

Section 2.

Basic information about the site

- 2.1. Name of the site: Borough Hill, Daventry
2.2. Alternative name of the site:
2.3. National Grid Reference: SP589 630.
2.4. Any known reference numbers: MNN3603.
2.5. Current county/Unitary authority: Northants CC, Daventry DC
2.6. When did you visit the site (month/year): November 2015 and December 2015

Landscape setting of the site

- 2.7. Altitude (metres):
2.8. Topographic position: [you can tick more than 1]
HILL TOP X
COASTAL PROMONTORY .
INLAND PROMONTORY .
VALLEY BOTTOM .
KNOLL/HILLOCK .
OUTCROP .
RIDGE X
PLATEAU/CLIFF-EDGE .
HILLSLOPE .
LOWLAND (E.G. MARSH) .
OTHER .
Comments on topographic position: Commands excellent views in all directions
ASPECT (if slope) .

2.9. Maximum visibility/view:

- NE: [tick 1 only]
LONG X
MEDIUM .
SHORT .
SE: [tick 1 only]
LONG X
MEDIUM .
SHORT .
SW: [tick 1 only]
LONG X
MEDIUM .
SHORT .
NW: [tick 1 only]
LONG X
MEDIUM .
SHORT .
Comments: Extensive views to all points of the compass.

2.10. Water source inside: [you can tick more than 1]

SPRING	.
STREAM	.
POOL	.
CISTERN	.
OTHER (details):	Possibility of some internal wells in the prehistoric period?

2.11. Water source nearby: The nearest streams (as shown on the modern OS map) are approx. 1km to east and 1km to south.

(see also later comments relating to two suggested external satellite settlements, to the east and south east of the hilltop contour fort; and it should be noted that our foot survey of the hilltop recorded several small spring-type water sources and two ponds).

The Aluardeslea Hundred meeting site is recorded as being at the 'Spellow Well' which is in the area of entrance between the main hillfort and the northern enclosure. It may be significant that the Anglo-Saxon record mentions a well on the hilltop, which perhaps may have served earlier pre-Roman communities within the contour hillfort. Finally, the Romano-British villa that was constructed within the northern enclosure also included a bathhouse, which must have been supplied from a local water source.

2.12. Current land category (over whole site footprint) (you can tick more than 1)

WOODLAND	X
COMMERCIAL FORESTRY PLANTATION	.
PARKLAND	.
PASTURE (GRAZED)	X
ARABLE	X
SCRUB/BRACKEN	.
ROCKY OUTCROPS	.
HEATHER/MOORLAND	.
HEATH	.
BUILT-UP (golf course & transmitter stn)	X
Comments:	.

2.13. Pre-hillfort activity: Prior to the use of the northern end of the hilltop as a Late Iron Age fort (5ha), there had been a much larger contour fort (52ha) around the entire top of the hill (which may have been Iron Age or earlier – Bronze Age and Neolithic finds across the hilltop suggest that there may have been long-term settlement on the hilltop, though no definitive chronology has been established).

2.14. Post-hillfort activity: Roman villa within the Iron Age site; subsequent Saxon inhumations across various parts of the hilltop; currently there is a decommissioned radio transmitter station on the southern side of the hilltop, whilst the northern end of the hilltop forms part of a golf course.

NB: Further and more detailed comments on the pre-hillfort and post-hillfort usage of the hill are given in Appendix 2 to this report.

Surface morphology of the site

Note (see the Notes for guidance document): from this section onwards we are assuming that you are working with a plan of the site. If it is a published plan then we do not expect you to record every item, only those which are different/additional to the plan you are working with. If you are drawing your own plan you can annotate details on it.

2.15. Which plan are you using: Map as included in the RCHME report.

2.16. Have you used any other sources of information (tick any that apply):

HER	X
NMR	.
PUBLISHED SOURCE (details):	RCHME
OTHER (details):	Published notes by Beriah Botfield (c19th), and records and maps by Morton (1712), Bridges (1720s), Eayres (1779/1791) and Baker (1822).

2.17. Is there an annex (see diagram in Notes for Guidance):

YES X (see comment below)

NO .

There are significant Early/Middle Iron Age traces outside the perimeter of the specific Late Iron Age fortification at the extreme north end of the site, i.e. within the perimeter of the previous (Early/Middle Iron Age) contour fortification. We therefore regard the (earlier) contour fort around the hilltop as the "main" hillfort, and the (later) northern enclosure as the "annex" – and subsequent comments in this report will reflect this interpretation.

Note: Sections 3 and 5 are for every site, section 4 only applies to sites with an annex.

Section 3. Enclosed area

NB: More detailed comments on the contour earthworks and its immediate surroundings are contained in Appendix 1 to this report.

3.1 General overall shape of enclosed area: [you can tick more than 1]

CIRCULAR	.
SUB-CIRCULAR/OVAL	.
RECTANGULAR	.
SUB-RECTANGULAR	.
POLYGONAL	.
IRREGULAR	Following the hilltop contour.
COMPLEX (MORE THAN ONE ENCLOSURE)	.
Comments:	See also descriptions and maps included in the Appendices.

3.2. Maximum dimensions of whole site footprint (see diagram in Notes for Guidance):

1. 2700m.
2. 2040m.

Comments: These dimensions apply to the perimeter of the fortification around the entire hilltop (which appears to pre-date the northern fortification), since this area also encompasses a variety of Iron Age features and thus may be justly regarded as part of the overall area of Iron Age occupation.

3.3. Maximum dimensions of the Late Iron Age fort (see diagram in Notes for Guidance):

1. 455m.
2. 470m.

Comments: These dimensions apply to the Late Iron Age site at the north end of the hilltop (NB: precise measurement of original dimensions is difficult, since this part of the site has been incorporated into the golf course, and before that was part of a modern-era farm, so that some of the original features have been lost/destroyed).

Entrances

NB: More detailed comments on the contour earthworks and its immediate surroundings are contained in Appendix 1 to this report, including comments relating to the number and location and type of entrances.

3.4. Number of breaks/entrances through the rampart by position: [give a number for each]

- | | |
|----|--|
| N | . |
| NE | #1 (in the eastern perimeter of the northern enclosure) – both Baker’s 1822 map and the RCHME map show an in-turned entrance at this point, which appears to link to a significant hollow way leading NW from the hilltop to a recently-discovered Romano-British settlement directly NW of Borough Hill; see photographs 25 and 26 from first survey visit. |
| E | #2 (in the perimeter of the hilltop contour enclosure – a short hollow way, which may perhaps have been deliberately aligned with a route to a supposed external settlement due east of and adjacent to the hilltop – see comments in Appendix 1). |
| SE | #3 (within the perimeter of the hilltop contour enclosure – an extended hollow way, which may perhaps have been deliberately aligned with an external route to the supposed ‘pro-caestra’; although we saw no sign of where it might have entered the fortification – see comments in Appendix 1 – Dennis Jackson’s 1991 excavations indicated that there had been extensive reworking of the perimeter fortification at this point, so that we cannot rule out the possibility that this route may originally have entered the hilltop at this point. |
| S | . |
| SW | At the SW corner of the northern enclosure, the earthworks could be interpreted as segregating the northern enclosure from the main contour hillfort. An alternative interpretation might perhaps be, that this formed part of a major formal entrance route at one period? |
| W | . |
| NW | #4 (within the perimeter of the northern Late Iron Age fort, and appearing to align directly to the route of King Street – see comments elsewhere re King Street). This entrance is shown on the RCHME map, but note that there is no sign of this entrance |

on the ground today, as this part of the earthworks has suffered significant destruction since the time of Baker's 1822 survey.

Comments: There may well have been other entrances – for example, perhaps on the SW side of the hilltop contour enclosure, facing directly toward Arbury Hill Badby (see also separate site report on Arbury Hill Badby) – where there may perhaps have been a larger and more complex permutation of banks and ditches at one time, judging by reports from earlier centuries – but in the present condition of the site this can only be a conjecture.

3.5. How many are apparently secondary breaks: [give a number for each]

N .
NE .
E .
SE .
S .
SW .
W .
NW .

Comments: From the present state of the site, and in the absence of any methodical archaeological excavation work, it is virtually impossible to assess which were primary and which were secondary breaks.

3.6. (see diagram in Notes for Guidance):

For each entrance that is not a simple gap, is it most like any of the following (e.g. in-turned), if so record which position it is in:

IN-TURNED: [you can tick more than 1]

N .
NE .
E X (#1)
SE .
S .
SW .
W .
NW X (#3)

OUT-TURNED: [you can tick more than 1]

N .
NE .
E .
SE .
S .
SW .
W .
NW .

BOTH (IN- AND OUT-TURNED): [you can tick more than 1]

N .
NE .
E .
SE .

S .
SW .
W .
NW .

HORNWORK: [you can tick more than 1]

N .
NE .
E .
SE .
S .
SW .
W .
NW .

OVER-LAPPING: [you can tick more than 1]

N .
NE .
E .
SE .
S .
SW .
W .
NW .

OUTWORKS: [you can tick more than 1]

N .
NE .
E .
SE .
S .
SW .
W .
NW .

Comments: .

OTHER FORMS:

Comments: .

Enclosing works - ramparts/banks/walls and ditches

3.7. Number of ramparts/banks/walls per quadrant:

NE: .
SE: .
SW: .
NW: .

Comments:

The date of this site's construction cannot be reliably estimated from the meagre available archaeological evidence; however, its general layout and location, and comparison with dated sites elsewhere in this Midlands region, suggest that it may have been commenced around the C6th/5th BC.

It may be helpful to compare this site at Borough Hill Daventry with that at Burrough Hill near Melton Mowbray in Leicestershire – whilst both are contour forts, Burrough Hill is a univallate fort approximately 5ha in extent, whilst the huge enclosure at Borough Hill covers 52ha, and appears to have been at least partly multivallate. The fort at Burrough Hill Leics has been dated to Mid/Late Iron Age by a programme of careful excavation in recent years supervised by Leicester University. As further comparison, looking to the south, there is a similarly large Iron Age fort in Oxfordshire at the Dyke Hills [50ha] and other large IA forts at Bozodown Camp [22ha], and at Lyneham Roundabout [18ha].

The sheer size of the fortified enclosure at Borough Hill exhibits similarity with those further south in Oxfordshire; the fact that the site layout features a 5ha strongly-fortified camp at the northern end, with a large annex-like fortified area around the rest of the hilltop contour, all apparently occupied during much of the Iron Age, and with important earlier traces of occupation during the Neolithic period and the Bronze Age, suggests that the Borough Hill site may have fulfilled some very complex functions over a very long period of time, and may also have been a location with ritual significance.

