Database Metadata

The following metadata describes the fields present in each table. this informatio
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 r

Collection: RecD (Date of record)

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

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

1   Co. Durham, Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside, Northumbria, Tyne and V
     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, Warwicksh
17   Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire

Collection: ColName (Name of the collection)

This is the site name, the common name, or the field name as appropriate. If ther
with the same name because they are from the same site and are always treated s
maintained using year of excavation/discovery or something else appropriate. If
code name due to being part of a survey project, the project name and the collect

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 c
collection.

Collection: CurLoc (Current location)

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

Collection: FinLoc (Proposed final curatorial location, if different from Cur

If the current location is the final, permanent location for the collection, then this
the collection was eventually to be taken to another location for permanent curati

Collection: ColSize (Approximate size of collection)

For unpublished collections this was simply to be an indication, or information p
a free text field.

Sites: Co (Historic county)

It was decided in consultation with English Heritage that this is the best system t
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 nu
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 Monum

Sites: SAM (Scheduled Ancient Monuments number/s)

This field was not mandatory because not all collections derive from Scheduled

Site/Type: Type and Details

Type must be chosen from the 29 key words listed which had been selected from
Types (1995). Up to three different entries could be used. The Details field allow
information about the type of site selected for sub-field (a). Although it was aske
the RCHME Thesaurus of Monument Types (1995) which was provided be used

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

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

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 co

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 c

This was based on the surveyor's assessment from the illustrations or text. Total
of condition, partial profiles next, etc. A reconstructed rim means that enough is/
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

Any other ceramic artefacts which date to the later prehistoric period, whether or
with the later prehistoric pottery collection being surveyed, were to be selected, a
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 (mean

Any other non-ceramic artefacts which date to the later prehistoric period, wheth
stratified with the later prehistoric pottery collection, were to be chosen from the

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 c

Any features, other than pits, which contained more than one layer were to be inc

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

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

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

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

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

From the publication including the microfiche, the kind of contextual details whi
were to be indicated from the following selection:

A   All of the pottery is quantified by fabric, form and decoration by context i
B   Some of the pottery is quantified by fabric, form and decoration by contex
C   All of the pottery is quantified by feature; this may include details about f
     such information by individual contexts is missing
D   Only illustrated groups of pottery are quantified by fabric and/or form; thi
     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 o
F   Some of the featured sherds are illustrated in key groups but the pottery is
G   None of the above suitably describes the contextual details about the potte

lu_SRep: Code (Scientific reports on the pottery code) and Type (meaning o

If any scientific analyses had been performed on the sherds in the collection or a
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 th

For unpublished collections, this field was also to fulfil the role of the Comments
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 f

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
appropriate and also the Council for British Archaeology's recommended format