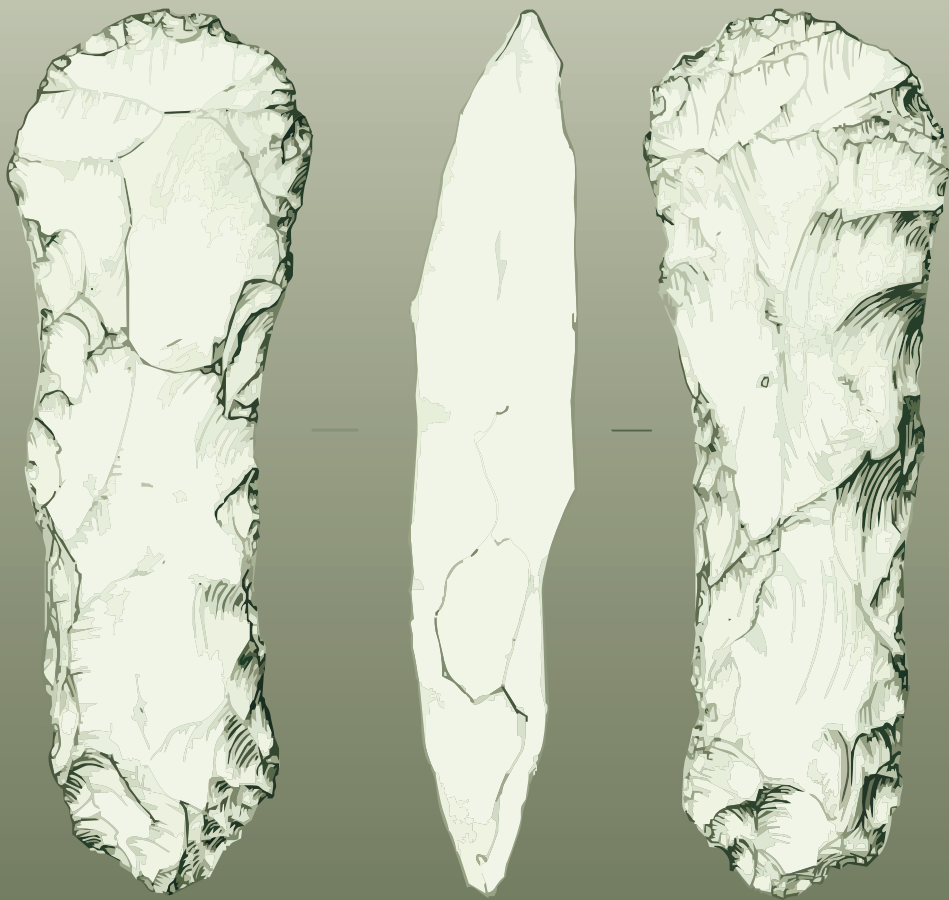


CHAPTER 24

Flint



by Kate Cramp

24 Flint

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An assemblage of 12,235 struck flints and 9,805 pieces (90.835 kg) of burnt unworked flint was recovered during several phases of archaeological investigation at Stansted Airport between the years of 1999 and 2003 (Tables 24.1-24.2).

The material represents, in varying quantities, a long period of human activity from the lower Palaeolithic to the later Bronze Age. A summary of the struck flint assemblage is given in Table 24.3.

Quantification

The evaluation and excavation undertaken in the area of the MTCP site (BAAMP99 and BAAMP00) were the most prolific in terms of the number of struck flints produced. This site yielded a total of 7,004 pieces providing nearly 60% of the struck assemblage (Table 24.1). The majority of burnt unworked flint, a total of 5,397 pieces weighing 55.678 kg, also came from this area (Table 24.2).

Considerable quantities of flintwork were recovered from the LTCP site, which yielded a total of 2,698 struck flints and a further 2,682 pieces of burnt unworked flint (18.008 kg) following a programme of fieldwalking and three phases of excavation. Assemblages of reasonable size were also recovered from the M11 excavations (BAALR00) and from the SG excavation (BAASG03). Excavations at the FLB (BAAFL00), LBR (BAALB00), Standby Runway (BAASR00) and NP (BAANP00) sites all produced assemblages of modest size. A further 60 struck flints were recovered from unstratified contexts.

Methodology

All of the struck flints within the assemblage were individually examined and recorded. Each flint was given a unique object number and assigned to a basic category according to broad debitage, core or tool type. Further classification was made using more detailed technological and typological criteria. Unretouched flakes and blades, for example, were sub-divided according to their position in the reduction sequence: primary (75%-100% dorsal cortex), secondary (1-74%) or tertiary (0%). Cores/core fragments were further described by platform and removal type (eg blade or flake), while retouched tools were described using a combination of functional (eg scraper) and typological categories (eg microlith).

Dating was attempted throughout the analysis and concerned both individual pieces and groups of flints. In order to examine depositional and post-depositional processes, the condition was noted for each artefact along with evidence of burning and breakage. Other types of surface alteration, such as cortication and iron-staining, were also recorded consistently. Bulk records were used for burnt unworked flint, which was quantified by piece and by weight. Additional information, such as the degree of calcination, was also noted where relevant.

The results of this non-selective assessment informed the selection of certain groups for further analysis (Table 24.4). These twenty-five flint assemblages were consequently subjected to detailed technological, metrical and refitting analyses. A sample of 200 flints from the waterhole (feature 309075) and another 200 from the barrow (feature 324078) on the MTCP site (BAAMP00) were also examined for microscopic traces of use-wear.

The technological analysis involved recording butt type (after Tixier *et al.* 1980, fig 47), termination type (Cotterell and Kamminga 1987) and hammer-mode (eg Onhuma and Bergman 1982). The classification of flake type used Harding (1990) with slight modification. The presence or absence of platform edge abrasion was also recorded. Metrical analysis was performed on all complete pieces, and required taking the maximum length, breadth and width measurements of a specimen to the closest millimetre (after Saville 1980). Details about the raw material type, including colour and possible source, were recorded where they could be discerned.

Attempts to find refitting or conjoining flints were made throughout the analysis. The refitting exercise involved laying out all the flintwork from each feature and grouping the material according to visual similarity in raw material type. The large quantity of material from the barrow and waterhole meant that a sample was used, which inevitably reduced the prospect of finding refitting material. In some cases, the heavy cortication of the flints meant that it was necessary to rely on cortex alone as a means of distinguishing related groups. Attempts to find knapping refits and conjoins were made both within and, where there was good reason to, between assemblages.

Low-power use-wear analysis was performed on a randomly selected sample of flints from the barrow and from the waterhole on the MTCP site (BAAMP00). This analysis was based on research conducted by Tringham *et al.* (1974), Cotterell and Kamminga (1979), Odell (1981), Odell and Odell-Vereecken (1980), Mallouf (1982), Akoshima (1987) and Brown (1989). A total of 400 flints (200 from each feature) were examined for use-wear using a binocular microscope at x 20 magnification. Where a used edge was encountered, the pattern of damage was classified according to material density (soft, medium or hard) and action type (scraping, cutting/whittling or boring). The data was added to the existing database.

Raw material

Local gravel flint nodules appear to have been the most heavily exploited source of raw material for the production of the flintwork. These nodules are characterised by an abraded, stained cortex and an interior that ranges in colour through browns, greys and iron-stained oranges. Thermal fractures and cherty inclusions occur frequently, and probably affected the flaking quality of the flint. Many of the partially worked nodules and pieces of unclassifiable waste in the assemblage consist of discarded pieces of gravel flint that were apparently abandoned after initial assessment showed them to be affected by incipient fracture lines. These nodules would have been readily available from local river gravels and, despite their inherent flaking difficulties, seem to have been regularly exploited out of convenience.

A less important but significant source of flint seems to have been the boulder clay deposits that cover large parts of the site. These nodules usually possess a thin, fresh,

cream-coloured cortex encasing a dark brown or black interior. The rare occurrence of thermal fractures and impurities would suggest that it was knapped more successfully than the gravel flint. A very large, unworked nodule (965 g) of probable boulder clay origin was recovered from pit 498020 on the SG site.

The presence of numerous pieces with a particularly thick, clean, chalky cortex implies that some of the nodules were recovered from chalk deposits. Mined flint may have come from mines known in Sussex, such as Angmering and Cissbury, or perhaps further afield from Grimes Graves in Norfolk (Kemble 2001, 49-50). It is probable that closer, shallower deposits were more regularly exploited, however.

The polished flint axes from a Middle Bronze Age waterhole 309075 (MTCP) and from fieldwalking transect 221387 (LTCP fieldwalking) almost certainly represent the use of mined chalk flint sources. A further five flakes from the deliberate reduction of such objects were also recovered. These came from the topsoil (MTCP) and from intervention 491019 Early Romano-British ditch 507032 (SG); two refitting examples were recovered from feature 420068 (M11). The fifth flake could be indirectly refitted to the axe from the waterhole. Most of these pieces are of a fine-grained, homogeneous, light- or mid-grey flint. The examples from the waterhole were probably originally black in colour, but have lightened through the process of cortication. The polished implements are likely to have reached the site in a finished or almost finished state although, as the presence of knapping refits indicates, they continued to provide tool potential through their re-use as cores.

Chert and bullhead flint were only minimally used alongside these main flint groups. Of the 2286 flints (excluding chips) selected for more detailed analysis, only seven were identified as chert; five of these came from Early Neolithic pit 344278 and, although no refits were found, they almost certainly derive from the same core. The use of bullhead flint, which occurs at the base of the Reading beds (Dewey and Bromehead, 1915; Shepherd 1972, 114), is represented by two pieces of unclassifiable waste and five chips. Without exception, these were recovered from Middle Bronze Age tree-throw 425005 (M11). The concentration of these pieces in one feature implies that the flakes derive from a single knapping event and were deposited simultaneously, particularly since bullhead flint does not appear to have been widely used across the rest of the site.

Condition

The condition of the flintwork varies by context but is generally good and sometimes exceptional. Numerous large assemblages in fresh condition were recovered from the area, including those from the Early Neolithic tree-throws on the M11 evaluation and excavation and from the Middle Bronze Age waterhole 309075 on the MTCP excavation. The flintwork from the barrow on the MTCP is in a remarkably fresh condition, with most pieces retaining a keen edge and intact fissures. As might be expected, redeposited flints from topsoil and ploughsoil deposits tend to be heavily rolled and show extensive edge-damage. Examples include the *tranchet* axes from BAACP99 (LTCP phase I) and BAACP00 (LTCP phase II).

The degree of cortication is variable, with some flints corticated to an opaque white and others entirely unaffected. All intermediate stages are represented, with many

pieces displaying an incipient, mottled cortication. Although a broad correlation was noted, the degree of cortication was not relied upon as a chronological indicator without additional corroboration. Further details of condition are given in relation to the individual assemblages discussed below.

Palaeolithic

Evidence for human activity in the Palaeolithic period is limited to two handaxes (Fig. 24.1, nos 1-2) and a small collection of less chronologically distinctive pieces. These flints occurred as residual finds in later deposits and, in some cases, there is evidence for their re-use in the Neolithic and Bronze Age. The meagre quantity of Palaeolithic flintwork does not support extensive human activity in the area at this time, nor does it allow much elaboration on the character of this activity.

LTCP (BAACP00)

The sickle blade from context 116023 (tree-throw 116024) was probably used as such in the Neolithic period, but may in fact represent a salvaged Upper Palaeolithic long blade (Fig. 24.2, no. 3). Further discussion of this piece can be found in the Neolithic section (below).

MTCP excavation (BAAMP00)

A small but significant group including two handaxes (Fig. 24.1, nos 1 and 2) and a possible scraper were recovered from the MTCP site. All three pieces came from the reworked subsoil (deposit 301001), either adjacent to or within the fill of a palaeochannel. The artefacts are in reasonably fresh condition, showing slight rolling and a distinctive deep ochreous staining.

The handaxes probably date broadly to the British Middle Acheulian, between OIS 11-7, (D. A. Roe, pers. comm.). The smaller of the two is of ovate type (Fig. 24.1, no. 1). The tip has been damaged and broken, both recently and in antiquity, which obscures a possible *tranchet* removal. The larger handaxe is of pyriform type (Fig. 24.1, no. 2). A *tranchet* removal has been taken across the tip of one face, producing an almost cleaver-like edge. The longer working edge is located opposite an area of cortex, which may have been deliberately retained in order to provide an effective grip for prehension. The flint on which the handaxe is made is similar in appearance to bullhead flint, although the distinctive orange banding is not located immediately below the cortex but occurs in localised patches at some depth.

The possible scraper consists of a thick, disc-shaped thermal fragment with the same distinctive iron-staining seen on the handaxes. The retouch is irregular and undercut in places, more reminiscent of natural damage than the deliberate, systematic modification of a blank. If genuine, the scraper is an atypical example of Lower Palaeolithic technology, as scrapers manufactured on thermal blanks occur only rarely in this period (D. A. Roe, pers. comm.).

M11 evaluation and excavation (BAALR00)

The unclassifiable tool from context 440009 (intervention 440010, ditch 440017) may represent a re-worked Palaeolithic tool. This piece consists of a recently broken artefact, perhaps part of a biface, with a similar ochreous staining to that of the handaxes from the MTCP. Later retouch to one edge truncates the earlier iron-staining, indicating its re-use.

Mesolithic

The Mesolithic assemblage from the excavations at Stansted is limited to a thin scatter of diagnostic pieces (microliths, burins and *tranchet* axes), most of which occurred as topsoil finds or in later features. While the assemblage may contain an additional Mesolithic element that cannot easily be isolated, it seems reasonable to conclude from the small quantity of diagnostic flints that activity in this period was not particularly prolonged or intensive.

Fieldwalking on LTCP site (BAACP99)

Possible Mesolithic pieces include one piercer and one rejuvenation tablet, both of which were recovered from transect 220001. A number of the blades and blade cores in the assemblage may also be Mesolithic in origin. Examples include the blades and bladelike flakes from transects 220001, 220527, 221025, 221412 and 221427 and the blade cores from transects 220001 and 221426 (see also Early Neolithic section below).

LTCP phase I (BAACP99)

Two Mesolithic *tranchet* axes were recovered from the topsoil (context 995001) during excavation. The larger of the two specimens (117 mm x 37 mm x 21 mm) is slightly curved in profile, giving the impression that it would have been hafted as an adze (Fig. 24.2, no. 4). The flint contains coarse, cherty inclusions. The smaller axe (82 mm x 34 mm x 22 mm) retains a naturally concave cortical edge; this may have been designed for hafting purposes (Fig. 24.2, no. 5). Both pieces are rolled and damaged, as would be expected of flint from a ploughsoil context.

LTCP phase II (BAACP00)

The Mesolithic assemblage from this site consists of a thin scatter of chronologically diagnostic pieces, most of which occurred in the topsoil and are generally in a poor, rolled condition indicative of successive redeposition.

The badly damaged broad-blade microlith, which was recovered from the topsoil (context 101005), probably dates to the earlier part of the Mesolithic (Fig. 24.2, no. 6). The microlith has been abruptly retouched along the right-hand edge and can be compared to Jacobi's type 1a (Jacobi 1978, 16, fig. 6). A complete Mesolithic *tranchet* axe was recovered from the topsoil (context 101003) (Fig. 24.2, no. 5). The axe is made of a poor quality, frost-shattered flint and has been re-sharpened with a *tranchet* blow in the course of use. A late Iron Age/Early Romano-British ring gully 129088 (intervention 129054) in the north-west of the site contained a Mesolithic

burin. The blade cores from the topsoil (context 101005), late Iron Age gully 102109 (context 140041, intervention 140040) and layer (919101) may also date to the Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic.

MTCP Excavation (BAAMP00)

As is the case elsewhere, the Mesolithic assemblage from this site is small and residual. Diagnostic pieces show a fairly widespread distribution. The frequent association between redeposited Mesolithic flints and Middle Bronze Age features may be significant.

Several datable tools were recorded, including three burins. These came from Middle Bronze Age barrow ditch 324078 (context 320136, intervention 320131), an isolated Middle Bronze Age pit (context 316075, pit 316074) and a late Romano-British ditch 306117 (context 309178, intervention 309177). Some of the blade cores may be Mesolithic in date, although given the evidence for Early Neolithic activity on site, it is possible that they belong to a slightly later industry. Examples include the pieces from barrow 324078 (context 320113, intervention 320150), Middle Bronze Age pits 316118 (context 316113) and 322014 (context 322017) and an unphased tree-throw 349116 (context 349117).

A proportion of the debitage (eg the three crested blades from barrow 324078 (intervention 309238), tree-throw 316150 and ploughsoil (layer 324023) may also date to the Mesolithic; these pieces are less easily isolated from the Early Neolithic assemblage, however.

M11 evaluation and excavation (BAALR00)

A Mesolithic burin was recovered from the fill of Middle Iron Age ditch 440036 (context 441001, intervention 441005) (Fig. 24.2, no. 7). The burin was associated with a small assemblage of flintwork in poor condition and of mainly later Bronze Age date, suggesting that it forms a residual component within a later, disturbed deposit. A second burin came from deposit (423027) within post-medieval posthole 423028.