Borough Hill may at one period have been bounded by multiple banks and ditches; but as a result of later destruction, the defences do not survive anywhere in their original state – in the south-west they have been entirely flattened (though Baker's map of 1822 showed them as still existing at that time, and in 1712 Morton said that they consisted of "two deep trenches and three banks"). Further south, Morton described the defences in 1712 as "three trenches and four banks", implying that at least this part of the site had been at least trivallate. At the extreme north end of the larger site, there is a smaller 5ha fort of roughly triangular shape, bounded by a massive rampart, ditch and counterscarp, possibly with an outer and later bank and ditch beyond cut across the hilltop. On the western side, where it is best preserved, the ditch is steep-sided and flat-bottomed, 3m below the summit of the rampart and 1.5m below the counterscarp.

3.8. Number of DITCHES per quadrant:

NE: .
 SE: .
 SW: .
 NW: .
 Comments: See under 3.7 above.

3.9. Form of rampart/bank/wall

Same all the way around:

Y .
 N .

If yes: [tick one only]

EARTHEN BANK .
 STONE WALL .
 BOTH .
 PALISADING .
 VITRIFICATION .
 OTHER BURNING .

Comments: Insufficient excavation has been carried out to determine clearly the possible type(s) or extent(s) of the various defensive structures.

If NO then by quadrant:

NE: [you can tick more than 1]

EARTHEN BANK	.
STONE WALL	.
BOTH	.
PALISADING	.
VITRIFICATION	.
OTHER BURNING	.
Comments:	.

SE: [you can tick more than 1]

EARTHEN BANK	.
STONE WALL	.
BOTH	.
PALISADING	.
VITRIFICATION	.
OTHER BURNING	.
Comments:	.

SW: [you can tick more than 1]

EARTHEN BANK	.
STONE WALL	.
BOTH	.
PALISADING	.
VITRIFICATION	.
OTHER BURNING	.
Comments:	.

NW: [you can tick more than 1]

EARTHEN BANK	.
STONE WALL	.
BOTH	.
PALISADING	.
VITRIFICATION	.
OTHER BURNING	.
Comments:	.

3.10. For each quadrant how many of each of the bank/wall/ditch combinations are there (see diagram in Notes for Guidance):

NE:

BANK/WALL (NO DITCH)	.
BANK/DITCH	.
BANK/DITCH/BANK	.
OTHER	.
Comments:	.

SE:

BANK/WALL (NO DITCH)	.
BANK/DITCH	.
BANK/DITCH/BANK	.
OTHER	.
Comments:	.

SW:

BANK/WALL (NO DITCH)	.
BANK/DITCH	.
BANK/DITCH/BANK	.
OTHER	.
Comments:	.

NW:

BANK/WALL (NO DITCH)	.
BANK/DITCH	.
BANK/DITCH/BANK	.
OTHER	.
Comments:	.

3.11. Chevaux de Frise (tick if YES, you can tick more than 1]

NE	.
SE	.
SW	.
NW	.
Comments:	.

Interior features

3.12. Tick all that are present, mark where on the plan and send to us: [you can tick more than 1]

NO APPARENT FEATURES	.
STONE STRUCTURES	.
PLATFORMS	.
QUARRY HOLLOWES	X.
PITS	X.
OTHER (burials)	X.

Comments: There is evidence, all across the site, of more or less continuous occupation from the Neolithic through the Bronze Age and Iron Age, with a Roman villa built within the former Late Iron Age fort, and Anglo-Saxon burials on the summit of the hill.

Section 4.

If the site has an annex (see notes for definition of an annex), continue here with information about the annex, otherwise go to section 5 below:

4.1. Shape of the annex [tick only 1]

LOBATE	.
CONCENTRIC	.
CIRCULAR	.
SUB-CIRCULAR	.
RECTANGULAR	.
SUB-RECTANGULAR	.
POLYGONAL	.
IRREGULAR	.

OTHER .

4.2. Number of annex ramparts: .

4.3. Number of annex ditches: .

4.4. Number of annex entrances: .

4.5. Comments on the annex: The authors of this report have speculated (see 2.17 above) that the (earlier) contour fort around the hilltop should be regarded as the “main” hillfort, and the (later) northern enclosure as the “annex”.

Section 5.

5.1. Any general comments (including comments on erosion/damage, especially if recent):

The entire perimeter is protected by external fencing preventing wear and tear by walkers. The northern part of the Hill Fort, the site of a specific Iron Age fort, is separately fenced off being now part of a golf course. However, we were able to walk and survey the entire perimeter.

- 1) Embankments at the southern tip – by and large in good order, mainly well covered by grass and brambles. At the most SE end there is the suggestion of a hollow way joining from the SE (see earlier comments in section 3.4).
- 2) Embankments on the eastern side at the south end are also generally in good condition, although there are many rabbit holes in the bank. There is a trace of a possible entrance into the hillfort from the southeast.
- 3) Embankments further up the eastern side are being damaged by tree roots.
- 4) Within the area of the northern enclosure it is difficult to distinguish between the original site and what has been created to form the golf course. The eastern side embankments heading north stand out though, as does the sunken pathway between the two embankments.
- 5) On the western side of the northern enclosure there is strong suggestion of one of the embankments proceeding eastward.
- 6) Embankments on the western side of the main contour enclosure are intact but fairly indistinct.

Important note:

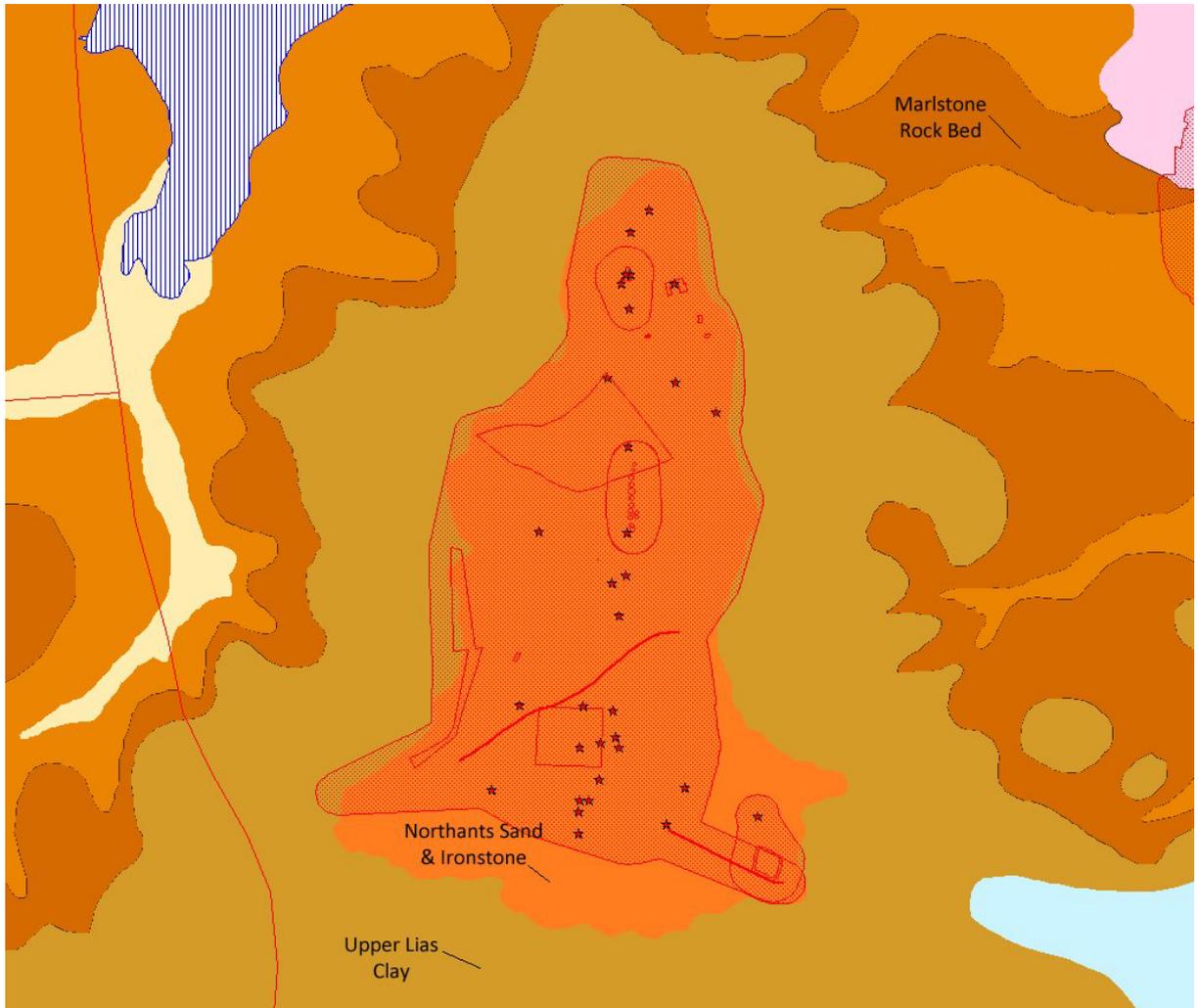
Extensive comments are included in Appendices 1, 2 and 3 to this report, drawing attention to a number of features of apparent archaeological significance that do not appear to have been considered in any previous surveys of Borough Hill.

The appendices also comment in detail on the possible significance of early trackways around the hill, aiming to illustrate some possible links between this site and other known Iron Age sites in Northamptonshire (some of which have only been recognised very recently).

