

## A Fragment of a Neolithic Axe from Warlingham

A fragment of a Neolithic flint axe was found in 1981 in the garden of No 26 Eglise Road, Warlingham (TQ 362 586). It was found during the sifting of topsoil which was being cleared in advance of building work.

The fragment is the blade end of a Neolithic ground flint axe. It is 70mm long, with a maximum width of 59mm and a maximum thickness of 25mm, and weighs 125gm. It has been broken in antiquity with a hinge-fracture. One face is relatively intact, although there is much damage to the other face and to both sides: one side is completely broken but the other side,

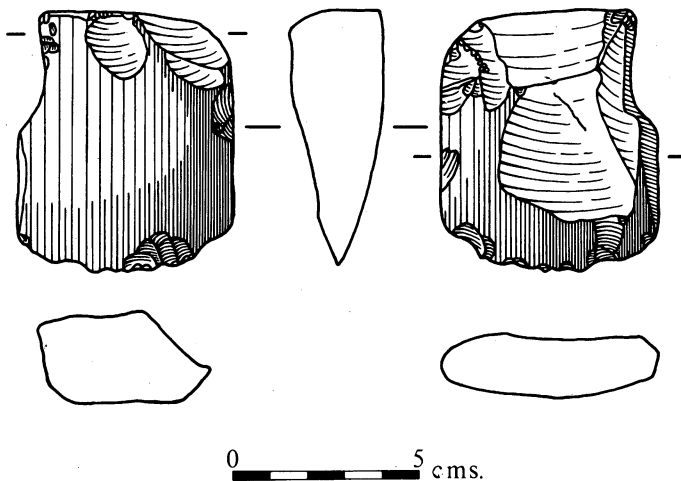


Fig 1 Fragment of a Neolithic axe from Warlingham (½)

where intact, has been ground flat. The blade edge is also damaged and shows signs of wear. The flint has a mottled light and dark grey patina with small areas of light ochreous staining. The patina covers the whole surface of the implement, indicating that the damage to it is not recent.

This axe fragment is one of several recent finds of Neolithic flint axes in the Warlingham area. A detailed record of these finds and some of the axes themselves are at present located in the East Surrey Museum at Caterham.<sup>1</sup>

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are due to the owner of the axe fragment, Mr P R S Berridge, for permission to publish the find, and to Mrs M Whaler for bringing the find to my attention. I am also grateful to Lesley Ketteringham for information about finds of other axes in the Warlingham area.

### FOOTNOTE

- 1 Personal communication from L L Ketteringham, Honorary Curator of the East Surrey Museum.

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