APPENDIX 1 - ASSESSMENT OF WORKED STONE

1.1 Utilised and unworked stone

By Ruth Shaffrey

Introduction

- 1.1.1 The total assemblage includes 1401 fragments of stone of which 33% is unworked and 65% is burnt. There were some 28 worked fragments that included quernstones and rubbers, masonry, a sling shot, a whetstone, shale bracelet fragments and other miscellaneous objects.
- 1.1.2 Sarsen and Greensand was used for querns and rubbers at White Horse Stone, while lava quern fragments were found at West of Boarley Farm. Other worked stone included possible building stone and miscellaneous worked stone; a sling shot; three very small pieces of perforated chalk and a sphere of ironstone, which may have been used as a marble. In addition to the worked stone, there were many fragments of burnt stone, mostly Sarsen, though some were of Greensand and chalk. These were not confined to specific contexts and were widely occurring across the site. The only exotic objects were the shale bracelet fragments from the Iron Age settlement at White Horse Stone.
- 1.1.3 The recovery and study of the stone was undertaken in accordance with the Fieldwork Event Aims for the sites (see Section 2.2). This work will assist in an understanding of economic activities (e.g. crop processing) that were undertaken at the various settlements (aims 6, 11 and 13). It will also answer questions on the procurement, on site working and use of local and exotic resources, which may have a bearing on status and the role of individual settlements in networks of trade and, or exchange.

Methodology

1.1.4 All retained stone was examined in order to separate out the worked from the unworked fragments. Worked stone was recorded by type, context and material.

Quantification

1.1.5 Over 450 fragments of stone were retained from the excavations but the bulk of these were unworked gravel and pebbles or burnt stone. See Tables 3.1.1-11.

Table 3.1.1: Catalogue of Worked Stone from White Horse Stone ARC WHS 98

Context	Count	Material	Comments
2120	1	Cherty Greensand	Large angular chunk, slightly burnt, building stone?
2169 SF8	1	Sarsen	?quern. One flattish worked surface. Slightly burnt
4051	1	Shale	Circular object.
4213	1	Sarsen	Very burnt and with one possible worked surface
4512	1	Sarsen	?building stone. Slightly burnt chunk with 2 square surfaces
4562	1	Sarsen	Large chunk - ?building stone
4563	1	Chalk	Perforated with a little hole, possible natural.
4688	1	Chalk	Fragment perforated but need to investigate whether this is natural.
4967	1	Sarsen	Burnt and with one worked surface
5127	1	Sarsen	Possibly one worked surface
6088	1	Sarsen	Burnt small fragment with one possible worked surface
6103	1	Fine grained grey	?rubber. Has one smooth flat worked surface

Context	Count	Material	Comments
		sandstone	
6106	1	Sarsen	Burnt, possibly a rubber
6122	1	Sarsen	Burnt with possible worked surface
6137	1	Sarsen	Burnt. Whetstone – very smooth with one flat edge, clearly shaped.
7006	1	Chalk	Tiny weathered fragment, with a piercing – natural?
7020	1	Sarsen	One worked surface
7139	1	Fine grained sandstone	One worked surface
8014 SF117	1	Fine grained pale cream sandstone	Sling shot? Not perfectly round – pointed slightly like clay ones.
9027 SF963	2	Sarsen	Possible quern fragment, has the angle of a saddle quern but unclear.
9048	1	Greensand	Quern fragment, one smooth surface
Total	21		

Table 3. 1.2: Worked Stone from White Horse Stone ARC PIL 98

Context	Count	Material	Comments
708	1	Sarsen	Large boulder, slightly burnt
924	1	Ironstone	Spherical ball of 22mm diameter – marble?
Total	2		

Table 3.1.3: Worked Stone from Boarley Farm ARC 420 99, 53+300

Context	Count	Material	Comments
15	1	Lava	Rotary quern fragment, Medieval or Saxon