5.2 1884 6" OS map



5.3 Geological map

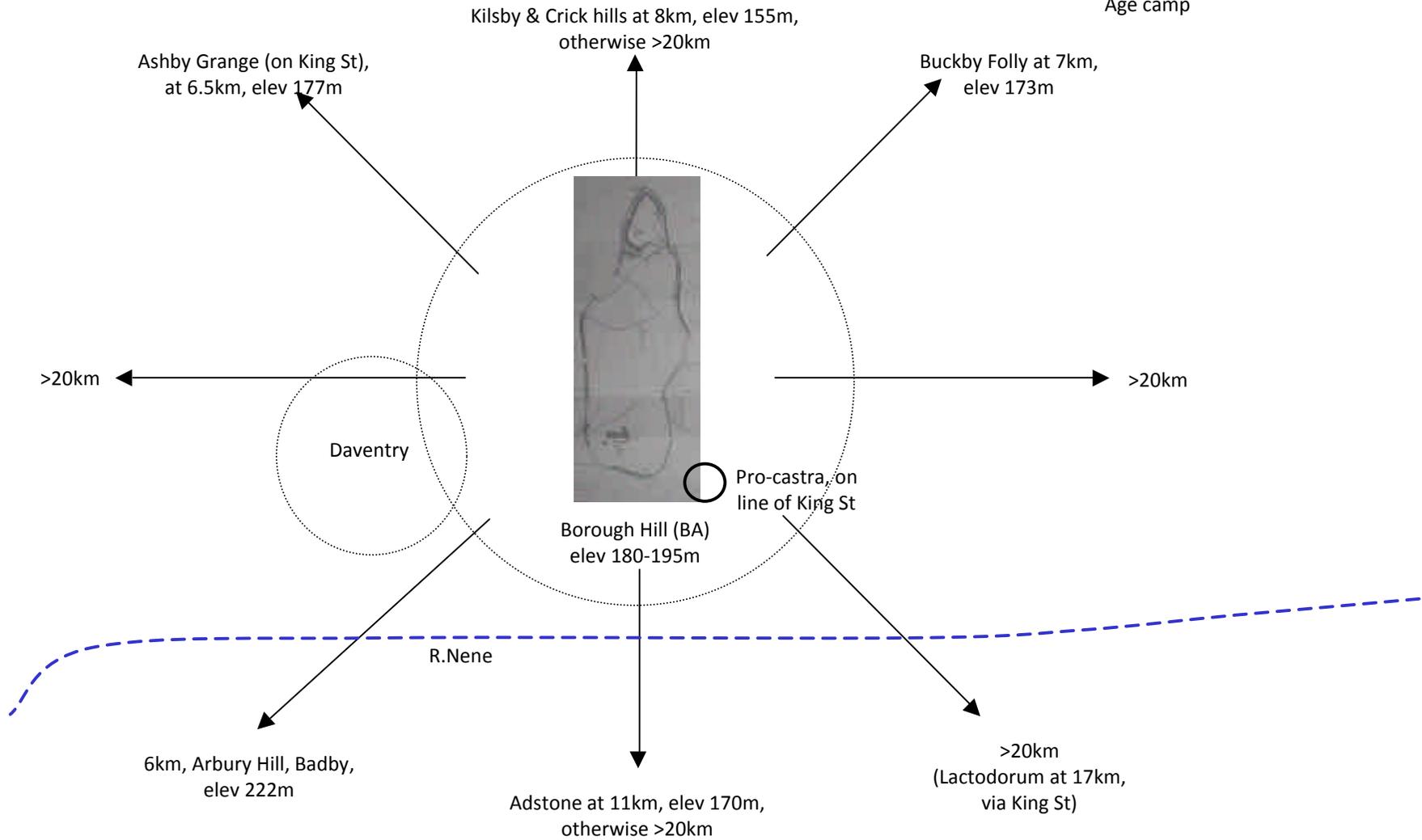


5.4 Viewshed diagrams

See overleaf.

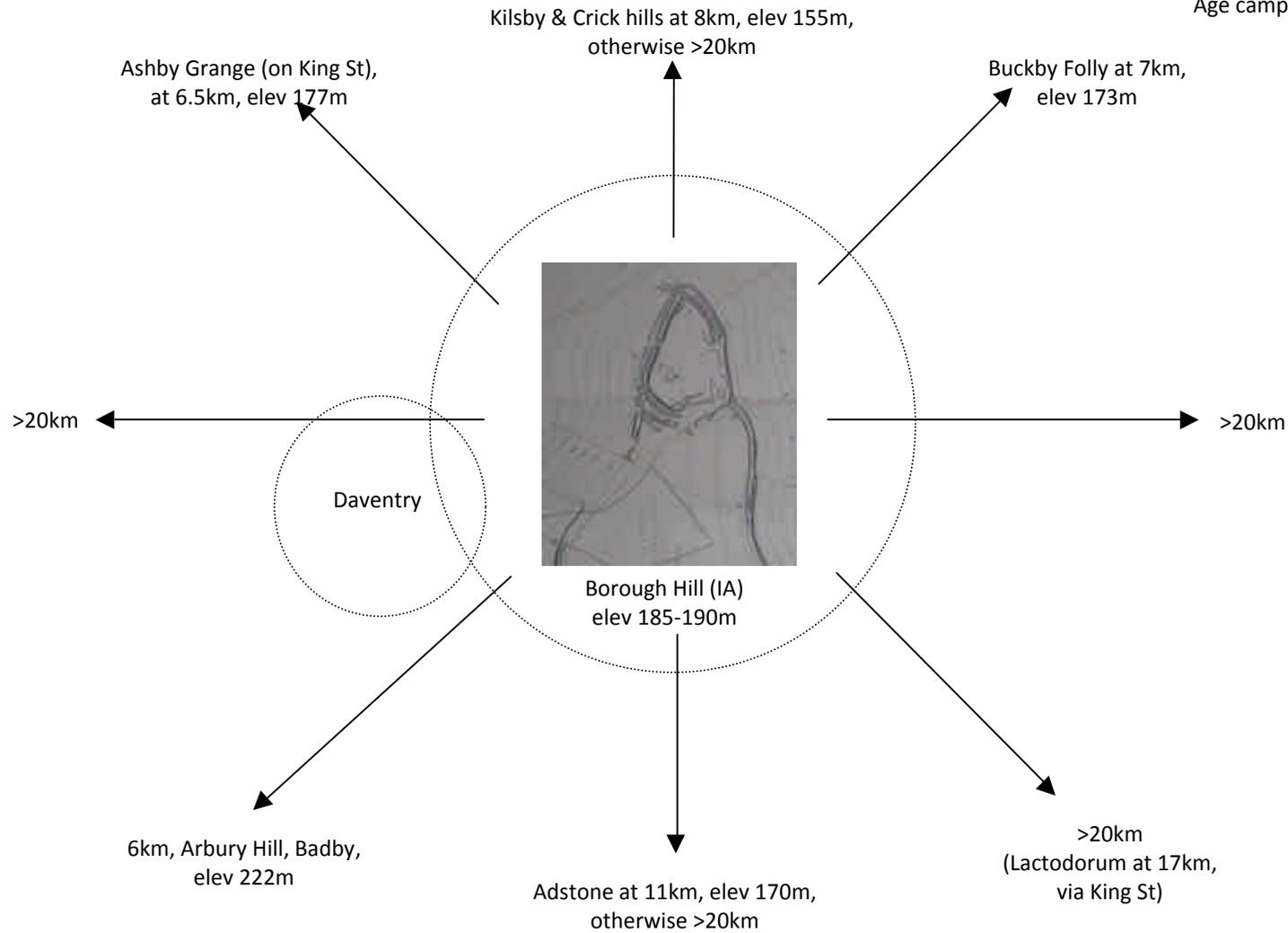
Viewshed diagrams for Borough Hill, Daventry:
(a) Bronze Age camp

NB: Two separate viewsheds are offered for Borough Hill:
a) That for the highest part of the original Bronze Age 52ha camp
b) That for the much smaller 5ha Iron Age camp

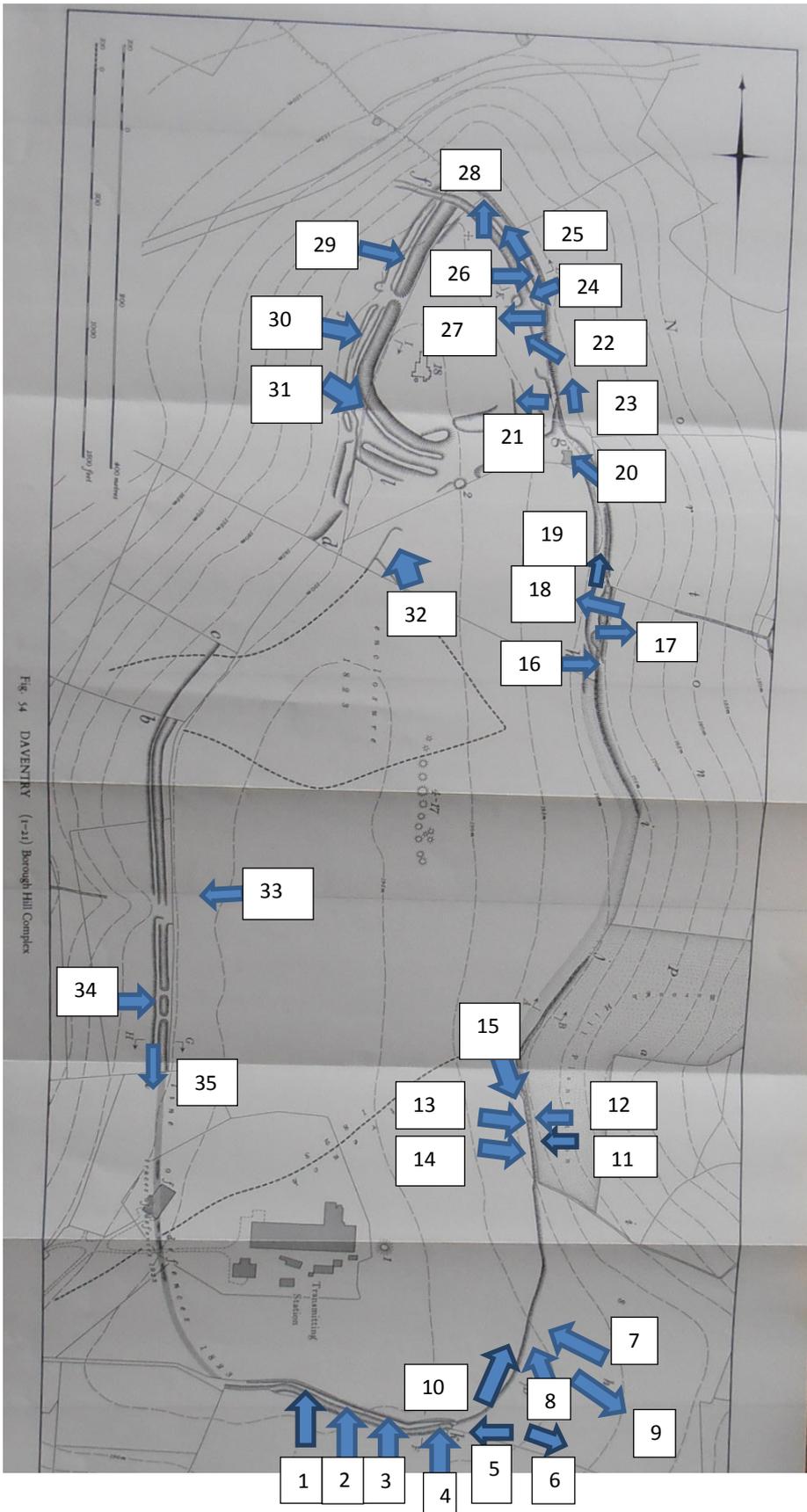


Viewshed diagrams for Borough Hill, Daventry:
(b) Iron Age camp

NB: Two separate viewsheds are offered for Borough Hill:
a) That for the highest part of the original Bronze Age 52ha camp
b) That for the much smaller 5ha Iron Age camp



