

LONGSTONE EDGE BARROWS 1996

POTTERY REPORT

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REVISED DRAFT

INTRODUCTION

This is an unusual pottery assemblage, and for a Peak District site is unique, with a preponderance of small fragments as opposed to sherds. This is a direct result of an excavation strategy of saturation sampling using mainly 4mm sieves and occasionally 2mm. Only 80 pieces of pottery were retrieved by hand, apart from one vessel found *in situ* and excavated in the laboratory.

A total of 1384 pottery fragments and sherds weighing at least 1013g was recovered (Table 00); only 250 were sherds, the rest (1134) fragments. A high percentage (94%) weighed less than 3g and 77% were abraded. Fabric identification was helped by a variety of distinctive fabrics but was uncertain for 19% (252) and 15% (191) were unidentifiable. However, 66% (910) proved possible to assign to specific fabrics. Diagnostic sherds within fabrics show a date range from the Neolithic to Early Bronze Age with evidence for at least three Neolithic vessels, a Beaker and an Early Bronze Age Food Vessel, and include rims of four Late Bronze Age/Iron Age vessels. Only one vessel, the Food Vessel, was found *in situ* in Barrow 1 and most of the rest were found in disturbed contexts chiefly in the southern sector of the same barrow both within and under the mound, though a few were also located in Barrow 2.

METHODOLOGY

Each sherd and fragment was examined macroscopically using a hand lense (x10 and x20 power), and each was weighed to the nearest gramme. However, many individual fragments weighed less than a gramme and some fragment groups of over 10 pieces still weighed under one gramme so could not be included in the overall weight total. Fabrics were analysed using a system recommended by the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (1992, revised 1997), in which clay matrix, inclusions, form and surface treatment are used to define fabric types and number of vessels. Any visible burnt residues were noted, and size and condition codes were assigned to each piece (details in archive) to help determine the nature of the excavated contexts and to attempt to understand what the sherds might represent in terms of past activities (Orton *et al.* 1993, 168). Size has been based on weight i.e. small (Sm) less than 3g; medium (Med) 3-10g; large (Lg) over 10g. Condition is a subjective judgement and no universally accepted method has yet been devised. For this analysis it was based on perceived degrees of wear: fresh (Fs) no abrasion on surfaces or edges therefore likely to have been *in situ* since burial; average (Av) slight abrasion on surfaces and edges therefore likely to have been moved since breakage; abraded (Ab) all surfaces and edges worn, including pieces with no original surface remaining, and therefore likely to have been disturbed considerably since initial breakage.

RESULTS

Fabrics

Six fabric types were recognised:

Fabric 1 Fine fabric, reddish-brown surface with moderate grog and sparse limestone inclusions, up to 2-3mm in size and poorly sorted, and rare flint and chert trimmings. In some acidic contexts leaching of the limestone has taken place, leaving voids which led to initial confusion as to how many fabrics were represented. Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age Beaker.

Fabric 2 Brownish-grey, smooth, sandy and fine fabric with sparse angular quartz inclusions up to 2mm in size. ? Neolithic, no diagnostic sherds.

Fabric 3 Very dark grey or reddish surface, smooth fabric with moderate to common voids averaging 1mm in size, probably where calcite type inclusions have leached out. Early Neolithic, at least two vessels.

Fabric 4 Dark brown or dark grey coarse fabric with uneven surface and occasional inclusions of rounded sandstone and gritstone up to 5mm in size. Late Bronze Age/Iron Age, at least four vessels.

Fabric 5 Very dark grey or reddish brown surface with sparse voids and occasional angular, ?dolomitic limestone inclusions (no reaction to acid) up to 2mm in size. Middle to Later Neolithic, one vessel.

Fabric 6 Reddish-brown surface, smooth, soapy fabric with abundant grog, angular and up to 3mm in size. Early Bronze Age Food Vessel.

