

# A new henge discovered at Stonehenge

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History is set to be rewritten after an archaeology team led by the University of Birmingham and the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Archaeological Prospection and Virtual Archaeology in Austria discovered a major ceremonial monument less than one kilometre away from the iconic Stonehenge.

The incredible find has been hailed by Professor Vince Gaffney, from the University's IBM Visual and Spatial Technology Centre, as one of the most significant yet for those researching the UK's most important prehistoric structure.

Professor Gaffney says: "This finding is remarkable. It will completely change the way we think about the landscape around Stonehenge. "People have tended to think that as Stonehenge reached its peak it was the paramount monument, existing in splendid isolation. This discovery is completely new and extremely important in how we understand Stonehenge and its landscape."



The archaeological team discovered a henge less than 1km away from Stonehenge.

The new "henge-like" Late Neolithic monument is believed to be contemporaneous to Stonehenge and appears to be on the same orientation as the World Heritage Site monument. It comprises a segmented ditch with opposed north-east/south-west entrances that are associated with internal pits that are up to one metre in diameter and could have held a free-standing, timber structure.

The project, which is supported by the landowner, the National Trust, and facilitated by English Heritage, has brought together the most sophisticated geophysics team ever to be engaged in a single archaeological project in Britain.

**[Stonehenge press release \(http://previewtest.bham.ac.uk/news/latest/2010/07/22july-stonehenge.aspx?securitytoken=Q6vw7%2bxz752FBslvau3xjVAeX73NL7d%2fCCFdJMrkTcFbkCn3TWLV7wPQgrcqRI8pyrlws24sKjY%3d\)](http://previewtest.bham.ac.uk/news/latest/2010/07/22july-stonehenge.aspx?securitytoken=Q6vw7%2bxz752FBslvau3xjVAeX73NL7d%2fCCFdJMrkTcFbkCn3TWLV7wPQgrcqRI8pyrlws24sKjY%3d)**

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