5.5 Photographs and descriptions – first site visit, November 2015



Southern tip	Photos 1 to 4 are taken on the southern boundary from outside the HF looking towards the bank. They are taken in turn as we walked towards the SE corner.
	Photo 5 shows ditch running north westerly at edge of HF (a continuation of the Holloway as Photo 6).
	Photo 6 is the Holloway outside the HF running up from SE tip (and which starts at pro-caestra 1) and continuing as per Photo 5.
At SE boundary	Photo 7 taken from outside the HF at the SE corner looks towards the bank of the HF.
	Photo 8 is taken at the SE corner looking into the HF
	Photo 9 is taken from inside the HF looking outwards SSE
	Photo 10 from inside HF points out the ditch running N from the SE corner on the eastern boundary.
Eastern Boundary – one third up	Photo 11 from inside HF on the eastern boundary where pro-caestra 2 joins shows the bank of the HF.
	Photo 12 is from inside the HF, a little further along, again showing the bank.
	Photo 13 from within the HF looks downhill from the embankment towards the eastern boundary
	Photo 14 also from within the HF looks downhill from the embankment towards the eastern boundary but a little further south than Photo 13
	Photo 15 from inside the HF shows possible entrance way into the HF (coming up from pro-caestra 2)
East side before Northern HF	Photo 16 from inside the HF shows a small spring on the eastern boundary
	Photo 17 from inside the HF shows the eastern boundary ditch looking east.
	Photo 18 looks into the HF from the Boundary
	Photo 19 inside the HF shows the ditch running north on the eastern boundary
	Photo 20 from inside the HF looks north to the enclosed Northern HF
East side within Northern HF	Photo 21 from just within the Northern HF on the eastern boundary looks west.
	Photo 22 is a little further north along E boundary within HF looking west to an embankment.
	Photo 23 is a little further along E boundary showing a path/ditch running north along the boundary.
	Photo 24 is of the western inner bank of a pathway (per Photo 25) running to northern tip of the HF.
	Photo 25 shows the path between two banks running to the northern tip of HF.
	Photo 26 is taken from the westward bank showing the depth of the path between the two banks.
	Photo 27 is from the eastern boundary of HF looking westward.
Photo 28 is taken near the northern tip of HF looking north.	
West side within Northern HF	Photo 29 is from the western boundary of HF looking eastward into the HF.
	Photo 30 is of pond on Western side
	Photo 31 shows possible western Entrance into the Northern HF
West side of HF	Photo 32 shows ditch just outside the Northern HF
	Photo 33 is half way along western boundary looking west to boundary bank.
	Photo 34 is outside HF near top of western boundary looking towards the bank.
	Photo 35 is outside HF near top of western boundary looking southwards along the bank.
	Photo 36 is outside HF looking from the west into the supposed Satellite 2



1. Southern boundary



2. Southern boundary



3. Southern boundary



4. Southern boundary



5. Ditch creating double bank



6. Hollow way in SE corner



7. Bottom of SE corner



8. Bottom of SE corner



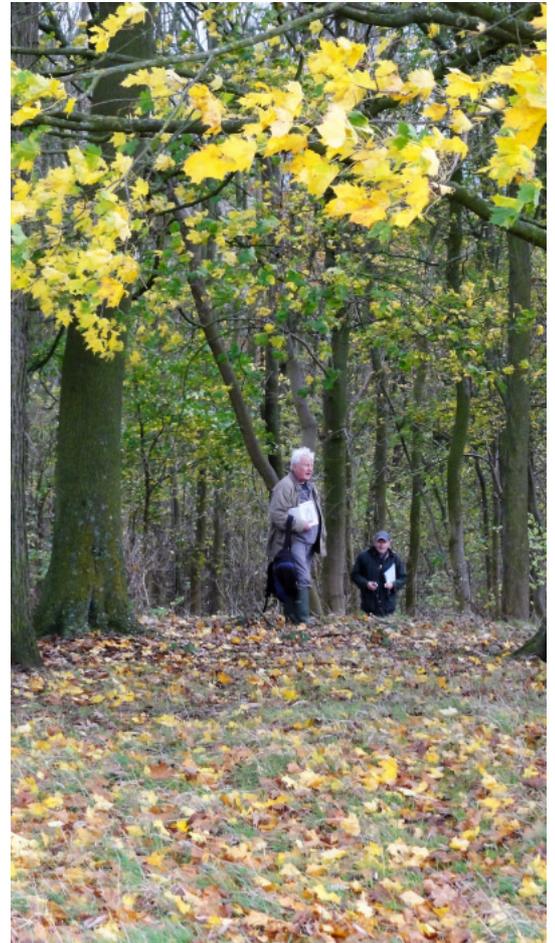
9. View from hillfort towards SSE



10. Ditch running north from SE corner



11. Bottom east boundary looking uphill/inward



13. Bottom east boundary looking downhill



12. Bottom east boundary looking outward



14. Bottom east boundary looking downhill



15. Bottom E boundary possible entrance



16. Eastern boundary pool



17. E boundary looking out



18. E boundary looking inward



19. Eastern boundary ditch



20. Looking N to LIA enclosure



21. Looking W at bottom of LIA enclosure



22. Looking W from inside LIA enclosure



23. Looking N from E side of LIA enclosure



24. Looking W at inner bank of LIA enclosure



25. Path to N tip of LIA fort between banks



26. Showing depth of path between banks



27. Looking W from inside LIA enclosure



28. Looking north from the LIA enclosure



29. Looking E inside W side of LIA enclosure



30. Pond on W side within LIA enclosure



31. Possible W entrance into LIA enclosure



32. Ditch just outside N of LIA enclosure



33. Looking W to bound bank of main enclosure



34. Looking E to main enclosure from outside (1)



35. Looking E into main enclosure from outside (2)



36. View from the west side into supposed Satellite 2, located SE of the main enclosure

5.6 Photographs and descriptions – second site visit, December 2015



Photos 1-8: Possible second 'pro-caestra' (Satellite 2) or associated settlement external to the main contour hillfort, on the eastern side.

(NB: It is planned to carry out further fieldwork in this area, including a magnetometer survey)



1. Looking into Satellite 2



2. Looking out of Satellite 2



3. Along ditch of Satellite 2



4. Depth of ditch along NW perimeter of supposed Satellite 2



5. Ditch and bank at NW perimeter



6. Looking SW along NW external perimeter of Satellite 2

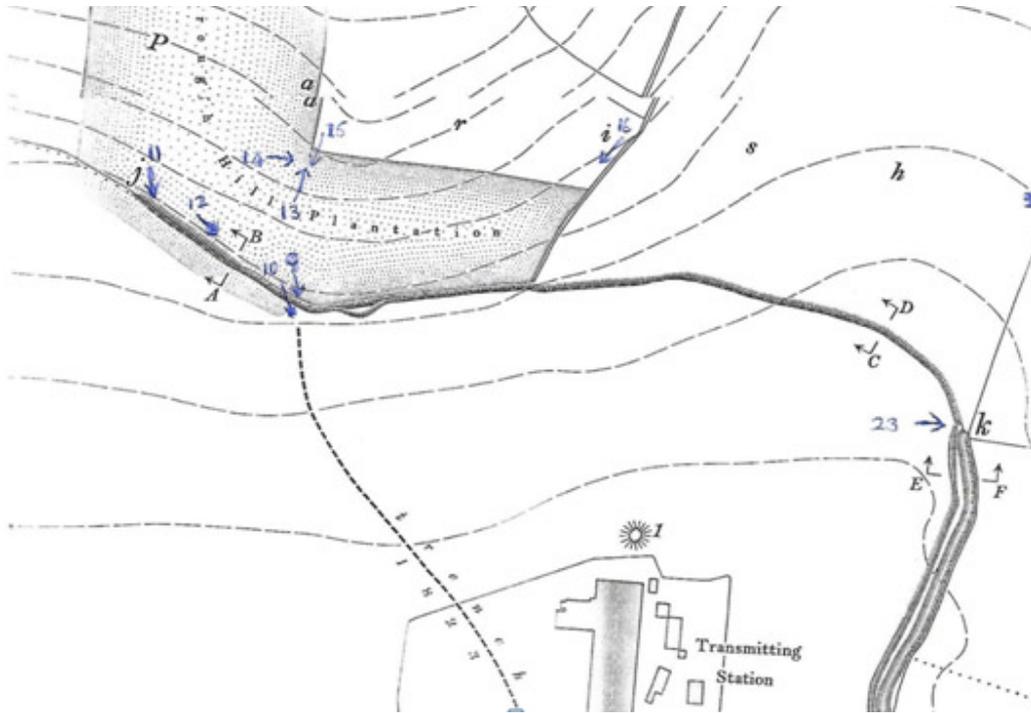


7. Looking NE along NW perimeter



8. Path up from supposed Satellite 2 to hillfort

Photos 9-17: Features around possible entrance on the East side of the main contour hillfort



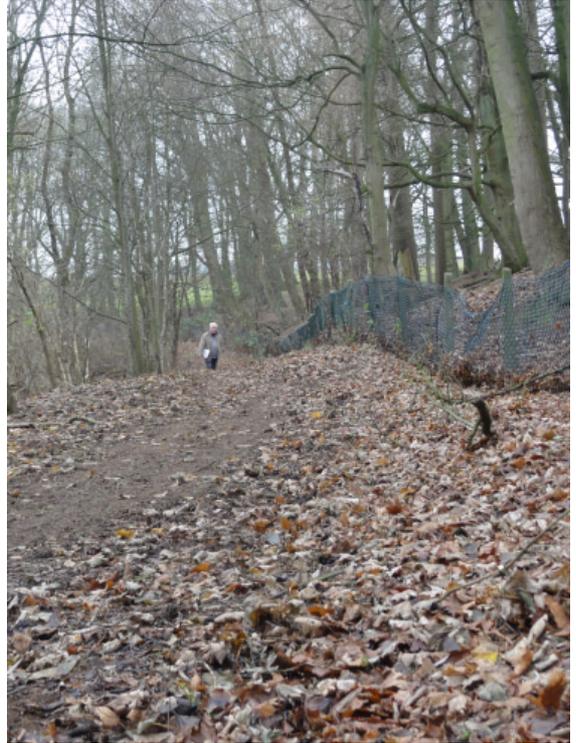
9. Possible spring on route from supposed Satellite 2 up to main contour hillfort



10: Near top of path up from Satellite 2 to main contour hillfort



11: Near top of path up from supposed Satellite 2 to main contour hillfort



12: Looking south along boundary of main contour hillfort



13. Looking downhill in wood below hillfort



14. Downward path and ditch in wood below hillfort



15. Possible ditch & bank, facing uphill below fort



16. Bank on south side of wood, facing uphill



17. Panorama of supposed Satellite 2 looking from SE side

Photos 18-23: Features in and around pro-caestra (Satellite 1) on SE side of the main contour hillfort



18. Hollow way to SE of Satellite 1



19. Bank to S side of Satellite 1



20: Bank at W side of Satellite 1



21: SW side of Satellite 1, looking towards the farmhouse



22: Half way along hollow way from Satellite 1 to the main hillfort



23: Summit of hollow way as it reaches the level of the hillfort

Appendix 1: Borough Hill, Daventry

Analysis of fieldwork investigations and relevant historical and modern documents

Methodology

A foot survey was made of the entire perimeter of the hilltop, to examine and record any remaining archaeological features where possible, by a three-man team from CLASP. Recording was primarily in the form of photographs.

