

# LITHICS FROM TWENTY ACRES, HEATH HILL IN THE PARISH OF WINKLEIGH, DEVON

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# **Lithics from Twenty Acres, Heath Hill in the Parish of Winkleigh, Devon**

Members of ACE carried out surface collections of material from the field known as Twenty Acres at Heath Hill in the parish of Winkleigh, Devon in the period 2005-2006. I have examined the entire collection and the following comments are offered to ACE members and any other interested parties.

## **Introduction**

### *The environment*

The field named as Twenty Acres on the tithe map (NGR SS 26062 11020) lies at an altitude of 150-160m above sea level and is close to the village of Winkleigh, which is about 2 km to the south-east of the field. The field undulates gently and slopes down to a small watercourse on the northern and eastern sides, which drains into a tributary of the River Yeo. Patches of clay with flint were noted in the banks of this watercourse during fieldwork.

In the recent past, the field has been used for pasture but was ploughed before ACE walked it.

I have not looked at relevant geological maps but am informed by ACE that neither flint nor chert has been recorded in the area. This might suggest that the patches of clay-with-flint noticed in the stream banks are very localised.

### *Collection methods*

Some material (407 pieces) was collected during informal (ungridded) walks in the field. The location of these finds cannot be pinpointed within the field. Other material (372 pieces) was collected during an organised walk employing a grid, which allows closer definition of findspots.

All material was marked with an identifying number and placed in a bag, which was labelled. Members of ACE then measured each piece and recorded its identifying number, length, width and thickness, together with the nature of the material, on a record sheet. This information was then transferred to an Excel spreadsheet (Heath-Hil-lCompleted.xls).

### *Further examination*

I received the entire collection (779 pieces) from Janet Daynes (chairman of ACE), together with a copy of the spreadsheet Heath Hill Completed.xls. My objectives were:

- i. To identify any diagnostic material which might help to date the material in whole or in part;
- ii. To identify any material which might indicate the nature of activity carried on at the findspots; and
- iii. To analyse measurement data with a view to making comments on production technology, date and any other matters.

I made a copy of Heath-Hill-Completed.xls, discarded rows recording non-lithic material and sorted the data by Accession number. This copy was then saved as Heath Hill-TA-Details-JC.xls.

I then examined each piece and noted the artefact type, material and other information on Heath Hill TA Details JC.xls. Type, condition and material were recorded as numeric codes for which the text descriptions are in spreadsheet Heath-Hill-Codes.xls. Where there was no existing

row (as appears to be the case for a set of unnumbered surface finds from an ungridded walk), I added a row to Heath Hill-TA-Details-JC with a unique number in the form 'TASFnnn' where 'nnn' is a number; eg. TASF001. The pieces recorded in these rows were not marked or measured.

I photographed many pieces and images are on the CD with this report in .jpg format.

### *Comparanda – the Pearce Collection*

Many of the publications to which lithic analyses refer, and on which conclusions are based, relate to material from areas in southern England well to the east of Devon. Comparisons between the Heath Hill material and these geographically distant collections present obvious problems, and I thought that it might be productive to consider material from places which are rather nearer. The material with which I am most familiar is the Pearce Collection.

The Pearce Collection consists of around 90,000 pieces collected by Mrs. Nancy Pearce from some 439 fields mainly in the parishes of Stockland and Membury, East Devon. Most of the material was collected in ungridded walks. Some of the larger scatters contained Mesolithic material and allowed new locations of Mesolithic activity to be identified. A large part of the Mesolithic material was the subject of an article by Peter Berridge (1985) but otherwise, the Collection has so far received little other attention from scholars.

The fields from which the Pearce Collection was gathered lie in an area where flint and chert are plentiful and accessible. Much of the geology is 'clay-with-flint', along with Upper Greensand, Head, Alluvium and, on the eastern edge, bands of flint bearing chalk. The general character of the area may be described as fairly steeply sided river valleys, topped with flat plateaus at heights up to 225m. The valley bottoms are as low as 40m above sea level. Springs and small watercourses are frequent.

In drawing comparisons with the material from Heath Hill, I will refer principally to two parts of the Pearce Collection. The first was collected in the field called Kilmington 171. The second is a measured sample of collections from fields on a transect across the area (which I will call 'the Pearce transect'). The methods used in recording this sample and the sampling strategy are set out in the Appendix. Other parts of the Pearce Collection may also be mentioned.

## **Material**

### *Heath Hill*

The overwhelming majority (719) of the lithic pieces from Heath Hill were of flint. There were also 49 of chert, three of possible Portland chert and eight of other or unknown lithic material. In short, the ratio of flint:chert was roughly 70:5.

The possible presence of Portland chert is significant as an indication of Neolithic activity and it might suggest contact and exchange of raw material or artefacts with other communities, as the material does not occur in the local geology. The three pieces (TA18 O 2, TA18 O3 and TA23 G 1) in question are a blade (with retouch) and bladelets without and with retouch respectively. Photographs of these pieces are in TA18O2&3001/2.jpg and TA23G1001/2.jpg.

I am aware that Martin Tingle, whose report on excavation at Membury in East Devon was in DAS *Proceedings* for 2006, is interested in the prehistoric use of Portland chert and it might be worth getting in touch with him to see if he would like copies of the photographs of the Heath Hill pieces and whether he has any information about the distribution of Portland chert in this part of Devon.

