(Microfiche) Chapter 2

The early prehistoric period

by Timothy Darvill

2.A The Grooved Ware pits

2.A.1 Description of the excavated features

784 Small circular pit 0.9 m across and 0.18 m deep, filled with dark-brown charcoal-flecked soil and many small burnt stones. A radiocarbon date from this feature was 4100±100 BP (HAR–5498).

Finds: Pottery (P1 Fig. 8.1); flintwork (46 pieces comprising 8 scrapers, 1 serrated flake, 1 possible projectile point, 2 miscellaneous retouched flakes, 4 utilized flakes, 3 cores, 26 flakes, and 1 nodule); animal bone (8 fragments including cattle, pig and red deer) and two bone points (Fig. 12).

785 Small circular pit 1.0 m across and 0.12 m deep, filled with black charcoal stained soil containing a few burnt stones and flecks of red burnt earth. Pottery found in one mass squashed against the west side.

Finds: pottery (P2–P4, Figs. 8.2–4); flintwork (23 pieces comprising 2 utilized flakes, 1 core, 15 flakes and 5 calcined lumps; see Fig. 11); animal bone (21 fragments including cattle, pig and red deer); a quartzite pebble used as a light hammerstone, probably in flintworking (Fig. 13).

962 Large approximately circular pit cut by a smaller oval pit or posthole (983) on the east side. 962 is about 1.37 m across and 0.2 m deep. There were four fills (see Fig. 116 on Fiche 1#4).

Finds: Pottery (P5 and P6 Fig. 8.5); flintwork (48 pieces comprising 3 scrapers, 2 serrated flakes, 2 utilized flakes, 4 cores, 36 flakes, and 1 calcined lump); animal bone (57 fragments including cattle, sheep, pig, red deer, and dog); and part of the shell of a freshwater mollusc. A radiocarbon date from the upper fill of this feature (layer 4) was 3940±80 BP (HAR-5500), one from the lower fill (layer 1) was 3820±90 BP (HAR-5501).

983 Oval shaped posthole cut into the east side of 962 (Fig. 116 on Fiche 1#4). Dimensions 0.83 m (east-west) by 0.73 m (north-south) and 0.15 m deep, with a central hollow about 0.43 m in diameter and 0.10 m deeper. This hollow might represent a post position, but there are no traces in the remainder of the fill to suggest a post-pipe and packing. There were three fills.

Finds: burnt clay (11 g); flints (18 pieces comprising 1 hammerstone and 17 flakes); and animal bones (8 fragments including cattle and pig).

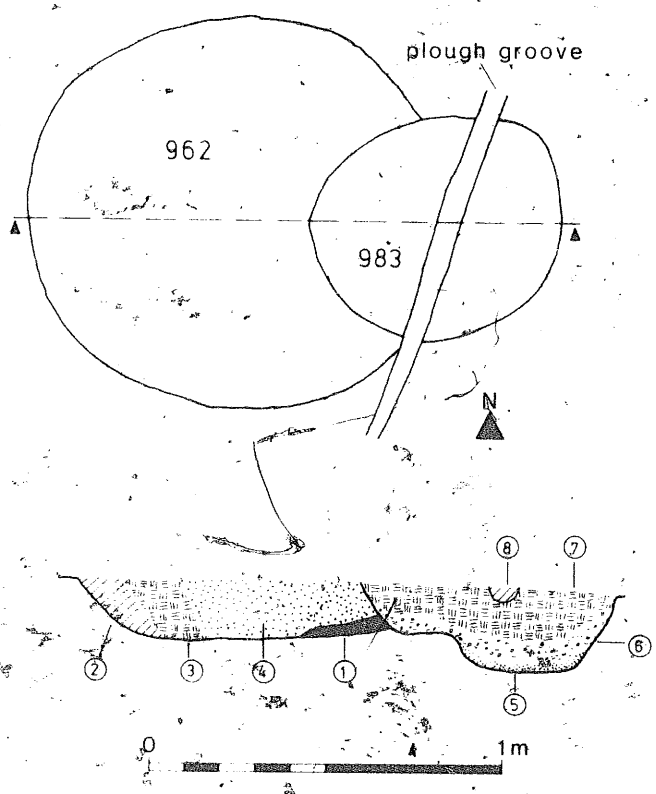

Figure 116 Plan and section of Grooved Ware pit 962 and posthole 983

2.A.2 Pottery

Table 29 on Fiche 1#5 summarizes the incidence of Grooved Ware by context.

Feature	Number of vessels		Pot numbers
	Fabric 1	Fabric 2	
784	1 (100)	0	P1
785	3 (225)	0	P2, P3, P4
962	1 (16++)	1 (12)	P5, P6
Totals	5 (341++)	1 (12)	

Figures in brackets indicate total weight of sherds in grams

Table 29 Summary of Grooved Ware pottery by context

2.A.2.a Catalogue of Grooved Ware sherds

P1 Five bodysherds from a thick-walled vessel in Fabric 1. It was probably a large vessel to judge from the thickness of the sherds (10–12 mm). The interior and exterior surfaces are a pale red-orange colour, and the core is dark. Abundant pieces of shell and limestone are visible in the surfaces. The outer face is decorated with a pair of lightly-incised vertical lines intersected by four diagonal parallel lines. Wt 100 g. Fig. 8.1.

P2 Eight bodysherds from the central portion of a thin-walled vessel in a fine version of Fabric 1. It was a fairly small vessel to judge from the thickness of the walls (6–7 mm). The outer face is pinkish-red colour, the inner face and core dark brown to black. The vessel was heavily ornamented, having an incised horizontal grooved line below which were horizontal zigzag lines. Wt 27 g. Fig. 8.2.