In addition to the fieldwork, desktop research was carried out by studying earlier archaeological surveys, modern and historical aerial photographs, antiquarian studies and maps, modern geological maps, and data obtained from the county HER.

The interior of the area enclosed by the fortification work was not explored in detail in this survey, since with limited manpower it was most important to survey the perimeter of the earthworks; however, the accompanying desktop survey collected and assessed all data for this internal area as already held by Northamptonshire HER database.

Foot Survey

The survey was carried out over two days. The first day entailed a complete walk around the entire peripheral defences. It soon became apparent that a significant part of the defences were heavily covered in bracken and brambles, making detailed physical examination impossible. Where possible, comparisons were made with the various maps; and it does appear that the historical maps present a fairly true representation of the observed situation on the ground. It also became apparent however that there are some inconsistencies between maps, reports and what is actually visible on the ground. Careful analysis of these inconsistencies has revealed what we believe to be significant previously unreported features about the fort. Apart from simply identifying the features themselves, they also help to cast light on the relationship between the fort and other Iron Age features in the surrounding landscape.

Historical Maps and Plans – salient points for discussion and investigation

Baker's Map (1822)

This map reveals the full size and shape of the large, probable post prehistoric enclosure in the western area of the hillfort. Part of this is still physically extant. This map clearly shows that an apparent 'throat' at the south-west corner of this enclosure appears to cross the defences of the original hillfort. Further mention of this feature will be made later.

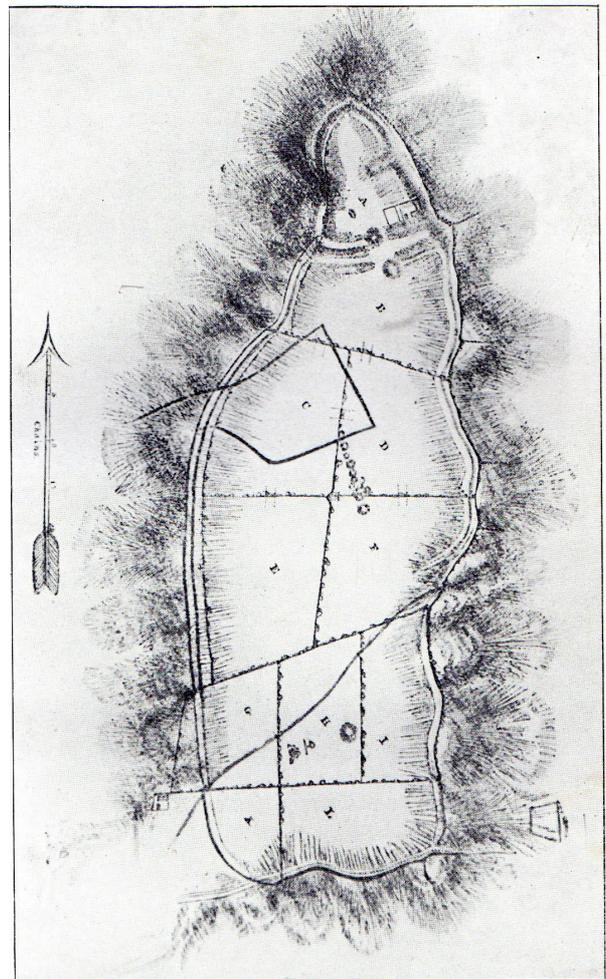
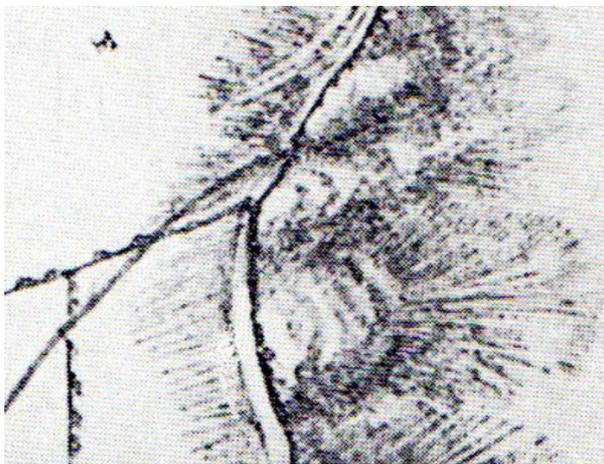
The map reveals on the north-eastern tip of the later northerly annex to the main fort a single in-turned horn adjacent to the later, either Romano-British or C18/19, entrance at this point. See also section 3.4 of the main report above.

It is difficult to discern any entrance on the NW side of this annex, there is however an unusual amorphous black area on the map exactly where it would be expected.

Close examination of this map (an enlargement of this area is included below) provides a clear indication of the northerly, in-turned horn. Further examination of the field boundary just below this horn indicates a second horn within this boundary (see enlargement of map included). The thin dark line that leads to the south-west from between these horns is described as a hollow-way in a 1990s archaeological report (see also later). Exterior to the defences on the eastern side immediately to the

south of the in-turned horns, this map shows what appears to be an outward facing viewing point or platform. A physical examination did reveal a possible artificially levelled area with possible. This is examined in more detail when the suggested eastern entrance is discussed at length, see Appendix 3.

This map also clearly indicates the linear alignment of the 'tumuli' in the central area of the fort, relatively close to what would be the highest point (see the enlargement below). Interestingly two other 'tumuli' seem to sit astride the entrance between the integral annex and the main site. This needs further consideration.



Baker only indicates one free-standing annex/satellite (or *procaestra*) on the eastern side. This appears to be the previously reported site near to the south-eastern corner of the site.

Edgar's Map (1923)

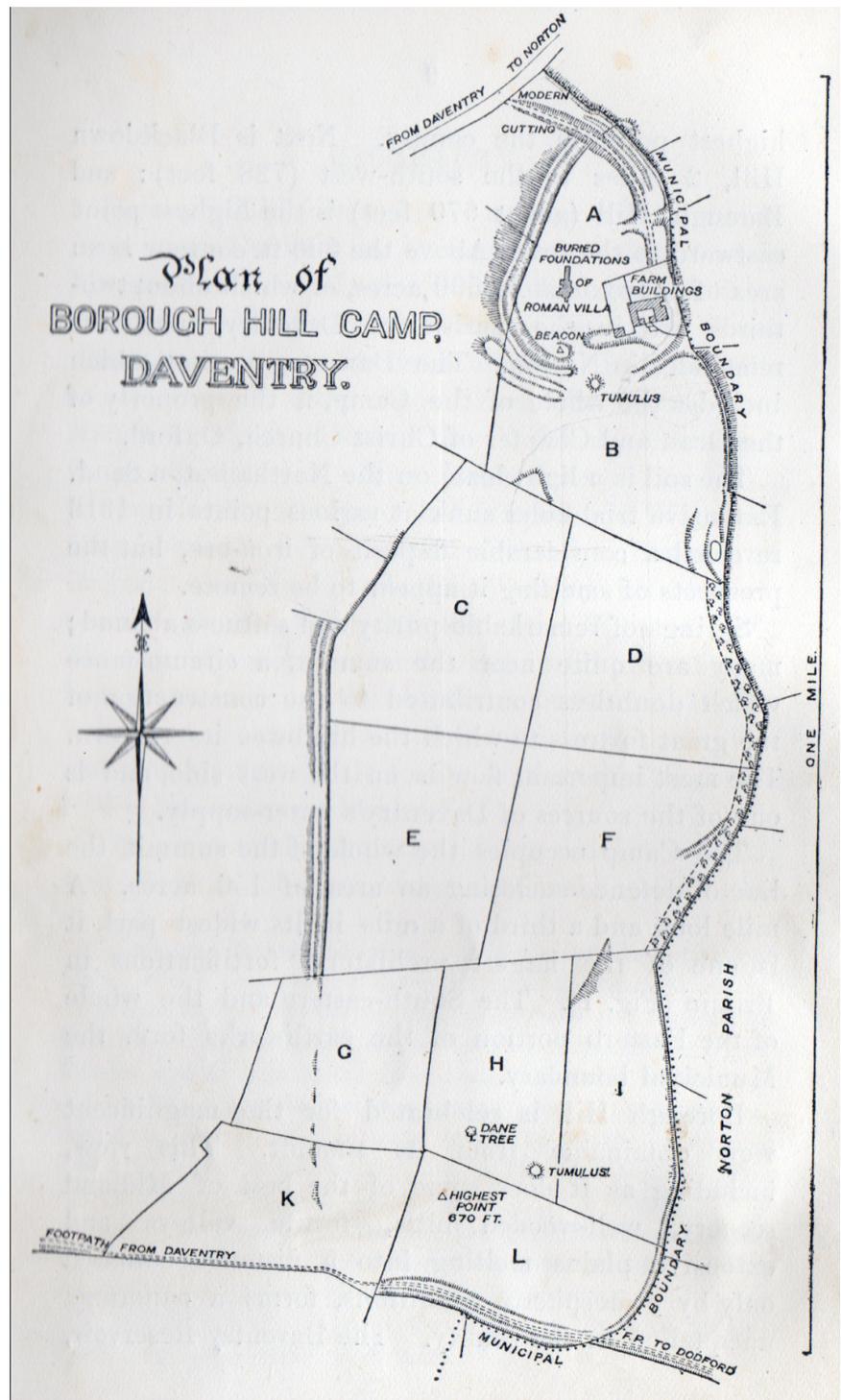
In many ways this map does not show as much as Baker's map, but it does portray some factors that are not indicated by Baker. It clearly indicates that the track up from the area of the southerly free-standing annex is in fact part of a longer route from a probable nodal centre at Dodford to the heart of the earliest manifestations of Daventry town. It arrived along a still extant footpath, now Church Lane. This would take the route directly to the area of the early medieval activity and the later Priory. This area of Daventry has archaeological evidence of activity from the Romano-British period through the Anglo-Saxon to later medieval times. This track clearly utilises one of the ditches on the southern face of the fort as an easy course across the hill top. There is no evidence of it actually breaching the defences.

