

Flint

By Tom Lane

Introduction

Worked flints were submitted for a report. These appear to come from Trial trenching and Excavation.

Condition

All the flints were moderately to heavily patinated and had suffered various forms of abrasion. No special conservation is required for the items.

Results

Cxt No	Description	No	Wt(g)	Date
105	Broken Flake. Heavily patinated. Blade scar on dorsal surface. 38 x 24 x 5mm. From Fieldwalking	1	3	Meso/E. Neo
301	Narrow Blade. Heavily patinated. Possible minor secondary working or more likely edge damage on one side. 34 x 14 x 2mm. From subsoil.	1	<1	Mesolithic
3006	Frost fractured piece but with single blade removal. Heavily patinated. 46 x 38 x 8mm	1	16	Mesolithic?
3008	Narrow bladelet with notch removed on side near proximal end probably in micro-burin manufacture. Heavily patinated. 38 x 9 x 5mm	1	<1	Mesolithic
3050	Flake. Broken, probably in blade manufacture. Moderately patinated. Cortex remaining at distal end. 36 x 22 x 5mm	1	1	?Mesolithic
3101	Flake from spread. Moderately patinated. 35 x 26 x 2mm	1	3	?Mesolithic/Early Neolithic
3108	Core fragment. Blade removal. Heavily patinated. 30 x 30 x 18	1	26	Mesolithic
U/S	Possible hammerstone fragment? Irregular shape and abraded. 42 x 30 x 27	1	42	?Mesolithic
U/S	Side and end scraper. Later secondary working on one side. Heavily patinated 27 x 15 x 4mm	1	2	Mesolithic

Provenance

Some of the items are recorded as unstratified or from fieldwalking, topsoil and subsoil. Items 3006 and 3008 are from environmental samples retrieved from a posthole and pit respectively, while 3050 came from a posthole fill and 3108 from the fill of a linear.

Range

Most of the items date from the Mesolithic period and range from waste flakes to tools and the preparation of tools. Clearly flintworking has been undertaken on the site during the Mesolithic period. Apart from two items which could extend into the early Neolithic all the material is of a single broad period, although may relate to repeated visits to the same site.

Potential

The collection would appear to indicate the site of Mesolithic flintworking, and therefore most probably some form of settlement. Given that the age of the material is Mesolithic and the period is known for the paucity of related earthfast features it should be borne in mind that the vast majority of the Mesolithic data from this site is likely to reside in the topsoil.

Summary

A collection of Mesolithic flints was made during investigations on the site. Through the presence of debitage and a scraper the collection indicates the manufacture of flint tools on the site during the Mesolithic.