and put fragments from four different Beakers and some charcoal into it, including apple type (*Maloideae*), oak (*Quercus*), hazel (*Corylus*), willow (*Salix*) and cherry type (*Prunoideae*) charcoal (Miller and Ramsay, see Chapter 12 and Archive). Mixed in with this were burnt hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) fragments, burnt rowan seeds (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and a few burnt cereal grains, some of which were identifiable as barley. A radiocarbon date of 2310–2030 bc (SUERC-5299) was obtained from carbonised cereal grains (*Hordeum vulgare*).

The Beakers from which the sherds came were of different forms (Sheridan, see Chapter 12 and Archive). One pot had been decorated with impressions from a round-toothed comb (BP 1, Figure 4.20; less than one-quarter of the pot is present), another with impressions from a rectangular-toothed comb (BP 2, Figure 4.20; less than one-tenth is present). A third was a globular bowl, decorated in zones with impressions made with a comb and with incised lines (BP 3, Figure 2.40; less than one-fifth is present). All the sherds were unabraded, so they had not been lying around for long before they were put into the pits. Whoever put them there might have smashed the vessels deliberately with the intention of depositing parts of them.

Two other pits (142 and 140) were dug closer to the old mound, just beyond the south-eastern hollow (Figure 4.13). One (143) contained oak and hazel charcoal, carbonised hazelnut shell and approximately 2000 cereal grains (including naked and hulled barley, bread wheat and emmer wheat) (Miller and Ramsay, see Chapter 12 and Archive). A radiocarbon date of 2280–2030 bc (SUERC-5296) was obtained from one cereal grain (*Triticum dicoccum*). A chert flake, two flint chips and a burnt flint fragment accompanied the grain, shell and charcoal.

The neighbouring pit (140) contained similar material (Figure 4.13). Its ashy lower fill contained two chert flakes and a flint flake, as well as oak and hazel charcoal, carbonised hazelnut shell and approximately 1000 cereal grains (including naked and hulled barley, bread wheat and emmer wheat) (Miller and Ramsay, see Chapter 12 and Archive). A radiocarbon date of 2200–1940 bc (SUERC-5295) was obtained from a cereal grain (*Hordeum vulgare var vulgar*). In this pit (unlike its neighbour), they set three large stones in the upper fill, sealing the contents.

At around the same time, a sub-rectangular pit (164) was dug into the flank of the old mound, cutting through the layer of mixed cairn material (083) (Figure 4.13). This pit was filled with about 25,000 burnt cereal grains, mainly barley, with twice as much of the naked variety as hulled, and a small quantity of emmer wheat (Miller and Ramsay, see Chapter 12 and Archive). Along with the cereal grains, the pit held charcoal, predominantly oak and hazel with smaller quantities of cherry and alder; a chert core, two flint chips and a burnt fragment of a bifacially worked point (Saville, see Chapter 12 and Archive), and

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**4.2 Chisel arrowheads**

Chisel arrowheads, which have a broad cutting edge rather than a point, are typically associated with later Neolithic contexts in Britain. They were made using a distinctive method, starting with a broad flake, one lateral edge of which was left unretouched as the cutting edge while the other edges were trimmed to form the base or tang for hafting (see Figure 4.19). Arrowheads of this type were presumably designed to cut wide, profusely bleeding wounds. There has been much speculation over the type of game they were used to target, with some authorities suggesting large birds such as geese.

Surprisingly, however, there is little evidence for the use of bows and arrows for hunting or sport during the Neolithic period. On the contrary, there is considerable evidence for their use in earlier and middle Neolithic times as a weapon of war – for example, from finds of leaf-shaped arrowheads embedded in human bones found in chambered tombs – although there is no evidence that chisel arrowheads were used in this way in Britain. It is, therefore, possible that their introduction marked a swing towards hunting or sport, accompanying other cultural changes in the late Neolithic.

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