P3 Eighteen sherds representing a substantial part of the rim and upper body portion of a medium-sized vessel in Fabric 1. The overall rim diameter is about 200 mm, and the sherds suggest slightly sloping sides. It was probably a tub-shaped vessel. The colour of the outer surface ranges from pink through to dark brown. The interior surface and core is uniformly dark brown to black. The rim is upright, pointed, and has a pronounced bevel on the inside (like Wainwright & Longworth 1971 type 24). The bevel is decorated by a wavy line with stab marks in the peaks and troughs, bounded top and bottom by lightly-incised grooved lines. There is a pair of parallel horizontal grooved lines along the outside of the rim, below which is a frieze of rusticated decoration comprising horizontally set wavy lines punctuated by small pits. This pattern was created by first cutting a series of deeply incised lines around the vessel and then impressing a blunt point into the incised lines at intervals and moving it up and down to force the ridges of clay between the grooves into wavy lines. Wt 130 g. Fig. 8.3.

P4 Nine sherds from the flat base and lower body of a medium-sized vessel in Fabric 1. These pieces may represent the base for P3, but the fabric of P4 is finer, limestone more dominant, and the colouring rather different. The outer face is light grey, almost white in places, but the inner surface and core is black. The junction between the base and the side wall is of simple form (Wainwright & Longworth 1971, Fig. 22A). There is no decoration present. Wt 68 g. Fig. 8.4.

P5 Ten sherds representing part of the rim and upper body portion of a medium-sized vessel in Fabric 1. One large rimsherd from this vessels was published in the interim account of the Grooved Ware pits (Jones 1976, Fig. 2.1). It was probably a fairly straight-sided, bucket-shaped pot. The outer face is very dark brown to dark greyish-brown and the tempering is slightly leached. The rim is upright, pointed in cross section, and there is a slight bevel on the inside. The decoration on the outer face comprises two shallow zigzag lines along the rim, below which is a deeply incised grooved line, and below this a panel of rusticated decoration comprising wavy lines as on P3. Wt >16 g. Fig. 8.5.

P6 Four small abraded sherds from a vessel of unknown type in Fabric 2. Some of the sherds may have been refired or burnt as they show discolouration and vitrification. The remaining pieces are dark brown to black in colour. One very small sherd may be a rimsherd or simply a coil-join. This is the only vessel in Fabric 2. Wt 12 g. Not illustrated.

2.A.2.b Early prehistoric pottery fabrics and thin-section results

Macroscopic inspection of the prehistoric pottery fabrics (Grooved Ware, Beaker, and Early Bronze Age ware) revealed the presence of six fabric types. Sample sherds representative of Fabrics 1–5 were selected from the available assemblage and used for microscopic studies of the fabric matrix and non-plastic additives. A sample of daub from Beaker pit 1260 was also analysed in the same way. Table 30 on Fiche 1#6 summarizes the contextual details of the samples analysed.

Fabric	Sample type	Context	Thin-section slide number
1	Sherd	962	N276
	Sherd	962	N406
	Sherd	785	N408
2	Sherd	962	N277
	Sherd	962	N407
3	Sherd	1260	N399
4	Sherd	1260	N400
	Sherd	1260	N401
	Sherd	1260	N402
	Sherd	1260	N403
	Sherd	1260	N404
5	Sherd	1260	N405
6	not thin-sectioned		
Daub	Sample	1260	N410

Note: The thin-sections prepared for this study are now housed in the Thin-section Library of the Department of Archaeology, University of Southampton. Thin-section slide numbers are given here.

Table 30 Summary of early prehistoric pottery samples examined in thin-section

Fabric 1 Grooved Ware. Fossil shell and limestone tempered

In the hand specimen this fabric is soft and slightly crumbly. It is distinctive because of the abundance of crushed shell fragments and small pieces of limestone present in the surface and in the fresh break. The fabric is generally coarse and slightly granular. There are variations in the density of additives between vessels, the thinner walled examples tending to have less shell which is also more finely crushed.

In thin-section this fabric has a fine-grained anisotropic groundmass containing some finely crushed calcareous material and a very light scatter of mica flecks. Angular to sub-angular quartz grains up to 0.1 mm across cover about 6% of the field of view. Set within the groundmass is a heavy scatter of non-plastic additives which comprise fragments of fossil shell well crushed and in pieces up to 3.0 mm long, and sub-angular fragments of limestone up to 2.5 mm across. The limestone contains shell and ooliths bound together with a very thin calcareous cement. Slide N408 contains, in addition, fragments of fossil coral stems and fragments of a slightly more shelly limestone.

The source of this fabric is likely to be among the calcareous clays of the Cotswolds, although no exact parallel is known at present.

Fabric 2 ?Grooved Ware. Fine shell and quartzite tempered

In the hand specimen this fabric is hard and fine-textured. The additives are finely crushed and are not obtrusive on the vessel surfaces.

In thin-section this fabric has a fine-grained groundmass which contrasts with Fabric 1 in being markedly less calcareous and more micaceous. Angular to sub-angular grains of quartz up to 0.1 mm across are widely scattered, representing nearly 6% of the field of view. The main non-plastic additives comprise abundant fragments of finely crushed shell and very occasional pieces of quartzite. The shell is fresh looking and there is no visible calcareous cement which suggests a rather different source to the shell in Fabric 1.

The source of this fabric is unlikely to be on the Cotswolds proper, more probably it derives from deposits in the Upper Thames Valley.

Fabric 3 Beaker. Grog tempered.

In the hand specimen this fabric is fairly hard, usually red or orange in colour with rounded grog pellets of the same or similar colour visible in the surface and in the fracture.

In thin-section this fabric has a fine-grained highly micaceous groundmass. The mica flecks are fresh, a golden colour under crossed polars, and up to 0.1 mm long. There is a light scatter of fine quartz grains mostly in the size range 0.01 to 0.08 mm across with very occasional larger pieces up to 0.5 mm across. The density of quartz grains is about 2 % of the field of view. Fragments of non-translucent iron ore are also present. Within the groundmass there are abundant rounded pieces of grog up to 1.8 mm across and represented in the same basic fabric as the matrix. The clay is well mixed, with few air pockets.

No specific source can be suggested for this fabric, but it is likely to originate in the Upper Thames Valley rather than on the nearby high ground. There are close similarities between samples of Gault clay from the general area and the matrix of this fabric.

Fabric 4 Beaker. Grog and shell tempered.