The site lies near to the eastern margin of the limestone plateau and it is interesting that the fabric range reflects this position with three (Fabrics 1, 3 and 5) having limestone derived inclusions while one, Fabric 4, has inclusions derived from a sandstone/gritstone source such as occurs on the Edges east of the River Derwent (4-5 km) or on Eyam Moor to the north (4 km). For example, similar fabrics to Fabric 4 have been excavated recently on Gardom's Edge (Beswick 1995, 1999, 2003). The sandy and quartz rich clay in Fabric 2 would have been widely obtainable in the Derwent Valley or from glacial deposits on the limestone.

Fabric 3 closely resembles an Early Neolithic Grimston Ware fabric from sites in the Peak District such as Lismore Fields, Buxton (Garton 1991, 18) and Mount Pleasant, Kenslow (Garton and Beswick 1983, 23).

Grog temper was much used by Beaker potters along with other inclusions and was favoured by makers of Food Vessels and Collared Urns for funerary purposes (Cleal 1995, 190). Woodward (2000a, 58-60) has suggested this may reflect deliberate linking

of new pots to ancestral vessels with personal links. Whatever the case, the Food Vessel from Barrow 1 was so heavily grog-tempered and poorly fired that the fabric shattered into many fragments (Table 00 – please note that all tiny fragments, some still mixed with soil, could not practically be included in the fragment or weight totals) when crushed and disturbed during burial, suggesting that it may have been made solely for burial and not for everyday use.

Forms

Diagnostic sherds are illustrated (Figs 00) and described individually below in chronological order and are then followed by general comments within a chronological framework.

Illustrated sherds

- 1 Rim sherd; everted and rounded. Probably from an open, round-bottomed bowl of Early Neolithic Grimston Ware style. Fabric 3. 5075.17, context 1055 – barrow mound, phase 4.
- 2 Rim sherd; sharply everted and pointed with a flattened top and deeply concave neck, but much of the original surfaces are missing. Probably from a round-bottomed bowl of the Early Neolithic. Fabric 3. 72254, context 1052 – mound north of fissure, phase 4.
- 3 Body sherd; exterior carination but internal surface missing. Probably from a round-bottomed bowl in an Early Neolithic style. Fabric 3. 5090.2, context 1058 – barrow mound, phase 4.
- 4 Body sherds (3 examples); deeply impressed, closely spaced, cord maggots in surviving exterior surface. Middle to later Neolithic probably Peterborough Ware Mortlake or Ebbsfleet style. Fabric 5. 5135.1, context 1057 – subsoil, phase 0/1; 5075.1, context 1055 – barrow mound, phase 4; 5172, context 1055 (as previous).
- 5 Body sherd; sharply inturned neck, external surface only surviving. Probably later Neolithic Peterborough Mortlake or Ebbsfleet style. Fabric 5. 5135.1, context 1057 – subsoil, phase 0/1.
- 6 Rim and body sherds of Beaker; incomplete, rim diameter *c.* 10cm internally, height and base diameter unknown, body 5-6mm thick. Total weight of likely pieces *c.* 113g (Table 00). Decorated with multiple horizontal lines of comb impressions, average size 1mm long, irregularly applied in 2cm deep, six-line zones over the upper part of the body and the belly. Below was a band of diagonal comb impressions with at least two horizontal lines above a slightly protruding base. Fabric 1.

Illustrated sherds shown in possible reconstruction (Fig. 0.6): rim sherds: 5075.2, condition abraded, context 1055 – barrow, mound phase 4; 72541, condition fresh, context 1055 (as previous); [72847, fresh, context 1056 – ‘excarnation’ deposit, phase 1 – not included in reconstruction].

Body sherds: 5075.6, condition abraded, context 1056 – (as previous); 72406, condition abraded, context 1055 – (as above); 72529, condition abraded, context 1055 (as above). Base sherd 5092.1, condition abraded, context 1055 - (as above).

Classification: Clarke’s Wessex/Middle Rhine or Northern British/Middle Rhine Groups (Clarke 1970); Lanting and van der Waals Steps 2-3 (Lanting and van der Waals 1972); Case Style 2, Group ?D (Case 1993) or ?Ba (1998) Chronology: probably later third millennium BC.