Turning to chert, which is the other ‘minority’ material, its low incidence is suggestive. Chert can be used to produce tools as functional (and aesthetically attractive) as those of flint and indeed, the two materials can be more or less indistinguishable. The low level of chert at Heath Hill might indicate therefore that this material was relatively difficult to obtain or it might show a positive preference for flint due to local culture or perhaps chronological factors. It would be interesting to know more of the geology in the immediate and surrounding areas, which would throw more light on this issue.

#### *Pearce Transect*

The proportion of flint:chert in the Pearce transect (all pieces) was roughly 4:2 (4,128 of flint and 2,674 of chert). This suggests far greater use of chert in the area of the Pearce transect than at Heath Hill. No pieces of Portland chert were included in the Pearce transect – but it does occur elsewhere in the Pearce Collection.

## **State**

I recorded the state of each piece from Heath Hill as being either broken, burnt or good. It was apparent from the early stage of examination that many pieces were damaged and, after examining all pieces, it was clear that only about one in three was in a good state – that is, two out of three were either broken or burnt (or sometimes both).

This level of damage shows that the material has been subject to frequent or intense disturbance, probably by ploughs, and to burning at unknown dates. The high level of disturbance indicated by the data suggests that caution should be paramount in analysis. For example, any attempt to draw conclusions about the chronology of activity at the site must take account of the mixing and churning which ploughing might have involved. It is quite likely that earlier and later material could be lying side-by-side. In addition, any analysis of the relative numbers of tool types (e.g. flakes and blades) must take account of the unknowable numbers which might be represented by broken debris and, of course, those which remain in the soil.

Finally, it should be recognised that damage may not occur uniformly in the assemblage. Generally, blades and bladelets are, by their form, more susceptible to breakage than other artefact types and charts showing the state of different tool types at Heath Hill confirm that breakage is slightly more common for these artefact types than others at Heath Hill.

## **Artefact Types**

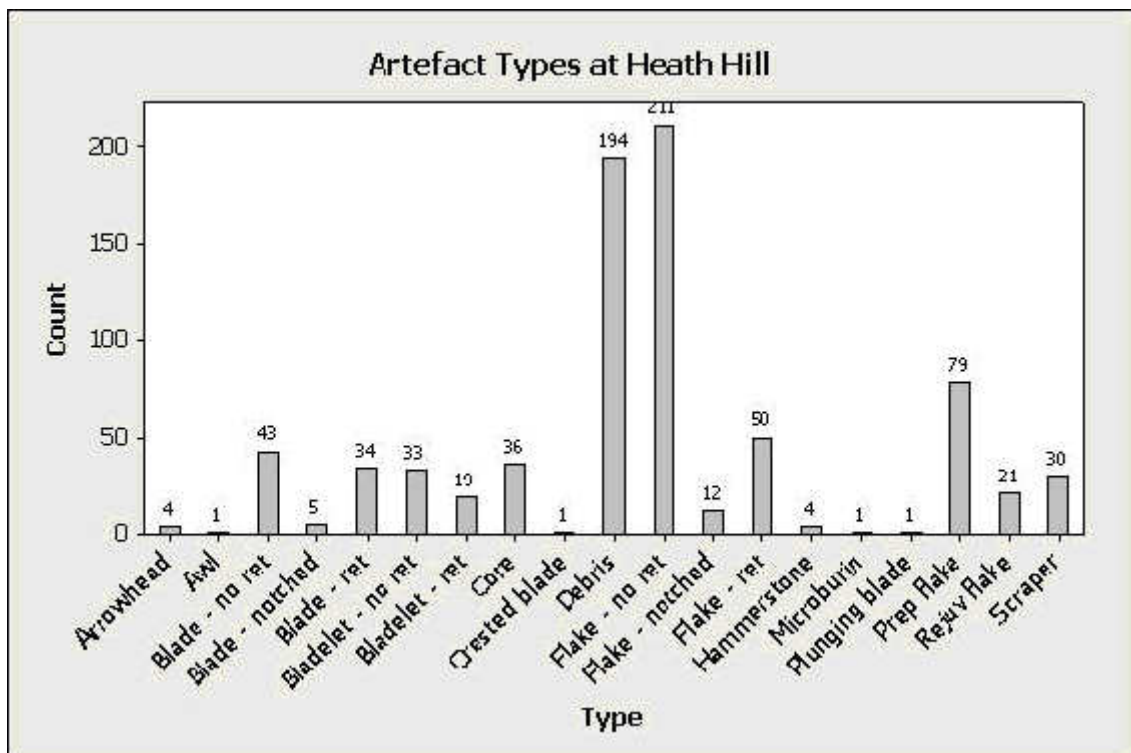
#### *Heath Hill*

The distribution of the various artefact types in the entire collection is shown below in Figure 1 and, as a bar chart, in Figure 2. Several points stand out from these figures:

- i. Debris represents the second largest group. Where a broken or burnt piece did not meet the criteria for flake, blade or other tool type it was classed as debris and the size of this group thus reflects the poor physical state of many pieces.
- ii. Leaving debris aside, other knapping waste (preparation flakes and other flakes, blades etc. without retouch) dominates the assemblage.
- iii. A good number of cores (36) were present.
- iv. Pieces which showed evidence of retouch or use consist of some recognisable tool types (such as scrapers and awls/piercers) and others which can only be described as retouched flakes or blades.