In the hand specimen this fabric is usually fairly hard, slightly granular in texture with round pellets of grog in the same or similar colour to the matrix and fragments of broken shell visible in the surface and fresh fracture. The quantity of shell varies considerably between sherds and even within large sherds, from a sparse to an abundant scatter. The shell is usually white or grey and is soft.

In thin-section this fabric has a groundmass similar to that of Fabric 3, but in addition to the presence of grog tempering there is also a light scatter of well crushed ?fossil shell in fragments up to 1.5 mm long.

The source of this fabric is probably the same as for Fabric 3, probably in the general vicinity of the site.

Fabric 5 Beaker. Flint tempered.

In the hand specimen this fabric is fairly hard, slightly granular in texture with occasional visible grog pellets like Fabric 4 and 5, but is distinguished by the presence of small chips of flint which are usually white in colour, angular, and hard.

In thin-section this fabric has a groundmass similar to that of Fabric 3, but in this case the main tempering agent present is finely crushed flint in fragments up to 1.0 mm long, although longer pieces are present in the hand specimen.

The source of the fabric is probably the same as for Fabrics 3 and 4.

Fabric 6 Early Bronze Age. Grog tempered.

In the hand specimen this fabric is dark and slightly greasy to the touch. The surface is slightly pitted in places. Rounded grog fragments can be seen in the fracture.

This fabric was not thin-sectioned for microscopic study.

Daub Beaker.

The clay represented by this sample has a fine-grained non-micaceous groundmass which contains a light scatter of angular non-translucent iron ore and an abundance (about 25 % of the field of view) of small angular quartz fragments mostly in the size range 0.03–0.4 mm across. Some of the

quartz fragments are crazed and weathered. One fragment of microcline feldspar was noted.

No specific source can be given for this clay but it is likely to be local to the site. The best match is with Oxford clay from the Fairford area, but it must be noted that this clay outcrops over a very wide area. The clay represented by this daub is distinct from any of the clays used in the manufacture of pottery.

2.A.2.d Discussion

It is especially notable that the Grooved Ware and Beaker pottery appear in distinct fabrics which suggest the use of different clay sources or source areas. The Grooved Ware Fabric 1 is typical of Grooved Ware from the area in being coarse, unevenly mixed and tempered with relatively large rock fragments. Fabric 2 is rather less usual. In detail, however, the Grooved Ware fabrics here at Roughground Farm are distinct from those at The Loders, Lechlade (Darvill *et al* 1986, 28). Fabric 1 at Roughground Farm contains rather different types of shell and limestone to the fabric from the Loders, and no crushed quartzite was present in the fabric from The Loders.

The Beaker fabrics also conform to the expected technology of that tradition of pot making. Fine fabrics which contain well prepared additives and which are finely mixed and dense typify Beaker wares in the Upper Thames area. The fact that the same clay was used for all three fabrics, but that a variety of additives were mixed with the clay, hints that there may be some functional differences between vessels in different fabrics.

2.A.3 Flintwork

Fig. 9

2.A.3.a Catalogue of the Grooved Ware flint types

Scrapers Eleven scrapers are present and represent the most numerous tool type. All are made on large chunky flakes, five of them on cortical flakes. All the scrapers were made on flakes with a maximum length (measured at right angles to the striking platform) within the range 42–79 mm. In two cases (Figs. 9.3 and 4) manufacture involved the removal of the bulb of percussion. One example (Fig. 9.18) is a side scraper, the remainder are end scrapers. The retouch is generally steep, over 45 degrees, and over half the scrapers may be called 'bull-nosed' types. Substantial portions of the circumference of most examples carry retouch.

Extent of retouch	quarter	half	three-quarters	total circumference
Number of examples	3	3	5	0

One example (Fig. 9.3) has been lightly burnt and is slightly crazed.

Serrated flakes All the three examples were made on long flakes. The example from 784 (Fig. 9.10) and one from 962 (Fig. 9.20) have serrations down one side of the flake only, but the second example from 962 (Fig. 9.19) has serrations along both sides. A small area of polishing at the distal end of the broken example from 962 (Fig. 9.20) shows that this piece was made from a reused implement, possibly a polished flint axe.

Projectile point One possible example comes from 784 (Fig. 9.9). It has been lightly burnt which makes full appraisal difficult, but there are clear signs of extensive and careful retouching to produce an asymmetrical pointed outline even though the longitudinal profile and cross section are rather thicker than might be expected. It is tentatively classified as a Clark type H tranchet derivative (Clark 1934) arrowhead which falls in to Green's (Green 1980) oblique class; fairly thick examples of arrowheads in this same general form have been recorded from Lion Point, Clacton, Essex (Longworth *et al* 1971, Pl. xxxix.9) and Tye Field, Lawford, Essex (Shennan *et al* 1985, Fig. 19, F48).

Miscellaneous retouched pieces Two simple flakes worked along one edge (Figs. 9.11 and 12), both from 784.

Utilized flakes Eight flakes, mostly with a maximum length in the range 33–49 mm, show signs of use along one edge. Two examples from 785 are illustrated (Figs. 9.14 and 15) as they were the only implements from the feature.

Cores Eight cores were present, all well reduced. Most are of simple pyramidal form with one or two platforms. The example from 785 is more rectilinear (Fig. 9.13) and was used to produce large broad flakes.

Hammerstones One oval flint hammerstone, approximately 55 × 48 × 36 mm and weighing 115 grams, came from 983. This had been extensively burnt. A quartzite hammerstone of almost double the size and weight of this specimen was recovered from 785 (see below).

Calcined pieces Other than the implements already referred to, six waste flakes displayed extensive disfiguration through burning.

Debitage Some 94 flakes were recovered, mostly primary and secondary flakes which range in size from under 20 mm to over 88 mm along the longitudinal axis at right-angles to the striking platform. A few smaller pieces, mostly tertiary flakes and trimming flakes are present, but as a whole the smaller end of the expected size spectrum is under represented. Insufficient pieces are present to make metrical analysis practical, but in general the flakes are broad and squat, with irregular outlines and abundant examples of hinge fracturing.