A further 36 flints, largely consisting of blades and bladelike pieces, were spot-dated more broadly to the Mesolithic/Neolithic period on their general technological appearance. The majority probably relates to the extensive evidence of Early Neolithic activity at the site, although it is possible that a number of Mesolithic pieces are included but cannot be distinguished.

SG Excavation (BAASG03)

The Mesolithic period is again represented by a small number of residual flints. Late Saxon ditch 497043 (context 497004, intervention 497003) produced a broad blade microlith (Fig. 24.2, no. 8), which can be compared to Jacobi's 3 c type and probably dates to the early Mesolithic (Jacobi 1978, 16, fig. 6). The microlith is missing its tip and is lightly rolled with moderate damage to its edges.

Deposit (497041) within late Saxon pit 497038 produced an end scraper made on a robust tertiary blade (Fig. 24.2, no. 9). The blade exhibits neat, abrupt, invasive retouch to the plunging distal end. The flint is heavily corticated with a mottled, post-depositional iron-stain overlying the cortication. The scraper probably dates to the Mesolithic although it could be earlier. There is some evidence to suggest that it was deliberately placed in the pit as part of a formal deposit.

Several blades, bladelets and bladelike flakes were also recovered from the site that may be Mesolithic or perhaps earlier Neolithic in date. These include single finds from late Saxon pit 498020 (context 498019), late Saxon ditches 503014 (context 5030020, intervention 503001), 497043 (context 497004, intervention 497003), and 497046 (context 497018, intervention 497017), Early Neolithic tree-throw 496001 (context 496003) and topsoil layer (494001). Most are soft-hammer struck and exhibit platform edge abrasion; several possess dorsal blade scars.

LBR evaluation and excavation (BAALB00)

This small assemblage includes a multi-platform blade core (34 g) from 2nd–3rd-century ditch 205018 (context 203007, intervention 203005), which may be Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic in date.

Early Neolithic

Excavation and Fieldwalking on the LTCP site (BAACP99)

Chronologically diagnostic types include a fragment of a partially polished axe (56 g) from transect (221387) (Fig. 24.2, no. 10). The axe is manufactured from a fine-grained chalk flint, probably from a non-local flint source, and has been re-worked as a core to yield several flakes. A number of the bladelet cores may also be earlier Neolithic, or Mesolithic, in date. Examples include the single platform bladelet core from transect 221426 and the multi-platform bladelet core from transect 220001. Both are small, weighing 26 g and 20 g respectively. It is highly likely that a certain quantity of the blade debitage also belongs to an Early Neolithic industry; this is more difficult to isolate in the absence of coherent, *in situ* assemblages.

Pit 995106

An assemblage of 54 flints, including 33 chips, was recovered from deposit (995107) within Early Neolithic pit 995106. The assemblage is composed entirely of unretouched pieces, mainly flakes, which are mostly in poor condition and likely to be residual. Several pieces are rolled and glossed. The quantity of chips present in the assemblage suggests that some knapping microdebitage is present, although a proportion may have been generated by modern damage. No diagnostic pieces were recovered from the pit, and the variable condition of the flintwork implies a redeposited assemblage of mixed date. There is no evidence to suggest that the flintwork belongs with the large assemblage of Early Neolithic pottery from the same feature.

LTCP phase II (BAACP00)

No large Neolithic assemblages were recovered from the area of the LTCP site and very few chronologically diagnostic types were identified. One exception is the possible Neolithic sickle blade from the surface of tree-throw 116024 (context 116023) (Fig. 24.2, no. 3). This artefact consists of a curved secondary blade with retouch along both edges of the thicker, distal end; this may have been performed in order to facilitate the binding of the blade to the haft. Confirmation that the sickle was hafted is provided by a broad arc of polish along the right-hand edge, which was probably caused by the attrition of an ill-fitting haft against the blade. Both edges of the sickle exhibit heavy use-wear, which is particularly pronounced on the concave edge. The size of the blade (170 mm x 43 mm) and its dense white cortication might suggest the re-use of an Upper Palaeolithic long blade. No further flints were recovered from the tree-throw.

M11 evaluation and excavation (BAALR00)

Earlier Neolithic activity in the area of the M11 site is most clearly represented by the flint assemblages from a group of three tree-throws (434035, 434038 and 434068) and one ditch terminus (420068). These features are tightly clustered within an area of approximately 25 m² on the north-eastern edge of the site. The assemblages are almost identical in their technology and composition and almost certainly belonged to the same group of inhabitants. The assemblage from pit 434029 may also be contemporary, as it lies less than six metres to the north-west of the main group. No further work was performed on this assemblage, however, as chips provide 65 of the 73 struck flints recovered from its two fills.

The material from tree-throw 440004, which is located 160 m to the south-east of the main group, can also be tentatively dated to the Early Neolithic. There is little evidence to suggest that this material was related to the activity in the north-east of the site, however. A smaller assemblage of probable Early Neolithic date was also recovered from tree-throw 429002, which lies approximately 20 m to the south of tree-throw 440004.

The terminus of Iron Age ditch 440036 (context 435032, intervention 435030) produced a small, finely-flaked knife or arrowhead with missing tip (Fig. 24.3, no. 11). An earlier Neolithic date is most likely for this piece.

Pit 420068

The 34 worked flints from the single fill (420069) of pit 420068 form a coherent earlier Neolithic assemblage, consisting entirely of unretouched flake material (Table 24.5). The flints are in a fresh, heavily corticated condition with slight iron-staining in places. Four pieces (27 g) of burnt unworked flint were also recovered.

The assemblage contains approximately equal numbers of blades and flakes, many of which bear dorsal blade scars. Where it can be determined, most of the flakes have been struck using a soft-hammer percussor and a small number (eight pieces) exhibit platform edge abrasion. The general technological appearance of the debitage allows the assemblage to be confidently assigned to the Early Neolithic; this date is confirmed by the presence of a conjoining blade from a polished implement.

Most of the removals are non-cortical (14 pieces), although several side-trimming (six pieces) and distal-trimming flakes (four pieces) are present. A single preparatory flake was recorded. While retouched tools are entirely absent from the assemblage, a total of eight flints (nearly 30%, excluding chips) display macroscopically visible use-wear. A further seven flints are burnt and 13 broken.

Beyond the conjoining polished blade, no further refits were found. Evidence that material from the same core was deposited together is provided by a small group of four flints with a distinctive cortex underlain by a thin grey band; it is highly probable that these pieces originate from the same nodule. The general paucity of cores and chips, however, indicates that certain stages of the reduction sequence are absent. It is therefore unlikely that the assemblage represents a dump of knapping waste, as seen in ditches elsewhere. Instead, the flintwork probably represents a selection of useful flakes that were in circulation for a short time and eventually discarded in the ditch. With the possible exception of the blade from a polished implement, there is no evidence to suggest that the material formed part of a 'special' deposit in the ditch terminus.

Tree-throw 434033

The single deposit (434034) within tree-throw 434033 contained an assemblage of 30 Early Neolithic struck flints in fresh condition (Table 24.6). The majority are corticated to an opaque white colour and, as in the assemblage from ditch terminus 420068, several are slightly yellowed from iron-staining. A further nine pieces (39 g) of burnt unworked flint were also recovered.

The assemblage is largely composed of unretouched flakes (13 pieces) with a generous representation of blades and bladelike flakes (nine pieces). The latter tend to be thin, slender removals with parallel lateral edges. Both flakes and blades commonly possess dorsal blade scars. The evidence suggests a careful, blade-inclined reduction strategy, which involved the regular use of soft-hammer percussion and platform edge abrasion. As no diagnostic pieces are present, the dating of the flintwork has been based on these technological and morphological characteristics.

No retouched tools were recovered from the tree-throw. Instead, unmodified edges were selected for use, with macroscopic use-wear noted in three instances. This figure would undoubtedly increase given a microscopic analysis. Although a knapping refit was identified between two blades, the small number of chips recovered and the absence of cores suggest that the material was not deposited in the context of knapping activity. A small number of flints are burnt (five pieces) and, in most cases, to an advanced stage of calcination. The combination of utilised and burnt pieces with little or no retouch is emerging as a recurrent theme of the Early Neolithic assemblages from Stansted.

In terms of its condition, composition and technological character, the assemblage bears strong similarities to the flintwork recovered from pit 420068 (see above), from tree-throw 434038 and, in particular, from tree-throw 434035 (see below). It is highly likely that the deposits are broadly contemporaneous, a suggestion made all the more plausible by their close proximity.

Tree-throw 434035

Two deposits within tree-throw 434035 produced a combined assemblage of 61 struck flints (Table 24.7), the majority of which came from the upper fill (59 pieces). The flintwork is in a fresh, heavily corticated condition. Several pieces have accrued a light iron-staining, comparable to that noted on a number of the flints from pit 420068 and tree-throw 434033 (see above). The assemblage also contained 11 pieces (170 g) of burnt unworked flint, which again came mainly from the upper fill.

The material from the tree-throw forms a coherent, Early Neolithic assemblage which, technologically, is almost indistinguishable from the assemblage from tree-throw 434033. Although flakes predominate (31 pieces), blades and bladelike flakes are well represented by a total of 14 flints. The reduction strategy is one of careful preparation and removal. Numerous pieces exhibit platform edge abrasion (15 pieces) and, where it can be determined, most have been struck using soft-hammer percussion (21 pieces); only seven hard-hammer flakes were identified. Linear platforms (nine pieces) and punctiform platforms (eight pieces) occur relatively frequently and are more widely associated with blade-based technologies. The presence of three rejuvenation flakes, including one tablet and one crested blade, shows a preoccupation with platform preparation and maintenance.

The retouched component consists of one edge-retouched flake and one unclassifiable tool, which together provide around 3.5 % of the assemblage (excluding chips). The unclassifiable tool consists of a large, irregular nodule of gravel flint (399 g) with numerous hard-hammer flake removals taken from two adjacent platforms, producing an almost keeled edge. Areas of heavy bashing and crushing to the worked edge suggests that the object was intended as a crude chopping implement. It is possible that the nodule was initially worked as a flake core and then re-used, although the removals exhibit little standardisation in terms of size and shape.

The presence of one multi-platform flake core (23 g), one partially worked nodule (85 g) and five chips suggests a limited knapping element; no knapping refits or closely-related flint groups were identified, however. Attempts to find refits with the flint from tree-throw 434033 were also unsuccessful. A total of seven flints are burnt and 29 are broken; use-wear was recorded on nine pieces. Again, as in other Early Neolithic assemblages from the site, there is the association of burnt and utilised pieces within an assemblage containing very few tools.

Tree-throw 434038

A total of 62 struck flints and six pieces (74 g) of burnt unworked flint were recovered from a single deposit (434039) within tree-throw 434038 (Table 24.8). The material forms a coherent, Early Neolithic assemblage which is technologically similar to the assemblages from tree-throws 434033 and 434035 (see above) but contains larger pieces and is marked by significantly less breakage (seven pieces). As in the other tree-throw assemblages, most of the flints are densely corticated and frequently bear a light yellow iron-staining.

The assemblage contains flakes and blades/bladelike flakes in equal quantities. Most of these are non-cortical or trimming flakes; no preparatory flakes were noted. The

results of the technological analysis indicate a predominantly soft-hammer percussion mode (14 pieces compared to three hard-hammer pieces) involving the routine use of platform edge abrasion (11 pieces). Several of the flints appear to have been struck from the same core but none could be directly refitted.

With the exception of one partially worked nodule (25 g), no formal cores were identified. The retouched component is characteristically restricted in number, comprising two piercing tools (Fig. 24.3, no. 12). The assemblage also contains two angular pieces of unclassifiable waste with areas of battering to their surface; these may have shattered from a hammerstone. Macroscopic use-wear is present on eleven flints, including both piercers, and a further three flints have been burnt. The technology and the composition of the assemblage bear a striking resemblance to those of the other Early Neolithic assemblages from the M11 site. This not only implies the broad contemporaneity of the deposits, but also suggests that similar processes led to the selection, combination and deposition of the flints in the tree-throws.

Tree-throw 440004

The single fill of tree-throw 440004 produced an assemblage of 27 uncorticated struck flints in very fresh condition (Table 24.9). The flintwork probably dates to the earlier Neolithic, although no chronologically diagnostic types were recovered to confirm this.

The assemblage is composed entirely of unretouched debitage, including 17 flakes. Blades, bladelets and bladelike flakes are represented by ten pieces. The flakes tend to be thin and regularly-shaped with fine dorsal scars; a number of the blades exhibit bladelike dorsal flake scars. Nine pieces possess platform edge abrasion. The hammer mode appears mixed, with flakes of both hard- and soft-hammer production represented. Non-cortical flakes and trimming flakes are present in approximately equal quantities; no preparatory flakes were recovered. Two flints are burnt and eight are broken; eight pieces show signs of use-wear.

Most of the flints in the assemblage seem to have come from the reduction of two cores. At least nine related pieces, including one pair of refitting flakes, were distinguished by their fine-grained, brown-black interior and thin, buff-coloured cortex. A second group of five related pieces was also noted; no refits were found within this smaller collection. The low number of refits along with the absence of cores, preparatory flakes and chips suggests that much of the knapping waste was deposited elsewhere; the assemblage probably represents a selection of the more useful elements.

Although there are similarities between them, the assemblage differs slightly in character and appearance from Early Neolithic flintwork discussed above. The greater use of hard-hammer percussion and the total absence of cortication are the most visible of these differences. Tree-throw 440004 lies 160 m to the south-east of the group of features 420068, 434035 and 434038 discussed above. These flint assemblages share a marked technological affinity, and it is therefore suggested the flintwork from tree-throw 440004 is not closely related to the Early Neolithic activity going on in the northern area of the site.

Tree-throw 429002

An assemblage of 19 struck flints and one piece of burnt unworked flint (6 g) was recovered from a single deposit (429001) within tree-throw 429002. Most flints are in a fresh or minimally damaged condition. The degree of cortication varies, from uncorticated to moderately corticated. The material probably dates broadly to the Neolithic, and possibly to the earlier Neolithic. The limited size of the assemblage and the absence of diagnostic tool types have precluded a more precise date.

Flakes constitute the largest category, represented by a total of 12 pieces. Two blades with dorsal blade scars, one bladelet and one retouched blade are also present. Several exhibit platform edge abrasion. A partially worked nodule weighing 50 g was also recovered. The proximity of pit 440004, which lies c. 20 m to the north, may be of chronological significance as it produced a flint assemblage that is similar in appearance to that from tree-throw 429002.

SG Excavation (BAASG03)

Evidence of earlier Neolithic activity from the SG excavation is provided by the stray find of a leaf-shaped arrowhead from the topsoil (492012) (Fig. 24.3, no. 13). Invasive but non-covering retouch has been applied to most of the edge and the bulb has been thinned. The arrowhead has suffered extensive modern damage to its edges, including the loss of its tip.

Other possible Early Neolithic assemblages include the flintwork from a pair of large tree-throws (505015 and 494029) in the central area of the site and a smaller tree-throw (501010) in the northern area. A substantial assemblage was also recovered from ditch 507032.

Tree-throw 505015

A total of 17 struck flints were recovered from three deposits (505016, 505017 and 505018) within tree-throw 505015. The flints are in a fresh condition with a blue-white, mottled cortication (Table 24.10). A single fragment (2 g) of burnt unworked flint was also recovered from a layer of burning within the feature (505018).

Technologically, the flintwork almost certainly belongs to a Neolithic industry; the bladelike propensity of the debitage allows the dating to be tentatively refined to the earlier Neolithic. An analysis of bulb morphology reflects a predominantly soft-hammer reduction strategy; two of the flakes have abraded platform edges. Most stages of the core reduction process are represented: preparatory flakes, trimming flakes, non-cortical flakes and rejuvenation flakes. The cores themselves, however, are absent and chips only minimally represented.

A single edge-retouched flake was recovered from context 505017 and several unretouched flakes appear to have been utilised. None of the flints are burnt, which makes this otherwise fairly typical assemblage stand out against the pattern of other Early Neolithic assemblages from Stansted.

Tree-throw 494029

A small assemblage of six struck flints in fresh condition were recovered from tree-throw 494029, which lies less than a metre from tree-throw 505015. Two retouched flakes and a few utilised edges were noted and most pieces are burnt. The presence of several flakes with platform edge abrasion, some of which may have been soft-hammer struck, suggests a broadly Neolithic date for the material. The assemblage is almost certainly contemporary with the material from tree-throw 505015, which produced much the same material.

Ditch 507032

A total of 30 struck flints were recovered from three deposits within Early Romano-British ditch 507032 (Table 24.11). A large quantity of burnt unworked flint was also retrieved from the feature, a total of 101 pieces weighing 1,278 g. This material was deposited fairly equally between contexts 491021 and 507024, while context 507001 produced a single fragment weighing 11 g.