- 7 Food Vessel; incomplete because much of it shattered (see above under fabric), rim diameter 14cm, shoulder diameter 14cm, height over 12cm, base largely missing, body 9mm thick. Total weight of measurable pieces *c.* 663g (Table 00). None of the sherds join, therefore, although the reconstructed shape is the most likely it is not absolutely certain in the shoulder area (Fig. 0.0). The neck, postulated narrow shoulder groove (no evidence for lugs) and upper body are decorated with five horizontal lines of finger-nail impressed chevrons forming a herringbone pattern, and another line of chevrons decorates the slightly concave rim bevel, with irregular diagonal nail impressions on the rim edge. Fabric 6.
Illustrated sherds: 72649, condition fresh, context 3030 – grave fill, Food Vessel accompanied by the partial cremated remains of two individuals, phase 4.
An abraded sherd (5135.9) and fragments of the same vessel were found in context 1057 – subsoil, phase 0/1.
Classification: Probably Type 2 (Abercromby 1912, 93-4), with shoulder groove; Yorkshire vase Type 2(ii) (Manby 1957, 4), with deep shoulder groove. If originally lugged it could be a Type 1a, lugged and grooved form.
Chronology: probably early part of second millennium BC.
- 8 Rim sherd; everted and rounded with a probable finger-tip/nail impression on the internal edge. Late Bronze Age/Iron Age. Fabric 4. 5116.4, context 1081/2 – barrow mound, phase 4 and ‘excarnation’ deposit, phase 1.
- 9 Rim sherd; upright, bevelled and tapered. Late Bronze Age/Iron Age. Fabric 4. 72232, context 1052 – mound north of fissure, phase 4.
- 10 Rim sherd; upright, rounded and slightly beaded. Late Bronze Age/Iron Age. Fabric 4. 72764, context 1086 – barrow mound, phase 4.
- 11 Rim sherd; upright, tapered flat on inner edge, rounded and slightly beaded on outer edge. Late Bronze Age/Iron Age. Fabric 4. 72871, context 1095 – stone mound, phase 3.

COMMENTS

Neolithic

Probable Neolithic sherds and fragments in Fabrics 2, 3 and 5 comprise 17% (232) of the assemblage but only three vessels can be recognised, two in Fabric 3 from the rims (Fig. 0.1, 2) and one in Fabric 5 from the distinctive cord maggot impressions (Fig. 0.4).

Number 1 resembles in shape rims of Early Neolithic Grimston style pottery (*cf.* Manby 1988, 48-9), a style beginning in the later fifth millennium BC (e.g. Whitwell long cairn, north-east Derbyshire, Vyner and Wall in prep.) and found in earlier fourth millennium contexts in the Peak District (e.g. Lismore Fields, Buxton, Garton 1991, 19). Sherds in the same vesicular fabric have been found on the central limestone plateau of the White Peak in flint scatters at Mount Pleasant, Kenslow (Garton and Beswick 1983, 23) and Astonhill (May 1971) and at the burial monuments of Green Low, Aldwark (Manby 1965) and Liffs Low (Barnatt and Collis 1996). They were also found in south Derbyshire, along with a quartz tempered Grimston Ware, at the barrow site of Aston-on-Trent (Reaney 1968, 80-1). The carinated sherd, number 3, could be from the same vessel. Rim number 2 in the same fabric is more developed in shape but could be from a similar earlier Neolithic carinated plain bowl style (*cf.* range of rim forms from Broome Heath, Norfolk, Wainwright 1972).