The most interesting group of flakes are those from 785 because, on the basis of flint type and cortex, it can be suggested that at least nine of the primary and secondary flakes in the group came from the core found with them. No refits could be found and it must be concluded that at least the last three flakes to be detached were taken elsewhere for use and/or disposal.

2.A.6 Additional notes on the animal bones

by Gillian Jones

Pig It is thought that the pig bones are chiefly from domestic pigs, which are smaller than wild boar. One humerus (breadth of trochlea 31 mm) is of domestic size, and the bones, although fragmentary, resembled in size those from Iron Age sites in the writer's experience, with the exception of one male lower canine tooth. (Only the tip survives; the outer curve measures 120 mm, which is less than half the total length of the tooth; the maximum length and width of the occlusal surface measures *c* 70 × *c* 20 mm.)

Butchery marks were observed on one pig bone, a scapula with about ten scratches on the posterior/medial edge of the neck, perhaps caused by removing the meat with a flint tool.

Taking each of the five pits to contain different individuals, there were at least 8 pigs represented by teeth, two of which were adult (one M3 in wear and the large C1 showing considerable wear); the others died at perhaps 9–18 months (two M2's unworn, three M2's showing enamel wear and an unworn lower incisor from a different pit). Long bones included at least two piglets (three bones from 785), five unfused and three fused epiphyses of bone elements which fuse at 2–2.5 years and no fused late fusing elements. The age estimates follow Silver's modern figures (Silver 1969).

Red Deer Pit 962 contained four fairly complete red deer antlers. All had been shed (Table 31 on Fiche 1#10). No signs of intentional marks or wear were observed; three of them showed some polish around the join of the beam and the brow tine, but this could have happened during life and does not prove their use as a tool. Two were complete enough to show that the antlers bore brow, bey and trey tines (3rd head or older). A third one bore a long brow and one other tine; one would expect a bey tine in an antler of this size; the beam between the brow and ?trey is 100 mm long — suggesting that it is the trey and that the bey is absent. Antler growth is very variable, but it is of interest to observe such variation in Neolithic deer. The fourth antler bore only a small brow tine

and part of the beam.

Measurement	Antler			
	1	2	3	4
brow length	—	—	245	108
circumference of lower beam	*c* 130	119	—	97
burr circumference	—	—	—	151
circumference above burr	186	185	160	124
length to centre of base of trey	*c* 310	*c* 220	150	—

All measurements in mm using International (C.I.C) system (De Nahlik 1959, 110). Accuracy to 2 mm (*c* to 5 mm). The antlers were reconstructed for measurement.

Table 31 Measurements of Late Neolithic antlers from 962

The measurements of the circumference of the beam are within the lower half of the range found at Grimes Graves (Legge 1981). The brow tine of antler 3 would be considered a good length for modern Scottish deer (De Nahlik 1959, 105), but is not particularly large in comparison with medieval deer from Netherton, Newbury (Sadler pers. comm.).

The antlers, which had been damaged by the tracks of the box scraper and by frost action before excavation, were reconstructed from fragments.

Cattle The cattle bones appear to be from the domestic animal, none being large enough to suggest that the aurochs were present. (One bone was measurable: scapula neck – SLC 40, method of von den Driesch (Driesch 1976). Separation of cattle and red deer long bones was certain in most cases, using comparative material from Bronze Age and later cattle, and medieval and modern red deer.

A mandible and a few loose teeth indicate two individuals with M3 unerupted and one with M3 showing enamel wear only, *ie* all less than about five years old. The mandible had a dozen or so long scratches on the buccal side, and two other mandible fragments bore marks.

2.B Beaker period pits

2.B.1 Description of excavated features

552 Circular pit 0.68 m across and 0.12 m deep. Saucer-profile, filled with dark humic soil with small stones and a few charcoal flecks. Adjacent to this pit on the north-west side was an oval ?posthole 0.15 m east-west by 0.12 m north-south and 0.07 m deep.

Finds: Pottery (P7–P14 Figs. 15.7–9 and 11).

790 Circular pit 0.60 m across and 0.25 m deep. There were two fills: clean brown clayey silt (layer 790/1) overlying dark greyish-brown clayey silt with charcoal flecks.

Finds: Pottery (P15 Fig. 15.15); flint (12 fragments comprising 1 scraper, 1 serrated blade, 9 unretouched flakes, 1 calcined lump); 1 fragment of crystalline sandstone or quartzite.

794 Irregular depression 2.89 m long (north-west to south-east), 0.75 m wide and 0.28 m deep. The north-eastern side is vertical, the other sides slope gently to a rounded base. Filled with clayey, ginger-brown sandy compact silt.

Finds: Pottery (P16); flint (3 fragments comprising 2 flakes and 1 miscellaneous retouched piece, possibly a broken knife).

1216 Circular pit or posthole. No details of size or fill available.

Finds: Pottery (P17 and P18 Figs. 15.17 and 18); flint (1 miscellaneous retouched flake).

1260 Roughly circular pit approximately 1.0 m in diameter and 0.35 m deep. There were four fills (see Fig. 117 on Fiche 1#11): burnt stones and burnt and raw clay came from layer 2, most of the finds from layer 3. Over 135 burnt stones were recovered from this pit. A radiocarbon date was

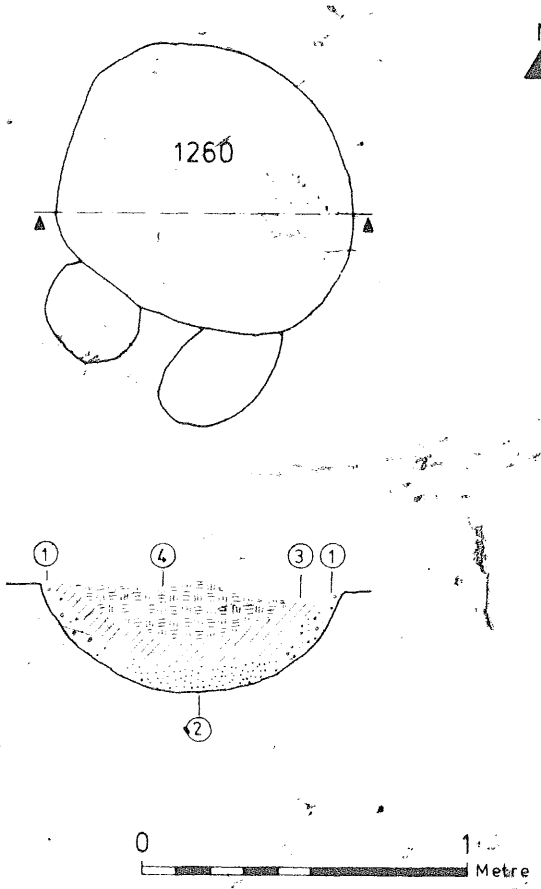

Figure 117 Plan and section of Beaker pit 1260

determined on material from this pit: 3710±100 BP (HAR–5499).