The material seems to comprise two chronologically distinct groups, which can be divided on the basis of condition and technology. The later group consists of thick, angular trimming flakes. Without exception, these flints are uncorticated and are heavily rolled and damaged. This component probably represents redeposited later prehistoric flintwork, perhaps dating from end of the Bronze Age.

The second, technologically earlier, group consists of fresh material with a mottled blue-white cortication. These pieces include one flake from a polished axe, three blades and numerous carefully struck flakes, four of which have been burnt. It is likely that the debitage is contemporary with the polished flake. A broad Neolithic date is therefore proposed for the group, although the bladelike propensity of the debitage could support a date in the earlier Neolithic.

Tree-throw 501010

An assemblage of 87 struck flints, including 38 chips, was recovered from three deposits within tree-throw 501010 (Table 24.12). The flintwork is in a fresh, moderately corticated condition and is probably of Early Neolithic date.

The assemblage is dominated by unretouched debitage, including a large number of flakes (37 pieces) and smaller quantities of blades/bladelike flakes (eight pieces). The knapping strategy is characteristically Early Neolithic in approach, with evidence for blade production, careful core preparation, and a mixed but predominantly soft-hammer percussion mode. A total of 13 flakes exhibit platform edge abrasion and 13 have probably been removed with a soft percussor; seven flakes display the well-defined bulbs associated with the use of direct hard-hammer percussion. Non-cortical removals (19 pieces) occur in similar numbers to trimming flakes (23 pieces), although wholly cortical flakes are in a minority (five pieces). Many pieces, including both flakes and blades, bear the dorsal scars from previous blade removals.

In common with many of the other Early Neolithic assemblages from Stansted, the retouched component is restricted to one piece (an edge-retouched blade) although several unretouched edges have been utilised. Two of the flints are burnt. The assemblage also includes an echinoid fossil (context 501013), which may have been deliberately placed in the tree-throw.

The tree-throw contains good evidence of knapping activity. The collection of 38 fresh chips, most of which were recovered from the lower fill, suggests that knapping was performed near or perhaps directly into the feature. The full range of knapping waste is not present, however. Cores are conspicuously absent and very few preparatory flakes represent the initial decortication stage. Instead, it seems that only selected elements of the original knapping scatter ended up in the tree-throw.

The presence of three sequences of refitting flakes confirms that some of the material comes from the same core. Several additional flakes with a similar cortex may originate from the same nodule but could not be directly refitted. A conjoin was also found between two secondary flake fragments from context 501011. In two cases, the refits were made between deposits, indicating that material from the same core was widely distributed throughout the fills of the tree-throw. This would suggest that accumulation of flintwork in the feature was a fairly slow and piecemeal process; a more discrete cluster of refits might be expected if the deposition of the flintwork was a single event.

MTCP Evaluation and Excavation (BAAMP99 and BAAMP00)

The evaluation and excavation revealed fairly limited evidence of earlier Neolithic activity in the area. By far the largest assemblage came from an isolated pit in the north of the site; this feature produced over 300 struck flints (including nearly 120 chips) following the evaluation and excavation. Small collections of flintwork were recovered from tree-throw 353028, tree-throw 354095 and pit 323037. Tree-throw 411 produced a minor concentration of three flints that can tentatively be attributed to the Neolithic but without much confidence. The remaining evidence consists of residual flints, which are found thinly scattered across the site in later features. Diagnostic pieces include one leaf-shaped arrowhead (Fig. 24.3, no. 14) and one flake from a polished implement from the topsoil (context 301001), and an incomplete polished axe with indirectly refitting flake (Fig. 24.3, no. 28) from the Middle Bronze Age waterhole (feature 309075).

Pit 344278 (interventions 502 and 353011)

A total of 311 struck flints and 25 pieces (133 g) of burnt unworked flint were recovered from pit feature 344278 (Table 24.13). Most of the flints were recovered when the pit was half-sectioned during the evaluation in 1999 (225 pieces); a further 86 flints were recovered following full excavation in 2000. The majority is in a very fresh condition and most pieces are heavily corticated, often to an opaque white. The flintwork can be dated to the Early Neolithic on technological and typological grounds.

The assemblage is dominated by chips (117 pieces) and unretouched flakes (98 pieces). Blades, bladelets and bladelike flakes also make a sizeable contribution to the

total (67 pieces). Typical examples are large, broad and regular in form with platform edge abrasion and dorsal blade scars. Blade material accounts for nearly 40% of the assemblage (excluding chips), a figure that falls securely within the range predicted for Mesolithic and Early Neolithic assemblages (Ford 1987, 79).

The technological and metrical data reflect a controlled, blade-oriented industry involving careful core preparation and reduction. Soft-hammer percussion seems to have been used almost exclusively, with 72 pieces classified as soft-hammer removals compared to five probable hard-hammer flakes. In 71 instances, the platform edge was abraded prior to flake removal. Plain platforms are most frequently represented (53 pieces), although platforms of linear type (28 pieces) and punctiform type (12 pieces) are also common and often coincide with an abraded platform edge.

As a group, trimming flakes are slightly outnumbered by non-cortical removals (87 pieces compared to 152 pieces). Two platform edge rejuvenation flakes were also recovered, reflecting a desire to maintain core productivity through the periodic adjustment of the flaking angle. The apparent under-representation of primary flakes (12 pieces) suggests that decortication waste was generally deposited elsewhere and may indicate the off-site preparation of nodules, perhaps performed at the source.

The presence of 117 chips and two partially worked nodules indicate that some knapping waste was deposited in the pit. A total of eight refitting sequences, each comprising between two and five flakes, were identified following the refitting analysis. These refits were found both within and between the pit deposits. Several groups of the same flint type are present, but many pieces from the reduction sequence are clearly missing. No formal cores were identified, which is a recurrent feature of the Early Neolithic flint assemblages from Stansted.

Another persistent feature is the relatively low number of retouched tools. The assemblage from pit 344278 is no exception, containing 11 pieces which provide nearly 6% of the total assemblage (excluding chips). These include five edge-retouched flakes/blades, four serrated flakes, one end scraper (Fig. 24.3, no. 15) and one arrowhead fragment. The latter consists of the tip of unclassifiable, bifacially retouched arrowhead. Given its association, it is most likely to originate from a leaf-shaped type. The serrated pieces, one of which is made on a plunging bladelike blank (Fig. 24.3, no. 16), are consistent with an earlier Neolithic industry. A very high proportion of assemblage exhibits macroscopic use-wear, which occurs on the margins of unretouched flakes as well as on the working edges of the retouched pieces. Evidence of burning was recorded on 27 flints, mostly flakes and blades but including three retouched pieces. One of the serrated flakes has been burnt.

Tree-throw 353028

The single fill of tree-throw 353028 contained seven heavily corticated struck flints in fresh condition. The assemblage forms a technologically coherent group and probably dates to the Neolithic. A single fragment (4 g) of burnt unworked flint was also recovered.

The flintwork comprises four flakes, two blades and one bladelet. The small size of the assemblage and the absence of diagnostic tool forms do not allow the material to

be confidently dated. The flintwork is, however, similar in character to that recovered from pit 344278 (see above), located some 50 m to the north. It is not impossible that the two assemblages are broadly contemporary.

Tree-throw 354095

Deposit 354096 within tree-throw 354095 produced a technologically coherent assemblage of 27 struck flints in a fresh, heavily corticated condition. Two pieces of burnt unworked flint (36 g) were also recovered. The flintwork probably dates to the earlier Neolithic and may be contemporary with the flintwork from tree-throw 353028 lying c. 35 m to the west.

The assemblage consists of 18 flakes, four blades, one bladelet and one core on a flake (20 g). No retouched artefacts are present, although there is a high incidence of utilised edges (eight pieces). A single flake is burnt and eight are broken.

Pit 323037

A small assemblage of ten struck flints and five pieces of burnt unworked flint (13 g) were recovered from a single deposit within pit 323037. The flintwork is in a fresh, heavily corticated condition and may be Neolithic in date.

The assemblage contains six flakes, three blades and one notched flake. One of the blades has been struck from an opposed platform blade core. The use of soft-hammer percussion is well represented and several pieces exhibit platform edge abrasion. A total of three flints are burnt and five are broken. Use-wear was noted on four pieces.

Late Neolithic

Fieldwalking on LTCP site (BAACP99)

The incomplete end-and-side scraper from transect 221043 is probably of a later Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date. The scraper exhibits careful retouch to the distal and left-hand edges. The break may be the result of a hafting snap. A number of the more carefully struck flakes and cores may also be later Neolithic in date.

LTCP phase I (BAACP99)

Little demonstrably later Neolithic flintwork was recovered from the site, with the possible exception of the assemblage from pit 991409.

Pit 991409

The single fill (991410) of pit 991409 contained a total of six flints in reasonably fresh condition. The assemblage includes two utilised side scrapers, both of which are small and finely retouched. The assemblage may date to the Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age, although the limited number of flints and absence of diagnostic pieces means that this date is uncertain. There is also the possibility that the flintwork has been redeposited, as two sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery came from the same feature.

LTCP phase II (BAACP00)

No datable tool types indicate later Neolithic activity at the site, although some of the less chronologically distinctive pieces (eg the serrated blade from topsoil layer 916201) may date broadly to the Neolithic.

MTCP Excavation (BAAMP00)

The later Neolithic assemblage from the site consists of several discrete concentrations set against a low-density scatter and appears to represent general, mixed activity. Of particular note is the *in situ* scatter of later Neolithic flintwork from layer 324033. A number of isolated residual finds, such as the serrated flake from the topsoil (context 301001), may belong to the same industry.

Scatter 324033

A total of 62 flints were recovered from deposit 324033 (Table 24.14), an *in situ* Neolithic flint scatter sealed below the subsoil. The majority of flints are in a fresh, heavily corticated condition. The general technological appearance of the flintwork and the presence of a *petit tranchet* arrowhead (Fig. 24.3, no.17) together support a probable date in the mid or later Neolithic.

A total of 40 flakes and seven blades/bladelike flakes were recovered from the scatter. The majority of flakes are small and regularly-shaped. Non-cortical removals are well represented (34 pieces) compared to trimming flakes (22 pieces) and wholly cortical removals (2 pieces). Platform edge abrasion was recorded on 11 pieces. Most flakes have been hard-hammer struck (36 pieces) although the occasional soft-hammer flake is also present (five pieces).

The assemblage contains one multi-platform flake core (34 g) and one incomplete flake core. Further evidence of knapping activity is provided by three sequences of refitting flakes, each consisting of between two and four flints, and one conjoining tertiary flake that has broken down a *siret* fracture (ie as it was struck from the core). Numerous additional flakes belonging to the same sequence were also noted but could not be refitted. These pieces were isolated on account of a distinctive, grey-green cortex. Only two chips were retrieved, which may reflect sampling strategies rather than the true absence of microdebitage.

A total of four retouched tools were recovered from the scatter, including one edge-retouched flake, one spurred flake and one notched flake. The *petit tranchet* arrowhead (Fig. 24.3, no. 17) has been made transversely on a tertiary flake with direct, abrupt retouch along the distal edge; the striking platform and bulb have been removed using inverse retouch. Several instances of Late Neolithic *petit tranchets* are known (Green 1980, 113), and as such the presence of this piece is in accordance with the later Neolithic date suggested by the debitage.

Macroscopic use-wear was recorded on 13 pieces. A single flake is burnt and 22 flints are broken. Most of the observed breakage is ancient and was probably incurred during knapping or use, although subsequent trampling of the scatter might also result

in widespread breakage. The fresh condition of the flints, however, suggests that they were not exposed to significant trampling and disturbance following deposition.

The presence of retouched and utilised pieces implies an activity area rather than a knapping scatter; this is also borne out by the absence of chips and the paucity of other typical waste products, such as cores and preparatory flakes. The range of tools – from piercers to arrowheads – further suggests that a wide variety of activities were being performed. The presence of refits might indicate that the deposition of the flintwork was a short-term event rather than an accretion of several phases of activity over a longer period.

M11 evaluation and excavation (BAALR00)

While numerous large assemblages of Early Neolithic flintwork were recovered from the site, evidence for activity in the later Neolithic is limited to one pit assemblage and a few scattered stray finds, including one chisel arrowhead from topsoil layer (424001).

Pit 434009

A total of 119 heavily corticated struck flints were recovered from a single deposit (434010) within pit 434009 (Table 24.15). The flintwork forms a fresh, technologically coherent assemblage probably dating to the later Neolithic or earlier Bronze Age.

The assemblage consists largely of unretouched flakes and chips. A single retouched tool, a piercer, was recovered from the pit. The material represents a hard-hammer, flake-based industry. Platform edge abrasion was used occasionally (10 pieces) but does not appear to have been a particularly important part of the reduction strategy.

The composition of the assemblage suggests an *in situ* dump of knapping waste. Chips are extremely numerous (61 pieces) and many are of the same flint type; this is confirmed by two refitting pairs of chips. That elements this small can be refitted might indicate that knapping was performed directly into or very close to the feature. Several additional refits between flakes were also identified, including one conjoining flake that had broken down a *siret* fracture. A further ten flakes probably derive from the same nodule but could not be directly refitted.

Compared to non-cortical flakes (17 pieces), trimming flakes of all types are well-represented (28 pieces) and preparatory flakes are unusually numerous (11 pieces). A refit between two preparatory flakes was found, indicating that flint nodules were probably being decorticated in the immediate area. The final by-product of the reduction sequence is also represented, by one incomplete multi-platform flake core (101 g).

A knapping refit between one burnt and one unburnt flake adds another dimension to the assemblage, particularly as the burnt flake had also been utilised. There is no evidence for *in situ* burning in the pit. This might suggest that some of the flintwork was removed from the knapping scatter, utilised, burnt, and then replaced. Nine

further flints have also been burnt, including the core, demonstrating that some of the flints had a wider circulation than others.

Early Bronze Age

The flint assemblage from Stansted provides very little convincing evidence of Early Bronze Age activity; this hiatus is also reflected by the pottery assemblage. One of the few diagnostic pieces came from LTCP (BAACP00). Here, the single fill (913805) of pit 913804 contained a burnt and broken barbed and tanged arrowhead along with a small collection of flakes. The pit has been dated to the Late Bronze Age on the pottery evidence; it is possible that the arrowhead was garnered from elsewhere and deliberately placed in the fill at this time.

A second barbed and tanged arrowhead (Fig. 24.3, no. 18) was recovered from deposit (459027), within a post-medieval hearth 459026 on the LTCP site (BAACP01). The arrowhead exhibits fine bifacial retouch. The tang and left-hand barb have broken following deposition and there is some further modern damage to the tip. The arrowhead can be most closely compared to Sutton type b (j) (Green 1980, 122, fig. 45).

The third barbed and tanged arrowhead (Fig. 24.3, no. 19) was associated with Middle Bronze Age pottery in pit 2604 on the MTCP evaluation (BAAMP99). While barbed and tanged arrowheads are known to have persisted beyond the Early Bronze Age (Green 1980, 137-8), this piece may represent a curated piece that was deliberately deposited in the Middle Bronze Age.

Middle and Later Bronze Age

Fieldwalking on LTCP site (BAACP99)

The majority of the struck flint assemblage from fieldwalking probably dates to the middle or later Bronze Age and represents a flake-based, hard-hammer dominated industry. The flakes are generally thick and angular in form, with large, plain platforms that rarely exhibit platform edge abrasion. The flake cores, which range in weight from 39 g to 188 g, show a similarly expedient technology. Most have been reduced using direct hard-hammer percussion and there is little evidence of platform preparation or rejuvenation. Examples were recovered from transects 220001, 220419, 220857, 220879 and 221274.

LTCP phase I (BAACP99)

Given the absence of diagnostic artefacts, it has only been possible to ascribe a broad Neolithic or Bronze Age date to the largely redeposited spread of material from the excavation. Pit 995257 contained a small assemblage of probable Late Bronze Age date. The flintwork from pit 991407, hearth 995086 and pit 995270 may belong to the same period, but in each case the assemblage is small and may be of mixed date.

Pit 995257

An assemblage of 31 struck flints was recovered from two deposits (995255 and 995256) within pit 995257. A single piece of burnt unworked flint (49 g) came from deposit 995255. The flintwork is in reasonable condition although most pieces exhibit limited edge damage. The degree of cortication varies from light to heavy; a total of nine pieces are uncorticated.

The assemblage consists entirely of unretouched debitage, mainly chips (14 pieces) and flakes (nine pieces). The number of chips recovered from the pit may be indicative of knapping activity in the general area, although other typical by-products, such as preparatory flakes and cores, are either under-represented or entirely absent. Several pieces of Unclassifiable waste were recovered, however. A total of nine flints are broken; none are burnt. Macroscopically detectable use-wear was recorded on one piece. The flintwork reflects an expedient, *ad hoc* knapping strategy characteristic of a later Bronze Age industry, and therefore probably contemporary with the small quantity of Late Bronze Age pottery recovered from the pit.