Decorated Neolithic pottery based on the carinated bowl styles of the earlier Neolithic develops around the mid fourth millennium BC and continues probably into the mid third millennium BC (Gibson 1995, 30) in the forms of Peterborough impressed wares. Cord maggots are favoured particularly in the Ebbsfleet and Mortlake styles (e.g. Manby 1988, 52, 54). Ebbsfleet style vessels are in a thinner, harder and finer fabric (Healy 1995, 175) than the coarser Mortlake examples but no chronological distinction between the two styles has been proven (Gibson 1995, 23). The fragments found at Longstone Edge barrows are too tiny to characterise to one particular style. Peterborough Wares in general are relatively common in the Peak District from open sites and cave sites both domestic and funerary (Garton and Beswick 1983, 19) with the Mortlake style dominant, but Ebbsfleet examples are also present (e.g. Wigber Low, a multi-period cairn site, Collis 1983, 53-57).

Theoretically the two pottery types represented by Fabrics 3 and 5 could have overlapped chronologically in the mid fourth millennium BC but could also have been separated by some considerable time interval. Small abraded pieces were found within the mounds and the subsoil of both barrows, but chiefly Barrow 1, and they appear to be residual and to pre-date the monuments. None appears to be associated with any of the burials located. Similar finds of Neolithic sherds, often of different types and ages and small and abraded, have been recognised regionally and elsewhere (Woodward 2000b, 51) in association with Bronze Age burial sites. Regional examples include Abingdon/Mildenhall and Peterborough style pottery from Wigber Low (Collis 1983, 53-57), possible Mildenhall style and plain Neolithic ware from below Hognaston Barrow,

Carsington (Barnatt and Collis 1996, 160-2), plain Neolithic sherds from Liffs Low (*ibid.* 113-5) and possible Peterborough Ware and Grooved Ware plus rusticated Beaker from a barrow at Roystone Grange (Barnatt 1996, 20-23). At Swarkeston Barrow 4, in the Trent Valley, earlier Grimston Ware was residual in structural evidence for Beaker occupation, including Peterborough sherds, and sealed below the mound (Greenfield 1960, 11-37). Many such finds may relate to domestic activities (Gibson 1982, 35-8, 47), but for others possibly a ritual interpretation related to Neolithic practices such as midden curation and re-deposition (Woodward 2000b, 51) might be more appropriate. However, as at Longstone Edge, the evidence is usually insufficient to determine this issue. Nonetheless, it is interesting to note that the sherd scatters at Longstone Edge were not found in the trenches outside the confines of the monuments, and this might indicate deliberate deposition and site targeted activities either of a domestic or ritual nature, but whether the vessels were brought whole to the site or in an already broken state in midden material cannot now be ascertained.

Beaker (Fig. 0.6)

Detailed examination of the Beaker sherds strongly indicated that only one vessel was present, despite their apparently different appearance resulting from differing burial conditions (see above under fabric). A complete, similar sized Beaker from Rampton, Nottinghamshire, weighed 394g (Knight and Beswick 2000, 16), over three times the weight of the likely surviving sherds of the Longstone Edge Beaker (*c.* 113g).

Debate over Beaker typologies and dates have dominated Beaker studies over the last 30 years. Clarke (1970) introduced a detailed classification based on shape and type of decoration with suggestions for European areas of origin/influence. This vessel would perhaps best fit into his Wessex/Middle Rhine (W/MR) or the contemporary (Northern British/Middle Rhine (N/MR) groups, retaining elements of earlier Bell Beaker shapes with its everted rim and simple comb decoration in horizontal zones using European Motif Group 1, motif numbers 1 and 2 (*ibid.* 424). Examples similar to the Longstone Beaker include an N/MR Beaker from Rock, Northumberland (Clarke 1970, fig. 239) and another from Hanging Grimston, Yorkshire (*ibid.* fig. 245). Dutch scholars criticised Clarke's over refined typological approach (Lanting and van der Waals 1972) and suggested a broader approach from a regional perspective. Their scheme proposed a seven-step development for British Beakers in four geographical focus areas and was widely accepted, although Clarke's classification is still used for stylistic descriptions. The lack of neck development and simple decoration on the Longstone Edge Beaker would place it in their Steps 2 or 3. Case originally proposed a simpler classification of early, middle and late Beakers based on shape (1977), which later he developed on a regional and chronological basis (1993; 1998), but the outlines are vague and open to question. The Longstone Edge Beaker would appear to fall within his Middle style (1977), or style 2 (1993) and possibly within his regional group D or Ba (1998). Typologically, therefore, this Beaker could belong to the earlier stages of Beaker development but with the proviso that some early forms of Beakers appear to have continued throughout the Early Bronze Age (Boast 1995, 73).