<u>Artefact type</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent of assemblage</u>
<i>Retouched/used pieces:</i>		
<i>Scrapers</i>	30	3.8511
<i>Awls/piercers</i>	1	0.1284
<i>Blades (with retouch)</i>	34	4.3646
<i>Bladelets (with retouch)</i>	19	2.4390
<i>Flakes (with retouch)</i>	50	6.4185
<i>Notched flakes</i>	12	1.5404
<i>Notched blades</i>	5	0.6418
<i>Arrowheads</i>	4	0.5135
<i>Hammerstones</i>	4	0.5135
<i>Cores</i>	36	4.6213
<i>Debitage:</i>		
<i>Preparation flakes</i>	79	10.1412
<i>Blades (no retouch)</i>	43	5.5199
<i>Flakes (no retouch)</i>	211	26.9576
<i>Bladelets (no retouch)</i>	33	4.2362
<i>Debris</i>	194	24.9037
<i>Technical pieces:</i>		
<i>Plunging blades</i>	1	0.1284
<i>Crested blades</i>	1	0.1284
<i>Rejuvenation flakes</i>	21	2.6958
<i>Microburin</i>	1	0.1284
<i>Total</i>	779	100

*Figure 1: Artefact types at Heath Hill (list)*



*Figure 2: Artefact Types at Heath Hill (chart)*

The presence of cores and knapping waste allows us to conclude that knapping was carried out here – the field was not merely a spot where pieces were discarded but a place where tool production took place. The presence of tools in large numbers suggests that they may also have been used and discarded here – which means that the field may also have been a place where ‘domestic’ activity

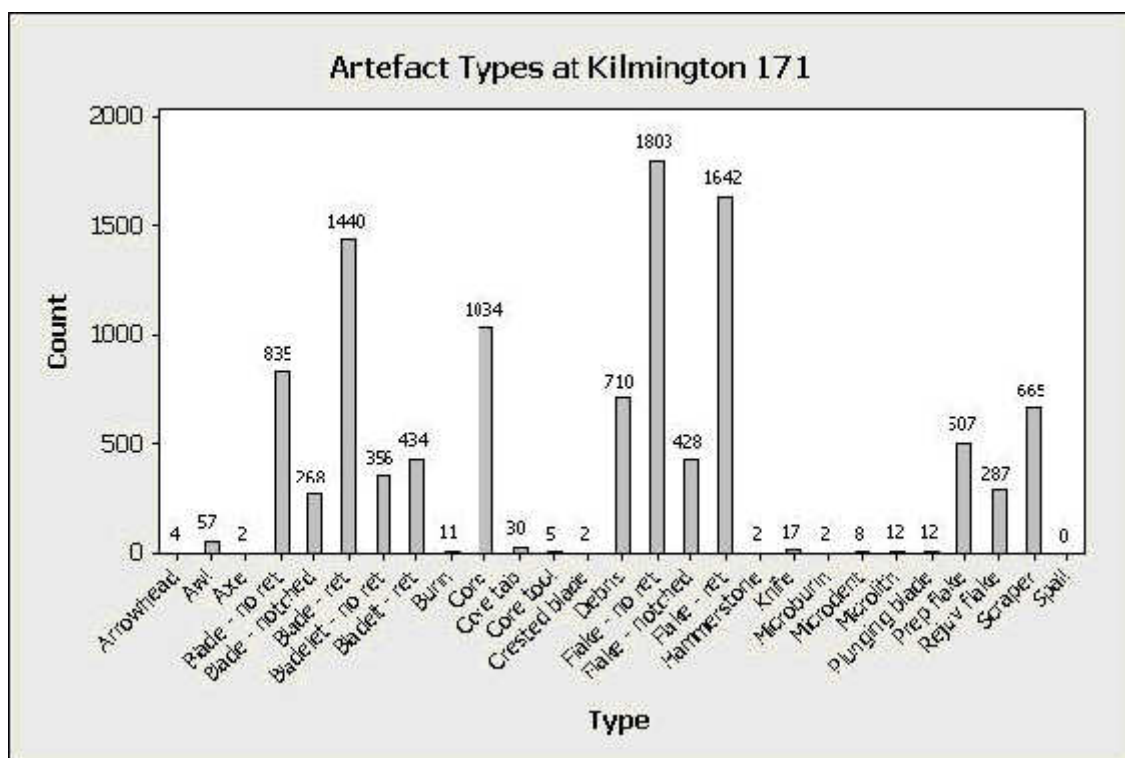
(eg hide treatment, food preparation etc) took place. The presence of a good number of pieces might also suggest that activity here was more than a single episode of use.

*Pearce Collection – Kilmington 171*

The distribution of artefact types in the Pearce transect does not provide a suitable basis for comparison with Heath Hill as I had included in the sample at least one piece from each artefact type represented in the particular field’s assemblage. This meant that the rare artefact types were over-represented.

A specific, large scatter in the Pearce Collection which is more suitable for comparison with Heath Hill is that in Kilmington 171 (unpublished). As at Heath Hill, pieces were collected in both gridded and ungridded walks and included artefacts of Mesolithic and Neolithic type. The material from Kilmington 171 was sorted by Nan and I using the categories employed in the examination of the Heath Hill material.

A bar chart of the types (from both gridded and non-gridded walks) at Kilmington 171 is shown as Figure 3.



*Figure 3: Artefact Types at Kilmington 171*

The chart shows:

- i. Debris at Kilmington is a far smaller proportion of the whole scatter than at Heath Hill. The general physical condition of pieces at Kilmington was better, with far fewer broken or burnt pieces.
- ii. The proportions of cores, blades (especially retouched blades), retouched flakes and scrapers are higher in Kilmington than Heath Hill.
- iii. Numbers at Kilmington are much higher than at Heath Hill.

The figures might also point to differences in site function with Kilmington having greater emphasis on both tool production (with a higher proportion of cores) and on more domestic activity (with a higher proportion of scrapers).