Table 3.1.4: Burnt Stone from White Horse Stone, ARC WHS 98

Context	Count	Material	Comments
1029	8	Sarsen	Tiny burnt fragments
1029	3	Sarsen	Larger worn burnt chunks
2015	2	Sarsen	Tiny burnt fragments
2103	1	Limestone	Burnt
2113	1	Sarsen	Burnt
2116	1	Sarsen	Burnt pebble fragment
2120 SF6	1	Greensand	Slightly burnt but not a quern
2120	1	Sarsen	Tiny fragment burnt
2191	2	Sarsen	Burnt
2224	1	Sandstone	Burnt
2245	1	Sarsen	Slightly burnt pebble fragment
2248	1	Sarsen	Possibly burnt
2422	1	Flint	Burnt pebble
2422	1	Sarsen	Slightly burnt
2467	1	Chalk	Small burnt fragment
2495	1	Sarsen	Burnt
4058	20	Sarsen	Small burnt fragments
4065	9	Sarsen	Very small burnt fragments
4068	2	Sarsen	Large slightly burnt chunks
4068	6	Sarsen	Angular burnt chunks
4068	2	Sarsen	Burnt chunks
4115	1	Sarsen	slightly burnt sherd
4125 SF43	1	Sarsen	Slightly burnt but not worked
4127	1	Sarsen	Tiny burnt fragment
4134	1	Sarsen	Small burnt chunk
4138	4	Sarsen	Tiny weathered burnt bits
4141	1	Sarsen	Slightly burnt
4163	4	Sarsen	Small angular burnt bits
4179	1	Sarsen	Slightly burnt
4182	1	Red sandstone	Very burnt chunk
4182	2	Sarsen	Burnt fragments
4213	1	Sarsen	Burnt fragment
4217	5	Sarsen	Very small burnt friable fragments
4229	5	Greensand	Fragments, slightly burnt
4269	1	Sarsen	Small fragment, burnt
4335	2	Sarsen	Very angular burnt chunks

Context	Count	Material	Comments
4335	10	Sarsen	Tiny burnt fragments
4379	1	Sarsen	Tiny burnt fragment
4421	1	Sarsen	Burnt chunk
4425	3	Sarsen	Burnt and very weathered chunks
4425	3	Sarsen	Slightly burnt
4425 4466	1	Sarsen	Burnt chunk
4468	1	Sarsen	Burnt fragment
		Sarsen	Slightly burnt with one smooth surface but probably natural
4474	4	Sarsen	Slightly burnt chunks
4496	1	Greensand	Burnt Burnt very angular chunk
4508 4508	3	Cherty Greensand Sarsen	Burnt tiny fragments
4508	2	Sarsen	Burnt sub angular chunks
4521	1	Sarsen	Burnt angular chunk Burnt angular chunk
4532	1	Sandstone	Burnt chunk
4562	1	Chalk	Burnt
4562	1	Sarsen	Burnt
4562	4	Sarsen	Small burnt chunks
4562	4	Sarsen	Burnt chunks, 3 small
4581	2	Sarsen	Tiny burnt sherds
4583	1	Cherty Greensand	Burnt
4642	1	Sandstone	Burnt sub rounded chunk
4688	2	Sarsen	Small burnt fragments
4800	2	Sarsen	Burnt
4802	3	Sarsen	Burnt fragments
4816	3	Sarsen	Sub rounded burnt chunks
4818	2	Sarsen	Burnt
4876	1	Sandstone	Burnt chunk
4928	3	Chalk	Burnt fragments
4944	2	Sarsen	Burnt fragments
4944 4967	5	Sarsen Sarsen	Small burnt fragment Small burnt fragments
4967	3	Sarsen	Burnt pebble fragment
4967	6	Sarsen	Weathered burnt fragments
4967	6	Sarsen	Burnt and weathered
4967	3	Sarsen	Burnt fragments
4996	2	Sarsen	Burnt fragments
4996	3	Sarsen	Burnt fragments
4997	2	Sarsen	Burnt sub rounded chunk
4997	1	Sarsen	Burnt fragment
5073	1	Sarsen	Burnt chunk
5095	4	Sarsen	Fragments, burnt
5095	1	Sarsen	Sub rounded burnt chunk
5096	1	Sarsen	Burnt chunk
5127	15	Sarsen	Tiny weathered burnt fragments
5127	7	Sarsen	Burnt and very weathered chunks
5130	2	Sarsen	Small burnt chunks
5130	1	Sarsen	Tiny burnt fragment
5257 5257	2	Sarsen	Large burnt chunks
5395	13	Sarsen Sarsen	Tiny weathered burnt bits Burnt fragment
5423	2	Sarsen	Burnt fragments
5426	6	Sarsen	Burnt but unworked
5441	2	Sarsen	Burnt chunks
5449	3	Burnt	Weathered burnt stone
5452	1	Sarsen	Slightly burnt small fragment
5453	1	Sarsen	Tiny burnt fragment
6003	1	Greensand	Tiny fragment, burnt
6031	2	Sarsen	Small burnt chunks
6040	2	Fine grained grey sandstone	Angular burnt chunk
6056	2	Sarsen	Burnt angular fragments
6088	1	Sarsen	Tiny burnt fragment
6102	2	Sarsen	Large burnt chunks,
			subangular
6103	1	Sarsen	Burnt chunk
6108	3	Sarsen	Burnt
6108	2	Ironstone	Chunks