A British Museum radiocarbon dating programme failed to support the typological frameworks (Kinnes *et al.* 1991), although it did demonstrate an overall time span of *c.* 2600 to 1800 cal BC and a progression from early to late forms with a tendency towards increasingly elaborate decoration and more complex and diverse shapes over time (Boast 1995, 74). Step 2 or 3 Beakers from Radley, Oxfordshire, have recently been dated to a time span of around 2400-2000 cal BC (Barclay and Halpin 2000, 282), which is consistent with a date range of 2330-2130 cal BC for an inhumation burial with a W/MR Beaker from Barnack, Cambridgeshire (90% confidence) (3770+/-35 BP; BM-2956). It would seem likely that the Longstone Edge Beaker falls within this time range, sometime after the decline of Peterborough Wares and a time when Beaker pottery was regularly placed in inhumation graves in Britain, often with fine grave goods.

No other W/MR or N/MR Beakers have been recorded from Derbyshire but four Step 1-2 Beakers are known from burial sites. Two are AOC (All-over-Cord – Steps 1-2) Beakers ; one from Bee Low, Youlgreave (Marsden 1970, 201) and one from Hindlow, near Buxton (Ashbee 1981, 21-2); and two are European Bell Beakers (Group E, Clarke 1970; Steps 1-2) from the sites of Rusden Low and Calling Low, Middleton (Clarke 1970, nos 146, 136), both from the limestone plateau. However, the majority of Beakers found in Derbyshire are more developed in shape and with more complex decoration. A Beaker found close to Barrow 1, from Blake Low, Longstone Edge (Varley 1991, 36), is from Clarke's Developed Northern British Group (N2) and very different in shape and decoration (Clarke 1970, 167, fig. 529) The probably earlier Beaker from Hindlow (see above), a site closely comparable with Barrow 1 at Longstone Edge, was fragmentary and incomplete and could not be associated directly with any of the burial deposits. Although the surfaces were unworn the edges displayed gloss (Ashbee 1981, 21), perhaps suggesting human handling and selection following breakage. A rare example of structured deposition of Beaker sherds in pits was recently recognised under a cairn on Eyam Moor (Beswick forthcoming). At Longstone Edge, a few Beaker fragments, probably from the same Beaker, were found in and under Barrow 2 but the majority came from the phase 4 mound (context 1055) of Barrow 1, and although most were small (under 3g) and abraded, five were in fresh condition, one large (over 10g), three medium (3-10g) and one small, and included one from the 'excarnation' deposit (context 1056). It is, therefore, possible that this Beaker was deposited originally in a complete state with a burial in phase 2 but was later removed and broken up when the stone mound was built (phase 3), with fragments being incorporated accidentally in subsequent phases.

Food Vessel (Fig. 0.7)

Food Vessels occur widely in Britain but are concentrated in northern England, especially Yorkshire and the Peak District where usually they accompany inhumation burials and occasionally cremations. At Longstone Edge the partial cremated remains of two individuals were being accompanied by the Food Vessel. It has been suggested that the ratio of inhumations to cremations with Food Vessels in an area may have chronological significance because on the chalk Wolds of East Yorkshire, inhumations outnumber cremations by around 10 to 1 (Simpson 1968, 202), but as yet no confirmatory dating is available. In Derbyshire the relationship is more complex with cremations appearing to form a higher proportion than in Yorkshire (Manby 1957).