## Production technologies at Heath Hill

Systematic core maintenance is shown by the presence of rejuvenation flakes, such as TA19X2 shown in the photograph below (it is the piece on the right). Many of these were struck from cores being used for production of bladelets and small flakes. The presence of rejuvenation flakes, and the nature of the cores from which they were struck, are consistent with activity in the Mesolithic period.



*Figure 4: Rejuvenation flake TA19X2 (on right of photograph)*

Knappers in the Neolithic tended not to rejuvenate platforms but rotated cores to find new platforms. Consequently, Neolithic cores tend to be multiplatform (and usually flake) cores and there are a couple of such cores at Heath Hill – namely, TA124 and TA18J1. However, most cores from Heath Hill are 2 platform bladelet and flake cores. The technological evidence thus points to knapping in the Mesolithic, with similar activity in the Neolithic on a more reduced scale.

## Diagnostic pieces from Heath Hill

### *Arrowheads*

Four pieces were classed as arrowheads. They are TA1, which is a leaf shaped example, TA10 C2, which could be a leaf or lozenge-shaped arrowhead, TA127, which is a possible transverse piece and TA25 R 2, which is part of a possible arrowhead, or might be simply a piece of a retouched (and broken) blade. Photographs are in TA1001/2.jpg, TA10C2a/f.jpg, TA127.jpg and TA25R2001/2.jpg on the CD.

The best piece is TA1, the leaf shaped arrowhead shown in Figure 5. It stands happily alongside similar pieces from other, well known sites in Devon, such as Hembury and Haldon. Those

interested are referred to reports in DAS *Proceedings* and to Barbara Keene's (1999) *Gazetteer of Flint Arrowheads from South-West Britain*. Generally, leaf or lozenge shaped arrowheads point to activity in the earlier Neolithic.



*Figure 5: Leaf shaped arrowhead TA1*

It is worth noting that Barbara's book includes only artefacts which had, at the date of preparation, already been included in published reports. Other finds, for example, by amateur groups such as ACE, which did not appear in publications, were omitted. It might be interesting to scan the HER to see if other similar finds have been made in the vicinity of Heath Hill but have not yet been 'written up' in any published report.

The other pieces I classed as arrowheads are perhaps less certain but I would comment on TA10 C2, which seems to be a (broken) leaf or lozenge shaped example. It is notably thin and compares in form (but not size) with a piece from Hembury in Portland chert, which Barbara described as 'large, very thin' (Keene 1999, 46).

It is difficult to classify TA25 R2, as it too is broken. It might be part of a transverse piece but the 'all over' working would also be consistent with its being part of another leaf or lozenge shaped arrowhead. TA127 is also broken but it might be part of a transverse piece (eg. *petit tranchet*). If so, then this piece indicates activity in the later Neolithic, when forms other than leaf or lozenge shapes appeared.

The tentative conclusion from examination of the arrowheads, is that activity in the earlier and perhaps the later Neolithic, is indicated. Arrowheads may easily be lost in places other than the site of production, so we must not leap to the conclusion that the arrowheads were made here. Indeed, the type of flint used for TA1 in particular, is not typical of the assemblage as a whole and might point to production elsewhere.

### *Microliths*

No certain microliths were found. Other pieces in the assemblage would be consistent with microlith production, in that they show production and use of bladelets; namely, 19 retouched bladelets, one doubtful microburin and at least 11 cores with bladelet scars. In particular the retouched bladelets TA349 and TA350 might be described as microliths but for the presence of bulbs in both cases.

It could be argued that broken bladelets could have been part of microlith production, as deliberate breakage probably formed part of the process. It is difficult (and impossible) to be certain whether the broken pieces found at Heath Hill suffered damage as part of a production process or merely from a long period in the earth. A couple of the bladelets appeared to have notches on their lateral edges but it is probably impossible to know whether these were made to facilitate breakage as part of microlith production.

The presence of microliths is often taken as an indication of Mesolithic activity and their absence here is perhaps disappointing. It is worth bearing in mind that microliths are always rare finds, even in large assemblages. For example, the site at Crandons Cross, East Devon produced a lithic scatter of more than 15,600 pieces (in the Pearce Collection) but only some 32 microliths, giving a ratio of about 1 microlith for every 487 pieces. The absence of any clear examples in the collection from Heath Hill does not therefore justify saying that none are present in the soil.

It must be said that microlith forms in the south-west do seem to follow a rather different course over time than those in other parts of England – there seem to be, for example, far fewer of the later Mesolithic geometric forms found elsewhere. If the development over time of microlith forms in the south-west was idiosyncratic, should we perhaps keep an open mind when thinking about dates? Should significant production and use of bladelets into the Neolithic in Devon be ruled out? Without more assemblages from excavated, dated contexts, we cannot be sure.

### *Scrapers*

30 definite examples of this tool type were noted, meaning that scrapers represented 3.85% of the entire collection. I would add the comment that, in the course of examining the Pearce Collection with Nan Pearce, I have found that scrapers represent a higher proportion of the total in most cases – the mean for material from 197 fields which have been examined to date by Nan and me, is 8-9%. Does the relatively low incidence at Heath Hill of this ubiquitous prehistoric tool tell us anything about activity at the site? Short term use of a temporary camp, with another, perhaps larger and more ‘domestic’ site elsewhere, springs to mind – but of course, levels of a single tool type should not be used to support such a firm conclusion!

