

Assessment of Worked Flint

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Introduction

A small group of six pieces of flint was recovered from the site. Although none of the material is particularly diagnostic the scraper, which is small and neatly retouched, may be Neolithic or early Bronze Age in date, as may the piercer. Scrapers are very difficult to date as the form spans a very long period. However, given its size and general technological traits it is possible to suggest a broad time span for this piece.

Methodology

The flint was briefly scanned, with information regarding dating, technology and general condition being noted. The material was added to an Access database.

Quantification

A total of 6 pieces of worked flint was recovered from the site. The flint is summarised in Table 3.

Provenance

The scraper (828) came from a middle-late Iron Age ditch (827), the piercer (830) came from a middle-late Iron Age pit (829) and the remaining material came from the topsoil. It is all residual.

Condition

The flint has suffered some post-depositional damage. Cortication is light.

Comparative material

This small group could be compared to adjacent sites on the CTRL route and with any fieldwalking data.

Potential for further work

As the material is redeposited its potential is limited given the size of the group. However, it may be useful to include this material in with a general study of the lithics from the CTRL to understand landscape patterns. Comparison of scrapers from the project as a whole may shed further light on dating.

Table 3: Summary of worked flint

Context	Count	Period	Comments
828	1	?Neolithic- Early Bronze Age	1 small neatly retouched scraper
830	1	?Neolithic- early Bronze Age	1 piercer, small point, minimally retouched.
801	4	?	Three hard hammer-struck flakes and a multi-platform flake core. The working is quite crude, one of the flakes has a hinge fracture which may indicate a later prehistoric date, but the numbers are too few to make any firm conclusions.

