

GRIMES GRAVES (Norfolk)

TL 820 900

Grimes Graves is a prehistoric mining site located near the Norfolk/Suffolk border (Mercer 1981, 1). It lies on low rise of a shallow dry valley, and '[t]he subsoil on the site is a glacial till composed of fine sand with small pebbles and beneath this at a depth of about 1m the irregular surface of the cryoturbated chalk appears' (Mercer 1981, 1). Within the chalk are seams of flint that attracted prehistoric mining activities (Mercer 1981, 1). The first major excavation at Grimes Graves began in 1914 by A. E. Peake (Mercer 1981, 3). Excavations began again in 1971 and 1972 at Grimes Graves aiming to open the mineshafts to the public and establish a cultural and environmental history of the site (Mercer 1981, 8). The excavations uncovered two inhumations from the 1971 mineshaft and R. P. Kenward conducted the osteological assessment.