A few scrapers from Heath Hill were made on flakes of irregular form and could only be described as being end/side/side-and-end scrapers. Better looking pieces formed a distinct group, being side and end scrapers made on short, fairly thick flakes. Typical of this group were pieces TA217, TA22R, TA22T1, TA22V, TA25Z, TA26L1, TA39, TA95 and Taunknown (illegible mark), of which three are shown in Figure 6

At first sight, it seemed that at least some of these might be thumbnail scrapers (circular, with retouch around entire edge, up to 2cm in diameter), which have been noted in Bronze Age assemblages – but on closer examination, the Heath Hill group seem to be slightly larger, with more restricted retouch. They are mostly between 2-4 cm long, 1.5-3cm wide and 0.3-1.6cm thick. This group of short, thick and well-made scrapers have a family resemblance and came to my notice again when I mapped the gridded collection (see below).



*Figure 6: Scrapers (from the top) TA22T1, TA22R and TA25Z*

Only three of the 30 scrapers were made on blades, the rest are on flakes. The presence of scrapers on blades would be consistent with a Mesolithic date for the pieces in question.

The form of many of the scrapers from Heath Hill, and the scarcity of scrapers on blades suggests the bulk of this tool type might date to the Neolithic.

## Size distribution

### *Heath Hill*

The measurements which were recorded by ACE members provide clear information on the size of artefacts and knapping waste. Note that a bag of pieces in the box marked 'TA Surface Finds 2005-2006' had not been measured – these were recorded on my spreadsheets as 'TASF001-TASF058'.

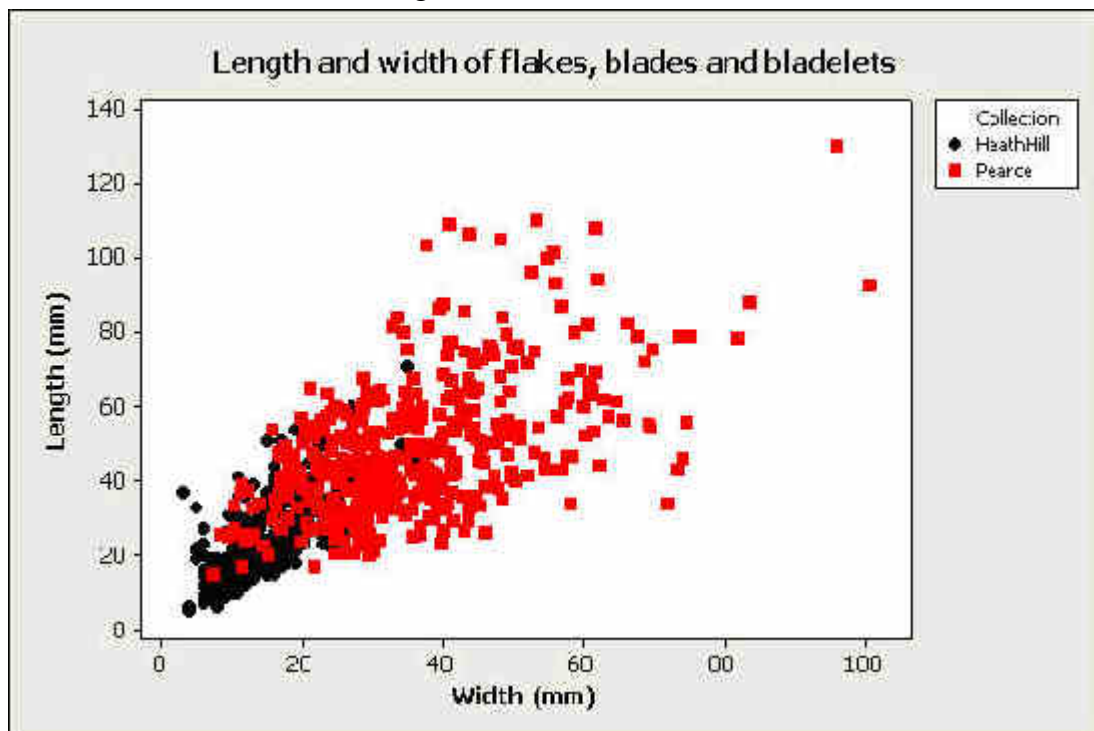
Leaving the debris aside, the size of all measured flakes and blades from Heath Hill gave rise to the following comments:

- i. Broadly speaking, width was up to 30mm with a few outliers beyond that – none exceeded 40mm. Length was up to 50mm with a few outliers beyond that – none exceeded 70mm.
- ii. Flakes clustered in the range where length was up to 30mm and width was up to 20mm.
- iii. Blades mostly clustered in the range where length was up to 50mm and width up to 20mm.
- iv. Waste flakes (no retouch) clustered at the lower end of the size range for flakes, while retouched flakes were more evenly distributed along the entire range for flakes. Waste blades (no retouch) did not seem to cluster at the lower end of blades' size range but, like retouched blades, were distributed right along it.
- v. Notched flakes occurred right along flakes' size range, while notched blades seemed limited to the upper end of range. Does this suggest notched blades were produced for specific purposes, which required a particular size, while notched flakes had a greater variety of uses?

Adding thickness to produce 3D scatterplots (not shown) confirmed that, in the case of flakes, there was a strong tendency to cluster at the lower end; in the case of blades, pieces' thickness was perhaps more variable.

### *Pearce Transect*

A scatterplot of the width and length of all flakes, blades and bladelets from both Heath Hill and from the Pearce transect is shown in Figure 7.