The map only indicates the remaining portion of the earthworks of the westerly post prehistoric enclosure. It does indicate an unusual earthwork of some type to the south-west, internally, of the suggested eastern entrance. This is not indicated elsewhere and has not been located on the ground. Is it part of the hollow-way indicated on Baker's map? A full discussion on these routes will follow.

In the integral northern enclosure there is today no indication of a north-westerly entrance – see Item 3.3 in the main report.

Interestingly the horn on the north-eastern side of this northern enclosure, as shown in Baker, is shown here as also blocking the ditch between the two banks. At least one of the 'tumuli' here is shown as nearly blocking the entrance between the two parts of the fort. The other tumulus here is marked as a beacon, this is not however to preclude it having previously been a genuine 'tumulus'.

This map does not illustrate any external annexes on the eastern side.



Eayre's Map (1779 & 1791)

This C18th map shows the westerly, later, internal enclosure as being entirely inside the fort without breaching the defences. It also portrays the tumuli as being in a more haphazard configuration.



What appears to be the hollow-way leading from the suggested eastern entrance towards the south-west is shown but there is no indication of the route from Dodford to the old Daventry centre. The southerly external annex is illustrated.

The Features

Westerly Enclosure ('Enclosure 1823' on RCHME map)

This feature is best illustrated in its entirety in Baker's map. It appears that the feature was surrounded by a single ditch and bank, and even in Baker's time it seems that the majority of this bank and ditch had already been ploughed out. In Baker's map this feature is contained in the fields that he describes as 'B', 'C' & 'D'. The only segment that remains today is the triangular northern tip within field 'B'.

Perhaps the most significant aspect of this feature is the way that it appears to narrow to its south-west from field 'C', to cross the perimeter earthworks of the hillfort proper. Owing to the dense brambles and bracken it was impossible to physically survey the perimeter earthworks here to establish the effect that this possible cut had on the principal earthworks. If this map is correct then

this feature is clearly later than any Iron Age activity; one possibility is that the narrow throat may have acted as part of a longer 'drift' or medieval drove-way for cattle to be brought to the hilltop for grazing.

Northern Integral Enclosure

This feature appears to be of later construction than the main contour earthworks, and is probably of Late Iron Age construction. Owing to the destruction caused to the earthworks in this area in more recent times, it is not clear whether this is an 'add-on' to the earlier main hillfort or whether the original hillfort encompassed the current overall perimeter, with this feature being created by the insertion of an east-west ditch and bank system and probable enhancement of the perimeter all around the smaller feature. Edgar's map however shows what appears to be a segment of bank, immediately to the south of the 19th C farm buildings, that does not appear to be related to the banks of the northern enclosure but with more of a curvature as if extending from the eastern bank of the earlier main fort. This is perhaps reflected in the current boundary of the golf course. The Historic England Scheduling Document, however, takes the view that the later feature is part of the original larger fort.

The historical maps tend to indicate that the gap between this enclosure and the bulk of the hilltop fortification seems to have some form of occlusion built into it, either by way of inclusion of 'tumuli' or offset banks. Whether this design was intended to preclude vision into the interior or access is not clear. Owing to the destruction in this area both by earlier farming activity and the construction of the golf course it is really impossible by physical examination to discern what the maps show with any certainty.

There are indications of an entrance on the NW perspective on the RCHME map. This latter map does provide an indication of a single out-turn, or possible guard station at this entrance. Additionally there is no indication of any immediate external feature that may directly relate to it. However, it is possible that it may have facilitated access to the northern enclosure for a possible approach route from the north-west. Recent archaeological work in the area around the hillfort has shown that there are at least three (and probably more) late IA to RB period farmsteads in this direction. Additionally there is significant IA activity further to the NW that could possibly have been served by this entrance, via an early long-distance route known as 'King Street' that is described elsewhere in this report.

Both Baker's and Edgar's maps show an unusual in-turned horn on the north-eastern side, midway between the northern tip of the overall site and the dividing bank and ditches. Considering Baker, this map simply shows the in-turn with no indication of an entrance whereas Edgar indicates two banks with the in-turn possibly blocking the ditch between the two before it turns inside the fort. The RCHME map reflects this to an extent, but here again recent landscaping has made it difficult to identify these today. Within this area there is a more recent entrance and cutting – probably inserted to serve the later farmhouse, but in view of the evidence in the following feature, possibly contemporary with the Roman villa mentioned below. These are both clearly visible today, and are well used by golfers and walkers.

Within the northern enclosure, a Romano-British villa was located and partially excavated in the early part of the 19th century. This appears to have been a significant example of villa construction, but its role in relation to the surrounding landscape has not been properly resolved.

External Northern Undefended Enclosure

To the immediate north of the northern enclosure a recent geophysical survey has identified a previously unknown undefended settlement, probably Romano-British in date. An examination of this survey indicates two possible route-ways that appear to lead towards the previously mentioned later

entrance in the north-eastern earthworks. It is hoped that this area will be more completely investigated in the future as Daventry expands.

Suggested Eastern Entrance

There appears to be a very significant entrance approximately midway on the eastern face of the hillfort, which is not mentioned in the scheduling document.

Attention was drawn to this by what initially appeared to be a single in-turned horn on Baker's map. Closer attention to Baker's map however reveals a second parallel horn approximately 15 metres to the south of the first, shown as within the hedgerow of a field boundary, between fields 'F' and 'I'. The field survey discovered that both of these features remain extant, the northerly being more prominent than the other. It was also noticeable that between the two there are no significant earthworks, if any at all. The northern horn in fact appears as if the inner bank itself is inturned and terminated so as to form the horn.

Of particular note is the acute angle of approach to the overall hillfort boundary that is formed by the horns. The view approaching this entrance from the exterior will be discussed later.

Baker's map also indicates a possible 'platform' on the hillside exterior to the earthworks, just south of the southerly horn. A close examination of Baker's map also indicates possible earthworks surrounding this feature. A close examination made during the field survey, carried out under difficult conditions because of the wooded nature of the exterior here, did reveal a possible artificially levelled platform at the appropriate location when compared to Baker's map. Further examination of the eastern face of this platform revealed elements of a single bank and ditch system possibly relating to this platform.

As will be seen from the following discussion on the second external annex, there is an apparent trackway leading up from the southerly side, in a north-westerly direction roughly towards the above-mentioned levelled area. This could perhaps have formed a focal point before the route of approach to the entrance on a south-westerly course.

The most notable aspect of this approach is that it is not possible to see beyond the defences, i.e. no line-of-sight view into the main fort itself. Current research being undertaken by the Hillfort Atlas Project, (Jessica Murray Ph.D. student attached to the project) has indicated that this concept of a 'blind-pathway' approach to a hillfort is not unusual. As much as anything this was a 'statement' to approaching visitors, either friend or foe; the statement being amplified by the most impressive defences being created at these locations. The defences surrounding this entrance are very significant.

The probability of this being an important entrance is again supported by the recording of a significant hollow-way running from this entrance across the width of the hill-top. This will be discussed in depth below, in Appendix 3.

External Satellite (*procaestra*) #1

This feature forms part of the 'scheduled area' on Borough Hill and is described in the scheduling document as a 'Wootton Hill type enclosure' of some 50m x 40m on a small promontory (NB: the authors of this paper do not agree with this classification – see comments on Wootton-Hill type enclosures in the analysis paper on Northamptonshire Hillforts by CLASP). It appears that there are similar satellites at other hillforts in this locality, both at Hunsbury and Rainsborough. That at Hunsbury had a substantial guardhouse at its entrance and an internal lookout tower.

The field survey provided confirmation of Dennis Jackson's comments (on pp 17 of NAS Journal Vol. 27 1996-7), that it is very difficult to detect any physical evidence of this feature. The obstacle to viewing any possible features was the overgrown nature of the site, with dense brambles and high teasels

covering it, of sufficient density to provide protection for a small herd of deer that broke cover on our approach! All that was apparent to us was a ditch on the eastern face and a possible bank in places on the western side.

It was however possible to establish that there had formerly been a trackway on the southern side of the satellite, apparently approaching from the south-east (Dodford) direction, passing through the feature and leaving on the western side at the south-west corner to head up the hill to the south-eastern corner of the main fort.

The above-mentioned NAS journal paper reports on excavations at this site both by Baker and Dennis Jackson himself. The salient points that arise from these excavations and reports are, that the internal ditch had been in-filled and levelled by the early C19. The single exploratory trench dug by Dennis Jackson on the south side provided no evidence of internal features, neither dating evidence nor survival of an internal bank, internal to the trackway. He also recorded that the external ditch was unusually deep at 3m depth, and managed to trace the ditch for most of its south and eastern faces and also at the north-western corner.

Jackson also mentions an exploratory trench (N) dug across a ditch some 70m northwest of the satellite, between it and the main fort. This ditch had been re-cut three times, and was cut up to 1 metre deep into the bedrock. It contained a single sherd of IA gritty pottery of a fabric unusual to this site.

The approach of the trackway to the main fort will be discussed in greater depth later, in Appendix 3.

External Satellite (*procaestra*) #2

No previous record of this feature has been found, even within the scheduling document.

Its position is clearly indicated on the attached Google aerial image. The five-sided feature is sited on the lower slope of the main hill to the south-east of the previously discussed eastern entrance.

The field survey revealed that the interior was covered in high biomass-type plants. This, together with brambles on parts of the peripheral area, prevented a detailed physical survey of the interior. It will be very useful to be able to make this survey, coupled with a geophysical survey, as there are potentially interesting undefined marks on a least two aerial photographs. It remains as a task for the future.

The field survey did however provide evidence of a significant bivallate peripheral bank and ditch system that may have been multivallate at the NW corner. Like Satellite #1, this feature appears to have a track that ran from the SE corner along the south-westerly side to leave on the westerly corner, heading towards the suggested eastern entrance. To follow the course of this trackway, return to the previous discussion on this entrance.

The current narrow entrance on the east appears to be a later pedestrian entrance.

Dating and Purpose of the Easterly Defended Satellites

Whereas Satellite #1 has already been dated (in the scheduling document) to the Late Iron Age, pending further investigation no firm date can be provided for Satellite #2, so it is not possible to state whether they operated as contemporaries.

Each satellite has its respective trackway passing through inside the defences on the southern side. It therefore seems that once a traveller was inside he and his animals were either offered some form of protection or subjected to control. It is perhaps important to remember that the similar satellite at Hunsbury had both a guardhouse and lookout tower. To offer protection or control there would, as at Hunsbury, have undoubtedly have been gates and guards probably supplemented with watchtowers.