Context	Count	Material	Comments
6108	2	Fine grained grey	Burnt
6108	1	sarsen Sarsen	Pobble fragment
6122	1	Sarsen	Pebble fragment Burnt fragment
6126	4	Sarsen	Burnt fragments
6128	1	Sarsen	Burnt fragment
7006	5	Chalk	Tiny weathered fragments
7008	2	Fine grained sandstone	Burnt and weathered
7008	3	Chalk	Well rounded burnt and weathered
7008	10	Chalk	Tiny burnt and weathered
7012 7013	1	Sarsen	Small sub rounded burnt chunk Angular small burnt fragments
7016	1o 2	Sarsen Chalk	Burnt weathered chunks
7020	1	Sarsen	Burnt chunk with one smooth edge from pebble
7020	18	Sarsen	Weathered and burnt bits
7020	1	Sarsen	Large burnt chunk
7020	2	Sarsen	2 large burnt chunks plus 23 tiny burnt hunks
7020	1	Shelly Greensand	Slightly burnt
7031	1	Sarsen	Small burnt fragment
7032	2	Sarsen	Burnt weathered chunks
7071 7079	16	Sarsen Sarsen	Small burnt fragments Large burnt chunks
7079	12	Sarsen	Small burnt chunks
7080	30	Sarsen	Burnt small samples
7138	3	Sarsen	Sub rounded weathered burnt fragments
7138	3	Sarsen	Small angular burnt fragments
7139	3	Sarsen	Angular and burnt
7150	1	Greensand	Slightly burnt
7150	2	Sarsen	Tiny burnt fragments
7151 7152	3 32	Chalk Chalk	Tiny weathered burnt fragments Burnt well rounded small chunks
7152	9	Sarsen	Small burnt weathered fragments
7152	1	Sarsen	Small burnt fragment
7153	2	Sarsen	Tiny burnt fragments
7154	5	Sarsen	Burnt sub angular fragments
7155	25	Chalk	All very small weathered and burnt
7156	9	Sarsen	Tiny burnt fragments
7157	2	Sarsen	Well rounded burnt and weathered
7169 7188	5	Sarsen Sarsen	Small burnt fragment Tiny angular burnt fragments
7189	1	Chalk	Sub rounded burnt fragment
7193	2	Sarsen	Small burnt fragments
7207	11	Sarsen	Burnt and weathered small fragments
7224	3	Chalk	Burnt weathered small fragments
7225	2	Grey sandstone	Burnt chunks
7225	13	Chalk	Lots tiny weathered burnt fragments
7243	1	Greensand	Sub rounded burnt chunk
8005	1	Sarsen	Burnt fragments
8008 8013	1	Sarsen Chalk	Sub angular burnt chunk Burnt weathered small fragments
8014	3	Sarsen	Angular burnt fragments
8014	1	Greensand	Sub angular and burnt
8014	11	Sarsen	Burnt small weathered fragments
8014	5	Chalk	Burnt weathered small fragments
8015	4	Sarsen	Burnt weathered small fragments
8017	1	Sarsen	Small burnt fragment
8024	6	Sarsen	Small burnt and weathered fragments
8027	2	Sarsen	Small burnt fragment Tiny burnt and weathered
8028 8051	2	Chalk Sarsen	Tiny burnt and weathered Burnt small fragments
8069	14	Sarsen	7 larger and 7 small burnt weathered chunks
8069	8	Sarsen	Large weathered burnt chunks
8069	3	Sarsen	Large burnt chunks
8069	13	Sarsen	Tiny burnt chunks
8069	1	Sarsen	Slightly rounded burnt chunk
8069	21	Sarsen	Lots tiny burnt fragments
8069	1	Greensand	Angular chunk, slightly burnt
8076	24	Sarsen	Burnt fragments, very weathered
8076	50	Sarsen	Very small burnt fragments

