



Database Metadata

The following metadata describes the fields present in each table. This information should be used alongside the database tables found in the [downloads](#) section.

Collection: Col_ID (Unique identifier of each record)

This number was assigned automatically by the database and links many of the relations together.

Collection: RecD (Date of record)

This is the day upon which the original hand-written record was completed; additional information or updates of information are indicated on the computerised database.

Collection: SvArea (Survey area - part of the country)

- 1 Co. Durham, Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside, Northumbria, Tyne and Wear; (the former county of Cleveland is included)
- 2 Derbyshire, Yorkshire (historic)
- 3 Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire
- 4 Lincolnshire (historic)
- 5 Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire
- 6 Norfolk, Suffolk
- 7 Essex
- 8 Greater London, Middlesex, Surrey
- 9 Kent
- 10 Sussex
- 11 Hampshire, Isle of Wight
- 12 Berkshire, Wiltshire
- 13 Gloucestershire (historic), Oxfordshire
- 14 Dorset, Somerset (historic)
- 15 Cornwall, Devon, Scilly Isles, Lundy
- 16 Cheshire, Hereford and Worcester, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire
- 17 Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire

Collection: ColName (Name of the collection)

This is the site name, the common name, or the field name as appropriate. If there was more than one known collection with the same name because they are from the same site and are always treated separately, then this integrity was to be maintained using year of excavation/discovery or something else appropriate. If for any reason a collection had only a code name due to being part of a survey project, the project name and the collection code were to be indicated.

Collection: ArCode (Collection code)

This is the excavation code given to the collection if one exists.

Collection: Cmnt (Comments)

This field provided surveyors with the opportunity to indicate any useful pieces of additional information about the collection.

Collection: CurLoc (Current location)

The location where the collection was currently believed to be curated was to be listed. If the curatorial location was a museum this has subsequently been converted to MDA code.

Collection: FinLoc (Proposed final curatorial location, if different from CurLoc above)

If the current location is the final, permanent location for the collection, then this field was to be left blank. Otherwise, if the collection was eventually to be taken to another location for permanent curation, then the new address was indicated.

Collection: ColSize (Approximate size of collection)

For unpublished collections this was simply to be an indication, or information provided by the SMR or curator. This is a free text field.

Sites: Co (Historic county)

It was decided in consultation with English Heritage that this is the best system to use based on their previous experience with surveys.

Sites: Par (Parish)

This was a non-mandatory field.

Sites: GR1, GR2 and GR3 (National Grid Reference)

Both the letters and the numbers were required, and either the 6 or the 8-digit number was to be used, except when requested not to do so for security reasons by local curators.

Sites: SMR (Sites and Monuments Record number/s)

This field was not mandatory because not all collections are on Sites and Monuments Records (SMRs).

Sites: SAM (Scheduled Ancient Monuments number/s)

This field was not mandatory because not all collections derive from Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs).

Site/Type: Type and Details

Type must be chosen from the 29 key words listed which had been selected from the RCHME Thesaurus of Monument Types (1995). Up to three different entries could be used. The Details field allows for enhancement of the restricted information about the type of site selected for sub-field (a). Although it was asked that only the more detailed version of the RCHME Thesaurus of Monument Types (1995) which was provided be used, this commonly became a free text field.

- 1 Field Boundary
- 2 Midden
- 3 Villa
- 4 Oppidum
- 5 Town
- 6 Hillfort
- 7 Legionary Fortress
- 8 Enclosed Settlement
- 9 Fogou
- 10 Hut
- 11 Rock Shelter
- 12 Settlement
- 13 Unenclosed Settlement
- 14 Kiln
- 15 Saltern
- 16 Barrow
- 17 Burial
- 18 Cemetery
- 19 Shrine
- 20 Square Barrow
- 21 Ditch
- 22 Earthwork
- 23 Enclosure
- 24 Pit
- 25 Well
- 26 Scatter
- 27 Uncertain
- 28 No information
- 29 other

lu_Recov: Code (recovery method letter code) and RecMeth (meaning of the code)

A restricted list of multiple choices was provided:

- A excavation - rescue
- B excavation - research
- C fieldwalking
- D casual pick-up
- E watching brief
- F evaluation - trench
- G evaluation - test pit
- H pipeline
- I any other method
- J no information available

lu_Date: Code (Date range letter code) and Range (meaning of code)

A restricted list for multiple choice was provided:

- A Late Bronze Age
- B Late Bronze/Early Iron Age
- C Early Iron Age
- D Early/Middle Iron Age
- E Middle Iron Age
- F Middle/Late Iron Age
- G Late Iron Age
- H Conquest period, in its broadest sense
- I uncertain later prehistoric

lu_NoSherds: Code (Number of sherds letter code) and NoSherds (meaning of code)

This is the quantity of sherds in the collection.

- A 50 sherds
- B 50 to 999 sherds
- C 1,000 to 2,999 sherds
- D 3,000 to 19,999
- E 20,000 to 49,999 sherds
- F 50,000 sherds or more
- G no information provided
- H minimum number available from illustrations only
- I whole/nearly whole vessels only

lu_TotWt: Code (total weight letter code) and TotWt (meaning of code)

This is the total weight of all the later prehistoric pottery sherds/vessels in the collection.