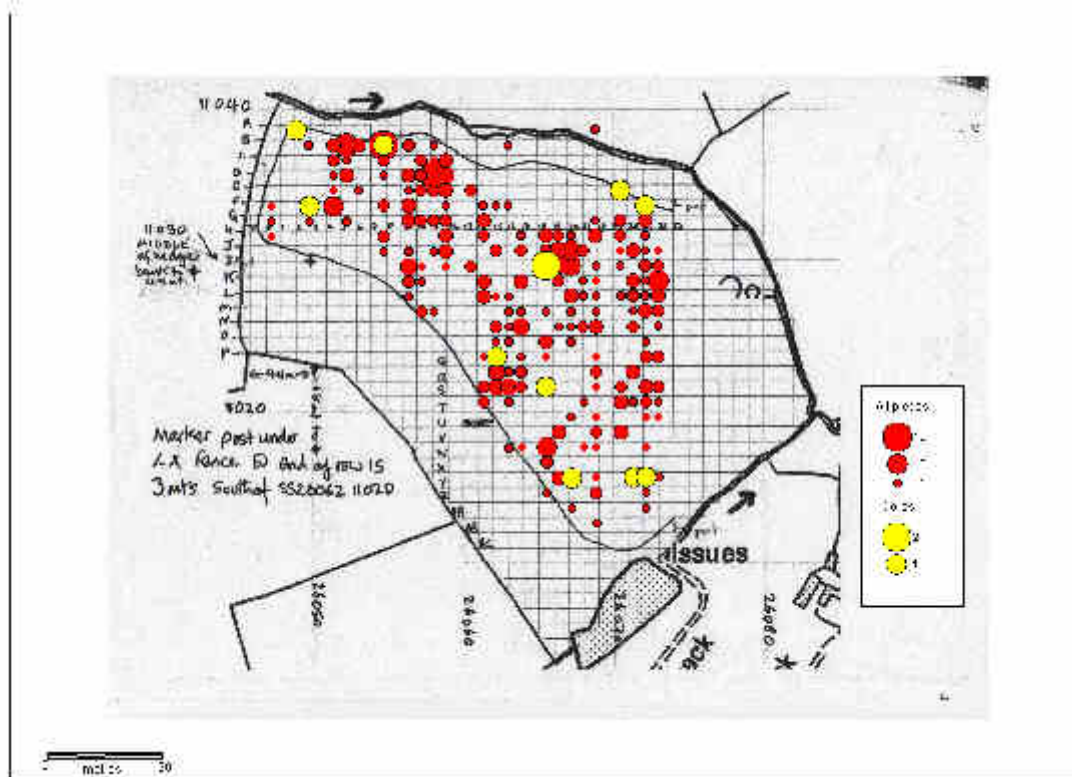
*Figure 7: Flakes, blades and bladelets from Heath Hill and Pearce Transect*

- i. The scatterplot shows that the measurements overlap in the range 20-60mm length and 10-30mm width.
- ii. Outside this range, the material from the Pearce transect is spread out in the higher measurements, while that from Heath Hill clusters at the lower end.
- iii. Individual value plots of length and width generated the same comments but a plot of thickness values suggested that the values of this variable were closer. Perhaps this is technologically determined – you can make pieces of different lengths and widths but thickness cannot be so easily changed – it is not a matter of choice. And is there much use for really thin or really thick pieces?
- iv. Plots of measurements of the separate artefact types (flakes, blades, bladelets, retouched flakes etc) merely led to repetition of the same observations.
- v. In general, it may be said that measurement data for the Pearce transect was more widely spread out, while values for the Heath Hill material were more closely bunched.

Comparison of the size of pieces from the two locations shows that material from Heath Hill is generally smaller. One explanatory factor may be the nature and accessibility of the raw material in each location. The flint nodes used at Heath Hill may have been smaller than those used along the Pearce transect. I have no data on node size and so cannot do more than suggest this as a possibility. A clearer factor is the relative abundance flint (and chert) along the Pearce transect, which may well have led to a carefree use of material. Knappers at Heath Hill, on the other hand, may have been obliged to take and use the smallest possible flakes off their precious flint nodes.