Context	Count	Material	Comments
8076	1	Sarsen	Small burnt fragment
8077	40	Sarsen	Burnt and very weathered
8077	60	Sarsen	Very friable chunks, burnt
8077	20	Sarsen	Burnt weathered chunks
8078	10	Sarsen	Burnt
9001	1	Chalk	Burnt chunk
9001	2	Sarsen	Burnt chunks
9023	4	Sarsen	Burnt tiny fragments
9025	1	Sarsen	Large burnt chunk
9027	1	Sarsen	Tiny burnt fragment
9027	3	Sarsen	Burnt fragments
9031	3	Sarsen	Burnt tiny fragments
9047	3	Sarsen	Tiny burnt fragments
9047	4	Sarsen	Angular burnt fragments
9048	14	Sarsen	Burnt chunks
9048	1	Sarsen	Burnt large chunk
9048	4	Sarsen	Burnt large chunks, weathered
9048	10	Sarsen	Small very weathered burnt chunks
9049	1	Sarsen	Burnt sub rounded chunk
9051	3	Sarsen	Burnt
9051	2	Sarsen	Tiny fragments
9052	3	Sarsen	Tiny burnt fragments
9512	1	Sarsen	Burnt chunk
Total	910		

Table 3.1.5: Burnt stone from Boarley Farm ARC 420 58+200

Context	Count	Material	Comments
12	4	Greensand similar to Bargate Stone	Very small burnt fragments

Table 3.1.6: Unworked Stone from White Horse Stone ARC WHS 98

Context	Count	Material	Comments
4128/4127	6	Various	Unworked fragments
616	1	Chalk	Small fragment
2076	2	Chalk	Tiny fragments
2089	1	Chalk	Small fragment
2113	1	Chalk	Small fragment
2116	1	Chalk	Small fragment
2122	1	Soft limestone	Chunk
2185	1	Ironstone	Chunk
2233	1	Fine grained sandstone	Chunk
2253	1	Chalk	Small fragment
2255	1	Ironstone	Chunk
2255	1	Sarsen	Fragment
2257	3	Ironstone	chunks
2257	1	Limestone	Fragments
2261	1	Ironstone	Pebble
2262	1	Chalk	Small fragment
2264	1	Chalk	Small fragment
2297	1	Chalk	Chunk
2337	2	Ironstone pebbles	Well rounded
2422	1	Greensand	Unworked
2455	1	Greensand, hard	Chunk
2499	1	Very dark medium	Sub rounded
		grained sandstone	
4005	3	Various	Fragments
4050	7	Chalk	Small fragments with one larger chunk
4055	6	Various	Tiny fragments
4058	1	Chalk	Small fragment
4084	1	Chalk	Small fragment
4115	1	Grey sandstone	Chunk
4115	2	Chalk	Small fragments
4144	4	Ironstone	Tiny chunks
4167	14	Sarsen	Very small fragments
4182	1	Ironstone	Fragment
4213	1	Chalk	Tiny fragment