Pit 991407

A small assemblage of eight flints, including a single blade, was recovered from a single deposit (991408) within pit 991407. Three flakes within the collection possess a distinctive creamy cortex and probably derive from the same core although they do not refit. No retouched artefacts were recovered. A single flake exhibits use-wear. Two are broken; none are burnt. Given the absence of diagnostic pieces, it is only possible to date the material broadly to the Neolithic or Bronze Age.

Hearth 995086

Four deposits (995101, 995102, 995115 and 995116) within hearth feature 995086 produced an assemblage of 14 flints. The majority, a total of eight pieces, was contained within context 995101. Most of the flintwork is in a poor condition, suggesting that it constitutes a largely redeposited assemblage. A further 131 pieces (508 g) of burnt unworked flint were also recovered.

The assemblage is composed mainly of flakes (nine pieces). Four pieces of unclassifiable debitage and a single bladelet are also present. Despite containing the largest assemblage of burnt unworked flint from the site (131 pieces weighing 508 g), only one burnt flake was recovered from the hearth, suggesting that the deposition of the worked assemblage was a separate event. Given its variable condition, the flintwork is perhaps most likely to represent a mixed, residual assemblage and as such, dating and interpretation are problematic.

Pit 995270

An assemblage of 41 flints, including 27 chips, was recovered from a single fill (995271) within possible pit 995270. The deposit also contained 23 pieces (36 g) of burnt unworked flint. Most of the material was retrieved through the environmental sampling of the deposit. The assemblage is composed entirely of unretouched flints, the majority of which are in poor condition. No diagnostic types are present, although

the flake-based character of the assemblage and quantity of unclassifiable shatter might suggest a later prehistoric date. Given the condition of the material, however, it is likely to be redeposited and may be of mixed date.

LTCP phase II (BAACP00)

Several features contained relatively large, later Bronze Age assemblages in fresh condition. These include pits 113011, 119008, 134001 and 913804 and ditch 116013. The remaining Bronze Age assemblage formed a general background spread and includes three denticulated scrapers.

Pit 113011

A total of 41 flints, including 29 chips, were recovered from two deposits within pit 113011. Most of the material (33 pieces) was contained within the main deposit (113013). The flintwork probably dates to the Middle or Late Bronze Age and is in a fresh, uncorticated condition. Of particular note are the two side scrapers and one retouched flake with scraping use-wear, which might indicate that some scraping tasks (eg hide preparation, wood-working) were being performed in the area. A small quantity of burnt unworked flint (11 pieces, 92 g) was also recovered.

Pit 119008

Feature 119008, an Early Romano-British pit, contained an assemblage of 66 struck flints including 45 chips, and 14 pieces (136 g) of burnt unworked flint. The material is in a fresh, uncorticated condition and probably dates to the Mid or Late Bronze Age; it is possible that the later pit disturbed an existing deposit of flintwork. Given the density of Middle Bronze Age activity in the general area, this is not an unlikely scenario. The retouched component consists of two edge-retouched flakes and one notched flake. A single platform flake core (84g) was also recovered.

Pit 134001

A medium-sized assemblage of 155 struck flints (including 67 chips) was recovered from pit 134001 (Table 24.16). The flintwork is in fresh, uncorticated condition and is almost certainly contemporary with the associated sherds of Deverul Rimbury pottery. A further 29 pieces (221 g) of burnt unworked flint were also recovered from the pit.

The assemblage is characterised a large number of preparatory flakes (19 pieces), pieces of unclassifiable waste (36 pieces) and chips (67 pieces). Preparatory flakes and other types of trimming flake outnumber non-cortical flakes by more than 2:1. While no formal core types were identified, eight partially worked nodules with an average weight of 80.1 g were recovered from the lower deposit.

Very few retouched or visibly utilised pieces were identified. Indeed, very few *potentially* useable edges are present in this assemblage, which is composed largely of pieces of angular waste. Several fragments were identified that may have shattered from the same nodule but could not be directly refitted.

The composition of the assemblage is suggestive of a nodule-testing deposit or perhaps a cache of raw material. The absence of refitting pieces might suggest that

certain pieces were removed from the deposit for systematic reduction elsewhere. The selection and removal of suitable pieces for use may explain the near absence of retouched tools and utilised edges.

Ditch 116013

An assemblage of 83 struck flints and 22 pieces (183 g) of burnt unworked flint was recovered from a single deposit (116009) in ditch 116013. Most of the material is in a fresh, uncorticated condition. The flintwork probably dates to the middle or Late Bronze Age on technological grounds, although no diagnostic tool types were present to confirm this.

The majority of the assemblage is provided by chips (53 pieces); unretouched flakes and unclassifiable waste contribute the remainder. The quantity of chips and pieces of unclassifiable waste implies an element of knapping waste, although no cores were found. Two of the flints are burnt, perhaps indicating that a small quantity of hearth waste was dumped in the ditch as well as knapping by-products.

LTCP phase III (BAACP01)

A limited number of features dated to the later Bronze Age contained small collections of flintwork. These include pit/posthole 449010, burnt mound deposit 464010 and pit 470040. No datable artefacts were present, and as a result it is only possible to ascribe a broad Bronze Age date to the material on technological grounds.

MTCP Evaluation (BAAMP99)

A small collection of probable Late Bronze Age flintwork was recovered from the site. This limited assemblage includes one end scraper, one denticulated scraper and one notched flake from the topsoil (5001) and one retouched flake from ditch 344386 (intervention 5008). It is possible that additional undiagnostic flake material has not been identified, and as such this figure probably represents a low estimate. A concentration of Bronze Age material was recovered from pit 2604, which provides a more distinct indication of Bronze Age activity in the area.

Pit 2604

An assemblage of 250 struck flints, including 36 chips, was recovered from four deposits within pit 2604. The flintwork can be dated to the Middle or Late Bronze Age, which is based on technological considerations and corroborated by the pottery. Most of the assemblage was contained in the upper fills, contexts (2605) and (2618), which provided 235 pieces or 94% of the total (Table 24.17). The flints are in very fresh condition and are corticated to a light or moderate degree. An additional 32 pieces (381 g) of burnt unworked flint were also recovered, again mainly from the upper fill (2605).

The assemblage is dominated by flakes (159 pieces). Pieces of unclassifiable debitage are also numerous (28 pieces). As would be expected in an assemblage of this date, blades and bladelike flakes are present only in small quantities and several of these

are likely to be residual. Examples include the possible Mesolithic end scraper made on a blade (Fig. 24.3, no. 20) from context (2618).

Most of the flakes retain some dorsal cortex. A total of 111 trimming flakes and 30 preparatory flakes were recorded, compared to 60 non-cortical flakes. The majority have plain (74 pieces), cortical (36 pieces) or dihedral platforms (25 pieces); very few flakes have platforms of the more elaborate types, such as faceted (3 pieces). Platform edge abrasion, which is present in 18 cases but absent in 181 cases, was evidently a very minor part of the reduction strategy. The hammer mode usually involved direct hard-hammer percussion: a total of 60 hard-hammer flakes were identified compared to 19 soft-hammer flakes. Two stone hammers were recovered from context (2618). One of the hammerstones is a quartzite pebble; the other is of quartzitic sandstone. Both would have been available locally from the boulder clay. Given the context, it is very likely that these were used as flint knapping hammers.

One single platform flake core, four multi-platform flake cores, and eight partially worked nodules were contained within the pit. The average weight of complete cores is 43.2 g. The average weight of intact partially worked nodules is slightly larger, at 53.1 g. Most have been reduced with a hard-hammer and there is little evidence for platform preparation and maintenance.

The retouched component is restricted to four pieces, at least one of which (the end scraper, Fig. 24.3, no. 20) is probably residual from an earlier industry. The barbed and tanged arrowhead (Fig. 24.3, no. 19) may also represent a redeposited piece, as these types are more usually associated with the early and Middle Bronze Age contexts (Green 1980, 137-8). More typical of a Later Bronze Age industry is the scraper that has been manufactured on a thermal fragment. The notched flake is also likely to be contemporary with the rest of the assemblage. A small proportion of the assemblage exhibits macroscopic use-wear (11 pieces) and a further 12 pieces are burnt.

The composition of the flint assemblage is one where large numbers of cores, partially worked nodules, pieces of shatter and chips are combined with low numbers of retouched and utilised pieces. This suggests a dump of knapping waste, as in pit 134001, which was generated in the course of core reduction and nodule testing. Given the position of the pit on the periphery of the Middle Bronze Age village, it is perhaps unsurprising that efforts were made to keep the habitation area free from the larger elements of knapping by caching or discarding them in a pit.

Several knapping refits confirm that material from the same reduction sequence was being deposited together. These include three cores each with one or two refitting flakes. In two cases, preparatory flakes can be refitted to the core, indicating that the nodules were brought to the site in an unprepared state. Some of these were later abandoned following assessment, while others were more extensively reduced. Several large groups of related pieces were also identified but could not be refitted, suggesting that elements were removed from the range of debitage.

As in pit 134001, few of the flakes would have been suitable for use. Most are angular with high-angled, irregular edges. Retouched, utilised and burnt pieces are also rare,

although their presence at all suggests that a small proportion of the material results from other activities besides knapping.

MTCP Excavation (BAAMP00)

Most of the flintwork from the MTCP excavation relates to the extensive evidence for Middle Bronze Age activity on the site. Several features, including the barrow and waterhole, produced very large quantities of material. Several pits within the fenceline of the village, and sometimes within the houses themselves, produced substantial assemblages of Middle Bronze Age flintwork. These assemblages represent a range of activities, some routine and others more specialised in character. As a group, however, the Middle Bronze Age collection shows little dramatic variation in technology.

Pit 321029

A total of 57 struck flints were recovered from this feature, which is located just inside the putative entrance of the roundhouse represented by the ring gully 321032 (Table 24.18). Most of these, along with two pieces (245 g) of burnt unworked flint, came from the upper fill (321030) of the pit. The flints are generally in a fresh condition, although many possess a slightly rolled and glossed appearance, perhaps resulting from a period of middening or surface exposure. The flintwork is technologically consistent with the Middle Bronze Age date given by the pottery.

The assemblage is dominated by flakes (28 pieces) and unclassifiable debitage (10 pieces). The results of the technological analysis represent a flake-based industry reliant on hard-hammer percussion and the occasional use of rough platform edge abrasion.

The pit contained six flake cores with an average complete weight of 47.2 g. A total of four partially worked nodules are also present in the assemblage; complete specimens have an average weight of 39 g. The retouched component includes two scrapers that have been manufactured on thermal blanks, a recurrent feature of later Bronze Age assemblages (Fig. 24.3, no. 21). Two notched flakes were also recovered. With the exception of one of the scrapers, all six tools came from the upper fill.

The assemblage contains a large number of cores, core fragments and pieces of Unclassifiable waste. In this respect, it shares similarities in its composition with that from pit 134001 (BAACP00) and pit 2604 (BAAMP99) and may have been deposited in similar circumstances. However, unlike these features, pit 321029 contains an unusually high number of retouched and utilised pieces. The flintwork does not, therefore, result solely from knapping activity. This is also implied by the absence of refits and of related flint groups.

Pit 321080

An assemblage of 85 struck flints and two pieces (38 g) of burnt unworked flint were recovered from five deposits in pit 321080 (Table 24.19). The majority of flints were contained within the upper fill (321081); very little material came from the lower

deposits. Most of the flintwork is in fresh condition and is usually uncorticated or lightly corticated. With the exception of a small collection of worn and heavily corticated residual pieces, the flints can be dated to the Middle or Late Bronze Age.

The assemblage is composed mainly of unretouched flakes (28 pieces) and Unclassifiable waste (ten pieces), which tend to be thick and angular in form. The quantity of irregular shatter probably reflects both the quality of the raw material and the shortcomings of the knapping strategy. The flintwork is morphologically and technologically very similar to that from pit 321029. The use of soft-hammer percussion and platform edge abrasion occur very rarely and are usually associated with the residual component.

The pit contained nine formal core types, including eight multi-platform flake cores. Complete examples provide an average weight of 54.5 g, which is slightly higher than the average weight of intact partially worked nodules at 48.3 g. Attempts to find refits were unsuccessful, although several pieces of a similar flint type were noted. All stages of the reduction sequence are represented, with almost as many preparatory flakes (14 pieces) as non-cortical flakes (15 pieces). None of the deposits was sampled, which may explain the absence of chips.

The retouched component consists of nine pieces, which a broad range of types. Piercers are unexpectedly numerous (three examples, Fig. 24.3, no. 22), perhaps indicating some specialisation in activity. Other tools include three scrapers (Fig. 24.3, no. 23), one of which has been made on a thermal blank, and one distally-notched secondary flake. Use-wear is present on at least 21 pieces.

As in pit 321029, the assemblage seems to combine the larger elements of knapping waste (eg cores, partially worked nodules and unclassifiable waste) with retouched and utilised flints. A similar range of tool types are present in each case: edge-retouched flakes, notched flakes and scrapers. The assemblage from pit 321080 is distinguished by the unusually high number of piercers that it contains. The technological and compositional similarities between the assemblages suggest that they are not only broadly contemporary but also result from a similar range of activities. These activities seem to have been fairly general and varied, as might be expected in a settlement context.

Pit 312031

A medium-sized assemblage of 157 struck flints was recovered from nine deposits within Middle Bronze Age pit 312031 (Table 24.20). Contexts 312021 and 312023 produced the largest quantities of flint, a total of 49 and 38 pieces respectively. In addition, 51 pieces (4097 g) of burnt unworked flint were also recovered from the feature. By count, these derive mainly from context 312021; three large fragments weighing a total of 3733 g were also recovered from context 315063.

The flintwork is heavily corticated and generally in a fresh condition. As seen in pit 321029 (see above), the majority of flints have a slightly rolled appearance, which might result from surface exposure or repeated handling.

Technologically, the flintwork is typical of a Middle Bronze Age industry. As might be expected, the assemblage is dominated by flakes (75 pieces) with a much smaller representation of blades, bladelets and bladelike flakes (four pieces). Most of the flakes have been struck using direct hard-hammer percussion and hinge terminations are common. The flakes are usually thick with plain or cortical platforms. cursory attempts were occasionally made to regularise the platform edge prior to removal, although in most cases the flakes seem to have been casually removed with little preparation.

Non-cortical flakes (30 pieces) are outnumbered by flakes retaining cortex (55 pieces) and preparatory flakes are well represented (16 pieces). Fragments of unclassifiable shatter are also common (15 pieces) and might suggest the presence of knapping waste. The quantity of chips recovered from the pit (52 pieces) also implies knapping activity in the area, and a series of three refitting flakes provides limited evidence that material from the same reduction sequence was deposited together. Two cores and two partially worked nodules were recovered from the pit, all of which were aimed at the production of flakes using multiple platforms. These pieces range in weight from 36 g to 101 g.

A total of seven retouched tools were recovered, including five retouched flakes and a spurred flake that has been minimally retouched and used as a piercer. Also present is a thermal flake with edge retouch. Numerous unretouched edges with use-wear were also noted. A small number of flints have been burnt (13 pieces). Technologically, the flintwork shares characteristics with the assemblages from pits 321029 and 321080. Compositionally, the assemblage is distinguished by the restricted number and range of retouched pieces and the relative under representation of cores, partially worked nodules and pieces of shatter.

Pit 320047

An assemblage of 136 struck flints and 6 pieces (77 g) of burnt unworked flint was recovered from Middle Bronze Age pit 320047, deriving mainly from deposit 320057 (Table 24.21). Most of the flints are in fresh condition with a light or moderate degree of cortication. Several residual pieces can be isolated on account of their technologically earlier appearance and poor condition. These pieces are usually accompanied by a dense white cortication and probably date broadly to the Neolithic.

The assemblage contains nine retouched tools (Fig. 24.3, no. 24). These include four retouched flakes, two naturally spurred flints with heavy piercing use-wear and a notched tool made on a flake. The unclassifiable tool from context (320051) consists of a retouched thermal fragment. An unusually high number of unretouched flakes exhibit macroscopic use-wear, suggesting a preference for unmodified edges that may relate to activity type.

A series of three refitting flakes was identified among the material from deposit (320055). Several additional pieces possessing the same orange coloured cortex were also noted but could not be refitted. Evidence for knapping activity is otherwise lacking. Cores and chips are notable by their near absence, and other largely non-useful knapping products such as preparatory flakes and pieces of shatter are also under represented. In compositional terms, the assemblage is thus distinct from that

recovered from pit 321029 and 321080 and is more closely aligned with pit 312031. The flintwork also shares technological similarities with that from pit 312031. Despite brief attempts, no refits were found between the groups to confirm their likely contemporaneity.

Pit 323001

An assemblage of 108 struck flints and 24 pieces (275 g) of burnt unworked flint was recovered from five deposits within pit 323001 (Table 24.22). Most of the material was retrieved from deposits (323003) and (323018).

