

NORTH SHOEBURY (ESSEX)

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North Shoebury is a multi-period site located on the Southend peninsula on the flat Barling Terrace (Wymer and Brown 1995, 1). The soil in this area is brickearth (yellow brown silt) that is calcareous and contains nodules of calcium carbonate making the area very arable as well as offering great archaeological preservation (Wymer and Brown 1995, 4). Excavations at North Shoebury began in 1981 in advance of commercial development and the project surveyed roughly 100 square metres (Wymer and Brown 1995, 11). Additionally, information from the 1981 excavation have been taken in conjunction with ‘...the features observed by D. G. Macleod during the course of topsoil stripping in advance of brickearth extraction in 1971-1980’ (Wymer and Brown 1995, 1). The evidence from North Shoebury revealed activity in the area from roughly 1500 BC to AD 1500 and archaeological features from the Late Bronze Age to the Late Iron Age showed the settlement pattern shift towards the west during the Early Iron Age/Middle Iron Age (Wymer and Brown 1995, 11-12). Furthermore, excavations uncovered a small Late Iron Age cremation cemetery on the eastern boundary of the settlement site. Additionally, a Middle Iron Age inverted skull was uncovered just outside a possible roundhouse. Macleod’s observations recorded two early Iron Age inhumations. Janet. D. Henderson conducted the osteological assessment.

Periods assigned to North Shoebury (Wymer and Brown 1995, 11-12): *Only listed: those that pertain to this research*

Phase I.3 c. 600-300 BC (EIA)

Phase II. 1 c. 300 BC- 50 BC (MIA)