Context	Count	Material	Comments
4271 4278	4	Chalk	Small fragment
4278	1	Chalk Grey stone	Small fragments Very angular chunk
4308	1	Flint	Beach pebble, well rounded
4317	1	Limestone	Fragment Fragment
4318	1	Ironstone	Chunk
4326	1	Chalk	Chunk
4330	1	Chalk	Chunk
4344	1	Limestone	Little fragment
4425 4428	7 2	Chalk Chalk	Small fragments
4428	1	Sarsen	Small fragments Unworked
4475	1	Ironstone	Chunk
4496	1	Dark grey sandstone	Unworked
4508	1	Flint	Tiny sherd
4518	1	Chalk	Unworked
4518	1	Limestone	Chunk
4518	2	Greensand	Small fragments
4528 4528	1	Sarsen Greensand	Fragment Fragment
4528	1	Greensand Grev Stone	Fragment
4532	1	Ironstone	Chunk
4562	1	Calcite?	Natural mineral
4688	1	chalk	fragment
4705	1	Chalk	Small fragment
4800	2	Limestone	Chunks
4967 4967	1	oolitic limestone Chalk	Fragment Chunk
4967	1	Greensand	Tiny fragment
4997	4	Sarsen	Fragments
4998	1	Sarsen	Chunk
4998	4	Chalk	Small weathered fragment
5073	3	Chalk	Small fragment
5095	1	Chalk	Fragment
5096	1	Chalk	Tiny pebble angular
5130 5255	1	Pebble Ironstone	Fragments Fragment
5449	8	Chalk	Fragments
5453	1	Ironstone	Tiny fragment
5495	1	Ironstone	Sub rounded chunk
6064	1	Chalk	Tiny fragment
6102	3	Chalk	Large fragment
6103	2	Chalk	Large weathered fragment
6106	1	Grey quartzite	Unworked
7012	2	Ironstone Sarsen	Angular fragment Angular fragments
7013	1	Chalk	Small fragment
7014	2	Chalk	Well rounded weathered chunks
7016	6	Chalk	Tiny weathered bits
7079	1	Pebble	Sub rounded
7138	1	Chalk	Tiny fragment
7151	4	Sarsen	Tiny fragments
7153 7153	23	Chalk Chalk	Small rounded fragments Tiny weathered bits
7159	3	Sarsen	Tiny weathered bits Tiny fragments
7170	17	Chalk	Small weathered bits
7217	1	Pebble	Beach pebble, unworked.
7224	6	Ironstone	Weathered chunks
7225	6	Greensand	Weathered
7225	2	Sarsen	Tiny fragments
8014	1	Chalk	Unworked
8022 8022	5	Chalk	Chunk Small fragment
8022	3	Chalk Chalk	Very small rounded fragments
8023	2	Chalk	Slightly weathered chunks
8056	1	Chalk	Small fragment
8076	53	Sarsen	Very small weathered bits
8077	30	Sarsen	Tiny weathered bits
8077 9001	3	Chalk Ironstone	chunks Angular fragments

Context	Count	Material	Comments
9001	1	Ironstone	Chunk
9023	3	Sarsen	Tiny fragments
9047	1	Sarsen	Large chunk, not a quern
9047	2	Chalk	Weathered
9048	1	Chalk	Fragments
Total	335		

Table 3.1.7: Unworked Stone from White Horse Stone ARC PIL 98

Context	Count	Material	Comments
954	1	Cherty Greensand	Sub angular fragment
965	1	Chalk	Tiny rounded fragment
965	1	Grey quartzitic sandstone	Angular unworked fragment
194	3	Fine grained quartz sandstone	Friable sub rounded chunks
559	1	Chalk	Tiny lump
Total	7		

Table 3.1.8: Unworked Stone from White Horse Stone, Boarley Farm ARC BFE 98

Context	Count	Material	Comments
1028	2	Iron concretion	Chunks, unworked
1030	1	Red ironstone	Well rounded lump
Total	3		