Manby's classic study of Food Vessels of the Peak District (1957) identified and classified 56 vessels, 50 of which are of the Yorkshire Vase type and most are highly decorated and from the limestone plateau. Implicit in his typological scheme, adapted from Abercromby's of 1912, was the then current idea that simple shapes and decoration were early and therefore that the more developed styles represented later stages. Although his classification is still useful for describing Yorkshire Vases, modern techniques of radiocarbon dating have still to demonstrate any chronological validity. There do, however, appear to be regional preferences for particular styles of Food Vessel, as Manby originally suggested (1957, 11; Pierpoint 1980, 63-122), with his types 2 and 3 being most common in the Peak District, compared with a preference for types 1a and 3 in east Yorkshire. It is also generally the case that to the south of a line between the Severn and the Wash, Food Vessels are less numerous and more sparsely and simply decorated. The herringbone impressions on the upper half of the Food Vessel under consideration are the most commonly found motif found on Yorkshire Vase concentrations in Yorkshire, the Peak District and Northumberland (Pierpoint 1980, 84-7, fig. 4.11). In the Peak District it occurs on some 41% of the 75 extant vessels, 16% of which have horizontally zoned herringbone as the sole motif (T. G. Manby *pers. comm.*; Manby 1957, e.g. fig. 2. A1, fig. 4. A17, A40). At present there are circumstantial indications only that 'Yorkshire' Food Vessels of sharp profile with decoration confined to the horizontal herringbone motif do not appear until a developed phase of Food Vessel deposition, contrary to original typological theories (Manby in prep.).

Radiocarbon dates for Food Vessels suggest that the earliest are contemporary with Beakers at the end of the third millennium BC, as an alternative burial accompaniment, and that they appear to have flourished alongside early urns into the early second millennium BC (Needham 1996, 124-30). A limited series of dates from Scotland suggests a similar time framework (Sheridan 1997). At Heslerton, east Yorkshire, three Food Vessel burials have produced dates within a remarkably similar range of around 2200 to 1970 cal BC (Manby 1999, figs 22-3, 24, 31; 2002). While at Radley, Oxfordshire, two examples gave wider date ranges; Grave 605 – 2350 to 1750 cal BC and Grave 4970 – 1970 to 1690 cal BC (Barclay and Halpin 2000, 283, table 9.2). A Food Vessel similar in type and decoration to the Longstone Edge example, came from burial pit 2 under a cairn on Harland Edge, Beeley Moor (Riley 1966, fig. 8.2), with a radiocarbon date of 2183-1420 cal BC (3440+/-150 BP; BM-178). However, this date was obtained early in the radiocarbon process with a long standard deviation, and it is possible that the pit contained fills relating to two episodes of deposition (Barnatt 1995, 13) which may help to account for the extended time scale compared with more recently dated samples. [Note that Needham's dismissal (1996, 128) of the earlier date from pit 3, Harland Edge, 2564-1696 cal BC (3700+/-150 BP: BM-210) for Food Vessels, where actually none were found, does not consider the dates from pit 2]. It is theoretically possible, therefore, that the Food Vessel burial at Barrow 1, Longstone Edge, was contemporary with the Beaker but the structural sequence would suggest that it was later. However, the presence of abraded sherds in context 1057 could suggest that the Food Vessel grave was disturbed before completion of the phase 4 mound.

The two Food Vessels found by Bateman in the central rock-cut grave in Barrow 2 (Howarth 1899, 105-J93.785; 109-J93.792) (Manby 1957, 17, A14, A15) are slightly

