment of maxilla and a canine.

A3.11.8 Horse

Several of the loose teeth present could be identified as being from the permanent dentition, and were worn. There were no fragments of porous bone. Two metacarpals were fused distally, which occurs at 15-18 months. This seems to only indicate the presence of skeletally mature individuals.

Two elements were measureable and this information is given in Table 3.120.

Table 3.121: Metrical information, horse, Homeground.

Element		
Metacarpal	Bp 44.4	Dp 28.3
First phalanx	Bp 47.9	Dp 29.3

Two elements displayed pathological changes. These are given in Table 3.121. The development of changes to muscle insertions may relate to advancing age.

Table 3.122: Pathological information, horse, Homeground.

Context	Element	Part	Type	Comment
TR1 068	Metacarpal	Lateral/medial of distal shaft	Degenerative change	Enthesophytes
TR1 045	First phalanx	Plantar surface	Degenerative change	Enthesophytes

A3.11.9 Wild Species

A single unidentified bird bone was recovered.

A3.11.10 Discussion of the Homeground assemblage

This small and poorly preserved assemblage has provided limited information. However, the data that it does provide is not out of place with other Late Iron Age data from the area. Differential preservation notwithstanding, sheep/goat seem to be the dominant species, with cattle and pig in roughly similar proportions. The differences in element representation between species in the different context types may relate to disposal practice, but equally may relate to the way in which the deposits formed. As was commented above, it is highly likely that the amount of bone recovered from the house floor in particular is only a proportion of the original. Material may have been trampled in situ, but there are reasons to believe that the layers that made up the footprint of the roundhouse may not have been the original floor. The deposits were in excess of 10cm thick in places and highly organic, filled with charred wood and plant remains as well as being rich in pottery. However, the pottery was actually highly fragmented itself, with a limited number of diagnostic sherds. It is possible that it represents

midden material that either accumulated in the remains of the house or were deliberately dumped there.

A3.11.11 Structural information

The rectilinear enclosure at Homeground was probably recut at least twice, and the 'house' may have been recycled as animal housing or as a rubbish dump. The enclosure itself stood isolated in an area to the north of the north east gate of the hillfort, and would have been contemporary with the extensive field systems in the South Cadbury Valley described above.