## Mapping finds

### Heath Hill

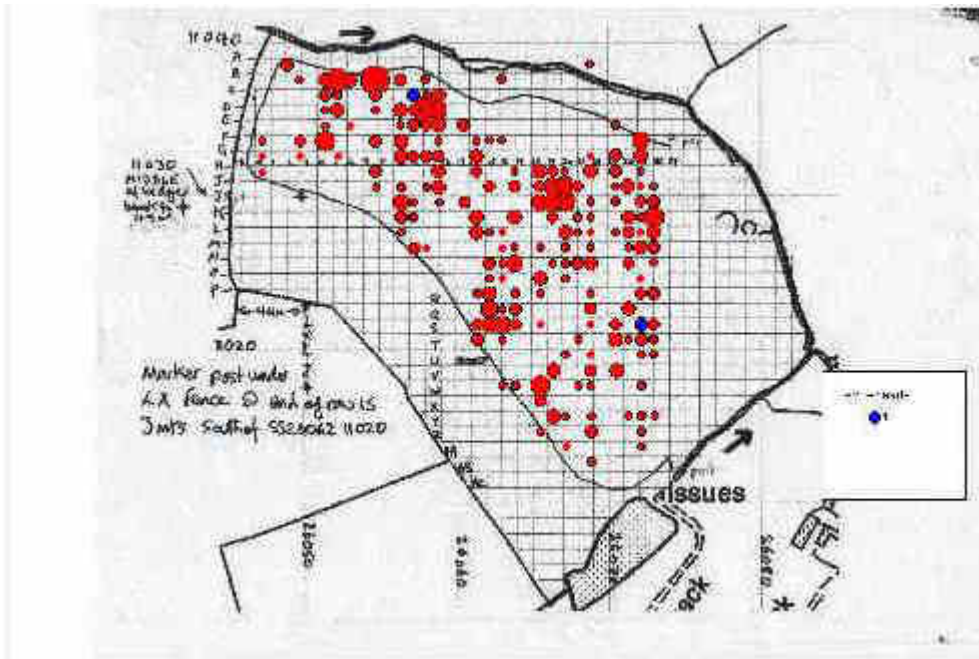


*Figure 8: Location and numbers of all pieces and cores at Heath Hill*

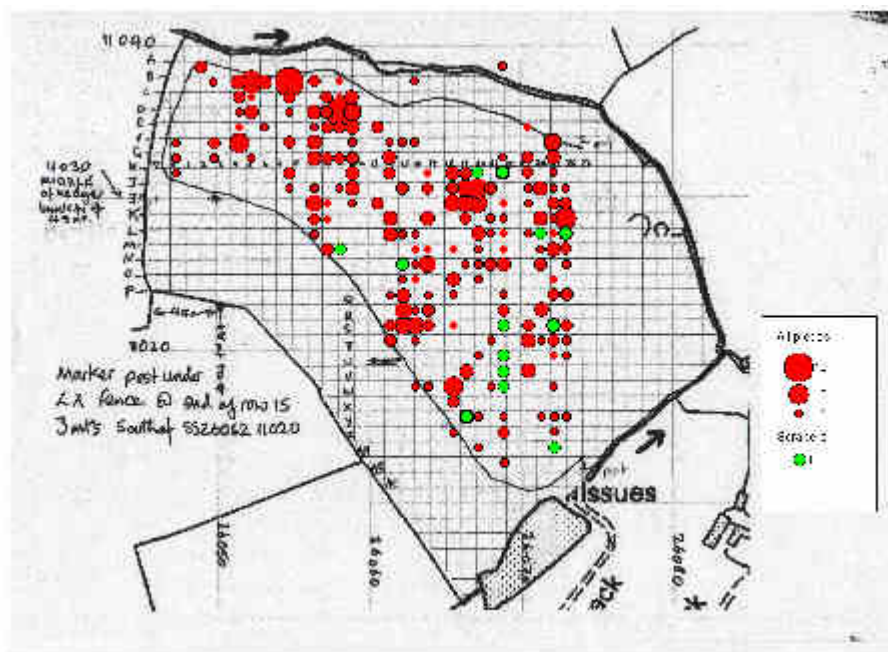
The distribution of the pieces collected during the gridded fieldwalk at Heath Hill is shown in Figure 8, which also shows the location and number of cores. The density of finds varies, with several ‘hotspots’. This might suggest that, if the distribution is an accurate reflection of the totality

of material in the soil, there was no single location of activity but that people knapped and used their tools over a fairly wide area within the field.

The two arrowheads found in the gridded walk are shown in Figure 9 – they were found on the periphery at the northern and south-eastern perimeter of the grid.

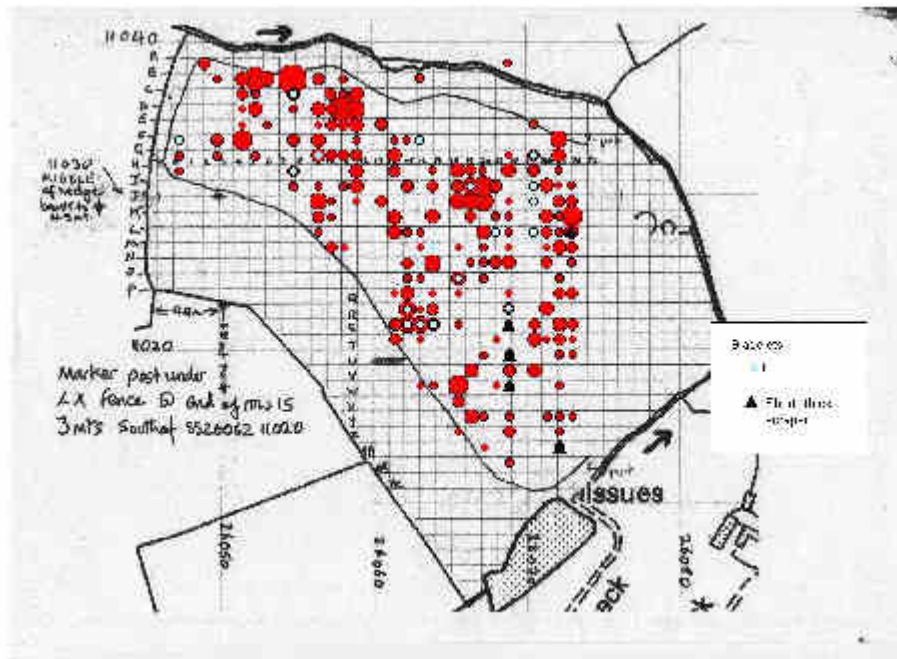


*Figure 9: Location of arrowheads at Heath Hill*



*Figure 10: Location and number of scrapers at Heath Hill*

The distribution of scrapers is interesting in that this tool type appears to be absent from the north-western part of the grid.



*Figure 11: Location of bladelets and short, thick scrapers at Heath Hill*

Figure 11 shows bladelets' distribution, with an apparent 'gap' in the south-eastern part of the grid. This Figure also shows the distribution of the short, thick, well-made scrapers mentioned above, which seem to occur precisely in that south-eastern area from which bladelets are absent.