Technologically, the flintwork forms a coherent Middle Bronze Age assemblage characterised by thick, hard-hammer flakes and little core preparation. In this sense, the material is closely comparable to the Middle Bronze Age flintwork from pits 321029, 321080, 312031 and 32047. Unlike these assemblages, however, the material from pit 323001 consists mainly of small flakes with very few larger elements (eg cores, larger pieces of shatter, etc.). This may result from a sampling bias, as much of the material from the deposits was recovered through sieving. However, while sieving may lead to the increased recovery of smaller elements, the virtual absence of larger components is less conveniently explained and may therefore represent a real difference between this pit assemblage and its contemporaries.

Barrow 324078

A large assemblage of 1483 struck flints was recovered from 46 contexts (19 SG deposits) within the barrow ring ditch on the MTCP site (Table 24.23). A sizeable proportion of the assemblage is provided by chips, which number 903 pieces and account for 60.9 % of the total. A further 199 pieces (1611 g) of burnt unworked flint were also recovered from eleven of the SG deposits; slight concentrations were present in SG 324070 (45 pieces weighing 566 g) and SG 324062 (42 pieces weighing 421 g).

Further analysis was directed at the larger deposits of flintwork from SG deposits 324061, 324062, 324063, 324067 and 324070. Excluding chips, these deposits provided a sample of 412 flints. Microscopic use-wear analysis (see methodology) was then performed on a randomly selected sub-sample of 200 flints (approximately 50%). The results have been extrapolated for the entire assemblage and incorporated into the following discussion.

The flintwork forms a technologically coherent assemblage of Middle or Later Bronze Age date. The majority of flints are in an exceptionally fresh condition with sharp edges and arises; most are uncorticated. A small collection of residual flints, probably spanning the Mesolithic and Neolithic period, can be isolated on technological grounds. These pieces also tend to be accompanied by an incipient cortication and often appear lightly rolled, characteristics not generally seen in the Bronze Age component. Unlike certain objects from the waterhole, the residual material was probably unintentionally incorporated into the barrow assemblage.

The flintwork represents a fairly unsophisticated flake-based industry. The reduction strategy relied on the use of direct, hard-hammer percussion and little investment was

made in platform preparation. The assemblage is dominated by unretouched flakes (316 pieces) and unclassifiable waste (132 pieces). Blades, bladelike flakes and bladelets are poorly represented by 23 pieces (4%, excluding chips). Many of these are likely to be residual Mesolithic or Neolithic pieces and the remainder probably represent fortuitous Bronze Age removals.

A total of 137 hard-hammer flakes (33.3%) were recorded compared to eleven soft-hammer flakes (2.7%); the remainder are of indeterminate hammer mode (64%). Where present, most platforms are either plain (127 pieces) or cortical (61 pieces). Very limited evidence of platform preparation is provided, with just 15 instances of platform edge abrasion occurring in a sample of 345 assessable pieces. Evidence for platform rejuvenation is also rare and is represented by a single crested blade. This piece almost certainly belongs to an earlier industry and is accompanied by a heavy cortication.

Cores and partially worked nodules feature heavily in the assemblage. A total of 47 formal cores were identified. Complete specimens range in weight from 15 g to 442 g and have an average of 97.9 g. Raw material was treated wastefully. Few of the cores were worked until fully exhausted, the most extreme case being the partially worked nodule. A total of 30 partially worked nodules were recovered, many of which were probably abandoned when thermal fractures were encountered during the preparatory flaking stage. Complete nodules range in weight from 20 g to 157 g with an average of 67.5 g. Also of note is a hammerstone made on a re-used multi-platform flake core (55 g) from context (327026).

With the exception of two blade cores from contexts 320132 and 320113, all of the cores and nodules have been directed at the production of flakes from one or more platforms. In accordance with the debitage component, there is very little evidence of platform preparation and maintenance. Platforms tend to be cortical, thermal or plain; many are marked with the incipient cones of percussion that result from unsuccessful attempts at flake removal using direct hard-hammer percussion. The recurrence of these traits has been recognised as a distinctively later Bronze Age characteristic (Young and Humphrey 1999, 233).

The barrow deposits contained numerous fresh chips (903 pieces), which form a homogeneous group and probably result from *in situ* knapping activity. Further evidence for the deposition of knapping debris is provided by the high numbers of cores, partially worked nodules, preparatory flakes and unclassifiable waste that were recovered from the barrow deposits. While several large groups of related flints were isolated, fewer refits were identified than expected. A total of ten refitting sequences were recorded, none exceeding three constituent pieces. Most of the refits were made between cores and pieces of unclassifiable waste. The pattern suggests a knapping scatter from which the useable flints were removed, leaving behind the non-useful elements such as discarded cores, shattered nodules and chips.

The retouched component is fairly limited in size but extensive in range. A total of 30 tools provide 5.2% of the assemblage (excluding chips). Simple edge-retouched flakes dominate (10 pieces). Piercers are also unusually common (five pieces, Fig. 24.3, no. 25) and may reflect some specialisation in activity. Other retouched items include scrapers (Fig. 24.3, no. 26), denticulated and notched flakes, spurred pieces and

unclassifiable fragments. A small number of clearly residual tools are present, such as the Mesolithic burin from deposit 320136 and the backed knife made on a re-used blank from context 320114.

While retouched tools are not particularly numerous in the barrow assemblage, utilised edges are common. Use-wear was recorded on a total of 49 edges in a sample of 200 flints (Fig. 24.4). Hard density materials (eg seasoned antler, hard woods) and medium density materials (eg green bone, soft woods) are well-represented. Soft substances (eg meat, skin) have left no trace on the barrow flints, although this may not be representative given the high visibility threshold of soft use-wear (Brown 1989). The flints were applied to a range of tasks but were most frequently used for scraping (Fig. 24.5). Unretouched edges seem to have been preferred for this purpose, as formal scrapers are comparatively under-represented in the assemblage (two pieces). Similarly, natural spurs and notches were often selected for use in an unmodified state. This may be a corollary of the restriction in formal tool types that typifies later Bronze Age industries (Young and Humphrey 1999, 233).

The assemblage from the barrow seems to represent a deposit of flintworking debris, which was either knapped or dumped directly into the ditches. The paucity of refits suggests that the certain pieces were selected and removed for use elsewhere. The virtual absence of burnt struck flints (18 pieces or 1.2%) supports the proposition that material was deposited following *in situ* knapping activity rather than introduced from elsewhere (eg from hearths or from middens).

Although composed of predominantly of knapping by-products, the assemblage attests to a certain amount of tool-use. A range of tasks seems likely, with an apparent focus on scraping materials of a medium or hard density (Fig. 24.6). Piercing tools and piercing use-wear are also well represented. The small number of residual flints probably derives from the redeposited remains of previous activity on the site or from the re-use of earlier flakes. As a group they are fairly unremarkable and there is no evidence to suggest that they were deliberately curated and deposited.

Waterhole 309075

A total of 1733 struck flints and 131 pieces (1713 g) of burnt unworked flint were recovered from the fills of the Middle Bronze Age waterhole on the MTCP site (Table 24.24). The struck flint was spread across 17 SG deposits (35 contexts). The most prolific of these was SG deposit 309081 (417 pieces), which for this reason was used to provide the sample for detailed analysis. The burnt unworked flint formed slight concentrations in SG 309072 (35 pieces weighing 397 g) and SG 309081 (28 pieces weighing 488 g), but was generally widespread in its distribution across 12 SG deposits.

The flintwork can be dated to the Middle Bronze Age and is generally in a fresh, uncorticated condition. As in the barrow assemblage, the presence of cortication tends to accompany the technologically earlier pieces. Many of the flints possess a slightly glossy surface appearance, possibly resulting from repeated handling during use or perhaps from the particular conditions of a waterlogged deposit.

The assemblage contains large numbers of unretouched flakes (920 pieces) and unclassifiable waste (258 pieces). A further 176 chips were also recovered following an extensive sampling programme. Blades, bladelets and bladelike flakes are comparatively few in number (58 pieces or 3.7%, excluding chips) but proportionally equivalent to those from the barrow assemblage (23 pieces or 4%).

The technological analysis of the material from SG deposit 309081 reveals an industry similar in character to that from the barrow. Most of the flakes have been struck using hard-hammer percussion (126 pieces compared to 15 soft-hammer flakes). Where present, the platform is usually plain (123 pieces) or cortical (114 pieces) and unabraded (345 pieces). Evidence for platform maintenance during knapping is limited to two platform edge rejuvenation flakes and one rejuvenation tablet; these probably belong to an earlier industry.

The assemblage contains 95 cores, most of which are aimed at the production of flakes using a single platform (18 pieces) or multiple platforms (61 pieces). Three blade cores were also recovered; these exhibit careful preparation and removal are probably residual from a Mesolithic or Neolithic industry. Complete examples range from 10 g to 159 g and have an average weight of 48.6 g. Partially worked nodules are well represented by 85 pieces. Complete specimens are slightly larger than cores, weighing between 12 g and 235 g with an average of 62.2 g.

A total of 15 refitting groups were found within the assemblage from SG deposit 309081, none of which contain more than three pieces. Unlike that from the barrow, the waterhole assemblage contains very few refits between cores and flakes, which argues against a dump of knapping waste. Refits between utilised and retouched pieces are common, however, indicating that material knapped from the same core was used and then deposited together. Of particular note are the two refitting piercers from context 309110 (Fig. 24.3, no. 27), which point towards a relatively quick succession of manufacture, use and discard. Also of significance is the Neolithic polished axe fragment from context 309119 (Fig. 24.3, no. 28). Given the presence of an indirectly refitting flake from the same deposit, it seems likely that the axe was re-used as a core in the Bronze Age. While there is some evidence for the recycling of lithic material in later Bronze Age contexts (eg Young and Humphrey 1999, 233), the curation and re-use of an object as conspicuous as a polished axe may relate to the special character of the waterhole deposits.

While the barrow seems to be composed largely of knapping debitage, the assemblage from the waterhole is characterised by an unusually high number of retouched pieces and the frequency of use-wear is correspondingly high (Fig. 24.7). A total of 136 tools provide 8.7 % of the waterhole assemblage (excluding chips) compared to 30 pieces or 5.2% from the barrow. Simple edge-retouched flakes occur most frequently (63 pieces) and show a wide distribution across the deposits. Scrapers also feature heavily in the waterhole assemblage (22 pieces) but are comparatively rare in the barrow collection (two pieces). However, any corresponding increase in the frequency of scraping use-wear on the edges of flints is slight and a broadly similar range of tasks seem to have been performed in each case (Figs 24.8 and 24.9; compare Figs 24.5 and 24.6).

As seen in the barrow assemblage, piercers are unusually numerous and suggest that certain specialised activities were being performed in the area. A total of 21 piercers provide 15.4% of the retouched component from the waterhole. The assemblage from the barrow has a similar composition, with piercers providing 16.7% of all retouched tools. Furthermore, over 60% of all piercers recovered from Stansted came from either the barrow or the waterhole on the MTCP site; many more came from other Middle Bronze Age features. This spatial and temporal concentration of piercing tools may relate to a particular type of product manufacture. The results of the use-wear analysis indicate that many of the piercers were used to bore material of a medium or hard density and often to quite a depth (*c* 30 mm on one example). In general, it seems likely that the piercing tools were being used to work thick sections of wood or bone rather than thin pieces of soft material such as hide.

Other tools from the waterhole include denticulated scrapers, piercers, notched flakes, a possible arrowhead or knife roughout, and various unclassifiable retouched fragments (Fig 24.10, nos 29-31, 33). Also of note is the fabricator from context (309118) (Fig. 24.10, no. 32). This tool has been retouched on a re-used blade, probably of Mesolithic date, while the quality of the retouch is more reminiscent of Neolithic than of later Bronze Age workmanship. The fabricator therefore seems to have been in circulation for some time before it was finally deposited in the waterhole. This history of use and re-use is a recurrent feature of Middle Bronze Age flintworking at Stansted. Along with the polished axe and the fabricator, it seems plausible that other artefacts within the waterhole have a similar history of curation and redeposition. Some of these artefacts may have had a special significance and been formally deposited.

FLB excavation (BAAFL00)

The majority of the assemblage from the FLB excavation can be dated on technological grounds to the Middle or Later Bronze Age. With the exception of the small assemblage from pit 408013, the material is thinly scattered across the site and is probably largely residual.

M11 evaluation and excavation (BAALR00)

Compared to the quantity of Neolithic flintwork recovered from the M11 site, the Bronze Age is less well represented, forming a low-density spread of material. Against this fairly thin scatter, three large assemblages were recovered from pit 423049, pit 434013, and tree-throw 425005. These are located in the northern area of the site.

Pit 423049

An assemblage of 167 struck flints was recovered from a single deposit (423050) within pit 423049 (Table 24.25). Eight pieces (3 g) of burnt unworked flint were also present in the pit.

The assemblage is composed entirely of unretouched debitage. No retouched tools, datable or otherwise, were identified. When chips are excluded, the assemblage is actually rather small in size (29 pieces) and consequently difficult to date on

technological grounds. The preponderance of thick, hard-hammer flakes suggests a date in the Bronze Age, although the variable condition of the flintwork implies some chronological mixing. The rejuvenation flake, for example, may represent a residual Neolithic piece.

Pit 434013

A total of 79 struck flints, including 52 chips, came from a single deposit in pit 434013 (Table 24.26). A further three pieces (28 g) of burnt unworked flint were also recovered. The majority of flints are in a fresh condition with a light, mottled cortication. Some of the more heavily corticated pieces are likely to be residual.

The assemblage is characterised by irregular, hard-hammer flakes and pieces of angular shatter that suggest a later Bronze Age date for the majority. As in pit 423049 (see above), chips are numerous (38 pieces) and may indicate some knapping activity in the area. No refitting flints or related groups were identified, however. Two single platform flake cores weighing 16 g and 53 g were also recovered and probably belong to the same later Bronze Age industry as the debitage. The retouched component is limited to one notched flake (Fig. 24.10, no. 34), although several utilised edges were noted.

Tree-throw 425005

A total of 68 struck flints were recovered from two deposits within tree-throw 425005 (Table 24.27). A small quantity of burnt unworked flint (three pieces weighing 21 g) were distributed between the fills. The majority of flints are in a fresh, moderately corticated condition and probably date to the middle or later Bronze Age.

The assemblage is composed mainly of flakes (22 pieces), unclassifiable debitage (21 pieces) and chips (17 pieces). Most have been struck with hard-hammer percussion and few pieces show any evidence of platform preparation prior to removal. One single platform and two multi-platform flake cores were recovered from the lower of the fills, 425003; these range in weight from 37 g to 61 g. A partially worked nodule (72 g) came from the same deposit. Although a few utilised edges were noted, retouched tools are limited in number and range to two edge-retouched flakes.

The assemblage combines large quantities of irregular shatter, chips and cores with low numbers of retouched and utilised flints. This composition strongly suggests a knapping deposit, although no refitting elements are present.

Discussion

The flint assemblage from Stansted extends from the Lower Palaeolithic to at least the Late Bronze Age and provides a valuable opportunity to examine many aspects of prehistoric behaviour. Much of the material is in an exceptionally fresh condition. This has allowed confidence that there has been fairly limited post-depositional disturbance, which in turn has recommended various groups for further analysis such as use-wear and refitting studies. These analyses have contributed in varying degrees

to an understanding of flint procurement, treatment, use and deposition in each of the periods under consideration.

Before the Early Neolithic period, evidence for human activity in the Stansted area is fairly meagre. The duration of the Palaeolithic period is represented by two handaxes and a possible scraper. Further evidence comes from possible instances of lithic recycling. Examples include the sickle blade from the MTCP (BAAMP00) and the possible biface fragment from the M11 excavation (BAALR00).

The Mesolithic assemblage comprises a scatter of residual finds, most of which came from modern layers. The recurrence of Mesolithic flints in the topsoil and ploughsoil may reveal something of their primary context. The assemblage includes two microliths, six burins and three *tranchet* axes. Both microliths are of the broad-blade type usually associated with early Mesolithic assemblages, although the assemblage is too small to refine the date further.

Stratified Early Neolithic flint assemblages were recovered from pits, tree-throws and ditches on several sites. Substantial collections were recovered from a group of three tree-throws and one ditch terminus in the north-eastern area of the M11 excavation (BAALR00); two further pits may also be contemporary. Three tree-throws and a linear ditch feature from the SG site (BAASG03) produced Early Neolithic flintwork, as did pit 344278 on the MTCP site (BAAMP99/BAAMP00). These assemblages tend to be characterised by low numbers of tools and cores in combination with high numbers of burnt and utilised pieces.

The later Neolithic is represented by numerous isolated finds and several coherent assemblages. Notable groups include an activity scatter from the MTCP site (BAAMP00) and a pit assemblage from the M11 site (BAALR00). A hiatus follows in the Early Bronze Age and is registered by both the flint and pottery record. No stratified assemblages could be confidently dated to the Early Bronze Age, a deficiency also paralleled in the assemblage from the A120 (Cramp 2007). Slim evidence of Early Bronze Age activity is provided by three barbed and tanged arrowheads. These stray finds may derive from disturbed burial deposits or, perhaps more likely, represent chance losses during brief occupation.

