

## **Heys Collection: Inventory and Images Guide**

The Heys collection (of 1849 lithics) was originally housed almost entirely in 779 matchboxes, each labelled with the date of collection and location. The boxes have all been numbered 1-779 and with a few exceptions arranged in order of the locations as given in the locations file. The locations mostly come in groups as most of his collecting was done in groups of fields belonging to a single farm. Each group of fields therefore carries its own numbers as does each field within the group, arranged in order of NGR from W-E and S-N. According to a system devised by Heys' colleague and co-collector, Geoffrey Taylor, the locations are generally referred to by either the name of the farm to which the fields belonged or by the surname of the farmer. Thus, Group 1 is High Paradise (the farm), within which there are 4 identified fields or locations. Then there is Group 2, Slater (the farmer), within which there are 3 identified fields or locations, etc. For further details of all the locations and groups of locations, including where known the NGR, consult the Locations File. Within each group (i.e. farm/set of fields) where there were often multiple visits, the lithics have then been further arranged according to their date of collection. Each matchbox therefore represents a single field and visit (date). Within each matchbox, the lithics were finally numbered from 1 onwards.

For example, in the database, the second entry is for Group 1, High Paradise Farm, Location (i.e. field) High Paradise 4. Consulting the Locations File tells you that this particular field is centred on NGR SE 508 882. The lithics, all stored in matchbox 1, were collected on 29<sup>th</sup> January 19889. There were three lithics in total: 1.1 a transverse arrowhead, 1.2 a British oblique arrowhead and 1.3 a scraper. Note that for High Paradise Taylor chose to number rather than name the fields which do not follow the NGR order. Thus High Paradise Field 4 in this instance somewhat confusingly named by Taylor as 'Field 1'. As Taylor chose mostly to name rather than number the fields, this particular problem fortunately does not arise too often!

Unfortunately, Heys (nor his colleague Taylor) used map references (NGRs). However, it has been possible to reconstruct these following information in the Taylor collection (q.v.). Inside most though not all of the boxes used in the Taylor collection, along with his lithics, Taylor made a small sketch map showing the location of each find within the field. These fields were given names by Taylor, based on the name of the landowner or a key feature in the field. Hence, there are names such as 'Car Park Field', 'Hut Field', 'Prest's', 'Redhead's', etc. These have taken some time to identify, but I am generally confident that I have managed to identify most if not all of them. They are all from fields directly above and to the N of Sutton Bank on the extreme W edge of the North York Moors or along either side of the main Helmsley road (A170) to the E. For the precise location of each such field, please consult either the Locations File or, for more detail on each field, the Fields File.

### **Taylor Diaries**

Taylor also made notes and 1:1 drawings of finds in a set of 4 diaries covering the following periods:

Diary 1: December 1983-December 1988

Diary 2: January 1989-August 1991

Diary 3: August 1991-December 1993

Diary 4: January 1994-June 1997

Whenever Heys and Taylor worked together, which was often, references to and drawings of lithics collected by Heys will be found in these diaries.

## Images

For the purposes of photography, the lithics were all removed from their matchboxes and photographed in 15 sets of 24 stout open cardboard boxes, arranged and numbered throughout as per the database. The photographs were subsequently annotated with these numbers.

Thus a typical Heys database entry looks like this:

Set	Gp.	Box	No.	Date	Diary	Location	Total	Fig.	Description

Set: Set of 24 boxes photographed (out of Sets 1-15)

Gp.: Number of location group (i.e. set of fields)

Box: Number of matchbox

No.: Number of each lithic within each matchbox

Date: Date of discovery

Diary: Taylor diary entry (if present) – Diary No., page no(s).

Location: location (field) of find (see Location or Fields file)

Total: total no. of finds collected

Fig.: Drawing in Taylor diary (if present) – Diary No., page no., drawing no.

Description: Description of find

K. Boughey

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