The Historic England Scheduling Document takes the general view that satellite sites of this type provided an enhanced lookout function where the view from the principal site was restricted. However, this comment does not seem to be appropriate at Borough Hill Daventry, because the view from around the crest of the hill would have been fairly comprehensive to all quarters, especially if supplemented by possible lookout towers. It is possible that the very short-term view may have been restricted on some parts of the circuit by 'dead ground' – this is difficult to assess owing to vegetation cover, buildings and lack of artificial high viewing structures on the summit. Also, the erosion of the perimeter banks may now provide long-distance views that were not available to the original occupants. This 'dead ground', if not properly monitored, could have provided cover to unwanted persons.

However, an alternative explanation for the location of these two satellites may be, that they are simply located fairly close to the two nearest permanent and reliable sources of water – two streams that are shown on the modern OS map as rising approximately 1km east and 1km south respectively of the hilltop. The satellites may perhaps have been located in order to take advantage of these watercourses.

Appendix 2: Usage of Borough Hill before and after the Iron Age

Bronze Age

In addition to the eighteen Roman cemetery barrows on the hilltop, there are at least two Bronze Age Barrows:

- The first is interestingly situated in the entrance between the main contour hillfort and the northern enclosure; it was excavated in 1823 and revealed two burials.
- The second Bronze Age bowl barrow is in the southern area of the main hillfort, to the east of the old BBC buildings. The Scheduling Document dates this as Bronze Age, although Dennis Jackson's 1991 excavation report is not date specific.

Several Bronze Age palstave axes have also been discovered within the contour hillfort, including two buried in the area of the second above-mentioned barrow at a depth of 1.6-2m. In this area a Palaeolithic axe and a fragment of a greenish grey polished axe were also found – since these items all predate the construction of the hillfort, they may perhaps have been curated during the Iron Age as ritual objects? (Dennis Jackson NAS 27 1996/7 pp 150).

The Post Iron Age Years

Romano-British

There are two known significant features from this era within the confines of the hillfort:

- Firstly, within the northern enclosure there was a significant villa together with a bath-house. This was excavated in the early 19th century by Beriah Botfield, the squire of nearby Norton and a local antiquarian. Unfortunately this part the site has now been occupied by part of a golf course, with significant consequent landscaping.
- The second significant feature is what has been described as the largest Roman barrow cemetery in the country. In the early 18th century there were eighteen mounds still in existence but these were levelled by ploughing a century later. Trial excavations by Dennis Jackson in 1991 demonstrated that there were still remains of these features underground (Historic England scheduling document). These barrows are situated on a roughly northwest to south-east alignment in the central area of the contour fort.

Anglo-Saxon

- Two early Anglo-Saxon burials were located in the northern Bronze Age barrow.
- **Hundred meeting site:** The Aluardeslea Hundred meeting site is recorded as being at the 'Spellow Well' which is in the area of entrance between the main hillfort and the northern enclosure. It is perhaps of interest that the name '*spellow*' can be broken down into 'speech' and 'hill with a barrow burial'. This may be of specific relevance, as Edgar reports that two early Anglo-Saxon burials were discovered in one of the Bronze Age barrows. This may be of great significance when considering the origins of the earliest hundreds and their meeting places. It may also be significant that the Anglo-Saxon record mentions a well on the hilltop, which perhaps may have served earlier pre-Roman communities within the contour hillfort.

Farming

Over the years there has been extensive farming on the hill. This has had what can be described as nothing less than a disastrous impact on the structure of the defences of the hillfort, as has the golf course on the northern enclosure. This destruction has caused levelling of the peripheral banks and

infilling of ditches along significant sections. The destruction has also extended to levelling the Romano-British barrow cemetery and the Bronze Age bowl barrow. The previously described 'westerly enclosure' appears also to be an agricultural insertion, of an unknown date. Is this feature perhaps evidence of a grazing compound, with the cattle being led onto the hill through the tail of the enclosure, i.e. a medieval drift-way?

The Civil War

The history of the Civil War indicates that the night before the Battle of Naseby, King Charles' army was quartered on Borough Hill. There is no record of any action involving the Hill.

Daventry racecourse

It is recorded that Daventry horse racing course until enclosure in the latter part of the 18th century.

BBC radio transmitting station

In 1925 the National Broadcast Service opened its first wireless transmitter on the Hill for the earliest transmissions, station 5XX. This was followed by the BBC Third Programme and the BBC World Service. The forest of transmission masts with their concrete foundations must have damaged some archaeology. These masts have now been demolished with the closing of the station.

The importance due to the unusual prominence of the hill was never demonstrated more than by the World Service signals.

Radar

One notable use of the station on the 26th February 1935 to reflect the first experimental radar signals transmitted by a RAF aircraft a few miles to the south.

World War II

Apart from the coded messages past to the Resistance through the BBC World service perhaps the most important strategic use of Borough Hill was the RAF Gee station, a small complex of austere red brick buildings hiding on the north-eastern side. This was the principal station for the Eastern Gee network, the signal that guided RAF bombers over Germany.

The Cold War

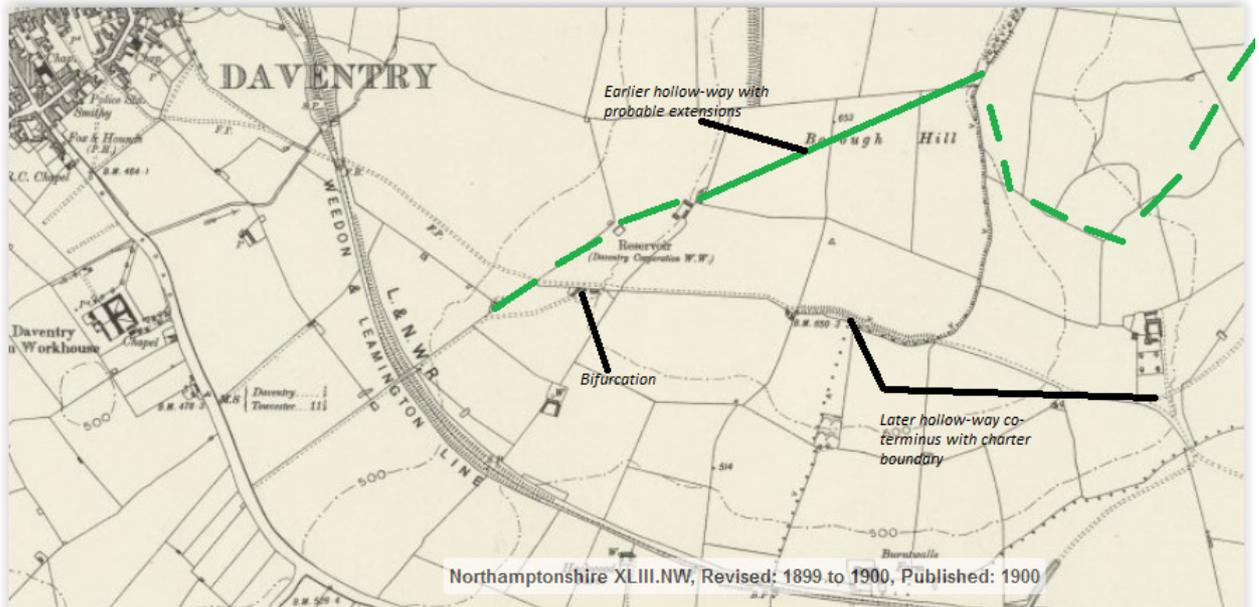
The Royal Observer Corps opened a manned UKMO (UK Monitoring Organisation) in the early 1960s observation point on the hill GR SP587626 to monitor 'fallout' levels in case of a nuclear attack on the UK. This was closed in 1991 and filled with concrete, no trace now remains.

Public Park

Today the park is owned by the District Council and functions as a public open space.

Appendix 3: Borough Hill, Approach Routes and Trackways

(These routes are illustrated by annotation on the map below)



The NE to SW Hollow-way

This is illustrated on Baker's 1822 map and discussed in the NAS report, pp147/8, where the description of an archaeological investigation trench across it is provided. This indicates that the route was cut or worn into the bedrock and about 2–3m width, variance between top and bottom.

This route ran from the previously discussed eastern entrance and ran across the hilltop towards the south-west. By studying where this route reached the western face, it is apparent that it exited the hilltop virtually on an alignment with today's access road to the hilltop. The route then apparently forms an extension of the road crossing Newnham Hill, heading further to the south as the Dorchester-on-Thames to Leicester Portway. At Preston Capes some 6km to the south, the Portway forms a crossroads with the Great Way, a route of antiquity in Anglo-Saxon times that in all probability was part of the so-called 'Jurassic Way', implying another strong trading influence on Borough Hill.

To the north-east there is no indication of any route from the eastern entrance other than the previous discussed route from there to Satellite 2. There is no obvious route onwards from this satellite in any direction other than specifically to the north or north-east. However an examination of the OS 1:50000 Landranger Map does show a public footpath running from Norton village, passing close to this satellite, before running on to join to form, with other routes, a small nodal centre just to the east of the first satellite. At Norton it would have joined the previously defined route of the Portway north to Crick and beyond. This would also have made a logical route from Borough Hill to the pre Roman-British settlement at Bannaventa.

Unfortunately we do not have any evidence regarding the entrance on the south-west where this hollow-way exited the hill-fort. Was there an original entrance here that facilitated access from this direction? If this was the case, and if it was contemporary with the eastern gate, was there also a satellite fort here? Further investigation should be done into this. Here too, as at the eastern entrance, this route provides a 'blind' approach to the main hillfort. It is difficult to visualise the original

appearance of the defences in this sector, owing to millennia of subsequent human activity and extremely intense bramble overgrowth.

Dennis Jackson in the NAS article, pp 149, takes the view that this route is either Roman or medieval. The authors of this report prefer the earlier date, for several reasons:

- As mentioned above the evidence that this route probably constituted part of the Portway .
- This route connects a series of Roman-British locations along its course from Dorchester-on-Thames to the north.
- This connectivity was maintained into the ending of the Romano-British and the early part of the Anglo-Saxon era. The evidence for this is provided by a series of sixth and seventh century cemeteries, some containing 'recycled' Roman military items close to or on it, with a probable 'status' early Saxon burial in a tumulus containing typical items for these burials.
- Another issue that indicates probable antiquity is the fact that this route has not survived as not survived as either a public or private footpath whereas other later routes have.

None of this however precludes the probability that the route may have had its origins in the Bronze and Iron Ages. Indeed, the early origins of communication routes is borne out by the topographic relationship between hillforts along the line of the long-distance route, coupled with archaeological finds of similar material, especially Bronze Age axeheads, along the route. Several of these have been discovered on Borough Hill. NAS Report pp 149 -50.