The vast majority of flintwork seems to have been deposited during extensive settlement in the Middle and Late Bronze Age. Many features contained large quantities of general debris and knapping waste. Others, such as the waterhole, seem to represent more specialised deposits. There is recurrent evidence for the curation and re-use of earlier flintwork in this period, a phenomenon that serves to emphasise the longevity of human activity in the area.

Catalogue of illustrated flint Figs 24.1-24.3, 24.10)

1. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 301001 (topsoil), object 503, Handaxe
2. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 301001 (topsoil), object 507, Handaxe
3. LTCP (BAACP00), context 116023 (fill of tree-throw 116024), object 101, Long blade, possibly reused as sickle
4. LTCP (BAACP99), context 995001 (topsoil), object 2, *Tranchet* axe
5. LTCP (BAACP00), context 101003 (topsoil), object 104, *Tranchet* axe

6. LTCP (BAACP00), context 101005 (subsoil), object 4000, Microlith
7. M11 (BAALR00), context 441001 (fill of MIA ditch), object 10334, Burin
8. SG (BAASG03), context 497004 (fill of Late Saxon ditch 497043), object 13186, Microlith
9. SG (BAASG03), context 497041 (fill of Late Saxon pit 497038), object 13175, Scraper
10. LTCP (BAACP99), context 221387 (fieldwalking), object 5252, Flaked axe
11. M11 (BAALR00), context 435032 (fill of MIA ditch 440036), object 11387, Knife or arrowhead
12. M11 (BAALR00), context 434039 (fill of Early Neolithic tree-throw 434038), object 10386, Piercer
13. SG (BAASG03), context 492012 (topsoil), object 13131, Leaf-shaped arrowhead
14. LTCP (BAAMP00), context 301001 (topsoil), object 914, Leaf-shaped arrowhead
15. LTCP (BAAMP00), context 353013 (fill of Early Neolithic pit 344278), object 9074, Scraper
16. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 503 (fill of Early Neolithic pit 344278), object - , Serrated flake
17. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 324033 (spread of flint), object 8739, *Petit tranchet* arrowhead
18. LTCP (BAACP01), context 459027 (post-medieval spread 459029), object 1371, Barbed and tanged arrowhead
19. MTCP (BAAMP99), context 2605 (fill of MBA pit 2604), object 21, Barbed and tanged arrowhead
20. MTCP (BAAMP99), context 2618 (fill of MBA pit 2604), object - , Possible Mesolithic end scraper
21. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 321030 (fill of MBA pit 321029), object 8420, Scraper
22. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 321081 (fill of MBA pit 321080), object 8439, Piercer
23. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 321081 (fill of MBA pit 321080), object 8504, Scraper
24. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 320057 (fill of MBA pit 320047), object 7997, Scraper
25. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 320125 (fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch 324078), object 8152, Piercer
26. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 320118 (fill of Bronze Age barrow ditch 324078), object 8053, Scraper
27. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 309110 (fill of MBA waterhole 309075), objects 6676 & 6677, Refitting piercers
28. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 309119 (fill of MBA waterhole 309075), objects 131 & 7146, Polished axe and refitting flake
29. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 309108 (fill of MBA waterhole 309075), object 6616, Piercer
30. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 309083 (fill of MBA waterhole 309075), object 5995, Notched flake
31. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 309108 (fill of MBA waterhole 309075), object 140, End and side scraper
32. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 309118 (fill of MBA waterhole 309075), object 130, Fabricator
33. MTCP (BAAMP00), context 309119 (fill of MBA waterhole 309075), object 133, Denticulated scraper
34. M11 (BAALR00), context 434014 (fill of EIA pit 434013), object 10073, Notched flake

Table 24.1: Quantification of struck flint by site

Site code:	Site name:	No. of flints:		Total weight (g):	
CP99FW	1999 Fieldwalking on LTCP site	161	1.32%	1936	1.66%
BAACP99	LTCP phase I	823	6.73%	2931	2.52%
BAACP00	LTCP phase II	1350	11.03%	14179	12.17%
BAACP01	LTCP phase III	364	2.98%	2164	1.86%
BAAMP99	MTCP evaluation	700	5.72%	5687	4.88%
BAAMP00	MTCP excavation	6304	51.52%	69940	60.05%
BAAFL00	FLB excavation	47	0.38%	620	0.53%
BAALB00	LBR evaluation and excavation	14	0.11%	123	0.11%
BAALR00	M11 evaluation and excavation	2062	16.85%	14704	12.63%
BAASR00	Standby Runway evaluation	1	0.01%	3	0.00%
BAASG03	SG excavation	348	2.84%	3416	2.93%
BAANP03	NP excavation	1	0.01%	3	0.00%
Unstratified	Unstratified material - all sites	60	0.49%	756	0.65%
Total:		12235	100.00%	116462	100.00%

Table 24.2: Quantification of burnt unworked flint by site

Site code:	Site name:	Number of pieces:		Total weight (g):	
BAACP99	1999 Fieldwalking on LTCP site	373	3.80%	2037	2.24%
BAACP00	LTCP phase II	2200	22.44%	15071	16.59%
BAACP01	LTCP phase III	109	1.11%	900	0.99%
BAAMP99	MTCP evaluation	286	2.92%	3264	3.59%
BAAMP00	MTCP excavation	5111	52.13%	52414	57.70%
BAAFL00	FLB excavation	31	0.32%	470	0.52%
BAALB00	LBR evaluation and excavation	43	0.44%	346	0.38%
BAALR00	M11 evaluation and excavation	1357	13.84%	13030	14.34%
BAASG03	SG excavation	270	2.75%	3135	3.45%
BAANP03	NP excavation	25	0.25%	167	0.18%
Total:		9805	100.00%	90834	100.00%

Table 24.3: Summary of flint from all areas

Category:	Sub-category:	Total:
Flake	Primary	802
	Secondary	2765
	Tertiary	1315
	Flake from a polished implement	5
	Unclassifiable waste	1103
Blade	Primary	10
	Secondary	125
	Tertiary	114
Bladelet	Primary	5
	Secondary	28
	Tertiary	29
Bladelike flake	Primary	13
	Secondary	142
	Tertiary	104
Axe/adze thinning flake	Axe/adze thinning flake	2
Core preparation flake	Core face/edge rejuvenation flake	11
	Rejuvenation flake tablet	6
	Crested blade	4
Chip	Chip	4575
Core/core fragment	Single platform flake core	68
	Multi-platform flake core	173
	Keeled/non-discoidal flake core	1
	Single platform blade core	5
	Opposed platform blade core	1
	Multi-platform blade core	4
	Unclassifiable blade core	8
	Core on a flake	28
	Unclassifiable/fragmentary core	21
Nodule	Partially worked nodule	270
Retouched flake/blade	Retouched flake	208
	Retouched blade(let)	12
	Unclassifiable retouch	34
Scraper	Side scraper	18
	End scraper	26
	End-and-side scraper	13
	Unclassifiable scraper	25
Serrate/denticulate	Denticulate	11
	Notched piece	46
	Serrated piece	7
Knife	Backed knife	2
	Single-piece sickle	1
	Unclassifiable knife	1
Microlith/backed bladelet	Microlith	2
Burin	Burin	6
Axe/core tool	Handaxe	2
	<i>Tranchet</i> axe	3
	Flaked and polished axe	2
Arrowhead	<i>Petit tranchet</i>	1
	Leaf	2
	Chisel	1
	Barbed and tanged	3
	Unfinished arrowhead/blank	1
	Unclassifiable arrowhead	1

Miscellaneous tool	Piercer	43
	Spurred piece	13
	Fabricator	3
Unclassifiable	Hammerstone	9
	Natural	2
Total:		12235

Table 24.4: Assemblages selected for detailed analysis

Site code:	Cut/feature:	Phase:	No. of flints:
BAACP00	Pit 134001	MBA	163
BAAMP99	Pit 502 = 353011	EN	225
	Pit 2604	MBA	250
BAAMP00	Pit 353011 = 502	EN	86
	Pit 312031	MBA	157
	Pit 320047	MBA	136
	Pit 321029	MBA	57
	Pit 321080	MBA	85
	Waerhole 323001	MBA	108
	Scatter SG 324033	N	62
	Barrow 324078	MBA	1483
	Waterhole 309075	MBA	1733
BAALR00	Pit 423049	MBA	167
	Pit 434009	LN	119
	Pit 434013	EIA	79
	Tree-throw 425005	MBA	68
	Tree-throw 429002	N	19
	Tree-throw 434033	EN	30
	Tree-throw 434035	EN	61
	Tree-throw 434038	EN	62
	Tree-throw 440004	EN	27
Pit 420068	LN	34	
BAASG03	Tree-throw 501010	N	87
	Tree-throw 507030/491019	N	29
	Tree-throw 505015	EN	17
Total:			5344

Table 24.5: Flint by type from pit 420068

Category:	Sub-category:	Total:
Flake/broken flake	Secondary	5
	Tertiary	4
	Unclassifiable waste	8
	Flake from a polished implement	2
Blade/broken blade	Secondary	2
	Tertiary	4
Bladelike flake	Secondary	3
	Tertiary	1
Chip	Chip	5
Total:		34

Table 24.6: Flint by type from tree-throw 434033

Category:	Sub-category:	Total:
Flake/broken flake	Primary	4
	Secondary	2
	Tertiary	7
	Unclassifiable waste	2
Blade/broken blade	Secondary	4
	Tertiary	3
Bladelike flake	Tertiary	2
Chip	Chip	6
Total:		30

Table 24.7: Flint by type from tree-throw 434035

Category:	Sub-category:	Context:		Total:
		434036 (lower fill)	434037 (upper fill)	
Flake/broken flake	Primary		1	1
	Secondary		13	13
	Tertiary		17	17
	Unclassifiable waste		4	4
Blade/broken blade	Secondary		1	1
	Tertiary		2	2
Bladelet	Secondary		1	1
	Tertiary		3	3
Bladelike flake	Secondary		1	1
	Tertiary		6	6
Core preparation flake	Core face/edge rejuvenation flake		1	1
	Rejuvenation flake tablet		1	1
	Crested blade		1	1
Chip	Chip	2	3	5
Core/core fragment	Multi-platform flake core		1	1
Nodule	Partially worked nodule		1	1
Retouched flake/blade	Retouched flake		1	1
	Unclassifiable retouch		1	1
Total:		2	59	61

Table 24.8: Flint by type from tree-throw 434038

Category:	Sub-category:	Total:
Flake/broken flake	Primary	1
	Secondary	8
	Tertiary	5
	Unclassifiable waste	7
Blade/broken blade	Secondary	3
	Tertiary	3
Bladelike flake	Secondary	2
	Tertiary	6
Chip	Chip	24
Nodule	Partially worked nodule	1
Misc/Multi Tools	Piercer	2
Total:		62

Table 24.9: Flint by type from tree-throw 440004

Category:	Sub-category:	Total:
Flake/broken flake	Secondary	7
	Tertiary	9
	Primary	1
Blade/broken blade	Secondary	2
	Tertiary	2
Bladelet	Tertiary	1
Bladelike flake	Secondary	3
	Tertiary	2
Total:		27

Table 24.10: Flint by type from tree-throw 505015

Category	Sub-category	Context:			Total:
		505016	505017	505018	
Flake/broken flake	primary			1	1
	secondary			5	5
	tertiary		1	3	4
	Unclassifiable waste	1			1
Blade/broken blade	tertiary			1	1
Core preparation flake	Core face/edge rejuvenation flake			1	1
Chip	chip		2	1	3
Retouched flake/blade	retouched flake		1		1
Total:		1	4	12	17

Table 24.11: Flint by type from ditch 507032

Category:	Sub-category:	Context:			Total:
		491021	507024	507001	
Flake/broken flake	Secondary	6			6
	Tertiary	9	1		10
	Unclassifiable waste	1	1	1	2
	Flake from a polished implement	1			1
	Primary	4			4
Blade/broken blade	Secondary	1	1		2
	Tertiary	1			1
Retouched flake/blade	Retouched flake	1			1
Chip	Chip	1			1
Nodule	Partially worked nodule			1	
Total:		25	3	2	30

Table 24.12: Flint by type from tree-throw 501010

Category:	Sub-category:	Context:			Total:
		501011 Upper fill	501012	501013 Lower fill	
Flake/broken flake	Primary	3	2		5
	Secondary	10	3	3	16
	Tertiary	8	5	1	14
	Unclassifiable waste	2	2		4
Blade/broken blade	Secondary	1		1	2
	Tertiary	4			4
Bladelike flake	Secondary			1	1
	Tertiary	1			1
Chip	Chip	33	3	2	38
Retouched flake/blade	Retouched blade(let)	1			1
Natural	Echinoid fossil			1	1
Total:		63	15	9	87

Table 24.13: Flint by type from pit 344278

Category:	Sub-category:	Context:			Total:
		503	353012	353013	
Flake/broken flake	Primary	7		3	10
	Secondary	34		14	48
	Tertiary	30		10	40
	Unclassifiable waste	12	1	1	14
Blade/broken blade	Secondary	5		5	10
	Tertiary	14		10	24
Bladelet	Secondary			3	3
	Tertiary			3	3
Bladelike flake	Secondary	7		6	13
	Tertiary	6		8	14
Core preparation flakes	Core face/edge rejuvenation flake			2	2
Chip	Chip	102	2	13	117
Nodule	Partially worked nodule	1	1		2
Retouched flake/blade	Retouched flake	2		1	3
	Retouched blade(let)	1		1	2
Serrate/denticulate	Serrated piece	3		1	4
Scraper	End scraper			1	1
Arrowhead	Fragmentary/unclassifiable arrowhead	1			1
Total:		225	4	82	311

Table 24.14: Flint by type from scatter 324033

Category:	Sub-category:	Total:
Flake/broken flake	Primary	2
	Secondary	11
	Tertiary	27
	Unclassifiable waste	7
Blade/broken blade	Secondary	2
Bladelike flake	Secondary	3
	Tertiary	2
Chip	Chip	2
Core/core fragment	Multi-platform flake core	1
	Unclassifiable/fragmentary core	1
Retouched flake/blade	Retouched flake	1
Serrate/denticulate	Notched piece	1
Arrowhead	Petit <i>tranchet</i>	1
Miscellaneous/multiple tools	Spurred piece	1
Total:		62

Table 24.15: Flint by type from pit 434009

Category:	Sub-category:	Total:
Flake/broken flake	Primary	11
	Secondary	23
	Tertiary	12
	Unclassifiable waste	9
Bladelike flake	Tertiary	1
Chip	Chip	61
Core/core fragment	Multi-platform flake core	1
Miscellaneous/multiple tools	Piercer	1
Total:		119

Table 24.16: Flint by type from pit 134001

Category:	Sub-category:	Context:		Total:
		134005	134006	
Flake/broken flake	Primary	10		10
	Secondary	19		19
	Tertiary	13	4	17
	Unclassifiable waste	36		36
Bladelike flake	Secondary	2		2
	Tertiary	1		1
Core preparation flake	Core face/edge rejuvenation flake	1		1
Core/core fragment	Multi-platform flake core	1		1
Nodule	Partially worked nodule	8		8
Retouched flake/blade	Retouched flake	1		1
Chip	Chip	67		67
Total:		159	4	163

Table 24.17: Flint by type from pit 2604

Category:	Sub-category:	Context:				Total:
		2605	2618	2622	2623	
Flake/broken flake	Primary	11	14	2		27
	Secondary	53	21	4	1	79
	Tertiary	43	8	2		53
	Unclassifiable waste	13	10	5		28
Blade/broken blade	Secondary		1			1
	Tertiary		1			1
Bladelike flake	Secondary	1				1
	Tertiary	1			1	2
Core preparation flake	Core face/edge rejuvenation flake		1			1
	Rejuvenation flake tablet	1				1
Chip	Chip	34	2			36
Core/core fragment	Single platform flake core		3			3
	Multi-platform flake core	2	1			3
	Core on a flake		1			1
Nodule	Partially worked nodule	5	1			6
Retouched flake/blade	Retouched flake		1			1
	Unclassifiable retouch	1				1
Scraper	End scraper (blade)		1			1
	Unclassifiable scraper	1				1
Serrate/denticulate	Notched piece	1				1
Arrowhead	Barbed and tanged	1				1
Unclassifiable	Hammerstone	1				1
Total:		169	66	13	2	250

Table 24.18: Flint by type from pit 321029

Category:	Sub-category:	Context:		Total:
		321030	321031	
Flake/broken flake	Primary	2		2
	Secondary	17		17
	Tertiary	9		9
	Unclassifiable waste	9	1	10
Bladelet	Secondary	1		1
Bladelike flake	Secondary	1		1
Core/core fragment	Single platform flake core	2		2
	Multi-platform flake core	2		2
	Core on a flake	1		1
	Unclassifiable/fragmentary core	1		1
Nodule	Partially worked nodule	2		2
Retouched flake/blade	Retouched flake	2		2
Scraper	End scraper (flake)	1		1
	Unclassifiable scraper	1	1	2
Serrate/denticulate	Notched piece	2		2
Unclassifiable	Hammerstone	2		2
Total:		55	2	57

