



COCKS FARM EXCAVATIONS - 2016 UPDATE



Thirteen more Iron Age pits were found, some inter-cutting. This is one of the larger.



A complete example of a similar bracelet



A replica bracelet of vari-coloured strands

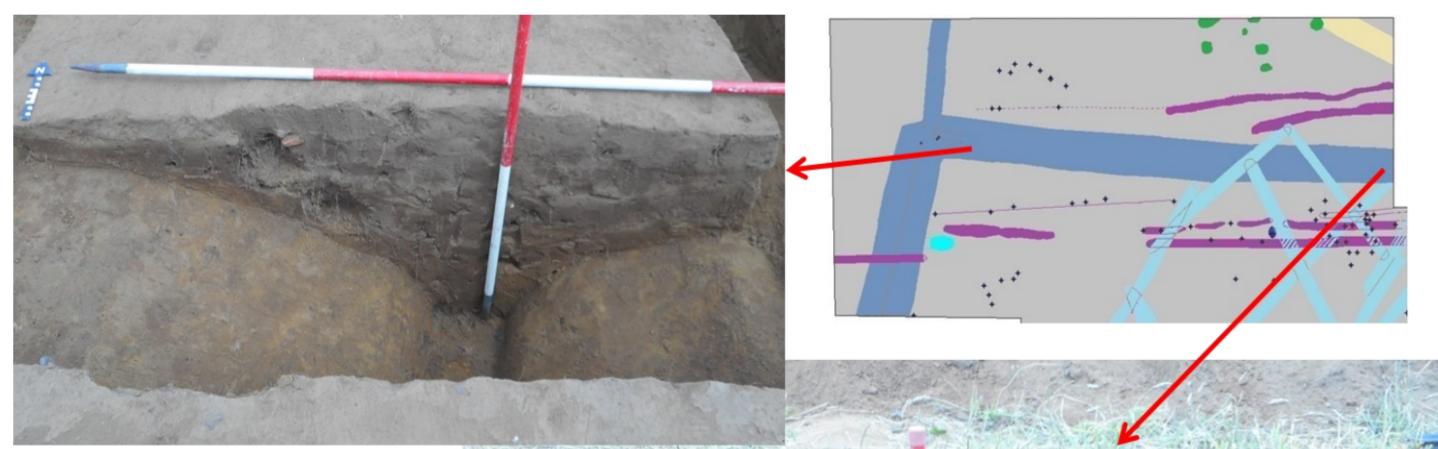
Part of a Roman penannular bracelet came from an Iron Age pit that had been cut by a Roman palisade boundary. It was made of two strands of differing bronze, so that when new one would have looked silvery and the other coppery.



A number of the pits contained placed deposits including this bronze fitting (above), and a hammerstone of a non-local stone, possibly from Dorset (below).



There was a succession of Roman boundaries. This one consisted of postholes connected by beam slots. The beams were unsawn branches and probably supported a solid fence designed to keep out burrowing animals such as badgers.



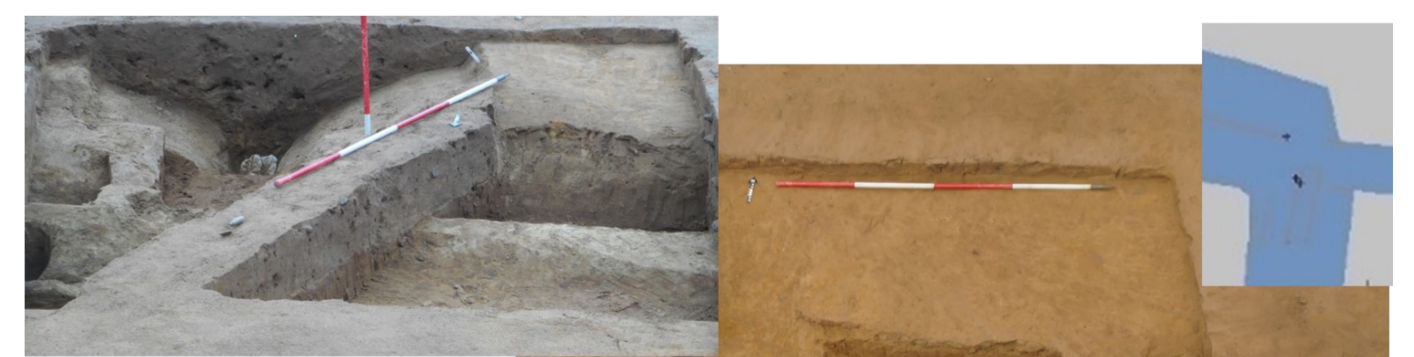
Ditches: north/south



Parallel with the beamslot and palisade boundaries was a large ditch. Its fill contained this fine arrowhead and some Bronze Age pottery as well as Iron Age and Roman finds.



Right - Further west in the upper (earlier?) of the EW ditches, a number of sherds of a ceramic bee-hive were found, with the characteristic internal thumb-marks, thought to be made to help the honey-comb to stick to the sides. Note the rim decoration which shows that the jar opening is at the base, and the small hole, either for bees or an air vent.



Ditches: corner



The NS ditch met an EW ditch, which had at least three phases; two parallel and one over the two earlier. Where these met the NS ditch were three unusual stakeholes, perfect c.5cm circles tapering neatly to a depth of 14+cms. Could these have been made by a surveying instrument, laying out the ditch alignments?