On the south side the pit cut into an area of ginger coloured clayey soil containing charcoal flecks and burnt stones. This was interpreted as a pair of postholes with a shallower area between. The western hole was about 0.25 m in diameter, the eastern one 0.38 m north-east to south-west by 0.25 m north-west to south-east.

Finds: Pottery (P19–P42 Figs. 15.19–36); flintwork (134 pieces comprising 20 scrapers, 1 serrated blade, 1 utilized flake, 4 miscellaneous retouched flakes, 1 axe fragment reused as a core, 2 knives, 1 core, 36 unutilized flakes, 7 calcined lumps, 61 fragments of drift flint); animal bone (3 fragments representing cattle and pig); stone (15 pieces including two probable cushion stones and a variety of pebbles and hammerstones — see Fig. 18).

2.B.2 Beaker pottery

2.B.2.b Fabrics

Three main fabric groups were identified during the macroscopic inspection of the Beaker period pottery and subsequently verified in thin-section (see above section Ch. 2.A.2.b on Fiche 1#6 Fabrics 3, 4 and 5) and Table 32 on Fiche 1#12.

Feature	Number of vessels				Pot numbers
	Fabric 3	Fabric 4	Fabric 5	unassigned	
552	4 (48)	4 (65)		(4)	P7–P14
790		1 (16)			P15
794			1 (6)		P16
1216		2 (33)			P17–P18
1260	6 (151)	15 (717)	3 (161)	(96)	P19–P42
Totals	10 (199)	22 (831)	4 (167)	(100)	

Figures in brackets indicate the total weight of sherds in grams

Table 32 Summary of the Beaker pottery by context

2.B.2.c Catalogue of Beaker pottery

P7 Single bodysherd from a fineware beaker in Fabric 1. Comb impressed decoration on the exterior: filled chevron pattern (Clarke 1970, motif 32.i). Orange-red colour throughout. Wt 13 g. Fig. 15.7.

P8 Two bodysherds from a fineware beaker in Fabric 2. Comb impressed decoration on the exterior: diagonal hatching (Clarke 1970, motif 2 or similar). Pink-red colour throughout. Wt 8 g. Fig. 15.8.

P9 Two bodysherds from a fineware beaker in Fabric 1. Incised decoration on the exterior: parallel horizontal lines (Clarke 1970, motif 1). Orange-red colour throughout. Wt 8 g. Fig. 15.9

P10 Single basesherd from a fineware beaker representing less than a fifth of the circumference. Simple junction of the wall to base. No decoration. Estimated diameter 80 mm. Wt 20 g. Not illustrated.

P11 Five bodysherds from a thick walled coarse beaker in Fabric 2. Fingernail impressed decoration on the exterior. Dark grey to black colour throughout. Wt 44 g. Fig. 15.11

P12 Two bodysherds from a thin walled fineware beaker in Fabric 1. No decoration present. Grey to light brown colour throughout. Wt 7 g. Not illustrated.

P13 Single bodysherd from a thin walled fineware beaker in Fabric 2. No decoration present. Black throughout. Wt 6 g. Not illustrated.

P14 Single bodysherd from a thin walled fineware beaker in Fabric 2. No decoration present. Pink-orange exterior surface, grey interior surface with dark core. Wt 7 g. Not illustrated.

P15 Eleven small bodysherds from a thin walled fineware beaker in Fabric 2. No decoration present. Orange-red surfaces with dark core. Wt 16 g. Not illustrated.

P16 Two small bodysherds from a fineware beaker in Fabric 3. Impressed fingernail decoration on the exterior. Pink-red exterior surface, dark core and interior face. Wt 6 g. Not illustrated.

P17 Single small ?rimsherd from a thin walled beaker in Fabric 2. No decoration present. Grey-brown colour throughout. Wt 3 g. Not illustrated.

P18 Eight bodysherds from a fineware beaker in Fabric 2. Heavily abraded. No decoration visible. Pink-red exterior surface, dark core and interior face. Wt 30 g. Not illustrated.

P19 Eleven sherds from the rim and upper body portion of a thin walled fineware beaker in Fabric 4. The rim is of simply rounded form. Short-necked form (Clarke 1970, II/IV). Exterior decorated with horizontally set comb-impressed lines (Clarke 1970, motif 1). Pink-orange surfaces with a dark core. Wt 34 g. Fig. 15.19

P20 Two sherds from the rim and upper body portion of a thin walled fineware beaker in Fabric 5. The rim is of simple rounded form. Exterior decorated with comb impressed decoration arranged as three parallel horizontal lines below which a zigzag line, below which two horizontal lines, below which a further zigzag line (Clarke 1970, motifs 1 and 7). Orange-red surfaces with a dark core. Wt 19 g. Fig. 15.20.