Table 24.19: Flint by type from pit 321080

Category:	Sub-category:	Context:					Total:
		321081	321082	321083	321085	321090	
Flake/broken flake	Primary	6	1				7
	Secondary	22			1		23
	Tertiary	9			1		10
	Unclassifiable waste	20				1	21
Bladelike flake	Tertiary	1					1
Core/core fragment	Single platform flake core	1					1
	Multi-platform flake core	4					4
	Core on a flake		1				1
	Unclassifiable/fragmentary core	1					1
Nodule	Partially worked nodule	4		1			5
Retouched flake/blade	Retouched flake	1					1
	Unclassifiable retouch	1					1
Scraper	End-and-side scraper	1					1
	End scraper (flake)		1				1
	Unclassifiable scraper	1					1
Serrate/denticulate	Notched piece	1					1
Miscellaneous/multiple tools	Piercer	2	1				3
Unclassifiable	Hammerstone	2					2
Total:		77	4	1	2	1	85

Table 24.20: Flint by type from pit 312031

Category:	Sub-category:	Context:									Total:
		312021	312022	312023	312025	312026	312027	312028	312030	315058	
Flake/broken flake	Primary	3	2		2		2		1		10
	Secondary	10	6	17	2	2	2		1		40
	Tertiary	11	3	3		2	3		3		25
	Unclassifiable waste	5	1	5	1		2		1		15
Blade/broken blade	Secondary			1							1
	Tertiary						1				1
Bladelet	Tertiary			1							1
Bladelike flake	Secondary						1				1
Chip	Chip	13	5	10	3	3	7	3	8		52
Core/core fragment	Multi-platform flake core	1					1				2
Nodule	Partially worked nodule	1								1	2
Retouched flake/blade	Retouched flake	2	2	1							5
	Unclassifiable retouch	1									1
Miscellaneous tool	Spurred piece	1									1
Total:		48	19	38	8	7	19	3	14	1	157

Table 24.21: Flint by type from pit 320047

Category:	Sub-category:	Context:					Total:
		320051	320052	320055	320056	320057	
Flake/broken flake	Primary			9		10	19
	Secondary			18		46	64
	Tertiary	3		4	1	22	30
	Unclassifiable waste			1		6	7
Core preparation flake	Core face/edge rejuvenation flake					1	1
Chip	Chip					2	2
Core/core fragment	Core on a flake					1	1
Nodule	Partially worked nodule	1	1			1	3
	Retouched flake/blade			1		3	4
Retouched flake/blade	Retouched flake			1		3	4
	Unclassifiable retouch	1					1
Scraper	End scraper (flake)					1	1
Serrate/denticulate	Notched piece					1	1
Miscellaneous tool	Spurred piece	1				1	2
Total:		6	1	33	1	95	136

Table 24.22: Flint by type from pit 323001

Category:	Sub-category:	Context:					Total:
		323002	323003	323017	323018	323019	
Flake/broken flake	Primary		6		7		13
	Secondary		10	1	14	2	27
	Tertiary	1	11		6		18
	Unclassifiable waste		5		10		15
Blade/broken blade	Secondary				1		1
Bladelike flake	Primary				1		1
	Secondary		2				2
Chip	Chip		21		1		22
Core/core fragment	Single platform flake core		1				1
	Unclassifiable/fragmentary core				1		1
Nodule	Partially worked nodule		1		1		2
Retouched flake/blade	Retouched flake		3				3
Serrate/denticulate	Notched piece				1		1
Miscellaneous tool	Piercer		1				1
Total:		1	61	1	43	2	108

Table 24.23: Flint by type from the barrow 324078

Category:	Sub-category:	SG deposit:																		Total:		
		309294	316103	316105	324061	324062	324063	324064	324065	324066	324067	324068	324069	324070	324071	324072	324073	324075	324076		324077	
Flake/broken flake	Primary		1		7	5	23	3	2	2	7	2		6	7		3		7		75	
	Secondary		5	1	18	19	42	9	4	5	21	10		17	7	1	4	3	4		170	
	Tertiary		2		10	6	17	7	1	3	9	6		4	3		1	1	1		71	
	Unclassifiable waste		6		10	21	45	4		4	11	1		22	3	1	2		2		132	
Blade/broken blade	Secondary					2					1	1					1		1		6	
	Tertiary						1	1				2					1		1		7	
Bladelet	Secondary						1							1							2	
	Tertiary				1							1									2	
Bladelike flake	Secondary				1			1													2	
	Tertiary							2			1								1		4	
Core preparation flake	Crested blade							1													1	
Chip	Chip	3	70	77	116	19	52	72	75		89	108	3	78	40				34	63	4	903
Core/core fragment	Single platform flake core					1	6				1	1			3					2		14
	Multi-platform flake core		1		1	5	8							3	1	1						20
	Single platform blade core													1								1
	Opposed platform blade core																			1		1
	Core on a flake						4													1		5
	Unclassifiable/fragmentary core				3	1	1							1								6
Nodule	Partially worked nodule		2		2	3	12	2	2					1	1	1				2		30
Retouched blade/flake	Retouched flake				2	2		2			2							1				10
	Retouched blade(let)					1		2														3
	Unclassifiable retouch		1				1				1											3
Scraper	End scraper (flake)													1								1
	Unclassifiable scraper				1																	1
Serrate/denticulate	Denticulate						1															1
	Notched piece						1							1								2
Knife	Backed knife																			1		1
Miscellaneous tool	Piercer				1	1	2				1											5

	Spurred piece					1									1						2	
Burin	Burin											1										1
Unclassifiable	Hammerstone						1															1
Total:		3	88	78	173	87	218	106	84	17	145	132	3	139	64	4	12	39	87	4	1483	

Table 24.24: Flint by type from the waterhole 309075, BAAMP00 (MTCP excavation)

Category:	Sub-category:	SG deposit:																	Total:		
		309076	309077	309081	309087	309088	309092	309099	309104	309105	309113	309114	309115	309126	309127	309128	309129	309130			
Flake/broken flake	Primary	5	12	30		3	4	8		3	13				6	1			19	104	
	Secondary	26	110	144	1	16	11	34	1	20	65		4	2	62	27	2		87	612	
	Tertiary	12	32	61	1	9	8	4		1	19	1		2	19	3	1		31	204	
	Unclassifiable waste	4	35	55		9	6	20	4		6	41		3		18	12	2		43	258
	Flake from a polished implement																			1	1
Blade/broken blade	Primary					1														1	2
	Secondary	1	5			1	1	1		1	1									2	13
Bladelet	Secondary			1																1	2
	Tertiary						0													2	2
Bladelike	Primary																			1	1
	Secondary	1	9	15		1	1	3	1		1									1	33
	Tertiary	2	1	1		1															5
Core preparation flake	Core face/edge rejuvenation flake			2																	2
	Rejuvenation flake tablet			1																	1

Chip	Chip	1		19				2			13				52			89	176	
Core/core fragment	Single platform flake core		2	9		2				3				1	1				18	
	Multi-platform flake core	3	8	18		3	2	2		8		1		3	2			9	61	
	Keeled/non-discoidal flake core																	1	1	
	Single platform blade core									1									1	
	Multi-platform blade core									1									1	2
	Core on a flake	1	1	3							1					1			1	8
	Unclassifiable/fragmentary core			4															4	
Nodule	Partially worked nodule	2	14	11	1	8	2	8		3	13		2		6	5	1	9	85	
Retouched flake/blade	Retouched flake	2	7	22		2	2	1		2	8				4	2		11	63	
	Retouched blade(let)		1																1	
	Unclassifiable retouch			6										1				2	9	
Scraper	Side scraper	1		2			1	1											5	
	End scraper (flake)			2										1					3	
	End-and-side scraper		1	1			1												3	
	Unclassifiable scraper			2		2	1			1	1			2	1			1	11	
Serrate/denticulate	Denticulate		1				1			1	1							1	5	
	Notched piece		1	2							1		1					3	8	
Axe/core tool	Polished axe																	1	1	
Arrowhead	Unfinished arrowhead/blank							1											1	
Miscellaneous tool	Piercer		2	5		2	1	3			1				2	2		3	21	
	Fabricator							1											1	
	Spurred piece			1							1					1		1	4	
Unclassifiable	Hammerstone									1									1	
Total:		61	242	417	3	60	42	89	6	40	194	1	11	4	177	58	6	322	1733	

Table 24.25: Flint by type from pit 423049

Category:	Sub-category:	Total:
Flake/broken flake	Primary	3
	Secondary	10
	Tertiary	7
	Unclassifiable waste	4
Core preparation flakes	Core face/edge rejuvenation flake	1
Chip	Chip	138
Core/core fragment	Multi-platform flake core	2
	Unclassifiable/fragmentary core	2
Total:		167

Table 24.26: Flint by type from pit 434013

Category:	Sub-category:	Total:
Flake/broken flake	Primary	4
	Secondary	15
	Tertiary	1
	Unclassifiable waste	4
Chip	Chip	52
Core/core fragment	Single platform flake core	2
Serrate/denticulate	Notched piece	1
Total:		79

Table 24.27: Flint by type from tree-throw 425005

Category:	Sub-category:	Context:		Total:
		425003	425004	
Flake/broken flake	Primary	6	1	7
	Secondary	10	3	13
	Tertiary	2		2
	Unclassifiable waste	14	7	21
Bladelike flake	Secondary	1		1
	Tertiary		1	1
Chip	Chip	17		17
Core/core fragment	Multi-platform flake core	1	1	2
	Single platform flake core	1		1
Nodule	Partially worked nodule	1		1
Retouched flake/blade	Retouched flake	2		2
Total:		55	13	68

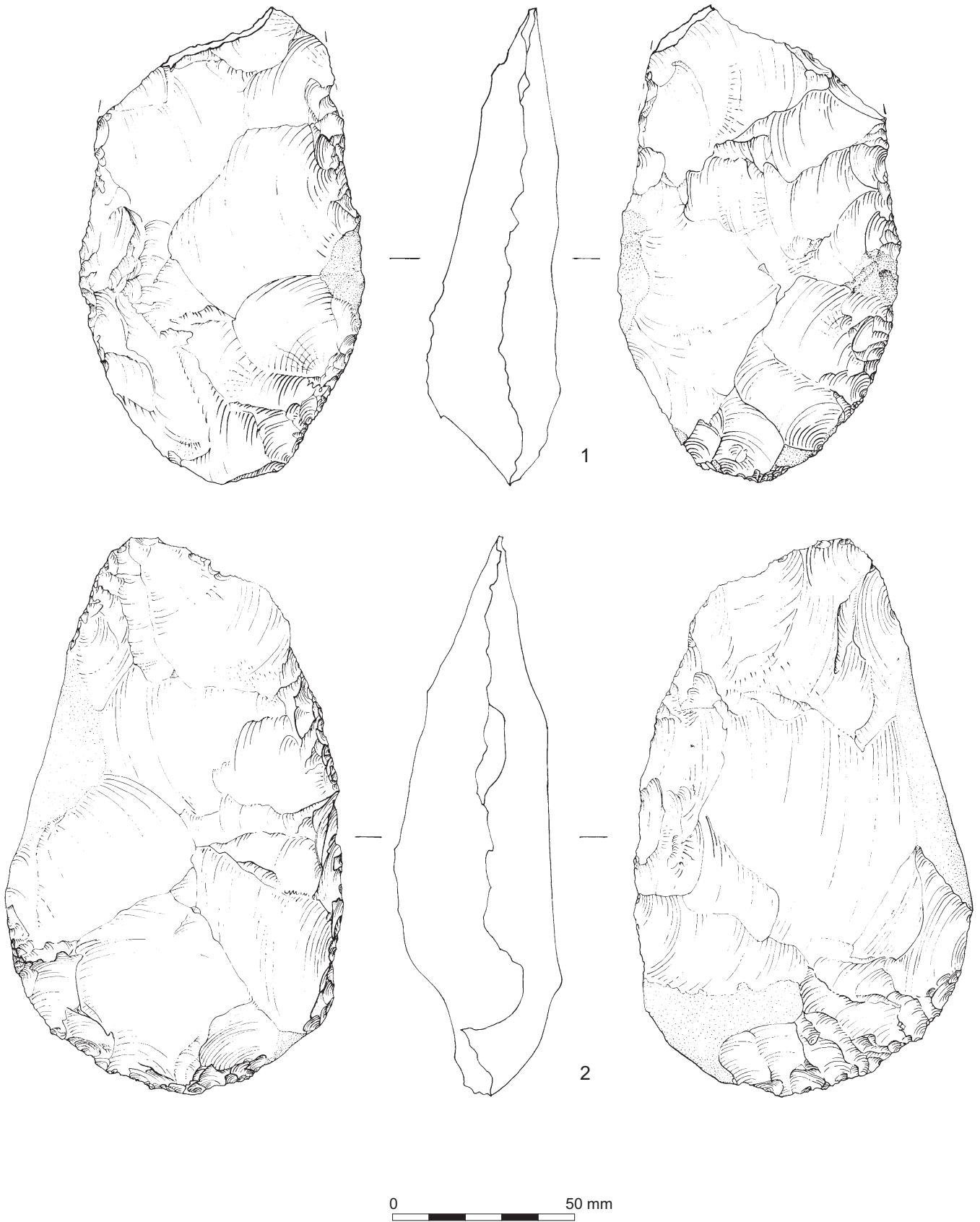


Figure 24.1: Selected flint (details in the catalogue)

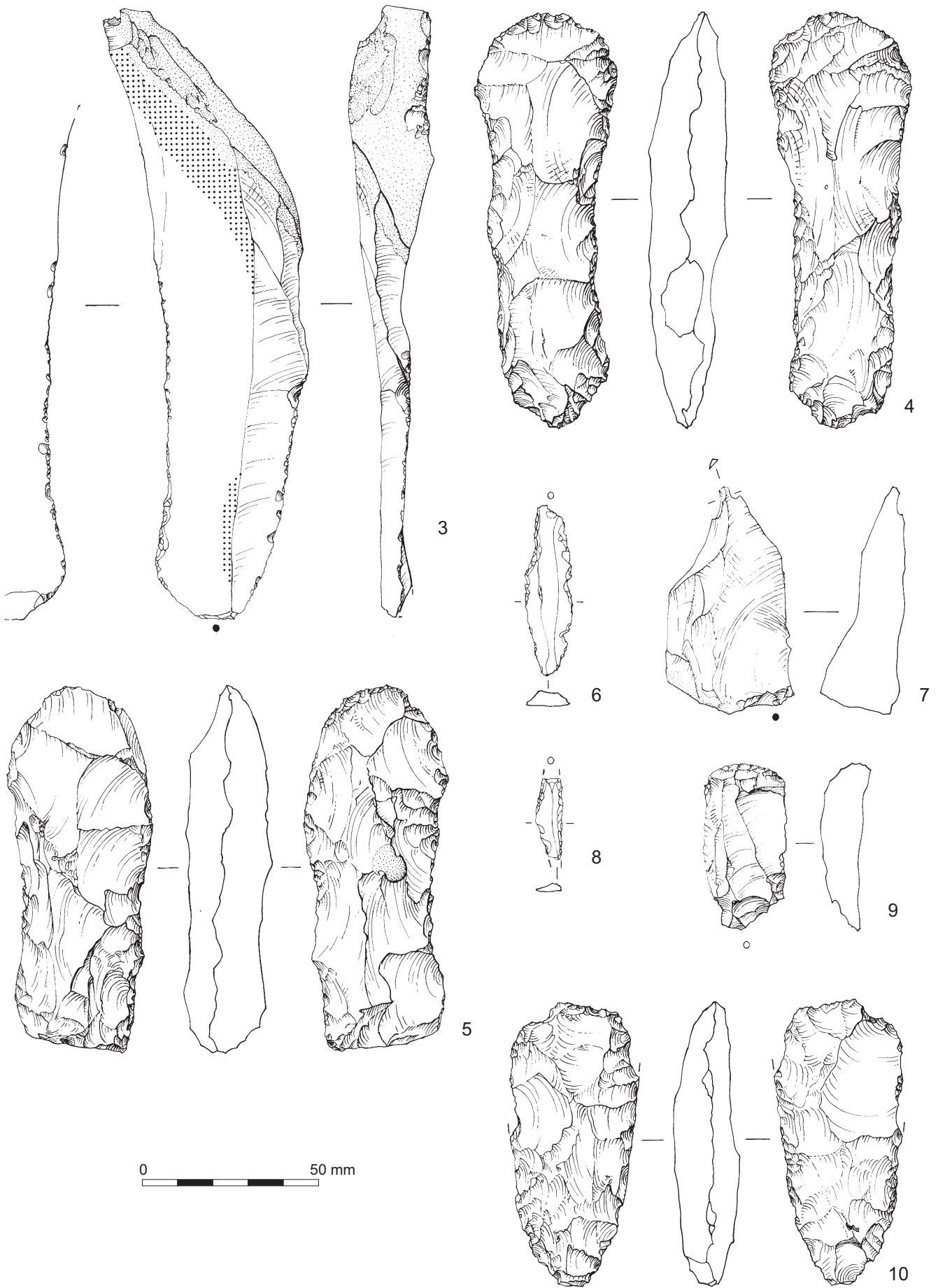


Figure 24.2: Selected flint (details in the catalogue)

