

excavations of the Peakland Archaeological Society at Dowel Cave, Earl Sterndale,³ and at Elder Bush Cave,⁴ Ossom's Cave⁵ and Thor's Fissure Cave⁶ in the Manifold valley have produced Late Creswellian points, flakes and blades associated with a late glacial fauna.⁷ Long flakes and blades of flint patinated a dense white are a feature of these industries. Similar patinated long flakes were found in the Old Woman's House Cave, Taddington, by W. Storrs Fox,⁸ and were obtained from the lowest level of Harborough Cave with a late glacial fauna.⁹ Long patinated flint blades were found with reindeer remains in the Churchdale rock-shelter, Taddington, and in a rock-shelter in Lathkill Dale by Major T. A. Harris.¹⁰ Bramwell has suggested that these caves were occupied by Late Palaeolithic hunters preying on reindeer herds migrating seasonally through the Peak District.¹¹ The quantity of material from these caves is small and does not suggest anything more than casual occupation. The presence of open camping sites may be revealed by future fieldwork in the area. As no further Creswellian flints were found at Minning Low, this point is probably a stray missile point lost during hunting; such losses must have been frequent.

SOME PREHISTORIC IMPLEMENTS FOUND IN WEST DERBYSHIRE

By A. J. H. GUNSTONE

THESE notes record several prehistoric implements from West Derbyshire which came to light in Staffordshire collections as a result of a survey of archaeological material conducted by the University of Keele.

1. A medium polished stone axe was found by Mr. G. Cope, in July 1961, on Woodhouse Farm, Doveridge, on the surface of a ploughed field about 100 yds. from the Brocksford Brook (Area SK 129352). The axe is of thick section with a wide rounded blade, and a narrow butt. The surface had been carefully ground except for a band around the centre, about 1.5 in. wide, which had been deliberately left rough to facilitate hafting. Apart from a few small surface chips the axe is in perfect condition. The dimensions are 5.5 in. long, 2.5 in. wide across the blade, and 1.4 in. thick. The axe is made of a very fine grained siltstone.¹ I am grateful to the owner, Mr. W. P.

³ D. Bramwell, "The Excavation of Dowel Cave, Earl Sterndale, 1958", *D.A.J.*, LXXIX (1959), 97-109.

⁴ *Peakland Archaeological Society Newsletter*, V (1949), 3.

⁵ *P.A.S. Newsletter*, XII (1955), 15.

⁶ Finds in Buxton Museum.

⁷ *P.A.S. Newsletter*, XVIII (1962), 17.

⁸ W. Storrs Fox, "Derbyshire Cave Men of the Roman Period", *D.A.J.*, XXXIII (1911), 115-26. Finds in Buxton Museum.

⁹ A. L. Armstrong, "Exploration of Harborough Cave, Brassington", *J. Royal Anth. Inst.*, LIII (1933).

¹⁰ *P.A.S. Newsletter*, XVIII (1962), 17.

¹¹ *D.A.J.*, LXXIX (1959), 103.

¹ I am grateful to J. E. Thomas, Dept. of Geology, Keele, for making macroscopic identifications.

Richards, of Silverdale, Newcastle under Lyme, for permission to examine and publish the implement.

2. The blade fragment of a damaged stone adze was found,² in November 1934, at a depth of 2 ft. at the back of the farmhouse at Cubley Carr Farm, Cubley, by Mr. Albert Fradley. The adze, which had been fractured across the middle, has flattened sides, a high back, and a sharp, rounded blade. The existing dimensions are 3.5 in. long, 2.5 in. wide, and 1.1 in. thick. It is probably made of a banded siltstone. Now in the Hanley Museum, Stoke-on-Trent, accession number 98.35.

3. Two bronze implements, a flanged axe and a palstave, which were found in the mid-19th century near Somershall (the modern Somersal Herbert), Doveridge, were described and illustrated by Francis Redfern in his various works on Uttoxeter.³ Both passed from his collection to that of J. R. B. Masefield, of Cheadle, Staffs., and were later loaned to the Hanley Museum. While on loan the flanged axe was stolen,⁴ and not recovered, and in 1931 the palstave was purchased by the museum with the rest of the Masefield collection.

The flanged axe, which is described in the text as a "hatchet-shaped celt", can be correctly identified from the illustration.⁵ It was "picked out of the bank by the side of an old road at Somershall", and was 5 in. long, 2.75 in. across the blade, and weighed 7 oz.

The palstave was "dug up in the course of draining operations" near Somershall. It is a small implement with a damaged, narrow, thick-sectioned blade, with strong medial and lateral ridges, and a broken loop. The dimensions are 5.5 in. long, and 2.25 in. across the blade. Hanley Museum⁶ accession number 39.31.

NOTES ON ROMAN LEAD MINING

By R. W. P. COCKERTON

FOLLOWING a lecture on "The Port Ways of Derbyshire", Mrs. Hazlehurst, a member of the Society, referred to a pig of lead that had been found in Cromford churchyard. As this is not well known, the account of its discovery merits quotation:¹

Roman Ingots dug up — Sexton's Discovery in Churchyard

In digging a grave, the sexton of Cromford Parish Church, Derbyshire, unearthed two massive lead ingots, or pigs of lead, which are supposed to date from the time of the Roman occupation.

² *Trans. N. Staffs. Field Club*, LXIX (1934-5), 78.

³ *J. Brit. Arch. Ass.*, XXIX (1873), 266; F. Redfern, *History and Antiquities of Uttoxeter*, 2nd ed., 1886, 45. The details of the findspots are only recorded in the manuscripts of the second edition in the William Salt Library, Stafford.

⁴ *Trans. N. Staffs. Field Club*, LXI (1926-7), 146.

⁵ I am indebted to Miss L. F. Chitty for drawing my attention to this.

⁶ I am grateful to the curator for permission to publish these objects.

¹ *J. Brit. Arch. Ass.*, XXV N.S. (1919), 268.