P21 Three bodysherds from a thin walled fineware beaker in Fabric 4. Exterior decorated with impressed comb lines comprising groups of horizontally set parallel lines below which is a band of short diagonal lines (Clarke 1970, motifs 1 and 2/12). Pink-red surfaces with dark core. Wt 32

g. Fig. 15.21

P22 Two bodysherds from a fineware beaker with medium thickness walls in Fabric 4. Exterior decorated with comb impressed lines comprising bands of horizontally set parallel lines with lattice pattern between (Clarke 1970, motifs 1 and 4). Pink-orange colour throughout. Wt 41 g. Fig. 15.22

P23 Single bodysherd from a thin walled fineware beaker in Fabric 4. Exterior decorated with comb impressed lines comprising horizontally set parallel lines with diagonal lines beneath (Clarke 1970, motifs 1 and 2/12). Orange exterior, pink interior, dark core. Wt 5 g. Fig. 15.23

P24 Two bodysherds from a small fineware beaker in Fabric 3. Exterior decorated with impressed decoration comprising dot sized stab marks arranged in horizontal lines, possibly barbed-wire style. Orange exterior, pink interior, dark core. Wt 6 g. Fig. 15.24

P25 Three bodysherds from a thin walled fineware beaker in Fabric 3. Exterior decorated with twisted core impressed lines in bands set horizontally round the vessel. Exterior brown-red colour, interior and core dark. Wt 22 g. Fig. 15.25

P26 Single rimsherd from a fineware beaker in Fabric 4. The rim is rather unusual in being cordoned. A single line of horizontally set comb-impressed decoration runs round the vessel in the neck defined between the cordon and the rim; another line of comb impressed decoration lies below the cordon. Red-orange throughout. Wt 9g Fig. 15.26

P27 Single bodysherd from a thin walled beaker in Fabric 4. The exterior is decorated with heavily incised vertically set lines. Dark-red throughout. Wt 11 g. Fig. 15.27

P28 Two bodysherds from a medium sized beaker with fairly thick walls in Fabric 4. Exterior decorated with widely spaced, horizontally set, comb-impressed lines. The notches of the comb used were unusually large. Exterior and interior surfaces pink-red, dark core. Wt 27 g. Fig. 15.28

P29 Eighteen sherds representing part of the rim and upper body portion of an unusual vessel of unknown form, but probably some kind of bowl, in Fabric 4. The rim is T-shaped and made by rolling the walls inwards and outwards. The vessel is not decorated as such, but does have two projecting applied lumps of clay below the rim, and among the bodysherds there are indications of others. The exterior is red-orange in colour, the core and interior dark. Wt 112 g, Fig. 15.29.

P30 Two rimsherds from a thin walled fineware beaker in Fabric 3. The rim is of simple round-headed form; the walls of the vessel slope in fairly steeply. Estimated rim diameter= 175 mm. No decoration present. Interior and exteriors surfaces pink to red in colour, dark core. Wt 28 g. Fig. 15.30.

P31 Four sherds from the rim and upper body of a thin walled fineware beaker in Fabric 3. The rim is slightly thickened and is flat topped. Estimated vessel diameter= 150 mm. No decoration present. Exterior red, interior light-brown, dark core. Wt 32 g. Fig. 15.31

P32 Three sherds representing most of the base of a small fineware beaker in Fabric 4. The estimated base diameter is 120 mm. The junction between the base and the side walls is of simple form; there is evidence for coil construction at the base/wall junction. No decoration present. Dark red throughout. Wt 125 g. Fig. 15.32

P33 Single large basesherd and lower body-portion of a fineware beaker in Fabric 4. The estimated diameter of the base is approximately 80 mm. The junction between the base and the side wall is slightly elaborated with by the presence of a foot. No decoration present. Pink-red exterior, brown-red interior and core. Wt 86 g. Fig. 15.33

P34 Single basesherd from a small fineware beaker in Fabric 3. The estimated base diameter is 60 mm. The junction between the base and the wall is of simple form. No decoration present. Red-orange exterior, dark core and interior surface. Wt 19 g. Fig. 15.34

P35 Ten bodysherds from a thick walled coarseware beaker in Fabric 5. Exterior decorated with fingernail impressions rather haphazardly arranged. Pink-red interior and exterior surfaces, dark core. Wt 99 g. Fig. 15.35

P36 Three sherds representing part of the rim and upper body portion of a large coarse beaker (potbeker) in Fabric 4. The rim is flat-topped and slightly thickened. The overall diameter is hard

to estimate, but it was certainly in excess of 300 mm, and may have been as much as 400 mm. The form was a steep sided, bucket-shaped vessel. No decoration present. Red interior and exterior surfaces, dark core. Wt 159 g. Fig. 15.36

P37 Four bodysherds from a thin walled ?beaker in Fabric 4. No decoration present. Pink to light red exterior, dark core and interior. Wt 16 g. Not illustrated.

P38 Four bodysherds from a fairly thick walled ?beaker in Fabric 3. No decoration present. Pink to light brown exterior, dark core and interior surface. Wt 44g Not illustrated.

P39 Single bodysherd from a fairly thin walled ?beaker in Fabric 5. No decoration. Exterior light-brown, core and interior dark. Wt 43 g. Not illustrated.

P40 Single bodysherd from a thin walled ?beaker in Fabric 4. No decoration present. Pink-light brown colour throughout. Wt 15 g. Not illustrated.

P41 Two bodysherds from a fairly thin walled ?beaker in Fabric 4. No decoration present. Buff to light brown exterior, dark core and interior surface. Wt 11 g. Not illustrated.

P42 Four bodysherds from a fairly thin walled ?beaker in Fabric 4. No decoration present. Pink to brown exterior, dark core and interior surface. Wt 34 g. Not illustrated.

2.B.3 Ceramic objects and daub

A total of 528 grams of fired clay was recovered from 1260. One distinctive piece, weighing about 14 grams and in Fabric 4, is roughly circular in outline, about 33 mm in diameter, and has a raised lip with a small projection. Its purpose is uncertain. A second piece, weighing about 13 grams and in a very sandy fabric which is best described as daub (see Ch. 2.A.2.b for description), is rather similar but lacks the raised lip and projection. The remaining fragments are of no particular form and are mostly represented in the daub fabric. All of these daub fragments have been heavily burnt.