bigger and more elaborately decorated than that found in 1996 without the herringbone motif, which could suggest a chronological difference (see comments above about dangers of using typology this way and Manby's current thoughts on the dating of similar herringbone decorated Beakers which could imply that the vessel from Barrow 1 is later than those from Barrow 2). Vessel J93.785, the same Type 2(ii) as that found in 1996, has a rim diameter of 16.5cm and shallow impressions all over, including the shoulder groove (not shown on Manby's illustration; 1957, 15) of wrapped cord maggots up to 2.5cm long in regular horizontal lines on the body and diagonals on the rim edge and on both carinations. [Note that the cord maggots on the three sherds of possible Peterborough Ware (no. 4) at Longstone Edge are shorter, deeper and more random.] Vessel J93.792, Type 1a(ii), has a broad shoulder groove with lugs, a rim diameter of about 20cm and is decorated with thick (0.3cm) twisted cord horizontal lines on the deep rim bevel, neck and shoulder groove and above the base with pendant triangles, crisply impressed on the body. Both vessels have been consolidated and reconstructed but their fabrics appear to be grog tempered. It is not uncommon for two Food Vessels of different types to be found together (Manby 1957, 4-5) but more interesting is the recovery from radiocarbon dated pit 2 of the cairn at Harland Edge, mentioned above, of two vessels of the same types as those from Barrow 2, and one with similar decoration to the Type 1a(ii) from Barrow 2 (Riley 1966, 46, fig. 8.2, 9). Harland Edge is a prominent gritstone escarpment east of the River Derwent, only *c.* 7km away.

Later Bronze Age/Iron Age

Sherds and fragments probably in Fabric 4 amount to 16% (224) of the total assemblage, a similar quantity to the Neolithic material, and only four vessels can be identified from their rims (Fig. 0. 8-11).

The similar fabric excavated recently from circular house sites on Gardom's Edge, included examples of the same simple rim styles with tapered and occasional everted rims and the use of finger nail/tip decoration. No radiocarbon dates are available as yet from Gardom's sites but stylistically close parallels can be found in the assemblage from Mam Tor which generally is thought to date from the early part of the first millennium BC (Knight 2002, 124-5) and in part to span a transition from 'PDR plainwares' (Barrett 1980) to decorated wares within the first half of the millennium (Guilbert and Vince 1996, 49). However, this period is poorly dated and understood in the Midlands, and in Derbyshire especially (Knight 2002, 126-7).

At Longstone Edge the pieces found were mainly small (less than 3g) and abraded (Table 00) but were not scattered over the site as a whole, rather they were confined principally to area 12, i.e. the barrow mound and features north of the fissure. None of the pieces has been burnt, but seventeen have visible evidence of charred internal residues relating to food preparation whether for domestic reasons or for funeral feasting and/or deposition. Their occurrence in phases 1 to 4 mainly as small abraded pieces could be attributable to a number of factors, such as geological disturbance, animal activity and weathering, human ritual or burial activities (though none can be directly associated with a burial), Romano-British disturbance or even to grave-robbing in either the Late Bronze Age/Iron Age or Roman periods. Another possible reason for activity in the Late Bronze Age/Iron Age

may relate to a search for lead, a valuable commodity for adding to bronze alloys to aid casting and shaping.

Fabric	Size			Condition			Totals	
	Sm	Med	Lg	Ab	Av	Fs	sherds/fgs	weight
Beaker F1	55	12	1	59	4	5	68	97g
?F1	(36)	(1)		(34)	(3)		(37)	16g
?Neolithic F2	31			31			31	5g
?F2	(22)			(22)			(22)	1g
Neolithic F3	26	5		22	9		31	37g
?F3	(26)	(1)		(25)	(2)		(27)	10g
LBA/IA F4	148	14	1	159	4		163	131g
?F4	(61)			(61)			(61)	16g
Neolithic F5	38			38			38	4g
?F5	(82)	(1)		(83)			(83)	21g
Food Vessel F6	563	37	10	314	135	161	610	660g
?F6	(22)			(22)			(22)	3g
Unidentified	190	1		191			191	12g
TOTALS (incl. ?)	1300	72	12	1061	157	166	1384	1013g

Table 00: Longstone Edge Barrows 1996; prehistoric pottery analysis by fabric, size and condition. Weights do not include fragments less than 1g (see text).

Key: Sm (small)-under 3g; Med (medium)-3 to 10g; Lg (large)-over 10g
Ab (abraded); Av (average); Fs (fresh)

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