From one ritual to another: the long-term sequence of the Bury gallery grave (northern France, fourth–second millennia BC)

Laure Salanova^{1,*}, Philippe Chambon², Jean-Gabriel Pariat³, Anne-Sophie Marçais⁴ & Frédérique Valentin⁵

¹ AOROC, UMR 8546, CNRS-ENS, 45 rue d'Ulm, 75230 Paris cedex

² CNRS-Musée de l'Homme, 17 place du Trocadéro et du 11 Novembre, 75116 Paris
³ Service Départemental d'Archéologie du Val d'Oise, 2 avenue du Parc, CS 20201
Cergy, 95032 Cergy Pontoise Cedex

⁴ Université de Paris Nanterre, 200 avenue de la République, 92000 Nanterre

⁵ CNRS-Maison de l'archéologie et de l'ethnologie, 21 allée de l'Université, 92000 Nanterre

* Author for correspondence (Email: laure.salanova@ens.fr)

Megalithic or earth-cut chambered tombs containing large numbers of buried individuals are a key feature of the Late Neolithic of northern France. The discovery and analysis of one such tomb at Bury offers an exceptional opportunity to investigate changing burial practices during the fourth and third millennia BC. This was not a static monument: funerary practice changed significantly over time, and several different episodes of mortuary use have been identified. Comparing and contrasting these suggests that there was no substantial change in the local population using the grave, but changes in burial practice reveal a shift towards more selective inclusion. These may reflect broader changes in contemporary society during the 3rd millennium BC.

Keywords: Final Neolithic, France, monumental tomb, collective grave



Figure S1. General plan of the gallery grave at Bury with the main architectural features and the burial level indicated. The pavement is depicted in yellow; the megalith, including the porthole slab, in light brown; the wedge stones in salmon pink; and the wall stones in orange.

See separate Excel files for Tables S1 and S2:

Table S1. Presence/absence of morphological features by phases (I-II) of inhumation and Chi-square tests results for the rear end of the gallery grave (only significant results at 5% and 10% are shown).

Table S2. Chi-square tests results for correlation between morphological feature expression and burial area; *unfulfilled conditions, ** results after Yates's correction, S: significant, NS: non-significant; (1) Voisin 2012; (2) Finnegan 1978, (3) Villotte 2009. For references see end of table.