2.B.4 Flintwork

2.B.4.a Catalogue of Beaker flint types

Scrapers The most numerous tool-type represented is the scraper, of which there are a total of 21, all but one being from 1260. Only three examples (Figs. 17.3, 11 and 12) may be regarded as approaching the classic Beaker discoid form, although one broken example (Fig. 17.4) may also have been in this same category. Of the remainder, seven are side scrapers and ten are end scrapers. Ten are made on cortical flakes, and one (Fig. 17.17) is made on a piece of drift flint. Size is highly variable and ranges from the tiny specimen made on a flake of drift flint with a maximum flake length measured at right-angles to the striking platform of only 21 mm through to a large end scraper (Fig. 17.1) with a maximum flake length of 53 mm. In general the Beaker scrapers are smaller and lighter than those associated with Grooved Ware. Fig. 16 shows a comparative plot of scraper dimensions for the two periods of activity on the site; two clusters can be clearly discerned. The extent of retouch also varies considerably with the assemblage falling neatly into three even-sized groups on the basis of the proportion of the scraper circumference which is retouched:

Extent of retouch	quarter	half	three-quarters	total circumference
Number of examples	7	7	7	0

The steepness of retouch varies from shallow working on some of the side scrapers (eg. Figs. 17.10 and 15) to steep 'bull-nosed' working on some of the end scrapers (eg. Figs. 17.13 and 14).

Serrated flakes Two serrated flakes are present, one from 1260 and one from 790 (Figs. 17.24 and 25 respectively). Both are made on long narrow flakes and both have an indented serrated edge. The example from 790 may have the remains of a point at the distal end of the serrated edge.

Knives Two examples were recovered from 1260. The larger (Fig. 17.22) is a pointed type made on a thick cortical flake with fairly steep invasive retouching down one side. The smaller is made on a non-cortical flake and has shallow invasive retouch along both side and around the distal end. Both examples retain their bulbar ends.

Polished axe A single fragment was found reused as a core in 1260 (Fig. 17.21). The portion represented is from the blade end of what was probably a fairly small and slender axe. As a core, flakes were detached in two directions. The axe may belong to an earlier phase of activity in the area and have been reused during Beaker times because of its value as raw material.

Miscellaneous retouched flakes Five of the six pieces in this group are simply flakes with small amounts of retouching along one side. The remaining piece, from 794, may originally have been part of a knife; all that survives is the distal end of what must have been a large flake with low-angle retouch, including invasive retouch, along one side and around the distal end. This was the only worked piece of flint from 794.

Utilized flakes Only one flake shows signs of having been utilized.

Cores Apart from the axe fragment already described there was a single core from 1260. Though well-reduced it has only a single platform and a significant amount of cortex remaining, suggesting that it was not extensively prepared before working.

Debitage Approximately 70 % of the assemblage by fragment count is debitage, of which slightly over half is local drift flint which seems to have contributed little to the manufacture of tools and which shows signs of having been variously broken, smashed or flaked. Of the 'chalkland' flint there is a range of primary and secondary flakes together with small quantities of tertiary flakes and chips. Insufficient pieces exist to make metrical analysis practical. Most pieces have been cleanly detached, and only 5 flakes display marked hinge-fracturing.

Calcined lumps Eight pieces are heat crazed, none of them recognizable as implements or cores.

2.B.5 Stone objects

Fig. 18

2.B.5.a Catalogue of stone objects

The following objects of non-local stone were recovered from 1260:

S1 Small portion of a broken sandstone cushion stone. The stone is a coarse grained sandstone, pinky-red in colour. About one-third of the original object survives, just enough to allow it to be reconstructed as having a roughly circular outline with a diameter of about 80 mm. The weight of the surviving fragment is about 174 grams. The top and bottom faces are roughly parallel to one another, although the bottom face is slightly larger than the top. The sides are smooth and worked to a gentle curve. The breaks are not especially fresh, and the stone appears to have been knocked about a bit after it was broken but before being incorporated in the pit fill. (Fig. 18.1)

S2 Two joining fragments of a sandstone rubber or cushion stone of some sort. The stone is a coarse ferruginous sandstone. The surviving portion of this object suggests that originally it was oval in outline, with a maximum width of about 90 mm and an estimated maximum length of 100–110 mm. The thickness is about 40 mm, and the surviving portion weighs about 280 grams. The side edges of the object show signs of having been pecked into shape, the top and bottom faces are smooth with wear. (Fig. 18.2)

S3 Large pebble hammerstone weighing approximately 1120 grams made from a fine, dark brown coloured quartzite pebble. The pebble is roughly triangular in outline with sides 200 mm by 120 mm by 120 mm and a thickness of about 50 mm. The corners are rounded but there is no trace of artificial shaping. Traces of wear are confined to one of the three corners, the long side opposite presumably being the part of the stone that was held by the user. (Fig. 18.3)

S4 Medium sized pebble hammerstone weighing approximately 335 grams made from a fine, dark brown coloured quartzite pebble. The pebble is roughly oval in outline. Traces of battering are present on both ends, but a full assessment of the extent of use is precluded by the fact that much of the surface of the pebble has acquired a coating of hard calcareous concretion. The overall length is about 85 mm, the width about 70 mm and the thickness about 35 mm. (Fig. 18.4)

S5 Small pebble hammerstone weighing approximately 165 grams made from a fine grained, white coloured quartzite pebble. The pebble is roughly square in outline, with sides about 45–50 mm and rounded corners. The thickness is about 28 mm. Much of the length of the shortest side is battered and fractured from use as a hammer. (Fig. 18.5)

S6 Small pebble hammerstone weighing approximately 58 grams made from a fine grained, white-yellowish coloured quartzite pebble. The pebble is roughly circular and about 40 mm in diameter. About one-third of the circumference displays evidence for battering and fracture from use as a hammer. (Fig. 18.6)

S7–S12 Six fragments of ovoid shaped quartzite pebbles. All unmodified and with no clear signs of use. Total weight of fragments 135 grams.

S13–S14 Two roughly spherical pieces of limestone. One is a water-worn lump of fossiliferous stone weighing about 42 grams, the other is a piece of fossil coral weighing about 26 grams.

S15 In addition to these pieces a single roughly cube-shaped fragment of fine grained sandstone weighing 9 grams was recovered from 790. It appears to have been lightly burnt but there are no original surfaces visible.

2.D Undated prehistoric features

2.D.2 Flintwork

A collection of 59 flints weighing a total of approximately 396 grams was recovered from the undated features. The composition of the assemblage as a whole is summarized on Table 33 on Fiche 1#16.