Any conclusions must be tentative, but it appears that the physical distribution of pieces collected in the gridded walk shows that knapping may have taken place in many places in the field but that activity in which scrapers were used may have been restricted to the south-eastern half of the grid. The exclusive distributions of bladelets and short, thick scrapers might point to a chronological dimension, with activity in the Neolithic spreading to the south-east.

### *Pearce Collection – Kilmington 171*

At Kilmington 171, material collected in a gridded walk was mapped but did not show diagnostic pieces from the Mesolithic and Neolithic (microliths, axe fragments etc) in different areas. On the contrary, pieces from different periods were mixed together over most of the grid. Mapping did however show that debris and waste tended to lie in one area of the grid. This might point to one area being treated as a rubbish dump by the prehistoric knappers – or it might be due to the topography of the site, as the 'rubbish' might have accumulated at the foot of a gentle, slight slope. Perhaps using part of the site as a 'rubbish tip' suggests greater organisation or longer term use of the site. There was no such tendency apparent from the mapping of the Heath Hill material.

## **Conclusions**

The main issues I considered when examining the material from Heath Hill were (as mentioned in the Introduction) chronology, site function and production technology. To put it less formally – what were people doing, and when and where were they doing it?

Dealing first with the matter of chronology, it is clear that the only elements, which would be recognised as diagnostic, were the arrowheads and the pieces of possible Portland chert. All

point to activity in the Neolithic and, if my view of arrowhead TA127 as a transverse piece is correct, then both the earlier and later Neolithic is represented.

We cannot be quite as certain about activity in earlier periods, in that no artefacts which would be recognised as indisputably Mesolithic (such as microliths), were identified. On the other hand, it can be argued that the presence of bladelet cores and bladelets, together with rejuvenation flakes and the form of cores, amount to convincing evidence of Mesolithic techniques of tool production. I would conclude that people were making tools at Heath Hill in the Mesolithic.

Maps of finds from the gridded walk offer a hint that the Neolithic people might have shifted their activity to the south-east of the main foci. I would not push this argument too far as it relies only on the respective distribution of bladelets and short, thick scrapers.

Turning to the issue of site function, the presence of cores and knapping waste in the collection from Heath Hill show that tools were produced here. Other tool types, such as scrapers, suggest there was probably also some domestic activity such as hide preparation.

Deducing anything about site function from relative proportions of different artefact types in surface collections is risky, as surface scatters can be highly unrepresentative of the entire corpus of buried material but there are two aspects of the Heath Hill material which deserve comment.

The first is the relatively low proportion of scrapers (3.85%) As stated earlier, the proportion of this tool type in the Pearce Collection is generally higher (7-8%) and the proportion at Kilmington 171 was 6.3%. Can we conclude from this comparison that Heath Hill was a less 'domestic' site, or perhaps was in service only at certain times of year, or for certain non-domestic functions?

The second remarkable aspect of the tool types at Heath Hill is negative; that is, the absence from the collection of the core tool (e.g. adze, pick). I refer here to Barton's (1992) work on sites at Hengistbury Head and in the Bournemouth area. Barton (following and developing techniques used by earlier writers such as Graham Clarke, Jacobi and Mellars & Rheinhardt) analysed the composition of assemblages from a number of sites at higher and lower altitudes and found that the higher sites tended to lack core tools, which were found only in lower sites lying close to the source of the raw material for these tools. He saw the higher sites as temporary hunting camps, and the lower as places having a broader range of activities.

If such a model worked for this part of Devon, then Heath Hill might fit in as a hunting camp. We are then impelled to ask if there are other sites in the vicinity similar to Heath Hill and if there exists somewhere nearby a base camp. Given the general propensity of Mesolithic people to use sites clustered around the major river valleys, we might expect to see such evidence around the Yeo and its tributaries

## APPENDIX

### *The Pearce Transect*

- i. I selected 17 fields in which Nan had collected lithics. These fields were spread across a large area, at varying altitudes and at varying distances from the known lithic sources.
- ii. Nan and I sorted the lithics from these 17 fields, using the categories and numeric codes employed in the analysis of the Heath Hill material (as set out on Heath-Hill-Codes.xls). The total number of pieces was 6,802.
- iii. I then set aside a sample of the collections from these 17 fields - 1 in 10 of each artefact type in each material in each field with a minimum of 1 piece for each type in each material. This sample consisted of 778 pieces and so was just over 10% of all pieces collected in the fields in question.
- iv. I then measured and examined the sample, recording the length, width, thickness, weight, colour of material, together with the length and number of any retouch.

### **Bibliography**

I have tried to keep my text flowing easily and as free of academic references as possible. The publications listed below are not intended to be exhaustive but include those I mentioned in the text, along with a few others of mainly local interest. Note that Barton's (1992) work has a very good bibliography.

Barton, R. N. E. 1992: *Hengistbury Head, Dorset. Volume 2: The Late Upper Palaeolithic and Early Mesolithic Sites*. Oxford University Committee for Archaeology, Oxford.

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Berridge, P. J. 1986: Mesolithic Evidence from Hembury, *Proceedings of the Devon Archaeological Society* 44, 163-170.

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Berridge, P. J. and Simpson, S. J. 1992: The Mesolithic, Neolithic and Early Bronze Age Settlement at Bulleigh Meadow, Marldon, *Proceedings of the Devon Archaeological Society* 50, 1-18.

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