

The worked and burnt stone

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A single stone artefact was recovered from ditch fill 2112. It is a quartzitic sandstone cobble that was broken in antiquity. The subsequently waterworn cobble was then used as a pestle, with one whole rounded end battered where it has been used as a hammerstone/pounder.

The pounder was one of a number of burnt quartzite and quartzitic sandstone cobbles, pebbles and stones observed on site. A sample of these (Table 1), were examined but none were found to be otherwise utilised.

Table 1: number and weight of burnt stone

| Context | Count | Weight (g) |
|---------|-------|------------|
| 7 | 2 | 33 |
| 23 | 1 | 6 |
| 29 | 1 | 12 |
| 31 | 15 | 1094 |
| 85 | 5 | 34 |
| 98 | 1 | 132 |
| 106 | 1 | 983 |
| 2023 | 1 | 19 |
| 2089 | 35 | 4862 |
| 2094 | 4 | 518 |
| 2097 | 3 | 1327 |
| 2110 | 10 | 1531 |
| 2112 | 23 | 2390 |
| 2114 | 1 | 7 |
| 2149 | 2 | 224 |
| 2151 | 8 | 275 |
| 2165 | 11 | 2392 |
| 2167 | 87 | 14017 |
| 2182 | 9 | 1694 |
| 2188 | 28 | 2254 |
| 2213 | 1 | 15 |
| TOTAL | 249 | 33819 |

Catalogue of stone objects

Pestle/pounder. Quartzitic sandstone. Cobble, broken and waterworn subsequent to breakage. Then used as a pestle. Whole of one end is battered through use as a pounder/pestle. Burnt. Measures 68mm high x 54 x 48mm. Weighs 188g. Ctx 2112, fill of middle Iron Age ditch 2107.