Type	Number
Scraper	4
Serrated flake	2
Knife	1
Arrowhead	1
Misc. retouched	1
Core	1
Unutilized flakes	49
Total	59

Table 33 Summary of flintwork from undated features

The scrapers are indistinctive, one from 969 has been burnt and another, from 553 has been burnt and broken. Three pieces are of special interest. The first is from 1209 and is a large knife (Fig. 118.1 on Fiche 1#17) manufactured on a cortical flake over 85 mm long which was blunted along one side and given a fringe of shallow invasive retouch along the other. The retouched edge has gloss (?sickle gloss) along almost the whole length of both faces. The second piece is from 1145 (Fig. 118.2 on Fiche 1#17) and while properly classified as a serrated flake this piece was probably a multi-purpose tool because the distal end and part of the side opposite the serrated edge has been retouched to form a scraper. The flake is broken but would originally have been of considerable size. The third piece, from 1288, is part of a bifacially flaked arrowhead of fine workmanship (Fig. 118.3 on Fiche

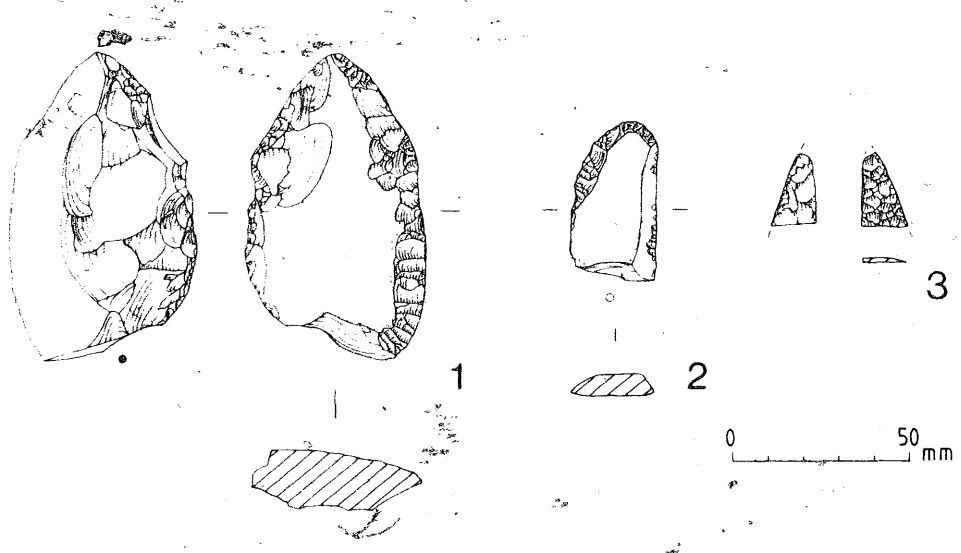

Figure 118 Flint from undated prehistoric features 1209, 1145 and 1288

1#17). Unfortunately the breaks occur in such places that it is impossible to say exactly what type of arrowhead it once was. Most likely is that is was a barbed and tanged or triangular form, to judge from the straight section of the remaining side.

2.E Flints from later features

2.E.1 Catalogue of residual flintwork by type

Fig. 19

Scrapers Twenty-two scrapers were present, ranging in size from 52 mm down to 22 mm along the maximum flake length at right angles to the striking platform. Thus they are generally at the smaller end of the size spectrum of scrapers from stratified contexts and more closely resemble the Beaker types than the Grooved Ware associated types. Figs. 19.2–15 show a representative selection of the complete and near-complete specimens. Six examples are side scrapers, the remainder are end scrapers. Because so many are damaged it is not practical to give a break-down of the extent of retouch, but the steepness of retouch is highly variable.

Serrated blades Four examples are represented (Figs. 19.16–19), all from Iron Age features. Two are complete and were made on rather irregular shaped cortical flakes; the two broken examples were made on thinner flakes. One example (Fig. 19.16) has serrations along both sides of the flake.

Arrowheads Four arrowheads or projectile points were recovered representing a variety of different forms. The almost complete example from 830 (Fig. 19.21) is a transverse arrowhead of chisel form of Clark (1934) type Ci. More difficult to classify is the broken specimen from 897 (Fig. 19.22) which is probably a Clark (1934) type D with a substantial part of the transverse cutting edge missing. The broken point of an arrowhead from 313 (Fig. 19.20) could have come from either a leaf-shaped or a barbed and tanged example; insufficient remains to say which. The fourth example, from 541 (Fig. 19.23), is a finely made triangular form with a pronounced tang but no barbs. Although bifacially worked, retouching is confined to the edges.

Points Two implements which may be classified as points were present. The larger, from 897 (Fig. 19.26) has a simple point fashioned on the distal end of a large cortical flake. The smaller example, from 959 (Fig. 19.25) is more extensively retouched and has the point at the proximal

end of a cortical flake from which the bulb of percussion has been removed.

Knife A single knife was found in 879 (Fig. 19.24). It is finely made on a flake with a maximum length of 48 mm. It is has been worked almost all round the circumference on the upper side with low angle invasive retouch, and almost falls into the category of plano-convex knives.

Strike-a-light One small rod-like implement from 879 (Fig. 19.27) may be described as a strike-a-light, although there is no sign of wear on either of the two ends. The piece has been fashioned from a large thick flake and has been retouched to produce the characteristic reversed S-shaped form.

Miscellaneous retouched flakes A variety of flakes displayed signs of secondary working, mostly simple retouching along one or both sides. Three examples are illustrated (Figs. 19.28, 29 and 32).

Utilized flakes Because of the poor condition of many flints any signs of use that they once displayed have probably long vanished in many cases. Nonetheless, seven pieces with such traces were identified.

Cores Only 18 cores were present, mostly well reduced examples of simple single or double platform types. A fairly typical example is illustrated (Fig. 19.30). One fine pyramidal core was found in 611 (Fig. 19.31).

Debitage The majority of the flakes were broken or damaged, but there were certainly examples from primary, secondary and tertiary working, although small chips and flakes were poorly represented.