Table 3.1.9: Unworked stone from Boarley Farm ARC 420 59+200

Context	Count	Material	Comments
	2	Ironstone	Tiny fragments
	1	Ironstone	Tiny fragment
	1	Lava	Tiny fragment
Total	4		

Table 3.10: Unworked Stone from ARC BFW 98

Context	Count	Material	Comments	
1030	6	Lava	Fragments	
1037	10	Lava	Tiny fragments	
1037	70	Lava	Fragments	
1058	21	Lava	Fragments	
Total	107			

Table 3.11: Unworked ironstone from ARC BFW 98

Context	Count	Material	Comments
1063	2	Red ironstone	Sub rounded chunks
1101	5	Red ironstone	Sub angular fragments
Total	7		

Quernstones and Rubbers

- 1.1.6 The assemblage of worked stone includes saddle and rotary quern fragments as well as rubbers. Most are made from locally available stone such as Sarsen and Greensand but some are made from imported lava. The former are mostly of Iron Age date, while the latter are likely to be Saxon in date. There were several fragments, (mainly Sarsen) which revealed evidence of a worked surface. These may have originally been part of saddle querns but retain insufficient evidence for function to be determined. Other large fragments of sarsen and Greensand with squared edges have certainly been utilised but not for quernstones.
- 1.1.7 Rubbers of Iron Age date were made from Sarsen and a fine-grained grey sandstone.

Other Worked Stone

- 1.1.8 This included a Sarsen whetstone, perforated chalk, a stone sling shot and other stone spheres and two shale bracelet fragments. The probable slingshot is slightly pointed at the ends like ones made from clay. A sphere of ironstone is likely to be natural, although it may have been used as a marble or something similar. Two bracelet fragments of shale, one finished but the other a rough-out, were also examined by Fiona Roe, who gave the opinion that they did not appear to be made from Kimmeridge Shale.
- 1.1.9 The fragments of lava and the lava quern can be provenanced to the Rhineland. Otherwise all the utilised stone including the Lower Greensand, the chalk, shale and Sarsen could have been gathered from local sources. Sarsen was the most exploited stone. This is likely to have come from locally available boulders, which could have been found in the clay with flints (Worssam 1963, 103). In fact, one large boulder of Sarsen was found on the site to demonstrate this (context 708: ARC PIL) and blocks of Sarsen are noted as being common on either side of the Medway Gap (OAU, 1999). The few worked fragments of Greensand, the worked chalk and the ironstone 'marble' would also have had a local provenance (Worssam 1963, 33; 65; 85) and the shale probably did too as shales are present in the local Wealden Clay (Worssam 1963, 13).

Provenance

Iron Age

1.1.10 The worked and burnt stone mostly came from features associated with the Iron Age settlement at White Horse Stone (see Tables above). Two quern fragments came from early Iron Age pit 2169 (SF8) and from context 9048. Other large fragments of sarsen and Greensand with squared edges have certainly been utilised but not for

- quernstones. They were found in early Iron Age pit fills 4562 and 4512 and also in an early Iron Age dump deposit 2120.
- 1.1.11 Two possible rubbers found in Iron Age pit fills 6103 and 6106 were made from Sarsen and a fine-grained grey sandstone.
- 1.1.12 One Sarsen whetstone was found in the cremation context 6137. Three small pieces of perforated chalk were also recovered from pit fills 4563 and 7006 and posthole fill 4688. In addition to the worked stone, lots of fragments of burnt stone were also recovered. Most of these were fragments of Sarsen though some were of Greensand and chalk. They are not confined to specific contexts and were widely occurring across the site.