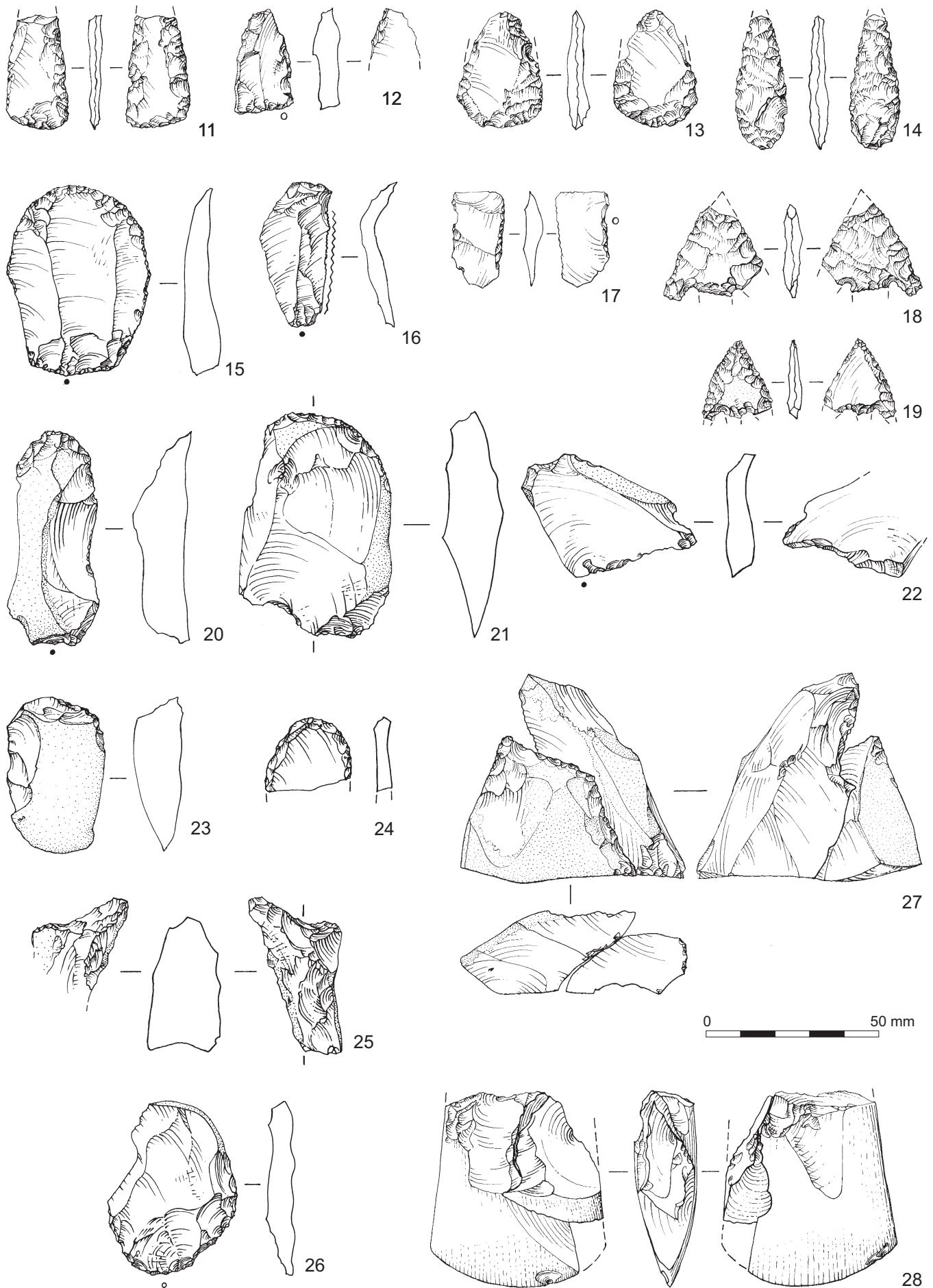


Figure 24.3: Selected flint (details in the catalogue)

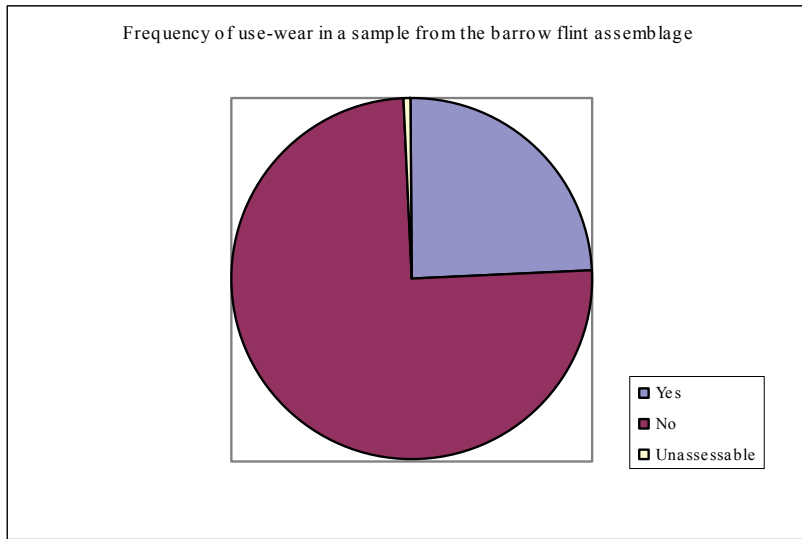


Figure 24.4: Frequency of use-wear in a sample of flint from the barrow

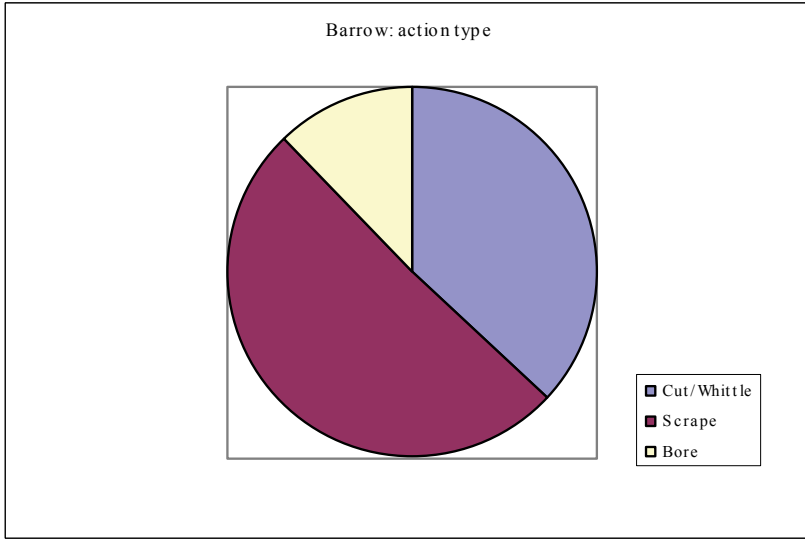


Figure 24.5: Barrow: action type

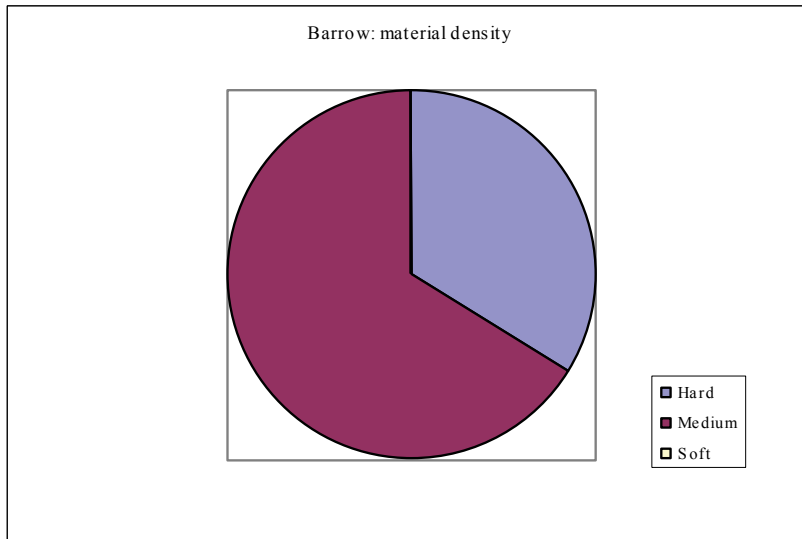


Figure 24.6: Barrow: material density

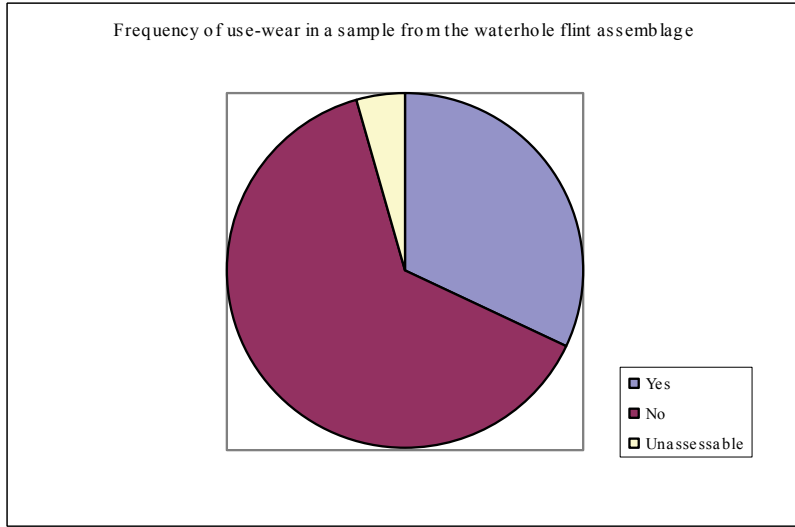


Figure 24.7: Frequency of use-wear in a sample from the waterhole

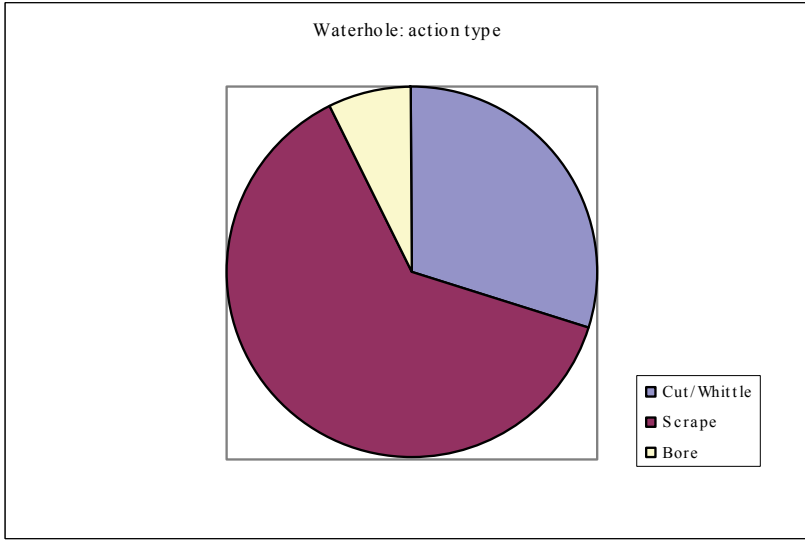


Figure 24.8: Waterhole: action type

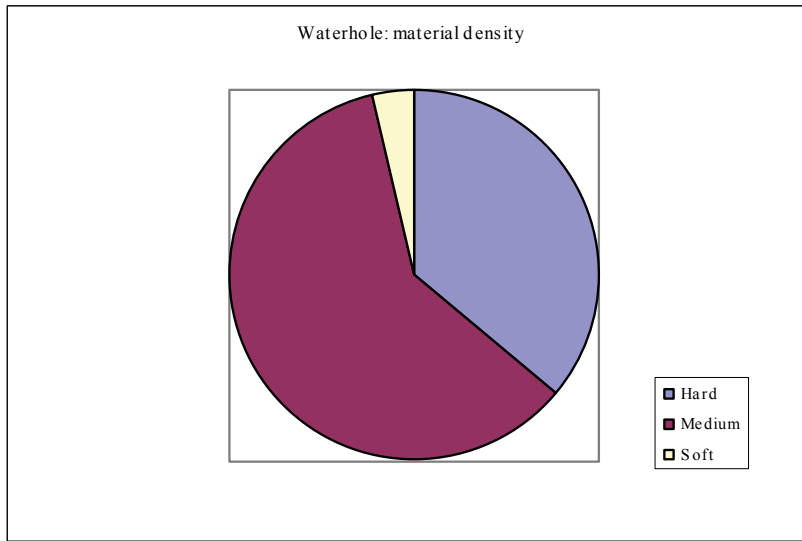


Figure 24.9: Waterhole: material density

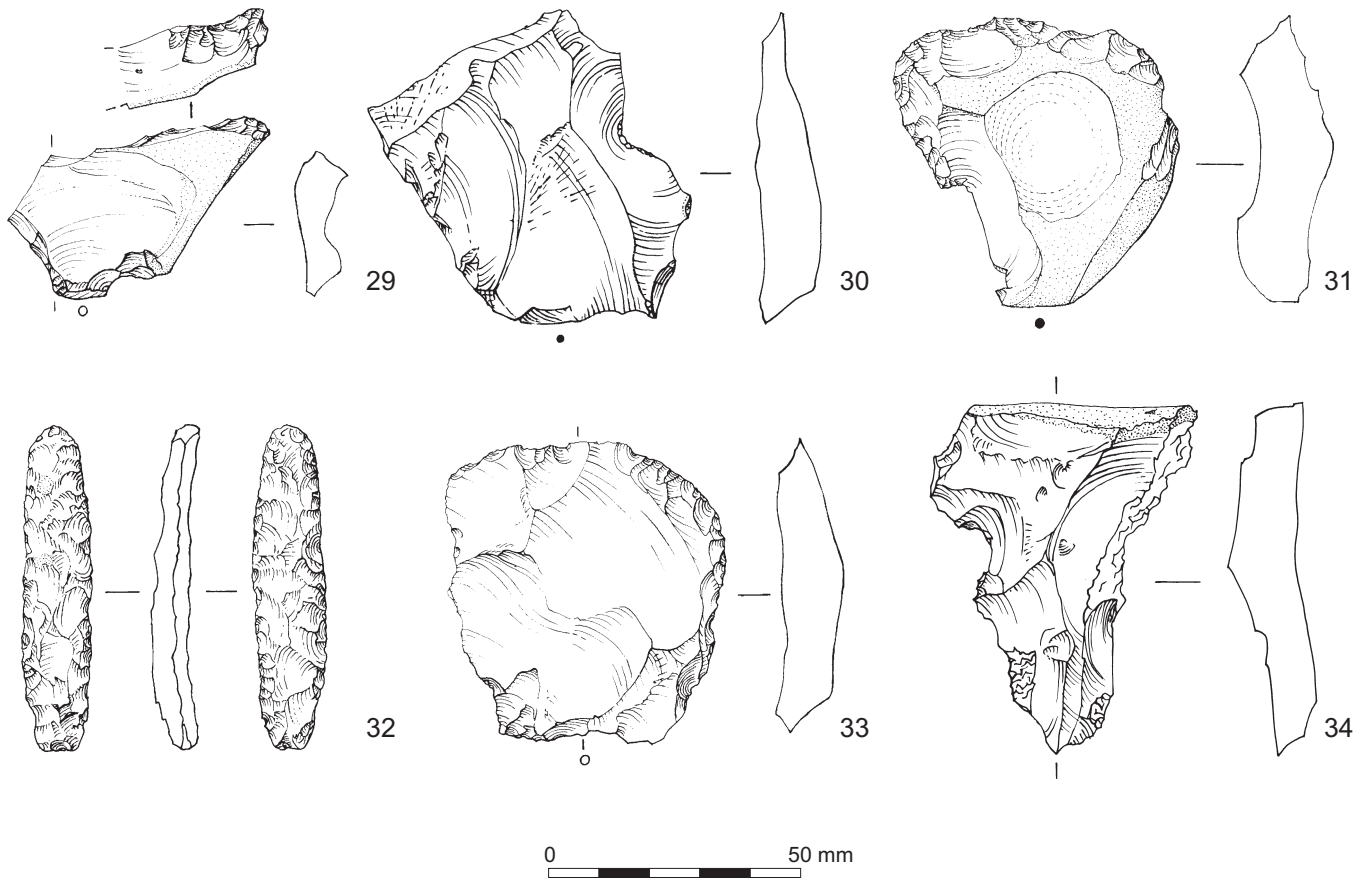


Figure 24.10: Selected flint (details in the catalogue)



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