

GREAT HOUGHTON (Northamptonshire)

SP 7945 5829 to SP 7913 5815

Great Houghton lies near Northampton, Northamptonshire in the south side of the River Nene Valley and overlies boulder clay (Chapman 2000-1, 3). Northamptonshire Heritage carried out excavations at the site between September and October 1996 in advance of a pipeline (Chapman 2000-1, 1). Excavations uncovered an Early to Middle Iron Age open settlement with some enclosures, pits and round structures (Chapman 2000-1, 3). Most Iron Age activity occurred in the Early and Middle Iron Age and there is limited evidence for the Late Iron Age (Chapman 2000-1, 3). In the Early/Middle Iron Age phase for the settlement, one of the pits (in the west pit group) contained conjoining skull fragments (Chapman 2000-1, 6). Additionally, excavations uncovered a female inhumation (with an associated torc) near the western enclosure. The radiocarbon date of the inhumation (405-370 BC) places it as either pre-dating or at the earliest use of the enclosure (Chapman 2000-1, 8). The inhumation and disarticulated bone were the only human remains recovered from the excavations and Trevor Anderson (2000-1) conducted the osteological analysis.