Saxon and medieval

1.1.13 Lava quern fragments came from the Saxon and medieval features at Boarley Farm. One lava rotary quern fragment was found in a pit deposit (context 14, fill 15) during the excavations at Boarley Farm WBSDS. This is likely to be Medieval or Saxon in date. Other lava fragments, which are thought to be from rotary querns or millstones originally, were found in contexts 1030, 1037 and 1058. From White Horse Stone a fragmentary quern stone came (SF 963) was recovered from medieval context 9027. There were several fragments, (mainly Sarsen) which revealed evidence of a worked surface. These may have originally been part of saddle querns but retain insufficient evidence for function to be determined.

Conservation

1.1.14 There are no conservation requirements. The shale objects are considered to be stable (see Appendix 8). All stone in the 'unworked' tables could be discarded.

Comparative Material

- 1.1.15 The three saddle quern fragments recovered and the several fragments that may have been querns were mostly made from Sarsen. Only one was made from Greensand. The use of Greensand for querns during the late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age seems to be more common in Kent than the use of Sarsen with Greensand querns being found at sites such as Monkton Court Farm (Perkins *et al*, 1995, 304). The use of Sarsen was not particularly common during the Bronze Age and Early Iron Age in Kent, with sites such as Hayes Common and Coldharbour Road, Gravesend finding no use of it (Philp 1973, 51 and Roe 1994, 399-400). Despite this, its use is not surprising because boulders of Sarsen would have been locally abundant.
- 1.1.16 The three small pieces of perforated chalk which were found in pit fills 4563 and 7006 and post-hole fill 4688 can be paralleled in the Late Bronze Age assemblage of East Northdown in Margate where two slightly larger pierced chalk objects were found (Smith 1988, 270). No function was postulated for these objects.
- 1.1.17 The use of lava for querns, as demonstrated by the incomplete specimen found and by the small fragments, was common in Roman and Medieval Britain and is not unusual.

Potential for further work

- 1.1.18 The worked stone has the potential to address a number of the original Fieldwork Event Aims.
- 1.1.19 The worked stone assemblage from the White Horse Stone Iron Age settlement is important as there are no other published comparable assemblages from Kent.

Local stone such as chalk and sarsen were utilised on site for a variety of tools and ornaments but other non-local resources were also used (e.g. shale). The source of the shale has at this stage not been determined and could be either within the region or quite distant (e.g. Kimmeridge in Dorset). The presence of a rough-out for a shale bracelet indicates some onsite working and the exchange of unfinished objects.

- 1.1.20 As well as providing evidence for the trade and exchange of materials, the study of the stone also has the potential to contribute to questions of on-site organisation. Burnt and utilised stone can be used as an indicator of domestic and industrial activities and in the identification of activity zones.
- 1.1.21 The identification of a number of quern fragments and rubbers provides evidence for crop processing and food preparation within the settlement.
- 1.1.22 A number of stone objects may have been the property of individuals. This includes the sarsen whetstone that formed part of a kit with a group of iron tools, which was deposited as a grave assemblage. Such evidence provides information on the social status of certain individuals.
- 1.1.23 The post-Iron Age assemblage is a more limited assemblage. However, it includes a small number of lava quern fragments from West of Boarley Farm that are likely to support a middle Saxon date. Lava querns were widely distributed at this time with their source known to be the Eifel mountains in the middle Rhineland (Hodges 1982, 75). Their further study will contribute to an understanding of the date, character and status of this site.
- 1.1.24 Updated research aims

Evidence for on-site activities

• What is the range of lithic materials, what objects are represented and what activities were they used for?

Evidence for trade and exchange

• What is the evidence for trade? What is the evidence that trade was in raw materials rather than finished objects? Is there any difference in the sources of supply over time?

1.1.25 Recommended further work

• The above research aims may be addressed by a programme of detailed recording. Further analysis will focus on the identification of materials and likely sources of supply in order to address research aims relating to patterns of exchange and production. Key objects for study would include the fragments of shale, quernstones, whetstones and rubbers. The identification of these materials needs to be confirmed so that possible sources can be suggested. This will involve limited petrological work (thin-sectioning of selected material). Where possible radiocarbon dating will be undertaken on material closely associated with key traded artefacts, including the shale bracelet, to establish the chronology for such contacts independent of the ceramic dating.

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