- A 200 grammes
- B 200 to 2,999 grammes (i.e. up to 3 kg)
- C 3,000 to 29,999 grammes (from 3 and 30 kg)
- D 30,000 to 399,999 grammes (from 30 to 399 kg)
- E 400,000 to 999,999 grammes (from 400 to 999 kg)
- F 1,000,000 grammes or more (i.e. a ton of pottery +)

G no information provided

lu_Cond: Code (Condition of collection letter code) and Cond (meaning of code)

This was based on the surveyor's assessment from the illustrations or text. Total profiles are the best possible indicators of condition, partial profiles next, etc. A reconstructed rim means that enough is/was present for the full diameter to be measured. Only one choice from the following was to be selected:

- A** total profiles, numerous examples
- B** total profiles, a few examples
- C** partial profiles, numerous examples
- D** partial profiles, a few examples
- E** just reconstructed rim zones present, numerous examples
- F** just reconstructed rim zones present, a few examples
- G** any rims present are not reconstructable (i.e. no diameters possible)
- H** no information provided

lu_Pot: Code (Other pottery present code) and Per (meaning of code)

Up to nine entries from the following could have been chosen:

- A** Earlier Neolithic
- B** Neolithic/Early Bronze Age
- C** Early/Middle Bronze Age
- D** Middle Bronze Age
- E** undiagnostic earlier prehistoric
- F** Roman
- G** Saxon
- H** Medieval
- I** Post-Medieval
- J** no other pottery
- K** no information provided

lu_Cer: Code (Other ceramic artefacts present code) and Type (meaning of code)

Any other ceramic artefacts which date to the later prehistoric period, whether or not they were actually found stratified with the later prehistoric pottery collection being surveyed, were to be selected, as many codes as required from the following:

- none** briquetage
- A** Up to nine entries from the following could have been chosen:
- B** Up to nine entries from the following could have been chosen:
- C** clay weight
- D** clay spindle whorl
- E** crucible
- F** mould
- G** oven/hearth furniture
- H** any other clay artefact
- I** no information provided

lu_NCer: Code (Other non-ceramic artefacts present code) and Type (meaning of code)

Any other non-ceramic artefacts which date to the later prehistoric period, whether or not they were actually found stratified with the later prehistoric pottery collection, were to be chosen from the following:

- A** none
- B** copper alloy object
- C** iron object
- D** quern
- E** slag
- F** worked bone object
- G** stone weight
- H** stone whorl
- I** worked flint
- J** no information provided
- K** other (any late addition to the list, e.g. shale)

lu_DpStrat: Code (Deep stratification present code) and Type (meaning of code)

Any features, other than pits, which contained more than one layer were to be indicated from the following list:

- A** none
- B** settlement enclosure ditch with more than one layer
- C** rampart with more than one layer
- D** other ditches with more than one layer
- E** well, or well-like feature
- F** midden
- G** quarry hollows
- H** house/yard floor
- I** any other features (other than pits)
- J** no information provided

lu_NPits: Code (number of pits code) and Number of Pits (meaning of code)

The number of pits found on the site was to be indicated:

- A** none
- B** 1-5
- C** 6-20
- D** 21-50
- E** 51-100
- F** more than 100
- G** no information provided

Iu_Struc: Code (structures code) and Type (meaning of code)

The types of structures found on the site were to be selected from this restricted list:

- A none
- B curvilinear gulley/drip gulley
- C posthole round structure
- D 4 or 6 post structure
- E fence lines
- F well, or well-like feature
- G grave
- H shrine
- I rectangular building
- J square barrow
- K other structures
- L no information provided

Iu_CtxDtl: Code (contextual details code) and Meaning (meaning of the code)

From the publication including the microfiche, the kind of contextual details which are available about the collection were to be indicated from the following selection:

- A All of the pottery is quantified by fabric, form and decoration by context in features or by layers
- B Some of the pottery is quantified by fabric, form and decoration by context in features or by layers
- C All of the pottery is quantified by feature; this may include details about fabric, form, and decoration but any such information by individual contexts is missing
- D Only illustrated groups of pottery are quantified by fabric and/or form; this can be quantified by context (layer) but is at least presented by feature (i.e. the key group format)
- E All of the featured sherds are illustrated in key groups but the pottery is otherwise unquantified
- F Some of the featured sherds are illustrated in key groups but the pottery is otherwise unquantified
- G None of the above suitably describes the contextual details about the pottery collection

Iu_SRep: Code (Scientific reports on the pottery code) and Type (meaning of code)

If any scientific analyses had been performed on the sherds in the collection or any dating tests performed this was to be indicated:

- A none
- B petrological analysis
- C heavy mineral analysis
- D X-ray fluorescence spectroscopy (X-RF)
- E neutron activation analysis (NAA)
- G residue analysis (any kind)
- H other chemical analysis
- I TL dating
- J radiocarbon dating

PubPlan: PubPlans (Are there any plans for the publication of this collection)

If the collection has not been published, the surveyor was to try and find out if there are any plans to do so.

For unpublished collections, this field was also to fulfil the role of the Comments field which would then be transferred to the appropriate location on the database during computerisation.

Pub: Arch (archived ?)

The presence or absence of an available archive of any kind was to be indicated from by:

- A Yes; an archive is mentioned in the publication
- B No; there is no mention in the publication of an archive

Biblio: Auth, Date etc. (Publication details)

This is the full pottery report publication reference. Surveyors were asked to use the Harvard system of referencing as appropriate and also the Council for British Archaeology's recommended format for abbreviations of journals.