

## 1.1 Flint

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### *Introduction*

1.1.1 An assemblage of worked and burnt flint was recovered. The material was generally undiagnostic debitage with few retouched forms being recovered. The material was spread thinly across the site with only a few contexts producing more than 10 pieces of worked flint. The burnt unworked flints were slightly more concentrated, but this might be expected if the majority of this material relates to cremation ritual rather than any prehistoric activity.

1.1.2 The Fieldwork Event Aims which analysis of the material can be expected to contribute to are as follows:

- Fieldwork Event Aim 3: To recover artefact assemblages (especially pottery) to elucidate the sequence of site development; provide information on trade and exchange within the local, regional and international economy, and the status and economy of the settlement.
- Fieldwork Event Aim 13: To establish the nature and date of occupation pre-dating the cemetery.

### *Methodology*

1.1.3 All of the worked flint was briefly scanned and recorded, with information regarding dating, technology and general condition being noted. The burnt unworked flint that was boxed with the worked material was scanned and weighed; general notes on the condition of this material were also made. Any burnt worked flint found amongst the unworked material has been added to the worked flint database. Several boxes of worked and burnt unworked flint were simply scanned for worked items and were not recorded. These pieces totalled 505 and 220 respectively. Much of the worked material that was scanned consisted of chips, flakes and pieces of irregular waste. As noted above many of the chips may on closer inspection prove to be natural. A large quantity of natural flint was recovered and this material has been added to the database and discarded.

### *Quantification*

1.1.4 A total of 401 pieces of worked flint and 221 pieces of burnt unworked flint, weighing 5081 g was recovered. In addition 505 pieces of worked and 220 pieces of burnt unworked flint was scanned only and not recorded. The flint is listed by context in Tables 2.1-2.4.

### *Provenance*

1.1.5 The flint came from a variety of feature types and contexts including grave fills and the fills of cremation pots. There appeared to be no particular concentrations of material (see above), and the material was very abraded indicating that it had been redeposited.

### *Conservation*

1.1.6 Much of the flint has suffered some post-depositional damage and from the general appearance of the material it is likely that much of it has been redeposited. Cortication is mostly light to medium; although a few pieces are more heavily corticated. The burnt unworked flint recovered was mostly very heavily calcined, and some of this material is beginning to disintegrate. However, there is little that

can be done to stop this process. It is recommended that samples only of the burnt flint are retained. In general the flint is appropriately bagged and boxed for long-term storage, although some reorganisation is required. A great deal of natural flint was recovered which has been discarded during the assessment. It is therefore recommended that an initial task should be the revision of all of the box lists. This will result in a reduction in the overall total numbers of boxes.

*Comparative material*

- 1.1.7 The flint has generally limited further potential. It is a relatively undiagnostic group of mostly debitage. The flint was recovered from a large number of contexts and little focus for activity was identified. However, the flint does provide evidence for probable Neolithic or early Bronze Age activity, and as such provides useful background information regarding the use of the landscape in prehistory. Sites along the CTRL route will provide useful comparative material including any flintwork that came from surface collection prior to evaluation of the sites.

*Potential for further work*

- 1.1.8 As noted above the flint has very limited further potential. However, if the site is published a summary of the material should be included. It is suggested that this assessment is summarised for this purpose. The flint provides some evidence for probable Neolithic or early Bronze Age activity, and could contribute to general analysis at landscape zone level for the periods 'Early Agriculturalists' and 'Farming Communities'.