The Southern East-West Hollow-way

In contrast to the other hollow-way this route is still reflected as an official footpath. For the purposes of this report the route will be traced from Dodford to the east, mention also being made of associated routes that join this part of the route. The route then passes internally through Satellite 1 on the southern side before heading up to pass along the southern face of the main hillfort. At the south-west corner the route then bifurcates heading south and also directly to the earliest area of settlement of Daventry in the area of the current market square. It would have entered along what is now Church Walk.

In all probability this route evolved in two sections:

- Firstly the section leading from the east into the satellite one and on to the south-east corner of the main hillfort.
- This would then have linked into the previously described routes to the north-east.

It is difficult to provide an early date for this section, not least because the field survey was unable to positively identify an entrance into the hillfort at this point. The Historic England Scheduling Document takes the view that the satellite and track are of Late Iron Age date. This is problematic, as the late Dennis Jackson in both his 1983 and 1991 work (NAS 25 1993/4 pp 63-67 and NAS 27 1996/7 pp 146 respectively) indicates that there was a reworking of the defences in this area, probably after the Middle Iron Age. This reworking involved a single bank and ditch, in part constructed over the earlier features. Whilst it is acknowledged that both the 1983 and the 1991 work only constituted trial trenching no evidence is provided in either report of an entrance at this corner through the later defences, in fact the illustrations for both reports indicate a continuous ditch at this corner. The 1991 excavation also indicated that the principal activity in the southern area of the hillfort was Middle Iron Age Without further detailed excavation in the area of this corner of the hillfort it is not possible to illustrate what existed in the earlier defensive system.

This therefore leaves a conundrum with the dating of the adjacent satellite.

It is clear, however, that this route probably evolved further during the early medieval period. After passing over the Hill at this time the route appears to have split, one arm heading towards Daventry centre, the other turning south on to the Port-way. In the area of the hillfort this later route followed the course of the earlier defensive ditch on the southern face of the main hillfort, as does today's footpath. This route was, for part of its length, utilised as a demarcation feature for the bounds of the Anglo-Saxon Charter for Newnham. This extended from the east along the route through the satellite and then part way along the southern face of the hillfort before turning off to the south. For a short distance the route is similarly the administrative boundary for Daventry town parish.

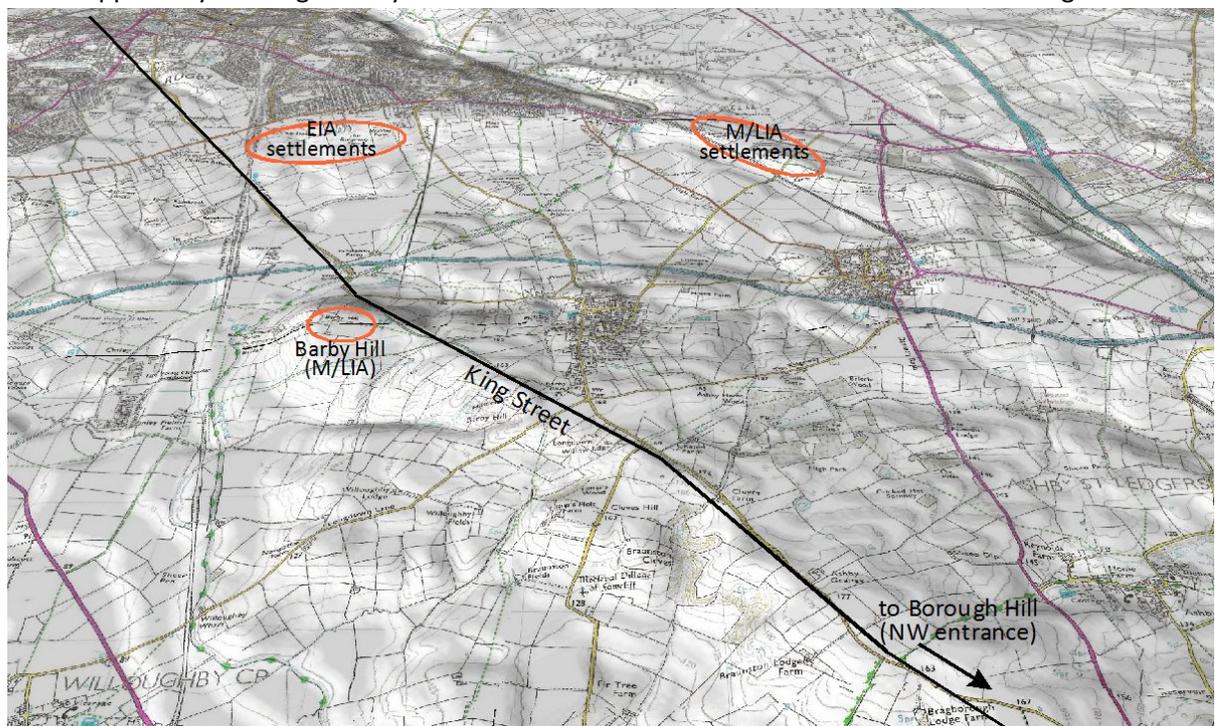
This indicates that by the time this route assumed importance, the need for the Portway to cross through the centre of the hillfort had passed.

The significance of the hill in early governance, by hosting the site of the hundred meeting, is referred to in Appendix 2.

The North Western Approach Route

The RCHME map of the hillfort shows an entrance (no horns) on the NW of the northern enclosure (annex); this entrance is also hinted on Baker's 1822 map, but not on other maps. Subsequent landscaping has destroyed the defences in this area, but the entrance shows up on LiDAR mapping.

Recent research has identified a route from Rugby (perhaps originating even further to the north-west), heading south-east and passing over Barby Hill directly adjacent to the Iron Age settlement there (documents from the 1500s identify this section as 'King Street', stating that it was already ancient at that date). From Barby Hill the route continues along a ridgeway, in an approximately straight-line course apparently heading directly towards the north-west entrance of the hillfort at Borough Hill:



- SE of Barby (see OS map below), a footpath branches south, roughly following the 168m contour past Bragborough Hall (where scatters of Romano-British ceramics have been found) before terminating on the modern A361 road about 400m south of a minor road to Braunston.

- Just prior to the A361 the footpath passes close to the recently excavated Romano-British farmstead at Middlemore.
- At the A361, the footpath points toward the NW end of Borough Hill.
- The route may have then headed towards another early settlement at Monksmoor, which was recently excavated. The final report is still awaited; however, initial surveys indicated activity from the Bronze Age to the Romano-British period. Initial geophysics showed a group of hut circles immediately adjacent to the projected route of 'King Street'.
- From Monksmoor it seems logical to extend the route by interpolation, directly to the NW entrance of the northern fortified enclosure on Borough Hill.

In addition to the large Iron Age settlement at Barby Hill there is evidence of several large Iron Age settlements slightly further north in the Kilsby/Crick area.

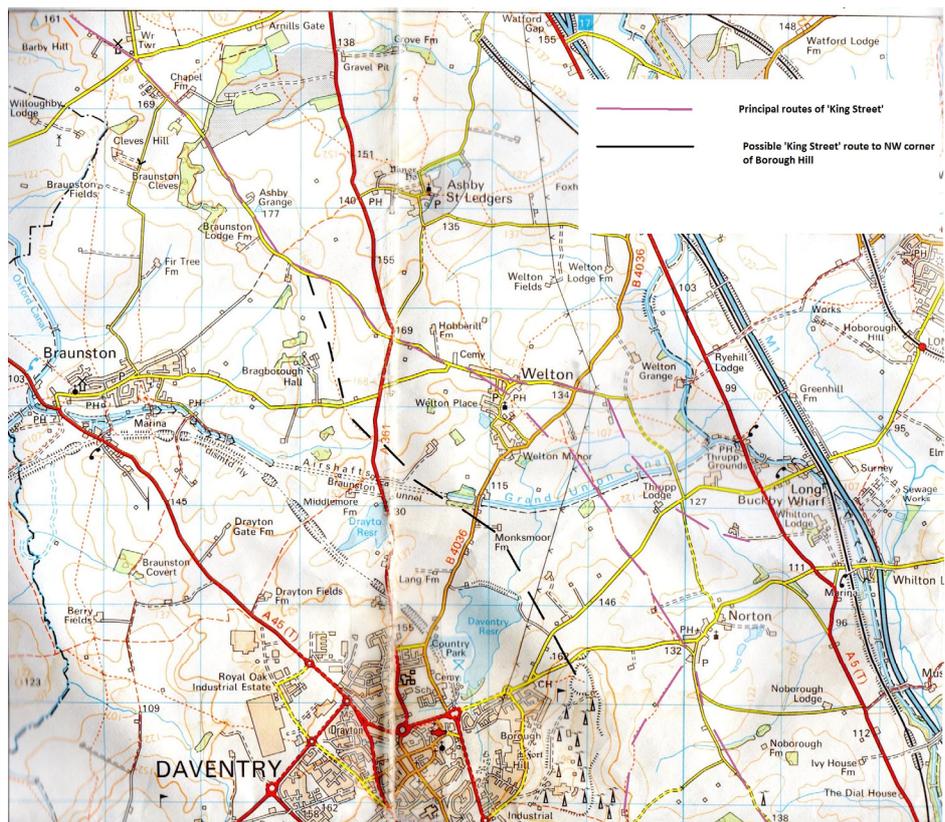
This early 'King Street' route may have retained significance during the Romano-British period, owing to the important villa site that was sited within the northern fortified 'annex'.

There may be some other branches (i.e. subsequent extensions) from the original 'King Street' route:

- A second branch route appears to lead off towards the LIA/Romano-British settlement at Bannaventa, perhaps continuing thence along the known Roman road towards Duston.
- Another proposed extension of King Street to the east of Borough Hill may have passed close to Satellite 2, thereby accessing the fort through that entrance.

Whilst we cannot be certain of the precise course of this 'King Street' route, it seems logical that it would have connected the early settlements adjacent to it, facilitating access to Borough Hill and underlining the probable significance of Borough Hill as a site for regional governance, formal ritual, protection and trade.

NB: Mention has been made (in Appendix 1) of a long-distance route towards Borough Hill from a probable early nodal centre at



Dodford; the authors suggest that this latter route may perhaps form an extension to 'King Street', and that 'King Street' may perhaps be a true long-distance route, with Borough Hill as a major waypoint and with its final terminal at Towcester (Lactodurum) where it converges with the Watling Street.

The North-Eastern Entrance

The later entrance in the north-east corner of the hilltop fortification, which appears to have been cut as a later feature, would have facilitated access to the previously mentioned undefended Romano-British settlement north of Borough Hill. It may have also have provided access to the Romano-British activity at Thrupp to the immediate north of Bannaventa, and perhaps a later access route into Bannaventa itself.