Table 2.1: Summary of worked flint by context

Context	Count	Period	Comments
<b>ARC PHL97</b>			
U/S	3		3 chips, 1 is burnt
U/S	76		76 flakes, 17 are burnt, 10 natural also 1 calcined bone
1	1		1 flake
2	2		1 possible flake, 1 piercer with small worn point
5	4		2 flakes, 1 is slightly blade-like and has possible usewear, 2 retouched flakes both have minimal retouch which could be mostly usewear
9	1		1 possible flake, 1 natural
51	1		1 flake – usewear?
81	-		1 natural
93	-		1 natural
101	-		1 natural
111	-		2 natural
113	-		1 natural
114	-		2 natural
138	1		1 flake, 1 natural
179	-		2 natural
184	-		1 natural
206	1		1 natural
209	2		1 serrated flake (both edges) with notch, very worn with gloss, semi-circular notch at distal end, blade-like scar on its dorsal face, 1 possible tested nodule, also 1 natural
225	-		1 natural
231	15		14 flakes, 1 chip. 1 flake is very large and has many hard hammer scars on its dorsal face – possibly Roman building material. 44 natural
263	-		2 natural
273	-		2 natural
289	-		3 natural
318	-		7 natural
322	-		3 natural
335	-		1 natural
337	-		4 natural
419	24		24 flakes and small chips, several may be natural. Also 36 natural (discarded)
449	9		6 flakes, 2 chips, 1 core fragment. Also 12 natural
452	3		3 flakes, 21 natural
501	-		43 natural
563	1		1 possible flake, 1 natural
586	-		1 natural
587	2		1 possible flake, 1 small chip, 4 natural
592	4		3 flakes, 1 retouched and used flake – made on a trimming flake
628	-		6 natural
659	-		2 natural
662	-		1 natural
663	-		1 natural
666	3		1 flake, 2 chips, also 3 natural
678	-		5 natural

Context	Count	Period	Comments
691	-		7 natural
718	2		2 chips
721	-		10 natural
722	-		4 natural
740	1		1 flake, 13 natural
753	1		1 end scraper on a large thick flake, minimally retouched, small patch cortex
763	2		2 flakes, 1 natural
777	-		48 natural
791	-		5 natural
800	-		7 natural
803	-		3 natural
804	-		1 natural
805	13		12 flakes – some are very worn and may be natural, 1 ??scraper very worn and on a thermal blank, this may be natural
817	1		1 small chip
835	1		1 core fragment, 89 natural – mostly small gravel pebbles
838	24		9 flakes, 1 ? very worn scraper on thermal blank (possibly natural), 14 chips – some of which may also be natural. Also 1 small fragment of cremated bone and 33 natural
863	1		1 flake, 1 natural
865	-		2 natural
867	-		5 natural
894	-		2 natural
936	-		1 natural
974	-		11 natural
977	-		7 natural
893	1		? 1 piercer, worn and minimally retouched, point broken
1003	1		1 ?flake, 5 natural
1031	-		1 natural
1027	5		4 flakes, 1 miscellaneous retouched piece, 2 natural
1041	-		1 natural
1077	1		1 flake, 2 natural
1105	3		3 possible flakes
1127	-		43 natural
1128	11		11 flakes, 89 natural
1134	-		35 natural
1138	3		3 possible flakes, 6 natural
1220	6		3 flakes, 3 chips 1 small piece of cremated bone, 34 natural
1243	-		4 natural
1261	7		2 flakes, 5 chips, 9 natural
1284	-		2 natural
1345	3		2 flake, 1 discoidal core, 1 flake removed
1352	1		1 flake, heavily calcined
1426	1		Core fragment, slightly blade-like flake scars, thin grey cortex
<i>Total</i>	242		
<b>ARC NBR98</b>			
10001	1		1 flake, ?? fragment from gun flint production?
10004	5		5 flakes - 1 is heavily calcined, two have p-x breaks, 4 natural
10009	1		1 flake, SF51

Context	Count	Period	Comments
10025	1		1 serrated flake, worn, 1 natural
10030	-		1 natural
10045	-		1 natural
10046	-		2 natural
10075	1		1 flake, 1 natural
10090	29		4 flakes, 25 chips, 89 natural
10091	1		1 flake, 2 natural
10097	2		1 flake, 1 roughly worked core, 1 natural
10107	1		1?flake
10150	-		1 natural
10177	11		11 flakes – 2 are burnt, 31 natural
10188	-		6 natural
10193	1		1 flake
10218	4		4 flakes
10315	3		3 flakes – 1 heavily burnt, 45 natural
10384	1		1 flake
10407	-		1 natural
10414	1		1 slightly blade-like flake
10420	3		3 flakes
10423	-		3 natural
10436	2		2 flakes, 1 is slightly blade-like, 9 natural
10452	1		1 flake, slightly blade-like
10453	1		1 flake
10458	-		1 natural
10479	-		1 natural
10509	1		1 very large flake
10511	-		3 natural
10515	1		1 flake
10564	3		3 chips, 5 natural
10586	1		1 natural
10597	2		2 flakes, 3 natural
10614	18		18 flakes, 17 natural
10618	-		3 natural
10619	1		? core very heavily battered, possibly used as a hammerstone
10625	-		3 natural
10633	-		7 natural
10660	1		1 flake
10672	1		1 wholly cortical flake, pebble flint
10701	-		8 natural
10734	-		1 natural
10742	-		1 natural
10745	1		1 side trimming flake
10811	2		2 flakes, one has a thermal surface
10868	9		2 flakes, 7 chips
10881	-		4 natural
10948	-		1 natural
10965	1		1 flake
10970	3		3 chips, 2 natural
11013	1		1 multi-platform flake core, no preparation, many hinge fractures
11016			3 chips – poss natural
11021	-		4 natural

<b>Context</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Comments</b>
11054	10		1 flake, 9 chips
11071	2		2 flakes, 1 natural
11136	-		2 natural
11140	5		5 flakes inc some trimming flakes, also 8 natural
11184	-		1 natural
11234	-		1 natural
11257	-		4 natural
11283	-		2 natural
11322	1		1 flake, 5 natural
11364	-		3 natural
11377	1		1 side trimming flake pebble flint
11453	-		1 natural
11489	-		1 natural
11497	2		1 blade-like flake, 1 flake, also 1 natural
11503	-		8 natural
11513	1		1 slightly blade-like flake
11596	-		1 natural
11657	1		1 flake
11665	2		1 flake, 1 slightly blade-like flake, 1 natural
11675	1		1 retouched flake, steep retouch along one edge, much plough damage SF 1780
11701	1		1 flake
11753	1		1 flake, 1 natural
11792	-		1 natural
11872	1		1 slightly blade-like flake
11941	1		1 end scraper on thick partly cortical flake, steep slightly notched retouch ?re-sharpened?
11944	-		1 natural
11952	-		2 natural NB note on bag 'associated with post – same number'
11969	-		9 natural from fill of pot
11999	-		3 natural
12018	1		1 flake, 4 natural
12020	-		3 natural from fill of pot
12024	-		14 natural from fill of pot
12064	2		1 end and side scraper, very worn scraping edge, slight tang possibly for hafting, partly cortical, also 1 very large flake possibly Roman building material
12074	1		1 flake
12076	2		1 core fragment, with thermal surfaces and heavily battered but with several blade scars, also 1 flake
12079	1		1 flake, 1 natural
12123	-		1 natural
12126	-		1 natural from fill of pot
U/S	6		3 flakes, 1 notch, some plough damage, semi-circular notch at distal end, 2 cores – roughly worked, one is on an elongated flint nodule, also 3 natural
<i>Total</i>	<i>159</i>		

Table 2.2: Summary of burnt unworked flint by context

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Comments
<b>ARC PHL97</b>			
1	1	100	Heavily calcined grey
2	4	52	Heavily calcined grey and red
5	2	75	Heavily calcined grey
9	12	350	Heavily calcined grey and red
171	19	801	Heavily calcined grey and red
182	1	5	Heavily calcined grey
209	1	15	Heavily calcined grey
231	54	1625	Heavily calcined grey, a few pieces are tinged red
233	1	11	Heavily calcined grey
276	3	352	Heavily calcined grey
337	1	2	Heavily calcined red, small pebble
662	13	275	Heavily calcined grey, a few pieces are tinged red
701	35	201	Heavily calcined grey, a few pieces are tinged red
745	1	75	Heavily calcined grey
805	3	105	Heavily calcined grey and red
868	32	200	Heavily calcined grey, a few pieces are tinged red
869	1	25	Heavily calcined grey
957	1	15	Heavily calcined red, small oval pebble
1007	1	23	Heavily calcined grey
1016	1	8	Heavily calcined grey
1027	3	190	Heavily calcined grey
1081	2	175	Heavily calcined grey
1079	13	9	Very small pieces of gravel calcined red
1090	1	5	Heavily calcined red
1240	1	6	Heavily calcined grey
1269	4	189	Heavily calcined grey and red
1345	3	60	Heavily calcined grey
1352	1	75	Heavily calcined grey
<i>Total</i>	<i>215</i>	<i>5024</i>	
<b>ARC NBR98</b>			
10614	1	3	Heavily calcined grey, also 1 natural
11140	2	5	Heavily calcined red and grey
11283	1	40	Heavily calcined grey
11489	1	4	Heavily calcined grey
11615	1	5	Heavily calcined white
<i>Total</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>57</i>	